

Mono Basin Fire Safe Council Minutes
17 November 2021 (via Zoom)

Attendees: Susan DesBaillets, Robbie Di Paolo, Margaret Eissler, Alec McAaffee
Paul McFarland, Dave Marquart, Connie Millar, Joe Moore, Gary Nelson, Tom Strazdins, Nathan Taylor, John Warneke

Minutes by John Warneke

- No public comment
- Mapping areas of interest
 - Specific locations of concern were noted on a Google Earth map of the Mono Basin, and roads near Dunderberg Mill
 - Discussion brought attention to...
 - Areas where fire rings are regularly built
 - Areas that receive lots of use (not focused recreation areas)
 - Areas where a fuel break could benefit a Mono Basin community
- Other business
 - Fuel breaks in North Mono Basin (Robbie)
 - Trying to get ahold of Ana Maria to discuss questions raised by Glenda; Learn more of existing documentation and process; Better point person?
 - Fuel breaks in Mono City (Robbie)
 - May have been contracted out in past; Good to know who and see about future work
 - Contractor hired by Forest Service or BLM; Used own equipment (Dave)
 - Banner update
 - Taken down and stored inside truck (Tom)
 - Plans to reprint for next year; Email any new ideas; Will circulate (Robbie)
 - Kutzadika's federal recognition
 - Reminder to send emails to Rep. Obernolte; Reach out even if no reply
 - Communicating areas of concern to land management enforcers (Robbie)
 - Need ideas of how to better communicate
 - Frustration with DWP not having point person
 - Can contact Sheriff but who follows up the complaint?
 - Forest Service maintenance personnel sent to talk to people with campfires met with aggressive behavior; Need for law enforcement instead (Gary)
 - Last meeting, Bob Gardner made a point that we should always call the Sheriff and report; Calling creates a record, and necessitates where more personnel are needed (Robbie)
 - Maybe the Sheriff and DWP need to work together; Los Angeles Sheriff? (Robbie)
 - 'Camp Like A Pro' campaign next year (Robbie)
 - Plan is to reinvest with expansion (Paul)
 - County working on grants; Staff to work with Forest Service

- Will have meeting with agencies; Analysis and Discussion

- Mill Creek 'campsites' and letter to Stephanie Heller (Robbie)
 - No word from Heller (Paul)
 - Have looked into what potentially can be done (Paul)
 - Rocks; Restoration of pull-outs with specialists/Forest Service staff
 - Met with Heller during summer to discuss fuel concerns along Mill Creek below Mono City (Gary)
 - She spoke of converting bottom land to original condition of multiple channels for more moisture
 - No word from her since; Spoken to several district rangers about this but no action
 - Invite to engage with FSC meetings; Put on Email list (Connie; Robbie)
- "Shovel ready project" (Robbie)
 - Look into education campaign; Others
 - Will have County level person to work with FSCs
 - Plan for what MBFSC needs for a project
 - Project could be brush removal idea from John (Connie)
 - See Facebook post about removal with basic tools (John)
- Contract manager for fuel break work (Paul)
 - Got name; Will contact to see who the private contractor is, and share info
- Grant opportunity info from John; Will take closer look (Robbie)
 - In past, funding sought after identifying project and needs
 - Will add to discussion next time

- Next meeting to be held on 15 December 2021 at 5pm