

## ***Lincoln County Firesafe Council Agenda***

Location – Teams Conference Call

Date- October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Time-9:00 AM-12:00 PM

Note Taker: Jacob Jeresek

In Attendance: Jacob Jeresek, Doug Turman, Matt Chumbley, Korbyn Dub, Brian Ressel, Ali Ulwelling, Jennifer Nelson, Tom Lane, and Marcel Getz.

### **New/Old Business:**

- Fall Burning (Jennifer)
  - Lincoln County would like to coordinate burning within the Libby Air Pollution Control District. Montana DRNC has piles located in Flower Creek and the Obsidian Lane areas. Stimson has one burn consisting of grapple piles and one landing in Ripley project area across the river from Em Kayan village. Lincoln County has piles located on Hutton Drive. The Forest Service has piles located in Flower Creek and potentially some piles associated with West Fork Fire Salvage.
  - Weather looks favorable in the next two weeks to implement. For public notification, the County would like to use Code Red for the area in Bobtail and some form of public announcement to get the word out.
  - With public outreach, there is a desire to reconvene the burn education campaign.
- Quickseries – Complimentary Pocket Guides (Jennifer)
  - There are several different guides to choose from than can be customized to fit individual needs. To customize, the company requires organizations to order at least 1,000. The pocket guides currently need editing to fit the conditions in Northwest Montana. To reach the 1,000 pocket guide requirement, we are looking at combining efforts between Lincoln and Flathead County.
  - Julia Berkey and Ali are looking at another publication from California and making guides specific for western and eastern Montana due to different conditions.
  - The public is looking for this information. A lot of the information we hand out is outdated or old and there is a desire to revamp the information we provide.
- CWPP Update (Jennifer)
  - Currently the committee is on a short time frame to complete the wildfire risk analysis for the CWPP. Today, the committee is having a trial run looking at the Bull Geographic Area. After today, the committee will determine how to improve the process of risk analysis and bring the improved process to the larger group meetings.
  - Once this process is completed in January, the information will be passed on to the working group with the Lincoln County Memorandum of Understanding to develop the 5-year roadmap for Lincoln County.
- Grant Updates (Jennifer and Brian)
  - The outreach event last Friday at the Trego Pub went very well with a dozen

landowners and various organizations/agencies represented. Between this event and the public outreach, there is over 20 people signed up to complete work on their property.

- Landowners have until October 29<sup>th</sup> to sign up for programs offered by NRCS. NRCS has over 40 people signed up between the various TIP areas with more need than funding budgeted for this year. Brian may start sending people towards Jennifer.
- The NRCS Local Workgroup meeting is November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1530 with a virtual option.
- NRCS may be looking at hosting a pile burning workshop in the future with Ali. Due to planning efforts, a workshop next Fall is desirable. The group would need to determine when and where is appropriate. Due to the workload, the group needs to start planning now if we want to make it happen.
- KFRI is still getting a lot of interest. Currently, there are 256 acres under agreement with 165 of those completed. There is \$180,000 committed to these projects with an average cost per acre for treatment of \$1,200. The Bobtail area has a lot of interest with 3 additional landowners with roughly 60 acres combined. Jennifer is now receiving interest in the Eureka area from Brian with landowners outside of his TIP areas.
- Western States no change from last report.

### **Round Robin:**

Recently, there have been several workshops, meetings, and field trips discussing shared stewardship. Ali urges whoever can attend these to do so as they're a great way to interface with the public and various cooperators/agencies in a relaxed outdoor setting.

- Montana Forest Collaborative Network is hosting a virtual shared stewardship presentation November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Montana State University Extension of Forestry has added the Eureka area to the forest stewardship planning workshop sometime in May of 2022.

Forestry Fair on September 24<sup>th</sup> at Riverfront Park was well attended and appreciated. There is a desire to host again next year but there needs to be more advertising and a different day that doesn't conflict with other events to maximize attendance.

Doug reported a personnel change at Montana DNRC Libby Unit. One of the Forest Management Foresters is leaving the organization and Jeremy Rank was pulled as a Service Forester to this vacated position to administer timber sales until a replacement can be hired. Once a new Forest Management Forester is hired, Jeremy will return to his position as a Service Forester.

Next meeting is Thursday November 18<sup>th</sup> from 0900-1200 offered on Microsoft Teams.

Adjourned