



Town of Green Mountain Falls

Regular Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda
January 30th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Join the Zoom Meeting by clicking on the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87159167920?pwd=YmxhUTdjS2ZiZ015NXFlaG1Vc1hqUT09>

Meeting ID: 871 5916 7920 Passcode: 755885

To make a **public comment** please **pre-register** by 4pm on the day of the meeting via email:

david@falconpartnersltd.com

REGULAR MEETING:

TIME*		ITEM	DESIRED OUTCOME
6:30	1.	CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL	
6:30	2.	ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CORRECTION TO THE AGENDA	FMC Action Desired
6:30	3.	PERSONS PRESENT NOT ON THE AGENDA: 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER	Information Only
6:30	4.	CONSENT AGENDA a. Minutes from December 26th Meeting b. Minutes from January 12th Meeting	FMC Action Desired
6:30	5.	ELECTION OF OFFICERS	FMC Action Desired
6:35	5.	OLD BUSINESS a. CUSP Grant ROW Remediation Project 1. Review Release 2. February 6 th Public Forum 3. Need to develop a proposal for ROW treatment on existing roads. 4. Door to door campaign for obtaining releases. b. Education Program Update and Any Recommendations for Action 1. Recent Developments 2. Monthly tip 3. February communication c. Assessment Plan Update (information only) d. GMF resident and property owner data base update (information only) e. Review Dan Battin "leave of absence" status	FMC Action Desired
7:05	6.	NEW BUSINESS a. Formation of subcommittees b. Block Captains c. Develop a list of potential committee members candidates d. Teller County Wildland Fire Council Meeting e. Ute Pass Evacuation Exercise Meeting	FMC Action Desired
7:35	7.	REPORTS a. None	Information Only

*Please note: Times are approximate.

**The Town shall provide reasonable accommodation for those with disabilities on a case by case basis. Please send accommodation requests to clerk@gmfc.us by 4pm on the date of the meeting.

8:00	8.	CORRESPONDENCE a. Teller County Wildland Fire Council b. Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management	Information Only
8:00	9.	ADJOURN	Information Only

*Please note: Times are approximate.

**The Town shall provide reasonable accommodation for those with disabilities on a case by case basis. Please send accommodation requests to clerk@gmfcu.us by 4pm on the date of the meeting.

MEETING MINUTES

Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee December 26, 2022 Zoom meeting

Committee members present: David Douglas, John Bell, Paul Yingling

Members absent: Kelly Hunter, Dan Battin (on leave)

Ex-officio members present: Trustee Nick Donzello, Recording Secretary Carolyn Bowers

Agenda Item	Motion/Discussion	Motion/2nd	DD	JB	PY		
1. Call to Order	5:35 pm Mountain						
2. Addition to agenda	Include discussion of proposed FMAC business card to Item B, Old Business	JB, PY	X	X	X		
3. Approval of minutes	11/28/22 minutes approved with no changes or corrections	JB, PY	X	X	X		
	12/5/22 minutes approved with no changes or corrections	PY, JB	X	X	X		
4. CUSP Grant ROW mitigation liability, insurance	The Board of Trustees has approved mitigation of ROWs, subject to a legal review to assure no liability issues will arise. CUSP has asked for a release from liability for unintended encroachment. At the town's request, CUSP will ask its mitigation contractor to add GMF as an additional insured to its insurance policy.						
5. Public notice of ROW mitigation	The town manager wants a public notice distributed to all residents informing them of a public forum on the ROW mitigation project. The committee will draft a public notice after consulting with the town manager about the format. Bell will write the draft, with help from other FMAC members. The committee will hold a special meeting in January to approve it. The committee discussed Colorado Springs Utility's possible involvement in the public forum and the need for an overlay showing power lines and poles in ROWs. Douglas will talk to the town						

	manager for guidance on contacting CSU and request an overlay.						
6. Business card	Bell presented two choices: a business card and a 5"x7" card. Yingling cautioned against requesting information intended to be used to locate people during a fire. An operational data base like this must be strictly maintained and updated, something the FMAC is not equipped to do. This is the town's responsibility. We should stick to gathering data for purposes of distributing information and education. The committee chose the business card format. Bell and Yingling will rewrite the section on data gathering.						
7. Education Plan	The committee approved Bell's Education Plan and will present it to the Trustees. As soon as that's done, Bell will begin implementing strategies for achieving its goals. The plan's four goals are: development of a volunteer base with special attention to recruiting and training block captains; continue growing a data base for distributing information and education; encourage residents to work to protect their property (risk assessments of property are a must); keep the Trustees and community regularly informed and updated on the Committee's progress.	DD, PY	X	X	X		
8. Action Items for Education Plan	Bell will ask Battin if he wants to continue doing assessments or if he can recommend someone who can. Douglas will contact Byron Spinney at Hope Restored to see if they can do assessments.						
9. Tip of the Month exposure	More outlets are needed for the Tip of the Month. Yingling may experiment with leaving copies of the Tip at the Post Office and church for people to pick up and see if this results in more responses. Mayor	DD, JB	X	X	X		

	Dixon's newsletter, Church of the Wildwood and Ute Pass Elementary are also possible outlets.						
10. Open Letter from FMAC – Tip of the Month approval – One Coherent Message	The committee approved a motion to adopt the January Tip of the Month and the Open Letter that lays out FMAC's mission and goals. Bell and Yingling will collaborate to make sure the messages appearing on the open letter, the business card, and resident survey are coherent and consistent.	DD, JB	X	X	X		
11. 2023 FMAC Officers	Approved slate of officers for 2023: David Douglas, chair; Paul Yingling, vice chair; Carolyn Bowers, recording secretary. The slate will be presented to the Board of Trustees in January.						
12. Adjournment	8:45 pm Mountain						

MEETING MINUTES

Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee
Special Meeting to Approve Public Notice of Forum on ROW Mitigation
January 12, 2023
Zoom only

Committee members present: David Douglas, John Bell, Paul Yingling, Kelly Hunter

Members absent: Dan Battin (on leave)

Ex-officio members present: Mayor Todd Dixon, Trustee Nick Donzello, Town Manager Becky Frank, Recording Secretary Carolyn Bowers

Agenda Item	Motion/Discussion	Motion/2nd	DD	JB	PY	KH	
1. Call to order	5:35 pm Montain						
2. Public Notice of ROW Public Forum (aka Save the Date)	Douglas read a revised draft of the public notice going to residents and property owners announcing a meeting Feb. 6, 6 pm, at Town Hall. Zoom participation will be available. The meeting's purpose is to give an overview of the planned ROW mitigation and to answer questions. The public notice will include maps showing the locations of ROWs by number, plus their acreage. He hopes FMAC members will attend in person.						
3. Liability release non-participants;	<p>The committee knows several property owners may not want to sign the release. Does this mean a single owner, by not signing the release, can hold up mitigation for an entire area? When this happens, the town will have to decide if the risk of inadvertent mistakes or encroachment is too small or too large to act upon.</p> <p>Once liability releases come back from owners, the town will have a better idea of areas where participation is high and those that may need outreach to raise it.</p> <p>Douglas noted that releases weren't involved when Mile High</p>						

	<p>Youth Corps and CUSP mitigated other areas. Why are they needed for ROWs?</p> <p>Frank said in the case of ROWs, the margins of error are much smaller than the MHYC and CUSP mitigation. If a ROW needs mitigating and an owner does not sign the release, then the town must decide if a survey is warranted to delineate property lines or how much risk of making a mistake it can assume.</p>						
4. Clarification of town and CUSP roles	<p>Yingling wanted to know who is responsible for making risk assessment decisions. Who decides to cut or don't cut, the town or CUSP? The town approved the policy; CUSP decides how to mitigate (IDs trees that should go for example) with minimum risk to the property, and proceeds.</p> <p>Frank said that flagging trees at the beginning will give owners a chance to see if they agree with CUSP's decision to fell a tree they believe may fall within their property lines.</p> <p>At that point, the town becomes involved because it is a boundary question, Yingling said.</p> <p>Frank said the town, CUSP and FMAC must work closely to identify contentious areas.</p> <p>Douglas said CUSP has proven it can give wide berth to private properties when mitigating, citing the wide berth it gave to property when it worked on the Iona-Scott Ave. ROW.</p>						

5. Approval of Public notice letter	<p>The committee approved the draft of the public notice letter Douglas read earlier. Approval is subject to changes that clarify that GMF mitigation work paid for by grants does not include private property and grammatical corrections.</p> <p>Bowers will make revisions and send out to committee members, Mayor Dixon and Trustee Donzello by Friday, Jan. 13.</p> <p>The committee voted to include three maps prepared by town staff showing ROW locations.</p>	DD, JB	X	X	X	X	
		DD, JB	X	X	X	X	
6. Public Notice letter distribution	<p>Hunter will post hard copies of the on the Post Office bulletin board, restaurants, Painted Bear, and other outlets.</p> <p>Yingling and Bell will work on a door-to-door program that involves personally contacting owners of property adjacent to ROWs. This may have additional benefits of informing residents about FMAC's work and recruitment of block captains. Frank will develop a spreadsheet of addresses to help keep track of personal contacts made.</p> <p>Frank will work to get a bulk mailing to all property owners out by Jan. 20. She will also work with Bowers on social media outlets.</p>						
7. Adjournment	7:07 pm Mountain						

LICENSE TO ENTER UPON LAND AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

THIS LICENSE TO ENTER UPON LAND AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY is an agreement made and entered into this ____ day of _____ by and between _____ “Licensor” (landowner or landowner’s legal designee) and the Town of Green Mountain Falls, hereinafter referred to as “GMF”.

WHEREAS, GMF and its contractors are requesting temporary access to and the right to enter upon the land described below (the “Property”), for the purposes described below that are related to fire mitigation and Town right of way maintenance work; and

WHEREAS, Licensor is the owner of the Property, or of the current right to occupancy thereof, and has the right to grant a license to enter upon the Property for the purposes described herein, and desires to grant such right to GMF upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement;

NOW, therefore, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants contained herein, receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows.

- A. License Grant. The Licensor grants to GMF, its employees and authorized contractors, and subcontractors, acting within the scope of their employment or contract (collectively, the “Licensees”), a non-exclusive license to enter upon the Property during the term hereof in order to better access GMF land and conduct fire mitigation work. Licensor may revoke such license at any time by written notice to GMF in accordance with the Notice provisions herein. Said license is subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Description of Property. This License concerns the following Property (physical address and legal description):

Please see the attached addendum for a map of the right of way area in which the Town plans to conduct the below work.

2. Purpose and Scope of Work. GMF and its contractors will be working in Town right of way adjacent to Licensor’s Property to remove dead and infected trees on Town property and to trim trees to reduce the spread of pine beetles and mistletoe, to increase the health of the trees, and to provide fuel breaks in case of fire. GMF and its contractors will utilize Geographic Information System (“GIS”) and GPS maps to identify the boundaries of the Town’s right of way property to the best of their ability. GMF and its contractors will mark the boundaries of the Town right of way and the trees it plans to remove and trim as part of this mitigation work. GMF and its contractors will provide ____ days notice to Licensor once it has marked the Town right of way boundary and trees for removal. Failure by Licensor to respond to this notice from GMF and its contractors within ____ days constitutes agreement to GMF and its contractors completing the proposed work within the identified area, which may encroach onto Licensor’s Property.

3. License Period. This License shall be in effect from _____ to _____, inclusive (the "License Period").

3. The parties may, by mutual written agreement, extend the term of this License as necessary to permit the purposes and activities for which it is granted to be completed. No work shall be commenced until this License has been fully signed.

4. Commencement of Work. Work by GMF and/or its contractors is expected to commence on or about _____, but is subject to change due to contractor scheduling, weather conditions, and other factors. GMF will provide notice to Licenser when work is about to commence. Please provide best number for notifications below:

Phone and/or email for notification:

6. No License Fee. This license is granted at no cost to GMF.

- B. Release of Liability. Licenser hereby releases and holds harmless GMF and its authorized contractors and subcontractors from all claims, liability or responsibility for property loss or damage, or any other loss of any kind whatsoever, which arise out of or are in any manner connected with this License. GMF hereby releases and holds harmless the Licenser from all liability or responsibility for injury that the Licensees (GMF and contractors or consultants) may suffer as a result of or in connection with entering upon the Property. GMF and its contractors maintain minimum insurance as follows:

Insurance Limits of Liability

Workers' Compensation/Employer's Liability: Not less than that required by statute

Comprehensive General Liability (including blanket contractual liability insurance):

Bodily Injury \$ 1,000,000 each person/\$1,000,000 each occurrence

Property damage \$ 600,000

Comprehensive Automobile Liability:

Bodily Injury \$ 500,000 each person/\$1,000,000 each occurrence

Property damage \$ 600,000

Consultants and contractors working under GMF's direction are required to provide proof of adequate general liability insurance, worker's comp, auto coverage, and other pertinent insurance to protect both GMF and the Licenser prior to undertaking work for GMF.

- C. GMF's Rights. GMF shall have and exercise the right to ingress and egress in, to, over and across the Property to conduct the work described in Section 2 of this License Agreement.
- D. Licensor's Rights. Licensor retains the right to the undisturbed use and occupancy of the Property insofar as such use and occupancy is consistent with and does not impair a grant of the license herein contained.
- E. Additional Terms and Conditions.

1. **Notices**. All legal notices required to be given under this License shall be deemed given when actually delivered to the designated representative(s) of the party to be given notice by (i) certified mail, return receipt; or (ii) by hand delivery or courier service, if a signed receipt is obtained upon delivery; or (iii) by facsimile transmission, if confirmation of receipt of the transmission is obtained,. A party may change its designated representative(s) or address at any time by written notice in the same manner as for any other notice. The initial representatives of the parties shall be the persons whose names and addresses are:

Town of Green Mountain Falls, Colorado

PO Box 524

Green Mountain Falls, CO 80819

Phone: 719-684-9414

Email: clerk@gmfco.us

Owner: _____

Address: _____

2. **Non-Assignment**. Except as specifically permitted under section A herein above, neither this Agreement nor any of the rights or obligations of the Parties hereto, shall be assigned by either party without the written consent of the other.

3. **Legal Authority**. The Licensor warrants he/she/it possesses the legal authority to enter into this License and has taken all actions required by its procedures, bylaws, and/or applicable law to exercise that authority, and to lawfully authorize its undersigned signatory to execute this License and to bind the Licensor to its terms. The person(s) executing this License on behalf of the Licensor warrant(s) that such person(s) have full authorization to execute this License.

4. **Binding effect**. This License is binding upon the heirs, personal representatives, successors, and permitted assigns of both parties.

5. **Entire Agreement.** This License including the addendum incorporated herein by reference constitutes the entire agreement between the parties, and supersedes any previous contracts, understandings, or agreements of the parties, whether verbal or written, concerning the subject matter of this License.

6. **Severability.** If any provision of this License Agreement is held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any jurisdiction, the validity, legality, and enforceability of the remaining provisions of this License Agreement shall not be impaired thereby.

7. **Governmental Immunity.** GMF and its officers, attorneys and employees, are relying on, and do not waive or intend to waive by any provision of this License Agreement, the monetary limitations or any other rights, immunities, and protections provided by the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act, C.R.S. § 24-10-101, *et seq.*, as amended, or otherwise available to GMF and its officers or employees.

8. **Governing Law and Venue.** This License Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Colorado and venue for any legal action brought under this Easement shall be in El Paso County, Colorado.

9. **Modification.** No modification or amendment to this License shall be valid unless it is made in a writing signed by the authorized representatives of the parties.

10. **Waiver.** The waiver by either party of a breach or violation of any provision of this License shall not operate as or be construed to be a waiver of any subsequent breach of the same or other provision hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE PARTIES HERETO HAVE EXECUTED THIS CONTRACT

LICENSOR:

By: _____

Print Name & Title: _____

Date: _____

FOR GMF:

By: _____

Print Name & Title: _____

Date: _____

TOWN RIGHT OF WAY AGREEMENT SUMMARY
(this Summary is non-binding)

The “Whereas” statements are basically background information

Section A: This Section states that you are allowing GMF to enter your property to conduct fire mitigation work in the Right of Way (RoW - Town property). It does have a time requirement for you to respond to the GMF notice. Failure to respond by that time will indicate that you are OK with the “agreement”.

Section B: This Section releases the Town and the entities mitigating the RoWs from damage to your private property. It also releases you from any injuries that may happen on your property while the mitigation work is being performed.

Section C: This Section gives GMF the right to come onto your property to perform mitigation work on the Town’s RoW.

Section D: This Section states that you have the right to continue your use and occupancy as long as it doesn’t hamper the mitigation efforts.

Section E1: This Section defines the “official notification” process and contact info for the Town.

Section E2: This Section says that you and/or the Town cannot assign the agreement to someone else without written consent.

Section E3: This Section confirms that you have the authority to make this agreement with the Town.

Section E4: This Section states that once the agreement is signed, it’s binding.

Section E5: This Section states that anything that is included by reference is part of the agreement.

Section E6: This Section states that if some part of the agreement is found not enforceable, the rest of the agreement is.

Section E7: This Section limits the liabilities of the Town of GMF as provided by law.

Section E8: This Section states that the agreement is governed by laws of the State and cases with respect to this agreement will be heard in El Paso County.

Section E9: This Section states that both parties must agree to any modifications or amendments.

Section E10: This Section states that if a part of the agreement is waived, that waiver does not apply to the rest of the provisions of the agreement.

Save the Date

Rights of Way Fuels Mitigation Project

January 20, 2023



Dear Property Owners and Residents of Green Mountain Falls,

This summer, as part of our ongoing work to reduce wildfire threat in Green Mountain Falls, the town will remove brush and dead trees from several acres of town-owned property. Most of the work will occur on rights of way (ROW) -- strips of land on sides of undeveloped roads, parts of roads and alleys throughout town. Most ROWs contain brush and dead trees that increase the town's fire risk. The undeveloped ROWs are illustrated on maps that can be viewed here:

<https://greenmountainfalls.colorado.gov/government/fire-mitigation-advisory-committee/wildfire-mitigation-resources>

Use your phone's camera to view maps using this QR Code



The Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP) will perform the work under direction of its forester, Adrian Knight. CUSP has played an enormous role in our town's efforts to lower its vulnerability to wildfire. CUSP has mitigated several acres of privately-owned land in GMF, with owners paying part of the cost. It recently finished mitigating 12.5 acres of town-owned land along the Thomas Trail as part of a two-mile fuel break around GMF. CUSP and the town shared the cost of that work. To date, GMF has paid \$19,200. The town has budgeted more funds for the planned ROW work.

We are writing to ask for your help and cooperation in clearing out the rights of way. Many are adjacent to private property. On Monday, Feb. 6 beginning at 6 pm, GMF will hold a community forum and public hearing at Town Hall for owners and residents to comment on the project. You may attend using Zoom. At the meeting, the town will seek agreement with adjoining property owners for the mitigation of fuel on or near their property lines. It will also ask them to sign a release of liability from inadvertent encroachment on private property.

Following the meeting, the ROW mitigation will begin under this plan.

- CUSP will mark boundary trees to delineate the ROW from privately owned land with a unique ribbon color or flags. Existing fences will be considered property boundaries. CUSP will also prioritize areas for work, depending upon how much

of a threat they pose and how easily they can be mitigated. In addition, CUSP will identify constraints such as power lines or other encroachments.

- A ROW mitigation schedule will be created and communicated.
- Mitigation tentatively begins in May with routine updates on progress and crew movements from area to area.

CUSP will apply best practices for forest management. This includes removing diseased trees, widening the spaces between crowns (tops), thinning ladder fuels, removing dead standing trees, and retaining a diversity of species.

If you are interested in learning more about the mitigation, please contact a member of town staff (Becky Frank, manager@gmfcu.us) or any member of the GMF Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee.

Thank you for your support in keeping our town, our homes, and our neighbors safe from wildfire!

David Douglas, Chair, Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee
david@falconpartnersltd.com

Dan Battin (on leave)
John Bell *jbell5927@outlook.com*

Kelly Hunter *kellygrn@comcast.net*
Paul Yingling *paul.l.yingling@gmail.com*

PS There is CUSP money available to help you and your neighbors pay for mitigating your own property. To find out more, follow this link:

<https://greenmountainfalls.colorado.gov/government/fire-mitigation-advisory-committee/cusp-grant-program>

Read how residents on Falls Avenue got financial help from CUSP to mitigate their homes.

<https://greenmountainfalls.colorado.gov/sites/greenmountainfalls/files/documents/20211029%20Falls%20Avenue%20neighbors.pdf>

The Green Mountain Falls Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee (FMAC) exists to help in preventing death, injury, and damage to property due to wildfire. The FMAC is a volunteer committee of GMF residents, organized under the authority of the Town of Green Mountain Falls.

Save the Date

Rights of Way Fuels Mitigation Project

January __, 2023



Dear Property Owners and Residents of Green Mountain Falls,

This summer, as part of our ongoing work to reduce wildfire threat in Green Mountain Falls, the town will remove brush and dead trees from several acres of town-owned property. Most of the work will occur on rights of way (ROW) -- strips of land on sides of undeveloped roads, parts of roads and alleys throughout town. Most ROWs contain brush and dead trees that increase the town's fire risk. The undeveloped ROWs are highlighted in red in the attached map.

The Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP) will perform the work under direction of its forester, Adrian Knight. ~~CUSP has played an enormous role a large part in our town's efforts to lower its vulnerability to wildfire. It has mitigated private property within the town and Dewey Mountain. Right now, it is working on Red Butte (formerly Red Devil) Mountain and is continuing work on the Wallace Reserve. CUSP recently finished mitigating 12.5 acres along the Thomas Trail as part of a two-mile fuel break. around GMF.~~

~~GMF and CUSP shared the cost of all this work. In 2021, CUSP received two grants (from the state of Colorado?) to mitigate areas in the state most at risk. GMF received the grant money because of its exceptionally high risk of fire but was required to match the it. To date, GMF has paid \$XX,XXX to match the CUSP grants. (David, this doesn't have to be an exact amount.)~~

We are writing to ask for your help and cooperation in this effort. In many cases, ROWs are adjacent to private property. On (DATE), GMF will hold a community forum and public hearing at Town Hall for owners to comment on the plan for mitigating ROWs adjacent to their property. At the meeting, the town will seek agreement with adjoining property owners for the mitigation of fuel on or near their property lines. It will also ask them to sign a release of liability from inadvertent encroachment on private property.

Following the meeting, the ROW mitigation will ~~be carried out~~ begin under this plan.

- CUSP will mark boundary trees to delineate the ROW from privately owned land with a unique ribbon color or flags. Existing fences will be considered property boundaries. CUSP will also prioritize areas for work, depending upon how much of a threat they pose and how easily they can be mitigated. In addition, CUSP will identify constraints such as power lines or other encroachments.

- CUSP will use a second color to mark large trees in the ROW for removal.
- A ROW mitigation schedule will be created and communicated.
- Mitigation tentatively begins in May 2023 with routine updates on progress and crew movements from area to area.

CUSP will apply best practices for forest management. This includes removing diseased trees, widening the spaces between crowns (tops), thinning ladder fuels, removing dead standing trees, and retaining a diversity of species.

If you are interested in learning more about the mitigation, please contact a member of town staff (Becky/Nate, please insert preferred contact info) or any member of the GMF Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee.

Thank you for your support in keeping our town, our homes, and our neighbors safe from wildfire!

David Douglas, Chair, Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee
david@falconpartnersltd.com

Dan Battin (on leave) Kelly Hunter *kellygrn@comcast.net*

John Bell *jbelle5927@outlook.com* Paul Yingling paul.l.yingling@gmail.com

PS There's CUSP money available to help you and your neighbors pay for mitigating your own property. Check out how using this link:

<https://greenmountainfalls.colorado.gov/government/fire-mitigation-advisory-committee/cusp-grant-program>

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The Town of Green Mountain Falls

P.O. Box 524, 10615 Green Mountain Falls Road, Green Mountain Falls, CO 80819
(719) 684-9414 www.gmfco.us

To: Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee

From: John Bell

RE: 2023 Education Calendar, January 26, 2023

Team,

The FMAC education event calendar is a work in progress. Status will be updated monthly as dates and events are secured.

Event	Date	Comment
Town Meeting: ROW Mitigation Project	Feb 6	
Chipper Day #1	June	Specific weekend pending
Green Box Hike 1	July 1, Sat	Same hike agenda both days: Private property mitigation example, ROW example, MHYC mitigation on Thomas Trail
Green Box Hike 2	July 2, Sun	Same as July 1
Bronc Day Information Booth	Aug 29	We have option to set-up outside FoUPT Pancake Breakfast
Chipper Day #2	Sept	Specific weekend pending



American Red Cross
Colorado & Wyoming Region

In a Home Fire, Can your Family Safely Escape in Just **2 Minutes?**



Home Fire Campaign

Most of us don't realize that we have just **2 minutes to escape** a home fire. That's why the American Red Cross is preparing families to act quickly through our Home Fire Campaign. Since launching the campaign in 2014, we have helped save countless lives across the country by helping families create escape plans and install smoke alarms.



Are you prepared for a home fire?

The Red Cross offers **free fire alarm installs** as well as **free virtual presentations** to the public, schools, and organizations. Our preparedness programs provide the training you and your family may need in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Educate yourself to save lives and protect yourself and your family by taking two simple steps:

1

Practice your 2-minute escape drill

2

Test your smoke alarms monthly

Get started

To request free alarms and sign up for home fire escape planning:

- Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera
- OR visit <https://rdcrss.org/3hwTccf>
- OR call 833-498-2092



#EndHomeFires

From: Flohrs, Jessica
To: David Douglas; jbell5927@outlook.com; Becky Frank
Subject: FW: Teller County Wildland Fire Council Meeting
Attachments: Wildland Fire Council Minutes 011123.docx

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Flohrs, Jessica <FlohrsJ@co.teller.co.us <mailto:FlohrsJ@co.teller.co.us> >
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2023 11:09 AM
To: Flohrs, Jessica; Becky Frank
Subject: FW: Teller County Wildland Fire Council Meeting
When: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 8:30 AM-10:30 AM (UTC-07:00) Mountain Time (US & Canada).
Where: Northeast Teller County Fire: 1010 Evergreen Heights Dr., Woodland Park, CO 80863

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Flohrs, Jessica
Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 4:46 PM
To: Flohrs, Jessica; Wildland Fire Council
Cc: Barkowski, John; Ross, Timothy -FS, MONUMENT, CO; Joe O'Connor; lara@cuswp.ws <mailto:lara@cuswp.ws> ; Bunting, Renee; Michael Lawson; Teague, Jay; paulrthies@gmail.com <mailto:paulrthies@gmail.com> ; aric@guffeyfire.net <mailto:aric@guffeyfire.net> ; Dean O'Nale; 50mtnmom@gmail.com <mailto:50mtnmom@gmail.com> ; Jeremy Taylor; Bauer, Carl -FS, COLORADO SPRINGS, CO; johngeerdes@cuswp.ws <mailto:johngeerdes@cuswp.ws> ; Schlosberg, Andy; brenda.wasielewski@state.co.us <mailto:brenda.wasielewski@state.co.us>
Subject: Teller County Wildland Fire Council Meeting
When: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 8:30 AM-10:30 AM (UTC-07:00) Mountain Time (US & Canada).
Where: Northeast Teller County Fire: 1010 Evergreen Heights Dr., Woodland Park, CO 80863

All,

Thank you for all that were able to attend today. Attached are the minutes. Below are the documents referenced in the meeting for review.

EOP - <https://www.co.teller.co.us/OEM/EOP2021.aspx> <https://url.emailprotection.link/?b7UE2yMelft9Xz7NIwUT95SUnms3Lss41Ulhin5GeOjxSSeWp1MFba0n_zVrU2wvWu5CjSgP4C5_3LQp1Aa0xBHO3HnyB3R9iH0r6CPYS_48sIWQQMxiaAoQ1ek-zKS8>

CWPP - <https://www.co.teller.co.us/Miscellaneous/CWPP2011/CWPP2011update.pdf> <https://url.emailprotection.link/?bp_w1pvUJ2mCJWmUZChfR1jailm80U4rWT_197dyCKwcXzU8yiDu3RB0svFFXRfjGYJK7yMDzfZwKFVp4qxX4h1T7fwsqrjuQQyfrgv2m5PcCYkODk7-xe1DltP_Ym27>

CMAT - https://www.co.teller.co.us/OEM/TellerCounty_CMAT_Report_Final-Oct2020.pdf <<https://url.emailprotection.link/?b7UE2yMelft9Xz7NIwUT95SUnms3Lss41Ulhin5GeOgRbn8oeZCRZd3DSf2bUisoc2ygMuF6yGG8mhBk-sreJzc9MNa0JmKdyVP8glppyfgFibCVIXIGNXiF9a8qIUYJ19GbF9QTQu07gerMLSlp1x3zVMm69xcJ2fiQq6IM~>>>

The next meeting will be at NETCO: 1010 Evergreen Heights Dr., Woodland Park, CO at Wed. Mar. 15, 2023 830-1030.

Kindly,

Jessica Flohrs

Deputy Emergency Manager

Teller County Office of Emergency Management

112 N. A St., Cripple Creek, CO 80813

OEM Office: 719-686-7990

Cell: 719-377-0917

Desk: 719-686-7935

Email: flohrs@co.teller.co.us Teller County



Wildland Fire Council Minutes
11400 W US HWY 24
Divide, CO 80814
January 11, 2023 at 10:00 AM

Call to Order: 10:02 AM

Attendees: John Geerdes with CUSP, Lara Thomas with CUSP, Mark Rucker with County I.T. GIS, Chief Erik Holt with Florissant Fire Dept., Chief Susan Bernstetter with Lake George Fire Dept., Mike Wicks with USFS, Tim Ross with USFS, Mark Kohlman with Colorado Mountain, Chief Chris Deisler with Woodland Park PD, David Poletti with CO State Forest Service, Sheriff Jason Mikesell with TCSO, Cmdr. Lad Sullivan with TCSO, Lt. Renee Bunting with TCSO, Director Jay Teague with Teller OEM, and Deputy EM Jessica Flohrs with Teller OEM.

Approval of Minutes: N/A

Welcome and Opening Comments from Commissioner Williams & Sheriff Mikesell

Commissioner Williams

- Board of County Commissioners 2023 budget includes money for radios and updating the Mobile Command Vehicles.
- This meeting is for us to figure out what we as a group can do for mitigation, equipment, and grants for the county.
- The county will have a new website come March.

Sheriff Mikesell:

- There is legislation out there trying to outlaw use of gas power equipment (generators, chainsaws, tractors, etc.).
- Working on WiFi capabilities on mapping with Starlink connection on the Mobile Command Vehicles and iPad mapping capabilities for fire or incident mappings.
- Working on burn regulations to be adopted as ordinances.
- This year working with Public Health on the food delivered to incidents. Teller County Search and Rescue is now under the Sheriff's Office.
- We have a very extensive drone program at the Sheriff's Office and you can reach out to Jake Markus at markusw@co.teller.co.us if you need help.

Old Business:

- Jay Teague
 - Funding from County to remodel incident command vehicle and purchase radios
 - Emergency Operation Plan – Annex Review
<https://www.co.teller.co.us/OEM/EOP2021.aspx>

- If you all can review the annexes and send any changes to OEM@co.teller.co.us.
- LEPC Panel
 - Created an LEPC Panel to help direct the group and to accomplish the task LEPC is responsible for, more than just Tier II Facilities. One main objective is the ingress and egress routes in subdivisions.
 - We would like to see more community engagement at the LEPC quarterly meetings.
- Fire Stats – Sept 1, 2022-Jan 10, 2023
 - 47 Fire incidents (Grass, Wildland, Structure, and Vehicle Fires)
- Fuel Moisture/Fire Restrictions
 - El Paso County and other jurisdictions have come out of their restrictions recently due to the snow. Grass is dry and carrying fires quickly but the trees are doing well on moisture.
- CUSP Update
- Training
 - We are working on sending out more training to fire depts. and agencies in the county. We are bringing in a drone operators course to Teller County.
- Aircraft Exercise Update
 - Has been cancelled due to death of the OEM at Peterson. It has not been rescheduled
- Working with CME on their CWPP and egress routes.
- Per Chief Lambert with NETCO, Chipper update: just under 900 piles mitigated in 2022 in Teller County. There was still a lot of down time, so fire depts. can request use of it more.

New Business:

- Jay Teague
 - DFPC meeting for the fire suppression ponds regulations.
 - Pond stipulation is minimum 30,000 gallons, 150 feet diameter, dry hydrant, and if it is used for aircraft it must meet NWCG Helicopter Operations Standards 8CCR 1507.60.
 - We asking for fire chiefs for their ponds list and water use agreements that are usable and can be drafted from, please send that information to oem@co.teller.co.us for us to work together to identify the ponds we want to designate as a county.
 - USFS has a prescribed burning today.
 - Burn Regulations
 - Working with Sheriff Mikesell as the County Fire Warden and went over the burn regulations. Added explanation, verbiage, and pictures for clarification. It has been approved by the Sheriff and will be sent to County Administrator, Legal, and BOCC.

General Discussion:

John Geerdes and Lara with CUSP :

- Slash site meeting is set up with BOCC.
- CUSP does fire and mitigation grants. If you need help with grants reach out to them.
- They have a lot of small projects that they would like to combine them to make a whole county mitigation plan.
- Stats:
 - 168 acres of mitigation in 14 locations.
 - Mitigated 3,300 acres in Teller since 2009.

- Chipping in 18 different locations.
- Slash site: 600 loads represents 35 acres of mitigation which equals \$70,000 if contracted out. 10 different communities used the slash site (most of those were from Teller County, though we do get people from Green Mountain Falls and Lake George areas)
- Working with Jay on a grant for \$80,000 to rewrite the Teller County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Current plan: <https://www.co.teller.co.us/OEM/HMP2020.aspx>
 - If awarded will find out in March and hire someone to write it.
- Exploring new partnerships like Youth Corps and NoFloCo. Working with Mueller, who is committing money to mitigation.
- Would like to work to create partnership to help identify clients' needs and where they need to go to get the mitigation they need to make Teller County more green.
- Recommend reading the Community Mitigation Assistance Team (CMAT) Report https://www.co.teller.co.us/OEM/TellerCounty_CMAT%20Report_Final-Oct2020.pdf

Erik Holt with FVFD:

- Working on budget and operation planning. Trying to plan mitigation efforts with staffing of FVFD. Reaching out to Twin Rocks HOA for their CWPP. Jay sent him CCME CWPP as a template.

Mike Wicks with USFS:

- Moving into pile burning season and waiting for more snow on the ground and right conditions to get the burnings started. Big ask from us is notifications to be sent out and notifying the community of the work being done and smoke in the area. Working on bi-partisan infrastructure laws. Everything they do has to be in accordance with NEPA regulations and the plan already in place.
- They do have PIO that works out of Pueblo. Request their PIO contact our PIO, buntingr@co.teller.co.us and flohrrsj@co.teller.co.us for information sharing.

Susan Burnstetter with Lake George Fire Dept.:

- There is a large pile burn projects on Park County Rd 94 and County Rd 98 near Teller that may be burned this season if weather permits. A
- Active in the DFPC Fire Suppression Meetings. The Park County chiefs will be having a meeting with them separately about some of the regulations that does not fit Park County, like the ponds need to be accessible 365 days a year.
- They have one subdivision that is wanting to work on mitigation and working with CUSP and USFS. More citizens wanting mitigation evaluations.
- Request for Teller County Dispatch to call/radio Park County Dispatch for Wildland Fire Taskforce activations, it was emailed to Jessica, who forwarded it to Cmdr. Sullivan.

Mark Kohlman with CME:

- We board Mueller State Park and Fossil Beds. Looking for grant help for mitigation and egress along their borders. Only have 2 ways out for 150 homes. Per Jay, we did get approved to go out Dome Rock and Mueller on the east side for egress with trucks (no cars, trailer, and RVs.)
- Have spent \$350,000 on infrastructure for water with 7 extra tanks and work on their dam for their pond.

Marc with Teller County GIS: We are updating our GIS software and server.

Lt. Bunting with TCSO – Nothing to add

Cmdr. Sullivan with TCSO – Nothing to add

Chief Chris Deisler with WPPD:

- City of Woodland Park hired a grant writer, Kimberly Burleson.

County Administrator Ross Herzog – Nothing to add

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 08:30 AM

Location: NETCO; 1010 Evergreen Heights Dr., Woodland Park, CO 80863

Adjournment: 11:30 AM

From: [Nicholas Donzello](#)
To: [David Douglas](#)
Subject: Fwd: Ute Pass Evacuation Exercise-Concept and Objectives Meeting
Date: Thursday, January 26, 2023 3:37:50 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nicholas Donzello** <gmfdonzello@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Jan 26, 2023 at 3:37 PM
Subject: Re: Ute Pass Evacuation Exercise-Concept and Objectives Meeting
To: Amanda Meldrum <AmandaMeldrum@elpasoco.com>
CC: Daniel Battin <DanielBattin@elpasoco.com>, Deputy Starks
<deputymarshal@gmfco.us> <deputymarshal@gmfco.us>, EXTERNAL Amanda Phan
<Amanda.Phan@coloradosprings.gov>, EXTERNAL Andrew Notbohm
<Andrew.Notbohm@coloradosprings.gov>, Karen_Bodine@msn.com
<Karen_Bodine@msn.com>, Lonnie Inzer <LonnieInzer@elpasoco.com>, Sean
Goings(Marshal) <marshal@gmfco.us> <marshal@gmfco.us>, gmfcpcchief@gmail.com
<gmfcpcchief@gmail.com>

Good afternoon,

Thank you for the invitation and your efforts for an exercise, I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Nick Donzello
Trustee
Green Mountain Falls

On Thu, Jan 26, 2023 at 12:54 PM Amanda Meldrum <AmandaMeldrum@elpasoco.com> wrote:

Good Morning,

Please join us for a concept and objectives meeting to discuss an evacuation exercise for Ute Pass.

Breakfast items and coffee will be available.

If you are unable to map the location, it is the building behind the Green Mountain Falls town hall.

Amanda Meldrum, MEP

Emergency Management Specialist

Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management

Office: (719) 575-8416 Cell: (719) 505-2542

AmandaMeldrum@elpasoco.com

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