

Mar 11, 2026

Amador CWPP: Working Group Meeting

Summary

Meeting reviewed priority project lists and treatment categories, focusing on the upcoming draft Community Wildfire Protection Plan review and final activities.

Review of Priority Projects

The meeting reviewed the priority projects list for inclusion in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, which was identified using modeling tools, fire analysis, existing mapping, and local knowledge. This list represents projects stakeholders agree are county-wide priorities and is intended to secure funding, not to preclude other projects.

Fuel Treatment Groupings Defined

Fuel treatment projects were organized into three categories: forest health/fuel reductions, strategic fuel breaks, and community fuel reductions. Project updates included noting the developing Vegetation Management Plan above Tiger Creek Reservoir and agreeing to clarify the Forest Project Plan Phase 1 as "non-commercial thinning".

CWPP Draft Review Timeline

The full draft Community Wildfire Protection Plan will be distributed for review by the end of the current week, with comments and edits due from the working group via email by April 1. Final project activities include a community meeting, a presentation for Board of Supervisors adoption, and a 2-day field tour scheduled for late April.

Details

- **Meeting Kick-off and Agenda Review:** Ian Moore began the meeting with the agenda, which included reviewing priority projects, discussing the process for reviewing the draft Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), and outlining final project activities through the end of April. The draft CWPP review process will be summarized in a follow-up email, and they are now approaching the final stages of the project ([00:03:11](#)).
- **Introductions of Attendees:** Todd Bertwell (AFSC/ARCD) led a round of introductions for attendees, which included themselves and James Thornock from the Amador Ranger District, Christopher Dow from Sierra Pacific Industries, Chuck Beckman from East Bay Municipal Utility District, Dan Macon from Cooperative Extension, Jeff Brown from Amador County, Lucas Carthew from Amador Water Agency, and Nick Miley from Spatial Informatics Group ([00:04:42](#)). Also introduced were Richard Sykes from UMRWA, Ty McCartney from PG&E, Wes Whited from PG&E for the local watershed, and Beth Brenneman from the BLM ([00:06:18](#)).
- **Review of Priority Projects List:** Ian Moore introduced the list of priority projects intended for inclusion in the plan, explaining that these projects were identified using modeling tools like Vibrant Planet, fire analysis (HB analysis), existing mapping, and local knowledge ([00:07:56](#)). Todd Bertwell affirmed that the list builds upon priority areas modeled within Vibrant Planet and includes active or proposed treatments submitted by various partners, though not all proposed treatments are currently listed ([00:09:48](#)). The list represents projects that stakeholders agree are priorities across the county and is intended to help secure funding, but its inclusion does not preclude the pursuit of other projects ([00:11:06](#)).
- **Defining Categories of Fuel Treatment Projects:** Ian Moore outlined three groupings for the spatially explicit fuel treatment projects: forest health/fuel reductions focused on wildfire resiliency, strategic fuel breaks for operational management, and community fuel reductions that serve both forest health and strategic functions during an incident ([00:12:48](#)). Todd Bertwell clarified that the projects being reviewed are only a limited, spatially explicit portion of the overall action plan, which also addresses other activities such as ingress/egress, defensible space, planning, and outreach/education ([00:14:17](#)).
- **Discussion of Specific Priority Projects:** Several projects were listed, including the Forest Project Plan Phase 1 on the El Dorado National Forest, the Mokelumne

Rim fuel break, and the Amador Pines Forest Health project ([00:14:17](#)). Todd Bertwell noted that these projects are in various stages, ranging from being fully underway to being unfunded intentions, and the first project is a partnership between UMRWA and El Dorado National Forest, while others are led by the Amador Fire Safe Council or the Amador Resource Conservation District ([00:15:54](#)). Christopher Dow provided input on a new, developing Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) above Tiger Creek Reservoir on Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) property, which will be added to the list and ties into Forest Service VMPs ([00:18:20](#)).

- **Refining Details of the Forest Project Plan Phase One:** Richard Sykes suggested clarifying that the Forest Project Plan Phase One (FPPP1) should be labeled as "non-commercial thinning" instead of "commercial thinning" ([00:18:20](#)). Richard Sykes and Todd Bertwell also discussed including Phase Two of the project, which is massive in scope, and agreed that Richard Sykes will draft a description for Ian Moore and Todd Bertwell to incorporate into the plan, potentially focusing on proposed activities rather than an exact acreage ([00:19:59](#)). Ian Moore confirmed that they will handle the submission and noted that many of the listed projects have only an estimated or to-be-determined acreage ([00:22:09](#)).
- **Draft CWPP Review Process and Deadline:** Ian Moore confirmed that the full draft CWPP will be finalized and sent out for review by the end of the current week, with the working group members asked to submit their comments and edits via email by April 1st ([00:23:22](#)) ([00:27:38](#)). The primary focus for the working group's review is the action items and priority projects, ensuring the list is complete, as well as checking the goals of the plan and providing feedback on the document's overall readability and layout ([00:24:54](#)).
- **Final Project Activities and Timeline:** The final planned activities include a community meeting to present the plan to the public on Monday, April 27th (tentative), a presentation of the plan for adoption at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, April 28th, and a two-day field tour on April 29th and 30th ([00:27:38](#)). The field tour is intended to gather all stakeholders to review the document's contents on the ground and serve as a kickoff for collaborative processes. Todd Bertwell will send out further communications about the logistics and scheduling for these final events ([00:29:08](#)).
- **Concluding Remarks and Next Steps:** Ian Moore noted that this is the second-to-last working group meeting, with one final meeting scheduled for the second Wednesday of April to focus on incorporating final edits ([00:32:01](#)). Todd Bertwell encouraged participants to reach out with any additional questions or

discussions about the fuel treatment projects or other sections of the plan before the draft is sent out. All attendees were thanked for their participation, and they were told to look out for the upcoming email containing the draft plan and instructions ([00:33:31](#)).

Suggested next steps

Todd Bertwell will send out materials for the community meeting on Monday, the 27th, the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, the 28th, and the field tours on the 29th and 30th.

Richard Sykes will put together the El Dorado forest phase two project details to include in the plan draft, send it to Ian Moore, and CC Todd Bertwell.

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