

Apr 8, 2026

Amador CWPP: Working Group

Summary

The final CWPP working group meeting reviewed draft feedback and established a comprehensive timeline for final outreach, board approval, and the subsequent launch of a collaborative group.

CWPP Draft Review and Approval

Working group feedback on the draft CWPP document will be incorporated this week and next to support the final approval timeline. The Board of Supervisors approval meeting is scheduled for April 28th, following a town hall meeting on April 27th to present the finalized plan to the public.

Field Tours and Group Formation

2 field tours are scheduled for April 29th and 30th to foster community collaboration and examine various fire mitigation projects. The Amador County Wildfire Collaborators Group is being established to oversee the CWPP's priorities, with the first meeting scheduled for June 10th.

Collaborative Group Structure Established

The collaborative group will operate as a loose partnership focused on shared implementation, coordination, and securing funding requests, meeting 3 times a year. Proposed subcommittees will focus on areas including Fuels Reduction, Mapping, Outreach, and Defensible Space and Home Hardening.

Details

- **Meeting Start and Introduction:** Ian Moore initiated the meeting, noting that it was the final working group session for the Amador County Wildfire Protection

Plan (CWPP). The call was expected to be shorter than the allotted hour. Todd Bertwell mentioned they were excited about the final meeting, but would miss the collaboration, suggesting future collaborative efforts are likely ([00:02:49](#)).

- **Review of Draft Document Feedback:** Ian Moore acknowledged that the working group provided substantial feedback on the draft CWPP document. They confirmed that the received edits and comments would be incorporated this week and next to support the upcoming timeline and closing processes ([00:06:45](#)).
- **Concluding the CWPP Process and Future Engagement:** The meeting's primary goal was to conclude the CWPP development process and look ahead to future engagement, as the community will continue to interact to ensure the plan and its action items are seen through. Ian Moore emphasized that they now have a nearly complete draft of the plan ([00:06:45](#)).
- **Attendee Introductions:** Todd Bertwell led a round of quick introductions to ensure everyone present knew each other. Participants included Susan Peters (AFSC and Amador Water Agency), Dan Epperson (County Supervisor District 2), Brian Oneto (County Supervisor District 5), Jim Bennet (City of Lone Fire Department), Kayla Dale (AFPD Public Information Officer), James Thornock (USFS Amador Ranger District), Amanda Watson (AFSC Coordinator and ARCD Executive Director), Dan Macon (UCCE Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor), Ian Moore (Spatial Informatics Group), Richard Sykes (Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority), Ty McCartney (PG&E) and Todd Crawford (PG&E) ([00:08:00](#)).
- **Upcoming Timeline: Final Outreach and Approval:** Ian Moore presented the timeline for final outreach and plan approval, kicking off the last week of April. This week includes a town hall meeting and the official board approval process ([00:09:27](#)) ([00:13:08](#)).
- **Town Hall Meeting Details:** A town hall meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 27th, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the American Legion Hall, Sutter Hill. The purpose is to reconnect with the public, show them the finalized plan, and discuss how they can get involved in implementing the plan's actions and accessing resources ([00:10:45](#)). Outreach for the event will include traditional methods (paper, radio) and social media, and an online access option will be provided ([00:11:51](#)).
- **Board of Supervisors Approval:** Following the town hall, the Board of Supervisors approval meeting is scheduled for April 28th. A finalized draft of the plan will be

sent to the board on April 16th, allowing them a chance to review the document for at least a week prior to the meeting ([00:13:08](#)). The presentation to the board will be a shorter overview ([00:14:39](#)).

- **Field Tours Logistics and Purpose:** A set of field tours is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29th, and Thursday, April 30th. The tours are intended to foster community collaboration, examine successful projects, and review encountered issues at various sites. Wednesday's tour will focus on middle to high country forested areas and projects like forest health and community-scale fuel reduction, while Thursday's tour will look at the western part of the county and different vegetation treatments ([00:14:39](#)).
- **Field Tour Invitation and Transportation:** CalFire will provide consolidated transportation for the field tours, with participants meeting in Jackson at the administration building each day and returning there at the end of the day. Invitations will be extended to everyone involved in the CWPP process, stakeholders, Firewise community leaders, and elected officials from the county and cities ([00:17:35](#)). A link for registration and signup was shared, noting that attending only part of the tour or only one of the two days is an option, although transportation cannot be accommodated for partial attendance ([00:20:22](#)).
- **CWPP Finalization Post-Approval:** Ian Moore stated that the plan is scheduled for approval by the board on April 28th. Although it will be largely finalized then, some work will continue into May to ensure the document is completely finished, signed, and finalized a few weeks after the approval date ([00:23:36](#)).
- **Introducing the Amador County Wildfire Collaborators Group:** A main item coming out of the plan is the formation of the Amador County Wildfire Collaborators Group, which will oversee the plan's priorities. This is not a new group, but the CWPP provides a renewed opportunity for organizations to join and provide more background to its mission ([00:23:36](#)).
- **Collaborative Group Structure and Initial Meeting:** The collaborative group is proposed to meet three times a year, with the first meeting scheduled for June 10th. The group's structure will involve a collection of subcommittees to address specific priorities and action items identified in the CWPP ([00:25:27](#)). Amanda Watson emphasized that the group is currently intended to be a loose collaborative of partners, not a formalized entity or new governing body, focused on shared implementation, coordination, and identifying/streamlining funding requests ([00:27:13](#)).

- **Funding and Potential Subcommittees for the Collaborative Group:** The Fire Safe Council has coordinator grant funding from the California Fire Safe Council to facilitate the collaborative group's meetings and documents ([00:28:29](#)). Proposed subcommittees include Leadership and Administration (responsible for structure and CWPP updates), Outreach and Education (focused on consistent messaging), Fuels Reduction Project Committee (focused on landscape-scale projects), Mapping and GIS (focused on coordinating project data), and Defensible Space and Home Hardening (focused on assistance, inspections, and enforcement) ([00:29:49](#)).
- **Key Priorities for the Collaborative Group:** Todd Bertwell reiterated the importance of keeping the plan updated, helping homeowners achieve safety and compliance with defensible space, and addressing the insurance component to secure reduced rates for the public ([00:34:48](#)). An annual review of the CWPP's implementation is also planned to track progress and identify areas for improvement ([00:35:41](#)).
- **Burn Pile Safety and Outreach:** There was a discussion about the need for better public education on responsible burning, specifically regarding drying out and covering burn piles before ignition, and burning right after a rainstorm to reduce the likelihood of escape. Amador Fire conducts extensive outreach on this topic, including burn pile safety classes for the Firewise communities and the women landowners association ([00:36:49](#)).
- **Firewise Lead Coordination for Field Tours:** Kayla Dale, the coordinator for Firewise Communities in Amador County, offered to manage the 43 Firewise community leads for the field tours on April 29th and 30th, acting as a liaison for information dissemination ([00:38:50](#)).
- **Plan Accessibility and Mapping Database:** Upon finalization, the CWPP will be posted on the Amador Fire Safe Council and county websites for public access ([00:39:59](#)). Ian Moore noted that the compilation of ongoing and planned treatments will eventually be maintained by the Mapping and GIS committee, ensuring the database remains updated over time ([00:41:32](#)).
- **Signatory Edits and Acronym Consistency:** Todd Bertwell advised that the signatory for the Forest Service should be the forest supervisor, Dave Fournier ([00:43:01](#)). They also discussed ensuring consistency in acronym usage throughout the document, specifically recommending that "US Forest Service" be used instead of abbreviations like "EDNF" for continuity ([00:52:16](#)).

- **Final Review and Signing of the Document:** It was agreed that the finalized draft should be sent to the Board of Supervisors on April 16th ([00:54:43](#)). Following board approval, the final document will be distributed to all signatories, including the USFS Eldorado forest supervisor, for final review and signing over the next few weeks ([00:55:43](#)).

Suggested next steps

[The group] Send Town Hall Flyer: Distribute finalized town hall flyer for public event.

[The group] Post Invite: Share town hall invitation on social media channels.

[The group] Distribute Tour Link: Send formal email with expected agenda and field tour sign-up link.

[Ian Moore] Expand Invite List: Ensure field tour invitation list includes city council members and county electives.

[Kayla Dale] Coordinate Firewise Leads: Manage logistics and information distribution for the 43 Firewise community leaders attending the tour.

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