



Amador Fire Safe Council

PO Box 1055, Pine Grove, CA 95665

www.AmadorFireSafe.org



April 17th, 2024

3:00-5:00

Virtual & In-Person Meeting

Attend In-Person	Attend Virtually
19888 Church Street, Pine Grove (Behind Pine Grove Park) Volcano Communications Tech Center	Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2674846542?pwd=VjlrL25rMGkwY2paMmxhckhKbnJSZz09 Meeting ID: 267 484 6542 Call-In Number: 1(669)900-6833 Code: 2674846542# Passcode: 1055

AGENDA

1. Approve/Modify Agenda*
2. Approve March Minutes*
3. Introductions
4. Treasurers Report (John)*
5. Creation of Upper Rancheria Bank Account (Dana)*
6. Coordinator Report (Amanda)
7. FireWise Community Program Update (Megan)
8. Partner Updates
 - a. Cal Fire
 - b. Amador Fire Protection District
 - c. Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
 - d. Wood Angels
9. Public Comment
10. Other items/adjourn

*Action items
Meeting will be recorded.



AMADOR FIRE SAFE COUNCIL BOARD MEETING
March 20, 2024 3:00pm



March 20, 2024 - 3:00 pm

1. Approve/Modify Agenda - *SP motioned for approval, FL seconded*

2. Approval of September Minutes – *SP motioned for approval, FL seconded*

3. Introductions: Frank Leschinsky (FL), John Heisenbuttel (JH), Susan Peters (SP), Patrick Minyard (PM), Amanda Watson (AW), Dana Simpson (DS), Megan Watts (MW), Ed Struffeneger (ES), Connie Gonsalves (CG), Chris Dowd (CD), various members of the public/Zoom attendees

Absent: Richard Yarnell (RY)

4. Treasurer Report:

\$715k approx. (multiple accounts) – short term cash flow challenge due to so much work going on and lag in state reimbursements. Reserve fund will assist in cash flow challenges if necessary. Finally making progress in changing calendar with IRS.

5. Coordinator Report:

- See Board Packet

- River Pines Fuel Break Update (See presentation on website)

6. Firewise Community Update (MW):

30 active/good standing communities; 6 pending; 1 inactive. Need leads for Running Gold and Old Emigrant. Signage program order complete- 180 signs, traffic signs, thoroughfare signs, etc. Concrete will be coordinated for pickup via Megan/Meeks. No delivery service for this. Actual signage should be delivered within a month.

7. Partner Update:

CAL FIRE: Initiated burns at Shake Ridge, Manzanita. (Old Holocaust Fire area) Lots of work being done, vegetation being cleared. Next to do: Omo Ranch Rd. Shake-Fiddle VMP, etc.

AFPD: Fair Booth restructuring for “Safety” area; YouTube video shared “year in review”

BLM: New person in charge; have available funds; seeking property fee projects - encouraging project ideas to come forward

10. Public Comment:

Steve Cannon made Board aware of potential beneficial Fuel Break in Amador City (preliminary concept) - further detail and discussion to come. Board is very interested.

Adjourn: 4:55pm

AMADOR FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

2024 Budget

As of Mar 31, 2024

Expenses

Grants Expenses

305 AFSC Coordinator	80,000.00	1	19,865.37
306 Coordinator Assistant	6,000.00	2	2,000.22
307 Outreach Coordinator	40,000.00	3	15,177.00
308 Technical Assistance	8,000.00	4	958.56
309 Project Management	70,000.00	5	16,103.30
310 RPF Professional Forester	125,000.00		23,312.50
315 Environmental Documentation	10,000.00		0.00
320 Groundwork Contracted Labor	2,332,750.00		579,386.32
350 Outreach/Materials/Supplies	10,000.00		383.64
Total Grant Expenses	2,681,750.00		657,186.91

Operating Expenses

311 Bookkeeper	10,000.00	4	3,233.06
321 State Filing Fees	350.00		0.00
330 Insurance, D&O	2,000.00		0.00
343 Bank Charges	50.00		0.00
345 Office Supplies	4,000.00		0.00
346 Postage	400.00		0.00
350 General Outreach	10,000.00	6	0.00
365 Professional Fees	600.00	7	0.00
365 Telephone	375.00		0.00
370 Mileage	4,000.00		603.00
Other	0.00		0.00
Total Operating Expenses	31,775.00		3,836.06

Unrestricted Reserves

100,000.00		0.00
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Total Expenses

2,813,525.00		661,022.97
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Revenue

Grants

PG&E CEMA Program	30,000.00	8	0.00
SNC Tiger Creek Implementation	29,750.00	9	1,051.07
SNC Tiger Creek Enhancement	43,675.00	9	2,473.94

CAL FIRE Ingress/Egress 1	599,600.00	9	193,407.88
CAL FIRE Ingress/Egress 2	428,508.00	10	76,407.74
SNC County Steward Implementation	283,600.00	11	998.24
Community Fuel Break	294,175.00	12	121,278.53
CAL FIRE Pine Acres Maintenance	333,233.00	9	7,886.66
CAFSC County Coordinator	90,000.00	9	8,673.53
CalFire Evacuation Improvement	183,000.00	9	261,156.18
CAL FIRE Upper Rancheria	587,750.00	10	16,972.42
Misc Grant Income			
Contributions	500.00		25.00
Indirect/Admin Revenue	290,329.00		74,274.62
Interest Income	200.00		98.04
Total Revenue	3,194,320.00		764,703.85

1. Assumes 100 hours/month
2. Assumes 10 hours/month
3. Assumes 80 hours/month
4. Assumes 16 hours/month
5. Assumes 100 hours/month
6. Outreach that is not directly billable to a specific grant
7. Tax preparation.
8. Assumes we receive grant.
9. Assumes we complete 100% of the grant this year.
10. Assumes we complete 80% this year.
11. Assumes we complete 40% this year.
12. Assumes we complete 75% this year.

Amador Fire Safe Council Fund Balances

	As of Dec 31, 2023	As of Mar 31, 2024
3000 General Fund	106,797.38	75,810.27
Savings/Reserve Account	100,016.99	50,040.22
4255 PG&E/CWPP	94,180.01	185.80
4412 Tiger Creek Enhance	32,804.55	32,808.63
4420 CFSC Coordinator	4,754.63	100.13
4222 Tiger Creek Implementation	2,808.66	2,458.79
4651 Ingress/Egress	43,451.81	782.68
4834 AmCo Stewardship	312,525.74	311,049.26
4842 Community Fuel Break	73,302.29	197.86
4842 Pine Acres Fuel Break	106,901.35	103,570.62
Total	\$ 877,543.41	577,044.26

Amador Fire Safe Council Grant Snapshot
as of Mar 31, 2024

	AFSC	<u>Grant Period</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>	<u>Direct Cost</u>	<u>Indirect Cost</u>	<u>Grant Funds Spent to Date</u>	<u>Remaining Advance</u>	<u>Invoiced</u>	<u>Amount remaining</u>
1	Coordinator (CAFSC) - COMPLETE	11/15/2021 - 3/31/2024	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 157,500.00	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 175,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2	Amador County Evac Improvement - CWPP (CalFire) 5GG21101	6/14/2022 - 3/15/2024	\$ 379,982.40	\$ 335,000.00	\$ 40,712.40	\$ 379,982.40		\$ 285,908.32	\$ -
3	Tiger Creek Implementation 1200 (SNC)	7/28/2020 - 1/1/2025	\$ 834,126.00	\$ 744,756.00	\$ 89,370.00	\$ 798,588.03	\$ -	\$ 47,804.54	\$ 35,537.97
4	Tiger Creek Enhancement 1330 (SNC)	9/13/2021 - 1/1/2025	\$ 220,200.00	\$ 200,200.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 173,348.96	\$ 24,831.04		\$ 46,851.04
5	Ingress/Egress (CalFire) 5GG19102	5/13/2020 - 3/1/2025	\$ 1,044,296.00	\$ 949,360.00	\$ 94,936.00	\$ 721,803.62	\$ -	\$ 167,397.60	\$ 322,492.38
6	Pine Acres (CalFire) 5GG20101	approval - 3/15/2025	\$ 515,405.00	\$ 468,550.00	\$ 46,855.00	\$ 32,668.69	\$ 96,182.57		\$ 482,736.31
7	Ingress/Egress Phase 2 5GA21119	6/2/2022 - 03/15/2025	\$ 600,000.00	\$ 545,455.00	\$ 54,545.00	\$ 84,048.51		\$ 84,048.52	\$ 515,951.49
8	Upper Rancheria Community Fuel Break 5GA21149	- 5/31/2025	\$ 950,010.00	\$ 863,645.00	\$ 86,365.00	\$ 31,856.65	\$ 218,831.32	\$ 237,501.00	\$ 918,153.35
9	RFFCP - SNC	2 years Expected not Executed	\$ 213,290.00		\$ 19,390.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 213,290.00
10	Amador Community Fuel Break Develop Proj (CalFire) 5GG21201	8/4/2022 - 3/15/2026	\$ 726,000.00	\$ 660,000.00	\$ 66,000.00	\$ 424,871.85	\$ -	\$ 61,714.75	\$ 301,128.15
11	AmCo Implementation 1370 (SNC)	8/23/2022 - 1/1/2028	\$ 1,288,444.00	\$1,171,313.00	\$ 117,131.00	\$ 462,217.45	\$310,848.94		\$ 826,226.55
			\$ 6,946,753.40	\$5,603,279.00	\$ 652,804.40	\$ 3,284,386.16	\$ 650,693.87	\$ 884,374.73	\$ 3,662,367.24

*matches Unearned Revenue *Matches Accounts Receivable

**Amador Fire Safe Council
Coordinator Monthly Report**

Apr-24

Date Range: March 20th 2024 - April 15th 2024

Project	Update	Future Planned Actions
AmCo Stewardship - Mokelumne Community Forest	160.47 acres/413 acres of mastication has been completed.	Continue to research stewardship agreement and Timber Sale options.
Amador County Collaborative Ingress, Egress and Education Plan	Both of our CalFire I/E grants need to be completed by March 2025. Under the Phase grant 5GG19102 and 5GA21119 work has continued over the past month.	The competitive bidding process for Private Roads RFP. Released April 11th
	Next Private Road RFP is ready for release and will cover: Unit 1: Andrews Lane- .75 Miles & Quartz Mtn/Meath/Twin Pines- 5.71 miles Unit 2: Nina & Hampton Roads 1.47 miles & Fiddletown Park – 4.6 miles	The first quarter reporting is due at the end of April.
CalFire Evacuation Planning Grant	The grant ended on March 15th, staff utilized all grant funds, and the final report was completed. The close-out site visit is scheduled for May 2nd.	Final reporting will be completed by April 15th 2024, scheduling closeout site visit with CaFSC and CalFire for late April.
Community Fuel Break Project	Initial Crestview site visit held on 4/16 with forester and BLM representatives.	Butte FireWise Community meeting - April 20th
	The Projects Committee resolved issues on River Pines and River Pines PUD invoice through payment by the project forester and AFSC. Staff is working to find a contractor to treat a steep section along Shenandoah Road with handwork.	Several new projects have been received by community members which will be reviewed at the May Projects Committee meeting.
Upper Rancheria Fuel Break	Krisman has completed the initial section of Upper Rancheria and is contracted to complete the secondary section in Fall of 2024. Bordges is working on Upper Rancheria.	First quarter reporting is due at the end of April
County Coordinator - CAFSC	Coordinator Grant reporting has been submitted and the next round of funding should be awarded this week.	Establish the County Mapping Committee.
Pine Acres Fuel Break Maintenance	Krisman has completed 56.86 acres along the Pine Acres Fuel Break with funding under the 5GG21101 grant. There is an estimated 98 acres of treatment remaining that needs to be completed by March 2025.	The competitive bidding process for Private Roads RFP. Released April 11th

Funding	<p style="text-align: center;">Grants Submitted:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ohio Hill Fuel Break: PG&E \$37,300 12 acres treatment.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Awaiting funding announcement</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program (RFFCP) Round 3:</u> Mapping/Organization Capacity - \$213,290</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>County Coordinator Funding:</u> continuing the funding of county coordination until December 2024 - \$175k</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CalFire CCI Wildfire Prevention solicitation: <u>County-wide CWPP Update</u> \$167k</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ohio Hill Community Fuel Break</u>, 240 acres, \$917k</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Volcano Hills Community Fuel Break</u>, 270 acres, \$1.019mil</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BLM Fuels NOFO: <u>Rancheria Ridge/CWPP Update:</u> \$691,460</p>	
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2024 Amador FSC Outreach Plan

Goals

Meaningful and transparent communication with constituents, partners, and stakeholders
Education to the general public on fire mitigation and land stewardship
Timely and consistent professional communication
Achieve all grant deliverables
Cross-promotion/outreach between projects/programs when possible

Promotional Tools to be Created

General AFSC PPT
Program PPTs/slides
Project One-Pagers - ***in progress***
Project Mapping System
Annual Report - ***completed***
Amador Ag. Program Database – ***in progress***
ACT Natural Resource Program Database
Videos/Drone Footage/Workshop Recordings
Photo Database

Equipment /Supplies

Staff/Board Logo Gear – ***awaiting funding***
Magnetic Name Tags – ***awaiting funding***
Car Magnets - ***ordered***
Ipad

Regular Processes

Quarterly Newsletter: First staff meeting of each mid-quarter month (February, May, August, November) staff will discuss Newsletter topics, copy is assigned. Newsletter released at the end of the month.

Quarterly Website Review/Update: mid-quarter (February, May, August, November) each staff member reviews owned projects and provides updates to Megan. All updates to be made prior to Newsletter release.

Monthly Outreach Check-In at Staff Meeting

Monthly Radio Interviews

Monthly Press Release

Timeline

Quarter 1

AFSC Q1		
January	February	March
		River Pines Town Hall 3/13
	FW Forum - 2/7	Newsletter - March 28
		Amador Fire Mitigation Collaborators - 3/8
		Annual Report- 3/29

Quarter 2

AFSC - Q2		
April	May	June
FW Forum 4/24	Newsletter	
Butte Mtn FWC Mtg - 4/20	Tiger Creek Tailgate - 5/29	
Website Update	BOS Presentation	
Fire District Meeting	Fire Safe Council Town Halls - Pioneer, Plymouth, Fiddletown, Jackson Megan Watts finalize locations, others?	
URFB Town Hall - April 26th Gordon Long (tentative)	Emergency Preparedness Guide - Ledger Dispatch Megan Watts Focus on private ingress/egress road applications, promote firewise and promote the chipping program.	
	Pine Acres Town Hall - May 1st Gordon Long (tentative)	

Quarter 3

AFSC - Q3		
July	August	September
FW Forum	Newsletter	BOS Presentation
County Fair - Safety Fair 7/25-28	Website Update	

Quarter 4

AFSC - Q4		
October	November	December
FW Forum	Newsletter	
	Website Update	

Amador Fire Safe Council 2021-2023 Report



FIRE PREPAREDNESS THROUGH COORDINATION

Since its inception as a 501(c)(3) organization in 2001, the Amador Fire Safe Council (AFSC) has a proven track record of bringing together the communities, organizations, and landowners of Amador County to develop and implement strategic plans to reduce the potential for catastrophic wildfires. Our collaborators include the Amador Board of Supervisors, the Amador Resource Conservation District, the Bureau of Land Management, the USDA Forest Service, Sierra Pacific Industries, CALFIRE, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, PG&E, the Amador Fire Protection District and the five local fire protection districts and Firewise Communities.

AFSC is led by a dedicated 8-member volunteer Board. Board Members include: Pat Minyard, Connie Gonsalves, John Heissenbuttel, Susan Peters, Frank Leschinsky, Chris Dow, & Richard Yarnell

FIREWISE COMMUNITIES (FWC) AFSC & Amador Fire Protection District

have worked to help communities engaged in their fire preparedness through the development of Firewise Communities. In the last 3 years 33 FWCs have been formed in Amador County. AFSC provides assistance to FWCs through community formation, project development, start-up resource kits, quarterly Firewise Forums, and signage.



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ACCOMPLISHMENTS SUMMARY



7 Fuels Breaks Treated/In-Development



725 Acres Treated



43.7 Miles Evacuation Route Improved



33 Firewise Communities Formed

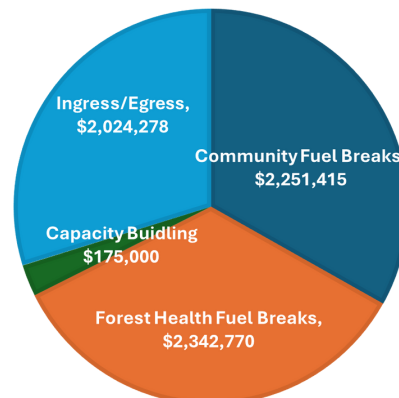


\$6.8 million AFSC Grant \$\$ Awarded

GRANT FUNDING



AFSC has been awarded \$6.8 million dollars in funding in the past 3 years to assist with forest health, evacuation route improvements, fire mitigation, community support and fire prevention education. The majority of this funding comes from state agencies like CalFire and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. Just under 10% of funds come from other organizations like CA Fire Safe Council and PG&E. The AFSC Coordinator has worked with partners to bring \$23 million of funding to the region.



AFSC funding is equally divided between the 3 main types of on-the-ground projects the AFSC implements with a small amount of capacity building funds.

Funding is provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection ("CAL FIRE") as part of the California Climate Investment Program and with support of the California Fire Safe Council.

Amador Fire Safe Council's mission is to...

"protect the people of Amador County and their property from the catastrophic effects of wildfire through education, outreach, innovation and action."



FUEL BREAK DEVELOPMENT

The AFSC works with partners to plan, acquire funding, and implement strategic fuel breaks on private and public lands. Work includes the development of Community Fuel Breaks with FWCs and coordination with federal and state partners on forest health and fire prevention projects.

COMPLETED FUEL BREAKS

Tiger Creek - 318 acres treated on Bureau of Land Management Ground (BLM).

IN-PROGRESS FUEL BREAKS

Pine Acres - 82 acres treated on private & BLM

AmCo Stewardship - 174 acres treated on BLM

River Pines - 130 acres treated on private

Ohio Hill - 12 acres treated on private

Butte Mountain - 9 acres treated on private

Upper Rancheria - planning stage



RIVER PINES
COMMUNITY FUEL BREAK

AFSC STAFFING

AFSC staff are contracted employees through the Amador RCD. In the past 3 years the AFSC has grown from 1 to 5 part-time staff.

Amanda Watson - AFSC Coordinator

Dana Simpson - Finance Manager

Megan Watts - Outreach/FWC Coordinator

Gordon Long - Forestry Project Manager

Tamryn Zahradka - Forestry Resource Tech.

INGRESS & EGRESS IMPROVEMENT



Utilizing the mapping and planning effort conducted by the AFSC-developed, County Evacuation Route Committee AFSC improves ingress/egress by conducting vegetation management along critical evacuation routes. AFSC also reviews and implements projects submitted by community members. In the past 2 years the AFSC has treated roadside vegetation along a total of 43.7 miles.

6.5 MILES OF PRIVATE ROADS TREATED

37.2 MILES OF COUNTY ROADS TREATED

8% OF COUNTY ROADS TREATED

CAPACITY BUILDING & PARTNERSHIP

Through the Amador County Fuels Reduction Coordination Grant AFSC has fostered partnerships and developed new relationships. The Coordinator funding has built capacity, increased grant funding for programs, strengthened regional coordination, and improved the safety of Amador County from wildfire. This funding fills a gap in traditional grant funding; providing funds for staff to engage in partnerships and thoughtfully develop strategic programs and grant applications that will best serve the County.

The AFSC developed partnership agreements with Amador Resource Conservation District and the Amador Fire Protection District. These agreements help to build the capacity for all organizations through resource and staff sharing.

Funding is provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection ("CAL FIRE") as part of the California Climate Investment Program and with support of the California Fire Safe Council.