

2022 June 15 Fire and Disaster Preparedness Working Group Meeting

Customer Service Request to CalTrans asking them to clean up along 162 was shared. CalTrans sent out crews to work in a few areas as a result. If you notice weeds, trees, or brush that need to be cut back, submit a customer service request to:

<https://csr.dot.ca.gov/index.php/Msrsubmit>

It was decided we should look at the "Prepare Your Family and Your Home for Disaster Covelo/Round Valley" brochure to ensure phone numbers are still correct.

It was decided to look at the Resources & Deficiencies document Lew put together and update. Maybe next meeting?

Street Signage: Signage and street names are inconsistent, making it difficult for first responders to find addresses. We'd like to see the County Department of Transportation install identifying street signs using common names e.g.: Hopper Ln (337F), Charlie Hurt Rd (337D), so local and out-of-area first responders can find addresses in an emergency. Currently there are no signs for Hopper Lane or Frazier Lane, for example.

<https://geographic.org/streetview/usa/ca/mendocino/covelo.html>

<https://www.mendocinocounty.org/home/showpublisheddocument/49698/637822530977430000>

Green reflective address signs are also needed throughout the valley, esp. outlying areas: Hulls Valley, Chicken Ridge, Pigeon Ridge. How best to educate people about the need for signage? Tack up notices next to gates? Perhaps the Road Associations for these areas could assist in getting the word out.

Blackberry Festival, can we have a F&DPWG table for readiness info? Might we have a volunteer make/sell the FireSafe Council signs? Pat will see if Charles will have a BBF booth, ask Scott Cratty if there might be a volunteer (Dave Berry) willing to come out to make signs available.

Map for Evac Zones: Can we obtain a hard copy to display at events so people can locate their residences and learn their zone?

Food Security. In the event of a prolonged, serious emergency (major, severe earthquake/landslide, flood, truckers strike) that isolated our community and prevented trucks from bringing in supplies, how do we assure that community members have access to food and necessities as long as possible? Is there room for food storage in school cafeteria? Could more food be stored at June Marie's/Food Bank for possible emergencies (talk to Rose Shepherd, Joe Merrifield)? Could Brian and John be approached re: rationing if it looked like a longer-term food shortage? [During PSPS people waited hours in line for gas because of people were stocking up on hundreds of gallons, cutting into line, etc.]

Additional items discussed and recommended by the Disaster Preparedness Group, 6/15/2022

Round Valley Lions have a grant application in development with the USDA for improvements to the Recreation Center and part of this application is a provision for a back up generator. The RVAMAC could write a letter of support to be included in the application.

Three residential neighborhoods in vulnerable wildfire territory could use some support and encouragement to develop safe evacuation routes, shaded fire breaks, posted addresses and some kind of fire safe council. These neighborhoods are Hull's Valley, Pigeon Ridge and Chicken Ridge. Hull's Valley is making progress with a number of reflective address signs and has had a few productive meetings to strategize actions. The Bauer Ranch Subdivision on the Mendocino Pass Road has quite a few reflective address signs installed.

The Disaster Preparedness Group would like the RVAMAC to purchase a subscription to one of the mapping sites which shows parcels, addresses, owner names, etc. This could be a valuable planning tool for the group.

It is recommended that the RVAMAC secure a booth at the August Blackberry Festival for general promotion, public information and the opportunity to share this booth on at least one day with the Mendocino Fire Safe Council. This might be an opportunity to connect the public with a way to get reflective address signage posted at their driveway or other desirable locations so emergency vehicles can find their house.