



OAK TO TIMBERLINE FIRESAFE COUNCIL

OTFSC 2017 Annual Report

Grants administered

- 2016: State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund (CalFire), in the amount of \$100,000, for Hazardous Fuels Reduction for Pinehurst and Miramonte Foothill Communities. This grant will be closed out and final report submitted on March 14, 2018.
- 2017: State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund / Tree Mortality (CalFire), in the amount of \$200,000, for Tree Removal for the High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in the North Central Tulare County Sierra Foothills. Landowner agreements and 1038k documents solicited and executed. Work is ongoing.
- 2017: PG&E grant in support of Fuel Reduction Projects, in the amount of \$75,000. This grant has been completely expended and the final report has been submitted.

Projects implemented

OTFSC hosted a California Conservation Corps crew from the Los Padres Center in San Luis Obispo, July 6 through November 15, 2017. Funding for the Corps came from the AmeriCorps Tree Mortality Project. Work was done on Hogback, Todd Eymann, Upper Millwood (along the road and on private property)

Community Wildfire Protection Plan

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan is to be completed by September 2018, under the auspices of Sierra Resource Conservation District (with funding from the California Fire Safe Council). Craig Jones from SRCD is assisting the CWPP committee and the Core Stakeholders to create the document, maps, and propose projects.

Outreach

- Regular email newsletter produced
- oaktotimberline.org regularly updated
- Burnie logo created and used extensively, including Burnie stickers (thanks to Chris Huneke for his help)
- Burnie mascot created by BJ O'Brien, with finishing touches by Bachrun LoMele
- OTFSC billboard and "Burnie Shave" signs have been made, and will be installed very soon along Hwy 180, Sand Creek and Dunlap Roads
- [facebook.com/oaktotimberline](https://www.facebook.com/oaktotimberline) currently has 704 likes and is updated weekly; Wendy Garton has agreed to post news of smoke reports and fires.
- Regular sponsorship of a page in Squaw Valley News
- Core and Community Stakeholder meetings have been convened by the CWPP committee as part of the CWPP process
- OTFSC flier / informational handout was produced, May 2017, and included in Mountain Valley Fire Department annual fundraising letter
- Co-hosted a pre-fire Town Hall event at Dunlap Community Club and Dunlap School, with Fresno County Office of Emergency Services and CalFire, May 2017
- Arranged a presentation by the CCC crew for Dunlap School 7th and 8th graders and Dunlap Leadership Academy students, September 2017
- Service area-wide postcard mailing was produced and sent, November 2017
- Quarterly public meetings have been held at the Central Sierra Chamber in Pinehurst, and Bear Mountain Library in Squaw Valley
- Information tables have been staffed at area events: rodeo, Harvest Festival and Christmas Parade at Dunlap Community Club; Christmas boutique at the Chamber, etc.
- OTFSC Board members gave a presentation at SVPOA (and are available to do this for other organizations)



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Administrative support

- Joyce Berube and Julie Evans are serving as short-term administrative support contractors.
- M Green and Company, Dinuba, has been contracted as tax preparer and accountant.
- A trailer for storage and demonstration staging has been purchased. Thanks to the Central Sierra Chamber for allowing it to be parked on their site.

Partners

Meetings attended:

- Fresno County Tree Mortality regular monthly meetings
- Tulare County Tree Mortality regular monthly meetings
- Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council quarterly meetings
- Highway 168 Fire Safe Council
- Tulare County Resource Conservation District

Memoranda of Understanding (MOU):

- Sierra Resource Conservation District
- Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development Council
- TBA: Hume Lake Ranger District of Sequoia National Forest

Advocacy

- Letter written in support of proposed Hazard Slash Clean Up projects in the Hume Lake Ranger District
- Letter sent to Fresno County Supervisor Nathan Magsig expressing concern about marijuana grows and fire danger
- Personal contacts with representatives from CalTrans, PG&E, and Fresno County OES to clean up logs and slash

Looking ahead

- *Outsmart an Ember*: a campaign to educate our community about wildfire hazards to homes and property, and how to protect them
- Completion of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, enabling OTFSC to be more competitive in applying for national and state-wide grants for hazard mitigation projects identified in the Plan
- The return of a CCC crew to our area
- Continued tree mortality work in the Eshom / Hartland area, through spring 2019
- Continued development of partnerships with agencies and organizations whose interests and purposes overlap with OTFSC
- Continued grant-seeking, writing, and project development

2017 OTFSC Board of Directors

Mahalia LoMele, Chairperson

David Karplus, Treasurer

Julie Harcos, Secretary

Dotty Woolum, Grants Coordinator and Project Manager

Jack Huneke, CWPP Committee Chair (shared position with

Julie Harcos)

Joseph Hunter, Member at Large

Tom Kramer, Member at Large

Jon Lovewell, Member at Large

Patrick McCaig, Member at Large

Steve / Lorri Orsaba, Member at Large

(shared position)