

Forestry Committee Minutes
February 10, 2011

Damon and Megan's Presentation

Damon Lange and Megan Sweeney, with the Colorado State Forest service, gave a talk about fire mitigation and possible monies available to Game Trail for fuel reduction. It was suggested that we assess each lot and we create a data base of those lots that are in need of fire mitigation. We will only do this with lot owner's permission. Damon and Megan from the Colorado State Forest will train the Committee members at no charge in May on how to assess lots. A need to prioritize is necessary. With the course of action as follows:

1. Lots with homes whose land has not been treated
2. Vacant lots
3. Areas on the perimeter

There is money available at times, especially from grants awarded to others whose projects are completed, but the grant money was not fully used. Game Trail could qualify for left-over money. Game Trail needs to document their volunteer hours and submit the total to Colorado State Forest in case some becomes available. A State Fire Assistant Grant will be coming out in June, we could apply in August. Work would have to meet set standards including defensible space and 10' crown spacing. Damon and Megan agreed to return for a talk on overall forest health in the future.

Discussion Followed on Plan of Action

It was decided a letter will be sent to GT members with a lot evaluation sheet attached inviting participation in a lot clean-up. Steve Vittum, Rick Cassie, and Bill Hicks will draft the letter, it needs to be sent as soon as possible. It is hoped that those who may be interested in having fire mitigation done on their land will attend the annual meeting and therefore be able to be present for their lot evaluation by the Committee. Any large trees removed the Committee would prefer to have CSF determine which trees should be removed. Money left over from our previous grant and can be used for the 'fire camp' training, and our costs for fire mitigation. The Board may provide money for the camp attendees. Steve is going to call the fire camp school to see if they would be willing to give less intensive training, perhaps a 1 day class.

Jetco, Spraying, and Forest Tour After the Picnic

Judy sent the annual Jetco letter out. Chip is willing to buy the MPB spray, cannot quote a price until he has a list of those interested. The price depends on how much is ordered and Chip wants to be paid before he puts in the order. People need to put in their order to Chip by April 15th. There was discussion about the lot owners spraying groups (which is not a forestry committee function). Bill Hicks has the list and will e-mail it to those who have participated in the past so that they may organize themselves, but he will not be the coordinator. It was suggested that during the annual meeting weekend, a forest tour or lot evaluation demonstration would be attractive to our members. Judy will follow-up with Phil Strongin on this idea.