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The Nevada Fire Safe Council

... Nevada communities

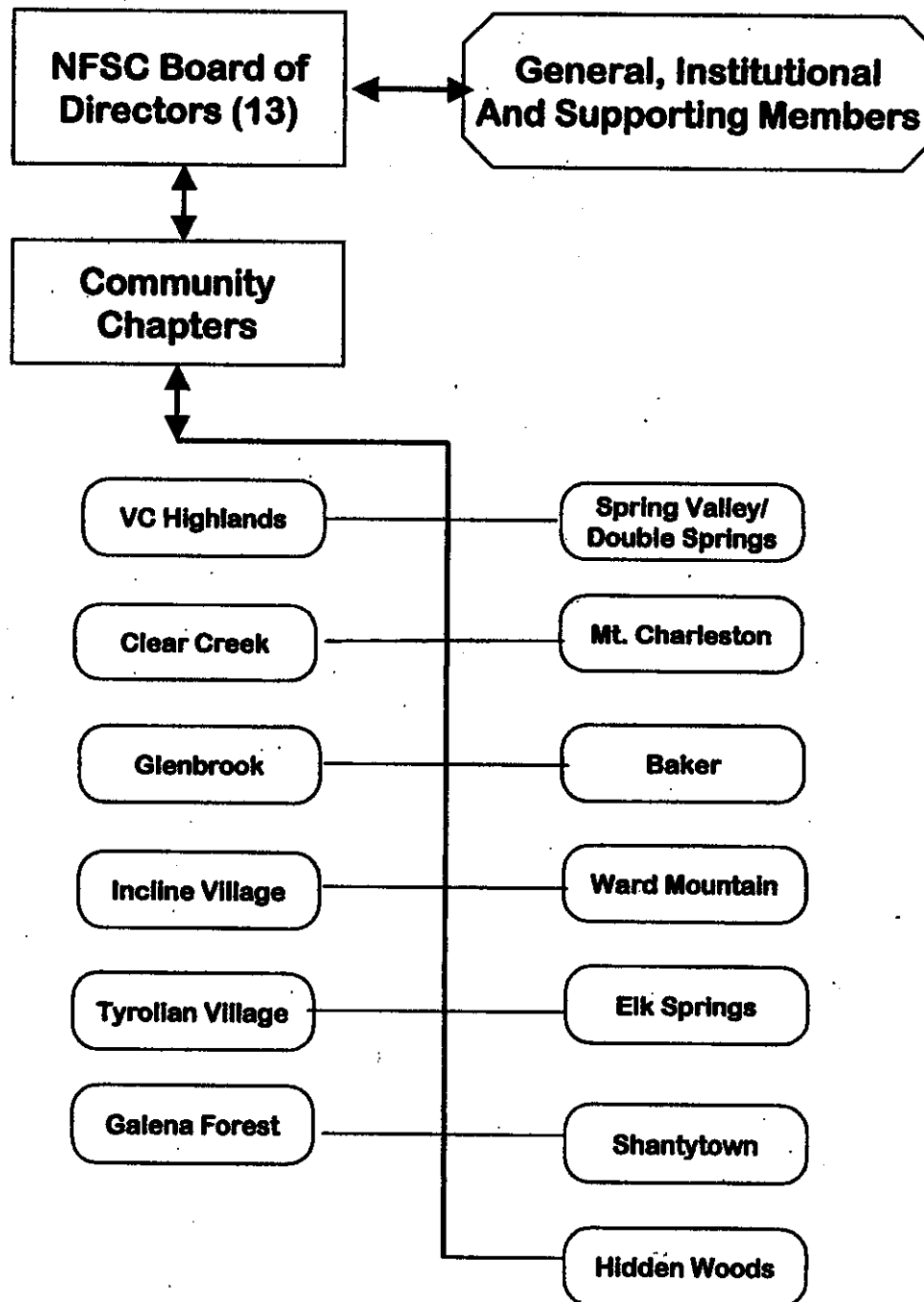
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ASSEMBLY NATURAL RES., AGRICULTURE & MINING
DATE: 3/19/03 ROOM: 3161 EXHIBIT C/-11
SUBMITTED BY: Elwood Miller

The Nevada Fire Safe Council

Organizational Chart



**The
Nevada Fire Safe Council**

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The Nevada Fire Safe Council

First Year Accomplishment Summary

Accomplishment Category	Accomplishment
Infrastructure, organizational structure, hiring of executive coordinator, chapter affiliation process, bylaws, governance structure, office establishment, etc.	Completed
Number of Chapters	Increase from zero to 13
Funding Through Grants and Contracts	Awarded \$1.3 million
Number of Members	Increased from less than 50 to nearly 400
Community Fire Safe Plans	3 completed; 3 in progress
Community Education	15 sessions
Fuel Reduction Projects	10 completed or in progress
Grants Pending	\$1.2 million; 13 projects
Biomass Utilization	Provided leadership to initiate discussions and stimulate interest in the utilization of biomass for energy or other beneficial purposes. Initiated biomass assessment study to determine volume and characteristics of potential feedstock in the vicinity of Carson City; final report due 6/30/03.

**The Nevada Fire Safe Council
Accomplishments and Activity
January 1, 2002 – March 19, 2003**

The Nevada Fire Safe Council is currently working with 18 communities throughout the state of Nevada. Accomplishments and activities are summarized below for each community:

Virginia City Highlands (Storey County)

- Approved chapter status for Fire Safe Highlands Fire Safe Council.
- Participated in defining contract guidelines and deliverables for comprehensive community fire safe plan. Plan has been completed and priority fuels reduction projects have been defined.
- Utilized contract crew to completed hazardous fuel reduction and defensible space creation on 29 home sites and removed accumulated fuel from homeowner labor on dozens more.
- Completed evacuation plan and installed markers to identify escape routes. Completed phone tree plan to aid in resident notification and recreation animal evacuation.
- Conducted several community education and demonstration projects.
- Installed readily observable sign to alert residents as to the fire danger.
- Organized fundraiser for volunteer fire department.
- With cooperation of volunteer fire department, installed 15 water storage tanks in strategic locations to aid in tanker resupply.
- Guided the chapter in developing bylaws and a more formal organizational structure.
- Conducted workshop on beetle infestation and organized community fuel wood harvesting program to remove beetle infested trees

Holbrook Junction (Douglas County)

- Distributed request for proposals, reviewed submissions, and selected contractor to complete a comprehensive community fire safe plan. Completed plan identifies worst-case scenario, current fire suppression assets, priority fuel reduction projects, and evacuation procedures.
- Secured assistance grant from BLM to help property owners dispose of accumulated hazardous fuels. Roadside pickup of accumulated fuels has been accomplished on dozens of properties.
- Cooperated with Nevada Division of Forestry in the implementation of forest health improvement and hazardous fuel removal project. Dead standing and down fuels, ladder fuels, and brush were removed. In addition the spacing of live crowns was increased to break fuel continuity. Accumulated fuels were ground and chipped and used as erosion control mulch on the fire lines for a fire in close proximity to the community.

Glenbrook (Douglas County)

- Approved chapter status for the Glenbrook project.
- Reviewed initial fuels treatment plans and submitted recommendations for implementation of Phase 1 of a 3 phase project..
- Developed detailed implementation plans, budget requirements, and helped secure assistance grant funding for Phase 1 of the project.
- Prepared proposal to fund establishment of fuel break to separate community from surrounding public land. (Not funded)
- Organized community meeting to acquaint residents with project and hear from numerous public officials regarding plans and mandated reviews and permit requirements.
- Held field review for individuals involved in project implementation and completion.
- Assisted in organization of discussions to coordinate work and requirements of multiple private and public entities.
- Submitted proposals to secure funding to complete Phases 2 and 3 of the project.
- Initiated fuel reduction work on highest risk properties in the community; work has continued as winter weather has permitted.
- Established internal communication system to keep residents informed of plans and activities.
- Applied for assistance grant to establish shaded fuel break to protect community from fire originating in Slaughterhouse Canyon.
- Secured cooperation from the power company to remove hazardous trees encroaching on power line right-of-way.

Spring Valley/Double Springs (Douglas County)

- Organized initial meeting with community leaders to stimulate interest in forming a local chapter.
- Assisted in organizing a community wide gathering and developed program which included presentations on fire suppression hazards, defensible space, grant opportunities, and chapter formation.
- Participated in follow-up meeting to lay the foundation for organizing a local chapter and complete the application for chapter affiliation.
- Approved chapter status for the Spring Valley/Double Springs Chapter.
- Prepared proposal for grant funding to remove hazardous fuels and create defensible space on 50 home sites.
- Prepared request for proposals to complete a comprehensive community fire safe plan. Contractor has been selected with final plan completion due 6/30/03.
- Secured BLM Assistance Grant funds to improve firebreak and create defensible space around homes. Established project priorities and

- obtained commitment from residents to contribute financially to project completion.
- Secured and installed water storage tank to expedite resupply of water tenders and tankers.
- Obtained contractor quotes to reinforce and improve access to fire break.
- Initiated hazardous fuel reduction to create defensible space; work currently in progress.

Hidden Woods (Douglas County)

- Chapter status approved for the Hidden Woods Chapter.
- Submitted proposal to remove fuel accumulated by homeowner effort to create defensible space.
- Conducted community meeting to increase awareness and assisted in designating fuels to be removed around homes.
- Established defensible space demonstration projects on three properties.
- Established homeowner initiative to create defensible space from out-of-pocket contributions.
- Worked with USFS to remove hazardous fuel on public land in the interface zone.

Mount Charleston (Clark County)

- Met with local fire service representatives to review ongoing fire planning initiative.
- Presented information to Town Board on chapter formation and advantages to the community.
- Helped organize and plan initial meeting of core committee to form local community chapter.
- Approved chapter status for the Mt. Charleston Chapter.
- Prepared proposal for funding to remove hazardous fuels and create defensible space on 100 private home sites. Proposal also seeks funding to install four water storage tanks to facilitate timely tanker resupply to aid in fire control.
- Secured BLM Assistance Grant to initiate fuel reduction work and create defensible space around private residences.
- Worked with USFS to reduce hazardous fuels and create buffer in the interface zone.

Clear Creek (Carson City)

- Participated in formation of multi-agency team to address fire threat in Clear Creek development. Created three-phase planning approach to improve community protection.
- Presented information on chapter formation and advantages to general meeting of residents.

- Discussed process of chapter formation with designated community leaders.
- Approved chapter status for the Clear Creek Chapter
- Agreed to collaborate with the US Forest Service in a comprehensive landscape and community fire safe planning effort.
- Distributed request for proposals to complete community fire safe plan. Contractor selected and plan completion due 6/30/03
- Submitted proposal for funding to remove hazardous fuels and create defensible space on private home sites, create shaded fuel breaks, expand fuel reduction on rights-of-way, and reseed disturbed areas with fire resistant species.
- Assisted NDF implement stewardship program to compliment fuel reduction work.
- Secured BLM Assistance Grant to complete defensible space creation and financial commitment from residents to assist in project completion.
- Completed fuel reduction and created defensible space on approximately 2/3 of residences in the area.

Galena Forest Estates (Washoe County)

- Organized initial contact with executive secretary of the homeowners association.
- Presented information on chapter organization and advantages to joint meeting of homeowner association boards.
- Assisted in the completion of application and approve chapter status for the Galena Forest Unit I chapter.
- Submitted proposal to remove hazardous fuels and create defensible space on 50 home sites, and provide for accumulated fuel removal.
- Prepared request for proposals to complete comprehensive community fire safe plan. Contractor selected with final plan due 6/30/03.
- Secured BLM Assistance Grant and financial commitment from residents to initiate defensible space work around homes and common property spring, 2003.
- Initiated plans to establish two defensible space demonstration projects around private residences.

Shantytown (Elko County)

- Distributed request for proposals, reviewed submissions, and selected contractor to complete a comprehensive community fire safe plan.
- Received completed plan that outlines fire threat and identifies priority fuel mitigation projects.
- Organized tour of project for county and federal officials.
- Organized community meeting to explain preliminary project priorities and process for organizing a local chapter.
- Identified community leaders to begin chapter-organizing process.

- Completed application and Ruby Valley chapter was approved.
- Obtained BLM funding to initiate fuel reduction work in the fall of 2002.
- Agreed to work cooperatively with the US Forest Service to reduce fuels and the fire threat in a comprehensive manner that includes both private and public land.
- Completed fuel reduction to create defensible space around private residences and create fuel buffer in the interface zone.
- Initiated preliminary design and permitting work to install water system for fire suppression.

Baker (White Pine County)

- Presented information on council and chapter organizing process at community meeting. Agreement was reached to form a local chapter and leadership from the volunteer fire department stepped forward to guide the process.
- Approved chapter status for the Snake Valley Chapter.
- Obtained urban interface grant support for fuel mitigation work on private home sites spring of 2003. Fuel reduction work has been initiated.
- Submitted proposal to install two water storage tanks to facilitate tanker resupply for fire suppression.

Ward Mountain (White Pine County)

- Chapter status approved for the Ward Mountain Chapter
- Proposal submitted for hazardous fuel removal and defensible space creation on 50 home sites, and installation of three water storage tanks to facilitate tanker resupply.
- Secured BLM Assistance Grant to initiate fuel reduction work spring of 2003.
- Hazardous fuel removal plans finalized and work initiated

Elk Springs (White Pine County)

- Chapter status approved for the Elk Springs Chapter
- Proposal submitted to remove hazardous fuels from ten unimproved lots and install three water storage tanks for tanker resupply.
- Secured BLM Assistance Grant to initiate fuel reduction work spring of 2003.
- Hazardous fuel reduction plans finalized and work initiated

Incline Village (Washoe County)

- Meetings have been held with local fire service officials and their support has been secured to assist in forming a local chapter.
- Information and organizing meeting with local community leaders secured local support and media exposure.
- Assisted in finalizing chapter application and chapter status was approved.

Tyrolian Village (Washoe County)

- Initial orientation meeting held with home owners association
- Chapter application finalized and chapter status approved
- Fuel reduction accomplished using internal crew and resources with help of local fire service personnel.

Manhattan (Nye County)

- Initial organizing meeting held with property owners.
- Chapter application nearing completion with 40 residents becoming members.
- Finalized plans for firebreak to connect to established road system
- Secured donation of heavy equipment and operators as well as contribution of hand labor.

Juniper Hills (Washoe County)

- Contact with property owners has been made and an initial community meeting will be scheduled.

Whites/Thomas Creek (Washoe County)

- Contact with the homeowners association has been made and an orientation and information sharing meeting has been held.

Mount Wilson (Lincoln County)

- Preliminary contact with county officials has been made and plans are being formulated for a community orientation and organizing meeting in 2003.

Eureka (Eureka County)

- Contact has been made with county commission and plans for presentation at commission meeting are underway.

The Nevada Fire Safe Council (statewide)

- A general membership meeting was held the second week of April. The Executive Director of the Nevada Association of Counties keynoted the meeting and emphasized the need for planning and reviewed the role that

county government can play. Information was also presented on the process required for local chapter affiliation. The 2003 general meeting will be coupled with a community chapter training session and is scheduled for April 23 & 24, 2003

- In addition to providing support and assistance for all the community efforts listed above, the council has also been active in organizing and participating in discussions related to the utilization of biomass created from fuels reduction projects. Plans are being formulated for a pilot project that envisions a variety of uses for the biomass with Carson City serving as the hub of a regional effort. The Council has contracted with McNeil Technologies to conduct a biomass availability study for a region in the vicinity of Carson City. Results of this study are due in July, 2003.
- Secured NDF Fire Assistance Grant and BLM Assistance Grant to cover operating expenses for the council activities.
- The council is supporting the development of fuel-type specific defensible space workshop materials.
- The council is co-hosting the first national fire safe council conference, May 13-15, 2003 at the Grandlibakken Conference Center, North Lake Tahoe, CA.
- The council has finalized a memorandum of agreement to utilize crews from the Nevada Conservation Corps. for fuel reduction work.

The council is currently working with 18 of 64 communities identified as being at the highest risk from wildfire. The attached flow chart shows the position of each of the communities in regard to their progress toward plan completion and project implementation.