Meeting Participants
- Gary Gnauck, Applegate Partnership
- Sara Rubrecht, Josephine County Emergency Management
- Brian Pike, GPDPS
- Jenny Zeltvay, Josephine County Public Health
- Cody Zook, Josephine County GIS
- Neil Benson, JJLCG
- Phil Turnbull, Rural Metro Fire
- Kathy Lynn, Resource Innovations
- Jim Wolf, JJLCG
- Tim Gonzales, Bureau of Land Mgmt
- Darren Bucich, Williams Fire District
- Shari Friebus, Josephine County Emergency Management
- Bryan Hawkins, Josephine County Volunteer (guest attendee)
- Tom Murphy, Bureau of Land Mgmt
- Jeff Riepe, US Forest Service
- Brian Fritsen, JCEC
- Brian Ballou, Oregon Dept of Forestry

Sub-Committee Updates

Fuels / Risk Assessment
- There have been 533 acres added to the total acreage for fuels reduction. They are as follows:
  - Selma – 98 acres added, raising the total to 328 acres
  - Cathedral Hills – 68 acres on private land
  - Wonder – 63 acres; this is a new area
  - Lomakatsi – 162 acres in the Williams area
  - Biomass – 50 acres for Lomakatsi to build a new market
  - Wolf Creek – 60 acres have been completed
- 32 acres have been added to the Special Needs grant, and those funds are finally almost gone. There has also been 68 acres of defensible space work done.
- There was no June meeting for this committee, and they had 10 in attendance in July and 7 at the August meeting. They are averaging 9-10 meetings per year. The goal of the committee is to keep the committee alive and going strong.
- The fuels committee has only one grant available per year, per county. There are $1 million on the table for rebates through ODF this year. Bob Schumacher still has approximately $10,000 in grants left, some of which will be spent by the O&E committee. The Siskiyou Field Institute will be using some of the funds work with high school students on an education/monitoring project in the IV.
- Work is nearly completed on fuels mapping. The group expects to get a report back on 9/15 that will reflect changes in the model, though the changes are expected to be minor ones. After this is completed, the committee plans to shut down the project, but not the work that resulted
from the project. It was mentioned that Josephine and Jackson counties have different ways of approaching and handling situations, but that they should have a common hazard/fire layer that they can build on. The committee has succeeded in updating the Landfire product and the work was done over the last 6 years.

- The committee wants to take a look at advanced topo software products and use them to consider things like crowning potential. One problem with the software, however, is that the satellite images are from 2002, so much of the information needs to be updated in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).

**Stewardship Committee**

- Things look positive for the project in Takilma. The general plan for the Forest Service is to do one project at a time, see how that project goes, and then move on to the next one. The committee is contracting with the federal agency, which includes some commercial areas. The goal is to get more work done on federal land, and they want to have common objectives.

- The BCC just agreed to fund the facilitation of the group for one more year. There will be a transition to local facilitation over the next year. Resource Innovations will work with the Southwest Resource Conservation and Development Council to figure out this transition.

**Special Needs**

- The focus of the special needs committee is to try to educate people that help people with special needs on how to help them to prepare for emergencies and disasters. Some monies for the special needs committee are coming from Title III funds, as well as from the Hospital Preparedness Project and other federal grants.

- A new campaign was started in May for the Disaster Registry. The focus of the campaign is on “the people who love the people who need to be in the registry.” A PSA and several handouts were developed with this focus. The PSA ran in July. The handouts are being distributed throughout both counties to businesses, community groups, first response agencies, and any other interested parties.

- The committee conducted a series of (3) ½-day workshops to adult foster home owners to help them prepare for emergencies. There are 45 additional people signed up who would like to attend future workshops. The committee created “fill in the blank” emergency plans focused on this group, and each participant received one. The training focused on why it is important to prepare for emergencies, how to prepare, and how to use the workbook. As a side note, the workbook was presented at a RVFPC meeting and met with rave review. Many fire agencies are interested in reproducing the workbook and conducting training on their own. They were also interested in other workbooks produced by the committee.

- Connie from RVCOG is working with local fire agencies to help them identify adult foster homes in their jurisdictions.

- There was some discussion about the disaster registry being tied into CAD. The registry is not tied into CAD. If it was, it would require regular maintenance to keep it up to date, and there is not the manpower to handle that task. Cody will look into loading a layer on the dispatch mapping system that would indicate that a certain address is labeled as a special needs residence, though it would not have specific information on the persons at the address or what the special need is. This should work well, since the mapping system in dispatch is not available to the
public. The special needs committee will talk further amongst the committee and Cody to work out the logistics. It was discussed, however, that this problem should be handled by the TAC committee for 911.

**Education & Outreach**

- There is an $8,000 grant for fuels reduction in Josephine County, which will allow staffing for 4 forest service offices.
- There will be a new publication due out in the spring of 2009, which is a revised edition of the “Living with Wildfire” publication. There should be approx 3,000 copies available of the new publication.
- There is approximately $200K available in a grant for fuels reduction in Jackson County, and approximately $80-90K available for education and outreach projects than can be used in both counties. The committee is working on a new tabletop display about “defensible space” that can be used at fairs, workshops, etc. This new display should be available in about 1 month. The committee wants to bring in more information about home fire, and is asking for pictures that can be incorporated into that project.
- There was a discussion about the county website and how it has changed, in that it is now quite difficult to find the fire plan on the website. Sara will work on getting this problem fixed. Also, it was suggested that links to the co-op be added to the county website. Sara will also work on adding the appropriate links to the website. Cody will take care of separating the map site to go to for related fire issues on the website.

**Emergency Management Board Update**

- **All Hazard Incident Management Team (AHIMT):** Some people were sent to the fire camp at Lake Selmac on a “shadow” program to learn about and gain experience with the ICS system in a real-life situation. The shadowing of the personnel went very well.
- IMT training took place in June and there will be advanced training for the AHIMT later this year. Josephine County is very fortunate to have very good working relationships among the different agencies that foster a healthy shadow program.
- **Fire Standards and Ordinance:** They are waiting to see what happens with the November election to proceed further. If the ballot measure passes, then a new 5-member district will be formed that will cover the unprotected portions of Josephine County. Also, voters will be asked to vote on the 5-member board that will be created if the measure passes. Until the November election, everything at this point is at a standstill.
- At this time, private companies can no longer participate in fires within the State Board Plan. If there is a conflagration, the state overhead team will come to the area to handle the incident, and they cannot keep the private fire companies from entering the area, but the private companies would not be part of the plan in any way.
ARE YOU PREPARED?

New Business

2008 Fire Season

So far, so good…

Vision and objectives for the coming year

Josephine County has allocated $5,000 in a contract with Kathy Lynn to facilitate the annual report and to maintain progress of the group. The primary purpose of the EMB is to have connectivity, to make sure agencies don’t cross wires or duplicate efforts. A question was raised to find out if there were any gaps in activities within the individual groups. Some of the members feel that there is a lack of participation in the meetings on a regular basis. It was widely agreed that if the EMB were to go away, we stand to lose vital working relationships. It is also possible that we could have quite a bit of disorganization between agencies that don’t normally work together, as seen in the Biscuit Fire and the Redwood Fire. The EMB is looked at as a central clearing house, so to speak. People that have needs can come to the group with the needs and get the appropriate help, while those same people have resources that can fulfill the needs of other members within the group. While the EMB is a vital entity that should continue to function, there needs to be clear purpose for the meetings.

There are two functions of the Emergency Management Board (EMB), including coordination of the different committees and building/maintaining relationships between the various agencies. There are also three EMB tasks: Evacuation, Emergency Management, and Mutual Aid

Future Focus:

- It was suggested that at future meetings emphasis should be placed on accomplishments of the individual committees.

- Things to think about at different times of the year (ex., spring exercise fire season kickoff). It was suggested that Josephine and Jackson Counties coordinate with each other to accomplish this.
  - Spring – Fire prevention projects, wants and needs. There should be a local fire prevention education team.
  - October – Flood response, winter weather, etc. Also in October should be the “after action”, where discussions are held as to what went well and what didn’t during the fire season.

- It was requested that prior to future meetings, key points of the meeting be sent out to the participating members/agencies so they can review the points and decide who is the most appropriate employee to send to the meeting. It was also requested that the agendas build towards standing agendas.

- A Climate Change project needs to be addressed, and both Jenny Zeltvay and Cody Zook have agreed to work with Kathy this project. The project will address how to adapt to the changing environment, and this change affects our partner agencies. As the climate continues to warm, it is necessary to look at the potential for new diseases and other issues not previously addressed.
ARE YOU PREPARED?

Annual Report:

For the annual report, in the past there was a joint template with Jackson County. It is necessary to look at the next steps to this project and how they related to each committee. A timeline needs to be built that can be shared at the December EMB meeting. We will need to work with national partners in order to develop the annual report. It was requested that prior to the next meeting all participating members should view the timeline online in preparation for the meeting.

Kathy Lynn will work with Jim and Neil to send the template to the committee chairs to review before the October or November meetings. It was clarified that the counties have individual reports, but the reports are similar in appearance. A draft survey was passed around with a question as to its value to the group. In the past the group has used Survey Monkey to gather the necessary information, and Jim has an account with Survey Monkey. Is this something the group wants to do again as a means to gather the necessary information?

Next Meetings:

It was decided that starting with the next meeting, the EMB meetings will be changed to a bi-monthly meeting that will be the equivalent of a summit meeting. The meetings will take place during the even months, except for June, on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. The meetings will take place from 1-4 pm.