

Pacific Northwest Wildfire Coordinating Group

# Final Report

Pacific Northwest

September 27, 2014

2014

PNW Fire Prevention & Education Teams

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## PACIFIC NORTHWEST FIRE-ADAPTED COMMUNITIES



### THE SITUATION

Throughout the winter of 2013-2014, drought conditions worsened in the Pacific Northwest, steadily increasing fire danger and indicating a potentially elevated fire season. By January 2014, wildfires were already occurring in traditionally wet, west side coastal fuels. By June 2014, two human-caused ignitions resulted in the Two Bulls Fire in Central Oregon. The fires displayed mid-to-late summer fire behavior, posing a threat to life and property and forcing evacuations of rural subdivisions surrounding the fire area. The fire also posed a significant threat to the community of Bend, Oregon. Wildfire prevention and education messaging was becoming an urgent need.

A decision was made to order a Fire Prevention Education Team (FPET) to assist the PNW with addressing prevention needs. The first FPET arrived on June 16, 2014 and was in-briefed by Pacific Northwest Fire Leadership and NWCC staff. The in-brief included a PNWCG tasking to “align and leverage the collective, interagency Fire Prevention efforts throughout Oregon and Washington” and working in coordination with the Northwest Interagency Coordination Center (NWCC) public affairs desk. Since June 16, 2014, Prevention Teams have been involved in the effort based at NWCC. The last team closed by the end of business September 26, 2014.

## Executive Summary

The prevention effort in the Pacific Northwest during the summer of 2014 evolved in scope from its original intent early in the year. Original conversations about the potential fire season severity and the need to position the region to address the associated prevention and education issues began in January of this year with SORO Fire Leadership. The Pacific Northwest Wildfire Coordinating Group (PNWCG) recognized the lack of prevention team staffing capacity and the immediate need for public communication and education outreach. The prevention team challenge was to assess the overall prevention program in the two states and implement a strategy to help address the needs.

Productive conversations pointed to needed improvement in centralized messaging and delivery, prevention involvement at all levels of organizational structures, and building increased capacity of prevention team personnel. A central theme emerged that the PNW needed to focus on long-term prevention strategies more than efforts to attack specific fire causes at this point.

The Team effort in 2014 was to build prevention “infrastructure” that provides support to the community level now and into the future. Providing assistance to communities is directly in line with the goals of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy and Fire Adapted Communities. To build the elements needed for support, Teams conducted discovery searches into existing program efforts, prevention capacity, fire-cause data available for local analysis, and communication networks. The next phase was to begin implementing the strategy of developing a communication structure, address building prevention team capacity, and develop products for customer outreach.

### Elements of Accomplishment

#### Discovery – Gathering information to guide the process

Data and fire-cause mapping was utilized to demonstrate the human-caused occurrence patterns and causal issues by agency and sub-geographic location.

Field visits and phone contacts were conducted using an interview process to understand local prevention staffing, partnership opportunities, communication needs, human-caused fire occurrence, community concerns, and current prevention efforts.

Existing networks were documented to understand the depth of message outreach. A key component to getting a centralized message effectively delivered is encouraging the involvement and expanded collaboration of partners and their networks.

### Building the Communication Linkage

A Twitter account was established as a mechanism to reach public and agency partners with the intent of directing them to the PNWFAC website for further information, and to support the efforts and programs of Fire Adapted Communities partners. The website is the host platform for supporting and delivering the central messages of prevention, graphic product downloads, and useful links. A Gmail account is set up as a standard and consistent point of contact for receiving requests, answering questions, and interacting with the public and cooperators.

### Building Prevention Capacity

The current level of trained and available prevention team personnel is very low in the PNW. A strategy is proposed to train and utilize prevention team members and leaders over the next few years. The trained personnel can be used locally to address specific prevention tasks in an effective and cost-efficient manner. During the summer, 17 people worked on the project. Seven individuals had open task books and task accomplishments signed off. Although a small step in the right direction, the long-term capacity building process is a benefit and will be enhanced with hosting prevention training. Team assignments can address local prevention challenges or be used as a supplement to a regional or national team coming in to assist the PNW.

### Product Development

Products were developed during the assignments. A recognizable graphic and brand was developed and serves as the website template, on PNW materials, Infographics, posters, magnets, and other products in response to agency and field requests.

### Partnership Outreach

Team members conducted site visits to assist, observe, and interact with collaborative initiatives. Trips to Spokane, Bend, Hunter Heights in Oregon City, OR, the Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition in Leavenworth, WA, and Southwest Oregon's Citizen Fire Academy are examples of the Team outreach.

### **Addressing Cohesive Strategy and Fire Adapted Communities**

The Fire Prevention Education Teams worked to build the prevention capacity of the PNW by starting conversations and creating a foundation of infrastructure to be developed as a long-term strategy to reduce the number of human-caused fires. The effort advances the concepts of the Cohesive Strategy and Fire Adapted Communities by expanding partnerships, communications, and distribution networks. Building prevention capacity helps support communities to take personal responsibility and solve local issues with local solutions.

## DISCOVERY

Several elements are needed to be understood and in place for prevention to be effective. Effective prevention is initially guided by knowing where fire patterns occur and the causes of ignitions, as well as agency jurisdiction.

### DATA AND MAPPING

The Team obtained fire occurrence data and produced 5 and 10-year maps for the Northwest's multiple federal, state and local entities with wildfire protection and reporting responsibilities. The mapping was very beneficial when interfacing with the public and agency field personnel. The data gave spatial information that was sufficient to allow for local fire occurrence analysis and human-caused fire pattern review.

### FIELD INTERVIEWS WITH AGENCY AND PRIVATE PARTNERS

The second element is a knowledgeable work force that understands the role they play, their relevance to effecting a change of behavior, and the benefits received by their participation. The work force is not just agency personnel. As we see with prevention coalitions and Firewise communities, once the public is informed and engaged, they are a valuable resource to change behavior in their sphere of influence.

Outreach included a dispersed sample of individuals in agencies, private initiatives, and business. An interview form template was developed to guide the process. The best contacts were face-to-face in the field. Where people were not available, phone interviews were conducted, as well as email responses. Response to the interviews was very positive. The interviewees appreciated the opportunity to contribute and express both successes and concerns with current prevention efforts. One common theme was the need for easy access to information that is approved for use. Another concern was for continued support of their efforts with clear direction and commitment to make prevention a program priority.

Contact	Site Visits	Phone Interviews	Email Response
Forest Service	4	6	3
WA DNR	1	4	
ODF	1	2	
BLM	2	2	1
Coop/Coalition		2	
Keep OR Green		1	
FireRestriction.us mgr.		1	
OR State Fire Marshall		1	
Home Owner's Assn.	1	1	
US FWS			1

## NETWORKING

A third element to successful prevention efforts is to identify and expand partnerships and networks to disseminate information through trusted sources. Field units have developed solid partnerships over time with recognition that more partners are needed to effectively change behavior in a community. The Teams documented partners with contact information. As more contacts were made, the lists expanded. The continued network development will be important as central messaging is pushed out through social media and traditional means.

## COMMUNICATIONS

An important part of prevention is being able to engage the public and agency partners by providing mechanisms of communication. A unifying logo (brand) was designed for the PNW Fire Adapted Communities (FAC) messaging. The logo is used on the email, website, Twitter account, and prevention materials. Three primary methods were developed to distribute messages, receive feedback and keep prevention conversations alive: a website, a Twitter account, and email. Because social media engages an audience to a topic with the intent of peaking interest and directing people to a dependable source of information: a hotlink. The Team developed a website [www.pnwfac.weebly.com](http://www.pnwfac.weebly.com) to house prevention information in static url's to direct citizens to wildfire topic references. The third method is a Gmail account "[pnwsmokeybear@gmail.com](mailto:pnwsmokeybear@gmail.com)" maintained to provide a way to correspond and interact virtually with continuity from one Team to another throughout the year.

### Twitter Account

A Twitter account @PNWFAC is established to reach out and start conversations with the expectation of gathering followers. The value added with followers is that they will send the message forward by either a retweet (RT) or favorite-ing a post. This forwarding creates the potential for extensive amplification of the initial post through "spidering."

Twitter 'hits' to the account have been tracked since the inception of the site on July 21, 2014. Data shown on the document, "How Twitter Can Amplify A Message," shows the number of page views to the website, the number of unique visitors to the website and how that correlated with the number of followers of other accounts that retweeted or favorited the post.

A Twitter post about the 'dress like a firefighter' event at the Oregon State Fair was posted on August 27 and a post on 'recreational shooting fire ignition danger' was posted on the 28<sup>th</sup>. In the 3 days, August 27 – 29, the website was visited by 240 people viewing 256 web pages on the PNW website. During these three days there were four re-tweets potentially reaching over 1200 people. On September 17, Twitter posts about prevention graphics were added effecting a spike in website visits. Through retweets and favorites the Twitter message was broadcast to 14,723. The way spidering works is that each of the 14,723 recipients in turn had followers. It's difficult to know the full impact beyond the approximately 15,000 recipients, except that it was magnified on a second tier. The value of Twitter posts is clear. There are 87 followers and there have been 172 tweets as of September 25.

### Website

Once attention is directed to a website, the site must be attractive, informative, and easy to use. The PNWFAC site is designed to provide information categorized for logical discovery. Keeping site information current and useful requires periodic maintenance of links and review of new information to add. The site will be left online off-season. Minimal upkeep a few times a month is needed beyond link checks and answering potential email inquiries stimulated by the website and sent to Gmail.

An established website [www.nwccweb.us](http://www.nwccweb.us) was initially considered to house the prevention messaging. The NWCC site is focused on fire and weather information and does an excellent job of communicating highly relevant information in a timely manner. A very effective blog is also associated with the website. The PNWFAC site addresses a range of Fire Adapted Community issues and is not competitive with the NWCC site. They are linked to each other.

### Gmail Account

The account was established and used during the assignment for both internal and external communications. The account remains as a general email for public comment, requests, and other communications. The account will require monitoring.





## Building Prevention Team Capacity

Recognizing a need for increased prevention efforts, the Teams provided a three-tiered approach. The Team provided support to local units addressing immediate needs. Analysis of the discovery results has helped identify the gaps in communication linkages among leadership, field units and partners. Providing communication linkage of the website, production of materials, and interfacing with the public through site visits and Twitter has provided immediate insight into prevention and education needs.

A “Prevention Team Strategy – A Four Year Plan” was prepared that outlined the need to increase the number of local prevention team members and leaders through training and local use assignments to address prevention issues. A caution is that even with training, the individuals will need good leadership and assignments to get them comfortable with their tasks and be qualified for the positions. Lack of trained prevention personnel in the PNW minimizes the overall support and effect of prevention at the local level.

A third attempt to increase the capacity in WA and OR was to give people the opportunity to work within a prevention team environment. Seven team members had task books open to perform tasks and have some elements signed off.

### Prevention Team Strategy - The Four-Year Plan

The Pacific Northwest has identified the need to build internal prevention capacity through increasing the number of qualified prevention team leaders (PETL) and members (PETM). Both training opportunities and assignment experience are needed to build the prevention capacity.

The increased prevention resource has the potential to address local issues, address specific fire causes, and assist agencies and programs with implementing actions to manage wildfire risk. The plan for 2014 focuses effort on assisting prioritized sub-regions to implement plans targeted at specific issues.

**Following is a plan for the next three years that incorporates training and prevention team use to build the capacity of PNW resources to address future needs:**

**2015** - Conduct P-301 (Fire Prevention Education 2) training regionally in January or February. If the timelines prohibit, offer the P-301 course in Fall 2015. Place people in the training that are interested in pursuing a prevention path. There would be a benefit to include students from each sub-region. The course is designed to develop solutions for specific local issues. A broad variety of prevention challenges helps identify the depth of impact prevention can have on communities. Changing social behavior,

community engagement, and measuring outcomes are the three main topics of the course. Issue solutions are the outcomes of the course. The training order may be altered based on agency interest and commitment of individuals.

From the course, identify and prioritize issues that the PNWCG deems the most relevant and beneficial to address. In the spring, assign teams to work on the identified projects. Develop and demonstrate measurements of prevention efforts.

Results for 2015 are for individuals to gain skills in prevention approaches and to demonstrate putting the training into action. An intended result is to add professionalism to the prevention structure; encouraging individual participation and program support from administrators.

**2016** - Conduct P-410 (Prevention Education Team Leader) training in January or February. The course is designed to train existing team members as leaders. Additional leader capacity is needed to manage teams in local and area assignments.

Develop and use the mini-team assignment concept. Local teams on local assignments give trainees experience and confidence being part of a team and accomplishing beneficial objectives. Focus can be on current or emerging issues. If needed, the teams can support ongoing efforts. Building prevention success stories helps establish the credibility of the prevention program and helps draw in additional partners that see the value of managing wildfire risk.

**2017** - Conduct a P-310 (Prevention Education Team Member) training in January or February. The course is designed to train interested individuals as prevention team members. As prevention efforts are demonstrated to be more effective, more people will be interested in looking at the prevention track. Individuals are encouraged to attain crossover skills of prevention, suppression, and law enforcement. Team member composition draws on specific skill sets to address specific issues. When team interface is needed with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to understand the situation and look for solutions, a law enforcement person can be added to a team. Adding specialized skills and knowledge to a team enhances Team capabilities.

Incorporate demonstrated FPET value into risk reduction and fire suppression strategies where applicable. Broaden the team use to be involved in all-hazard assignments, strategic planning, and community support.

## PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

### Infographic Poster

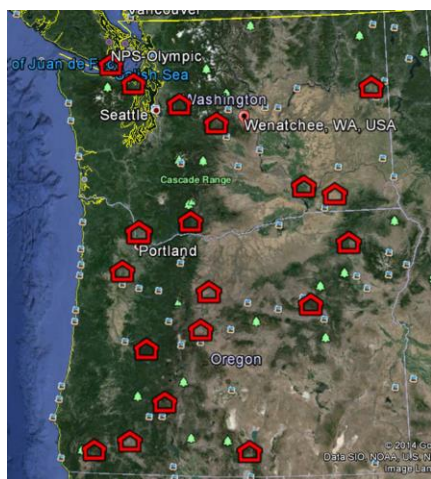
When the opportunity to participate in the Oregon State Fair arose, the concept to develop a handout addressing wildfire preparedness and prevention of human-caused fires was adopted. Five thousand copies were printed on a two-sided black and white poster, which folded into an 8 ½” x 11” size for easy distribution and potential mailings. In addition, the infographic was posted to the new website for easy download. The infographics were printed as 3’ x 4’ vinyl banners for use at the fair and other potential future venues in the PNW. Three sets of two each were produced.

### PNW FAC Magnet

A business-card style PNWFAC magnet was designed as a handout for the Oregon State Fair and 5,000 were procured. The purpose for the magnet is to introduce and create brand awareness of the new PNWFAC logo, and conveniently provide links for connecting to the website and Twitter account. The magnets were well received at the Fair.

### Revision of hunting/fishing license holder

The Northwest’s original 2002 “I’m Concerned” hunting/fishing license holder was re-designed for reproduction to target fall events, such as hunter information booths, and to draw users’ attention to the current <http://firerestrictions.us> website. Text was simplified, and PNWCG and PNWFAC logos were added, as well as the website QR Code. 18,000 license holders were produced and are being distributed throughout Washington and Oregon.



Materials were distributed utilizing field hub of partners and agencies to get items to the public. The red figures indicate the distribution hubs.

## **Invasives aka 'Wanted' Poster for Medusa head Rye and Cheatgrass**

A request for assistance was received from the field regarding the Sage-Grouse habitat issue. After talking with resource specialists and subject matter experts, the teams endeavored to develop a 'Wanted-style' poster to help units address the primary issue of habitat loss due to invasive species, specifically Cheatgrass and Medusa head Rye Grass. The current revised draft poster is near draft completion for final review.

## **Eastside Restoration- Good Black signage**

A request came in from the Malheur National Forest regarding the Eastside Restoration effort and the challenges with smoke and accelerating hazardous fuels treatments. Interviews were conducted with the Regional Air Quality Specialist as well as the Public Affairs Specialist on the Malheur NF to determine what the key messages should be. Based on those interviews, text was drafted and sent out for review. During the review process, it was determined that the scope of the project required greater collaboration between the partners in the development of messages and products. As a result, three draft concepts were developed and provided for the collaborative effort to review.

## **QR Code Handout**

As a means of facilitating public access to current fire information and fire prevention/mitigation information within the PNW, a QR Code handout was developed. These individual QR Codes help visitors obtain relevant information faster, and can reduce the need for large printing efforts and questionable currency of messages. The handout was utilized at the Deschutes County Fair, and the Oregon State Fair during peak fire activity in the region.

## **Fire Investigation Team (FIT) logo**

A request was received from Dan C. Smith, Patrol Captain, Central Oregon Law Enforcement Zone, to design a new fire investigation team logo for the PNW to assist with communication and team identity.

## **PNW 2014 Fire Story**

Because this year's fire season in the PNW has been of historical proportions, the decision was made by SORO to document it in a narrative and video story. The prevention teams were tasked with contributing to the narrative and video interview portions of the effort. Access to the Wildfire Lessons Learned was granted and a draft mid-season fire prevention status report was uploaded and submitted to the host.

ITEM	Quantity	COST	Date Ordered
Office supplies	1	\$26.93	June 17, 2014
Banners	6	\$261.24	July 14, 2014
Infographic poster	7,500	\$885.96	July 14, 2014
License holders	10,000	\$5,069.76	August 14, 2014
PNWFAC Magnets	2,500	\$699.00	August 14, 2014
Stickers	8	\$32	August 18, 2014
Laminated map	1	\$50	August 22, 2014
Prevention Supplies	Order	\$784.89	July 3, 2014
Prevention Supplies	Order	\$458.89	July 16, 2014
Domain names	5	\$387.35	August 22, 2014
Non-monetary awards	100	\$1,493.00	September 3, 2014
Boxes	18	\$59	September 15, 2014
FedEx Shipping	16	\$100	September 15, 2014

Total product and supply cost \$10,308.02

## INTERFACING WITH PARTNERS

### Site Visits

Visiting the public in their community environment was considered very important to understanding conditions and needs of partners. Four major sites visits were conducted; Spokane and Leavenworth in Washington; Southwest Oregon and Oregon City in Oregon.

During the visit to Southwest Oregon, team members met with the City of Grants Pass' Firewise Coordinator. He shared concerns and issues in his community. Currently Grants Pass has 16 communities at high risk and only one has become a Firewise community. Challenges to the community are funding, lack of organized homeowner associations, low awareness levels and abandoned/empty lots. Offers of free home assessments have not been widely accepted.







The team visited Central Point and met with an Oregon State University Extension Educator who has coordinated the Citizen Fire Academy for the past three years. Citizens who have been through the training provide a valuable resource in helping neighbors address fire prevention issues in their community and neighborhoods. One of the goals is to help residents learn how to reduce the threat of wildfire near their homes, understand evacuation procedures, and serve as champions to help educate and inform others.



The Team attended a community fire assessment of the Hunter Heights subdivision in Oregon City, Oregon as a guest of the Oregon Department of Forestry. Assisting in the assessment was Kari Shanklin with the Clackamas County Fire Department. Several residents and board members of the HOA toured their neighborhood to discuss defensible space issues and other fire hazards. Priority fuel mitigation needs were identified.

Landowners discuss priorities

## The Chumstick Success Story

The Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition is a shining example of a collaborative group that has accepted the terms of living in a wildfire environment. They prepared in advance for wildfire and maintained the community's resilience during and after the Chiwaukum Fire. The Chumstick Coalition is the hub organization of the Fire Adapted Community Network Pilot Community in Leavenworth, Washington.

In July, team members were requested to assist the Chumstick Coalition's Director with post-fire needs. Leavenworth, WA and other nearby small communities had experienced structure losses due to the ongoing Chiwaukum Fire. Residents were in evacuation status. Highways were closed, with infrastructure and communication systems inoperable. With the wildfire situation continuing to escalate, the immediate need was for information sharing for residents to take action to prevent further losses, communicate with one another, and share fire safety tips regarding the use of generators, defensible space, potential debris flows, etc. Because of the well-established coalition's efforts, fuels reduction work had been achieved in the area, thereby preventing more extensive losses. The director was able to maintain and call on the same networks, funding sources and outlets utilized in the pre-planning phases of the coalition's efforts, pulling together the necessary resources to communicate with the affected residents and offer assistance in a vast array of unique and urgent demands.

This example is the essence of a Fire Adapted Community. The effort to "Prepare, Protect, and Prevail" worked.



Home survives the Chiwaukum fire

## Additional Outreach Efforts

- Team members met with fire department personnel at the Fourth of July Fire Prevention Rollout on June 23 in Portland. Discussion topics included interface fires and fire department Firewise involvement. Contact with Kari Shanklin of Clackamas Fire Department led to the connection with an ODF Firewise mitigation specialist for the community assessment at Hunter Heights in Oregon City.
- The Team assisted with the local premier of the Disney movie “Planes: Fire and Rescue”. Smokey Bear was present. The contacts led to redesigning fire prevention graphic slides for the Regal Cinema to be used this Fall in their theaters.
- Curtis Peetz, Direct Services Support Manager at the American Red Cross in Portland, OR met with team members at the Oregon State Fair and requested additional copies of the Infographic Poster. A supply was delivered on September 4 for distribution throughout Oregon Red Cross locations.
- The Team provided support for the Oregon State Fair at the request of the Willamette NF and Keep Oregon Green. An estimated 5000 adults were contacted using the Oregon human-caused fire occurrence map and distributing the Infographic posters and PNW-FAC magnets. Jimmie Turner educated over 2000 children while drawing animals and giving them age-appropriate Smokey Bear and fire prevention messages. Other promotional events were the “dress like a firefighter and Put the Fire Out”, Smokey Bear 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, and Decorate-a-Tree-Cookie table.
- In June, team members travelled to Central Oregon to attend an interagency panel discussion, “Wildfire In Our Community”. The panel consisted of representatives from Deschutes County, Oregon Department of Forestry, Deschutes National Forest, Deschutes County Sherriff’s Office and Bend Fire Department. They shared agency challenges and messages regarding wildland-urban interface fires. In addition to the public, the Red Cross, Wildland Firefighters Foundation and Project Wildfire were in attendance.
- Karl Newman of the Northwest Insurance Council provided invaluable advice and quick response to information needs for 30-day waiting period exception waivers for insurance when debris flows are generated on lands impacted by wildfire.



## ADMINISTRATION:

### Total Cost Estimates For the Prevention Team Effort

June 16 through September 28, 2014

Personnel Cost (including lodging, per diem, parking, veh)	\$256,291.43
Travel (Flights)	\$2554.47
Supplies and Product Costs	\$10,308.02
Total	\$269,153.92

### Team participants - 17

Name	Position	Home State
Lauren Maloney	Host/Team Member	OR
Karen Curtiss	Host/Team Lead	OR
Jim Funk	Team Lead	VA
Larry Helmerick	Team Lead t	CO
Gwen Hensley	Graphic Specialist	KY
Kimiko Nalle	Team Lead	WA
Fred Wefer	Team Lead	WA
Stacy Grimes	Team Lead t	OR
Linda Hecker	PIO2/Team Member t	CO
Alexis West	PIO2	OR
Jimmye Turner	PIO2/Team Member	WA
Heather McLean	Team Member	UT
Susie Freeman	Team Member	OR
Dylan Holm	Team Member t	WA
Dale Kloes	Team Member	WA
Stacy Lacey	Team Member t	OR
Heather Appelhof	Prevention Tech	OR

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- To build the long-term fire prevention team capacity in the PNW, provide team member and team leader training over the next few years. Participation in the training will be increased if field level personnel sense that there is an elevated emphasis and support to prevention in the PNW. This requires direction from all administrative levels.
- Utilize the summer prevention initiative reports and products to interface with communities and field unit personnel to show the emphasis on prevention and the importance of field input into the process. The message is essentially that we heard from the field, we believe in the value of prevention and education, and there is interagency support for field interface with partners to reduce the impacts of human-caused wildfire.
- Produce the messaging and products in the language of non-English speaking populations.
- Consider the purchase of upgraded website products, Twitter and email accounts. The investment allows for greater outreach opportunity and feedback measurements. The cost is minimal for the benefits gained, including more options, widgets, and performance. If the website is to continue to be used as the site for centralized messaging, the capability of the site should be optimized.
- Consider the purchase or improved mechanism to store and share data across agency and partner boundaries for team and field access.
- Consider the continuity of domain names for consistent long-term recognition.
- Develop a mentor program within the region where recent fire prevention technician hires can communicate with more experienced prevention technicians for advice and guidance. Also consider a level for the more experienced prevention personnel to be mentored toward mid-level supervision positions to provide a career ladder.
- Offer a fire prevention team introductory session at a regional fire prevention conference or workshop to make others aware of what prevention teams are and what they can offer. This would help current team members to network with potential team members and leaders.
- Consider funding one or two fire prevention personnel during the off-season to assist the State Office/Regional Office to update and accomplish fire prevention duties, manage events and prepare for fire season efforts and campaigns.
- Raise the awareness level of what prevention and education teams can do to assist local units and communities with reducing the risk of wildfire. This was a unique assignment to develop strategy. On a local area assignment, teams can address specific issue and have significant impact on reducing human-caused fires.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of the prevention community, we would like to thank Denise Blankenship, Jeff Fedrizzi and David Summer for the foresight and proactive leadership in bringing in Fire Prevention Education Teams throughout the summer to help raise awareness of the tenuous fire potential situation in the Pacific Northwest.

Special thanks to Dan O'Brien and Ted Pierce for hosting the FPET throughout the summer at the NWCC.

To Lauren Maloney for her constant commitment in working with the teams on a daily basis and keeping all the moving parts going.

Lauren and Karen Curtiss served as agency host and team participants. We sincerely thank PNWCG for allowing the dedication of their time to help guide the process. Their knowledge and relationships significantly leveraged the Teams' effectiveness. The emphasis placed on prevention by the hosts is greatly appreciated.

On behalf of all the individuals involved in the project, our appreciation to the Pacific Northwest in recognizing the potential impacts of prevention and education on improving wildfire safety in communities and taking action.

# THANK YOU!