

The Nevada Fire Safe Council

...working to make Nevada communities fire safe.



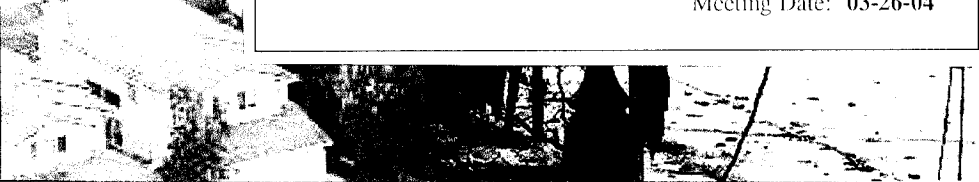
EXHIBIT G Lands Document consists of 14 pages.

Entire document provided.

The cover, and pages 8 through 14 provided. A copy of the complete document is available through the Research Library (775/684-6827) or e-mail library@leb.state.nv.us.

Meeting Date: 03-26-04

The Nevada Fire Safe Council is an equal opportunity employer. This publication was created with funding from the Nevada Division of Forestry through the United States Forest Service and the National Fire Plan. National Fire Plan funding is also received from Nevada's state office of the Bureau of Land Management.



Who Are We?

In the spring of 1999 concerned Nevadans representing a broad collection of interests joined forces to discuss solutions to the growing threat of wildfire. A resolution calling for the creation of a fire safe council was adopted, and one year later the Nevada Fire Safe Council, a non-profit membership corporation was born.



The council seeks to form local chapters and provide assistance to local groups willing to take necessary action to improve the survivability of their neighborhoods and communities.

Living With Fire

Fire is a naturally occurring force that has played a major role in shaping the way our forests and rangelands grow and thrive throughout the West. Under natural conditions fires started from lightning and burned with low intensity. Only rarely did they explode into rapidly spreading high intensity conflagrations. For decades however, land managers supported by strong public opinion have viewed fire as the enemy and aggressively suppressed all fires that occurred. The outcome of this well engrained policy is all too familiar. Fuels have accumulated. Man-caused ignitions have increased, and larger more intense, and more difficult to control fires have blackened an increasing number of acres each fire season. As a consequence, the cost of fire control and rehabilitation has skyrocketed. The impact on watersheds, wildlife habitat, and our native plant communities has been devastating. Couple this with the fact that increasing numbers of people seeking to escape the pressures of urban living are locating their homes in high hazard, high risk areas, and we have set the stage for a legacy of disaster.

The Nevada Fire Safe Council is supported by the following people and organizations:

- Citizen volunteers across Nevada
- The Bureau of Land Management
- The Nevada Commission on Economic Development
- The Nevada Division of Forestry
- The Sierra Front Wildfire Cooperators
- The U. S. Forest Service
- The University of Nevada Cooperative Extension

The Nevada Fire Safe Council



Civic minded citizens accepting responsibility and taking action at the local level presents the greatest potential for increasing community survivability in the face of the growing threat from wildfire.



PAGE 8 OF 14 EXHIBIT G

The Nevada Fire Safe Council is an equal opportunity employer. This publication was created with funding from the Nevada Division of Forestry through the United States Forest Service and the National Fire Plan. National Fire Plan funding is also received from Nevada's state office of the Bureau of

The Nevada Fire Safe Council ...working to make Nevada communities fire safe.



The trauma of losing a house is only exceeded by the emotional devastation that accompanies the loss of a home. With proper planning and community action this can be prevented.

Our Purpose

To assemble diverse interests in a unified coalition that will work on solutions to reduce the loss of lives and property from the threat of fire in Nevada's communities.

Our Vision

Fire safe chapters will be working in communities throughout the state to address neighborhood fire threats. These chapters will help provide the awareness, motivation, expertise and resources to accomplish the necessary tasks.

How Can I Become a Member?

Membership applications and the requirements for chapter affiliation can be obtained by contacting the council's office at the address and numbers listed in this brochure.

Why Form a Chapter?

The advantages of chapter affiliation are numerous:

- The Nevada Fire Safe Council can accept and manage grants and contracts on the chapter's behalf through its non-profit status.
- Chapters become part of a larger network for sharing information and lessons learned.
- Collectively chapters form a strong lobbying force to influence legislation and funding.
- Chapters are part of the information loop that receives notifications of programs and funding opportunities.



The creation of defensible space allows firefighters to safely and effectively protect property without putting their own lives in great peril.

Working through its local chapters, the Nevada Fire Safe Council provides assistance and support to complete fire safe plans, set priorities, educate and train community members, secure and manage funds, and promote the success stories of its members. Our mission is to provide the assistance communities need.

The Nevada Fire Safe Council
 1187 Charles Dr.
 Reno, NV 89509
 Tel: (775) 322-2413
 FAX: (775) 322-0183
 E-mail: firesafe@renonevada.net



Background and Overview of the Nevada Fire Safe Council

- Purpose:
- A. To create an organization that serves as a bridge between fire services and public agencies, and communities threatened by wildfire.
 - B. To focus the new organization's activities on creating a network of local community support, and
 - C. To provide assistance to threatened communities to 1. Improve resident's understanding of the fire threat and accept personal responsibility for some level of community protection, 2. Identify and rate the risks and hazards, 3. Develop and prioritize mitigation projects, and 4. Procure funding assistance to implement mitigation measures.

The Problem: Throughout the decade of the 90's Nevada's fire management officials became increasingly concerned about the explosive character of wildfires occurring across the state and the growing threat they posed to communities, resources, and human life. While improving fire suppression capability was a direct and obvious approach, fire officials quickly accepted the fact that supplying more engines and crews was only a partial solution to a very serious and growing problem. Grass roots, community level support and action was needed to create zones of modified fuel that would reduce fire intensity, slow the rate of spread, and give firefighters a realistic chance to defend vulnerable communities. An organizational gap became immediately apparent. No organization existed that could bridge this gap, marshal local forces, and establish the critical lines of communication required to convert the vision into a community education and fuel treatment reality.

Solution: In the spring of 1999 a broad coalition of concerned Nevadan's closed this gap by endorsing the creation of an independent, membership organization focused on reducing the fire risk and increasing the survivability of at-risk communities. This endorsement and the organizational support that followed gave birth to the Nevada Fire Safe Council. For the first two years the Council struggled and suffered financial starvation. Then in January 2002, following the passage of the National Fire Plan, the Nevada Fire Safe Council received its first sizeable grant. These funds allowed the hiring of an executive director and provided support for education and fuel reduction in two high-risk communities. The accomplishments since that date are summarized in the table below:

Accomplishment Category	Status, January 2002	Status, December 2003
Organizational form and infrastructure, hiring of coordinator, chapter affiliation process, bylaws, governance, IRS, etc.	Virtually non existent	Completed, including hiring of project coordinator and installing CPA approved accounting procedures.
Number of community chapters	Zero	Eighteen
Funding	\$152,000	\$2,454,000
Community members	< 50	> 600
Community Fire Safe Plans	Zero	Ten completed
Community Education & Orientation	5 sessions	50 sessions
Community grants pending	Zero	13 projects for \$1,200,000
Biomass utilization	Zero	Provided leadership to stimulate discussions regarding use of biomass waste stream for energy or other purposes. Initiated \$50,000 study to determine volume of biomass available.



Statewide Wildfire Threat Assessment and Mitigation Plan

Overview

A. Why is the Nevada Fire Safe Council conducting this planning project?

1. The Nevada Fire Board of Directors composed of the chief fire control officials of state and federal agencies commissioned the Nevada Fire Safe Council to assist them in identifying high threat locations and prioritizing mitigation projects. The Nevada Fire Safe Council solicited bids from 20 contractors and received nine proposals. A technical review committee reviewed the proposals and conducted interviews with the top four companies. Resource Concepts, Inc. of Carson City was rated number one and has accepted the contract to complete this challenging project.

B. Why do we need this project?

1. Effective fire suppression and curtailed management activities have resulted in the accumulation of hazardous fuels on both public and private lands. This large volume of fuel coupled with continued development of housing projects in high risk, high hazard environments has created the potential for disastrous losses of natural resources, property, and human life.
2. The mitigation of risks and hazards facing highly vulnerable communities is crucial to long term survival. To effectively accomplish the desired increased protection, risks and hazards must be identified, described, and prioritized. Corresponding mitigation projects must be carefully prescribed and implemented. All of this requires thoughtful consideration, analysis, and justification brought together in a threat assessment and mitigation plan.

C. What are the goals of this project?

1. Complete individual threat assessment and mitigation plans for urban interface communities within each county.
2. Assess both the risk of ignition and the fire behavior hazard.
3. Propose mitigation strategies and projects to reduce the identified threat.
4. Assess fire protection preparedness and capability.
5. Produce a final plan that is easily updated and includes maps that clearly show the findings of the assessment and location of proposed mitigation projects.

D. What is the source of funding?

1. This statewide effort is funded with federal dollars appropriated under the National Fire Plan through the Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management. Nevada's state BLM office is the primary source of support for this project. Other cooperating agencies include the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest and the Nevada Division of Forestry.

E. What are the benefits to the county and the communities?

1. The plan will identify the priority mitigation projects and provide a blueprint for reducing the fire threat and increasing community protection.
2. Completion of the plan will position the county and threatened communities to compete favorably for grant funds to assist in the implementation of mitigation projects.
3. The plan will contribute to the completion of the county's FEMA plan.

**How Are
You
Organized?**



The Nevada Fire Safe Council

Organizational Chart

