



# Fire Learning Network Notes from the Field

## FireScape Mendocino Workshop 4

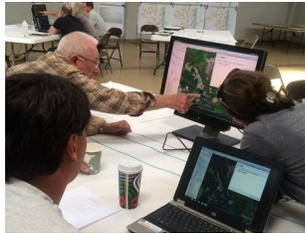
Willits, California

September 3-4, 2014

**Forty-one people** gathered for the fourth workshop in FireScape Mendocino's Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation planning series. The objectives of this workshop were to:

- review and refine the consolidated situation diagram;
- based on the prior threats analysis, identify six or fewer strategies that could realistically abate those threats;
- examine, through map work and case studies, how strategies could be put on the ground;
- discuss the complexities involved with NEPA and large-scale projects; and
- gauge which strategies FireScape Mendocino participants have the capacity to undertake in the next three years.

Two days of focused work resulted in excellent progress, starting with a shared understanding of what each stakeholder hopes to accomplish through FireScape Mendocino. This includes the Forest Supervisor's vision for forest-wide projects, including a forest-wide NEPA analysis for vegetation treatment, and increased understanding of the Supervisor's vision by Mendocino NF staff. A great new technique, based on Google Earth, was used for developing scenarios. Set of nested targets for



A retired district ranger from the Mendocino National Forest points out a landscape feature during a small group assignment: to develop hypothetical scenarios for collaborative work on the ground. *Photo: TNC/Mary Huffman*

the "Terrestrial species, structure and function" target and "Riparian and aquatic habitat, species and function" were also drafted.

The revised values are still evolving, but they currently are:

- Fire-adapted human communities
- Cultural heritage: past, present and future
- Landscape-based economic opportunities
- Outdoor recreation opportunities
- Riparian and aquatic habitat, species and function
  - Native fish
- Terrestrial species, structure and function
  - Late successional conifer forest
  - Oak woodlands
  - Serpentine and meadows.

Perhaps most important was the conclusion by the group that this collaboration belongs to all participants, rather than just to the Forest Service.

**Next up for this landscape** is an after action review (AAR) for the workshop, which will be conducted by the core team via conference call. There will also be follow-up with newcomers to the group, and thank-you letters to send. Looking ahead, a small group will work on revising the situation diagram and producing updated results chains, and examine the products generated in the Google Earth exercise. These will feed into the work of the next workshop, which is expected to be in January 2015.

### Participating Agencies & Organizations

- Blue Ribbon Coalition
- Bureau of Land Management
- CAL FIRE
- California Wilderness Coalition
- Environment Now
- Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC)
- Lake County Fire Safe Council
- Mendocino and Humboldt Redwood Companies
- Office of Congressman Jared Huffman
- Round Valley Confederated Indian Tribes – Yuki Tribe
- Tehama County Resource Conservation District
- Tuleyome/Yolo Audubon Society
- USDA Forest Service—Mendocino National Forest
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

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The Fire Learning Network (FLN) is part of *Promoting Ecosystem Resilience and Fire Adapted Communities Together*, a cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior. For more information, contact Lynn Decker ldecker@tnc.org or (801) 320-0524.



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An FLN facilitator guides a small group working to revise the situation diagram.

*Photo: TNC/Mary Huffman*