

SECTION II:**COLLABORATION****A: SAN DIEGO UNIT – CORE PLANNING GROUP**

In March 2011, Unit Chief Howard Windsor appointed eight staff members (Deputy Chief Kelly Zombro, Division Chiefs Walt Holloway and Kathleen Edwards, Battalion Chiefs Dave Allen, Ernie Marugg, Randy Scales, and Mike Vogt, and Pre-Fire Captain Daryll Pina) as a “core planning group” to provide direction on how to implement the statewide fire plan at the Unit level. On March 31, 2010, the core planning group met and reviewed the statewide goals and objectives that are likely achievable by the Unit. Almost all the selected objectives were based on the knowledge that the Unit is already working towards these selected objectives or is interested in expanding the Unit’s role in other pre-fire related activities.

Additionally, the core planning group considered the requirements of Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), as per the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003. However, the group opted to focus on developing and implementing the Unit Fire Plan with consistency of the statewide fire plan for the next two years. The core planning group may, at a later date, reconvene and reconsider coordinating the Fire Plan with the CWPP requirements. The key reasons cited for this decision is that with over 36 Fire Safe Councils with 20 CWPPs developed already throughout the County and highly possible that more FSC and CWPP will be developed in the future, there does not appear to be a need for the Unit Fire Plan to meet the CWPP criteria at this time. Additionally, San Diego County Fire Safe Council’s Executive Board assists and coordinates with FSC and communities on CWPP development and implementation. Moreover, the Unit Chief and staff actively support Fire Safe Councils from the Battalion/local level to the San Diego County Executive Board.

Core Planning Group:

Organization	Representative (title)
CAL FIRE	Kelly Zombro, Deputy Chief
CAL FIRE	Walt Holloway, Northern Division Chief
CAL FIRE	Kathleen Edwards, Pre-Fire/Resource Mgt Division Chief
CAL FIRE	Dave Allen, Battalion Chief
CAL FIRE	Ernie Marugg, Battalion Chief
CAL FIRE	Randy Scales, Battalion Chief
CAL FIRE	Daryll Pina, Pre-Fire Engineer, Fire Captain

B: COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

Nearly all pre-fire/fuels treatment and resource management activities and projects described in the San Diego Unit Fire Plan involve meeting and coordinating with various stakeholders and collaborators. Notably, the Unit is actively engaged with the San Diego County Board of Supervisors and county services, including the San Diego County Fire Authority (SDCFA), San Diego Sheriff's Department, and the San Diego County – Department of Land Use and Development; various local fire protection districts; Bureau of Land Management (BLM); United State Forest Service (USFS)–Cleveland National Forest; USFS-Forest Health Protection; US Fish and Wildlife Service; California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; California State Parks and Recreation – Anza-Borrego State Park, Palomar State Park and Cuyamaca Rancho State Park; California Department of Fish and Game; and the California Department of Transportation (CAL TRANS).

Besides the coordination and collaboration with agencies, the Unit serves as active partner in the San Diego County Fire Chiefs Association. This organization brings together the firefighting leaders from city, county, state and federal organizations to discuss and coordinate firefighting issues of San Diego County.

The Forest Area Safety Taskforce (FAST) is a collaborative organization that focuses on coordinating forest health and hazardous fuels projects and activities. This cross-sectional organization consists of federal, state, county and city agencies, community and volunteers groups and other stakeholders. The group meets every two months to discuss and foster coordination, collaboration, and partnerships for community and resource protection. The Unit Chief serves as the FAST chair. For more information, see the FAST website: www.sandiegofast.org.

The Border Agency Fire Council is an international organization with fire agencies to address the border fire issues and to ensure safety of the firefighters, citizens and unauthorized international travelers from Mexico. This organization was brought about due to the fire fatalities along the border. Additionally, this group coordinates on a firefighting operational plan, firefighter training and a resource conservation program.

The San Diego Fire Safe Council, in partnership with Resource Conservation District, is a collaborative group of county, state and federal agencies working with volunteers and community members interested in creating firesafe communities. <http://firesafesdcounty.org/>. They provide assistance with community support, coordinate with the California Fire Safe Council and provide direction on developing Community Wildfire Protection Plans.

San Diego Gas and Electric Company (SDG&E), in concert with their parent company Sempra Energy, received approval from the California Public Utilities Commission to develop and implement the Sunrise Powerlink project. One condition of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for this project is to establish a Defensible Space Fund and a Firefighting Mitigation Fund. To fulfill this condition, SDG&E established a working group, identified as the Sunrise Powerlink Fire Mitigation Group (SPFMG). Comprised of the affected firefighting departments/agencies, this group provides coordination and oversight of the Defensible Space Fund (\$2.8 million dollars each year for 58 years for homeowners) and the Firefighting Mitigation Fund (\$3.2 million dollars for the fire fighting agencies). A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on January 2012. The first phase of the transmission lines were energized in June 2012. In July 2012 the Defensible Fund was initiated and made available on line to the home owners with the targeted area.