



FAST TRAX

Forest Area Safety Taskforce

New Website: www.sandiegofast.org

JUNE 2008

PARTICIPANTS



California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



California State Parks



County of San Diego



Fire Safe Council



Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County



San Diego Gas & Electric



USDA Forest Service



USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

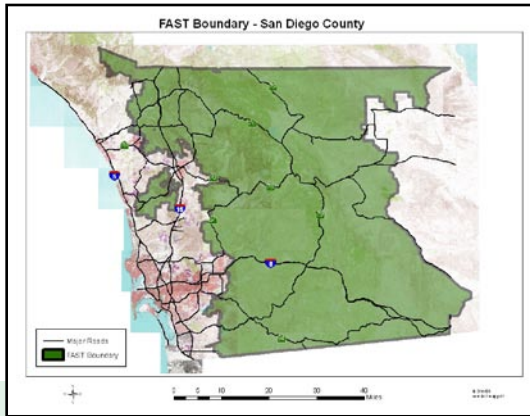


Community Organizations and Interested Stakeholders

FOREST AREA SAFETY TASKFORCE DEVELOPMENTS

By Karla Vega, NRCS & RCD

The Forest Area Safety Taskforce has expanded its planning area to include all Federal and State Responsibility Area (FRA and SRA). The new planning boundary shall include public safety projects with an emphasis on restoring ecosystem



The new FAST Area Boundary map.



FAST's new logo encompasses the different elevations and trees within our forests.

health in San Diego County's watersheds. The new boundary expands the area by 1,579,020 acres.

In addition to the new boundary, FAST has created a new logo, as well as a website where residents and guests can find project information, home owner resources, wildfire updates and partnering agency links. The new website can be found at www.sandiegofast.org.

FIRE SAFE SAN DIEGO 2008 VOLUNTEER AWARDS

By Karla Vega, NRCS & RCD

The Fire Safe Council of San Diego County hosted its third annual Fire Safe San Diego 2008 Volunteer Awards Ceremony on Thursday, June 5th to recognize outstanding volunteers and their work. The ceremony, held at Barona Resort and Casino in Lakeside, welcomed 80 guests from local Fire Safe Councils, along with government officials, and partnering agencies.

The event kicked-off with a welcome from the Fire Safe Council of San Diego County's District Manager, Marty Leavitt. A special letter was read from California's First Lady Maria Shriver congratulating winners and stating, "California's greatest resource is its people." All local Fire Safe Councils received praise and congratulations for their hard work and well earned success by key note speaker Scott Barnett for Assemblyman Joel Anderson and guest speaker Cathy Brooke of the California Fire Safe Council. Marty Leavitt



Craig Cook, of Deer Springs Fire Safe Council accepts the Fire Safe Council of the Year award from Marty Leavitt.

distributed the 12 awards and commended each recipient.

All guests enjoyed lunch and the chance to network. Award winners received commendation plaques, congratulatory letters from Senator Barbara Boxer and certificates from Assemblyman Joel Anderson. "The commitment of volunteers and the caliber of wildfire prevention projects continues to impress us and we look forward to next year's *Next Page*

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Awards Ceremony,” says Kathy Howard, Coordinator for the Fire Safe Council of San Diego County.

Award Recipients:

Community Fire Safe Council Volunteer of the Year: Kathy Finn, Talmadge Fire Safe Council; Community Fire Safe Council of the Year: Deer Springs Fire Safe Council; Community Fire Safe Council of the Year – Honorable Mention: Greater Alpine Fire Safe Council; Distinguished Service Award: Fred Luevano, Fallbrook Fire Safe Council; Award of Excellence:

Neville Connell, Greater Alpine Fire Safe Council; Rookie Community Fire Safe Council of the Year: Pine Valley Fire Safe Council; Rookie Community Fire Safe Council of the Year - Honorable Mention: Outer Jamul Valley Fire Safe Council; Outstanding Project of the Year: Mt. Laguna Fire Safe Council; Outstanding Project of the Year: Potrero Fire Safe Council; Outstanding Project of the Year – Honorable Mention: Crest Fire Safe Council; Agency Partner Champion: Rich Hawkins, US Forest Service; Agency Partner Booster of the Year: Pete Scully, CALFIRE.

WILDFIRE INFORMATION AT TAP OF A TOUCH SCREEN

By Jan Gonzales

The County Farm and Home Advisor’s Office and the University of California kicked off Wildfire Awareness Week, 2008 by unveiling the Wildfire Zone kiosk at the County Administration Center throughout the month of May.

“The high-tech kiosk is a one-of-a-kind touch screen that allows you to select both indoor and outdoor areas of your home to show what zones might be vulnerable to a wildfire,” said Valerie Mellano, Director of the County’s Home and Farm Advisor’s Office/UC Cooperative Extension. “In addition, there are tips about what to do before, during and after a fire. One impressive feature is that the kiosk prints out whatever information you select to take with you.”

This wildfire education and outreach tool is scheduled to be on

display at the 2008 San Diego County Fair. Following the fair, two wildfire kiosks will be available to FAST agencies, County offices, community organizations and private businesses for special events or extended wildfire outreach placement.

There are many codes and ordinances related to wildfire in the San Diego County region. The Wildfire Zone program was designed to educate residents about how to protect their families and property from wildfire and to make the information more user-friendly by adding new resources for wildfire education and outreach. Wildfire Zone resources include an interactive Web site (www.wildfirezone.org), tip card series on twelve wildfire safety topics, training workshops, the touch screen kiosks and DVD. The collaborative program involves County departments, the County’s Cooperative Extension; University Cooperative Extension programs throughout the western states; government agencies; fire authorities; and community organizations.

For more information, please contact Jan Gonzales at (858) 694-8955.

ADDITIONAL FAST PARTICIPANTS:



American Red Cross

American Red Cross

<http://www.sdarc.org>



Bureau of Land Management

<http://www.blm.gov/>



California Highway Patrol

<http://www.chp.ca.gov/>



Office of Emergency Services

http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/oes/oes_home.html



San Diego County Sheriff's Department

www.sdsheriff.net



Bureau of Indian Affairs

<http://www.doi.gov/bureau-indian-affairs.html>



CA Department of Fish & Game

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>



Caltrans

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist11/>



People for Trees
www.peoplefortrees.org



UC Cooperative Extension Wildfire Zone
www.wildfirezone.org



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