



March 2019



Please join us for our bimonthly group meeting next Tuesday, March 12, 5:30-7 p.m. at the Hung A LeI Ti Woodfords Indian Education Center! We'll give an update on the latest restoration project in Hope Valley. To learn about completed restoration work, Craig Oehrli of the US Forest Service will present on a local meadow project that was implemented 14 years ago—Cookhouse Meadow in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Please share the [flyer](#) and the [agenda](#), and see more details on Alpine Fire Safe Council's opening question and answer segment below.

Relax, Enjoy, and Support AWG

During March and April, Tahoe Yoga Shala's Sunday night donation-based yoga class will benefit AWG. This 5:30 p.m. class is open to all, whether you are new to yoga or have been practicing for years. We extend a special invite to join AWG AmeriCorps Member Shauna Langan at the class on Sunday, March 24. We are grateful to Tahoe Yoga Shala for selecting AWG to receive the proceeds from these donation-based classes, and we thank past AmeriCorps Member Marina Vance for setting this up before she left. See [Tahoe Yoga Shala's website](#) for studio location and more details. Please share this info with your South Lake Tahoe friends!



TAHOE
YOGA SHALA



Faith Valley Restoration Planning

On February 25, AWG staff participated in a Faith Valley Conceptual Design Review Webinar hosted by American Rivers. Twenty stakeholders met virtually to learn about the baseline conditions assessment and the draft conceptual design report produced by Waterways Consulting. [American Rivers](#) has identified Faith Valley as a priority meadow for restoration because of channel incision and

other impairments. Several large, stable beaver dam complexes have helped to keep the meadow intact but have had trouble persisting long enough to provide long-term restoration outcomes.

To assess the current conditions, consultants performed a topographic survey, created a geomorphic map, conducted a botanical survey, inventoried beaver dams, and completed an assessment of the adjacent off-highway vehicle (OHV) road. The draft conceptual design proposes constructing beaver dam analogs, a light-handed approach that includes installing structures that mimic natural beaver dams, with the goal of aggrading the channel—raising the channel level by encouraging sediment to be deposited. Raising the channel bed will help to reconnect the stream to its floodplain and will provide habitat benefits for fish and birds. The draft design also includes a number of upgrades to the road and possibly a trail to reduce erosion, address drainage issues, and improve the recreational and aesthetic value of the meadow.

You can download project materials [here](#). Please send any comments or questions to [Julie Fair](#) by April 1. AWG will continue to provide updates as the project progresses, and we look forward to hosting some talks and walks related to the project in the coming months.

Keeping Alpine County Fire Safe

At the March AWG meeting, the Alpine Fire Safe Council (AFSC) will lead a question and answer period on the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and the Adjacent Lot Ordinance. In preparation for this discussion, here is some background information.

The purpose of the **Community Wildfire Protection Plan** is to provide descriptive elements to help residents improve and implement wildland fire measures to protect their home and property from wildland fire. By implementing the plan elements, your home can be better protected from a wildland fire. The plan also suggests a neighbor-to-neighbor strategy which can assist firefighting and, quite possibly, save homes and lives. The first section of the plan is the Executive Summary, providing an overview of the elements of the plan. You can review the plan [here](#). It is also available at the Alpine County Library in Markleeville.



The **Adjacent Lot Ordinance** is an adjunct to the County Vacant Lot Ordinance. In short, the Adjacent Lot Ordinance is predicated to function solely on a complaint basis. There are many vacant lots in the inhabited areas of Alpine County; most are unattended and overgrown, presenting an extreme wildland fire hazard to both residents and firefighters. The AFSC, the Fire Chief, and the Alpine County Board of Supervisors worked on this ordinance to address the ever-growing problem of unattended vacant lots. Reference to this ordinance can be found in Alpine County Vacant Lot Ordinance Chapter 8.20—Fire Restrictions and Fuels Reduction.

Upcoming Events

AWG Meeting

Tuesday, March 12, 5:30-7 p.m.
Woodfords Indian Education Center

We'll hear briefly from Kris Hartnett on the Alpine County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and Adjacent Lot Ordinance. AWG staff will give an update on the upcoming restoration project in Hope Valley. Our main event will be a presentation on the completed Cookhouse Meadow Restoration Project by Craig Oehrli of the US Forest Service. Please join us for an informative evening!

[Flyer](#)

[Agenda](#)

Tool Sharpening Party

Thursday, March 21, 10 a.m.-noon
AWG Office, 50 Diamond Valley Road, Markleeville

Looking forward to field season, we are throwing a tool sharpening party! Please come help us sharpen AWG's tools, and you are welcome to bring your own dull tools for a work-up.

Alpine Biomass Collaborative (ABC) Meeting

Tuesday, April 2, 6-8 p.m.
Turtle Rock Community Center

We encourage our watershed community to attend this meeting to provide input on identifying potential projects to minimize the threat of catastrophic fire and improve forest and watershed health. The goal of the meeting is to prepare a map showing past, present, and future projects as well as to identify and prioritize potential projects.



SAVE THE DATE

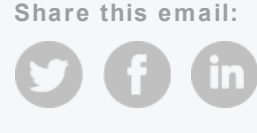
Celebrate Earth Day at Grover Hot Springs State Park

Saturday, April 20, 8 a.m.-noon
Sign up [here](#). Scroll down to the calendar and click the right arrow to select Grover Hot Springs State Park on the April 20 date. You

will be directed to the California State Parks Foundation website to complete registration.



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