

Grant Creek/North Reserve Neighborhood Council
Wildfire Preparedness Committee
1 to 3:30 p.m. Feb. 25, 2019 Field Trip

Attending: , Bert Lindler, Wendell Beardsley, John Langstaff, Lee Clemmensen, Dennis Muth, Lee Clemmensen, Maxwell Rebholz (county wildfire preparedness coordinator), Harold Hoem (Montana Elders for a Livable Tomorrow), Mario Colucci and Will ?, both from the Montana Conservation Corps,

Field Trip: We met at the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Visitor Center where we broke the party up so we could fit into two vehicles. The first stop was at the end of St. Vrain Way, where the Montana Conservation Corps began thinning a corner of the National Wildlife Federation's elk winter range that lies alongside the Colorado Gulch Homeowner Association's common area. Work will continue there this spring pending final approval by the National Wildlife Federation and the Montana Conservation Corps. The next stop was at the junction of Bench Road and Grant Creek Road, in an area where residents have long lots that adjoin national forest property. John Langstaff and Harold Hoem were going to try to talk to a group of neighbors in that area to see whether the Montana Conservation Corps would be able to help adjoining homeowners thin some of their property. The final stop was at the home of Wendell Beardsley. Wendell's home is one of about half-a-dozen Colorado Gulch homes with backyards facing a strip of National Wildlife Federation property. Maxwell Rebholz will be checking to see whether homes and the National Wildlife Federation property in that area would benefit from some thinning. The Montana Conservation Corps will be training one batch of crew members in March and another in April. The goal is to have the crew members helping reduce fire risk in Grant Creek while they're getting certified for the work they will be performing on public lands across the state this summer.