

STAFF REPORT

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| Agenda Item No.: | C |
| Work Plan: | Fire Protection Work Plan |
| Topic: | Ongoing topic: Fire Program Review Committee |
| Presentation Title: | Fire Program Review Committee Final Report |
| Date of Presentation: | July 20, 2016 |
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SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board to receive the final 2015/2016 Fire Program Review Committee report to the State Forester.

CONTEXT

Due to the significant increase in wildfires over the past several years, the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) initiated a Fire Program Review Committee in December 2015. This committee was made up of forest landowners, wildland fire professionals, elected officials, the Oregon State Fire Marshal's office and other stakeholders to advise ODF in its effort to develop and implement a more sustainable fire organization, including large-fire funding solutions, and developing policy considerations to mitigate increasingly complex wildfire conditions in Oregon.

BACKGROUND

The Fire Program Review Committee conducted four meetings: December 1, 2015, January 21, 2016, April 5, 2016 and June 6, 2016. Three "Work Groups conducted much of the staff work necessary for the committee to deliberate on its mission. As of the July 20 Board of Forestry meeting, the Fire Program Review Committee has completed its work detailed in the attached final report.

RECOMMENDATION

The Department recommends the Board accept the 2015/2016 Fire Program Review Committee report to the State Forester to guide the agency in its efforts to achieve a more sustainable funding model for large fire costs, to work towards achieving a more sustainable fire organization and in developing policies and programs to mitigate the increasingly more complex fire conditions in Oregon.

NEXT STEPS

- Fire Program Review Committee final report will be communicated and shared broadly with forest landowners, other federal and state agencies, legislators, partners and cooperators.
- Specific recommendations will be pursued through the agency biennial budget development processes, Board work plans and inclusion in Division annual operating plans.

ATTACHMENT

- (1) 2015/2016 Fire Program Review Committee Report to the State Forester