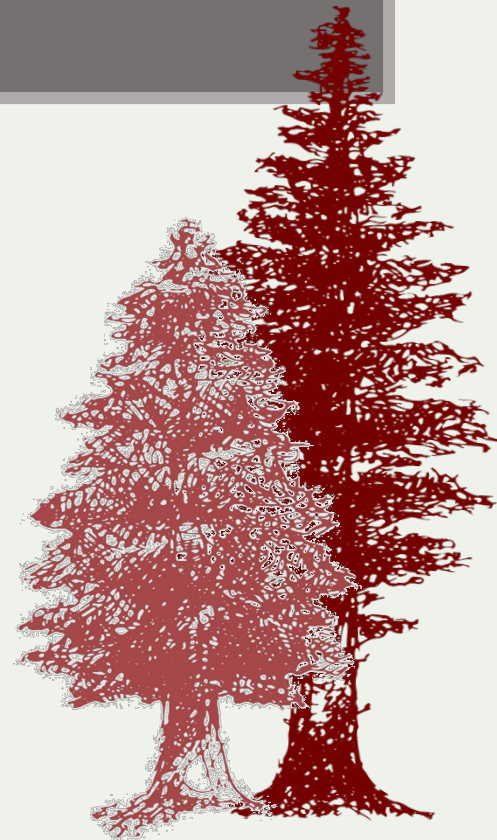




Wildland Urban Interface Rules Advisory Committee July 27, 2021

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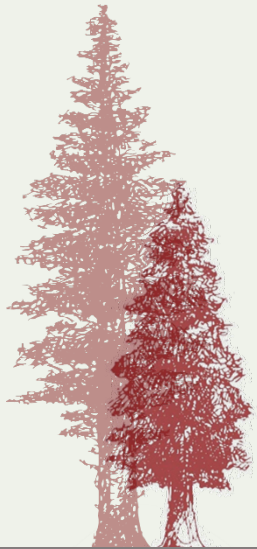
Topics on the agenda

- History of Defensible Space in Oregon
- Governor's Wildfire Response Council
- Senate Bill 762, Sections 31-33
- Tasks for RAC



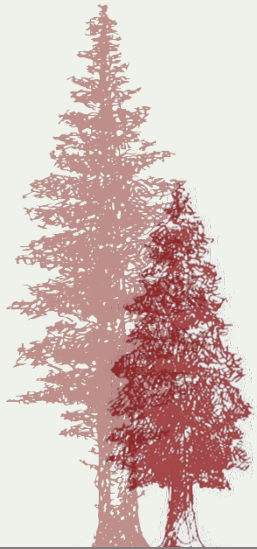
History of Defensible Space in Oregon

- Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act of 1997 was the first defensible space in Oregon
- At that time, the “forestland-urban interface” (WUI) was defined as properties within an ODF forest protection district that lie within a county where a specific concentration of homes exist (10 acres or less, or 4 homes per legal 40 acres).



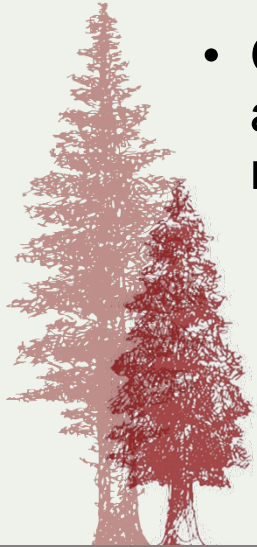
History of Defensible Space in Oregon

- Shared Responsibilities
 - County established classification committees
 - The Oregon Department of Forestry was responsible for administrative responsibilities beyond identification and classification.
 - Property owners were then required to evaluate their property, mitigate risks, and self-certify that their property met standards outlined in the law.



Governor's Wildfire Response Council

- Senate Bill 762 largely consists of the recommendations of the Governor's Wildfire Response Council.
- Recommendation #2: Defensible space and the wildland-urban interface.
 - Oregon lacks a consistent definition, standards, enforcement, and mapping of wildfire risk areas where defensible space is needed



Senate Bill 762

Section 31

SECTION 31. ORS 477.015 is amended to read:

477.015. [(1)] As used in **this section and** ORS [477.015 to 477.061] **477.025 and 477.027**, [unless the context otherwise requires,] “[forestland-urban] **wildland-urban interface**” [means] **has the meaning given that term in rule by the State Board of Forestry.** [a geographic area of forestland inside a forest protection district where there exists a concentration of structures in an urban or suburban setting.]

[(2) As used in ORS 477.015 to 477.057, unless the context requires otherwise:]

[(a) “Committee” means a county forestland-urban interface classification committee.]

[(b) “Governing body” means the board of county commissioners or county court of a county, as the case may be.]

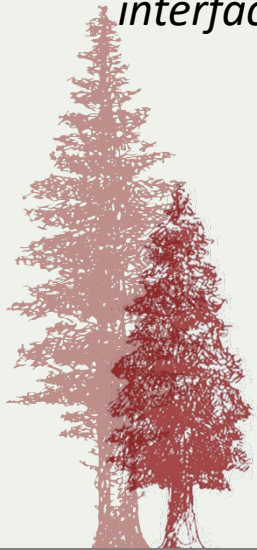


Senate Bill 762

Section 32

SECTION 32. ORS 477.025 is amended to read:

477.025. The Legislative Assembly recognizes that the [*forestland*] **wildland**-urban interface in Oregon varies by condition, situation, fire hazard and risk, that different [*forestland*] **wildland**-urban interface fire protection problems exist across the state because of this variability, **and** that these different problems necessitate varied fire prevention and protection practices. [*and that, in order to give recognition to such differences and their effect on the accomplishment of the public policy stated in ORS 477.023, certain classifications of the forestland-urban interface within the State of Oregon are established by ORS 477.027 to 477.057.*]



Senate Bill 762

Section 33

SECTION 33. ORS 477.027 is amended to read:

477.027. **(1)** By *[administrative]* rule, **considering national best practices**, the State Board of Forestry shall establish:

(a) A definition of “wildland-urban interface.”

(b) Criteria by which the *[forestland-urban]* **wildland-urban** interface *[shall]* **must** be identified and classified.

(2) The criteria *[shall]*:

(a) Must recognize differences across the state in fire hazard, fire risk and structural characteristics within the *[forestland-urban]* **wildland-urban** interface.

(b) May not exclude a category of land from inclusion in the wildland-urban interface.

(3) Based on the criteria *[shall include not less than three nor more than]*, **the board shall establish** five classes of *[forestland-urban]* **wildland-urban** interface.

(4) The classes must be integrated into the comprehensive statewide map described in section 7 of this 2021 Act.



Senate Bill 762

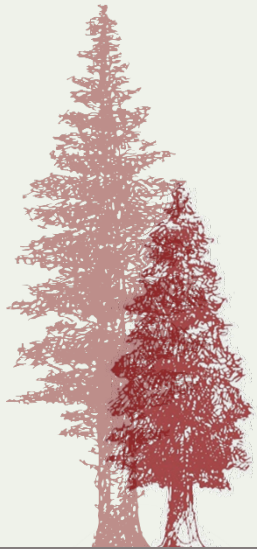
Section 33a

SECTION 33. ORS 477.027 is amended to read:

477.027. **(1)** By [*administrative*] rule, **considering national best practices**, the State Board of Forestry shall establish:

(a) A definition of “wildland-urban interface.”

SECTION 33a. The State Board of Forestry shall adopt by rule the definition described in **ORS 477.027 (1)(a)**, as amended by section 33 of this 2021 Act, not later than **100 days after the effective date** of this 2021 Act.



Tasks

- Advise the Department in developing a definition of the Wildland-Urban Interface, considering national best practices, to present to the Board of Forestry as a draft rule.
 - Must follow the Secretary of State rulemaking rules
 - Rule must be established within 100 days of Governor's signature
- Advise the Department in developing criteria to identify the Wildland-Urban Interface, considering national best practices, to present to the Board of Forestry as a draft rule.
 - Must follow the Secretary of State rulemaking rules
 - Rule must be established by June 30, 2022



The logo of the Oregon Department of Forestry is a circular emblem. It features a central shield with a landscape scene: a mountain range in the background, a line of evergreen trees in the middle ground, and a body of water in the foreground. The word "OREGON" is arched across the top of the shield, and "DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY" is arched across the bottom. The entire emblem is set within a larger circular border.

Questions?

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