Welcome and Introduction
- Committee members and guests introduced themselves and their representation. A list of attendees is attached.

Opening Remarks
- The co-chairs indicated that the work groups have clearly received direction to narrow scope and move forward and that the Committee is enthusiastic about the efforts and thinking being done. The presentation developed from the original ‘matrix’ was quickly reviewed, and attendees encouraged by the co-chairs to ask questions and provide input. The key topics identified by the work group remain Workforce Capacity, Contracting, Equipment and Technology and Training and Readiness. Although not identified as primary topics, Prevention and Additional Ideas remain on the table.

Identification of New Issues
- Specific asks that came out of the Committee were discussed, such as Business Support in FEMA/EFCC audits and the ability to Federally ‘card’ aviation assets for wider use. Most of these asks can be specifically linked back to today’s discussions on key concepts.
- Concern that the scope/size of large fire funding needs to be determined in order to drive this discussion, including expectations of where funding comes from.
  - Discussion of east/west concept, especially around lower productive lands in Eastern Oregon.
  - By law we must provide for ‘adequate’ fire protection. How do we augment ‘adequate’ in times of need using the tools we have (10-year avg., predictive, our experience, etc.). We are moving forward acknowledging that the current system is not broken. However, trends, driven primarily by drought, have changed our 10-year average and it is clear that our workforce is not able to sustain the pace that they’ve been asked to over the last three years. Vetting each of these examples will allow us to identify and leverage investments and potentially find efficiencies in our system.
  - We will make recommendations on potential costs of our topics and where the funding might come from (local budget issues vs. statewide projects). These will link to the work being done in the Large Fire Funding work group. The Committee will make decisions on the funding source and inform continued efforts at the June meeting.

Discussion of Key Concepts
- The Co-chairs facilitated a discussion on the topics that have been identified under each of the key issues and reinforced the ongoing winnowing process and end-goal of business case creation for each.
Workforce capacity discussion:

a. Stewardship Foresters role in IMT, ready reserve – staffing levels significantly down since 2009.

b. State Forest (SF) and Private Forest (PF) capacity: Relationship of SF/PF fire deployment to numbers of weeks lost in SF/PF work due to fire deployment (2014 = 80 staff to fires and 632 weeks of work to Protection duties; 2015 = 121 staff to fires and 771 weeks to Protection duties). Although this could be seen as a savings due to SF/PF not being on the regular budget, the work loss is not seen as a savings due to need to hire contractors, pay OT to do the work or work not getting done.

c. Opportunities for owner/operators to backfill traditional staff roles in SF/PF to keep that work going (potential tie-in to both Training and Contracting).

d. Discussion on industrial resources not available in dry conditions due to layoff (closures) – Loss of skilled, qualified and equipped resources in the woods for patrol and suppression. Potential look at what needs to be captured to activate industry under those situations that is different from today; a different business arrangement from a readiness standpoint (possible tie-in to the Contracting discussion).

e. Initial Attack Training Committee (IATC) concept – The ‘ODF model’ for initial attack is tenured seasonal firefighters making good tactical decisions – look at an extension of the seasonal months, done selectively to add targeted capacity in high-need functions (such as aviation) in support of added severity assets (possible severity funding). Potential for huge value added for this investment. Concerns about ‘creeping’ of that time frame – how many months are enough months (6-8-10)? This will need to be thought about in both short term and long term (10-20 year) capacity.

f. Investigate co-op crews to include interagency staffing as well as the potential for industry.

Assignments:

- ODF Protection Capacity: Extend/add seasonal firefighter months, fire management and leadership (including Stewardship and Unit Foresters) - **Matt Mackey, Brent O’Nion, Joe Hessel**
- Business Support: Permanent Command & General Staff team **(unassigned)**
- Other Agency Capacity: Use on Incident Management Team’s (IMT’s), inmates (possibly in Rangeland situations as well), other states, National Guard **(NG ground troops also tied in to Training and Readiness)** - **Karen Swearingen, Joe Hessel**

Technology and equipment discussion:

a. Statewide detection cameras, additional aviation resources, a common operating picture, investment in local caches to support Type 3 fires (keep fires small), multi-mission aircraft, UAV (drone) resources and communication equipment were discussed.

b. IATC concept – Put ‘ready reserve’ resources in engines instead of pickup trucks for patrol and suppression, possibly for both ODF and industry resources (surplus property, FEPP?).

c. IATC concept – Early detection and rapid response with better intelligence through enhanced lightning detection/tracking, common operating software packages and the closest forces/safety aspect of Automated Vehicle Location (AVL) capability. Interest from OSFM on looking at statewide, interagency adoption of a common operating picture platform (OSFM/ODF/OFCA).

Assignments:

- **Common Operating Picture (COP)** - **Mariana Ruiz-Temple, Bryson Williams** *(IATC defers COP assignment to this group)*
- Incident Support Equipment - **Travis Medema**
**Training and readiness discussion:**

a. How many members of the SF/PF division staff are on IMT’s or are part of the ready reserve (IMT makeup is: 44% SF, 16% PF, 37% Protection, 3% Other).

b. Discussion on Private Forest (PF) and State Forest (SF) division contributions to fire program training, including building to certification and annual refreshers for currency (1 week per year spent in fire training x 217 in SF staff).

c. IATC concept – Three part-time coordinators at each area for targeted IA training to enhance the ‘well-rounded’ firefighter need.

d. National Guard - Discussion on maintaining momentum of those already trained in 2015, minimum number of troops we want to keep current in a readiness package. Looking at both aviation and ground troops – further vet policy questions on Ops Plan Smokey (*NG also tied in to Workforce Capacity*).

**Assignments**
- Training Fund - **John Tillotson, Brian Pew, Jamie Paul**
- Private Firefighting Contracts - **Mike Robison, Brent O’Nion**
- IATC concept - **Completed, Matt Mackey to ensure concepts are incorporated**

**Contracting discussion:**
Use of private contracts for ODF exclusive use, additional aviation contracts, contracting owners/operators for fire and non-fire uses (*where appropriate, some contracting research has been added to workforce capacity assignments*).

**Assignments**
- Aviation Contracting: Do we have the right mix? Tie into the severity program. Include multi-mission aircraft - **Mike Totey**
- Personnel Contracting- Use of owner/operators in variety of positions, add training of owner/operators to this assignment - **Mike Robison, Rex Storm**
- Private firefighting contracts- **Mike Robison, Brent O’Nion**

**Prevention discussion:**
This category included public outreach packages and policy updates.

**Assignments**
- Prevention package as a whole - **Rex Storm, Tom Fields, Kris Babbs (KOG), Seth Barnes, Kristina McNitt and Mariana Ruiz-Temple (may assign Stephanie or Claire from OSFM)**

**Other:**
This category included looking for ways to integrate FEMA/EFCC audits for efficiencies, district reconfiguration, and infrastructure enhancements such as bunkhouses and guard stations.

**Assignments**
- District Configuration/Staffing - **Travis Medema**
- Guard Stations/Bunkhouses – **Matt Mackey**
- Administrative Piece, Business Support - **Protection Division**
Wrap-up and Next Meeting

- Doug Grafe shared some work that has been done for the February legislative session, e.g., $200k ask for helitack program in LaGrande and $290k ask for augmented detection camera systems in Central Oregon. Do not know if Ways and Means will fund these packages, but the work being done here positioned us very well to make these asks now.

- Committee members and chairs shared their appreciation for the time and commitment from this group and willingness to share your perspectives and thoughts. This work will affect ODF’s theatre of operation now and far into the future. We are on a good path to flesh out these concepts for the Committee to chew on.

- Case reviews are due back to Jamie Paul by March 4. Please use the template provided – it is flexible if you need to adjust for your specific needs (ex: If you would like to ‘tier’ the funding piece you may). Feel free to communicate with whom you need to between now and the due date.

- The next meeting of the Fire Program Review Committee is scheduled for Monday, March 14, 2016.

- The next meeting of the Sustainable Fire Organization Work Group is Monday, March 21, 2016.

Attendees

- Travis Medema, ODF Eastern Oregon Area Dir., SFO Work Group Co-Chair
- Brian Pew, ODF Deputy Chief State Forests, SFO Work Group Co-Chair
- Doug Decker, ODF State Forester
- Nancy Hirsch, ODF Deputy State Forester
- Doug Grafe, ODF Division Chief Fire Program
- Mike Totey, ODF West Oregon District Forester
- Joe Hessel, ODF LaGrande Unit Forester
- John Tillotson, ODF Astoria State Forests Unit Forester
- Matt Mackey, ODF Western Lane Wildland Fire Supervisor
- Bryson Williams, ODF Klamath Falls Wildland Fire Supervisor
- Brent O’Nion, ODF Forest Grove Stewardship Forester
- Karen Swearingen, ODF Fire Operations Manager
- Rod Nichols, ODF Public Affairs
- Mariana Ruiz-Temple, OSFM Deputy State Fire Marshal (by phone)
- Brett Brownscombe, Governor’s Natural Resource Office (by phone)
- Greg Miller, Weyerhaeuser
- Roger Beyer, Oregon Small Woodlands Assoc.
- Rex Storm, Associated Oregon Loggers
- Seth Barnes, Oregon Forest & Industries Council
- Randy Hereford, Starker Forests
- Jamie Paul, ODF Project Manager FPSC