Recommendation 1: Landscape Resiliency and Fuels Management

- Request that ODF Resource Planning staff work to conduct a Wildfire Risk Analysis to quantify the potential of wildfire to move across ownership boundaries and to prioritize landscape level treatments. This research work should be conducted collaboratively with stakeholders, partners and cooperators. ODF should use the information from the analysis to support agency input to Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service planning efforts, especially regarding boundary issues along private-public ownership boundaries.

- Encourage the State Legislature to affirm the State’s financial interest to simultaneously continue the pace, scale and quality of federal forest restoration, reduce the risk of transferring wildfire to private lands, and enhance economic opportunity in rural communities. This includes federal funds spending limitation to implement Good Neighbor Authority projects. Encourage the State Forester to enter into a Good Neighbor Authority agreement with the Bureau of Land Management.

- Request that the Board of Forestry maintain its Federal Forest Subcommittee and elevate its voice on the importance of active management to increase fire resiliency on lands managed by the USFS and BLM.

- Request that the ODF Protection Division work with the ODF Partnership Development Program to more effectively pursue emerging landscape-scale funding opportunities (e.g., OWEB Focused Investment Partnership, NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program, USFS Community Assistance Grants, Joint Chiefs Designations, and Cohesive Strategy).

Recommendation 2: Smoke Management and Prescribed Burning

- Request that ODF Protection Division work with the Smoke Management Advisory Committee to engage the USFS, BLM, DEQ, landowners and other partners to initiate a study to identify the factors which limit land managers from meeting their prescribed fire burning objectives.

- Request that ODF Protection Division and ODF Public Affairs work with partners (USFS, BLM, private landowners, cities, OFRI, OSU Extension, Rural Fire Departments and collaborative groups) to conduct a proactive public outreach campaign to increase awareness of the need for and understanding of the use of prescribed fire and to generate social support for the activity.
Recommendation 3: Rangelands

- Recommendations to continue to enhance coordination between Rangeland Fire Protection Associations (RPAs), the BLM and other collaborative partners to increase fire suppression capability and capacity on rangeland fires (such as the Harney County Wildfire Collaborative). Continue to incorporate unprotected rangelands into existing or new RPAs.

- Request the ODF Protection Division support innovations and research in rangeland landscape management by RPAs and their partners, in coordination with the US Department of Agriculture (Agricultural Research Service) and the U.S. Department of the Interior to build capacity to mitigate the risk of wildfire on Oregon’s rangeland (e.g. precision restoration project being implemented in sage grouse country). Encourage the State Legislature to strategically invest in restoration projects that meet sage grouse habitat and fuel mitigation objectives.

Recommendation 4: Wildland/Urban Interface

- Request that ODF Protection Division and ODF Resource Planning collaborate to initiate a study to analyze the suppression costs associated with fighting wildfires in the WUI and the role of Department suppression efforts in the WUI.

- Request that ODF Protection Division collaborate with the Department of Land Conservation and Development to optimize and align the current array of regulatory tools associated with wildfire mitigation, and continue to seek potential funding sources necessary to assist property owners with implementing defensible space treatments around residences and structures at the time of construction, and at appropriate intervals thereafter.

- Request that the ODF Protection Division conduct an effectiveness review of Senate Bill 360 policies and implementation procedures, and determine the most effective pathway forward, with a focus on its success in mitigating the risk of wildland fire fuels in the WUI.