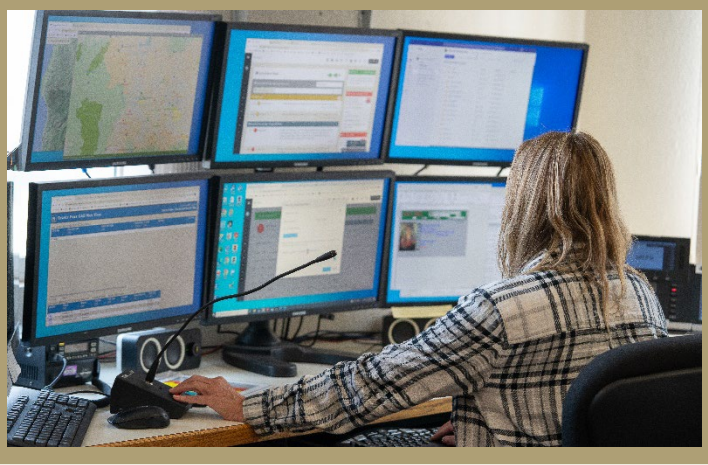
State of Oregon
Advancing Wildfire Protection

Office of Governor Tina Kotek











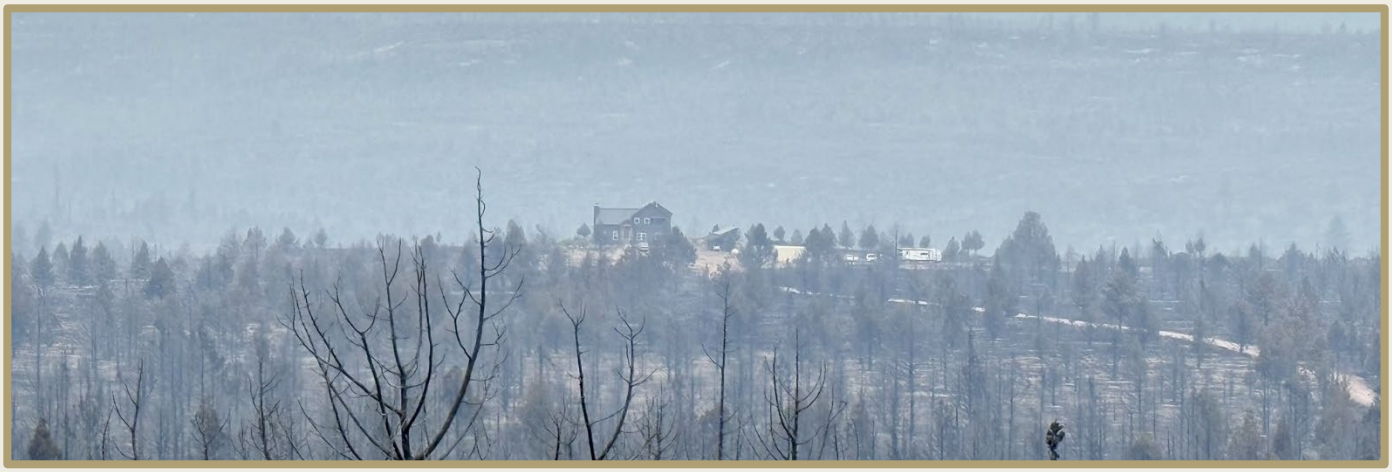
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Advancing Wildfire Protection in Oregon

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Implementation Agencies

Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS)
Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS)
Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)
Oregon Department of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM)
Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)
Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM)
Oregon Health Authority (OHA)
Oregon State University (OSU)
Public Utility Commission (PUC)
Wildfire Programs Advisory Council (WPAC)



Executive Summary

As required by SB83 (2025), this quarterly implementation status report is produced by the Wildfire Programs Director for the Governor and the Oregon's Legislature. Wildfire Programs Advisory Council (WPAC)

Fire Season 2026

Another devastating fire season is behind us. We are approaching close to our average wildfire responses at approximately 2000 wildfires; however, the State has reached new records for acres burned at 2.1 million acres and $366 million in gross suppression costs. Fifty-four residences and 164 outbuildings were destroyed by wildfire across 15 rural communities, primarily east of the cascade crest. Sadly, we suffered two line-of-duty firefighter fatalities, and one civilian fatality was identified by the Jefferson County sheriff because of a wildfire. My thoughts are with all who suffered losses this fire season and our collective grief would have been far greater without the impressive work of our first responders. Many thanks to Oregon's wildfire community!

Looking Ahead

2026 marks the first five years of the Wildfire Programs in Oregon. It is important to take this moment to reflect on what we have accomplished to date and, critically important, where we need to advance over the next five years.

That evaluation must begin with a recognition of the "the true costs of wildfire" where several independent studies have identified these costs between 2 to 50 times the cost of suppression. Oregon's 5-year average gross suppression costs are at $200 million, while the 2026 fire season costs ballooned to $366 million. This equation on the true cost of wildfire represents a multibillion-dollar conversation for Oregon over the next five years and trillions of dollars nationally.

Oregon's 2020 decade of wildfire has undoubtedly stretched our collective understanding of the wildfire crisis, and I have full confidence



Oregonians will continue to translate that recognition to boldly advancing wildfire policy, budgets and an all-hands-on deck approach as we learn to prosper within an increasingly complex wildfire environment. Our primary areas of near-term focus will include:

Suppression: During the 2027 legislative session, deliberations will continue regarding the state's updated 5-year average net suppression costs, which have increased from $150 to $215 million a biennium. Also, the WPAC's annual report, which will be filed to the legislature and the Governor in November, will set the stage for a more robust statewide strategy to advance wildfire protection on under and unprotected lands across the state.

Wildfire Mitigation and Prevention: Oregon now has dedicated and durable funding for ODF, OSFM and Oregon Conservation Corps to implement wildfire mitigation programs that reduce Oregon's wildfire risk. These programs focus on treating hazardous fuels, establishing defensible space and home hardening across our most vulnerable wildfire areas. Wildfire prevention has always been a core function and advancing this effort must reduce human caused wildfires.

Partnerships: State policies, budgets and programs continue to serve as catalysts for the partnerships necessary to reach the societal shifts essential to reducing the catastrophic nature of wildfire. Each Oregonian has a key role in fire protection and together with our federal land managers, Tribes, local governments, and Oregon's business community, including utilities and the insurance industry, we can effectively confront Oregon's wildfire crisis.

Duties of the Wildfire Programs Director

- Oversee implementation of the Wildfire Programs.
- Coordinate activities across all wildfire implementation agencies.
- Ensure compliance with deadlines.
- Monitor and assess the equity of any financial impacts from implementation activities on local jurisdictions.
- Supervise council staff and develop director reports quarterly.
- Explore current and future opportunities to reduce wildfire risk.



Roles of the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council

- Advise and assist the Wildfire Programs Director.
- Monitor Wildfire Programs implementation of activities related to wildfire prevention and response, including the evaluation of agency reports.
- Advise on changes necessary to dramatically reduce wildfire risk in the state and ensure regional defensible space, building codes and land use applications are appropriate.
- Strengthen intergovernmental and multiparty collaboration including government, stakeholders and the public.
- Review the findings and recommendations in the DLCD's October 2022 report and make additional recommendations to land use planning, local comprehensive plans, and zoning codes to minimize wildfire risk.
- Report every October to the Governor and appropriate committees or interim committees of the Oregon Legislative Assembly.

2026 Implementation Status

Date	Responsible Party	Required Action	Implementation Status
Jan 31	HECC	Annual report to the Legislature, the Wildfire Programs Director and to the WPAC. SB0083	**(Complete)** HECC Annual Conservation Corps Report
Jan 31	ODF	Annual report to the Legislature, the Wildfire Programs Director and to the WPAC. SB0083	**(Complete)** ODF Annual Landscape Resiliency Report
Jan 31	DEQ	Annual report to the Legislature, the Wildfire Programs Director and to the WPAC. SB0083	**(Complete)** DEQ Annual Smoke Report
Jan 31	OSFM	Annual report to the Legislature, the Wildfire Programs Director and to the WPAC. SB0083	**(Complete)** OSFM Annual Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Report
Feb 2	DCBS & OSFM	Report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly. SB0085 Insurance and Community Risk Reduction Assessment	**(Complete)** DCBS_SB85_report 2025
April 1	PUC	Annual report to the Legislature, the Wildfire Programs Director and to the WPAC. SB0083	**(Complete)** OPUC Annual Wildfire Report
October	WPAC	Annual report to Governor & relevant legislative committees SB0762	**(Delayed until November)**

Photo below: *SB 85 Wildfire Home Ignition Demonstration (2025)*



Helpful Links:

Wildfire Mitigation:

Community Risk Reduction and Insurance:

Defensible Space - OSFM: Sign-up for a free defensible space assessment and protect your home from wildfire. (*see graphics on following page*)

Home Hardening: Protect your home from wildfire embers, by assessing and updating your exterior building materials.

Insurance - DCBS: Understanding your insurance policy before the fire arrives.

Landscape Resiliency:

Landowner Grants - ODF: Reduce the spread of wildfire by managing hazardous fuels- learn about what grant programs can help.

Oregon Youth Works: See how youth are reducing hazardous fuels around our fire prone communities.

Public Health:

Oregon Smoke Information: Track air quality hazards and understand smoke impacts on your health.

Utilities:

Public Utility Commission: See Oregon's utility wildfire mitigation plans and be prepared during public safety power shutoffs.

Wildfire Prevention and Readiness:

Keep Oregon Green: Visit Oregon's non-profit dedicated to reducing human caused fires.

Fire prevention: ODF: During wildfire season, know the fire restrictions before you leave home.

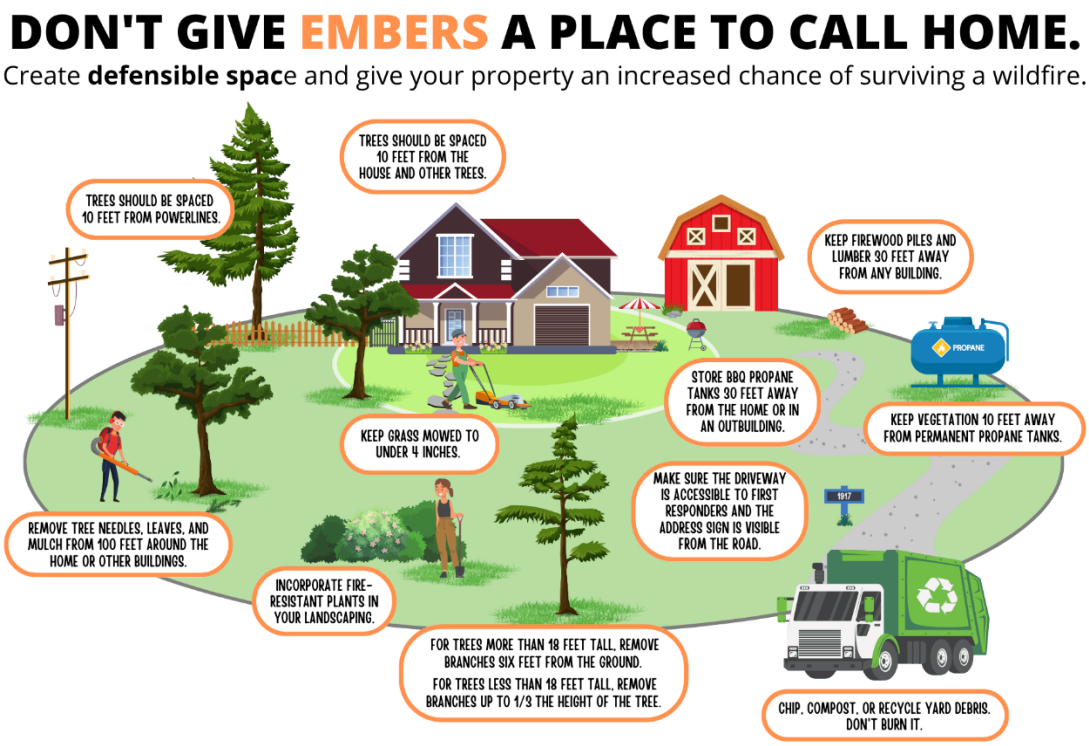
Wildfire in Oregon: OSFM: Be "Wildfire Aware" and help reduce the impacts of wildfire in our communities.

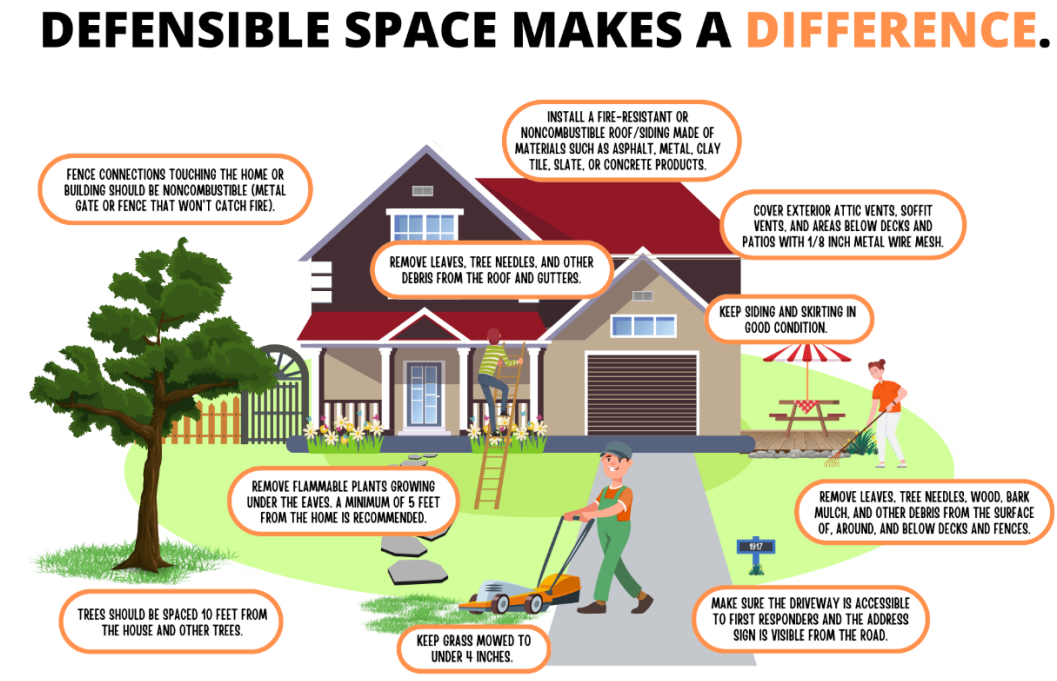
Emergency Management: Be "2-weeks ready" before the wildfire arrives.

Fire Program | OSU Extension Service: Explore the wildfire education tools available through OSU.

Northwest Interagency Coordination Center: View the regions active fire map and analytics that support wildfire response – such as hazardous fuel and weather conditions.

Protecting Your Home from Wildfire:





Give your home an increased chance of surviving a wildfire,
even if firefighters cannot reach your home.

Thank you.

The Wildfire Programs Director's Report is made possible by the dogged leadership of Oregonians across the state, the Legislature, and the Governor's office, working together to address the rising risk of catastrophic wildfire in Oregon.

Governor Tina Kotek
Wildfire Program

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