



# State of Oregon Advancing Wildfire Protection

*Office of Governor Tina Kotek*





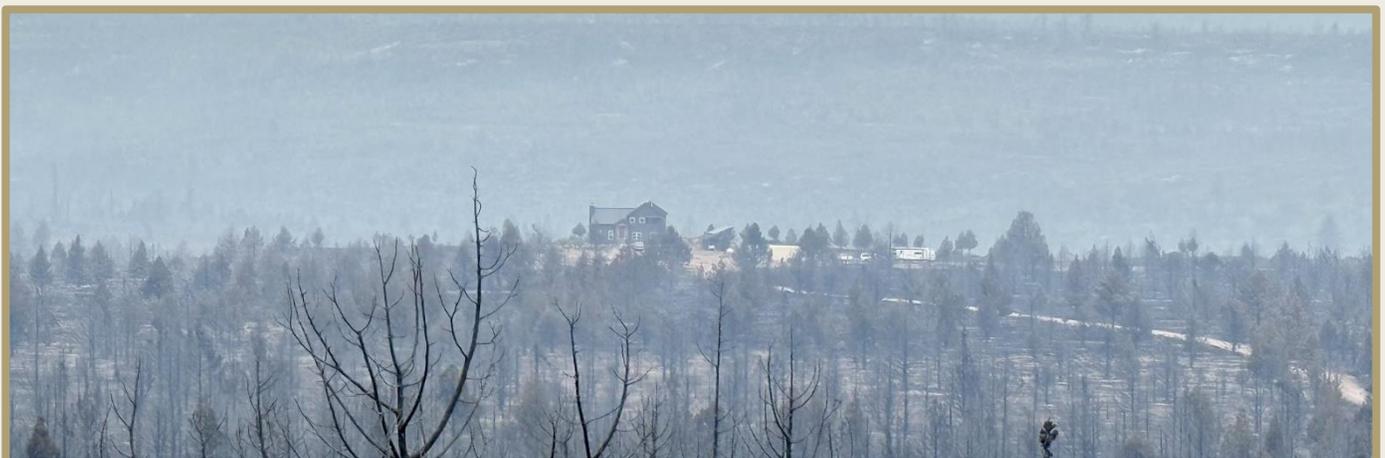
State of Oregon  
Wildfire Programs Director - Quarterly Report 2  
**Advancing Wildfire Protection in Oregon**

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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 is the second quarterly implementation status report produced by the Wildfire Programs Director for the Governor, the Presiding Officers of the Oregon Legislature, and the chairs of relevant legislative committees: [Oregon Wildfire Programs](#)

## Wildfire Program Highlights

The WPAC met on January 17 and set their agenda for the year in support of their statutory charge of “providing advice to dramatically reduce wildfire risk in the state”. The Director and WPAC will focus on a variety of the State’s Wildfire Programs including assessing the first Agency reports required by SB 83 (2025).

**OSFM’s** annual report [OSFM 2026 Report](#) shows strong progress with over 6000 defensible space assessments conducted at the request of property owners and 1000 individual \$250 incentives were distributed in a pilot project to support the establishment of defensible space following these assessments. At the community scale, 105 risk reduction grants have been distributed to prepare communities for potential conflagrations.

**HECC’s** annual report [HECC 2026 Report](#) honors the over 1000 youth who have participated in Oregon Conservation Corps programs since wildfire funding was provided in SB 762 (2021). Youth programs have established defensible space and community hazardous fuel reduction projects on over 1300 structures, across 82 zip codes, with over 7,000 acres treated.

**ODF’s** annual report [ODF 2025 Report](#) highlights the collage of programs necessary to bring cross boundary partnerships and funding to one focused goal: increasing the pace, scale and quality of wildfire mitigation efforts across all lands in Oregon. This report focuses on the 13 programs administered by ODF; however, these programs only represent the surface of what is necessary to reduce the catastrophic risk of wildfire across Oregon’s 13 million acres identified



for treatments. Daylighting the collective efforts of all partnerships will be important in the future.

**DEQ’s** annual report [DEQ 2025 Report](#) highlights that 9 communities have established community smoke response plans. These plans ensure the most vulnerable populations to smoke are aware of current air quality conditions and mitigations to unhealthy smoke conditions are applied. During the 2025 wildfire season, DEQ issued 13 air quality advisories where communities experienced 24 days with unhealthy air quality conditions.

SB 83 (2025) also repealed the statewide hazard map, shifting wildfire mitigation code adoption to a local determination. BCD codified the statewide **home hardening code** in 2025 with Sisters Oregon as an early adopter and Deschutes County following suit this January. Both codes come into effect on April 1, 2026. Deschutes County will also be discussing the **defensible space code** this spring, when OSFM codifies it. The WPAC plans to visit this region in April to understand how these efforts are proceeding and how local code adoption may be replicated in other regions of the state. Furthermore, the WPAC will explore how mitigation efforts could benefit the insurance market for both consumers and insurers, as considered in **DCBS’s** report [DCBS SB85 report 2025](#) directed by [SB85](#) (2005).

In closing, 2026 marks the first five years of the Wildfire Programs in Oregon. The Director and WPAC will take this moment to reflect on what we have accomplished to-date and where we need to advance over the next five years to “dramatically reduce wildfire risk in the state”.

# 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 every two months.
- 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 and evaluate agency reports.
- Advise on changes necessary to dramatically reduce wildfire risk and ensure regional defensible space, building codes and land use applications are appropriate.
- Strengthen intergovernmental and multiparty collaboration including government, stakeholders and the public.
- Assess how Oregon's wildfire risk map may inform building codes and land use laws, rules and decisions in a regionally appropriate manner.
- Assess the application of defensible space requirements to vineyards, crops and other cultivated vegetation.
- Review the findings and recommendations in the DLCDC'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 <a href="#">report</a> to the Legislature, the Wildfire Programs Director and to the WPAC. <a href="#">SB0083</a>	<b>(Complete)</b> <a href="#">HECC 2026 Report</a>
Jan 31	ODF	Annual <a href="#">report</a> to the Legislature, the Wildfire Programs Director and to the WPAC. <a href="#">SB0083</a>	<b>(Complete)</b> <a href="#">ODF 2025 Report</a>
Jan 31	DEQ	Annual <a href="#">report</a> to the Legislature, the Wildfire Programs Director and to the WPAC. <a href="#">SB0083</a>	<b>(Complete)</b> <a href="#">DEQ 2025 Smoke Report</a>
Jan 31	OSFM	Annual <a href="#">report</a> to the Legislature, the Wildfire Programs Director and to the WPAC. <a href="#">SB0083</a>	<b>(Complete)</b> <a href="#">OSFM 2026 Report</a>
Feb 2	DCBS & OSFM	Report to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly. <a href="#">SB0085</a> Insurance and Community Risk Reduction Assessment	<b>(Complete)</b> <a href="#">DCBS SB85 report 2025</a>
April 1	PUC	Annual <a href="#">report</a> to the Legislature, the Wildfire Programs Director and to the WPAC. <a href="#">SB0083</a>	<b>(On Track)</b>
October	WPAC	Annual <a href="#">report</a> to Governor & relevant legislative committees <a href="#">SB0762</a>	<b>(On Track)</b>

*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.

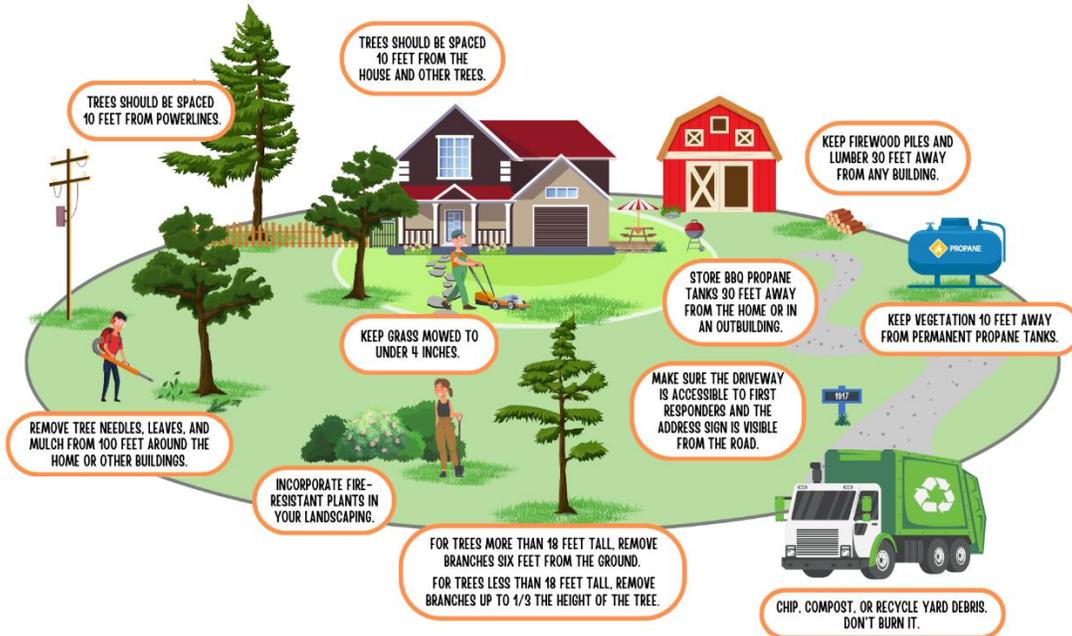
[Fire Program | OSU Extension Service](#): Explore the wildfire education tools available through OSU.

[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:

### **DON'T GIVE EMBERS A PLACE TO CALL HOME.**

Create **defensible space** and give your property an increased chance of surviving a wildfire.



### **DEFENSIBLE SPACE MAKES A DIFFERENCE.**



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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