

GOVERNOR'S WILDFIRE RESPONSE COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 26, 2019





Update

- ✓ **Work-to-Date**
- ✓ **Where We Are**
- ✓ **Path Ahead**



GOVERNOR'S WILDFIRE RESPONSE COUNCIL



HEEDING THE CALL

Main Council	20
Ex-Officio	20
Mitigation Committee	29
Suppression	18
Adaptation & Recovery	30
Total	100+

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HEEDING THE CALL

Main Council	20
Ex-Officio	20
Mitigation Committee	29
Suppression	18
Adaptation & Recovery	30
Total	100+

Main Council Meetings	7
Committee Meetings	20+
Reports	5
Recommendations	50+



STATEWIDE ISSUE AFFECTING EVERY OREGONIAN

- Firefighters
- Forestry
- Farming
- Medicaid
- Health
- Conservation
- Timber
- Tribal
- Counties
- Cities
- State
- Federal
- Builders
- Tenants
- Roofers
- Electricity
- Water
- Transportation
- Energy
- Insurance
- Land Use
- Recreation
- Academia
- Tourism
- Arts
- Economic Development



BEST AVAILABLE SCIENCE: COHESIVE STRATEGY



GOVERNOR'S WILDFIRE RESPONSE COUNCIL



EXECUTIVE ORDER 19-01:

SUFFICIENT & SUSTAINABLE?



Systems Built for Another Era

Before Many Contributors to Today's Wildfire

- Climate Change
- Population Growth
- Fuel Accumulation



Systems Built for Another Era

Before Many Opportunities Evolved

- Fire Ecology Science
- Sustainable Forestry Practices
- Technology
- Forest Collaboratives
- Better Building Materials
- Learning to Live With Wildfire



Systems Built for Another Era

Before Many Needs Evolved

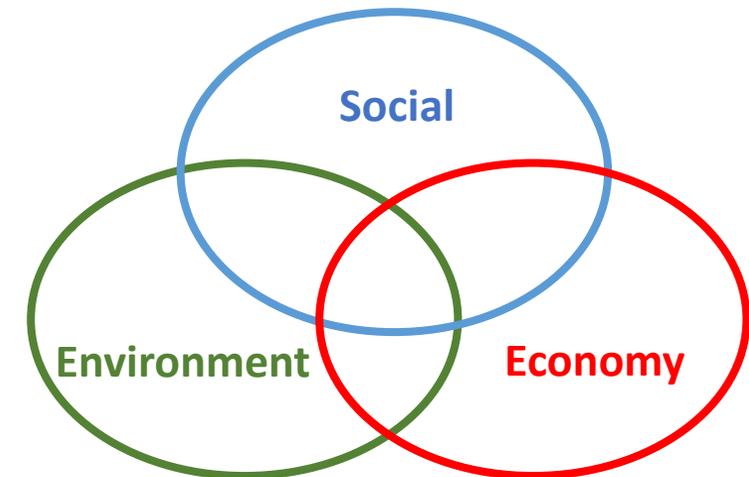
- Rural Revitalization
- Climate Change Mitigation
- Ecosystem Restoration



Systems Built for Another Era

Before Threats to Social, Ecological, Economic Values

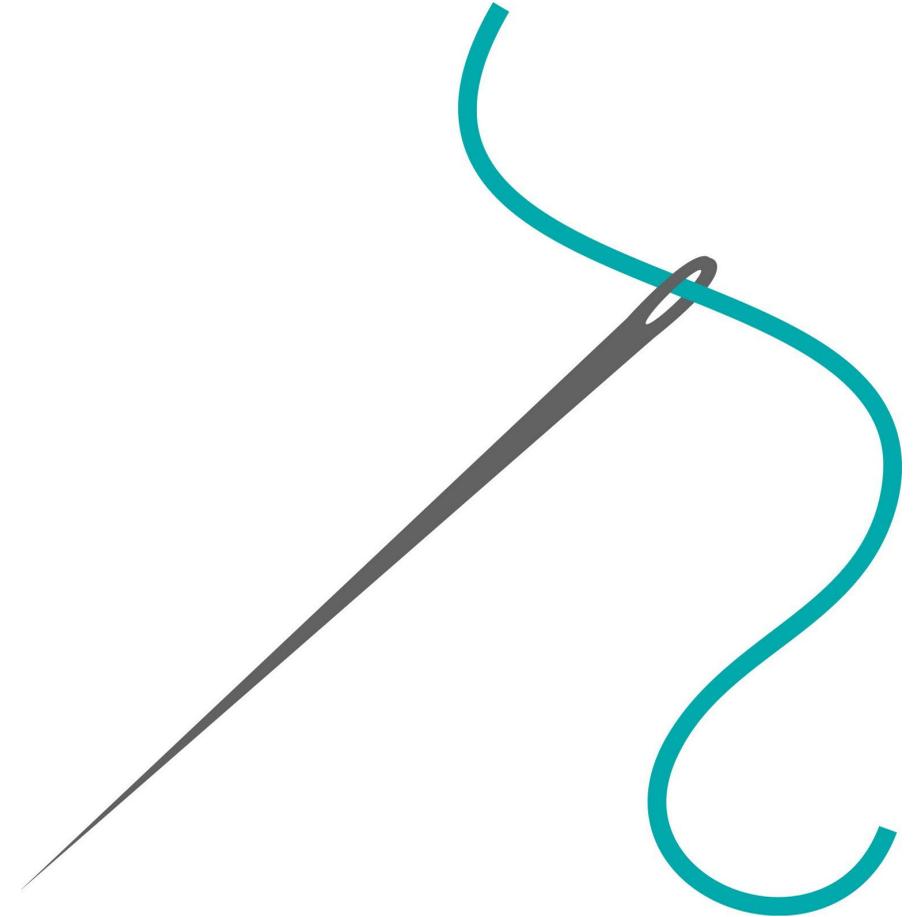
- Firefighter, Public Safety
- Health Risks: Smoke, Water
- Social Justice
- Ecological Damage
- Direct Financial Costs
- Economic Loss





FINDING THE RIGHT STRATEGY

- *Live with wildfire*
- *Save human lives, human health*
- *Protect homes and buildings*
- *Promote social justice*
- *Restore ecosystems*
- *Remove excess fuels*
- *Create green jobs*
- *Revitalize rural communities*





FINDING THE RIGHT STRATEGY

- 1. Maintain What is Working**
- 2. Reorient What is Not Working**
- 3. Make Significant Changes Where Needed**



FINDING THE RIGHT STRATEGY

1. Maintain What is Working

- *Militia System*
- *Insurance*
- *BLM Fire Contract*



FINDING THE RIGHT STRATEGY

2. Reorient Mature Systems for Realities of Wildfire

- *Health*
- *Emergency Response*
- *Disaster Recovery*
- *Public Education*
- *OSU Wildfire Research*



FINDING THE RIGHT STRATEGY

3. Make Significant Changes

- ***Launch Multi-Billion Dollar, Multi-Decade Fuel Mitigation Initiative***
 - ***State Investment***
 - ***Commensurate Federal Investment***
 - ***Expanded Private Sector***
 - ***Public-Private Partnership***



FINDING THE RIGHT STRATEGY

3. Make Significant Changes

- *Leverage Land Use Tools*
 - *Defensible Space*
 - *Building Codes*
 - *Zoning*



FINDING THE RIGHT STRATEGY

3. Make Significant Changes

- ***Expand Suppression***
 - ***Protect Firefighters***
 - ***Safeguard Structures***
 - ***Meet Social, Ecological, Economic Goals***
- ***Seek to Taper as Fuel Loads Moderated***



NEXT STEPS

FROM *WHAT* TO *HOW*

November Legislative Days

- Detailed Recommendations
- Developing / Selecting Options
- Priorities
- Funding



NEXT STEPS

FROM *WHAT* TO *HOW*

4Q19-1Q20

- Organization Model
- Strategic-Financial Plan



CONCLUSIONS

1. Strong Process

- ✓ Due Diligence
- ✓ Diversity
- ✓ Expertise

2. Much Consensus

- ✓ Human Toll, Costs Not Sustainable
- ✓ Significant State, Federal Investment Needed
- ✓ Must Leverage via Public-Private Partnership

3. Remaining Work Identified

- ✓ Regulations vs Incentives
- ✓ Resource Management Plans
- ✓ Funding Model