



FINAL MITIGATION COMMITTEE REPORT SUMMARY

February 3, 2020





Desired Outcomes

Update Council on the Final Mitigation Committee Report and clarify:

1. How the Mitigation report can inform the Council's work;
2. How 2020 legislative bills overlap with recommendations in the Mitigation Report; and
3. How the report details significant outstanding issues, opportunities and tradeoffs



Agenda

1. Recap of 2020 Mitigation Committee Activities and Deliverables
2. Final Mitigation Report Overview
3. Crosswalk Legislative Bills and Mitigation Recommendations
4. Outstanding Issues and Challenges



Mitigation Committee Stats

Element	Status
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim Mitigation Committee Report (September 2019); • Final Mitigation Committee Report (December 2019)
Leadership and Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joe Furia, Chair • Chad Davis, ODF Staff • Brett Brownscombe, Facilitator • Andrew Spaeth, Project Manager
Membership	<p>26 Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse Geographic, Professional Backgrounds (Academic, NGO, Industry) • Highly Experienced Forest Management, Collaborative Planning, Conservation
Meetings	<p>7 Full In-person Committee Meetings (May-Dec. 2019) 2 Work Groups Meetings</p>



Mitigation Committee 2019 Timeline

April	May	June	September	December
Mitigation Committee leadership sought direction from Council on marching Orders	Mitigation Committee began monthly meetings, supplemented by work group meetings	Mitigation Committee updated Council on prioritization effort and provided comparison to WA efforts; sought additional input on prioritization objectives	Mitigation Committee Presented Interim Report to Council that included Prioritization Map identifying 5.6m high priority acres for treatment at estimated cost of \$4.1 billion	Mitigation Committee delivered Final Report to Council Chair



Final Mitigation Report Stats

- **70** Pages
- **7** Recommendation Areas
- **48** Recommendations
 - *Short-Term Recommendations (e.g., 2020 Oregon Legislative Session)*
 - *Mid-, Long-term Recommendations (2021 and Beyond, State and Federal)*
- **11** Issues of Opportunities and Tradeoffs
- **4** Appendices
 - *Jurisdictional Considerations and Landownership Types*
 - *September Mitigation Report*
 - *USFS Map of Planned Fuels Treatments in Oregon*
 - *Crosswalk Table of Committee Report and Council Final Report*



7 Recommendation Areas

1. Risk Assessment, Mapping and Geographic Prioritization

Short-term:

- Use 2018 QRA to prioritize areas of Oregon for treatment (covers 6 Council Objectives); propose interim measure to address other 4 objectives;
- Propose QRA improvements to address all 10 Council objectives.

2. Landscape Delineation and Strategic Placement of Treatments

Short-term:

- WUI, Actively Managed Wildlands, Reserved Wildlands categories to organize and prioritize investments; develop common WUI definition



3. Fire and Smoke Tolerance

Short-term: Community resilience and smoke mitigation, prescribed burning

Mid to Long-term:

- Increase prescribed burning (targets and training)
- Suppression and firebreaks on rangelands
- Smoke management regulatory alignment
- Public education
- Smoke pattern analysis
- Convening on unplanned wildland ignitions response



4. Cross-Ownership Work

Short-term:

- Coordinate existing mitigation capacity
- Oregon-BLM agreement on rangelands

Mid to Long-term:

- Expand NRCS engagement with private landowners
- Coordinate cross boundary investments and planning (fed, state, private)
- Coordinate investments with Counties and CWP Plans
- Engage tribal governments regarding coordination
- Prioritize risk mitigation efforts on rangelands in Sage Grouse Core



5. Management Efficiency and Capacity

Short-term: Advocate through Oregon delegation for increased federal mitigation funding and capacity

Mid to Long-term:

- Fed agency reform to increase efficiency and modernization
- Joint State/Fed Contractor review of lessons learned and improvements in project planning and implementation
- Invest in locally-adapted native seed technology, development, supplies, and storage for rangelands
- Cooperate with private forest sector career and occupation development for mitigation
- ODF Grant program for engaging private forest and rangeland owners in mitigation



6. 20-Year Strategic Financial Planning

Short-term:

- State Invest \$16.5 million in fuel treatment activities in QRA 1-4 Areas; match from Feds
 - \$10 million fuel treatments
 - \$3.5 million environmental planning and analysis
 - \$500k unit layout for forest restoration projects
 - \$1 million to reduce invasive annual grass driven fires on rangelands
 - \$1.5 million forest collaborative capacity
- Authorize \$6.5 million (\$5 million federal, \$1.5 million state) to increase programmatic capacity to advance mitigation projects (GNA, procurement, contract admin)



6. 20-Year Strategic Financial Planning (*continued*)

Mid to Long-term:

- Identify revenue trends, shortfalls, options for additional revenue, and financing options
- Pursue reforms to federal and state contracting to increase value-volume
- Identify new revenue sources to fund wildfire risk reduction that benefits all Oregonians
- Analyze barriers to land management agencies utilizing conservation finance tools
- Evaluate opportunities to increase the quantity, value, and availability of road reconstruction and construction work by public lands on a predictable/reliable basis
- Recognize the importance and value of a health, economically competitive forest products sector to achieving state mitigation and restoration goals



7. Accountability and Information Management

Short-term: Develop performance measures and metrics for mitigation across all ownerships

Mid to Long-term:

- Formalize USFS commitment to share data and standard data entry for metrics; expand to include BLM
- Develop benchmarks, processes and reporting mechanisms across ownerships that enable tracking of treatments; convene technical team to evaluate existing metrics and methodology to assemble benchmarks for tracking SSA objectives and outcomes



Appendix D

Cross Walk Example: Council Rec's to Committee Rec's

Council Recommendation	Page #	Mitigation Committee Recommendation	Page #
Rec. 13: Leadership & Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governance Structure Accountability Performance Metrics Monitoring 	66	IV. Rec Area: Cross-ownership work – Mid- to Long-term Rec's 1-4 (coordination)	14
		V. Rec. Area: Management Efficiency and capacity – Mid- to Long-term Rec's 1, 3 (governance/partner considerations)	16
		VII. Rec. Area: Accountability and Information Management – Short-term Rec. 1; Mid- to Long-term Rec's 1-3 (performance measures, metrics, data sharing)	27



2020 Legislation & Mitigation Recommendations

Bill	Key Actions in Bill	Related Mitigation Areas
<p>Governor's Omnibus Bill (SB 1526)</p>	<p><u>Sections 20-22:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ODF Treatment Program (Sec. 20) - 300k acres a year, 20 years with 5.6 million acres goal - Emphasis on top risk categories in QRA - Leverage available funding - Staffing for GNA, procurement and contract admin - Stable, multiple funding streams - Leverage state investments to maximize fed investments - NEPA ready acres <p><u>Section 26:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Authorize joint partnerships state and fed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Risk Assessment, Mapping and Geographic Prioritization - Cross-Ownership work - 20-Year Strategic Financial Planning



2020 Legislation & Mitigation Recommendations

Bill	Key Actions in Bill	Related Mitigation Areas
<p>Forest Restoration (SB 1514)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstration restoration projects on forestland and rangeland - Cross agency cooperation - NEPA-ready acres - QRA high-risk areas - Remove prescribed burning barriers - Leverage public-private partnerships, fed and state funding - Workforce development programs - Diverse stakeholder and local community engagement - Monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Risk Assessment, Mapping and Geographic Prioritization - Cross-Ownership work - 20-Year Strategic Financial Planning - Management Efficiency and Capacity - Accountability and Information Management - Fire and Smoke Tolerance



2020 Legislation & Mitigation Recommendations

Bill	Key Actions in Bill	Related Mitigation Areas
ODF Agency Modernization (SB 1516)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Modernize structure and process at ODF- Season to full-time Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Management Efficiency and Capacity



Issues, Opportunities, Tradeoffs

- Challenges and controversy around environment permitting “streamlining” and “litigation relief”
- Inconsistent State and Federal statutory mandates
- USFS business model challenges to efficient project planning and implementation
- USFS and BLM reluctance to embrace new contracting tools
- Profound and Complex Implications of federal contract types on user groups
- Workforce capacity limitations
- Social License to support alteration of forest prescriptions
- Incomplete forest treatments (2 million acres without adequate workforce or funding)
- County Payment-Federal Land forest harvest nexus
- Repeated Maintenance Treatments=Ongoing Funding Needs
- Carbon Sequestration, climate change, Forestland Nexus



Jurisdictional Considerations

- Nonfederal Private Lands
 - Private residential
 - Infrastructure facilities
 - Private forestlands
 - Private Rangeland and Other Wildland
- Public-Nonfederal Wildland
 - Tribal Forestland and Rangeland
 - State Forestland
 - Local government forestland
 - State rangeland and non-forestland
- Federal Lands
 - National Forestland
 - Oregon & California "O&C" Lands
 - Non-O&C Bureau of Land Management Lands
- Other Federal Lands