

# KLAMATH-LAKE DISTRICT

2024 Annual Report





## FROM THE DISTRICT FORESTER

2024 was another successful year for the Klamath-Lake District, and I am so proud of our staff and their dedication to helping others! Much time was spent planning and budgeting for facilities projects and completing a newly constructed guard station in collaboration with the Obenchain Ranch. The district continued fine-tuning leadership changes with more succession management. The team is 90% in place and building a solid foundation to continue focusing on core business and ongoing improvements.

Fire season started early, but overall, it proved successful in keeping fires small-97% were kept under 10 acres! We hosted one incident management team in unified command with the Oregon State Fire Marshall. This season allowed us to assist others across the country and state as needed. We successfully deployed folks over 76 times this season to support our partners.

Forest Resources/FFR/GNA had many successful accomplishments, including hiring positions to fulfill the Disaster Relief Grant and a very out-of-the-box cone collection project. The State Forest program was busy assisting with fire suppression, planning, harvesting, and reforestation.

Thanks to everyone for your efforts and positivity throughout the 2024 season!

*Teresa Williams*  
District Forester



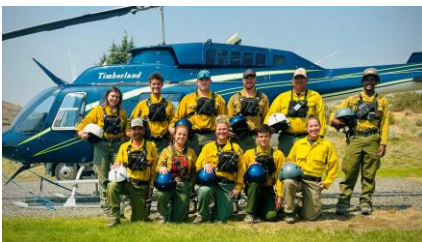
Sunrise over the Klamath-Lake  
Headquarters office



Copperfield Fire near Chiloquin  
Oregon



Copperfield Fire near Chiloquin  
Oregon



District Helitack Crew

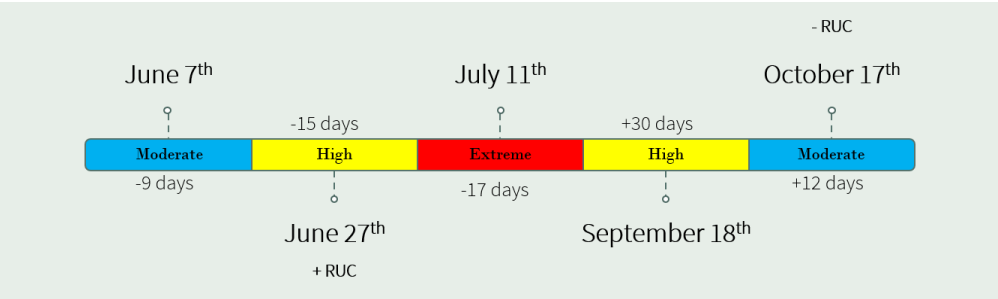


# PROTECTION

## FIRE SEASON

Fire season was declared on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The Klamath-Lake District was in fire season for 141 days. Fire season ended on October 25, 2024, which was 18 days longer than in 2023.

## REGULATED USE



## FIRE SEASON SUMMARY

Number of Fires	Klamath	Lake	Total
Stat Fire	49	8	57 (+13)
Non-Stat Fires	24	21	45 (+7)
NFCA	12	6	18 (-26)
District Total			120 (-6)

KLD Acentage	Klamath	Lake	Total
Lightning	8.92	13.23	22.15
Human	3227.85	4.01	3231.86

## FIRES OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Copperfield fire, which started on September 1, 2024, was human-caused. It grew rapidly, prompting numerous evacuations, and threatened the town of Chiloquin, Oregon. The fire burned 1,643 acres under ODF protection and 2.2 acres under Forest Service protection. IMT3 arrived quickly and established a Unified Command with OSFM to assist.

## AVIATION

This year marked the addition of a second Wildland Fire Supervisor. Sarah Cantrell filled the position, focusing on the district's aviation, operations, crew management, and coordination of the Type 1 severity helicopter.

## GREAT CATCH

The Pearson Butte fire started by lightning on August 17<sup>th</sup> and was located south of the community of Keno, within a WUI area, surrounded by dense forest, brush and flashy fuels. Engine 8152 reported the smoke and gave the initial size up to half an acre, with structures threatened and winds 10-20 mph with moderate potential.

Access challenges were one way in and out, steep, single track dirt road, and a steep hike to the top. Numerous resources were requested, but the helicopters were ineffective due to high winds and the location of the fire.

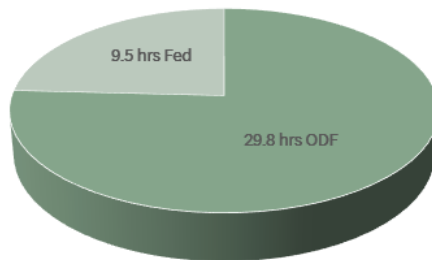
Two SEATS made a couple drops and box the fire, allowing crews on the ground to gain access and hold the fire at 2 acres.

*"The protection staff and the firefighters on the Klamath Unit did an amazing job and receive all the credit for this great catch." -Jake Barnett*

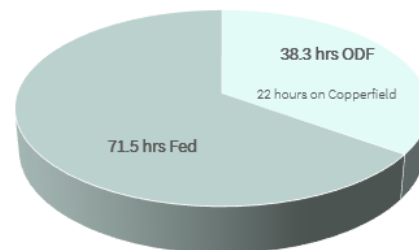


## Aviation

9TH - District Helicopter



2PL - EOA Severity Helicopter



10

## OFF DISTRICT ASSIGNMENTS

### Assignments

#### Out of State

Yukon RXB1(1)  
Texas 2 engine rotations  
New Mexico 1 engine

#### IMT Deployments

1-44 days  
1-55 days

#### In-State

1 TFLD Salt Creek  
1 Helo Mgr Salt Creek  
1 FELB Upper Applegate

4 (squad) Lone Rock  
3 engines Fossil Complex  
2 HEQB Fossil Complex  
1 TFLD(t) Fossil Complex  
1 TFLD Darleen 3  
1 ENGB(t) Darleen 3  
1 FFT1(t) Darleen 3  
1 engine Battle Mt Complex  
1 TFLD Battle Mt Complex  
Multiple Admin assistance  
1 Dozer Operator Buck Creek  
2 HEQB Rail Ridge  
1 Agency Administrator Buck Creek  
1 Agency Administrator Cow Camp

2 Agency Administrator Copperfield  
1 Deputy Agency Administrator Buck Creek  
1 Division Buck Creek  
1 TFLD Salt Creek  
1 TFLD Applegate  
1 TFLD Copperfield  
1 DIVS Antelope  
1 TFLD/ENGB Rail Ridge  
1 Post Fire COD  
1 engine Post Fire and Rail Ridge  
1 engine Buck Creek  
1 engine Warner Peak  
1 engine Antelope Mt  
1 engine Larch, Lonerock, Boneyard, & Courtrock

Jefferson, EOA Strike Team, State Compact, Neighbor, Partners, Cooperators, Etc.

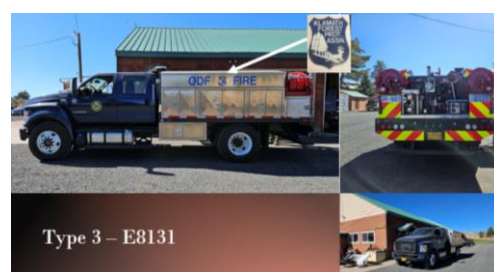
## AUTO SHOP

The auto shops (both Klamath and Lake) were busy keeping the fleet of 125 pieces of equipment ready for operation. In addition to the general maintenance, the shop completed 3 new engine builds and repaired light damage received during fire season. SHOUT OUT to these folks who are there at a moment's notice to assist in the field with mechanical issues, equipment operation, or anything else that needs help! Thank you, Michael, Dave, Chancey, and Bryson!

Type 6 – E8260



Type 3 – E8131



## Task Books

Task Books Issued - 35  
Task Books Completed - 14

## Detection Cameras

New installs:  
Chicken Hills  
Parker Mt  
Coming in 2025  
Warner Mt  
Drake's Peak



## KFPA Summer Tour

- \*Bootleg Fire Area  
Damage  
Restoration
- \*Brownsworth Creek Restoration  
Work complete  
Successes



# FOREST RESOURCES

## DISASTER RELIEF GRANT

- A modification to the agreement was completed to realign some of the work and funding within the Disaster Relief Grant.
- 1.2 million to KWP to conduct initial outreach and planning with landowners, as well as to manage associated reforestation work.
- Sub-award agreement- A new contractual line item for American Forests was added to fund their establishment of a South-Central Oregon seed orchard. American Forests received a \$300,000 grant from the Innovative Finance for National Forests to focus on developing the business entity and funding mechanism for the seed orchard. Funds from this grant will also support the establishment of the orchard. This is contingent upon American Forest Board approval, which is expected in May.
- Seed and seedling purchases for reforestation from Green Diamond are planned to cover 3,000 acres in the Spring of 2025
- Seed and cone collection efforts occurred through the FFR/GNA program. Forest Resources collected approximately 207 bushels of Ponderosa pine seed.

## STEWARDSHIP FORESTRY

482 notifications - 237 PDMS - 245 Operations – NRCS/Lost River CIS, Chiloquin CIS, EFRP Copperfield

## OPERATORS BREAKFAST

The Annual Operators Breakfast, sponsored by Associated Oregon Loggers Inc., Green Diamond, and Collins Timber Company, was held at Running Y on April 23rd. 55 people attended. Topics discussed included statewide issues, flow permanence, road condition assessments, forest road inventory, incident resource agreements, self-inspection review, and fire season outlook.

KLD's EOA Operator of the Year nomination



## FFR – Cone Collection



# STATE FOREST

## A O P

- 24 AOP – 3 timber sales sold, 2 did not sell.

## S E R V I C E C O N T R A C T S

- 410 acres treated with mastication in the Gilchrist SF
- 2 gates installed in Sun Pass SF
- 5 miles Road brushing & 60ac planting site preparation completed in Sun Pass SF
- Large-scale cleanups of dump sites conducted in both forests

## F I R E S E A S O N S U P P O R T

- State forest assisted in the freighting efforts for a total of 158 days around the state
- Provided local support as crew members on engines

## R E I

- KOSS (Klamath Outdoor Science School) was in operation for the entire summer
- Sun Creek had a new fish trap installed, & a key woody placement project was completed
- Spence Mountain trailhead expansion was completed (additional parking & vault toilet)

## FFR – Cone Collection

The Fremont-Winema National Forest initiated the discussion on cone collection to address the need for reforestation following recent large catastrophic wildfires across its landscape.

- Several private landowners generously offered their land
- Good Neighbor Authority Master Agreement between state and federal agencies, allowed use of Wyden Authority to support cone collection on private lands
- Collaboration with industry, private landowners, state and federal agencies
- Surveys were conducted over six months to identify areas
- The Oregon Department of Forestry administered one cone contract for collection across various seed zones.

**TOTAL 801 bushels of cones within 14 days in Klamath and Lake Counties**

**FWNF received 594 pounds of seed = 4.1 million seedlings = 14,000 acres**

**PVT Landowners received 207 pounds of seed = 1.4 million seedlings = 5,600 acres**

## Safety Sentinel

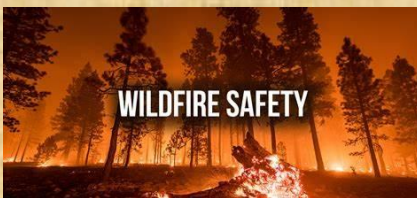
The Safety Committee designed a challenge coin focused on safety and wellness. When someone is seen completing an act of safety they can receive a challenge coin. Coins can be given out by managers or safety committee members and are encouraged to do so in a team environment!



Coin Front



Coin Back



# SAFETY & WELLNESS

The Klamath-Lake District Safety and Wellness Committee focused this year on overall promotion of accountability towards safety. We completed district-specific ATV/UTV training and implemented a TEAM channel specific to safety as a one-stop shop for safety needs and forms. We were successful with the EAIP program in purchasing AEDs. Lastly, we completed an OR-OSHA consultation. We also continued to be proactive and emphasized the importance of mental health. Our district continues to embrace change, strengthening our resilience to our dynamic culture. Our proactive approach to safety and wellness surpasses the reactive consequences that often arise in our challenging working environment. Stay Safe!

-Bryson Williams, Safety Chair

## 2024 Safety & Wellness Committee Members

- Teresa Williams-District Forester
- Paula Christensen-Admin
- Diego Montoya-State Forest
- Michael Derrickson-Vice Chair
- Sarah Cantrell-Wellness Coordinator
- Zach Hall- Management Representative
- Bryson Williams-Safety Chair

## ALL EMPLOYEE SAFETY BBQ

As always, spending time with the whole district is one of the year's highlights! We had excellent attendance and ODF special guests Acting Chief of Fire Protection **Chris Cline** & Fire Operations Specialist **Brett Nixon**! Brett also rocks at team building! Our USFS partner **Phillip Capurro** discussed peer support, critical incidents and self-care. Industrial landowner and KFPA President **Justin Kostick** joined us, giving the landowner perspective. The top two teams winning the teambuilding event were **Bryson & Brett** and **Dave and Nate**! District Forester Award recipients were **Tyler Spiesschaert** (PFO) and **Zach Hutchins** (Lead Dispatcher).



## Prevention

Lake Unit Forest Officers visited Fremont Elementary second grade classrooms and gave a presentation on safety equipment used by firefighters and what it's like being a firefighter. This presentation lead into the Lake Unit's 2024 poster contest. When completed, 40 second grade students created colorful posters to submit for the contest. During the last week of school Lake Unit employees conducted a field trip for the second-grade class at Junipers R.V. park where they played games, conducted show and tell with a type 6 engine and had lunch with Lake Unit staff. After lunch 3 students were presented with award certificates along with a fishing rod and reel combo donated by Lakeview Ace.



## Dispatch

LIFC Resource Orders	2023	2024
Aircraft	237	595
Overhead	1846	6210
Equipment	500	2316
Crews	61	194
Supply	993	2447
Yearly Totals	5660	13786

# FACILITIES

## STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

### Obenchain Guard Station



Landowners stepping in to help our firefighters!

# PERSONNEL

## Succession management and new hires



Jake Barnett  
Klamath Unit Forester



Dominic Patton  
Post Fire Forester



Chris Marks  
Post Fire Coordinator



Jake Ringold  
Post Fire Forester



Terry Orton  
Stewardship Forester



Brian Dally  
Stewardship Forester

## RETIREMENT

**Randall Baley**  
28 years 9 months



**Nice antelope Randy!**



**Beau, Ella, Randy, & Brea Baley**

## PERSONNEL (Continued)



**Gandy Batten**  
Protection Supervisor



**Sarah Cantrell**  
Protection Supervisor



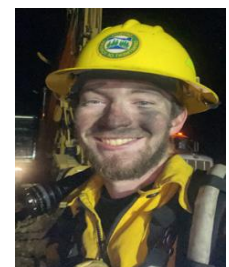
**Jennifer Case**  
Forest Resource Mgr



**Chancey Koon**  
Equipment Operator



**Brady Wood**  
State Forest  
FFR Ops Forester



**Cody Harkins**  
State Forest  
Marketing Forester



**Andrew Lauer**  
Small Forest Landowner Forester

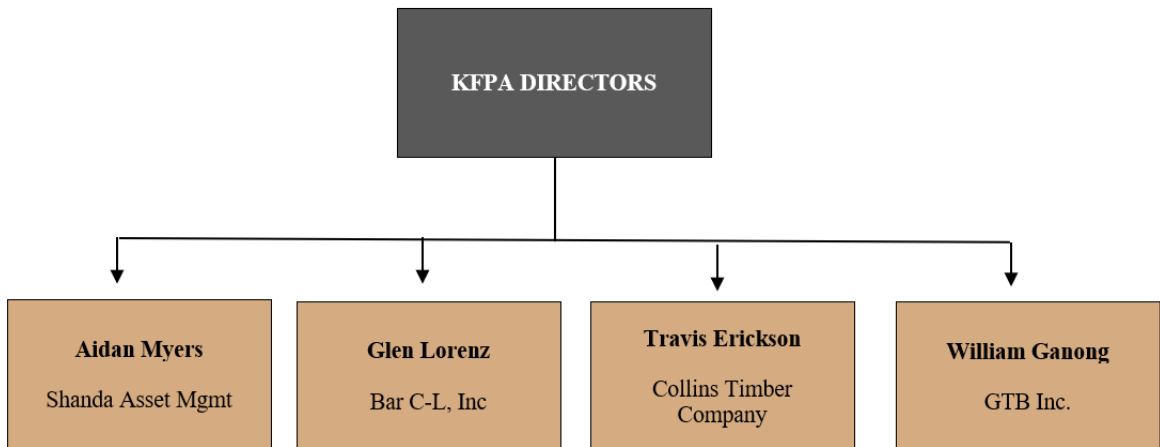
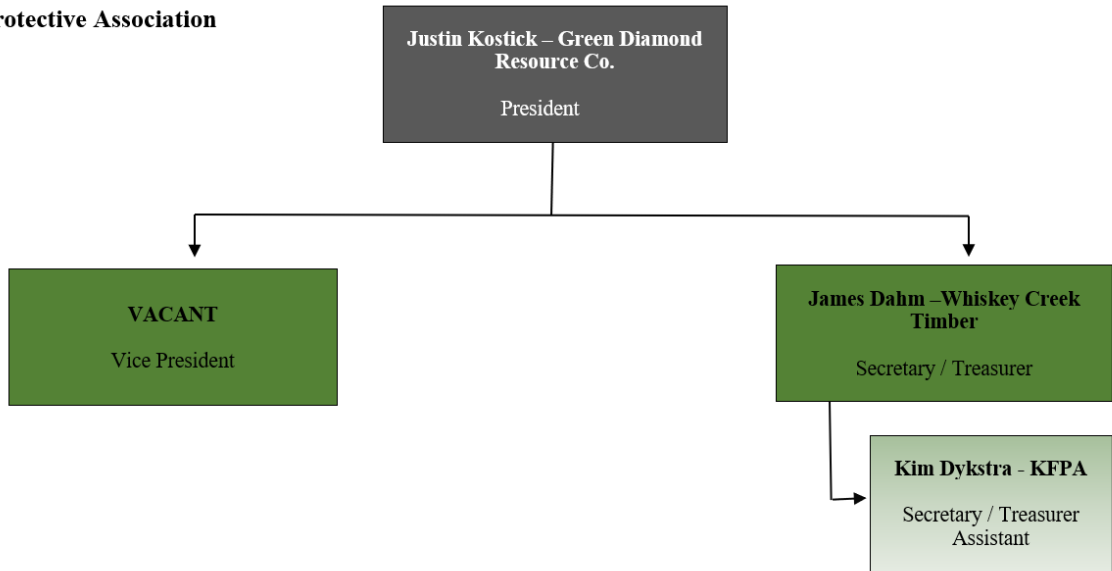


**Curtis Yocum**  
Assistant District Forester  
(Start date May 12, 2025)

**THANK YOU :)**

# ORG CHARTS

**Klamath Forest Protective Association**  
April 2025



# Klamath-Lake District March 2025



**Teresa Williams**  
District Forester Manager  
Pos #: 013250  
MMS 8261 SR33F

**Curtis Vocum**  
Assistant District Forester  
Pos #: 132294  
MMS 8260 SR30

**Jacob Barnett**  
Unit Forester – Klamath  
Pos #: 001218  
MMS 8260 SR30

**Jennifer Case**  
Forest Resource Mgr.  
Pos #: 146398  
MMS 8259 SR27

**Trista Batten**  
District Business Mgr.  
Business Op Supervisor 1  
Pos #: 052945  
MMS 7087 SR24X

**Matt Flock**  
State Forests/FFR Unit Forester  
Forest Manager 2  
Pos #: 012207  
MMS 8260 SR30F

**Kevin Burdon**  
Unit Forester – Lake  
Forest Manager 2  
Pos #: 005005  
MMS 8260 SR30

**Zach Hall**  
Wildland Fire Dispatch  
Supervisor – Lake/LUFC  
Pos #: 033227  
MMS 8258 SR25

**Michael Derickson**  
Automotive Tech. 2  
Pos #: 035761  
OAO 4419 SR23

**Nate Brink (DEV)**  
Fuels Coordinator  
NR51  
Pos #: 63681  
OAO 8501 SR21

**Chancey Koon**  
Equipment Operator  
Pos #: 132295  
OXNO 4422 SR21

**David Knight**  
Equipment Operator  
Pos #: 001002  
OXNO 4422 SR21

**Sarah Cantrell**  
Wildland Fire Supervisor  
Pos #: 63780  
MMS 8258 SR25

**Gandy Batten**  
Wildland Fire Supervisor  
Pos #: 25225  
MMS 8258 SR25

**Tyler Spiesschaert**  
Forest Officer (P)  
Pos #: 063686  
OXSO 8257 SR23

**Klamath Unit Seasonals (36)**  
TBD

**Cody Harkins**  
Stewardship Forester/NRCS  
Pos #: 013936  
OAO 8502 SR24

**Dominic Patton**  
Stewardship Forester  
NR52  
Pos #: 029730  
OAO 8502 SR24

**Andrew Lauer**  
SFO  
Pos #: 146411  
OAO 8502 SR24

**Chris Marks**  
Post Fire Coordinator  
NR53  
Pos #: 168291  
OAO 8503 SR27

**Jake Ringold**  
Post Fire Forester  
NR52  
Pos #: 168290  
OAO 8502 SR24

**Vacant**  
Post Fire Forester  
NR52  
Pos #: 168289  
OAO 8502 SR24

**Paula Christensen**  
Admin Specialist 1  
AS1 - Lakeview  
Pos #: 003851  
OAO 0107 SR17

**Nancy Sherin**  
Admin Specialist 1  
AS1 - Klamath  
Pos #: 054089  
OAO 0107 SR17

**Vacant**  
Office Specialist 2  
OS2 - Klamath  
Pos #: 000751  
OAO 0104 SR15

**Vacant**  
Office Specialist 2  
Seasonal OS2  
Pos #: 157132  
OAO 0104 SR15

**Chris Weekly**  
GIS/Land Exch. Forester  
NR52  
Pos #: 025241  
OAO C8502 SR24

**James Montell**  
Gilchrist Operations Forester  
NR52  
Pos #: 031186  
OAO C8502 SR24

**Diego Montoya**  
Sun Pass Operations Forester  
NR52  
Pos #: 029793  
OAO C8502 SR24

**Vacant**  
Marketing Forester  
NR51  
Pos #: 017531  
OAO C8501 SR21

**Matt Anspach**  
FFR Coordinator  
NR53  
Pos #: 033208  
OAO C8503 SR27

**Brady Wood**  
FFR Operations Forester  
NR52  
Pos #: 163818  
OAO C8502 SR24

**Vacant**  
FFR Forester  
NR51  
Pos #: 132253  
OAO C8501 SR21

**Terry Orton**  
Stewardship Forester  
NR52  
Pos #: 004950  
OAO 8502 SR24

**Brian Dally**  
Stewardship Forester  
NR52  
Pos #: 000386  
OAO 8502 SR24

**Vacant**  
NR51  
Pos #: 158108  
OAO 8501 SR21

**Mike Leach**  
Wildland Fire Supervisor - Lakeview  
Pos #: 013445  
MMS 8258 SR25

**Robert Wood**  
Forest Officer (P)  
Pos #: 020295  
OXNO 8257 SR23

**Bryson Williams**  
Equipment Operator  
Pos #: 063694  
OXSO 4422 SR21

**Zach Hutch**  
Forest Dispatcher (P)  
Admin Specialist 2  
Pos #: 066006  
OAO 0108 SR20

**LUFC Seasonals (5)**  
05871 SR15 05872 SR11  
03076 SR11 05873 SR11  
03075 SR11

**Jason Pettigrew**  
Fuels-Fires Forester  
NR52  
Pos #: 019994  
OAO 8202 SR24

**Lake Unit Seasonals (15)**  
FO-063693 SR23 FO-063691 SR23  
FO-063690 SR23 FO-063819 SR23  
WFSS-063750 SR17 WFSS-063736 SR17  
WFSS-063677 SR17 WFSS-132564 SR17  
WFSS-063749 SR17 WFSS-063744 SR17  
WFSS-156899 SR17 WFSS-132568 SR17  
WFSS-063997 SR17 WFSS-132403 SR17  
WFSS-156398 SR17