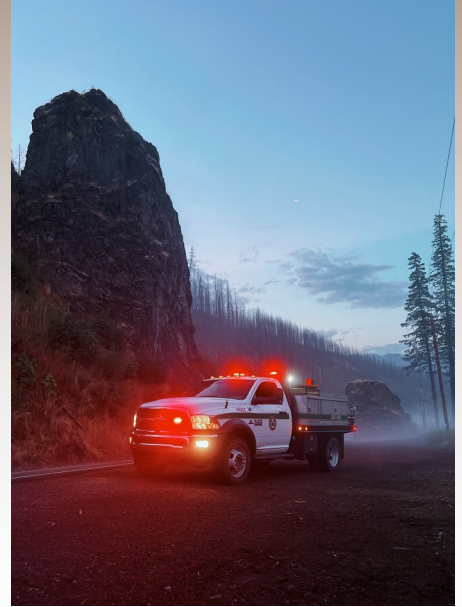


South Cascade District



2022 Annual Report



Welcome to the South Cascade District!

It is a privilege to give some opening remarks and officially recognize the efforts of the men and women who call this district their home!

The core functions of the South Cascade District are to administer the local Fire Program, meet the requirements of the Forest Resources Division, implement local Firewise and community fuels reduction efforts, and grow partnerships within our Federal Forest Restoration/Good Neighbor Authority work. These are locally our primary programs, all being supported by the outstanding efforts of our administrative staff and managers based out of Sweet Home and Springfield, to bring everything into smooth alignment.

The South Cascade District had a very good year in 2022. Within the aforementioned programs, efforts continued to provide excellent customer service to all those we serve. Our Stewardship Foresters met the needs of landowners related to the Oregon Forest Practices Act processing over 2,000 notifications. With one of the most productive industrial blocks in the state, this program continues to be an integral part of our district's operations.

On the Federal Forest Restoration front, this program has been growing into an amazing partnership with our local federal landowners. We are now performing work across multiple national forests, as well as fostering a deep partnership with NWO District BLM personnel. This is good business for all parties involved and will hopefully pay dividends well into the future!

With regards to the local fire program, this was an amazingly successful season. We had plenty of spring and early summer rain that allowed us to delay fire season, which was officially declared on July 6th. These rains kept our fuels in a below normal fire condition for much of the summer, with our district only experiencing 4.37 acres of fire on our protection. With this, we were able to successfully help others in need...not only state-wide, but also across the country with multiple dispatches to Texas, New Mexico, Washington and Alaska. We did have several federal fires that threatened our protection and at times disrupted workflows. In the end, those fires did not make it to private land and the winter snows eventually put them to rest.

To close, I would like to give a special thanks to the landowner members of the Eastern Lane and Linn Forest Protective Associations. Their commitment to this district is commendable. Furthermore, their motivation to work diligently with our staff towards a common goal of fire protection and forest resiliency makes the day-to-day activities a pleasure. I also want to thank the family members of the men and women that work here. Those who so patiently sacrifice behind the scenes and support our team efforts. We couldn't be successful without you!

With much appreciation,

Chris Cline

2022: Chris Cline - District Forester



PREVENTION

Prevention at Oak Heights Elementary



The South Cascade District, which consists of two units, the Sweet Home Unit and The Eastern Lane Unit, started off 2022 early this year. With the implementation of SB 762, the district was able to bring on seasonal employees earlier than in previous years. Crews worked on projects from prevention sign maintenance, pump change evaluation and cleanup, to fuels reduction within the home ignition zones.

Because “wildfire knows no season”, our skilled fire prevention staff started off the year teaming up with some of our local partners from the Willamette N.F., Lane Fire Prevention Co-Op, Oregon Women in Timber, and Keep Oregon Green, to provide Smokey Bear at many local events. These events included The Mother’s Day 3D Archery Shoot, the Lane County Fair, The Oregon Logging Conference. Staff also participated in teaching fire and campfire safety at local elementary schools throughout the district and the big event, The World Athletics Championships which coincided with Eugene’s Riverfront Festival.

The guard stations were quite involved in their areas as well. Dorena guard station Forest Officer Ben Cline lined up many events as well as helping with the Dorena School Smokey Bear program, Creswell’s 4th of July parade, Coiner Park Emergency Preparedness Festival. Additional events included movie night at the Creswell and Cottage Grove South Lane Fire Stations. Jason Wickizer, Forest Officer for the Holeman Guard Station, participated in the Walterville Elementary Fall Carnival. Jason with the help of his crew, put on a drone demonstration. Smokey Bear made his appearance and was a big success. Prevention staff, along with The Oregon Women in Timber, participated in a prevention message at Oak Heights Elementary in Sweet Home.

Thanks to Keep Oregon Green, during Wildfire Awareness month in May, both units again distributed over 34,000 “Wildfire Knows No Season” coffee sleeves to local coffee stands up from the 18,000 total in 2020.

Lastly, throughout the district in 2022, there were a total of 46 prevention warnings and 6 citations issued to the public.



Future Natural Resource Leaders High School Fire 3
School at Camp Tadmor

FOREST RESOURCES

NOAPS	South Cascade District
New Notifications	1729
Continuations	309



FPA Enforcement	South Cascade District
Unsatisfactory Conditions Issued	8
Civil Penalties	0

South Cascade District has one of the most active Forest Resources Program in the state. Stewardship Foresters ensure continued compliance with the Forest Practice Administrative Rules and Forest Practices Act, providing forest landowner technical assistance and education, and providing industrial fire inspections during fire season.

Staff processed over 1700 new notifications during 2022 which is right about average for the District.

Salvage and reforestation efforts continued from the 2020 Holiday Farm fire throughout the year, with much of the salvage wrapping up this year.

The Private Forests Division of ODF has been renamed to the Forest Resources Division along with some administrative changes in Salem and additional staff support. There were not any staffing changes on the District in the Forest Resources program in 2022.

Programs/Plans	South Cascade District
Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)	53

INDUSTRIAL FIRE

Local operators having their equipment inspected at the annual Cascade Timber Consulting inspection event.



IFPL	# Days
IFPL 1	29
IFPL 2	76
IFPL 3	3
IFPL 4	0
TOTAL	108

The Industrial Fire program on the South Cascade District consists of Stewardship Foresters and Forest Officers working under the direction of their respective Unit Foresters.

An important part of the Industrial Fire program are the summer industrial fire inspections. Both landowners and operators are encouraged to reach out to their local ODF office to receive a pre-season inspection of their equipment to ensure fire readiness once fire season arrives.

In June of 2022, Cascade Timber Consulting held their annual fire truck inspection in Sweet Home. For over 25 years contractors have participated in this inspection event. With the help from The Oregon Department of Forestry, the trucks were inspected to make sure the equipment is ready and meets the required standards.

PROTECTION

The 2022 fire season started later than normal. The Sweet Home and Eastern Lane Units participated with NWOA fire training at DPSST where students received fire training in the classroom environment in an actual academy setting. On July 6th the district declared fire season and implemented regulated public use restrictions lasting 108 days.

Sweet Home Unit responded with aggressive initial attack along with our local RFD's and cooperators to local fires. The unit responded to 115 total calls, 12 stat fires, 9 non-stat fires and 93 Non Fire Crew Actions. Total acres burned was 1.12 acres for the unit well below the states goal of keeping 98% of fires at 10 acres or less. Many of the Sweet Home Unit firefighters assisted in various statewide team deployments and assisted neighboring fire protection districts surrounding the Sweet Home Unit. Firefighters assisted Albany Fire Department with equipment and two overhead personnel on the .25-acre Calapooia River Fire, thought to be transient caused.

On September 7th, crews also assisted the Lebanon Fire District on the 6-acre East Grant Street Fire which was also thought to be transient caused. Both fires although outside of district protected lands, would have been two of the biggest fire of the year.



Torree Hawken during a training burn.



Marissa Kurtz on a Medford Helitack Assignment

Eastern Lane Unit responded to its largest fire of the year on May 24, 2022. This was the Mosby Creek 630 fire which was stopped at 1.6 acres in an active BLM thinning operation (the fire started after hours). In all, Eastern Lane responded to 24 STAT fires totaling 3.36 acres, 15 non-STAT fires, and 64 NFCA's in 2022.

The South Cascade District pre-positioned a SOA Task Force in Oakridge during the east wind event in September to add capacity due to the 127,000+ acre Cedar Fire becoming an imminent threat to private land. The district was allocated SPA money to bolster Initial Attack capacity to directly respond to any new or existing fires in Oakridge/Westfir communities.

South Cascade staff participated in firefighting efforts around the state as well with various out of state assignments. Through tremendous effort during Initial Attack, our crew kept fire on the district landscape to a minimum.

Cedar Creek Fire



South Cascade Statistical Fires			
Cause	2021 Fires	2022 Fires	2022 ODF Acres Burned
Lightning	4	2	.70
Railroad	1	0	0
Equipment Use	25	7	1.84
Recreation	6	7	1.13
Smoking	0	1	.10
Debris Burning	16	10	.64
Arson	2	0	0
Juveniles	0	1	.01
Miscellaneous	10	5	.05
Under Investigation	0	3	.01
Totals	64	36	4.48

PROTECTION

OUT OF STATE ASSIGNMENTS



TEXAS

Chris Cline

Chad Calderwood

NEW MEXICO

Ben Cline

Nick Mortenson

Isaak Post



ALASKA

Carson States

Hayden Stewart



WASHINGTON

Craig Pettinger

Isaak Post

Bob Millam



Nakia
Creek
Fire

SMOKE MANAGEMENT

South Cascade	2021	2022
Registered Tonnage	77,604	80,838
Accomplished Tonnage	63,115	47,577
Registered Acres	21,161	22,073
Accomplished Acres	16,815	8,690



Slash burning in Linn County

2022 was a successful year for Smoke Management for the South Cascade District. The bulk of the workload came at the end of the long and dry fall which brought with it some strong east winds to the region in November, followed closely by low elevation snow. Still, most of the industrial timber ground was able to accomplish their burning objectives for the year. Burn permits and slash rating was aided by Forest Officers who worked through the end of the year. This offset some of the planning/accomplishing workload and helped increase capacity to burn during unrestricted periods of weather. The district assisted landowners with completion of their slash management needs without any complaints or intrusions. This was possible with excellent communication and coordination with landowners and cooperators within the South Cascade District.

Small landowner less than 4 miles from Cottage Grove



Hwy 58 Pleasant Hill / Dexter Heavy traffic area. Foresters did not have a problem with Department of Forestry's input to make sure the burn stayed on course and did not impact the highway traffic.

Slash burning in Lane County

FUELS REDUCTION PROGRAMS

Fuels Reduction—Eastern Lane

Throughout 2022, the fuels reduction program treated approximately 130 acres. This was achieved through a combination of crew work and landowner cost shares. The 5 person ODF fuels crew treated approximately 95 acres of defensible space work and landowner cost shares contributed to the completion of an additional 35 acres. 6 community events were attended by program personnel to continue education efforts on the importance of fuels reduction work throughout Eastern Lane County communities. Additionally, the program supported Firewise communities to ensure their annual requirements were met to maintain their 2022 Firewise Community Certifications. The program worked to develop a detailed ArcGIS map displaying grant areas and project areas to better collect and use data in the future.



Fuels Reduction – Sweet Home

Fuels reduction in the Sweet Home Unit has been a long term coordinated effort between the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Linn County Juvenile Department. This program is funded under Title 3 of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act. The purpose of the funding is to identify, contact, and educate landowners to the benefit of adequate defendable space for homes and structures in the occurrence of a wildland fire.

The Oregon Department of Forestry provides a Fire Planning Forester to contact landowners, identify work projects and then coordinate these needs with the Linn County Juvenile Department. The Juvenile Department offers a youth work crew and leadership to manage the crew on eligible sites to perform the needed work. Project work includes pruning, thinning, brush cutting, and chipping of vegetation around structures within the home ignition zones. The members of the work crew are given the opportunity to work in a team building environment while learning valuable work habits.

Before



After



GOOD NEIGHBOR AUTHORITY & THE FEDERAL FOREST RESTORATION PROGRAM



The 2022 year witnessed the expansion of the Federal Forest Restoration program at South Cascade. The district welcomed three new hires, adding to the flow and capacity of the program. Easton McVeigh-Walker and Connor Reardon started as permanent full-time Forest Management Technicians in July as all lands employees to perform daily functions of FFR funded projects. In October, Kolton Vickers filled the vacant NRS2 forester position to work directly with federal partners on both ongoing and future timber sales. With leadership from both NWOA and SOA, South Cascade's FFR staff is almost at full capacity and positioned to deliver high quality work in the coming year and beyond.

The reach of the FFR program continues to grow. This past year, staff expanded to work with new ranger districts including both the Mt. Hood and Willamette National Forests. Crews laid out over 1,000 acres of reforestation units in both the Riverside and Holiday Farm burn scars, aided in downed wood creation service work, performed planting inspections for BLM's FY23 planting season, and assisted in general forest management tasks ranging from pile burning to road brushing. This year, FFR foresters are submitting approximately 7,000 MBF to Salem to advertise this summer and fall for auction, while continuing to administer timber sale contracts for active sales. Revenue generated from new timber sales will continue to fund service work such as forest fuels reduction projects, road decommissioning, wildlife habitat enhancement, and forest monitoring.



SMOKE DETECTION CAMERAS

We are halfway through our current detection camera project with an operational site at Table Mountain and a mostly completed site at the Warner Mountain lookout.

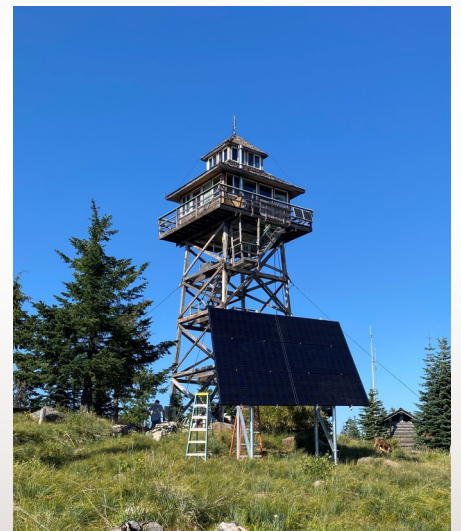
Table Mounting offers an excellent vantage point, overlooking Mosby Creek to the South and provides a good look into the Sharps Creek drainage as well as Fairview Peak and Bohemia Mountain.

Warner Mountain will provide a never before seen camera view of the privately owned ground south of Oakridge, as well as being a valuable detection resource for lightning strikes on adjacent ownerships. This camera should be operational early summer of 2023.

Lastly, equipment and licenses have been purchased for Scott Mountain in Linn County with the hopes of a completed site during 2023.



**Table
Mountain**



**Warner
Mountain**

GIUSTINA RESOURCES CO-OP

Through an agreement with Giustina Resources, we were able to hire seasonal firefighters to help with planting inspections, slash treatment, timber cruising, and a large workload of stocking surveys. This has been a great way to provide practical learning experiences to seasonal fire staff who have an interest in Forestry/Silviculture, as well as off-season work, and to help with seasonal retention.

STAFF CHANGES

The Sweet Home Unit was able to successfully hire Nick Case to fill Neil Miller's vacant position as a Wildland Fire Supervisor. Formerly a Forest Officer from Douglas Forest Protective Association, Nick worked in the Fire and Ice program for 3 seasons before moving to the Oregon Department of Transportation full time. After working for ODOT for 4 years, we were able to attract him to the Oregon Department of Forestry in March 2022.

In July 2022, The Eastern Lane Unit brought on Connor Devore from the United States Forest Service to fill the position left open by Justin Patten. Being our Fire Planning Forester, his primary focus is working with grant funded Fuels Reduction Programs.

In October 2022, after 8 years of service in the South Cascade District, the District Business Manager, Jerilee Johnson, accepted a position in Salem as the Area Accountant for the Southern Oregon Area.

In December 2022, the District Business Manager position was filled by Renae Meyer. Renae has over 20 years of office administration experience and was the previous Administrative Specialist 1 in the Eastern Lane Unit before accepting her new position.

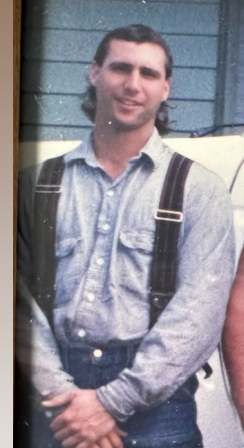


SERVICE AWARDS



SWEET HOME UNIT

Carl Lemmer 35 Years



1997



Eastern Lane Unit

Isaak Post 10 years



Tyler Church 5 years



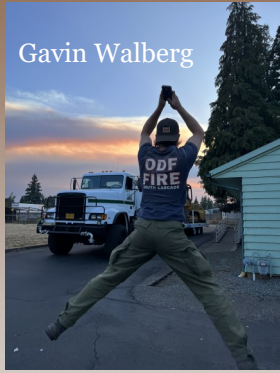
John Flannigan 40 years

Additional Service Awards:

Robert Millam 25 years

Dan Menk 25 years

DISTRICT STAFF



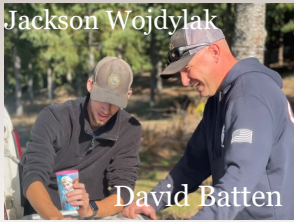
Gavin Walberg



Sweet Home Unit



Nick Case, David Batten, Nakia Stafford,
Chad Calderwood, Jackson Wojdylak,
Kobe Olson, Justin Wolfe



Jackson Wojdylak

David Batten



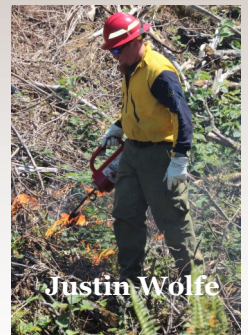
Chad Calderwood



Tucker Weld



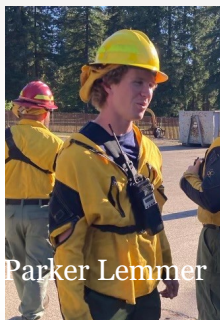
Nick Case



Justin Wolfe



Marissa Kurtz
and
Tori Hawken



Parker Lemmer



Sweet Home Unit



Eastern Lane Unit



Callie Baker

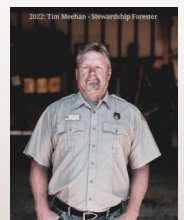
Nakia
Stafford



Holeman Crew: Jason Wickizer - Brandon Williams - Christopher Jones



2022 FIRE CREW



2022: Tim Mehan - Stewardship Forester



2022: Ollas Laughlin - Jesse Christofferson - Isaac Jackson



2022: Tyler Church - ASI



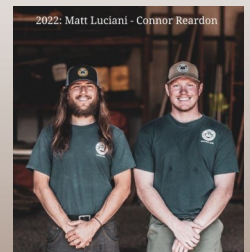
2022: Nick Mortenson - Miles Higa - Katen Edwards



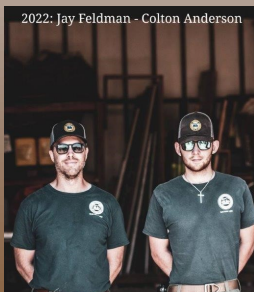
2022 Fuel Crew: Colton Anderson - Kyle Hefflin - Jesse Christofferson
Ben Cline - Christopher Jones



2022: Dan Menk - Stewardship Forester



2022: Matt Luciani - Connor Reardon



2022: Jay Feldman - Colton Anderson



2022: Aidan Rozcicha - Jonathan Bridges - Malakai Gustilo-Rios



2022 Dorena Crew: Kalyn Simpson - Matt Iten - Ben Cline
Iris Garber - Connor Reardon - Jayce Clevenger



2022: Isaak Post - Protection Supervisor



2022: Kyle Hefflin - Tanner Sherwood

Linn Forest Protective Association (LFPA) Board of Directors

Founded 1911, Incorporated 7/31/1936

President—Milt Moran, CTC South Santiam Tree Farm

Vice President—Caleb Brown, Frank Timber Resources, Inc.

Secretary/Treasurer—Jill Bell, Weyerhaeuser Co.

Scott Melcher, Melcher Family LLC

Brian Carroll, Linn County Parks Department

Eric Kranzush, Giustina Land and Timber

Jeremy Norby, Giustina Resources

Christy Tye, Udell Family

Randy Hereford, Starker Forests, Inc.

Megan Thornton, Campbell Global

Marty Suing, Small Woodland Owner



Eastern Lane Forest Protection

Association (ELFPA) Board of Directors

Founded 1913, Incorporated 6/24/1938

President—Kenny Rose, Giustina Resources

Vice President—Chase Kinion, Campbell Global

Secretary—Emily Caretti, Weyerhaeuser

Treasurer—Kenny Rose, Giustina Resources

Will Hansen, RDK Land and Timber

Karl Morgenstern, Eugene Water and Electric Board.

Cary Hart, Giustina Land & Timber



SOUTH CASCADE DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART—2022

SOUTH CASCADE DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART – FY23

