Topics on the agenda

- History of Defensible Space in Oregon
- What changes with SB 762
- Introduction of the Oregon Explorer
- Role of the Rules Advisory Committees (RAC)
- Overall timeline
- Opportunities for public input
History of Defensible Space in Oregon

• Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act of 1997 was the first defensible space in Oregon

• At that time, the “forestland-urban interface” (WUI) was defined as properties within an ODF forest protection district that lie within a county where a specific concentration of homes exist (10 acres or less, or 4 homes per legal 40 acres).
History of Defensible Space in Oregon
History of Defensible Space in Oregon

• County Responsibilities

  • Counties were required to initiate a local land classification committee to determine the fire risk for properties.

  • The classification committee identifies properties as in or out of the WUI and classifies properties within the WUI as low, moderate, high, and extreme fire risk.
History of Defensible Space in Oregon

• ODF’s responsibilities
  
• The department was responsible for administrative responsibilities beyond identification and classification.
  
• Once the county classification committees identify and classify properties, the department was required by law to notify property owners by mail every five years of their obligations under the Act.
History of Defensible Space in Oregon

• Property Owner’s responsibilities

• Property owners were then required to evaluate their property, mitigate risks, and self-certify that their property met standards outlined in the law.

• Property owners had to self-certify every five years or when ownership changed.
What changes with SB 762

**Statewide Fire Risk Mapping**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>SB 360</th>
<th>SB 762</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mapping</td>
<td>Limited to within ODF protection districts</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display</td>
<td>Paper maps</td>
<td>Oregon Explorer Wildfire Risk Portal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildfire risk classes</td>
<td>3 to 5 classes</td>
<td>5 classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Defensible Space Administration</td>
<td>Oregon Department of Forestry</td>
<td>Oregon Office of the State Fire Marshal</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
What changes with SB 762

Statewide Fire Risk Mapping

- Rules to include:
  - Opportunities to provide public input
  - Providing notice and appeal process information to property owners in extreme or high risk
What changes with SB 762

• Map must display the boundaries of the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)
  • The Board of Forestry shall establish a definition of WUI.
    • Must consider national best practices
    • Must establish criteria to identify and classify the WUI.
Introduction of the Oregon Explorer

The Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer is designed to increase wildfire awareness, give a comprehensive view of wildfire risk and local fire history, and educate users about wildfire prevention and mitigation resources. The site provides decision support for homeowners, communities, and professionals to identify and prioritize local fire prevention and mitigation efforts.

This Advanced Wildfire Risk Explorer serves professional planners to inform updates to Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) and Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans (NHMP), with extensive data resources, detailed summaries, and full wildfire risk inventory report. Our basic viewer directly serves homeowners and community leaders. It provides summaries and guidance in a Homeowner’s Report and an Area of Interest Report (for example, a watershed).
Introduction of the Oregon Explorer

- Formulated from the Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment
- Multi-agency assessment, funded and managed by USFS
- ODF convened Statewide Steering Committee for Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer
Introduction of the Oregon Explorer

- Delivers the best available wildfire risk information to agency and entity partners, homeowners, communities, and local managers and planners.

- Supports landscape level wildfire risk planning and decision support, all lands, shared stewardship.
Introduction of the Oregon Explorer

Table 6. Response functions for the Infrastructure HVRA to highlight electric transmission lines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-HVRA</th>
<th>FIL1</th>
<th>FIL2</th>
<th>FIL3</th>
<th>FIL4</th>
<th>FIL5</th>
<th>FIL6</th>
<th>Share of RI</th>
<th>Acres</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trans-Line- High voltage</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-10</td>
<td>-50</td>
<td>-70</td>
<td>40.86%</td>
<td>905,585</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trans-Line- Low voltage</td>
<td>-10</td>
<td>-20</td>
<td>-50</td>
<td>-70</td>
<td>-80</td>
<td>-90</td>
<td>16.79%</td>
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<td>Railroads</td>
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<td>-20</td>
<td>-30</td>
<td>-40</td>
<td>-50</td>
<td>-50</td>
<td>16.57%</td>
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<td>Interstates</td>
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<td>-5</td>
<td>-10</td>
<td>-15</td>
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<td>-30</td>
<td>4.74%</td>
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<td>State Highways</td>
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<td>-15</td>
<td>-20</td>
<td>-30</td>
<td>12.88%</td>
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<td>Communication Sites/Cell Towers</td>
<td>-10</td>
<td>-30</td>
<td>-60</td>
<td>-80</td>
<td>-100</td>
<td>-100</td>
<td>3.65%</td>
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<td>Seed Orchards</td>
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<td>-90</td>
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<td>-100</td>
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<td>-30</td>
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<td>0.10%</td>
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<td>Ski Areas</td>
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<td>-10</td>
<td>-20</td>
<td>-40</td>
<td>-60</td>
<td>-80</td>
<td>0.44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recreation High Developed</td>
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<td>-30</td>
<td>-70</td>
<td>-90</td>
<td>-100</td>
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<td>Historic Structures</td>
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<td>-50</td>
<td>-70</td>
<td>-100</td>
<td>-100</td>
<td>-100</td>
<td>0.73%</td>
<td>8,140</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Within-HVRA relative importance.

PNRA Overall Relative Importance

- WILD 18%
- INFRA 18%
- TIMBER 12%
- WATER 18%
- PP 9%
- VC 9%
Introduction of the Oregon Explorer

Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment Framework

HAZARD \times VULNERABILITY

PROBABILITY (frequency)

INTENSITY (severity)

EXPOSURE

SUSCEPTIBILITY

RISK

After Scott, Calkin, Thompson (2013)
Introduction of the Oregon Explorer

- WUI Data Sources
  - USFS - University of Wisconsin SILVIS WUI dataset as a primary source for WUI interface and intermix areas

- “Locally Named Communities At Risk” identified in CWPP’s

- Listed communities at risk in the Federal Registry
Introduction of the Oregon Explorer

• WUI Data Sources cont.
  • City Limits, census block data, and Structural Fire District areas

• Cross-checked data with the Department of Land Conservation & Development (DLCD) Oregon 2017 Land Use Zoning.

• Unverified excess community data was deleted.
Introduction of the Oregon Explorer
Introduction of the Oregon Explorer

- Risk Assignment

- Data was classified per symbology themes.

- Class breaks of low, moderate, and high.
Role of the Rules Advisory Committees (RAC)

• Assist the department to carry out the requirements of SB 762
  • Definition of Wildland-Urban Interface
  • Criteria for development of a statewide wildfire risk map.

• Ensure an inclusive process, considering different viewpoints and perspectives

• Transition the technical aspects of the Oregon Explorer Wildfire Risk Portal into administrative rule.
Overall timeline

- Request permission to promulgate rules related to SB726 at July 21, 2021 Board of Forestry meeting.
  - WUI definition – established by rule within 100 days of Governor’s signature of SB 762.
  - WUI identification and criteria – June 2022.
  - Statewide Fire Risk Map – June 2022
Opportunities for public input

• Rule Advisory Committee meetings will have public comment opportunities

• An email box will be established to receive public comment on all rulemaking pertaining to SB 762.

• Board of Forestry meetings

• Public hearings prior to rules enacted
Questions?

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