

## Oregon Board of Forestry – Hybrid Public Meeting

Oregon Department of Forestry -  
2600 State Street, Salem OR, 97310

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

The Board of Forestry will hold its June meeting in a hybrid format, allowing interested persons to view the meeting and participate online while having seating for in-person public attendance. The meeting will be streamed live on the department's YouTube channel. There will be an opportunity for the public to provide live testimony during the meeting. Written testimony may be submitted for information items, before or up to two weeks after the meeting day to [boardofforestry@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:boardofforestry@odf.oregon.gov) with the agenda item number included with the submission.

**Link to view Board of Forestry Meeting available at  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/OregonDepartmentofForestry>**

Prior meetings' audio and this meeting's written material is available on the web [www.oregon.gov/odf/board](http://www.oregon.gov/odf/board). The matters under the Consent Agenda will be considered in one block. Any board member may request the removal of any item from the consent agenda. Items removed for separate discussion will be considered after approval of the consent agenda. Public comment will not be taken on the consent agenda or work session (\*) asterisked items.

### Consent Agenda

9:00 – 9:01	A.	<b><u>Financial Dashboard Report – April and May 2022</u></b> .....	Bill Herber
9:00 – 9:01	B.	<b><u>Annual Letters to the State Forester</u></b> .....	Levi Hopkins
9:00 – 9:01	C.	<b><u>Rangeland Association Budgets</u></b> .....	Levi Hopkins
9:00 – 9:01	D.	<b><u>Burnt River RFPA Expansion</u></b> .....	Levi Hopkins
9:00 – 9:01	E.	<b><u>Summation and Themes for April 6, 2022, Board Informational Session</u></b>	Ryan Gordon and Danny Norlander

### Action and Information

9:01 – 9:30	1.	<b><u>State Forester and Board Member Comments</u></b> A. <b>Public Comments</b> [for information items on agenda and topics not on agenda-see page 3].... Register online
9:30 – 10:00	2.	<b><u>Fire Season Readiness</u></b> ..... Mike Shaw and Ron Graham <i>The Department will provide an update to the Board on the 2022 fire season readiness. This is an informational item.</i>
10:00 – 10:20	3.	<b><u>Forest Protective Association Budgets</u></b> ..... Mike Shaw and Ron Graham <i>The Department will present the annual request for approval of the Forest Protection District's fiscal year budgets and rates to the Board. This is a decision item.</i>
10:20 – 10:50	4.	<b><u>*Wildland-Urban Interface and Wildfire Risk Mapping Deliberation</u></b> ..... Mike Shaw and Tim Holschbach <i>The Department will provide a review of public comments received for rulemaking, and present the final rules for Board approval. This is a decision item.</i>
10:50 – 11:00		Morning break
11:00 – 12:00	5.	<b><u>2023-2025 Agency Budget Development</u></b> .....Bill Herber and James Short <i>The Department will present final budget concepts for the Board's review and input in developing the 2023-2025 Agency Request Budget. This is a decision item.</i>
12:00 – 12:45		Lunch
12:45 – 1:30	6.	<b><u>Pacific Coast Regional Forest Carbon Analysis</u></b> ..... Andrew Yost and U.S. Forest Service Leadership <i>The Department along with U.S. Forest Service will present the results of the Pacific Coast Regional Forest Carbon Analysis. This is an informational item.</i>
1:30 – 2:20	7.	<b><u>DLCD-Climate and Resource Assessments</u></b> ..... Jon Jinnings (ORESAs) and Christine Shirley (DLCD) <i>The Department invited the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) to present on the recently completed Oregon Renewable Energy Siting Assessment (ORESAs) and recently initiated the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment to the Board. This is an informational item.</i>
2:20 - 2:30		Afternoon break
2:30 – 2:50	8.	<b><u>Facilities Condition and Capital Management Plan</u></b> ..... Bill Herber and D. Chris Stewart <i>The Department will present an annual update on the facilities' capital management planning program. This is an informational item.</i>

- 2:50 – 3:10      **9. Human Resources Dashboard** ..... Bill Herber and Tricia Kershaw  
*The Department will present an annual update on the human resource trends and safety metrics. This is an informational item.*
  
- 3:10 – 3:30      **10. Public Affairs Reporting** ..... Bill Herber and Joy Krawczyk  
*The Department will present an annual update on the public affairs program. This is an informational item.*
  
- 3:30 – 3:45      **11. Forest Trust Land Advisory Committee Testimony** ..... David Yamamoto or John Sweet  
*The FTLAC is a statutorily established committee that advises the Board on State Forests policy. This is an informational item.*
  
- 3:45 – 4:00      **12. Board Closing Comments and Meeting Wrap Up** ..... Chair Kelly and Board Members  
*Board Chair and members to summarize the meeting's action items and provide closing comments.*

The times listed on the agenda are approximate. At the discretion of the chair, the time and order of agenda items—including the addition of an afternoon break—may change to maintain meeting flow. The board will hear public testimony [\*excluding marked items] and engage in discussion before proceeding to the next item. \* A single asterisk preceding the item number marks a work session, and public testimony/comment will not be accepted.

**BOARD WORK PLANS:** Board of Forestry (Board) Work Plans result from the board's identification of priority issues. Each item represents the commitment of time by the Board of Forestry and Department of Forestry staff that needs to be fully understood and appropriately planned. Board Work Plans form the basis for establishing Board of Forestry meeting agendas. The latest versions of these plans can be found on the Board's website at: <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/Board/Pages/AboutBOF.aspx>

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY:** The Board of Forestry places great value on information received from the public. The Board will only hold public testimony at the meeting for decision items. The Board accepts written comments on all agenda items except consent agenda and Work Session items [see explanation below]. Those wishing to testify or present information to the Board are encouraged to:

- Provide written summaries of lengthy, detailed information.
- Remember that the value of your comments is in the substance, not length.
- For coordinated comments to the Board, endorse rather than repeat the testimony of others.
- To ensure the Board will have an opportunity to review and consider your testimony before the meeting, please send comments no later than 72 hours prior to the meeting date. If submitted after this window of time the testimony will be entered into the public record but may not be viewed by the Board until after the meeting.
- For in-person meetings, sign in at the information table in the meeting room when you arrive. For virtual meetings, follow the signup instructions provided in the meeting agenda.

Written comments for public testimony provide a valuable reference and may be submitted before, during, or up to two weeks after the meeting for consideration by the Board. Please submit a copy to [boardofforestry@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:boardofforestry@odf.oregon.gov), and written comments received will be distributed to the Board. Oral or written comments may be summarized, audio-recorded, and filed as a record. Audio files and video links of the Board's meetings are posted within one week after the meeting at <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/Board/Pages/BOFMeetings.aspx>

The Board cannot accept comments on consent agenda items or a topic for which a public hearing has been held and the comment period has closed. If you wish to provide oral comments to the Board, you must email the Board Administrator to sign up for live testimony, contact, [Hilary.Olivos-Rood@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:Hilary.Olivos-Rood@odf.oregon.gov), by 5 p.m. Friday, June 3, 2022. Instructions for providing public comment virtually will be confirmed by email and the link provided before the meeting.

Three minutes will be allotted for each individual to provide their comments. Those requesting additional time for testimony should contact the Board Support office at 503-945-7210 at least three days before the meeting. The maximum amount of time for all public testimony for agenda items with a Board decision will be thirty minutes.

**WORK SESSIONS:** Certain agenda topics may be marked with an asterisk indicating a "Work Session" item. Work Sessions provide the Board opportunity to receive information and/or make decisions after considering previous public comments and staff recommendations. No new public comment will be taken. However, the Board may choose to ask questions of the audience to clarify issues raised.

- During consideration of contested civil penalty cases, the Board will entertain oral argument only if Board members have questions relating to the information presented.
- Relating to the adoption of Oregon Administrative Rules: Under Oregon's Administrative Procedures Act, the Board can only consider those comments received by the established deadline as listed on the Notice of Rulemaking form. Additional input can only be accepted if the comment period is formally extended (ORS 183.335).

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** For regularly scheduled meetings, the Board's agenda is posted on the web at [www.oregonforestry.gov](http://www.oregonforestry.gov) two weeks prior to the meeting date. During that time, circumstances may dictate a revision to the agenda, either in the sequence of items to be addressed or in the time of day the item is to be presented. The Board will make every attempt to follow its published schedule and requests your indulgence when that is not possible.

To provide the broadest range of services, lead time is needed to make the necessary arrangements. If special materials, services, or assistance is required, such as a sign language interpreter, assistive listening device, or large print material, please contact our Public Affairs Office at least three working days before the meeting via telephone at 503-945-7200 or fax at 503-945-7212.

Use of all tobacco products in state-owned buildings and on adjacent grounds is prohibited.

Agenda Item No:	A
Work Plan:	Administrative
Topic:	Financial Dashboard
Presentation Title:	Department Financial Report for April and May 2022
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	Bill Herber, Deputy Director for Administration (503) 945-7203, <a href="mailto:bill.herber@oregon.gov">bill.herber@oregon.gov</a>

## **SUMMARY AND CONTEXT**

An executive financial report and summary will be submitted monthly to ensure the Board of Forestry (Board) has up-to-date information for oversight of the Department's financial condition. This report will include the financial and budgetary status of the Department as well as other ancillary topics as appropriate.

## **BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

This consent item is transparent publishing of the Department's transmittal of monthly financial reports to the Board of Forestry. While executive-level in nature, the financial report provides information on various topics that are either germane, or direct impacts to the financial status of the agency, or other administrative functions of the organization during any given month.

This financial report will continue to evolve over time. As the Department's reporting ability matures and insights into its operational and administrative work improve, this financial report will reflect those improvements. These improvements could include operational or process improvements or the introduction of new systems and technologies that enhance the Department's administrative capabilities. In addition, Board input will be factored in as the report evolves.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The Board will receive the Department's Financial Report the third week of every month, whether a Board meeting is occurring or not. This will allow the Department to report on the previous month while allowing for the fiscal month closing process to conclude.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1) Department of Forestry Financial Report for April 2022
- 2) Department of Forestry Financial Report for May 2022

May 2, 2022

Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Co-Chair  
Rep. Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
900 Court St. NE, H-178  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)—Monthly financial condition report

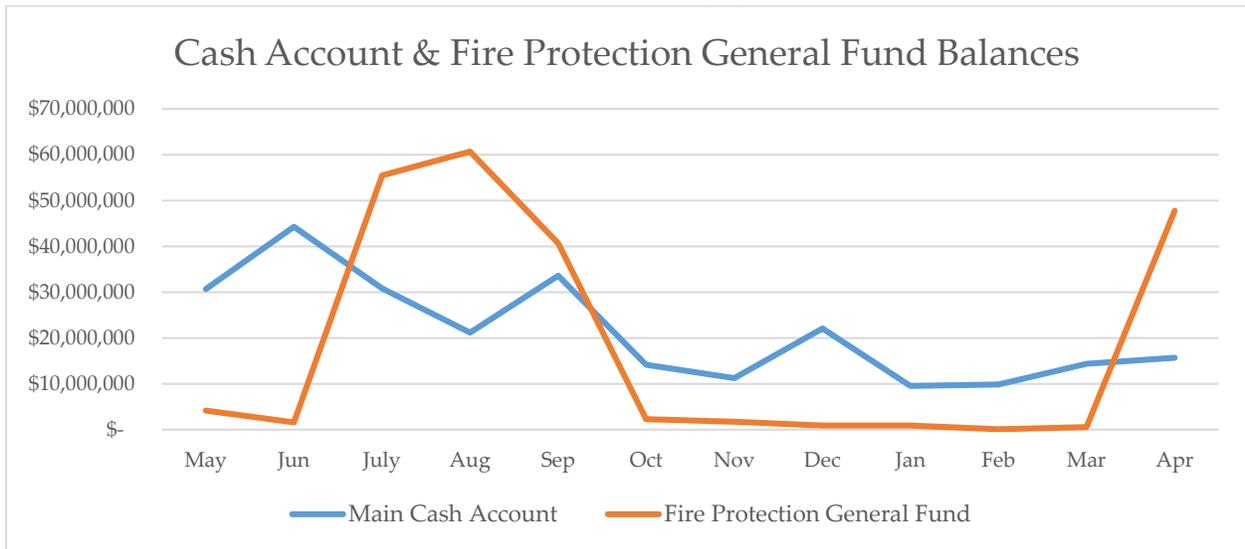
Dear Co-Chairs,

### Cash and General Fund Balances

Revenues and expenditures for the reporting period were consistent with seasonal trends; however, there was significant movement of resources due to reallocation of charges from Other Funds (OF) to General Funds (GF) for the Fire Protection Division (Figure 1).

The \$46,298,469 increase in Fire Protection’s GF, approved by the Legislature through House Bill 5202 (2022), provided ODF resources to cover the state’s portion of 2021 fire costs. Transactions initially covered by Fire Protection OF were appropriately re-coded to Fire Protection GF, freeing up OF expenditure limitation and cash to allow the program to operate as originally budgeted.

Figure 1 - Cash Account and Fire Protection General Fund Balances as of April 18, 2022



The Legislature also established a special purpose appropriation of \$50 million for allocation to the department for cash flow needs during the 2022 Session (HB 4156). This funding is to help mitigate anticipated cash-flow shortages during fire season to limit operational impacts to the agency. These cash-flow issues stem from the current system of financing emergency firefighting using the agency’s biennial budget while awaiting reimbursement from other sources. Finally, with the passage of Senate Bill 1501 – the Private Forest Accord – the Forest Resource Division’s GF appropriation increased by \$14 million.

### Financial Projections

There were significant variances between projected and actual financial activity reported in March (Table 1). Timber sales totaled \$12 million, a 23% increase over projected sales. Forest Patrol Assessments totaled \$3 million, including a payment from State Forests of \$2.4 million. Additional variances were attributed to the movement of moneys to allow for continued access to funds for Fire Protection. Specifically, a large amount of the Administrative Branch prorate was moved back to Fire Protection GF and Fire Protection OF costs were recoded and moved to Fire Protection GF to free up OF expenditure limitation and cash as mentioned earlier. These transaction reclassifications continue to skew the numbers. With the additional funding provided by the Legislature over the last two sessions, the agency will continue to move balances back to their proper place over the next few months which will likely normalize the monthly financial activity reporting.

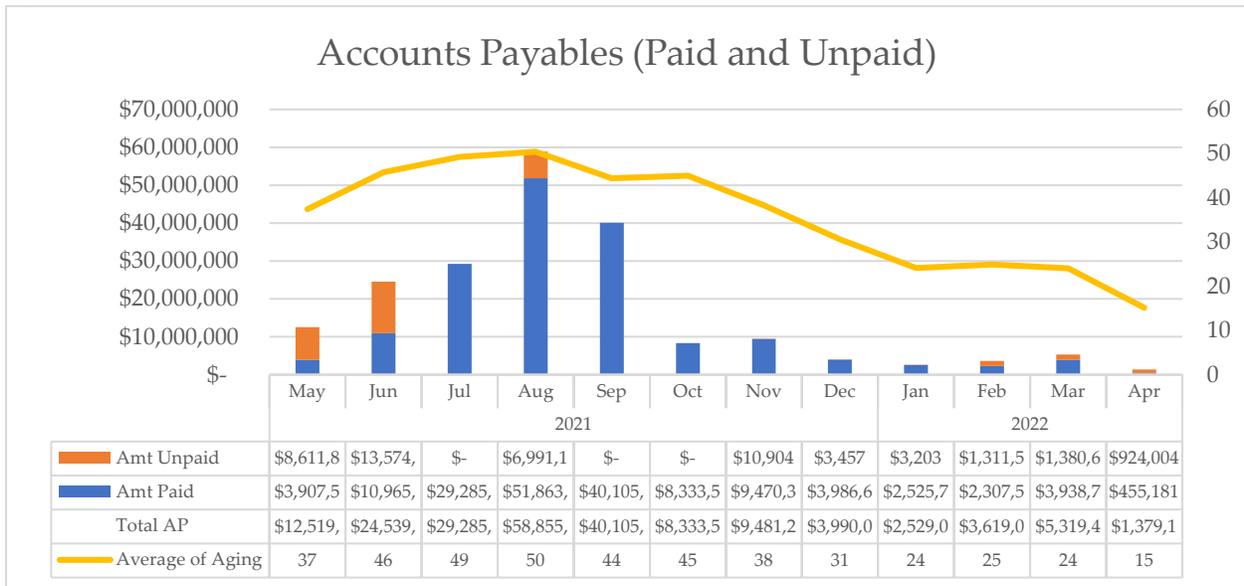
*Table 1 - Financial Projections through May 2022*

	Mar-22		Apr-22	May-22
	Projection	Actual	Projection	Projection
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$33,217,197.81	\$12,598,701.36	\$24,766,321.59	\$44,527,836.23
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	-\$12,666,094.36	-\$9,138,922.00	-\$13,616,800.63	-\$13,683,063.41
<b>Net Total Exp/Rev</b>	\$20,551,103.44	\$3,459,779.36	\$11,149,520.96	\$30,844,772.82
<b>Beginning Cash Balance</b>	\$15,618,253.67	\$16,432,164.89	\$19,891,944.25	\$31,041,465.21
<b>End of Month Cash Balance</b>	\$36,169,357.11	\$19,891,944.25	\$31,041,465.21	\$61,886,238.03
<b>Available GF Appr</b>	\$25,595,268.81	\$31,318,544.00	\$84,573,000.05	\$72,408,826.06
<b>Available Resources</b>	\$49,420,790.84	\$44,924,783.69*	\$109,328,760.70*	\$128,009,359.52*

### Accounts Payables

Department-wide expenditures for the reporting period continue to be low as is typical during the early spring months (Figure 4). The outstanding AP balance for April consists predominantly of payments owed to federal partners that are on hold pending receipt of reimbursements owed to ODF from various federal sources, primarily the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The department’s disbursements staff continue to spend much of their time reconciling and recoding payment transactions from holding accounts to their appropriate funding source.

Figure 4 - Accounts Payable as of April 18, 2022



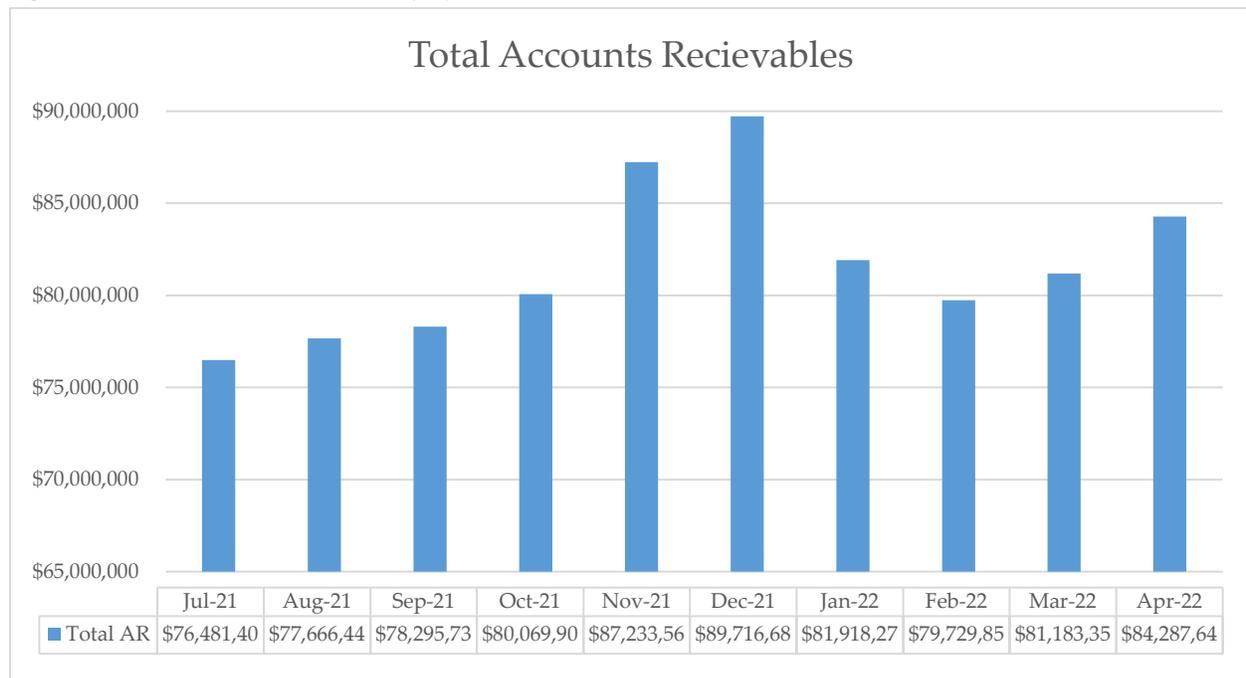
### Accounts Receivables

The department's outstanding accounts receivable balances remain consistent with activity reported in the prior period. Current receivables increased \$3.7 million in April 2022 as a result of increased timber sales and increased cooperative agreement services provided to the United States Forest Service (USFS). Balances due from the FEMA Public Assistance grants continue to represent the majority of outstanding amounts payable to the department. Amounts due from private contractors related to timber sales remain the second largest balance payable to the department (Figures 2 & 3).

Figure 2 - Accounts Receivables Aging as of April 18, 2022



Figure 3 - Total Accounts Receivables as of April 18, 2022



### Large Fire Costs

The department continues to make progress in moving its FEMA Public Assistance (PA) grant applications further along the process. In last month’s report, the department committed to having all the Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) documentation submitted for the remaining ODF-only fires submitted in April and that documentation has been provided to the Office of Emergency Management for delivery to FEMA. Much of the department’s work with these PA grants is now being processed by FEMA’s Consolidated Resource Center (CRC) which marks an important milestone in the progress of these grants.

These PA grants account for most of the currently invoiced amounts from the 2020 fire seasons as noted below (Table 2). The remaining work for the outstanding to invoice amount for 2020 is dependent upon the receipt of these FEMA monies. Cost share settlements and audits for the 2021 season, both internally and with our partners, will be occurring over the next couple of months.

Table 2 – Gross Large Fire Cost Summary (red indicates estimates – in millions) as of April 22, 2022

Fire Protection Large Fire Cost Summary								
Fire Season	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Fire Costs	76.48	20.74	60.98	109.34	34.26	139.8	129.2	570.8
Currently Invoiced	(0.33)	(0.07)	(0.17)	(1.39)	(0.24)	(59.65)	(1.83)	(63.68)
Outstanding to Invoice	-	-	(0.07)	(0.38)	(0.48)	(15.13)	(58.94)	(75.00)

## MGO Update

In April, the department published the [fourth version of the department's Implementation Management Plan](#) (starts on page 90), which demonstrated consistent progress toward implementation of the recommendations and documented recently completed deliverables. Of the 28 total recommendations: 16 are considered active, with 13 of those progressing and 3 recently initiated; 4 are currently pending or on hold; 3 are not started; and 5 are complete. Macias, Gini, and O'Connell (MGO) recently completed a formal review of the department's overall planning efforts and progress made to date on select recommendations. Outcomes of the review have been positive, showing successful mitigation and lowering of risk across several of the recommendations, as well as recognition of areas where continued monitoring will be necessary to ensure timely completion of deliverables. MGO presented the findings of their review at the [April 27 Board of Forestry meeting](#) alongside the department. MGO will continue to assess the department's progress and report to the Board of Forestry through mid-2023.

Sincerely,



Cal Mukumoto  
Oregon State Forester

c:  
Legislative Fiscal Office  
Chief Financial Office  
Oregon State Treasury  
Board of Forestry  
Governor's Office



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Forestry  
State Forester's Office  
2600 State Street  
Salem, OR 97310  
503-945-7200  
[www.oregon.gov/ODF](http://www.oregon.gov/ODF)

June 1, 2022

Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Co-Chair  
Rep. Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
900 Court St. NE, H-178  
Salem, OR 97301

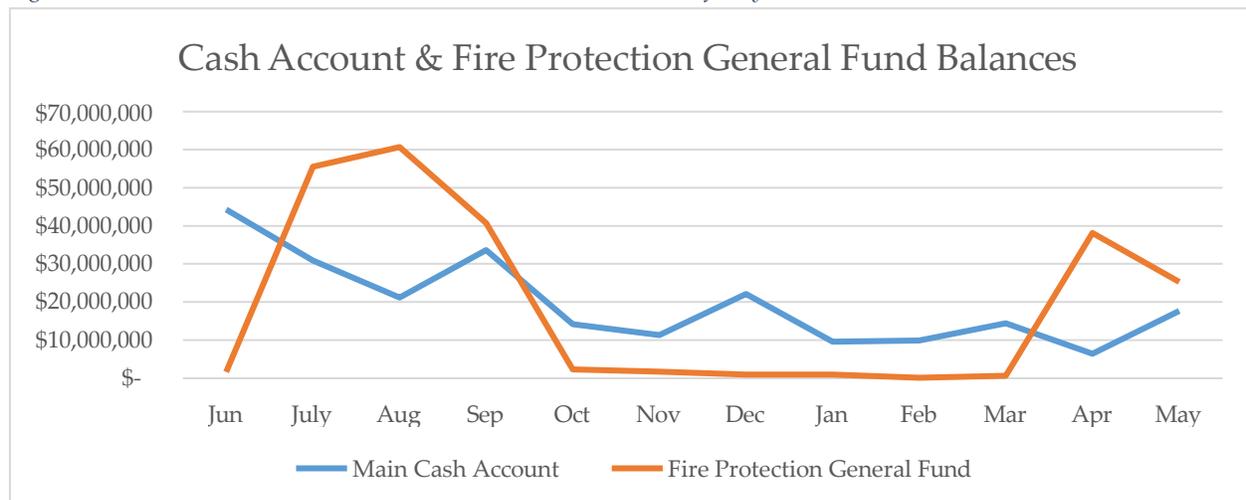
Re: Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)—Monthly financial condition report

Dear Co-Chairs,

## Cash and General Fund Balances

Revenues and expenditures for the reporting period decreased from the levels seen in the prior three reporting periods as the agency prepares for fire season and continues to reallocate resources from Other Funds (OF) to General Funds (GF) for the Fire Protection Division (Figure 1). The \$46,298,469 increase in Fire Protection's GF, approved by the Legislature through House Bill 5202 (2022), provided ODF resources to cover the state's portion of 2021 fire costs. Transactions initially covered by Fire Protection OF have been continually recoded to Fire Protection GF, freeing up OF expenditure limitation and cash to allow the program to operate as originally budgeted.

Figure 1 - Cash Account and Fire Protection General Fund Balances as of May 23, 2022



AGENDA ITEM A  
Attachment 2

The Legislature also established a special purpose appropriation of \$50 million during the 2022 Session for allocation to the department to address cash flow needs during the 2022 fire season (HB 4156). The agency has submitted a request to access the full \$50 million to the State Emergency Board for consideration during its June meeting. This request is to mitigate anticipated cash-flow shortages during fire season to limit operational impacts across the agency.

### Financial Projections

There were significant variances between projected and actual financial activity reported in April (Table 1). Timber sales totaled \$13.1 million, consistent with projected sales; however, the agency did not receive the \$4.4 million in federal grant revenue as projected. Debt service payments totaling \$4 million were recorded in April, as well as the quarterly county distributions totaling \$15.3 million. With the additional funding provided by the Legislature over the last two sessions, the agency continues to recode transactions between OF and GF to reimburse programs for financial resources used to manage cash flow challenges during fire season, which continues to challenge the agency’s ability to accurately project financial activity. As this work continues over the next few months, it will help normalize the monthly financial activity reporting.

Table 1 - Financial Projections through May 23, 2022

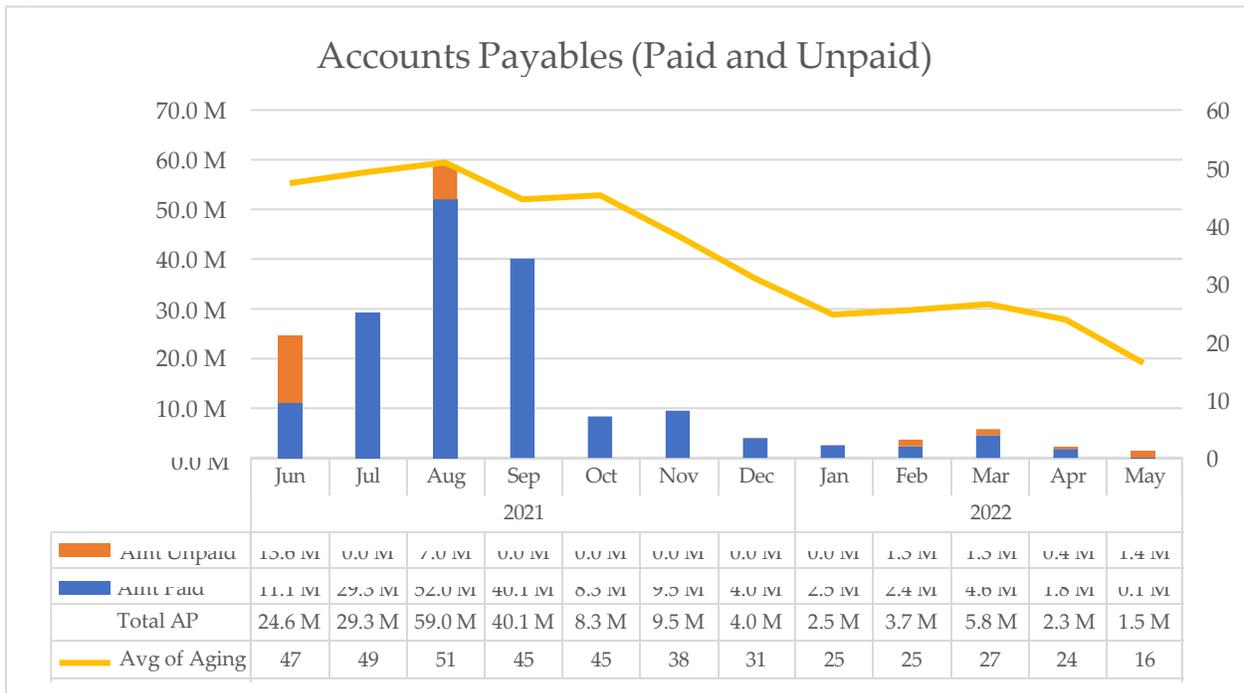
	Apr-22		May-22	Jun-22
	Projection	Actual	Projection	Projection
<b>Total Revenue</b>	\$33,217,197.81	\$20,573,424.12	\$45,253,407.25	\$61,017,624.65
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	-\$12,666,094.36	-\$26,325,852.54	-\$13,683,063.41	-\$25,074,548.13
<b>Net Total Exp/Rev</b>	\$20,551,103.44	-\$5,752,428.42	\$31,570,343.84	\$35,943,076.53
<b>Beginning Cash Balance</b>	\$15,618,253.67	\$19,891,944.25	\$14,139,515.83	\$45,709,859.67
<b>End of Month Cash Balance</b>	\$36,169,357.11	\$14,139,515.83	\$45,709,859.67	\$81,652,936.20
<b>Available GF Appr</b>	\$25,595,268.81	\$85,920,649.53	\$73,605,947.99	\$61,764,888.81
<b>Available Resources</b>	\$109,328,760.70	\$91,877,958.68*	\$111,133,600.98*	\$135,235,618.33*

\* Includes \$7.5 million reduction adjustment for non-fungible cash funds

### Accounts Payables

Department-wide expenditures for the reporting period are on the rise as the agency prepares for the 2022 fire season (Figure 2). The outstanding AP balance for May consists predominantly of payments owed to federal partners that are on hold pending receipt of reimbursements owed to ODF from various federal sources, primarily the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The department’s disbursements staff continue to spend much of their time reconciling and recoding payment transactions from holding accounts to their appropriate funding source.

Figure 2 - Accounts Payable as of May 23, 2022



### Accounts Receivable

The department’s total outstanding accounts receivable balances increased 22.1% from activity reported in the prior period. The increase in receivables (Figure 3) was primarily due to additional timber sales, as well as adjustments made to large fire FEMA receivables to change the cost-share from 75% to 90%, which resulted in an increase in balances over 120 days past due. Balances due from FEMA Public Assistance grants continue to represent most of the outstanding amounts payable to the department. Amounts due from private contractors related to timber sales remain the second largest balance payable to the department (Figures 3 & 4).

Figure 3 - Accounts Receivables Aging as of May 23, 2022

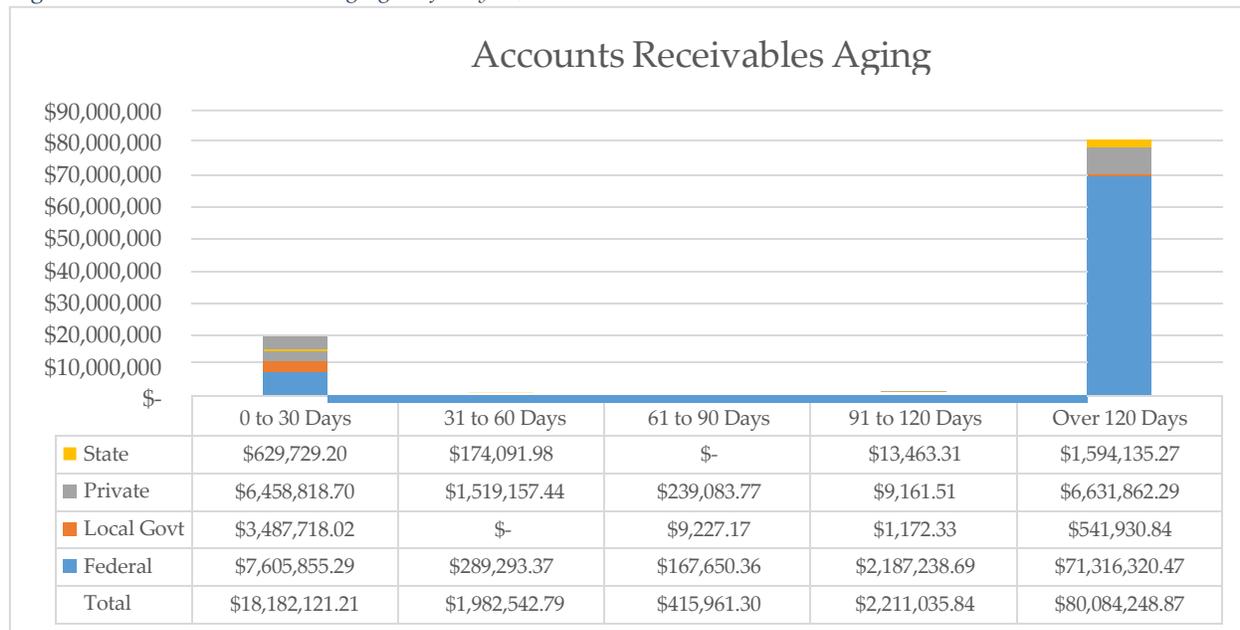
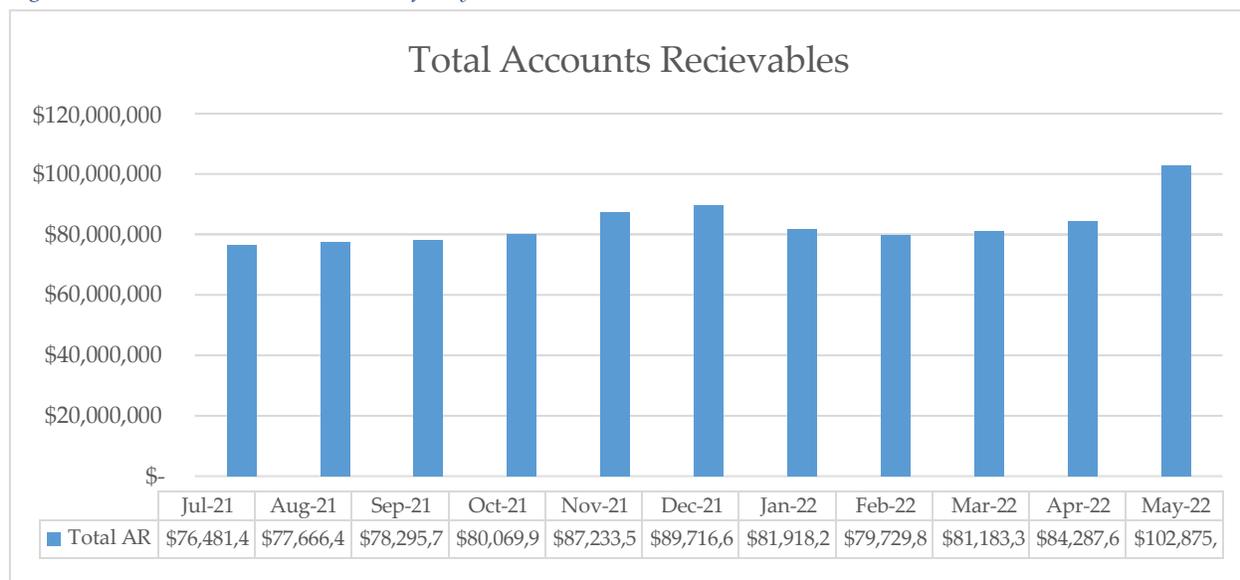


Figure 4 - Total Accounts Receivables as of May 23, 2022



**Large Fire Costs**

The department continues to make progress in moving its FEMA Public Assistance (PA) grant applications further along the process. The department has submitted all the remaining Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) documentation for the remaining ODF-only fires in May. The department continues to work with FEMA’s Consolidated Resource Center (CRC) to answer any requests for information as the PA grants work through their system.

These PA grants account for most of the currently invoiced amounts from the 2020 fire season

(Table 2). The remaining work for the outstanding to invoice amount for 2020 is dependent upon the receipt of these FEMA monies. Cost share settlements and audits are underway for the 2021 season.

Table 2 – Gross Large Fire Cost Summary (red indicates estimates – in millions) as of May 23, 2022

Fire Protection Large Fire Cost Summary								
Fire Season	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Fire Costs	76.48	20.74	61.35	108.33	33.95	140.77	140.83	582.45
Currently Invoiced	(0.45)	(0.07)	(0.17)	(1.29)	(0.20)	(65.94)	(5.55)	(73.67)
Outstanding to Invoice	-	-	(0.09)	(0.48)	(0.46)	(10.79)	(82.19)	(94.01)

### MGO Update

Our work in May was focused internally with time devoted to training department staff on system enhancements and incident finance processes, continuing our progress towards key deliverables within our [department's Implementation Management Plan v4](#), onboarding our new Financial Services Manager, and recruiting to fill positions in the Administrative Modernization Program.

Macias, Gini, and O'Connell (MGO) recently completed a [formal review in April](#) of the department's overall planning efforts and progress made to date on select recommendations. Outcomes of the review were positive, showing successful mitigation and lowering of risk across several of the recommendations, as well as recognition of areas where continued monitoring is necessary to assure implementation of noted deliverables. Subsequent reviews will be performed by MGO through mid-2023 with continued reporting to the Board of Forestry.

Sincerely,



Cal Mukumoto  
Oregon State Forester

c:  
Legislative Fiscal Office  
Chief Financial Office  
Oregon State Treasury  
Board of Forestry  
Governor's Office

Agenda Item No.:	B
Work Plan:	Fire Protection Work Plan
Topic:	Annual Topic: Annual Letters to the State Forester
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	Levi Hopkins, Wildfire Prevention & Policy Manager Fire Protection Division 503-949-3572; <a href="mailto:levi.a.hopkins@oregon.gov">levi.a.hopkins@oregon.gov</a>

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agenda item is to report to the Board concerning the contents of the annual letters received from the nine non-operating forest protective associations and the written responses made to those letters.

**CONTEXT/BACKGROUND**

By contract, the nine non-operating forest protective associations are required to provide a written communication with the State Forester at least once annually. The purpose of these letters is to enable the associations to communicate directly with the State Forester concerning situations, conditions, and problems they believe need to be brought to his attention. Historically, the State Forester returns a response letter that addresses the issues raised by the associations.

**RECOMMENDATION**

These letters are provided to the Board for their information, there is no action recommended.

**NEXT STEPS**

The Fire Protection Division will be working through the issues presented and follow-up with the associations.

**ATTACHMENT**

- 1) Letter from EOFPA.

Cal Mukumoto, State Forester  
Oregon Department of Forestry  
2600 State Street  
Salem, Oregon 97310

May 6, 2022

State Forester Mukumoto,

The East Oregon Forest Protective Association (EOFPA) is concerned about the current and future cost of ODF providing a base or adequate level of wildfire protection in Eastern Oregon. Protection costs continue to rise at rates landowners will not be able to pay. Working family forest and range lands in Eastern Oregon cannot generate the same amounts of incomes and the same land value, as seen on the Western side of Oregon.

Senate bill 762 provided funding for a much needed boost in staffing. While the legislature allocated sufficient money for these positions this year, including the landowner offset, it is the future of that offset funding that is of great concern to the landowners. The EOFPA appreciates you addressing this offset funding in ODF's Policy Option Package for the FY24 budget, but we believe there needs to be a permanent legislative fix for this funding. It has been recognized in the past that there is a financial disparity in the eastern side of the state. A partial solution to this problem was recognized in the past with the Wildfire Protection Act that provided rate offsets to the east side. We urge you to work with the legislature to bring forth our concerns and ask that you support the landowners and this association's efforts to address this issue.

The potential is there for these lands to no longer be viable as working family forests and grazing lands. As these costs outpace the ability of the lands to generate revenue, the lands may shift to non-traditional uses or be developed to pay for the increases in protection. As these lands are developed, there is the potential to greatly increase the Wildland Urban Interface lands.

The EOFPA has had a very long standing and good relationship with ODF and are very grateful for the level of service and fire protection provided. The financial ability of the lands to support ODF firefighting efforts in Eastern Oregon is becoming cost prohibitive. A solution needs to be found to provide an adequate level of protection, while maintaining these lands as working forests and grazing lands.

Regards,



Jered Schwabauer

President

East Oregon Forest Protective Association

Cc: Oregon Board of Forestry

## STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No.:	C
Work Plan:	Fire Protection
Topic:	Annual Topic: Approval of Rangeland Fire Protection Association Budgets
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	Levi Hopkins, Wildfire Prevention & Policy Manager Fire Protection Division 503-949-3572; <a href="mailto:levi.a.hopkins@odf.oregon.gov">levi.a.hopkins@odf.oregon.gov</a>

### SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to obtain Board approval of the annual budgets of the Rangeland Fire Protection Associations currently operating in Eastern Oregon.

### CONTEXT/BACKGROUND

Rangeland fire protection associations (RFPA) are nonprofit, locally governed, and operated landowner associations organized to provide fire protection on rangeland areas of Eastern Oregon. These geographic areas are outside both forest protection districts and rural fire districts. State statutes ORS 477.315-325 provide for the formation of these associations under the authority of the Board and with assistance from the Department. After formation, ORS 477.325 requires that the Board review and approve the rangeland fire protection associations' annual operating budgets.

Every year, RFPAs suppress dozens of fires across over 16 million acres in Oregon. Many people describe this as a “neighbors helping neighbors” model. RFPA funds go toward administrating guidance, fire suppression training, facilitating access to federal grants and surplus firefighting equipment, as well as some administrative cost reimbursement. RFPA fire prevention and suppression help conserve habitat as well as safeguarding local economic resources.

For your reference, attached are the Rangeland Association Annual Fact Sheet (attachment 1), Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Budgets (attachment 2), 2021 Annual Report Statistics (attachment 3), and Total Acres Protected by Year (attachment 4). The Board's approval will assist these associations of landowners in building partnerships, investing in their community, and providing their own local wildfire protection.

### RECOMMENDATION

The Department recommends the Board approve the fiscal year 2023 budgets of the Ashwood-Antelope, Bakeoven-Shaniko, Blue Mountain, Brothers Hampton, Burnt River, Crane, Fields-Andrews, Frenchglen, Gateway, Greater Pine Valley, High Desert, Ironside, Jordan Valley, Juntura, Lone Pine, Lookout Glasgow, Post Paulina, Silver Creek, Twickenham, Vale, Wagontire, Warner Valley, WC Ranches, and Wheeler County Fire & Rescue Rangeland Fire Protection Associations.

## **ATTACHMENT**

- 1) Rangeland Fire Protection Associations Fact Sheet
- 2) Fiscal Year 2023 Rangeland Fire Protection Associations Budgets
- 3) 2021 Annual Report Statistics
- 4) Total Acres Protected by Year List



# Oregon's Rangeland Fire Protection Associations

Protecting over 16 million acres of range and critical Sage Grouse habitat in Oregon

The RFPAs operate as independent associations of landowners that provide their own local wildfire protection. ODF supports the associations through administrative guidance, some administrative cost reimbursement, fire suppression training and facilitating access to federal grants and surplus firefighting equipment. RFPA fire prevention and suppression helps in conserving sage grouse habitat as well as safeguarding livestock forage and now crop lands, which are crucial to local economies.

## Expansion of the Rangeland Program

The passage of Senate Bill 590 in the last legislative session changed the definition of rangeland to include agricultural cropland.

Since this change, two additional RFPAs have started the process of formation, Lower Bridge RFPA in Deschutes and Jefferson counties, and the North Harney RFPA in Harney county. Columbia Rural landowners in Wasco county has also expressed interest in formation, setting the stage for a possible third new RFPA to be formed in 2022.

With the expansion of the Rangeland program, ODF has hired three new Rangeland Specialists:

**Rick Fletcher** will be working out of The Dalles office coordinating with Wasco, Wheeler, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, and Umatilla counties.

**Don Tschida** will be working out of the Prineville office coordinating with Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson, and Lake counties.

**Jayson Rayburn** will be working out of the Vale office coordinating with Baker, Malheur, and Harney counties.

Additionally, ODF is recruiting for a radio technician that will assist with RFPA radio communications.



## Outstanding Neighbor

The ODF Rangeland program would like to recognize our first recipients of the award, **John and Cheryl Williams**, of the **Fields-Andrews RFPA**. Their long tenure and leadership has created a strong and lasting culture. We thank you for your time and achievement in the RFPA partnership.



Blue Mountain RFPA and Vale BLM installing the new heli-well

## Partnerships

The Blue Mountain RFPA partnered with the Vale District Bureau of Land Management to install a p4700 gallon permanent heli-well next to the ODOT station north of Blue Mountain. The project took 18 months to complete.

The purchase & installation was funded by the BLM through the Fuels and Wildfire Community Assistance program and will be filled from a nearby well provided by a local rancher and RFPA member. This water system will assist with the fires in southern Malheur county and accomplishes mitigation measures identified in the Malheur County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). This will provide reliable and easy to access to fill engines and water tenders and will allow the BLM to utilize helicopters as an initial attack tool in the area to better protect rangeland and infrastructure.

# Rangeland Statistics



	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b># of Responses</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Acres Burned</b>	<b>103,388</b>	<b>76,388</b>	<b>34,475</b>	<b>79,516</b>	<b>14,493</b>

## Fire Statistics

The Great Basin drought continued in 2021, and the lack of winter snow and spring rains meant no green up or grass growth in the desert.

Rapid initial attack, good communications and cooperation made the 2021 fire season a memorable year, with a 29.6% decrease in number of fires and an 81.77% decrease in acres burned.



Silver Creek RFPA and Burns Interagency Fire Zone equipment responds to the Big Meadows fire in Harney County



The Cougar Peak Fire in Lake County

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

The Lake county RFPAs have been very busy the last three years. Fire season 2021 was no different with devastating fires in the area.

The Warner Valley and High Desert RFPAs have existing Cooperative Fire Agreements with the BLM and US Forest Service and have both signed a countywide mutual aid agreement through the Lake County Fire Defense Board. This agreement led to the RFPAs assisting other agencies outside their boundaries on the Patton Meadow and Cougar Peak Fires. The unique equipment RFPAs have, such as heavy all wheel drive engines and dozers, are valuable and effective when used in coordination with the equipment of the Rural Fire Districts and other partners.

In 2021 both RFPAs received a \$250,000 grant from the Oregon Legislature. These funds will be used to upgrade and purchase new equipment and vehicles, freeing up the older surplus RFPA equipment to be reallocated to other RFPAs or firefighting agencies.



A Type 6 brush engine purchased from a wildland fire contractor by Warner Valley RFPA



For more information:  
 Oregon Department of Forestry  
 503-945-7200  
[www.oregon.gov/odf](http://www.oregon.gov/odf)



Rangeland Forest Protection Association Budget Summary  
July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

**Fiscal Year 2023 Rangeland Fire Protection Association Budget Summary**

	Income							Expenses											Reserve Account
	Membership Fees	Donations	Fund Raising	Grants	Reimbursed Expenses	Other	Total Income	Insurance	CPA & Non-profit Filings	Equipment Purchases	Equipment Repair/ Maintenance	Fuel	Supplies For Fire Suppression	Communications Equipment & Repair	Office Expenses (Supplies, Postage, etc.)	Other	Total Expenses		
<b>RFPA</b>																			
Ashwood-Antelope	7,000	1,500		10,000	7,000		25,500	6,750	500	1,000	3,500	1,000	500	1,000	500	2,000	16,750	24,311	
Bakeoven-Shaniko	10,000	5,000		10,000	3,950		28,950	3,500	450	7,500	1,000	1,000	770		500	2,000	16,720	12,280	
Blue Mountain	1,400	3,500			4,200		9,100	3,700	500		750						4,950	10,000	
Brothers-Hampton	1,100	400		4,000	4,250	1,000	10,750	4,200	50			2,000			300	150	6,700	4,050	
Burnt River	4,600			10,000	4,800		19,400	4,600	200	8,700	1,200	900	1,000	100	200	1,425	18,325	30,011	
Crane	30,000	1,500	500	10,000	13,500	1,500	57,000	13,000	500	11,000	7,000	5,000	3,500	2,000	1,500	12,500	56,000	25,000	
Fields Andrews	5,700			2,000	4,532		12,232	4,457	75		3,000	1,825	2,000	300	500		12,157	15,695	
Frenchglen	3,900			7,000	3,700	500	15,100	3,200	500	2,000	3,500	1,000	1,100		300	3,500	15,100	16,976	
Gateway	950	500			4,200		5,650	4,200		1,000	1,000		500	300	75		7,075	16,866	
Greater Pine Valley	700				3,872		4,572	3,812	50		900				119	70	4,951	386	
High Desert	16,000	10,000		250,000	7,500		283,500	7,500	200	254,000	4,500	3,500	5,000	2,200	1,000		277,900	8,000	
Ironside	3,700			1,000	3,420		8,120	3,370	50	1,000	1,000		1,000	300	200		6,920	11,748	
Jordan Valley	12,500				6,000	10,670	29,170	6,000	650	2,000	20,000			1,500	200		30,350	16,000	
Juntura	6,000	500		7,500	6,500	500	21,000	5,500	1,000	2,000	5,000		300	300	200	6,700	21,000	36,000	
Lookout-Glasgow	2,000	1,000		10,000	3,300	1,000	17,300	3,300	100	10,000	1,500	1,000	500	500	250		17,150	10,084	
Lone Pine	5,100			10,000	2,902		18,002	2,633	275		8,736	500	430	634	260	4,320	17,788	7,772	
Post Paulina	1,000	4,500			5,550		11,050	5,500	50		5,000	1,000	300	150	400	300	12,700	23,070	
Silver Creek	15,000	1,100		10,000	6,600		32,700	4,800	1,800	3,100	3,600	4,500	8,000	2,600	1,700	800	30,900	16,500	
Twickenham	3,500	1,000			3,020		7,520	3,000	20		4,000		300		200		7,520	9,469	
Vale	3,200	1,000		10,000	2,300		16,500	2,250	50	6,300	1,500		5,000	1,000	900		17,000	7,267	
Wagontire	3,000	4,000		3,500	3,500		14,000	3,000	500	3,000	2,500	1,500	1,500	500	250		12,750	10,964	
Warner Valley	11,000	2,000		250,000	4,622	2,000	269,622	4,622		243,660	8,000	1,200	500	7,500	406	1,000	266,888	12,938	
WC Ranches	1,100			10,000	7,400		18,500	5,400	2,000	6,800	1,000		2,000	1,000	300		18,500	444	
Wheeler County		5,000	4,000	9,000	2,900		20,900	2,900		10,000	4,000	3,000	3,000	15,000			37,900	66,000	
	148,450	42,500	4,500	624,000	119,518	17,170	956,138											391,831	

2021 Annual Report Statistics

Rangeland Fire Protection Association	Total Acres	Private Acres 3/	State Acres 2/	Federal Acres 1/	Est.	No. of Fires	Mutual Assist Fires	Smoke Chases	State & Private Acres Burned	Total Acres Burned	*Large Fires over 500 ac	Fire Suppress. Hours	Admin Hours	POV Mileage	Prescribe Fire Acres	Mem Properties (estimate)	Support Personnel	Trained Firefighters	Fire Eng Type 4	Fire Eng Type 5&6	Slip-ons Pickup	Slip on Trailers	ATV/UTV tanks	Tenders	Graders	Dozers	Tractor w/ Transport	Tractor w/ Disk	Other
Ashwood-Antelope	362,952	320,754	155	42,044	2009	6	2	3	3	3		125	1,100	1,000		39	50	17	3	5	9		6	1	1	11	3		
Bakeoven-Shaniko	183,102	176,683	81	6,338	2019	3	1		2,576	2,585	3, 4, 5	1,000	518	1,134	20	18	0	25	2	10	21		16		4	6	1		
Blue Mountain	1,157,908	75,059	2,896	1,079,953	2013	4	2	2	0	200		25	300	2,500	0	7	10	29	8	2	4		6		1			5-Tender Trailers	
Brothers / Hampton	998,928	257,785	34,826	706,318	2006	3		2	0	29		24	355	1,446	1,000	44	32	34	3	5	2	4	1		2	3			
Burnt River	295,124	185,152	3,054	106,918	2000	13	0	1	31	40		117	259	1,225	0	58	20	26	2	1	10	2			1	7			
Crane	1,415,068	601,120	102,748	711,200	1998	9	3	3	43	43		140	2,025	5,250		323	30	32	23	9	7	3		3		2	2		
Fields / Andrews	970,347	159,304	485	810,559	1998	4	0	1	7	8		60	648	3,399	0	57	5	44	3	6		2		5	3	4		3	
Frenchglen	664,126	275,210	979	387,937	2013	1	0	0	0	89		8	110	640	0	28	5	22	1	3	4	1		1		1	1		
Gateway	9,306	8,701	0	604	2010	0	1	1	0	0		85	340	479	395	14	29	9	2	2			2			1	3		
Greater Pine Valley	75,503	30,009	0	45,494	2016	0	0	0	0	0			911	1,839	0	8	2	23	2	2	2			1	1	1	1		
High Desert	1,739,231	384,666	38,158	1,316,407	2018	15	3	6	825	5,233	8	209	470	1,200	350	141	7	30	9	14	3	2	2	5		5	6		
Ironside	355,967	330,383	1,648	23,936	1964	3	1	0	180	180		144	900	850	0	36	6	20	1	2	10	6		3	1	3	2	4	
Jordan Valley	2,495,409	292,999	178,507	2,023,903	2008	1	0	0		40		34	850		450	50	20	100	7	2	26	2	35	8	3	3	1		
Juntura	952,048	181,351	82,137	688,561	2007	12	1	2	60	1,222	6, 7	65	940	2,006	460	14	12	17	1	5	1	1	2	1	2	2	1		
Lone Pine	55,312	25,426	3,673	26,213	2013	1	4	0	1	1		132	564	2,036	30	17	5	16	2	2	6	1		2	1	6	4	2-skidders	
Lookout Glasgow	246,331	153,478	1	92,852	2014	1	0	0	20	70		112	191	725		7		30	4		4			5		5	1		
Post / Paulina	639,580	351,749	22,566	265,265	2006	12	3	2	590	1,250	9	300	825	1,250	600	39	65	25	1	7	12	5	10	1	3	8	6		
Silver Creek	728,270	231,712	5,461	491,097	2001	12	0	2	1,140	2,836	1	237	570	9,412	0	76	66	43	9	10	2	4	0	2	0	6	3	backhoe	
Twickenham	124,301	75,499	40	48,762	2001	0	0	0	0	0		3	198	637	20	34	4	11	2	2		2	2					2 chainsaws	
Vale	1,023,221	204,570	22,347	796,305	2008	6		4	68	561	2	52	679	1,488	20	32	14	26	2	1	11	1	14		2	7		7 airplane	
Wagontire	301,268	37,844	68,610	194,814	2015	0	0	0	0	0		0	430	925	0	3	15	8		3			3	2	1	3	3	2	
Warner Valley	1,319,875	169,153	69,116	1,081,606	2011	6	2		97	97		1,058	394	4,263		129	12	19		8	5	2	3	6	1	3	2		
WC Ranches	49,193	41,489	1,947	5,757	2015	0	1	0	0	0		751	795	5,904	0	11	3	15	2	5	1		5		2	5	2	2 skidders excavator backhoe	
Wheeler Co. F & Res	393,710	285,503	548	107,659	2016	2	8	5	2	6		547	1,444	7,330				18	4	5			2	3	3	2	2		
<b>16,556,081</b>	<b>4,855,598</b>	<b>639,982</b>	<b>11,060,501</b>			<b>114</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>5,643</b>	<b>14,493</b>		<b>5,228</b>	<b>15,816</b>	<b>56,938</b>	<b>3,345</b>	<b>1,185</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>16</b>	

1/ RFPAs do not protect Federal acres, this list is just the federal land within the RFPA Bdry.

2/ RFPAs protect DSL lands as a membership in the RFPA, also OPRD lands are protected under a protection agreement with ODF

3/ RFPAs protect all private lands regardless of membership in the Assn as per agreement with the Board of Forestry

\*

- 1) Big Meadow 2643 ac Harney Co. 735 RFPA ac
- 2) Race Horse 512 ac Malheur Co
- 3) Johnson Ridge 791 ac Wasco Co
- 4) Deep Creek 1250 ac Wasco Co.
- 5) RN0684 535 ac Wasco Co
- 6) Mud Springs 500 ac Malheur Co
- 7) MM 206 693 ac Malheur Co
- 8) Cougar Peak 5156 ac Lake Co.
- 9) Rye Grass 1160 ac Crook Co.
- 10)
- 11)
- 12)
- 13)
- 14)
- 15)
- 16)
- 17)

## Annual Totals

### Row One

Year	No. of RFPAs	Total Acres Protected	Private Acres <sup>3</sup>	State Acres <sup>2</sup>	Federal Acres <sup>1</sup>	No. of Fires	Mutual Assist Fires	Smoke Chases	State & Private Acres Burned	Total Acres Burned	Fires over 500 Acres	Fire Suppression Hours	Admin Hours	POV Mileage
2017	22	15,967,400	4,553,896	639,901	10,773,603	146	35	47	29,580	103,388	17	9,556	21,148	76,589
2018	23	16,556,081	4,855,598	639,982	11,060,501	168	52	57	25,579	76,380	17	8,692	21,075	82,000
2019	24	16,556,081	4,855,598	639,982	11,060,501	114	32	76	3,308	34,475	5	5,624	17,802	84,770
2020	24	16,556,081	4,855,598	639,982	11,060,501	142	37	78	19,005	79,516	14	8,068	17,264	62,050
2021	24	16,556,081	4,855,598	639,982	11,060,501	114	32	34	5,643	14,493	9	5,228	15,816	56,938
						<b>684</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>83,115</b>	<b>308,251</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>37,168</b>	<b>93,104</b>	<b>362,347</b>

### Row Two

Year	Prescribed Fire Acres	Member Properties <i>(estimate)</i>	Support Personnel	Trained Firefighters	Fire Eng Type 4	Fire Eng Type 5 & 6	Slip-on Pickup	Slip-on Trailer	ATV UTV Tank	Tenders	Graders	Dozers	Tractor w/ Transport	Tractor w/ Disk
2017	4,174	671	516	512	80	76	127	18	72	54	26	86	51	
2018	9,060	1,007	400	648	92	97	146	31	89	62	30	87	45	
2019	1,198	988	406	684	97	108	140	19	82	55	24	76	48	13
2020	3,394	996	443	655	98	103	139	23	84	50	25	101	47	16
2021	3,345	1,185	412	639	93	111	140	38	103	55	31	95	44	16
	<b>17,826</b>													

1. RFPAs do not protect federal acres, this is the acres of federal land within the RFPAs boundary.
2. RFPAs protect DSL lands as a membership of the RFPAs; OPRD lands are protected under a protection agreement with ODF
3. RFPAs protect all private lands regardless of membership in the Association as per agreement with the Board of Forestry

Agenda Item No.:	D
Work Plan:	Fire Protection Work Plan
Topic:	Ongoing Topic: Rangeland Protection Association Formation
Presentation Title:	Expansion of Burnt River RPA Boundary
Date of Presentation:	June 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2022
Contact Information:	Levi Hopkins, Fire Prevention and Policy Manager (503) 949-3572, <a href="mailto:Levi.a.hopkins@odf.oregon.gov">Levi.a.hopkins@odf.oregon.gov</a>

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agenda item is to obtain Board approval to proceed with an expansion of the current boundary for Burnt River Rangeland Protection Association to include additional rangeland not currently protected.

**CONTEXT**

This is part of the Department’s ongoing effort, pursuant to ORS 477.320, to assist rural communities in eastern Oregon to develop wildland fire protection coverage in areas that are currently unprotected.

**BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

The Board approved to proceed with a public hearing to expand the boundary of the Burnt River RPA at the March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting. A public hearing was held May 3<sup>rd</sup>. 2022 at the Durkee Community Halle in Durkee, Oregon.

Community interest in the expansion of the proposed Burnt River Rangeland Protection Association is high and is strongly supported by landowners in the Baker City area. The Burnt River Board of Directors is excited to bring in the additional properties to assist with dues and additional volunteers to assist in Firefighting.

Landowners and residents of the area are increasingly worried about the incidence of rangeland fire. By protecting the outlying unprotected areas to meet up with adjacent agency boundaries and spreading the equipment out, they will have a much better chance of catching the range fires at a smaller size. The increased level of protection for this area can be achieved by bringing it into the Oregon Protection System and expanding the Rangeland Protection Association boundary.

No local residents opposed the proposed RPA expansion. Oral testimony was in full support of bringing these lands into the Rangeland Protection System and expanding the Rangeland Protection Association boundary.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Department recommends the Board take the following action when it meets on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022:

Approve the expansion of the boundaries of the Burnt River Rangeland Protection Association, pursuant to ORS 477.320.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The Department will continue its work with local landowners in the area supporting the Burnt River Rangeland Protection Association. This will include developing mutual aid agreements, providing training as requested, offering FEPP equipment as available, and any other assistance as requested and feasible.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- (1) Burnt River Rangeland Protection Association Expansion Hearing Report
- (2) Written Testimony
- (3) Public Hearing Roster
- (4) Map of Proposed Expansion

**Date:** May 10, 2022

**To:** Oregon Board of Forestry

**From:** Marvin Vetter, Rangeland Fire Protection Coordinator

**Subject:** Hearing Officer's Report on Burnt River Rangeland Fire Protection Association boundary expansion ORS 477.320(1)

### **Hearing Information**

**Proposed Area:** West of I-84 and South of Baker City, in Baker County  
**Hearing Date & Time:** May 3rd, 2022 @ 4:00 PM.  
**Hearing Location:** Durkee Community Hall, Durkee Oregon  
**Written Comments Due:** May 10, 2022, by 5:00 p.m.  
**Hearing Authorized:** Board of Forestry meeting, March 2022  
**Hearing Officer:** Marvin Vetter, Rangeland Fire Protection Coordinator

The Public Hearing on the proposal to expand the Burnt River RFPA boundary and bring those additional lands into the Oregon Protection System was formally convened at 4:03 p.m. in the Durkee Community Hall, after a discussion regarding the proposal. Registration forms were available for people who wished to provide oral comments on the proposed formation. The hearing was closed at 4:11 PM.

7 members of the public representing the area landowners attended the hearing. 7 people signed the Public Hearing Participation Record form and 7 provided oral comments. There was a discussion before the hearing to obtain further information on how the RFPA is funded and the agreements they have in place to work with the Wildland fire agencies.

### **Summary of Oral Comments**

Bert Siddoway the President for the Burnt River Rangeland Fire Protection Association started off the oral comments, with a statement that he wanted to protect the outlying unprotected areas to meet up with adjacent agency boundaries, and if we spread the equipment out, we can catch these range fires at a smaller size. Everyone that testified was in favor of expanding the Association's area of responsibility.

### **Summary of Written Comments**

The Baker County Commissioners delivered written comments in support of the Burnt River Rangeland Fire Protection Association expanding their boundary to take in the unprotected area.

This process was started in the Fall 2019, Winter of 2020, The Association decided to delay the Public Hearing request to the Board of Forestry due to social distancing requirements because of the pandemic.

/s/ Marvin J. Vetter  
Marvin J. Vetter  
Rangeland Fire Protection Coordinator  
Eastern Oregon Area



April 28, 2022

**Bill Harvey**  
Commission Chair  
bharvey@bakercounty.org

Oregon Department of Forestry  
2600 State Street  
Salem, Oregon 97310

**Mark Bennett**  
Commissioner  
mbennett@bakercounty.org

**RE: Burnt River Rangeland Fire Protection Association's annex of  
Unprotected Land into protection boundary**

Oregon Board of Forestry

**Bruce A. Nichols**  
Commissioner  
bnichols@bakercounty.org

The Baker County Board of Commissioners would like to support Burnt River Fire Protection Association (RFPA) and their efforts to annex unprotected land into their established protection boundary. For many years this fire prone area just south of Baker City, Oregon has been unprotected. The Commission joins the landowners in the area that have been supportive of joining the Burnt River Rangeland Fire Protection Association. This annexation of land will bring additional personnel to the Burnt River RFPA, and also establish a fire response to an area that currently does not have fire protection.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the Burnt River RFPA and their effort to annex unprotected land into their protection boundaries.

Sincerely,

**Baker County Board of Commissioners**

William "Bill" Harvey, Chairman

Mark E. Bennett, Commissioner

Bruce A. Nichols, Commissioner

PUBLIC HEARING PARTICIPATION RECORD  
 REQUEST TO EXPAND THE "BURNT RIVER RFPA BOUNDARY" AREA INTO THE OREGON PROTECTION SYSTEM UNDER  
 ORS 477.320

Location: Durkee Grange Date: May 3, 2022 Time: \_\_\_\_\_

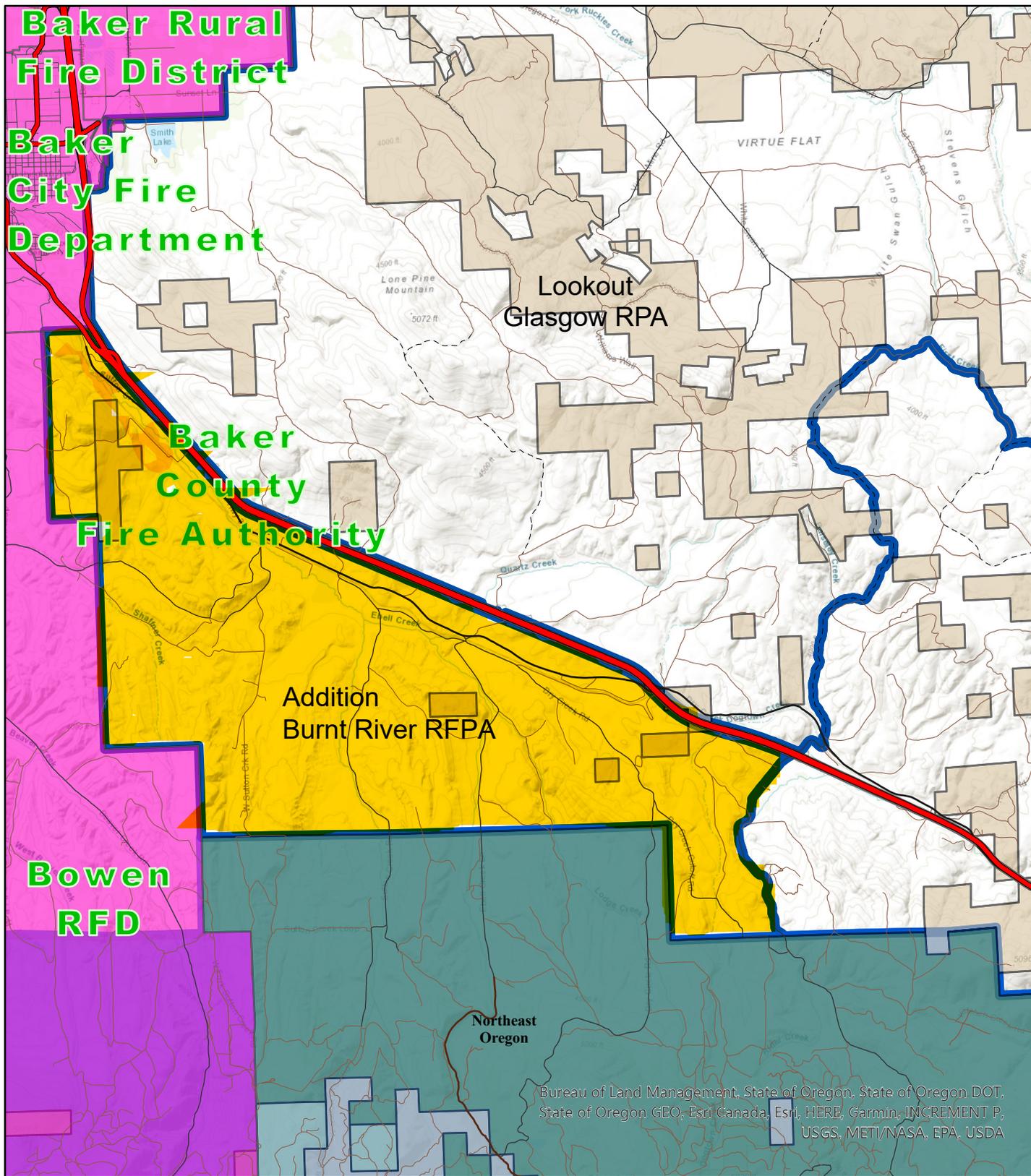
**PLEASE PRINT**

NAME & ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	TESTIMONY SUBMITTED	
		WRITTEN	ORAL
Baker County Commissioners		X	
Bea Siddoway BRRFPA	P.O. Box 115 Durkee, OR 97905		X ✓
Amanda Bunch BRRFPA	P.O. Box 222 Durkee, OR 97905		X ✓
Levi Bunch BRRFPA	P.O. Box 222 Durkee, OR 97905		X ✓
Kathy Thompson BRRFPA	P.O. Box 199 Durkee, OR 97905		X ✓
Gary Timm	2200 4th Street Baker City, OR 97814		X ✓
Ann Coburn	P.O. Box 199 Durkee, OR 97905	<del>X</del>	X ✓
Ben Coburn	P.O. Box 198 Durkee, OR 97905		



"STEWARDSHIP IN FORESTRY"

# Burnt River RFPA - Addition



Bureau of Land Management, State of Oregon, State of Oregon DOT, State of Oregon GEO, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, USGS, METI/NASA, EPA, USDA



- Road Types**  
 PDMclass
- Interstate; Highway
  - Paved; Highway exit
  - All weather
  - Dirt
  - In UGB; Paved - Secondary Display

- Not Drivable; Blocked
  - Mainline Rd
  - 4wd trail
- Protection Status**  
 Protection Status 2021
- Structural Fire Protection
  - BLM

- Forest Protection Association
- No known protection
- Rangeland Protection Association
- USFS
- <all other values>
- ODF Forest Protection Districts
- Range Fire Protection Associations 100K

Agenda Item No.:	E
Work Plan:	Overarching and Emerging Issues Work Plan
Topic:	Summary from April 6, 2022 informational session
Contact Information:	Ryan Gordon, Planning Branch Director 503-945-7393, <a href="mailto:Ryan.P.Gordon@odf.oregon.gov">Ryan.P.Gordon@odf.oregon.gov</a> John Tokarczyk, Planning & Analysis 503-745-7414, <a href="mailto:John.A.Tokarczyk@oregon.gov">John.A.Tokarczyk@oregon.gov</a> Danny Norlander, Forestry Climate, Carbon, and Health Analyst 503-508-3797, <a href="mailto:danny.norlander@odf.oregon.gov">danny.norlander@odf.oregon.gov</a>

## **SUMMARY**

The Department of Forestry provided the Board with an informational session as a portion of a revision process to the Forestry Program for Oregon (FPFO), the Board’s strategic plan. The day was intended to provide a range of contemporary information and feed into the further development process for the FPFO. While time was limited on April 6, there is intention and process outline to provide far greater levels of engagement and information across a variety of communities, agencies, and economic interests as the revision progresses.

This agenda item is intended to provide a brief summary of the major themes that were identified by agency staff from the day and also the submissions from the Board members following the information session.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Review the attachment and consider the input that was received on April 6. Further consideration of this and additional information that is obtained will be needed to successfully integrate public feedback into the FPFO.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Additional elements of information gathering are in the planning stages and includes session related to climate-smart forestry (adaptation, mitigation, social dimension), governance in the forest space, among others. A sub-set of Board members will be participating in these and liaising with department staff throughout this process for future full meeting work and decisions. Anticipated final completion is fall of 2023 at this point.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- Summary of themes and items from April 6 Information Session

*Oregon's Forests Present and Future Informal Discussion April 6, 2022 – Themes and Perspectives*

The Forestry Program for Oregon (FPFO) revision process entails a broad and iterative approach of engagement, discussion, and development. The April 6<sup>th</sup> Board discussion provided a generative prelude to this process with the opportunity to engage constituents across forest interests on their respective visions, challenges, and interests relative to Oregon's forests. While the panels were not representative of all interests, there will be opportunities to bring in additional perspectives through future information sessions. Nevertheless, through the day and across speakers and panels, distinct and shared themes along with notable comments and questions both contemporary and forward looking emerged regarding Oregon's forests. Several prominent themes and shared perspectives are noted below.

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Shared Perspectives</i>
Whole Forest Consideration and Regional Focus	Critical to any outcome, Oregon's forest should be considered as a whole, cross boundary. Within this scope, recognition and reflection of regional ecologic, economic, and social differences, needs, and challenges is paramount.
Climate Change	Forest loss, transition, and accelerating condition degradation and uncertainty threaten Oregon's forests as a function of climate change. The severity and speed of these impacts are observed regionally and necessitate support and action on forest management, mitigation, adaptation, reforestation, and wildfire.
Landscape Management	Climate concerns and resource conditions necessitate active landscape management to achieve desired conditions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- No single solution, as each region holds unique needs.</li><li>- Processing and product diversity are a component of landscape planning.</li><li>- Infrastructure is necessary to support management options and already a limiting factor.</li><li>- Public and private partnerships are necessary support landscape management needs and options.</li></ul>
Workforce / Infrastructure	Workforce and infrastructure are limiting factors to full realization of solution opportunities. Workforce is interconnected across all forestry interests, management, mitigation, and production. Limitations in workforce and infrastructure inherently narrow solution opportunities. Beyond issue response and solution need these are also interconnected with the necessity for community and constituent engagement and inclusion.

<i>Theme</i>	<i>Shared Perspectives</i>
Board Intention	<p>The Board is inherently a political entity that holds a responsibility to advance positions in the natural resource realm. The nature of position and scope of advancement is dependent on the intention and will of the board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Governor Kitzhaber addressed this in his remarks, “We need the courage and the capacity to look beyond the way the world is—because frankly, the way the world is ... is the problem. It’s simply not working.”</li> </ul>
ODF Convener/Leader/Hub	<p>ODF can be the leader/convener in addressing resource needs across boundaries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ODF currently serves as the hub to support and address resource needs, mitigation, and management in regions of duress across ownerships.</li> <li>- Depends on trust and inclusivity. Environmental justice aspects need to be incorporated in all the decisions. Integration of all communities is vital.</li> <li>- Necessitates trust, inclusivity, funding, capacity, and clear mandate.</li> </ul>
Polarization	<p>Increasing polarization and social division challenges holistic and substantive solution development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lost faith in institutions to address/solve big problems.</li> <li>- In this issue which connects economic, social, and ecologic needs, the Board / Agency can provide leadership and advocacy through transparency and inclusivity.</li> </ul>
Uncertainty and Change	<p>Uncertainty underscores all forest considerations; climate change, global events, market shifts, technology advancements, and social dynamics amongst others create increasing uncertainty in respect to resource threats, demands, challenges, expectations, and solution opportunities. Acknowledgment and consideration of uncertainty across the resource is critical.</p>

The items noted are limited and do not represent the breadth of the discussion from April 6, 2022, which included many points of value germane to the FPFO revision and will be fully incorporated through the revision process.

**State Forester, Board Member, and Public Comments**

## STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No.:	2
Work Plan:	Fire Protection
Topic:	Ongoing Topic; Fire Season Readiness and Forecast
Presentation Title:	2022 Fire Season Outlook and Readiness Report
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	Mike Shaw, Chief, Fire Protection Division (503) 945-7204, <a href="mailto:michael.h.shaw@odf.oregon.gov">michael.h.shaw@odf.oregon.gov</a>

### SUMMARY

Oregon revised statutes define the Department's Fire Protection policy, which requires a complete and coordinated system. This system relies on the partnership between the Department and forest landowners with a commitment to ongoing communication and collaboration with many other state and federal agencies. Fire management leaders from the Department will provide a briefing on some of the ongoing coordination and an up-to-date fire season status report during this agenda item. A weather forecast and fire season outlook will also be included in this agenda item.

## STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No.:	3
Work Plan:	Fire Protection
Topic:	Annual Topic: Approval of Forest Protection Association District Budgets and Rates
Presentation Title:	Approval of the Forest Protection Association District 2022 Fiscal Budgets and Rates
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	Mike Shaw, Chief, Fire Protection (503) 945-7204, <a href="mailto:michael.h.shaw@odf.oregon.gov">michael.h.shaw@odf.oregon.gov</a> Ron Graham, Deputy Chief - Operations, Fire Protection (503) 945-7271, <a href="mailto:ron.graham@oregon.gov">ron.graham@oregon.gov</a>

### SUMMARY

ORS 477.265 requires the Board of Forestry to annually review the forest protection district budgets and pass final approval on all district budgets including the prorated acreage assessment rates.

### CONTEXT

Oregon's wildfire protection system has historically provided an effective and efficient method of addressing the state's fire protection responsibilities – both in initial attack and large fire management needs. The system uses a “complete and coordinated” methodology and is funded through a complex mix of landowner and state general fund dollars. The system provides policy, prevention, and suppression activities at the national, statewide, and district levels. The delivery of these services is reviewed annually and predominately funded through the development of fiscal protection budgets in which the costs are proportioned on a legislative determined statutory ratio of landowner and general fund dollars.

#### Development Process:

Consistent with statutory direction<sup>1</sup>, each year in January, the state office and districts begin developing a fire protection budget to fund activities for the upcoming fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>). During the development process, district budget committees analyze and review the draft budget prior to making recommendations to the District Forester. The budget committee then carries the final recommended budget to the Board of Directors of the Forest Protective Association for consideration at the annual spring association meeting. Additionally, each district holds a public budget meeting for any landowners affected by the budget to provide an opportunity for any additional public comments on the budget.

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<sup>1</sup> ORS 477.235 Forester to prepare tentative budget estimates for districts  
ORS 477.240 Advisory and guidance committees  
ORS 477.255 Holding of budget meeting; revision and submission for final approval  
ORS 477.265 Board to deal with budgets annually

The last step in the district fiscal protection budget process is submittal to the State Forester and then official approval by the Board of Forestry in June. Attachment 1 provides a summary of the fiscal year 2023 recommended budgets.

### **BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS**

Throughout the development of the fiscal year 2023 budgets and spring association meetings, landowners have expressed appreciation for the level of protection and service they receive from the Associations and the Department. Association meetings have been very collaborative and productive with excellent dialog focusing on important fire protection related topics and all Associations recommended approval of their fiscal year 2023 fire protection budget.

Fiscal Budget development begins with Headquarters developing a budget and drafting instructions for the districts. This process starts in early January to allow adequate time for completion and submittal to the Board of Forestry by June.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Department recommends the Board approve all Fiscal Year 2023 district and association protection budgets as presented in Attachment 1.

### **ATTACHMENT**

- (1) 2023 Protection Budget Summary, by District, and Area

## 2023 PROTECTION BUDGET SUMMARY, by DISTRICT and AREA

		FY22 Acres	FY22 Total Budget	FY23 Total Budget	% Change	FY22 Rate	FY23 Rate	% Change	Private Lands Rate	Rate w/ WPA Adj	OFLPF Ass'mt
<b>Northwest Oregon Districts</b>											
Northwest	Timber	1,760,808	\$ 5,127,403	\$ 5,194,182	1.3%	\$ 2.2876	\$ 2.9703	29.8%	\$ 1.4852		\$ 0.050
West Oregon	Timber	1,083,879	\$ 3,225,538	\$ 3,144,693	-2.5%	\$ 2.4593	\$ 2.5021	1.7%	\$ 1.2511		\$ 0.050
North Cascade	Timber	651,725	\$ 2,445,601	\$ 2,591,190	6.0%	\$ 3.3232	\$ 3.0371	-8.6%	\$ 1.5186		\$ 0.050
<b>Area Totals</b>		<b>3,496,412</b>	<b>\$ 10,798,542</b>	<b>\$ 10,930,065</b>	<b>1.2%</b>						

<b>Southwest Oregon Districts</b>											
Southwest	Timber	1,685,816	\$ 8,149,279	\$ 8,836,741	8.4%	\$ 5.3744	\$ 5.8856	9.5%	\$ 2.9428		\$ 0.050
	Grazing	194,951	\$ 698,654	\$ 571,577	-18.2%	\$ 2.1334	\$ 0.9505	-55.4%	\$ 0.4753		\$ 0.075
Coos FPA	Timber	1,501,136	\$ 5,841,923	\$ 6,279,640	7.5%	\$ 3.4739	\$ 3.6087	3.9%	\$ 1.8044		\$ 0.050
	Grazing	60,874	\$ 178,299	\$ 186,922	4.8%	\$ 2.5523	\$ 2.6540	4.0%	\$ 1.3270		\$ 0.075
Douglas FPA	Timber	1,403,769	\$ 6,438,998	\$ 6,086,390	-5.5%	\$ 4.2226	\$ 4.8629	15.2%	\$ 2.4315		\$ 0.050
	Grazing	270,389	\$ 674,144	\$ 671,024	-0.5%	\$ 1.9678	\$ 1.3760	-30.1%	\$ 0.6880		\$ 0.075
South Cascade	Timber	1,133,982	\$ 4,012,963	\$ 4,070,645	1.4%	\$ 3.4592	\$ 3.0402	-12.1%	\$ 1.5201		\$ 0.050
Western Lane	Timber	786,058	\$ 2,812,192	\$ 2,812,192	0.0%	\$ 2.8086	\$ 3.0780	9.6%	\$ 1.5390		\$ 0.050
<b>Area Totals</b>		<b>7,036,975</b>	<b>\$ 28,806,452</b>	<b>\$ 29,515,131</b>	<b>2.5%</b>						

<b>Eastern Oregon Districts</b>											
Central Oregon	Timber	1,016,031	\$ 5,340,266	\$ 6,100,148	14.2%	\$ 4.6624	\$ 4.8697	4.4%	\$ 2.4349	\$ 2.2122	\$ 0.075
	Grazing	1,046,425	\$ 1,788,789	\$ 2,099,405	17.4%	\$ 1.7578	\$ 1.9176	9.1%	\$ 0.9588	\$ 0.7361	\$ 0.075
	Zone 1	237,487	\$ 69,757	\$ 69,821	0.1%	\$ 0.3000	\$ 0.3000	0.0%			
Northeast Oregon	Timber	848,552	\$ 4,026,333	\$ 4,358,899	8.3%	\$ 3.5801	\$ 3.8919	8.7%	\$ 1.9460	\$ 1.7233	\$ 0.075
	Grazing	1,092,015	\$ 1,594,560	\$ 1,724,618	8.2%	\$ 1.2128	\$ 1.3582	12.0%	\$ 0.6791	\$ 0.4564	\$ 0.075
Klamath-Lake	Timber	1,015,275	\$ 4,902,175	\$ 4,565,372	-6.9%	\$ 3.6097	\$ 4.0077	11.0%	\$ 2.0039	\$ 1.7812	\$ 0.075
	Grazing	488,490	\$ 937,623	\$ 873,490	-6.8%	\$ 1.4317	\$ 1.2600	-12.0%	\$ 0.6300	\$ 0.4073	\$ 0.075
Walker Range	Timber	183,525	\$ 793,077	\$ 934,208	17.8%	\$ 3.8565	\$ 4.4340	15.0%	\$ 2.2170	\$ 1.9943	\$ 0.075
	Grazing	2,545	\$ 3,127	\$ 2,492	-20.3%	\$ 1.1784	\$ 0.4858	-58.8%	\$ 0.2429	\$ 0.0202	\$ 0.075
<b>Area Totals</b>		<b>5,930,346</b>	<b>\$ 19,455,707</b>	<b>\$ 20,728,453</b>	<b>6.5%</b>						

<b>Statewide</b>											
	Timber	13,070,557	\$ 53,115,748	\$ 54,974,300	3.5%	\$ 3.6243	\$ 3.9086	7.8%	\$ 1.9543		
	Grazing	3,155,689	\$ 5,875,196	\$ 6,129,528	4.3%	\$ 1.5718	\$ 1.5291	-2.7%	\$ 0.7646		
	Zone 1	237,487	\$ 69,757	\$ 69,821	0.1%	\$ 0.3000	\$ 0.3000	0.0%	\$ -		
<b>Statewide Total</b>		<b>16,463,733</b>	<b>\$ 59,060,701</b>	<b>\$ 61,173,649</b>	<b>3.6%</b>						

**NOTES:**

\* Lands not owned by public bodies may not be assessed in excess of 50% of the pro rata cost per acre, per ORS 477.230.

\*\* Wildfire Protection Act (WPA), passed in 2013, in accordance with 477.777, includes Eastside Rate Relief.

Agenda Item No.:	4
Work Plan:	Fire Protection
Topic:	Evolving Topic: Governor’s Council on Wildfire Response
Presentation Title:	Senate Bill 762: Wildland-Urban Interface and Wildfire Risk Mapping Administrative Rules
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	Mike Shaw, Chief – Fire Protection 503-945-7204, <a href="mailto:Michael.H.Shaw@odf.oregon.gov">Michael.H.Shaw@odf.oregon.gov</a> Tim Holschbach, Deputy Chief – Policy & Planning 503-945-7434, <a href="mailto:Tim.J.Holschbach@odf.Oregon.gov">Tim.J.Holschbach@odf.Oregon.gov</a>

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agenda item is to seek Board of Forestry (BOF) adoption of the proposed administrative rules regarding the creation of a wildfire risk map and criteria identifying the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI).

**BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

Following the 2013-2015 fire seasons, two parallel review processes were initiated, the Secretary of State Audit and the Fire Program Review. Both efforts are aligned to help continue a highly functioning wildfire protection system for Oregon into the future. The Oregon Department of Forestry (Department) has fully embraced the findings and recommendations from both final reports. The 2017-2018 fire seasons experience reinforced the need for the agency to continue efforts on these recommendations. Additionally, the Governor issued Executive Order 19-01 creating the Governor’s Council on Wildfire Response.

The Secretary of State Performance Audit offered a third-party review of the Department’s ability to sustain its multiple missions, as increased demand to support the fire protection effort has been required from the entire agency.

The Fire Protection Review Committee was coordinated with all agency partners through a transparent process including legislators, governor’s office, forest landowners, and cooperators to reach for continuous improvement in Oregon’s complete and coordinated fire protection system.

The Governor’s Council on Wildfire Response offered 37 recommendations to improve Oregon’s wildfire protection system. Many of the recommendations required legislative action to be carried out.

Senate Bill (SB) 762 captured many of the recommendations of the Governor’s Council on Wildfire Response, providing legislative direction to the Board regarding the wildland-urban interface; statewide fire risk mapping; prescribed fire; directed the Department to review and clarify the enforcement of rules pertaining to forestland; and baseline standards for unprotected and under-protected lands in Oregon.

On March 9, 2022 the Department presented draft administrative rules to the Board. The BOF directed ODF to proceed with the public hearing process.

## **ANALYSIS**

Consistent with Oregon administrative rule making processes, ODF held public hearings virtually on April 19 at 9am, April 20 at 2pm, and April 21 at 7pm, as well as accepted written comment through May 2, 2022. Due to public interest, the written comment period was further extended to May 9 at noon. Attachment 1 provides the presiding officer's report on the rulemaking hearings and a summary of comments received. Attachment 2 contains the written comment record.

The following the public comment process, the Department recommends (Attachment 3) edits to the draft rules presented to the Board March 9, summarized as follows:

- To improve readability and clarity, additional definitions were added in OAR 629-044-1005.
- Additionally, OAR 629-044-1011 was modified for readability, with sections of text moved to OAR 629-044-1005.
- The relationship between wildfire hazard values and net value change was clarified in OAR 629-044-1021.
- Context was added to OAR 629-044-1031 regarding the source of address data for the issuance of written notices.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Board approves adoption of OAR 629-044 and OAR 629-045-1025 with the proposed attached changes.

## **NEXT STEPS**

June 15, 2022 – Submit rule to Secretary of State and Legislative Counsel for filing. Effective date June 30, 2022.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW**

ORS 183.405 of the Administrative Procedures Act requires effectiveness review and need analysis to be completed after adoption of an administrative rule. This is an ongoing requirement at five-year intervals.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Presiding Officer's Public Hearing Report to Board and summary of comments
2. Written Comment received
3. ODF proposed final rule language for Chapter 629, Division 44 and OAR 629-045-1025.
4. ODF proposed final rule language for Chapter 629, Division 44 and OAR 629-045-1025 strike-though.

**HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**Proposed Administrative Rules for WUI Identification and Wildfire Risk Mapping**

**Date:** May 13, 2022  
**To:** Oregon Department of Forestry  
**From:** Tom Fields  
**Subject:** Hearing Officer's Report

Hearing Dates: April 19-21, 2022  
Hearing Location: Virtual through Zoom

Public hearings called to present proposed Oregon Administrative Rules for identifying the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) and defining wildfire risk, were convened on April 19th, 20th and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 via Zoom.

People attending the hearing were asked to indicate if they wanted to present oral comments to the Department. They were informed of the procedures for making oral comments and that written comments would also be received no later than 5:00 p.m. May 2nd, 2022.

Before receiving oral comments, I briefly summarized the purpose for the hearing, described the role and limitations of the Hearing Officer, and outlined requirements of the Department. During an information session prior to the public hearing, Oregon Department of Forestry's Deputy Chief of Fire Protection Tim Holschbach provided an overview of the proposed rules developed by a rules advisory committee comprised of various land management, fire protection and other public stakeholders.

**Summary of Oral Comments**

**April 19, 2022 – 43 attendees**

Tom Horman, from Lake Oswego, commented that he would like the regulation of defensible space to be expanded to include all risk ratings on the WUI map.

Jo Barker, City Counselor for the City of Drain, commented that she had concerns about small cities surrounded by Federal lands and their evacuation in a wildfire in the high to extreme risk areas.

Katherine Ellis, from Blackbutte Ranch, commented about her concern about how data was collected to identify risk and if density of the vegetation was taken into account considering the fuels mitigation work they have done there.

Craig Letz, commented about increased regulation of defensible space for low and moderate fire risk.

Stephen Fitzgerald commented about the need for home hardening due to embers.

**April 20, 2022 – 51 attendees**

Jo Barker, City of Drain. Is asking that the written comment period be extended to allow more people to review the proposed rules online.

Dean Richardson, Upper Deschutes River communities. We have our own CWPP (first in the state of Oregon). Comment is regarding the WUI, which I believe has already been established. About 70% of our CWPP is public lands and we have already determined and created defensible space around our communities. Not clear if the WUI has already been changed as to what we already designated.

Joyce McClure, Beaver Creek, Oregon. Please extend the comment period until clean text of the rule is available online.

Carolyn Mayers. Concern about future planning in Willamette Valley, especially in low and moderate fire risk areas and that not providing local authorities the tools to deal with future wildfire risk and climate change.

Phillip Callaway. Requests that individual reports be available through Oregon Explorer on WUI risk.

Wanda Crook, Eagle Point. Requesting more informational meetings be made available. And forms that were placed on the web did not allow her to join the meetings...link did not work. Feeling like this meeting was not properly advertised to let people in.

Marilynn Stinnet. Also surprised that the meeting was not more publicized. Discovered through OPB.

Joyce McClure. Yes. Meeting was poorly publicized.

Jo Barker. Would like to clarify to request an extension of this hearing for an additional 60 days from May 2.

#### **April 21, 2022 – 23 attendees**

Jo Barker, City of Drain. Asking if there is any information from insurance actuaries on what types of insurance adjustments may occur which is an economic impact to low income and fixed income property owners. Would also like to extend the comment period. Please make R327 from fire code available.

Garreth Olds, Eugene. It would be valuable for intermix properties to know their percentage of fuels, that when after fuel mitigation, would reduce their risk classification.

Michael Eng, Lostine. Community being assessed through Firewise. People may not understand their property risk. The pixel resolution when assessing risk is not adequate. Need on the ground truthing. If not accurate, it will deter people from participating. It will be interesting to see what OSFM will come up with for defensible space standards. This will also require more capacity at the county level to do assessments. Action plans should correlate with risk reductions.

There is no Firewise format that would result in reductions to risk. 1025 incorporates frequency of wildfires in decision making. Can't control lightning caused. These rules do not take into account fire prevention actions pertaining to human behavior.

Sheila Dooley, Mosier. Does SB 762 limit structures in development?

Charise Sydorable. Concerned that the definition of the WUI will not adequately include the urban environment.

Bob Holmstrom, Forest Park in Portland. If hazard class is defined by 100 foot pixel will not determine whether defensible space is needed. Tough to mitigate because you can't get a permit or it's too expensive to get a permit.

#### **Summary of Written Comments (Attached)**

Tom Fields  
Hearing Officer

## Comment Analysis

### Re: Proposed Administrative Rules for WUI Identification and Wildfire Risk Mapping

117 people attended the three public hearing, with 20 oral comments received. Additionally, 84 people provided comment on the proposed Administrative Rules for WUI identification and wildfire risk mapping through the formal rule hearing process.

In the text below, the hearing officer has provided summary of the comments received in regards to the rules presented before the Board of Forestry.

**General** - Of the 104 comments received, 24 were generally in support of the rules, while 42 were generally opposed to the rules. Those in opposition to the proposed administrative rules generally referenced 629-044-1005 and OAR 629-044-1011 as overly broad.

**Other Agency Actions** – 26 comments were received regarding actions being undertaken by other agencies.

**Fiscal Impact** – Seven comments were submitted referencing the fiscal impact of the proposed rules, including needed funding, focus of available financial resources, and insurance costs.

**Written Comments under separate PDF**

## **DIVISION 44**

### **Wildland-Urban Interface and Statewide Wildfire Risk Mapping**

#### **629-044-1000**

##### **Purpose**

- (1) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1000 to 629-044-1040 is to implement the provisions of ORS 477.027 and ORS 477.490.
- (2) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1010 to 629-044-1015 is to establish criteria by which the wildland-urban interface shall be identified and classified pursuant to ORS 477.027
- (3) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1020 to 629-044-1025 is to set forth the criteria by which a statewide wildfire risk map must be developed and maintained pursuant to ORS 477.027.
- (4) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1030 is to set forth the process for notification to property owners pursuant to ORS 477.027.
- (5) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1035 is to set forth the process of integrating public input into the statewide wildfire risk map pursuant to ORS 477.027.
- (6) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1040 is to set forth the process of how a property owner or local government may appeal the assignment of wildfire risk pursuant to ORS 477.027.

#### **629-044-1005**

##### **Definitions**

- (1) The definitions set forth in ORS 477.001, shall apply.
- (2) The following words and phrases, when used in OAR 629-044-1000 to 629-044-1040, shall mean the following:
  - (a) "Geographical area" means an area of land with similar characteristics that can be considered as a "unit" for the purposes of classification of the wildland-urban interface.
  - (b) "Hazard rating" is a numerical value describing the likelihood and intensity of a fire, based on specific factors or conditions including weather, climate, topography, and vegetation.
  - (c) "Intermingles with wildland or vegetative fuels" means a minimum of 50% coverage of wildland or vegetative fuels.
  - (d) "Meets with wildland or vegetative fuels" means located within a 1.5-mile buffer from the edge of an area greater than 1 square mile with a minimum of 75% cover of wildland or vegetative fuels.
  - (e) "Occluded geographical area" means an area with a minimum of one structure or other human development per 40-acres within 1.5 miles of an area greater than 1 square mile but less than 2 square miles with a minimum of 75% cover of wildland or vegetative fuels
  - (f) "Other human development" means essential facilities, special occupancy structures, or hazardous facilities as defined in ORS 455.447 that support community functions, public communication, energy, or transportation.
  - (g) "Structure" means any building that is at least 400 square feet.
  - (h) "Unincorporated community" has the meaning provided in OAR Chapter 660, Division 22.

- (i) "Urban growth boundary" has the meaning provided in OAR Chapter 660, Division 15.
- (j) "Vegetative fuels" means plants that constitute a wildfire hazard.
- (k) "Wildland fuels" means natural vegetation that occurs in an area where development is essentially non-existent, including grasslands, brushlands, rangelands, woodlands, timberlands, or wilderness. Wildland fuels are a type of vegetative fuels.
- (l) "Wildfire Risk" means the wildfire impacts to values based on scientifically modeled wildfire frequency and wildfire intensity.
- (m) "Wildland-Urban Interface" means a geographical area where structures and other human development meets or intermingles with wildland or vegetative fuels.

#### **629-044-1011**

##### **Wildland-Urban Interface Identification Criteria**

- (1) The Wildland-Urban Interface is a geographic area comprised of tax lots, or portions of tax lots that includes:
  - (a) an average density of one structure or other human development per 40 acres and either:
    - (A) meets with wildland or vegetative fuels; or
    - (B) intermingles with wildland or vegetative fuels; or
    - (C) is an occluded geographical area.
- (2) The Wildland-Urban Interface also includes:
  - (a) lands identified within an urban growth boundary or unincorporated community boundary by local comprehensive plans that meet the criteria in (1)(a); or
  - (b) a planned development, within the urban growth boundary or unincorporated communities, that is not identified in 1(a) but that is approved for development that meets the criteria in 1(a).
- (3) If multiple structures or other human developments are located on a single tax lot, then the totality will be considered a single structure or other human development.
- (4) Each tax lot in the State of Oregon shall be assigned a wildfire risk classification in accordance with 629-044-1020.

#### **629-044-1016**

##### **Periodic Wildland-Urban Interface Lands Identification and Classification**

Tax lots identified as Wildland-Urban Interface shall be reviewed in conjunction with updates to the statewide wildfire risk map in accordance with OAR 629-044-1025.

#### **629-044-1021**

##### **Wildfire Risk Classification and Wildfire Hazard Rating**

- 1. Wildfire risk classifications are established by a range of wildfire hazard factors that determine a net value change that illustrate likely wildfire consequences. Each net value change range is identified as a wildfire risk class as follows:
  - a. No Wildfire Risk. A net value change of zero or greater. Typically characterized as non-burnable areas.

- b. Low Wildfire Risk. A net value change from greater than 0.00 to -0.0013. Typically characterized as having the capacity to generate a wildfire which produces a flame length of less than 4 feet, a wildfire that exhibits little to no spotting, torching, or crowning
  - c. Moderate Wildfire Risk. A net value change of less than -0.0013 to -0.0044. Typically characterized as having the capacity to generate a wildfire which produces a flame length of 4 to 6 feet, and that occasionally exhibits spotting, torching, or crowning.
  - d. High Wildfire Risk. A net value change of less than -0.0044 to -0.0087. Typically characterized as having the capacity to generate a wildfire which produces a flame length of 6 to 8 feet, and frequently exhibits spotting, torching, or crowning.
  - e. Extreme Wildfire Risk. A net value change greater than -0.0087. Typically characterized as having the capacity to generate a wildfire which produces a flame length of over 8 feet, and exhibits frequent spotting, torching, or crowning.
2. It is recognized that natural vegetation is highly variable and that the fuel models used in subsection (1) of this rule may not always accurately reflect expected wildfire behavior, due to variations in local species and vegetation conditions. Therefore, consistent with peer reviewed methods, modifications may be made to the hazard rating, net value change, and risk classification as necessary to ensure accuracy.
  3. Each wildfire risk class assignment shall be based on the average wildfire hazard rating of each tax lot.
  4. Each wildfire risk class shall consist of a net value change range. The net value change ranges that correlate to a given wildfire risk class shall be determined using a statistically objective methodology.

#### **629-045-1025**

##### **Statewide Wildfire Risk Map**

1. Oregon State University shall develop and maintain the Statewide Wildfire Risk Map in a publicly accessible format. The map shall be developed:
  - a. Using current, peer reviewed data sets when calculating wildfire risk;
  - b. calculating wildfire risk as a combined hazard rating value incorporating how often wildfires occur and wildfire burn intensity;
  - c. utilize fuel loading measured at the time of year when large wildfires generally occur; and
  - d. shall include a layer that geospatially displays the locations of socially and economically vulnerable communities.
2. The map and other publicly available web-based tools shall be updated in consultation with Oregon State University, within 12 months after updates to the most current wildfire risk assessment are available.

#### **629-044-1031**

##### **Notification**

1. The State Forester shall provide written notice of properties classified as high or extreme wildfire risk.
2. The written notice shall be sent to the property owner address included in the county assessor records.
3. The written notice shall include:

- a. the wildfire risk class assignment;
  - b. where a map of the property can be found in the publicly accessible mapping portal, including the average wildfire hazard value of the property;
  - c. resources available to address wildfire risk;
  - d. information regarding what the wildfire risk assignment means for the property owner; and
  - e. information about how a property owner may appeal the assignment of wildfire risk class, including the specific elements that may be appealed.
4. Prior to the effective date of updates to the Statewide Wildfire Risk Map, the Department shall hold regional public meetings.
  5. The Department shall provide a notice of the times and places of all statewide and regional meetings, and the other ways by which comments may be submitted, using a variety of notice methods designed to reach diverse audiences, both statewide and within each region.
  6. The Department, in consultation with Oregon State University, shall present anticipated changes to the Wildland-Urban Interface boundary and Wildfire Risk Classification assignments at a county scale.
  7. The meeting shall allocate time to receive input from any interested persons relating to the proposed wildfire risk class assignments.
  8. The Department shall establish and publicize a place where electronic and written comment may be received.
  9. Following the public meeting the Department, in consultation with Oregon State University, may make changes in the proposed wildfire risk classification assignments, hold additional meetings, and thereafter shall make final wildfire risk class assignments.

#### **629-044-1036**

##### **Locally Developed Wildfire Plans**

1. The following types of locally developed wildfire plans may be integrated into the wildfire risk mapping portal if the local jurisdiction chooses.
  - a. Community Wildfire Protection Plans developed under the Healthy Forests Restoration Act;
  - b. Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans developed under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; or
  - c. Firewise USA Action Plans developed under the Firewise USA Program administered by the National Fire Protection Association.
2. Information in the types of locally developed wildfire plans identified in subsections (1)(a) thru (c) above, may complement, but does not supplant or supersede the Statewide Wildfire Risk Map.

#### **629-044-1041**

##### **Appeal of Wildfire Risk Assignment**

1. An affected property owner or local government may appeal the assignment of properties by submitting an appeal in writing within 60 days of:
  - a. The date that the wildfire risk map or update is posted on Oregon Explorer Map Viewer website; or
  - b. The date that a correctly addressed notice is deposited with the postal service for mailing to the affected property owner.
2. In the written appeal in section (1) of this rule, the property owner must specifically state:
  - a. the objections to the wildfire risk class assignment;

- b. the change in wildfire risk assignment sought; and
  - c. any pertinent facts that may justify a change in the wildfire risk class assignment, in accordance with ORS 477.490.
3. Upon receipt of a written appeal of wildfire risk assignment, the State Forester:
- a. shall review the appeal to determine whether the appellant has standing and whether the appeal addresses the issues in subsection (2)(c).
  - b. may contact the property owner or local government to clarify any pertinent facts identified in subsection (2)(c); and
  - c. Prepare a report describing the issue and reach a final decision of the matter by:
    - (A) reviewing whether the wildfire risk assignment and map were developed and maintained according to these rules and the most current wildfire assessment.
    - (B) reviewing for any error in the data that was used to determine the wildfire risk class assignment;
    - (C) reviewing any pertinent facts that may justify a change in the assignment; and
    - (D) providing the report to the appellant.
  - d. the Department shall provide information to the public describing changes to the map based on approved appeals. The information shall be posted on the Department's public website.
4. A final decision of the matter issued under section (3) of this rule shall be a final order, and subject to appeal as prescribed by ORS 183.484.

## DIVISION 44

### Wildland-Urban Interface and Statewide Wildfire Risk Mapping

#### 629-044-1000

##### Purpose

- (1) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1000 to 629-044-1040 is to implement the provisions of ORS 477.027 and ORS 477.490.
- (2) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1010 to 629-044-1015 is to establish criteria by which the wildland-urban interface shall be identified and classified pursuant to ORS 477.027
- (3) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1020 to 629-044-1025 is to set forth the criteria by which a statewide wildfire risk map must be developed and maintained pursuant to ORS 477.027.
- (4) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1030 is to set forth the process for notification to property owners pursuant to ORS 477.027.
- (5) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1035 is to set forth the process of integrating public input into the statewide wildfire risk map pursuant to ORS 477.027.
- (6) The purpose of OAR 629-044-1040 is to set forth the process of how a property owner or local government may appeal the assignment of wildfire risk pursuant to ORS 477.027.

#### 629-044-1005

##### Definitions

- (1) The definitions set forth in ORS 477.001, shall apply.
- (2) The following words and phrases, when used in OAR 629-044-1000 to 629-044-1040, shall mean the following:
  - (a) "Geographical area" means an area of land with similar characteristics that can be considered as a "unit" for the purposes of classification of the wildland-urban interface.
  - (b) "Hazard rating" is a numerical value describing the likelihood and intensity of a fire, based on specific factors or conditions including weather, climate, topography, and vegetation.
  - (c) "Intermingles with wildland or vegetative fuels" means a minimum of 50% coverage of wildland or vegetative fuels.
  - (d) "Meets with wildland or vegetative fuels" means located within a 1.5-mile buffer from the edge of an area greater than 1 square mile with a minimum of 75% cover of wildland or vegetative fuels.
  - (e) "Occluded geographical area" means an area with a minimum of one structure or other human development per 40-acres within 1.5 miles of an area greater than 1 square mile but less than 2 square miles with a minimum of 75% cover of wildland or vegetative fuels
  - (ef) "Other human development" means essential facilities, special occupancy structures, or hazardous facilities as defined in ORS 455.447 that support community functions, public communication, energy, or transportation.
  - (eg) "Structure" means any building that is at least 400 square feet.
  - (eh) "Unincorporated community" has the meaning provided in OAR Chapter 660, Division 22.
  - (fi) "Urban growth boundary" has the meaning provided in OAR Chapter 660, Division 15.

(g) “Vegetative fuels” means plants that constitute a wildfire hazard.

(h) “Wildland fuels” means natural vegetation that occurs in an area where development is essentially non-existent, including grasslands, brushlands, rangelands, woodlands, timberlands, or wilderness. Wildland fuels are a type of vegetative fuels.

(i) “Wildfire Risk” means the wildfire impacts to values based on scientifically modeled wildfire frequency and wildfire intensity.

(j) “Wildland-Urban Interface” means a geographical area where structures and other human development meets or intermingles with wildland or vegetative fuels.

#### 629-044-1011

##### Wildland-Urban Interface Identification Criteria

(1) ~~A tax lot will be included in the~~ Wildland-Urban Interface ~~boundary if it is a geographic area comprised of tax lots, or portions of tax lots that~~ includes ~~either:~~

(a) ~~an average density of minimum of~~ one structure or other human development per 40 acres and either:

(A) ~~a minimum of 50% coverage of~~ meets with wildland or vegetative fuels; or

(B) ~~a 1.5-mile buffer from the edge of an area greater than 1 square mile of wildland or vegetative fuels into a community with a minimum of 75% cover of~~ intermingles with wildland or vegetative fuels; or

(C) is an occluded geographical area.

(2) The Wildland-Urban Interface also includes:

~~(b)~~ lands identified within an urban growth boundary or unincorporated community boundary by local comprehensive plans that meet the criteria in (1)(a); or

~~(c)~~ a planned development, within the urban growth boundary or unincorporated communities, that is not identified in 1(a) but that is approved for development that meets the criteria in 1(a); ~~or~~

~~(d) is an occluded geographical area with a minimum of one structure or other human development per 40 acres within 1.5 miles of an area greater than 1 square mile but less than 2 square miles with a minimum of 75% cover of wildland or vegetative fuels.~~

~~(3)~~ If multiple structures or other human developments are located on a single tax lot, then the totality will be considered a single structure or other human development.

~~(4)~~ Each tax lot in the State of Oregon shall be assigned a wildfire risk classification in accordance with 629-044-1020.

#### 629-044-1016

##### Periodic Wildland-Urban Interface Lands Identification and Classification

Tax lots identified as Wildland-Urban Interface shall be reviewed in conjunction with updates to the statewide wildfire risk map in accordance with OAR 629-044-1025.

#### 629-044-1021

### **Wildfire Risk Classification and Wildfire Hazard Rating**

1. Wildfire risk classifications are ~~defined~~ established by a range of wildfire hazard ~~values~~ factors that determine a net value change that illustrate likely wildfire ~~behavior~~ consequences. Each ~~wildfire hazard value~~ net value change range is identified as a wildfire risk class as follows:
  - a. No Wildfire Risk. A net value change of zero or greater. Typically characterized as non-burnable areas.
  - b. Low Wildfire Risk. A net value change from greater than 0.00 to -0.0013. Typically characterized as having the capacity to generate a wildfire which produces a flame length of less than 4 feet, a wildfire that exhibits little to no spotting, torching, or crowning
  - c. Moderate Wildfire Risk. A net value change of less than -0.0013 to -0.0044. Typically characterized as having the capacity to generate a wildfire which produces a flame length of 4 to 6 feet, and that occasionally exhibits spotting, torching, or crowning.
  - d. High Wildfire Risk. A net value change of less than -0.0044 to -0.0087. Typically characterized as having the capacity to generate a wildfire which produces a flame length of 6 to 8 feet, and frequently exhibits spotting, torching, or crowning.
  - e. Extreme Wildfire Risk. A net value change greater than -0.0087. Typically characterized as having the capacity to generate a wildfire which produces a flame length of over 8 feet, and exhibits frequent spotting, torching, or crowning.
2. It is recognized that natural vegetation is highly variable and that the fuel models used in subsection (1) of this rule may not always accurately reflect expected wildfire behavior, due to variations in local species and vegetation conditions. Therefore, consistent with peer reviewed methods, modifications may be made to the hazard rating, net value change, and risk classification as necessary to ensure accuracy.
3. Each wildfire risk class assignment shall be based on the average wildfire hazard rating of each tax lot.
4. Each wildfire risk class shall consist of a net value change range. The net value change ranges that correlate to a given wildfire risk class shall be determined using a statistically objective methodology.

### **629-045-1025**

#### **Statewide Wildfire Risk Map**

1. Oregon State University shall develop and maintain the Statewide Wildfire Risk Map in a publicly accessible format. The map shall be developed:
  - a. Using current, peer reviewed data sets when calculating wildfire risk;
  - b. calculating wildfire risk as a combined hazard rating value incorporating how often wildfires occur and wildfire burn intensity;
  - c. utilize fuel loading measured at the time of year when large wildfires generally occur; and
  - d. shall include a layer that geospatially displays the locations of socially and economically vulnerable communities.
2. The map and other publicly available web-based tools shall be updated in consultation with Oregon State University, within 12 months after updates to the most current wildfire risk assessment are available.

### **629-044-1031**

#### **Notification**

1. The State Forester shall provide written notice ~~to property owners whose of property properties is~~ classified as high or extreme wildfire risk.
2. ~~The written notice shall be sent to the property owner address included in the county assessor records.~~
- 1.3. The written notice shall include:
  - a. the wildfire risk class assignment;
  - b. where a map of the property can be found in the publicly accessible mapping portal, including the average wildfire hazard value of the property;
  - c. resources available to address wildfire risk;
  - d. information regarding what the wildfire risk assignment means for the property owner; and
  - e. information about how a property owner may appeal the assignment of wildfire risk class, including the specific elements that may be appealed.
- 2.4. Prior to the effective date of updates to the Statewide Wildfire Risk Map, the Department shall hold regional public meetings.
- 3.5. The Department shall provide a notice of the times and places of all statewide and regional meetings, and the other ways by which comments may be submitted, using a variety of notice methods designed to reach diverse audiences, both statewide and within each region.
- 4.6. The Department, in consultation with Oregon State University, shall present anticipated changes to the Wildland-Urban Interface boundary and Wildfire Risk Classification assignments at a county scale.
- 5.7. The meeting shall allocate time to receive input from any interested persons relating to the proposed wildfire risk class assignments.
- 6.8. The Department shall establish and publicize a place where electronic and written comment may be received.
- 7.9. Following the public meeting the Department, in consultation with Oregon State University, may make changes in the proposed wildfire risk classification assignments, hold additional meetings, and thereafter shall make final wildfire risk class assignments.

#### **629-044-1036**

##### **Locally Developed Wildfire Plans**

1. The following types of locally developed wildfire plans may be integrated into the wildfire risk mapping portal if the local jurisdiction chooses.
  - a. Community Wildfire Protection Plans developed under the Healthy Forests Restoration Act;
  - b. Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans developed under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; or
  - c. Firewise USA Action Plans developed under the Firewise USA Program administered by the National Fire Protection Association.
2. Information in the types of locally developed wildfire plans identified in subsections (1)(a) thru (c) above, may complement, but does not supplant or supersede the Statewide Wildfire Risk Map.

#### **629-044-1041**

##### **Appeal of Wildfire Risk Assignment**

1. An affected property owner or local government may appeal the assignment of properties by submitting an appeal in writing within 60 days of:
  - a. The date that the wildfire risk map or update is posted on Oregon Explorer Map Viewer website; or

- b. The date that a correctly addressed notice is deposited with the postal service for mailing to the affected property owner.
  2. In the written appeal in section (1) of this rule, the property owner must specifically state:
    - a. the objections to the wildfire risk class assignment;
    - b. the change in wildfire risk assignment sought; and
    - c. any pertinent facts that may justify a change in the wildfire risk class assignment, in accordance with ORS 477.490.
  3. Upon receipt of a written appeal of wildfire risk assignment, the State Forester:
    - a. shall review the appeal to determine whether the appellant has standing and whether the appeal addresses the issues in subsection (2)(c).
    - b. may contact the property owner or local government to clarify any pertinent facts identified in subsection (2)(c); and
    - c. Prepare a report describing the issue and reach a final decision of the matter by:
      - (A) reviewing whether the wildfire risk assignment and map were developed and maintained according to these rules and the most current wildfire assessment.
      - (B) reviewing for any error in the data that was used to determine the wildfire risk class assignment;
      - (C) reviewing any pertinent facts that may justify a change in the assignment; and
      - (D) providing the report to the appellant.
    - d. the Department shall provide information to the public describing changes to the map based on approved appeals. The information shall be posted on the Department's public website.
  4. A final decision of the matter issued under section (3) of this rule shall be a final order, and subject to appeal as prescribed by ORS 183.484.

Agenda Item No.:	5
Work Plan:	Administrative
Topic:	Agency Budget Development and Request
Presentation Title:	2023-2025 Biennial Budget Development - Policy Option Packages
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	Bill Herber, Deputy Director for Administration (503) 945-7203, <a href="mailto:bill.herber@oregon.gov">bill.herber@oregon.gov</a>

**SUMMARY**

Development of the next biennial budget continues at the agency level. Based on identification of focus areas and input by the Board and stakeholders, policy option packages are continuing to be refined.

**BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

As discussed at the April 27, 2022 Board meeting, Department staff have crafted a set of policy option packages for inclusion in the 2023-25 Agency Request Budget. Several of the policy packages are significant and key to accomplishment of the Board’s vision and agency goals and objectives.

Attachment 1 summarizes agency leadership vision about the investment strategies for the 2023-25 biennium. These policy package concepts have been refined to include policy package costs and FTE based upon Board and stakeholder review and input.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Department recommends the Board approve the policy option packages proposed for inclusion in the 2023 – 2025 Agency Request Budget that will be presented for Board consideration at the July 20, 2022 Board meeting.

**ATTACHMENT**

- (1) 2023-25 Biennial Budget Policy Option Package Summary by Program



**Oregon Department of Forestry  
2023-25 Policy Option Packages**

Package#	Program	Title	Enhancement Package Description	Agency Request Budget						
				General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total	Positions	FTE
100	Agency	Community Engagement & Climate Change	<p>The Community Engagement &amp; Climate Change POP includes added capacity and investments across three programs to enable more deliberate engagement with diverse communities statewide and to increase the department’s capability for planning and implementation around climate change and community resilience.</p> <p>The components of the package include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing Climate-Smart Forestry</li> <li>• Planning and Responding to Changing Climates and Forests</li> <li>• Electric Vehicle Infrastructure</li> </ul>	\$2,530,556	\$0	\$0	\$374,782	\$2,905,428	8	8.00
101	State Forests	Interpretive Education	<p>The Interpretive Education POP will provide strategic investments to enable the Oregon Department of Forestry’s Recreation, Education, and Interpretation Program to address the most significant barriers to access for under-represented communities on State Forests and better communicate why and how State Forest Lands are actively managed to provide the “Greatest Permanent Value” for Oregonians of both current and future generations.</p>	\$2,344,104	\$0	(\$1,193,222)	\$0	\$1,150,882	3	3.01
102	Agency Administration	Emergency Response & Life Safety	<p>The Emergency and Life Safety POP includes added capacity and investments in the department’s smoke detection camera systems and</p>	\$4,340,970	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,340,970	2	2.00



**Oregon Department of Forestry  
2023-25 Policy Option Packages**

Package#	Program	Title	Enhancement Package Description	Agency Request Budget						
				General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total	Positions	FTE
			radio communications repeater network. These investments will continue the ongoing investments in support of SB762 as well a continuation of the department’s progress of implementing its Automated Vehicle Location initiated during the 2021-23 biennium.							
103	Agency Administration	Document Management System Preparation	Provide for appropriate staff support for a future agency-wide implementation of a public records management system, as recommended by the 2021 MGO report. Currently the department’s information technology maturity model does not lend itself to the wholesale implementation of a document and records management technology solution, however, it can benefit from increasing its awareness and proposed strategy in addressing the challenges as outlined by the MGO recommendation. This proposal seeks to add permanent position to get a broad understanding of the primary bodies of records in the department’s custody, the retention periods for those records, and any potential storage or access challenges associated with those records. This pre-work would be necessary to build an effective procedure for the department that would promote consistent retention, archiving, and destruction of records across the department, ultimately allowing for the implementation of a holistic record management system.	\$267,626	\$0	\$500,000	\$0	\$767,626	1	1.00



**Oregon Department of Forestry  
2023-25 Policy Option Packages**

				Agency Request Budget						
Package#	Program	Title	Enhancement Package Description	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total	Positions	FTE
104	Planning Branch	Planning Branch Capacity	The purpose of the Planning Branch Capacity program enhancement package is to provide management support and additional subject matter expertise to the Planning Branch, which is a new program emerging from a department-wide reorganization implemented in the fall of 2021.	\$1,417,610	\$0	\$1,604,611	(\$98,311)	\$2,923,910	7	7.00
105	Forest Resources	Federal Partnerships Support	The purpose of the Federal Partnerships Support program enhancement package is to establish permanent federally funded position authority for existing limited duration positions that support partnerships with federal agencies.	\$557,500	\$0	\$330,000	\$2,640,108	\$3,527,608	13	13.00
106	Forest Resources	Private Forests Accord Development	After a series of mediated meetings over an 18-month period, representatives from the timber industry and conservation organizations reached an agreement to modify Oregon’s forest practice laws and regulations to draft a Habitat Conservation Plan. Collectively, these agreements are known as the Private Forest Accord (PFA). Since these agreements, SB1501 was introduced and amended in the 2022 Legislative Session. SB1501 directs ODF to adopt by rule a Small Forestland Owner Investment in Stream Habitat Program (SFISH) and an Adaptive Management Program. This POP provides the necessary funding to support these program elements, as well as additional investment in Services and Supplies (S&S) for positions associated with SB 1501.	\$17,314,273	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$17,314,273	0	0.00



**Oregon Department of Forestry  
2023-25 Policy Option Packages**

Package#	Program	Title	Enhancement Package Description	Agency Request Budget						
				General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total	Positions	FTE
107	Agency	SB 762 Continuing Investments	The department has been directed by SB 762 to implement a treatment program to reduce wildfire risk on public and private forestlands and rangelands. The legislation provided to ODF limited duration positions to support this work, even though the program is permanently funded. To maintain continuity for implementation, the department seeks to permanently fund some of these positions. The legislation also directs the department to issue notice to property owners in high and extreme wildfire risk areas. The department seeks one time funding to support this work.	\$3,918,711	\$0	(\$150,982)	\$0	\$3,767,729	2	2.00
108	Forest Resources	Federal Forests Restoration Infrastructure	The FFR Program conducted a capacity needs assessment to determine what was necessary to scale up its restoration work. This capacity needs assessment is the basis of this package, which is designed to build off the existing FFR Program structure.	\$217,652	\$0	6,632,711	\$1,685,219	\$8,535,582	23	17.99
109	Agency Administration	Facility Management Staff	Last biennium, the department's Facility Capital Management Program was given two Limited Duration positions to help facilitate various capital construction/improvement and deferred maintenance projects throughout the organization. This capacity has proven critical in furthering the department's efforts on addressing holistic infrastructure improvements across all districts as well as addressing the expected and unexpected capital construction	\$436,025	\$0	\$814,618	\$0	\$1,250,643	3	3.00



**Oregon Department of Forestry  
2023-25 Policy Option Packages**

Package#	Program	Title	Enhancement Package Description	Agency Request Budget						
				General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total	Positions	FTE
			projects. This proposal seeks to shift those existing limited duration positions to permanent.							
110	Fire Protection	Fire Season Severity Resources	Proposes General Fund dollars for supplemental firefighting resources for use during high fire danger periods. The funds will not reside in ODF's budget, but rather would appear as a Special Purpose Appropriation (SPA) in the Governor's budget. This item will be moved to the Emergency Board budget later in the process.	\$14,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,000,000	0	0.00
111	Fire Protection	Landowner Rate Offset Continuation	This request is for general fund for the purpose of offsetting potential increases in landowner forest patrol assessments under ORS 477.270 due to the implementation of the provisions of section 30a of SB 762 and 2021-2023 LAB POP 101 positions. This is a one-time ask to allow for continued stakeholder and legislative conversation on the full extent of the financial impacts of the SB762 investments.	\$14,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$14,000,000	0	0.00
112	Agency Administration	Deferred Maintenance	To ensure the Governors' Budget complies with the requirements of Senate Bill 1067 (2017), agencies that own state buildings and infrastructure must request policy packages, to bring their budget to a level of deferred maintenance and capital improvements on existing state-owned buildings and infrastructure that is equivalent to at least two percent of the current replacement value of the agency's state-owned buildings and infrastructure.	\$596,037	\$0	\$5,295,000	\$0	\$5,891,037	0	0.00



**Oregon Department of Forestry  
2023-25 Policy Option Packages**

Package#	Program	Title	Enhancement Package Description	Agency Request Budget						
				General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total	Positions	FTE
113	Capital Construction	Toledo Phase III	This policy option package looks to support the needed investments to further the Toledo facility relocation project goals. The release of additional bonding is required.	\$54,465	\$0	\$1,396,029	\$0	\$1,450,494	0	0.00
114	Capital Construction	Klamath Facility Replacement	This policy option package seeks Other Funds limitation to enable the utilization of insurance proceeds and other revenue sources to rebuild the Klamath facility lost to fire.	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$1,500,000	0	0.00
115	Capital Construction	Santiam Facility Replacement	This policy option package seeks Other Funds limitation to enable the utilization of insurance proceeds and other revenue sources to rebuild the Santiam facility lost during the 2020 fire season.	\$0	\$0	2,500,000	\$0	2,500,000	0	0.00
116	Capital Construction	State Forester's Office Renovation	<p>Designed by U.S. Forest Service architect Linn A. Forrest, the State Forester's Office Building (SFOB) was constructed in 1935 under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) to house the Department following the Capitol Building fire and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982. Since that time, the SFOB has housed department staff in various capacities and in the nearly 90 years of use has acquired a backlog of both deferred maintenance and other infrastructure improvements (including earthquake and flood mitigation) that aim to renew both the building and its systems. This POP would have the following key goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide a healthier and safer environment for the</li> </ul>	\$730,827	\$0	\$18,520,198	\$0	\$19,251,026	1	1.00



**Oregon Department of Forestry  
2023-25 Policy Option Packages**

Package#	Program	Title	Enhancement Package Description	Agency Request Budget						
				General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total	Positions	FTE
			building's occupants and users. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To renew outdated building infrastructure and systems;</li> <li>• To meet the modern business needs of the department.</li> <li>• To improve the energy efficiency of the building; and</li> <li>• To preserve a cultural and architectural landmark for generations to come.</li> </ul>							
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$62,726,356</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$37,748,963</b>	<b>\$4,601,888</b>	<b>\$105,077,207</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>58.00</b>

Agenda Item No.:	6
Work Plan:	
Topic:	Regional Forest Carbon Accounting
Presentation Title:	Pacific States and British Columbia Regional Forest Carbon Inventory
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	Andrew Yost, 503-945-7410, <a href="mailto:andrew.yost@odf.oregon.gov">andrew.yost@odf.oregon.gov</a> ; Glenn Christensen, 503-349-3280, <a href="mailto:glenn.christensen@usda.gov">glenn.christensen@usda.gov</a>

**CONTEXT AND SUMMARY**

The Forest Inventory and Analysis Program (FIA) conducts inventories and analyses of forest structure and composition in all forested areas of the United States. FIA analysts produced Carbon Inventories separately for Oregon, California, and Washington. Now, the FIA program, in partnership with British Columbia Ministry of Forests (BC), is producing a regional forest carbon inventory that integrates the most recent forest inventory data and carbon estimates from all three states and BC.

Glenn Christensen will present the results of the regional forest carbon inventory. Glenn is a Forest Inventory Analyst with FIA and was the main author of the Oregon Forest Carbon Inventory, 2001-2016.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

This is an information item only.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Oregon Forest Carbon Inventory, 2001-2016

# Click here for full report

## Oregon Forest Ecosystem Carbon Inventory: 2001-2016

Glenn A. Christensen<sup>1</sup>, Andrew N. Gray<sup>1</sup>, Olaf Kuegler<sup>1</sup>, & Andrew C. Yost<sup>2</sup>

Report completed through an agreement between the U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, and the Oregon Department of Forestry  
(PNW Agreement No. 18-C-CO-11261979-019)

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station

<sup>2</sup> Oregon Department of Forestry

October 29, 2019



## Acronyms

AB – Assembly Bill

BLM – Bureau of Land Management

C – carbon

CF – cubic feet

CH<sub>4</sub> - methane

CI – confidence interval

CO - carbon monoxide

CO<sub>2e</sub> – carbon dioxide equivalent

DBH – diameter at breast height

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

FF – Forest Land Remaining Forest (IPCC terminology)

FIA – Forest Inventory and Analysis

FIADB – FIA database

FMRL – Forest Management Reference Level

GHG – greenhouse gas

GRM – Growth, Removals and Mortality

HA – hectares

HWP – harvested wood product

ICE – Image-based Change Estimation

IPCC – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

LF – Forest Land Conversions (IPCC terminology)

mm – millimeter

MMT – million metric tons

MT – metric tons

NFS – National Forest System

NGHGI – National Greenhouse Gas Inventory

NMVOG – non-methane volatile organic compounds

N<sub>2</sub>O – nitrous oxide

NO<sub>x</sub> - nitrogen oxides

NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRI – Natural Resources Inventory

ODF – Oregon Department of Forestry

PNW – Pacific Northwest Research Station

RPA – Resources Planning Act

SOC – soil organic carbon

µm – micrometer i.e., one millionth of a meter

UNFCCC – United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

USDA – United States Department of Agriculture

USFS – United States Forest Service

USGS – United States Geological Survey

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**Appendix organization:**

**Appendix 1: Forest carbon stocks by forest by forest type and region**

<b>Forest carbon stock for forest land remaining forest (FF): by forest type and forest land status</b>
<b>Aboveground live tree pool including foliage:</b>
All of Oregon (Table D1) and ecoregion (Tables D2-D8), 2007-2016
<b>Aboveground dead tree pool:</b>
All of Oregon (Table D9) and ecoregions (Tables D10-D16), 2007-2016
<b>Aboveground live understory vegetation pool:</b>
All of Oregon (Table D17) and ecoregion (Tables D18-D24), 2007-2016
<b>Belowground live understory vegetation pool:</b>
All of Oregon (Table D25) and ecoregion (Tables D26-D32), 2007-2016
<b>Belowground live tree pool:</b>
All of Oregon (Table D33) and regions (Tables D34-D40), 2007-2016
<b>Belowground dead tree pool:</b>
All of Oregon (Table D41) and regions (Tables D42-D48), 2007-2016
<b>Soil organic carbon pool:</b>
All of Oregon (Table D49) and regions (Tables D50-D56), 2007-2016
<b>Aboveground down dead wood pool:</b>
All Oregon (Table D57) and regions (Tables D58-D64), 2007-2016
<b>Aboveground forest floor pool:</b>
All Oregon (Table D65) and regions (Tables D66-D72), 2007-2016

**Appendix 2: 2007-2017 Oregon FIA forest carbon inventory tables**

<b>Area</b>
<b>Sampled area:</b>
Sampled area by land status and Owner group for all of Oregon (Table A1) and by ecoregion (Tables A2-A8), 2007-2016
<b>Forest Area for Forest Land Remaining Forest (FF): by owner:</b>
Forest land area by land status and ownership group for all of Oregon (Table A9) and by ecoregion (Tables A10-A16), 2007-2016
<b>Forest Area for Forest Land Remaining Forest (FF): by forest type:</b>
Forest land area by forest type, forest land status and ownership group for all of Oregon (Table A17) and by ecoregion (Tables A18-A24), 2007-2016
<b>Net forest carbon flux for forest land remaining forest (FF)</b>
<b>Net carbon flux for all pools by owner:</b>
Annual net change in all forest pools by ownership group for all Oregon (Table B1) and for ecoregions (Tables B2-B8), 2007-2016
<b>Disturbance effects on net forest carbon flux, all forest land:</b>
Annual net change in aboveground carbon pools by disturbance, forest land status, and ownership group, 2001-2006 to 2011-2016 for all Oregon (Table B9.1) and per acre (Table B10); for live trees only on county (Table B9.2) and national forest lands (Table B9.3).
<b>Disturbance effects on net forest carbon flux, timberland:</b>
Annual net change on timberland for aboveground pools by disturbance and owner, 2001-2006 and 2011-2016 – total (Table B11) and per acre (Table B12)
<b>Forest carbon stock for forest land remaining forest (FF): by owner group and forest land status</b>
<b>Aboveground live tree pool including foliage:</b>
All of Oregon (Table C1) and by ecoregion (Tables C2-C8)
All of Oregon by 10-year averages (Tables C9.1)
<b>Aboveground dead tree pool</b>
All of Oregon (Table C10) and by ecoregion (Tables C11-C17)
All of Oregon by 10-year averages (Tables C18.1)
<b>Aboveground live understory vegetation pool:</b>
All of Oregon (Table C19) and by ecoregion (Tables C20-C26), 2007-2016
<b>Aboveground and belowground live understory vegetation pools, 10-year averages:</b>
All of Oregon by 10-year averages (Tables C27.1)
<b>Belowground live understory vegetation pool:</b>
All of Oregon (Table C28) and by ecoregion (Tables C29-C35), 2007-2016
<b>Belowground live tree pool:</b>
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All of Oregon by 10-year averages (Tables C79.1)
<b><i>Forest land conversions (LF)</i></b>
Annual change in forest land area to/from other IPCC landuse classes in Oregon, 2001-6 to 2011-16 (Table E1)
<b>Net forest carbon flux from forest land-use conversions:</b>
Annual change in carbon pools due to change in land use between forest and nonforest in Oregon, 2001-6 to 2011-16 (Table E2)
<b><i>Net flux from other GHG emissions:</i></b>
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## Chapter 1. Executive summary and key findings

The pursuit of carbon mitigation with forest management policy in Oregon has consistently resulted in the recognition that a reliable forest carbon accounting framework is fundamental to the policy development and monitoring process. This report, based on an extensive field plot monitoring system, supplies the quantitative dimension of that forest carbon accounting framework by providing estimates for the status and trends of carbon in Oregon's forest ecosystems and ownerships since 2001. The information in this report is based on measurements conducted on 9,483 forested plots in Oregon by the Forest Inventory and Analysis Program (FIA) within the USDA Forest Service. This report includes a brief introduction to the pursuit of forest carbon accounting in Oregon and an overview of the forest carbon cycle (Chapter 2) followed by a description of the methods used to inventory Oregon's forests and estimate forest carbon (Chapter 3). The results of the analysis are presented in Chapter 4 and are based on a subset of the abundant tabular data this analysis provides. Estimates of forest carbon across five forest ownerships and seven ecoregions are first reported in terms of flux, which is the difference between the amount of carbon that enters, and the amount that leaves, one of seven different pools of carbon. Estimates are then reported in terms of the amount of carbon stored in each pool. The results are compared with estimates from other reports and research in Chapter 5 and strategies for improving the inventory and analytical methods are discussed in Chapter 6. In this analysis results of carbon physically present in the forest are given in metric tons (MT) of carbon (C). Results of carbon flux, the amount and rate of gaseous carbon being emitted or sequestered by the forest, are given in metric tons (MT) of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e).

### Forest Carbon Flux

One of the most important features of this report is that as of the 2016 reporting period, Oregon's forests have been functioning as a net sink of carbon. According to the estimates made from remeasured FIA plots, Oregon's recent statewide rate of carbon flux from all forest pools across all ownerships and ecoregions is approximately  $30.9 \pm 7.4$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year (Table 4.1). This estimate excludes net CO<sub>2</sub>e contributions from other sources such as harvested wood products which will appear in a separate analysis for this reporting period. After accounting for forest land use conversions and non-CO<sub>2</sub> greenhouse gas emissions from wildfire, the 2016 statewide rate of carbon flux on all forest land is approximately  $31.8 \pm 7.2$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year (Table 4.2). The pools of live vegetation (trees, foliage, live roots, and understory vegetation) are accumulating carbon at a net rate of about  $37.9 \pm 5.8$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year (Table 4.3). However, the pools of dead vegetation (standing dead trees, dead roots, and down wood) have been losing CO<sub>2</sub>e to the atmosphere and other forest ecosystem pools at a rate of about  $7.3 \pm 2.1$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year.

National forests alone account for approximately  $19.1 \pm 2.0$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year of the total carbon flux (Table 4.3) mostly from growth of live trees. The contribution of those pools on other federal forests is about  $9.5 \pm 1.4$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. Tree mortality, especially from fire,

is highest on productive forests owned by the USDA Forest Service that are withdrawn from harvest at a rate of  $0.8 \pm 0.4$  metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e annually per acre. Net tree growth on forests owned by private individuals contributes about  $3.6 \pm 2.3$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. The variation in live tree growth and carbon flux in other pools on forests owned by local and state governments and corporations is too large in this reporting period to determine if the average annual rate of carbon sequestration is statistically different than zero. Nonetheless, on a per acre basis gross tree growth is highest for these two ownerships that contribute the most to the wood products pool (Table 4.4 and Table 4.5).

This report also provides estimates of forest flux from growth, harvest, and mortality of live trees for each ecoregion in Table 4.6. Two ecoregions account for about 58% of the annual net CO<sub>2</sub>e sequestration in live trees, the forests of the Western Cascades ( $9.4 \pm 3.0$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year) and the Oregon Coast Range ( $8.1 \pm 4.3$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year) (Table 4.6). Although there is a large amount of uncertainty the importance of Coast Range forests to annual carbon flux is reflected in the estimate for gross growth of trees at  $30.3 \pm 2.4$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>/year while the amount harvested from that growth each year is about  $17.5 \pm 3.8$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>. Growth of trees in the Western Cascades ecoregion is also high at about  $26.9 \pm 1.7$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>/year with much less transfer to harvest ( $8.0 \pm 2.5$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year) than the Coast Range but experiencing a higher rate of mortality ( $9.5 \pm 1.1$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year). The annual net change in live trees is less than 5 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e for the other ecoregions and less than 0.5 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year in forests of East Oregon outside of the Blue Mtns.

The carbon accumulation from growth of live trees has been approximately  $90.2 \pm 2.4$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year from all forests in Oregon (Table 4.7a). After accounting for the amount of carbon removed by harvest ( $-34.8 \pm 4.7$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year) and mortality from all causes ( $-25.3 \pm 1.7$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year) the net accumulation of carbon in live trees is approximately  $30.1 \pm 5.7$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e per year reflecting the state's high annual tree growth rate across all forest ownerships.

Estimates of carbon flux in live trees for each county from growth, harvest, and mortality can be found in Table 4.7b. Washington county is estimated to have a net loss of carbon ( $-2.3 \pm 2.1$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year) and Douglas County shows a high rate of live tree mortality ( $-3.5 \pm 0.8$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year) mostly due to fire and natural causes, but is partially compensated for with a high rate of annual tree growth ( $12.1 \pm 1.4$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year). The forests of Lane County lead the state in net carbon flux by sequestering approximately  $7.6 \pm 2.3$  MMT of CO<sub>2</sub>e/year.

For carbon flux on National Forests (Table 4.7c) the Deschutes National Forest is currently estimated to have a net loss of carbon based on all pools ( $-0.2 \pm 0.6$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year) but this estimate is not statistically different than zero. Other National Forests where net carbon flux is not statistically different from zero include the Fremont, Ochoco, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, and the Crooked River National Grassland. All other National Forests are accumulating carbon with the highest rate of net flux for all pools on the Willamette with approximately  $4.1 \pm 0.9$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year. The Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest is experiencing the highest rate of live tree mortality among national forests ( $-2.8 \pm 0.6$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year). The causes of tree mortality on National Forests in terms of percent of carbon

were fire (23%), disease (20%), insect (18%), and wind (13%). The rate of mortality in terms of percentages of live tree carbon was 0.7% per year for the state and ranged from 1.0 percent in the East Cascades to 0.4% in the Willamette Valley ecoregions.

Fire was estimated to affect  $103 \pm 16$  thousand acres/year (95% CI), with an additional  $16 \pm 7$  thousand acres/year affected by both fire and tree cutting. The total estimate of emissions from fire is approximately  $-3.6 \pm 1.2$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year as CO<sub>2</sub> and  $-0.2 \pm 0.05$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year for methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) (Table 4.8).

Approximately  $20 \pm 7$  thousand acres of forest land were converted to non-forest every year in Oregon while about  $24 \pm 7$  thousand acres of non-forest land were converted to forest every year (Table 4.9). About 53% of the forest loss was conversion to grassland, 88% of which consisted of mechanical removal of juniper and 12% from lack of forest regeneration more than 30 years after a disturbance, primarily fire. Another 34% of the conversion was for powerlines and logging roads. Conversion of non-forest lands to forest is accounted for by regrowth on abandoned logging roads and tree encroachment on grasslands. However, the net change of  $4.5 \pm 9.3$  thousand acres/year is not statistically significant. Consequently, the net gain of  $0.9 \pm 1.1$  MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year from forest land conversions was also not significant with most of the gains and losses occurring in the live tree pool (Table 4.10).

### Forest Carbon Storage

In Section 4.2 of this report you will find estimates for the amount of forest area in each ecoregion, such as Table 4.11, and each forest type across productivity levels of each ownership, such as table 4.12. The heart of the forest carbon numbers for each pool across ownerships is in Table 4.13a where according to estimates made from the FIA plot measurements over the most recent 10-year reporting cycle (2007-2016) there are  $3.2 \pm 0.03$  billion metric tons of carbon stocks (C) on forest land including forest floor and forest soils across all ownerships in Oregon. Approximately 70% of this C is found on public forest land with the National Forests containing over half of all C (52%). Just under half of all stored C is found belowground in forest soils (49%), and about a third is found aboveground in the live tree pool (32%). The remaining stored C is distributed among dead trees (2%), roots (7%), down wood (5%), forest floor (4%) and the understory vegetation pool (1%). Table 4.13a also reports the amount of forest area estimated for each ownership.

For each county Table 4.13b provides estimates of forest C storage for each forest pool and estimates for the amount of forest area. Douglas and Lane County have the largest amount of forest C storage with  $380.1 \pm 25.9$  MMT C and  $377.6 \pm 25.3$  MMT C, respectively. Counties east of the Cascade Mountains tend to have the largest amount of C stored in standing dead and down wood pools relative to other forest pools such as Jefferson County with 32% and Wheeler County with 26%. Similar estimates for each National Forest are found in Table 4.13c.

Forest land carbon stocks by specific pool on both public and private ownerships are reported in Tables 4.14 through Table 4.21 for all of Oregon and each ecoregion of the state. These

tables show that two Westside regions account for over half of Oregon's forest C stocks (52%), the Western Cascades with 969.1 MMT C and the Oregon Coast Range with 717.7 MMT C. In the Oregon Coast Range public forests have on average 168.4 MT C/acre while privately managed forests have 111.8 MT of C/acre. The Willamette Valley has the lowest total forest carbon storage with about 106.3 MMT C.

Carbon stock estimates in each pool for the major forest types (Table 4.22 and Table 4.23) show that the Douglas-fir forest type contains about 47% of Oregon's C stocks ( $1,511.1 \pm 42.0$  MMT C) (Table 4.22). The fir/spruce/mountain hemlock type stores over three times less at approximately  $435.3 \pm 24.8$  MMT and the ponderosa pine forest type stores about  $419.5 \pm 17.9$  MMT C. Of the hardwood forest types, the alder/maple forests are currently storing the most total forest carbon at  $122.7 \pm 15.5$  MMT C.

Estimates of forest carbon stocks and flux for each ownership are reported in four pairs of tables for live trees and understory vegetation (Table 4.24 and 4.25), Roots (Table 4.26 and 4.27), standing dead trees and down woody material (Table 4.28 and 4.29), and forest floor and soil carbon (Table 4.30 and 4.31). Carbon storage for each forest pool based on 10 year averages are provided in Table 4.32 and for ownership and land status in Table 4.33 and 4.34.

Chapter 5 provides a comparison of the results in this report are with estimates of forest carbon reported in the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory (USDA OCE Climate Change Program Office 2016), the 2018 forest carbon report from the Oregon Global Warming Commission, and other research that contains comparable forest carbon information (Gray and Whittier 2014, Gray et al. 2014, Law et al. 2018, Campbell et al. 2007). Strategies to improve the inventory are described in Chapter 6 and include increasing the number of plots that are measured each year, improved estimation of non-sampled plots, increased use of remote sensing, better equations for calculating tree biomass, and ideas for improving forest carbon reporting.

Agenda Item No.:	7
Work Plan:	Climate
Topic:	Forestland and Climate
Presentation Title:	DLCD-Climate and Resource Assessments
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	Danny Norlander, Forest Carbon and Forest 503-945-7395, <a href="mailto:danny.norlander@oregon.gov">danny.norlander@oregon.gov</a> ; John Tokarczyk, Analyst, 503-945-7414, <a href="mailto:john.a.tokarczyk@odf.oregon.gov">john.a.tokarczyk@odf.oregon.gov</a>

## **SUMMARY AND CONTEXT**

The Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) works in partnership with local governments, and state and federal agencies, to address the land use needs of the public, communities, regions, and the state. The Department advances the vision and legacy of Senate Bill 100, which has contributed to the quality and character of the natural and built environment of the state. The program has been charged by the Legislature with managing urban growth; protecting farm and forest lands, coastal areas, and natural resource lands; and providing for safe, livable communities in concert with the vision of the local communities.

DLCD in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), and Oregon State Institute of Natural Resource (INR) has recently completed the Oregon Renewable Energy Siting Assessment (ORESAs). The project has collected data and information through three topic-focused compatibility assessments and developed a mapping and reporting tool. The project aims to create a transparent, consistent collection of information about renewable energy and transmission development opportunities and constraints, to create relevant educational tools for stakeholders, agencies, local governments, and policy makers about renewable energy development, military training and operational areas, economic/community benefits, land use considerations, natural, cultural, and environmental resources, and other regulatory requirements.

Beyond ORESAs, DLCD has been leading climate change and landscape assessments across landscapes. The Department of Forestry along with other agencies has participated in the update to the Statewide Climate Adaption Framework. Following on this DLCD has recently initiated a Climate Community Vulnerability Assessment which relates directly to agency and broader forestry climate and carbon priorities. The assessment is intended to learn from the broad range of communities across the state on they perceptions of risk and resilience as climate shifts from local to global scales. It hopes to learn how they see it impacting their livelihoods and identities as Oregonians and as community members. It is intended to be used to inform the Legislature, state agencies, and others in crafting policies and potential legislation in the future.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

This is an information item only.

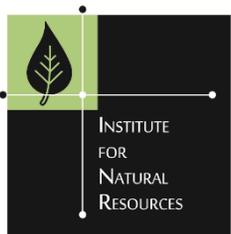
## **ATTACHMENT**

(1) ORESA Report



# Oregon Renewable Energy Siting Assessment (ORESAs)

May 2022



# ORESA: PROJECT TEAM & COORDINATION

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- ▶ The ORESA project is funded through a \$1.1 million grant through U.S. Department of Defense Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (DOD-OLDCC).
- ▶ The grant team includes **Oregon Department of Energy**, working with the **Department of Land Conservation & Development** and **Oregon State University's Institute for Natural Resources**. Closes June 30, 2022.
- ▶ The project incorporated the expertise of **state, local, and tribal governments** through interagency agreements, along with input from **industry and technical advisors**, and **cross-sectoral stakeholder and community engagement**.

# ORESA: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

## DOD Goals

Support **military compatibility through coordination** with local, regional, and state agencies and raise awareness about the military.

## Project Goals

Create **relevant educational tools** for stakeholders, agencies, local governments, and policy makers about renewable energy development, military training and operational areas, economic/community benefits, land use considerations, natural, cultural, and environmental resources, and other regulatory requirements. Users can explore these resources to inform discussions related to renewable energy in a way that **minimizes conflict and supports development opportunities**.

## Project Objectives

Baseline data, information, and perspectives to create **a transparent, consistent collection of trusted, accurate information** in Oregon, without recommendations or endorsements, and note where information may be imprecise or uncertain.

## Renewable Energy Market & Industry Assessment (ODOE / E3)

- Model future opportunities for renewables
- Perspectives of challenges and opportunities RE development community
- **COMPLETED**

## Natural Resources, Environment, & Development: Opportunities & Constraints Assessment (DLCD / CBI)

- Gather information on natural, cultural, & env. resources
- Identify opportunities and constraints for RE development
- **COMPLETED**

## Outreach & Engagement (ORESAs Project Team)



- Release near-final deliverables for review and corrections
- Publish final draft of ORESAs Report and Tool
- Provide presentations, Tool demos, and discussions
- **APRIL – JUNE 2022**

## Project Deliverables

ORESAs Report & ORESAs Mapping & Reporting Tool

## Military Needs & Interests Assessment (ODOE / DLCD / ESS)

- Assess interaction of current and future military activity and RE development
- **COMPLETED**

## Siting Procedures Review (ODOE / DLCD)

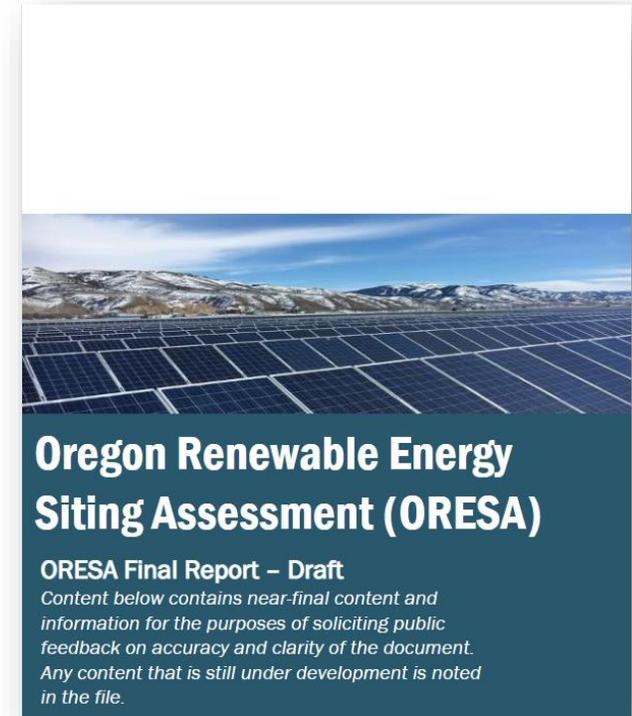
- Review and analysis of siting regulations, permitting, and project review processes
- **COMPLETED**

## Mapping & Reporting Tool (INR leading)

- Develop Mapping and Reporting tool
- Engage with stakeholders to inform and test functionality and reporting features
- Convene Focus and Cross-sector User Groups, conduct Beta testing
- **COMPLETED**

# ORESA REPORT

- **Section 1:** Explore – Summary of core activities and research methodologies from the ORESA assessments, procedures review, and Mapping and Reporting Tool. Includes findings and best practices for data collection and organization.
- **Section 2:** Report – Key findings from the assessments on what information is critical for discussions and planning of renewable energy development in Oregon. Includes context on the Reporting function and data in the Tool.
- **Section 3:** Learn – Lessons learned from the project, including important conversations, perspectives, and issues from stakeholders and project participants. Summarizes the Learn section of the Tool.
- **Section 4:** Conclusion – Additional items not addressed in the project including data gaps, Tool function and features, and resources that were of interest or highlighted by stakeholders and project participants.
- **Appendices:** Index and links to supporting materials including the assessment reports, procedures report, summary outreach documents and military brochure.



# MAPPING AND REPORTING TOOL

- Housed on [Oregon Explorer](#) with data related to renewable energy; military; economic development; land use; natural resources; and other regulatory or process considerations.
- Development involved stakeholders to help define use cases, data exploration needs and reporting functionality.
- Tool supports a more comprehensive understanding of renewable energy and supports early notification & coordination in the state.

OREGON EXPLORER Renewable Energy Siting Assessment  
Map Viewer (BETA)

Home

Welcome to the Oregon Renewable Energy Siting Assessment Tool

!! Development beta version !!

The ORESA tool is an interactive application that allows prospective developers to input project data in order to get a coarse level perspective of potential land use and military considerations.

**Explore Data**  
Browse, download, and interact with map layers

**Get a Report**  
Land use considerations and contact information for your area of interest

**Learn**  
Learn about siting procedures, incentives, and processes for military coordination

DISCLAIMER: This product is for informational purposes, and may not be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. This information or data is provided with the understanding that conclusions drawn from such information are the responsibility of the user. The sponsors of the tool make no claims, representations or warranties as to the accuracy or completeness of these data layers.

INSTITUTE FOR NATURAL RESOURCES  
Oregon State University Libraries and Press  
OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OREGON DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

# DEMO

[https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/OE\\_HtmlViewer/Index.html?viewer=renewable#](https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/OE_HtmlViewer/Index.html?viewer=renewable#)

Welcome

## Welcome to the Oregon Renewable Energy Siting Assessment Tool

**!! Development beta version !!**

The ORESA tool is an interactive application that allows prospective developers to input project data in order to get a coarse level perspective of potential land use and military considerations.

### Explore Data



Browse, download, and interact with map layers

### Get a Report



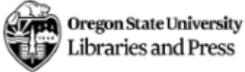
Land use considerations and contact information for your area of interest

### Learn



Learn about siting procedures, incentives, and processes for military coordination

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# RESOURCES

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Project website: [Oregon Renewable Energy Siting Assessment \(ORESAs\)](#)

## Key Deliverables

- Beta [ORESAs Mapping and Reporting tool](#)
  - [ORESAs Mapping & Reporting Tool Summary](#)
  - [ORESAs Mapping & Reporting Tool Demonstration Video](#)
- Near-final [ORESAs Report](#)

## Supporting Materials

- [Renewable Energy Market and Industry Assessment Report](#)
- [Military Needs and Interests Assessment Report](#)
- [Natural Resources, Environment, And Development - Opportunities and Constraints Assessment Report](#)
- [ORESAs Procedures Report](#)
- [Brochure: Oregon and Our Nation's Military](#)

# STAY IN TOUCH!

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Learn more about the ORESA project:

<https://www.oregon.gov/energy/energy-oregon/Pages/ORESAspx>

Send comments and questions:

<https://odoe.powerappsportals.us/en-US/ORESAspx>

Sign up for email updates:

<http://web.energy.oregon.gov/cn/a6n53/subscribe>



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DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



INSTITUTE  
FOR  
NATURAL  
RESOURCES



NAS WHIDBEY ISLAND



**OREGON**

Department of  
Land Conservation  
& Development

Agenda Item No.:	8
Work Plan:	Administrative
Topic:	Facilities Condition and Capital Management Plan
Presentation Title:	Facilities Capital Management Plan
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	D. Chris Stewart, Facilities Program Manager (503) 302-3018   <a href="mailto:david.c.stewart@odf.oregon.gov">david.c.stewart@odf.oregon.gov</a>

**SUMMARY AND CONTEXT**

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Board with an overview of the status and condition of the agency’s facilities statewide and the strategic investment plan to reduce the deferred maintenance and capital improvement load, including:

- The recurring and deferred maintenance needs,
- The investment strategy to manage the extensive network of facilities in Salem and the field to effectively meet long-range capital planning initiatives, and
- Sustainable facilities planning.

**BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

The department currently manages 381 structures located at various field offices throughout the state. These structures consist of buildings (e.g., office space, shops, and storage, etc.) as well as communication sites, lookout towers, fueling stations, kiosks, and vault toilets. The combined Current Replacement Value (CRV) of these structures is estimated at \$262M; with \$174M of this CRV carried by our 36 largest structures, which are buildings that have a replacement value of over \$1M. The remaining structures, the 345 that have a CRV of less than \$1M, have a combined CRV estimated at \$88M.

With over a quarter of a billion dollars in structural assets, deferred maintenance, capital improvement, and capital construction investments to modernize the department’s buildings are a significant need statewide. This is further supported by the fact that many of our facilities are well over 50 years old. Our 10-year maintenance priority projections based on currently known conditions is \$83.2M. This investment would allow the structures to be maintained or improved over a ten-year period to a condition considered well-maintained. The projected deferred maintenance costs for the 21-23 biennium was \$4.8M. The department submitted a Policy Option Package through our current budgetary process for funding in this amount and has received legislative approval. The Facilities Program is currently developing a statewide investment strategy to invest these funds. It is also preparing to submit a Policy Option Package for the 23-25 biennium for \$5.2M, as mandated by SB 1067, requiring agencies to submit a deferred maintenance funding request each biennium equaling 2% of total CRV.

These maintenance projections are created by the department’s Facilities Capital Management Program (FCMP) based on a tracked metric called the Facility Condition Index (FCI). The FCI is a standard facility management benchmark that is used to objectively assess the current and

projected condition of a building asset and provide a means for comparisons of facility or building conditions, as well as allowing for renewal funding needs and comparisons. The FCI is the ratio of current year required renewal cost to current building replacement value. Based on this index, a structure's condition can be ranked as Good (0-5% FCI), Fair (5-10%), Poor (>10%) or Very Poor (>50%). An FCI of 60% or greater usually indicates that the structure should be replaced rather than renewed. Statewide, based on facilities current condition data, our department's FCI is 11.5%, reflecting that the department's structures are beginning to show a Poor condition. The department's 381 structures range from having a condition of 1.2% to over 100%, with most of them being in Fair/Poor condition.

There are many issues facing the department in addressing its deferred maintenance, capital improvement, and capital construction needs. The lack of a comprehensive, statewide, and holistic vision focused on capital renewal needs compounded by inconsistent funding streams to invest into this work are certainly significant drivers. Given the department's diverse revenue streams, some funds are unable to be committed to certain deferred maintenance or capital improvement efforts, for example, federal funds acquired under contracts.

The department has made considerable strides to mitigate many of these issues and begin addressing facility investment needs. The FCMP has developed the Facilities Operations and Capital Investment Account (FOCIA) program. This program consists of data acquisition on structures, strategic visioning on maintenance implementation, and provides a funding mechanism through an administrative rental rate system. This rental rate can be applied to the department's own facilities and imposes a rent to occupying programs. The revenue generated by this rate is deposited into a FOCIA account that can be used for recurring operational costs, as well as current and future maintenance needs. Not only does the FOCIA program support long-term strategic capital efforts, but it also enables the utilization of all funding sources, and this revenue can carry over through biennia while accruing interest. Given the benefits that FOCIA provides over long-term funding for facilities it is a sound business strategy to implement the program across the department; however, it is currently optional within districts for participation. Fortunately, there has been an increase in the understanding of the benefits and a steady growth in participation since its inception in 2018, with a total of eight districts out of thirteen to date, which is an increase of two additional districts from the prior reporting year.

The FCMP is also managing three current capital projects. The first being the relocation of the Toledo Unit Office in the West Oregon District. This project is in the process of acquiring land to begin building. The second capital project is the replacement of the North Cascades District office lost to the wildfires in 2020. A comprehensive Master Planning effort to determine district needs has been completed to help guide the district in the rebuilding effort. The third capital project is the replacement of the Klamath Lake District Fire Cache facility lost due to fire and is also undergoing a Master Planning effort. Finally, the department is preparing to submit a 23-25 capital construction Policy Option Package for the funding to restore the 83-year-old State Foresters Office Building located on the Salem Campus HQ facility.

In addition, the FCMP is very committed to sustainable facilities through its Strategic Energy Management, with active engagement in maximizing building operations and use. This includes the recent installation of two charging stations at the Salem Campus HQ facility, a first for ODF statewide, and the on-going upgrade of inefficient lighting at many facilities statewide.

The presentation update to the Board of Forestry will include:

- Facilities Portfolio
  - Building portfolio statistics and replacement values
  - Metric to measure condition and investment progress:
    - Facilities portfolio condition index
  - Facilities portfolio functionality:
    - Projected needs
    - Space use efficiency
    - Programming effectiveness
  - Administrative infrastructure planning and investment strategy to recover facilities operations, maintenance, deferred maintenance, capital improvement, and facilities replacement costs:
    - Existing and new facilities master planning
    - FOCIA: Facilities Operations and Capital Investment Account
- Capital Projects and Deferred maintenance Reductions
  - West Oregon District: Toledo Unit office recovery project
  - North Cascade District: Santiam Unit office bldg. recovery project
  - Klamath/Lake District: Fire cache bldg. recovery project
  - State Foresters Office Building: Complete restoration project
  - Deferred Maintenance POP: SB1067 mandated 2% of current replacement value funding request to invest in facilities each biennium
- Facilities Strategic Capital Planning
  - Facilities Portfolio Mgmt. Software – Assetworks
- Sustainable Facilities
  - Electric Vehicle Charging Station Infrastructure – Salem Campus Pilot Project
- Staffing Update

### **RECOMMENDATION**

This agenda item is for information only.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Facilities management information is anticipated to be reported to the Board on an annual basis with the next presentation occurring in June 2023. Feedback and direction provided during this preliminary discussion will guide further updates.

### **ATTACHMENT**

- 1) Facilities Statistics Handout



# Administrative Branch FACILITIES – Portfolio Stats (2022)

## PORTFOLIO STATS

- Total Structures: **381**
- Total Area: **818,301 sq. ft.**
- Total Current Replacement Value (CRV): **\$262M**
  - CRV for bldgs. valued at > \$1M = \$174M (36 total)
  - CRV for bldgs. valued at < \$1M = \$88M (345 total)

## BUILDING CONDITION METRIC STATS

- Department-wide Facility Condition Index (FCI): **11.5% (Poor)**

$$\text{Facility Condition Index (FCI)} = \frac{\text{Deferred Maintenance} + \text{Capital Improvement}}{\text{Current Replacement Value}}$$

0 – 5% = **Good**  
5 – 10% = **Fair**  
> 10% = **Poor**

## 10-YEAR MAINTENANCE PRIORITY PROJECTIONS

- Need for bldgs. valued at CRV > \$1M = **\$44.4M**
- Need for bldgs. valued at CRV < \$1M = **\$38.8M**

## DEFERRED MAINTENANCE REDUCTION INVESTMENT

- Current deferred maintenance reduction investment plan: **\$4.8M**
- Projected 23/25 biennium backlog reduction investment, pending legislative approval: **\$5.2M**

## STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Facilities Program onboarding of a strategic capital planning tool: In-Process
- Adding more districts to the facilities data network via the Facilities Operations and Capital Investment Account.

## STRATEGIC FACILITIES OPERATIONS

On-going administration of the facilities rental rate that is deposited annually into a participating district’s specific facilities investment fund to facilitate the funding of:

- Recurring facilities operating and recurring maintenance needs.
- Continuous reduction of the backlog of deferred maintenance.
- Future capital renewal and replacement projects.

A total of 8 out of 13 districts are participating since the inception of the Facilities Operation and Capital Investment Account (FOCIA) in 2018.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS

- West Oregon District: Toledo Unit office relocation project: In-Process
- North Cascade District: Santiam facility reconstruction planning: In-Process
- Klamath Lake District: Klamath facility reconstruction planning: In-Process
- State Foresters Office Building Restoration Project: Pending 23-25 biennium legislative approval

## SUSTAINABLE FACILITIES

- Salem Campus HQ EV Charging Station Infrastructure: Completed
- Strategic Energy Mgmt.
  - Active engagement in maximizing sustainable building operations: Ongoing
  - Efficient lighting upgrade projects statewide: Ongoing

Agenda Item No.:	9
Work Plan:	Administrative
Topic:	Human Resources Dashboard
Presentation Title:	Human Resources Dashboard
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	Tricia Kershaw, Human Resources Manager (503) 945-7296 or <a href="mailto:patricia.e.kershaw@odf.oregon.gov">patricia.e.kershaw@odf.oregon.gov</a>

### **SUMMARY AND CONTEXT**

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an update on the Oregon Department of Forestry workforce on several key areas including agency positions and classifications; retirement rates; succession planning; workforce diversity, equity, and inclusion; and safety-related metrics.

### **BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

The department has a dynamic workforce that unsurprisingly surges every year during the fire season. As of December 31, 2021, the department had 683 employees with 80% of those being permanent positions as opposed to positions in various temporal capacities. During that same year's fire season, the workforce hit a peak of 1,082 employees with 50% of them being permanent. 39% of those employed during the fire season were seasonal positions.

Due to the multi-mission role of the agency, the department relies on its workforce and their experience to accommodate ever-changing needs. This is benefited by the long-standing tenure the department has with many of its employees. Unfortunately, this means that a large portion of the workforce is eligible for retirement at any given time, and as of the end of 2021, nearly 10%. To address this, the department takes succession planning serious through trainings and developmental opportunities. Through 2021, the department averaged over 100 developmental (work-out-of-class) opportunities, providing key experience and inroads for successful promotional pathways. This was proven with the addition of the SB762 positions and the ability of department staff to successfully compete for many of those positions. In total, 63 employees were able to promote into new opportunities, up from only 26 in the previous year.

Recruitments for the department rose significantly over the last year. These recruitments were driven by the influx of investments through the emergency board and the biennial budget process. In total, 936 recruitments were conducted during the year, including seasonal hires as well as hiring for vacancies that occurred because of promotions, other transitions, and new positions.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) has been a significant focus for the department the last couple of years, including the formation of its DEI Council. Even with this focus, the department does still struggle with racial and gender diversity in its workforce, primarily driven by the recruitment and education pipeline in the forest industry sector. Last year, the workforce's diversity was predominately white at 73% with 75% of the workforce being male.

Safety is its top priority given the value the department puts on its workforce. In last year's safety reporting window of fiscal year 2021, driven by the 2020 Labor Day fire event, the department logged over 1.76 million hours worked, significantly higher than previous years. Thankfully, the same increase was not seen on the number of reported injuries (61) or injury claim frequency (6.9 per 100 employees), in fact, the injury claim frequency was lower compared to the year before.

**RECOMMENDATION**

This agenda item is for information only.

**NEXT STEPS**

Updates from our agency's Human Resources Program is anticipated to be on an annual basis with the next presentation occurring in June 2023. Feedback and direction provided by the Board will guide further editions of this report.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None

Agenda Item No.: 10  
Work Plan: Administrative  
Topic: Public Affairs and Information  
Presentation Title: ODF Public Affairs—2021 in review  
Date of Presentation: June 8, 2022  
Contact Information: Joy Krawczyk, Public Affairs Manager  
(503) 945-7487 or [joy.p.krawczyk@oregon.gov](mailto:joy.p.krawczyk@oregon.gov)

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agenda item is to review the Public Affairs Program’s key 2021 efforts and activities and highlight priority bodies of work for 2022.

**CONTEXT**

During the Board of Forestry’s 2019 annual planning retreat, the Board expressed interest in the number of “public information requests” the department receives and the associated workload to respond to those requests. An initial report was provided at the Board’s June 3, 2020, meeting and focused on public records requests, the fulfillment of which is dictated by Oregon’s Public Records Law. It also provided an overview of the other most common types of requests for information received through the department’s main communications channels. The program has gradually expanded and adjusted this report with the goal of providing the Board with an overview of the department’s key public affairs activities in 2021 and those planned for 2022.

**BACKGROUND**

The Public Affairs Program resides organizationally within the Administrative Branch. Policy and budget decisions in the 2021 and 2022 sessions resulted in five new positions for the program, nearly doubling the capacity to provide internal and external communications support to the department. This support includes:

- External communications support (strategy, content, products & consultation)
- Media relations
- Social media strategy & management
- Legislative communications (reports, presentations, informational products & strategy)
- Public information
- External website (governance, maintenance & enhancements)
- Intranet (content governance)
- Public records function
- Public meetings assistance
- Document formatting, design & compatibility
- Internal communications support (strategy, content, products & consultation)

Department staff statewide regularly communicate with and respond to inquiries from the general public, stakeholders, and customers in a number of ways. The primary ways information is requested of the department:

- Phone calls.
- In-person interactions.
- Emails.
- Social media messages and comments.

In 2021, the Public Affairs Program fielded 5,160 phone calls to the department's main phone line and 1,286 emails. These numbers represent inquiries from the public that are handled by the Public Affairs Program in Salem. Additionally, responses to questions are only a small part of the information sharing that happens on a daily basis throughout the department, especially in the field where engaging with the public is central to much of their work.

Individuals, organizations, and members of the media can also request records from the department through the process provided under Oregon's Public Records Law (ORS Chapter 192), which establishes the requirements for the disclosure of public records by state and local government entities. The department's public records request function is coordinated through the Public Affairs Program.

In 2021, the department received 83 public records requests, 80 of which could be fulfilled at no cost to the requester. The department determines costs using the Department of Administrative Services statewide fee schedule. The first \$50 is waived for all requesters, and the average all-in cost to process a payment for a records request is \$47. To ensure that the department is not spending more than the amount paid to process the payment, the department's threshold for charging to fulfill public records requests is \$100 (\$50 + \$47 processing cost). The 80 requests for which the department didn't charge fulfillment costs required approximately 320 hours of staff time to fulfill at a cost of \$8,000, assuming the work was clerical in nature only).

The department requested fees to fulfill three requests last year due to the volume of responsive records and time required to compile and review those records. One requester did not respond to our notification of estimated costs (\$640 for 15 hours of staff time) and their request was eventually closed due to no response. The total costs to fulfill the other two responses was \$14,425 for 340 hours of work. Both requests received the standard \$50 waiver, but neither request met the public interest test (statewide policy) for further reduction of fees. Both requests were ultimately paid in full.

The Public Affairs Program also manages the department's main social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, which have a combined 75,000 fans. There are also several ODF-affiliated Facebook accounts focused on providing localized information that are managed at the district level (nearly 76,000 fans combined) and a department LinkedIn account that is managed by the Human Resources Program.

The department's Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter all continue to see steady increases across key measures, including number of fans, amount of engagement, and engagement rate. Public Affairs Program staff strive to create and post content related to all our areas of core business,

but there does tend to be more content related to wildfire response because of the high level of public interest and visually engaging content. In 2021, the Public Affairs Program received 499 direct messages through its main social media accounts, primarily from members of the public seeking general information about the department.

Facebook is by far the most used and well-established account with the highest number of fans (49,000 at the end of 2021) and level of engagement with the public. In 2021, there were 749 posts to Facebook and an engagement rate of 4.19%. The engagement rate is the number of “engagements” (likes, reactions, comments, shares, etc.) with an account’s content divided by the number of people who saw the content. A “good” level of engagement for this platform is at least 2%.

The department has been working to grow its Instagram account over the past couple of years. At the end of 2021, the account had 9,000 followers, which was nearly double the number of fans from the start of the year. The department posted 304 times, including several “Instagram Takeover” campaigns, where a week is dedicated to showing a day in the life of various ODF employees through photographs. The engagement rate on Instagram was 5.97% for 2021, with “good” being at least 3%.

Finally, the department’s Twitter account had 17,000 followers at the end of 2021 and 572 tweets. The engagement rate was 1.83%, with “good” being at least 1%.

The Public Affairs Program is working on building a comprehensive social media strategy for the department, which will include identification of the best strategic use for each account to fully leverage the differing audiences and capabilities.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

This agenda item is for information only.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

This reporting will continue to occur annually. Feedback and direction provided by the Board will guide further reports.

#### **ATTACHMENT**

None.

**STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Item No.:	11
Topic:	Forest Trust Land Advisory Committee
Presentation Title:	FTLAC Testimony to the Board of Forestry
Date of Presentation:	June 8, 2022
Contact Information:	David Yamamoto, FTLAC Chair and Tillamook County Commissioner John Sweet, FTLAC Vice-Chair and Coos County Commissioner

On behalf of the Forest Trust Land Advisory Committee (FTLAC), comments and additional information may be provided on State Forest Lands business.

**Board Closing Comments and Meeting Wrap Up**