

Agenda Item No.:	F
Work Plan:	Fire Protection Work Plan
Topic:	Ongoing Topic: Rangeland Protection Association Expansion
Presentation Title:	Approval to Expand the Silver Creek Rangeland Protection Association
Date of Presentation:	June 4, 2025
Contact Information:	Stacy Savona, Wildfire Prevention and Policy Manager 971-374-3351, stacy.savona@odf.oregon.gov

SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to obtain Board approval to proceed with bringing specific areas of Harney and Lake Counties into the Silver Creek Rangeland Protection Association.

CONTEXT

Rangeland fire protection associations are non-profit, locally governed groups of landowners which have been organized to provide fire protection to rangeland in portions of eastern Oregon. These organizations are formed under the authority of the Board and with assistance from the Department.

Currently, there are 26 Rangeland Protection Associations (RPA) that have previously been approved by the Board of Forestry. These RPAs protect over 4,855,598 acres of private land and approximately 639, 982 acres of state-owned lands. These lands, including federally owned land, combine to encompass over 16 million acres.

Several representatives of rangeland owners in Harney and Lake Counties have requested the Board hold a public hearing about providing protection from fire for additional rangeland including 90,000 acres west of the current Silver Creek RPA boundary. The Board, on March 5th, 2025, authorized a public hearing on the formation request, pursuant to ORS 477.320. A hearing was held at the Suntex School in Riley, Oregon, on April 11, 2025.

At the hearing, strong support for the expansion of the association was evident in the immediate area per the oral comments given by the attendees.

These landowners want a way to protect their private property and actively take part in the protection of their lands. The increased level of protection for this area can be achieved by bringing it into the Oregon protection system and expanding the current rangeland association.

RECOMMENDATION

The Department recommends the Board take the following action when it meets on June 4th, 2025:

Approve the inclusion of rangeland in portions of Harney and Lake Counties into the Silver Creek Rangeland Protection Association.

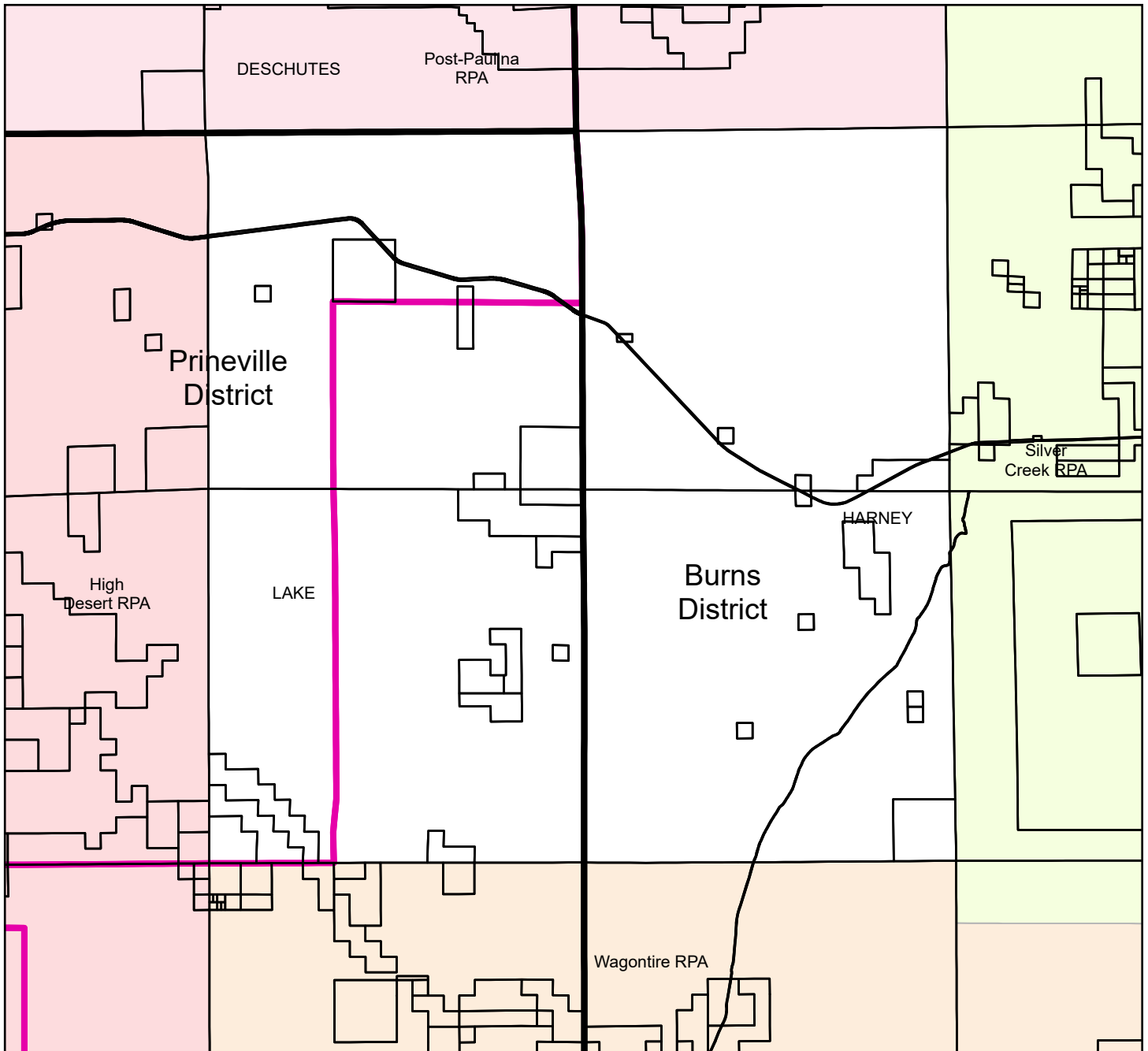
NEXT STEPS

The Department will work with local landowners in the area of the Silver Creek 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) Silver Creek Rangeland Association expansion boundary map
- (2) Silver Creek Rangeland Association Formation Public Hearing sign-in sheet
- (3) Silver Creek Rangeland Association Formation Public Hearing Report

Unprotected Land



Legend

 BLM Districts

RPA_Name

High Desert RPA

Post-Paulina RPA

Silver Creek RPA

Wagontire RPA

Acreage

Category	Acreage
Private	2,457.87
State	640.00
County	37.40
Federal	84,697.68

Landowner	Address	County	City	State	Zipcode	Acres
ANTLER ACQUISITIONS, LLC	63796 DESCHUTES MARKET RD	Lake	BEND	OR	97701	1,611.35
BUTLER-PARRISH GABRIELLE	20268 S ATHENS DR	Lake	OREGON CIT	OR	97045	426.67
CAMPBELL, WILEY D	9565 N BURR AV	Harney	PORTLAND	OR	97203	259.85
GI RANCH CORP	15 SW COLORADO AVE SUITE 1	Lake	BEND	OR	97702	160.00
HARNEY COUNTY		Harney				37.40
STATE OF OREGON	PO BOX 100	Lake	PAISLEY	OR	97636	640.00
U S A	700 W MINERAL AVENUE	Lake	LITTLETON	CO	80120	40,929.10
U S A		Harney				43,768.58

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

Location: Suntex School Date: 4/11/25 Time: 1800

PLEASE PRINT

NAME & ORGANIZATION	MAILING ADDRESS	TESTIMONY SUBMITTED	
		WRITTEN	ORAL
Chance Miller Silver Creek RFPA	70407 Silver Crk Rd Riley OR 97758		X
Ryan Cuffis Silver Creek RFPA	31868 Sunset Valley Ln Bars 067720		X
Daniel Doverspike Silver Creek RFPA	53233 Best Lane Riley OR 97758		X
Hettie Patterson SLRFPA	P.O. Box 34 Riley OR 97758		X

Date: April 14, 2025

To: Oregon Board of Forestry

From: Allison Rayburn, ODF Rangeland Fire Program Coordinator

Subject: Hearing Officer's Report on Fields-Andrews Rangeland Fire Protection Association boundary expansion ORS 477.320(1)

Hearing Information

Proposed Area: 90,000 acres west of current Silver Creek RFPA, in Harney and Lake Counties

Hearing Date & Time: April 11, 2025 @ 6:00 PM

Hearing Location: Suntex School, Riley, Oregon

Written Comments Due: April 11, 2025 6:00 p.m.

Hearing Authorized: Board of Forestry meeting, March 5, 2025

Hearing Officer: Allison Rayburn, ODF Rangeland Fire Program Coordinator

The Public Hearing on the proposal to expand the Silver Creek RFPA boundary and bring those additional lands into the Oregon Protection System was formally convened at 6:01 p.m. at the Suntex School, 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 6:03 PM.

4 members of the public representing the area landowners attended the hearing. 4 people signed the Public Hearing Participation Record form 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

Chance Miller, the President for the Silver Creek Rangeland Fire Protection Association started off the oral comments, with a statement that he is in support of the expansion. Ryan Curtis, Daniel Doverspike and Hettie Patterson also testified they were in favor of the expansion of the Silver Creek RFPA as proposed.

Summary of Written Comments

None submitted.



Allison Rayburn
ODF Rangeland Fire Program Coordinator
Eastern Oregon Area