

Small Forestland Grant Program 2023-2025 Biennium

Totals:

Amount Awarded: \$2,500,000

Spent: \$2,336,524

Acreage Goals: 1,389

Acreage Accomplished: 1,379

ODF COD The Dalles | Contact: Jaime Gonzalez Jaime.R.Gonzalez@odf.oregon.gov

Funding Awarded: \$299,695

Spent: \$236,991

Footprint Acreage Goal: 100 acres

Completed: 97 acres

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
75 acres of Fuels Reduction	72 acres of Fuels Reduction
25 acres of Crew Work	25 acres of Crew Work
10 days Chipping	13 days Chipping

Match: Signed up 13 landowners for defensible space work under the Western States Fire Managers Grant.



Summary:

Forest resilience and resistance to wildfire, as well as forest health should be much improved on the acreage that received fuel treatments. The homes on those properties have also had their wildfire risk significantly reduced. Along with other grants, significant progress is being made to reduce the risk of wildfire in Hood River County. Activity acres included: 97 acres of thinning, 94 acres of piling, 69 acres of burning, and 4 acres of brush management for a total of 264 activity acres.

Funding Awarded: \$25,000 (Original) + \$15,000 (mod) =\$40,000

Spent : \$37,845.80

Footprint Acreage Goal: 37 acres

Completed: 37 acres

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
17+ 20 = 37 acres of FR and thinning from below	37 acres of Fuels Reduction and Thinning
13 acres of mowing/herbicide treatment	11 acres of mowing/herbicide treatment
25 + 10 dead trees removed	100 dead trees removed



Match: in Kind: 94 hours Primary Resident Labor (Mark Eaton 20 hours, Phil Emard 25 hours, Buck Elton 22 hours, Buck Smith 27 hours) x \$20 =\$1,880. In Kind Contractual: Eaton (\$2,010, 3 acres); Turner \$4,400, 2 acres); Emard \$1,130, 3 acres); Elton (\$2,300, 4 acres); Smith (\$8,1220, 3 acres) = \$16,832, 15 acres.

Total In-kind \$18,712. Performed wildfire fuel reduction in and around residence, including removal of dead and dying trees, removal of underbrush, brush mowing/cutting, spraying for invasive species and pruning.

Summary:

17 acres removed 25 large dead trees from common areas. 5 acres defensible space and firefighter accessibility created a fire break by clearing large areas of dense underbrush of various species with a masticator, allowing the canopy of larger trees to be raised to 8 feet. An additional \$15,000 was added to the project and included fuel reduction treatment in common area north, adjacent to a private unmitigated wooded area. A masticator was not used due to steep terrain, but the five-man crew spent 2 days clearing it by hand. This work resulted in a firebreak and reduction of 5 acres on common area and Troychak property that was identified as the highest risk problem in the neighborhood. Removed 2 dead trees from resident lots. This additional funding of \$15,000 from the original amount also allowed us to complete dead and dying tree removal (75 trees), brush and manzanita removal, and 3 acres firebreak. Total labor for tree removal and brush clearing/removal was 200 hours (5 people, 8 hours/day: 5 days).

CENTRAL OREGON WILDFIRE WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP (Central Oregon

Intergovernmental Council) | **Contact:** Paul Catino
pcatino@coic.org

Funding Awarded: \$247,326

Spent: \$246,366

Footprint Acreage Goal: 250 acres

Completed: 124 acres

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
Outreach and engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Tabled at 5 community wildfire preparedness fairs-3 community engagement events to discuss Firewise.-38 site visits to discuss defensible space with landowners.-Participated regularly in monthly meetings.-Educator's Group identifying priority projects.
Fuels Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Treated 124.3 acres-Decreased wildfire risk for 29 structures directly-Treated hazardous fuels along the roadside

Match: \$1,670,000: 263.7 additional acres treated for hazardous fuels, 161 additional structures impacted.

Summary: Education and outreach included: 5 community wildfire preparedness fairs in April 2025 in Bend, Sisters, Culver, Prineville, and La Pine. They participated in 3 community Firewise events in Powell Butte and Deschutes River Woods. Conducted 38 site visits to discuss steps to reduce fire risk and improve defensible space. Participated in monthly meetings such as the Central Oregon Fire Prevention Cooperative, Project Wildfire, and Central Oregon Wildfire Educator's Group to identify priority projects with local fire management professionals.

16 different sites were treated by fuels reduction crews and Heart of Oregon Corps crews. 124.3 acres were treated, decreased risk for 29 structures, and treated fuels along the roadside of a bottleneck evacuation route for a community of several thousand.



This picture provided by COIC. Fuel Treatments were done on the left so when a fire went through in 2024 the impacts were noticeable.



Before



After

ODF COD John Day | Contact: Brandon Ferguson Brandon.s.Ferguson@odf.oregon.gov;
Adele Underwood Adele.underwood@odf.oregon.gov

Funding Awarded: \$ 166,000(Original) - \$25,000 (mod) =\$141,000

Spent: \$137,261

Footprint Acreage Goal: 250 acres – 127 acres

(mod) = 123 acres

Completed: 200 acres

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
250 acres – 127 acres (Mod)=123 acres of Pruning and non-commercial thinning.	200 acres completed of Pruning and non-commercial thinning.
250 acres – 127 acres (Mod)= 123 acres of Mastication/Piling	200 acres of Mastication/Piling.
250 acres- 127 acres (Mod)= 123 acres of Fuels Management or Pile Burning	200 acres of Fuels Management or Pile Burning.



Match: In 2024 John Day ODF put \$100,435 towards the hazardous fuels treatment of private lands in Grant County through the Community Wildfire Defense Grant. As well as \$38,531 of Community Wildfire Forester time spent supporting current Firewise communities, education and outreach at events such as the Grant County Fair, Timber Trucker’s Light Parade, Grant County public school prevention days to expand the footprint of landowner knowledge and defensible space in the areas near this grant treatment.

Summary: Hazardous fuels were removed from multiple properties bordering National Forest land, reducing the likelihood of cross-boundary wildfire spread. On one property in particular, a fuel break was established along the only ingress/egress route, creating a safer evacuation path in the event of an emergency. All project areas focused on the removal of hazardous fuels, including juniper, which has significantly reduced the threat of catastrophic wildfire and lowered the risk to nearby homes. Additionally, the removal of infected or diseased trees will support the long-term health and resilience of the forest in the area. Total acreage for fuels reduction is 200 acres on 4 landowner properties.

Funding Awarded: \$ 300,000 - \$15,000=\$285,000
Spent: \$200,909

Footprint Acreage Goal: 150 Acres
Completed: 100 Acres

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
Community Engagement: 1,200 Flyers to residents, 100 site visits	Community Engagement: 3,844 Flyers to residents, 90 site visits
150 acres of thinning, limbing, pruning and/or mastication	100 acres of thinning, limbing, pruning, and/mastication
150 acres of debris disposal via chipping, burning, or hauling.	100 acres of debris disposal via chipping, burning, or hauling

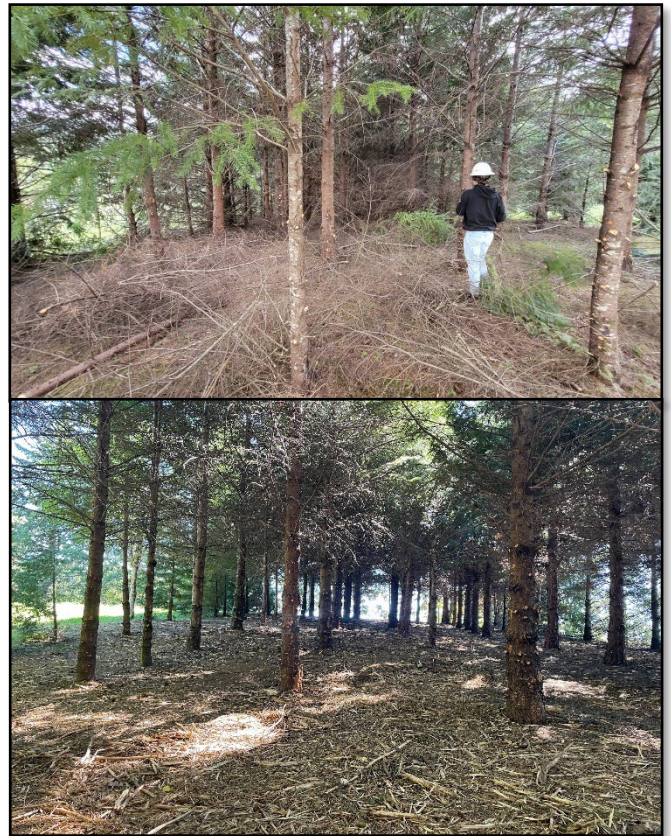
Match: 11 Firewise coordinators spent in excess of 20 hours each in supporting grant outreach and education (a total of over 300 hours). 5 of those communities held community gatherings to discuss the grant and educate about defensible space and other vegetation management related topics.

Summary:

The method for outreach to the Firewise community land owners within S. Benton, Chinook, Soap Creek, and Salishan Firewise communities. Outreach was accomplished through the Firewise Coordinators and ODF's Jacob Ruhl and Trask Hodgenson. They left their positions shortly after the grant was announced, and the positions lay vacant until Jessica Breeding (start date July '24) and Brentley Hartman (start date January '25) filled the vacancy. During this transition, fliers were distributed to 3,844 residents. Jacob and Trask reported carrying out 15 site visits and Brentley and Jessica carried out 75 site assessments.

100 acres of pruning, limbing, cutting, shaded fuel breaks, mastication, invasive species removal, dead vegetation removal, brush & ladder fuel removal, and thinning of trees <8" DBH was done. 100 acres of debris removal was disposed by chipping, lop and scatter, mulching, firewood, hand piling, and hauling of debris.

3 of these communities carried out community scale chipping events following their education and outreach efforts. A massive uptick in interest and awareness in fuels reduction work can be directly attributed to the outreach, education, and work on the ground carried out by this grant. adjacent populations are using other fuels reduction grants (such as the CSC grant) to create a more landscape scale impacts.



ODF NEO Umatilla | Contact: Joshua Lambert josh.t.lambert@odf.oregon.gov

Funding Awarded: \$170,400

Spent: \$172,522

Footprint Acreage Goal: 150

Completed:150

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
Outreach to 200 residents, 1-2 events, 15 properties assessed.	Outreach to 200 residents and 15 properties assessed.
150 acres Fuels Reduction	150 acres Fuels Reduction



Match: A partner organization (OSFM) funded a small defensible space crew that was able to create more defensible space around numerous homes in this Small Forestland Grant.

Summary:

Within the area the grant treated (150 acres of forestland on 4 landowner's properties) there will be a significant reduction in fire behavior and increase in fire resiliency of the landscape. I anticipate this result based on the drastic reduction in ladder fuels and total fuel amounts. Better spacing in forest stands makes it more difficult for fire to spread between live trees and allows the remaining trees to benefit from the reduction in competition with other trees, resulting in increased vigor. These invigorated trees are more fire resistant for a myriad of reasons, including higher moisture levels, less susceptibility to insects and disease, and faster growth resulting in trees reaching maturity and thus higher fire resistance in a smaller timeframe. Additionally, more fire-resistant species are selected as leave trees during fuels reduction. The landowners' treatments included 53 acres, 41 acres, 8 acres, and 48 acres.

GRAND OAKS SUMMIT HOA | Contact: Gail O'Malley
lgailo411@gmail.com

Funding Awarded: \$92,452 **Spent :** \$92,252

Footprint Acreage Goal: 15 acres **Completed:** 15 acres

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
2,400 linear ft of limbing/tree pruning	2,400 linear ft of limbing/tree pruning
6 acres mechanical brush removal/herbicide treatment	6 acres mechanical brush removal/herbicide treatment
3.5 acres Mastication	3.5 acres Mastication
Outreach and Education	Outreach and Education

Match: \$12,205.08 during the 2024-2025 period Hazard tree remediation and remediation of fallen trees and limbs (\$10,850); OWEB grant paid for mastication of 1 acre (\$8,932.27); native seed & plants purchased along with pin flags and tree cages plus 2 hrs. work by 26 volunteers (x\$13/hr.) to plant shrubs & trees, remove fencing and weeds (\$910) on 3.3 acres; tree tags & nails plus 4 hours for 8 volunteers (X\$13/hr.) and arborist fee (\$200/hr.) to tag 1200 trees (\$1216); misc. supplies (\$61.81)

Summary:

Arborist assessed 1200 trees on 15 acres, mapped and hazard assessments for each tree; they remediated 35 identified hazard trees on 15 acres. They pruned large conifers to reduce ladder fuel on 8.5 acres; Herbicide treatments for ivy, blackberry false brome, holly, scotch broom, gallium, & invasive plum on 15 acres; Rough mow of previously cut fire break zones on 7 acres; Hand cut brush and low hanging limbs along fences and along the slope bordering the railroad tracks approx. 5,360 linear ft over 6.5 acres. The crew hand-cut small diameter conifer, cherry, English hawthorn, and invasive brush which was followed by mastication on 6.1 acres; In Spring 2025 they hand cut a fire break zone, and pruned more low-hanging conifer branches from the slope near the Railroad tracks and masticated 4.2 acres. Monthly Board meetings offered updates and answered questions; emails to all homeowners when new activity was about to happen; hung notifications on doorknobs or spoke directly to homeowners when an action abutting their property was about to happen; answered email questions or visited individual homeowners with questions or concerns; held 2 neighborhood-wide meetings at the clubhouse, held 2 "Walk & Talk" Events before work was to take place; hosted a question/answer table at the pool opening BBQ; met with homeowners to discuss blackberry herbicide spray to determine if they wanted to opt—in to treatment on their property; prepared a "Summary Report" of work accomplished in the natural common areas which was sent to the Board members and posted on the Grand Oaks Website.



MORROW SWCD | Contact: Kevin Payne kevin.payne@or.nacdnet.net

Funding Awarded: \$38,500 + \$25,000= \$63,500

Spent: \$63,500

Footprint Acreage Goal: 40 acres

Completed: 64 acres

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
20 acres fuels reduction: limbing, thinning and chipping (Blake Ranch, Cutsforth area).	15 acres fuels reduction: limbing, thinning and chipping (Blake Ranch, Cutsforth area).
20 + 25 (Mod)= 45 acres fuels reduction: limbing, thinning and chipping (Penland Lake).	49 acres fuels reduction: limbing, thinning and chipping (Penland Lake).

Match: \$66,767.00 OSFM Fire Adapted Communities Project Defensible Space work, Heppner Rural Fire Ingress/Egress work and NRCS Forest Stand Improvement and Woody Residue Treatment. The Battle Mountain Complex (183,026 Acres) spurred on a lot of work in the Penland Lake area that had been planned for years.

Summary:

With the addition of \$25,000 for this project, Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District were able to increase the work they did in the Penland Lake area and increase the numbers of acres treated there by 29 acres.

Morrow SWCD Fire Adapted Communities Project



Blake Ranch property before.



Blake Ranch property after roadside thinning and chipping.

UPPER DESCHUTES WATERSHED COUNCIL | **Contact:** Matthias Perle
mperle@restorethedeschutes.org and Casey Schuder
cschuder@restorethedeschutes.org

Funding Awarded: \$104,900

Spent: \$104,900

Footprint Acreage Goal: 56 Acres

Completed: 56 Acres

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
Fuels Reduction: 56 acres	Fuels Reduction: 56 acres
Community Engagement	5 information sessions with Communities



Match: \$40,000 in match is estimated including in-kind match that added up to \$5,000. The remaining \$35,000 was cash match from other Grants awarded to UDWC. Funding from OWEB and Pelton Fund has contributed to the use of woody material in stream restoration, which was finalized in July 2024. During the Harrisons fuels reduction work they contributed an in-kind donation by providing labor and equipment to harvest 20 juniper trees. They utilized a skid steer to push over the trees and decked them in a location where they could be easily loaded. This activity was used as a test to determine if the additional 12 acres of thinning is possible with landowner assistance. It was determined that it was most feasible to hire a contractor to thin, stage and haul the remaining acreage. The site was located on steep, rocky terrain which made the use of equipment impractical, and a recent injury to the homeowner made landowner assistance impossible. On the in-kind match, that was provided by landowners at the different private properties where trees were thinned (e.g. time for meetings, flagging trees, oversight during work, some equipment work, etc.)

Summary:

Treated 56 acres of fuels mitigation work. These acres broke down into: 41 acres in Tollgate and Hill View Neighborhoods; 15 acres on Pole Creek Ranch, the Harrison property and Willow Springs Preserve, 5 information sessions and report information on attendance and noteworthy discussions, questions, or connections. This work boosted the overall resilience of the community. The greatest impact indicated is the connections they formed with Firewise communities and other land management partners.

ODF WESTERN LANE DISTRICT Contact: McKenna Armantrout
mckenna.armantrout@odf.oregon.gov

Funding Awarded: \$284,635

Spent: \$284,387

Footprint Acreage Goal: 150 acres

Completed Acres: 175 acres

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
3 Outreach Events, 5 Site Assessments	3 Outreach Events and 5 Site Assessments
50 acres of Mechanical fuels Treatments (Long Tom)	93 acres of Mechanical fuels Treatment (Long Tom)
30 acres of Prescribed Burning (WVFC)	21 acres of Prescribed Burning (Long tom)
50 acres of FR (CFWWC)	41.2 acres of Fuels Reduction (CFWWC)
20 acres of Fuels Reduction (Eugene Parks)	20 acres of Fuels Reduction (Eugene Parks)



Match: \$153,814: 60 acres of additional Fuels Reduction work.

Summary:

They completed 21 acres of Rx Burning. 3 Outreach Events and 5 Site Assessments were completed and Fuels Reduction was over accomplished in the Long Tom area with 93 acres of Mechanical Fuels Reduction work as well as the Rx Burning work. The Coast Fork Willamette Watershed council completed 41.2 acres and Eugene Parks completed 20 acres of fuels mitigation work.

APPLEGATE PARTNERSHIP AND WATERSHED COUNCIL | **Contact:** Nathan Gehres
nathan@apwc.info; Janelle Dunlevy janelle@apwc.info

Funding Awarded: \$269,160
Spent: \$269,160

Footprint Acreage Goal: 150
Completed Acres: 185

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
Community Engagement: 50 landowners, 5 community events	Community Engagement: 60 landowners, 14 community events
Fuels Reduction: 150 acres	Fuels Reduction: 185 acres, 822 hazard trees mitigated, 1 mile fuel breaks.

Match: \$2,421,550 leveraged through the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) funded CIS to support fuels treatments on 262 acres of private lands. To maximize the impact of these ODF funds, we implemented a cost-share model, encouraging landowner participation. To date, landowners have contributed \$45,349—representing 18% of the total cost of completed work—demonstrating strong local investment and commitment to wildfire risk reduction.

Summary:

14 community events were implemented and a total of 60 homes were assessed. 185 acres were treated with fuels reduction activities, 822 hazard trees were mitigated, and approximately 1 mile of fuel breaks were implemented. Fuels treatments have primarily focused on areas along driveways and the lands bordering public roads. These treatments also improve access for firefighting personnel and equipment, enhancing the overall effectiveness of emergency response efforts. As part of the project, over 800 standing dead hazard trees have been felled and processed. These trees posed serious safety risks to landowners, forestry crews, and firefighters, and could have served as sources of ember cast during a wildfire. Their removal has reduced these risks and contributed to a safer landscape.

Public safety has been meaningfully enhanced—not only through improved evacuation routes, but also by enabling hand crews to safely access forested areas around homes for firefighting or additional fuels reduction work.



Funding Awarded: \$149,437

Spent: \$137,935

Footprint Acreage Goal: 60

Completed Acres: 66

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
60 acres Fuels Reduction	66 acres Fuels Reduction
Prescribed Burn: 2 acres	5 acres of pile burning for Butte Falls communities.

Match: 15 acres of match treatments under WSFM award Red Dollar Buckhorn, which were a mix of roadside brushing along one lane access roads, defensible space treatments to connect to larger treatments, hazard tree removal and small-scale pile burning.

Summary:

66 acres of SFG treatments. Prescribed burning was not feasible, however 5 acres of pile burns were able to be completed for the Butte Falls Communities. In Jackson Co this project connected communities in Butte Falls to two existing federal projects. A BLM EA Fuels project where this SFG treated 20 acres next to BLM fuel treatments and an LRP treatment, connecting 342 acres of treatments that are set to receive a pile burn in fall 2025 and planned broadcast burn in spring of 2026. Additionally, this completed defensible space for landowners currently going through the EQIP program with the Natural Resource Conservation Service in Jackson Co.

SOUTHERN OREGON FOREST RESTORATION COLLABORATIVE **Contact:** Terry Fairbankstfairbanks@sofrc.org**Funding Awarded:** \$232,155**Spent:** \$232,155**Footprint Acreage Goal:** 76 Acres**Completed Acres:** 76 Acres**Deliverables:**

Goal	Completed
Technical Assistance to 25 landowners	Technical Assistance to 36 landowners
76 acres Mechanical Thinning	76 acres Mechanical Thinning
76 acres Piling	76 acres Piling
76 acres Pile Burning/Chipping	76 acres Pile Burning



Pictures provided by Lomakatsi

Match: BLM Title II: \$60,000 and Applegate Fire District #9 and Applegate Partnership & Watershed Council (APWC) contributed to burning piles on approximately 4 acres.

Summary:

Descriptions from these reports indicate the following changes to landscape conditions related to enhanced resiliency and mitigation of wildfire risk: Increased canopy base height from 1.7 feet to 7 feet, reduced expected flame length from 9.4 feet to 3.6 feet, trees per acre were reduced from 500 to 200 trees per acre, rate of fire spread was reduced from 10.2 chains/hour to 2.8 chains/hour for a total of 7.4 chains/hour reduction. The goal of the project was to increase the safety for evacuation of landowners and for firefighters to be able to enter the area. Our metrics showed that: Nearly 75% of all roads miles in the project area are effectively safe for wildfire evacuation due to treatment or low need for treatment and 67% of all treated acres were high priority. This project is the culmination of 3 grants starting in August 2021 (1 BLM and two ODF SFG grants). They learned a lot about evacuation routes and the complexity of dealing with multiple small properties and small acreages. Partners encouraged us to share what we learned with other potential practitioners in a case study.

WAGON TRAIL FIREWISE COMMUNITY | **Contacts:** Janelle Dunlevy janelle@apwc.info Brian Mulhollan bmulhollan@applegatefd.com

Funding Awarded: \$120,340 **Spent:** \$120,340

Footprint Acreage Goal: 32 Acres

Completed: 32 Acres

Deliverables:

Goal	Completed
6.5 miles of Fuels Reduction within 20' of roadsides (32 acres)	3.28 miles increasing the buffer area on either side of the road from 20' to 40' (32 acres)
50 trees felled and removed, chipped, or sectioned	120 trees felled
4 vegetation disposal bins provided to residents and removed upon completion.	1 vegetation disposal bin provided and community veg. dump trailer and chipper. Total amount removed = to the 4 bins.

Match: Jan.-Dec 2024: 13 Landowners, Invested: 2160 Hours & \$66,624. Jan.-May 2025: 21 landowners, Invested: 1645 hours & \$46,920.

Summary:

Applegate Valley Fuels Management Taskforce (AVFMT) completed treatments totaling 3.28 miles and 32 acres using a combination of mechanical mastication and hand treatment. The buffer area on either side of the road increased from 20' to 40' because they were unable to work on 3 miles. A contractor felled 120 trees throughout the project area. The AVFMT assisted and leveraged project capacity with crews, equipment, traffic safety and community coordination with contractor. Over 60 yards of vegetation was transported and treated by the AVFMT. 32 acres with a combination of treatments conducted on each acre of the project footprint. Multiple hazard trees were identified while crews were conducting fuels reduction work and mitigated. All trees were limbed and debris was transported and treated by the AVFMT or left for the landowner to remove. Vegetation bins were made available, and a chipping event was held by the Applegate Fire District on Nov 16. They did not provide the 4 total vegetation disposal bins from Rogue Disposal. After the 1st bin in the fall, they found that it was difficult to collect the debris from the landowners due to the size and available position of the bin. Instead, the AVFMT made the community vegetation dump trailer and chipper available to all residents after the fall vegetation bin was removed. The AVFMT also provided crew and equipment around the community 8 additional days during the grant and will continue to make this equipment available after the close of the grant. As they used the 1 bin numerous times and the



Fuel treatment work by the NW Youth Corp.
Photo credit: Brian Mulhollen, AVFD (20250122_113718.jpg)



Burnbot remote masticator used to treat the landscape.
Photo credit: Brian Mulhollen, AVFD (IMG_1818.jpg)

vegetation dump trailer was available, they were still able to remove an equivalent amount as the proposed 4 bins.

The increased buffer area proved to be a major asset to this project. It provided greater defensible space along roadways, improved firefighter access and operational safety, and enabled more effective fuel reduction treatments. To support this work, they rented a BurnBot masticator—an innovative and highly effective tool for this landscape. Its performance exceeded expectations, allowing for precise and efficient treatment across varied terrain. The expanded buffer also contributed to ecological benefits by more closely replicating natural fire regimes and fostering healthier forest structure.