



OREGON OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

# **2021 ANNUAL REPORT**

PREPARED // MAY 2022







## MISSION

To protect people, property, and the environment from fire and hazardous materials.

## VISION

Premier Public Safety Services

## VALUES

### INTEGRITY

We believe in being honest, fair, and doing the right thing in everything we do.

### DEDICATION

We are committed to performing our work the best we can in support of our mission, our customers, our stakeholders, the public, and each other.

### LEADERSHIP

We are committed to be a leader in the Oregon fire service, to lead our organization, and lead ourselves as individuals in our day to day work.

### PARTNERSHIPS

We believe our success and the success of others depends on collaboration with our stakeholders.

### SERVICE TO OTHERS

We believe that serving others is a cornerstone of our mission, our day to day work, and is all inclusive.

### STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Oregon Revised Statutes: Chapters 336, 453, 470, 476, 478, 479, 480







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# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

## YEAR IN REVIEW

There is a lot to be said about 2021. It was a year that presented many challenges from ice storms to wildfires and landmark legislation to a new path forward for the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM). Yet, despite the challenges of a continued pandemic and several record-setting weather events, the OSFM and the Oregon fire service remained stoic as they continued to carry out their mission of protecting people, their property, and the environment from fire and hazardous materials.

Aside from the ongoing pandemic, February brought a record-breaking ice storm that plunged hundreds of thousands of Oregonians into the dark, ice brought trees crashing to the ground, and kept many agencies busy chasing calls for several days.

Through the second year of the pandemic, the OSFM and the Oregon fire service continued to help Oregonians through vaccination clinics, immunizing thousands of Oregonians against Covid-19. The office also worked alongside the Oregon Fire Service Coronavirus Response Team to issue guidance to help fire agencies navigate the Covid-19 Pandemic.

By late June, response to wildfires had begun. The season challenged firefighters early near the Dalles with two back-to-back conflagrations. Then, July 2021 saw the Bootleg Fire in Klamath and Lake County. At the time, it grew to the largest wildfire in the country. Through the Oregon Fire Mutual Aid System (OFMAS) and the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), the OSFM mobilized more than 300 firefighters from four states to help protect homes.

Over the summer, 57 task forces were mobilized, and nine conflagrations were declared. The response from the Oregon fire service was immense. Its members stepped up when their fellow Oregonians needed them the most.

The 2021 legislative session brought big changes to the Office of State Fire Marshal and charted a new path forward for the agency. House Bill 2927 made the OSFM an independent state agency. Senate Bill 762, the state's wildfire omnibus bill, was also signed into law. This piece of legislation was years in the making and gives the Office of State Fire Marshal the tools to prevent, prepare and respond to wildfire.

Rising to the challenges in 2021, the OSFM is in a good position, poised to continue to carry out its mission to make the lives of every Oregonian and those who visit, safer and better protected one step at a time.



## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# PANDEMIC RESPONSE

2021 saw the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Office of State Fire Marshal continued to play a role in supporting pandemic efforts across the state. Unlike in 2020, several vaccines were made available. In January, the OSFM assigned a team to support the Oregon Health Authority with vaccine distribution.

The great work of the Oregon Fire Service Coronavirus Response Taskforce also continued. The group is made up of Oregon fire service members and OSFM staff to help guide the fire service through the regulations and response to the pandemic. The group met monthly to discuss topics and issue bulletins to the fire service. In total, the Coronavirus Response Taskforce issued five Information Bulletins in 2021.

Topics included fire life safety activities, COVID-19 testing, vaccines, and personal protective equipment (PPE) compliance. The group also helped interpret guidance and implement Covid-19 safety measures in wildfire camps for first responders.



*OSFM & Oregon Fire Service*  
**SUPPORT VACCINE  
DISTRIBUTION**

## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# MONUMENTAL LEGISLATION

The 2021 legislative session brought monumental change to the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal, both in terms of preparing Oregonians for wildfire, responding to wildfire, and a new future as an independent state agency.

On Friday, July 30th, Oregon Governor Kate Brown signed Senate Bill 762 into law. The legislation funds nearly \$195 million in wildfire response, recovery, and mitigation.

Senate Bill 762 gives state agencies and local communities the funding to better prepare, prevent, and respond to wildfire. The law coordinates a comprehensive statewide response plan and funding to mitigate wildfires. The plan is focused on community preparedness.

The signing of Senate Bill 762 was a landmark moment in the OSFM's history. The new approach to combating the growing threat of wildfire would not have been possible without all those who contributed to investing in addressing wildfires. The law accelerated proactive steps to modernize response across Oregon and empower communities to take steps to reduce their risk and increase their resiliency.

Senate Bill 762 gave the OSFM the capacity to make investments in communities, fire service, and emergency preparedness. It also directed the OSFM to develop a defensible space code. That process began in earnest in 2021 and is set to be completed in December 2022.

### SB 762 TIMELINE





## DEPARTMENT OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

House Bill 2927 passed the legislature after several years of discussions and was signed into law in 2021. The bill was a thoughtful approach to reform Oregon's emergency management functions to better prepare Oregonians for all emergencies.

Legislators and supporters of the bill recognized the establishment of the Office of State Fire Marshal as an independent agency. In addition, it would provide the flexibility and autonomy to deal with Oregon's increasing risks and threats from disasters, such as wildfires. It also allows the necessary expansion of scope and scale for the OSFM, as outlined in the Governor's Council on Wildfire Response.

As part of the requirement for review, a task force was assembled to determine whether the OSFM should become an independent agency. The recommendation was made to move forward based on the rationale presented during the task forces meetings and the previous multi-year discussions. Another consideration is the added expectations and legislative mandates outlined for OSFM in Senate Bill 762.

Becoming an independent state agency is no small task. Work began promptly after the bill was signed into law. A change manager was brought on to help navigate the path forward, and an employee board was formed to help guide the transition. The change manager and team are engaged in every aspect, from staffing needs, to facilities, and operational infrastructure.

The OSFM is set to become the Department of the State Fire Marshal on July 1st, 2023.



## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# WILDFIRE RESPONSE

Wildfires in Oregon in 2021 started early, kept a steady pace, and kept the OSFM, partner agencies, and the Oregon fire service busy. Through the Oregon Fire Mutual Aid System (OFMAS), 57 task forces were mobilized, and nine conflagrations were declared.

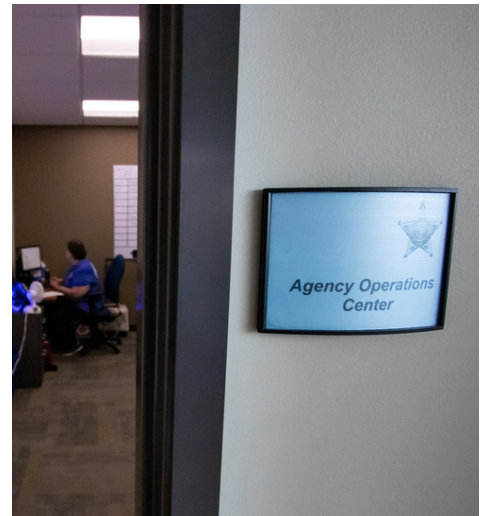
The first Emergency Conflagration Declaration was made on June 29th, one of the earliest in OSFM history. Two fires, back-to-back in North Central Oregon, kept crews busy in wheat country. Through new funding, the OSFM implemented pre-positioning of resources and immediate response. These two new tools limited the fire's size and impact to people, ranches, and infrastructure.

The month of July was a taxing month. On July 6th, the Bootleg Fire sparked in Klamath County. Pushed by gusty winds and extremely dry conditions, flames ripped across the landscape. At one point, the Bootleg Fire was the largest wildfire in the country and the number one priority for resources. The response from the fire service was tremendous. Through the OFMAS, 12 task forces were mobilized, including 153 firefighters, 44 engines, and 15 tenders. In addition, structural firefighters from three states, California, Washington, and Utah, were called in. In total, 307 structural firefighters, 72 engines, and 17 tenders were assigned to help protect life and property.

August kept OSFM resources busy as well. Fires began to pop up on the west side of the Cascades. As mid-September arrived, so did a welcome sight for fire crews, a soaking rain across the state that would end several months of wildfire response.

To help coordinate this response, the OSFM's Agency Operations Center (AOC) is stood up with every mobilization. The AOC is staffed by OSFM personnel whenever the OFMAS is mobilized, whether in-state or through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) to assist our partners.

2021 was one of the busiest years for the AOC. The OSFM staffed 146.5 shifts and was open continuously from June 30th - July 28th, August 10th - August 21st, and September 8th - September 15th.





## 2021 FIRE MOBILIZATIONS/CONFLAGRATIONS

FIRE	LOCATION (COUNTY)	DATE	DURATION (IN HRS)	OFMAS TFs/STs	FIRE AGENCIES
Wrentham Market	Wasco	6/29/21	161.57	3	27
Sunset Valley	Wasco	7/01/2021	116.33	3	18
Jack	Douglas	7/06/2021	170.62	7	49
Bootleg	Klamath/Lake	7/07/2021	514.83	20	79
Grandview	Jefferson	7/12/2021	113.98	8	44
Elbow Creek	Wallowa	7/16/2021	196.97	3	31
Middle Fork	Lane	8/09/2021	195.3	4	39
Skyline Ridge	Douglas	8/10/2021	71.8	2	11
Patton Meadow	Lake	8/12/2021	199.82	11	60
Devil's Knob	Douglas	8/24/2021	90.8	2	11
Cougar Peak	Lake	9/08/2021	175.92	10	58

## 2021 FIRE PRE-POSITION ASSIGNMENTS

ASSIGNMENT	LOCATION (COUNTY)	DATE	OFMAS TFs/STs	FIRE AGENCIES
Pre-Position: Central Oregon	Deschutes	6/22/2021	2	10
Pre-Position Klamath	Klamath	7/2/2021	2	9
Pre-Position Ashland	Jackson	7/15/2021	California	
Pre-Position Utah	Deschutes/Lane	7/18/2021	Utah	
Pre-Position Douglas	Douglas	8/04/2021	2	13



## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# NEW WILDFIRE TOOLS

In July 2021, Senate Bill 762, the state's wildfire omnibus bill, was signed into law. This piece of legislation was several years in the making and gives the Office of State Fire Marshal the tools to prevent, prepare and respond to wildfire.

Through the new law, the OSFM launched two initiatives, **Response Ready Oregon**, which aims to modernize and build capacity within the Oregon Fire Mutual Aid System (OFMAS), and **Fire Adapted Oregon**, which is geared toward preventing and preparing communities for wildfire.

Through **Response Ready Oregon**, the OSFM brought on five of seven mobilization coordinators to collaborate with fire defense board chiefs and fire chiefs to improve the OFMAS. In 2021, the OSFM mobilized resources to pre-position them ahead of increased wildfire threat. The initiative also provided resources for immediate response to bolster capacity on emerging incidents.



**FIRE ADAPTED  
OREGON**  
PREVENTING FIRES AND PROTECTING PEOPLE

With the **Fire Adapted Oregon** initiative, the OSFM brought on four of seven Fire Risk Reduction Specialists. These specialists are working with local partners to create and promote fire-adapted communities in Oregon. These Fire Risk Reduction Specialists are a regional contact for fire chiefs and local partners on community risk reduction needs.

In 2021, the OSFM partnered with Klamath County and other regional partners for a "Plan & Prepare" fair geared towards wildfire preparedness. The team also began laying the ground work for upcoming Home Ignition Zone trainings that will take place statewide beginning in April 2022.





## NEW WILDFIRE TOOLS **GRANTS**

The wildfires of September 2020 will have a lasting impact on the Oregon fire service. In 2021, the OSFM awarded nearly \$5 million in Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Grants to fire agencies impacted by the 2020 Labor Day fires or to fire agencies that are under-resourced.

In total, 93 fire service partners received grant funds. As a result, the OSFM awarded \$2.6 million to 31 departments directly impacted by the 2020 wildfires; 61 departments that are under-resourced and may not have the funding to purchase equipment for their firefighters received \$1.4 million. Seven departments received \$812,000 in additional funding.

The Oregon legislature allocated nearly \$5 million to fund the statewide grant program. These funds helped to provide critical support and capacity to combat wildfires in Oregon. This money helped different departments and districts purchase things like radios, personal protective equipment (PPE), fire shelters, training, and apparatus, among other things.

## NEW WILDFIRE TOOLS **ENGINE PROGRAM**

The OSFM launched a \$25 million Engine Program as part of the Response Ready Oregon Initiative to add capacity and resources to respond to wildfire. With funds from Senate Bill 762, the OSFM began the process of purchasing new Type III & Type VI engines, and tenders which will be strategically placed across the state.

The OSFM formed a Specification Committee, which was made up of members from the Oregon fire service. The group was tasked with coming up with the needs and specifications for the new apparatus. Their work was completed, and the OSFM has moved into the next steps of the project.

Heading into 2022, the OSFM will begin work to identify a vendor to build the new engines and tenders, determine where to place the the apparatus, and sign Inter-Governmental Agreements. The goal is to have these new engines built and delivered by July 2023.



## FIRE & LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION SAFETY DIVISION **COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION**



In 2021, the CRR Unit engaged with **177** fire agencies, **22** fire defense boards/fire prevention cooperatives, and other partners in **32** counties. This work consists of building relationships and laying the groundwork for future technical, planning, and financial investment opportunities.



The Community Risk Reduction Unit is tasked with providing the Oregon fire service and stakeholder partners with technical, funding & planning assistance, and support to reduce risk from fire in Oregon. Supporting the **Fire Adapted Oregon** initiative, the unit builds and maintains relationships with partner agencies, stakeholders, and communities to prepare for and adapt to wildfire while also reducing risks for loss of lives and property.

In 2021, the team conducted a Community Risk Reduction Needs Evaluation targeting communities at risk based on the USDA/Pyrologix report, "Exposure of human communities to wildfire in the Pacific Northwest." CRR Unit members talked with 42 fire agencies whose jurisdictions covered 60 communities at high risk of wildfire loss. These conversations covered the challenges that the communities face to reduce their wildfire risk. Work is underway to look for significant trends and areas of opportunity for local investment.

The CRR Unit contracted with the National Fire Protection Association to provide 13 "Assessing Structural Ignition Potential from Wildfire" sessions. Using funds from its operational budget, the CRR Unit has encumbered \$149,500.00 to invest in this two-day training that will be deployed throughout the State to improve knowledge on how homes ignite from wildfire and how those ignitions can be reduced. Students will learn the art and science of structural assessment and communications with property owners in the classes. The students will be made up of fire service personnel, emergency managers, fire planners, and other professional practitioners.



## EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES DIVISION **MOBILIZATION COORDINATORS**

The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) was given funding in January of 2021 for five Regional Mobilization Coordinators (RMCs), whose goal is to assist the Oregon Fire Mutual Aid System (OFMAS) in readiness and response to keep fires small & away from communities.

Four of the seven positions were filled before the 2021 fire season. Personnel responded to large fires throughout the state. Regional Mobilization Coordinators (RMC) represented the OSFM and explained the process to request support to interagency teams, supported initial attack by securing air assets, supported pre-positioning, immediate response, and assisted fire defense board chiefs with conflagration requests.

In the fall, the RMCs met with fire defense board chiefs around the state to get feedback and how to assist with drafting plans of work for Emergency Response Unit staff.



## PREPARING FOR WILDFIRE **MAWS TRAINING**

OSFM employees and Incident Management Team members planned and conducted the annual Metro Advanced Wildland School (MAWS) in Clackamas County on June 4th and 5th, 2021.

This training is provided by the Northwest Association of Fire Trainers and is offered free of charge, thanks to grants and funding provided by the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training and the OSFM, and provides task book opportunities for Strike Team and Task Force Leaders, Engine Bosses, and Wildland Interface Firefighter Type 1 trainees. In addition, the training provides a realistic environment for students to practice skills learned in the classroom.

This event was attended by more than 120 students representing 46 structural fire agencies.



## FIRE &amp; LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION DIVISION

**FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION**

In 2021, the Fire Prevention Education Unit (FPEU) adapted and overcame barriers brought on by the pandemic. The goal has been to get back in front of Oregonians to continue prevention work. Adapting to the pandemic meant more fire prevention webinars and training done virtually. The unit completed 48 pieces of training. In total, 650 participants increased their knowledge of a variety of fire prevention topics. These topics ranged from understanding how to connect with unique audiences in the youth fire safety webinars to learn about smoke alarm installation requirements. The breakdown of these opportunities is included to the right.

**Fire Prevention Education Outreach Stats**

**48 trainings completed with a total of 650 participants.**

**Sessions included:**

- **2 Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Law classes**
- **15 National Fire Incident Reporting System Modules**
- **4 Smoke Alarm Installation Program classes**
- **24 Youth Fire Safety webinars**
- **2 NFPA 1035**
- **1 Insight Facilitator Training class**

**Smoke Alarm Installations:**

- **348 alarms installed by 10 Oregon fire agencies.**

**Fire Prevention Education Outreach Stats****23 Live Event Appearances:**

- **20 Local Fairs**
- **3 OSAA State Championship Events**
  - **1A-6A Cross Country**
  - **5A-6A Soccer**
  - **4A-6A Football**

In addition to the increased connection with fire service partners through training, the FPEU had an active year interacting with Oregonians and visitors to the state. NFPA 1035 saw a curriculum update, and three new FPEU staff members were certified as instructors through DPSST.

After a year-long break, this team committed to an extensive events schedule, participating in 23 events. A more detailed description is included to the left, but it is also worth noting that this outreach included a partnership with stakeholders at the local, county, and state level.





## FIRE &amp; LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION DIVISION

**ANALYTICS & INTELLIGENCE**

The OSFM Analytics and Intelligence Unit (A&I) saw success in 2021 in improving the number of fire agencies reporting National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) Data and addressing any reporting issues. The A&I Unit is responsible for collecting fire incident data from over 300 fire agencies in the state. Data reporting can be a challenge. A&I developed a report card to assist local agency address reporting questions. These report cards are mailed out quarterly along with other tools or swag the office has created. Packets included a magnet with our contact information for help with data entry; a laminated, easy-to-use flip chart with commonly used codes; a “Hot Tips” sheet; and a contact card noting the names and numbers of key OSFM personnel in their region.

A&I developed a Fire Risk Reduction Profile that is available to fire agencies across the state. It includes maps, graphs, and other data visualizations of an agency’s local demographics, response times, fire and EMS incidents, and critical infrastructure. Fire agencies can use this to identify vulnerable populations and infrastructure, plan for wildfire response, develop mitigation strategies, and target education and outreach.

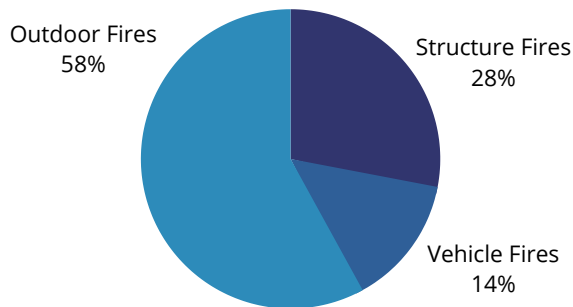
The A&I Unit continued to improve partnerships statewide. A&I has been intentional about reaching out to our state agency partners, including the Public Utilities Commission, the Department of Consumer and Business Services, the Office of Emergency Management, the Oregon Department of Forestry, and others, to share information, develop research projects, and align communication.



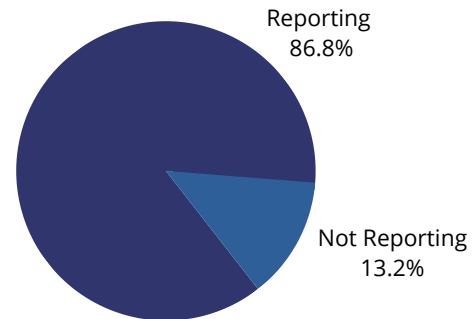
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## OREGON FIRE STATISTICS

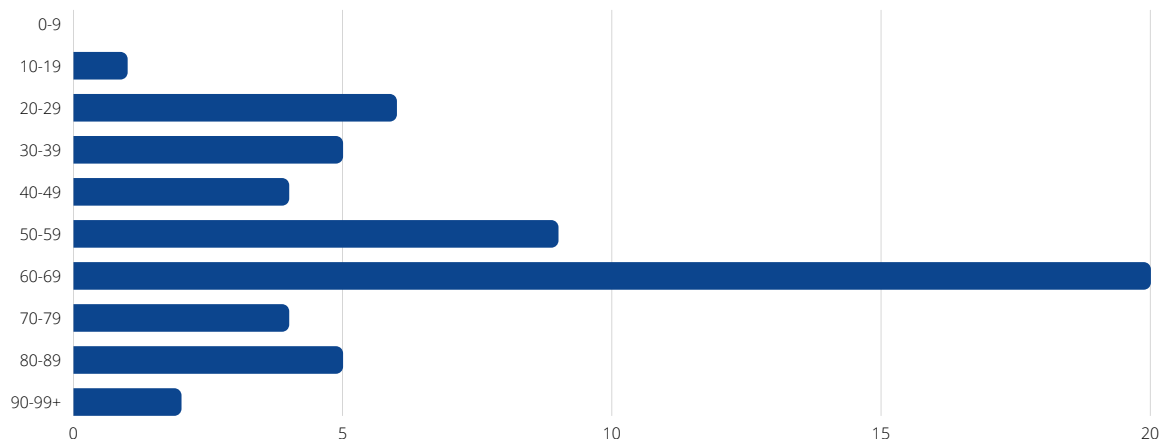
### TYPES OF FIRES



### FIRE AGENCIES REPORTING

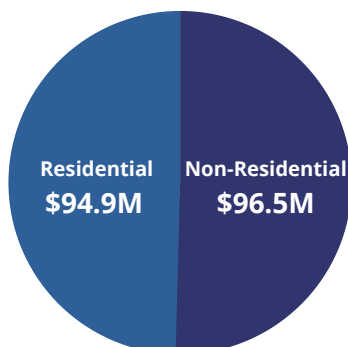


### 2021 TOTAL FIRE FATALITIES



There were 59 fire fatalities in Oregon in 2021.  
56 of the 59 fire fatalities the age could be determined.

### 2021 ESTIMATED FIRE LOSS IN MILLIONS



Largest Non-Residential  
Fire Loss

**\$8M**

JELD-WEN  
Research & Development  
3737 Lakeport Blvd  
Klamath Falls  
on October 13th.

Largest Residential  
Fire Loss

**\$2.55M**

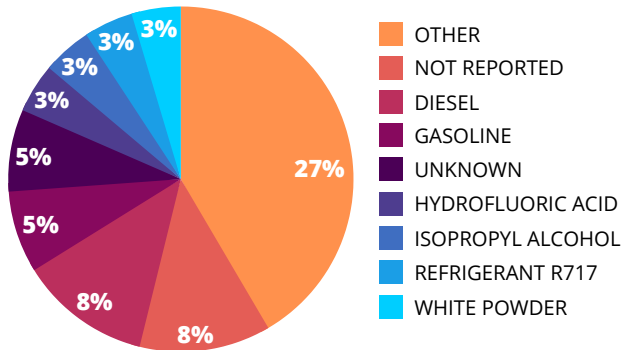
Rose Manor  
Apartments  
2661 SE 160th Ave  
Portland  
on January 11th.



# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

## OREGON HAZMAT STATISTICS

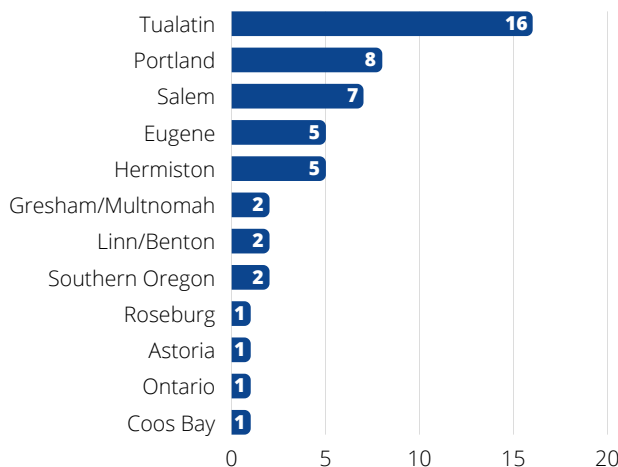
### SUBSTANCES HANDLED BY STATE HAZMAT TEAMS



The substances listed below were handled one time each by Oregon's Hazmat Teams. Each represents 1.5% of the total substances:

Ammonia, ammonium phosphate, carbon monoxide, diesel fuel, ethanol, hydrochloric acid, hydrogen peroxide (35% solution), hydrogen sulfide, hydrogen (cryogenic liquid), LPG, muriatic acid, natural gas, silver nitrate, sodium hydroxide (solution), sodium hypochlorite, sucrose, sulfuric acid, and urea,

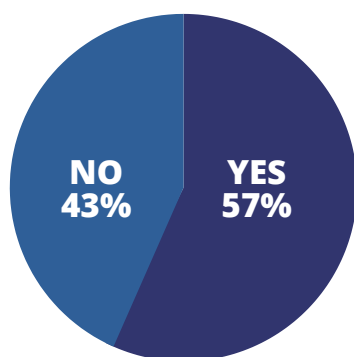
### 2021 STATE HAZMAT RESPONSES BY TEAM



Only  
**3/10 of 1%**  
of the total hazmat  
container capacity was  
actually released.

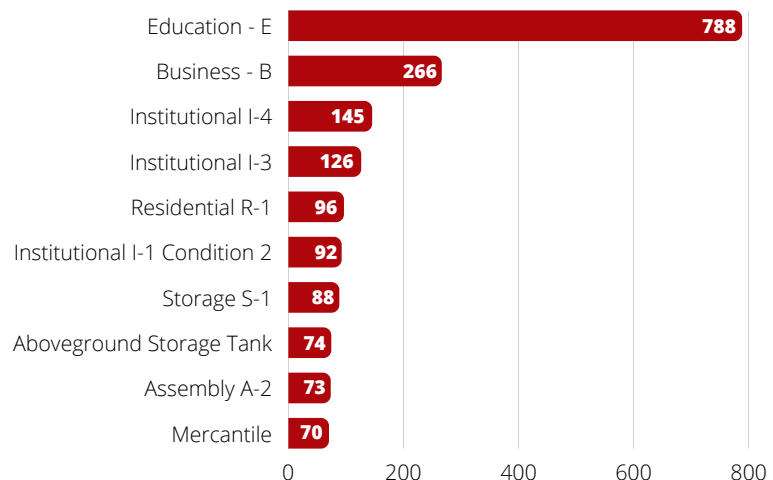
### 2021 FIRE & LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

#### VIOLATIONS DURING INITIAL INSPECTIONS



Total Inspections: **3,307**  
Total Number of Violations: **5,151**

#### TOP 10 OCCUPANCIES INSPECTED



## EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES DIVISION

# HAZMAT



### REGIONAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS

The HazMat by Rail program improved the response capabilities of the Regional Emergency Hazardous Materials Response Team (RHMERT) #7 – Portland Fire by procuring a set of high-strength, magnetic, flexible urethane patches. These patches can be easily applied to a railcar or metal container to quickly stop a product from releasing into the environment. This was a pilot project for the RHMERT program to study a future investment in patching capabilities.



### HAZMAT BY RAIL

Equipment Distribution Initiative: The HazMat by Rail program purchased thermal imaging cameras, 4-gas monitors, storm drain covers, and other equipment for more than 29 fire departments in Oregon. In total, OSFM invested over \$160,000 towards improving fire agency initial response capabilities for a rail incident involving the release of hazardous materials. This new equipment replaced older, outdated equipment, but it also provided new capabilities for fire agencies to respond to incidents.

Coinciding with this investment, the HazMat by Rail Program provided maintenance and user training and rail safety awareness courses to all recipients. Through this purchase, initial response fire agencies are better prepared to respond to a rail incident and mitigate the situation.





## EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES DIVISION

# ORSAP

The OSFM was tasked with creating the Oregon Safety Assessment Program (OrSAP), a registry of individuals qualified to conduct post-disaster safety assessments through legislation. Staff created a robust stakeholder group and have been creating a draft administrative rule to describe the program, the roles, and responsibilities of the OSFM and local program coordinators, to utilize the registry to mobilize qualified personnel in the event of a natural disaster or otherwise damaged infrastructure or structures. The program is expected to be fully operational in 2022.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES DIVISION

# LEPC

Utilizing federal HMEP grant funds, Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) continued developing emergency response plans addressing hazardous material releases.

The grant provided the funding to support emergency response exercises to validate the completed plans. During 2021 there were three facility-based plans, one rail response plan, one mass casualty plan developed, and one functional and two tabletop exercises completed.

Leveraging federal grant funds, the OSFM sponsored and coordinated two specialized training series statewide: risk-based response to dry-ice incidents and risk-based response to battery emergencies. More than 200 emergency responders attended these trainings.



## REGULATORY SERVICES DIVISION

**COMMUNITY RIGHT TO KNOW**

In 2021, the Community Right to Know (CR2K) Program resumed field operations but modified them because of the risks associated with the pandemic. The team's efforts focused on closed facilities reporting, facilities reporting below the reportable quantity levels, sites not reporting to the CR2K Program, and on-site audits of facilities identified as being non-compliant. Compliance Specialists also reviewed quality control reports to confirm the accuracy of the data provided by facilities for emergency planners, first responders, and the public.

Compliance Specialists resumed inspections in November and visited 49 sites identified as businesses that were required to report. Of those visits, four on-site audits were conducted. As a result, Compliance Specialists identified multiple unreported substances at those facilities that were above reportable quantity levels.

The CR2K social media campaign continued in 2021. The OSFM posted information to increase awareness of the CR2K program. The outreach effort culminated in an additional 200 citizen users to the Community Right to Know Management System (CMS) online program. The campaign also allowed CR2K staff to engage with stakeholders to identify and mitigate areas where wildfires could become an issue for facilities. Electrical, natural gas, and other utility providers use CHS Manager to identify facilities that may be "power-dependent" when there is a wildfire in rural areas. These providers are using the data submitted by facilities to assist them with needs that the utility companies have identified.

CR2K staff evaluated and restructured all CHS Manager user manuals to ensure the data provided and accessed by facilities, emergency planners, first responders, and the public are up to date. They also reviewed and updated all CR2K communications.





## REGULATORY SERVICES DIVISION **CARD LOCK**

Field operations resumed in October 2021 with the beginning of the 2021-2022 license year. The unit worked with stakeholders to resume in-person audits and inspections. During the 2020 Labor Day fires, the gas stations in the Detroit-Idanha area were destroyed. The OSFM granted a conditional use cardlock license to allow area residents (who would not normally be granted cardlock use) access to gasoline while the area retail station was being rebuilt.



## REGULATORY SERVICES DIVISION **LIQUID PETROLEUM GAS**

The pandemic continued to prompt changes in fieldwork for the LPG unit in 2021. To continue to serve Oregonians, the LPG Program was able to provide over the phone technical assistance. The unit did resume field operations to conduct inspections of residential, commercial, and light industrial tank installations.

## REGULATORY SERVICES DIVISION **FIREWORKS**

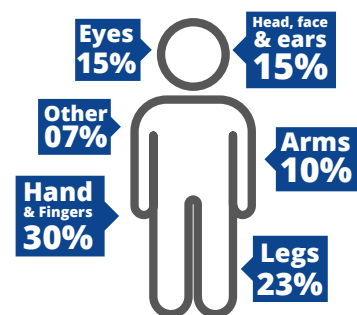
In the summer of 2021, drought was persistent across the state, with some regions in extreme and exceptional drought. This raised concern over the use of fireworks over the 4th of July holiday. The OSFM addressed a large number of questions over regulations and what authority fire agencies, local governments, and counties had in addressing firework use. The OSFM put together a robust messaging campaign around safely using fireworks and the threat of wildfire if fireworks were not used properly. The OSFM also extended requirements for pyrotechnicians to meet certification requirements.



### KEEP IT LEGAL, KEEP IT SAFE

#### **MOST INJURED BODY PARTS BY FIREWORKS**

- 58% EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT-TREATED INJURIES WERE BURNS
- CHILDREN UNDER 15 MAKE UP 36% OF THE ESTIMATED FIREWORKS-RELATED INJURIES
- 12% OF PATIENTS WERE TREATED AND TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER HOSPITAL OR ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL.



## FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY DIVISION

# FIRE INVESTIGATION AND FIELD OPERATIONS UNIT

The field operations unit is made up of 13 districts statewide and 13 district Deputy State Fire Marshals. Under the direction of the Assistant Chief Deputy and two Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshals, the Fire Investigations and Field Operations Unit worked to reduce the frequency and severity of fires and other life-safety incidents through a multi-disciplinary approach that included education, inspection, enforcement, and investigation.

## PLANS REVIEWS & INSPECTIONS

The Field Operations Unit performed plan reviews for access and water supply, where construction and development plans were evaluated for compliance with fire and life safety codes. Deputies also provided inspections which identified and abated fire hazards in commercial buildings, institutional occupancies such as schools, multi-family housing of three or more units, and high-hazard operations.

## FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Deputies help save lives and property by determining the origin and cause of fires and identifying whether the cause is a result of carelessness or design. Fire investigations aim to identify the origin and cause of fires and leverage the lessons learned to build program messaging and outreach to further prevent similar types of fires before they start.

### BY THE NUMBERS

#### PLANS REVIEWS & INSPECTIONS

Total Inspections & Plans Reviews:  
2,350

#### FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Total Investigations: 232  
Lead Investigations: 117  
Assisted Agencies Having Jurisdiction: 115





## FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY DIVISION

**TECHNICAL SERVICES UNIT**

Technical Service coverage for Oregon is comprised of one Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal, three Deputy State Fire Marshals, and three Healthcare Compliance Surveyors.

**HEALTH CARE**

As the Covid-19 pandemic continued, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services began slowly to schedule CMS required surveys. The surveyors provided guidance to healthcare facilities with the process of erecting COVID-19 temporary barriers, to create isolation rooms or areas, which reduced or eliminated the spread of the illness from the healthcare facilities.

The unit completed plans reviews to CMS standards for 170 health care facilities statewide. In addition, the unit completed 47 life safety code and emergency preparedness program surveys in health care facilities from August through December.

**CODES & STATE PROPERTIES**

2021 began the three-year Oregon Fire Code adoption cycle. With the help of 42 stakeholders (from industry, partner agencies, fire service, and interested public members), the nine sub-committees attended over 77 two-hour sessions to research and review partner agency referenced code, historical code notes, laws, and statutes. The 2022 Oregon Fire Code is anticipated to be adopted July 1, 2022.

Code Deputies completed 245 inspections for state owned property, including Department of Corrections and Oregon Youth Authority sites. Code deputies completed 38 plan review projects for aboveground storage containers and tanks.

The Codes and Technical Service Desk continues to grow with over 700 questions and requests in 2021. The top topics included residential sprinklers, smoke alarm installations, and defensible space.

**BY THE NUMBERS****HEALTH CARE**

LCS Surveys: 47

Health Care Facility Plans Review: 170

**CODES & STATE PROPERTIES**

Inspections: 245

Plans Reviews: 38

Code Desk Questions: 700+





This report was prepared by:

**OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

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