



OREGON LIFE SAFETY TEAM

A multi-agency team that emphasizes community risk reduction, shares best practices, coordinates, develops and implements consistent statewide fire prevention and life safety education.

OREGON LIFE SAFETY TEAM MEETING MINUTES TUES 04.23.24 1300-1500 OSFM HQ- MT HOOD ROOM

Attendees/Representing

Bill Ashenden- American Red Cross- Cascades Region	Kassie Keller- OSFM
Connie Biggs- OSFM	Claire McGrew- OSFM
Victor Bovbjerg- Philomath Fire & Rescue	Travis Medema- OSFM
Laura Chaffey- OSFM	Alfredo Mendez- Albany Fire Department
Amber Cross- OSFM	Bobby Meyer- Aurora Fire District/OFDDA
Adrienne Gallardo- OHSU/Doernbecher Injury Prevention Program	Piseth Pich- Hillsboro Fire & Rescue
Scott Goff- Umatilla County Fire District #1	Shawna Sexton- OSFM
Justin Guinan- Salem Fire Department	Kari Shanklin- Clackamas Fire District #1
Joanne Hatch- Retired fire service	Paula Shelly- OSFM
Cody Heidt- North Lincoln Fire & Rescue	Ginger Slavens- Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District
John Hendricks- OSFM	Anne-Marie Storms- Keizer Fire Department
Sara Jasmin- OSFM	

*indicates attendance via teleconference

WELCOME

Sara called the meeting to order at 1304 & welcomed everyone attending in person & virtually.

FIRE SEASON OVERVIEW- Travis Medema, Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal- OSFM

Chief Medema provided an update on Fire Season 2024 projections.

- The factors that are looked at in forecasting wildfire season include:
 - Temp & precipitation trends
 - Drought monitor
 - Snow pack/water equivalent
 - Reservoir levels
 - El Nino/La Nina trends
 - & others, ect
- The current forecast for Oregon is:
 - Apr/May/June- Average fire outlook
 - July- increasing fire potential in Southern Oregon, East Cascades, NE Oregon

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- OSFM is preparing their response using a forward leaning posture, including tools such as:
 - Incident Management Teams
 - Regional Mobilization Coordinators
 - Prepositioning to prevent escalation to conflagration
 - Grant programs to boost local staff during fire season
 - Severity resource & aircraft use

WILDFIRE AWARENES MONTH- *Sara Jasmin, Program Coordinator, FLSE Division*

Sara provided some information on Wildfire Awareness Month activities.

- Governor Kotek signed a proclamation declaring May 2024 Wildfire Awareness Month.
- 05.04.24 is Take Action Day, encouraging people to take steps to make their homes & neighborhoods more fire resistant.
- Several agencies are partnering to spread wildfire safety messaging, especially online, throughout the month of May & into early June.
 - Keep Oregon Green (05.01-05.04.24):
 - OSFM (05.05-05.12.24): Defensible Space
 - ODF (05.12-05.18.24): Debris Burning
 - KOG (05.19-05.25.24): Fireworks safety
 - OEM (05.26-05.31.24): Evacuation
 - ODOT (06.03-06.09.24): Vehicle fires
- OSFM has set up a [Wildfire Awareness Month website](#), has posted billboards around the State with a QR code, & will be providing outdoor banners in the Wildfire Awareness Month promotional materials boxes with the same QR code.

WILDFIRE AWARENESS MONTH PROMOTIONAL ITEM BOXES- *Sara Jasmin, Program Coordinator, FLSE Division*

Sara provided an overview of this year's Wildfire Awareness Month Promotional Item Boxes. They will be mailed out in the next few days & will contain:

- Rack Cards: Safe Equipment Use & "Learn to Burn"
- Defensible Space Technical Guide
- OEM "Ready-Set-Go" flyer
- Fireworks activity booklet
- Bigfoot stickers (two designs)
- Bigfoot buttons
- Bigfoot tote bags

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- Outdoor banner with a regional design (Mt Hood, Coast, Ashland, Hood River, Prineville)

PROGRAM UPDATES- *Amber Cross, Assistant Chief Deputy- FLSE Division, Connie Biggs, Laura Chaffey, & Paula Shelly, Program Coordinators FLSE Division*

Agency & division updates as well as program specific updates were provided.

- Assistant Chief Cross-
 - OSFM:
 - Fire season 2024- Reiterating what Chief Medema said, OSFM is taking a forward leaning posture into wildfire season, including awarding [Wildfire Season Staffing grants](#) & incentivizing people to have a [defensible space assessment](#) done by offering a \$250 voucher to help complete some of the suggested changes.
 - [Sparky Awards nominations](#) are open till 05.01.24.
 - The 2023 Legislative Session ended with no additional funding approved, but a clear continued interest in providing funding for community risk reduction efforts.
 - FLSE: The division will be present at several upcoming conferences. Connie will be at the [OFCA conference](#), where one thing she will be doing is promoting the Smoke Alarm Installation Program (SAIP). All of the Program Coordinators will be at the [OFMA conference](#) & providing an OSFM education programs update.
- Connie Biggs- Smoke/CO alarms:
 - [SAIP is being promoted](#), including at upcoming conferences.
 - [The Oregon Smoke/CO Alarm Law cours for Real Estate Agents](#) is ongoing.
 - There is a new Smoke Alarm FAQ brochure available on the OSFM Educational Materials Request form.
- Laura Chaffey- Top Fire Causes:
 - The [Cooking Fire Safety](#) Kit Pilot is underway.
 - Sites include Gresham (top cooking fires in multifamily residences) & Medford (top cooking fires in single family residences).
 - [Heating Fire Safety](#) will be the next pilot program & will start in 09.2024.
 - We are currently looking for pilot sites (small, medium, & large communities). Anyone with suggestions can [contact Laura](#).
 - An Electrical Fire Safety pilot program will start in 09.2025.
- Paula Shelly: Smoking Materials
 - The next step for the [Smoking Materials Program](#) will be to begin a thermal fuse program for home oxygen users in Oregon & incorporate it into the Smoking Materials Program

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- The Fall & Fire Prevention for Aging Adults program will also be revisited, revised, & revived.
 - NFPA Steps to Safety will be at OLST 07.2024 & present a seminar the next day. if you know of a partner agency that would be interested in attending, [contact Paula](#).

LOCAL UPDATES/GOOD OF THE ORDER

The floor was open for attendees to provide updates on what has been happening in their agencies & what events they have been or will be participating in. Some of the highlights included:

- Sound the Alarm- Throughout April around the State; Event in Salem 04.21.24 completed installs/educated in 131 homes
- Drive-Thru Fire Safety Training event in Salem
- Safe Kids Day- Portland area- 06.2024
- Open houses/career fairs/TYCWD
- Resource fairs
- Chief Claire McGrew mentioned that there is a saying that the things to fix to improve the wildland fire situation are: 1) Drought, 2) Wind, & 3) People. OLST is situated to help make changes within people so that they can help to improve the wildland fire situation.

Meeting adjourned @ 1452.

Next Meeting: Tues 07.23.24 1300-1700