

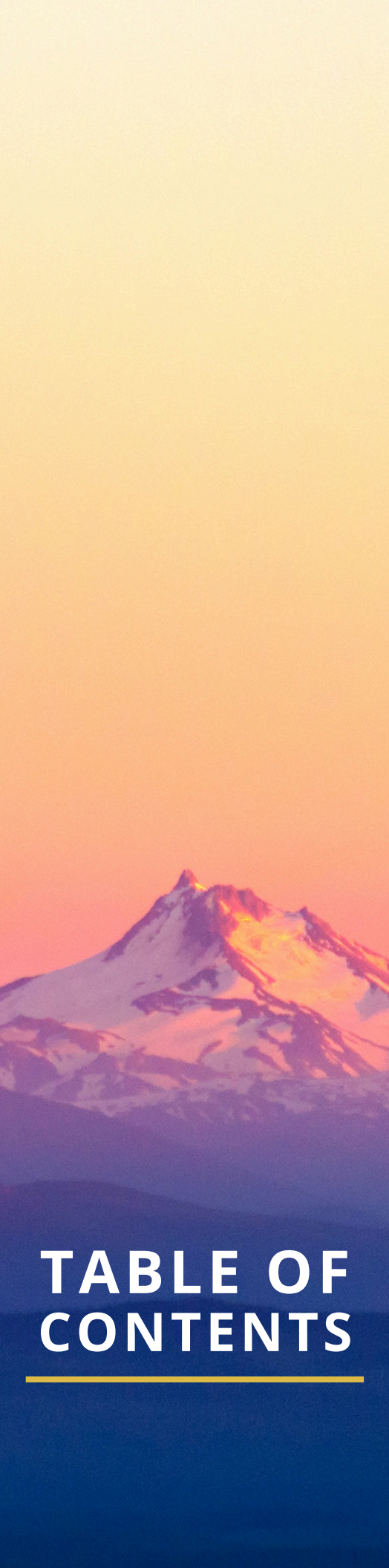
OREGON STATE FIRE MARSHAL

2024

ANNUAL REPORT



PREPARED MARCH 2025



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MISSION, VISION, VALUES

MISSION

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

VISION

A prepared, protected, and resilient Oregon.



OUR 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 partners, the public, and each other.

LEADERSHIP

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

PARTNERSHIPS

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

SERVICE TO OTHERS

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

EQUITY STATEMENT

The Oregon State Fire Marshal is a team that seeks to represent all Oregon communities. Our goal is to embrace diversity, practice inclusive excellence, and strive for equity and belonging in all we do. We treat everyone with respect and dignity regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, geographic location, gender, marital status, age, veteran status, or disability. This statement applies to all aspects of our public service mandate of fire safety and emergency response. We include these principles in our employment practices, including retention, promotion, and training.

We are committed to prioritizing strategies that enhance our work across the state. Our goals are not just aspirations but a roadmap for how we will engage and attract new team members who represent the cultural competency of Oregonians to ensure our agency truly reflects those we serve. We are deeply committed to acknowledging and actively supporting our state's rich cultural diversity. Our agency will continue to work tirelessly to best serve Oregonians, the fire service, and our partners through intentional community engagement and fostering an inclusive and supportive environment where everyone feels valued.



AGENCY ASSETS

The Oregon State Fire Marshal delivers comprehensive and effective community safety services through partnerships and collaboration with various agencies and the community.

Customer Service Focused on Results

The Oregon State Fire Marshal works closely with partners to plan, develop, and deliver services. Each program sets performance measures for its mission areas and managers create a two-year work plan with their staff to achieve these goals. Improving processes and outcomes is a priority at all levels and programs.

Valuing Employee Contributions

Our agency develops and empowers employees who can solve problems. Competent employees are essential for providing excellent customer service. The success of our agency depends on our employees.

REPRESENTATIVES

Mariana Ruiz Temple

State Fire Marshal

Travis Medema

Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal
Emergency & Regulatory Branch

Claire McGrew

Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal
Community Risk Reduction Branch

Theresa Pietzold

Business Services Director



YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2024, the Oregon State Fire Marshal faced one of the most challenging wildfire seasons on record, responding to 17 conflagrations and coordinating resources from across the region to protect lives, property, and infrastructure. Despite extreme weather conditions that fueled rapid fire growth, the OSFM's incident management teams were critical in protecting communities.

Beyond wildfire response, the OSFM made significant strides in community risk reduction, fire prevention education, and emergency preparedness. The Fire Prevention Education Unit distributed nearly 240,000 educational materials, trained hundreds of professionals, and led major outreach campaigns including May's Wildfire Awareness Month and October's Fire Prevention Month.

The Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Unit helped secure funding for mitigation efforts, including \$25 million in wildfire risk reduction project grants. Investments in the Fire Adapted Oregon initiative supported local preparedness training, defensible space programs, and community wildfire protection plans.

The Analytics and Intelligence Unit launched public data dashboards and other tools to improve fire risk assessment and reporting accuracy. These advancements provide valuable insights for fire agencies and help strengthen Oregon's overall fire safety strategy.

Emergency response efforts expanded, with the OSFM delivering 65 new fire engines to agencies across the state, ensuring better-equipped fire departments. The Oregon Fire Service Health & Safety Collaborative was created to address important firefighter wellness and safety issues.

The Hazardous Materials Program hosted a successful hazmat conference, trained technicians on emerging threats, and enhanced partnerships with state and federal agencies. The Fire and Life Safety Division conducted nearly 5,000 inspections and nearly 3,000 defensible space assessments while continuing critical fire investigations and training.

As Oregon faced unprecedented fire challenges, the OSFM remained committed to protecting communities through innovation, collaboration, and leadership. The agency's efforts in 2024 reinforced the journey to building a safer, more resilient Oregon.

AGENCY ORGANIZATIONAL DESCRIPTION

The Oregon State Fire Marshal protects people, property, and the environment from fire and hazardous materials. The agency is organized into four divisions, delivering service to Oregonians through prevention, preparedness, response, and regulatory services. Organized in a field/staff configuration, the agency is governed by state statutes, federal regulations, policies, legislative initiatives, and Oregon fire service needs. The Business Services Division works with the agency's programs to carry out daily business and provide employee services. At its core, the agency is centered around protecting people, supporting prevention, and enhancing public safety.

State Fire Marshal Operations

The state fire marshal sets statewide policy and directs the agency and its divisions and programs; provides guidance and policy resources for the Oregon fire service; oversees biennial budgeting, grant programs, workforce development, annual reporting, and strategic planning; and leads the response and prevention functions within Oregon's structural fire service jurisdictions, including the wildland-urban interface.

Ninety-seven percent of Oregonians live within the state's 300+ structural fire protection jurisdictions. The agency serves Oregon's 4.2 million people through these local organizations and direct services. All Oregonians receive services and benefits from the agency.

The agency is responsible for statewide fire prevention efforts, implementing regulatory programs, and responding to wildfire, other disasters, and hazardous material incidents.

Business Services

The Business Services Division includes information technology; safety and wellness; fleet services; facilities management; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and risk management.

Emergency Response Division

The Emergency Response Division works to protect people, property, and the environment through emergency response, training, planning, and resource coordination. This division oversees several critical programs including the State Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Teams, hazmat by rail responder training and safety, the three all-hazard incident management teams, the Oregon Fire Service Mutual Aid System, fire service safety and training programs, the Agency Operations Center, the administration of the Oregon Fire Service Mobilization Plan, the engine program, and overall agency response readiness.

Regulatory Services Division

The Regulatory Services Division oversees regulatory programs to protect Oregonians by administering knowledge tests, issuing permits and licenses, and conducting inspections and audits to ensure fire and life safety protection for fireworks, liquefied petroleum gas, nonretail fuel dispensing, fire standard compliant cigarettes, novelty and toy-like lighters, and administration of Oregon's Community Right to Know Program. The division monitors the explosives magazine movement reporting hotline and notifies fire departments when explosives magazines are moved into their jurisdiction.

Fire and Life Safety Division

The Fire and Life Safety Division carries out the agency's mission by maintaining programs and providing technical support and guidance that assist with fire prevention and enhance overall fire and life safety for the public. The division directs and coordinates origin and cause fire investigations, fire and life safety inspections, institutional occupancy fire prevention plan review, new construction or remodel plans review, aboveground storage tank plan review, exempt jurisdiction program, and Medicare and Medicaid certification surveys for fire and life safety standards compliance for healthcare facility federal funding.

The division coordinates the Oregon Fire Code adoption, the Oregon Defensible Space Code, and maintains the defensible space program, connected to Fire Adapted Oregon. The division evaluates and proposes modifications to the Wildland-Urban Interface Code and International Fire Code for statewide adoption through a thorough review process.

The division coordinates and supports the Oregon Fire Code advisory board, the Oregon Fire Code committee, and Oregon Defensible Space Code committee. They maintain the Oregon Safety Assessment Program that keeps a statewide registry of local program coordinators, certified building evaluators, and approved trainers to conduct post-disaster safety assessments.

Fire and Life Safety Education Division

The Fire and Life Safety Education Division is responsible for fire prevention with a focus on community risk reduction and analytics and intelligence. Division programs focus on fire reduction and fire-related deaths, injuries, and property loss through education to encourage behavior change and increase awareness of fire-safe practices and regulations.

Fire incident data informs educational programs, curriculums, campaigns, and training to guide fire prevention and community risk reduction programs. Through Senate Bill 762 (2021), significant investments were made in Fire Adapted Oregon and community risk reduction programs. The division created a new unit with field staff positions in seven Oregon regions. These staff assist with planning, communicating, and implementing community wildfire risk reduction activities for the built environment to educate and assist socially vulnerable populations with fire safety education, outreach, and economic incentives.

The unit works closely with the agency grants program and other state, federal and local grantors to assist local entities to be a force multiplier for local dollars invested in risk reduction programs.



2024 WILDFIRE SEASON

In 2024, Oregon saw its worst wildfire season on record. More than 1.9 million acres burned across the state. The season began early with the first conflagration in June.

During the historic wildfire season, the Oregon State Fire Marshal mobilized to 17 conflagrations statewide, deploying 88 task forces from Oregon's fire service, and brought in firefighters and equipment from four neighboring states to battle the fires.

Many of the fires in 2024 were driven by challenging weather conditions, like high winds and extreme heat, which caused rapid fire growth and threatened thousands of Oregonians.

The Oregon State Fire Marshal incident management teams were instrumental in coordinating efforts alongside local, state, and federal agencies, providing critical structural protection for homes and critical infrastructure.



CONFLAGRATIONS

Service, *Wheeler*
Shoe Fly, *Wheeler*
Rail Ridge, *Grant, Wheeler*
Copperfield, *Klamath*
Dixon, *Douglas*
Town Gulch, *Baker*
Elk Lane, *Jefferson*
Telephone, *Harney*
Battle Mt. Complex, *Grant, Morrow, Umatilla*
Durkee, *Malheur*
Boneyard, *Morrow, Grant*
Pilot Rock, *Umatilla*
Lone Rock, *Gilliam, Morrow, Wheeler*
Falls, *Harney, Grant*
Cow Valley, *Malheur*
Larch Creek, *Wasco*
Darlene 3, *Deschutes*

TOTAL: \$29.82 MILLION

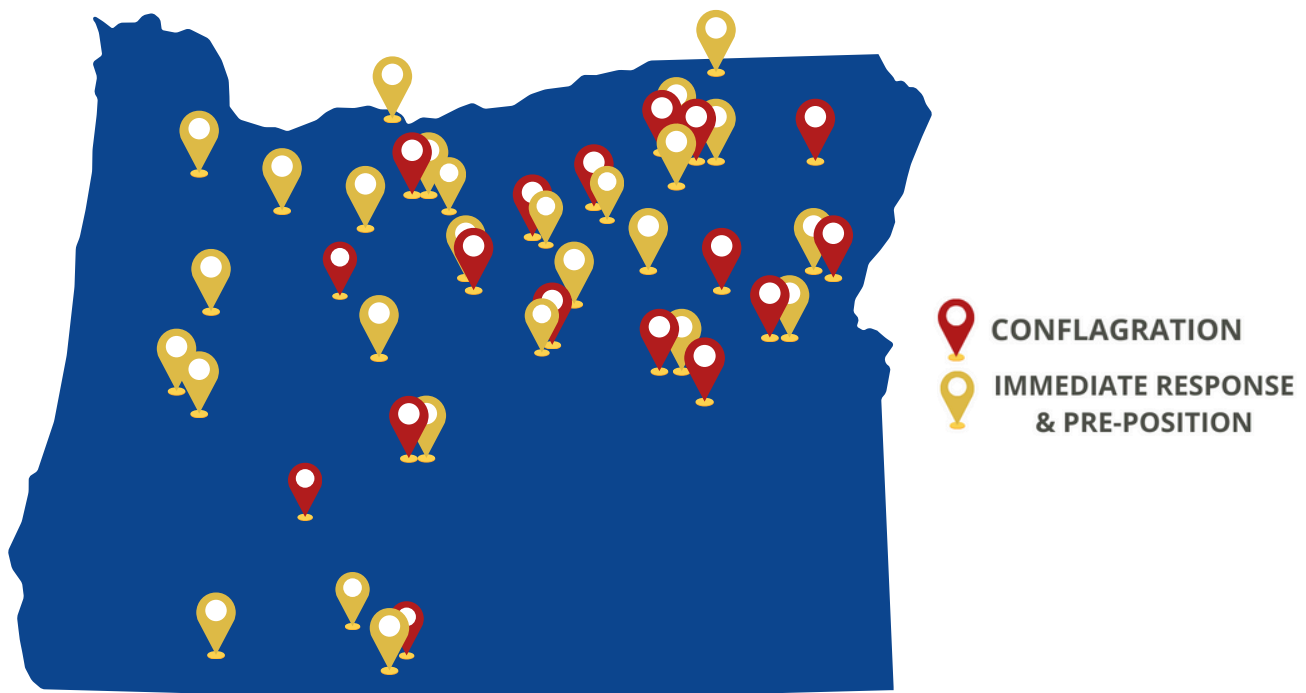
IMMEDIATE RESPONSE & PRE-POSITION

27 assignments

TOTAL: \$4.77 MILLION

AIRCRAFT AVAILABILITY

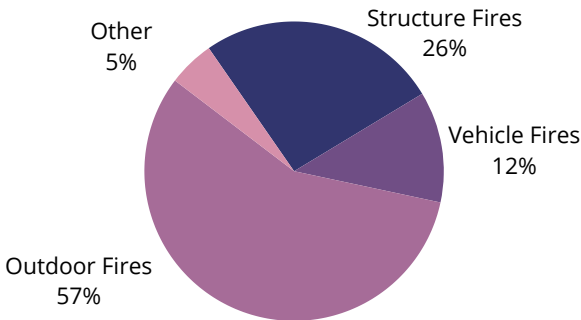
In 2024, the OSFM and ODF have an agreement to share costs to have aircraft in The Dalles from mid-June to July 1, two weeks of high fire danger in a vulnerable area.



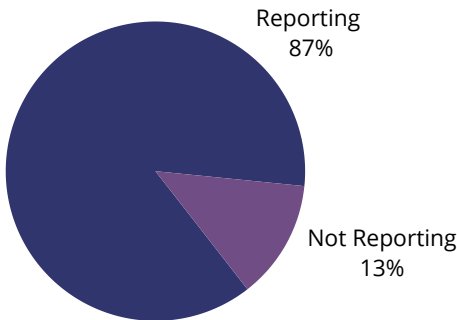
COMBINED TOTAL COST: \$34.5 MILLION

OREGON FIRE STATISTICS

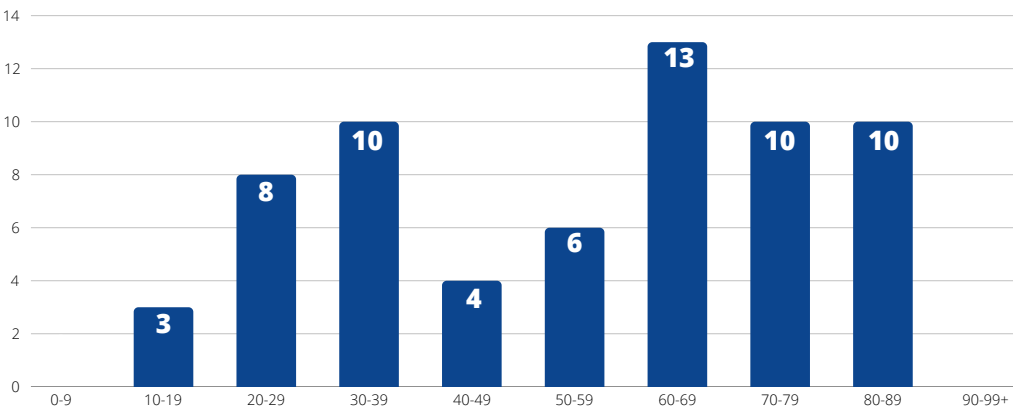
TYPES OF FIRES



FIRE AGENCIES REPORTING

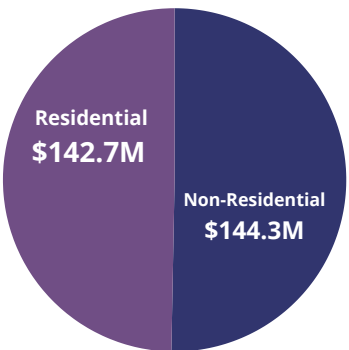


2024 TOTAL FIRE FATALITIES



There were 64 fire fatalities in Oregon in 2024.

2024 ESTIMATED FIRE LOSS IN MILLIONS



Largest Non-Residential
Fire Loss

\$18.0M

Nissan of Salem
2908 Market St, Salem
Marion County
January 15, 2024

Largest Residential
Fire Loss

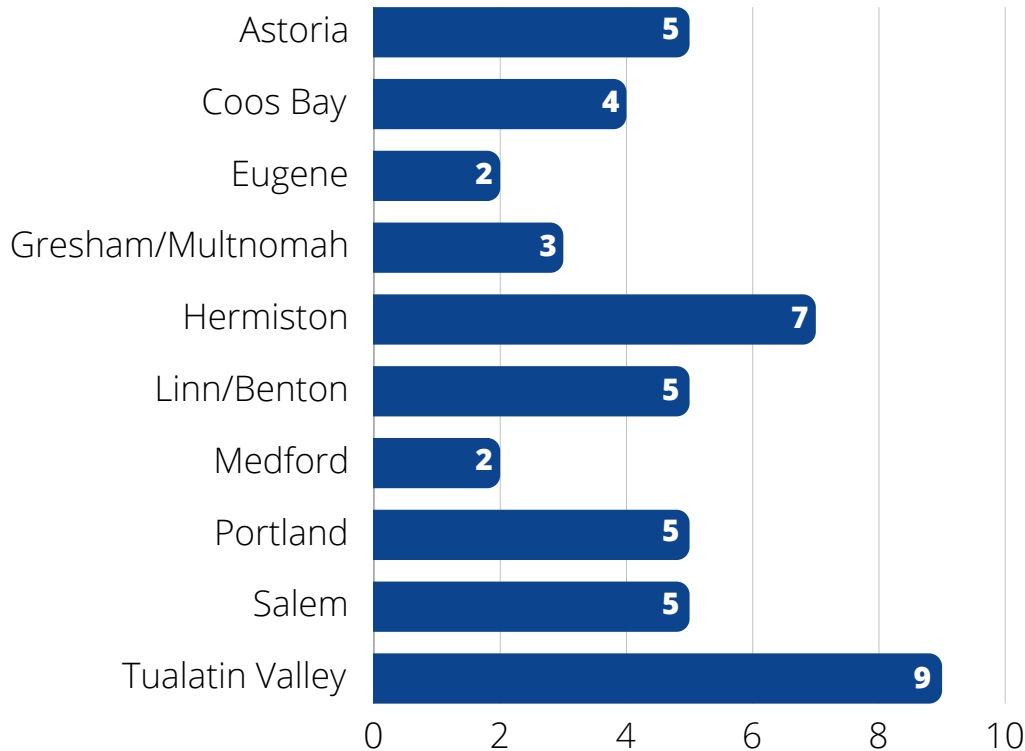
\$2.5M

Private residence; Sisters
Deschutes County
February 15, 2024

Source: NFIRS Fire Incident datasets (ImageTrend Elite & Firebridge); Fire Inspections dataset; 2024; Oregon State Fire Marshal

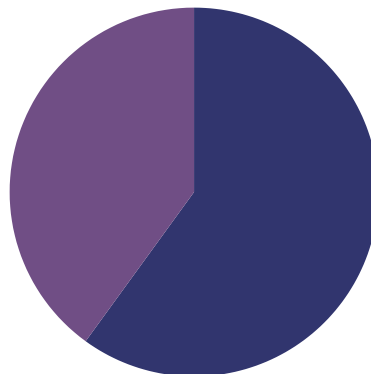
OREGON HAZMAT STATISTICS

2024 STATE HAZMAT RESPONSES BY TEAM



2024 FIRE & LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

VIOLATIONS DURING INITIAL INSPECTIONS



Total Inspections: **4,966**
Total Violations: **8,763**

Source: NFIRS Fire Incident datasets (ImageTrend Elite & Firebridge); Fire Inspections dataset; 2024; Oregon State Fire Marshal

ANALYTICS & INTELLIGENCE

In 2024, the Analytics and Intelligence (A&I) Unit reached milestones in advancing public safety and community resilience through data-driven tools.

A major achievement was launching three public dashboards on the OSFM website, giving fire service members, the public, and partners easy access to centralized data on fire casualties and incidents. These dashboards improve data sharing and analysis, helping users identify trends and customize insights to enhance fire safety across Oregon.

Another highlight was the creation of the Oregon Community Risk Assessment Fire Tool (OrCRAFT) v. 1.0, designed to meet National Fire Protection Association 1300 standards. OrCRAFT will help fire emergency planners assess and mitigate fire risks, supporting the development of stronger community risk reduction plans. Testing and demonstrations in 2024 showcased its potential to transform risk assessment with a rollout expected in 2025.

The Analytics and Intelligence Unit also launched the Quarterly Fire Incident Reporting Summary, an automated report that helps fire agencies track and improve their data submissions, ensuring compliance with ORS 476.210. This tool has increased agency reporting and reduced submission errors, strengthening data quality—critical for securing state and federal grants.

Beyond these initiatives, A&I responded to more than 700 data requests from fire service members, the public, and external partners while supporting Oregon State Fire Marshal staff.

While the team works behind the scenes, their efforts play a crucial role in making Oregon safer. By equipping fire agencies with better data and tools, we support strategic planning, operations, and resource allocation to build a more resilient state.



FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION

The Fire and Life Safety Education Division made major strides in delivering fire prevention and life safety education across Oregon. Through outreach, partnerships, and community initiatives, the team reached thousands of Oregonians and strengthened the state's fire safety culture.

The division works to educate Oregonians on the importance and best practices of home fire risk reduction and wildfire risk reduction. The team supported many community events and fire service partners.

- **Wildfire Awareness Month** – Distributed 310 resource boxes and displayed billboards in 14 locations and airport media in seven PDX sites.
- **Fire Prevention Month** – Delivered 306 resource boxes and statewide billboards reinforcing fire safety messaging.
- **Oregon State Fair** – Engaged 6,600 attendees with home fire safety and wildfire prevention displays.
- **Oregon AG Fest** – Reached 25,000 attendees with safety messages alongside 15 federal, state, county, and local partners.
- **Smoke Alarm Installation Program** – Held 11 classes for 45 participants from 30 agencies.

BY THE NUMBERS

- Distributed more than **239,500** educational materials in **4,790** packs across **28** counties.
- Supported **48** non-fire agencies and **305** fire service agencies, reinforcing fire safety statewide.



FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION

FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION UNIT

Community Risk Reduction and Engagement

The risk reduction kit program helped fire agencies educate Oregonians on cooking, heating, and electrical fire safety, along with burn prevention. Nine agencies participated in a cooking fire safety pilot and 16 agencies received heating and electrical safety kits.

The unit also hosted a fire and fall prevention for older adults training with the National Fire Prevention Association's Director of Public Education Kelly Ransdell. Forty-seven participants from 11 counties, including fire agencies and emergency medical services, learned about fire safety for aging adults and shared resources with eight partner agencies.

Important training initiatives included:

- **Youth Fire Safety** – Hosted the NFPA 1035 Youth Interventionist Course and 13 youth with fire screenings to support early intervention.
- **Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Alarm Law Classes** – Trained 231 participants, including real estate agents, property managers, and fire personnel.
- **Educational Webinar Series** – Presented 11 webinars with 350 live attendees and 683 total registrations from more than 50 agencies across six states and Washington, D.C.



FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY EDUCATION

COMMUNITY WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION UNIT

The Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Unit advanced wildfire resilience across Oregon by securing funding, strengthening partnerships, and expanding education and training.

Funding for Wildfire Mitigation

The team connected OSFM-funded projects with local partners and secured additional grants, including Community Wildfire Defense Grants and the AIM grant. These funds supported wildfire risk assessments, defensible space creation, fuel reduction, and public education, sustaining efforts launched through SB 762 (2021).

Fire Adapted Oregon Investments

A \$1.1 million investment funded projects, including:

- Oregon Community Wildfire Adaptation Training: A collaboration with ODF and OSU Extension to strengthen local wildfire mitigation.
- Partnered with ODF to train landscaping professionals.
- Community Wildfire Protection Plan Support: Funded updates for four communities and provided training on community wildfire protection plans
- Helped communities manage wildfire fuels through several programs.

These projects will continue into 2025.

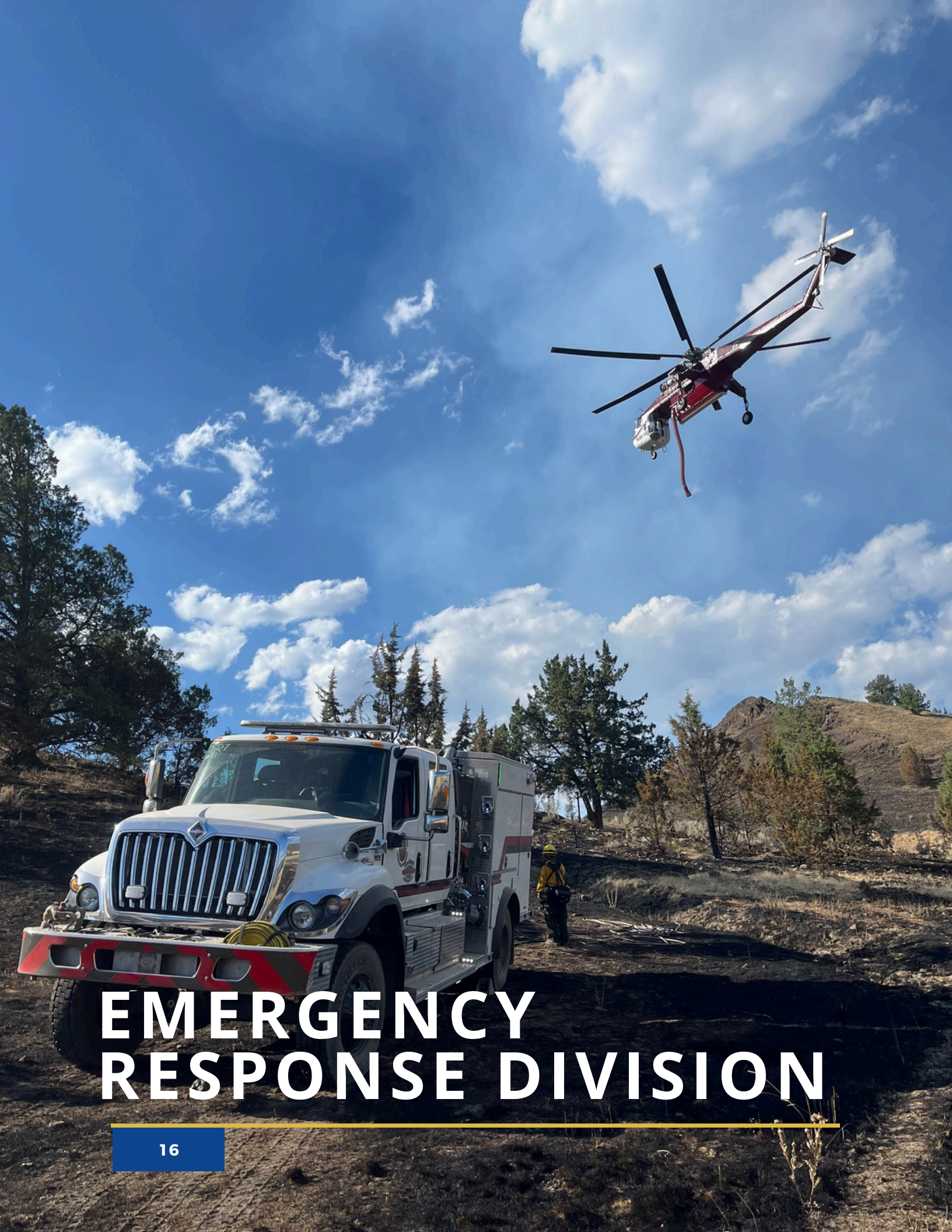
Workforce Training

In partnership with Coalitions and Collaboratives and The Ember Alliance, the unit provided:

- Community Wildfire Mitigation Best Practices: 56 hours of training for 90 participants.
- Leading the Modern CWPP Process: 16-hour session for 29 participants with another scheduled for 2025.

Partnerships and Outreach

- Helped wildfire-impacted communities apply for FEMA grants resulting in 48 preapplications.
- Trained Oregon Park and Recreation Department staff to assess wildfire risks in state parks.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE DIVISION

RESPONSE SUPPORT SERVICES UNIT

The Response Support Services Unit demonstrated its commitment to boost fire service capacity and advance health and safety within the Oregon fire service.

Engine Program

In 2024, the unit delivered 65 of 76 new fire engines to host fire agencies across Oregon. These engines proved invaluable during multiple conflagrations, allowing local fire departments to retain their agency vehicles for local response while the Oregon State Fire Marshal engines were deployed with several task forces. This strategic program enhanced statewide firefighting capacity and supported local agencies during high-demand incidents. The OSFM anticipates the remaining engines to be delivered in early 2025 with all engines operational for the 2025 fire season.

Oregon Fire Service Health & Safety Collaborative

The unit launched the Oregon Fire Service Health & Safety Collaborative in 2024, bringing together subject matter experts and organizations to address critical health and safety issues. Four subgroups were formed, each focused on amplifying training opportunities and fostering a culture of collaboration and shared learning across the Oregon fire service. This initiative represents a long-term commitment to the well-being of fire personnel statewide.

Conflagration Transitions and IMT Deployments

The unit excelled in coordinating seamless transitions to incoming incident management teams (IMTs) during conflagrations. Regional mobilization coordinators (RMCs) provided vital logistical support, situational awareness, and communication frameworks to incoming teams, facilitating rapid adaptation and deployment. The unit supported state and federal IMTs by enhancing their understanding of the Oregon Fire Mutual Aid System (OFMAS), strengthening collaboration, and ensuring operational success.



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE

The Oregon State Fire Marshal's hazmat program provides advanced training, collaboration, and preparedness for hazardous material emergencies across Oregon.

OSFM Hazmat Conference

More than 180 emergency responders, partners, and vendors attended the May 2024 conference. The event featured tabletop exercises, hands-on training, and breakout sessions, fostering collaboration and meeting annual refresher requirements. It also guided updates to hazmat response standard operating guidelines to address emerging threats.

Hazmat Technician Academy

The department taught a 160-hour course to standardize training and address new challenges like fentanyl. Hands-on training and field evaluations ensured operational safety, while collaboration with the technical advisory group maintained statewide consistency.

This strengthened ties with agencies like the Oregon Department of Emergency Management, FBI, and National Guard Civil Support Team. Monthly threat assessments and a tabletop exercise focused on protecting Oregon's election processes helped refine Regional Hazardous Material Emergency Response Team guidance and enhance interagency coordination.

Through training, strategic partnerships, and updated protocols, the hazmat program continues to strengthen Oregon's emergency response capabilities.





Price Per Gallon Including Tax

\$

Price Per Gallon Including Tax

MINIMUM OCTANE RATING
(R + M)/2 METHOD

89

PUSH HERE

MINIMUM OCTANE RATING
(R + M)/2 METHOD

91

PUSH HERE

REGULATORY SERVICES DIVISION

STATE EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMISSION & LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEES

In 2024, the State Emergency Response Commission and local emergency planning committees made significant progress in hazardous material preparedness across Oregon. They delivered three training sessions to help new and existing committees meet federal requirements and improve emergency response.

Four new local emergency planning committees were formed, with Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson counties drafting bylaws, Harney County establishing leadership and meetings, and Hood River, Jackson, Lane, and Tillamook counties advancing their planning efforts. Douglas County faced leadership challenges but will continue in 2025. Several previously inactive committees, including those in Clatsop, Lake, Multnomah, and Washington counties, resumed activities while Morrow and Umatilla counties increased their meeting frequency.

Strong partnerships drove these successes with support from industries, emergency responders, medical professionals, and community organizations. Key collaborators included the League of Oregon Cities, State Emergency Registry of Volunteers, Environmental Protection Agency, Oregon Emergency Management, and Union Pacific Railroad.

These efforts show the power of collaboration in strengthening safety and preparedness across Oregon. The Oregon State Fire Marshal will continue building on these achievements to enhance community resilience statewide.



**State Emergency Response
Commission
Executive Committee**

COMMUNITY RIGHT TO KNOW

The Community Right to Know program made strides in enhancing the safety and efficiency of hazardous material oversight across Oregon in 2024.

One of the most impactful accomplishments was the testing and integration of new technology into field operations. This innovation allowed compliance specialists to conduct inspections more efficiently, allowing them to send information directly to facilities and support staff from the field. This streamlined approach resulted in improved fieldwork productivity and reduced the need for follow-up tasks upon returning to the office, setting a foundation for future technological implementation.

Program staff inspected 525 facilities statewide, these visits had a 46% return rate of facilities reporting below the reportable quantity threshold. The program successfully added 305 new facilities into the CHS Manager system, significantly enhancing fire personnel safety by providing accurate data about locations storing hazardous substances.

Collaboration was another cornerstone of the program's success. Partnerships with information technology staff, fire service personnel, and Oregon facilities facilitated the development and implementation of new tools and processes. These collaborations ensured that the unit's innovations met the needs of both internal stakeholders and external partners, reinforcing a shared commitment to public safety.

These accomplishments show the Community Right to Know Program's vital role in advancing compliance, technology, and collaboration, ultimately contributing to a safer Oregon for communities and first responders.



FIREWORKS

In 2024, the Fireworks Unit streamlined and modernized its licensing processes, setting a new standard for efficiency and customer convenience.

The team successfully implemented the first online fireworks wholesale license application and payment process. This paperless system introduced automated validations, making the application process more efficient and user-friendly. Applicants now benefit from a streamlined, cost-effective system that reduces paperwork and processing time.

Building on this achievement, the Fireworks Unit developed an online application for retail fireworks sales licenses, scheduled for launch in January 2025. This initiative further demonstrates the unit's commitment to leveraging technology to enhance accessibility and efficiency for industry users.

These advancements were made possible through close collaboration with the fireworks industry and the Oregon State Fire Marshal information technology team. By working together on application design, testing, and feedback, the team ensured the new systems met agency requirements and industry needs.

KEEP IT LEGAL, KEEP IT SAFE

LEGAL FIREWORKS IN OREGON

Includes:

- Novelty Device
- Wheel
- Flitter Sparkler
- Fountains
- Smoke Device
- Ground Spinner



LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS

The Liquefied Petroleum Gas Unit made significant progress in industry compliance and public safety. One achievement noted in 2024 is improving tank installation reporting through a data review that identified hundreds of unreported tanks. By working closely with the LPG industry, the unit ensures proper reporting and fee payment, strengthening regulatory adherence. Compliance efforts have also led to issuing hundreds of new licenses and renewals, ensuring proper oversight of companies and employees.

Another major accomplishment is the creation of a safety and information brochure to help customers maintain compliance with regulations. Industry collaboration plays a vital role in these successes, from input on the brochure to joint compliance efforts.

NOVELTY LIGHTERS

Education around novelty lighters took important steps by addressing the issue of banned products in Oregon. These lighters pose a fire risk, especially to children.

The team worked with regulatory divisions and fire safety organizations to educate wholesalers and retailers about the ban and ensure these lighters were removed from shelves.

Collaboration with fire safety agencies, wholesalers, and retailers has been important to spreading awareness and reinforcing the importance of compliance. Through these partnerships, the team has strengthened safety efforts and reduced the presence of hazardous lighters. While specific numbers are unavailable, the impact is clear—fewer banned novelty lighters on the market.





FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY DIVISION

FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

In 2024, the Fire and Life Safety Division conducted nearly 5,000 inspections throughout Oregon, focusing on high-risk areas like assisted living facilities, daycares, schools, churches, motels, and correctional institutions. These inspections are crucial for ensuring the safety of vulnerable populations and maintaining adherence to the Oregon Fire Code. The inspections are an educational opportunity for businesses, highlighting the importance of fire safety and helping them understand why compliance with fire codes is essential to protect their communities.

FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY SURVEYS

The division's healthcare surveyors focused on Oregon's most vulnerable populations in healthcare settings, conducting more than 200 surveys at skilled nursing facilities, hospitals, and other care centers funded through Medicare and Medicaid. These surveyors are the only authorized fire officials in Oregon to conduct these inspections. The team also reviewed more than 140 life safety code plans for new and remodeled healthcare facilities, ensuring that these facilities meet fire safety standards.



DEFENSIBLE SPACE PROGRAM

The Defensible Space Program continued to gain momentum in 2024. The division conducted nearly 3,000 defensible space assessments since the program was created and provided crucial support for communities in high fire hazard areas. Through the incentive program, financial assistance is available to communities members identified in high fire risk and socially vulnerable areas. The program also conducted extensive outreach, including town halls, media tours, and presentations to fire agencies and local governments, all aimed at preparing communities for wildfire season and improving overall wildfire readiness.

TRAINING AND COMPETENCY RECOGNITION

The Fire and Life Safety Division provided a wide array of training sessions for Oregon's fire service professionals, including fire chiefs, fire marshals, and firefighters. These trainings focused on fire and life safety topics that help fire service personnel better serve their communities. Healthcare surveyors conducted specialized training for facility administrators and maintenance staff at various conferences, ensuring that fire safety standards in healthcare facilities are met. These trainings have proven beneficial in helping improve fire safety practices across the state.

Through these diverse programs, the Fire and Life Safety Division continues to play a pivotal role in enhancing fire and life safety across Oregon, focusing on prevention, education, and the ongoing development of Oregon's fire service professionals.



FIRE CODE ADOPTION

Every three years, the Fire and Life Safety Division undertakes the important task of updating the Oregon Fire Code. In 2024, the division worked with a variety of partners, including members from Oregon's fire service, building officials, and healthcare representatives, to review and recommend changes to the International Fire Code, used as the basis for the Oregon Fire Code. These volunteers dedicated countless hours to ensure the adoption of a code that reflects Oregon's high safety standards. The division answered more than 1,200 code-related inquiries and conducted 64 reviews of flammable aboveground storage tank plans to ensure safety in storage and handling.

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

In 2024, the division conducted 366 fire investigations, covering a wide range of incidents from wildland to structure fires. These investigations, mandated by Oregon law, are critical in determining fire causes and preventing similar incidents in the future. The data and insights gathered not only support legal and regulatory compliance but also serve as a foundation for enhancing fire prevention strategies. This information is used to develop targeted training programs, create educational materials, and guide public outreach efforts, ultimately strengthening fire safety awareness. These findings provide valuable data to Oregon's fire service partners, equipping them with the knowledge needed to improve response tactics and reduce fire risks statewide.





This report was prepared by:

OREGON STATE FIRE MARSHAL

www.oregon.gov/osfm