

OWEC Vegetation Management Workshop Breakout Session
Takeaways, 3-10-21

Liked What We Heard About:

- Seems like we're on the right track in building stronger relationships between utilities and land managers
- Great to hear what other utilities are doing
- Importance of collaboration and working together
- Focusing on different jurisdictions using the same instruments and processes to keep everyone on the same page
- Value of having consistent processes/templates
- Expedited process for O&M, routine processes
- Focus on creating clear, concise permitting instructions and processes
- The efficiency of prioritizing combining permits

Want to Hear More About:

- More consistency and expectations between land managers
- Getting smaller organizations and local communities involved in planning processes to develop more consistency at that level as well
- More granular information about utility operational practices
- Potential legislative solutions regarding:
 - Wildfire insurance/liability
 - Making a distinction between urban and rural for vegetation management
 - Improving permitting and access to ROWs for vegetation management
- Technology for mapping and early detection of wildfires
- How to address challenge of conducting long-term planning for small COUs when budgeting and short-term issues draw their resources to the immediate future
- Sense of urgency from all parties and all levels of both utilities and land management agencies to make vegetation management a priority
- How the annual meeting goals from USFS/BLM are going to be attained
- Potential for regional universal plans combined with supplemental permits for particular forests