

Developing Oregon's 20-year Landscape Resiliency Strategy

**Stakeholder Meeting #4
December 13th, 2022**

Welcome, Introductions, Updates

- Welcome
- Agenda Review
- Updates

Our Task

“20-year strategic plan that prioritizes restoration actions and geographies for wildfire risk reduction that can be used to direct federal, state, and private investments in a tangible way”

Path to Oregon's 20-Year Strategic Plan

Phase 1: → July 2022

Build the Foundation

- Shared vision
- Governance structure
- Engagement with Sovereign Nations
- Stakeholder engagement
- Framework for plan development

Phase 2: July - Dec 2022

Compile Information

- ID and gather reports, maps, data, etc.
- Priorities from existing plans
- Produce supporting materials (priority maps, capacity & readiness assessment, etc.)
- Develop goals and targets
- ID steps to achieve goals
- Develop metrics and accountability mechanisms

Phase 3: Jan - Jun 2023

Draft the Plan

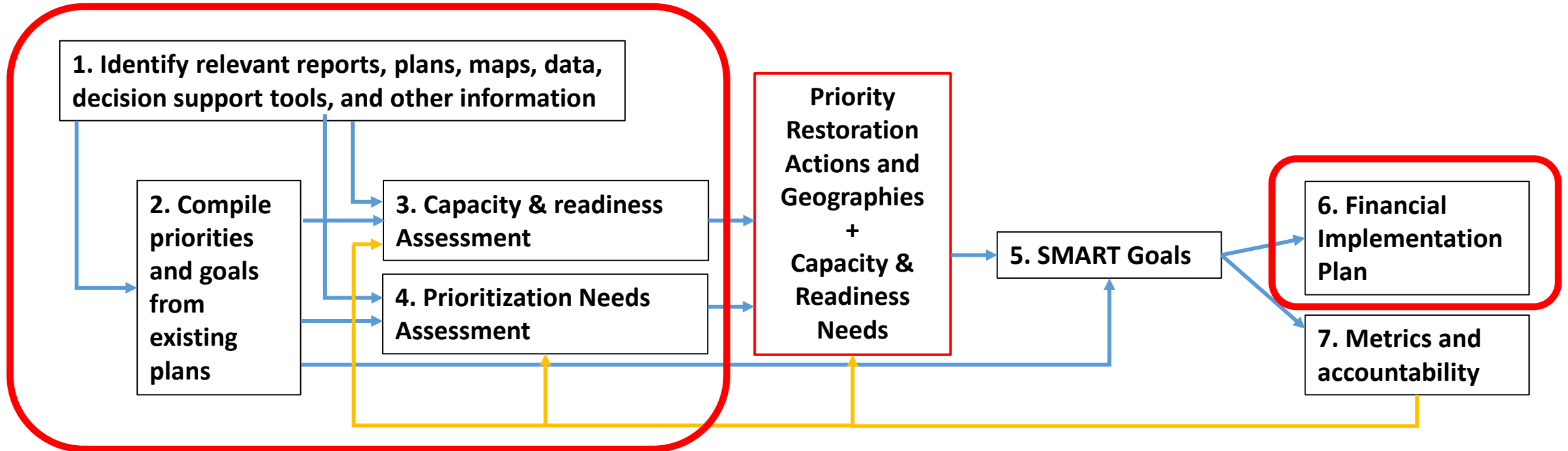
- Draft
- Review
- Finalize and endorse
- Publish

Phase 4: July 2023 →

Implement the Plan

- Plan roll-out
- S2 conference?
- Governance meetings
- Accountability reviews
- Adaptive management

How the Workstreams Fit Together



Prioritization Needs Assessment

“20-year strategic plan that prioritizes restoration actions and geographies for wildfire risk reduction that can be used to direct federal, state, and private investments in a tangible way”

OSU/PSU Institute for Natural Resources

- established by the Oregon Legislature in 2001 to provide integrated access to science-based information and tools for natural resource decision making
- Information portals
 - [Oregon Explorer](#)
 - [Community Wildfire Planning Tool](#)
 - [SageCon Landscape Planning Tool](#)
- Science review/synthesis
 - [Independent Science Reviews for Natural Resources in the State of Oregon](#) (2016)
 - [Trees to Tap](#) (2020)

The image shows a screenshot of a web browser displaying the Oregon Explorer website. The browser window has two tabs: "CWPP Planning Tool" and "Home | oregonexplorer | Orego...". The address bar shows the URL "https://oregonexplorer.info". The website header includes the "OREGON EXPLORER" logo, the "Oregon CWPP Planning Tool" title, and a search bar. Below the header is a "Layers" panel with a list of map layers and their status:

- Oregon Mask
- Wildfire Risk
- Wildfire Threat
- Wildfire Potential Impacts
- Hazard to Potential Structures
- Fire Model Inputs and Fuelscape
- Watershed Summaries
- Fire History and Active Fires
- Community Groups
- Administrative Boundaries
- Social Vulnerability
- Planning and Cadastral
- Land Use and Land Cover

The main content area displays a map with a landscape image and a report cover. The report cover text reads:

Independent Science Reviews for
Natural Resources in the
State of Oregon

SB202 Task Force for Independent Science Reviews for Natural Resources
Institute for Natural Resources

FINAL REPORT
for the Oregon State Legislature
SB202 Task Force

15 September 2016

The browser status bar at the bottom shows coordinates: "WKID: 4326 Lat/Long" and "Lat: 44.54209° Lon: 121.74330°".

Science in the Shared Stewardship MOU

- Use **adaptive management** approaches that include: experimenting, learning, and implementing work to achieve outcomes at scales that are meaningful;
- Incorporate **evolving best-available science in adaptation and mitigation responses** to climate change and other major ecological and social drivers.
- Collaborate with the Forest Service and stakeholders to **develop a science-based and tractable monitoring and accountability approach** to measure outcomes by which we can gauge progress and adjust the approach accordingly.



Oregon's Shared Stewardship Framework

DRAFT



Strategic Leadership Group

Oregon Department of Forestry: State Forester
 Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife: Director
 Oregon Water Enhancement Board: Director
 U.S. Forest Service: Regional Forester
 Natural Resource Conservation Service: State Conservationist
 Bureau of Land Management: State Director
 Bureau of Indian Affairs: Regional Director

Agency Coordination & Implementation Group

Oregon Department of Forestry
 Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Oregon Water Enhancement Board
 United States Forest Service
 Natural Resource Conservation Service
 Bureau of Land Management

Scientific & Resource Assessment

- Provide scientifically based information to make resource decisions
- Established iterative process

Communications

- Executes a multi-agency communication strategy
- Provides clear, concise, and consistent messaging

State Stakeholder Engagement

- Advise on the development of the 20-Year strategy
- Identify state needs, barriers, solutions, and priorities
- State education and outreach efforts
- Provide advice, experience, and lessons learned

Regional Stakeholder Engagement

- Advise on the development of the 20-Year strategy
- Identify regional needs, barriers, solutions, and priorities
- Regional education and outreach efforts
- Provide advice, experience, and lessons learned

Tribal Engagement

- Advise on the development of the 20-Year strategy
- Identify tribal needs, barriers, solutions, and priorities
- Education and outreach efforts
- Provide advice, experience, and lessons learned

SARA in Framework Document

Framework for Developing the 20-Year Strategy:

- SARA is responsible for **data aggregation** and providing the **best available science** to support the ACIG and SLG.
- The SARA team will **prepare responses and analyses** identified by the ACIG to provide direction and vision for Shared Stewardship in Oregon and developing and implementing Oregon's 20-year Strategic Plan.
- The SARA team will be comprised of **scientific experts that will be appointed by the ACIG depending on the resource subject** that is being focused on.

SARA Types of Support for Strategy

“data aggregation and providing the best available science”

1. Data management and analysis

- Prioritization of actions & geographies
- “science-based and tractable monitoring and accountability approach”

2. Science synthesis

- Incorporate **evolving best-available science in adaptation and mitigation responses**

SARA Data & Analysis Support: Proposed Concepts

- Decision support “system”

- Given diversity of initiatives & objectives related to wildfire & landscape resilience...

Not a single tool/approach but rather a **broader system for sharing data, analytical approaches, products, and documentation** on an ongoing basis (clearinghouse)

- Discussion support system: facilitates discussions about...

- how agencies currently use data to support decision making and to what extent these processes/products can be aligned over time
- the generation & use of information across scales, from state to local

- Collaboration support system

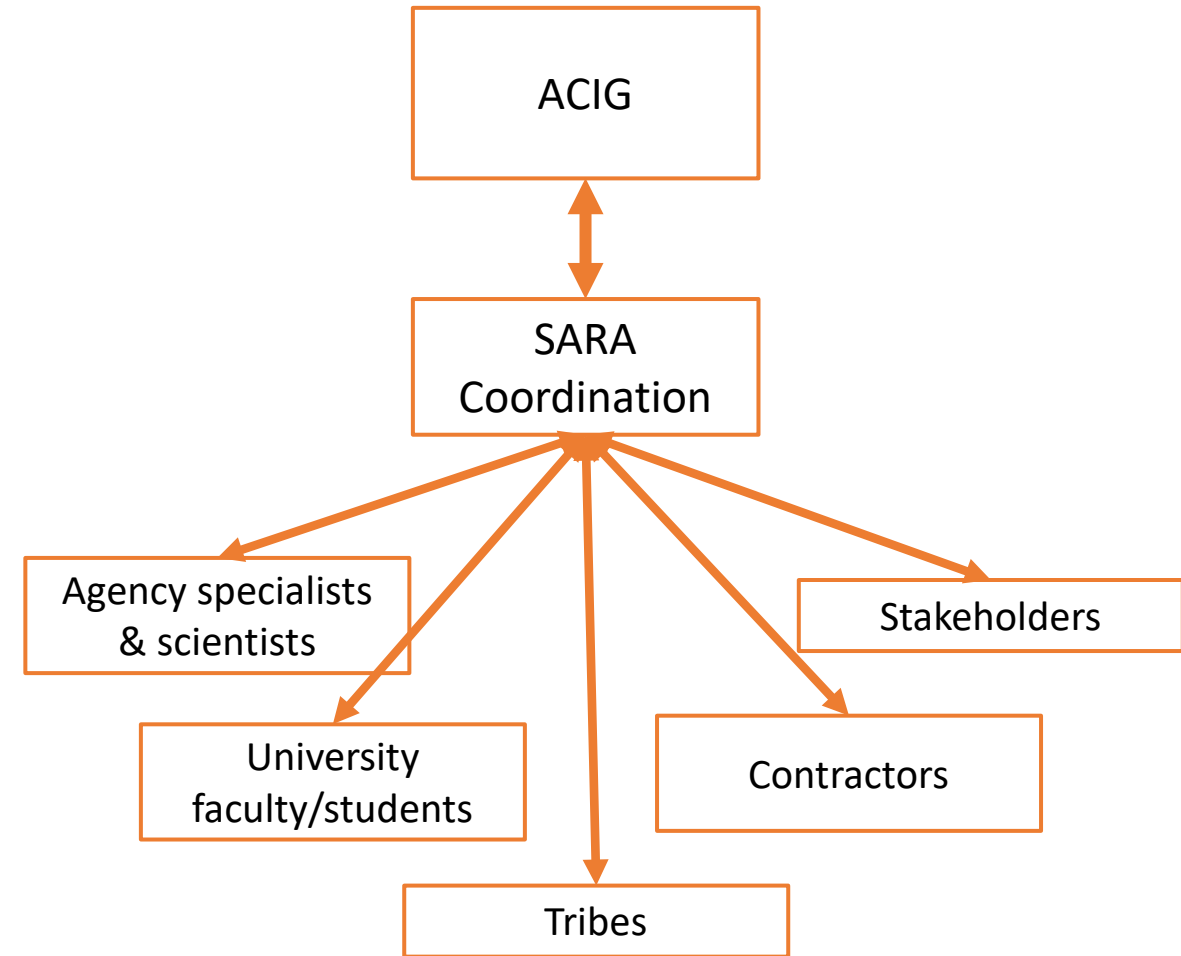
- Not a single analytical team, rather draws in expertise from other organizations as needed to address specific objectives

SARA Science Synthesis Support: Proposed Concepts

- Diversity of topics related to wildfire & landscape resilience
 - No single group of scientists can address them all
 - SARA as coordinating facility rather than a fixed team
- Questions may require different levels of analysis and different timelines
 - Desk study (short-term, less complex)
 - Products produced directly by INR staff, agency personnel, university faculty/students, contractors...
 - Scientist consultation (longer-term, more complex)
 - Products produced through facilitated engagement with scientists

SARA Operations

- Support/Coordination (INR)
 - Data & tools catalog
 - Facilitation of communications
 - Recruitment of personnel
 - Contract management
 - Peer review management
- Execution (All)
 - Agency specialists/scientists
 - University faculty/students
 - Tribes
 - Stakeholders
 - Contractors



SARA Technical Needs & Example Info Portals

Needs

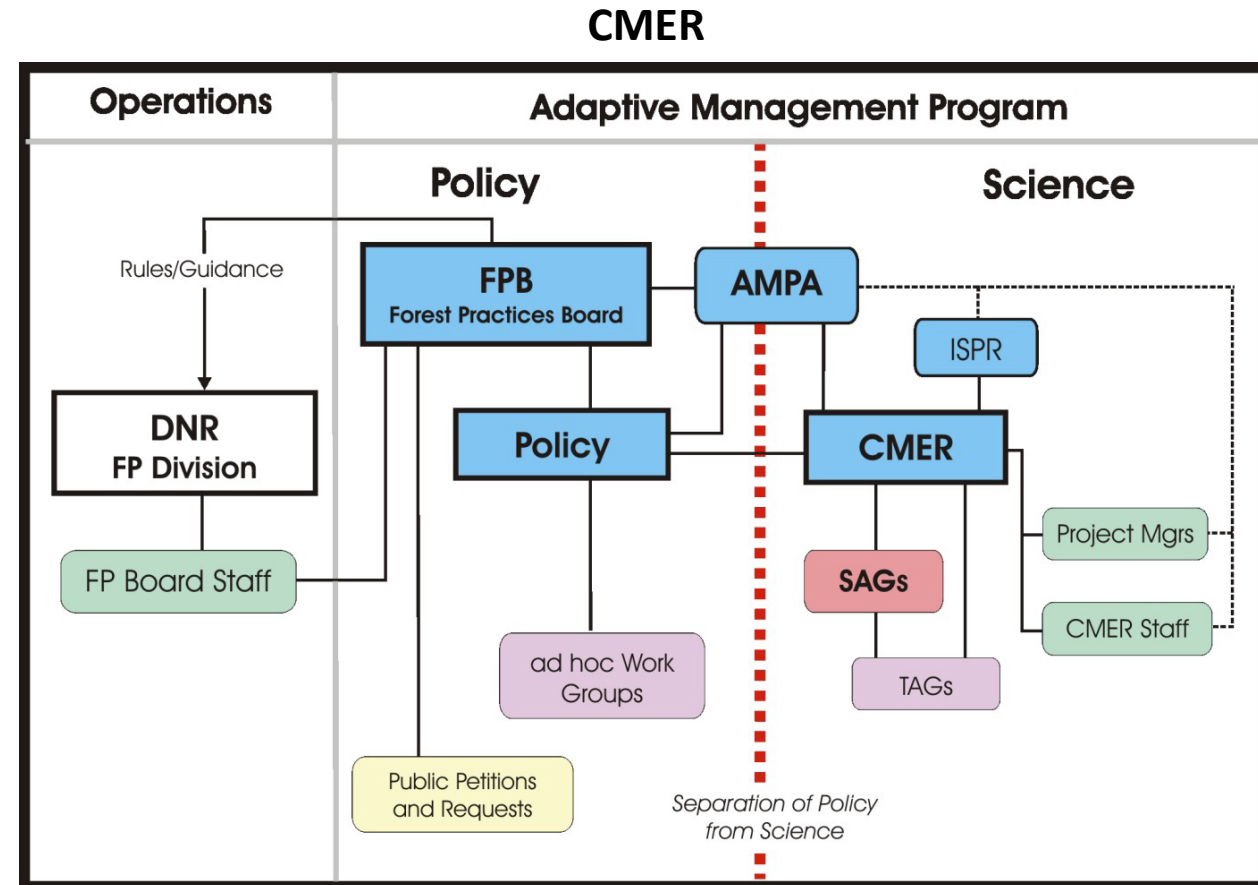
- Request tracking
 - ticketing/issue tracking system
 - title, description, timeline, status, personnel involved
- Data & tools repository
 - Monitoring clearinghouse
- Expertise list
 - who are experts to consult for various domains, datasets, tools
- Communications mechanisms
 - Email lists, Slack, CRM
- Bibliographic database
 - store & tag references used in science syntheses

Examples to Investigate

- Oregon Explorer / Planning Tools
- NM Shared Stewardship Portal
- DOI/USDA Joint Fire Science Portal
- ...others?

Data & Science Support Examples

- OR Salmon Plan Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (IMST)
- WA Cooperative Monitoring, Evaluation, and Research Committee (CMER)
- CA BoF Effectiveness Monitoring Committee
- NPCC Independent Science Advisory Board (ISAB)
- Puget Sound Partnership
- OR Private Forest Accord Independent Research and Science Team (IRST)



Data & Science Support Examples

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Review aspects:

- Origin & Purpose
- Responsibilities & Products
- Direction
- Organization Structures
- Selection of participants
- Workflow
- Budget & funding sources
- Info sources

SARA Concepts Summary

- SARA as a coordination/administration mechanism
- Inventories & builds on existing efforts
- Facilitates communication between organizations (“discussion support system”)
- Draws in expertise from other organizations as needed to address specific objectives

Prioritization

- ✓ Proposed approach to prioritization
- ✓ Prioritization Criteria

C. Identifying Priorities (Near-term)

- i. Geographies
- ii. Actions

D. Longer-term Decision-Support

Near-term Geographic Priorities

Where will we prioritize investments in the initial 1-3 years?

How to Define Geographic Priorities?

Wildfire Risk

Restoration Need?

Social Vulnerability?

Other Values?

Strategic Elements

- Reduce wildfire risk to communities
- Enhance resilience in landscapes in the face of climate change
- Create functional aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems
- Support vibrant local economies
- Protect healthy watersheds and water resources
- Provide quality outdoor opportunities for all Oregonians
- Promote equity through the stewardship of landscapes

Guidance from SLG: Geographic Priorities

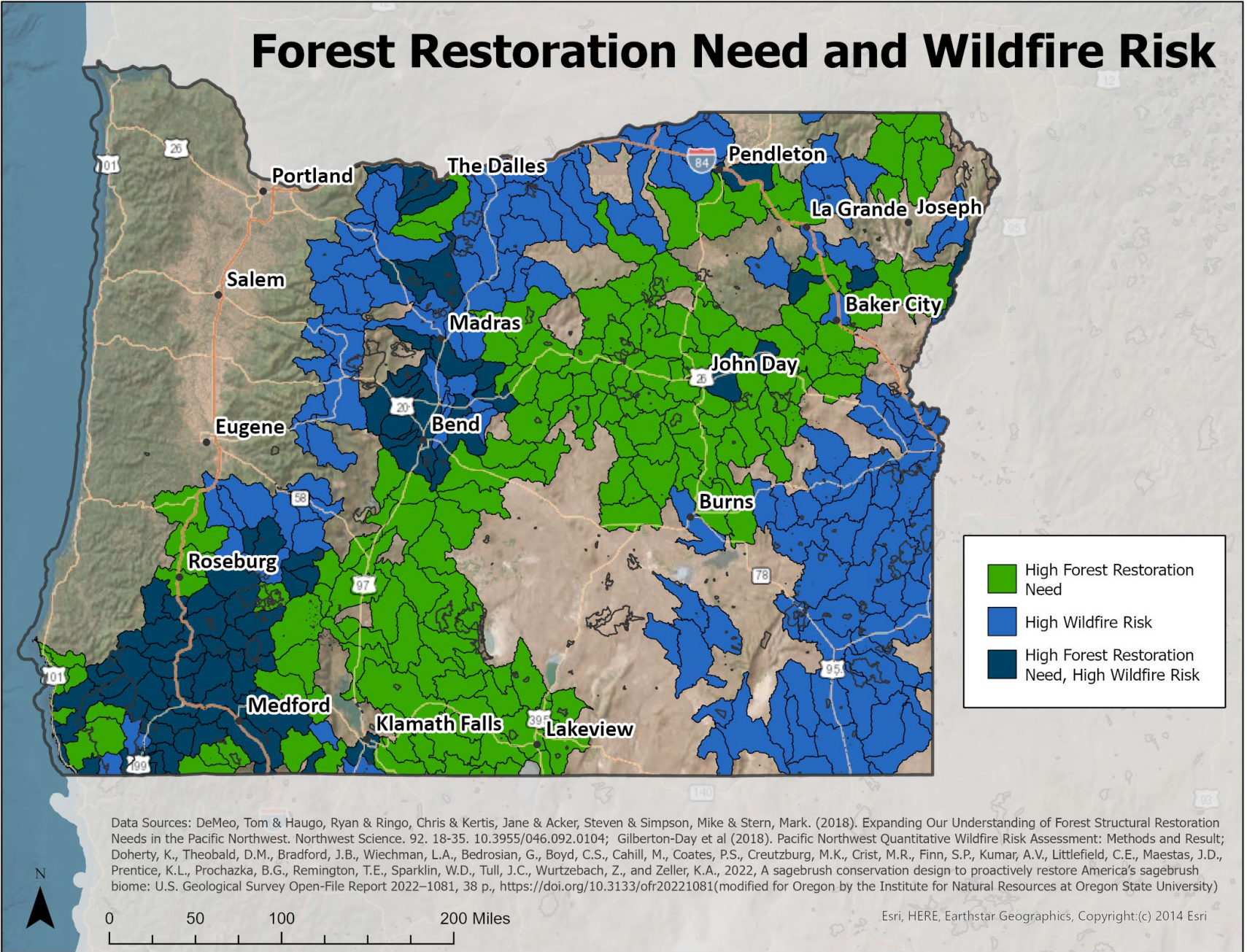
- The reason for our existence is to **treat areas of high fire risk**
- We are here because of **wildfire threat**

- Agencies will have independent priorities, as well as shared priorities
- We should be targeting areas across boundary lines, including private
- Prefer the term “guide” investments, rather than “direct” investments

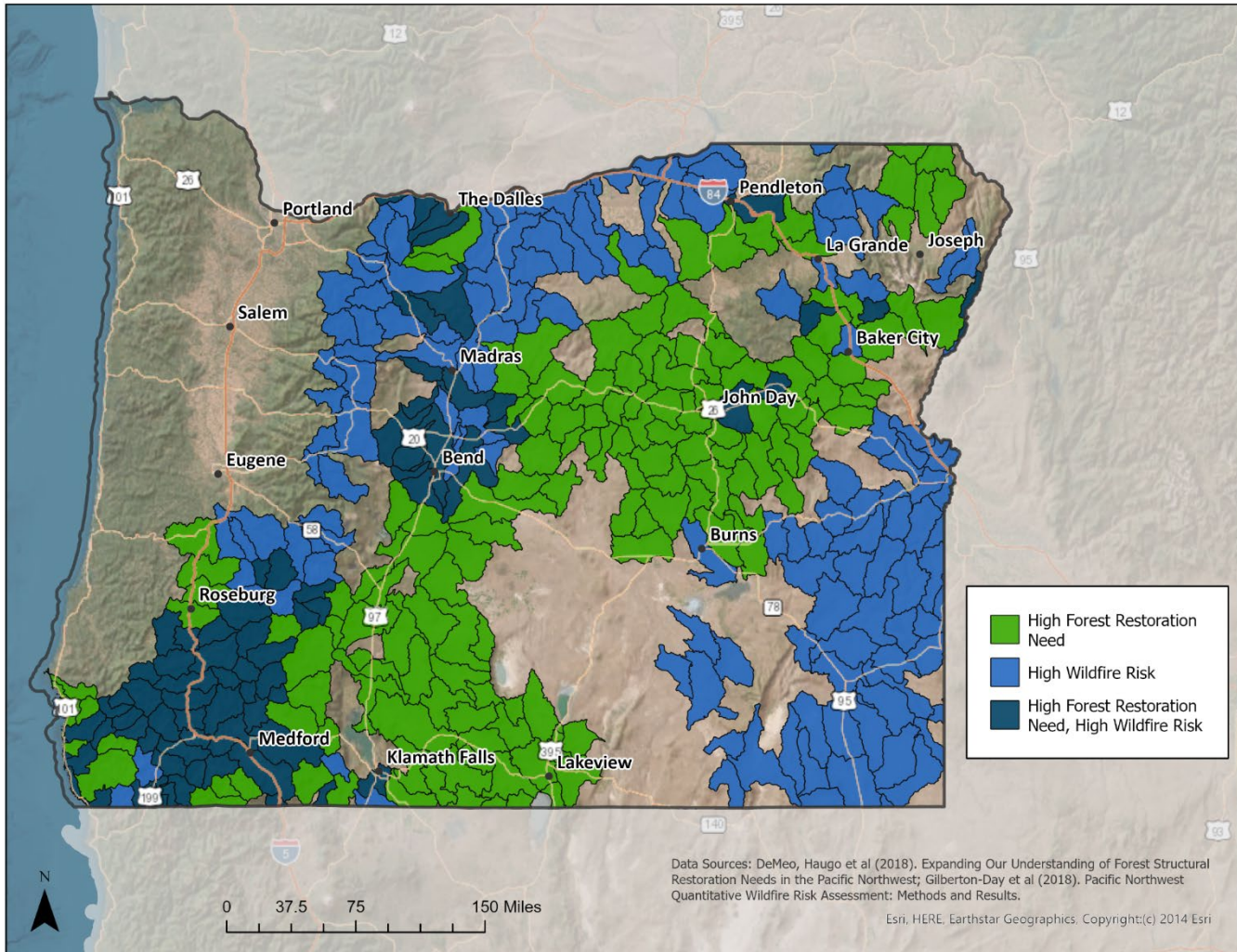
Options for Discussion: Geographic Priorities

1. Lands in the **four highest eNVC risk classes** identified in the 2018 QWRA
2. Lands identified in **Forest Disturbance Restoration Need**
 - The percent of forestland requiring disturbance-based restoration such as thinning or prescribed burning to return to a condition similar to that which was present prior to European settlement.
 - Source: DeMeo, Tom & Haugo, Ryan & Ringo, Chris & Kertis, Jane & Acker, Steven & Simpson, Mike & Stern, Mark. (2018). Expanding Our Understanding of Forest Structural Restoration Needs in the Pacific Northwest. Northwest Science. 92. 18-35.
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3. Add other planned restoration areas?
4. Add high fire risk range areas?

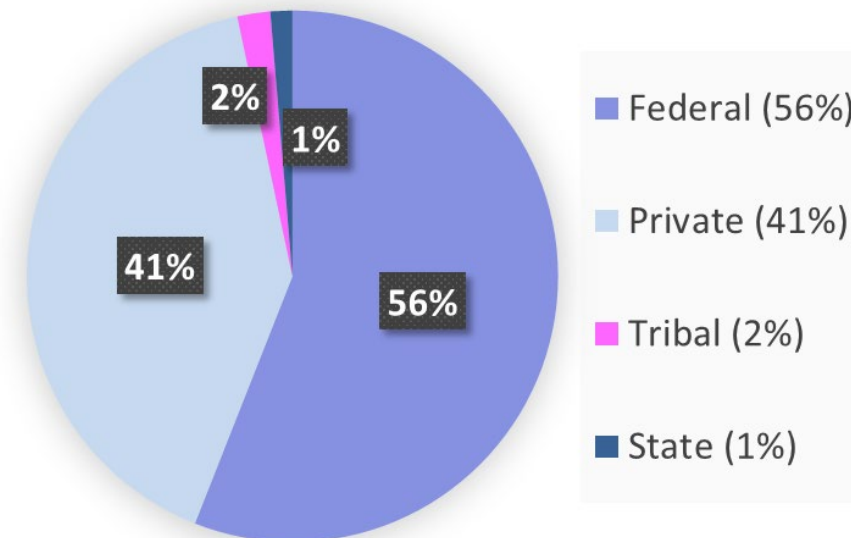
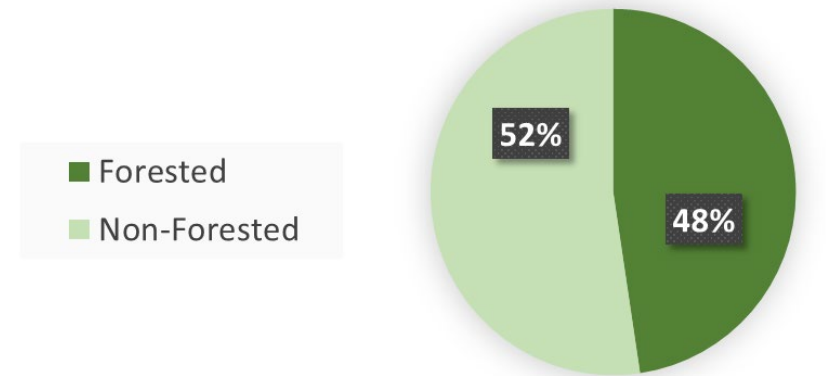
Forest Restoration Need and Wildfire Risk



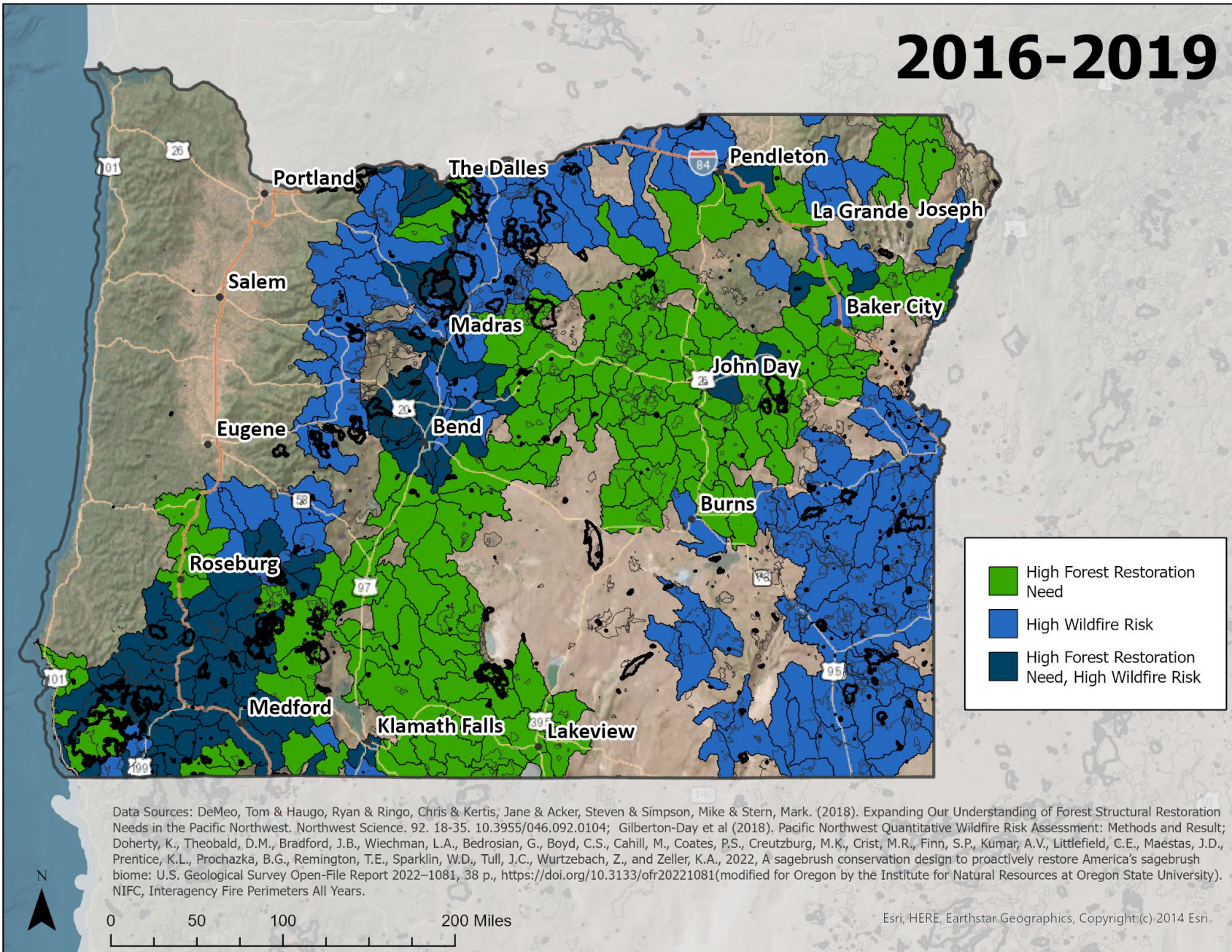
Wildfire Risk and Forest Restoration Need



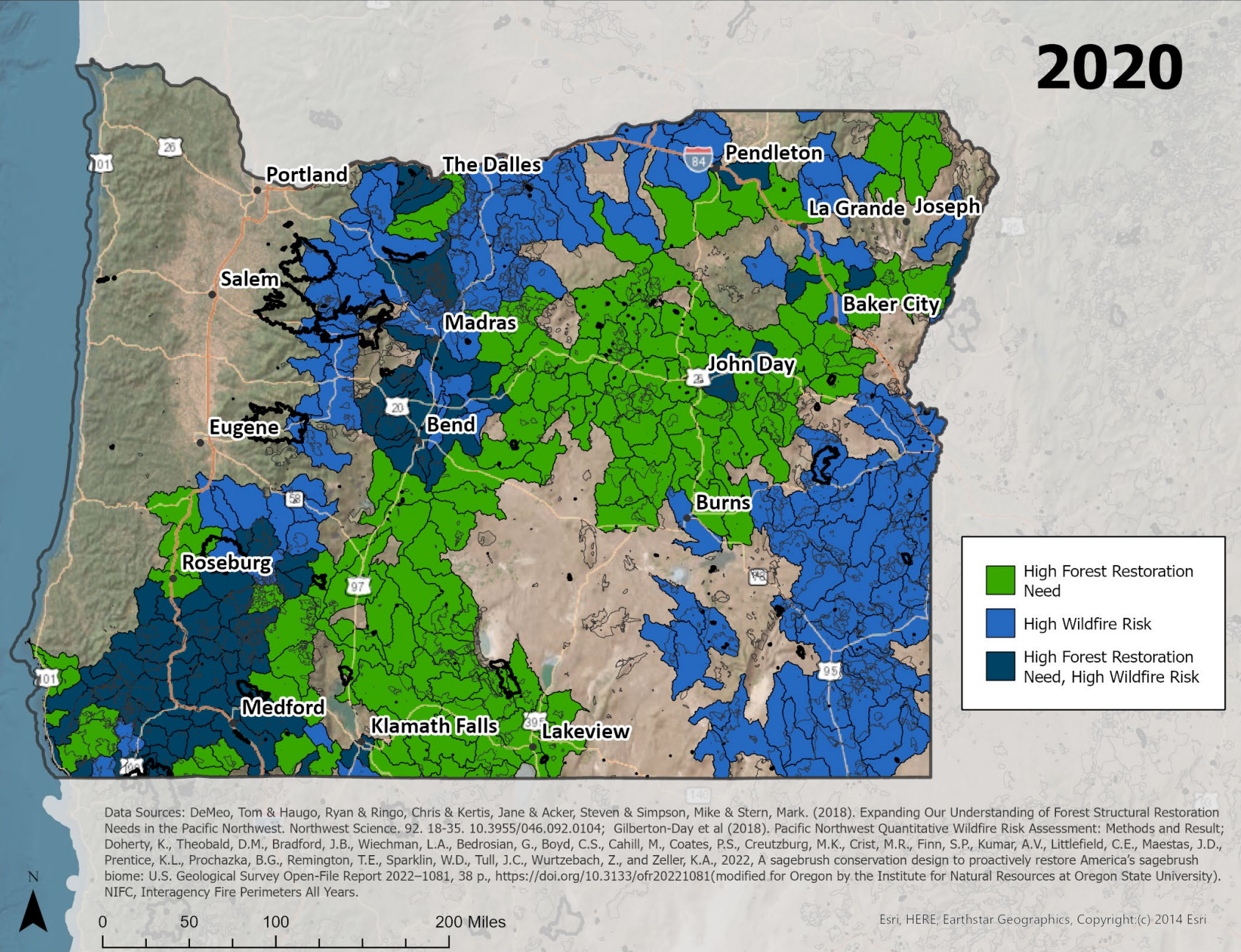
58% of Watersheds (377,488,278 Total Acres)



2016-2019



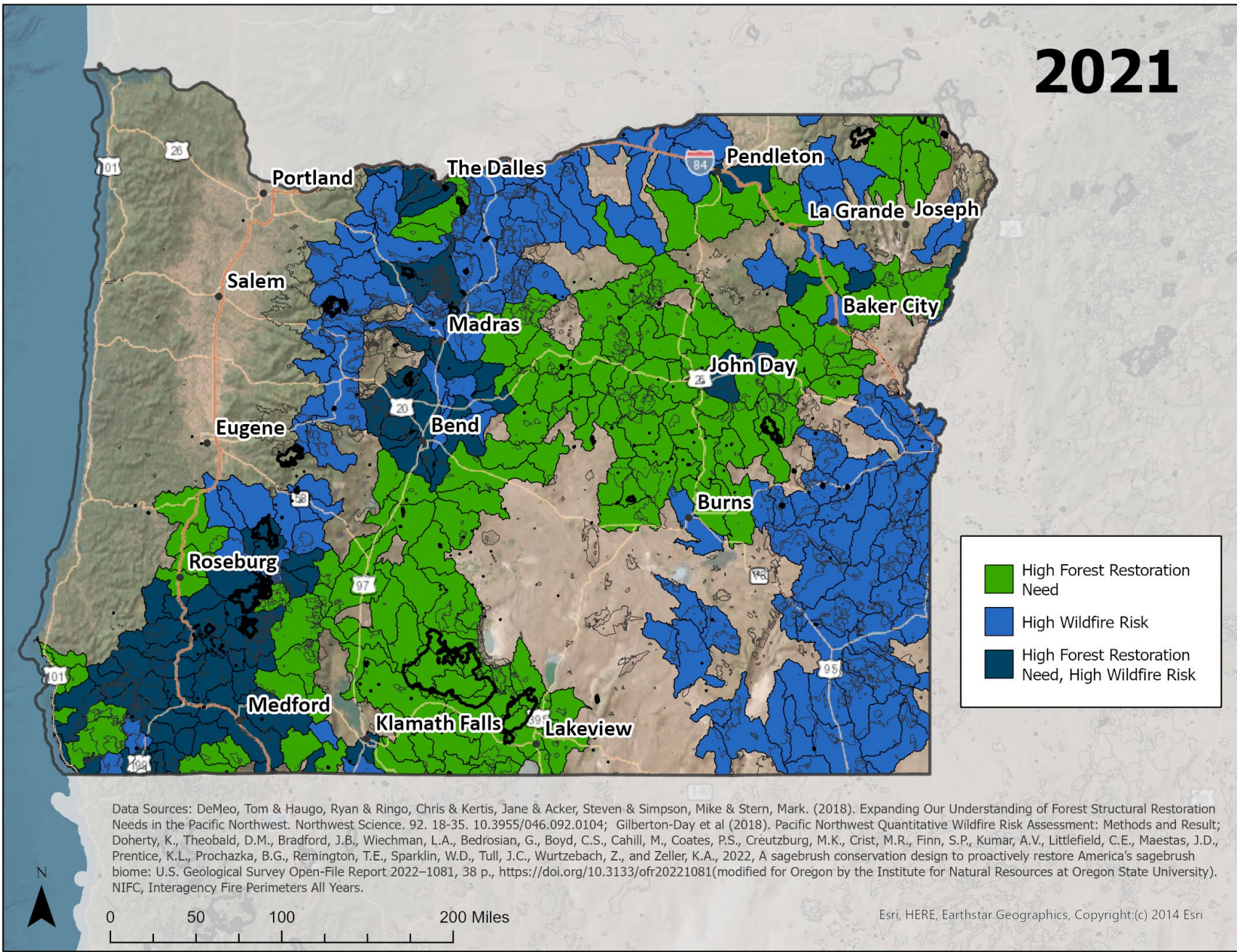
2020



Data Sources: DeMeo, Tom & Haugo, Ryan & Ringo, Chris & Kertis, Jane & Acker, Steven & Simpson, Mike & Stern, Mark. (2018). Expanding Our Understanding of Forest Structural Restoration Needs in the Pacific Northwest. Northwest Science. 92. 18-35. 10.3955/046.092.0104; Gilberton-Day et al (2018). Pacific Northwest Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment: Methods and Result; Doherty, K., Theobald, D.M., Bradford, J.B., Wiechman, L.A., Bedrosian, G., Boyd, C.S., Cahill, M., Coates, P.S., Creutzburg, M.K., Crist, M.R., Finn, S.P., Kumar, A.V., Littlefield, C.E., Maestas, J.D., Prentice, K.L., Prochazka, B.G., Remington, T.E., Sparklin, W.D., Tull, J.C., Wurtzbech, Z., and Zeller, K.A., 2022, A sagebrush conservation design to proactively restore America's sagebrush biome: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2022-1081, 38 p., <https://doi.org/10.3133/ofr20221081>(modified for Oregon by the Institute for Natural Resources at Oregon State University). NIFC, Interagency Fire Perimeters All Years.

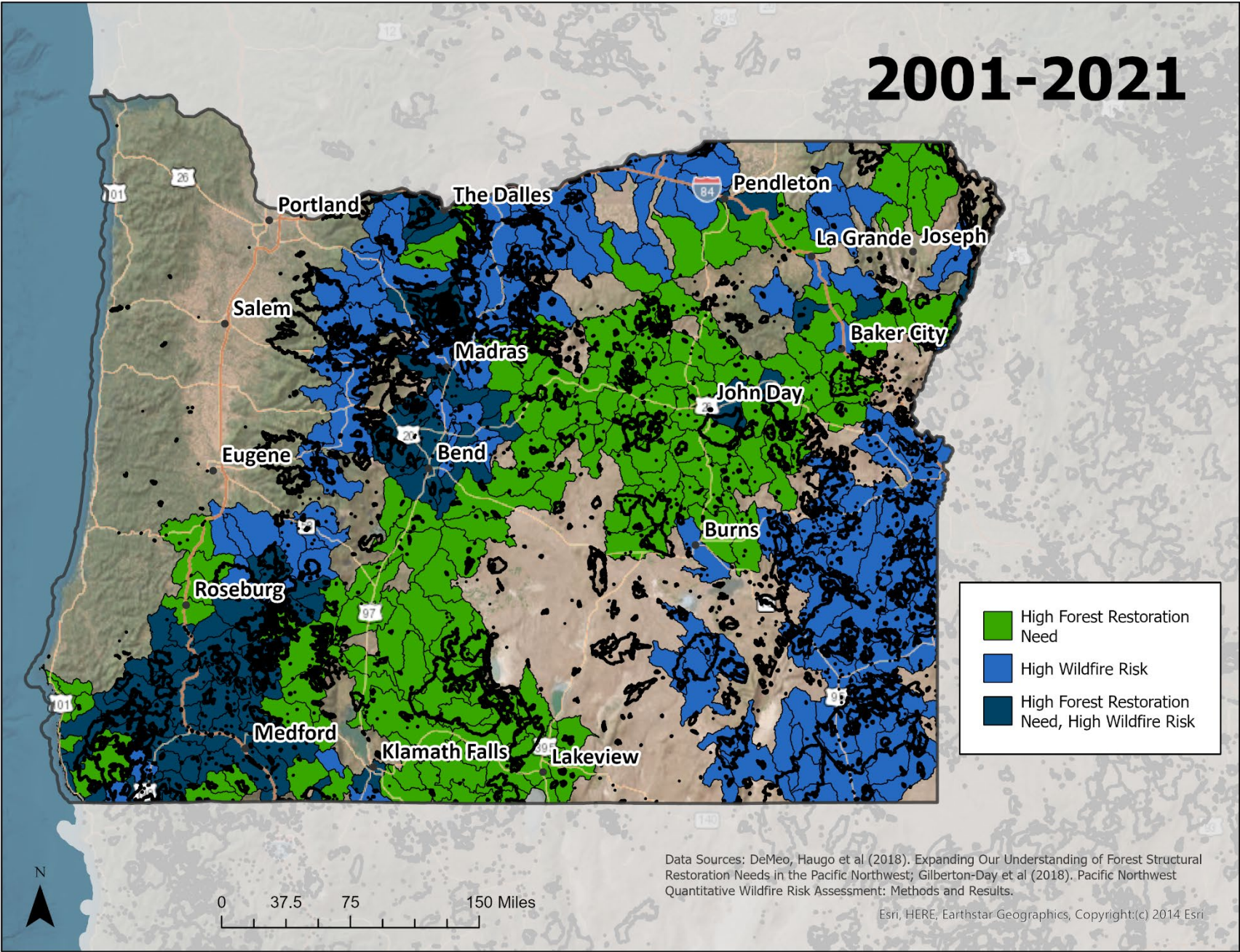
Esri, HERE, Earthstar Geographics. Copyright:(c) 2014 Esri

2021

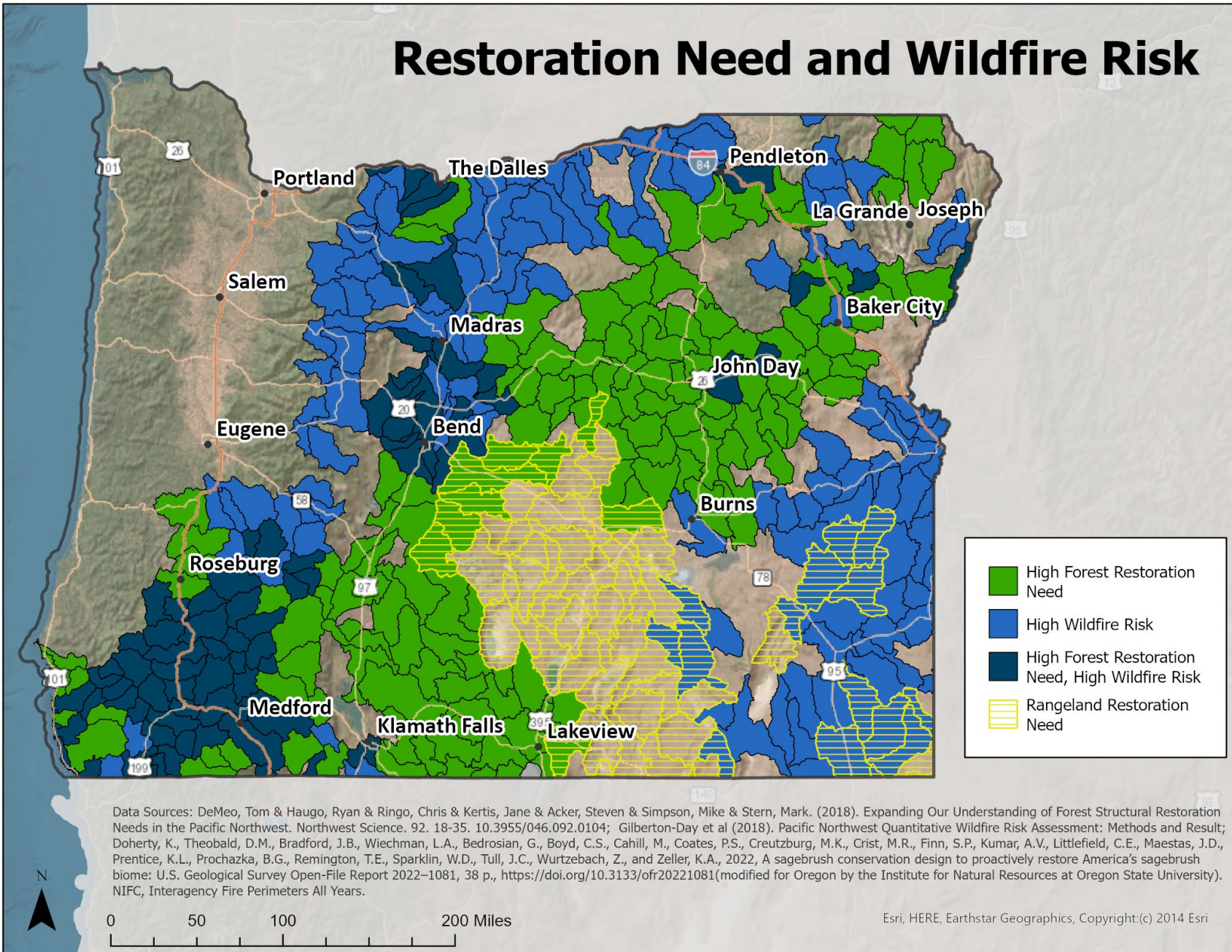


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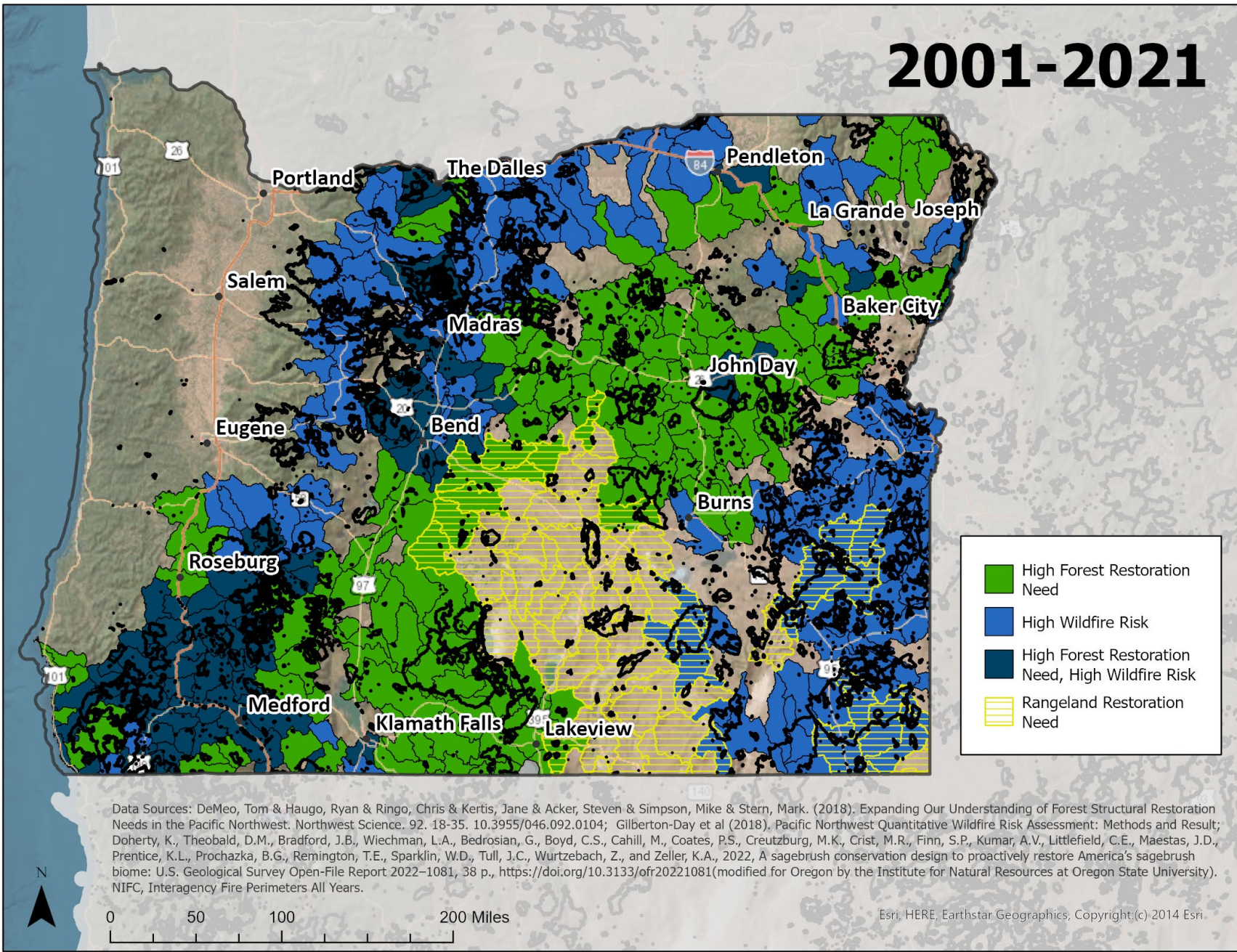
2001-2021



Restoration Need and Wildfire Risk

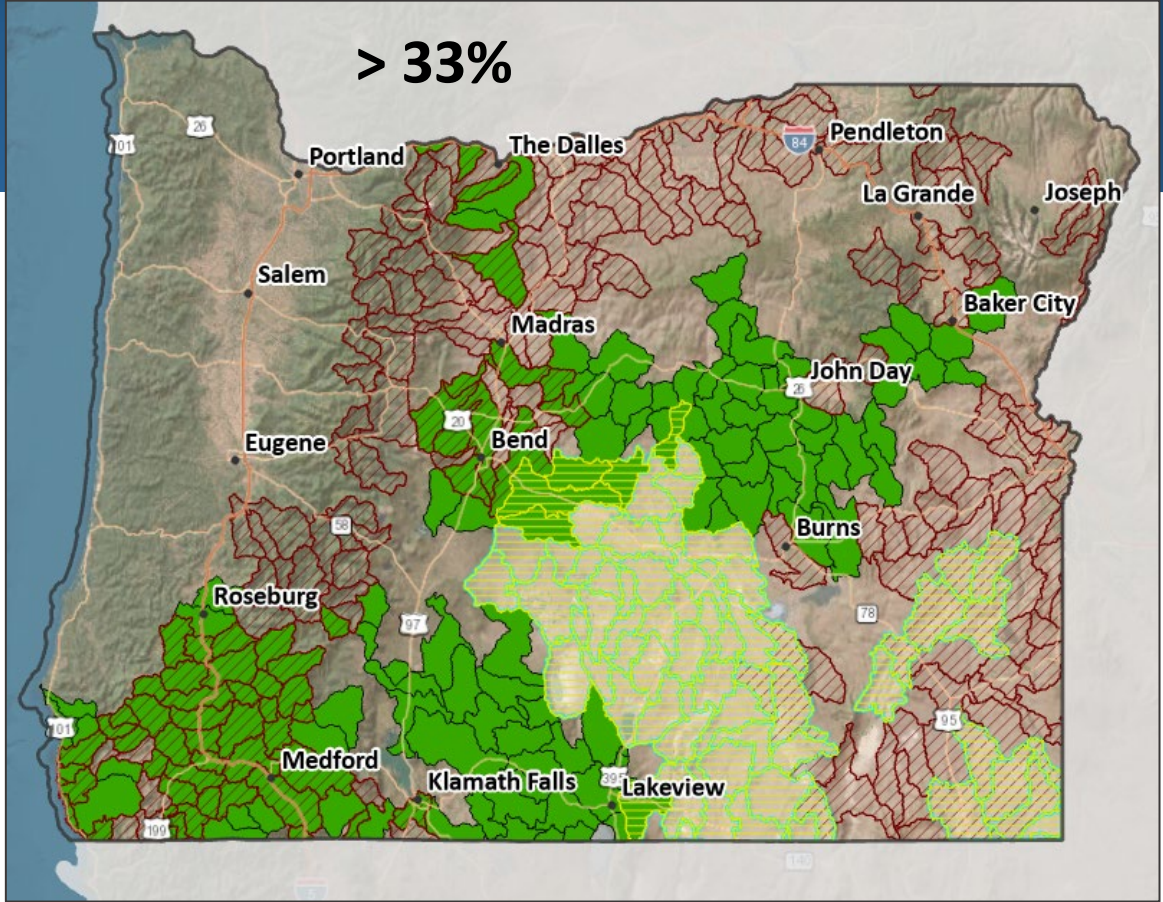
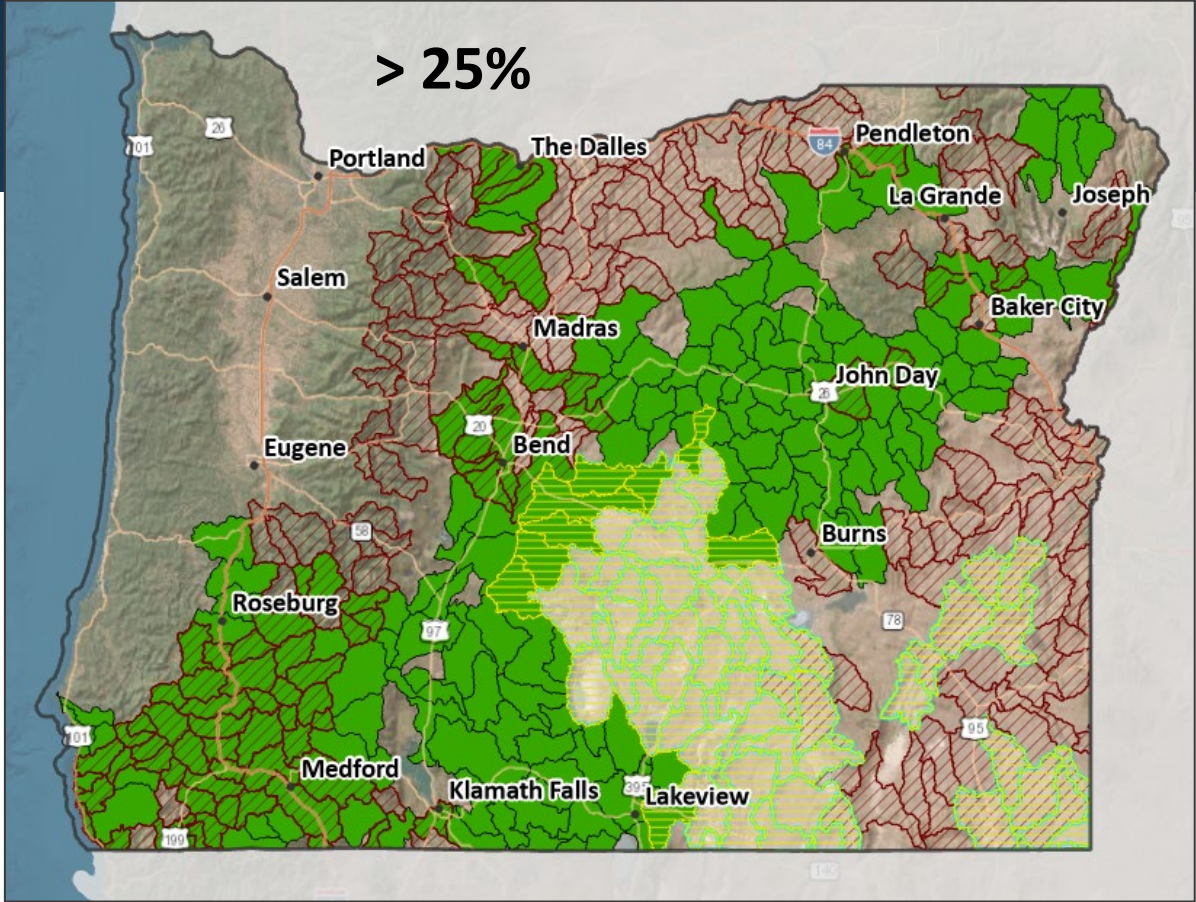


2001-2021



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Natural Breaks (Jenks): 2 classes

$\leq 25\%$

$> 25\%$

Equal Interval: 4 classes

$\leq 17\%$

17 - 33%

33 - 50%

50 - 67%



Observations from Restoration Data Mtg

1. Restoration needs and values differ by seral class
2. Wet forests, dry forests, and range
3. Fire risk, restoration/conservation could be separate steps
4. WA DNR identified landscape areas, then did local assessment

How to Define Priority Actions?

Guidance from MOU/762

- Reduce wildfire risk to communities
- Provide analytical science to empower collaborative groups and communities to develop locally-based solutions
- Evaluate varying types of fuel treatment methods
- Leverage the collective power of public-private partnerships and federal and state funding, including leverage of the coordination of funding to support collaborative initiatives that address the underlying causes of elevated forestland and rangeland wildfire risk across ownerships
- Engage in monitoring of the projects to produce useful information on which to base recommendations to the Legislative Assembly
- Use adaptive management approaches that include: experimenting, learning, and implementing work to achieve outcomes at scales that are meaningful
- Identify strategies and needs on both public and private lands
- Incorporate evolving best-available science in adaptation and mitigation responses to climate change and other major ecological and social drivers

Role of the 20-year strategy in how your agency thinks about investments

Options suggested by ACIG members

- Restoration projects (SB762)
- Federal Forest Restoration Program
- FIP and other grant programs
- GNA
- Habitat restoration priorities
- Landscape mitigation opportunities
- 5-year planning process
- Agency restoration projects
- State and private funding opportunities
- Future NEPA areas
- Community assistance programs
- Informing collaborative initiatives
- Agency planning process through county long range plans
- Develop new conservation implementation strategies

Collectively: Coordinated actions and investments

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Strategic Elements

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Options for Types of Actions

- On the ground treatments that reduce wildfire risk or enhance ecosystem resilience
 - Mechanical
 - Controlled burn
 - Managed fire
 - Maintenance
- Planning (NEPA, Management Plans, etc.)
- Build capacity: local groups; tribes; agencies; workforce
- Monitoring, data collection, research
- Develop decision support tools and information
- Engage with tribes, stakeholders and communities to build support and social license
- Develop new funding mechanisms
- Product utilization & mill infrastructure
- Different for public vs. private vs. tribal lands?
- How to address equity?

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Financial Implementation Plan

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Financial Implementation Plan

1. Identify **existing** funding sources, programs, and authorities that can be directed to priority actions and geographies.
2. Identify opportunities for **new** (or expanding existing) funding programs, sources or authorities.
3. Link existing and new funding to priorities, readiness/capacity, and goals.
4. Engage with federal and state partners to integrate shared priorities and goals into funding programs and activities.

Funding Matrix - Headers

- Funding Source/Program
- Purpose and Caveats
- Host Agency
- Source (Federal, State, Private)
- Implementation (Federal, State, Private)
- Program Amount (Annual / Biennium)
- Project Amount and Match Requirement

Federal, State, and Private Funding Sources

- Landscape Resiliency Program (LRP)
- Federal Forest Restoration Program (FFR)
- Small Forestland Grant Program (SFG)
- Competitive Grants
 - Western States, Community Assistance, Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR)
- Open Solicitation Grant Programs
- Focused Investment Grant Programs (FIPS)
- Partnership TA Grant Program
- Post Fire Recovery Grant Program
- Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG)
- Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP)
- Tribal Forest Protection Act (TFPA)
- Joint Chiefs Landscape Scale Restoration Projects (Joint Chiefs)
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Great American Outdoors Act
- Conservation Finance

Additional Financing Opportunities

- Conservation Finance
 - Forest Resilience Bonds
- Others?
- How to approach gathering this information?

Timeline for Phase 3: January-June

Dec. – Mar: Draft Report

Continue to develop and refine content

March: Present key components to Tribes, Stakeholders, SLG

April: Review initial draft report with Tribes, Stakeholders, SLG

May: Review revised report with Tribes, Stakeholders, SLG

June: Final report endorsed by SLG and released
Begin implementation

Presentations

Jan 4: ODF Board of Forestry

Feb 25: OWEB

Thank you!