



# Senate Committee on Natural Resources

January 18, 2022

Mark Bennett, Wildfire Programs Advisory Council Chair





# Wildfire Programs Advisory Council

Governor of Oregon : Wildfire Programs Advisory Council : Policies : State of Oregon

## Council Established: September 2021

- 19 members appointed by legislature
- Broad perspective state-wide with regional diversity
- Election Chair & Vice Chair annually
- Staff support from Director Grafe, ODF, DLCD and DCBS
- 2021-2022: Seven Meetings: Nov, Jan, April, July, Aug, September, December
- 2023 Quarterly Meetings set: Jan 20, April, July, Oct

## Council Annual Report: November 2022

- Report supported by OSU Extension
- Three working groups established
- Interviewed 11 Implementation Agencies
- Recommendation by Agency & by Themes
  - Outreach Education Engagement
  - Interagency & Partner Collaboration
  - Sustainable Funding / Investment
  - Prioritization
- DLCD report addendum completed Dec 2



## Wildfire Suppression Investments

- Prevention
- Early detection
- Aviation
- Aggressive initial attack



# Electric System Advancements

*(Section 1-6)*

- Public Utility Commission  
Wildfire Workshops
- Utility Wildfire Protection Plans
  - 3, Investor-Owned Plans
  - 30, Consumer Owned Plans
- Shared Intelligence:
  - Wildfire Detection Cameras
  - Weather and Fire Modeling Analytics
- Public Safety Power Shut-off
  - Critical & Effective Wildfire Prevention and  
community Strategy



**2022 Labor Day Wildfire Event: September 9-10**  
**25-30 MPH Sustained – Gusts 60MPH – 36 Hour Event**

“Wildfire Crisis Averted – through Prevention (PSPS)”

Cedar Creek Fire grows 60,000 acres over 36-hour wind event and forces  
evacuation of Oakridge: over 3000 residence

# Landscape Resiliency

*(Section 18, 24, 25)*

- Treatments Mitigate Catastrophic Wildfire Risk
- 20-Year plan in progress
- \$20 Million Landscape Scale:
  - 19 projects across 150,000 acres – 2x applicants
- \$5 Million Small woodlands:
  - 20 community projects – 80 applicants



*“Landowner fuel treatment that burned during a wildfire in 2021. The treatment prevented the fire from reaching the canopy, protected trees and helped firefighters directly engage the fire front.”*

# Public Health

*(Section 13 -15)*

- Community Response Plans

\$1.5 million: 21 Communities, Tribes, Counties and Collaboratives granted to develop smoke programs


- Public Clean Air Spaces

463 air scrubbers being distributed for public clean air spaces  
\$4 Million in grants this winter to create public clean air spaces

- Residential Air Filtration Systems

\$5 Million to purchase 10,000 units for installation across Oregon  
Target – Medicaid recipients with smoke vulnerabilities

- Comprehensive Approach



**OMNITEC**  
DESIGN, INC.

### Negative Air Machine

- 115VAC

*Compact unit is easy to set up and delivers the performance of full-size models.*

This HEPA air scrubber features 2-speed operation and comes with a 99.97% HEPA filter and a 2-stage pre-filter. Model can filter up to 0.3 $\mu$  and is suitable for use against asbestos, lead, and mold.

Filtration	Air Flow with HEPA Filter	HP	Amps	Mfr. Model	Item No.
HEPA	1000 to 2000 cfm	1 ½ hp	13.8 A	OA2200C	<b>49K230</b>

Oregon Exceeds National Air Quality Standards  
With Catastrophic Wildfire Smoke Accounted For

“This is our new reality, and we must protect public health”  
Our 10-year average annual acres burned is 720,000



# Oregon Conservation Corps

*(Section 21-23)*

- Engaging with youth programs to reduce wildfire fuels
- Supporting at-risk communities
- Establishing Defensible Space to Safely Deploy Fire Engines to Protect Homes During Wildfire.
- \$10 million deployed across thirteen projects
  - Seeking \$1 million in matching dollars
- Over 400 youth engaged



## Testimonials:

Jae McDonald 8/25/2022: "I'm so grateful for the work they performed. I was so overwhelmed with doing it myself. Thanks to the crew as well!"

Keiran Hadley 4/12/2022: "The experiences that I have had during my time as a 'Community Wildfire Protection Corps' Crew Supervisor and Program Coordinator at Northwest Youth Corps have been the most important and foundational ones that I have had yet."



# OSFM Community Risk Reduction Program

# Grant Opportunities

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Wildland-Urban Interface Readiness Grant

**Defensible Space Incentive Grant**

Wildfire Season Staffing Grant

Wildfire Training Program

Engine Program

**Oregon Fire Service Capacity Program**

**Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant**

**Tribal Investments**

Wildland-Urban Interface 2.0 Grant

**Defensible Space - Public Assistance Grant**

Closed - \$4.3 million awarded

**Closed - \$271,000 awarded**

Closed - \$6 million awarded

Closed - \$250,000 awarded

Closed – \$25 million

**Closed – \$12 million**

**Winter 2022/2023**

**Winter 2022/2023**

Spring 2023

**Spring 2023**





# Thank you

Mark Bennett, Wildfire Programs Advisory Council Chair

