

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







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
 Option 1.5 Effective Wildfing Properties

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

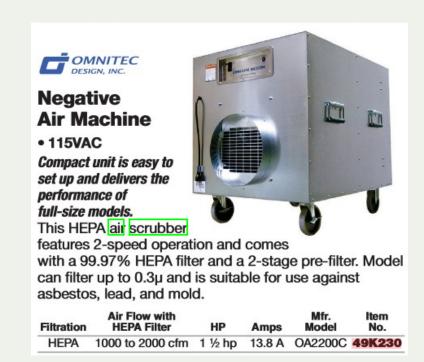
Public Clean Air Spaces

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



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

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



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