

Appendix H

Wildfire Resources

The following are wildfire resources to help communities, landowners, and other interested parties help reduce wildland urban interface fire risk. There are four main categories: agencies, policies, wildfire mitigation/education, and fire prevention and interagency cooperation.

Agencies

A variety of agencies do work that affects forest and fire management and other factors associated with reducing wildfire risk to forests and communities. The following resources provide information on federal, state, and local agencies that are related to forests, fire, and resource management and planning:

United States Forest Service, Fire and Aviation Management

Contact: USFS Fire and Aviation Management
Address: 3833 South Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705
Phone: (208) 387-5100
Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/>

United States Forest Service, Siuslaw National Forest

Contact: Siuslaw National Forest
Address: 4077 S.W. Research Way, Corvallis, OR 97339
Phone: (541) 750-7000
Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/siuslaw/>

United States Forest Service, Willamette National Forest

Contact: Willamette National Forest
Address: PO Box 10607, Eugene, OR 97440
Phone: (541) 225-6300
Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette/>

United States Forest Service, Umpqua National Forest

Contact: Umpqua National Forest
Address: 2900 Stewart Parkway, Roseburg, OR 97470
Phone: (541) 672-6601
Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/umpqua/>

Bureau of Land Management

Contact: Bureau of Land Management
Address: 1849 C Street, Room 406-LS, Washington DC 20240
Phone: (202) 452-5125 (voice) or (202) 452-5124 (fax)
Website: <http://www.blm.gov/nhp/index.htm>

Oregon Department of Forestry

Contact: Oregon Department of Forestry
Address: 2600 State Street, Salem, OR 97310
Phone: (541) 945-7200 (voice) or (503) 945-7212 (fax)
Website: <http://oregon.gov/ODF/index.shtml>

Oregon State Fire Marshall

Contact: Oregon State Fire Marshall
Address: 3225 State Street, Salem, OR 97301
Phone: (503) 378-3056
Website: <http://www.blm.gov/nhp/index.htm>

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Contact: Fire Prevention Program Coordinator
Address: PO Box 47037, Olympia, WA 98504-7037
Phone: (360) 902-1754 (voice) or (306) 902-1757 (fax)
Website: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/contact/>

Lane County Fire Prevention Cooperative

Contact: Chariperson
Address: 3620 Gateway Street, Springfield, Oregon 97477
Phone: (541) 935-2226
Website: Lanefireprevention.com

Oregon Natural Hazards Workgroup

Contact: Program Director
Address: 1209 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-1209
Website: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~onhw/>

National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC)

Contact: NIFC
Address: 3833 South Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705-5354
Phone: (208) 387-5512
Website: <http://www.nifc.gov/>

Policies

Policies are often created at the federal and state level that affect how agencies, businesses, and residents can work individually and collaboratively to reduce communities' risk to wildfire. The following resources provide information on existing federal and state policies regarding wildfire risk reduction.

Healthy Forest Restoration Act

Website: <http://www.healthyforests.gov/>

National Fire Plan 10 Year Comprehensive Strategy

Website: <http://www.fireplan.gov/reports/7-19-en.pdf>

Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000

Website: <http://www.dem.dcc.state.nc.us/PA/Assets/Forms/dma2000.pdf>

Oregon Statewide Land Use Planning Goal 7: Areas Subject to Natural Hazards

Website: <http://www.lcd.state.or.us/LCD/docs/goals/goal7.pdf>

Oregon Forestland Dwelling Units Statute, ORS 215.730

Website: <http://landru.leg.state.or.us/ors/215.html>

Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act of 1997 (Senate Bill 360)

Website:

http://www.odf.state.or.us/divisions/protection/fire_protection/prev/sb360/docs/legal/PROTACT%20ORS%20090704.pdf

Wildfire Mitigation/Education

Many programs currently exist to help mitigate communities' risk to wildfire and to educate agencies, businesses, and residents on issues related to wildland-urban interface fire. The following resources provide links to educational information and programs regarding wildfire mitigation and community outreach:

Firewise Communities

Contact: Firewise Communities

Address: N/A

Phone: N/A

Website: <http://www.firewise.org/>

Missoula FireLab

Contact: Missoula FireLab

Address: PO Box 8089, 5775 West Highway, Missoula, MT 59807

Phone: N/A

Website: <http://www.firelab.org/>

Fire Safe Councils

Contact: Fire Safe Council

Address: N/A

Phone: N/A

Website: <http://www.firesafecouncil.org/>

Federal Alliance for Safe Homes

Contact: Federal Alliance for Safe Homes

Address: 1427 East Piedmont Drive, Suite 2, Tallahassee, FL 32308

Phone: (877) 221-7233

Website: <http://www.flash.org/welcome.cfm>

What Trees Can Provide

Contact: Center for Urban Forest Research
Address: PSW Research Station, USDA Forest Service c/o Department of Environmental Horticulture, Suite 1103, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616
Phone: (530) 752-7636 (voice) or (503) 752-6634 (fax)
Website: <http://cufu.ucdavis.edu/>

Home and Fire Magazine

Contact: Home and Fire Magazine
Address: PO Box 458, Lebanon, OR 97355
Phone: (541) 451-4670 (voice) or (541) 451-1015
Website: <http://www.homeandfire.com/>

A Model for Improving Community Preparedness for Wildfire

Contact: Pacific Northwest Research Station
Address: Pacific Northwest Research Station
Phone: (206) 732-7832
Website:
<http://www.ncrs.fs.fed.us/4803/highlights/Intro%20to%20website.pdf>

The Ad Council Firewise Campaign PSA's

Address: The Advertising Council, INC., 261 Madison Avenue, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10016
Phone: (212) 922-1500 (voice) or (212) 922-1676 (fax)
Website: <http://www.adcouncil.org/campaigns/firewise/>

Where's the Fire Wise Choices Make Safe Communities

Contact: Center for Urban Forest Research
Address: PSW Research Station, USDA Forest Service c/o Department of Environmental Horticulture, Suite 1103, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616
Phone: (530) 752-7636 (voice) or (503) 752-6634 (fax)
Website: http://cufu.ucdavis.edu/products/8/cufu_150.pdf

National Wildfire Coordinating Group

Contact: National Wildfire Coordinating Group
Address: National Office of Fire and Aviation, Bureau of Land Management, National Interagency Fire Center
Phone: (208) 387-5144
Website: <http://www.nwccg.gov/teams/wfewt/biblio/index.htm>

National Fire Protection Association

Contact: National Fire Protection Association
Address: 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471
Phone: (617) 770-3000
Website: <http://www.firepreventionweek.org/>

National Interagency Fire Center: Fire Prevention and Education

Contact: NIFC: Fire Prevention and Education
Address: 3833 South Development Avenue, Boise, ID 83705
Phone: (208) 387-5512
Website: <http://www.nifc.gov/preved/index.html>

Federal Emergency Management Association for Kids: Teaching Kids About Prescribed Fire

Contact: FEMA
Address: 500 C Street, Southwest Washington D.C. 20472
Phone: (202) 566-1600
Website: <http://www.fema.gov/kids/wldfire.htm>

Protecting and Landscaping Homes in the Wildland/Urban Interface

Contact: University of Idaho Extension
Address: Forest, Wildlife and Range Experiment Station, College of Natural Resources, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844-1130

Wildfire Mitigation in Florida: Land use planning strategies and best development practices

Contact: State of Florida Department of Community Affairs, Division of Community Planning, Publications
Address: 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd, Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100
Phone: (850) 487-4545
Website:
http://www.dca.state.fl.us/fdcp/dcp/publications/Wildfire_Mitigation_in_FL.pdf

Grant Opportunities

Federal and state grants already exist to assist counties and local communities in funding various wildfire risk reduction projects. To assist the county and local communities in accessing existing funding sources, the following resources have been adapted from the *National Fire Plan - Pacific Northwest Interagency: Grant Opportunity Summaries*¹ and explain and provide contact information for some federal and state grants:

FS/BLM/NFWS/NPS/BIA Community Assistance and Economic Action Programs

This grant is to be used for community based planning and projects for fuels reduction and community wildland-urban interface education and prevention. Agency partnerships and fund sharing is encouraged. Federally recognized tribes, universities, colleges, state chartered non-profit organizations, counties, cities, federal, state, and local government agencies are eligible to apply for this grant.

Applications due: March
Website: www.nwfireplan.gov

FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Programs

This grant funds programs by fire departments that help protect the public and firefighting personnel against fire related hazards. This grant additionally focuses on programs aimed at children and firefighting personnel training, protective equipment, and vehicles. Recognized local fire departments are eligible to apply for this grant.

Applications: March

Website: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/grants/afgp/>

Volunteer and Rural Fire Department Assistance

This grant provides financial assistance to volunteer and rural fire departments for improving fire protection through improved organization, training, equipment, prevention, and planning.

Applications: February

Contact: Oregon Department of Forestry

Phone: (503) 945-7341

State Fire Assistance Wildland Urban Interface Hazard Mitigation Grants

This grant provides funding for education and outreach programs, fuels reduction and ecosystem restoration programs, and community assistance in seventeen western states and Pacific Island territories. State Forestry agencies are eligible to apply and can sponsor other participants.

Applications: Fall

Website: www.fs.fed.us/r4/sfa_grants/sfa_grants.html

Energy Trust Grants

This grant provides financial assistance to renewable energy programs that do not already have incentive programs developed through the Energy Trust of Oregon. Projects in the areas of small wind, solar photovoltaics, biomass, biogas, small hydro, and geothermal electric will generally receive grants. Schools, local and state governments, and commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural, and non-profit businesses are eligible to apply for this grant

Contact: The Energy Trust of Oregon

Address: 733 S.W. Oak Street, Suite 200, Portland, OR, 97205

Phone: (503) 493-8888 (voice) or (503) 546-6862 (fax)

Website: <http://www.energytrust.org>

Fire Prevention and Interagency Cooperation²

Reducing communities' wildfire risk is a shared responsibility not only between residents and agencies, but also between agencies at the federal, state, and local levels. Federal, state, and local agencies frequently work closely with one another and form partnerships in coordinating wildfire prevention programs. Examples of existing partnerships and current coordinating efforts and programs include the following:

Prevention Working Team of the Pacific Northwest Wildfire Coordinating Group (PNWCG)

This group is composed of representatives of ODF, the Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM), the Washington State Fire Marshal, the five federal wildfire agencies, and the Keep Oregon Green (KOG) Association. Meetings are held monthly. Recent work has included:

- Ongoing oversight of the Industrial Fire Precaution Level System
- Coordination of the deployment of National Fire Prevention and Education Teams into the region.
- General coordination of wildfire prevention programs and campaigns across the region.
- Development of a regional wildfire prevention web site.
- Creation and implementation of Wildfire Awareness Week
- Review and scoring of National Fire Plan grant applications related to fire prevention.
- Design and conduct of a prescribed awareness and ecosystem health media campaign.
- Development and distribution of a "Fire in the Northwest Ecosystem" curriculum, to teachers of grades 7-12.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

BLM and ODF worked closely on a number of fronts:

- ODF protects approximately 2.5 million acres of BLM forestland from fire. This protection includes all aspects of wildfire prevention: education, engineering and enforcement.
- - The two agencies work together, frequently, on groups such as the Prevention Working Team of the PNWCG.

Forest Service (USFS)

In addition to working together on many statewide and regional fire prevention related groups, the two agencies:

- Routinely combine efforts to conduct wildfire prevention related training.
- Coordinate the implementation of closures and restrictions.

- Coordinate assistance to communities in the preparation of community wildfire protection plans.
- Facilitate and coordinate various projects conducted as a part of the National Fire Plan.
- Implementation of various national prevention programs and campaigns, such as Firewise and Smokey Bear.

Forest Industry

Working primarily through the Oregon Forest Industries Council and the Associated Oregon Loggers (AOL), ODF works closely with the forest industry. Recent examples include:

- Refinement of fire prevention standards required for logging operations.
- Annual “operator dinners”, where members of the logging community are brought up to date on new fire prevention regulations and emerging trends in logging related fire causes.

Pacific Northwest Fire Prevention Workshop Committee

This body plans and hosts an annual, week long, gathering of several hundred fire prevention personnel from across the region and, increasingly, from across the nation. The success of this committee is evidenced by their receipt of a national Silver Smokey Bear Award in 2000. The committee is made up of personnel from ODF, the state of Washington, the five federal wildfire agencies, the structural fire services of Oregon and Washington, KOG, and the Oregon Fire Marshal Association.

Prevention Working Group, Fire Program Review

Over the past year, this group reviewed Oregon’s wildfire prevention efforts and made recommendations for improvements. Represented on the group were small woodland owners, large industrial owners, Oregon Forest Resources Institute, AOL, city fire departments, Oregon State University, Insurance Information Service of Oregon & Idaho, OSFM, rural fire departments, USFS and others. The group was co-chaired by representatives from KOG and ODF.

Local fire prevention cooperatives

In many areas of the state, fire prevention cooperatives have been formed to facilitate interagency cooperation in the local delivery of wildfire fire prevention messages and materials. Cooperative membership normally includes structural fire departments, ODF and the USFS. Some cooperatives also have the American Red Cross, local 911 dispatch centers and other emergency oriented organizations as members. Projects commonly undertaken by cooperatives include:

- Presentation of Smokey Bear wildfire prevention programs in area grade schools.
- Presentation of home fire safety, “stop, drop and roll” and “exist drills in the home” (EDITH) programs in local schools.

- Establishment of hunter education booths, on the opening weekend of hunting season, to make hunter aware of fire prevention practices.
- Joint staffing of county fair fire prevention displays and booths.
- Joint sponsorship of local special events, such as Smokey Bear day at professional baseball games.
- Fire prevention related training for member agency employees.
- Implementation and delivery of various fire prevention and wildland-urban interface programs and campaigns.

Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM)

ODF often and frequently works with OSFM on a variety of initiatives. Perhaps the largest ongoing such initiative is the implementation of the Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Prevention Act (aka Senate Bill 360), of which OSFM was a co-sponsor. In addition to working together on many statewide and regional fire prevention related groups, the two agencies have recently:

- Jointly sponsored, with KOG, a Wildfire Awareness Week proclamation from the Governor.
- Worked together to assist local communities in the completion of community wildfire protection plans.

Oregon Interagency Hazard Mitigation Team

This organization, established by the Oregon Department of Homeland Security, meets monthly to share information about all types of natural hazard, including wildfire. Membership includes a wide diversity of state agencies. The team recently completed development of the state's Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan, which included a chapter on Wildland-Urban Interface Wildfire. Other chapters, such as those dealing with volcanic hazards and windstorms, also related to fire prevention issues.

Oregon Natural Hazards Workgroup (ONHW)

ONHW is associated with the University of Oregon, works to leverage the resources of a wide variety of private and government entities so that duplication of efforts is minimized and maximization of effort is consolidated. ODF has recently worked with the workgroup on a number of fire prevention related topics:

- Implementation of the Fire Wise Communities USA recognition program in Oregon.
- Hosting and conduct of Fire Wise workshops around the state.
- Development of the wildland-urban interface wildfire chapter of the Oregon Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan.

Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation (ODPR)

In addition to assisting ODPR with campground fire safety, during the summer months, ODF has recently been working with ODPR to enhance wildfire prevention on the ocean shore. Also involved in this recent effort has been OSFM, several rural fire protection districts and KOG.

Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ)

ODF works extensively with DOJ on efforts related to changing people's unacceptable fire prevention behavior, when such behavior has resulted in an escaped wildfire. DOJ assists ODF in collecting the costs of suppressing these fires, from the negligent parties. DOJ has also assisted with specific projects, such as the 2003 ground breaking effort to prevent the Union Pacific Railroad from engaging in a continuing pattern of fire starting activities.

Oregon State Police (OSP)

OSP and ODF frequently join forces to carry out wildfire prevention efforts. Such efforts include:

- The annual, full time assignment of two OSP troopers to conduct wildfire arson prevention programs across the state, during fire season.
- Joint fire investigation training.
- Assisting ODF to outfit and operate a fire investigation vehicle.
- Cooperative investigation of fires. The investigation of fires related to arson is headed by OSP while the investigation of fires related to other causes is normally headed by ODF.

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)

In recent years, ODOT and ODF have increasingly worked together to deliver the wildfire prevention messages to motorists, primarily through the use of ODOT's fixed and mobile variable message reader boards.

Keep Oregon Green Association (KOG)

KOG and ODF have history of joint collaboration, which spans the last 65 years. KOG is currently collocated with ODF in Salem and receives extensive direct support from the agency. In addition to working together on many statewide and regional fire prevention related groups, the two organizations routinely and regularly conduct fire prevention programs, campaigns and media offerings.

City and Rural Fire Departments

Especially at the local level, ODF often works with local fire departments to carry out wildfire prevention activities. One ongoing example is the Fire Free campaign in central Oregon. Headed by the Bend Fire Department, ODF has assisted with the conduct and expansion of this award winning and highly successful wildfire

mitigation and prevention program. Often, the agencies work together on activities under the auspicious of the local fire prevention cooperative.

County and City Governments

Increasingly, ODF has been working with local governments on wildfire prevention. On a statewide basis, three of the major such efforts have been:

- Implementation of Oregon's Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act (Senate Bill 360)
- Preparation of community wildfire protection plans
- Creation of wildfire hazard zones

National level involvement

ODF is represented on several committees working at the national level, through the National Wildfire Coordinating Group. Each of these committees has members from the federal wildfire agencies, the National Association of State Foresters, and others:

- Wildland Fire Education Working Team, which is responsible for the development wildfire prevention related materials and programs.
- Fire Investigation Working Team – which is responsible for the development of training programs and standards related to wildfire investigation.

¹ Oregon Department of Forestry. 2005. *National Fire Plan - Pacific Northwest Interagency: Grant Opportunity Summaries*. <<http://oregon.gov/ODF/FIRE/docs/NatnlFirePlanGrantSummary.pdf>>.

² Fire Prevention and Interagency Cooperation information developed by Rick Rogers of the Oregon Department of Forestry.