



Linn County

COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN, 2024-2029

APPENDICES

This document includes the following appendices (click on name to go to appendix):

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Appendix A: Action Item Worksheets

This appendix includes worksheets describing each action item identified during the CWPP update process, as well as a crosswalk documenting the 2007 action items and 2024 action items. Action items are detailed recommendations for activities that local, state, and federal agencies, organizations, and community members, and others can engage in to reduce the risk of impacts from wildfires on people, property, and natural and cultural resources. The action item worksheets include active action items, organized by Plan goals. The action items were reviewed and updated through various inputs, data collection, research, and community feedback. See Section 5: Action Plan for more information on the development of the CWPP goals and action items and a matrix summarizing all of the action items.

To facilitate implementation, each action item is described in a worksheet, which includes an identification number that corresponds with the goals and order in the action item matrix, description, purpose/rational, priority, status/timeline, a coordinating organization, cost and potential funding sources, when available, partners involved, and location. In addition, a review form includes actions taken, what went well, lessons learned, suggestions moving forward, estimated cost, and funding source(s) used, as appropriate. The review form can be used to document work completed during the review and maintenance of the CWPP.

Action Item Worksheets

The following pages include the worksheets for the 2024 action items, including information for each of the subsections listed below, as appropriate.

Purpose/Rationale

Each Action Item includes a listed purpose or rationale for why the action was selected. Action Items are fact based and tied directly to issues or needs identified throughout the planning process. Action Items were developed from several sources including participants of the planning process, noted deficiencies in local capability, or issues identified through the risk assessment.

Priority

Actions that have been identified as a top priority by the Committee for implementation in the next one to five years are noted in this section. If the coordinating organization has identified an internal organizational priority for an action, that is also noted.

Status/Timeline

This cell includes one of four designations: Not Started, Ongoing, Target Completion, and Complete. Ongoing action items are activities that receive continual improvements and those which are not intended to stop. For example, reducing hazardous fuel is an ongoing effort. Target Completion dates – Short Term (1-3 years), Medium Term (4-10 years), or Long Term (10+ years) – are an intended completion date. These dates are goals and are intended to help with prioritization and improve

progress and accountability and were identified by reviewing current and planned activities identified during the Plan update process.

Coordinating Organization

The coordinating organization is the organization that is willing and able to organize resources, find appropriate funding, and oversee activity implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. In some cases, co-leads are identified.

Cost and Funding Source/Partners

This is a general amount or dollar range. The CWPP has been developed to integrate into the Linn County Multijurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. As such, for FEMA-fundable projects, partners can be funding sources or sources of match, such as community partners, contractors, etc.

Partners Involved

Listed partners are existing partners engaged since the last update; in a few cases potential partners are also identified. The coordinating organization serves as a central contact point for identified and/or potential partner organizations to see if they are capable of and interested in participation. This initial contact is also to gain a commitment of time and or resources towards completion of the action items.

Location

Location includes specific locations, jurisdictions, or fire districts within Linn County, or may note countywide for actions that will benefit residents and visitors more broadly.

Actions Taken/Accomplishments

This section details a high-level overview of the status and/or accomplishments to date. It may include an example project, program or process developed since the last plan update in 2007. These accomplishments include examples of successful approaches taken within Linn County and may not have been taken by the listed coordinating organization.

What Went Well

This section showcases positive outcomes in process, project, and/or program that may be beneficial for future use. The intent is to showcase successful strategies that may be beneficial to continue in further efforts.

Lessons Learned

This content showcases ideas for positive growth based on noted struggles in process, project, and/or program. It is an opportunity to bring forward ideas for improvement.

Suggestions Moving Forward

Some of the action items include ideas for implementation and potential resources, serving as a continuation point. This section is dynamic as some ideas may not be feasible and new ideas can be added during the Plan review and maintenance process; see Section 6 of the CWPP for more information about that process.

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
1.1	Assess and address deficiencies in equipment and resources available for wildland firefighting for rural fire departments.	
Purpose/Rationale		
While Linn County fire departments have made progress in addressing equipment deficiencies, all departments still have voids relating to equipment (adequate PPE supplies) and apparatus. Linn County Fire Departments identified the following equipment and resource needs: • Brownsville - 1,000 gallon water tender • Sweet Home – Type 3 engine • Albany - additional tender capacity (Mobilize Attack Tender) and a Type 3 brush unit • Jefferson - Type 3 engine, wildland hose, tools, and equipment • Scio - 2 or 3 new Forestry brush units • Lebanon - Aging fleet needs replacements (including Type 3 and Type 6 engines), add 6 full time personnel, infrastructure upgrades to existing volunteer stations to house summertime staffing • Mill City - new tanker • Stayton - replace water tenders • Halsey-Shedd - Type 3 engine • Harrisburg - small type 3 engine, relocation of station to more central location • Idanha-Detroit - a new fire station, firefighting apparatus to replace what was damaged in 2020 Fires • Tangent - Type 3 engine		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
X	High	Ongoing; Target Completion: Medium Term (4-10 years)
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Fire Defense Board		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$4,800,000 - \$5,500,000		ODF Volunteer Fire Capacity Grant, OSFM Wildfire Season Staffing Grants & other OSFM grants as available.
Partners Involved		
Internal-Linn County Road Dept., Linn County EM; External-Power Companies, Hospitals, Private Contractors, ODF		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
OSFM's Engine Program (2022-2023) provided the following funding to local districts: • Albany Fire Department, Engine Tender, \$335,753.40 • Harrisburg Fire & Rescue, Engine Tender, \$335,753.40 • Lebanon Fire District, Engine Type 6, \$258,912.80 Lebanon FD purchased 2–2000-gallon tenders. Albany FD upgraded two type 6 and one mobile attack tender.		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		

Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
1.2	Inventory alternative firefighting water sources in Wildfire Urban Interface, including helicopter dip sites, including a rural drafting location in the Harrisburg Rural Fire Protection District.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Past stakeholder interviews with RFDs, state, and federal agencies indicated need to address water supply in WUI areas. - ODF has undertaken a portion of this action by identifying water sources within WUI. - Water supply is critical in an agency's ability to fight fire. - Older, established fire sources often lack proper maintenance. Ideas for implementation: - Continue to inventory and assess where water sources are needed. - Conduct maintenance on existing sites. - Secure funding to develop new sites and provide long term maintenance (grants for pond development no longer available). - Focus efforts on smaller, private landowners. - Coordinate with fire districts and water districts to identify new water sources, especially in areas of new development in / near the WUI.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	Medium	Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
ODF		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
Existing staff time		ODF
Partners Involved		
Linn County Fire Defense Board (local districts), Harrisburg RFPD, water districts		
Project Location		
Primarily within District boundaries and in areas identified by fire districts as lacking water supply, including Harrisburg RFPD.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
2023 Priceboro and Wiley fires had ponds right next door, one built with prior grant funds. Private landowner allowed use of their pond, pre-planning to access. Summer-month patrolling increases public contact for education and pre-planning.		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
1.3	Improve addressing and visibility in rural areas.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Stakeholder interviews with Rural Fire Protection Districts and state and federal agencies indicated the need to improve rural addressing. - Some fire districts have received grant funding to provide fire resistant signage, some smaller districts lack funding and staff to currently offer similar programs. Implementation Ideas: - Continue with efforts around driveway signage, make sure homes have address number visible at the front of the property. Addressing posts need to be fire resistant.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	High	Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Fire Defense Board and Local Fire Districts		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$		Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO), OSFM, Linn County Road Dept. Operating budget
Partners Involved		
Linn County GIS, Roads, Dispatch and Planning		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
- Countywide - Dispatch & County 911 addressing and mapping capabilities has been greatly upgraded in the past 15 years. The County now uses a GIS application which feeds updated address data into the system once a month. Rural addressing process clarified at County level- post offices now work with Linn County GIS to ensure uniform issuance of rural addresses. - Rural fire districts have distributed/improved address markers to different degrees. Lebanon Fire District (https://www.lebanonfire.org/lfd/page/address-sign-program) established a new addressing program requiring additional signage as new properties or building permits are issued. Scio Fire District (https://www.facebook.com/groups/1704903046402194/permalink/4316888005203672/) currently offers free driveway address signs to property owners who request it- new and existing development. - Sweet Home Fire District received a matching grant from Special District Association of Oregon to maintain rural addressing program in 2021. (https://sweethomefire.org/2021/10/19/rural-addresses-will-be-easier-for-first-responders-to-find-thanks-to-sdao-grant/)		
 		

What Went Well	
Lessons learned	
Some local fire districts had success obtaining one-time funding or starting up new programs. However, many local districts, including Albany Fire Department, need funding and additional staff to facilitate an addressing program.	
Suggestions for moving forward	
- Establish new programs in more RFDs in the County and sustain existing efforts at RFDs to improve, replace, and provide highly visible and fire-resistant address markers / driveway signage to residents to provide homeowners with low cost / free address signs. - Improve collaboration & communication between County and local Districts - Consider Linn County BOC to establish new code provisions in LCC 690 and/or LCC 935 stipulating a requirement for property owners to establish and maintain visible address signs meeting minimum specifications for emergency response. This could be enforced with any permit issued for a given property.	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used
2021-present	SDAO matching grant for Sweet Home Fire District

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
1.4	Enhance interoperable communications by addressing communications deficiencies.	
Purpose/Rationale		
Communication between agencies is crucial in wildfire response coordination. Communication issues arise when responders come from other areas. Gates, Lyons, and Mill City are on a separate 911 dispatch system. Idanha and Detroit are on a separate dispatch system, as are Gates and Santiam. The Jefferson/Stayton area is also on a separate dispatch. Implementation Ideas: • Identify funding to upgrade radios for fire departments and repeater sites • Utilize local tactical radio frequencies so different partners can talk to each other • Establish a radio cache with portable radios and mobile repeaters to be used in an emergency • Utilize compatible radio systems		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Started, Target Completion: Short Term (1-2 years)
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Sheriff-Dispatch, Linn County Undersheriff, Linn County Emergency Management		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
Project is currently underway, and funding has already been sourced.		
Partners Involved		
Linn County Fire Defense Board		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
Since 2007 Linn County Sheriff's Office, with partnerships including the Linn County Fire Defense Board, have found funding and vendors, and received approval for the radio program.		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
1.5	Increase evacuation preparedness in high-risk WUI areas.	
Purpose/Rationale		
Rationale: - Rural county has a number of areas that include dead-end roads and forest ground, making evacuation more difficult. - Active wildfires can be highly unpredictable, emergency responders must make on the fly decisions on the best routes to evacuate residents and their livestock. - Resident awareness of evacuation levels and access to real time emergency alerts is crucial. - Multiple communities identified by Fire Agencies in Appendix F are particularly in need of evacuation preparedness planning. Ideas for Implementation: - Assess the high-risk communities and look at options for access/evacuation planning. - Develop an inventory of locked gates and work with property owners to gain access during emergency events. - Work with larger landholders to identify private logging roads that could be used for evacuation. - County EM/CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) can present to local groups on evacuation preparedness, encourage residents to create evacuation communication plans with their family, and prepack go-kits with essentials. - Communicate information regarding pet and livestock evacuation and sheltering, which is the responsibility of Linn County Animal Control with the assistance of partners such as 4H. Shelter is provided through the County, with care provided through an Intergovernmental Agreement with Oregon State University. - Encourage residents to sign up for emergency alerts.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
X		Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Emergency Management		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
To be determined		To be determined
Partners Involved		
Linn County Sheriff's Office, Linn County GIS		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
- Linn County Emergency Management, Sheriff's Office, and GIS share real time evacuation information via social media, Everbridge, and frequently update evacuation zones on the Linn County Wildfire Map (https://gis.co.linn.or.us/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=d6e004605543438b8a4036d6e8e30d52). - Linn County GIS Department created a mapping application that generates quick community level address maps to aid in coordinated evacuation efforts.		
What Went Well		

Lessons learned	
• Turn out at community events has been lower in the past, create new partnerships, or identify new opportunities to increase engagement, potentially through incentives (Go-Kit creation assistance, etc.)	
Suggestions for moving forward	
• Consider working with local communities to identify and mark “community safety zones” within high risk WUI communities that can be used as a last resort if full evacuation were not possible. • Support high-risk communities' efforts to organize Firewise USA communities and help connect residents to the state Firewise coordinator (ODF) to conduct community safety evaluations. • Evaluate software that will allow the creation of evacuation zones that can be imported into Everbridge for use in evacuations.	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used
2007-present	

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
1.6	Augment volunteer fire fighter training to improve response capacities, especially in rural fire districts.	
Purpose/Rationale/Implementation Ideas		
- Most of the rural fire protection districts are staffed mainly by volunteers, and as volunteerism declines recruitment and retention issues are an issue throughout the entire county. - Some districts utilize local Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) as a recruitment tool for volunteers. Ideas for Implementation: - Develop a regional volunteer training program that utilizes personnel and support from all participating fire districts. - ODF can provide wildland fire training to volunteer departments. Increased level of wildland training for volunteers should include the appropriate S-Classes. - Develop program for training on the Incident Command System (NIMS). - Utilize the Linn County Fire Training Council more effectively.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	High	Ongoing; Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years)
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Fire Training Council		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$50,000 - \$75,000		ODF, OSFM, and Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards & Training (DPSST)
Partners Involved		
Linn County Emergency Management		
Project Location		
Rural Fire Districts Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
Both Lebanon Fire District and Sweet Home Fire District have received FEMA Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant for positions specially designated to aid in the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters. While only two fire districts in Linn County have received this grant, the recruitment and retention issue resonate throughout the entire county as volunteerism declines.		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
1.7	Seek funding to build a smaller secondary substation on the east side of the Harrisburg Fire & Rescue's fire district.	
Purpose/Rationale/Implementation Ideas		
- In the 2007 Plan, response time was identified as an issue. The district is 86 square miles with the station positioned in the western most part. In some areas response times can be between 15 and 20 minutes. - Land has been obtained for a station in a location that would significantly reduce response times to the district's Wildland Interface areas and could save property owners considerable amount of money in reduced insurance premiums with better rates by virtue of a fire station located in the area. - Station construction needs to be funded.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	Medium	Ongoing; Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years)
Coordinating Organization		
Harrisburg Fire & Rescue		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$80,000 - \$100,000		
Partners Involved		
Project Location		
The proposed fire station is at 3328 Mt. Tom Drive, Harrisburg, OR 97446.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
Harrisburg Fire & Rescue received a land donation and has gone through the planning stage and has the permits for phase one (approach, driveway, and building foundation).		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
1.8	Enhance signage that addresses bridge weight limits in rural areas.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Bridges fall under many different jurisdictions - Linn County, ODOT, cities, USFS/BLM, private landowners. Accurate signage and/or increased education around which bridges have emergency vehicle (EV) capacity is crucial for first responders, road managers, and residents alike. - All bridges under Linn County's jurisdiction are inspected at a frequency of every two years. Some bridges are inspected annually if there is a cause for that inspection frequency. ODOT is responsible for evaluation of the structural sufficiency of these bridges. - Currently ODOT is re-evaluating all bridges over 20-feet in unsupported length on public roads, applying a revised standard for performing safety evaluation. This is time consuming as there are more than 350 in Linn County, and over 7,000 bridges in the State of Oregon. Weight ratings at this time are being re-evaluated as they apply to standard commercial motor vehicle (CMV) loads, and special haul vehicles (SHVs) with different axel configurations. Structural capacity to support emergency vehicles is calculated based on specific weights and axel configurations. Emergency vehicle evaluations are being performed at this time by ODOT for bridges within one mile of I-5 (based on federal FAST Act mandate). As time goes on, these evaluations for EVs will extend to all bridges. Therefore, many bridges in Linn County have been posted for weight restrictions for CMVs and SHVs but have not been evaluated for EVs. - As a result of ODOT's revised evaluation criteria, Linn County has posted over 60 new bridge ratings since 2021. Linn County's maintenance operations in calendar year 2023 have caused the removal of, or prevented the imposition of, weight restrictions on 9 bridges under Linn County's authority; with an additional 5 bridges in each of the years 2022 and 2021. Linn County's Engineering Division has completed 5 structural rehabilitations or full bridge replacements in the last three years. Ideas for Implementation: - Continue to post bridge ratings as required by ODOT. - Work with Linn County GIS to identify the number and location of potential unrated bridges on county roads, local access roads (which County has jurisdiction over, but does not maintain) and private roads (which County does not have jurisdiction or maintenance responsibility). - Notify Fire Defense Board and ODF of locations of weight restricted/unrated bridges and assist local fire districts in connecting with landowners responsible for maintenance/evaluation of their bridges. - Maintain an inventory of County bridges with low sufficiency ratings and prioritize bridges for crucial repair projects. - Raise awareness among private bridge owners of the limitations to respond to emergency situations at their location.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Ongoing, six to ten bridge projects per year in-house; one or two capital projects per year contracted
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Road Department		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$40,000,000 - \$100,000,000		ODOT, County Road Dept.
Partners Involved		
Fire Defense Board, Oregon Department of Transportation, City Road Managers		
Project Location		
Countywide		

Review Form	
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments	
What Went Well	
Lessons learned	
Suggestions for moving forward	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
1.9	Assure firefighters have properly fitted, and current PPE that meets accepted PPE standards.	
Purpose/Rationale/Implementation Ideas		
Most Linn County fire departments budget to replace wildland PPE, but their respective funding is not adequate enough to meet current needs or the district's existing PPE is shared among the firefighters.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	High	Ongoing; Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years)
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Fire Defense Board		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$450,000 - \$550,000		To be determined
Partners Involved		
Fire Departments in Linn County		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
1.10	Formalize and maintain strong, flexible emergency shelter partnerships and seek funding to stage resources to support mass care at wildfire evacuation sites and clean air shelter sites in local communities.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Previously, the Linn County Fairgrounds was the only formalized evacuation shelter in the County for mass care of people and their animals. - Emergency Management has worked with local communities to formalize the following agreements for emergency sheltering/evacuation sites: - Linn County Fairgrounds - formal agreements in place with OSU and 4-H Clubs to provide care for evacuated animals - Linn Benton Community College - formal agreement for animal sheltering - Emergency Management has 10-year agreements for evacuation shelter sites in the following locations: - Albany – Linn Benton Community College, Linn County Fairgrounds - Brownsville – School District - Harrisburg – School District - Santiam Canyon – School District - Sweet Home – Community Center - Linn County Health Services provides assistance in mass care events, used grant funding (Region 2 Healthcare Coalition Funding) to obtain one temporary evacuation supply trailer containing food, water, blankets, large tents, generator, and lighting which can be brought to a single evacuation site. This trailer is staged in Albany.		
Ideas for Implementation:		
- Test shelter site agreements by conducting table-top or simulated evacuations. - Evaluate each shelter site and work with site owners to address deficiencies and necessary upgrades / retrofits such as structural hardening, backup generators, etc. - Work with Linn County Public Health and local jurisdictions to support the co-location, when feasible, of “Clean Air Shelters” at existing evacuation shelter locations during unhealthy smoke conditions. - If necessary, help identify suitable facilities for clean air shelters with tight sealing windows/doors and an adequate ventilation system. Consider public buildings like libraries, fire stations, city halls, schools, community centers, etc. and obtain/assist getting formal agreements for use. Resource: https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/PREPAREDNESS/PREPARE/Documents/IdentificationOfCleanAirShelters.pdf - Stock Clean Air Shelter sites with air scrubbers or work with state/regional agencies to obtain loaner air filters for temporary use. - Secure funding to purchase four evacuation supply trailers and pre-stage them at sites in distant regions of Linn County such as the Santiam Canyon, Sweet Home, and Harrisburg. Each would be equipped with 100 cots, blankets, and pillows, and food/water. Also upgrade each site to include a generator plug - Build/purchase a warehouse for a central location to store emergency evacuation and response supplies.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Ongoing, Target Completion: Medium Term (4-10 years)
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Emergency Management and Linn County Health Services		

Cost	Funding Source/Partners
\$200,000 for evacuation trailers, \$2.5 million for an emergency warehouse space	Federal, State, and private grants
Partners Involved	
Local evacuation site partners (school districts, LBCC, City of Sweet Home)	
Project Location	
Albany, Brownsville, Harrisburg, Santiam Canyon, and Sweet Home	
Review Form	
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments	
What Went Well	
Lessons learned	
Suggestions for moving forward	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
1.11	Review emergency communication systems and procedures to improve accessibility for residents and consistent messaging across jurisdictions.	
Purpose/Rationale		
The State provides every County with the Everbridge Alert system, there is ongoing outreach to get public buy-in and understanding of the system. There are accessibility concerns with emergency alert systems: character limits, language barriers, technology barriers. Community outreach feedback and priorities indicate a need for consistent communication across Linn/Marion County and a need for local jurisdictions to be “in the loop” during active fire events. Ideas for Implementation: • Review current methods of emergency communication and explore underutilized platforms. • Secure Spanish translation services for real-time alerts and all online communication and preparedness campaigns. • Maintain an up-to-date list of city officials to include in Emergency Operations Center updates. • Coordinate and clarify alert procedures with neighboring counties.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
X		Target Completion - Short Term (1-3 years) for review, Ongoing for coordination with cities/counties
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Emergency Management		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
Existing staff time		Linn County Sheriff, Oregon Emergency Management
Partners Involved		
Local jurisdictions, neighboring counties (especially Marion, Benton, Lane)		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
2.1	Collaborate with developers/builders, fire protection agencies, and relevant County agencies to collect and distribute educational materials regarding fire-resistant construction materials and techniques, fire code standards for access, water supply, fuel breaks, defensible space, and fire-resistant vegetation and landscaping in the WUI.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Rural Fire Protection Districts and state and federal agencies indicated the need to maintain and enhance public communication about development in areas subject to wildfires. - Though educational materials exist, there has not been a comprehensive and coordinated effort for distribution of materials. - Interface residents need frequent reminders of the importance of reducing wildfire hazards around homes. - New statewide programs started by Oregon SB 762 provide building and defensible space educational materials that local jurisdictions can use and distribute to property owners. Ideas for Implementation: - Update instructions and diagrams for Code required fuel breaks to provide better clarity and boost property owners awareness. - Add educational resources to all building permit packets for Linn County and local jurisdictions. Maintain a WUI GIS layer on all Planning & Building Department maps, both in office and on the website, for landowner education. - Compile resources to distribute to landowners for voluntary use surrounding topics like defensible space, home hardening, fire resistant landscape, etc. Utilize information from existing programs such as Oregon Building Codes Division's fire hardening code and Oregon State Fire Marshal's defensible space code. - Regularly update Planning & Building website and distribute new resources to contract cities during quarterly meetings. - Post educational materials as needed seasonally on available County social media.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	Medium	Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Planning Department		
Cost	Funding Source/Partners	
\$4,000 for education brochures and existing staff time	Linn County Planning & Building operating budget	
Partners Involved		
Linn County Road Department, Oregon Building Codes Division, OSFM Defensible Space Program, City jurisdictions		
Project Location		
Unincorporated Linn County and contract cities (Brownsville, Halsey, Lyons, Mill City, Millersburg, Scio, Sodaville, Tangent and Waterloo). Other jurisdictions (Sweet Home, Albany, Lebanon) could potentially partner.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		

- The Planning & Building Department used Title III funds to create a Forest Development Standards Handbook, which is still referred to and distributed to property owners in forest zoned areas doing new construction. - Planning & Building and local fire districts require a Water Supply & Access review worksheet with every permit for residential and commercial construction. As of 2023, Planning & Building now notifies local fire districts for agricultural buildings to ensure that districts can provide comments for life and safety and better inform applicants. - Planning & Building notifies applicable local fire protection districts of proposed development to provide feedback or to provide fire related development requirements, depending on the type of development.	
What Went Well	
Communication between Linn County Planning & Building Department and contract cities has increased with quarterly meetings. There is an opportunity to increase the reach of educational outreach through city departments.	
Lessons learned	
Suggestions for moving forward	
- Provide training and resources to Planning & Building Department staff- land use planner and building inspectors on fire resilient codes and recommended practices so that knowledge can be explained and passed on to customers - Work with County Communications officer to create educational pamphlets. - Use other jurisdiction's websites as models to provide more comprehensive information online.	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used
2007-2023	Title III, P&B Operating Budget (Linn County General Fund)

Action Item		
ID #	Action Item Title/Description	
2.2	Expand and promote existing communication campaigns to educate visitors and recreators about wildfire prevention (i.e. accidental ignitions) and risk mitigation while visiting Linn County.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- A majority of the wildfires in Oregon are human caused, with campfires being one of the top three causes. - Awareness campaigns are an important strategy for informing and reminding people about the causes and origins of wildfires, basic wildfire safety and prevention methods, weather conditions, and restrictions. They can help to empower individuals to make smart choices and take action to reduce the risks of wildfires and encourage responsible behavior, like properly putting out campfires and reporting potential fire dangers. - Organizations, such as Keep Oregon Green, can provide fire prevention resources to use in awareness campaigns. - Wildfire Awareness Month (May of each year) provides an opportunity for focused outreach.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
CWPP Committee		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$75,000		Oregon State Fire Marshal, Oregon Department of Forestry, Local Fire Departments
Partners Involved		
Linn County Fire Defense Board, Linn County Emergency Management, Oregon State Fire Marshal, Oregon Department of Forestry, US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, Potential Partners: Keep Oregon Green, Linn County Parks, Oregon State Parks, local tourism boards/visitor associations		
Project Location		
Countywide, with an emphasis on tourism and recreation areas.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
Some existing practices that support this action item include: ODF Forest Management Technicians regulate ODF campgrounds, providing information regarding fire bans and campfire safety.		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
2.3	Formalize the dissemination of educational campaign materials for WUI residents about ignition prevention, with an emphasis on promotion during burn bans.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Establishing a burn ban is joint process between Oregon Department of Forestry and the Linn County Fire Defense Board. The FDB typically takes the lead from ODF, with regular communication during fire season. - A burn ban is an excellent opportunity to provide educational information. - Interagency coordination will facilitate the development and dissemination of education materials, such as a flier to use across districts. - A review of existing statewide campaigns that can be implemented at the local or county level may provide needed resources.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	Medium	Not Started
Coordinating Organization		
Oregon Department of Forestry and Linn County Fire Defense Board		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$50,000 - \$75,000		
Partners Involved		
Linn County Communications, Fire Districts PIO Group, OSFM		
Project Location		
Countywide, with focus on the WUI		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishment		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
If at a point in the future Linn County or other entities start issuing burn permits, that would provide an additional opportunity for sharing information. ODF regulates prescribed burns. Some of the Linn RFDs have started issuing burn permits for logging slash/debris outside ODF protection jurisdiction. One example is Lebanon.		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
2.4	Continue supporting and expanding the Smokey the Bear Fire Protection Programs in schools	
Purpose/Rationale		
• ODF continues to be involved in the Smokey Bear Fire Prevention Program. • The Smokey the Bear campaign has been particularly successful because: (1) reaching children is a good way to reach parents, and (2) the campaign promotes a fire prevention message that stays with children long into their adult lives.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	High	Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
Oregon Department of Forestry		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$10,000 - \$20,000 w/existing staff		Federal and State Grants, ODF budgeted dollars
Partners Involved		
US Forest Service		
Project Location		
Countywide, with focus on the WUI		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
Both ODF Districts annually provide Smokey the Bear presentations to first graders and attend community events, such as Fourth of July celebrations. Grants have provided prevention funds/budget to support staff to attend and create information for public events.		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used	

Action Item		
ID #	Action Item Title/Description	
2.5	Engage K-12 students with place-based fire ecology, behavior, and risk lessons to support the next generation in understanding the ecological role of fire on Linn County landscapes and learning to live alongside fire.	
Purpose/Rationale		
• Increase audience knowledge about fire ecology of Linn County • Shift cultural practices over time towards paradigm of “living with fire” • Review statewide programs that can be implemented at the local or county level. Fire agencies may not have the ability to implement several programs. • North Santiam Watershed Council has acquired a fire ecology curriculum for 6th grade, implement through pop-up educational events or classroom visits. • South Santiam Watershed has a part-time education coordinator position, runs an outdoor school program in spring with Camp Tadmor for Sweet Home School District. Fire ecology programming could be implemented during a camp session. • Outreach to school forestry clubs • Long term goal - establish fire-based courses at local high schools (possible resource: https://sofrc.org/education/high-school-wildfire-curriculum/)		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Not Started, Short Term (1-3 years) for piloting curriculum, Long Term (10+ years) for establishing year-round courses in schools
Coordinating Organization		
Watershed Councils (North Santiam, South Santiam, and Calapooia)		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$ staff and materials cost to be determined		OWEB, ODF forestry grants, educational foundation grants
Partners Involved		
OSU Extension/Outdoor School Program TBD - Oregon Natural Resources Education Program/OSU (ONREP), local school districts (Sweet Home, East Linn, Greater Albany Public Schools, North Santiam), Western Oregon Outdoor School, forestry clubs, Cascade Timber Consulting		
Project Location		
Countywide, potentially start with Eastern Linn County schools / youth programs		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		

Lessons learned	
Suggestions for moving forward	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
2.6	Establish and maintain programs to aid vulnerable populations during unhealthy and hazardous air quality conditions caused by wildfire.	
Purpose/Rationale		
Wildfires can create unhealthy and/or hazardous air quality conditions especially for higher risk groups - including children, people over 65, and people who have heart disease, respiratory conditions or are pregnant. Outdoor workers and people who are unhoused are also more likely to be exposed to unhealthy air conditions. Linn County Health Services received funding during the COVID-19 pandemic to maintain a store of N-95 masks for distribution, which can also be used to filter smoke. However, the supply will quickly get depleted without replacement funding. Ideas for Implementation: • Boost existing Oregon Health Authority educational campaigns and materials, Department of Environmental Quality advisory messages, and local air quality information to Linn County residents through Public Health Outreach teams. • Identify funding sources to maintain and replace PPE stores. • When populations have financial barriers to getting home air filters, consider procuring funding to distribute HEPA or MERV filters with Do It Yourself (DIY) air filter guides (https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/PREPAREDNESS/PREPARE/Documents/Fact-Sheet-DIY-Air-Filter.pdf) • Identify avenues for distribution of supplies through partnerships with community providers who serve vulnerable populations. • Utilize Everbridge, social media, and local radio stations to disseminate information.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Ongoing for education, Medium Term (4-10 years) for supply distribution program
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Public Health		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$90,000 for DIY filter / N-95 mask distribution for low income / medically vulnerable households		Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, US Environmental Protection Agency
Partners Involved		
Linn County Emergency Management, Linn County Developmental Disabilities, Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments, local service providers (youth and homeless outreach nonprofits, Santiam Hospital and Samaritan Health clinics)		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		

Suggestions for moving forward	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
2.7	Identify opportunities and barriers to support fire-vulnerable populations (e.g., low-income, elderly, disabled, non-English speaking) with wildfire disaster preparedness. Work to embed wildfire disaster preparedness within ongoing community health education efforts in fire-vulnerable populations.	
Purpose/Rationale		
Stakeholder feedback from community outreach meetings identified the importance of establishing a workgroup to conduct a needs assessment for all fire vulnerable populations. A workgroup could: • Build out a needs assessment by surveying service providers and other “insider voices”, host listening sessions, etc. • Develop a toolkit or action plan that can be used in fire events to be able to locate and communicate with fire vulnerable populations via those that already provide services to them. • Consider incorporating a Community Resilience Survey (https://rogueclimate.org/our-work/resilience-hubs/) into the needs assessment to develop a basis for establishing a resilience hub or network serving Linn County communities. • Use the findings of the needs assessment as a springboard to develop additional programs, communication strategies, and resource requests for fire vulnerable populations.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
X		Ongoing, Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years)
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Health Services		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
Existing LCHS staff resources, identify funding amounts for future grants		LCHS Operating Budget, ODHS grants (HB 2990 Resilience Hub/Network funding), private and public health grants
Partners Involved		
Linn County Emergency Management, Regional Healthcare Coalition, Linn County Public Health Outreach Group, Linn Benton Lincoln Health Equity Alliance, local healthcare providers and nonprofits		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
2.8	Conduct an audit of the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code to determine the efficiency of current wildfire mitigation policies and development standards. Update the Linn County Comprehensive Plan Natural Hazards (Goal 7) element and Linn County Land Development Code to align with statewide wildfire mitigation statutes and new legislation.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Stakeholder feedback during community meetings indicated the need to consistently enforce existing fuel break and other forestland development standards in forest zones within rural Linn County. - The Planning & Building Department has had varying levels of capacity over the years to review and inspect new development for compliance with planning standards and do legislative code updates. - There will be a need to update the Comprehensive Plan & Development Code to comply with the Statewide Wildfire Hazards map (SB 762) requirements. - Consider adopting minimum wildfire development standards for new uses such as fuel breaks, R327 fire hardened building code (e.g., rural ADUs).		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Not Started, Target Completion - Short Term (1-3 years)
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Planning and Building		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
Staff time		Planning & Building Department Operating Budget, DLCD Technical Assistance Grants
Partners Involved		
Linn County Board of Commissioners, Linn County Planning Commission		
Project Location		
Legislative amendments affect rural unincorporated areas of Linn County.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID #	Action Item Title/Description	
2.9	Support formal and nonformal educators in planning, integrating, and implementing wildland fire focused education for Linn County K-12 students via at least two professional development opportunities.	
Purpose/Rationale		
Support community wildfire adaptation through long-term “culture change” towards understanding the role of fire on the landscape and learning to live safely alongside wildfire. Training educators to offer wildfire focused education is a sustainable and long-term approach to integrating wildfire education into K-12 curriculum in the county.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	Medium	Not Started; Target Completion: Medium Term (4-10 years)
Coordinating Organization		
Oregon State University Forestry & Natural Resource Extension Service		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$60,000		OSU Extension
Partners Involved		
OSU Extension Fire Program & Oregon Natural Resources Education Program, local school districts (Sweet Home, Lebanon, North Santiam), Western Oregon Outdoor School, North and South Santiam Watershed Councils		
Project Location		
Mid-Willamette Valley, including Linn County		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		

Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
3.1	Enhance structural protection in structurally unprotected areas.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Stakeholder interviews with Rural Fire Protection Districts and state and federal agencies indicated that there are many homes in unprotected areas. - County Land Use Planning identified unprotected areas as an issue in 2007 and conducted a mailing to property owners in unprotected areas to make them aware of the lack of structural fire protection and provide them with options for enhancing structural protection. - Estimates of the number of structurally unprotected homes in 2023 are in the low hundreds, potentially less now that service contracts with local fire districts are more common. Ideas for Implementation: - Work with Linn County GIS to determine the current number of structurally unprotected homes - consider properties that are outside of district boundaries but under a service contract with a local fire district. - Continue to inform homeowners in unprotected areas of their unprotected status (using mailings and/or consider flagging the lots that are in unprotected areas) to educate the property owners about the lack of structural protection and provide options for enhancing structural protection.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	Low	Target Completion - Short Term (1-3 Years)
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Planning and Building		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
Staff time		Linn County Planning & Building Operating Budget
Partners Involved		
OSFM, Linn County GIS, Fire Districts		
Project Location		
Areas outside a local fire protection districts countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
3.2	Complete the fire structural risk assessments in Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, and Sweet Home fire districts, and utilize this as a model program for other Linn County fire districts for conducting voluntary defensible space assessments for homes within the WUI; document results using Survey 123, a centralized online platform.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- OSFM is partnering with local fire agencies across the state to provide Oregonians with access to Defensible Space Assessments. The OSFM and Albany Fire Department, Halsey-Shedd, Lebanon, and Sweet Home Fire Districts are currently conducting assessments. - While progress has been made completing structural risk assessments in Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, and Sweet Home fire districts, there is still need to obtain structural ignitability data. OSFM's Survey 123 platform provides an opportunity to coordinate data collection and access across agencies. - Defensible space reduces the likelihood of a home igniting by direct contact with flame or by exposure to the radiant heat of a wildfire. - Defensible space protects homes and businesses from wildfire; even small actions make a big difference. Embers are the leading cause of home loss during a wildfire. They can travel up to three miles ahead of the main flame front. Well-maintained defensible space can increase a home's chance of survival by 75% by reducing the chances of embers igniting items or plants in the yard. (Source: OSFM FAQs - https://oregondefensiblespace.org/frequently-asked-questions-faqs/)		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
X	Medium	Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Fire Defense Board (LCFDB), Oregon State Fire Marshal		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$75,000 - \$150,000		OSFM, FEMA, and Local Fire Districts
Partners Involved		
Fire Districts, ODF		
Project Location		
Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, and Sweet Home fire districts and other fire districts serving WUI communities.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
- A new Survey 123 platform has been developed by OSFM, which fire districts and ODF are using, providing an opportunity to coordinate data collection and access across agencies. - LCFDB has incorporated structural risk assessment into annual training, however more work needs to be done in this area. - LCFDB obtained a grant summer 2023 from OSFM to provide FTE hours to evaluate hazards in rural areas. - ODF uses Survey 123 when conducting a home assessment for a property that qualifies for grant assistance. - Data can also be obtained during the course of firefighting, such as structural assessment done during response to the Priceboro Fire summer 2023.		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		

Suggestions for moving forward	
• Ensure that all participating Fire Districts are recording assessment results on Survey 123 so that they can be accessible to all response agencies in case of a conflagration.	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
3.3	Share information about State fire hardening building code standards for voluntary use and seek funding for a home hardening cost-share/incentive program.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Fire resistant construction / home hardening is crucial for preventing structural ignitions but is often a cost burden for homeowners. Grant funding for home hardening is historically sparse compared to other types of mitigation grants. - Linn County Planning & Building administers a Fire Hardening Grant Program (https://www.oregon.gov/bcd/pages/firehardening.aspx) to home and business owners affected by the 2020 wildfires (up to \$6,000 for fire hardening). This program is funded by Oregon Building Codes Division and runs through June 30, 2025. However, it is only available for wildfire damaged structures from 2020, not all landowners. Ideas for Implementation: - Take advantage of the timeline extension and continue to advertise and assist eligible recipients of available grant funding for the Fire Hardening Grant Program. - Educate and encourage new home builders to construct to the standards in Section R327 of the 2021 Oregon Residential Specialty Code by providing flyers, pamphlets, outreaching to local real estate agents, contractors, etc. Share low-cost retrofit options (https://www.readyforwildfire.org/wp-content/uploads/Low-cost-Retrofit-List-Final.pdf) to homeowners. - Seek grant opportunities for a home hardening cost-share/incentive program for homeowners to do preventative upgrades and repairs.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	High	Ongoing for education, Target Completion - Medium Term (3-5 years) for grant program
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Planning and Building		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$250,000-\$500,000		Operating Budget (for education), Oregon Building Code Division FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants for home hardening grant program
Partners Involved		
City jurisdictions, Oregon Building Code Division, building industry (Western OR Builders Association, Willamette Association of Realtors)		
Project Location		
Countywide, for grant program consider targeting high-risk WUI areas and socially vulnerable populations. Santiam Canyon for post-wildfire Fire Hardening Grant Program.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
Linn County Planning & Building was funded up to \$250,000 for BCD's Home Hardening Grant Program. So far, \$147,000 has been used to assist 29 homeowners affected by the 2020 Wildfires with fire hardening home upgrades. Administrative costs to administer the grant were approximately \$18,000 to date - covering all associated building review, inspections, meetings, and grant reporting.		

What Went Well	
Lessons learned	
- The 2007 plan focused an action item around implementing SB 360 (Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act of 1997) which required property owners in identified forestland-urban interface areas to reduce excess vegetation, which may fuel a fire, around structures and along driveways, or compensate the County for some of the cost of fighting interface fires when they occur. In practice, this law was not strongly enforced by ODF or counties, and new wildfire programs have been adopted through legislation such as SB 762 which are now prioritized. - In lieu of enforcing old legislation, new efforts should be put towards education and incentives for homeowners, particularly for home hardening.	
Suggestions for moving forward	
Monitor legislative activity and BCD for potential home hardening funding opportunities.	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used
2020-present	Oregon BCD Grant program

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
3.4	Seek funding to complete critical infrastructure building hardening retrofits, such as fire-resistant roofing, siding, and screening, and water supply improvements such as adding community water tanks or emergency vehicle access to natural water sources, for identified critical infrastructure throughout Linn County.	
Purpose/Rationale		
Many critical infrastructure sites are older construction and may not be hardened for potential wildfire events, which increases community vulnerability in response and recovery. Specific critical infrastructure sites located in at-risk WUI areas according to the Risk Assessment include: • Shelter Sites - Sweet Home Community Center, North Santiam School District • Schools - Santiam Elementary, Santiam Junior/Senior High School, Mari-Linn Elementary, Hamilton Creek School, Sand Ridge Charter School, Foster Elementary School, Holley Elementary, Lourdes Charter School, Hawthorne & Oak Heights Elementary, Sweet Home Middle and High School • Fire Stations - Mill City Main Station, Lyons Main Station, Lyons Jordan Substation, Scio Bilyeu Den Substation, Lebanon Berlin Substation, Sweet Home Main, Foster and Cascadia Substations • Police Stations- Linn County Sheriffs Mill City and Sweet Home Substations • City Halls - Lyons City Hall, Waterloo City Hall, Sodaville City Hall, Mill City City Hall, Sweet Home City Hall It was not possible to evaluate individual structure risk in the Risk Assessment due to lack of available data, so local communities need to conduct site specific evaluations. Implementation Ideas: • Affected jurisdictions should work with local fire districts to conduct structural risk assessments and identify potential projects for building hardening. • Incorporate identified priority projects into county-wide and local Natural Hazards Mitigation Plans, Capital Improvement Plans, etc. • Partner with local community foundations and construction companies to solicit in-kind donations for sites in cost-burdened areas. • Leverage existing risk reduction projects, such as fuels reduction work surrounding critical infrastructure sites in order to secure funding for building retrofits, if possible.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Not Started, Target Completion - Long Term (10+ years)
Coordinating Organization		
Local Jurisdictions in partnership with Linn County Emergency Management		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
TBD – individual project costs will vary		Local capital improvement funding, FEMA Pre-disaster Mitigation/BRIC grants (for high-risk areas) & HMGP (for post-fire affected areas), private foundation grants
Partners Involved		
Local fire districts, school districts, water districts local construction companies		
Project Location		
Specific sites listed above.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		

What Went Well	
Lessons learned	
Suggestions for moving forward	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
4.1	Incorporate, maintain, and update Linn County's Risk Assessment and GIS data elements, and maintain and review an inventory of priority fuels reduction projects in high-risk areas. Refer to Appendix F for priority areas.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Maintaining the Risk Assessment GIS elements in the County's GIS system will help ensure that the County is able to incorporate new data, when available. - Reviewing the Priority Areas for Mitigation table in Appendix F at semi-annual CWPP Committee meetings will help partners identify and prioritize potential fuels reduction projects. Ideas for Implementation: - Provide links to the Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer (where the Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment data and WUI layer will be available in 2024) on the County website so that homeowners can see their level of fire hazard. - Update hazard assessment every five years and update information on the website. - Utilize the Risk Assessment to target areas for education and outreach as well as fuels reduction programs. - Utilize GPS data to enhance and ground-truth hazard information.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Emergency Management as the CWPP Committee Convener		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
Staff Time		Linn County Operating Budget
Partners Involved		
Linn County GIS Department, Linn County Planning & Building Department, ODF, Linn County Fire Defense Board		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
- GIS elements from the 2007 CWPP were stored in the County GIS Department servers and were available for use in the 2023 update, however newly developed statewide sources were more accessible and less laborious to update. Elements from 2007 were referenced for comparison. - The Risk Assessment was updated with the most current available Wildfire Risk and WUI data.		
What Went Well		
OSU College of Forestry is a great resource for technical questions on data usage.		
Lessons learned		
- It is crucial to have capacity from a dedicated GIS professional, Linn County GIS Department has great expertise but a small staff, so it is important to plan ahead. - Gathering data from other agencies is time intensive, start 6-9 months in advance of adoption to allow ample review. - Time the next major CWPP update to occur after the updates of the QWRA (5 year cycle- next update anticipated in 2028). Incorporation of new sources into the CWPP could occur between major update		

cycles during annual CWPP Committee meetings.	
Suggestions for moving forward	
• Keep this action item for maintenance of the Risk Assessment & Priority Areas for Mitigation map/table with future plan updates. • Ensure GIS elements remain available on County servers and have clear labels, metadata, for easy access. • Having a centralized platform for tracking all fuels reduction activity by all organizations would greatly help with coordination and planning but would be time and labor intensive for whoever hosts the platform.	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used
2022-2023	Planning & Building Operating Budget, GIS Department fees

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
4.2	Engage in pre-suppression fire planning with partners and collaborators to create fuel breaks and enhance access across landownerships	
Purpose/Rationale		
Fire suppression actions in Linn County often involve multiple landowners and agencies. Having common goals will help fire management teams take actions quicker. Identifying completed and/or proposed fuels reduction projects will help during fire suppression activities.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
X		Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
United States Forest Service		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$2,500,000		Various
Partners Involved		
Oregon Department of Forestry, Bureau of Land Management, Private Industrial Landowners		
Project Location		
Various Locations		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
• Giustina fuels reduction action west of the Middle Santiam Wilderness • CTC's roadside hazardous fuels reduction and landscape thinning projects • Forest Service Roadside Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR) Categorical Exclusion (CE) (Phase 1) signed April 2023. • Forest Service implementation of HFR CE (Phase 1) in 2023 • Phase 2 HFR CE signing and implementation 2024		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
• Continue collaborative effort with field trips, meetings, and information sharing • Identify and prioritize roads for fuels reduction work • Identify and prioritize areas at a landscape scale for fuels treatments		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID #	Action Item Title/Description	
4.3	Support small woodland owners to make management decisions about forest health and fuels management through educational workshops, courses, field tours, and/or voluntary inventories of private timber land.	
Purpose/Rationale		
In order to 1) support landscape resiliency across ownership boundaries and 2) reduce wildfire hazards to communities, education, resources, and decision-making tools need to be available to local landowners to guide decision-making about fuels reduction activities.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	High	Ongoing; Target Completion: Long Term (10+ years)
Coordinating Organization		
OSU Extension Forestry & Natural Resources		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$75,000 - \$150,000 for inventories, existing staff time for education		Oregon Department of Forestry, US Forest Service, OSU Extension
Partners Involved		
ODF, Natural Resource Conservation Service, North and South Santiam Watershed Councils, Oregon Small Woodlands Association		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
4.4.	Seek additional resources and manage and administer grants to provide cost-share to private forest landowners to manage fuels, buffer high value resources, and reduce landscape-level wildfire risk.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Small forestland owners have cost barriers to complete fuels reduction projects on their land, many fuels reduction practices will not ensure a landowner profit or breakeven. - South Santiam Watershed Council manages a small forestland grant for 2021-2023 for fuels reduction projects on private forestland east of Sweet Home. - Both North and South Santiam Watershed Councils have continued interest to support more small forestland owners as grant managing organizations using funding from ODF Small Forestland Grants.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
X		Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
ODF, Watershed Councils		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$50,000-\$250,000 per project (up to 160 acres)		ODF Small Forestland Grant and Landscape Resiliency Grant, USFS Urban Forestry Grant
Partners Involved		
Landowners, local loggers & contractors, Natural Resources Conservation Services, Linn Soil and Water Conservation District		
Project Location		
Priority fuels reduction areas, WUI areas		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
4.5	Identify incentives for improving maintenance of fire breaks and reducing hazardous vegetation.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Ongoing maintenance of fuels reduction activities is difficult to track and enforce. - Local, state, and federal agencies may assist in initial fuels reduction programs, but homeowners need to be responsible for maintenance. - Incentives for landowners adjacent to forested areas have been successful in reducing risk of fire spread from developed to undeveloped areas, including funding through state and federal grants to property owners, local fire districts, youth work crew organizations, and other entities. - Building on past successes will further local and landscape scale resilience. - Resources are needed for the establishment of, and ongoing support for, Firewise Communities.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
ODF		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)	Funding Source/Partners	
To be determined, depends on project size and scope.	Federal Community Wildfire Defense Grant; Western States Fire Managers Grant (applies to certain communities at risk); Oregon State Fire Marshal Community Risk Reduction Grant; Title 3, Emergency Economic Stabilization Act	
Partners Involved		
Private landowners, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management		
Project Location		
Priority areas can shift from year to year depending on fire regime and local priorities and concerns. Identification of problem areas is based on background data as well as field experience, such as public access issues or concerns during fire season for areas managed actively for timber, for example, the Santiam State Forest.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		

- Within the ODF North Cascade District, grants for hazardous vegetation fuels reduction, defensible space, and structure defense in a wildfire incident are provided as a rebate, with goals established for improvement, and subsequently verified, through an ODF site assessment. Upon completing improvement goals, the landowner receives payment of \$500 per acre of land improved. Some funding for each grant is set aside for prevention education within the target area. This includes setting up or attending local prevention events to spread awareness and inform the communities of the grant opportunities should one qualify. The process is documented and updated regularly throughout the lifespan of the grant. Successes include: - The Santiam Canyon Defensible Space and Prevention Education grant was submitted in 2020 and closed out on 4/30/22. The grant had an acreage goal of 175 acres and 185 acres of land were improved surpassing the initial goal by 5.7%. - The Silver Falls Defensible Space and Prevention Education grant was submitted in 2019 and will close out on 12/31/2023. The grant had an acreage goal of 150 acres and 206 acres of land were improved surpassing the initial goal 37.3%. - The Santiam Canyon Coffee Creek Defensible Space and Fuels reduction grant was submitted in 2022 and will close out on 12/31/2024. The grant has an acreage goal of 150 acres. Due to staffing and logistical issues, the grant was revised with a later start date in the early summer of 2023. The grant is on track with 20 acres completed and roughly 30 more acres registered for project improvement. - Each of these grants targeted homes and communities at risk near or around the location in their title. Prevention events have also been established or attended in these same locations. - Within ODF South Cascade District, fuels reduction in the Sweet Home Unit has been a long term coordinated effort between the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Linn County Juvenile Department. This program is funded under Title 3 of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act. The purpose of the funding is to identify, contact, and educate landowners to the benefit of adequate defensible space for homes and structures in the occurrence of a wildland fire. ODF provides a Fire Planning Forester to contact landowners, identify work projects and then coordinate these needs with the Linn County Juvenile Department. The Juvenile Department offers a youth work crew and leadership to manage the crew on eligible sites to perform the needed work. Project work includes pruning, thinning, brush cutting, and chipping of vegetation around structures within the home ignition zones. The members of the work crew are given the opportunity to work in a team building environment while learning valuable work habits - The Rodgers Mountain Firewise Community was established in 2019, the first Firewise Community in Linn County. Scio Fire District, Oregon Department of Forestry, and Bureau of Land Management worked in partnership to make Rodgers Mountain a safer place.	
What Went Well	
Lessons learned	
Suggestions for moving forward	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID #	Action Item Title/Description	
4.6	Implement landowner assistance programs to support creating defensible space around communities particularly with vulnerable populations (i.e., elderly, disabled, in isolated areas or fire-affected areas, etc.) and incentivize fuels reduction activities. Create local workforce development opportunities through the employment of fuels reduction crews.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Stakeholder interviews with Rural Fire Protection Districts and state and federal agencies indicated that homeowner education was needed about fuel reduction. - Stakeholder interviews with Rural Fire Protection Districts and state and federal agencies also indicated that elderly or disabled homeowners typically require assistance in doing the physical labor associated with fuel reduction. Ideas for Implementation: - Seek grant funds to sustain and expand existing fuels reduction crews and provide incentives and/or cover costs of completing the work. - Explore opportunities to incentivize community wide removal or mastication of fuels through seasonal woodchipper or dumpster days in at risk neighborhoods. - Incorporate defensible space education to landowners during outreach and site visits.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
X	High	Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Juvenile Department, Community Services Consortium YouthBuild/HELPS, Santiam Canyon Long Term Recovery Group, and Stayton Fire District		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
Over \$600,000 for the next 3 years, additional funding TBD		OSFM Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant, OCC Grants
Partners Involved		
Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon State Fire Marshal, Northwest Youth Corps/Oregon Conservation Corps, local fire districts		
Project Location		
Multiple locations countywide, including WUI areas with medium to high wildfire hazard with elderly/disabled landowners. See review form below for current scope.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
- The Linn County Juvenile Department's Juvenile Fuels Reduction Crew was established in 2008 and has a strong working relationship with ODF to identify specific fuels reduction projects and outreach landowners. With current capacity limitations on how many projects the program is capable of serving annually, preference is provided specifically to senior and disabled residents and blighted areas. The 2023 Oregon State Fire Marshal Community Wildfire Risk Reduction grant funded wildfire risk reduction projects, equipment, and staff. Projects help protect people, property, and communities, preparing communities for wildfire impacts and creating a more fire-adapted Oregon. Awardees in Linn County include: - Linn County Juvenile Department, \$101,114, for a Linn County fuels reduction chipper and dump trailer to be used by the Linn County Juvenile Fuels Reduction Crew in Linn County communities at risk and in need of fuels reduction activities, and 50 Youth Crew Member Stipends. - Santiam Canyon Long Term Recovery Group (SC-LTRG), \$242,266, for a property owner grant program		

for defensible space implementation and community outreach and training. SC-LTRG serves the residents and property owners of the greater Santiam Canyon community, including the municipalities of Lyons, Mill City, Gates, and Idanha and the unincorporated, geographically isolated communities that were affected by the 2020 Beachie Creek Fire, including some areas in Linn County. Property owners will be able to apply for reimbursement expenses up to \$4500 related to defensible space around residential/outbuilding structures. - Community Services Consortium (CSC) has previously funded a fuels reduction crew for 1 year through Oregon Conservation Corps, and was awarded \$250,000 to deploy 3 youth fuels crews across 3 counties (Linn, Benton, Polk). Work in Linn County will occur primarily around the cities of Sweet Home and Lebanon. The grant will provide job training to youth workers, and will reduce ground/fund, surface and ladder fuels in treatment areas within moderate to extreme risk WUI areas. - Stayton Fire District, \$44,500 for equipment for wildfire risk reduction- dump trailer and dumpster for hauling debris. Plans to roll out a program in spring 2024 that encourages people to provide defensible space around their homes, Stayton FD will help by hauling off debris that the residents clear themselves. Stayton FD applied to fund personnel position to administer the program but only received funding for equipment, additional staff capacity needed. Stayton FD will conduct free defensible space assessments for their district's residents, including for those eligible for the LTRG's reimbursement grants.	
What Went Well	
Lessons learned	
Programs must be sustained on an ongoing basis to maintain impact: additional long term funding must be secured past the CWRR grants for the lead organizations.	
Suggestions for moving forward	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used
2008-2023	

Action Item		
ID #	Action Item Title/Description	
4.7	Identify partners and interest to explore and promote opportunities for multiple uses of small diameter biomass utilization within fuels reduction projects and marketing for other uses.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Buildup of forest biomass invites disease outbreaks and insect infestations. It also poses a wildfire hazard. Millions of acres of Oregon's forests are at high risk of damaging fires due to excess biomass. (Source: ODF Biomass webpage, https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/ForestBenefits/Pages/Biomass.aspx) - Small-diameter log and biomass utilization business can help fund forest management and restoration. These businesses can provide much-needed jobs in rural communities. (Source: ODF Biomass webpage, https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/ForestBenefits/Pages/Biomass.aspx) - Mass timber is gaining traction as a sustainable building material produced in Oregon. Mass timber can support improved forestry practices by sourcing from lands that are being managed for conservation goals, supporting forest restoration and wildfire management. Mass timber products are manufactured from restoration materials such as small-diameter Douglas fir and other commercial species. (Source: Oregon Mass Timber Coalition, https://www.masstimbercoalition.org/why-mass-timber)		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Not Started
Coordinating Organization		
CWPP Committee		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
To be determined		To be determined
Partners Involved		
Potential partners: Oregon Department of Forestry, US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, Sweet Home Fire District, Linn County Fire Defense Board, Small Woodlands Association, Freres Lumber		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
After the 2007 Plan, the CWPP Committee did not sustain itself long enough to document or complete this action item. However, there is still interest in exploring this action item in the future if/when there is a market that will support activities.		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
4.8	Explore the development of a Linn County Fuels Management Cooperative through the Small Woodland Association for sustaining fuels management within the WUI.	
Purpose/Rationale		
Fuels reduction efforts continue to be a financial burden for some homeowners. A Fuels Management Cooperative would support coordination and buy in to broaden these types of efforts.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Not Started
Coordinating Organization		
Oregon Department of Forestry		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
To be determined		To be determined
Partners Involved		
Linn County Fire Defense Board, Small Woodlands Association		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
- In 2023, ODF South Cascade District entered into a cooperative agreement with the Linn County Juvenile Department to maintain the chipper purchased by the County via a Community Wildfire Risk Reduction grant to assist with vegetation management projects. The active chipper program was discontinued as it became cost prohibitive to lend out to private landowners due to expensive repairs. - The Community Wildfire Protection Corps, a program of the Northwest Youth Corps, was established to create fire resilient communities and reduce fire risk in high priority areas while providing workforce development and career building opportunities to young adults. - In 2023, through Senate Bill 762, ODF funded a Small Woodlands Forester in each district to assist small landowners with compliance with new forest rules and to navigate new systems, such as tax incentives. - The Small Woodlands Association currently works with Oregon State University to share information, conduct tours of successful project areas, and other educational activities.		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used	

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
4.9	Work with forestland managers and watershed managers to protect watershed health in high-risk areas while reducing wildfire hazards.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- Wildfires can have significant impacts on watersheds and water quality. - Create multi-objective wildfire projects to leverage limited resources while increasing watershed health and decreasing wildfire risk. - Identify potential funding sources to meet multiple objectives. Other ODF grants to remove barriers to fish passage, not so pertinent to CWPPs. Watershed Councils receive grants from OWEB, may find dual purpose through invasive plant management and other creative methods. - Reduction of non-native vegetation, shifting plant communities to be dominated by native fire-resistant and drought-resistant plants. The replacement of culverts allows for safer access of roads for folks who are fighting wildfire. - Reintroduction of beaver and floodplain restoration creates a more fire-resilient area and creates a higher quantity of water availability.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
ODF, Watershed Councils		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
\$5,000 per acre		ODF Landscape Resiliency Grant, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
Partners Involved		
USFS/BLM support, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, local governments, Linn Soil and Water Conservation District, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Services, water control districts, and other community-level partners.		
Project Location		
In high-risk areas/watersheds countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
The North Santiam Watershed Council (NSWC) conducted post-2020 fire early detection, rapid response (EDRR) weed survey to identify invasive plants that would cause large negative economic/environmental consequences. NSWC acquired funding from ODA, United Way to start weed control through spraying, mechanical methods, and educated private landowners on integrated pest management. Eliminating invasive plants, some of which can be particularly flammable or not fire-resistant, improves watershed health while increasing future wildfire resilience.		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
- For post fire recovery: service providers should have a trauma-informed approach to engaging landowners whose properties and homes were damaged by wildfire. - For pre fire planning/mitigation: educating landowners on alternative uses of invasive non-fire-resistant		

plants is a way to encourage vegetation management and upkeep between non-profit funded activities.	
Suggestions for moving forward	
• Explore creative treatment options to both benefit watershed health and fire mitigation objectives, e.g., biochar created from ladder fuels. • Develop grant applications to obtain funding for landscape level projects, rather than just one or two landowners. • Build relationships with local contractors, farmers, landowners to increase collaboration and buy in for larger scale projects. • Partnering with local working groups (long term recovery, other local organizations that can maximize our resources) • Communication and community outreach education are needed consistently and long-term.	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used
September 2020-present	

Action Item		
ID#		
4.10	Inventory road conditions along high-risk community routes and reduce hazardous vegetation in public right of ways to enhance access and create fuel breaks, and to keep access roads large enough for emergency vehicle passage.	
Purpose/Rationale		
- It is well-known that roads are important in wildfire defense, as they serve as evacuation routes, but sometimes even more importantly as fire breaks. - Linn County Road Department has an active vegetation management program for the reduction of vegetation in the right-of-way. There are four maintenance districts and a countywide vegetation management crew who conduct maintenance on a year-round schedule. - There is a political obstacle to the extent of vegetation management that can occur due to citizens enjoyment of the aesthetic appeal that comes from having trees in the right-of-way. These create a hazard for passing motorists as a roadside hazard, as well as presenting a hazard related to CWPP objectives. - The 2007 CWPP identified slash piles located close to roads as an added risk to wildfire spread. Ideas for Implementation: - Use the routes identified by Fire Agencies in the Risk Assessment as a starting place for an on-the-ground hazard assessment. See Appendix F for priority areas identified by Fire Agencies. - Increase communication between Road Maintenance District managers and local fire agencies - Facilitate introductions and periodic follow up meetings to prioritize emerging right-of-way vegetation management issues which can be accomplished in year-round maintenance cycle. - Assess potential costs and benefits of adopting new code provisions to require clearing vegetation entirely from the public right-of-way.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	High	Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
County Road Department in coordination with ODOT & local road managers		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$820,000 per year, increasing with inflation		Linn County Roads Operating Budget
Partners Involved		
Local fire agencies		
Project Location		
County-wide in each maintenance district: Albany (northwest), Scio (northeast), Halsey (southwest) and Sweet Home (southeast). Specific priority areas/projects identified in Appendix F.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
The 2007 plan included an implementation action that was accomplished - Linn and Benton Fire Defense Boards jointly developed and adopted a best practice guide that articulates minimum standards for access and water supply, made available to the public on the County website and in all building permit application packets.		
What Went Well		

Lessons learned	
Suggestions for moving forward	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
4.11	Seek funding to implement fuels reduction efforts at critical infrastructure sites, including removal and possible replacement of vegetation with nonflammable landscaping material.	
Purpose/Rationale		
Many critical infrastructure sites are located in wildland urban interface areas, which increases overall community vulnerability to respond and recover. Specific critical infrastructure in at-risk WUI areas according to the Risk Assessment include: • Emergency shelter sites- Sweet Home Community Center, North Santiam School District • Police Stations- Linn County Sheriffs Mill City and Sweet Home Substations • Schools- Santiam Elementary, Santiam Junior/Senior High School, Mari-Linn Elementary, Hamilton Creek School, Sand Ridge Charter School, Foster Elementary School, Holley Elementary, Lourdes Charter School, Hawthorne & Oak Heights Elementary, Sweet Home Middle & High School • Fire Stations- Mill City Main Station, Lyons Main Station, Lyons Jordan Substation, Scio Bilyeu Den Substation, Lebanon Berlin Substation, Sweet Home Main, Foster and Cascadia Substations, • City Halls- Lyons City Hall, Waterloo City Hall, Sodaville City Hall, Mill City City Hall, Sweet Home City Hall It was not possible to evaluate fuels surrounding each site in the Risk Assessment due to the scale of the available data, so local communities need to conduct site specific evaluations. Implementation Ideas: • Affected jurisdictions should work with local fire districts, OSFM, and ODF to conduct ignition zone assessments and identify defensible space upgrades that could be made at each site. • Design cross-landowner fuels reduction projects that can leverage multi-jurisdictional efforts (public lands, utility vegetation maintenance, industrial timber, etc.) to obtain funding, if possible.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
X		Not Started, Target Completion: Medium Term (4-10 years)
Coordinating Organization		
Local Jurisdictions in partnership with Linn County Emergency Management		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
To be determined, individual project cost will vary		ODF Landscape Resiliency, Title III, USFS CWDG, FEMA, OSFM CWRR
Partners Involved		
ODF, OSFM, local fire districts including Sweet Home Fire District, school districts, electric utilities, surrounding public and private land managers		
Project Location		
Specific sites listed above		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		

Suggestions for moving forward	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
4.12	Seek grant funding to support fuels reduction and creation of defensible space around homes.	
Purpose/Rationale/Implementation Ideas		
As projects are identified by defensible space assessments, Sweet Home Fire District's goal is to provide the fuels reduction by prioritizing those without the means to do so. Current fuel reduction projects focus on small timberland by ODF. This project would focus on the fuels near a structure and the immediately surrounding areas, ingress and egress routes, and fire/fuel breaks.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	Medium	Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
Sweet Home Fire District		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
To be determined		US Department of Agriculture, US Forest Service, FEMA, International Association of Fire Chiefs
Partners Involved		
Oregon Department of Forestry		
Project Location		
Sweet Home Fire District		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID #	Action Item Title/Description	
4.13	Conduct electrical system Right of Way tree trimming and vegetation management.	
Purpose/Rationale		
CPI is mandated by rules promulgated by the Oregon Public Utility Commission to clear vegetation that could contact power lines or is likely to cause outages. CPI generally tries to double the amount of clearance between power lines and vegetation that are required by the OPUC. In addition to mechanical removal methods CPI uses pesticides to discourage new vegetation growth under power lines.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	High	Ongoing. CPI contracts with 6 tree trimming crews that operate full time year-round.
Coordinating Organization		
Consumers Power Inc.		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$3,250,000 Annually		CPI operating budget.
Partners Involved		
Tree trimming crews from Asplundh and Jensen's. CPI contracts 3 crews from each company.		
Project Location		
System wide throughout the CPI service territory including many WUI areas in Linn County.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID #	Action Item Title/Description	
4.14	Conduct CPI Electrical Transmission and Distribution System Hardening	
Purpose/Rationale		
CPI has adopted enhanced standards meant to make our system more resilient to damage. This includes utilizing metal or composite poles, composite cross arms with wider clearances, stronger insulators, and undergrounding power to newly built houses and facilities. By making the system “harder” it will be less susceptible to damages that could lead to fire starts. System hardening efforts will also reduce the scope of outages and enhance recovery from outage events or fires by limiting the damage done by the event in the first place.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	High	Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
Consumers Power Inc.		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$500,000 Annually		CPI operating budget, possible state and federal grants.
Partners Involved		
None		
Project Location		
System wide throughout the CPI service territory. Focus on high fire risk areas as defined by CPI.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used	

Action Item		
ID #	Action Item Title/Description	
4.15	Enhance CPI Electrical Transmission and Distribution System Intelligence	
Purpose/Rationale		
CPI is working to build a greater degree of computer control and remote-control abilities into our electrical system. The primary method of integrating these controls is via our SCADA system. The goal is to be able to make protective system changes much faster in response to changing conditions such as extreme fire weather. This will allow CPI to increase service reliability while also enhancing wildfire mitigation efforts.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	High	Ongoing
Coordinating Organization		
Consumers Power Inc.		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$530,000 Annually		CPI operating budget. Possible state and federal grants.
Partners Involved		
None		
Project Location		
System wide throughout the CPI service territory. Focus on high fire risk areas as defined by CPI.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID #	Action Item Title/Description	
4.16	Increase Environmental Intelligence: Use weather data for operational planning and decision making.	
Purpose/Rationale		
CPI utilizes forecast and live weather information to make protective system setting decisions during times of elevated fire weather danger. Much of CPI's system is in rural areas that have a relatively low density of reliable weather stations. In meteorological terms these are "data sparse" areas. To remedy this CPI is going to deploy up to 20 Tempest Weatherflow weather stations in different areas over the next several years. The increased data coverage will allow CPI to make the best decisions possible when elevated or extreme fire weather conditions are forecast or already occurring.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
	High	Not started, Short Term (1-3 years, (late 2023 through spring 2024).
Coordinating Organization		
Consumers Power Inc.		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$20,000 between 2023 & 2024		CPI operating budget
Partners Involved		
None, but CPI will share the derived data in open sources such as MesoWest. This will allow other organizations and individuals to access live weather information gathered by CPI.		
Project Location		
System wide at substations and communications facilities located in High Fire Risk Zones as defined by CPI.		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item	
ID#	Action Item Title/Description
5.1	Create and formalize the CWPP Committee to oversee implementation, identify and coordinate funding opportunities, and sustain the Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan.
Purpose/Rationale	
Plan implementation, review, and maintenance are a critical component of a CWPP, ensuring that this Plan will benefit Linn County and CWPP partners' efforts to reduce wildfire risk. Section 6 of the Plan provides additional information regarding implementation and maintenance of the CWPP Ideas for Implementation • Linn County Emergency Management will serve as the CWPP Committee convener and will oversee the Plan's implementation and maintenance. • Emergency Management, with support from Linn County Planning and Building, will host semi-annual meetings before and after fire season to review current actions, provide partner updates, and identify new projects and funding sources. These meetings could regularly take place on the 2nd Wednesdays in May and November. • The core members of the Steering Committee will continue in an advisory role to oversee implementation, identify and coordinate funding opportunities, and sustain the CWPP, including: ○ Linn County Fire Defense Board ○ Linn County Planning and Building ○ North and South Santiam Watershed Councils ○ Northwest Oregon Interagency Fire Management, NW Oregon District Bureau of Land Management, Siuslaw and Willamette National Forests ○ Oregon Department of Forestry, North and South Cascade Districts ○ OSFM ○ OSU Extension Service – Linn County ○ Sweet Home Fire and Rescue ○ Utility Providers (CPI, Pacific Power) • Some of the participating organizations and other stakeholders could also serve on subcommittees tasked with specific risk reduction activities. • Potential future Committee members may include: ○ Calapooia Watershed Council ○ CTC, Guistina, Weyerhaeuser, Freres, and other timber company representatives ○ Community Services Consortium YouthBuild ○ Firewise Community leaders ○ Linn County Roads, Juvenile Department, Health Services, and Parks Department ○ Linn County Small Woodlands Association ○ Linn Soil and Water Conservation District ○ Santiam Long Term Recovery Group ○ Community representatives ○ Culturally specific community based organizations ○ Home Builders Association ○ Insurance representatives ○ Local elected and/or appointed officials ○ Recreational organizations ○ Tribes.	

Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
X	High	Ongoing (Target next CWPP update in 5 years, 2028-2029)
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County- Emergency Management as Committee convener (Linn County Planning and Building, Linn County Fire Defense Board)		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
Staff time		Partners existing budgets
Partners Involved		
See above		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action		Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID #	Action Item Title/Description	
5.2	Establish a working group to coordinate and sustain effective countywide public education and outreach activities, including members of the Fire Defense Board prevention committee and the CWPP Committee.	
Purpose/Rationale		
More formalized coordination among agencies engaged in public fire prevention and safety education will promote an interagency exchange of ideas, programs, and resources in areas of fire prevention and public safety education. Objectives include: • Promoting, coordinating, and actively supporting interagency participation in fire prevention activities. • Acting as a central conduit for the exchange of professional information among participants and the public. • Reducing the number of preventable fires within the cooperative areas. • Helping to improve the fire and life safety of the communities served through the above cooperative prevention efforts. Ideas for Implementation: • Initially focus on organizing a one-day wildfire summit to engage local fire protection agencies, with a focus on coming fire season needs, messaging, and outreach and engagement activities for the year, with the intent of creating an annual event focused on prevention and emergency preparedness. • Explore opportunities to expand cooperative countywide public education and outreach activities, such as trainings and materials development. • Identify resources that support organizational capacity building.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
		Not Started
Coordinating Organization		
CWPP Committee		
Cost (\$ range or staff time)		Funding Source/Partners
Staff time with additional costs to be determined		Partners existing budgets
Partners Involved		
Fire Defense Board, Sweet Home Fire District, Oregon Department of Forestry, US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, OSU Extension Fire Program (strategic planning support)		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
The 2007 CWPP included a variation of this action that was not completed due to capacity constraints. During the update of the CWPP, Committee members explored the concept of developing a Fire Prevention Cooperative, however the Committee determined there is not currently organizational or financial capacity within Linn County and partner agencies to support a new organization at this time. Rather, a more focused action item was developed to work toward similar goals of a cooperative.		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		

Suggestions for moving forward	
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used

Action Item		
ID#	Action Item Title/Description	
5.3	Resource a Fire Adapted Communities / Hazard Mitigation Coordinator position to coordinate implementation of the CWPP, secure external funding, manage community-focused education and support programs, and seek additional opportunities for partnerships that advance wildfire resilience in Linn County.	
Purpose/Rationale		
Linn County Emergency Management only has two FTE and needs additional capacity to implement and support all the identified projects within the CWPP and NHMP. A paid staff position is needed to focus on emergency preparedness, supporting CWPP Maintenance, wildfire adapted community outreach, cross-jurisdictional partnerships, and to apply for grants.		
Ideas for Implementation:		
• Draft a position description with a proposed work plan for projects to implement in the first year of the position. • Meet with jurisdictions who have funded positions to learn from their success and improve opportunities. • Consider applying to the University of Oregon, Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) program to fill a position.		
Top Priority	Coord. Org. Priority	Status/Timeline
X	High	Not Started, Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years)
Coordinating Organization		
Linn County Emergency Management		
Cost		Funding Source/Partners
\$50,000-\$80,000 per year for one full time position (or \$25,000 for one 11-month RARE position)		Community Wildfire Defense Grant, OSFM Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant, Ford Family Foundation Matching Funds, University of Oregon RARE Program
Partners Involved		
Project Location		
Countywide		
Review Form		
Action(s) Taken/Accomplishments		
What Went Well		
Lessons learned		
Suggestions for moving forward		
Dates of action	Funding Source(s) used	

Action Item Crosswalk

The following table indicates which actions from the 2007 CWPP have been retained, revised, or removed, and their current numbering in the 2024 CWPP. 2024 action items without a 2007 cross-reference are new.

Table A.1. Crosswalk of 2024 and 2007 Action Items

2024 Plan Action Item	2007 Plan Action Item	Comments
1.1	1.1	
1.2	1.2	
1.3	1.3	
1.4	1.4	
1.5	1.5	
1.6	1.6	
1.7	1.7	
1.8		
1.9		
1.10		
1.11		
2.1	2.1, 2.2, 2.6, 4.2	
2.2	2.3	Revised and expanded to a broader recreation/visitor campaign.
2.3		
2.4	2.4	
2.5	2.5	Revised and expanded
2.6		
2.7		
2.8		
2.9		
	3.1	Moved to Goal 4, fuels reduction, 4.5
	3.2	Removed, not a county or local level action
3.1	3.3	Revised to remove outdated reference
3.2	3.4	
3.3	3.5	Completely revised, SB 360 is no longer relevant.
3.4		
4.1	4.1	Revised and expanded
4.2		
4.3	4.3	Revised and expanded
4.4		
4.5	3.1	
4.6	4.2, 4.4	Revised and expanded
4.7	4.5	Revised slightly
4.8	4.6	
4.9	4.7	Revised slightly
4.10	4.8	Revised slightly
	4.9	Removed, not within scope of Linn County Planning
4.11		

2024 Plan Action Item	2007 Plan Action Item	Comments
4.12		
4.13		
4.14		
4.15		
4.16		
5.1	5.1	
5.2	5.2	Revised to remove references to a fire prevention cooperative.
5.3		

Appendix B: Risk Assessment Methods

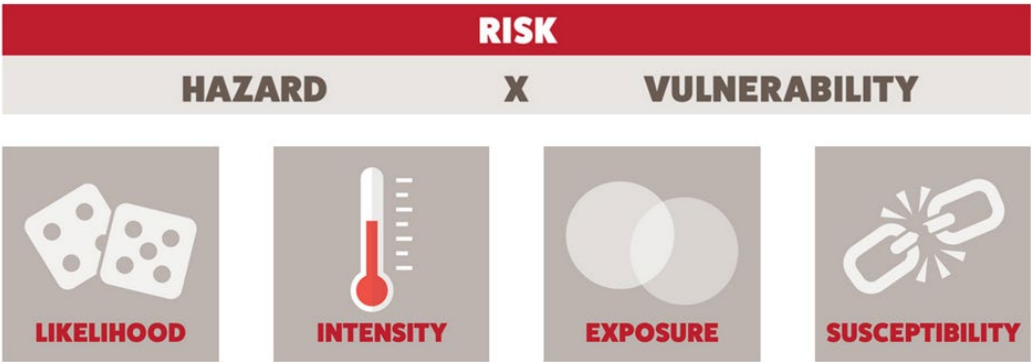
The purpose of this appendix is to provide some additional details about the methodology of the Linn County CWPP risk assessment.

Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment

The purpose of the Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment (QWRA) is to provide foundational information about wildfire risk across the Pacific Northwest Region (which encompasses the states of Oregon and Washington). A quantitative wildfire risk assessment defines risk based on several factors:¹

- The likelihood of a wildfire (>250 acres) burning,
- The intensity of a fire if one should occur,
- The exposure of assets and resources based on their locations, and
- The susceptibility of those assets and resources.

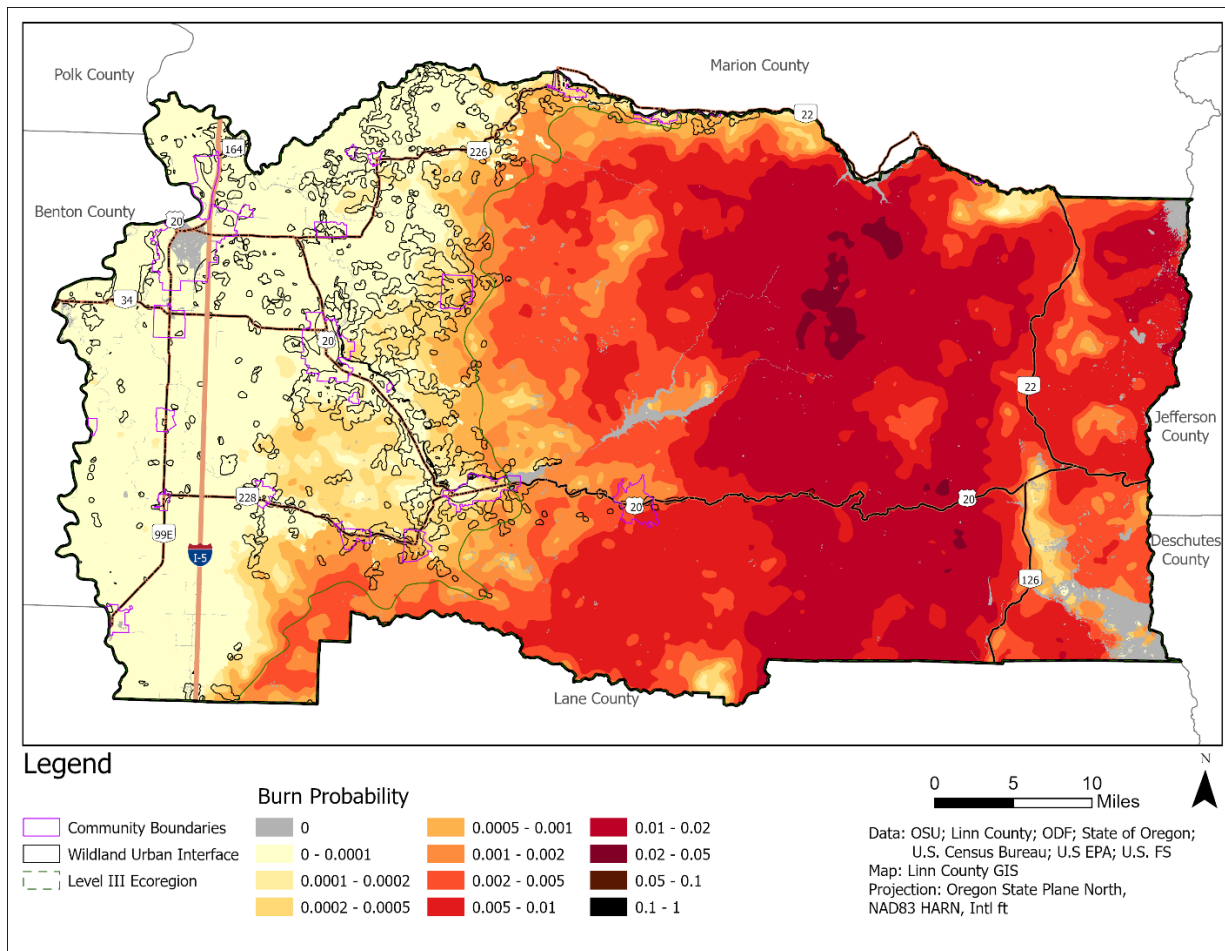
Figure B.1. Quantitative Wildfire Risk Framework (adapted from Scott et al. 2012, <https://wildfirerisk.org/understand-risk/>)



Risk assessments begin with determining wildfire hazard. The QWRA used a fire simulator to generate measures of hazard based on relevant information such as fuel, weather, topography, and historical fire occurrences. Hazard is broken down into two factors - probability and intensity. Probability, or more specifically burn probability, is the average annual likelihood of a wildfire occurring. Intensity is a measure of energy expected from a wildfire which is best approximated by the predicted flame length of a fire.

¹ “Pacific Northwest Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment: Methods and Results” prepared by Julie W. Gilbertson-Day, Richard D. Stratton, Joe H. Scott, Kevin C. Vogler, and April Brough, Pyrologix, v2 Published April 9, 2018

Figure B.2. Visual Depiction of the Relative Burn Probability in Linn County (2023 QWRA Input)

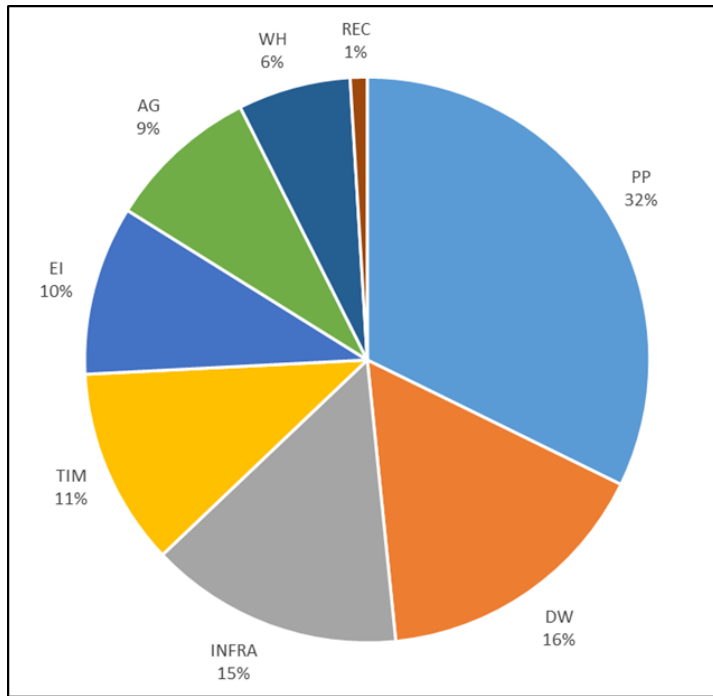


The other important piece of a risk assessment is determining how vulnerable the community and landscape is to wildfire. The QWRA identified highly valued resources and assets (HVRAs) in the region, both natural and human created. These include things like: People and Property, Infrastructure, Drinking Water, Timber, Agriculture, Wildlife Habitat, Ecological Integrity, and Recreation. Vulnerability is then looked at in two ways: exposure and susceptibility. Exposure considers how physically close HVRAs are to potential wildfires. Susceptibility involves gauging how HVRAs might be affected positively or negatively by wildfires of different intensities. For instance, the QWRA assumed that homes and community infrastructure suffer more damage with higher-intensity fires, while some wildlife habitats might benefit from lower-intensity wildfires in certain locations.

The risk outputs may be considered for each HVRA alone, or as integrated risk which combines the risk to multiple HVRAs at the same time. When all the HVRAs are combined into one, integrated risk score, the QWRA uses a weighting scheme. This scheme determines the relative importance of one HVRA compared to others when values overlap. Regional leadership from USFS, BLM, ODF, and WA DNR jointly agreed upon the weighting scheme which assigns the most weight to People & Property, followed by Drinking Water, Infrastructure, and so on.²

² "PNW Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment HVRA Descriptions and Relative Importance", Draft, Prepared by Andy McEvoy, Oregon State University, College of Forestry

Figure B.3. The overall share of relative importance allocated to each HVRA in the updated QWRA. PP = People and Property; DW = Drinking Water; INFRA = Infrastructure; TIM = Timber; EI = Ecological Integrity; AG = Agriculture; WH = Wildlife Habitat; REC = Recreation Infrastructure. (PNW QWRA 2023)



The end product is a set of data layers that show relative risk values across a map of Oregon and Washington. Each 30-meter-wide pixel on the map is assigned either a positive or negative value. Positive values suggest a relatively beneficial outcome of wildfire, whereas negative values indicate a relatively detrimental outcome of wildfire. The Steering Committee determined it important to assess risk on a countywide scale rather than a regional one. To achieve this, the data layers were clipped to match the boundary of Linn County, removing all risk values outside of the county. This excluded any exceptionally high or low risk values that could be present in other areas within the two-state region. The resulting raw output did not have fixed “high” or “low” categories, so ranges for risk categories needed to be established. The Steering Committee chose to adopt category ranges from the suggested symbology provided by OSU with the 2023 QWRA data. These category breaks are:

The categories of Integrated Wildfire Risk are described as follows:

- **Very High Loss:** Wildfire risk is very high to all mapped resources and assets combined: people & property, infrastructure, drinking water, timber, agriculture, ecosystems, wildlife, and recreation. Very High represents the top 10 percent (> 90th percentile) of negative values across the landscape.
- **High Loss:** Wildfire risk is high to all mapped resources and assets combined: people & property, infrastructure, drinking water, timber, agriculture, ecosystems, wildlife, and recreation. High represents the 70th – 90th percentile of negative values across the landscape.
- **Moderate Loss:** Wildfire risk is moderate to all mapped resources and assets combined: people & property, infrastructure, drinking water, timber, agriculture, ecosystems, wildlife, and

recreation. Moderate loss represents the 40th – 70th percentile of negative values across the landscape.

- **Low Loss:** Wildfire risk is low to all mapped resources and assets combined: people & property, infrastructure, drinking water, timber, agriculture, ecosystems, wildlife, and recreation. Low represents the 5th – 40th percentile of negative values across the landscape.
- **Neutral:** Wildfire risk is neither significantly positive nor negative for mapped resources and assets combined. Neutral represents the bottom five percent (<5th percentile) of both positive and negative values on the landscape.
- **Low Benefit:** Wildfire risk is slightly beneficial for mapped resources and assets combined (for example, forest health/vegetation condition, wildlife habitat), producing a "fuel treatment effect" at very low flame lengths. The low benefit category has a range of positive values that mirrors the negative range found in the low loss category.
- **Moderate Benefit:** Wildfire risk is moderately beneficial, overall, for mapped resources and assets combined (for example, the cumulative value is positive, typically due to beneficial effects on forest health/vegetation condition and/or wildlife habitat). The moderate benefit category has a range of positive values that mirrors the negative range found in the high moderate loss category.
- **High Benefit:** Wildfire risk is highly beneficial, overall, for mapped resources and assets combined (for example, the cumulative value is positive, typically due to beneficial effects on forest health/vegetation condition and/or wildlife habitat). The high benefit category has a range of positive values that mirrors the negative range found in the high loss category.
- **Very High Benefit:** Wildfire risk is very highly beneficial, overall, for mapped resources and assets combined (for example, the cumulative value is positive, typically due to beneficial effects on forest health/vegetation condition and/or wildlife habitat). The very high benefit category has a range of positive values that mirrors the negative range found in the very high loss category.

The nine categories help to visually simplify the data while still leaving enough detail for meaningful analysis of the different communities within the County. From there, decisions about broad, regional priorities can be determined.

In-depth information about the data inputs and methods used to determine risk were provided to the Steering Committee by the faculty responsible for creating and updating the QWRA at Oregon State University's (OSU) College of Forestry. A final report on the 2023 update of the QWRA has not been publicized as of December 2023, but the following public sources provide some insight on the creation of the original 2018 assessment and the update process. When finished, the data for the 2023 update will be made available on the Oregon CWPP Planning Tool Map Viewer.

Sources:

- "Oregon CWPP Planning Tool", Oregon Explorer, https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/OE_HtmlViewer/index.html?viewer=wildfireplanning
- PNW Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment, Oregon State University <https://wildfireriskpnw.forestry.oregonstate.edu/>
- "Pacific Northwest Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment: Methods and Results" prepared by Julie W. Gilbertson-Day, Richard D. Stratton, Joe H. Scott, Kevin C. Vogler, and April Brough, Pyrologix, v2 Published April 9, 2018- <https://pyrologix.com/wp->

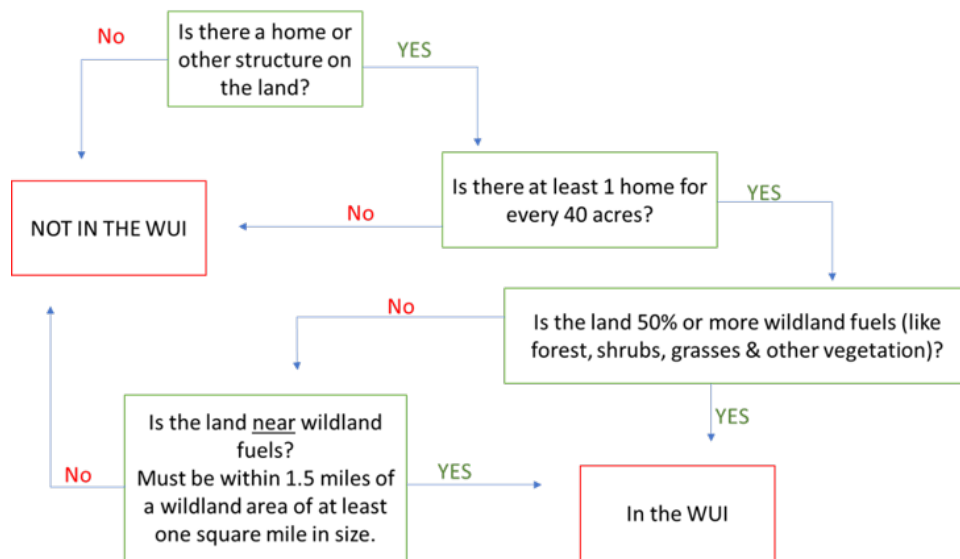
content/uploads/2019/11/PNW%20Quantitative%20Wildfire%20Risk%20Assessment%20Report%204-9-2018%20v2.pdf

- “PNW Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment HVRA Descriptions and Relative Importance”, Draft, Prepared by Andy McEvoy, Oregon State University, College of Forestry

Wildland Urban Interface

The CWPP Steering Committee elected to use the wildland urban interface dataset mapped by OSU. OSU followed Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 629-044-1011 in order to develop a statewide map of the WUI, which will be used in conjunction with the finalized Statewide Wildfire Hazard Map. The OAR defines the wildland urban interface as a geographic area that includes structures that meets or intermingles with wildland or vegetative fuels or is in an occluded geographical area. For an area to be considered part of the WUI, there must be a minimum density of buildings (at least 1 building per 40 acres) and proximity to fuel cover. OSU used statewide building footprint data from prior to June 30, 2022 to map out the areas which meet this minimum density requirement. If multiple structures existed on a single tax lot, the count was simplified to consider the totality on the tax lot as a single structure.³

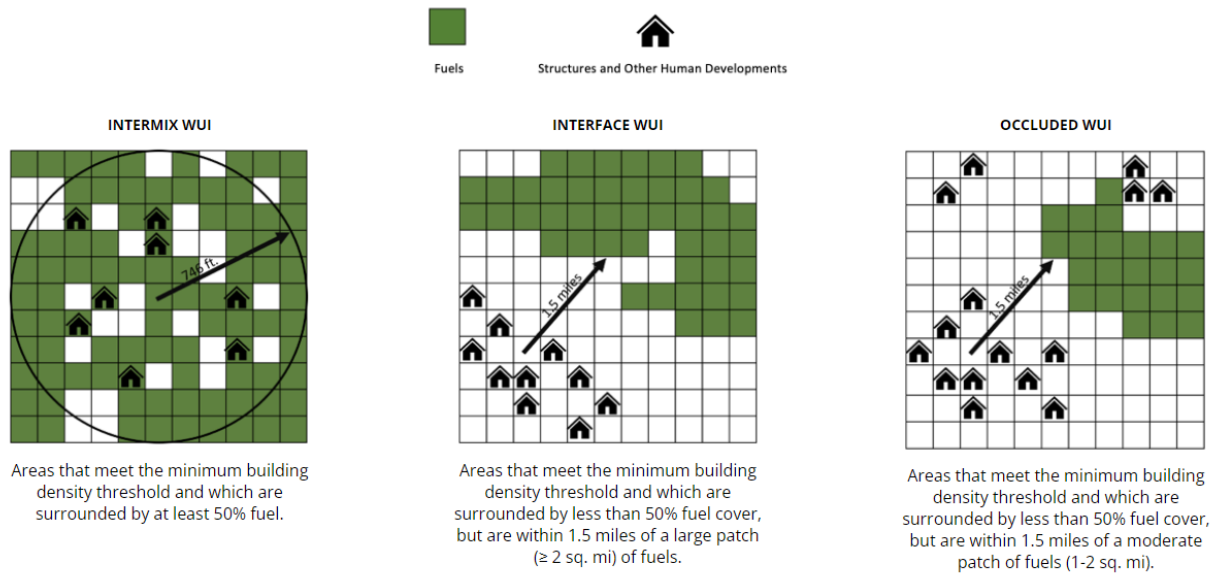
Figure B.4. Simplified flow chart for understanding the process for inclusion of lands within the WUI



This WUI layer was clipped to the boundaries of Linn County and further separated by Fire District for detailed analysis. The WUI is classified into three general classes (intermix, interface, occluded) to inform effective risk management strategies. The WUI Map on its own is NOT a wildfire risk map, however it can be used as a tool to identify locations where wildland fires could have more impact on populations and human-built infrastructure.

³ OAR 629-044-1011(4), effective 06/14/2022, <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/displayDivisionRules.action?selectedDivision=2845>

Figure B.5. Visual representation of how the WUI is classified, OSU College of Forestry (2022)



The OSU WUI layer presented data in five categories. The Steering Committee opted to include just three categories and remove the non-WUI categories from the map for visual simplicity.

Sources:

- “Mapping the Wildland-Urban Interface”, Oregon State University College of Forestry <https://osuwildfireriskmap.forestry.oregonstate.edu/mapping-wildland-urban-interface>
- Oregon Administrative Rule, Chapter 629, Division 44 <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/displayDivisionRules.action?selectedDivision=2845>

Social Vulnerability Index

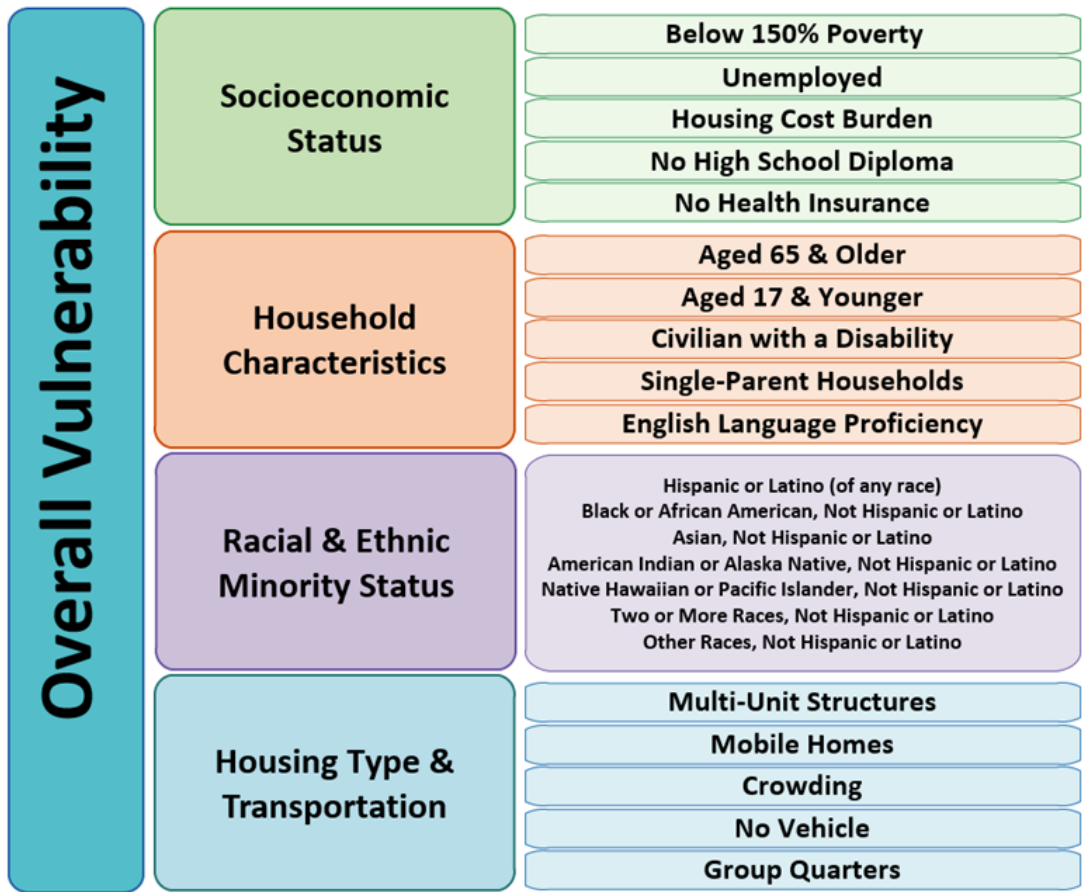
The 2007 CWPP Risk Assessment did not consider demographic factors that could contribute to certain communities being more vulnerable during the evacuation of wildfire events, particularly those populations in Linn County that are elderly, disabled, or non-English speaking. Since 2007, analysis of social vulnerability has become a focus of statewide wildfire hazard assessment. SB 762 directed Oregon State University to include a layer that geospatially displays the locations of socially and economically vulnerable communities in the Statewide Wildfire Hazard Map (OAR 629-044-1026(1)(d)).

To accomplish this, OSU followed the 2018 methodologies of the Centers for Disease Control Social Vulnerability Index (CDC SVI) which uses indicators from four themes: Socioeconomic Status, Household Composition & Disability, Minority Status & Language, and Housing Type & Transportation. OSU generated the SVI based on the US Census American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates from 2016-2020 at the census block group, tract, and census county divisions relative to all those within Oregon. Linn County GIS updated the R code provided by OSU for calculating the SVI to follow the 2020 CDC SVI definition and used as input the US Census American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates from 2018-2022. The theme names, and contents, in the 2020 CDC SVI were updated to Socioeconomic Status, Household Characteristics, Racial & Ethnic Minority Status, and Housing Type & Transportation. For this study, we present the SVI for block groups. Due to differences in data availability at the block

group level from that at the census tract level, there were the following modifications from the CDC definition:

- 1) Housing cost burden within the Socioeconomic Status Theme included housing cost-burdened (30%+ of income spent on housing costs) renter occupied housing units with annual income less than \$75,000 for renters as specified in the CDC SVI definition and housing cost-burdened (30%+ of income spent on housing costs) owner occupied housing units with any annual income instead of just with income less than \$75,000 as specified in the CDC SVI definition.
- 2) Disability within the Household Characteristics Theme was calculated based on the population 18 years and older and with poverty status determined with a disability instead of within the total population as specified in the CDC SVI definition.
- 3) Population in group quarters within the Housing Type and Transportation Theme was not available at the block group level.

Figure B.6. Indicators and themes that comprise the overall social vulnerability score, CDC/ATSDR (2022)



Sources:

- “Mapping Socially Vulnerable Communities”, Oregon State University College of Forestry <https://osuwildfireriskmap.forestry.oregonstate.edu/social-vulnerability>
- Reilley, C. & Crandall, M. (2022) Social Vulnerability for the State of Oregon [Data set]. Oregon State University. <https://doi.org/10.7267/z890s265n>
- Oregon Administrative Rule Chapter 629, Division 44. <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/displayDivisionRules.action?selectedDivision=2845>

- CDC/ATSDR. (2022) CDC/ATSDR SVI 2020 Documentation.
https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/documentation/SVI_documentation_2020.html.

Local Risk Assessment

Between August and December of 2023, the following departments and agencies reviewed communities within their jurisdiction for potential wildfire hazards: USFS, ODF, the Linn County Fire Defense Board, and local fire districts. The agencies were asked to identify specific geographical areas and provide details on the specific attributes that make them priority areas of concern for wildfire mitigation projects. Locations were identified by road names, subdivision names, river corridors, railroad tracks, and wilderness areas. In some cases, nearby locations with similar attributes were grouped together and assigned a condensed community name.

These responses were then converted by the Linn County GIS Department into a GIS layer, depicted in Figure 17, located in the Risk Assessment. Attributes of each area are captured on the priority areas table located in Appendix C.

Some examples of these attributes are summarized in the following table.

Table B.1. Attributes of Rural Response Priority Areas

Attributes of Rural Response Priority Areas	
1. Fuel Characteristics	
	A. High fuel loading B. High fuel flammability (e.g. scotch broom, dead brush) C. Dense fuel along roadsides
2. Community	
	A. Distance to water / inadequate water supply B. High housing density (typically WUI interface or intermix areas) C. Utility issues- lack of cell reception D. Heavy or hazardous industrial/commercial uses
3. Access	
	A. Dead-end road(s), limited ingress-egress (one way in, one way out) B. Steep grade on roadways and driveways C. Bridge restrictions or clearance issues D. General response time concerns
4. Cultural	
	A. High ignition incidence (such as slash pile/debris burning, temporary camping (tents/RVs), high volume of recreation, etc.) B. Unsafe conditions for first responders (based on previous incidents) C. Structurally unprotected areas (located outside of a rural fire protection district)

Sources:

- Work organized by Kate Bentz, Associate Planner, Linn County Planning & Building Department. Priority areas identified by various fire districts and state and federal agencies in Linn County including: USFS Willamette National Forest, ODF North Cascade District, ODF South Cascade District, Albany Fire Department, Brownsville Rural Fire District, Gates Rural Fire Protection District, Harrisburg Rural Fire Protection District, Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District, Jefferson Rural Fire Protection District, Lebanon Fire District, Scio Fire District and Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District. Converted to GIS format by Cara Walter, Linn County GIS Department and Kate Bentz.

Appendix C: Fire Agency Priority Areas for Mitigation

Fire Protection Agencies & Land Managers (if applicable)	Project Area	Rationale for Inclusion	Proposed Project Types				Proposed Methods (if specified by Fire Protection Agency)	Proximity to Federal Lands? (within 1.5 miles)
			Fuels Reduction	Home Ignition Zone Defensible Space	Route Improvements	Water Supply		
Albany FD	Knox Butte (includes Knox Butte Rd East of Scravel Hill Drive, Linwood Drive, Panorama Drive)	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, dense fuel along roadsides, Inadequate water supply, high housing density	X	X		X		No
Albany FD, City of Albany	Simpson Park	High fuel loading, inadequate water supply, dead end roads & trails, historic ignition incidence, temporary living camps intermixed with fuels	X					No
Albany FD, City of Albany	53rd Avenue	Large neighborhood with only one access point. The neighborhood is primarily surrounded by unmaintained green space.	X	X				No
Brownsville RFD, ODF South Cascade (partial)	Cochran Creek Drive Neighborhood	One way in and out, high fuel loading, steep slopes surrounding homes, proximity to private industrial timber	X	X				Yes
Brownsville RFD	Northernwood Drive Neighborhood	Homes intermixed with dense fuels, one way in and out, response time concerns, identified in 2007 CWPP	X	X				Yes
Brownsville RFD	Oakview Heights Subdivision (includes Oakview Dr and Pineview Rd)	High housing density intermixed WUI, one way in and out, high fuel loading, steep slopes surrounding homes, proximity to private industrial timber	X	X				No
Brownsville RFD	Washburn Heights Subdivision (includes Washburn Heights Dr, Sheep Head Rd, Sperry Rd, Lone Pine Rd)	High housing density intermixed with heavy fuels, steep slopes, one way in and out, identified in 2007 CWPP, weight limited road	X	X	X			No
Gates RFPD, ODF North Cascade	Gates Bridge East	Identified by ODF, limited rural fire resources- volunteer staff, limited access, one way in and out, potentially locked logging gates to South and East	X	X	X		Brushing, mastication, home ignition assessments, fuels reduction around roads, homes, powerlines, evacuation plans in place, second means of egress established	Yes
Gates RFPD, ODF North Cascade	Gates Rural Fire Volunteer District WUI areas (includes Linnwood Dr, Pebble Dr, Rock Creek Rd, Dogwood Rd, Gates School Rd, and Mad Creek Rd)	Identified by RFPD, limited rural fire resources- volunteer staff & lack of wildland engine, area previously impacted by 2020 wildfires	X	X				
Harrisburg F&R	Mount Tom (includes Mt Tom Drive, Wildwood Estates Loop, Meadowview Rd)	Identified by RFPD & ODF, limited response resources- station distance and staffing, limited access, one way in and out, potentially locked gates to South and East, hard to maneuver fire apparatus, weight restricted road, high fuel loading/flammability, dense fuel along roadsides, inadequate water supply, high housing density, identified in 2007 CWPP	X	X	X	X	Improve emergency access- add/open another road for emergency vehicle access, conduct defensible space and fuels reduction projects in residential areas	Yes
Harrisburg F&R	Priceboro Drive	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, dense fuel along roadsides, Inadequate water supply, high housing density,	x	x				No

Fire Protection Agencies & Land Managers (if applicable)	Project Area	Rationale for Inclusion	Proposed Project Types				Proposed Methods (if specified by Fire Protection Agency)	Proximity to Federal Lands? (within 1.5 miles)
			Fuels Reduction	Home Ignition Zone Defensible Space	Route Improvements	Water Supply		
Harrisburg F&R	Bush Garden Drive	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, dense fuel along roadsides, inadequate water supply, high housing density, dead-end roads, response time concerns, unsafe conditions for responders, structurally unprotected areas	x	x				No
Harrisburg F&R, Brownsville RFD, ODF South Cascade (partial)	Gap Road	High fuel loading/flammability, dense fuel along roadsides, inadequate water supply, high housing density, dead-end neighborhoods along route, weight restricted bridge (Pierre Creek crossing), response time concerns, proximity to industrial timber	x	x	x	x		No
Idanha-Detroit RFPD, USFS, City of Idanha	Idanha City Limits (includes New Idanha within Linn County)	High fuel loading, inadequate water supply, high housing density, dead-end roads, steep grade, response time concerns, narrow roads, one way in and out, identified in 2007 CWPP	x	x	x		Home ignition assessments, fuels reduction around homes, powerlines, and roads. Improvements to bridges and roads, second means of egress for community and firefighters, evacuation plan in place	Yes
Jefferson FD	Scravel Hill Area between 99E to Kamph Rd (includes portions of Scravel Hill Rd, Meeker Hill Dr, Viewcrest Dr, Shady Oak Rd, Sunnyview Dr, Mountain View Pl, Parkside Rd, Berry Dr, Sunset Dr, Grenz Ln, Cricket Ln, Neeley Rd, Northwood Dr, Steckley Dr)	High housing density on one way in and out neighborhood lanes, narrow road slopes over 15%, apparatus limited to access and turn around, high fuel load surrounding homes, distance from water supply	x	x	x	x		No
Lebanon FD, ODF South Cascade	East Lacombe Area (includes East Lacombe Rd, Green Mountain Dr, Island Inn Drive, Snow Peak Dr)	ODF and LFD identified priority, high fuel loading/flammability, high housing density, dead end roads, weight restricted road (Green Mountain Dr), bridge crossings unsuitable for fire engines (unweighted)	x	x	x			Yes
Lebanon FD, ODF South Cascade	Ford Mill Road	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, inadequate water supply, high housing density, dead-end roads, steep grade, hard to maneuver fire apparatus	x	x	x	x		Yes
Lebanon FD	Hamilton Creek School Road	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, high housing density, dead-end road, proximity to critical community infrastructure (Hamilton Creek School)	x	x				No
Lebanon FD, Brownsville RFD, ODF South Cascade	Middle Ridge Area (includes Middle Ridge Dr, Canyon View Dr, Ridgetop Dr, Canyon Pl, Bartells Creek Dr, and Elizabeth Dr)	High fuel loading/flammability, inadequate water supply, high housing density next to industrial private timber, dead-end roads, identified in 2007 CWPP	x	x				No

Fire Protection Agencies & Land Managers (if applicable)	Project Area	Rationale for Inclusion	Proposed Project Types				Proposed Methods (if specified by Fire Protection Agency)	Proximity to Federal Lands? (within 1.5 miles)
			Fuels Reduction	Home Ignition Zone Defensible Space	Route Improvements	Water Supply		
Lebanon FD	Mt Hope / Golden Valley (includes Mt Hope Dr, Golden Valley Rd, Hidden Valley Rd)	ODF and LFD identified priority (outside of ODF protection, but threat to paying lands would cause mutual aid response), previous evacuation incidents, high fuel loading/flammability intermixed with high population, water access issues, steep winding driveways & inadequate turn-arounds make it hard to maneuver fire apparatus	X	X	X	X		No
Lebanon FD	Mt Pleasant Road Area (includes Mt Pleasant Rd, Edwards Dr and Keel Mountain Dr)	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, inadequate water supply, high housing density, dead-end roads	X	X				Yes
Lebanon FD, ODF South Cascade (partial coverage), City of Sodaville	Sodaville city limits and surrounding area (includes Sodaville Mountain Home Rd, Sodaville Cutoff Dr, Sodaville Waterloo Dr, Buckmaster Rd)	ODF identified priority, inadequate water supply, proximity of housing development to timber resources, egress/access issues, previous evacuations, dead-end roads (Buckmaster Rd)	X	X		X		No
Lebanon FD	South Lebanon & Ty Valley Area (includes Agate Dr, Hazen Ln, Ty Valley Rd, Land Lab, SW 5th Ave, Edgemont Drive, and Butte Creek)	High fuel loading/flammability, High housing density, dead-end roads	X	X				No
Lyons RFD, ODF North Cascade	McCully Mountain (includes North, South, East, and West McCully Mtn Rd and surrounding forestland)	High fuel loading, gravel road with steep switchbacks, weight restricted gravel road (10 ton max), limited access to water draft sites, limited communication coverage, mix of industrial private and federal timber and housing with no hydrants	X	X	X	X	Home ignition assessments, fuels reduction around homes, powerlines, and roads. Improvements to bridges and roads, identify water supply locations, evacuation plan in place, improve communication infrastructure	Yes
Scio FD, ODF North Cascade	Rogers Mountain (includes Rodgers Mountain Loop, Sledge Road and surrounding forestland)	ODF & RFD identified priority, high housing density, one way in and out access, mix of industrial private timber, ag lands, BLM land and housing with no hydrants, limited access to draft sites, steep grade, response time concerns (far from rural fire dept), proximity to transmission powerlines, identified in 2007 CWPP	X	X	X	X	Home ignition assessments, fuels reduction around homes, powerlines, and roads. Maintain a second means of egress for public and first responders, identify water supply locations, community engagement	Yes
Scio FD, ODF North Cascade, Linn County	Larwood Dr & Fish Hatchery Rd WUI & surrounding forested areas	High fuel loading, response time concerns, high ignition incidence, narrow roads, limited access in certain areas, proximity to debris burning, slash piles, WUI adjacent to industrial timber ground, high volume of recreationist (Roaring River & Larwood Wayside County Parks)	X	X	X		Home ignition assessments, fuels reduction around homes, powerlines, and roads. Improvement to roads, Pile burning, public out reach in fire prevention	Yes
Sweet Home FD, ODF South Cascade, BLM	Brush Creek Road	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, dense fuel along roadsides, inadequate water supply, utility issues, heavy logging area, dead end roads, response time concerns, high ignition incidence	X	X				Yes

Fire Protection Agencies & Land Managers (if applicable)	Project Area	Rationale for Inclusion	Proposed Project Types				Proposed Methods (if specified by Fire Protection Agency)	Proximity to Federal Lands? (within 1.5 miles)
			Fuels Reduction	Home Ignition Zone Defensible Space	Route Improvements	Water Supply		
Sweet Home FD	Upper Calapooia Drive	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, inadequate water supply, utility issues, steep grade, response time concerns, high ignition incidence	X	X				Yes
Sweet Home FD, Brownsville RFD, ODF South Cascade	Courtney Creek Drive	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, dense fuel along roadsides, inadequate water supply, high housing density, utility issues, response time concerns, high ignition incidence	X	X		X		Yes
Sweet Home FD, Brownsville RFD, ODF South Cascade (partial)	Crawfordsville & Holley Area (includes Crawfordsville Rd)	Heavy fuel loading, dense along roadsides, housing intermixed with fuels, lack of water supply, utility issues, response time concerns, high ignition incidence	X	X	X			Yes
Sweet Home FD, ODF South Cascade	Highway 20 Corridor / Cascadia (East of Sweet Home City Limits, includes Cascadia Dr, High Deck Rd)	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, dense fuel along roadsides, inadequate water supply, utility issues, dead end roads, steep grade, response time concerns, high ignition incidence, unsafe conditions for first responders (limited response in High Deck Road area due to previous encounters), identified in 2007 CWPP	X	X				Yes
Sweet Home FD, ODF South Cascade	Marks Ridge (includes the geographical ridge and Marks Ridge Rd)	High fuel loading/flammability, dense fuel along roadsides, inadequate water supply, limited ingress-egress, steep grade, response time concerns	X	X				No
Sweet Home FD, ODF South Cascade, Linn County	McDowell Creek Area (includes McDowell Creek Dr)	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, inadequate water supply, steep grade, response time concerns, high number of recreationists (McDowell Creek Falls County Park), weight restricted bridge (McDowell Creek crossing)	X		X			No
Sweet Home FD, Brownsville RFPD, ODF South Cascade	Mountain Home Drive	High fuel loading, dead end roads, bridge restrictions or clearance issues, one way in and out, narrow roads, hard to maneuver fire apparatus, fuels reduction and defensible space could help, identified in 2007 CWPP	X	X	X			No
Sweet Home FD, ODF South Cascade	North River Drive area surrounding Sweet Home city limits and Foster Lake	ODF identified, limited ingress/egress in evacuation, semi-narrow main road, driveways steep, narrow and not suitable for apparatus to get up and turn around	X	X	X			No
Sweet Home FD, ODF South Cascade	Quartzville (General area- Quartzville Rd and Quartzville Drive going east)	High fuel loading, high fuel flammability, dense fuel along roadsides, inadequate water supply, unsafe conditions for first responders, additional ignition and life & safety risk with temporary living camps only accessible via trails, high incident number in this area.	X	X				No

Fire Protection Agencies & Land Managers (if applicable)	Project Area	Rationale for Inclusion	Proposed Project Types				Proposed Methods (if specified by Fire Protection Agency)	Proximity to Federal Lands? (within 1.5 miles)
			Fuels Reduction	Home Ignition Zone Defensible Space	Route Improvements	Water Supply		
Sweet Home FD, ODF South Cascade	Rural WUI areas south of Sweet Home (includes Ames Creek Dr, 50th Ave, Turbyne Rd, Whiskey Butte Dr, and Wiley Creek Dr)	High fuel loading/flammability, dense fuel along roadsides, inadequate water supply, industrial logging activity, limited ingress/egress, some streets only one way in and out, dead end roads, steep grade, clearance issues, response time concerns, high ignition incidence, unsafe conditions for first responders	X	X	X	X		Yes
Sweet Home FD, ODF South Cascade	Sweet Home Railroad Track Corridor	High fuel loading/flammability, dense fuel along tracks, inadequate water supply, dead end roads, response time concerns, high ignition incidence, temporary living camps only accessible by trails, difficult conditions for first responders	X					No
Sweet Home FD, Lebanon FD, Cities of Lebanon and Sweet Home, ODF South Cascade (Sweet Home Area only)	South Santiam River Corridor	High fuel loading, response time concerns, temporary camping intermixed with fuels, ignition incidence, difficult conditions for first responders	X					No
Sweet Home FD, ODF South Cascade	Scott Mountain Road	High fuel loading, distance to water/inadequate water supply, limited ingress-egress, response time concerns	X	X				No
USFS, ODF North Cascade	Marion Forks (includes residential and recreationist corridor along HWY 22)	Mix of Federal and Private Timber Lands, high volume of recreationist, limited access, proximity to rural departments and federal fire resources, lack of structural fire protection	X		X	X	Public outreach, create fuel breaks between Federal and Private timber land, identify water supply sites, identify alternate egress routes	Yes
USFS, ODF North Cascade	Kinney Creek Road	Mix of federal and private Timber Lands, high volume of recreationist, limited access, proximity to rural fire departments	X		X	X	Public outreach, create fuel breaks between Federal and Private timber land, identify water supply sites, identify alternate egress routes	Yes
USFS	Middle Santiam Wilderness	Limited ingress/egress, high fire suppression difficulty, high risk rating in 2018 & 2023 QWRA	X		X		Understory fuels reduction (cutting less than 7" DBH vegetation) up to 150ft from roads, coordination with private industrial forestland owners to create fuel breaks along strategically advantageous roads.	Yes

Appendix D: Steering Committee Documentation

This appendix provides documentation of the Steering Committee (Committee) and its process to develop the Linn County CWPP. The Linn County Planning & Building Department convened the Committee to oversee and guide the development of the CWPP. The Committee worked collaboratively to make decisions and agree upon the final contents of the Plan. During the process to develop the CWPP, additional stakeholders were identified and joined the Committee. Meetings were also open to interested members of the public. The Committee met nine times between November 2022 and January 2024, including a workgroup meeting to refine the risk assessment.

This appendix includes the following sections:

- Linn CWPP Steering Committee Roster, including members and interested parties
- Steering Committee meeting notes, which include links to presentations and meeting recordings



**Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan
2023-2024 Update
Steering Committee Roster**



Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Update Committee

Local

Linn County

Alyssa Boles, Linn County Planning Director
Kate Bentz, Linn County Associate Planner
Ric Lentz, Linn County Sheriff's Office Emergency Management
Emerson Marsh, Linn County Sheriff's Office Recovery Coordinator
Steve Barnett, Linn County GIS Director
Cara Walter, Linn County GIS Analyst
Erik Anderson, Linn County Public Health, Emergency Preparedness Planner
Wayne Mink, Linn County Roadmaster
Kevin Hamilton, Linn County Road Department Operations Manager
Daineal Malone, Linn County Engineer

Linn County Fire Defense Board and Albany Fire Department

Shane Wooton, Chief

Sweet Home Fire and Rescue

Christian Whitfield, Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program Manager

Other

Kayla Bordelon, Oregon State University Extension Fire Program, Willamette Valley Region
Marie Heuberger, Wildfire Adapted Communities Specialist, South Santiam Watershed Council,
North Santiam Watershed Council
Shannon Richardson, Executive Director, South Santiam Watershed Council

State

Oregon Department of Forestry

Craig Pettinger, Sweet Home Unit Forester, South Cascade District
Trent Tegen, Wildland Fire Supervisor, Santiam Unit, North Cascade District

Oregon State Fire Marshal

Stephanie Stafford, Fire Risk Reduction Specialist, Oregon State Fire Marshal

Federal

*Northwest Oregon Interagency Fire Management, NW Oregon District Bureau of Land Management,
Siuslaw and Willamette National Forests*

Chris Mushrush, Fire Planner

Project Manager

Susan Millhauser, Natural Hazards Planner-Wildfire, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

Interested Parties

Jay Alley, Fire Chief, Stayton Fire District

Eli Breen, Mill City Rural Fire District

Jeffery Carlson, Safety, Compliance, & Loss Control Specialist, Consumers Power, Inc.

Cliff Carpentier, Director of Safety & Loss Prevention, Linn-Benton Community College

Stacie Cook, City Recorder, City of Mill City

Kelly Hart, Community Development Director, City of Lebanon

Keith Olsen, GIS Analyst, Linn County

Fred Patterson, Fire Chief, Idanha-Detroit Fire District

Chuck Perino, Emergency Manager/Safety Coordinator, City of Albany

Jacob Valentine-Bentz, Distribution Coordinator, Santiam Hospital

Horace Ward, Senior Emergency Management Specialist, PacifiCorp

Patrick Wingard, South Willamette Valley Regional Representative, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

Kelcey Young, City Manager, City of Sweet Home



Linn County
Community Wildfire Protection Plan
2022 Update Kickoff Meeting
MEETING NOTES



Thursday, November 3, 2022
2:00 PM– 3:30 PM
Online via Zoom

Presentation slides: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/zh4lzcxvlmex7xcsrcfvfjfv1q0ha6gal>

Attendees:

Emerson Marsh, Linn County Emergency Management
Kate Bentz, Linn County Planning & Building Department
Shane Wooton, Fire Chief Albany Fire Department/ Linn Fire Defense Board liaison
Nancy Brewer, Lebanon City Administrator
Kelcey Young, Sweet Home City Manager
Scott McDowell, Brownsville City Administrator
Joe Samaniego, Tangent City Administrator
Blair Larsen, Sweet Home, Community & Economic Development Director
Sheldon Flom, Linn-Benton Community College
Cliff Carpentier, Linn-Benton Community College
Craig Pettinger, Oregon Dept. of Forestry, Sweet Home Unit
Ryan Quigley, The Dyer Partnership Engineers, City Engineer for Brownsville, Scio, and Tangent
Susan Millhauser, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner-Wildfire
Patrick Wingard, DLCD Southern Willamette Valley Regional Representative
Erica Fleishman, OCCRI and Oregon State University
Dominique Bachelet, OCCRI and Oregon State University
Pam Reber, DLCD Natural Hazards Planner/ Project Manager

Welcome/Introductions:

- Attendees signed in via the chat.

CWPP Project Overview:

- A project overview was given and the project timeline was shared.
- The Box folder was described as were the references within it.

OCCRI Future Conditions Report

- Erica Fleishman of OCCRI presented the results of the Future Conditions Report. The report and the presentation slides are available in Box (the online project folder).
- Report: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/kqtfm88ov09khgkhuvxhus1todelxh0k>
- Slides: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/2yfjk4r7ehv4rwgwp8ehk0y7xpk79m5w3>

CWPP Action Items

- The group reviewed the project goals and action items.
- The action item leads were tasked with updating the status and text of the action items.
- Goal revisions:
 - The need for a new goal related to community capacity was identified.
 - Life safety component of goal two could possibly be moved into goal one.

Committee Discussion and Comments

- There were significant concerns expressed about SB 762. (Scott McDowell, Elisabeth Coleman, others); it was determined that an action item should be added around capacity building for local municipalities.
- Improve grants for reducing structural ignitability.
- Need support for establishing emergency shelters and having them up to standards. (Kelcey Young)
- Coordination items include planned power outages by Pacific Power. (Blair Larsen)
- Be careful about adding regulatory actions. (Blair Larsen)

Next Steps

- Please review your action items by 1/15/23.

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 22nd 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Support this project by linking the following webpage to your jurisdiction's webpage.

Project webpage:

<https://www.co.linn.or.us/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan>



Linn County
Community Wildfire Protection Plan
2022 Update Meeting
NOTES



Wednesday, February 22, 2023

2:00 PM– 4:00 PM

Online via Zoom

Zoom recording: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/ob1yrd2ymgkcc53o012r17445wxksbgp>

Presentation slides: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/v9r603lyrgn31xhd57kyh3cnm73krfu9>

Attendees:

Alyssa Boles, Planning Manager, Linn County
Kate Bentz, Assistant Planner, Linn County
Emerson Marsh, Emergency Management Coordinator, Linn County.
John Schmiedl, Emergency Management Coordinator for Santiam Hospital & Clinics
Blair Larsen, Community & Economic Development Director, City of Sweet Home
Nikki Swanson, District Ranger, Willamette National Forest, Sweet Home Ranger District
Shane Wooton, Fire Chief, Albany Fire Department, and Linn County Fire Defense Board Chief
Kayla Bordelon, OSU Extension Fire Program, Willamette Valley region (including Linn Co).
Craig Pettinger, Oregon Dept of Forestry, Unit forester based in Sweet Home.
Steve Barnett, Linn County GIS Manager
Stephanie Stafford, OSFM Fire Risk Reduction Specialist
Susan Millhauser, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner-Wildfire, Project Manager

Welcome/Introductions

- Attendees signed in via the chat.
- The project schedule was reviewed, including focusing on the CWPP over the coming months and pushing the NHMP update out until after the CWPP is complete. An updated project schedule will be shared.
- November 3, 2022 meeting notes were discussed and approved.

CWPP Project Updates

- Action item updates
 - Chief Wooten met twice with other county fire chiefs and who provided input on the action item list, which was shared with Susan, DLCD.
- Risk Assessment / Map update
 - Linn County (Kate) has been inventorying what was done during the last CWPP and talking with other counties about their risk assessment. Met with Benton County which recently updated its plan. Recently reviewed the 2007 risk assessment methodology and maps which were based on a customized framework (risk, hazard, protection capability, structural, etc.). Determined preliminary needed data sets and update needs.
 - More recently jurisdictions are using different approaches. Lane County and Benton County used Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer developed by OSU. Morrow County used USFS data.

- Some counties developed criteria for and mapped their own Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) while others used data sets developed by ODF or USFS.
 - ODF (Craig) has some of the home assessment information but it is from 2006-2008.
- The Steering Committee needs to discuss and agree on the overall methodology to be used. Kate developed a working document “Risk Mapping Data Sources + Ideas”, linked here on Box: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/inhol2qbl3r2vI50s2gwzldzgx4ihhsy>.
 - County GIS staff worked on some draft example maps, which Kate showed, using the statewide [Communities at Risk Report \(ODF, 2020\)](#) (on Box) overlaid with WUI boundaries, and the overall wildfire risk data set from the [Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer CWPP planning tool](#).
 - Stephanie, OSFM, shared that in addition to the risk mapping, we could look at outside fire data reported by all fire agencies in Linn County. Data provided by Stephanie has been added to Box here: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/shuiida5bke4ve3n7416k3rbencek6gl>
 - Kayla, OSU, could connect Kate with OSU staff to get a better understanding of the data and research that went into recent statewide risk mapping.

OSU Extension Fire Program Presentation

- Kayla Bordelon, Ph.D., Regional Fire Specialist, Willamette Valley & North Cascades, OSU Extension Fire Program, gave a presentation entitled “Planning for Fire Resilience Using the Fire Adapted Communities Framework” followed by questions and discussion.
 - The presentation slides are available in Box: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/qby5ygamnrrzu9gt70vnge1ga6uv3z4jo>
- Topics covered included:
 - Overview of OSU Fire Program and Fire Adapted Communities framework
 - Resident mitigation, including home hardening and defensible space – Firewise USA program is a potential resource, Hood River community chipping program example.
 - Wildfire Response – local capacity building, mutual aid, and community interface with incident management.
 - Safety and evacuation - education, safety zones and evacuation planning, ingress and egress. Corvallis example of requiring a developer to add a new egress for a new development adjacent to an existing one.
 - Public / private partnerships for landscape scale treatments for fuels reduction and additional goals, such as habitat and water quality.
 - Public health (physical and mental health, social services) increasing as a concern – air quality public communication planning, clean air shelters, access to air filters, identification of vulnerable populations, etc. Example from City of Ashland Community Response Plan for Smoke – also addresses prescribed fire/controlled burns and public health agency coordination.
 - Prevention, including public education, workforce development, and public safety power shutoffs – human-ignited fires are the majority, public safety power shut offs and possible implications, such as medical equipment, dependence on food in freezers.
 - Regulations, policies, and plans – CWPPs, land use codes, farmland preservation, building codes, incentive programs, regulations, etc.

- Infrastructure and business – business continuity and protection of critical infrastructure, road improvements, workforce development (forestry services industry), further upstream workforce housing, insurance concerns and increasing costs.
- Recovery – more recent recognition that recovery planning should be built into the CWPP planning process. Emergency and disaster management can provide a good framework. Also address post fire ecosystem effects, such as debris flows, flooding, etc. Modeling is getting better that can point to recovery projects that increase resilience, such as road repairs.
- Partnerships and community engagement – use as a lens to develop and implement CWPPs and all fire resilience programming – benefits of robust public engagement.
 - Most flexibility and useful in the plan development phase.
- Resources to learn more available from FAC Learning Network at <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/resources/>, including a new tool for developing tailored plans: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/introducing-the-fire-adapted-communities-pathways-tool/>.
- Q&A
 - Importance of public involvement early on in the process was discussed.
 - Does ODF reach out to communities to see if they want to be Firewise Communities? Could this be an additional action item?
 - ODF has current projects around defensible space and brush clearing with work crews across the county.
 - Currently only one Firewise Community in Linn County.
 - May not be the appropriate organizing structure for some communities. Seems to work better in communities where people have more time and energy as volunteers to participate. Chipping programs can be helpful.
 - Senator Golden (SB509) legislation that encourages use of Firewise program: <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/ProposedAmendment/22484>

USFS Update

- Nikki Swanson, Sweet Home District Ranger, Willamette National Forest, provided an overview of current and planned projects to reduce fire intensity near private land, followed by questions and discussion.
 - Opportunities to be proactive in the Sweet Home District to reduce spread. Bruler Fire 198 acres, time was of the essence.
 - Working in collaboration with private timber landowners, ODF, private landowners, watershed councils, and others to agree in advance where to have potential containment lines, pre-prep roads and fire lines.
 - Shared Sweet Home RD Roadside Hazardous Fuels Reduction Phases map. Started with focus on the Middle Santiam but expanded more broadly.
 - Last three years there have been 327,000 acres of cumulative fire in the Willamette NF.
 - Removing vegetation 10" less in diameter up to 150' feet from the edge of the road.
 - Goal is to be able to hand a composite map to incident command at the outset of a fire.
- Q&A
 - Important work since the last update of the CWPP has been completed, it will be helpful to have ODF review and input on 2007 plan actions.

- Linn County doesn't typically interface with the USFS. Would like to get a copy of the maps. Other communities have maps with site specific areas for fuels reduction. Would like to include more detail about specific project work.
- There are some USFS actions identified in the 2007 plan that Kate would like Nikki to review. Nikki requested a copy of the 2007 CWPP, which Susan will send.

CWPP Goals and Action Items

- Goals: the group reviewed the project goals.
 - At the last meeting there was a suggestion of adding a new goal, Goal 6, focused on building capacity for local municipalities, and possibly reworking Goal 1 and 2 to move the life safety component of Goal 2 into Goal 1.
 - There was support to add a new goal addressing capacity of local municipalities. Proposed: *Build staff and financial capacity and ability of local municipalities and the county to implement and coordinate...* For example, this would include actions like coordination on recovery plans, alert and warning systems, etc.
 - Alternatively, language about building capacity could be added to Goal 5: *Increase opportunities for collaboration and coordination to implement wildfire projects.*
 - The Goal 2 title needs to be revised to more accurately reflect the types of projects listed. There was support to move life safety/a focus on people to Goal 1. [Note: in the 2007 plan narrative Goal 2 states: *Increase stakeholder knowledge about wildfire risk through education and outreach.*]
 - It should be made clear that the plan isn't creating new regulations or constraints for the community but to identify projects and provide resources to meet future goals. Perhaps in a purpose statement.
- Action items: The action item leads were tasked with updating the status and text of the action items by **April 14 deadline**.
 - Under Goal 2, there may be different opportunities to involved county public health in some of these programs. Kayla offered to chat with Kate about how to break out, different audiences, etc.
 - Re: action 3.6, Shane asked about formal agreement for access to county maps to the Incident Management Teams from County GIS. Does this already exist? If not, that should be added.
 - Linn County has mapping they can provide but not access to USFS or ODF.
 - Consider recovery planning and recovery that's built for future resilience.
 - Emergency Management is considering working on disaster recovery plan – since we're working on it might want to include. Transitioning to a new system for COOP planning. Warning systems upgrades and consistency between local jurisdictions, community engagement and social media. Evacuation planning and templates – once we get better data for the maps starting conversation for pre-defined zones for fire evacuation. Lessons learned from Lane County.
 - Could expand on 1.5 – predefined zones and access/egress resources.
 - Kate will reach out to the County roads department.
 - Public health – Emerson will touch base with their Emergency Manager and see if he can join in future meetings.
 - Climate data needs to be included in NHMPs as of April 2023, need to be careful how we approach this going forward.

Next Steps

- Continue to review and refine action items:
 - **Due date: April 14 for updated action items spreadsheets and draft worksheets.**
 - Susan to send out a fillable action item worksheet and is available to assist or support as needed.
- Mapping and risk assessment – internal conversations will be ongoing. If interested in being involved contact Kate.
- Mitigation strategy will be informed by identified action items in conjunction with the risk mapping.
- Public engagement
 - There is interest in developing a survey to allow input earlier in the process.
 - OSU Extension has capability/connections with Spanish speaking communities.
- Susan to share documents in Box so everyone can be working as we go.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 17, 2023, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Support this project by linking the following webpage to your jurisdiction's webpage.

Project webpage:

<https://www.co.linn.or.us/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan>



Linn County
Community Wildfire Protection Plan
Risk Assessment Workgroup
NOTES



Monday, May 1, 2023

2:30 PM– 4:00 PM

Online via Zoom

Zoom recording: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/tib4ha69hgxfutna9mc4v2i1smldzu2c>

Attendees

Kate Bentz, Assistant Planner, Linn County
Blair Larsen, Community & Economic Development Director, City of Sweet Home
Shane Wooton, Fire Chief, Albany Fire Department, and Linn County Fire Defense Board Chief
Kayla Bordelon, OSU Extension Fire Program, Willamette Valley Region
Craig Pettinger, Oregon Dept of Forestry, Unit Forester Sweet Home
Steve Barnett, Linn County, GIS Manager
Keith Olsen, Linn County, GIS Analyst
Stephanie Stafford, OSFM Fire Risk Reduction Specialist
Morgan Kee, OSFM, GIS Analyst
Andy McEvoy, OSU College of Forestry, Wildfire Risk Mapping/Quantitative Risk Assessment,
Chris Mushrush, Fire Planner, Northwest Oregon Interagency Fire Management, NW Oregon
District Bureau of Land Management, Siuslaw and Willamette National Forests
Kelcey Young, City Manager, City of Sweet Home
Cliff Carpentier, Director of Safety & Loss Prevention, Linn-Benton Community College
Patrick Wingard, DLCD, Regional Representative
Susan Millhauser, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner-Wildfire, Project Manager

Welcome/Introductions

OSU Wildfire Risk Assessment Data, Andy McEvoy

Andy provided an overview of the update to the Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment (QWRA) that OSU is currently working on.

- Separate from the Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer, Region 6 update to 2018 data, looking at all lands in OR and WA.
- Separate project from the SB 762 mapping which isn't available at this time.
- Working on the QWRA update process, there are some additions, adding new resources and assets, such as agriculture, and where people live, etc. Update to reflect more current conditions on the ground. Will reflect 2020 and other past wildfires and current regeneration.
- The product will be available mid to late summer for CWPP type updates, after QA/QC process. Won't necessarily be integrated into the Oregon Explorer by then, but data could be available to the County to include in the CWPP.

Questions/discussion:

- Is the mapping and analysis at landscape level or tax lot level?

- Andy – Risk mapping at 120 meters downscaled to 30-meter pixels, resources and assets mapped at the 30-meter scale. It's a regional assessment applicable at the county level. Highly Valued Resources and Assets (HVRAs) – there are nine that are predefined.
- Helpful to know timeline, may work for this project. The regional scale may show most of Linn County not to be a high hazard.
 - Andy – Acknowledge challenges of relative risk mapping. OSU could repackage the data for Linn County to map only Linn County to show a county level risk assessment. There have also been updates to the burn probability and intensity modeling for Linn County, including feedback from partners.
- Is it possible to get the WUI layer?
 - Andy – The WUI layer from SB 762 is not technically available right now. Linn County could ask ODF to access the existing WUI layer data. Using structure point data set from DOGAMI (for the new risk to communities layer)
 - Craig will help connect Kate with ODF, Steve Pembroke (sp.?), GIS.
- Regarding social vulnerability layer, ultimately decided not to include in this update. OSU does have SV data available at the census block group and could make it available to Linn County. Could also share how they incorporate social vulnerability into the risk assessment.

2007 Linn Co Risk Assessment and Other Examples, Kate Bentz, Linn County

Kate reviewed two documents (linked [here](#) and [here](#) on Box) with information about existing plan data, maps, and approach, examples from other more recent CWPPs, and federal guidance.

- There are different types of WUIs: intermix, interface, and occluded. Lane County included all together. Morrow County – identified communities/areas of development and did a buffer.
- 2020 ODF Communities at Risk report notes that a local CWPP brings in element of local knowledge to augment state data.
- Overlay protection response map with areas at risk
- Identification of evacuation routes.
- Want to understand priority areas for fuel reduction, where to locate evacuation assembly areas, and evacuation routes. Susan noted also will be included in the NHMP so could help to identify other funding sources, from FEMA, state, and other federal agencies.
- Douglas County CWPP update. Unincorporated communities – establish a community boundary then map fire history. Identify evacuation routes to help to prioritize fuel reduction projects.
- ODF Communities at Risk report identifies two communities in the county as high hazard, could add interface communities – do assessment at the county level. Could do a broader regional analysis

Potential data resources shared by workgroup members:

- The Risk Management Assistance Dashboard has some WUI data that might be useable: <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/f9d7f7f920494c3db43a23a8dffe4664/page/Map-Viewer/> (Chris)
- <https://reports.mysidewalk.com/3458b2d26c> (Stephanie)

Map and Data Gaps

The group discussed possible new or updates to maps and data gaps and potential sources

- Are you including information on the Santiam Canyon School District IGA for building use as sheltering sites?
- Demographic and social vulnerability data mapping, etc., as noted in the [2008 CWPP Evaluation Guide on Box](#) (Evaluating the Risk Assessment check list p. 16).
- New QWRA data will answer many of the questions that the county is interested in addressing. Average annual burn probability. Andy would be happy to come back to give a more detailed explanation on how risk is determined so Linn County can focus more on how to best respond to the risk. Can share preliminary data
- Work with state and federal partners to identify areas for fuel reduction that occurred in the past and that may be planned. Chris can share data with Kate.
- Need to refine how County wants OSU to manipulate the data, from scale to HVRAs that they are mapping.
- How is the best way to prioritize what data to use? How do we incorporate the needs of local communities?
- Is there a story we could be telling to help support the needs of the fire districts? Shane – may want to take this question back to the fire chiefs. Having an overall risk map would be used by various fire districts to seek funding. We have unincorporate communities as well as unprotected lands.
 - Agree a map showing unprotected lands would be good.
- Overlay with risk and structural vulnerability could help to identify communities that should be priorities for projects for defensible space, resources to help people fortify their homes, etc.
- Should look at fire district and ODF response time – if greater than “X”, should be a priority for investment. For example, there are homes in Albany in forested land with quick response time, vs other areas that have long response times.
- Response, protection, road etc. Consider mapping road and bridge conditions (need information from ODOT) to show areas that need investment for better evacuation routes and for response efficiency.
- Identify critical facilities and infrastructure. Inventory where they are located. Kate will ask Ric or Emerson; do they have a list? Emergency shelter locations, too. This is something that will also be included in the NHMP update.
- Has there been much discussion around the potential for high/higher risk areas just outside of the county boundaries? From the perspective that wildfire could originate a few miles outside the Linn county boundary but still spread quickly into the county.
 - Could map a buffer area, topography, fire sheds, etc.
 - The QWRA will take in the whole fire shed. Also on the county side, what are some projects that might be coordinated across boundaries.
 - Also issues around air quality impacts from wildfires in areas outside the county, there are potential county mitigation projects that could be included in the NHMP, if not the CWPP.
 - DEQ data on AQI.

Next Steps

- Meeting with OSU and Linn County, anyone else is welcome to join.
- Work on emergency response and coverage mapping/data
- Follow up on data sources – Linn Co sheriff department has fire call data, Shane can help with that.
- Chris will send Susan shapefiles for planned USFS fuels projects

- Craig will look for information about state forest planned projects. There are a lot of private landowners projects. Will also connect with Kate on WUI data/boundary
- Updated goals for the steering committee to discuss at the next meeting to help develop prioritization process. (Susan)
- Share some draft maps for committee review at the next meeting or the following.

Next meeting: Steering Committee: Wednesday, May 17, 2023, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Support this project by linking the following webpage to your jurisdiction's webpage.

Project webpage:

<https://www.co.linn.or.us/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan>



Linn County
Community Wildfire Protection Plan
2022 Update Meeting
NOTES



Wednesday, May 17, 2023
2:00 PM– 4:00 PM
Online via Zoom

Zoom recording: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/motj4w5gtpkoky67ikn7toiadf4j9n4p>
Presentation slides (combined): <https://dlcd.box.com/s/yi6st6u3r68hr21s8x1pzd0mibvrtm88>

Attendees

Alyssa Boles, Planning Manager, Linn County
Kate Bentz, Assistant Planner, Linn County
Emerson Marsh, Emergency Management Coordinator, Linn County.
Kayla Bordelon, OSU Extension Fire Program, Willamette Valley
Marie Heuberger, Wildfire Adapted Communities Specialist, South Santiam Watershed Council
Trent Tegen, Wildland Fire Supervisor, Santiam Unit, North Cascade District, Oregon
Department of Forestry
Chris Mushrush, Fire Planner, Northwest Oregon Interagency Fire Management, US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management
Jake Valentine Bentz, Santiam Hospital & Clinics
Shane Wooton, Fire Chief, Albany Fire Department, and Linn County Fire Defense Board Chief
Susan Millhauser, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner-Wildfire, Project Manager

Welcome/Introductions

- Attendees introduced themselves.
- February 22, 2023 meeting notes were discussed and approved.

Risk Assessment and Mapping

Kate shared an update on work to define the risk assessment approach, map updates, potential new maps, and needed data:

- A work group of the Steering Committee met on May 1 ([link to meeting notes](#)), with a follow up discussion with OSU regarding data access.
- The 2023 PNW Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment (QWRA) data may be available by the end of June. The data can be scaled for Linn County relative to the county vs two-state relativity which the QWRA is based on. 2018 vs 2023 data, with refinements that may better represent risk in Linn County. (Learn more about the planned update for 2023: <https://pnw-quantitative-wildfire-risk-assessment-osugisci.hub.arcgis.com/>)
- Next steps: Linn County GIS can start working on some draft maps that don't necessarily rely on finalized data sources, such as:
 - Protection coverage
 - Response times
 - Preliminary maps using the 2018 QWRA that could be updated with the 2023 data
 - Possible access to 2022 WUI data via OSU/ODF based on the new methodology

- Would be helpful to have a unified approach for determining the WUI, the updated methodology has a more refined boundary based on building density where buildings are intermixed with as well as surrounded by fuels.

Committee discussion:

- Might make sense to start with existing data.
- What parts of the risk assessment aren't covered by the QWRA? Response time and social vulnerability, then could plug in the QWRA data.
- The goal is to have draft maps for the Steering Committee to review in June. Reviewed the project calendar – want to conduct outreach and engagement, including a community open house, prior to the Steering Committee finalizing the plan for Board of County Commissioners review and approval.
- The committee supported using the 2023 QWRA data and pushing out the calendar a bit.

Outreach and Engagement

Kate shared outreach tactics used in the development of the 2007 CWPP and reviewed what's proposed for 2023 and the committee discussed:

- In lieu of doing a survey due to limited staff capacity and timeline, proposing a series of public meetings, including:
 - A stakeholder focus group with representatives from certain organizations and community service providers
 - Jurisdiction engagement meeting
 - Public meeting / open house after more targeted meetings to provide information about what a CWPP is and to share preparedness and prevention information
 - Additional website updates, County newsletter, social media
- Focus group
 - Discussed the purpose: to assess the needs of the communities that representatives work with or serve to inform action items and prioritization of projects that impact people more broadly, e.g., evacuation planning, communication, etc.
 - Potential representatives for engagement – including people highly vulnerable to the impacts of wildfire
 - Logistics – one meeting with 12-20 participants – community representatives, not fire experts. Steering Committee members/experts to attend and answer questions if things pop up.
 - Are we reaching out to Gates, Mill City, Lyons? Does Linn Fire Defense Board capture these cities?
 - Those cities participated in the Marion CWPP and fall under the Marion County Fire Defense Board (Emerson). Marion County Commissioners are finalizing the plan this week (Trent).
 - There was a post-fire public health assessment done for the Santiam Canyon that we could likely learn from, too:
 - <https://health.oregonstate.edu/sites/health.oregonstate.edu/files/research/studies/pdf/santiam-canyon-community-health-assessment.pdf>
 - We could also utilize the data collected during the Marion Co CWPP process to inform our canyon-related action items
 - Emerson is working on a fire evacuation exercise with the Santiam School District.
 - Anyone missing?

- Chambers of Commerce? Economic development agencies? Oregon West Cascades Council of Governments
- Recreation / seasonal workers
- Case managers and wildfire survivors
- Linn County Farm Bureau
- Ag and timber owners – potential connections via the watershed council
- There's an active Small Woodland Association group in Linn Co., personal connection to current President
- County Parks & Rec? I believe they manage many of the recreation areas in the county.
- Mountain bike groups – Chris has some contacts, out of Sweet Home; backcountry horse riders
- Tribes – may own land mostly used for conservation – more formal tribal engagement – engage at the leadership level also land managers. Marie has some contacts. I believe there are three separate parcels owned by Grand Ronde in Linn County on the south side of North Santiam River? (Marie)
- Next step is to identify who to reach out to.
- Feedback on logistics for focus group meetings
 - City manager's meeting – maybe hybrid?
 - For both, have a facilitator and a tight agenda to avoid derailing
 - Time of day – share potential options
 - Location – possibly at the fairgrounds if a larger group, Sweet Home community center. In the canyon, Gates FD Hall and Santiam High School in Mill City - have connections with both and have used both spaces before. Scio is another central location and recently had a wildfire there. Chief Wooten will help to connect Kate to Scio Fire Chief.

CWPP Action Item Development

- Draft updated goals - the steering committee reviewed and discussed the draft updated goals ([linked here on Box](#)):
 - Committee members like the updates.
 - Are the goals in priority order? We can make it clear that these aren't in priority order in the document narrative. Can note that they guide the action items.
 - Do they need to be padded out a bit? SMART goals? Or ok being short and concise and clear. The action items are how we're going to accomplish the goals. Action items are objectives.
 - Something to be said for making them similar in terms of content/impact. Concise and purposeful. Make them equal length?
 - Share draft goals with the steering committee for potential edits. Revisit in June with refined language.
- Action items –
 - Looked at the action item worksheet submitted by Chris for a new USFS action ([linked here on Box](#)) and reviewed the additional information we'd like to collect.
 - Makes sense to break down into geographic areas. Chief Wooten Fire Defense Board meets next week and can ask about geographic areas.
 - Chris will send shape files for USFS projects.

- Chief Wooten will reach out to Marian County Fire Defense Board chief and ask him how he'd like to proceed in terms of being involved in the Linn CWPP update.
- Jake can outreach to non-fire chiefs in the canyon. Santiam Canyon Long Term Recovery Group received a grant from the Office of State Fire Marshal to do community wildfire risk reduction (projects in the canyon. Marie would also like to be engaged in connecting with them.
- Combined action items and discuss/brainstorm new actions – didn't review due to time. Susan will send a link and ask people to review and continue to make updates. Link on Box: [2007 Linn County CWPP Action Items Table updated-ALL 05-03-23](#)
- Education-related actions – Kayla shared information about proposed education priorities.
 - Reviewed the proposed language
 - <https://www.tahoelivingwithfire.com> does a great job on community fire adapted education from a cross-jurisdictional standpoint if you're looking for possible examples/places to build from.
 - Link on Box: [Education-related Action Items - Proposed 5-5-23 SC Review](#) for additional review and edits. We need to identify partners and funding sources. If you're listed as a partner, please let us know if that works.

Next Steps

- Continue to refine action items, update action item worksheets
- Discuss mitigation strategy and plan maintenance process
- Conduct Public engagement
- Support this project by linking the following webpage to your jurisdiction's webpage: <https://www.co.linn.or.us/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan>

Next meeting: TBD, late June 2023. Susan will send out a poll.



Linn County
Community Wildfire Protection Plan
2022 Update Meeting
NOTES



Friday, June 23, 2023

10:00am – 12:00pm

Online via Zoom

Zoom recording: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/5a6bb5toipg5kr5b6v4rs1hna1b8hyst>
Presentation slides (combined): <https://dlcd.box.com/s/l3l3wvswqvthw6b8n3ytrtlq2nhn4jp>

Attendees

Kate Bentz, Assistant Planner, Linn County
Kayla Bordelon, OSU Extension Fire Program, Willamette Valley
Kelcey Young, City Manager, City of Sweet Home
Chris Mushrush, Fire Planner, Northwest Oregon Interagency Fire Management, US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management
Fred Patterson, Fire Chief, Idanha/Detroit
Keith Olsen, Linn County GIS
Shawn Fowler, Linn County Planning
Steve Barnett, GIS Manager, Linn County
Steve Wills, Linn County Planning and Building Director
Shane Wooton, Fire Chief, Albany Fire Department, and Linn County Fire Defense Board Chief
Patrick Wingard, DLCD, Southern Willamette Valley Regional Representative
Susan Millhauser, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner-Wildfire, Project Manager

Welcome/Introductions

- Attendees introduced themselves.
- May 17, 2023 meeting notes were discussed and approved.

Public Engagement Update

Kayla provided an overview of the approach for engagement.

- City Leaders Focus Group (8/2/23, Albany) – chance to engage with city managers or other jurisdiction representatives, focused on cities in the WUI, to get feedback on what fire resilience means in their community and what their priorities are.
 - An overview of the session goals and the framework for the meeting, including identifying top priorities for stakeholders.
 - Steering Committee/subject matter experts availability was discussed.
- Community Organizations/Service Providers (8/24, Scio)
 - Kate shared potential contacts to be invited, including land managers, watershed council, Santiam Community Integration Team, education, family services, etc. The list was shared with the steering committee for their suggestions about who else to add.
 - Additions: private industry - CTC, Giustina, Freres Lumber, Frank Lumber are the major logging / timber companies. Craig at ODF would have additional information.

- Chief Patterson noted the Marion County CWPP, which he helped to develop in early 2000s, currently being reviewed for adoption.
- Electricity providers: Pacific Power and CPI serve the county. Could also be a Subject Matter Expert, or set up one on one conversations to engage with them
- Community Open House (early September tbd) – the goal will be to get broad community feedback on the draft plan

We may want to also do direct outreach to the fire districts.

- Chief Wooten has been updating the Fire Defense Board, Craig with ODF also attends the Fire Defense Board – could arrange for our team to come to a Linn County FDB and South Marion County FDB meetings. Chief Patterson can help to facilitate presenting to South Marion FDB.

Risk Assessment and Mapping

Kate provided an update on progress - map data sources, timeline, next steps:

- Located base GIS files from the last CWPP update.
- Received the WUI data layer from OSU and hope to receive wildfire risk assessment from the update of the Quantified Wildfire Risk Assessment (QWRA) for the NW region from OSU in early July.
- Shared possible mapping approaches the County has been working on for the committee to provide feedback on.
 - Historic fire occurrences could help to set the context
 - Fire response data can vary by fire districts, per Chief Wooten. Albany relies heavily on data, including drive time distances from stations. 5 miles is a good starting point. The County would also like to be able to provide information to the districts. Good topic for meetings with the Fire Defense Boards.
 - WUI maps, including a county overview and zoomed in maps for each community, include the addition of essential facilities, would like feedback from the communities on what is considered critical in their communities. Doesn't include risk assessment data, which can be overlaid when received. If 2023 QWRA data isn't available, can use the 2018 data; other counties have used this information.
 - Add maps for fuels reduction projects, have data from USFS, need from ODF.

CWPP Action Item Development

- Finalize draft updated goals – the steering committee discussed and made additional updates, and was in support of the revised, updated goals.
- Review/discuss new education-related and other actions – the steering committee reviewed and discussed and made recommendations on the action items, including identifying potential leads for new actions. Further refinement to the action items is ongoing.
- See additional notes in these documents on Box: [CWPP Goals Proposed 06-23-23 SC feedback](#) and [2007 Linn County CWPP Action Items Table updated-ALL 06-23-23 SC feedback](#).

Action Plan and Assessment Strategy

- Susan provided a brief overview of action item prioritization, plan monitoring and evaluation.
 - An example of the Douglas County CWPP action plan was shared, We're aiming to have something similar as an outcome of prioritizing the action items.

- The committee will need to determine a process for prioritizing the action items. We can look at the last CWPP as well as other county CWPPs for potential methodologies. Or use a simple impact and feasibility analysis like we'll be using with the focus groups.
- Suggestions for plan monitoring and evaluation were shared (from the *Community Wildfire Protection Plan Evaluation Guide*, August 2008 ([here on Box](#))).
- Need to keep in mind what type of information or data is available to support measurement and monitoring.
- The Steering Committee will focus on this topic in greater detail at the next meeting.

Next Steps

- Reviewed updated project schedule.
 - The committee decided to use the most up to date data from OSU for the risk assessment portion of the mapping, which will be available soon. Also wanted to ensure opportunity for community input into the CWPP, so this is pushing the CWPP schedule out a little bit.
 - The Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP) update steering committee will reconvene in the late fall. With feedback from the DLCD program coordinator, we're proposing extending the timeline for the NHMP through 2024 to allow time for engagement and feedback. Oregon Emergency Management supports requesting an extension of the FEMA grant to support this work. Susan will touch base with County Emergency Management to make sure they're not planning to submit grants that require an active NHMP.
- Continue to refine action items, update action item worksheets – due in advance of the next steering committee meeting.
- Discuss mitigation strategy and plan maintenance process
- Conduct public engagement
- Plan review
- Support this project by linking the following webpage to your jurisdiction's webpage: <https://www.co.linn.or.us/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan>

Next meeting: TBD, late August/early September 2023. Susan will send out a poll to schedule it.



Linn County
Community Wildfire Protection Plan
2022 Update Meeting
NOTES



Monday, August 31, 2023

1:00 – 3:00pm

Online via Zoom

Zoom recording: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/da2owekmpahi43npj99nzgu6kvp5gf9>

Presentation slides (combined): <https://dlcd.box.com/s/uzl0mzar3nte4r8lk9mivs5egz7xul09>

Attendees

Kate Bentz, Assistant Planner, Linn County
Alyssa Boles, Planning Director, Linn County
Cara Walter, Linn County GIS
Kayla Bordelon, OSU Extension Fire Program, Willamette Valley
Stephanie Stafford, Risk Reduction Specialist, OSFM
Marie Heuberger, Wildfire Adapted Communities Specialist, North Santiam Watershed Council
Shane Wooton, Fire Chief, Albany Fire Department, and Linn County Fire Defense Board Chief
Trent Tegen, Wildland Fire Supervisor, Santiam Unit, North Cascade District, ODF
Shannon Richardson, Executive Director, South Santiam Watershed Council
Erik Anderson, Emergency Manager, Linn County Health Services
Kelcey Young, City Manager, City of Sweet Home
Jay Alley, Fire Chief, Stayton Fire District
Patrick Wingard, DLCD, Southern Willamette Valley Regional Representative
Katherine Daniel, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner
Susan Millhauser, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner-Wildfire, Project Manager

Welcome/Introductions

- Attendees introduced themselves.
- June 23, 2023 meeting notes were discussed and approved.

Public Engagement Update

Kayla and Kate provided an overview of the engagement process so far, see the above linked slides for details.

- Meetings
 - August 2, City managers shared common concerns around communication and evacuation, also shared some local issues, such as routes in and out of the city, water supply, and communication.
 - August 24, representatives from community organizations, such as public health, FireWise, watershed council, fuels management organizations, service providers. Some of the priorities on the land management side included... Connections were made that day will help to move projects forward.

- August 24 Fire Defense Board to receive additional local input and expertise and priority needs as well as areas in the community of concern.
- Process - currently summarizing the priorities and feedback received, we're seeing a lot of alignment with what is already included in the action items. Some examples noted below:
 - City managers – for example road improvements, vegetation management, coordination of regional alert systems between Linn and Marion County.
 - Community groups – interest in assessing the needs of vulnerable populations and helping them to be prepared in the event of a fire and to set up shelter and services needed.
- Fire Defense Board was asked to submit information about areas at risk using suggested attributes, districts were also provided a worksheet to provide additional areas of concern. Have been receiving some of the forms back, will need to reach out to others. Next steps will include following up with bordering districts that aren't in the Linn FDB, as well as ODF fire protection districts. Will put geographic locations into the risk assessment and mapping. General concerns were also shared, such as need for ongoing funding to increase capacity and apparatus.
- Community meeting in the late fall to provide education and information about wildfire preparation and adaptation and get feedback on the draft plan.

Reflections from the steering committee:

- The meeting felt very productive, it was important to have various organizations at the table – non-profits and government agencies.

Risk Assessment and Mapping Update

Kate provided an update on the mapping and risk assessment and the committee reviewed and provided feedback on the draft maps (see the presentation linked above).

- Historical fire occurrence is using real-time data from a map service so will be updated.
- Fire district coverage, showing changes since 2007, structural fire protection as well as ODF wildland fire protection. Fire district coverage doesn't necessarily show response capability.
- WUI areas, there may be too many limitations with using OSU/ODF data in a public plan if it's published this fall as there's no clear idea of when the hazard map will be adopted. May use a federal WUI sources, USGS 2022, that uses the same definition of the WUI. Shared comparison between the two, they're close. We could come back in a CWPP update with new data. There is significant difference on the west side of the county.
 - It should be possible to decouple the WUI data with the hazard map. Can schedule a follow up meeting with ODF and OSU. Trent suggested reaching out to Eric Larsen, ODF GIS, in Salem, he'll share contact information. Kayla will follow up with Andy McEvoy at OSU.
 - Chief Wootton noted that the Oregon-specific data from OSU better reflects the on the ground reality.
- 2023 QWRA wildfire hazard data set will be available to the public in October, have been using the preliminary data. Once the public data is available, can refine the maps as needed
- Overall wildfire risk (possibility x consequence) - There is benefit and cost, low, medium and high, could be negative and positive. There is no possibility for positive risk if there's impact to people, property, or structures. Grey areas are where there is no burnable land - water, lava fields, and irrigated agriculture (no data). The 2023 update looks at agriculture differently, not all ag is wet.

- Map with unaltered symbology is confusing, so propose grouping the categories so information pops out – white to show neutral or no benefit. Would include accompanying text to describe how this is categorized as well as detail from OSU describing each category.
- We need to provide a good description as to what is meant by high loss or risk, e.g., timber versus loss of life or homes.
- This is the integrated output.
- Could do a separate map that focuses on risk to people and property. Have the data from OSU but don't have the symbology/information needed to label the map. Include the WUI layer.
- Appreciate that the overall map shows ecological benefit, could include a separate map to highlight that. Need VERY clear descriptions of what "benefits" means.
- Question about format - is there a possibility to have a web-based version that people can interact with? This isn't being planned right now but could include an action item to develop a web-based tool. It was noted that OSU will be publishing this data as well, could pull into the County's system. Don't want to duplicate what's happening at the state level.
- Overall wildfire risk – shows potential impact regardless of probability, areas that would be most impacted if they burned. May want to include as well.
- Overall burn probability - how likely an area is to burn within a year. Lines up with historical data.
- Including city boundaries and rural communities based on zoning.
- Past and planned fuels management and areas of priority concern - will add in areas of concern raised by the fire districts to help prioritize projects. Will look at buffering. Need similar data from ODF and BLM. Could show areas of concern and overlapping concern.

CWPP Action Item Development

- The committee reviewed updated action items, based on feedback at the June meeting focused on education actions, as well as a few others.
- Goal is to confirm/identify leads and partners or identify who might reach out to potential leads.
- See notes in this spreadsheet on Box:
<https://dlcd.box.com/s/bk0su6wxsuwenujjyzs8g4wfvxnj0tr4>
- Susan will follow up with folks where there are still some TBD leads. Kate is following up with some people as well (see spreadsheet for notes).
- Leads to continue to refine action items in advance of next meeting, including action item worksheets, with a focus on timeline, cost, funding source, and location.
 - Susan will share action item worksheets with the committee.

Action Plan and Assessment Strategy

- The committee didn't discuss in detail. Susan, Kate, and others will look at action item prioritization options and come back to the steering committee with a proposal in September for their consideration.

Next Steps

- In advance of the next meeting, leads continue to refine action items, update action item worksheets.

- Integration of community priorities into action items
- Action plan and assessment strategy
- Community meeting on draft plan
- Plan review

Next meeting: TBD, late September/early October 2023. Susan will send out a poll to schedule it.

Support this project by linking the following webpage to your jurisdiction's webpage:

<https://www.co.linn.or.us/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan>



Linn County
Community Wildfire Protection Plan
2022 Update Meeting
NOTES



Thursday, October 5, 2023
3:00 – 5:00pm
Online via Zoom

Zoom recording: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/da2owekmpahi43npj99nzgu6kvp5gf9>
Presentation slides (combined): <https://dlcd.box.com/s/e0x5vdb18aduhw4qjvdlravktashqmn6>

Attendees

Kate Bentz, Assistant Planner, Linn County
Alyssa Boles, Planning Director, Linn County
Cara Walter, Linn County GIS
Shane Wooton, Fire Chief, Albany Fire Department, and Linn County Fire Defense Board Chief
Christian Whitfield, Sweet Home Fire, CWRR Program Manager
Kayla Bordelon, OSU Extension Fire Program, Willamette Valley
Stephanie Stafford, Risk Reduction Specialist, OSFM
Horace Ward, Senior Emergency Management Specialist, PacifiCorp
Chris Mushrush, Fire Planner, Northwest Oregon Interagency Fire Management, BLM/USFS
Cliff Carpentier, Director of Safety & Loss Prevention, Linn Benton Community College
Katherine Daniel, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner
Susan Millhauser, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner-Wildfire, Project Manager

Welcome/Introductions

- Attendees introduced themselves.
- August 31, 2023 meeting notes were discussed and approved.

Public Engagement Update

Kate provided an update on community engagement activities since the last Steering Committee meeting:

- Have been reviewing the feedback received at the two focus group meetings in August (City Managers and community organizations representatives) to identify where feedback might be addressed in the plan, where there's need for updates, etc.
 - [This document on Box](#) tracks feedback and how we're planning to integrate it. It will be cleaned up/summarized to show how feedback was incorporated into the plan, included as an appendix.
 - Many of the comments are already aligned with the plan; some require additional follow up with organizations, including Linn County Emergency Management, County Public Health, County Roads, and ODF North and South Cascades.
 - Working to integrate the feedback received and how it's being addressed into action item worksheets and implementation actions.

- Following the August Fire Defense Board meeting, fire agency feedback is mostly being integrated going into the risk assessment, including follow up on areas where there are concerns to better understand the issues. Also following up via email with North Santiam fire districts that aren't on the Linn County Fire Defense Board to request similar information about areas of concern. Will also update fire district profiles.
- Next steps for public engagement include holding an open house for the community at large, with the goal of familiarizing people with the CWPP and gathering feedback. May also incorporate community education and resources around wildfire prevention, preparedness, and connecting people to programs to draw people in and share important information.
 - Timing depends on having enough information to present, aiming for late November.
 - Would like to include: CWPP goals, action items, and County draft risk assessment and maps to get feedback on the most important elements.
 - Will form a subcommittee work on this. Interested in helping: Kayla-OSU Fire Extension, Stephanie-OSFM, Marie-Watershed Council, Christian- Sweet Home Fire. Could invite experts to speak, tabling, etc. including fire districts.

Risk Assessment and Mapping Update

Kate provided an update on the risk assessment and mapping:

- Using 2023 PNW Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment regional data. Have permission from OSU to use QWRA data in any way the County would like; final data was provided today. Cara, County GIS, and Andy, OSU, have been working on county-wide symbology (versus region-wide) and recategorizing data only relative to Linn County. Not a lot of change for the County. Also using ODF/OSU WUI data. Have been able to clip data to fire district boundaries.
- Committee members provided feedback:
 - Combine Albany Rural with Albany.
 - Adding ODF protected lands, on the same chart will compress the other areas. Risk to all values. Can possibly do just risk to structures.
 - Question about how WUI is defined, OSU resource: <https://osuwildfireriskmap.forestry.oregonstate.edu/wildland-urban-interface>
 - Will need to determine how we define areas as low, medium, and high risk. Do we need to categorize? The CWPP must prioritize fuels reduction projects.
 - This approach doesn't include federal and state lands outside of the structural protection districts.
 - Is there a map of unprotected areas? Yes, there will be a map that shows that and potentially the number of structures as well as risk data for those areas.
- Fire Districts priority areas mapping – currently just has roads, will add community boundaries. Ideally will have a table with areas of concern listed out. This map will help with project identification and prioritization.
- Conclusions will be forthcoming.

Action Plan and Assessment Strategy

Prioritization Process/Methods

Susan provided an overview of potential prioritization process/methods considerations for the Committee's discussion, including some initial feedback received from some action item leads, the process outlined in the 2007 CWPP, and the importance of understanding and integrating internal

priorities for the action item leads (summarized in the meeting presentation), with the goal of committee coming to consensus on the direction. Committee discussion followed:

- Priorities are related to Fire District need - Some districts are in higher risk areas so it would be hard to compare priorities which might be important in a more localized area. For example, Albany FD's recent grant award from OSFM to use goats to reduce vegetation in a problem area. This wasn't necessarily tied to being in a higher risk area.
- Shouldn't be too hard to sort or prioritize by funding availability, it should be straight-forward to identify existing funds and potential funds that may become available.
- How do we quantify potential impact? Don't want to just use funding, there could be projects that are impactful but don't have funding identified.
- Suggestion to add a funding feasibility component.
- Do we need to be prioritizing? All are deemed a priority by the various partners. How do we compare a fuels reduction projects with a resilience hub, for example?
 - Confirm with ODF that action items should be prioritized.
 - Can we prioritize within each goal?
 - Maybe we only have to prioritize fuels reduction projects, such as areas of concern from the risk assessment to score just fuels reduction projects.
 - Geographic areas prioritization?
 - Community Wildfire Defense Grant uses a point level / scoring comes at risk level and having an action in the CWPP.
 - Also, can write a proposal by community, can help to qualify as high risk, low income, etc.
- CWPP top priorities should be included in the NHMP.
 - For NHMPs, project prioritization is primarily opportunistic based on funding. Much less analytically driven than this conversation.
- Risk assessment will help to prioritize areas of the county: low, medium, high . Could define by fire district or other community boundary, 2007 plan didn't have locational actions.
- Could take fire agency priorities and distill them into potential project areas, e.g., this project is medium priority based on the wildfire hazard risk.

Action plan status/timeline for implementation

The following proposal was shared for committee discussion:

STATUS / TIMELINE

O	Ongoing
ST	Short Term (1-3 years)
MT	Medium Term (4-10 years)
LT	Long Term (10+ years)

- Do we want to have a target date?
- Is the time range for starting or target completion date? Could also note "Not Started and Completed" in addition to Ongoing.
- How will this help the Steering Committee with plan review and maintenance?
- Including a Target Completion date would help to create some accountability.
- Suggested to include/clarify that time range is for target completion. (Look at language in action item worksheet template as an example; use ST, MT, LT for potential completion date.)

- Would it be beneficial to include successful/completed items from 2007? Yes, these can be included on the action item worksheets.

Plan Maintenance, Monitoring, and Evaluation

Susan provided an overview of the Plan Maintenance process outlined in the 2007 plan (see presentation) and the committee discussed desired updates:

- Annual or semi-annual meetings outside of fire season, Emergency Manager would convene with support from the Planning Dept. (March-May/Nov-Jan)
- Semi-annual for convening to get updates on actions and potential funding and identifying needs to create new partnerships,
- Once a year monitor some information to update data and problem areas that are included in the risk assessment.
- Overall update of the risk assessment would be more like 3-5 years based on availability of the QWRA data.
- Need to set County up for success to keep the process going. Gather contact information, resources, such as a meeting plan that details what should be covered in the meetings generally, and other information housed in one place.
- Have a form for people to fill out with accomplishments, etc. in advance of the meeting. But not make it too onerous.
- Regarding 5 year updates, may want to offset in future years so there isn't staff burnout between the CWPP and NHMP. May want to update the CWPP sooner or update the CWPP based on annual meetings, so it doesn't have to be such a big push every five years. Doesn't necessarily have to be readopted. Could have an addendum or annex to the plan.

The committee briefly discussed the five-year plan review questions included in the 2007 CWPP and some other suggested strategies for CWPP monitoring and evaluation (included in the presentation).

- County staff will further discuss, including Emergency Management.

CWPP Action Item Refinement

- The [updated action item spreadsheet](#) was shared with the committee for their review.
- The committee discussed a few specific action items with the CWPP committee listed as the lead. See the action item worksheet for additional notes.
 - See spreadsheet for updates on 4.6 and 5.2, Kayla and Christian will connect regarding 4.6.
 - Sweet Home FD is working on a new action item related to fuels reduction
 - Unfunded engine needs for 1.1 were mentioned, the information provided by OSFM will be added to the worksheet and then we'll follow up with the districts to see if they're still needed.
- Worksheets are being updated as conversations are being held with action leads, which may lead to updates of the action items, it's an iterative process.

Next Steps

- Continue to refine action items, update action item worksheets.

- Action plan and assessment strategy development – Susan will work on a draft for committee review, with feedback from Kate and Emerson regarding assessment (monitoring and evaluation)
- Community open house in November on draft plan elements - Kate will organize a workgroup meeting to get going on this.
- Draft plan review for the committee to discuss at the December meeting.

Next meeting: TBD, December 2023. Susan will send out a poll to schedule it.

Support this project by linking the following webpage to your jurisdiction's webpage:
<https://www.co.linn.or.us/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan>



Linn County
Community Wildfire Protection Plan
Steering Committee Meeting
NOTES



Tuesday, December 12, 2023

2:00 – 3:00pm

Online via Zoom

Zoom recording: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/crpgy046l0wpdqsib8rswzi36bwq8bgt>
Presentation slides (combined): <https://dlcd.box.com/s/oyt7t7gs8i9isvul1di97udng9m0x7a6>

Attendees

Kate Bentz, Assistant Planner, Linn County
Cara Walter, Linn County GIS
Shane Wooton, Fire Chief, Albany Fire Department and Linn County Fire Defense Board
Christian Whitfield, CWRR Program Manager, Sweet Home Fire District
Stephanie Stafford, Risk Reduction Specialist, OSFM
Craig Pettinger, South Cascade District, Sweet Home Unit Forester, ODF
Chris Mushrush, Fire Planner, Northwest Oregon Interagency Fire Management, BLM/USFS
Chuck Perino, Emergency Manager, City of Albany
Danelle Hauther, Emergency Manager, PacificCorp
Jeff Carlson, Safety & Compliance Manager, CPI
Marie Heuberger, Wildfire Adapted Communities Specialist, North and South Santiam Watershed Councils
Shannon Richardson, Executive Director, South Santiam Watershed Council
Susan Millhauser, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner-Wildfire, Project Manager

Welcome/Introductions

- Attendees introduced themselves.
- October 5, 2023 meeting notes were discussed and approved.

Public Engagement Update

The Linn County Wildfire Ready Night community open house was held on December 6, 2023, hosted by Sweet Home Fire District. Kate provided an update:

- Great turn-out, 40 participants and 22 partners, including many steering committee members. Good cross-section of people from across the county from rural and urban areas.
- The evening included background presentations and success stories followed by stations with maps and other materials where people could have discussions with the partners.
- A lot of questions were answered for people, they were connected to resources, some issues were raised, summarized below.
- Questions from participants included assessing and protecting one's home, where to get resources for fuels reduction work, getting registered for alert systems, access and bridge weight limits, evacuation, ideas for educational programs, and inventory of water resources on private property and needed access agreements, among others.

- It was suggested that additional partners could be included at future events, such as the BLM and Linn-Benton Community College. (Note: Both BLM and LBCC staff are on the committee meeting email list).
- It was helpful to hear what people's priorities are. People shared feedback on the maps, including suggestions on design to make the purposes clearer.

Committee feedback:

- Some good discussions and connections between partners, would like to keep a core group together moving forward. Agree, it's important to have a group that meets on a regular basis.
- Appreciation for the people who prepared for the event. Seconded.
- Good job explaining the risk assessment and maps to community members in an approachable way.

CWPP Action Item Refinement & Priorities

The action items are close to being finalized, with a few refinements coming in ([link to the updated action item spreadsheet](#)). Two outstanding action items that lacked some needed information, 4.7 & 5.2, were discussed considering new information.

- "4.7 Identify partners and interest to explore and promote opportunities for multiple uses of small diameter biomass within fuels reduction projects and marketing for other uses."
 - Committee members noted that there isn't really a market out there for using biomass, more likely to chip and burn on site. Have done some demonstrations of biochar and it's very costly. Small-diameter log and biomass utilization business is discussed a lot but there's no place to do it right now. The chip market is very low. There's research happening at OSU on mass timber.
 - There might be some point in the future where small diameter material might become more valuable, so the committee agreed to keep the action item and note that cost and funding sources are to be determined. The location would be countywide.
- "5.2 Work to establish a sub-committee or a Fire Prevention Cooperative to coordinate and sustain effective countywide public education and outreach activities."
 - Committee members attended a recent Central Oregon Fire Prevention Co-op meeting. The Co-op serves three counties and reports to the Central Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, where they can also request funding to support programming. They're primarily focused on wildland fire. Establishing and maintaining a prevention co-op in Linn County would be a huge undertaking and would need the Linn county fire agencies to maintain and fund, but there isn't that capacity in Linn County.
 - It was suggested to start small and do an annual one-day wildfire summit to engage local fire protection agencies, focus on coming fire season needs, messaging, and outreach and engagement activities for the year.
 - It was noted that there is a lot of this capacity in the local FDB meetings, maybe we could get ODF, USFS, and Sheriff's Office more closely involved. The FDB prevention committee could focus on this and report out. It would be valuable to have representatives from different departments come together. Shane will bring it up with the FDB.
 - People agreed it's helpful to embed in an existing structure, like the FDB, and that it would also be important to encourage the FDB prevention committee to host an annual meeting to bring in additional fire prevention partners.

- ODF North Santiam had a functioning outreach committee in the past, which received funding support from insurance companies.
- It would be great to see this effort combined with other emergency preparedness outreach programming.
- Susan and Kate will draft a revised action item, with the co-leads being the FDB and the CWPP Committee.

Ten Committee members completed a survey to inform a conversation about prioritization. The purpose of the survey was to select up to eight action items that should be identified in the CWPP as top priorities for implementation in the next 1-5 years. In addition to the results shown below, 11 action items received 2 votes, 12 received 1 vote, and the remaining 11 received 0 votes. This doesn't mean they're not important as they will all be included in the CWPP.

Action Item Survey Results:

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
1.5 Increase evacuation preparedness in high-risk WUI areas.	6
4.2 Engage in pre-suppression fire planning with partners and collaborators to create fuel breaks and enhance access across landownerships	5
1.1 Assess and address deficiencies in equipment and resources available for wildland firefighting for rural fire departments.	4
5.3 Resource a Fire Adapted Communities (or general Hazards Mitigation) Coordinator position to coordinate implementation of the CWPP, secure external funding, manage community-focused education and support programs, and seek additional opportunities for partnerships that advance wildfire resilience in Linn County.	4
1.11 Review emergency communication systems and procedures to improve accessibility by residents and consistent messaging across jurisdictions.	3
3.2 Complete the fire structural risk assessments in Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, and Sweet Home fire districts, and utilize this as a model program for other Linn County fire districts for conducting voluntary defensible space assessments for homes within the WUI; document results using Survey 123, a centralized online platform,	3
4.4 Seek additional resources and manage and administer grants to provide cost-share to private forest landowners to manage fuels, buffer high value resources, and reduce landscape-level wildfire risk.	3
4.6 Implement landowner assistance programs to support creating defensible space around communities particularly with vulnerable populations (i.e., elderly, disabled, isolated or fire-affected areas, etc.) and incentivize fuels reduction activities. Create local workforce development opportunities through employment of fuels reduction crews.	3
5.1 Create and formalize a CWPP Advisory Committee to oversee implementation, identify and coordinate funding opportunities, and sustain the Linn County Wildfire Protection Plan	3

The full survey results are here on Box: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/fq5pkt669sbulq2ppv93h6z6bcpk4mcz>, including one response received after the Committee meeting, which resulted in the addition of two top priority actions.

The Committee discussed the action item survey results:

- There was a broad range of projects and programs that received the most votes, including fuels reduction, reducing structural ignitability, and increasing capacity. They are also projects that need money, so emphasizing these as priorities could give more emphasis to their importance in terms of funding opportunities.
- Are there others that should be bumped up or highlighted?
 - It was noted that there weren't any actions from Goal 2, which is focused on resident empowerment and education. Some of these are longer term projects. The action item to resource a countywide coordinator would go a long way to getting some of the Goal 2 action items going. [Note: With the addition of a survey response after the meeting, a Goal 2 action item is included.]
- The Committee agreed the top nine identified action items made sense to include as priority projects. With the addition of a survey response after the meeting, two additional top priority projects were identified, for a total of 11.

Next Steps

- The Committee will review the draft CWPP and approve it at the January meeting. The draft will be shared at least a week in advance for edits and comments.
 - The meeting will be in late January, date TBD. Susan will send a Doodle poll.
- Next ODF, the Fire Defense Board, and then the Board of County Commissioners will approve the Plan.
 - January 28 and February 22 are the next Fire Defense Board meetings.
 - The ODF reviewer/approver is Craig.
 - Then it will go to the County Commission after that. Committee members are welcome to attend the County Commission meeting, Craig will try and attend. County Planning staff will also be providing the Commission with an update and preparation in advance of their reviewing and approving the Plan.
- The County would like to schedule semi-regular update meetings, one meeting pre- and post-fire season every year, in April and November, is what is included in the draft Plan. Planning will work with Emergency Management to keep things continuing through the coming years.

Next meeting: TBD, end of January 2024. Susan will send out a poll to schedule it.

Support this project by linking the following webpage to your jurisdiction's webpage:

<https://www.co.linn.or.us/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan>



DRAFT
Linn County
Community Wildfire Protection Plan
Steering Committee Meeting
NOTES



Tuesday, January 30, 2024

2:00 – 3:00pm

Online via Zoom

Zoom recording: <https://dlcd.box.com/s/b55412o99piv95w97hhe8x4kb4aemu6>

Attendees

Alyssa Boles, Planning Director, Linn County
Kate Bentz, Associate Planner, Linn County
Cara Walter, Linn County GIS
Emerson Marsh, Linn County Sheriff's Office, Emergency Management
Shane Wooton, Fire Chief, Albany Fire Department and Linn County Fire Defense Board
Christian Whitfield, CWRR Program Manager, Sweet Home Fire District
Craig Pettinger, Sweet Home Unit Forester, South Cascade District, ODF
Trent Tegen, Wildland Fire Supervisor, Santiam Unit, North Cascade District, ODF
Chris Mushrush, Fire Planner, Northwest Oregon Interagency Fire Management, BLM/USFS
Stephanie Stafford, Risk Reduction Specialist, OSFM
Kayla Bordelon, Oregon State University Extension Fire Programs, Willamette Valley Region
Kelcey Young, City Manager, City of Sweet Home
Shannon Richardson, Executive Director, South Santiam Watershed Council
Jeff Carlson, Safety & Compliance Manager, CPI
Horace Ward, Senior Emergency Management Specialist, PacifiCorp
Katherine Daniels, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner
Susan Millhauser, DLCD, Natural Hazards Planner-Wildfire, Project Manager

Welcome/Introductions

- Attendees introduced themselves.
- December 12, 2023 meeting notes were discussed and approved.

Public Comment

The draft CWPP was posted on the Linn County website for a one-week public comment period, with opportunity to comment shared by County press release, social media, and direct email to all of the participants of the focus groups and Wildfire Ready Night community open house. Kate provided a [link to a form summarizing public comment](#). The Committee discussed the comments, summarized below:

- One comment regarding a defensible space assessment was shared with Christian at Sweet Home.
- Comment regarding authority to issue citations for burning violations and regulatory authority outside of ODF.
 - Fire chiefs don't necessarily want the statutory authority to issue citations. They work with local law enforcement to cite reckless burning. Would defer to law enforcement.

DRAFT

Similar situation in Sweet Home, however their area is also overlapping with ODF who does authority. Sweet Home PD will jump in if needed.

- In Sweet Home 8.04.025 states that open burning is only allowed for dried brush, shrubs, leaves and tree trimmings. And only on burn days. All other burning is prohibited (especially trash), and the city will do citations through code enforcement.
- Let's keep the focus on continuing education around debris burning.
- Kate will follow up with Emergency Management which is within the sheriff's office. Can also see if there is a place to add a note under goal 1 regarding enforcement.
- Comments from Cara regarding the risk assessment data related to SVI. Will be updating maps and associated data, so it is all consistent.
- Comments from Christian with some small edits.

CWPP Approval

The Steering Committee discussed their feedback on the draft plan:

- Shane Wooton - correct spelling and Linn County Fire Defense Board is the correct name.
- Everyone finds the document helpful.
- There is a lot of repetitiveness in the formal descriptions.
- Read it with an eye to future funding opportunities and fuels reduction collaborative work. Anything missing that should be in the plan?
- More relevant content than the prior plan and it lays out potential projects well.
- Draft looks amazing, the action items are well written for federal funding.
- Send any additional typos or edits to Kate.

Steering Committee approval of the draft plan:

- All Committee members present were in favor of putting forward the draft plan, with incorporation of the comments received, for approval by ODF, Linn County Fire Defense Board, and the Linn County Board of Commissioners.
- Shane would like to give the Chief's a full week to review the plan in advance of their 2/22 meeting.

Next Steps

Plan approval by Linn County Fire Defense Board, Oregon Department of Forestry, and Linn County Board of Commissioners

- Fire Defense Board, February 22
- Oregon Department of Forestry, Craig Pettinger
- Linn County Commission, date tbd. Committee members welcome and encouraged to attend. Kate will let everyone know when that meeting is scheduled.

Plan maintenance - Kate provided an overview of the plan maintenance process, outlined in Section 6 of the CWPP.

- Active participants in the CWPP development process are included for the ongoing committee.
- Linn County Emergency Management, with support from Planning, is responsible for convening meetings, with one before and one after fire season.
- Kate will set up a contact sheet with members so Emergency Management and Planning have it handy to schedule the first check in meeting.
 - If there are others in your organization that should be included let Kate know.

DRAFT

- Everyone would like to meet again before fire season starts.
- Kayla suggested that the first order of business should be to put together a Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) proposal this spring.
- Meet in April, May gets busy with Wildfire Awareness Month. Kate can work on pinpointing a time via Doodle poll.
- Let Kate know of others who should be involved, especially if there's a focus on the CWDG.

Thank you everyone for your participation!

Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation

The purpose of this appendix is to provide documentation from the CWPP community engagement process. It includes the following sections (click on section below to link):

- [Local jurisdictions' focus group, August 2, 2023 notes, sign in sheets, and meeting materials.](#)
- [Community organization focus group, August 24, 2023, notes, sign in sheets, and meeting materials.](#)
- [Linn Fire Defense Board meeting, August 24, 2023, notes, agenda, and presentation.](#)
- [Wildfire Ready Night, December 6, 2023, notes, sign in sheets, presentation, and meeting materials.](#)
- [Community Input Integration table summarizing feedback received at the two focus group sessions and the Wildfire Ready Night community open house and how the feedback has been addressed in the CWPP, as appropriate.](#)

Linn County CWPP Update

Local Jurisdictions Focus Group Notes, August 2, 2023

The focus group was hosted by the Albany Fire Department on August 2, 2023, and included city managers and other representatives from cities within Linn County. Seven people attended representing seven cities, including Scio, Sweet Home, Harrisburg, Albany, Sodaville, Mill City, and Millersburg, and Benton County Emergency Management, plus eight subject matter experts including Steering Committee members. See attached sign in sheet.

The focus group included:

- An overview of the CWPP process, including progress to date
- An introduction to Fire Adapted Communities (FAC) process and activities
- A series of individual and small group activities to identify priorities, concerns, and needs and plot priorities, based on impact and feasibility
- A whole group discussion of priority practices and wrap up

The agenda packet is attached.

City leaders shared specific concerns facing their jurisdictions' and community members as well as priorities for projects or practices to reduce risk from wildfire. A summary of the discussions, first by jurisdiction then by practice, follows.

By Jurisdiction

Mill City

- City needs more resources to do prevention messaging to visitors driving through Mill City, which is highly trafficked along the Santiam Canyon by thousands both during the weekday and weekends. Mentioned educational signage as an example (don't toss cigarettes out of cars, high fire risk warning, etc.)
- Evacuation issues remain after 2020 Fires, only 2 routes: HWY 22 and HWY 226. City not aware of recent route improvements / fuel reduction efforts.
- Fuels reduction seems impossible at a landscape level around city due to federal land management practices
- Being split between Marion & Linn County leads to complications in evacuation communications

Scio

- Communication and information sharing between City, Fire District and County Emergency Management needs improvement. Scio suggests assigning a liaison within the E.O.C. to keep cities updated on an active incident.
 - Locals, particularly older populations will call City Hall for evacuation and other fire information. [Providing City with alerts, apps, other resources to help keep them in the loop]

- Education needed around home burning, as well as a need for someone to enforce burn bans (Fire Districts? Mill City suggests making Code changes for joint FD/City enforcement)

Harrisburg

- Evacuation issues- one of the main routes for evacuation goes over a 100-year-old bridge, “hardening routes” is potentially difficult along private farmland due to landowner needs around harvest time

Millersburg

- Land use balance issues: Wetlands, TMDL, and other constraints on “safer” developable land within an urban growth boundary cause people to go out and build into fringe WUI areas because its more financially feasible.
- Suggests stronger standards for fire hardening utility power lines
- Suggests street widening & vegetation management along egress routes

Sodaville

- Sodaville has chronic water shortages—causes major issues for fire response, residents wells often run dry in summer and can’t even water their lawns, creating more hazardous fuels around homes. City has to truck in water for their holding tank?
- Fuels surround the entire city, which is built into hillside forestland. Surrounding forestland is mainly in federal and private ownership- landscape treatments needed.
- Evacuation issues: Sodaville has 4 roads going in and out of the city (Sodaville Cut Off Dr, Sodaville Waterloo Dr, Sodaville Mountain Home Rd, and Sodaville Rd), these are the only evacuation routes for approx. 100-150 households. Fuels treatment along the route could be a priority project.
- No communication between City and local Fire District (Lebanon Fire District) during active fire events. Could use a bridge to build relationships.

Albany

- Future urban growth (5-10 years) may extend into WUI areas and be more at risk compared to current development.
- Albany Fire Department deals with farmland fire risks, has a desire to do a home assessment program and more outreach on the urban fringe
- Desire for a change in practices surrounding backyard burn bans- reframing backyard burning as a fuels reduction effort to encourage people to deal with their slash burning piles

Sweet Home

- Fuels surround Sweet Home in abundance
- Many risk areas and critical infrastructure have already been jointly identified by the City and Fire District. Needs a full inventory of evacuation routes and potential road improvements. Desires to do fuel breaks/thinning along roads.
- Currently does not have any structural hardening programs in place- identified need
- Has backyard burning concerns similar to Albany
- Access limitations to water supply? (Needs clarification)

- Need for a “Watch Duty” or “Zone Haven” style evacuation planning tool?
- Ignitions -> temporary living camps around the city pose ignition hazards and are not regulated
- Sweet Home fire district has undertaken more wildfire planning and has more capacity for wildfire response than most of the other rural districts in Linn Co.
- Have water but lack infrastructure

ODF

- ODF and USFS currently collaborate to do some logging treatments on federal lands (where?)
- Main evacuation issues in ODF district areas are spotty cell coverage and slow evac/congestion caused by livestock evacuation

By Practices

Wildfire Response

- Structure protection in Marion Forks is an ongoing issue (leased lots on FS land, who does protection? Densely vegetated.)
- Communications during wildfire response: city managers expressed a desire to have more direct lines of communication with IC teams. County EMs suggest that local fire districts/police may be the right entity to establish those communication lines. Also suggested that city managers attend quarterly fire defense board meetings, or local fire district meetings to build those relationships. At the county level, County EMs also went ahead and added city administration to a higher-level list to get notifications during emergencies (action taken around 8/4/2023 per Ric).

Resident Mitigation

- HIZ/defensible space education for landscapers & real estate agents.

Partnerships & Community Engagement

- General feedback that there should be a sustained implementation committee. Opportunity to combine with existing quarterly cities/county meetings?
- Lack of local capacity to apply for and administer grants.

Landscape Treatments

- Workforce development emerged as a priority, including increasing # of local contractors working in forestry/fuels.
- Increased funding opportunities for private lands treatments.

Public Health

Prevention

- Seasonal prevention messaging emerged as a priority. What was meant? -challenges related to public awareness & norms -> more education needed during summer months. Focus on 1) visitors that come to recreate, e.g., signage on Hwy 22 and other high traffic recreation areas with ignition prevention messages, and 2) residents related to backyard burning.

- Current visitor education: 1) County EM pre-stages CERT volunteers during busy summer weekends, and while not in operation they offer prevention education to recreators; 2) OSFM is undertaking some education tabling on Hwy 22 rest stops. Kiosks on the highway could also be used.
- On burn permitting: 1) increase cooperation between Fire Defense Board & ODF; 2) increase enforcement (local law enforcement agencies?).
- Sweet Home & Albany have ignitions-related concerns in connection with temporary camps near city limits.

Regulations, Policy, Plans

- Desire for increased (or less regulated) ability for residents to use backyard burning as a tool to mitigate hazardous fuels on their property. Consider increasing burn windows or extending burn season.
- Some land use policies within UGBs are seen directing growth into areas at the edges of communities and into the WUI, such as wetland regulations.
- Desire for allowances for wider streets outside of urbanized areas to support evacuation and fuel breaks along roads.
- Electric power supply levels of hardening vary. Suggestion for state-wide standards for hardening to minimize ignition.
- Should areas planned for new development be required to be within a fire protection area that is beyond ODF protection?

Infrastructure & Business

- Insufficient water infrastructure in some communities to fight fires.
- Identification of critical infrastructure to prioritize for fuels reduction may be needed in some communities.

Recovery

Safety & Evacuation

- Check with roads dept to see if there is an inventory that can aid in an assessment of the viability/readiness of egress routes to be used. Which ones need more vegetation management, improvements to infrastructure (e.g., bridges), etc.? Areas with substandard roads are at issue, can't retrofit.
- The Santiam Canyon doesn't have a lot of options from egress, so those routes that are available should be hardened and improved to the best of our ability.
- County EM working on a phased evacuation system (connected to notifications) - this system is different from zonal evacuation systems to address deficit of egress routes (if everyone in a zone evacuated at once, they'd be stuck in a traffic jam. Phased evacuations move traffic more smoothly).
- Many requests for more inventory/identifications of primary evacuation routes and improvements to those routes (veg. mgmt., road surface improvements, undergrounding utility wires, etc.).

- Consider 2-way traffic for emergency response access, as well as re-entry for those evacuating livestock.
- Emergency communications: 1) many areas in the canyon are without reliable cell service so emergency alert text messages can't be the only way people get evacuation notices; 2) power outages that affect cell towers: this also eliminates evacuation notices. What other formats can be used? 3) over-reliance on social media to share emergency information: older residents & those with less access to technology are left in the dark.

Linn County CWPP, August 2, 2023 Focus Group Sign In Sheet

8/2/23
Linn CWPP
Focus Group

Sign In		
Name	Jurisdiction	Email
Ginger Allen	City of Scio	ginger@scio.oregon.gov
Kelsey Young	City of Sweet Home	kjyoung@sweethome.or.gov
Stephanie Stafford	OSFM	Stephanie.Stafford@OSFM.org
Michelle Edmunds	Harrisburg	MELDRUX@CI.HARRISBURG.IL
Bryan Lee	Benton	bryan.lee@bentoncountyor.gov
Chuck Perino	Albany	chuck.perino@cityofalbany.org
Alex Mott	Sodaville	
Stacie Cook	Mill City	scCook@ci.mill-city.or.us
Kevin Kretzman	Millersburg	

Steering Committee Members and Other Subject Matter Experts:
 Shane Wooten, Albany Fire Dept. and Linn Fire Defense Board; Kate Bentz, Linn County Planning & Building; Alyssa Boles, Linn County Planning & Building; Emerson Marsh, Linn County EM; Kayla Bordelon, OSU Extension Fire Program; Stephanie Stafford, OSFM; Trent Tegen, ODF; Susan Millhauser, DLCD



**Linn County
Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update
Focus Group
AGENDA**

Wednesday, August 2, 2023

9:00am–11:30am

Albany Fire District Station 11, 611 Lyon St SE, Albany, OR 97321

8:45–9:00am	Arrivals and refreshments
9:00–9:10am	Welcome and introductions
9:10–9:25am	Overview of the CWPP process
9:25–9:35am	Introduction to Fire Adapted Communities (FAC) process and activities
9:35–10:00am	Individual exploration of priorities, concerns, and needs
10:00–10:10am	Break
10:10–10:45am	Small group activity: plotting priorities, based on impact and feasibility
10:40–11:05am	Small group discussion of priority practices
11:05–11:15am	Individual identification of priority practices
11:15–11:30am	Wrap-up

Project webpage: <https://www.co.linn.or.us/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan>



Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update August 2023 Focus Group

What is a Community Wildfire Protection Plan?

A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) can help communities work together to achieve common goals, offering opportunities to identify local projects and priorities for community wildfire protection, adaptation, and natural resource management. In addition to enhancing safety and reducing risk from wildfire to people, buildings, infrastructure, and watersheds, communities with CWPPs are also given priority for USFS- and BLM-funded hazardous fuels reduction projects and can access grant funding opportunities to implement other projects.

The CWPP process is a collaboration between communities and state and federal agencies interested in reducing wildfire risk, resulting in a plan that addresses community priorities. A CWPP has three minimum requirements under the federal Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 (HFRA):

- The plan must be collaboratively developed by local and state government representatives in consultation with federal agencies and other interested parties.
- The plan must identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments, as well as recommend methods of treatments that will protect at-risk communities and essential infrastructure.
- The plan must recommend measures that residents and communities can take to reduce ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan.

The HFRA requires that three decision-makers mutually agree to the final contents of the CWPP, including the local government, the local fire department(s), and in Oregon the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). These three must consult with and involve local representatives of the USFS and BLM and other people interested in the development of the CWPP. There is no requirement for how often a CWPP should be updated, however it is recommended that plans be updated every ten years to be eligible for certain federal grant funds for project implementation. Linn County's CWPP was last updated in 2007. Information from a CWPP is sometimes incorporated into a county Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan.

Linn County CWPP Update Process

Linn County is currently updating its CWPP in collaboration with the Linn County Fire Defense Board and the Oregon Department of Forestry North and South Cascades Districts, with input from the NW Oregon District Bureau of Land Management and Siuslaw and Willamette National Forests. Support is being provided by Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD), Oregon State Fire Marshal, and Oregon State University Extension Fire Program. Interested parties, including some local governments, some fire districts in Marion County, special districts, non-profits, health care providers, and others, have been attending CWPP steering committee meetings.

To date, the CWPP steering committee has been working to review progress since the 2007 plan; update action items, or projects; identify new action items, collaborators, and potential funding sources; confirm a methodology for conducting the risk assessment; and provide feedback to the county on mapping. The committee developed the following draft goals to guide this effort:

- **GOAL 1:** Enhance wildfire and emergency response and recovery capabilities to protect life, the built environment, and natural systems.

- **GOAL 2:** Empower residents and other stakeholders with knowledge, decision-making tools, and resources to understand and reduce wildfire risks and increase preparedness.
- **GOAL 3:** Reduce structural ignitability through the use of non-regulatory incentives.
- **GOAL 4:** Prioritize and implement fuels treatment projects on private and public land to reduce risk, increase resiliency, and create defensible landscapes.
- **GOAL 5:** Increase opportunities for collaboration, coordination, and building capacity to implement wildfire projects.

Feedback received from community engagement will be used to better understand local needs and priorities, refine action items and identify new actions and partners, and inform project prioritization which will also consider the risk assessment. Outreach meetings include a focus group with cities in Linn County in early August, a second focus group with community-serving organizations and business interests in late August, a meeting with the Linn Fire Defense Board, and a community meeting in late October. Find more information about the CWPP update process at www.linncountyor.gov/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan, including steering committee meeting agendas and notes.

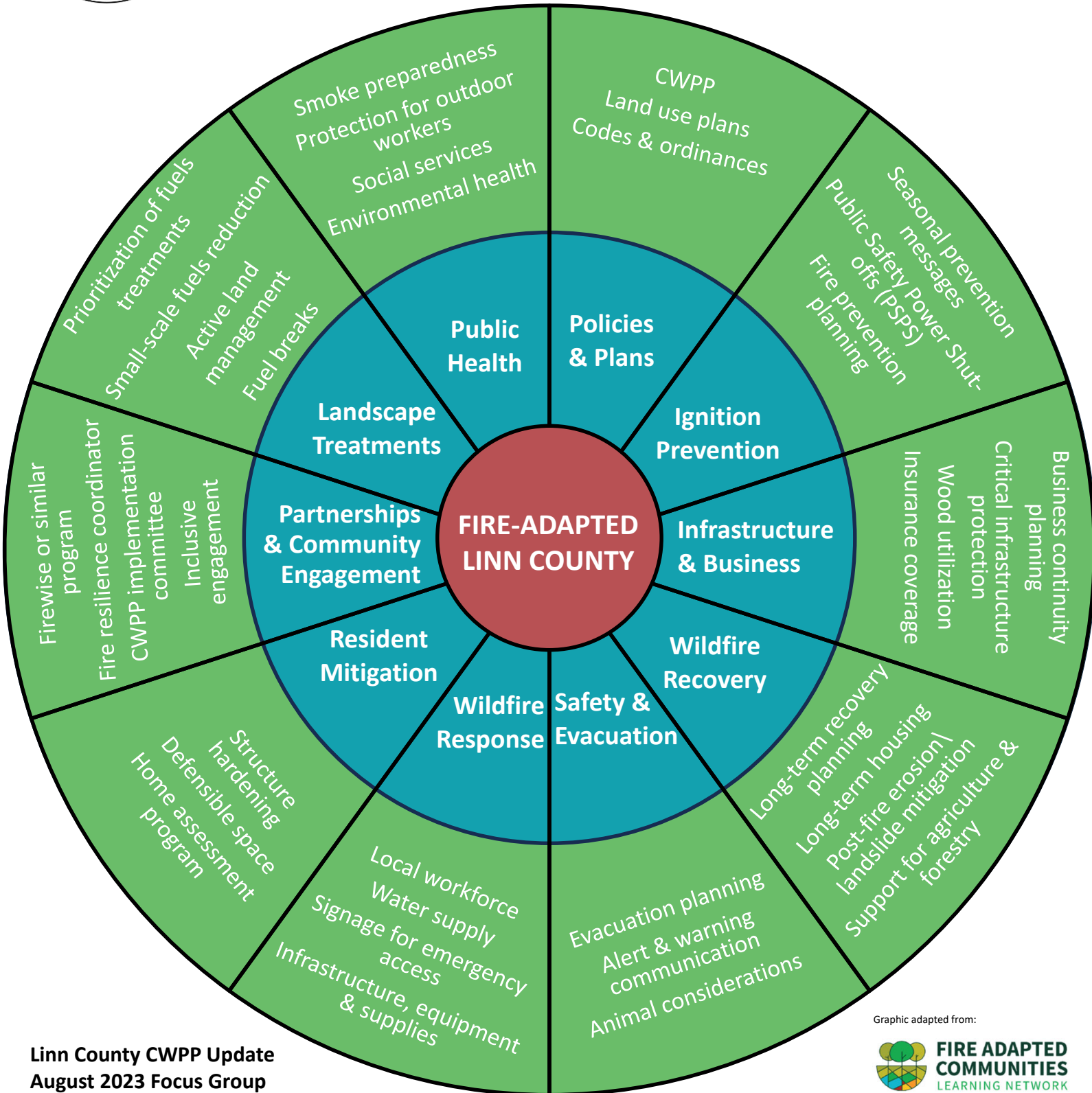
Information from the approved CWPP will be incorporated into the Linn County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP) update being developed in collaboration with several cities in Linn County starting in the late fall of 2023, including the Cities of Brownsville, Gates, Halsey, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Lyons, Millersburg, Scio, Sodaville, Tangent, and Waterloo. DLCD received a grant from FEMA to provide technical assistance for the Linn County CWPP and NHMP updates. The City of Sweet Home's NHMP was updated in 2022 and the City of Albany's was updated in 2023. Marion County's NHMP was updated in 2023, including several cities in the Santiam Canyon.

Sources and resources:

- Oregon Department of Forestry, <https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Fire/Pages/CWPP.aspx>
- Oregon State Fire Marshal, Fire Adapted Oregon, <https://www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/sfm/pages/fire-adapted-oregon.aspx>
- Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network, <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/>
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans in Oregon presentation, May 05, 2022, Christie Shaw, National Fire Plan Coordinator, Oregon Department of Forestry, and Jen Warren, Risk Reduction Specialist, Oregon State Fire Marshal



Fire Adapted Communities: considering the possibilities for wildfire adaptation in Linn County



Linn County CWPP Update
August 2023 Focus Group

Graphic adapted from:





Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update August 2023 Focus Group

Engaging the Fire Adapted Communities (FAC) Framework for considering pathways to fire adaptation in Linn County

At the focus group, we will work with the FAC wheel graphic to explore the range of options that communities have for wildfire adaptation. The graphic describes a set of components that make up community wildfire adaptation (in the blue section) and gives examples of specific practices (in the green section) that communities can undertake to reduce their wildfire risk. This graphic was created by the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network (fireadapted.org) with input from community-based practitioners from across the United States.

FAC is not a “one-size-fits-all” approach; every community’s journey to living better with fire is unique. This graphic is NOT comprehensive and does not include all of the potential actions or programs a community could undertake to advance fire adaptation. The graphic includes examples of some of the most common practices and may help spark other ideas. Communities do not need to take every action to become fire adapted; any actions you take will help increase your community’s resilience and decrease your risk.

Before the meeting, we encourage you to look over the wheel graphic, and consider which practices (in green) may be priorities for you and your community, which are already underway, and what’s missing. Below, we provide short descriptions of each example practice on the wheel.

Public Health

Smoke preparedness	Large wildfires are impacting developed cities and rural areas alike, providing the opportunity to broaden conversation directly and indirectly among stakeholders in ways that include new partners (e.g., public health departments, medical centers) and that may motivate residents to act. Smoke preparedness actions may include residential HEPA filter programs, clean air shelters, or individual actions such as sealing doors and windows or understanding local air quality.
Protection for outdoor workers	Working landscapes may feature large populations of people who work outdoors (e.g., agricultural workers, loggers, ranch hands, landscapers, construction workers, seasonal or migrant workers). Explore avenues for evaluating and upgrading seasonal/migrant housing (e.g., hardening structures against wildfire, limiting smoke intrusion), offering protective equipment during smoke events, etc.
Social services	Utilize existing social programs to provide education and services to prepare vulnerable residents for wildfire season, and to offer services to those affected by smoke and wildfire (e.g., providing temporary housing, mental health services, PPE). Existing programs may not have experience serving wildfire-related needs. Consider expanding training and networking opportunities before wildfires impact the region. Consider the needs of the unhoused population.
Environmental health	Cascading impacts of wildfire may negatively affect infrastructure and environmental conditions that influence human health. Consider how fire might impact municipal water systems, result in exposure to or the need for cleanup of hazardous materials burned during the fire and create mudflows or loss of soil nutrients. Work with environmental health authorities, water utilities, and waste managers to proactively identify issues and develop mitigation, adaptation, or protection strategies.

Policies & Plans

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)	Updating Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) can be an effective strategy which can lead to collective projects such as landscape-level fuel breaks, defensible space programs, wildfire response, evacuation, recovery, and public information campaigns. CWPPs can provide a priority list of community-driven projects; these projects can create change on the landscape as well as help develop community-based partnerships. Identifying projects is the first step for eligibility to seek implementation funding.
Land use plans	Consider how patterns of land conversion to accommodate growing populations will affect wildfire risk in terms of ignition, response challenges, and landscape fragmentation. Explore conservation easements or planning and zoning that prioritize landscape health or working lands (e.g., family farms, orchards, hay, or dairy operations) while opening up key opportunities for fire prevention (e.g., establishment or protection of wetlands, establishment or management of community forests, land trusts that include/incentivize fire management practices to protect river corridors). Communities may also want to consider growth boundaries, minimum subdivision sizes, and the use of clustering, street network layout, neighborhood-scale buffers, or other land use strategies in high-risk hazard fire areas.
Codes & ordinances	Consider building codes or land use standards to help reduce future wildfire risk. Building codes could focus on requirements to retrofit existing structures/commercial buildings upon new purchase or during renovations. Considering mass evacuation or shelter-in-place capabilities during community design.

Ignition Prevention

Seasonal prevention messages	Work with partners to determine common fire causes. Develop messages that are focused on those causes and during the season(s) of highest risk. Consider recreation-based businesses, campers, and visitors as potential audiences. As an example, consider working with local tourism boards, chambers of commerce, and recreation-based business to develop and distribute seasonal wildfire prevention messaging for both year-round and seasonal residents as well as out-of-area or part-time guests.
Public safety power shut-offs (PSPS)	Prepare for preventative power shutoffs in advance of a wildfire by working with local utility providers. Ensure essential services and businesses (e.g., hospitals, local transportation authority, radio station, etc.) have plans for continuity of operations. Communicate with medical providers and those who rely on power for medical device support in advance of the wildfire season. More remote populations may need to plan for generator back-ups. Alternative, off-grid power sources may be required more frequently in the future. Explore longer-term options, contributions by ratepayers, and/or grants that can help insulate or protect high-risk segments of the power grid in the future (e.g., running segments of power lines underground, reducing fuel canopy, moving power lines away from evacuation routes).
Fire prevention planning	Evaluate and address the most common sources of human wildfire ignitions. These ignition sources may include residential burning or burn piles, campfires, or dragging chains from trailers, off-road vehicle use, public utilities, etc. Consider ignition prevention campaigns that focus on the sources most likely to create large fires. To aid in quick identification of fire ignitions, consider available lines of communication (and new technologies) for the public to report potential wildfires.

Infrastructure & Business

Business continuity planning	Work to identify the range of wildfire-related hazards that may impact business functions. As an example, consider whether high levels of smoke would reduce opportunities for recreation-based tourism or require protective equipment for employees or customers. Wildfires may impact infrastructure and power systems on which businesses rely. Consider redundancy in these systems;
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generators can help keep businesses operational, especially those which require ongoing services (e.g., refrigeration). Plan for possible supply chain disruptions.

Critical infrastructure protection

Identify the range of critical infrastructure that is important to your community. This may include the power grid, roads, and bridges as well as broader municipal watersheds, gravity-fed water systems, and reservoir facilities. Communities may be able to improve overall resilience by mitigating the risk to these resources ahead of time; consider hardening these resources and protecting against secondary flooding, bridge washout, or water quality issues.

Wood utilization

Explore options for re-establishment or expansion of small-to-medium scale forest products industries in the region. Develop workforce training pipelines that establish local contractors who conduct forest thinning or run equipment to reduce fuel loading. Explore Good Neighbor Authority programs, expanded stewardship contracting authorities, and links to regional industries requiring wood products.

Insurance coverage

Business insurance coverage should include extended loss of power, inability to use the premises, and direct and indirect wildfire damage. Cooperating groups of neighborhoods or businesses (such as those convened through a chamber of commerce) may be able to negotiate coordinated mitigation strategies or policies which improve insurance protections. Consider insurance for orchards, vineyards, small forest landowners, tree farms, or agricultural commodities.

Wildfire Recovery

Long-term recovery planning

Consider undertaking long-term recovery planning before a fire event to plan for impacts to social services, industries, and the ecosystem. Consider industries likely to be impacted. Community social services or essential functions may be disrupted, either by direct wildfire impacts or secondary debris flows or flooding. Plans which anticipate these potential impacts, and convene stakeholders to mitigate them, can be completed in advance of wildfire.

Long-term housing

Recovery, rehabilitation, and rebuilding on private lands may require investments in long-term housing for affected residents. These efforts may be challenging due to the lack of nearby housing sources during the recovery process. Consider working in advance of wildfires to identify locations for longer-term temporary housing that allow local residents to remain in or near their communities.

Post-fire erosion & debris flow mitigation

Explore the potential for secondary impacts from wildfire that may occur regardless of direct fire impact. For instance, residents may be unprepared for post-fire erosion downstream or downslope after fire. Such impacts can occur after the fire, and result in damage from secondary hazards. Explore options for erosion control fencing and emergency slope stabilization.

Support for orchard, agriculture, & forestry

Recognize and anticipate the need for recovery after agriculture and forestry-related damages. Explore agricultural producers' vulnerability to disruptions resulting from loss of forage, crop, or seedlings; disruptions may occur over multiple years. Explore ways that intensive forestry and/or agriculture areas can develop support systems for producers facing wildfire-related losses, including regional and state-level recovery task forces, market stabilization, insurance cooperatives, and/or insurance provisions.

Safety & Evacuation

Evacuation planning

Ensure that communities have multiple opportunities for ingress/egress, especially considering the influx of fire personnel needing access. Consider avenues that incentivize or require developers to help improve the width or drivability of community roads. Seek out grant opportunities for right-of-way access points through private lands that help improve ingress/egress during rapid evacuation. Prepare major ingress/egress routes by removing vegetation along roads. Consider evacuation planning for high-use buildings or locations (e.g., schools, grocery stores).

Alert & warning communication	Encourage residents to sign up for evacuation notification systems. Work to ensure accessibility, both in terms of technology and language, into alert & warning communication systems. However, also be aware that many may not have cell coverage or connectivity during a fire event. Encourage communities to build redundant systems of local notifications, including community phone trees, social media pages, and neighborhood signals that ensure residents can make informed decisions.
Animal considerations	Consider creating large animal evacuation plans and encouraging residents to make plans for their pets. Create or communicate allowances for agricultural providers and ranchers to enter roadblocks. Potential avenues for large animal planning may include establishing local groups or networks for coordinated evacuation of livestock using trailers or to help stage animals in safer locations. Plan for feed and forage needs during longer-term evacuations and recovery.

Wildfire Response

Local workforce	Focus on improving local wildland fire response capacity through efforts to expand community participation in volunteer or paid fire departments. Consider educational programs in local schools or technical colleges to develop and recruit wildfire workforce members. This includes workforce development and the promotion of young local people into paid positions so that they can stay in the region. Develop mutual aid agreements that include details about resources or containment lines and databases of equipment or volunteers who can be effectively mobilized during response.
Water supply	Evaluation of water infrastructure such as water towers, water treatment facilities, and water lines can be an important consideration when assessing fire vulnerability. Consider working to increase reliable water supply for wildfire events, including onsite water supply for rural properties. Consider efforts to harden water infrastructure, reduce surrounding vegetation, or establish protocols for water systems following wildfires.
Signage for emergency access	Encourage residents to add reflective address signs to aid response vehicles in locating their properties. Work with fire districts and roads authorities to identify locations and funding for neighborhoods to place address signs at the end of private lanes. Bridges should be signed with weight limits to ensure that firefighting apparatus can safely cross.
Infrastructure, equipment & supplies	Consider improvement to communication and wildland firefighting equipment needed by fire districts to support effective response. Consider infrastructure needs, such as substations in high-risk areas. Develop expanded avenues to use local suppression resources such as dozers, tenders, or trucks during a fire event.

Resident Mitigation

Structure hardening	Modify residential structures to help withstand fire damage. This can include using ignition-resistant fencing or flashing that will reduce fire transmission between closely spaced homes, retrofitting or building with ignition-resistant materials (e.g., stucco, brick, cement siding), creating vegetation-free gravel pads or xeriscaping directly next to homes, or replacement of wood shake roofing.
Defensible space	Implement landscape modification practices (i.e., creating "defensible space") around structures. Develop education opportunities and communication campaigns that reflect specific risk conditions in and around the community. Develop mechanisms (such as incentive or recognition programs) to encourage implementation, such as neighbor chipping programs, dumpster days/yard debris pickup, cost-share programs. Think beyond property lines and consider landscape modifications that will lead to risk reduction at the neighborhood or community scale.

Home assessment program

Provide home ignition zone/landscape assessments adapted from state and national guidance and in concert with local professionals.

Partnerships & Community Engagement

Firewise or similar program

Consider a Firewise, neighborhood ambassador, or similar program to develop local resident leaders who disseminate wildfire planning information among neighbors. Integrate the program into existing Homeowners' Associations and neighborhoods with a well-developed sense of community. Partner with existing community organizations (e.g., social service organizations) to extend the approach throughout the community.

Fire resilience coordinator

Wildfire resilience coordinators advance fire adaptation in the community through coordinating efforts across stakeholders, encouraging collaboration, and representing the needs of property owners. Ideally, these leaders emerge from the region and reflect the values and priorities of local communities.

CWPP implementation committee

Consider engaging a committee of stakeholders to oversee and manage the implementation and evaluation of the CWPP to ensure that planned actions are implemented on the ground.

Inclusive engagement

Take care to ensure the whole community can participate in fire adaptation planning and implementation. Sometimes high costs of living mean that many of the people who work in your community reside elsewhere. Consider not only residents, but also your workforce, when planning resilience efforts. Work to develop partnerships throughout the community to support fire adaptation efforts. Seek out partners who already have trusted relationships with low-resource populations and work collaboratively to ensure the diversity of your community is mirrored fire adaptation actions.

Landscape Treatments

Prioritization of fuels treatments

Develop a voluntary inventory program to assess and prioritize treatments across ownerships. This tool can support private landowners in making management decisions on their land and improve the capacity for cross-boundary fuels management.

Small-scale fuels reduction

Consider fuel reduction at small scales, including through novel means. Available tools may include using goats for grazing, conducting pile burning through local university or service clubs, and/or engaging landscaping companies to develop green spaces. Consider contracting with nearby communities to both supply a workforce and contribute to workforce development.

Active land management

Develop multiple options for active land management and consider looking at large landscape treatments. This may include grazing, expanded and/or accelerated fuel treatments, or other actions which utilize and/or expand local workforce capacity.

Fuel breaks

Fuel breaks can buffer communities from wildfire. Consider the development of community-scale fuel breaks; emphasize the dual benefits of improving overall forest condition and reducing wildfire risk. Initiatives to create community fuel breaks should integrate with national forest or state lands planning. Where possible, discuss the co-design of treatments that extend across ownerships. Work to develop and maintain treatment plans, implementation and maintenance schedules, monitoring plans, as well as mapping data that can integrate fuel breaks into databases that will inform suppression response or landscape health initiatives.

Linn County CWPP Update

Community Organizations Focus Group Notes, August 24, 2023

The community organization focus group, hosted by the Scio Fire Department on August 24, 2023, included representatives from various local and regional community groups, agencies, associations, and other organizations. 23 people attended, plus nine subject matter experts including Steering Committee members. Participant areas of interest and expertise ranged from public health, wildfire recovery, and fire-vulnerable communities to youth workforce development, small woodlands management, recreation, watershed health, and the Rodgers Mountain Firewise community. See attached sign in sheet.

The focus group included:

- An overview of the CWPP process, including progress to date
- An introduction to Fire Adapted Communities (FAC) process and activities
- A series of individual and small group activities to identify priorities, concerns, and needs and plot priorities, based on impact and feasibility
- A whole group discussion of priority practices and wrap up

The agenda packet is attached.

Participants shared specific concerns facing their organization and the people and areas they serve, as well as their priorities for projects or practices to reduce risk from wildfire. A summary of the discussions, first by practice then by organization, follows.

By Practice

Wildfire Response

- OSU Extension (Small Farmers)- [Oregon OSHA created new requirements in 2019](#) for farmers (producers) who have workers (employees) that might engage in suppressing wildfires in farmland. All producers are required to have an emergency action plan, fire prevention plan, and all employees engaged in suppressing field fires must receive some form of basic wildland firefighting training. Farmers/producers could use support/technical assistance to create plans or identify opportunities to train their workers. Access to firefighting equipment was also identified as a need. (Potential partners? OSU Extension)
- How to facilitate an integration of first responders. Specifically, a unified command system.
- Availability of information about housing services available in the event of a wildfire

Resident Mitigation

- Rodgers Mtn Firewise Community- all work in community is done by residents, have not been able to obtain any grants. ODF support of the community is minimal after the certification process, mostly self-sustaining. There are some elderly & disabled neighbors that could use additional assistance creating defensible space—good candidates for Juvenile Dept (focus is on elderly and disabled community members) or CSC work crews.
- Defensible space education – workshops, materials, examples
- Community Services Consortium-

- Having updated defensible space programs / resources available on a public website- County maintained?
- CSC partners with mainly ODF and potentially local fire districts to write prescriptions for property owners, after prescriptions are written then CSC's work crew can go out. Seems like an opportunity for more fire districts to be directly engaged with CSC at resident request.
 - Convo with fire departments note that the following districts are carrying out defensible space home assessments using OSFM guides/forms: Sweet Home, Lebanon, Harrisburg
- PSPS Preparation: residents need support to prepare for preventative power shut-offs. For example, those that use medical equipment that requires power may need back-up sources of power. They also need to know where to go for emergency information when the power is out.

Partnerships & Community Engagement

- Overall coordination and communication between entities that provide landscape treatment services and potential recipients is needed, e.g. tree removal and defensible space. Suggestion for a clearinghouse that could have information that local fire departments can share and promote (hosted by ODF or the County?). See CSC under resident mitigation above.
- The public health/community services subgroup stressed the importance of having an established working group that could build a needs assessment for all the fire vulnerable populations by surveying service providers and other "insider voices", hosting listening sessions, etc. This working group could build a toolkit or action plan that can be used in fire events to be able to locate and communicate with fire vulnerable populations via those that already provide services to them. Resources that these populations will need if evacuated should be pre-identified in the plan and pre-staged, when possible. Examples: masks for those who work outside. Resources for breastfeeding parents who are evacuated. Access to drug/alcohol treatment during an evacuation for those who need consistent medications to treat addiction. All of this should be a coordinated effort with the local, county, and state agencies.
- A need to work within the cultural context of the self-reliant, locally-focused communities of rural Linn County was identified. Participants asked for programs that increase opportunities for neighbors to support each other and build self-reliance, instead of being asked to rely on the state/agencies to get their needs met. The example given was opportunities for community BBQs where neighbors are encouraged to swap phone numbers to watch out for each other. [I could see this being built into the FAC program that would be run by a county-wide wildfire coordinator].
- There is already a Service Integration Team (?) - Disaster management should be integrated into it and coordinate with them.

Landscape Treatments

- Community Services Consortium-
 - Motivation/capacity is there to apply for landscape scale (large scale) grants for Linn County fuels reduction projects, just needs an up-to-date CWPP to be eligible.
- There is a need for localized landscape assessments to help non-industrial private landowners better manage their wildfire risk- difficulty accessing advise/expertise for fuels treatment and there are many cost issues for private landowners when it comes to moving/removing trees.

Scotch broom and tanzy (invasive flammable plants) are rapidly spreading in some areas (where? Is this identified?). Stand level inventories that cross multiple property owners or jurisdictions could be useful in WUI areas and more practical/cost effective than singular assessments? (Need- Small Woodlands Association & other landowners, potential partners- South/North Santiam Watershed councils, ODF, CSC, other forestry associations?)

- Watershed councils in Linn County do projects like planting in riparian zones, erosion control, invasive species treatments. Successful grant-funded projects are often encouraged to have dual function- e.g. environmental benefit + wildfire mitigation. CSC also does planting projects.
- Education through varying methods – keywords to draw communities, community get togethers, community watch programs, community meetings at local fire district offices, public notice of monthly fire district meetings to allow for community to attend

Public Health

- Smoke preparedness – education of the effects of smoke, information about the importance of masks and where to obtain them.
 - Options to assist the public to prevent health issues related to smoke – low-cost air filters
 - Identification of clean air centers – availability of information for the public
 - OHA has an air purifier distribution program (limited to only 3000-4000 units) - need more research on efficacy & best-practices for who uses them, how we should equitably distribute finite quantities of these filters, and evidence of benefits that might help justify state expanding this program.
 - Concerns about increased hospital visits about 2 weeks after smoke events.
- Protection for outdoor workers:
 - OSHA rules have been established around smoke & heat, but not implemented.
 - We need bilingual educators.
 - We need more masks to hand out to farmworkers.
 - We need more incentives for companies to implement the OSHA rules.
- Information on the location of public clinics – assist the public on how to access medical treatments and medications in the event of a wildfire
- Education materials and outreach about the mental health impacts as a result of a fire event – lack of service providers is an issue
- Translation services availability - handouts, alerts, social media, translators at response centers
 - Also consider alert and warning systems for seniors and disability services
- Does OSHA have a program that would help with protection for outdoor workers during an event?
- Resilient Community Hubs/Spaces: the concept of resilience hubs was suggested as a way to integrate temporary shelters into a wider infrastructure to support a broader set of community needs by offering wrap-around services. These hubs can serve as clean air shelters, a place to get access to power sources during power outages/PSPSs, a place where resources for vulnerable communities are pre-staged, access to health & community services/referrals, etc.

Prevention

- Diversify communication options – cell, text, email. Consider the most appropriate method based on the event

- Education – get to know the region and how best to communicate with them (in person/door to door, phone calls, texts, radio, other)
- Partner with Pacific Power and other utilities for better facilitation and communications (brownouts and events)
- Santiam Health – Look at health alternatives – alternative spaces available, needs assessment in preparing for an event
- Partner with PacificCorp and any other electric providers to improve communications between utilities, state, county, and emergency managers.

Regulations, Policies, Plans

- Suggestions from Small Woodlands Association- Evaluate/update/audit current practices and procedures around forestland fire breaks in Linn County Code. Improve enforcement of existing code requirements, increase developer education of requirements in early stages of development to avoid future conflicts. Explore the possibility of updating fire break/home hardening codes and consider updating Comp Plan policies to give stronger recognition of wildfire risk as a natural hazard. E.g., development approval process that is initiated with septic approval/drain field location which then dictates building footprints and ability to include fire breaks or not, often seek a variance. Also, code enforcement – do the required fire breaks remain intact after development approval?

Infrastructure & Business

- Part of CSC's mission/goal with their work crew program is to get more youth (targeting at-risk referred youth) into the forestry employment sector.

Recovery

- Look at services we can built recovery into (service integration) - How do get long term funding for that sort of services – Is there state support and funding available?
- Suggestion for an After the AAR (After Action Report) Report: idea is to evaluate what got changed based on the lessons learned in the AAR in Santiam Canyon. If the AAR sat on the shelf, what still needs to be done to build resilience for next time?

Safety & Evacuation

- There is a need for more support/organization around managing animal evacuation and sheltering during fire season- especially evacuations for more than a few days. Animals sheltered at Albany Fairgrounds are managed by OSU Extension (potential support partners- 4H, farm organizations?).
- Pre-identify groups that will have challenges with emergency communication & evacuation including: elderly, disabled, non-English speaking. Also pre-identify the needs of vulnerable populations like those that rely on medications, those with babies, etc. to make sure they can continue to access the resources they need in temporary shelters/housing.
- Compile a list of apps that would be reliable during events
- Publicly accessible maps showing evacuation planning and routes (may change based on the location of an event)
- Alert system challenges & needs:

- translation/interpretation into Spanish and other languages is still glitchy and needs attention. Those translations can't be word-for-word but rather need to translate meaning.
- Diversify communication for alert systems – Radio, apps, social media, road signs, neighborhood phone trees, 1:1 for special cases, WhatsApp, etc.
- Don't over-rely on social media in rural parts of the county.
- The App is outdated.
- Emergency communication should emphasize self-reliance and community empowerment. Not the "wait until we tell you" messaging.
- We have Linn/Benton Alerts and also the state WEA system. Let's integrate.

By Organization (current work organizations are doing, capacity, potential partnerships, etc.)

- Linn County Juvenile Justice native plant nursery was mentioned a few times, are there opportunities to support and expand this work? Economic development/jobs training aspect as well as using locally-grown native plants.
- Community Services Consortium-
 - Having updated defensible space programs / resources available on a public website- County maintained?
 - CSC partners with mainly ODF and potentially local fire districts to write prescriptions for property owners, after prescriptions are written then CSC's work crew can go out. Seems like an opportunity for more fire districts to be directly engaged with CSC at resident request.
 - Convo with fire departments note that the following districts are carrying out defensible space home assessments using OSFM guides/forms: Sweet Home, Lebanon, Harrisburg

Linn County CWPP, August 24, 2023 Focus Group Sign In Sheet

Sign In Sheet

Name	Organization	Email
Jan Diamantini	Built Leben on Trails	tookers@comcast.net
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TORRI LYNN	Linn County Juvenile	tllynn@co.linn.or.us
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Christy Tanner	OSU Extension	christy.tanner@oregonstate.edu
Shannon → 5 Canyon resident	Compassionado	compassionado.Ind@gmail.com
Robert Swan		

Steering Committee Members and other Subject Matter Experts: Shane Wooten, Albany Fire Dept. and Linn Fire Defense Board; Kate Bentz, Linn County Planning & Building; Alyssa Boles, Linn County Planning & Building; Kayla Bordelon, OSU Extension Fire Program; Stephanie Stafford, OSFM; Jen Warren, OSFM; Kyle White, Scio Fire Dept.; Christian Whitfield, Sweet Home Fire Dept.; Susan Millhauser, DLCD



**Linn County
Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update
Focus Group
AGENDA**

Thursday, August 24, 2023

2:00pm–4:30pm

Scio Rural Fire District, 38975 SW 6th Ave, Scio, OR 97374

1:45–2:00pm	Arrivals and refreshments
2:00–2:10pm	Welcome and introductions
2:10–2:25pm	Overview of the CWPP process
2:25–2:35pm	Introduction to Fire Adapted Communities (FAC) process and activities
2:35–3:00pm	Individual exploration of projects, priorities, concerns, and needs
3:00–3:10pm	Break
3:10–3:45pm	Small group activity: plotting priorities, based on impact and feasibility
3:40–4:05pm	Small group discussion of priority practices
4:05–4:15pm	Individual identification of priority practices
4:15–4:30pm	Wrap-up

Project webpage: <https://www.co.linn.or.us/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan>



Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update August 2023 Focus Group

What is a Community Wildfire Protection Plan?

A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) can help communities work together to achieve common goals, offering opportunities to identify local projects and priorities for community wildfire protection, adaptation, and natural resource management. In addition to enhancing safety and reducing risk from wildfire to people, buildings, infrastructure, and watersheds, communities with CWPPs are also given priority for USFS- and BLM-funded hazardous fuels reduction projects and can access grant funding opportunities to implement other projects.

The CWPP process is a collaboration between communities and state and federal agencies interested in reducing wildfire risk, resulting in a plan that addresses community priorities. A CWPP has three minimum requirements under the federal Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 (HFRA):

- The plan must be collaboratively developed by local and state government representatives in consultation with federal agencies and other interested parties.
- The plan must identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments, as well as recommend methods of treatments that will protect at-risk communities and essential infrastructure.
- The plan must recommend measures that residents and communities can take to reduce ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan.

The HFRA requires that three decision-makers mutually agree to the final contents of the CWPP, including the local government, the local fire department(s), and in Oregon the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). These three must consult with and involve local representatives of the USFS and BLM and other people interested in the development of the CWPP. There is no requirement for how often a CWPP should be updated, however it is recommended that plans be updated every ten years to be eligible for certain federal grant funds for project implementation. Linn County's CWPP was last updated in 2007. Information from a CWPP is sometimes incorporated into a county Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan.

Linn County CWPP Update Process

Linn County is currently updating its CWPP in collaboration with the Linn County Fire Defense Board and the Oregon Department of Forestry North and South Cascades Districts, with input from the NW Oregon District Bureau of Land Management and Siuslaw and Willamette National Forests. Support is being provided by Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD), Oregon State Fire Marshal, and Oregon State University Extension Fire Program. Interested parties, including some local governments, some fire districts in Marion County, special districts, non-profits, health care providers, and others, have been attending CWPP steering committee meetings.

To date, the CWPP steering committee has been working to review progress since the 2007 plan; update action items, or projects; identify new action items, collaborators, and potential funding sources; confirm a methodology for conducting the risk assessment; and provide feedback to the county on mapping. The committee developed the following draft goals to guide this effort:

- **GOAL 1:** Enhance wildfire and emergency response and recovery capabilities to protect life, the built environment, and natural systems.

- **GOAL 2:** Empower residents and other stakeholders with knowledge, decision-making tools, and resources to understand and reduce wildfire risks and increase preparedness.
- **GOAL 3:** Reduce structural ignitability through the use of non-regulatory incentives.
- **GOAL 4:** Prioritize and implement fuels treatment projects on private and public land to reduce risk, increase resiliency, and create defensible landscapes.
- **GOAL 5:** Increase opportunities for collaboration, coordination, and building capacity to implement wildfire projects.

Feedback received from community engagement will be used to better understand local needs and priorities, refine action items and identify new actions and partners, and inform project prioritization which will also consider the risk assessment. Outreach meetings include a focus group with cities in Linn County in early August, a second focus group with community-serving organizations and business interests in late August, a meeting with the Linn Fire Defense Board, and a community meeting in late October. Find more information about the CWPP update process at www.linncountyor.gov/planningbuilding/page/community-wildfire-protection-plan, including steering committee meeting agendas and notes.

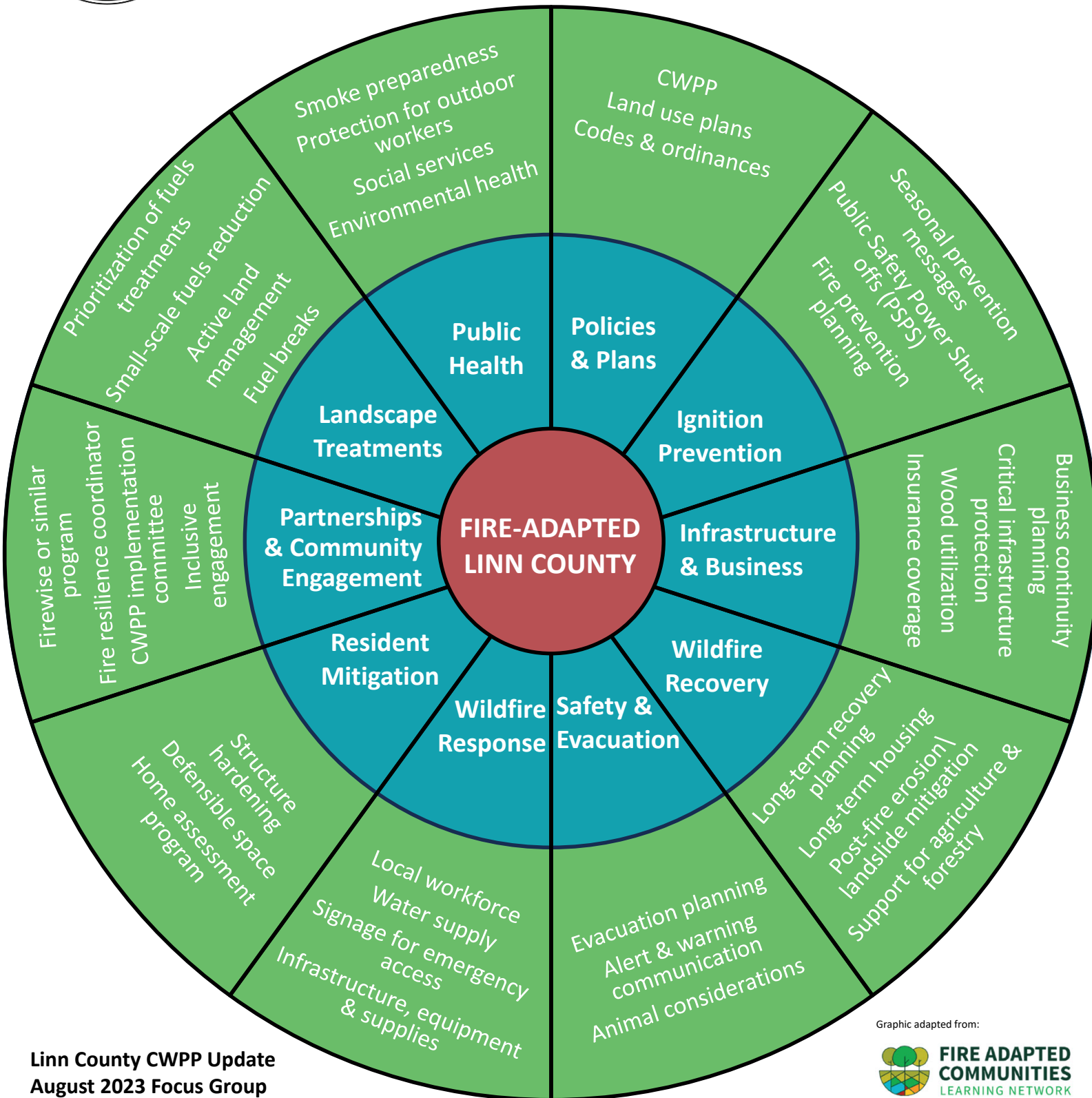
Information from the approved CWPP will be incorporated into the Linn County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP) update being developed in collaboration with several cities in Linn County starting in the late fall of 2023, including the Cities of Brownsville, Gates, Halsey, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Lyons, Millersburg, Scio, Sodaville, Tangent, and Waterloo. DLCD received a grant from FEMA to provide technical assistance for the Linn County CWPP and NHMP updates. The City of Sweet Home's NHMP was updated in 2022 and the City of Albany's was updated in 2023. Marion County's NHMP was updated in 2023, including several cities in the Santiam Canyon.

Sources and resources:

- Oregon Department of Forestry, <https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Fire/Pages/CWPP.aspx>
- Oregon State Fire Marshal, Fire Adapted Oregon, <https://www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/sfm/pages/fire-adapted-oregon.aspx>
- Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network, <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/>
- Community Wildfire Protection Plans in Oregon presentation, May 05, 2022, Christie Shaw, National Fire Plan Coordinator, Oregon Department of Forestry, and Jen Warren, Risk Reduction Specialist, Oregon State Fire Marshal



Fire Adapted Communities: considering the possibilities for wildfire adaptation in Linn County



Linn County CWPP Update
August 2023 Focus Group

Graphic adapted from:





Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update August 2023 Focus Group

Engaging the Fire Adapted Communities (FAC) Framework for considering pathways to fire adaptation in Linn County

At the focus group, we will work with the FAC wheel graphic to explore the range of options that communities have for wildfire adaptation. The graphic describes a set of components that make up community wildfire adaptation (in the blue section) and gives examples of specific practices (in the green section) that communities can undertake to reduce their wildfire risk. This graphic was created by the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network (fireadapted.org) with input from community-based practitioners from across the United States.

FAC is not a “one-size-fits-all” approach; every community’s journey to living better with fire is unique. This graphic is NOT comprehensive and does not include all of the potential actions or programs a community could undertake to advance fire adaptation. The graphic includes examples of some of the most common practices and may help spark other ideas. Communities do not need to take every action to become fire adapted; any actions you take will help increase your community’s resilience and decrease your risk.

Before the meeting, we encourage you to look over the wheel graphic, and consider which practices (in green) may be priorities for you and your community, which are already underway, and what’s missing. Below, we provide short descriptions of each example practice on the wheel.

Public Health

Smoke preparedness	Large wildfires are impacting developed cities and rural areas alike, providing the opportunity to broaden conversation directly and indirectly among stakeholders in ways that include new partners (e.g., public health departments, medical centers) and that may motivate residents to act. Smoke preparedness actions may include residential HEPA filter programs, clean air shelters, or individual actions such as sealing doors and windows or understanding local air quality.
Protection for outdoor workers	Working landscapes may feature large populations of people who work outdoors (e.g., agricultural workers, loggers, ranch hands, landscapers, construction workers, seasonal or migrant workers). Explore avenues for evaluating and upgrading seasonal/migrant housing (e.g., hardening structures against wildfire, limiting smoke intrusion), offering protective equipment during smoke events, etc.
Social services	Utilize existing social programs to provide education and services to prepare vulnerable residents for wildfire season, and to offer services to those affected by smoke and wildfire (e.g., providing temporary housing, mental health services, PPE). Existing programs may not have experience serving wildfire-related needs. Consider expanding training and networking opportunities before wildfires impact the region. Consider the needs of the unhoused population.
Environmental health	Cascading impacts of wildfire may negatively affect infrastructure and environmental conditions that influence human health. Consider how fire might impact municipal water systems, result in exposure to or the need for cleanup of hazardous materials burned during the fire and create mudflows or loss of soil nutrients. Work with environmental health authorities, water utilities, and waste managers to proactively identify issues and develop mitigation, adaptation, or protection strategies.

Policies & Plans

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)	Updating Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) can be an effective strategy which can lead to collective projects such as landscape-level fuel breaks, defensible space programs, wildfire response, evacuation, recovery, and public information campaigns. CWPPs can provide a priority list of community-driven projects; these projects can create change on the landscape as well as help develop community-based partnerships. Identifying projects is the first step for eligibility to seek implementation funding.
Land use plans	Consider how patterns of land conversion to accommodate growing populations will affect wildfire risk in terms of ignition, response challenges, and landscape fragmentation. Explore conservation easements or planning and zoning that prioritize landscape health or working lands (e.g., family farms, orchards, hay, or dairy operations) while opening up key opportunities for fire prevention (e.g., establishment or protection of wetlands, establishment or management of community forests, land trusts that include/incentivize fire management practices to protect river corridors). Communities may also want to consider growth boundaries, minimum subdivision sizes, and the use of clustering, street network layout, neighborhood-scale buffers, or other land use strategies in high-risk hazard fire areas.
Codes & ordinances	Consider building codes or land use standards to help reduce future wildfire risk. Building codes could focus on requirements to retrofit existing structures/commercial buildings upon new purchase or during renovations. Considering mass evacuation or shelter-in-place capabilities during community design.

Ignition Prevention

Seasonal prevention messages	Work with partners to determine common fire causes. Develop messages that are focused on those causes and during the season(s) of highest risk. Consider recreation-based businesses, campers, and visitors as potential audiences. As an example, consider working with local tourism boards, chambers of commerce, and recreation-based business to develop and distribute seasonal wildfire prevention messaging for both year-round and seasonal residents as well as out-of-area or part-time guests.
Public safety power shut-offs (PSPS)	Prepare for preventative power shutoffs in advance of a wildfire by working with local utility providers. Ensure essential services and businesses (e.g., hospitals, local transportation authority, radio station, etc.) have plans for continuity of operations. Communicate with medical providers and those who rely on power for medical device support in advance of the wildfire season. More remote populations may need to plan for generator back-ups. Alternative, off-grid power sources may be required more frequently in the future. Explore longer-term options, contributions by ratepayers, and/or grants that can help insulate or protect high-risk segments of the power grid in the future (e.g., running segments of power lines underground, reducing fuel canopy, moving power lines away from evacuation routes).
Fire prevention planning	Evaluate and address the most common sources of human wildfire ignitions. These ignition sources may include residential burning or burn piles, campfires, or dragging chains from trailers, off-road vehicle use, public utilities, etc. Consider ignition prevention campaigns that focus on the sources most likely to create large fires. To aid in quick identification of fire ignitions, consider available lines of communication (and new technologies) for the public to report potential wildfires.

Infrastructure & Business

Business continuity planning	Work to identify the range of wildfire-related hazards that may impact business functions. As an example, consider whether high levels of smoke would reduce opportunities for recreation-based tourism or require protective equipment for employees or customers. Wildfires may impact infrastructure and power systems on which businesses rely. Consider redundancy in these systems;
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generators can help keep businesses operational, especially those which require ongoing services (e.g., refrigeration). Plan for possible supply chain disruptions.

Critical infrastructure protection

Identify the range of critical infrastructure that is important to your community. This may include the power grid, roads, and bridges as well as broader municipal watersheds, gravity-fed water systems, and reservoir facilities. Communities may be able to improve overall resilience by mitigating the risk to these resources ahead of time; consider hardening these resources and protecting against secondary flooding, bridge washout, or water quality issues.

Wood utilization

Explore options for re-establishment or expansion of small-to-medium scale forest products industries in the region. Develop workforce training pipelines that establish local contractors who conduct forest thinning or run equipment to reduce fuel loading. Explore Good Neighbor Authority programs, expanded stewardship contracting authorities, and links to regional industries requiring wood products.

Insurance coverage

Business insurance coverage should include extended loss of power, inability to use the premises, and direct and indirect wildfire damage. Cooperating groups of neighborhoods or businesses (such as those convened through a chamber of commerce) may be able to negotiate coordinated mitigation strategies or policies which improve insurance protections. Consider insurance for orchards, vineyards, small forest landowners, tree farms, or agricultural commodities.

Wildfire Recovery

Long-term recovery planning

Consider undertaking long-term recovery planning before a fire event to plan for impacts to social services, industries, and the ecosystem. Consider industries likely to be impacted. Community social services or essential functions may be disrupted, either by direct wildfire impacts or secondary debris flows or flooding. Plans which anticipate these potential impacts, and convene stakeholders to mitigate them, can be completed in advance of wildfire.

Long-term housing

Recovery, rehabilitation, and rebuilding on private lands may require investments in long-term housing for affected residents. These efforts may be challenging due to the lack of nearby housing sources during the recovery process. Consider working in advance of wildfires to identify locations for longer-term temporary housing that allow local residents to remain in or near their communities.

Post-fire erosion & debris flow mitigation

Explore the potential for secondary impacts from wildfire that may occur regardless of direct fire impact. For instance, residents may be unprepared for post-fire erosion downstream or downslope after fire. Such impacts can occur after the fire, and result in damage from secondary hazards. Explore options for erosion control fencing and emergency slope stabilization.

Support for orchard, agriculture, & forestry

Recognize and anticipate the need for recovery after agriculture and forestry-related damages. Explore agricultural producers' vulnerability to disruptions resulting from loss of forage, crop, or seedlings; disruptions may occur over multiple years. Explore ways that intensive forestry and/or agriculture areas can develop support systems for producers facing wildfire-related losses, including regional and state-level recovery task forces, market stabilization, insurance cooperatives, and/or insurance provisions.

Safety & Evacuation

Evacuation planning

Ensure that communities have multiple opportunities for ingress/egress, especially considering the influx of fire personnel needing access. Consider avenues that incentivize or require developers to help improve the width or drivability of community roads. Seek out grant opportunities for right-of-way access points through private lands that help improve ingress/egress during rapid evacuation. Prepare major ingress/egress routes by removing vegetation along roads. Consider evacuation planning for high-use buildings or locations (e.g., schools, grocery stores).

Alert & warning communication	Encourage residents to sign up for evacuation notification systems. Work to ensure accessibility, both in terms of technology and language, into alert & warning communication systems. However, also be aware that many may not have cell coverage or connectivity during a fire event. Encourage communities to build redundant systems of local notifications, including community phone trees, social media pages, and neighborhood signals that ensure residents can make informed decisions.
Animal considerations	Consider creating large animal evacuation plans and encouraging residents to make plans for their pets. Create or communicate allowances for agricultural providers and ranchers to enter roadblocks. Potential avenues for large animal planning may include establishing local groups or networks for coordinated evacuation of livestock using trailers or to help stage animals in safer locations. Plan for feed and forage needs during longer-term evacuations and recovery.

Wildfire Response

Local workforce	Focus on improving local wildland fire response capacity through efforts to expand community participation in volunteer or paid fire departments. Consider educational programs in local schools or technical colleges to develop and recruit wildfire workforce members. This includes workforce development and the promotion of young local people into paid positions so that they can stay in the region. Develop mutual aid agreements that include details about resources or containment lines and databases of equipment or volunteers who can be effectively mobilized during response.
Water supply	Evaluation of water infrastructure such as water towers, water treatment facilities, and water lines can be an important consideration when assessing fire vulnerability. Consider working to increase reliable water supply for wildfire events, including onsite water supply for rural properties. Consider efforts to harden water infrastructure, reduce surrounding vegetation, or establish protocols for water systems following wildfires.
Signage for emergency access	Encourage residents to add reflective address signs to aid response vehicles in locating their properties. Work with fire districts and roads authorities to identify locations and funding for neighborhoods to place address signs at the end of private lanes. Bridges should be signed with weight limits to ensure that firefighting apparatus can safely cross.
Infrastructure, equipment & supplies	Consider improvement to communication and wildland firefighting equipment needed by fire districts to support effective response. Consider infrastructure needs, such as substations in high-risk areas. Develop expanded avenues to use local suppression resources such as dozers, tenders, or trucks during a fire event.

Resident Mitigation

Structure hardening	Modify residential structures to help withstand fire damage. This can include using ignition-resistant fencing or flashing that will reduce fire transmission between closely spaced homes, retrofitting or building with ignition-resistant materials (e.g., stucco, brick, cement siding), creating vegetation-free gravel pads or xeriscaping directly next to homes, or replacement of wood shake roofing.
Defensible space	Implement landscape modification practices (i.e., creating "defensible space") around structures. Develop education opportunities and communication campaigns that reflect specific risk conditions in and around the community. Develop mechanisms (such as incentive or recognition programs) to encourage implementation, such as neighbor chipping programs, dumpster days/yard debris pickup, cost-share programs. Think beyond property lines and consider landscape modifications that will lead to risk reduction at the neighborhood or community scale.

Home assessment program

Provide home ignition zone/landscape assessments adapted from state and national guidance and in concert with local professionals.

Partnerships & Community Engagement

Firewise or similar program

Consider a Firewise, neighborhood ambassador, or similar program to develop local resident leaders who disseminate wildfire planning information among neighbors. Integrate the program into existing Homeowners' Associations and neighborhoods with a well-developed sense of community. Partner with existing community organizations (e.g., social service organizations) to extend the approach throughout the community.

Fire resilience coordinator

Wildfire resilience coordinators advance fire adaptation in the community through coordinating efforts across stakeholders, encouraging collaboration, and representing the needs of property owners. Ideally, these leaders emerge from the region and reflect the values and priorities of local communities.

CWPP implementation committee

Consider engaging a committee of stakeholders to oversee and manage the implementation and evaluation of the CWPP to ensure that planned actions are implemented on the ground.

Inclusive engagement

Take care to ensure the whole community can participate in fire adaptation planning and implementation. Sometimes high costs of living mean that many of the people who work in your community reside elsewhere. Consider not only residents, but also your workforce, when planning resilience efforts. Work to develop partnerships throughout the community to support fire adaptation efforts. Seek out partners who already have trusted relationships with low-resource populations and work collaboratively to ensure the diversity of your community is mirrored fire adaptation actions.

Landscape Treatments

Prioritization of fuels treatments

Develop a voluntary inventory program to assess and prioritize treatments across ownerships. This tool can support private landowners in making management decisions on their land and improve the capacity for cross-boundary fuels management.

Small-scale fuels reduction

Consider fuel reduction at small scales, including through novel means. Available tools may include using goats for grazing, conducting pile burning through local university or service clubs, and/or engaging landscaping companies to develop green spaces. Consider contracting with nearby communities to both supply a workforce and contribute to workforce development.

Active land management

Develop multiple options for active land management and consider looking at large landscape treatments. This may include grazing, expanded and/or accelerated fuel treatments, or other actions which utilize and/or expand local workforce capacity.

Fuel breaks

Fuel breaks can buffer communities from wildfire. Consider the development of community-scale fuel breaks; emphasize the dual benefits of improving overall forest condition and reducing wildfire risk. Initiatives to create community fuel breaks should integrate with national forest or state lands planning. Where possible, discuss the co-design of treatments that extend across ownerships. Work to develop and maintain treatment plans, implementation and maintenance schedules, monitoring plans, as well as mapping data that can integrate fuel breaks into databases that will inform suppression response or landscape health initiatives.

Linn County CWPP Update

Linn County Fire Defense Board Meeting Notes, August 24, 2023

Members of the CWPP Steering Committee attended the regular meeting of the Linn County Fire Defense Board (LFDB) on August 24, 2023, hosted by the Scio Fire Department. The goal of the meeting was to provide an update on the CWPP process, forge collaborative connection between CWPP Steering Committee and local fire districts, identify the priority needs within each District, and identify high risk areas within each District based on their local knowledge. The LFDB official meeting agenda and minutes are attached as is the presentation shared at the meeting. (Note: This meeting was one element of engaging with fire districts; further research and engagement informed the wildfire risk assessment and CWPP action items, as noted in Section 4: Stakeholder and Community Engagement of the CWPP.)

Initial district concerns are summarized below, first by district then by broader concerns.

Harrisburg Rural Fire – Bart Griffiths

- Identified areas – Mt. Tom, Wildwood Estates (77 homes with one way in and one way out), Priceboro to Gap Road
- Conducted surveys of the properties on Mt. Tom and established a fire district substation on Mt. Tom (was an action item on the 2007 CWPP)
- One quarter of the wells are dry in the Mt. Tom area, located 15 minutes away from the nearest city. Funding for community water tanks?
- Mt. Tom substation is getting established, doing surveys. Surveys can be accessed during conflagrations to know where to prioritize.

Lebanon Fire – John Tacy

- Sodaville water supply runs dry
- Identified areas – Middle Ridge, Canyonview, Elizabeth Drive (one way in and one way out), Golden Valley, Hidden Valley, Mt. Hope, East Lacombe Road (non-rated bridges can cause issues – does Linn County TSP speak to this at all?), Snow Peak Drive area (due to fuel types and distance travelled with apparatus)
- Urban campers and vegetation fires are issues, primarily around rivers
- Needs - Pond accessibility, all weather roads, better identification of water areas, sustainable water system, partnering with water tenders, better turnaround time for water sources
- Can't always participate in conflagrations due to servicing other calls

Sweet Home Fire

- Got CWRR grant
- Working with ODF along Highway 20
- Homeless population causes fire issues, have established fuel breaks with property owner permission
 - Siting of tiny home village next to areas with fire hazard can lead to people who don't follow the rules simply moving outside the village just onto private property.

- Needs include fuel breaks, fuels mitigation in the off season with back burning
- Cascadia area is an issue – homelessness, fire substation there with no volunteers, poor structure quality, properties grown over, no response areas due to violence
- ODF and Cascade Timber are helpful partners

Halsey Shedd Fire – Travis Hewitt

- Large focus on sending resources to other districts
- The district is largely farmland
- No major concern of fire risk other than loss of crop

Brownsville Fire

- Identified problem areas – Northernwood, Washburn Heights, Courtney Creek (east of Brownsville Road and Gap Road) - Dry wells, one way in and one way out, buildings located in places that are harder to develop (forested areas, hillsides)
- Noted the improved coordination between Planning, Building, and the Fire Dept. regarding road access and driveways standards.

Scio Fire District – Chief White

- Rodgers Mountain Loop – 2 miles long, heavily forested, remote from the city, topography and fuel loading will cause the fire to run uphill, have to come back to town for water
- A resident in the Rodgers Mountain area has arranged an agreement with BLM for alternative access
- Not sure of the status of coordination between the Scio Firewise Community and the Scio Fire District

Jefferson Fire District

- Identified problem areas – Century Drive, Scravel Hill (heavily wooded, low water supply)

Other Issues Raised

- Discussed the sustainability of capacity grants once they expire – how long do you keep funding positions?
- Changes in legislature for long term levies
- How do enterprise zones affect tax money for fire districts?
- Overall, fire districts need more year round staffing and resources/funding
- Lack of all infrastructure/can't keep up with development (Lebanon fastest growing city in the Oregon)



Linn County Fire Defense Board

August 24, 2023

Scio Fire

10:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) input presentation from Linn County Planning, Oregon State University, and Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development.
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 27, 2023, Meeting Minutes
4. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Communications Update (LCSO)
5. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Joint Fire/Police Response EMS (Rodondi)
 - b. Location of September 2023 meeting (Wooton)
6. REPORTS
 - a. Treasury
 - a. Linn-Benton Fire Training Committee
 - b. Linn-Benton Fire Investigation Task Force
 - c. State HazMat Team 5
 - d. Linn County Dispatch/User Board
 - e. Linn County Sheriff's Office
 - f. Linn County Road Department
 - g. Linn County Emergency Management
 - h. Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office
 - i. Oregon Department of Forestry
 - j. Mid-Valley LEPC
 - k. Oregon Fire Chiefs Association
 - l. Fire Chaplaincy
 - m. Air Medical Transport
7. GOOD OF THE ORDER
8. NEXT MEETING: September 28, 10:00 a.m., ??? Fire
9. ADJOURNMENT



Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation
Linn County Fire Defense Board
August 24, 2023
Scio Fire
Minutes

ATTENDANCE:

Kate Hennessy, Albany Fire
Kyle Romey, Albany Fire
Shane Wooton, Albany Fire
Chris Griffin, Tangent Fire
Kevin Rogers, Brownsville Fire
Joseph Rodondi, Lebanon Fire
John Tacy, Lebanon Fire
Kyle White, Scio Fire
Kevin Rogers, Brownsville Fire
Bart Griffith, Harrisburg Fire
Christian Whitfield, Sweet Home Fire
Micah Smith, LCSO
Andy Franklin, LCSO

Sarah Shelton, LCSO/Dispatch
Nick Case, ODF
Trent Tegen, ODF
Travis Hewitt, Halsey-Shedd Fire
Tony Miller, OSFM
Brent Griffiths, OSFM
Stephanie Stafford, OSFM
Alyssa Boles, Linn Co Planning
Kate Bentz, Linn Co Planning
Kayla Bordelon, OSU Extension
Susan Millhauser, DLCD
Levi Eckhardt, Jefferson Fire

CALL TO ORDER: Chief Wooton called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and attendees introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Hewitt moved to approve minutes of the July 27, 2023, meeting as written; Griffith seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Communications Update – They received word that Stayton vehemently rejected the possibility of acceding their frequency for use. ODF brought up some issues with Buck Mountain. LCSO is looking for two frequencies that will work within the mix, and looked at the law enforcement digital system. They have a trunk digital system, and when any link gets severed, the sites still work, which is the backup. VHF systems from yesteryear will not be backups. They are looking to see if an Albany frequency will work. They are starting to run into a timing issue with the tower installations, although most aren't at a height to be bothered by snowfall. If they go with three channels right now for fire, what will be the cost down the road to install a fourth channel? LCSO needs to look at funding now. Harrisburg Public Works may have a channel they aren't using; Smith will reach out to them and see. LCSO really appreciated having the chiefs as liaisons for the big fires recently (Wiley, Priceboro), especially having Wooton in the EOC. ODF was great as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

Joint Fire and Police Response – Rodondi brought up the issue of staging with law enforcement in cases of suicide calls. He mentioned that due to "suicide by cop" situations nowadays, law enforcement is reluctant to stage with or for Fire in these cases. He asked the body if anyone has any policies for communication and staging. He suggested it was due to a lack of communication. Wooton and Romey mentioned that they are still having conversations with police about this, and noted that they have an understanding that they will navigate each situation separately. Smith remarked that LCSO will respond for suicide calls, but will likely stage at a distance and monitor radio communications so they don't aggravate a situation by showing up on-scene. It was generally agreed to be a communications issue.

Location of September Meeting – Wooton volunteered Albany Station 11 to host the September meeting. Griffith suggested that Harrisburg can also host if there is a conflict.

911 Ceremony Participation – Wooton asked the group for a ladder truck to help raise the flag for the 911 Ceremony at the Linn County Courthouse. Lebanon cannot participate (they have a prior commitment), but Harrisburg and Tangent will each send personnel and an engine.

Burn Ban – It is still in effect. Chris Klein (South Cascades ODF) will be pulling back from Extreme to High fire risk, and Tegen said that ODF does not anticipate going back to Extreme. The Board decided (in light of red flag warnings for lightning through the weekend) to revisit the burn ban on Monday. White, Hewitt, and Rogers all noted the difficulty of maintaining the burn ban when farmers are relying on burning for their livelihoods. White reported that he actually committed a rig and crew to monitor a mint field burn for a farmer due to the importance of the situation.

Intra-County Comms for Linn County Conflags – In light of the two potential conflags in Linn County (once unheard of), Wooton asked the group if they had any suggestions for communications within the County. Shelton reported that the county has an all-county response option that would be worth talking about. Wooton suggested that the Board revisit this at the next meeting.

REPORTS:

Treasury – The Board bank account balance is \$715.28

Linn-Benton Fire Training Committee – No report.

Linn-Benton Fire Investigation Task Force – No report.

State HazMat Team 5 – No report.

Linn County Dispatch/User Board – They are working on getting people hired and trained. They have three new dispatchers and three openings; they could have two more before long. Adelaide Carter (a new hire) was commended for her clarity, calm demeanor, and presence while dispatching for the Priceboro fire.

Linn County Sheriff's Office – They are still working on the Lookout Fire (Lentz is on that).

Linn County Roads Department – No report.

Linn County Emergency Management – No report.

Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office – If any Board members have fire danger signs, make sure they're updated with the latest guidance from ODF. Stafford also recommended engaging the locking mechanism on the back of the sign so people can't come along and change the risk level.

They are in the process of hiring regional deputies for Linn, Benton, and Marion counties. Miller will bring them around when they come on board.

OSFM sent responses to the Wiley and Priceboro fires, to work alongside district crews. They provide resources for districts/departments to use as they see fit. It is the hosting agency's decision on what to do with the task force (i.e., housing, etc.). Resources are no longer at the Lookout/Bedrock fires, and the Blue Team demobilized August 23, 2023. Federal partners have done well, and OSFM is grateful for ODF support. Griffiths will be up there later today; thunderstorms are expected and there are red flag warnings for lightning, with minimal rain expected. They sent two immediate response task forces down to the Smith Fire. During the Liberty Fire (in Salem), OSFM ordered air support

from ODF (air attack, two-seats, and helicopters) – it’s the first time Griffiths has seen that. Wooton noted that it has been super easy to work with Griffiths for support/conflagrations, especially when working within mutual aid.

Oregon Department of Forestry – South Cascades: Thanks to all. Discussed upcoming weather warnings, and Case handed out a sheet outlining ODF public fire restrictions. Soon they will be down to half staff, with the ending of the fire season.

North Cascades: They have one engine in Grants Pass; all assets are back in district right now. They will start losing people starting September 11-15 – they will soon be half-staffed as well. They are working with people in surrounding areas to finish out the fire season.

Mid-Valley LEPC – They conducted their tabletop exercise (the morning of August 8) at ATI. It was successful.

Oregon Fire Chief’s Association – No report.

Fire Chaplaincy – Report sent in email to body.

Air Medical Transport – No report.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Griffiths: Regarding the Priceboro fire; ODF, LCSO, the State, and everyone who sent resources – it went very well. Briefing on Linn and Lane County assistance; there were 44 engines, 115-120 fire staff. Everyone did an awesome job, and ODF was phenomenal. Thanks to all.

Griffith: Thanked the group for their assistance in responding to the Priceboro fire. He detailed the response and how effective it was, having the response they did.

Wooton: DC Romey will expand the Community Paramedic program by assuming the role of a 0.5 FTE to help the houseless stop overusing 911, get housing and medical care, etc. He will still be with the department, but will be moving on to work part-time with Hughes as well, until his full retirement. The department will go out soon to fill his position.

NEXT MEETING DATE: September 28, Albany Fire, 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

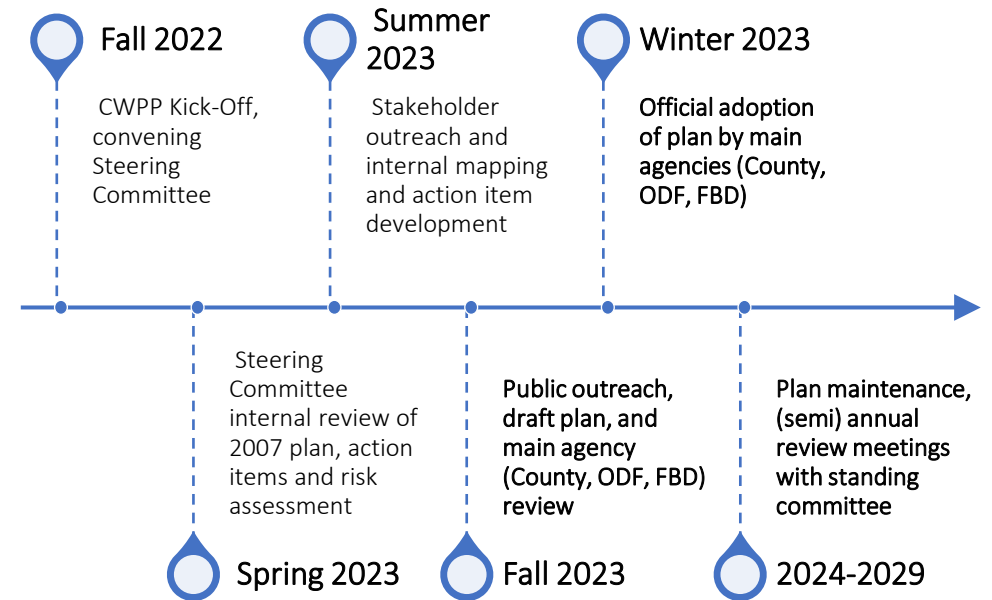
Submitted by: Kate Hennessy, Albany Fire

Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Fire Agency Update & Information Request

August 24, 2023

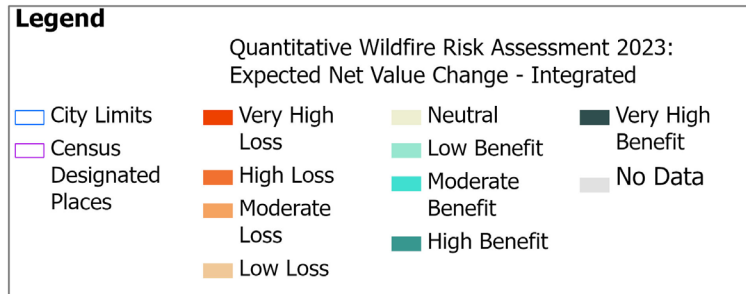
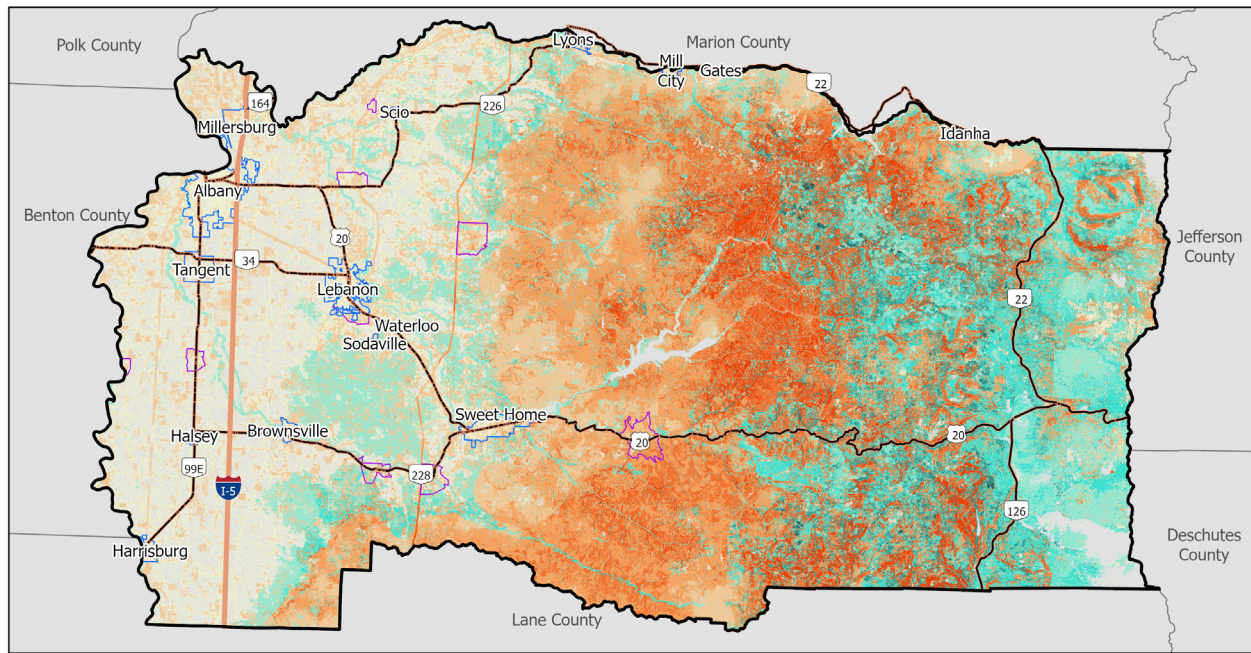
Overview

- Mutually agreed upon and signed off by:
 - Linn County
 - Oregon Department of Forestry
 - **Local Fire Departments (Fire Defense Board)**
- Based on federal guidelines, CWPP must be:
 - **Developed collaboratively**
 - Prioritize fuel reduction and recommend treatment methods
 - Recommend steps to reduce structural ignitability
- Potential Benefits?
 - Increase awareness of unmet needs, a resource to partners/providers w/ secured funding to target identified priority areas, those with capacity can bolster their own grant applications, find new partnerships

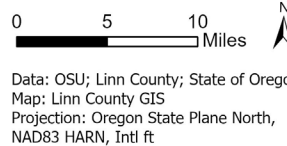
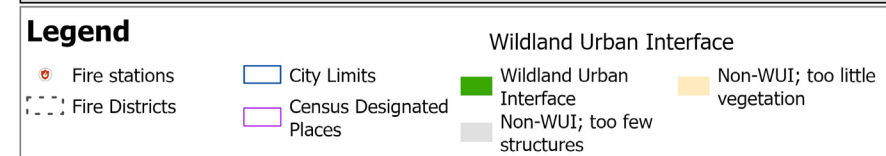
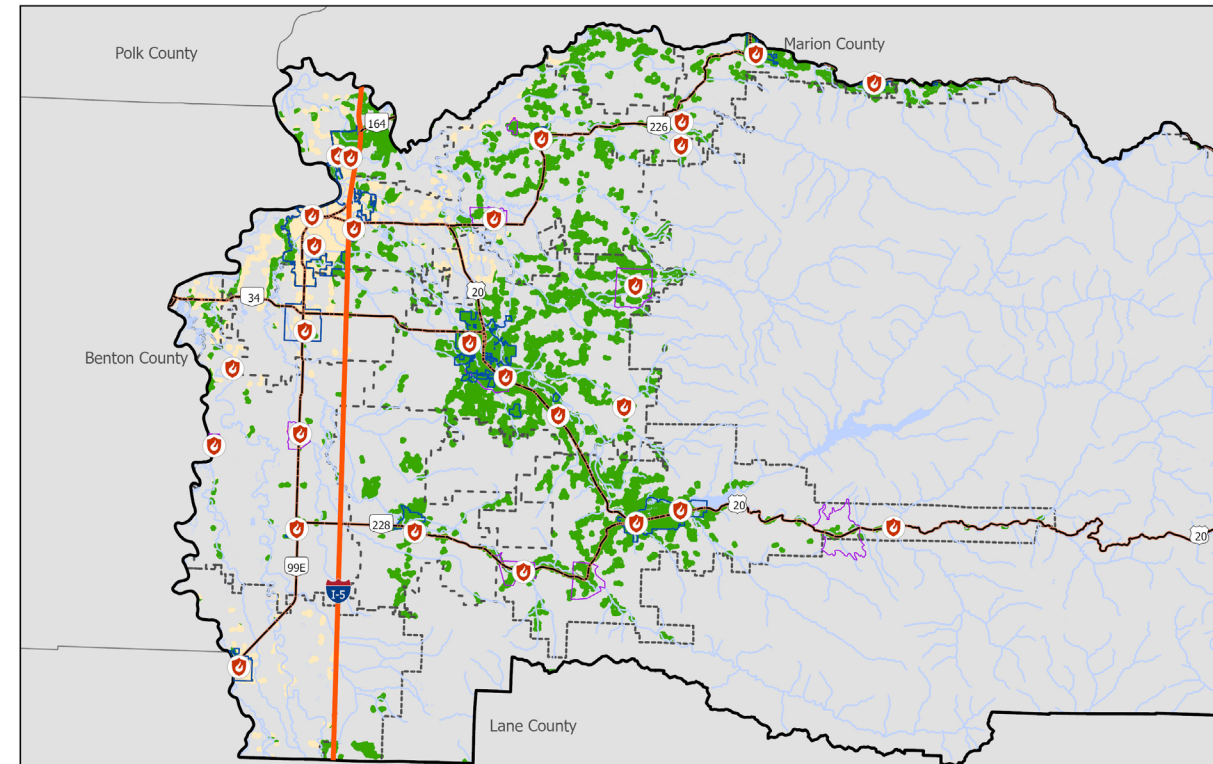


Countywide Risk Assessment

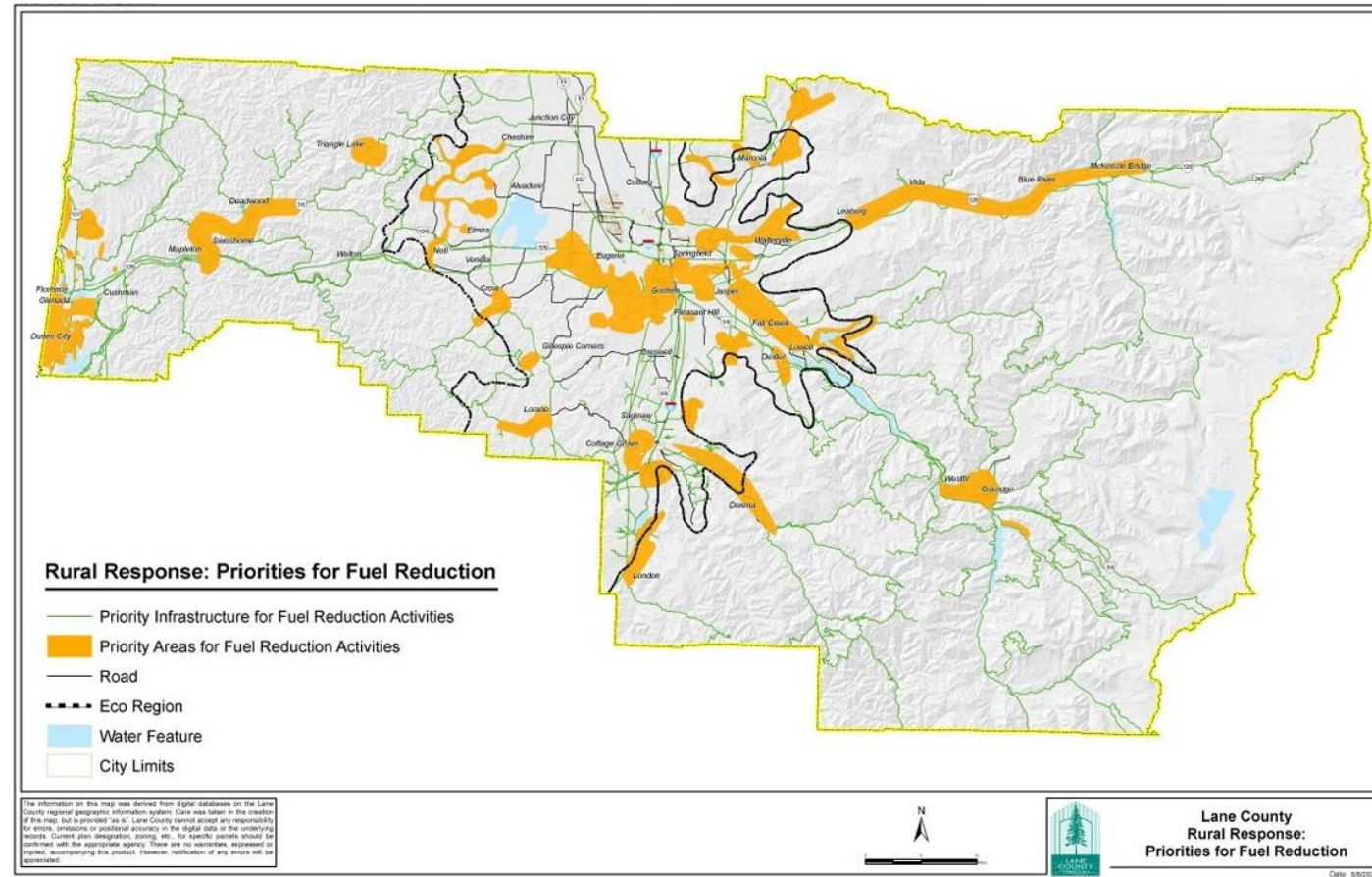
Data developed by OSU, ODF. Mapped at a regionwide (OR/WA) & statewide scale.



Maps can be zoomed to Fire District / community scale. But it is important to compliment state level data with local knowledge of risks. Fire agencies can help identify areas of concern based on their on-the-ground experience.



Risk assessment pt. 2, capturing local priorities



What are the places in your District that keep you up at night?

- Do you have an image in your mind of what these places look like? What are its attributes?
- Do you imagine these places broadly (throughout your district)? Or are they particular streets, neighborhoods, or communities which you could call out specifically? If the latter, where are they located?



Potential Attributes for Rural Response Priorities	
Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation	
1. Fuel Characteristics	A. High fuel loading B. High fuel flammability (e.g. scotch broom, dead brush) C. Dense fuel along roadsides D. Other (please describe)
2. Community	A. Distance to water / inadequate water supply B. High housing density C. Utility issues- lack of cell reception D. Heavy or hazardous industrial/commercial uses E. Other (please describe)
3. Access	A. Dead-end road(s) (one way in, one way out) B. Steep grade C. Bridge restrictions or clearance issues D. Narrow roads E. Other (please describe)
4. Cultural	A. High ignition incidence (e.g. slash pile/debris burning, temporary living (tents/RVs), recreation, etc.) B. Unsafe conditions for first responders C. Structurally unprotected areas D. Other (please describe)
5. Other Concerns?	A. Other concerns not captured in the above 4 categories

What are the gaps in your day to day needs?

Apparatus

- Crucial or costly repairs
- Aging equipment upgrades
- Expanding the current fleet
- Any unmet needs, not funded by previous grant requests

PPE

- Gear upgrades
- Increasing available PPE for first responders
- PPE distribution
- Other

Staff

- Staff retention
- Seasonal/temporary staffing
- Staff advancement / skills training
- Need for administrative staff
- Competitive wages / benefits increase

Volunteers

- Increase volunteer base or availability
- Volunteer retention
- Need to train volunteers
- Volunteers for response and other non-response activities- admin, outreach, etc.

Any other short term, day-to-day, immediate needs which don't fit in these categories?

If you had your day-to-day needs met or if you could get the funding for it, what else would you want to do?

Education

- Youth education programs- school visits, after school programs, summer camps
- Adult education- outreach campaigns, neighborhood trainings, flyer mailings or distribution
- Permanent roadside signs, reader boards, alarm systems, etc.

Community Programs

- Supporting the creation of FireWise communities
- Community woodchipper days- taking a traveling fuels trailer out to neighborhoods
- Homeowner safety improvement rebate program
- Staff devoted specifically to defensible space assessments

Infrastructure

- Build new or expand fire stations to improve response times / support district expansion
- Creating a community gathering space
- Capital improvements
- Mass technological upgrades

Questions:

- What's a long term project or goal of your agency which is hindered by funding or staffing?
- If you agency had adequate resources to educate or interact with the public outside of an emergency event, what would be the focus of your outreach?

Linn County CWPP Update

Linn County Wildfire Ready Night Notes, December 6, 2023

The community open house was hosted by the Sweet Home Fire District. There were 40 participants and 22 steering committee members and other partners from local, state, and federal agencies, and local and regional organizations and non-profits (e.g., Red Cross, CPI, Inc., South and North Santiam Watershed Councils), and the Community Services Consortium, among others). Participants included a good cross-section of people from across the county from rural and urban areas; see attached sign in sheet.

The evening included background presentations and success stories followed by stations with maps and other materials where people could have discussions with the partners. The presentations, attached, included:

- An introduction to the Linn County CWPP, an overview of wildfire risk in Linn County, and the CWPP goals and examples of some of the action items (the goals and all of action items were included in the meeting handout, attached).
- Updates and success stories from agency partners, including the Linn County Fire Defense Board (representing local fire districts), Linn County Emergency Management, Oregon Department of Forestry, and the US Forest Service/Willamette National Forest.
- Information on how community members can take action and prepare for wildfires at home, including how to request a defensible space assessment.

Following the presentations, participants had an opportunity to discuss and provide feedback on the CWPP risk assessment and maps, goals, and action items with Steering Committee members and partners at a series of stations, summarized below.

Participant suggestions and questions included:

- Develop an inventory of water resources available for fire suppression activities, including those on private lands for which the landowner has granted emergency access
- Offer education on the use of Hamm radios as part of a community emergency preparedness curriculum (possibly for K-12 students)
- Consider how to reduce displacement of houseless populations when addressing ignition issues
- Improve communication with publics about pre-identified evacuation routes and sheltering locations
- For Action Item 2.6, consider including Linn Benton Community College as a partner
- Bureau of Land Management participation at the event
- Planning for livestock evacuation, including opportunities for residents not in areas being evacuated to assist with moving animals

Participant priority topics included:

- Questions about how to get help assessing and implementing fuels projects on their private woodland properties
- Alert system registration

- How to get an assessment of their house/property by fire districts and/or ODF
- Lack of ability for some homeowners to do their own home impact zone defensible space work because of age/ability and questions about where to go for help
- Concerns about wildfire risks on neighboring properties
- Bridge weight limits and emergency accessibility (example: bridge on Dowell Creek)
- Egress routes and traffic jams during emergency evacuations
- Access to locked gates for egress and emergency access
- Chipping programs

Note on map display:

- On the fuels project priorities map, differentiate between “high concern areas” identified by fire districts and ODF versus planned projects identified by the USFS to dispel impression that those high concern areas had improvement projects planned.

Linn County CWPP Wildfire Ready Night, December 6, 2023 Sign In Sheets

Linn Co Wildfire Ready Night – Dec 2023

Name	Town/City	Email Address
DANIEL THACKABERRY	LEBANON	for
Karen Caruso	Sweet Home	to
Carol Hammer	Sweet Home	
Daphne Sampson	Halsey	m
Jeff Carlson	Albany	g
Elliot Carlson	Albany	
NO CARLSON	ALBANY	
Linda Morrelli	SH	n
Wally Shroves	SH	l
Alfred Mowen	Sweet Home	u
Frank Callahan	Sweet Home	
Scott Bristol	Lebanon	
Christy Tye	Lebanon	u
Robert Swan	Sweet Home	r
Jan Tull	Sweet Home	c
Rich Young	Scio	
Corner Young	Scio	e
TOM THETFORD	MARCOLA	
Cody Mann	Albany/Canalia	
Jeff Mather	Sweet Home Fire	
Shannon Pettner	Sweet Home	

Emails removed for privacy purposes

Linn Co Wildfire Ready Night – Dec 2023

Name	Town/City	Email Address
Phillip + Karyn Callaway	Crawfordsville	Emails removed for privacy purposes
Steve & Katie Kohl	Lebanon	
LAVINIA ROSS	SWEET HOME	
Jim Merzow	Brownsville	
Mary Zehr	Sweet Home	
Bruce Bailey	Salem area	
Alex Fenn	Linn Co	

Linn Co Wildfire Ready Night – Dec 2023

Name	Town/City	Email Address
ALLEN L BUZZARD	BROWNSVILLE, OR	Emails removed for privacy purposes
Mary Brendle	Sweet Home	
Bick Ross	SWEET HOME	
Russ & Dee Layford	Laconia	
Dawn Mitchell	CASCADE	
Kim Reed	Lebanon	

Linn County Wildfire Ready Night

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 5:30pm-7:30pm

Project Webpage: bit.ly/linncwpp

Overview of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan Process

What is a CWPP?

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan is a guiding document for identifying and prioritizing projects related to wildfire preparedness and mitigation. It includes a fire risk assessment for the County, current priority projects, and future mitigation ideas for various agencies including the County, Rural Fire Protection Districts, Oregon Department of Forestry, U.S. Forest Service, and others. The CWPP is a 100% voluntary plan, not a regulatory document.

What is the process for developing and adopting the plan?

The CWPP was originally adopted in 2007. The County began the update process in 2022, assembling a core group of agency representatives to guide the revisions. Local governments, land managers, fire districts, nonprofits, service providers, and others were invited to focus groups to identify their priorities and concerns around wildfire. A draft action plan is shared tonight for community input.

The final draft will be adopted by the Linn County Fire Defense Board, the Oregon Department of Forestry, and the County Board of Commissioners. The CWPP will inform the 2024 update of the Countywide Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP).

Questions about the Plan? Contact PlanOffice@co.linn.or.us

Partners Involved:



Looking for a defensible space assessment of your home?

Schedule a FREE defensible space assessment for your home or business. Go to the link below and click on the yellow button. Enter your address and click on your house/business on the map to find your provider. Contact your provider at the phone number or website link listed. The assessment will be completed by your local fire agency or an OSFM staff member.

oregondefensiblespace.org/about

Request an assessment

Never miss a wildfire evacuation notification!

Sign up for Linn-Benton ALERT – Emergency Notification system.

You can create an account and alerts will be sent to all devices that you register, including landline phones, cell phones & email

linnsheriff.org/community-resources/emergency-preparedness



Contact List:**Regional and State Organizations**

Linn County Planning & Building Department Director, Steve Wills swills@co.linn.or.us Linn County Courthouse, Room 114, 300 Fourth Avenue SW, Albany, Oregon 97322 Ph: 541-967-3816, Email: planoffice@co.linn.or.us linncountyor.gov/planningbuilding and bit.ly/linncwpp	Linn County Emergency Management Emergency Manager, Ric Lentz rlentz@linnsheriff.org linnsheriff.org/community-resources/emergency-preparedness <i>Follow the Sheriff's Office on Facebook for up-to-date information:</i> facebook.com/LinnSheriff
Linn County Fire Defense Board Fire Defense Board Chief, Shane Wooton linncountyfiredefense.com <i>Follow the Fire Defense Board on Facebook for up-to-date information:</i> facebook.com/linncountyfiredefenseboard	North Santiam Watershed Council Director, Brandin Hilbrandt bhilbrandt.nswc@gmail.com 284 E Water St, Stayton, OR 97383 Ph: 503-930-8202, Email: council@northsantiam.org northsantiam.org
Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) Find a Stewardship Forester for your area: oregon.gov/odf/working/pages/findaforester.aspx South Cascade- Sweet Home Unit Ph: 541-367-6108 North Cascade - Santiam Unit Ph: 503-859-2151	Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) South Willamette Valley Regional Representative, Patrick Wingard 1715 Franklin Blvd., Suite 221, Eugene, OR 97403 Ph: 541-393-7675, Email: patrick.wingard@dlcd.oregon.gov oregon.gov/LCD
Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Fire Risk Reduction Specialist, Stephanie Stafford Stephanie.S.STAFFORD@osfm.oregon.gov 3991 Fairview Industrial Drive SE Salem, OR 97302 Ph: 503-378-3473, General Email: ask.osfm@osfm.oregon.gov oregon.gov/osfm/wildfire/Pages/wildfire2.aspx	Oregon State University (OSU) - Extension Services Forester for Benton, Linn & Polk Counties, Lorelle Sherman lorelle.sherman@oregonstate.edu Ph: 541-713-5016 More Info: extension.oregonstate.edu/forests/fire
South Santiam Watershed Council Director, Shannon Richardson s.richardson.sswc@gmail.com 4431 US-20, Sweet Home, OR 97386 Ph: 541-367-5564 sswc.org	United States Forest Service (USFS) Sweet Home District Ranger, Nikki Swanson 4431 US-20, Sweet Home, OR 97386 Ph: 541-367-5168 r6_willamette_web_frontend@fs.fed.us fs.usda.gov/recarea/willamette/recarea/?recid=4208

Local Fire Agencies

Albany FD Fire Chief, Shane Wooton shane.wooton@cityofalbany.net 120 34th Ave SW, Albany, OR 97322 Ph: 541-917-7700	Brownsville RFD Fire Chief, Kevin Rogers chief@brownsvillefire.com 600 E Blakely Ave, Brownsville, OR 97327 Ph: 541-466-5227
Gates RFPD Fire Chief, Jack Carriger jack.carriger@outlook.com 140 E Sorbin St, Gates, OR 97346 503-897-2929	Halsey-Shedd RFPD Fire Chief, Travis Hewitt halseyfire503@rtinet.com Station 51 - 740 W 2nd St, Halsey, OR 97348 Ph: 541-369-2419
Idanha Detroit RFPD Fire Chief, Fred Patterson fpatterson@idanhadetroitfire.com 107 OR-22, Idanha, OR 97350 Fire station Ph: 503-854-3239 Admin Office Ph: 503-854-3540	Harrisburg F&R Fire Chief, Bart Griffith bgriff@harrisburgfire.org 440 Smith St, Harrisburg, OR 97446 Ph: 541-995-6412
Jefferson RFPD Fire Chief, Levi Eckhardt jefferson.chief@jeffersonfire.org 189 N Main St, Jefferson, OR 97352 Ph: 541-327-2822	Lebanon FD Fire Chief, Joseph Rodondi jrodondi@lebanonfire.com 1050 W. Oak Street Lebanon, OR 97355 Temporary Address: MBVA Building, 550 S Main St. Lebanon, OR 97355 Ph: 541-451-1901
Lyons RFPD Fire Chief, Robert Johnston lfldchief@wvi.com 1114 Main St, Lyons, OR 97358 Ph: 503-859-2410	Mill City RFPD Fire Chief, Elias Breen mcrfpd2@wbcable.net 400 S 1st Ave, Mill City, OR 97360 Ph: 503-897-2390
Scio RFPD Fire Chief, Kyle White chief@sciofire.org 38975 SW 6th Ave Scio, OR 97374 Ph: 503-394-3000	Stayton RFPD Fire Chief, Jay Alley jay.alley@staytonfire.org 1988 W Ida Street, Stayton, OR 97383 Ph: 503-769-2601
Sweet Home F&A Fire Chief, Nick Tyler ntyler@sweethomefire.org Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program Manager, Christian Whitfield cwhitfield@sweethomefire.org 1099 Long Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386 Ph: 541-367-5882	Tangent RFPD Fire Chief, Chris Griffin cgriffin@tangentfire.com 32053 Birdfoot Dr, Tangent, OR 97389 Ph: 541-928-8722

Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Proposed Action Items

December 6, 2023

#	Action Item	Timeline*	Lead Organization (& Partners)	Location
Goal 1: Enhance wildfire and emergency response and recovery capabilities to protect life, the built environment, and natural systems.				
1.1	Assess and address deficiencies in equipment and resources available for wildland firefighting for rural fire departments.	Ongoing, Medium Term	Linn County Fire Defense Board (Linn County Road Dept., Linn County EM, ODF, power companies, hospitals, private contractors)	Countywide
1.2	Inventory alternative firefighting water sources in Wildfire Urban Interface, including helicopter dip sites.	Ongoing	Oregon Department of Forestry (Fire Defense Board (local districts), Water Districts)	Primarily within District boundaries and in areas identified by with fire districts as lacking water supply
1.3	Improve addressing and visibility in rural areas.	Ongoing	Linn Fire Defense Board and Local Fire Districts (Linn County GIS, Roads, Dispatch, and Planning)	Countywide
1.4	Enhance interoperable communications by addressing communications deficiencies.	Ongoing, Medium Term	Linn County Sheriff-Dispatch, Linn County Undersheriff, Linn County Emergency Management	Countywide
1.5	Increase evacuation preparedness in high-risk WUI areas.	Ongoing	Linn County Emergency Management	Countywide
1.6	Augment volunteer fire fighter training to improve response capacities, especially in rural fire districts.	Ongoing, Short Term	Linn County Fire Training Council (Linn County Emergency Management)	Rural Fire Districts Countywide
1.7	Seek funding to build a smaller secondary substation on the east side of the Harrisburg Fire & Rescue's fire district.	Ongoing, Short Term	Harrisburg Rural Fire Protection District	3328 Mt. Tom Drive, Harrisburg
1.8	Enhance signage that addresses bridge weight limits in the rural areas	Ongoing	Linn County Road Department (Fire Defense Board, ODOT, cities/road managers)	Countywide
1.9	Assure firefighters have properly fitted, and current PPE that meets accepted PPE standards.	Ongoing, Short Term	Fire Defense Board (Fire Departments)	Countywide

*Key: Timeline for Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years), Medium Term (4-10 years), Long Term (10+ years). No anticipated end date if term not noted.

Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Proposed Action Items

December 6, 2023

Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation Page 2

#	Action Item	Timeline*	Lead Organization (& Partners)	Location
1.10	Formalize and maintain strong, flexible partnerships and seek funding to stage supplies and support at emergency wildfire evacuation sites and clean air shelter sites in local communities.	Ongoing, Medium Term	Linn County Emergency Management and Health Services	Albany, Brownsville, Harrisburg, Santiam Canyon, and Sweet Home
1.11	Review emergency communication systems and procedures to improve accessibility by residents and consistent messaging across jurisdictions.	Ongoing, Short Term, w/ continued coordination	Linn County Emergency Management	Countywide
Goal 2: Empower residents and other stakeholders with knowledge, decision-making tools, and resources to understand and reduce wildfire risks and increase preparedness.				
2.1	Collaborate with developers/builders, fire protection agencies, and relevant County agencies to collect and distribute educational materials regarding fire-resistant construction materials, fire code standards for access, water supply, fuel breaks, defensible space, and fire-resistant vegetation and landscaping in the WUI.	Ongoing	Linn County Planning & Building Department	Unincorporated Linn County & contract cities (Brownsville, Halsey, Lyons, Mill City, Millersburg, Scio, Sodaville, Tangent and Waterloo). Other jurisdictions (Sweet Home, Albany, Lebanon) could potentially partner.
2.2	Expand and promote existing communication campaigns to educate visitors and recreators about wildfire prevention (i.e., accidental ignitions) and risk mitigation while visiting Linn County.	Ongoing	CWPP Committee or Fire Prevention Cooperative, if established (Linn Fire Defense Board, Linn County Emergency Management, OSFM, ODF, USFS, BLM, Potential Partners: Keep Oregon Green, Linn County Parks, Oregon State Parks, local tourism boards/visitor association)	Countywide, with a focus on tourism and recreation areas
2.3	Formalize the dissemination of educational campaign materials for WUI residents about ignition prevention, with an emphasis on promotion during burn bans.	Not Started	Linn FDB and ODF (Linn County Communications, Fire Districts PIO Group, OSFM)	Countywide, with focus on the WUI
2.4	Continue supporting and expanding the Smokey the Bear Fire Protection Programs in schools	Ongoing	ODF (US Forest Service)	Countywide, with focus on the WUI

*Key: Timeline for Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years), Medium Term (4-10 years), Long Term (10+ years). No anticipated end date if term not noted.

Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Proposed Action Items

December 6, 2023

Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation Page 3

#	Action Item	Timeline*	Lead Organization (& Partners)	Location
2.5	Engage K-12 students with place-based fire ecology, behavior, and risk lessons to support the next generation in understanding the ecological role of fire on Linn County landscapes and learning to live alongside fire.	Not Started, Short Term: curriculum pilot, Long Term: establishing year-round courses	Watershed Councils - North/South Santiam and Calapooia (OSU Extension/Outdoor School Program, ONREP, local school districts incl. Sweet Home, East Linn, GAPS, North Santiam, forestry clubs, CTC)	Countywide, potentially start with Eastern Linn County schools / youth programs
2.6	Establish and maintain programs to aid vulnerable populations during unhealthy and hazardous air quality conditions caused by wildfire.	Ongoing for education, Medium Term for supply distribution programs	Linn County Public Health	Countywide
2.7	Identify opportunities and barriers to support fire-vulnerable populations (e.g., low-income, elderly, disabled, non-English speaking) with wildfire disaster preparedness. Work to embed wildfire disaster preparedness within ongoing community health education efforts in fire-vulnerable populations.	Ongoing, Short Term	Linn County Public Health (Linn County EM, Regional Healthcare Coalition, Linn Benton Lincoln Health Equity Alliance, local healthcare providers and nonprofits)	Countywide
2.8	Conduct a Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code audit to determine the efficacy of current wildfire mitigation policies and development standards. Update the Linn County Comprehensive Plan Natural Hazards (Goal 7) element and Linn County Land Development Code to align with statewide wildfire mitigation statutes and new legislation.	Not Started, Short Term	Linn County Planning & Building Department	Legislative code updates would affect unincorporated Linn County only.

*Key: Timeline for Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years), Medium Term (4-10 years), Long Term (10+ years). No anticipated end date if term not noted.

Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Proposed Action Items

December 6, 2023

#	Action Item	Timeline*	Lead Organization (& Partners)	Location
2.9	Support formal and nonformal educators in planning, integrating, and implementing wildland fire focused education for Linn County K-12 students via at least two professional development opportunities.	Not Started; Medium Term	Oregon State University Forestry & Natural Resource Extension Service (OSU Extension Fire Program & Oregon Natural Resources Education Program (ONREP), local school districts (Sweet Home, Lebanon, North Santiam), Western Oregon Outdoor School, North and South Santiam Watershed Councils)	Mid-Willamette Valley, including Linn County
Goal 3: Reduce structural ignitability through the use of non-regulatory incentives.				
3.1	Enhance structural protection in structurally unprotected areas.	Ongoing	Linn County Planning & Building Department (OSFM, Linn County GIS, local fire districts)	Areas outside a local fire protection district
3.2	Complete the fire structural risk assessments in Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, and Sweet Home fire districts, and utilize this as a model program for other Linn County fire districts for conducting voluntary defensible space assessments for homes within the WUI; document results using Survey 123, a centralized online platform,	Ongoing	Linn Fire Defense Board, Oregon State Fire Marshall (Fire Districts, ODF)	Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, and Sweet Home fire districts and other fire districts serving WUI communities.
3.3	Share information about State fire hardening building code standards for voluntary use and seek funding for a home hardening cost-share/incentive program.	Ongoing for education, Medium Term for home hardening program	County Planning & Building and WUI cities	Countywide, for grant program consider targeting high-risk WUI areas and socially vulnerable populations
3.4	Seek funding to upgrade critical infrastructure sites through building hardening retrofits such as fire-resistant roofing, siding, and screening, and water supply improvements such as adding community water tanks or emergency vehicle access to natural water sources, for identified critical infrastructure throughout Linn County.	Not Started, Long Term	Linn County Emergency Management & local jurisdictions (Special Districts, local construction companies)	Potential sites identified across the County, see worksheet for more information

*Key: Timeline for Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years), Medium Term (4-10 years), Long Term (10+ years). No anticipated end date if term not noted.

Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Proposed Action Items

December 6, 2023

#	Action Item	Timeline*	Lead Organization (& Partners)	Location
Goal 4: Prioritize and implement fuels treatment projects on private and public land to reduce risk, increase resiliency, and create defensible landscapes.				
4.1	Incorporate, maintain, and update Linn County's Risk Assessment and GIS data elements, and maintain an inventory of priority fuels reduction projects in high-risk areas. Refer to Appendix X of the Plan for priority areas.	Ongoing	Linn County Emergency Management as CWPP Advisory Committee Convener (Linn Planning & Building and GIS, ODF, and FDB)	Countywide
4.2	Engage in pre-suppression fire planning with partners and collaborators to create fuel breaks and enhance access across landownerships	Ongoing	USFS (ODF, BLM, and private industrial landowners)	Various
4.3	Support small woodland owners to make management decisions about forest health and fuels management through educational workshops, courses, field tours, and/or voluntary inventories of private timber land.	Ongoing, Long Term	OSU Extension Forestry and Natural Resources (ODF, NRCS, South Santiam Watershed Council/North Santiam Watershed Council, Oregon Small Woodlands Association)	Countywide
4.4	Seek additional resources and manage and administer grants to provide cost-share to private forest landowners to manage fuels, buffer high value resources, and reduce landscape-level wildfire risk.	Ongoing	ODF and South Santiam Watershed Council / North Santiam Watershed Council (Landowners, Local Loggers & Contractors, NRCS, Linn SWCD, OSU Extension, Oregon Small Woodlands Association)	Priority fuels reduction areas, WUI areas
4.5	Identify incentives for improving maintenance of fire breaks and reducing hazardous vegetation.	Ongoing	Oregon Department of Forestry	Priority areas can shift from year to year depending on fire regime and local priorities and concerns.

*Key: Timeline for Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years), Medium Term (4-10 years), Long Term (10+ years). No anticipated end date if term not noted.

Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Proposed Action Items

December 6, 2023

Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation Page 6

#	Action Item	Timeline*	Lead Organization (& Partners)	Location
4.6	Implement landowner assistance programs to support creating defensible space around communities particularly with vulnerable populations (i.e., elderly, disabled, isolated or fire-affected areas, etc.) and incentivize fuels reduction activities. Create local workforce development opportunities through employment of fuels reduction crews.	Ongoing	Linn County Juvenile Department, Community Services Consortium, Santiam Canyon Long Term Recovery Group, and Stayton Fire District (ODF, OSFM, local fire districts)	Multiple locations countywide, including WUI areas with elderly/disabled landowners. medium to extreme risk WUI areas primarily, Sweet Home and Lebanon; Lyons, Mill City, Gates, Idanha, and portions of unincorporated Linn County that were affected by the 2020 Beachie Creek Fire; within Stayton Fire District boundaries.
4.7	Identify partners and interest to explore and promote opportunities for multiple uses of small diameter biomass within fuels reduction projects and marketing for other uses.	Not started	CWPP Committee (Potential partners: ODF, USFS/BLM, Sweet Home Fire District, Linn FDB, Small Woodlands Association, Freres Lumber)	
4.8	Explore the development of a Linn County Fuels Management Cooperative through the Small Woodland Association for sustaining fuels management within the WUI.	Not started	Oregon Department of Forestry (Small Woodlands Association, Fire Defense Board)	
4.9	Work with forestland managers and watershed managers to protect watershed health in high-risk areas while reducing wildfire hazards.	Ongoing	Oregon Department of Forestry and Watershed Councils (USFS/BLM, ODFW, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Local governments, Linn SWCD, ODA, NRCS, water control districts, other community-level partners.)	In high-risk areas/watersheds countywide

*Key: Timeline for Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years), Medium Term (4-10 years), Long Term (10+ years). No anticipated end date if term not noted.

Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Proposed Action Items

December 6, 2023

Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation Page 7

#	Action Item	Timeline*	Lead Organization (& Partners)	Location
4.10	Inventory road conditions along high -risk community routes and reduce hazardous vegetation in public right of ways to enhance access and create fuel breaks, and to keep access roads large enough for emergency vehicle passage.	Ongoing	Linn County Roads Department in consultation with ODOT, local jurisdictions, and local fire agencies	County-wide in each maintenance district: Albany (northwest), Scio (northeast), Halsey (southwest) and Sweet Home (southeast). Specific priority areas/projects identified in Appendix X.
4.11	Seek funding to implement fuels reduction efforts surrounding critical infrastructure sites, including removal and possible replacement with nonflammable landscaping material.	Not started, Medium Term	Linn County EM and local jurisdictions (ODF, Fire Districts, surrounding public & private land managers)	Identify specific critical infrastructure in fire-prone areas
4.12	Seek grant funding to support fuels reduction and creation of defensible space around communities in Sweet Home Fire District.	Ongoing	Sweet Home Fire District (ODF)	Sweet Home
4.13	Conduct electrical system Right of Way tree trimming and vegetation management.	Ongoing	Consumers Power Inc. (contractors: Asplundh and Jensen's)	System wide throughout the CPI service territory including many WUI areas in Linn County.
4.14	Conduct CPI Electrical Transmission and Distribution System Hardening.	Ongoing	Consumers Power Inc.	System wide throughout the CPI service territory. Focus on high fire risk areas as defined by CPI.
4.15	Enhance CPI Electrical Transmission and Distribution System Intelligence.	Ongoing	Consumers Power Inc.	System wide throughout the CPI service territory. Focus on high fire risk areas as defined by CPI.
4.16	Increase Environmental Intelligence: Use weather data for operational planning and decision making.	Not started, Short Term	Consumers Power Inc.	System wide at substations and communications facilities located in high fire risk zones as defined by CPI.

*Key: Timeline for Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years), Medium Term (4-10 years), Long Term (10+ years). No anticipated end date if term not noted.

Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Proposed Action Items

December 6, 2023

#	Action Item	Timeline*	Lead Organization (& Partners)	Location
Goal 5: Increase opportunities for collaboration, coordination, and building capacity to implement wildfire projects.				
5.1	Create and formalize a CWPP Advisory Committee to oversee implementation, identify and coordinate funding opportunities, and sustain the Linn County Wildfire Protection Plan.	Not Started, Short Term	County Emergency Management (FDB)	Countywide
5.2	Work to establish a sub-committee or a Fire Prevention Cooperative to coordinate and sustain effective countywide public education and outreach activities.	Not started	CWPP Committee (Fire Defense Board, Sweet Home Fire District, ODF, OSFM, USFS/BLM, OSU Fire Extension (strategic planning support))	Countywide
5.3	Resource a Fire Adapted Communities (or general Hazards Mitigation) Coordinator position to coordinate implementation of the CWPP, secure external funding, manage community-focused education and support programs, and seek additional opportunities for partnerships that advance wildfire resilience in Linn County.	Not Started	Linn County Emergency Management, Linn County Planning & Building (OSFM, OSU Fire Extension)	Countywide

*Key: Timeline for Target Completion: Short Term (1-3 years), Medium Term (4-10 years), Long Term (10+ years). No anticipated end date if term not noted.

LINN COUNTY WILDFIRE READY NIGHT

Welcome everyone!

*Please sign in & grab
yourself pizza and a seat.*
The program will shortly!



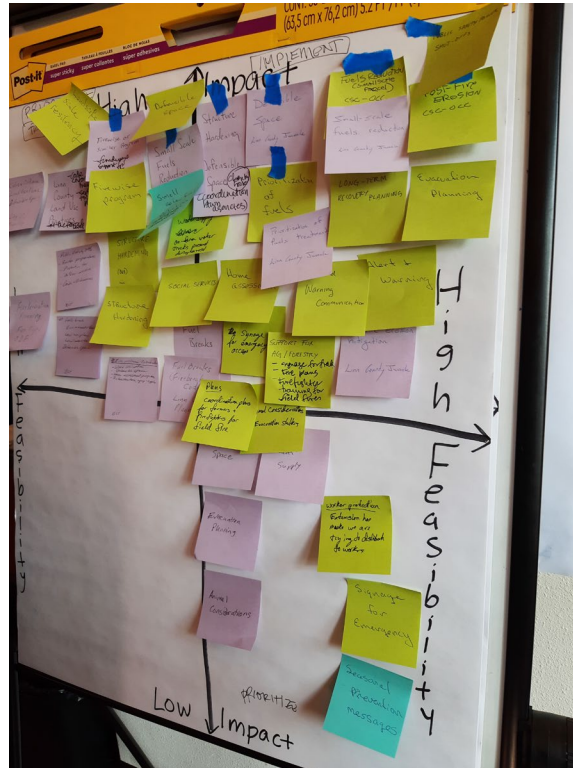
QUESTIONS?
CONTACT
E-65
KBENTZ@CO.LINN.OR.US

Tonight's Schedule

- Words of welcome
- Introduction: Linn County CWPP
- What is our wildfire risk in Linn County?
- The big goals of the Linn County Wildfire Protection Plan
- Updates from agency partners
- Taking action: how to prepare for wildfires at your home
- Mingle and chat: soliciting your feedback, concerns and priorities



An Introduction to Linn County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan



What is our wildfire risk in Linn County?

Presented by Kate Bentz, Linn County Associate Planner

Data from the Linn CWPP Wildfire Risk Assessment

Special thanks to:

Cara Walter, Linn County GIS

Andy McEvoy, Oregon State University - College of Forestry

What is a risk assessment?

- It is a look at how **fire** affects the things that we care about inside our county.

What are assets (made by humans) and resources (things that exist naturally) that we care about? What things do wildfires impact?

- It considers *both* potential **threats** and potential **benefits**.
- It is informational only, it is **NOT** a tool for regulation.

Why do we do it?

- A risk assessment helps land managers, community planners, and emergency response professionals **make informed decisions on which areas to prioritize and what types of projects we should be doing there. When those areas/projects are named and prioritized, grant funding streams may open up.**



Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, 2024



Where does the data come from?

We used the latest scientific report by Oregon State University (2023) to understand state/countywide **risks** and **benefits**.

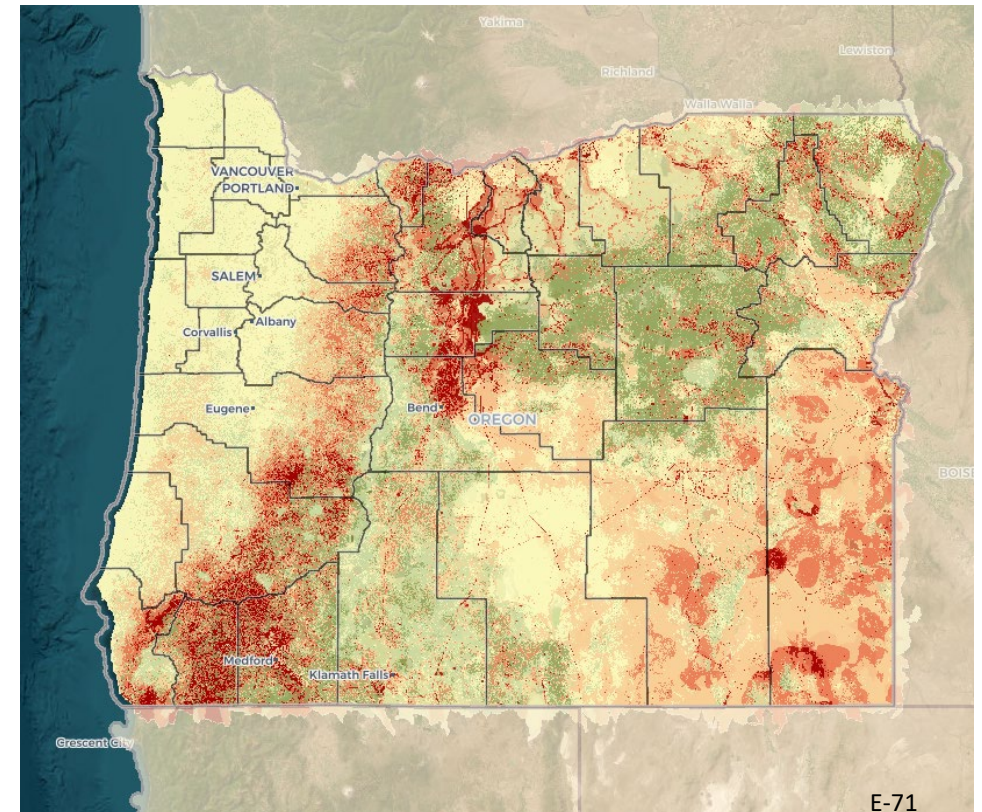
and

We polled our local fire response agencies to identify their **priority areas of concern**.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST QUANTITATIVE WILDFIRE RISK ASSESSMENT

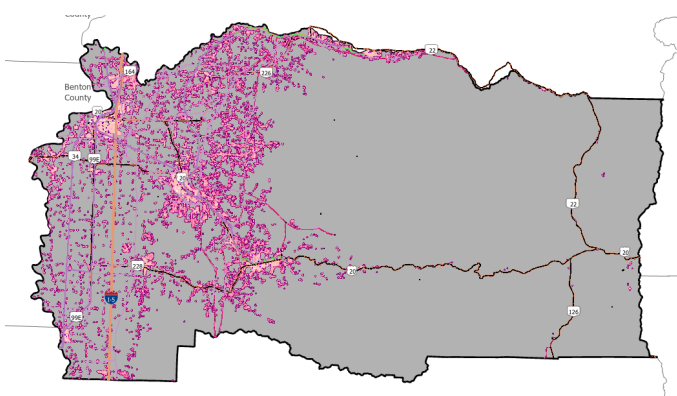
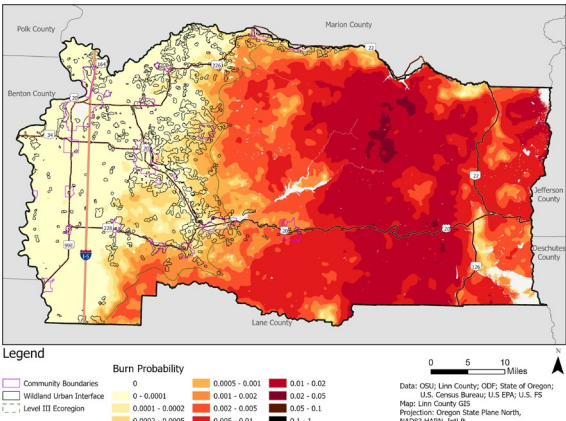
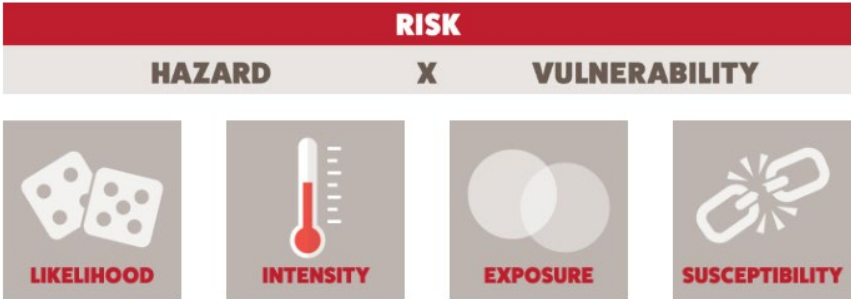


Oregon State University
College of Forestry



How do you measure Overall Risk?

- **Likelihood:** How likely will a fire start somewhere, based on historic fire patterns
- **Intensity:** How intense will that fire be, based on fuel types, slope, weather patterns, etc.
- **Exposure:** How close are the things we care about to places that may catch on fire, based on distance
- **Susceptibility:** How positive or negative a fire would be for an asset/resource that exists in the area

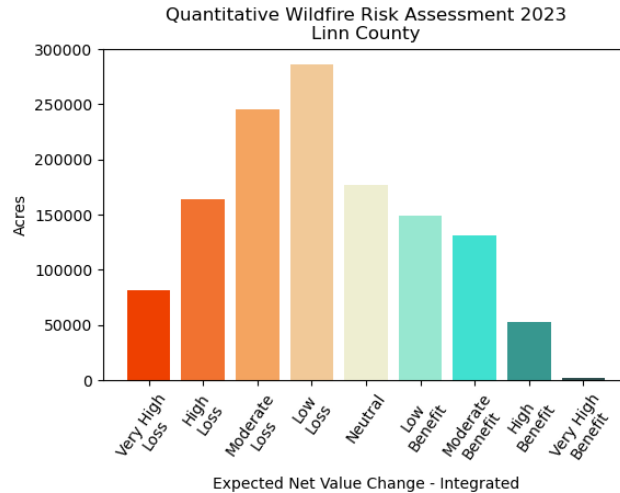


		Fire Intensity Level (flame length)					
Covariate #1	Covariate #2	FIL 1	FIL 2	FIL 3	FIL 4	FIL 5	FIL 6
Fire Regime Group	Size Class (quadratic mean diameter)	0 - 2'	2 - 4'	4 - 6'	6 - 8'	8 - 12'	>12'
FRG 1	< 10"	10	-20	-50	-100	-100	-100
	10 - 20"	50	30	0	-30	-75	-100
	>20"	50	30	0	-10	-50	-100
FRG 3	< 10"	0	-30	-60	-100	-100	-100
	10 - 20"	20	0	-40	-80	-80	-100
	>20"	30	10	-20	-80	-80	-100
FRG 4/5	< 10"	-20	-40	-80	-100	-100	-100
	10 - 20"	-20	-40	-60	-80	-100	-100
	>20"	-20	-40	-60	-80	-100	-100

Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, 2024

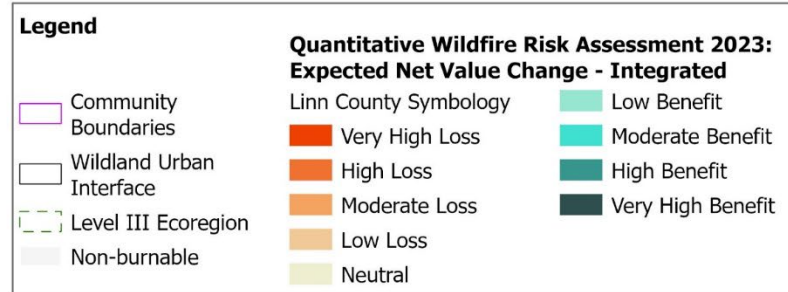
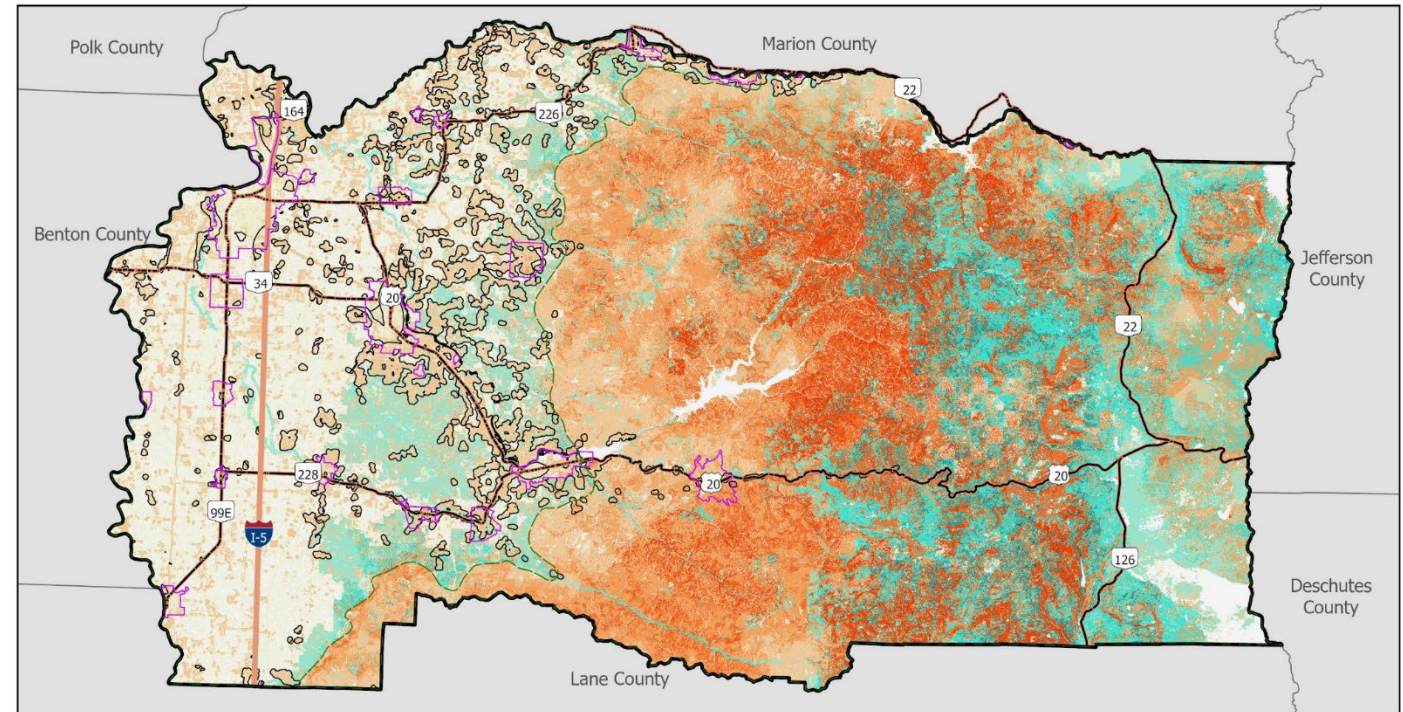
What are the results?

- Results trend to outcomes of low to moderate loss across entire county



Regional takeaways-

- West Linn County- some susceptibility but low likelihood = outcomes are **neutral** to **low negative**
- Cascade foothills- more likelihood for fire starts than the valley, but mixed outcomes = some **low positive** & **low negative**
- Central Cascades- overlapping important values (timber, drinking water, recreation, habitat) + high fire likelihood & intensity = **worst outcomes**



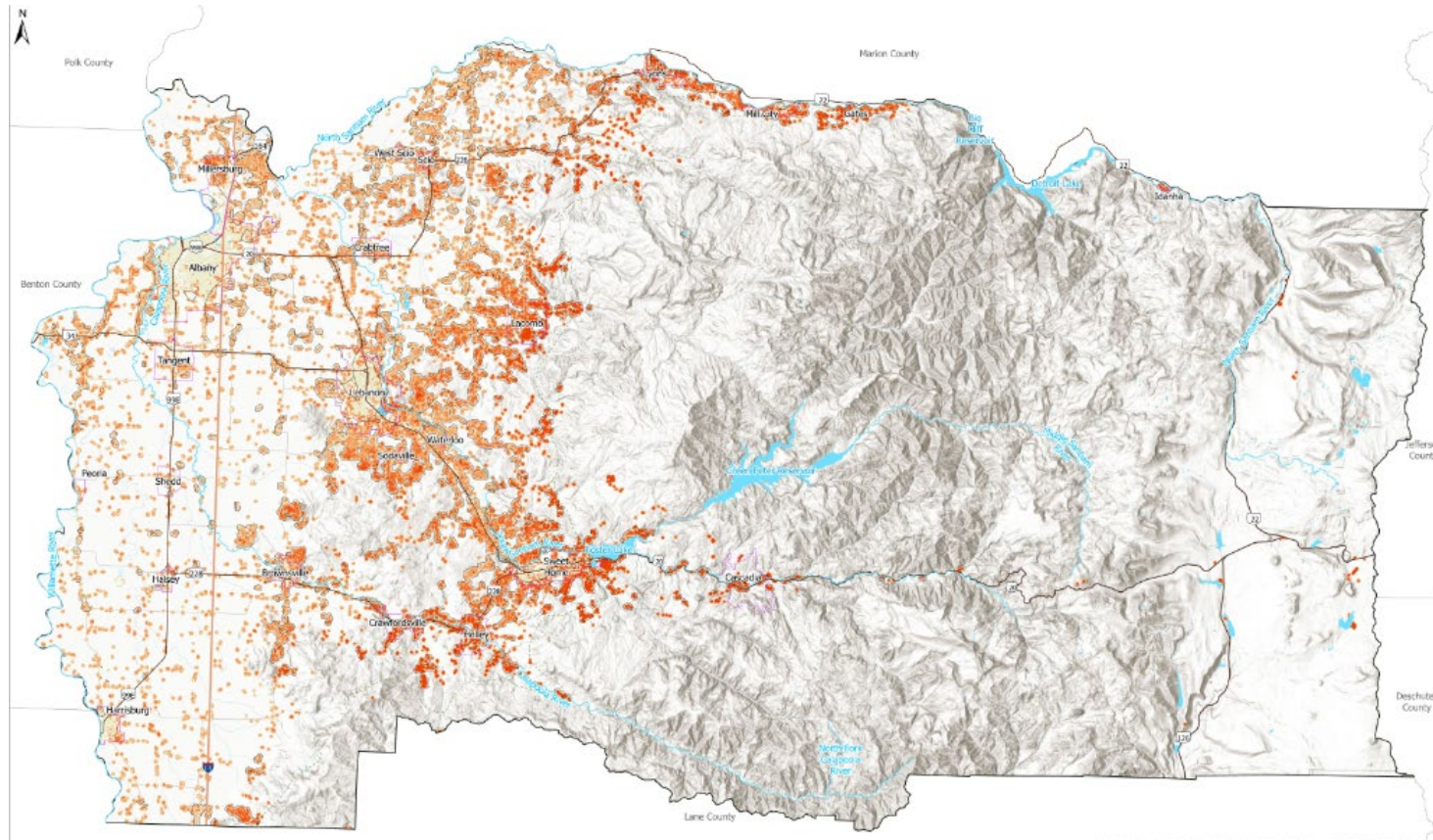
Categories (Highly Valued Resources and Assets) that OSU factored into the 2023 QWRA which contributed to the overall scores in the Integrated Risk Assessment: People & Property, Infrastructure, Drinking Water, Timber, Agriculture, Ecological Integrity, Wildlife, and Recreation.

Data: USFS; ODF; OSU; Linn County; State of Oregon;
U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. EPA
Map: Linn County GIS
Projection: Oregon State Plane North, NAD83 HARN, Intl ft

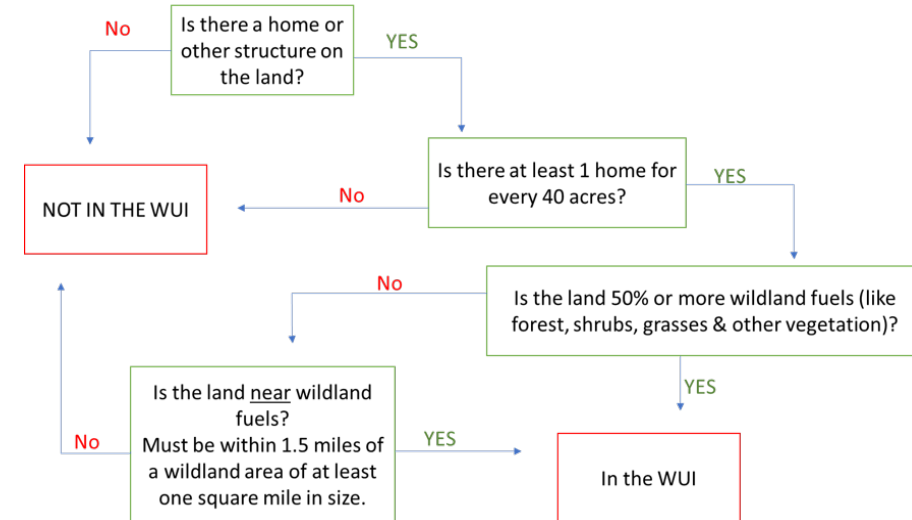
What is a WUI area?

WUI = Wildland-Urban Interface (but not always so urban)

WUI Communities- increasing exposure & intensity generally as you go more east = **low** risk in the western areas to **high** risk in eastern areas

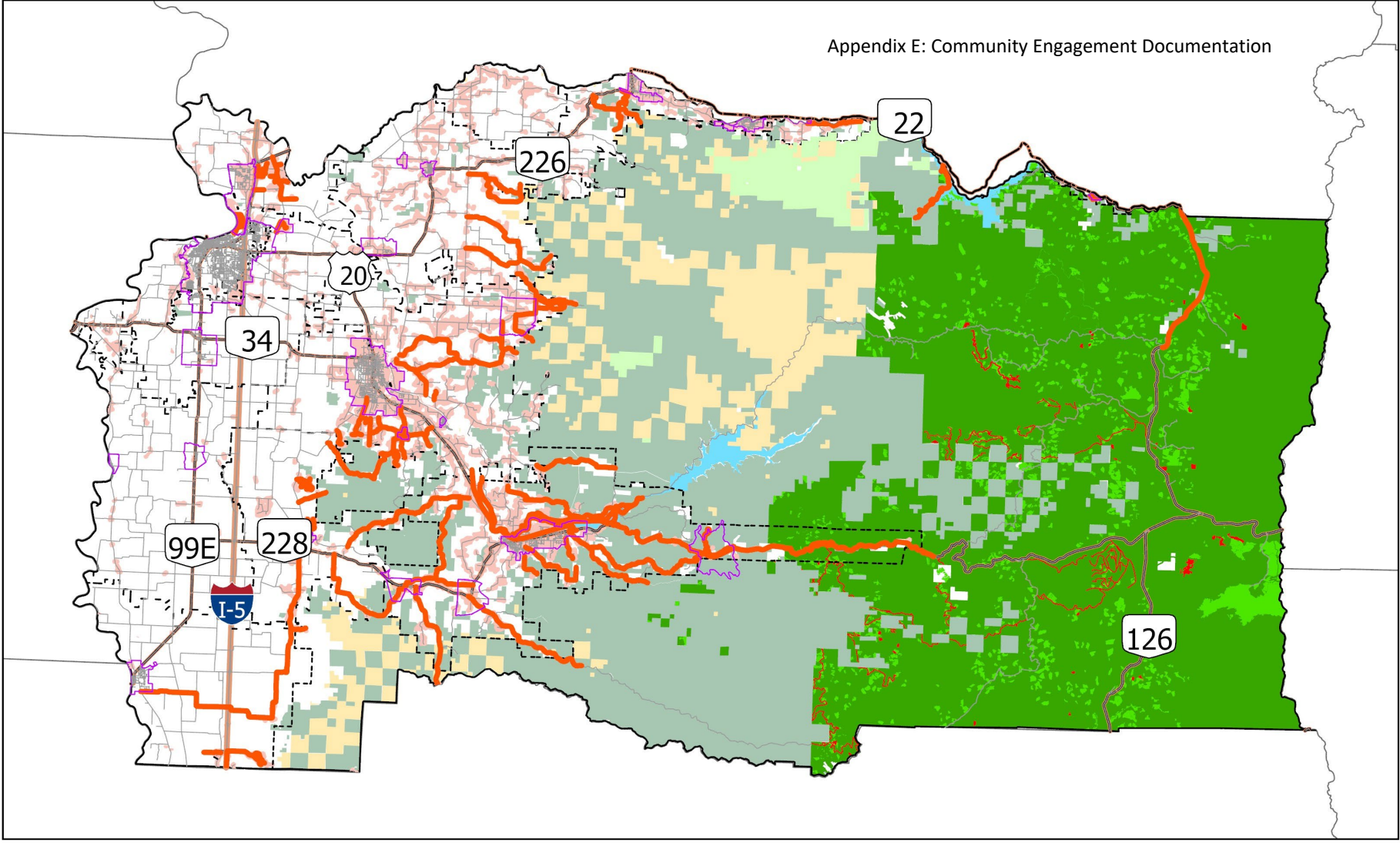


Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, 2024

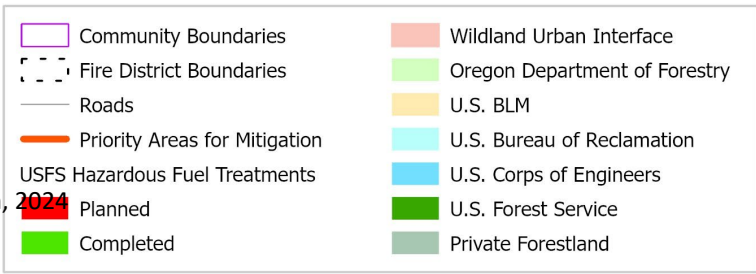


Finally, what does our local knowledge add to the conversation?

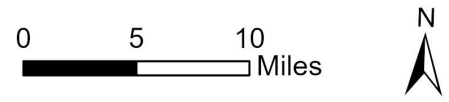
Priority areas for treatment, identified by local fire districts, Oregon Dept. of Forestry, and the Forest Service



Fire Protection Agencies Priority Areas for Mitigation



This map was developed in consultation with local fire protection districts and ODF. Priority areas are visualized as corridors along roadways, rivers, and railroads, however many of these locations also include surrounding WUI and/or unpopulated lands. Please see the Priority Areas Appendix for more information about each location.



Data: Linn County Rural Fire Districts; ODF; USFS; Linn County; State of Oregon; U.S. Census Bureau
Map: Linn County GIS
Projection: Oregon State Plane North, NAD83 HARN, Intl ft

What's next, and where can I find more risk information for myself?

- Risk assessment findings help local & regional partners develop project ideas and make competitive grant applications -> active steps to help decrease wildfire risk across the County.
- Check out [WildfireRisk.org](https://www.wildfirerisk.org) (national data) and [OregonExplorer.info](https://oregonexplorer.info) – CWPP Planning Tool (state data) for more around this topic.
- Check out the final CWPP when it becomes available on the County Website- bit.ly/linncwpp



CWPP Goals and Action Items



Goal 1: Enhance wildfire and emergency response and recovery capabilities to protect life, the built environment, and natural systems.

- 1.1. Assess and address deficiencies in equipment and resources available for wildland firefighting for rural fire departments.
- 1.3. Improve addressing and visibility in rural areas.
- 1.11. Review emergency communication systems and procedures to improve accessibility by residents and consistent messaging across jurisdictions.



CWPP Goals and Action Items

Goal 2: Empower residents and other stakeholders with knowledge, decision-making tools, and resources to understand and reduce wildfire risks and increase preparedness.

2.2. Expand and promote existing communication campaigns to educate visitors and recreators about wildfire prevention (i.e., accidental ignitions) and risk mitigation while visiting Linn County.

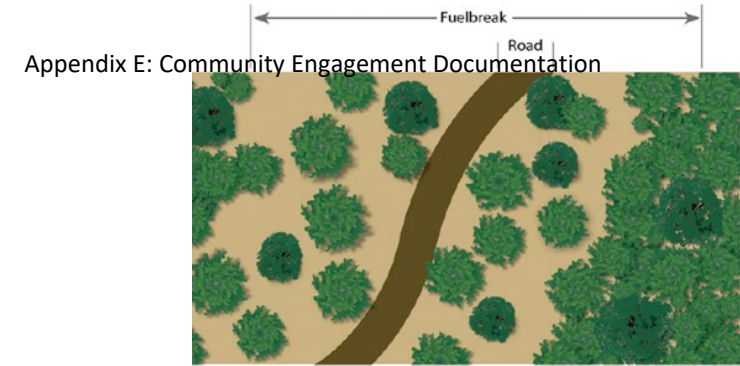
2.6. Establish and maintain programs to aid vulnerable populations during unhealthy and hazardous air quality conditions caused by wildfire.



CWPP Goals and Action Items

Goal 3: Reduce structural ignitability through the use of non-regulatory incentives.

- 3.1. Enhance structural protection in structurally unprotected areas.
- 3.3. Share information about State fire hardening building code standards for voluntary use and seek funding for a home hardening cost-share/incentive program.
- 3.4. Seek funding to upgrade critical infrastructure sites through building hardening retrofits... and water supply improvements for identified critical infrastructure throughout Linn County.



CWPP Goals and Action Items

Goal 4: Prioritize and implement fuels treatment projects on private and public land to reduce risk, increase resiliency, and create defensible landscapes.

4.6. Implement landowner assistance programs to support creating defensible space around communities particularly with vulnerable populations and incentivize fuels reduction activities. Create local workforce development opportunities through employment of fuels reduction crews.

4.9. Work with forestland managers and watershed managers to protect watershed health in high-risk areas while reducing wildfire hazards.

CWPP Goals and Action Items



Goal 5: Increase opportunities for collaboration, coordination, and building capacity to implement wildfire projects.

5.1. Create and formalize a CWPP Advisory Committee to oversee implementation, identify and coordinate funding opportunities, and sustain the Linn County Wildfire Protection Plan.

5.3. Resource a Fire Adapted Communities (or general Hazards Mitigation) Coordinator position to coordinate implementation of the CWPP, secure external funding, manage community-focused education and support programs, and seek additional opportunities for partnerships that advance wildfire resilience in Linn County.

Agency updates: Lighting Talks

- **Linn County Fire Defense Board / Local Fire Districts**
- **Linn County Emergency Management**
- **Oregon Department of Forestry**
- **Willamette National Forest**



Defensible Space Assessment Program

How to Request an Assessment



What is the OSFM Defensible Space Assessment Program?

An Interagency Partnership

The OSFM has partnered with ODF and local fire agencies to provide free defensible space and wildfire preparedness assessments to private property owners in Oregon.



What is the OSFM Defensible Space Assessment Program?

An Interagency Partnership

Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation



OSFM

Deputy State Fire Marshals will conduct assessments on state and private properties not serviced by a local fire agency.



Fire Agencies

Fire agencies may choose to participate in the program and conduct assessments on private properties within their jurisdiction.



ODF

The Oregon Department of Forestry will conduct assessments only on private properties eligible for assistance from their grants.



How do I request an Assessment?



How to Request an Assessment

Scan the QR Code





Visit

OregonDefensibleSpace.org

and click "Schedule a free assessment."

Connect with Your Local Agency

Schedule a free assessment

Protect Your Property From Wildfire

What can I do on my property?

This will open a new window...

How to Request an
Assessment



How to Request an Assessment

When the map pans to your address, zoom in and Click on your house.

Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation

Oregon Defensible Space

OSFM is partnering with local fire agencies across the state to provide Oregonians with access to Defensible Space Assessments.

To find your assessment provider:

- Enter your address in the search bar below and press enter.
- When the map pans to the address you entered, zoom in and **Click on your house.**
- The contact information below updates each time you click a place on the map.

For the last selected location on the map, the Defensible Space Assessment provider is:

Select a location on the map

Contact Details:

Phone:

Email:

Weblink:

Learn More About the Defensible Space Program

The Defensible Space Assessment Program was developed in collaboration with fire service and public stakeholders in the State of Oregon, including the Governor's Fire Service Policy Council, the Oregon Fire Marshal Association, the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, the Oregon Department of Forestry, the Department of Consumer and Business Services, the Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association, and the Oregon State Fire Marshal.



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Contact Details:

Phone:
Email:
Weblink:

Find address or place

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OREGON
DEFENSIBLE SPACE



The contact information for the Assessment provider will update.

Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation

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- The contact information below updates each time you click a place on the map.

3991 Fairview Industrial Dr SE, Salem, OR, 97302, USA

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**For the last selected location on the map,
the Defensible Space Assessment provider is:**

Oregon State Fire Marshal

Contact Details:

Phone: 503-934-0874

Email:

Weblink: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/028ac2f3fc9a42a9b3626082f797c208>

Find address or place

🔍

Learn More About the Defensible Space Program

The Defensible Space Assessment Program was developed in collaboration with fire service and public stakeholders in the State of Oregon, including the Governor's Fire Service Policy Council, the Oregon Fire Marshal Association, the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, the Oregon Department of Forestry, the Department of Consumer and Business Services, the Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association, and the Oregon State Fire Marshal.



The contact information for the Assessment provider will update.

Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation

Example:

For the last selected location on the map,
the Defensible Space Assessment provider is:

Oregon State Fire Marshal

Contact Details:

Phone: 503-934-0874
Email:
Weblink: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/028ac2f3fc9a42a9b3626082f797c208>

 **OREGON**
DEFENSIBLE SPACE



Call

or



Online

(Webform)

How to Request an
Assessment



The contact information for the Assessment provider will update.

Example:

For the last selected location on the map,
the Defensible Space Assessment provider is:

Albany Fire Department

Contact Details:

Phone: 541-917-7734
Email:
Weblink:

 **Call**

 **OREGON**
DEFENSIBLE SPACE



The contact information for the Assessment provider will update.

Appendix E: Community Engagement Documentation

Example:

For the last selected location on the map,
the Defensible Space Assessment provider is:

Sweet Home Fire District

Contact Details:

Phone: (541) 367-5882
Email: cwrr@sweethomefire.org
Weblink: <https://sweethomefire.org/community-wildfire-information/>

 **Call** or  **Online**

 **OREGON**
DEFENSIBLE SPACE

How to Request an
Assessment



Questions?

OSFM Defensible Space Program

osfm.defensiblespace@osfm.oregon.gov

503-934-0874

Linn County CWPP, Summary of Issues Raised at August 2, 2023 City Managers Focus Group Meeting

What is the Priority Concern or Project?	Correlated CWPP GOAL	Correlated Action Item	Proposed Solution/Response
Improved alert & emergency warning communications amongst agencies for all emergencies, including for evacuation - adding all city administrators to County Emergency Management EOP notice text messages.	1	1.11	Action Item included to review emergency communication systems and procedures to improve accessibility by residents and consistent messaging across jurisdictions.
Evacuation communications - challenge for the Santiam Canyon that is split between Marion & Linn counties	1	1.11	Action Item included to review emergency communication systems and procedures to improve accessibility by residents and consistent messaging across jurisdictions may include cross-county communication and coordination.
Emergency communications planning: concerns related to spotty cell service in rural areas, power shut-off impacts, cross-county communications during emergencies.	1	1.4, 1.11	Action Items are included to enhance interoperable communications by addressing communications deficiencies and to review emergency communication systems and procedures to improve accessibility by residents and consistent messaging across jurisdictions.
Work with higher risk neighborhoods on evacuation planning	1	1.5	Action Item included to increase evacuation preparedness in high-risk WUI areas. The CWPP provides information to help identify these high-risk areas for prioritization by local jurisdictions and Linn County.
Livestock evacuation	1	1.5	Action Item included to increase evacuation preparedness in high-risk WUI areas, which includes coordination between Linn County Animal Control, 4H, and Oregon State University for pet and livestock evacuation, shelter, and care.
Equipment needed for evacuation purposes	1	1.10	There is an Action Item that addresses community preparedness and evacuation needs, by formalizing and maintain strong, flexible partnerships and seek funding to stage supplies and support at emergency wildfire evacuation sites and clean air shelter sites in local communities.
Evacuation: road improvements	1	1.3, 1.8	There are Action Items regarding improving addressing and visibility and enhancing signage to address bridge weight limits in rural areas. However, there is no Action Item related to funding road improvements beyond vegetation management. The CWPP Committee may want to consider discussing funding based on the outcome of road conditions inventory (4.10)
Evacuation planning: inventory of evacuation routes, lack of egress options, and fuels management along routes	1, 4	1.5, 4.10	Action Items related to evacuation planning and inventory of road conditions along high-risk community routes and reduction of hazardous vegetation in public right of ways to enhance access and create fuel breaks, and to keep access roads large enough for emergency vehicle passage. Consider future action item on carrying out an inventory of all road conditions, including local, county, state, and federal.
Water supply - lack of water for suppression; lack of water for defensible space (watering home impact zone vegetation)	1, 3	1.2, 3.4	Water supply issues in a specific jurisdiction, e.g., Sodaville, are beyond the scope of CWPP. However, there are supportive Action Items, including to inventory alternative fire fighting water sources and to include water supply improvements as part of critical infrastructure upgrades to decrease structural ignitability. Future actions could include discussion of including a water supply inventory in voluntary defensible space assessments.
Man power assistance (workforce) and education at the local level	1, 4	1.6, 4.6	Action Items related to increasing local fire response staffing capacity and creating workforce development opportunities through employment of fuels reduction crews are included.
Workforce development: forestry/fuels contractors	4	4.6	An Action Item to create local workforce development opportunities through employment of fuels reduction crews is included.
Fire prevention planning	2, 3, 4, 5	multiple	Fire prevention planning is integrated throughout the Action Items, e.g., public education, defensible space assessments and activities, structural risk assessments, agency coordination, etc.
State and federal land use regulations impacts, e.g., wetlands and urban growth management regulations	2	2.1	Federal and statewide land use regulation concerns are beyond the scope of the CWPP. However, local jurisdictions could consider land use practices, defensible space, and building codes/structure hardening that create more resilient development in areas that are identified as high hazard and in the WUI that are voluntary, incentivized, and/or required. An Action Item is included for Linn County to collaborate with developers/builders, fire protection agencies, and relevant County agencies to collect and distribute educational materials regarding fire-resistant construction materials and techniques, fire code standards for access, water supply, fuel breaks, defensible space, and fire-resistant vegetation and landscaping in the WUI.

Linn County CWPP, Summary of Issues Raised at August 2, 2023 City Managers Focus Group Meeting

What is the Priority Concern or Project?	Correlated CWPP GOAL	Correlated Action Item	Proposed Solution/Response
Home impact zone, or defensible space, education for landscapers, developers and real estate professionals	2	2.1	There is an Action Item that addresses collaborating with developers/builders, fire protection agencies, and relevant County agencies to collect and distribute educational materials regarding fire-resistant construction materials and techniques, fire code standards for access, water supply, fuel breaks, defensible space, and fire-resistant vegetation and landscaping in the WUI.
Backyard burning - education & enforcement	2	2.3	Action Item included related to formalizing the dissemination of educational campaign materials for WUI residents about ignition prevention, with an emphasis on promotion during burn bans. There is no specific Action Item addressing backyard burning regulation or enforcement; the Linn County Fire Defense Board may take this up at a later date.
Future urban growth likely to take place in the WUI - how to manage that development	2	2.8	Action Item added for Linn County to conduct a Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code audit to determine the efficacy of current wildfire mitigation policies and development standards.
Seasonal prevention messages: backyard burning, Highway 22 reader board	2	2.2, 2.3	Actions Items included that focus on educating visitors and recreators about wildfire prevention (i.e., accidental ignitions) and risk mitigation while visiting Linn County and educational campaign materials for WUI residents about ignition prevention, with an emphasis on promotion during burn bans.
Fire district protection of new developments	2		There is no specific Action Item related to fire protection districts and new development. The County, in conjunction with the Linn County Fire Defense Board, may consider fire protection district boundaries, service capabilities, and capacity in larger discussions of planning and growth management. There is Action Item added for Linn County to conduct a Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code audit to determine the efficacy of current wildfire mitigation policies and development standards (2.8).
Home impact zone (defensible space) assessment program	3	3.2	An Action Item is included to complete the fire structural risk assessments in Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, and Sweet Home fire districts, and utilize this as a model program for other Linn County fire districts for conducting voluntary defensible space assessments for homes within the WUI; document results using Survey 123, a centralized online platform.
Home hardening education for homeowners on fringe properties	3	3.3	Action Item included regarding sharing State fire hardening building code standards for voluntary use and seek funding for a home hardening cost-share/incentive program.
Evacuation planning: outdated infrastructure along egress routes (old bridge).	3	3.4	The Action Item that is included to address critical infrastructure upgrades for buildings could extend to bridges and other emergency access-related infrastructure. Consider incorporating infrastructure improvements to old bridge into the NHMP for Harrisburg's addendum. Action Item added to seek funding to upgrade critical infrastructure sites to prevent structural ignitability.
Structure protection in Marion Forks	3		There is an Action Item to enhance structural protection in structurally unprotected areas, however forming a structural fire protection district may not be feasible at this time. Marion Forks is included as a priority area of concern for fuels reduction projects.
Infrastructure hardening and structure hardening program	3	3.3, 3.4	Action Item added to seek funding to upgrade critical infrastructure sites to prevent structural ignitability. Another is related to structure hardening, to share information about State fire hardening building code standards for voluntary use and seek funding for a home hardening cost-share/incentive program for unincorporated Linn County. Local jurisdiction could consider similar approaches.
Ignition concerns with temporary encampments	4	4.1	Areas of concern were identified by local jurisdictions for inclusion in the wildfire risk assessment, which will be maintained and updated by Linn County.
Active land management - lobbying to change forest management laws	4	4.2	Action Item related to federal land management fuels reduction included. Lobbying for changes to federal law is beyond the scope of the CWPP.
Increase flexibility of property owners to practice fuel reduction (this is related to backyard burning regulations)	4		There are several Action Items that address fuels reduction. There is no specific Action Item addressing backyard burning regulation and enforcement; the Linn County Fire Defense Board may take this up at a later date.
Fuels treatments and mitigation on lands surrounding communities, including federal, state, and private	4	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, 4.13	There are several Action Items related to planning and prioritizing fuels treatment on federal, state, and private lands.

Linn County CWPP, Summary of Issues Raised at August 2, 2023 City Managers Focus Group Meeting

What is the Priority Concern or Project?	Correlated CWPP GOAL	Correlated Action Item	Proposed Solution/Response
Increased funding for fuels treatments on private lands	4	4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.9, 4.12	There are several Action Items focused on increasing funding opportunities for fuels treatment on private land.
Lack of capacity to apply for external funding	5	5.3	There is an Action Item to Resource a Fire Adapted Communities / Hazards Mitigation Coordinator position to coordinate implementation of the CWPP, secure external funding, manage community-focused education and support programs, and seek additional opportunities for partnerships that advance wildfire resilience in Linn County.
Ensure the CWPP is a living document	5	5.1, 5.3	Action Items are included to formalize the CWPP Committee to oversee implementation, identify and coordinate funding opportunities, and sustain the Linn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and to resource a Coordinator position to implement CWPP implementation.

Linn County CWPP, Summary of Issues Raised at August 24, 2023 Community Organizations Focus Group Meeting

WHAT: What is the priority concern or project	Correlated CWPP GOAL	Correlated Action Item	Proposed Solution/Response
Public alert and warning communication	1	1.11	Action Item included to review emergency communication systems and procedures to improve accessibility by residents and consistent messaging across jurisdictions.
Radio and digital coverage across the residential area (towers, fiber, satellites)	1	1.4	There is an Action Item to enhance interoperable communications by addressing communications deficiencies.
Evacuation planning	1	1.3, 1.5	There are several Action Items that address evacuation planning, including improving addressing and visibility in rural areas and increasing preparedness in high-risk WUI areas, which includes pets and livestock. The CWPP provides information to help identify these high-risk areas for prioritization by local jurisdictions and Linn County.
Pre-stocked resources, PPE, shelter kits for evacuation events	1	1.10	There is an Action Item that addresses community preparedness and evacuation needs, by formalizing and maintain strong, flexible partnerships and seek funding to stage supplies and support at emergency wildfire evacuation sites and clean air shelter sites in local communities.
Grow the utilization of the unified command approach to all emergencies	1		No Action Item included as this is a broader action that encompasses emergency management for all disasters.
Community Resilience Hub	1, 2	1.10	There is an Action Item that addresses community preparedness and evacuation needs, by formalizing and maintain strong, flexible partnerships and seek funding to stage supplies and support at emergency wildfire evacuation sites and clean air shelter sites in local communities.
Smoke preparedness & response: supplies, outreach/education, and training for outdoor workers	2	2.6	An Action Item is included to establish and maintain programs to aid vulnerable populations during unhealthy and hazardous air quality conditions caused by wildfire.
Identify effective interventions, share with state, seek to sustain funding	2	2.7	An Action Item is included to identify opportunities and barriers to support fire-vulnerable populations (e.g., low-income, elderly, disabled, non-English speaking) with wildfire disaster preparedness. Work to embed wildfire disaster preparedness within ongoing community health education efforts in fire-vulnerable populations.
Inclusive engagement for underrepresented communities (reduce barriers for fire mitigation programs)	2	2.7	An Action Item is included to identify opportunities and barriers to support fire-vulnerable populations (e.g., low-income, elderly, disabled, non-English speaking) with wildfire disaster preparedness. Work to embed wildfire disaster preparedness within ongoing community health education efforts in fire-vulnerable populations.
Require code compliance on new development	2	2.8	There is an Action Item to conduct a Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code audit to determine the efficacy of current wildfire mitigation policies and development standards. Update the Linn County Comprehensive Plan Natural Hazards (Goal 7) element and Linn County Land Development Code to align with statewide wildfire mitigation statutes and new legislation. Implementation, including code compliance, should be considered through this process.
Working group to identify needs of fire-vulnerable populations and pre-plan to meet their needs during wildfire events	2	2.6, 2.7	There are Action Items that should be developed through a collaborative process, including: establish and maintain programs to aid vulnerable populations during unhealthy and hazardous air quality conditions caused by wildfire; and identify opportunities and barriers to support fire-vulnerable populations (e.g., low-income, elderly, disabled, non-English speaking) with wildfire disaster preparedness. Work to embed wildfire disaster preparedness within ongoing community health education efforts in fire-vulnerable populations.
Landowner education	2, 3, 4	2.1, 2.3, 3.2, 3.3, 4.3	Several Actions Items that address land owner education are included.
Fire prevention planning	2, 3, 4, 5	multiple	Fire prevention planning is integrated throughout the Action Items, e.g., public education, defensible space assessments and activities, structural risk assessments, agency coordination, etc.
Defensible space programs	3	3.2	An Action Item is included to complete the fire structural risk assessments in Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, and Sweet Home fire districts, and utilize this as a model program for other Linn County fire districts for conducting voluntary defensible space assessments for homes within the WUI; document results using Survey 123, a centralized online platform.

Linn County CWPP, Summary of Issues Raised at August 24, 2023 Community Organizations Focus Group Meeting

WHAT: What is the priority concern or project	Correlated CWPP GOAL	Correlated Action Item	Proposed Solution/Response
Upgrading migrant/seasonal housing	3	3.3	There is an Action Item to share information about State fire hardening building code standards for voluntary use and seek funding for a home hardening cost-share/incentive program. In the development of a cost share/incentive program, the County could consider a focus on resources to support home hardening for rental units for low-income families.
Structure hardening/defensible space	3	3.2, 3.4	An Action Item is included to complete the fire structural risk assessments in Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, and Sweet Home fire districts, and utilize this as a model program for other Linn County fire districts for conducting voluntary defensible space assessments for homes within the WUI; document results using Survey 123, a centralized online platform. Other Action Items address structural hardening, including: share information about State fire hardening building code standards for voluntary use and seek funding for a home hardening cost-share/incentive program; and seek funding to upgrade critical infrastructure sites through building hardening retrofits such as fire-resistant roofing, siding, and screening, and water supply improvements such as adding community water tanks or emergency vehicle access to natural water sources, for identified critical infrastructure throughout Linn County.
Post-fire restoration and support for forestry through grants, landscape surveys, weed mitigation, etc.	4	4.9	An Action Item is included to work with forestland managers and watershed managers to protect watershed health in high-risk areas while reducing wildfire hazards.
Prioritize fuels management across agencies and ownerships, conduct landscape-scale fuels reduction activities, including fuel breaks	4	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, 4.13	There are several Action Items related to planning, prioritizing, and funding fuels treatment on federal, state, and private lands.
Coordinate fuels reduction between local Fire Agencies and Oregon Department of Forestry	4	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, 4.13	There are several Action Items related to planning, prioritizing, and funding fuels treatment on federal, state, and private lands.
Apply for federal funding for fuels reduction	4	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, 4.13	There are several Action Items related to planning, prioritizing, and funding fuels treatment on federal, state, and private lands.
Resources for fuels reduction (private land), including small-scale fuels reduction projects	4	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, 4.13	There are several Action Items related to planning, prioritizing, and funding fuels treatment on federal, state, and private lands.
Resources, external funding for fuels reduction on private lands	4	4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.9, 4.12	There are several Action Items focused on increasing funding opportunities for fuels treatment on private land.
Community connection and empowerment events	5	5.3	These types of events and programs could be developed with the implementation of the Action Item to resource a Fire Adapted Communities / Hazards Mitigation Coordinator position to coordinate implementation of the CWPP, secure external funding, manage community-focused education and support programs, and seek additional opportunities for partnerships that advance wildfire resilience in Linn County.
Share data with state/feds about the worst gaps and most effective interventions to sustain and improve integrated support.	5		There is no Action Item included as this relates to wildfire recovery, this type of action would best fit in a localized disaster recovery plan.
Local economy and business restructure - in recovery, retain disaster-relief funds in the community by hiring local companies instead of big corps/out-of-state contractors			There is no Action Item related to local economic development as it relates to recovery; this type of action would best fit in a localized pre-disaster recovery plan.

Linn County CWPP, Summary of Issues Raised at December 6, 2023 Wildfire Ready Night Open House

WHAT: What is the priority concern or project	Correlated CWPP GOAL	Correlated Action Item	Proposed Solution/Response
Develop an inventory of water resources available for fire suppression activities, including those on private lands for which the landowner has granted emergency access	1, 3	1.2, 3.4	There is an Action Item to continue to inventory alternative firefighting water sources in Wildfire Urban Interface, including helicopter dip sites, including a rural drafting location in the Harrisburg Rural Fire Protection District. Also, another Action Item is focused on seeking funding to upgrade critical infrastructure sites through building hardening retrofits such as fire-resistant roofing, siding, and screening, and water supply improvements such as adding community water tanks or emergency vehicle access to natural water sources, for identified critical infrastructure throughout Linn County.
Egress routes and traffic jams during emergency evacuations	1, 4	1.5, 4.10	There are Action Items related to evacuation planning and inventory of road conditions along high-risk community routes and reduction of hazardous vegetation in public right of ways to enhance access and create fuel breaks, and to keep access roads large enough for emergency vehicle passage.
Planning for livestock evacuation, including opportunities for residents not in areas being evacuated to assist with moving animals	1	1.5	Action Item included to increase evacuation preparedness in high-risk WUI areas, which includes coordination between Linn County Animal Control, 4H, and Oregon State University for pet and livestock evacuation, shelter, and care. The Action Item does not get into specifics of how those organizations identify and mobilize volunteers.
Access to locked gates for egress and emergency access	1	1.5	There is an Action Item related to evacuation planning and inventory of road conditions along high-risk community routes, which includes a potential implementation strategy to develop an inventory of locked gates and work with property owners to gain access during emergency events.
Bridge weight limits and emergency accessibility (example: bridge on McDowell Creek)	1, 3	1.8, 3.4	There is an Action Item to enhance signage that addresses bridge weight limits in the rural areas. There is also an Action Item to address critical infrastructure upgrades for buildings and other emergency access-related infrastructure, that could address bridges. Consider identifying this and other bridges for improvements in the NHMP update mitigation actions.
Alert system registration	1	1.11	Information was shared at the event on how to sign up for emergency alerts (also included the CWPP's Appendix H: Information and Resources). There is an Action Item to review emergency communication systems and procedures to improve accessibility by residents and consistent messaging across jurisdictions.
Improve communication with public about pre-identified evacuation routes and sheltering locations	1	1.4, 1.5, 1.11	There are several Action Items related to improving emergency communications and evacuation planning.
For Action Item 2.6, consider including Linn Benton Community College as a partner	2	2.6	Sharing with Linn County Public Health, the lead on this Action Item to establish and maintain programs to aid vulnerable populations during unhealthy and hazardous air quality conditions caused by wildfire.
Concerns about wildfire risks on neighboring properties	2, 4	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.9, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12, 4.13	There are several Action Items related to wildfire public education, as well as several Action Items related to planning, prioritizing, and funding fuels treatment on federal, state, and private lands.
Offer education on the use of Hamm radios as part of a community emergency preparedness curriculum (possibly for K-12 students)	2		There are two Action Items regarding educational programming in schools, however radio communications and emergency preparedness are not explicitly addressed at this time and could be considered by the CWPP Committee during annual review and update.
How to get an assessment of their house/property by fire districts and/or ODF	3	3.2	Information was shared at the event on how to sign up for free defensible space assessment (also included the CWPP's Appendix H: Information and Resources). There is an Action Item to complete the fire structural risk assessments in Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, and Sweet Home fire districts, and utilize this as a model program for other Linn County fire districts for conducting voluntary defensible space assessments for homes within the WUI. Outreach and promotion of this program will continue as the availability expands.
Consider how to reduce displacement of houseless populations when addressing ignition issues	4	4.1	Areas of concern were identified by local jurisdictions for inclusion in the wildfire risk assessment, which will be maintained and updated by Linn County. Locally, agencies should consider how to best manage potential impacts to houseless populations.
On the fuels project priorities map, differentiate between “high concern areas” identified by fire districts and ODF versus planned projects identified by the USFS to dispel impression that those high concern areas had improvement projects planned.	4	4.1	This suggestion was incorporated into the updated risk assessment map to improve readability and understanding. There is an Action Item to ensure regular maintenance and update of the risk assessment, during which feedback regarding data and mapping can be addressed.

Linn County CWPP, Summary of Issues Raised at December 6, 2023 Wildfire Ready Night Open House

WHAT: What is the priority concern or project	Correlated CWPP GOAL	Correlated Action Item	Proposed Solution/Response
How to get help assessing and implementing fuels projects on their private woodland properties	4	4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.9, 4.12	There is an Action Item specifically related to supporting small woodland owners to make management decisions about forest health and fuels management through educational workshops, courses, field tours, and/or voluntary inventories of private timber land. There are also several Action Items focused on support for and increasing funding opportunities for fuels treatment on private land.
Lack of ability for some homeowners to do their own home impact zone defensible space work because of age/ability and questions about where to go for help	4	4.6	There is an Action Item to implement landowner assistance programs to support creating defensible space around communities particularly with vulnerable populations (i.e., elderly, disabled, isolated or fire-affected areas, etc.) and incentivize fuels reduction activities. Create local workforce development opportunities through employment of fuels reduction crews. As these programs expand, there will be continued outreach and promotion.
Chipping programs	4	4.6, 4.12	There is an Action Item to implement landowner assistance programs to support creating defensible space around communities particularly with vulnerable populations (i.e., elderly, disabled, isolated or fire-affected areas, etc.) and incentivize fuels reduction activities, which includes a potential implementation strategy to explore opportunities to incentivize community wide removal or mastication of fuels through seasonal woodchipper or dumpster days in at risk neighborhoods. There is also an Action Item to seek grant funding to support fuels reduction and creation of defensible space around communities in Sweet Home Fire District.
Bureau of Land Management participation at the event	5	5.1	A Bureau of Land Management (BLM) representative has been an active participant in the CWPP Steering Committee and BLM and US Forest Service will continue to be involved in the CWPP implementation and maintenance.

Appendix F: Fire Agency Profiles

As part of the CWPP outreach and engagement process, the Steering Committee worked with the Linn County Fire Defense Board to talk with local fire protection agencies. Each agency/district within the Linn County Fire Defense Board was asked at the August 2023 Fire Defense Board Meeting to identify the most vulnerable areas within their districts and as well as describe their primary day-to-day needs and long-term goals and aspirations. Bordering northern districts within the Marion County Fire Defense Board were emailed the same questions, requesting their responses. Follow up phone interviews took place with some districts. Additional information about each district and their unmet needs were collected from the Oregon State Fire Marshal district profiles and grant records. District-specific results were pulled from the 2023 CWPP Wildfire Risk assessment. The distribution of risk values was calculated from the 2023 Quantitative Wildfire Risk Assessment and the WUI acreages were calculated from ODF's WUI layer and Linn County Fire District Boundary data.

By far, the most common need identified was firefighter staffing and capacity- both during the fire season and year-round. Many districts also mentioned specific needs for new firefighting apparatus including engines and tenders. All of the RFPDs indicated that they had some sort of fire assistance agreements with other districts or state agencies. For the most part, these agreements are in the form of mutual aid. Districts that have overlapping boundaries with Oregon Department of Forestry also have agreements in place with that agency.

The specific information gathered from each of the districts is summarized below. Longer write-ups about priority areas of concern are located in the Appendix C: Fire Agency Priority Areas for Mitigation.

The following districts are included in this profile:

- Albany Fire Department*
- Brownsville Rural Fire District*
- Gates Rural Fire Protection District**
- Halsey-Shedd Rural Fire Protection District*
- Harrisburg Fire & Rescue*
- Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District**
- Jefferson Rural Fire Protection District*
- Lebanon Fire District*
- Lyons Rural Fire Protection District**
- Mill City Volunteer Fire Department**
- Scio Fire District*
- Sweet Home Fire & Ambulance District*
- Stayton Fire District**
- Tangent Rural Fire District*

*Members of the Linn County Fire Defense Board

**Members of the Marion County Fire Defense Board

Corvallis Fire Department (member of the Benton County Fire Defense Board) and Mohawk Rural Fire Protection District (member of the Lane County Fire Defense Board) did not participate due to having

minimal to no coverage of at-risk areas inside Linn County. These districts are included the Benton County CWPP (2023) and Lane County CWPP (2020) respectively.

Albany Fire Department (AFD)



611 SE Lyon St.

Albany, OR 97321

+1 (541) 917-7700

<https://www.cityofalbany.net/fire>

Population of Service Area: ~65,000

Square Miles in Service Area: 205 (in ambulance service district), 53 (in fire protection district within Linn County)

Estimated # of Residential Dwellings: ~20,201

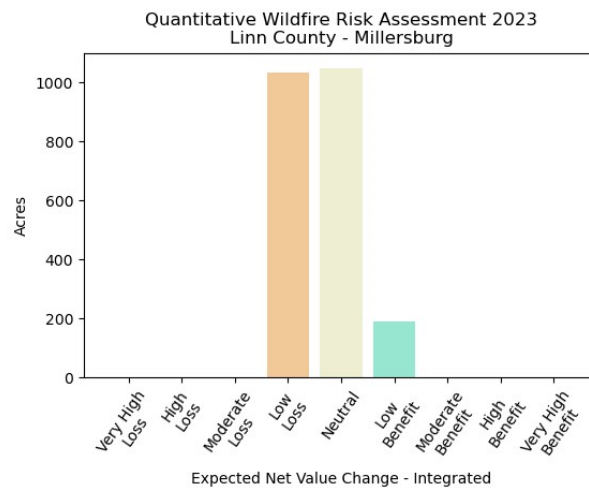
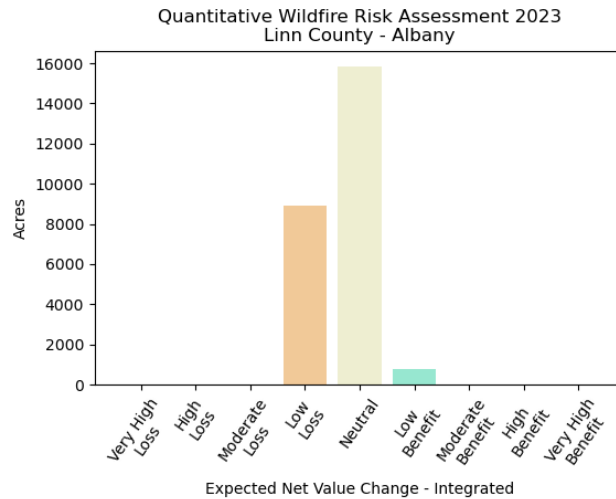
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$10,395,002,973

Agency Type: Municipal Career

Background: The Albany Rural Fire Protection District (RFPD) is located in the northwest corner of Linn County along Interstate 5. AFD provides fire protection to the cities of Albany and Millersburg, as well as rural areas surrounding Albany. The district has 76 paid firefighters and 10 paid admin staff.

Wildfire Issues:

- 19% of the district area in Linn County (7065/36908 acres) is wildland urban interface. Over 9000 acres within the district in Linn County has low wildfire risk.
- The primary areas of concern are: Knox Butte, Simpson Park, 53rd Avenue, and Scenic Drive within North Albany - located in Benton County.



District Needs:

- Development in Albany's WUI continues to increase each year. Additional funding staffing is needed to increase capacity and facilitate a rural addressing improvement program.
- Albany FD was awarded a Wildfire Season Staffing Grant in 2022 and received one engine tender through the OSFM Engine Program in 2023. Albany FD applied for a Wildfire Season Staffing Grant in 2023 but was not selected.

Brownsville Rural Fire District (BRFD)



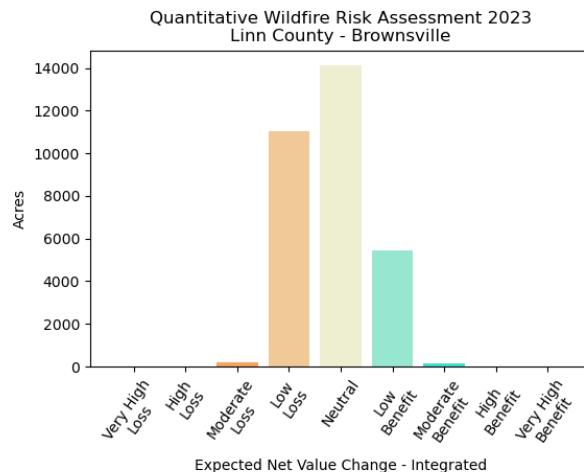
600 E. Blakely Ave.
 Brownsville, OR 97327
 +1 (541) 466-5227
www.brownsvillefire.com

Population of Service Area: ~3,800
 Square Miles in Service Area: 68
 Estimated # of Residential Dwellings: ~1,200
 True Cash Value of Service Area: \$875,714,205
 Agency Type: Combination

Background: The Brownsville Rural Fire Protection District (RFPD) is located in the southwest corner of Linn County. The district has one full time fire fighter and 21 volunteer fire fighters. The district currently has the following wildland fire fighting apparatus available: 2 Type 3, 3 Type 6, and 1 water tender.

Wildfire Issues:

- 15% (6491/44889 acres) of the District area is wildland urban interface. Over 10,000 acres within the district has low wildfire risk.
- The primary areas of concern are: Washburn Heights Subdivision, Oakview Heights Subdivision, Courtney Creek, Cochran Creek Drive Neighborhood, Northernwood Drive Neighborhood, Crawfordville, and Mountain Home Drive.



District Needs:

- Day-to-day needs: Firefighting apparatus and staffing. The district received Seasonal Wildfire Staffing grants in 2022 and 2023 through OSFM. Applied for Oregon Fire Staffing Capacity Grant in 2023 but was not funded. Needs additional apparatus to replace current apparatus that is 30 years old for wildland response including mutual aid calls and state/regional conflagration. The District applied for funding through OSFM's Engine Program in 2023 but was not selected.

Gates Rural Fire Protection District



Photo courtesy of Gates RFPD

140 E. Sorbin St.

Gates, OR 97346

+1 (503) 897-2842

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Gates-Rural-fire-Protection-District/100064686997317/>

Population of Service Area: ~500

Square Miles in Service Area: 17

Estimated # of Residential Dwellings: ~160

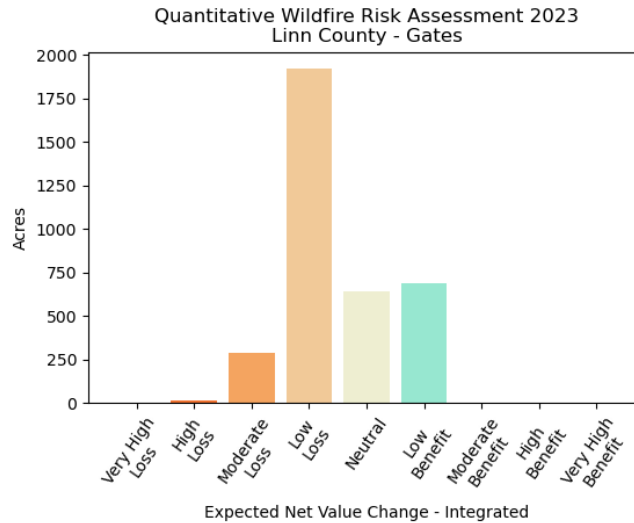
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$57,400,000

Agency Type: Volunteer

Background: The Gates Rural Fire Protection District (RFPD) is located on the northern border of Linn County along Highway 22. The district has 1 paid firefighter and 10 core volunteer firefighters/EMTs. The district was heavily impacted by the 2020 Beachie Creek fire, which destroyed/damaged over 500 residential homes in the Santiam Canyon. The District's Fire Hall (built 2011) was undamaged, however the District did lose a storage shed which they are in the process of rebuilding. A significant amount of Gates population was displaced by the fires, which has made it difficult for the district to maintain a volunteer base.

Wildfire Issues:

- 37% of the District area (1468/4019 acres) is wildland urban interface. The majority of area within the District is at risk for wildfire. Close to 2000 acres is assessed at low risk, over 250 acres is assessed at moderate risk.
- The primary areas of concern are: Gates Bridge East Rd (identified by ODF North Cascade District). The Fire District mentioned that most of the rural residential areas in the District on the Linn County side are places of concern. The WUI areas include: Linnwood Dr, Pebble Dr, Rock Creek Rd, Dogwood Rd, Gates School Rd, and Mad Creek Rd.



District Needs:

- Top day-to-day needs: Apparatus, volunteers/capacity- with the current number of volunteer firefighters/EMTs, the district has enough capacity to respond to emergency calls, but does not have the ability to implement additional programs. Additional workforce housing is needed to increase volunteer base.
- Top priorities for wildland equipment are acquiring a Type 6 Wildland Engine. Gates FD does not currently have an engine suited for wildland fire. The district also needs a new water tender to replace two aging tenders (1985 and 1993 models) that are costly to maintain.

Halsey-Shedd Rural Fire Protection District



740 W Second Street

Halsey, OR 97348

+1 (541) 369-2419

<https://www.halseyfire.com/>

Population of Service Area: ~3,000

Square Miles in Service Area: 109

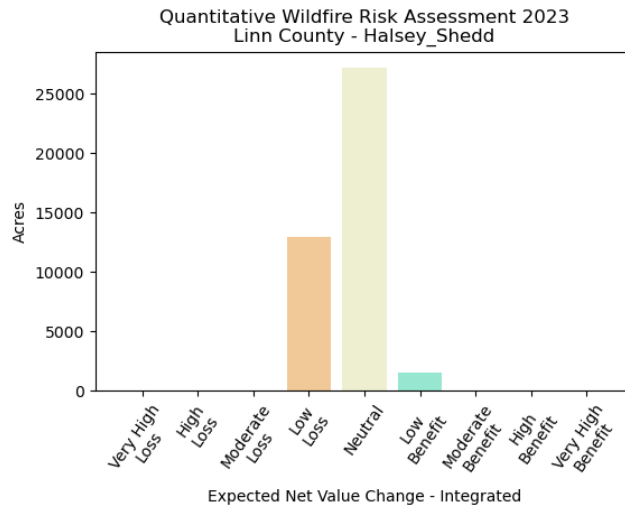
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$548,000,000

Agency Type: Combination

Background: The Halsey-Shedd Rural Fire Protection District (HSRFPD) is located in the southwest corner of Linn County on the west side of Interstate 5. The district has two paid full-time firefighters and 25 volunteer firefighters.

Wildfire Issues:

- 4% of the District area (2523/67883 acres) is wildland urban interface. Over 10,000 acres within the district is at low risk for wildfire and the majority of the area is neutral to wildfire risk. The district is largely farmland, there are no specific areas of concern other than farms that are at risk of crop loss resulting from field fires.

District Needs:

- The district has automatic mutual aid agreements with surrounding Fire Districts and frequently responds to mutual aid calls. OSFM awarded the district Wildfire Season Staffing Grants in 2022 and 2023, and the District was awarded a tender through the OSFM Engine Program in spring 2023. The district applied for an Oregon Fire Service Capacity Grant in 2023 but was not funded.
- Industrial economic devaluation has impacted tax revenue in the district- funding is not enough to sustain staffing, equipment needs. Many of the firefighters are volunteers and full-time farmers.

Harrisburg Fire & Rescue



440 Smith Street
Harrisburg, OR 97446
+1 (541) 995-6412

<https://www.facebook.com/HarrisburgFire/>

Population of Service Area: ~4,812

Square Miles in Service Area: 85

Estimated # of Residential Dwellings: ~1,850

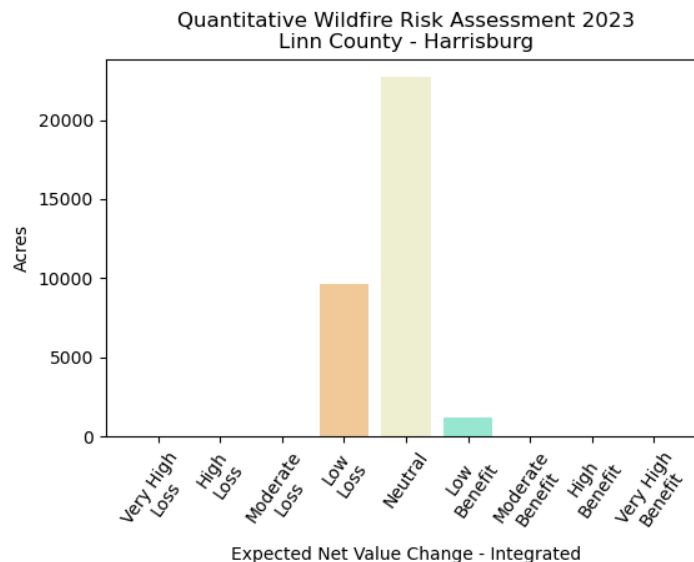
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$431,166,136

Agency Type: Combination

Background: The Harrisburg Fire & Rescue (HF&R) is located in southern Linn County, west of Interstate 5. The district has 3 paid firefighters, 1 other paid staff, 18 volunteer firefighters, and 6 other volunteer staff. The district currently has the following wildland fire fighting apparatus available: 3 type 1 engines and a 3,000 gallon tender. HRFPD currently offers free defensible space assessments through OSFM's program.

Wildfire Issues:

- 3% of the District area (1600/55292 acres) is wildland urban interface. Close to 10,000 acres within the District is at low risk for wildfire. The majority of area within the district has a neutral risk value for wildfire.
- The primary areas of concern are: Mt. Tom area (including Wildwood Estates, Meadowview), Priceboro Drive/Gap Rd, and Bush Garden neighborhood.



District Needs:

- Top day-to-day needs include: Ongoing staffing, apparatus, and volunteers.
- Top long-term needs include: Completion of Mt. Tom Substation, improvement/increase of water supply for Mt. Tom community through identification of rural water sources e.g. ponds, water tanks.
- OSFM awarded Harrisburg RFPD Seasonal Wildfire Staffing Grants in 2022 and 2023. Harrisburg RFPD applied for an OSFM Oregon Fire Service Capacity Grant in 2023 which was not funded.

Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District



107 North Santiam Highway

Idanha, OR 97350

(503) 854-3540

<https://www.idanhadetroitfire.com/>

Population of Service Area: ~400

Square Miles in Service Area: 7

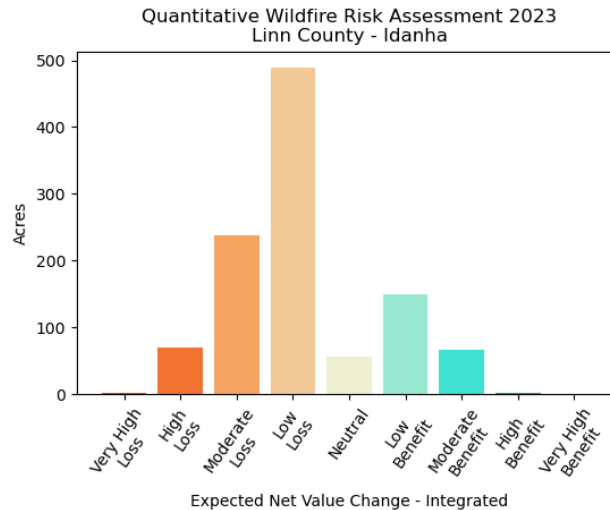
Estimated # of Residential Dwellings: ~200

Agency Type: Volunteer

Background: The Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District is the most eastern Fire District in Linn County, located primarily along Highway 20 on the northern border shared with Marion County. According to OSFM's fire district profile, the district has 1 full time paid firefighter, 17 volunteer firefighters, 3 volunteer EMT/paramedics, and 10 other volunteer staff. During the Beachie Creek-Lionshead wildfires of 2020, city hall where the fire district was housed was completely destroyed. One Type I engine was destroyed and a Type IV brush truck was damaged. Tax revenue saw a dramatic decrease post-fires, the district was awarded a one-time \$2.4 million grant using state COVID-19 relief funds. A new fire station is planned to be built with the grant funding.

Wildfire Issues:

- 12% of the District area (156/1327 acres) is wildland urban interface. The majority of the district is at risk for wildfire, with nearly 500 acres assessed at low risk and over 200 acres assessed as moderate to very high risk.
- The primary areas of concern are: The entire residential area of the City of Idanha including New Idanha, on the south side of the Santiam River within Linn County.



District Needs:

- The top 3 day-to-day needs are: Firefighting apparatus, volunteers, and PPE
- The top 3 long term needs are: A new fire station, better cell coverage, programs for community education
- In November 2023, an Operation Staffing Levy was passed which will provide funding for staffing during fire season for the next 5 years.

Jefferson Rural Fire Protection District



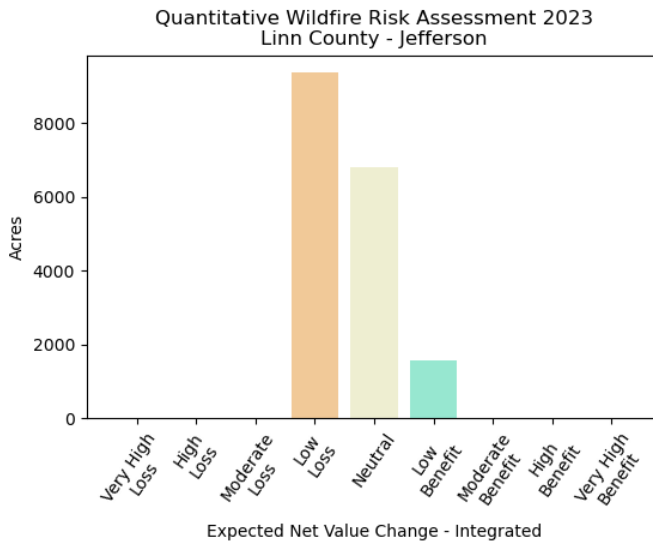
189 N. Main St.
Jefferson, OR 97352
+1 (541) 327-2822

Population of Service Area: ~9,221
Square Miles in Service Area: 86
Estimated # of Residential Dwellings: ~3,132
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$1,500,000
Agency Type: Combination

Background: The Jefferson Rural Fire Protection District (RFPD) is located in the northwest corner of Linn County and southwest corner of Marion County. The district has 6 paid firefighters, 15 paid paramedics, 1 paid admin staff, and 20 volunteer firefighters.

Wildfire Issues:

- 16% of the District area (3847/23536 acres) is wildland urban interface. Over 8,000 acres within the district is at low wildfire risk.
- The primary areas of concern are: rural residential neighborhoods bounded by Scravel Hill, Century Drive, 99E and Kamph Rd (including portions of Scravel Hill Rd, Meeker Hill Dr, Viewcrest Dr, Shady Oak Rd, Sunnyview Dr, Mountain View Pl, Parkside Rd, Berry Dr, Sunset Dr, Grenz Ln, Cricket Ln, Neeley Rd, Northwood Dr, Steckley Dr)
- General concerns in these priority areas include poor access- one way in and out of housing dense areas, road slopes over 15%, apparatus limited to access narrow roads, high fuel load, low water supply.



District Needs:

- Top day-to-day needs: Apparatus- Type III Engine, staff to reduce response times, wildland hose, tools, equipment and PPE.

Lebanon Fire District



1050 W Oak St
Lebanon, OR 97355
+1 (541) 451-1901
www.lebanonfire.org

Population of Service Area: ~38,000

Square Miles in Service Area: 134 (fire protection), 416 (ambulance service district)

Estimated # of Residential Dwellings: ~13,039

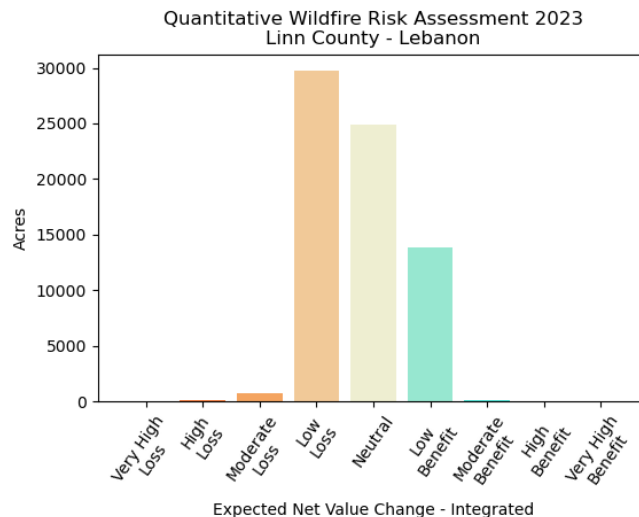
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$4,944,145,316

Agency Type: Combination

Background: The Lebanon Rural Fire Protection District is located in the western portion of Linn County east of the Interstate. The district has 26 full time fire fighters and 52 volunteer fire fighters. The district also provides ambulance services. In 2021, the district responded to 7,213 calls including 133 calls for fire.

Wildfire Issues:

- 42% of the district area (35769/85946 acres) is wildland urban interface- the highest by acreage and 2nd by proportion out of all fire districts. Close to 30,000 acres of the district is at low risk of wildfire.
- The primary areas of concern are: Sodaville, East Lacombe Area (including East Lacombe Rd, Green Mountain Dr, Island Inn Drive, Snow Peak Dr), Ford Mill Rd, Hamilton Creek School Rd, Middle Ridge Area (including Middle Ridge Dr, Canyon View Dr, Ridgetop Dr, Canyon Pl, Bartells Creek Dr, and Elizabeth Dr), Mt Hope/Golden Valley Area (including Hidden Valley Rd), Mt Pleasant Area (including Edwards Dr and Keel Mountain Rd), South Lebanon & Ty Valley Area (includes Agate Dr, Hazen Ln, Ty Valley Rd, Land Lab, SW 5th Ave, Edgemont Drive, and Butte Creek), and the South Santiam River Corridor.



District Needs:

- Lebanon's population is growing, however staffing levels at the district have remained mostly the same over the last decade, tax revenue has not increased enough to sustain. District call volume increases every year, maintaining an active volunteer base is crucial to ensure calls can be responded to concurrently. The district was awarded a Wildfire Seasonal Staffing Grant in 2022 and one type 6 engine through OSFM's Engine Program in 2023. The district applied for the Wildfire Seasonal Staffing Grant and the Oregon Fire Service Capacity Grant in 2023 which were not funded.
- Staff needs: Increase full time staff with 6 additional personnel to keep up with demand
- Program needs: Long term continuation of WUI home surveys and rural addressing programs
- Volunteer needs: Upgrade volunteer stations to have the ability to house summertime staffing, would require infrastructure improvements to current stations.

Lyons Rural Fire Protection District



1114 Main St.

Lyons, OR 97358

+1 (503) 859-2410

<https://www.lyonsrfd.org/>

Population of Service Area: ~1,204

Square Miles in Service Area: 37 (fire response), 1,000 (ambulance service area)

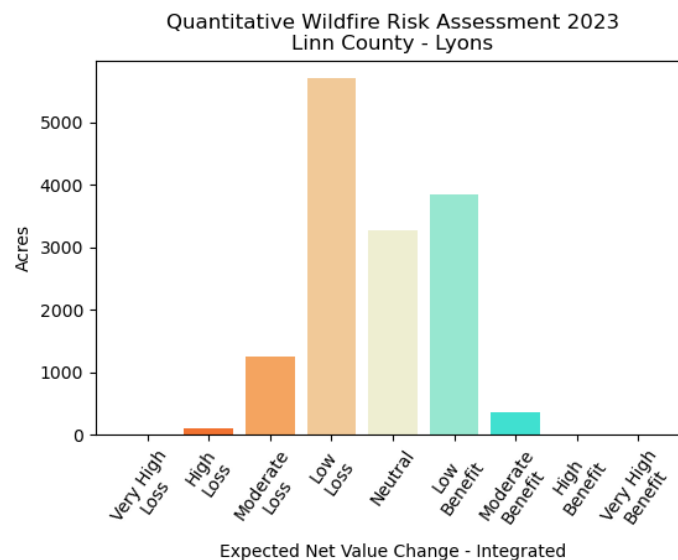
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$596,093,898

Agency Type: Combination

Background: The Lyons Rural Fire Protection District (LRFPD) located in the northern Linn County along Highway 22. The district has 2 full time paid firefighters, 37 paid EMT/paramedics, 1 other paid staff, 25 volunteer firefighters and 11 other volunteer staff.

Wildfire Issues:

- 31% of the District area (5246/16934 acres) is wildland urban interface. Over 5000 acres within the district in Linn County is assessed at low risk for wildfire. Over 1000 acres is at moderate risk for wildfire.
- The primary areas of concern are: McCully Mountain (including North, South, West, and East McCully Mountain Rd)- identified by ODF North Cascade Unit.



Mill City Volunteer Fire Department



400 S 1st Ave.

Mill City, OR 97360

+1 (503) 897-2390

<https://www.ci.mill-city.or.us/fire-department>

Population of Service Area: ~1,965

Square Miles in Service Area: 10

Estimated # of Residential Dwellings: ~1,450

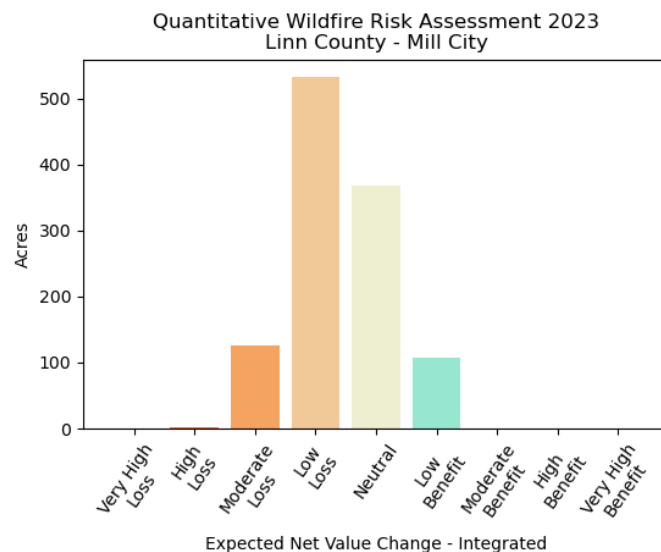
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$366,609,007

Agency Type: Volunteer

Background: The Mill City Volunteer Fire Department (MCVFD) is located on the northern border of Linn County along Highway 22. The district has 1 full time fire fighter and 18 volunteer fire fighters. The district was impacted by the 2020 wildfires.

Wildfire Issues:

- 87% of the District area (1039/1188 acres) within Linn County is wildland urban interface, this is the highest proportionally out of all districts. Over 500 acres within the District in Linn County are at low risk of wildfire. Over 100 acres are at medium risk of wildfire.



Scio Rural Fire Protection District



38975 SW 6th Ave

Scio, OR 97374

(503) 394-3000

<https://www.sciofire.com/>

Population of Service Area: ~5,000

Square Miles in Service Area: 101

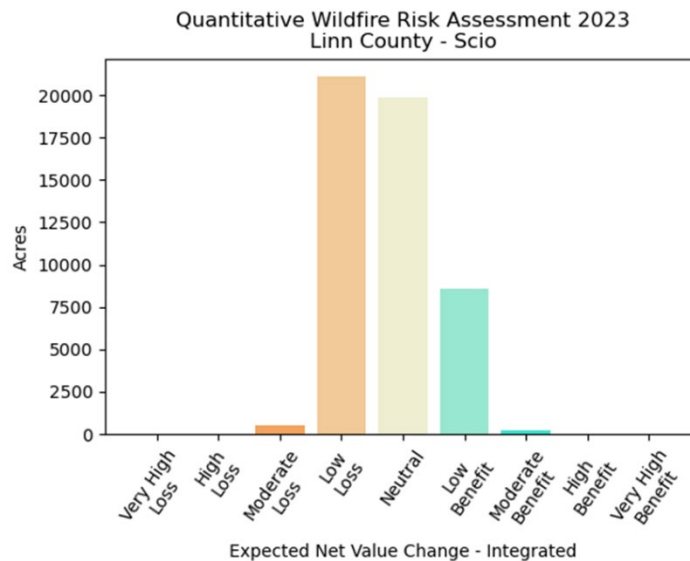
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$450,000,000

Agency Type: Volunteer

Background: The Scio Rural Fire Protection District (RFPD) is located in northwest Linn County east of the Interstate. The district has 1 full time paid firefighter, 1 part-time paid administrator, 25 volunteer firefighters, and 2 volunteer EMT/paramedics. The district currently has the following wildland fire fighting apparatus available: 1 Type 3, 2 Type 6, and water tender.

Wildfire Issues:

- 26% of the District area (16853/64622 acres) is wildland urban interface. Over 20000 acres within the district is at low risk of wildfire.
- The primary areas of concern are: Rodger's Mountain area (identified by SFD and ODF), Larwood Dr & Fish Hatchery Rd areas (identified by ODF North Cascade Unit)



District Needs:

- Day-to-day needs: staffing & capacity- the district is entirely staffed by volunteers aside from the paid chief. The district received Seasonal Wildfire Staffing Grants from OSFM in 2022 and 2023 which were crucial for operating. Long term, stable funding for year-round personnel is needed to maintain acceptable response times. Apparatus needed to respond to local fires and mutual aid events. The district has been on the Federal Excess Personal Property Program (FEPP) for about 18 years and the loaned equipment is at the end of its lifespan. Scio applied for funding through OSFM's Engine Program in 2023 but was not selected.

Sweet Home Rural Fire Protection District



1099 Long St
Sweet Home, OR 97386
sweethomefire.org

Population of Service Area: ~21,000

Square Miles in Service Area: 152 (Fire Protection), 1000 (Ambulance Service Area)

Estimated # of Residential Dwellings: ~6,716

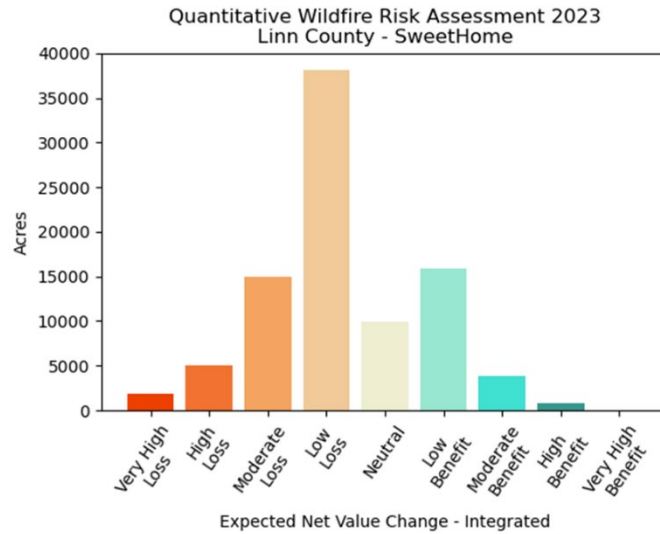
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$2,356,124,783

Agency Type: Combination

Background: The Sweet Home Fire and Ambulance District (SFHAD) is located in the southwest corner of Linn County along the Highway 20 corridor. The district has 23 paid firefighters, 2 paid admin staff, 35 volunteer firefighters, and 3 volunteer admin staff. The district currently has the following wildland fire fighting apparatus available: 4 type 6 engines, 1 type 3 engine, 1 type 1 structural, and 2 type 2 tenders.

Wildfire Issues:

- 23% (22677/98743 acres) of the District area is wildland urban interface, the second highest acreage out of all districts in Linn County. The majority of acreage within the district is at risk of wildfire, with close to 40,000 acres at low risk, over 15,000 acres at moderate risk, 5,000+ acres at high risk and the highest amount of very high risk areas out of all local fire protection districts.
- The primary areas of concern are: Cascadia/HWY 20 corridor east of Sweet Home, Sweet Home's railroad track corridor, Santiam River corridor, Brush Creek Rd, Upper Calapooia Dr, Courtney Creek Dr, Crawfordsville & Holley, Marks Ridge, McDowell Creek Dr, Mountain Home Dr., North River Dr, Quartzville, Scott Mountain Rd, and rural WUI areas south of Sweet Home (incl. Ames Creek, 50th Ave, Turbyne, Whiskey Butte, Wiley Creek)
- The Wiley Creek Fire, which began 9 miles east of SE Sweet Home, involved a level 3 evacuation for many homes within the Sweet Home Fire District. In total, the fire burned 245 acres and included response from SFHAD, an ODF Type 3 Team, hand crews, dozers and aircraft. No structures or lives were lost.



District Needs:

- The top 3 day-to-day needs are: staff, volunteers, and PPE. The district applied for an Oregon Fire Capacity Grant through OSFM in 2023 which was not funded. However, SFHAD received a \$408,848 award through OSFM's Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant to fund a 3-year full time position for a Wildfire Community Risk Reduction Program manager.
- The top 3 long term needs are: a fuels mitigation program that includes fire suppression during the fire season, programs to mitigate growing fire dangers caused by temporary camping (more external support needed to assist unhoused populations), improvement of water supply sources through-out the district.

Stayton Fire District



1988 W Ida Street
Stayton, OR 97383
+1 (503) 769-2601

<https://www.staytonfire.org>

Population of Service Area: ~12,653

Square Miles in Service Area: 107 (ambulance service district), 25.5 (fire protection area within Linn County)

Estimated # of Residential Dwellings: ~4,238

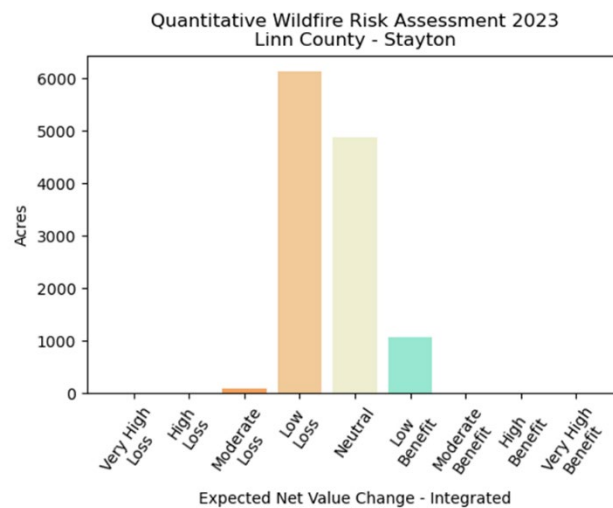
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$2,400,594,454

Agency Type: Combination

Background: The Stayton Fire District (SFD) is located in northern Linn County just south of Highway 22. The district has 7 career firefighters, 9 shift personnel (levy-funded), 42 volunteer firefighters, and 14 volunteer support staff. The district currently has the following firefighting apparatus and vehicles: Brush (2), Command Unit (2), Engines (3), Ladder Truck (1), Maintenance Vehicle (1), Master Tender (1), Rapid Attack Tenders (3), Rescues/Brush Combination Units (3), Rescues (2), Support Vehicles (2), Rehab Trailer (1). The district's call volume in 2021 was 1,214 calls, approximately 85 (7%) were fire calls. The district runs a Rural Address Sign Program which provides free address signs to residents in their district.

Wildfire Issues:

- 26% of the district area (4292/16384 acres) in Linn County is wildland urban interface. Approximately 6000 acres within the district in Linn County are at low risk of wildfire.
- The primary areas of concern are: Communities in North Fork and Elkhorn area (Marion County). In Linn County, the district provides fire protection to rural areas of Kingston and Mt. Pleasant, land use in this area is a combination of farm fields, Christmas tree farms, and small acreage residential- not a high population density area. There used to be a substation on Mt. Pleasant which is no longer active due to lack of volunteers in the area. Response time to these areas is adequate with current shift staffing and mutual aid agreements. There is 1000+ acres of land in Kingston area that is managed by conservation groups, Grande Ronde tribe- some areas have been treated with prescribed fire.



District Needs:

- Additional staffing and capacity needed- applied for OSFM Wildfire Risk Reduction grant in 2023, was partially funded. \$44,500 will be used for a homeowner assistance program- providing a free dump trailer & dumpster to residents to haul away their fuels/yard debris. Cost of the trailer & equipment is covered, but the district needs additional staff capacity to provide home defensible space assessments for landowners and schedule trailer days at their residences.
- Equipment needs- needing to replace aging water tenders.

Tangent Rural Fire District



32053 Birdfoot Drive

Tangent, OR 97389

+1 (541) 928-8722

www.tangentfire.com

Population of Service Area: ~2,599

Square Miles in Service Area: 45

Estimated # of Residential Dwellings: 745

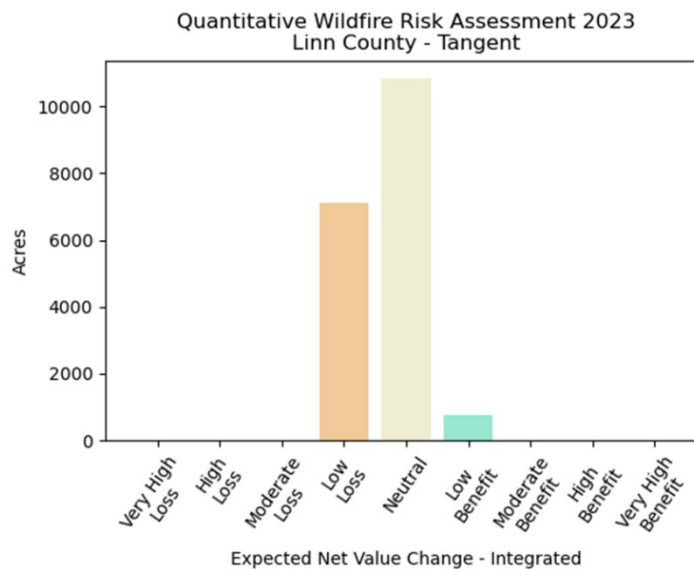
True Cash Value of Service Area: \$841,111,149

Agency Type: Combination

Background: The Tangent Rural Fire District (TRFD) is located on the western side of Linn County along Highway 34. The district has 65 full time fire fighters and no volunteer fire fighters. The district currently has the following wildland fire fighting apparatus available: 1 Type 3, 2 Type 6, and 3 water tenders. The district responded to a total of 443 calls in 2022.

Wildfire Issues:

- 4% of the District area (1234/28667 acres) is wildland urban interface. Over 6000 acres within the district are at low risk of wildfire. Overall, the majority of the district area has a neutral risk rating for wildfire.



District Needs:

- Day-to-day needs: Staffing and firefighting apparatus. Tangent RFD received Seasonal Wildfire Staffing Grants in both 2022 and 2023. The district applied for an Oregon Fire Capacity grant in 2023 which went unfunded. The district currently runs mobile attack tenders for field fires which limits which staff is able to respond, having a type 3 engine would allow more qualified operators to respond, as well as increased responses to mutual aid events and state conflagrations. Tangent RFD applied for funding through OSFM's Engine Program in 2023 but was not selected.

Appendix G: Fuel Treatment Types

One of the minimum requirements for a CWPP as described by the Healthy Forests Restoration Act is the identification of prioritized fuel reduction projects. A CWPP must identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments, as well as recommend appropriate treatment methods. Due to the diverse topography and ecoregions present in Linn County, the appropriate treatment methods vary considerably by vegetation type, annual precipitation, slope, aspect, and elevation.

The following tables (G.1-G.3) provide information on the advantages, concerns, seasonality, application in the wildland urban interface (WUI), and maintenance and scheduling for prescribed fire, mechanized thinning, and manual treatments across Linn County. Additionally, prescribed fire involves some risk of liability and varying restrictions based on treatment type. It is important to check with local fire and smoke management agencies before burning. The tables only provide a general framework. Individual projects will need to be tailored to the conditions present in the local area. Local fuels specialists should be consulted to determine the most feasible array of fuels treatment options for a given geographical area.

Table G.1: Prescribed Fire Treatment Method

Prescribed Fire Treatment Method (including broadcast, understory, or pile burning)
Advantages - Encourages herbaceous growth and supports native species and ecosystems - Cost effective fuels treatment method in most cases
Concerns - Broadcast and understory burning requires skilled application and involves some risk of liability - Must invest time in informing and educating the public - May require additional costs if mop-up or post-burn monitoring of site is required - Multiple entries may be required to achieve objectives - Re-burn potential in areas of heavy fuels or duff
Seasonality - Broadcast & understory burning constrained by weather, fuel characteristics, and smoke management constraints - Pile burning may be conducted under a broader range of conditions (i.e. less constraints) - Low elevation seasonal inversions and valley fog may affect burning opportunities
Application in WUI - Burning may be effective within or adjacent to WUI, either as a stand-alone treatment or in conjunction with mechanized or manual vegetation treatment methods - Most burning opportunities will exist along outer perimeters of urban areas/boundaries
Maintenance and Scheduling - Timing for subsequent treatments dependent upon condition class goals and degree of change made via initial treatment - Recreation and other high use areas may be evaluated annually as part of a fire prevention and fuels maintenance program planning

Table G.2: Mechanized Treatment Method

Mechanized (i.e. large equipment) Treatment Method (including thinning pruning, lop and scatter, mowing, crushing, chipping, etc.)
Advantages • Large local labor and contract pool • Cost effective over larger areas • Most methods reduce fire risk by getting fuels on ground (accelerating decomposition rates) or by removal • Can be followed by prescribed fire where needed • Opportunities may exist for public to readily utilize material (i.e. chips, firewood, etc.)
Concerns • Large equipment limited to gentler slopes • Potential “product” may be market dependent • May be less economically feasible on small sites due to move-in/move-out costs • May create short-term increase in fire risk especially in high-use recreation areas • In high use areas, if site precludes prescribed fire as a follow-up • treatment, fuels removal or increased fire prevention patrols may be warranted
Seasonality • May require shut-down periods on some sites due to soils conditions or seasonal wildlife concerns • May be constrained by fire season requirements in summer
Application in WUI • Can be very effective within or adjacent to WUI, either as a stand-alone treatment or in conjunction with follow-up prescribed fire treatment methods • Proximity to private residences may limit mechanical use due to noise concerns
Maintenance and Scheduling • Timing for subsequent treatments dependent upon condition class goals and degree of change made via initial treatment • Re-entry into thinning areas may be scheduled using standard silvicultural practices • Recreation and other high use areas may be scheduled for annual mechanized treatments (i.e. mowing) • Private landowners and homeowners may be advised as to recommended maintenance by fire protection experts

Table G.3: Manual Treatment Method

Manual (i.e. hand) Treatment Method (including. thinning, pruning, hand piling, raking, etc.)
Advantages • Large local labor and contract pool • Opportunities for volunteers, partnerships, stewardships, or homeowner involvement • Can treat areas that cannot be treated by prescribed fire or mechanical means
Concerns • More labor intensive; may not be cost effective in areas of heavy fuels • May require more than one entry to achieve initial objectives for site
Seasonality • Work can usually be conducted year-round • Chainsaw use may be constrained by fire season requirements in summer
Application in WUI • Can be very effective within or adjacent to WUI, either as a stand-alone treatment or in conjunction with follow-up fuels treatment methods (i.e. removal or burning)
Maintenance and Scheduling • Timing for subsequent treatments dependent upon condition class goals and degree of change made via initial treatment • Re-entry into thinning areas may be scheduled using standard silvicultural practices • Private landowners and homeowners may be advised as to recommended maintenance by fire protection experts

Appendix H: Resources

This appendix documents a variety of resources that support wildfire mitigation, preparedness, and recovery in Linn County, including community-focused resources, regional and state contacts, and potential funding sources.

Community-focused Resources

Many programs 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.

Defensible Space and Reducing Fire Risk on Your Property

Free defensible space assessment for your home or business completed by your local fire agency or an OSFM staff member

<http://www.oregondefensiblespace.org/about>

Oregon State Fire Marshal Defensible Space Resources

<https://oregondefensiblespace.org/resources/>

Oregon State University Extension Fire-resistant Landscape Plants for the Willamette Valley

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9103>

Oregon State University Extension Keeping Your Home and Property Safe from Wildfire

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/em9184.pdf>

Oregon State University Extension The Home Ignition Zone: Protecting Your Property from Wildfire

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9247>

Oregon State University Extension Wildfire Defensible Space for the Farm and Ranch (Recorded)

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/video/wildfire-defensible-space-farm-ranch>

Oregon State University Extension Reducing Fire Risk on Your Forest Property

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/pnw618>

How to make your home and property fire-safe – Keep Oregon Green and Oregon Department of Forestry (Recorded)

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/video/how-make-your-home-property-fire-safe>

Emergency Alerts and Preparedness

Linn-Benton ALERT – Emergency Notification system. Create an account and alerts will be sent to all devices that you register, including landline phones, cell phones, and email.

<http://www.linnsheriff.org/community-resources/emergency-preparedness>

Linn County Sheriff's Office Facebook provides up-to-date information

<http://www.facebook.com/LinnSheriff>

Linn County Sheriff Evacuation and Wildfire Live Map

https://www.linnsheriff.org/wildfire_live_updates/

Oregon Wildfire Response & Recovery Website

<https://wildfire.oregon.gov/>

Oregon State University Extension Service Be Ready, Be Set, Go!

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/community-vitality/disaster-prep/know-three-levels-wildfire-evacuation>

Ready Kids, FEMA has tools and information to help before, during, and after disasters in multiple languages.

<https://www.ready.gov/kids>

Fire Adapted Communities

Learn about fire adapted communities, find tools and resources, and get inspired by community wildfire adaptation work, including resources in Spanish.

<https://fireadapted.org/>

Firewise USA Communities

A voluntary program that provides a framework to help neighbors get organized, find direction, and take action to increase the ignition resistance of their homes and community.

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

Insurance Help

Oregon Division of Financial Regulation wildfire insurance resources

<https://dfr.oregon.gov/insure/home/storm/Pages/wildfires.aspx>

Oregon Division of Financial Regulation Advocacy Team

Call 888-877-4894 (toll-free) or visit dfr.oregon.gov/help to connect with the Advocacy Team.

Oregon Division of Financial Regulation - disaster preparedness steps

<https://dfr.oregon.gov/preparenow/Pages/index.aspx>

Oregon FAIR Plan Association is a non-profit association dedicated to providing an insurance market for owners of property in Oregon

<https://orfairplan.com/>

Keep Oregon Green

The Keep Oregon Green Association educates the public on how to prevent wildfires.

<https://keeporegongreen.org/>

Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer, Oregon State University

The Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer is designed to identify the wildland-urban interface and wildfire risk at the property ownership level. It shows a comprehensive view of wildfire risk within the State of Oregon, indicates local fire history, and offers additional resources.

<https://oregonexplorer.info/topics/wildfire-risk?ptopic=2>

Post-fire Resources

Ash and debris clean up and removal

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/documents/8341/ash-debris-clean-removal10-13-20.pdf>

Assessing post-fire survivability of trees and potential for salvage harvesting

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/video/assessing-post-fire-survivability-trees-potential-salvage-harvesting>

After the fire checklist – fillable pdf

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/default/files/documents/8341/after-fire-checklist-fillable-form.pdf>

Maintaining your well after wildfire

<https://go.usa.gov/xGJ2H>

After a Wildfire: Flash floods and debris flows <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/community-vitality/disaster-prep/after-wildfire-flash-floods-debris-flows>

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality “After the Fire: Septic Systems”

<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wildfires/Documents/SepticWildfireFAQ.pdf>

Ready, Set, Go! International Association of Fire Chiefs

Are YOU Wildfire Ready?

https://www.wildlandfirersg.org/s/are-you-wildfire-ready?language=en_US

My Personal Wildland Fire ACTION GUIDE

English version <https://www.iafc.org/docs/default-source/pdf/rsg-eag-v9.pdf>

Spanish version https://www.iafc.org/docs/default-source/pdf/spanish-action-guide.pdf?sfvrsn=dcfd900d_8

Youth Guide (K-4)

English version <https://www.iafc.org/docs/default-source/pdf/youth-guide.pdf>

Spanish version <https://www.iafc.org/docs/default-source/pdf/spanish-youth-guide.pdf>

A Youth Wildland Fire Guide

<https://www.iafc.org/docs/default-source/pdf/youthmagazine.pdf>

Smokey Bear

Wildfire prevention campaign resources

<https://smokeybear.com/en>

Smoke Preparedness

OSU Extension's Smoke webinar and resources page

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/video/smoke-ready-oregon-preparing-wildfire-smoke-recorded>

Guides for crafting a Community Response Plan for smoke

<https://www.oregonrxfire.org/smoke-management.html>

Residential Air Purifying Planning Guide:

https://www.oregonrxfire.org/uploads/5/1/0/7/51079441/howtoguide_residential_room_air_purifier_program-1.pdf

EPA's Smoke Ready Communities research and resources

<https://www.epa.gov/air-research/smoke-ready-communities-research-prepare-wildfires#research%20project>

Community Response Plans for Smoke, DEQ

<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/aq/Pages/Smoke-Management.aspx>

Wildfire Mitigation Research and Policy Organizations

Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety Research Center

<https://ibhs.org/risk-research/wildfire/>

Missoula FireLab

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

National Wildfire Coordinating Group

<https://www.nwccg.gov/>

National Fire Protection Association

<https://www.nfpa.org/>

National Interagency Fire Center

<https://www.nifc.gov/>

CWPP Contacts

Regional and State Organizations

Linn County Planning & Building Department Director, Steve Wills swills@co.linn.or.us Linn County Courthouse, Room 114, 300 Fourth Avenue SW, Albany, Oregon 97322 Ph: 541-967-3816, Email: planoffice@co.linn.or.us linncountyor.gov/planningbuilding and bit.ly/linncwpp	Linn County Emergency Management Emergency Manager, Ric Lentz rlentz@linnsheriff.org linnsheriff.org/community-resources/emergency-preparedness <i>Follow the Sheriff's Office on Facebook for up-to-date information:</i> facebook.com/LinnSheriff
Linn County Fire Defense Board Fire Defense Board Chief, Shane Wooton linncountyfiredefense.com <i>Follow the Fire Defense Board on Facebook for up-to-date information:</i> facebook.com/linncountyfiredefenseboard	North Santiam Watershed Council Director, Brandin Hilbrandt bhilbrandt.nswc@gmail.com 284 E Water St, Stayton, OR 97383 Ph: 503-930-8202, Email: council@northsantiam.org northsantiam.org
Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) Find a Stewardship Forester for your area: oregon.gov/odf/working/pages/findaforester.aspx South Cascade- Sweet Home Unit Ph: 541-367-6108 North Cascade - Santiam Unit Ph: 503-859-2151	Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) South Willamette Valley Regional Representative, Patrick Wingard 1715 Franklin Blvd., Suite 221, Eugene, OR 97403 Ph: 541-393-7675, Email: patrick.wingard@dlcd.oregon.gov oregon.gov/LCD
Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Fire Risk Reduction Specialist, Stephanie Stafford Stephanie.S.STAFFORD@osfm.oregon.gov 3991 Fairview Industrial Drive SE Salem, OR 97302 Ph: 503-378-3473, General Email: ask.osfm@osfm.oregon.gov oregon.gov/osfm/wildfire/Pages/wildfire2.aspx	Oregon State University (OSU) - Extension Services Forester for Benton, Linn & Polk Counties, Lorelle Sherman lorelle.sherman@oregonstate.edu Ph: 541-713-5016 More Info: extension.oregonstate.edu/forests/fire
South Santiam Watershed Council Director, Shannon Richardson s.richardson.sswc@gmail.com 4431 US-20, Sweet Home, OR 97386 Ph: 541-367-5564 sswc.org	United States Forest Service (USFS) Sweet Home District Ranger, Nikki Swanson 4431 US-20, Sweet Home, OR 97386 Ph: 541-367-5168 r6_willamette_web_frontend@fs.fed.us fs.usda.gov/recarea/willamette/recarea/?recid=4208

Local Fire Agencies

Albany FD Fire Chief, Shane Wooton shane.wooton@cityofalbany.net 120 34th Ave SW, Albany, OR 97322 Ph: 541-917-7700	Brownsville RFD Fire Chief, Kevin Rogers chief@brownsvillefire.com 600 E Blakely Ave, Brownsville, OR 97327 Ph: 541-466-5227
Gates RFPD Fire Chief, Jack Carriger jack.carriger@outlook.com 140 E Sorbin St, Gates, OR 97346 503-897-2929	Halsey-Shedd RFPD Fire Chief, Travis Hewitt halseyfire503@rtinet.com Station 51 - 740 W 2nd St, Halsey, OR 97348 Ph: 541-369-2419
Idanha Detroit RFPD Fire Chief, Fred Patterson fpatterson@idanhadetroitfire.com 107 OR-22, Idanha, OR 97350 Fire station Ph: 503-854-3239 Admin Office Ph: 503-854-3540	Harrisburg F&R Fire Chief, Bart Griffith bgriff@harrisburgfire.org 440 Smith St, Harrisburg, OR 97446 Ph: 541-995-6412
Jefferson RFPD Fire Chief, Levi Eckhardt jefferson.chief@jeffersonfire.org 189 N Main St, Jefferson, OR 97352 Ph: 541-327-2822	Lebanon FD Fire Chief, Joseph Rodondi jrodondi@lebanonfire.com 1050 W. Oak Street Lebanon, OR 97355 Temporary Address: MBVA Building, 550 S Main St. Lebanon, OR 97355 Ph: 541-451-1901
Lyons RFPD Fire Chief, Robert Johnston ldchief@wvi.com 1114 Main St, Lyons, OR 97358 Ph: 503-859-2410	Mill City RFPD Fire Chief, Elias Breen mcrfpd2@wbcable.net 400 S 1st Ave, Mill City, OR 97360 Ph: 503-897-2390
Scio RFPD Fire Chief, Kyle White chief@sciofire.org 38975 SW 6th Ave Scio, OR 97374 Ph: 503-394-3000	Stayton RFPD Fire Chief, Jay Alley jay.alley@staytonfire.org 1988 W Ida Street, Stayton, OR 97383 Ph: 503-769-2601
Sweet Home F&A Fire Chief, Nick Tyler ntyler@sweethomefire.org Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program Manager, Christian Whitfield cwhitfield@sweethomefire.org 1099 Long Street, Sweet Home, OR 97386 Ph: 541-367-5882	Tangent RFPD Fire Chief, Chris Griffin cgriffin@tangentfire.com 32053 Birdfoot Dr, Tangent, OR 97389 Ph: 541-928-8722

Funding Sources

State Funding

AmeriCorps/Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE), University of Oregon

<https://rare.uoregon.edu/>

The RARE AmeriCorps Program's mission is to increase the capacity of rural communities to improve their economic, social, and environmental conditions, through the assistance of trained graduate-level members who live and work in communities for 11 months. Members assist communities and agencies in the development and implementation of plans for achieving a sustainable natural resource base and improving rural economic conditions while gaining community building and leadership skills.

Community Risk Reduction Grants, Oregon State Fire Marshal

<https://www.oregon.gov/osfm/wildfire/pages/investments-for-oregon.aspx>

Funding opportunities have included the:

- Wildfire Season Staffing Grant
- Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant
- Oregon Fire Service Capacity Program
- Engine Program
- Oregon State Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Program
- Community Wildfire Program Plan Investments

Oregon Department of Forestry Grant Programs

<https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/AboutODF/Pages/GrantsIncentives.aspx>

Current funding opportunities include:

- Bark Beetle Mitigation
- Community Forest Program
- Community Wildfire Defense Grant
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- Conservation Stewardship Program
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program
- Firewise USA Program
- Forest Legacy Program
- Forest Stewardship Program
- Landscape Resiliency Program
- Oregon Seen and Nursery Capacity Grant
- Oregon State Weed Board Grant Program
- Small Forestland Grant Programs
- Volunteer Fires Capacity Grants
- Wetlands Reserve Program
- Wildland-Urban Interface grants

Oregon Department of Human Services Emergency Shelter Grants and Support

<https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/emergency-management/Pages/emergency-shelter.aspx>

Oregon Department of Human Services provides assistance for local governments, Tribal Nations, public education providers, non-profits, and faith-based organizations to address shelter needs for:

- Cleaner air shelters during wildfire smoke and other poor air quality events
- Cooling and warming shelters

Oregon Department of Human Services Resilience Hubs and Networks Grant

<https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/emergency-management/Pages/about.aspx>

Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS), Office of Resilience and Emergency Management, is developing a new program to provide grants, support and technical assistance to communities for planning and establishing resilience hubs and networks in Oregon, per HB 3409 (2023), effective date July 27, 2023. ODHS staff anticipate having the program established winter 2023-2024.

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

<http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/Pages/index.aspx>

While OWEB's primary responsibilities are implementing projects addressing coastal salmon restoration and improving water quality statewide, these projects can sometimes also benefit efforts to increase landscape resilience to wildfire, reduce landslide hazards, which may occur post-fire, and reduce flooding. In addition, OWEB conducts watershed workshops for landowners, watershed councils, educators, and others, and conducts a biennial conference highlighting watershed efforts statewide.

Association Resources

International Association of Fire Chiefs

<https://www.iafc.org/topics-and-tools/grant-funding>

Find grant application resources.

Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) Grant Resources

<https://www.sdao.com/grant-resources>

SDAO provides a directory of funding resources. Some of the programs relate only to specific types of districts, while others are broad in their scope.

Federal Funding

Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program, Federal Emergency Management Agency

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/assistance-grants>

The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations. Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and other first responders obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training and other resources necessary for protecting the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards.

Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program, US Forest Service

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/private-land/community-forest/program>

Through this program, the Forest Service is authorized to provide financial assistance grants to qualifying organizations in order to establish community forests.

Community Wildfire Defense Program, USDA/USFS

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/managing-land/fire/grants>

The Community Wildfire Defense Program, or CWDG, is intended to help at-risk local communities and Tribes; plan for and reduce the risk of wildfire. This program, which was authorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, prioritizes at-risk communities in an area identified as having high or very high wildfire hazard potential, are low-income, or have been impacted by a severe disaster that affects the risk of wildfire. The program provides funding to communities for two primary purposes:

- Develop and revise Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP).
- Implement projects described in a Community Wildfire Protection Plan that is less than ten years old.

Fire Prevention and Safety Grants, Federal Emergency Management Agency

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safety-awards>

The Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Grants are part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) and support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. The primary goal is to reduce injury and prevent death among high-risk populations.

Hazard Mitigation Assistance FEMA

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation>

Detailed program and application information for federal post-disaster and pre-disaster programs can be found in the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program and Policy Guide, dated March 23, 2023, note that guidance regularly changes. Verify that you have the most recent edition. Flood mitigation assistance is usually offered annually; applications are submitted online. Applicants need a user profile approved by the State Hazard Mitigation Officer, which should be garnered well before the application period opens. For Oregon Department of Emergency Management grant guidance on Federal Hazard Mitigation Assistance, visit: <https://www.oregon.gov/OEM/emresources/Grants/Pages/HMA.aspx>

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, FEMA

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/hazard-mitigation>

The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides grants to states and local governments to implement long-term hazard mitigation measures after a major disaster declaration. The purpose of the HMGP is to reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and to enable mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery from a disaster. The HMGP is authorized under Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The HMGP involves a paper application which is first offered to the counties with presidentially declared disasters within the past year, then becomes available statewide if funding is still available. The grant is administered by FEMA.

Landscape Scale Restoration, Western Forestry Leadership Coalition, US Forest Service, administered by Western Forestry Leadership Coalition (WFLC)

<https://www.thewflc.org/landscape-scale-restoration-competitive-grant-program>

The Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) Competitive Grant Program supports high impact projects that promote collaborative, science-based restoration of priority forest landscapes, leverage public and private resources, and advance priorities identified in a State Forest Action Plan or other restoration strategy.

National Fire Plan, USDA/USDOI

<http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/>

The National Fire Plan (NFP) provides technical, financial, and resource guidance and support for wildland fire management across the United States. This plan addresses five key points: firefighting, rehabilitation, hazardous fuels reduction, community assistance, and accountability.

Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/oregon/linn-county>

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides financial assistance opportunities for farmers, ranchers, and forest owners in Linn County.

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, USDA-FS

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/working-with-us/secure-rural-schools>

Reauthorized for FY2022, it was originally enacted in 2000 to provide five years of transitional assistance to rural counties affected by the decline in revenue from timber harvests on federal lands. Funds have been used for improvements to public schools, roads, and stewardship projects. Money is also available for maintaining infrastructure, improving the health of watersheds and ecosystems, protecting communities, and strengthening local economies.

Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER), Federal Emergency Management Agency

<https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/firefighters/safer>

The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants (SAFER) was created to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations to help them increase or maintain the number of trained, "front line" firefighters available in their communities. The goal of SAFER is to enhance the local fire departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response and operational standards established by the NFPA (NFPA 1710 and/or NFPA 1720).

Wildfire Smoke Preparedness in Community Buildings Grant Program, EPA

<https://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/wildfire-smoke-preparedness-community-buildings-grant-program>

Wildfire Smoke Preparedness in Community Buildings is a new federal grant program to support enhancing community wildfire smoke preparedness. It provides grants and cooperative agreements to States, federally recognized Tribes, public pre-schools, local educational agencies, and non-profit organizations for the assessment, prevention, control, and/or abatement of wildfire smoke hazards in community buildings and related activities.

Foundation Funding

Center for Disaster Philanthropy

<https://disasterphilanthropy.org/cdp-funds/our-grantmaking-process/>

Center for Disaster Philanthropy (CDP) grants support medium- and long-term recovery and resilience efforts in communities affected by natural and human-made hazards, including conflicts and humanitarian crises. With a focus on historically marginalized and at-risk populations, CDP prioritizes investments in local organizations to support a range of programs critical for individuals' and communities' recovery.

Meyer Memorial Trust

<https://mmt.org/>

Since 1982, Meyer Memorial Trust has awarded grants and program-related investments totaling more than \$814 million to more than 3,380 organizations around the Pacific Northwest. Today, the Meyer Memorial Trust focuses on work in Oregon in four areas Oregonians have identified as crucial to making the state better for all its residents: housing, education, the environment and building stronger communities.

Northwest Health Foundation

<https://www.northwesthealth.org/>

Northwest Health Foundation (NWHF) seeks to advance, support, and promote health in Oregon and Southwest Washington. By providing grants to initiatives, forming partnerships with health and community leaders, and advocating for policy change, NWHF is furthering its vision of giving every person the opportunity to lead a healthy life, with a focus on advancing disability justice, civic health, and the justice reinvestment equity program. A recent grant is supporting the creation of emergency preparation education content by and for disabled communities, as well as the creation of wildfire preparedness kits to distribute to disabled community members.

Oregon Community Foundation

<https://oregoncf.org>

The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) provides grants and scholarships across Oregon. As a statewide community foundation, they work alongside donors, stewarding their priorities into strategic giving to support diverse communities across Oregon, creating lasting, transformative change. They have five offices and professional advisors to assist donors in setting up advised funds to serve seven areas of impact.

The Collins Foundation

<https://www.collinsfoundation.org/welcome-collins-foundation>

The Collins Foundation invests in Oregon nonprofit organizations, both rural and urban, that are dedicated to improving quality of life and well-being for the people in their communities. As a funder and partner, The Collins Foundation is committed to the pursuit of equity, both in how they allocate resources across Oregon's diverse communities and how they shape our internal structures.

The Ford Family Foundation

<https://www.tfff.org/grants/funding/>

Grants aligned with our Community impact area support conditions that help children and families thrive in rural communities. This includes focusing on their local economies, social capital, community visioning and planning capacity, and public gathering spaces. Current grant funding examples related to hazard mitigation include community building and engagement efforts, community centers and convening spaces, rural health centers, disaster resiliency planning, and fire halls.