



Our mission is to prevent deaths, injuries, property loss, and environmental damage resulting from wildfires in Deschutes County.

**November 17, 2020 – Steering Committee – Zoom Meeting – 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
DRAFT Minutes**

Steering Committee Members & Staff Present:

	Ken Kehmna	Fire Rep 1	Redmond Fire Chief
	Gary Marshall	Fire Rep 2	Deschutes Rural Fire Dist. #2
	Dan Daugherty	Fire Rep 3	La Pine Fire Dept.
	Doug Green	Fire Rep 4	Bend / Sisters Fire
	Vacant	Insurance Industry	
X	Chris Perry	911 Service District	Deschutes County
		Community Development Dept.	Deschutes County
	Dan Galecki	Private Forestry	Spin Drift Forestry
X	Patti Gentiluomo	HOA Rep	Sunriver HOA
	Dave Gibson	HOA Rep	Black Butte Ranch HOA
X	Dean Richardson	HOA Rep	Upper Deschutes River Communities
X	Nathan Garibay	Sheriff's Office - Emergency Mgmt.	Deschutes County
X	David Morman	Citizen Rep	At Large - Red Cross
X	Oliver Tatom	Citizen Rep	At Large
X	Gordon Foster	Oregon Dept. of Forestry	ODF - Unit Forester
	Alex Robertson	COFMS US Forest Service	USFS
	Vacant	OSU Extension Service	OSU Ext
	Paula Simone	Central Oregon Comm. College	COCC
	Vacant	Environmental Community	
	Ed Keith, Chair	County Forester	Deschutes County
	Tony DeBone	Commissioner	Deschutes County
	Nick Ahnen	Marketing	At Large
	Brandon Fogelman	Business	
	Jessica Laberge	Business	
X	Robert Pohly	Citizen Rep	At Large Retired
X	Boone Zimmerlee	Director	Deschutes County

Public Present:

Georgia Hill – Ridge at Eagle Crest
Alison Green – Oregon: Living With Fire
Jeff Amaral – Bend Parks and Recreation
Ray Miao – Woodside Ranch & DRFPD#2 Board
Boyd Turner – Resort at Eagle Crest
Peter Gutowsky – Deschutes County Community Development
Thomas Stokely – OSU Extension Services
Barry Kleckler – COFMS
Bill Boos – Bend Fire
Ariel Cowan – OSU Extension Services
Craig Letz – Fire Management Consulting
Erin Kilcullen – Deschutes SWCD
Jodie Barram – Ready Set Go
Pete Caligiuri – The Nature Conservancy
Peter Brewer – Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Stacy Lacey – COFMS Fire Prevention Officer
Stella Larson – Woodside Ranch

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were done through Chat

AGENDA, PAST MINUTES AND UPDATE

Agenda and past minutes were sent out in a previous email. Boone solicited for any input and reminded folks to email himself directly if they did find any needed changes.

Boone- Gave update on program of work.

CWPP's - Sunriver CWPP has been out for review and is entering the signature phase of the process. It will be going before the Sunriver board on November 20th for approval for signature.

Fire Adapted Communities – Work continues on the 2 story maps that are planned to be created.

Fall FireFree - The Fall event has just wrapped up ending on the 7th. Numbers will be coming soon. Working on dates and length of the Spring FireFree event.

Firewise communities – Wyndemere has just received recognition into the program. Welcome Wyndemere!

Meeting Topic

Potential Operational Delineations (POD's) –

Barry Kleckler, Fire Management Planning Specialist, Central Oregon Fire Management Service (COFMS)

Barry - POD's are a part of strategic wildland fire planning. There is a regional push to have these developed more than a national push.

Barry revisited The Quantitative Risk Assessment (QRA) and the Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer (OWRE).

The QRA helped to inform and begin the process of creating POD's. The OWRE helped to define the values at risk and the potential fire behavior with outputs such as flame length. The POD's help to bring together landscape management goals.

Tools and outputs like the Suppression Difficulty Index (SDI) and Potential Control Locations (PCL) help to inform location of perimeters of the POD's. POD's can range greatly in size from several acres to several thousand acres. Locally mapping POD's is done without using administrative boundaries. Combining the POD's and the QRA data, you can summarize the risk within the POD's helping to better understand driving influences to relative ratings of POD's. In POD delineation they do not look at ownership, thus collaborative work is essential. There are 3 approached to collaborative work, Agency Centric, Collaborative, and a Hybrid approach using both of the former. By using PODs you can have competing objectives broken out in separate POD's.

Barry opened to discussion as he showed an example map of POD's on the landscape from the Tonto National Forest.

Boone asked about giving an example of if there was a fire that originated in a "red" POD what would happen. Barry- It doesn't mean we would automatically go to the outer perimeter of the POD, instead we would know ahead of time what the likely response would be.

Doug Green (VIA Chat) - Can we see the layers like we can on the Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer? Barry- Yes we can. All those layers that are part of the QRA are part of the POD's, but there isn't an interactive tool for to readily see them as of now.

Alison Green – How do POD's fit into shared stewardship? Are POD's only on federal land?

Barry – The POD's being developed cross boundaries and follow watershed boundaries. POD's will have and can show high risk areas and this could inform decisions about where funding for projects is focused.

Nathan Garibay – Had similar question as Alison's. Very interested in seeing where this goes and looks forward to collaborating.

Question VIA chat – Where are you in the process and have you had BLM involved so far?

Barry – Have done some mapping with COFMS. BLM has been involved in the process as we are all interagency. BLM has protection responsibility on Ochoco's and they have been heavily involved with drawing the POD's. So far in the process, POD's have been digitized, but that has been about it so far.

Boone – How does or will this interface with WFDSS, will this be integrated in WFDSS? Barry – Potentially it will in the near the future. The POD's have been used in strategic objectives decision making through WFDSS meeting resource objectives.

Barry presented an example of the Green Ridge fire in Sisters and POD's. He walked through maps of the progression of the fire overlaid on SDI and PCL. At the time of the fire, these layers were not being used to manage the fire. As the fire progressed, the forward spread would hold at many of the expected PCL's. With the POD's overlaid you could see where the fire held on or near the boundaries of the draft POD's. Barry, hopes to Collaborate with cooperators as they move forward with POD creation.

Rosland road fire was another example used to show PCL's and draft POD locations. Much of the final line location of the Rosland road fire aligned with the draft POD boundaries.

POD's and strategic prescribed fire planning. Having POD's drawn will show that the forest service is being progressive in planning into the future. The hope is that this will help to obtain more funding for future projects. Barry expects that the Ochoco forest will likely have much of the POD's done before the Deschutes will.

Barry offered to share all the resources he has for learning more about POD's.

Dean Richardson – How much of the Deschutes would likely be classified as High Complexity.

Barry – Not sure what the labeling will do for the Deschutes as much of it is considered High Complexity by most counts. It will likely have different rating classes compared to the Tonto.

Ray Miao – How does this fit in with CWPP's? Barry – I haven't worked too much on CWPP's.

Boone – Much of the overlap will come from using the QRA and the OWRE to inform where the risk to communities comes in. Some of our CWPP's may help inform some of the POD boundaries.

Thomas Stokely – Will the roads be seen as potential high risk ignition zones? Will roads be shut down due to risk as an ignition source? Barry – Possibly and thinking about many of the lines being near communities this may be a hard discussions as "Red" POD's where there are communities could be next to "Green" PODS implying that a fire may be a benefit in those areas.

Ray Miao – Should we be using the QRA data to inform where we should or should not be planning to build? Barry – Yeah, potentially this could inform much of those decisions. Boone – Yes the QRA could help to inform zoning in the county, it will be up to the planning department to make much of the decisions on zoning.

Links –

<https://www.iawfonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Wildfire-2020-01-Strategic-fire-management-Stratton.pdf>

https://www.projectwildfire.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/ConnectedScience_PODS-Sept2020.pdf

<https://www.projectwildfire.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/PODs-Collaborative-Engagement-Final-Report.pdf>

At this time Boone turned the discussion to updates and roundtable discussion.

ROUNDTABLE

Boone asked Peter Gutowsky to give an update to the survey. Peter – Reminded us of why we are doing the outreach. Peter encouraged us to share the survey out to all of our stake holders. The survey is on the County webpage. This coming Thursday will be the first of 2 open houses. The second open house will be December 3rd at 7pm. There will also be statistically valid survey going out in the near future. Survey results will be available

<https://www.deschutes.org/cd/page/wildfire-mitigation>

Doug Green – City of Bend and Sisters are both updating codes on vegetation within the city limits.

Ariel Cowan – Introduced herself as the new regional Fire Specialist from OSU Extension. She transitioned from ODF to OSU. Her role is to assist with landscape scale treatments that may be happening along with community engagement and education. She has been working on updating the fire resistant plant guide as well and hopes to have a new one out next year. She

is among 4 regional fire specialists, together they are planning to create statewide curriculum for burn boss.

Bob Pohly – Mountain High has obtained Firewise recognition! They have also received a grant from the county and hope COVID is behind us as we turn to spring and start work.

Gordon Foster – Sorry to lose Ariel, but they have identified a new candidate to fill that position. The gentlemen filling that position will be starting January 4th 2021. Ross Haufman, he will be coming from Veneta.

Nathan Garibay – Still busy with COVID. Hailey is back on the Recovery Plan. COVID and the fires from the fire season are informing those plans. No timeline on the plan, but should be getting back on track with grants and moving forward with work.

Alison Green – Working on a shared stewardship plan. This would include things like Joint Chiefs projects.

Georgia Hill – Ridge at Eagle Crest, much work has been done to extend the HIZ onto golf course lands, improving the HIZ.

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 am.