



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

**May 21, 2024 – Steering Committee – Hybrid - in person and virtual – 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
Meeting Minutes**

Steering Committee Members & Staff Present:

	Tom Mooney	Fire Rep 1	Redmond Fire
	Gary Marshall	Fire Rep 2	Deschutes Rural Fire Dist. #2
X	Heather Miller	Fire Rep 3	Oregon State Fire Marshal
	Melissa Steele	Fire Rep 4	Bend Fire and Rescue
X	Andy Meeuwsen	Insurance Industry	Country Insurance
	Chris Perry	911 Service District	Deschutes County
X	Kyle Collins	Community Development Dept.	Deschutes County
		Private Forestry	
X	Patti Gentiluomo	HOA Rep	Sunriver HOA
	Elizabeth Weide	HOA Rep	The Parks 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
	Oliver Tatom	Citizen Rep	At Large
	Gordon Foster	Oregon Dept. of Forestry	ODF - Unit Forester
X	Sheldon Rhoden	BLM	Fire Management Specialist
	Shawn Jaca for Kevin Stock	COFMS US Forest Service	USFS
	Ariel Cowan	OSU Extension Service	OSU Ext
	Paula Simone	Central Oregon Comm. College	COCC
X	Kevin Moriarty, Chair	County Forester	Deschutes County
	Patti Adair	Commissioner	Deschutes County
		Marketing	At Large
	Horace Ward	Business	At Large - Pacific Power
		Business	At Large
		Citizen Rep	At Large
X	Corinne Heiner, Director	Fire Adapted Communities Coordinator	Deschutes County

Public Present:

Carolyn Dahlberg - Tollgate HOA
Craig Renkert - Deschutes Market Rd
Sherrie Moen - Widgi Creek HOA
Christina Maier - Tollgate
Guy Neal - Shevlin Commons
Laurence Le Mercier - Skyliner Summit
Todd Peplin - Deschutes SWCD
Wendy H -
Shela Boynton - Nottingham Square
Jodie Barram - Oregon Living with Fire
Dave Breuninger - Elkai Woods HOA
Ellie Gaines - DRW
Laura Bevan - Wiggins
Maryann Kramer - Elkai Woods Widgi Creek
Jessica Smith - Elkai Woods Fractional HOA
Robert Pohly - Mountain High
Greg Bryant - DRW

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Corinne - Welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave an introduction to the meeting and outlined the agenda. She asked everyone to introduce themselves starting with the room and told zoom attendees to please introduce themselves via the zoom meeting chat.

AGENDA AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Corinne and Kevin - Covered the agenda for the meeting and gave updates and announcements which included:

- Fall fuel reduction grants that were awarded last fall need to report by June 30th, Kevin sent out the reports to those who were awarded.
- 2024-25 Fall fuel reduction grant coming up will have \$75,000 from the Oregon State Fire Marshal grant plus a tentative \$50,000 from the County discretionary funds totalling \$125,000 (tentative) available for applicants. Applications will be available in September.
- CWDG grant application was not successful this year, the application was to combine all CWPP's into one. We are still looking for other funding to continue this project.
- BLM community assistance grants Decision for awards were made, three communities were awarded
 - Deschutes Land Trust
 - Lower Bridge

- Plainview Neighbor
 - There were a lot of great projects that applied and it was a tough decision
- Project Wildfire Annual Barbecue Event
 - No regular June meeting.
 - 5-8pm on June 18th in Sunriver.
 - It's a recognition event for the community's hard work.
 - Finalized details will be shared through Project Wildfire
 - Please fill out the RSVP form, this event is catered and we need an accurate number for food. So please RSVP so you can eat!
 - Families are welcome!
 - Lawn games
- Fire Free totals
 - 8,509 total vehicles
 - 29,179 cubic yards of debris was collected totalling 3,647 tons for all sites this year.
- There are still a few openings on the Project Wildfire Steering Committee, if you or anyone you may know is interested, please contact Corinne at Corinne.Heiner@deschutes.org

MEETING TOPIC 1 - Nathan Garibay - Evacuation Preparedness

Corinne Introduced Nathan Garibay - Emergency Manager with Deschutes County Sheriff's Office to present on evacuation preparedness.

Nathan discussed the concept of "GO bags" and the six essential items to include: people, pets, papers, plastic and cash, prescriptions, and personal items. He highlighted the importance of being prepared to evacuate early and following evacuation routes and instructions provided by authorities. Nathan also stressed the need to dress appropriately for evacuation, including wearing long pants, long sleeves, sturdy shoes, and protective gear like gloves and face coverings.

Nathan also reviewed the evacuation levels

- Level 1 - Get Ready - be ready for potential evacuation. There is danger in your area, monitor emergency service, websites, and local media outlets for information. If conditions worsen, emergency services personnel may contact you.
- Level 2 - Be set to evacuate - You must be prepared to leave at a moment's notice. There is significant danger in your area. This may be the only notice you receive from emergency personnel, if you feel threatened by the situation, evacuate.
- Level 3 - Go - Evacuate now. Leave immediately! Danger in your area is current or imminent, and you should evacuate immediately. This will be the last notice you receive! Do NOT delay leaving to gather belongings.

Be very cautious and prepared especially if you have large animals, or difficult egress routes. Be sure you give yourself plenty of time to leave and do not delay by gathering belongings if you have hit a level 3. You should be ready to go when you receive a level 1 warning.

When emergency services show up to a fire they are looking at situational awareness, fire behavior, and weather and are in communication with fire personnel and incident managers. The sheriff is responsible for making the recommendation of evacuation. Sometimes fires move very quickly and you may need to leave before getting a warning. Always be aware of your surroundings and what is happening with a fire or other emergency. The following websites and resources are available for your monitoring.

www.centraloregonfire.org

<https://member.everbridge.net/892807736723736/faq>

<https://www.projectwildfire.org/evacuation/>

<https://oralert.gov/>

<https://www.redcross.org/local/oregon/about-us/locations/central-and-eastern-oregon-chapter.html>

Sign up for Deschutes Alerts from the everbridge website above. Oregon statewide alerts from OR-Alert.

Deschutes Sheriff Office also uses social media outlets for information.

Other tips include:

- Making sure to have an evacuation plan for large animals, such as livestock and horses.
- Be sure to have a full tank of gas in case of evacuation.
- Be signed up for emergency alerts.
- Be aware of when there is a fire in your area, or when a fire has the potential to spread to your area.
- Have an evacuation plan for your home and community.
- Prepare your home for wildfire with defensible space to give your home the best chance of making it through a wildfire.

Nathan concluded his presentation with questions regarding traffic management, medication management during evacuation, and identifying individuals with special needs during evacuation.

The meeting recording can be found on the Project Wildfire Youtube channel at the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DHw-qWno_mY&t=2572s

ROUNDTABLE

Questions ran long from the evacuation presentation and there was not a formal roundtable this month.

The meeting adjourned at approx. 9:30 a.m.