

Defensible Space Action Team
La Pine Fire 101 Conference Room
Tuesday, May 13 at 2:30 pm

MEETING NOTES

Quotes of the day:

We are not “but....” people! - Echo Murray

The power of defensible space is to give you time to get out in the event of a wildfire - Glenna Larson

QUICK ACTION ITEM: Respectfully request for the repair of the Spring Butte Lookout located in the Deschutes National Forest in Klamath County. We've been told this lookout has been closed since last year and is one of the best places to see the entire basin for early wildfire detection.

CONTACT:

Holly Jewkes: holly.jewkes@usda.gov

Kevin Stock: kevin.stock@usda.gov

IN ATTENDANCE:

Brooks Eilertson, Helen Marston, Jim Larson, Glenna Larson, Heather Miller, Kathy DeBone, Chief Holsey, Kevin Moriarty, Echo Murray, Monte Dammarell

Review 4/26 Defensible Space Event (Heather)

- What went well?
 - Great turnout and interaction, about 200 people
 - We've made some great inroads to bring people on board
 - Great speakers and table vendors, information
 - Great North Klamath Turnout
 - Good multi agency attendance

- What could we have done better?
 - Better acoustics and Visual
 - Do presentation first, tables afterwards, keep to one hour
 - Try the high school next year, more space, better parking, better acoustics
 - Conduct Sound check prior to event
 - Dedicated AV person
 - Use Heather's action item board!
 - Chief needs an apron
 - 2 grills or a bigger grill, offer a salad option
 - Acknowledge Action Team
 - PET Evacuation presentation
 - Evacuation presentation
 - List of vendors for guests

Grant Status (Kathy, Kevin)

- Philanthropy NW (EPA) - includes UDRC Funding - Paused
- Community Wildfire Defense - Includes funding for a Defensible Space Coordinator -Hope to hear this fall

Kevin wants to hear about “Shovel Ready” projects they can write into their grants!

How can NRP help UDRC?

- Joint public meetings
- Echo help to identify grant funding and grant review
- UDRC willing to be fiscal sponsor
- Grant suggestions: Roundhouse and Central Oregon Health Council, OREM
- Kevin and Echo suggested Lauren Street (Deschutes County) and Jen Fenton (Oregon Living with Fire) for grant writing
- Deschutes County has direct grants and service contract opportunities
- Many need annual maintenance, we can attempt this through growing the FireWise Program

NEXT STEPS

- **1- Assessment Training & Certification in La Pine - OSFM/NRP Action Team**
 - Include Home Protection Strategies Workshop Insurance approved

Article: State partners with insurance industry to help Oregon homeowners with wildfire prevention

- Link: <https://bendbulletin.com/2025/05/06/state-partners-with-insurance-industry-to-help-oregon-homeowners-with-wildfire-prevention/>
- **2 - FIREWISE Workshop - An educational program - NRP Action Team**
 - The main point of this program is community engagement.
 - It only takes 8 landowners to become FireWise.
 - We are looking for neighborhood “Spark-plugs” to lead.
 - ODF Manages the FireWise Program. (Austin)
 - Project Wildfire PROMOTES the FireWiser program
 - Kevin suggests neighborhood coalition mentors to participate. For example Project WildFire subcommittee Melissa Steele and Lon Leneve

3-NARRATIVES

- Build trust in the community, share the truth
- More joint press releases from agencies
- Monte will email a narrative to group to share on social media (see his 5/13 email)

Values of Risk: We had a great discussion about how what we value is WITHIN the perimeters of our communities. Lives, homes and belongings.

FACT:

Humans cause nearly 90% of wildfires in the United states. Although less common, wildfires can also occur though non-human phenomena, such as lightning strikes and volcanic eruptions. Read on to discover what causes wildfires.

Human Caused Wildfires

Most human-caused fires are not started intentionally. Unfortunately, many human activities generate enough heat to start an uncontrolled fire.

- Equipment Malfunction
- Discarded Cigarettes
- Unattended Campfires
- Burning Debris
- Vehicles
- Prescribed Burning & Arson

4 - **Invite** Austin Remer, Ben Weylan and Erick of ODF, Ron Rommell and Marty Wylie to our Action Team Meetings and to become a part.

Next Meeting

June 10, 2:30 pm, Station #101

