NRP Defensible Space Action Team

Tuesday, November 10, 2026
2:30pm - 4:00pm

La Pine Rural Fire Protection District
51550 Huntington Rd, La Pine, OR 97739

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

The Defensible Space Action Team is a part of the NRP's broader efforts to create a more wildfire-adapted and resilient community. The team works in partnership with other organizations to educate and assist homeowners with creating and maintaining defensible space. Defensible space is the area around a home that is strategically managed to reduce the risk of it catching fire during a wildfire.

By promoting defensible space, the Defensible Space Action Team helps to create safer neighborhoods for residents and provides a safer environment for firefighters responding to a wildfire.

Attending

Amanda Young - Oregon Outback Rural Fire
Danielle Pokorney - Newberry Estates
Monte Dammarell - DSAT Leader
Meg O'Leary - Mazama
Mike Applegate - SRHOA
Linda Beard - SRHOA
Kathy DeBone - Newberry Regional Partnership
Dep. Jon Ebner - Deschutes County Sheriffs Office

Updates for Wildland Fire Service - Jona Ensley:
Mowing continues in the La Pine Basin near Wagon Trail. We're in the process of hiring a new Unit Fire Chief, will likely be in place by January. Pile burning on BLM lands within the La Pine Basin are still awaiting a burn window, needing more precipitation, but other areas throughout Central Oregon will start pile burning as soon as next week.

Updates for Oregon Outback - Amanda Young:
Looking for grant opportunities for a new well at the station. Would like to know who the authority is for citations on burning. Did BLM give Walker Range authority to cite for reckless burning?

Updates for Newberry Estates - Danielle Pokorney:
Newberry Estates recognized as FireWise! Congratulations! Wants two grow participation, may need funding for mailers to 270 homes. Insurance rates can be a motivator! In some cases.

WiRe updates:
Assessments of 2,300 properties have been completed. Surveys will go out very soon. Hope to have a report by January. Thank you to the WiRe assessment team!

Updates for Mazama Geothermal - Meg O'Leary
Meg gave a detailed update about the project on Newberry.

Oregon Resilience Summit - Kathy DeBone:
Update on the summit. La Pine Basin All Lands Partnership (LBALP) presented. Monte, Lauren, Robert and Jodie. Multiple sessions on Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD. Discussion: People moving into Central Oregon who are not familiar with Wildfire - Know your neighbors! Monte, Jodoe, Heather and Kathy met with Tucker Teutsch, founder of the FIREBRAND Collective and Wildfire Resilience Navigator. We hope to have him visit DSAT early next year.

Coming Up:

Wildfire Home Protection Strategies - 11/13/26, Guidance on Wildfire Insurance in Oregon - La Pine Library Community Room at 16425 First St. on Nov. 18 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. (Oregon Division of Financial Regulation)

Next meeting:

December 8, 2026 will be a working session for the DSAT Steering Committee. Have a Happy Holiday and we will see the rest of you in January 2027!