



**DLCD**



## **Wildfire Adapted Communities**

**State Interagency Hazards Mitigation Team  
July 21, 2022**

**Susan Millhauser, Natural Hazards Planner – Wildfire, DLCD**

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# Agenda

1. Background
2. Senate Bill 762 Overview & State Agency Coordination
3. Engagement: What We Heard
4. Recovery Lessons Learned
5. Considerations for Recommendations
6. Next Steps & Feedback



# BACKGROUND



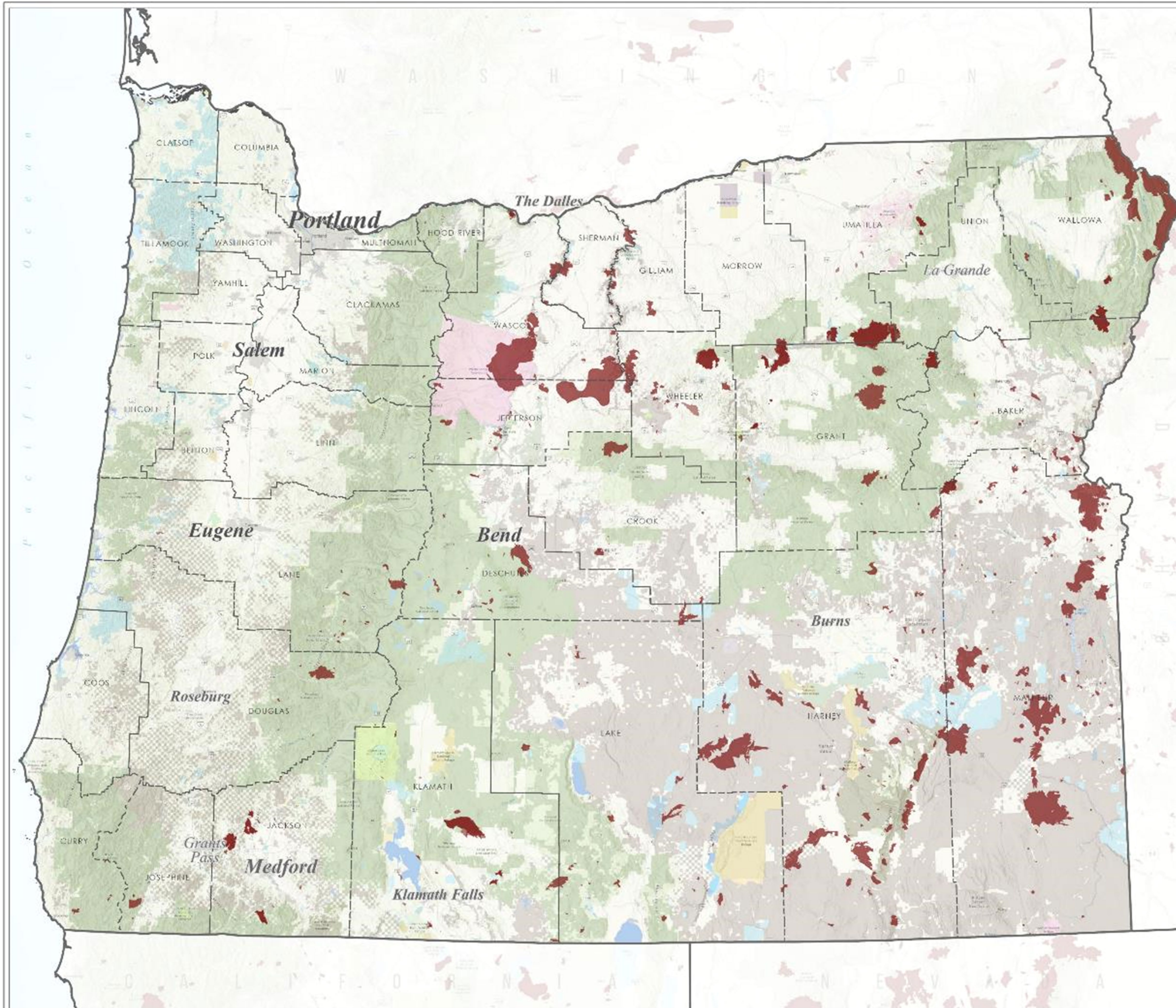
# Historical Large Fires in Oregon

1992 - 2001



## Land Management

- Private
- USFS
- BIA-Tribal
- USFWS
- Local Gov't
- State
- BLM
- NPS
- USACE
- Other Fed





# Historical Large Fires in Oregon

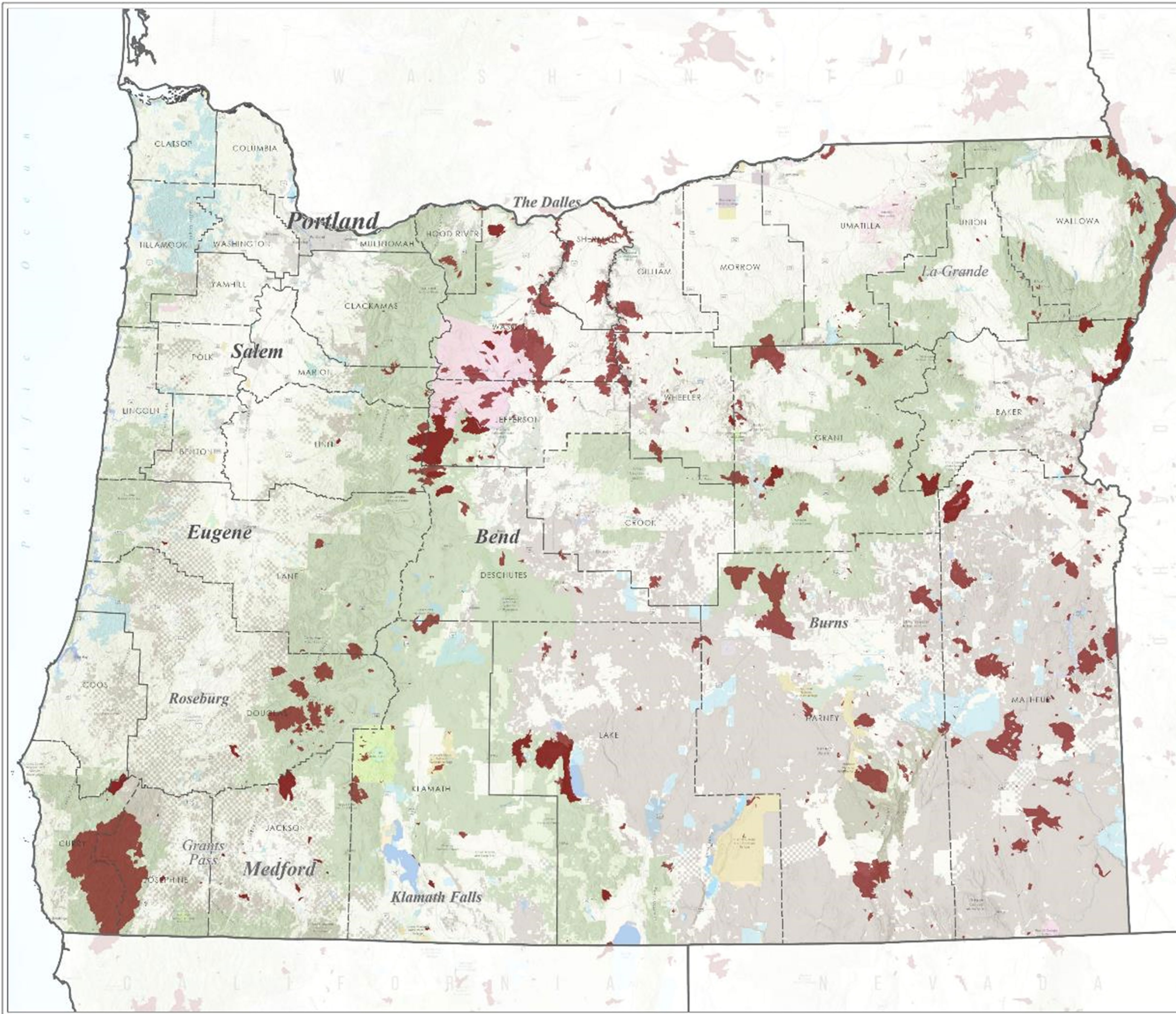
2002 - 2011



**Land Management**

Private	State
USFS	BLM
BIA-Tribal	NPS
USFWS	USACE
Local Gov't	Other Fed

0 20 MILES  
0 40 KM  
TSC & OFC 09/20/2021





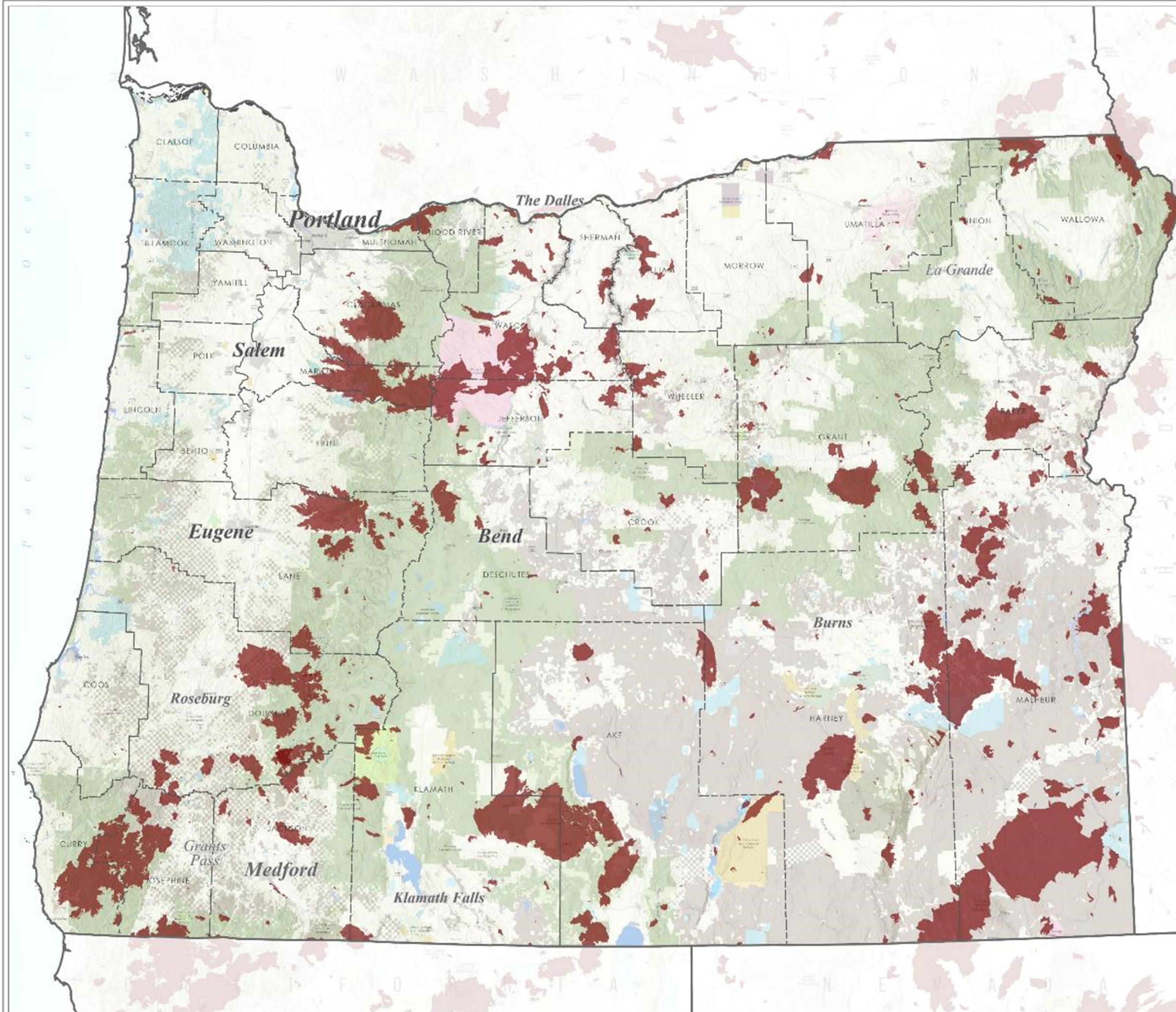
# Historical Large Fires in Oregon

2012 - 2021

 Wildfire Perimeters

## Land Management

- |             |           |
|-------------|-----------|
| Private     | State     |
| USFS        | BLM       |
| BIA-Tribal  | NPS       |
| USFWS       | USACE     |
| Local Gov't | Other Fed |





# SENATE BILL 762 OVERVIEW

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# Senate Bill 762

Oregon's  
comprehensive  
wildfire  
preparedness and  
resiliency bill.

**Proactive approach that helps modernize and improve wildfire preparedness through three key strategies**

- ✓ Creating fire-adapted communities
- ✓ Developing safe and effective response
- ✓ Increasing the resiliency of Oregon's landscapes



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# Senate Bill 762

Oregon's  
comprehensive  
wildfire  
preparedness and  
resiliency bill.

## Action from multiple agencies to

- ✓ Minimize loss of life and property
- ✓ Protect the lives of firefighters
- ✓ Protect and manage Oregon's forest assets
- ✓ Create more predictable and protected future for communities and development at risk to the effects of wildfire

# Senate Bill 762

## Oregon's comprehensive wildfire preparedness and resiliency bill



### State Wildfire Program

- State Wildfire Programs Director
- Wildfire Programs Advisory Council



### ODF & OSU

- Statewide Wildfire Risk Map
- Rulemaking, notification, and appeals



### OSFM & DCBS

- Defensible space code
- Community risk reduction
- grants
- Building codes



### Other Agencies

- Landscape resilience
- Workforce development
- Public health
- Air quality monitoring
- Utilities



### DLCD

- Community and stakeholder engagement
- Land use recommendations due October 1, Staff support for State Wildfire Programs



Oregon Department of Forestry & Oregon State University

# **WILDFIRE RISK MAPPING & WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE**

# Statewide Map of Wildfire Risk

SB 762 – Section 7

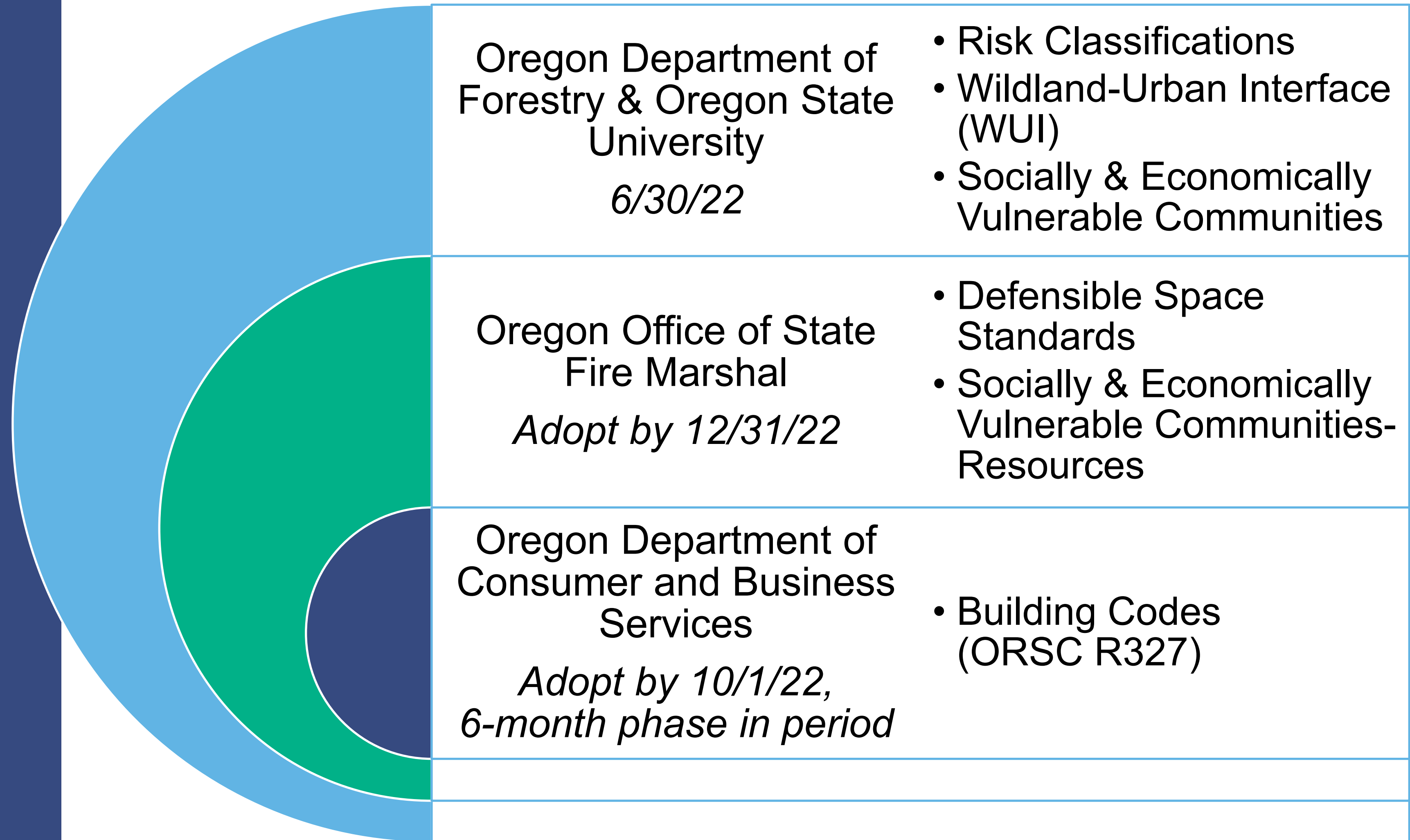
## Statewide map of wildfire risk to inform decision-making and investment

- ✓ Includes wildland-urban interface (WUI) boundaries, five wildfire risk classes, and social vulnerability
- ✓ All lands in Oregon assigned a wildfire risk designation, some are within the WUI
- ✓ Updated regularly to reflect current wildfire risk
- ✓ Property owners or local governments may appeal their property's risk classification

# Statewide Map of Wildfire Risk

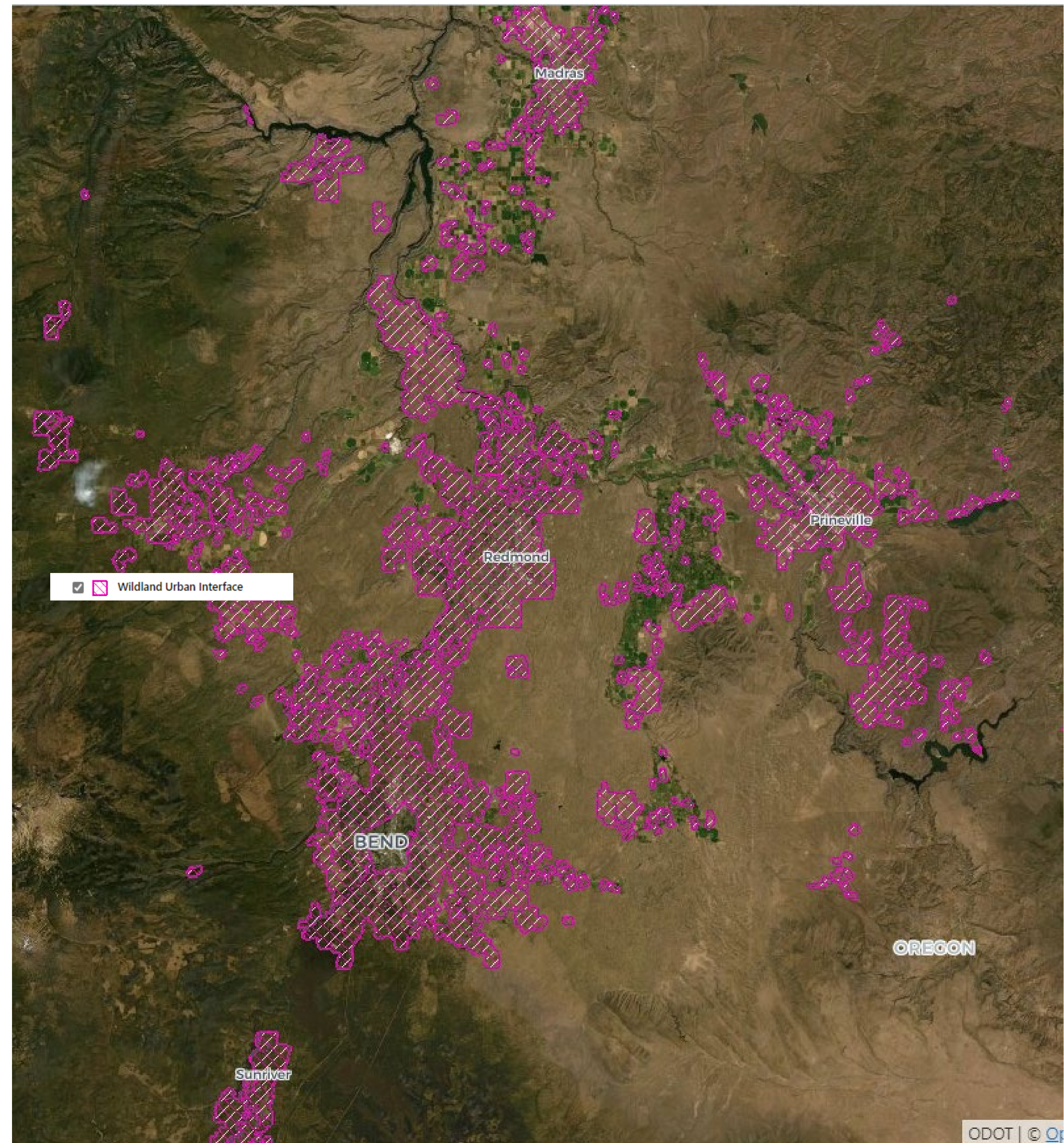
Oregon Wildfire  
Risk Explorer

## To inform decision-making and investment








# Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI)

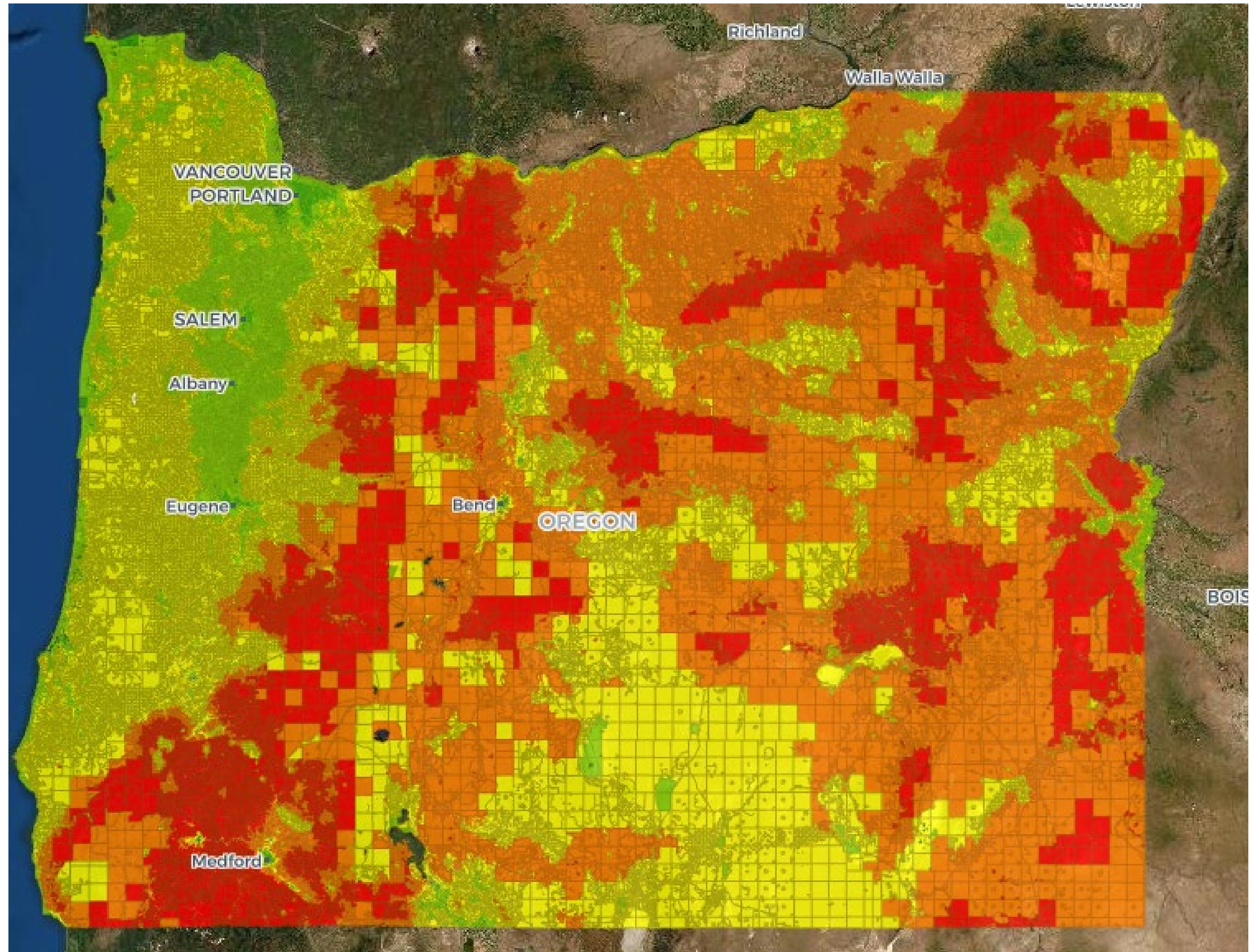
 Wildland Urban Interface



Source: [https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/OE\\_HtmlViewer/index.html?viewer=wildfire](https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/OE_HtmlViewer/index.html?viewer=wildfire)

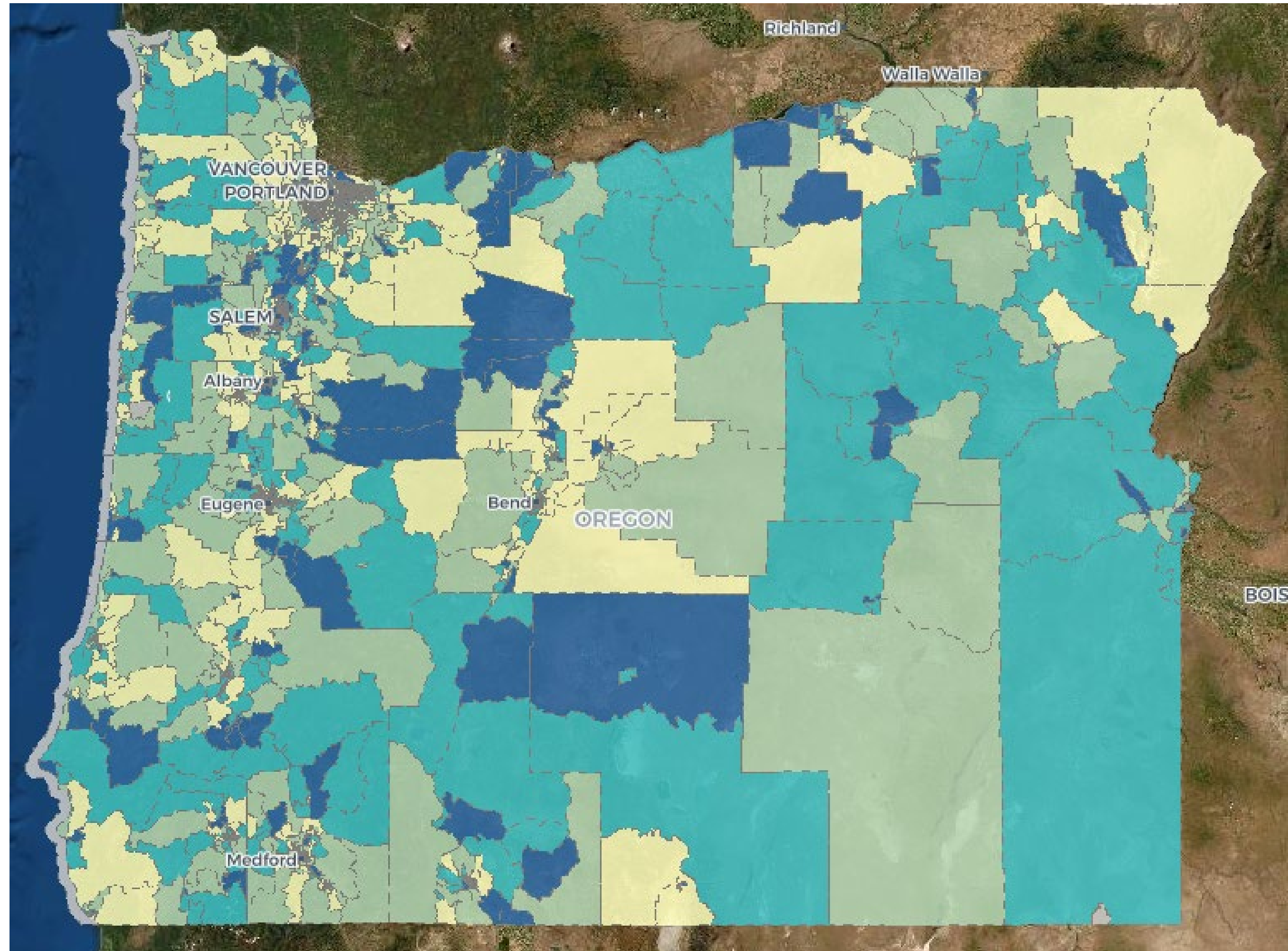
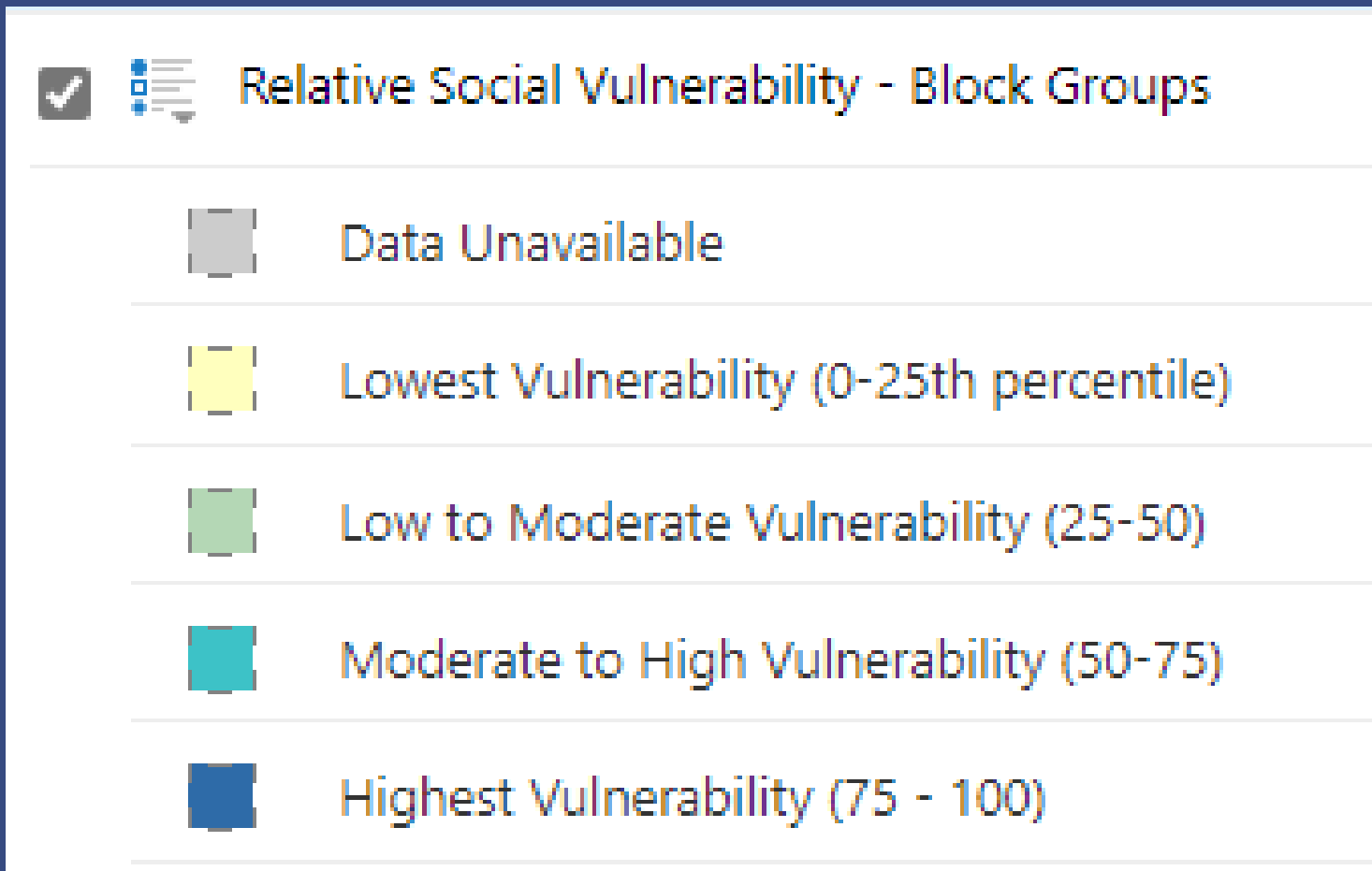
# Wildfire Risk Categories

Wildfire Risk Classification	
	No Risk
	Low
	Moderate
	High
	Extreme



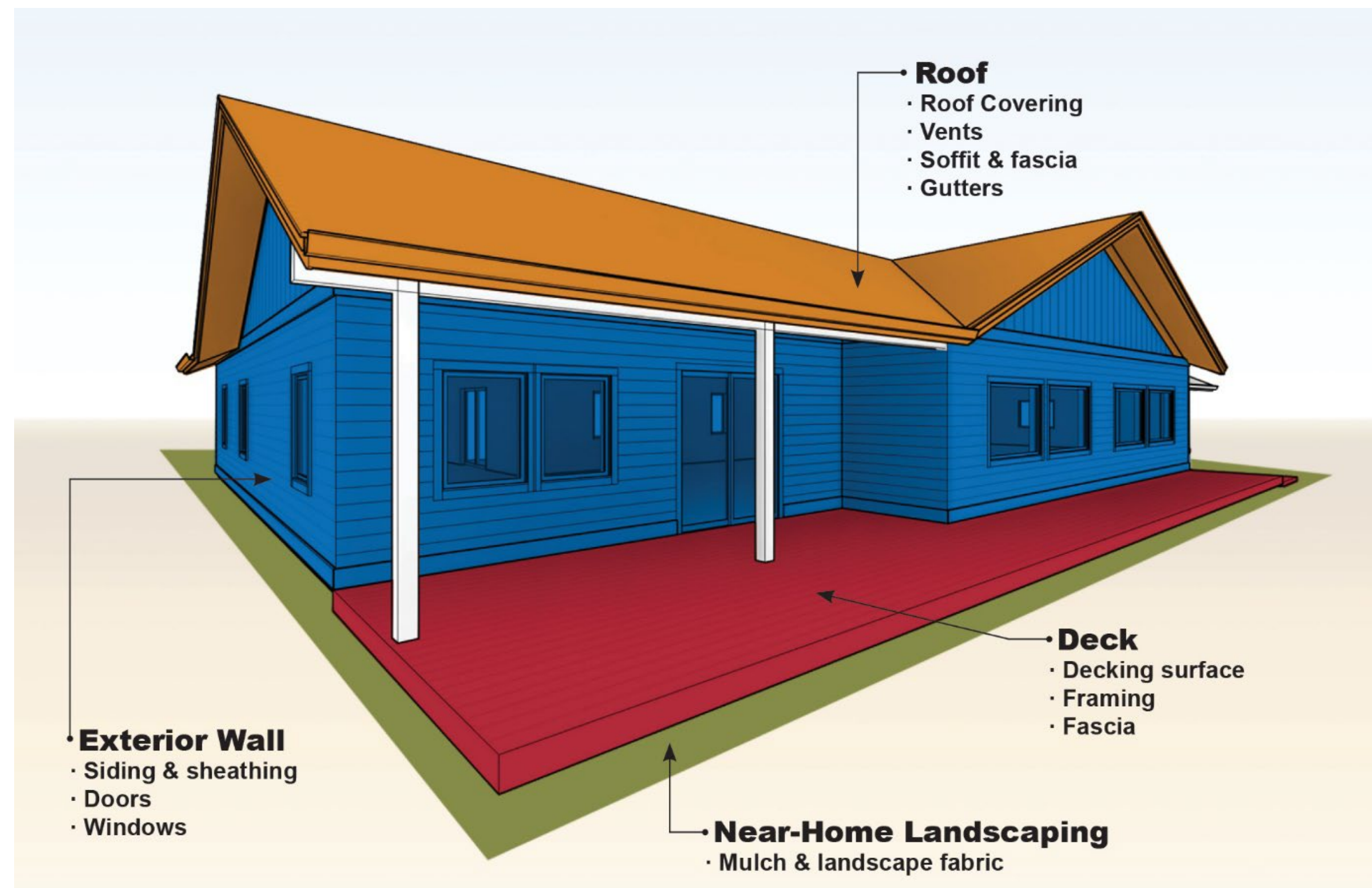
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# Social Vulnerability



Source: [https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/OE\\_HtmlViewer/index.html?viewer=wildfire](https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/OE_HtmlViewer/index.html?viewer=wildfire)





Source: *Building a Wildfire-Resistant Home: Codes and Costs*,  
Headwaters Economics, 2018

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES

# BUILDING CODES

# Building Codes

SB 762 – Section 12

## DCBS: making homes safer through fire-resistant building codes standards

- ✓ Amendments to Oregon Residential Specialty Code Section (ORSC) R 327. Applies:
  - In areas of high and extreme risk within the WUI
  - To all new dwellings and their accessory structures and replacement of exterior elements on existing dwellings
  - To one-and-two family homes, other types of dwellings and buildings not covered

# Building Codes

## SB 762 – Section 12

### DCBS: making homes safer through fire-resistant building codes standards

- ✓ ORSC is a “minimum/maximum” code
- ✓ Local municipalities are not allowed to require beyond high and extreme risk areas in the WUI
- ✓ Several Oregon jurisdictions that adopted the voluntary 2019 ORSC R 327 must rescind their codes for areas that are not mapped as extreme or high risk and in the WUI
- ✓ Local authority to apply ORSC R327 more broadly will no longer be available once the updates are completed



OREGON OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

# DEFENSIBLE SPACE

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# Defensible Space

SB 762 – Section 8

## OSFM: making homes safer through defensible space actions

- ✓ To help firefighters better protect homes
- ✓ Statewide minimum defensible space code provisions will apply to new and existing homes in the high and extreme risk classes in the WUI

# Defensible Space

SB 762 – Section 8

## Local governments

- ✓ Can adopt and enforce local requirements for defensible space greater than the minimum statewide requirements established by OSFM
- ✓ Locally adopted standards must be selected from the framework set forth in the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code, with OSFM review and reporting requirements

# Defensible Space

SB 762 – Section 8

## Local governments

- ✓ Statewide minimum defensible space requirements may not be used as criteria to approve or deny a comprehensive plan amendment or land use application

However, a local government can:

- ✓ Amend its acknowledged comprehensive plan or land use regulations to include defensible space requirements
- ✓ Subsequently use the defensible space requirements as a criterion for a land use decision



# Community Risk Reduction

SB 762 – Section 9

## Investments and resources

- ✓ Fire Adapted Oregon – preventing fires and protecting people
  - Community Risk Reduction Unit offers grants and educational webinars
  - Defensible Space Code
- ✓ Response Ready Oregon – protecting Oregon
- ✓ Wildfire Response – how the OSFM mobilizes resources





Department of Land Conservation and Development

# LAND USE

# Senate Bill

# 762

## Section 11 – Land Use

## Recommendations Report for the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council and Legislature

Identify updates to incorporate the wildfire risk map and minimize wildfire risk:

- ✓ Statewide land use planning program
- ✓ Local comprehensive plans and zoning codes
- ✓ Identify state and local resources to implement
- ✓ Allow for regional differences

# Senate Bill

# 762

## Section 11 – Land Use

## Recommendations Report for the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council and Legislature

Recommendations may include, but need not be limited to, provisions regarding:

- ✓ Sufficient defensible space
- ✓ Building codes
- ✓ Safe evacuations
- ✓ Development considerations
- ✓ In areas of extreme or high wildfire risk

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# Senate Bill 762

## Section 11 – Land Use

### Recommendations for the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council and Legislature

- ✓ Must be complete by October 1, 2022
- ✓ Recommendations only
- ✓ Include appropriate resources to implement
- ✓ Wildfire Programs Advisory Council may advance refined or additional recommendations to the Legislature

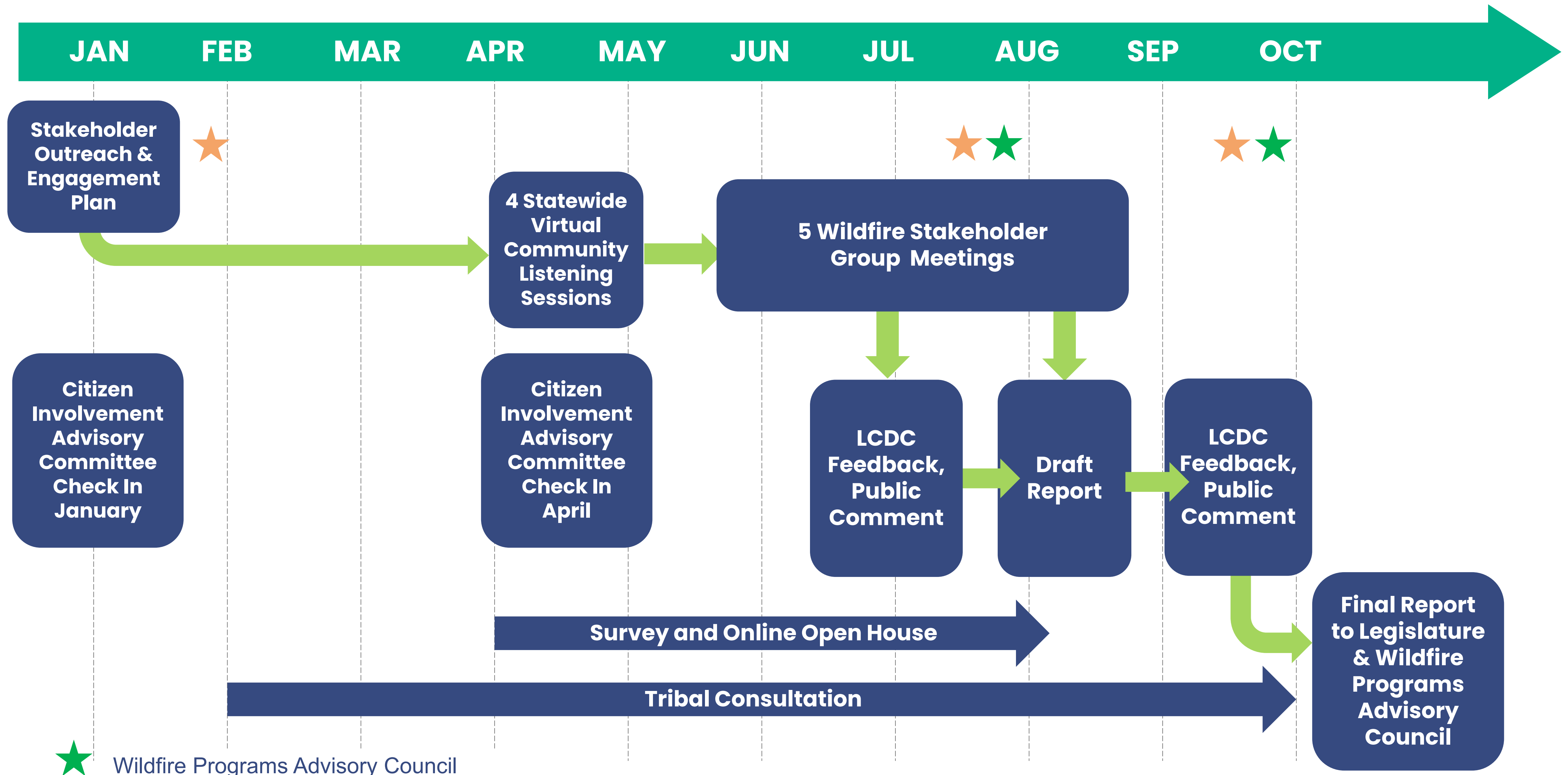


Community and Stakeholder Engagement

# WHAT WE HEARD

# DLCD Community Engagement & Report

2022 SCHEDULE



★ Wildfire Programs Advisory Council

★ Land Conservation and Development Commission

# Emerging Themes

- ✓ Oregonians are concerned, eager, and motivated for action (state, local, individual)
- ✓ Equity must be considered throughout
- ✓ Better interagency coordination, communication, and collaboration
- ✓ Accessible and reliable education and communications (e.g., language, broadband, digital literacy)
- ✓ One-size fits all approach won't work
- ✓ Consistency in application has benefits
- ✓ Community-specific evacuation planning that allows for different needs

# Emerging Themes

- ✓ Potential conflicting development considerations
- ✓ Balancing private property interests, needs of individuals, and broad community benefits
- ✓ Statewide planning that's flexible for local communities
- ✓ Lack of requirements, such as defensible space, and access to resources in areas not identified as extreme or high risk
- ✓ Funding and resources for local governments and community members
- ✓ Wildfire-resilient infrastructure and utilities like water and electricity



# Tribal Government Consultation

## Feedback

- ✓ Protecting and managing cultural resource sites
- ✓ Wildfire impacts to Tribal members living in the WUI
- ✓ Access to resources for defensible space
- ✓ Safe evacuation concerns in areas of limited transportation access
- ✓ Long-range land use planning impacts to Tribal fee lands
- ✓ Impacts to Tribal trust lands from adjacent land use changes
- ✓ Ensuring that lands that will be developed are planned to reduce risk
- ✓ Access to Geographic Information System data



# RECOVERY LESSONS LEARNED

# Recovery and Rebuilding

- ✓ Helping people remain in their communities
- ✓ Clear and coordinated information sharing
- ✓ Rebuilding in an equitable way to ensure better access to affordable housing
- ✓ Rebuilding cost effective and energy efficient homes
- ✓ Build back better: ask rural communities what opportunities are needed to lift them up
- ✓ How and where we rebuild: more fire-resistant communities that avoid other hazards, i.e., floods and landslides
- ✓ Shore up utilities, such as electricity, sewer and septic systems, broadband

# Recovery and Rebuilding

- ✓ Short-term revenue losses for cities and special districts due to property tax losses
- ✓ Updating and strengthening WUI strategies and codes
- ✓ Updating natural hazard mitigation plans in partnership with local governments & Tribes
- ✓ Reviewing risk assessment and priorities for public safety and infrastructure mitigation actions and recovery strategies
- ✓ Developing risk assessments and prioritizing mitigation actions and recovery strategies for natural resources and cultural resources



# CONSIDERATIONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

# Land Use Planning Tools to Reduce Wildfire Risk

## Goal 7: Areas Subject to Natural Hazards

- ✓ Local government response to new hazard information and incorporation of the wildfire risk map
- ✓ More consistent statewide approach, minimum requirements or expected outcomes
- ✓ Integration of Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan's (NHMPs) and Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs) into comprehensive plans and implementing codes
- ✓ Eligibility for FEMA and other federal funding

# Land Use Planning Tools to Reduce Wildfire Risk

## Goal 7: Areas Subject to Natural Hazards

- ✓ Overlapping hazards, such as flooding and post-wildfire landslides and mudflows
- ✓ Development and use considerations in areas of high and extreme risk
- ✓ Expansion of the WUI through changes in zoning from resource or non-resource land to residential use

# Land Use Planning Tools to Reduce Wildfire Risk

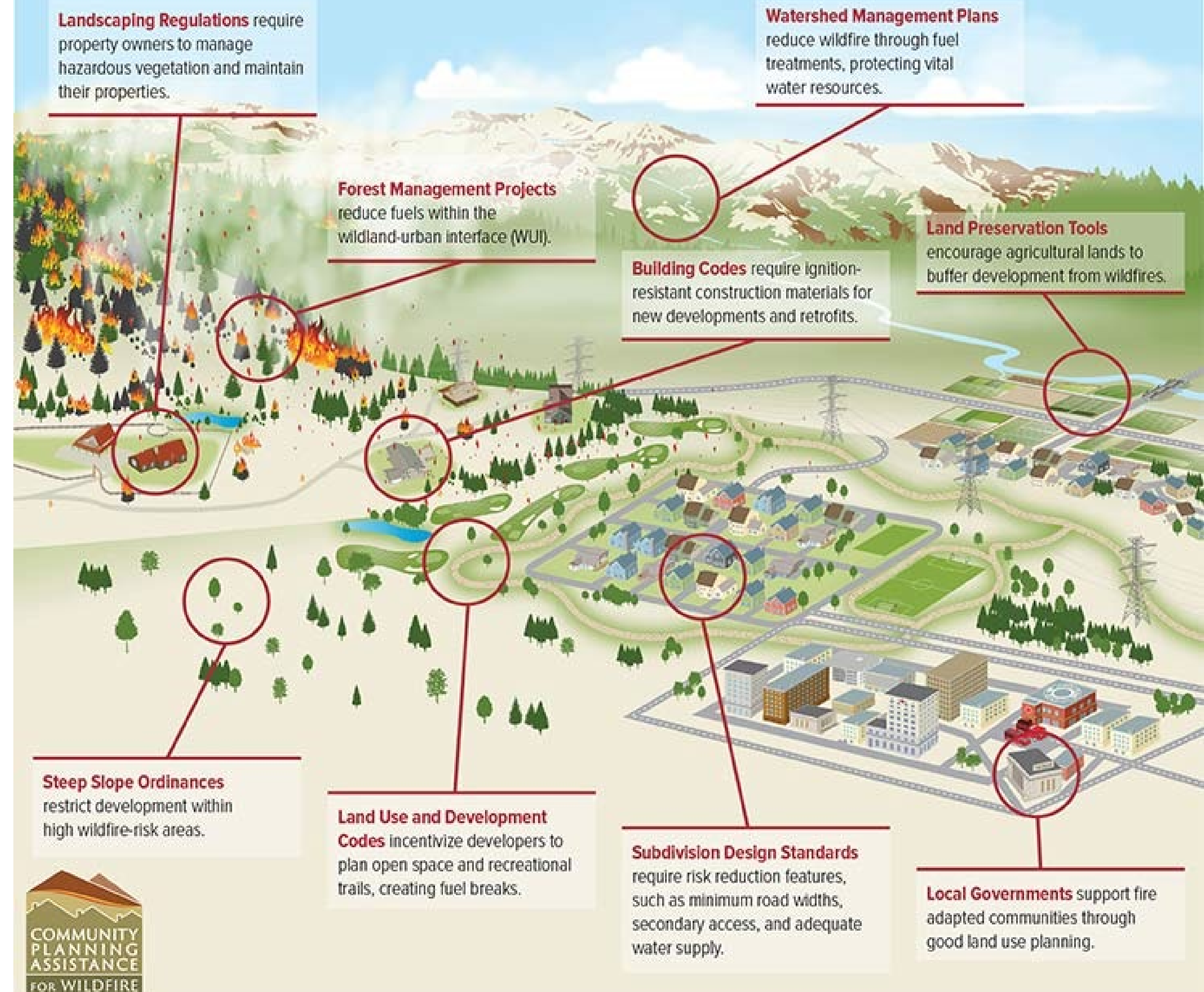
## Model code and guidance

- ✓ Zoning code, development code, and subdivision ordinance language
- ✓ Comprehensive plan policies
- ✓ Coordination of NHMP and CWPP development processes and integration into comprehensive plans
- ✓ Overlapping hazards and risk reduction opportunities
- ✓ Equitable engagement strategies



# Land Use Planning Tools to Reduce Wildfire Risk

## Land Use Planning Tools to Reduce Wildfire Risk



# Land Use Planning Tools to Reduce Wildfire Risk

## Potential conflicts, opportunities, and considerations

- ✓ Possible conflicts with other standards that implement Statewide Land Use Planning Goals
- ✓ Recovery-specific opportunities and barriers
- ✓ Need for mapping and analysis tools and resources at the local and state level

# Land Use Planning Tools to Reduce Wildfire Risk

## Growth management

- ✓ Opportunities to better address risk before development occurs
- ✓ Consideration of areas of extreme and high wildfire risk and related natural hazards in locational analysis related to UGB expansion
- ✓ Evaluation of service provision for new growth in areas at increased risk for wildfires, such as:
  - Transportation system capacity for emergency response and evacuation,
  - Adequacy of water supply at sufficient pressure for firefighting
  - Increased need for fire service capacity

# Land Use Planning Tools to Reduce Wildfire Risk

## Safe evacuation

- ✓ Better integration of land use and transportation planning for emergency response and evacuation
- ✓ Differing needs of socially and economically vulnerable populations
- ✓ Increased coordination between planning and emergency management professionals, e.g., to:
  - Support real-time wildfire and transportation modeling and zonal evacuation planning
  - Identify and map condition of potential routes

# Land Use Planning Tools to Reduce Wildfire Risk

## Safe evacuation

- ✓ Multiple routes and redundancy for existing and new development
- ✓ Standards for site access and egress
- ✓ Identification of areas of refuge or temporary safe zones for use during evacuation
- ✓ Criteria for wildfire mitigation and evacuation plans for land uses such as community facilities or mass gatherings
- ✓ Maintenance agreements for rural routes
- ✓ Agreements for secondary access and access to locked gates for emergency use
- ✓ Visible and durable street signage and addresses



# NEXT STEPS & FEEDBACK

# Next Steps

- ✓ July 22 – LCDC meeting, Commission feedback, written & verbal public comment accepted
- ✓ **August 12 – Draft Recommendations Report available**
- ✓ August 16 – Stakeholder Group discussion and feedback
- ✓ **August 12-31 – Written comment accepted**
- ✓ Week of September 12 (to be confirmed) – LCDC work session
- ✓ **September 15 (to be confirmed) – Updated Recommendations Report available**
- ✓ September 22-23 – LCDC meeting, Commission feedback, verbal public comment accepted
- ✓ October 1 – Report to Legislature and WPAC

# Feedback

- ✓ Questions?
- ✓ Are there areas where our land use recommendations might interact with your agency's work?
- ✓ Do you see any opportunities to strengthen local jurisdiction implementation under Goal 7 with respect to wildfire and associated hazards mitigation?
- ✓ Are there additional types of recommendations we should consider related to Goal 7 or otherwise?





**OREGON**

Department of  
Land Conservation  
& Development

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**THANK  
YOU**

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