

# The Blue Mountain Forester

## Northeast Oregon Small Woodlands Association

Quarterly Newsletter

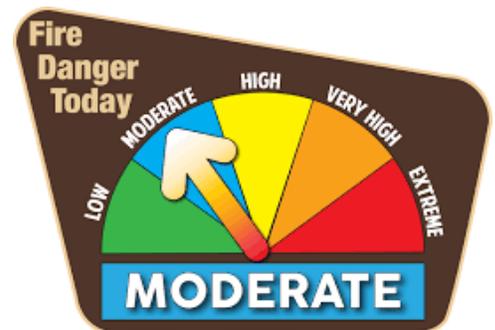


Volume 2, Issue 3

Summer 2022

### Fire Season Begins

As of Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup>, the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) has declared the beginning of fire season on forest lands in northeast Oregon. This includes private, state, county, municipal, and Tribal lands in Baker, Umatilla, Union, and Wallowa Counties within the Northeast Oregon Forest Protection district, which encompasses approximately 2 million acres of protected lands. Fire season is officially declared when fire danger moves to "Moderate."



Below are the restrictions under "Moderate" Fire Danger:

- **Permit Required** for all open debris burning and use of burn barrels
- Campfire for recreational and/or cooking purposes **are allowed**
- When burning, the following are required to be in possession:
  - Shovel or other firefighting tool
  - Minimum of 1-gallon of water or 2.5-lbs+ fire extinguisher
  - A fire watch at least 1-hour after extinguishing
- Prohibited:
  - Use of exploding targets
  - Use of tracer ammunition or any bullet with a pyrotechnic charge in its base
  - Use of sky lanterns throughout the year in Oregon

To obtain a permit for a debris pile or burn barrel, please call your local ODF Office:

- Baker Sub-Unit: (541) 523-5831
- La Grande Unit: (541) 963-3168
- Pendleton Unit: (541) 276-3491
- Wallowa Unit: (541) 886-2881

Restrictions may vary between land ownership and/or protection district. Make sure to check restrictions on the Oregon Department of Forestry, Umatilla National Forest, and Wallowa-Whitman National Forest before heading out.

For information on restrictions across the Northeast Oregon District, call (541) 975-3027 or visit [www.bmidc.org](http://www.bmidc.org) for current information.

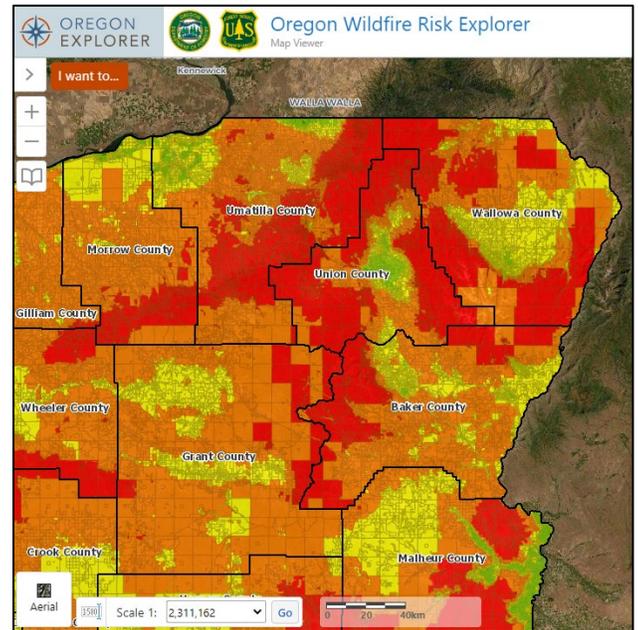


## New Wildfire Risk and Wildland-Urban Interface Map Released

Jacob D. Putney, OSU Extension Forester, Baker & Grant Counties

Under Senate Bill 762, passed by the Legislature in 2021, a new map was required to be developed that assigned a wildfire risk classification to every tax lot in the State. This map also identifies wildland-urban interface areas. The State tasked Oregon State University with the development of this map, which was executed by Dr. Chris Dunn and other colleagues from the College of Forestry. The map was completed and released on Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, and is live and accessible on the Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer.

So, what does this mean? Those that are both (1) within a wildland-urban interface; and (2) within a *high* or *extreme* risk classification will receive notifications that they will be subject to future changes to the defensible space code and new home building requirements. There are also potential future statewide land-use planning program and local comprehensive plan and zoning code changes. The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is responsible for updating the defensible space code by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.



I recommend finding your tax lot(s) on the Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer and determine what wildfire risk classification they fall under and if you are within a wildland-urban interface area. This is a complex process, and information is still under development, but there are currently resources available. Depending on your questions, or to learn more, below are the current information, resources, and contacts.

### OSU Wildfire Risk Mapping

- Map: [https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/oe\\_htmlviewer/index.html?viewer=wildfire](https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/oe_htmlviewer/index.html?viewer=wildfire)
- Information: <https://osuwildfireriskmap.forestry.oregonstate.edu/>
- Questions: [OSUwildfirerisk@oregonstate.edu](mailto:OSUwildfirerisk@oregonstate.edu)

### Appealing Risk Classification

If you are a property owner, especially if classified as *high* or *extreme* risk, and wish to appeal the risk classification, this will be administered by the Oregon Department of Forestry through their appeals process. It is important to note that Oregon State University **does not** administer the appeals process, nor any pending regulatory changes led by other State Agencies.

- Wildfire Risk Classification Appeals: <https://www.oregon.gov/odf/fire/pages/appeals.aspx>

### Defensible Space Codes

Remember that these codes are pending and still under development, but for questions about the code process, finding local OSFM contacts, and opportunities for public input, visit the OSFM website:

- <https://www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/sfm/pages/oregon-defensible-space-code.aspx>

### Other Questions

- Building Codes:
  - Building Codes Division of the Department of Consumer and Business Services
  - <https://www.oregon.gov/bcd/codes-stand/Pages/wildfire-hazard-mitigation.aspx>

- Land Use/Zoning:
  - Department of Land Conservation and Development
  - <https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/NH/Pages/Wildfire-Adapted-Communities.aspx>

There are many more resources available, including contacts, guides, and FAQs. Please contact Jacob Putney at [jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu) first if you have questions or concerns.

## Summer-to-Fall on the Tree Farm

*Jacob D. Putney (Adapted from Northwest Woodlands)*

Just because its fire season doesn't mean that there isn't still work to be done around the tree farm and property. Before summer heats up, here are just a few things to think about checking off your to-do list:

### August

- ✓ In stands susceptible to engraver beetles, schedule cutting of material greater than 3-inches after August 1<sup>st</sup> and before January 1<sup>st</sup> for enough time to dispose of slash before beetles are active again.
- ✓ Take steps to control noxious and invasive weeds. Consider integrated pest management techniques that might work as well as pesticides. Don't forget your PPE!
- ✓ Even before August, make sure to maintain your fire prevention diligence.
- ✓ When water levels are low, complete any instream repairs and improvements.

### September

- ✓ Assess roads for access, repair, and maintenance needs. Look at the haul route(s) and ensure that you have road use permits in place.
- ✓ With summer over, see what educational or tour opportunities are available. Check with your local Extension Agent or Small Woodlands Chapter!
- ✓ Now is a good time to think about cruising any timber you intend to harvest. Having a good estimate of volume is valuable for marketing logs.
- ✓ Start looking at your management plan and discuss upcoming project opportunities for the next year.

### October

- ✓ Begin your road maintenance and improvement projects.
- ✓ Find out when and where to apply for cost-share incentives for the next year's projects.
- ✓ The end of fire season is an appropriate time for burning slash and/or prescribed burning. The burn "window" can often be small, so be well-prepared to begin when conditions are right.
- ✓ If you plan to plant seedlings next year, make sure tree planting contracts or agreements are in place and confirm with your seedling source on availability.



If you have any questions about these checklist items, or would like more information and ideas, contact your local OSU Extension Forester:

Jacob Putney: [jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu)  
*Baker & Grant Counties*

John Punches: [john.punches@oregonstate.edu](mailto:john.punches@oregonstate.edu)  
*Umatilla, Union, & Wallowa Counties*

## Eastern Oregon Log Market Report (As of: June 15, 2022)

| Pendleton              |                   |                          |        |        |                 |                 |                |                 |                 |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------|--------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Species/Sort:          | Douglas-fir/Larch | Ponderosa Pine           |        |        | Grand/White Fir | Lodgepole Pine  | E. Spruce      | Pulp/Chip (Ton) |                 |
| Price (\$/MBF):        | 500               |                          |        |        | 460             | 285             | 285            | 48-49           |                 |
| La Grande              |                   |                          |        |        |                 |                 |                |                 |                 |
| Species/Sort:          | Douglas-fir/Larch | Ponderosa Pine<br>6-24"+ |        |        | Grand/White Fir | Lodgepole Pine  | E. Spruce      | Pulp/Chip (Ton) |                 |
| Price (\$/MBF):        | 530               | 280                      |        |        | 450             | 350             | 350            |                 |                 |
| Elgin                  |                   |                          |        |        |                 |                 |                |                 |                 |
| Species/Sort:          | Douglas-fir/Larch | Ponderosa Pine           |        |        | Grand/White Fir | Lodgepole Pine  | E. Spruce      | Pulp/Chip (Ton) |                 |
| Price (\$/MBF):        | 525               |                          |        |        | 425             | 300             | 300            |                 |                 |
| Pilot Rock             |                   |                          |        |        |                 |                 |                |                 |                 |
| Species/Sort:          | Douglas-fir/Larch | Ponderosa Pine           |        |        | Grand/White Fir | Lodgepole Pine  | E. Spruce      | Pulp/Chip (Ton) |                 |
|                        |                   | 10-11"                   | 12-15" | 16"+   |                 |                 |                |                 |                 |
| Price (\$/MBF):        |                   | 380                      | 460    | 480    |                 |                 |                |                 |                 |
| Burns/John Day         |                   |                          |        |        |                 |                 |                |                 |                 |
| Species/Sort:          | Douglas-fir/Larch | Ponderosa Pine           |        |        |                 | Grand/White Fir | Lodgepole Pine | E. Spruce       | Pulp/Chip (Ton) |
|                        |                   | 6-7"                     | 8-11"  | 12-17" | 18"+            |                 |                |                 |                 |
| Price (\$/MBF):        | 400               | 120                      | 285    | 335    | 400             | 120             |                | 21              |                 |
| Redmond/Bend/Gilchrist |                   |                          |        |        |                 |                 |                |                 |                 |
| Species/Sort:          | Douglas-fir/Larch | Ponderosa Pine<br>8-11"  |        |        | Grand/White Fir | Lodgepole Pine  | E. Spruce      | Pulp/Chip (Ton) |                 |
| Price (\$/MBF):        |                   | 50 (Ton)                 |        |        |                 |                 |                |                 |                 |
| Lakeview/Klamath Falls |                   |                          |        |        |                 |                 |                |                 |                 |
| Species/Sort:          | Douglas-fir/Larch | Ponderosa Pine           |        |        | Grand/White Fir | Lodgepole Pine  | E. Spruce      | Pulp/Chip (Ton) |                 |
|                        |                   | 6-16"                    | 17"+   |        | 8"+             | 8"+             |                |                 |                 |
| Price (\$/MBF):        |                   | 300                      | 450    |        | 350             | 300             |                |                 |                 |

*Data Courtesy of John Lindberg (Oregon Log Market Report)*

## Event Calendar

| Date & Time                      | Event   | Details & Location   |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| July 15-17 <sup>th</sup>         | Miner's Jubilee<br>Baker City, OR                               | 3-Day event in Baker City celebrating the County's gold mining heritage. NEOSWA is planning to have a booth at this event. Contact the Board for more details.   |
| July 30 <sup>th</sup><br>All-Day | Compass & Mapping<br>Women Owning Woodlands<br>Network (WOWNet) | Details and Location: Halfway (Cornucopia), OR starting at 8am<br>All Women Invited! This hands-on training will teach participants how to read a map, use a compass to navigate, and measure their pacing. Following the learning session, participants will go for a hike to implement learned skills.<br>See attached flyer for more details! |
| Aug. 3-6 <sup>th</sup>           | Union County Fair<br>La Grande, OR                              | NEOSWA would like to have a booth at the Union County Fair. If you are planning to attend, please let us know as we begin coordinating.  |
| Aug. 4-13 <sup>th</sup>          | Wallowa County Fair<br>Enterprise, OR                           | NEOSWA would like to have a booth at the Wallowa County Fair. If you are planning to attend, please let us know as we begin coordinating.  |
| Aug. 9-13 <sup>th</sup>          | Baker County Fair<br>Baker City, OR                             | NEOSWA will be having a booth during the Baker County Fair. Please contact the Board for more details if you are interested in staffing the booth.   |
| Aug. 10-13 <sup>th</sup>         | Grant County Fair<br>John Day, OR                               | NEOSWA would like to have a booth at the Grant County Fair. If you are planning to attend, please let us know as we begin coordinating.  |
| Aug. TBD                         | Mill Tour<br>La Grande, OR                                      | We are currently planning a mill tour hopefully sometime during the month of August. This would feature a tour of the Woodgrain Mill in La Grande. Stay tuned for more details!  |
| Sept. 1 <sup>st</sup><br>6:00pm  | Board & Member Meeting<br>NEOSWA                                | Location, Program, and Agenda: TBA   |
| Sept. 3-5 <sup>th</sup>          | Halfway Fair<br>Halfway, OR                                     | NEOSWA would like to have a booth at the Halfway Fair. If you are planning to attend, please let us know as we begin coordinating.   |

## Notes from the Board

From: July 6<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting

### Business Items

- Oregon Family Forest Convention Recap
    - Board Members Jacob & Paul Attended, as well as several NEOSWA Members
    - Excellent presentations, including a panel discussion on the Private Forest Accord
    - Discussion brought up the messaging between OSWA and OTFS
      - How do we tell our story in a meaningful and inspiring way?
      - How do we engage both past and potential new members?
  
  - NEOSWA Outreach
    - Miner's Jubilee (Jul. 15-17)
      - Waiting to confirm if we can reserve a booth
      - Debi to contact Chamber
      - Will ask for volunteers if/when confirmed
    - Union County Fair (Aug. 3-6)
      - Maurizio to explore
    - Wallowa County Fair (Aug. 4-13)
      - Paul to explore & partner w/ Wallowa Resources
      - Maurizio to connect Paul w/ WR
    - Baker County Fair (Aug. 9-13)
      - Booth Reserved
    - Grant County Fair (Aug. 10-13)
      - Partner w/ ODF & Harney-Grant Fire Prev. Coop for booth
  
  - Logo/Branding
    - Final Logo Completed (See header)
    - Tablecloth for Events
      - Approved purchasing a 6ft. tablecloth with new logo
  
  - Upcoming Events
    - Mill Tour – Woodgrain, Boise Cascade, Integrated Biomass
      - Tentatively planning for August
      - More details to come
- 

**Next NEOSWA Meeting: Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, 6:00 PM**  
*Board & Member Meeting*  
*Location & Details TBA*

## NEOSWA Leadership

**Debi Lorence, President**

County: Baker

[debilorence@gmail.com](mailto:debilorence@gmail.com)



**Maurizio Valerio, Vice-President**

Counties: Union, Baker

[maurizio.valerio@gmail.com](mailto:maurizio.valerio@gmail.com)



**Randy Guyer, Treasurer**

County: Baker

[randy@guyercpa.net](mailto:randy@guyercpa.net)



**Jacob Putney, Secretary**

Counties: Baker, Grant

[jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu)



**Paul Harlan, Board Member**

County: Wallowa

[paulmharlan@gmail.com](mailto:paulmharlan@gmail.com)



**Jack Kleinhoff, Board Member**

County: Baker

[jrkleinhoff@gmail.com](mailto:jrkleinhoff@gmail.com)



**Alyssa Cudmore, Board Member**

Counties: Wallowa, Union

[alyssa@wallowaresources.org](mailto:alyssa@wallowaresources.org)



**Irene Jerome, Board Member**

Counties: Grant, Baker

[ijeromejnrc@gmail.com](mailto:ijeromejnrc@gmail.com)



## Classifieds

Do you have something to sell or rent? We invite members to submit appropriate items to be listed in this section of the newsletter. If you are interested in listing an item, please submit a photo and description to Jacob Putney ([jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu)) and it will be listed in the next issue of the newsletter.

## Newsletter Distribution

*The Blue Mountain Forester* will be distributed either by email or mail, depending on what information we have on file. Additionally, the newsletter will be posted on our website ([neoswa.com](http://neoswa.com)). If you would like to change how you receive this newsletter, please send your preference to Jacob Putney ([jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jacob.putney@oregonstate.edu)). Note, email is the quickest way to receive information from the Chapter.



**30th**  
**July**  
**8 am**

**Halfway, OR**

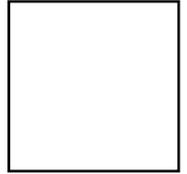
## **Women's Compass & Mapping Workshop**

Join other women from your area with similar interests for a hands-on training that will teach you how to read a map, use a compass to navigate, and measure your own pacing. We will spend time indoors learning concepts and then head-out for a hike to implement skills. Coffee and morning snacks will be provided. Full details including exact location will be provided to those who register.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**To register email:**

**[Tiffany.Hopkins@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Tiffany.Hopkins@oregonstate.edu)**



## **The Blue Mountain Forester**

Northeast Oregon Small Woodlands Association  
Baker, Grant, Union, and Wallowa Counties

*A Newsletter for Small Woodland Owners in Northeast Oregon*

### ***At a Glance***

- 2022 Fire Season Begins
- New Wildfire Risk/WUI Mapping & Information
- Summer on the Tree Farm
- Eastern Oregon Log Market Prices
- Upcoming Meetings and Events

### ***Resources to Explore***

- Oregon Wildfire Risk Explorer  
[https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/oe\\_htmlviewer/index.html?viewer=wildfire](https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/oe_htmlviewer/index.html?viewer=wildfire)
- Resources for Family Forest Owners - **NEW**  
<https://oregonforests.org/publications>
- 2021 Forest Health Highlights in Oregon - **NEW**  
[https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/fseprd1034091.pdf](https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd1034091.pdf)
- Prescribed Fire Basics, Series by OSU Extension Fire Program - **NEW**  
<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/collection/prescribed-fire-basics>
- Life on the Dry Side Newsletter  
[extension.oregonstate.edu/newsletter/life-dry-side-forestry-newsletter](https://extension.oregonstate.edu/newsletter/life-dry-side-forestry-newsletter)