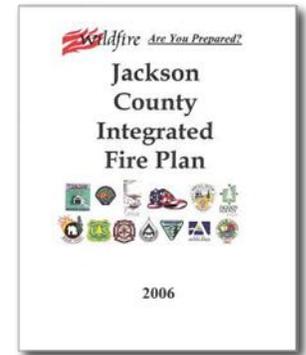
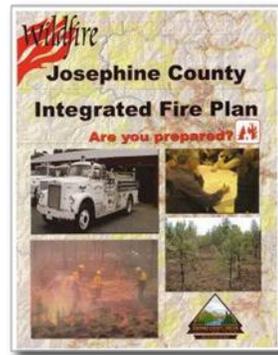


# Protecting Communities – Making a Difference 2009 Highlights



## *A Joint Report of the Josephine County and Jackson County Integrated Fire Plans*

Southwest Oregon has a long history of fire on its landscape. Over the past several decades, however, communities throughout Jackson and Josephine County have suffered devastating losses to natural resources, property, and community infrastructure. In 2003, the Healthy Forests Restoration Act set forth guidelines for the development and implementation of Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Following several catastrophic wildfires, including the 2002 Biscuit Fire, Jackson and Josephine Counties were among the first counties in Oregon to develop collaborative plans and engage public and private sector organizations, as well as local citizens in their planning efforts.

The high poverty in the region and a declining forest industry has been compounded by tough economic times. Through ongoing financial support and a long-term commitment for collaboration,

Southwest Oregon has some of the highest fire risk in the state. The proximity of rural, and often geographically isolated communities to fuels build up in a fire-adapted ecosystem creates physical risk and increased opportunities for catastrophic wildfires.

local, state and federal agencies and community organizations can assist communities at risk in this region to reduce fuels, strengthen emergency management and fire response capabilities, and continue to engage in outreach and education.

Each year, Jackson and Josephine Counties compile an annual report to highlight the successes and challenges faced in the implementation of their Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Over the course of the past five years, the two adjacent counties have begun to work more closely together in a number of areas, including wildfire risk assessment, outreach and education, and in coordinating emergency management needs for vulnerable populations. The counties recognize that strong collaboration will leverage limited resources and more effectively reduce wildfire risk in the region. Because of this significant collaboration between the counties, coordinating organizations agreed that a joint annual report would better illustrate the ongoing efforts to reduce wildfire risk within these two counties.



## Success Stories –Fire Plan Efforts Reduce Losses!

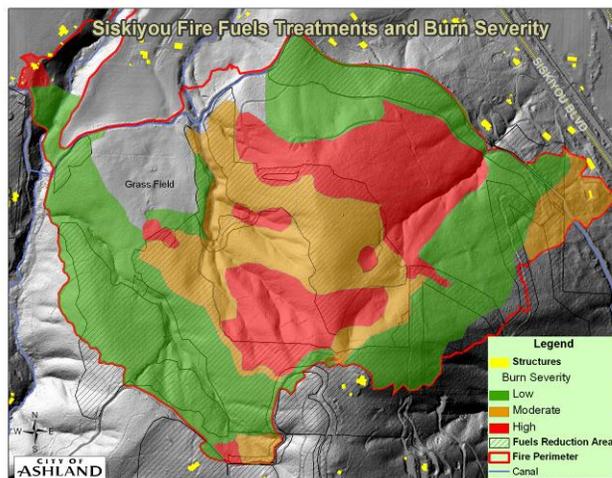
### *The Siskiyou Fire*

On Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 a wildfire ignited on the hillside near 3500 Siskiyou Boulevard, just above Interstate 5. The fire advanced throughout the morning and afternoon, causing evacuations of approximately 150 homes and ultimately consumed one structure and several outbuildings, and threatened the Ashland Watershed. Exactly 80 acres within the 188 acres fire perimeter were thinned under these programs and to varying degrees altered the fire’s behavior and intensity and provided opportunities for suppression via air or ground. In nearly all locations where the fire was controlled, vegetation had been managed through either an ODF sponsored National Fire Plan grant program, or a similar program coordinated by the City of Ashland through Ashland Fire & Rescue. These treatments included either mulching done by a small machine on tracks, or cut, piled and burned by hand by ODF employees, Community Justice crews, or Lomakatsi Restoration Project workers between 2006 and 2008. Suppression was not effective in a small percent of fuels reduction areas, but fire behavior and ecosystem effects were altered over the vast majority of fuels reduction zones.

In October 2009, a small group of fire, forestry and ecology specialists toured a portion of the fire area to look at the fire severity and to reconstruct fire behavior in relation to the fuels reduction work completed between 2006 and 2009.

The resulting report on the analysis of fuels treatment effectiveness during and after the 2009 Siskiyou Fire found that throughout the fire area, fuels reduction work altered the fire behavior and post-fire ecological effects, and significantly aided in the protection of structures and successfully containing the fire east of Tolman Creek Road.

Appendix C of the full report examines fuels treatment effects on fire behavior, ecological effects, and implications for fuels



reduction planning.

### *Lone Mountain Fire<sup>1</sup>*

In August 2009, a fire started near Lone Mountain and spread rapidly in dense, dry fuels towards the community of O’Brien. With flame lengths exceeding 100 feet, the fire began to threaten homes and other structures. While no homes were lost, five buildings were destroyed. Two homes in

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from “National Fire Plan Grant Success Stories and How You Can Help,” *The Applegater*, Winter, 2010.

particular survived because of fuels reduction around the house that created a defensible space and access/escape routes, providing safe passage for fire trucks. Along one driveway, work had just been completed, resulting in a dramatic reduction of dense brush and small trees, which allowed an Illinois Valley Fire Department (IVFD) truck access. The IVFD was able to assist the property owner in saving his house and evacuating livestock and pets. The properties in the line of fire had benefited from hazardous fuel-reduction work through support from a National Fire Plan (NFP) grant or by the homeowners themselves. The NFP grant had been awarded to the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization (IVCDO) to conduct fuels reduction work in the O’Brien area. The project work was administered in partnership with the Illinois Valley Fire Department (IVFD) and is credited with saving at least one home near Lone Mountain.



## Using a Collaborative Approach for Reducing Risk to Communities

### *Hope Mountain Stewardship Project<sup>2</sup>*

In 2005, the Josephine County stewardship group formed to create a collaborative partnership between the federal land management agencies, environmental organizations, contractors and community organizations. This group played a critical role in developing relationships and setting the framework for stewardship contracting in Josephine County.

The Hope Mountain Stewardship Project is the first stewardship project in Josephine County under a 2008 ten-year, ten thousand acre Master Stewardship Agreement (MSA) between the Siskiyou Project, Lomakatsi Restoration Project and the U.S. Forest Service. The area addressed in the MSA is known as the Wild Rivers Ranger District and lies within the borders of the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest.

The MSA was entered into to achieve a variety of goals: ecological restoration and climate change resiliency, reduction of risk of fire, community collaboration, workforce training and jobs, and significant local restoration capacity. The first project under the MSA is the Hope Mountain Stewardship Project located within the headwaters of the Wild and Scenic Illinois River. Forest restoration activities within the project area are aimed at reducing fuel hazards and enhancing structural and species diversity on approximately 1,300 acres of even aged tree plantations within Late Successional Reserves – a Northwest Forest Plan land designation to promote and maintain old-growth characteristics and wildlife habitat for threatened and endangered species.



In an effort to reduce fuel hazards on plantations within the Hope Mountain Stewardship area and restore both structural and species diversity, Lomakatsi restoration crews and subcontractors implemented over 750 acres of ecological treatments from April 2009 thru December of 2009. Other accomplishments from the Wild Rivers Master Stewardship Agreement in 2009 include:

- 1,300 Acres Treated
- 32 New Workers Trained
- 130 Person Workforce (\$379,000)
- 7 Subcontractors Hired (\$572,000)
- \$1.1 million brought into Southwest Oregon from the ARRA
- 9 Community Meetings and Field Trips

**A key lesson learned from this project was the importance of engaging the community in identifying goals for the project and understanding its implementation.**



<sup>2</sup> Adapted from "2009 Annual Report of the Wild Rivers Master Stewardship Agreement."

[www.ecorestorationpartnership.org](http://www.ecorestorationpartnership.org).

## Educating and Empowering Landowners

A key component of the county fire plans is to educate landowners on measures that homeowners and communities can take to reduce the ignitability of their structures. A Jackson County Title III grant funded the development of three new programs in 2008-9.

- **Creation of a local fire prevention team.** A contractor was hired to provide team training & operations guides, as well as to draft SOPs for team activation, team positions, skill sets, operations and resources needed. A draft list of community and agency representatives willing to participate on the team was also created.
- **Master Land Steward Program.** This program was introduced through the OSU Extension Service to help private property owners address wildfire and other ecological issues. Developed as a pilot for the state, the first session was conducted with 30 students from Jackson and Josephine Counties, and is receiving good reviews.
- **Home Assessment and Recognition Program Training.** A home assessment training was developed in conjunction with the Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs' Association to train structural fire personnel in developing home assessment programs in their departments. Medford Fire Department sent several staff to the first training session, to prepare for neighborhood meetings following their Deer Ridge Fire in September.



## Strengthening Emergency Response

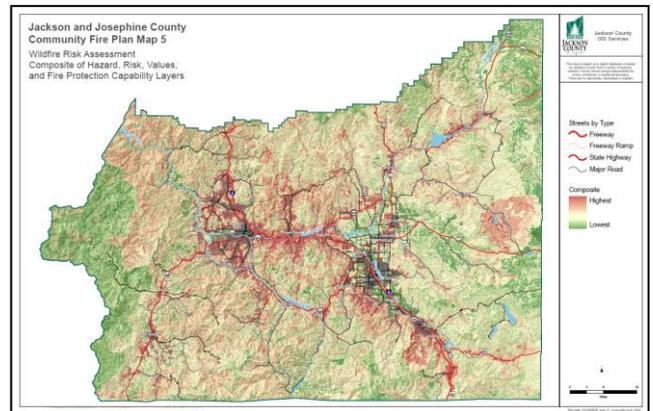
The county fire plans are also taking measures to strengthen emergency response.

- **Regional Vulnerable Populations Committee.** The two-county Vulnerable Populations Committee focuses on preparedness and response for people who would need extra assistance in an emergency. They provide education, planning, and preparedness tools for vulnerable populations, including the elderly and disabled citizens, and for the people and organizations that serve them. The committee conducted a full-scale exercise of its Branch Plan during the statewide Cascadia Peril earthquake exercise in April 2009.
- **Pet and livestock emergency preparedness and evacuation strategies.** Pet/livestock evacuation plans are being developed for both counties by a contractor and will be added to the county fire plans. Oversight participants include Jackson County Animal Control, Josephine County Animal Protection and Regulation, sheriff's offices, fire districts, Applegate River Watershed Council, American Red Cross, Southern OR Veterinary Association, animal rescue organizations, Southern OR Humane Society, and local CWPP groups. Jackson County coordinated their exercise to activate an animal sheltering plan.
- **Josephine County All Hazards Incident Management Team.** The Josephine County Emergency Management Board has been working on strengthening incident command training and resources throughout the county since the fire plan was adopted in 2004. An outgrowth of this is development of a local, all hazard incident management team.

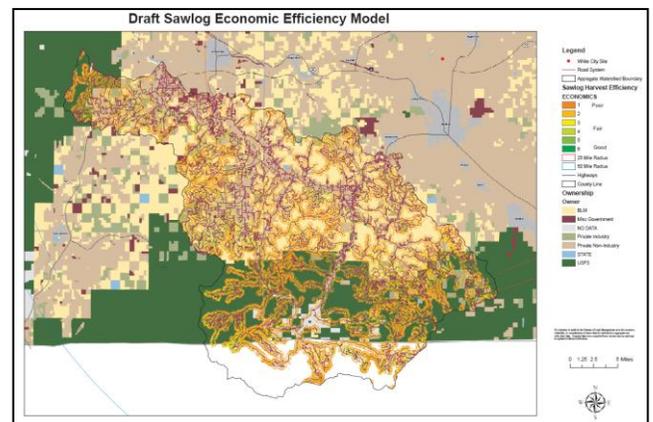
## Collaborative Approaches to Strategic Planning

One of the keys to the successful outcomes at the Siskiyou and Lone Mountain Fires was the thoughtful placement of fuels treatments. Given limited and declining funds to treat forest fuels, it is critical to identify the highest priority areas and strategies.

- **Two-County Risk Assessment.** In 2009, Jackson and Josephine County wildfire partners collaborated on an update of the joint risk assessment using the two-county fuel-mapping project data completed in 2008. With support from Jackson County GIS staff and Title III funds, updates of all the key data sets (ignition risk, hazard, protection capability, and values at risk) were completed for both Jackson and Josephine Counties. Both county risk/fuels committees reviewed the data and model parameters. The primary goals of the assessment update that were accomplished in 2009 included incorporation of the new calibrated LANDFIRE data and advanced fire modeling tools, and consistent use of the assessment methodology across the two-county area.



- **Southern Oregon Small Diameter Collaborative.** Another example of collaboration is the Southern Oregon Small Diameter Collaborative, which brings together diverse regional interests with a shared goal to remove small diameter trees from dense federal forests. In 2009, the Collaborative produced a landscape assessment to better identify priority treatment landscapes. The assessment, based upon principles and guidelines developed through a collaborative process involving a wide range of community and agency partners is committed to forest planning and implementation that promotes forest health, reduces the risk of fire, enhances wildlife habitat, and strengthens the contribution of forest workers and regional manufacturing and community well-being. The mapped assessment has already been used in a local CWPP for the Applegate watershed, as shown here.

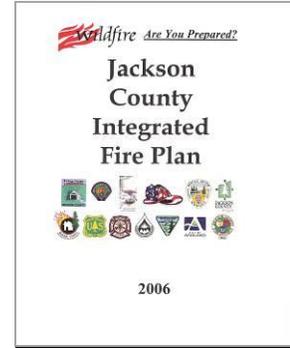
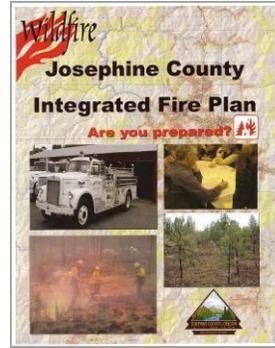


## Goals For the Future

Fire Plan partners in Jackson and Josephine County have achieved a level of collaboration between local, county, state and federal agencies and community organizations that is rare in many public processes. The critical nature and potential severity of wildfire in the region is daunting – after all, a hundred years of fuel build-up can't be reduced overnight. And yet, these two counties have found ways to leverage limited resources and critical expertise, and achieve greater continuity for planning, outreach and response activities. The long-term sustainability of the county fire plans relies on ongoing and meaningful collaboration among fire plan partners throughout the region.

There is broad support among federal agencies for the level of collaboration shown by Jackson and Josephine counties, as well as the innovative approaches fire plan partners have found, such as reducing fuels through natural resource management and forest restoration. The National Interagency Fire Center's Quadrennial Fire Review highlights the need for such efforts in their goal to "incorporate enhancement of natural resources and forest restoration into fuels strategies." In 2010, Jackson and Josephine Counties will continue to convene the committees described in this report to further the goals of their CWPPs and to implement the updated action items. Organizations and individuals are encouraged to participate in the fire plan efforts. Note: The full report, a companion video and copies of the county fire plans are available at [www.co.jackson.or.us/fireplan](http://www.co.jackson.or.us/fireplan) or <http://tiny.cc/jcifp>.

# Protecting Communities – Making a Difference 2009



## A Joint Report of the Josephine County and Jackson County Integrated Fire Plans

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## Statistical Summary

### Fuels Reduction Treatments

#### 2009 – Acres Treated of Defensible Space and Fuels Reduction on Private Land\*

Administrator	Activity	Number	Acres
<b>Josephine County</b>			
Oregon Department of Forestry	Initial Assessments	520	1,462
	Treatment Completed	857	857
Illinois Valley Fire Dist	Initial Assessments	53	36
	Treatment Completed	68	223
<b>Total Acres Treated</b>			<b>1,080</b>
<b>Jackson County</b>			
Oregon Department of Forestry	Initial Assessments	89	214
	Treatment Completed	60	143
Applegate Fire Dist	Treatment Completed		102
<b>Total Acres Treated</b>			<b>245</b>

\*National Fire Plan Funded Projects Only (Community Assistance and Western States WUI)

#### Trend – Acres Treated of Defensible Space and Fuels Reduction on Private Land

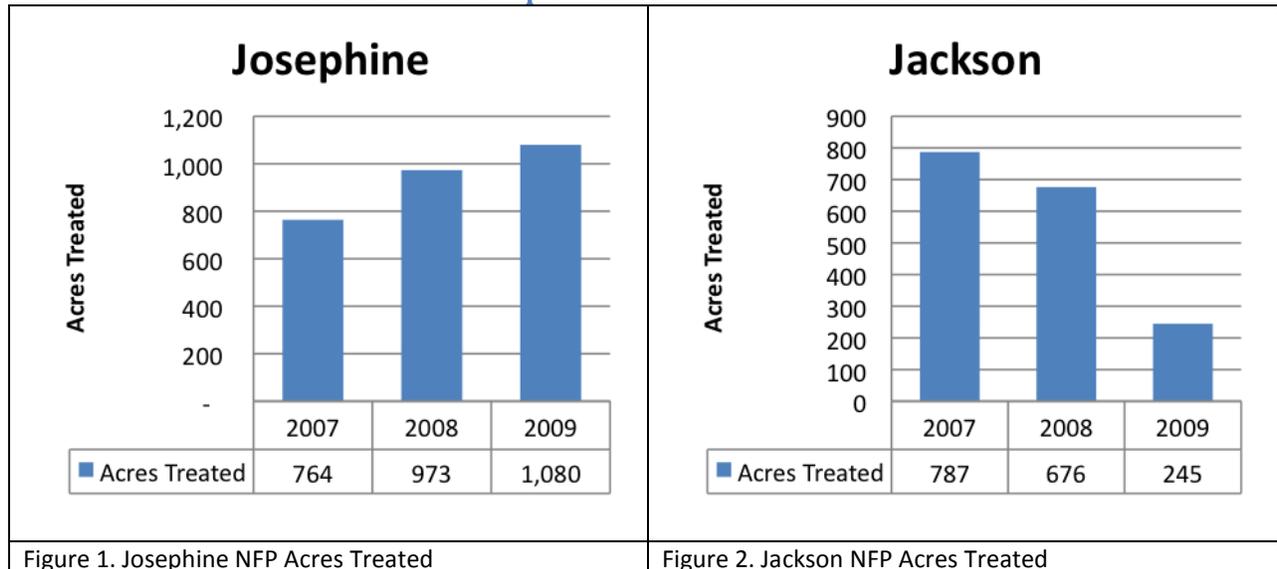


Figure 1. Josephine NFP Acres Treated

Figure 2. Jackson NFP Acres Treated

\*National Fire Plan Funded Projects Only (Community Assistance and Western States WUI)

Note: Upward trend in acres accomplished in Josephine County was possible due to grants acquired in 2006 and earlier.

**Trend - Grant Funds Awarded for Defensible Space and Fuels Reduction on Private Land**

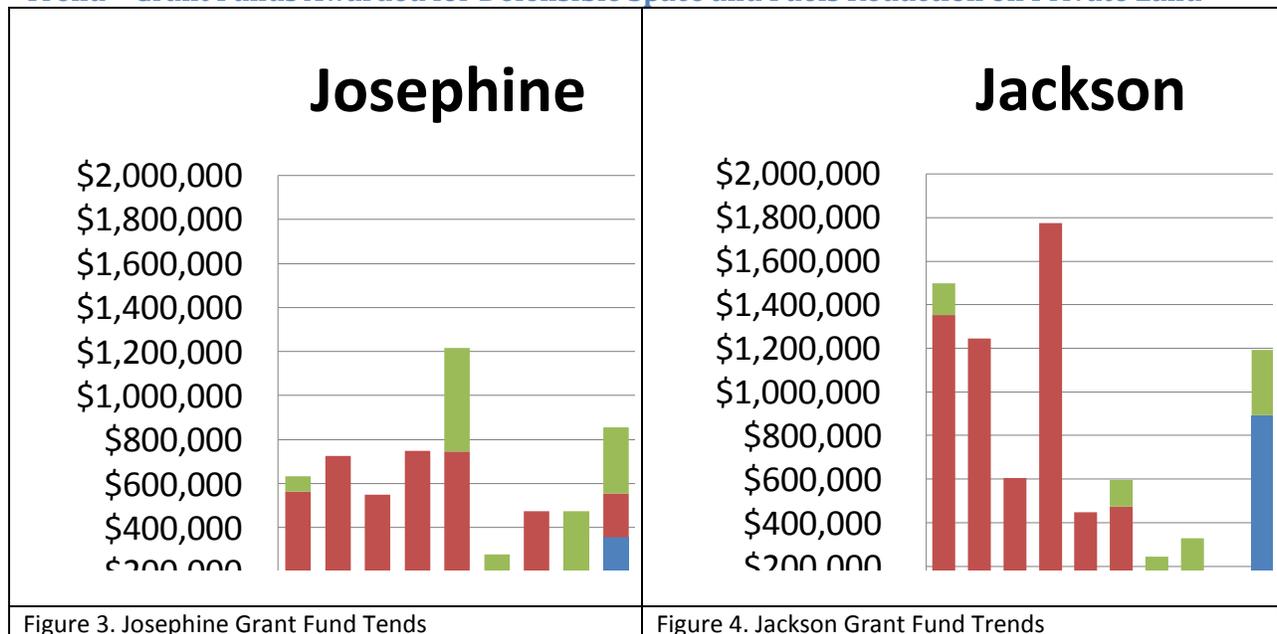


Figure 3. Josephine Grant Fund Trends

Figure 4. Jackson Grant Fund Trends

WSFM – Western States Fire WUI Grant, CA – Community Assistance Grant, ARRA - American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to ODF. 2010 CA and WSFM awards tentative.

**Trend - Agency Fuels Reduction 2007-2009**

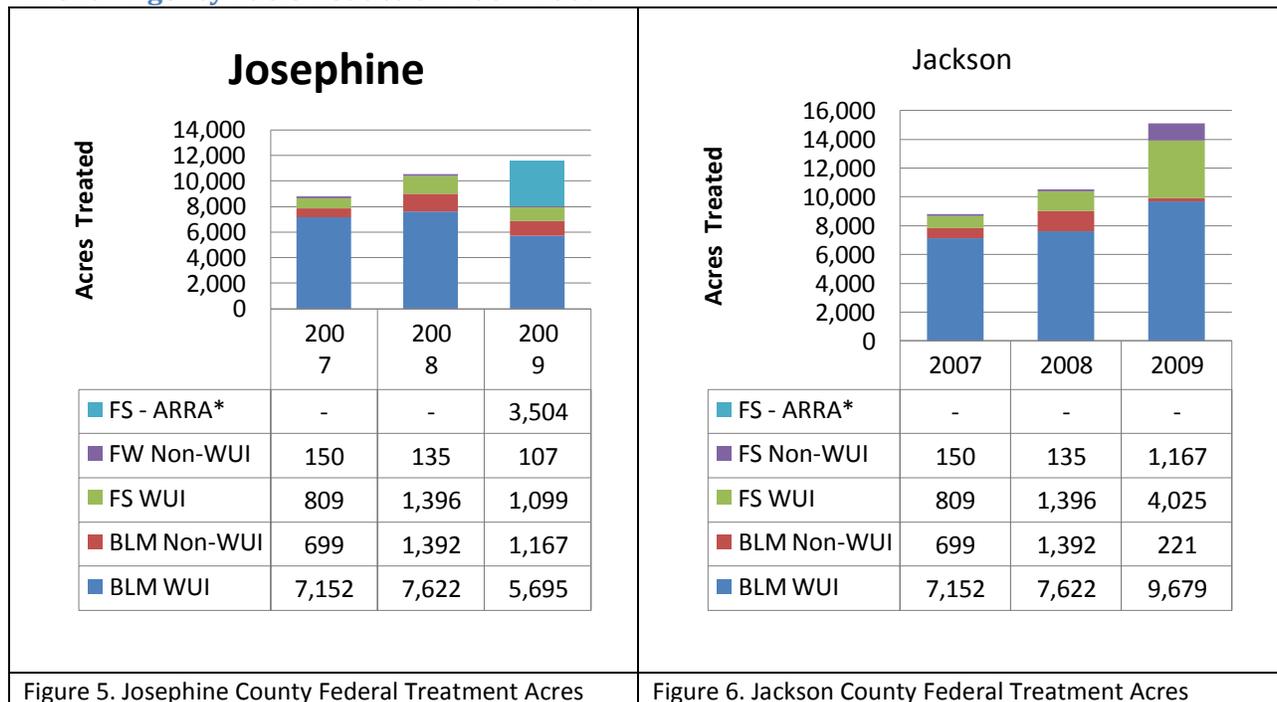


Figure 5. Josephine County Federal Treatment Acres

Figure 6. Jackson County Federal Treatment Acres

\* American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds

Note: Through the federal agency reporting system, target acres reported by the federal agencies are not the same as 'footprint' treated acres. Each acre of each hazardous fuel reduction activity (thinning, pruning, hand piling, hand pile burning, etc) is an accomplishment acre, which means that certain types of activities (e.g., thinning/pruning) may have occurred in a previous year, while additional treatment on the same acres occurred in FY 2007/08.

### 2009 Stewardship Contracting

Agency	Green Tons Biomass	MBF
BLM – Medford District (Josephine County)	2,167	66.7
USFS – Hope Mountain (Josephine County)	471	438.4

### Trend - Woody Vegetation Disposal Day – Josephine County

	May 2005	May 2006	May 2007	May 2008	April 2009
Public participants	140	151	75	139	69
Yards of woody vegetation collected	300	330	-	356	91

### Trend - Emergency Management Board- Incident Command Training – Josephine County

Training	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total # Trained
IS 700	86	300	113	157	48	120	824
ICS 100	172	188	88	157	41	64	710
ICS 200	4	55	22	55	2	9	147
ICS 300	-	22	-	-	37	0	37
WMD	-	-	283	-	-	-	283
IS 800	-	4	29	-	-	-	33
AHIMT exercise	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	27	27

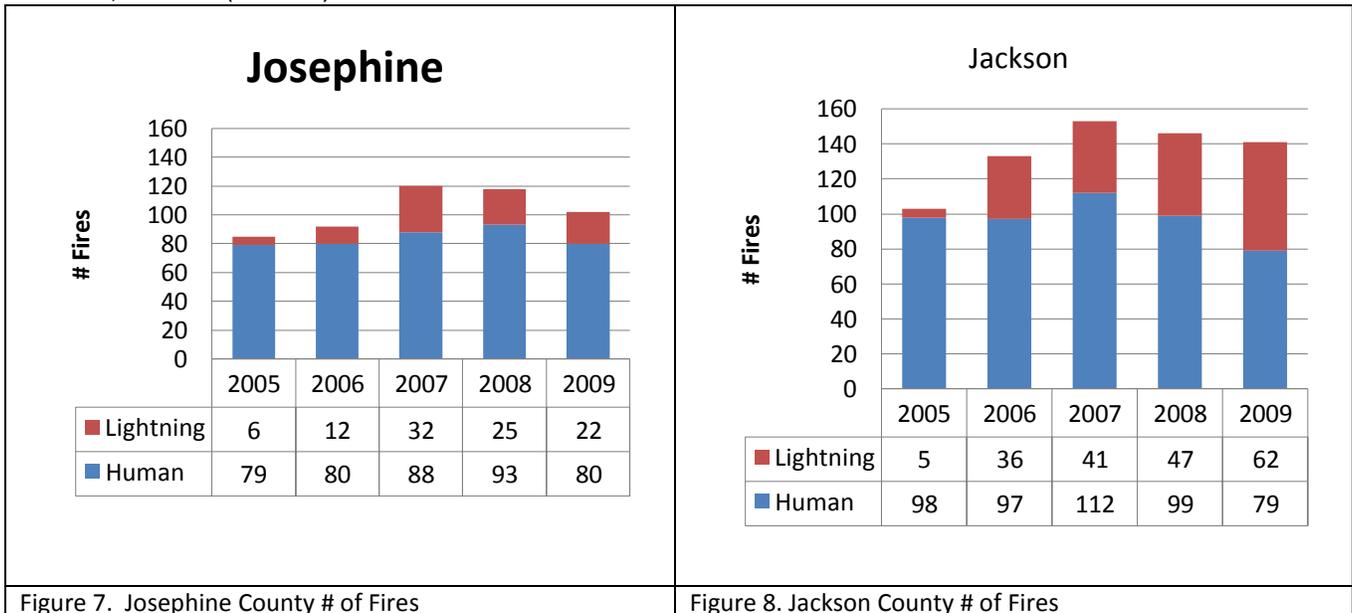
Note: These numbers are only reflective of those people who have taken classes offered by the EMB. If students have taken classes elsewhere, the EMB has no way to track that information.

### 2009 Title II Accomplishments – Acres of Fuel Reduction

Agency	Josephine County	Jackson County
BLM – Medford District	160	313
USFS	No Data	No Data

### Incidence of Fire 2005-2009

Incident of wildfire for lands protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry, including private, local government, state, and BLM (2004-09).



Source: Oregon Department of Forestry: [www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/protection/fire\\_protection/fires/FIRESreports.asp](http://www.odf.state.or.us/DIVISIONS/protection/fire_protection/fires/FIRESreports.asp)

## Committee Accomplishments

To address the complex range of issues with the fire plans, it became clear early in the planning process that broader and diverse participation was needed for successful implementation. Through public meetings and invitations to organize stakeholders, subcommittees were formed to develop objectives and implement actions to support the plans.

### Committee Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Josephine County	Jackson County
Fire Plan Executive Oversight	Emergency Management Board	Executive Committee
Emergency Management	Emergency Management Board	Executive Committee
Fuels Reduction	Risk/Fuels Committee	Risk/Fuels Committee
Risk Assessment	Risk/Fuels Committee	Risk/Fuels Committee
Education and Outreach	Outreach and Education Committee (merged)	
Vulnerable Populations	Regional Vulnerable Populations Committee	
Stewardship/Biomass	Stewardship Committee	Southern Oregon Small Diameter Collaborative*

\* The Southern Oregon Small Diameter Collaborative is not formally “under” the Jackson County Integrated Fire Plan. It is, however, recognized by the fire plan as fulfilling that purpose of the plan’s objectives. Although based in Jackson County, its geographic area covers both counties.

## Josephine County

### Emergency Management Board

The Emergency Management Board (EMB) serves as the steering committee for implementation of the county fire plan. The EMB also serves in a broader role addressing all risk emergency management needs in Josephine County. It is the committee that is responsible for the emergency management action items of the plan. The EMB monitored subcommittee progress on action items, provided final prioritization for National Fire Plan Community Assistance fuel reduction projects, assisted with review of Title III project proposals, and prepared and presented the 2008 annual report to the Josephine-Jackson Local Coordination Group (JLJCG), officials and news media.

#### All Hazard Incident Management Team (IMT)

The EMB continued work to develop a local all hazard IMT. A revised draft of the team MOU was sent to Josephine County Legal. The IMT implemented a system to track team member’s training and all hazard task books, which are now available from FEMA. More training will be provided to team members, and the sub-committee tasked with AHIMT development will continue to recruit new members.

#### Emergency Operations Plan

Members of the Emergency Management Board reviewed and commented on drafts of the county EOP. The EOP should be finalized during 2010.

## Risk/Fuels Committee

The Josephine County Risk/Fuels Committee is a collaboration between fire plan partners and local communities to identify, prioritize, and implement fuels reductions projects in Josephine County. The committee's objectives are to identify communities at risk, the Wildland Urban Interface WUI boundary, maintain and update the risk assessment, identify and prioritize fuel reduction projects, identify strategies for coordinating projects on a landscape scale, administer grants for fuels reduction, provide opportunity for special needs citizens, and identify opportunities for biomass marketing and utilization.

### Update of Hazard Risk Assessment

Josephine County Risk/Fuels Committee participated in and adopted the 2-county risk assessment update utilizing the new calibrated LANDFIRE data (see Jackson County Risk/Fuels below for more details).

### Fuels Project Priorities for 2010

Based upon the new risk assessment, areas without recent grant support, and opportunities to collaborate with federal partners, the committee identified the following two project areas for 2010 grant opportunities:

1. Grants Pass Urban Growth Boundary
2. Greater Cave Junction area

## Stewardship Group

The Josephine County Stewardship Group is a diverse and committed group of local and regional individuals and organizations with representation from local government, federal and state land management agencies, forestry contractors, non-profit organizations, and environmental groups who work together to improve forest and community health in Josephine County.

2009 was a year of transition for the Stewardship Committee. Marcus Kaufman, the group's coordinator since the committee was formed, completed his contract in July 2009. During his last six months as coordinator, he focused the group's attention to revising the goals and strategy of the committee and working with Southwest Oregon Resource Conservation and Development Council to develop a transition plan for administration of the leadership. Josephine County developed an agreement with the SWORCD Council to implement the project. A search for a new coordinator was launched in the fall of 2009. Rich Fairbanks started in early 2010 as coordinator of the stewardship group.

### Hope Mountain Stewardship Project

The group monitored progress of the Hope Mountain Stewardship Project. This is the first project under a 2008 ten year, ten thousand acre Master Cost-Share Stewardship Agreement (MSA) between the Siskiyou Project, Lomakatsi Restoration Project and the U.S. Forest Service. The MSA was entered into to achieve a variety of goals: ecological restoration and climate change resiliency, reduction of risk of fire, community collaboration, workforce training and jobs, and significant local restoration capacity. See the success story and [www.ecorestorationpartnership.org](http://www.ecorestorationpartnership.org) for more information.

## Jackson County

### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee (EC) serves as the steering committee for implementation of the Jackson County fire plan. The EC also serves as the committee that is responsible for the emergency management action items of the plan. The EC monitored subcommittee progress on action items, provided final prioritization for National Fire Plan Community Assistance fuel reduction projects, and prepared and presented the 2008 annual report to the Josephine-Jackson Local Coordination Group (JJLCG), officials and news media.

### Emergency Management

The Jackson County Fire Plan Executive Committee provides oversight of the emergency management action items.

#### Strengthen Notification for Wildfire Evacuation

Jackson County made progress in adding cell phone users to the county's Call Down System. Cell phone users will be able to self-register on the county web site.

#### Develop a Wildfire Evacuation Protocol and Logistics Plan

The Jackson County Fire Plan Executive Committee coordinated between agencies at the Rogue Valley Fire Chief's Association annual spring command and control meeting. County GIS updated aerial imagery for structure location. County fire map books were updated and automated for easier updates in the future.

#### Use GIS resources during wildfire incident operations

Jackson County completed the development of a GIS response team and protocols for that team. The team provided GIS support for the Ashland and Medford wildfires in September 2009.

#### Coordinate Training, Fire District Capacity building, Rural Fire Assistance and Volunteer Fire Assistance grants

Applied for one training grant and one equipment grant in 2009 on a regional basis with the Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program.

### Risk/Fuels Committee

The Risk/Fuels Committee is a collaboration between fire plan partners and local communities to identify, prioritize, and implement fuels reductions projects in Jackson County. It's objectives are to identify communities at risk, the Wildland Urban Interface WUI boundary, maintain and update the risk assessment, identify and prioritize fuel reduction projects, identify strategies for coordinating projects on a landscape scale, and administer grants for fuels reduction.

#### Monitor Risk Assessment data annually to include LANDFIRE vegetation data and other updated data sources.

The committee completed an update of the risk assessment using the two-county fuel-mapping project data completed in 2008. With support from Jackson County GIS staff and Title III funds,

updates of all the key data sets (ignition risk, hazard, protection capability, and values at risk) were completed for both Jackson and Josephine Counties. Both county risk/fuels committees reviewed the data and model parameters. The primary goals of the assessment update were to 1) incorporate the new calibrated LANDFIRE data and advanced fire modeling tools, and 2) use methodology consistent across the two-county area. These goals were both accomplished.

#### Update the Wildland Urban Interface Boundary

The need to update the WUI boundary will be reviewed when the risk assessment is updated, however no changes are anticipated.

#### Prioritize Fuels Reduction Projects on Private and Public Lands

Based upon the committee's fuels strategy, the new risk assessment, areas without recent grant support, and opportunities to collaborate with federal partners, the committee identified the following initial project areas for use of county-wide ARRA funds:

1. Shady-Eagle (Shady Cove FireWise and Little Butte Watershed Council)
2. 7-Basins strategic treatments
3. Colestin strategic treatments
4. West side Bear Creek (Anderson-Wagner-Coleman Cr)
5. Support Applegate strategic treatments once the Applegate Fire Plan update is complete.

2010 grant opportunities are the same as above.

#### Track and monitor fuels reduction projects to assess effectiveness and track fuels reduction projects.

Jackson County GIS was awarded Title III funds to develop a web-based platform to capture complete fuels projects and other assessment data. Both the Siskiyou Fire and Deer Ridge Fires burned in areas with completed fuels treatment projects. The Ashland Fire Department analyzed the effect of the treatments on creating control opportunities and reducing tree mortality and other ecologic harm (see success story).

#### Control noxious weeds and coordinate with Jackson County Cooperative Weed Management Area Committee

A Committee member attended meetings of the Jackson County Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA). This committee member is planning to continue as the committee's point of contact and hopes that they will develop information to handout to landowners doing fuels treatment to minimize the unintentional spread of noxious weeds.

#### Coordinate biomass utilization efforts with the Fuels and Risk Assessment committees.

The committee participated in the Southern Oregon Small Diameter Stewardship Collaborative (SOSDSC) landscape assessment by providing risk assessment data and other technical support. The committee also collaborated on a presentation to the Siskiyou Biomass Users Group and a shared press release noting public support for thinning to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire and encouraged citizens to be proactive in efforts to improve community and fire-fighter safety.

Encourage and assist fire districts, watershed councils, and other community organizations in development and implementation of a strategic fuels program

Provided support to three groups interested in development and implementation of a strategic fuels program – Upper Rogue watershed Council, Little Butte Creek Watershed Council and Shady Cove FireWise. Support included prioritizing fuels project funds for the project, maps for public meetings, technical advice, and attending community meetings.

## Joint (2-County)

### Outreach and Education

The Outreach and Education Committee serves to increase public awareness and actions for fire prevention. Fire prevention education has been an ongoing effort for years in the Rogue Valley. It works to accomplish the both county fire plan's action items while engaging the Rogue Valley Fire Prevention Cooperative.

#### Create a local fire prevention team

A Jackson County Title III grant was acquired to assure Fire Prevention Team creation and sustainability. A contractor was hired to provide team training & operations guides, as well as draft SOP's for team activation, team positions and skill sets, team operations, and resources needed. A draft list of community and agency representatives willing to participate on teams was created. Completed handouts on "When Evacuation is Imminent" and "If you Are Unable To Evacuate", plus the flip book with information about understanding & preventing wildfire, creating defensible space, and evacuation.

#### Continue to expand the partners involved in wildfire outreach and education

The Outreach and Education committee supported public meetings in the Little Butte Creek Watershed and in Shady Cove. Shady Cove FireWise was added as a new JaCIFP partner.

#### Coordinate an Annual Spring Wildfire Safety Campaign

The Outreach and Education committee developed a mailer and radio spots as part of the spring awareness campaign. Josephine County coordinated a Free Woody Vegetation Day and a series of newspaper ads in Grants Pass Courier. KDRV Channel 12 PSAs were rebroadcast in 2009. Virtually no fireworks fires were reported summer 2009 in Jackson County due perhaps in part to radio spots. The Outreach and Education committee also provided booths at the Jackson County Home Show and Jackson County Master Gardener's Fair.

#### Increase the Effectiveness of Public Education

Title III funding was obtained from both counties to develop a public opinion mail survey that will help local communities and CWPP groups to update their constituents' awareness and opinions on wildfire issues. As well, national public opinion survey results on effectively communicating with the public on wildfire issues were presented in three training sessions in 2009: to the federal and state fire and fuels managers (65 people), to the Rogue Valley Fire Chief's Association, and at the annual "Media Day" hosted by Fire District #3.

### Home Assessment and Recognition Program Training

A training package was completed to provide home assessment and home recognition program training at local fire districts and wildland agencies. The Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association (RVFCA) provided input. The first training session using the package was held in December for 24 representatives from across the 2-county area.

### Master Land Steward Program

The Master Land Steward program was introduced through the OSU Extension Service to assist rural residents in addressing wildfire and other ecological issues on their properties. Developed as a pilot for the state, the first 10-week training session was conducted with 30 from Jackson & Josephine Counties and is receiving good reviews.

### Sustain a Long-term Educational Program

Partnerships have played key roles in multiple action items and will help the sustainability of the education program: First American Title, Local Radio, OSU Extension Service, KDRV Channel 12, Mail Tribune, RVFP Co-op, Ashland CERT team, Jackson County Air Quality, and the Regional Vulnerable Populations Committee. Title III grants in both counties were acquired for O&E activities.

### Develop a promotional campaign for pet and livestock emergency preparedness and evacuation strategies

Both counties have contracted with a consultant to develop animal disaster plans and provide information and assistance. Partners were supportive and engaged, and included Jackson County Animal Control, Josephine County Animal Protection and Regulation, sheriff's offices, Fire districts, Applegate River Watershed Council, American Red Cross, Southern OR Veterinary Association, animal rescue organizations, Southern OR Humane Society, and community wildfire protection groups. An exercise was conducted in Jackson County where the animal sheltering plan was successfully activated and a companion animal shelter was set up. Brochures were obtained and distributed providing guidance for the evacuation and sheltering of pets and livestock. A presentation was given to the Applegate River Watershed Council, and articles were published in the Applegate Fire District newsletter and Applegator newspaper. A list of FAQs for animal evacuation and sheltering was drafted and will assist the public with how to prepare pets and livestock during disasters.

### Woody Vegetation Disposal Day – Josephine County

Josephine County's May 9, 2009 woody vegetation event showed a drastic reduction in participation. Participants brought a total of 69 loads of woody vegetation totaling over 91 yards to the Jo Grow facility during the four-hour monitoring period. In past years, over 300 yards of debris were collected. City of Grants Pass staffed the event with one person to collect data. Results of the annual survey are in Appendix C.

### Regional Vulnerable Populations Committee

Oversight of the Special Needs Action Items for both plans was assigned to the regional Vulnerable Populations Committee. The Vulnerable Populations Committee focuses on preparedness and response for people who would need extra assistance in an emergency. They provide education, planning, and

preparedness tools for vulnerable populations, including elderly and disabled citizens, and for the people and organizations that serve them. They are available to the Emergency Operations Center (as the VP Branch) during emergencies to provide expert assistance. The regional ad hoc Vulnerable Populations Committee has representatives from such entities as Senior and Disabilities Services, Public Health, Hospital Preparedness, Emergency Management, Senior Services, extended care facilities, Head Start, Translink, higher education, and private providers. The original vulnerable populations action items were developed based upon a needs assessment of special needs and vulnerable populations in the two-county area. The updated items are the result of a work plan developed by the Vulnerable Populations Committee.

### Emergency Preparedness for Organizations

In 2009, the committee presented a regional workshop “Emergency Preparedness for Organizations” in collaboration with the Jackson County Citizen Corps Council, focusing on agency emergency planning, personal preparedness, and ISC for community responders. The speaker was the executive director of CARD (Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disasters), a nationally recognized preparedness organization. We will be conducting a follow-up to this workshop.

### Special Needs Branch Plan

The committee conducted a full-scale exercise of its Branch Plan during the statewide Cascadia Peril earthquake exercise in April 2009, coordinating with county Emergency Management, Rogue Valley Community Organizations Responding to Disasters (RVCOAD), and Translink transportation brokers, a division of RVTD. Based on the After-Action Report, an Improvement Plan was developed. The committee is focusing on this for the first half of 2010 and has conducted a tabletop exercise on the revised call-takers form and the response algorithm. The revised Plan will be incorporated into each County’s Emergency Operations Plan.

### Disaster Registry Outreach

In 2008, three flyers were created promoting the Disaster Registry. They continue to be distributed throughout both counties to local businesses, community partners and other agencies. The committee will be utilizing OHSU nursing students to help promote the program in April and May 2010.

### Partnerships with other groups

This year, representatives from the committee have worked closely with the Regional Outreach and Education committee, the Rogue Valley COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disaster), and local Citizen Corps Councils in both counties. These partnerships have served to increase awareness of special needs planning, as well as maximize efforts for outreach activities.

The Vulnerable Populations Committee will be participating in a project headed by the Region 5 Healthcare Preparedness Program Coordinator, Rogue Valley Council of Governments Seniors and Disabilities staff, and the Jackson County Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator. Each of these entities will have three OHSU nursing students working on various aspects of special needs sheltering, including utilizing the Disaster Registry and Ready Books to help vulnerable populations prepare.

## **Southern Oregon Small Diameter Collaborative**

The Southern Oregon Small Diameter Collaborative brings together diverse regional interests in order to remove small diameter trees from dense federal forests in order to improve forest health, reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, and strengthen the contribution of forest workers and industry to community well-being.

### **Strengthen relationship with county fire plan**

Over the past year, the Collaborative has worked to strengthen ties to county fire planning efforts, advancing goals for both efforts. A shared press release generated an article that noted public support for thinning to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire and encouraged citizens to be proactive in efforts to improve community and fire-fighter safety (Mail Tribune, April 29, 2009). The Collaborative linked with the fire plan on a presentation to the Siskiyou Biomass Users Group that shared strategies for linking treatments, utilization, and strategic fire planning in order to achieve fuels reduction, forest health and market support goals.

### **Landscape Assessment**

Fire planning recommendations and modeling efforts of the fire plan's risk assessment have been incorporated into the Collaborative's emerging Rogue Basin Forest Landscape Assessment, strengthening the assessment through the integration of fuels reduction, forest health and economic feasibility findings. The Collaborative's forthcoming Landscape Assessment will help better identify a community-supported strategic treatment landscape for federal forests in the Rogue Basin. The assessment will not only help identify priority landscapes for treatment, but will add value to agency planning and implementation efforts and generate material to support the regional timber infrastructure. With information from the assessment, the Collaborative is working with the BLM on a FY 2010 "Small Diameter Project Collaboration Initiative" that will advance two watershed-based projects utilizing the Collaborative's standards and guidelines framework toward community-supported implementation.

### **Strengthen Coordination**

The Collaborative is also working to strengthen coordination between the action (BLM, USFS) and regulatory agencies (USFW) to demonstrate the types of integrated treatments that benefit the needs of species of concern, in particular, the northern spotted owl. The Collaborative continues to have regular and committee meetings, as well as provide presentations to interested groups, that share and advance the process, information, and recommendations needed to expand the acres of federal forests treated to reduce density and fuels, as well as strengthen the forest-related workforce.

## **Oregon Urban-Forestland Wildfire Protection Act (SB360)**

The identification and classification process for implementing the Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act in Josephine County was completed in May 2008, and the owners of more than 19,000 lots were notified of their fuel reduction obligations under the Act. More than 3,000 self-certification cards were returned to ODF by landowners by the end of 2009. Landowners who do not certify compliance with the Act's fuel reduction standards by December 2010 may be subject to the Act's fire cost recovery penalty, should a wildfire occur on their lands.

Jackson County landowners affected by the Act will receive new self-certification cards in fall 2010. The current certification cards, issued in July 2005 become void in July of this year. A county classification committee convened this month to review forestland-urban interface areas within the county. More than 12,000 lots were affected by the Act as a result of the 2004 committee’s findings.

## Funding and Grants

### National Fire Plan

National Fire Plan grants have been increasingly difficult to acquire for both Josephine and Jackson Counties due to reduced federal funding for the program and increased competition for the funds as more counties complete fire plans in Oregon. The Josephine-Jackson Local Coordination Group (JLJCG), with support from both county fire plans, hosted a meeting and field trip in January 2009 for regional federal and state grant administrators to share the successes of fire plan implementation and encourage future funding support.

### Community Assistance (CA)

The federal multi-agency community assistance program is designed to reduce wildfire threats to communities and to support local economies. Each county fire-planning group can submit two projects each in priority order.

### Western States WUI Grants (WSFM)

Federal National Fire Plan funds administered by the Western State Fire Managers to assist interface communities manage the unique hazards they find around them.

### Funds Applied for and Awarded

	Josephine		Jackson	
FFY 2009 – Grants applied for in 2008 and awarded in 2009				
Grant	Project	Amount	Grant/Project	Amount
CA #1	Takilma-Rockydale Strategic Fuels Reduction Project	\$200,000	Anderson-Wagner	\$0
CA #2	Savage-Jones	\$200,000*	Colestin Access Rd Fuel Reduction	\$185,000*
WSFM	Stringer Gap	\$273,000	Shady Eagle Fuels Reduction	\$300,000*
FFY 2009 – Grants applied for in 2009 and awarded in 2010 (tentatively)				
CA #1	Savage-Jones	\$200,000	Jackson County Strategic Defense (7-Basins)	\$0
WSFM	Josephine Co Underserved/Under Protected	\$300,000**	Jackson Co Underserved/Under Protected	\$300,000**

\*NOT FUNDED – Original amount requested has been funded under State Forests American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant (see below)

\*\*Amount requested – no information on amount, if any, to be awarded

## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

### State Forests

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) requested the Forest Service to fund a proposal as part of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding. Project proposals were drawn from previously submitted applications that were not funded by either the Western States Wildland Urban Interface or Community Assistance Wildland Urban Interface grants, as well as an additional solicitation of project ideas.

County	Amount
Josephine	\$356,400
Jackson	\$891,900

### Rogue River Siskiyou National Forest

The Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest received funding for \$25 million to reduce hazardous fuels as part of \$224 million in funding for hazardous fuels projects by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). In March, \$2 million (Phase 1) was allocated for the following projects in Josephine County:

- **Hope Mountain Stewardship Project:** Funding: \$ 1.4 million that covers 1,000 acres. This partnership project between the Siskiyou Project, Lomakatsi and the U.S. Forest Service will accomplish fuels reduction and forest restoration on the Wild Rivers Ranger District. This effort will restore forest stands that pose potential wildfire risks to communities and ecosystem values.
- **Waters Creek Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project:** Funding: \$310,000 dollars that provides for cutting over-crowded trees and brush and hand piling to thin out small trees that have created a high fire hazard. 233 acres within wildland urban interface areas will be improved.
- **Vegetative Improvement and Fuels Reduction Work:** Funding: \$290,000 that treats 225 acres across the Wild Rivers Ranger District.

The Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest has received funding for \$22 million in the next phase of the Eight County Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project, which included funding for the Ashland Forest Resiliency and Upper Applegate Road Corridor projects. So far, contracts or agreements have been signed to accomplish 3,504 acres.

### Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 was reauthorized for an additional four years (2008-2011).

### Title II-Special Projects on Federal Land

Title II funds may be used for the protection, restoration, and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and other resource objectives consistent with the Secure Rural Schools Act on Federal land and on non-Federal land where projects would benefit the resources on Federal land. Resource Advisory Committee (RACs) are the mechanism for local community collaboration with federal land managers in recommending Title II projects on federal lands or that will benefit resources on federal lands.

**BLM Title II Funded Projects (only fire plan related)**

<b>Josephine County</b>		<b>Jackson County</b>	
<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
ODF Firefighter Retention	\$90,777	Community Justice Fuels Reduction and Fire Management - Adult	\$69,138
Jillana Fuels Reduction	50,000	Juvenile Forestry Work Crew	31,047
		Anderson Wagner Fuel Hazard Reduction	65,000
		Applegate Fuels Demo	16,666
		Bear Fielder Fuel Hazard Reduction	100,000
		Sykes Creek Fuel Hazard Reduction	55,000
		CSNM Greensprings Wildland Interface Fuels Modification Project	40,811
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$140,777</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$377,662</b>

**USFS Title II Funded Projects (only fire plan related)**

<b>Josephine County</b>		<b>Jackson County</b>	
<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Josephine County Community Justice Crew and/or Job Council, to accomplish various projects, including: roadside brushing to alleviate fuel loading and improve fire fighting access	\$75,375	Jackson County Community Justice adult work crews to reduce fuel loads from federal lands as outlined by district forestry officials	\$62,225

**Title III-County Funds**

Reauthorization of Title III (Public Law 110-343) eliminated some used for the funds. They may be used only to carry out the Firewise Communities program, reimburse for emergency services paid for by counties and performed on Federal land (e.g. search and rescue, firefighting), and develop community wildfire protection plans. Both counties allocated Title III funds remaining from the previous law (106-393).

**Josephine County Title III Projects (only fire plan related)**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Firewise Communities	Wildfire Hazard Mitigation	\$307,600
	The Firewise Communities Program	119,600
	O&E Spring Wildfire Education Campaign	10,000
	After School Forest Education	22,400
Community Wildfire Protection Planning	Wolf Creek-Sunny Valley Community Wildfire Planning	30,000
	O&E Ready Books	10,000
	O&E Animal Evacuation & Sheltering	30,000
	O&E CWPP Public Survey	2,000
	Fire Plan Continuation	33,600
	O&E Animal Evacuation & Sheltering Fairgrounds	10,000

	Fuels Reduction ODF/Contracting	125,000
Public Law 106-393	Hazardous Fuel Reduction - Personnel	370,000
	Takilma-Rockydale Community Fuel Hazard Reduction Project	50,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,120,200</b>

*Jackson County Title III Projects (only fire plan related)*

<b>Category</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Firewise Communities	WUI Fuel Reduction	\$165,000
	Southern Oregon Small Diameter Collaborative	40,000
	Seven Basins CWPP Update and Expansion	13,900
	Implementing Firewise Home Ignition Zone Principles	55,000
Community Wildfire Protection Planning	Fire Plan Implementation	40,000
	Fire Safety Inspection Program	104,000
	Community Involvement Website	49,000
	FireMap Books	27,000
	Risk Assessment Map Updates	21,000
	Aerial Imagery Acquisition, Structure Location	133,000
	Fire Plan Outreach and Education Expansion	280,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$927,900</b>

## Appendix A - Committee Action Plans

### Josephine County

#### Emergency Management Board

Action Item	Lead	Timeline	Status/ Accomplishment/ Problems	Keep/ update for 2010?
EM 1. Clarify policies and procedures for emergency management planning and preparedness, including the emergency operations center; develop standard operating procedures.	Sara and EMB	Ongoing	EOP updated this year with the assistance of a contractor. Still working on EOC and debris management plans.	Yes  Final update in 2010
EM 2. Strengthen National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) compliance. Find resources for IM training and incentives for participation. Review new NIMS requirements and monitor and implement NIMS requirements	Sara and EMB	2010	Continued training in NIMS/ICS.  Test JIC/JIS plan in the April Cascadia Peril exercise.  Comply with FY 08-09 NIMS requirements.	Yes
EM 3. Maintain oversight of policies and a process for interoperable/interagency communications	EMB	Ongoing	Interoperable policies and processes discussed at meetings; updates given by agencies as appropriate.  911 call-down system taken off-line due to instability.	No
EM 4. Develop and sustain agency coordination on evacuation procedures for fire and other incidents. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update evacuation info in the family emergency preparedness book</li> <li>Monitor community effort in Wolf Creek</li> <li>Sustain agency coordination on evacuation procedures (district and countywide.)</li> </ul>	EMB	Ongoing	Subcommittee will be formed to develop SOP for evacuation for Josephine County.	Yes
EM 5. Continue development and training of Type III County All Hazard Incident Management Team (AHIMT)	EMB	Ongoing	Members of AHMIT sent to two different fire camps to shadow. Two trainings held for AHIMT members this year. Sheriff, Health, Rural Metro. Sign off by county commissioners	Yes

EM 6. Maintain broad coordination for the JCIFP	EMB	Ongoing	Continuing to send EMB member as Josephine County rep for Outreach & Education meetings. Will continue to work to find others within the county to attend these meetings. EMB will continue to provide oversight to the various committees.	Yes
EM 7. Coordinate county-wide grant requests	EMB	Ongoing	Grant planning discussed at meetings; coordination and collaboration on grant requests by subcommittees. Title III and NFP, DHS	Yes
EM 8. Expand EMB oversight to include the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan	Sara & Jenny	2010	As required by FEMA, the EMB will also function as the NHMP Steering Committee, as the NHMP is the parent plan of the JCIFP. Update the plan this year	This is a new item
EM 9. Explore fire mitigation plan for the unprotected area problem	EMB	2010	EMB will support county efforts to protect unprotected areas	Yes

### Risk/Fuels Actions

Action Item	Lead	Timeline	Status/Accomplishments/ Problems	Keep/update for 2010
RF #1. . Maintain risk assessment; evaluate and update the methodology. Create two County Hazard/Risk Map	Jim Gary Cody	Spring 2010	Done	Yes. Integrate with other assessment elements.
RF #2. Track public and private fuels reduction projects.	Group	Ongoing	Maintaining as well as possible.	Yes
RF #3. Develop a long-term strategy to monitor effectiveness and implement fuels projects. (Develop and implement effectiveness monitoring)	Group	Ongoing	We have not decided on an exact monitoring method as of yet.	Yes.
RF #4. Prioritize fuels treatment projects on All Lands	Group	Ongoing	The two project areas for 2011 Grants are 1) Grants Pass urban growth boundary, and 2) the greater Cave Junction area.	Yes
RF #5. Use risk assessment in strategic planning and grant applications.	Group	Ongoing	Continuing	Yes

RF #6. Establish long-term strategies for maintenance of fuels reduction and coordinate with the Education and Outreach committee to ensure that any community input on wildfire risk and fuels reduction priorities reaches the committee.	Group	Ongoing	Working with JaCIFP and RR Co-op.	Yes.
RF #7. Provide opportunities for stewardship contracting and support efforts of the stewardship contracting to meet JCIFP hazardous fuels reduction goals	Group	Ongoing	As opportunities arise we will forward to stewardship committee	Yes

## Jackson County

### Emergency Management Actions

Action Item	Lead	Timeline	Status/ Accomplishment / Problems	Keep/ update for 2010?
EM #1. Strengthen Notification for Wildfire Evacuation	RVFCA	Updates fully implemented prior to 2010 fire season.	County Call Down System will be updated to be more user friendly. Cities in the county will be invited to be part of the system. Working to add cell phone users.	Yes
EM #2. Develop a Wildfire Evacuation Protocol and Logistics Plan	RVFCA	RVFCA adopted PNWWFCG Evacuation Guidelines	Review agency experiences and Coordinate between agencies annually at RVFCA Spring Command & Control Meeting. County GIS updating aerial imagery for structure location. County fire map books updated & automated for easier updates if the future.	Yes
EM #3. Use GIS resources during wildfire incident operations	County GIS and agency GIS staff.	Create data standards followed by field protocol for information sharing	Continue making connections for GIS support on fires. Complete development of	Yes

		and GIS incident support. Ongoing timeline depends on access to funding and staff time.	team & protocols. Good GIS support for Ashland & Medford wildfires in September 2009. Improve County Call Down system.	
EM #4. Present Emergency Management action items to Rogue Valley Fire Chiefs Association	Executive Committee	Ongoing	Give JaCIFP Annual Update to RVFCA	Yes
EM #5 Coordinate Training, Fire District Capacity building, Rural Fire Assistance and Volunteer Fire Assistance grants	Rogue Interagency Training Association	Ongoing depending on grants schedules and training opportunities.	Coordination of grants requests. Applied for 1 training grant and 1 equipment grant in 2009 on a regional basis with AFG.	Yes

### Risk/Fuels Actions

Action Item	Lead	Timeline	Status/Accomplishments/ Problems	Keep/up date for 2010?
RA #1 – update risk assessment	Wolf	2010	Fire Plan risk maps updated, approved by EC, and posted on web. Josephine County has approved the update methods and data their plan. Next step is to update the ratings of Strategic Planning Units (SPU's)	Yes
FR#1 – long term fuels strategy and prioritization	Krunglevich	2010	Contingency upon completion of risk assessment. Next step is to update the ratings of Strategic Planning Units (SPU's). Also working with Western Threat Center on a process to prioritize SPU's based upon the probability of harm or loss of importance values.	Yes
FR#2- track and monitor fuel reduction projects	Krunglevich	2010	Jackson County GIS has Title 3 grant funding to develop a web application to capture treatments. They are also exploring methods to streamline the process for updating the fuels maps and risk assessment with new treatment data.	Yes
FR #3 – Noxious Weeds	Perrotti	Ongoing		Yes
FR #4 – Coordination with power and roads	Shaffer/Perrotti			Yes
FR#5 - Biomass	Chambers	Ongoing		Yes
FR#6 – Funding strategy	Perrotti	n/a	Keep, but back burner	Yes
FR#7 - Assistance	Benson	Ongoing	NEW for 2009 – ongoing in Little Butte Cr WS, Upper Rogue WS, and Shady Cove (FireWise)	Yes

## Joint (2-County)

### Outreach and Education Actions

Step	Status and Accomplishments	Lead	Problems/Policy, Plan, Funding changes
<b>OE #1 Create a local fire prevention team to be activated on short notice to take advantage of “teachable moments” in the event of a wildfire in or near a community, or in periods of known increases in fire starts or hazard.</b>			
Secure funding for Fire Prevention Team creation and sustainability. Identify other grant/funding sources for future. Work with RVFP Co-op once non-profit status is secure.	Jackson County Title III	Brian, Chris	Grant Awarded July 2009  Continue to seek funding to sustain Team in future
Purchase laptop computer for Prevention Team use	Done 2008. Cost shared with Co-op for dual use.	Brian	
Draft SOP for team activation, team positions & skill sets, team operations, & resources needed.  Present Team concept to RVFCA once team is close to readiness.	Contractor hired to provide Team training & operations Guides- Completed 2009	Brian, broad support from all	Lead staff person needed to complete this item
Create a list of community and agency representatives willing to participate on teams.	Informal discussion—CERT teams, Search and Rescue, Watershed Councils, OSU Extension Master Land Stewards, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, etc...  Share with RVFCA once team is nearing readiness to gain support of agencies and recruit members.	None	Draft list completed, need staff person to confirm ability to participate for each potential member.
Develop TV & Radio spots for use after a wildfire. Develop more PSA’s for other seasons and universal use. Explore use of RVTv for production.	Developed Spring Campaign radio spots, seasonal messages for media, messages delivered on Ch. 12 news & area radio stations through Maentz agency.  Ch12 PSAs rebroadcast in 2009. Need to develop generic PSAs.	Brian, Sandy, Chris	Finish non-proprietary messages for use across multiple media outlets into the future.
Develop list of most frequently asked questions & answers for use of EOC phone operators. Distribute this list to the Rogue Valley Community Organizations Active in Disaster (RVCOAD). Add livestock evacuation information	Re-evaluate lessons learned in the past and compile list of FAQs.  Lin Bernhardt has drafted a list of FAQs for animal evacuation.	Carey, Brian and others	Part of SOP process to develop the list of EOC questions.
Develop Handouts for use during fires.	Completed handouts on “When Evacuation is Imminent” & “If	All	Completed 2009. Keep copies available. Files

	you Are Unable To Evacuate”, plus the flip book covering many issues.		are posted on the Co-op website.
Conduct a Prevention Team Exercise in conjunction with RVFCA spring exercise.	Lobby Chief’s to host an exercise (no exercise held in 2008 or 2009).	Brian, Chris	We can use the Chief’s exercise as training for the team each year. Develop this element as part of SOP process.
<b>OE #2 Continue to expand the partners involved in wildfire outreach and education in Josephine and Jackson counties.</b>			
Contact potential partners	Little Butte Creek Watershed public meeting. Shady Cove Firewise added in 2009.	Neil, Brian	
Create list of existing & potential partners	Ongoing	O and E Chair	
<b>OE #3 Coordinate an Annual Spring Wildfire Safety Campaign</b>			
Determine key messages of spring campaign including the need for defensible space maintenance. Burning safety and air quality is an important message for Jo County. Jenny and Joe will work on outreach to Jo County residents outside GP city limits in the air quality area. Brian will include more info on the results of escaped debris burn fires, i.e. fines. 2009 focus was on fireworks.  Develop a brochure to educate former fuels grant recipients of the need to keep vegetation thinned around homes. Address lists should be available from ODF or local grant administrators. A brochure might stress the need to get work done now before it gets too expensive, plus more nuts and bolts about what to cut, etc.	Mailer and Radio spots were developed as part of the spring awareness campaign 2008, Free Woody Vegetation Day & a series of newspaper ads in Grants Pass Courier in Josephine County.  Virtually no fireworks fires reported summer 2009 in Jackson County due perhaps in part to radio spots.	Brian Ballou, , Chris, Sandy,  Scott Lewis. Jenny Zeltvay, Joe Hyatt	Expand Spring campaign to deliver seasonal messages, Expand mailer to Jo County Spring ’09. Coordinate media material with Prevention Team media efforts
Coordinate booths at both Spring Home Shows in both counties (Feb), and both Master Gardeners Fairs (April-May), including booth reservation, staffing, set-up & take down: every year	Booth at Jackson County home show in Feb.  Booth at Jackson County Master Gardener’s Fair in April	Brian, all	
Place displays in County Offices & other locations i.e. home improvement stores		Chris, Brian	Need to distribute new display.
<b>OE #4 Promote the Wildfire Safety Speaker’s Bureau</b>			
Develop a list of expert speakers. Update and market list to public for 2009.	Will be updated and marketed. Carey was added to list to talk about the home ignition zone.	Brian Ballou, Carey Chaput	Contact Brian for a speaker or a copy of the list. Freshen up the list with phone calls to speakers. List on the Co-op website and get the word out with local service groups 2010. Need more PR on this.

<b>OE #5 Increase the Effectiveness of Public Education</b>			
<p>2010: Develop a public opinion mail survey that will help local communities and CWPP groups to update their constituents' awareness and opinions on wildfire issues.</p> <p>Assist in obtaining funding for implementation of these localized surveys on a regular basis.</p> <p>Findings should help frame the following year's Spring campaign.</p>	<p>2009 Secured Title III funding from both Jos. &amp; Jack. Counties for survey development; will apply for funding for 3 communities to implement survey in 2010-11.</p>	Sandy	<p>Need to look for future funding for 2011 &amp; beyond.</p>
<p>Facilitate monthly committee meetings to determine effectiveness of O&amp;E messages.</p>	<p>2009: Ongoing at monthly meetings</p>	O&E Chair	
<p>Coordinate updated O&amp;E messages to the public; review annually.</p>	<p>Mailers, PSA's, Public meetings &amp; Events.</p>	Brian Ballou	<p>Consider an incentive included in a mailing that could be used to gauge public participation and understanding.</p> <p>Need to re-evaluate this action item. Include monitoring as an agenda item at quarterly meetings— maybe just 1 to 2 times a year.</p>
<p>National public opinion survey results on effectively communicating with the public on wildfire issues were presented by Sandy in three training sessions in 2009: to the federal and state fire and fuels managers (65 people), to the Rogue Valley Fire Chief's Association, and at the annual "Media Day", hosted by Fire District #3 in June. Item completed.</p>	<p>4 training sessions were completed in 2009: Federal/State, RVFCA, ODF seasonal &amp; local Media Day.</p>	Sandy	
<b>OE #6 Home Assessment and Recognition Program Training</b>			
<p>Provide home assessment and home recognition program training at local fire districts and wildland agencies.</p> <p>2010: Continue providing Home Assessment training sessions and supplies as requested by RVFCA.</p>	<p>Training package complete. RVFCA has requested several sessions, and that the training stay consistent by having Sandy &amp; Carey do all of these sessions. First session completed 12/15/09</p>	Sandy & Carey	
<p>2009: Set up a monitoring system with the RVFCA to gauge the effectiveness of this Assessment training; determine factors to</p>		Carey & RVFCA	<p>Funding needed to present training in Josephine County; also</p>

monitor, such as increase in Fire District volunteers/support, increased numbers of homes with defensible space, increased calls for home inspections, etc.			need to look at long-term funding for ongoing supplies, fees and copies of brochures. Also funding for 2010.
<b>OE #7 Utilize and Maintain Wildfire Education School Kits for Two-County Area</b>			
2009: Update kits for supplies, and also verify that lessons still meet school standards.		Carey	2009: May need funding for updating kits. Include in Title III grant.
Place kits with SOU Education Dept., Oregon Extension Service, Siskiyou Field Institute. Kits are currently located at ODF, Applegate, and Rural Metro FD (OSU Extension?).  2010: Locate kits & find “keepers” of each.	Kits were placed in various places in the two county area	Brian Ballou and RVFPC	Location of all kits is not known. Consider constructing additional kits
2010: Demonstrate kit at teacher in service days. Promote the kits to partners such as the RVFCA and leadership of federal and state agencies. Add kit lesson availability to Speaker’s Bureau.		Brian	
<b>OE #8 Sustain a Long-term Educational Program</b>			
2009: Introduced Advanced Master Land Steward program to address wildfire issues among private property owners.  2010: Expand Master Land Steward program to Josephine (and Deschutes) county. Monitor the community payback projects to see how much time is given to wildfire issues. May need to promote our cause further in 2010 classes.	First session, with 30 students from Jackson & Josephine Counties is getting good reviews.	Sandy Shaffer, Max Bennett	Assess whether conflicting advice from various subject areas is a problem.  May need to include funding to provide students with wildfire publications each year.
Rewrite & print “Living With Wild-fire” booklets (include Partners In Fire Education public communications results in future updates)	Completed 11/08	Sandy	Assess the need to do another printing every 2 years
Develop partnerships to share costs and staff time of O&E programs.	Partnerships have played key roles in multiple action items: 1. First American Title (2005) 2. Local Radio PSAs 3. OSU Extension Service 4. Channel 12 news and the Mail Tribune 5. RVFP Co-op 6. Ashland CERT team 7. County Air Quality 8. Regional vulnerable populations committees.	O and E committee	Goals are to develop better partnerships with all major media outlets (possible Mail Tribune weekly column?), finding other partners such as insurance companies, businesses (Home Depot, Lowe’s), and with local volunteer organizations.
2009: Find and apply for grant funding to provide operating capital to implement the components of the education campaign	Title III grants in both counties for O&E activities.	Sandy Shaffer, Brian	Put educational component into fuels reduction grants in

annually. Work with the RVFCA & federal/state agency leadership to have the 2-County O & E committee be the local lead for public wildfire education efforts, to avoid costly duplication of efforts.		Ballou, Jenny,  O and E committee	future.
Monitor and adapt process on an annual basis.	Conducted annual report process and planning for the next year.	Chair, O and E committee	Continue annual monitoring and update process.
<b>OE #9 Develop a promotional campaign for pet and livestock emergency preparedness and evacuation strategies.</b>			
Conduct exercise to test companion animal sheltering	Exercise (Cascadia Peril) was conducted in April where the animal sheltering plan was successfully activated and a companion animal shelter was set up	Colleen Macuk	It was noted that minor changes needed to made to the guidelines
Establish partnerships with agencies and organizations	Partners are supportive and engaged and include: * Jackson Co. Animal Cont. * Josephine Co. Animal Protection and Regulation * Sheriff's office * Fire districts * Applegate River Watershed Council * American Red Cross * Southern OR Veterinary Assoc. * Animal rescue organizations * Southern OR Humane Soc. * Community wildfire protection groups (CWPPs) * Other community groups as identified	Lin  Bernhardt	This will involve additional groups as the project continues
Provide opportunities for public education and promote awareness of the importance of planning for the evacuation and sheltering of pets and livestock	Brochures were obtained and distributed providing guidance for the evacuation and sheltering of pets and livestock, a presentation was given to the Applegate River Watershed Council, and articles were published in the Applegate Fire District newsletter and Applegator newspaper	Lin Bernhardt	Both counties have contracted with a consultant since July to develop animal disaster plans and provide information and assistance
Develop list of most frequently asked questions & answers for use of EOC phone operators.	A list of FAQs for animal evacuation and sheltering was drafted and will assist the public with how to prepare pets and livestock during disasters	Lin Bernhardt	

## Monitoring Outreach and Education Actions

The Outreach and Education committee will monitor implementation of action items at monthly meetings. At a minimum, monitoring will consist of a review and update on each action item. Once a year each action item will be reviewed to determine if it is still appropriate. Action items can be removed and new items can be added at the yearly review or as needed with approval of the Executive Committee.

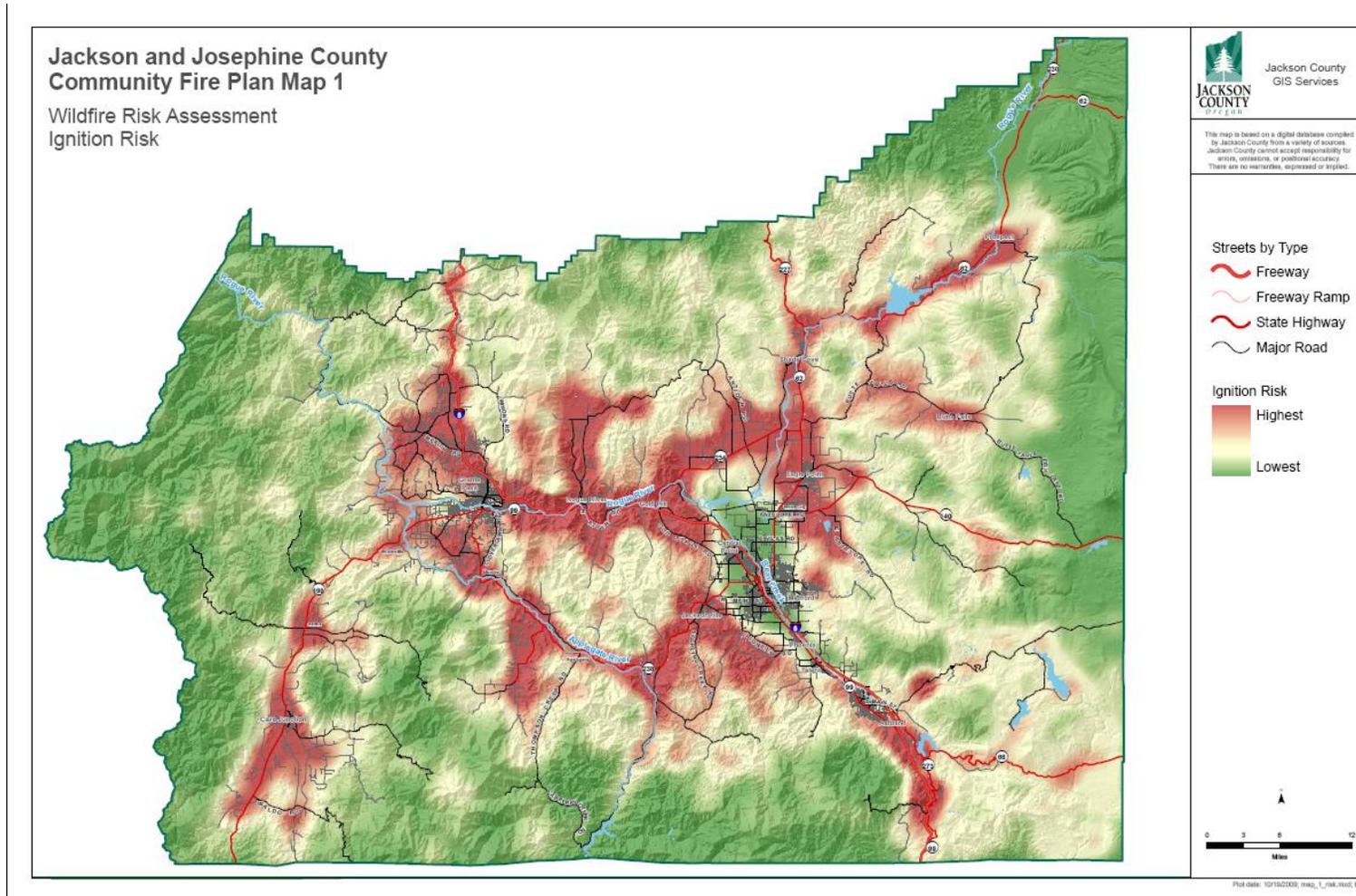
## Vulnerable Populations Actions

Action Item	Lead	Timeline	Status/Accomplishments/ Problems	Keep/update for 2010?
VP #1 Continue efforts to involve community organizations in planning for special populations	Carol & Jenny	Ongoing	<p>In 2009, the committee presented a regional workshop "Emergency Preparedness for Organizations" in collaboration with the Jackson County Citizen Corps Council, focusing on agency emergency planning, personal preparedness, and ISC for community responders. We will be conducting a follow-up to this workshop.</p> <p>We also presented two regional workshops on helping children deal with traumatic events.</p> <p>Members continue to recruit through contacts at other meetings they attend.</p>	Yes
VP #2 Continue outreach for the Disaster Registry	Carol & Connie	Ongoing	<p>Flyers that we produced advertising the program continue to be distributed. The flyers were designed for free by SOFCU Community Credit Union and printed using funds from Department of Homeland Security and RVCOG.</p>	Yes
VP #3 Continue	Carol, Connie and	Ongoing	The plan was exercised	Yes

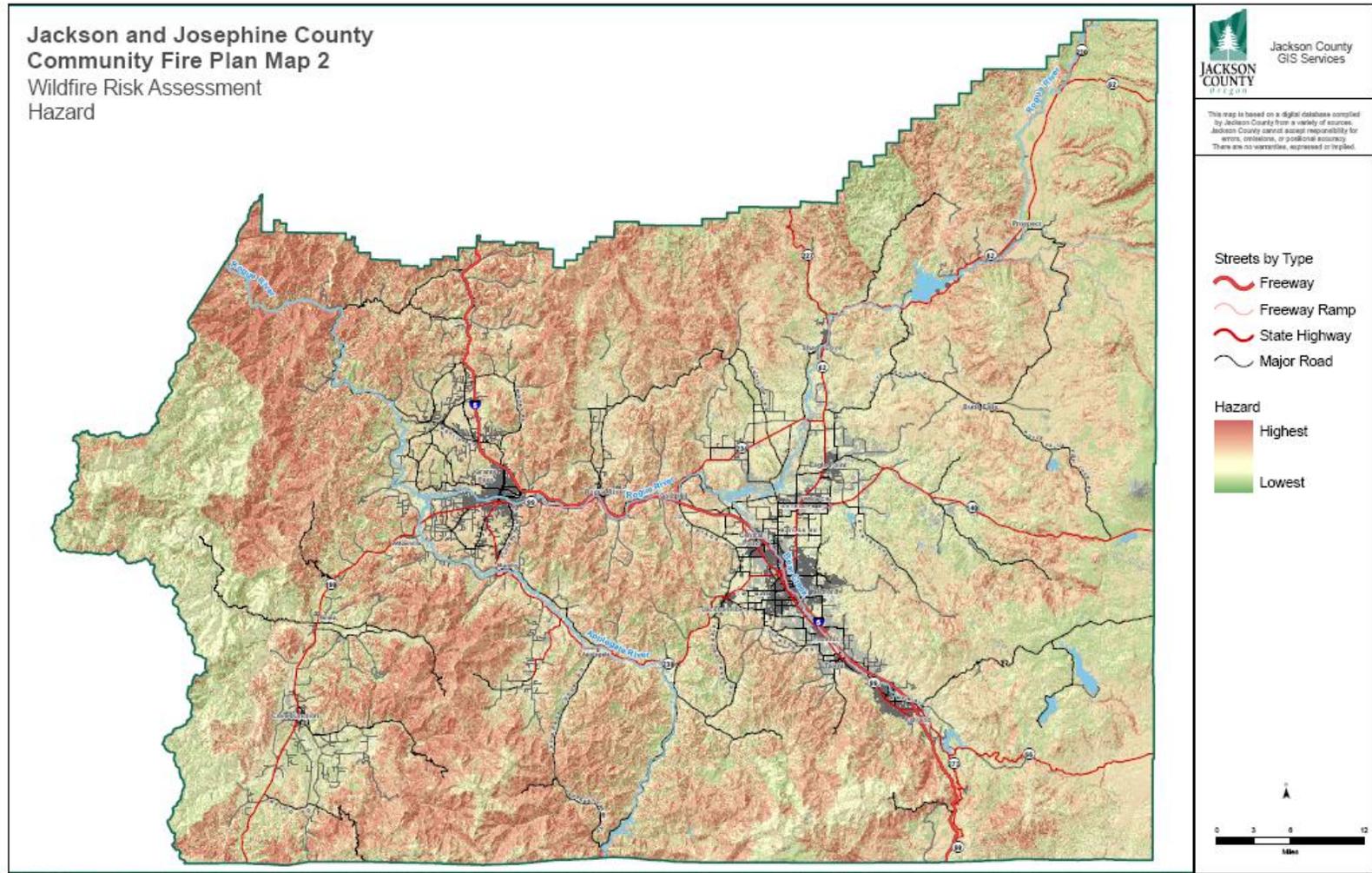
development of Special Needs Branch Plan to include a sheltering tab	Don		<p>during the 4/09 statewide earthquake exercise. It is currently being revised and tested based on After-Action Report findings.</p> <p>A collaborative effort involving several agencies and students in the OHSU nursing program will focus on the sheltering tab.</p>	
VP #4. Develop and expand both county's Emergency Transportation Plans for Vulnerable Populations	Jenny & Connie	2011	<p>Josephine County plan in final stages.</p> <p>Jackson County has a final draft.</p> <p>Translink has been added as a vital partner to the VP Branch Plan in both counties. They participated in the 4/09 exercise.</p>	Yes
VP #5 Prepare and distribute Emergency Ready Books to citizens	Carol, Beth, Jenny, & Tricia	<p>Prepared.</p> <p>Distribution ongoing.</p>	<p>Second printing will be done in April. Distribution plan finalized. Book 'completion instructions' drafted and being tested.</p>	Yes
VP #6. Conduct ongoing training for the Vulnerable Populations Committee in incident management	Beth & Carol	Ongoing	<p>Ongoing refreshers occur at regional meetings and through participation in County disaster exercises.</p> <p>ICS100 and 700 will be offered in collaboration with the Jackson County Medical Reserve Corps in 2010.</p>	Yes

# Appendix B – 2-County Risk Assessment Update Maps

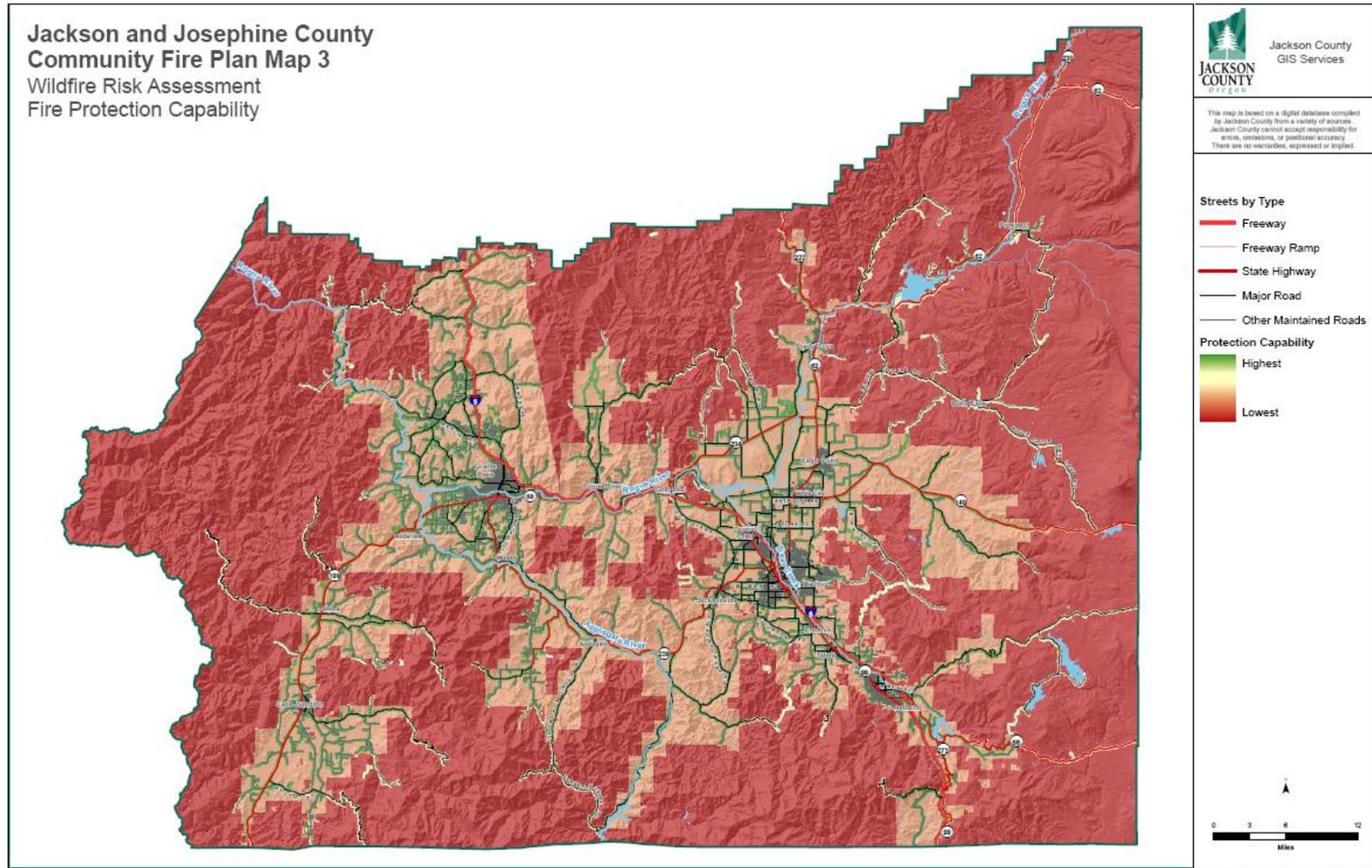
## Ignition Risk



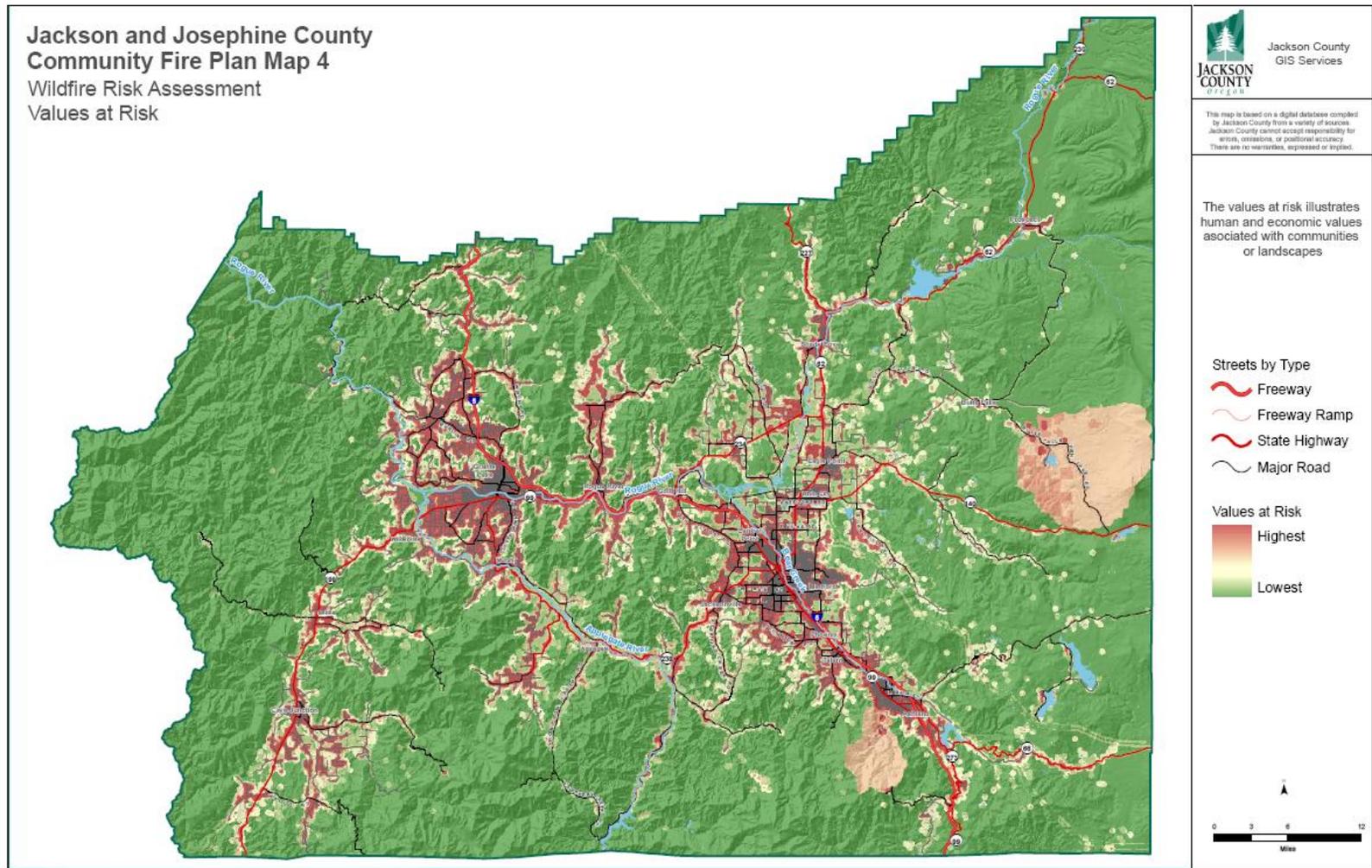
# Hazard



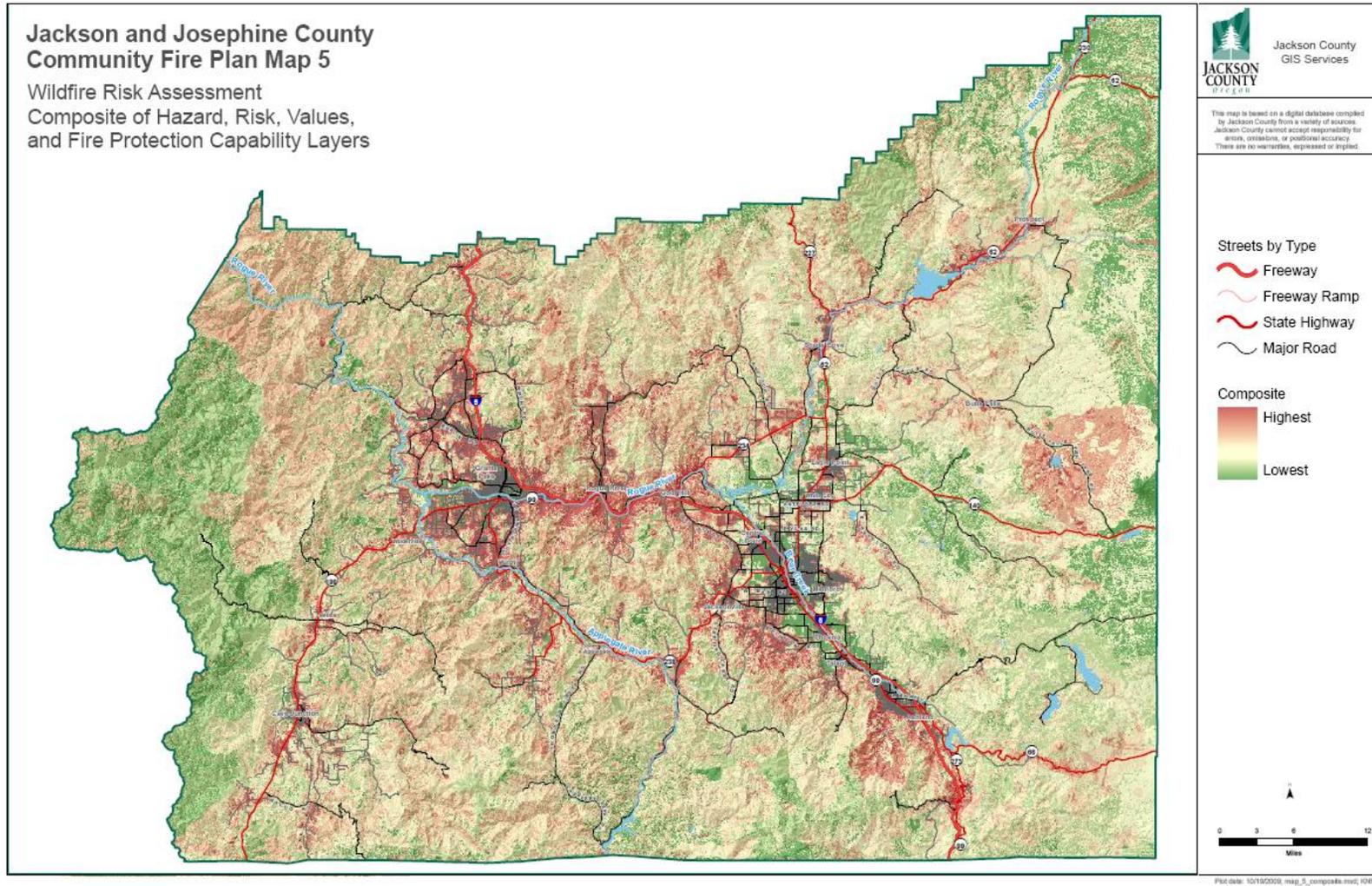
## Protection Capability



## Values At Risk



## Overall Risk - Composite



Appendix C

## An Analysis of Fuels Reduction Treatment Effectiveness During and After the 2009 Siskiyou Fire

**Chris Chambers**  
**Forest Resource Specialist**  
**Ashland Fire & Rescue**

*This report reflects the findings of the author only, and does not necessarily reflect opinions and observations of other reviewers or their affiliated agencies or organizations.*

### **The Siskiyou Fire**

On Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 a wildfire ignited on the hillside near 3500 Siskiyou Boulevard, just above Interstate 5. Strong winds from the east that day (National Weather Service Red Flag conditions) quickly fanned the fire despite the timely arrival of fire suppression resources including engines, helicopters, and retardant planes. Coincidentally, crews from Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Ashland Fire & Rescue and Fire District 5 were reviewing actions taken on the Hot Springs Fire (September 14<sup>th</sup>) when the Siskiyou Fire call came in. Also, the ODF contracted retardant plane in Medford was already warming up on the runway to return to Redmond and they responded directly to the fire. Within 2 hours of the ignition, 5 retardant planes and three helicopters were providing aerial support for many engine crews who protected structures and attacked the fire. The fire advanced throughout the morning and afternoon, causing evacuations of approximately 150 homes and ultimately consumed one structure and several outbuildings. Fireline was constructed by bulldozer and hand crews primarily along the east and west flanks of the fire. Crews used the Talent Irrigation Ditch as an anchor for fireline along the north and northeast sides of the fire and a dirt driveway (sometimes called Diehl Road) along most of the southern flank, although the fire did “slop” over the driveway and irrigation ditch in several spots. In nearly all locations where the fire was controlled, vegetation had been managed through either an ODF sponsored National Fire Plan grant program, or a similar program coordinated by the City of Ashland through Ashland Fire & Rescue. These treatments included either mulching done by a small machine on tracks, or cut, piled and burned by hand by ODF employees, Community Justice crews, or Lomakatsi Restoration Project workers between 2006 and 2008. Exactly 80 acres within the 188 acres fire perimeter were thinned under these programs and to varying degrees altered the fire’s behavior and intensity and provided opportunities for suppression via air or ground. Suppression was not effective in a small percent of fuels reduction areas, but fire behavior and ecosystem effects were altered over the vast majority of fuels reduction zones.



Through a combination of factors, the fire was controlled before it crossed Tolman Creek Road, where it would have threatened many more homes and advanced toward the Ashland Watershed, source of the City's municipal water supply.

**Field Visits and Fire Mapping**

On October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009 a small group including Marty Main (City of Ashland forestry consultant), Darren Borgias (Regional Ecologist, The Nature Conservancy), Chris Chambers (Forest Resource Specialist, Ashland Fire & Rescue), Steve Bridges (retired ODF forest officer) and Don Boucher (US Forest Service, Environmental Planner) toured a portion of the fire area to look at the fire severity and reconstruct fire behavior in relation to the fuels reduction work completed between 2006 and 2009. Both Steve and Chris coordinated fuels reduction within the fire area prior to the fire.

Starting at the Coyle residence at 2003 Tolman Creek Road, the group covered primarily the eastern 2/3 of the fire area out to the TID ditch, returning to the primary driveway (Diehl Road) between 2003 and 1999 Tolman Creek Road. Later, Chris Chambers alone covered the western portion of the fire except for the lower finger extending down toward Siskiyou Blvd, which was covered on November 6<sup>th</sup>. A fire severity map was created and field checked for accuracy.

*Mapping Methods*

Detailed maps of the area, including the GIS perimeters of fuels reduction project areas (mapped in 2006-2008), were created for the field visits. Burn severity was mapped according to a table taken from an article by Jon E. Keeley (International Journal of Wildland Fire, 2009) and shown below in Table 1.

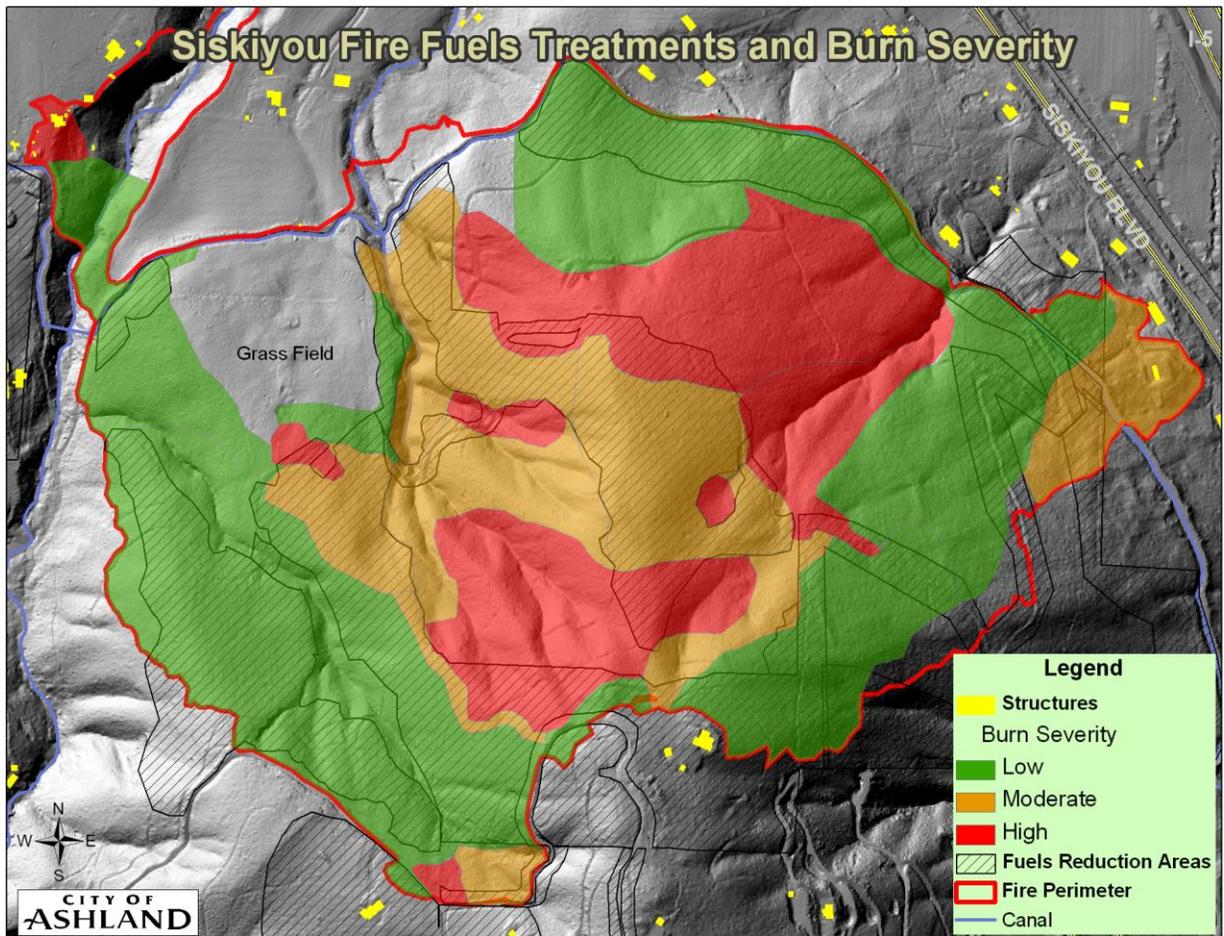
**Table 1. The matrix originally proposed by Ryan and Noste (1985) that related changes in aboveground vegetation and soil organic matter to fire severity has generally been simplified to a table such as that below; modified from Ryan (2002) and Turner *et al.* (1994)**

Fire severity	Description
Unburned	Plant parts green and unaltered, no direct effect from heat
Scorched	Unburned but plants exhibit leaf loss from radiated heat
Light	Canopy trees with green needles although stems scorched Surface litter, mosses, and herbs charred or consumed Soil organic layer largely intact and charring limited to a few mm depth
Moderate or severe surface burn	Trees with some canopy cover killed, but needles not consumed All understorey plants charred or consumed Fine dead twigs on soil surface consumed and logs charred Pre-fire soil organic layer largely consumed
Deep burning or crown fire	Canopy trees killed and needles consumed Surface litter of all sizes and soil organic layer largely consumed White ash deposition and charred organic matter to several cm depth



Burn severity was assigned a value ranging from 1-5 with 1 being Unburned and 5 being Crown Fire using the descriptions in Table 1. The majority of the fire area was field mapped using this approach to get a roughly accurate assessment of how fire severity and suppression effectiveness was affected by the fuels reduction work. Field maps were digitized into a GIS database in order to see the relationship between fire severity, fire boundaries, topography, and locations of the fuels reduction projects (see Map 1). Although there are hard and fast divisions on the map between severity classes, that may or may not be the case on the ground. There is some gradation between burn severities and even small patches of one severity within a larger area of another severity. There were no percentages or acres derived from this mapping and the overall interpretation is not tied to a literal interpretation of these boundaries. Some of the photos in the fire area were taken at photo points established by Chris Chambers prior to the commencement of fuels reduction work and after completion of work in March of 2007. See “Photo Point Gallery” at the end of this report. Lastly, a U.S. Forest Service “Fuels Treatment Evaluation Checklist” was used to assess the success of fuels reduction work in relation to suppression, safety, and incident management. The checklist is included as Attachment A.

**Map 1. Siskiyou Fire Severity with Fuel Treatments**



## **Conclusions**

### *Fire Severity Mapping*

Throughout the fire area, fuels reduction work altered the fire behavior and post-fire ecological effects, and significantly aided in the protection of structures and successfully containing the fire east of Tolman Creek Road. Due to the differing vegetation communities in the area, it was challenging to map fire severity represented by vegetation effects. For example, crown scorch without needle/leaf consumption was common but represents a vastly different heat output (severity) in white oak woodland than in a mature mixed conifer stand, not to mention differing ecosystem effects. White oak canopy tops are 15 to 25 feet from the ground while the conifer canopies ranged from 20 to 100 feet and greater from the ground, so it takes a lot more heat in mixed conifer to cause the same scorching and drying through the canopy as in an oak woodland setting. It may also be possible that different species are less or more susceptible to heat damage. As a result, the oak woodland with browned leaves received a lower severity rating (3) than the mixed conifer stand (4) with the same effects. Bole scorch heights were a more reliable aid in determining severity. In the end, this mapping deviated from a strict interpretation of the descriptors and assigned values in Table 1 in order to more accurately reflect the actual fire severity regardless of vegetation type.

### *Fuels Treatment Effects on Fire Behavior*

There were several areas of crown fire (See Map 2) that spread directly into fuels treatment zones. In all cases except one, the fuels treatment areas caused the crown fire to become an intense ground fire, and particularly on the western and southern flanks, the crown fire became a low severity underburn. One particularly narrow fuels reduction zone (85-350 feet wide) did burn as an intense crown fire, likely due to the narrow width and proximity to a core area of untreated fuels on steep slopes where significant crown fire originated and advanced into this narrow lateral ridge treatment zone (Photo 1). Just down the same ridge where this fuels treatment zone expanded in width, the crown fire did penetrate, but dropped to the ground across the width of the treatment zone, resulting in a severe ground fire with bole scorching up to 40 to 50 feet, but not crown consumption. Most of the areas mapped as category 4 or severe surface burns, showed no green foliage left on trees, but with brown foliage still largely intact. Bole scorch was often 30 or more feet from the base of the tree (Photo 2). Areas mapped as category 3, or light severity, had large portions of the crowns still intact with green foliage. These areas tended to be where the fire was backing or flanking, the slope was less steep, wind wasn't direct or continuous, suppression was effective, and/or where fuels reduction work had been completed. It would be difficult to know which of these factors most significantly influenced fire behavior and likely they were working in concert. *However, where fuels reduction areas were directly adjacent to high intensity flames in otherwise similar topography, timing, and vegetation, the change in severity was pronounced.*





Photo 1. Crown fire burned through narrow fuels treatment zone in foreground, but not downslope where treatment was wider and continuous



Photo 2. Looking into Class 4 severity area where canopy is dried and likely dead, but not consumed.



## *Ecological Effects*

Fuels treatments are often thought of as a means to stop a fire, yet the intended or unintended effects on the pre and post fire ecosystem can be beneficial. Work done on one property (38.5 acre project area) under the City of Ashland grant intentionally involved ecological restoration objectives for forest health as well as wildfire suppression. Although post fire ecosystem benefits were not outlined as a goal during fuels reduction planning, the resulting landscape shows specific examples of positive ecological outcomes in treated and burned areas as well as negative ecological outcomes in non-treated areas. In mixed conifer stands that were thinned and then burned at moderate intensity (needles intact but brown--class 4), there is a chance that enough conifer trees may survive to contribute seeds to adjacent severely burned areas. Perhaps most notable in these areas is the post fire needle fall that is creating "effective ground cover", which quells erosion and contributes to the organic component of soil that was largely burned off (see photos below, taken at the same time). Conversely, in Class 5 severity areas, there is little to no contribution of leaves or needles, leaving soils subject to rainfall impact and setting back long term soil recovery.



*Fallen needles in class 4 severity*



Adjacent bare soil in class 5 severity



An unfortunate result in Class 4 settings is the expected mortality of the vast majority, if not all, of the maturing conifers. Despite the lack of ladder fuels and crown fire, nearly all the crown foliage was desiccated, making survival of individual trees unlikely—except for basal sprouting of hardwoods. Had the fire not occurred during late season (low live fuel moisture) and red flag conditions (humidity 5-10 percent), the effects may not have been as severe in class 4 severity stands where thinning was completed. See conclusion for more on fuels treatment design.

Where the fire was less severe (class 3 severity), trees survived in significant numbers and the soil duff and litter were largely intact (photo below).

Assuming that this low elevation site (ranges from 2260 feet to 2950 feet) would have historically been adapted to frequent and low intensity fire, the high severity areas could be seen as a departure from the historical fire regime. The loss of mid-seral ponderosa pine dominated stands in particular, suggests that the progression toward an open forest type more characteristic of historic conditions was interrupted by an infrequent, high intensity fire which will set back the clock to early seral vegetation dominated by brush and hardwoods for many years to come.

*Charred, but largely intact organic*



Without management intervention, brush and hardwood dominated stands will develop to an elevated level of high intensity fire potential for decades to come, creating the conditions for a high intensity re-burn. This type of vegetation development is readily apparent in the area burned by the 1959 Ashland Watershed fire and the 1973 Hillview fire. In high intensity portions in the older burned areas, the re-establishment of an open, mixed conifer forest and low intensity fire regime has been difficult or impossible and certainly cost and labor intensive. The older burned areas continue to be some of the most hazardous areas in the Ashland

interface zone, and the 1959 fire area in particular. The replacement of open forest conditions by early seral species and structure is very undesirable for protecting homes and adjacent values, soil conservation, land value, and perhaps carbon storage.

#### *Implications for Fuels Reduction Planning*

Fuels and forest managers often plan fuels reduction projects to be effective during all but the worst fire weather conditions. While this is wise, it does leave the door open for severe effects (to homes, infrastructure, and ecosystem) when a fire burns during severe weather conditions. Yet, most fires—and especially wind driven fires, are not uniformly severe even under severe conditions. The Siskiyou Fire experience confirms that a fire can be controlled under severe conditions, pointing to the importance of strategic treatments in a variety of landscape and vegetation conditions in a project area or area of concern. Differences in topography, vegetation communities, and suppression access will produce different fire severity outcomes. A variety of settings create opportunities where all fire behavior



elements (fuels, topography, weather) are not in alignment. Although reserve (untreated) areas were left on steep slopes and densely crowded stands where fire was likely to be severe, the geographic locations of reserves minimized exposure to homes and were surrounded by treatment areas that ultimately aided in the fire's control. Smaller (1/4 acre or less) untreated areas were left for habitat diversity and economic reasons, and in all cases, these patches burned at high intensity. The patches included white-leaf manzanita clumps, and dense reproduction of incense cedar. Again, placement of leave patches should be taken seriously with the assumption that they can burn at high intensity and affect anything adjacent.

Ashland Fire & Rescue has maintained a Tactical Opportunities Fire Suppression Map since 2004, which outlines all fuels reduction work in strategic or tactical landscape locations. This map was valuable during Siskiyou Fire operations and allowed for suppression planning, contingency planning on the west side of Tolman Creek Road, as well as a quickly accessible, pre-printed, large format map for basic operations such as structure locations, transportation routes, and water sources.

### **Photo Point Gallery**

High Intensity Pre-Treatment, Post-Treatment, and Post-Fire





Low Intensity-- Post Fuels Reduction and Post Fire



Mixed Moderate/High Intensity—Pre Treatment, Post-Treatment, and Post Fire





**Appendix Attachment A: U.S. Forest Service Fuels Treatment Evaluation Checklist**

**Fuels Treatment Evaluation Checklist**

Fire Name: Siskiyou  
Fire Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fire Date: 1/21/09

**Treatment**

- 1. Did the fire burn in, or immediately adjacent to a hazardous fuels treatment area?  Yes  No
- 2. Age of the treatment:  0-1 Year  1-5 Years  5-10 years  more than 10 years
- 3. The type of treatment that effected this fire (check all that apply):
  - Pre-commercial thinning
  - Commercial harvest
  - Mastication without follow-up treatment
  - Fuelbreak
  - Disking
  - Prescribed fire
  - Commercial thinning
  - Biomass removal
  - Mastication with follow-up treatment
  - Defensible Fuel Profile Zone
  - Understory burning
  - Hand piling

**Suppression**

- 4. The treatment (check all that apply):
  - Provided an anchor point for suppression
  - Reduced surface fire intensity
  - Served a part of the final control line
  - Reduced spotting or firebrand production
  - Increased fireline production rates
  - Slowed rates of spread
  - Allowed for firing operations
  - Improved ingress or egress into the fire area
- 5. The treatment improved the effectiveness of air operations: (check all that apply):
  - Fixed wing
  - Improved canopy penetration
  - Rotor wing
  - Reduced required coverage levels
- 6. The treatment protected private property or government improvements:  
 Yes  No
- 7. If yes to #6, how many structures:  
 Less than 5  5 to 25  26 to 100  more than 100

**Safety**

- 8. The treatment area allowed for direct attack on the fire:  
 Yes  No
- 9. The treatment served as either an escape route or safety zone:  
 Yes  No
- 10. The treatment provided protection to public improvements (check all that apply):
  - Roads
  - Powerlines
  - Schools
  - Other utility infrastructure
  - Structures
  - Other



**Incident Management**

- 11. The effects of the fuels treatment reduced the final fire size:  
 Yes     No
  
- 12. Incident management level of this fire:  
 Type 4     Type 3     Type 2     Type 1
  
- 13. Expected incident management level of the fire had the treatment not been in place:  
 Type 4     Type 3     Type 2     Type 1
  
- 14. The effects of the treatment on the fire reduced the duration of the incident: -  
 Yes     No
  
- 15. The expenditure of <sup>State/FEMA</sup> WFSU funds decreased as a direct result of the treatment:  
 Yes     No

COMPLETE THE *BURN SEVERITY MATRIX* FOR TREATED AND UNTREATED BURN AREAS OF THE FIRE.

*Sample Size: The sample is not intended to be statistically significant.*

*For fires over 5 acres complete 10 transects of 45 meters for both treated and untreated burn areas.  
For fires less than 5 acres, complete 5 transects of 45 meters for both treated and untreated burn areas.*

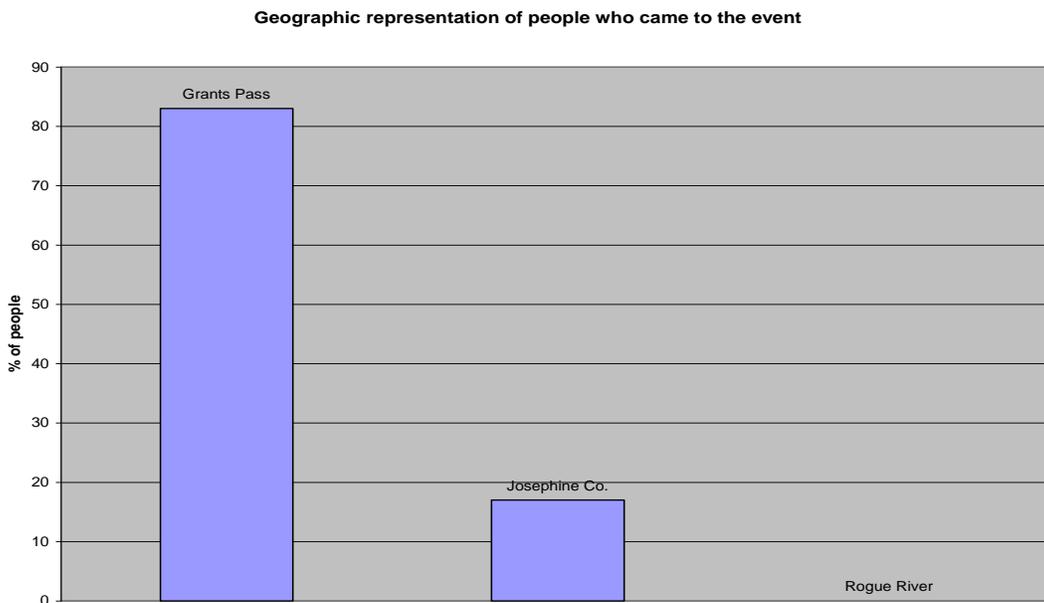


## Appendix D - Woody Vegetation Disposal Day

### Josephine County

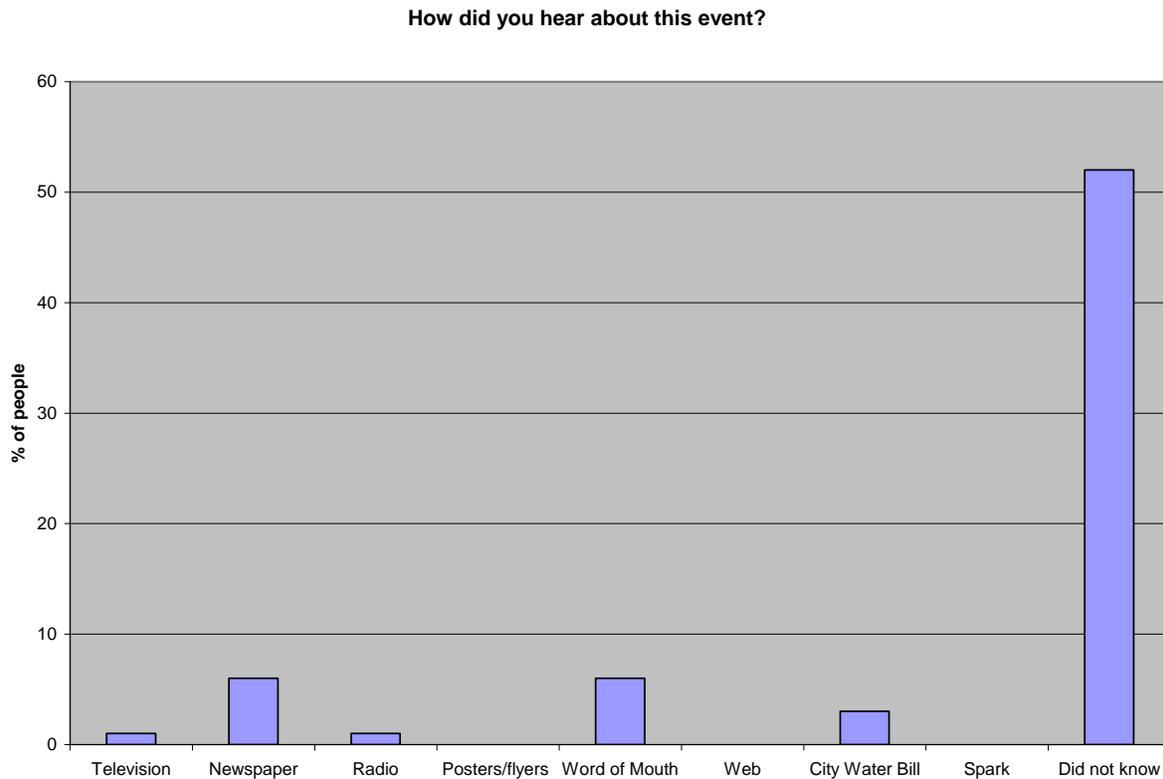
The fifth annual Woody Vegetation Disposal Day took place in Josephine County on May 9, 2009. The event gave residents in Josephine County and the City of Grants Pass an opportunity to dispose of their woody vegetation for free at the Jo Gro Composting Center outside of Grants Pass. The original event was organized by partners involved with the Josephine County Integrated Fire Plan as a way to promote fire safety and community preparedness. This year's event was staffed by one employee from the City of Grants Pass. The Jo Gro facility collected a total of 91 cubic yards of debris from 69 customers during the 4 hour monitoring period. Due to staffing, a simplified questionnaire was utilized. Of the JO-GRO users, the majority of participants (83%) came from The City of Grants Pass. Table 1 illustrates a geographic representation of people who came to the event.

**Table 1. Residency Representation of Participants.**



The Education & Outreach Committee decided to change the advertising objectives for this year's event. Traditionally a series of print ads have run the week before and the week of the event. The Education and Outreach Committee this year utilized predominately Television PSA's to draw people to the event. This year the majority of users learned of the Woody Vegetation Disposal Day by word of mouth and print ads. Last year 34% of the participants responded to newspaper coverage. A smaller percentage reported hearing about the event from radio, television reports and some heard through word of mouth. Over half of the respondents (76%) were completely unaware that the event was happening as opposed to 44% last year. Table 2 shows how participants learned about the event.

**Table 2. Event Marketing.**



Despite it being a free drop-off day, an overwhelming majority (97%) of the responses to “Would you have brought your woody vegetation to JO-GRO if there were not a free-drop off day?” were affirmative. Over 69 area citizens disposed of 91 cubic yards of debris, contributing valuable efforts to clear potentially hazardous fuels. This year’s Woody Vegetation Disposal Day was a reduction in public attendance (65%) and cubic yards of debris collected. The event was advertised through flyers, newspaper articles, radio and television. However, the fact that many of the questionnaire respondents were not aware of the event suggests a need in the future for even more media outreach. The staff at Jo Grow have been exceptional partners over the years. At this year’s event there were several excellent suggestions on how Jo Grow staff believe event attendance can be improved. I believe coordination with Jo Grow should extend into the planning of the annual event. In conclusion, the statistics indicate the need to reach the non Jo Grow users to better assure environmentally friendly disposal and utilization of woody vegetation debris in Josephine County and the City of Grants Pass. Additionally there is a need to form a better coalition of interested parties and bring new ideas to the table.

Sincerely,  
Joseph Hyatt  
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