

**Wildfire Programs Advisory Council – Meeting**

Friday October 13, 2023

The complete Wildfire Programs Advisory Council can be viewed at the following website and serves as the official public meeting record: <https://www.oregon.gov/gov/policies/Pages/wildfire-programs-council.aspx>

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|  | **Welcome** | Chair Bennett |
| The Chair welcomed the members of the council. The council approved the agenda and the previous meeting’s summary. The chair briefly reviewed meeting etiquette. The Vice Chair took roll. |
|  | **Public Comment** | All |
| There were no requests for public comment. The chair reviewed the process for requesting and providing public comment to the council. |
|  | **Wildfire Programs Director – Update** | Doug Grafe |
| Director Grafe updated the council on presentations provided to the legislature during September legislative days. The director updated the council on the progress developing the Wildfire Hazard Map. He talked about the meetings held in various regions around the state and provided several observations stemming from those meetings including the value of the feedback from stakeholders, the honest criticism from land owners potentially impacted by the map, the value in having various agency representation in the meetings, and the opportunities to clarify the purpose of the map. The Director stated that the council’s January meeting would provide a valuable check-in on the map development and implementation process. The director reviewed the Office of State Fire Marshal’s biannual report including the investments over the biennium and the strategic plan. The director updated the council on the Oregon Conservation Corps. Finally, the director gave the council an update on the status of the 2023 wildfire season. |
|  | **Wildfire Programs Advisory Council – Discussion** | All |
| Council member John O’Keeffe updated the council on the National Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission. He stated that the report is available ([link](https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/wfmmc-final-report-09-2023.pdf)). Member O’Keeffe stated that the committee was non-political and worked well together but that any attempt to turn the council’s recommendations into legislation would face challenges navigating congress. Member O’Keeffe gave the WPAC a summary of the themes and concepts that guided the national council’s discussions.Chair Bennett asked Doctor Emily Jane Davis to summarize the non-substantive changes to the to the council’s annual report ([link](https://www.oregon.gov/gov/Documents/WPAC%20Report_2023%20-%20October%20Report%20Final.pdf)). The council discussed and refined the language in the summarized changes. The council then approved the report for distribution.Finally, the council voted on new leadership for the council in 2024. Members Dave Hunnicutt and Mary Kyle McCurdy were unanimously selected as council chair and Vice-chair respectively. |
|  | **Wrap Up** | Chair Bennett |

Chair Bennett thanked the council for it’s work and adjourned the meeting.