

From: [Jerry BOYD](#)
To: [NEELY Tabitha * GOV](#)
Subject: Input-Rules Adoption
Date: Friday, July 12, 2024 4:57:40 AM

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This input is submitted by Jerry Boyd, 6033 SE Riordan Rd Prineville OR 97754 541 519 8309 exlasd@msn.com

My input is that of a homeowner whose property was labeled high risk at the time the initial, very faulty map was created several years ago.

For background I spent 50+ years as a public safety professional. That included time as Chief of a rural fire department in Shasta County, CA. Our response area was in the urban/rural interface and wildland fires were and still are common.

Based on my experience my 5 acre property includes more than the recommended "defensible space" and incorporates every recommended measure (and more) to mitigate the impact of a wildfire. Yet I am concerned that in spite of my efforts to make my property fire safe the "rules" may well lead to a future inability to obtain homeowner's insurance at an affordable rate due to how this property will be classified under whatever "rules" are adopted.

Why would that be the case? Because my property is bordered by land "managed" (actually not managed at all) by the federal Bureau of Land Management. And, close by, are similarly unmanaged lands owned by the State of Oregon. Both state and federal lands have been and I believe will continue to be exempt from whatever "rules" are adopted. I can implement every accepted defensible space recommendation proven to be effective and it will not benefit me given the overgrown, unmanaged state and federal properties adjacent to me.

I doubt the State of Oregon can force federal land managers such as the BLM and USFS to maintain their (ours actually) land to minimize the risk of fire but you should at least try to. Their inaction will negatively impact tens of thousands of Oregonians who at a great investment of time and money have done their part to reduce the risk of fire.

From: [Karen Shrader](#)
To: [NEELY Tabitha * GOV](#)
Subject: Wildfire Program Advisory Committee on July 12
Date: Thursday, July 11, 2024 7:35:49 PM

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Wildfire Program Advisory Committee;

Regulations on private property is the responsibility of owners, counties and cities. It should not be handed to the universities or state colleges for mapping or to government agencies to make the regulations against our private property rights.

90% of areas burned are on Federal and State lands. There are no restrictions or regulations for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) or the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to protect against wildfires included in Senate Bill 80 or Senate Bill 762. The BLM and ODF need to manage the Federal and State forests. Private property near the State and Federal forests will be rated as High Risk even if the private property is well-maintained.

Return the responsibility to the counties and cities. The county and city agencies know the properties and owners to contact if there is a problem. Salem agencies do not know the residents and properties within the counties and cities. The Oregon State universities and colleges should not have been given the responsibility of mapping the private property in Oregon. These are professors and students not property owners that have paid for and have the responsibility for their private property.

Our private property rights need to be protected not assaulted by elected or appointed committees.

Submitted by:
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From: [Jean Hart](#)
To: [NEELY Tabitha * GOV](#)
Subject: Wildfire Public Comment
Date: Thursday, July 11, 2024 7:16:17 PM
Attachments: [Wildfire Programs Advisory Council testimony 7-11-24.docx](#)

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Members of the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council,

I have lived in Oregon long enough to remember when forest fires were rarer and were put out quickly and with very little property damage. We can all agree that much of the devastation takes place on very mismanaged federal lands, the so-called public lands, which are no longer public. I am aging myself by saying “back in the day,” but I want to remind you of management that led to how it was - back in the day - and how it is now. Back in the day, we got inexpensive firewood permits allowing us to take the kids out into the forest and cut madrone or oak trees for firewood, naturally thinning out the forest and getting outstanding family time and exercise in the process. Then it got harder and harder to get permits, and we had to start buying our wood. Then the gates started going up, to keep the “public” out of the “public lands.” Then the roads onto the “public lands” got bulldozed and destroyed to keep the “public” out. That was very shortsighted by whomever made that decision because then not only could the “public” not go into the forests, but neither could the firefighters! So now, we have tons of manzanita, madrone, and oak trees aging and providing tons of hot fuels for the forests, and no way to quickly get to fires to put them out, whether they are human or lightning caused. My recollection is that back in the day, most of the forest fires were lightning caused – not by humans. So now instead of actually MANAGING our public forests to keep them healthy (as I believe we were charged with doing by the Creator Himself), we are allowing them to follow the Second Law of Thermodynamics and the Theory of Entropy and proceed towards maximum disorder.

In Southern Oregon, those of us living in the rural areas impacted by this Wildfire Hazard Map, are hugely impacted by those surrounding federal so-called “public lands,” over which we have NO CONTROL. No matter if everyone within thousands of feet of us on our road had perfectly maintained properties, we would still be classified as EXTREME by your mapping BECAUSE OF THE FEDERAL MISMANAGEMENT of surrounding and touching lands! It seems totally unfair to me to be forced to deal with all this stress over wildfire hazards when you are not going after the main source of the problem! I will back down after you do THAT. I and many others are angered by the state governmental control being wrongly pushed on us, and being forced to bear the total costs of wildfire management when we feel our tax dollars are being spent in punitive rather than encouraging ways.

I recently read some Shady Cove History from back in the 1930s to 1950s. Some of the stories were about how they had kept lightning started fires out in the Butte Falls, Eagle Point, and

Prospect areas, down to 75 acres in some cases, and put them completely out within a couple of days, WITHOUT benefit of all the high-powered equipment we have today. Come on, guys. There are other ways to do this without forcing us all to eventually move to cities because our properties are worthless and we can't get fire insurance. Let's MANAGE the forests!