Oregon Department of Forestry

Lane Preparedness Coalition

Link Smith District Forester ODF - Veneta

Chet Behling Protection Unit Forester ODF - Veneta

May, 8th 2019

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

Western Lane County Fire Patrol Association

DIRECTORS

ANDREW PORTER D. M. STUART L. E. BEAN OFFICES 719 YEON BUILDING PORTLAND, OREGON

A. W. REES H. D. LANGILLE

TERRITORY.

In general the boundaries of the Western Lane County Fire Patrol Association embrace the area lying between the Eastern boundary of the Siusiaw National Forest and the open agricultural land in the central part of the county. Areas of privately cented land inside the boundaries of the Siusiaw Forest are patrolled by the Association as well as a small area in Benton County adjacent to the Lane County line and a similar area in Douglas County tributary to the Siusiaw River.

Within this area 150 individual owners or companies are members of the Association and represent 106,992.88 acres of timber land. This above a gain over last season of 53,092.88 acres and 136 members.

Protection Force—The protection force in the county the past season consisted of a head warden paid jointly by the State and Association, and seven patrolmen. The territory was divided into seven districts and a warden placed in charge of each. Mr. C. V. Oglesby, a woodsman of wide experience, was placed in charge of the field work of the Association and performed most excellent services.

The total area patrolled by the Association is approximately 500,000 acres or 71,000 acres to each patrolman.

No considerable acreage in the territory, which can be assessed, is failing to contribute for protection work.

The force of patrolmen is probably sufficient during favorable years but an unusually dry sesson would require more men.

Of the wardens patrolling the territory, four were paid by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company the entire season. The Association paid all other wardens up to July 15th after which two of them were paid from the Week's Law fund allotted the State. The bead warden was paid \$100.00 per month by the State and the balance of his salary and expenses by the Association.

Fires No fires occurred in the county throughout the summer, except those caused from slash burning under permit.

Improvement Work—An old telephone line from Swiss Home to Deadwood, a distance of six miles was rebuilt by the wardens at small cost to the Association, and added materially to the telephone service.

One new trail four miles long was constructed in Tp. 18 S. R. 9 W. and another of equal length was built in Tps. 18 S S W and 19 S 7 W. Old trail aggregating about ten miles in length was opened up and rebuilt.

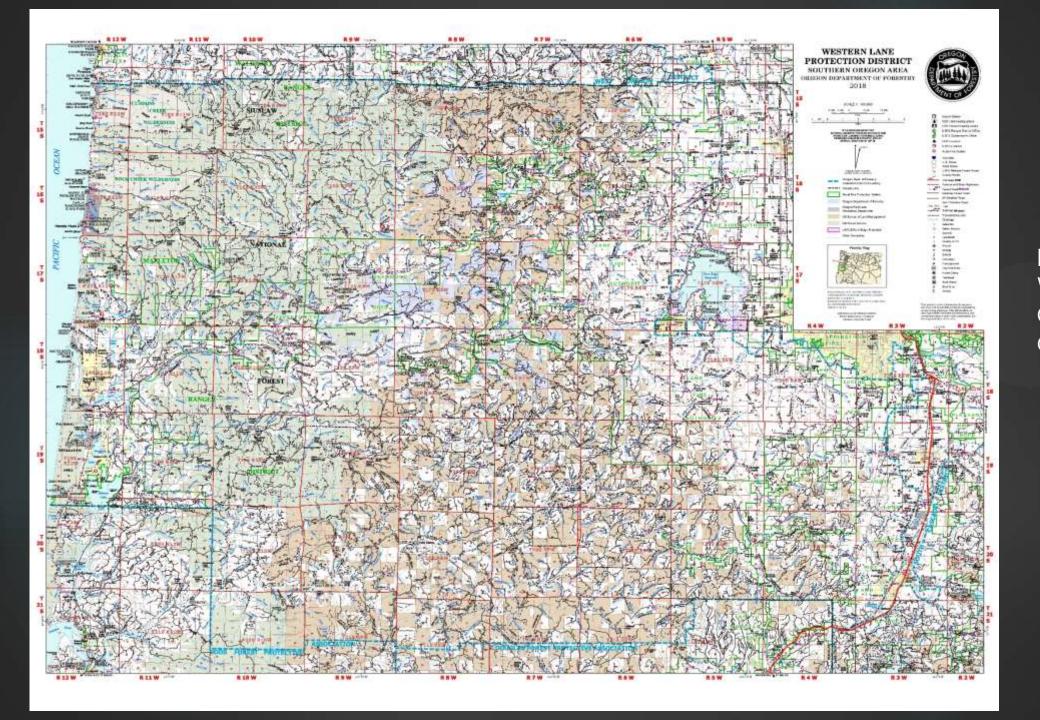
The Association also has on hand a limited supply of tools but not a sufficient quantity for use should it be necessary
to fight fires.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS.

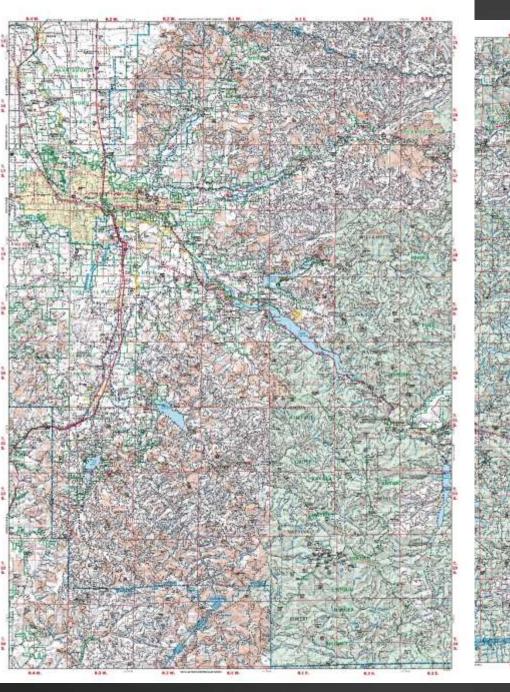
The cost of patrol in Western Lane County has been very light the past two seasons, due to maintaining a small force and since practically no expenditure has been made for improvement work other than the wages of patrolmen. The cost can still continue to be light, but at an early date a few miles of trail should be built and considerable milesof delephone lines constructed. A lookout should be maintained another season on Prairie Mountain, a peak having an elevation of 3,700 feet, and situated on the line between Lane and Benton Counties. From this point the entire district being patrolled can be seen and any fire quickly located.

By building a telephone line and repairing and rebuilding an old trail for a distance of seven miles, a warden on Prairie Mountain could be in constant communication with the head warden.

To enable prompt reporting of fires and securing of assistance, a telephone line should also be built from Glentens to Mound, a distance of some 20 miles. Started as fire Protection Association then became Oregon Dept. of Forestry

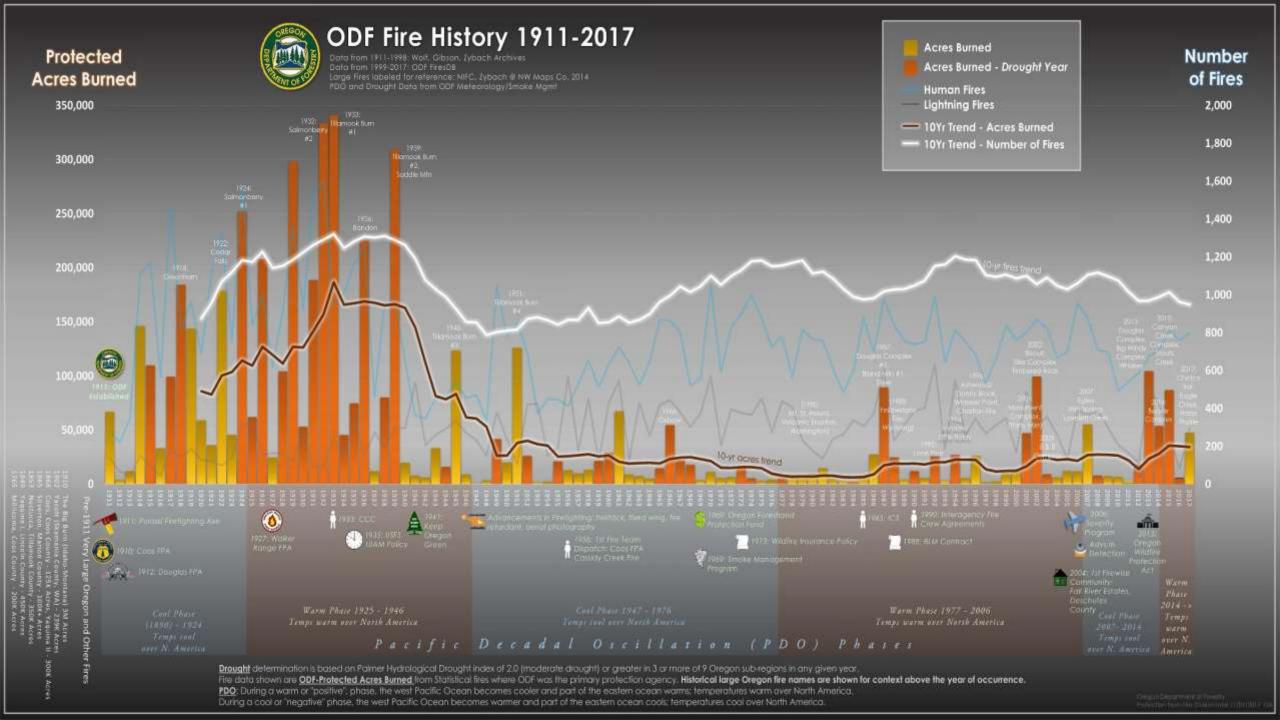


Fire Protection West Lane County – Veneta Office





Fire Protection East Lane County – Springfield Office



Fires - West Lane County

- ▶ 1966 Oxbow Fire (43,000 acres)
- ▶ 1999 Austa Fire (1,097 acres)
- ➤ 2014 Yellow Point Fire (790 acres)
- 2015 Chambers Mill Fire (133 acres)
- ▶ 2016 High Pass (191 acres)







2016 High Pass 12.5 Fire 191 Acres



Western Lane Resources and Initial

Attack











Extended Attack/Project Fires





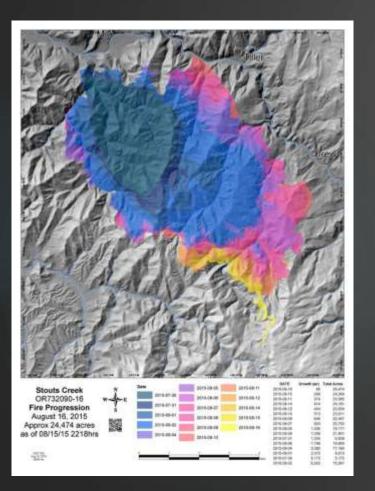








Project Fires











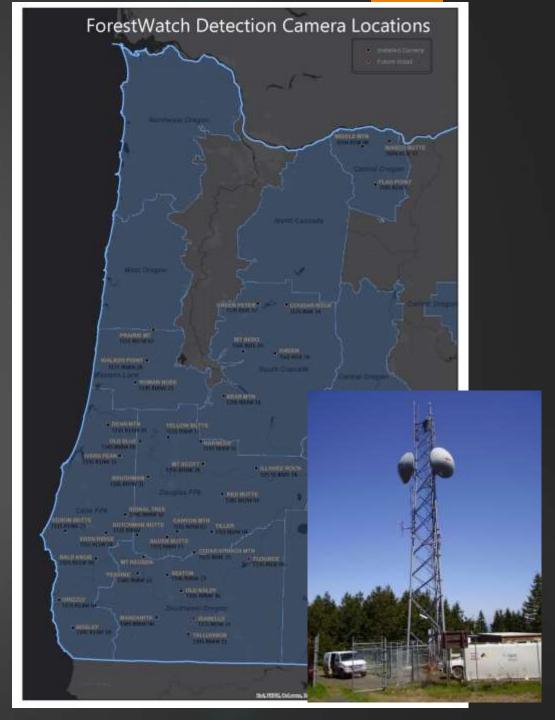
Smoke & Lightning Detection







*trail cams

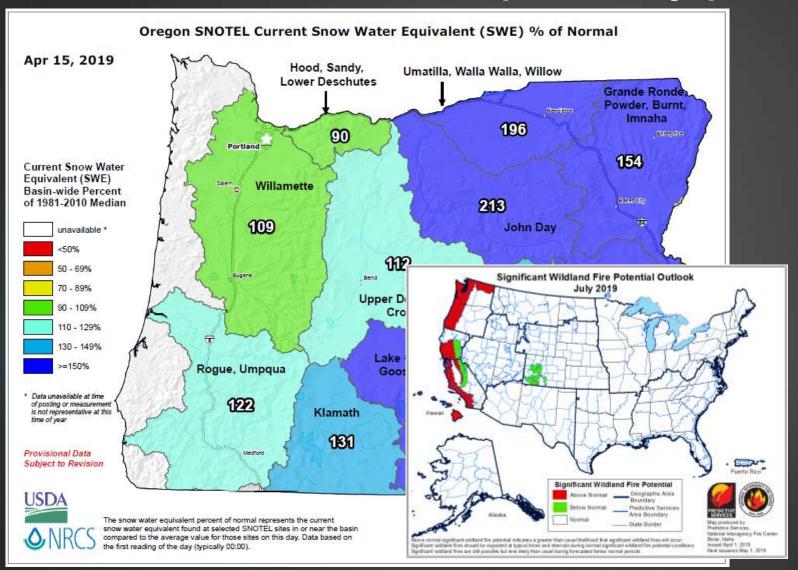


ODF's Complete and Coordinated Fire Suppression System

Partnerships with other agencies, States, Countries

Reciprocal assistance: city fire depts., RFPD's, rangeland protection associations, federal wildfire agencies, contractors, forest landowners, forest operators.

Fire Season 2019 Outlook Snow Water Equivalent (April 2019)



- *Snowpack
- *Early snow melt
- *Rainfall
- *Wild Card: dry lightning & Human Caused Fire
- *"Normal to above normal fire season. Less severe than 2018."

Creating a more fire-safe home & property.

- Make your house/property a defensible area.
- Reduce fuel loading by reducing brush, thinning trees etc. especially close to structures.
- Remove anything receptive around or on structures.
- Reduce brush along driveway.
- Call ODF for more specifics. Onsite visit possibly.
 Grant program to reduce fuels for homeowners.





End

Veneta Office: (541) 935-2283

Link Smith
District Forester
ODF - Veneta

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