



# NEWS

March 11, 2008

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY  
SOUTHWEST OREGON DISTRICT  
5286 Table Rock RD  
Central Point, OR 97502

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
JOSEPHINE COUNTY NEWS MEDIA

**Contact:** Brian Ballou, fire prevention specialist, (541) 621-4156

## **HEARINGS SCHEDULED FOR COMMENT ON FORESTLAND-URBAN INTERFACE CLASSIFICATIONS FOR JOSEPHINE COUNTY**

The Josephine County Forestland-Urban Interface Classification Committee has completed its proposed maps of residential areas located in parts of the county where potentially destructive wildfires could occur, and has scheduled two hearings to present its findings. The committee has followed land identification and fire-risk classification rules described in the Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act, commonly referred to as SB 360.

The hearing dates and locations are:

Tuesday, March 18, 6:30 p.m., at Fleming Middle School, 6001 Monument Drive  
Wednesday, March 19, 6:30 p.m., at the Josephine County Fairgrounds, Floral Building

Draft maps and a list of lots affected by the committee's findings are available for public review at the Oregon Dept. of Forestry, Grants Pass Unit, 5375 Monument Drive, Grants Pass, Oregon. The documents are also available on the World Wide Web at [www.swofire.oregon.gov](http://www.swofire.oregon.gov).

The hearing is an affected landowner's opportunity to comment on the committee's decisions about lands included in forestland-urban interface areas, and on the fire-risk classifications the committee assigned to those areas. However, landowners are not required to attend the hearing or to provide comment. Attendance is optional. Landowners who would like to attend a hearing and provide comment need only attend one of them.

After the hearings, the committee will review comment it receives and finalize its maps and findings, which will be filed with the Josephine County Clerk and the Oregon Board of Forestry. Property owners will then be mailed information by the Oregon Department of Forestry about how to protect homes against damage from wildfires.

Written comments may be submitted in lieu of oral comment. To ensure that written comment is received prior to the hearings, letters must be delivered to the address below by 4:30 p.m. on March 18:

JoCCC  
c/o Oregon Dept. of Forestry  
5375 Monument Dr.  
Grants Pass, OR 97526

To ensure the broadest range of services to individuals with disabilities, persons requiring special arrangements should contact the Oregon Department of Forestry's Southwest District Office at 541-664-3328 at least two working days in advance.

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