

Summary of Fuels Treatment Effectiveness in the Rosland Road Fire Response



Central Oregon Fire Management Service July 21, 2020

Following is a summary of the interactions between recent fuels treatments and the Rosland Road fire. Fuels Treatment Effectiveness Monitoring (FTEM) is in progress, when monitoring is complete additional details will be available in the FTEM database.

Fire Name: Rosland Road, DEF-0429, 393 acres, reported on 7/18/2020 at 1402 PDT

Location: Deschutes National Forest, Bend-Ft. Rock Ranger District, four miles NE of La Pine, Oregon

Values at Risk: 150+ primary residences in the Newberry Estates subdivision, ¼ mile northwest of the fire; dispersed campsites throughout the fire area; Ogden Group Site and Campground, 1.5 miles north of the fire; high voltage power lines running north-south along the western edge of the fire; Highway 97, 2 miles to the west; City of La Pine and numerous subdivisions, 2-3 miles to the west

Fire Narrative: The Rosland Road Fire was reported around 2 pm on July 18th. North winds and low relative humidities drove intense burning, 800'+ spotting distances and rapid fire growth. The fire received both air and ground resources throughout the afternoon and forward progression was stopped by nightfall. A Level 1 evacuation order "Get Ready" for the nearby Newberry Estates subdivision was put in place by the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office. A type 3 incident management team took control of the fire at 0600 on July 19th. By 10am on July 19th, the evacuation level was dropped. As of 7/21/20 fire is 90% contained.

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Interaction with Fuels Treatments: Forward progress was stopped by resources when the fire ran into fuels treatment units that were prescribed burned under the Odin burn plan in early May 2019. In addition to significantly decreasing fire behavior at the head of the fire, recently treated areas aided in the suppression of spot fires in front of the main fire. Suppression efforts on the east flank of the fire were also helped by recent tree thinning, brush mastication and prescribed fire. The fuels treatment units are part of the 2016-2018 Greater La Pine Basin Joint Chiefs' landscape and most of the mechanical thinning, piling and mastication work that preceded prescribed fire was completed with Joint Chiefs' funded contracts. The Odin prescribed burning was planned under the 2012 Ogden Vegetation Management EIS. Fuels reduction work within the Ogden project area is ongoing with future mastication and prescribed burning planned as funding and burn windows allow.

This was the third fire in two weeks in the La Pine WUI that required a strong initial attack response.

July 5th Paulina Lake Fire (48 acres) – Interacted with thin and pile units from the Ogden NEPA project. The Paulina Lake Fire transitioned from passive crown fire dominated behavior to surface fire behavior when it encountered treatments. FTEM report has been completed for this fire.

July 8th Finley Fire (50 acres) – Interacted with recently masticated units in the Upper Deschutes River WUI Fuels Reduction project. The mastication was completed through a contract in 2018 with funds from the Greater La Pine Basin Joint Chiefs project. FTEM report is underway.

Photos and Maps Below: Photos provided by Jeff Crawford, Bend-Ft. Rock RD Fuels AFMO/ TFLD on Rosland Road Fire and Kevin Stock, Newberry Division FMO; IAP Map and fire perimeter shapefiles provided by Kirk Metzger, retired Fuels AFMO, Sisters RD, GIS/Mapping Support on Rosland Road Fire, www.incidentsupport.com



Figure 2: High severity fire effects from center of fire area, typical fire effects for large portions of fire interior.

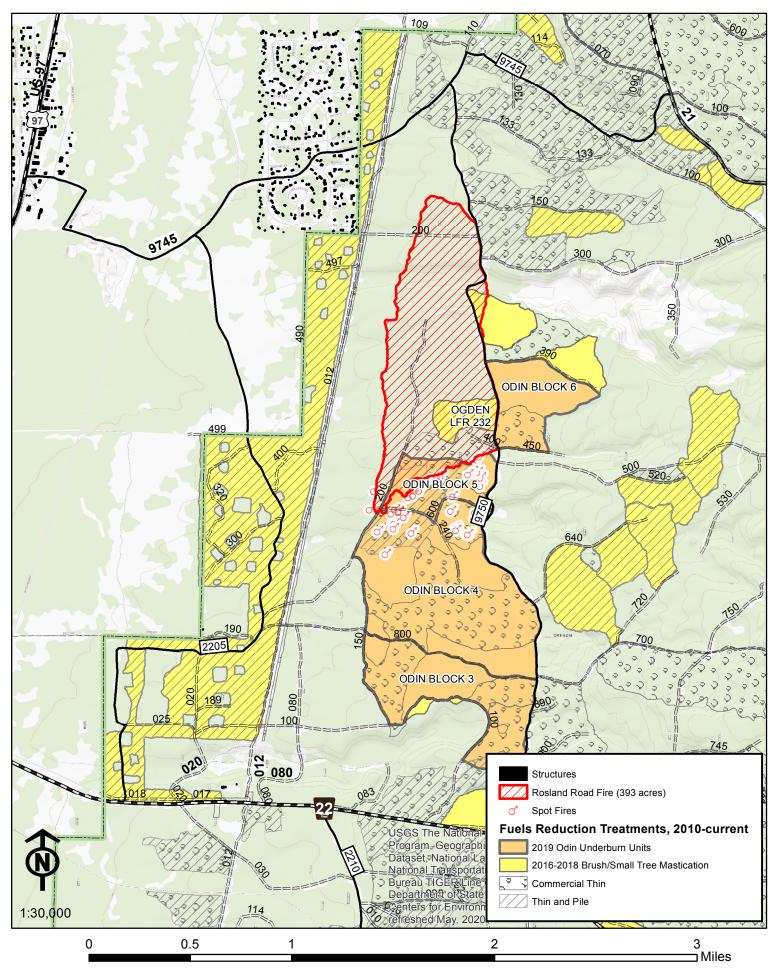


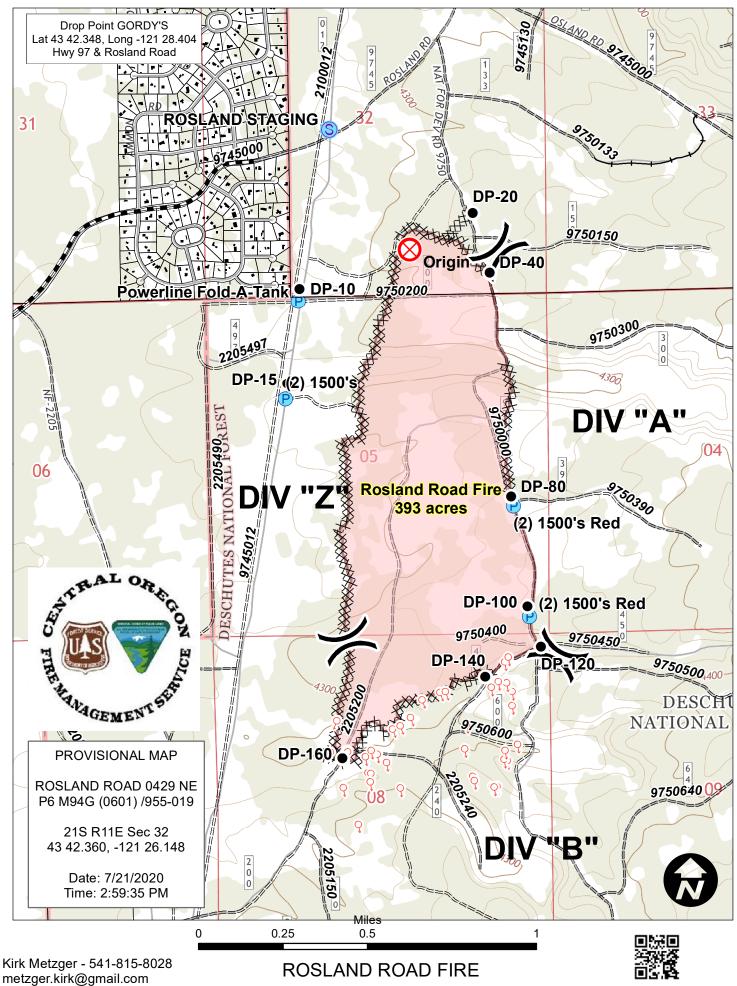
Figure 3: Fire effects in Odin 5 prescribed burn block along final control line. In areas, fire did not come together due to lack of fuels. There was spotting into the Odin 4 burn block to the south, but spots similarly did not carry and were lined the first night and next day.



Figure 4: Fire effects on Ogden Ladder Fuel Reduction Unit 232. Mechanical only, no prescribed fire. Fire resulted in significant scorch but will likely yield low mortality to residual stand. Fire behavior moderated significantly. Fire progression stopped in this unit along the SE edge of the fire

Rosland Road Fire and Recent Fuels Treatments





Date: 7/21/2020 Time: 2:59:35 PM

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