

2018

Wildfire Evacuation Plan

for the Mt. Vernon Community

For use by the Incident Commander in the event of a catastrophic wildland fire in and near the community of Mt. Vernon, Oregon.

Malheur National Forest
Oregon Department of Forestry
Bureau of Land Management
Grant County



MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY WILDFIRE EVACUATION PLAN

PURPOSE

This plan is intended to be used in the event that the [insert wildfire name] creates a need for notification and evacuation of the citizens in and adjacent to the incident.

INTENT

The Grant County Sheriff’s Office is legally charged with the responsibility of evacuation. In order for adequate planning and decision making to occur before the need, it is important that the Sheriff’s Department has advance notice and be included in the earliest possible discussions regarding evacuation needs.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

This plan will cover the Mount Vernon Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) areas generally described as (choose N, E, S or W) of the fire. Mount Vernon is accessed from US Highway 26 east and west, US Highway 395 from the north and County Road (CR) 48 from the south. The current population is 517. Most of the WUI area is covered by the Mount Vernon Rural Fire Protection District.

TRIGGER POINT

If the fire is deemed to threaten the identified tactical area(s), the Operations Section Chief will request activation of the appropriate evacuation level based on current and predicted fire behavior. Upon recommendation by the Operations Section Chief, the agency decision makers will convene and re-evaluate the threat using the following criteria:

- Fire crosses or approaches pre-identified lines
- Time of day (i.e. early morning vs. mid-afternoon)
- Weather (current and expected)
- Fuels and fire behavior
- Sustained run vs. spot fires
- Probability of success with available resources

Agency Decision Makers:

	Phone	Cell
Incident Commander	(xxx) xxx-xxxx	
Forest Supervisor, Malheur National Forest	(541) 575-3000	
Unit Forester, Oregon Department of Forestry	(541) 575-1139	
Grant County Sheriff	(541) 575-1131	
Grant County Judge	(541) 575-0059	
Grant County Fire Defense Board Chief	(541) 575-1855	
Mt. Vernon Fire Chief	(541) 932-4588	
Mt. Vernon City Mayor	(541) 932-4588	
American Red Cross	(888) 895-1099	(541) 382-2142 Voice Message

Grant County 24 Hour Dispatch (541) 575-0030

John Day Interagency Dispatch – USFS & ODF (541) 575-1321

ACTIVATION

The _____ Fire Incident is situated primarily within or adjacent to the Mount Vernon Wildland Urban Interface area, within the Oregon Department of Forestry Central Oregon District and Grant County Oregon. Extended areas of the WUI north and south are bordered by the Malheur National Forest. This community evacuation plan is activated by calling the affected agency representative.

Steps for activation:

1. The need for a possible evacuation will be identified by Operational Personnel.
2. The request for evacuation will be submitted or concurred by the Incident Commander or his designee.
3. Contact communications to place the request as needed.
4. The IC or designee will inform the agency representative of the current and the predicted situation.
 - Identify the affected area.
 - Ask that a liaison from the affected county report to the ICP.
 - Ask that the appropriate evacuation be implemented.
 - Ask for confirmation of shelter activation / location from Red Cross.
 - The IMT Information Officer will coordinate the development of a media release of evacuation / shelter decisions.

**** Evacuation Location will be determined by American Red Cross if activated.**

****Other Considerations: Oregon State Police will evaluate US and State Highways for closures at each juncture of evacuation and make that determination in conjunction with the Incident Safety Officer.**

EVACUATION COORDINATION

Coordination:

- Evacuations will be coordinated between the Incident Commander and the Sheriff’s representative.

Communications:

- For field coordination of evacuation communications
 1. Use ODF Red Net, RX 151.3400, TX 151.3400, TX Guard Tone 156.7
 2. For backup use Oregon Search and Rescue RX 155.8050, TX Guard Tone 156.7

Evacuation Process:

- Visual identification notification
 1. Green colored ribbon at driveway designates “**Occupied**” contact made
 2. White colored ribbon stretched across driveway designates “**Not Occupied**”
 3. Yellow colored ribbon indicates “**Danger Area – Do Not Cross**”

In the event of radio failure and/or lack of cell phone coverage use Grant County Fire radio:

Grant County Fire – Emergency Radio System

RX	TX	Tone Rx	TX	Name
154.44500	158.86500	107.2	162.2	Grant County Fire - Monument
154.44500	158.86500	107.2	85.4	Grant County Fire - Tamarack
154.44500	158.86500	107.2	131.8	Grant County Fire - Long Creek
154.44500	158.86500	107.2	107.2	Grant County Fire - Dixie
154.44500	158.86500	107.2	156.7	Grant County Fire - Aldrich
154.44500	158.86500	107.2	100.0	Grant County Fire - John Day
154.44500	158.86500	107.2	74.4	Grant County Fire - Snow Mountain

Notification Summary

Precautionary Notification

NOTIFICATION OF COOPERATING AGENCIES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS OF FIRE ACTIVITY OUTSIDE THE ESTABLISHED CONTROL OR CONTAINMENT LINES.

LEVEL 1

PERSONS ARE WARNED THAT CURRENT OR PROJECTED THREATS FROM HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE APPROACHING FIRE(S) ARE SEVERE.

THIS IS THE TIME FOR PREPARATION, AND PRECAUTIONARY MOVEMENT OF PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS, CELL PROPERTY, AND (UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES) PETS AND LIVESTOCK.

YOU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED AS CONDITIONS CHANGE. AREA RADIO STATIONS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO BROADCAST PERIODIC UPDATES.

IF CONDITIONS WORSEN, WE WILL MAKE EVERY ATTEMPT TO CONTACT YOU. IF YOU ARE ABSENT FROM YOUR HOME FOR MORE THAN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME, PLEASE LEAVE A NOTE WITH YOUR NAME AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE IN A VISIBLE LOCATION. AN ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO CONTACT YOU BY PHONE

LEVEL 2

CONDITIONS INDICATE A GOOD PROBABILITY THAT HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE APPROACHING FIRE(S) WILL SEVERELY LIMIT OUR ABILITY TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY SERVICE PROTECTION. DANGEROUS CONDITIONS EXIST THAT MAY THREATEN YOUR RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS.

YOU MUST PREPARE TO LEAVE AT A MOMENTS NOTICE.

FIRE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL ARE WORKING IN THIS AREA TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT WHEN TO LEAVE AND THE ROUTE(S) TO BE TAKEN.

THIS MAY BE THE ONLY NOTICE THAT YOU RECEIVE.

YOU WILL BE KEPT ADVISED AS CONDITIONS CHANGE. AREA RADIO STATIONS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO BROADCAST PERIODIC UPDATES.

LEVEL 3

CURRENT CONDITIONS PRESENT SPECIFIC AND IMMEDIATE THREAT(S) TO THE LIFE AND SAFETY OF PERSONS WITHIN THIS AREA

YOU ARE ADVISED TO EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY.

FIRE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL ARE WORKING IN THIS AREA TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON THE ROUTE(S) TO TAKE.

A TEMPORARY SHELTER HAS BEEN SET UP AT:

IF YOU CHOOSE TO IGNORE THIS ADVISEMENT, YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT EMERGENCY SERVICES MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE.

VOLUNTEERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE AREA TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.

ROADBLOCKS AND 24-HOUR PATROLS WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN THE AREA. RESIDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RETURN UNTIL CONDITIONS ARE SAFE.

AREA RADIO STATIONS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO BROADCAST PERIODIC UPDATES.

See individual evacuation notification handouts in Appendix A

TACTICAL AREA DESCRIPTIONS

US Highways 395 and 26 corridor areas:

Oregon State Police (541) 575-0536

Mount Vernon WUI

Grant County Sheriff (541) 575-0030 dispatch

County Road 45 – Moon Creek WUI

Grant County Sheriff (541) 575-0030 dispatch

County Road 46 – Happy Valley WUI

Grant County Sheriff (541) 575-0030 dispatch

County Road 48 & 49 – Laycock Creek WUI

Grant County Sheriff (541) 575-0030 dispatch

County Road 79 – Harper Creek WUI

Grant County Sheriff (541) 575-0030 dispatch

Wolfinger Butte/Lone Pine Basin area WUI

Grant County Sheriff (541) 575-0030 dispatch

Widows Creek WUI

Grant County Sheriff (541) 575-0030 dispatch

Cummings Creek Road WUI

Grant County Sheriff (541) 575-0030 dispatch

EVACUATION AREA RE-ENTRY

The Incident Management Team (IMT) will provide recommendations to the Sheriff's Office for private properties and the (enter agency name) for (agency abbreviation) property for lowering evacuation levels. The authority having jurisdiction is responsible for applying the change in evacuation level.

Considerations for safe re-entry:

- ✓ Public and firefighter safety
- ✓ Fire behavior / situation
- ✓ Fire traffic / activities
- ✓ Hazard tree mitigation
- ✓ Slope stabilization (rolling / falling debris)
- ✓ Utilities secured
- ✓ Visibility
- ✓ Minimizing economic consequences
- ✓ Community integrity

Citizens are advised that the advisory / evacuation level may change at a moments notice.

All re-entry requests shall be coordinated with the IMT Operations Section Chief before re-entry into evacuated areas will begin.

Grant County, Oregon

All requests for re-entry into the evacuated areas within Grant County shall go through the Grant County Sheriff. Persons entering the area shall provide identification and/or proof of ownership of the property in question. After approval, evacuees will be allowed re-entry based on the current situation.

Approved by:

Date:

Typed name of IC

Incident Commander, (add incident mgmt. team name)

Grant County Sheriff

EVACUATION PLANNING and RESOURCE GUIDE

Decision Making Authorities

County Sheriff, City PD
County/City Emergency Management
Local/County Fire Chief
Agency Administrator

Mapping Resources

ODF/Forest/District
City/County Planning, Assessor's Office
City/County Public Works
Internet Sources

Evacuation Routes/Traffic Control

City/County/State Law Enforcement
City/County Public Works
State DOT

Security and Re-Entry

City/County/State Law Enforcement
Utility Providers
Building Officials
Assessor's Officials
Victim Support

Operations

Identify Tactical Areas
Assess fire Behavior, Weather
Develop Evaluation Lines
Identify Ingress, Egress Routes

Notification

Local 911 (Emergency Phone Network)
Local Media Web Sites
Public Information Centers
Public Meetings

Shelters

City/County Emergency Management
American Red Cross
Humane Society/Animal Rescue

APPENDIX A

Use the following Emergency Notice attachments as follows:

Level 1 & 2– handout to affected residences, use as a Public Service Announcement on radio, a newspaper insert (if time allows) leave as flyers in area businesses and for posting throughout the affected area.

Level 3 – handout to affected residences and use radio immediately for a Public Service Announcement.

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