

# Senate Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

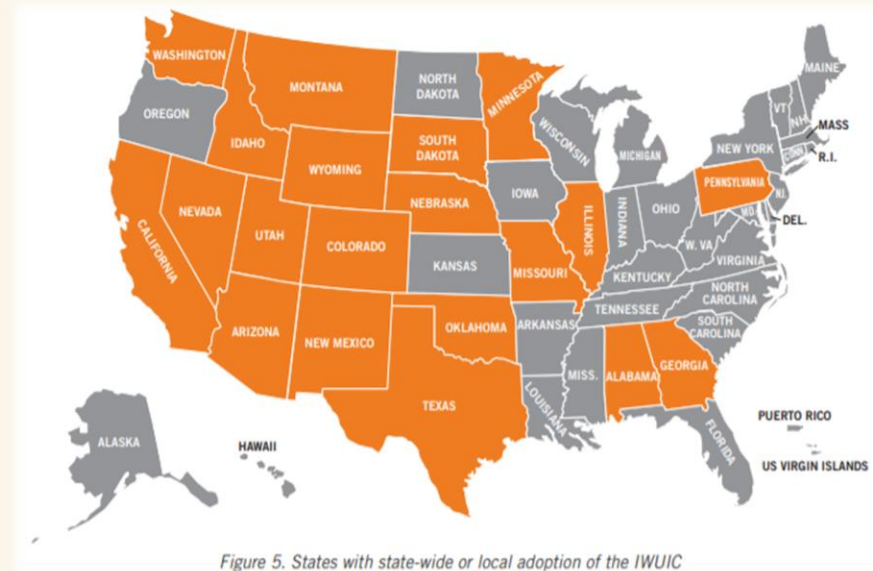
**Mariana Ruiz-Temple**  
**State Fire Marshal**  
**Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal**



*The mission of the Office of State Fire Marshal is to protect people, their property, and the environment from fire and hazardous materials*

# International WUI Code and Defensible Space

- The IWUIC is a model code that is intended to be adopted and used supplemental to the adopted building and fire codes of a jurisdiction.
- Defensible Space is a component of the IWUIC
- Establishes minimum requirements to increase the survivability of life and property from wildfire.
- Code provisions are developed through science, data, and proven results from actual wildfire incidents.



# What is the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI)?

- The area where structures and other human developments meet or intermix with vegetative fuels.
- Communities adjacent to and surrounded by WUI are at varying levels of risk.



# What is Defensible Space?

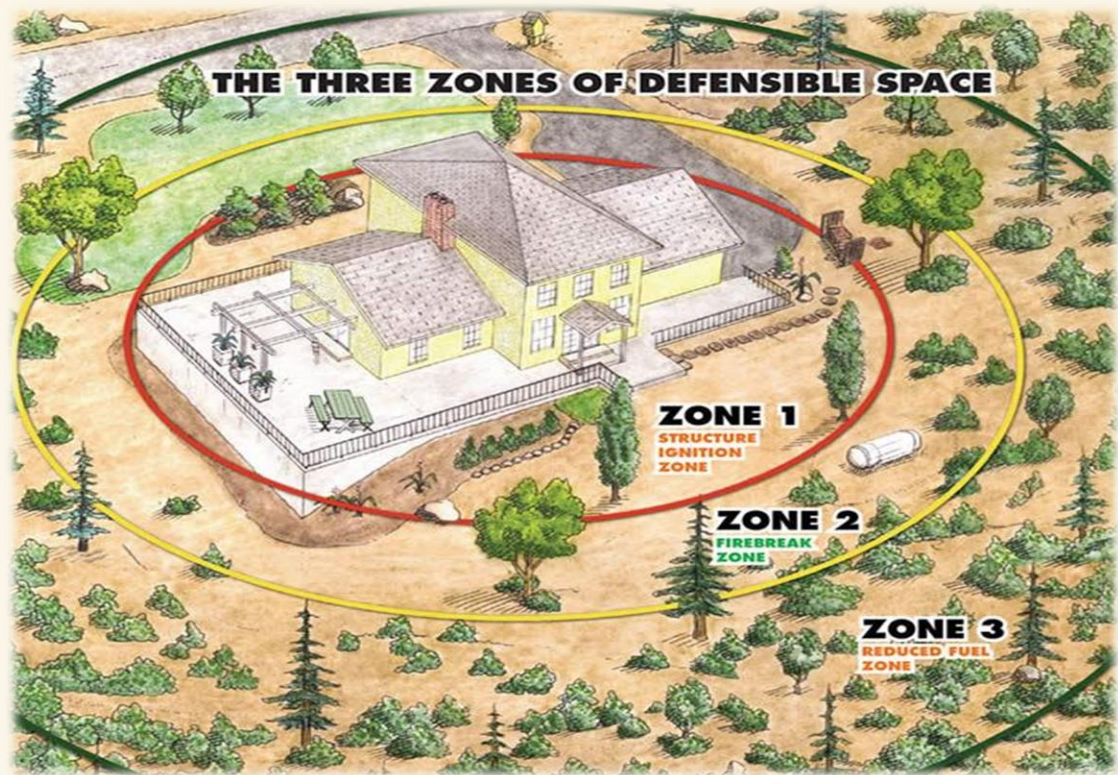
- A space around structures to prevent direct flame contact or radiant heat from wildfires.
- Slows the rate and intensity of an advancing wildfire.
- Increases the protection and fire suppression ability of the firefighters and structures.





# Defensible Space Standards

- Minimum space requirements wherein combustible vegetation and trees are managed and kept away from buildings.



# Defensible Space Includes Fire Resistant Vegetation

- High fire resistive fuels and high moisture content plants.
- Trees if they do not provide a means of transmitting fire to structures.
- Fire-resistant can help resist the spread of fire.





# Defensible Space



Non-Defensible  
Space

Defensible Space

# Wildfire Community Preparedness

- Preparing for wildfire incidents occurs before fire season begins.
- Community wildfire risk evaluation and planning efforts can increase resiliency.
- Defensible space around structures one element to improve chances of both life and property surviving a wildfire.



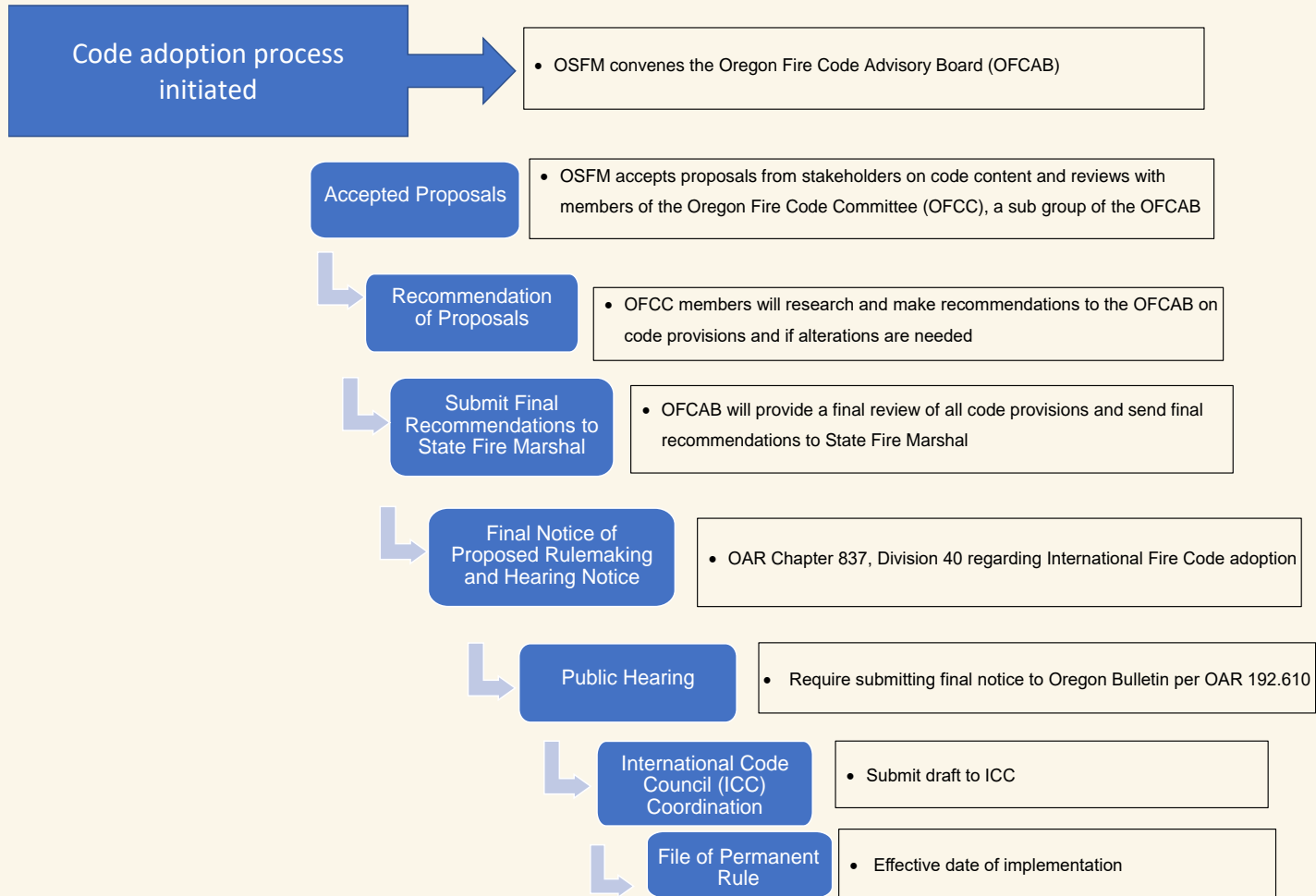


# Implementing Defensible Space

- Code Adoption Process & Timeline
- Dependent on a map
- Education before Enforcement
- Need investments for Enforcement
- Improves the safety of the public and responders



# Oregon Wildland-Urban Interface Code Adoption Process



# Senate Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## Questions?

