

Oregon State Police

Emergency Preparedness Overview / Fire Season Response

Senate Veterans and Emergency Preparedness Committee (SVEP)

Thursday, February 10, 2022





Current OSP Sworn Positions 2021-2023

766

Authorized positions from the rank of Superintendent to Recruit Trooper
These positions are represented in many different bureaus and programs across the agency to include:

- ▶ Superintendent's Office
- ▶ Patrol Division
- ▶ Criminal Division
- ▶ Fish & Wildlife Division
- ▶ Lottery Security
- ▶ Tribal Gaming
- ▶ Dignitary Protection
- ▶ Professional Standards
- ▶ Training
- ▶ Recruitment
- ▶ Health Wellness and Resiliency

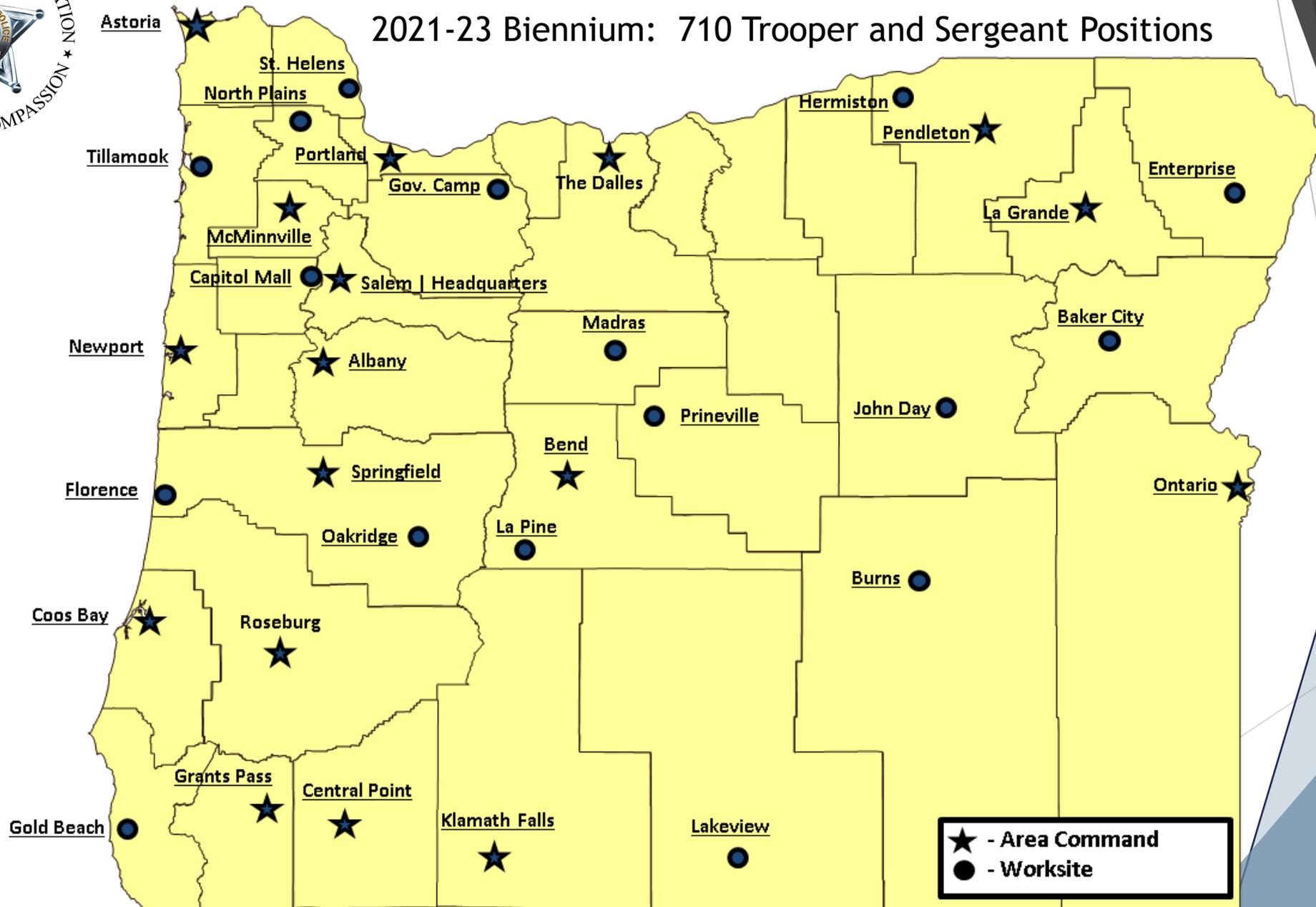




Map of OSP Office Locations



2021-23 Biennium: 710 Trooper and Sergeant Positions



★ - Area Command
● - Worksite



Draws on OSP Resources

- ▶ Environmental Crimes
- ▶ Fish & Wildlife Crimes
- ▶ Institutional Crimes
- ▶ Major Crime Team Callouts
- ▶ SWAT Callouts
- ▶ **Partner Agency Assists**
- ▶ Officer Involved Shootings
- ▶ Traffic Crashes
- ▶ Arson Investigations
- ▶ DUII Investigations
- ▶ Warrant Arrests
- ▶ Manufacturing/Deliver Controlled Substances
- ▶ **Marijuana Exportation**
- ▶ **Civil Unrest**
- ▶ Domestic Terrorism
- ▶ High Profile Sporting Events
- ▶ Active Shooter situations
- ▶ **Fire Response (Troopers/ME)**



Civil Unrest

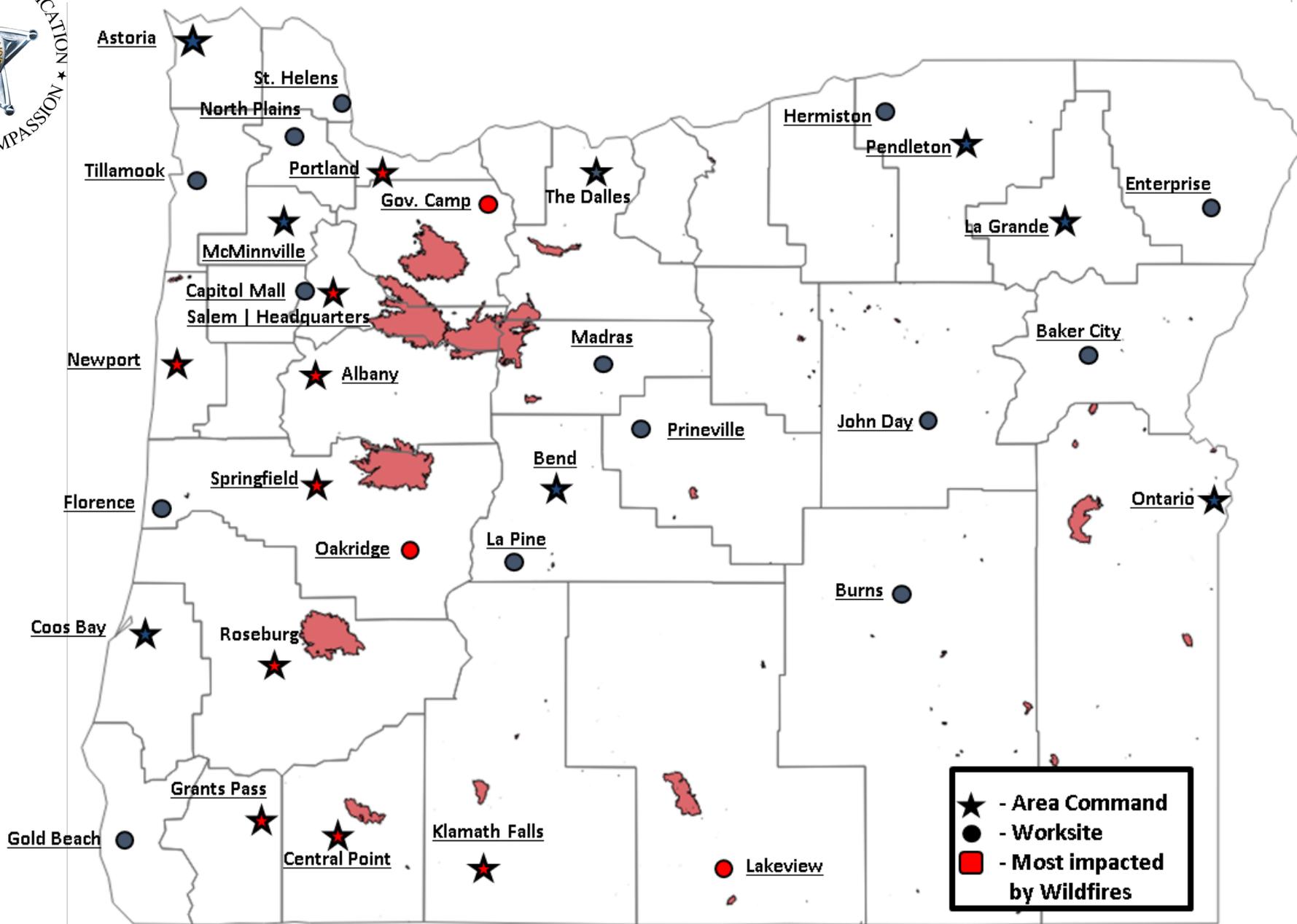
- ▶ MRT Response in Portland
 - ▶ May 30-November 6, 2020 48 Mission
- ▶ MRT Response in Salem – Capitol
 - ▶ 2020-14 Missions
 - ▶ 2021- 10 Mission
- ▶ On average each mission required at minimum 30 MRT Troopers with an average of over 418 combined hours per day (Overtime and Regular time)



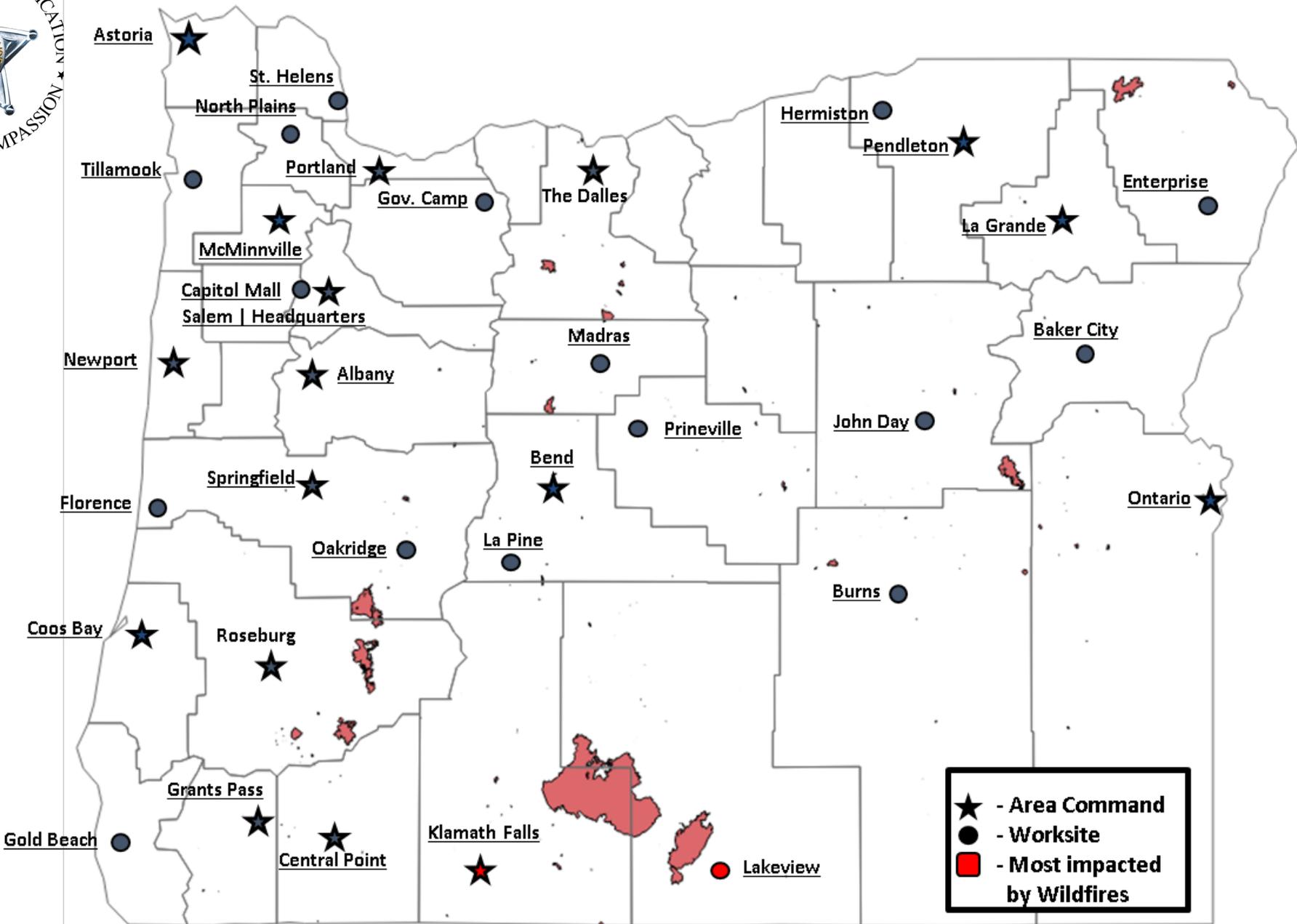
OSP's role in Wildfire Events

- ▶ Staff State Emergency Command Center and local Command Posts
- ▶ Traffic control and road closures
- ▶ Clearing roadways and locating alternative routes for evacuees and first responders
- ▶ Evacuations of commercial buildings, residences, open areas
- ▶ Criminal investigation of fires where there is a criminal statute violation or suspicion of one
- ▶ Death Investigation / recover of human remains
- ▶ Notification of next of kin after a fatality
- ▶ Post-mortem examinations
 - ▶ Mobile Morgue

2020 Wildfires



2021 Wildfires



- ★ - Area Command
- - Worksite
- - Most impacted by Wildfires



2020 Wildfire Impact

- ▶ 40,000 people evacuated
- ▶ 500,000 under evacuation notice (Level 1, 2, or 3)
 - ▶ Included one-third of Lincoln County population
- ▶ Major transportation routes experienced closures, including I-5, Highway 101, and Highway 22
- ▶ 434 fire related calls for services between September 2020 and November 2020.
- ▶ Offices in patrol zones most impacted by 2020 wildfires saw an increase in unavailability to handle Patrol Requests for Services.

OSP Sworn Division Hours
(September – November 2020)

	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Regular Time	6,632	\$310,020
Overtime	4,368	\$307,476
Totals =	11,000	\$617,496

*2021 figures aren't available yet.

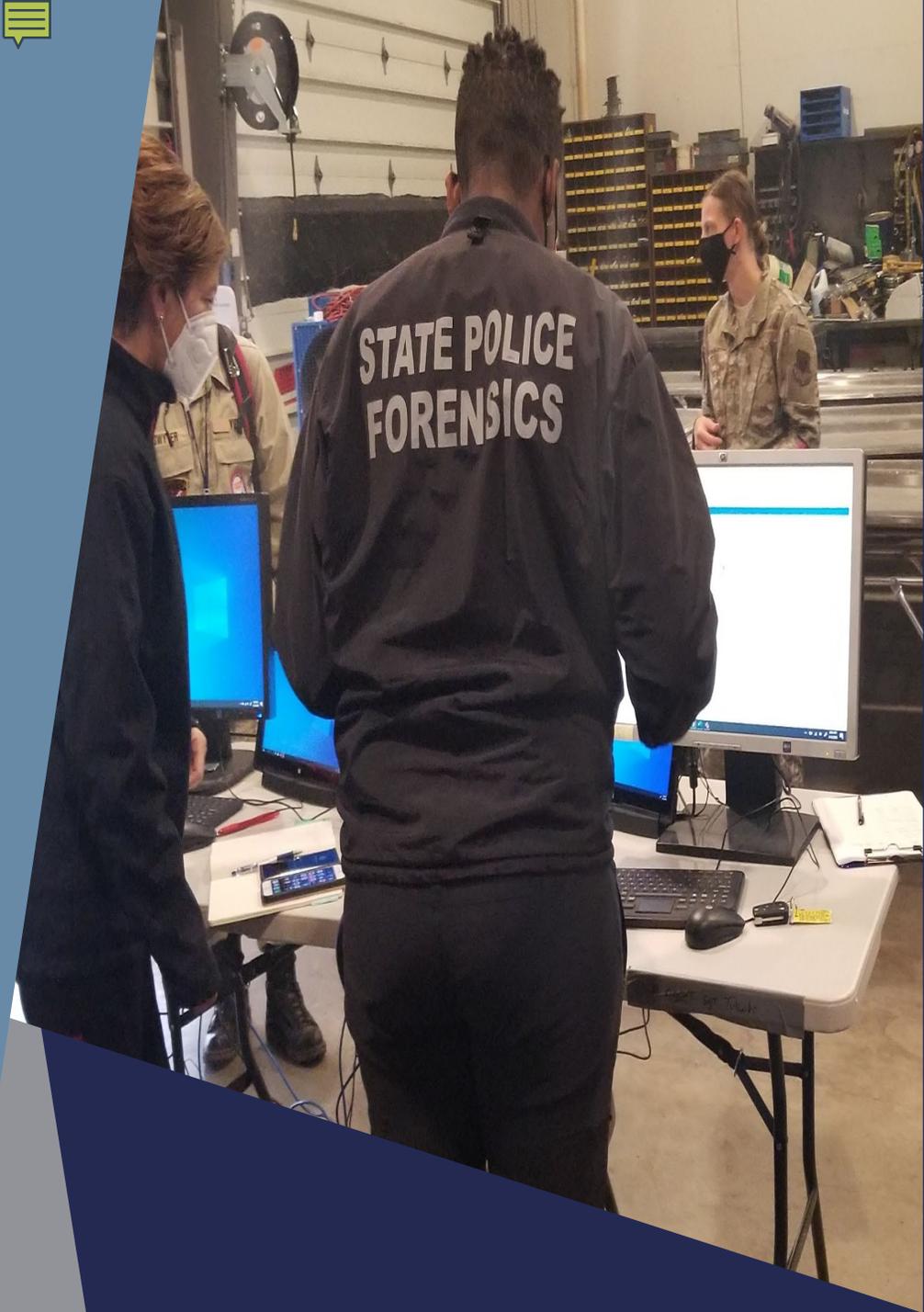


2020 Fire Season cont.

All areas of OSP were affected

- Much larger scale deployment
 - Holiday Farm Fire
 - Beachie Creek Fire
 - Lionshead Fire
 - S. Obenchain Fire
 - Alameda Fire
- Increase in investigative resources
 - Death investigations, human remains recovery and next of kin notification on a larger scale
- Mobile Morgue- September 8-22, 2020
 - September 8, 2020, the Oregon State Medical Examiner Division began preparation for a mass fatality event





Mobile Morgue

- ▶ OSP Personnel
 - ▶ The Mobile Morgue was primarily staffed by the Medical Examiner's Office, Forensic Services Division, and with the assistance of the Oregon Army National Guard
- ▶ Key Partners
 - ▶ Oregon Health Authority
 - ▶ Health Security Preparedness and Response Division
 - ▶ Century for Health Statistics
 - ▶ Oregon Funeral Directors Association
 - ▶ Oregon Cemetery and Mortuary Board
 - ▶ Oregon Air National Guard Fatality Search and Recovery Team
 - ▶ Disaster Mortuary Operations Response Team



Lessons Learned

- ▶ Equipment needs
 - ▶ Heat/Fire /smoke protection
 - ▶ Refrigerated Trailers
 - ▶ More diverse fleet of vehicles
 - ▶ Equipment to help us go into and out of hostile, changing environments
 - ▶ Gas masks, chainsaws, mobile CP, MRT equipment
- ▶ Changes to our operations
 - ▶ Shifted some positions and resources
 - ▶ Changed our recruitment model
- ▶ OSP's overall preparedness for large scale event remains an issue (Staffing)

Strength OSP brings to Wildfire Events

- Versatility
 - Troopers of all Divisions equipped to and able to respond
 - OSP's personnel are located all over the state for increased response time and geographic knowledge
- Strong relationships with local partners
 - Police Departments
 - Sheriff's Departments
 - Fire Departments
 - Community
- Arson unit training and experience working fire scenes
- Major Crimes and Forensic Division experience in locating and retrieving human remains, preserving evidence
- Medical Examiner's Office –Established Mass Casualty Protocols
- Communication infrastructure – Dispatch, radio towers cellular, satellite phones
- Emergency Operations and Continuity of Operations plans are frequently updated





Necessities to improve Wildfire Response



- Increase in staffing levels of sworn Troopers around the state
- Increased staffing levels for some of the city and county Law Enforcement partners
- Increase in Medical Examiner's Office Capacity
- Police Officers are not Firefighters
 - Different training and equipment needs
- Troopers are community members too. Their families are often directly impacted by wildfires



Oregon and OSP need to be prepared

- Another 2020 Fire season or worse could be around the corner.
- These large-scale events quickly deplete OSP and public safety resources
 - Variety of events sometimes shift resources away from an area
- Medical Examiner's Office capacity issues
 - Down one Doctor and inability to hire*
 - Workload due to COVID, overdoses and suicide cases on the rise
 - A mass casualty event or resignation of another DME could cause system failure
- Supply-chain issues continue to affect our ability to buy critical equipment, like our vehicles
- Recent difficulty hiring and retaining Troopers



Questions?