

Conflagration

In the case of emergencies involving fires threatening life and structures, the Emergency Conflagration Act (ORS 476.510) can be invoked by the Governor through the Office of State Fire Marshal. This act allows the State Fire Marshal to mobilize and fund fire resources throughout the State during emergency situations.

When, in the judgment of the Yachats Rural Fire Chief or County Fire Defense Board Chief, an emergency is beyond the control of local fire suppression resources, including primary mutual aid, the Fire Defense Board Chief shall report the conditions of the emergency to the State Fire Marshal Office and/or request mobilization of support for the department/district. After verifying the need for mobilized support, the State Fire Marshal shall, if appropriate, request authorization from the governor to invoke the Emergency Conflagration Act.

The Yachats Fire Chief is responsible for:

- Contacting the Fire Defense Board Chief to request that the Conflagration Act be invoked.
- Participating in incident conference call.
- Providing local geographic information system (GIS) capabilities or maps.
- Working with the Incident Management Team (IMT) to locate a base camp.
- Maintaining communications with the IMT throughout the deployment to assist with emergency management and other local issues.

The Fire Defense Board Chief is responsible for: ■ Notifying the State Fire Marshal via OERS. ■ Providing the following information to the Oregon State Fire Marshal Duty Officer of Chief Deputy ● Incident name ● Contact information ● Type and location of incident ● Situation description ● Confirmation that local and mutual aid resources are depleted. ● Incident Commander information ● Weather information ● What resources are being requested ■ Participating in incident conference call.

Requests for conflagration should be made when a significant threat exists, e.g.: ■ Life threatening situation (firefighter or public safety) ● Evacuations currently taking place ● Advisory evacuations ● Evacuation plans in place ● Road, highway, or freeway closure

- Real property threatened
 - Structures – request should include number of commercial and residential structures, as well as the number of subdivisions.
 - Population affected – request should include estimated number of property threatened.
 - Historically significant cultural resources
 - Natural resources, such as crops, grazing, timber, watershed
 - Critical infrastructure, such as major power lines
- High damage potential
 - Long-term or short-term damage potential
 - Likely impacts on community
 - Fuel type, affecting fire size and growth potential
 - Political situations
 - Severity, extreme behavior, and fuel conditions

Source: State of Oregon Fire Service Mobilization Plan