



Wildfire Focus

Enhancing Strategies to Manage
Chelan PUD Wildfire Risks

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This Presentation is to provide information only. No Board actions are requested at this time.

Wildfire Mitigation Team:

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Purpose:

Analyze known and evolving wildfire risks in order to improve or create effective mitigation strategies; continuous improvement model

Team makeup :

Internal stakeholders including Transmission, Distribution, Vegetation Management, External Affairs, Legal and Enterprise Risk Management

Our Evolving Landscape

- Four of top 10 cities in state for wildfire
- Hundreds of miles of power line throughout county
- History of fire ignition
- Climate change and forest health resulting in more fires with greater intensity
- Utility liability related to wildfire (PG&E)
- Insurance market can dramatically change

Future Financial and Operational Impacts

- Financial impacts
 - Tree trimming and inspections
 - System rebuilding for fire hardening
 - Asset replacements/refurbishments
- Operational reliability impacts
 - No automatic reclose of breakers
 - Increase sensitive tripping (more trips)
 - Operational inspection prior to service

Recent Practices

Transmission and Distribution

- Daily monitoring of IFPL and Red Flag conditions, postpone planned maintenance
- Real-time monitoring of Red Flag and Fire Danger; provides indication to SysOps for serviceman dispatch to patrol before restore
- Disable reclosing on ACS – Summit, 115kV during summer months (potential impact to L. Wenatchee and Plain)
- Investment in crew fire-suppression equipment

2019 Fire Season Actions

- I. Conduct vegetation inspections for high risk lines and utility structures
- II. Conduct additional electrical inspections in select areas
- III. Pilot thermal imaging/corona inspections to detect failing equipment in fire danger areas
- IV. Increase installation of animal guards in fire danger areas

Longer Term Recommendations (study)

Elevate the District's Transmission and Distribution operations to become a leader in utility wildfire prevention

Partner with qualified consultant/engineering firm to identify effective wildfire risk mitigation strategies:

- I. Comprehensive review of vegetation management program
- II. Power system construction, standards and operational advancements.
- III. Review of system protection and reliability impact
- IV. Review of comprehensive fire risk (right sizing)

Questions