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.

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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