USDA Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Mt. Hood National Forest | October 2026

GRASSHOPPER FIRE: FUELS REDUCTION WORK

WILDFIRE

fuels reduction

Fuels work is not intended to prevent all wildfires; instead it is designed to slow the spread of wildfire when it arrives. Forest crews and staff made significant progress over the last five years within the Rocky Restoration, South Pen Insect & Disease, Grasshopper Restoration, 27 Road Fuel Break, and Hootnanny Insect & Disease project areas - all of which partially overlapped with the fire's footprint. Staff are currently assessing how these fuels treatments assisted firefighters' access and operations during fire suppression.



FUELS TREATMENTS WITHIN THE GRASSHOPPER FIRE FOOTPRINT

Across the five fuels and insect & disease projects within the fire's footprint, treatments included mastication, commercial and non-commercial thinning, lop & scatter, pile burning, and prescribed fire. Forest staff are just beginning the field work to assess whether treated areas burned similarly or differently during the fire.

The final Grasshopper Restoration Project environmental assessment was signed in 2022. Despite litigation delaying the commercial portions of the project, Forest staff moved forward with implementation of the project's non-commercial fuels reduction activities.

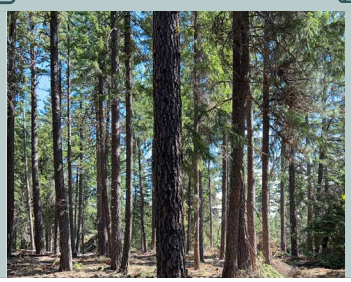
Within the Grasshopper Project area, previously constructed piles were scheduled for burning this fall and winter season. Prescribed fire burns generally follow other activities and had not been implemented yet.

NON-COMMERCIAL WORK



Non-commercial work is designed to reduce ladder fuels that can increase fire spread.

COMMERCIAL WORK



Commercial work like thinning often follows non-commercial work to further return the forest to its historical density.

PILE BURNS



Brush and slash from mechanical treatments are piled, cured for a season or two, and then burned to reduce ground fuels.

PRESCRIBED BURNS



Prescribed fires, which generally follow other treatments, clear ladder & fine fuels using low-intensity fire. It also improves habitat for native wildlife & plants.

RECENT WORK WITHIN THE GRASSHOPPER FIRE FOOTPRINT

WILDFIRE

fuels reduction

The Grasshopper Fire intersected with five signed projects at various stages of implementation. Below are the accomplished acres for these projects.

Rocky Restoration (footprint: 7,173 ac.)

- Decision signed: **2019**
- Work began: **2019**
- *7,385 treatment acres: non-commercial, prescribed fire
- 15.7 mmbf timber sold, commercial

South Pen Insect & Disease (footprint:2,430 ac.)

- Decision signed: **2021**
- Work began: **2021**
- *1,514 treatment acres: non-commercial, prescribed fire

Grasshopper Restoration (footprint: 5,280 ac.)

- Decision signed: **2023**
- Work began: **2024**
- *1,805 treatment acres: non-commercial

27 Road Fuel Break (footprint: 2,807 ac.)

- Decision signed: **2024**
- Work began: **2026**
- *34 treatment acres: non-commercial

Hootnanny Insect & Disease (footprint: 2,983 ac.)

- Decision signed: **2025**
- No fuels work yet begun
- Commercial sale layout completed by ODF 2026

**Note: Acres may include multiple treatments on the same land, causing treament acreage to differ from project footprint acres.*

