

# CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## Policy Session Worksheet

**Presentation Date:** 5/18/2021 **Approx. Start Time:** 2:30 pm **Approx. Length:** 60 minutes

**Presentation Title:** Labor Day Fire 2020 Impacts from Clackamas County Forestry and Association of O & C Counties

**Department:** Business & Community Services, Association of O & C Counties (AOCC)

**Presenters:** Sarah Eckman, BCS Interim Director; Andrew Dobmeier, Clackamas County Forester; Rocky McVay, AOCC Executive Director; Chris Cadwell, AOCC Forester / Analyst

**Other Invitees:** Tom Riggs, Clackamas County Parks & Forestry Manager; Daniel Nibouar, Clackamas County Disaster Management; Jay Wilson, Clackamas County Disaster Management

### WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

This is an informational session for Clackamas County Forestry and the Association of O & C Counties to brief the Board on the impacts from the Labor Day 2020 wildfires, and answer any questions the Board may have.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On September 7, 2020 the Riverside fire started east in the county on US Forest service land and was escalated due to 60 -70 mph east winds. On the same day in Marion County, a wilderness fire escalated due to the same dry and windy conditions the Riverside fire experienced. The southern fire, known as the Beachie fire, moved aggressively towards southern Clackamas County.

The Labor Day 2020 wildfires caused extensive damage to forestlands in Clackamas County.

The Clackamas County Forestry program currently owns and manages 3,200 acres of forestlands. The lands are managed with the goal of having healthy forests that produce timber on a sustainable level, protect natural resources and contribute to jobs in rural communities. The net revenue generated from timber sales supports the County Parks Program operations and also contributes to capital reserves for the repair and replacement of capital assets.

In the September fires, Clackamas County forestlands experienced losses in the Clackamas Quarry, Hoops, Hillockburn, Elwood and Family Camp parcels. All totaled, 473 of Clackamas County's 3,200 acres were burned, resulting in close to \$400,000 in total plantation/timber loss. The cost to reforest is just over \$74,000.

The AOCC presentation will review all four of the major Labor Day fires describing the acreage, volume, and value of the timber that was impacted. This presentation focuses on the O&C Timberlands and the BLM plans for potential salvage, salvage that is precluded by the Resource

Management Plans, and the magnitude of the reforestation challenge. Salvage harvest is time sensitive and will have an impact on the O&C counties given the shared receipts formula for years to come. This is an evolving story which AOCC will track and provide updates on how the BLM responds to these historically large fires.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):**

Is this item in your current budget?       YES       NO

What is the cost?    N/A

What is the funding source? N/A

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

- **How does this item align with your Department’s Strategic Business Plan goals?**
  - Managing and harvesting County-owned forestlands in a sustainable manner, consistently increases over time the percentage of young stands managed annually, the net revenue earned from timber sales and the number of million board feet of timber sold.
  
- **How does this item align with the County’s Performance Clackamas goals?**
  - Managing and harvesting forestlands in a sustainable manner, aligns with the County’s goal to Honor, Utilize, Promote, and Invest in our Natural Resources by increasing our ability to sequester carbon, which will contribute to the County goal of having a Climate Action Plan by 2023, and being carbon neutral by 2050.
  - Managing and harvesting forestlands in a sustainable manner, aligns with the County’s goal to Grow a Vibrant Economy by bringing jobs to rural areas, and producing timber, and potentially cross-laminated timber, for the local economy.

**LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS:** N/A

**PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:** N/A

**OPTIONS:** N/A – This Policy Session is informational only.

**Recommendations:** N/A – This Policy Session is informational only.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. County Forestry: 2020 Clackamas County Forest fire damage costs
2. Clackamas County Forestry PowerPoint
3. AOCC PowerPoint: Clackamas Co Board Fire Summary May\_18\_21.pptx

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Division Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_  
Department Director/Head Approval Sarah Eckman  
County Administrator Approval \_\_\_\_\_

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Sarah Eckman at 503-894-3135
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<u>Hillockburn</u>	195 acres	16 acres - 14 year old plantation	20% loss	\$1,520
		17 acres - 60+ yr old stream buffer	10% loss	No \$value
		8 acres – 38+ yr old cable unit (160mbf)	100% loss	\$32,912
		121 acres – 38+ yr old stand (576mbf)	50% loss	\$144,035
		33 acres -20+ yr old stand (141mbf)	20% loss	\$7,055

**Total plantation/timber loss value                      \$185,522**

Salvage 30 acres which could net \$60,320 to help pay for a lot of the reforestation costs of fire

**Cost to reforest            46 acres            \$20,608**

<u>Elwood</u>	80 acres	29 acres -10 year old plantation	100% loss	\$12,544
		19 acres – 5 to 10 year old plantation	100% loss	\$9,512
		32 acres 55-75 yr old leave area (359mbf)	45% loss	\$32,353

**Total plantation/timber loss value                      \$54,409**

**Cost to reforest            63 acres            \$28,224**

<u>Family camp</u>	160 acres	52 acres harvested in spring 2020	0% loss	No \$value
		18 acres - 35 – 70 year old stand (324 mbf)	100% loss	\$99,973
		8 acres - 5 – 15 year old plantation	100% loss	\$4,584
		86 acres - 35 year old plantation (439 mbf)	15% loss	\$19,755

**Total plantation/timber loss value                      \$107,650**

Salvage 18 acres which could net \$90,153 to help pay for a lot of the reforestation costs of fire

**Not including timber sale acres - Cost to reforest            36 acres            \$17,680**

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**Total acres in the 2020 wildfires – 473 Acres**

**Total plantation/timber loss value                      \$382,680**

**Cost to reforest            162 acres            \$74,128**

*Presented by:*  
 Andrew Dobmeier  
 Clackamas County Forester  
 May 18, 2021

# Clackamas County 2020 Forest Fire Damage Report





**Clackamas Quarry Block**

# Hoops Block





**Hillock Block**





Underburn



**Mosaic burn**



**Elwood Plantation**



**Family Camp Block**



**Where do we go from here?**



**Questions**



Disclaimer

These are  
point in time  
estimates.

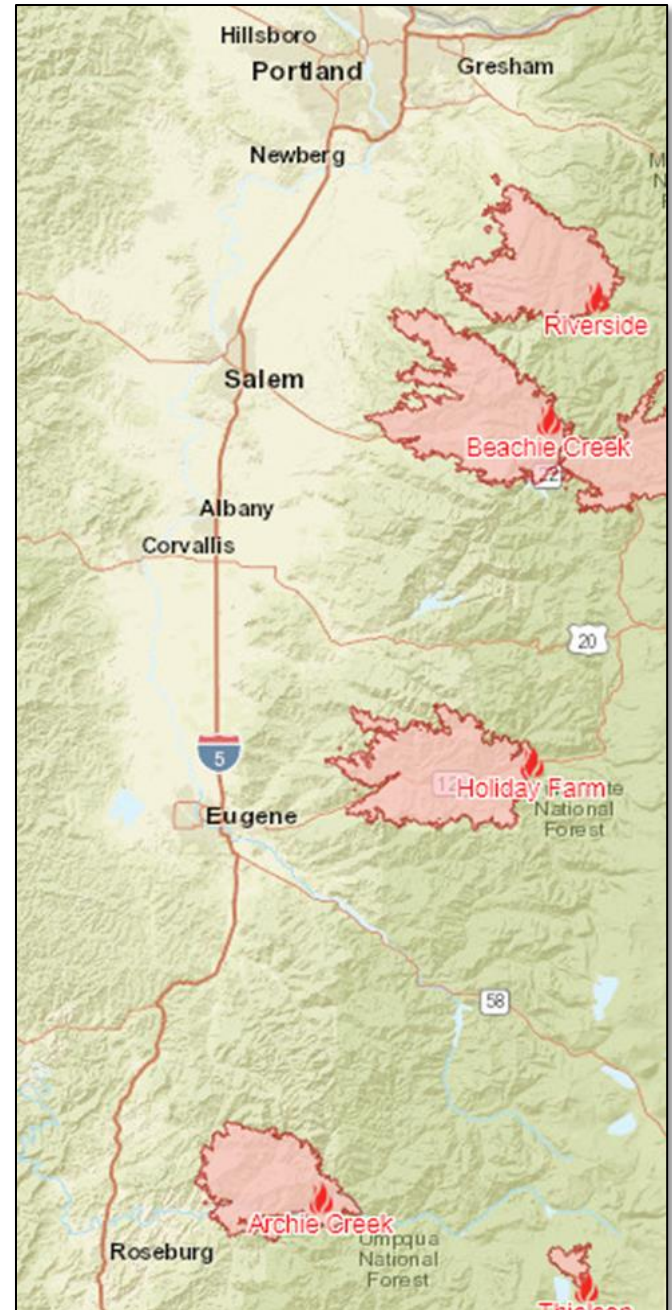
Subject to  
change as  
new information  
is available.

## 2020 Fire Summary

### O&C Timber Lands

- Acreage
- Volume & Value
- Timber Sale Plans
- Reforestation

Clackamas County Board – May 18, 2021



# Preview of Key Findings

**What Won't Be Salvaged** – Reserves Merchantable Timber – 1.6 Billion Board Feet.

**Estimated at \$240 Million in Lost Receipts to Counties**

**What May Be Salvaged** – Harvest Land Base Merchantable – 419 Million Potential.

**Estimated at \$63 Million in Potential Receipts to Counties**

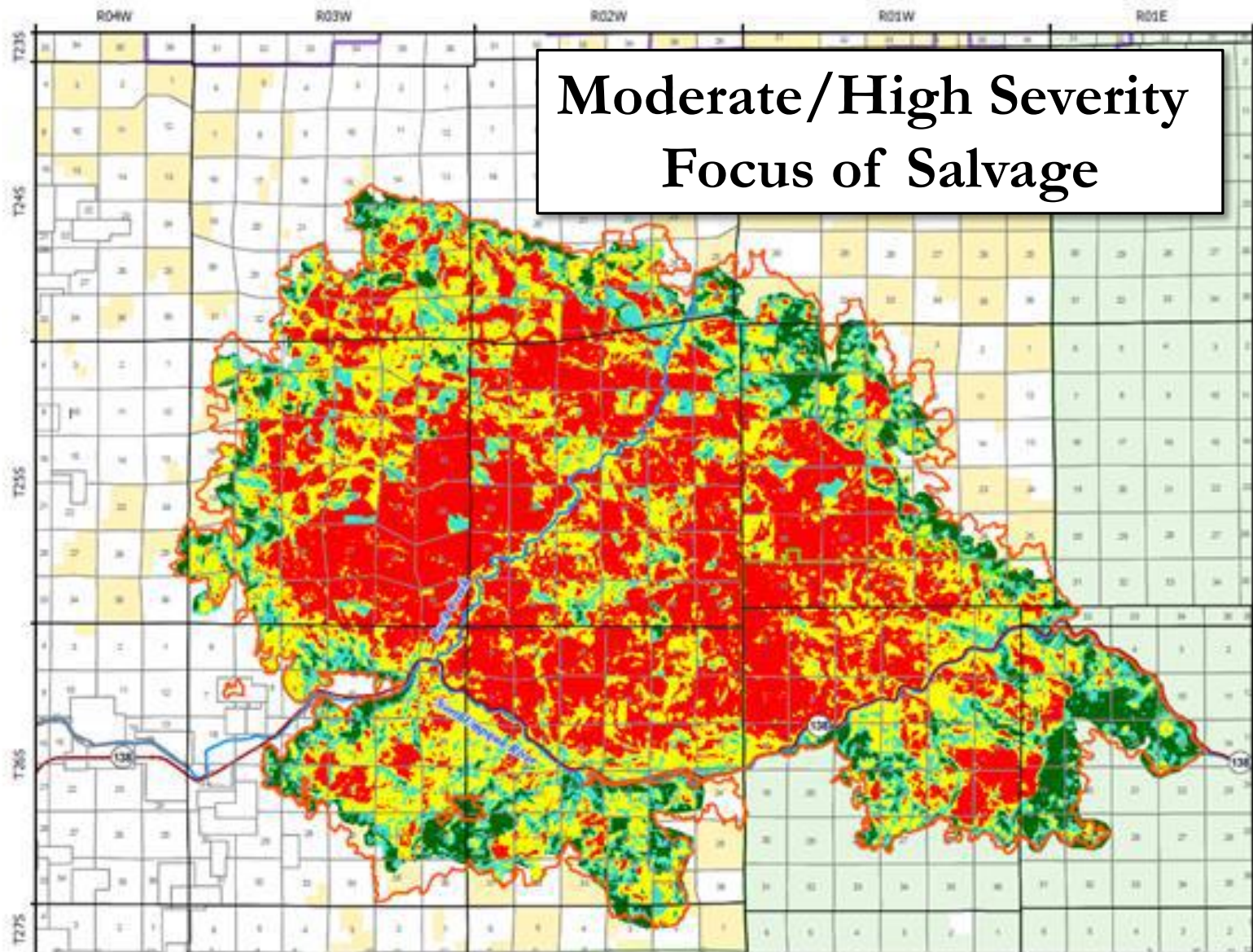
**2021 Timber Plans** - Estimated to Capture < 25 % of the Potential Volume

**2022 Timber Sale Plans** – Unknown.

**Reforestation** – Huge \$/Workload for Many Years. Questionable Stocking Levels.



# BLM Data – Fire Severity



Archie Creek – Roseburg / Douglas County

# Other BLM Data





**Age Classes – Stands 50 Years +  
Potential Merchantable Salvage.**

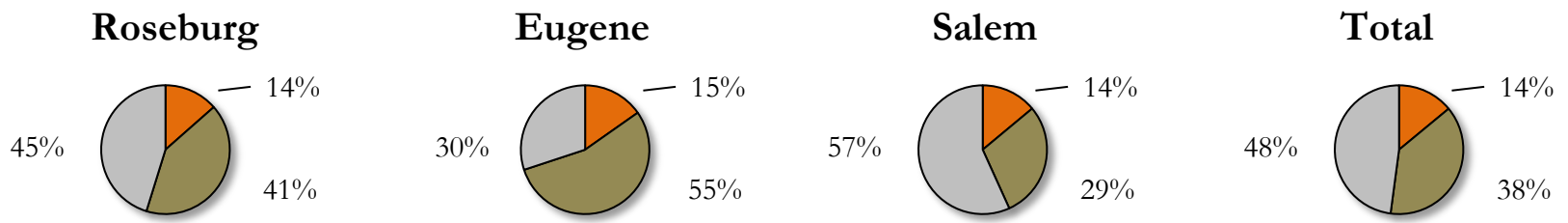
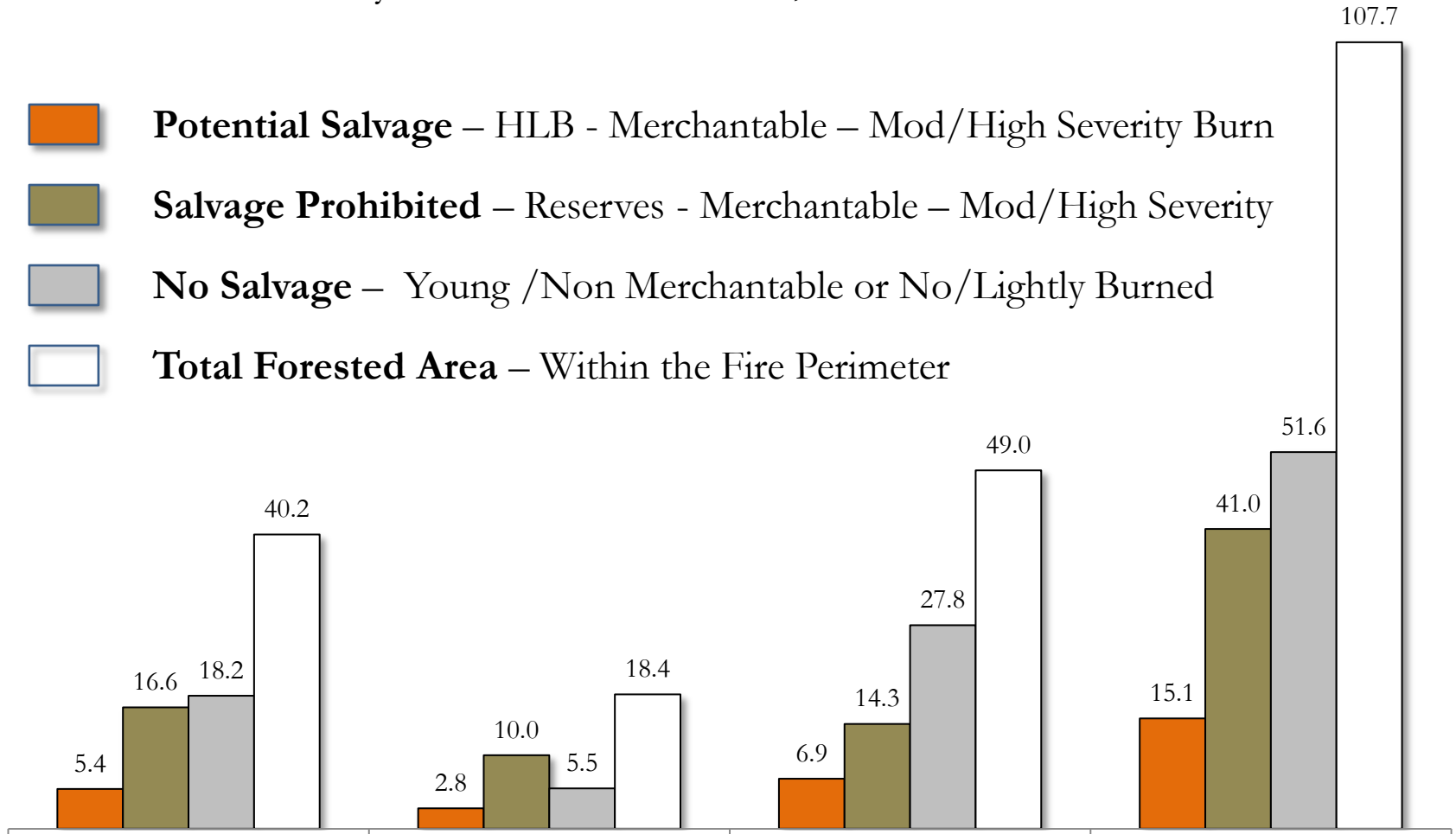
**Land Use Allocations  
Potential Salvage in Harvest Land Base.  
No Salvage in Reserves.**

**Note!  
Acreage Includes O&C and Public Domain Lands.**

# 2020 Fire Acreage – O&C Timber Lands





By Sustained Yield Unit – 1,000's Forested Acres

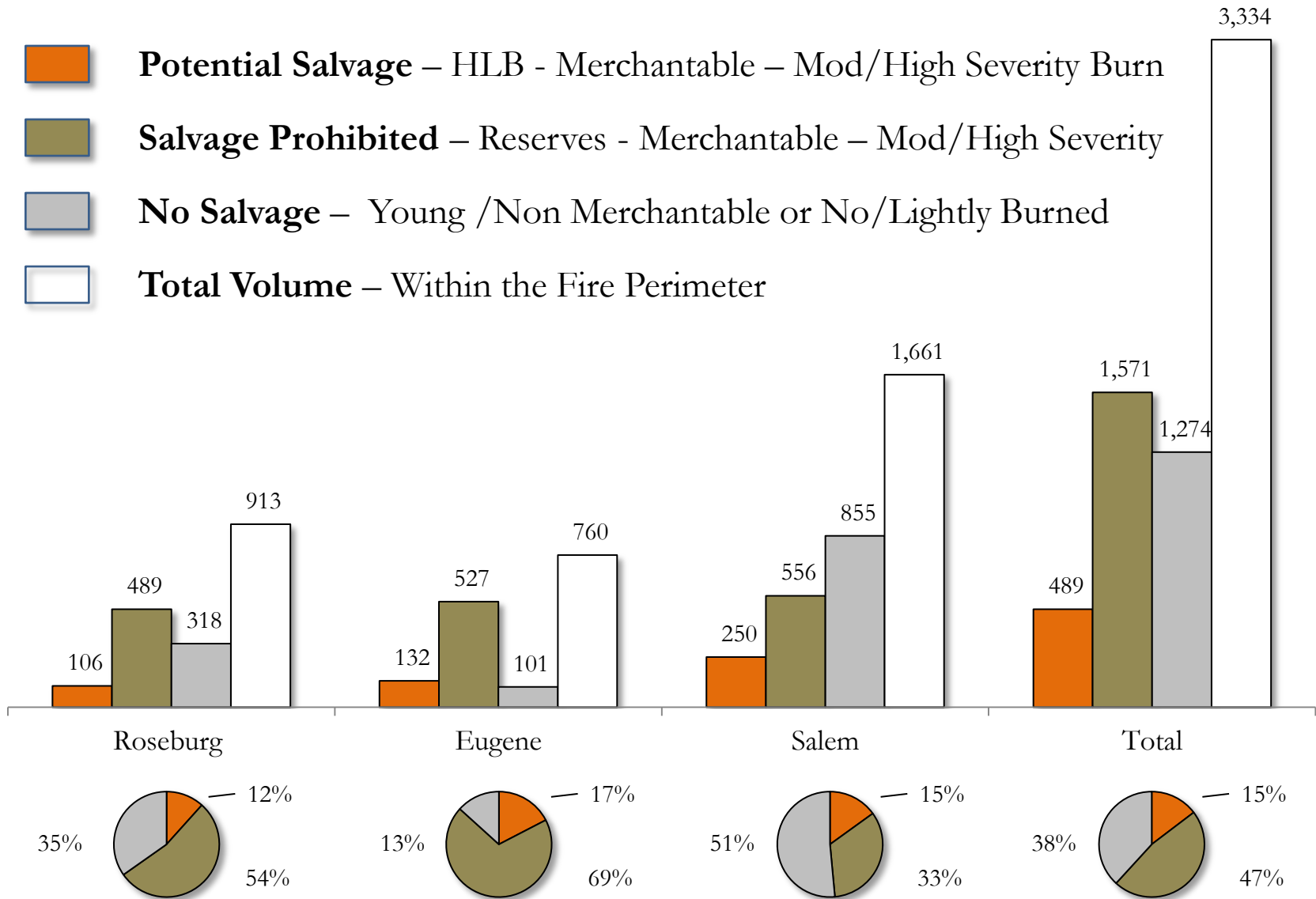
-  **Potential Salvage** – HLB - Merchantable – Mod/High Severity Burn
-  **Salvage Prohibited** – Reserves - Merchantable – Mod/High Severity
-  **No Salvage** – Young /Non Merchantable or No/Lightly Burned
-  **Total Forested Area** – Within the Fire Perimeter



# Post Fire Volume – O&C Timber Lands

By Sustained Yield Unit – Million Board Feet

-  **Potential Salvage** – HLB - Merchantable – Mod/High Severity Burn
-  **Salvage Prohibited** – Reserves - Merchantable – Mod/High Severity
-  **No Salvage** – Young /Non Merchantable or No/Lightly Burned
-  **Total Volume** – Within the Fire Perimeter



# Post Fire Volume and ASQ – Harvest Land Base

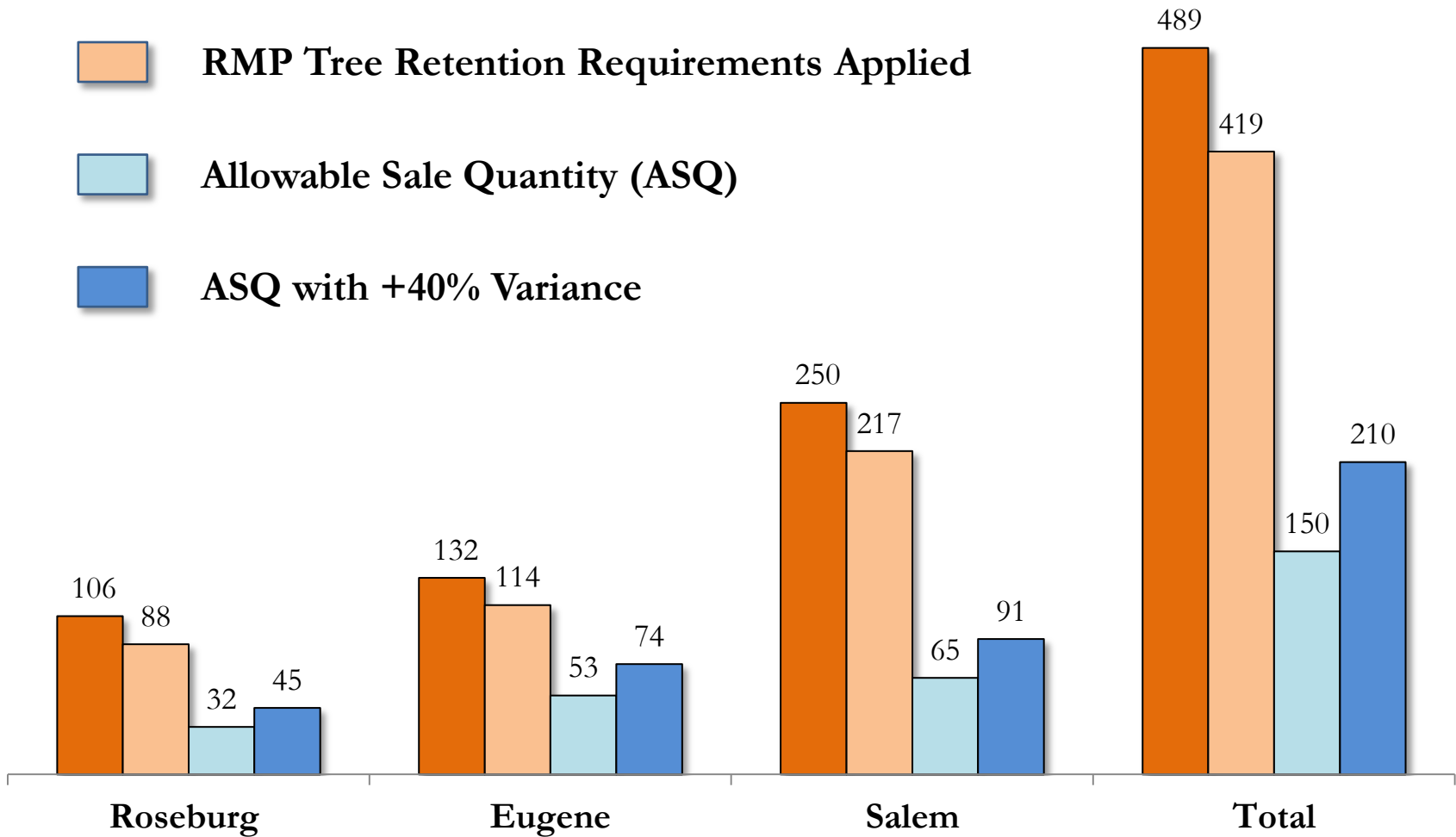
By Sustained Yield Unit – Million Board Feet

**Post Fire Volume**  
HLB - Merchantable – Mod/High Severity Burn

**RMP Tree Retention Requirements Applied**

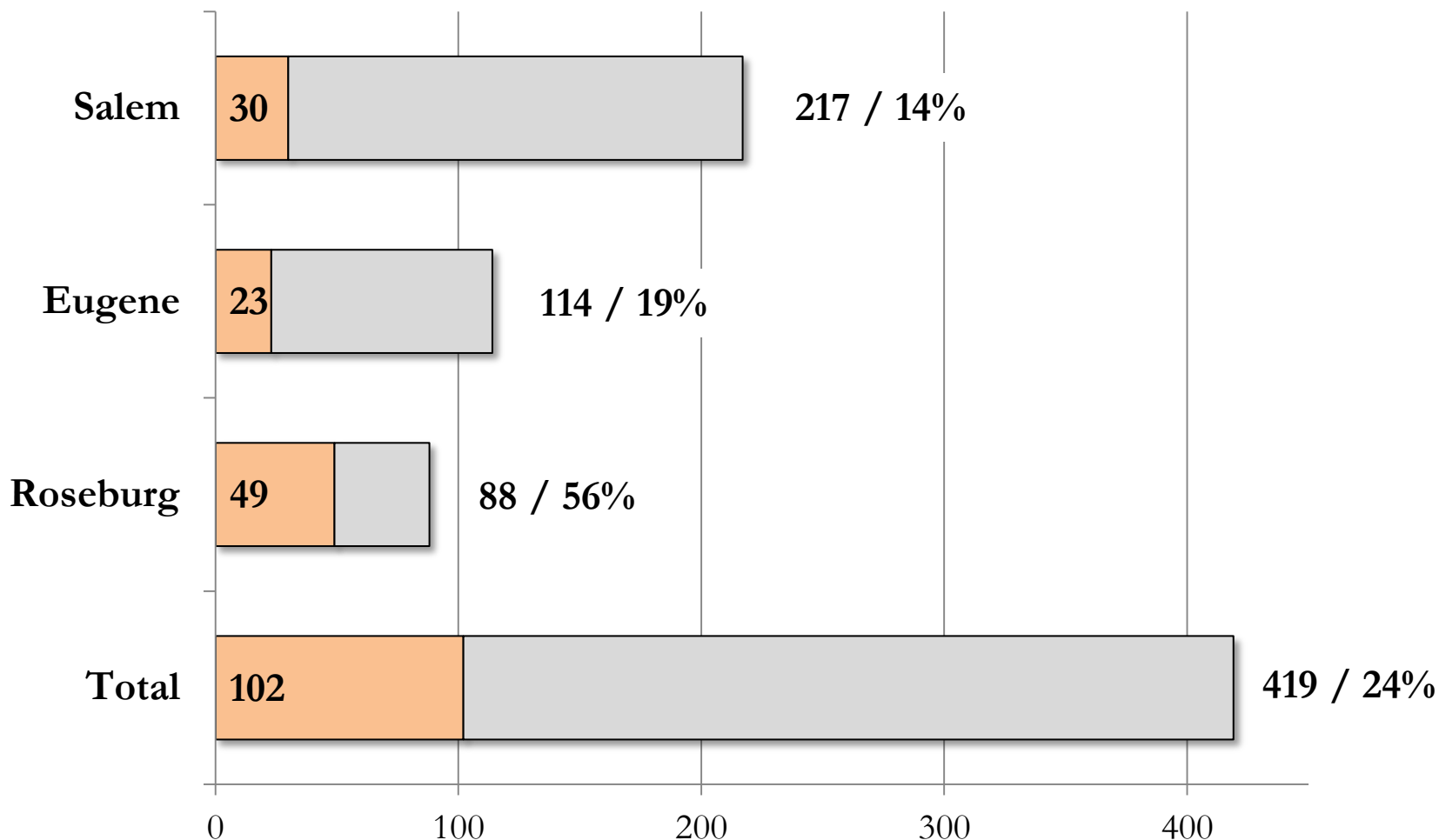
**Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ)**

**ASQ with +40% Variance**



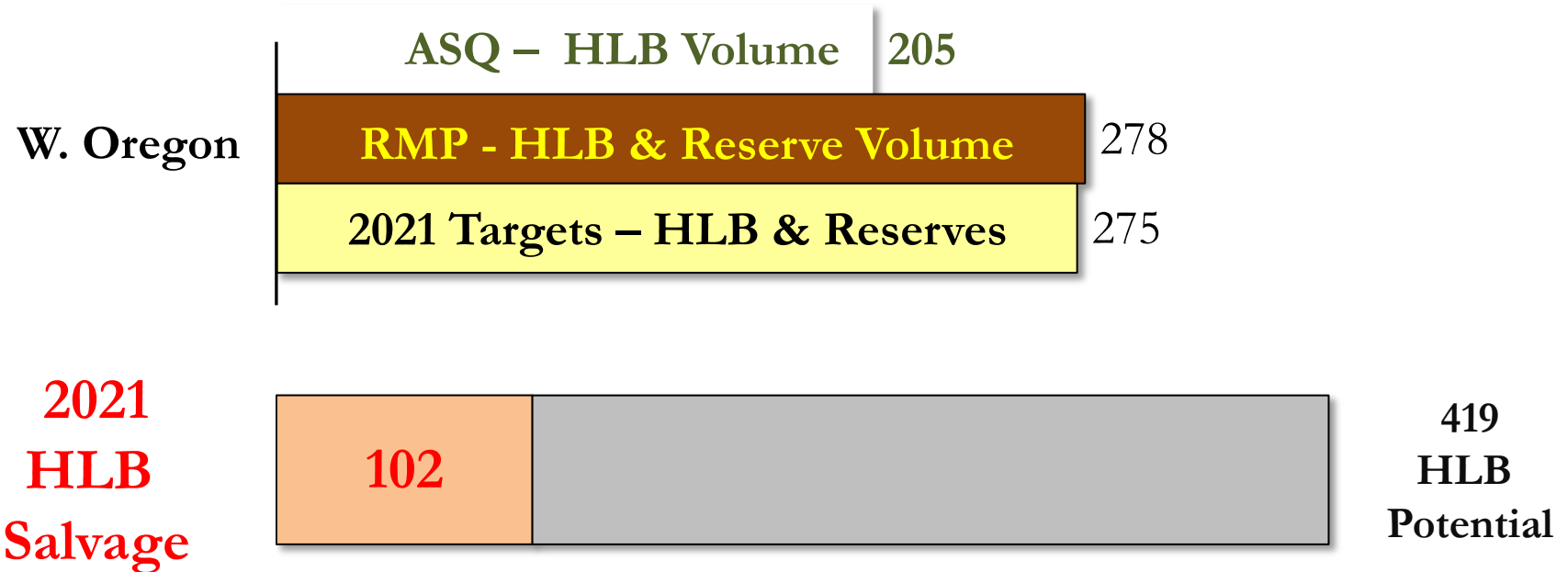
# 2021 HLB Salvage - With Total HLB Salvage Potential

Millions Board Feet / 2021 Plan - Percent of Potential



# 2021 Timber Sale Plans

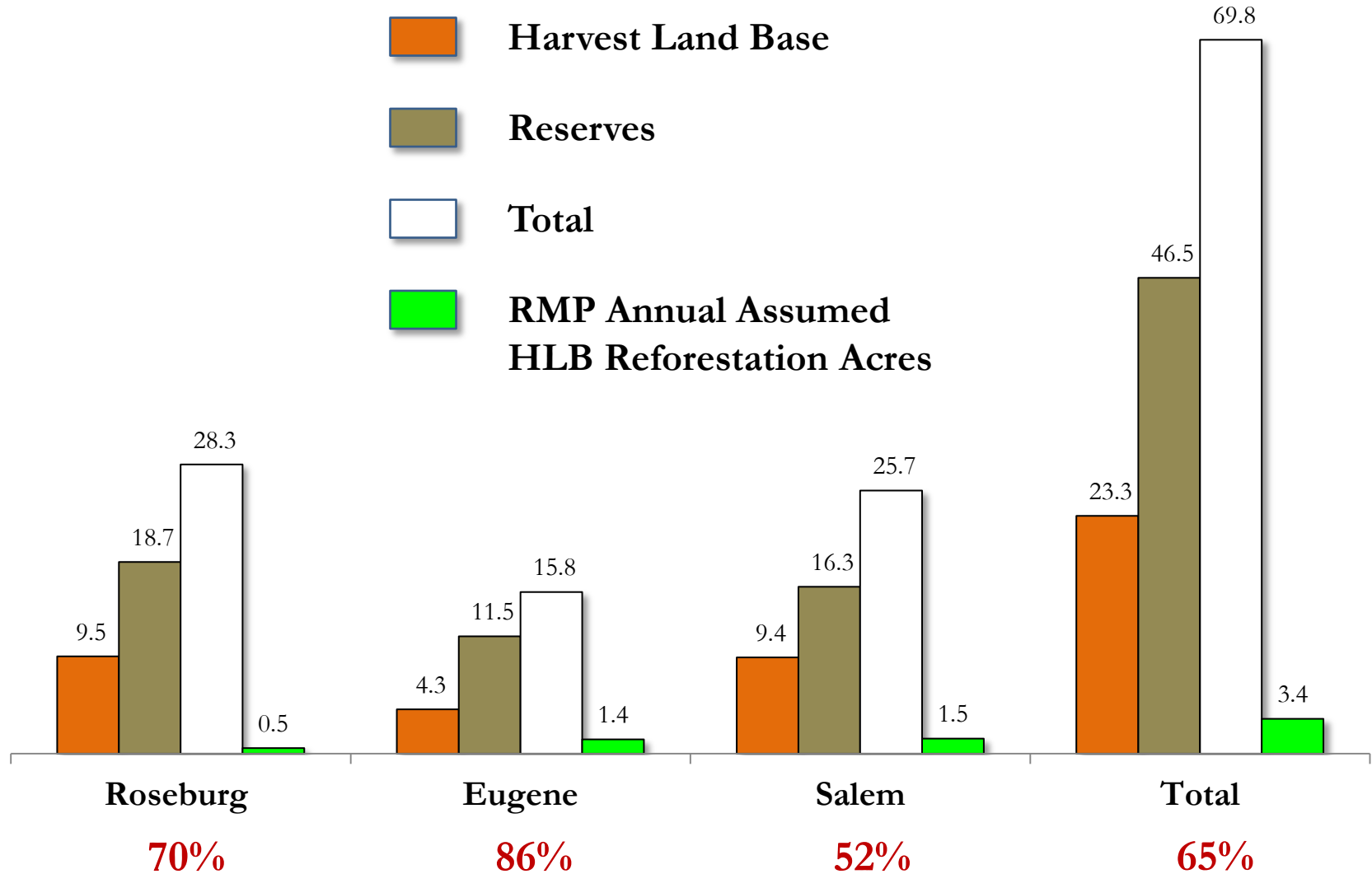
Millions Board Feet



**2021 HLB Salvage < 25% of Potential**

# Reforestation Acres – Moderate/High Severity Burn

By Sustained Yield Unit – 1,000s Acres



Percentage Fire Perimeter Burned at Moderate /High Severity



# Key Findings

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**Reforestation** – Huge \$/Workload for Many Years. Questionable Stocking Levels.

**The NEPA Will Be Challenged.**



## OREGON HISTORY THE TILLAMOOK BURN SUNSET SPRINGS

OREGON'S HISTORIC TILLAMOOK FOREST FIRE OF 1933 SPREAD OVER 240,000 ACRES OF FOREST LAND. FIRES IN 1939 AND 1945 BROUGHT THE TOTAL TO 355,000 ACRES. OVER 13 BILLION BOARD FEET OF TIMBER WERE KILLED.

DEVASTATION BY THESE DISASTROUS FIRES AROUSED OREGON VOTERS TO APPROVE A BOND ISSUE FOR REFORESTATION AND PROTECTION OF THE BURNED AREA. ACCESS ROADS WERE BUILT AND HAZARDOUS SNAGS HAVE BEEN FELLED TO IMPROVE FOREST PROTECTION. MANY OF THESE SNAGS WERE SOUND; OVER SEVEN BILLION BOARD FEET HAVE BEEN SALVAGED. REFORESTATION BY PLANTING AND BY AERIAL SEEDING INCLUDES DOUGLAS FIR, NOBLE FIR, SITKA SPRUCE, WESTERN RED CEDAR AND OTHERS.

A NEW FOREST WILL PROVIDE VALUABLE WOOD AND PAPER PRODUCTS, IMPROVED WATER STORAGE, INCREASED FISH AND WILDLIFE AND EXPANDED OUTDOOR RECREATION.



Questions and Discussion