

OREGON OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL ANNUAL REPORT 2014





Mission

Protecting citizens, their property and the environment from fire and hazardous materials.

Vision

Premier Public Safety Services.

Values

PROFESSIONALISM

We are a highly skilled and competent workforce.

CREDIBILITY

We demonstrate trust and accountability through our actions.

COLLABORATION

We partner with others to achieve our mission.

LEADERSHIP

We are dedicated to an environment for success.

DEDICATION

We believe our mission is worthy of our efforts.



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The OSFM mission is to protect citizens, their property, and the environment from fire and hazardous materials. In the achievement of this mission, we remain committed to leveraging our partnerships with Oregon fire agencies, governmental and non-governmental organizations, stakeholders, and the citizens of Oregon.

The accomplishments listed in this annual report reflect a broad scope of the achievements in 2014. However, in the accomplishments you will be able to see our employees' commitment to the values that we weave throughout our organization, those of professionalism, credibility, collaboration, leadership, and dedication.

I appreciate the work of the OSFM staff, the commitment of the fire service, and our agency partners who help the OSFM achieve its mission. Through hard work and dedication, good things can be accomplished.

Thanks for all you do.

Jim Walker
Oregon State Fire Marshal

PROTECTING CITIZENS



Fire Prevention Month

The Fire & Life Safety Education branch (F&LSE) elevated Fire Prevention Month to a higher level of engagement in 2014, ensuring the theme “Smoke Alarms Save Lives! Test Yours Every Month!” was disseminated to Oregon fire agencies, local partners, and Oregon Safe Kids. The OSFM also collaborated with the Oregon Food Bank to distribute 10,000 smoke alarm education fliers in food boxes for low-income residents throughout Oregon’s 36 counties.

Smoke Alarm Installation Program

The Smoke Alarm Installation Program provides smoke alarms and funding assistance to Oregon fire agencies to install smoke alarms in at-risk residences. This year, staff from F&LSE trained more than 60 representatives from 40 fire agencies on the program and more than 2,000 smoke alarms were distributed. We continue to evaluate the program in preparation for the 2015-2017 biennium.

Community Right to Know

The Oregon Community Right to Know (CR2K) and Protection Act, passed by the Oregon Legislature in 1985, directs the Office of State Fire Marshal to survey private and government employers for information about the presence of hazardous substances at their facilities. The purpose of this legislation is to provide emergency planners, first responders, and the public with information about hazardous substances in their communities. The law also requires the OSFM to collect information about incidents involving hazardous substances.

In 2014, the CR2K program focused its efforts to obtain complete and correct hazardous substance data from the nearly 13,000 facilities surveyed. To accomplish this, we held facilities more accountable to thoroughly and accurately complete their Hazardous Substance Information Survey (HSIS). Once the surveys were submitted, we carefully reviewed them for accuracy and contacted facilities to get any missing information or to make corrections. We also implemented several new quality control measures to validate the data.

These efforts allow us to provide much better data to our customers to use for emergency preparedness and response. It also gives us the ability to better identify facilities with extremely hazardous substances and advise them they may be subject to the federal requirements to participate with their local emergency planning committee (LEPC). Also in 2014, we strengthened our partnerships with local emergency managers to assist them in accessing our data for their emergency preparedness efforts.

These efforts and partnerships help to advance Oregon in protecting its citizens, their property, and the environment from fire and hazardous materials.



Oregon Revised Statutes designate the OSFM as the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) as required by the Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act of 1986. The Oregon SERC is responsible for designating emergency planning districts (EPDs) throughout Oregon, establishing local emergency planning committees (LEPCs) within the EPDs, appointing membership to the LEPCs, and providing review and comments on local community emergency response plans.

The Oregon SERC established a SERC/LEPC Working Group with representatives from the Oregon Office of Emergency Management, local emergency managers, Oregon Emergency Management Association, Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, fire service, and regional hazmat teams. The group was tasked with determining what the SERC and LEPCs should look like in Oregon and provide recommendations to the SERC how best to implement the plan.

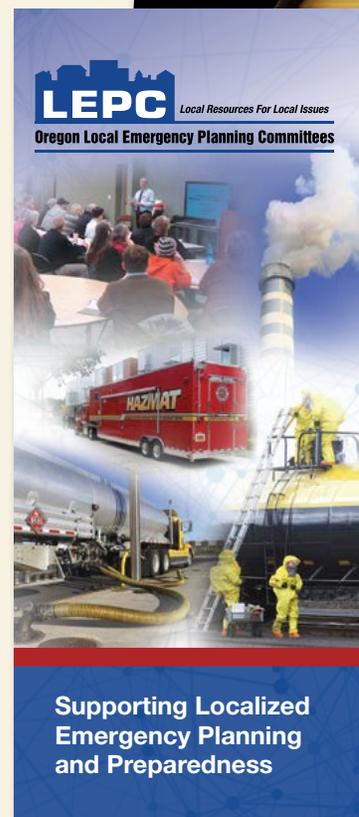
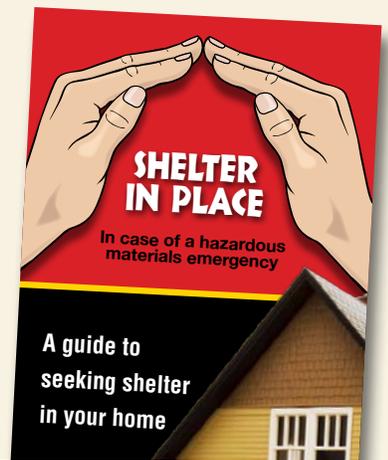
The SERC/LEPC Working Group drafted an administrative rule that establishes a SERC Executive Committee, designates emergency planning districts, and gives direction to local emergency planning committees. The OAR is currently in the rulemaking process.

As a member of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant Working Group, the SERC coordinator met with staff from the Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration in Washington DC to provide input into their effort to streamline the program.

The Oregon SERC provided hundreds of first responders from agencies across the state with specialized hazardous materials training related to response to transportation incidents. Training was funded through the HMEP grant program.

The F&LSE branch, along with the Fire and Life Safety Services branch, re-engaged the OSFM Competency Recognition Program to update existing curriculum with current code and laws. The process will continue into 2015.

The F&LSE branch committed to be active and participated in its roles with the Pacific Northwest Coordinating Group Communication, Prevention & Investigation Working Team, the Oregon Fire Marshals Association, Oregon Safe Kids, the National Fire Protection Association's Public Education Network, and the Oregon State Police Safety Committee.





Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Laws

The F&LSE branch provides educational presentations on Oregon's smoke and carbon monoxide alarm laws. The laws provide guidance on legal requirements and obligations when renting, selling, or remodeling a home. In addition to providing these training sessions to real estate agencies, the F&LSE branch, in partnership with the Consumer Product Safety Commission, conducted five carbon monoxide safety and educational presentations around the state. The training provided information on carbon monoxide safety and Oregon's carbon monoxide alarm laws. These sessions help protect Oregonians by increasing awareness and compliance of CO laws.

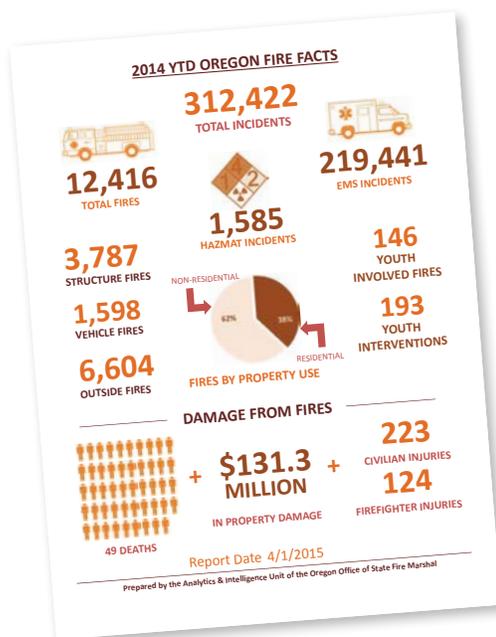
Incident and Data Reporting

The OSFM integrated the Fire & Life Safety Services Inspection Program into Oregon Fire Bridge,™ leveraging the use of the OSFM's incident reporting database and creating a cost-effective solution to tracking inspection reports. An additional module on Virtual Informatics was purchased and tested during 2014. This interactive module will improve efficiency in data analysis and is available to all Oregon fire agencies. Training on this module will begin in 2015.

The Analytics and Intelligence unit provided 92 hours of Oregon Fire Bridge™ and National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) training to personnel from 77 Oregon fire agencies. This training teaches local fire agencies how to use incident data to identify issues and trends that threaten lives and property in their communities. It also equips local fire agencies with the tools and knowledge to more effectively manage their agencies to ensure their communities are receiving the best public safety services possible.

The Analytics and Intelligence unit also published the 2014 Supplemental Annual Report. This report provides valuable statistical information to the OSFM and Oregon fire service and captured the Oregon fire problem for the year prior.

The Analytics and Intelligence unit is now paperless. All information request and notification forms are in electronic format. This improves efficiency in operations and information sharing, and reduces cost and environmental impact.



The Youth Fire Prevention and Intervention unit (YFP&I) collaborated with the OSFM Analytics and Intelligence unit on the 2013 YFP&I Annual Report distributed to more than 400 fire chiefs, fire marshals, and community partners.

Education Curriculums

The YFP&I unit distributed 420 elementary education curriculums to schools in six counties. The curriculums included 1st – 5th grade Teacher Guides, Elementary Teaching DVDs, and support materials. They also distributed 33 middle school curriculums with teaching DVDs and support materials.

School Information Packets

The OSFM distributed 2,300 School Information Packets to Oregon fire chiefs, fire marshals, and all public, private, and charter school superintendents and principals. Other partners who distributed materials included Portland Public School District, Salem-Keizer School District, OSFM deputies, Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO), fire chiefs, and fire marshals.

The school packet included: a newly developed Report School Fires rack card, a Report All School Fires DVD, letters from Oregon State Fire Marshal Jim Walker and SDAO/Property and Casualty Coverage for Education (PACE), an elementary and middle school curriculum order form, a Classroom Guide to Fire Safety poster, a Fire Detection System Checklist, and a Do the Drill resource guide.

The Report School Fires program is designed to help fire agencies and school administrators teach school staff Oregon rules relating to fires set on school property, classroom fire safety, fire education/drill instruction, and requirements for reporting every fire, every time, any size, anywhere. The Classroom Guide to Fire Safety lists common classroom circumstances teachers need to be aware of to increase classroom fire safety. The Do the Drill resource guide provides a consistent message on school fire evacuation planning, drills, and reporting.

Survive the Burn

The OSFM was a sponsor for the 2014 Survive the Burn run in Salem. Approximately 450 youth fire safety education items, including the newly developed Burn Safety rack card, were distributed to attendees. The OSFM-sponsored photo booth took 280 participant photos that included a “Stay Away from Hot Things” fire safety message. Partnering with parents and caregivers is critical so changes can be made in the home to prevent incidents. Survive the Burn provides us an opportunity to share key prevention messages on fire and burn safety with youth, parents, and caregivers to help them take the correct actions to reduce the risk of fires and burns at home.

Oregon Life Safety Team

The Oregon Life Safety Team (OSLT) implements statewide fire prevention and safety education and endorses, promotes, and distributes educational materials. Team members include representatives from Oregon fire agencies and local, state, and federal partner organizations. The OSLT conducted information sessions on Oregon fire data, older adult fire and fall prevention education, home fire sprinklers, smoke alarms for the Deaf and hard of hearing, and other topics. The OSLT also implemented quarterly educational topics on smoke alarms, home fire escape planning, and attempting to control a home fire. All of these efforts improve the coordination and implementation of consistent statewide fire prevention education for the safety of all Oregonians.



Youth with Fire Data Review Committee

The OSFM convened a Youth Involved with Fire Data Collection Committee. Committee members, made up of the Oregon fire service, worked to clarify youth-with-fire incidents and improve intervention reporting guidelines and processes. This effort promotes accurate and uniform data reporting by Oregon fire agencies. The committee completed their final recommendation report in July.

Guide to Station Tours

The YFP&I unit provided the publication A Guide to Station Tours with an age appropriate learning DVD to 365 Oregon fire chiefs and fire marshals. A Guide to Station Tours is designed to assist the fire service in adapting fire safety messages to the developmental abilities of each age group.

JFSI Trainings and Screening Tool

Two Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist (JFSI) I trainings were provided in collaboration with Clackamas Fire District #1, the Clackamas YFP&I Network, Mid-Columbia Fire & Rescue, Fire Safe US, and Juvenile Justice. Forty-four people received this valuable training.

The YFP&I unit collaborated with the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training and the National Fire Academy to provide the first JFSI II training in Oregon. Training attendees are pictured below.

The OSFM is committed to ensuring a strong JFSI model is implemented in Oregon by providing consistent and continuing educational opportunities to fire agency personnel and our community partners. The trainings help fire agency personnel who deal with youth and families in prevention of youth-set fires. Trainings provide a systematic approach to dealing with a shared problem through the identification, management, and treatment of youth with firesetting behavior.

The Oregon Screening Tool serves as the standard for fire service screening of youth with firesetting behavior and ensures children and families receive the same quality of intervention throughout Oregon.



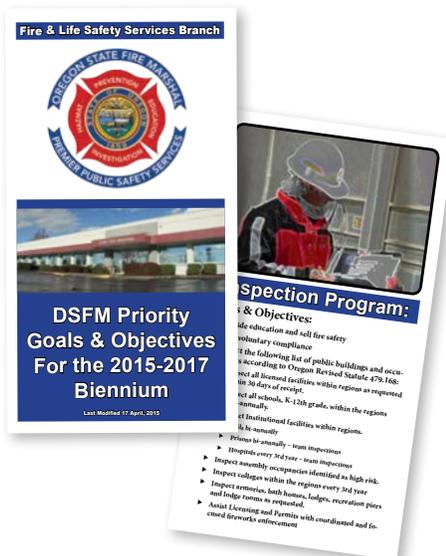
Deputy State Fire Marshals

The OSFM's 12 Deputy State Fire Marshals (DSFM) investigated a total of 184 fires, with an estimated \$22.1 million in loss, 25 civilian deaths, 25 civilian injuries, and eight firefighter injuries. Of the 184 fires, 75 were accidental (41%), 65 undetermined (35%), 40 incendiary (22%), and four are still under investigation (2%).

The Codes and Technical Service unit adopted and maintains the 2014 Oregon Fire Code as the state's premier fire and life safety publication. This publication addresses conditions hazardous to life and property from fire, explosion, handling or use of hazardous materials, and the use and occupancy of buildings and premises in Oregon.

The Fire & Life Safety Services branch developed a citation program and policy for DSFM's statewide that uses a scope and severity decision matrix. This program and policy also specifically addresses Class A/B/C Misdemeanor and Class A/B Violations of Fire Related Oregon Revised Statutes 476, 477, and 480. This was the first citation policy developed for the Fire and Life Safety Services branch.

The branch also revised the fire investigation policy for DSFM's to include a new standardized report-writing format, a photo log, investigation report, and forms for 'permission to enter,' and 'fire scene diagram.' This revision was done in conjunction with the Oregon State Police Arson unit to ensure standardized report writing. This was the first collaborative effort on an agreed fire investigation report-writing format between these two agencies.



The branch instituted a revised Deputy State Fire Marshal Task Book ensuring consistent competency to provide the highest level of service to the communities they serve.

Branch staff also implemented a new inspection program using the OSFM Fire Bridge reporting system. This transition is an ongoing effort to use new technology to improve customer service delivery and improve efficiency.



Cardlock

Cardlock compliance specialists completed records inspections of all 327 Oregon cardlock operators. These inspections ensure cardlock facility users meet all requirements, including fire and life safety training. The safety training includes instructions on what to do in the event of an emergency at these unattended facilities, thereby reducing the chance of damage or injury.

Cardlock staff, in collaboration with the Fire & Life Safety Education (F&LSE) branch, created a fire safety training video for users of Oregon's non-retail fueling facilities. The video assists operators who are required to provide fire safety training to each of their customers, who, in turn, must provide fire safety information to their employees.



Another tool, created in collaboration with the F&LSE branch, was a facility inspection video. This video demonstrates what our compliance specialists look for when inspecting cardlock facilities, and shows the cardlock operators what they should look for in the maintenance of their facilities.

Staff also analyzed cardlock inspection data, which revealed that fire extinguisher problems accounted for about 23% of facility non-compliant issues. This information will be used to determine the focus of compliance/education efforts in 2015.

Liquefied Petroleum Gas

Staff from the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) program completed 257 residential tank inspections. The LPG program is mandated to perform a “reasonable number” of residential tank inspections to ensure proper and safe installation of propane tanks. The most common deficiencies found were leaks, corrosion, and valves too close to sources of ignition.

Staff also completed 20 inspections of bulk propane storage and distribution plants for code compliance. These inspections are vital for the safety of all plant employees. Even a small leak or a minor deficiency can cause a catastrophic event including loss of life. The most common deficiencies identified were lack of signage and a variety of issues related to emergency remote shut down locations.

Staff began a propane company/employee licensing project to identify unlicensed companies working on propane-powered equipment. Oregon law requires the OSFM to administer examinations to ensure applicants have adequate knowledge of fire codes and standards before being licensed.

In 2014 LPG staff:

- Administered 113 exams
- Issued 709 employee licenses
- Issued 464 company licenses

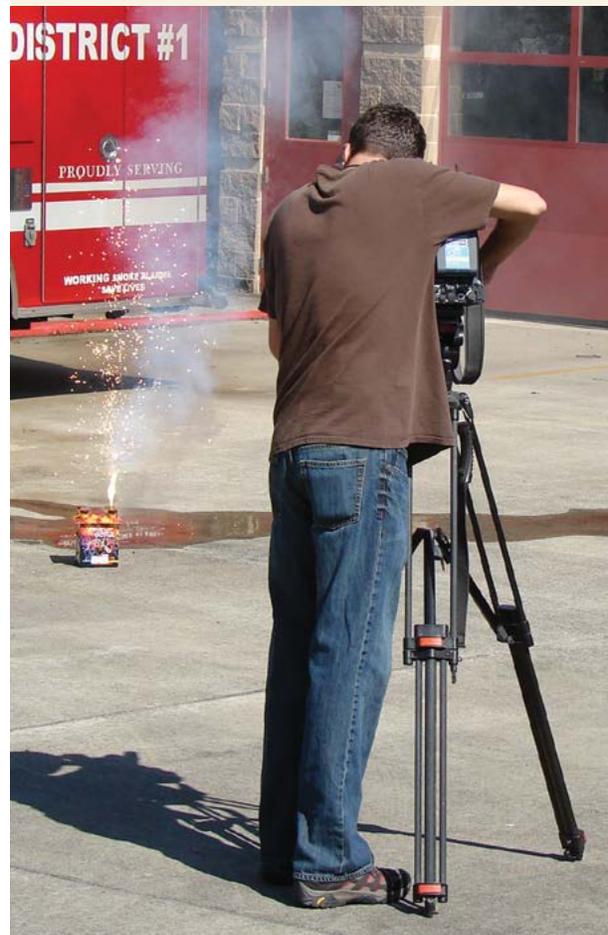
Fireworks

Staff issued 750 retail fireworks permits to allow applicants to sell fireworks at retail to the public. These applications are reviewed to ensure the safe operation of retail fireworks sales outlets.

Staff also issued 354 fireworks display permits for public fireworks displays. These applications are reviewed to ensure the safe operation of fireworks displays.

Staff also issued 145 general and limited operator certifications. Applicants for general operator certifications must demonstrate they have experience and training to be the person in charge of discharging fireworks at permitted fireworks displays.

Staff worked to improve the fireworks display permits process by emailing approved permits instead of faxing or mailing.



PROTECTING PROPERTY



Incident Management Teams

The State Fire Marshal's three incident management teams (IMTs) provide comprehensive incident command to manage ongoing emergency operations. IMTs provide incident management expertise in logistics, finance, planning, public information, operations, safety, and community issues.

A number of OSFM staff members and IMT members mobilized to six governor-declared conflagrations during the 2014 fire season, protecting property valued at approximately \$525 million at an estimated cost of \$2.3 million.

The IMTs respond with resources mobilized by the governor for a conflagration or other emergency that has overwhelmed the control and resources of local emergency responders. IMTs enhance effective coordination among responding agencies during fires, floods, earthquakes, structural collapse, tsunamis, the release of hazardous materials, and other natural or human-caused incidents.

In 2014, the IMTs published two new Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) to aid OSFM incident management team members in protecting citizens, their property, and the environment from fire and hazardous materials. The new SOGs serve to enhance procedures for a safe and efficient demobilization process and outline the importance of ensuring integrated briefings between agencies in Unified Command. Integration at all levels is the goal of an effective Unified Command structure.

The OSFM successfully recruited and deployed a number of new IMT members, including Communications Unit personnel. OSFM incident management teams are now listed in the Pacific Northwest Shared Resources Status Report, and OSFM staff continue to work with the Northwest Coordination Center to help align our teams with other teams in the region.

Collaboration

The OSFM collaborated with Portland Police, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, and Oregon State Police to destroy fireworks confiscated by police and fire agencies in 2014. Total weight of the burned fireworks was about 4,000 pounds.

The OSFM collaborated with the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to conduct annual IMT training and worked to resolve integration challenges. The joint conference resulted in more efficient and effective integration of the teams during deployment to the six governor-declared conflagrations. At each conflagration debriefing, integration was highlighted as a success of each deployment.

Staff worked with ODF to co-host an S-420 Command and General Staff course; a number of IMT members were able to fully qualify for team positions after having taken the course, which provides position-specific training along with a team scenario. Attending trainings with ODF team members allows for a greater understanding among participants about their partners' processes and procedures, which again aids in integration and incident management as a whole.

The Mobilization Plan Committee hosted the 2014 Fire Defense Board Annual Training and Meeting to approve changes to the 2014 Oregon Fire Service Mobilization Plan and to train fire defense board chiefs on implementation of the plan. This allowed the chiefs to request and deploy resources more effectively.



PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT



Hazardous Materials Emergency Response

Regional Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Teams protect life and the environment by responding to chemical emergencies and minimizing the dangers associated with them. There are 13 teams strategically located statewide to provide response to hazardous materials incidents. The teams consist primarily of volunteer and career firefighters, with some law enforcement and public works employees. Team members attend a minimum of 160 hours of specialized training to become hazardous material technicians.

Hazmat teams reduce physical and financial impacts to the environment, offset the need for every local fire agency to train and equip for hazmat events, and ensure the citizens of Oregon are protected from the effects of hazardous materials incidents.

With the increased traffic of rail-transported crude oil through the state, a new face to an old issue became a statewide topic of discussion. OSFM staff prepared a crude oil response assessment survey and recommendations to the Governor's Office, as well as hosting a special Crude Oil Field Day. The OSFM staff worked with a number of state and federal agencies and rail companies to conduct the Crude Oil Field Day with a focus on rail safety and crude oil transportation. The event highlighted current planning, response, and mitigation capabilities of agencies that might be involved after a derailment of cars carrying crude oil through Oregon.



Emergency Response

Emergency Response unit (ERU) staff conducted the fifth Oregon Hazmat Teams Conference in May. The conference serves as a forum by which industry, emergency response, and state agencies train together to increase knowledge, promote communication, and discuss response techniques.

Hazmat teams completed 28 outreach efforts providing a comprehensive training program for all first responders on the capabilities of the regional hazardous materials response teams. The outreach program improves hazmat response coordination at all levels and provides the teams and first responders the opportunity to develop relationships prior to an incident.

The OSFM continues to build on our partnership with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and other agencies. These partnerships allow us to exchange program information and materials, and effectively communicate changes in hazardous materials response capabilities on a broader scale than acting alone. Partnership with state, federal, and local agencies collectively enhances our ability to prepare for, and respond to, hazardous material incidents.

Fireworks program staff issued 142 Agricultural fireworks permits allowing certain businesses, such as vineyards and grass seed growers, to use agricultural fireworks to scare away birds and animals destructive to crops.

Staff from the License and Permits unit worked collaboratively with stakeholders to develop a legislative concept to expand the type of properties where agricultural fireworks can be used to protect those properties, such as golf courses and estuaries.





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