
2021 Wildfire Season Recap



November 2, 2021

Wildfire mitigation has three components, with the priority being the safety of our customers, our communities and our employees

Employee, customer, community safety



Preventing assets from being involved in igniting a wildfire

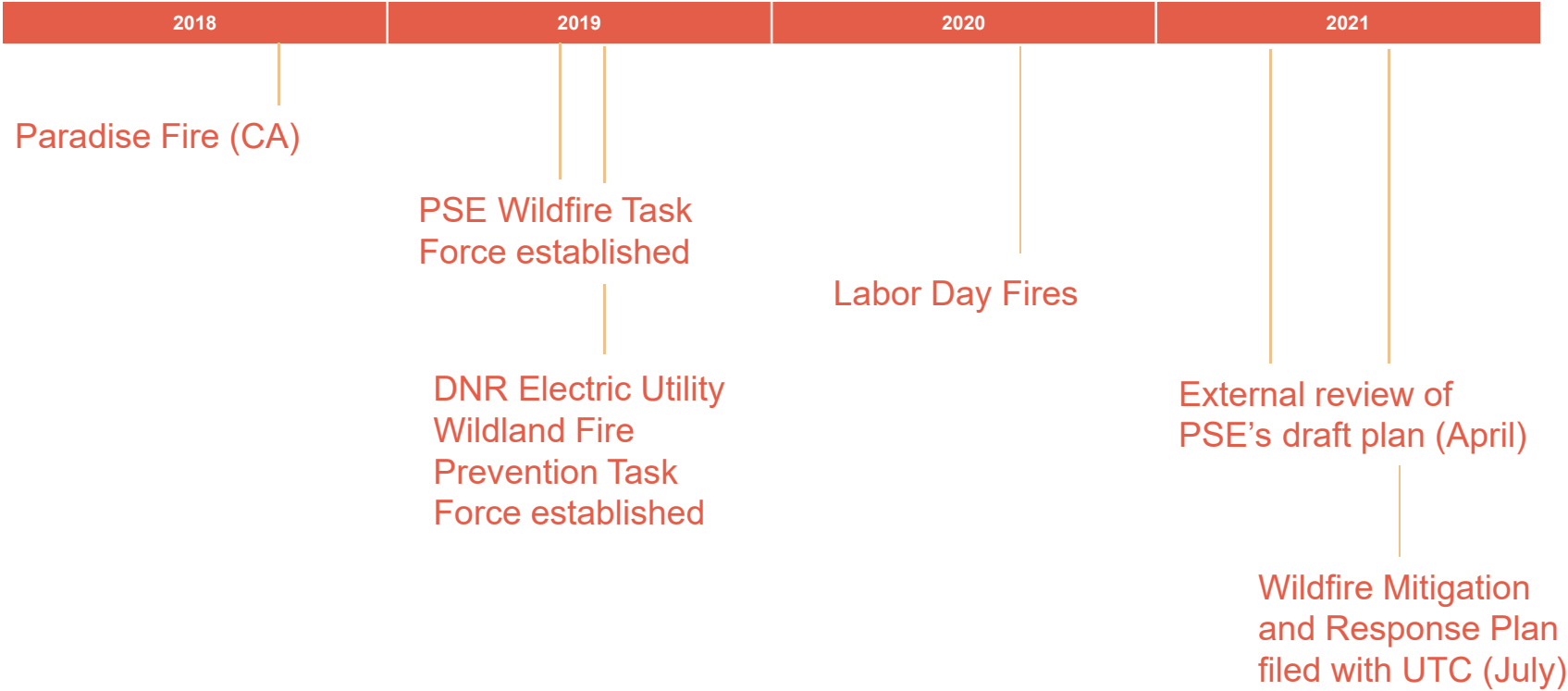


Rapid detection of an ignition to limit consequence



Preventing critical assets from being damaged in a wildfire

PSE, like other utilities, has increased its focus and engagement on this emerging risk



Key elements of PSE's Wildfire Mitigation and Response Plan

Having a formalized plan provides the necessary guidance and directives: prioritizing safety, establishing processes and standardizing PSE's strategy for mitigating wildfires

- Built upon wildfire risk assessment
- Mitigation response elements:
 - Improve situational awareness for real-time operations
 - Reduce faults from occurring
 - Protecting faults from causing ignition
- Operational procedures and emergency response
- Communications and coordination



Pre-season actions, as outlined in our plan, reduced wildfire risk



Targeted pre-season inspections were conducted on higher-risk transmission and distribution overhead lines



Hazard tree removal, along with hot-spot trimming, was performed in order to prevent vegetation from contacting energized conductors



Improved situational awareness in combination with new processes and guidance to enable operational decision making, helping to reduce ignitions and provide early detection



Communication with customers and collaboration with external agencies and stakeholders

Communications and outreach efforts were broad as well as targeted

Monthly newsletter

THE VOICE OF myPSE 

The latest news on what's powering our neighborhoods



We're working year-round to prepare for wildfire risks

We know that outages are inconvenient, especially in the heat of summer. So we spend the year strengthening our electric system against potential wildfire outages. We take a number of proactive steps as part of wildfire preparedness, with a focus on the areas in our service area that have the highest risk of wildfire. Prevention work includes increased tree trimming and removal, pre-wildfire season inspections, installing tree wire (specially-coated wire designed to prevent an electric short), and strategic undergrounding. Many of these actions also improve PSE's ability to withstand adverse winter storms, which traditionally are the major cause of damage to our system. Find out how to be prepared at pse.com/wildfireplan.

September 2021 EnergyWise 

Facebook

Puget Sound Energy July 20

As the heat of summer continues, emergency preparedness and response are at the core of our services. We view meeting the growing challenge of wildfires as an extension of those efforts with increased tree trimming and removal, pre-wildfire season inspections, installing tree wire, and strategic undergrounding. Many of these actions also improve PSE's ability to withstand adverse winter storms, which traditionally are the major cause of damage to our system. Learn more at <http://ms.spr.ly/6186n5Acu>



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To help meet the challenges of wildfires we've increased tree trimming and removal, along with conducting pre-wildfire season inspections, installing tree wire, and strategic undergrounding. Learn more at ms.spr.ly/6014n5AcO.



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Bill messaging

August 2021 bill print messages
Summary page

PSE response to Wildfires

To help meet the challenges of wildfires we've increased tree trimming and removal, along with conducting pre-wildfire season inspections, installing tree wire, and strategic undergrounding. Visit our website at pse.com/wildfireplan



The following were completed before July 1, 2021

System Inspections

580

miles of higher risk distribution circuits

187

miles of transmission lines

Equipment Maintenance

4

areas on the transmission system identified for follow up inspection; no issues found

Vegetation Management

473

hazard trees removed

1,690

trees trimmed



PSE's operational plan was responsive to evolving conditions

What happened in 2021 in PSE's service area:

- Eight red flag warnings issued by the National Weather Service in Eastern Washington (Kittitas County)
- Two red flag warnings issued by the National Weather Service on the Western slope of the Cascades (all counties except Kitsap and Kittitas)

Our response on PSE's higher wildfire risk lines:

- **Eight Level 1 operational action plans** – stop manual testing of transmission lines; de-energize lines non-consequential to serving load
- **Two Level 2 operational action plans** – disabling automatic reclosing and enable instantaneous trip via SCADA
- **No level 3 actions.** If enacted, would include level 2 actions manually



Preparing for 2022



Continued development of risk model, including burn potential and fire propagation, likelihood and consequence of ignitions



New technologies: high definition cameras, granular weather data, drone program, satellite imagery and AI



Engaging stakeholders and customers, especially in high risk or isolated areas where reliability would suffer as a result of actions and egress is a concern



Continued engagement with DNR advisory committee