David James
Wildfire Resiliency Mgr.

Avista Wildfire Resiliency
Washington Transportation & Utilities Committee
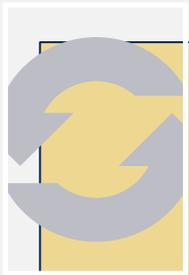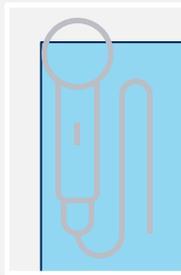
April 27, 2022

Agenda

Fire Season Outlook
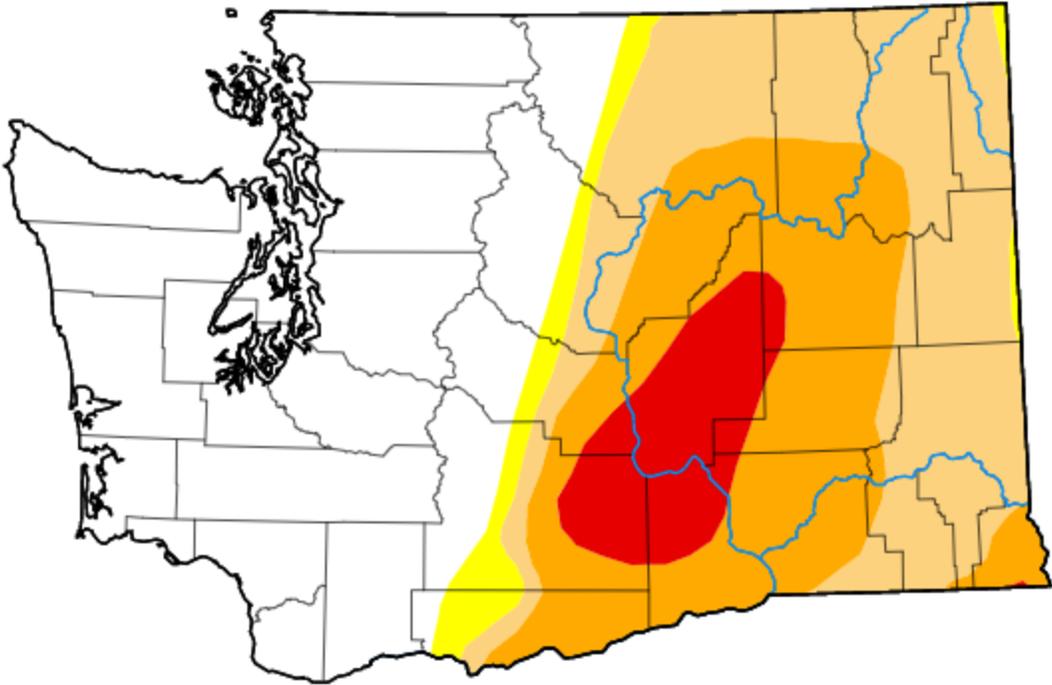
Plan Performance and 2022 Goals

Risk Model Refresh

Communications Plan

Fire Season Outlook

Drought Monitor April 21, 2022
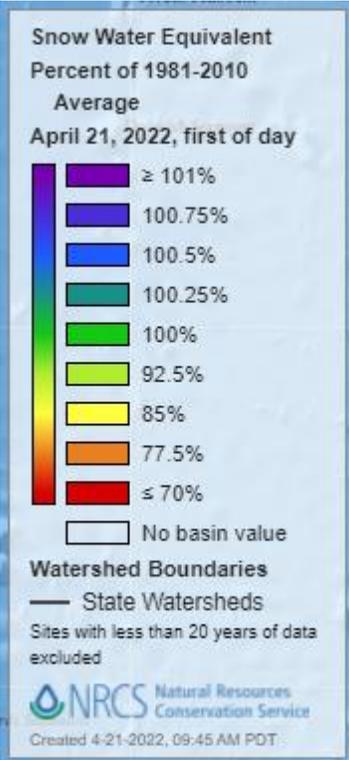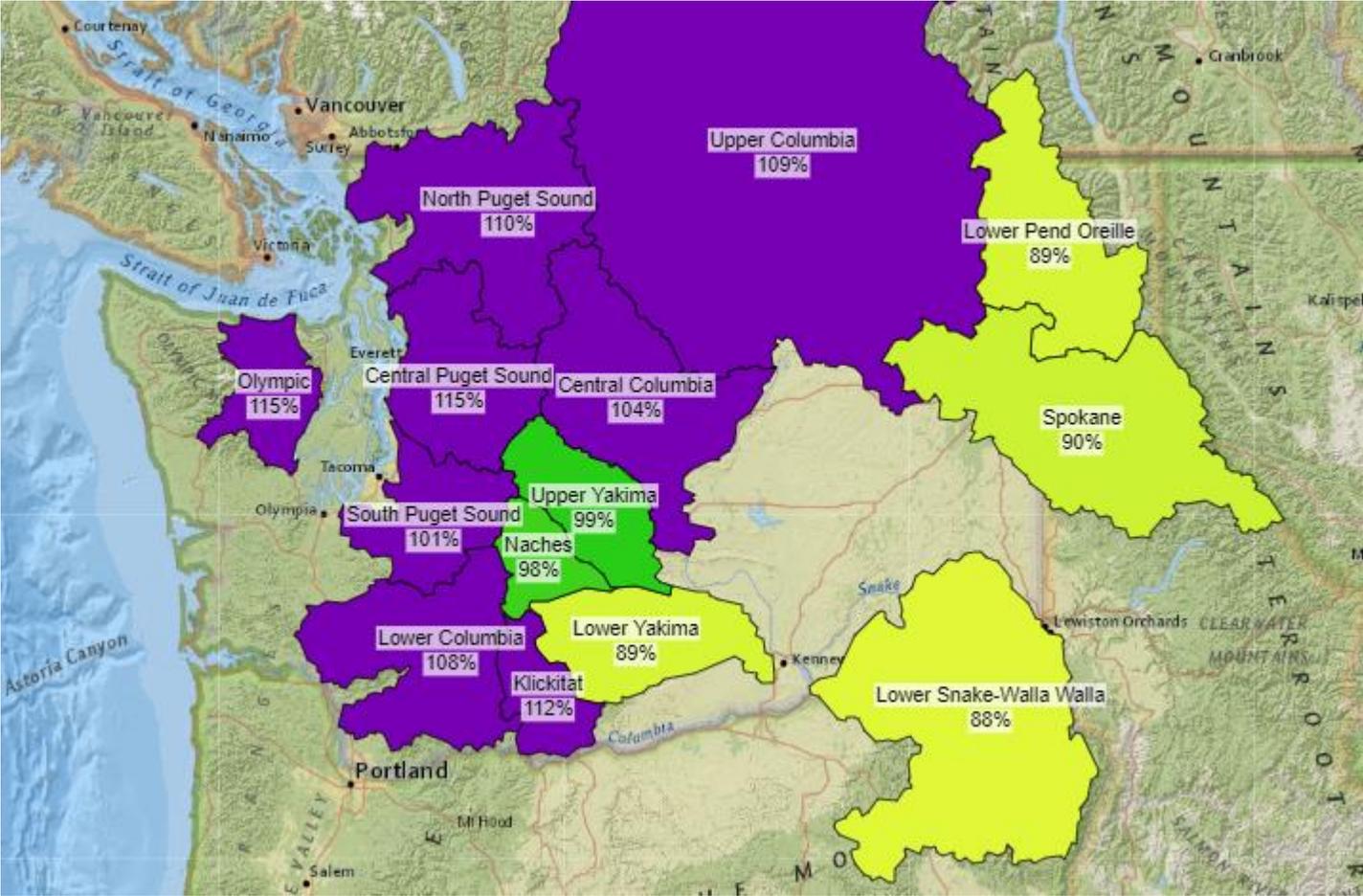
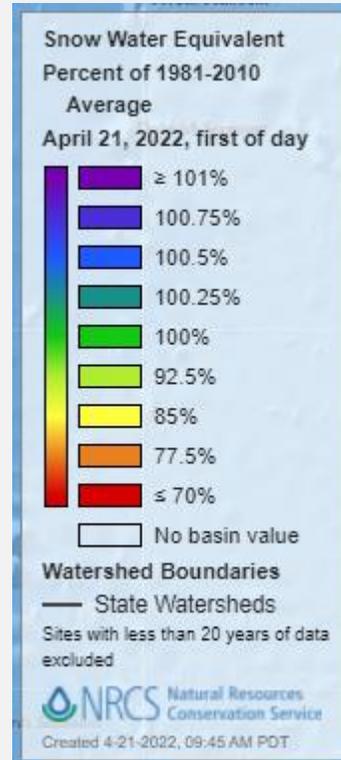# Washington Snow-Water Equivalent (4-21-22)

April 2022

6F° Colder than Normal

California Snow-Water Equivalent (4-21-22)
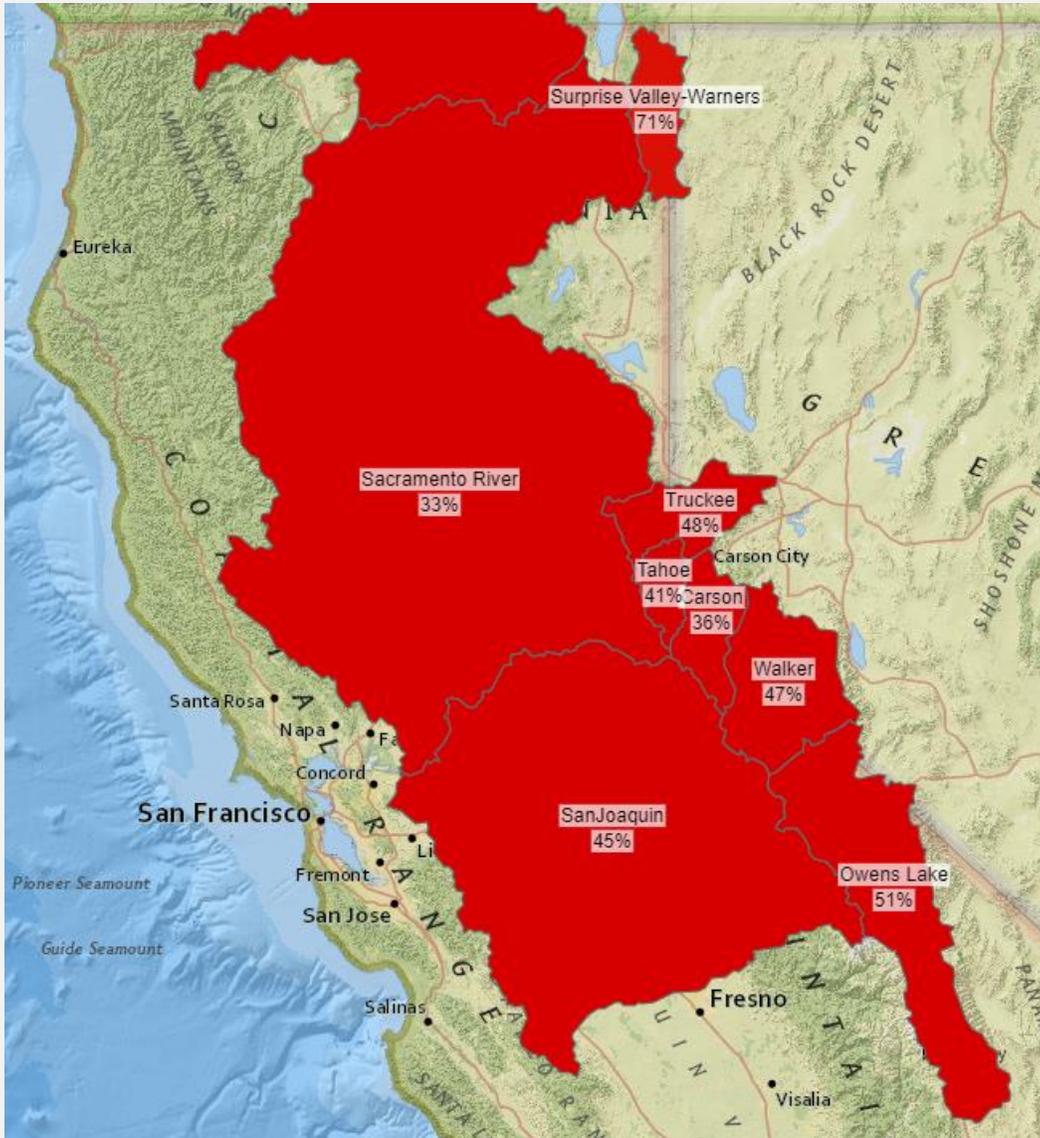
Less than 50% Normal Snowpack

Summer Weather Outlook
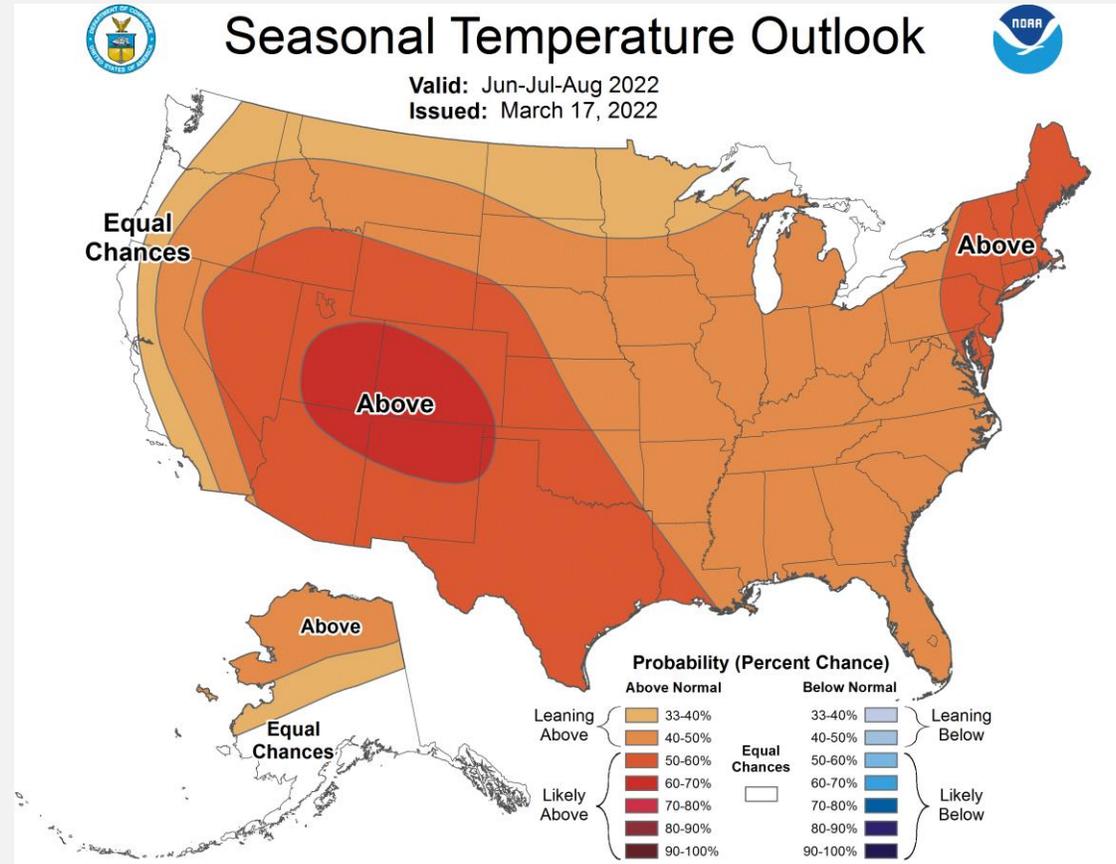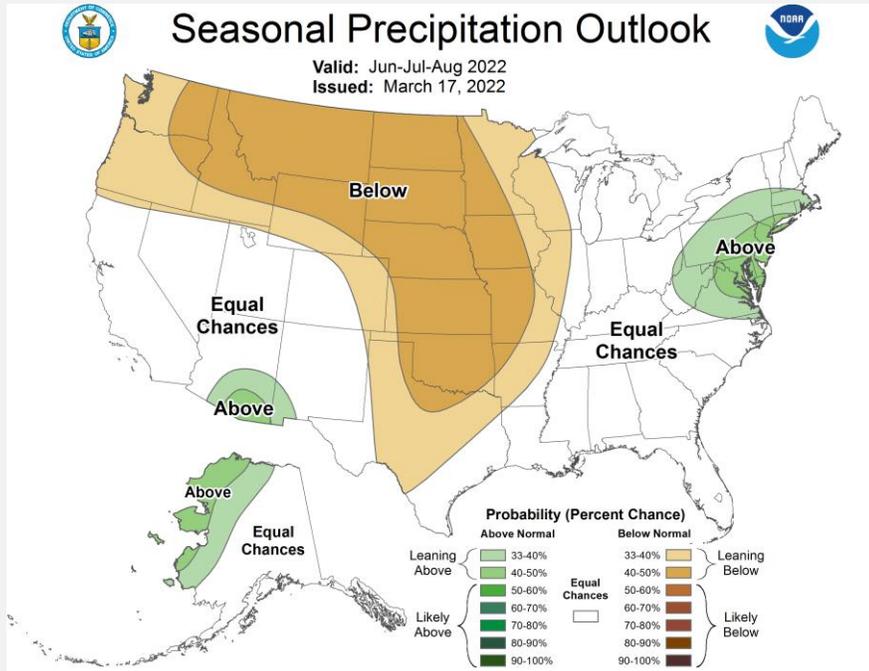
"Intense heat domes used to be rare but have increased dramatically in recent years, a trend that is likely linked to human-caused climate change."

Risk Model Updates

Wildfire Risk Models

Short Term – Operational (7 Day) → 7-day National Weather Forecast, and Avista infrastructure health & performance

Geographical – Wildland Urban Interface → **Fire Risk between Forest Lands & Human Development**

Liability – Financial Exposure → Financial Risk measured broadly across all stakeholder groups

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Refresh

Fuels + Housing + Electric Infrastructure

Electric Distribution System
Wildland Urban Interface
- Tier 1
- Tier 2
- Tier 3

LESS RISK

MORE RISK

Fuels + Outage Rates + Vegetation Risk + Housing Unit Impact
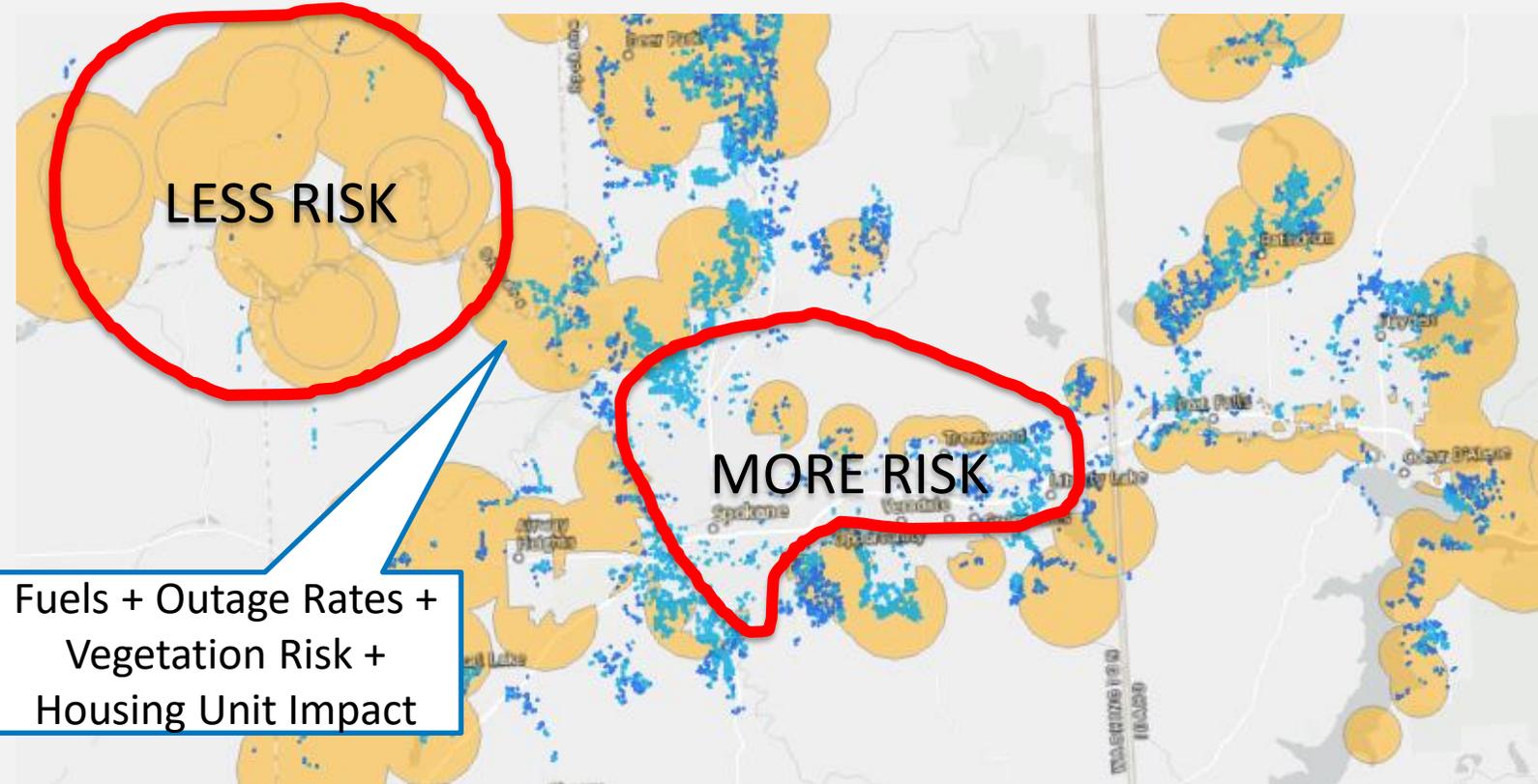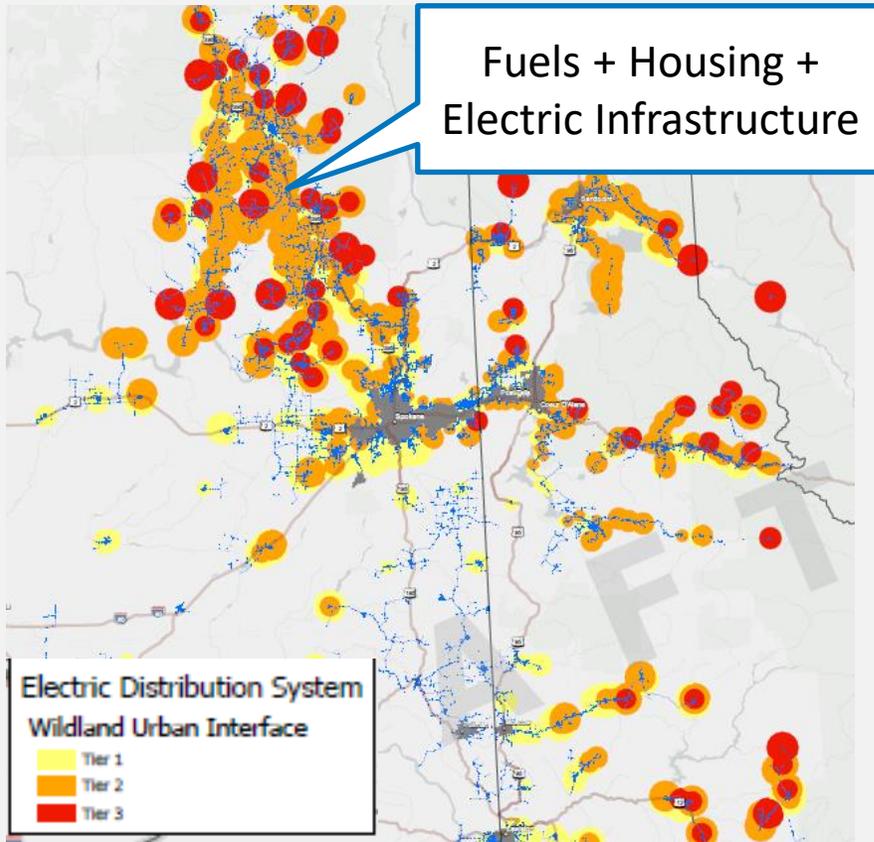
Tiers 2 (orange) & 3 (red) included
In Grid Hardening Program
3,240 miles

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Refresh

Trends and Insights

Less Risk in Rural Areas

Increased Risk in Suburban Area

Slight Reduction in Overall Risk

Plan Performance & 2022 Goals

Plan Elements
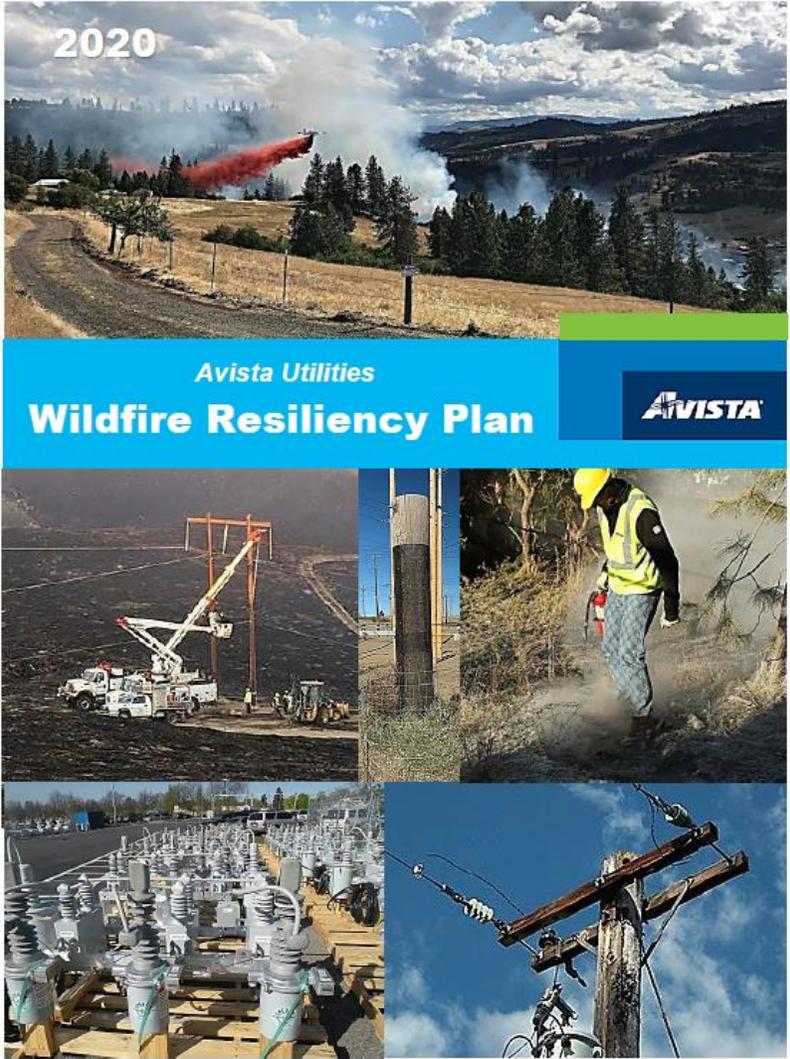
Risk Based Vegetation (results March 2022)
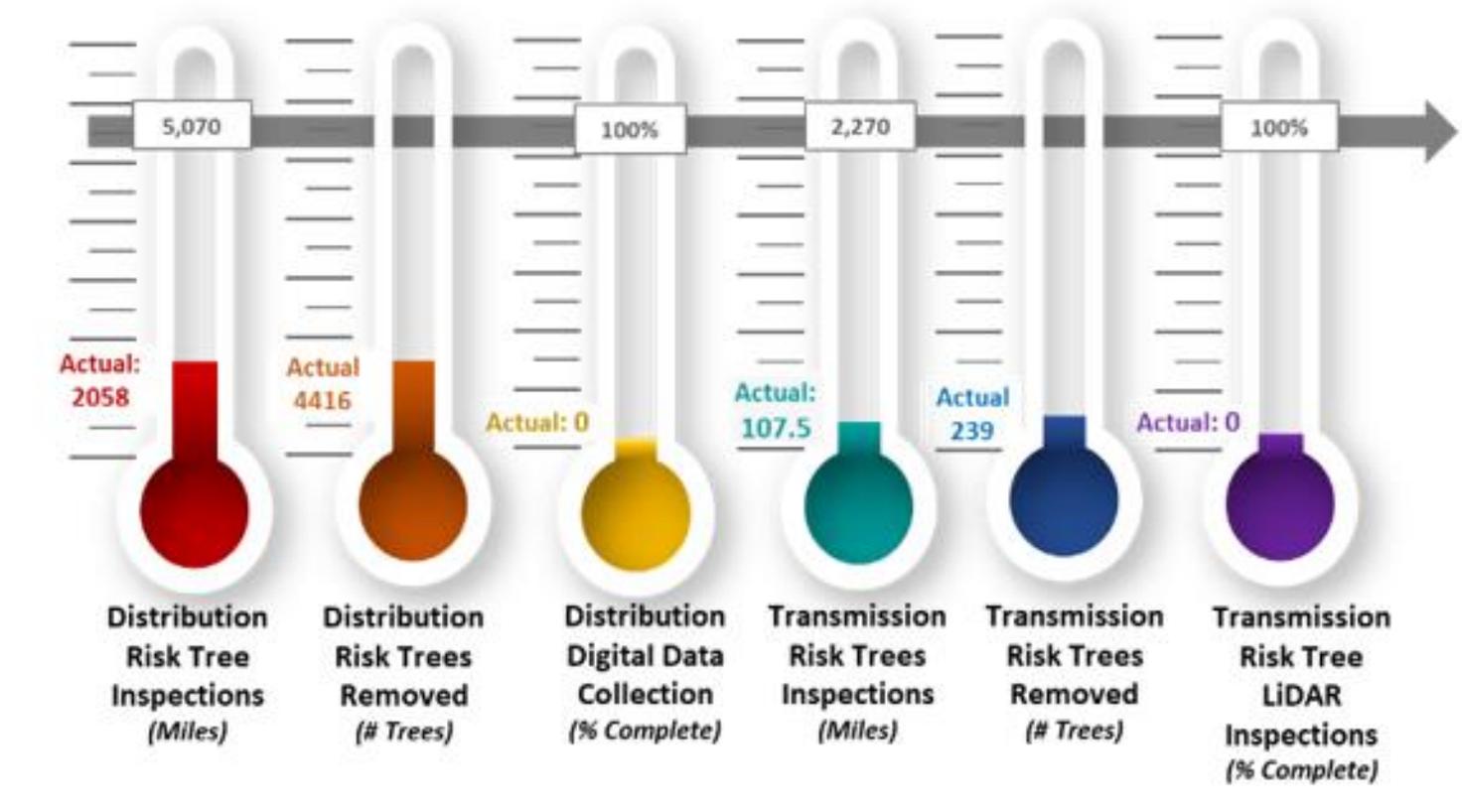
100% of Distribution & Transmission Lines Inspected in 2022

Reduce Tree Fall-Ins

Distribution Risk Tree Inspections (Miles)	Distribution Risk Trees Removed (# Trees)	Distribution Digital Data Collection (% Complete)	Transmission Risk Trees Inspections (Miles)	Transmission Risk Trees Removed (# Trees)	Transmission Risk Tree LiDAR Inspections (% Complete)
40% System	4,416 Trees	Q2/Q3	5% System	239 Trees	Q2/Q3

Infrastructure Upgrades (results March 2022)

600 Equipment Failures per year (5-yr average)

Reduce Equipment Failures
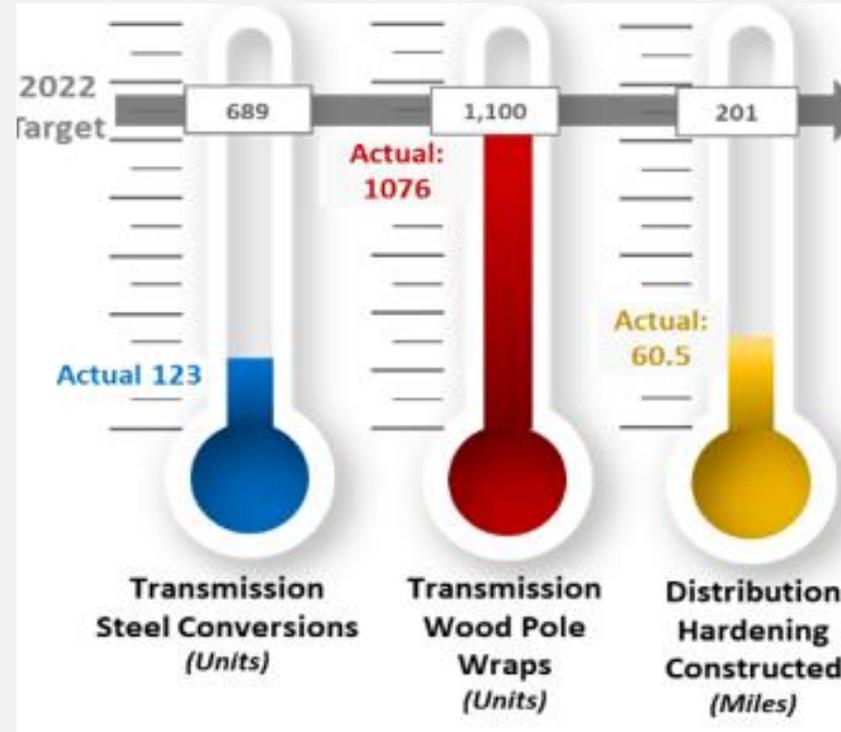
Transmission Steel Conversions (Units)	Transmission Wood Pole Wraps (Units)	Distribution Hardening Constructed (Miles)
2022 Target: 689	1,100	201
Actual 123	Actual: 1076	Actual: 60.5
20% Target	98% Target	30% Target

Automated Dry Land Mode (results March 2022)

2022 Target	100	13	100%	100%
	Actual: 91	Actual: 8	Actual: 5%	Actual: 5%
	Fire Mode Relay Settings Updated (Units)	Distribution Automation Devices Installed (Units)	Oldtown Substation Update (% Complete)	Sprague Substation Update (% Complete)
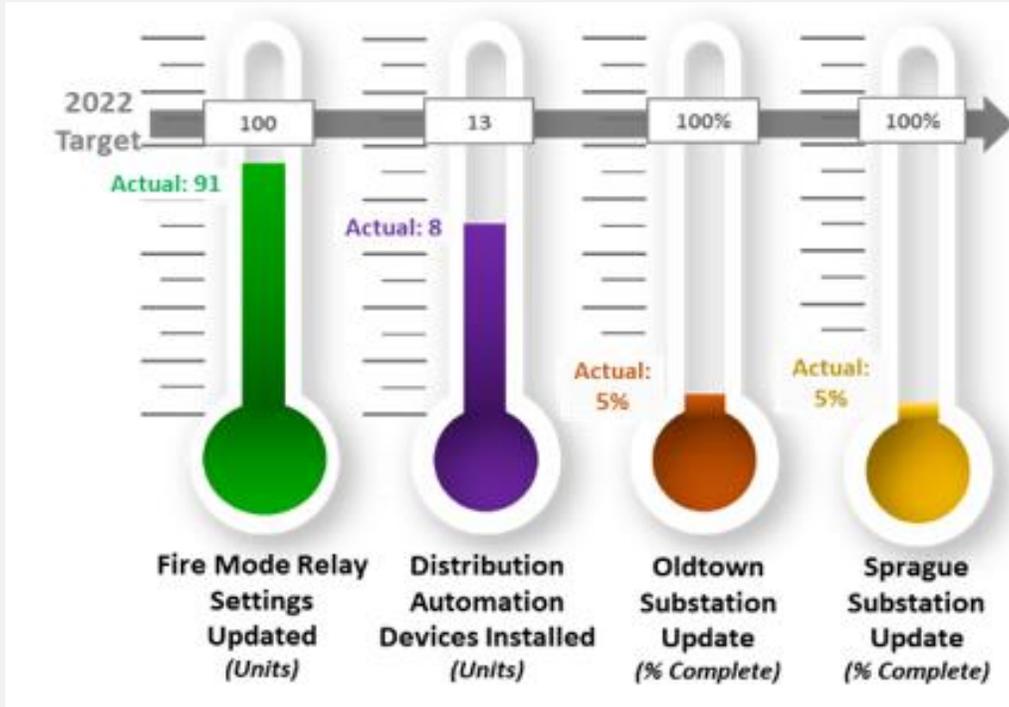
91%
Target

62%
Target

Q2-Q3

38%
System

Red Flag Warnings

Align Protection with Fire Risk

Automated Dry Land Mode

De-Energization → **Catastrophic** Fire Risk

Extreme Dry Land Mode → **Extreme** Fire Risk   Fault Energies **10%**

Elevated Dry Land Mode → **Elevated** Fire Risk   Fault Energies **10-20%**

"New" Base Dry Land Mode → **Balanced** Reliability   Fault Energies **10-50%**

Non-Fire Season → **Maximum** Reliability   Fault Energies **10-100%**
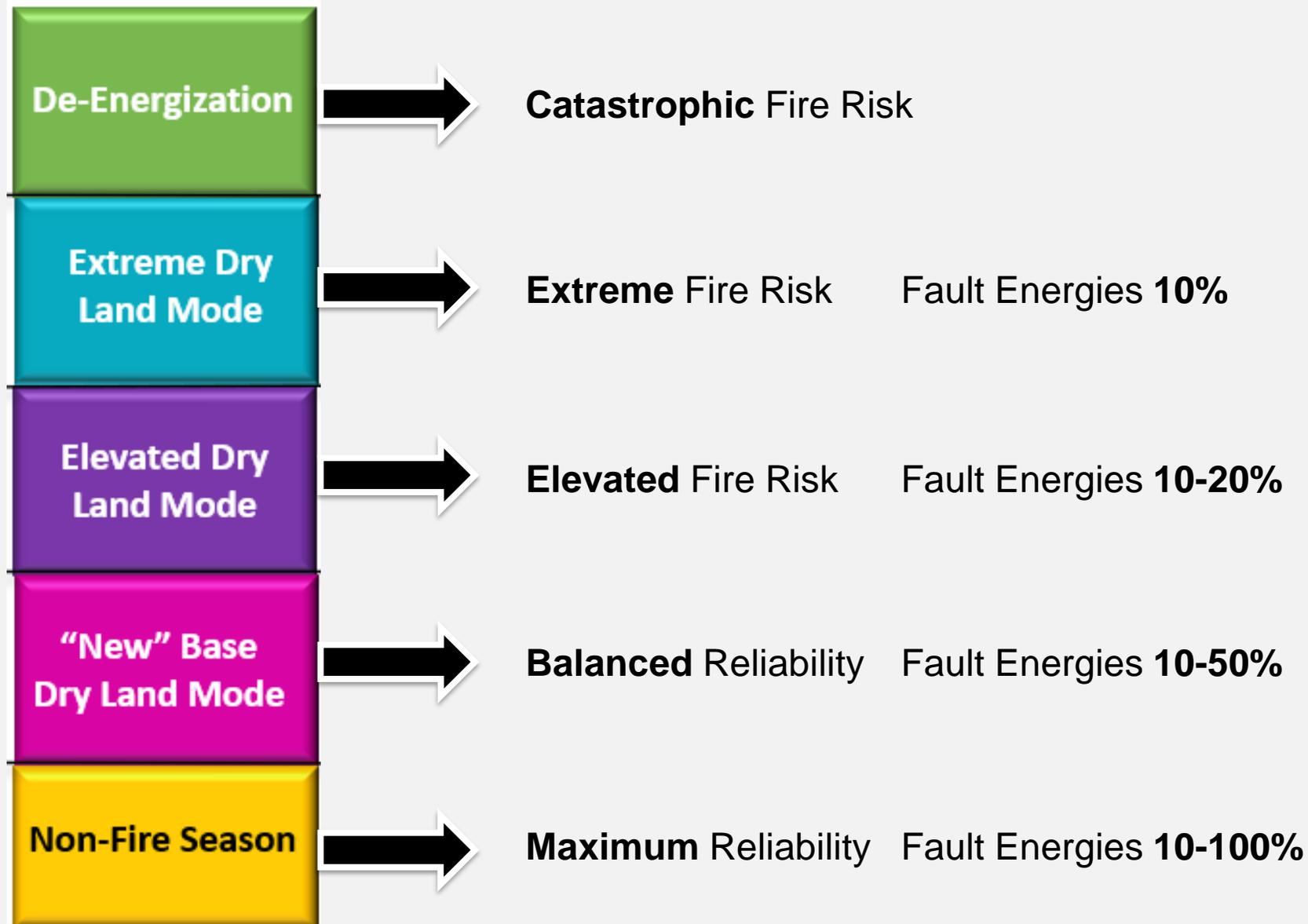
Operations & Emergency Response (results March 2022)

Customer Driven Right Tree Right Place — 42%

Fire Expedited Response — 42%

Fuel Reduction Partnerships — 67%

Fire Safety Training — 25%
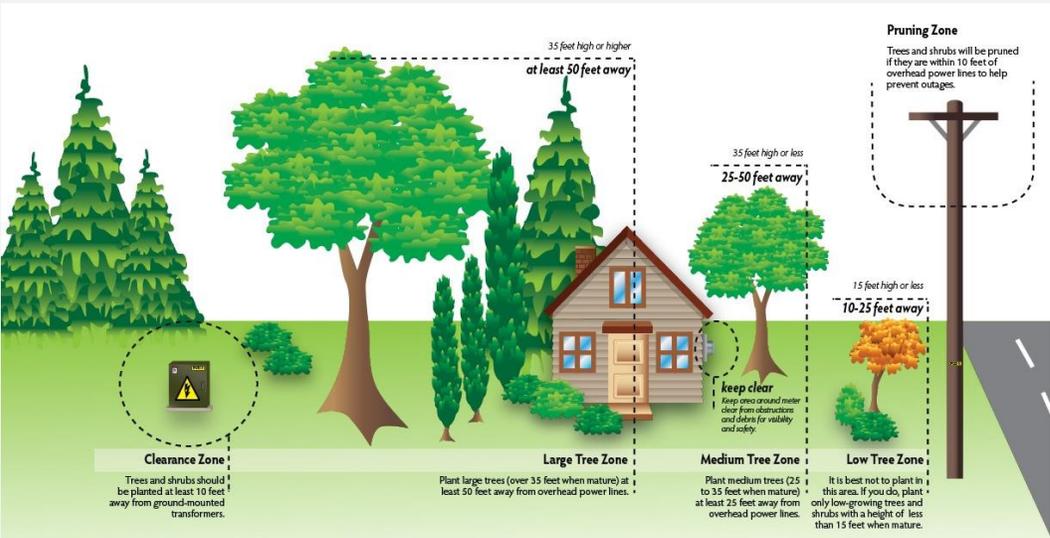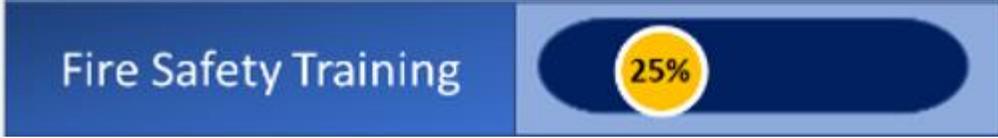
Communications Plan

Communications Plan

SMS Text Email, Phone

Social Media

Elevated Fire Threat

Town Hall Meetings

Preparation Guides

Outreach to Vulnerable Customers

Thank You