Risk Assessment and Mapping for CWPP's

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Outline

◆ Lesson's learned

◆ Resources and tools

◆ Pitfalls

◆ Key Messages

◆ FOCUS: Large and Small Scale

Lesson's Learned

Regardless of Scale

"All models are wrong, some models are **useful**"
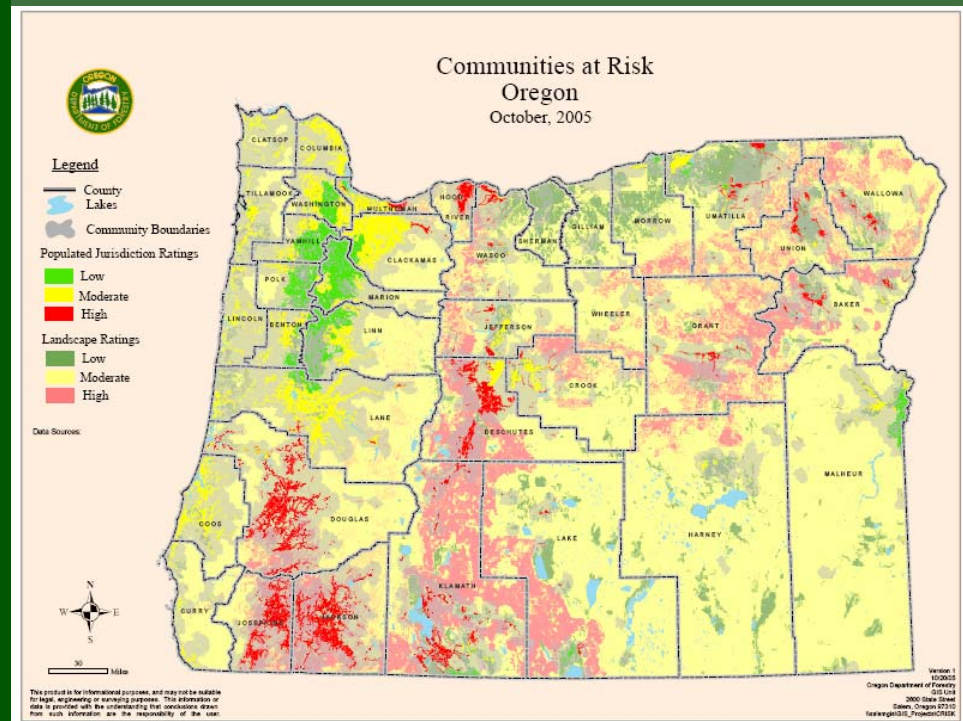
George Box

◆ Risk Assessments are a model:

– A simplification of a complex real world

– The likelihood of an event occurring X the loss if it does occur

Scale Matters!

◆ Statewide/regional

– Assesses communities and large watersheds

– Limited by what data is consistent over large area

– Ignore very good local data

– Struggle with defining "community"

Communities at Risk
Oregon
October, 2005

Legend
County
Lakes
Community Boundaries

Populated Jurisdiction Ratings
Low
Moderate
High

Landscape Ratings
Low
Moderate
High

Scale Matters!

◆ Statewide/regional

◆ County

- Assesses communities, neighborhoods, project areas

- Limited by what data is consistent countywide

- Ignore very good local data

Scale Matters!

◆ Statewide/regional

◆ County

◆ Neighborhood

– Assesses homes

– Identifies specific projects

– May not be consistent with county or state assessments

Josephine County
Hazard and Risk Assessment
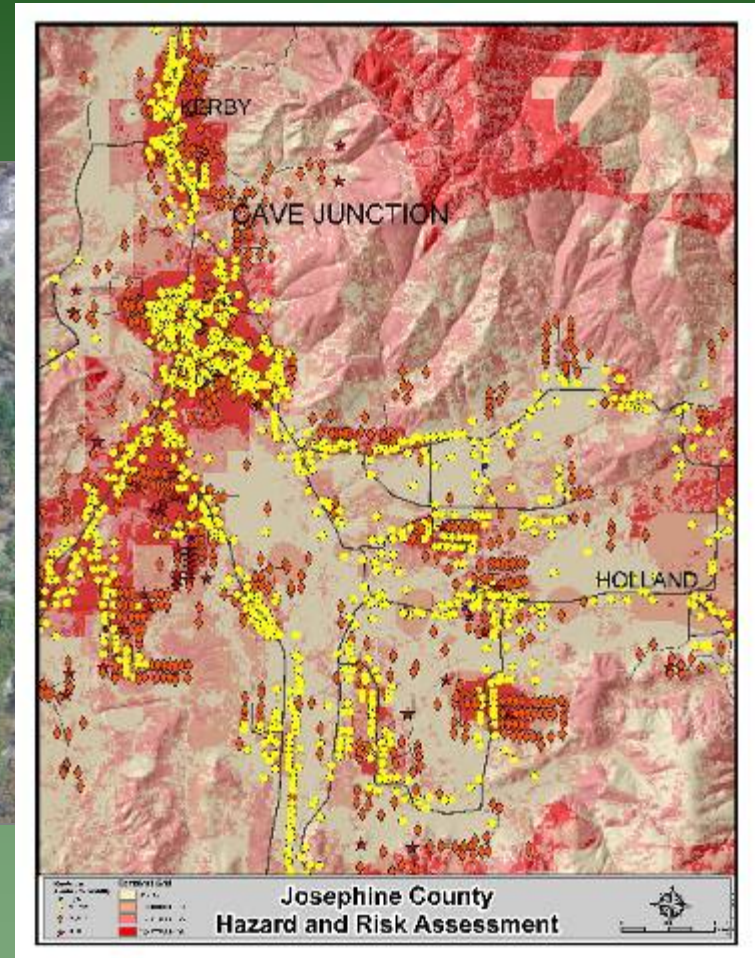
Resources

◆ LandFire

– www.landfire.gov

– Flammap

- Flame length
- Crown fire activity
- Rate of spread

LANDFIRE National products will be delivered on an incremental basis:

- 2006
- 2008
- 2009
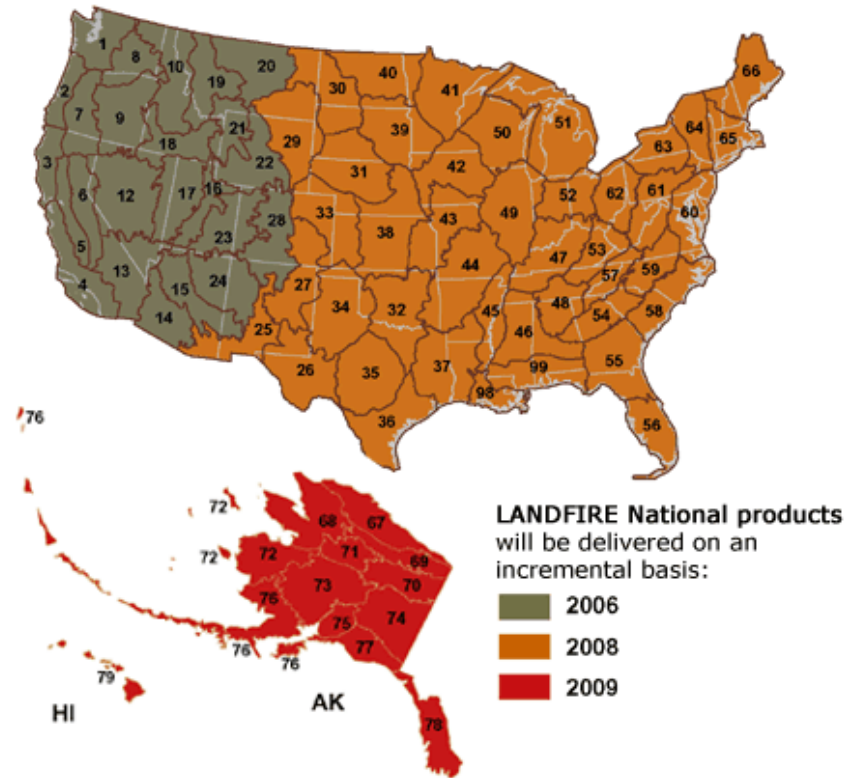
Resources

◆ LandFire

◆ States

 – GIS data, GAP

 – State CAR

 – State and local fire data

◆ Counties

 – Tax lots, zoning…

Resources

- ◆ LandFire
- ◆ States
- ◆ Counties
- ◆ Regional Assessment
  - – Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment
  - – http://www.southern wildfirerisk.com
  - – West-Wide Assessment

Resources

◆ LandFire

◆ States

◆ Counties

◆ Regional

◆ Federal fire data

   – http://fam.nwcg.gov/fam-web/

Resources

◆ LandFire

◆ States

◆ Counties

◆ Regional

◆ Federal fire data

◆ Census

  – www.census.gov

Resources

◆ LandFire

◆ States

◆ Counties

◆ Regional

◆ Federal fire data

◆ Census

◆ Silvis Lab
www.silvis.forest.wisc.edu/projects/WUI_Main.asp

Wildland Urban Interface 2000

Pitfalls

◆ **Trying to fit a large scale assessment to the local community**

– Redefine the assessment thresholds

Communities at Risk
Oregon
October, 2005
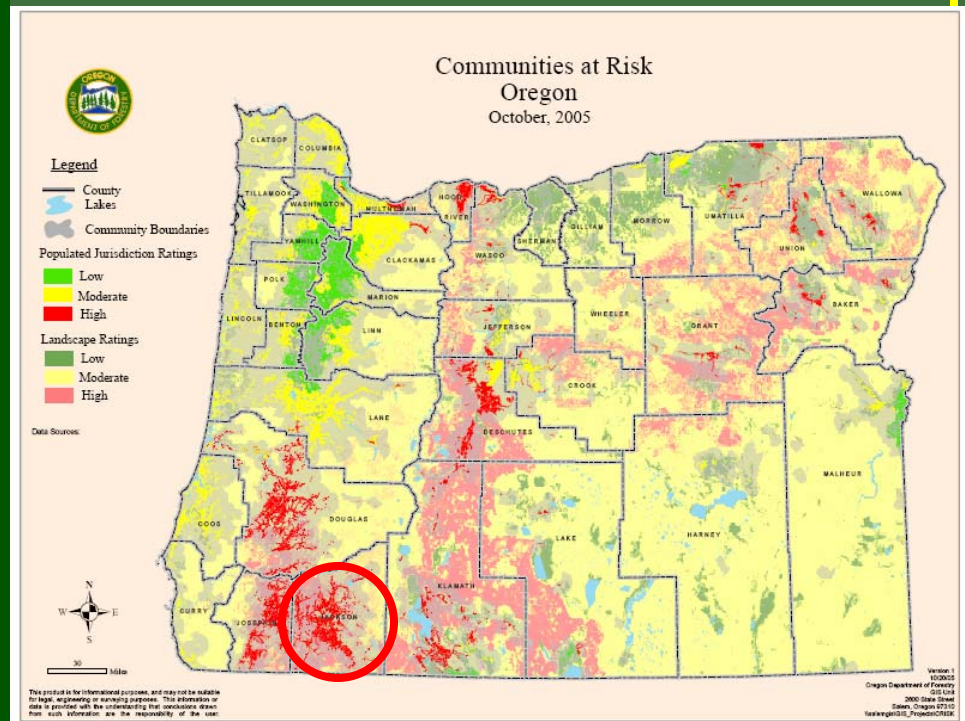
Pitfalls

◆ Trying to fit a large scale assessment to the local community (continued)

   – LandFire

   • Even thought 30-meter cell size, not intended for community/neighborhood

   • Non-Burn Ag class includes pasture and grass

   – Census and GAP

   • Line locations not accurate at small scale

Pitfalls

◆ Trying to fit a large scale assessment to the local community

◆ Inconsistent data

◆ Avoid the temptation

◆ Examples:
- – Input from community & neighborhood mtg
- – Local assessments
- – Fire district records
- – Combining large and small scale data

Pitfalls

◆ Trying to fit a large scale assessment to the local community

◆ Inconsistent data

◆ Mission creep

◆ Remember – what is <u>useful</u>?

Key Messages

◆ Keep assessment <u>useful</u>!

  – Consider social-economic data

Key Messages

- ◆ Keep assessment <u>useful</u>!

- ◆ Watch out for mission creep!

Key Messages

- ◆ Keep assessment <u>useful</u>!

- ◆ Watch out for mission creep!

- ◆ Just because you can, doesn't mean you should!

Key Messages

◆ Keep assessment <u>useful</u>!

◆ Watch out for mission creep!

◆ Just because you can, doesn't mean you should!

◆ Know limitations of data used

Questions?