

MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

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Oregon Department of Forestry Invites Media to Tour Multi-Mission Aircraft

What: The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) invites media to learn about and tour the agency's new Multi-Mission Aircraft.

Background: The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) is strengthening its statewide wildfire and emergency response capabilities with the addition of a new Multi-Mission Aircraft (MMA).

The new aircraft is a Twin Otter airframe that replaces the agency's long-serving Partenavia P.68 Observer aircraft which is retiring after more than 40 years of service. The new aircraft is equipped with Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled wide-area mapping, high-definition thermal imaging, mission management software with 3D map visualization, and night operations capability, the aircraft will allow ODF to identify and communicate emerging incidents more quickly, track fire behavior with greater precision, and maintain situational awareness during both daytime and nighttime operations.

This \$13.23 million investment, including \$12 million in legislatively approved bonds (2023) and \$1.23 million from additional funding sources, builds on ODF's long-standing aviation program that has enhanced wildfire detection and response for decades.

Details: Media will have the opportunity to go inside the new aircraft, see the new equipment, learn about enhanced capabilities and how it will serve Oregon, and interview members of the ODF Aviation team who helped to bring this new aircraft to ODF. Representatives from vendors supplying advanced equipment will also be available.

When: Thursday, June 11, 2026

Location: Salem Air Center, 3300 25th St SE, Salem, OR 97302

Time: 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

-Introductions and remarks from the ODF Aviation team will begin at 10:45 a.m.

Please RSVP by emailing Jessica Neujahr, jessica.neujahr@odf.oregon.gov by June 10