

**TITLE:** Integrating frontline worker perspectives and scientific evidence to advocate for worker protections from heat and smoke

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**STUDENT SUBMISSION:** No

**TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE:** Policy Makers/Policy Advocates

**ABSTRACT:** Oregon is becoming increasingly more vulnerable to climate disasters such as wildfires and extreme heat. As such, Oregon workers working outside in the elements, or in non-temperature controlled environments are increasingly at risk of illness and death on the job. In Summer of 2022, Oregon OSHA finalized two rulemakings to mitigate the health hazards of heat and smoke exposures on the job, culminating in the nation's current strongest rules for protecting workers from climate hazards. How did we get here? And what is in the rules? Public health policy is best informed by integrating the community perspectives and experiences of those most impacted by the hazard, the best available science, and existing policies to determine the health and trigger thresholds for these worker protections. This presentation will discuss how environmental and labor advocates balanced community input, science, testimony, grassroots efforts and used existing laws and policies to advocate within an agency rulemaking on behalf of public health protections, and explain the OSHA rules.

**OBJECTIVE(S):** a)Analyze and formulate an outreach plan for a diverse set of stakeholders b)Analyze and integrate the information gathered c)Taking the information and coming forth with a proposal to advocate for in a rulemaking.

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