



OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Wildfire Recovery Update

November 19, 2021

The Oregon Office of Emergency Management, in coordination with state and federal partners, distributes this update of collated and verified information on Oregon's wildfire recovery efforts.

OEM and ODHS launch 2020 wildfire recovery campaign

An outreach campaign to directly connect 2020 wildfire survivors with resources to navigate an often complex recovery process is underway in impacted communities. A joint effort between OEM and the Oregon Dept. of Human Services, this call-to-action campaign provides a one-stop-shop to connect survivors with disaster case managers through a hotline and recovery website.

- Wildfire Transition Assistance: 833-669-0554
- wildfire.oregon.gov.

In its role to provide mass care to disaster survivors, ODHS has provided emergency shelter in motels during the COVID pandemic. The agency looked for partners to group survivors in fewer locations to provide better support and help survivors build connections with others in similar circumstances. ODHS entered a partnership with Fortify Holdings for alternatives; Fortify quickly purchased motels to provide stable shelter for survivors in Jackson, Lane and Lincoln counties.

ODHS is now renting from just three commercial motels; five Fortify properties and two Turnkey projects are providing the remaining motel-based shelter. Over time, the Fortify properties will convert to apartments, creating much-needed long-term housing for the communities and survivors.

BY THE NUMBERS

Sheltered Persons: 621

Source: Oregon Department of Human Services

Individuals in Direct Housing: 561

Source: FEMA Direct Temporary Housing Program

**Hazardous Trees Removed: 79,516
(85.2% of total hazard trees)**

Source: Oregon Department of Transportation

**Home Sites Cleared: 2,962
(97.5% of total home sites)**

Source: Oregon Department of Transportation

**Individual Assistance Registrants:
25,251**

Source: FEMA Direct Temporary Housing Program

IA Amount Approved: \$37.4 million

Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency

¿Le han afectado los
incendios forestales
de Oregon?

Haga clic o llame al
1-833-669-0554

Oregon Department
of Human Services



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Affected by the
Oregon wildfires?

Click or call
1-833-669-0554

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wildfire.oregon.gov

Media Inquiries
fire.info@state.or.us
503-378-7872

Gateway Site in Talent celebrates ribbon cutting

On Oct. 30, partners and community members gathered in the city of Talent to celebrate the progress made on the Gateway Site redevelopment. Oregon Housing and Community Services proudly provided \$1.7 million to the Talent Urban Renewal Agency for site and infrastructure improvements. OHCS also funded \$1.7 million for the purchase of 53 large travel trailers for these families. This innovative project is possible thanks to leadership from the Talent Urban Renewal Agency, the City of Talent, and the Phoenix-Talent School District, which are all working together to bring families with kids in the district closer to home while rebuilding is underway.

OHCS Deputy Director Caleb Yant and OHCS Disaster Recovery Ryan Flynn testified on wildfire recovery this week during Legislative Days, providing updates on the progress of implementing HB5006 funding, with details about housing developments for survivors in the housing pipeline across the state. Legislators also received information about the \$422 million of Community Development Block Grants-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) HUD allocated to Oregon for 2020 disaster recovery. Oregon will have details about the HUD program requirements and timeline once the Federal Register is published.



Margaret Salazar, Executive Director of OHCS, with one of 53 travel trailers at the Gateway Site (credit OHCS)

Wildfire-impacted domestic well testing assistance

The Oregon Legislature approved an extension of the 2020 Wildfire-Impacted Wells Testing Program through June 2023, and the Oregon Health Authority has relaunched this wildfire recovery resource. Information about the program, including the well testing voucher application, can be found on the Domestic Well Safety Program website. Applications for free well test vouchers are open now through May 15, 2023, as supplies last. Vouchers expire on June 7, 2023. Free testing is only funded to support domestic well users impacted by the 2020 wildfires.

Secretary of State advisory report finds ODOT learned and adapted throughout the wildfire debris cleanup

Oregon Secretary of State Shemia Fagan released an advisory report on Oct. 20 that found ODOT worked quickly to oversee the largest wildfire debris removal operation in state history. The report stated ODOT's Debris Management Task Force evolved to respond to the needs of wildfire survivors, operational discoveries in the field, emergency management best practices and important Oregon values. The report noted that in an extremely difficult crisis, ODOT learned and adapted throughout the cleanup, helping to reopen schools, summer camps, local businesses, fish hatcheries and recreation areas.

The agency cleared the way for rebuilding new lives and housing options and kept highways open and free of falling trees and other debris while providing wood for habitat, conservation projects and energy programs. Cleanup work has strived to equitably provide Oregon jobs while ultimately making sure that no more lives are lost to the 2020 wildfires.

This publication is released monthly. Follow wildfire.oregon.gov or visit our [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) pages for additional updates.

This publication is available in Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese on the Oregon Wildfire Recovery website. It is also available in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. For assistance, call 971-719-1183 or email language@oem.state.or.us. We accept all relay calls, or you can dial 711.



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