Wildfire Response & Recovery Update

October 7, 2020

The Oregon Office of Emergency Management, in coordination with state and federal partners, will distribute this update, collating verified information on the wildfire response.

**SITUATION SUMMARY**

The American Red Cross continues to provide housing for individuals affected by wildfires. Currently, there are no people residing in indoor congregate shelters. Everyone seeking shelter has been moved to more comfortable accommodations. Last night, Red Cross provided hotels for 2,050 individuals; an additional 118 individuals stayed at outdoor shelter locations in RVs or tents. The Red Cross is working with each individual to assist them with plans to return home. If their homes were destroyed or had major damage, Red Cross, in collaboration with state and other local partners, will work with them to find more sustainable, long-term housing and provide additional assistance as needed.

### NEED TO KNOW

**Home Insurance and Wildfires**

In Oregon, insurance covers fire, smoke and ash damage to your home and property. Debris removal may also be covered by insurance, but can be expensive and may take away from funds that would otherwise go toward rebuilding. Federal, state and county agencies are working on a solution to help with the debris removal process. Call your insurance company as soon as possible to discuss your situation. If you are unable to return to your property, save your receipts as insurance may cover lodging, food, and pet boarding.

If you have questions or concerns, call the Oregon Division of Financial Regulations (ODFR) at 888-877-4894, or email dfr.insurancehelp@oregon.gov. Be sure to also follow guidance from the Department of Environmental Quality regarding any cleanup.

### HUMAN IMPACTS

**Confirmed fatalities:** 9

*Source: Oregon State Medical Examiner*

**Missing persons:** 2

*Source: Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS)*

**Sheltered persons:** 2,168

*Congregate: 118 | Non-Congregate: 2,050*

*Source: American Red Cross*

**Individual Assistance Registrants:** 7,936

*Assistance Approved: $16.5 million*

*Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency*

### DAILY STATS

**Acres burned (approx.):** 1 million

*Source: Oregon Department of Forestry*

**Residences destroyed:** 4,078

*Source: OEM Planning Section*

**Other structures destroyed:** *\>1,400*

*Source: Integrated Reporting of Wildland Fire Information (IRWIN)***

  *Approximate*

media inquiries: fire.info@state.or.us 503-378-7872

wildfire.oregon.gov

Phoenix Ore. Oct. 2, 2020 photo by Axl David/American Red Cross
AVOID SCAMS AND FRAUD

- Be skeptical of anyone promising immediate clean-up and debris removal. Be wary of people who quote outrageous prices and/or demand payment upfront.

- Research contractors. Visit ccb.state.or.us/search to verify the contractor has an active license and check their complaint history.

- Never pay by wire transfer, gift card, cash or by signing over an insurance check. And never make the final payment until the work is done.

- Don’t give into pressure from your insurance company to settle. Call ODFR at 1-888-877-4894 or visit dfr.oregon.gov for information.

- Watch out for imposters.
  - Guard your personal information.
  - Know that federal and state agencies do not charge application fees.
  - Avoid disaster-related charity scams.
  - Spot rental-listing scams: don’t send security deposits or rent before you’ve met or signed a lease.

INFORMATION RESOURCES

Active fire dashboard
Oregon Wildfire News
Sign up for Individual Assistance
Emergency management websites by county
Oregon Insurance Commissioner

NOTE: This publication is released Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Check wildfire.oregon.gov or visit or Twitter or Facebook pages for additional updates.