



# OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

February 24, 2021

## Wildfire Recovery Update

*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.*

### Recovery moving forward in Southern Oregon

Providing wildfire survivors a safe and stable place to stay remains a primary objective for every agency and entity involved in Oregon's wildfire recovery efforts. When a location in Southern Oregon was identified as a site for short-term housing, the Debris Management Task Force worked with local and federal partners to help make it happen. To ensure environmental health and safety, debris cleanup resources were redirected to assist with asbestos testing at Talent Mobile Estates in Jackson County. The next step is now underway - clearing ash and debris from the 91 lots that make up the mobile home park. Through a partnership with FEMA Direct Housing, the site will be redeveloped and equipped with temporary housing units to house survivors while they receive guidance and support for working towards long-term housing.

Debris removal is also underway in other parts of Jackson County. Nearly 450 lots are now at some level of cleanup and recovery with over 17,000 tons of ash and debris already removed (equivalent to 163 school buses!). Wrapping up at the Bear Lake Estates mobile home park in Phoenix, new work is beginning at the Mountain View Estates mobile home park in Talent. Each new location for housing options helps relieve the housing shortage in the area.

### HUMAN IMPACTS

Sheltered persons: **1,396**

Source: American Red Cross & Oregon Department of Human Services

Households in Direct Housing: **106**

Source: FEMA Direct Temporary Housing Program

Individual Assistance Registrants:  
**25,251**

Amount Approved: **\$34.7 million**

\*Source: Federal Emergency Management Agency;  
Total registration count may vary due to applications pending review.

Amount of ash and debris removed:  
**17,000 tons**

Source: Environmental Protection Agency

### Assistance options for survivors

State, federal and local resources are working together to help each impacted Oregonian access the help they need most.

The Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) was officially awarded a \$6.3 million FEMA grant to fund a disaster case management program to support the unmet disaster-related needs of survivors. To facilitate the process, ODHS has begun the search for an Oregon-based, not-for-profit, provider and expects the vendor to be selected in March.

Wildfire survivors can also access the Wildfire Damage Housing Relief Program managed by Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) with the support of the Oregon Latinx Leadership Network. As of February 22, 376 applications have been completed with more than \$2.4 million in grants provided to survivors. Allocated after FEMA assistance is received, this provides a blanket cash benefit of \$6,500 per household to help meet the immediate needs of this vulnerable population.

[wildfire.oregon.gov](http://wildfire.oregon.gov)

Media inquiries  
[fire.info@state.or.us](mailto:fire.info@state.or.us)  
503-378-7872

## HELP WITH FOOD AND COUNSELING IS AVAILABLE

If you are an Oregonian experiencing food scarcity and are in need of emergency food, the Oregon Food Bank works with a cooperative, statewide network of partner agencies to distribute food to hungry people.

The Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) assists with food programs by supporting a variety of nutritional and educational programs that are operated through Oregon Food Bank's statewide network of 21 regional food banks. For more information, go to [Oregon.gov/dhs/assistance/food-benefits/pages/food-resources.aspx](https://Oregon.gov/dhs/assistance/food-benefits/pages/food-resources.aspx).

Help is also available for Oregonians in need of counseling assistance. The Safe+Strong Helpline is available for both children and adults who are struggling with stress, anxiety or other disaster-related depression-like symptoms. For help, call 800-923-4357 or visit [safestrongoregon.org/mental-emotional-health](https://safestrongoregon.org/mental-emotional-health). This is a free service provided by the Oregon Health Authority and Portland-based nonprofit agency Lines for Life.

Lines of Life, a FEMA-funded outreach program, is designed to connect individuals with compassionate assistance and resources such as housing/shelter support, food assistance, legal assistance, transportation, small business relief, and more. These services are free, confidential, and have no eligibility criteria - anyone who needs support, gets support. To connect with a member of their team, call 971-420-1028 for English, 971-420-1018 for Spanish, or email [FEMAhelp@linesforlife.org](mailto:FEMAhelp@linesforlife.org).

## Disaster Legal Services for Wildfire Survivors

Understandably, wildfire survivors may be overwhelmed when navigating the recovery process. To safely provide benefits and avoid fraud, state and federal agencies require forms, applications and documents necessary for verification. This process can seem daunting, especially for those struggling to meet their basic needs.

Legal aid's Disaster Relief Program is available to assist low-income Oregonians impacted by the 2020 wildfires. They provide free legal assistance on many wildfire-related legal issues, including denials of FEMA assistance, access to local benefits and paperwork help.

Call the Wildfire Disaster Relief Hotline: 844-944-2428 to find out which services you qualify for. You can also visit the Oregon Disaster Legal Services website: <https://oregondisasterlegalservices.org/>.

Even if you do not qualify for legal aid, you may still seek free legal help with your FEMA appeal through the Oregon State Bar's Disaster Legal Assistance Hotline: 800-452-7636 or 503-684-3763.

Need assistance with your insurance claim? Oregon Trial Lawyers Association has pro bono resources to help those affected by wildfires. Visit <https://www.oregontriallawyers.org/?pg=2020FireRelief> or call 800-809-0616 to learn more.



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**STRONGER  
TOGETHER**

### INFORMATION RESOURCES

[Active Recovery Dashboard](#)  
[Oregon Wildfire News](#)  
[Emergency management websites](#)  
[by county](#)  
[Oregon Insurance Commission](#)

NOTE: This publication is released every Wednesday.

Check [wildfire.oregon.gov](https://wildfire.oregon.gov) or visit our [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#) pages for additional updates.

This news release is available in Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese on the [Oregon Wildfire Recovery Website: Oregon Wildfire Recovery - Media Resources](#). For other languages, large print, braille or other format, contact David Cardona, OEM Language Access Coordinator, at 971-719-1183 or email [david.cardona@state.or.us](mailto:david.cardona@state.or.us). We accept all relay calls or you can dial 711.

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