



# OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

## Oregon Office of Emergency Management Media Monitoring Report March 5-8, 2021

*NOTE: This media report captures and provides a snapshot of news coverage related to emergency preparedness, disaster response and recovery. The purpose of this report is to provide a consistent overview of coverage within the scope of emergency management in Oregon.*

### News Media Summary

[Governor Brown receives COVID-19 vaccine](#) and FEMA provides [\\$110 million in vaccination funding](#). [Oregon hotels pay](#) settlements for [price gouging](#) during the wildfires. FEMA opens [temporary housing in Lincoln County](#). Douglas County moves forward with [Project Turnkey](#). [Legislators pursue housing solutions](#) and [insurance protections for Oregonians](#) impacted by disasters. A new community building is [underway in Detroit](#) and assistance is still available for [242 Fire victims](#). Media reports examine the fire damage to [Opal Creek Wilderness](#).

### Health & Social Services

- [Siuslaw News, March 6 - Lane County hosts vaccination clinic for more than 1,000 at the FEC](#) - The first public offering of a vaccine for the COVID-19 virus in Florence took place at the Florence Events Center (FEC) on March 3, as Lane County oversaw the vaccination of 1,105 people who had pre-registered and been scheduled to receive the vaccination.
- [KGW, March 6 - Oregon Gov. Kate Brown receives Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine](#) - Gov. Kate Brown was vaccinated against COVID-19 at a rural health clinic in Scappoose on Saturday. The governor received her shot of the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine at the Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) primary care clinic on Southwest Old Portland Road at about 1 p.m.
- [KGW, March 8 - Oregon gets \\$110M from FEMA to help with administering 2 million vaccine doses](#) - The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) on Monday announced the state was awarded \$110 million in federal funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help get people vaccinated against COVID-19. FEMA-supported vaccination centers will be able to administer more than 2 million doses over a 90-day period that has yet to be determined, OHA said. (See also: [KPIC](#))

### Housing & Shelter

- [KEZI, March 5 - Douglas County agency could win grant to use hotels to house homeless](#) - A Douglas County agency could be getting millions of dollars in grant money to buy a hotel for the unsheltered. The Oregon Community Foundation is leading Project Turnkey, a program that will distribute \$65 million in state funding for the purpose of acquiring financially distressed motels and/or hotels for people who are experiencing homelessness or are at-risk.
- [The News Guard, March 8 - Open house held for FEMA temporary housing units](#) - This month, FEMA began moving Manufactured Housing Units (MHUs) onto a newly constructed site in Lincoln City that will provide temporary housing to qualified Lincoln County wildfire survivors and their families. The manufactured housing units were on display March 6 for the public.

## Wildfire Cleanup & Recovery

- [KTVZ, March 5 - Contractors' coalition to build community building for fire-ravaged Detroit](#) - The Santiam Rebuild Coalition announced this week that it has secured property for a new community building in fire-stricken Detroit. Detroit Lake Foundation President Chris Tardiff signed the papers Wednesday, acquiring 345 Santiam Avenue in Detroit.
- [KTVL, March 5 - 'Rising from the Ashes'; Local film festival looks back on devastating wildfire season](#) - Every year, filmmakers and film enthusiasts alike flock to the Ashland Independent Film Festival. This year, the theme of the festival reflects the difficult year that southern Oregon faced with wildfire season last summer. (See also: [KATU](#))
- [Klamath Falls News, March 8 - 242 Fire assistance available](#) - There is help available for Chiloquin-area residents who were impacted by the 242 Fire last year. Klamath County Public Health would like to ensure you get the help you need.

## Business & Economic Impacts

- [Portland Business Journal, March 5 - Four Oregon hotels settle claims of price gouging during September wildfires](#) - Four Oregon hotels have paid settlements of more than \$105,000 to the state Department of Justice for claims of price gouging during the September 2020 wildfires. (See also: [OPB](#), [KTVZ](#), [Seattle Times](#), [The Columbian](#), [The Chronicle](#), [Argus Observer](#), [Jefferson Public Radio](#))

## Climate, Weather & Environment

- [OPB, March 5 - Study: Wildfire smoke harder on respiratory health than other particulate pollution sources](#) - The past year was a devastating one for wildfire, as several Oregon communities burned during the Labor Day Fires. Oregonians who didn't experience the fires firsthand still felt them in their lungs as smoke rolled into cities on the west side of the state.
- [OPB, March 7 - The PNW Just Futures Institute aims to re-center the environmentalism debate on the most vulnerable people](#) - 2020 was a year when many of our society's problems became impossible to ignore. The summer of protests for racial justice led to more frank and public discussions about Oregon's racist history, and September's wildfires burned 1.6 million acres, illustrating the increasing urgency of climate change. But an increasing number of academics, environmentalists and activists are asserting that these aren't two disconnected issues; that they're intertwined, with common roots in the same societal forces.

## Firefighting & Mitigation

- [MyCentralOregon.com, March 6 - Forum Addresses Potential New Fire Codes](#) - City Club of Central Oregon invites you to an upcoming forum to discuss the idea of new building and landscaping fire codes.

## Legislative

- [KOBI, March 4 - Oregon legislators talk timber tax](#) - A timber tax is under discussion in Salem this legislative session. House Bill 2379 would impose a severance tax on timber owners at the time of harvest. That money would go into a statewide Emergency Wildfire Fund.
- [KDRV, March 7 - Proposed measure will expand insurance protections for Oregonians impacted by disasters](#) - This week Oregon legislators will consider a new bill that expands insurance protections for Oregonians impacted by disasters. House Bill 3272 was created in the wake of last September's wildfires. It would require insurance coverage to give people two years to rebuild after a disaster

instead of just one. The minimums would be increased to three years after a state-declared emergency.

- [OPB, March 8 - Oregon Democrats eye evictions, foreclosures, homelessness in 2021 housing legislation](#) - Legislators unveiled proposals to build more shelters, protect people who live in tents, and create paths to homeownership for tribal members and people who live in manufactured homes.

### **Natural Resources, Agriculture & Animals**

- [OPB, March 5 - Timber industry challenges the Biden administration's delay and review of northern spotted owl federal protections](#) - The timber industry is challenging the Biden administration's decision to halt and reconsider the removal of millions of acres of federal protections for the northern spotted owl. ... According to the industry trade group, the delay also restricts the use of "active forest management tools" that help reduce the risks of wildfires. (See also: [Capital Press](#))
- [US News, March 6 - Much of Opal Creek Forest Hit Hard by Beachie Creek Fire](#) - One of the most beloved destinations in Oregon looks a lot different following the blowup of the Beachie Creek Fire. Large swaths of the 34,000-acre Opal Creek Wilderness and Recreation Area burned after historic winds turned a small fire into an inferno Labor Day night.

### **Search & Rescue**

- [The Oregonian, March 6 - Hiker rescued after 100-foot fall on Oregon coast](#) - The U.S. Coast Guard saved a hiker who tumbled off a cliff on the north Oregon coast Friday, using a helicopter to pull him from the beach.
- [MyCentralOregon.com, March 6 - La Pine Man Found Safe](#) - Just after 7:00pm Saturday evening, Darrell Love was found in the forested area to the east of Darlene Way, near La Pine. He was evaluated by La Pine Fire for cold exposure, then reunited with family.