

**TO:** The Chetco Bar Fire Recovery Council  
**CC:** Jason Lewis-Berry and Jason Miner  
**FROM:** Alex Campbell, Regional Solutions Coordinator  
**DATE:** March 2018  
**RE:** Update on requests made by CBFR

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The Chetco Bar Fire Recovery Council, as per its charter, advised Regional and Governor Brown of needs created by the fire that were unmet by existing resources. The memo below enumerates actions that have been identified and/or taken to address those identified needs.

**Economic Impact**

<b>Request</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Use economic development funds available immediately to guarantee or buy down interest rates for businesses.	SBA “Emergency Disaster Impact Loan” eligibility for the Chetco Bar Fire on Nov. 16. 4 businesses impacted by the Chetco Bar Fire applied for EIDL loans; at least three have been funded.	Economic development agencies could not document sufficient additional needs beyond that covered by the EIDL to justify an emergency state effort.
Consider a new state emergency disaster relief program that would include a low-interest loans for businesses impacted by disasters.	HB 4025 would have directed Legislative Policy and Research Office (LRPO) to study the potential need for a Small Business Disaster Assistance Fund.	Bill died in W&M, but Rep. Gomberg is pursuing the tasking for LRPO anyway. Regional Solutions developed this concept and JLB testified in support.
Support the effort by Oregon Shakespeare Festival to develop a long-range strategy for addressing fire impacts.	The legislature funded Governor Brown’s request for \$500k for Local Economic Opportunity Fund (LEOF) at Business Oregon.	This fund will be made available this year for the types of study OSF requested.
Contribute to Economic Impact Analysis.	Regional Solutions also worked with DLCD to award \$40k to Brookings for economic planning, leveraging additional \$50k from federal EDA. Travel Oregon also contributed \$5,000.	Additional funds from LEOF (see line above) could be sought to supplement the effort.

**Natural Resources & Infrastructure Impacts**

<b>Request</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Consider use of “Good Neighbor Authority” to provide the USFS staff resources to assist with salvage sale preparations.	The State is using GNA to support development of timber sales from Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest.	GNA will also be used to get “KV” contracts issued. KV contracts can pay for fire resilience work (small tree removal, site prep for prescribed fire) to follow fuel reduction sales.
Support fish habitat and stream bank restoration.	OWEB committed \$25k to support local stakeholders identify top priority areas for restoration projects.	OWEB is currently developing a contract with Curry County Soil and Water Conservation District.
Encourage ODF to assign an additional ODF stewardship forester	Two additional foresters were hired, Coos district is now at full capacity (5).	
Fund <b>citizen-science</b> study of impact of fire and sedimentation on salmonid populations.		Governor’s Office staff struggled to find the correct vehicle for such funding. ORREC disbanded this spring.
Complete juvenile steelhead surveys in the Chetco River watershed.	ODFW staff filed an emergency grant request to their Restoration and Enhancement grant program for approximately \$53k (total project cost \$88k).	Proposal was approved by ODFW Commission in March.
Funding for the Curry County Road Department for storm patrol (monitoring) and necessary cleaning, and minor repair.		\$215k in additional funds will be going to Curry County from the new transportation package.
Continue to evaluate potential for federal disaster declaration.		On-going, but none identified to-date.

Tourism & Recreation

Request	Results	Comments
Communicate with the USFS regarding <b>recreational access</b> in the burned areas.	USFS restored access to critical access points in the fall.	
The Council appreciates the efforts by <b>Travel Oregon and Oregon Coast Visitors Association</b> .	\$12k in funding was provided by Travel Oregon to a cooperative marketing effort.	Oregon Travel Commission’s spring 2018 meeting was held in Brookings.
Re-commit to the common use of the <b>Wild Rivers Coast brand</b> .		More appropriate as outcome of impact study?
The Council <b>requested \$148,000</b> to fund a trail restoration work.	Rep. David Brock Smith secured \$20k in funding. National Forest Foundation has committed \$10k.	Opportunities to leverage Program Income activities and/or harvest mobilization.

Future Fire Preparedness

- 1) The Council recommends a task force be established—perhaps with Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Emergency Management—to develop recommendations for establishment of **air quality shelters** and/or methods to assist health care facilities with mitigating indoor air pollution from very severe fire impacts.

Working with Wildfire Protocol Group to identify next steps.

- 2) The Council recognizes the value of **biomass** utilization as an element of forest management and fire prevention going forward. Elements of this concept include reduction of vegetative fuels on both public and private lands, harvesting and conversion of those fuels for utilization in energy production, and working with power and local lumber production to develop electric generation facilities that would utilize these fuels.