



## **Eagle Creek Fire Recovery Council**

Thursday, October 12, 2017  
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Hood River Hotel Ballroom, 102 SW Oak Street  
Hood River, OR 97031

Dial-In option: 888-251-2909  
Access code: 3494891

### **AGENDA**

- 5:30 Call to order and introductions (Chair Mark Johnson)
- 5:35 Adoption of charter and scope of work (Raihana Ansary and Nate Stice)
- 5:40 Natural resource and state asset impact (Lynn Burditt, USFS; MG Deveraux, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department; Andrew Plambeck, Oregon Department of Transportation)
- 6:00 Economic impacts and stabilization actions (Amanda Hoey, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District)
- 6:15 Public safety update (Hood River Sheriff Matt English; Chris Voss, Multnomah County Emergency Management)
- 6:30 Discussion of work plan/next steps (Chair Mark Johnson, council members)
- 6:45 Partner/Public Comment
- 7:00 Adjourn

*The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. To request an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities, please make requests at least 48 hours before the meeting to Lisa Howard at 503-378-6502; at [Lisa.Howard@Oregon.gov](mailto:Lisa.Howard@Oregon.gov); or by TTY: Oregon Relay Services at 1-800-735-2900*



## **Eagle Creek Fire Recovery Council Charter**

### **Background**

The Eagle Creek Fire began on September 2, 2017 and is now mostly contained. The fire led to the evacuation of several communities in the Columbia River Gorge, a three week closure of Interstate 84 and broader transportation disruptions. The full impacts of the fire are still unknown. Thankfully, no lives were lost. The fire primarily burned US Forest Service land but also damaged state of Oregon assets, including those under the management of the Oregon Department of Transportation, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Additionally, the evacuation of communities and the closure of Interstate 84 adversely impacted businesses and individuals throughout the Gorge. Many businesses closed due to mandatory evacuation orders. Other businesses, including but not limited to, traded-sector companies and those in the tourism industry were also negatively impacted by decreased commercial activity. Unified command responded rapidly to the fire and mobilized resources for immediate needs. Governor Kate Brown and local leadership deployed secondary resources to help stabilize incomes and businesses.

The long-term impacts on the people, businesses, natural resources and recreational assets of the Gorge are still unknown, and the fire also caused damage that increases the risk posed by natural hazards in the near future.

### **Eagle Creek Fire Recovery Council Mission**

To stabilize communities and businesses and ensure that the Columbia River Gorge remains a scenic treasure and is a healthy and prosperous place to live, do business, and recreate.

### **Eagle Creek Fire Recovery Council Scope of Work**

The purpose of the Eagle Creek Fire Recovery Council is to:

- Assess the impacts of the fire and prioritize assistance needs;
- Work with Regional Solutions to coordinate state agency tools to help address fire impacts and promote economic stability, public safety and natural resource recovery, working with local and federal partners;
- Apprise the Governor of any further needs.

### **Timeframe**

The recovery council will conclude its work by December 31, 2017 and at that time, it will advise the Governor on what further action, if any, is needed.



## **Geographic Coverage**

The Columbia River Gorge is comprised of Hood River, Multnomah, Sherman and Wasco Counties in the state of Oregon. In the state of Washington, it includes Clark, Klickitat and Skamania Counties. While the Eagle Creek Fire burned in Oregon, the Gorge in Washington was also impacted.

## **Eagle Creek Recovery Council Membership**

**Convener:** State Rep. Mark Johnson

### **Business representatives:**

- Caroline Park, Thunder Island Brewing
- Jill Buck, Multnomah Falls Lodge

### **County Representatives:**

- Hood River County Commissioner Karen Joplin
- Multnomah County Commissioner Lori Stegmann
- Wasco County Commissioner Scott Hege

### **Cascade Locks Representative:**

- Jess Groves

## **Advisors – Ex Officio**

### **Public Safety/Emergency Manager:**

- Hood River County Sheriff Matt English
- Multnomah County Emergency Management Director Chris Voss

### **Natural resource recovery**

- Lynn Burditt, Scenic Area Manager, USFS
- Krystyna Wolniakowski, Executive Director of the Gorge Commission
- MG Deveraux, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

### **Economic Development:**

- Amanda Hoey, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District Executive Director and Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Member
- Bryan Guiney, Regional Development Officer, Business Oregon
- Carolyn Meece, Regional Development Officer, Business Oregon
- Teresa O'Neill, VP, Global Strategic Partnerships, Travel Oregon

### **Transportation:**

- Rian Windsheimer, Oregon Department of Transportation