



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Emergency Fire Cost Committee

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"STEWARDSHIP IN FORESTRY"

March 19, 2019

Peter Daugherty, State Forester

2600 State Street

Salem, OR 97310

SUBJECT: Emergency Fire Cost Committee Strategic Investment in Aerial Infrared & Mapping System

Dear Peter,

The Emergency Fire Cost Committee (EFCC) voted unanimously today at a Special EFCC meeting to allocate \$692,344 from the Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund (OFLPF) towards the Department of Forestry's proposal to invest in an aerial infrared and mapping system. As you know, strategic investments were a part of the Wildfire Protection Act (WPA) that passed during the 2013 legislative session. The EFCC is committed to making strategic investments that pro-actively seize opportunities to reduce costs and losses to all Oregonians.

Since the passage of the WPA, when there have been remaining dollars available under the spending cap of the OFLPF, the EFCC has considered strategic investment proposals. With this new investment, the EFCC has now committed and approved funding that has added 10 fire detection cameras to the state and forest protective associations overall camera network that now totals fifty-eight for the 2019 season. Early detection results in timely, rapid response, which translates to keeping fires small. Other projects approved by the EFCC include funding for a partnership project between ODF and two sister state agencies that leverage the use of guard stations during fire season to assure firefighters are readily available to respond to fires in remote places. I am pleased to report to you that to-date, the EFCC has invested \$1.5 million dollars towards improving the state of Oregon's complete and coordinated fire protection system through the strategic investment mechanism in ORS 477.755. This investment, underwritten 100% by landowner contributions, does not contemplate any General Fund money.

The EFCC remains a committed partner in the overall complete and coordinated fire protection system. We appreciate the leadership of your staff and forest protective association members that have brought forward these investments that improve the system.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kenneth P. Cummings, Chair

Emergency Fire Cost Committee

Attachment – Strategic Investment in Aerial Infrared Technology

cc: EFCC members

Doug Grafe, Fire Protection Division Chief