

## OREGON WILDFIRE Q & A

### WHAT IS THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE FIRES?

- At this time, our first priority is the safety of our residents and visitors. It is too early to know the economic impact throughout the state, but we're in close contact with our industry partners and will be assessing the outcome in the coming weeks and months. We know the fires have taken a major toll on our statewide communities, and our tourism businesses – including tour operators, hotels, restaurants and attractions – will be significantly affected.

### IS IT SAFE FOR VISITORS TO TRAVEL TO OREGON?

- Oregon is a large state and we are certainly welcoming visitors, but for your safety, please consult official resources prior to undertaking travel plans to ensure access to your destination is safe and advisable. There are many areas in our state that are unaffected by fires and offer the scenic beauty, culinary bounty and cultural attractions to enjoy a wonderful stay.

### WHAT IS TRAVEL OREGON'S RESPONSE TO THE FIRES?

- Travel Oregon is incredibly grateful for the heroic work being done by first responders at all levels, from all around the state and beyond. For now, the safety of our residents and visitors is Travel Oregon's primary concern and we encourage people to review their travel plans based upon current fire information we have posted at <http://traveloregon.com/getting-around/>
- Our hearts are heavy as beautiful places we cherish are threatened. There's no question the economic impact will be deeply felt in the affected areas, by tour operators, retailers, restaurants, hotels, private campgrounds and more, and by all of their employees. Travel and tourism are significant drivers to the state's economy, and our industry partners in fire-impacted areas will be facing a difficult time over the coming months.
- Oregonians are working hard, as they always do, to defend those areas of our state that are impacted and will work hard to restore them to being beautiful places to live and to visit. And Travel Oregon will continue to work closely with our industry partners in all the affected areas to assess needs and provide support, both during this emergency situation and long after.

### ARE THERE ANY AREAS OF THE STATE TRAVELERS SHOULD AVOID VISITING, OR ALTERNATIVE ROUTES TO CONSIDER WHEN TRAVELING ACROSS THE STATE?

- As of Sept. 7, many miles of I-84 are closed
- I-84, Troutdale exit 17; closure
- I-84, 2 miles west of Hood River exit 62; closure
- I-84, Hood River exit 64; closure
- I-84, The Dalles exit 87; closure
- For current information on travel and safety conditions, please visit the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) website: <https://www.tripcheck.com/TextPages/RCreport.asp?curRegion=0#>.

### WHAT AREAS OF THE STATE ARE CURRENTLY AFFECTED BY FIRES?

- There are multiple wildfires, mainly on the western side of the state. Several are complexes, in which a number of smaller fires have grown into one large fire.
- Here are links to current maps of active wildfires in Oregon:

<https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/information/firemap.aspx>

[http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Documents/Fire/FireIntelGIS/20170904\\_ODFFires\\_BriefingMap.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Documents/Fire/FireIntelGIS/20170904_ODFFires_BriefingMap.pdf)