

# CHETCO BAR FIRE RECOVERY ISSUES & SOLUTIONS



**Public Health ~ Smoke Inhalation**

**Loss of Private Homes and Private Timberlands**

**Economic hit to Tourism During Prime season** How do we Compensate these losses?

**Loss of one of the best Watersheds in the Country**

**Threat to Public Water Supplies of Brookings and Harbor, Threat of Port Siltation**

**Loss of salmon habitat and siltation of Ocean Bottom Fish/Crab**

What can we do in the short term before winter rains? Drop hay Bales and grass seed, drop dead trees across down slopes to use as silt breaks?

**Huge Carbon Footprint from Fire Plus 4 times as much from decaying trees** The fire alone contributed more Greenhouse Gases than all of Oregon's Citizens do in a year. After the fire if the trees are not salvaged, milled, and turned into homes, they will rot and release 4 times more CO2 than the fire. If they turn into homes the carbon is sequestered.

**Terrorizing the Local Citizens, many left Town over smoke inhalation and fear of fire**

How do we Compensate these losses to Citizens and Businesses?

**Firebreaks and Road system**

**Loss of the Road System that could have been utilized to fight fire** This is a result of Intentional "De -Inventory", Closure, Blockage, non Maintenance, and destruction (De-Commissioning) of roads by USFS. Your tax dollars and logging paid for these roads / fuel breaks.

**Loss of Wildlife, On Average, 22 Sentient (Feeling Thinking) 4 legged animals per acre burned in Biscuit fire** Do the Math  $22 \times 200,000$  acres = 4.4 Million Animals Cooked to Death in the Chetco Bar Fire,  $22 \times 500,000$  acres = 11 Million in the Biscuit fire.

Most, if not all, USFS land set aside for Spotted Owl Recovery in the Chetco Drainage was lost in this fire.

**Loss of Recreation, camping fishing, hunting, trails** We must recover these public assets and the best way to cover the expense is from salvage timber sales and mandatory replanting.

**Standing Dead Timber act like Lightning Rods for next Fire** After the Biscuit Fire USFS

Proposed Salvage Logging was supposed to pay for these lightning rods to be removed, Lawsuits and delays stopped this from happening. The Chetco Bar Fire added even more lightning rods.

**After the Biscuit Fire the USFS Proposed a Recovery Plan including Timber Salvage and Replanting, Creation of Wildlife Habitat, Oak Meadows, and the Creation of 309 Miles of 400 foot wide Fire Breaks.** Due to Lawsuits and delays over salvage logging/replanting the expected income for salvage sales did not even come close to the money necessary to create the wildlife areas or fuel breaks. The Burned timber was left standing as lightning rods and fuel for the next fire.

The rotting timber released CO2. Next to Nothing got replanted, and here we are. Do we want to do this every few years? Do we want to lose Brookings next time? Do we need to make some major changes in forest policy? If YOU would like to be a partner in policy changes that will lead to a healthy non fire prone forest please contact Commissioner Court Boice at 541-247-3229. [boicec@co.curry.or.us](mailto:boicec@co.curry.or.us) ]