



Caldor Fire Recovery Operations Center

TO: The Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Carla Hass
DATE: May 16, 2022
RE: Caldor Recovery update

Please accept this memo as a weekly update to the activities surrounding the County of El Dorado's recovery from the Caldor Fire as managed by the Recovery Operations Center's (ROC) co-directors Sgt. Moke Auwae and me.

Environmental Management

Alternate Program

- 30 applications & 30 work plans submitted
- 27 work plans approved
- 17 properties cleaned and sampled

Alternate Program completion date extended to June 1, 2022.

Public Program

- 309 completed Full ROE final sign off
- 88 Tree only final sign off
- Two of three Special Inclusion requests accepted by FEMA (awaiting decision on Post Office)
- 98% of all qualifying properties have been cleaned of debris (582)
- 89% of soil samples have been approved (530)
- 48% of tree felling complete (17,159)
- 69% of parcels w completed tree felling (459)

- 59% of 456 parcels returned to owners (456; fully cleaned of debris and soil, hazard trees felled and erosion control in place if needed)

Abatements:

- Six correction orders were signed, notarized, and recorded
- One abatement property has completed an ROE and has been accepted into the State Debris program.
- Four abatement properties have been fully cleaned of debris and soil sample, hazard trees felled and erosion control in place if needed.

Land Use

- Fee Waivers Statistics
 - 49 Received
 - 39 Approved
 - 9 In process
- The Building Department has had the following Caldor Fire permit activity
 - Replacement home permits – one issued & 20 pending applications
 - Grading/Retaining Walls permits - one pending application
 - Electric permits - eleven issued permits
 - RV permits - nine issued permits and four pending applications
- The Assessor's Office has about 10 remaining properties to review for a reduction under §170 as a result of the Caldor fire. All reductions to commercial properties are now complete with the exception of Sierra at Tahoe. The work on the Sierra at Tahoe reduction is nearing completion and the value reduction will be processed before the tax role is closed. The process has been slightly delayed because of a pending audit and appeals that were unresolved prior to the fire.
- An audit on the forest service cabin value reductions revealed some discrepancies between GIS data and the coordinates that were recorded in the Cal Fire damage assessment data. Generally, this is a result of the nature of these cabins, their ages, building requirements, etc... and how they differ from these same details and requirements on fee owned parcels. An audit was conducted and revealed about 15 cabins that were fully destroyed that were missed in the reduction process or did not receive the full value reduction they were eligible for. Those reductions have since been processed/corrected.
- In total, we have processed about 1660 assessed value reductions to date. Reductions total approximately \$118 million, or \$1,180,000 in property tax revenue loss. We estimate that when all value reductions are processed, the overall property tax revenue loss will be significantly less than the \$2 million dollar estimate that was originally provided to the CAO last year. A revised estimate is that the total value reduction will be under \$140 million or \$1.4 million in property tax revenue loss.
- We have received requests from property owner's whose property did not sustain physical damage from the fire but they want their assessed value reviewed under Prop 8. If market data indicates that current market value is lower than their trended base year value, their value will be reduced until such time that the market recovers. This is most applicable in neighborhoods that were heavily damaged by the fire.

- Once properties are reduced under §170 or under Prop 8, they will have to be reviewed annually for restoration of value, if appropriate. This is based on market data, rebuilding progress, and vegetation restoration.
- Other projects are currently being worked on to finalize the property tax relief project, one of which includes updating our physical characteristics data on Caldor fire properties that sustained damage to the structure(s). These characteristics, including unit counts, are particularly important to the districts that access this data after roll close to compile the direct charge levies that they submit to the Auditor.

Health and Human Services Agency

- Better Together Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG)
 - LTRG has decided to have three Co-Chairs and a structure of Past chair, current chair, chair-elect
 - Amy Mefford (Salvation Army) did a presentation on workflow
 - West Slope Foundation does the initial review and sends survivors to DCMs or the HUBs based on criteria developed by DCM and the LTRG
- Immediate Needs
 - Summer clothes are the top request from survivors
 - All ages and genders, sizes newborn - 6x
 - Gift cards to Walmart and Target
 - Sandals, bathing suits, children arm “floaties” for swimming
 - Criteria for the distribution events:
 - Starting in June, those with 50% or more loss to their primary residence will be allowed early entry, from 12:00pm – 1:00pm. Other survivors may enter at 1:00pm.
 - West Slope Foundation will refer the people that don’t meet criteria to the HUBs for assistance.
 - Dates for the distribution events have been scheduled through September. All of the events listed below will be at Pioneer Elementary School located at 6862 Mt Aukum Road, Somerset, CA from 1:00 - 3:00 PM (organizations can access the location at 11:00 AM to set up):
 - May 15
 - June 12
 - July 17
 - August 21
 - September 18
- Disaster Case Management update
 - They are currently triaging priority level 4 survivors (total loss, stable housing but no insurance, children/senior).
 - DCM staff will attend the distribution event on Sunday.
- Caldor Housing Social Worker
 - Social Worker is getting SOAR trained so he can provide Social Security advocacy, which is a component of the Housing Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) housing grant HHSa pursued successfully. Once trained, HHSa will begin

sending him to the distribution events for outreach and engagement purposes - and coordination with the DCM staff

- Mental Health Worker
 - In the HR background process - anticipated estimated start date of first pay period in June.