

An aerial photograph of a vast forested landscape. A river flows through the lower left portion of the image. The forest is dense, with many trees showing signs of being charred or dead, likely due to a fire. In the background, a range of mountains is visible under a clear sky.

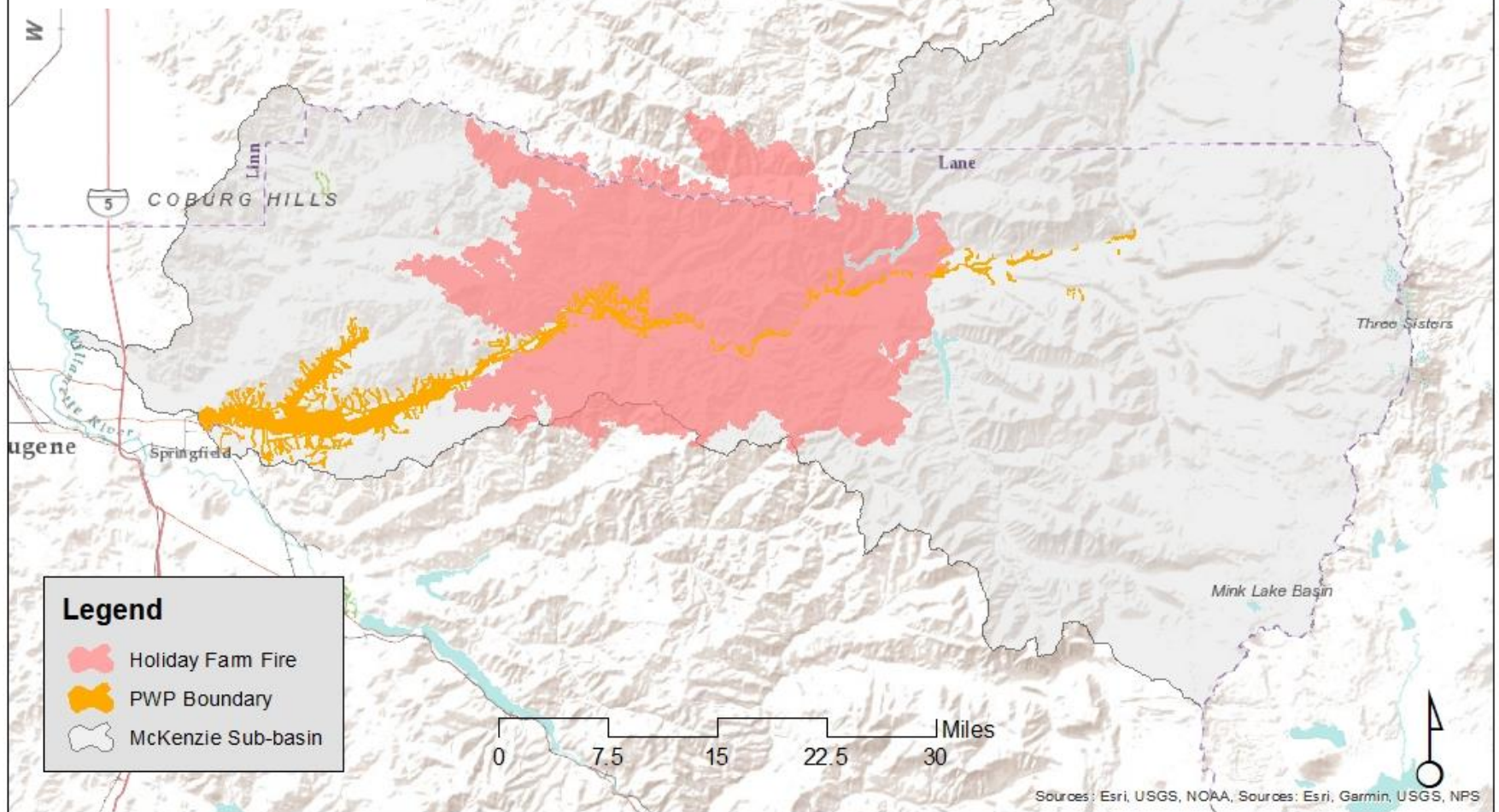
Watershed Recovery Task Force

A Coordinated Local Response to the Holiday Farm Fire

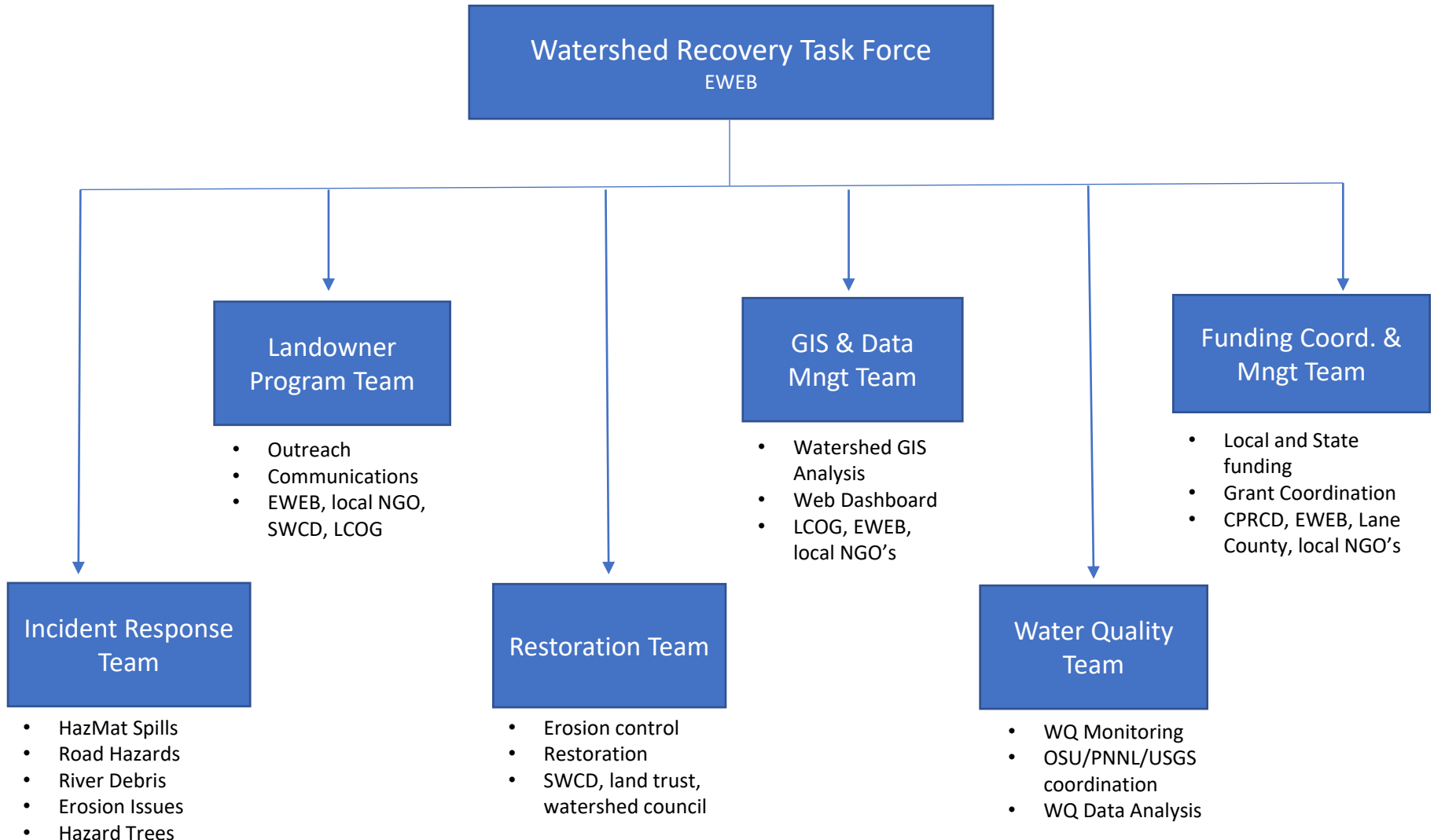
House Water Committee
December 15, 2020
Jared Weybright, McKenzie Watershed Council

South Fork McKenzie River
Photo: Kate Meyer

Holiday Farm Fire



McKenzie Watershed Recovery Task Force





Task Force Objectives

- Protect natural resources, water quality, public health and support the economic through watershed restoration activities on high priority properties.
- Develop best management practices in all response and long-term recovery actions to reduce unintended consequences to natural resources and water quality.
- Coordinate watershed recovery and restoration actions to align with community priorities and in partnership with watershed stakeholders.

Erosion Control & Restoration

- Burn assessment surveys on private lands ~ 175 completed
- Implement erosion control BMPs using NWYC teams and contractor services to address high priority areas identified in the burn assessments ~60 sites treated to date
- Riparian replanting planned for ~ 100 acres in early 2021
- Noxious weed surveys planned for 2021 in coordination with federal agencies & Lane County



Lessons Learned

- 1) Existing cooperative partnership – Pure Water Partners (PWP) – allowed for quick response
- 2) Local funding (EWEB) vital of quick and flexible response
- 3) OWEB support for PWP and Wildlife Response is essential to local NGO's
- 4) Agreements with private landowners are critical but a huge time investment and can be confusing with other ROE agreements

