

My name is Fred Cuozzo. I was signed into the wildfire virtual meeting tonight. This is the first time I have ever done anything like this. I own property at 2561 Butte Falls Hwy. in Eagle Point, or. I have owned this property for 40 years. I am a retired commercial pilot and Medford , Oregon firefighter. On the morning of Sept. 9th, 2020, I lost a home and 6 other structures in the Obenchain wildfire.

There was no warning on my phone using the EAS that I was going to have to evacuate. I thought I was going to be fine since no one (i.e. fire personnel, sheriff, etc) had come down my driveway to tell me to start packing. I barely escaped with my life as I left my property and headed down the highway and eventually had to try to drive through fire and smoke that caused me to run off the highway and into some burning blackberries. I was able to get back on the road and escape luckily.

Now, fast forward, here we are sitting here waiting for someone to supposedly come and help us clean up all the debris and ash of what is left. I took a drive yesterday to the Alameda fire area to see how the clean-up was going there. I was quite surprised to see all the equipment and nobody around operating it at 2:30 in the afternoon. From what I observed, it appeared that maybe one trailer park had been partially cleaned. At the rate this is going, it could very possibly be 6 months to a year before I see anything happening in my neighborhood. I guess what I'm saying is "Can't they at least send 1 maybe 2 crews to the Obenchain fire area and kind of get started around here!??

I basically lost my ranch of almost 40 years.....It is very depressing to look at all my farm equipment, buildings and everything I have worked hard on all these years just sit here like a pile of twisted metal and ashes. Please see what can be done about helping other people in the same situation as me on the Obenchain fire.

I also think that they (whoever that is) need to refine the virtual meetings or whatever they are called. I watched for about an hour and a half and more than half of the people that were supposed to speak, couldn't because they couldn't be brought into it for some reason. By that time I had it figured out how it all worked and was wishing I could just chime in.....oh well, maybe next time.

I do want to thank all the reps, legislators and all the others that put the time in to listen.

Respectfully,

Fred Cuozzo