

*Air Quality in the  
Columbia Gorge*

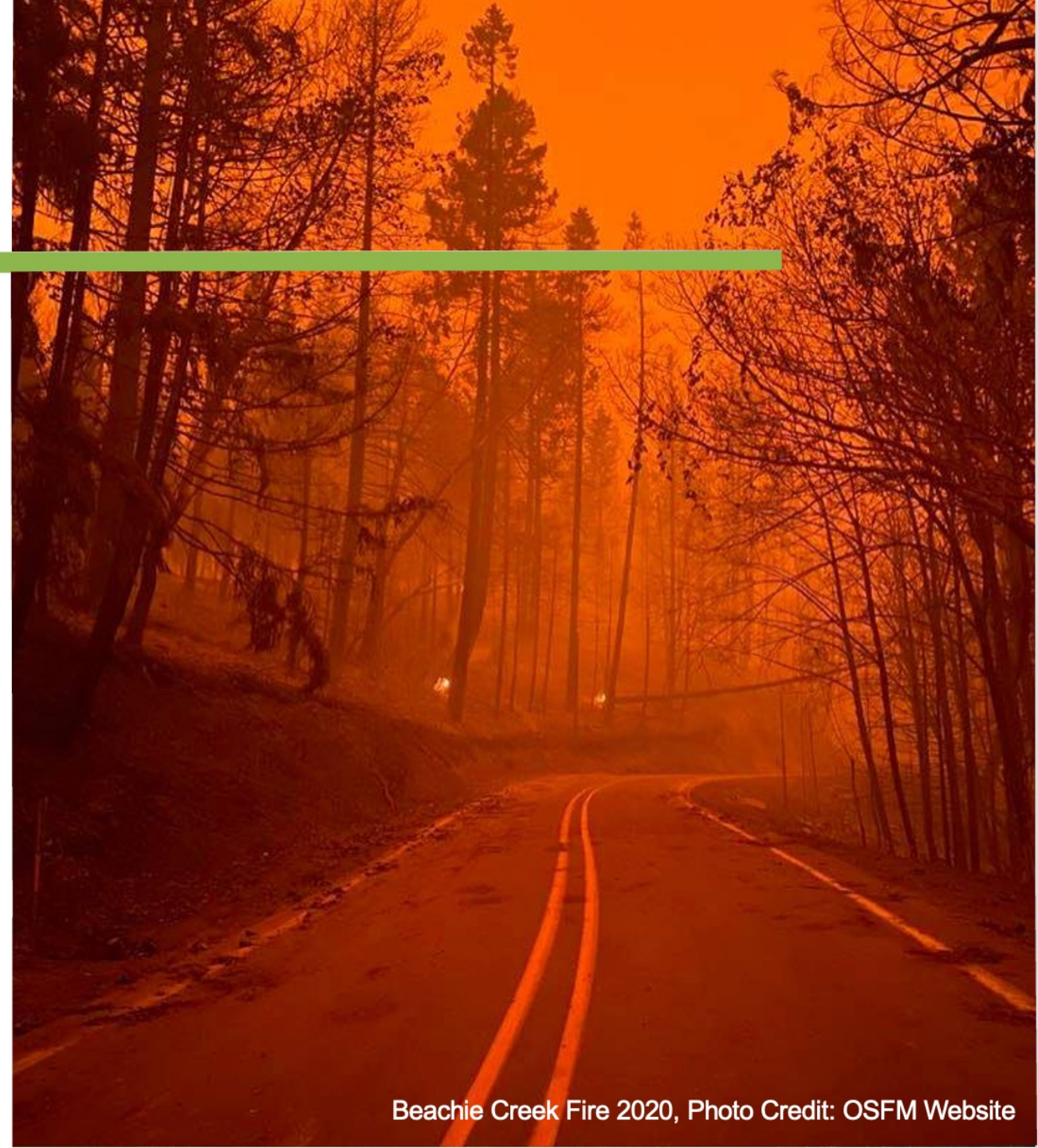
■  
**Smoke events  
can impact the  
Gorge year-  
round...**



- Summer & fall wildfires
- Agricultural burning of orchard waste
- Public and private forest slash burning & prescribed burns in fall
- Wood stove burning in winter
- Smudge pots in spring
- Household debris & garbage burning

# 2020 Labor Day Fires ...looking back

- 2 DEQ Monitors in the Gorge:
  - 1 at Cherry Heights in **The Dalles**
  - 1 at Westside Fire Hall in **Hood River**
- Air quality across Oregon was among the worst in the world
- Multi-jurisdictional communication efforts missed vulnerable groups

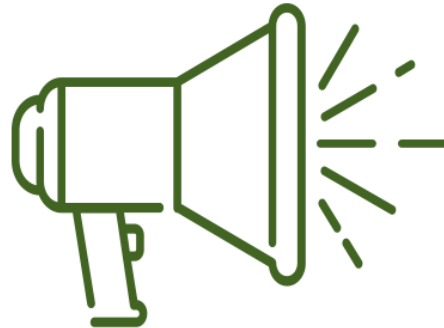


# THREE THEMES IN OUR SMOKE RESPONSE WORK:

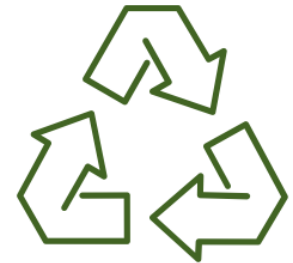
**Monitoring**



**Communication**



**Mitigation**





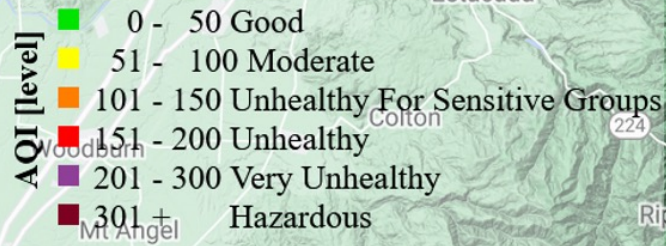
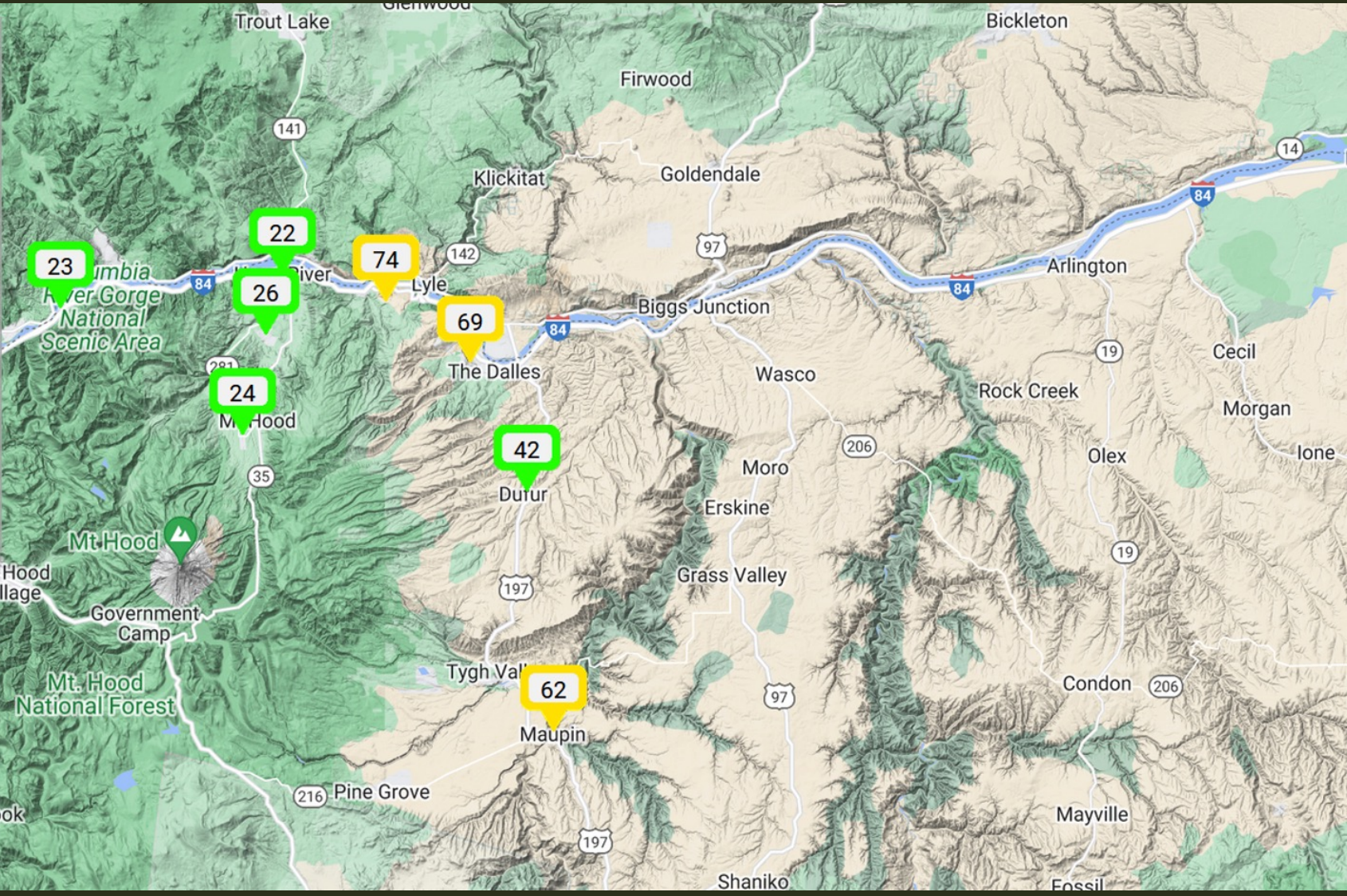
# Monitoring

*Installing 25 new air quality monitors in the Columbia River Gorge at schools, orchard sites, and other organizational partners*

*Grant Funding: **\$10,000** from OHSU Knight Cancer Foundation for 10 AQI monitors + **\$4,500** from DEQ (within CRP grant) for 15 monitors.*

### Existing Monitoring Sites:

- 1. Cascade Locks Elementary School
- 2. Hood River Middle School
- 3. Wv'east Middle School
- 4. Parkdale Elementary
- 5. Pine Grove-Orchard Site\*
- 6. Mosier-Orchard Site
- 7. Cherry Heights-Orchard Site
- 8. Dufur School
- 9. Maupin School





## Communication

*Supporting community partners and smoke vulnerable groups with timely, evidence-based, and plain-language information.*

*Grant Funding: **\$80,000** from OR-DEQ for Community Response Plan and associated outreach and engagement work, Join the Fan Club Displays, and SmokeReadyGorge.org*

***\$14,000** from United Way for OR-Alert/Everbridge enrollment outreach to vulnerable and harder to reach populations.*

*This is the alert banner. This is an optional component that can be toggled on and off at the admin's discretion.*

SmokeReadyGorge.org  
will be launched by the  
end of October as a  
“one stop shop” for all  
smoke information.



## SMOKE READY GORGE

In the Columbia River Gorge, the air can be smoky all year. Smoke Ready Gorge was created to protect our health and prepare for future smoke events. Let's be Smoke Ready together.