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BottleDrop customers helping support Almeda Fire recovery efforts

Donation to Rogue River Watershed Council will support Bear Creek ecological restoration

Clackamas, Ore. -- The Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC), parent organization to [BottleDrop](#), announced a \$2,500 donation to the Rogue River Watershed Council. The donation, generated through BottleDrop's [Containers for Change](#) program, will be used by the nonprofit to help restore Bear Creek and its near-stream vegetation, which was greatly damaged by the Almeda Fire in September 2020.

"The Bottle Bill has always had a laser-focus on restoring our environment and natural habitat," said Eric Chambers, external relations director at OBRC. "The Rogue River Watershed Council's efforts to restore vegetation along Bear Creek, which was scorched by the devastating Almeda Fire, will help reduce erosion and keep water flowing clean. We're thrilled to support their work."

BottleDrop's Containers for Change program provides Oregonians with an easy way to donate funds from their bottles and cans to excellent nonprofits operating in communities around the state. BottleDrop customers can participate by simply leaving their bag tag stickers off of their Green Bags, and dropping them off at any BottleDrop facility, like the Redemption Center in Medford, Ore.

Rogue River Watershed Council has been involved in the BottleDrop program for years, so being recognized by the Containers for Change program was particularly gratifying for the organization. "This recognition and donation couldn't come at a better time," Brian Barr, executive director of Rogue River Watershed Council, remarked. "Last fall's Almeda Fire devastated the communities of Talent and Phoenix, as well as the aquatic and streamside habitats of Bear Creek. Our organization's skill set is in ecological restoration, so the best way we can help with ongoing fire recovery is in restoring the water quality and habitat of this important resource that runs from Ashland to Central Point. We're launching several volunteer events in the coming weeks to help with these restoration efforts, so the timing of this announcement is fantastic!"

BottleDrop has been a steady supporters of Almeda Fire restoration efforts, including previous donations to support the Rogue Valley Habitat for Humanity's Jackson County Fire Relief Fund, as well as other local nonprofits in Southern Oregon that support firefighting efforts.

BottleDrop customers can visit bottledropcenters.com/containersforchange/ to learn more about this program, and how they can use their beverage containers to support excellent nonprofits, foundations, and advocacy organizations in Oregon.

BottleDrop account holders can also donate funds from their online balance directly to the Rogue River Watershed Council [here](#).

About OBRC

The Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC) is the industry steward of Oregon’s nationally recognized beverage container redemption system. Headquartered in Clackamas, OR, OBRC is a statewide not-for-profit cooperative, formed by the beverage industry. OBRC helps keep Oregon beautiful by providing outstanding services to partners, distributors, retailers and the public for the recovery, reuse and recycling of beverage containers. Through OBRC’s BottleDrop Redemption Centers and container pickup service for more than 2,500 retail partners, the co-op recycles around 2 billion beverage containers annually, protecting the Oregon we love, supporting the causes we cherish and inspiring innovation beyond our borders – all without a single penny of state funding. To learn more, visit BottleDropCenters.com or OBRC.com.

About Rogue River Watershed Council

The Rogue River Watershed Council works to restore instream and streamside habitat, improve water quality, and encourage community members to become stewards of the Rogue River and its tributaries. The council cover approximately 1.6 million acres from the headwaters near Crater Lake to the mouth of Kelsey Creek and encompasses the towns of Grants Pass, Merlin, Shady Cove, Eagle Point, Butte Falls, Central Point, Jacksonville, Phoenix, Talent, Medford, and Ashland. To learn more, visit <https://www.rogueriverwc.org/>.

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[Here](#) you will find photos of Oregonians processing or bringing Blue or Green Bags filled with redeemable containers to facilities to benefit nonprofits around the state. Photos should be credited to Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative.

Below is a photo submitted by Rogue River Watershed Council, showing one of their volunteers carrying live willow stakes to plant Creekside after the Almeda Fire:

