

## State Fire Marshal's Office State Fire Marshal Charles P. LeBlanc

Captain Monica Alexander Government and Media Relations (360) 596-4010 – office (360) 596-4015 – fax http://www.wsp.wa.gov

\*\*\* For Immediate Release \*\*\*

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Contact: Deputy State Fire Marshal Amy Thornton

**Phone:** (360) 596-3916

**E-mail:** amy.thornton@wsp.wa.gov

Twitter: @wafiremarshal

## State Fire Mobilization Authorized for the Upriver Beacon Fire

State fire assistance has been mobilized under the Washington State Fire Services Resource Mobilization Plan in support of local firefighters working to contain the Upriver Beacon Fire, located in Spokane County, near the city of Spokane Valley. The Upriver Beacon Fire is burning in grass, brush, and timber. Washington State Patrol Chief John Batiste authorized the mobilization of state firefighting resources on July 17, 2018, at 8:00 pm at the request of Assistant Chief Doug Bleeker, Spokane County Fire District 9.

The Upriver Beacon Fire started on July 17, 2018, at approximately 4:00 pm. This fire is estimated at 200 acres and growing. It is threatening homes, crops, communications infrastructure, power transmission lines, and other resources. Level 3 evacuations are in effect at this time. The fire cause is under investigation.

Mobilization specialists from the Fire Protection Bureau have ordered four wildland strike teams and one urban strike team. The fire will be managed by a Type 3 Incident Command Team.

The State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Murray is activated to Level 2 to coordinate state assistance for the Upriver Beacon Fire. State Fire Marshal's Office personnel are en route to the scene to coordinate dispatch of resources.

Under the State Fire Services Resource Mobilization Plan, the Fire Protection Bureau coordinates the initial dispatch and continued administrative oversight of resources and personnel for the duration of the incident. The Mobilization Plan is implemented to provide a process to quickly notify, assemble and deploy fire service personnel, equipment and other resources from around the state when fires, disasters or other events exceed the capacity of local jurisdictions. More information about the Washington State Fire Services Resource Mobilization Plan is available at: <a href="http://www.wsp.wa.gov/draft-all-risk-mobilization/">http://www.wsp.wa.gov/draft-all-risk-mobilization/</a>.

