State Fire Mobilization Authorized for the Chelan Hills 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 Chelan Hills Fire, located in Douglas County, near the town of Orondo. Washington State Patrol Chief John Batiste authorized the mobilization of state firefighting resources on July 27, 2018, at 3:15 pm at the request of Chief Jim Oatey, Douglas County Fire District 4.

The Chelan Hills Fire started on July 27, 2018, at 1:19 pm and is burning in grass and sagebrush. This fire is estimated at 300-400 acres and growing. It is threatening homes, orchards, and powerlines. Level 2 and 3 evacuations are in effect at this time. The fire cause is under investigation.

Mobilization specialists from the Fire Protection Bureau have ordered 4 wildland strike teams. 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 Chelan Hills 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: http://www.wsp.wa.gov/draft-all-risk-mobilization/.

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