

For immediate release

Contact

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June 15, 2008, 5:45 p.m.

Fire Mobilization Ordered for the Baird Springs Fire

State fire resources have been mobilized to support local firefighters working to contain the Baird Springs Fire, approximately 5 miles west of Quincy in Grant County. 1,200 acres of standing wheat and scrub brush have burned, and 25 residences may be threatened by the fire.

Chief John Batiste authorized the mobilization of state firefighting resources on June 15, 2008 at 3:45 p.m. at the request of Fire Chief Don Fortier of Grant County Fire District 3.

Mobilization specialists from the Fire Protection Bureau ordered three strike teams and a helicopter to supplement the resources already fighting the fire.

The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Camp Murray has been activated to Phase II, to coordinate state assistance for the Baird Springs Fire. Personnel from the Office of the State Fire Marshal will travel to the scene of the fire to coordinate dispatch of resources, and other personnel will staff the State EOC.

Under the mobilization plan, the Fire Protection Bureau will be coordinating the initial dispatch of firefighters, engines, water tenders, and helicopters. The Washington State Fire Services Mobilization Plan is implemented to provide personnel, equipment and other resources from around the state when wildfires exceed the firefighting capacity of local jurisdictions. More information about the Washington State Fire Services Mobilization Plan is available at: <http://wsp.wa.gov/fire/wildfire.htm>.

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