

For Immediate Release

EOC Contact: Deputy State Fire Marshal Karen Jones, 253-912-4932

August 14, 2009 11:45 a.m.

**Fire Mobilization Ordered for the
Avery Fire in Klickitat County**

State fire assistance has been mobilized to support local firefighters working to contain a wildfire in Klickitat County west of Wishram.

Washington State Patrol Chief John Batiste authorized the mobilization of state firefighting resources on August 13, 2009 at 4:45 p.m. at the request of Fire Chief Clyde Rosa Klickitat County Fire District # 11.

Mobilization specialists from the Fire Protection Bureau ordered two strike teams of wildland engines, two type 2 helicopters, and a Type 3 Incident Management Team.

According to local officials, the fire has grown to 500 acres on Fire District 11 protected property. The fire is burning in brush and grass on both sides of SR14 between milepost 91 and 93.

The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Camp Murray has been activated to Phase II, to coordinate state assistance for the Avery Fire. Personnel from the Office of the State Fire Marshal are present at the scene of the fire to coordinate dispatch of resources, while other personnel are staffing the State EOC at Camp Murray.

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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