



**Office of the Chief**

Chief John R. Batiste  
"Service with Humility"

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

Captain Neil Weaver  
Government and Media Relations

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

**Date: August 16, 2020**

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**State Fire Mobilization Authorized for the Chief Timothy Fire**

Whitman County – State fire assistance has been mobilized under the Washington State Fire Services Resource Mobilization Plan in support of local firefighters working to contain the Chief Timothy Fire located in Whitman County, near Clarkston. The Chief Timothy Fire is burning in grass and trees. Washington State Patrol Chief John Batiste authorized the mobilization of state firefighting resources on August 16, 2020, at 6:00 pm at the request of Fire Chief John Dahmen, Whitman County Fire District 14.

The Chief Timothy Fire started on August 16, 2020, at approximately 4:05 pm. This fire is estimated at 25 acres and growing. It is threatening rangeland and fencing. No evacuations are in effect at this time. The fire cause is currently under investigation. Mobilization specialists from the Fire Protection Bureau have ordered air resources only at this time.

The State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Murray will remain activated to Level 1 to help coordinate state assistance for the Chief Timothy Fire.

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 mobilization. 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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The State Fire Marshal's Office is a Bureau of the Washington State Patrol, providing fire and life safety services to the citizens of Washington State including inspections of state licensed facilities, plan review of school construction projects, licensing of fire sprinkler contractors and pyrotechnic operators, training Washington States firefighters, and collecting emergency response data.

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