



**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:** July 5, 2021  
**Contact:** Deputy State Fire Marshal Robert Wittenberg  
**Email:** fpb-eoc@wsp.wa.gov  
**Phone:** (360) 701-8035  
**Twitter:** @WaFireMarshal

**State Fire Mobilization Authorized for the Andrus Fire**

Spokane 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 Andrus Fire located in Spokane County, near Cheney. The Andrus Fire is burning in grass, brush, and timber. Washington State Patrol Chief John Batiste authorized the mobilization of state firefighting resources on July 5, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. at the request of Fire Chief Cody Rohrbach, Spokane County Fire District 3.

The Andrus Fire started on July 5, 2021, at approximately 11:11 a.m. This fire is estimated at 50 acres and growing. It is threatening local resources, crops, 137 primary residences, communications infrastructure, and Interstate 90. Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 evacuations are in effect at this time. The fire cause is currently under investigation. Mobilization specialists from the Fire Protection Bureau have ordered five task forces.

The State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Murray will remain activated to Level 2 to help coordinate state assistance for the Andrus Fire. State Fire Marshal's Office personnel are en route to the scene to coordinate the 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 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/all-risk-mobilization/>.

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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