



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

Captain Neil Weaver  
Government and Media Relations

**State Fire Marshal's Office  
Interim State Fire Marshal Chad Cross**

**Date:** August 24, 2022  
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**State Fire Mobilization Authorized for the Blankenship Fire**

Asotin 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 Blankenship Fire located in Asotin County, near the city of Clarkston. Washington State Patrol Chief John Batiste authorized the mobilization of state firefighting resources on August 24, 2022, at 5:15 p.m. at the request of Fire Chief Noel Hardin, Asotin County Fire District 1.

The Blankenship Fire started on August 24, 2022, at approximately 3:33 p.m. This fire is estimated at 200 acres and growing and is burning in vegetation. It is threatening rangeland and crops and no evacuations are in effect at this time. The fire cause is currently under investigation.

The State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Murray remains activated to Level 2 to help coordinate state assistance for the Blankenship Fire. Mobilization specialists from the Fire Protection Bureau have ordered air resources and one hand crew at this time. State Fire Marshal's Office personnel are working remotely 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/>.

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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. These services include public education, licensing and certification of the fire sprinkler, fireworks, and cigarette industries, data collection and analysis, fire and life safety inspections for state facilities, plan review of school construction projects, all-risk mobilization of statewide fire service resources, hazardous materials training, and the training and certification of firefighters.