



KITTITAS VALLEY FIRE & RESCUE

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 28, 2021

KOFFMAN ROAD WILDLAND FIRE

Ellensburg, Washington- At 12:57 pm Sunday, June 27th, Kittitas Valley Fire & Rescue (KVFR) was dispatched to reports of an outside fire near Koffman Road. Upon arrival multiple structures were threatened in the area of Clerf Road, Stardust Lane and Stingley Road. The Kittitas County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) performed evacuations of the threatened areas and safely got residents out.

Mutual aid from Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Fire Districts' 1,3, 7, Roslyn Fire, City of Yakima Fire Department, Yakima Training Center, Selah Fire Department were dispatched to support suppression operations. Two helicopters from DNR and a single engine airtanker were utilized to help provide air support, bringing water drops from above. Additionally, DNR brought their initial attack bulldozer to the fire and established a cat-line completely around the fire.

The fire was contained Sunday evening, when residents were allowed back into their homes. DNR and KVFR crews remained on scene overnight to perform mop up operations and to extinguish hotspots. The fire burned 425 acres and destroyed one residence along with several outbuildings. Two firefighters sustained non-life-threatening injuries during the response. One firefighter was treated locally and released and the other is still currently being treated for burn injuries at Harborview Medical Center.

Firefighters will continue to perform mop up operations today and patrol the area for remaining hotspots. If you have been affected by the Koffman Road wildfire and need water for livestock or drinking purposes, please contact the Kittitas County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Management at 509.933.8300.

Wildland season has just begun, and we are preparing for an active summer. We are touched by all the kindness from our community wanting to donate supplies for firefighters, but do not have the capacity to accept food or supplies at this time. Please know the best way to help us is to be prepared. Know alternative ways out of your neighborhood or home. Prepare a 72-hour kit that includes drinking water, food, first aid supplies and medications. Create an evacuation plan for your family that includes your 5P's (People, Pets, Pills, Photos and important Paper's). The Kittitas County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Management is responsible for issuing any

wildfire evacuations for our community. There are 3 levels of fire alert evacuations that everyone in our community should be familiar with.

Level 1(Get Ready): Residents are being asked to get ready for a potential evacuation. There is a fire in your community. Monitor local social media (KCSO Facebook page), news & radio for information.

Level 2 (Get Set): Residents are being asked to consider leaving the area or should be prepared to leave at a moment's notice.

Level 3 (Go!): Evacuate now, leave immediately! Fire is in your area and people need to leave immediately.

Please take any evacuation levels for your area seriously and respect KCSO Deputies. It is safer for first responders if you heed their recommendations.

Conditions are extremely dry and fire danger is high. A fire safety burn ban is in effect. Fireworks are included in this burn ban for Kittitas County and the City of Ellensburg. Have a safe upcoming holiday weekend.

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For additional information please contact:

John Sinclair

KVFR, Chief

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