



OREGON

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For Immediate Release

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D. Harris fire in Wasco County declared a Conflagration

Salem, OR—Governor Theodore Kulongoski has declared the D. Harris fire 8 miles west of Maupin as a conflagration. The declaration cleared the way for the state fire marshal to mobilize firefighters and equipment to assist local resources battling the fire. The request to invoke the Oregon Conflagration Act was made by Wasco County Assistant Fire Defense Board Chief Jay Wood.

The fire started around 2 p.m. August 19. Dry fuel conditions of grass and juniper, along with significant winds have caused the fire to move rapidly with extreme fire behavior. The fire is threatening the Wasco County town of Maupin.

The Office of State Marshal's Red Incident Management Team and one structural task force are en-route. A second structural task force is scheduled to deploy the morning of August 20th.

Oregon's conflagration act may be invoked only by the Governor and allows the State Fire Marshal to dispatch structural firefighters and equipment to help local resources provide structural protection.

More information on Conflagration is available here:

http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Conflagration_Information_2007.shtml#Conflagration_FAQs

More Emergency Mobilization information is available here:

http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/Oregon_Mob_Plan.shtml

Additional resources on surviving wildfires may be accessed at:

- ***Wildfire...Evacuation Readiness***
http://egov.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Comm_Ed/WUI/wildfire_evac.doc
- ***After the Wildfire...***
http://egov.oregon.gov/OSP/SFM/docs/Comm_Ed/WUI/After_a_wildfire.doc

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