



OREGON

John Kitzhaber, Governor

Oregon State Police
Office of State Fire Marshal
4760 Portland Road NE
Salem, OR 97305-1760
(503) 378-3473
Fax (503) 373-1825 fax
TTY (503) 390-4661
E-mail: Oregon.sfm@state.or.us
www.sfm.state.or.us

August 23, 2011, 5:15 p.m.

For Immediate Release

Contact: Rich Hoover 503-934-8217 office; 503-370-0033 pager
Justin De Ruyter 503-793-9652

Structural threat lessens on the Elk Fire Conflagration

Firefighters made excellent progress on the Elk Fire early this morning reducing the threat to residences and other structures. This progress will allow the State fire marshal task forces from Clackamas and Marion counties to turn over structural protection to Jefferson County Rural Fire District #1 at 8 p.m. tonight.

No homes were lost and there have been no reports of any injuries.

The fire started around noon yesterday, (August 22nd) on private property near Belmont and Elk Roads. A combination of hot, dry conditions and gusty afternoon winds caused the fire to quickly grow and exhaust local resources. By early Monday evening, Jefferson County Rural Fire District #1 had requested assistance from the Office of Oregon State Fire Marshal for additional resources.

With at least 22 homes threatened by the fire Governor Kitzhaber authorized the Oregon State Fire Marshal to implement the state's Conflagration Act. This allowed the Office of State Fire Marshal to activate two task forces from Clackamas and Marion counties to assist local resources with protecting the threatened homes.

More information on Conflagration and Emergency Mobilization is available at OSFM website:

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

Additional resources on surviving wildfires may be accessed at:

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