

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

12-08

WHEREAS, beginning August 13, 2012, and continuing through the present, a wildfire of unknown origin is burning in Kittitas County; and

The wildfire is estimated to have burned 18,000 acres and is rapidly growing, having destroyed at least 60 structures, is threatening 400 additional structures and businesses, public utilities, public facilities, and infrastructure, resulting in the need to evacuate more than 900 people in Kittitas County; and

Approximately 15 miles of United States Highway 97 is closed to traffic and approximately 20 miles of State Route 10 is restricted to local traffic only due to the wildfire; and

Kittitas County requested mutual aid to assist in fighting the fire and declared an emergency at 3:30 pm on August 13, 2012; and

Smoke from the wildfire produced unhealthy air quality in Yakima County and resulted in a burn ban for Yakima County; and

The Washington State Patrol approved a Fire Mobilization Request at 3:30 pm on August 13, 2012; and

The wildfire damage and its effects impact the life and health of our citizens, as well as the property and infrastructure of Washington State, all of which affect life, health, property, or the public peace, and constitute a public emergency demanding immediate action; and

The Washington State Military Department has activated the state Emergency Operations Center, implemented response procedures, and is coordinating resources to support local officials in alleviating the immediate social and economic impacts to people, property, and infrastructure, and is assessing the magnitude of the event; and

Governor Christine O. Gregoire is currently outside the state of Washington and I am therefore the acting Governor pursuant to State Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brad Owen, Lieutenant Governor of the state of Washington, as a result of the above-noted situation, and under Chapters 38.08, 38.52 and 43.06 RCW, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency exists in Kittitas and Yakima counties in the state of Washington, and direct the plans and procedures of the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan* be implemented. State agencies and departments are directed to utilize state resources and to do everything reasonably possible to assist affected political subdivisions in an effort to respond to and recover from the event. As a result of this event, I also hereby order into active state service the organized militia of Washington State to include the National Guard and the State Guard, or such part thereof as may be necessary in the opinion of the Adjutant General, to perform such duties as directed by competent authority of the Washington State Military Department. Additionally, the Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division is instructed to coordinate all event-related assistance to the affected areas.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington this 14th day of August, A.D, Two Thousand and Twelve at Olympia, Washington.

By:

_____/s/_____
Brad Owen
Lieutenant Governor

BY THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR:

_____/s/_____
Secretary of State