



*Grant County*  
**EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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<b>DATE</b>	07/22/08	<b>TIME</b>	21:00

Approximately 5,000 acres are burning in the Stuhlmiller Fire which started Tuesday evening at approximately 6:07 PM. Residents on Stuhlmiller Road and in the Trinidad community were asked to evacuate because of the rapidly spreading flames pushed by a 25 mile per hour wind from the northwest.

At approximately 7:00 PM residents from Crescent Bar community who had been asked to evacuate found their escape blocked by heavy smoke and zero visibility. Sheriffs Deputies feared an accident could impact the movement of the evacuees so the decision was made to reverse the movement to the south end of Crescent Bar Island where safety could be offered to the people.

This fire straddles the county line between Douglas County and Grant County. The Fire started in Douglas County and spread into Grant County and moved back into Douglas County when the fire jumped Mansfield Road. Thirty to forty mobile homes are located in on Mansfield Rd; owners there have also been asked to leave for their safety.

Fire fighters felt they had gained some ground on the north flank however it is not in control and the south and southwest flank is the most difficult area for firefighters at this time. One home was saved from loss by the firefighters on scene in the Trinidad community, suffering exterior damages only. Several power poles were burning in Douglas County. One abandon building on Stuhlmiller Road was loss in Douglas County.

The Apple Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross has been requested to set up a shelter located at the Quincy High School for citizens evacuating from their homes. That shelter should be operational by 9 PM.

Grant County Commissioners were asked to consider a state of emergency to allow county resources to be made available to the firefighters.

Fire fighters from Fire District 3 are being assisted by resources from Districts 5, 10, 13, City of Ephrata, and Douglas County Fire District 2 is battling this fire in Douglas County. Fire Mobilization was requested at 7:59 PM and granted by the Washington State Patrol at 8:15 PM. Three wild land strike teams, one strike team of tenders and a overhead management team is in route to assist the weary firefighters on line.

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