



CAL FIRE & Cal OES NEWS RELEASE



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Governor Brown Sends Firefighting Assistance to State of Washington

SACRAMENTO – As thousands of homes and residents are threatened by devastating and deadly wildfires in the state of Washington, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. today directed his Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and CAL FIRE to send firefighters and equipment north to help battle the flames.

“We understand the devastating impacts of wildfires here in California and our hearts go out to the residents and first responders on the front lines in Washington,” said Mark Ghilarducci, Director of the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services. “Our mutual aid system is built on the concept of neighbor helping neighbor, and this is another great example of helping our neighbors in a time of dire need,” said Ghilarducci.

Four strike teams of fire engines and personnel (20 fire engines) from local government agencies and CAL FIRE departed northern California on Sunday. They are expected to arrive in Washington sometime early Monday morning.

“The State of Washington came to our aid in 2008 when we had over 2000 fires burning simultaneously in Northern California,” said Chief Ken Pimlott, CAL FIRE director.

“Wildland firefighting is a team endeavor and we will support Washington in their time of need.”

In addition to equipment and personnel from Cal OES and CAL FIRE's Amador-El Dorado and Nevada-Yuba-Placer Units, the following local government agencies make up the mutual aid contingent headed to the state of Washington: Colma Fire Protection Department, Dixon Fire Protection District, East Bay Regional Park District Fire Department, Modesto City Fire Department, North County Fire Authority (City of Pacifica), San Mateo City Fire Department, Santa Clara County Fire Department, Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District, Winters Fire Department, West Stanislaus Fire Protection Department, Woodbridge Fire District.

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