



BENTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #2

P.O. Box 719, Benton City, WA. 99320 | www.benton2.org

Station 210: 1304 Dale Ave. | Station 220: 49504 N. Whitmore PRNW

Phone: 509-588-3212 Fax: 509-588-4343

MEDIA RELEASE

“WAGON FIRE”

PREPARED BY: Assistant Fire Chief – Todd Dormaier

INCIDENT COMMANDER(s): Captain Darrin Pettis / Lt. Steve McGhan

ESTIMATED ACREAGE: 326 *(updated 6/24/26)*

CONTAINMENT: 80%

START DATE: 6/23/2026 @1154HRS

AREA OF FIRE: Benton County, West of SR225, North of Acord Rd

CAUSE: Under Investigation

STRUCTURES THREATENED: (48) Primary Structures, (106) Outbuildings

STRUCTURES DAMAGED: (0) Primary Structures, (8) Outbuildings

INJURIES: (0) Firefighter, (1) Civilian | Life Threatening *(treated/transported)*

CLOSURES & EVACUATION LEVELS: Current Level 2 evacuations are still in place for the immediate fire area. An evacuation Level 2, “SET”, has been kept in place due to an atmospheric low-pressure event moving into the area Wednesday afternoon and into the evening hours.

OVERVIEW: The Wagon Fire was fueled by extremely dry fuels, wind, and limited access, in and out of drylands, residential areas, and throughout areas considered to be wildland urban interface. Firefighters from: Benton County Fire District #1, Benton County Fire District #4, Benton County Fire District #5, West Benton Fire Rescue, Richland Fire Department, Pasco Fire Department, Hanford Fire Department, Franklin County Fire District #3, Franklin County Fire District #4, Franklin County Fire District #5, Walla Walla County Fire District #4, Walla Walla County Fire District #8, Walla Walla Fire Department, College Place Fire Department, and WADNR (Washington State Department of Natural Resources) all assisted with initial attack.

Aviation resources were requested via HB1498 at 1216hrs (12:16p); in total, (2) rotors, (2) Single Engine Air Tankers, and (1) Air Attack was requested. An additional (1) rotor was requested and dispatched once Air Attack arrived on scene.



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(cont.)

Prior to the region being exhausted of available units, a Washington State Mobilization request was made sooner than normally requested. This request was approved by the State Fire Marshal Office via the WSP at 1500hrs (3p) 6/23/2026. State resources are planned to be on scene through Thursday with local resources assisting during daytime operations and covering nighttime operations. Local resources are also continuing to respond to other calls within the area and all initial attack calls throughout the District.

RESOURCES *(approximately 160 personnel at the peak of suppression efforts):*

- (141) Total Personnel *(at the peak of the incident)*:
 - (11) Overhead Personnel
- Apparatuses:
 - (2) Dozers
 - (10) Structural Firefighting Apparatuses
 - (25) Wildland Firefighting Apparatuses
 - (8) Water Tenders
 - (4) Medic Units
 - (3) Ambulances
 - (1) Medical Overhead
 - (1) Rehab
- Aviation Assets, *(at the peak of the incident)*:
 - (1) Air Attack
 - (2) Single Engine Air Tankers
 - (3) Rotors
 - (2) Type 1
 - (1) Type 2

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