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I-5 Brush Fire

SeaTac, Wash. - August 17, 2016- As area fire crews were battling a fast moving brush fire on SR 599, another brush fire was reported several miles south of 599 along southbound I-5 near the S. 216 overpass.

The second fire was dispatched at 4:21 pm after Department of Transportation cameras spotted it. As the fire moved up the hillside on the west side of the freeway, it began to approach homes, an apartment complex, and several large water towers.

Fire crews from the Kent RFA and other departments worked quickly to fight the fire both along the freeway and above to protect the homes and property at the top of the hill. No homes were damaged, though the dry grass around the water towers was burned.

Access to the fire was hampered by chain link fences protecting the DOT right of way and the water department. The potentially affected homes were in the City of SeaTac.

Because of the amount of water used on the fire and the number of old cigarette butts along the freeway, it is unlikely that a cause for the fire will be discovered. If anyone witnessed anything that will help investigators determine a cause, they are asked to call 911 with that information.

A total of eight fire engines, including a crash truck from Boeing, three chief officers, a wildland firefighting crew, and an investigator were used at this incident, totaling over thirty personnel.

For more information about the 599 brush fire, please contact the Tukwila Fire Department.

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