



SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Larch Creek Fire Update

Wasco County Citizens:

Let me begin by saying how appreciative I am for the cooperation between Wasco County and our fire agencies during this incident. I know that without this cooperation we would not be as successful as we have been recently.

This morning (7/13/2024), I was told by fire operations staff about potential fires being set that were not communicated with fire/Incident Command. It is somewhat unknown if these fires were authorized or not, and while I appreciate these property savings efforts, it creates a very difficult situation for me as the Sheriff to make decisions about increasing or decreasing evacuation levels for our citizens.

In any incident, communication is extremely important and a lack of communication can cause serious concerns and potentially unsafe situations in the community. This incident is no different, as I personally heard stories about private individuals coming into the area and starting fires. As you can imagine, I get concerned about a Reckless Burning incident and would have to investigate it as such. **I want to say that there are no criminal investigations for these reports.**

In conclusion, please make sure you are communicating with fire personnel and Incident Command about your specific needs, as they are more than willing to hear what you have to say. If for some reason you are not getting any results please feel free to reach out to me and I'll make sure your needs are being met.

Stay Safe,

Sheriff Magill