



City of Prosser
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PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Thank You to All Who Assisted in Fighting Recent Fire

On July 31, 2016, we had a once in a lifetime event occur in Prosser. We had a natural cover fire burn 5,000+ acres of land up to the city limits of our town. As Mayor, I would personally like to thank Chief Merritt, Captain Dormaier, Captain Johnson, Chief Moon, and all the volunteer crews from West Benton Fire & Rescue, Benton County Fire Protection District No. 5, and the all other responding agencies for their tireless effort in preventing a perilous situation from becoming a disaster.

Thank you to Dr. Ray Tolcacher and Prosser School District staff for the use of Housel Middle School as a temporary relief shelter for displaced families and providing a base station for the firefighters.

I am grateful for the quick response from the American Red Cross in setting up the shelter at HMS. The Mustangs for Mustangs organization provided food and supplies for the displaced families and firefighters within minutes of a need being realized. Thank you to both of these organizations.

The Prosser Police Department and Benton County Sheriff's Office did an outstanding job in directing an orderly evacuation of Prosser City and County residents. The City's Public Works crews were in action getting city facilities ready for any and all possibilities.

Last but certainly not least, THANK YOU to the many unknown volunteers that helped families evacuate their homes and who helped prepare properties to withstand the oncoming fire. It is events like this that brings a small town together and shows that we can accomplish much greater things when we work side by side.

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