

CREWS TACKLE BLAZE



THE STORY CREEK WILDFIRE was quickly dispatched on Tuesday, April 27 by firefighters hailing from DNR and Kittitas County Fire District-7.

Photo courtesy of DNR / Austin Marshall

Wildfire in the Teanaway River Valley

by **Jim Fossett**

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TEANAWAY – Around 1:45 p.m. on Tuesday, April 27, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Kittitas County Fire District-7 firefighters extinguished a 4.5-acre wildfire off Teanaway Road.

DNR's Kittitas Fire Unit Manager Austin Marshall reports, "Between the two agencies we had eight engines there. Three of those were ours. The blaze was located in the Story Creek drainage

behind the vacant store on Teanaway Road. It's an area characterized by grass, brush and timber.

"The cause is under investigation. We suspect it was likely human-caused."

He said the crew started mop-up operations around 7 p.m. and that the blaze was declared contained before 9 p.m.

"Based on fires I've re-

sponded to this year, they're burning with greater intensity," Marshall said, "we're still in green-up but wildfires are burning with the intensity we typically see after the brush and grass begins to cure-out. If we don't get any more rain this spring, we'll be in for a devastating wildfire season. Right now, things are a lot drier than they look."

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