



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, wildfires increasingly pose a threat to homes and communities throughout Washington State as more people are moving into the wildland areas; and

**WHEREAS**, most wildfires in Western Washington are human caused; and

**WHEREAS**, Western Washington is becoming increasingly susceptible to wildfire with increasing temperatures, decreasing summer rain, and earlier snowmelt; and this has elevated the need for wildfire prevention and preparedness at both the community and individual homeowner levels; and

**WHEREAS**, Whatcom County residents must be encouraged to move from the expectation of being protected from wildfire to the understanding that they must be prepared to survive wildfire and work together to prepare their homes and community to survive wildfire; and

**WHEREAS**, when whole communities implement appropriate pre-fire activities they improve the survivability of their individual homes and community during wildfire; and

**WHEREAS**, local, state and federal agencies and organizations are working together in Whatcom County to improve wildfire resilience.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, do I, Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive, hereby proclaim the month of May to be:

### ***Wildfire Awareness Month***

in Whatcom County, as a means for education and a call for residents of Whatcom County to act to reduce the wildfire threat to their homes and help our community move toward becoming more fire-adapted.

Signed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022

Satpal Singh Sidhu, County Executive

