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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wildfire NCW, a regional wildfire preparedness website, launches

Wildfire NCW, a regional wildfire preparedness website, has officially launched at wildfirencw.org and, in Spanish, fuegoncw.org. The website was developed by the Regional Wildfire Working Group, convened and facilitated by Our Valley Our Future. Cascadia Conservation District and the Chelan PUD are lead partners in the group.

The bilingual website serves as a “one-stop” with resources for prevention, preparation, and recovery in Chelan and Douglas counties. Wildfire NCW’s content will help residents prepare their home and property, track active wildfires, check burn bans and alerts, and know what to do before and after a fire.

The launch of Wildfire NCW fulfills an objective for the “Regional Wildfire Prevention, Preparedness, and Recovery” Game Changer in the OVOF 2022-26 Action Plan. Prior to the Game Changer, a centralized website had been discussed for over a decade.

“The launch of Wildfire NCW has been a long time coming,” said OVOF executive director Rachel Evey. “When our partner Cascadia Conservation District secured a FEMA grant last year, Our Valley Our Future convened the Regional Wildfire Working Group to develop Wildfire NCW. Chelan County PUD saw the value and joined as a lead partner. Now, the website is launched and available to the public.”

“As residents of a fire-prone area, it is important that we learn to coexist with fire,” said Cascadia Conservation District executive director Ryan Williams. “With Wildfire NCW, residents will have a one-stop resource to learn how they can be a part of the solution, without having to wonder where they should go for information and resources.”

“Increasing the resilience of the electrical grid and protecting communities are priorities for us,” said Chelan PUD communications manager Libby Siebens. “Wildfire NCW is a valuable resource with detailed information and industry best practices.”

Wildfire NCW is funded by Our Valley Our Future, Chelan PUD, and Cascadia Conservation District. The three organizations serve as lead partners in the Regional Wildfire Working Group. Other partners in the Regional Wildfire Working Group are American Red Cross, CAFÉ, Chelan

County Emergency Management, Chelan County Fire Districts, Chelan Douglas Health District, Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition, Columbia Breaks Fire Interpretive Center, Department of Ecology, Department of Fish & Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources, Dr Paul Hessburg, John Marshall, Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue, North Forty Productions, Smoke Ready Solutions, Sustainable Northwest, The Nature Conservancy, Thriving Together NCW, the United States Forest Service, Washington Resource Conservation and Development Council, and Wenatchee Valley Fire Department.

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Our Valley Our Future is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that conducts community outreach, visioning and planning work, and guides the development of a community-generated Action Plan every five years. OVOF's mission is to empower the people and organizations of Our Valley to co-create and achieve our region's shared vision. Learn more at ourvalleyourfuture.org.

Cascadia Conservation District is a non-regulatory organization, funded by grants and a system of rates & charges, dedicated to encouraging the wise stewardship of all natural resources in Chelan County. Cascadia's programs and services are tailored to champion sustainable practices, protect natural resources, and engage communities in fostering a healthier ecosystem. Learn more at cascadiacd.org/.

Chelan PUD is a locally controlled public utility district whose mission is to provide essential services to empower the community. Powered by renewable, low-cost hydropower, Chelan PUD is committed to fair value for essential services, long-term value and public trust, a resilient energy and water future, and community well-being. Learn more at chelanpud.org.