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\*\*\*\*\*Sheriff Press Release\*\*\*\*\*

On 06-07-2021 at about 1815 hours Naches Fire Department personnel responded to a brush fire located just off of US Highway 12 near mile post 179 on White Pass. As Naches Firefighters fought the fire, the body of a deceased male was located within the burned area of brush and so the Yakima County Sheriff's Office was notified.

Yakima County Sheriff's Office investigators noted that the body was significantly burned and the identity of the deceased could not be readily determined. The deceased is believed to be about 5 ft 5 inches tall and weighing an estimated 170 pounds. The cause of death can't be firmly determined at this time and so it's not known if the person died as a result of the fire or was deceased prior to fire ignition. The cause of the fire can't be firmly determined at this time. The fire burned less than an acre. Witnesses in the area at the time of the fire noted nothing that would suggest violence had taken place prior to the fire or the locating of the body.

Anyone having information regarding this death is asked to contact the Yakima County Sheriff's Office at 509-574-2500 regarding Yakima SO case 21C09299.

## **Mike Russell**

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