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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Veteran -Led Team Rubicon Assisting with Fire Mitigation in Kennewick, Wash.

Kennewick, Wash. (April 5, 2019) - [Team Rubicon](#), a veteran-led disaster response organization, will launch a three-day operation beginning Friday, April 12th to provide fire mitigation in Zintel Canyon. In 2018, Kennewick Fire Department responded to nine fires within six months burning approximately 10 acres of Zintel Canyon.

In coordination with local authorities, Team Rubicon will provide chainsaw operations and debris removal to clear brush and trees to improve the access for emergency vehicles to respond in the area. Veteran based groups the Mission Continues and Wounded Warrior Project are also assisting with debris removal.

This project is part of continuing coordinated efforts with a multi-departmental mitigation team within the City of Kennewick. This team includes the city Police Department, Fire Department, City Attorney's Office, Public Works, Public Relations, and Parks & Recreation. "We are excited to have the opportunity to help make the park safer for people that use it and easier for emergency response vehicles to be able to access areas in case of an emergency or fire. We are humbled to work with this community and develop long-lasting relationships with the local Fire Department, and local community leaders," said Melissa Lantz, Incident Commander for Team Rubicon. "We would like thank the City of Kennewick and the City of Kennewick Fire Department for their collaboration in planning this fire mitigation operation."

Team Rubicon boasts a 90,000-strong, highly skilled volunteer force that helps communities stabilize and recover communities after a devastating natural disaster. Since its inception following the 2010 Haiti earthquake, Team Rubicon has responded to 325 disasters, including Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, Florence, and Michael.

Through a strong communications infrastructure supported by our cutting-edge technological solutions, Team Rubicon volunteers efficiently and effectively respond to natural disasters and help families return to their homes as soon as possible. By giving military veteran volunteers the opportunity to continue their service through disaster response, Team Rubicon provides them an avenue to gain a renewed sense of purpose, community, and identity.

About Team Rubicon

Team Rubicon unites the skills and experiences of military veterans with first responders to rapidly deploy emergency response teams. Team Rubicon is a nonprofit organization offering veterans a chance to continue their service by helping those affected by disasters, and also themselves. Programs and services are made possible by the support of individual donors, corporate partners, and the dedication of volunteers across the country. To join or support Team Rubicon's mission, visit www.teamrubiconusa.org.

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