

# STATE OF COLORADO

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor

## D 2012-024

### EXECUTIVE ORDER

#### Amending the Declaration of Disaster Emergency Due to the Waldo Canyon Fire

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act of 1992, C.R.S. § 24-32-2100, et seq., I, Governor John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order declaring a state of disaster emergency due to the wildfire in El Paso County, Colorado.

#### I. Background and Purpose

On Saturday, June 23, 2012, a wildfire ("Waldo Canyon Fire") started in El Paso County west of the community of Colorado Springs. It immediately threatened the communities of Manitou Springs, Ute Pass, Chipita Park, Cascade, and Green Mountain Falls forcing the evacuation of 10,000 homes. The fire grew rapidly being fueled by extremely dry vegetation, low relative humidity, high temperatures, and extremely windy conditions to threaten the western edge of Colorado Springs. The cause of the fire is unknown and is under investigation. As of June 28, the fire has spread to approximately 18,500 acres and more than 32,000 evacuation orders have been issued. El Paso County and local fire department resources have been fully engaged in both evacuating residents from harm's way and in fighting the wildfire. On June 23, I verbally declared a disaster emergency due to the Waldo Canyon Fire and, on June 27, signed Executive Order D 2012-020. On June 28, I verbally authorized the National Guard to assist in fighting the fire and to enforce the laws of the State of Colorado and have authorized the use of National Guard assets as directed by Dual-Status Commander Colonel Peter Byrne.

II. Declaration and Directives

In addition to the declarations and directives contained in Executive Order D 2012-020, I declare and direct Executive Order D 2012-020 is hereby amended to add paragraph II(E) as follows:

- E. My verbal orders activating the National Guard and authorizing the utilization of National Guard assets to fight the Waldo Canyon Fire and enforce the laws of the State of Colorado are hereby memorialized by this Executive Order and shall have the full force and effect of law as if they were contained within this Executive Order.

III. Duration

Executive Order D 2012-020 remains in full force and effect as originally promulgated. This Executive Order shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded by executive order.



GIVEN under my hand and the  
Executive Seal of the State of  
Colorado this twenty-eighth day of  
June, 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Hickenlooper".

John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor