

# STATE OF COLORADO

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor

## D 2015-010

### EXECUTIVE ORDER

#### **Authorizing deployment of Colorado National Guard Assets to Washington to Assist in Suppressing Wildfires under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact**

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Colorado Constitution, article IV, section 5, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1220(4), C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1227(3), C.R.S. § 28-3-104, and the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), C.R.S. § 24-60-2901 *et seq.*, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order authorizing the deployment of certain Colorado National Guard resources to assist in suppressing destructive wildfires in the State of Washington.

#### I. Background and Purpose

The State of Washington is experiencing several wildfires that have resulted in loss of life, destruction of hundreds of residential and other structures, damage to businesses, farms, ranches and public infrastructure, and over 300,000 acres of public and private land burned. The Governor of the State of Washington has declared a state of emergency across all 39 counties in the state. Given the gravity of the situation, the State of Washington has requested Colorado National Guard resources to assist with the firefighting effort in accordance with the EMAC. Under the EMAC, Colorado National Guard resources may supplement local response efforts to preserve life and property and to meet the emergency needs of the State of Washington. Pursuant to C.R.S. § 28-3-104 and the EMAC, I verbally authorized the activation of the Colorado National Guard to assist with this request on Friday, August 21, 2015. This Executive Order memorializes my verbal order.

#### II. Declaration and Directives

- A. The State of Washington has communicated that it is experiencing a state of emergency occurring within that state, which provides a basis for activation of the EMAC. The State of Washington has requested certain resources from the State of

Colorado, including certain air assets maintained by the Colorado National Guard.

- B. Pursuant to C.R.S. § 28-3-104 and the EMAC, as commander-in-chief of military forces, I employ and call to active duty certain elements of the Colorado National Guard, and I hereby authorize and direct the Adjutant General to respond to the State of Washington's request for National Guard air support of missions required in response to its state of emergency, as requested by the Governor of Washington, or his designee.
  
- C. Pursuant to the EMAC, Colorado shall mobilize a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, pilots, and crew to assist in aerial wildfire suppression efforts in the State of Washington, and the State of Washington shall reimburse the State of Colorado for all reasonable and agreed upon costs related to the deployment of the UH-60 helicopter, pilots and crew. These costs are encumbered in the Wildland Fire Cost Recovery Fund for payment of such expenses. The State of Washington will restore any funds expended from the Wildland Fire Cost Recovery Fund for this activation. The appropriate divisions in the Colorado Department of Public Safety are authorized to process the appropriate EMAC and state documents to ensure payment to the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs and reimbursement by the State of Washington.
  
- D. The Director of the Office of Emergency Management, and the Colorado Adjutant General or their designees, are authorized and directed to coordinate assistance to the State of Washington as expeditiously as possible.

III. Duration

This Executive Order shall expire thirty days from August 21, 2015, unless extended further by Executive Order.



GIVEN under my hand and the  
Executive Seal of the State of  
Colorado this fourteenth day  
of September, 2015

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "John W. Hickenlooper", is written over the printed text.

John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor