

STATE OF COLORADO

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John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

D 2016-012

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Declaring a Disaster Emergency due to the Starwood Fire in Larimer County and Authorizing State Funding for Response

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to relevant portions of C.R.S. § 28-3-104, relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701, *et seq.* and relevant portions of Article IV Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order declaring a disaster emergency due to the Starwood Fire in Larimer County and authorizing state funding for response to the fire.

I. Background and Purpose

In the early afternoon hours of Sunday, September 4, 2016, a fire ignited in Larimer County. The fire was named the Starwood Fire, and grew to an estimated 300 acres by the next day. Over 120 personnel deployed to fight the fire. Approximately 43 homes were notified to evacuate. Due to conditions and complexity, command of the fire was transferred to a Type III Incident Management Team on September 5, 2016, and the Larimer County Emergency Operations Center activated to Level II. The Incident Management Team remained in place and the Larimer County Emergency Operations Center remained activated through September 9, 2016.

Due to the potential for further fire growth and lives and property at risk, the Division of Fire Prevention and Control determined that the Starwood Fire was eligible for the Emergency Fire Fund. Due to previous fires, however, the Emergency Fire Fund did not have funds available for the Starwood Fire. The Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management therefore requested activation of the State Emergency Operations Plan. I verbally approved the request on September 4, 2016.

II. Declaration and Directives

- A. This fire constitutes a disaster emergency under C.R.S. § 24-33.5-704. My verbal order of September 4, 2016 declaring a disaster emergency is hereby memorialized by this Executive Order and shall have the full force and effect of law as if it were contained within this Executive Order.
- B. Due to the current insufficiency of funds necessary to pay for fire suppression efforts related to the Starwood Fire in both the Disaster Emergency Fund and the Emergency Fire Fund, I order the transfer of \$325,000 from the Controlled Maintenance Trust Fund into the Disaster Emergency Fund pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-706(4)(b). I further encumber \$325,000 in the Disaster Emergency Fund to pay for the fire suppression and response efforts related to the Starwood Fire since 12:01 am on September 5, 2016.
- C. Further, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-705.4(5), the Emergency Management Director is hereby authorized and directed to allocate these funds to the appropriate government agencies and to execute awards, purchase orders, or other mechanisms to effect the allocation of these funds. These funds shall remain available for this purpose for thirty-six months from September 4, 2016, and any unexpended funds shall remain in the Disaster Emergency Fund.

III. Duration

This Executive Order shall expire thirty days from December 15, 2016, unless extended further by Executive Order, except that the funds described in paragraph II(C) above shall remain available for the described purposes for thirty-six months from September 4, 2016.



GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado this fifteenth day of
December 2016,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "John W. Hickenlooper".

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor