

STATE OF COLORADO

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

136 State Capitol
Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone (303) 866-2471
Fax (303) 866-2003



John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

D 2018 010

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Amending Executive Order D 2013 013 to Extend the Availability of Existing Funds for the East Peak Fire in Huerfano and Las Animas Counties

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Colorado Constitution and the relevant portions of the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701, *et seq.*, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order amending Executive Order D 2013 013 to extend the availability of existing funds for recovery from the East Peak Fire in Huerfano and Las Animas Counties (“East Peak Fire”).

I. Background and Purpose

The Governor is responsible for meeting the dangers to the State and people presented by disasters. C.R.S. § 24-33.5-704(1). The Colorado Disaster Emergency Act defines a disaster as “the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural cause or cause of human origin, including but not limited to fire.” C.R.S. § 24-33.5-703(3).

On June 19, 2013, the East Peak Fire was reported to state authorities in the Spanish Peaks area of Huerfano County. This wind-driven fire quickly grew in size and intensity. Lieutenant Governor Joseph A. Garcia verbally approved the Huerfano County Sheriff’s request to transfer the fire to the State of Colorado under the Emergency Fire Fund (“EFF”) provisions and declared a state of disaster emergency. On June 20, 2013, the East Peak Fire extended into Las Animas County, and I approved the request that Las Animas County be added to the EFF designation.

In Executive Order D 2013 013, I memorialized the Lieutenant Governor's verbal order declaring a state of disaster emergency due to the East Peak Fire and ordered that three million dollars (\$3,000,000) from the Disaster Emergency Fund be encumbered to pay for fire suppression, response, and recovery efforts related to the East Peak Fire. Included in this specified amount was one hundred ninety-five thousand dollars (\$195,000) to assist with state and local government costs incurred during and as a result of the East Peak Fire disaster emergency. Funds were made available until December 2014.

Due to the magnitude of damage from the East Peak Fire and the need for coordination among numerous governmental organizations and agencies, the Office of Emergency Management is still working to finalize expenses and process final payments to all appropriate entities. This Executive Order therefore extends the availability of existing funding from the Disaster Emergency Fund to provide adequate funding for recovery efforts in connection with the East Peak Fire.

II. Amendment

The last sentence in Section II(C) of Executive Order D 2013 013 is amended to read as follows:

These funds shall remain available for this purpose until December 31, 2018, and any unexpended funds shall remain in the Disaster Emergency Fund.

III. Duration

This Executive Order shall remain in effect until rescinded or modified by Executive Order. In all other respects, Executive Order D 2013 013 shall remain in full force and effect.



GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado, this sixteenth day
of July, 2018.

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

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor