



WHEREAS, North Dakota entered an active weather pattern conducive for producing severe weather June 7 through June 11, 2021, and,

WHEREAS, this pattern generated powerful, damaging storms that began adversely impacting North Dakota on June 7, 2021, and continued into the early morning hours of June 11, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, reports by the National Weather Service indicated these storms produced tornadoes, large hail ranging from golf ball to baseball size, damaging winds that reached 93 miles per hour and torrential rainfall as they traveled across the state; and,

WHEREAS, these unrelenting storms produced copious amounts of rain, sometimes tracking back over areas already swamped by runoff, and hail that crashed through windows and caused extensive damage to buildings; and,

WHEREAS, heavy rainfall on drought-stricken lands with nearly impermeable topsoil quickly evolved into overland flooding, inundating infrastructure and rapid river rises; and,

WHEREAS, gusty winds snapped power poles, downed electrical lines and damaged siding and roofs on buildings throughout the state as the severe weather pattern generated tornadoes; and,

WHEREAS, assessments recently completed by local, tribal and state officials demonstrate these storms caused extensive damages to homes, electrical infrastructure, roads and bridges, particularly in the counties of Burke, Divide, Emmons, Grant, Kidder, LaMoure, Sioux and Williams; and,

WHEREAS, impacts of these storms constitute an economic hardship for local and tribal jurisdictions suffering drought during one of the worst wildland fire seasons on record, with dry conditions conducive for the rapid spread of flames; and,

WHEREAS, our communities continue to recover from the impacts of recent disasters, including a worldwide pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the State of North Dakota to assist its citizens in addressing emergencies, disasters and other hardships.

NOW THEREFORE, Doug Burgum, as Governor of North Dakota, by virtue of the authority vested under Article V, Section 1, North Dakota Constitution and Chapter 37-17.1, North Dakota Century Code, hereby declares a statewide severe summer storm disaster and orders activation of the State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) in order to assist local and tribal officials, to prevent injuries and save lives, alleviate hardships, implement appropriate response and recovery actions and future mitigation measures, and facilitate restoration of services and infrastructure.

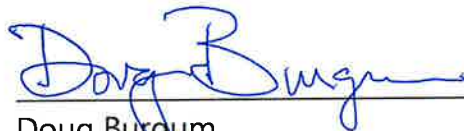
All state agencies are ordered to maintain high readiness levels of severe summer storm-related resources and capabilities in preparation for timely execution of their respective responsibilities pursuant to the SEOP.

This order is issued pursuant to the following authorities and for the following reasons:

1. The Governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution; and,
2. The Governor is vested with statutory authority to issue executive orders to minimize or avert the effects of a disaster or emergency pursuant to Chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code; and,
3. A coordinated and effective effort of all State departments is required to minimize the impact of disasters and emergencies in this state.

This order is in effect immediately and shall remain in effect until it is rescinded.

Executed at the State Capitol in Bismarck, North Dakota, this 9th day of August, 2021.




Doug Burgum
Governor

Attest:



Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State


Deputy