



EXECUTIVE ORDER 2024-06

WHEREAS, North Dakota has experienced above average temperatures, gusty winds, low humidity and dry vegetation, which has contributed to a strong likelihood of rapidly developing wildland fires this fall; and

WHEREAS, on September 29-30 the state was under a wind advisory and red flag warning with wind speeds at 30-35 mph and gusts up to 55 mph, which generated an extremely high risk of wildland fires and contributed to dry conditions; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, the state has experienced more than 1,000 reported fires; and

WHEREAS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) fire weather outlook has been classified as "elevated" on multiple occasions due to dry, windy conditions with ample fuel, resulting in an active fire season; and

WHEREAS, based on the most current National Weather Service (NWS) Climate Prediction Center outlook, temperatures will trend above normal with precipitation leaning below normal for the fall of 2024; and

WHEREAS, the potential exists for rapidly moving wildland fires that threaten the safety of North Dakotans, their communities and farmsteads, and may result in infrastructure, wildlife, livestock, feed and crop losses, as well as damage to structures and miles of fencing; and

WHEREAS, state resources have been, and continue to be, needed to fight wildland fires in North Dakota; 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 fire emergency 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, to include the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services, the North Dakota Forest Service and

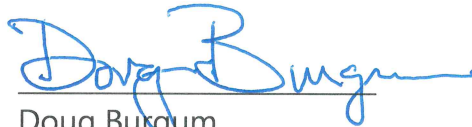
the North Dakota National Guard, are ordered to maintain high readiness levels of fire-related resources and capabilities in preparation for timely execution of their respective responsibilities pursuant to the SEOP. The Adjutant General is authorized to activate and make available North Dakota National Guard resources to support state agencies and local and tribal governments based upon normal cost shares.

This order is issued pursuant to the following authority 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 agencies is required to minimize the impact of disasters and emergencies in this state.

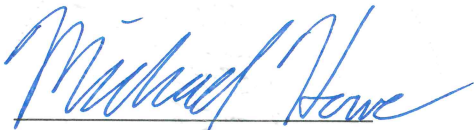
This order is in effect immediately and shall remain in effect until December 1, 2024, or until it is rescinded.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 3 day of October 2024.



Doug Burgum
Governor

Attest:



Michael Howe
Secretary of State

Deputy