State of Montana Office of the Governor

Executive Order 34 - 06

EXECUTIVE ORDER PROCLAIMING AN EMERGENCY TO EXIST IN THE STATE OF MONTANA

WHEREAS, extremely hazardous wildland fire conditions currently exists throughout the State of Montana; and

WHEREAS, the hot and dry conditions are predicted to continue through the summer months; and

WHEREAS, numerous wildland fires have occurred in the State of Montana; and

WHEREAS, in the past, an aggressive initial attack on all wildland fire starts has been the top priority of Montana's fire fighting forces; and

WHEREAS, an aggressive initial attack considerably reduces the number of large wildland fires, which in turn significantly reduces the damage to both public and private property; and

WHEREAS, continued aggressive initial attacks on all future wildland fire starts are needed to protect lives and property in the state; and

WHEREAS, additional state resources are needed to reinforce Montana's initial attack capabilities and support reduction of large wildland fires should they occur; and

WHEREAS, wildland fires have been and are currently burning and have created an imminent threat of a disaster, which timely actions can avert or minimize; and

WHEREAS, under these conditions, pursuant to §§ 10-3-302, 10-3-311, and 10-3-312, MCA, the Governor may mobilize state resources and the Montana National Guard to protect life, health, and property and may expend funds to meet contingencies and needs that may arise from the emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRIAN SCHWEITZER, Governor of the State of Montana, by virtue of the authority vested in me pursuant to the Montana Constitution, Title 10, Chapter 3, MCA, and other applicable laws of the State of Montana, do hereby declare that an emergency exists in the State of Montana, as defined in §§ 10-3-103 and 10-3-302, MCA,.

This order is effective July 11, 2006.

Given under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, This 11th day of July, 2006.

BRIAN SCHWEITZER, Governor

ATTEST:

BRAD JOHNSON, Secretary of State.