

State of Montana
Office of the Governor

Executive Order 15-2007

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

WHEREAS, extremely hazardous wildland fire conditions currently exist 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

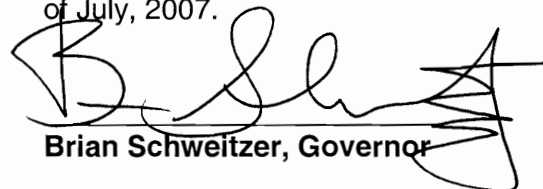
WHEREAS, wildland fires have been and are currently burning and have created an imminent threat of a disaster, which timely actions can avert or minimize; and

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, which warrants an aggressive initial attack on all wildland fire starts in Montana.

This order is effective July 16, 2007.

Given under my hand and the
GREAT SEAL of the State of
Montana, This 16 th day
of July, 2007.



Brian Schweitzer, Governor

Attest:



Brad Johnson, Secretary of State