

**State of Montana
Office of the Governor
Executive Order 6A-2012**

EXECUTIVE ORDER AMENDING EO 6-2012, TO ADD POWDER RIVER COUNTY TO THE LIST OF COUNTIES IN SOUTHEAST MONTANA IN WHICH AN EMERGENCY EXISTS

WHEREAS, extremely hazardous wild land fire conditions currently exist throughout south central and southeast portions of Montana, including near-record temperatures and low relative humidity; and

WHEREAS, the Dahl Fire (Musselshell County) was discovered on June 26, 2012, the Hawk Fire (Musselshell County) on June 26, 2012, and the Ash Creek Fire (Northern Cheyenne Reservation and Rosebud and Powder River Counties) on June 25, 2012, all of which experienced extremely high temperatures, low relative humidity, wind and extremely dry fuel; and

WHEREAS, these fires are currently out of control and, individually and combined, are advancing toward Custer, Yellowstone and Big Horn Counties, creating an imminent threat of a disaster, which timely actions can avert or minimize; and

WHEREAS, in the past, an aggressive initial attack on all wild land fire starts has been the top priority of Montana's fire fighting forces, as such an attack considerably reduces the number of large wild land fires, which in turn significantly reduces the damage to both public and private property; and

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

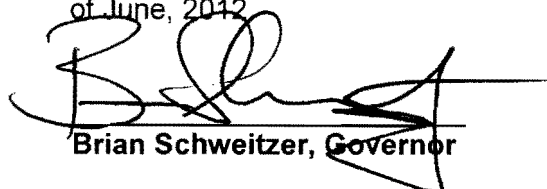
WHEREAS, additional state resources are needed to reinforce Montana's initial attack capabilities and support reduction of large wild land fires should they occur; and

WHEREAS, under these conditions, pursuant to § 10-3-302, MCA, the Governor may mobilize state resources and the Montana National Guard to protect life, health, and property by declaring a state of 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 under § 10-3-302, MCA, that an emergency exists in the counties of Musselshell, Rosebud, Custer, Treasure, Yellowstone, Big Horn, and Powder River Counties and the Northern Cheyenne Reservation in the State of Montana.

This order is effective June 27, 2012.

Given under my hand and the
GREAT SEAL of the State of
Montana, this 27th day
of June, 2012.


Brian Schweitzer, Governor

Attest:


Linda McCulloch, Secretary of State