

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Wildland Fire Management

WHEREAS, the danger from wildland fires is high throughout the State of Utah;

WHEREAS, Winter was mild with average snowpack;

WHEREAS, Current Spring precipitation in Utah is contributing to high fuel loads of wildland vegetation; and

WHEREAS, some of the areas are extremely remote and inaccessible and the situation has the potential to greatly worsen if left unattended;

WHEREAS, immediate action will be required to suppress fires and mitigate post burn flash floods to protect public safety, property, natural resources and the environment should these dangerous conditions escalate to active wildfires;

WHEREAS; COVID-19 has exhausted State and Local resources and will increase the complexity of wildfire response;

WHEREAS, these conditions do create the potential for a disaster emergency within the scope of the Disaster Response and Recovery Act of 1981;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Gary R. Herbert, Governor of the State of Utah by virtue of the power vested in me by the constitution and the laws of the State of Utah, do hereby order that:

It is found, determined and declared that a "State of Emergency" exists Statewide due to the threat to public safety, property, critical infrastructure, natural resources and the environment, effective for the month of May 2020, requiring aid, assistance and relief available pursuant to the provisions of state statutes, and the State Emergency Operations Plan, which is hereby activated.

IN TESTIMONY, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Utah this 1st day of May 2020.

(State Seal)

Gary R. Herbert
Governor

ATTEST:

Spencer J. Cox
Lieutenant Governor

2020/017/EO