STATE OF COLORADO

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D 2013-008

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Implementing the Wildfire Preparedness Plan for 2013 and Designating Monies in the Wildfire Preparedness Fund for Wildfire Preparedness Activities

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Governor of the State of Colorado and, in particular, pursuant to article IV, section 2 of the Colorado Constitution and C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1226(4)(b) of the Colorado Revised Statutes I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issues this Executive Order implementing the 2013 Wildfire Preparedness Plan and designating monies in the Wildfire Preparedness Fund for wildfire preparedness activities.

I. Background and Purpose

C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1226(3)(a) requires the Director ("Director") of the Division of Fire Prevention and Control ("Division") to develop an annual Wildfire Preparedness Plan, in collaboration with the County Sheriffs of Colorado, the Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association, the Director of the Office of Emergency Management and the Adjutant General.

The Wildfire Preparedness Plan shall be designed to address the following:

(1) The amount of aerial firefighting resources necessary for the state of Colorado at times of high and low wildfire risk;
(2) The availability of appropriate aerial firefighting equipment and personnel at times of high fire risk to respond to a wildfire;
(3) The availability of state wildfire engines and staffing of the engines at different levels of wildfire risk;
(4) The availability of state inmate wildfire hand crews at different levels of wildfire risk; and
(5) A process for ordering and dispatching aerial firefighting equipment and personnel that is consistent with, and supportive of, the statewide mobilization plan prepared pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-705.4.

The Wildfire Preparedness Plan shall also provide recommendations on the use of the Wildfire Preparedness Fund created in C.R.S. § 24-33.5-1226(4)(a).

The Director prepared the Wildfire Preparedness Plan for 2013 as required by law and submitted it to the Governor and General Assembly on December 20, 2012. The plan was identified as "Provisional" because the Division had not yet completed the fire aviation plan and the plan for the staffing of state wildfire engines for 2013.

Subsequently, the Division completed its analysis of the costs of the 2012 fire season, the financial resources available for the 2013 fire season, and considered the State's preparedness needs. In collaboration with the County Sheriffs of Colorado, the Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association, the Director of the Office of Emergency Management and the Adjutant General, the Director prepared and submitted a "Final" Wildfire Preparedness Plan for 2013 on March 29, 2013.

II. Declaration and Directives

A. The Division is hereby directed to implement the Wildfire Preparedness Plan for 2013 and carry out the wildfire preparedness activities identified therein.

B. The Division shall use the monies in the Wildfire Preparedness Fund to implement and carry out the wildfire preparedness activities identified in the 2013 Wildfire Preparedness Plan, as is necessary.

III. Duration

This Executive Order shall expire upon issuing an Executive Order or Proclamation implementing the Wildfire Preparedness Plan for 2014, or upon rescission by subsequent Executive Order.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado this eleventh day of June, 2013.

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor