



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 12-14

**PROCLAMATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY DUE TO IMMINENT
THREAT OF WILDFIRE**

Pursuant to ORS 401.165, I find that the State of Oregon is in a critical fire danger situation. Much of the state is now in extreme fire danger and red flag warnings are predicted to be issued for hot, dry, windy conditions and thunderstorms. Other parts of the country continue to experience large-complex fires and similar fire weather. The extended forecast in Oregon calls for continued warm and dry conditions with predictions of widespread lightning over many parts of the State. The imminent threat of wildfire exists over a broad area of the State including forests in the Cascades and eastern and southern Oregon. In fact, six significant fires are actively burning over 130,000 acres at this time. These fires are in remote and difficult terrain and are threatening structures, public and private timberland and rangeland, pipeline infrastructure, reservoirs, and electrical power infrastructure. Currently, over 2,900 firefighters are engaged on wildfires state-wide. To date, fire season 2012 has accounted for over 1 million acres of state and private lands burned in Oregon.

With the firefighting resources of the nation fully committed, unfilled orders for large helicopters and other firefighting resources on Oregon fires, and the threat of more new ignitions in the immediate future, there is a need for immediate access to Oregon National Guard resources, specifically firefighting helicopters. In the near future, Oregon National Guard resources including air ambulance services and firefighting crews may also be requested. This threat is not likely to recede in the near future. It is critically important that National Guard resources can be positioned to respond adequately and effectively to this dangerous and dynamic situation.

Therefore, subject to the limitations described below, I hereby declare a statewide **State of Emergency** due to the imminent threat of wildfire.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. The Oregon Military Department through its Office of Emergency Management and the Oregon Department of Forestry is authorized to coordinate the use of personnel and equipment of the State for wildland firefighting in Oregon with National Guard resources.
2. This determination of a fire emergency is statewide. It is not to be construed as a comprehensive declaration or proclamation of emergency for other purposes. It is limited to the use of state resources and personnel for wildland firefighting. Any local government requests for state resources must be



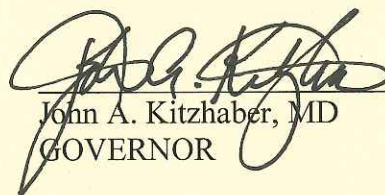
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submitted through county governing bodies to the Office of Emergency Management pursuant to ORS Chapter 4.

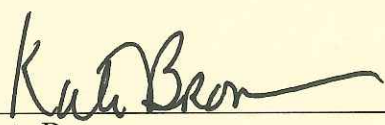
3. This order shall remain in effect until the threat is significantly relieved or the fire season ends.
4. This order was made by verbal proclamation by the Governor at 5:50 p.m. on the 16th day of August, 2012.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 20 day of August, 2012.




John A. Kitzhaber, MD
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


Kate Brown
SECRETARY OF STATE