



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 26-16

**INVOCATION OF EMERGENCY CONFLAGRATION ACT FOR THE
ROWE CREEK COMPLEX FIRE IN WHEELER COUNTY**

Pursuant to my authority as Governor of the State of Oregon, I find that:

The fire known as the "Rowe Creek Complex" is burning in Wheeler County.

The resources necessary for protecting life and property from the Rowe Creek Complex are beyond local capabilities. Assistance with life, safety, and structural fire protection was requested by the Wheeler County Fire Defense Board Chief and the State Fire Marshal concurs with that request.

In accordance with ORS 476.510-476.610, I have determined that a threat to life, safety, and property exists due to the fire known as the Rowe Creek Complex Fire in Wheeler County and the threat exceeds the firefighting capabilities of local firefighting personnel and equipment. Accordingly, I have invoked the Emergency Conflagration Act.

These findings were made at 1:02 pm on July 17, 2026, with the Department of the State Fire Marshal, the Oregon State Fire Marshal Green Incident Management Team will enter into unified command with Northwest Team 2 on July 18, 2026. The Oregon State Fire Marshal Green Incident Management Team will be briefed at 4:00 p.m. on July 17, 2026, and I now confirm them with this Executive Order.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. The Department of the State Fire Marshal shall mobilize fire resources statewide and coordinate with all appropriate Fire Defense Board Chiefs for the use of personnel and equipment in accordance with the Emergency Conflagration Act to suppress and contain this fire. Resources responding to the Rowe Creek Complex may be redistributed by the State Fire Marshal.
2. This conflagration is declared only for the Rowe Creek Complex threatening structures in Wheeler County.
3. This order was made by verbal proclamation at 1:02 pm on the 17th day of July 2026 and signed this 17th day of July 2026, in Salem, Oregon.



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4. This order is in effect as of this date and until which time the Department of the State Fire Marshal has demobilized all OSFM resources off this incident.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 17th day of July, 2026.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tina Kotek".

Tina Kotek
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tobias J Read".

Tobias Read
SECRETARY OF STATE