



Fire Emergency Appropriation Amendment

"SECTION 6. FIRE EMERGENCY - WILDFIRE RESPONSE MUTUAL AID.

The disaster costs line item in subdivision 2 of section 1 of this Act includes \$5,156,832 from the state disaster relief fund for personnel, equipment, materials, supplies, and intrastate and interstate mutual aid reimbursement for wildfire response. Authority shall include compensation for the fire response personnel mandatory days off and mandatory quarantine and isolation periods for COVID-19 close contact and positive test results in line with CDC, NDDOH and DOD guidelines. The department of emergency services, in consultation with the North Dakota forest service, may create an intrastate wildfire mutual aid reimbursement program for the purpose of reimbursing the costs of mutual aid response by fire departments. The department of emergency services shall define rules and eligibility for wildfire intrastate mutual aid reimbursement."

- Adds a section to provide that the disaster costs line item includes \$5,156,832 from the state disaster relief fund for personnel, equipment, materials, supplies, and intrastate and interstate mutual aid reimbursement for wildfire response costs.



Current Environment

- Executive Order 01APR21 – Statewide Wildfire Emergency
- North Dakota drought conditions exist across the state, as of 07APR21 the majority of the Western two-thirds is in extreme drought State Drought Monitor | United States Drought Monitor (unl.edu)
- Drought forecast through 30JUN21, projected persistent drought conditions Climate Prediction Center: Seasonal Drought Outlook (noaa.gov)
- As of 09APR21 all but 1 County have burn bans in place Burn Ban Restrictions & Fire Danger Maps | ND Response
- Long Range Forecasts project warmer than normal temps and below or near normal precipitation Climate Prediction Center - Seasonal Outlook (noaa.gov)
- Acres burned already in 2021 have far exceeded all of 2020
- The Office of the Adjutant General is prepared to respond to future fire events. Historically, rotary wing aviation assets are the most used NDNG capability requested for WLF events. NDNG also has a small number of ground crews and equipment available.
- Personnel and Equipment Readiness is critical, but comes at a cost.

