



# STATE of MINNESOTA

Executive Department

Governor Tim Walz

## Emergency Executive Order 26-07

### Declaring a Peacetime Emergency and Continuing Assistance to Communities Impacted by Wildfires

I, Tim Walz, Governor of the State of Minnesota, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, issue the following executive order:

Minnesota has experienced unusually dry, hot, and windy weather this spring, creating explosive wildfire conditions throughout much of the state. Beginning on May 15, multiple active wildfires have been burning in northern Minnesota across portions of Lake, Crow Wing, and St. Louis Counties. These fires include the Steward Trail Fire near Two Harbors, which is estimated at 355 acres, and the emerging Flanders Fire in Crow Wing County, which is estimated at 1,000 acres. Current conditions could lead to the rapid spread of these fires, risking life, property, and resources.

The Department of Public Safety's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management ("HSEM") continues to work with multiple state and local agencies to protect threatened structures and residences, prevent additional fire growth and spread, support evacuation and shelter operations, and maintain transportation control points and emergency access routes. HSEM, the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Transportation, the Minnesota Interagency Fire Center, and local first responders, including firefighters, law enforcement, emergency management, and public health, are working collaboratively to keep Minnesotans safe. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has requested fire suppression assets from the Minnesota National Guard.

These fires are endangering life and property in our state, and local resources are inadequate to address the threat. Minnesota is committed to supporting the continued emergency response efforts to contain and control these fires.

For these reasons, I declare a peacetime emergency pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 12.31 and order as follows:

1. HSEM will continue to support the coordination of onsite resources and assistance to affected local governments and determine the need for supplemental emergency assistance.
2. All relevant state agencies, in cooperation with appropriate federal agencies, will provide the assistance necessary to help local units of government respond to and recover from this emergency.
3. The Adjutant General is authorized to order to state active duty the personnel, equipment, facilities, and resources needed to provide assistance throughout Minnesota.

4. The Adjutant General is authorized to procure the goods and services needed to accomplish the mission.
5. The costs of this assistance shall be paid from the general fund as allowed by Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 192.52.

This Executive Order and declaration of peacetime emergency are effective immediately under Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 4.035, subd. 2. The peacetime emergency declared in this Executive Order expires in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 2025, section 12.31, subd. 2. The remainder of this Executive Order, including the activation of the Minnesota National Guard, remains in effect until the emergency conditions caused by the wildfires subside or June 7, 2026, whichever occurs first.

A determination that any provision of this Executive Order is invalid will not affect the enforceability of any other provision of this Executive Order. Rather, the invalid provision will be modified to the extent necessary so that it is enforceable.

Signed on May 17, 2026.



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**Tim Walz**, GOVERNOR

Filed According to Law:



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**Steve Simon**, SECRETARY OF STATE

Filed May 17, 2026  
Office of the Minnesota  
Secretary of State  
Steve Simon