



EXECUTIVE ORDER 2019-10

WHEREAS, a statewide flood emergency in North Dakota exists as a result of significant late summer and fall rainfall and a historic October blizzard event; and

WHEREAS, record fall precipitation levels and heavy snowfall continue to saturate soil and cause overtopped roadways as water moves into ditches and rivers, damaging critical transportation and utility infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the abnormally high runoff has resulted in atypically increased fall river and stream flows and flood stages, necessitating increased outflows from dams throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the collective impact of these record precipitation levels and continued flooding have and will continue to inundate farmlands and cause short- and long-term catastrophic losses for farmers and ranchers, constituting serious economic hardship across the state; and

WHEREAS, the impact of the record precipitation levels and October blizzard event have overwhelmed the response and recovery capabilities of local and tribal officials; and

WHEREAS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is projecting higher than average precipitation from December 2019 through February 2020, creating the potential for even greater flood concerns going into spring 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the State of North Dakota to assist its citizens in addressing the emergencies, disasters and the other hardships.

NOW THEREFORE, Doug Burgum, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, hereby orders activation of the North Dakota State Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) in order to assist local and tribal officials, save lives and prevent injuries, alleviate hardships, implement appropriate response and recovery actions and future mitigation measures, and facilitate restoration of services and infrastructure. All state agencies, to include the North Dakota National Guard, are ordered to provide response resources and capabilities pursuant to their respective responsibilities detailed in the SEOP.

This order is issued pursuant to the following authority and for the following reasons:

1. The Governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution; and
2. The Governor is vested with statutory authority to issue executive orders to minimize or avert the effects of a disaster or emergency pursuant to Chapter 37-17.1 of the North Dakota Century Code; and,
3. A coordinated and effective effort of all State departments is required to minimize the impact of disasters and emergencies in this State.

This order is in effect immediately and shall remain in effect until it is rescinded.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 21st day of October 2019.



Doug Burgum
Governor

Attest:



Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State

Jim Silrum
Deputy Secretary of State