



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Colorado Sends Resources to New Mexico to Assist with Large Wildfires**

**DENVER:** The Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) will be sending resources to the State of New Mexico to assist with the current wildfire situation.

New Mexico is currently battling multiple wildfires, one of which is exceeding 20,000 acres. DFPC will be providing 2 Type 6 Engines and 2 fireline supervisors to the State of New Mexico and will assist with initial attack on the west side of the state, in addition to large fire support if needed. Hot temperatures are expected this weekend in New Mexico; the hot and dry pattern is expected to last through early next week.

The national structure for combatting wildland fires is a cooperative, interagency system involving local, state, and federal agencies. "Colorado knows well the devastating impact that large wildfires can have," says DFPC Director Mike Morgan. "Wildfires of this magnitude that are burning across the state of New Mexico cannot be managed without additional firefighting resources from other parts of the country."

This order is being facilitated by way of the Great Plains Interstate Fire Compact. As a result of 5 years of drought starting in 2000, and a need for the Great Plains states to better share resources and information during peak fire season, the Great Plains Interstate Fire Compact was formed. Compact member states have air assets, engines, handcrews, dozers and an incident management team available to assist each other in time of need.

"I am pleased that we can help support our neighboring states with DFPC resources for these catastrophic wildfires. When Colorado needs help to fight wildfires, we rely on other states to send resources," says Director Morgan. "It is our duty to help other states in need."

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