

FEMA Authorizes Funds to Fight The Pack Creek Fire

Release Date: June 11, 2021

DENVER – On Thursday, June 10, 2021, FEMA authorized the use of federal funds to help with firefighting costs for the Pack Creek Fire burning in San Juan County, Utah near Moab, and the community of Pack Creek.

FEMA Acting Regional Administrator Nancy Dragani approved the state's request for a federal Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) late yesterday after determining that the fire threatened such destruction as would constitute a major disaster.

At the time of the request, the fire was threatening 110 homes in and around the community of Pack Creek, near Moab, population 5,336. The fire was also threatening a high voltage line in the area. The National Weather Service had issued High Wind warnings for the area and mandatory evacuations had taken place for approximately 500 people. The fire started on June 9, 2021 and had burned in excess of 1,000 acres.

The authorization makes FEMA funding available to pay 75 percent of the state's eligible firefighting costs under an approved grant for managing, mitigating, and controlling designated fires. These grants do not provide assistance to individual home or business owners and do not cover other infrastructure damage caused by the fire.

Fire Management Assistance Grants are provided through the President's Disaster Relief Fund and are made available by FEMA to assist in fighting fires that threaten to cause a major disaster. Eligible items can include expenses for field camps; equipment use, repair and replacement; mobilization and demobilization activities; and tools, materials and supplies.

With the FMAG authorization, additional funding is made available through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Post Fire for the mitigation of wildfire and related hazards, such as flood after fire or erosion. Some eligible wildfire



project types include defensible space measures, ignition-resistant construction, and hazardous fuels reduction.

For more information on FMAGs, visit <https://www.fema.gov/fire-management-assistance-grants-program-details>. For HMGP Post Fire, visit <https://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-grant-program-post-fire>.

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