



THE STATE OF GEORGIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

BY THE GOVERNOR:

WHEREAS: Wildfires in Southeast Georgia have resulted in the loss of tens of thousands of acres of commercial timber, threatened numerous communities, forced the closure of state highways and community schools, and required the evacuation of residents; and

WHEREAS: On March 25, a State of Emergency was issued for Bacon, Clinch, Coffee and Long Counties; and

WHEREAS: The continued patterns of dryness and strong winds have promoted the creation of new wildfires and constrained the ability of the firefighters to contain the existing fires; and

WHEREAS: It is necessary to amend the State of Emergency issued March 25 to include Ware County; and

WHEREAS: Additional State assistance is necessary to protect the public health, preserve the safety of the public, keep property damage to a minimum and support the firefighters and public safety personnel who are responding to this continuing threat to communities in the path of these growing wildfires.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED: That a State of Emergency exists in the above mentioned counties.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED: That to facilitate the containment of these wildfires the Georgia Forestry Commission continue to take necessary action to ensure

the expeditious containment, control and extinguishment of these fires.

IT IS FURTHER

ORDERED:

That all resources of the State of Georgia be made available to assist in the response and recovery activities associated with the Southeast Georgia Wildfires and that the Georgia Emergency Management Agency activate the Georgia Emergency Operations Plan.

This 28 day of March, 2011 at 12 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan Deal". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

GOVERNOR