



Cal OES
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

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**Governor Brown Secures Fire Management Assistance Grant
for Colby Fire near Los Angeles Area**

SACRAMENTO – California Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr., on Thursday, secured a federal Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help local, state and tribal agencies fighting the Colby Fire near Los Angeles. The FMAG will assist in covering eligible fire-related costs.

As of this writing, the fire has destroyed more than 1,700 acres in harsh winds and challenging firefighting conditions, originating near the city of Glendora early Thursday morning. Evacuations are in effect for Easley Canyon, as well as areas of Highway 39 West to Glendora Mountain Road, East Sierra Madre into the San Gabriel Mountains. Voluntary evacuations are in effect for Bradberry, Azusa and Duarte.

“This fire is in a rough urban-rural interface zone for firefighters and this federal assistance is going to help those on the front lines tackle this incident,” said California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Director Mark Ghilarducci. “The state is dry from north to south and these winter fires are clear signs that we need to respond quickly and effectively.”

The grant, which is provided through the President's Relief Fund on a cost-share basis, will enable local, state and tribal agencies responding to the fire at the request of incident commanders to apply for a 75-percent reimbursement of their costs related to mobilization, demobilization, travel and labor. Equipment and supply use, administrative activities and other fire-related costs are also eligible for reimbursement. Responding local, state and tribal agencies are responsible for the remaining 25 percent of their costs.

An FMAG grant is also critical in reducing the financial burden on the local, state and tribal agencies that have been deployed to the fire, as well as the taxpayers in the communities they normally serve at a time when many departments are facing budgetary challenges and fire conditions throughout the state that are likely to get worse, rather than better, as the fire season continues.

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