

State of North Carolina ROYCOOPER

GOVERNOR

November 20, 2023

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 294

AMENDMENT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 293

EXPANDING THE EMERGENCY AREA TO ADDITIONAL COUNTIES

WHEREAS, since 1 November 2023 there have been 828 wildfires on state and private lands according to the North Carolina Forest Service ("NCFS"); and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council in its 14 November 2023 assessment observed that extreme drought conditions have emerged in the State for the first time since March 2017, and severe drought has expanded into the northern mountains; and

WHEREAS, wildfires have expanded to other counties outside the Emergency Area that was initially declared in Executive Order 293 (the "Order"); and

WHEREAS, expanding the state of emergency to the additional counties named in this Executive Order, will assist federal, state and local efforts in combating these wildfires.

NOW, **THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of North Carolina, **IT IS ORDERED**:

Section 1.

The emergency area in Section 1 of Executive Order No. 293 is amended by adding the following counties: Anson, Caswell, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Montgomery, Moore, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham, Scotland, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin.

Section 2.

This amendment is effective immediately and Executive Order No. 293 shall remain in effect for thirty (30) days from the date of this amendment, unless earlier terminated or extended.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in the City of Raleigh, this 20th day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-three.

Roy Coope Governor

ATTEST:

Elaine F. Marshall Secretary of State

