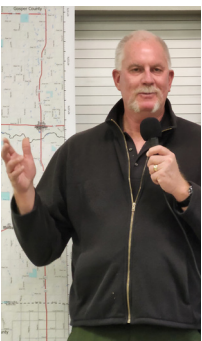


## Spring Wildfire Fire Response



*A Message  
from NEMA  
Assistant Director  
Erv Portis*



A perfect storm of critical fire weather, high winds, drought, low humidity, high temperatures and dry conditions sparked about 16 wildfires across Nebraska on the evening of Friday, April 22.

The fires continued to burn throughout this last week. Local, state and federal responders, community members and nonprofit organizations have worked side-by-side to help with the response.

The largest fire, the Road 702 Fire in Gosper and Red Willow counties, burned more than 44,000 acres in a region that was faced a 35,000-acre fire in Furnas and Gosper counties just 16 days earlier. Local responders had little time to catch their breath after the 739 fire was out, before they began working another large, fast-moving fire.

We made the decision in the early hours after the April 22 fires began to request a Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) as the fire spread rapidly and necessitated evacuations in several communities. The program provides a 75 percent federal cost share 25 percent non-federal share for actual costs.

The size and scope of the fire also warranted a request for one of the large national incident management teams with the resources it brings to manage the fire. The Rocky Mountain Complex IMT1 answered the call and worked efficiently and effectively to get this fire under control.

We appreciate **Dan Dallas** and his CIMT1s work to support Nebraska in its hour of need.

### Watch for NEMA's Spring Issue of *The Beacon* in May *It Will Feature*

- A Roundup of Wildfires Reported Across Nebraska During April and May
- The Nebraska Association of Emergency Management Conference
- Training and Exercises
- ... and more

### Fire Information

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<https://www.facebook.com/nema.page>

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<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8081/>