From:	John Miller
To:	DOF-ALL EMPLOYEES
Subject:	The Branch
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Attachments:	2020-04-20Branch.pdf

Good Morning Everyone.

As another morning rain helps to push things even closer to the end of our spring fire season, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the job you do protecting the Commonwealth. In addition to suppressing 240 wildfires, which burned just over 3600 acres, your response efforts directly, protected 218 homes and 166 other structures, at a value of just over 32 million dollars. Most importantly, you did it safely and efficiently.

I would also like to extend a special note of thanks to our Incident Management Team personnel who have supported the COVID-19 operations of the state EOC since March 18. Our two eight person IMTs have been supporting this mission as two separate teams, rotating on and off duty in alternating fashion, every 14 days since this effort begin. Team 1 takes back over today for another 14-day stretch beginning this morning, and our IMT personnel have demonstrated the high level of emergency management leadership that each of us have come to expect as normal for the VDOF, drawing rave reviews from the likes of VDEM, VDH and the National Guard.

Finally, in closing, I should not overlook everyone else in our agency, who has had to step up to the plate in your own way, to keep our many services flowing during a challenging time. Some of these efforts are highlighted in the attached issue of the Branch, but for the many others than likely go unnoticed, just because each of you do such an excellent job on a daily basis, perhaps my biggest THANKS is due to you!

Be safe!

Thanks, John