Resolution No. 21-48

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SISKIYOU TO PROCLAIM THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY RELATED TO DROUGHT

WHEREAS, annual water supplies available for agriculture, homes and municipalities within Siskiyou County are a function of both available storage in various reservoirs and the estimated seasonal inflow from winter snowpack, and;

WHEREAS, snowpack and water storage throughout the County are far below average, and;

WHEREAS, The United States Drought Monitor as of March 18, 2021, includes a significant portion of Siskiyou County in D3 (Extreme Drought) and the western portions of the County in D2 (Severe Drought), and;

WHEREAS the conditions are predicted to become more extreme within the coming weeks, and;

WHEREAS, water supplies for irrigators and the environment could be in serious jeopardy, and current conditions could very well result in loss of economic stability, pasture shortages, decrease in feed production, a shortened growing season, and animals and plants that rely on Siskiyou County's rivers will be threatened, and;

WHEREAS, dry conditions and lack of precipitation could present problems for drinking water supplies in the cities and towns of Siskiyou County as well as unincorporated areas, and low-income communities heavily dependent on agriculture employment may suffer heightened unemployment and economic hardship, and;

WHEREAS, current conditions could result in a potentially early, prolonged, and more intense fire season and increased risk for insect invasion and tree death, and;

WHEREAS, we find the appropriate response is beyond the capability of Siskiyou County, and that declaring a State of Emergency will assist the County, irrigators and others in assessing, evaluating and acquiring the ability to provide appropriate available resources, and;

WHEREAS, other resources needed may include a Governor's Drought Declaration and, and;

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2021, the United States Secretary of Agriculture issued a letter to Governor Newsom which designated fifty California counties, including Siskiyou, as primary natural disaster areas due to drought.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, that the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors is declaring a Drought Emergency in Siskiyou County, California.

SISKIYOU COUNTY

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution is forwarded to the State Director of Emergency Services, and the Governor of California.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will be brought back to the Board every sixty days for consideration of extension.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Siskiyou on April 6, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

Supervisors Criss, Kobseff, Valenzuela, Ogren and Haupt

NOES:

None

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

None

None

Ray A. Haupt, Chair

Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Laura Bynum, County Clerk

Deputy