



SISKIYOU COUNTY

Health and Human Services Agency Public Health Division

810 South Main Street
Yreka, CA 96097
(530) 841-2134 / Fax (530) 841-4094

SARAH COLLARD, PH.D.

Director of Health and Human Services Agency

AARON STUTZ, M.D.

Public Health Officer

SHELLY DAVIS, MN BSN PHN CCHP

Director of Public Health Division

Director of Nursing/Inmate Medical

PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY BY THE COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

WHEREAS, the California Health and Safety Code, Division 101, Part 3, Chapter 2, commencing with § 101080 confers upon the Local Health Officer of the political subdivisions of this state emergency powers necessary to protect public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, § 101080 of the California Health and Safety Code, states that "the local Health Officer may declare a local health emergency in the jurisdiction or any area thereof" affected by hazardous waste which is an imminent threat to the public health; necessary to protect public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code Section § 101080 empowers the local Health Officer to proclaim the existence of a local health emergency when this county or any area of the county is affected or likely to be affected by such a public health threat while the Board of Supervisors is not in session, which shall expire if not ratified by the Board of Supervisors within seven days and is subject to reaffirmation every 30 days thereafter until such local health emergency is terminated; and

WHEREAS, In late July and early August of 2021 the River Complex fire, Antelopefire, and McCash fire started and are threatening the communities of Cecilville, Somes Bar, Trinity National Forest, and Russian Wilderness, Tennant, Bray, and Medicine Lake. These fires and other smaller fires in Siskiyou County produced hazardous conditions including unhealthy air quality, hazardous products of combustion, water quality and threats to the health and safety of the residents of Siskiyou County; and

WHEREAS, with the exception of the River Complex fire, health hazards associated with wildland fires of the Lava, Antelope, and McCash fires are no longer considered a local health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the local Health Officer of the County of Siskiyou does hereby find:

1. That conditions of certain hazardous waste associated with the River Fire Complex exist in the form of contaminated debris from household hazardous waste/materials and structural debris due to the destruction of a number of structures, poses a substantial present or potential hazard to human health and the environment unless immediately addressed and managed; and
2. That there is an imminent threat to water sheds and domestic water supply as a result of hazardous debris.

3. That there is an imminent and proximate threat of infectious or communicable disease and/or non-communicable biologic agent due to accumulations of perishable foods and other organic materials that normally require refrigeration but have been left to spoil due to lack of electricity, and also due to potential contamination of destruction of residential and commercial water supply in the burned areas.
4. That the Board of Supervisors of the County of Siskiyou is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session.
5. That the aforesaid threat to public health necessitates the proclamation of the existence of a local health emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local health emergency is now threatened to exist in the burned area in this County due to hazardous waste in the form of contaminated debris from hazardous waste/materials and structural debris from a recent fire and due to contamination of residential food and water supply.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions and duties of the Health Officer shall be those prescribed by state law, including the provisions of Sections §101040 and §101085 of the Health and Safety Code, and by ordinances and resolutions of this county approved by the Board of Supervisors.

This order may be signed in counterparts.



Aaron Stutz, MD FAAEM
Siskiyou County Public Health Officer

11/3/2021

Date