Proclamation No.\_\_\_\_

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SISKIYOU PROCLAIMING A STATE OF EMERGENCY RELATED TO BURN SCAR DEBRIS FLOWS**

**WHEREAS**, five years of constant intense wildfires have heavily impacted Siskiyou County, which the landscape and communities may never fully rebound from, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Community Resilience score for Siskiyou County is 40.17, which is below the State average score of 52.85, significantly impacting the country's ability to recover and rebuild from these disasters, and;

**WHEREAS**, later-season fires followed by wet winter storms significantly impacted the County’s steep-sloped topography damaging the Highway 96 Corridor, causing massive mud and debris flows that inundated the tributary streams that deposited into the Klamath River, and;

**WHEREAS**, debris flows consisting of mud, silt, toxic ash, scree, boulders, and burnt trees from the monsoonal downpours lead to damage to vital roadways that significantly hinder ingress and egress for local the population, and;

**WHEREAS**, state highways, county roads, and critical infrastructure and Values and Risk (VARs) are being damaged, destroyed, and left inoperable, thus inhibiting vital logistical movement of goods and services throughout Siskiyou County, and;

**WHEREAS**, debris flows resulted in substantial damage and unparalleled ecological destruction to the Klamath watershed, ultimately impacting the Klamath River and its tributaries, which resulted in a die-off of threatened and endangered fish, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Emergency Services of the County of Siskiyou does hereby finds the conditions of the debris flows to be highly impactful and ongoing into the monsoonal season and winter months of Siskiyou County, its residents, and the impact on the County as a whole, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS** **HEREBY PROCLAIMED**by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Siskiyou that a Local State of Emergency now exists throughout the County related to wildfire burn scar debris flows.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that during the existence of this local emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the emergency organizations of this county shall be those prescribed by state law, ordinances and resolutions of this county-approved by the Board of Supervisors, and by the Siskiyou Operational Emergency Area Operations Plan, as approved by the Board of Supervisors, and;

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that all County procurement policies, regarding any purchase and/or services and/or supplies that are needed or required during the incident, are waived with the approval of the Director of Emergency Services.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that a copy of this proclamation shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) with a request that the Secretary of Cal OES confirm a Secretaries concurrence.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that a copy of this declaration shall be forwarded to the Governor of California with a request that he proclaim the County of Siskiyou to be in a state of emergency and make available any Federal or State assistance including California Disaster Assistance Act funds to be released to assist in recovery from this disaster.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors on November 7, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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 Ed Valenzuela, Chair
Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Laura Bynum,
County Clerk

By \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
 Deputy