



OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Bryan Schenone, Director

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**SISKIYOU COUNTY
PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, Siskiyou has been impacted by another destructive wildfire combined with persistent drought, extreme heat, Red Flag Warnings, and changing dryer climate has progressively created a destructive wildfire season and;

WHEREAS, the Head Fire (2,700+ acres), along with an additional 20+ lightning fires, started on August 15, 2023, and prompted immediate evacuations to State Highway 96 and the surrounding towns; the low relative humidity, dry fuels, and heavy winds grew all 20+ lightning fires into a destructive event requiring an all-county response, and

WHEREAS, the Head Fire's initial dangerous rate of spread quickly impacted already devastated communities, destroyed infrastructure, and will critically affect the protected waterways of the Scott and Klamath Rivers and;

WHEREAS, constant wildfires have heavily impacted Siskiyou County, which has yet to fully recover from the 2022 60,000-acre McKinney and the 3,939-acre Mill Fire, as well as the 2021 River Complex, Lava and Antelope Fires, leading the County to receive a FEMA Community Resilience score of 40.17, which significantly impedes the Counties ability to recover and rebuild from these disasters, and;

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services of Siskiyou County does hereby find the conditions of the evolving situation to be highly volatile and perilous to the continuity of operations of Siskiyou County, its residents, and the impact on the County as a whole, and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local state of emergency now exists throughout the said County, and:

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED, Siskiyou County is requesting any available State and/or Federal assistance to include California Disaster Assistance Act funding and that this proclamation be forwarded to the Governor of the State of California, and that the Governor proclaim a State of Emergency for Siskiyou County and that the Governor requests a Presidential Declaration from the President of the United States; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of the local emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of Siskiyou County shall be those prescribed by state law, by the ordinance and resolution of this County and: that this emergency proclamation shall expire in 7 days after its issuance unless confirmed and ratified by the governing body of the County of Siskiyou.

Date: August 23, 2023

By: _____

Director of Emergency Services

Printed Name: Bryan Schenone