

PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

FOR THE COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, the County of Sonoma Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10, Article 1, Section 10-5(b) empowers the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence of a Local Emergency when the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors is not in session, and

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services finds:

- (1) That at the time of this proclamation the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors is not is session;
- (2) That conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the County as of December 31, 2022 caused by consecutive major winter storm events which have resulted in major flooding in parts of Sonoma County, downed trees, disrupted utility services, and damaged roadways;
- (3) That conditions of extreme peril caused by consecutive major storm events over the past five days and continued heavy rains have caused severe ground saturation that has not dissipated at normal soil drainage rates, and that continues to cause major flooding, which have impacted significant County and community operations and resources, and require the provision of additional public safety, health and emergency services;
- (4) That conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property will continue within the County based on forecasted severe atmospheric river storms over the next six days bringing an additional six to twenty inches of rain, along with high winds, and significant risk of downed trees, debris flows, power outages, and road blockages. Based on best available current information the Russian River is projected to exceed flood stage near Guerneville. Other areas in the Sonoma County Operational Area are expected to flood as well, and the situation is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the affected local governments; and
- (5) That the aforementioned conditions of extreme peril and warrant and necessitate the proclamation of a Local Emergency; now, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a Local Emergency exists throughout Sonoma County, commencing on or about 4:00 p.m. of the 3rd day of January 2023; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said Local Emergency, the powers, functions and duties of the Director of Emergency Services shall be those prescribed by state law and the ordinances, resolutions, and approved plan of the County of Sonoma in order to mitigate the effects of said Local Emergency; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that said Local Emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist for the next seven (7) days, and hereafter by ratification of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, until its termination is proclaimed by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors; and

IT IS REQUESTED that the Governor of the State of California proclaim a State of Emergency; waive any regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; make available California Disaster Assistance Act Assistance; and seek all available forms of disaster assistance and relief programs, including a request for a Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster.

Dated: 1/3/23

Sheryl Bratton

Director of Emergency Services

Signature:

Email: Sheryl.Bratton@sonoma-county.org

January 2023 Emergency Director Proclamation re Flooding Winter Storms FINAL

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