

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
COUNTY OF FRESNO  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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4 IN THE MATTER REGARDING THE  
5 2020 CREEK FIRE

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE  
EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL  
EMERGENCY DUE TO THE WILDFIRE

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7 WHEREAS, a local emergency continues to exist in the County of Fresno in  
8 accordance with the ratification and proclamation thereof by the Board of Supervisors of the  
9 County of Fresno on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020, as a result of a crippling disaster, which  
10 severely impaired public health and public safety, created by the conditions of extreme peril to  
11 the safety of persons and property which have arisen within the County caused by the 2020  
12 Creek Fire commencing on September 4, 2020; and

13 WHEREAS, on September 5, 2020, the Emergency Services Director of the County of  
14 Fresno, proclaimed a local emergency due to the wildfire threat to the mountain communities of  
15 Big Creek, Huntington Lake, and Shaver Lake areas of the County; and

16 WHEREAS, on September 6, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of  
17 emergency to exist in Fresno, Madera, and Mariposa Counties as a result of the Creek Fire,  
18 and made available State resources to assist in combating the wildfire; and

19 WHEREAS, on September 10, 2020, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno  
20 ratified the proclamation by the Emergency Services Director and adopted Resolution No. 20-  
21 283 proclaiming the local emergency status; and

22 WHEREAS, this wildfire necessitated the evacuation of approximately 20,000 County  
23 residents; and

24 WHEREAS, approximately 379,895 acres burned and the wildfire is now 100 percent  
25 contained; and

26 WHEREAS, 856 structures and 5 businesses have been destroyed and millions of  
27 dollars in damages to public and private infrastructure has occurred; and

28 WHEREAS, the wildfire has damaged water and wastewater infrastructure and  
29 appurtenances; and

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32 WHEREAS, on September 18, 2020, the Fresno County Interim Health Officer declared

1 a local health emergency to exist in the County of Fresno under the provisions of California  
2 Health and Safety Code section 101080 pertaining to the amount of hazardous waste  
3 generated by building debris including heavy metals, polychlorinated biphenyls, and  
4 asbestos; and

5 WHEREAS, on October 16, 2020, the County of Fresno was included in a Federal  
6 Major Disaster Declaration with Los Angeles, Madera, Mendocino, San Bernardino, San Diego  
7 and Siskiyou counties as a result of wildfires. The Federal Declaration makes federal funding  
8 available to affected individuals and local government; and

9 WHEREAS, the wildfire has caused loss of vegetation that will lead to erosion and  
10 slope instability that may lead to flood and debris flows which threaten infrastructure and  
11 safety; and

12 WHEREAS, the County and other local agencies will need to take expedited actions to  
13 assess damages, stabilize, clear-up areas, and provide temporary services; and

14 WHEREAS, the County and other local agencies will need to take expedited actions to  
15 mitigate these issues, including environmental assessments, permitting, engineering, and  
16 contracting of repair or replacement work; and

17 WHEREAS, the Creek Fire is the largest single fire in California's recorded history and  
18 was beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, facilities and finances of any  
19 single local government; and

20 WHEREAS, said emergency has continued and escalated in cumulated impact on this  
21 County, and

22 WHEREAS, local resources are inadequate to cope with the recovery and effects of  
23 said emergency.

24 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the  
25 County of Fresno, State of California, that said local emergency shall be deemed to continue to  
26 exist until its termination is proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors.

27 IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND REQUESTED that the Governor of California  
28 continue to make available assistance programs including, but not limited to, California  
29 Disaster Assistance Act, and continue to request additional Federal assistance programs to  
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1 provide relief to the individuals, businesses, public and private agencies that were harmed by  
2 this disaster.

3 IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the State  
4 Director of the Office of Emergency Services.

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THE FOREGOING, was passed and adopted by the following vote of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2021, to-wit:

AYES: Supervisors Brandau, Magsig, Mendes, Pacheco, Quintero  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAINED: None



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Steve Brandau, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno

**ATTEST:**  
Bernice E. Seidel  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Fresno, State of California

By:   
Deputy