

PROCLAMATION OF EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY  
BY THE EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR  
COUNTY OF FRESNO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF THE )  
2020 CREEK FIRE )

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the California Emergency Services Act (Government Code section 8630, et. seq.) establishes procedures for proclaiming emergencies and for responding promptly to the needs that arise during emergencies; and

Whereas, section 2.44.060.A. of the Fresno County Code and Section 8630 of the Government Code empower the County Administrative Officer/Emergency Services Director or his designee, or the Board of Supervisors if in session, to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when the County is affected by or likely to be affected by a public calamity; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Services Director of the County of Fresno does hereby find that a crippling disaster, which severely impairs public health and public safety, is created by conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property which have arisen within said County, due to the 2020 Creek Fire within the mountain communities of Big Creek, Huntington Lake, and Shaver Lake areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, this wildfire has necessitated the evacuation of thousands of county residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS this wildfire is threatening critical power transmission infrastructure, including infrastructure in Big Creek owned and operated by Southern California Edison which powers 640,000 homes; and has forced the closure of Highway 168 from the top of the four lane; and

WHEREAS, drought conditions have caused massive numbers of trees to die, increased Fresno County's risk of wildfires, and increased the severity and spread of this wildfire; and

WHEREAS, the circumstances of this wildfire, by reason of its magnitude and rapid rate of growth, are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, facilities and finances of any

1 single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to  
2 combat; and

3 WHEREAS, on September 4, 2020 the Fresno County Office of Emergency Services was  
4 informed of the fire; and

5 WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno is not in session and cannot  
6 immediately be called into session;

7 NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency now exists in  
8 said County; and

9 IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local  
10 emergency the powers, functions, and duties for the emergency organization of this County shall  
11 be those prescribed by state law, ordinances and resolutions of this County, and by the Fresno  
12 County Operational Area Master Emergency Services Plan, as approved by the Board of  
13 Supervisors; and

14 IT IS FURTHER REQUESTED that the Governor of California proclaim the County of Fresno  
15 to be in a state of emergency due to the wildfire and make available assistance programs  
16 including, but not limited to, California Disaster Assistance Act, and seek Federal assistance  
17 programs to provide relief to the individuals, businesses, public and private agencies that are  
18 harmed by this disaster; and

19 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this proclamation be forwarded to the State  
20 Director of the Office of Emergency Services.

21 This emergency is proclaimed in the County of Fresno on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020,  
22 to-wit:

23  
24 

25 Jean M. Rousseau, CPA  
26 County Administrative Officer /  
27 Emergency Services Director  
28