

**PROCLAMATION**  
**A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF PORTOLA DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY**  
**DUE TO DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN PORTOLA, CALIFORNIA**

**WHEREAS**, conditions of drought persist throughout California and are presenting urgent and ongoing problems, risks and challenges for the City and its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, extreme drought conditions pose a significant, unprecedented, and ongoing risk of severe and catastrophic wildfire, threatening homes, businesses, and public and private lands throughout the City and Plumas County; and

**WHEREAS**, diminished water supplies in area ponds, lakes, streams and water storage tanks used for firefighting will only limit firefighting capabilities and further exacerbate the risk of severe and catastrophic wildfire putting City residences at extreme risk; and

**WHEREAS**, drought conditions in the City's Sphere of Influence have negatively impacted local agricultural producers through diminished grazing allotments, reduced cultivation and harvests, forcing producers to seek alternate water supplies, and resulting in lost production and economic hardship; and

**WHEREAS**, drinking water sources including groundwater springs and wells, are experiencing diminished flows, turbidity, and other signs of distress due to drought and have forced residents and businesses in the City's Sphere of Influence dependent on these sources to minimize their use, deepen their well, drill new wells, use bottled or hauled water, or share domestic supply with neighbors; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Water Resources Control Board has sent a Notice of Curtailment of Diversions of Willow Springs and the Department of Water Resources has reduced the City's domestic water supply in Lake Davis to 5% of its normal allotment; and

**WHEREAS**, these Notices of Curtailment have been applied without consideration of exceptions for public health and safety, thereby further stressing public and individual drinking water supplies, forcing some businesses in the City's Sphere of Influence to close and placing drinking water systems at risk of not being able to supply an adequate amount of potable water to their customers; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Plumas has concurrently declared a local emergency due to notices of diversion curtailment, reduced surface water use allocations, and the presence of naturally-occurring arsenic in the City of Portola's only backup domestic water supplies; and

**WHEREAS**, extremely dry conditions have persisted since 2012 and may continue beyond this year and more regularly into the future; and

**WHEREAS**, local resources are, or are likely to be, inadequate to cope with the effects of this emergency, and the combined efforts of the County of Plumas, State of California and the federal government may be necessary to assist the City of Portola in its efforts to deal with this emergency; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS PROCLAIMED**, pursuant to Article 14, Section 8360 of the California Emergency Services Act, a local emergency exists within the City of Portola and throughout Plumas County as of August 13, 2014. By means of this proclamation, the City's Director of Emergency Services is authorized to use and employ any of the property, services, personnel, and resources of the City's public agencies and to command the aid of as many citizens as may be necessary to help mitigate this emergency. County and State agencies may provide mutual aid, including personnel, equipment, and other available resources as needed to assist the City of Portola during this emergency.

**FURTHERMORE**, The City of Portola is seeking State Water Board relief for those post 1914 junior water rights holders currently subject to surface water diversion curtailments when they can demonstrate a good-faith effort toward mandatory conservation and can certify no readily available alternative water supply is available; and

**WHEREAS**, The Portola City Council shall review the need for continuing the local emergency at least once every thirty (30) days until it is determined this proclamation is no longer necessary.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED**, that the foregoing Proclamation was duly passed and adopted by the Portola City Council in the County of Plumas, State of California at a regular meeting of the City Council on August 13, 2014.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND PROCLAIMED** this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August by the following vote:

**AYES:** Councilmember Morton  
Councilmember Larrieu  
Councilmember Powers  
Mayor Pro Tem Gault  
Mayor Oels

**NOES:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None  
**ABSENT:** None



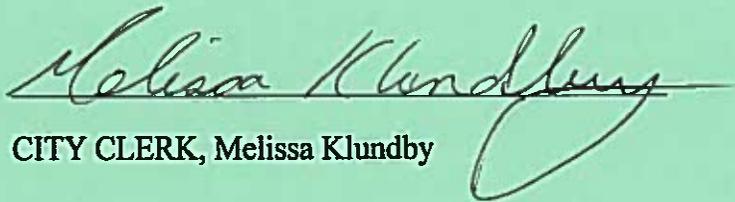
MAYOR, Phil Oels

**ATTEST:**



CITY CLERK, Melissa Klundby

I, Melissa Klundby, City Clerk of the City of Portola, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Proclamation was duly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Portola at its regular meeting thereof held on August 13, 2014.



CITY CLERK, Melissa Klundby

