

RESOLUTION NO. 21-8608

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A COUNTY-WIDE LOCAL
EMERGENCY DUE TO THE FLY FIRE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTING COMMUNITIES
IN PLUMAS COUNTY

WHEREAS, Section 4-1.05 of the Plumas County Code empowers the Director of the Office of Emergency Services to proclaim a local emergency when the county is affected or threatened by an event causing great damage, possible loss of life, or other public calamity and the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and,

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2021, the Director of Emergency Services proclaimed a local emergency due to the Dixie Fire threatening communities in Plumas County; and

WHEREAS, on July 16, 2021 Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in Plumas County due to the Beckwourth Complex Fire; and

WHEREAS, Plumas County has activated the Emergency Operations Center; and these conditions are, or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of said County of Plumas; and

WHEREAS, Section 4-1.05 of the Plumas County Code requires the Board of Supervisors to ratify the emergency proclamation within seven (7) days or the proclamation will no longer be in force; and

WHEREAS, the County has already issued emergency proclamations for two other fires, the Beckwourth Complex on July 8, 2021, ratified on July 13, 2021 in Resolution 21-8601 and the Dixie Fire on July 16, 2021, ratified on July 20, 2021 in Resolution 21-8605; and

WHEREAS, the emergency conditions leading to Resolution 21-8601 and 21-8605 are still in existence, and termination of the state of emergency is not yet warranted; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency in Plumas County due to the Dixie and Fly fires.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Plumas County Board of Supervisors hereby ratifies the declaration of a local emergency due to the significant, ongoing and possible undiscovered impacts due to the Fly Fire in Plumas County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Plumas County Board of Supervisors hereby determines that the conditions leading to Resolution 21-8601 and 21-8605 are still in existence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Plumas County Board of Supervisors shall review the need for continuing the local emergency at least every 60 days and shall terminate the emergency as soon as local conditions warrant.

BE IT PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services requesting that the Director find it acceptable in accordance with State law; that the Governor of California pursuant to the

Emergency Services Act, issue a proclamation declaring an emergency in Plumas County; that the Governor waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; that response and recovery assistance be made available under the California Disaster Assistance Act; and that the State expedite access to State and Federal resources and any other appropriate federal disaster relief programs.

The foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors for the County of Plumas, State of California at the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors on July 23, 2021 by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisor(s) Ceresola, Goss, Thrall, Hagwood, and Engel

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:


Clerk of the Board of Supervisors


Chair, Board of Supervisors

PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY – FLY FIRE AND EXTREME
FIRE CONDITIONS

COMMENCING ON

FRIDAY, JULY 23, 2021

WHEREAS, Plumas County Ordinance 4-1.05 empowers the Director of Emergency Services, Sheriff Todd Johns, to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when Plumas County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the Plumas County Board is not in session, and,

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services, Sheriff Todd Johns, of the County of Plumas does hereby find; that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons, business and property, public lands and resources including, but not limited to, grazing lands, watersheds, timber resources, and public infrastructure have arisen within the County of Plumas, caused by fires with an abundance of dry fuels within the County, including the Fly Fire which started by unknown causes on July 22, 2021, and as of July 23, 2021 is at over 1,650 acres with 0 % containment, as well as the existence of actual and threatened conditions of extreme fire danger within Plumas County; and,

WHEREAS, the County has already issued emergency proclamations for two other fires, the Beckwourth Complex on July 8, 2021, ratified by the Board of Supervisors on July 13, 2021 in Resolution 21-8601 and the Dixie Fire on July 16, 2021, and ratified by the Board of Supervisors on July 20, 2021 in Resolution 21-8605; and,

WHEREAS, as of July 23, 2021, the Dixie Fire is at 142,940 acre with 18 % containment; and

WHEREAS, as of July 23, 2021 the Beckwourth Complex is at 105,670 Acres and 98% containment; and

WHEREAS, the existence of three fires of this size and complexity is unique and unprecedented; and

WHEREAS, ongoing response, assessments and mutual aid have diverted local resources from day to day operations, and the continued threat of catastrophic wildfires places the County at significant risk, beyond control of personnel, services, equipment and budget of the County and the state presently; and,

WHEREAS, potential threats of further fire damage and destruction is being closely monitored as the Fly Fire continues to threaten areas within Plumas County.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED, pursuant to Article 14, Section 8630 of the California Emergency Services Act, and Plumas County Code 4-1.05 that a local state of emergency exists within and throughout Plumas County as of July 8, 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, by means of this declaration, the Director of Emergency Services is authorized to use and employ any of the property, services, personnel and resources of the County to help mitigate this emergency, and State agencies and other public agencies may provide mutual aid, including personnel, equipment and other available resources, to assist Plumas County during this emergency; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, by means of this declaration, the Director of Emergency Services is authorized to use and employ any of the property, services, personnel and resources of the County to help mitigate this emergency, and State agencies and other public agencies may provide mutual aid, including personnel, equipment and other available resources, to assist Plumas County during this emergency; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions and duties of the emergency organization of this County shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and resolutions of the County.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED, that a local emergency now exists throughout the County of Plumas.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a copy of this proclamation be forwarded to the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services requesting that the Director find it acceptable in accordance with State law; that the Governor of California pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, issue a proclamation declaring an emergency in Plumas County; that the Governor waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; that response and recovery assistance be made available under the California Disaster Assistance Act; and that the State expedite access to State and Federal resources and any other appropriate federal disaster relief programs.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that this emergency proclamation shall expire 7 days after issuance unless confirmed and ratified by the governing body of the County of Plumas.

Dated: 7/29/2021

By: 
Todd Johns
Director of Emergency Services
1400 East Main Street
Quincy, CA 95971

DECLARATION NO. 21-

**DECLARATION OF A LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY IN THE COUNTY OF PLUMAS
BY PLUMAS COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER
FOR THE BECKWOURTH COMPLEX AND DIXIE AND FLY FIRES**

WHEREAS, The Beckwourth Complex is comprised of the Dotta Fire and the Sugar Fire on the Beckwourth Ranger District of the Plumas National Forest. The Dotta Fire is thought to have been ignited by lightning on June 30, 2021 near Dotta Canyon, and on July 2, 2021, the Sugar Fire is thought to have been ignited by lightning west of Sugarloaf Peak; and

WHEREAS, the Plumas National Forest failed to control the fires and on July 4, 2021, the California Incident Management Team 4 (CAIIMT4) took over command and control of the fires and combined them to be called the Beckwourth Complex Fire; and

WHEREAS, Plumas County Proclaimed a Local State of Emergency on July 8, 2021 related to the significant impacts of the Beckwourth Complex Fire; and

WHEREAS, on July 13, 2021 the Plumas County Board of Supervisors confirmed and ratified said Proclamation of Local Emergency by Resolution No. 21-8601; and

WHEREAS, on July 16, 2021, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency due to the Beckwourth Complex Fire because the wildfire had destroyed homes, caused the evacuation of residents, and damaged critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Dixie Fire started in the Feather River Canyon near the Cresta Powerhouse on July 13, 2021. The cause of the fire is currently unknown and under investigation; and

WHEREAS, the Dixie Fire is over 190,000 with 21% containment and continues to threaten life and property, creating conditions of extreme peril and triggering evacuations of thousands of people; and

WHEREAS, Plumas County Proclaimed a Local State of Emergency on July 16, 2021 related to the significant impacts of the Dixie Fire; and

WHEREAS, on July 20, 2021 the Plumas County Board of Supervisors confirmed and ratified said Proclamation of Local Emergency by Resolution No. 21-8605; and

WHEREAS, the Fly Fire started in the Butterfly Valley area on July 22, 2021. The cause of the Fire is currently unknown and is under investigation; and

WHEREAS, the Fly Fire was 4,300 acres as of July 24, 2021 with 5% containment and has threatened life and property, creating conditions of extreme peril and triggering evacuations of thousands of people. The Fly Fire merged with the Dixie Fire on the night of July 24, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2021 Plumas County Proclaimed a Local State of Emergency related to the significant impacts of the Fly Fire; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2021, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency due to the Dixie and Fly Fires because the fires have destroyed homes, caused evacuation of residents, and damaged critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, as of July 26, 2021, the Beckwourth Complex Fire has destroyed 16 structures in Plumas County and as a result the wildfire has created an enormous amount of debris; and

WHEREAS, as of July 26, 2021, the Dixie Fire has destroyed 16 structures and 6 other minor structures in Plumas County and as a result the wildfire has created an enormous amount of debris; and

WHEREAS, the debris resulting from the Beckwourth Complex Fire, and the Dixie and Fly Fires contain hazardous material in the ash of burned structures, which has created a health emergency and poses a substantial present and future hazard to human health and safety and the environment unless it is addressed and managed; and

WHEREAS, there is an imminent and proximate threat of exposure to partially respirable-size particulate matter, possible infection or communicable disease exposure to biological agents due to combustion of animal carcasses, possible accumulation of perishable foods and other organic materials that normally require refrigeration but have been left to spoil due to lack of electricity, potential contamination or destruction of residential and commercial drinking water supplies, and potential pollution of nearby surface water; and

WHEREAS, the seasonal thunderstorms and inclement weather could spread the hazardous material in the ash of the burned structure and could thereby pollute and contaminate surface water and the domestic water supplies of the affected areas of Plumas County; and

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code section 101075 confers upon the local Health Officer emergency powers necessary to protect public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code section 101080 authorizes the local Health Officer to declare the existence of a local health emergency when this County or any area of the county is affected or likely to be affected by a public health threat while the Board of Supervisors is not in session, subject to ratification by the Board of Supervisors within seven (7) days, and subject to reaffirmation every thirty (30) days thereafter until such local health emergency has ceased; and

WHEREAS, the Health Officer hereby finds that:

(a) The Beckwourth Complex Fire, Dixie Fire and Fly Fire have created certain hazardous waste conditions in Plumas County in the form of contaminated debris from household hazardous waste/materials and structural debris resulting from the destruction of residences and structure; and

(b) The hazardous waste debris poses a substantial present or potential hazard to human health and the environment unless immediately addressed and managed; and

(c) There is an imminent and proximate threat of infections or communicable disease and/or non-communicable agents due to fire related debris; and

(d) The Board of Supervisors of the County of Plumas is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session; and

These threats to public health necessitate the declaration of a local health emergency.


NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS DECLARED that a local health emergency exists in the County of Plumas, due to hazardous waste in the form of contaminated debris from the hazardous waste/material and structural debris from the ongoing Beckwourth Complex Fire, Dixie Fire and Fly Fire; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED that during the existence of the local health emergency the power, functions and duties of the Health Officer shall be those prescribed by State law, including the provisions of California Health and Safety Code sections 101040 and 101085; and by ordinances, resolutions and approved plans of the County of Plumas to mitigate the effects of the local emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Plumas County Health Officer, Mark Satterfield, M.D. declares:

A local health emergency is declared in Plumas County commencing on or about 2:04 PM a.m./p.m. of the 26th day of July, 2021.

7/26/21
Date



Mark Satterfield, M.D.
Health Officer
County of Plumas