



Health & Human Services Agency

COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

EDDIE VALERO
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: September 3, 2024

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	N/A

CONTACT PERSON: Sabrina Bustamante PHONE: 559-624-8000

SUBJECT: Ratify a Local Emergency Proclamation and Evacuation Order for the 2024 Coffee Pot Fire

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Ratify a Proclamation of Local Emergency due to Wildfire for the 2024 Coffee Pot Fire issued by the Director of Emergency Services on August 28, 2024.
2. Ratify all Orders issued by the Director of Emergency Services, or successor, between August 28, 2024, and September 2, 2024 related to the Proclamation of Local Emergency due to Wildfire for the 2024 Coffee Pot Fire.

SUMMARY:

On August 3, 2024, the 2024 Coffee Pot Fire (the "Fire"), a lightning-caused fire located in the southwest corner of Sequoia National Park, began. Since then, the fire has continued to grow, as expected, slowly down steep terrain. As of the time of this Agenda Item submission, the Fire has consumed over 5,683 acres of land.

Initial evacuation warnings were issued for zones within the vicinity of the Fire, including for a portion of the community of Three Rivers.

On August 28, 2024, the Director of Emergency Services (the "Director") issued a proclamation proclaiming the existence of a local emergency due to wildfire and ordering mandatory evacuations (the "Proclamation") effective 10:00 AM that day. The Proclamation was made in accordance with Section 1-15-1030 of the Tulare County Ordinance Code, which empowers the Director, or his/her successor, to issue a proclamation declaring the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency if the Board of Supervisors is not in session. Government Code section 8630 and Section 1-15-1030 of the Tulare County Ordinance Code require the Board of Supervisors to ratify

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any such disaster proclamations within seven days, otherwise the proclamation shall have no further effect. In addition, Section 1-15-1030 of the Tulare County Ordinance Code authorizes the Director to issue orders, rules and regulations on matters reasonably related to the protection of life and property as affected by a proclaimed emergency, such as the evacuation order issued in the proclamation. Section 1-15-1030 also requires that your Board confirm any such orders, rules, and regulations at the earliest practicable time.

The mandatory evacuation order issued as part of the Proclamation includes the area north of South Fork Drive, east of Skyline Drive (Salt Creek, fire control road), south of Skyline Drive (south of Case Mountain and Homers Nose), and west of the Sequoia National Park Boundary.

Additional orders, including mandatory evacuation orders, may be issued between the time of the Agenda Item submission and this Special Meeting.

For the foregoing reasons, staff therefore recommends ratification of the Proclamation and any orders issued under the Proclamation between August 28, 2024, and September 2, 2024.

All evacuation warnings and orders related to the Coffee Pot Fire are posted on the Tulare County Website immediately upon issuance and given widespread publicity.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is no cost associated with proclaiming or ratifying a Local Emergency or issuing an Evacuation Order. This action may ultimately reduce local costs if successful in activating disaster recovery grant programs.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Safety and Security initiative, with a directive to plan and provide coordinated emergency preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation capabilities for both natural and man-made disasters. This proclamation supports a Countywide emergency response and coordination efforts by ensuring all necessary actions can be taken to mitigate the hazards associated with this fire.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

/s/ Anita Ortiz

Anita Ortiz

Associate Agency Director

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Proclamation of Local Emergency due to Wildfire Ordering Mandatory Evacuations