



MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: David Boesch, County Executive Officer
BY: John McEldowney, Program Manager, Office of Emergency Services

DATE: September 23, 2014

SUBJECT: Resolution To Proclaim A Local Emergency In Placer County

Action Requested

Adopt a resolution proclaiming a local emergency in Placer County due to the King Fire.

Background

When a condition of extreme peril or potential peril to the safety of persons and property exists, and the condition is beyond the capability of the local forces to control effectively, the local governing body (city council, board of supervisors or a person authorized by ordinance) may proclaim that a local emergency exists. A local emergency may be proclaimed to exist due to a specific situation, such as flood, fire, storm, earthquake, epidemic, drought, sudden and severe energy shortage, or other condition, as authorized by Section 8630 of the California Government Code.

The King Fire originally started on September 13, 2014 in El Dorado County with a rapid spread rate. On September 17, 2014, it crossed into Placer County. The Office of Emergency Services activated the Emergency Operations Center at level 1 at 8:00 a.m. on September 17 and moved to a level 2 by 10:00 a.m. on September 18. The fire necessitated several road closures in El Dorado County including HWY 50 and has prompted extreme air quality alerts in areas of both El Dorado and Placer Counties. The fire has burned in excess of 76,000 acres over both counties and has generated resources to combat the flames from multiple jurisdictions and states.

As of 6:00 a.m. Friday, September 19, 2014, the fire was at 76,376 acres and was reported to be 10% contained, with most containment on the southern end in El Dorado County. The fire has spread in a north-easterly direction and has burned to Hell Hole Reservoir, with minimal containment in Placer County. The fire threatens major infrastructure associated with the Placer County Water Agency's Middle Fork Project, as well as numerous private homes and other structures.

Additional facts and updates will be provided at the time this item is presented to the Board.

Fiscal Impact

Potential fiscal impact is unknown at this time.

Attachment

Resolution.

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the matter of: **A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING
A LOCAL EMERGENCY FOR THE KING FIRE
IN PLACER COUNTY**

Resolution No. _____

The following **Resolution** was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held, **Tuesday, September 23, 2014** by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

Attest:
Clerk of the Board

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF PLACER, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN THAT:

WHEREAS, the California Emergency Services Act, Chapter 7, of the California Government Code, commencing with § 8550 confers upon the governing bodies of the political subdivisions of this state emergency powers necessary to protect health and safety and preserve lives and property; and

WHEREAS, § 8630 of the California Government Code, states that "a local emergency may be proclaimed only by the governing body of a county, city and county, or city, or by an official so designated by ordinance adopted by such governing body;" and

WHEREAS, County Code Chapter 2.88 of the County of Placer empowers the Directory of Emergency Services to request that the Board of Supervisors proclaim the existence of threatened existence of a local emergency when said County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity with such declaration to remain in effect for fourteen (14) days, and subject to reaffirmation, unless such local emergency is terminated; and

WHEREAS, The Director of Emergency Services hereby requests that the Board of Supervisors proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer does hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within said County, caused by an extreme wildland fire commencing in El Dorado County on the 13th day of September, 2014, and spread within the borders of Placer County at a rapid speed causing such eminent danger as to necessitate these findings and the proclamation of a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, the King Fire possess a threat to major infrastructure both within the fire perimeter and within areas of potential fire spread, including power lines, water and power generation infrastructure of Placer County Water Agency, which supplies water and power to the residents of Placer County and elsewhere; and

WHEREAS, the King Fire poses an immediate threat to numerous private homes and other structures in the rural communities of eastern Placer County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Placer has been impacted recently by the drought and catastrophic fires within last several years, including the American Fire in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the response to the King Fire is beyond the capabilities of the local resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer, State of California hereby declares the existence of a local emergency and said emergency shall be deemed to continue until its termination is proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors;

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the emergency organization of the county shall be those prescribed by state law, and by ordinance and resolutions of this county approved by the Board of Supervisors, and by the *Placer Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan*, as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a certified copy of this resolution proclaiming a local emergency be forwarded to the Governor of California with a request that he proclaim the County of Placer to be in a state of emergency, and with a request that the State of California waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts, to make available recovery assistance under the California Disaster Assistance Act, and to expedite access to federal resource and any other appropriate federal relief programs.