

**PROCLAMATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL
EMERGENCY BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY
SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF PLACER DUE TO
THE 2023 LATE FEBRUARY WINTER STORMS**

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8630 authorizes the proclamation of a local emergency by an official designated by ordinance adopted by the local governing body; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8558 states that a local emergency means the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property caused by conditions including storms; and

WHEREAS, whenever a local emergency is declared by a local official designated by ordinance, said local emergency shall not remain in effect for more than seven (7) days unless it has been ratified by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2 of the Placer County Code authorizes the Director of Emergency Services of Placer County to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency whenever the County is affected or likely to be affected by a local emergency and the Placer County Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2023, the first in a series of noteworthy winter storms impacted Placer County bringing heavy snowfall in conjunction with high winds to the region over several days, and

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2023, Placer County Emergency Operations Center activated to respond to county-wide emergency service needs and provide resources; and

WHEREAS, heavy snow and dangerous, white-out travel conditions caused the closure of Interstate 80 for six days; and

WHEREAS, excessive snowfall contributed to an avalanche that impacted residents in Olympic Valley resulting in evacuations and damage to residences; and

WHEREAS, the winter storms caused Placer County residents to lose power for several days resulting in impacts to residents, businesses, schools, and government services; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the winter storms, trees stressed by drought and previous significant winter storms have broken or fallen, resulting in blocked roadways and damage to structures; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the winter storms, Placer County Department of Public Works is running 24/7 snow removal operations to clear roads and ensure first responder and utility access; and

WHEREAS, the storms series is expected to continue for at least the next several days and is likely to exhaust local resources during extended response and will require additional state resources; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid conditions and ongoing threats created by these winter storms constitute a local emergency and warrant and necessitate the Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency; and


WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session to proclaim a local emergency caused by the winter storms.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the Director of Emergency Services for the County of Placer that as of March 3, 2023, a local emergency now exists in Placer County as a result of the 2023 Late February Winter Storms, which constitutes a substantial threat to the health and safety of thousands of residents across the County; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Office of Emergency Services of Placer County shall be those prescribed by State law, and by ordinances, resolutions, and memorandums of understanding of Placer County; and that this emergency proclamation shall expire seven (7) days after issuance unless this emergency proclamation is confirmed and ratified by the Placer County Board of Supervisors; and

IT IS FURTHER 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 Placer 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 expedites access to state and federal resources and any other appropriate state and federal disaster relief programs.

Dated: March 3, 2023

BY: 

Jane Christenson
Director of Emergency Services
County of Placer