

**PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY  
BY COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

In the Matter of Proclaiming the Existence        )  
of a Local Emergency within Monterey County)

WHEREAS, the California Emergency Services Act (Government Code section 8630, et seq.) establishes procedures for proclaiming emergencies and for responding promptly to the needs that arise during emergencies; and,

WHEREAS, Section 2.68.060 of the Monterey County Code and Section 8630 of the Government Code empower the County Administrative Officer or his designee to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when the County is affected by or likely to be affected by a public calamity, if the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and,

WHEREAS, the wildfire known as the River Fire began August 16, 2020, has destroyed structures and threatened numerous residences and hundreds of acres of valuable wildland and watershed resulting in evacuations and displacement of residents; road closures; areas of isolation; damage to property and utility systems; and damage to critical infrastructure and endangered species; and,

WHEREAS, the wildfire is still burning out of control, with minimal containment date reported as of this date; the wildfire has charred in excess of 3000 acres, damaged or destroyed multiple homes and structures, is threatening at least 1500 residences, an unknown number of accessory buildings, and damaged power, phone and other critical infrastructure in the fire area; and there is imminent threat to values at risk for additional damage and/or destruction; and,

WHEREAS, efforts to bring this wildfire under control, and to assist the affected population and restore the burned area and/or recover from the effects of the wildfire damage, involve assets from Monterey County government, other local governments in Monterey County, and other local governments within California, as well as California State and federal fire and law enforcement assets, the American Red Cross and other volunteer organizations; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is not in session as of the date of this proclamation; and,

WHEREAS, I find that the foregoing conditions are, or are likely to be, beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the County of Monterey and require the combined forces of other political subdivision to combat; and,

WHEREAS, the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency and immediate action is necessary to mitigate public calamity; and,

WHEREAS, the Monterey County Emergency Operations Center is Fully Activated for the Covid-19 Pandemic and is including the River Fire as part of the emergency operations; and,

WHEREAS, such emergency work must be closely monitored, reinforced and maintained to prevent or mitigate damage to critical infrastructure, erosion and/or mud and debris flows and renewal of conditions of extreme peril to the safety of person and property; and,

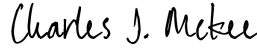
WHEREAS, the cost of response, mitigation, and recovery efforts has imposed extraordinary expenses on the County and local governments; and,

WHEREAS, I have made every reasonable effort to confer with one or more members of the Board of Supervisors;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS PROCLAIMED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A local emergency, as defined in Government Section 8558c and Public Contract Code Section 1102, now exists throughout the County of Monterey.
2. During the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the County Administrative Officer or designee, the Resource Management Agency, and the Emergency Organization of Monterey County shall be those prescribed by State law and the ordinances, resolutions, and approved plans of the County of Monterey in order to mitigate the effects of the local emergency.
4. Pursuant to Public Contract Code Sections 20134, 22050, and 20395, the Resource Management Director or designee is hereby authorized to engage independent contractors to complete all necessary work to mitigate the effects of said local emergency. Contracts for this work may be executed without prior Board approval of the plans, specifications, and working details, without giving notice for bids to let contracts.
5. Gerry R. Malais, or his designee, is hereby designated as the authorized Agent for public and individual assistance of the County of Monterey for the purpose of receipt, processing, and coordination of all inquiries and requirements necessary to obtain available state and federal assistance.

**SIGNED AND SUBSCRIBED** at Salinas, California this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August 2020.

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Charles J. McKee  
County Administrative Officer