

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS beginning on or about January 26, 2021, winter storms related to an atmospheric river system struck California, bringing damaging winds, substantial precipitation, flooding, and erosion, and this system continues to impact the State; and

WHEREAS the threat of mud and debris flows, particularly on burn scars from recent wildfires, has already prompted the evacuation of thousands of residents, and this threat remains ongoing; and

WHEREAS these winter storms caused significant damage to critical infrastructure, including washing out a portion of Highway 1 in Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist due to winter storms and their effects in Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by winter storms in Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8625(c), I find that local authority is inadequate to cope with the recent winter storms, and their effects, in Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code section 8625, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist in Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties due to the recent winter storms related to an atmospheric river system, and their effects.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All agencies of the state government are to utilize and employ state personnel, equipment, and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the State Emergency Plan. Also, to protect their safety, all residents are to obey the direction of emergency officials with regard to this emergency in order to protect their safety.
2. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services shall provide assistance to local governments, if appropriate, under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act, Government Code section 8680 et seq., and California Code of Regulations, Title 19, section 2900 et seq.
3. The California Department of Transportation shall formally request immediate assistance through the Federal Highway Administration's Emergency Relief Program, United States Code, Title 23, section 125, in order to obtain federal assistance for highway repairs or reconstruction.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this proclamation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 29th day of January 2021.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY WEBER
Secretary of State