

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

**WHEREAS** beginning on December 31, 2025, and continuing through January 4, 2026, powerful winter storms impacted Sonoma County ("Early January 2026 Storms"); and

**WHEREAS** the Early January 2026 Storms coincided with very high King Tides, such that creeks and streams were pushed beyond capacity, causing significant flooding in areas that are typically at low risk of flooding; and

**WHEREAS** the Early January 2026 Storms caused levee breaches and flooding of low-lying neighborhoods, resulting in landslides, road damage, and damage to public facilities such as pump stations and utility buildings; 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 the Early January 2026 Storms; and

**WHEREAS** under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by the Early January 2026 Storms, 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 magnitude of the extreme peril posed by the Early January 2026 Storms; and

**WHEREAS** under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the Early January 2026 Storms.

**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 Sonoma County due to the Early January 2026 Storms.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

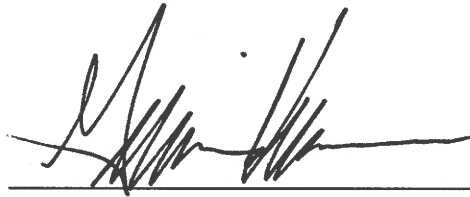
1. All agencies of the state government utilize and employ state personnel, equipment, and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of the Office of Emergency Services and the State Emergency Plan. Also, all residents are to obey the direction of emergency officials with regard to this emergency in order to protect their safety.

2. The restrictions set forth in Penal Code section 396, which are automatically triggered upon proclamation of a state of emergency, are suspended, and no such restrictions are imposed, with respect to the Early January 2026 Storms.
3. The California Department of Transportation shall formally request immediate assistance for Sonoma County 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.

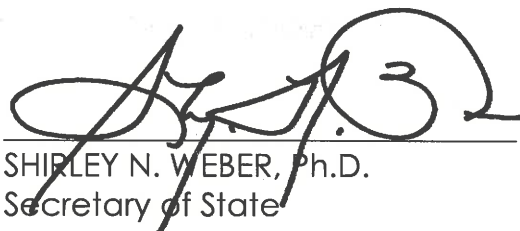
This Proclamation is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 17th day of April 2026.



GAVIN NEWSOM  
Governor of California

**ATTEST:**



SHIRLEY N. WEBER, Ph.D.  
Secretary of State

