EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS on July 26, 2026, the Dove Fire began burning in Tuolumne County near Highway 108 and Stockton Street, and ultimately burned 226 acres before the fire was 100 percent contained on August 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS in response to a request from the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, on July 27, 2026, the Federal Emergency Management Agency approved a Fire Management Assistance Grant to assist with the mitigation, management, and control of the Dove Fire; and

WHEREAS the Dove Fire resulted in mandatory evacuations of 600 homes and evacuation warnings for 1,400 additional homes, and destroyed 12 structures; and

WHEREAS this fire resulted in hazardous structural debris, which may contain dangerous toxins including heavy metals such as arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, and asbestos, which must be cautiously and expeditiously removed and properly disposed of; 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 Dove Fire in the County of Tuolumne; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by the Dove Fire, 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 Dove Fire; 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 Dove Fire in the County of Tuolumne.

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 Tuolumne County due to the Dove Fire.

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. Pending review and approval by the Secretaries of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) and the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA), state statutes, rules, regulations, and requirements that fall within the jurisdiction of boards, departments, and offices within CalEPA and CNRA are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to: (a) expedite the removal and cleanup of debris and household hazardous waste ("HHW") from properties affected by the Dove Fire; (b) address other impacts associated with that debris and HHW resulting from this emergency or address other impacts associated with that debris and HHW; (c) implement any restoration plan needed for mitigation of the effects of the emergency; or (d) conduct other fire recovery activities.

3. Individuals or entities who desire to conduct activities under the suspension of statutes, rules, regulations, or requirements specified in Paragraph 2 shall first request that the appropriate Agency Secretary, or the Secretary's designee, make a determination that the proposed activities are eligible to be conducted under the suspension. The Secretary for Environmental Protection and the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency shall use sound discretion in applying this Order to ensure that the suspension serves the purpose of accelerating cleanup and recovery, while at the same time protecting public health and the environment. CalEPA and CNRA shall maintain on their websites a list of all suspensions approved under this Paragraph.

4. Any activities performed under the suspension of statutes, rules, regulations, and requirements specified in Paragraph 2 shall be in accordance with the current Wildfire Debris Removal Environmental Protection Plan, or a comparable plan describing how such actions will balance expeditious fire recovery and environmental protection.

5. 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 Dove Fire in Tuolumne County.

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 15th day of October 2026.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

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