EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-11-26

WHEREAS on August 6, 2026, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in Calaveras County due to the Gann Fire; and

WHEREAS the Gann Fire ignited on August 3, 2026, burned 10,339 acres, damaged or destroyed over 50 structures and homes, resulted in one fatality, and created a substantial amount of ash, burned vegetation, and other such debris over large areas within the County; and

WHEREAS in response to a request from the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, on August 4, 2026, the Federal Emergency Management Agency approved a Fire Management Assistance Grant to assist with the mitigation, management, and control of the Gann Fire; and

WHEREAS the Gann Fire resulted in widespread 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 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Order would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the Gann Fire.

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 sections 8567, 8571, and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. 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 Gann 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.

2. Individuals or entities who desire to conduct activities under the suspension of statutes, rules, regulations, or requirements specified in Paragraph 1 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.

3. Any activities performed under the suspension of statutes, rules, regulations, and requirements specified in Paragraph 1 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.

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

This Order 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