



# DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**CHRIS BOICE   TIM FREEMAN   TOM KRESS**

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Douglas County Courthouse, Room 217  
1036 SE Douglas Avenue, Roseburg, Oregon 97470

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 7, 2021**

## **Douglas County Declares State of Emergency Due to Wildfire**

(Douglas County, Ore.) The Douglas County Board of Commissioners approved a resolution declaring a State of Emergency for Douglas County today, Wednesday, July 7, 2021 at their Weekly Business Meeting, in response to the Jack Fire burning up the North Umpqua Hwy (Oregon Hwy 138) near Dry Creek. At the time of the declaration, homes and structures in the area were under LEVEL 3 – GO! mandatory evacuation order from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office. (Declaration Attached)

Oregon's Governor has already declared an emergency conflagration declaration for the Jack Fire, as well as several other wildfires all over Oregon.

*“Conditions are very unpredictable and hazardous right now, with winds, dry temperatures and extreme terrain making it incredibly difficult for fire crews working the front lines right now,”* commented Commissioner Tim Freeman. *“Our number one priority is the safety and health of our residents and those fighting the fires. Your Douglas County Board of Commissioners agree that immediate action must be taken, and we must utilize all available resources to protect everything and everyone from devastating wildfires.”*

The order has been officially recorded, and is now being sent to Oregon's Governor, requesting an official emergency wildfire declaration from the state for Douglas County. The order cited conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and/or the protection of property have arisen with the county, caused by unprecedented fire conditions, pursuant to ORS 401.309, as the basis for the request. The Governor's emergency wildfire declaration will allow increased flexibility in how the fire is managed to ensure that limited fire resources are used as efficiently as possible, and to authorize state agencies to expedite fire management tools.

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Contact **Tamara Howell**, Douglas County Emergency Communications & Community Engagement Specialist – Public Information Officer  
(541) 670-2804 cell - (541) 957-4896 office - [tjhowell@co.douglas.or.us](mailto:tjhowell@co.douglas.or.us)

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DOUGLAS COUNTY

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE EXISTENCE ) RESOLUTION  
OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY )

WHEREAS: Pursuant to ORS 401.309, the Board of County Commissioners find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and/or the protection of property have arisen within the County, caused by unprecedented fire conditions, including but not limited to the Jack Creek Fire:

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED THAT A STATE OF EMERGENCY EXISTS WITHIN THE COUNTY, and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND REAFFIRMED, that during the existence of said state of emergency, the powers, function and duties of the Office of Emergency Management and those of the emergency service providers of the County shall be those as prescribed by state law, Executive Order or local codes.

WHEREAS: It has been found that such conditions present a clear and present danger to the health and safety of the citizens and visitors of Douglas County.

THEREFORE: The Douglas County Board of Commissioners declare that a State of Emergency exists within Douglas County and by this order directs the Emergency Management Office of Douglas County and all other County Departments to take all necessary steps authorized by law to respond to the emergency and to secure the persons and property of citizens and visitors of Douglas County. The Douglas County Sheriff is authorized to order mandatory evacuations of residents and other individuals. This resolution shall expire when the emergency no longer exists, or upon further order of the Board of County Commissioners, or until September 30, 2021.

Dated this 7 day of July 2021, at 10:30 AM/PM.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR DOUGLAS COUNTY

By [Signature]

Chair

By [Signature]

Commissioner

By Abigail Freeman

Commissioner