



DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CHRIS BOICE TIM FREEMAN TOM KRESS

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 9, 2020

Douglas County Declares State of Emergency Due to Wildfires

(Douglas County, Ore.) Under a delegation of authority order, on behalf of the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Tim Freeman approved a State of Emergency for Douglas County late yesterday, September 8, 2020, due to the wildfires burning up the North Umpqua Hwy (Oregon Hwy 138) at French Creek, Archie Creek and Star Mountain. At the time of the declaration, numerous homes and structures in the area were under LEVEL 3 – GO! mandatory evacuation orders. (Declaration Attached)

Oregon’s Governor has already declared emergency conflagration declarations in Jackson, Lane and Marion Counties, and more counties are expected to be added to the list as wildfires surge all over Oregon.

“Conditions are very unpredictable and hazardous right now, with high 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. Many of our residents have already lost their homes and many more are in immediate danger. Your Douglas County Board of Commissioners agree that critical action must be taken to alleviate any more stress to residents and we must utilize all available resources to protect as much as we can from the 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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BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, OREGON

SEP 08 2020

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE EXISTENCE)
OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY)

DOUGLAS COUNTY CLERK

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:

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

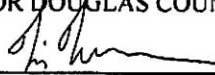
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND REAFFIRMED, that during the existence of said state of emergency, the powers, function and duties of the Office of Emergency Management and those of the emergency service providers of the County shall be those as prescribed by state law, Executive Order or local codes.

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 until the emergency no longer exists or until further order of the Board of County Commissioners.

Dated this 8th day of September 2020, at 4:30 PM.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR DOUGLAS COUNTY



Commissioner Tim Freeman,
Pursuant to Delegation of Authority Order