



# MARIPOSA COUNTY

Administration • 209-966-3222



## **RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2014-410**

MEETING: August 12, 2014

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Rick Benson, County Administrative Officer

RE: El Portal Fire Declaration Proclaiming Existence of a Local Emergency

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### **RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:**

The wild land fire known as the El Portal Fire started in Mariposa County on or about July 26, 2014 and has done damage to structures, land, bridges and roads.

On August 2, 2014, Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. Proclaimed a State of Emergency for this and other fires.

It is recommended that your Board adopt the attached Declaration Proclaiming Existence of a Local Emergency and Requesting a Presidential Declaration of a State of Emergency for the County of Mariposa.

The El Portal Fire has specifically caused damage to bridges and roads in Mariposa County to the degree that local resources have been impacted and a declaration proclaiming a local emergency is being requested.

### **BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:**

Your Board has made or ratified similar declarations during other emergencies.

### **ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**

If the Board does not declare a local emergency the County will not be eligible for possible State or Federal disaster assistance.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

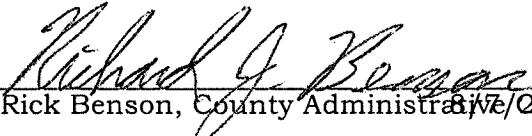
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### **ATTACHMENTS:**

**El Portal Fire Proclamation (DOC)**

**CAO RECOMMENDATION**

Requested Action Recommended

  
Rick Benson, County Administrator/Office

**RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]**

**MOVER:** Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor

**SECONDER:** John Carrier, District V Supervisor

**AYES:** Lee Stetson, Merlin Jones, Kevin Cann, John Carrier

**EXCUSED:** Janet Bibby

**DECLARATION PROCLAIMING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY  
AND REQUESTING (1) THE GOVERNOR TO PROCLAIM A STATE OF  
EMERGENCY AND (2) A PRESIDENTIAL DECLARATION OF A STATE OF  
EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, Section 8630 of the Government Code and Chapter 2.80 of the Mariposa County Code authorize the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence of a local emergency within the County of Mariposa when it is affected or likely to be affected by the existence or threatened existence of conditions of emergency or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of Mariposa County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Emergency Services does hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within Mariposa County, caused by the El Portal Fire which started on or about July 26, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 2 2014, the Governor of the State of California declared a state of emergency for the County of Mariposa and other counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the El Portal Fire is causing ongoing damage to County and other public and district facilities, including but not limited to roads and structures within Mariposa County, the extent of which has not been completely compiled; and

**WHEREAS**, the aforesaid conditions warrant and necessitate the proclamation of a local emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, it has now been found that local resources are unable to cope with the effects of this emergency;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY DECLARED** that a local emergency now exists throughout Mariposa County; and

**IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED** that during the existence of the local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the emergency services organization of the County shall be those prescribed by state law, and by ordinances and resolutions of Mariposa County approved by the Board of Supervisors; and

**IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED** that a copy of this Declaration be forwarded to the Governor of the State of California and to the President of the United States with the request that they proclaim the County of Mariposa to be in a state of emergency; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that a copy of this Declaration be forwarded to the State Director of the Office of Emergency Services; and

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Richard J. Benson, County Administrative Officer and Emergency Services Officer, or his designee, is hereby designated as the local Hazard Mitigation Coordinator of the County of Mariposa for the purpose of assessing damage within Mariposa County and consulting with federal/state survey teams about hazard mitigation actions; and


**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Richard J. Benson, or his designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative for public assistance, and Richard J. Benson, or his designee, is hereby designated as the authorized representative for individual assistance of the County of Mariposa for purposes of receipt, processing and coordination of all inquiries and requirements necessary to obtain available state and federal assistance; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County of Mariposa also requests the State of California to waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts, to make available recovery assistance under the California Disaster Assistance Act, and to expedite access to federal resources and any other appropriate federal relief programs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that the local State of Emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist until its termination is proclaimed by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mariposa, a political subdivision of the State of California, this 12th day of August, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES: Stetson, Jones, Cann, Carrier  
NOES: None  
EXCUSED: Bibby

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**KEVIN CANN**, Chair  
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

**ATTEST:**

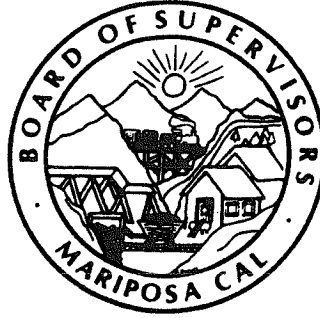
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**RENÉ LaROCHE**  
Clerk of the Board

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**STEVEN W. DAHLEM**  
County Counsel

# Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

District 1 ..... LEE STETSON  
District 2 ..... MERLIN JONES  
District 3 ..... JANET BIBBY  
District 4 ..... KEVIN CANN  
District 5 ..... JOHN CARRIER



RICHARD J. BENSON  
County Administrative Officer

RENÉ LAROCHE  
Clerk of the Board

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[www.mariposacounty.org/board](http://www.mariposacounty.org/board)

August 12, 2014

Honorable Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The El Portal wildfire is having a significant effect on Mariposa County. In response to the fire, the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors has declared a local emergency and is requesting a Presidential Declaration of a state of emergency. Enclosed is Mariposa County Resolution No. 14-410 proclaiming the existence of a local emergency and requesting declaration proclaiming existence of a local emergency and requesting the Governor to proclaim a state emergency for the County of Mariposa and requesting a Presidential Declaration of a state of emergency for the County of Mariposa.

Very truly yours,

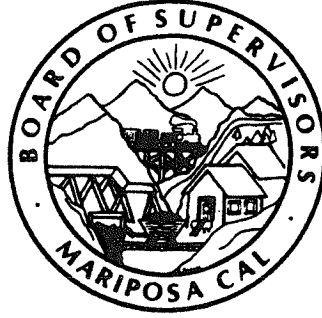
Kevin Cann  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Enclosures

cc: Governor Jerry Brown  
Mark Ghilarducci, Secretary, California State Office of Emergency Services  
Congressman Tom McClintock  
Senator Tom Berryhill  
Assemblyman Frank Bigelow

# Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

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August 12, 2014

The Honorable Jerry Brown  
Governor, State of California  
State Capital Building, Sacramento, CA 95814


Via: Mark Ghilarducci  
Secretary, California State Office of Emergency Services  
3650 Schriever Avenue  
Mather, CA 95655

Dear Governor Brown:

Enclosed are two copies of Mariposa County's Declaration proclaiming the existence of a local emergency, requesting a Governor's declaration of a state of emergency for the County of Mariposa, and requesting a Presidential Declaration of a state of emergency for the County of Mariposa.

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your action to proclaim a state of emergency in Mariposa County due to the El Portal wildfire. As always, the assistance of your Office of Emergency Services was essential and invaluable to this small county in preparing this request.

Very truly yours,

  
Kevin Cann  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Enclosures

Cc: Congressman Tom McClintock  
Senator Tom Berryhill  
Assemblyman Frank Bigelow