

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF AMADOR, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF:

RESOLUTION APPROVING A FIRE PROCLAMATION)
OF LOCAL EMERGENCY THROUGHOUT)
THE COUNTY OF AMADOR)

RESOLUTION NO. 14-090

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Amador do hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons, property and public infrastructure have arisen affecting the communities of the County, the national forest system lands within the County, and the private timber and agricultural lands within the County caused by the uncontrolled build-up of natural fire fuels, posing a severe and ongoing threat of catastrophic wildfire in the County and in California; and,

WHEREAS, the management of lands, particularly regarding fire protection and fuel reduction, on national forest system lands under the jurisdiction of the United States Department of Agriculture-Forest Service is wholly inadequate, has long-been ignored, and is significantly underfunded, placing Amador County in significant peril and at great risk in the event that catastrophic wildfires occur in thereby destroying public resources, private property, businesses, and the natural environment; and,

WHEREAS, the irretreivable loss of productive forest lands for generations evidenced by the loss of goods and services originating from the public lands impacted by catastrophic wildfire; the insurance losses from catastrophic wildfires; the loss of valuable natural resources; the damage and/or loss of public and private property; the long-term devastation to local economies; the long-term negative impacts on the livelihood of local residents; and, the significant expenditure of public funding resulting from fire suppression efforts as well as infrastructure and resource restoration has risen to a critical point that demands an effective response and cooperative strategy among all levels of government to identify, plan, fund, and implement an effective public land fire protection strategy plan which includes planning, assessments, fuels reduction, and enhanced fire suppression and emergency response; and,

WHEREAS, these potential conditions are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of Amador County and the Federal and State agencies having fire suppression jurisdiction within the County and immediate region and the physical and fiscal impacts to the County of Amador will be severe including but not limited to public utilities, public services, protection of property, emergency medical response, public schools, transportation, and the direct and indirect threats to business, lives, and property; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor of California declared a drought emergency for the entire State on January 17, 2014, and this declaration was based on the actual occurrence of the driest year on record in California, and while water-related actions have been initiated, no measurable strategy for long term and sustainable wild land fire-severity reduction appears eminent within Amador County and within the boundaries of the Sierra Nevada as defined by the official boundaries of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, a California State Agency, (which includes Amador County and twenty one (21) other California counties) and hereinafter referred to as "Sierra Nevada region" and there exists no complementary action by Federal agencies to assess and react to the severity and perilous conditions facing the "Sierra Nevada region" related to catastrophic wildfire so therefore this proclamation implements a condition above and well beyond the scope of the January 2014 State drought-declaration of emergency; and,

WHEREAS, during the existence of said local emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the Amador County Office of Emergency Services shall be those prescribed by State law-Government Code 8630, Amador County ordinances, and Amador County resolutions and the County Director of
(RESOLUTION NO. 14-090) (8/12/14)

Emergency Services shall proceed with formal notification to the State Office of Emergency Services, State legislative representatives, and the Governor of California with a request that he proclaim the County of Amador to be in a state of emergency.

THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF AMADOR HEREBY PROCLAIMS AND DECLARES a local state of emergency based upon the foregoing findings as there exists, extreme conditions of peril to the safety of persons, private property, national forest system lands, valuable watersheds, and public infrastructure within the County of Amador.


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor of California is requested to confirm a state of emergency and seek a Presidential concurrence regarding the existing conditions in Amador County and the "Sierra Nevada region", providing the highest possible priority and recognition of the extreme peril being encountered by providing a comprehensive and coordinated strategy directed by the Federal government, in cooperation with State and local government, which emulates the former and successful "Lake Tahoe Presidential Forum" for the deteriorating natural conditions impacting the Lake Tahoe region and conducted in 1997, providing a plan, tasking agencies with specific direction, providing long-term funding, establishing a streamlined process for project delivery directed towards a long-term and sustainable reduction of fire hazard and fuel loading to protect public and private resources as well as the lives and property of Amador County citizens and the public.

The foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Amador on the Consent Agenda, at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 12th day of August, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES: Theodore F. Novelli, Brian Oneto, John Plasse, and Richard M. Forster

NOES: None

ABSENT: Louis D. Boitano


Theodore F. Novelli, Chairman

ATTEST:

JENNIFER BURNS, Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors, Amador County,


Deputy