

**PROCLAMATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A
LOCAL EMERGENCY BY THE DIRECTOR OF
EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY
OF NEVADA DUE TO THE JONES FIRE**

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8630 authorizes the proclamation of a local emergency by an official designated by ordinance adopted by the local governing body; and

WHEREAS, whenever a local emergency is declared by a local official designated by ordinance, said local emergency shall not remain in effect for more than seven (7) days unless it has been ratified by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, section A-III 2.6 of the County of Nevada Administrative Code authorizes the Director of Emergency Services of the County of Nevada (“County”) to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency whenever the County is affected or likely to be affected by a local emergency and the Nevada County Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2020 in the early morning hours a wildfire commenced near Jones Bar Road, northwest of Nevada City, referred to as the “Jones Fire;” and

WHEREAS, the Jones Fire has consumed over 550 acres, and four homes and numerous structures have been destroyed, necessitating a unified command response by Cal FIRE and the Nevada County Consolidated Fire Protection District; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Nevada County residents are currently threatened by the rapid growth of the Jones Fire, resulting in a substantial risk to the safety of these residents and/or the loss of their homes and belongings, thereby necessitating mass mandatory and voluntary evacuations of those individuals living in and around the fire zone; and

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2020, at approximately 4:30 a.m. Nevada County commenced emergency services and at 5:30 a.m. opened its emergency shelters to provide food, shelter, emergency supplies, social services, medical attention, and transportation for evacuees and their animals, as well as other necessary services to address the rapidly changing and emergent circumstances created by the Jones Fire; and

WHEREAS, the conditions created by the Jones Fire are likely to be beyond the control, capacity, and resources of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of Nevada County; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril created by the Jones Fire constitute a local emergency and warrant and necessitate the Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency; and


WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session to proclaim a local emergency caused by the Jones Fire.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the Director of Emergency Services for the County of Nevada that as of August 18, 2020, a local emergency now exists in Nevada County as a result of the Jones Fire, which constitutes a substantial threat to the health and safety of thousands of residents in and around the fire zone; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND OREDERD that Nevada County requests that recovery assistance be made available under the California Disaster Assistance Act; and that the State expedite access to State and federal resources and any other appropriate federal disaster relief programs.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Office of Emergency Services of Nevada County shall be those prescribed by state law, and by ordinances, resolutions and memorandums of understanding of Nevada County; and that this emergency proclamation shall expire seven (7) days after issuance unless this emergency proclamation is confirmed and ratified by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors.

Dated: August 18, 2020

By: 
Steve Monaghan
Director of Emergency Services
950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 130
Nevada City, CA 95959