

**EXECUTIVE ORDER
2021-14**

Declaring a State of Emergency Due to Flooding

WHEREAS, the State of Utah has experienced an extremely active summer monsoon season across the state, with thunderstorms and heavy rains resulting in flooding events;

WHEREAS, numerous damaging flood events have impacted multiple counties throughout the state between June 15th through September 1st, with some communities being flooded multiple times; and

WHEREAS, the consecutive and ongoing weather events have caused flooding with significant damage to public infrastructure and residences, with statewide damage totals expected to be in the millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, historic drought conditions, record low water levels, low soil moisture, high temperatures, and prolonged dry conditions have contributed to a formidable wildfire season, with burn scars and drought hardened ground surfaces increasing flash flood and debris flow risk; and

WHEREAS, these drought and wildfire conditions have contributed to and exacerbated flooding events throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, storm impacts such as flash flooding and debris flows are a threat to public safety; and

WHEREAS, these damaging monsoonal season flood conditions are expected to continue; and

WHEREAS, many local communities have declared local states of emergency and have requested resources and support from the State of Utah's departments and agencies to assist them in dealing with these flood emergencies; and

WHEREAS, these conditions create a state of emergency within the intent of the Disaster Response and Recovery Act found in Title 53, Chapter 2a of the Utah Code; and

WHEREAS, Utah Code § 53-2a-204(1)(a) authorizes the governor to utilize all available resources of state government as reasonably necessary to cope with a state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, Utah Code § 53-2a-204(1)(b) authorizes the governor to employ measures the purpose of securing compliance with orders made pursuant to the Disaster Response and Recovery Act; and give direction to state and local officers and agencies that are reasonable and necessary for;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Spencer J. Cox, Governor of the State of Utah, declare a state of emergency due to the aforesaid circumstances requiring aid, assistance, and relief available from State resources and hereby order:

1. The continued execution of the state Emergency Operations Plan and assistance from state government as needed and coordinated by the Department of Public Safety.

This Order is effective immediately, and shall remain in effect until modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Utah. Done in Salt Lake City, Utah, on this, the 9th of September 2021.

(State Seal)

**Spencer J. Cox
Governor, State of Utah**

ATTEST:

**Deidre M. Henderson
Lieutenant Governor, State of Utah**

2021/14/EO