

## PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY FOR DROUGHT

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources is currently reporting that precipitation in the State is only 50% of average for the year, making 2020-21 the third driest year for California on record; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources snowpack monitoring division reports that the current snowpack is only 59% of normal for the year following a similarly dry year last year in which the snowpack was only 53% of normal; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources estimates that state-wide California reservoirs contain only half of their total capacity; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Drought Monitor maintained by the United States National Oceanographic and Aeronautic Administration places 64% of the State of California in a drought condition, with 94% of the State in dry condition or worse; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board along with other state and federal agencies have informed farmers and the local agricultural related businesses to prepare for drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, the drought is causing severe decreases to the local groundwater supplies which may lead to the failure of many public and private wells; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the need for the drilling of new wells and the availability of drilling contractors may cause homeowners and farmers to go an extended amount of time without water to their homes and crops while they wait for new wells to be drilled; and

WHEREAS, the drought has led to extreme fire conditions in several areas within the County; and

WHEREAS, substantial economic impact to agricultural crops, the industry that supports agriculture and the people who work in the agricultural industry are anticipated; and

WHEREAS, the long-term ramifications of the current drought will have a significant negative impact on San Joaquin County and pose a danger to the health and welfare of its residents and industries; and

WHEREAS, local resources are inadequate to cope with the effects of said emergency, and the combined forces of other political subdivisions of the State are required to assist the County to combat the effects of said emergency.

WHEREAS, farm workers throughout California who have already experienced reductions in unemployment benefits, child care benefits, and food assistance will be the hardest hit as the food basket of the world suffers from a third year of drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, San Joaquin County communities, already severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and accompanying economic downturn, will incur additional severe economic hardship related to lost agricultural production including businesses and citizens who depend upon a robust agricultural industry for their livelihood; and,

WHEREAS, San Joaquin County Ordinance 4-3005 (A)(l) empowers the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when said County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the County Board of Supervisors is not in session; and,

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session; and,

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services of the County of San Joaquin does hereby find that on April 27, 2021, conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the County due to drought; and,

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin County Director of Emergency Services finds that these emergency conditions will require immediate action including additional resources and funding; and,

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the San Joaquin Director of Emergency Services as follows:

1. That a local emergency exists throughout San Joaquin County pursuant to Government Code Section 8620 and as defined by Government Code section 8558 and shall be deemed to continue to exist subject to ratification, review, and termination by the Board of Supervisors pursuant to Government Code Section 8630; and,
2. That the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors ratify the Proclamation of a Local Disaster by the Director of Emergency Services, based on the current drought conditions; and,
3. That the Board of Supervisors formally requests the Governor of the State of California to declare a state of emergency for the entire State or the directly drought affected counties, including San Joaquin County, due to severe drought conditions, and further request the Governor to issue such orders or directives to state agencies as may be necessary to immediately alleviate the impacts of the drought on agricultural producers, businesses and residents of the drought affected areas; and,
4. That a copy of this Proclamation be forwarded to the Director of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Director of CalOES), requesting that the Director of CalOES find this Proclamation acceptable in accordance with State law and forward this Proclamation to the Governor of the State of California for consideration, and action San Joaquin County's requests that the Governor suspend those statutes, regulations, rules,

and orders that may hinder response and recovery efforts.

5. The San Joaquin County Director of Emergency Services shall continue to assess the local emergency and, as emergency response and recovery efforts warrant, send to the Director of CalOES an additional request that the Governor suspend further statutes, rules, and regulations pursuant to Government Code section 8571, and that State and Federal assistance be provided to San Joaquin County.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of this County shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and resolutions of this County; and that this emergency proclamation shall expire in 7 days after issuance unless confirmed and ratified by the governing body of the County of San Joaquin.

Dated: 04/27/2021

By: Marcia Cunningham  
MARCIA CUNNINGHAM  
Director of Emergency Services

San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services  
2101 E. Earhart Avenue  
Stockton, California 95206