

**STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 5-2019**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING A FLOODING DISASTER TO EXIST WITHIN
CERTAIN COUNTIES AND INDIAN RESERVATIONS IN THE STATE OF MONTANA**

WHEREAS, beginning on March 20, 2019, moderate to major flooding occurred along the Milk River and its tributaries in northeast Montana as the snow began to melt on frozen ground leading to nearly 100 percent runoff into area waterways;

WHEREAS, several areas in south central and southeastern Montana experienced flooding due to rapid snowmelt runoff, with the potential to cause widespread damage to farmland, private residences, and critical infrastructure;

WHEREAS, well below normal temperatures in February (20-25 degrees below normal) and March (8-12 degrees below normal) drove frost depths much deeper than normal for this time of year;

WHEREAS, February precipitation was well above average for the affected areas (200-400 percent of normal), all of which fell in the form of snow, and was still on the ground in late March when temperatures began to warm;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service issued many areal flood advisories, flood warnings for river flooding, and areal flood warnings for the affected areas;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has received many reports of rural roads washed out, agricultural land impacted, and impacts to livestock;

WHEREAS, the Crow Indian Reservation, the Town of Broadus, and the Counties of Daniels, Lake, McCone, Park, Powder River, Stillwater, Treasure, and Valley have enacted emergency or disaster declarations and activated applicable portions of jurisdictional emergency plans and programs;

WHEREAS, the State Emergency Coordination Center continues to receive declarations of emergencies from local and tribal jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, the availability and utilization of all necessary state government services, equipment, and suppliers under this declaration will further the efforts to protect health and safety and to preserve the lives, property and resources of the people of the State of Montana; and


WHEREAS, under these conditions pursuant to §§ 10-3-303, 10-3-311 and 10-3-312, MCA, the Governor may mobilize state resources and the Montana National Guard to protect life, health, and property and may expend funds up to the amount determined by the Office of Budget and Program Planning to meet contingencies and needs arising from these conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE BULLOCK, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Montana, Title 10, Chapter 3, MCA, and under other applicable statutes, do hereby declare that a disaster exists within the State of Montana, specifically including the Crow Indian Reservation, the Town of Broadus, and the Counties of Daniels, Lake, McCone, Park, Powder River, Stillwater, Treasure, and Valley as defined in §§ 10-3-103 and 10-3-303, MCA.

This Order is effective retroactively to March 20, 2019.

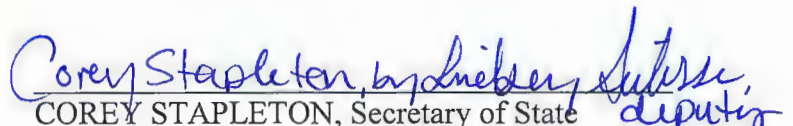


GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 18th day of April, 2019.



STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:



COREY STAPLETON, Secretary of State *deputy*