

**STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 15-2019**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY TO EXIST WITHIN
THE STATE OF MONTANA**

WHEREAS, Montana is experiencing a severe storm with high winds, heavy rain, and heavy snow—with amounts up to three feet—and unseasonably-cold temperatures;

WHEREAS, the severe early season storm is causing damage to power lines, trees, vehicles, and buildings, and it has created large amounts of debris from fallen or damaged trees;

WHEREAS, several communities are without power and roads have closed as a result of downed trees and power lines;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service is predicting near-record cold temperatures to impact parts of Montana;

WHEREAS, the Blackfeet Nation has set up a shelter to provide food, water, and warmth to residents and stranded travelers on the reservation;

WHEREAS, city, county, state, and tribal personnel are working to remove debris in order to provide access for emergency response vehicles;

WHEREAS, this severe storm has the potential to cause flooding in Montana, specifically along the Milk River and smaller streams and creeks;

WHEREAS, the Blackfeet Nation, Glacier County, and Pondera County have issued emergency declarations;

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

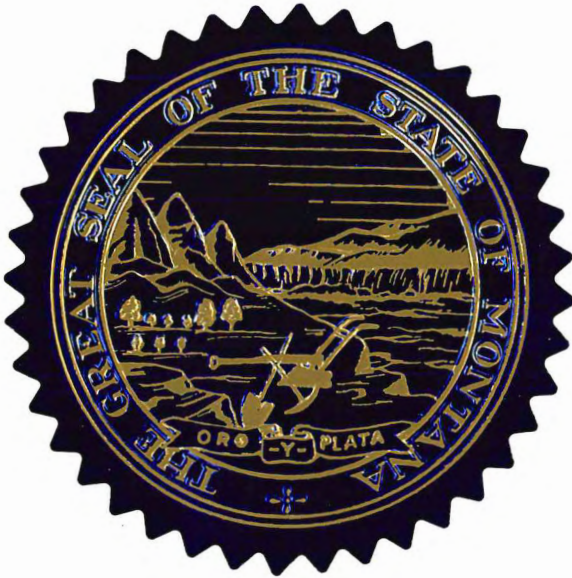
WHEREAS, the availability and utilization of all necessary state government services, equipment, and suppliers under this proclamation will further the efforts to protect health and safety and to preserve the lives, property, and resources of the people of the State of Montana; and

WHEREAS, under these conditions pursuant to §§ 10-3-302, 10-3-311, and 10-3-312, MCA, the Governor may mobilize state resources 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 as Governor 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 statewide emergency exists as defined in §§ 10-3-103 and 10-3-302, MCA.

This order is effective retroactively to September 27, 2019.

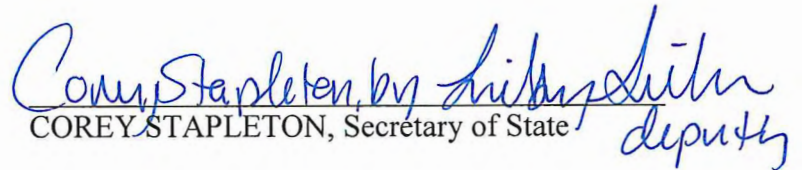
GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 29th day of September 2019.





STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:


COREY STAPLETON, Secretary of State *deputy*