

**STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 14-2018**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING A DISASTER TO EXIST
IN THE STATE OF MONTANA**

WHEREAS, record snowfall during the winter months is melting, which, combined with spring rains, is the cause of significant flooding at locations across the state;

WHEREAS, since Executive Order No. 11-2018, the State Emergency Coordination Center has received 11 additional declarations of emergencies from local and tribal jurisdictions throughout the state;

WHEREAS, flood conditions persist and have worsened in many locations since I declared a state of emergency to exist statewide in Montana through Executive Order No. 12-2018;

WHEREAS, recent and continued rainfall across most of Montana is causing rivers, streams, and tributaries to rise out of their banks, in addition to causing rapid snowmelt at mid-level and high elevations;

WHEREAS, flooding is currently ongoing or forecast across the western two-thirds of Montana, impacting many small towns and several larger cities, and flooding will likely continue or worsen in western and central Montana;

WHEREAS, significant flooding is expected to continue in the coming weeks as temperatures warm and snow melts, due to continued snowpack at higher elevations in the mountains of western and central Montana;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has reported flooding ranging from minor impacts in agricultural areas and rural roads, to major impacts affecting homes, businesses, and major infrastructure in 38 locations across Montana;

WHEREAS, several counties, cities, towns, and tribal governments have reported emergency costs and extensive damage to critical infrastructure to include roads, bridges, and culverts;

WHEREAS, local jurisdictions have conducted evacuations, provided sheltering, and conducted sandbagging and emergency flood fighting operations to protect communities;

WHEREAS, the State Emergency Coordination Center is at a level three activation, and is coordinating with federal agencies;

WHEREAS, the U.S Army Corps of Engineers from the Northwestern Division has provided technical and direct assistance and state liaisons for flood fighting assistance under emergency operations;

WHEREAS, the flooding Multi-Agency Coordinating Group continues to review flood preparedness and provide information to local and tribal officials to facilitate response to flooding;

WHEREAS, the State Emergency Coordination Center has been providing the Federal Emergency Management Agency with daily updates, situation reports, and inclusion into the Multi-Agency Coordination Group;

WHEREAS, the availability and utilization of all necessary state government services, equipment, and suppliers under this declaration will further 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 address needs that may arise from the disaster.

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 other applicable statutes, do hereby declare that a disaster exists statewide within the State of Montana as defined in §§ 10-3-103 and 10-3-303, MCA.

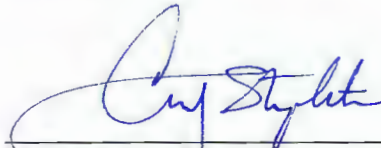
This Order is effective upon the expiration of Executive Order No. 12-2018.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 21st day of May, 2018.



STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:



COREY STAPLETON, Secretary of State

