



DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, there is a threat of heavy rains and flash flooding in Jackson County from a High Water Event for May 26, 2022; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the above-described disaster, I have determined that there is an imminent threat of, or existing conditions have caused or will cause, widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property, and public safety authorities will be unable to maintain public order or afford adequate protection for lives or property; and

WHEREAS, declaring a State of Emergency and imposing the restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein is necessary to maintain order and protect public health, safety, and welfare, and to secure property.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Jackson County under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and the Emergency Management Ordinance for the County of Jackson:

Section 1. A State of Emergency is hereby declared within the jurisdiction of Jackson County.

Section 2. The emergency area covered by this state of emergency shall be Jackson County and by request of the Mayors or their appointed representatives of the Town of Sylva, the Town of Dillsboro, the Town of Webster and the Village of Forest Hills, within the corporate limits of those municipalities.

Section 3. The following restrictions and prohibitions are imposed:

A. **Restricted Access:** No person except those involved in emergency operations activities will be allowed to traverse flooded public roadways. Recreational use of flooded waterways is prohibited.

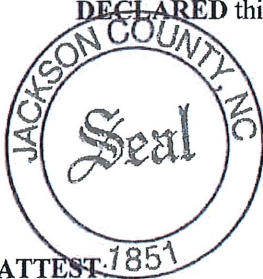
B. Evacuation: The Emergency Management Coordinator, when necessary, may move people in public places, direct and compel the voluntary or mandatory evacuation of all or part of the population from any stricken or threatened area, prescribe routes, modes of transportation and destinations in connection with evacuation, and control the ingress and the egress of an emergency area and the movements of people within the area.

Section 4. I hereby order all Jackson County law enforcement officers and employees and all other emergency management personnel subject to our control to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this Declaration, all applicable local ordinances, state and federal laws, and the Jackson County Emergency Operations Plan.

Section 5. I hereby order this declaration: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with Clerk to the Jackson County Board of Commissioners and (c) to be posted on the County's website (d) to be sent to the Department of Public Safety's WebEOC critical incident management system (e) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

Section 6. This declaration shall take effect immediately, and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded.

DECLARED this the 26th day of May, 2022 at 6:30 am/pm.



Brian Thomas McMahan

Brian Thomas McMahan
Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Jackson County

Angela M. Winchester

Angela M. Winchester
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners of Jackson County