



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Cal EMA Acting Secretary Mike Dayton Tours Winter Storm Damage After Governor Proclaims State of Emergency Acting Secretary says Cal EMA and State will do whatever is possible to help Madera County

MADERA- California Emergency Management Agency Acting Secretary Mike Dayton today toured some of the area's hardest hit by recent winter storms after Governor Jerry Brown issued a disaster declaration for Madera County.

"California Emergency Management Agency Acting Secretary Mike Dayton today toured some of the area's hardest hit by recent winter storms after Governor Jerry Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency for Madera County."

Acting Secretary Dayton toured various areas damaged by the storms and floods, including levees and roads with County Supervisors Frank Bigelow and David Rogers. The tour will help the Acting Secretary by giving him a firsthand look and perspective on the situation, all to help the victims of the storm get the most help possible to recover.

"We'd like to thank Acting Secretary Dayton and Cal EMA for coming here to see things up close," said Supervisor Bigelow. "We're glad the State is taking these kinds of steps and we're confident it will help our county recover from these storms."

The county is the latest to be included by the Governor in the aftermath of severe winter storms in December and January that led to damage from flooding, debris and mud flow, causing millions of dollars damage statewide. Eleven California counties are so far included in a Presidential major disaster declaration. They include Inyo, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Tulare Counties. The Governor's disaster declaration will make State assistance available to aid in recovery efforts. The Governor's Office and Cal EMA will request that FEMA add Madera County to the Presidential Disaster Declaration issued on January 26.

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"We feel the impacts on people in Madera County are no different than those in other parts of the State. These storms were all part of the same systems and they know no boundaries. We will be vigilant in our efforts to gain all the means necessary to help people recover from them," said Dayton.

The full text of the Governor's disaster declaration is copied below:

A PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS due to the destruction caused by a series of severe winter storms, which descended upon California on December 18, 2010, and continued through January 4, 2011, a State of Emergency has been proclaimed to exist in the counties of Inyo, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, Mariposa, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Tulare; and

WHEREAS the effects of these storms continue to threaten the state; and

WHEREAS these severe storms caused harm to people and property, flooded homes and infrastructure, damaged public and private facilities, disrupted roads, impacted agricultural production, and required emergency response and debris clean-up; and

WHEREAS on January 11, 2010, Madera County adopted a resolution proclaiming existence of a local emergency and requested that I proclaim a state of emergency for the county; and

WHEREAS the circumstances of these winter storms, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of any single county, city and county, or city and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of section 8558(b) of the California Government Code, I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property existed due to the winter storms in California.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the state Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, section 8625 of the California Government Code, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist within Madera County.

Pursuant to this proclamation, I extend the directions, orders and authorities previously granted for the winter storms to Madera County, including those found in Executive Order S-18-10 and assistance under the California Disaster Assistance Act.

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Cal EMA

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I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this proclamation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 27th day of January 2011.

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.

Governor of California

ATTEST:

DEBRA BOWEN

Secretary of State

Acting Secretary Dayton and Cal EMA will be working with FEMA to help all those affected in Madera County get the help they need to recover from these storms.

For more information about Cal EMA, please visit www.calema.ca.gov

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