



RESOLUTION OF THE NAVAJO NATION COMMISSION ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE NAVAJO NATION DUE TO EXTREME HEAT

WHEREAS:

1. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. §§ 881 and 883 (A) (C), the Navajo Nation Council established the Navajo Nation Commission on Emergency Management to coordinate emergency and disaster relief service by Navajo Nation and non-tribal entities in conjunction with the Department of Emergency Management; and to recommend to the Navajo Nation Council legislation or other appropriate activity regarding natural and man-made emergencies; and
2. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 884 (B) (1), the Navajo Nation Commission on Emergency Management is responsible for declaring a state of emergency with the concurrence of the President of the Navajo Nation; and
3. Pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 884 (B) (2), the Navajo Nation Commission on Emergency Management will assist in seeking assistance from federal, state, and other tribal governments, local and private agencies to address emergency and disaster related situations; and
4. Unprecedented heat extremes have impacted the Navajo Nation, including regional areas throughout the southwest, where above average temperatures have been documented since the onset of summer, with National Weather Service predictions of record-breaking heat in the Four Corners Area through the week ending July 27, 2023; and
5. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Weather Service - Climate Prediction Center's probabilistic outlook of changes in average maximum temperatures expected in the next month, indicates that one of the hallmarks associated with the ongoing heat event affecting the southern tier of the U.S. this summer has been its endurance, and regrettably that aspect looks to change very little heading into late July and early August, with High risk hazard of excessive heat for portions of the Southwest, Southern Rockies, and Southern High Plains, towards the end of July. (<https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/threats/threats.php>); and
6. Heat extreme events present risks to human health and well-being of people, ecosystems, agriculture, property, livestock, pets, infrastructure, homes, roads, heat dries up sources of surface water for wildlife, potential for wildland fires increases, and existing drought conditions become exacerbated from extreme heat conditions; and
7. Vulnerable populations at most risk to heat-related illness are older adults, infants, children, people with chronic medical conditions, pregnant individuals, outdoor workers, athletes, low-income communities and households lacking economic resources to seek and acquire access to adequate heat mitigation measures (CDC Climate & Health Program Heat & Health Tracker); and

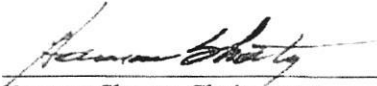
8. Individuals, communities, and the Navajo Nation government have some adaptive measures to mitigate extreme heat, but the adaptive measures vary. and additional cross-sectoral collaboration is needed to meet the burgeoning necessity to address heat related impacts, risks, and vulnerabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Navajo Nation Commission on Emergency Management declares a State of Emergency for the Navajo Nation due to extreme heat; and
2. The Navajo Nation Commission on Emergency Management finds it necessary for appropriate Navajo Nation entities to continue and/or immediately begin cross-sectoral collaboration with relevant entities for use of resources to address extreme heat, including assessments, and identifying areas of impact most in need, coordinating implementation of heat health action plans, and continue to seek solutions to meet the needs of the Navajo Nation; and
3. The Navajo Nation shall activate available emergency resources such as community education, assistance, and other means as determined fit and feasible to mitigate heat-related impacts for the duration of prolonged and excessively hot weather throughout the Navajo Nation; and
4. This State of Emergency Declaration will remain in effect through August 31, 2023 unless otherwise extended, modified, or terminated.

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing declaration was duly considered by the Navajo Nation Commission on Emergency Management at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation, Arizona, at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 4 in favor and 0 opposed, and 0 abstained, this 25th day of July 2023.



Herman Shorty, Chairperson
Commission on Emergency Management
Navajo Nation

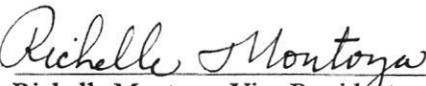
Motion: Ben Bennett

Second: Eugenia Quintana

CONCURRENCE:



Buu Nygren, President
THE NAVAJO NATION



Richelle Montoya, Vice President
THE NAVAJO NATION