

RESOLUTION 2018-03

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN TOOELE COUNTY, UTAH PURSUANT TO UTAH CODE ANNOTATED SECTION 17-8-7

WHEREAS, the drought conditions thus far in 2018 are a threat to human health and safety, the environment, the agricultural industry, as well as the general economy of Tooele County and have created a potential wildfire risk with impacts to culinary, secondary, and agriculture water supplies; and

WHEREAS, the continued lack of adequate snowpack and moisture has resulted in lower stream and well water flows, with little or no flows into reservoirs and ponds, which is decreasing the culinary water supply as well as reducing supplies of available irrigation water necessary for the cultivation of crops, livestock feed resources, and other public uses; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing drought may cause many livestock producers in Tooele County and throughout western Utah to reduce the size of their herds and may force many of them to import feed from other states, creating a major financial impact on livestock producers; and

WHEREAS, the continued lack of adequate precipitation, coupled with insect infestations and plant stress, will likely result in less than normal agricultural production upon Tooele County farms and ranches through 2018, as well as a reduction of forage growth on public and private rangelands within Tooele County; and

WHEREAS, the use of public and private rangelands within Tooele County will likely be severely restricted or even suspended as a result of the continued lack of precipitation; and

WHEREAS, the long-range weather forecast does not predict significant increases in precipitation in Tooele County and the State of Utah in general during 2018; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that if the current conditions continue into the summer, fire restrictions will be put into place and the availability for firefighting resources are expected to be limited; and

WHEREAS, fire restrictions and drought conditions will likely impact the visitor and tourism industry as many will make plans to go to other areas; and

WHEREAS, drought conditions will impact the ability of the Tooele County Road Department to properly and adequately maintain the county's roads.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOOEELE COUNTY COMMISSION that:

Section 1: DECLARATION OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY. Pursuant to 17-8-7, Utah Code Annotated, 1953, as amended, we do hereby declare that a drought emergency exists within the jurisdictional boundaries of Tooele County, Utah.

Section 2: The provisions of this resolution and the provisions adopted or incorporated by reference are severable and the provisions of other resolutions in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed.

Section 3: For the preservation of the peace, health, and safety of the County and the inhabitants thereof, this resolution shall take effect immediately upon approval and adoption.

Section 4: Bucky Whitehouse, Tooele County Emergency Services Director, is appointed as the Tooele County Drought Response Coordinator during this emergency declaration.

Res. 2018-03

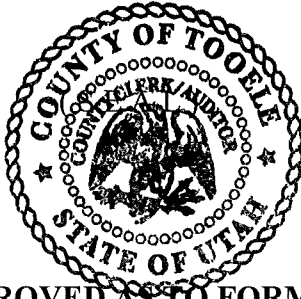
APPROVED and ADOPTED this 19th day of June 2018.

ATTEST:

TOOELE COUNTY COMMISSION:



Marilyn K. Gillette, Clerk / Auditor

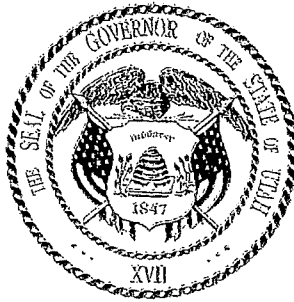

WADE B. BITNER, Chairman



Commissioner Bateman voted aye
Commissioner Bitner voted aye
Commissioner Milne voted aye

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


SCOTT A. BROADHEAD
Tooele County Attorney



Gary Richard Herbert

Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Wildland Fire Management

WHEREAS, the danger from wildland fires is high throughout the State of Utah;

WHEREAS, Winter was mild with low snowpack;

WHEREAS, Current Spring precipitation in Utah is contributing to high fuel loads of wildland vegetation; and

WHEREAS, some of the areas are extremely remote and inaccessible and the situation has the potential to greatly worsen if left unattended;

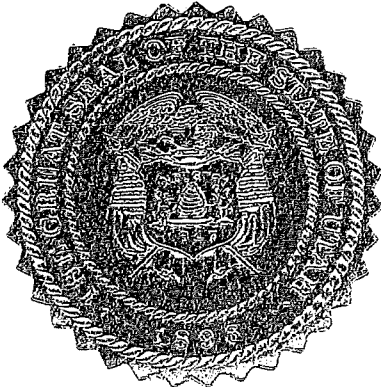
WHEREAS, immediate action will be required to suppress fires and mitigate post burn flash floods to protect public safety, property, natural resources and the environment should these dangerous conditions escalate to active wildfires;

WHEREAS, these conditions do create the potential for a disaster emergency within the scope of the Disaster Response and Recovery Act of 1981;

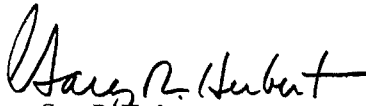
NOW THEREFORE, I, Gary R. Herbert, Governor of the State of Utah by virtue of the power vested in me by the constitution and the laws of the State of Utah, do hereby order that:

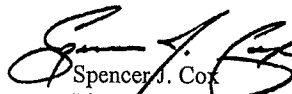
It is found, determined and declared that a "State of Emergency" exists Statewide due to the threat to public safety, property, critical infrastructure, natural resources and the environment, effective for the month of May 2018, requiring aid, assistance and relief available pursuant to the provisions of state statutes, and the State Emergency Operations Plan, which is hereby activated.

IN TESTIMONY, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Utah this 1st day of May 2018.



IN TESTIMONY, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Utah this 3rd day of May 2018.


Gary R. Herbert
Governor


Spencer J. Cox
Lieutenant Governor

Attest: