

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS on September 2, 2025, the TCU Lightning Complex Fires ignited near the historic town of Chinese Camp in Tuolumne County, and ultimately burned through September 13, 2025, burning 13,869 acres across four counties, including Calaveras County; and

WHEREAS the TCU Lightning Complex Fires were multiple fires ignited by a series of widespread thunderstorms which brought more than 10,000 lightning strikes across Northern California; and

WHEREAS hot temperatures, low humidity, and erratic winds increased the spread of the TCU Lightning Complex Fires, prompting evacuation orders, the closure of portions of Highways 49, 108, and 120, and damaging or destroying over 100 structures and homes, including 50 homes in the historic town of Chinese Camp; and

WHEREAS on September 2, 2025, Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties proclaimed local emergencies due to the TCU Lightning Complex Fires; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist due to impacts from the TCU Lightning Complex Fires in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by the TCU Lightning Complex Fires in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties, by reason of their magnitude, are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8625(c), I find that local authorities are inadequate to cope with the magnitude of the damage caused by the TCU Lightning Complex Fires in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the TCU Lightning Complex Fires in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, 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, Government Code section 8625, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist in Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties due to the TCU Lightning Complex Fires.

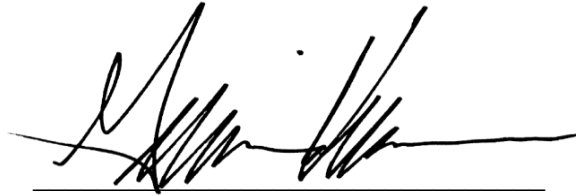
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All agencies of the state government shall utilize and employ state personnel, equipment, and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of the Office of Emergency Services and the State Emergency Plan. Also, all individuals are to obey the direction of emergency officials with regard to this emergency in order to protect their safety.
2. The Office of Emergency Services shall provide assistance to local governments, if appropriate, under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act, Government Code section 8680 et seq., and California Code of Regulations, Title 19, section 2900 et seq.
3. As necessary to assist local governments and for the protection of public health and the environment, state agencies shall enter into contracts to arrange for the procurement of materials, goods, and services necessary to quickly assist with the response to and recovery from the impacts of this emergency. Applicable provisions of the Government Code and the Public Contract Code, including but not limited to travel, advertising, and competitive bidding requirements, are suspended to the extent necessary to address the effects of this emergency.
4. Vehicle Code sections 9265(a), 9867, 14901, 14902, and 15255.2, requiring the imposition of fees, are suspended with regard to any request for replacement of an identification card, driver's license card, vehicle registration certificate, or certificate of title, or registration stickers, by any individual who loses such records as a result this emergency in Calaveras or Tuolumne County. Such records shall be replaced without charge.
5. Health and Safety Code sections 103525.5 and 103625, and Penal Code section 14251, requiring the imposition of fees, are suspended with regard to any request for copies of certificates of birth, death, marriage, and dissolution of marriage records, by any individual who loses such records as a result of this emergency in Calaveras or Tuolumne County. Such copies shall be provided without charge.

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.

This Proclamation is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have
hereunto set my hand and caused
the Great Seal of the State of
California to be affixed this 19th day
of September 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gavin Newsom', written over a horizontal line.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY N. WEBER, Ph.D.
Secretary of State