

Caribou County Emergency / Disaster Declaration

Resolution 2023 - 85

WHEREAS, Rapid spring temperature rises and excessive above-average snowpack has caused an influx of drainage from watersheds in Caribou County which are causing water to flow and stand outside of normal tributaries and causing damage and threat to infrastructure and property.

WHEREAS, Throughout the county's watersheds, NRCS SNOTEL data shows that snow water equivalent is continuing to rise and extend past normal melt-off averages with levels higher than reported in years previously that Caribou County historically experienced flooding which caused damage to infrastructure and property.

WHEREAS, NRCS SNOTEL reports have shown relatively 209% - 614% of normal snow water equivalent through the winter season throughout the county's watersheds exceeding many previous set records.

WHEREAS, Caribou County has received, an above-normal snowpack extending longer than normal at both the beginning and end of the winter season.

WHEREAS, Temperatures in Caribou County have been below normal for the winter season.

WHEREAS, These adverse conditions have caused detriment to agricultural producers causing delays and hardships affecting their ability to operate.

WHEREAS, An excessive level of livestock death loss is contributed to the above-normal snowpack, lower-than-normal temperatures, and extended winter season.

WHEREAS, Idaho Code §31-801 grants general powers and duties, subject to the restrictions of law, to the boards of county commissioners in their respective counties; and

WHEREAS, Idaho Code §31-828 grants the board of commissioner's authority "to do and perform all other acts...which may be necessary to the full discharge of the duties of the chief executive authority of the county government"; and

WHEREAS, Idaho Code § 46-1011 provides that the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners may declare a local disaster emergency, which may be continued in excess of seven days with the consent of the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Idaho Code §46-1 002(3) provides, in part, that a "disaster" includes the imminent threat of widespread or severe damage or loss of property resulting from any natural or manmade cause; and

WHEREAS, Idaho Code §46-1 002(4) provides, in part, that an "emergency" includes the imminent threat of a "disaster" or condition threatening property which requires state emergency assistance to supplement local efforts to protect the property or to avert or lessen the threat of "disaster"; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the lower-than-normal temperatures and above-average snowpack trough out the duration of the winter seasons and current flood conditions pose an imminent threat of disaster to Caribou County, which constitutes an emergency as defined in Idaho Code §46-1002(4);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that good cause having been shown the Board of County Commissioners hereby declares that a local winter weather/flood emergency/disaster exists in Caribou County and hereby consents to said declaration and orders and ratifies the same. The Board further orders that this declaration of flood disaster emergency shall remain in effect until June 12th, 2023, or until otherwise modified or terminated by resolution of the Board, whichever occurs earlier.

Adopted in open session this 8th day of May, 2023, by those commissioners subscribing their names hereto.

Caribou County Board of County Commissioners



Mark Mathews, Chairman Commissioner



Bryce Somisen, Commissioner



Marty McCullough, Commissioner

Attested:



Jill Stoor, Clerk