FILED at 451 o'clock PM



MAR 1 3 2025

ounty Clerk, Bosque County, Texas

Cindy Vanlandingham

P.O. Box647 Meridian TX 76665 **BOSQUE COUNTY JUDGE** 

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## DECLARATION OF DISASTER AND ORDER PROHIBITING OUTDOOR BURNING FOR BOSQUE COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Bosque County, on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025, determined that Bosque County, will be threatened by high or extreme wildland fire hazard. This threat is caused by abundant fuel and extreme dry and windy conditions across the State of Texas and in particular Bosque County, and;

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Bosque County has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to alleviate the threat to people of Bosque County and to protect property, and;

NOW THEREFORE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE BOSQUE COUNTY JUDGE AND THE BOSQUE COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT BY SECTION 418.108 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, WE DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH DISASTER AND DIRECT THAT ALL NECESSARY MEASURES BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE AS AUTHORIZED BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF TEXAS BE IMPLEMENTED TO MEET THAT DISASTER:

- 1. That a local state of disaster is hereby proclaimed for Bosque County pursuant to Section 418.108 (a) of the Texas Government Code.
- 2. Pursuant to Section 418.108 (b) of the Government Code, this Declaration of a local state of disaster shall continue for so long as such conditions exist with the exception granted to fireworks under Section 418.108 (i) of the Government Code unless ratified and extended by the Governor of the State of Texas.
- 3. Pursuant to Section 418.108 (c) of the Government Code, this Declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk of Bosque County.

- 4. Pursuant to Section 418.108 (d) of the Government Code, this Declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Bosque County Emergency Management Plan.
- 5. The purpose of this order is the mitigation of the hazard posed by wildfires by curtailing the practice of outdoor burning, which purpose is to be taken into account in any enforcement action based upon this order.

BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED that the following emergency regulations are hereby established for all unincorporated areas of Bosque County, Texas for the duration of the declaration;

- (1) Actions Prohibited:
  - (a) All outdoor burning of any combustible material is prohibited. A person violates this order if he burns any combustible material or orders such burning by others. This Order does not prohibit cooking stoves fueled by "white gasoline" or outdoor cooking grills fueled by propane or natural gas. This Order does not prohibit outdoor cooking events that are continuously monitored and overseen by fire department personnel and equipment capable of extinguishing any fire that may result from such activities

For purposes of this Order, the term "Outdoor Burning" means:

- a. <u>All</u> outdoor fires, including fires contained in a container or semienclosure, such as a barrel or hopper. (It does not include grills, barbeques, or smokers which are used to cook food <u>and</u> attended.): <u>AND</u>
  - b. The use of welders or cutting torches is prohibited <u>unless</u> the user has on hand adequate fire suppression equipment and personnel, <u>specifically, this must include</u>, as a minimum:
    - i. a 2A-20BC fire extinguisher, kept within 30 feet of any outdoor welding activity: AND
    - ii. an individual to serve as a "fire monitor" during all welding activities with the monitor remaining on scene for a minimum of 30 minutes after cessation of any outdoor welding activity.

This Declaration and Order shall take effect on Friday 3/14/2025 at 7:00AM and expiring on 03/16/2025 at 7:00PM. A violation of this order is a Class C misdemeanor.

DECLARED AND ORDERED THIS THE 13th DAY OF MARCH 2025.

Hon. Cindy Vanlandingham, County Judge