

AN ORDER BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE COUNTY OF  
TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ISSUING RESTRICTIONS OF ACCESS PURSUANT  
TO THE PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY ON MARCH 9, 2023 AND  
CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE §8550 *et seq.*

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted by Section 1-15-1030 of the Tulare County Ordinance Code, the Tulare County Director of Emergency Services proclaimed the existence of a local emergency due to the 2023 March Storms on March 9, 2023;

WHEREAS, when a local emergency has been proclaimed, the Director of Emergency Services is empowered to make and issues rules and regulations on matters reasonably related to the protection of life and property as affected by such emergency, provided that such rules and regulations are confirmed by the Board of Supervisors at the earliest practicable time; and

WHEREAS the 2023 March Storms continue, presenting conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the County of Tulare; and

WHEREAS, Government Code 8634 requires that all orders necessary to protect life and property, and all amendments and rescissions to such orders, must be in writing.

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services, or successor, also hereby finds that such conditions of disaster and/or extreme peril created by the 2023 March Storms necessitate the restriction of all persons and vehicles, excepting emergency response, from the areas in or around the body and the banks of the St. John's River and King's River throughout the incorporated area of the County of Tulare.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED

That, to protect life and property, an order restricting access and use, also known as a no-entry or use order, is now in effect for the following area(s) due to the 2023 March Storms:

**The Kings River will be closed from the Tulare/ Fresno County Line west of Avenue 428, to the Tulare/ Kings County Line east of Avenue 384**

**The St Johns River will be closed from McKay's Point west of Road 236, to where the St Johns turns into Cross Creek to the Tulare/ Kings County Line at Ave 1. This order does not include the St. John's River Trail aka St. John's River Walk.**

This Order is issued pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, commencing with Government Code section 8550.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Order in no way limits or restricts the ability of landowners adjacent to one of the aforementioned rivers to work on repairing, restoring, building up, or otherwise maintaining levee and river bank that has been damaged as a result of storm activity. Any sandbagging, levee construction or repair, or related flood control activities on private property shall be considered emergency response in respect to this Order's allowed activities on the St. John's and King's River and banks.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Tulare County Sheriff and any other law enforcement personnel assigned to the 2023 March Storms, be authorized to evacuate and restrict all persons from the above areas, with reasonable force to be used as needed to enforce this Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of Tulare County shall be those prescribed by

State law, by ordinances and resolutions of Tulare County, and by the Tulare County Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan, as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

This Order is issued pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, commencing with Government Code §8550. The No Entry or Use Order must be confirmed at the earliest practicable time by the Board of Supervisors.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

It is so ordered and proclaimed this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2023 at 2:15 PM.



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JASON T. BRITT, CAO  
Director of Emergency Services  
County of Tulare