PROCLAMATION CONFIRMING EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, Section 2.40.060 of the Modoc County Code empowers the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when Modoc County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services of the County of Modoc does hereby find; that Modoc County is experiencing record drought conditions indicated by snow-pack in area mountains being less than 10% of normal; Modoc County reservoirs at critically low levels at an average of 25% or less of normal; and

WHEREAS, without substantial rainfall severe impacts are projected for area township drinking water supplies, agriculture (crops and livestock); and

WHEREAS, severe economic impacts are projected over the next year due to decreased crop production by an estimate of 30%, livestock breeding stock reduction by an estimate of 40%; and

WHEREAS, due to a projected severe decrease in crop and livestock production, communities within the operational area will be further impacted by reduction in force for farm labor, which will put an added burden upon the economics of the County of Modoc; and

WHEREAS, wildlife and fisheries are further being negatively impacted by severe drought conditions with competition for available feed and water from wild free-roaming horses and burros that are protected by Public Law 92-195 with populations in some area's being near ten (10) times the recommended number for certain areas on Federal Lands; and

WHEREAS, livestock grazing on public lands is projected to be reduced by as much as 40%, with numbers being in the range of 30,000 +/-head of displaced livestock off of USDA Forest Service managed Land, and likely the same or more from Bureau of Interior, Bureau of Land Management; and

WHEREAS, wild free-roaming horses and burros that are protected by Public Law 92-195 on public lands have exceeded recommended numbers per grazing allotment, has put further strain upon private land owners to provide feed and water for additional wildlife as well as attempt to raise feed and reserve water for continued livestock operations; and

WHEREAS, wild free-roaming horses and burros that are protected by Public Law 92-195 have been trespassing upon Native American Tribal Lands, putting further strain and economic burden upon the tribes; and

WHEREAS, drought mitigation costs for the County of Modoc are above and beyond resources available for staffing in effected county departments; and

WHEREAS, Modoc County also has a compelling interest in protecting our water, grazing, wildlife and other natural resources whether those uses are consumptive or non-consumptive; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors of the County of Modoc is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency now exists throughout said County; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of this County shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and resolutions of the County, and; That this emergency proclamation shall expire in 7 days after issuance unless confirmed and ratified by the governing body of the County of Modoc.

Mike Poindexter
Sheriff/Coroner/Director of Emergency Services

March 4, 2014
Date

RATIFIED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Modoc on March 11, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Allan, Pedersen, Alves, Wills and Byrne
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

By:
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Deputy

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MODOC SS
I, CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A FULL, TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT ON FILE IN MY OFFICE. WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL THIS
DATE March 13, 2014
CLERK

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MODOC COUNTY, CALIFORNIA