



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, extreme drought and winds combined to create one of the worst wildfire seasons in New Mexico history this year, leading to the destruction of hundreds of homes and structures and the burning of nearly 1 million acres;

WHEREAS, beginning in April 2022, fires began impacting communities across the State, including the McBride/Nogal Canyon Fire, the Black Fire, the Cerro Pelado Fire, and the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire, the latter of which resulted from federal mismanagement of two prescribed burns and grew to become the largest wildfire in state history, burning over 340,000 acres; and

WHEREAS, monsoon season compounded the fires' devastation with record-setting flooding seen across the State in areas with burn scars that could not absorb the rainwater; and

WHEREAS, the combination of unprecedented wildfires and flooding displaced thousands of New Mexicans and disrupted the lives of countless more;

WHEREAS, thankfully, public servants from state and local agencies sprang immediately into action to help their fellow New Mexicans impacted by the destruction; and

WHEREAS, the commitment of these dedicated individuals to emergency response was vital in the efforts to assist the families and communities affected; and

WHEREAS, the continued efforts to provide temporary local housing, care for livestock and pets, and child care; restore damaged water systems; secure areas now prone to flash flooding; clean up debris; and provide other vital services have allowed residents to begin the process of rebuilding their homes and communities; and

WHEREAS, the following state agencies and their employees were instrumental in these efforts: Aging and Long-Term Services Department; Children, Youth and Families Department; Corrections Department; Department of Agriculture; Department of Cultural Affairs; Department of Finance and Administration; Department of Game and Fish; Department of Health; Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management; Department of Information Technology; Department of Public Safety; Department of Transportation; Department of Workforce Solutions; Economic Development Department; Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department; Environment Department; Human Services Department; New Mexico Army National Guard; New Mexico State Police; Office of the State Engineer; Public Education Department; and the State Fire Marshal's Office;

WHEREAS, the State of New Mexico is forever indebted to these public servants for going above and beyond to help their fellow New Mexicans.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim the week of January 23, 2023, as:

"State Agency Fire Response Appreciation Week"

throughout the state of New Mexico.

Attest:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver

Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this
20th day of January 2023.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal
of the State of New Mexico.

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

