

State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2024-110

DECLARING STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN SAN MIGUEL COUNTY DUE TO FLOODING

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service reports remnant moisture from Tropical Storm Alberto combined with the 2024 North American Monsoon pattern to produce thunderstorms that caused significant flooding, damaging straight-line winds and severe hail across the state;

WHEREAS, prior dry antecedent conditions combined with a dry monsoon pattern that resulted in the South Fork and Salt Fires in Lincoln County and the Mescalero Apache Reservation, then quickly transitioned to a wet monsoon pattern;

WHEREAS, San Miguel County has received excessive amounts of rainfall beginning on Friday, June 21, 2024, and is experiencing flash floods in several communities throughout the County;

WHEREAS, a large portion of the rainfall could not be absorbed due to the Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon fire burn scar;

WHEREAS, this situation led to major flooding along the Gallinas River, including in the City of Las Vegas;

WHEREAS, this flooding prompted the evacuation of many residents and closure of nonessential private businesses;

WHEREAS, flooding has caused ash, debris, and silt from the Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon

fire burn scar to contaminate the Gallinas River, compromising the supply of drinking water in Las Vegas;

WHEREAS, this disaster requires immediate action to protect public peace, health, safety, and welfare;

WHEREAS, this disaster is of such magnitude as to be beyond local control and requires the resources of the State of New Mexico to minimize economic or physical harm and to take actions necessary to protect the public peace, health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, after consulting with the Secretary of the Department of Health, I have determined that the foregoing situation constitutes a public health emergency in San Miguel County of unknown duration, as defined by the Public Health Emergency Response Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of New Mexico, do hereby **DECLARE** that a state of public emergency exists in San Miguel County due to flooding and **ORDER** and **DIRECT** as follows:

- 1. The Department of Public Health, Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and Department of Public Safety shall immediately begin collaborating with my Office to provide an effective and coordinated response to this public health emergency.
- 2. All political subdivisions of the State shall comply with and enforce all directives issued pursuant to this Order.

I FURTHER ORDER and DIRECT as follows:

1. This Order supersedes any previous orders, proclamations, or directives to the extent they are in conflict.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until July 31,

2024.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE THIS 1ST DAY OF JULY 2024

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

GOVERNOR

