

STATE OF TEXAS §

§

COUNTY OF PARKER §

COUNTY JUDGE DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER DUE TO DROUGHT

WHEREAS, the National Drought Mitigation Center, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the National Oceanic Atmosphere Association have formed the United States Drought Monitor (USDM); and

WHEREAS, the USMD monitors drought conditions across the United States and has classified 100 percent of Parker County as abnormally dry, and with almost 66.8 percent of Parker County additionally classified as in severe drought; and

WHEREAS, the Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI), maintained by Texas A&M Agrilife Research and Texas A&M Forest Service, is an index that is used to determine fire potential and the current KBDI indicates a KBDI of 590 for Parker County as of June 28, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the KBDI value for Parker County is now within the range of the index where wildfire intensity begins to increase significantly, and

WHEREAS, Parker County has and will continue to experience wildfires across the County, with local fire departments responding to 28 wildfires within the past 7 days and 61 wildfires to date for the month of June; and

WHEREAS; Parker County is currently under a burn ban order for the entire County; and

WHEREAS, the above conditions pose a substantial, significant, and imminent threat to persons and property in Parker County; and

WHEREAS, severe drought and wildfires have the potential of endangering lives and damaging property on a large scale; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Government Code Chapter 418 gives the county judge the power to declare a local disaster within the county “if the threat of disaster is imminent”; and

WHEREAS, the magnitude of the potential damage and the rapidity with which a wildfire could escalate constitutes an imminent threat of disaster; and

WHEREAS, the declaration of such a disaster authorizes the imposition of controls on activities which tend to increase the likelihood of injury to the public; and

WHEREAS, such controls, once implemented, have the potential of protecting lives and property by mitigating the threat of wildfires; and

WHEREAS, a local disaster declaration expires seven days after its issuance, unless the commissioners court consents to its renewal or continuance;

BE IT THEREFORE PROCLAIMED that I, Honorable Pat Deen, County Judge of County, declare a local state of disaster based on extreme drought conditions that exist in Parker County and present an imminent and substantial danger to the residents Parker County, Texas.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that the use or discharge of fireworks in Parker County, without authorization by the Parker County Fire Marshall, is hereby prohibited.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that this state of disaster will continue until rescinded in accordance with the above cited statute, but in no instance will this declaration continue for more than seven days without being authorized by the County Commissioners Court, or in the event the declaration pertains to fireworks, no more than 60 hours unless an extension of the restriction on fireworks has been received by the governor.

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that a violation of this Disaster Declaration is punishable as a Class C misdemeanor by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

This declaration shall be promptly publicized and filed with the County Clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I affix my signature this 28th day of June, 2022.

RECEIVED AND FILED
FOR RECORD
9:38 O'clock 14 M

JUN 28 2022

Lila Deakle, Co. Clerk
PARKER COUNTY, TEXAS
By [Signature] Deputy

[Signature]
Pat Deen
Parker County Judge

Filed with the Clerk of Parker County on June 28, 2022.