STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2-2022

EXECUTIVE ORDER RESCINDING A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR THE WILDLAND FIRE EMERGENCY IN MONTANA

WHEREAS, on July 14, 2021, I declared a statewide wildland fire emergency in Montana due to extremely hazardous wildland fire conditions existing throughout the entire State of Montana, which included near-record to record high temperatures on a daily, weekly, monthly, and seasonal time frame, with continued windy conditions, and low relative humidity; and

WHEREAS, moderate to extreme drought conditions existed throughout 84% of the State; and

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation in 2021, 2,878 wildland fires burned 953,293 acres in Montana; over double the fire year average for acres burned, with fire suppression costs over 50 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, many of these fires threatened residences, outbuildings, and other property and required evacuations of residents and subsequent sheltering of the evacuees, with losses of over 225 residences and structures; and

WHEREAS, the combination of extreme wildland fire conditions of record heat, low humidity and windy conditions are no longer present with the seasonal weather change across the State; and

WHEREAS, Montana had above normal precipitation in December of 2021, with that month ranking in the top 1/3 wettest Decembers, with average statewide precipitation 0.39" above normal, which caused these conditions to no longer warrant the continuation of the state of emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREG GIANFORTE, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Constitution, Mont. Code Ann. §§ 10-3-103, 10-3-104, 10-3-302, and other applicable statutes, do hereby rescind Executive Order 12-2021 and lift Montana's state of emergency.

This Order is effective December 31, 2021.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this ___11th___ day of February, 2022.

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GREG GIANFORTE, Governor

ATTEST:

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CHRISTI JACOBSEN, Secretary of State