

**STATE OF MONTANA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2-2023**

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**EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING A DISASTER TO EXIST  
IN THE STATE OF MONTANA**

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**WHEREAS**, moderate to major flooding occurred due to heavy rainfall starting May 31, 2023, which fell across much of Central Montana, with widespread totals greater than two inches, and localized amounts between five and six inches. These totals were 300-600% higher than normal for the first week of June; and

**WHEREAS**, soils in areas that have received precipitation greater than two inches in the last week are now saturated. Any additional precipitation will run off efficiently with little infiltration likely leading to flooding in both low lying and poor drainage areas, but also in area streams and mainstem rivers; and

**WHEREAS**, widespread additional precipitation of greater than one inch is anticipated in the next week, with some areas expected to receive in excess of three inches across much of the same parts of the state that received heavy precipitation over the last seven days. If these forecast rain values verify, additional flooding is likely; and

**WHEREAS**, Musselshell and Garfield counties have enacted emergency or disaster declarations, and activated applicable portions of jurisdictional emergency plans and programs; and

**WHEREAS**, several counties, cities, and towns have reported emergency costs and extensive damage to critical infrastructure to include roads, bridges, and culverts; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Emergency Coordination Center is activated, and is coordinating with local, state and federal agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the availability and utilization of all necessary State government services, equipment, and suppliers under this proclamation will further the efforts to protect health and safety and to preserve the lives, property, and resources of the people of the State of Montana; and

**WHEREAS**, a proclamation of disaster authorizes the Governor under Section 10-3-311, MCA, to expend funds from the general fund to meet contingencies and needs arising from these conditions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GREG GIANFORTE**, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Constitution, and the laws of the State of Montana, Title 10, Chapter 3, MCA, and other applicable statutes, do hereby declare under § 10-3-103 and § 10-3-303, MCA, that a flooding disaster exists in the State of Montana.


This Order is effective May 31, 2023.



GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023.

  
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GREG GIANFORTE, Governor

ATTEST:

  
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CHRISTI JACOBSEN, Secretary of State