

GLENN COUNTY

Planning & Community Development Services Agency

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BOARD REPORT

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY- RESOLUTION / LOCAL DROUGHT STATE OF EMERGENCY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On May 10, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom filed a revised State of Emergency Proclamation related to the extreme drought conditions currently faced across the state, including the Counties located in the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta Watershed Counties. The Board may consider adopting "*Resolution of the Glenn County Board of Supervisors Declaring a Local Emergency due to Drought Conditions in Glenn County*".

RECOMMENDATION(S):

Hold discussion on the current drought landscape in the County and consider adopting "*Resolution of the Glenn County Board of Supervisors Declaring a Local Emergency due to Drought Conditions in Glenn County*".

HISTORY AND BACKGROUND:

In prior years, when drought conditions exist, Glenn County has declared a local emergency. The most recent local emergency due to drought conditions was declared on February 4, 2014 when the Glenn County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 2014-006. The emergency declaration was continued until April 18, 2017.

A Drought Task Force Ad Hoc Committee was established on September 2, 2014 to run concurrently with the County's emergency drought declaration. The Committee was composed of various County departments including the Office of Emergency Services, Public Health (Environmental Health), Agriculture (Water Resources), Cooperative Extension and the Board of Supervisors. The purpose of the committee was to establish a single body to collect, coordinate and provide drought information for Glenn County and to actively raise public awareness in relation to the severity of the drought and water saving activities.

On August 18, 2015, the Glenn County Board of Supervisors adopted a moratorium on the issuance of new well permits with specific exemptions. The moratorium was extended at various Board meetings before expiring August 3, 2016.

The following provides historical well permit data in Glenn County for the last ten years:

| Year | Domestic Well Permits Issued | Agricultural Well Permits Issued |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 2010 | 22 | 19 |
| 2011 | 12 | 26 |
| 2012 | 16 | 45 |
| 2013 | 23 | 79 |
| 2014 | 62 | 191 |
| 2015 | 36 | 110 |
| 2016 | 36 | 37 |
| 2017 | 27 | 23 |
| 2018 | 31 | 29 |
| 2019 | 46 | 16 |
| 2020 | 35 | 23 |
| 2021 | 34 | 55 |

FISCAL/PERSONNEL IMPACT(S):

Unknown at this time.

ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION:

California has experienced critically low rainfall over the last two years and warmer temperatures in April and May caused an accelerated snow melt leading to reduced expected water supplies by more than 500,000-acre feet. According to the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS), Glenn County is within the D3-Extreme Drought category, listing water as inadequate for agriculture, wildlife, and urban needs, reservoirs extremely low and hydropower is restricted. According to the Department of Water Resources, the Northern Sierra Precipitation 8-Station Index is calculated to be 47% of average with only 22.9 inches of precipitation recorded. The Sacramento Valley Index is categorized at 4.0 (Critical) and the Sacramento River Unimpaired Runoff Water Year Forecast is 6.7 million acre-feet which is only 38% of average.

On March 5, 2021, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture designated California's 58 counties as a primary natural disaster area due to drought. On May 10, 2021 Governor Gavin Newsom expanded his State of Emergency Proclamation to include 39 additional counties, addressing the drought impacts in the Klamath River, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Tulare Lake Watershed.

Should the proposed resolution be adopted, Government Code Section 8630 requires the need for continuing local emergency be reviewed and reaffirmed at least once every 60 days until the emergency is terminated.

Attachments:

- Proposed Resolution
- Proclamation of State Emergency
- Drought Monitor Map
- 8-Station Index
- 2021 USDA Secretarial Drought Designations