



State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2024-109

DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN RIO ARRIBA COUNTY DUE TO FLOODING AND AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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, the South Fork Fire has already burned over 17,569 acres, threatened over 3,600 homes in and around the Village of Ruidoso and Alto, and is only 73% contained;

WHEREAS, the Salt Fire has already burned over 7,939 acres, threatened over 3,800 homes in and around the Village of Ruidoso Downs, and is only 71% contained;

WHEREAS, Rio Arriba County has received excessive amounts of rainfall, estimated between four to six inches within the last two months, and is experiencing flash floods in several communities throughout the County;

WHEREAS, the severe flooding has resulted in excessive damage to private property, private and public infrastructure, mutual domestic water systems, public lands and community acequia systems;

WHEREAS, the severe flooding has contaminated water well systems and filled septic systems, creating a public health emergency;

WHEREAS, the flood damage to both public infrastructure and private property has resulted in undue human suffering, and threatened the safety, health, and well-being of the citizens of Rio Arriba County;

WHEREAS, the flooding has prompted Rio Arriba County to declare a local state of emergency on June 24, 2024;

WHEREAS, the local state of emergency issued by Rio Arriba County notes that all available local resources are insufficient to alleviate the emergency and repair impacted infrastructure and private property;

WHEREAS, the local state of emergency issued by Rio Arriba County requests financial aid and material assistance from the State of New Mexico;

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 health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management has confirmed that the flooding resulting from the remnant moisture from Tropical Storm Alberto combined with the 2024 North American Monsoon pattern to produce thunderstorms that caused significant flooding, has caused sufficient damage to warrant support from the State, and that it is necessary to authorize the release of emergency funds to protect public peace, health, and safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of New Mexico do hereby **DECLARE** a state of emergency to exist in Rio Arriba County due to flooding as a

result of the above-described situation, and **ORDER** and **DIRECT** as follows:

1. The Department of Finance and Administration shall make available emergency financial resources in an amount not to exceed seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$750,000.00) to the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in accordance with NMSA 1978, Sections 12-11-23 to -25, and NMSA 1978, Sections 12-10-14 to -15. The funds shall be expended for the resources and services necessary to avoid or minimize economic or physical harm until the situation becomes stabilized; on a temporary, emergency basis for lodging, sheltering, health care, food, any transportation or shipping necessary to protect lives or public property; or for any other action necessary to protect the public health, safety, welfare, and property. The funds shall be expended in accordance with the policy and procedures of the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, as approved by the Governor or her Authorized Representative.

2. The Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management shall coordinate all requests for assistance and responses to such requests under the authority of and as determined by the Governor or her Authorized Representative. In addition to such other eligibility criteria as may be established by the Governor or her Authorized Representative, applicants requesting financial assistance from the State for necessary action taken in response to the emergency shall be required to demonstrate that the cost of the necessary action exceeds their available resources, as determined based upon criteria developed in conjunction with the State agencies, if any, with financial and budgetary oversight responsibilities for the applicant.

3. The Adjutant General shall order into service any elements of the New Mexico National Guard as are or may be needed to provide military support to civil authorities as needed for this emergency. This action is pursuant to and in accordance with NMSA 1978, Sections 20-

1-1 to -8, NMSA 1978, Sections 20-2-1 to -8, and NMSA 1978, Sections 20-4-1 to -14. Such emergency assistance shall be provided during the period of need at the discretion of the Governor or her Authorized Representative.

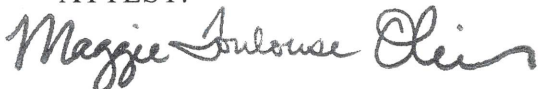
4. All Cabinet Departments and agencies under gubernatorial control shall provide any assistance that may be required by the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management or by the State Emergency Operations Center under the authority of the Governor's Authorized Representative.

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 all authorized funds are expended or no longer necessary to provide emergency assistance.

ATTEST:



MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
THIS 28TH DAY OF JUNE 2024

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



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

