



Proclamation
of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
Recognizing May 2021 as Wildfire Awareness Month

WHEREAS, The 2020 California wildfire season was characterized by a record-setting year of wildfires that burned across the state of California as measured during the modern era of wildfire management and record keeping. As of the end of the year, nearly 10,000 fires had burned over 4.2 million acres, more than 4% of the state's roughly 100 million acres of land, making 2020 the largest wildfire season recorded in California's modern history. 10,488 structures were destroyed or damaged and 33 lives were lost; and

WHEREAS, the risk for catastrophic wildfires this year is exceptionally high due to the drought and tree mortality. From January 1 through April 25, 2021 California has had 1,354 fires with 2,219 acres burned; during this same time last year we had 814 fires and 1,056 acres burned; and

WHEREAS, Wildfire preparedness is a shared responsibility of a community, and El Dorado County residents can prepare for wildfire and help prevent loss of life and property by taking steps such as ensuring adequate defensible space around homes and buildings, making homes more fire resistant and preparing for an evacuation; and

WHEREAS, The County of El Dorado encourages the citizens and businesses to prepare for wildfires by visiting ReadyforWildfire.org and following the steps of **Ready, Set, Go!**; and

WHEREAS, Being **ready** for wildfire starts with maintaining an adequate defensible space and by hardening your home by using fire resistant building materials. Being **set** before wildfire strikes, prepare yourself and your home for the possibility of having to evacuate. And **go** by giving your household the best chance of surviving a wildfire by being ready to go and evacuating early; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (OES) is to prepare the people in El Dorado County to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies which threaten life, property, or the environment; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the County Emergency Preparedness and Response team is to advise the public on how to be ready for wildfire by preparing an emergency kit, having a family emergency and communications plan, having an evacuation plan and having a personal support network.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors recognizes May 2021 as Wildfire Awareness Month and as a call to action for people to prevent wildfires and reduce wildfire risk by preparing their homes and communities.

PASSED AND ADOPTED *by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held the 4th day of May, 2021.*

Attest:

Kim Dawson
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
by:

Deputy Clerk

John Hidahl
Chair, Board of Supervisors

