

RESOLUTION NO. 2020- 098

**AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION DECLARING A WILDFIRE DISASTER AND
ORDERING EVACUATION IN BRIDGER CANYON FROM THE “M” TRAIL TO
BRACKET CREEK ROAD**

This Resolution was introduced by Chairman Seifert; moved by
Commissioner MacFarlane and seconded by Commissioner
Skinner. The Resolution was adopted unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Bridger Foothills Fire is a disastrous and uncontrolled wildfire burning in the Bridger Canyon area, and it has caused, and is an imminent threat of causing, widespread loss of life, injury, or damage to property or natural resources;

WHEREAS, the Gallatin County Sheriff has requested residents in the Bridger Canyon area near the fire to evacuate and has requested the Gallatin County Commission adopt this resolution;

WHEREAS, the Gallatin County Commission may adopt an emergency resolution without providing 48-hours' notice, pursuant to § 2-3-112, MCA, when it must make a decision to deal with an emergency situation affecting the public health, welfare, or safety;

WHEREAS, § 10-3-103(4), MCA, defines a “disaster” as “the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or artificial cause,” including fires;

WHEREAS, § 10-3-403, MCA, authorizes a principal executive officer of a local government to declare a disaster when a disaster is occurring or has occurred;

WHEREAS, the Gallatin County Commission finds that an emergency situation affecting the public health, welfare, and safety exists; and

WHEREAS, the Gallatin County Commission has determined that the Bridger Foothills Fire is a wildfire disaster necessitating the evacuation of residents from the “M” Trail to Bracket Creek Road in Gallatin County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Gallatin County Commission hereby declares the Bridger Foothills Fire a disaster pursuant to § 10-3-403, MCA;
2. All residents between the “M” Trail and Bracket Creek Road shall immediately evacuate;
3. All applicable provisions of the Gallatin County Emergency Management Plan are in effect;

4. The Incident Commander and Gallatin County Sheriff are given authority under § 10-3-406, MCA, to close public roads, limit access, and evacuate people from the area; and
5. All prior evacuation orders issued by the Gallatin County Sheriff due to the Bridger Foothills Fire are ratified and affirmed.

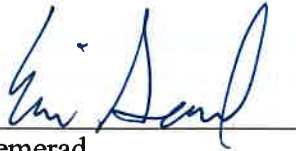
DATED this 5th day of September, 2020.

GALLATIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS



Donald F. Seifert

Attest:



Eric Semerad
Gallatin County Clerk and Recorder