



Statement from the San Joaquin County Director of Emergency Operations San Joaquin County's Course of Action for Inclusion in California's Emergency Declaration

On January 9, 2023, President Biden approved California's Emergency Declaration under the provisions of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act based on the current and ongoing series of atmospheric river systems impacting the State. As requested by the State of California, the Federal Declaration authorizes the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to coordinate all disaster relief efforts related to the storms. Neither the State's request for the Declaration, nor the Declaration itself, listed San Joaquin County as one of the 17 counties listed as being at risk of significant or historic flooding impacts.

In response, at 8:20 a.m. on January 9, 2023, the County Office of Emergency Services (OES) reached out to the State OES to find out why San Joaquin County was not included and to learn what the County needs to do to be included in the Federal Declaration to ensure the County receives all available Public Assistance, Individual Assistance, and California Disaster Assistance Act funding.

According to the State OES, counties included in the Declaration were those identified, in predictive modeling by California's State Climatologist at the point in time that the State's request for the Declaration was submitted, as those most vulnerable to flooding/debris and mud flows. Counties can be added to the Declaration by submitting a request to Cal OES.

On Tuesday, January 10, 2023, the County OES will submit a letter signed by the County Administrator and Board of Supervisors Chair to Cal OES requesting that they add San Joaquin County to California's Emergency Declaration and the Federal Emergency Declaration immediately based on the County's declared local State of Emergency.