# Declaration of Disaster
# Threat of Wildfires

WHEREAS, Bastrop County has not had rainfall for an extended period; and

WHEREAS, weather forecasters offer little promise of a change in the dry conditions in the near future; and

WHEREAS, these dry conditions pose the threat of large, dangerous and fast-moving wildfires; and

WHEREAS, such fires have the potential of endangering lives and damaging property on a large scale; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Disaster Act or 1975 authorizes declaration of a state of disaster "if the threat of disaster is imminent"; and

WHEREAS, the magnitude of the potential damage and the rapidity at which such a fire could escalate to major proportions constitute an imminent threat of disaster; and

WHEREAS, declaration of such disaster authorizes the imposition of controls on activities which tend to increase the likelihood of fires; and

WHEREAS, such controls, once implements, have the potential of protecting lives and property by mitigating the threat of dangerous fires;

BE IT THEREFORE PROCLAIMED that I, Paul Pape, the County Judge of Bastrop County, do hereby declare a state of disaster based on the threat of large wildfires in Bastrop County, Texas; and

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that this state of disaster will continue until rescinded in accordance with the above statute and order, but in no instance will this declaration continue for more than seven days without authorization by the Bastrop County Commissioners Court; and

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that this state of disaster is being declared solely for the purpose of implementing controls aimed at mitigating the hazard posed by wildfires during the current dry weather; and

BE IT ALSO ORDERED THAT the purpose of this order is the mitigation of the hazard posed by wildfires by curtailing the practice of outdoor burning, which purpose is to be taken into account in any enforcement action based upon this order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I affix my signature this 6th day of August, 2015.

Paul Pape

Paul Pape
County Judge

FILED
AUG 06 2015 8:37AM
Rose Pietsch
Bastrop County Clerk