

**DECLARATION OF DISASTER
THREAT OF WILDFIRES**

WHEREAS, Bastrop County has not received significant 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 of 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 immediate threat of disaster; and

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

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

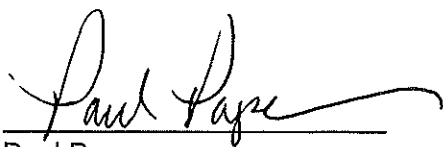
BE IT THEREFORE PROCLAIMED that I, Paul Pape, the County Judge of Bastrop County, do hereby declare a state of disaster based on the threat of large wildfires in Bastrop County, Texas; and

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that this state of disaster will continue until rescinded in accordance with the above statute and order, but in no circumstance will this declaration continue for more than seven days without authorization by the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 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 29th Day of October 2020.



Paul Pape
County Judge

FILED

OCT 29 2020

Rose Pietsch
Bastrop County Clerk

2:00 pm