



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF GUNNISON, STATE OF COLORADO**

RESOLUTION NO. 2023- 17

**A RESOLUTION AND DECLARATION CONTINUING THE LOWLINE FIRE
LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY IN GUNNISON COUNTY**

WHEREAS, at approximately 8 a.m. local time on July 26, 2023, a wildland fire, designated as the Lowline Fire, was reported on the north aspect of a ridge between Squirrel and Mill Creeks in Gunnison County;

WHEREAS, the Lowline Fire is presently burning north northwest of the City of Gunnison, Colorado, and southwest of Town of Crested Butte, Colorado on United States Forest Service and private lands;

WHEREAS, multiple structures are threatened, and areas of Gunnison County are or may soon be under mandatory evacuation orders or pre-evacuation notices;

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1) "A local disaster may be declared only by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision. It shall not be continued or renewed in excess of seven days except by or with the consent of the governing board of the political subdivision";

WHEREAS, "The effect of a declaration of local disaster emergency is to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster and emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans." C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(2); and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners, Gunnison County, Colorado, pursuant to the foregoing authorities and other applicable law, has promulgated Resolution No. 2022-32, setting forth procedures and protocols for addressing local disaster emergencies and related County actions, funding and functions; and

WHEREAS, on July 27, 2023, pursuant to the authority provided by law and delegated by the Board of County Commissioners, the Gunnison County Manager declared a local disaster, and his declaration has been properly executed and recorded with the Gunnison County Clerk and Recorder; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has confirmed the continued existence of such an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the public health, safety and welfare of Gunnison County citizens and the public at large in Gunnison County remains in danger; and

WHEREAS, persons and property are or will be injured unless continued efforts are undertaken to reduce the threats to life and property; and



WHEREAS, the Board finds that there remains an emergency present which necessitates continuation of the use of emergency powers granted by C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709 and other applicable law, as well as those authorities and obligations set forth in Board of County Commissioners, Gunnison County, Colorado, Resolution No. 2022-32;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Gunnison County, Colorado **THAT**:

1. It is hereby declared that there continues to be a local disaster emergency in Gunnison County due to the Lowline fire and its related effects;
2. This local disaster emergency declaration shall continue until amended, extended, or rescinded by the Board duly enacted subsequent Resolution;
3. This Resolution and local disaster emergency declaration is necessary for the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County of Gunnison, State of Colorado; and
4. This Resolution shall be promptly recorded with the Gunnison County Clerk and Recorder and filed with the Office of Emergency Management.

Introduced by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels and adopted this 1st day of August, 2023.

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: [ABSENT]
Jonathan Houck, Chairperson

By: [Signature]
Elizabeth Smith, Commissioner

By: [Signature]
Laura Puckett Daniels, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Melanie Bellig
Deputy County Clerk

