



Board of County Commissioners

A Proclamation Declaring May 2023 Wildfire Awareness Month in Boulder County

WHEREAS, Boulder County encompasses forest and grasslands that are at high risk of wildfires; and

WHEREAS, wildfires affect both the mountains and plains, including homes, businesses, watersheds, water, power, and communications infrastructure, valuable natural resources, historical and cultural resources, and recreational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, wildfires throughout the Front Range have increased in number, size, and amount of damage caused to personal property and infrastructure over the past several years; and

WHEREAS, Boulder County residents are still recovering from both the Marshall and Cal-Wood Fires, which have dramatically changed the lives of thousands of residents and altered the fabric of many communities; and

WHEREAS, the Boulder County Commissioners and all residents are grateful to the county's first responders, who work tirelessly to keep our community safe when wildfires strike; and

WHEREAS, Boulder County is experiencing the impacts of the climate crisis in the form of drought, hotter temperatures, and increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events, leading to a year-round wildfire season; and

WHEREAS, Boulder County voters expressed their support and commitment to wildfire mitigation through Boulder County's 2022 Ballot Measure 1A, which funds the county's efforts to proactively address the increasing risk of climate-driven wildfires through strategic forest and grassland management projects, updating the Counties Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) (using Fireshed partnerships) and the Wildfire Partners program; and

Claire Levy *County Commissioner* **Marta Loachamin** *County Commissioner* **Ashley Stolzmann** *County Commissioner*

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WHEREAS, since the beginning of the year, Boulder County staff have continued to work with partners to plan, develop, and increase the county’s wildfire mitigation efforts made possible by the voter-approved Ballot Measure 1A funding; and

WHEREAS, Boulder County’s Wildfire Partners is a unique, award-winning program to assist homeowners in the mountains in preparing for future wildfires and this program will soon be available to communities in the plains, building on last year’s successful pilot program; and

WHEREAS, Wildfire Awareness Month aims to educate the public and promote action by residents and community groups to help reduce the number of homes destroyed by future wildfires.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of County Commissioners of Boulder County hereby proclaims May 2023 as Wildfire Awareness Month in Boulder County and encourages residents to understand their role in preventing and preparing for future wildfires.

Claire Levy

Ashley Stolzmann

Marta Loachamin