



311 N. Henson St. Lake City, Colorado 81235 970-944-2225 www.hinsdalecountycolorado.us

Local Disaster or Emergency Declaration

WHEREAS, Hinsdale County, Colorado on August 7, 2026 is facing the imminent threat of ongoing physical and economic damage, injury, and loss of life from the Elk Fire located in unincorporated Hinsdale County just outside of the Town of Lake City; and

WHEREAS, Hinsdale County Administrator Sandy Hines, the principal executive officer of Hinsdale County, Colorado, has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to alleviate the potential suffering of people and to protect or rehabilitate property;

WHEREAS, under C.R.S § 24-33.5-709(1) a local disaster emergency may be initially declared only by the principal executive officer of a county; and

WHEREAS, the Elk Fire started on federal lands, was caused by a lightning strike, and crossed onto private lands on August 6, 2026, causing Hinsdale County to declare this local disaster emergency and to activate our emergency management plans and policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, Sandy Hines, as the Hinsdale County Administrator and principal executive officer of Hinsdale County, Colorado, declares and proclaims as follows:

1. A local state of emergency/disaster is hereby declared for unincorporated Hinsdale County, Colorado pursuant to C.R.S § 24-33.5-709(1).
2. The local state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Hinsdale County, Colorado Board of County Commissioners.
3. This declaration of local emergency/disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the Hinsdale County Clerk and the Hinsdale County Office of Emergency Management.
4. This declaration of local emergency/disaster activates the Hinsdale County Emergency Operations Plan.
5. This proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this 7th day of August, 2026.

HINSDALE COUNTY, COLORADO

By: Sandy Hines
Sandy Hines, Hinsdale County Administrator

ATTEST:

Jean Roberts
Jean Roberts, Hinsdale County Clerk

Nissa Waddington Deputy Clerk

