

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
Gila Bend Flooding

WHEREAS, on August 13 through 14, 2021, a monsoon storm affected the Town of Gila Bend, located within Maricopa County, Arizona; and

WHEREAS, on August 13 through 14, 2021, the National Weather Service reported up to 1.5 inches of rain fell across the Town of Gila Bend and up to 2.5 inches of rain in areas of Maricopa County; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service anticipates additional heavy rains throughout Maricopa County; and

WHEREAS, the unusual amounts of rain deposited onto the watersheds caused high sheet flows throughout the rivers and washes; and

WHEREAS, flood impacts to local communities have occurred including, but not limited to, damages to private property, power outages, and roadway and drainage systems; and

WHEREAS, flood impacts caused local agencies to initiate emergency protective measures, including but not limited to, road closures, helo-rescues of residents stranded on roof tops, and swift-water rescues of trapped drivers in flooded areas; and

WHEREAS, in addition to Search and Rescue teams searching for still missing individuals, the flooding has resulted in at least one known fatality; and

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross has established a shelter for impacted residents; and

WHEREAS, Maricopa County has activated their Emergency Operations Center and are actively planning, responding, and coordinating resources and support for this event; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona has activated the State Emergency Operations Center in support of the event and has deployed “on the ground” resources to assist in managing and supporting the incident; and

WHEREAS, the Governor is authorized to declare an emergency pursuant to A.R.S. §26.303(D).

NOW, THEREFORE I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State, do hereby determine that this situation justifies a declaration of a State of Emergency, pursuant to A.R.S. § 26-303(D), and I do hereby:

- a. Declare that a State of Emergency exists in Maricopa County due to flood damage, effective August 13, 2021, and continuing; and

- b. Direct that the sum of \$200,000.00 from the general fund be made available to the Director of the Arizona Division of Emergency Management to be expended in accordance with A.R.S. § 35-192, A.A.C. R8-2-301 to 321, and Executive Order 79-4; and
- c. Direct that the State of Arizona Emergency Response and Recovery Plan be used to direct and control state and other assets and authorize the Director of the Arizona Division of Emergency Management to coordinate state assets.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

Douglas R. Ducey
GOVERNOR



DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this sixteenth day of August in the Year Two Thousand Twenty-one and of the independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Sixth.

ATTEST:

[Signature]

Secretary of State