



ORDINANCE NO. ORD20-09

**AN URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE MONO COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROHIBITING
OPEN FIRES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY
WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF MONO COUNTY
AND CLOSING COUNTY CAMPGROUNDS
DUE TO EXTREME FIRE DANGER**

WHEREAS, on June 27, 2020, citing ongoing drought conditions, well below average rain and snowfall, and extreme dry conditions, the Inyo National Forest and Bureau of Land Management Bishop Office issued restrictions on open fires on federal lands in the Eastern Sierra, which restrictions remain in effect; and

WHEREAS, thereafter, on Sunday, September 7th, California's Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in five California Counties due to the existence of 25 major wildfires which have collectively burned more than 1.2 million acres across the State and hundreds of smaller fires; and

WHEREAS, also on Sunday, September 7th, the United States Forest Service closed eight National Forests in California due to extreme fire conditions, including the Inyo National Forest which encompasses portions of both Mono and Inyo Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Slink Fire, which was first reported on August 29, 2020, continues to burn in the northern Mono County area, and has now burned more than 20,000 acres; and

WHEREAS, in light of the extreme fire danger facing both the State as a whole, and Mono County specifically, the Mono County Board of Supervisors finds it necessary to enact restrictions on certain open fires on private lands within the County and to close its County-operated campground at Lundy Lake, in order to further reduce the likelihood of human-caused fires within Mono County; and

WHEREAS, there is an immediate need to take action to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens and natural environment of Mono County from further harm and risk due to extreme wildfire and fire hazard conditions, the lack of firefighting resources statewide and extreme dry conditions in Mono County;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MONO ORDAINS that:

SECTION ONE: The above recitals are adopted as findings of the Board of Supervisors.

1 **SECTION TWO:** Lundy Campground shall be immediately closed to all use and staff
2 shall take such steps as necessary to notify the public of the closure. This closure shall be
3 reviewed by the Board on September 15, 2020, and at each meeting thereafter of the Board of
Supervisors, until terminated by action of the Board.

4 **SECTION THREE:** Outdoor fires, including campfires, bonfires, pit fires, or any other
5 open flame fire (but excluding propane or charcoal barbecues used for cooking) are hereby
6 prohibited on all private lands within the unincorporated area of Mono County. This prohibition
7 shall be reviewed by the Board on September 15, 2020, and at each meeting thereafter of the
Board of Supervisors, until terminated by action of the Board.

8 **SECTION FOUR:** This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its
9 adoption as an urgency measure pursuant to Government Code sections 65858 and 25123. The
10 Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall post this ordinance and also publish it or a summary
hereof in the manner prescribed by Government Code section 25124 no later than 15 days after
the date of its adoption.

11 **PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this 8th day of September, 2020, by the
12 following vote, to wit:

13 **AYES:** Supervisors Corless, Gardner, Kreitz, Peters, and Stump.

14 **NOES:** None.


15 **ABSENT:** None.

16 **ABSTAIN:** None.



17
18 Stacy Corless, Chair
19 Mono County Board of Supervisors

20
21 **ATTEST:**

22 
23 _____
24 Queenie Barnard (Sep 8, 2020 13:50 PDT)
25 Clerk of the Board

26 **APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

27 
28 _____
29 Stacey Simon (Sep 8, 2020 13:51 PDT)
30 County Counsel