EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY TO EXIST STATEWIDE WITHIN THE STATE OF MONTANA

WHEREAS, according to the National Weather Service, snowfall and snow-water equivalent has been well above normal statewide with record snowfall at several locations since October 2017;

WHEREAS, the record snowfall is melting, causing rivers, streams, and tributaries to overflow their banks and impacting large areas across the state including several Indian reservations;

WHEREAS, recent rainfall has fallen and continues to fall across most of Montana causing rivers, streams, and tributaries to rise out of their banks in addition to causing rapid snowmelt at lower and midlevel elevations;

WHEREAS, the State Emergency Coordination Center has received numerous declarations of emergencies from local and tribal jurisdictions throughout the state;

WHEREAS, the State Emergency Coordination Center has elevated to a level three status;

WHEREAS, the flooding Multi-Agency Coordinating Group continues to review flood preparedness and provide information to local and tribal officials which may be useful during a response to flooding;

WHEREAS, the availability and utilization of all necessary state government services, equipment, and suppliers under this proclamation will further the efforts to protect health and safety and to preserve the lives, property, and resources of the people of the State of Montana; and

WHEREAS, under these conditions pursuant to §§ 10-3-302, 10-3-311, and 10-3-312, MCA, the Governor may mobilize state resources and the Montana National Guard to protect life, health, and property and may expend funds up to the amount determined by the Office of Budget and Program Planning to meet contingencies and address needs that may arise from the emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE BULLOCK, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Montana, Title 10, Chapter 3, MCA, and other applicable statutes, do hereby declare that an emergency exists statewide within the State of Montana as defined in §§ 10-3-103 and 10-3-302, MCA.

This Order is effective immediately.
GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this _____ day of ______, 2018.

STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:

COREY STAPLETON, Secretary of State