

**Declaration of Health Emergency Mendocino County**  
**Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 101080**

As the local health officer for the county of Mendocino, I hereby declare as follows:

WHEREAS on July 27, 2018, several fires began around the communities of Hopland and Potter Valley in Mendocino County; and

WHEREAS these fires have subsequently merged into the River Fire and the Ranch Fire as part of the Mendocino Complex Fire; and

WHEREAS within the first 48 hours, the Mendocino Complex Fire has burned tens of thousands of acres of land, destroyed structures, including homes, and caused the evacuation of hundreds of Mendocino County residents; and

WHEREAS Mendocino County declared a Local Emergency on Saturday, July 28, 2018, and California Governor Jerry Brown issued an emergency proclamation for Lake, Mendocino and Napa counties on Saturday, July 28, 2018, because of fires raging in the area; and

WHEREAS the Mendocino Complex Fire is only 5 % contained and threatening public safety communications systems and causing a condition of extreme peril to life and property in Mendocino County; and

WHEREAS the smoke and haze from the Mendocino Complex Fire impact air quality and may create hazardous health conditions for vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS the loss of critical infrastructure has caused power outages and other public health risks to healthcare facilities and patient care; and

WHEREAS fire debris resulting from the Mendocino Complex Fire includes hazardous material in the ash from burned structures that could thereby pollute and contaminate agricultural water and the drinking water supply of the affected areas and the populations that rely on the drinking water supply that flows from the headwaters of the Russian River; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of section 101080 of the California Health and Safety Code, the Local Health Officer may declare a local health emergency in the jurisdiction or in any area thereof affected that is an imminent threat to the public's health; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of section 101080 of the California Health and Safety Code, I find that a local health emergency exists in Mendocino County due to the impacts of Mendocino Complex Fire; and

Now THEREFORE I HEREBY DECLARE AND ORDER that a health emergency exists in Mendocino County, during the existence of said health emergency, the powers, functions and duties of the local health officer shall be those prescribed by state law including without limitation the provisions of sections 101075 through 101095 of the California Health and Safety Code and by other statutes as applicable.

THIS DECLARATION OF HEALTH EMERGENCY shall continue in effect for only seven (7) days, unless ratified by action of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors. If ratified, this declaration of emergency shall continue until the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors proclaims the termination of the local health emergency at their regular review pursuant to California law.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary Pace, MD, MPH, local health officer for the County of Mendocino, in accordance with authority vested in me by laws aforementioned, HEREBY DECLARE A HEALTH EMERGENCY to exist in Mendocino County, California.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July 2018.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Pace MD MPH".

Gary Pace, MD, MPH

Health Officer – County of Mendocino