

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

November 22, 2017

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 29

DISASTER DECLARATION FOR THE COUNTIES OF ASHE, AVERY, CALDWELL, WATAUGA, AND WILKES

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Emergency Management Act authorizes the issuance of a disaster declaration for an emergency area as defined in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.3(7) and the categorization of a disaster as a Type I, Type II or Type III disaster as defined in N.C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.21(b); and

WHEREAS, on October 23, 2017, Watauga County, North Carolina and the contiguous counties of Ashe, Avery, Caldwell, and Wilkes suffered severe damages as result of flooding and heavy winds; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the severe weather, Watauga County proclaimed a local state of emergency on October 23, 2017; and

WHEREAS, due to the severe weather impacts, a joint preliminary damage assessment was completed by local, state, and federal emergency management officials on November 2, 2017; and

WHEREAS, I have determined that a Type I disaster, as defined in N.C. Gen. Stat. §166A-19.21(b)(1), exists in the State of North Carolina, specifically in Watauga County and the contiguous counties of Ashe, Avery, Caldwell, and Wilkes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.21(b)(1), the criteria for a Type I disaster are met if: (1) the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety has provided a preliminary damage assessment to the Governor and the General Assembly; (2) a local state of emergency has been declared pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.22; (3) the preliminary damage assessment has met or exceeded the criteria established for the Small Business Disaster Loan Program pursuant to 13 C.F.R. § 123; and (4) a major disaster declaration by the President of the United States pursuant to the Stafford Act has not been declared; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.41(b), if a disaster is declared, the Governor may make state funds available for emergency assistance in the form of individual assistance and public assistance for recovery from those disasters for which federal assistance under the Stafford Act is either not available or does not adequately meet the needs of the citizens of the State in the emergency area.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and the laws of the State of North Carolina, **IT IS ORDERED:**


Section 1. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.21(b)(1), a Type I disaster is hereby declared for Watauga County and the contiguous counties of Ashe, Avery, Caldwell, and Wilkes.

Section 2. I authorize state emergency assistance funds in the form of grants to individuals and families located within the emergency area that meet the terms and conditions under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 166A-19.41(b)(1).

Section 3. I hereby order that this declaration be: (a) distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) promptly filed with the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety, the Secretary of State, and the clerks of superior court in the counties to which it applies; and (c) distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

Section 4. This Type I disaster declaration shall expire sixty (60) days after issuance unless renewed by the Governor or the General Assembly. Such renewals may be made in increments of thirty (30) days each, not to exceed a total of 120 days from the date of first issuance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in the City of Raleigh, this 22nd day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen.



Roy Cooper
Governor

ATTEST:



Elaine F. Marshall
Secretary of State

