



**Public Health Disaster Emergency Declaration
to Coordinate Response and Protective Actions
to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19**

Teton County, Idaho and the Cities of Driggs, Teton, and Victor

WHEREAS, the health and safety of all Teton County, Idaho residents is the greatest priority of the Board of Teton County Commissioners and Mayors of the Cities of Driggs, Teton and Victor; and

WHEREAS, Teton County and the Cities of Driggs, Teton, and Victor are committed to being as prepared as possible to respond to, and reduce the impact to our community of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus previously unidentified in humans and which can spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the rapidly spreading COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic, as the virus will likely spread to all countries on the globe; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President declared a national emergency that could free up relief funds to help fight the pandemic, and empowering the secretary of Health and Human Services to waive certain laws and regulations to ensure COVID-19 can be contained and patients treated; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Idaho Governor declared a state of emergency in response to the coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare confirmed multiple cases of COVID-19 in Idaho, including a case in Teton County, and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Department of Health and Human Services has organized the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Operations Center to manage the public health impacts of COVID-19 in this state; and

WHEREAS, Teton County and the Cities of Driggs, Teton and Victor, in consultation with Eastern Idaho Public Health, has determined it is necessary and appropriate to act to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors in Teton County, Idaho remain safe and secure; and

WHEREAS, a local public health disaster emergency as defined in Section 46-1002, and 46-1011 Idaho Code is in existence in Teton County, due to the imminent threat to life, health, and well-being; including local governments' ability to provide essential public services, health providers' and first responders' ability to care for the ill, and the local economy's ability to provide necessary income, goods, and services under these circumstances; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Idaho Code Section 46-1011, authorizes the Chair of the Board of Teton County Commissioners and the Mayors of Driggs, Tetonía and Victor to declare a local disaster emergency to authorize the furnishings of aid and assistance:

NOW THEREFORE, be it declared, separately, by the Chair of the Board of Teton County Commissioners, and the Mayors of Driggs, Tetonía and Victor as follows:

1. A public health disaster emergency, pursuant to Idaho Code Section 46-1002 is hereby declared to exist within Teton County, Idaho, and within the Cities of Driggs, Tetonía, and Victor, created by the existence of the public health emergency posed by COVID-19 posing an imminent threat to life, health, and property; and
2. These conditions allow the activation of the response and recovery aspects of all applicable local disaster emergency plans; and
3. The emergency area is Teton County, Idaho, and the Cities of Driggs, Tetonía and Victor; and
4. This public health disaster emergency may require State and Federal emergency assistance to supplement local efforts to protect life and property and to provide a coordinated multi-agency effort to mitigate, avert and lessen the threat and impact of the disaster.

PROCLAIMED this 18th day of March, 2020, by the Chair of the Board of Teton County Commissioners and Mayors of the Cities subscribing their name below. This Declaration shall be filed with the Teton County Recorder's Office and be given prompt and general publicity.

(Signatures on next page)

CHAIR OF TETON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: _____
Cindy Riegel, Chair

ATTEST:

Kim Keeley, County Clerk

CITY OF DRIGGS

By: _____
Hyrum Johnson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kreslyn Schuehler, City Clerk

CITY OF TETONIA

By: _____
Gloria Hoopes, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacque Beard, City Clerk

CITY OF VICTOR

By: _____
Will Frohlich, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Smith, City Clerk