



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO
RIO BLANCO COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE
555 MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 599
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**RIO BLANCO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
EMERGENCY DECLARATION
ELK RBX FIRE**

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-22

DECLARING A LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY IN RIO BLANCO COUNTY, COLORADO

WHEREAS, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709 authorizes the principal executive officer of a political subdivision to declare a local disaster emergency in the event of the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from a natural or human-made cause; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County, Colorado, is the governing body of Rio Blanco County and has the authority to declare a local disaster emergency; and

WHEREAS, beginning on or about August 2, 2025, the Elk RBX Fire ignited within Rio Blanco County and continues to pose a significant threat to life, property, infrastructure, wildlife habitat, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the fire is rapidly evolving and has overwhelmed local firefighting resources, necessitating the activation of emergency response, evacuation procedures, and interagency coordination at the local, state, and potentially federal levels; and

WHEREAS, the conditions created by the Elk RBX Fire warrant immediate action and the utilization of all available emergency resources to ensure public safety and mitigate damage; and

WHEREAS, a formal declaration of emergency will facilitate access to additional resources, funding, and support from the State of Colorado and other assisting agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County, Colorado, that:

1. A **local disaster emergency** is hereby declared in Rio Blanco County due to the **Elk RBX Fire**, effective as of August 3, 2025 at 3:30 PM.
2. All appropriate emergency response and recovery efforts shall be undertaken in accordance with the Rio Blanco County Emergency Operations Plan.

JENNIFER O'HEARON
Chairman

DOUG OVERTON
Commissioner
bocc@rbc.us

CALLIE SCRITCHFIELD
Commissioner

3. The Director of Emergency Management, in coordination with the County Administrator and appropriate public safety agencies, is hereby authorized to request assistance from the State of Colorado and other mutual aid partners as needed.
4. This declaration shall remain in effect for a period of **seven (7) days** unless extended or terminated by formal action of the Board of County Commissioners.

ADOPTED this 3rd day of August, 2025, at a special/emergency meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County, Colorado.



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