

A RESOLUTION DECLARING A SAN JUAN COUNTY EMERGENCY DUE TO EXTREMELY LOW WATER LEVELS IN LAKE POWELL RESOLUTION NO. 2021- 10

WHEREAS, the State of Utah and San Juan County has experienced a record dry and near record hot calendar year in 2020 and 2021; and

WHEREAS, the statewide and local spring snowpack was well below normal peak levels; and

WHEREAS, spring soil moisture saturation was exceptionally low and at levels not previously seen since soil moisture monitoring began in 2006; and

WHEREAS, low soil moisture adversely affected the spring runoff; Colorado Rocky Mountain water equivalent snowpack was 89% of normal but Colorado River inflow was only 31%; and

WHEREAS, the State's reservoir storage has decreased 14% over the past year and is currently 30% of max capacity; and

WHEREAS, spring runoff for the State of Utah was below 72% of the seasonal average; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture currently has listed 28 primary (including San Juan County) and one contiguous county in Utah under the Secretarial Disaster Designation for drought; and

WHEREAS, these extreme drought conditions have adversely and significantly impacted the water levels of Lake Powell; and

WHEREAS, multiple launch ramps are closed due to low water levels, including Wahweap Stateline, Hite, Halls Crossing, Bullfrog North, Antelope Point Public and Wahweap Main; and

WHEREAS, all of Lake Powell's established boat ramps are closed. Access today is only available via interim auxiliary ramps established for temporary use; and

WHEREAS, infrastructure that supports tourism at Lake Powell are compromised including marinas, utilities, and roads; and

WHEREAS, total inflow for August was 3.6 million acre-feet or 36.59% average inflow for the month of August; and

WHEREAS, water levels are at 3,548 feet as of September 1, 2021 or 30% full pool, which is the lowest level the Lake has been at since it was being filled; and

WHEREAS, when water levels reach 3,490 feet, the Glen Canyon Dam can no longer produce power; and

WHEREAS, drought conditions that require mitigation are expected to persist; and

WHEREAS, these conditions create a State of Emergency within the intent of the Disaster Response and Recovery Act found in Title 53, Chapter 2a of the Utah Code; and

WHEREAS, The Governor of Utah issued a State of Emergency on March 17, 2021 due to drought conditions cited above.

NOW, THEREFORE, the San Juan County Board of Commissioners of San Juan County, Utah, declare a state of emergency due to the aforesaid circumstances requiring aid, assistance, and relief available from State and Federal resources.

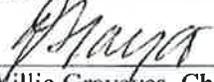
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of San Juan County Commissioners **PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED** by the Board of San Juan County Commissioners this 7th day of September 2021, by the following vote:

Those voting aye: Willie Grayeyes, Bruce Adams

Those voting nay:

Those absent or abstaining: Kenneth Maryboy

BOARD OF SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Willie Grayeyes, Chair

ATTEST:



San Juan County Clerk/Auditor
Lyman Duncan

County Seal: