

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

**PROCLAMATION RELATING TO
SEPTEMBER 2026 TROPICAL CYCLONES**

By the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Hawai'i, to provide relief for disaster damages, losses, and suffering, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people, I, JOSH GREEN, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, proclaim as follows:

WHEREAS, the State is in the middle of the 2026 central Pacific hurricane season. The National Weather Service has forecast between 5 to 13 tropical cyclones across the central Pacific between June 1 and November 30, 2026. The National Weather Service has also forecast between 15 to 22 named storms across the eastern Pacific, including 9 to 14 hurricanes;

WHEREAS, tropical cyclone activity usually peaks in the central Pacific in August and September;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has also maintained an El Nino advisory. El Nino is a climate pattern which brings warmer than usual sea surface temperatures in the eastern and central Pacific, increasing the risks of more frequent and stronger tropical cyclones that may impact the State;

WHEREAS, the State is still recovering from Tropical Storm / Hurricane Lala, which impacted the State starting around August 14, 2026, and continued through around August 16, 2026. Lala caused loss of life, and significant damage to power, transportation, communications, and other infrastructure, and to private property across the State;

WHEREAS, there are currently three named tropical cyclones in the Pacific: Hurricane Lowell, Hurricane Karina, and Tropical Storm Marie. Hurricane Lowell is a powerful category 5 hurricane with sustained maximum winds of 160 miles per hour;

WHEREAS, as of 11:00 a.m. on September 2, 2026, Lowell was approximately 445 miles south of Hilo and moving west. The National Weather Service forecasts that Lowell will make a sharp turn northward within days, and could potentially impact the State;

WHEREAS, it is critical that the State and counties have sufficient resources to clear debris, secure infrastructure, conduct emergency relief efforts, and take other measures to respond to and recover from Hurricane Lowell and other tropical cyclones that may impact the State; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSH GREEN, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, hereby declare the existence of a state of emergency under section 127A-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), because tropical cyclones pose an imminent danger or threat of an emergency or disaster in the State of Hawai'i. This Proclamation covers the entire State of Hawai'i and is intended to allow government to prepare for, respond to, and recover from:

- 1) Hurricane Lowell;
- 2) Hurricane Karina;
- 3) Tropical Storm Marie; and
- 4) any additional storms or other hazards that may exacerbate the impacts of these tropical cyclones or hinder recovery efforts.

I further authorize and invoke the following emergency provisions, if not already in effect upon this declaration of an emergency:

I. Invocation of Laws

Section 121-30, HRS. I authorize and direct the Adjutant General to activate such units of the Hawai'i National Guard as may be necessary to assist and aid civilian authorities in disaster relief and in averting any imminent public danger and threat and to ensure the compliance with the civil laws of the State of Hawai'i.

Subsection 127A-12(b)(5), HRS, to ensure that public property of the State is available to support the government's emergency preparation, response, and recovery operations.

Subsection 127A-12(b)(13), HRS. I require each public utility, or any person owning, controlling, or operating a critical infrastructure, to protect and safeguard the property and infrastructure, or to provide for its protection and safeguarding; protecting or safeguarding may include regulating or prohibiting public entry, or permitting entry on terms and conditions as I may prescribe.

Subsection 127A-12(b)(16), HRS. I direct all state agencies and officers to cooperate and extend their services, materials, and facilities as may be required to assist in emergency response efforts.

Section 127A-16, HRS. I activate the Major Disaster Fund.

II. Suspension of Laws

I suspend the following specific provisions of law, as allowed by federal law, under subsections 127A-12(b)(8) and 127A-13(a)(3), HRS, to the extent that the law impedes or tends to impede or is detrimental to the expeditious and efficient execution of, or conflicts with, emergency functions, including laws which by this chapter specifically are made applicable to emergency personnel:

Chapter 6E, HRS, **historic preservation**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Section 37-41, HRS, **appropriations to revert to state treasury; exceptions**, to the extent that appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year before completion of the emergency actions.

Subsection 37-74(d), HRS, **program execution**, except for subsections 37-74(d)(2) and 37-74(d)(3), HRS, and any such transfers or changes considered to be authorized transfers or changes for purposes of section 34-74(d)(1) for legislative reporting requirements, to the extent that legislative authorization would likely delay appropriation transfers or changes between programs to provide necessary funding to complete the emergency actions.

Section 40-66, HRS, **lapsing of appropriations**, to the extent that the timing of the procurement of the construction of the emergency permanent repairs may occur the fiscal year following the original emergency proclamation.

Chapter 46, HRS, **county organization and administration, provisions applicable to all counties, general provisions**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 89, HRS, **collective bargaining in public employment**, to the extent that compliance with this chapter requires additional time detrimental to the expeditious and efficient execution of emergency actions.

Chapter 89C, HRS, **public officers and employees excluded from collective bargaining**, to the extent that compliance with this chapter requires additional time detrimental to the expeditious and efficient execution of emergency actions.

Section 103-2, HRS, **general fund**, to the extent that compliance results in any additional delays.

Section 103-53, HRS, **contracts with the State or counties; tax clearances, assignments**, only to the extent necessary to waive the Internal Revenue Service tax clearance requirement.

Section 103-55, HRS, **wages, hours, and working conditions of employees of contractors performing services**, to the extent that compliance results in any additional delays.

Chapter 103D, HRS, **Hawaii public procurement code**, to the extent that compliance results in any additional delays involved in meeting procurement requirements for selecting contractors in a timely manner to prepare for or respond to emergency situations.

Chapter 103F, HRS, **purchases of health and human services**, to the extent that compliance results in any additional delays involved in meeting procurement requirements for selecting contractors in a timely manner to prepare for or respond to emergency situations.

Chapter 104, HRS, **wages and hours of employees on public works**, to the extent that compliance with this chapter requires additional time detrimental to the expeditious and efficient execution of emergency actions.

Sections 105-1 to 105-10, HRS, **use of government vehicles, limitations**, to the extent that compliance with this chapter requires additional time detrimental to the expeditious and efficient execution of emergency actions.

Subsection 127A-16(a)(2), HRS, **major disaster fund**, only to suspend the \$10,000,000 limit on expenditures for a single emergency or disaster.

Section 127A-30, HRS, **rental or sale of essential commodities during a state of emergency; prohibition against price increases**, as it relates to this Proclamation and emergency. The invocations and suspensions of section 127A-30, HRS, contained in any other emergency proclamations are not affected by this Proclamation.

Paragraph (3) only of section 174C-71, HRS, **protection of instream uses – limited to stream channel alterations**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 179, HRS, **flood control and flood water conservation**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 179D, HRS, **dams and reservoirs**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 183C, HRS, **conservation district**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 195D, HRS, **conservation of aquatic life, wildlife, and land plants**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 205A, HRS, **coastal zone management**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 279A, HRS, **statewide transportation planning**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 342B, HRS, **air pollution control**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 342D, HRS, **water pollution**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 342E, HRS, **nonpoint source pollution management**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 342F, HRS, **noise pollution**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 342H, HRS, **solid waste pollution**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

Chapter 343, HRS, **environmental impact statements**, to the extent necessary to allow government agencies to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency.

III. Severability

If any provision of this Proclamation is rendered or declared illegal for any reason, or shall be invalid or unenforceable, such provision shall be modified or deleted, and the remainder of this Proclamation and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby but shall be enforced to the greatest extent permitted by applicable law.

IV. Enforcement

No provision of this Proclamation, or any rule or regulation hereunder, shall be construed as authorizing any private right of action to enforce any requirement of this Proclamation, or of any rule or regulation. Unless the Governor, Director of Emergency Management, or their designee issues an express order to a non-judicial public officer, no provision of this Proclamation, or any rule or regulation hereunder, shall be construed as imposing any ministerial duty upon any non-judicial public officer and shall not bind the officer to any specific course of action or planning in response to the emergency or interfere with the officer's authority to utilize his or her discretion.

///

///

///

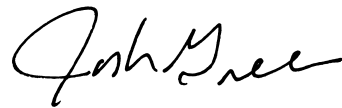
///

///

///

I FURTHER DECLARE that the disaster emergency relief period shall commence immediately and continue through November 1, 2026, unless terminated or superseded by separate proclamation, whichever shall occur first. Following the termination of a disaster emergency relief period, any contracts, agreements, procurements, programs, or employment of personnel entered into, started, amended, or continued by reason of the provisions of the proclamation relating to this emergency shall continue in full force and effect to the extent allowed by law.

Done at the State Capitol, this
2nd day of September 2026



JOSH GREEN M.D.,
Governor of Hawai'i

APPROVED:

Anne E. Lopez

ANNE E. LOPEZ
Attorney General
State of Hawai'i