

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

**THIRD PROCLAMATION RELATING TO
THE 2026 WILDFIRE SEASON**

By the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Hawai'i, I, Josh Green, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, hereby determine, designate and proclaim as follows:

WHEREAS, wildfires are high-risk threats to the people of Hawai'i, as shown by the catastrophic wildfire that destroyed the town of Lahaina in August 2023;

WHEREAS, dry brush is widespread throughout the State and provides a fuel source for future wildfires;

WHEREAS, during the 2025 wildfire season, multiple wildfires ignited throughout the State, including two on Oahu which resulted in residential evacuations and one fatality. Emergency proclamations were issued for both Oahu wildfires which required significant government resources to protect public health and safety, property, and natural resources;

WHEREAS, the warmest months in Hawaii are typically June through September. Abnormally dry conditions exist in portions of the State;

WHEREAS, vegetation growth following multiple storms and heavy rains this year continue to dry out as temperatures increase. High winds from approaching and passing tropical cyclones also increase the risk of wildfires. This risk will likely continue through the 2026 hurricane season. Considerable government resources are required to mitigate these risks and to contain such wildfires as they ignite to protect the life, health, and safety of the public;

WHEREAS, even small wildfires may quickly intensify and expand to threaten entire communities, requiring widespread evacuations and government response;

WHEREAS, abnormally dry conditions, high summer temperatures, increased fuel loads, high winds from tropical cyclones and other conditions conducive to wildfire formation and intensification constitute an imminent danger and threat of an emergency or disaster throughout the State;

WHEREAS, multiple wildfires have occurred this summer, including a large wildfire that ignited in the South Kohala area around Saturday, July 25, 2026;

WHEREAS, a large wildfire ignited on Maui and required the village of Olowalu to be evacuated on Saturday, September 26, 2026. High winds and dry conditions also led to a Public Safety Power Shutoff in West Maui the following day;

WHEREAS, it is critical that the State be prepared to rapidly deploy personnel and resources such as the National Guard to assist the counties whenever new wildfires ignite and threaten life, safety, or property; and

WHEREAS, it is also critical that the Major Disaster Fund be readily available to fund the government response to wildfires in the State;

WHEREAS, on June 4 and August 3, 2026, I issued my initial and Second Proclamations Relating to the 2026 Wildfire Season, respectively, which must be supplemented to allow continued and additional preparation, response, and recovery related to wildfires that may occur during the emergency period;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSH GREEN, M.D., Governor of the State of Hawai'i, hereby determine that an emergency or disaster contemplated by section 127A-14, HRS, is occurring in the State of Hawai'i, and to allow maximum flexibility in the use of State resources to respond to wildfires whenever and wherever they ignite in all counties, 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 necessary to assist civilian authorities in disaster relief and in averting any imminent public danger and threat and to ensure 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)(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 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:

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**, because the automatic application of this provision is not needed for this emergency. The invocations and suspensions of section 127A-30, HRS, contained in any other emergency proclamations are not affected by this Proclamation.

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 Saturday, November 28, 2026, unless terminated or superseded by separate proclamation, whichever shall occur first. This Proclamation supersedes my August 3, 2026, Second Proclamation Relating to the 2026 Wildfire Season. 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
29th 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