## DISASTER DECLARATION FOR THREAT OF WILDFIRES

**PROCLAMATION** 

2013-03

WHEREAS, Titus County has not had rainfall for an extended period and Weather forecasters offer little promise of a change in the dry conditions in the near future; and

WHEREAS, these hot, dry conditions pose the threat of large, dangerous and fast-moving wildfires: and,

WHEREAS, such fires have the potential of endangering lives and damaging property o a large scale; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 authorized declaration of a state of disaster "if the threat of disaster is imminent" and

WHEREAS, the magnitude of the potential damage and the rapidity at which such a fire could escalate to major proportions constitute an imminent threat of disaster; and

WHEREAS, declaration of such disaster authorized the imposition of controls on activities which tend to increase the likelihood of fires; and

WHEREAS, such controls, once implemented, have the potential of protecting lives and property by mitigating the threat of dangerous fires;

BE IT THEREFORE PROCLAIMED, that I Brian Lee, County Judge of Titus County, do hereby declare a state of disaster based on the threat of large wildfires in Titus County, Texas; and

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that this state of disaster will continue until rescinded in accordance with the above statute and order, but in no instance will this declaration continue for more than seven days without authorization by the Titus County Commissioners Court;

BE IT ALSO PROCLAIMED that this state of disaster is being declared solely for the purpose of implementing controls aimed at mitigating the hazard posed by wildfires during the current dry weather.

BE IT ALSO ORDERED THAT the purpose of this order is the mitigation of the hazard posed by wildfires by curtailing the practice of outdoor burning, which purpose is to be taken into account in any enforcement action based upon this order

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I affix my signature this 26th day of August, 2013.

**Titus County Judge**