

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

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EMERGENCY ORDER 2026-10

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**AN EMERGENCY ORDER ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY AND IMPOSING A BURN BAN IN BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA PURSUANT TO SECTION 252.38, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Bradford County, Florida codified in Chapter 26 of the Bradford County Code of Ordinances (“the Code”) the authority to invoke the powers provided for in Chapter 252, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 26-8(a) of the Code, the County Commission granted authority to the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners to declare a state of local emergency from time to time when it is determined that conditions exist giving rise to such a declaration; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 26-8(d) of the Code, authorizes emergency declarations include the prohibition of open fires and other burn restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the Keetch-Byram Drought Index, a soil moisture measurement in which a measurement of 400 denotes a significant danger of fire, and has Bradford County currently measured at 591, with drought conditions expected to remain high to very high for the month of February; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Drought Monitor is a joint effort of the National Drought Mitigation Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The U.S. Drought Monitor depicts the location and intensity of drought across the country using 5 classifications: Abnormally Dry (D0), showing areas that may be going into or are coming out of drought, and four levels of drought (D1–D4). The U.S. Drought Monitor denotes Bradford County Florida as: D1 – Moderate Drought 100%; and