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**State of Montana
Office of the Governor**



Executive Order No. 4-97

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EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING AN EMERGENCY
TO EXIST IN THE STATE OF MONTANA

12 WHEREAS, record winter snowfall has accumulated in all
13 Montana river drainages and related record snow water content
14 exists within the lower, mid-level, and higher elevation zones
15 snowpack; and

16 WHEREAS, data provided by members of the State Flood Task
17 Force predict a high probability of significant riverine
18 flooding occurring this spring; and

19 WHEREAS, the Flood Task Force predicts "average" amounts of
20 precipitation this spring would exceed the current flood of
21 record within several major river drainages; and

22 WHEREAS, any significant change in weather conditions
23 producing a rapid or prolonged warming trend, accompanied by
24 rain could lead to serious, immediate, flood conditions; and

25 WHEREAS, many local jurisdictions statewide have begun
26 serious efforts to organize resources to respond to flooding
27 events; and

28 WHEREAS, the availability and utilization of all necessary

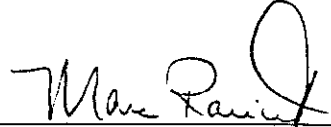
1 state government services, equipment and supplies under this
2 executive order will further the efforts to protect health and
3 safety and to preserve the lives, property and resources of the
4 people of the State of Montana; and

5 WHEREAS, an "emergency", as that term is defined in Section
6 10-3-103(6), MCA, means the imminent threat of a disaster
7 causing immediate peril to life or property that timely action
8 can avert or minimize, and, Section 10-3-311 authorizes the
9 Governor to expend funds from the general fund to meet
10 contingencies and needs arising from an emergency or disaster.


11 NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARC RACICOT, Governor of the State of
12 Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor
13 under the Constitution of the State of Montana, Title 10,
14 Chapter 3, MCA, and under other applicable statutes, do hereby
15 declare that an emergency exists in the State of Montana due to
16 the imminent threat of flooding.

17 This Order is effective immediately.
18

19 GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT
20 SEAL of the State of Montana,
21 this 12th day of March, 1997.

22 
23 _____
24 MARC RACICOT, Governor

24 ATTEST:

25 
26 _____
27 MIKE COONEY, Secretary of State