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**State of Montana**  
**Office of the Governor**



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**Executive Order No. 6-97**

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

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WHEREAS, above-average temperatures are beginning to melt the record winter snowpack in all major river drainages; and

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

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

WHEREAS, flood warnings and watches have been issued for many drainages in western Montana; and

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

WHEREAS, Broadwater County and the City of Townsend have requested direct state assistance to help reduce the threat of severe flooding in Townsend; and

WHEREAS, the Disaster and Emergency Services Division

1 continues to coordinate proactive flood preparation and response  
2 activities statewide; and

3 WHEREAS, the availability and utilization of all necessary  
4 state government services, equipment and supplies under this  
5 executive order will further the efforts to protect health and  
6 safety and to preserve the lives, property and resources of the  
7 people of the State of Montana; and

8 WHEREAS, a proclamation of an emergency authorizes the  
9 Governor, under section 10-3-104(2)(a), MCA, to suspend section  
10 2-18-501, MCA, to allow reasonable expenditures for food and  
11 lodging for activated National Guard and State agency personnel  
12 responding to an emergency; and

13 WHEREAS, an "emergency", as that term is defined in section  
14 10-3-103(6), MCA, means the imminent threat of a disaster  
15 causing immediate peril to life or property that timely action  
16 can avert or minimize, and, section 10-3-311 authorizes the  
17 Governor to expend funds from the general fund to meet  
18 contingencies and needs arising from an emergency or disaster.


19 NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARC RACICOT, Governor of the State of  
20 Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor  
21 under the Constitution of the State of Montana, Title 10,  
22 Chapter 3, MCA, and under other applicable statutes, do hereby  
23 declare that an emergency exists in the State of Montana due to  
24 the imminent threat of flooding.

25 This Order is effective immediately.

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3 GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT  
4 SEAL of the State of Montana,  
5 this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1997.

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8 MARC RACICOT, Governor

9 ATTEST:

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12 MIKE COONEY, Secretary of State