



GREGORY G. ITURRIA  
Interim Chief Administrative Officer

## BUTTE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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In collaboration with the Butte County Disaster Council, Police Chief's Association, Fire Chief's Association and the Butte County Fire Safe Council the Butte County Office of Emergency Management is releasing updated Evacuation Notification Categories and Traffic Closure Levels for use during emergencies or disaster events. The Evacuation Notification Categories have been updated to better mirror language changes at the State level. The new language should make it easier for citizens to respond accordingly during emergency or disaster events. Additionally, by adopting the language change, first responders responding to Butte County from other areas of the State will be familiar with the Evacuation Notification Categories and Traffic Closure Levels since the language has been approved by FIRESCOPE and the California Emergency Management Agency.

### **Butte County Evacuation Notification Categories & Traffic Closure Levels**

#### **Immediate Evacuation Order:**

Requires the immediate movement of people out of an affected area due to an imminent threat to life. Choosing to stay could result in loss of life. Staying may also impede the work of emergency personnel. Due to the changing nature of the emergency, this Immediate Evacuation Order may be the only warning that people in the affected area (s) receive.

#### **Evacuation Warning:**

Alerts people in an affected area (s) of potential threat to life and property. People who need additional time should consider evacuating at this time. An Evacuation Warning considers the probability that an area will be affected and prepares people for a potential Immediate Evacuation Order.

#### **Shelter-In-Place:**

Advises people to stay secure at their current location by remaining in place as evacuation will cause a higher potential for loss of life.



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### **Rescue:**

Emergency actions taken within the affected area to recover and remove injured or trapped citizens.

Responders have specific training and personal protective equipment necessary to accomplish the mission i.e., hazard material spill, swift-water rescue, etc.

Boundaries of the areas where rescue is planned should be identified on the incident map with notification that entry is restricted to rescue workers only.

### **Traffic Closure Levels:**

**Level 4** – Closed to all traffic, potential life hazard

**Level 3** – Closed to all traffic except emergency responders

**Level 2** – Closed to all traffic except emergency responders and critical resources i.e. public works, utilities and animal rescue

**Level 1** – Open to above resources and residents only

Note: Media has access to any natural disaster

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