OFFICE OF GOVERNOR BOB RILEY FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: APRIL 3, 2009

Governor Riley Amends State of Emergency Proclamation to include 7 additional Alabama Counties

MONTGOMERY - Governor Bob Riley today amended the State of Emergency Proclamation issued on March 30 to include 7 additional counties affected by the severe weather the state has experienced over the past several days.

Flood Damage has caused major problems to numerous homes and businesses in areas that were not included in the original proclamation.

The new affected counties are: Autauga, Bullock, Choctaw, Pike, Marengo, Perry, and Wilcox.

By amending the proclamation, the Governor authorizes the Alabama Emergency Management Agency to assist communities, make the appropriate assessments of damage and seek state and federal assistance for the new affected areas.

"I want everyone in the affected areas to know that the state is here to help. We are putting every resource available into place to protect our communities and save lives," said Governor Riley.

Director Brock Long and members of his staff will be visiting some of the impacted counties next week to make sure all county and municipal needs are met, as a result of recent severe weather.

"County emergency managers and their staff have been working non-stop to assist their residents, we want to reassure them that AEMA and a number of other state agencies are working to support their response and recovery needs," said Alabama Emergency Management Agency Director Brock Long. "We also want to remind residents we are in the heart of severe weather season and we are experiencing a heightened potential for tornadoes and flooding. It is really important to be prepared, for more information log on to www.ema.alabama.gov."

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For more information, contact the Governor's Press Office at 334-242-7150.