



STATE OF WASHINGTON
— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE —

EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

21-18

Severe Weather Damage

WHEREAS, a severe wind and rainstorm event that began on November 12, 2021, and is forecast to last several days is producing extensive flooding in Clallam, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, Lewis, King, Kitsap, Pierce, Mason, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, and Whatcom counties, causing hazardous conditions for the people of Washington, homes, property, businesses, agriculture, transportation systems, and the economy of Washington State; and

WHEREAS, a weather pattern that began on October 27, 2021 has resulted in saturated soils, which when combined with the significant precipitation during the event beginning on November 12, 2021, has created flooding conditions on multiple rivers, and forecasted rain along with anticipated rain and snow at mountain elevations are expected to exacerbate flooding conditions; and

WHEREAS, the severe storm with floods, landslides, mudslides, and the potential for straight-line winds is causing and is anticipated to cause road closures, the need to establish alternate transportation routes, evacuations, impacts to local utility services including significant power outages, localized reductions in available drinking water, and damage to homes and other public and private property and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, a number of landslides have already occurred covering roadways and other infrastructure, and an elevated risk of landslides will continue during and after the November 12, 2021, weather event subsides; and

WHEREAS, the flooding and wind damage is causing and is anticipated to cause injuries to the people of Washington and to severely affect the agriculture, supply chain, transportation infrastructure, and the economy throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the threat of damage from this situation and its effects impact the life and health of our people as well as the property and infrastructure of Washington State, all of which is a public disaster that affects life, health, property, or the public peace; and

WHEREAS, state agencies and local jurisdictions are coordinating resources to address damaged property and infrastructure, assess damage caused by the storms, and implement repairs; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Military Department has activated the State Emergency Operations Center to implement the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan* and is coordinating resources to support local jurisdictions in alleviating the immediate impacts to people, property, and infrastructure as a result of this disaster, and is continuing to assess impacts resulting from the incident.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay R. Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, as a result of the above-noted situation, and under Chapter 38.52 and 43.06 RCW, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency exists in Clallam, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, Lewis, King, Kitsap, Pierce, Mason, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, and Whatcom counties in the State of Washington, and direct the plans and procedures in the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan* be implemented. State agencies and departments are directed to utilize state resources and do everything reasonably possible to assist affected political subdivisions in an effort to respond to and recover from the event. Additionally, the Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division, with the support of the Washington National Guard's available resources, is instructed to coordinate all incident-related assistance to the affected areas.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington this 15th day of November, A.D. Two Thousand and Twenty-one at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/
Secretary of State