

## **EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR**

## 23-04

## **July Storm**

**WHEREAS**, on July 10, 2023, a severe thunderstorm producing heavy rain and lightning caused flash flooding and started multiple fires, resulting in damage to portions of US 2 and SR 28 in Douglas and Grant Counties; and

WHEREAS, heavy rain produced flash flooding along US 2 between MP 166 and 170, resulting in washouts along the ditch line, impacting the shoulder and travel lanes at multiple locations and requiring road closures and the implementation of detours in Douglas County; and

**WHEREAS**, the same storm produced lightning resulting in multiple fires, causing damage to guardrail, highway signs, and guideposts along SR 28 between MP 22 and 24, requiring temporary road closures in Douglas and Grant Counties; and

WHEREAS, the highway closures, approved as necessary by the Washington State Secretary of Transportation, caused, and continue to cause, limited access to affected roadways and will require the emergency procurement of a contractor(s) to repair the damage; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Transportation is coordinating resources and responses with other state and federal entities to repair the roadway and is currently working to implement repairs; and

WHEREAS, the road damage impacts the life and health of our citizens, as well as the property and transportation infrastructure of Washington State, all of which affect life, health, property, and the public peace, and constitute a public emergency demanding immediate action.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jay R. Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, as a result of the above-noted July 2023 storm and under Chapters 38.52 and 43.06 RCW, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency exists in Douglas and Grant Counties, 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 to do everything reasonably possible to assist affected political subdivisions to respond to and recover from the incident.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington this 24<sup>th</sup> day of July A.D., Two Thousand and twenty-three at Olympia, Washington.

	By:	
	Jay Inslee, Governor	
BY THE GOVERNOR:		
/s/		
Secretary of State		