



STATE OF WASHINGTON
— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE —

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

24-05

2024 Wildfires – Roadway Damage

WHEREAS, since July 17, 2024, Ferry, Klickitat, Skagit, and Yakima Counties have experienced abnormally dry weather conditions with periods of exceptionally high temperatures and high-risk fire fuel conditions conducive to wildfires; and

WHEREAS, numerous wildfires occurring in these areas and continuing to burn have caused damage to transportation infrastructure (i.e., guardrail post and railing, and roadway scarring) and required increased response activity (i.e., traffic control, installation of barricades and signage for road closures, and roadway debris removal) for Ferry, Klickitat, Skagit, and Yakima Counties; and

WHEREAS, to respond to the wildfires the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) approved necessary state highway route closures. These ongoing closures, necessitated by the emergency conditions continue to limit access to affected roadways for a significant period, and WSDOT is coordinating resources and response to clear and repair the roadways; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of response activities and roadway repairs as of the date of this Proclamation are over \$3,500,000 and expected to increase; and

WHEREAS, abnormally high wildfire potential is predicted to continue through the remainder of August, September, and October due to high-risk fuel conditions capable of producing multiple significant wildfires which would require the need for additional immediate response and necessitates prior planning, coordination, and resource positioning;

WHEREAS, the damage and its effects impact the life and health of our residents, 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 Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, as a result of the aforementioned situation and under Chapters 38.52 and 43.06 RCW, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency exists in Ferry, Klickitat, Skagit, and Yakima 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 in an effort to respond to and recover from the incident.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington this 16th day of August, A.D, Two Thousand and Twenty-Four at Olympia, Washington.

By

_____/s/_____
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

_____/s/_____
Secretary of State