



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
— OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE —

**EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR**

**23-03**

**SR 504 Landslide**

**WHEREAS**, on May 14, 2023, record high temperatures caused rapid snowmelt in the Cascade Mountains, resulting in a landslide occurring near Johnston Ridge Observatory that severely damaged a portion of SR 504 and demolished a bridge on SR 504 near milepost 49 in Skamania County, Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, the damage caused by the landslide requires repair to the damaged SR 504 roadway surface and replacement of the demolished SR 504 bridge over South Coldwater Creek/Spirit Lake Outlet Tunnel; and

**WHEREAS**, to effect the repairs and replacement, the Washington State Department of Transportation and other state and federal entities took emergency measures, closing SR 504 to all traffic in the affected area; and

**WHEREAS**, the highway closures, approved as necessary by the Washington State Secretary of Transportation, caused, and continues to cause, limited access to affected roadways and will require the emergency procurement of a contractor 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 bridge and is currently working to implement repairs; and

**WHEREAS**, the landslide 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 R. Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, as a result of the above-noted situation and under Chapters 38.52 and 43.06 RCW, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency exists in Skamania County 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 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 5th day of June A.D., Two Thousand and twenty-three at Olympia, Washington.

By:

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State