



## PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

17-04

**WHEREAS**, from March 10 through March 20, 2017, a series of severe storms struck Eastern Washington, producing extreme rainfall throughout the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the heavy rainfall from these storms compounded by existing soil saturation levels and early snowmelt, resulted in flooding, slope and streambank erosion, and landslides causing injuries, power outages, evacuations, road damage, temporary road closures and detours, and damage to homes, businesses, public utilities, public facilities, electrical power systems, infrastructure, and property, in addition to creating sheltering needs for impacted individuals, threatening fragile and at-risk populations, and jeopardizing the health and safety of people with special medical needs; and

**WHEREAS**, damage to roadways, caused by the storms resulted in temporary road closures limiting access to and complicating the provision of response and recovery efforts by emergency responders, businesses, and utilities to address the aftermath of these storms, requiring Washington's Secretary of Transportation to commence work immediately to repair affected roadways through the implementation of emergency procurement procedures to alleviate impacts to public safety; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the storm damage and its effects continue to impact the life and health of the 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**, the Washington State Military Department has activated the State Emergency Operations Center, implemented emergency response procedures, is coordinating resources to support local officials in alleviating the immediate social and economic impacts to people, property, and infrastructure, and is continuing to assess the magnitude of the event.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jay R. Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, as a result of the above-noted situation and under Chapters 38.08, 38.52, and 43.06 RCW, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency exists in Adams, Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Columbia, Douglas, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend

