WHEREAS, a series of storms producing high winds and rain occurred in parts of western and central Washington from September 28, 2013, through October 1, 2013; and

WHEREAS, extreme rainfall from these storms resulted in saturated soils and slope erosion causing extensive damage to roadways in Cowlitz and Yakima counties causing road closures restricting access to the affected areas and affecting public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost to repair the damaged roads exceeds $800,000, requiring the approval of Washington’s Secretary of Transportation to commence work immediately to repair the affected roadways. Emergency conditions require closure of the affected roadways and implementation of emergency contract procedures; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Transportation and local jurisdictions are coordinating resources to repair the roadway, continuing to assess the damage caused by these storms, and working to implement damage repairs; and

WHEREAS, the roadway damage and its effects continue to impact the life and health of our citizens, as well as the property and transportation infrastructure of Washington State, and is a public disaster that affects life, health, property, or the public peace.

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 Cowlitz and Yakima 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 to do everything reasonably possible to assist affected political subdivisions in an effort to respond to and recover from the event.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the State of Washington this third day of October, A.D., Two Thousand and Thirteen at Olympia, Washington.

By:

/s/
Jay Inslee, Governor

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/
Secretary of State