



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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**PROCLAMATION BY THE LT. GOVERNOR**

14-04

**WHEREAS**, the month of July 2014 has been extremely dry, there are multiple ongoing wildfires throughout Eastern Washington, and current and projected weather conditions, in conjunction with existing and projected fire fuel conditions, present a continuing high risk of severe wildfires throughout all counties of Eastern Washington State; and

Additional new wildfires requiring the use of limited state and local firefighting resources have arisen today in Chelan, Klickitat and Okanogan Counties; and

Current weather forecasts predict continuing elevated temperatures and windy conditions throughout Eastern Washington for the next seven days with hot and dry conditions through August, which combined with the existing high risk fuel conditions support an active burning environment capable of producing significant multiple wildfires requiring the need for additional immediate response in all counties of Eastern Washington; and

The current availability of firefighting resources throughout the state of Washington and the western United States is extremely limited due to existing and projected fire conditions and activities throughout the region, and existing firefighting resources throughout the Pacific Northwest are committed, through mutual aid, to fighting over 100 existing fires; and

The threat to life and property from wildfires is extreme and could cause extensive damage to homes, public facilities, businesses, public utilities, and infrastructure impacting the life and health of our citizens throughout Eastern Washington, all of which affect life, health, property, or the public peace, and is a public disaster demanding immediate action; and

Because current firefighting resources may not be adequate to address the outbreak of simultaneous large wildfires resulting from the above noted conditions, the Washington National Guard and State Guard may be needed to assist local jurisdictions and state agencies throughout Eastern Washington with this public disaster and for the public health, safety and welfare; and

The Washington Military Department has activated the State Emergency Operations Center, implemented 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 wildfire danger resulting from existing high risk weather and fire fuel conditions; and

Governor Jay R. Inslee is currently outside the state of Washington and I am therefore the acting Governor pursuant to RCW 43.06.040.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Brad Owen, Lieutenant Governor of the state of Washington, pursuant to my authority under RCW 43.06.040, 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 Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman, and Yakima counties, and direct the plans and procedures of 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 incidents. As a result of this event, I also hereby order into active state service the organized militia of Washington State to include the National Guard and the State Guard, or such part thereof as may be necessary in the opinion of The Adjutant General, to perform such duties as directed by competent authority of the Washington Military Department in addressing this event. Additionally, the Washington State Emergency Operations Center is instructed to coordinate all incident-related assistance to the affected areas.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the state of Washington this fifteen day of July, A.D, Two Thousand and Fourteen at Olympia, Washington.

By:

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/s/  
Brad Owen  
Lieutenant Governor

BY THE LT. GOVERNOR:

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/s/  
Secretary of State