



PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

15-01

WHEREAS, from November 25 through December 12, 2014, Western Washington received record rainfall from multiple storms resulting in saturated soil and slope erosion throughout the area; and

WHEREAS, from January 4 through 6, 2015, another significant winter storm struck Western Washington, producing extreme rainfall and above normal temperatures throughout the lowlands and mountain snowpack elevations; and

WHEREAS, the heavy rainfall from this storm combined with unseasonable snowmelt compounded existing soil saturation resulted in flooding, additional slope erosion, and landslides causing extensive damage to roadways, road closures and restricted access to affected areas in Grays Harbor, King, Kittitas, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skagit, Wahkiakum, and Whatcom counties, affecting the life, health, and safety of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost to repair the damage to roads resulting from this storm exceeds \$3,000,000, and emergency conditions continue to necessitate temporary closure of and limited access to affected roadways, requiring the approval of Washington's Secretary of Transportation to commence work immediately to repair the affected roadways through the implementation of emergency procurement procedures to alleviate impacts to public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Transportation and local jurisdictions are coordinating resources to repair the roadways, 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 Grays Harbor, King, Kittitas, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skagit, Wahkiakum, and Whatcom Counties in the state of Washington, and direct the plans and procedures in the *Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan* be

