



**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

Before the Board of County Commissioners of Mason County, Washington

In the Matter of )  
Declaring a Disaster ) RESOLUTION NO. 76-97

WHEREAS, the Mason County Department of Emergency Services has reported to the Chairman, Board of County Commissioners, that during the period from December 26, 1996 through March 28, 1997, unusually heavy, warm rains and melting snow pack have caused rivers, lakes, and streams to rise well above their normal high water levels throughout Mason County; and

WHEREAS, extensive damage has occurred and is still occurring due to the subsequent flooding, mudslides and erosion affecting Public Utilities, roads, homes, businesses, farm lands, river banks and dikes; and

WHEREAS, persons and property, both public and private, are and will be damaged unless further efforts are taken to reduce this continuing threat to life and property; and

WHEREAS, there is a continuing emergency present on several bodies of water in Mason County, including the Skokomish River which necessitates activation of the Mason County Emergency Operations Plan and utilization of emergency powers granted pursuant to RCW 38.52 and County Ordinance No. 56-96; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

**SECTION 1**

That it is hereby declared that there is an emergency/disaster due to the conditions in Mason County; therefore, designated departments are authorized to enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to combat such emergency to protect the health and safety of persons and property, and provide emergency assistance to the victims of such disaster.

**SECTION 2**

Each designated department is authorized to exercise the powers vested under Section 1 of this resolution in the light of the demands of an extreme emergency situation without regard to time consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements).

DATED this 15th day of July, 1997.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Mary Jo Cady  
Chairperson

John Boland  
Commissioner

Guthrie Olson  
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Deirdre Zorn  
Clerk of the Board