EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 12-01

DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN BENTON, COOS, LINCOLN AND MARION COUNTIES DUE TO SEVERE WINTER WEATHER

Pursuant to ORS 401.165, I find that severe winter weather including heavy snow, freezing rain, torrential rain, snow melt, and record flooding have resulted in a threat to life safety and property damage in Benton, Coos, Lincoln, and Marion Counties beginning on January 17, 2012 and continuing. These conditions have resulted in evacuations of more than 200 residents, road closures, stranded motorists, flooded buildings and homes, power outages and many areas of inaccessibility.

In Benton, Coos, Lincoln, and Marion Counties, recent snow, ice, heavy rain and record flooding have made a significant number of roads inaccessible to emergency vehicles or emergency related vehicles. There are immediate life, health, and safety issues caused by this severe winter weather and requests for additional labor, supplies, and equipment.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. The Oregon Military Department’s Office of Emergency Management shall implement the State’s Emergency Operations Plan, and coordinate with state and local agencies impacted by this severe winter weather event.

2. The Oregon National Guard shall provide the necessary manpower and equipment required to respond to requests from counties received by Oregon Emergency Management to facilitate response to this severe winter weather event.

3. The Oregon Department of Transportation shall provide the necessary manpower and equipment required to respond to requests from affected counties received by Oregon Emergency Management or in place mutual aid agreements to facilitate response to this severe winter weather event.

4. Oregon Emergency Management shall coordinate all other appropriate agencies of the State of Oregon in using personnel, supplies, and equipment required in response to this severe winter weather event;
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5. All other departments are directed to coordinate and assist as needed with
assessment and mitigation activities to address current and projected
conditions.

This emergency is declared only for Benton, Coos, Lincoln, and Marion
Counties. Other counties may be added to the declaration at a later time.

These findings were made verbally on January 19, 2012 at 3:36 p.m.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 20 day of January, 2012.

John A. Kitzhaber, MD
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Kate Brown
SECRETARY OF STATE