# Two Counties Added to Major Disaster Declaration for Washington

**Release Date: May 24, 2017**

**LAKEWOOD, Wash.** – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced that federal disaster aid under the Public Assistance program has been made available to two additional counties in Washington to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the areas affected by severe winter storms, flooding, landslide and mudslides January 30 – February 22.

The President's April 21, 2017, disaster declaration for Washington was amended to make Public Assistance program funding available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis in Ferry and King counties for debris removal, emergency protective measures and the repair or replacement of damaged facilities.

Adams, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Grant, Lewis, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Skamania, Spokane, Wahkiakum, Walla Walla, and Whatcom counties were previously approved for federal disaster assistance through the Public Assistance program, which is funded by FEMA and administered by the state.

Public Assistance funding for the state and designated counties may include payment of not less than 75 percent of the eligible costs for debris removal and emergency protective measures taken to save lives and protect property and public health as a result of severe winter storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides. Emergency protective measures assistance is available to state and eligible local governments on a cost-sharing basis including direct federal assistance.

Application procedures for state and local governments will be explained at a series of federal/state applicant briefings with locations to be announced in the affected area by recovery officials. Approved public repair projects are paid through the state from funding provided by FEMA and other participating federal agencies.

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*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-FEMA (3362). If you are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability loss and use a TTY, call 800-462-7585 directly; if you use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS), call 800-621-3362.*

*FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. Follow us on Twitter at* 32T*www.twitter.com/FEMARegion10*2T*.*