

CENTRAL COUNCIL Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

Office of the President • Edward K. Thomas Building 9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

Executive Council of the Central Council TLINGIT & HAIDA INDIAN TRIBES OF ALASKA

Resolution EC 24-87

Title: Disaster Declaration Related to August 6, 2024 Glacial Dam Outburst Flooding

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 37,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, under Article X of the Tlingit & Haida Constitution, the Executive Council is the governing body of Tlingit & Haida when the Tribal Assembly is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Assembly is not in session; and

WHEREAS, under Article VII(1)(o) of the Constitution, the governing body of Tlingit & Haida has the governmental authority to enact resolutions, regulations, and statutes to safeguard and promote the peace, health, safety and general welfare of the Tribe in conformance with applicable tribal or federal law; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida provides government services, including emergency and disaster response, within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida's jurisdiction includes the geographic area in and around Juneau, Alaska, a recognized community under the Tlingit & Haida Rules of Elections; and

WHEREAS, Juneau, Alaska, experienced unprecedented flooding along the Mendenhall River, with glacial outburst flooding (also known as jökulhlaups) in Mendenhall River; and

WHEREAS, the unprecedented flood waters released crested at record levels of 15.99 feet in the early morning of August 6, 2024, and has inundated public infrastructure and private property; and

WHEREAS, there have been significant impacts to homes and vehicles, with people evacuated from their residences and facing potential displacement due to water and mold damage; and

WHEREAS, there has also been the potential release of hazardous materials like petroleum; and

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WHEREAS, assistance, including financial assistance, is needed to respond to and address the severity and magnitude of the damage caused and support efforts to respond to and recover from this flooding; and

WHEREAS, on August 6, 2024, President Richard J. Peterson activated the Tribal Emergency Operations Center (TEOC) to take immediate steps to support Tribal citizens impacted by the flooding; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida is actively responding to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its Tribal citizens, employees, and neighboring general public within its jurisdiction including keeping those people apprised of the status of the glacial dam outburst flooding, communicating notices and evacuation recommendations as appropriate; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida has reached its capacity to respond to the ongoing disaster in order to protect lives, property, public health, and safety; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida finds it necessary to formally declare a disaster related to the August 6, 2024 glacial dam outburst flooding in order to coordinate an effective and timely response to the ongoing emergency and to take advantage of the federal and state resources being made available to Indian Tribes pursuant to the Stafford Act and other sources of existing or future authority; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida finds it necessary to negotiate and enter into mutual aid agreements, memorandums of understanding, or cooperative agreements, with other governments such as the local, state, and federal governments, or other entities to provide assistance and respond to the August 6, 2024 glacial dam outburst flooding; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida finds it necessary to seek federal and state resources and negotiate and enter into the necessary agreements with federal and state authorities to make such funding available to the Tlingit & Haida for preparedness, response, post-response, and loss mitigation activities undertaken by Tlingit & Haida related to the August 6, 2024 glacial dam outburst flooding;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska hereby declares a disaster in the community of Juneau, Alaska related to August 6, 2024 glacial dam outburst flooding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida activated its governmental emergency response plan and directs the assets and personnel of the Tribe in such a manner as to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Tlingit & Haida, its citizens, employees, and neighboring general public within its jurisdiction; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Tlingit & Haida authorizes the President to negotiate and execute any mutual aid agreements, memorandums of understanding, or cooperative agreements with federal, state or local governments or other entities to provide assistance to respond to the August 6, 2024 glacial dam outburst flooding; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida will, as necessary, seek additional resources for preparedness, prevention, response, and post-response activities and claims.

ADOPTED this 7th day of August 2024, by the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, by a vote of 5 yeas, 1 nays, 0 abstentions and 0 absences.

AMENDED this 12th day of August 2024, by the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, by a vote of 6 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions and 0 absences.

CERTIFY

President Richard J. Peterson

ATTEST

Tribal Secretary Jacqueline L. Pata