



CENTRAL COUNCIL  
*Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska*  
Office of the President • Edward K. Thomas Building  
9097 Glacier Highway • Juneau, Alaska 99801

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

Resolution EC 25-123

Title: Declaration of Imminent Threat Related to Anticipated 2025 Glacial Lake Outburst  
Flooding

WHEREAS, the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (Tlingit & Haida) is a federally recognized tribe with more than 38,000 citizens; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 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 V(1)(a) of the Constitution, the governing body is empowered to enact and enforce laws and ordinances governing and regulating the territory of the Tribe and all persons and activities within the territory of the Tribe, including promoting the peace, health, and safety of the Tribe, its wildlife and natural resources and providing for the general welfare of the Tribe and its citizens; 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 Election and the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazards Mitigation Plan (MJHMP); and

WHEREAS, the Basin, which feeds the Mendenhall River (Woosh Il'óox'u Héen), is currently filling at an accelerated rate and has reached volume levels that, based on National Weather Service (NWS) scenario modeling, are consistent with or exceed the conditions that led to the catastrophic August 6, 2024, Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF), which crested at a record 15.99 feet; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 flood event caused widespread destruction to public infrastructure and private property, displaced residents, damaged vehicles, compromised subsistence resources, and increased the risk of hazardous material exposure; and

WHEREAS, the NWS and the Alaska-Pacific River Forecast Center are actively issuing scenario-based flood forecasts indicating that a significant outburst from Suicide Basin is imminent, and in response, Tlingit & Haida has proactively initiated preparedness and public safety coordination measures in anticipation of potential overtopping of the Woosh Il'óox'u Héen; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida, in Unified Command with the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ), has activated the joint Emergency Operations Center and implemented the Preparedness Phase of its emergency operations plan, with collaborative actions guided by the 2025 GLOF Annex and the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida and CBJ operate under a standing Memorandum of Understanding supporting public safety coordination and joint response capabilities, including information sharing, resource mobilization, and joint planning; and

WHEREAS, the strength of this intergovernmental partnership positions both governments to take early, unified action prioritizing the protection of life, property, and culturally significant resources; 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, early declaration of an imminent threat under this Unified Command structure enables Tlingit & Haida to ensure a coordinated and timely response, document emergency costs, and access state and federal emergency assistance as authorized under the Stafford Act and other intergovernmental authorities; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida is actively working to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens, employees, and the neighboring public through direct communication, evacuation planning, and public safety coordination related to the anticipated flooding event; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida finds it necessary to formally declare a disaster related to the imminent threat of a 2025 glacial dam outburst in order to facilitate effective response and fully access available state and federal disaster relief mechanisms; and

WHEREAS, Tlingit & Haida must secure and administer emergency and mitigation resources including potential funding through the State of Alaska and FEMA in support of preparedness, response, recovery, and risk reduction measures tied to the 2025 event;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska hereby declares an *Imminent Threat of Disaster* in the community of Juneau, Alaska, related to the anticipated August 2025 Glacial Lake Outburst Flood; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Tlingit & Haida affirms activation of its emergency response protocols and directs Tribal resources and personnel to take necessary actions to protect the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens, employees, and the broader community within its jurisdiction; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Tlingit & Haida authorizes its President or designee to negotiate, activate, and implement mutual aid agreements, memorandums of understanding, or cooperative agreements with federal, state, and local governments or other entities to support preparedness, response, and recovery related to the anticipated 2025 flood event; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Tlingit & Haida will seek and apply additional resources, as necessary, for prevention, emergency response, post-response recovery, and mitigation efforts resulting from the anticipated Glacial Lake Outburst Flood.

ADOPTED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of August 2025, by the Executive Council of the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, by a vote of 5 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstention and 0 absences.

**CERTIFY**

  
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President

**ATTEST**

  
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Tribal Secretary

Tribal Secretary