

STATE OF ALASKA
DECLARATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, beginning on August 23rd and continuing through September 6, 2023, an atmospheric river event caused flooding and riverbank destruction at the confluence of the Susitna River, Chulitna River, and Talkeetna River in the community of Talkeetna within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, resulting in property destruction and infrastructure damage.

WHEREAS, the community of Talkeetna and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough engaged in flood response operations; and

WHEREAS, on September 12, 2023, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough declared a local disaster emergency for flooding, riverbank, and property destruction and requested State assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is a political subdivision of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, due to the flooding, the following conditions exist: damage to Borough and community property, damage to public infrastructure, and emergency response costs; and

WHEREAS, the severity and magnitude of this emergency are beyond the timely and effective response and recovery capability of local resources, and there are insufficient regularly appropriated local funds to cover these requirements.


THEREFORE, on this 2nd day of October 2023, under authority granted by Alaska Statute 26.23.020(c), I hereby declare that a condition of disaster emergency exists in the community of Talkeetna within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and this condition is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a disaster declaration to provide assistance.

FURTHER, the Commissioner of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) is hereby authorized to utilize funds made available for these purposes, which are considered necessary for disaster assistance to include disaster public assistance. State funds are proposed to be spent under AS 26.23.020(i) and (k) and AS 26.23.050. The Commissioner of DMVA, or his designee, is the designated State Coordinator and is further authorized to task, as necessary, State departments and agencies in accordance with the State Emergency Operations Plan and is further authorized to exercise, as necessary, the provisions provided under Alaska Statutes 26.23.020(g)(1), (2), and (3).

FURTHER, for the duration of this proclamation and under authority of AS 26.23.020(g)(1) and (7), I specifically order the suspension of those provisions of Alaska Statutes and regulations relating to any requirement to (a) obtain a lease from another State agency prior to entry upon the land; (b) obtain a permit, including land use permits and right of way permits, from another State agency prior to entry upon land; (c) obtain Water Use Permits or rights, including temporary rights, from another State agency prior to utilizing such resources; (d) obtain Fish Habitat Permits or Special Area Permits from another State agency; (e) obtain Wastewater Disposal Permits from another State agency; (f) obtain Section 106 Reviews pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 from another State agency; provided that the foregoing

suspensions do not apply to any specific provision the suspension of which would create a violation of federal law or a violation of a requirement for the provision of federal emergency funding, and the foregoing suspensions may be supplemented by my further order to the Commissioner of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

By:



Mike Dunleavy
Governor