

STATE of ALASKA  
DECLARATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, beginning on April 28, 2009, and continuing to date, excessive snow pack and ice thickness throughout Interior and Northwest Alaska combined with rapid spring warming has caused ice jams and severe flooding in the communities of Crooked Creek, Red Devil, Sleetmute, Aniak, and Napaimiut in the Kuskokwim River Drainage; Eagle in the Yukon River Drainage; Salcha and North Pole in the Tanana River Drainage; Kobuk in the Kobuk River Drainage; Chalkyitsik in the Porcupine River Drainage; and Chistochina in the Copper River Drainage; and along the Alaska Railroad in the Susitna River Drainage; and these severe conditions have caused an imminent threat of further severe flooding and ice jam damage for areas along the Yukon, Tanana, Kuskokwim, Susitna, Porcupine, Kobuk, Copper rivers; and Kotzebue Sound and Seward Peninsula River Drainages;

WHEREAS, the communities of Crooked Creek, Red Devil, Sleetmute, Aniak, Napaimiut, Eagle, Salcha, North Pole, Kobuk, Chalkyitsik, and Chistochina are political subdivisions within the State of Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, the following conditions exist as a result of this disaster: severe damage to personal residences requiring evacuations and sheltering of the residents, to other personal and real property of individuals and businesses, and to public infrastructure; ongoing threats to life and safety; and imminent threat of further flooding and ice jams causing a threat to life and property with potential for further damage necessitating emergency protective measures and temporary repairs; and,

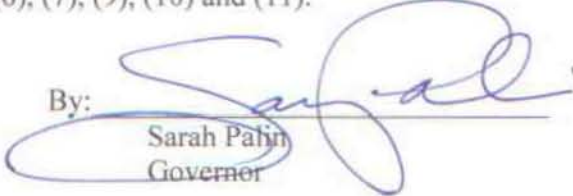
WHEREAS, the severity and magnitude of the emergency are beyond the timely and effective response and recovery capability of local resources, and repairs and emergency assistance are required; and,

WHEREAS, there are insufficient regularly appropriated funds to cover these requirements;

NOW THEREFORE, on this 6th day of May, 2009, under authority granted by the Alaska Statutes, Section 26.23.020(c), I hereby declare that a condition of disaster emergency exists in the Yukon, Tanana, Kuskokwim, Susitna, Porcupine, Kobuk, Copper River drainages; and Kotzebue Sound and Seward Peninsula River drainages; to include the communities of Crooked Creek, Red Devil, Sleetmute, Aniak, Napaimiut, Eagle, Salcha, North Pole, Kobuk, Chalkyitsik, and Chistochina; and that this condition is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a disaster declaration in order to provide assistance.

FURTHER, the director of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) is hereby authorized to utilize funds made available for these purposes which are considered necessary for disaster assistance, including disaster public assistance, individual assistance, and temporary housing, and necessary administrative and disaster management expenses. State funds are proposed to be spent under AS 26.23.020 (i) and AS 26.23.050. The director of DHS&EM is the designated state coordinator, and, is further authorized to task, as necessary, the state departments and agencies in accordance with the State Emergency Response Plan; and is further authorized to exercise, as necessary, the provisions provided under Alaska Statutes, Section 26.23.020 (g)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (9), (10) and (11).

By:

  
Sarah Palin  
Governor