



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 15-05**

**DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN  
DESCHUTES, GRANT, JACKSON, JOSEPHINE, LANE, MORROW,  
UMATILLA, AND WASCO COUNTIES DUE TO DROUGHT, LOW  
SNOW PACK LEVELS, AND LOW WATER CONDITIONS**

At the request of Deschutes County (by Declaration 2015-038 dated April 29, 2015), Grant County (by Resolution 2015-06 dated April 29, 2015), Jackson County (by Order 61-15 dated May 13, 2015), Josephine County (by Resolution 2015-017 dated May 6, 2015), Lane County (by Order 15-05-12-07 dated May 12, 2015), Morrow County (by Resolution R-2015-4 dated May 6, 2015), Umatilla County (by Order BCC2015-048 dated April 28, 2015), and Wasco County (by Resolution 15-003 dated May 20, 2015), and based on the recommendations of the Drought Council and the Water Availability Committee, and pursuant to ORS 401.165 and ORS 536.740, I find that continuing dry conditions, low snowpack, and lack of precipitation have caused natural and economic disaster conditions in Deschutes, Grant, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wasco Counties.

Projected precipitation and climatic conditions are not expected to alleviate the continuing drought conditions, and the drought is having significant economic and other impacts on communities and on agricultural, livestock, and natural resources in Deschutes, Grant, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wasco Counties.

The dry conditions present hardships for these communities: crops, agricultural and other economic interests are at risk; animals and plants that rely on Oregon's surface water supplies are threatened; and the risk of wildfires across the state is greatly increased. Current conditions are being monitored and analyzed by state agencies including the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Water Resources, and the Oregon Office of Emergency Management.

A timely response to the drought conditions is vital to the safety of persons, property and economic security of the citizens and businesses of Deschutes, Grant, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wasco Counties. I am therefore declaring that a continuing drought emergency exists in Deschutes, Grant, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wasco Counties, and directing the following actions.



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**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DIRECTED:**

- I. The Oregon Department of Agriculture is directed to coordinate and provide assistance in seeking federal resources to mitigate drought conditions and assist in agricultural recovery in Deschutes, Grant, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wasco Counties.
- II. The Department of Water Resources and the Water Resources Commission are directed to coordinate and provide assistance to water users in Deschutes, Grant, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wasco Counties as they determine is necessary and appropriate in accordance with ORS 536.700 to 536.780.
- III. The Office of Emergency Management is directed to coordinate and assist as needed with assessment and mitigation activities to address current and projected conditions in Deschutes, Grant, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wasco Counties.
- IV. All other state agencies are directed to coordinate with the above agencies and to provide appropriate state resources as determined necessary to assist affected political subdivisions, water users and other affected interests including fish, wildlife and recreational interest in Deschutes, Grant, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wasco Counties.



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V. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2015.

Done at Salem, Oregon this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2015.



Handwritten signature of Kate Brown in blue ink.

KATE BROWN  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Jeanne P. Atkins in blue ink.

Jeanne P. Atkins  
SECRETARY OF STATE