

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 01 - 04

DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN WASCO COUNTY DUE TO CONDITIONS CAUSED BY DROUGHT, LOW WATER CONDITIONS, AND ENERGY SHORTAGES IN THE WESTERN STATES.

Pursuant to ORS 401.055, I find that the weather pattern, ongoing drought and low water conditions, and the energy shortages in the western states have the imminent potential for causing a natural and economic disaster of catastrophic proportions. It is anticipated that the projected outlook will not significantly alleviate the current conditions, and that they will continue to worsen during the summer months. This will have profound consequences on the county's agricultural and natural resources, as well the likelihood for stark energy and economic impacts.

Current conditions are being addressed by state agencies including the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Water Resources, and the Department of State Police and its Office of Emergency Management.

A timely response to this situation being vital to the well being and economic security of the citizens and businesses of Wasco County, I am therefore declaring a "state of drought emergency" and directing the following activities;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DIRECTED:

I. The Oregon Department of Agriculture is directed coordinate assistance in seeking federal resources available to mitigate conditions and effect agricultural recovery.

II. The Department of Water Resources is directed to coordinate and provide assistance and regulation it determines necessary in accordance with ORS 536.700 to 536.780.

III. The Department of State Police Office of Emergency Management is directed to coordinate and assist as needed with assessment and mitigation activities to address current and projected conditions.

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IV. All other departments are directed to coordinate with the above agencies and to provide appropriate state resources as determined essential to assist affected political subdivisions.

Done at Salem, Oregon this ____ day of _____, 2001.

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Bill Bradbury
SECRETARY OF STATE