



County Court of Grant County
Judge Scott W. Myers
Commissioner Jim Hamsher
Commissioner Boyd Britton

March 14, 2018

Dr. Brenda Bateman
Technical Services Division Administrator
Oregon Water Resources Department
Co-Chair, Oregon Drought Readiness Council
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301
Via Email: brenda.o.bateman@oregon.gov

Ms. Sonya Andron
Operations and Preparedness Manager
Oregon Office of Emergency Management
Co-Chair, Oregon Drought Readiness Council
P.O. Box 14370
Salem, OR 97301
Via Email: Sonya.Andron@state.or.us

RE: Grant County Drought

Dr. Bateman and Ms. Andron:

Grant County, by and through its County Elected Officials, requests that the Governor of Oregon issue an executive order for all of Grant County under the provisions of ORS 536 as a direct result of severe and projected drought conditions.

There is the potential for the Grant County agricultural and livestock, natural resources, recreational, tourism, and related economies to experience widespread and severe damage resulting from extreme weather conditions within the county. Current predictions by NOAA are that seasonal drought within our region will persist or intensify and could dramatically increase wildland fire danger. Additionally, a large share of the county's economy is dependent upon the agriculture sector which is adversely affected by low rainfall. Our initial assessment of impacts indicates imminent and significant damages and losses to the agricultural economy of Grant County.

The county has already formally declared a drought, and has attached a copy of the adopted resolution for your files.

The Grant County Court has determined that additional action by and support from the state is needed. This may include assistance from the Oregon Water Resources Department and other Oregon executive branch agencies, operating within their statutory authorities.

The Grant County Court therefore requests an executive order from the Governor, declaring drought in Grant County.

We extend in advance our appreciation for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,



Scott W. Myers
County Judge



Jim Hamsher
Commissioner



Boyd Britton
Commissioner

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF GRANT

IN THE MATTER OF DECLARATION OF A LOCAL }
DISASTER AND REQUEST TO DECLARE A STATE }
DROUGHT EMERGENCY FOR GRANT COUNTY, }
OREGON }

RESOLUTION 18-06

THIS BEING the 14th day of March, 2018, and a day set aside for a regular meeting of the Grant County Court, and there being present County Judge Scott W. Myers, and County Commissioners Jim Hamsher and Boyd Britton.

WHEREAS, the County Court finds that agricultural and livestock industries, and related economy, are suffering widespread and severe economic damage, potential injuries and loss of property resulting from extreme weather conditions within Grant County; and

WHEREAS, a large share of Grant County's economy is dependent upon the agricultural and livestock sector which is adversely affected by low rainfall; and

WHEREAS, current predictions by NOAA are that seasonal drought within our region will persist or intensify; and

WHEREAS, continued drought conditions are dramatically increasing wildland fire intensity;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Grant County Court declares that a drought disaster exists within Grant County; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Grant County Court requests that the Governor of the State of Oregon declare a "state of drought emergency" for Grant County as well as seek a United States Department of Agriculture drought declaration for this county; and

BE IT EVEN FURTHER RESOLVED, that Grant County requests any and all assistance from Oregon's Water Resources Department and all other state agencies.

DONE AND DATED this 14th day of March, 2018.



Scott W. Myers, County Judge



Jim Hamsher, Commissioner



Boyd Britton, Commissioner