



DOUGLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CHRIS BOICE

TIM FREEMAN

1036 SE Douglas Ave., Room 217 → Roseburg, Oregon 97470

Dr. Brenda Bateman
Technical Services Division Administrator
Oregon Water Resources Department
Co-Chair, Oregon Drought Readiness Council
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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: Douglas County Drought

Date: June 6, 2018

Dr. Bateman and Ms. Andron:

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

There is the potential for the Douglas 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. The annual water supplies available for irrigators and ranchers within Douglas County are from winter snow pack which is significantly lower than normal in the Umpqua basin. Current predictions by NOAA are that seasonal drought within our region will persist or intensify and could dramatically increase wildland fire danger due to higher than normal temperatures and below average precipitation.

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 Douglas County.

Douglas County has already formally declared a drought, and has attached a copy of the that order for your files.

The Douglas County Board of Commissioners 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.

Douglas County Board of Commissioners therefore requests an executive order from the Governor, declaring drought in Douglas County.

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Chris Boice, Chair

Tim Freeman