



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 18-06

DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN HARNEY COUNTY DUE TO LOW SNOWPACK, PRECIPITATION, AND STREAMFLOW, AND WARMING TEMPERATURES

Pursuant to ORS 536.740, I find that the continuing low snowpack, lack of precipitation, low streamflows, and warming temperatures are likely to cause natural and economic disaster conditions in Harney County, resulting in a severe, continuing drought emergency in that county during 2018.

Forecasted water conditions are not expected to improve, and drought is likely to have significant economic impacts on agriculture, livestock, and natural resources in Harney County. Dry conditions will place agricultural and livestock investments at risk, threaten natural resources, and recreational and tourism activities, and subject the regional economy to widespread and severe damage.

Conditions are being monitored by the state's natural resource and public safety agencies, including the Oregon Water Resources Department and the Oregon Office of Emergency Management.

Preparation and timely response to drought are vital to the safety of persons, property, and the economic security of the citizens and businesses of Harney County. I therefore declare that a severe, continuing drought emergency exists in Harney County.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

- I. The Oregon Department of Agriculture is directed to coordinate and provide assistance in seeking federal resources to mitigate drought conditions and to assist in agricultural recovery in Harney County.
- II. The Oregon Water Resources Department and the Water Resources Commission are directed to coordinate and provide assistance to water users in Harney County as the Department and Commission determine is necessary and appropriate in accordance with ORS 536.700 to 536.780.



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- 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 Harney County.
- IV. All other state agencies are directed to coordinate with the above agencies and to provide appropriate state resources as needed to assist affected political subdivisions and water users in Harney County.
- V. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2018.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 24th day of May, 2018.



Kate Brown

Kate Brown
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Dennis Richardson

Dennis Richardson
SECRETARY OF STATE