



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-31
DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN DOUGLAS, GILLIAM, JOSEPHINE, CROOK, DESCHUTES, JEFFERSON AND WASCO COUNTIES DUE TO UNUSUALLY LOW WATER SUPPLIES AND HOT, DRY CONDITIONS

At the request of Douglas County (by Resolution 2020-0466 dated May 13, 2020), Gilliam County (by Resolution 2020-16, dated May 19, 2020) and Josephine County (by Resolution 2020-024 dated June 9, 2020), Crook County (by Resolution 2020-32), Deschutes County (by Resolution 2020-024 dated June 15, 2020), Jefferson County (by Resolution 003-20, dated June 3, 2020) and Wasco County (by Order 20-035 dated June 3, 2020), and based on the recommendations of the Drought Readiness Council and the Water Supply Availability Committee, and pursuant to ORS 536.740, I find the continuing dry conditions, low snowpack, and lack of precipitation have caused natural and economic disaster conditions in these seven counties.

Forecasted water supply conditions are not expected to improve, and drought is likely to have significant economic impacts on the farm, forest, recreation, drinking water, and natural resources sectors, as well as impacts on fish and wildlife and other natural resources which are dependent on adequate precipitation and streamflow in these areas. Extreme conditions have already affected local growers, and increased the potential for fire, a loss of economic stability, shortened growing season, and decreased water supplies.

Conditions continue to be 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 resiliency to drought are vital to the health and safety of persons, property, and the economic security of the citizens and businesses. I therefore declare that a severe, continuing drought emergency exists in Douglas, Gilliam, Josephine, Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson and Wasco counties.

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 Douglas, Gilliam, Josephine, Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson and Wasco counties.



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- II. The Oregon Water Resources Department and the Water Resources Commission are directed to coordinate and provide assistance to water users in Douglas, Gilliam, Josephine, Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson and Wasco counties as the Department and Commission determine is necessary and appropriate in accordance with ORS 536.700 to 536.780.
- III. The Oregon Water Resources Department is directed to seek information from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to help understand the impacts of water availability on Oregon's fish and wildlife, as necessary and appropriate in accordance with ORS 536.700 to 536.780.
- IV. 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 Douglas, Gilliam, Josephine, Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson and Wasco counties.
- V. 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 Douglas, Gilliam, Josephine, Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson and Wasco counties.
- VI. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2020.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 1st day of July 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Brown".

Kate Brown
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bev Clarno".

Bev Clarno
SECRETARY OF STATE

