

COUNTY OF BAKER
BOARD of COMMISSIONERS

DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER

WHEREAS, the County of Baker on this 7nd day of April, 2021 has determined that the Baker County agricultural industry, and related economy is suffering widespread and severe economic damage, potential injuries and loss of property resulting from extreme cyclical weather conditions within the county.

And

Baker County's has had an area in D3, Extreme Drought, since February 2, 2021.

And

Baker County has experienced several wind events that have caused localized dust storms which has continued to dry out the lower level elevations.

And

Baker County's precipitation is over 3.37 inches below normal for the water year beginning October 1, 2019.

And

Phillips Reservoir, the largest water reservoir in the county, is at 18% and contains 13,211 acre-feet, which is 13,180 acre-feet less than it did at the same time last year. Last year was 16,605 acre-feet below average and this year is 29,785 acre-feet below average at this time. There is also a large percentage of land in the county that is not under a stored water project.

And

These disaster conditions have resulted in loss of economic stability, and decreased water supplies for Baker County agricultural producers.

WHEREAS, the Baker County Board of Commissioners, have determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to alleviate the suffering of people and livestock and to protect or mitigate economic loss, and to be responsive to the threat of wildfires;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Baker County Board of Commissioners:

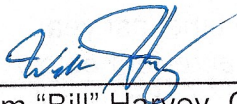
Section 1. That a local disaster is declared within Baker County.

- Section 2. That the Baker County EOP, Drought Annex plan has been implemented.
- Section 3. That a drought declaration under Oregon Revised Statute 563 be used to allow the Water Resources Department to use a number of water-related tools that include temporary drought permits to use groundwater.
- Section 4. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.
- Section 5. The Board of Commissioners, request that the Honorable Kate Brown, Governor, of the State of Oregon declare: "A Local Disaster and State of Emergency" exists in Baker County.

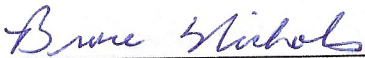
And

Request the Honorable, Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary, of the United States Farm Service Agency (FSA), to expedite assistance to local agricultural industries/producers who have suffered extensive and ongoing loss from the drought and associated wildfires

ORDERED this 7th day of April, 2021



William "Bill" Harvey, Chair
Board of Commissioners



Bruce Nichols
Commissioner



Mark Bennett
Commissioner