



I, Cheryl Seely, County Clerk for Crook County, Oregon, certify that the instrument identified herein was recorded in the Clerk records.

Cheryl Seely - County Clerk



**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF CROOK**

**IN THE MATTER OF:
DECLARATION OF LOCAL DROUGHT
AND REQUEST TO DECLARE A STATE OF
DROUGHT EMERGENCY FOR CROOK
COUNTY, OREGON**

**RESOLUTION
AND ORDER 2021-24**

WHEREAS, on this 5th day of May 2021, the Crook County Court finds that the Crook County agricultural and livestock industries, recreation, and related economies are suffering widespread and severe economic damage, potential injuries, and loss of property resulting from extreme weather conditions within the county; and

WHEREAS, annual water supplies available for irrigators and ranchers within Crook County are a function of winter snowpack for water storage in Ochoco and Prineville Reservoirs and natural flows in the Crooked River and its tributaries; and

WHEREAS, seasonal precipitation, from October 1, 2020 to present is less than 70% of the average, and April precipitation is less than 50% of the average, with National Drought Mitigation Center reports that Crook County is in D3 (Extreme Drought) in the west portion of the County and D2 (Severe Drought) in the east portion of the County as of April 22, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Prineville Reservoir storage is roughly one-third below the average and Ochoco Reservoir is roughly two-thirds below average storage; and

WHEREAS, Ochoco Reservoir's 11,700 acre-feet of storage is at or near the all-time low since constant record keeping began in 1980, with expected 2020-21 run-off at less than a third of the yearly average; and

WHEREAS, Prineville Airport has recorded just 2.62 inches of precipitation this crop water year (September to present), with a historical average in the area of around 10 inches; and

WHEREAS, the extended weather forecast for Crook County for the next three months projects a 33-40% chance of higher than normal temperatures and 40-50% chance of below average precipitation; and

WHEREAS, the above conditions result in loss of economic stability, pasture shortages, decrease in feed production, shortened growing season, reduction in recreational opportunities, and decreased water supplies for Crook County agricultural and livestock producers; and

WHEREAS, the Crook County Court determines that extraordinary measures must be taken to alleviate 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 Crook County Court that:

1. A severe, continuing drought is declared within Crook County.
2. Crook County drought Emergency Management Plan has been implemented.
3. Pursuant to ORS 536.720, we find that appropriate response is beyond the capability of Crook County. We are declaring a state of emergency for the purpose of assessment, evaluation and acquiring the ability to provide appropriate available resources.
4. **Request:** The Honorable Kate Brown, Governor of Oregon, declare a Drought Emergency for all of Crook County under the provisions of ORS 536.740 due to severe and continuing drought conditions beginning at this time and continuing for an unknown period of time; and direct the Oregon Department of Water Resources to make available in Crook County: Temporary Transfers of Water Rights, and Emergency Water Use Permits, and Use of Existing Right Option/Agreement; and other federal and state drought assistance and programs as needed.
5. This proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that this Order be filed in the Crook County Clerk's Office and that it be effective when so filed.

Adopted this 5th day of May 2021.

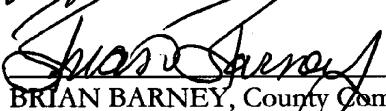
CROOK COUNTY COURT



SETH CRAWFORD, County Judge



JERRY BRUMMER, County Commissioner



BRIAN BARNEY, County Commissioner

<u>Vote:</u>	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Excused
Seth Crawford	___	___	___	___
Jerry Brummer	___	___	___	___
Brian Barney	___	___	___	___