



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 04 - 03**

**DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN MALHEUR COUNTY AND MORROW COUNTY DUE TO DROUGHT AND LOW WATER CONDITIONS.**

Pursuant to ORS 401.055, I find that ongoing drought and low water conditions and weather patterns have the potential to cause an imminent natural and economic disaster in Malheur County and Morrow County (the "Affected Counties"). Projected weather patterns are not expected to significantly alleviate the current conditions; drought conditions are continuing. These conditions are expected to have profound consequences on the Affected Counties' agricultural, livestock, and natural resources and are likely to result in stark economic impacts.

Current conditions are being addressed by state agencies including the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Water Resources, and Oregon Emergency Management.

A timely response to this situation being vital to the well being and economic security of the citizens and businesses of the Affected Counties, I am therefore declaring a "state of drought emergency" in the Affected Counties and directing the following activities;

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DIRECTED:**

I. The Oregon Department of Agriculture is directed to coordinate and provide assistance in seeking federal resources available to mitigate conditions and effect agricultural recovery in the Affected Counties.

II. The Department of Water Resources is directed to coordinate and provide assistance and regulation for the Affected Counties as it determines is necessary in accordance with ORS 536.700 to 536.780.

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 the Affected Counties.

IV. All other departments are directed to coordinate with the above agencies and to provide appropriate state resources as determined essential to assist affected political subdivisions in the Affected Counties.



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. EO 04-03  
PAGE TWO

V. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2004

Done at Salem, Oregon this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2004

  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

  
SECRETARY OF STATE

