

**IN THE MATTER OF DECLARING )  
A STATE OF EMERGENCY WITHIN )  
KLAMATH COUNTY )**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-016**

**WHEREAS**, annual water supplies available for irrigators and wildlife refuges within Klamath County are a function of both available storage in various reservoirs and the estimated seasonal inflow from winter snow pack; and

**WHEREAS**, the Oregon Water Conditions Report of February 22, 2022 shows Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) values at 70 percent in the Klamath Basin. The US Drought Monitor for February 15, 2022 shows most of Klamath County is experiencing Exceptional Drought conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the long-term weather forecast indicates that the next sixty days are expected to have temperatures above normal and precipitation outlook is well below normal; and

**WHEREAS**, water supplies for irrigators and wildlife refuges are in serious jeopardy. The above conditions result in loss of economic stability, pasture shortages, decrease in feed production, and a shortened growing season. In addition, this drought will result in decreased fuel moisture and a potential early and prolonged onset of fire danger; and

**WHEREAS**, the resources committed and actions initiated by local governments to alleviate the emergency include:

- By this Declaration, implemented the Klamath County Emergency Operations Plan
- Initiated a limited activation of the Emergency Operations Center
- Examined County fiscal resources and found them inadequate to provide relief

**WHEREAS**, we find that appropriate response is beyond the capability of Klamath County. We are declaring a State of Emergency for the purpose of assessment, evaluation and acquiring the ability to provide appropriate available resources. Resources required include a Governor's Drought Declaration and a Federal Drought Declaration; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners for Klamath County declare a Drought Emergency in Klamath County, Oregon.

**DONE AND DATED** this 22nd day of February, 2022.

  
Chair

  
Commissioner

Vacant  
Commissioner