

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 24-29

DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN WALLOWA COUNTY.

At the request of Wallowa County (by Board Resolution 2024-26, dated October 2, 2024), and based on the recommendations of the Drought Readiness Council and input from the Water Supply Availability Committee dated October 21, 2024, and pursuant to ORS 536.740, I find that long-term drought conditions as well as below normal precipitation, above normal temperature, streamflow, and soil moisture conditions have caused or will cause natural and economic disaster conditions in Wallowa County.

Forecasted water supply conditions and precipitation levels suggest that conditions will not meaningfully improve for the remainder of the agricultural season. Drought is likely to have a significant economic impact on the agricultural, livestock, natural resource and recreational tourism sectors in Wallowa County. It will also impact public instream uses and other natural resources dependent on adequate precipitation and streamflow.

Conditions continue to be monitored by the State's natural resource and public safety agencies, including the Oregon Water Resources Department, the Oregon Office of Emergency Management, the Oregon Office of the State Fire Marshal, and the Oregon Department of Forestry's Fire Protection Division.

Preparation and resiliency to drought are vital to the health and safety of persons, property, and the economic security of the citizens and businesses of these counties. I, therefore, declare that a severe, continuing drought emergency exists and is likely to continue to exist in Wallowa County.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

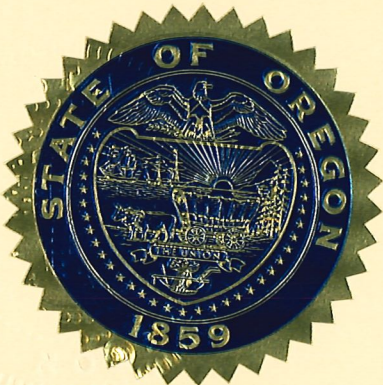
- I. The Oregon Department of Agriculture is directed to coordinate and provide assistance in seeking federal resources to mitigate drought conditions and assist in agricultural recovery in Wallowa County.
- II. The Oregon Water Resources Department and the Water Resources Commission are directed to coordinate and provide assistance to water users in Wallowa County as the Department and Commission determine necessary and appropriate in accordance with ORS 536.700 to 536.780.



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- 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 Wallowa County.
- V. All other state agencies are directed to coordinate with the above agencies and provide appropriate state resources as needed to assist affected political subdivisions and water users in Wallowa County.
- VI. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2024.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 23rd day of October, 2024.



Tina Kotek
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

LaVonne Griffin-Valade
SECRETARY OF STATE