

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 24-30**

### **DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN HARNEY COUNTY.**

At the request of Harney County (by Harney County Court Resolution 2024-32, dated October 25, 2024), and based on the recommendations of the Drought Readiness Council and input from the Water Supply Availability Committee dated November 5, 2024, and pursuant to ORS 536.740, I find that long-term drought conditions as well as above normal temperature and below normal soil moisture conditions have caused or will cause natural and economic disaster conditions in Harney County.

Forecasted water supply conditions and precipitation levels suggest normal to above normal conditions however prolonged drought conditions reduce their impact on alleviating drought such that conditions are not projected to meaningfully improve for the remainder of the year. Drought is likely to have a significant economic impact on the agricultural, livestock, natural resource and recreational tourism sectors in Harney County.

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 Harney 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 Harney County.





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- II. The Oregon Water Resources Department and the Water Resources Commission are directed to coordinate and provide assistance to water users in Harney County as the Department and Commission determine necessary and appropriate in accordance with ORS 536.700 to 536.780.
- 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 Harney 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 Harney County.
- VI. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2024.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2024.

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Tina Kotek  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

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LaVonne Griffin-Valade  
SECRETARY OF STATE