

1 **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
2 COUNTY OF COOS
3 STATE OF OREGON
4

5 In the Matter of Declaring a Local Drought)
6 Emergency in Coos County) RESOLUTION 25-07-145L

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8 NOW BEFORE THE Board of Commissioners, sitting for the transaction of
9 County business on the 5th day of August, 2025, is the matter of declaring a local drought
10 emergency in Coos County;

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12 WHEREAS, Coos County is experiencing below-average precipitation levels in
13 the current water year, with the County reporting 37 % below average rainfall. We have
14 received 36.17" of rainfall, which is below the County's normal of 57.2" of rainfall. For
15 this time of year, June alone ranks as the 14th driest on record in the last 131 years.

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17 WHEREAS, current drought monitoring by the U.S. Drought Monitor classifies
18 Coos County as Moderate Dry (D1), with some stream gauges reporting less than 25% of
19 normal flow, and NOAA outlooks predicting continued below-average precipitation and
20 above-average temperatures for the remainder of the summer;

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22 WHEREAS, the entire Coos County population (100%) is affected by drought
23 conditions, and agricultural impacts are worsening with approximately 5,000 acres of
24 forage crops, 4,600 acres of hay, and over 17,000 head of livestock dependent on surface
25 water irrigation sources that are rapidly depleting;

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27 WHEREAS, Coos County relies heavily on-stream flow for both domestic water
28 use and irrigation, and many domestic water wells have reported declining recovery rates,
29 posing an imminent threat to public health and safety; -

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31 WHEREAS, forecasted drought persistence increases the risk of wildfires, which
32 could further harm public infrastructure, natural resources, and economic stability;

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34 WHEREAS, Coos County does not possess adequate local resources to mitigate
35 or respond to the compounding effects of the drought emergency;

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37 NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that a local drought
38 emergency is declared within Coos County;

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40 IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appropriate response is beyond the
41 capability of Coos County and that a local emergency is declared for the purpose of
42 assessment, evaluation, and acquisition of necessary state and federal resources;

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44 IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby requests
45 that the Honorable Tina Kotek, Governor of Oregon, declare that a State of Drought

Emergency exists for all of Coos County under the provisions of ORS Chapter 536, due to the continuing and worsening drought conditions beginning now and continuing through March 31, 2026;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners also requests that Governor Kotek urge the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to issue a Disaster Declaration for Coos County to assist local farmers and ranchers in responding to and recovering from agricultural losses.

DATED this 5th day of August, 2025.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COOS COUNTY, OREGON

Chair

Commissioner

Commissioner

Approved as to form:

Colton Totland
Office of Legal Counsel