

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 02-26

DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN CURRY COUNTY DUE TO CONDITIONS CAUSED BY DROUGHT AND LOW WATER CONDITIONS.

Under ORS 401.055, I find that the weather pattern, ongoing drought and low water conditions in Curry County have the imminent potential for causing a natural and economic disaster of catastrophic proportions. The projected outlook will not significantly alleviate the current conditions, and it is anticipated that those conditions will continue to worsen. This will have profound consequences on the county's agricultural and natural resources, as well the likelihood for stark energy and economic impacts.

State agencies including the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Water Resources, and Oregon Emergency Management are addressing the current conditions.

A timely response to this situation being vital to the well being and economic security of the citizens and businesses of Curry County I am therefore declaring a "state of drought emergency" 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.
- II. The Department of Water Resources is directed to coordinate and provide assistance and regulation it determines 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.
- 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.

Done at Salem, Oregon this 1st day of December, 2002

/s/ _____
John A. Kitthaber, M.D.
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

/s/ _____
Bill Bradbury
SECRETARY OF STATE