



Oregon
Kate Brown, Governor

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Drought Readiness Council

Oregon Emergency Management's Anderson Readiness Center
3225 State St., Salem, OR 97301

June 16, 2016 Meeting Materials

- June 16, 2016 Memo from Water Supply Availability Committee
- County Drought Declaration Request – Template for Review
- Governor's Drought Declaration Executive Order – Template for Review
- Updates Regarding Federal Drought Declarations



Memo

To: Drought Readiness Council
From: Water Supply Availability Committee
Date: June 16, 2016
Subject: Update on Water Supply Conditions

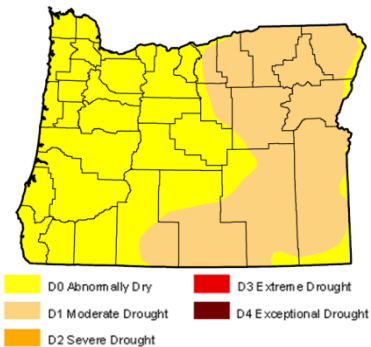
The Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC) held its regular monthly meeting on June 14, 2016. Water supply conditions across the state have changed considerably since its previous meeting. Warm temperatures in mid-April resulted in an extreme melt-off of snowpack, two to six weeks earlier than normal.

Some key highlights from the June 14 WSAC Meeting:

- **Precipitation for May and June has been below normal for much of the state.** Although all basins have received near average amounts of precipitation for the year so far, May was the second month in a row to be drier than usual for much of the state. The only areas seeing appreciable amounts of precipitation in May were the eastern part of the Klamath basin, and the Goose & Summer Lake basin. Even still, the amount of precipitation in these areas was not enough to offset the early loss of snowpack. June precipitation will play a critical role in water supply demand and summer streamflow.
- **High temperatures have led to rapid and extreme snowmelt.** While Oregon's snowpack reached its peak in early April, warm temperatures in mid-April resulted in an extreme melt-off, two to five weeks earlier than normal. Areas that rely on low-elevation snowpack are in rapid decline. Only high elevation SNOTEL sites in the Willamette, Grande Ronde, and Powder / Burnt River Basins show any observable snowpack. Temperatures during the month of May were one to two degrees above average in many parts of the state, with temperatures in June around four degrees above average. While temperatures have been cooler in recent days, warmer conditions are expected again in mid-to-late June, lasting through August.
- **Several streamflow sites are now approaching record lows for this time of year.** Most streams and rivers throughout the state reached their snowmelt-driven streamflow peak earlier than usual. Basins that are now most heavily stressed are coastal basins (with 38 to 44 percent of average streamflow), the Umpqua (44 percent), and the Umatilla (26 percent). Streamflows in these basins are at a record low, even below measurements taken this time last year. Refer to Attachment 1 for hydrographs of the Nehalem and the Umatilla Rivers, and Attachment 2 for a bar graph displaying all of Oregon's basins. Attachment 3 includes a map with the same information. This rapid run-off may have resulted in lower recharge rates to groundwater as well.

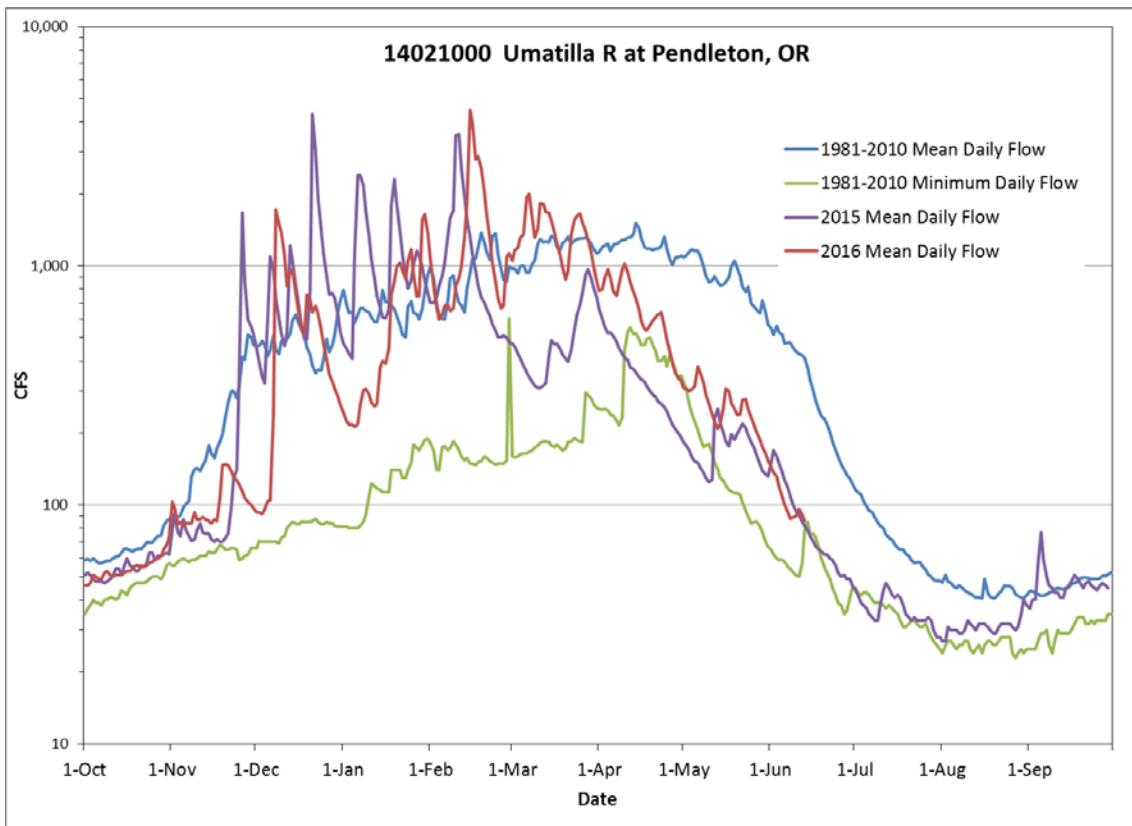
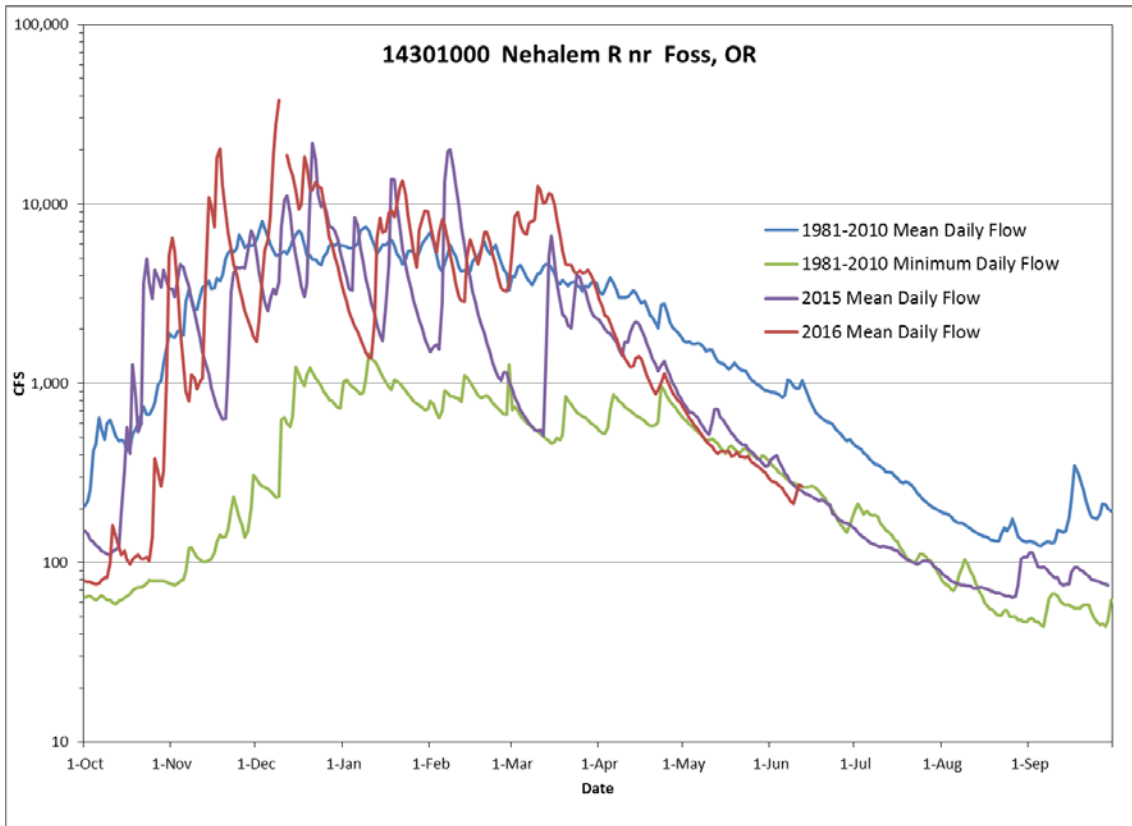
- **Streamflow forecasts for April through September have declined significantly.** In the past two months, streamflows have dropped far below average, resulting in streamflow forecasts that are also normal to well below normal for the June through September period. Sites in northwest and western central Oregon are forecast for below normal streamflow conditions throughout the summer; these are among the lowest volumes in the forecast.
- **Reservoir levels have improved since last year, but are beginning to drop quickly.** Reservoir storage levels across the state are much higher compared to this time last year, as they were able to capture the springtime run-off. Rivers that are fed by reservoirs are in better shape than those that are not; water shortages are possible this summer in locations without access to storage. However, all reservoirs are now in draw-down, supplying irrigation and municipal water, as well as instream flows for fisheries. By the end of the summer, reservoir levels will likely mirror 2015 levels.

- **The Drought Monitor shows 100 percent of the state abnormally dry.** As of June 14, the entire state is in the D0 category (abnormally dry). Stretching from North Central Oregon to eastern Klamath County and eastward, more than 40 percent of the state is also listed in the D1 category (moderate drought). See accompanying graphic.

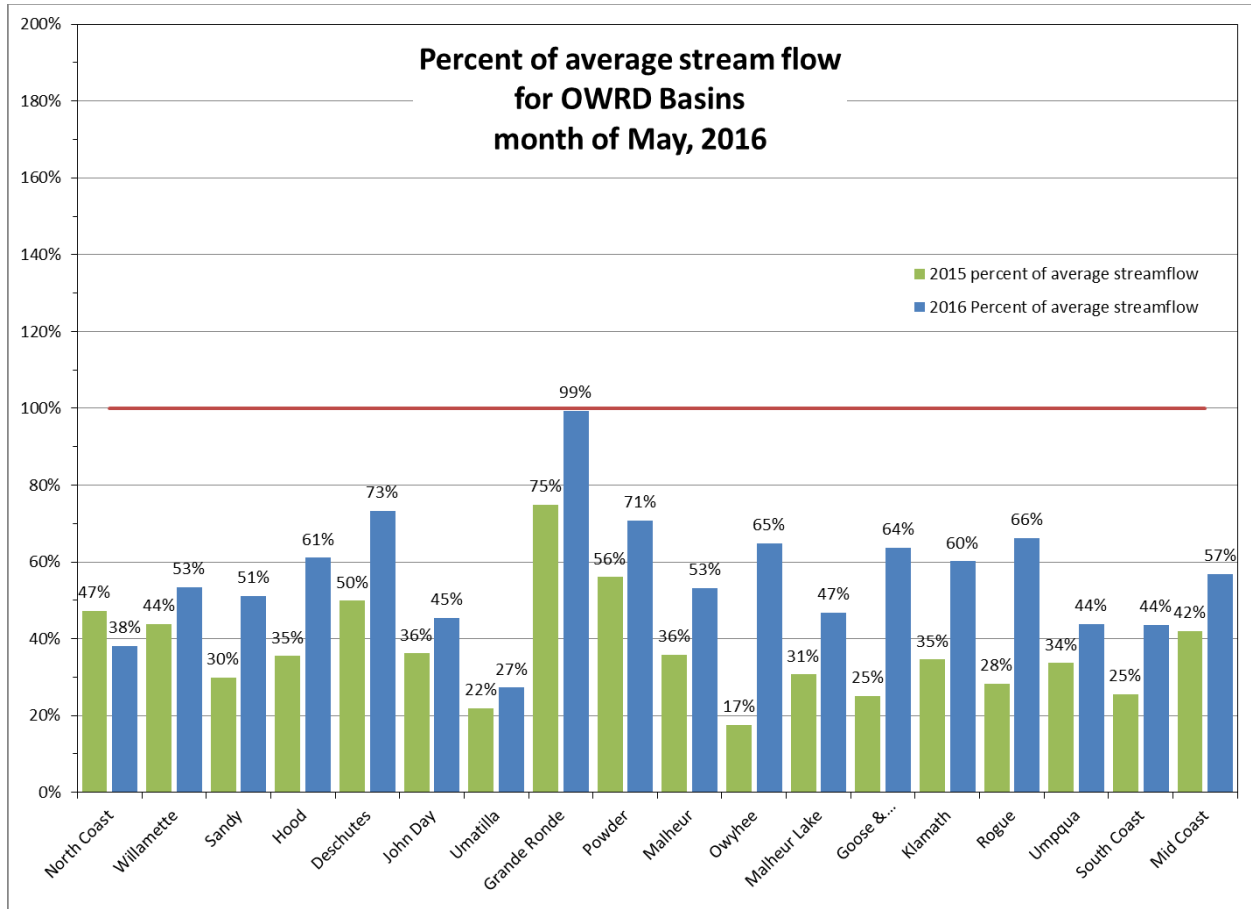


- **Temperature Outlook calling for above normal temperatures through August.** Currently, NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center is calling for above normal temperatures through the August outlook period. Climate conditions are favorable for the development of La Niña—typically bringing cooler and wetter conditions—this fall and winter in the Pacific Northwest.
- **Fire Outlook for the Northwest is normal.** The National Interagency Fire Center’s (NIFC) monthly outlook is currently predicting a normal fire season through the forecast period of August 2016. Conditions are driest in the southwest part of the state. In June, we will likely see the onset of a typical fire season. Another monthly outlook will be released on July 1, 2016.

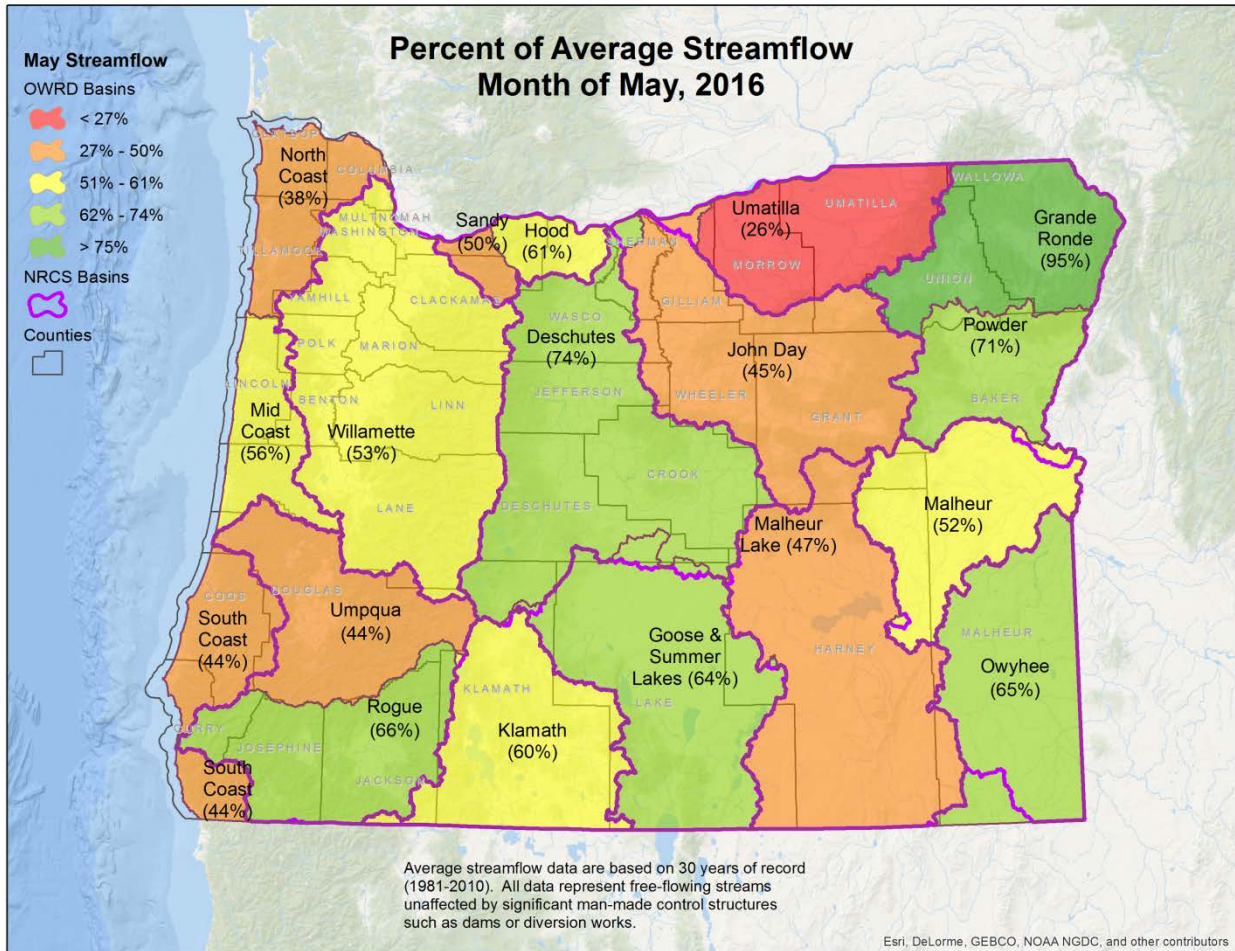
Attachment 1: Hydrographs — Examples of Mean Daily Flow



Attachment 2: Bar Graph — Percent of Average Streamflow



Attachment 3: Map — Percent of Average Streamflow



Oregon County Letterhead – Customize highlighted areas with county-specific information

Dr. Brenda Bateman, Division Administrator
Oregon Water Resources Department
Co-Chair, Oregon Drought Readiness Council
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301
Via Email: brenda.o.bateman@state.or.us

Mr. Matt Marheine, Section Manager
Oregon Office of Emergency Management
Co-Chair, Oregon Drought Readiness Council
PO Box 14370
Salem, OR 97309
Via Email: matt.marhein@state.or.us

RE: Oregon County Drought

Date:

Dr. Bateman and Mr. Marheine:

Oregon County, by and through its County Elected Officials, requests that the Governor of Oregon issue an executive order for all of Oregon County under the provisions of ORS 536 as a direct result of severe and continuing drought conditions.

There is the potential for the Oregon County agricultural and livestock, natural resources, recreational, tourism, and related economies to experience widespread and severe damage resulting from extreme weather conditions within the county. Add narrative about specific observed or imminent impacts here.

The county has already formally declared a drought, and has attached a copy of the adopted resolution for your files. In addition, the county has taken the following actions to anticipate or mitigate effects of the drought: fill in public and private sector actions.

The Oregon County Board of Commissioners/Judge has determined that additional action by and support from the state is needed. This may include assistance from the Oregon Water Resources Department and other Oregon executive branch agencies, operating within their statutory authorities.

Oregon County Board of Commissioners/Judge therefore requests an executive order from the Governor, declaring drought in Oregon County.

We extend in advance our appreciation for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Signature Block

Executive Order No. 16-XX

DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN OREGON COUNTY DUE TO DROUGHT, LOW SNOW PACK LEVELS, AND LOW WATER CONDITIONS

At the request of Oregon County (by Resolution XXXXXXXX dated Month Date, 2016), and based on the recommendations of the Drought Readiness Council and the Water Supply Availability Committee, and pursuant to ORS 536.740, I find the continuing dry conditions, low snowpack, and lack of precipitation have caused natural and economic disaster conditions in Oregon County.

Projected forecasts are not expected to alleviate the severe drought conditions, and the drought is having significant economic impacts on agricultural, livestock, and natural resources.

The dry conditions present hardships for these communities: crops and agricultural and recreational investments are at risk; animals and plants that rely on Oregon's surface water supplies are threatened; and the risk of wildfires across the state is greatly increased. Current conditions are being monitored and analyzed by state agencies including the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Water Resources, and the Oregon Office of Emergency Management.

A timely response to the severe drought conditions is vital to the safety of persons, property and economic security of the citizens and businesses of Oregon County. I am therefore declaring that a severe, continuing drought exists in Oregon County, and directing the following actions.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DIRECTED:

- 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 Oregon County.
- II. The Department of Water Resources and the Water Resources Commission are directed to coordinate and provide assistance to water users in Oregon County as they determine is necessary and appropriate 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 in Oregon County.
- IV. All other state agencies are directed to coordinate with the above agencies and to provide appropriate state resources as determined necessary to assist affected political subdivisions and water users in Oregon County.
- V. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2016.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this ____ day of Month, 2016.

KATE BROWN

GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Jeanne Atkins

SECRETARY OF STATE



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

JUN 2 2016

The Honorable C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor
State of Idaho
Boise, Idaho 83720

Dear Governor Otter:

In accordance with 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating four Idaho counties as primary natural disaster areas due to a recent drought. The primary counties included under this designation are:

Canyon Owyhee Payette Washington

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (see <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of: (1) D2 (Drought-Severe) for 8 or more consecutive weeks; or (2) D3 (Drought-Extreme) or D4 (Drought-Exceptional).

In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, five counties are named as contiguous disaster counties. The contiguous counties included under this designation are:

Ada Adams Elmore Gem Twin Falls

Also, in accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, counties in adjacent States are named as contiguous disaster areas. Those States, counties, and numbers are:

Contiguous Counties in Adjacent States:

Nevada	(2)
Elko	Humboldt
Oregon	(2)
Baker	Malheur

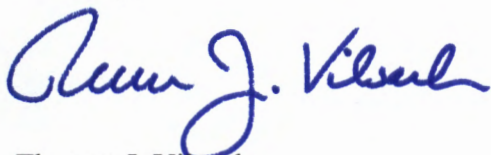
The Honorable C.L. "Butch" Otter

Page 2

A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for certain assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans. Farmers in eligible counties have 8 months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm, and the security and repayment ability of the operator.

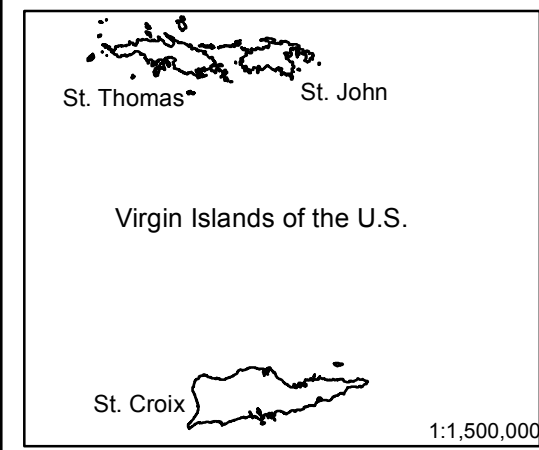
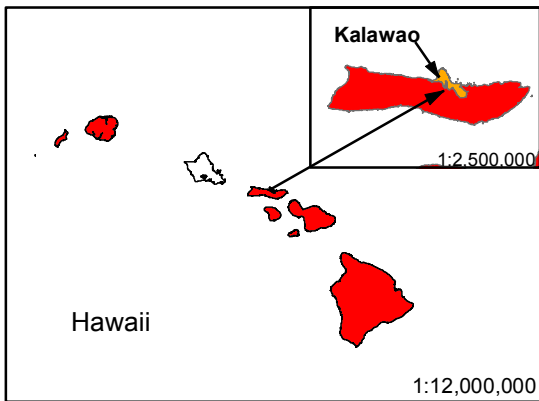
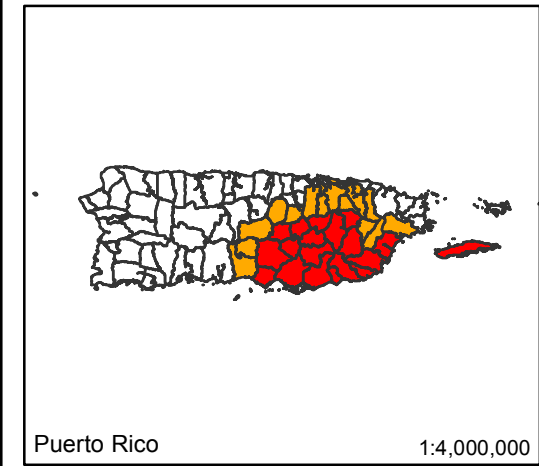
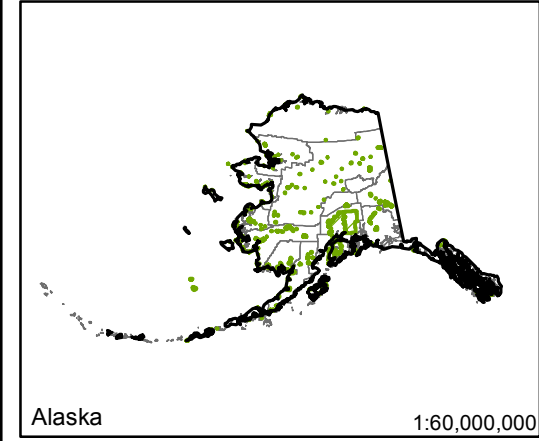
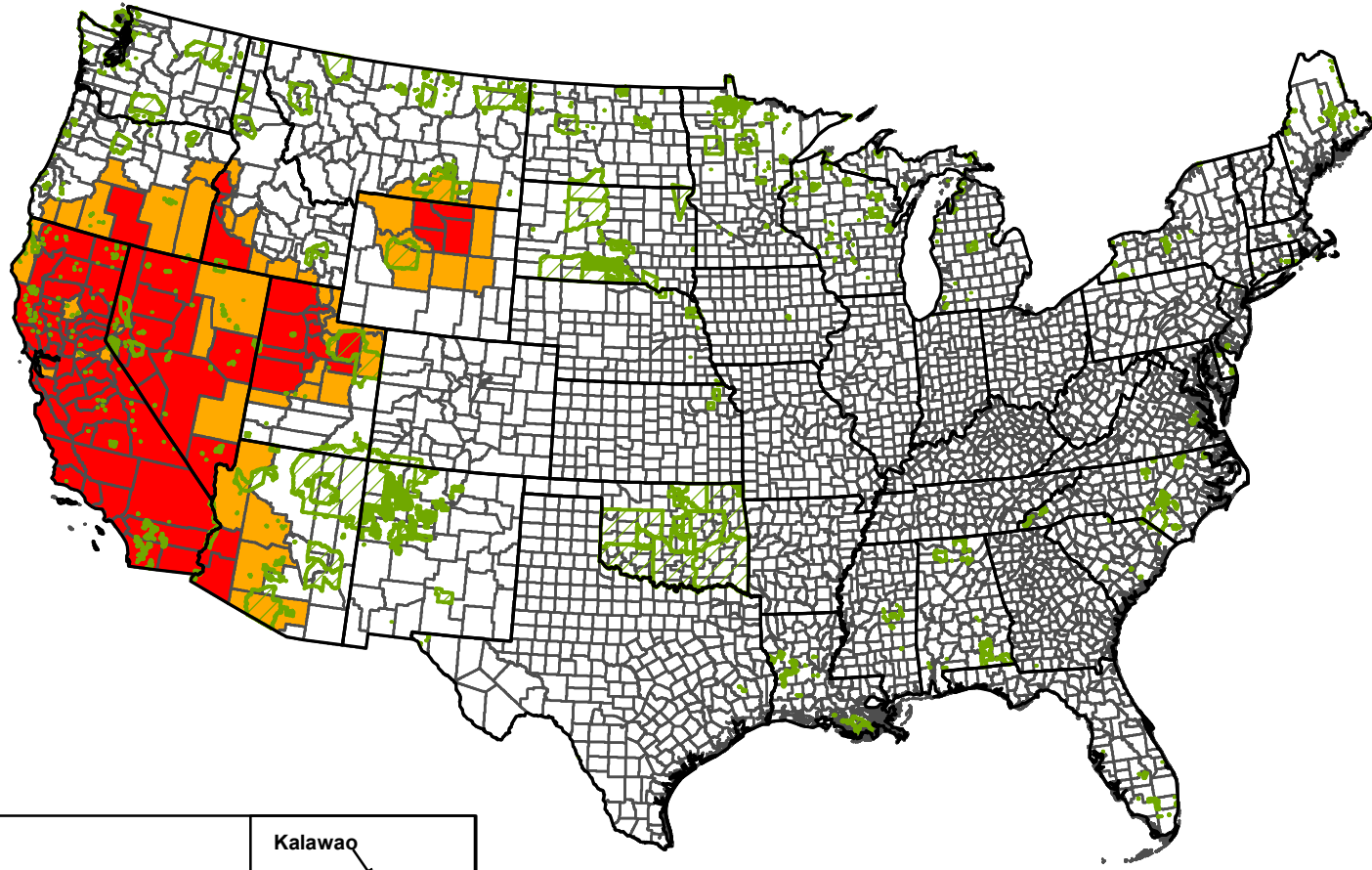
Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,






A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Thomas J. Vilsack". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" and last name "Vilsack" clearly legible.

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

2016 Secretarial Drought Designations - All Drought



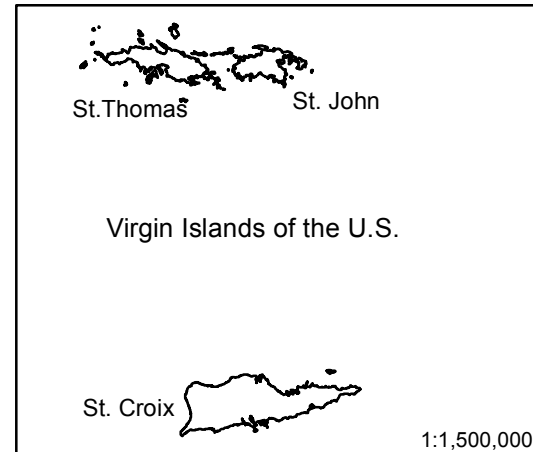
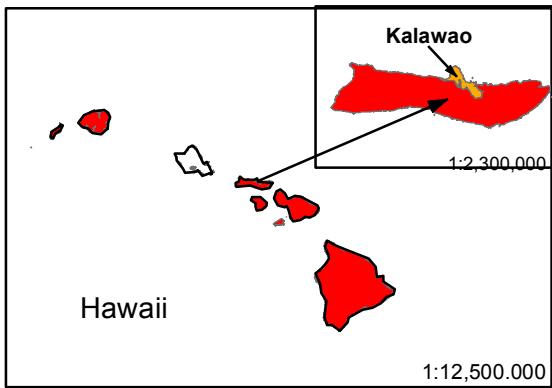
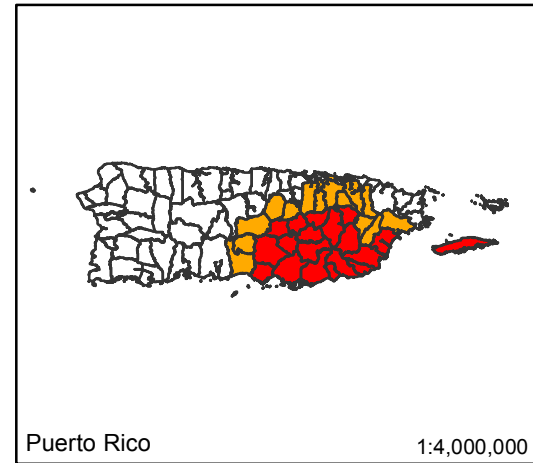
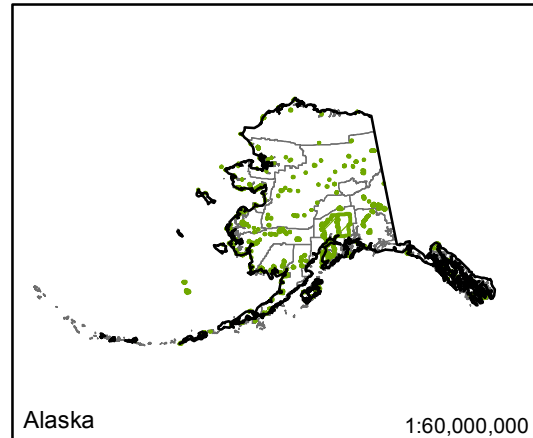
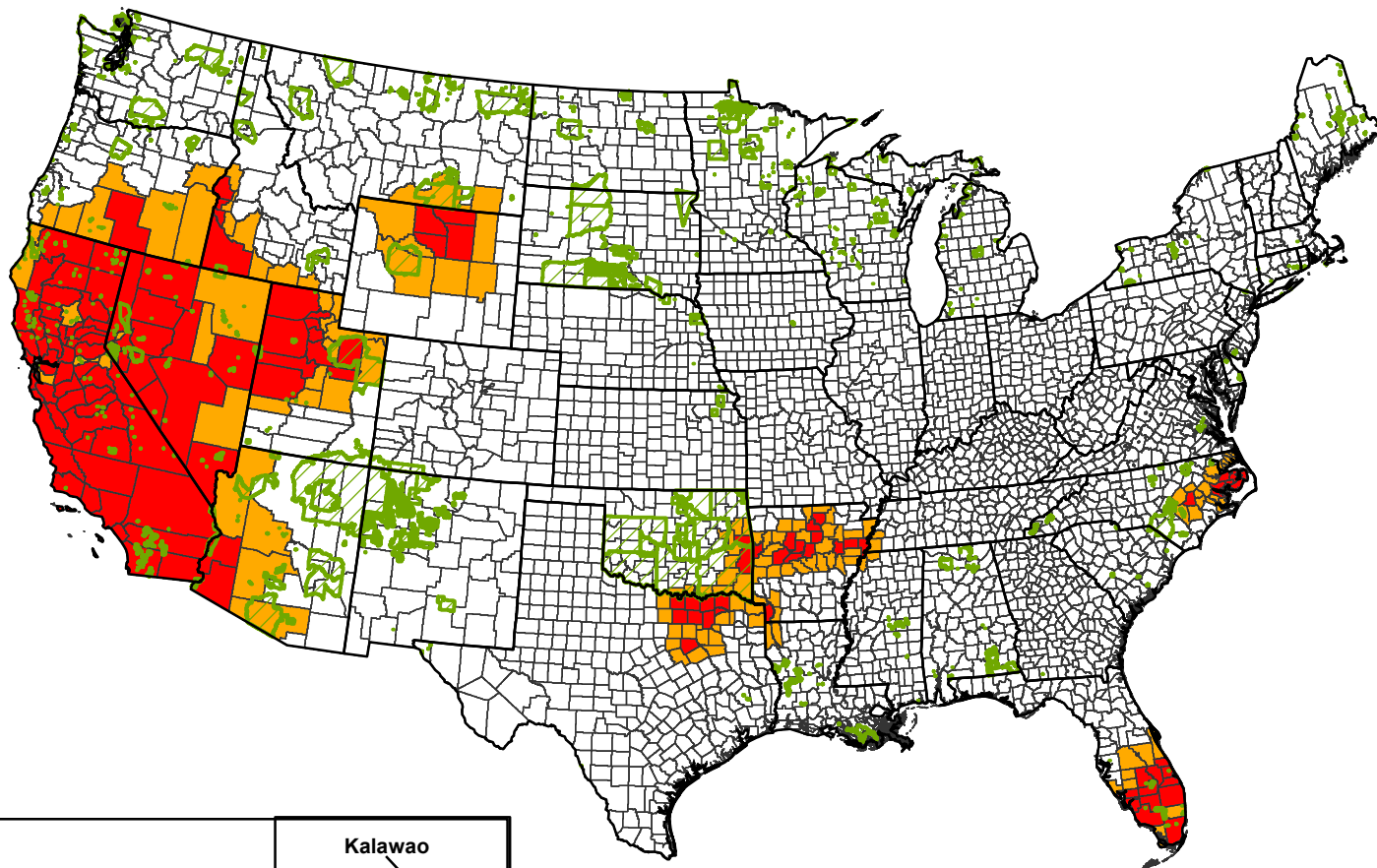
Secretarial Drought Designations for 2016
Disaster Incidents as of June 1, 2016

-  State Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Tribal Lands
-  Primary Counties: 107
-  Contiguous Counties: 64

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Secretarial Disaster Designations - CY 2016

Primary and Contiguous Counties Designated for 2016 Crop Disaster Losses



All Secretarial Designations as of June 1, 2016
Total All Crop Approved Designations

-  State Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Tribal Lands
-  Primary Counties: 149
-  Contiguous Counties: 151

USDA Farm Service Agency
Production, Emergencies and Compliance Division
Washington, D.C.
June 1, 2016

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