



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 12 - 15**

**DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN THE  
LOST RIVER BASIN DUE TO DROUGHT AND LOW WATER  
CONDITIONS.**

Pursuant to ORS 401.165 and 536.740, I find that ongoing drought and low water conditions and weather patterns exist and threaten to cause local adverse natural and economic disaster conditions in the portion of the Lost River Basin within the State of Oregon. The Lost River Basin is a portion of the Klamath River Basin, and is located in Klamath and Lake counties in Oregon. I find that a need exists for statewide coordination of water resource conservation measures by municipal and other political subdivisions of this state in order to minimize problems caused by this severe shortage of water. Projected weather patterns are not expected to alleviate these conditions significantly, and drought conditions are continuing. These conditions are expected to have significant economic impact on the affected basin's agricultural, livestock, and natural resources.

Current conditions are being addressed by state agencies including the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Water Resources, and Oregon Emergency Management.

A timely response to this situation being vital to the well being and economic security of the citizens and businesses of Klamath County and Lake County, I am therefore declaring a "state of drought emergency" in the Lost River Basin within the State of Oregon 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 agricultural conditions resulting from drought and affecting agricultural recovery in the affected basin.

II. The Department of Water Resources is directed to coordinate and provide assistance and regulation for the affected basin as it determines is 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 in the affected basin.



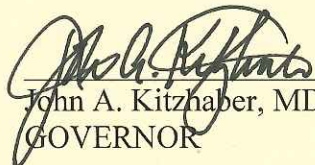
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IV. All other departments are directed to coordinate with the above agencies and to provide appropriate state resources as determined essential to assist affected political subdivisions in the affected basin.


V. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2012.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 27 day of August, 2012.



  
John A. Kitzhaber, MD  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

  
Kate Brown  
SECRETARY OF STATE