EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 14-02

DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN CROOK COUNTY DUE TO DROUGHT AND LOW WATER CONDITIONS

At the request of the Crook County Court by its order 2014-11 dated February 19, 2014, on the recommendation of the Drought Council and the Water Advisory Committee, and pursuant to ORS 401.165 and ORS 536.740, I find the continuing dry conditions, low snowpack, and lack of precipitation have caused natural and economic disaster conditions in Crook County.

The dry conditions present hardships for these communities: crops and agricultural and recreation 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 Oregon Office of Emergency Management.

A timely response to the severe drought conditions is vital to the safety of persons and property, and the economic security of the citizens and businesses of the affected Counties, I am therefore declaring a “state of drought emergency” in Crook County 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 affect agricultural recovery in the affected counties.

II. The Department of Water Resources is directed to coordinate and provide assistance and regulation for the affected county 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 county.
IV. All other departments are directed to coordinate with the above agencies and to provide appropriate state resources as determined essential to assist the county and affected political subdivisions in the affected county.

V. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2014.

Done at Salem, Oregon this __20__ day of March.

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Kate Brown
SECRETARY OF STATE