



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 15 - 07

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

At the request of Sherman County (by Resolution 06-06-2015 dated June 17, 2015), and based on the recommendations of the Drought Council and the Water Availability Committee, and pursuant to ORS 401.165 and ORS 536.740, I find the continuing dry conditions and lack of precipitation have caused natural and economic disaster conditions in Sherman 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 in Sherman County.

The dry conditions present hardships for Sherman County communities; crops and agricultural and other economic interests 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 and property and economic security of the citizens and businesses of Sherman County; I am therefore declaring that a severe, continuing drought emergency exists in Sherman 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 Sherman County.

II. The Department of Water Resources and the Water Resources Commission are directed to coordinate and provide assistance to water users in Sherman County as they determine is necessary and appropriate in accordance with ORS 536.700 to 536.780.



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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 Sherman 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 Sherman County.

V. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2015.

Done at Portland, Oregon this 22nd day of June, 2015.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kate Brown".

KATE BROWN
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeanne P. Atkins".

Jeanne P. Atkins
SECRETARY OF STATE