



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 26-07

**DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN
CROOK, GRANT, JACKSON, JEFFERSON, MORROW AND WALLOWA
COUNTIES.**

At the request of Crook County (through Crook County Board of Commissioners Resolution and Order 2026-10, dated March 4, 2026), Grant County (through Grant County Court Resolution 26-10, dated April 1, 2026), Jackson County (through Jackson County Board of Commissioners Order No. 78-26, dated April 1, 2026), Jefferson County (through Jefferson County Board of Commissioners Order No. 0-033-26, dated March 18, 2026), Morrow County (through Morrow County Board of Commissioners Resolution No. R-2026-05, dated March 4, 2026) and Wallowa County (through Wallowa County Board of Commissioners Resolution 2026-012, dated March 18, 2026), and based on the recommendations of the Drought Readiness Council and input from the Water Supply Availability Committee dated April 16, 2026, and pursuant to ORS 536.740, I find that moderate and severe drought conditions exist in addition to:

- 1) well above normal temperature conditions, below normal precipitation and streamflow conditions, well below normal snowpack conditions and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions have caused or will cause natural and economic disaster conditions in Crook County;
- 2) well above normal temperature conditions, long-term precipitation deficits, below normal streamflow conditions, well below normal snowpack conditions and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions have caused or will cause natural and economic disaster conditions in Grant County;
- 3) well above normal temperature conditions, long-term precipitation deficits, below normal streamflow conditions, well below normal snowpack conditions and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions have caused or will cause natural and economic disaster conditions in Jackson County;
- 4) well above normal temperature conditions, just below normal precipitation conditions, well below normal snowpack conditions and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions have caused or will cause natural and economic disaster conditions in Jefferson County;
- 5) well above normal temperature conditions, long-term precipitation deficits, below normal streamflow conditions, well below normal snowpack conditions and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions have caused or will cause natural and economic disaster conditions in Morrow County;



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 26-07
PAGE TWO

- 6) above normal temperature conditions, long-term precipitation deficits, well below normal snowpack conditions and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions have caused or will cause natural and economic disaster conditions in Wallowa County.

Forecasted snowpack, temperature, precipitation and water supply conditions suggest that drought conditions in the counties are unlikely to improve in the near-term. Drought is likely to have a significant economic impact on the agricultural, livestock, natural resource and recreational tourism sectors in Crook, Grant, Jackson, Jefferson, Morrow and Wallowa Counties.

Conditions continue to be monitored by the State's natural resource and public safety agencies, including the Oregon Water Resources Department, the Oregon Department of Emergency Management, the Oregon Office of the State Fire Marshal, and the Oregon Department of Forestry's Fire Protection Division.

Preparation and resiliency to drought are vital to the health and safety of persons, property, and the economic security of the citizens and businesses of these counties. I, therefore, declare that a severe, continuing drought emergency exists and is likely to continue to exist in Crook, Grant, Jackson, Jefferson, Morrow and Wallowa Counties.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

- 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 Crook, Grant, Jackson, Jefferson, Morrow and Wallowa Counties.
- II. The Oregon Water Resources Department and the Water Resources Commission are directed to coordinate and provide assistance to water users in Crook, Grant, Jackson, Jefferson, Morrow and Wallowa Counties as the Department and Commission determine necessary and appropriate in accordance with ORS 536.700 to 536.780.
- III. The Oregon Water Resources Department is directed to seek information from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to help understand the impacts of water availability on Oregon's fish and wildlife, as necessary and appropriate in accordance with ORS 536.700 to 536.780.



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 26-07
PAGE THREE

- IV. The Oregon Department of Emergency Management is directed to coordinate and assist as needed with assessment and mitigation activities to address current and projected conditions in Crook, Grant, Jackson, Jefferson, Morrow and Wallowa Counties.
- V. All other state agencies are directed to coordinate with the above agencies and provide appropriate state resources as needed to assist affected political subdivisions and water users in Crook, Grant, Jackson, Jefferson, Morrow and Wallowa Counties.
- VI. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2026.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 21st day of April, 2026.



Handwritten signature of Tina Kotek in black ink.

Tina Kotek
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Tobias Read in black ink.

Tobias Read
SECRETARY OF STATE