



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 26-09

**DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN
DOUGLAS, GILLIAM, HARNEY, LAKE and MALHEUR COUNTIES.**

At the request of the Burns Paiute Tribe (through Burns Paiute Tribal Council Resolution 2026-06 and letter dated May 8, 2026), Douglas County (through Douglas County Board of Commissioners Order 2026-0375, dated April 29, 2026), Gilliam County (through Gilliam County Court Resolution R2026-05, dated May 6, 2026), Harney County (through Harney County Court Resolution 2026-16, dated May 6, 2026), Lake County (through Lake County Board of Commissioners Resolution 2026-01, dated May 5, 2026), and Malheur County (through Malheur County Court Declaration R26-19, dated May 27, 2026) and based on the recommendations of the Drought Readiness Council and input from the Water Supply Availability Committee dated May 20, 2026, and pursuant to ORS 536.740, I find that and moderate and severe drought conditions in Harney, Gilliam, Lake and Malheur Counties and moderate, severe and extreme drought conditions in Douglas County as well as the conditions described below will cause natural and economic disaster conditions in Douglas, Gilliam, Harney, Lake and Malheur Counties (collectively "Counties").

1. Above normal temperature conditions, below normal snowpack conditions, below normal precipitation conditions and long-term precipitation deficits, below normal streamflow conditions, and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions in Douglas County.
2. Well above normal temperature conditions, just below normal precipitation conditions, below normal snowpack conditions, below normal precipitation conditions and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions in Gilliam County.
3. Well above normal temperature conditions, long-term precipitation deficits, below normal snowpack conditions and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions in Harney County.
4. Well above normal temperature conditions, long-term precipitation deficits, below normal streamflow conditions, below normal snowpack conditions and drier-than-normal-soil moisture conditions in Lake County.
5. Well above normal temperature conditions, precipitation deficits in southern parts of the county, below normal streamflow conditions, below normal snowpack conditions and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions in Malheur County.



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Seasonal climate and drought outlooks indicate that drought conditions in the Counties are likely to persist. Drought is likely to have a significant economic impact on the agricultural, livestock, natural resource and recreational tourism sectors in the 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 Douglas, Gilliam, Harney, Lake and Malheur 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 the Counties.
- II. The Oregon Water Resources Department and the Water Resources Commission are directed to coordinate and provide assistance to water users in the 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.
- 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 the Counties.



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- 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 the Counties.
- VI. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2026.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 9th day of June, 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