

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 26-11

DETERMINATION OF A STATE OF DROUGHT EMERGENCY IN JOSEPHINE AND WASCO COUNTIES.

At the request of Josephine County (through Josephine County Board of Commissioners Resolution 2026-015, dated May 12, 2026) and Wasco County (through Wasco County Board of Commissioners Resolution 26-008, dated June 4, 2026) and based on the recommendations of the Drought Readiness Council and input from the Water Supply Availability Committee dated June 17, 2026, and pursuant to ORS 536.740, I find that and moderate and severe drought conditions in Josephine County and moderate, severe and extreme drought conditions in Wasco County as well as the conditions described below will cause natural and economic disaster conditions in Josephine and Wasco Counties (collectively "Counties").

1. Above normal temperature conditions, well below normal snowpack conditions, just below normal precipitation conditions and long-term precipitation deficits, below normal streamflow conditions, and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions in Josephine County.
2. Above normal temperature conditions, well below normal snowpack conditions, just below normal precipitation conditions, below normal streamflow conditions and drier-than-normal soil moisture conditions in Wasco County.

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 Josephine and Wasco Counties.



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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.
- 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 22nd day of June, 2026.



Tina Kotek
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Tobias Read
SECRETARY OF STATE