

Hazard Annex Drought



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 03-12

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

Pursuant to ORS 401.055, I find that ongoing drought and low water conditions and weather patterns have the potential to cause an imminent natural and economic disaster in Union County (the "Affected County"). Projected weather patterns are not expected to significantly alleviate the current conditions; drought conditions are continuing. These conditions are expected to have profound consequences on the Affected County's agricultural, livestock, and natural resources and are likely to result in stark economic impacts.

Current conditions are being addressed by state agencies including the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Water Resources, and Oregon Emergency Management.

A timely response to this situation being vital to the well being and economic security of the citizens and businesses of the Affected County, I am therefore declaring a "state of drought emergency" in the Affected 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 effect agricultural recovery in the Affected County.

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.

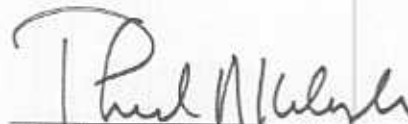
IV. All other departments are directed to coordinate with the above agencies and to provide appropriate state resources as determined essential to assist affected political subdivisions in the Affected County.



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. EO 03-12
PAGE TWO

V. This Executive Order expires on December 31, 2003

Done at Salem, Oregon this 29 day of August, 2003



Theodore R. Kulongoski
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:




Bill Bradbury
SECRETARY OF STATE



Entire State:

Sustained drought conditions have contributed to job losses in the Pacific Northwest timber industry. As the continued drought and related increased fire danger have led to forest closures, thousands of loggers and truck drivers have been forced out of work. According to an official with the Washington Forest Protective Association, drought-related state restrictions have affected about 7,000 forest products employees.

Categories:  Other


Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 1987-10-22 to 1987-10-22

External URL: <http://www.chron.com/CDA/archives/archive.mpl?id=...>

Affected Areas: Entire State

According to an official with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in 1990 \$4,464,000 was provided to Oregon farmers impacted by drought conditions to purchase emergency feed supplies. (Oregon Emergency Management Drought Council. Meeting minutes. October 17, 1991. pg. 2)

Categories:  Other

Source: Government

Dates of Impact: 1990-01-01 to 1990-12-31

Affected Areas: Entire State

Across 9 Western states (Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington), wildfires have burned 4.3 million acres to date, which exceeds year-end totals for all but 3 years (1988, 1990, and 1994). One of the most serious fires was in northern California in the Mendocino National Forest. That fire, encompassing nearly 83,000 acres, led to the evacuation of 1,000 people in 5 communities; 3 more towns were on alert. More than 2,700 firefighters and 35 bulldozers were working to clear a line around trees and underbrush, and 650 Army soldiers from Colorado were expected to join them. (From Associated Press, Aug. 18, 19 and 24, 1996).


Categories:  Fire

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 1996-08-18 to 1996-08-24

Affected Areas: Entire State

As of Aug. 27, fires were burning on more than 238,000 acres in the West. About 18,000 firefighters were battling fires in Oregon, California, Washington, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Montana, and Wyoming. (From the Associated Press, Aug. 27, 1996)

Categories:  Fire


Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 1996-08-27 to 1996-08-27

Affected Areas: Entire State

Non-farm businesses and agricultural cooperatives are eligible to receive low interest disaster loans in 15 counties in Oregon, due to this year's drought. These businesses can receive loans for up to \$1.5 million to help with financial obligations. (12/14/99, Drought

News Headline)

Categories:  Other

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 1999-12-14 to 1999-12-14

Affected Areas: Entire State

As sustained drought conditions are depleting the animals' natural drinking water sources, wild horses in parts of Utah, Nevada, California, and Oregon are being gathered by the Bureau of Land Management. The BLM is looking for individuals to adopt the horses, because their chances of survival in the wild during the drought are bleak.

Categories:  Environment


Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2000-08-28 to 2000-08-28

External URL: http://www.sltrib.com:80/08282000/nation_w/17165....

Affected Areas: Entire State

Drought has caused the recreation industry in Southern Oregon to see lower numbers. One ski resort has seen ticket sales drop by a third. This is due to a low snowpack caused by lack of precipitation and warm clear days which melt the snow on the ground. One ski resort had reports of skiers having to dodge rocks, while another was forced to close one of their lifts due to lack of snow.

Categories:  Social

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2001-01-25 to 2001-01-25

External URL: <http://www.oregonlive.com:80/news/oregonian/index...>

Affected Areas: Entire State

Approximately 1,400 farmers are being forced not to irrigate crops in a 200,000 acre area along the Oregon-California border. The shortnosed sucker fish, an endangered species, and Coho salmon, a threatened species, both have populations in the Upper Klamath Lake. The lake is the largest reservoir of the Klamath project and has been depleted by drought and irrigation, further endangering these species. With these restrictions in place, the lake will be used only to support these fish species.

Categories:  Agriculture

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2001-04-08 to 2001-04-08

External URL: <http://www.enn.com/news/wire-stories/2001/04/0408...>

Affected Areas: Entire State

Due to lack of hydropower from drought, along with increased demand, Bonneville Power Administration has asked approximately 12 factories in the Pacific Northwest, mostly aluminum plants, to shut down for up to two years. This is an attempt to conserve power and limit the rise of energy prices. This would cut the power demand on the company 5% to 10%, approximately 2,100 megawatts. They have also asked residential users in the area to limit their power use.

Categories:  Water/Energy

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2001-04-10 to 2001-04-10

External URL: <http://www.latimes.com/news/science/environ/20010...>

Affected Areas: Entire State

Due to lack of pasture from drought conditions, ranchers in Klamath Basin are selling cattle at triple the normal rate. They do not have sufficient pastures or money to buy enough hay to feed the cattle, and must sell them in large numbers. This is also detrimental to the ranchers because the genetic diversity is lost by selling large percentages of the herd.

Categories:  Agriculture

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2001-04-18 to 2001-04-18

External URL: <http://dailynews.yahoo.com/h/6000/20010417/lo/377...>

Affected Areas: Entire State

In a one-week period in August, about 20 wildfires burned across 270,000 acres.

Categories:  Fire

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2001-08-31 to 2001-08-31

External URL: <http://www.tdn.com/articles/2005/03/17/oregon/new...>

Affected Areas: Entire State

According to the National Climatic Data Center a widespread, moderate to extreme drought hit several dozen states in the Spring of 2002 and continued through early Fall 2002. Drought affected large portions of the western states, the Great Plains, and much of the eastern U.S. The drought resulted in damages estimated at over \$10.0 billion nationwide.

Categories:  Agriculture

Source: NOAA

Dates of Impact: 2002-01-01 to 2002-12-31

External URL: <http://lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/reports/billionz.html>

Affected Areas: Entire State

Mountain pine beetle outbreaks were found in every Western state and infected 2.2 million acres in 2003, up from 1.5 million in 2002, according to a Forest Service report released in August 2004. Experts point to drought, hot summers and mild winters as causes for the outbreaks. The acres of forest killed by beetles in Western states jumped from 1.4 million in 1997 to 8.6 million in 2004.

Categories:  Environment

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2003-01-01 to 2004-12-31

External URL: <http://californian.com/articles/2005/07/25//news/...>

Affected Areas: Entire State

To date, 45 acres have burned, compared to 8 acres at the same time in 2004. By April 1, one month earlier than usual, the Oregon Dept. of Forestry will have prepared a contingency plan for extra resources in case conditions become severe.

Categories:  Fire

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2005-03-22 to 2005-03-22

External URL: <http://www.statesmanjournal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/art...>

Affected Areas: Entire State

Central Oregon farmers plan to grow fewer crops because of uncertainties about irrigation water. Some irrigation districts have announced reduced allocations because of dry conditions.

Categories:  Agriculture

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2005-03-26 to 2005-03-26

External URL: <http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2...>

Affected Areas: Entire State

Due to water rationing, farmers in both Oregon and Washington are cutting back significantly on planting certain crops, including wheat and hay.

Categories:  Agriculture

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2005-04-22 to 2005-04-22

External URL: <http://www.democratherald.com/articles/2005/04/22...>

Affected Areas: Entire State

In eastern Oregon, the state Department of Environmental Quality requested that wastewater treatment plant managers take voluntary measures this summer to minimize the impact of effluent on streams and rivers affected by drought. The concern is that stream with below normal streamflows may not be able to dilute the waste, which could affect water quality, fish habitat, and recreation.

Categories:  Water/Energy


Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2005-04-23 to 2005-04-23

External URL: <http://www.ktv.com/engine.pl?station=ktvl&id=822...>

Affected Areas: Entire State

According to an official with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, to date in 1991 \$313,000 has been provided to Oregon farmers impacted by drought conditions to purchase emergency feed supplies. (Oregon Emergency Management Drought Council. Meeting minutes. October 17, 1991. pg. 2)

Categories:  Other

Source: Government

Dates of Impact: 1991-01-01 to 1991-09-17

Affected Areas: Entire State

Wallowa County:

Five counties in Oregon, including Union, Baker, Grant, Umatilla, and Wallowa counties, have been declared disaster areas by the Department of Agriculture due to drought and hailstorms. Farmers in these counties will be eligible for low interest government loans. Approximately one-third of the wheat crop in these areas was lost due to weather.

(10/1/99, ABC NewsWire)



Categories:  Agriculture  Other

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 1999-10-01 to 1999-10-01

Affected Areas: Baker, Grant, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa Counties

Plans to spill water over dams in the Snake and Columbia Rivers have been halted for at least two weeks to maintain electric power generation in the area. The opening of spillways is done to allow young salmon to swim over dams, as opposed to swimming downstream through dangerous dam turbines. The spillways are remaining closed to maintain reliable power in the area. The lack of water from drought is expected to reduce Columbia River levels by half.

Categories:  Water/Energy  Environment


Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2001-04-05 to 2001-04-05

External URL: <http://www.latimes.com/news/state/20010405/t00002...>

Affected Areas: Baker, Columbia, Gilliam, Hood River, Malheur, Morrow, Multnomah, Sherman, Umatilla, Wallowa, Wasco Counties

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated Sherman and Wallowa Counties as primary disaster areas due to drought-related losses.

Categories:  Other


Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2004-02-04 to 2004-02-04

External URL: <http://news.statesmanjournal.com/article.cfm?i=74...>

Affected Areas: Sherman and Wallowa Counties

State of Oregon - Executive Order No. 05-06, dated May 25, 2005, Wallowa County was included for a drought emergency due to drought and low water conditions.

Categories:  Other

Source: Government

Dates of Impact: 2004-05-25 to 2005-05-25

Affected Areas: Wallowa County

A Wallowa County Board of Commissioner's Resolution was made on May 2, 2005 due to insufficient precipitation and surface water.

Categories:  Other

Source: Government

Dates of Impact: 2005-05-02 to 2005-05-02

Affected Areas: Wallowa County

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated Baker and Gilliam counties in Oregon as primary disaster areas due to drought from Oct. 1, 2001, and continuing. The following counties have been designated contiguous disaster areas, also because of drought: Grant, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Union, Wallowa, Wasco and Wheeler.

Categories:  Other

Source: Media


Dates of Impact: 2001-10-01 to 2003-11-10

External URL: http://farmjournal.com/news_show_news_article.asp...

Affected Areas: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, Wheeler Counties

Union County

Due to losses incurred from sustained drought conditions, farmers and producers in the following Oregon counties are eligible to apply for low-interest loans. The loans are a form of drought disaster assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. (Kadera, Jim. "Drought Aid Begins, Feed Plan Expanded." The Oregonian. Oct. 4, 1988.)

Categories:  Other



Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 1986-10-04 to 1986-10-04

Affected Areas: Baker, Benton, Crook, Curry, Deschutes, Douglas, Grant, Harney, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wheeler Counties

Five counties in Oregon, including Union, Baker, Grant, Umatilla, and Wallowa counties, have been declared disaster areas by the Department of Agriculture due to drought and hailstorms. Farmers in these counties will be eligible for low interest government loans. Approximately one-third of the wheat crop in these areas was lost due to weather.

(10/1/99, ABC NewsWire)


Categories:  Agriculture  Other

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 1999-10-01 to 1999-10-01

Affected Areas: Baker, Grant, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa Counties

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated Baker and Gilliam counties in Oregon as primary disaster areas due to drought from Oct. 1, 2001, and continuing. The following counties have been designated contiguous disaster areas, also because of drought: Grant, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Union, Wallowa, Wasco and Wheeler.

Categories:  Other


Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2001-10-01 to 2003-11-10

External URL: http://farmjournal.com/news_show_news_article.asp...

Affected Areas: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, Wheeler Counties

Union and Wheeler Counties in Oregon have been designated as primary disaster areas due to the ongoing drought conditions in response to a received written request. Qualified farm operators in these counties are now eligible for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency. Crook, Jefferson, and Umatilla Counties were already designated previously and are eligible for the same assistance.

Categories:  Other

Source: Media


Dates of Impact: 2004-01-09 to 2004-01-09

External URL: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/pas/emStory.asp?StoryID=1...>

Affected Areas: Crook, Jefferson, Umatilla, Union, Wheeler Counties

Baker County

Due to losses incurred from sustained drought conditions, farmers and producers in the following Oregon counties are eligible to apply for low-interest loans. The loans are a form of drought disaster assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. (Kadera, Jim. "Drought Aid Begins, Feed Plan Expanded." The Oregonian. Oct. 4, 1988.)

Categories:  Other



Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 1986-10-04 to 1986-10-04

Affected Areas: Baker, Benton, Crook, Curry, Deschutes, Douglas, Grant, Harney, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wheeler Counties

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(10/1/99, ABC NewsWire)



Categories:  Agriculture  Other

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 1999-10-01 to 1999-10-01

Affected Areas: Baker, Grant, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa Counties

Plans to spill water over dams in the Snake and Columbia Rivers have been halted for at least two weeks to maintain electric power generation in the area. The opening of spillways is done to allow young salmon to swim over dams, as opposed to swimming downstream through dangerous dam turbines. The spillways are remaining closed to maintain reliable power in the area. The lack of water from drought is expected to reduce Columbia River levels by half.

Categories:  Water/Energy  Environment


Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2001-04-05 to 2001-04-05

External URL: <http://www.latimes.com/news/state/20010405/t00002...>

Affected Areas: Baker, Columbia, Gilliam, Hood River, Malheur, Morrow, Multnomah, Sherman, Umatilla, Wallowa, Wasco Counties

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated Baker and Gilliam counties in Oregon as primary disaster areas due to drought from Oct. 1, 2001, and continuing. The following counties have been designated contiguous disaster areas, also because of drought: Grant, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Union, Wallowa, Wasco and Wheeler.

Categories:  Other

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2001-10-01 to 2003-11-10

External URL: http://farmjournal.com/news_show_news_article.asp...

Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, Wheeler Counties

Umatilla County commissioners have declared the county in a state of drought. They have asked Governor Kulongoski for emergency funds for ag producers. Klamath and Baker counties have also requested aid.

Categories: Other

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2005-03-17 to 2005-03-17

External URL: http://kmtr.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=...

Affected Areas: Baker, Klamath, Umatilla Counties

Baker, Crook, Gilliam, Hood River, Klamath, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, and Wheeler counties have already been declared in a state of drought emergency; Deschutes County has applied for emergency drought declaration. Drought declarations enable state officials to streamline water permit procedures for users who have lost their usual water sources.

Categories: Other

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2005-05-03 to 2005-05-03

External URL: http://www.bendbulletin.com/news/story.cfm?story_...

Affected Areas: Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Hood River, Klamath, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Wheeler Counties

Baker County commissioners have declared that the county is in drought and want the governor to recognize the severity of the situation. Ranchers are short on hay for their livestock and may have to cull their herds. Water supplies for livestock are also becoming a problem as stock ponds dry up.

Categories: Other

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2007-06-04 to 2007-06-04

External URL: <http://www.kgw.com/sharedcontent/APStories/storie...>

Affected Areas: Baker County

Grant County

Due to losses incurred from sustained drought conditions, farmers and producers in the following Oregon counties are eligible to apply for low-interest loans. The loans are a form of drought disaster assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. (Kadera, Jim. "Drought Aid Begins, Feed Plan Expanded." The Oregonian. Oct. 4, 1988.)

Categories: Other

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 1986-10-04 to 1986-10-04

Affected Areas: Baker, Benton, Crook, Curry, Deschutes, Douglas, Grant, Harney, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wheeler Counties

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(10/1/99, ABC NewsWire)

Categories: Agriculture Other

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 1999-10-01 to 1999-10-01

Affected Areas: Baker, Grant, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa Counties

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has designated Baker and Gilliam counties in Oregon as primary disaster areas due to drought from Oct. 1, 2001, and continuing. The following counties have been designated contiguous disaster areas, also because of drought: Grant, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Union, Wallowa, Wasco and Wheeler.

Categories: Other

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2001-10-01 to 2003-11-10

External URL: http://farmjournal.com/news_show_news_article.asp...

Affected Areas: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, Wheeler Counties

http://droughtreporter.unl.edu/map.jsp?&src=&daterange=custom&c_ot=on&c_wa=on&year2=2007&year1=1850&c_ag=on&day2=15&scn=nv&day1=15&c_fi=on&c_en=on&month2=6&c_so=on&month1=6&Cmd=sv&st=Oregon

DROUGHT SPARKS FISH FREE FOR ALL

Published: August 1, 2007

NORTH POWDER — Key regulations have temporarily been lifted at Thief Valley Reservoir by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to help anglers land fish before they are killed by this summer's drought.

The temporary rule changes pertain to bag limits, possession limits and harvest methods.

The temporary rules are needed, according to ODFW biologists, to provide the public an opportunity to salvage fish that will be killed as a result of the drought when the reservoir is drained for irrigation purposes.

"Thief Valley Reservoir has reached dead storage level, which means only a few small pools of water remain," said ODFW Fishery Biologist Tim Bailey. "Fish isolated in these pools will become stressed by warm and turbid water, and will die."

Beginning today, Thief Valley Reservoir is open to angling for all game species. The following conditions are in effect:

- There are no daily catch or possession limits.
- Anglers may harvest fish by hand, dip net or angling.
- There are no size limits.

The above amended regulations are in effect through Sept. 30.

DROUGHT IMPACT REPORTS

From 1986 to June 15, 2007:

Wallowa County had 26 reported drought impacts:

- 6 Agriculture
- 4 Fire
- 3 Water/Energy
- 3 Environment
- 1 Social
- 9 Other

Union County had 23 reported drought impacts

- 6 Agriculture
- 4 Fire
- 2 Water/Energy
- 2 Environment
- 1 Social
- 8 Other

Baker County had 27 reported drought impacts

- 6 Agriculture
- 4 Fire
- 3 Water/Energy
- 3 Environment
- 1 Social
- 10 Other

Grant County had 22 reported drought impacts

- 6 Agriculture
- 4 Fire
- 2 Water/Energy
- 2 Environment
- 1 Social
- 7 Other

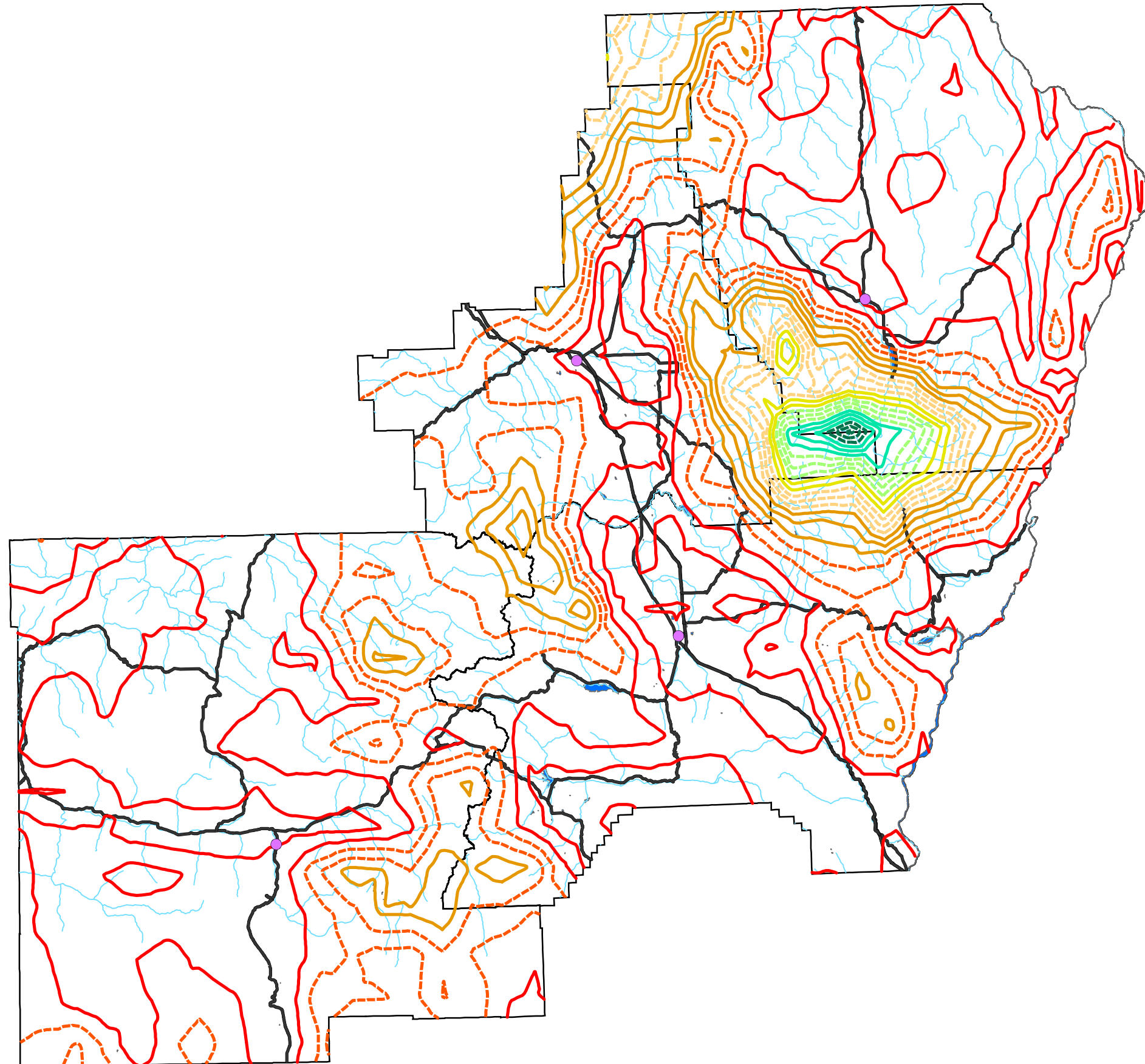
Number of Reported Drought Impacts for Region 7

	Baker	Grant	Union	Wallowa
1986	1	1	1	1
1987	1	1	1	1
1988	0	0	0	0
1989	0	0	0	0
1990	1	1	1	1
1991	1	1	1	1
1992	0	0	0	0
1993	0	0	0	0
1994	0	0	0	0














1995	0	0	0	0
1996	1	1	1	1
1997	0	0	0	0
1998	0	0	0	0
1999	3	3	3	3
2000	1	1	1	1
2001	8	6	6	8
2002	2	2	2	2
2003	0	0	0	0
2004	1	1	2	3
2005	6	4	4	6
2006	0	0	0	0
2007	1	0	0	0
total	27	22	23	28

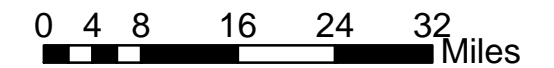
Northeast Oregon Natural Hazard Risk Reduction Plan

Drought



Legend

-  County Seats
- Average Precipitation: inches per year**
-  10 - 20
-  25 - 30
-  35 - 45
-  50 - 60
-  65 - 70
-  75 - 85
-  90 - 100
-  105 - 115
-  Roads
-  Streams
-  Lakes
-  County Boundaries



Data Sources: County and City boundaries, county seats, and precipitation contours are from the Oregon Geospatial Data Clearinghouse. Roads are from Oregon Department of Transportation.

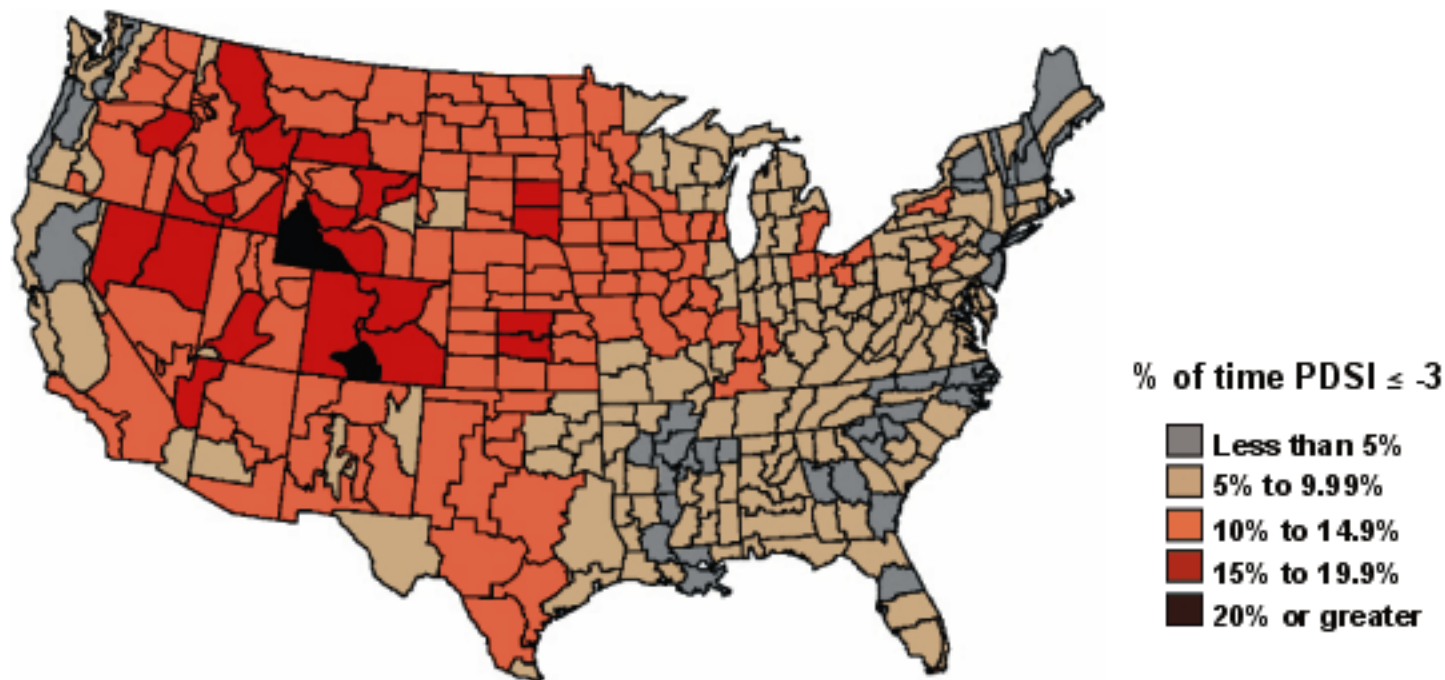
Maps created by Wallowa County GIS, a division of the Wallowa County Planning Department.

The information on this map was derived from various sources. Care was taken in the creation of this map but it is provided "as is". Wallowa County cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional accuracy in the digital data or the underlying records. There are no warranties, express or implied, including the merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, accompanying this product. However, notification of any errors will be appreciated.

Palmer Drought Severity Index

1895–1995

Percent of time in severe and extreme drought



SOURCE: McKee et al. (1993); NOAA (1990); High Plains Regional Climate Center (1996)
Albers Equal Area Projection; Map prepared at the National Drought Mitigation Center