



Frank Keating
Governor

FILED

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OKLAHOMA SECRETARY
OF STATE

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER 98-40

I, Frank Keating, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, pursuant to the powers vested in me by Section 2 of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution hereby declare that there continues to be severe depletion of soil moisture in the Southwest and South Central climate divisions and therefore, drought conditions still exist for Southwest and South Central Oklahoma. A significant number of rainfall events over the next several months are necessary to replenish the soil moisture in the Southwest and South Central climate divisions. Long-range weather forecasts do not appear to be optimistic as they call for dry conditions to persist through early Summer of 1999.

The Southwest climate division of Oklahoma consists of the following eight counties:

Caddo, Comanche, Cotton, Greer, Harmon, Jackson, Kiowa and Tillman

The South Central climate division of Oklahoma consists of the following eleven counties:

Atoka, Bryan, Carter, Garvin, Jefferson, Johnston, Love, Marshall,
Murray, Pontotoc, and Stephens

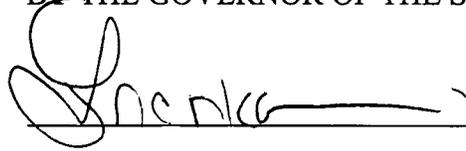
The Oklahoma Drought Management Team developed the "Oklahoma Drought Management Plan" in August 1997, and recognized the Palmer Drought Severity Index is widely used for determining drought conditions. The Palmer Drought Severity Index of December 12, 1998, shows moderate drought conditions continuing to exist in Southwest and South Central Oklahoma.

Now, Therefore, I, Frank Keating, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby declare that drought conditions still exist for Southwest and South Central Oklahoma.

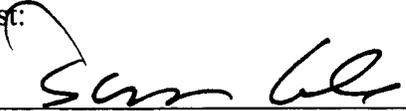
Copies of this Executive Order shall be distributed to the Director of Civil Emergency Management, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, who shall cause the provisions of this order to be implemented by all appropriate agencies of state government.

IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed at Oklahoma City, this 17th day of December, 1998.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA



Attest:



Secretary of State