Drought Report for the Week of March 7, 2016

Early to mid-2016 winter weather patterns have been favorable tor snowpack and streamflow conditions statewide. For the month of February, statewide streamflow conditions were over 115 percent of average. February streamflow conditions for western Oregon were 85 percent of average and flows for streams east of the Cascades were 135 percent of average. Statewide stream flow conditions for early March are 120 percent of average. Early March streamflow conditions for western Oregon are 82 percent of average and flows for streams east of the Cascades are 140 percent of average.

According to the US Drought Monitor, there are no longer any areas of "Extreme Drought" in Oregon. However 34 percent is still listed as under "Severe Drought' primarily in the Southeastern part of the state. Reservoir levels, most notably in Eastern Oregon, are much improved over last year but still remain low.

The U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook released February 18 shows drought conditions persisting in Oregon east of the Cascade Range through May.

NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for weather conditions to bring above normal temperatures for the next three months. The March-April-May (MAM) 2016 temperature outlook favors above-normal temperatures across the entire Pacific Northwest. The MAM 2016 precipitation outlook for the northwest corner of Oregon is for below-median precipitation. The outlook for the rest of the state is for equal chances of above or below normal precipitation.

To go to a specific section click on title below:

United States
Department of
Agriculture

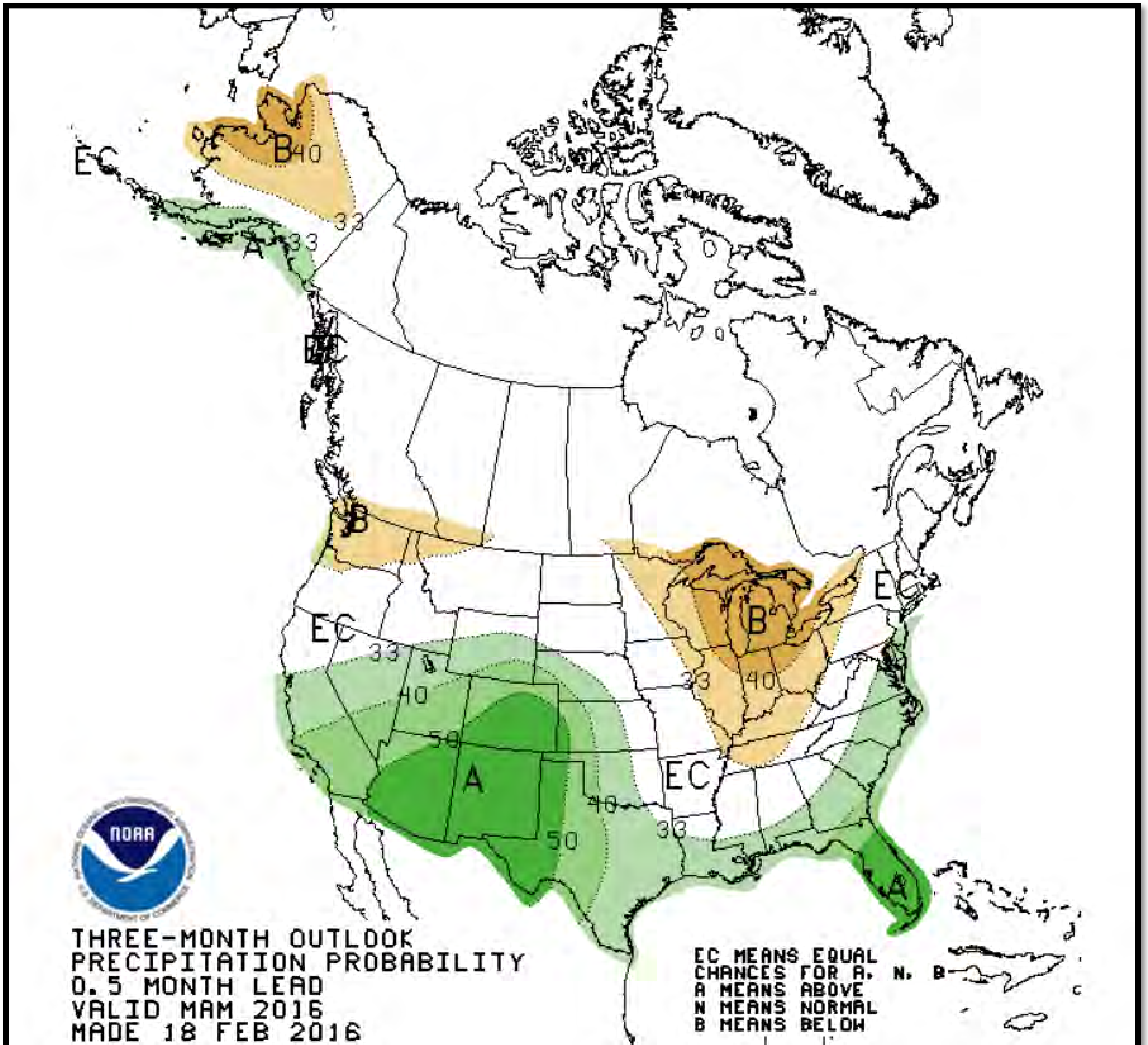
Natural Resources
Conservation
Service

Oregon
Basin Outlook Report

March 1st, 2016

Trevor Smith and Jake Johnstone measure snow at Ski Bowl Road snow course
Photo courtesy of Travis Kelly (Cooperative Snow Surveyor, Medford, OR)

Snow surveyors from the Oregon Water Resources Department measured 21.8 inches of water and 53 inches of snow depth at Ski Bowl Road snow course on Leap Day 2016. This is 104% of normal for this site in the Siskiyou Mountains, which has been measured monthly since 1966. Snowpack in the Rogue and Umpqua basins is at 103% of normal as of March 1st. Despite a warm February and widespread snowmelt, Oregon's mountains continue to maintain a near normal snowpack.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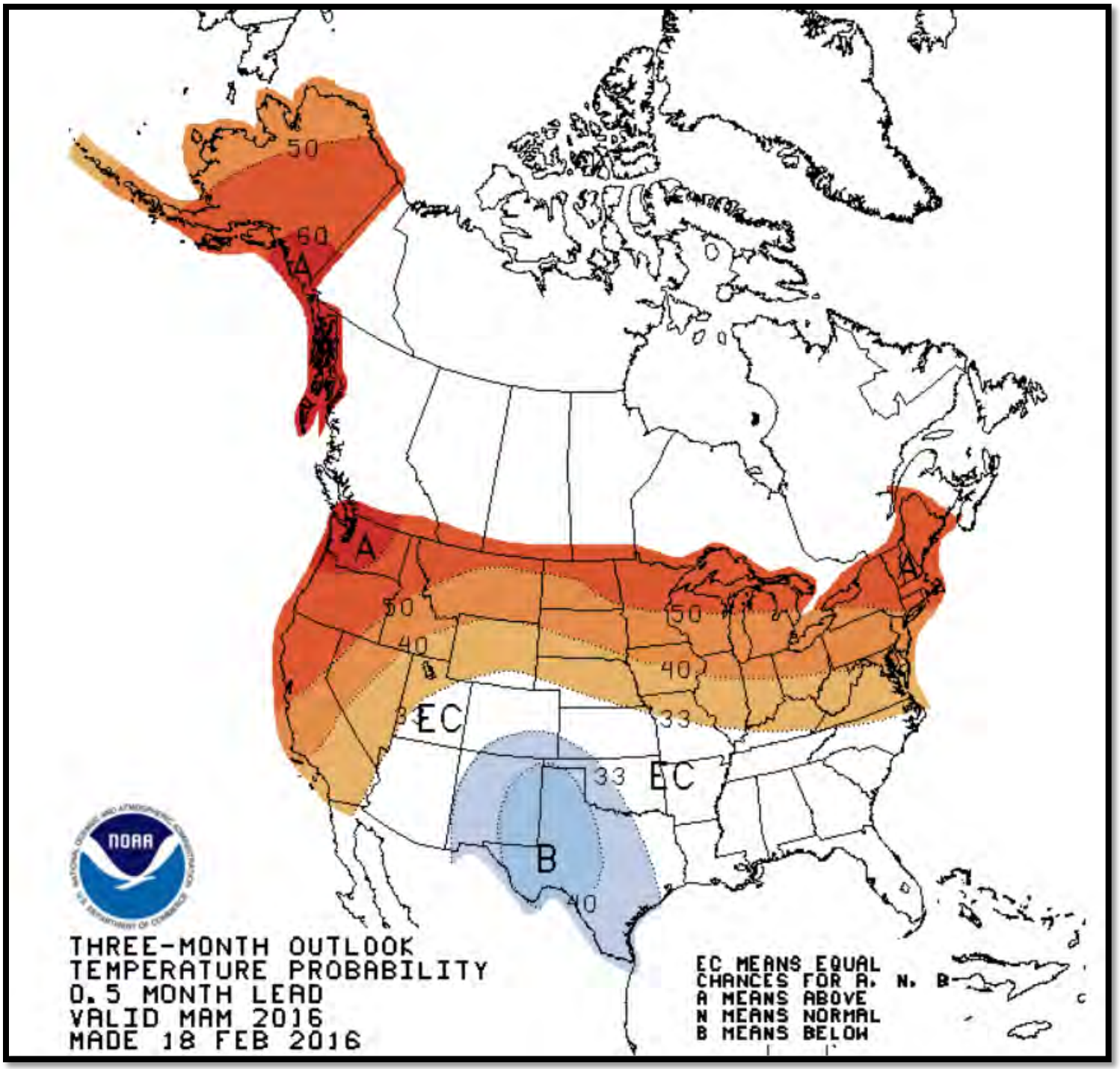
THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK
PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY
0.5 MONTH LEAD
VALID MAM 2016
MADE 18 FEB 2016
EC MEANS EQUAL
CHANCES FOR A, N, B
A MEANS ABOVE
N MEANS NORMAL
B MEANS BELOW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THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK
TEMPERATURE PROBABILITY
0.5 MONTH LEAD
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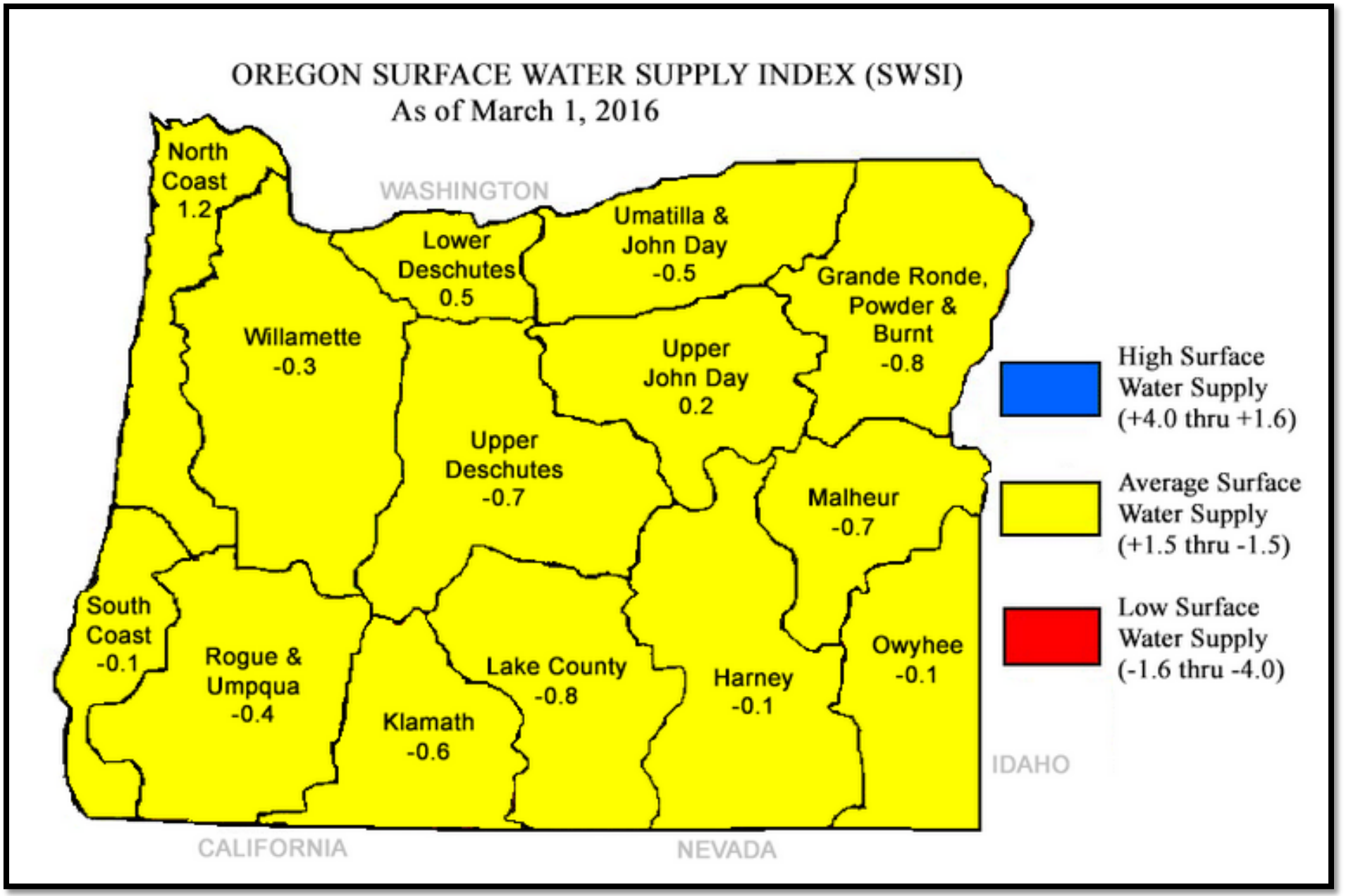
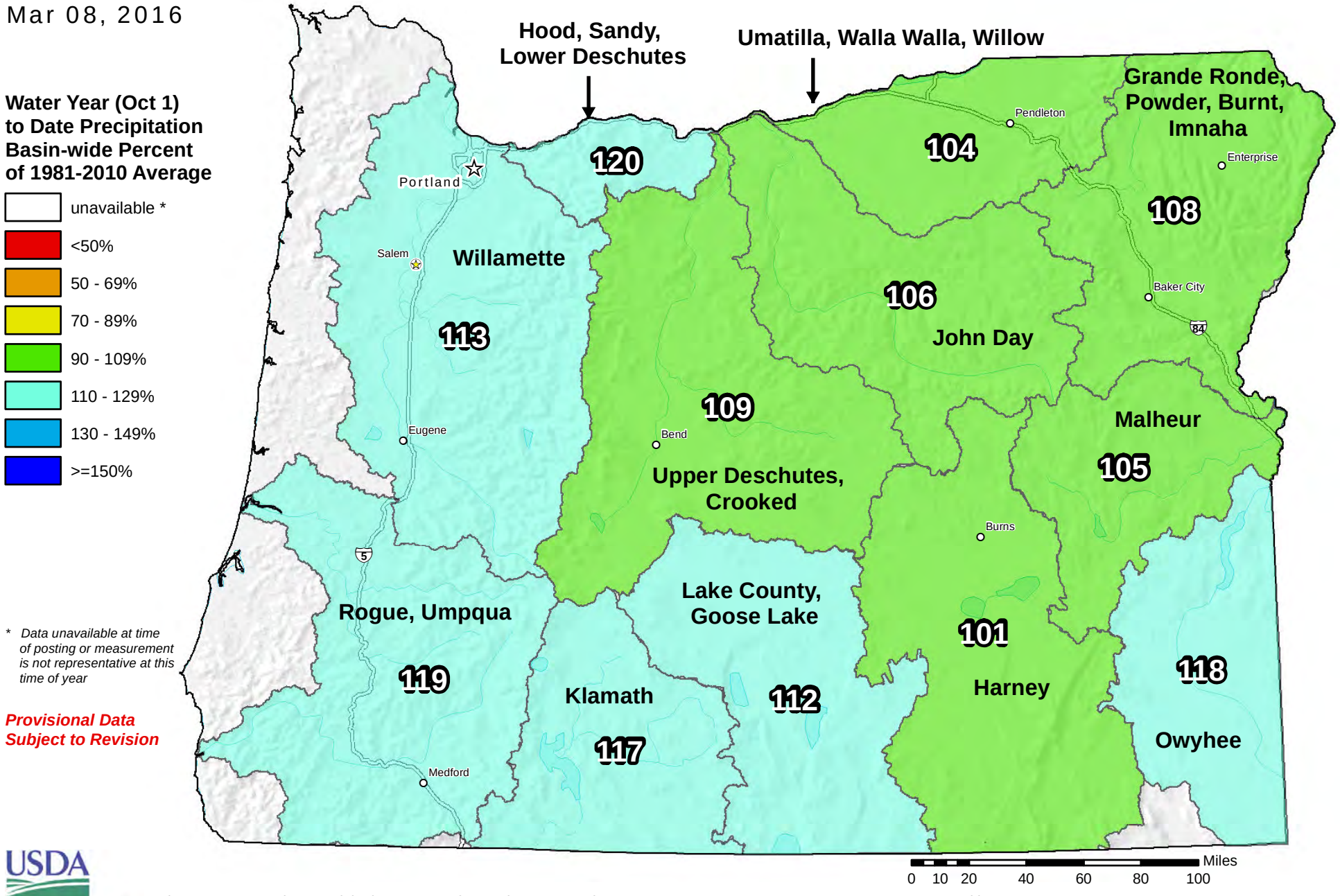

OREGON SURFACE WATER SUPPLY INDEX (SWSI)
As of March 1, 2016
North Coast 1.2
WASHINGTON
Lower Deschutes 0.5
Umatilla & John Day -0.5
Grande Ronde, Powder & Burnt -0.8
Willamette -0.3
Upper John Day 0.2
Upper Deschutes -0.7
Malheur -0.7
South Coast -0.1
Rogue & Umpqua -0.4
Klamath -0.6
Lake County -0.8
Harney -0.1
Owyhee -0.1
IDAHO
CALIFORNIA
NEVADA
High Surface Water Supply (+4.0 thru +1.6)
Average Surface Water Supply (+1.5 thru -1.5)
Low Surface Water Supply (-1.6 thru -4.0)

Oregon SNOTEL Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation % of Normal

Mar 08, 2016



* *Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year*

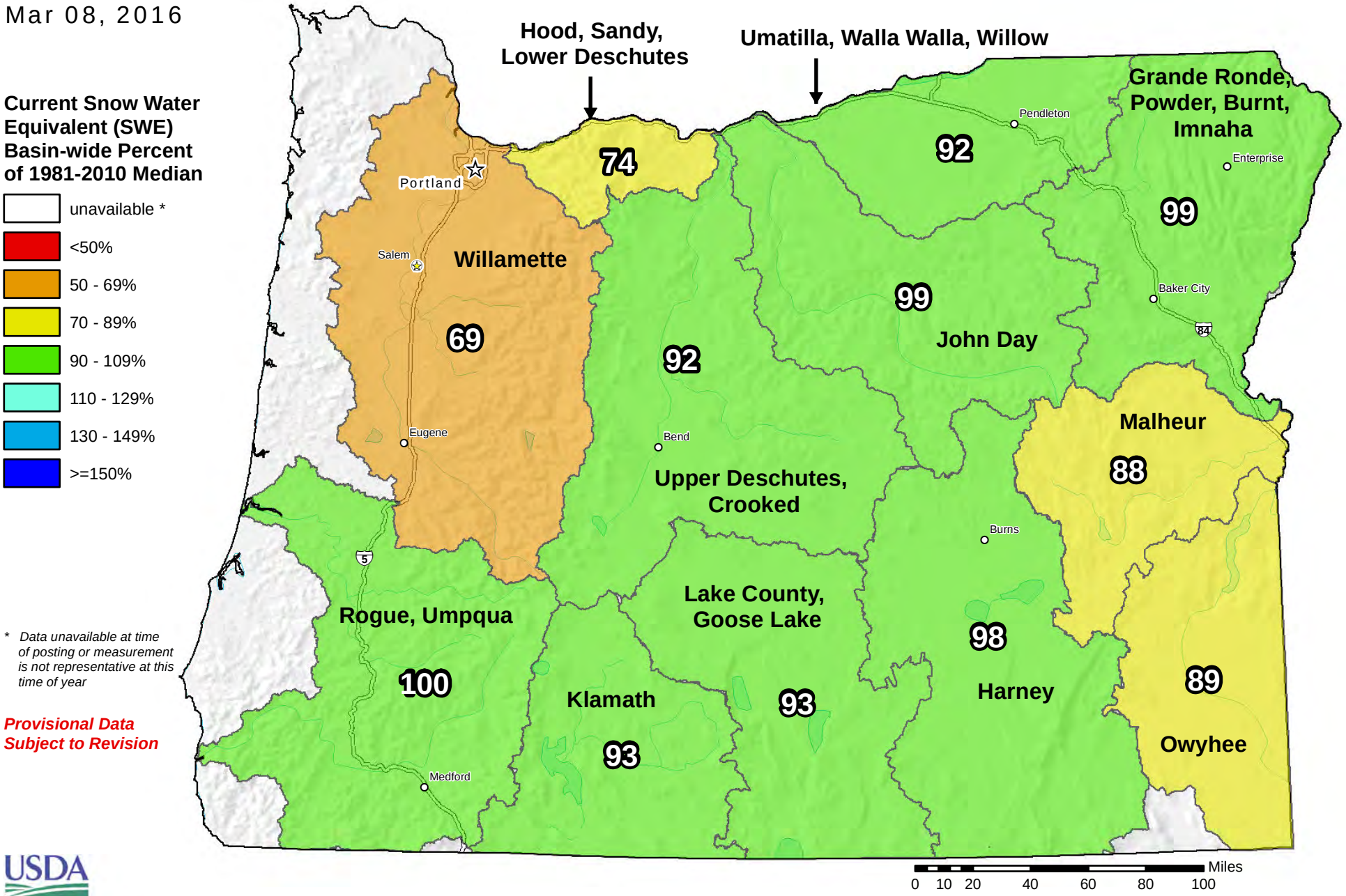
Provisional Data Subject to Revision

The water year to date precipitation percent of normal represents the accumulated precipitation found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

Prepared by:
USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center
Portland, Oregon
http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov

Oregon SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) % of Normal

Mar 08, 2016



* *Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year*

Provisional Data Subject to Revision

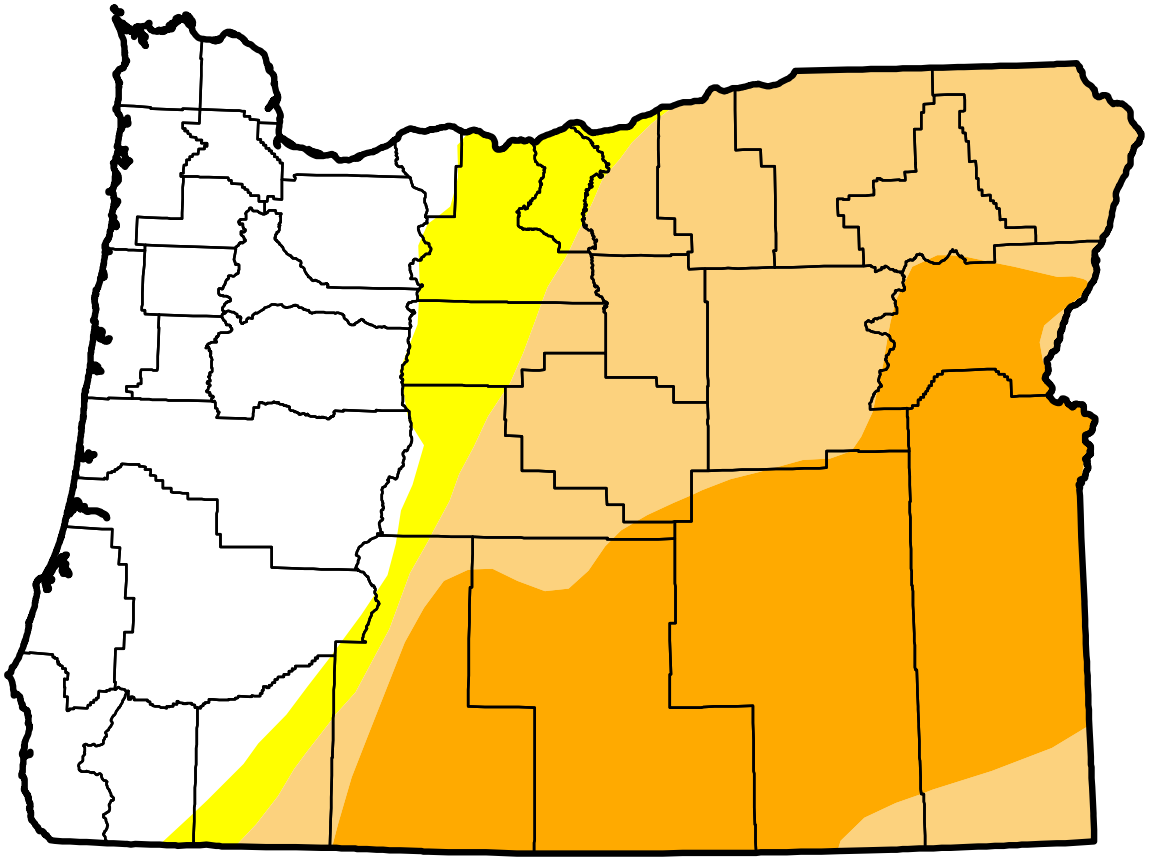
USDA NRCS

The snow water equivalent percent of normal represents the current snow water equivalent found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

Prepared by:
USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center
Portland, Oregon
http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov

U.S. Drought Monitor

Oregon



March 1, 2016

(Released Thursday, Mar. 3, 2016)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	29.47	70.53	62.92	33.96	0.00	0.00
Last Week *2/23/2016*	29.47	70.53	65.86	33.96	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago *12/1/2015*	0.71	99.29	96.01	90.37	60.62	0.00
Start of Calendar Year *12/29/2015*	14.52	85.48	80.45	65.33	39.55	0.00
Start of Water Year *9/29/2015*	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	67.29	0.00
One Year Ago *3/3/2015*	14.22	85.78	82.37	44.95	33.72	0.00

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

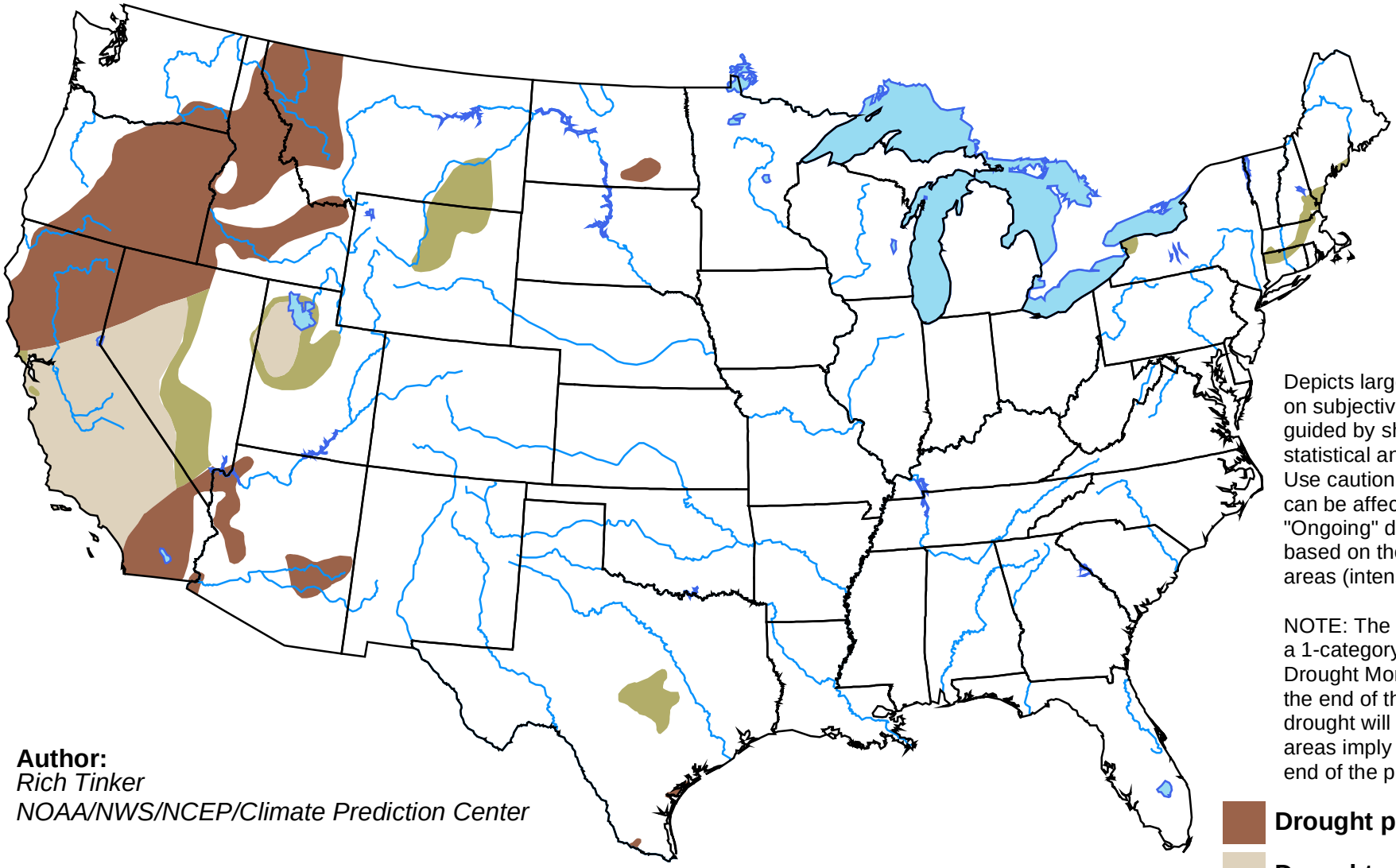
Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for February 18 - May 31, 2016
Released February 18, 2016



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

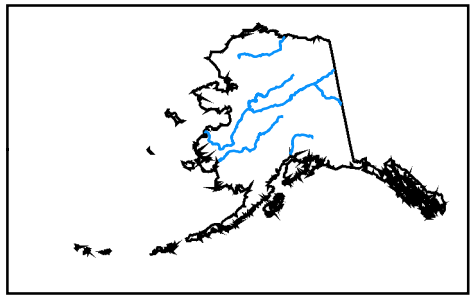
Drought persists

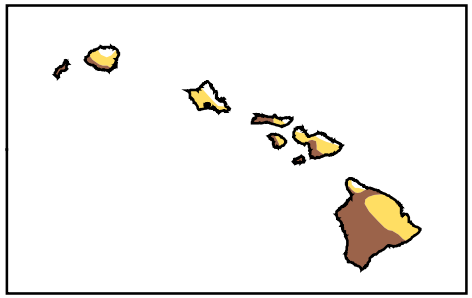
Drought remains but improves

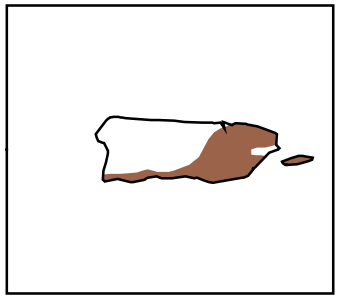
Drought removal likely

Drought development likely

Author:
Rich Tinker
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

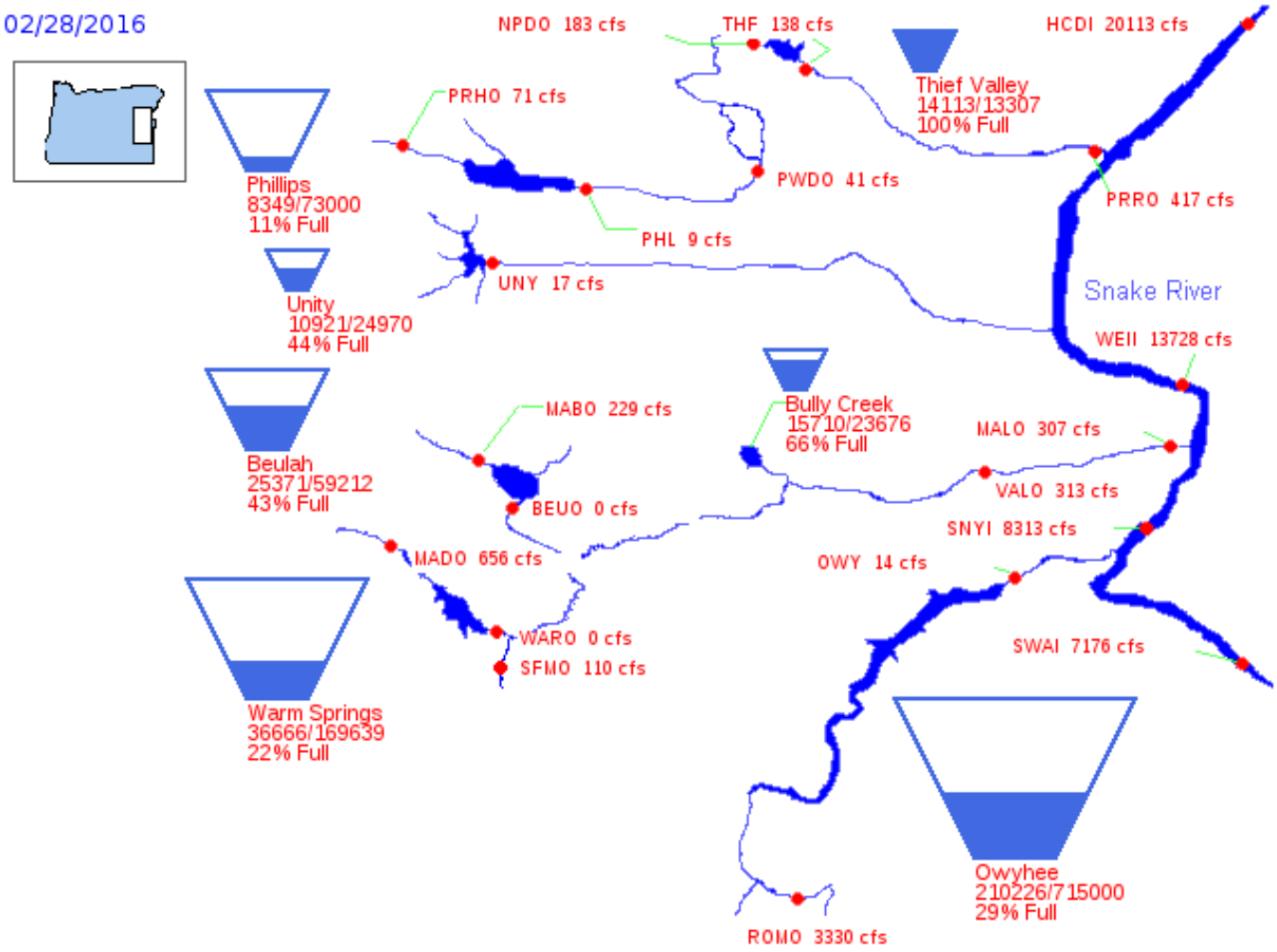






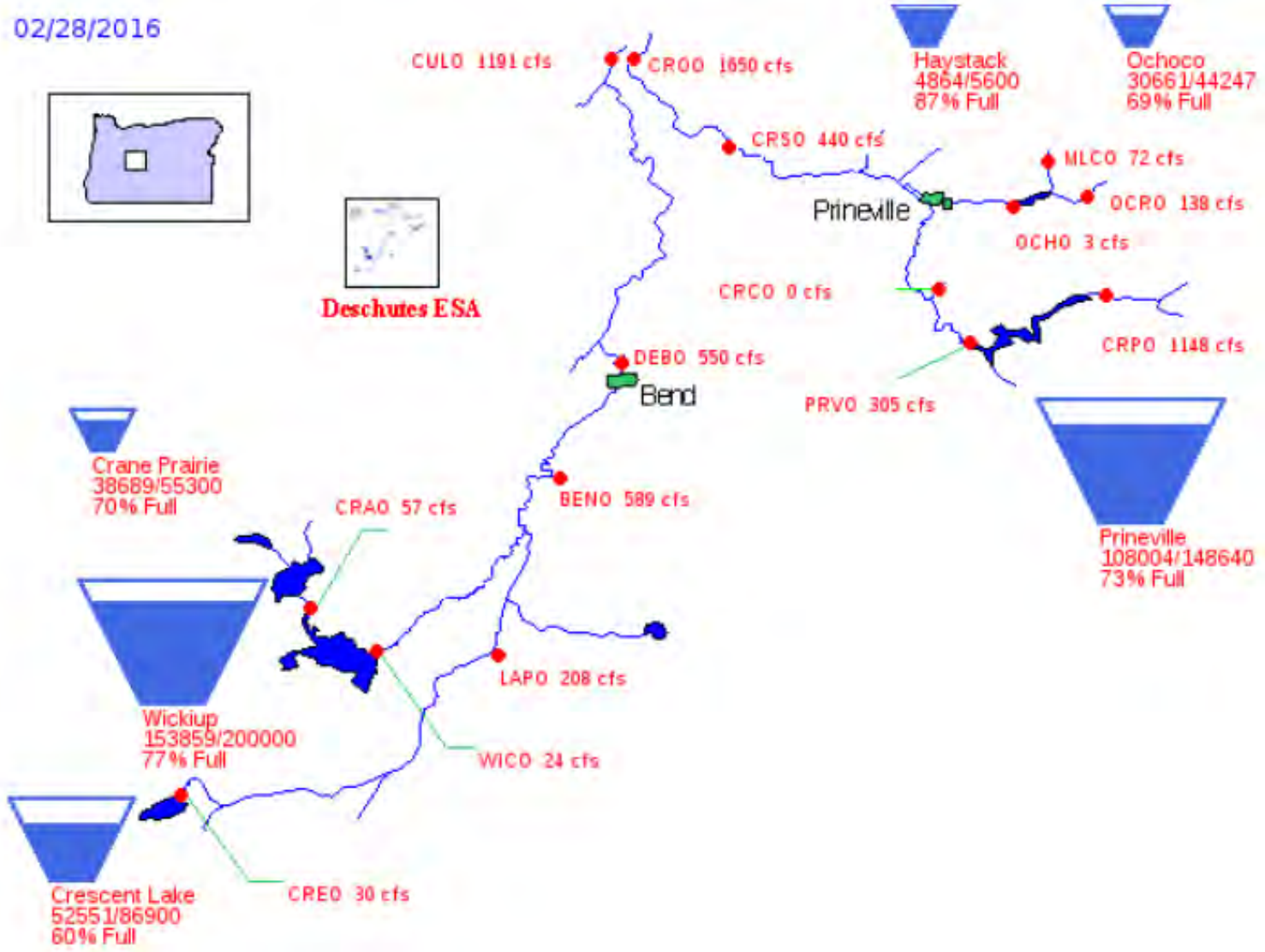
http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73

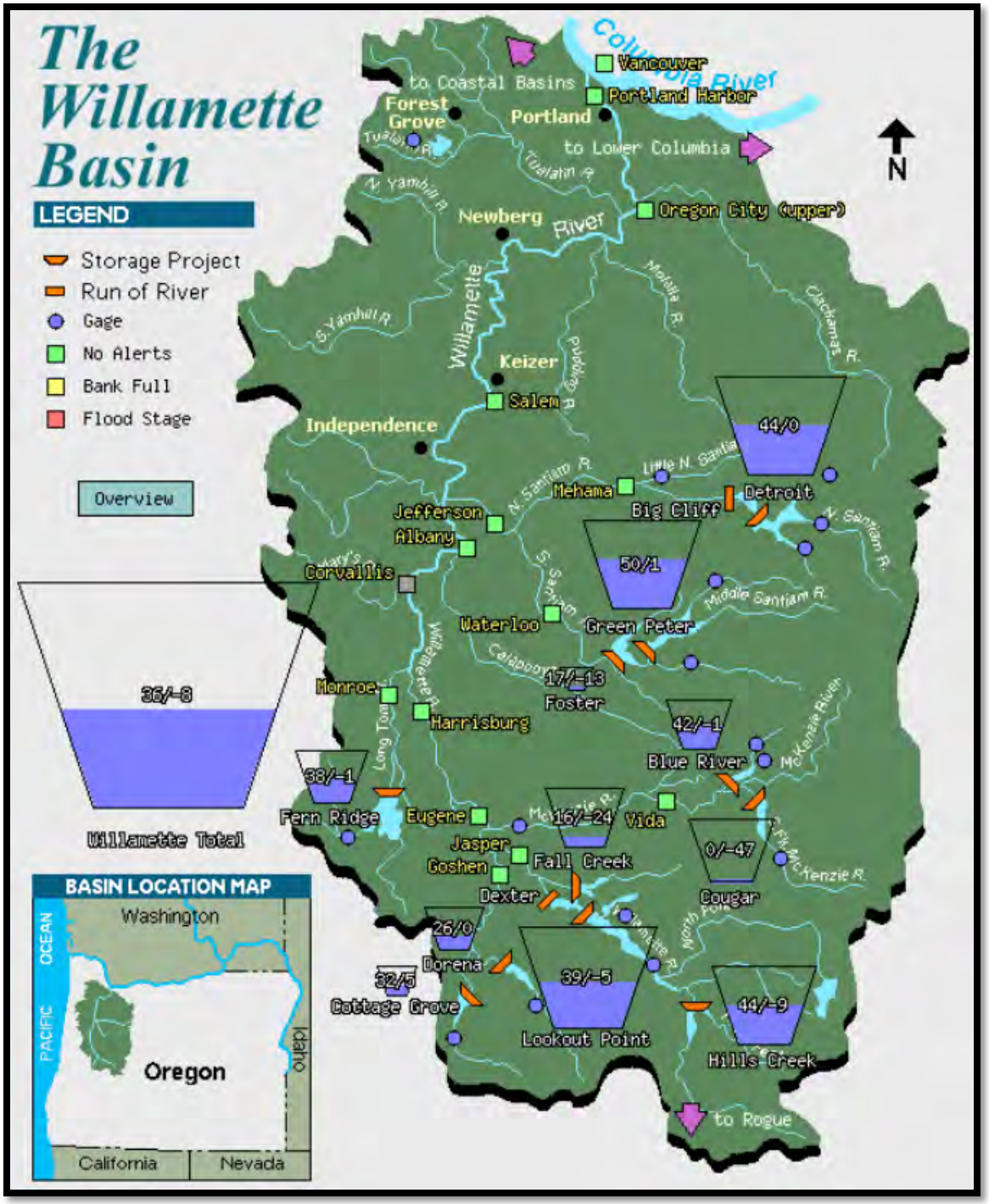
US Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region
Major Storage Reservoirs in Southeastern Oregon



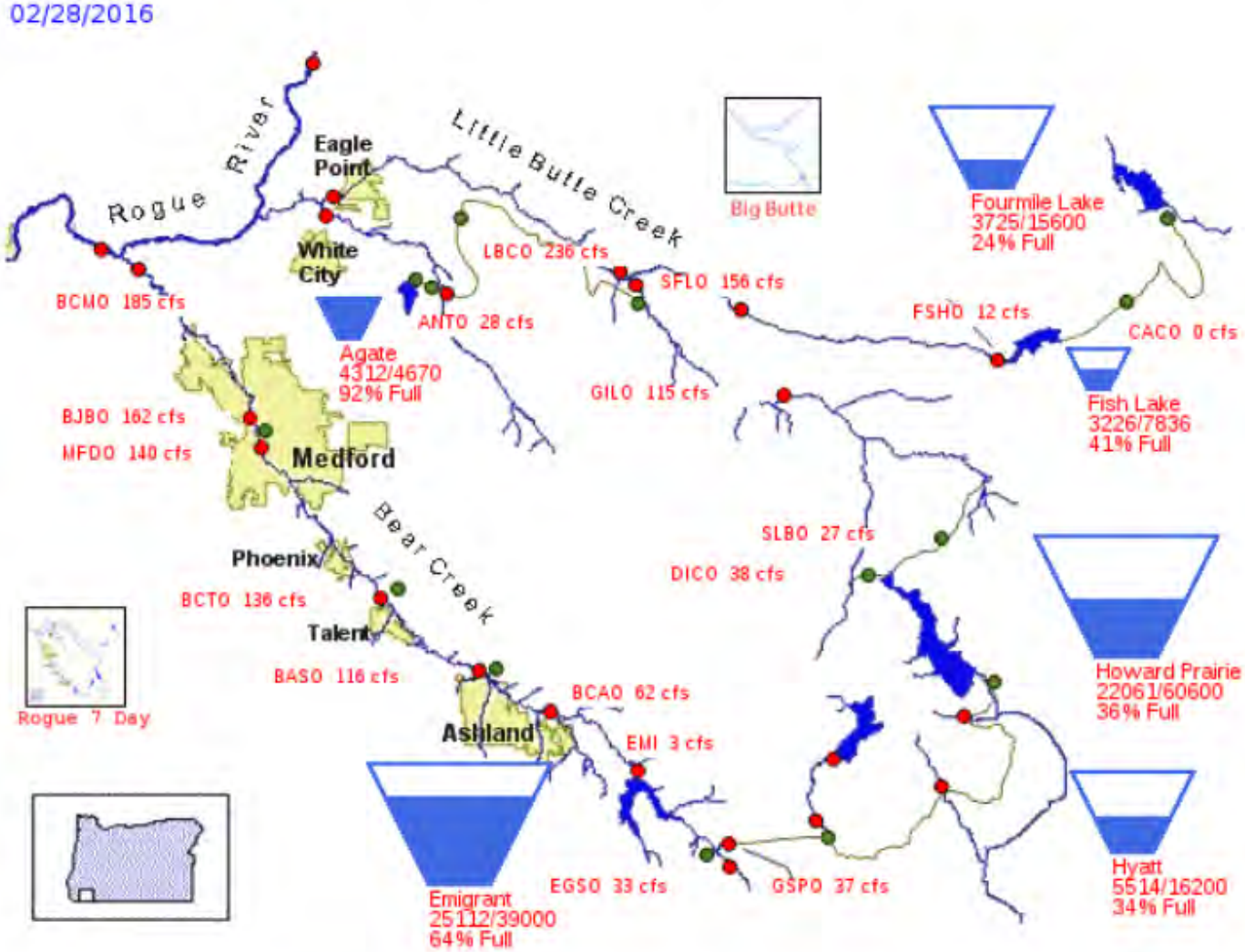
NOTE: This graphic does not depict 400,000 acre-feet of water that is maintained in Owyhee reservoir.

US Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region
Major Storage Reservoirs in the Deschutes River Basin



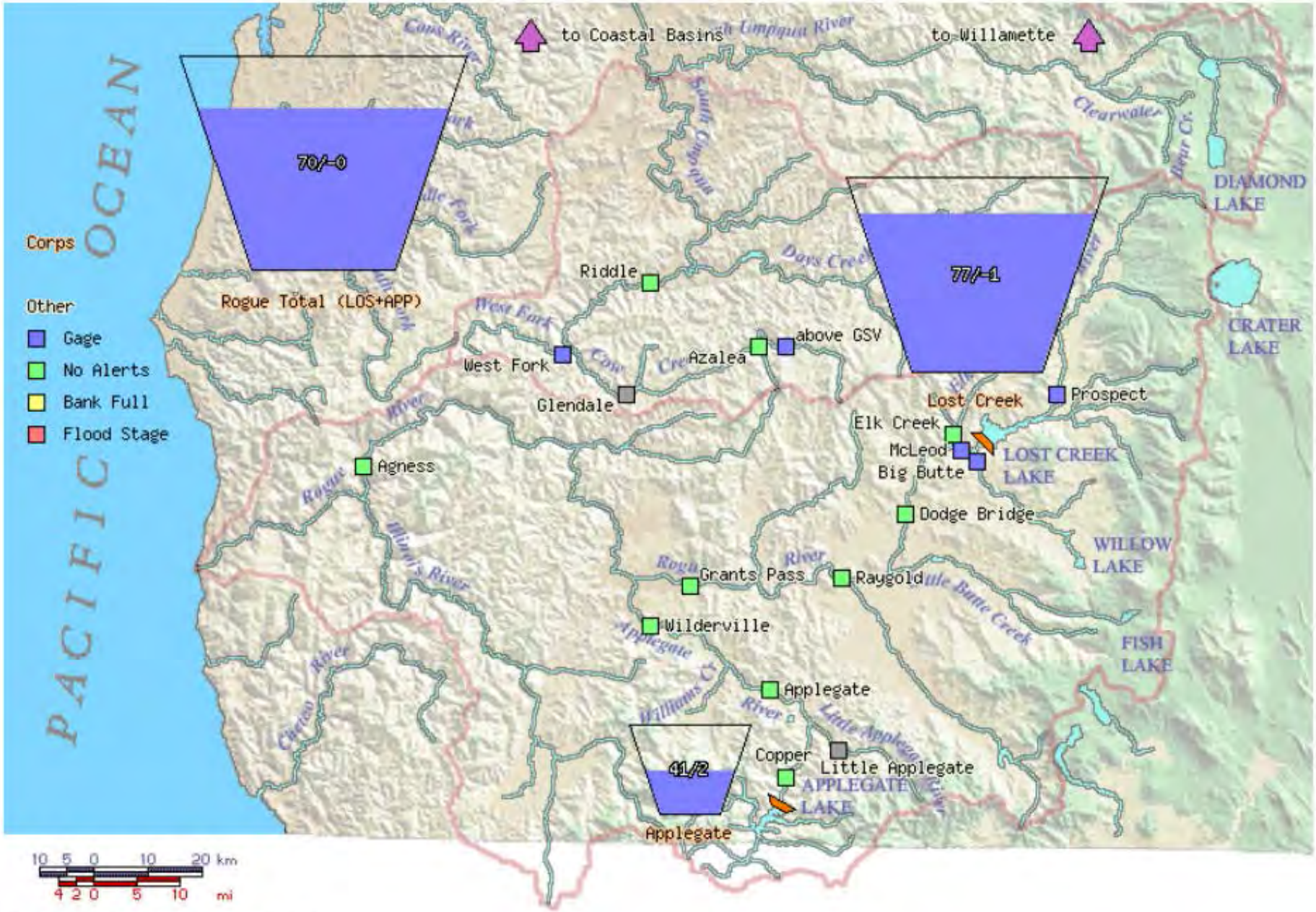

The Willamette Basin
LEGEND
Storage Project
Run of River
Gage
No Alerts
Bank Full
Flood Stage
Overview
Columbia River
Vancouver
Portland Harbor
to Coastal Basins
Forest Grove
Portland
to Lower Columbia
N
Tualatin R.
N. Yamhill R.
Newberg
Oregon City (upper)
Willamette
S. Yamhill R.
Keizer
Salem
Pudding R.
Molalla R.
Clackamas R.
Independence
44/0
Little N. Santiam
N. Santiam R.
Mehama
Detroit
Big Cliff
Jefferson
Albany
50/1
Corvallis
Middle Santiam R.
Waterloo
Green Peter
Calapooia R.
17/-13
Foster
Monroe
Harrisburg
Long Tom
42/-1
Blue River
McKenzie River
36/-8
38/-1
Fern Ridge
Eugene
16/-24
Vida
Jasper
Goshen
Fall Creek
0/-47
Cougar
S. Fk. McKenzie R.
Dexter
North Fork
26/0
Dorena
39/-5
32/5
Cottage Grove
Lookout Point
44/-9
Hills Creek
to Rogue
Willamette Total
BASIN LOCATION MAP
Washington
OCEAN
PACIFIC
Oregon
Idaho
California
Nevada

US Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region
Bear Creek and Little Butte Creek Basins



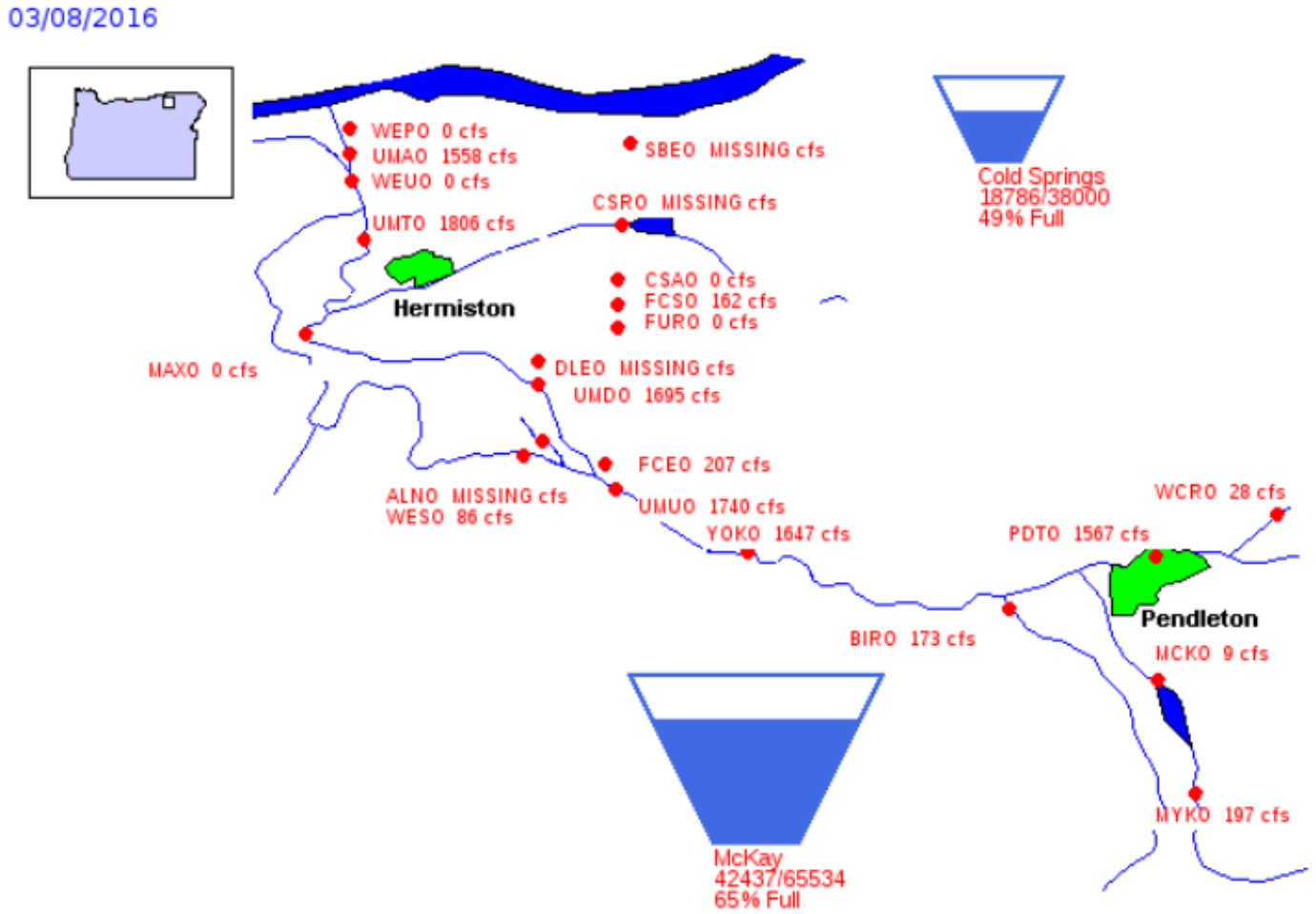
PROVISIONAL DATA - SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

Rogue Basin Teacup Diagram



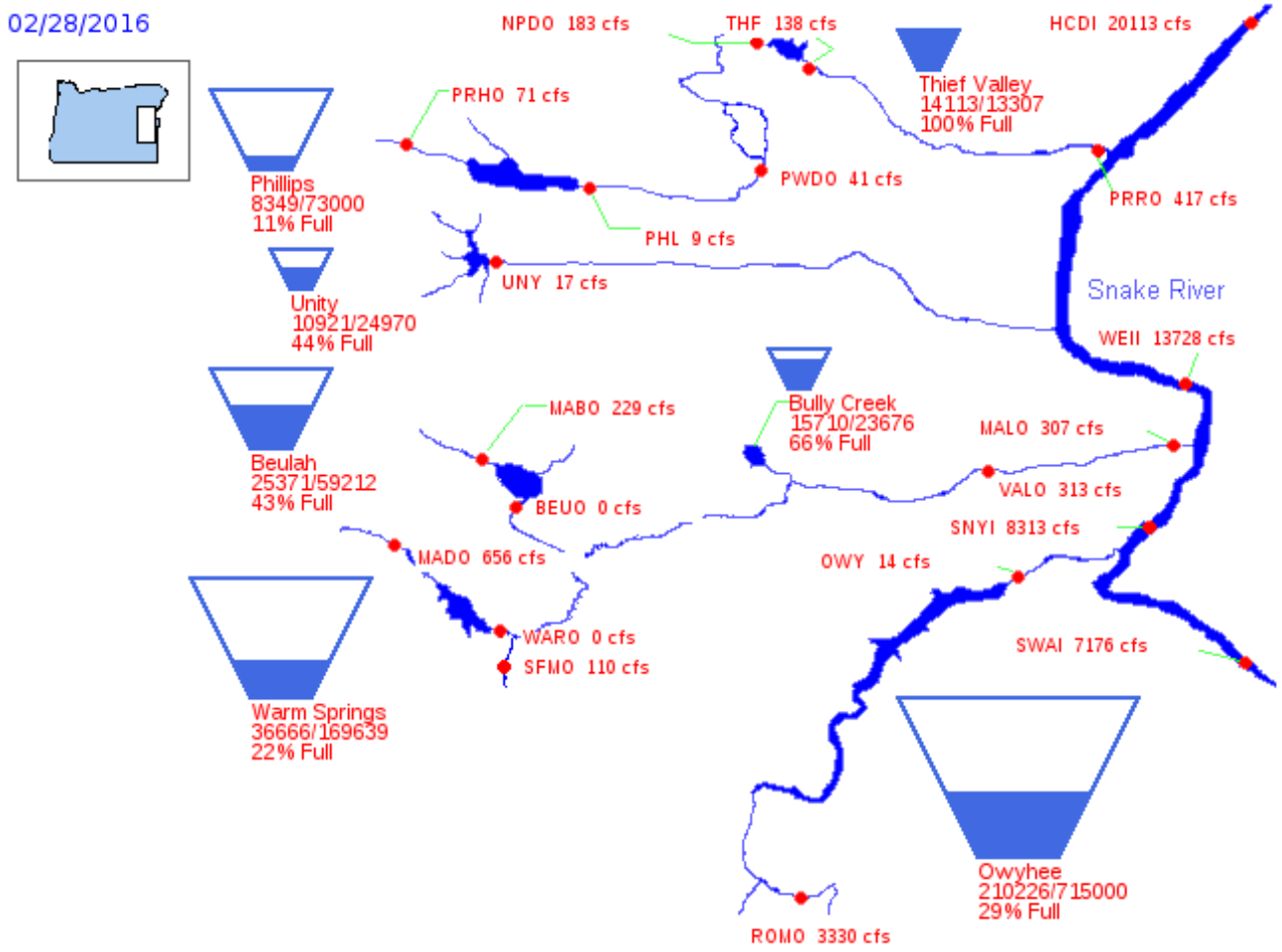
Created: Mon Feb 29 09:40:39 2016

Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region
Umatilla River Basin Storage and Flow Diagram



PROVISIONAL DATA - SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

US Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region
Major Storage Reservoirs in Southeastern Oregon



NOTE: This graphic does not depict 400,000 acre-feet of water that is maintained in Owyhee reservoir.

PROVISIONAL DATA - SUBJECT TO CHANGE!