

# Oregon Water Conditions Report May 30, 2017



**There is little snow remaining below five thousand feet in elevation.** Cooler weather during the next several days should help to moderate snowmelt at higher elevations. However, over the next [8 to 14 days](#), the NOAA Climate Prediction Center is forecasting enhanced probabilities of above normal temperatures across most of Oregon. Over this same period the outlook is for below normal precipitation throughout the state. The above normal temperatures will likely contribute to an increase in snowmelt and resultant runoff in snow dominant watersheds like the upper Deschutes Basin.

For more region-specific snowpack information, refer to [page 4](#). The full May 1, 2017 NRCS [Water Supply Outlook Report](#) is also available. The June report should be released by sometime early next week.

**Statewide mountain precipitation has continued to be well above average in most locations.** From the first of the water year to May 30, statewide mountain precipitation (based upon SNOTEL data) is 129 percent of normal. However, precipitation for the month of May was at 69 percent.

**In some areas of the state, cool spring temperatures have slowed the start of the growing season.** See [page 6](#) for a graphic depicting lower than normal temperatures that occurred in April. The May temperature report should be available in the next few days. Follow this [link](#) for the latest information.

**The most recent three month outlook from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center** indicates an above normal chance of higher than normal temperatures and an equal chance of above or below normal precipitation between now and August. The next outlook will be issued on June 15, 2017.

**Statewide streamflows for the month of May so far are almost 130 percent of normal.** As of late last week, stream flows were down slightly at a little over 100 percent of normal. Regionally for the month of May, streamflow conditions east of the Cascades were at 125 percent and 135 percent on the west side.

Due to the amount of remaining snowpack, the NRCS [May 1<sup>st</sup> streamflow volume forecast](#) for the state indicates average to above average streamflows for the majority of Oregon this summer.

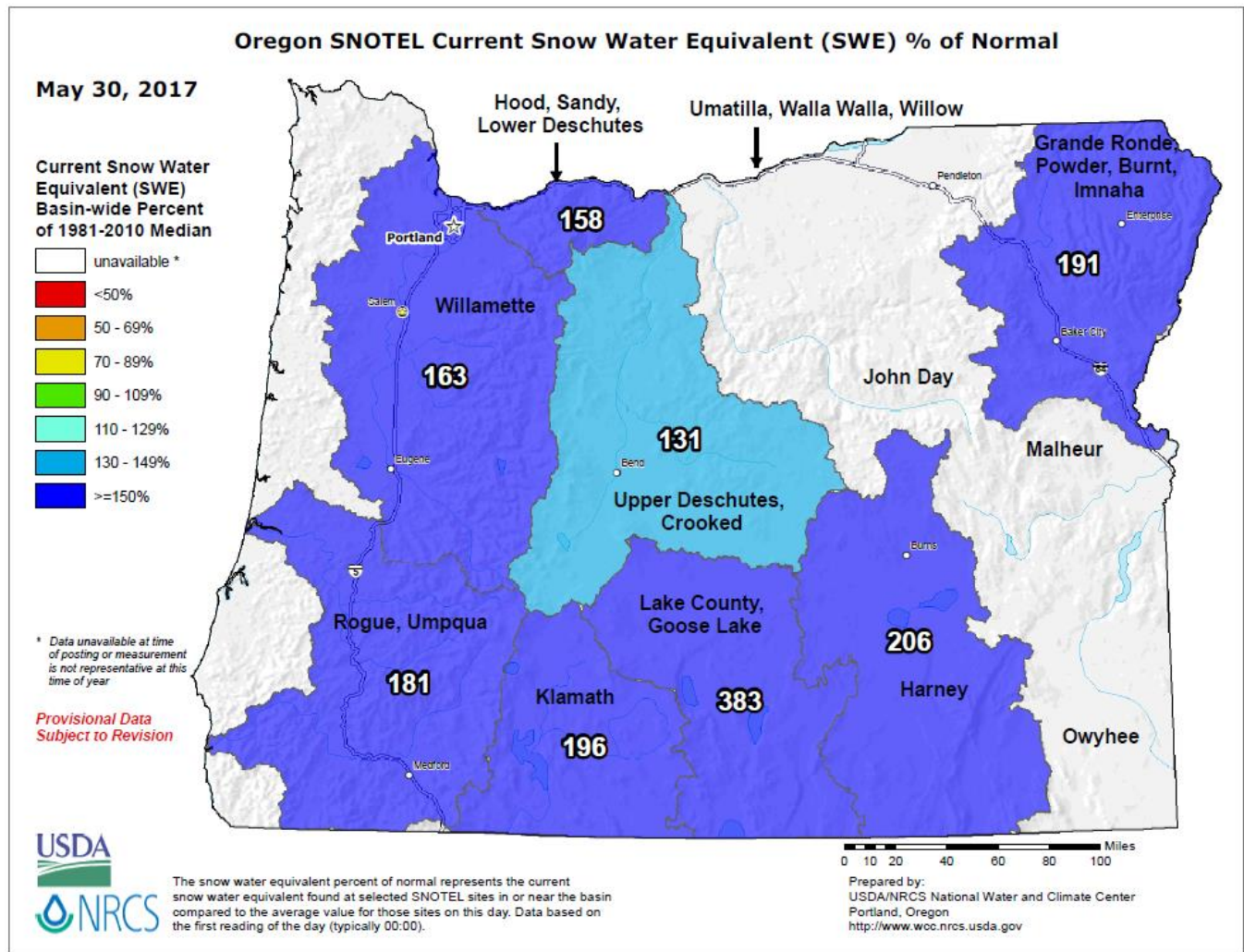
**Most of the state's water supply reservoirs are now at maximum capacity.** [Willamette](#) and [Rogue](#) project reservoirs appear to be on track for a good summer season. Central Oregon reservoirs are between 80 and 100 percent of capacity with ample snowmelt expected as the runoff season approaches. With the exception of [Phillips Reservoir](#) (89%), most eastern Oregon reservoirs are very close to capacity. For the most recent near real-time, site-specific reservoir conditions (teacup diagrams) visit the [USBR](#) or [USACE](#) websites.

**No change in drought status in the past several weeks.** The most recent US Drought Monitor report indicates that the entire state (100 percent) is no longer listed in any drought category. The last time this condition was observed was in October, 2011. Refer to the map on [page 9](#) for details.

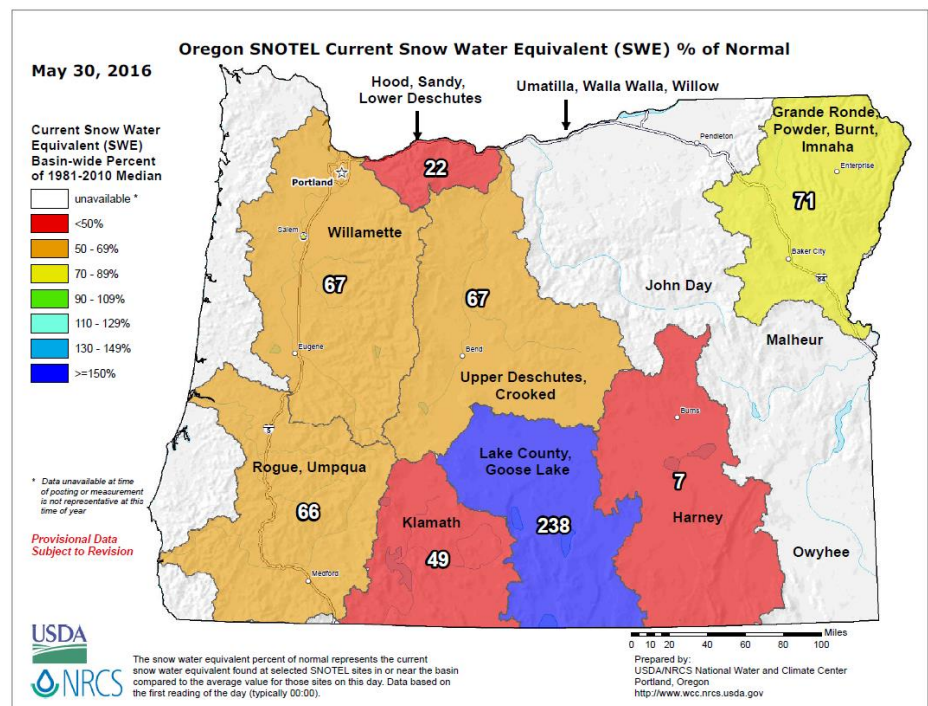
**The Oregon Department of Forestry continues to forecast average to below average 2017 fire season.** “Despite the recent dry period and warm up, most areas in the state show fuel moistures and fire indices below to near average for this time of year. With a cool and wet year already, and some forecasts indicating continued cool and wet, fire season is likely to be below average again this summer.”

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## Snowpack - Percent of Normal

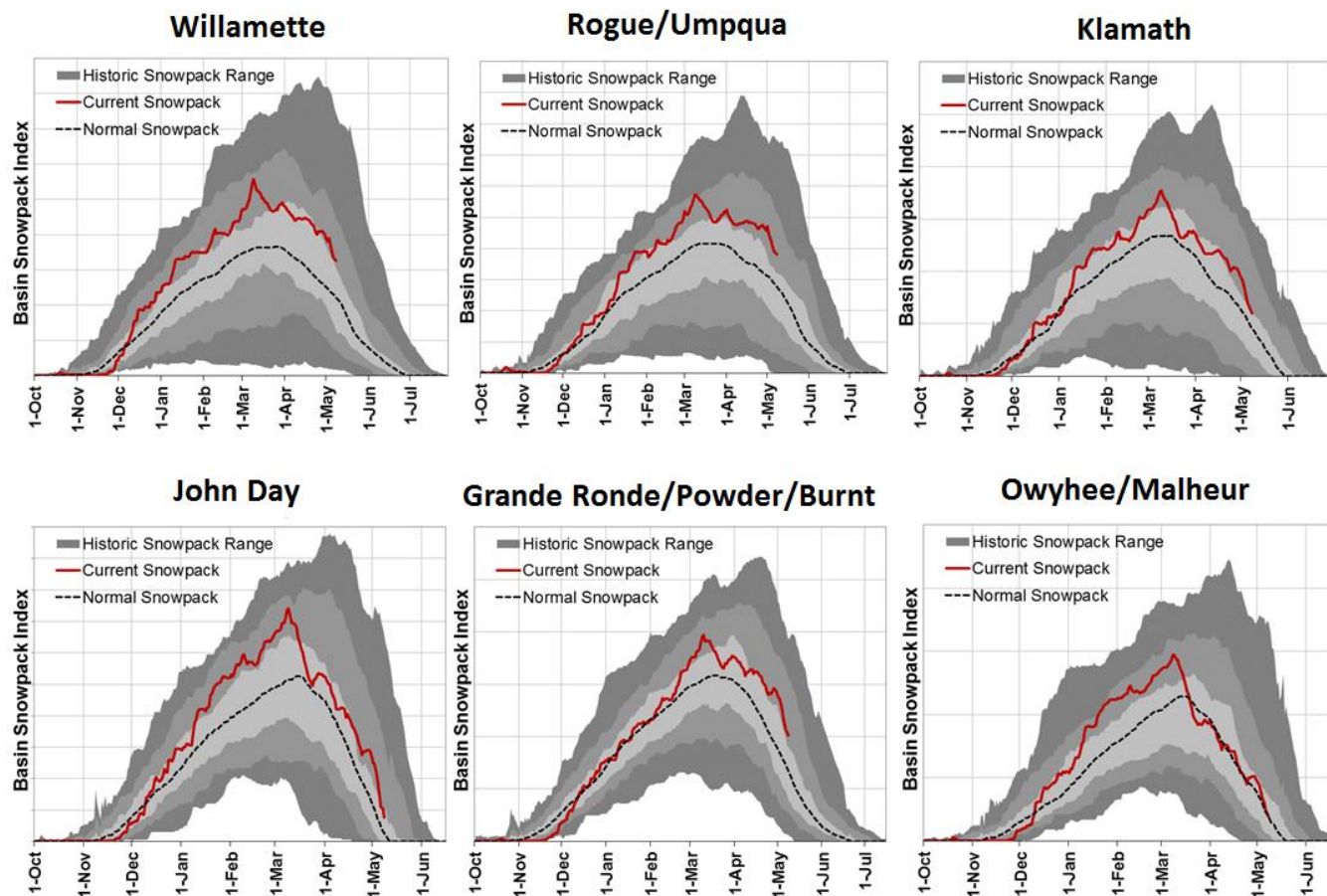


Compared to this time last year -



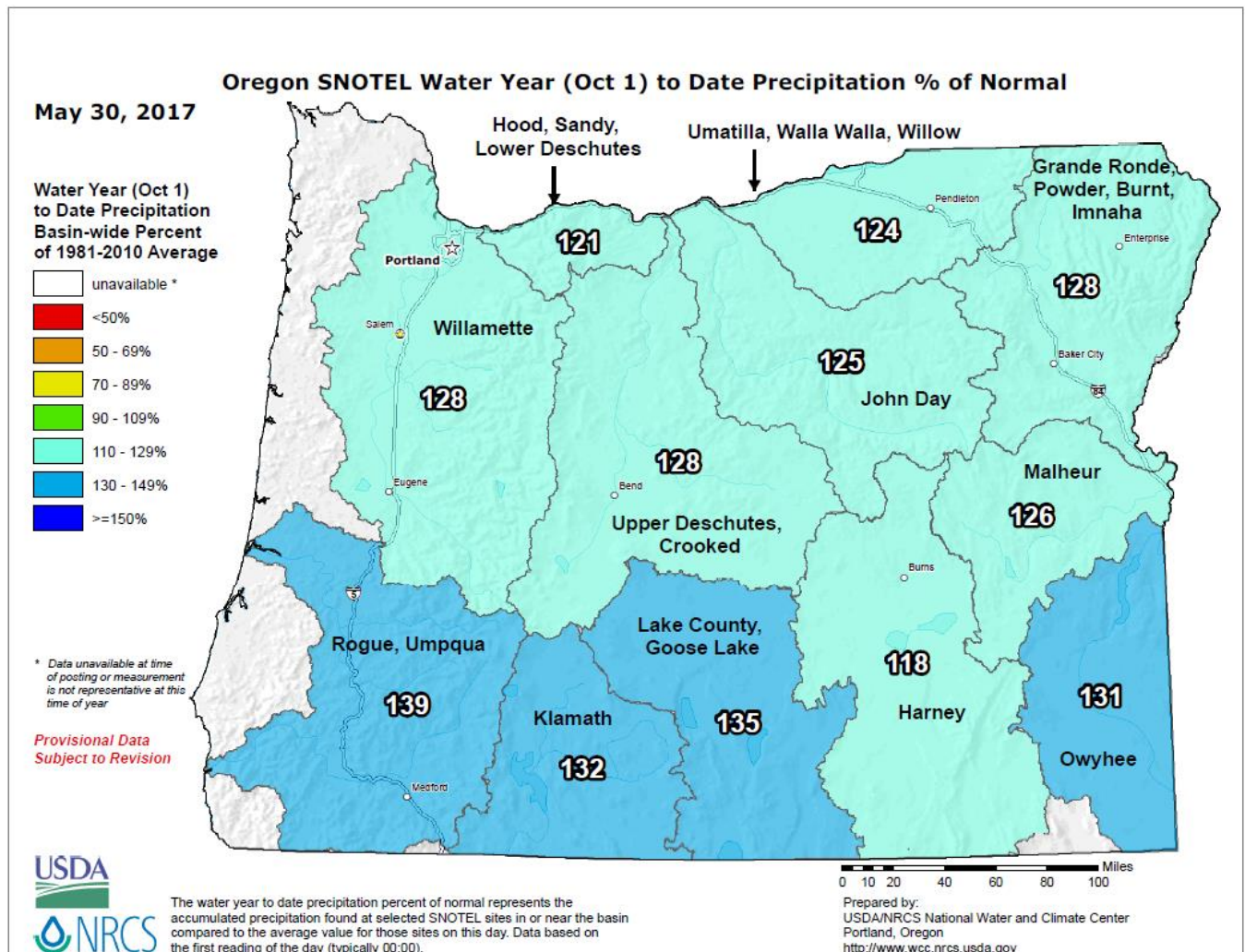
## Snowpack - Percent of Normal (continued)

Water Year 2017 – May 8<sup>th</sup>

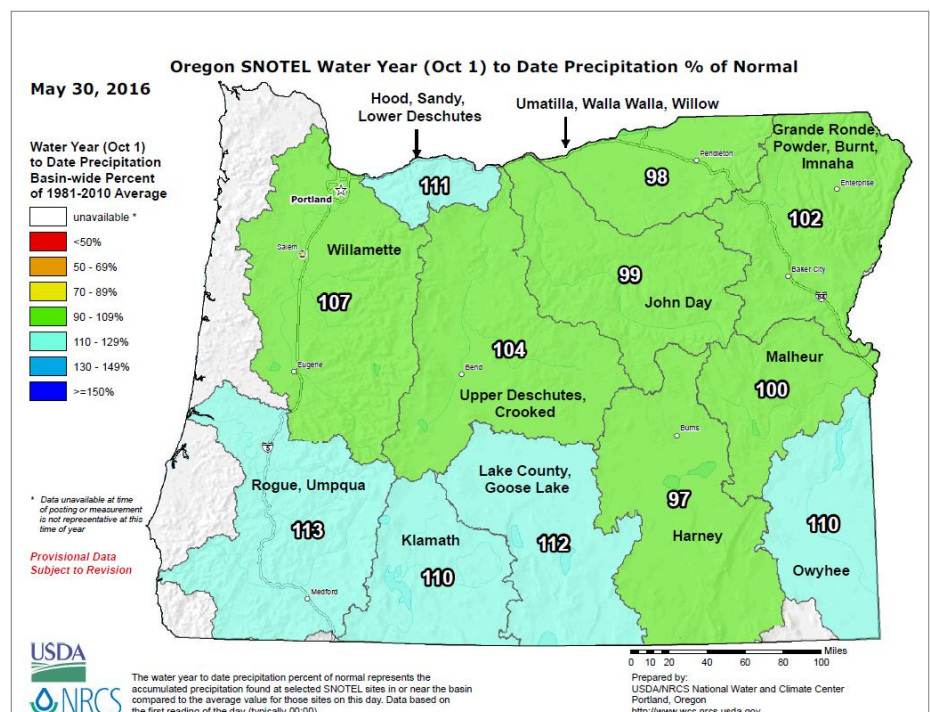




## Precipitation (mountain) - Percent of Normal



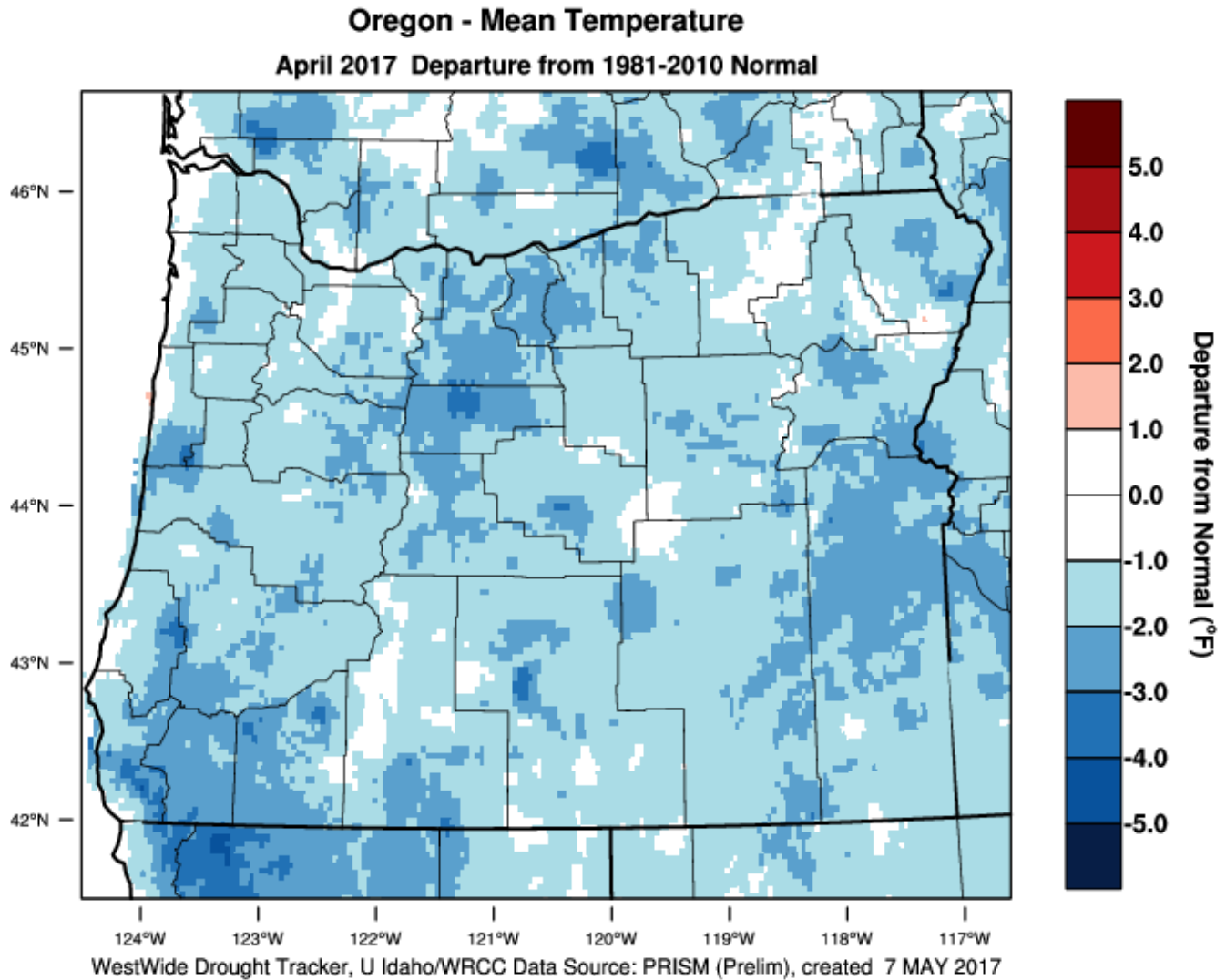
Compared to this time  
 last year -



## Temperature – (1 Month) Departure from Normal

Website: <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/wwdt/index.php?folder=mdn1>

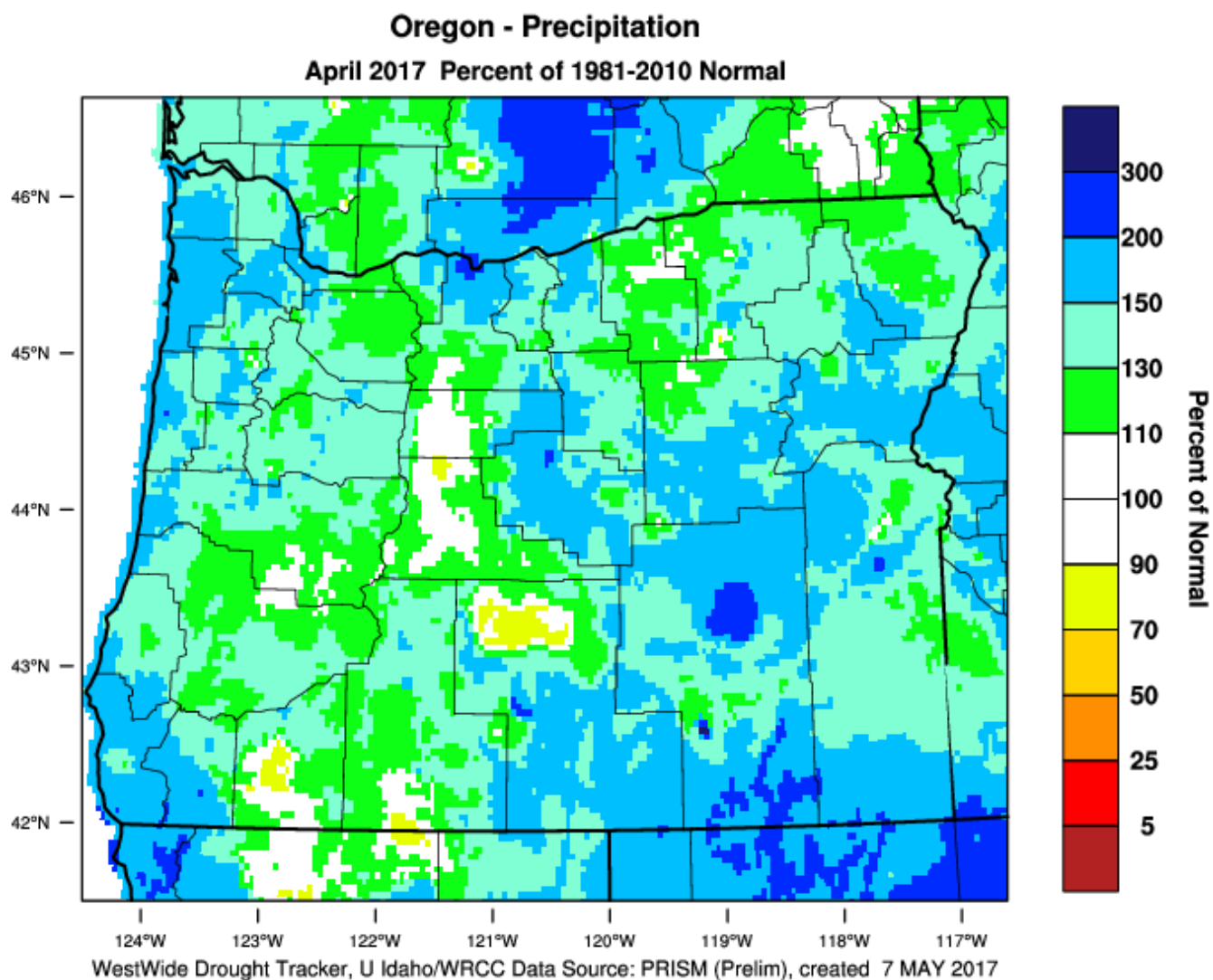
### PRISM > Temperature Anomaly 1 Month > Oregon



## Precipitation – (1 Month) Percent of Normal

Website: <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/wwdt/index.php?folder=pon1>

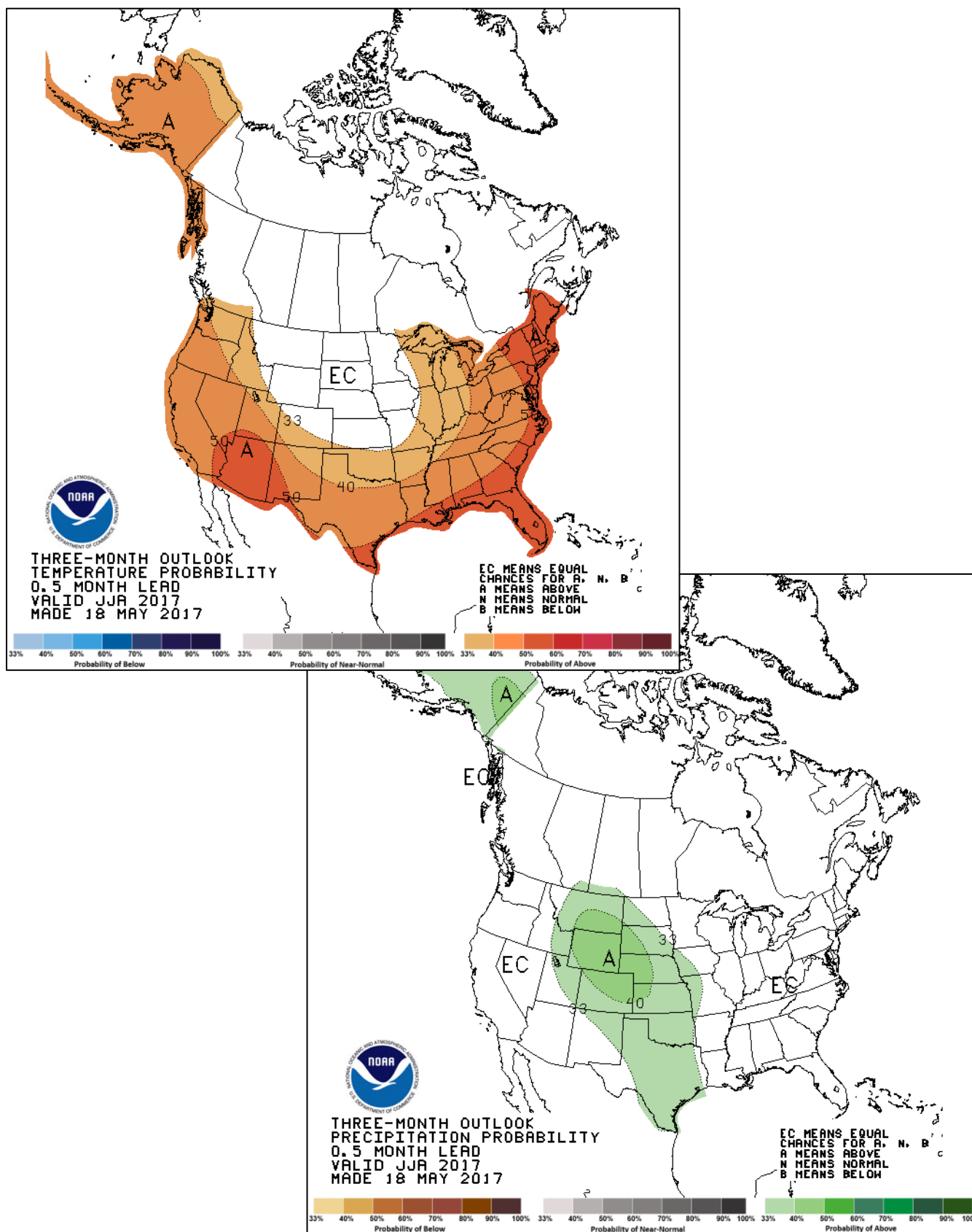
### PRISM > Precipitation Anomaly 1 Month > Oregon



## Three Month Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

June-July-August – Follow link for the latest information.

Website: [http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long\\_range/seasonal.php?lead=1](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=1)





# U.S. Drought Monitor for Oregon

Website: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?OR>

## U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

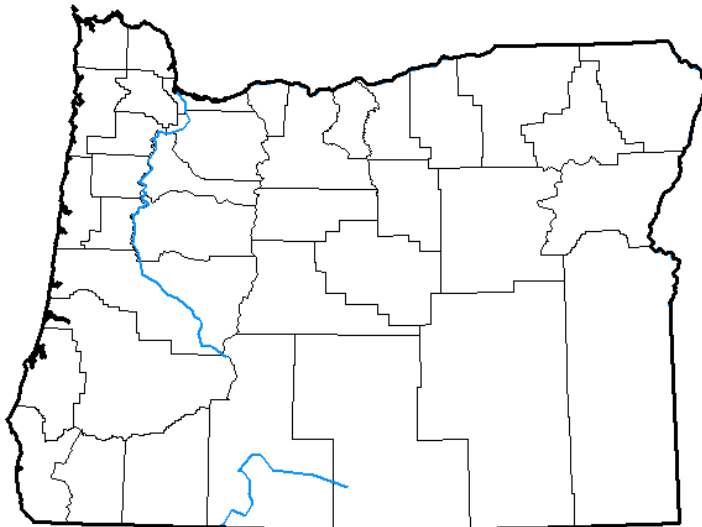
**May 23, 2017**

(Released Thursday, May 25, 2017)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 05-16-2017	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 02-21-2017	82.99	17.01	2.98	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2017	65.31	34.69	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2016	0.00	100.00	50.59	12.30	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 05-24-2016	20.39	79.61	24.74	0.00	0.00	0.00



### Intensity:

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

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

### Author:

Brad Rippey  
U.S. Department of Agriculture



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

**Note: Change from February 28, 2017 report**

## U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

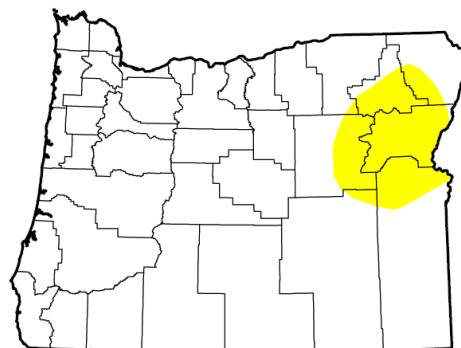
**February 28, 2017**

(Released Thursday, Mar. 2, 2017)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	90.33	9.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 2/21/2017	82.99	17.01	2.98	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 11/29/2016	56.44	43.56	23.22	2.63	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 1/3/2017	65.31	34.69	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 9/27/2016	0.00	100.00	50.59	12.30	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 3/1/2016	29.47	70.53	62.92	33.96	0.00	0.00



### Intensity:

D0 Abnormally Dry
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 D1 Moderate Drought
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The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

### Author:

Richard Heim  
NCEI/NOAA



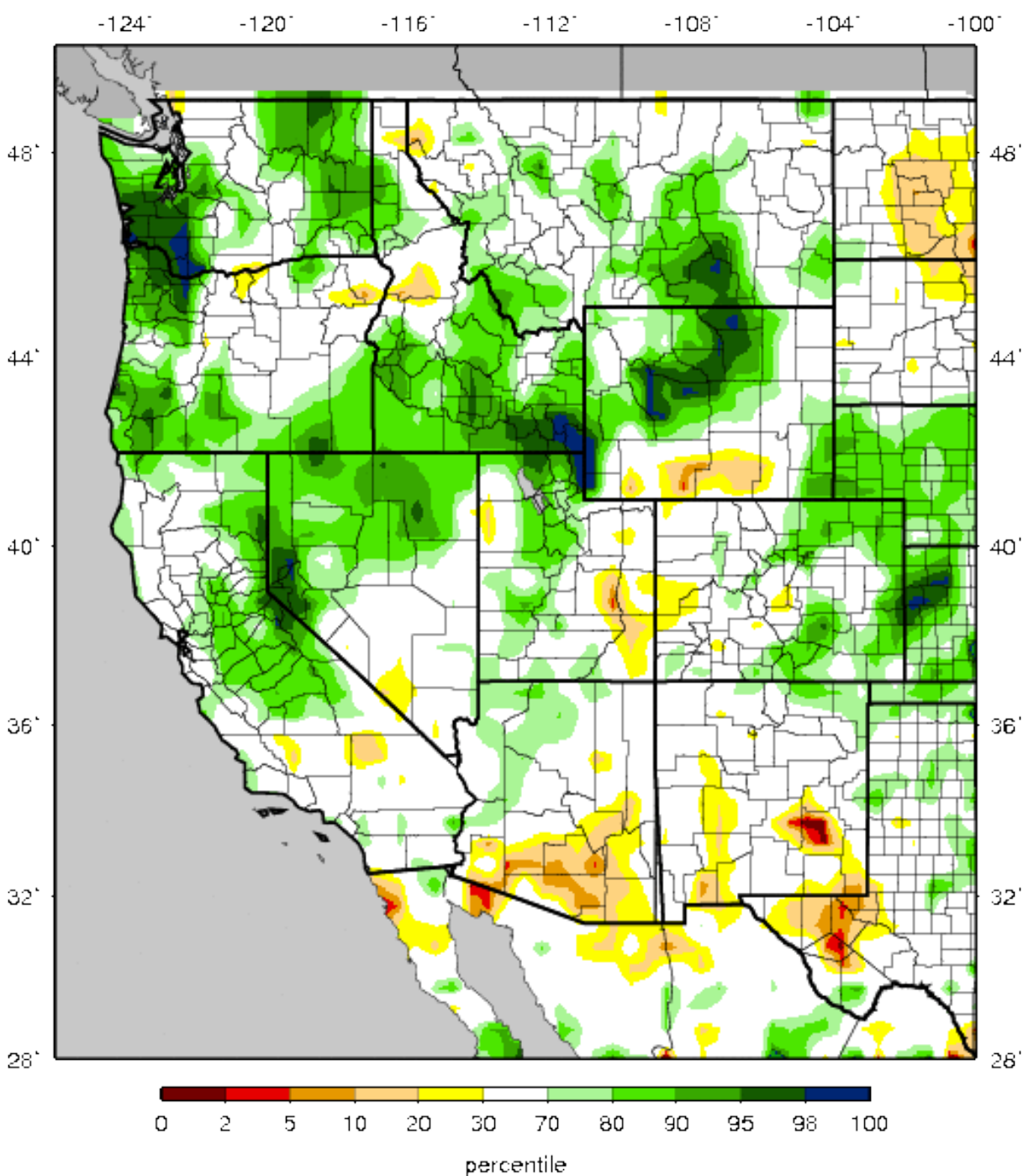
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

## Soil Moisture - Percentile

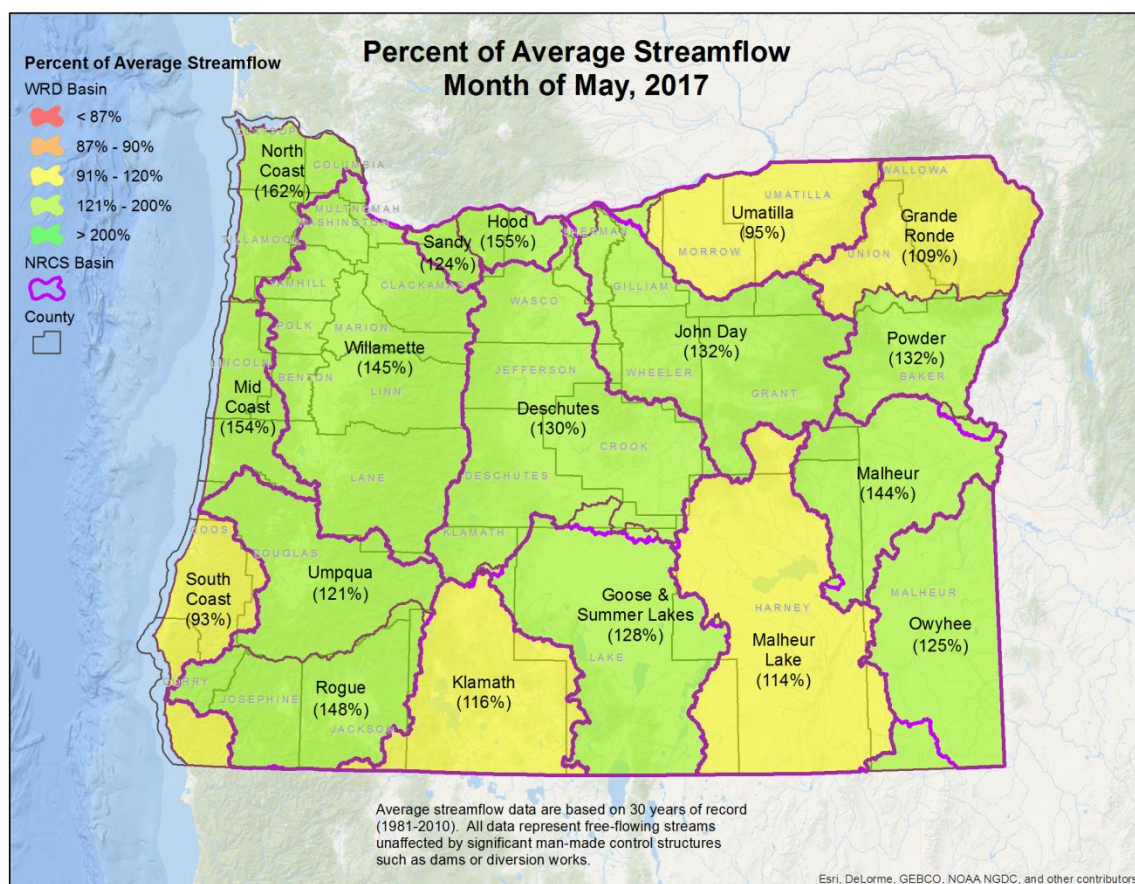
Website:

[http://www.hydro.washington.edu/forecast/monitor/curr/conus.mexico/west.vic.sm\\_qnt.gif](http://www.hydro.washington.edu/forecast/monitor/curr/conus.mexico/west.vic.sm_qnt.gif)

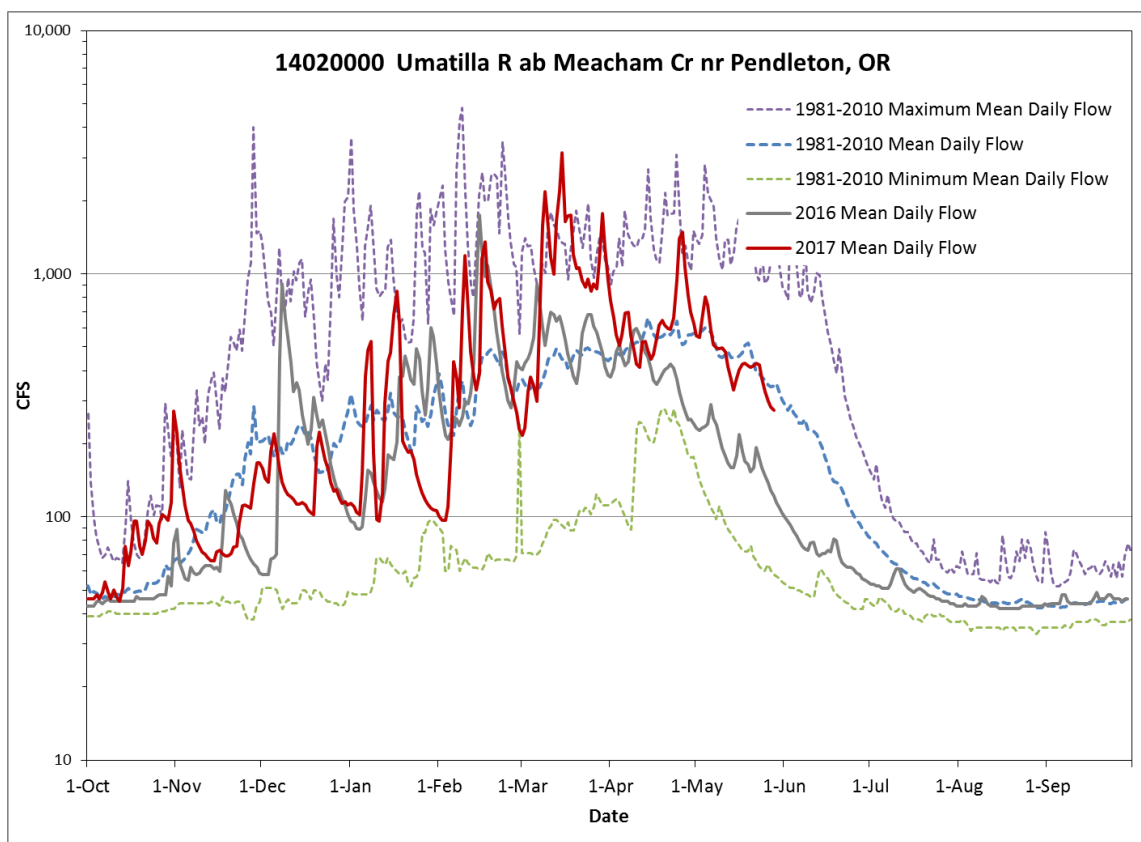
VIC Soil Moisture Percentiles (wrt/ 1916-2004)  
Western United States - 20170528



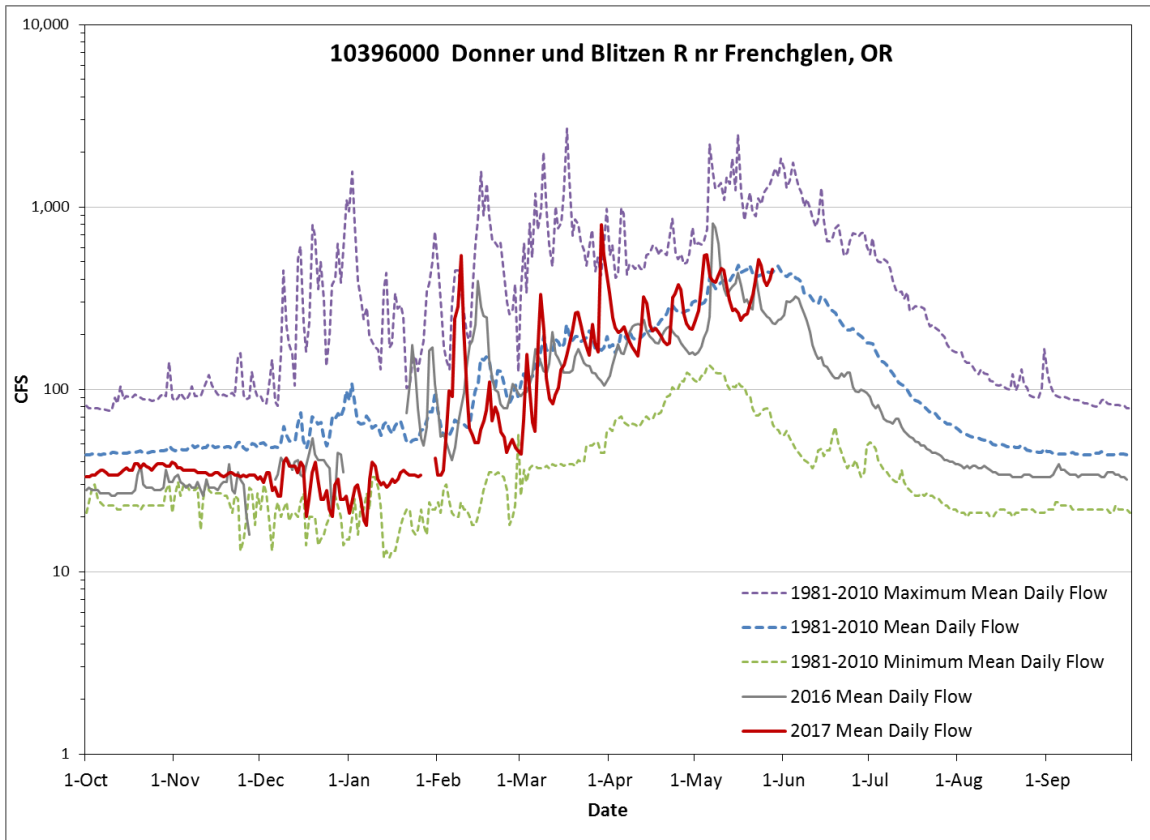
## April Regional Streamflow Conditions



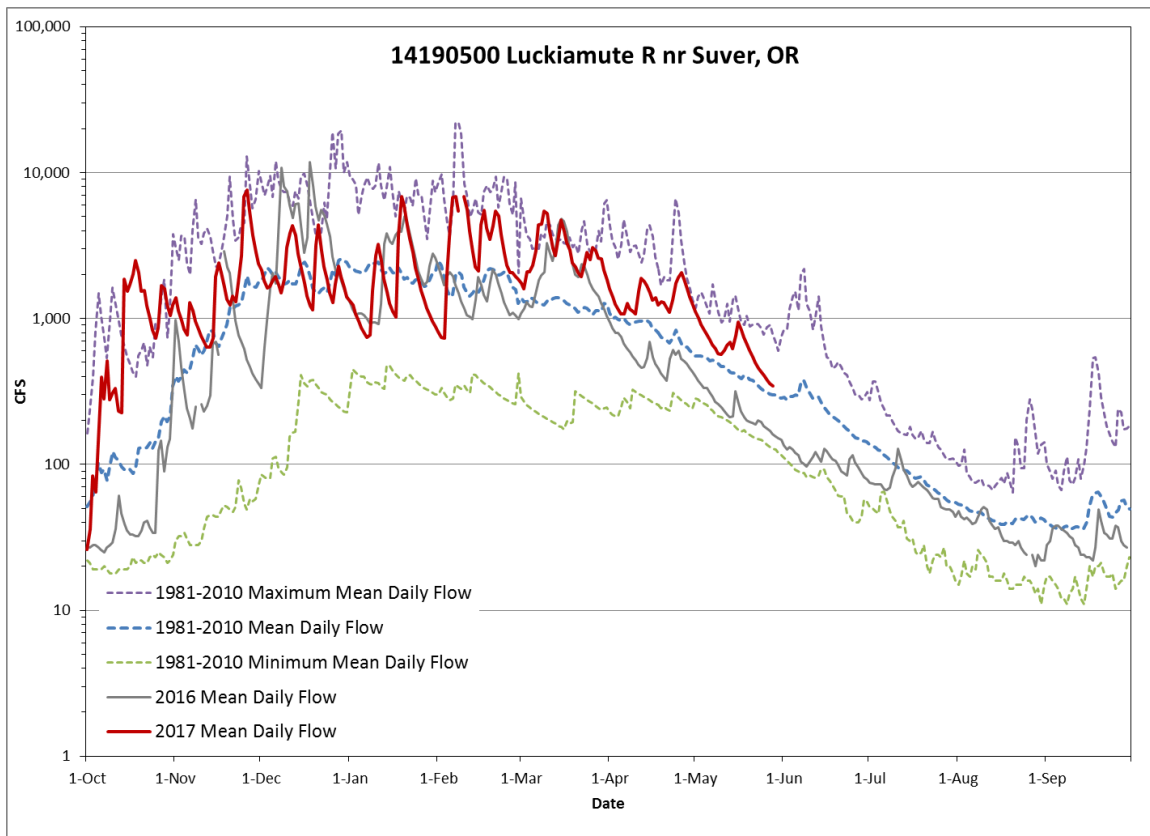
## Streamflow Example – North Central Oregon (Umatilla)



## Streamflow Example – Eastern Oregon (Malheur Lake)



## Streamflow Example – Western Oregon (Willamette)





## April Regional Reservoir Storage Conditions

