

# Oregon Water Conditions Report January 16, 2018



**Statewide snowpack continues to be well below normal.** The statewide snow water equivalent (SWE) is currently 36 percent of normal, due to continued warmer than normal temperatures and lack of storm impacts. The Grand Ronde, Powder, Umatilla, and Walla Walla basins have continued to receive the highest amounts of precipitation and are measuring the highest SWE amounts in the state, although not significantly more than the statewide values. What little precipitation that has fallen recently has mainly been in the form of rain.

While it is not likely to bring conditions back to normal, the weather system forecast for later this week should help to improve snowpack conditions in some areas of the state.

**Oregon statewide precipitation** at NRCS SNOTEL sites is 85 percent of normal, down slightly from two weeks ago. At this time, the regions with the lowest precipitation are the Rogue, Umpqua and Goose & Summer Lakes basins at 70 percent and the Klamath basin at 69 percent. Statewide mountain precipitation over the last two weeks has been well under 50 percent of normal.

The NRCS Snow Survey has released the first [Water Supply Outlook Report](#) of the 2018 season.

**Temperatures in the [past two weeks](#) have been warmer than normal.** The southern half of Oregon has seen a trend of warmer than normal temperatures, especially evident in the south central region of the state. Over the next [8 to 14 days](#), the NOAA Climate Prediction Center is forecasting an increased probability of below normal temperatures along with above normal precipitation across state.

**The NOAA Climate Prediction Center's most recent [three month outlook](#)** favors increased chances of below-normal temperatures in the northwestern half of Oregon with equal chances of above or below-normal temperatures for the rest of the state. The precipitation outlook for the same period indicates enhanced probabilities of above-normal precipitation amounts for the northern third of Oregon with equal chances of above or below-normal precipitation for the rest of the state. The next outlook will be issued on January 18, 2018.

**La Niña conditions are expected to continue (~85-95 percent chance)** at least through the Northern Hemisphere winter 2017-18, with a transition to ENSO-neutral most likely during the mid-to-late spring. The [diagnostic discussion](#) issued on January 11,

2018 provides more detail. For the latest discussion on the winter outlook, refer to the [ENSO blog](#) on the climate.gov website. The situation continues to be monitored; any changes will be made to the status by the Climate Prediction Center. The next ENSO Diagnostics Discussion is scheduled for February 8, 2018.

**Statewide streamflows for December ended up at less than 65 percent of normal.**

This is down significantly from 128 percent seen for the month of November. Regionally for December, streamflow conditions were 52 percent west of the Cascades and 72 percent east of the Cascades. More recent streamflow conditions continue to indicate lower than normal flows across the state, especially west of the Cascades.

**Most of the state’s water supply reservoirs are at normal levels for this time of year.** [Willamette](#) and [Rogue](#) project reservoirs remain on track this fall. [Central Oregon](#) reservoirs are between 44 and 89 percent of capacity. [Eastern Oregon](#) reservoirs continue to hover between 38 and 67 percent of capacity. Most if not all water supply reservoir operators are now in active storage mode. For the most recent near real-time, site-specific reservoir conditions (teacup diagrams) visit the [USBR](#) or [USACE](#) websites.

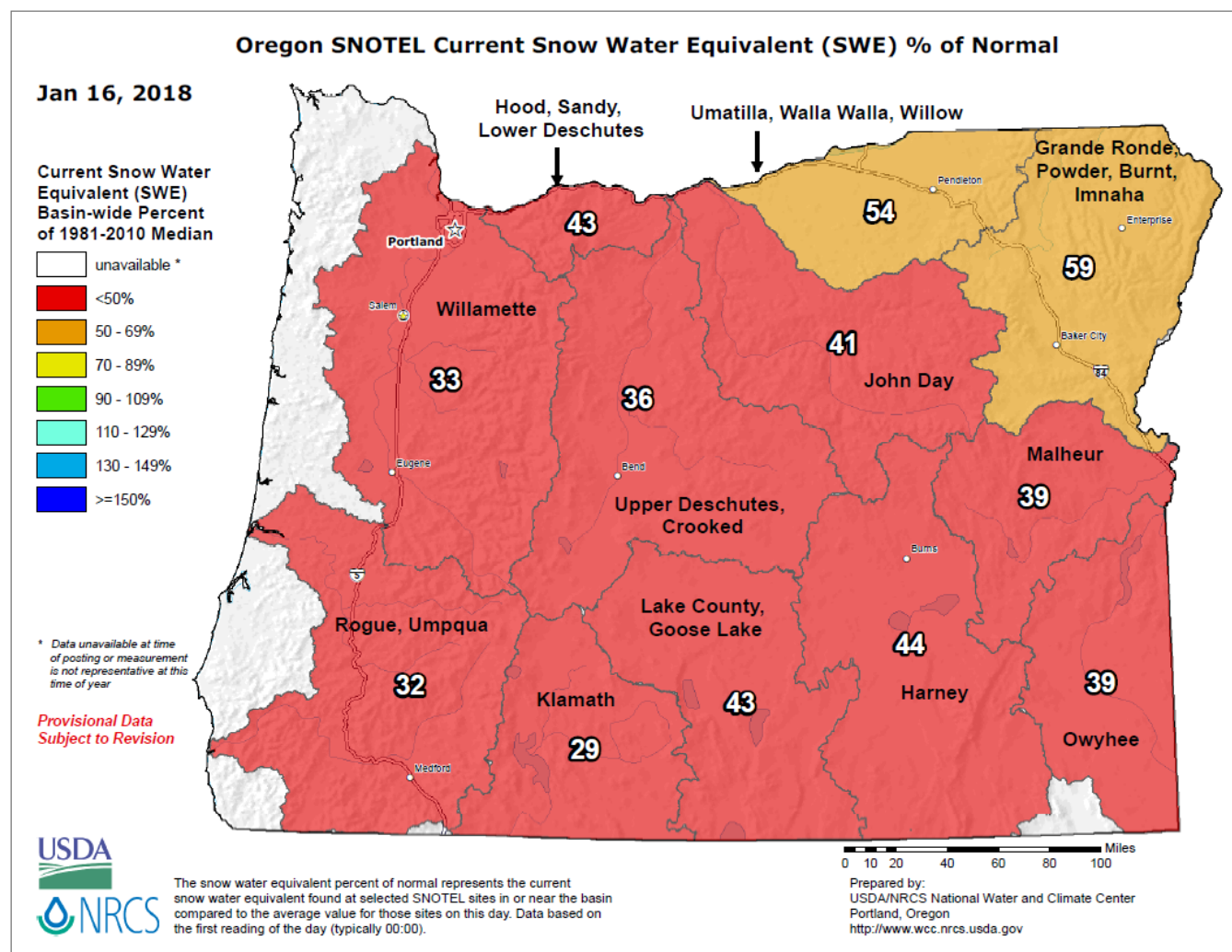
**The [US Drought Monitor](#)** has been updated to reflect the lack of snowpack. Almost 23 percent of Oregon is now listed as “Abnormally Dry” (D0).

**Data & Products:**

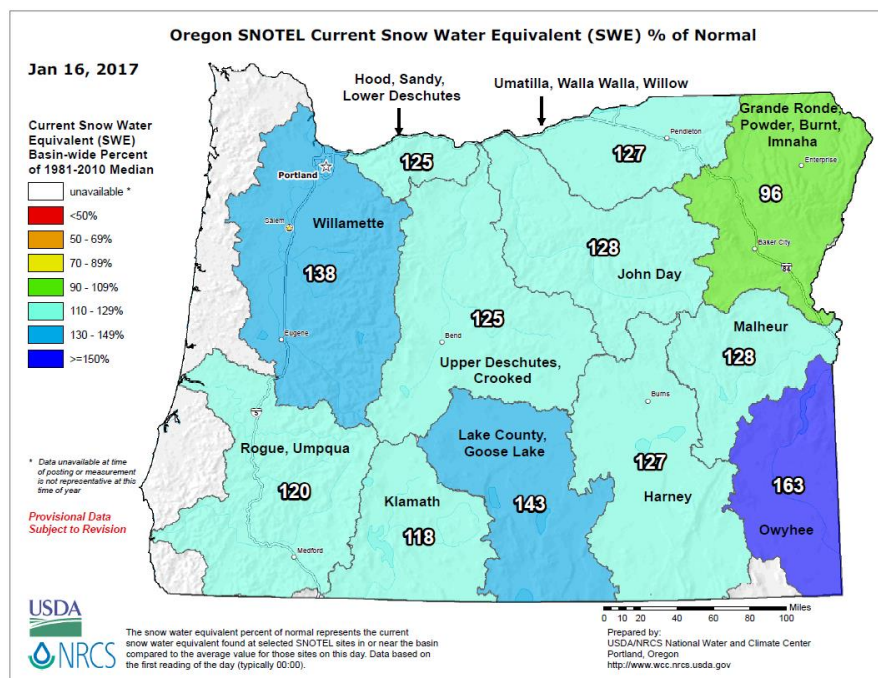
**Page:**

Snow Water Equivalent – Percent of Normal .....	3
Precipitation (mountain) - Percent of Normal .....	4
Temperature – (1 Month) Departure from Normal .....	5
Precipitation – (1 Month) Percent of Normal .....	6
Three Month Temperature and Precipitation Outlook .....	7
Soil Moisture - Percentile .....	8
U.S. Drought Monitor for Oregon .....	9
Statewide Streamflow Conditions - December .....	10
Streamflow Conditions – South Coast.....	10
Streamflow Conditions – Willamette.....	11
Statewide Reservoir Conditions - December.....	11

## Snow Water Equivalent – Percent of Normal

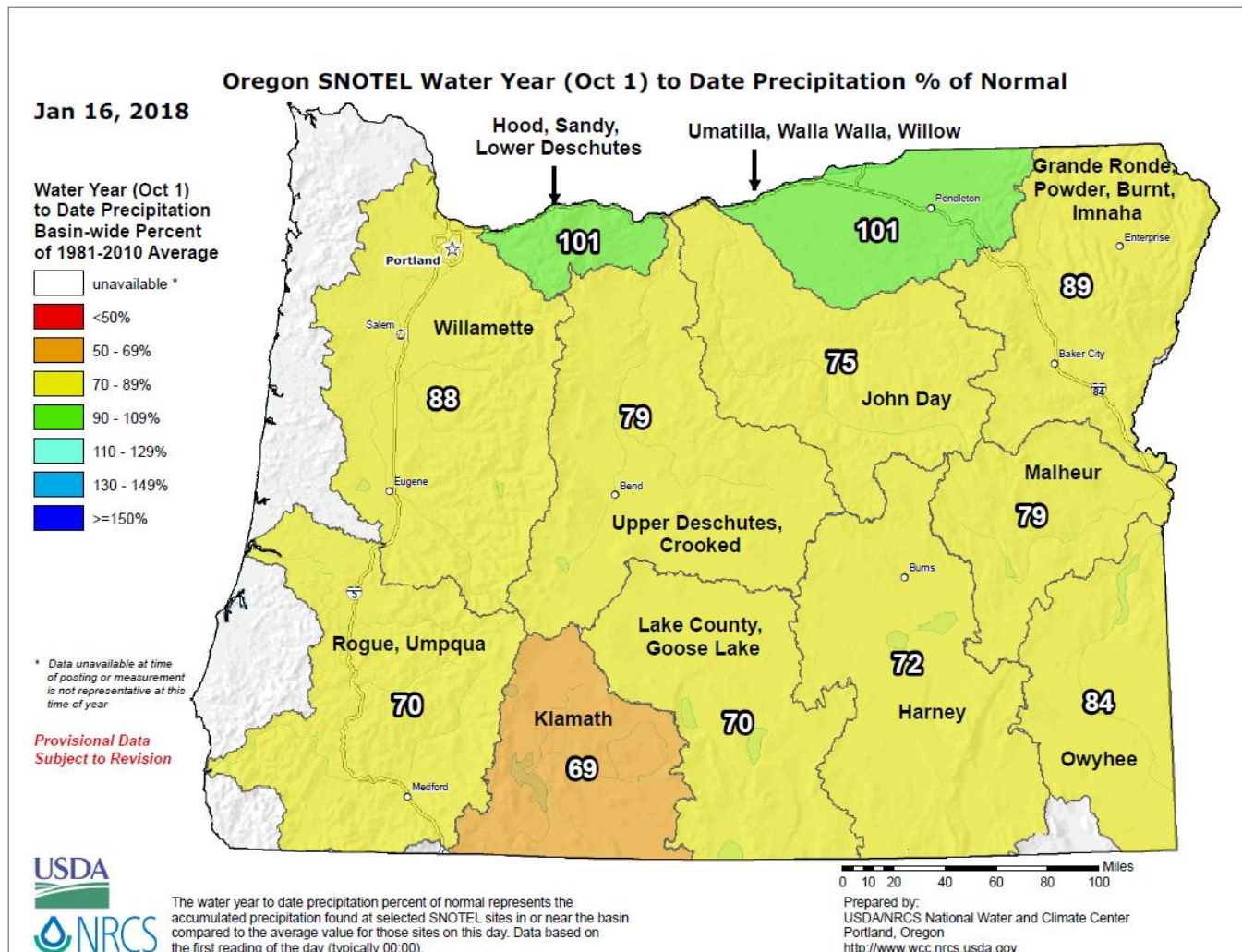


**Compared to this time last year -**

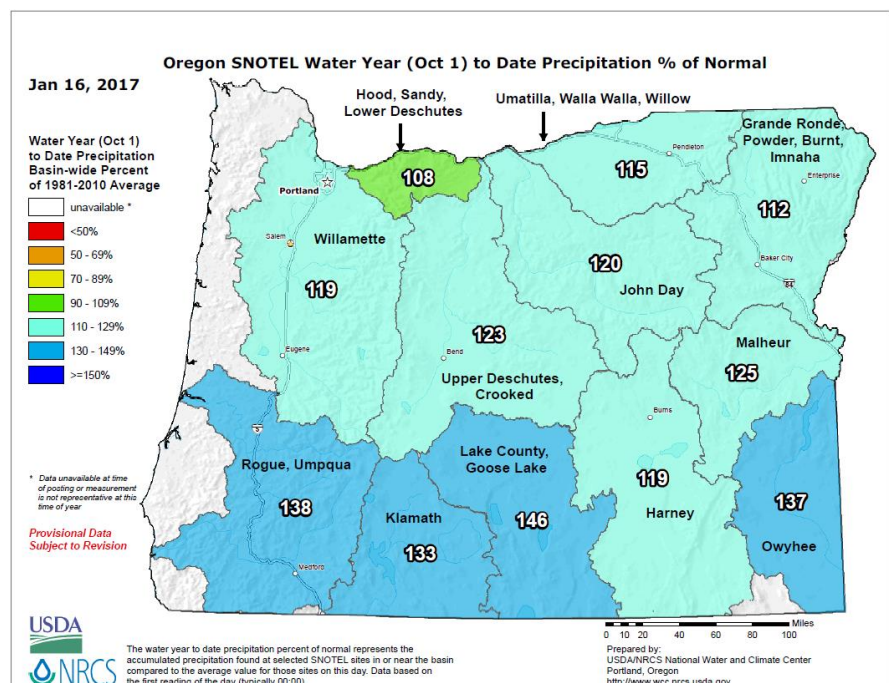




## Precipitation (mountain) - Percent of Normal



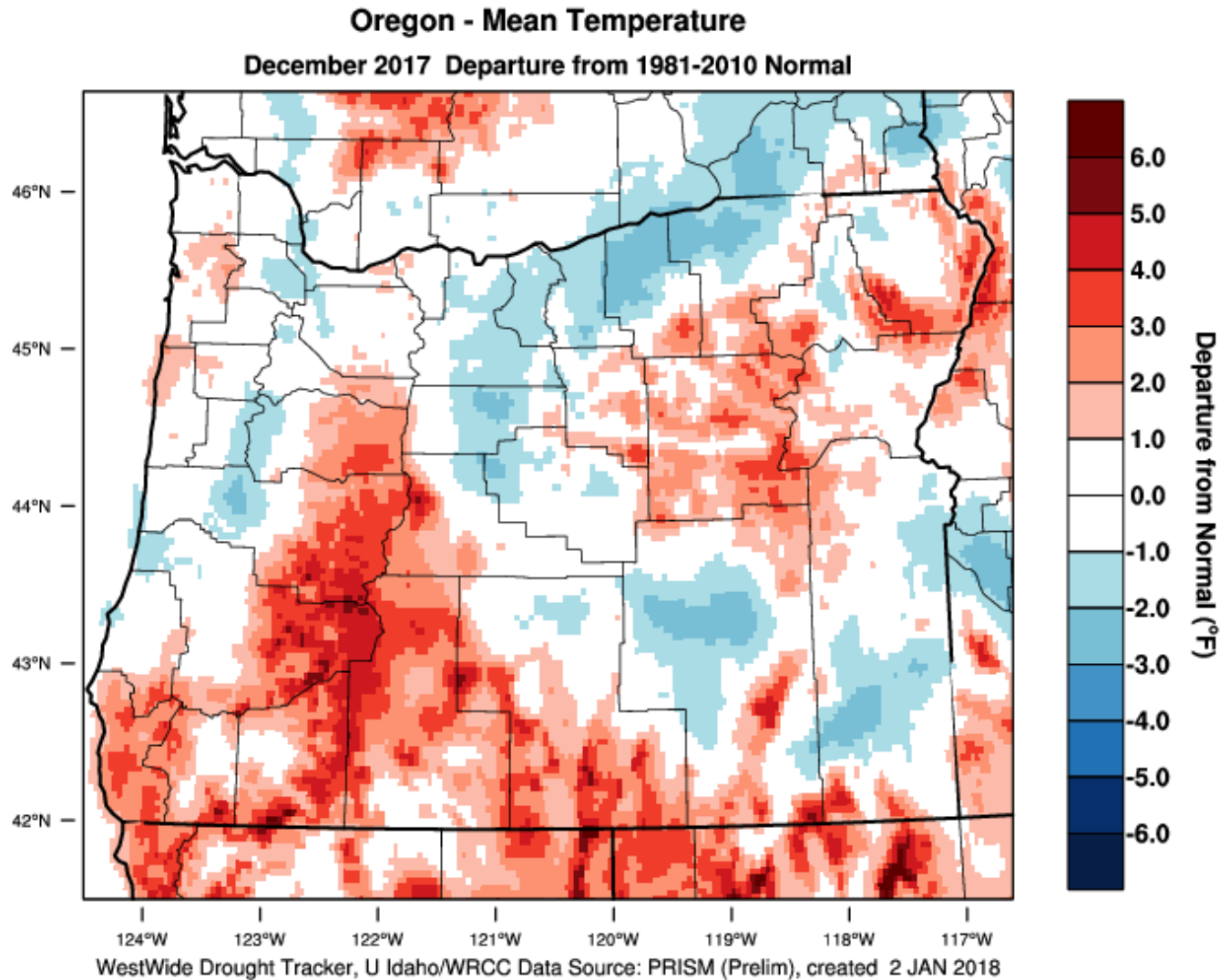
**Compared to this time  
 last year -**



## Temperature – (1 Month) Departure from Normal

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

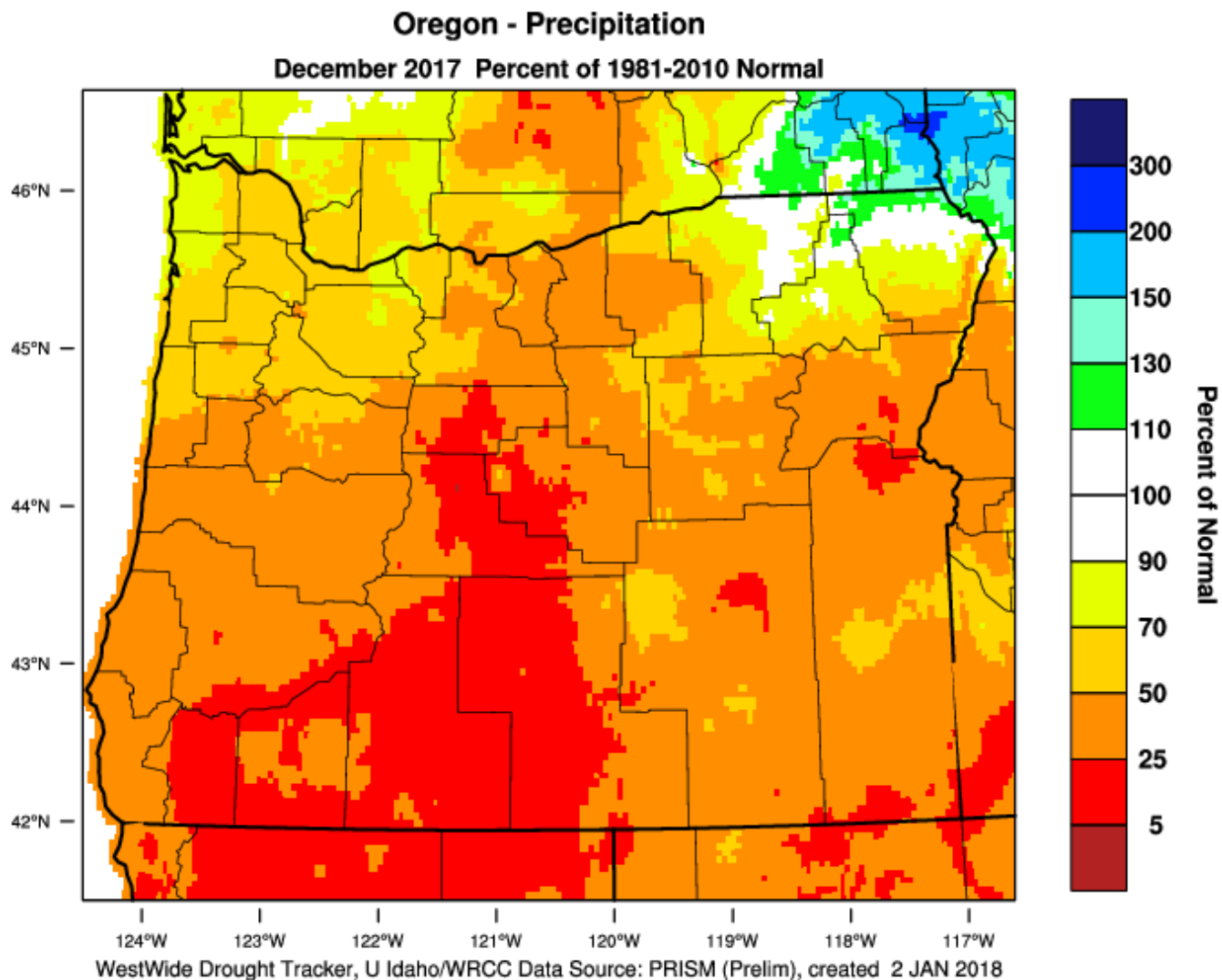
### PRISM > Temperature Anomaly 1 Month > Oregon



## Precipitation – (1 Month) Percent of Normal

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

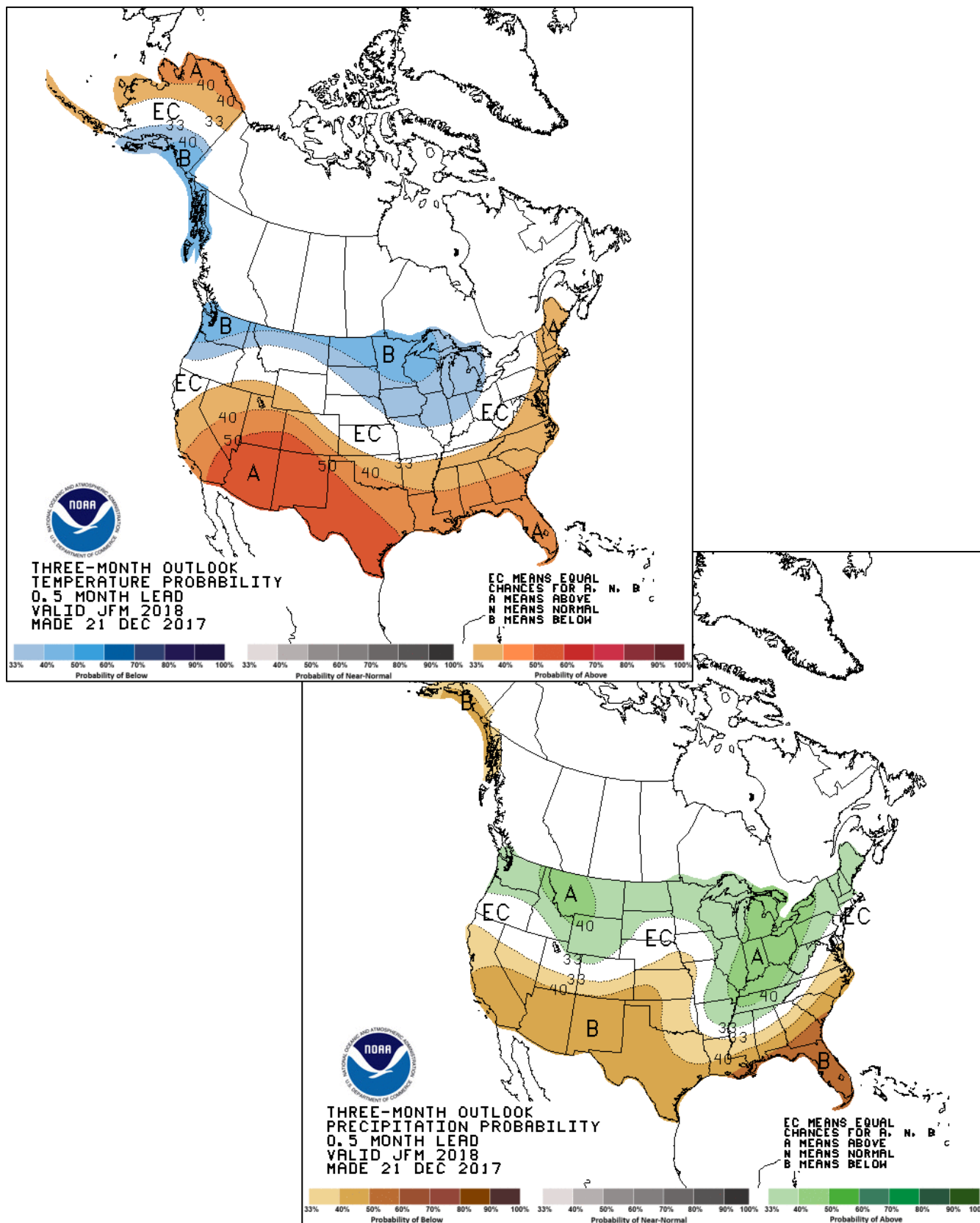
### PRISM > Precipitation Anomaly 1 Month > Oregon



## Three Month Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

January – March 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)





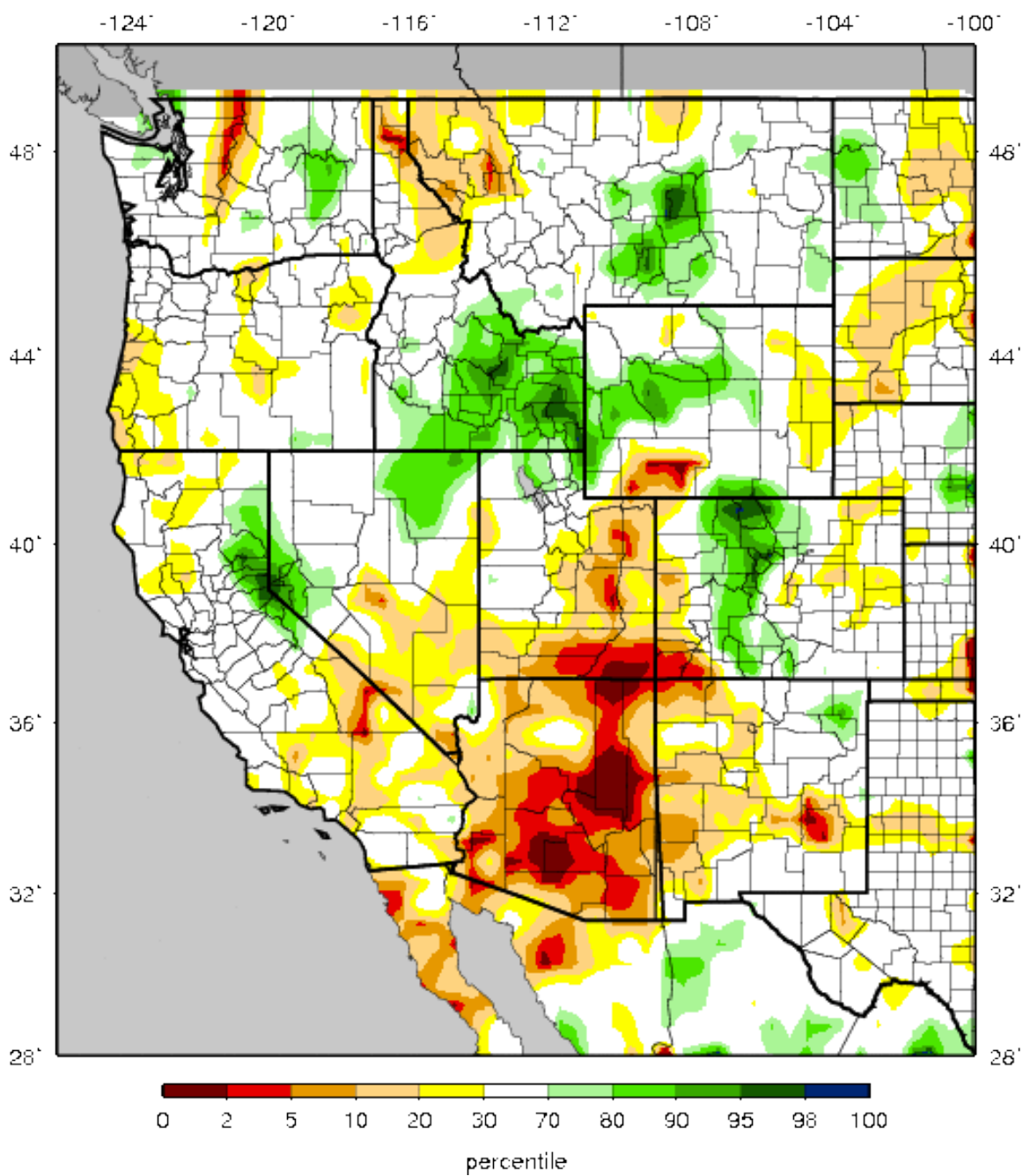
## Soil Moisture - Percentile

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 - 20180115





# U.S. Drought Monitor for Oregon

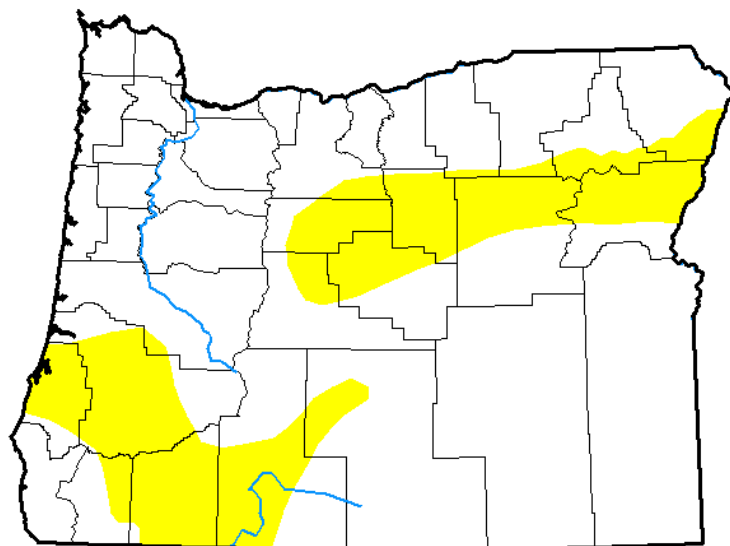
Website: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?OR>

## U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

**January 9, 2018**

(Released Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	77.09	22.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 01-02-2018	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 10-10-2017	39.23	60.77	28.57	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-02-2018	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-26-2017	39.23	60.77	28.57	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 01-10-2017	82.27	17.73	2.98	0.00	0.00	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:

Brian Fuchs  
National Drought Mitigation Center



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

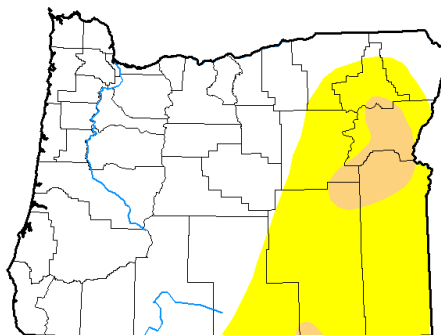
Compared to this time last year:

## U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

**January 3, 2017**

(Released Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	65.31	34.69	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 12-27-2016	65.31	34.69	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 10-04-2016	0.00	100.00	50.28	12.30	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-03-2017	65.31	34.69	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-27-2016	0.00	100.00	50.59	12.30	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 01-05-2016	14.52	85.48	76.99	44.33	6.35	0.00

### Intensity:

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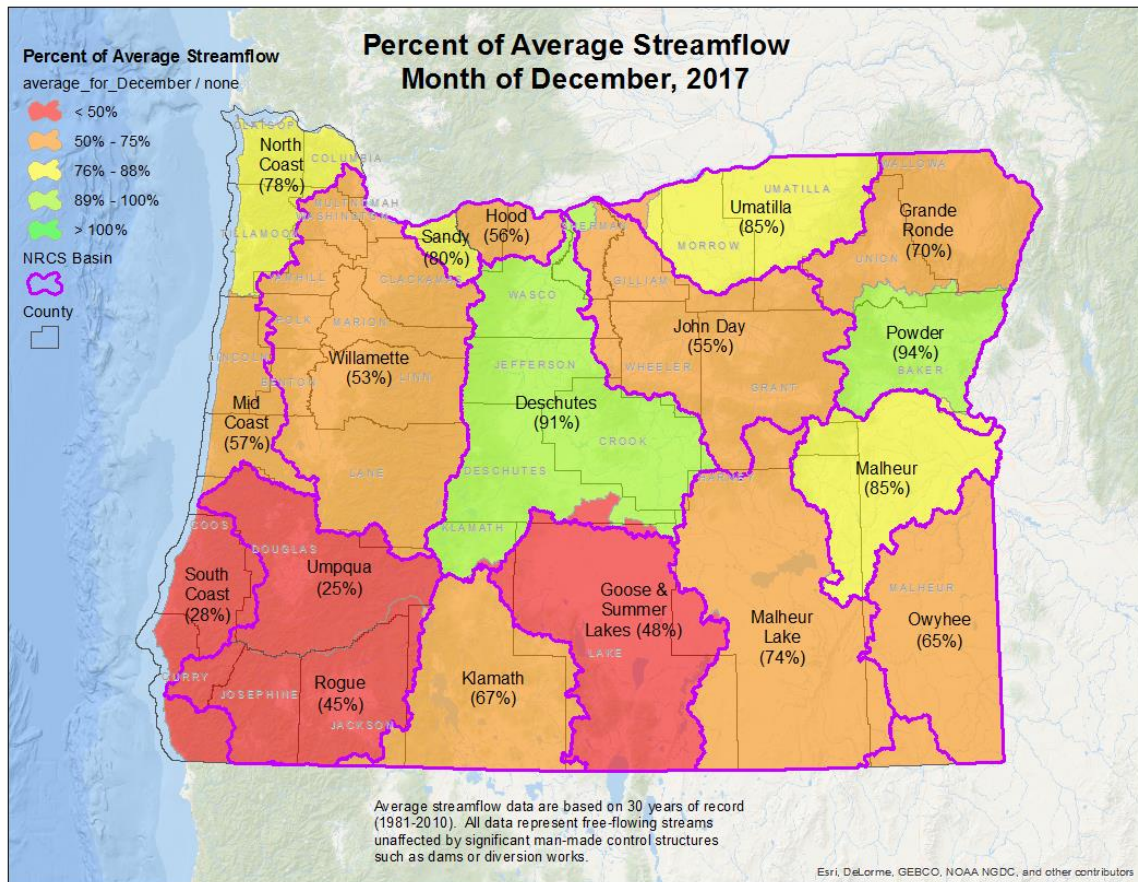
### Author:

David Miskus  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

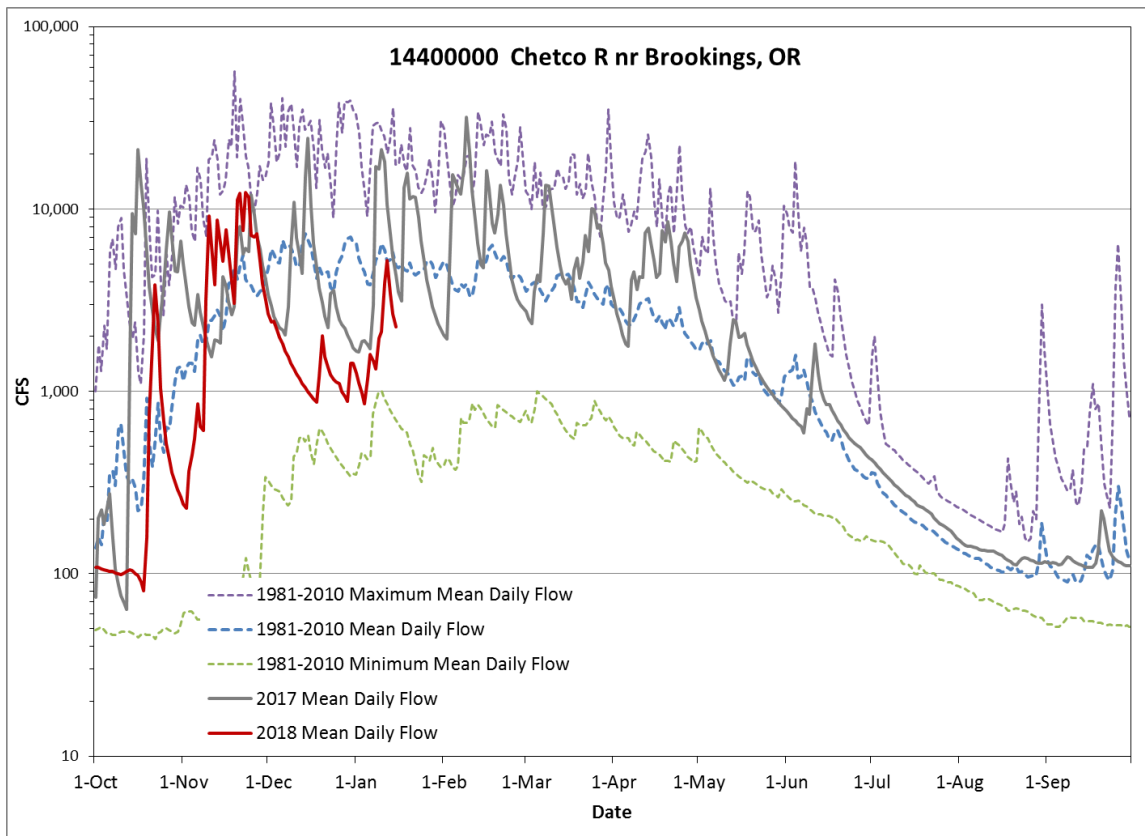


<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

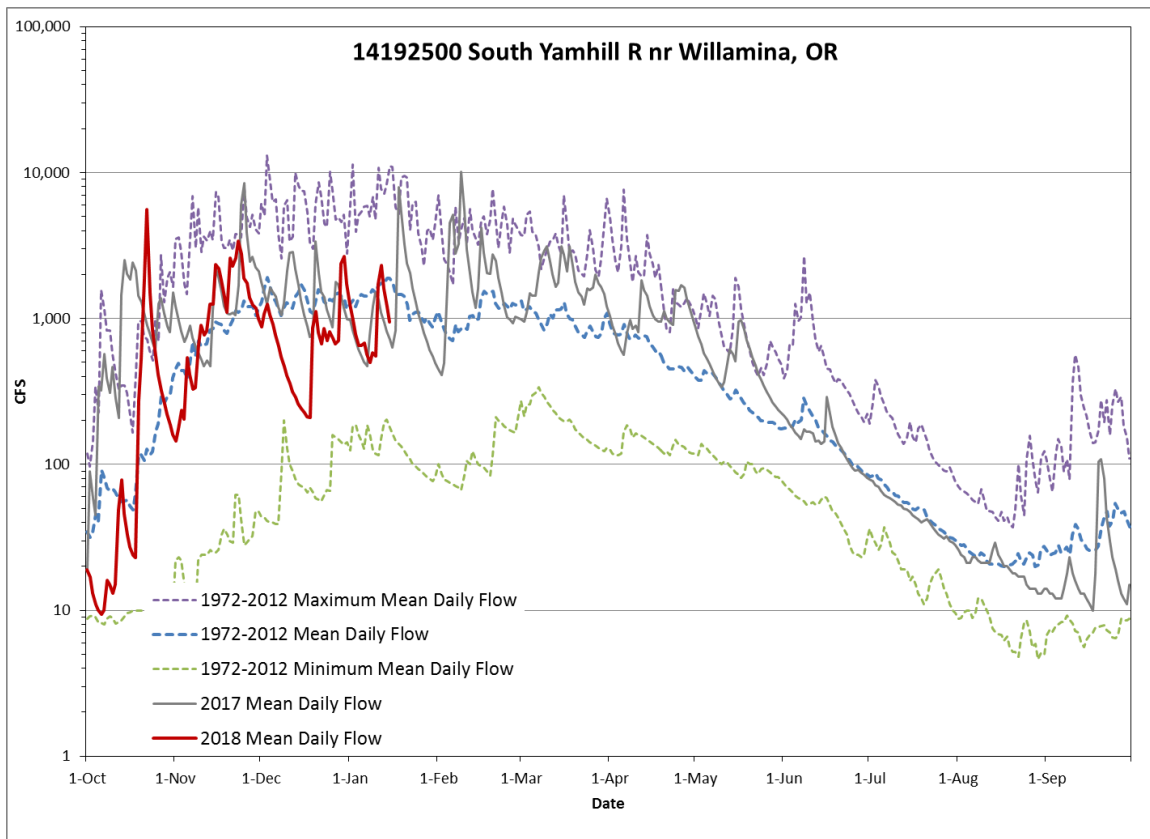
## Statewide Streamflow Conditions - December



## Streamflow Conditions – South Coast



## Streamflow Conditions – Willamette



## Statewide Reservoir Conditions - December

