



# Drought Report for the Week of May 4, 2015

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County-wide drought declarations go through a three-part process before securing a drought declaration from the Governor's Office.

First, County Commissions meet to determine whether they want to seek a Governor's declaration. Counties that have made this determination and are currently asking for the state's help are: Deschutes, Grant and Umatilla County.

Second, these recommendations go to the Water Availability Committee (chaired by the Oregon Water Resources Department) and then the Oregon Drought Council (chaired by Oregon Emergency Management) for technical review. The next meeting of the Water Availability Committee and Oregon Drought Council is May 14, 2015.

Finally, if approved for drought declaration, the Governor's Office issues an Executive Order, declaring drought in specific counties. In recent years, these Executive Order have been set to expire at the end of a calendar year. A Governor's declared drought is in place for 2015 in the following counties: Baker, Crook, Harney, Klamath, Lake, Malheur and Wheeler. A Governor's Drought Declaration allows the Water Resources Department to issue emergency drought permits to applicants, using an expedited process.

Current Water Conditions: Snow pack conditions throughout the state average less than 10% of normal, signaling early and prolonged drought conditions throughout South and East parts of Oregon. Statewide average precipitation is less than 90% of normal.

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- Oregon Declaration Status
- Oregon SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent % of Normal
- Oregon SNOTEL Water Year to Date Precipitation % of Normal
- Oregon Drought Monitor
- Water Right Drought Permit Application: Summary Report

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  - [Southeastern Oregon](#)
- [Three Month Outlook – Temperature Probability](#)
- [Three Month Outlook – Precipitation Probability](#)
- [Oregon Surface Water Supply Index](#)



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

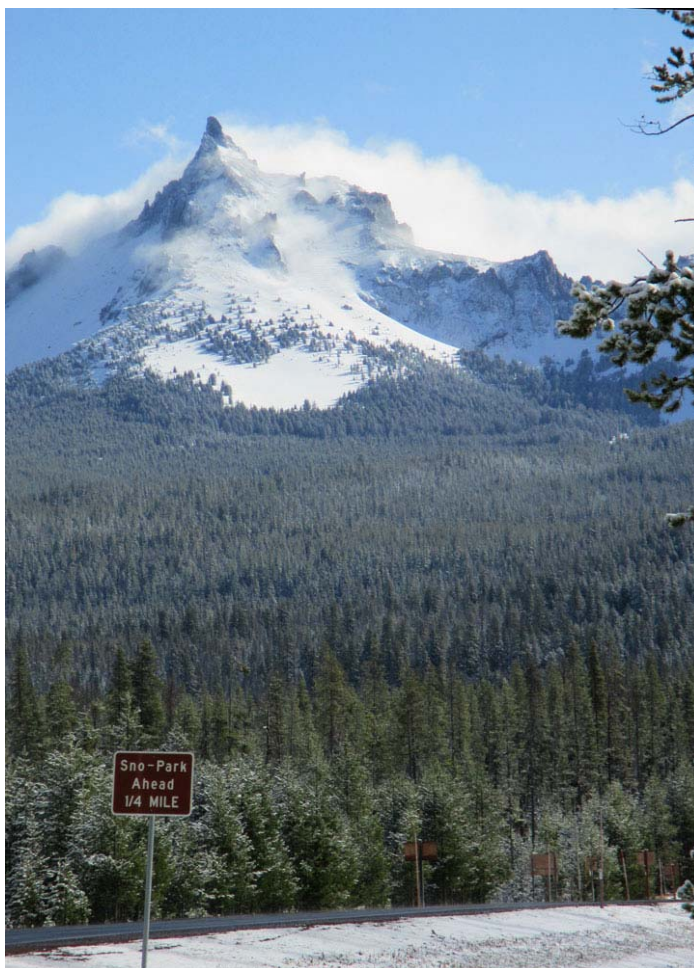


Natural Resources  
Conservation  
Service

# Oregon Basin Outlook Report

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April 1, 2015



A snow-capped Mt. Thielsen illustrates the scarce snowpack in all but the highest elevations of Oregon this winter.

*Photo courtesy of Scott Robbins (Oregon NRCS)*

Due to an unusually warm winter, Oregon continues to experience record low snowpack levels. As of April 1, measurable snow is primarily limited to the highest elevations of the state (illustrated by the above photo of Mt. Thielsen taken on March 31). Record low April 1 snowpack levels were measured at 76% of Oregon's snow monitoring sites, and only 52 out of 147 sites across the state recorded any snow at all. Summer streamflow is expected to be well below normal and water shortages are likely throughout the state.



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## DROUGHT

### Current Basin Water Status

Basin #	Basin Name	Basin Status	Reason
1	North Coast	Below Normal	
2	Willamette	Below Normal	Below normal streamflow; Dry Forecast
3	Sandy	Below Normal	Below normal streamflow; Dry Forecast
4	Hood	Below Normal	Below normal streamflow; Dry Forecast
5	Deschutes	Drought Likely	Reservoirs are near full
6	John Day	Drought Unavoidable	No Storage or Snowpack; Dry Forecast
7	Umatilla	Drought Likely	Reservoirs are roughly 50%; Dry Forecast
8	Grande Ronde	Below Normal	Snowpack >5000'
9	Powder	Drought Unavoidable	Reservoir Storage is mixed; no snowpack
10	Malheur	Drought Unavoidable	Reservoir storage is near empty
11	Owyhee	Drought Unavoidable	Reservoir storage is near empty
12	Malheur Lake	Drought Unavoidable	No reservoir storage; No snowpack
13	Goose & Summer Lake	Drought Unavoidable	Reservoir storage is near empty
14	Klamath	Drought Unavoidable	Stressed soil; No snowpack
15	Rogue	Drought Likely	Lack of snowpack; Reservoir storage is decent
16	Umpqua	Drought Likely	Weak Snowpack; Dry Forecast
17	South Coast	Below Normal	
18	Middle Coast	Below Normal	

#### Definitions

<b>Normal</b>	Water supply is not atypical.
<b>Below Normal</b>	Water supply under what is needed to meet normal demands.
<b>Drought Likely</b>	Water supply likely to fall well short of meeting normal demands.
<b>Drought Unavoidable</b>	Water supply will fall well short of meeting normal demands.

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[View Water Right Summary Report](#)






[View Basin Map](#)




# Oregon's Water Availability Committee\* Water Supply Assessment

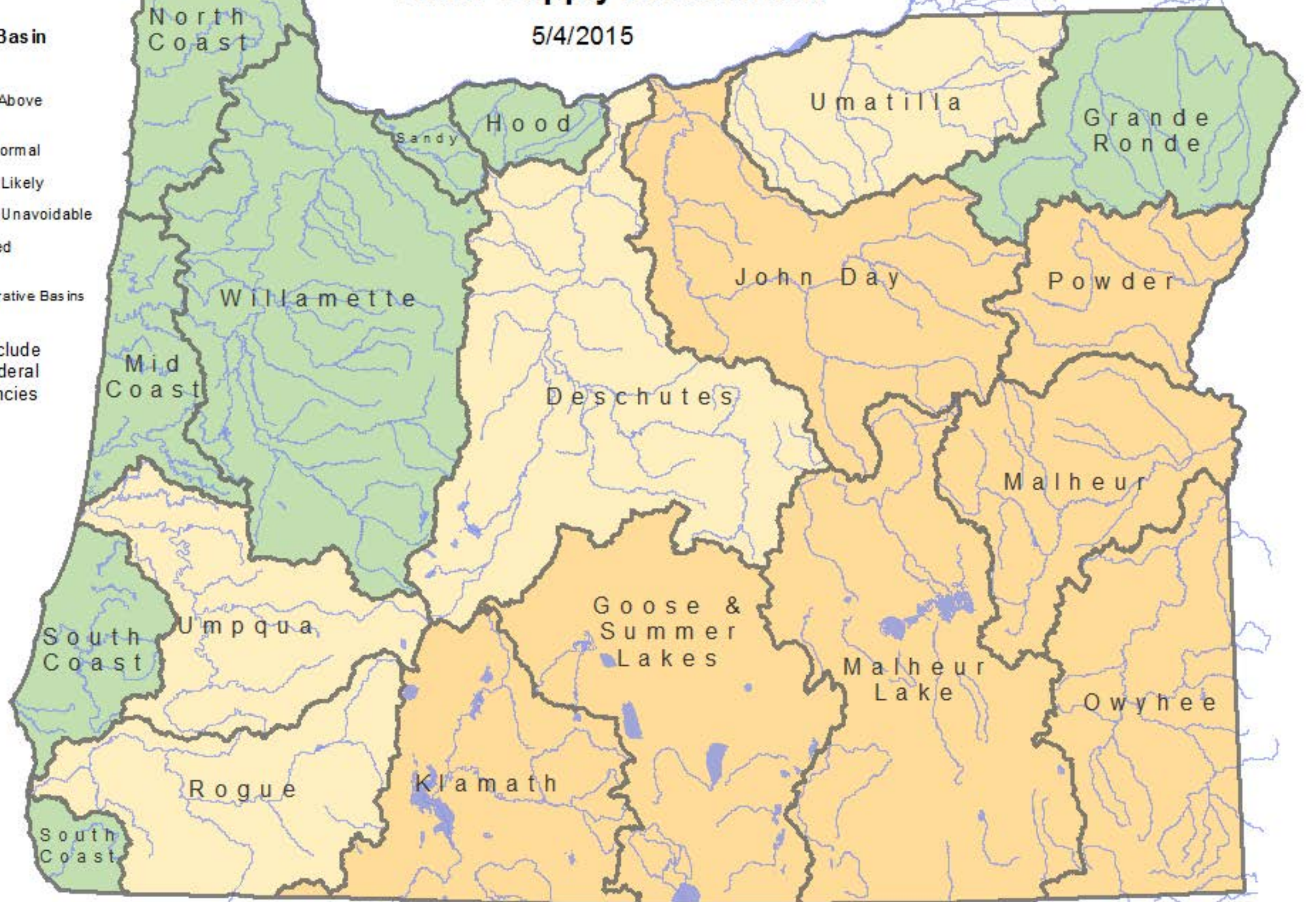
5/4/2015

## Drought by Basin Status

-  Near or Above Normal
-  Below Normal
-  Drought Likely
-  Drought Unavoidable
-  Not Rated

 Administrative Basins

\*Members Include  
State and Federal  
Science Agencies



Oregon Water Resources Department  
725 Summer St. NE Suite A  
Salem, OR 97301  
<http://www.wrd.state.or.us/>

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.



0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Updated: 5/4/2015 6:59 AM  
Projection: Oregon Lambert, NAD 83





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Drought Declarations

Search Criteria

County:  Start Drought Year: 2015 Search

Drought Status:  End Drought Year:  Clear

Records per Page: 20

	<u>Drought Year</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Drought Title</u>	<u>Drought Status</u>	<u>County Request Date</u>	<u>Forwarded to Governor Date</u>	<u>Governor Declaration Date</u>	<u>Federal Declaration Date</u>	<u>Executive Order</u>	<u>Drought Begin Date</u>	<u>Drought End Date</u>
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Baker	BAKER DROUGHT	Governor Declared	03/18/2015	04/10/2015	04/20/2015	03/20/2015	15-04	04/20/2015	12/31/2015
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Crook	CROOK DROUGHT	Governor Declared	03/18/2015	03/20/2015	04/02/2015	03/20/2015	15-03	04/02/2015	12/31/2015
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Harney	HARNEY DROUGHT	Governor Declared	03/18/2015	03/20/2015	04/02/2015	03/20/2015	15-03	04/02/2015	12/31/2015
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Klamath	KLAMATH DROUGHT	Governor Declared	03/17/2015	03/20/2015	04/02/2015	03/20/2015	15-03	03/20/2015	12/31/2015
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Lake	LAKE DROUGHT	Governor Declared	03/10/2015	03/11/2015	03/16/2015		15-02	03/16/2015	12/31/2015
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Malheur	MALHEUR DROUGHT	Governor Declared	03/04/2015	03/11/2015	03/16/2015	03/20/2015	15-02	03/16/2015	12/31/2015
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Wheeler	WHEELER DROUGHT	Governor Declared	03/18/2015	04/10/2015	04/20/2015	03/20/2015	15-04	04/20/2015	12/31/2015
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Deschutes	DESCHUTES DROUGHT	County Requested	04/29/2015						
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Grant	GRANT DROUGHT	County Requested	04/29/2015						
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Umatilla	UMATILLA DROUGHT	County Requested	04/28/2015			03/20/2015			
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Douglas	DOUGLAS DROUGHT					03/22/2015			
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Josephine	JOSEPHINE DROUGHT					03/20/2015			
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Morrow	MORROW DROUGHT					03/20/2015			
<a href="#">Select</a>	2015	Union	UNION DROUGHT					03/20/2015			



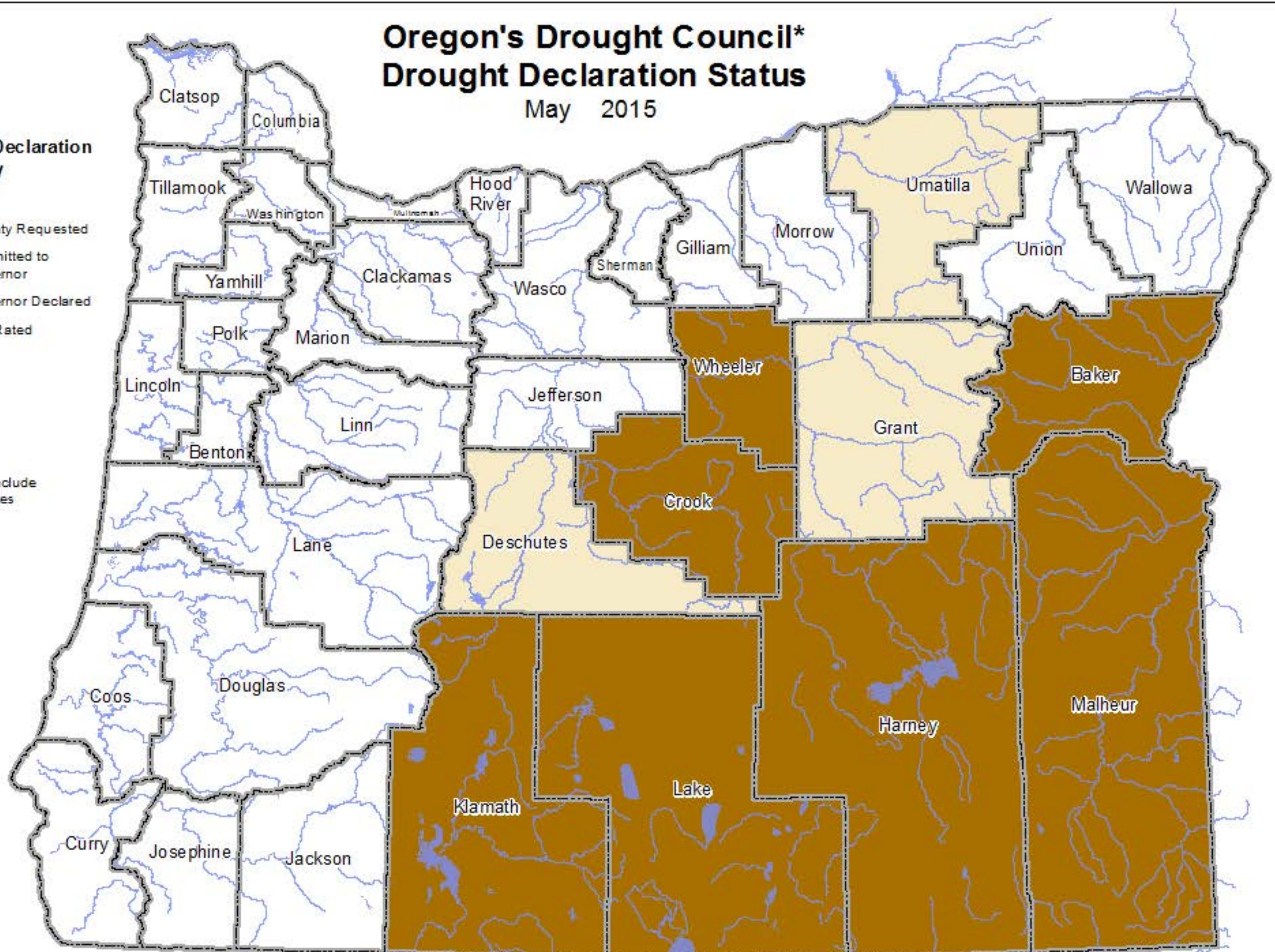
# Oregon's Drought Council\* Drought Declaration Status May 2015

## Drought Declaration by County

### Status

-  County Requested
-  Submitted to Governor
-  Governor Declared
-  Not Rated

\*Members Include  
State Agencies



Oregon Water Resources Department  
725 Summer St. NE Suite A  
Salem, OR 97301  
<http://www.wrd.state.or.us/>

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0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

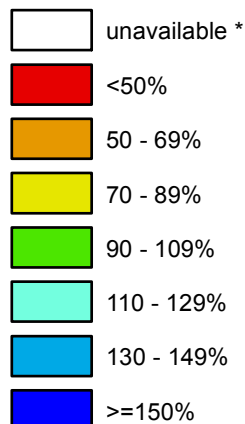
Updated: 5/4/2015 7:00 AM  
Projection: Oregon Lambert, NAD 83



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

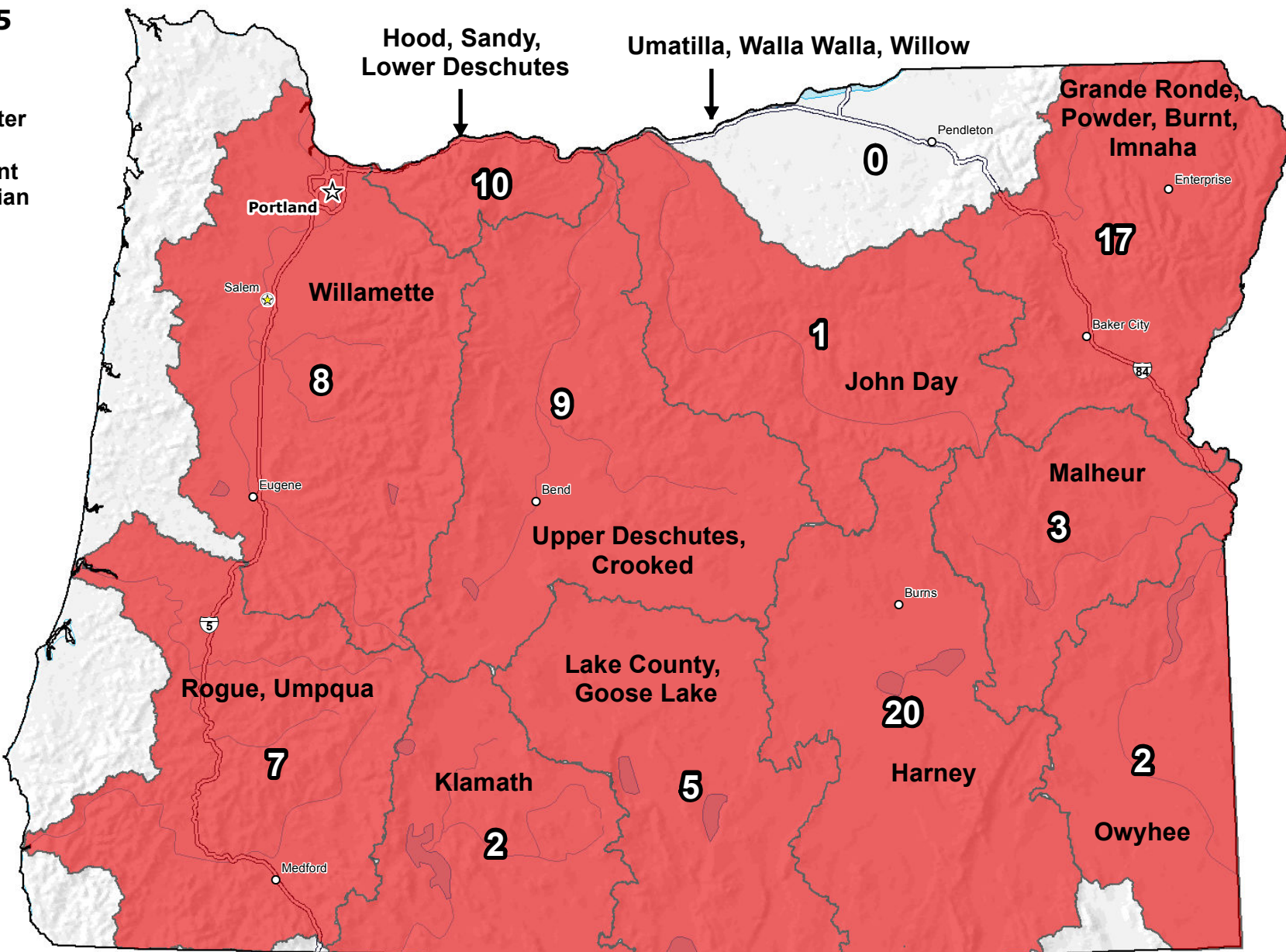
May 04, 2015

Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) Basin-wide Percent of 1981-2010 Median



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

Provisional Data  
Subject to Revision











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>

**May 04, 2015**

	unavailable *
	<50%
	50 - 69%
	70 - 89%
	90 - 109%
	110 - 129%
	130 - 149%
	>=150%

**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>



# U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

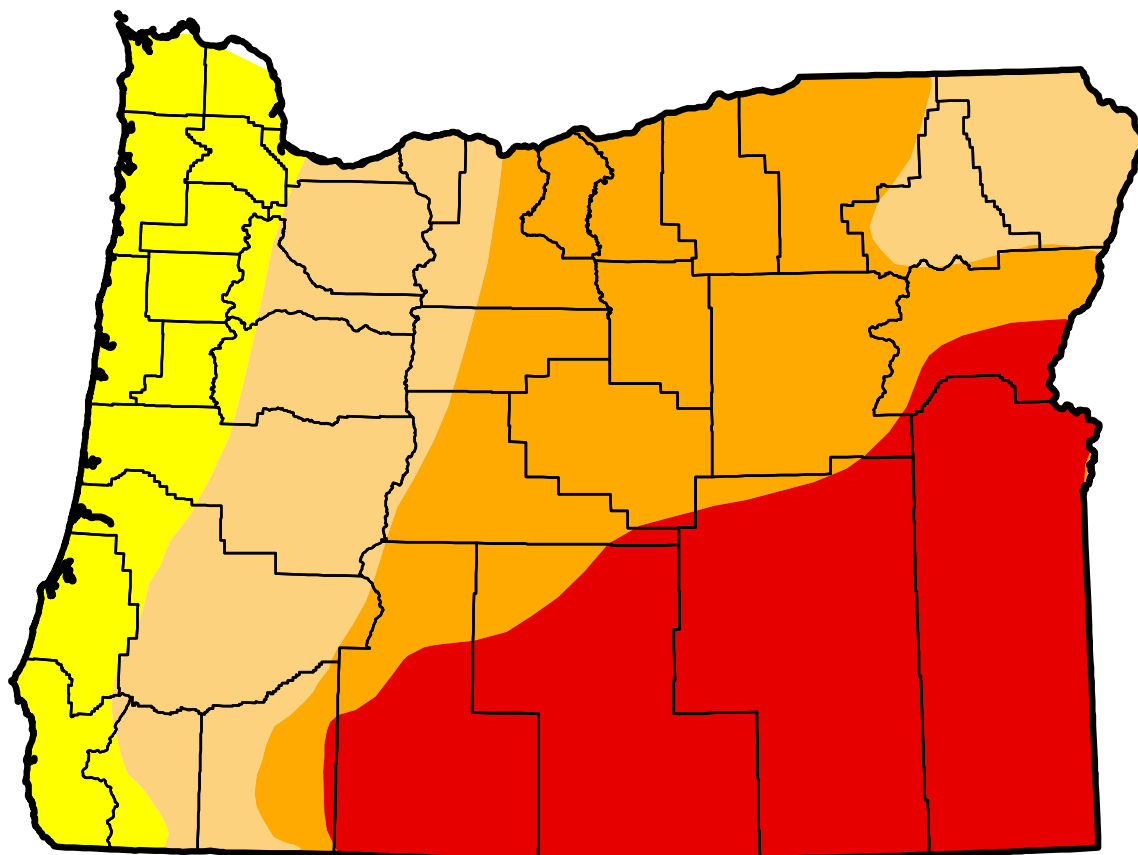
**April 28, 2015**

(Released Thursday, Apr. 30, 2015)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.11	99.89	86.09	63.17	34.09	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 4/21/2015	14.44	85.56	82.30	49.90	33.77	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 1/27/2015	10.45	89.55	83.95	49.48	34.68	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 12/30/2014	13.61	86.39	80.70	49.29	34.11	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 9/30/2014	1.56	98.44	76.61	56.26	35.30	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 4/29/2014	5.17	94.83	83.01	51.73	9.31	0.00



## Intensity:

<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:yellow; border:1px solid black;"></span> D0 Abnormally Dry	<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:red; border:1px solid black;"></span> D3 Extreme Drought
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:lightorange; border:1px solid black;"></span> D1 Moderate Drought	<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:darkred; border:1px solid black;"></span> D4 Exceptional Drought
<span style="display:inline-block; width:15px; height:15px; background-color:orange; border:1px solid black;"></span> D2 Severe Drought	

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

## **Author:**

Anthony Artusa

NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



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



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## DROUGHT

### Water Right Summary Report

#### Search Criteria

**County:****Start Drought Year:****End Drought Year:****Records per Page:** 

<u>Drought Year</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Drought Applications</u>	<u>Denied Drought Applications</u>	<u>Drought Permits</u>	<u>Drought Transfers</u>	<u>Drought Application Acres</u>	<u>Denied Drought Application Acres</u>	<u>Drought Permit Acres</u>
2015	Klamath	25	0	20	0	16382.49		14280.67
2015	Lake	0	0	0	1	0.00		
2015	Malheur	9	0	7	5	2550.20		2192.00

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