



Drought Report for the Week of September 8, 2015



Current Water Conditions: In the final Water Supply Outlook for 2015, the NRCS reported that State-wide, Oregon's snowpack this winter peaked at the lowest levels measured in the last 35 years. Many snow monitoring sites set records for the lowest peak snowpack and earliest melt-out date since measurements began. For the three month period of May through July 2015, Oregon recorded the warmest average temperatures since 1895. Consequently, streamflow is expected to be well below normal through the end of summer, especially in the more arid regions of the state. The current statewide average precipitation is 88%.

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: Marion 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 Oregon's Drought Council will meet if needed. The Water Availability Committee will convene if requested by the Drought Council.

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, Coos, Crook, Curry, Deschutes, Douglas, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Jackson, Jefferson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane, Linn, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wasco and Wheeler. A Governor's Drought Declaration allows the Water Resources Department to issue emergency drought permits to applicants, using an expedited process.

To go to a specific section click on title below:

- Oregon Basin Report (Final Report for 2015)
- Water Supply Assessment by Basin
- Oregon Declaration Status
- Oregon Surface Water Supply Index (Final Report for 2015)
- Oregon SNOTEL Water Year to Date Precipitation % of Normal
- Oregon Drought Monitor
- Water Right Drought Permit Application: Summary Report

Additional Resources:

- Reservoir Storage Diagrams
 - [Deschutes Basin](#)
 - [Willamette Basin](#)
 - [Tualatin River Basin](#)
 - [Rogue Basin](#)
 - [Umatilla River Basin](#)
 - [Southeastern Oregon](#)
- [Three Month Outlook – Temperature Probability](#)
- [Three Month Outlook – Precipitation Probability](#)



United States
Department of
Agriculture



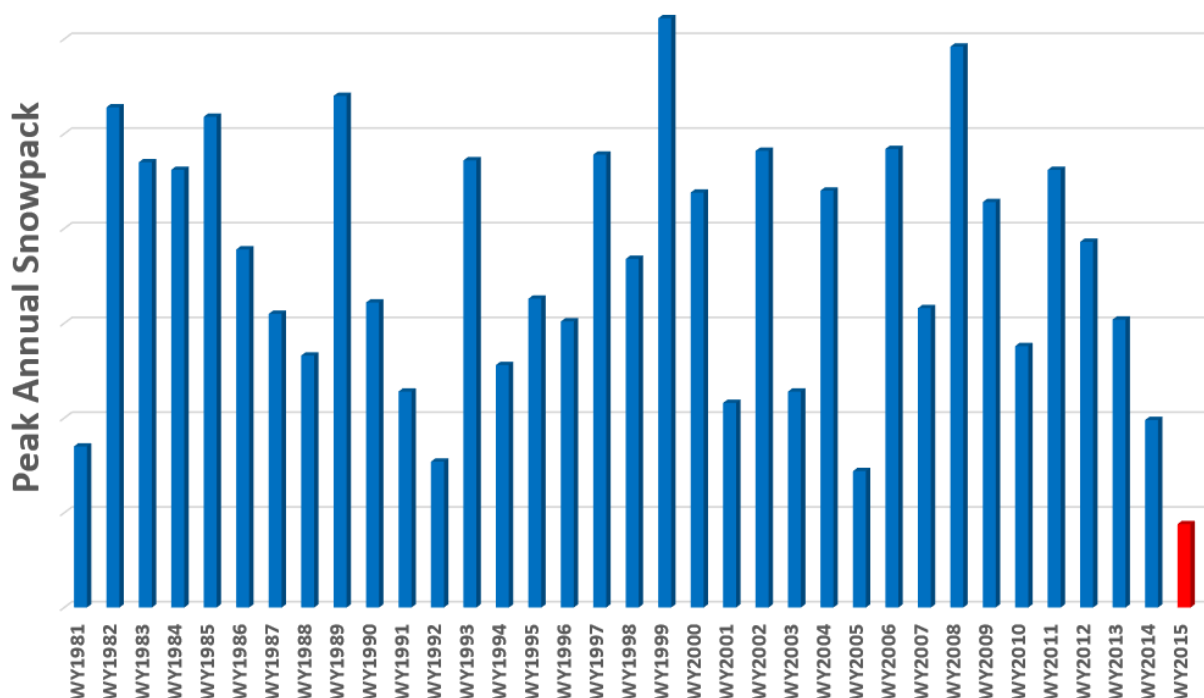
Natural Resources
Conservation
Service

Oregon Basin Outlook Report

June 1, 2015

****Final Report for 2015****

Oregon Snowpack Lowest on Record 2015 Water Year



State-wide, Oregon's snowpack this winter peaked at the lowest levels measured in the last 35 years. The chart above puts this year's record low snowpack into historical context. The height of each bar reflects the peak snowpack—from across the state of Oregon—for each water year. This year, 2015, is shown in red at the far right. Many snow monitoring sites set records for the lowest peak snowpack and earliest melt-out date since measurements began. In western Oregon, the snowpack peaked 60-90% below the normal amounts and the snow melted up to 3 months early. The snowpack in the eastern part of the state was only slightly better, peaking 30-80% below normal levels and up to 2 months earlier than normal. Lack of normal mountain snowpack has led to well below normal streamflow forecasts for the state. Currently, most of Oregon is included in the severe to extreme drought category, according to the National Drought Monitor. Water shortages across Oregon are expected this summer and Governor Kate Brown has declared a drought state of emergency in 15 counties as a result.



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menu

[About Us](#)[Contact Us](#)[News and Events](#)[Adjudications](#)[Commission](#)[Forms](#)[Ground Water](#)[Links](#)[Maps](#)[Publications](#)[Surface Water](#)[Water Law](#)[Water Management](#)[Water Rights](#)

DROUGHT

Current Basin Water Status

| Basin # | Basin Name | Basin Status | Reason |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| 1 | North Coast | Drought Unavoidable | Record low flows |
| 2 | Willamette | Drought Unavoidable | Corps Reservoirs 50% |
| 3 | Sandy | Drought Unavoidable | Near record low streams |
| 4 | Hood | Drought Unavoidable | Very low streamflow |
| 5 | Deschutes | Drought Unavoidable | Very low tributary flows |
| 6 | John Day | Drought Unavoidable | Very low flows |
| 7 | Umatilla | Drought Unavoidable | Very low flows |
| 8 | Grande Ronde | Drought Unavoidable | Flows dropping rapidly |
| 9 | Powder | Drought Unavoidable | Very low tributary flows |
| 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; Very low flows |
| 13 | Goose & Summer Lake | Drought Unavoidable | Reservoir storage is near empty; low flows |
| 14 | Klamath | Drought Unavoidable | Low flows |
| 15 | Rogue | Drought Unavoidable | Low flows |
| 16 | Umpqua | Drought Unavoidable | Low flows |
| 17 | South Coast | Drought Unavoidable | Record low flows |
| 18 | Middle Coast | Drought Unavoidable | Record low flows |

Definitions

Normal Water supply is not atypical.

Below Normal Water supply under what is needed to meet normal demands.

Drought Likely Water supply likely to fall well short of meeting normal demands.







Drought Unavoidable Water supply will fall well short of meeting normal demands.

Oregon's Water Availability Committee* Water Supply Assessment

7/9/2015

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

Hydrologic conditions
shown on this map do
not reflect local water
supply conditions,
including above and
below-ground storage.





Water Resources Department

menu

[About Us](#)[Contact Us](#)[News and Events](#)[Adjudications](#)[Commission](#)[Forms](#)[Ground Water](#)[Links](#)[Maps](#)[Publications](#)[Surface Water](#)[Water Law](#)[Water Management](#)[Water Rights](#)

DROUGHT

Current Drought Declaration Status Report





| Drought Year | County | Drought Status | County Request Date | Forwarded to Governor Date | Governor Declaration Date | Federal Declaration Date | Executive Order | Drought Begin Date | Drought End Date |
|--------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 2015 | Baker | Governor Declared | 03/18/2015 | 04/10/2015 | 04/20/2015 | 04/22/2015 | 15-04 | 4/20/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Coos | Governor Declared | 06/11/2015 | 06/12/2015 | 06/12/2015 | 08/06/2015 | 15-06 | 6/12/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Crook | Governor Declared | 03/18/2015 | 03/20/2015 | 04/02/2015 | 04/22/2015 | 15-03 | 4/2/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Curry | Governor Declared | 06/29/2015 | 07/09/2015 | 07/21/2015 | 08/06/2015 | 15-08 | 7/21/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Deschutes | Governor Declared | 04/29/2015 | 05/15/2015 | 05/22/2015 | 04/22/2015 | 15-05 | 5/22/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Douglas | Governor Declared | 06/10/2015 | 06/12/2015 | 06/12/2015 | 03/22/2015 | 15-06 | 6/12/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Gilliam | Governor Declared | 06/03/2015 | 06/12/2015 | 06/12/2015 | 06/10/2015 | 15-06 | 6/12/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Grant | Governor Declared | 04/29/2015 | 05/15/2015 | 05/22/2015 | 03/18/2015 | 15-05 | 5/22/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Harney | Governor Declared | 03/18/2015 | 03/20/2015 | 04/02/2015 | 04/22/2015 | 15-03 | 4/2/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Hood River | Governor Declared | 06/25/2015 | 07/09/2015 | 07/21/2015 | 06/10/2015 | 15-08 | 7/21/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Jackson | Governor Declared | 05/13/2015 | 05/15/2015 | 05/22/2015 | 03/18/2015 | 15-05 | 5/22/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Jefferson | Governor Declared | 06/03/2015 | 06/12/2015 | 06/12/2015 | 06/10/2015 | 05/06 | 6/12/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Josephine | Governor Declared | 05/06/2015 | 05/15/2015 | 05/22/2015 | 03/20/2015 | 15-05 | 5/22/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Klamath | Governor Declared | 03/17/2015 | 03/20/2015 | 04/02/2015 | 04/08/2015 | 15-03 | 3/20/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Lake | Governor Declared | 03/10/2015 | 03/11/2015 | 03/16/2015 | 04/08/2015 | 15-02 | 3/16/2015 | 12/31/2015 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------|-----------|------------|
| 2015 | Lane | Governor Declared | 05/12/2015 | 05/15/2015 | 05/22/2015 | 08/06/2015 | 15-05 | 5/22/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Linn | Governor Declared | 08/19/2015 | 08/24/2015 | 08/25/2015 | 08/06/2015 | 15-11 | 8/25/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Malheur | Governor Declared | 03/04/2015 | 03/11/2015 | 03/16/2015 | 04/08/2015 | 15-02 | 3/16/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Morrow | Governor Declared | 05/06/2015 | 05/15/2015 | 05/22/2015 | 03/20/2015 | 15-05 | 5/22/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Sherman | Governor Declared | 06/18/2015 | 06/19/2015 | 06/22/2015 | 06/10/2015 | 15-07 | 6/22/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Umatilla | Governor Declared | 04/28/2015 | 05/15/2015 | 05/22/2015 | 03/20/2015 | 15-05 | 5/22/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Union | Governor Declared | 07/15/2015 | 07/16/2015 | 07/21/2015 | 03/20/2015 | 15-08 | 7/21/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Wasco | Governor Declared | 05/20/2015 | 05/21/2015 | 05/22/2015 | 06/10/2015 | 15-05 | 5/22/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Wheeler | Governor Declared | 03/18/2015 | 04/10/2015 | 04/20/2015 | 05/13/2015 | 15-04 | 4/20/2015 | 12/31/2015 |
| 2015 | Marion | County Requested | 09/03/2015 | | | 06/10/2015 | | | |
| 2015 | Benton | | | | | 08/06/2015 | | | |
| 2015 | Clackamas | | | | | 06/10/2015 | | | |
| 2015 | Clatsop | | | | | 08/06/2015 | | | |
| 2015 | Columbia | | | | | 08/06/2015 | | | |
| 2015 | Lincoln | | | | | 08/06/2015 | | | |
| 2015 | Multnomah | | | | | 08/06/2015 | | | |
| 2015 | Polk | | | | | 08/06/2015 | | | |
| 2015 | Tillamook | | | | | 08/06/2015 | | | |
| 2015 | Wallowa | | | | | 06/24/2015 | | | |
| 2015 | Washington | | | | | 08/06/2015 | | | |
| 2015 | Yamhill | | | | | 08/06/2015 | | | |

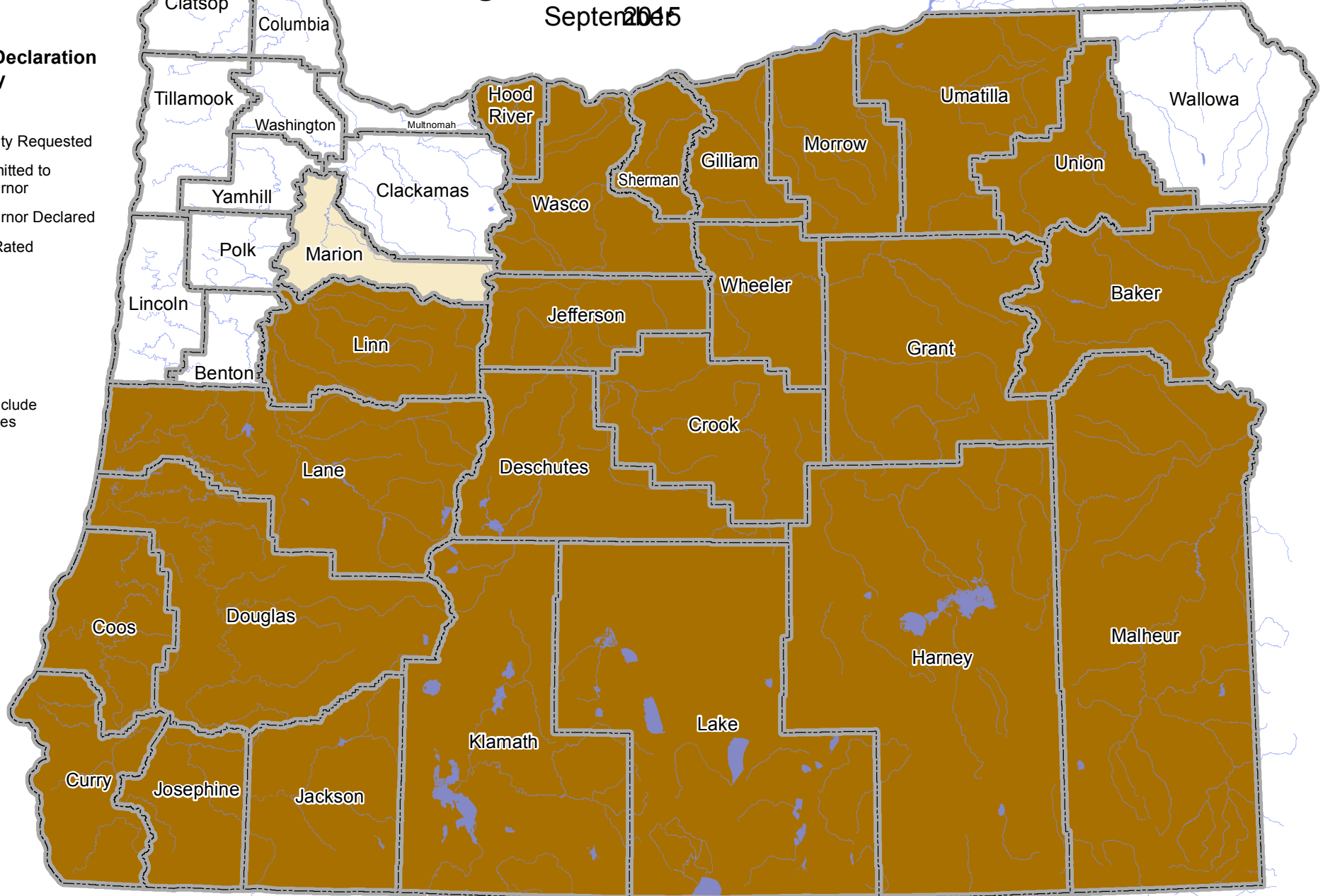
Oregon's Drought Council* Drought Declaration Status September 2015

Drought Declaration by County

Status

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

*Members Include
State Agencies



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<http://www.wrd.state.or.us/>

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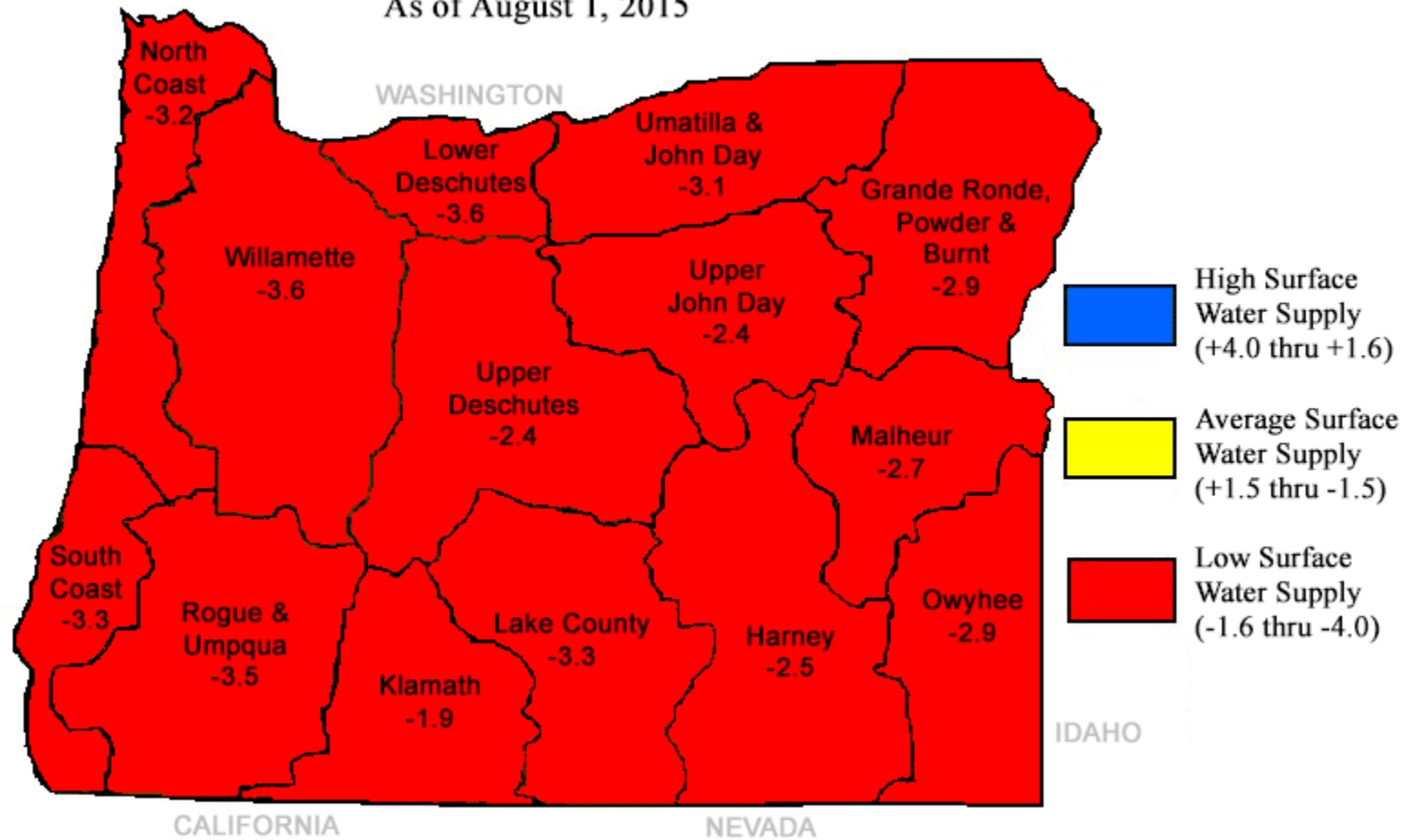


0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Updated: 9/3/2015 8:55 PM
Projection: Oregon Lambert, NAD 83

OREGON SURFACE WATER SUPPLY INDEX (SWSI)

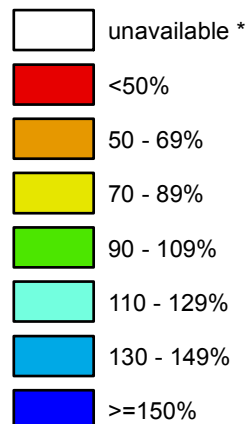
As of August 1, 2015



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

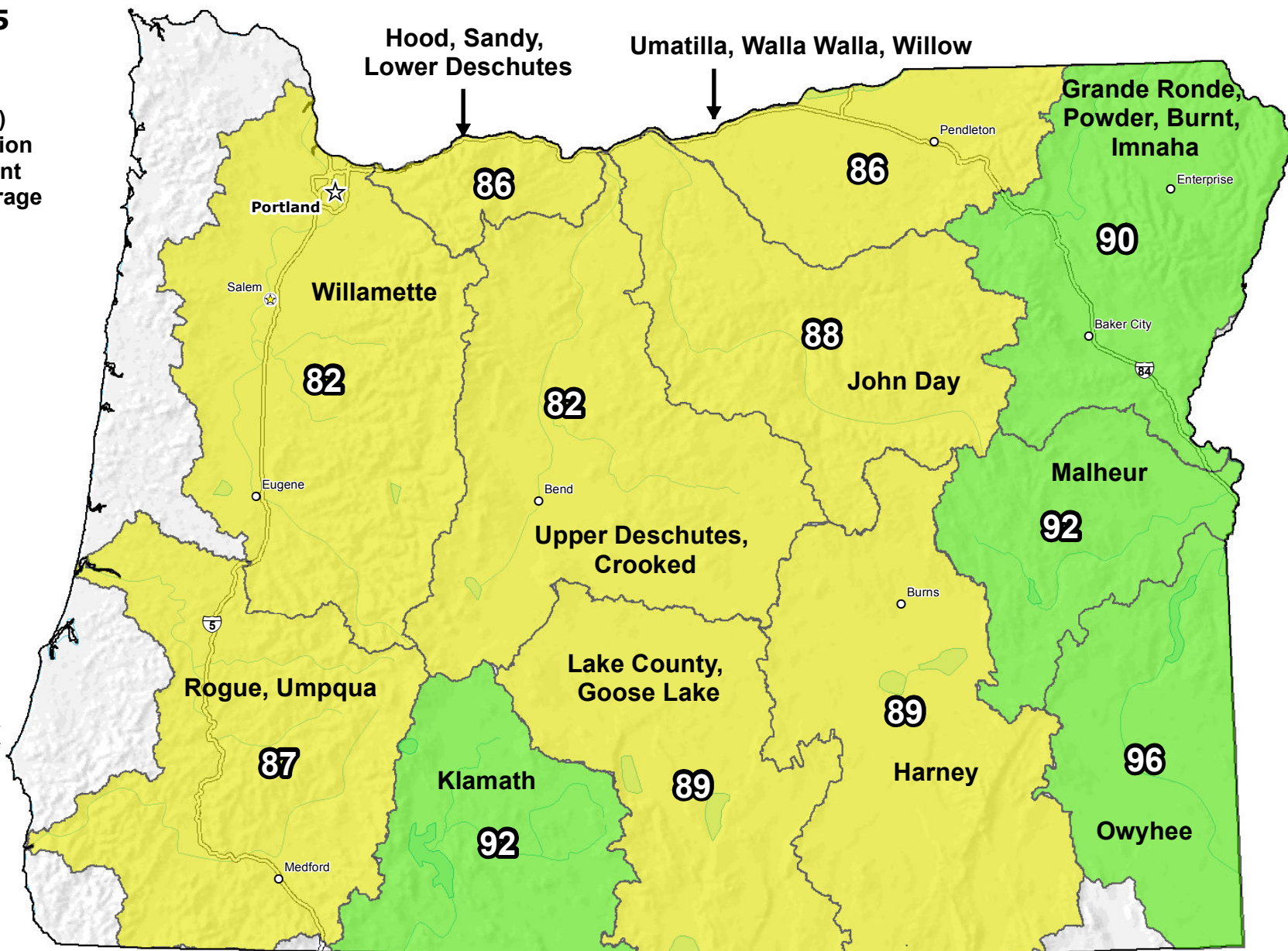
Sep 08, 2015

Water Year (Oct 1)
to Date Precipitation
Basin-wide Percent
of 1981-2010 Average



* 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).

0 10 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

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

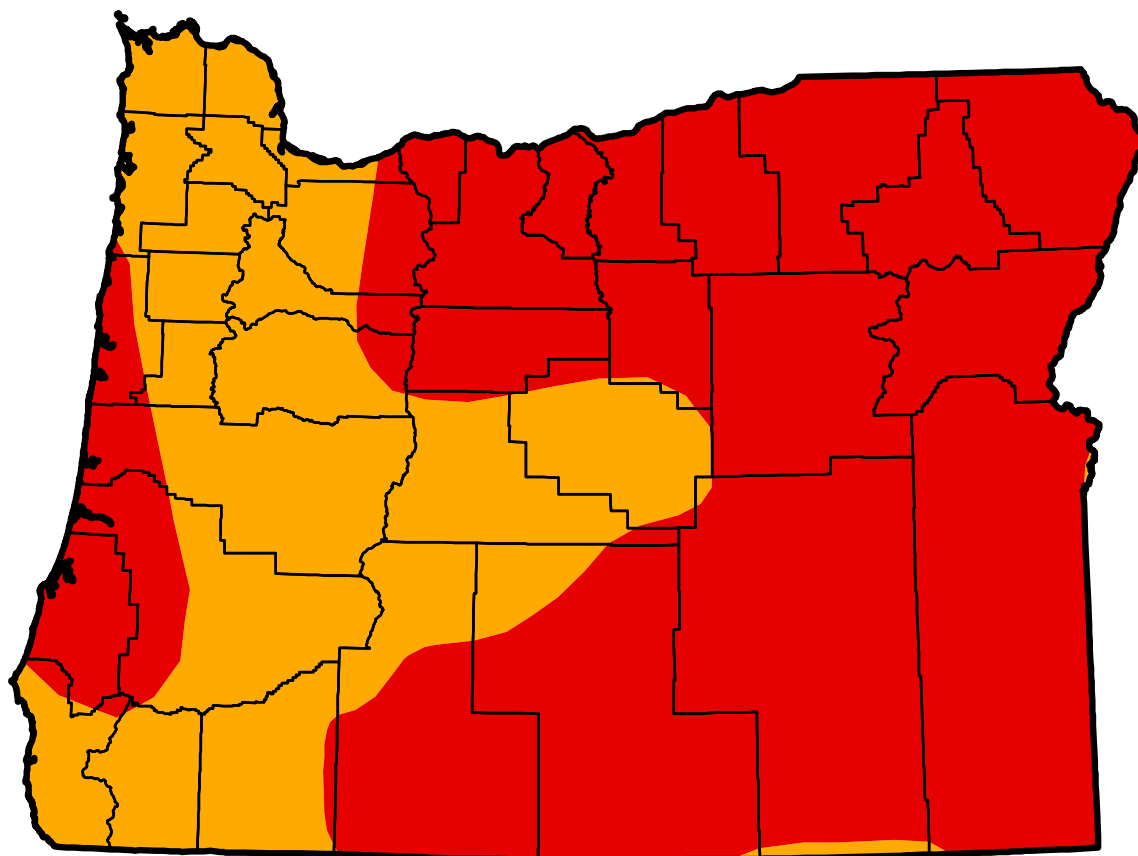
U.S. Drought Monitor

Oregon

September 1, 2015
 (Released Thursday, Sep. 3, 2015)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

| | None | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4 |
|---|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|------|
| Current | 0.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 67.28 | 0.00 |
| Last Week 8/25/2015 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 67.29 | 0.00 |
| 3 Months Ago 6/2/2015 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 88.27 | 68.48 | 34.09 | 0.00 |
| Start of Calendar Year 12/30/2014 | 13.61 | 86.39 | 80.70 | 49.29 | 34.11 | 0.00 |
| Start of Water Year 9/30/2014 | 1.56 | 98.44 | 76.61 | 56.26 | 35.30 | 0.00 |
| One Year Ago 9/2/2014 | 1.69 | 98.31 | 75.79 | 56.02 | 33.82 | 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:
 Anthony Artusa
 NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



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



Water Resources Department

menu

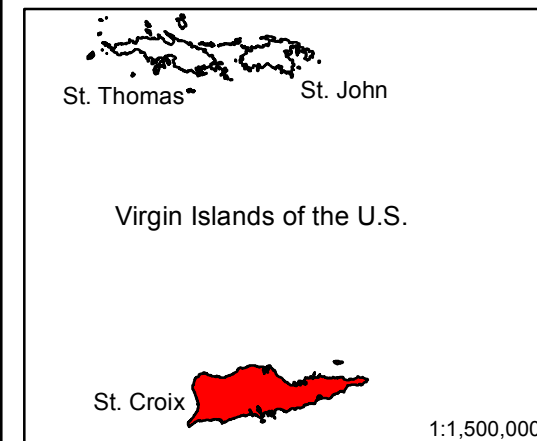
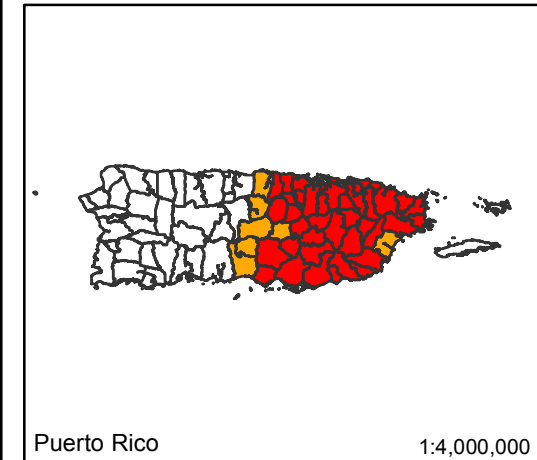
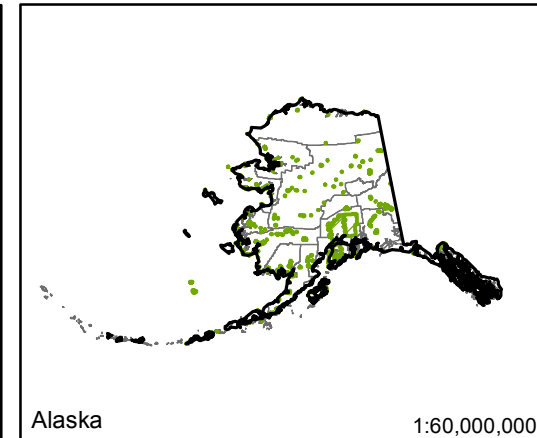
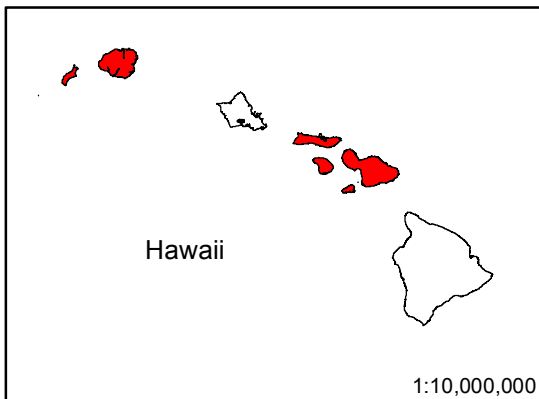
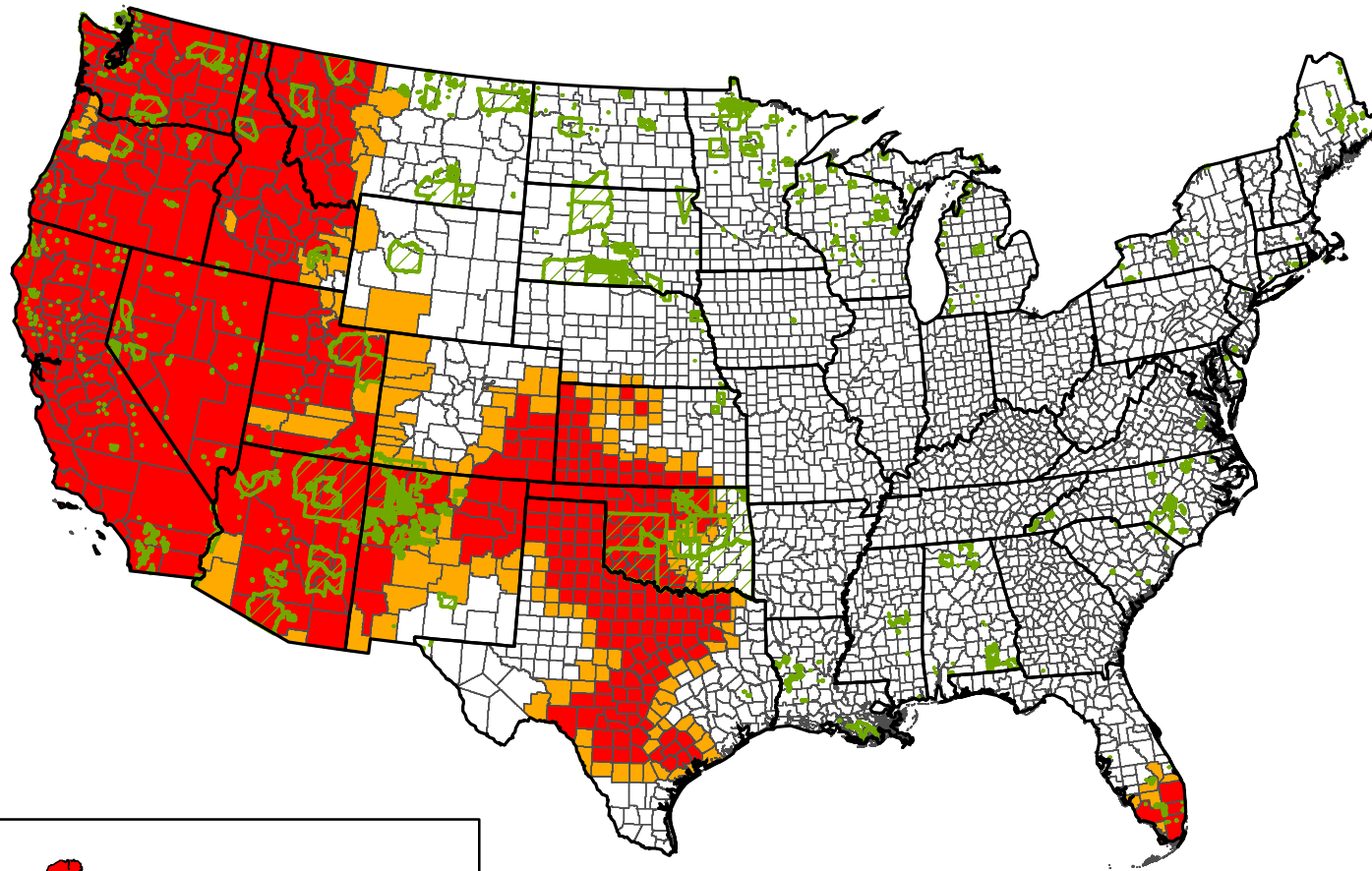
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DROUGHT






Current Drought Water Right Summary Report

| <u>Drought Year</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Applications Rec'd</u> | <u>Applications Denied</u> | <u>Applications Approved</u> | <u>Acres Approved</u> | <u>Transfers Rec'd</u> | <u>Transfers Denied</u> | <u>Transfers Approved</u> |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2015 | Baker | 1 | | | | 5 | | 2 |
| 2015 | Crook | 2 | | 1 | 69.20 | 1 | | 1 |
| 2015 | Harney | 2 | 1 | 1 | 372.60 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| 2015 | Jackson | 0 | | | | 2 | | 1 |
| 2015 | Klamath | 38 | 1 | 36 | 21725.84 | 1 | | 1 |
| 2015 | Lake | 5 | | 3 | 1454.40 | 2 | | 2 |
| 2015 | Lane | 0 | | | | 6 | | 6 |
| 2015 | Malheur | 14 | | 14 | 3818.52 | 4 | | 4 |
| 2015 | Morrow | 1 | | 1 | 32.70 | | | |
| 2015 | Umatilla | 0 | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| 2015 | Wasco | 0 | | | | 1 | | 1 |

2015 Secretarial Drought Designations - All Drought



Secretarial Drought Designations for 2015
Disaster Incidents as of September 2, 2015

-  State Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Tribal Lands
-  Primary Counties: 480
-  Contiguous Counties: 169

1:25,000,000