



# Drought Report for the Week of October 12 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.

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.

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 Oregon's Drought Council is October 22, 2015. 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, Marion, 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
- Oregon SNOTEL Water Year to Date Precipitation % of Normal (*Note: New Water Year*)
- 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



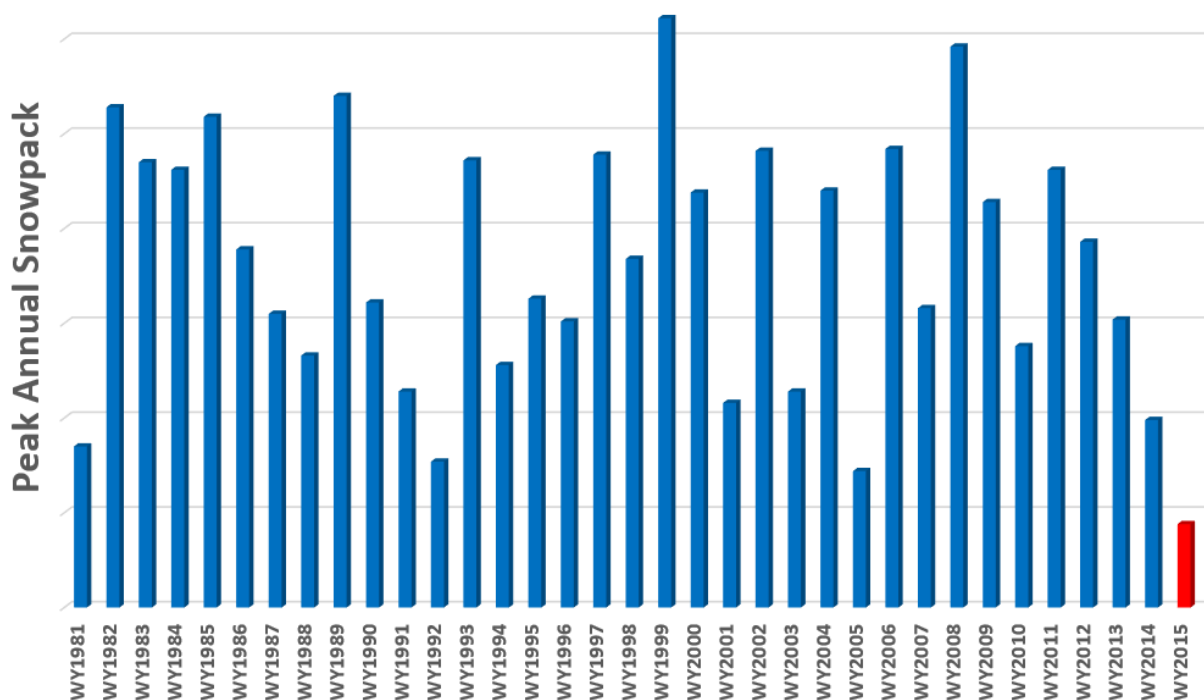
Natural Resources  
Conservation  
Service

# 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.



## 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 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.



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: 7/13/2015 9:08 AM  
Projection: Oregon Lambert, NAD 83



## 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	Marion	Governor Declared	09/03/2015	09/14/2015	09/16/2015	06/10/2015	15-19	9/18/2015	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	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			



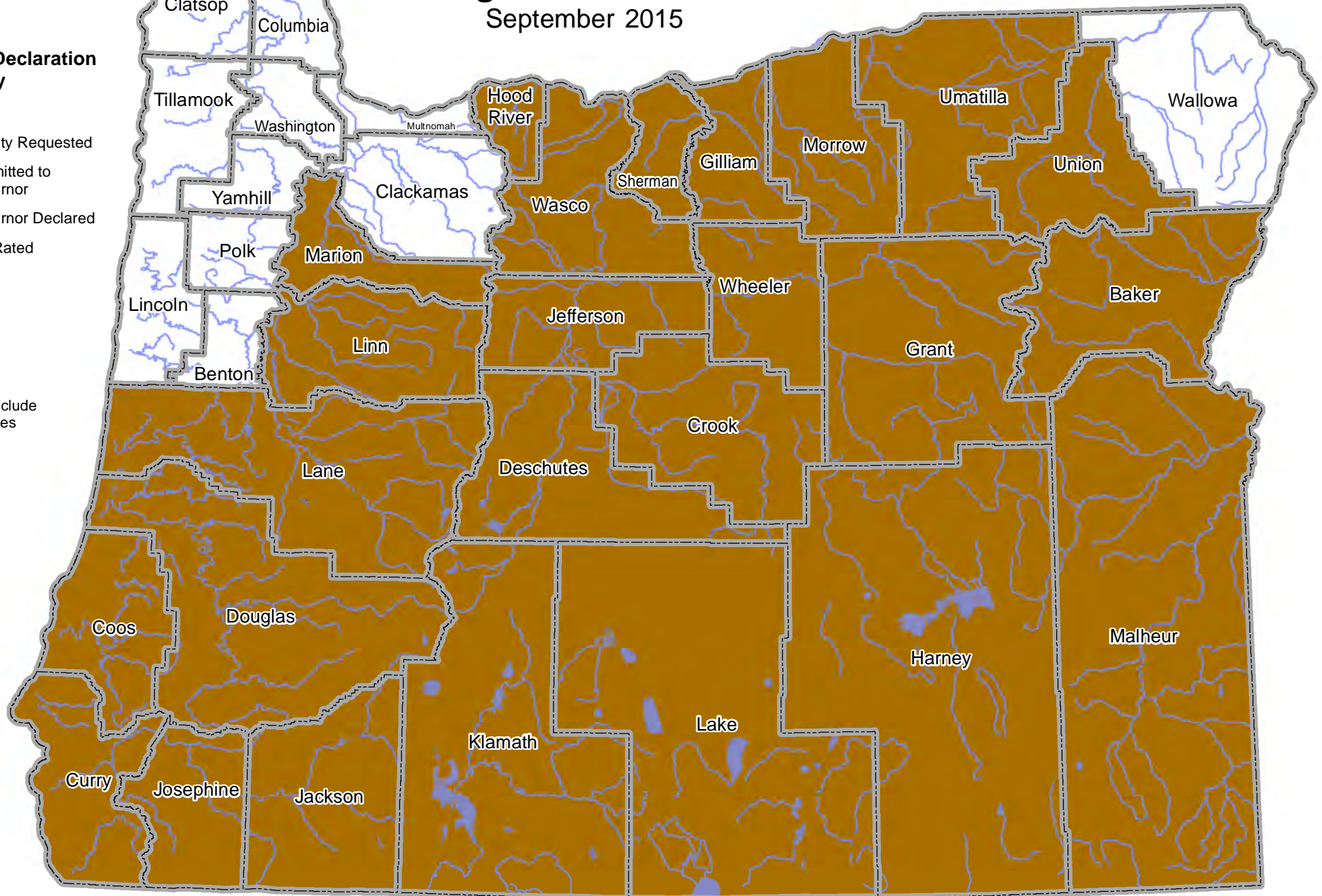
# Oregon's Drought Council\* Drought Declaration Status September 2015

## Drought Declaration by County

### Status

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

\*Members Include  
State Agencies



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.

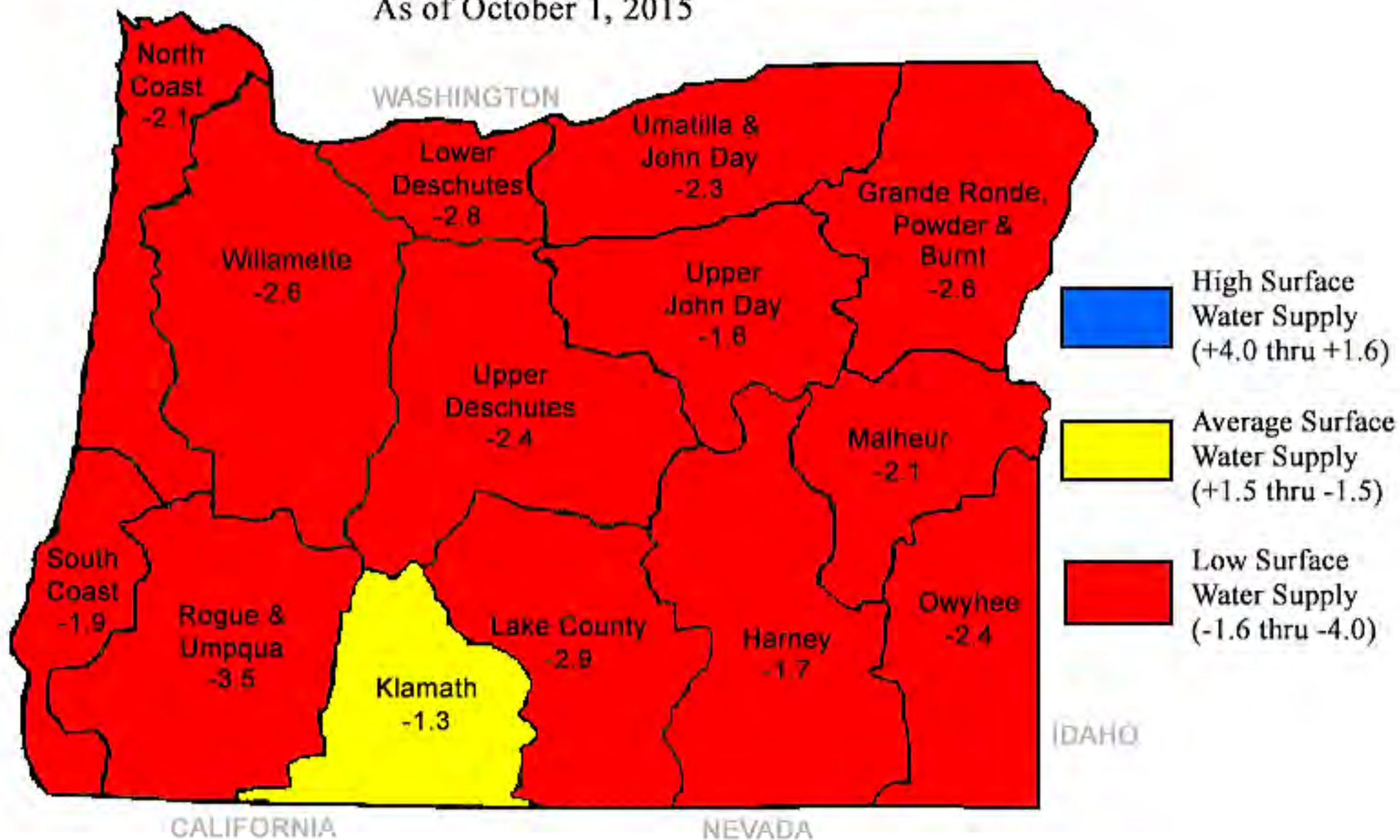


0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Updated: 9/18/2015 12:02 PM  
Projection: Oregon Lambert, NAD 83

# OREGON SURFACE WATER SUPPLY INDEX (SWSI)

As of October 1, 2015

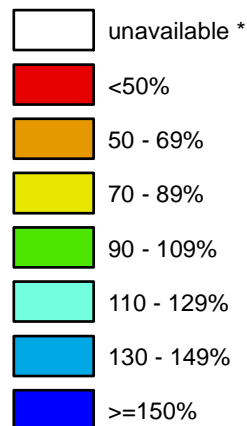




# Oregon SNOTEL Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation % of Normal

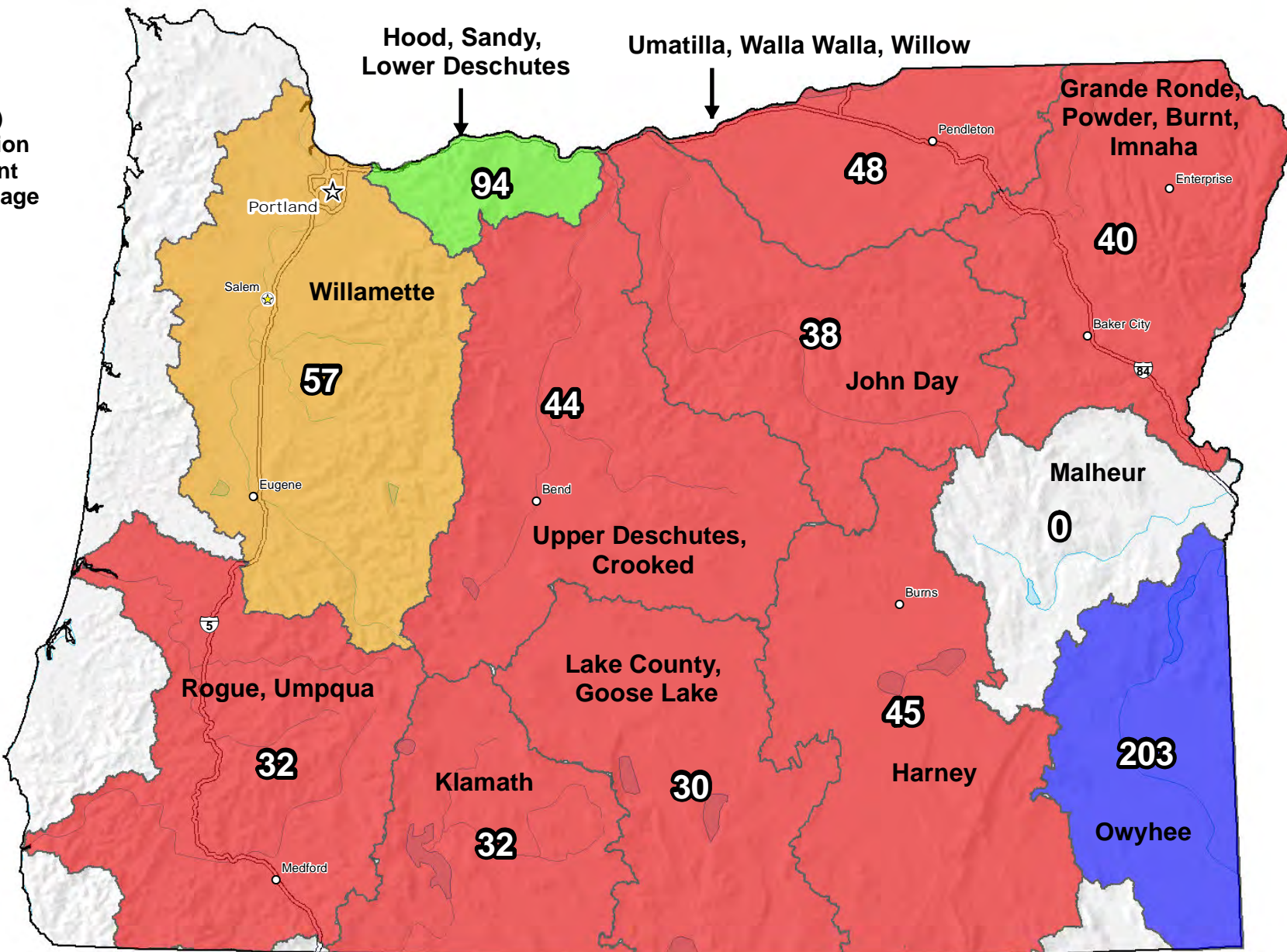
Oct 12, 2015

**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

**October 6, 2015**  
(Released Thursday, Oct. 8, 2015)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

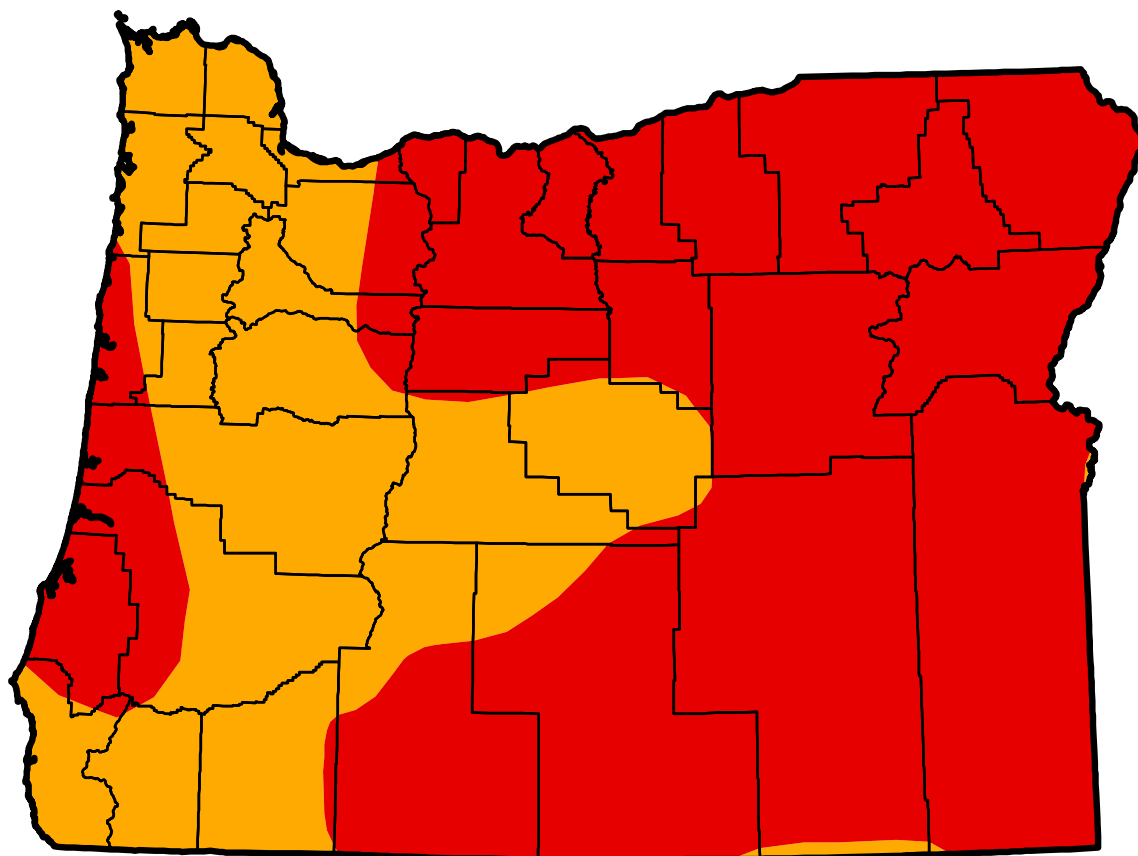
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	67.29	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 9/29/2015	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	67.29	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 7/7/2015	0.00	100.00	100.00	83.71	34.09	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 12/30/2014	13.61	86.39	80.70	49.29	34.11	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 9/29/2015	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	67.29	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 10/7/2014	1.56	98.44	76.61	56.26	35.30	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:**  
David Miskus  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



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



## Water Resources Department

## menu

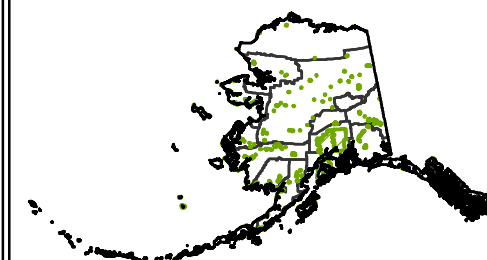
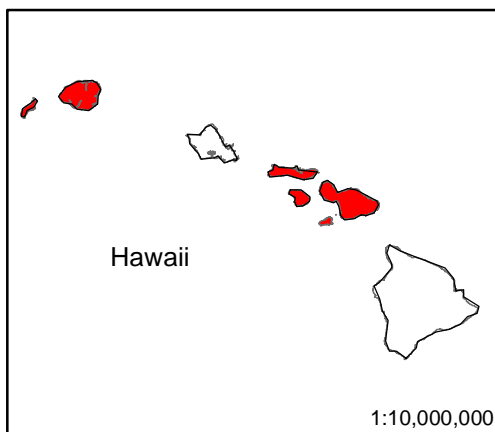
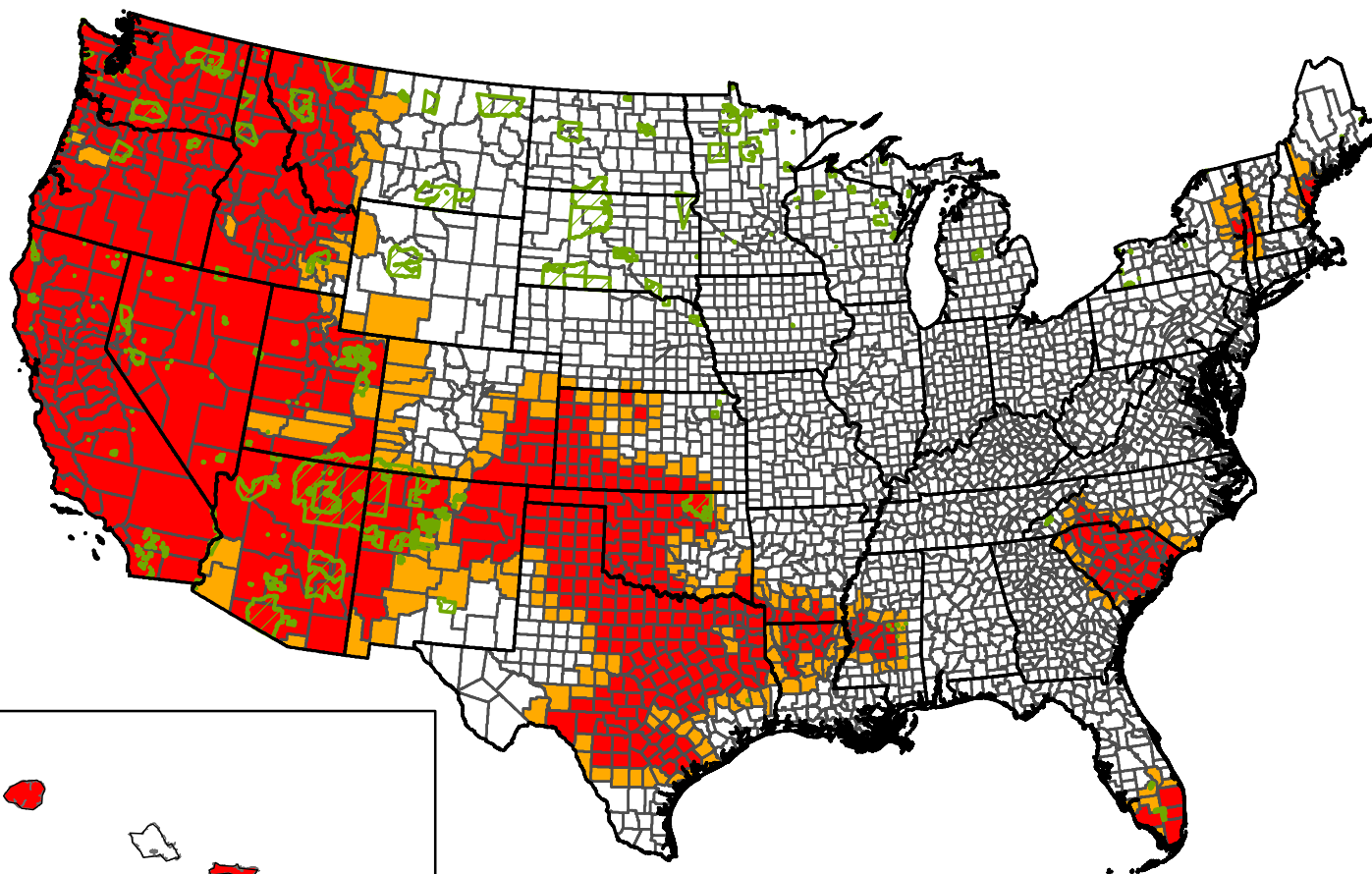
[About Us](#)[Contact Us](#)[News and Events](#)[Adjudications](#)[Commission](#)[Forms](#)[Ground Water](#)[Links](#)[Maps](#)[Publications](#)[Surface Water](#)[Water Law](#)[Water Management](#)[Water Rights](#)

## DROUGHT

## Current Drought Water Right Summary Report

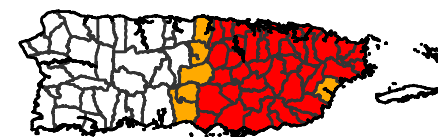
<u>Drought Year</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Applications Rec'd</u>	<u>Applications Denied</u>	<u>Applications Approved</u>	<u>Acres Approved</u>	<u>Transfers Rec'd</u>	<u>Transfers Denied</u>	<u>Transfers Approved</u>
2015	Baker	1	1			5		5
2015	Crook	2		1	69.20	1		1
2015	Harney	2	1		372.60	2	1	1
2015	Jackson	0				2		2
2015	Klamath	39	1	31	21745.80	1		1
2015	Lake	5	1		1454.40	2		2
2015	Lane	0				6		6
2015	Malheur	14		13	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



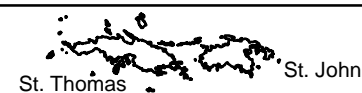
Alaska

1:60,000,000



Puerto Rico

1:4,000,000



St. Thomas

St. John

Virgin Islands of the U.S.

St. Croix

1:1,500,000

## Secretarial Drought Designations for 2015

Disaster Incidents as of October 7, 2015

- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- Tribal Lands
- Primary Counties: 603
- Contiguous Counties: 254

1:25,000,000



USDA Farm Service Agency  
Production, Emergencies and Compliance Division  
Washington, D.C.  
October 7, 2015