

Update on Drought Conditions & Governor Brown's Executive Order

Racquel Rancier, Senior Policy Coordinator
Oregon Water Resources Commission Meeting
September 11, 2015



Outline

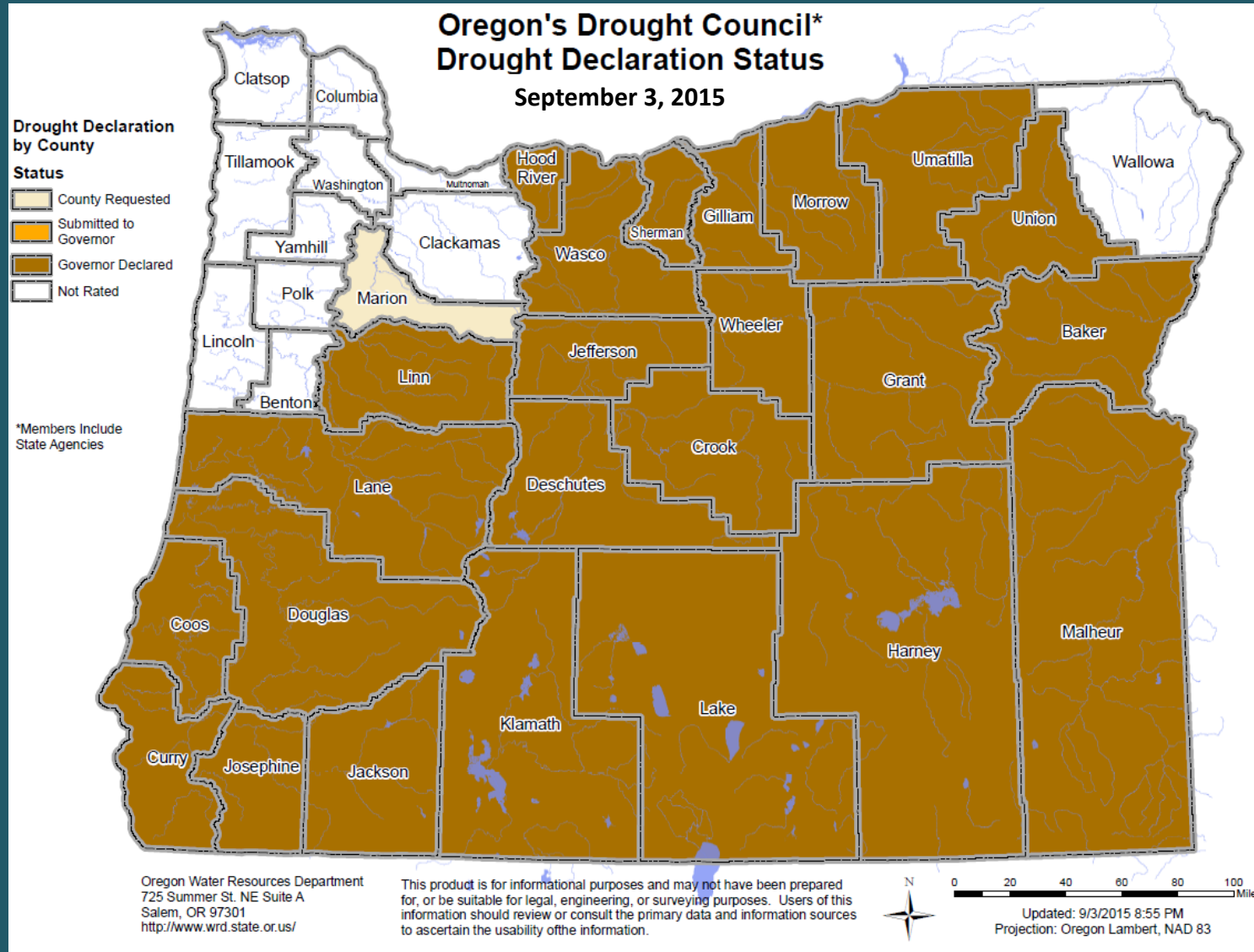
Drought Conditions:

- **Status of drought declarations**
- **A look at streamflow and temperature**
- **Expected conditions for this fall**

What's Ahead for Drought Response:

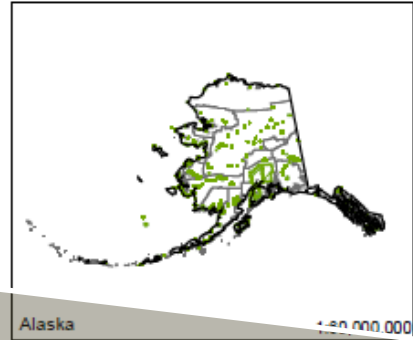
- **Ongoing agency efforts**
- **Governor Brown's Directive to State Agencies**
- **Next Steps**

Emergency State Declarations



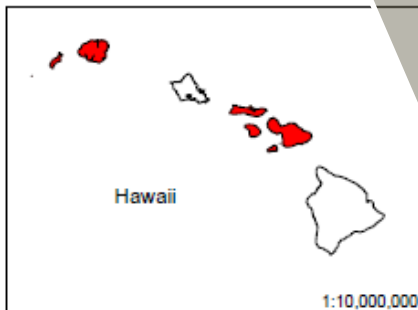
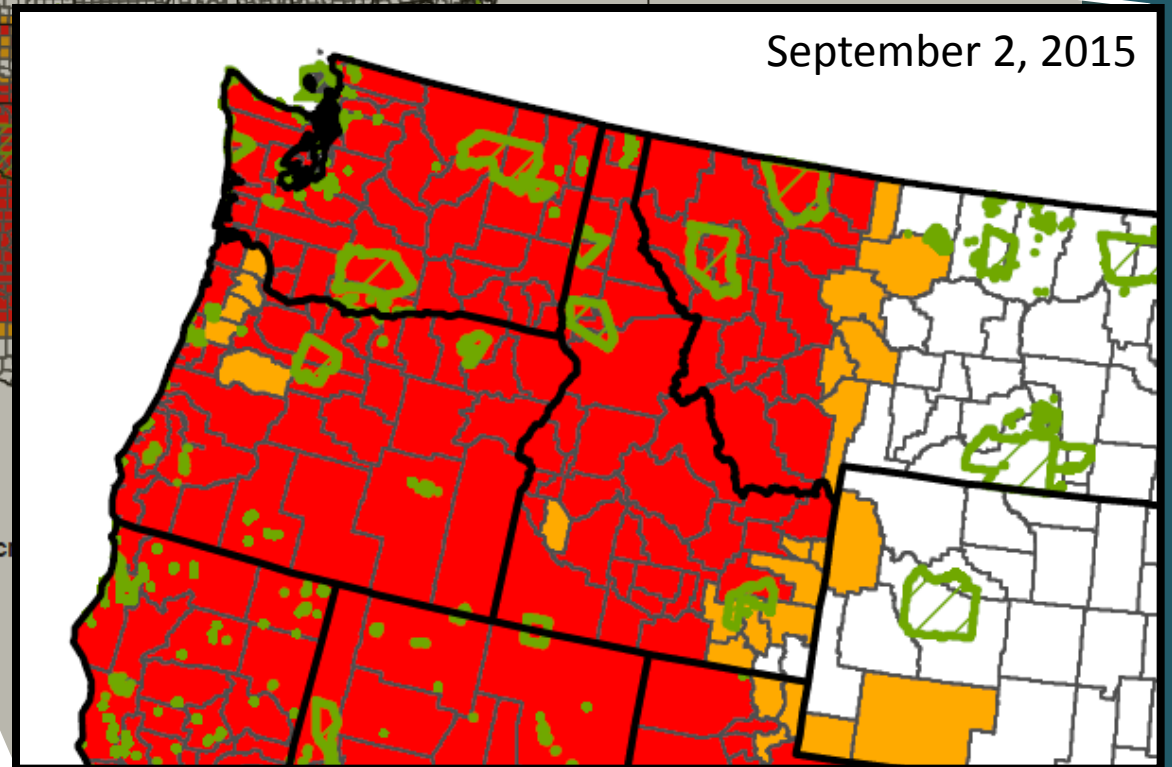
Federal Disaster Designations

2015 Secretarial Drought Designations - All Drought



Alaska 1:50,000,000

September 2, 2015



Hawaii

1:10,000,000

USDA Farm Service Agency
Production, Emergencies and Compliance Division
Washington, D.C.
September 2, 2015

Federal U.S. Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

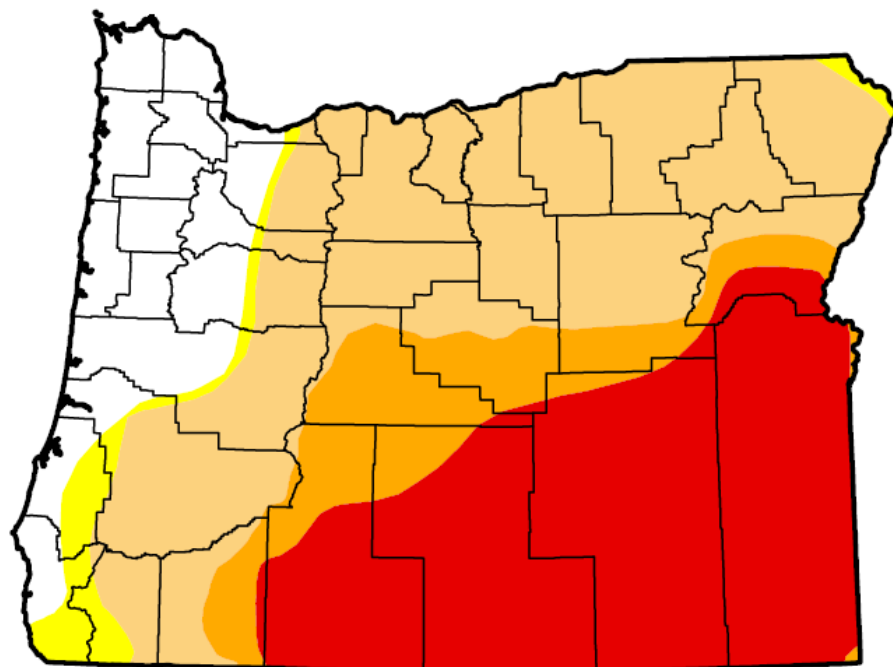
March 3, 2015

(Released Thursday, Mar. 5, 2015)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	14.22	85.78	82.37	44.95	33.72	0.00
Last Week <i>2/24/2015</i>	14.22	85.78	82.37	44.95	33.72	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>12/2/2014</i>	11.76	88.24	82.10	53.55	34.88	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>12/30/2014</i>	13.61	86.39	80.70	49.29	34.11	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>9/30/2014</i>	1.56	98.44	76.61	56.26	35.30	0.00
One Year Ago <i>3/4/2014</i>	0.00	100.00	94.02	52.62	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.

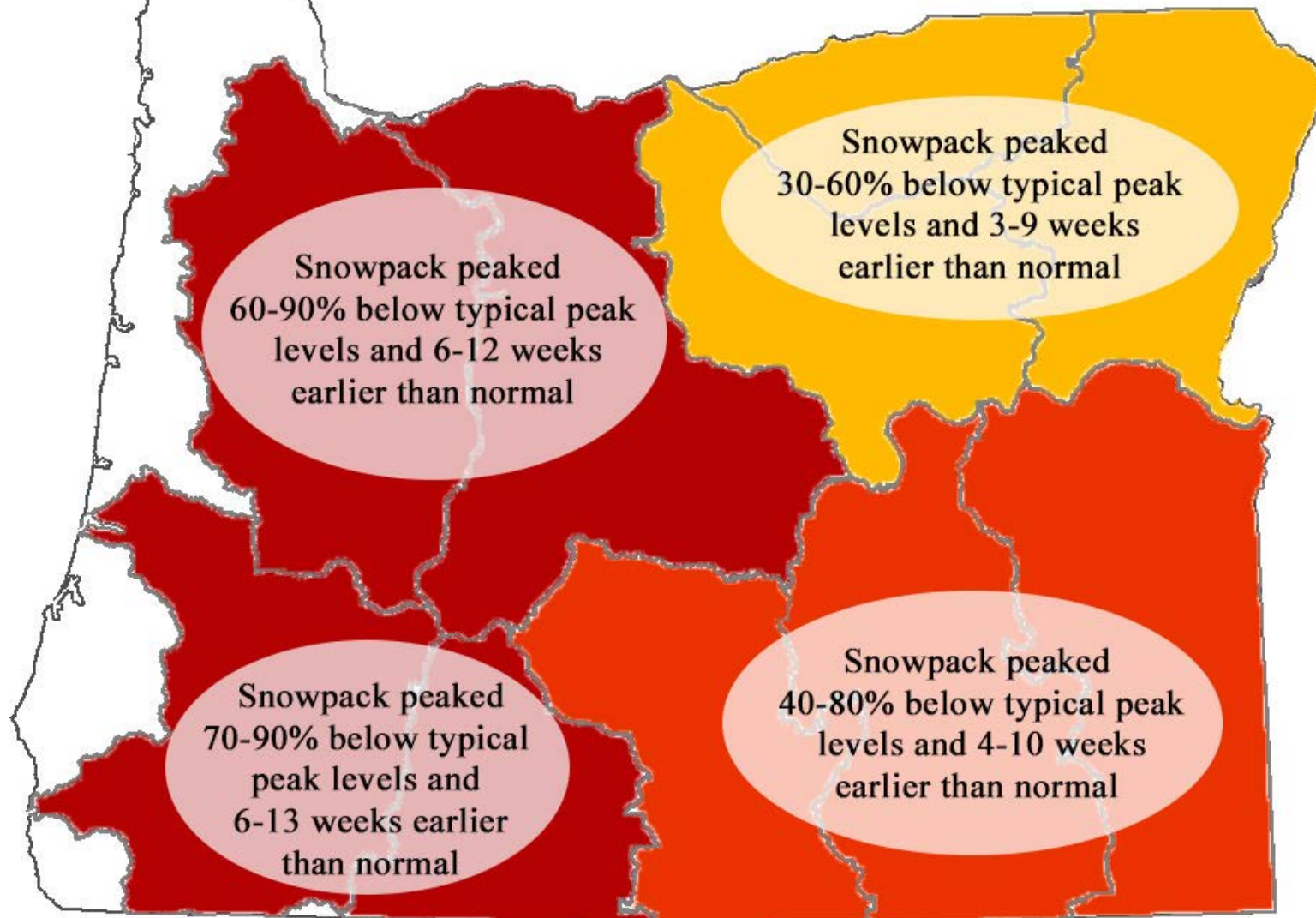
Author:
David Simeral
Western Regional Climate Center

34 percent in extreme drought



Record Low Snowpack

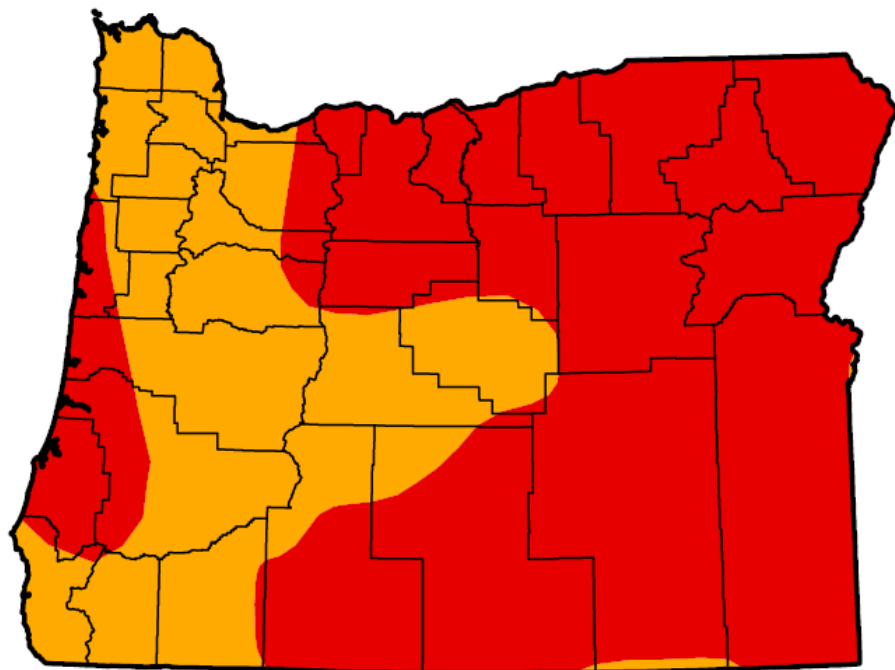
Oregon 2015 Peak Snowpack



Federal U.S. Drought Monitor

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 <i>8/25/2015</i>	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	67.29	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>6/2/2015</i>	0.00	100.00	88.27	68.48	34.09	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <i>12/30/2014</i>	13.61	86.39	80.70	49.29	34.11	0.00
Start of Water Year <i>9/30/2014</i>	1.56	98.44	76.61	56.26	35.30	0.00
One Year Ago <i>9/2/2014</i>	1.69	98.31	75.79	56.02	33.82	0.00

Intensity:



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

67 percent in extreme drought

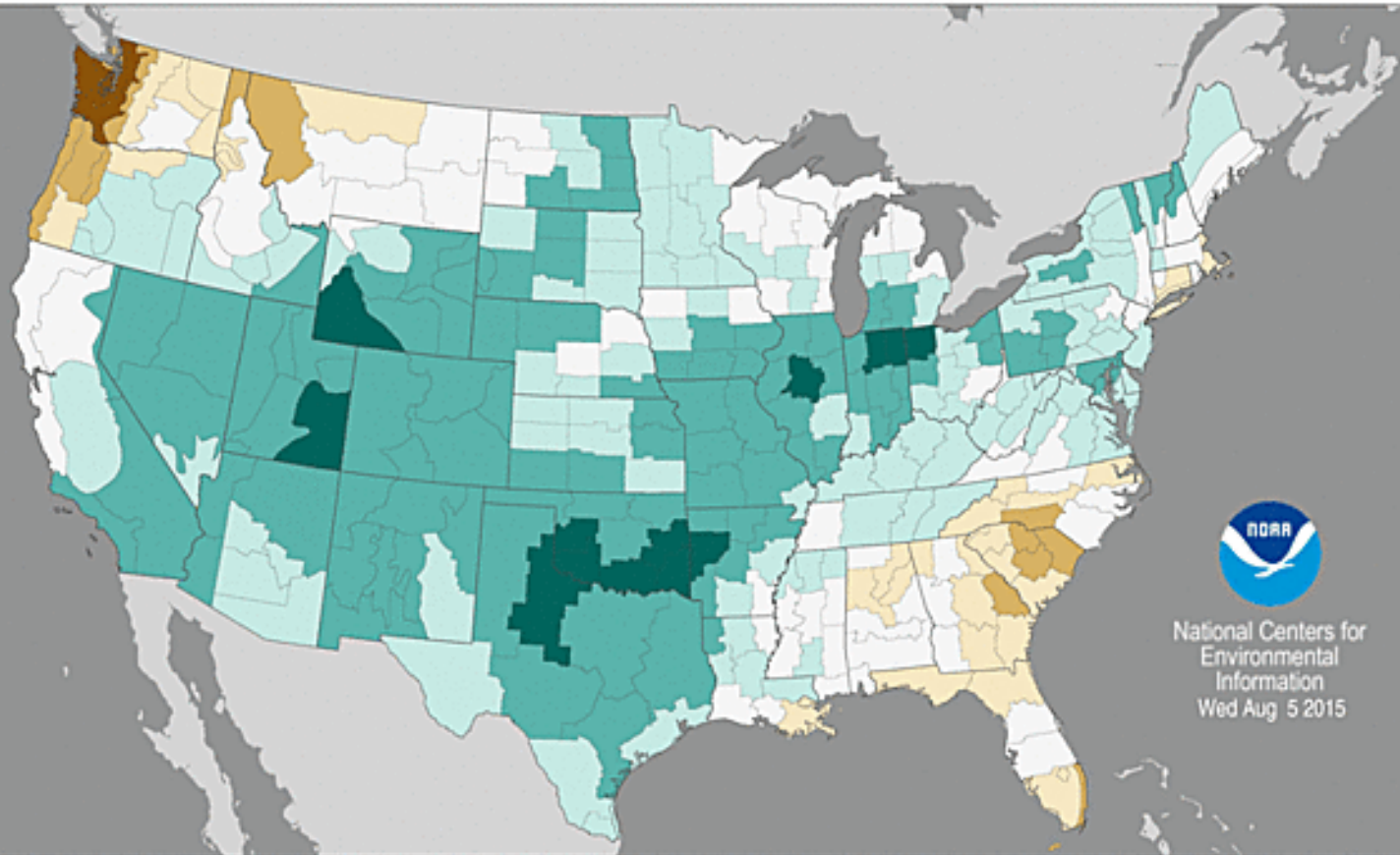


Precipitation

Divisional Precipitation Ranks

May–July 2015

Period: 1895–2015



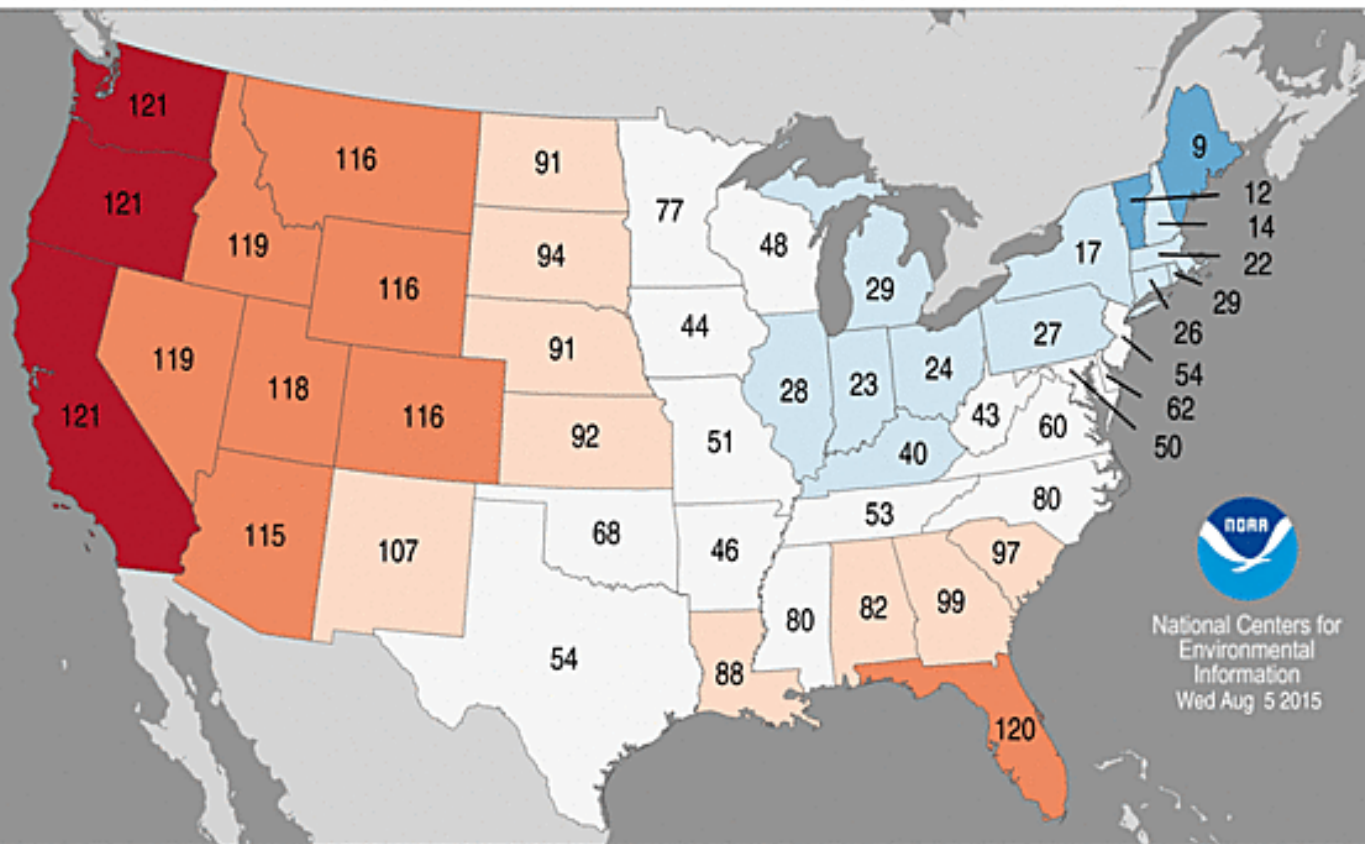
National Centers for
Environmental
Information
Wed Aug 5 2015

Record Warm Temperatures for Oregon

Statewide Average Temperature Ranks

February–July 2015

Period: 1895–2015



National Centers for
Environmental
Information
Wed Aug 5 2015

Record
Coldest
(1)

Much
Below
Average

Below
Average

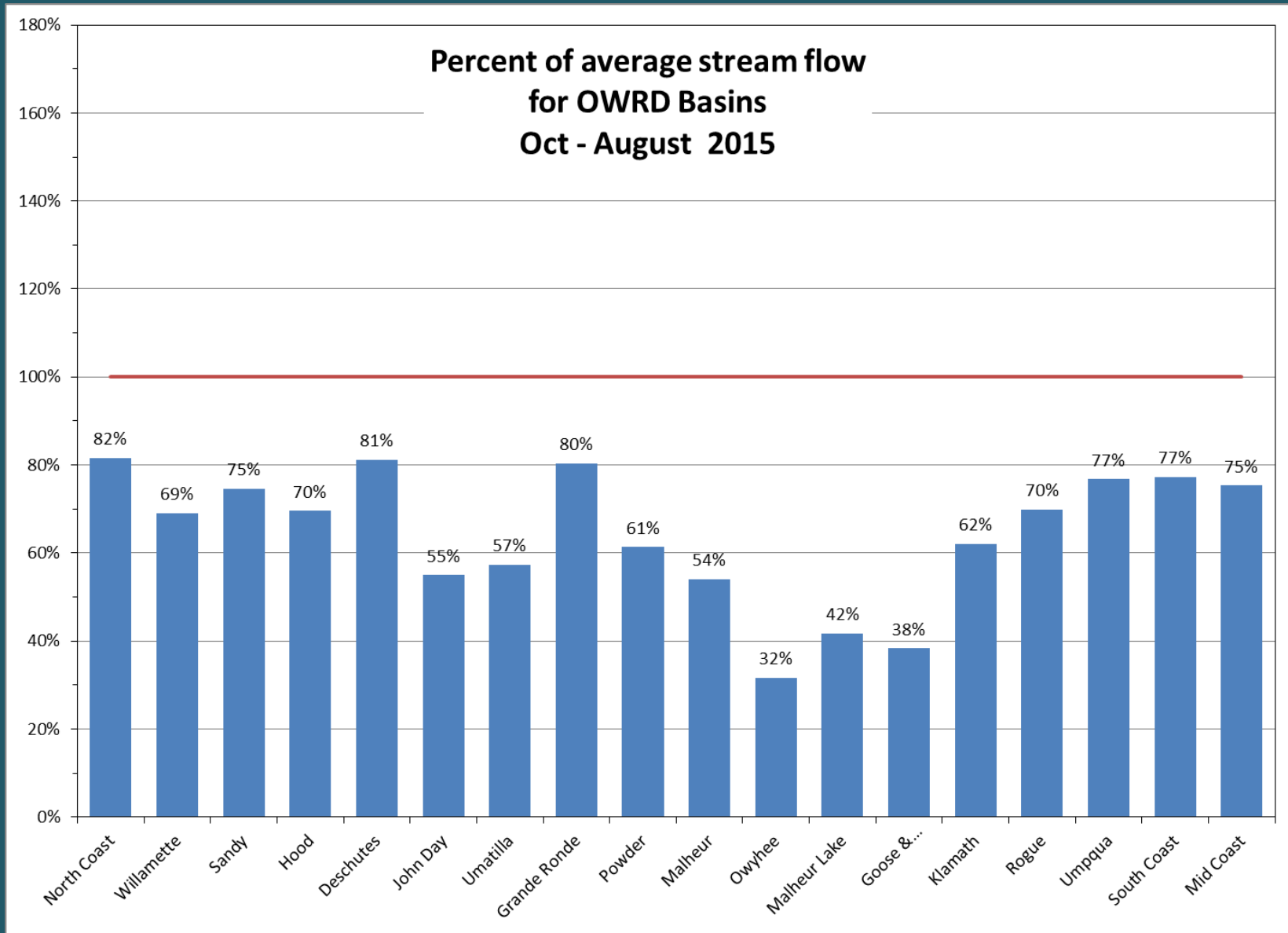
Near
Average

Above
Average

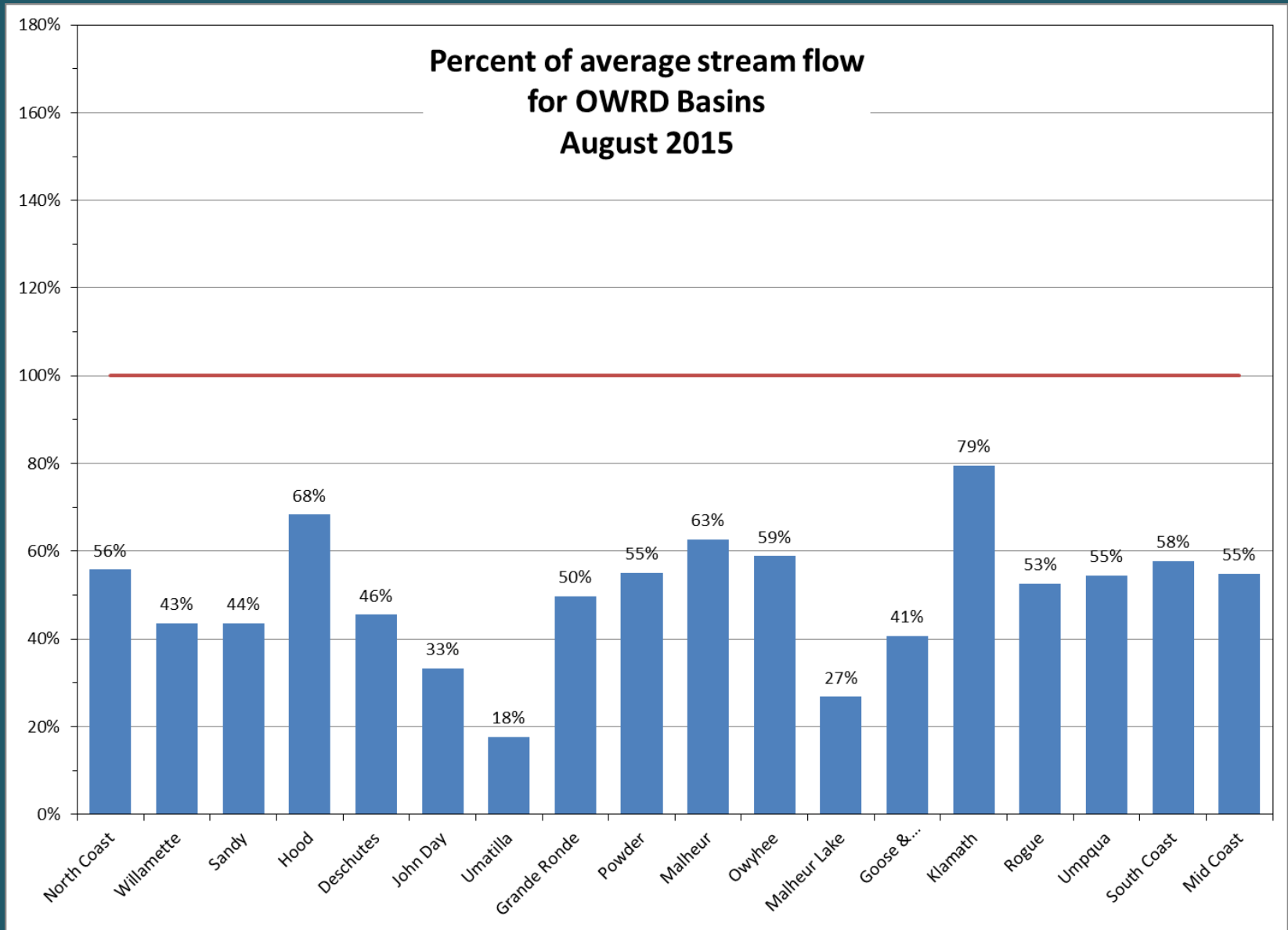
Much
Above
Average

Record
Warmest
(121)

Streamflow Conditions for the Water Year



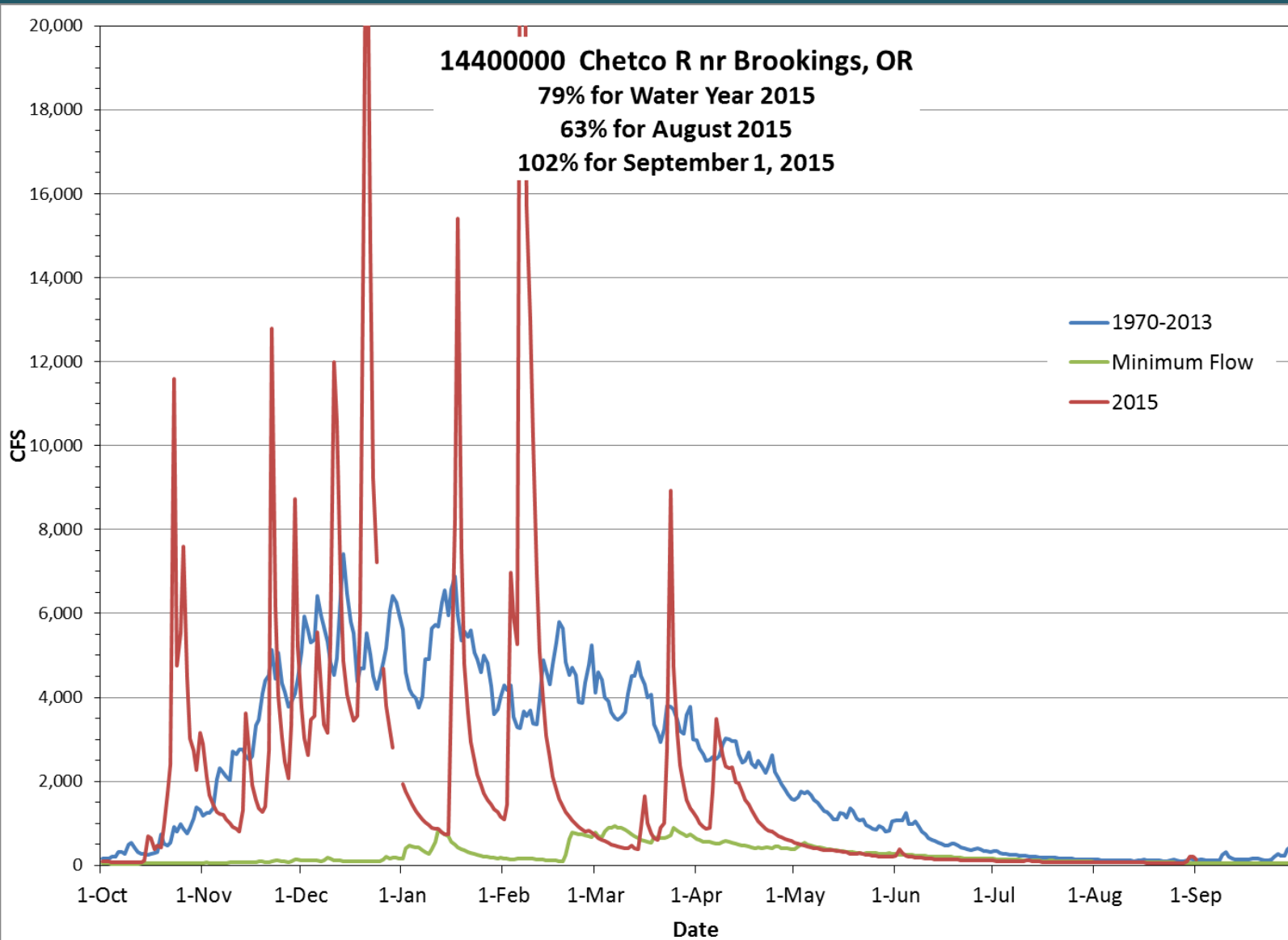
Streamflow Conditions for August



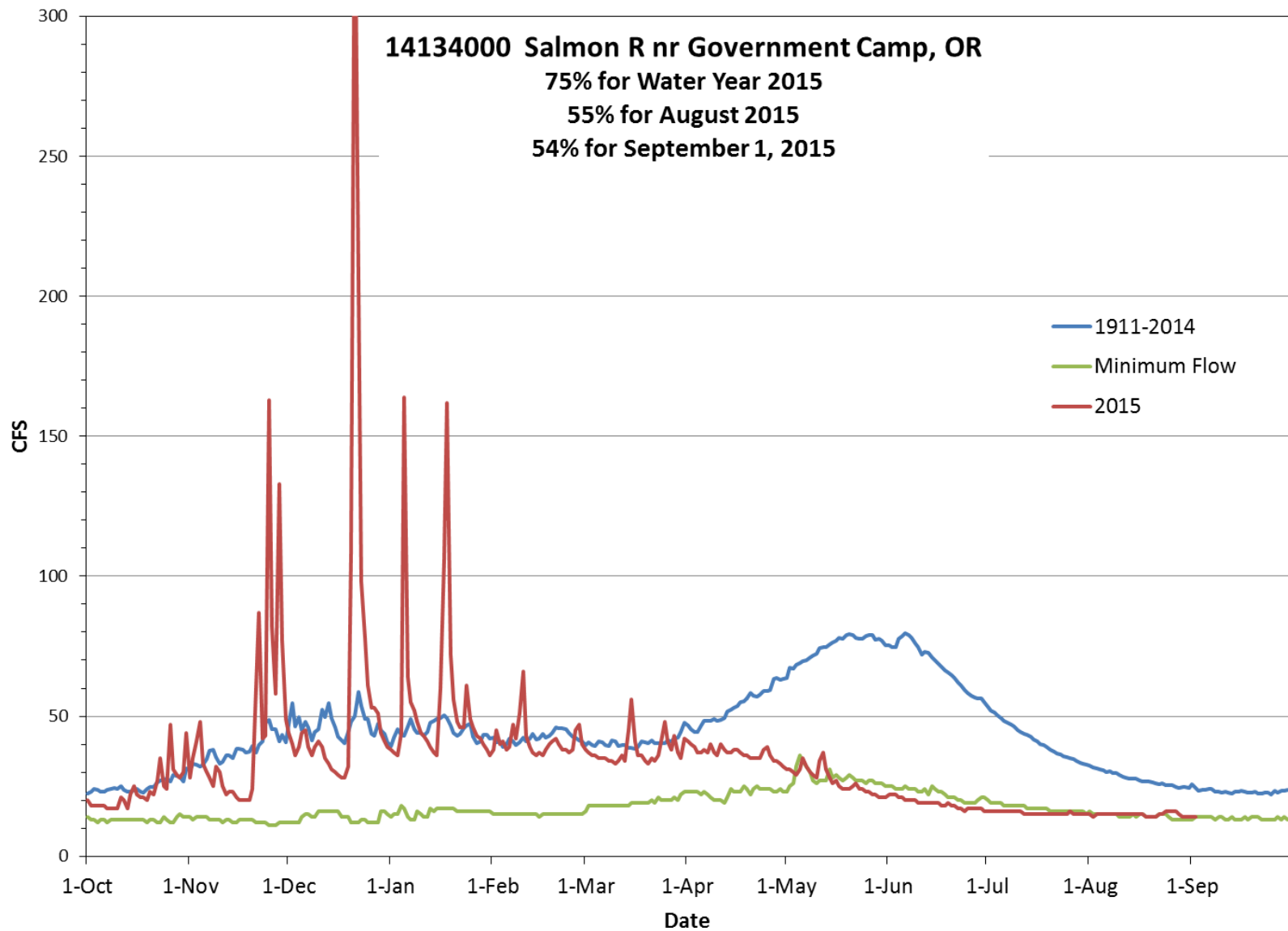
Streamflow Conditions by Basin

Basin	Water Year % of average thru August	% of average for August	% of average for 9/1/2015	# of data points
North Coast	82%	56%	79%	4
Willamette	69%	43%	73%	6
Sandy	75%	44%	40%	3
Hood	70%	68%	80%	3
Deschutes	81%	46%	47%	9
John Day	55%	34%	38%	10
Umatilla	57%	18%	22%	6
Grande Ronde	80%	50%	58%	5
Powder	61%	55%	68%	4
Malheur	54%	63%	68%	2
Owyhee	32%	59%	59%	1
Malheur Lake	42%	27%	31%	3
Goose & Summer Lakes	38%	41%	39%	5
Klamath	62%	79%	70%	5
Rogue	70%	53%	55%	6
Umpqua	77%	55%	71%	3
South Coast	77%	58%	91%	2
Mid Coast	75%	55%	85%	3
State	64%	50%	60%	80

Chetco River



Salmon River



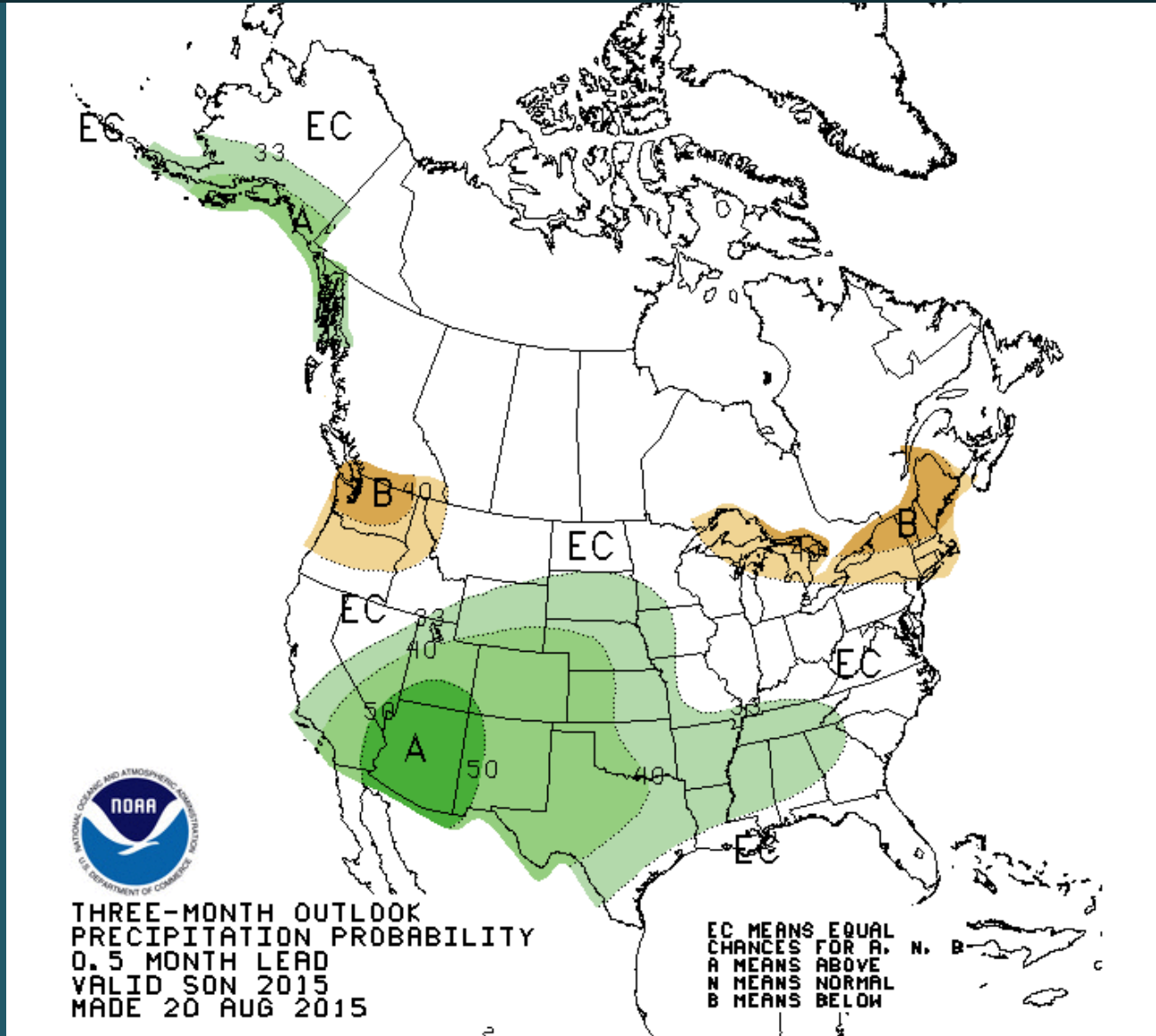
Reservoir Storage

Project Basin	Percent of Capacity (%)	Percent of Average for August (%)
Deschutes	38%	74%
Umatilla	22%	67%
Eastern	3%	6%
Rogue	29%	35%
Willamette	27%	30%
Total	23%	32%

Data: Corps and Bureau Projects

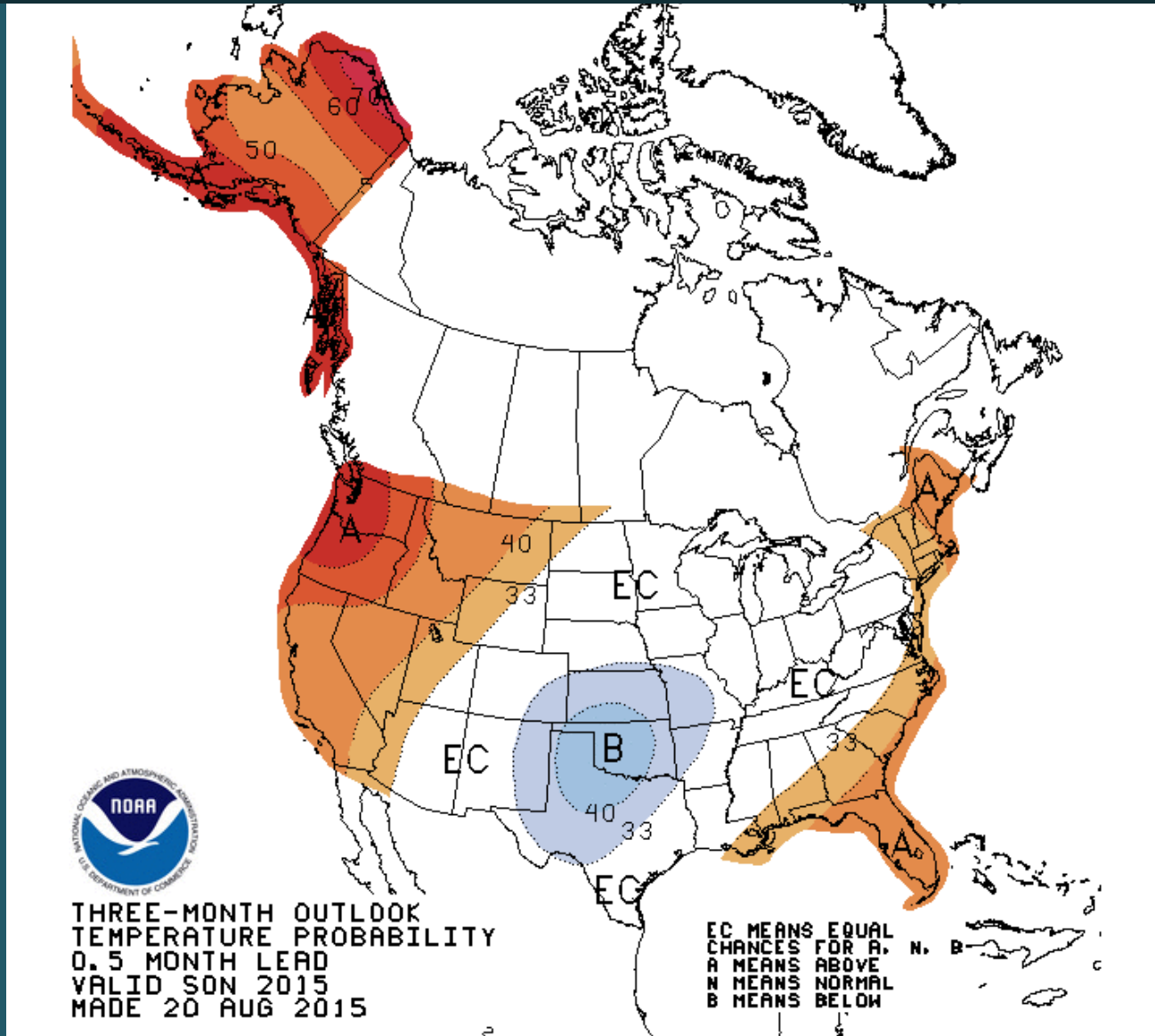
The Fall Forecast:

Precipitation below normal



The Fall Forecast:

Temperatures above normal



Department Outreach Efforts



Drought Report for the Week



Saving Water inside the home

We can all do our part to lessen the effects of limited water supplies this summer. We start by conserving the water we use today. Here you will find helpful and common tips for saving water inside your home.

Monitor your water bill

Checking your water bill for unusually high water use can alert you to leaks in your home. Knowing how much water your household typically uses make this easier to determine. If your water use seems high, first determine if the increase is due to changes in your daily routine. If not, you may have a leak.

Periodically test and check for water leaks

If it's easy to find, check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, you probably have a leak. Common household leaks include: running toilets, dripping faucets, and other leaking valves. If leaks are found, repairing them in a timely manner will not only conserve water, but will save you money by reducing your water bill.

Toilet leaks are often easy to detect. One way to check is to remove the tank lid, then drop 1 dye tablet or 10 drops of food coloring into the tank. (Dye tablets may be available from your local water provider.) Put the lid back on the toilet tank and come back in 10 to 15 minutes. If the water in the bowl has changed color, you have a leak. If the water hasn't turned a color, everything is okay.

Grabbing a wrench to repair a leaky faucet is simple, inexpensive, and can save up to 140 gallons of water per week. These types of leaks are often caused by faulty washers that don't allow your faucet to shut off properly. Faulty washers can be replaced fairly easily and inexpensively (typically for less than \$1), which can help you save water and reduce your water bill.

Wash only full loads

The average American household uses about 23 percent of its water running the clothes washer and dishwasher. Just one partially full load can waste 5 – 10 gallons of water.

Wash fruits and vegetables in a pan of water

Avoid continually running water to clean those fruits and veggies. You can also save water by composting your food, instead of running it down the garbage disposal. You'll save water every time.

Defrost food in the fridge

Rather than using running water to thaw food, for water efficiency as well as food safety, defrost food in the refrigerator.



Water Well Owner's Handbook A guide to water wells in Oregon



Oregon Water Resources Department
725 Summer St. NE, Suite
Salem, OR 97301

ported that State-wide, s. Many snow ice measurements nest average al through the end of precipitation is 89%.

NOTICE of REGULATION of WATER USE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the responsible party, that I have regulated and posted this WATER USE CONTROL on _____, 20____, at _____ hrs., and the same is under my control. This order is posted according to ORS 540.045 and is legal notice to anyone interested in the diversion or use of water from _____. You may not lawfully change or interfere with this water use control. A violation of this regulation is punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment. This order expires on _____ at _____ hrs., unless otherwise notified by the Watermaster.

REASON FOR REGULATION

- Use of water without a valid water right.
- Violation of permit condition.
- Violation of ORS 540.310 and 540.320 (headgate/measuring device).
- Water supply insufficient to satisfy senior rights.
- Other _____



WATERMASTER, DISTRICT NO. _____ Phone: (____) _____

This is a FINAL ORDER in other than a contested case, subject to judicial review under ORS 183.484. Any petition for judicial review of the order must be filed within the time specified by ORS 183.484(2). Pursuant to ORS 536.075 and OAR 137-004-0080 you may either petition for judicial review or petition the Director for reconsideration of this order. A petition for reconsideration may be granted or denied by the Director, and if no action is taken within 60 days following the date the petition was filed, the petition shall be deemed denied.

Other Drought-Related Efforts

Learn more about drought in Oregon



At Home

At Play

At Work

Save Water Inside the Home

Save Water Outside the Home

Boating

Status and Current Conditions

Resources for Municipal Systems

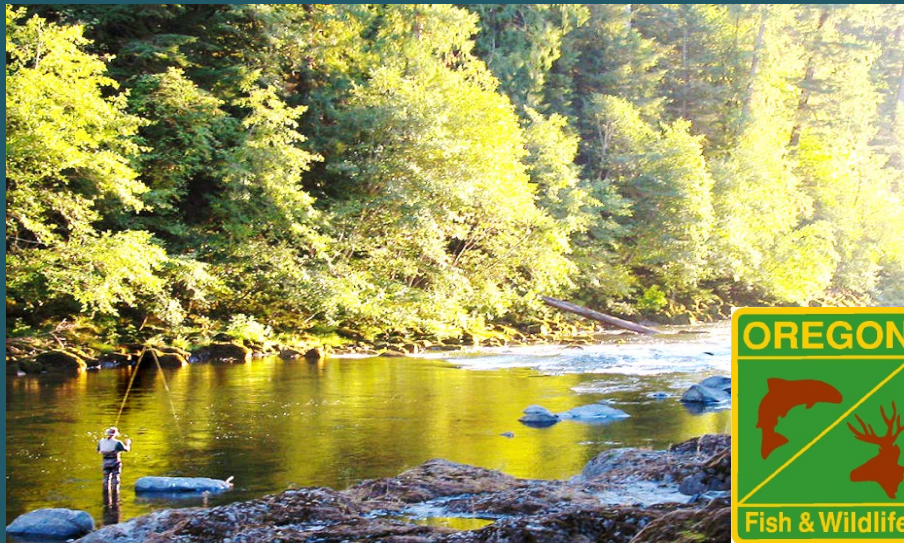
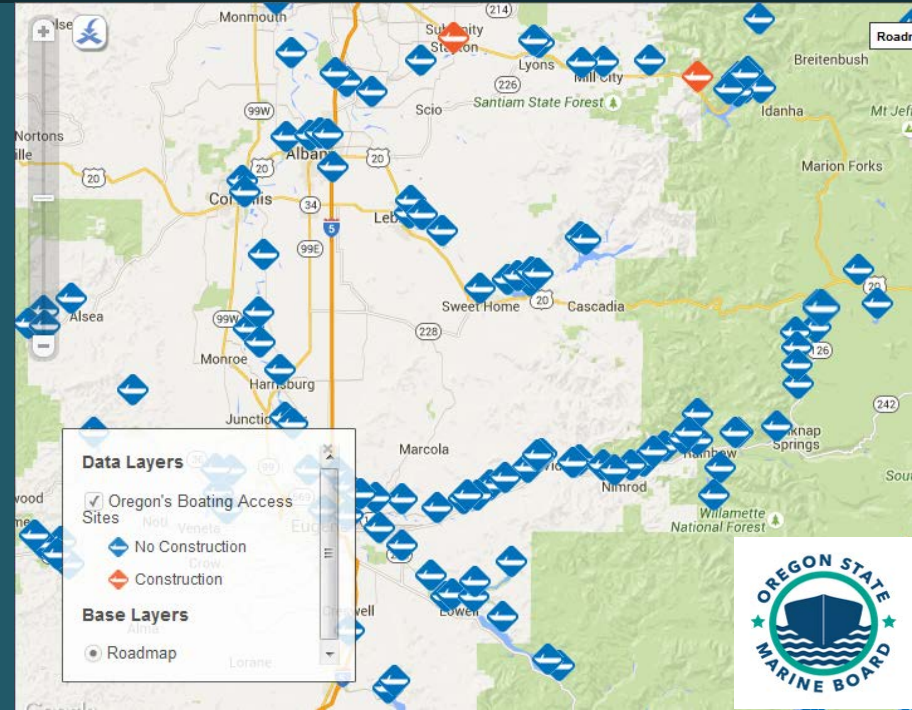
Save Water on the Farm or Ranch

#ordrought

Watch Governor Brown's Message on Drought



- For More Information:
- Oregon Water Resources Department
 - Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - Oregon Department of Agriculture
 - Oregon Department of Forestry
 - Travel Oregon
 - Oregon State Marine Board





Directive to State Agencies:

- **By 2020, reduce water use by 15 percent**
- **Report annually to the Governor**
- **Focus on short-term actions (i.e., non-essential uses)**
- **Put up signage**
- **Assess leaks**

Directive for Drought Planning:

- **Update the state's emergency plan for drought**
- **Incorporate drought into 2017 IWRS**

Next Steps

- **Assist with state agency water conservation**
- **Continue coordination meetings**
- **Update drought annex by end of year**
- **Explore policies for drought resiliency in IWRS**
- **Implement longer-term tools to address water challenges**

Questions?

