

Update on Drought Conditions & Governor Brown's Executive Order

Alyssa Mucken, IWRS Coordinator
Oregon Water Resources Commission Meeting
May 20, 2016



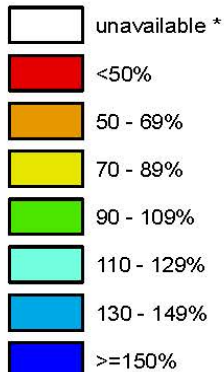
Outline

- Water supply conditions & outlook for the summer
- Executive Order 15-09
 - Drought annex
 - State agency water use
- Other drought related initiatives

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

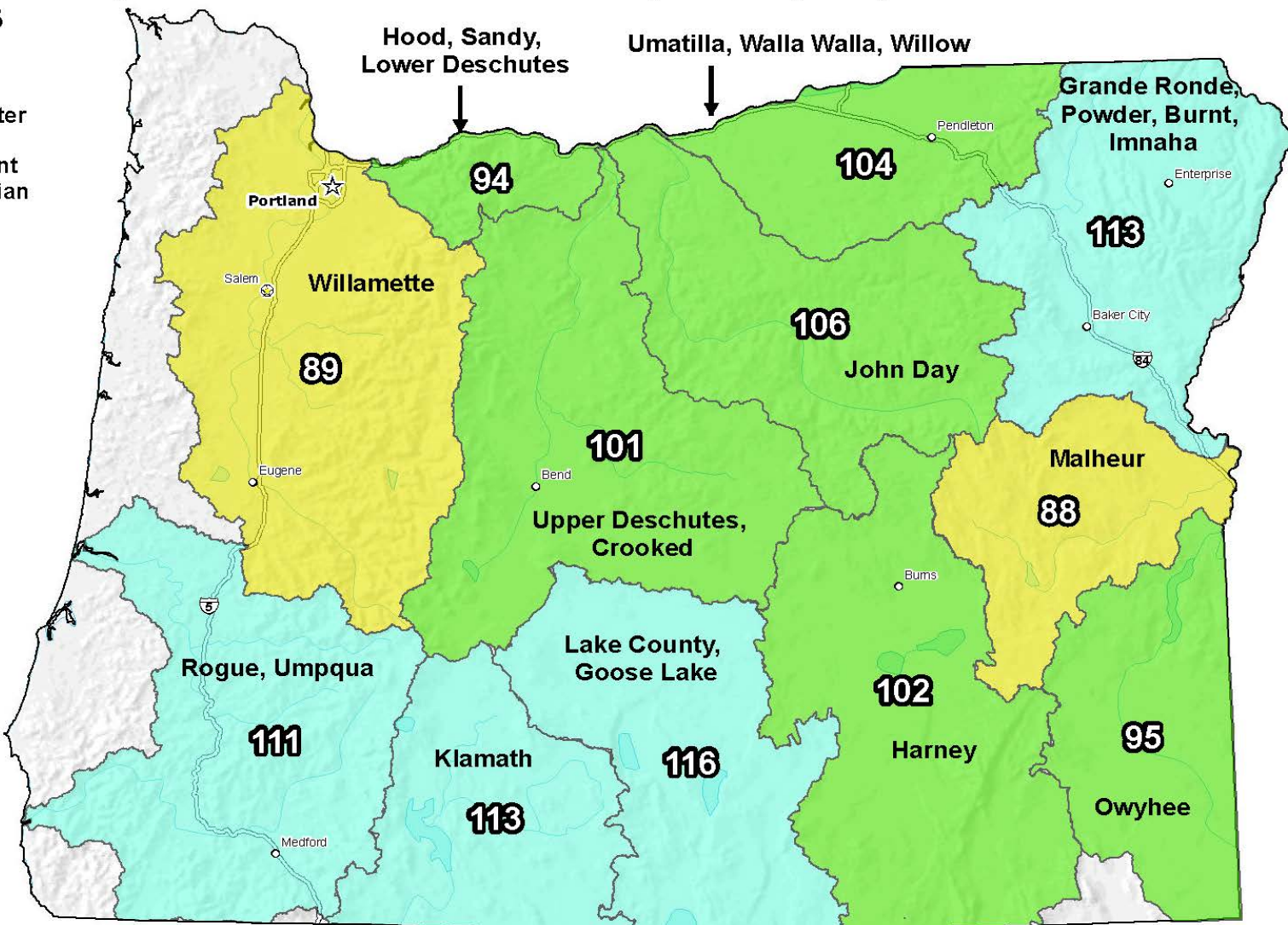
Apr 01, 2016

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

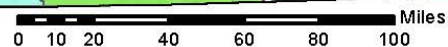


* Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year

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).

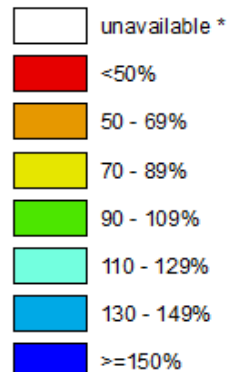


Prepared by:
USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center
Portland, Oregon
<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>

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

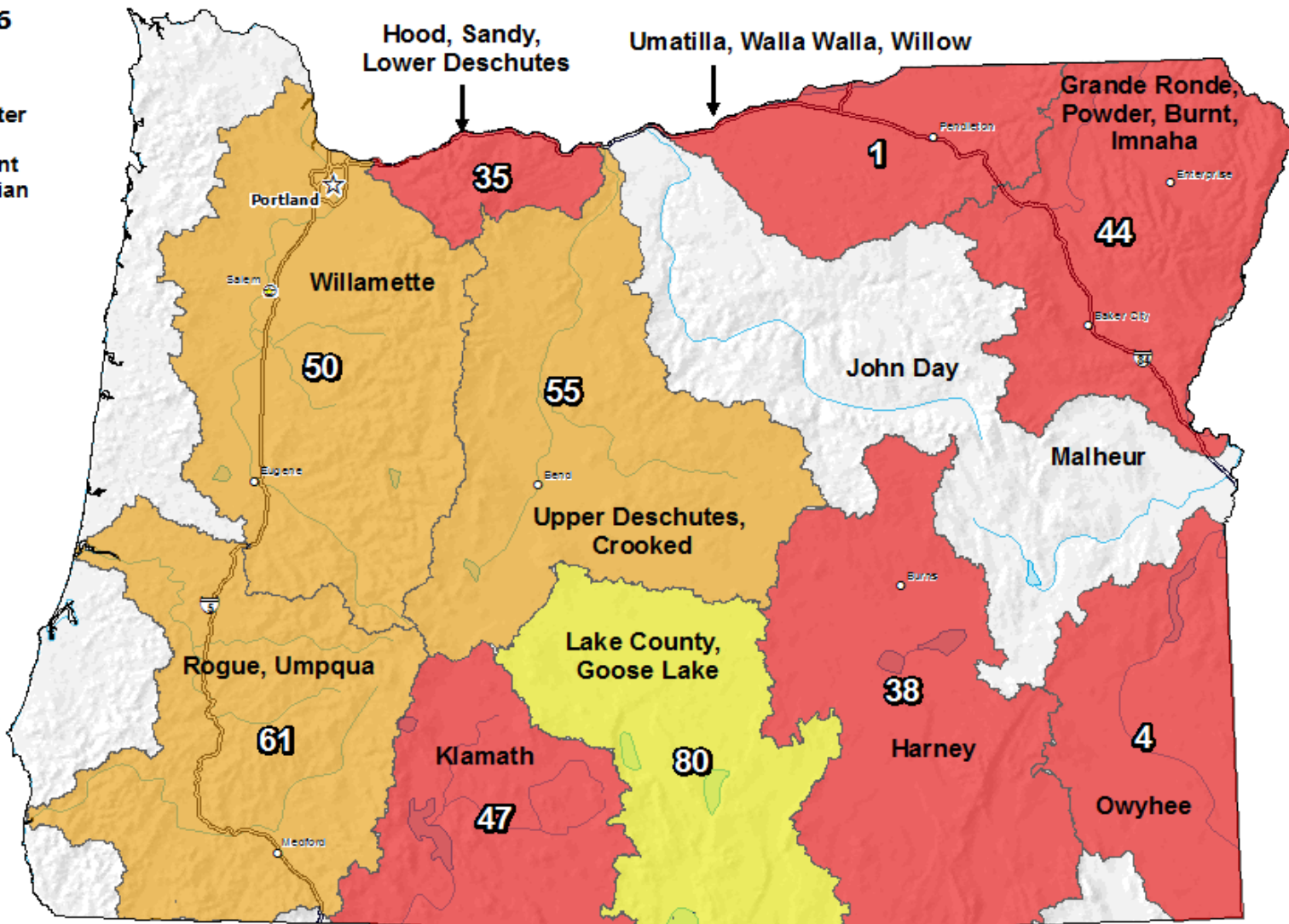
May 15, 2016

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

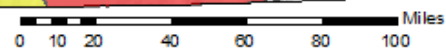


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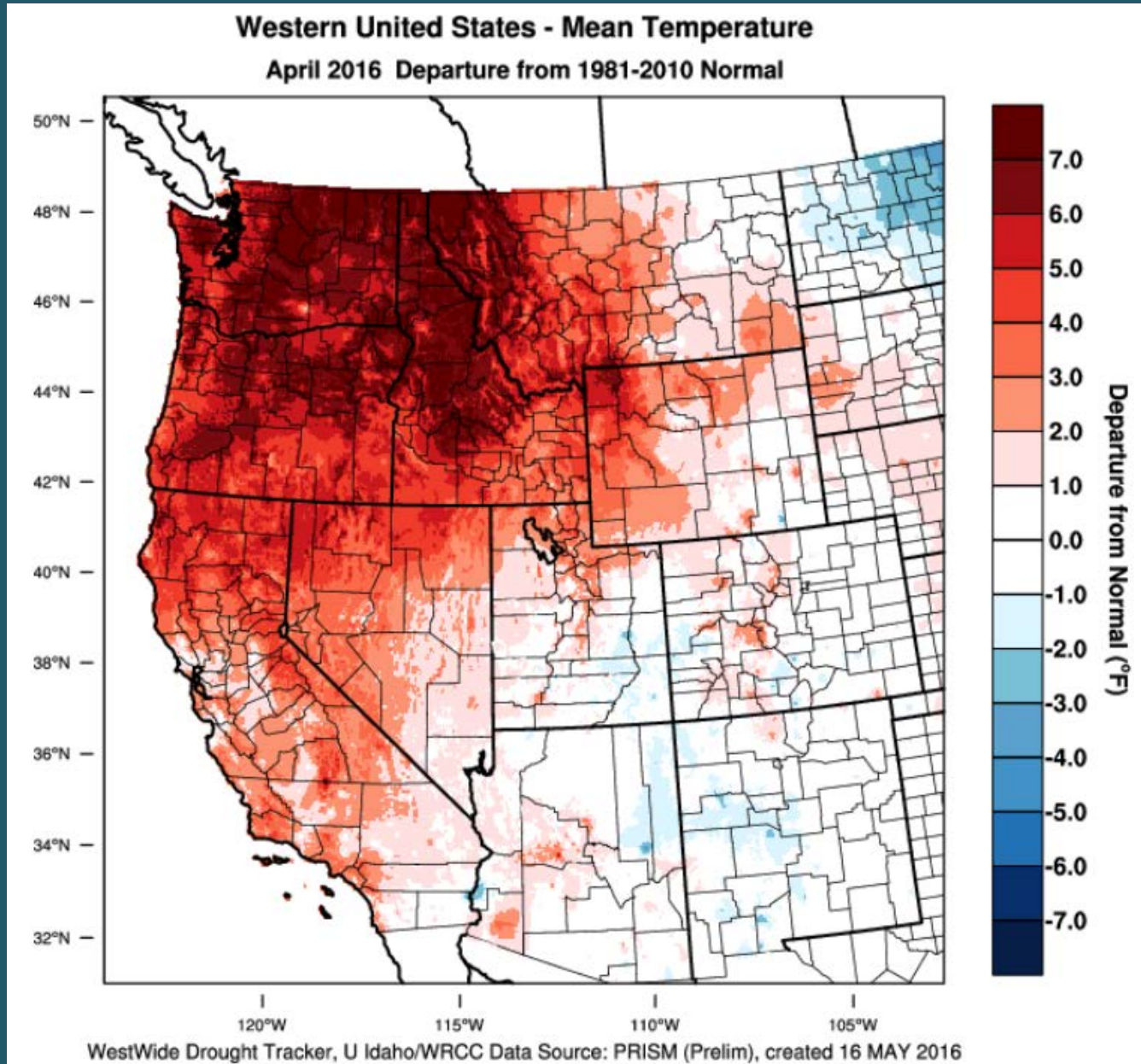


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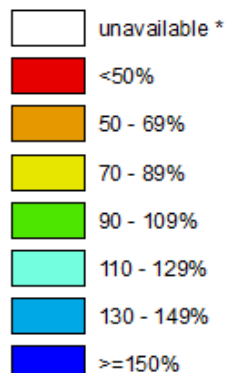
Warm April Temperatures



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

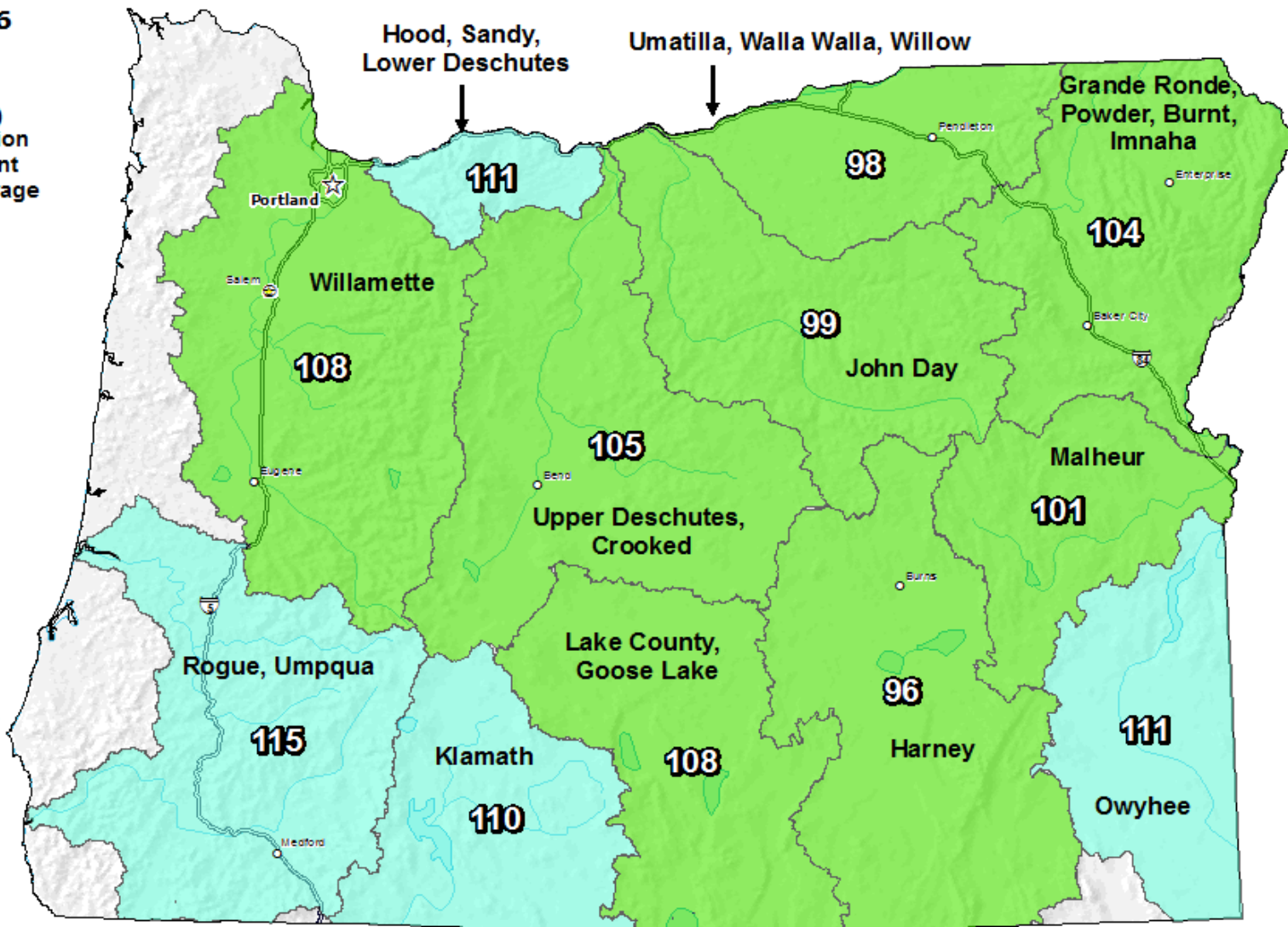
May 15, 2016

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



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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).



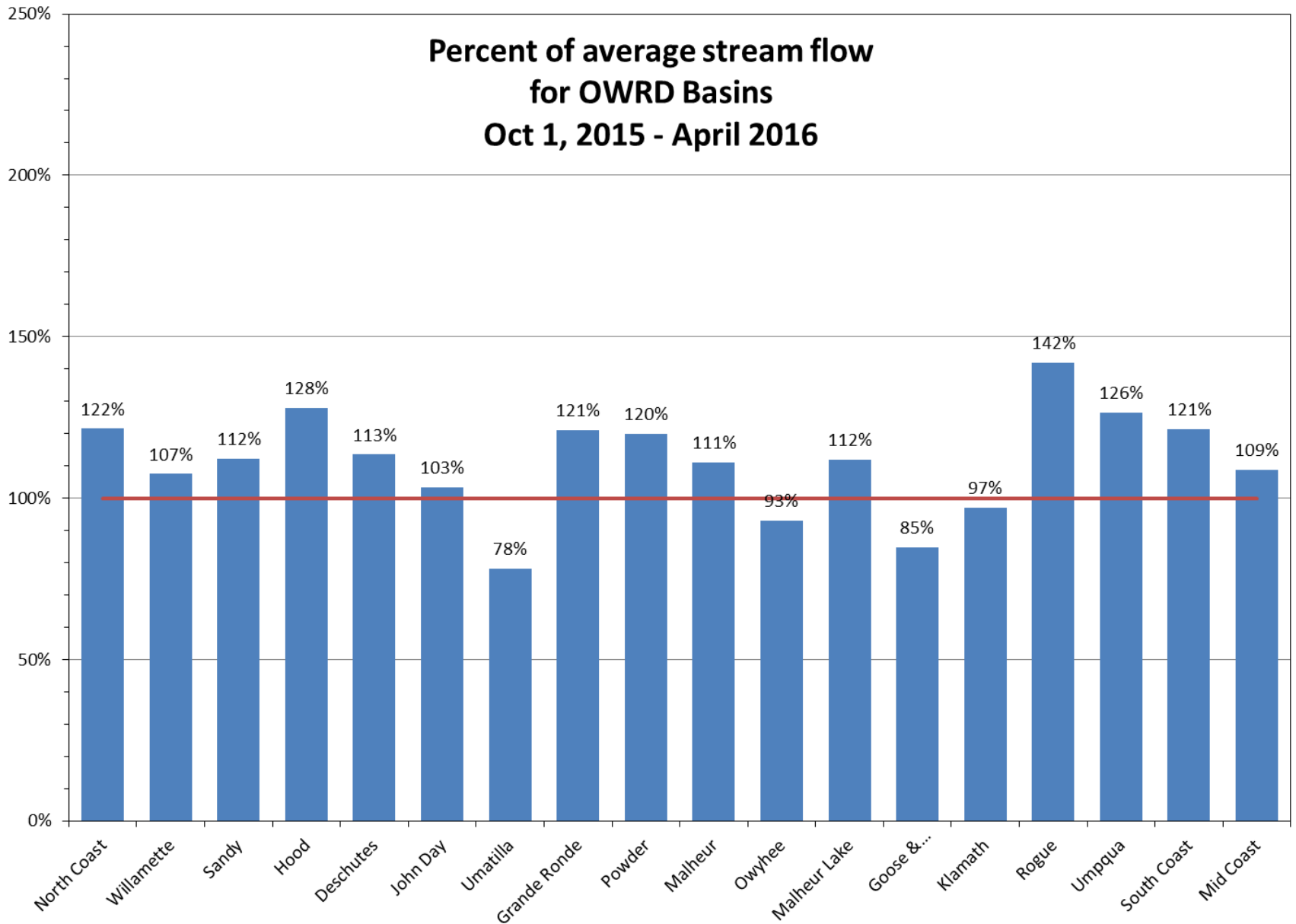
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Streamflow Forecasts

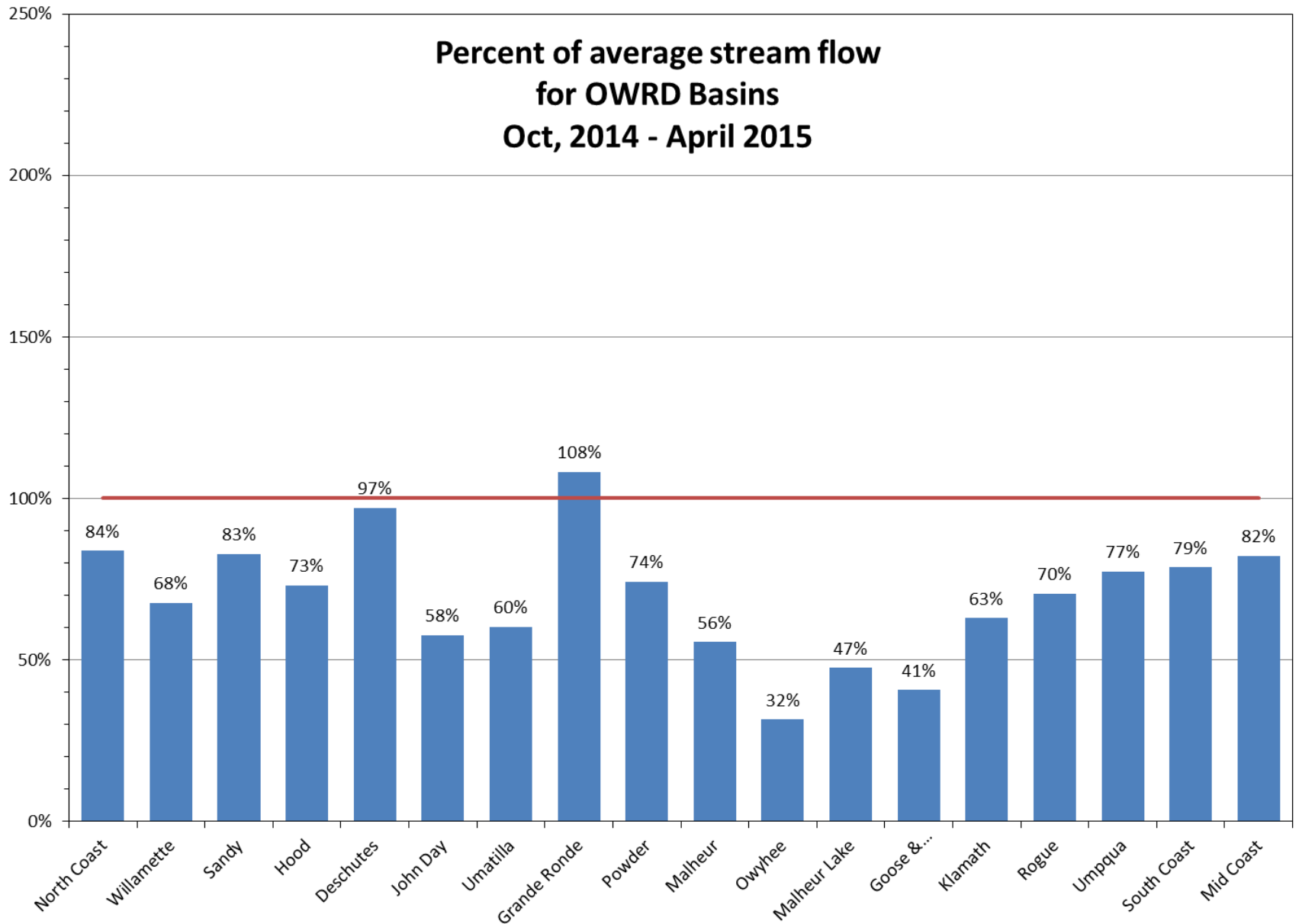
SUMMARY OF STREAMFLOW FORECASTS for WY2016

BASIN	% of AVERAGE of MAY-SEP FORECASTS IN THE BASIN				
	1-Jan	1-Feb	1-Mar	1-Apr	1-May
OWYHEE AND MALHEUR BASINS	129	141	104	96	72
GRANDE RONDE, POWDER, BURNT AND IMNAHA BASINS	111	110	104	111	90
UMATILLA, WALLA WALLA AND WILLOW BASINS	118	107	98	104	89
JOHN DAY BASIN	122	123	102	104	88
UPPER DESCHUTES AND CROOKED BASINS	125	133	116	116	85
HOOD, SANDY AND LOWER DESCHUTES BASINS	111	102	99	102	92
WILLAMETTE BASIN	114	108	100	103	93
ROGUE AND UMPQUA BASINS	121	125	106	121	90
KLAMATH BASIN	110	108	84	89	76
LAKE COUNTY AND GOOSE LAKE BASINS	115	131	100	102	83
HARNEY BASIN	130	152	109	91	70

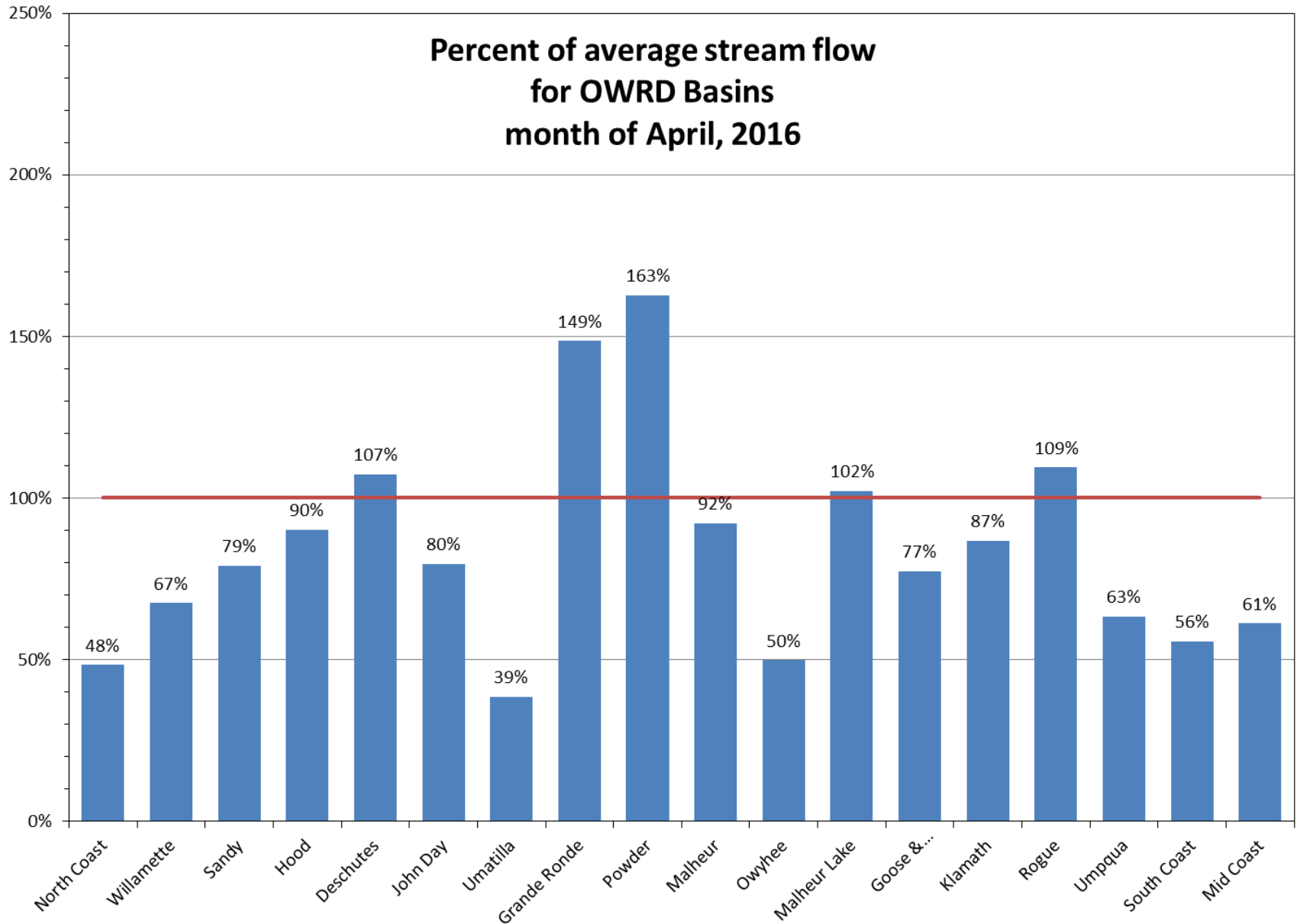
Streamflow for the Water Year



Compared to last year



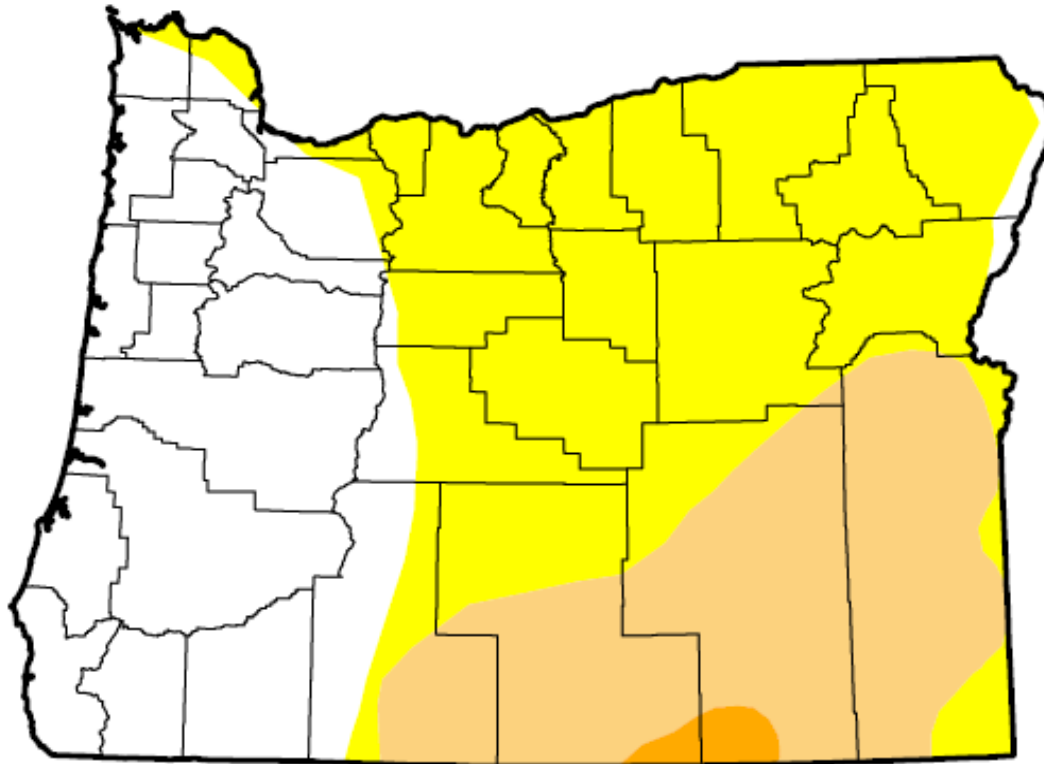
April Streamflow



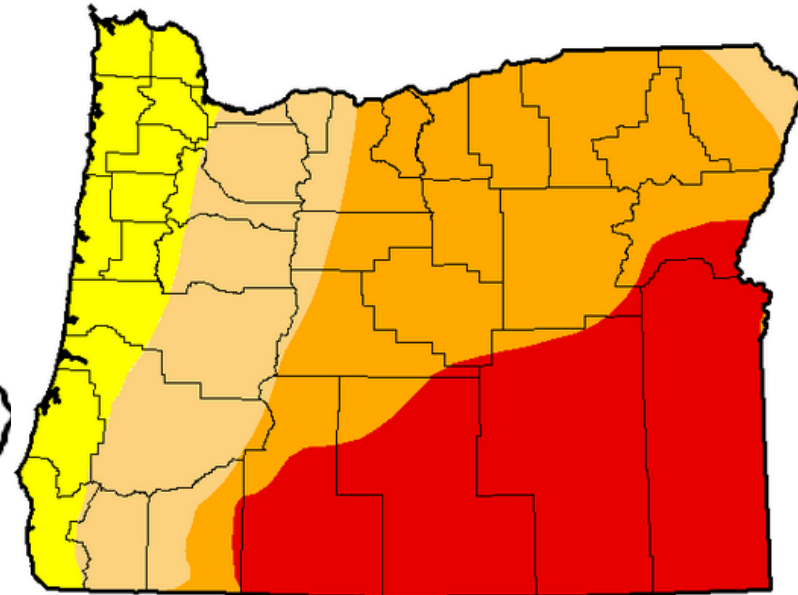
Storage

Storage Project	Current Storage
Detroit Lake	84 percent
Fern Ridge Reservoir	99 percent
Henry Hagg Lake	100 percent
Lost Creek & Applegate Reservoirs	100 & 99 percent
Emigrant & Howard Prairie	96 & 70 percent
Wickiup Reservoir	76 percent
Prineville Reservoir	96 percent
McKay Reservoir	83 percent
Thief Valley Reservoir	100 percent
Unity Reservoir	92 percent
Owyhee Reservoir	64 percent

U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon



This Time Last Year



Intensity:



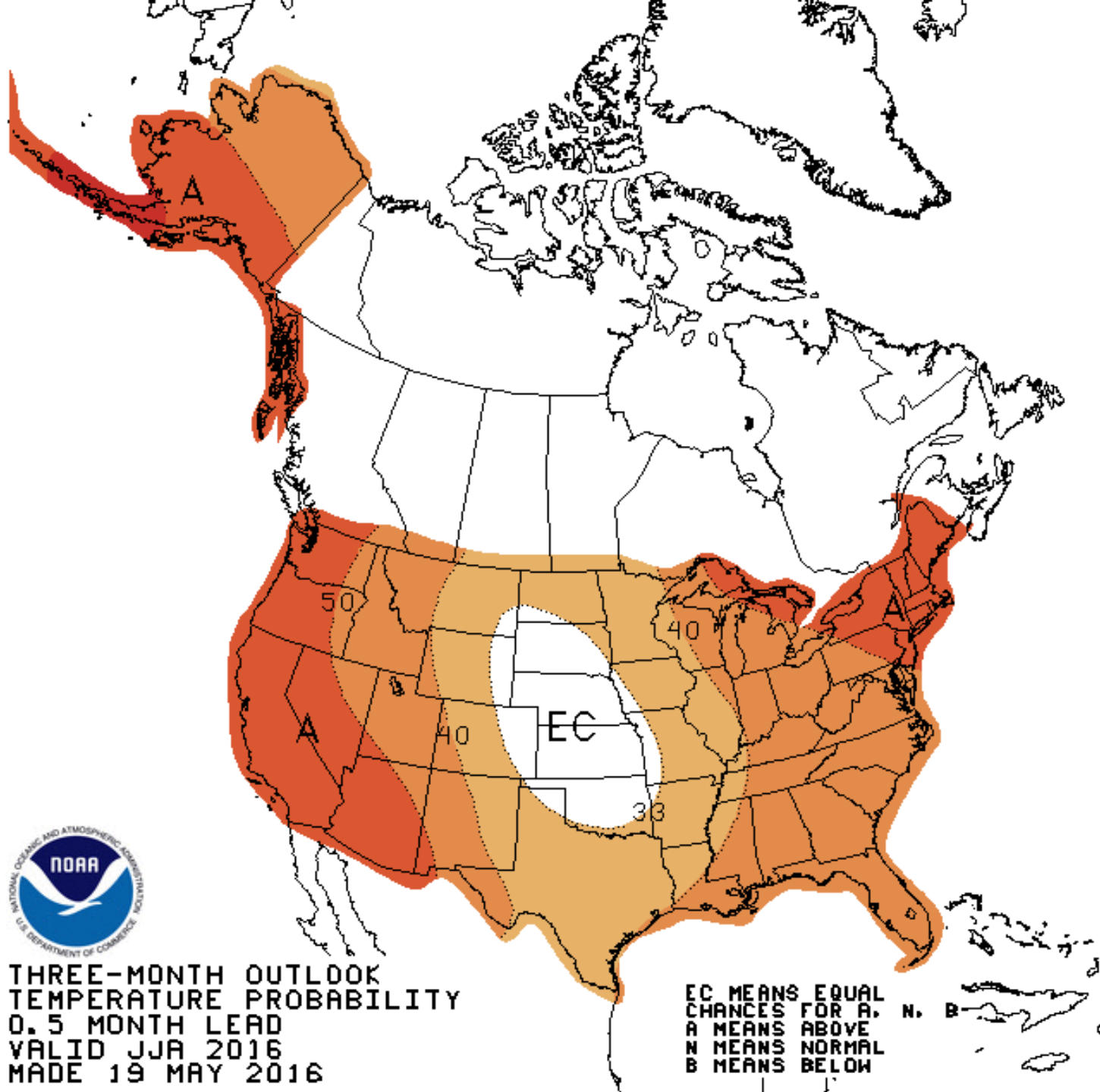
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:

David Simeral

Western Regional Climate Center

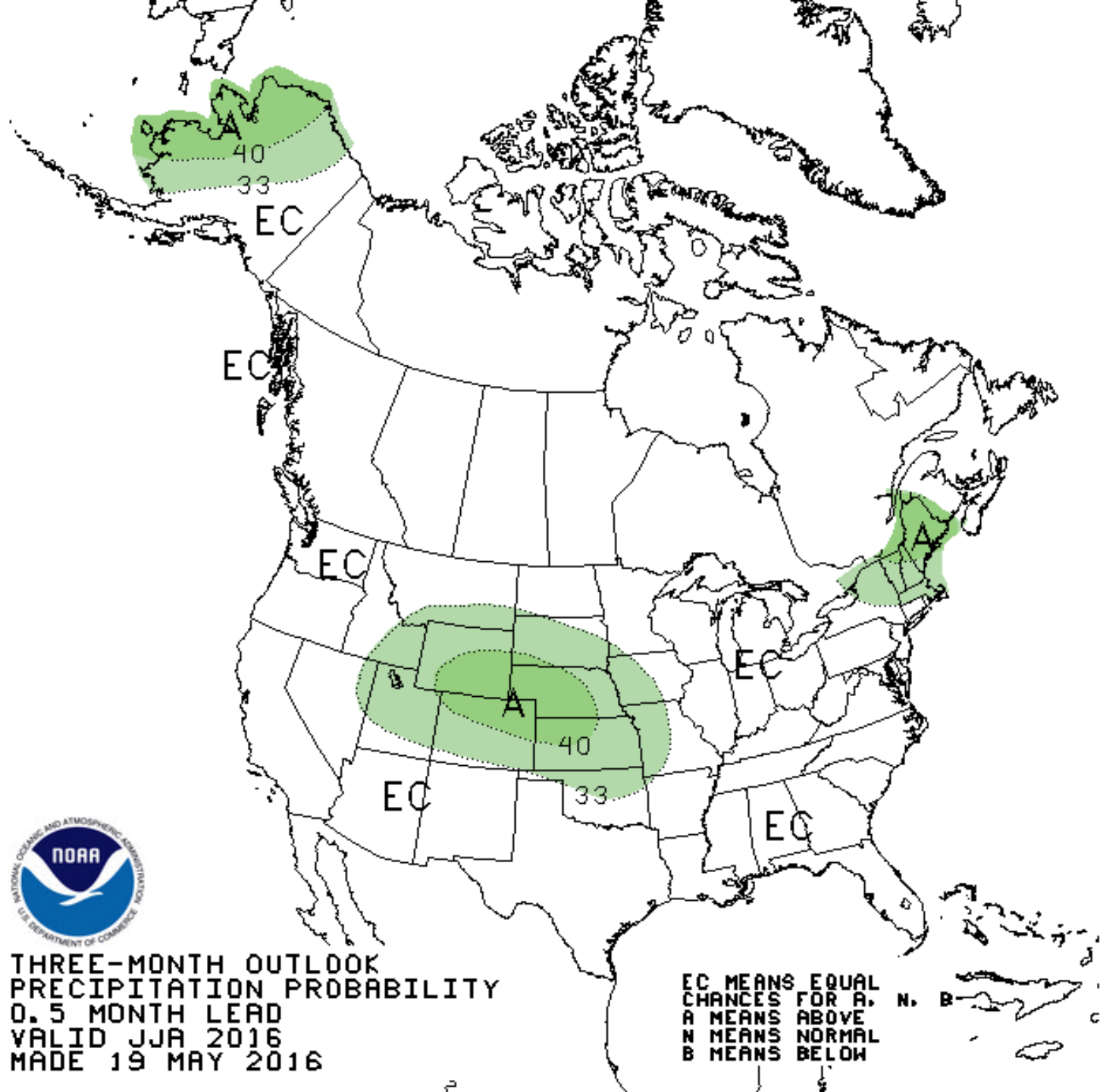




THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK
 TEMPERATURE PROBABILITY
 0.5 MONTH LEAD
 VALID JJA 2016
 MADE 19 MAY 2016

EC MEANS EQUAL
 CHANCES FOR A,
 A MEANS ABOVE
 N MEANS NORMAL
 B MEANS BELOW

N. B. C.



THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK
 PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY
 0.5 MONTH LEAD
 VALID JJA 2016
 MADE 19 MAY 2016

EC MEANS EQUAL
 CHANCES FOR A,
 A MEANS ABOVE
 N MEANS NORMAL
 B MEANS BELOW

N. B.

Governor's Executive Order

Executive Order 15-09

Directive for Drought Planning:

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

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

Drought Annex

- Drought Response Plan completed January 2016 (“drought annex”)
- Clarifies agency roles and responsibilities
- Outlines steps to improve communication regarding drought conditions, available resources, and agency assistance

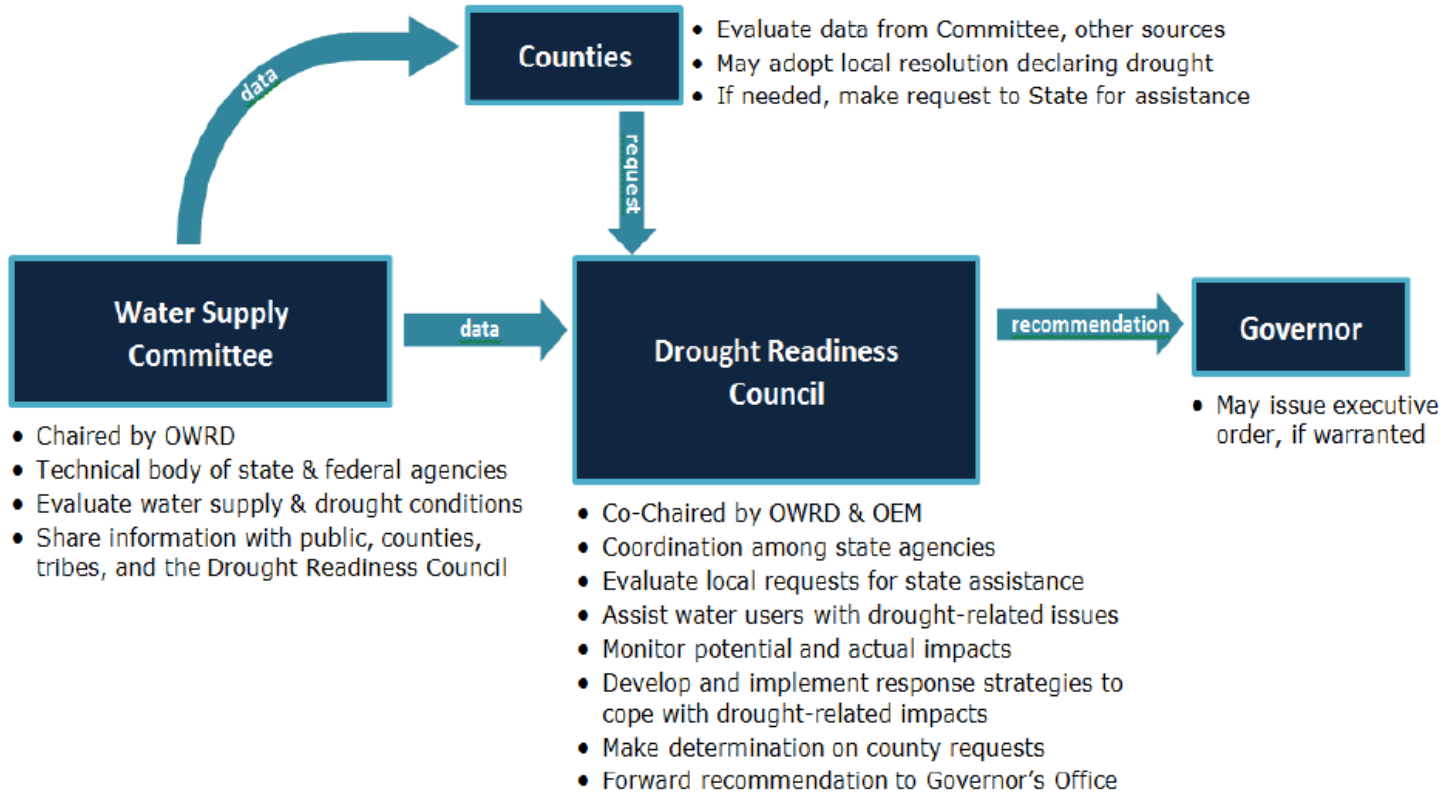
Drought Annex

Figure 4: Standard Drought Declaration Process

Phase I (OWRD): Standard Drought Declaration Process

536.740 Governor's authority to declare drought

Upon finding that a need exists for statewide coordination of water resource conservation measures by municipal and other political subdivisions of this state in order to minimize problems caused by a severe shortage of water, the Governor may declare that a severe, continuing drought exists or is likely to exist.



Drought Annex

Committees and Councils

The [Water Supply Availability Committee](#), chaired by the Water Resources Department, provides the scientific foundation that decision-makers need to identify and respond appropriately to drought. The Committee consists of 10 state and federal science and emergency preparedness agencies.

Meeting information:

March 16, 2016 [Agenda](#) [Minutes](#)

April 13, 2016 [Agenda](#) [Minutes](#)

May 16, 2016 [Agenda](#)

The [Drought Readiness Council](#), co-chaired by the Oregon Water Resources Department and Oregon Office of Emergency Management, reviews local requests for assistance and makes recommendations to the Governor regarding the need for state drought declarations. The Council consists of nine state agencies with natural resources management, public health, or emergency services expertise.

Meeting information:

May 17, 2016 [Agenda](#)



Water Conditions Report

May 10, 2016

Summary:

The NRCS released its monthly [water supply outlook report](#) last week. Record breaking temperatures during April took their toll on the mountain snowpack. Across the state, snowpack decreased significantly and most regions are well below normal as of May 1st. Over twice the normal snowmelt rates occurred in many locations.

Because of the unusual April snowmelt, many reservoirs have filled significantly. However, streamflow forecasts are now predicting below normal streamflow volumes for the remaining months of the water supply season.

Statewide precipitation since the beginning of the water year is 109 percent of average, however, April saw below average amounts for the month. The lowest amount of precipitation fell in the Umatilla, Walla Walla and Willow basins at 39 percent of average and the most fell in the Owyhee and Malheur basins at 94 percent of average.

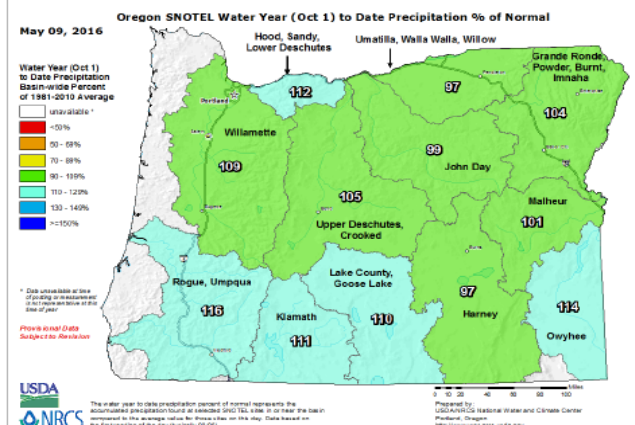
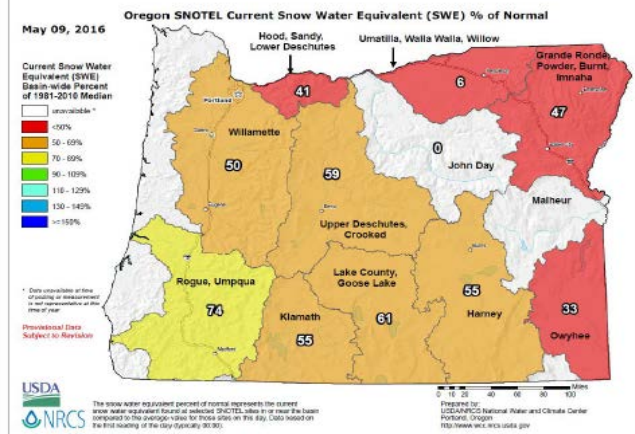
The U.S. Drought Monitor released last Thursday shows more than 65 percent of the state as abnormally dry, encompassing central and eastern Oregon. Areas designated as moderate or severe drought remained unchanged from our April 21 report.

Currently, NOAA's Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is calling for above normal temperatures for the next three months and above normal amounts of precipitation for southern Oregon.

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U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon
May 3, 2016
(Released Thursday, May, 5, 2016)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)				
	None	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	34.27	65.73	26.12	1.08	0.00
Last Week	47.03	52.97	26.12	1.08	0.00
3 Months Ago	14.50	85.42	74.56	40.97	4.38
Start of Calendar Year	14.02	85.48	80.45	65.53	39.05
Start of Water Year	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	67.25
One Year Ago	0.11	99.89	86.76	67.38	34.00

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

USDA NRCS logo and website URL: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

Executive Order 15-09

State Agency Water Use

- Agencies developed water conservation plans
- Department submitted a summary report to Governor Brown on November 1, 2015
- Staff hosted 5 meetings with state agency facility managers
- Agencies are establishing baseline data
- Exploring across the board conservation savings

Other Drought Related Initiatives

HB 4113 (2016)

- Establishes a drought task force
- Governor's office will appoint 11 members
- Legislative leadership appointed 4 members
- Final report due to Legislature in November

78th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY--2016 Regular Session

Enrolled

House Bill 4113

Sponsored by Representatives FAGAN, HACK, CLEM; Representatives GALLEGOS, GOMBERG, HELM, HUFFMAN, PARRISH, WITT, Senator ROBLAN (at the request of Oregon Water Resources Department) (Pre-session filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to the Task Force on Drought Emergency Response; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1)(a) The Task Force on Drought Emergency Response is established. The task force shall consist of no fewer than 11 and no more than 15 members.

(b) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member who has the qualifications described in subsection (2) of this section.

(c) The Senate Minority Leader shall appoint one member who has the qualifications described in subsection (2) of this section.

(d) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member who has the qualifications described in subsection (2) of this section.

(e) The House Minority Leader shall appoint one member who has the qualifications described in subsection (2) of this section.

(f) The Governor shall appoint no fewer than seven members and no more than 11 members who have the qualifications described in subsections (2) and (3) of this section.

Any Questions?
