

# Oregon Water Supply Availability Committee

September 12, 2017



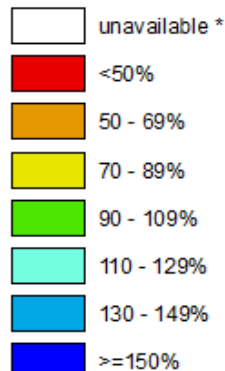
H. Scott Oviatt  
Snow Survey Supervisory Hydrologist  
USDA NRCS Snow Survey and Water  
Supply Forecasting Program  
[Scott.Oviatt@or.usda.gov](mailto:Scott.Oviatt@or.usda.gov)  
503-414-3271  
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/or/snow/>

# Statewide SNOTEL Precipitation is 122% of normal

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

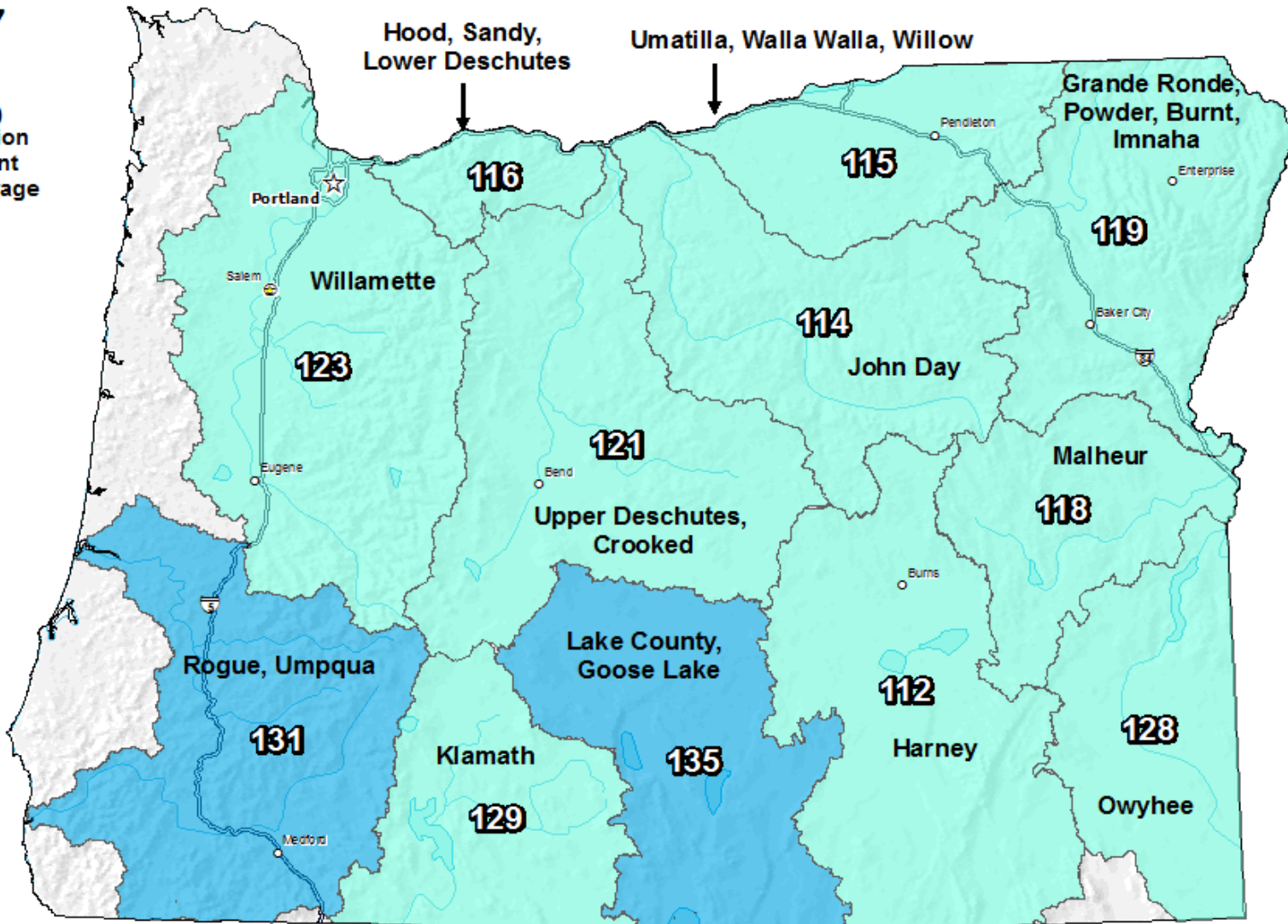
Sep 11, 2017

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).

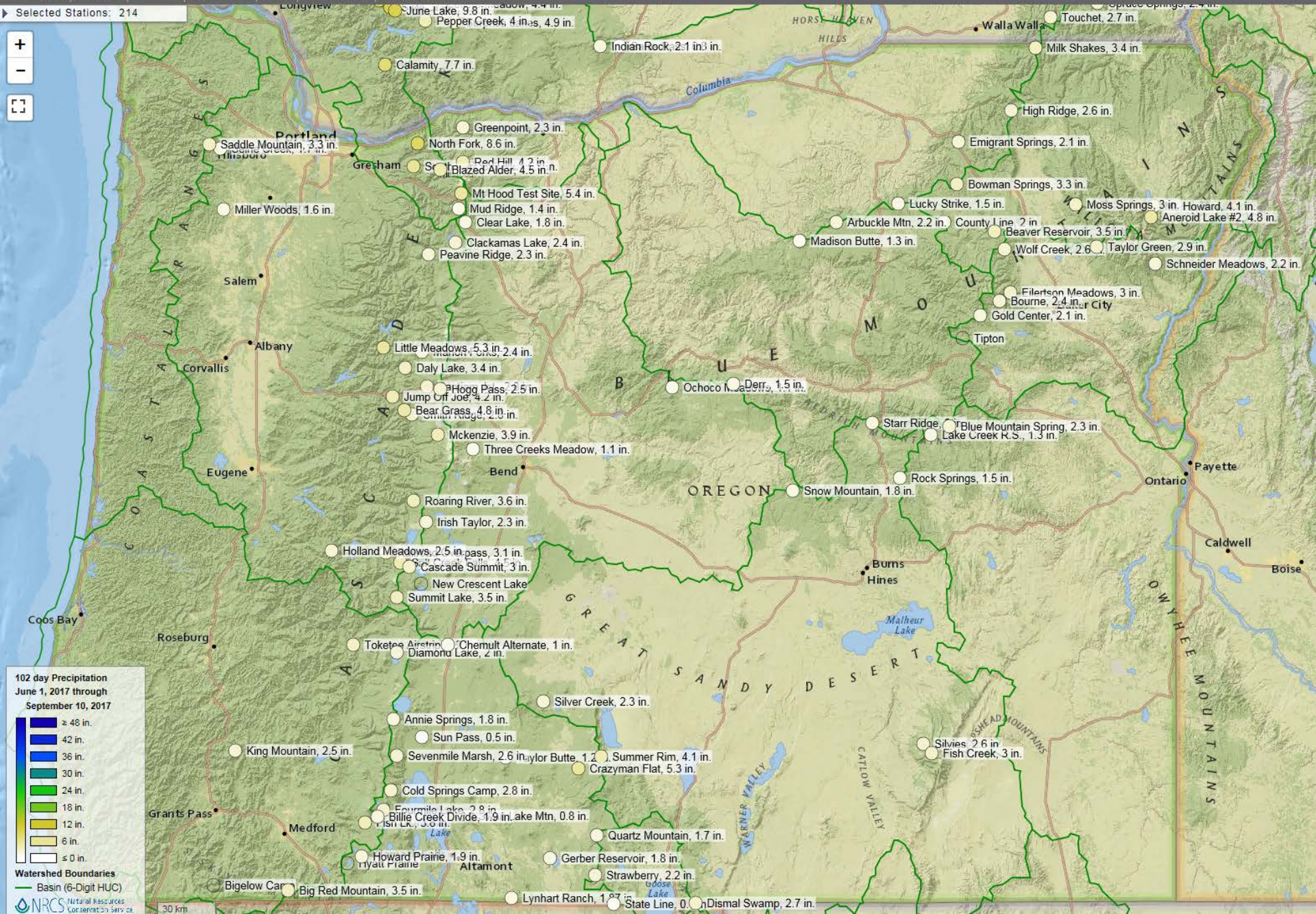
0 10 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

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



# SNOTEL Precipitation % Normal – June 1, 2017 through September 10, 2017

Selected Stations: 214

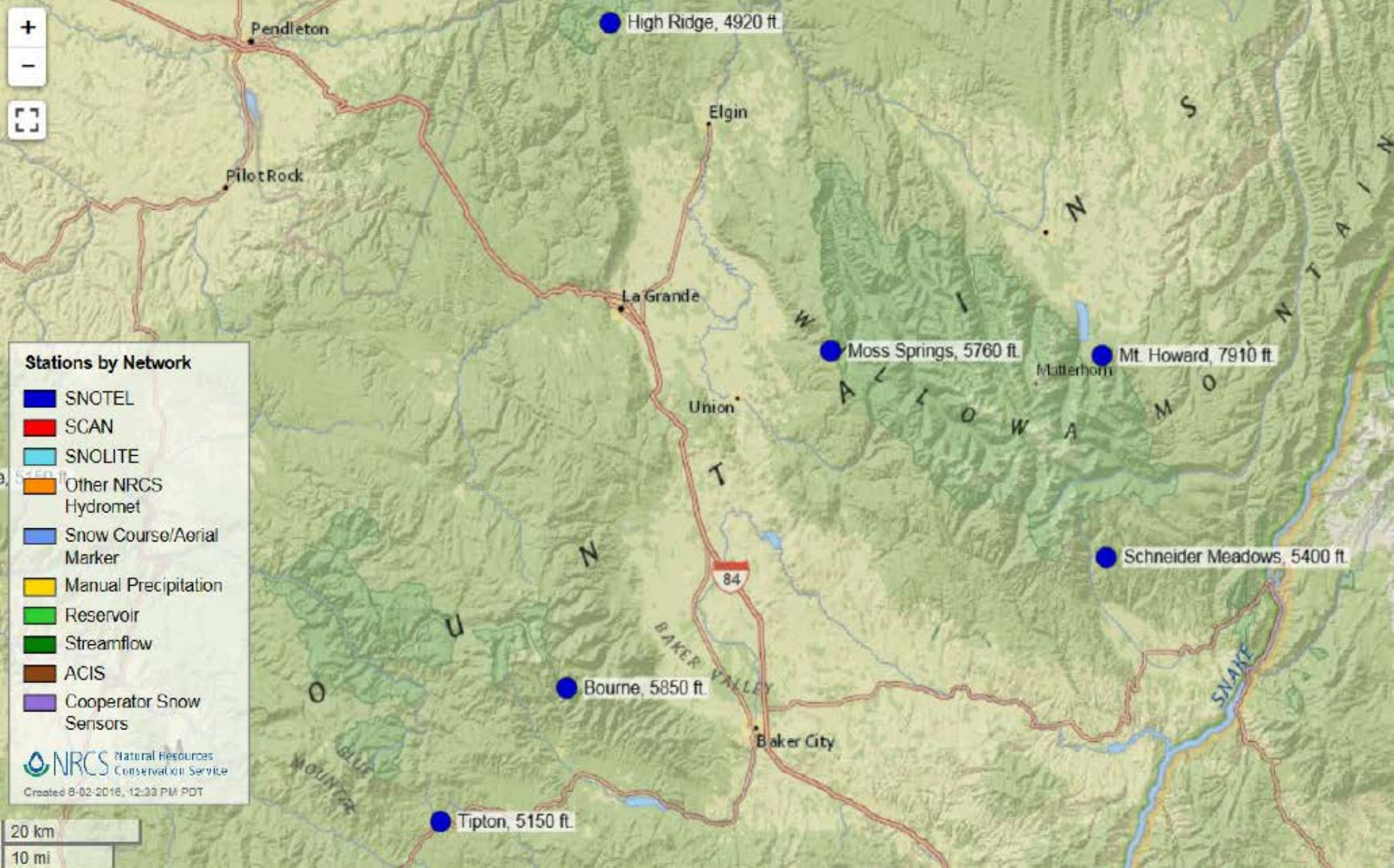


**Watershed Boundaries**  
 Basin (6-Digit HUC)

Natural Resources Conservation Service



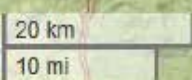
Selected Stations: 431



**Stations by Network**

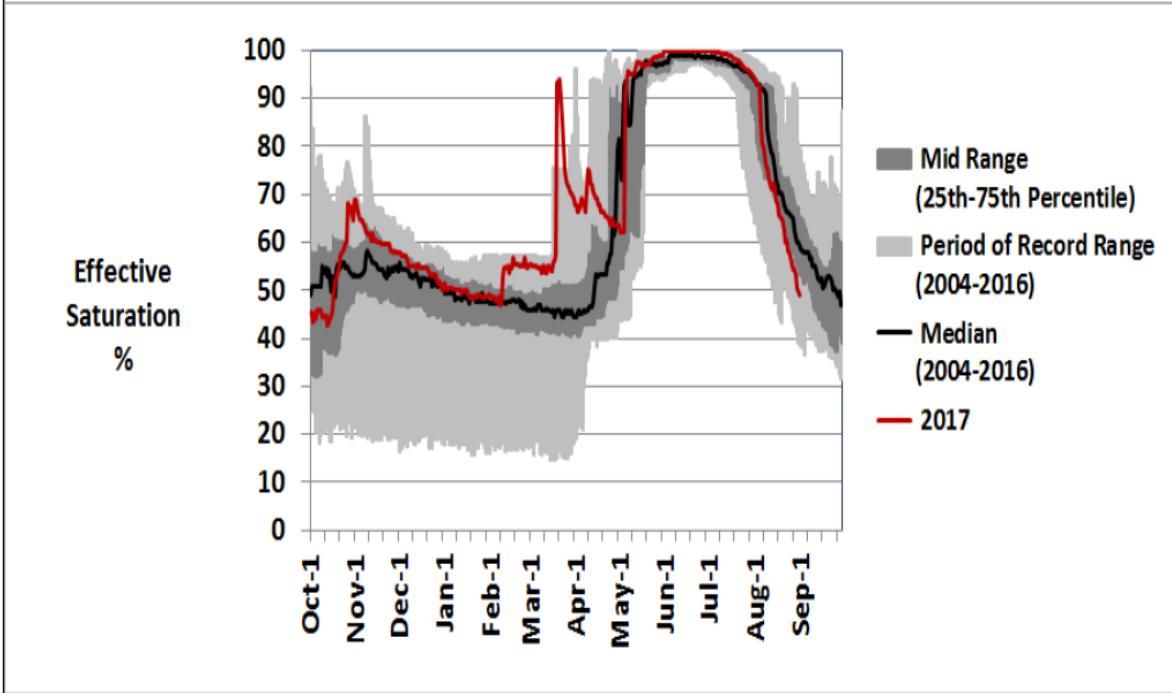
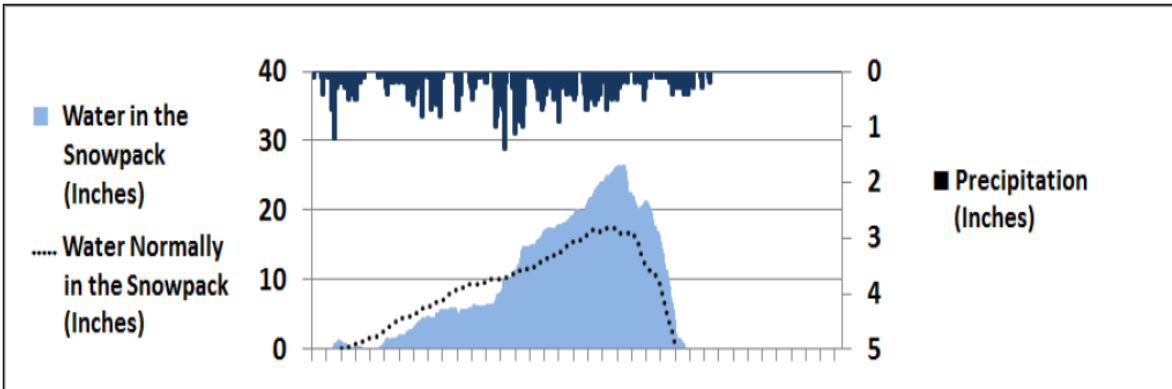
- SNOTEL
- SCAN
- SNOLITE
- Other NRCS Hydromet
- Snow Course/Aerial Marker
- Manual Precipitation
- Reservoir
- Streamflow
- ACIS
- Cooperator Snow Sensors

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 Created 8-02-2016, 12:33 PM PDT



# Mt Howard, 7910' elevation

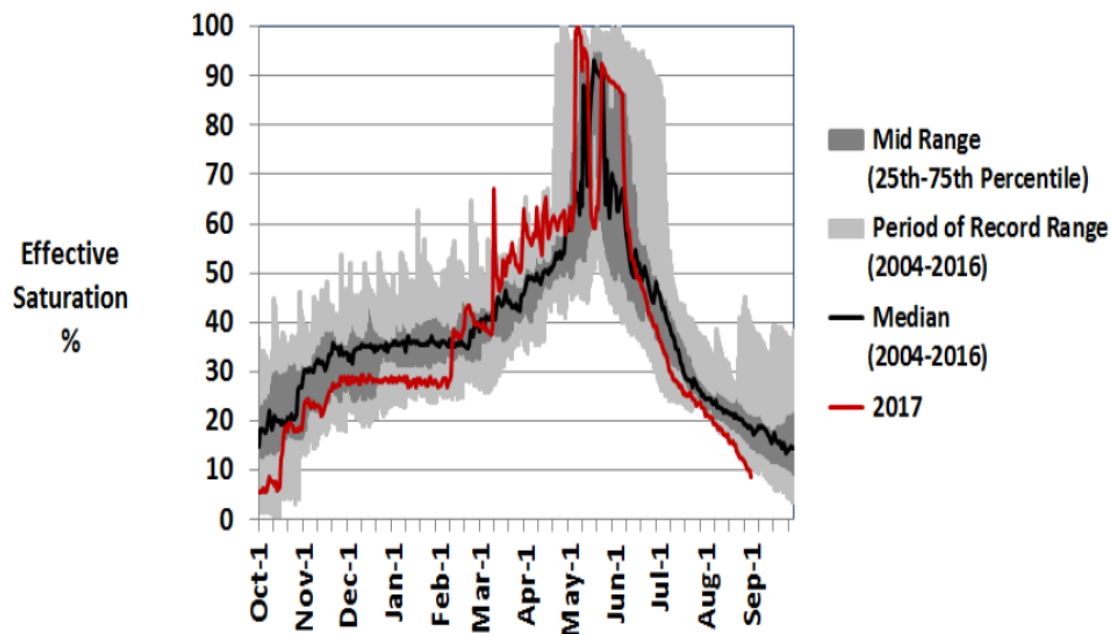
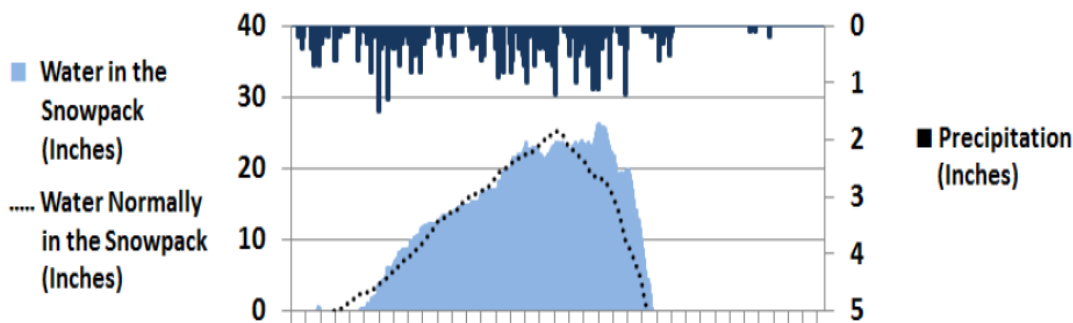
- As of September 1<sup>st</sup>, the soil moisture is 49% effectively saturated, when normally it is 59%.
- Snowpack melted out on June 15<sup>th</sup> this year, about a week later than normal.



**Site Characteristics:** Mt. Howard SNOTEL site sits on soils formed in volcanic ash over colluvium from argillite. The soil series is Angelpack which consists of deep and very deep, well drained soils on mountains. The site has a slope of 10 percent. Mean annual precipitation is approximately 44 inches, with roughly 45% falling as snow. Vegetation is subalpine fir, lodgepole pine and western larch with an understory of elk sedge and grouse blueberry. Soil moisture probes have been installed here since 2004, at depths of 2, 4, 8 and 40 inches. The silt equation is currently being applied to all probes.

## Moss Springs, 5760' elevation

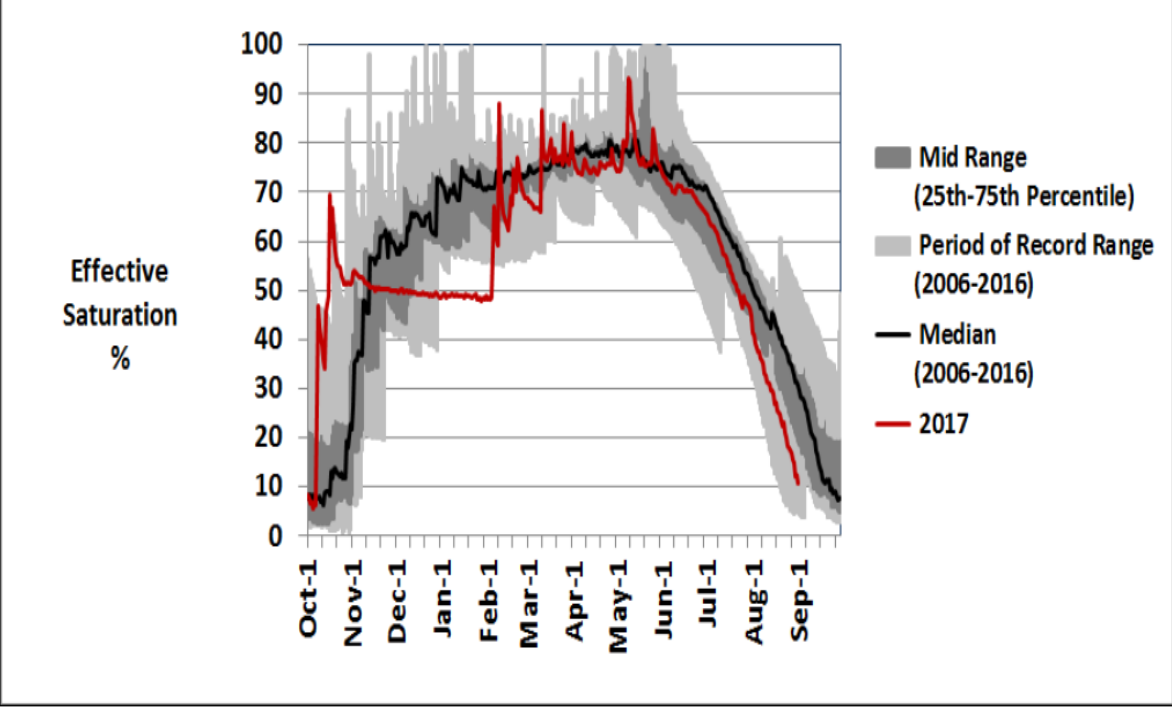
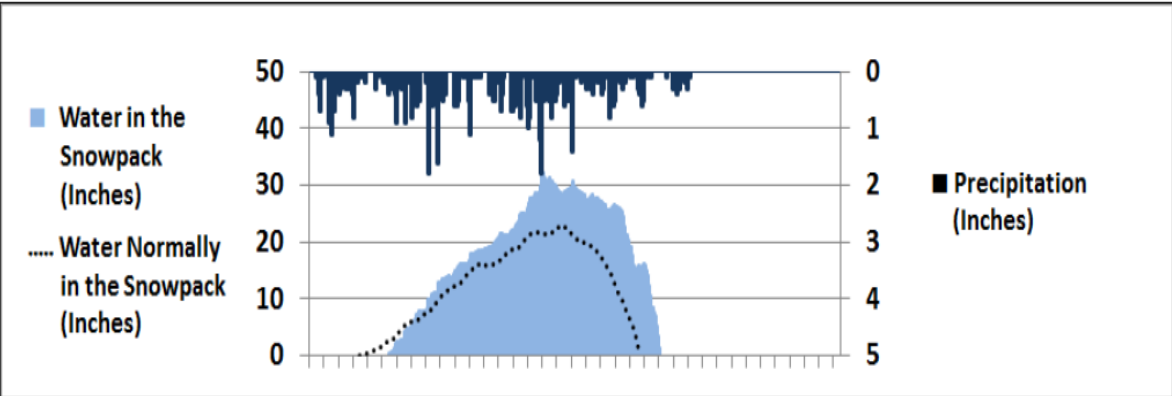
- As of September 1<sup>st</sup>, the soil moisture is 8.8% effectively saturated, when normally it is 18%.
- Snowpack melted out on June 5<sup>th</sup> this year, which is about normal for this site.



**Site Characteristics:** Moss Springs SNOTEL site sits on volcanic soils formed from ash over igneous-basalt. The soil series is Mountemily, which consists of very deep, well drained soils on ridgetops, side slopes and shoulders of mountains. The site has a slope of 10 percent. Mean annual precipitation is approximately 51 inches, with roughly 50% falling as snow. Vegetation is lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, western larch, Engleman spruce, huckleberry, twinflower, Oregon boxwood, prince's pine, sidebells pyrola, herbaceous plants, grasses and sedges. Soil moisture probes have been installed here since 2004, at depths of 2, 4, 20 and 40 inches. The silt equation is currently being applied to all probes.

# High Ridge, 4920' elevation

- As of September 1<sup>st</sup>, the soil moisture is 11% effectively saturated when normally it is 31%.
- Snowpack melted out on May 30<sup>th</sup>, which is about two weeks later than normal.



**Site Characteristics:** High Ridge SNOTEL site sits on volcanic soils formed from colluvium derived from ash over colluvium derived from rock. The soil series is Tamara, consisting of very deep, well drained soils formed in a mantle of ash overlying material derived from a mixture of loess and colluvium and residuum from basalt. The site has a slope of 10 percent. Mean annual precipitation is approximately 50 inches, with roughly 47% falling as snow. Vegetation is grand fir, spruce, Douglas fir, western larch, ponderosa pine, lodgepole pine, twinflower, big huckleberry, herbaceous plants, grasses and sedges. Soil moisture probes have been installed here since 2006, at depths of 4, 8 and 20 inches. The silt equation is currently being applied to all probes.



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H. Scott Oviatt  
Snow Survey Supervisory Hydrologist  
USDA NRCS Snow Survey and Water  
Supply Forecasting Program  
[Scott.Oviatt@or.usda.gov](mailto:Scott.Oviatt@or.usda.gov)  
503-414-3271  
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/or/snow/>

# Thank you!

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To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



# Oregon Water Supply Availability

*September 11, 2017 NWS Update*

Eagle Creek Fire and the Columbia River

Photo courtesy of InciWeb



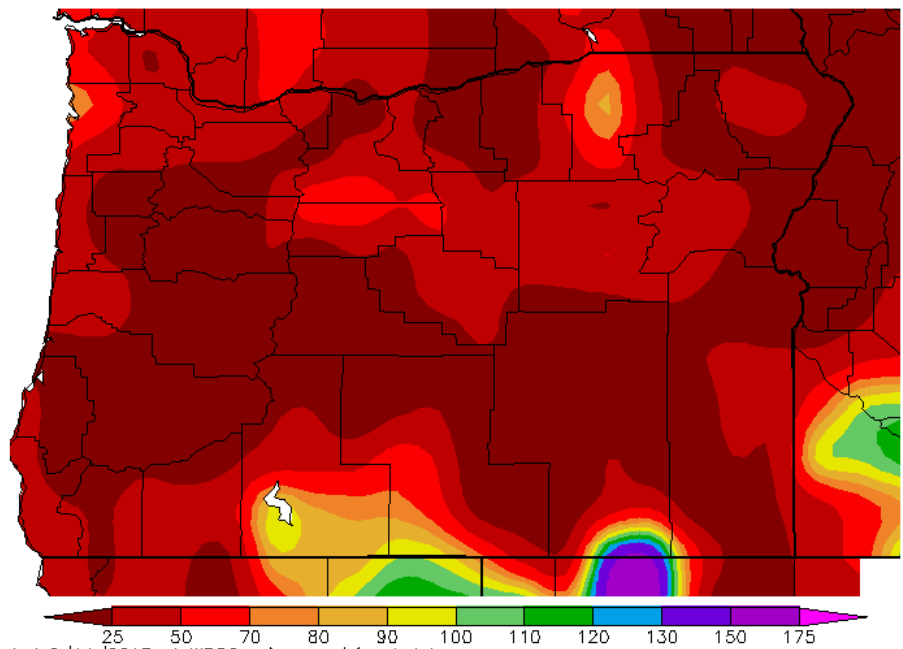
Andy Bryant, NWS Portland



# Seasonal Precipitation

## Past 90 Days

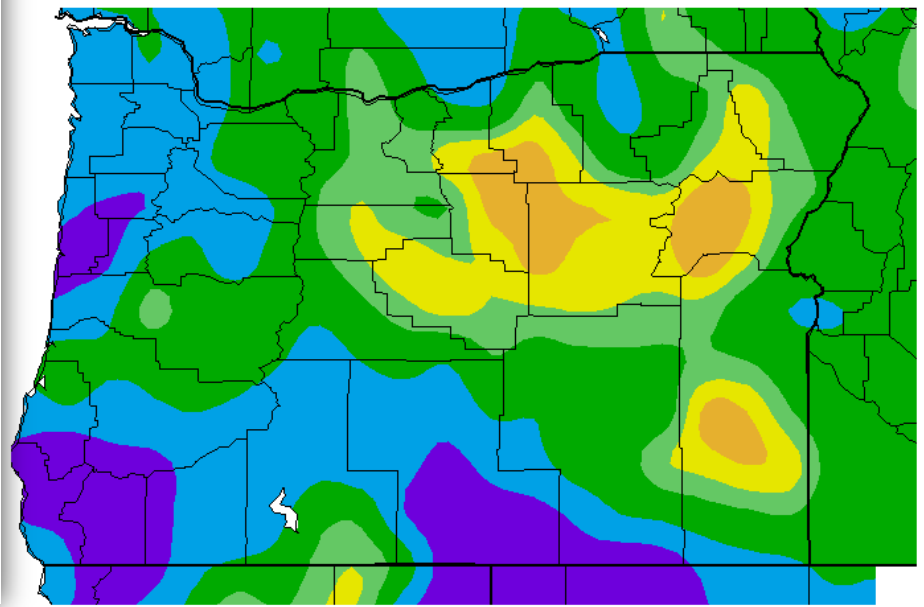
Percent of Average Precipitation (%)  
6/13/2017 - 9/10/2017



Generated 9/11/2017 at WRCC using provisional data.  
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

## Water Year

Percent of Average Precipitation (%)  
10/1/2016 - 9/10/2017



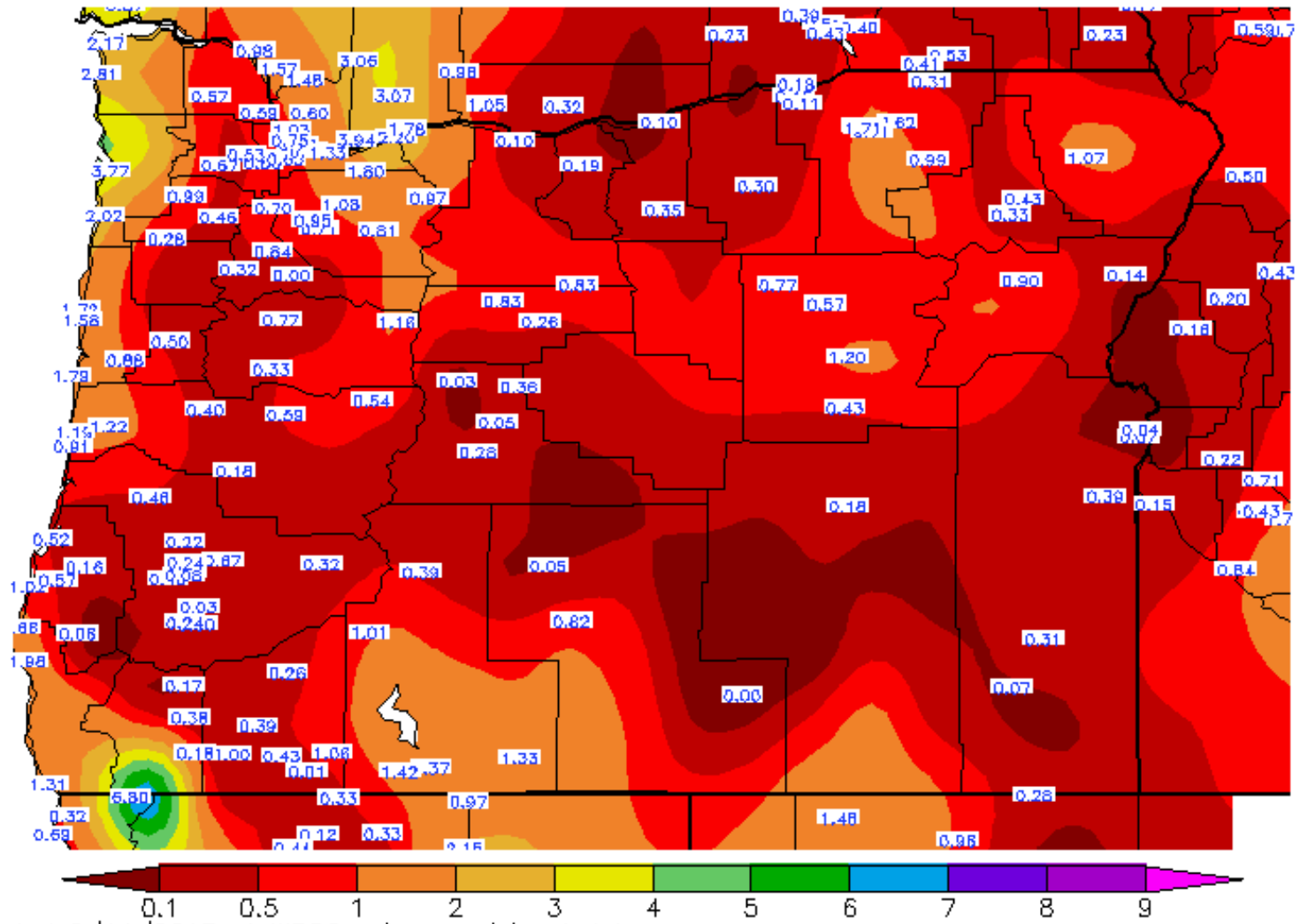
Generated 9/11/2017 at WRCC using provisional data.  
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image sources: [www.wrcc.dri.edu](http://www.wrcc.dri.edu)



# Total Precipitation for Past 90 days

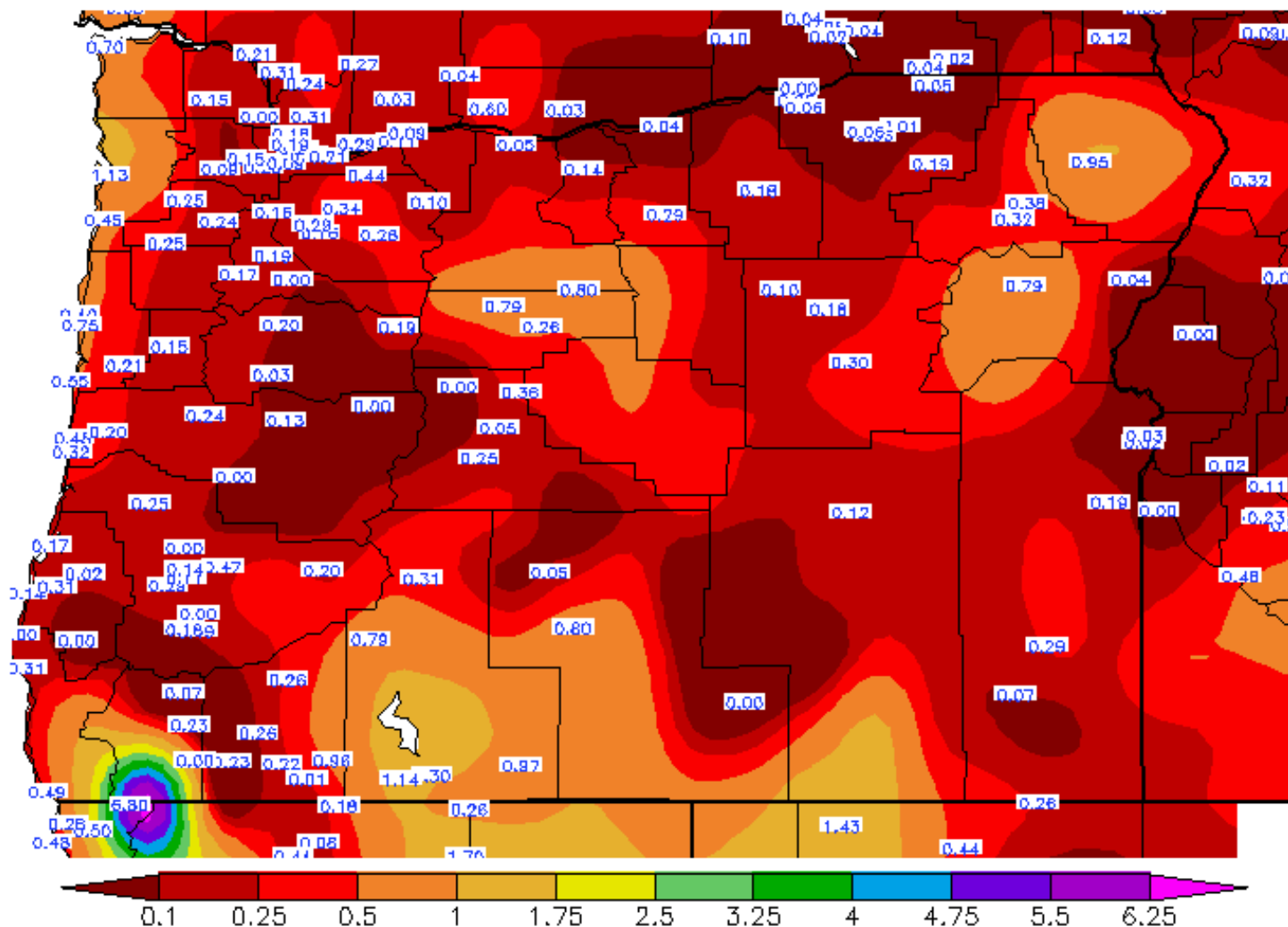
Total Precipitation (in.)  
6/13/2017 - 9/10/2017



Generated 9/11/2017 at WRCC using provisional data.  
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

# Total Precipitation for Past 60 days

Total Precipitation (in.)  
7/13/2017 - 9/10/2017

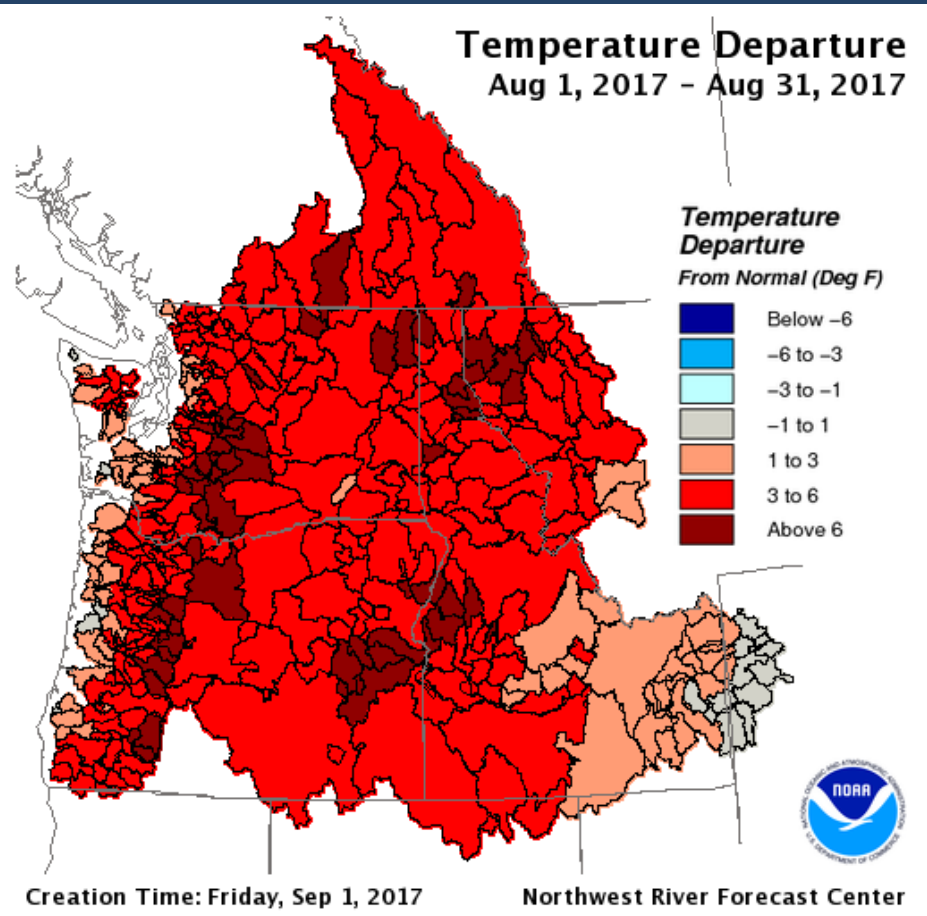


Generated 9/11/2017 at WRCC using provisional data.  
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

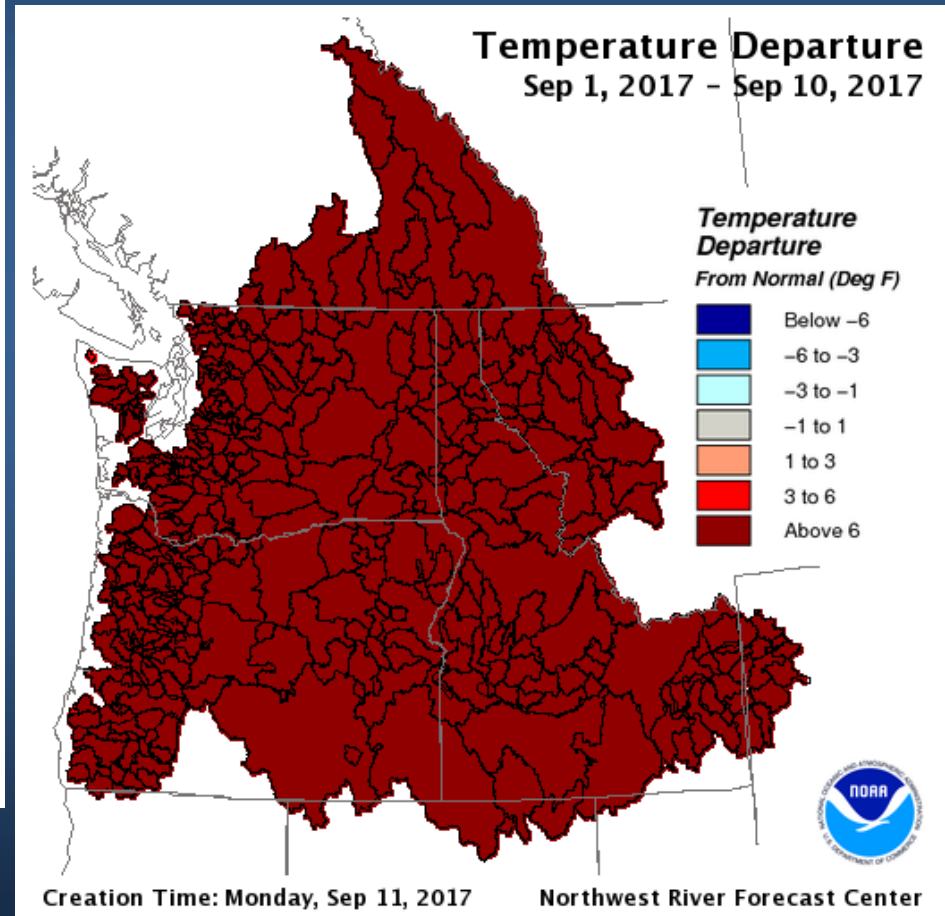


# Seasonal Temperatures

## August Temperatures in Columbia Basin



## September 1-10, 2017





# Seasonal Temperatures

DIVISION NAME	Current Month	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Seasonal
Malheur-Owyhee-Boise River Basins	5.0	0.5	5.0	-6.4	-7.1	1.2	3.0	-2.6	0.9	0.9	4.5	5.0	0.1
Grande Ronde River Basin	4.0	0.3	6.0	-6.1	-7.1	0.3	1.7	-2.1	0.7	1.2	4.1	4.0	0.2
Middle Columbia Lower Tributaries	5.6	-0.1	5.3	-6.8	-8.7	-1.4	1.1	-1.8	1.3	1.5	3.7	5.6	-0.1
Coastal River Basins	1.3	1.4	5.2	-3.9	-4.1	-1.1	0.0	-0.8	1.7	1.7	1.1	1.3	0.1
Clackamas River Basin	4.9	0.0	4.9	-5.3	-6.7	-1.5	0.2	-1.9	0.9	1.1	2.1	4.9	-0.2
Willamette Headwater River Basins	3.3	0.4	4.6	-5.0	-5.8	-1.4	-0.2	-1.5	1.6	1.6	1.1	3.3	-0.2
Willamette River Basin abv Harrisburg	5.5	-0.1	4.8	-5.0	-5.9	-1.4	-0.1	-2.1	2.9	0.8	1.1	5.5	-0.2
Santiam River Basin	5.5	0.1	4.7	-4.7	-5.7	-1.3	-0.3	-2.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	5.5	-0.1
Willamette River Basin above Portland	4.5	0.3	4.8	-4.9	-5.9	-1.3	-0.1	-1.8	3.7	1.2	1.1	4.5	-0.1
Coquille River Basin	1.8	0.4	4.5	-4.2	-5.3	-0.8	0.6	-1.4	1.1	1.5	2.6	1.8	0.0
Umpqua River Basin	4.1	0.1	5.0	-5.0	-5.6	-0.8	0.7	-1.7	2.8	1.4	2.7	4.1	0.2
Rogue-Illinois River Basins	4.9	-0.4	4.7	-4.9	-5.7	-0.9	0.7	-1.8	1.0	1.2	2.6	4.9	0.1





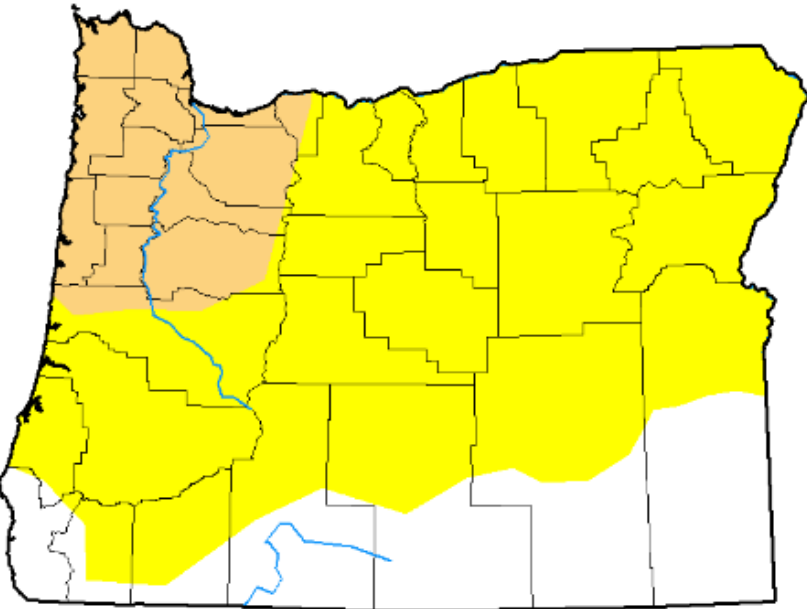
# Drought Monitor

## U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

**September 5, 2017**  
(Released Thursday September 7, 2017)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Statistics type: Traditional Percent Area

Export table:



Week	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current <a href="#">2017-09-05</a>	22.33	77.67	13.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week <a href="#">2017-08-29</a>	22.33	77.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <a href="#">2017-06-06</a>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <a href="#">2016-12-27</a>	65.31	34.69	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year <a href="#">2016-09-27</a>	0.00	100.00	50.59	12.30	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago <a href="#">2016-09-06</a>	0.00	100.00	50.21	12.03	0.00	0.00

Estimated Population in Drought Areas: **2,534,518**

[View More Statistics](#)

### Intensity:

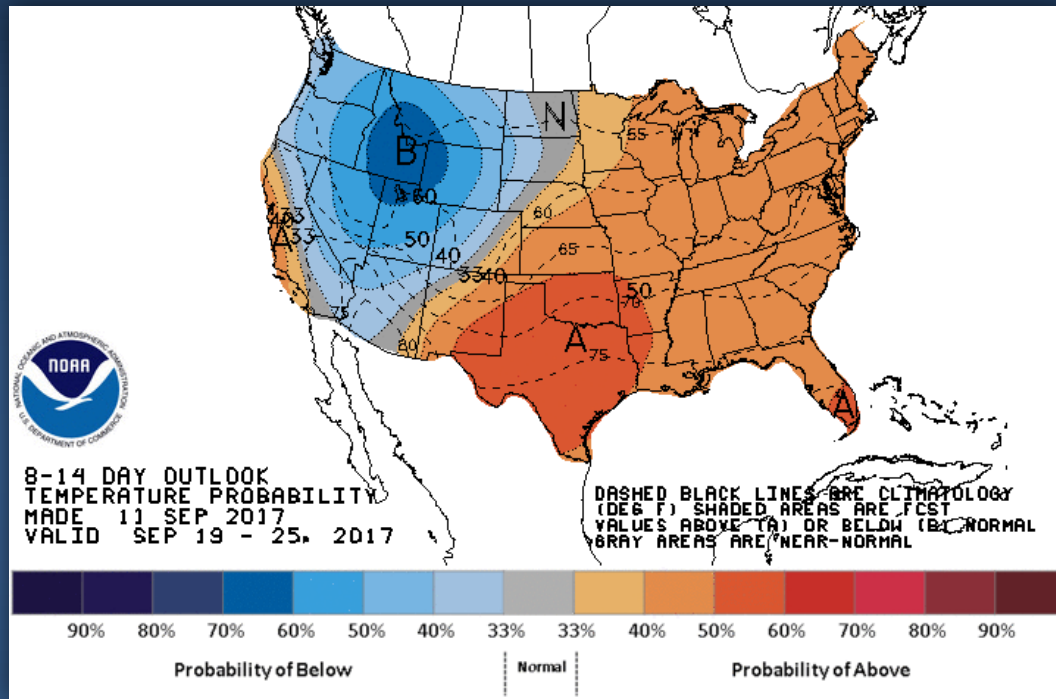
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)



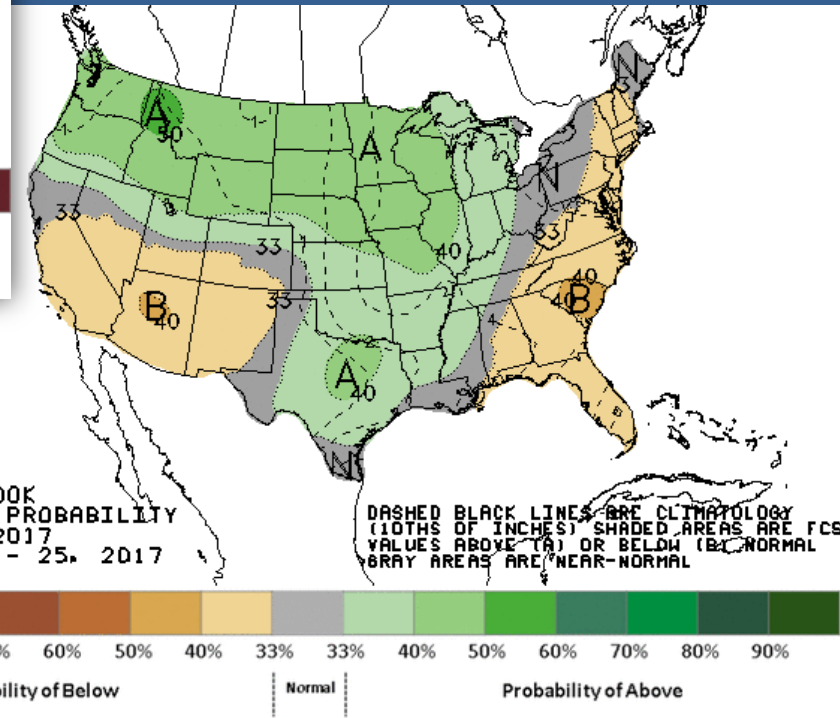
# September Outlook

## 8 - 14 Day Temperature Outlook

Generally wetter and cooler pattern starting September 17<sup>th</sup> and continuing into late September



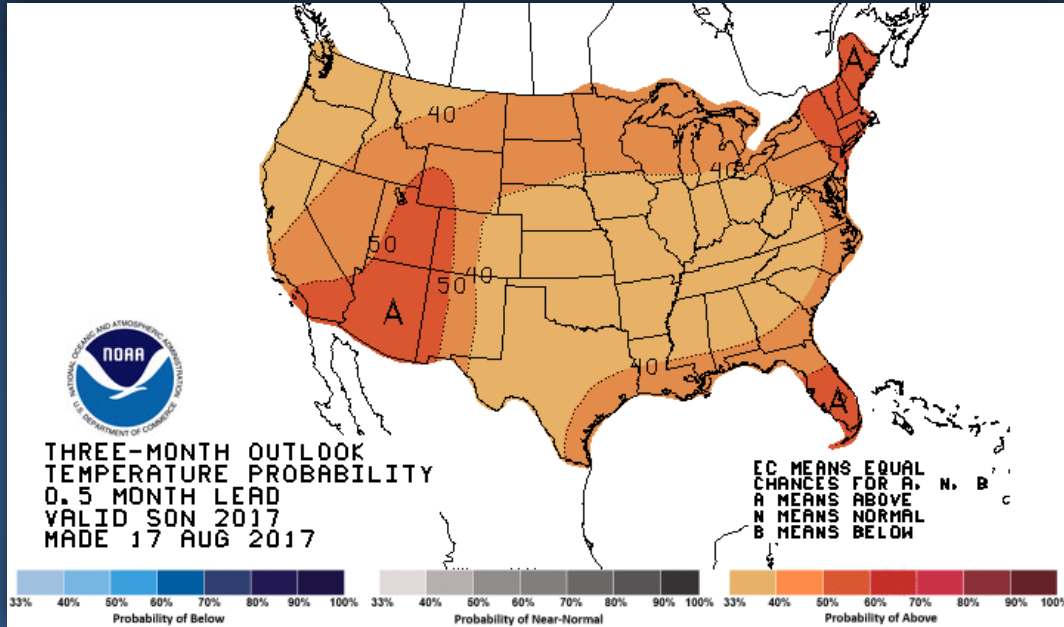
## 8 - 14 Day Precipitation Outlook



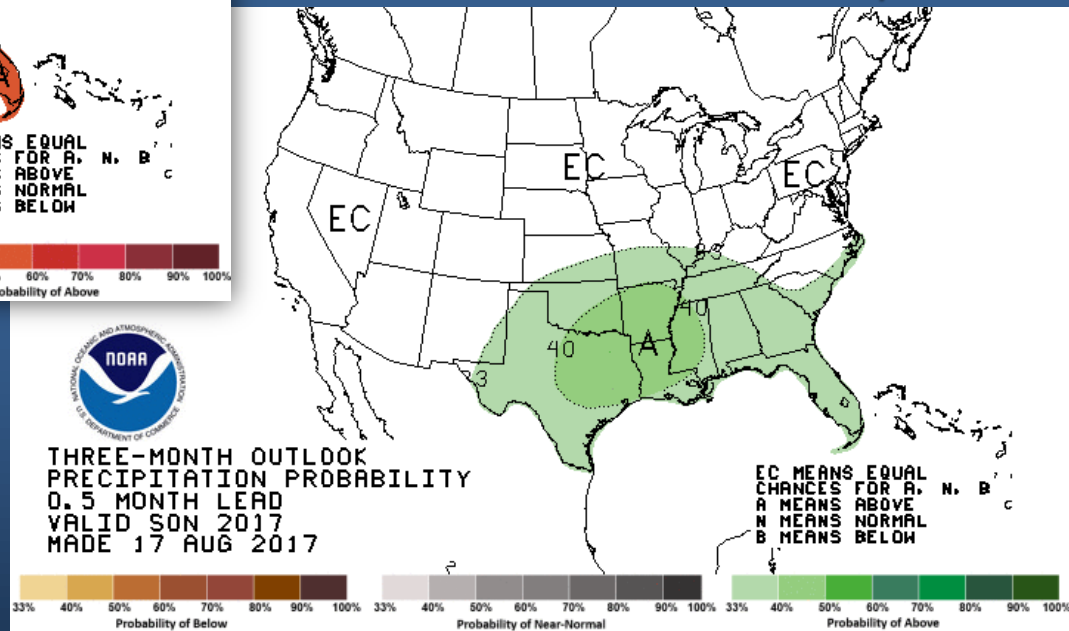


# Outlook for September-October-November

## Temperatures



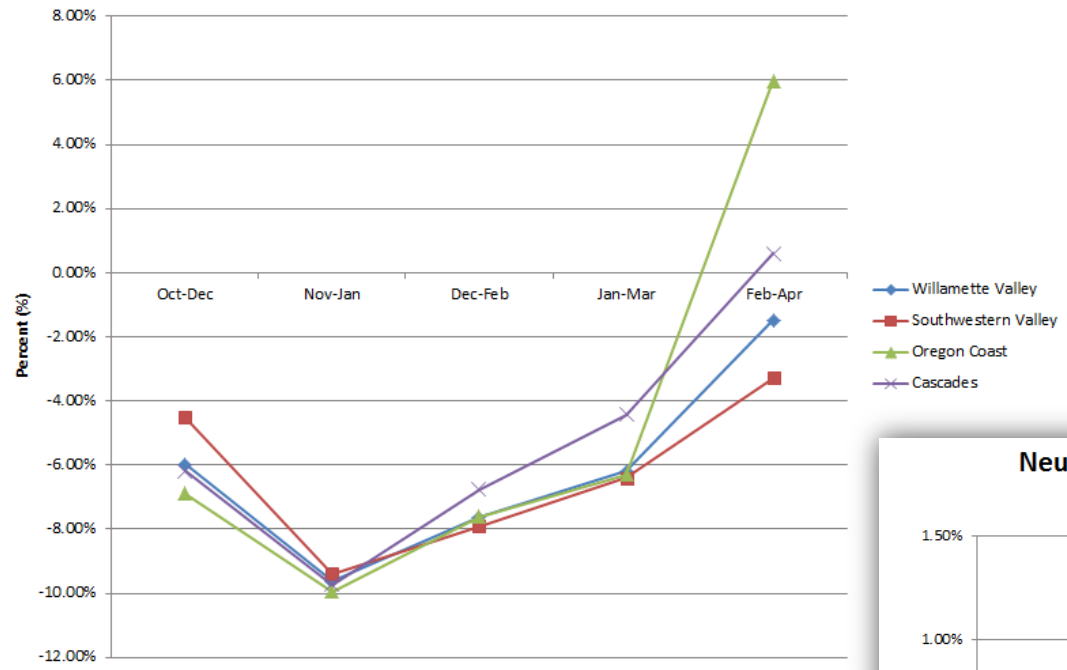
## Precipitation





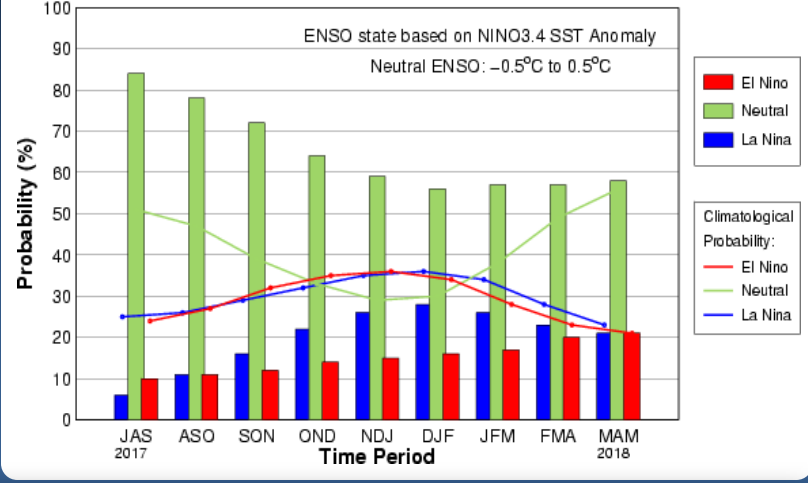
# ENSO & Oregon Climate

### Neutral - Precipitation Departure from Three-Monthly Mean for Climate Regions

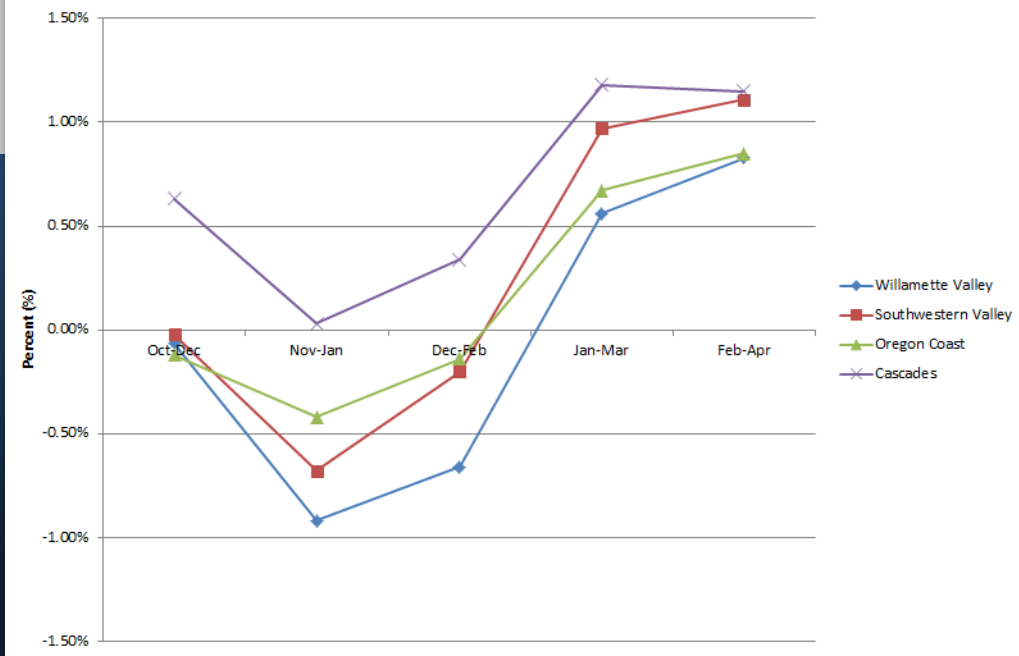


ENSO Neutral conditions historically result in below-average precipitation and near-average temperatures in Western Oregon & the Cascades.

### Early-Aug CPC/IRI Official Probabilistic ENSO Forecast



### Neutral - Temperature Departure from Three-Monthly Mean for Climate Regions



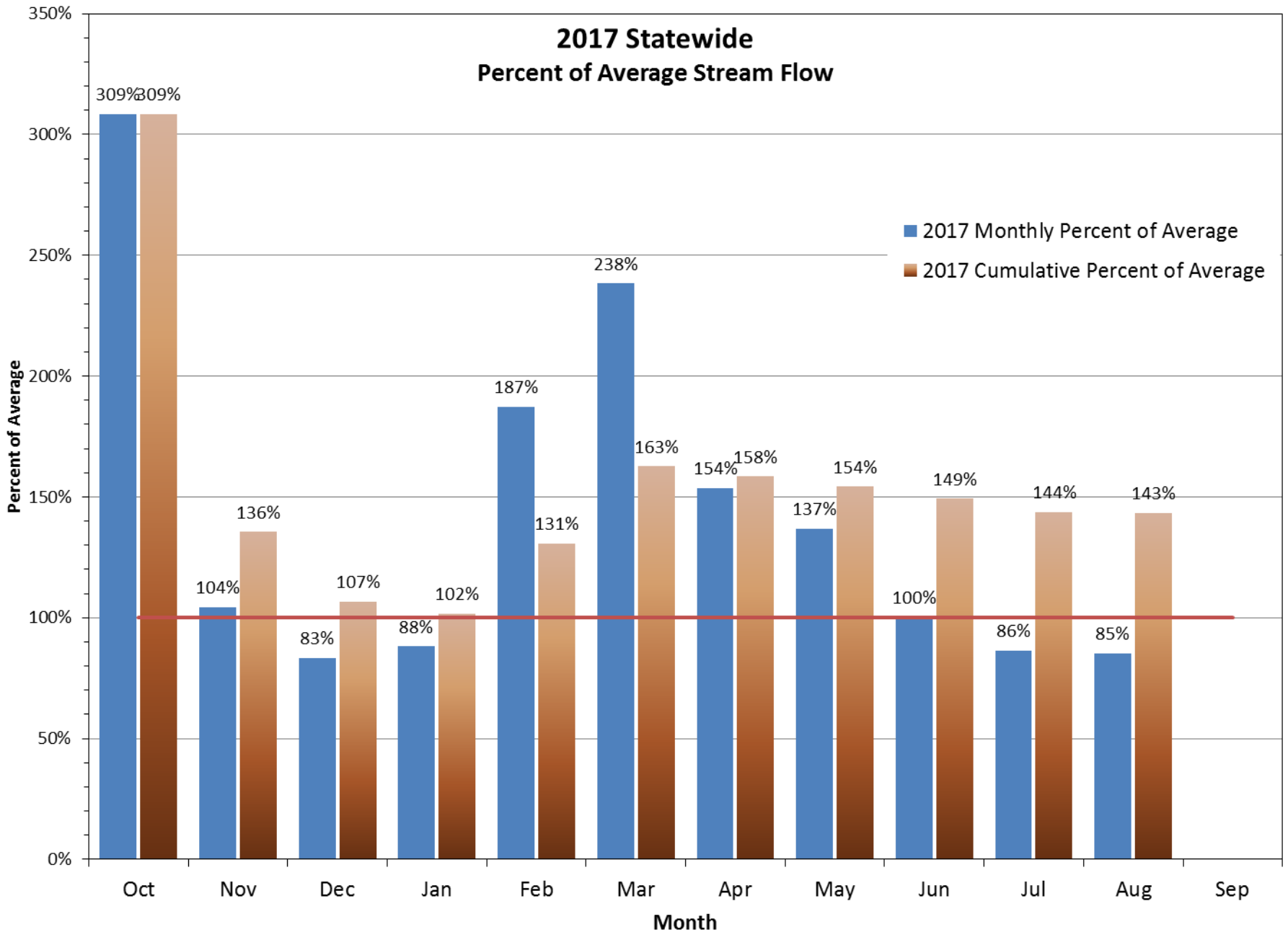
Surface Water Conditions Report

# Water Supply Availability Committee

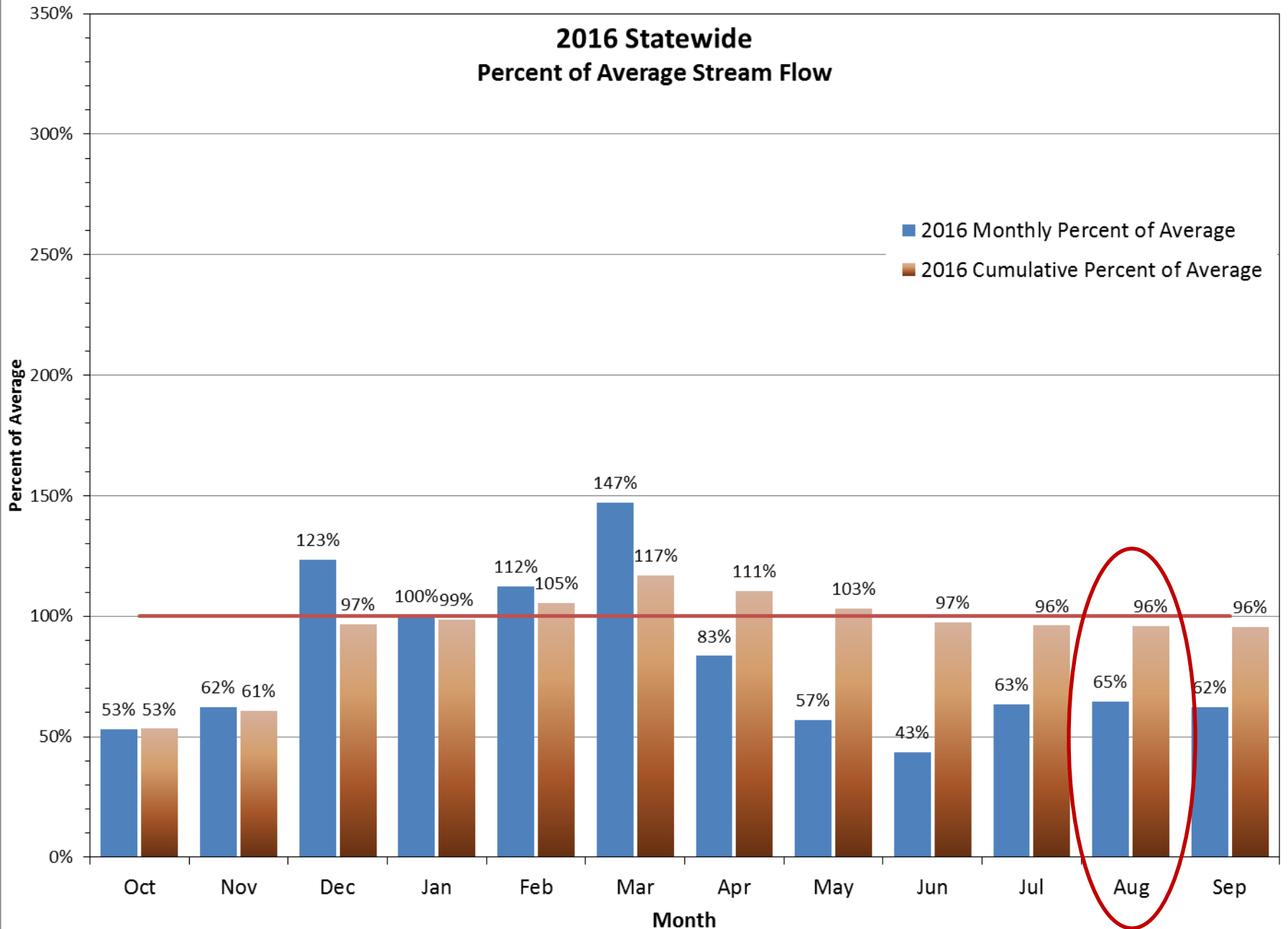


**Ken Stahr**  
**Oregon Water Resources**  
**Department**  
**September 12, 2017**

## 2017 Statewide Percent of Average Stream Flow








## 2016 Statewide Percent of Average Stream Flow



# Percent of Average Streamflow Month of July, 2017

## Percent of Average Streamflow

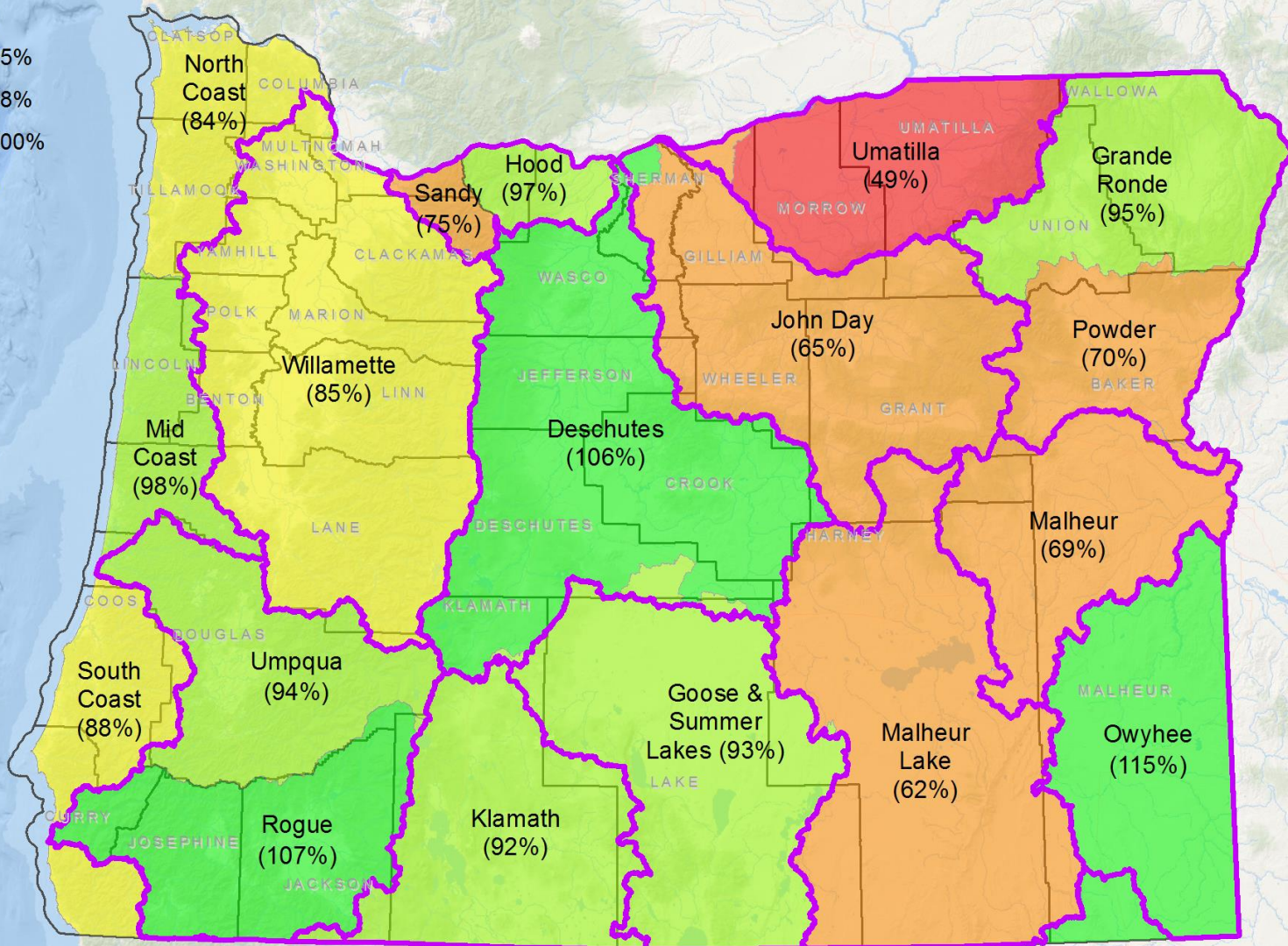
### WRD Basin

-  < 50%
-  50% - 75%
-  76% - 88%
-  89% - 100%
-  > 100%

### NRCS Basin



### County



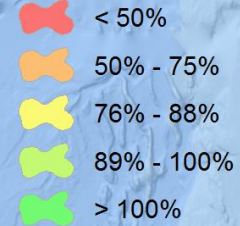
Average streamflow data are based on 30 years of record (1981-2010). All data represent free-flowing streams unaffected by significant man-made control structures such as dams or diversion works.



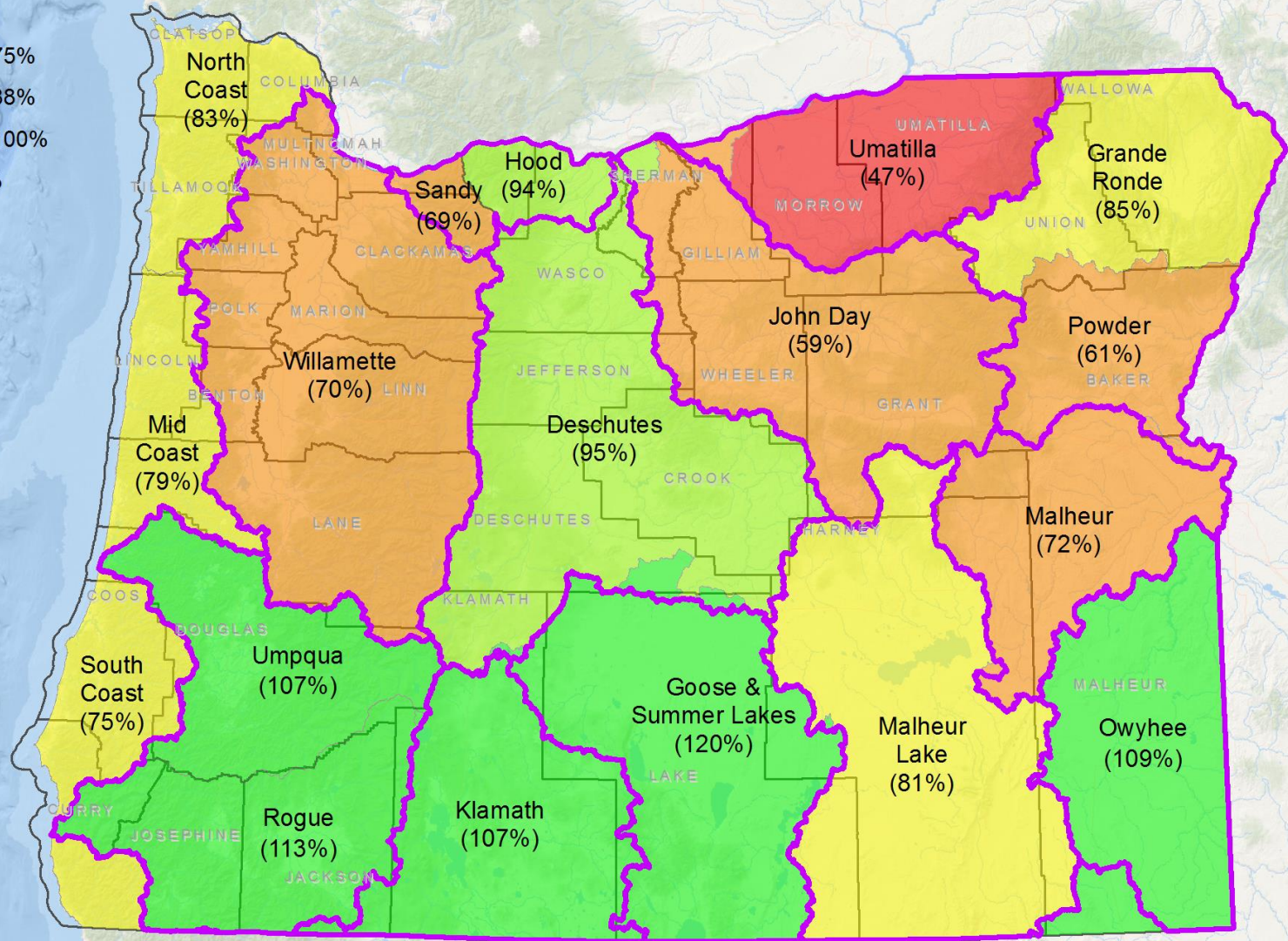
# Percent of Average Streamflow Month of August, 2017

## Percent of Average Streamflow

### WRD basin

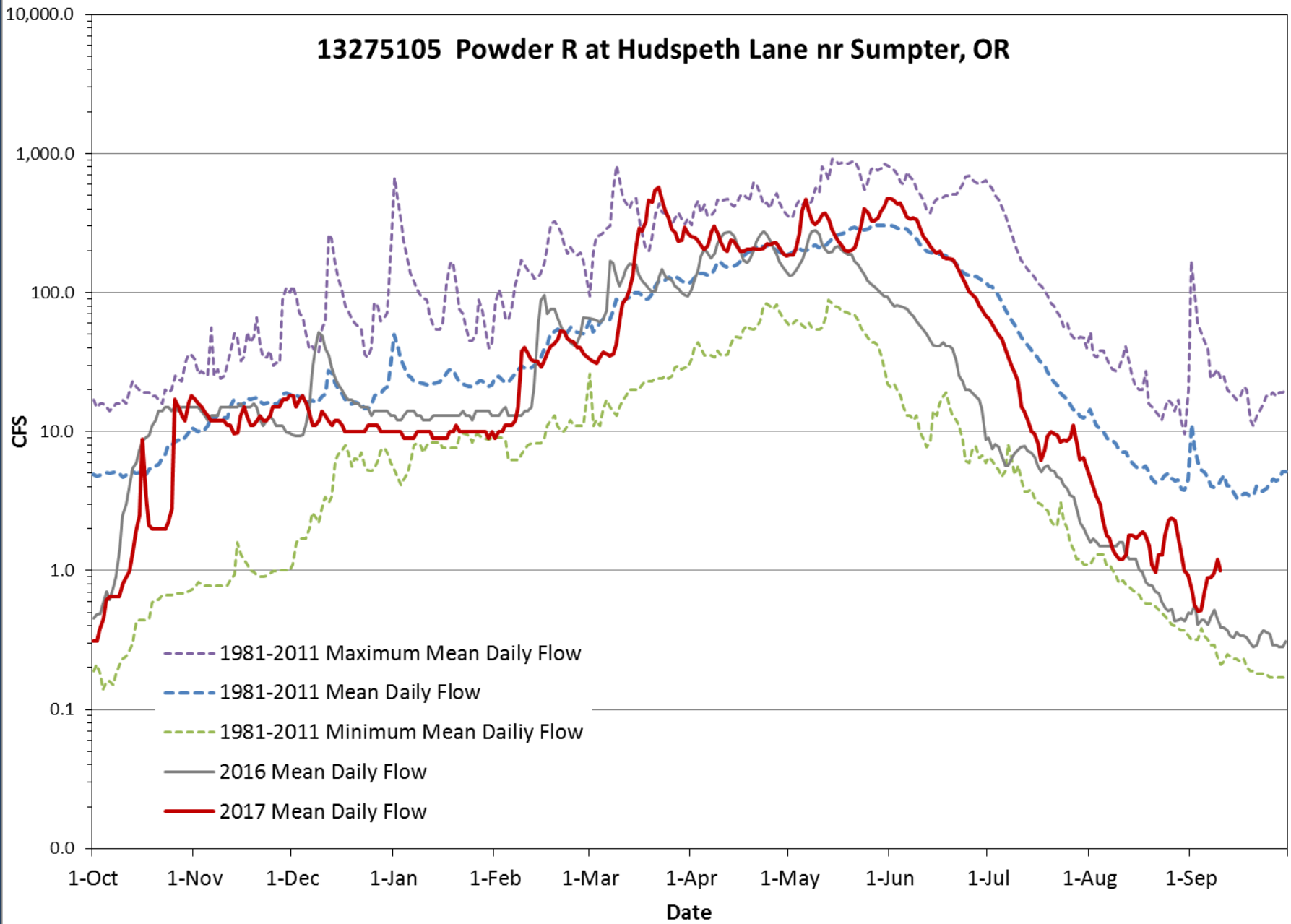


### NRCS Basin

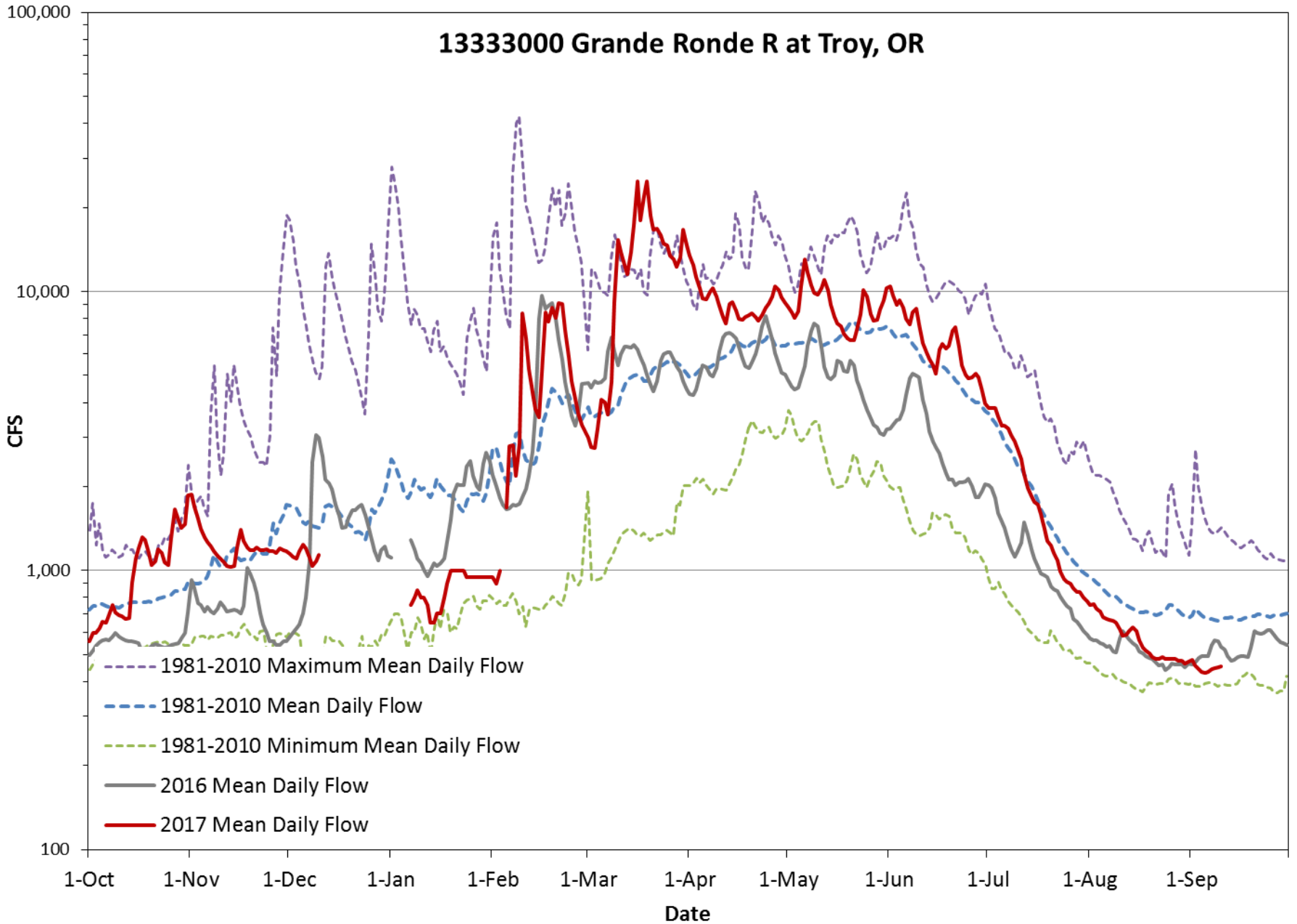


Average streamflow data are based on 30 years of record (1981-2010). All data represent free-flowing streams unaffected by significant man-made control structures such as dams or diversion works.

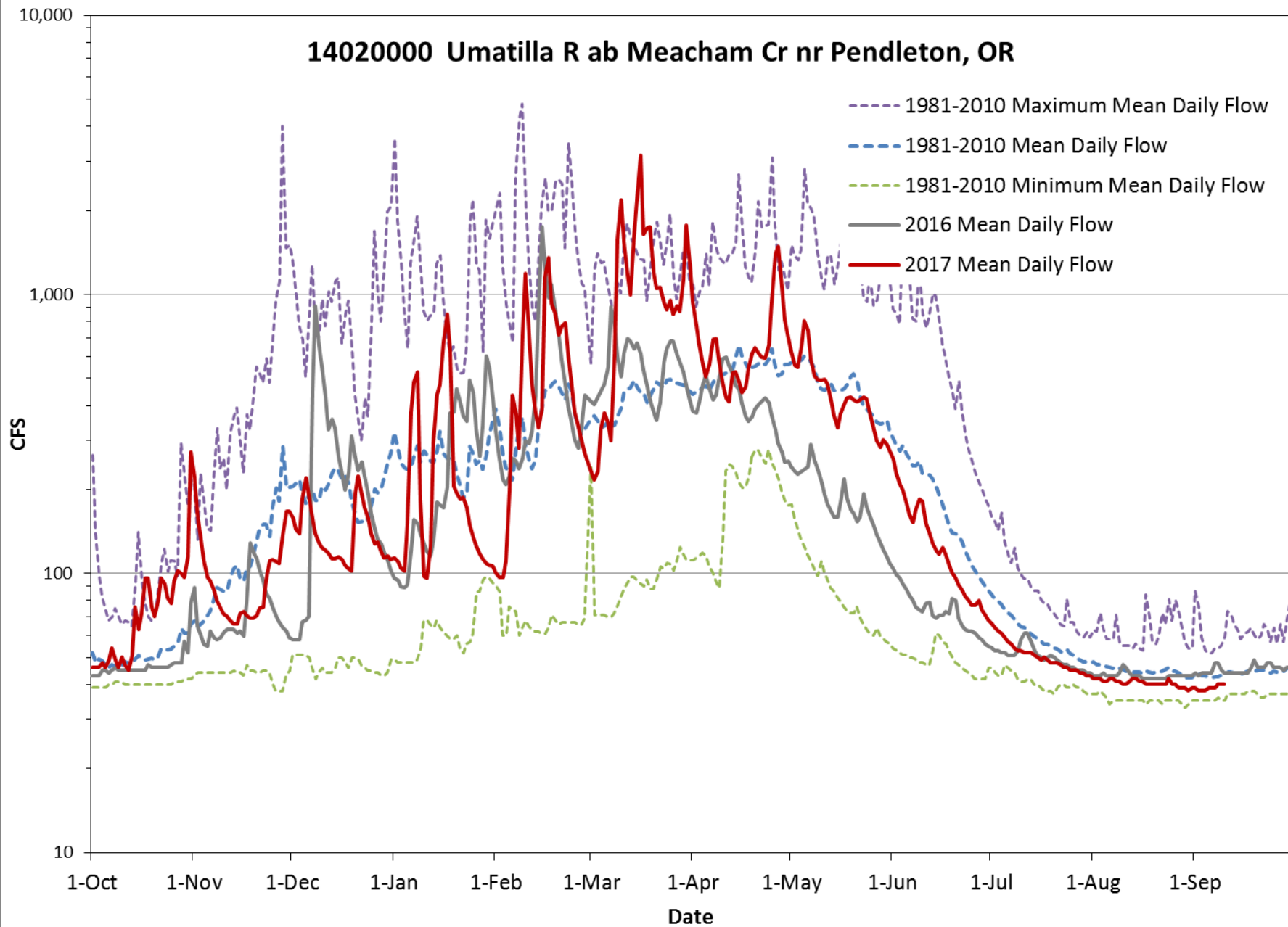
# 13275105 Powder R at Hudspeth Lane nr Sumpter, OR



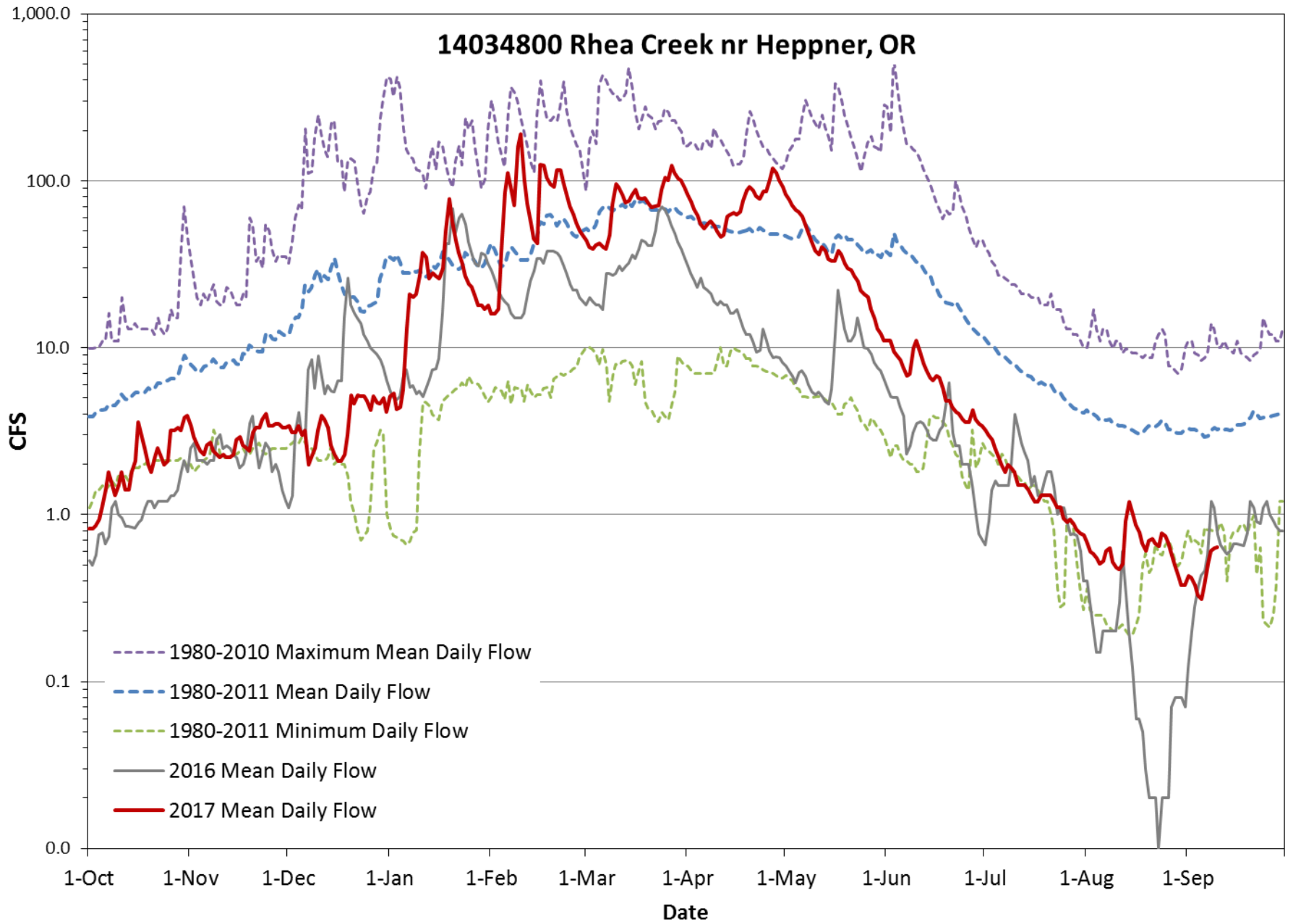
# 13333000 Grande Ronde R at Troy, OR



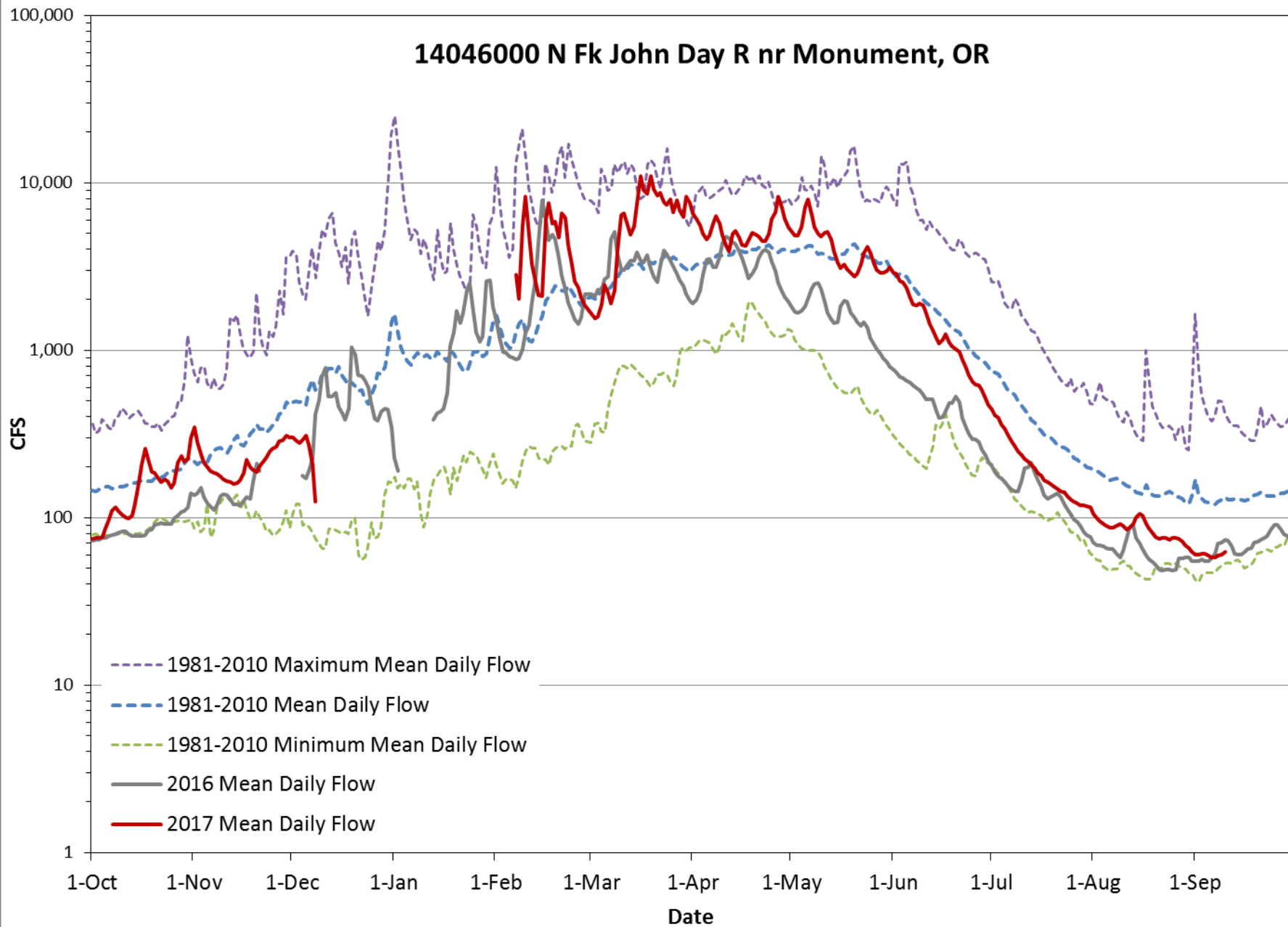
# 14020000 Umatilla R ab Meacham Cr nr Pendleton, OR



# 14034800 Rhea Creek nr Heppner, OR



# 14046000 N Fk John Day R nr Monument, OR



# Reservoir Storage Summary for the end of July, 2017

## Percent of Average Storage

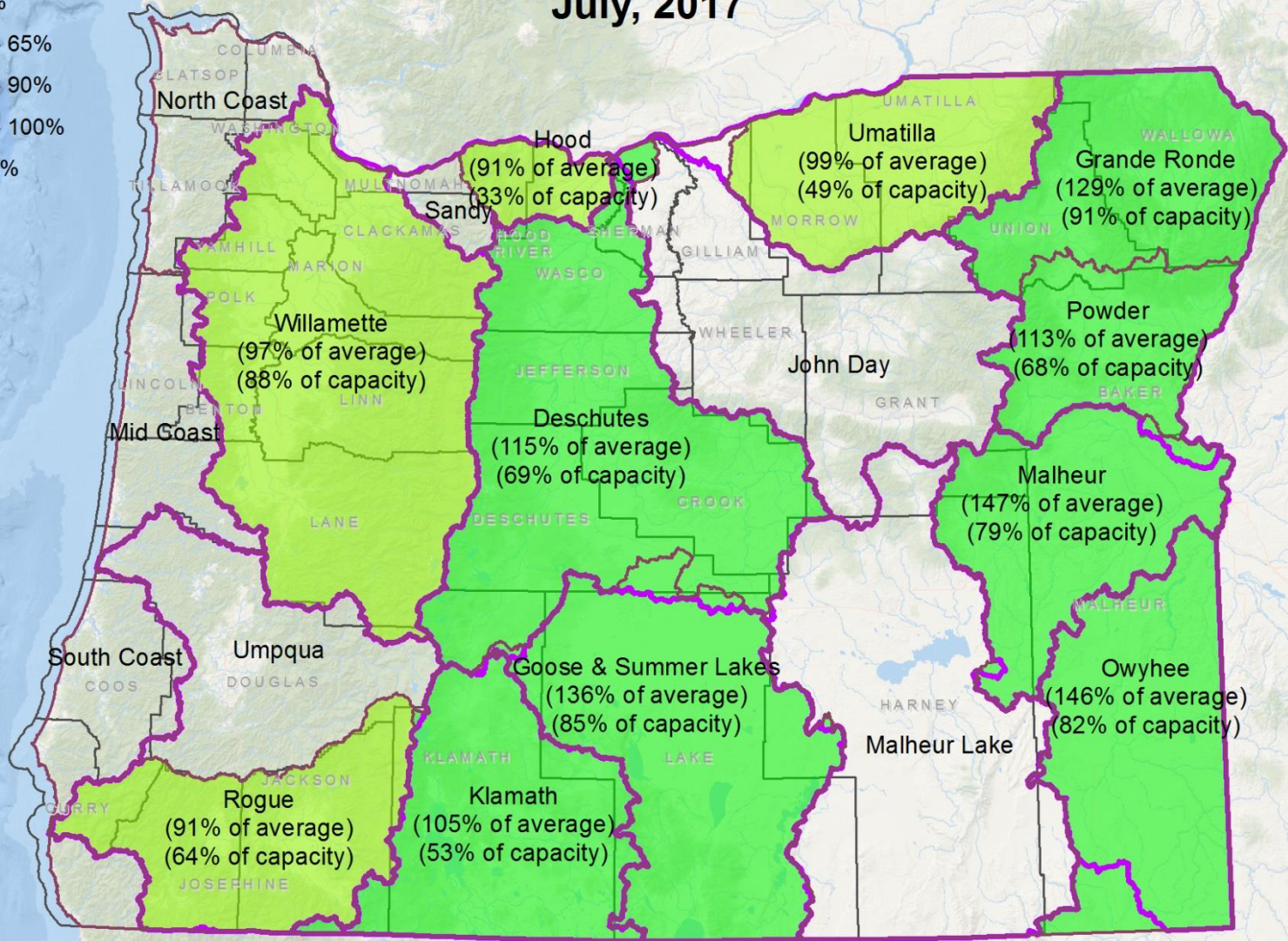
WRD basin

- < 50%
- 50% - 65%
- 66% - 90%
- 91% - 100%
- > 100%

NRCS Basin



County



NRCS Basinwide Summary: August 1, 2017  
(averages based on 1981-2010 reference period)

# Reservoir Storage Summary for the end of August, 2017

## Percent of Average Storage

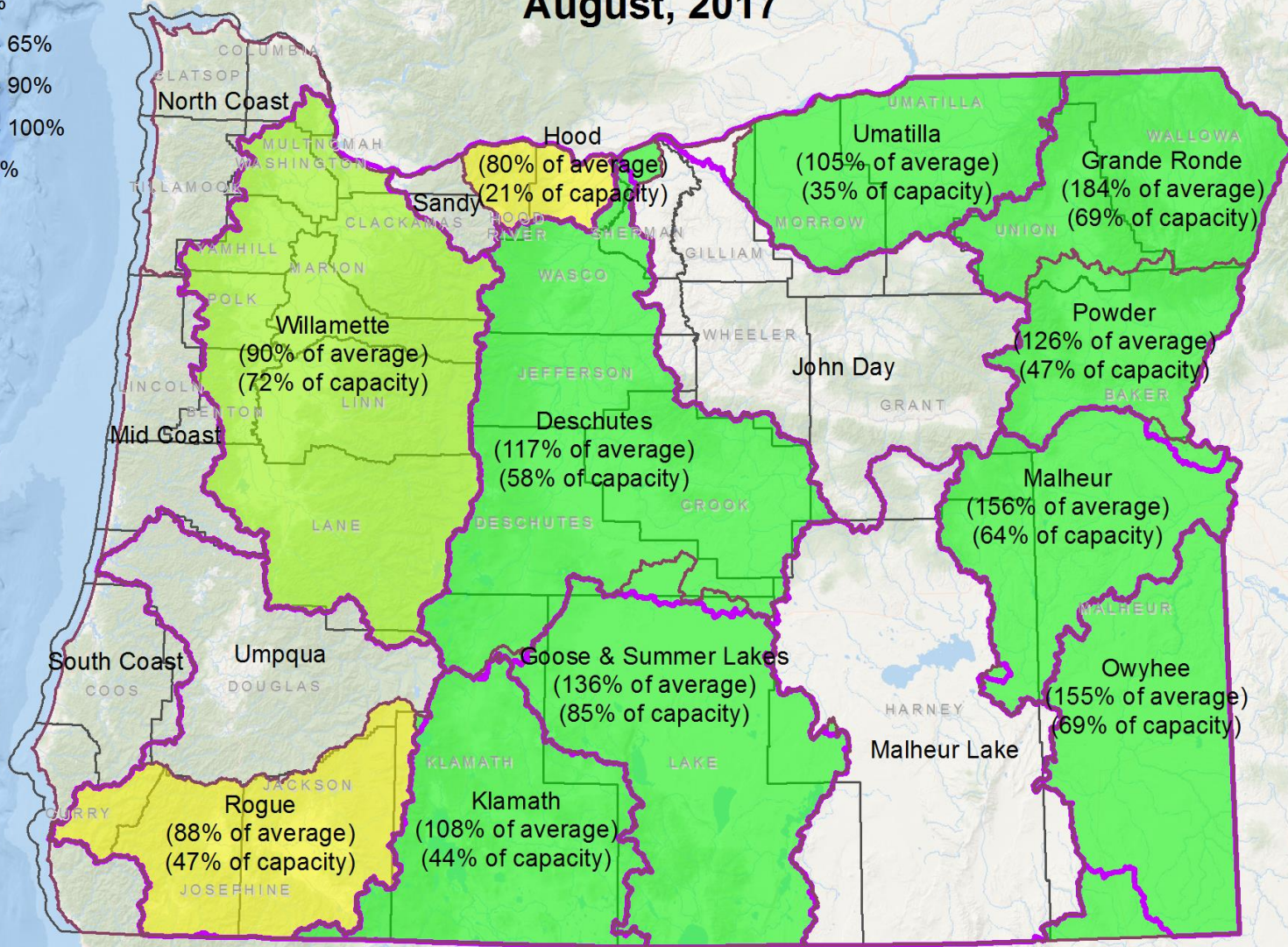
Current\_Average / none

- < 50%
- 50% - 65%
- 66% - 90%
- 91% - 100%
- > 100%

NRCS Basin



County



NRCS Basinwide Summary: September 1, 2017  
(averages based on 1981-2010 reference period)



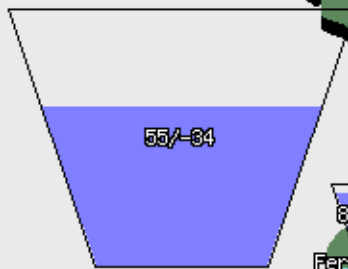
# The Willamette Basin

## LEGEND

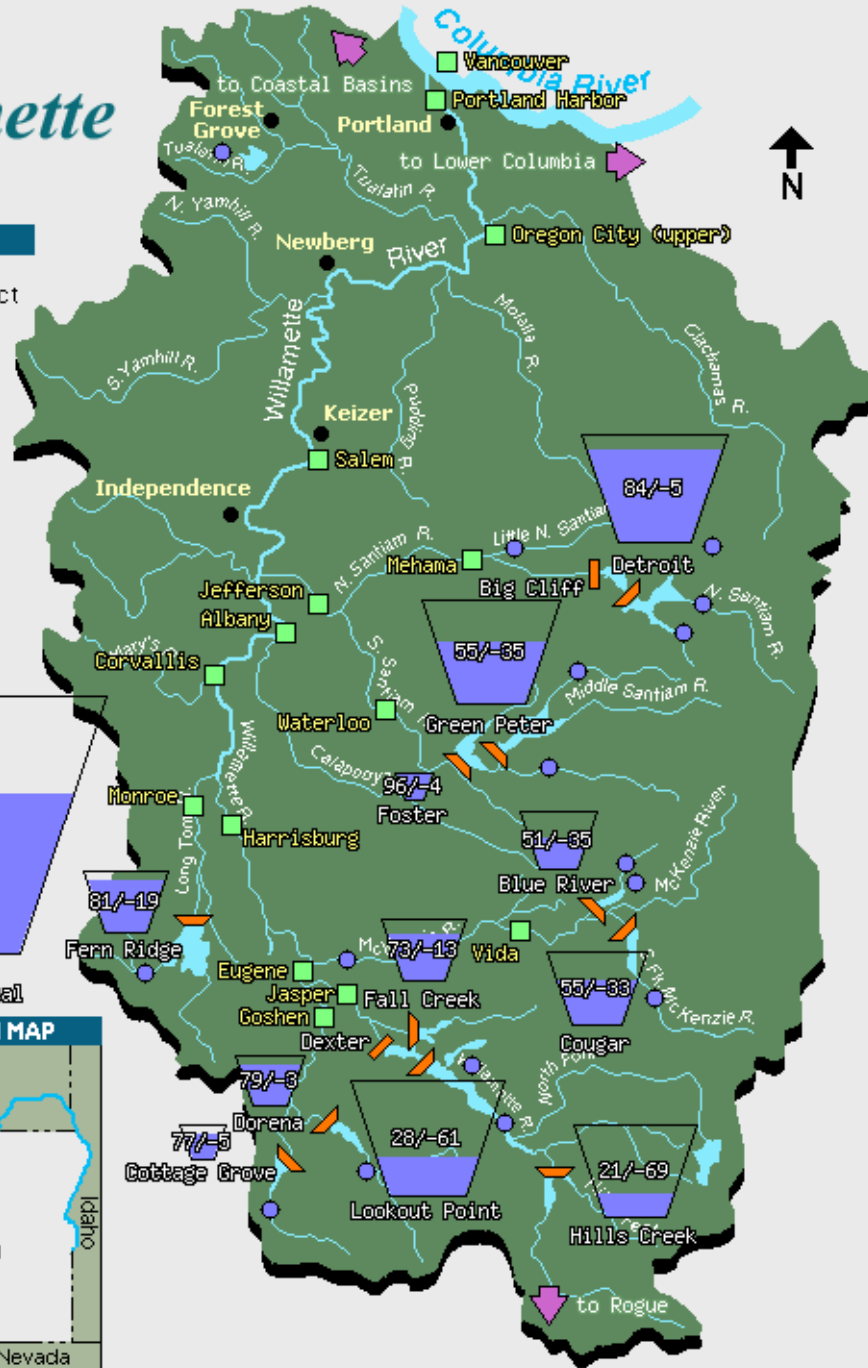
- Storage Project
- Run of River
- Gage
- No Alerts
- Bank Full
- Flood Stage

Overview

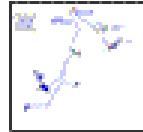
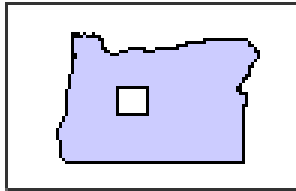
Annual



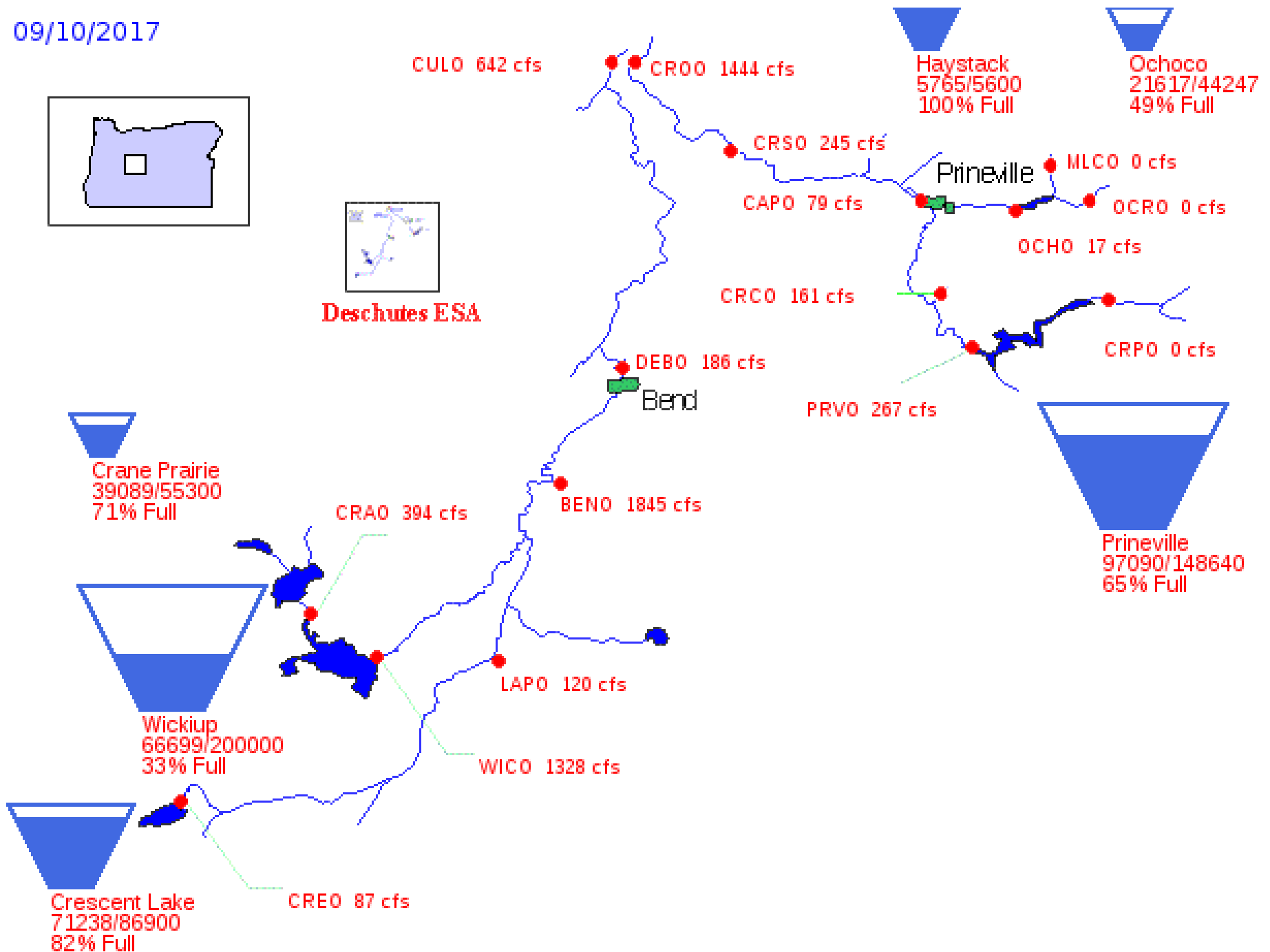
Willamette Total



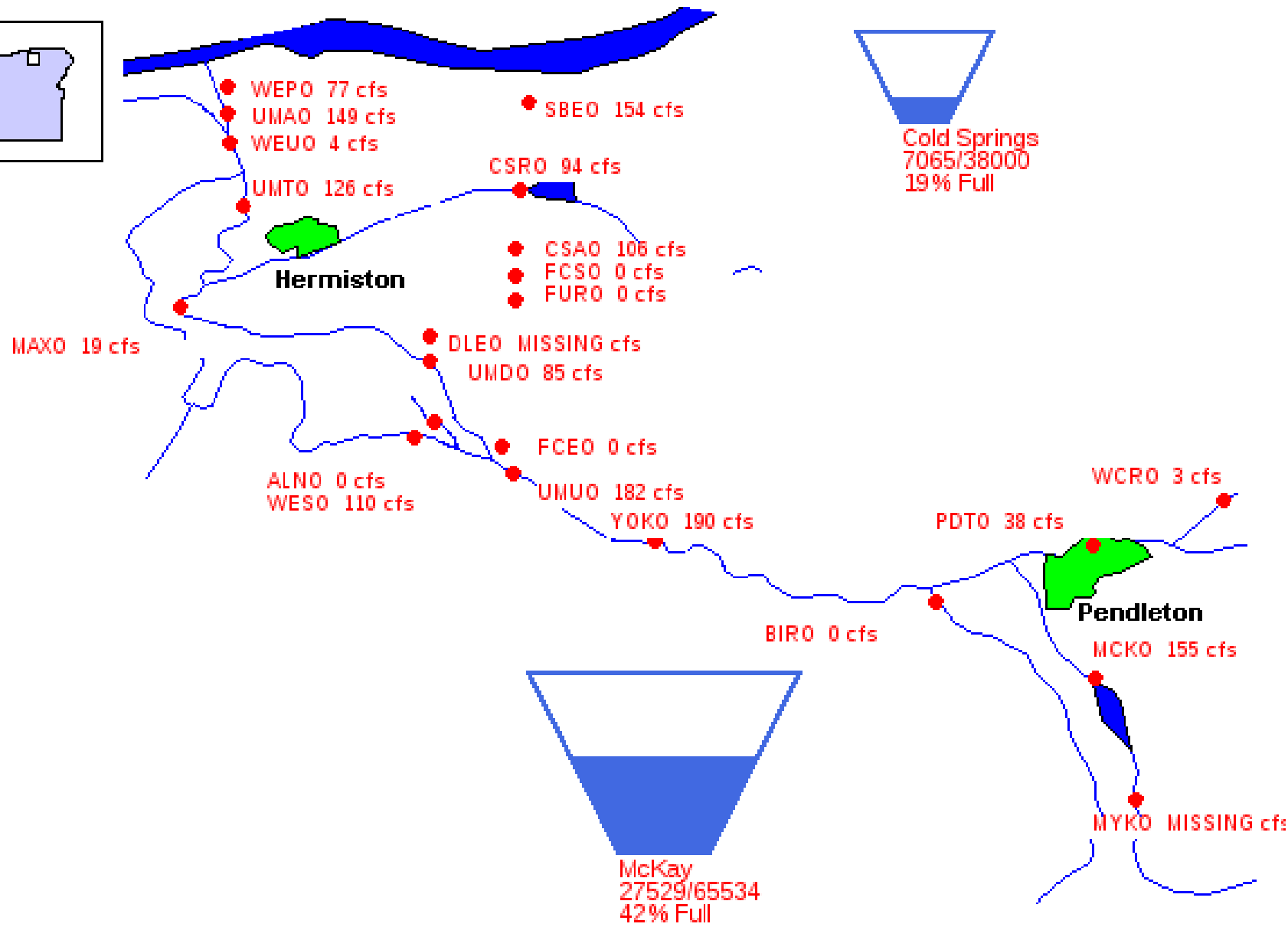
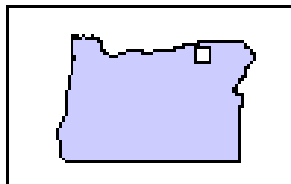
09/10/2017

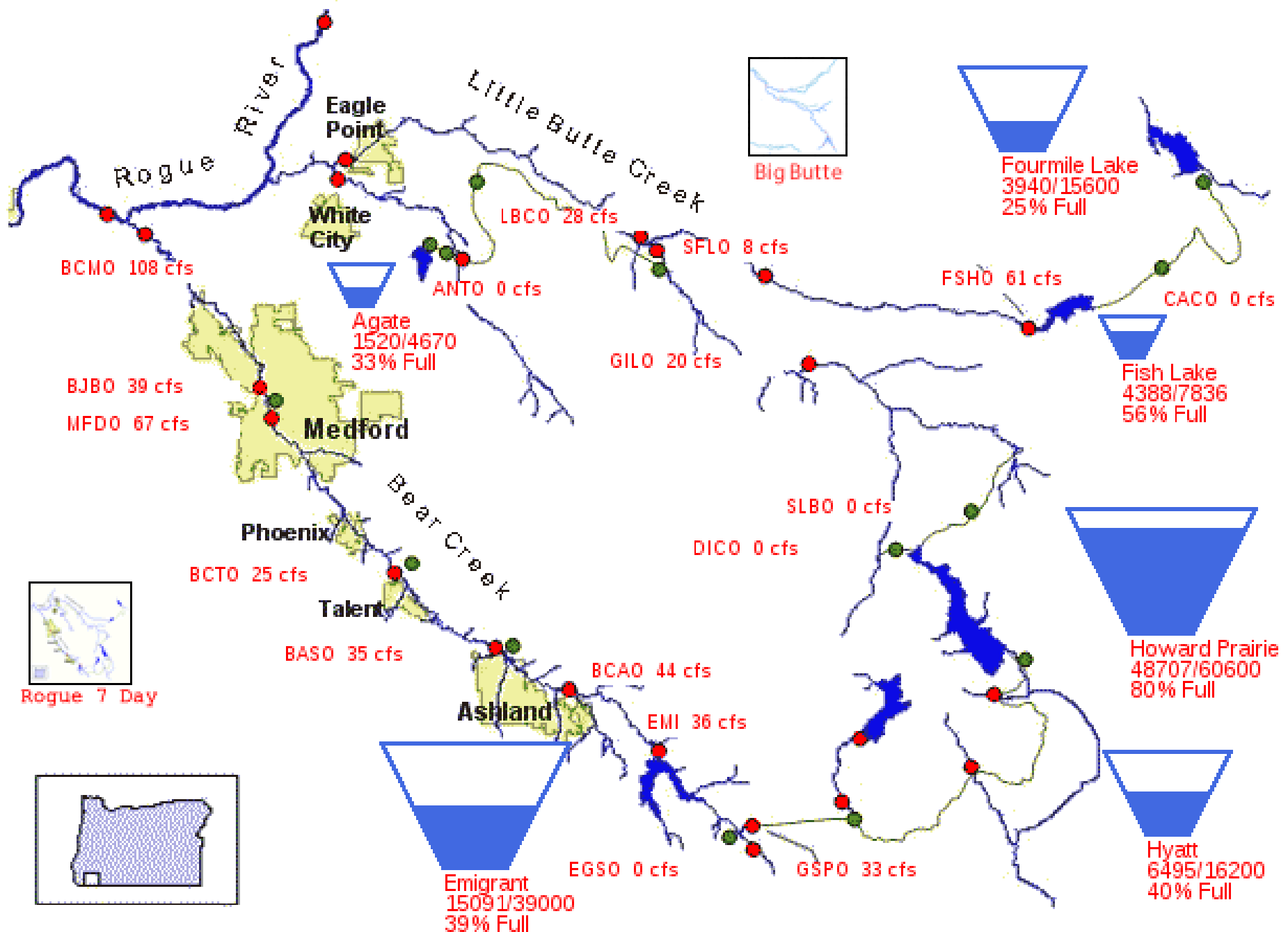


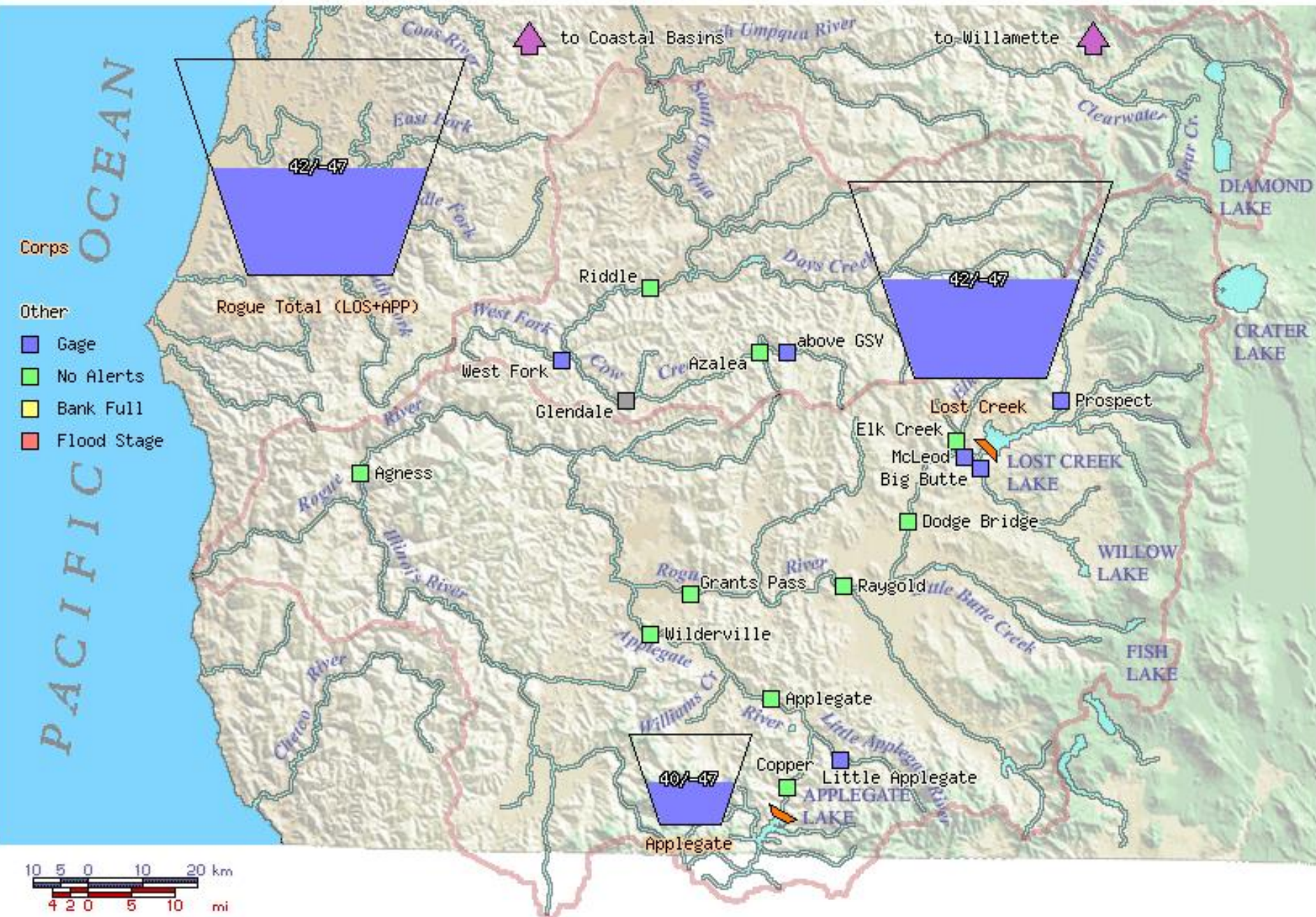
**Deschutes ESA**



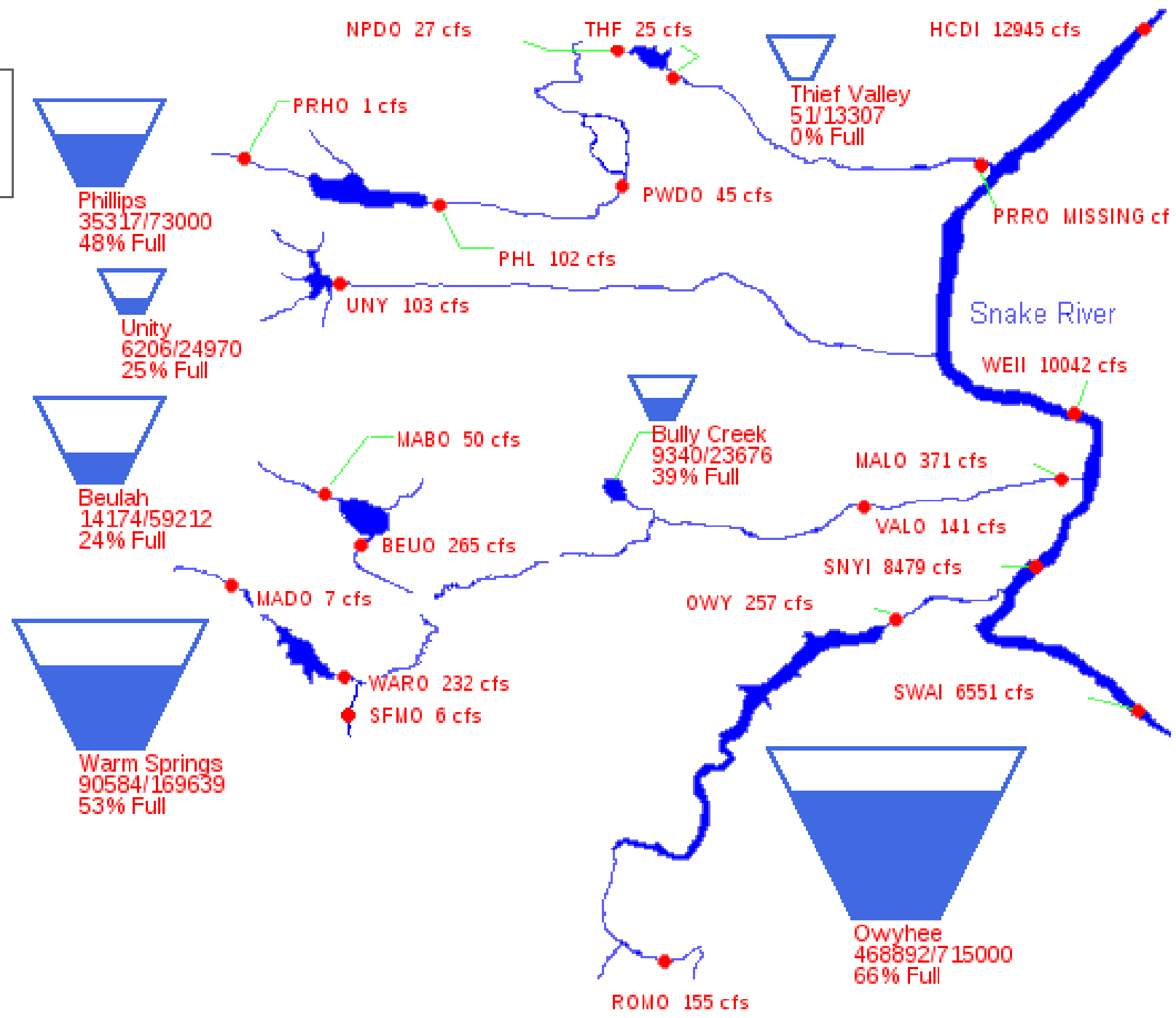
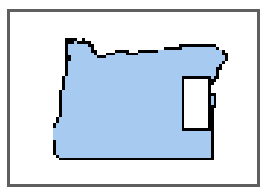
09/10/2017

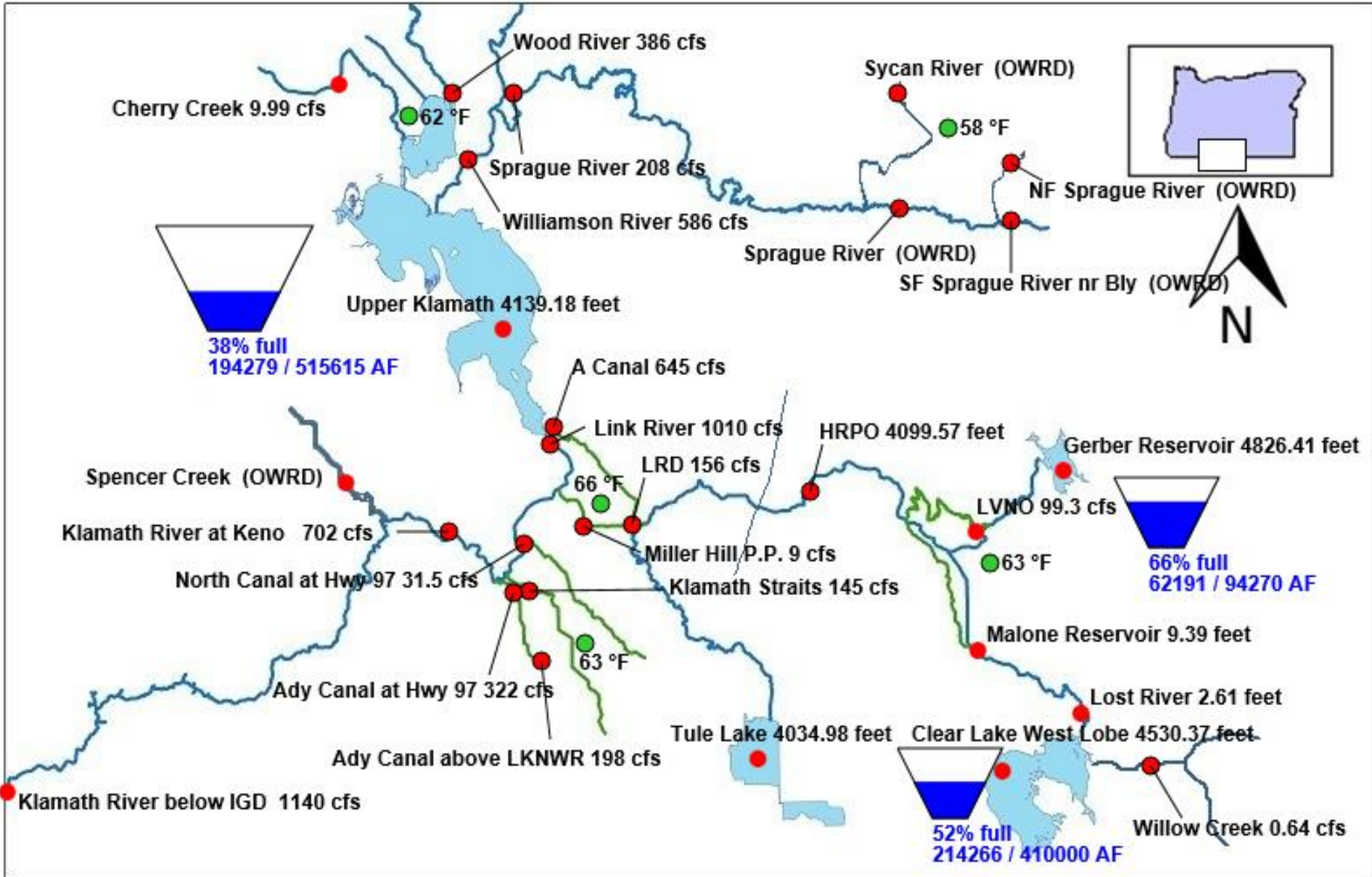






09/10/2017





Thank You



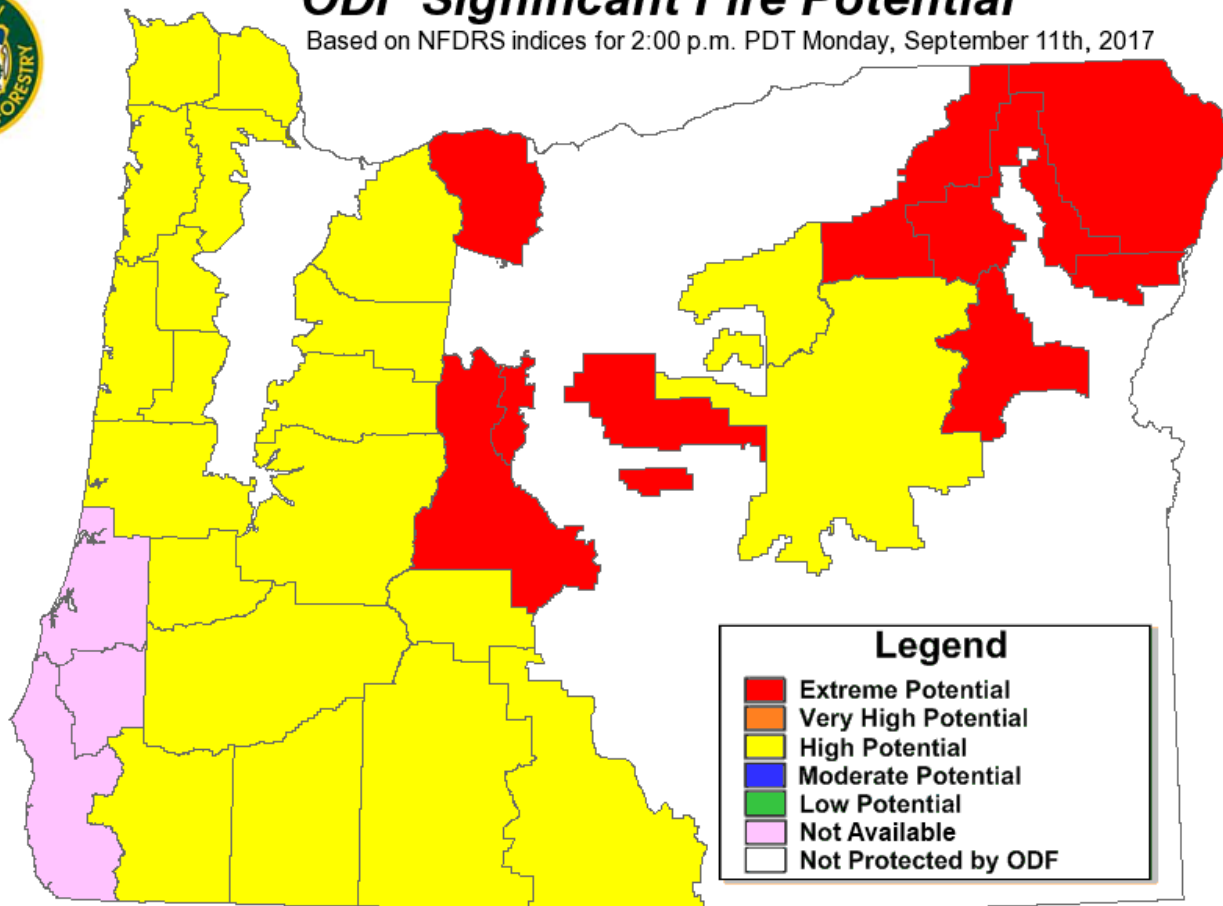


# WSAC Sig Fire Potential



## ODF Significant Fire Potential

Based on NFDRS indices for 2:00 p.m. PDT Monday, September 11th, 2017



Updated: 8:33 a.m. PDT Tuesday, September 12th, 2017 (map does not display or represent Fire Danger or Regulated Use Restrictions).

### Significant Fire Potential Map

[Map Explanation](#)

[Map Calculation File](#)



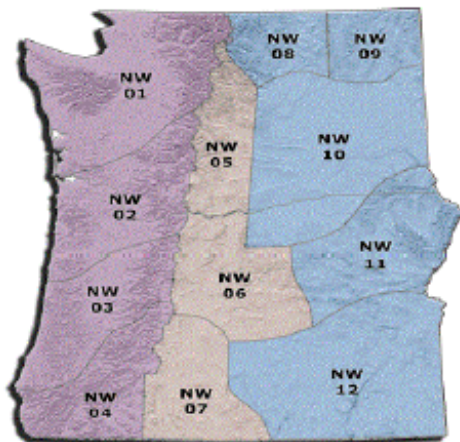
# WSAC Forecast Fire Potential



## Pacific Northwest 7 Day Significant Fire Potential



Tuesday, September 12, 2017



Predictive Service

Area	ytd	tdy	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
NW01								
NW02								
NW03								
NW04								
NW05								
NW06								
NW07								
NW08								
NW09								
NW10								
NW11								
NW12								

### Legend

#### Fire Environment (FEN) 4 levels

- Minimal** - The Overall Fire Environment suggests a very low risk for Large fires (less than 1% chance)
- Normal** - The Overall Fire Environment suggests a normal risk for large fires (1 - 4% chance)
- Elevated** - The Overall Fire Environment suggests a moderately high risk for large fires (5 - 19% chance)
- High Risk** - The risk for large fire(s) is very high ( $\geq 20\%$ )  
Triggers: 1. **L** (Significant Lightning)  
2. **BEN** (Critical Burn Environment)

The assessment of the overall fire environment considers multiple factors including weather, lightning amount and fuel dryness. Large Fire probabilities are derived objectively via statistical methods. **High Risk** levels ( $\geq 20\%$  probability of a large fire) are almost always due to significant lightning as burning conditions alone rarely result in a large fire probability much above about 10%.

**Fire Potential:** Warm and dry conditions will prevail over Eastern Washington today. Elsewhere, a cold front will bring increasing humidity, clouds and chances for showers through the day.

There is a threat for scattered lightning, mainly over southern and eastern Oregon today into tonight. The lightning will bring a potential for new ignitions and moderate initial attack with a low-end elevated risk for large new fires.

The frontal passage will bring a transition to a gusty northwest winds today and tonight. Although the arriving air mass will be much cooler, humidity values will remain on the low side for areas east of the Cascades. This combination of dry, gusty will promote an increase in fire activity, mainly for eastern Washington winds tonight through Thursday.

Pay close attention to NWS fire weather planning forecasts, spot forecasts, and IMET forecasts for the weather details in your area.

Please call NWCC Predictive Services (503) 808-2737 with any questions.

#### Preparedness Level:

Northwest: 5  
National: 5

- Amanda Graning