

# Oregon Water Conditions Report



November 16, 2020

## HIGHLIGHTS

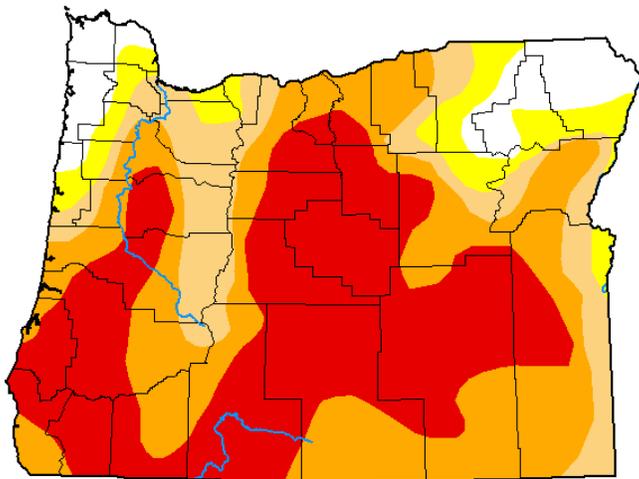
- Statewide precipitation at [NRCS](#) SNOTEL sites is 121% of normal. NRCS basin values vary from a low of 79% of normal in the Owyhee basin to 162% of normal in the Umatilla-Walla Walla-Willow basin.
- Precipitation over the past [two weeks](#) has been above average across almost all of Oregon with the exception of areas along the mid coast and southwest Oregon where precipitation remains well below normal.
- Temperatures over the past [two weeks](#) have been generally cooler than normal across most of the state transitioning to warmer than normal in areas along the mid coast, central Cascades, and eastern Oregon.
- The [8-14 day outlook](#) is for equal chances of above or below normal temperatures across Oregon. Above-normal precipitation is forecast across the state with the highest probability in the northwest corner.
- [Seasonal climate outlook](#) probabilities favor above-normal temperatures in the southern half of the state, with equal chances of above or below normal temperature to the north. Above-normal precipitation is forecast for the northeast third of the state with equal chances of above or below normal precipitation forecast for the remainder.
- US Drought Monitor indicates a mix of some improvement in northwest Oregon along with some degradation of conditions in central and southeastern Oregon. Fifteen counties remain under a [Governor's drought declaration](#) until December 31, 2020.
- Streamflows were below normal at 74% for the month of October, with basins in the northern regions of the state faring better than the south. The current 7-day average statewide streamflow is trending higher now at almost 90% of normal with flows west of the Cascades at 110% and to the east at 76% of normal. Recent rain events should push flows higher in the near future.
- Storage reservoirs have transitioned to the storage season along with balancing needs to meet seasonal in-stream demands.

# DROUGHT CONDITIONS

The most recent update to the US Drought Monitor indicates some degradation of conditions in southeast Oregon. Over 92 percent of the state is in D0 (abnormally dry) conditions, close to 85 percent listed as in D1 (moderate drought), over 71 percent is listed as in D2 (severe drought) and almost 40 percent is in D3 (extreme drought).

## U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

**November 10, 2020**  
(Released Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	7.40	92.60	85.30	71.13	39.99	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 11-03-2020	6.81	93.19	86.44	72.12	41.05	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 08-11-2020	9.21	90.79	76.00	52.69	16.42	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 12-31-2019	2.40	97.60	24.46	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-29-2020	6.50	93.50	84.77	65.53	33.59	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 11-12-2019	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- 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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

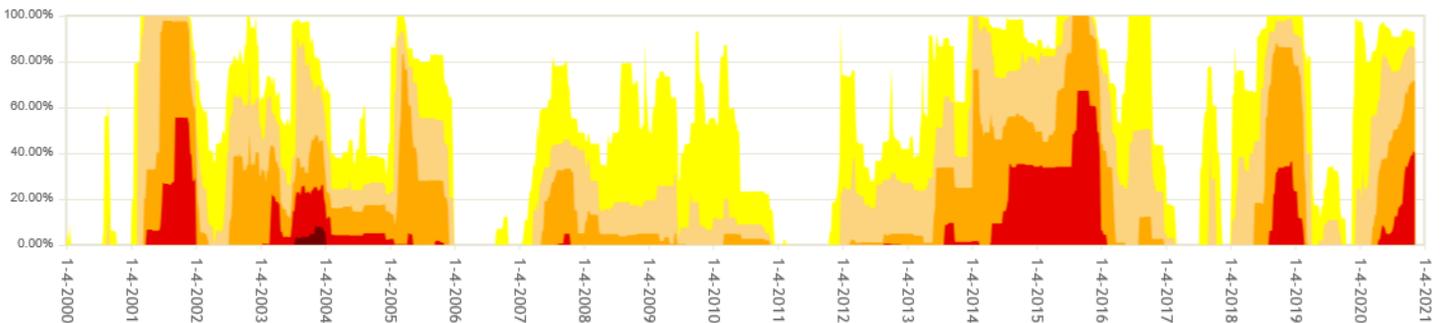
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CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



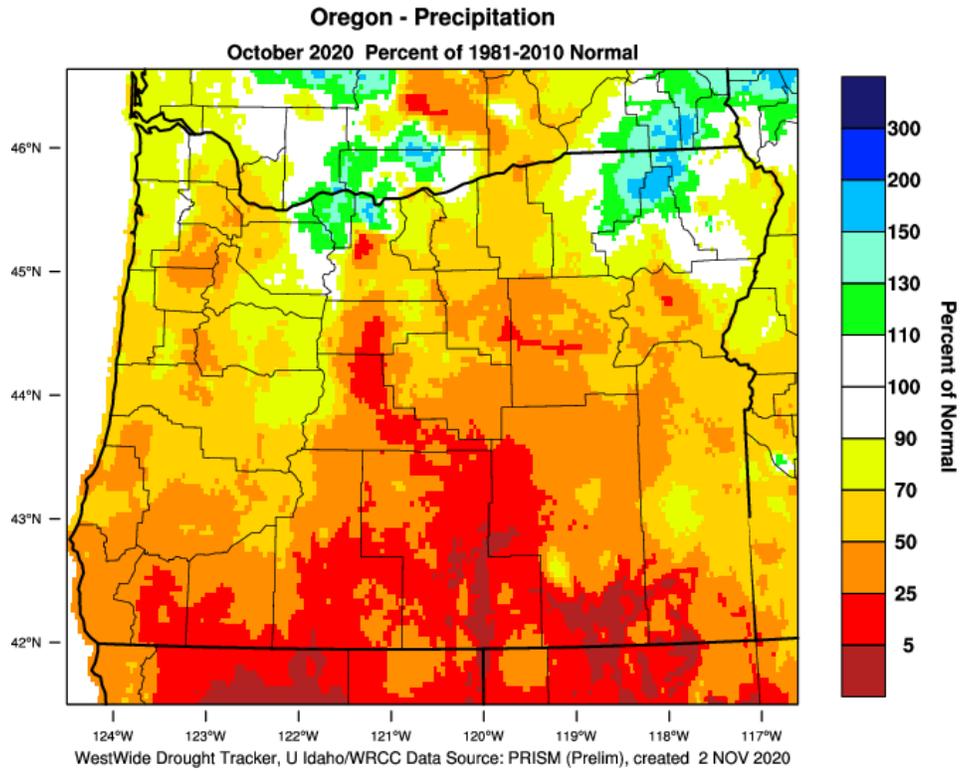
[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

### Oregon Percent Area

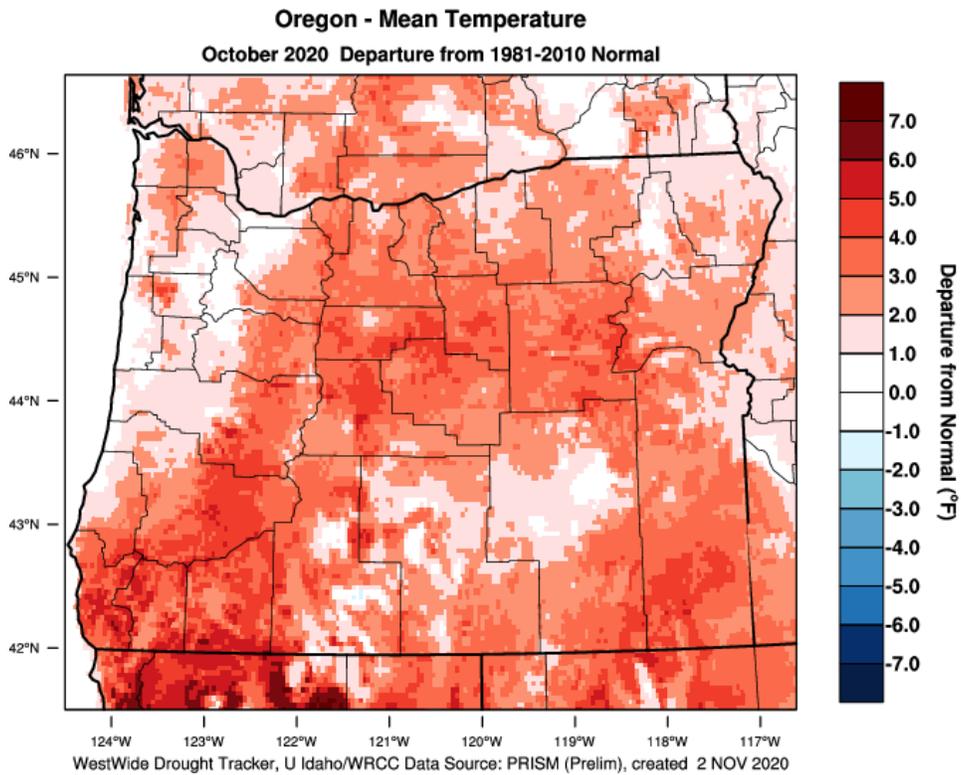


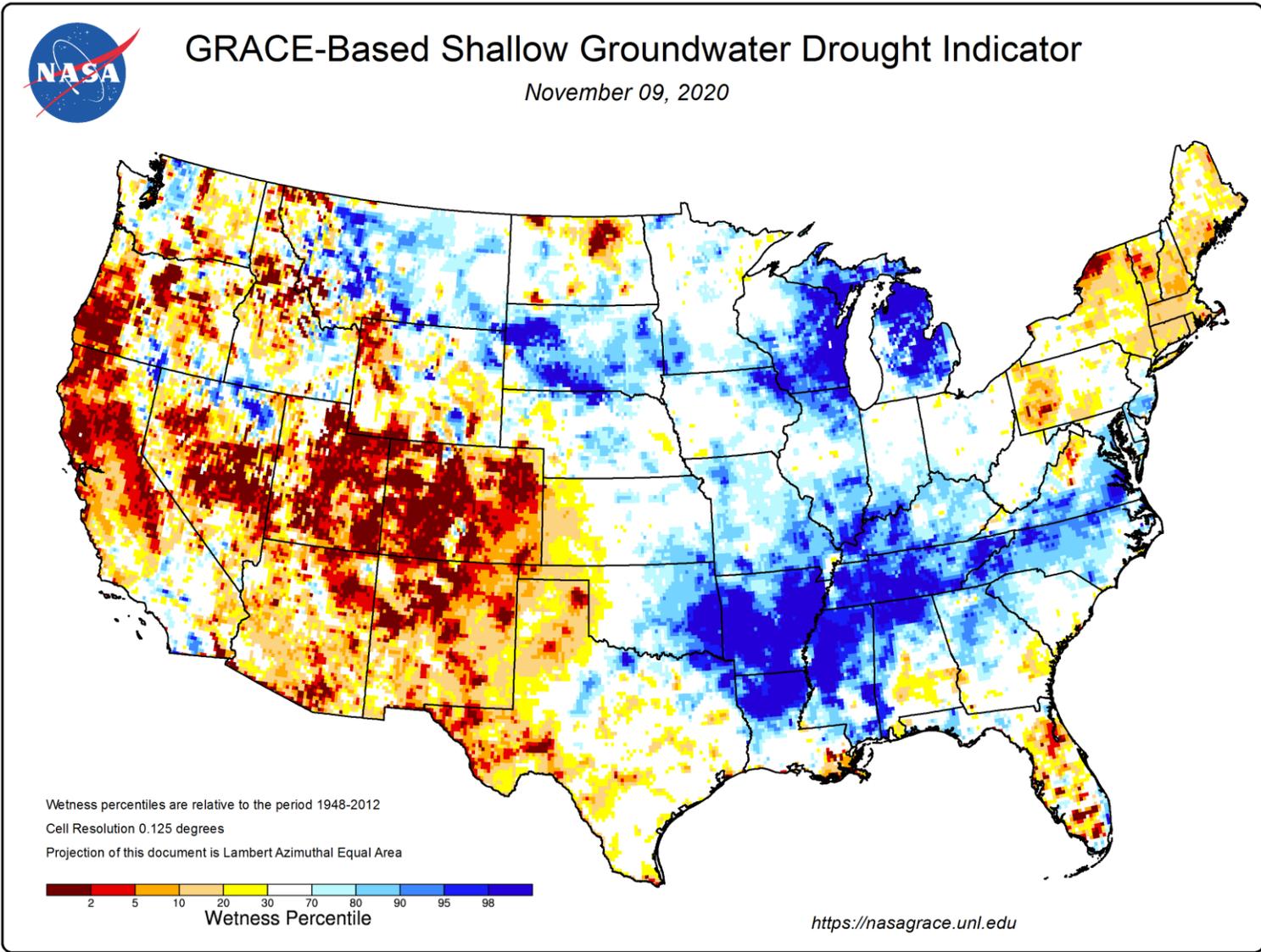
# CLIMATE CONDITIONS

## PRECIPITATION

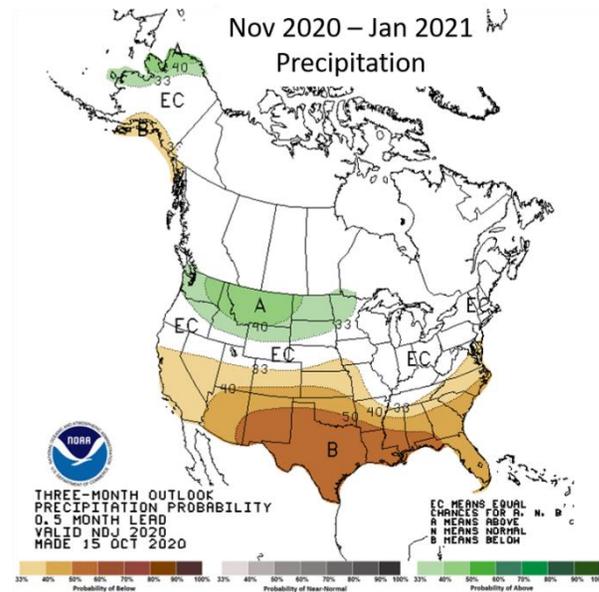
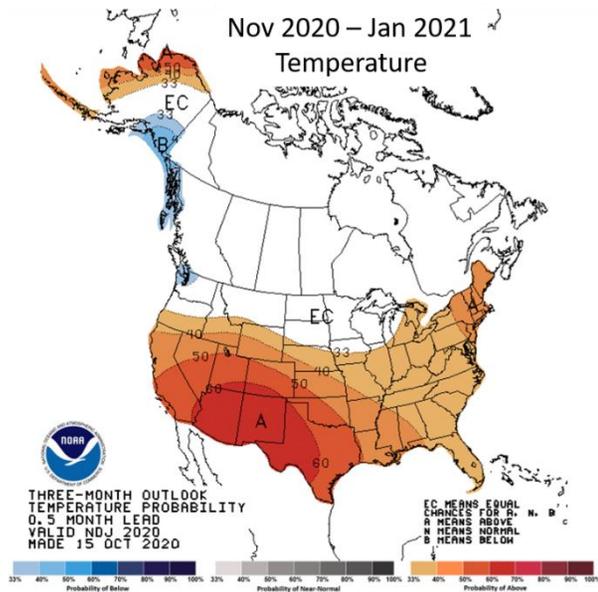
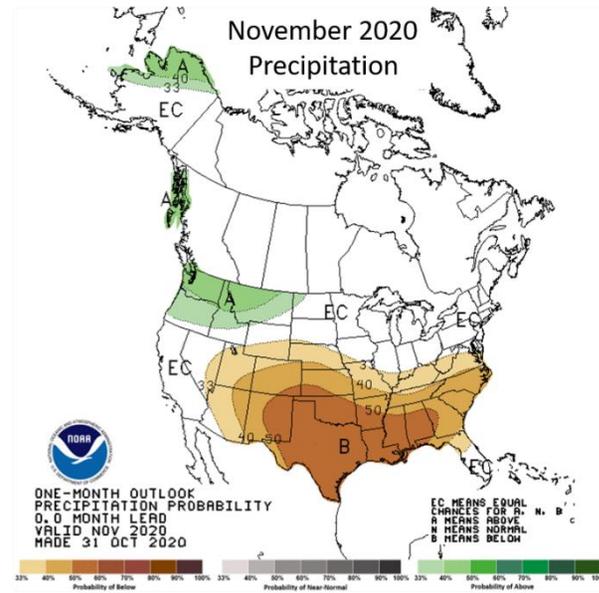
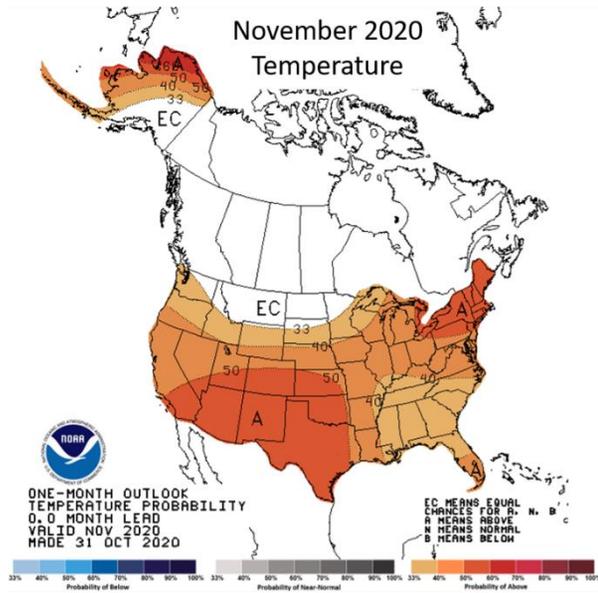


## TEMPERATURE

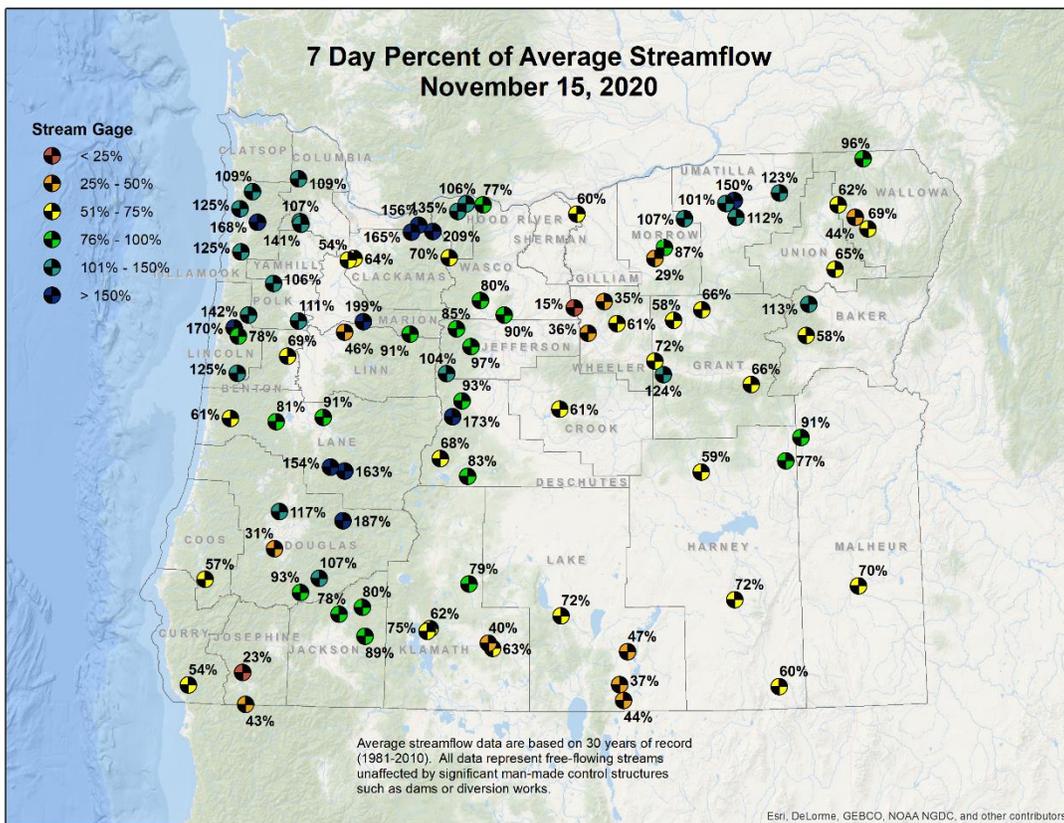
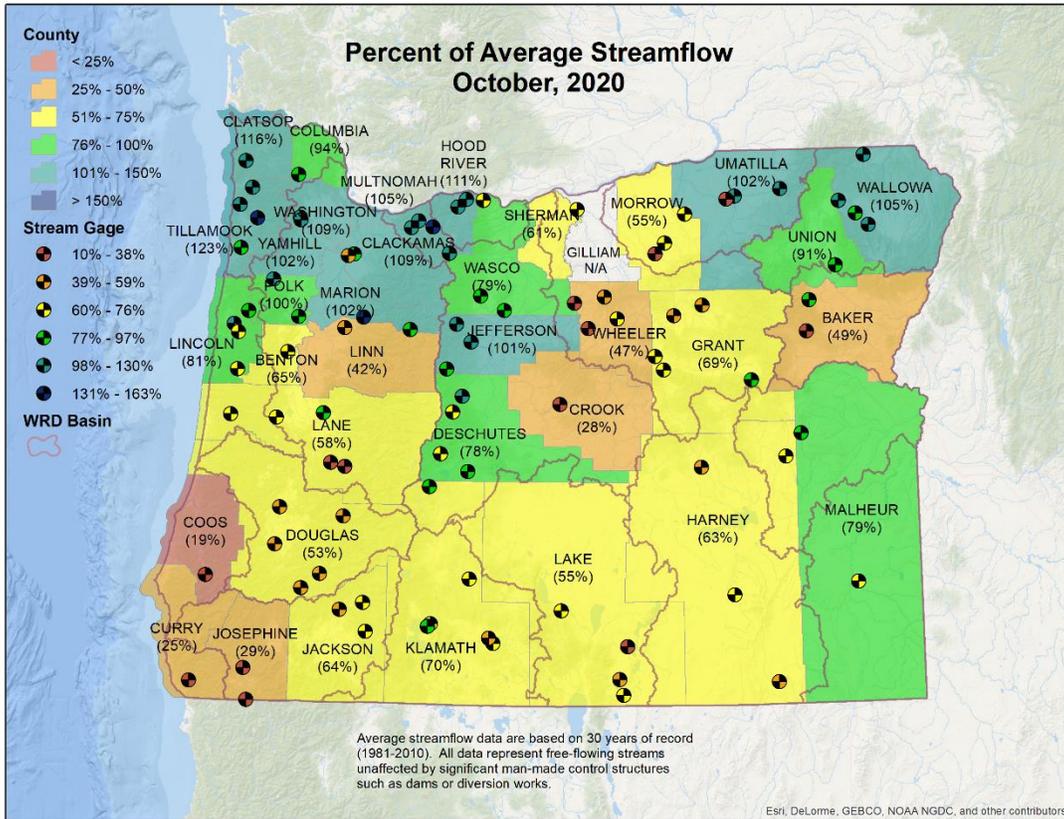




# CLIMATE OUTLOOK

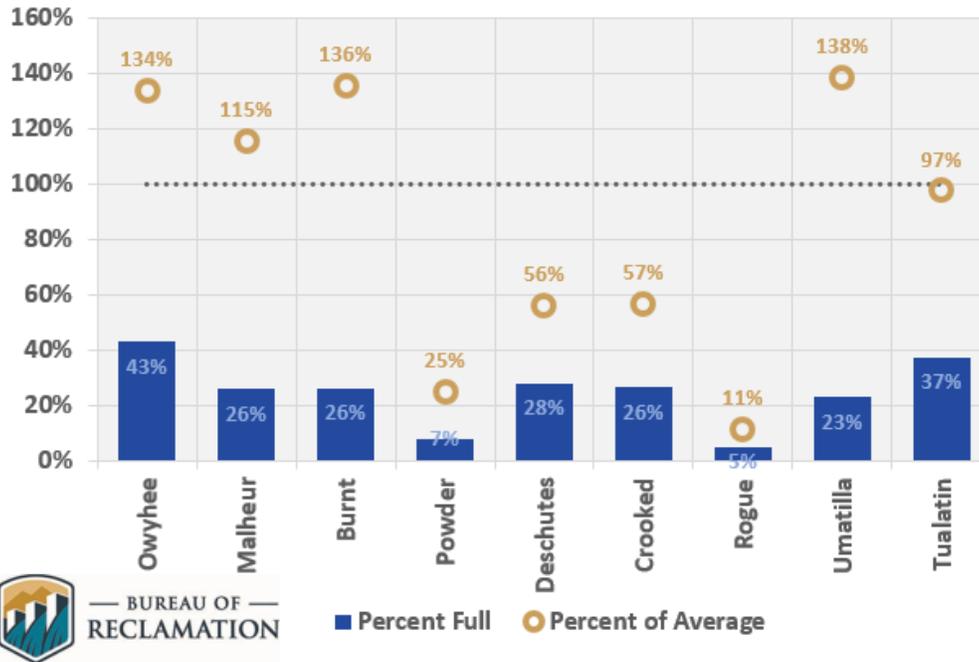


# STREAMFLOW

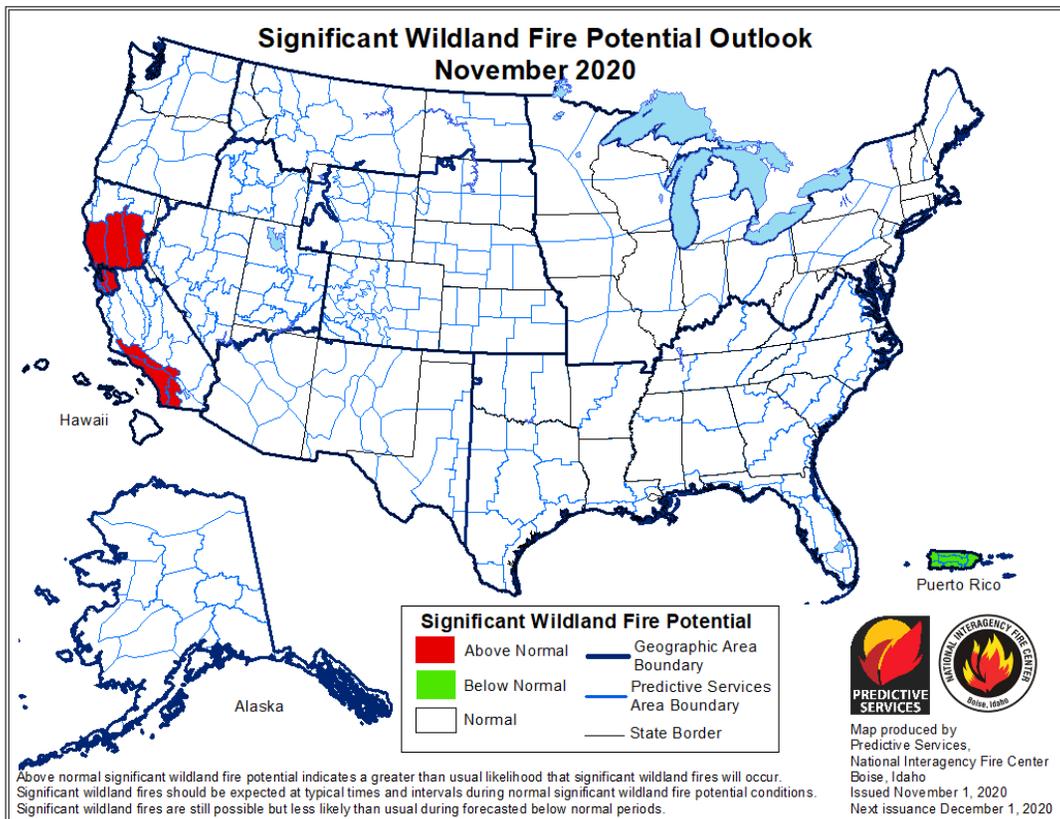


# STORAGE

## November 15 Reservoir Storage



# FIRE CONDITIONS



## RESOURCES / REFERENCES

Released every Thursday, the [US Drought Monitor](#) provides a weekly assessment of drought conditions. The USDM provides a [network infographic](#) which depicts the network of observers who gather and report information about conditions and drought impacts.

The [NRCS Snow Survey](#) Program provides mountain snowpack data and streamflow forecasts for Oregon and the western United States.

The [WestWide Drought Tracker](#) uses data from [PRISM](#) to provide easy access to fine-scale drought monitoring and climate products, such as the figures depicting climate conditions within this report.

The National Weather Service's [Climate Prediction Center](#) offers [weekly](#), [monthly](#), and [seasonal](#) climate outlooks illustrating the probabilities of temperatures and precipitation.

The [Regional Climate Centers](#) (RCC) working with NOAA partners, deliver climate services at national, regional, and state levels. Climate [anomaly maps of Oregon](#) are updated daily at around noon PST.

NASA's [Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment](#) (GRACE) provide satellite-based observations of soil moisture conditions that are useful as drought indicators, helpful in describing current wet or dry soil conditions.

USGS [Water Watch](#) provides maps of real-time and average streamflow conditions at USGS sites throughout the state.

Reservoir storage "teacup" diagrams are offered by both the [US Bureau of Reclamation](#) and [US Army Corps of Engineers](#). The diagrams represent the level of fill in the reservoirs as both percent full and as a ratio of volume of water currently in the reservoir to the volume of water in the reservoir when it is full.

Oregon wildfire information can be found through [InciWeb](#) and the Oregon Department of Forestry's [Wildfire News](#), along with the [National Interagency Fire Center](#) which offers outlooks on the significant wildland fire potential.

Oregon Office of Emergency Management maintains a [hydrology/meteorology dashboard](#) which shows state and local drought declarations, as well as hosts many of the data sources to generate this report. Use the selection arrows at the bottom of your browser to navigate through the various sources.

US Department of Agriculture provides the [Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin](#) as a vital source of information on US and global weather, climate, and agricultural developments, along with seasonally appropriate agrometeorological charts and tables. USDA's [Drought Programs and Assistance](#) offers links to programs and resources to help those struggling with persistent drought.