

Oregon Water Conditions Report



November 2nd, 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

Over 98% of Oregon is classified as experiencing moderate (D1) to exceptional (D4) drought conditions according to the [US Drought Monitor](#). A [special edition drought status update](#) was released by the [National Integrated Drought Information System](#) to explain how the recent atmospheric rivers will impact drought conditions.

[October precipitation](#) measured average to above average throughout much of Oregon. Much of southern Oregon received well above average precipitation, including a [portion of southeastern Oregon](#) which measured the wettest October on record (1895 - 2010).

[Temperatures throughout October](#) were variable across the state. Western Oregon experienced cooler temperatures than the long-term average. Temperatures in much of eastern Oregon were near the long-term average, with some exceptions, including Malheur County, which experienced above average temperatures.

[Surface soil moisture profiles](#) range from average to above average throughout much of the state. [Root zone and shallow groundwater profiles](#) continue to lag behind in terms of wetness.

[Monthly](#) and [seasonal](#) climate outlooks show similarities in their forecasts. The November forecast favors above average precipitation and near average temperatures nearly statewide - above average temperatures are favored in eastern Oregon. The three-month seasonal outlook favors near average temperatures and above average precipitation nearly statewide - near average precipitation is favored in southwestern Oregon.

[October streamflows](#) were variable throughout the state. Streams in northwestern and southwestern counties benefitted from precipitation due to recent atmospheric river events. Counties in central Oregon measured below to well below average streamflow. See below for more information including recent 7-day average streamflows.

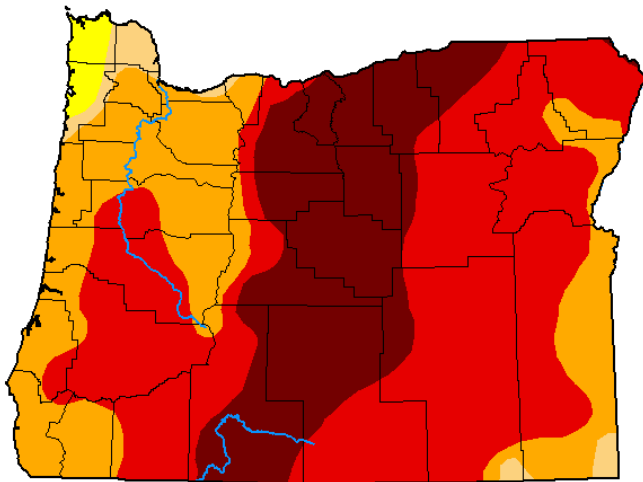
Many [USBR](#) and [USACE](#) reservoir systems throughout the state are measuring well below average storage contents, including those in the [Klamath Basin](#). See below for more information

DROUGHT CONDITIONS

The US Drought Monitor indicates over 98% of Oregon is experiencing drought conditions. There have been no major changes to drought coverage or severity over recent weeks.

U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

October 26, 2021
(Released Thursday, Oct. 28, 2021)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	98.66	96.55	72.11	25.34
Last Week 10-19-2021	0.00	100.00	98.64	96.55	72.10	25.34
3 Months Ago 07-27-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.67	71.18	24.28
Start of Calendar Year 12-28-2020	8.57	91.43	83.53	68.71	27.74	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-28-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	96.47	72.10	26.59
One Year Ago 10-27-2020	6.89	93.11	86.44	70.73	39.05	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>

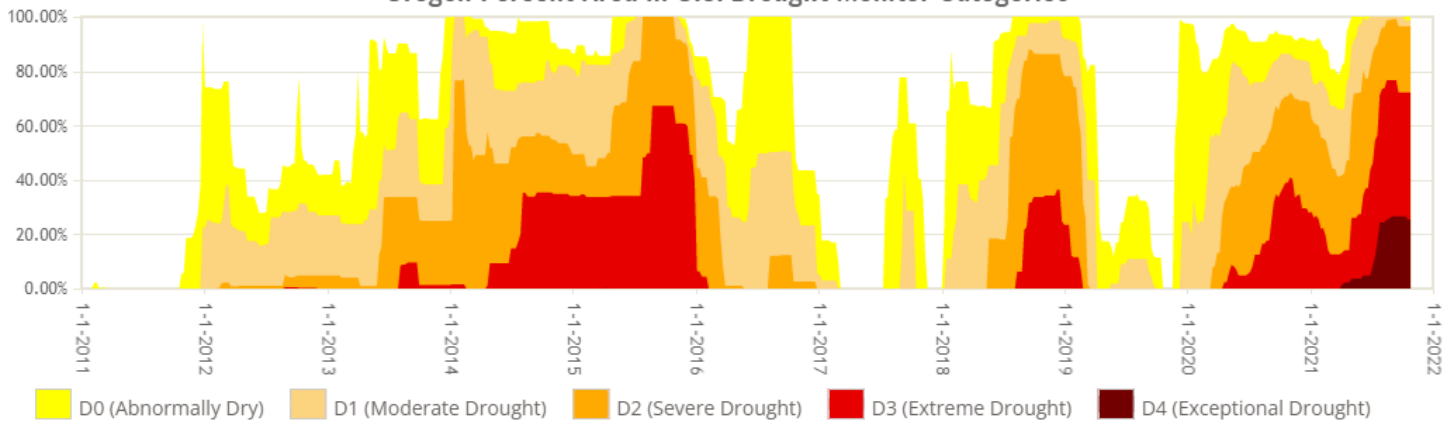
Author:

Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA



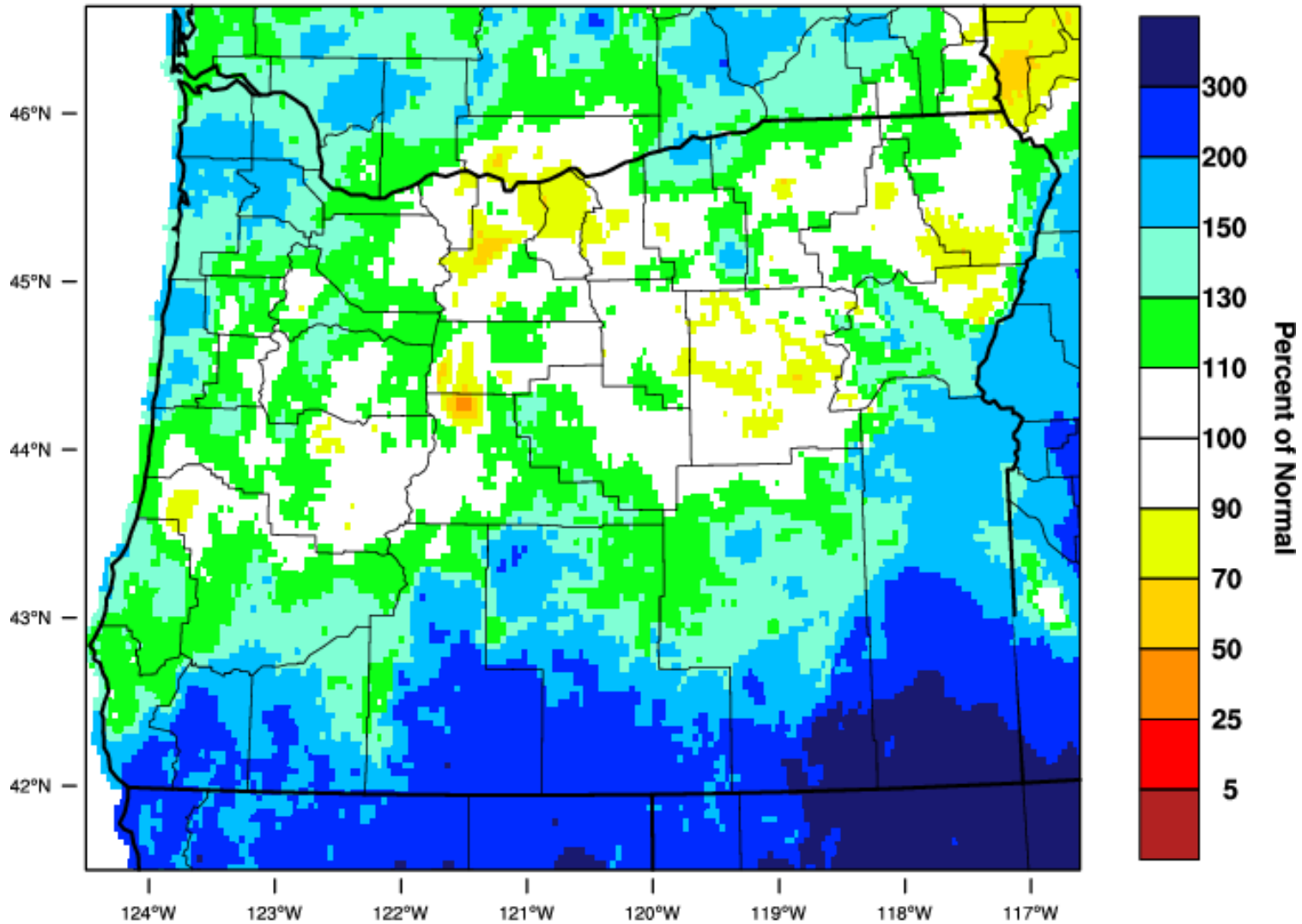
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Oregon Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories



Oregon - Precipitation

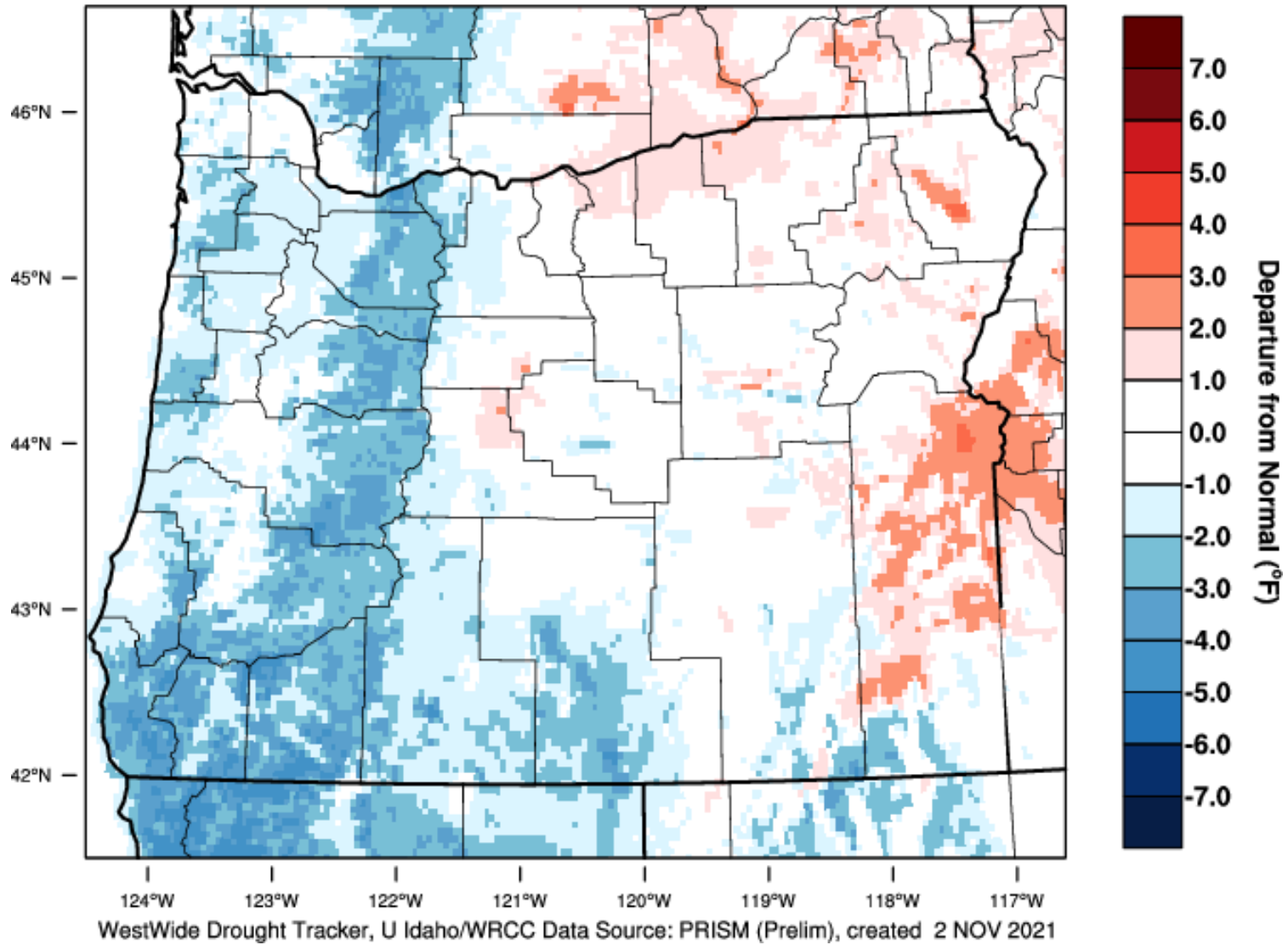
October 2021 Percent of 1981-2010 Normal



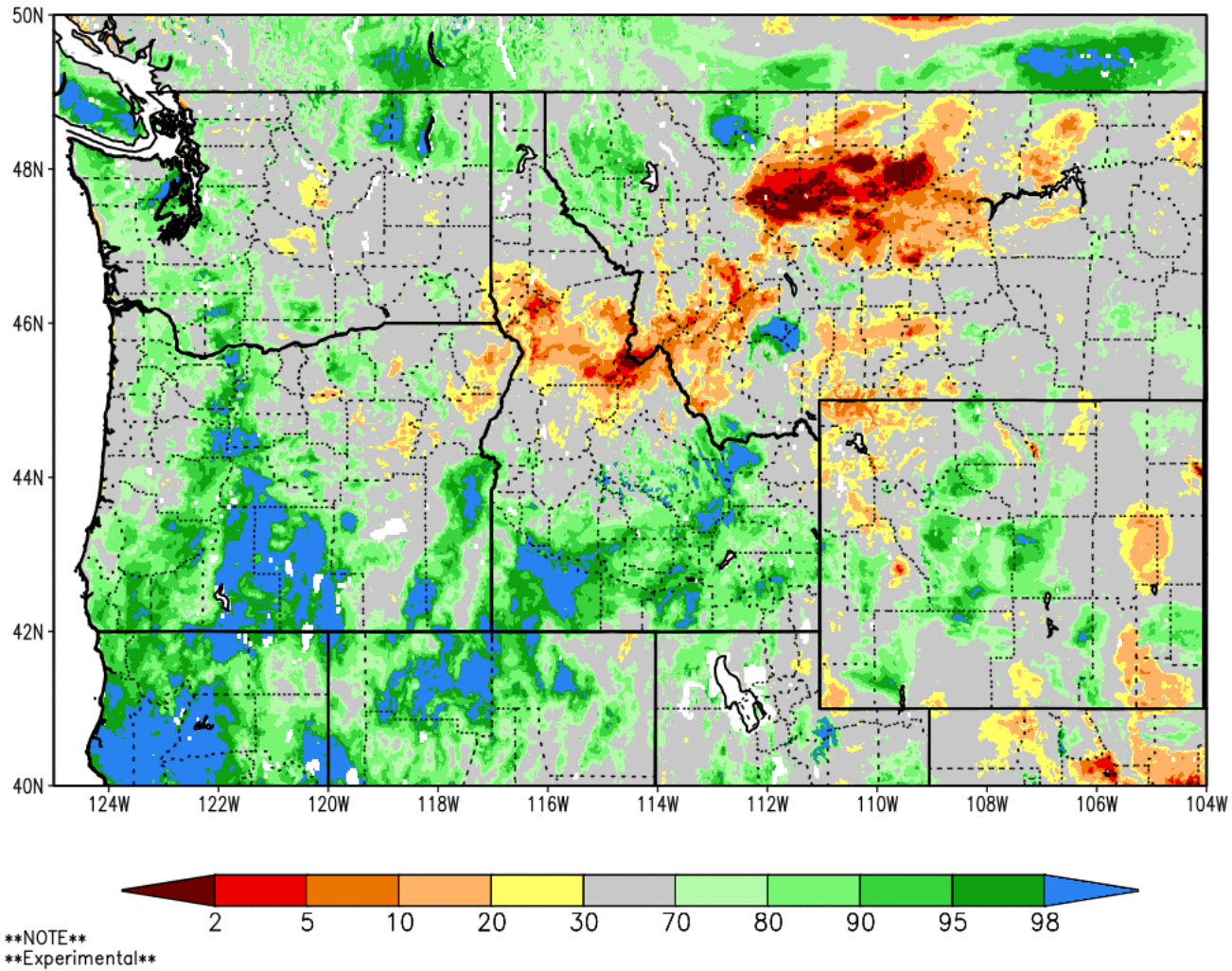
WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 2 NOV 2021

Oregon - Mean Temperature

October 2021 Departure from 1981-2010 Normal



SPoRT-LIS 0-10 cm Soil Moisture percentile valid 02 Nov 2021

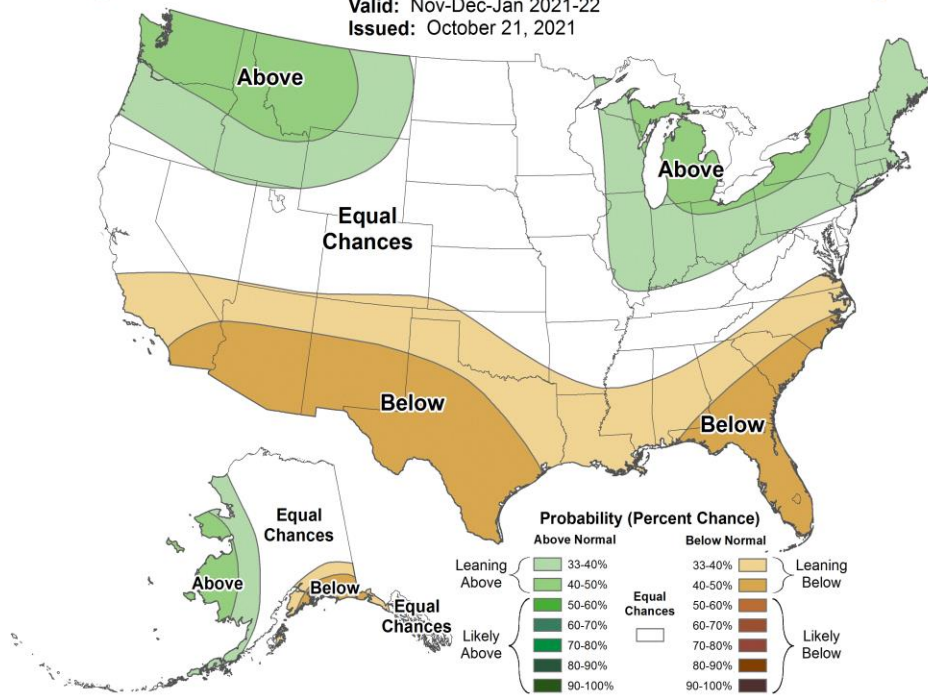




Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



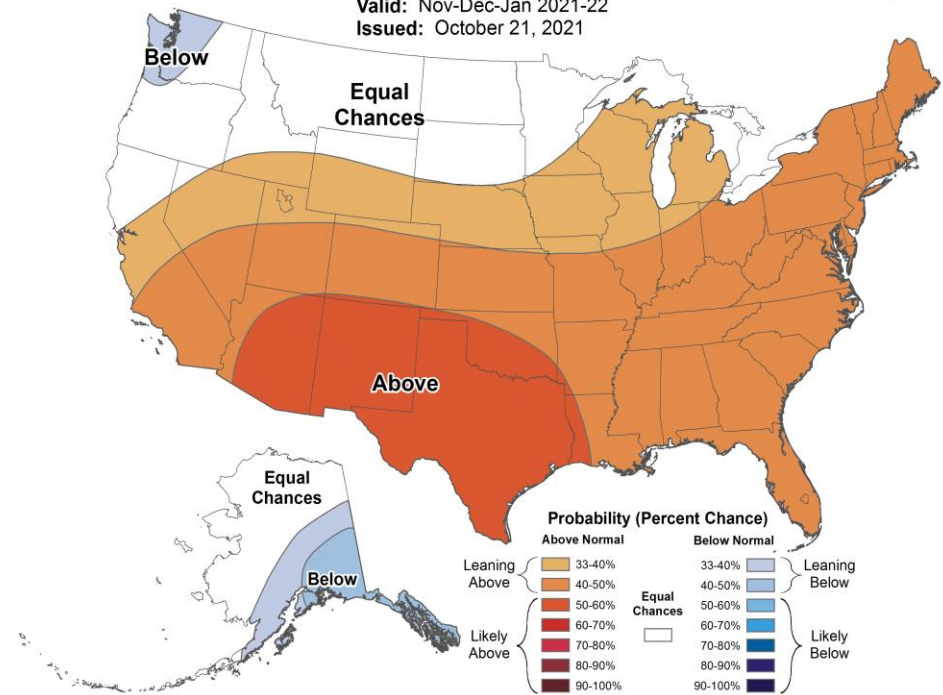
Valid: Nov-Dec-Jan 2021-22
 Issued: October 21, 2021



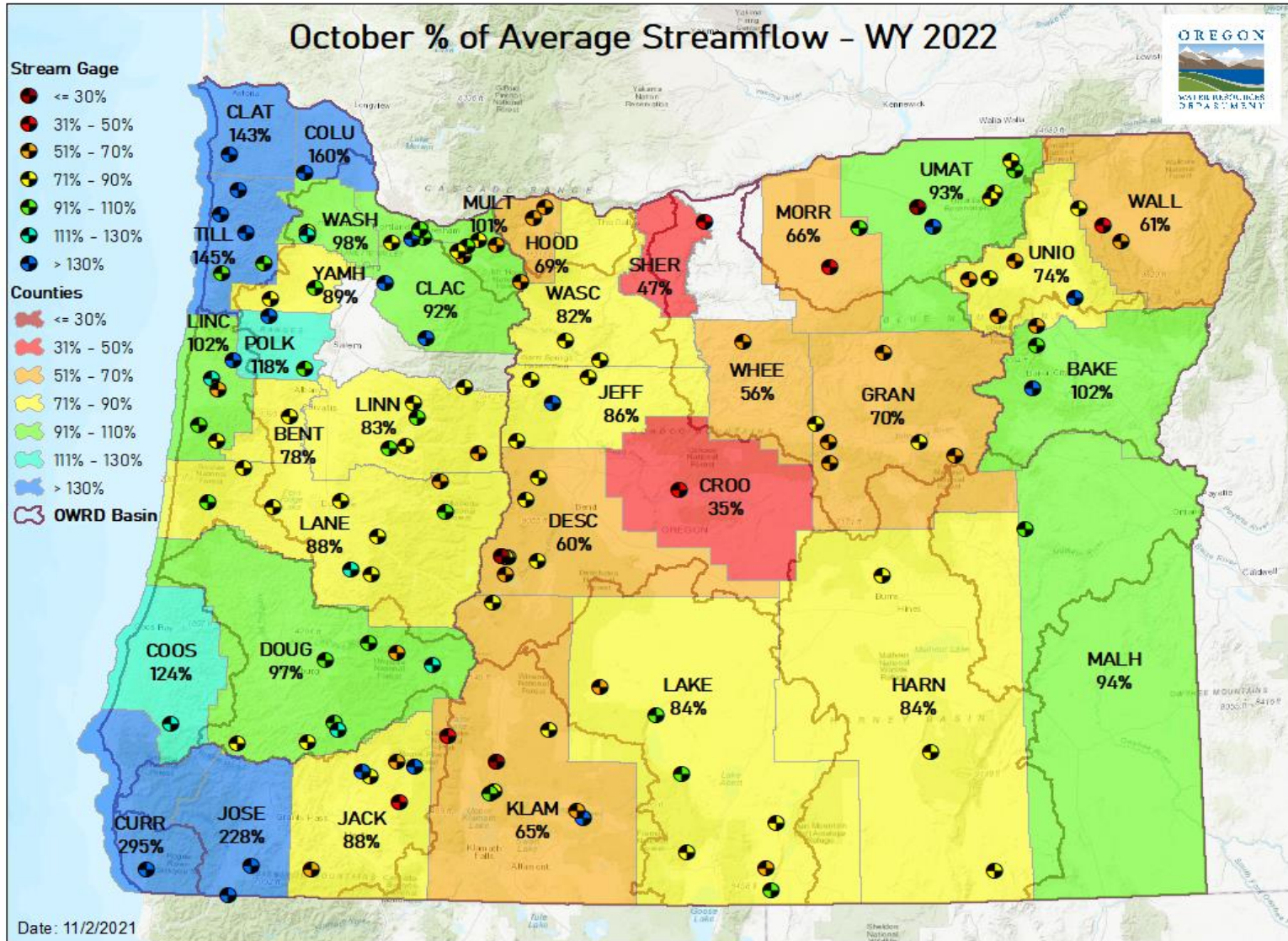
Seasonal Temperature Outlook

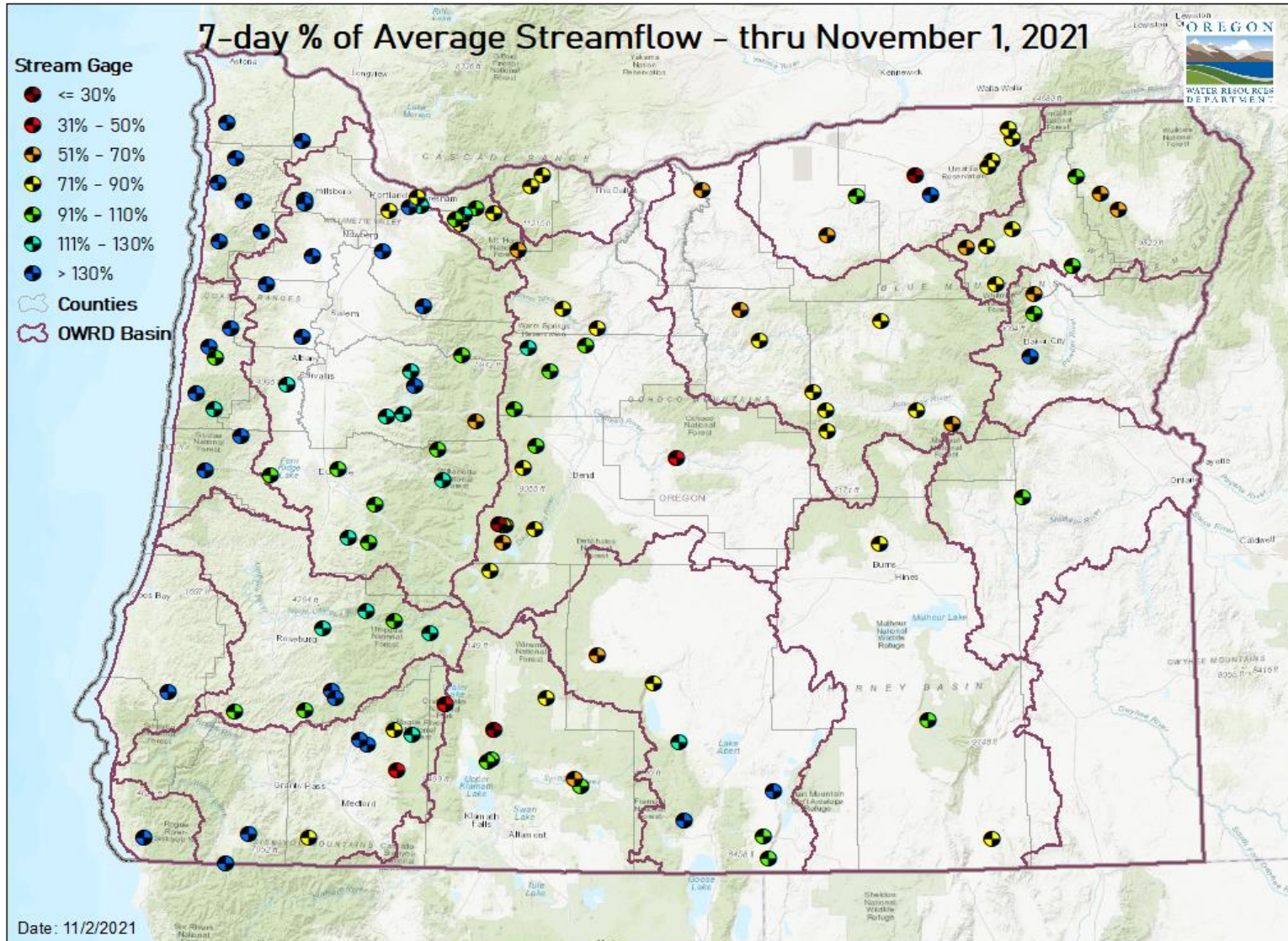


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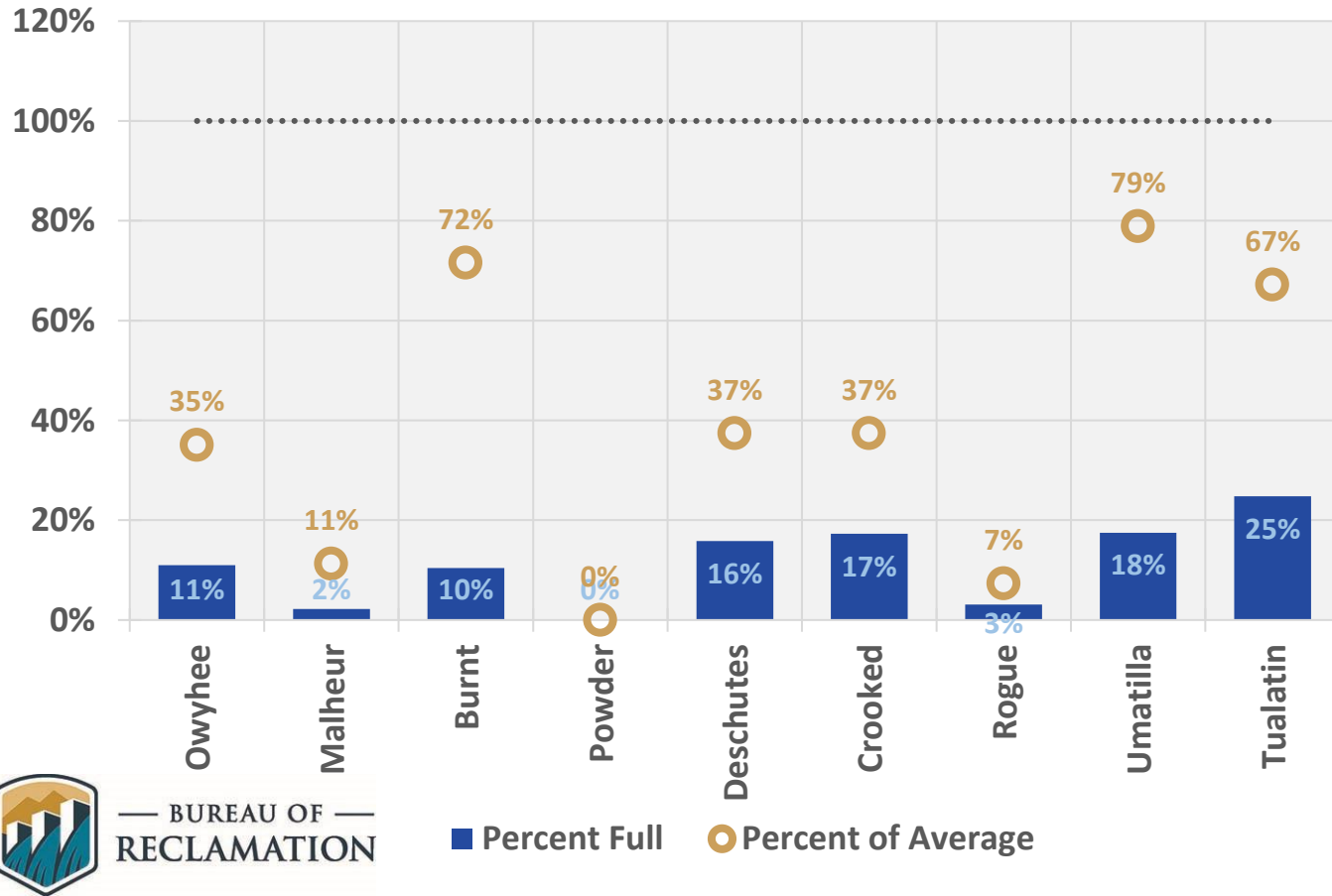


STREAMFLOW
OCTOBER





October 25 Reservoir Storage



RESOURCES/REFERENCES

Please visit [Oregon Water Resources Department's drought information page](#) to learn about current drought conditions, assistance programs, and potential drought tools.

If you are interested in submitting local drought-related conditions and impacts, please visit the [drought impacts toolkit](#) to learn more. [Click here](#) to visit the map of condition monitoring observer reports.

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 [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.