

Oregon Water Conditions Report



November 29th, 2021

HIGHLIGHTS

Over 98% of Oregon is classified as experiencing moderate (D1) to exceptional (D4) drought conditions according to the [US Drought Monitor](#). [Major change over recent weeks](#) consists of one-category reductions in drought severity in portions of western and north central Oregon.

[Snow water equivalent \(SWE\)](#) is measuring 29% of the long-term median at NRCS SNOTEL sites throughout the state. All basins are measuring well below the median. [SNOTEL precipitation](#) is measuring 101% of the long-term median statewide.

[Precipitation over the past two weeks](#) was well below average throughout the state. [Precipitation deficits](#) ranged between 0 - 1 inch below the long-term average in central and eastern Oregon and 1 - 5 inches in western Oregon.

[Temperatures over the past two weeks](#) were variable, although a majority of the state experienced warmer temperatures than usual. Temperatures in central and eastern Oregon typically ranged between 2 - 4 °F above the long-term average. Much of western Oregon temperatures were closer to normal.

[Shallow groundwater profiles](#) remain much drier than usual throughout much of the state, including portions of western, central, and eastern Oregon. Wetness percentiles of both root zone and surface soil moisture profiles have declined due to a recent lack of precipitation.

The [near-term climate outlook for the next 8 - 14 days](#) indicates probabilities favoring above average precipitation and above average temperatures throughout the state. [See the climate outlook for the month of December here.](#)

Streamflows over the past 7-day period are well below the long-term average statewide due to below average precipitation.

Reservoir storage contents are measuring well below average throughout the state in both [US Bureau of Reclamation](#) ([including Klamath Basin](#)) and [US Army Corps of Engineers](#) systems.

DROUGHT CONDITIONS

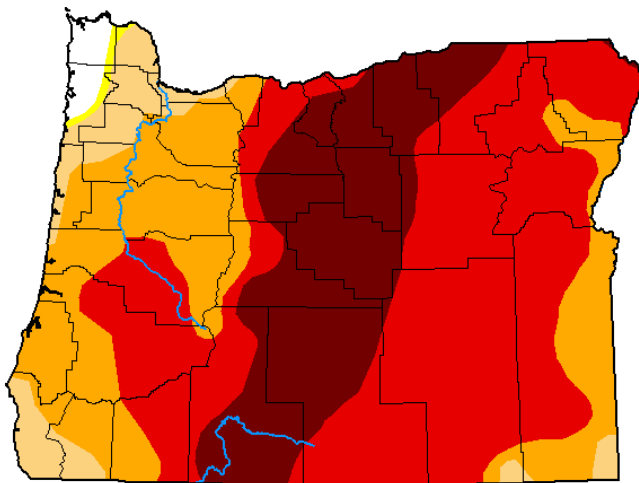
The US Drought Monitor indicates over 98% of Oregon is experiencing some form of drought conditions. Drought severity was reduced from severe (D2) to moderate (D1) in northwestern Oregon; extreme (D3) to severe (D2) in several western counties; and exceptional (D4) to extreme (D3) in portions of Wasco County.

U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

November 23, 2021
(Released Wednesday, Nov. 24, 2021)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	1.34	98.66	98.27	91.97	67.91	23.25
Last Week 11-16-2021	1.34	98.66	98.27	91.97	67.91	23.25
3 Months Ago 08-24-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	98.71	76.65	25.58
Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	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 11-24-2020	8.67	91.33	84.36	69.68	34.27	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>

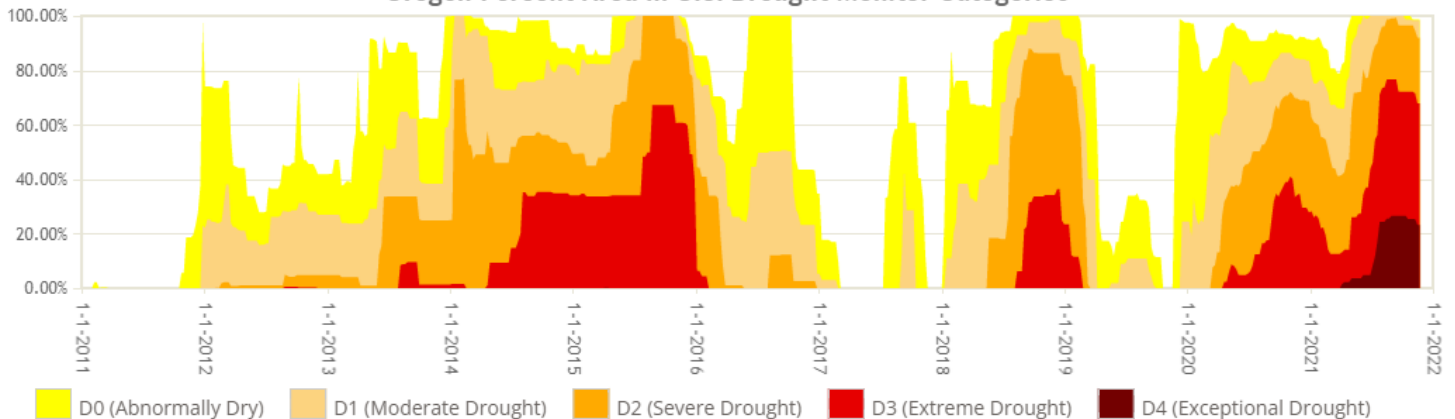
Author:

Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA

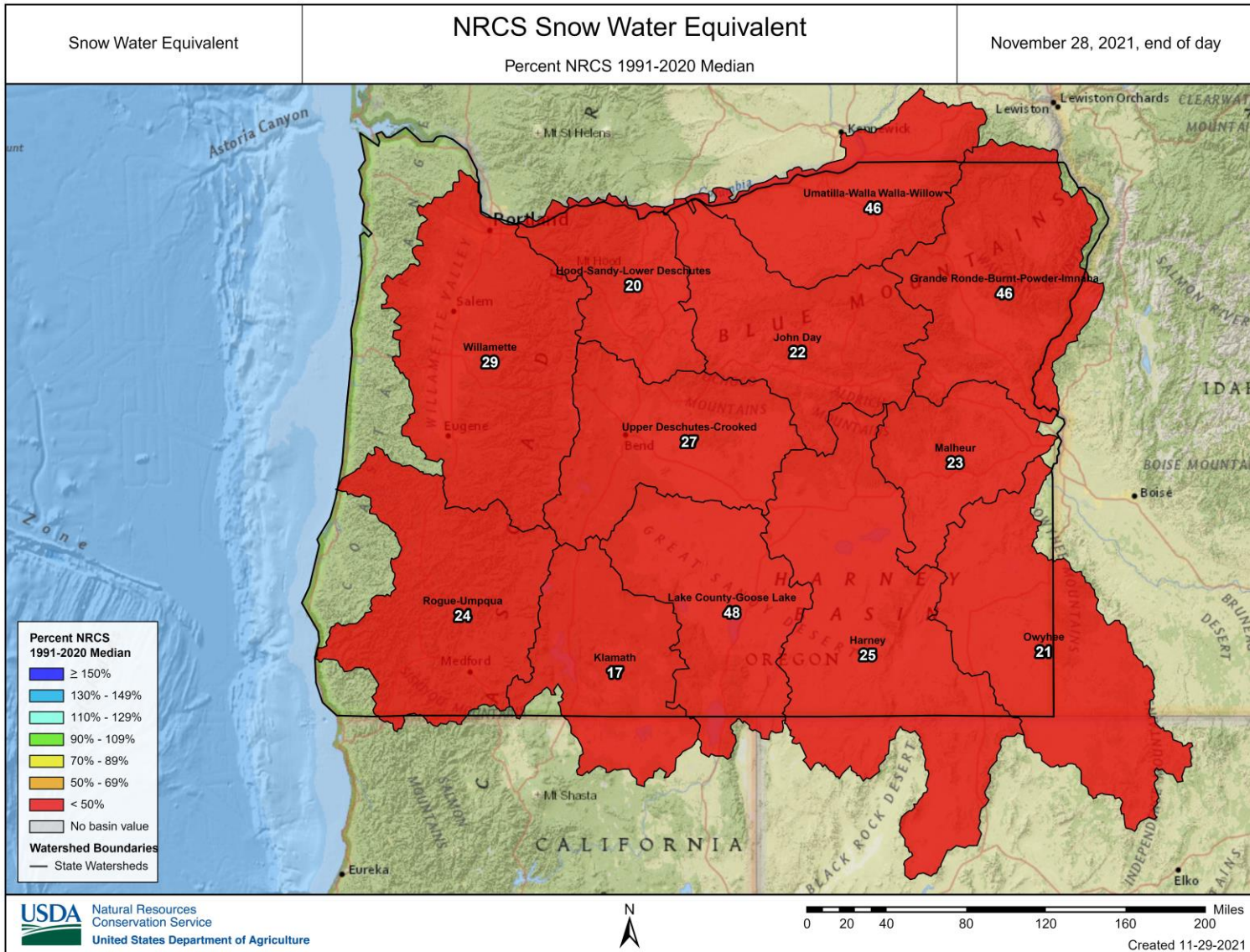


droughtmonitor.unl.edu

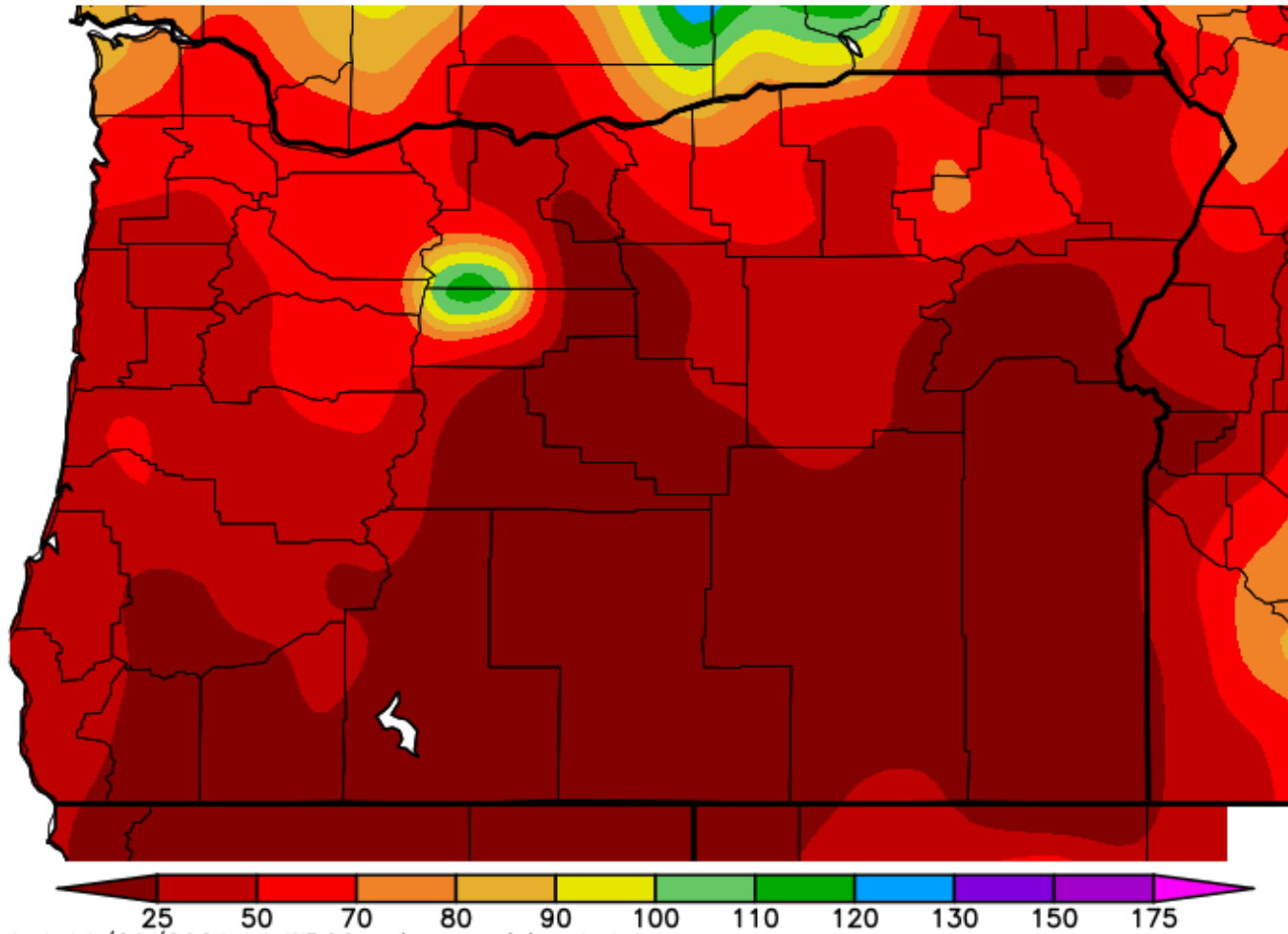
Oregon Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories



CLIMATE CONDITIONS
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT

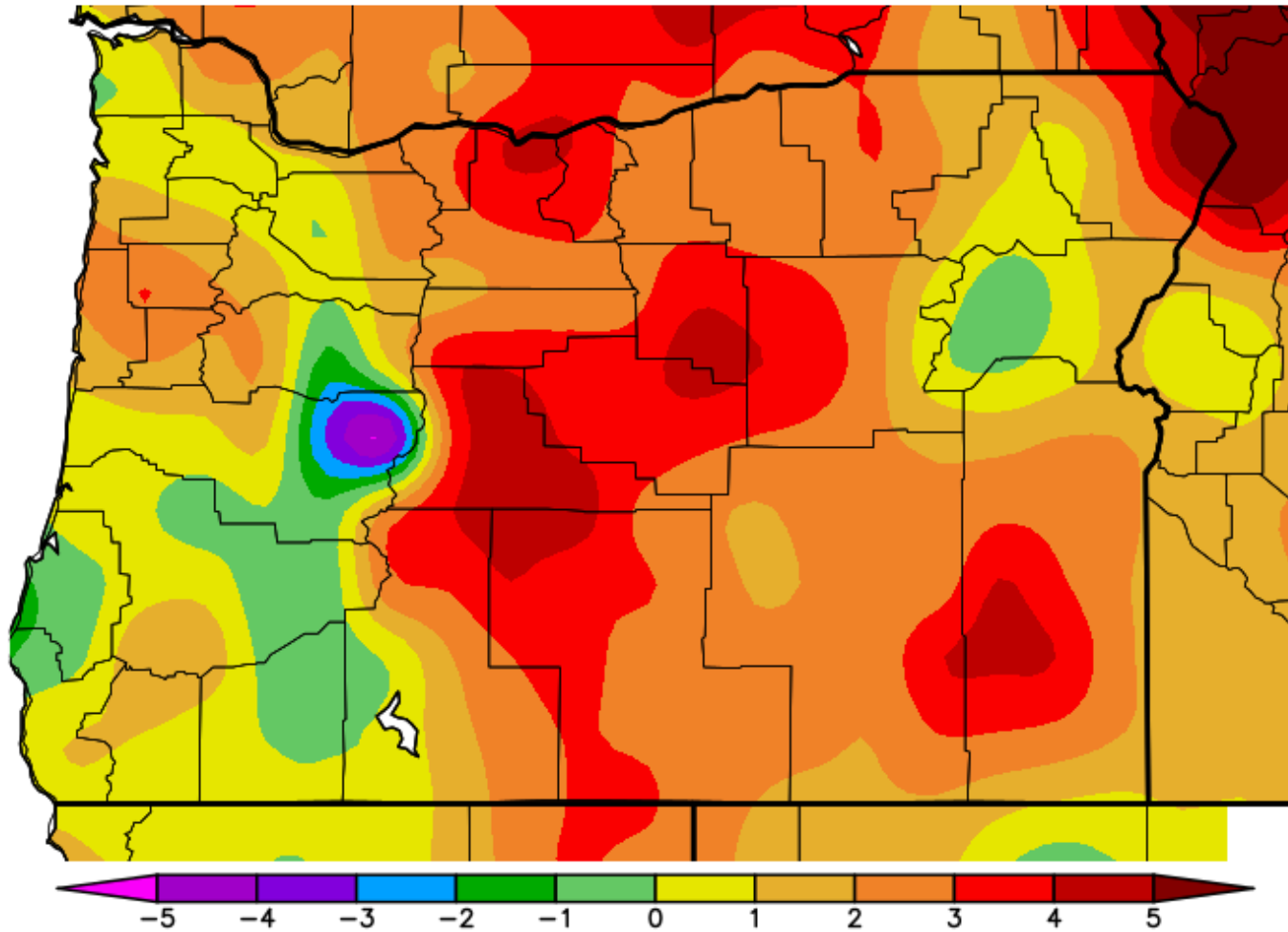


Percent of Average Precipitation (%) 11/15/2021 – 11/28/2021



Generated 11/29/2021 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Ave. Temperature dep from Ave (deg F)
11/15/2021 – 11/28/2021

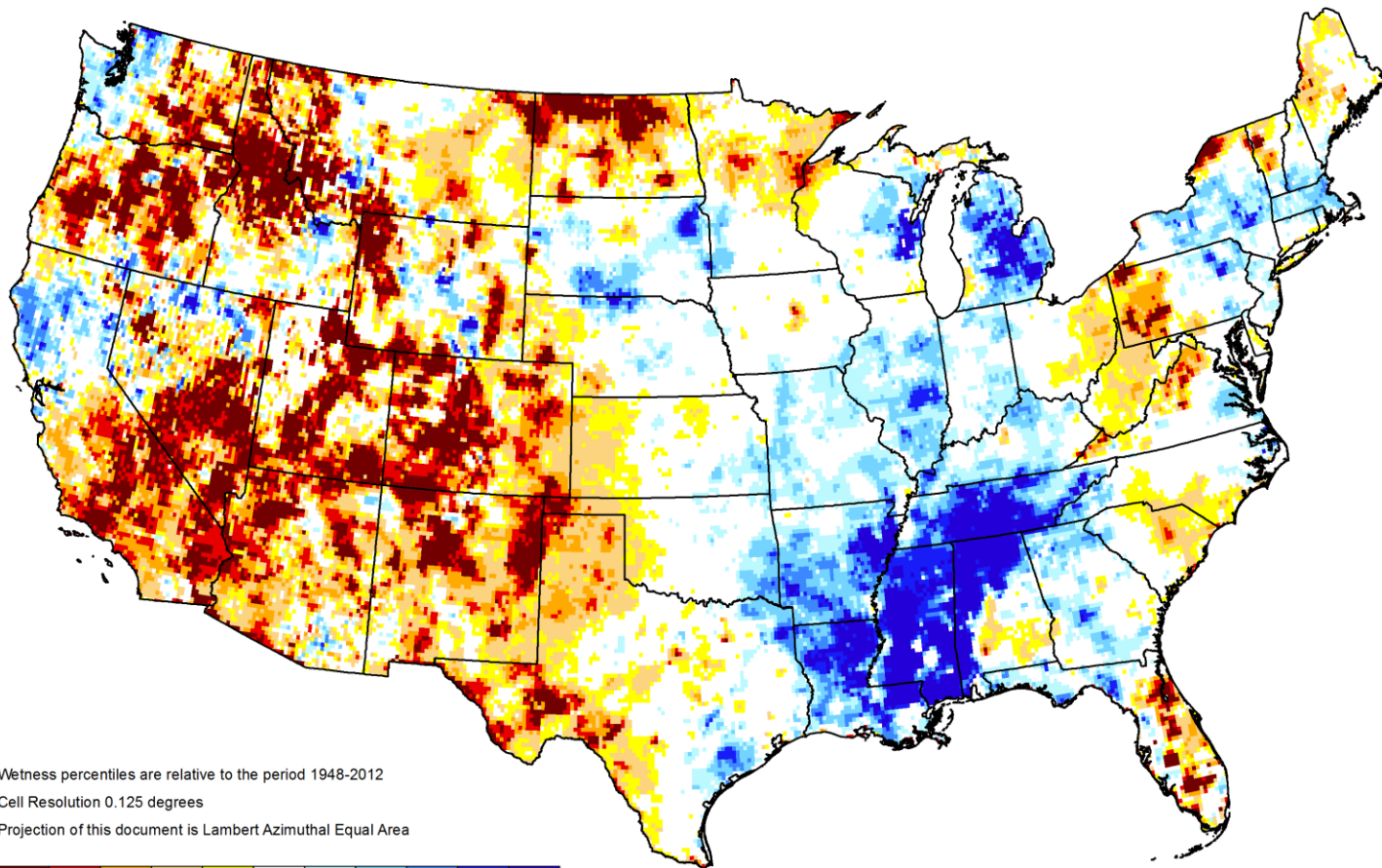


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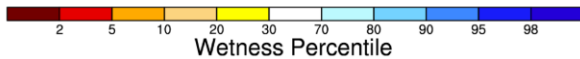


GRACE-Based Shallow Groundwater Drought Indicator

November 22, 2021



Wetness percentiles are relative to the period 1948-2012
Cell Resolution 0.125 degrees
Projection of this document is Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area

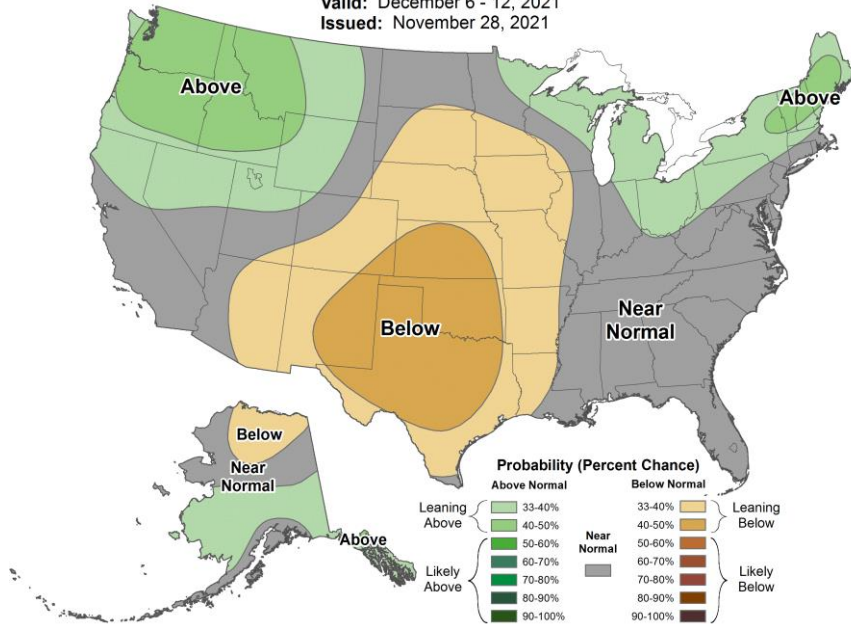


<https://nasagrace.unl.edu>



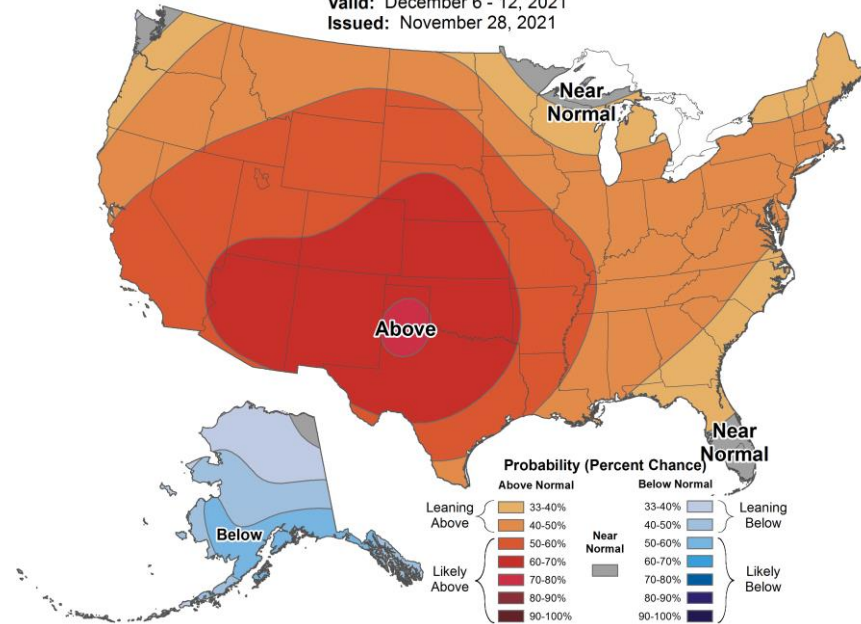
8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: December 6 - 12, 2021
 Issued: November 28, 2021



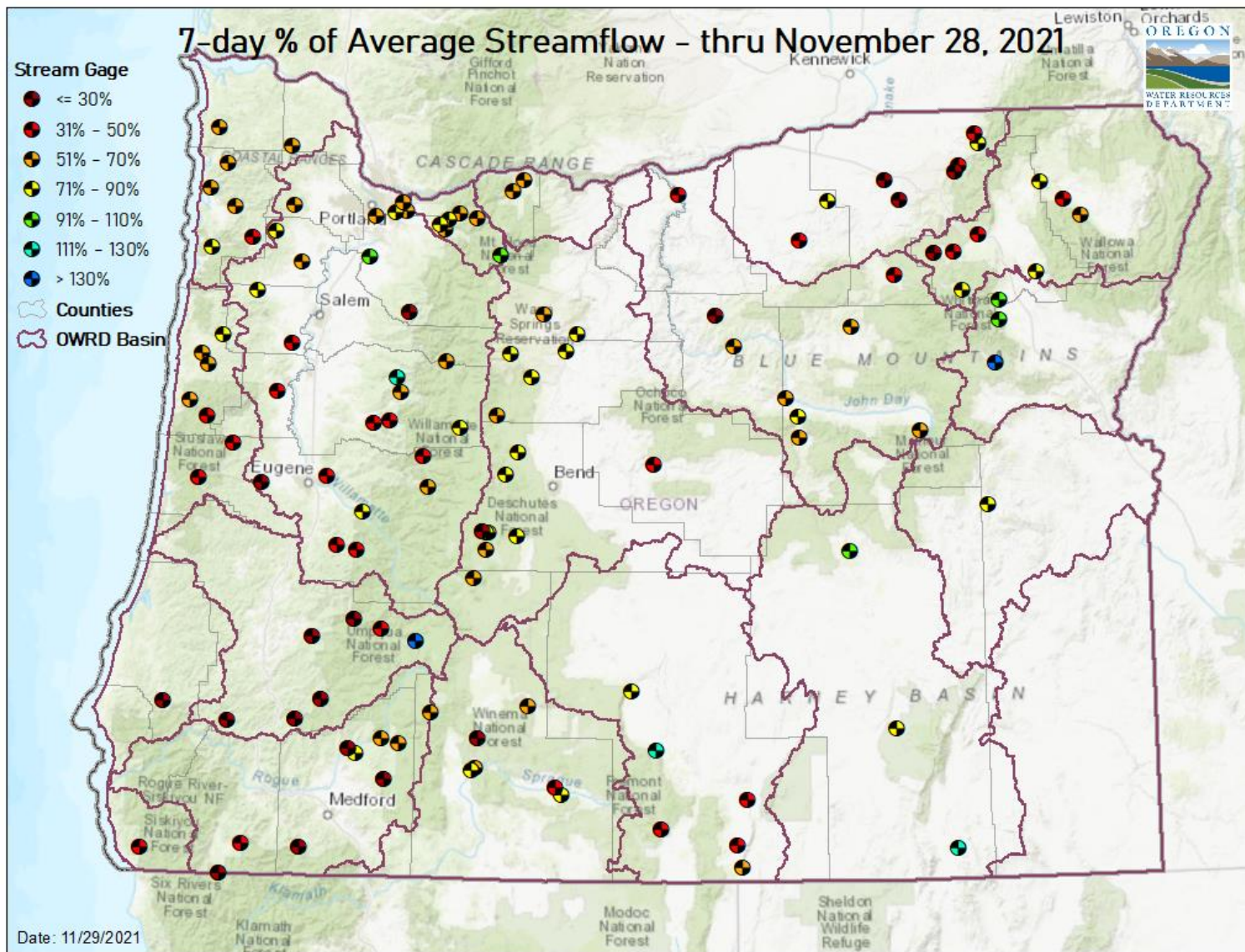
8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

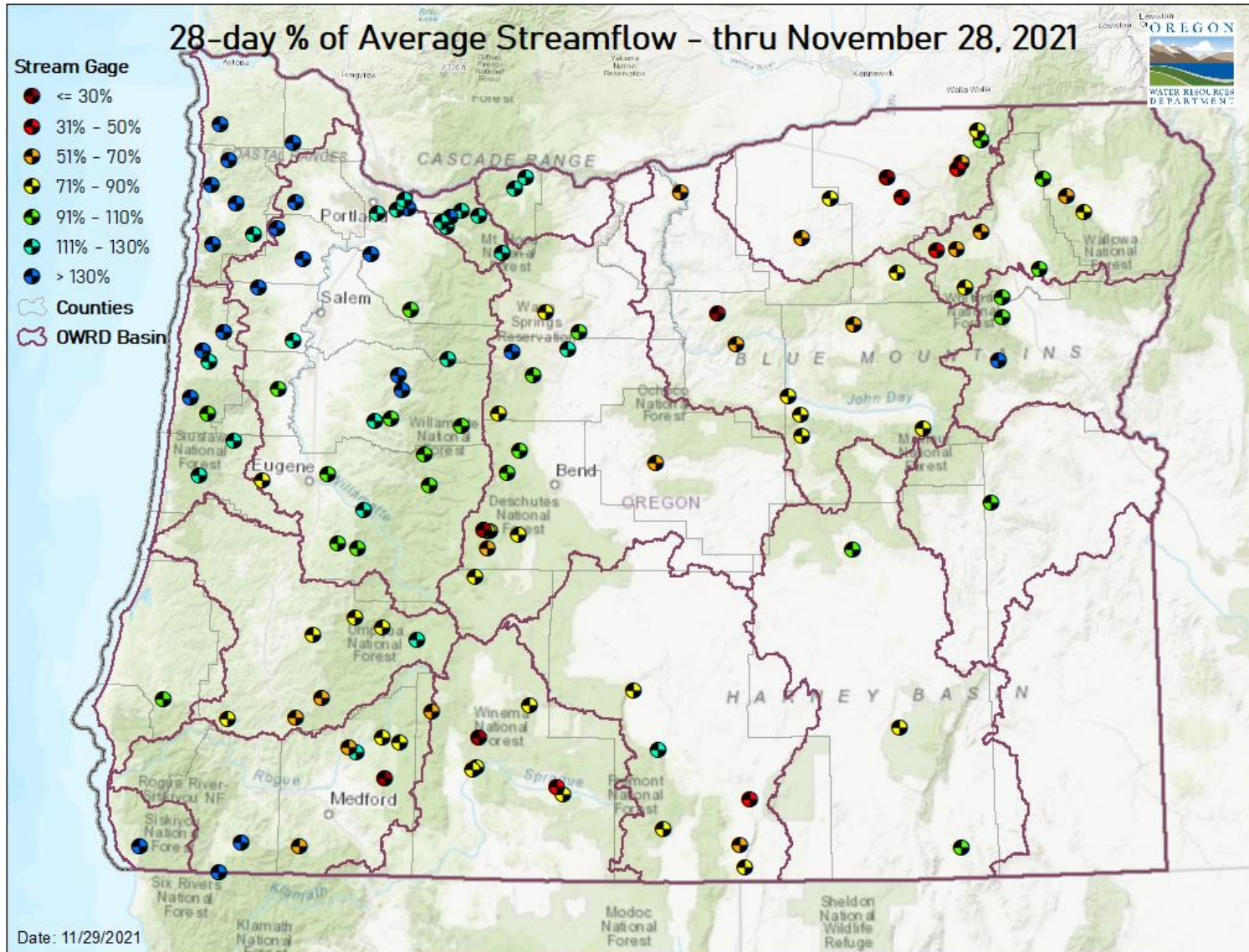
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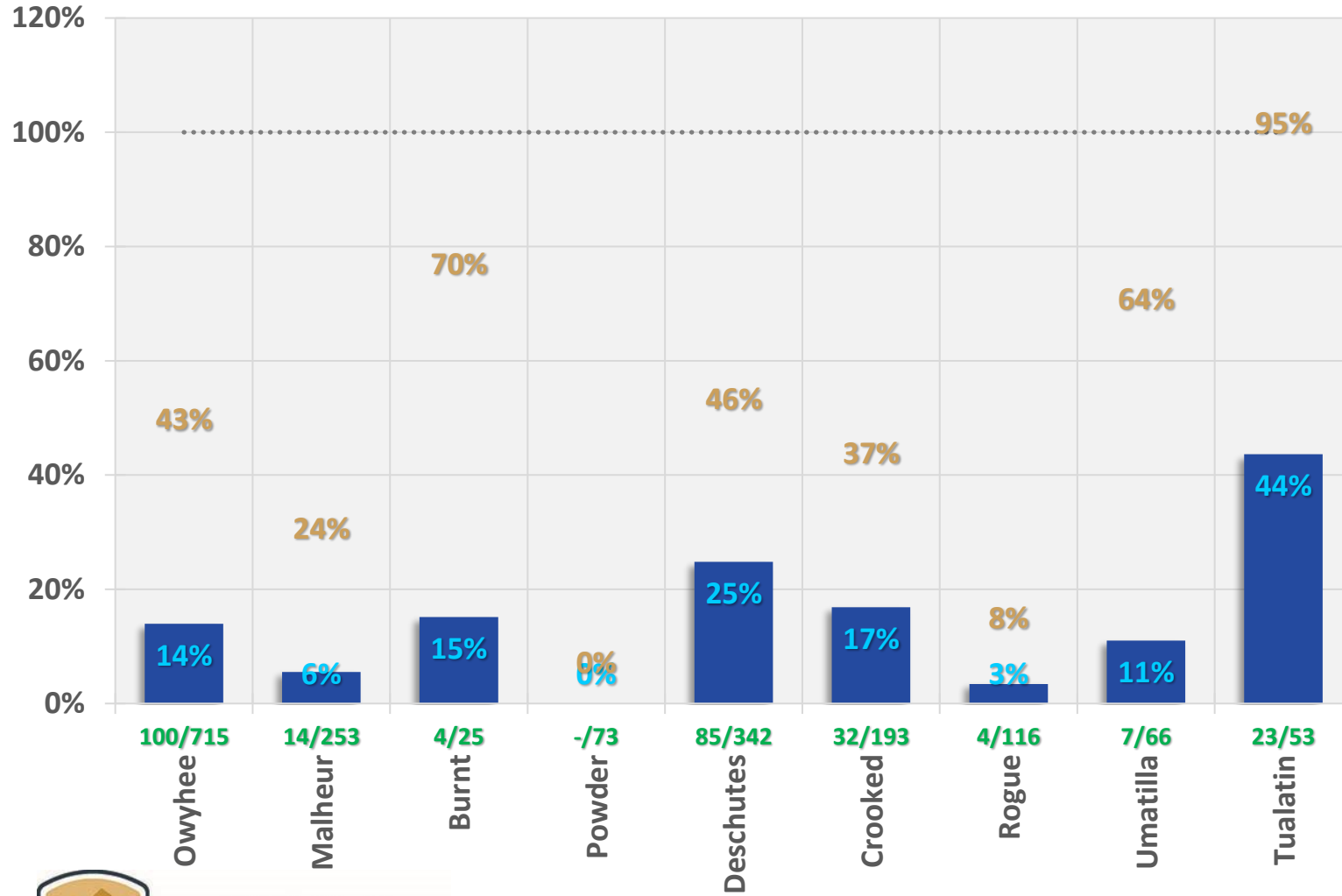
STREAMFLOW

7-DAY





Oregon Reservoir Storage (Nov 28 2021)



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

■ Percent Full (Active Storage)
 ● Percent of Average (Nov-28 '90-'20)

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.