Oregon Water Conditions Report

January 10th, 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

Over 89% of Oregon is classified as experiencing moderate (D1) to exceptional (D4) drought conditions according to the US Drought Monitor. A number of one-category improvements were seen across the state over recent weeks. See below for more information.

Statewide snow water equivalent is measuring 148% of the long-term median. All basins are measuring above to well above the median value (max = Hood-Sandy-Lower Deschutes @ 195%; min = Malheur @ 113%).

Precipitation throughout the month of December was variable across the state. Central Oregon measured below to well below average precipitation for the month. A majority of western Oregon received average to above average precipitation. Portions of NE and SE Oregon benefitted from well above average precipitation. Precipitation over the past two weeks was near the long-term average throughout the state. Statewide SNOTEL precipitation is measuring 113% of the median over the water year to date.

December temperatures were near to above average throughout much of Oregon, with exceptions in SW Oregon and along the coast. Temperatures over the past two weeks were below average throughout most of Oregon. Much of NE Oregon experienced temperatures at least 6 °F cooler than the long-term average. Recent temperatures in the Cascades were also below average.

The three-month climate outlook for February through April indicates probabilities favoring below average temperatures statewide, while precipitation is more variable. Above average precipitation is favored for the northern portion of Oregon, while near normal precipitation is likely for the rest of the state. The near-term outlook for the next 8 – 14-day period suggests above average temperatures and below average precipitation are likely.

Streamflows for the month of December were below to well below average throughout much of the state, with some exceptions in western Oregon and Wallowa County. More recently, 7-day average streamflows are well above average in throughout all of western Oregon. Streamflows in central and eastern Oregon are more variable. See USGS WaterWatch and below for more information.

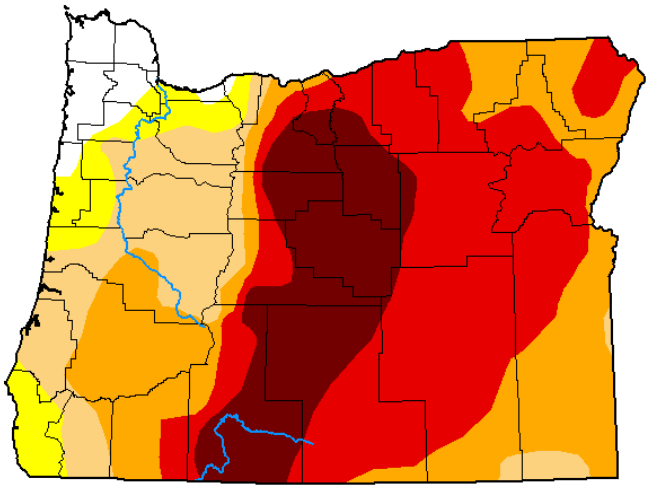
Reservoir storage contents continue to lag behind in many USBR (including Klamath) and USACE systems throughout the state.

DROUGHT CONDITIONS

The US Drought Monitor indicates over 89% of Oregon is experiencing drought conditions. Much of Curry County saw a one-category improvement to abnormally dry (D0) while similar improvements were seen in the mid-coast region. A number of one-category improvements were also seen in portions of western and eastern Oregon due to improvements in long-term drought indicators.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Oregon



January 4, 2022

(Released Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	4.16	95.84	89.75	75.37	50.84	17.27
Last Week 12-28-2021	2.95	97.05	93.89	75.89	57.92	18.52
3 Months Ago 10-05-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	96.47	72.10	26.59
Start of Calendar Year 01-04-2022	4.16	95.84	89.75	75.37	50.84	17.27
Start of Water Year 09-28-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	96.47	72.10	26.59
One Year Ago 01-05-2021	8.91	91.09	78.46	62.68	28.26	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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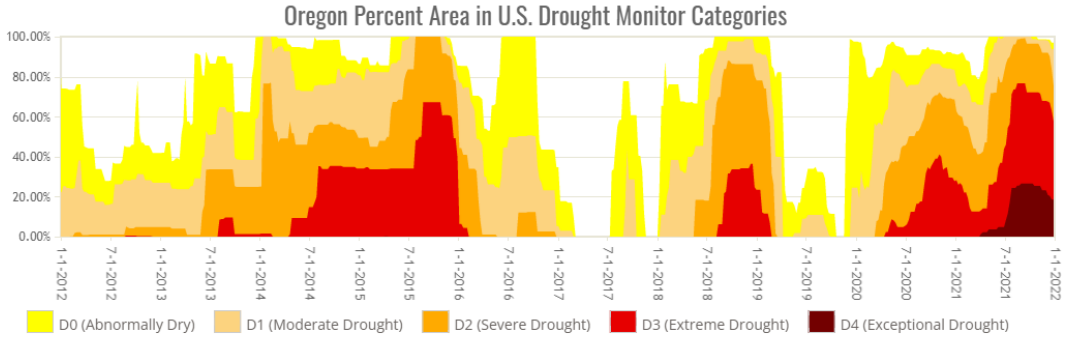
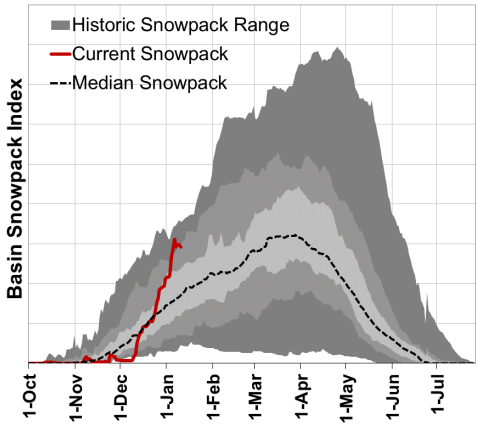
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

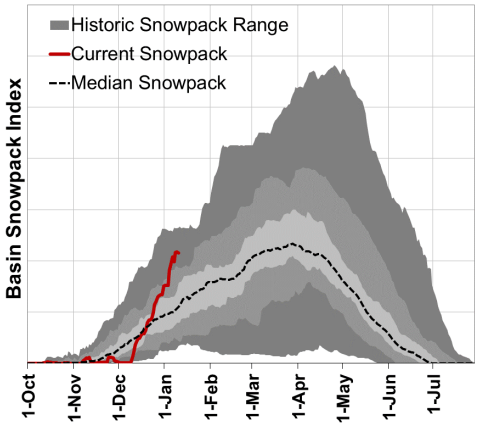


SNOWPACK

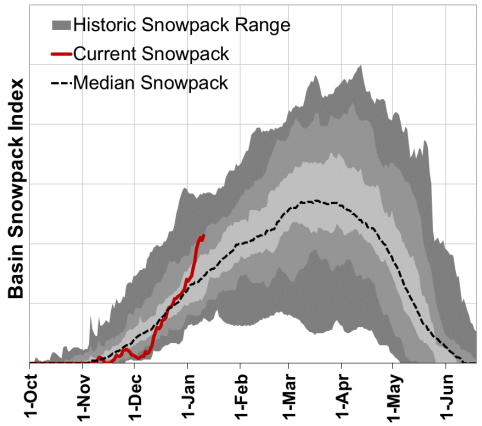
Willamette



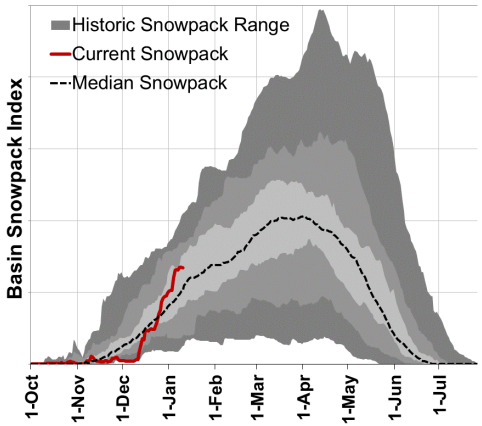
Hood-Sandy-Lower Deschutes



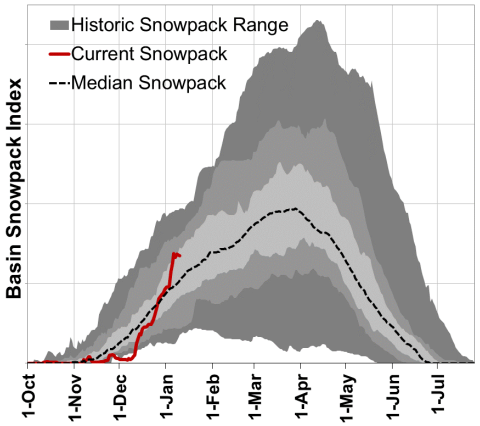
Umatilla-Walla Walla-Willow



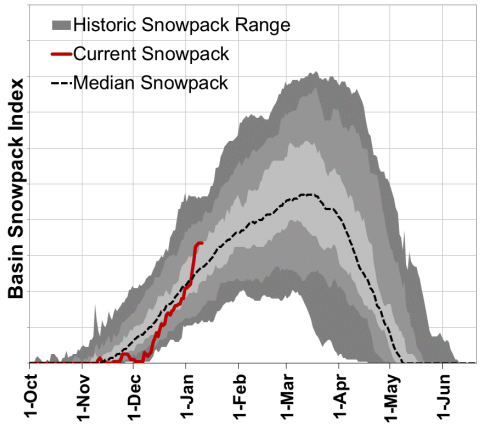
Rogue-Umpqua



Upper Deschutes-Crooked

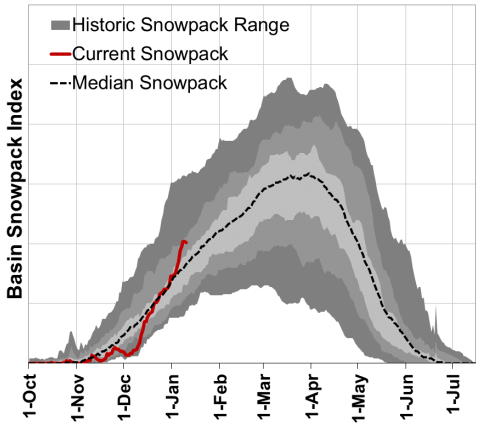


John Day

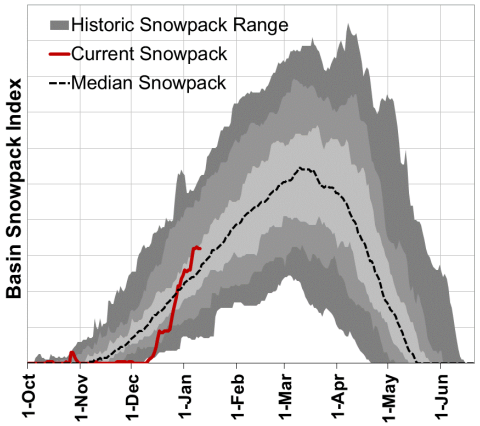


SNOWPACK

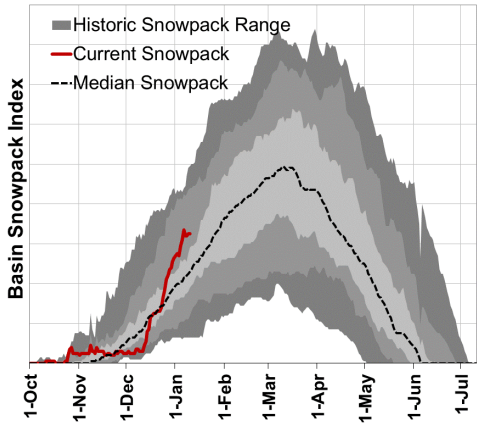
Grande Ronde-Burnt-Powder-Imnaha



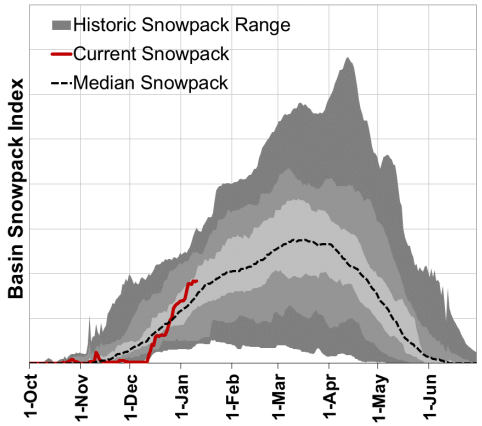
Owyhee-Malheur



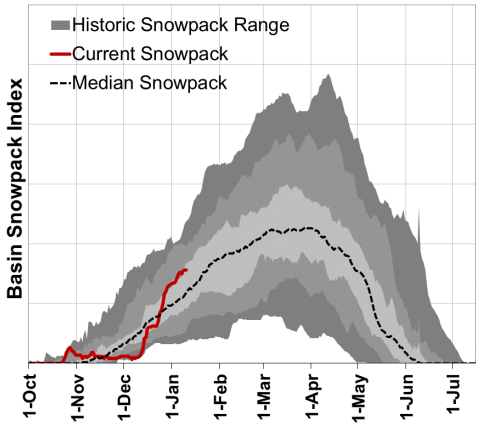
Harney



Klamath

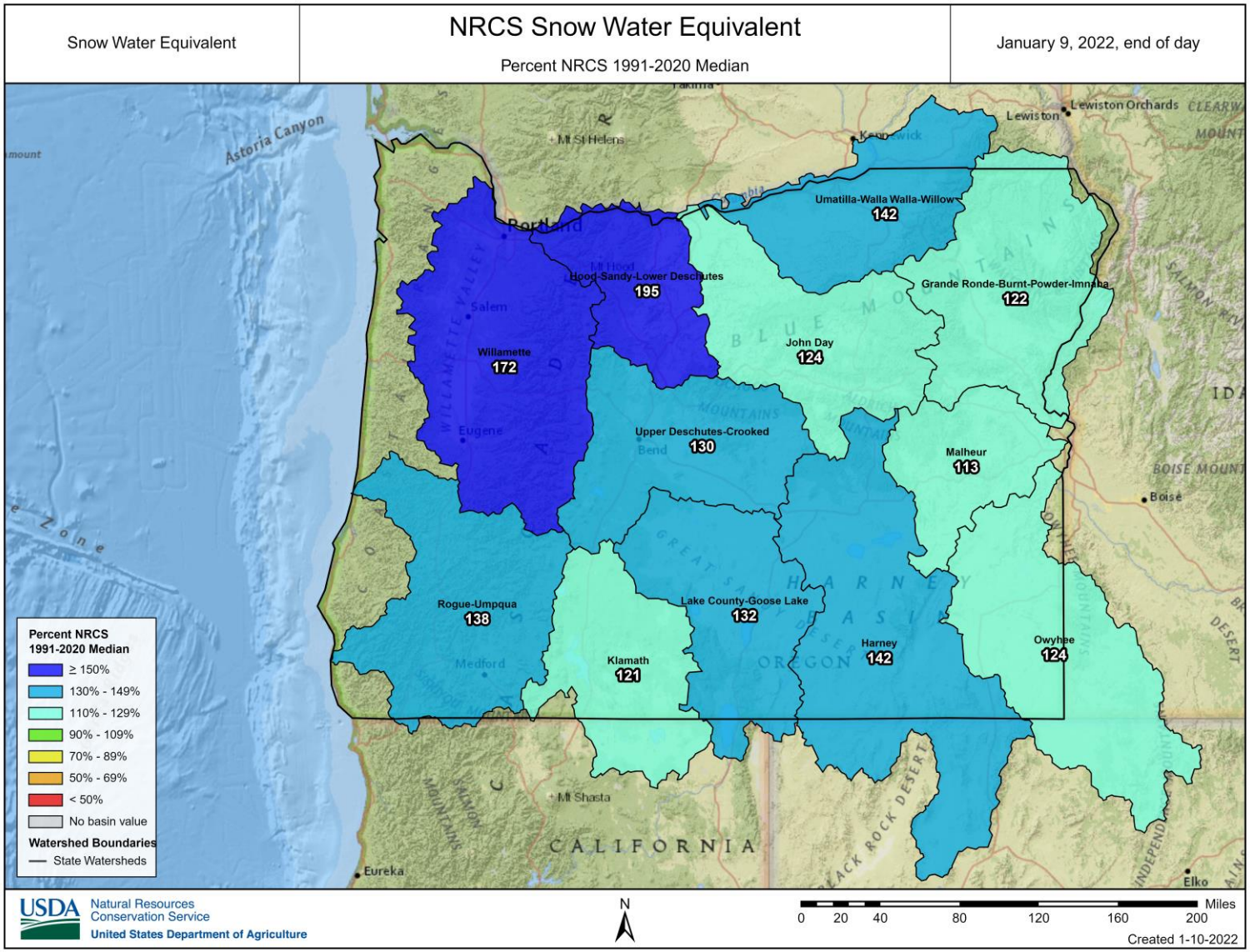


Lake County-Goose Lake

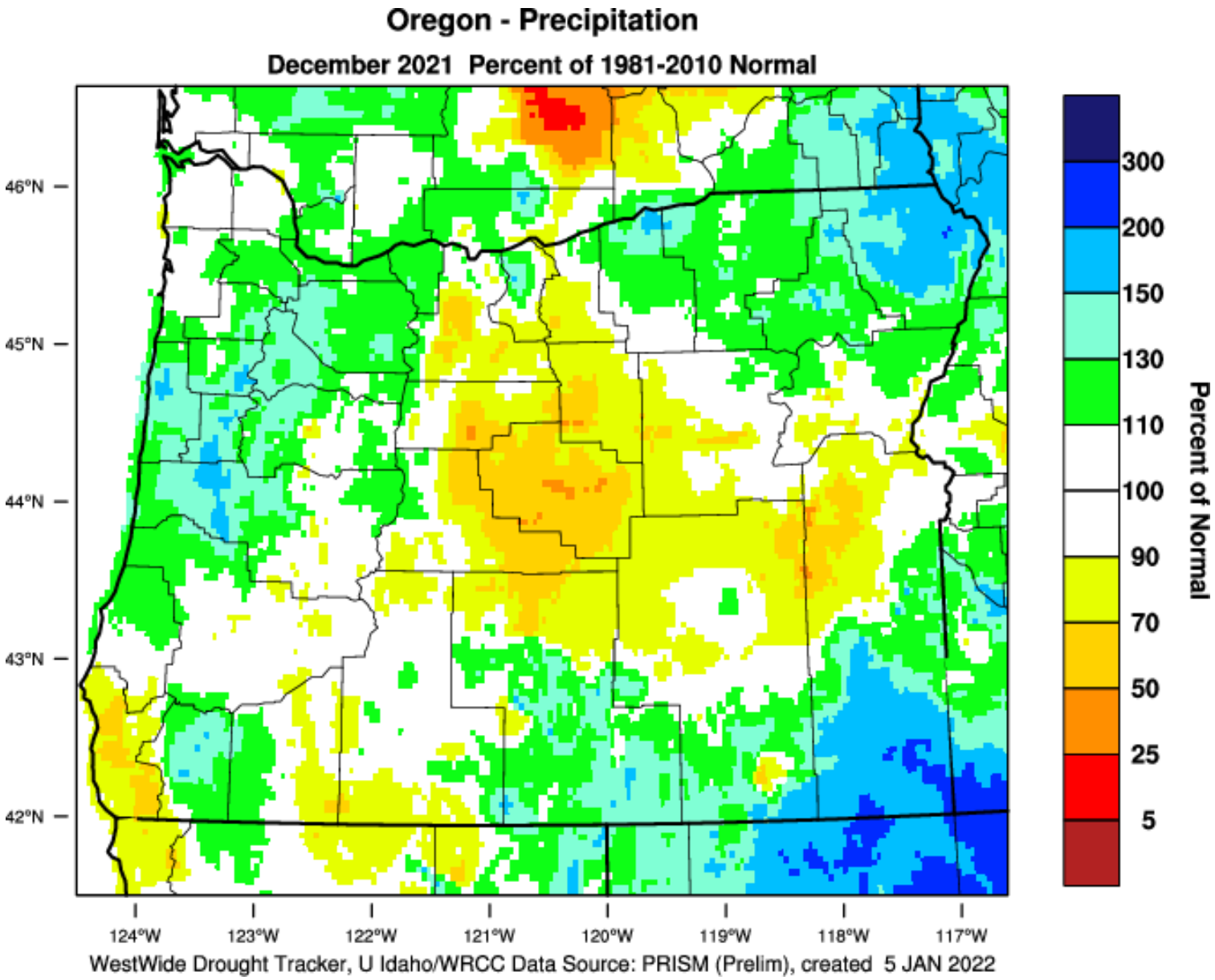


CLIMATE CONDITIONS

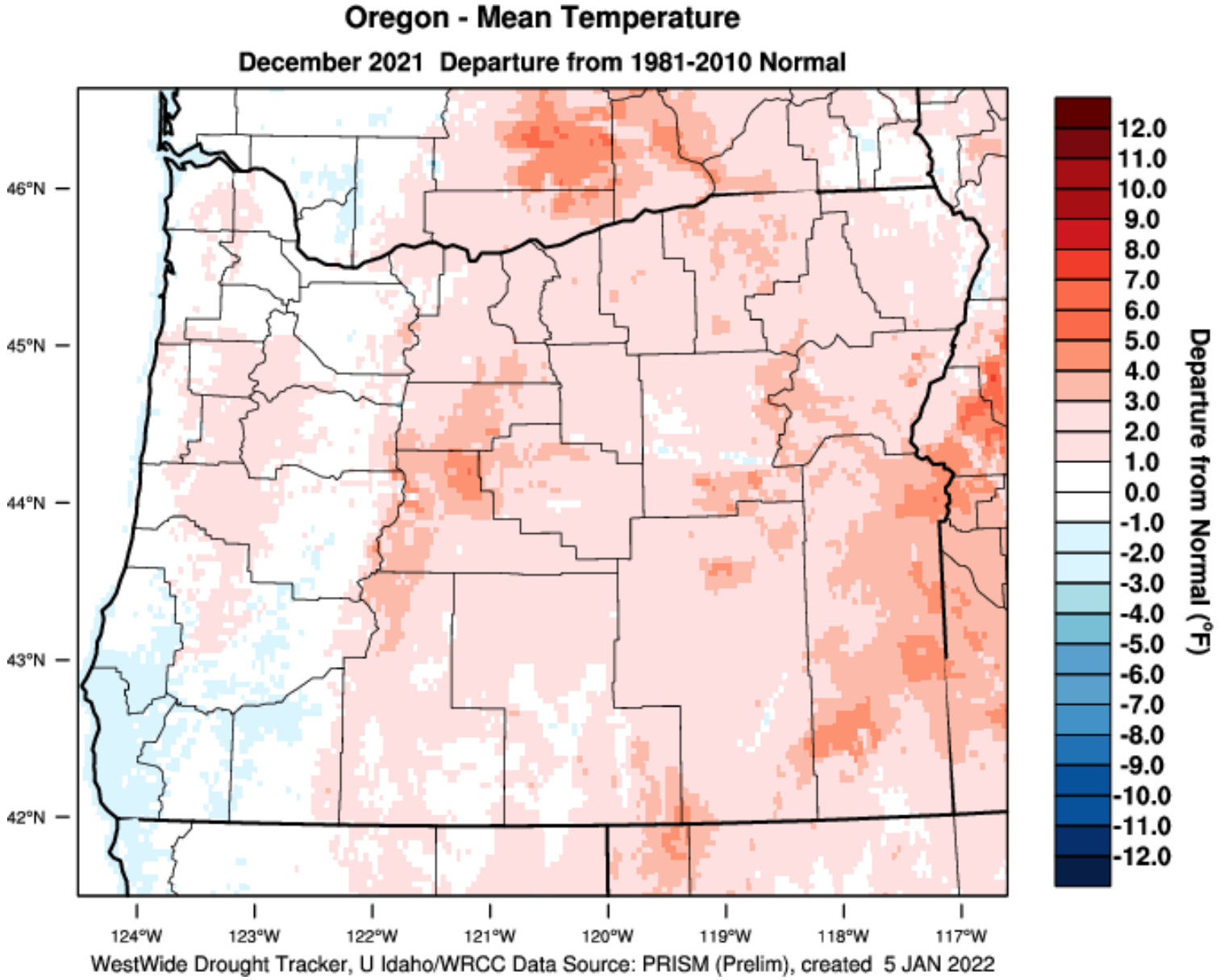
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT



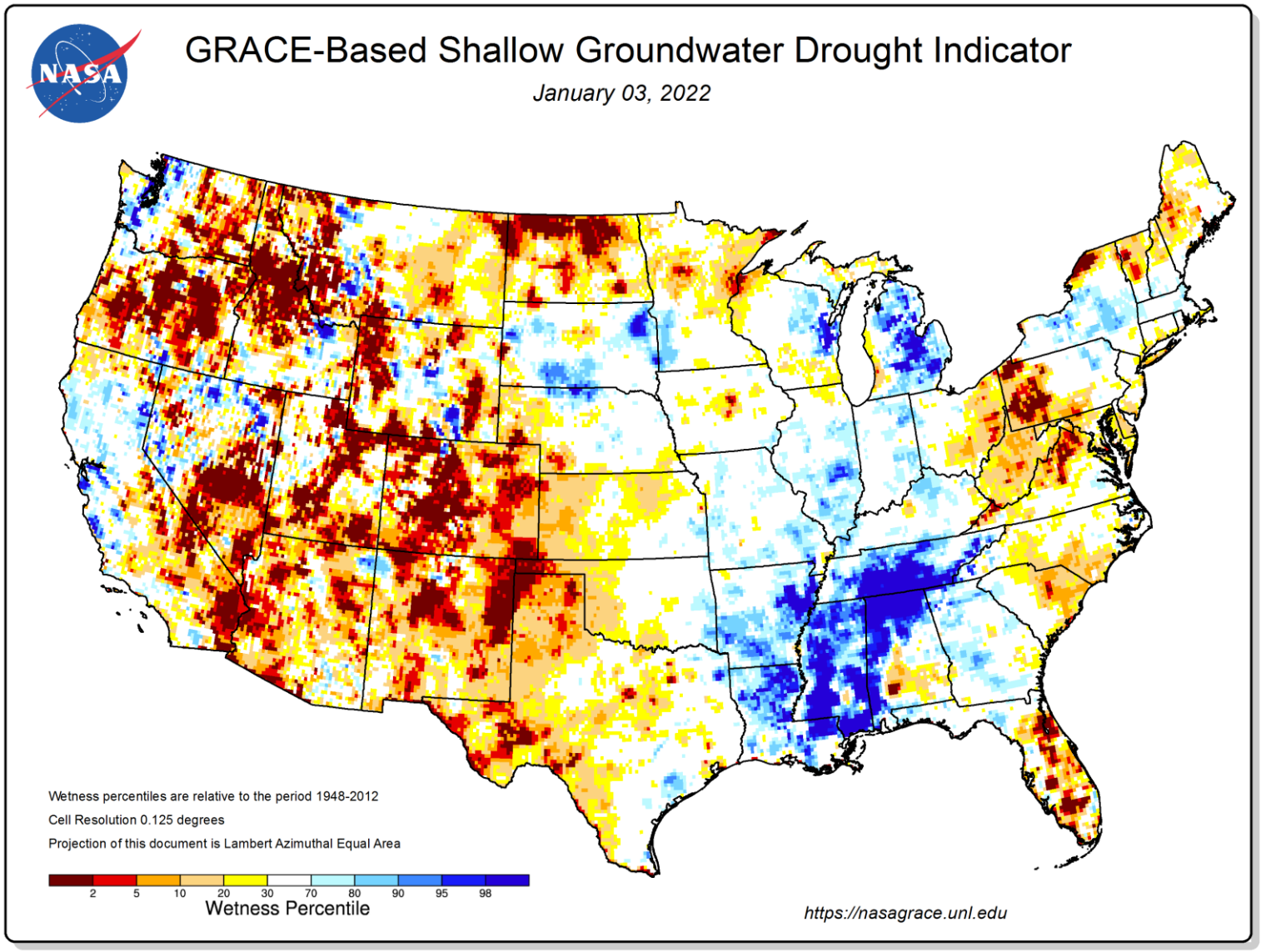
PRECIPITATION



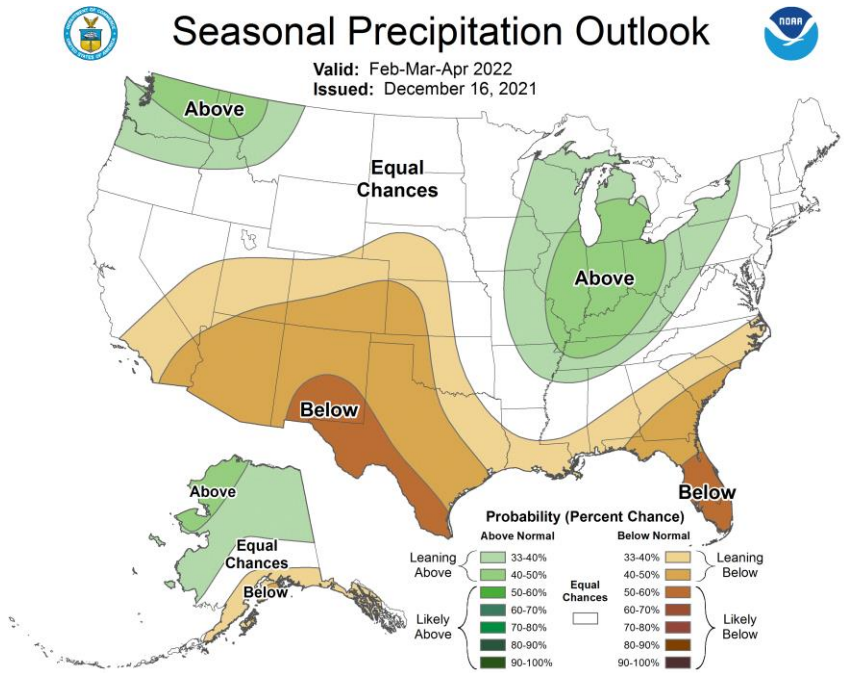
TEMPERATURE

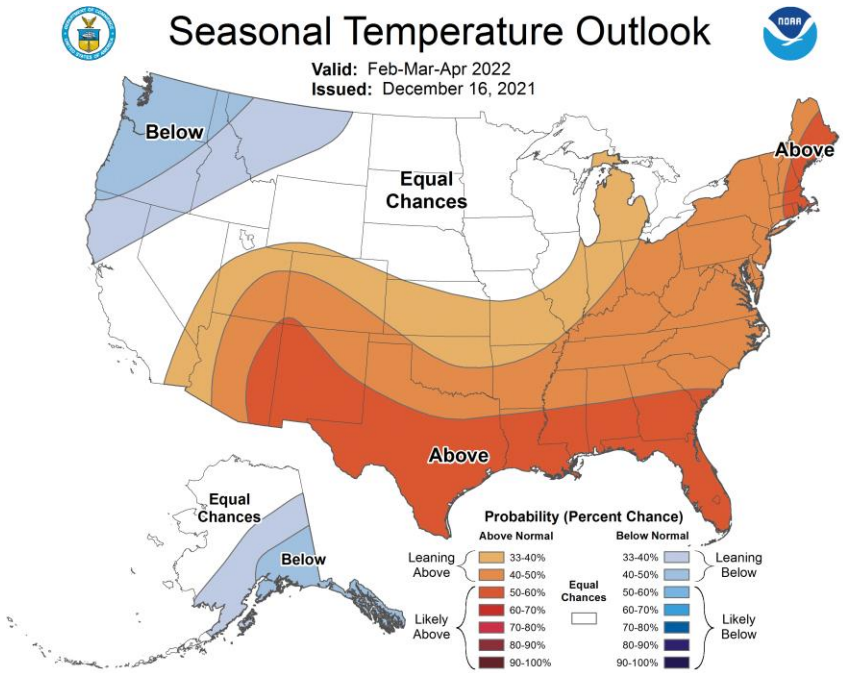


SOIL MOISTURE



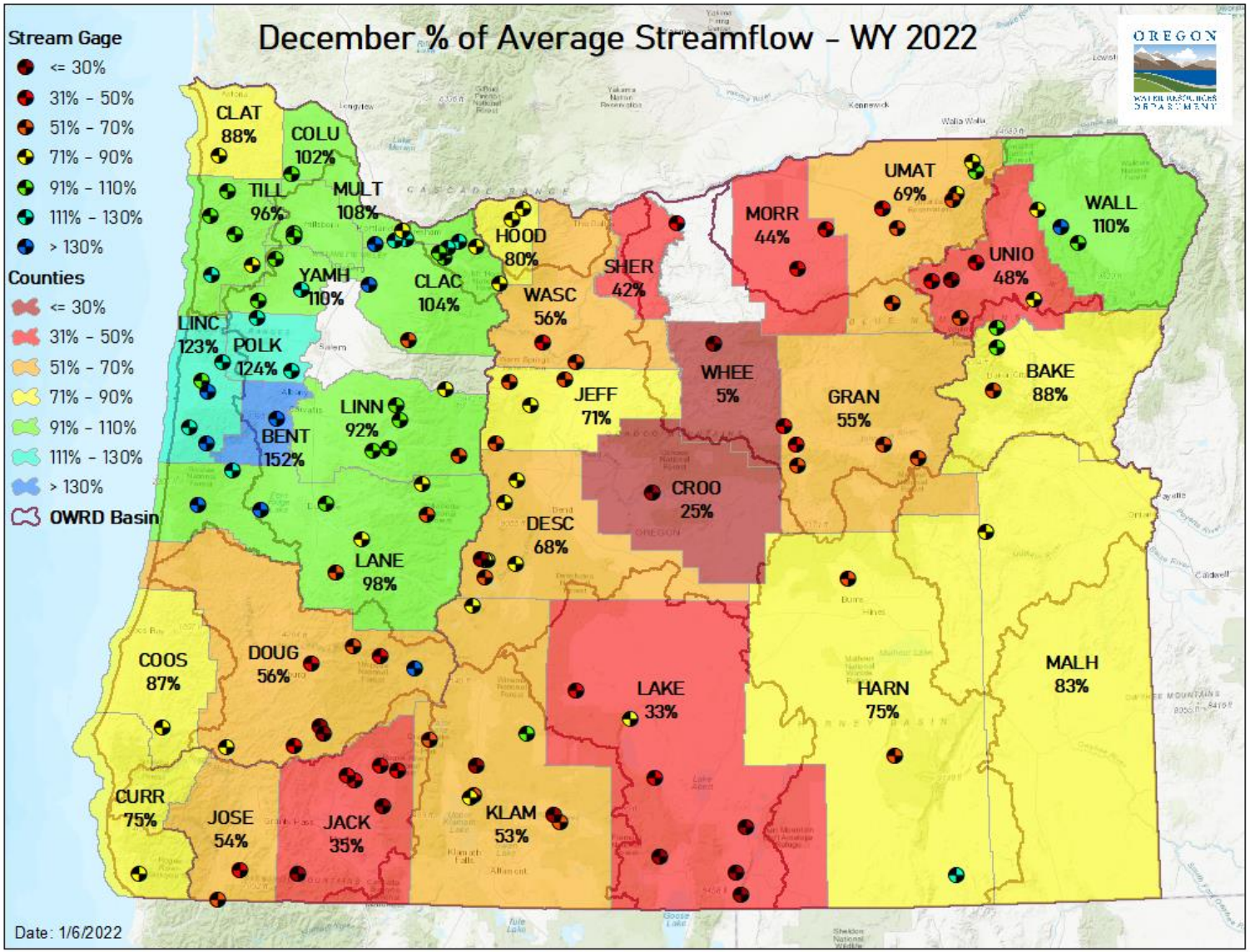
CLIMATE OUTLOOK



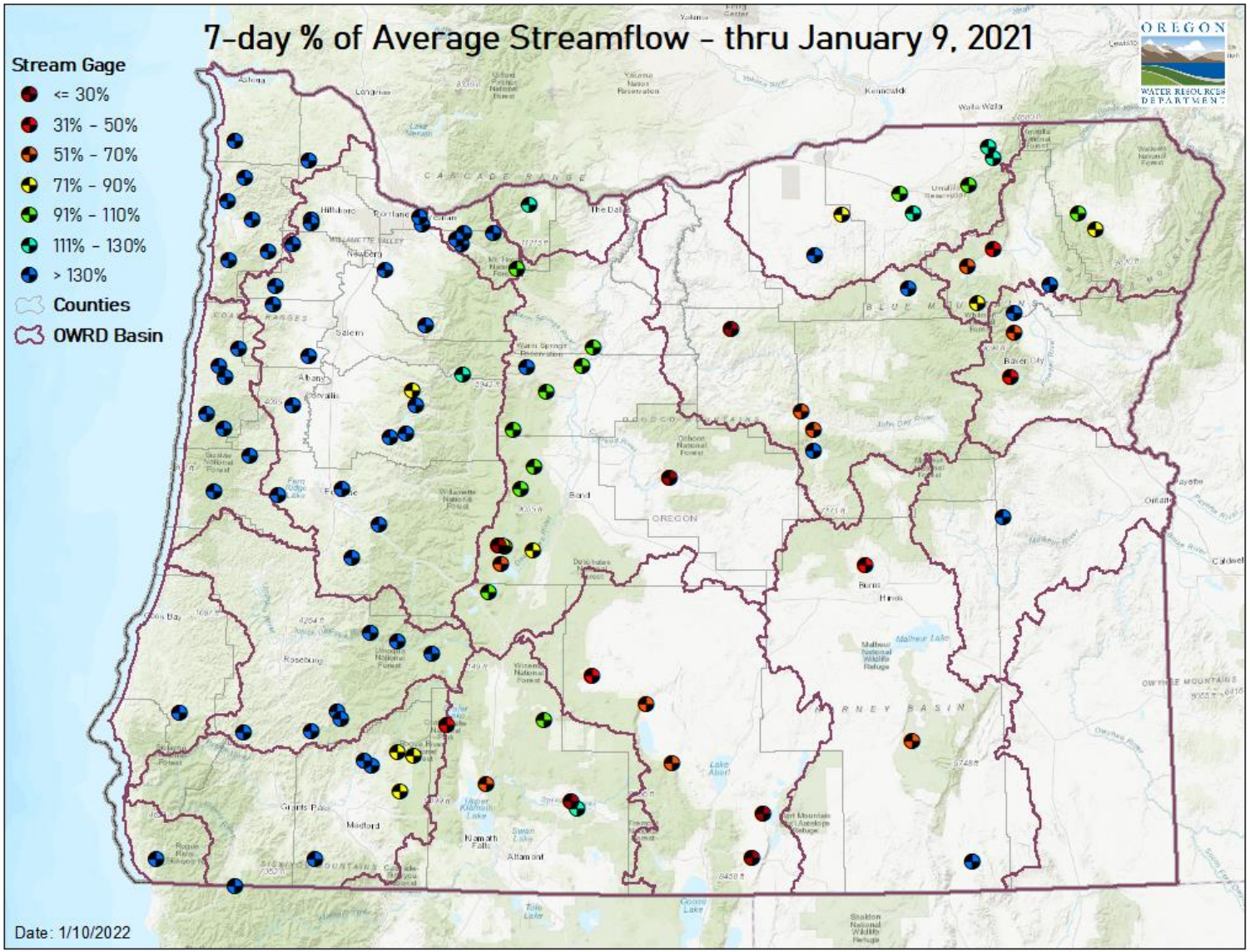


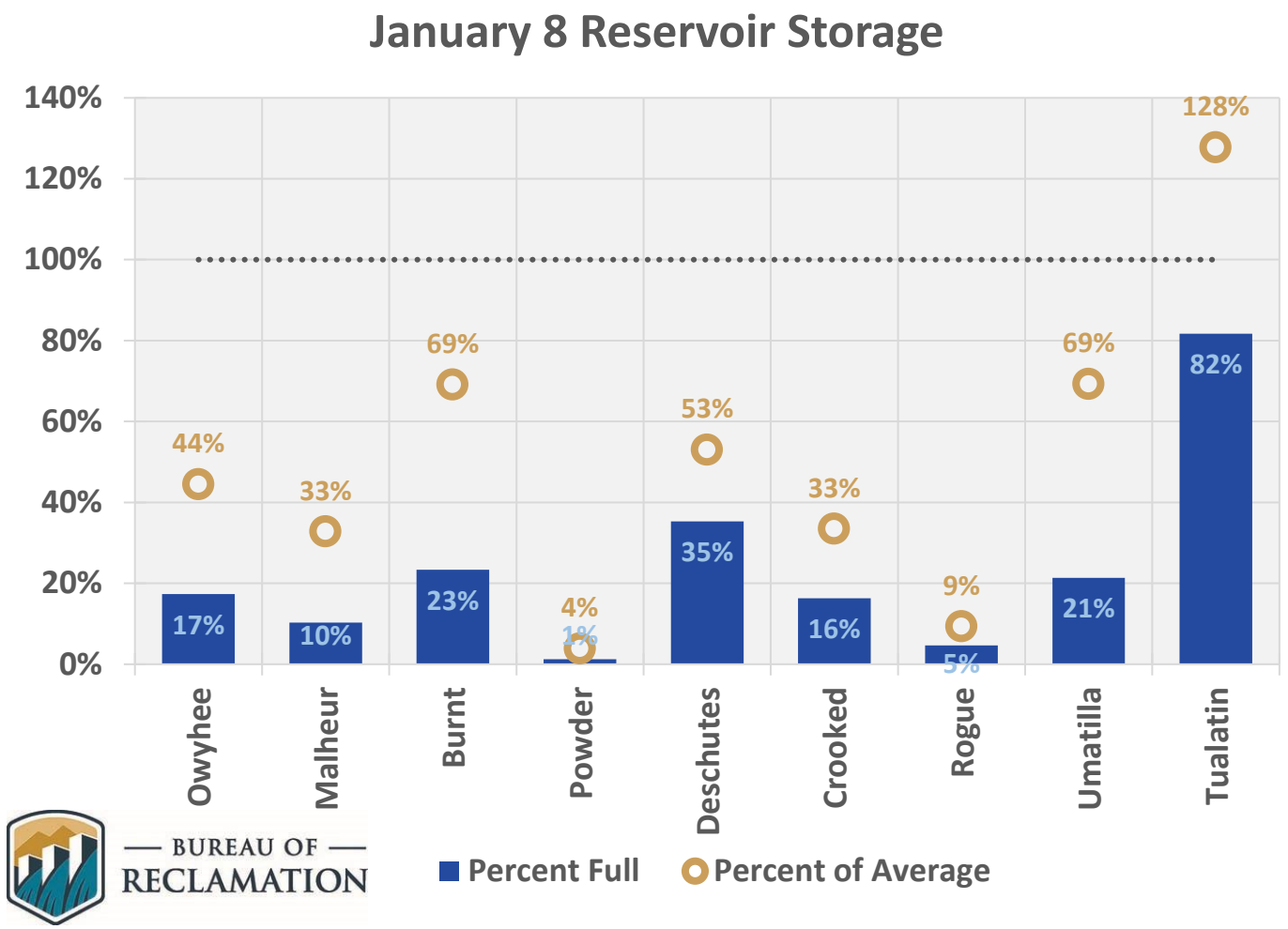
STREAMFLOW

DECEMBER



7-DAY


7-day % of Average Streamflow - thru January 9, 2021
Stream Gage
<= 30%
31% - 50%
51% - 70%
71% - 90%
91% - 110%
111% - 130%
> 130%
Counties
OWRD Basin
OREGON
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
Date: 1/10/2022


January 8 Reservoir Storage
140%
120%
100%
80%
60%
40%
20%
0%
44%
33%
69%
4%
1%
53%
33%
9%
5%
69%
128%
17%
10%
23%
35%
16%
21%
82%
Owyhee
Malheur
Burnt
Powder
Deschutes
Crooked
Rogue
Umatilla
Tualatin
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Percent Full
Percent of Average

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.