Oregon Water Conditions Report

February 22nd, 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

Over 90% of Oregon is classified as experiencing moderate (D1) to exceptional (D4) drought conditions according to the US Drought Monitor. There has been an increase in spatial coverage of moderate (D1) and extreme (D3) drought conditions over the past two weeks in western Oregon. See below for more information.

Statewide snow water equivalent is currently measuring 98% of the long-term median, representing a 7% decrease over the past two weeks. The Klamath and Lake County-Goose Lakes Basins have experienced a steady decline in snowpack since early January. Some basins have seen a slight increase in snowpack recently, however, all but three basins are currently measuring below median values (see below).

A majority of Oregon is measuring less than 75% of the long-term average water year precipitation. Over the last two weeks, most of the state received less than an inch of precipitation, with eastern Oregon receiving little to no measurable precipitation. Precipitation at NRCS SNOTEL sites is now measuring 90% of the long-term median statewide.

Temperatures over the past two weeks have been variable throughout the state. Much of central Oregon experienced temperatures between 2 °F and 8 °F above the long-term average, while western Oregon ranged within 4 °F of average.

The 8 – 14-day climate outlook indicates probabilities favoring near normal temperatures and precipitation throughout most of the state. The northeastern portion of the state has probabilities favoring above normal precipitation.

Average streamflows over the past 7-day and 28-day periods are measuring below to well below average throughout the state. This includes several locations with record low streamflows across Oregon. See below for more information.

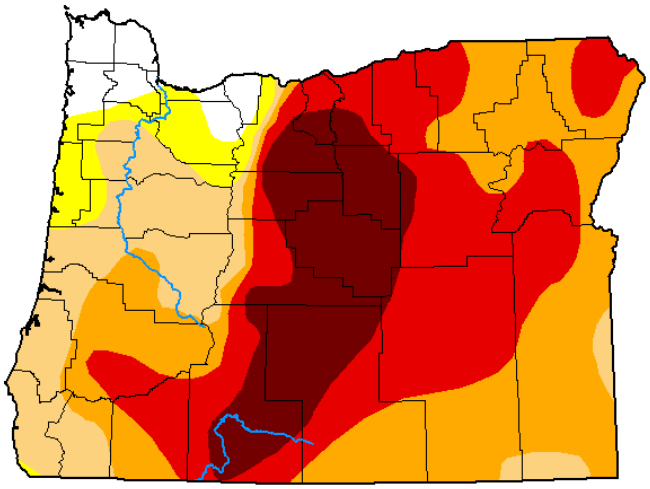
Reservoir storage contents are measuring below to well below average throughout both USBR (including Klamath) and USACE systems throughout Oregon.

DROUGHT CONDITIONS

The US Drought Monitor indicates over 90% of Oregon is experiencing drought conditions. Drought conditions have deteriorated in Curry County due to increased evaporative demand and record low streamflows. Enhanced evaporative demand in addition to well below average water year precipitation in parts of Jackson and Douglas Counties have contributed to drought intensification.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Oregon



February 15, 2022

(Released Thursday, Feb. 17, 2022)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	4.27	95.73	90.59	75.03	45.61	16.22
Last Week 02-08-2022	4.27	95.73	88.12	74.73	42.05	16.22
3 Months Ago 11-16-2021	1.34	98.66	98.27	91.97	67.91	23.25
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 02-16-2021	12.02	87.98	73.84	54.56	19.39	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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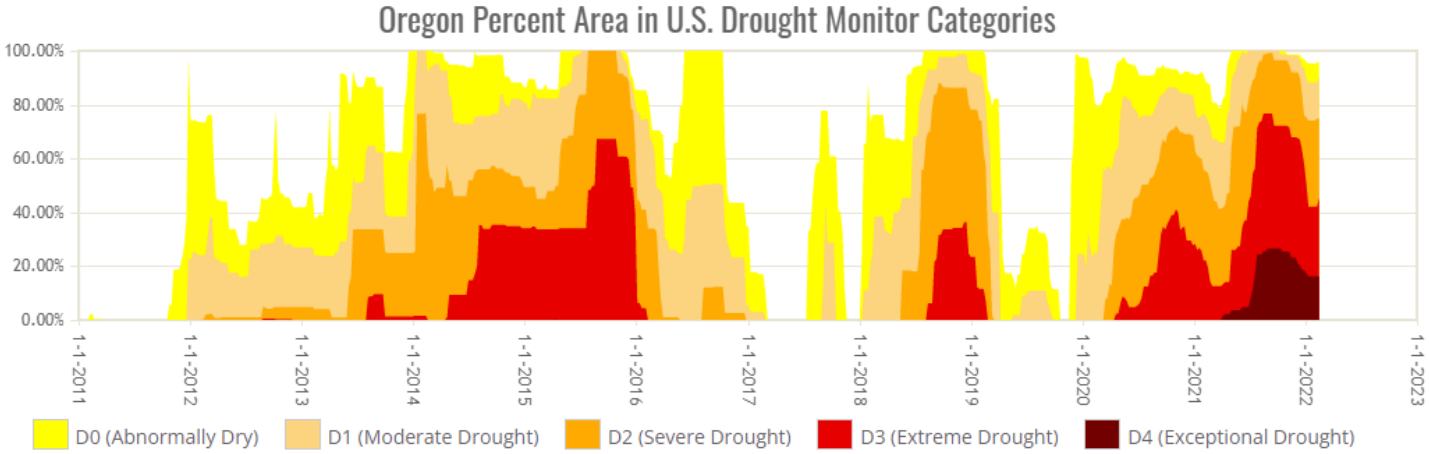
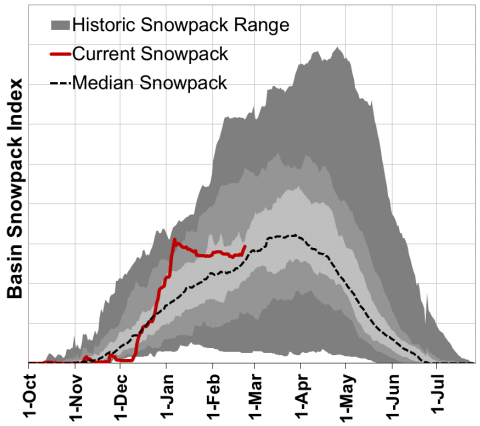
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

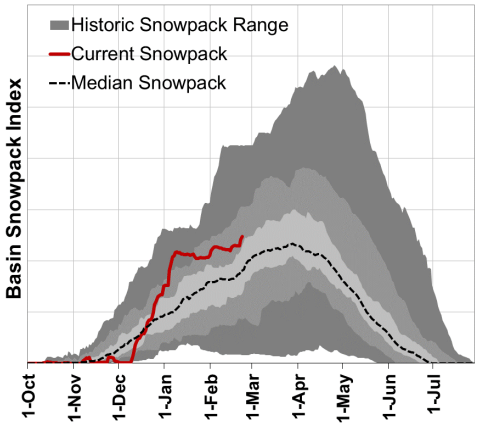


SNOWPACK

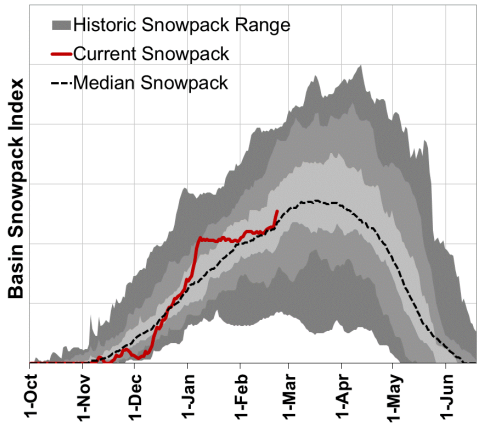
Willamette



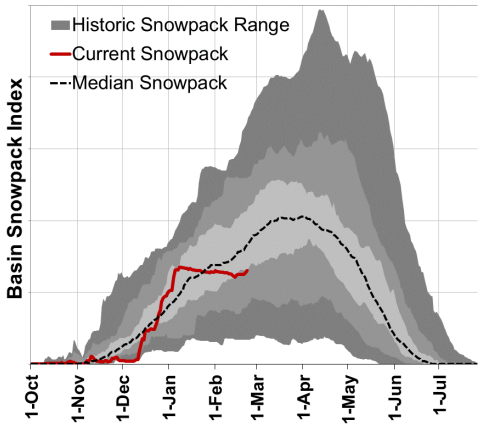
Hood-Sandy-Lower Deschutes



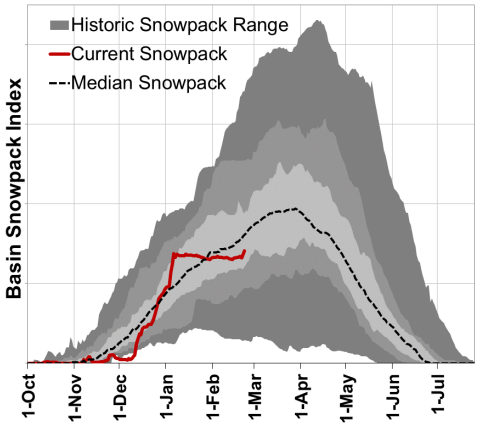
Umatilla-Walla Walla-Willow



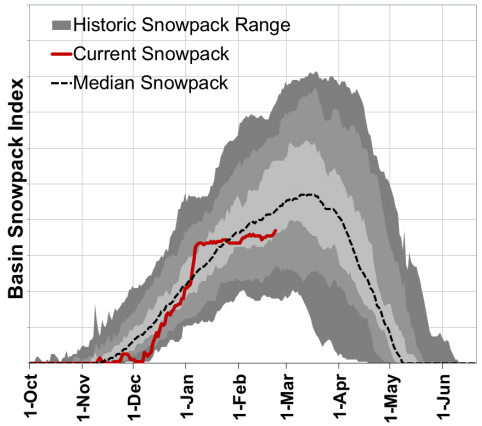
Rogue-Umpqua



Upper Deschutes-Crooked

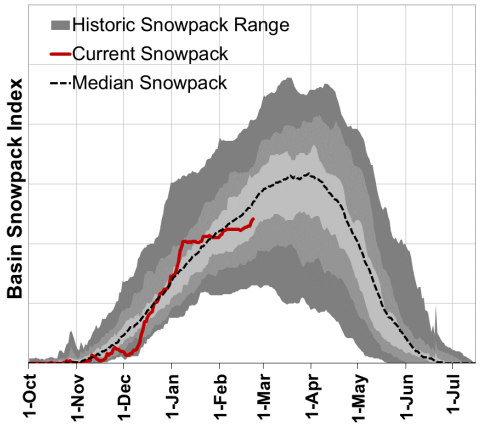


John Day

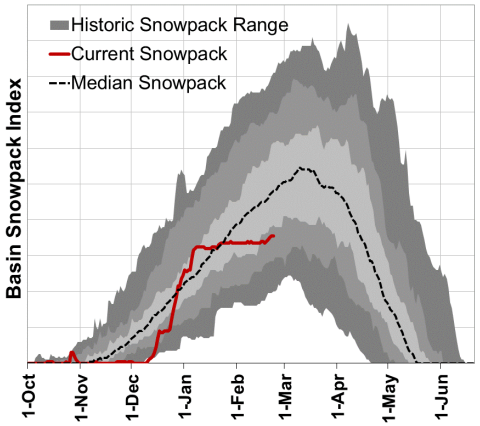


SNOWPACK

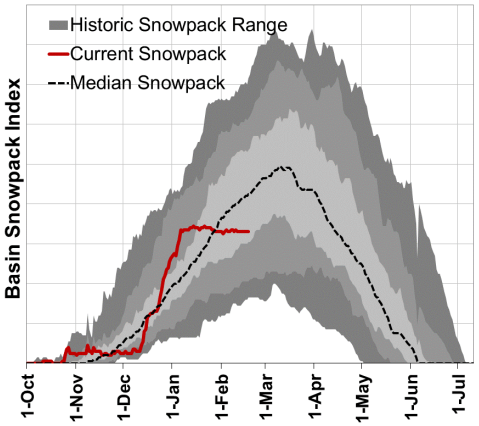
Grande Ronde-Burnt-Powder-Imnaha



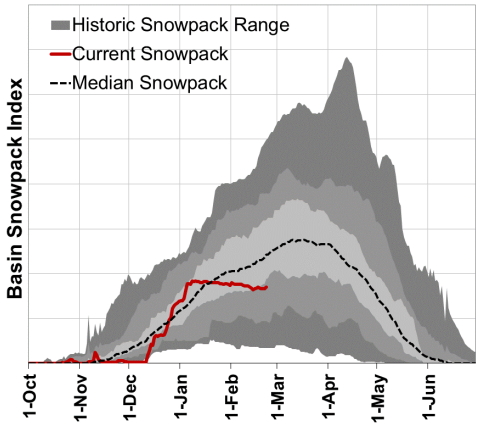
Owyhee



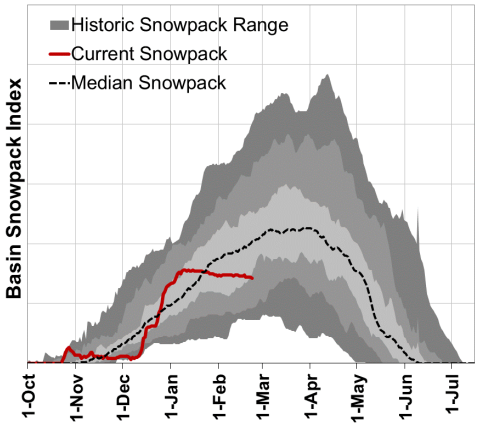
Harney



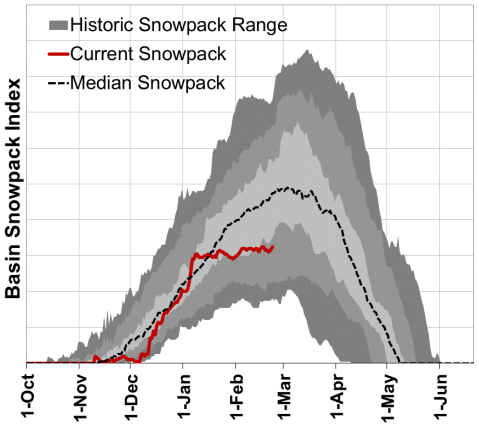
Klamath



Lake County-Goose Lake

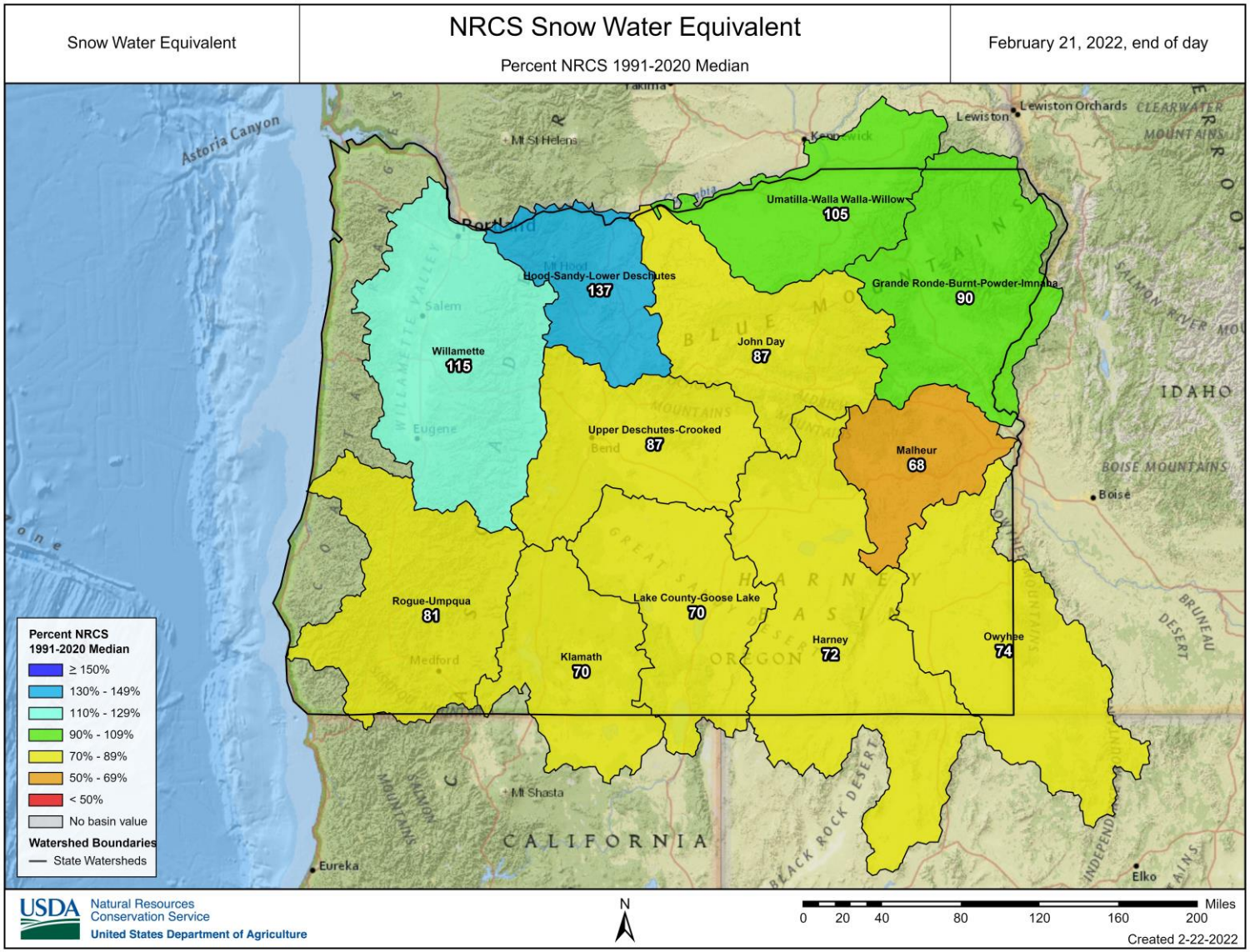


Malheur

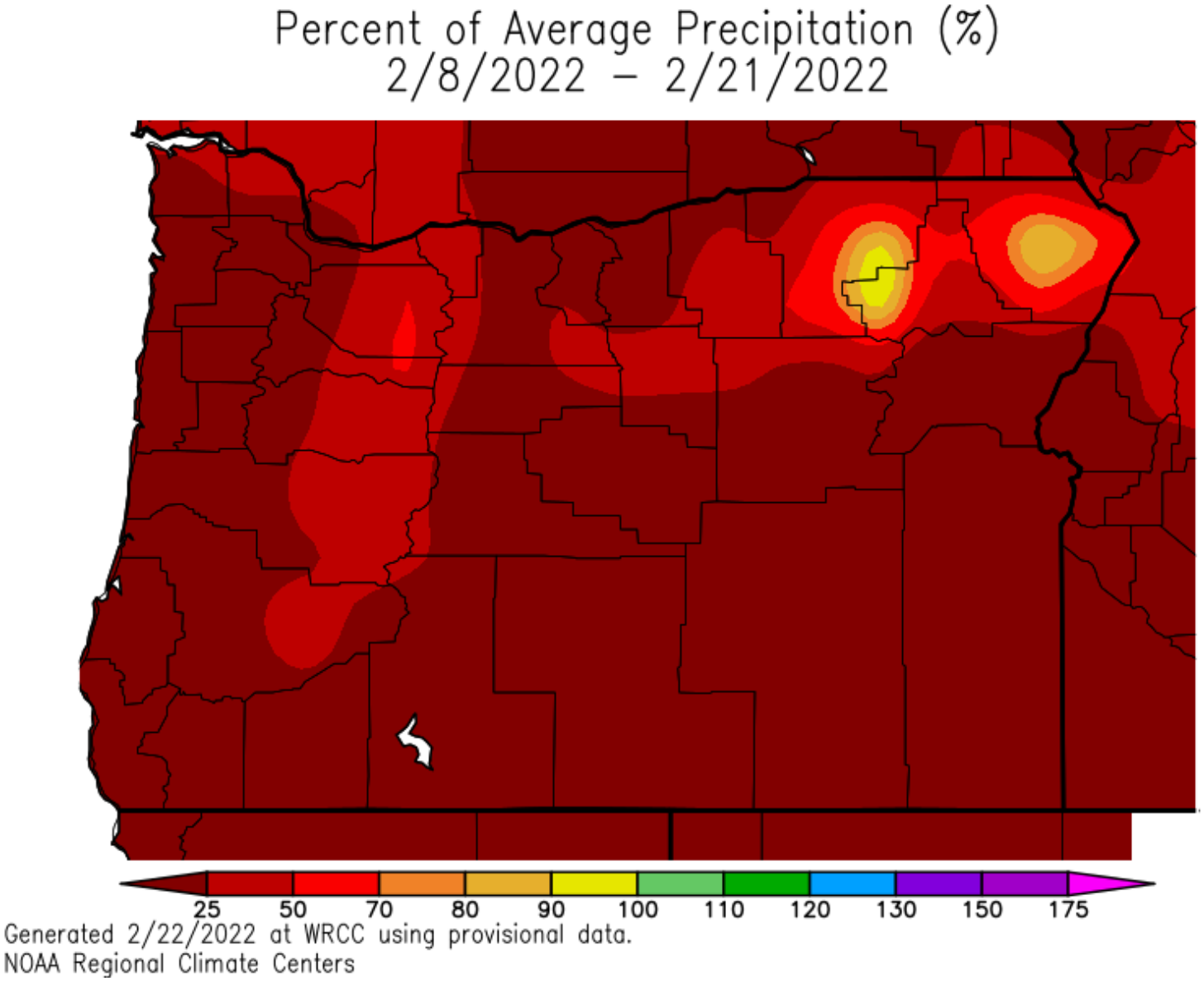


CLIMATE CONDITIONS

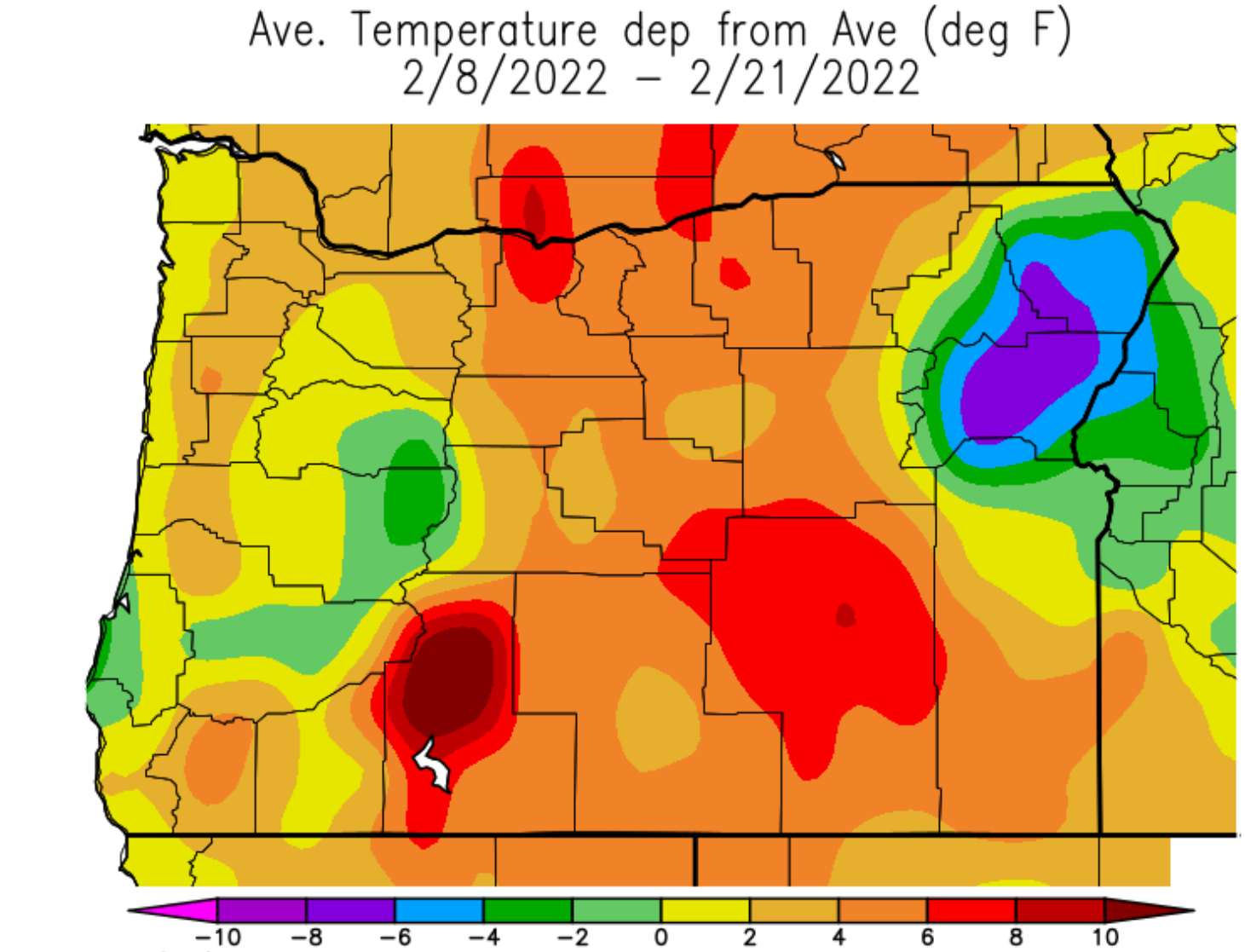
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT



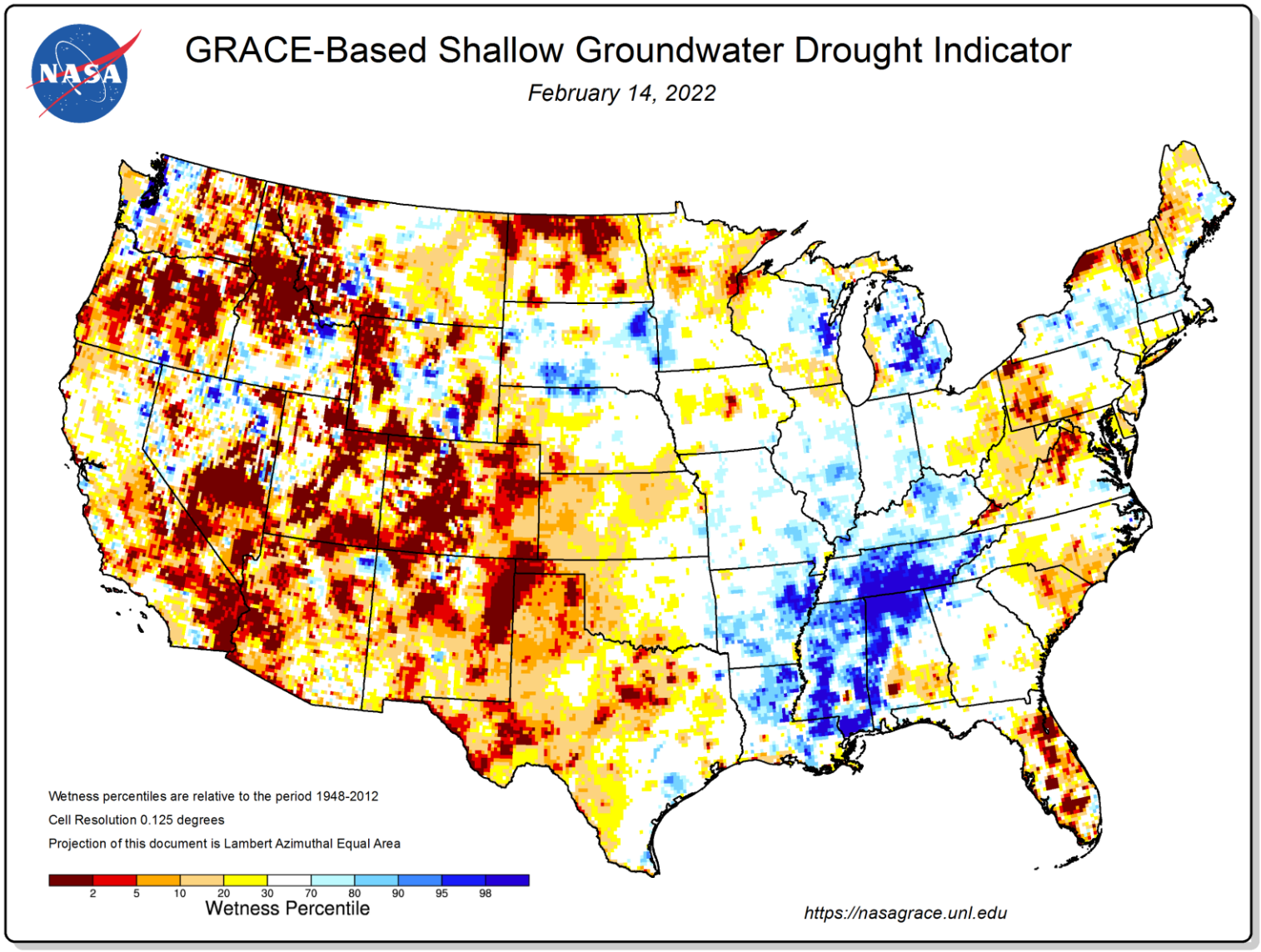
PRECIPITATION



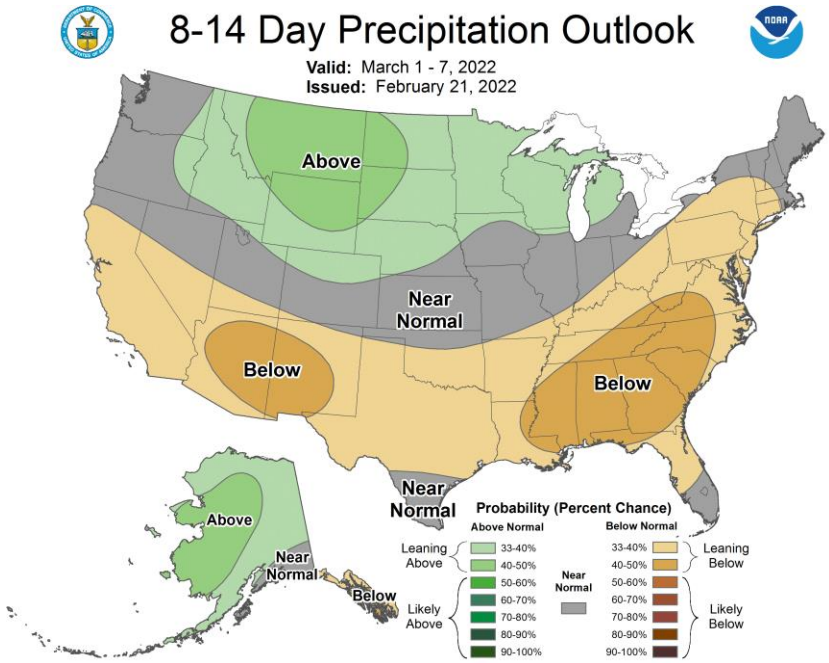
TEMPERATURE

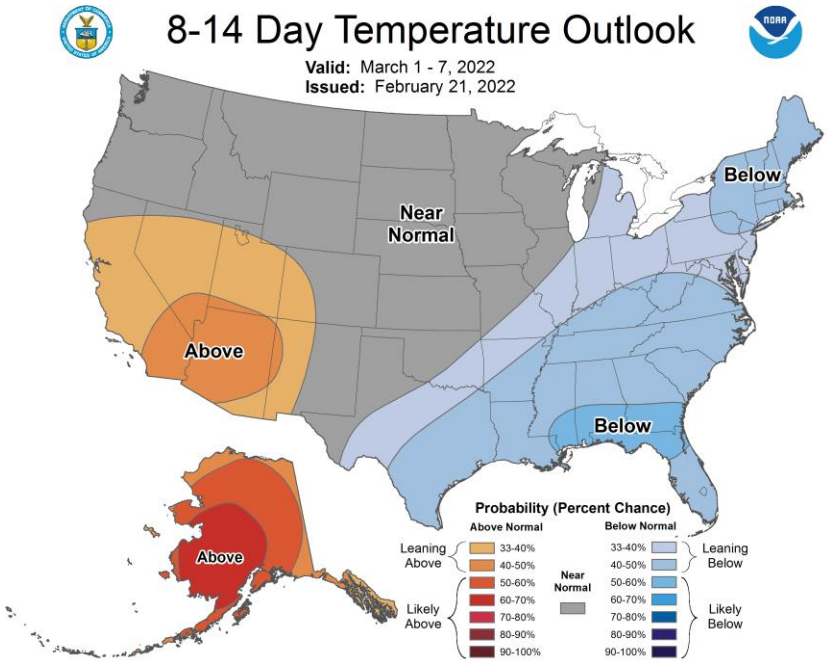


SOIL MOISTURE



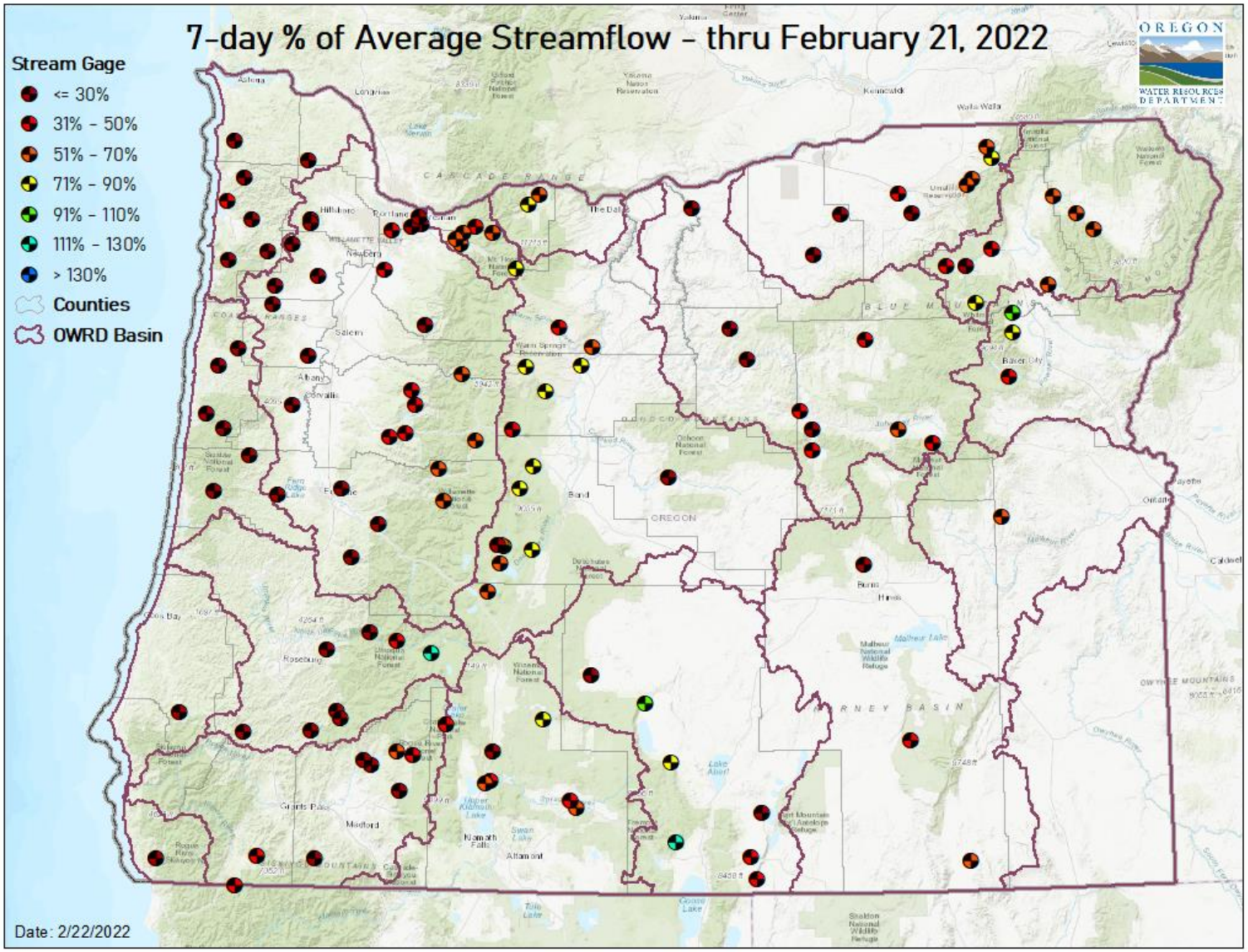
CLIMATE OUTLOOK



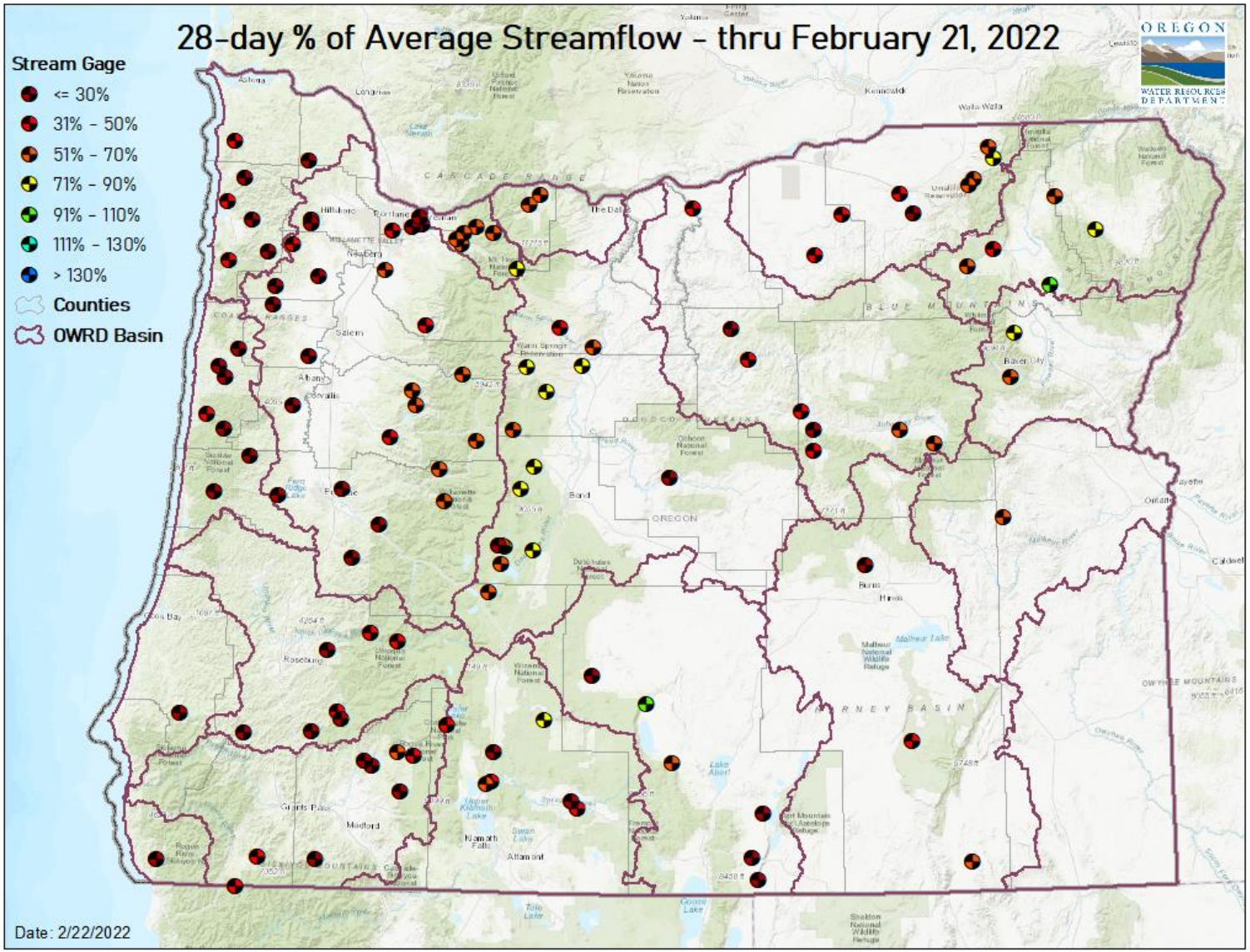


STREAMFLOW

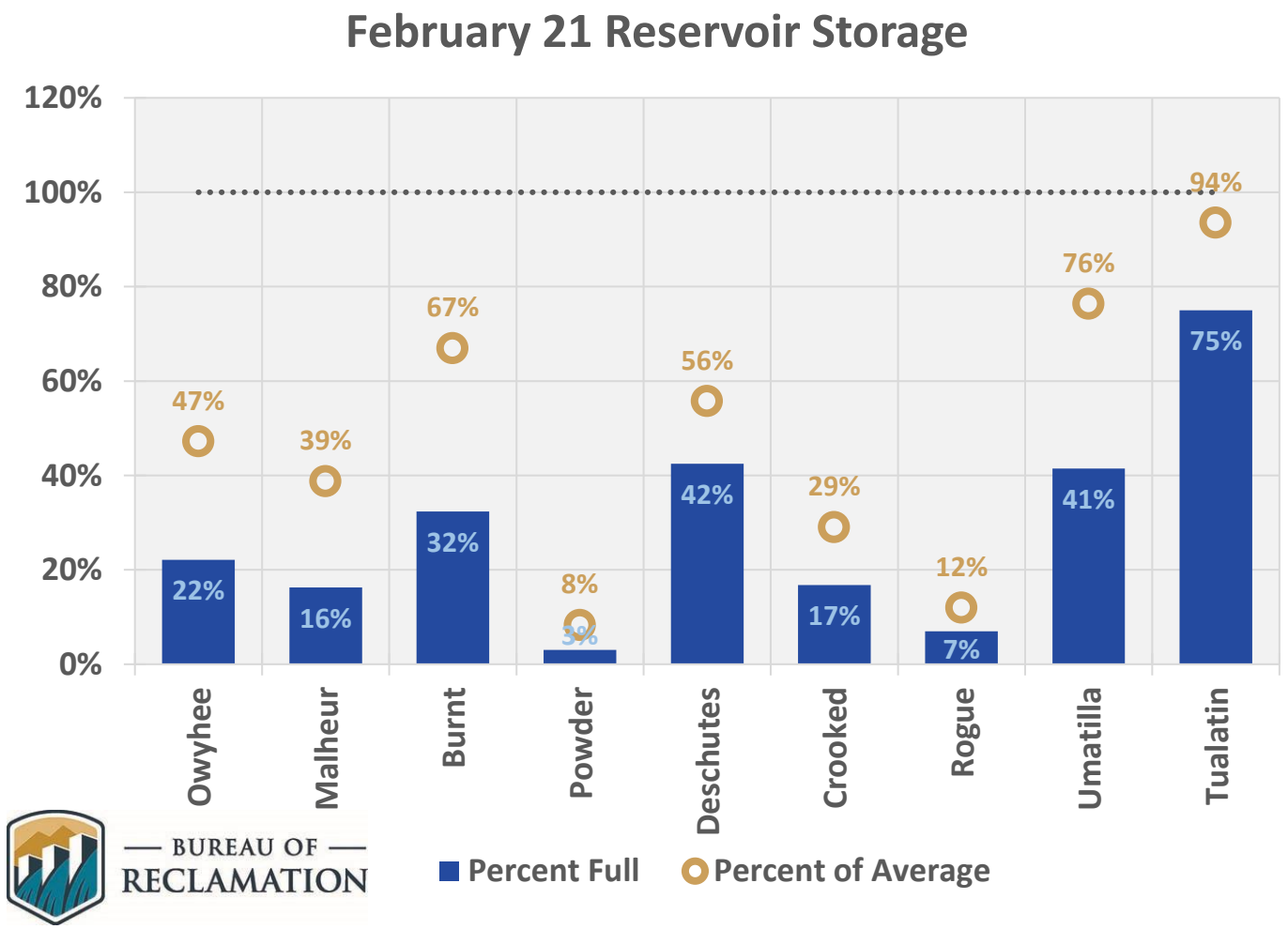
7-DAY



28-DAY


28-day % of Average Streamflow - thru February 21, 2022
Stream Gage
<= 30%
31% - 50%
51% - 70%
71% - 90%
91% - 110%
111% - 130%
> 130%
Counties
OWRD Basin
OREGON
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
Date: 2/22/2022

STORAGE


February 21 Reservoir Storage
120%
100%
80%
60%
40%
20%
0%
47%
39%
67%
8%
56%
29%
12%
76%
94%
22%
16%
32%
3%
42%
17%
7%
41%
75%
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.