

Oregon Water Conditions Report



October 17th, 2022

HIGHLIGHTS

According to the [US Drought Monitor](#), moderate (D1) to exceptional (D4) drought conditions are present in over 70% of Oregon. Warm temperatures (3rd warmest September on record [[National Centers for Environmental Information](#)]) and low precipitation in late summer led to the emergence of moderate drought conditions in northwestern Oregon.

[Precipitation over the past two weeks](#) has been well below average statewide, with most of Oregon receiving [little to no measurable precipitation](#).

[Recent temperatures have been well above average](#) statewide over the past two weeks. Average temperatures ranged from 3 °F to 15 °F above the long-term average, with some exception along the coast. Recent conditions have led to [elevated evaporative demand](#) in parts of central and eastern Oregon.

[Soil moisture profiles](#) continue to measure well below average statewide. Surface and root zone profiles continue to dry due to lack of precipitation and warm temperatures.

The [near-term climate outlook](#) for the next 8-14-day period favors below average temperatures and above average precipitation statewide.

Recent streamflows are measuring below to well below average throughout much of Oregon, with few exceptions. See [USGS WaterWatch](#) for more information.

Reservoir storage contents are measuring below to well below average in many [USBR](#) (including [Klamath](#)) storage projects, with exceptions in the Burnt, Tualatin, and Umatilla Basins.

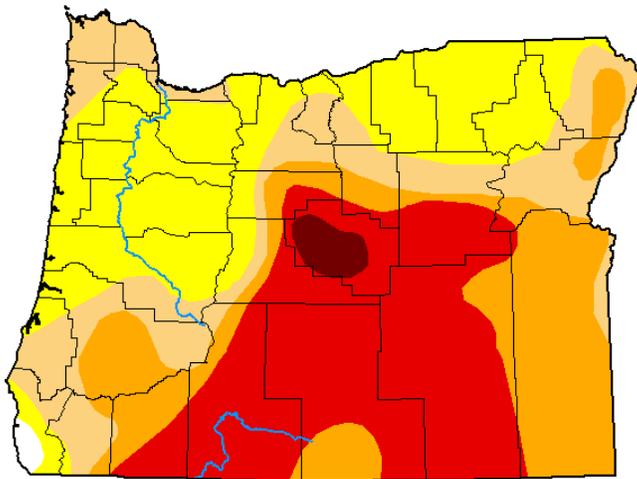
There are currently seven active fires in Oregon, with the Cedar Creek fire in Lane County being the largest at over 124,000 acres burned. See Office of Emergency Management's [Wildfire Situation Dashboard](#) for more information.

DROUGHT CONDITIONS

Over 70% of Oregon is experiencing moderate to exceptional drought, according to the US Drought Monitor. Recent changes include emergence of moderate drought conditions in parts of northwestern Oregon due to well below average streamflows.

U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

October 11, 2022
(Released Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.44	99.56	70.91	52.51	30.73	1.40
Last Week 10-04-2022	0.44	99.56	68.78	52.50	30.73	1.40
3 Months Ago 07-12-2022	25.00	75.00	66.67	52.71	31.72	1.77
Start of Calendar Year 01-04-2022	4.16	95.84	89.75	75.37	50.84	17.27
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	0.42	99.58	68.05	52.42	30.73	1.40
One Year Ago 10-12-2021	0.00	100.00	98.64	96.47	72.10	26.59

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>

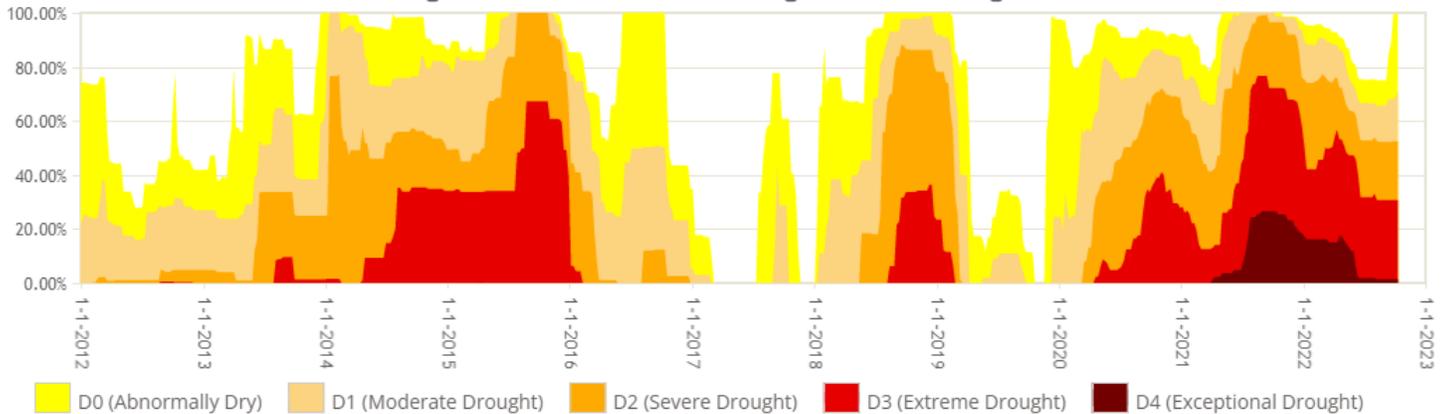
Author:

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CPC/NOAA

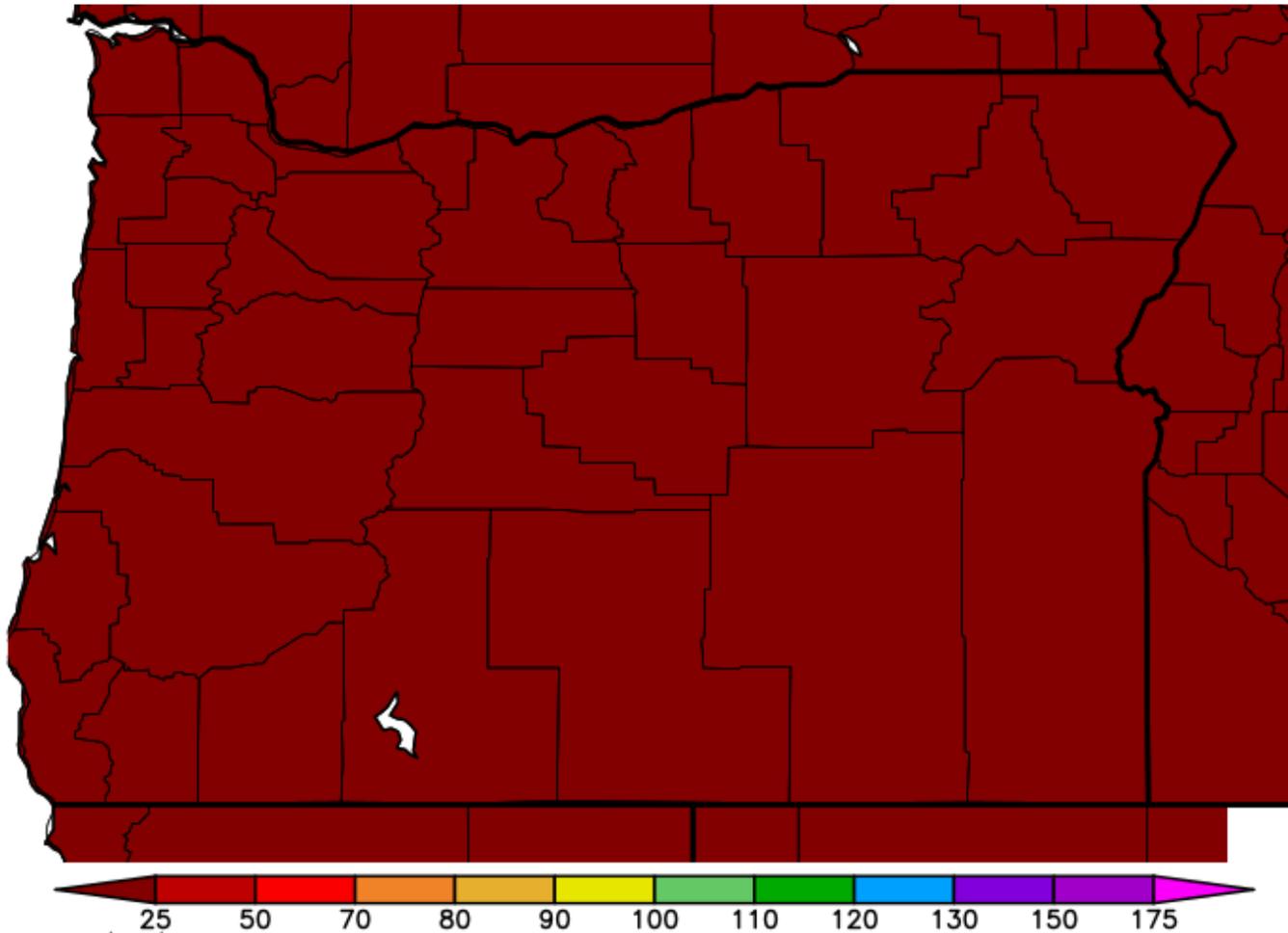


droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Oregon Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories

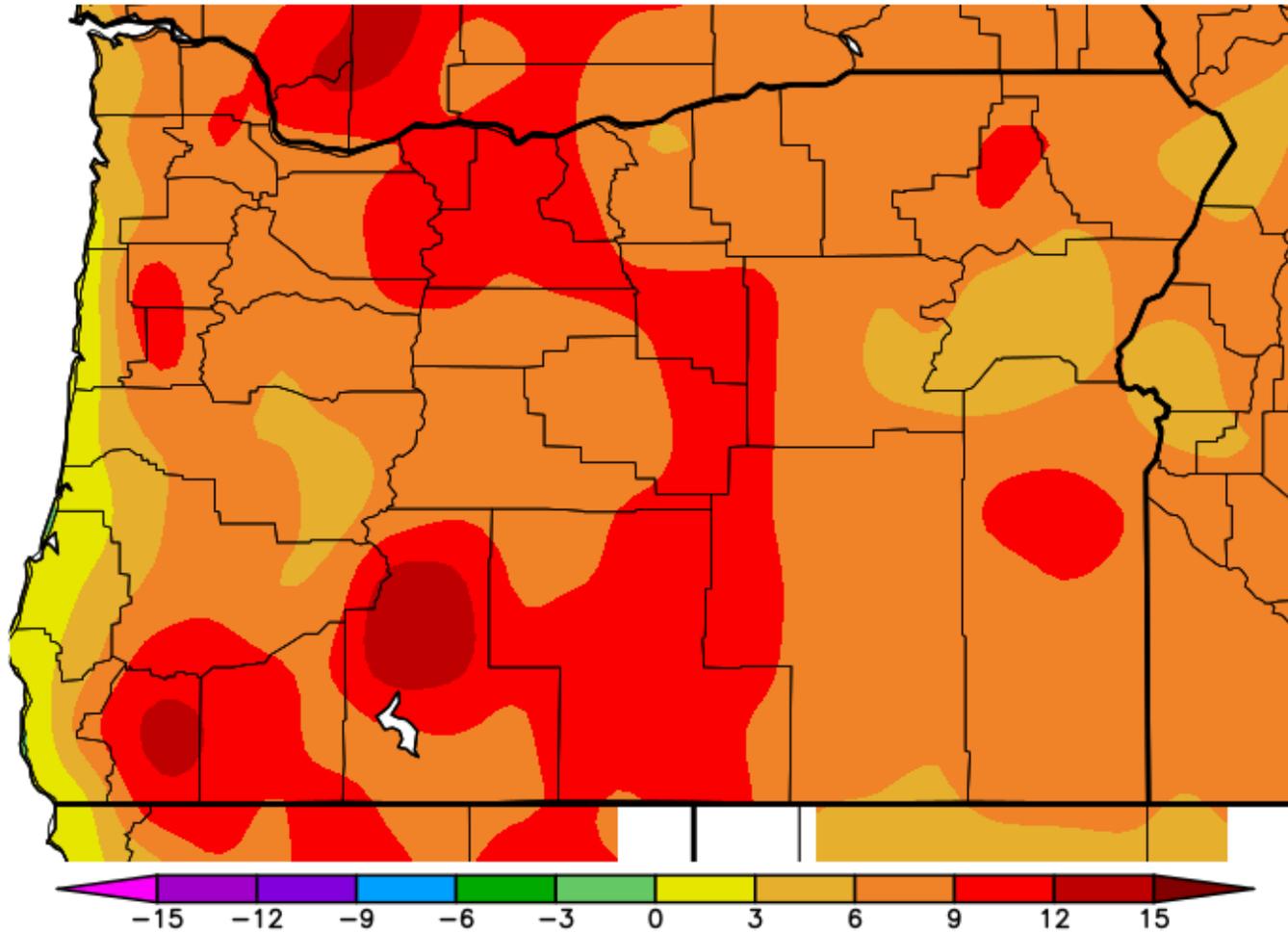


Percent of Average Precipitation (%) 10/3/2022 – 10/16/2022



Generated 10/17/2022 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Ave. Temperature dep from Ave (deg F)
10/3/2022 – 10/16/2022

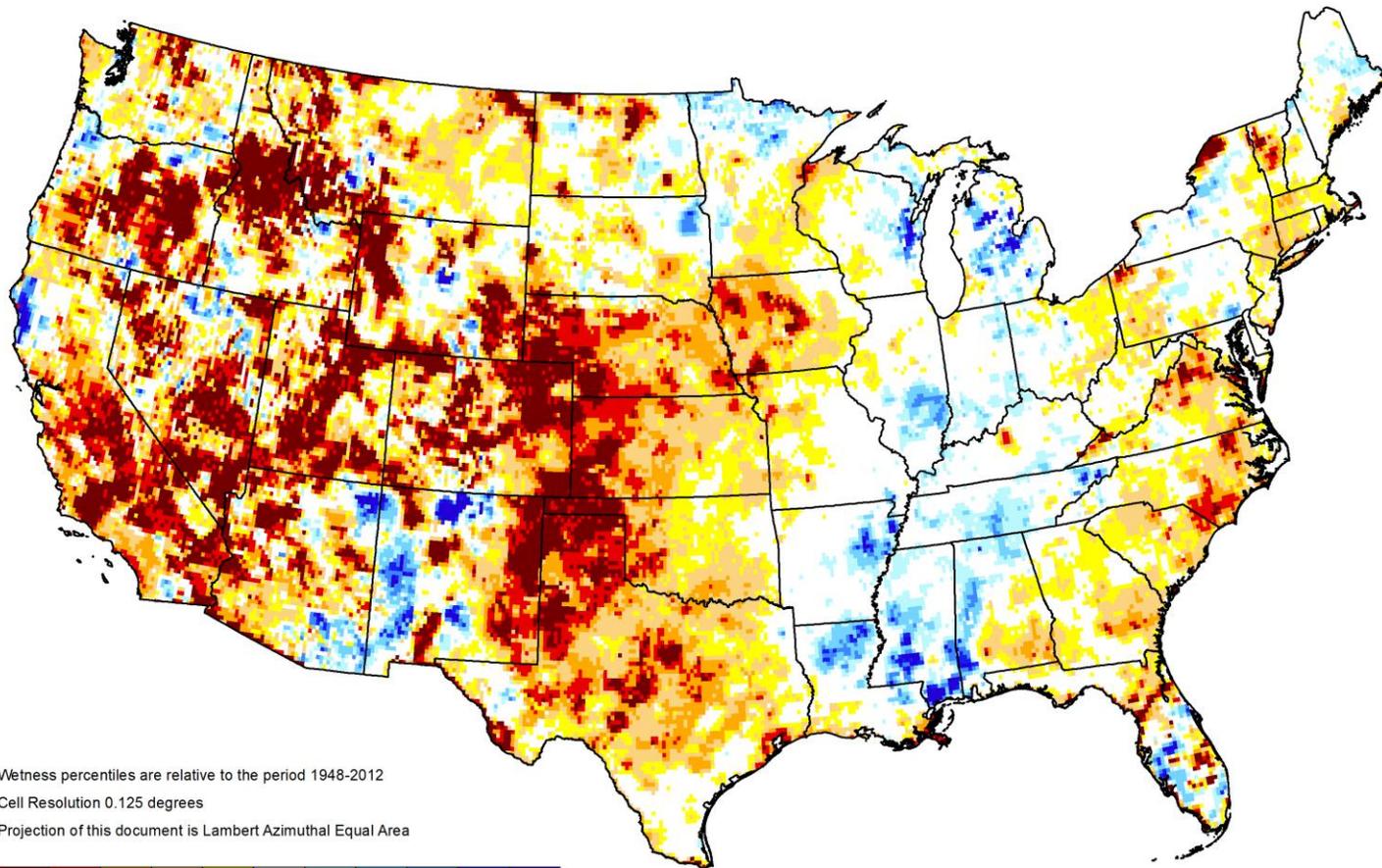


Generated 10/17/2022 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

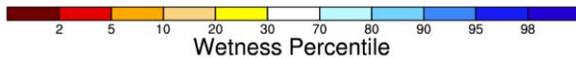


GRACE-Based Shallow Groundwater Drought Indicator

October 10, 2022



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



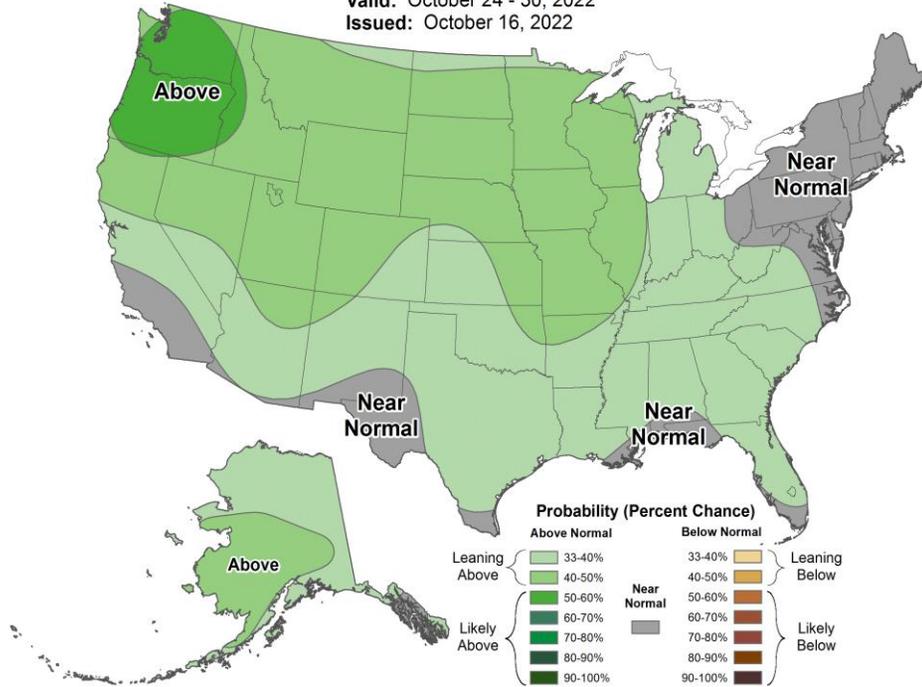
<https://nasagrace.unl.edu>



8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook



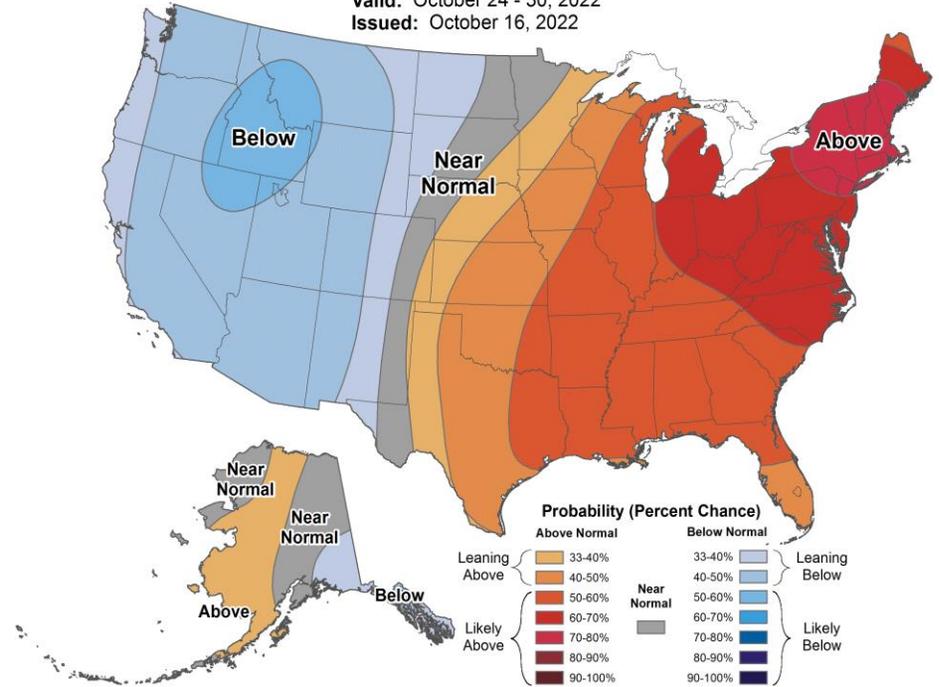
Valid: October 24 - 30, 2022
 Issued: October 16, 2022



8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

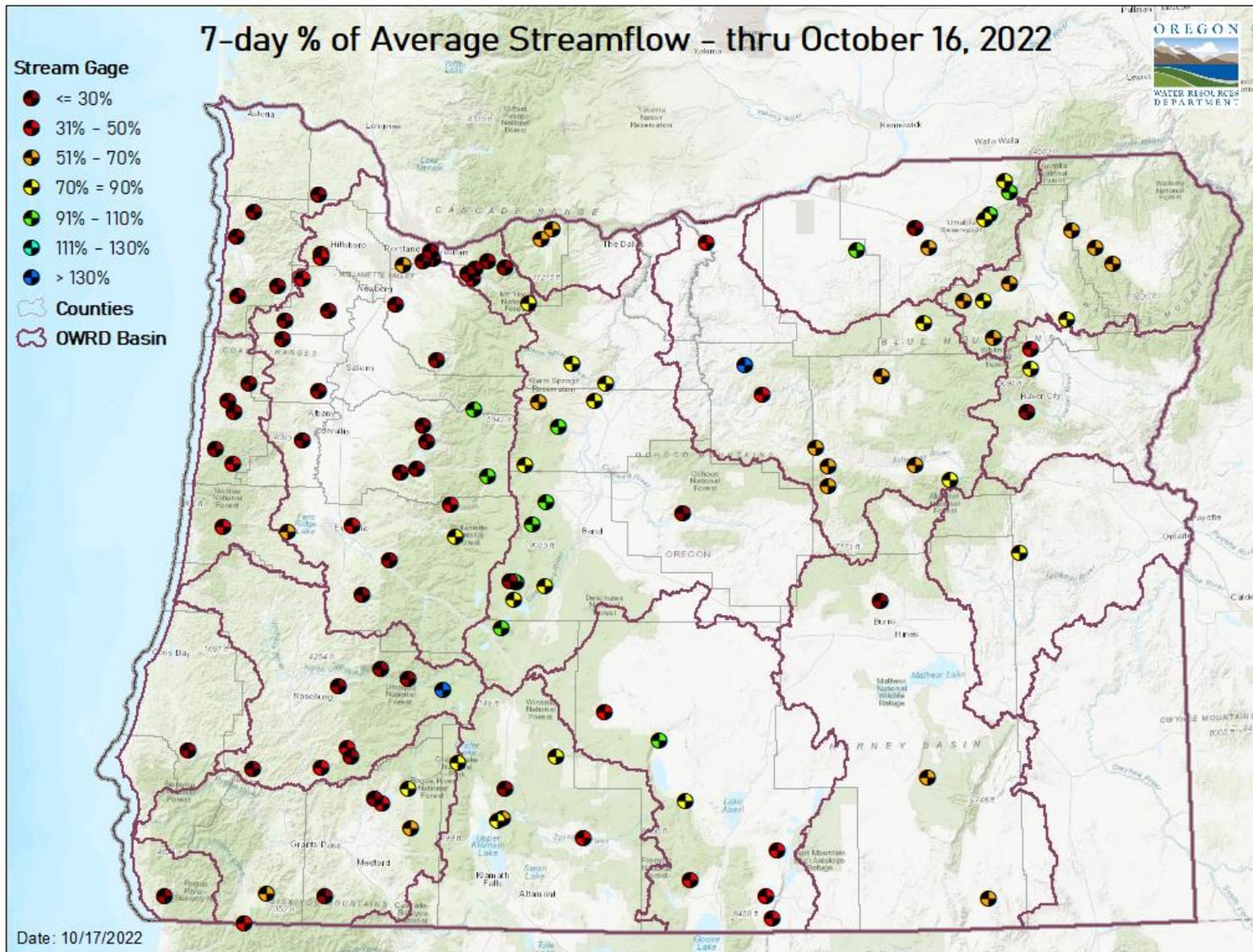


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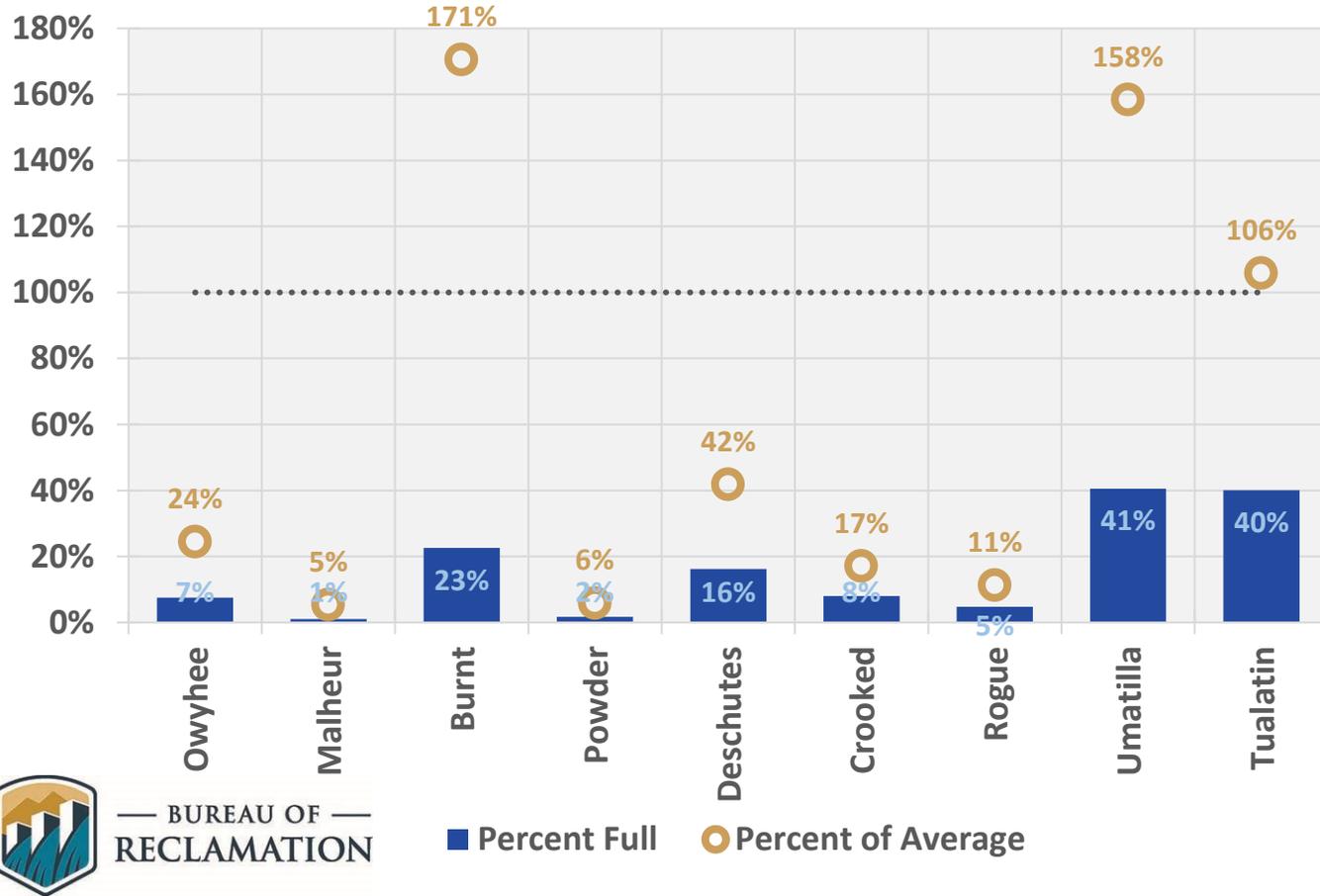


STREAMFLOW

7-DAY



October 16 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.