

# Oregon Water Conditions Report



November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## HIGHLIGHTS

[According to the US Drought Monitor](#), over 60% of Oregon is experiencing moderate (D1) to exceptional (D4) drought conditions. Recent wetness in western and northeastern Oregon led to improvements in drought severity after a slow start to the water year. More extreme drought conditions persist in much of eastern Oregon.

[October precipitation](#) was well below average throughout Oregon outside of the northeastern region. However, [precipitation over the past two weeks](#) was average to above average, particularly in western Oregon. Water year precipitation at [NRCS SNOTEL sites](#) is currently measuring 113% of the long-term median.

[October temperatures](#) were well above average statewide with some areas measuring the [hottest on record](#). [More recently, cooler temperatures have prevailed](#), ranging between 2 °F and 10 °F below average.

[Shallow groundwater profiles](#) continue to measure well below average throughout much of Oregon. Recent precipitation events have helped replenish surface and root zone soil moisture in western and northeastern Oregon.

The [seasonal climate outlook](#) for November through January varies throughout the state. Below average temperatures and near average precipitation are favored for southern Oregon, while near average temperatures and above average precipitation are expected for the northern half. Warm, wet conditions are expected over the next [8 to 14 days](#).

[October streamflows](#) were below to well below average statewide, with few exceptions along the Cascades and northeastern Oregon. [Streamflows were more variable over the past seven days](#), ranging from below to well above average. See below for more information.

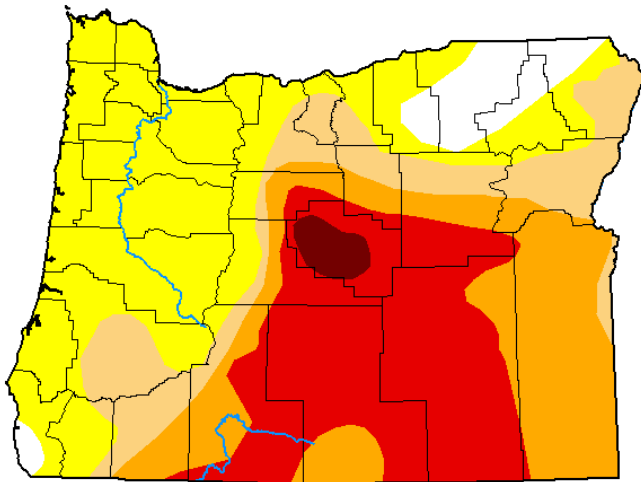
Reservoir storage contents are below average throughout most of Oregon, with exceptions in the Tualatin, Umatilla, and Burnt River basins. See [USBR](#) (including [Klamath](#)) teacup diagrams for more.

## DROUGHT CONDITIONS

Drought conditions have improved in western and parts of eastern Oregon due to recent cool and wet conditions, according to the US Drought Monitor. While moderate (D1) drought conditions have largely dissipated in much of western and northeastern Oregon, abnormally dry conditions remain. One-class improvements were also made in parts of southwestern Oregon, including Douglas, Jackson, and Klamath Counties.

### U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

**November 8, 2022**  
(Released Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	5.37	94.63	60.16	46.22	26.18	1.40
<b>Last Week</b> 11-01-2022	0.44	99.56	80.77	52.92	30.73	1.40
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 08-09-2022	25.01	74.99	65.60	52.55	30.73	1.40
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-04-2022	4.16	95.84	89.75	75.37	50.84	17.27
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-27-2022	0.42	99.58	68.05	52.42	30.73	1.40
<b>One Year Ago</b> 11-09-2021	1.34	98.66	98.27	94.67	71.57	25.33

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>

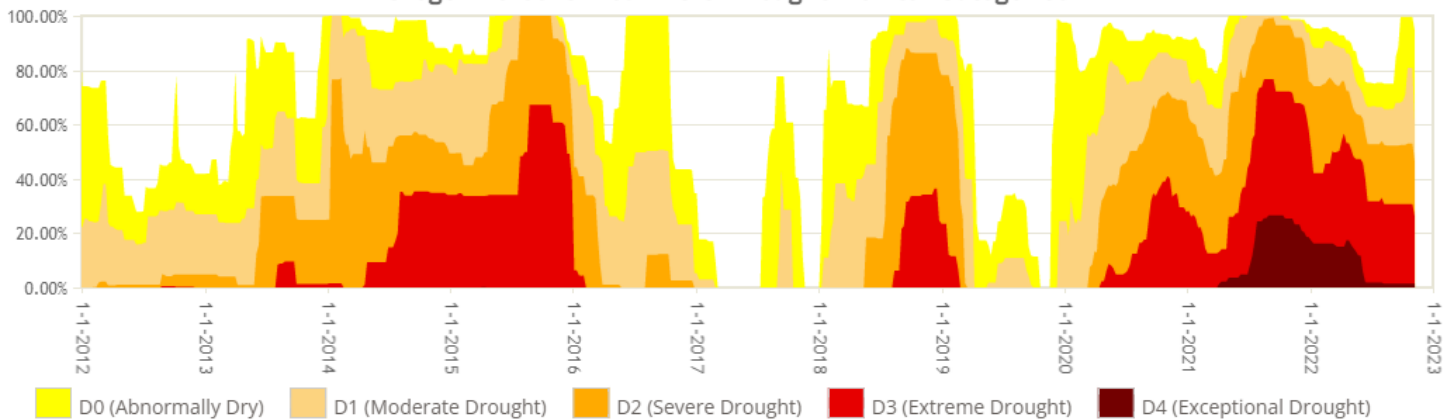
Author:

Brian Fuchs  
National Drought Mitigation Center



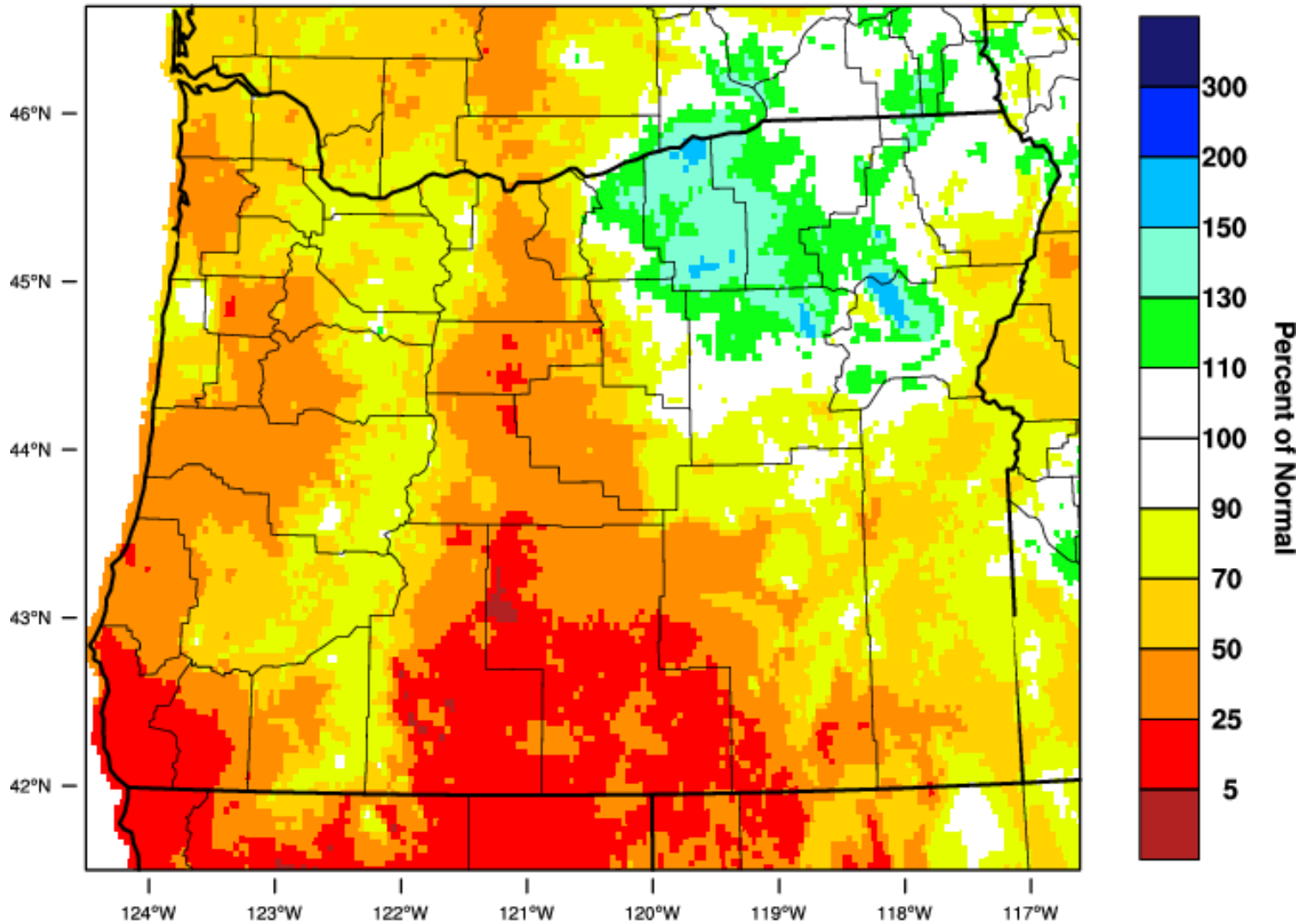
[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

### Oregon Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories



### Oregon - Precipitation

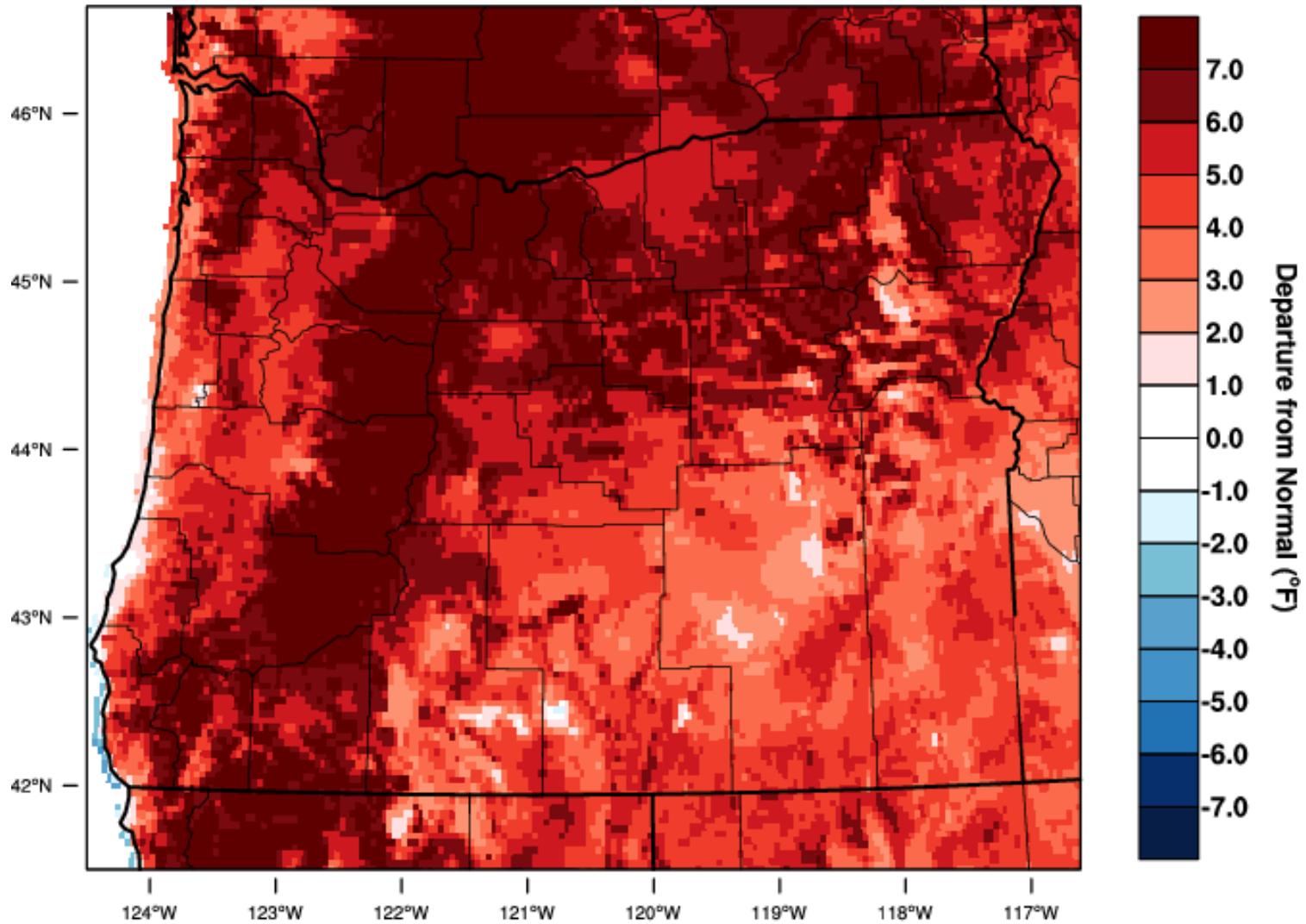
October 2022 Percent of 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 11 NOV 2022

### Oregon - Mean Temperature

October 2022 Departure from 1981-2010 Normal

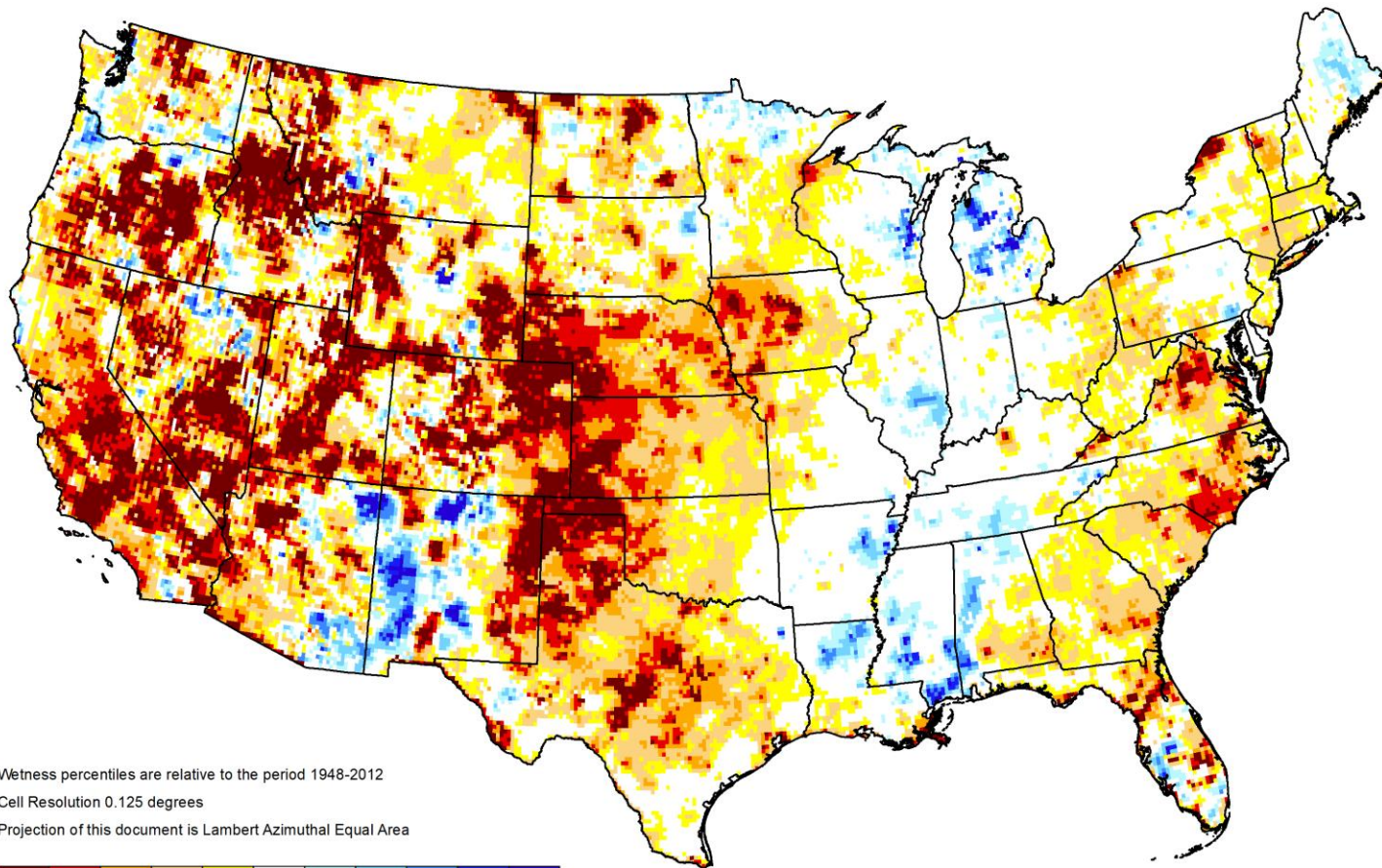


WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 11 NOV 2022

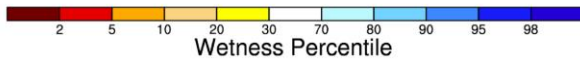


# GRACE-Based Shallow Groundwater Drought Indicator

November 07, 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>

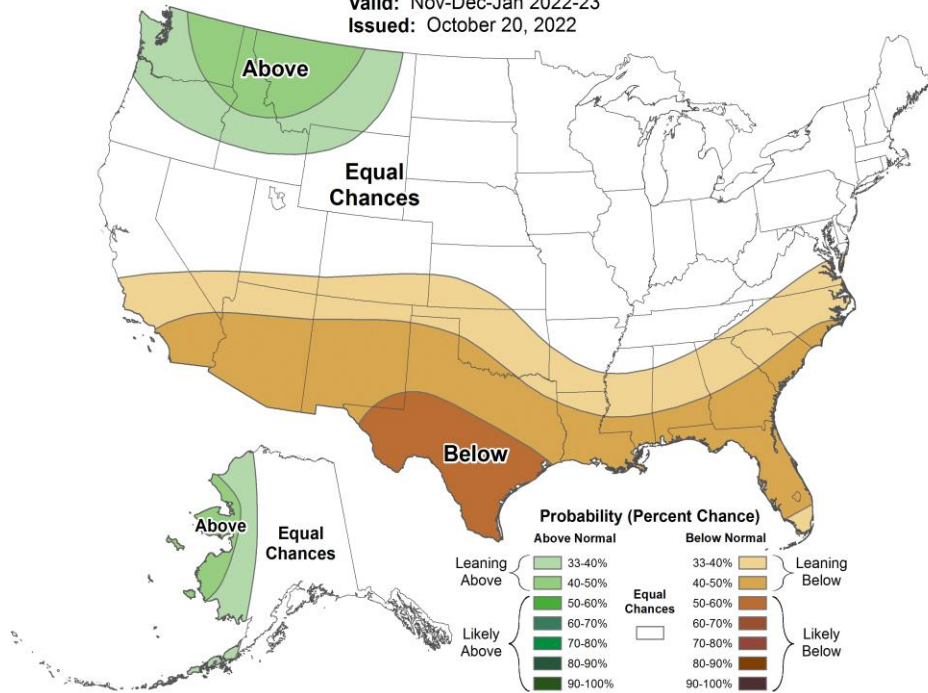




## Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



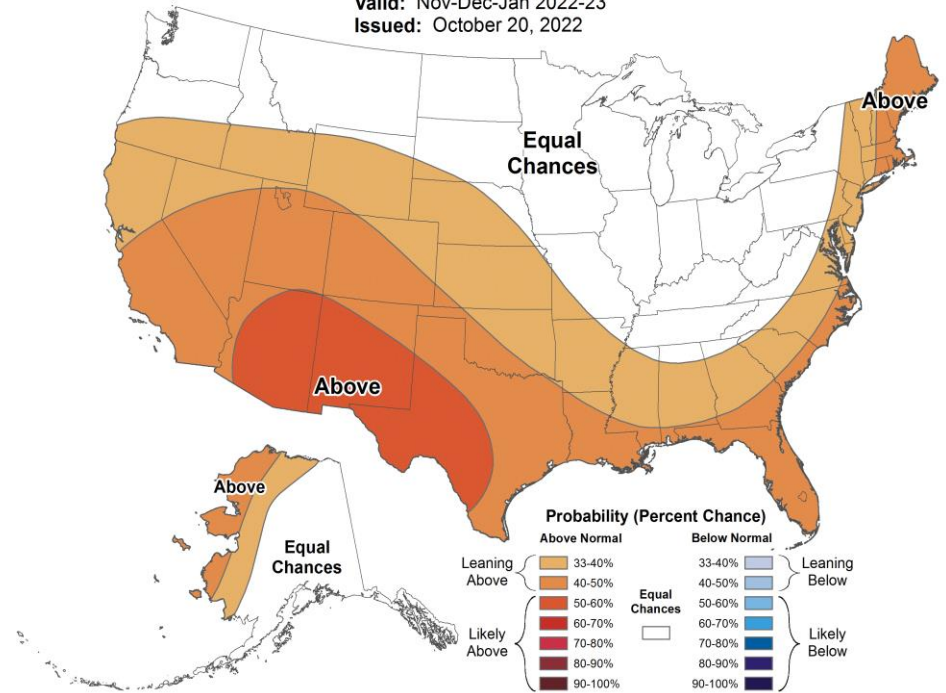
Valid: Nov-Dec-Jan 2022-23  
 Issued: October 20, 2022



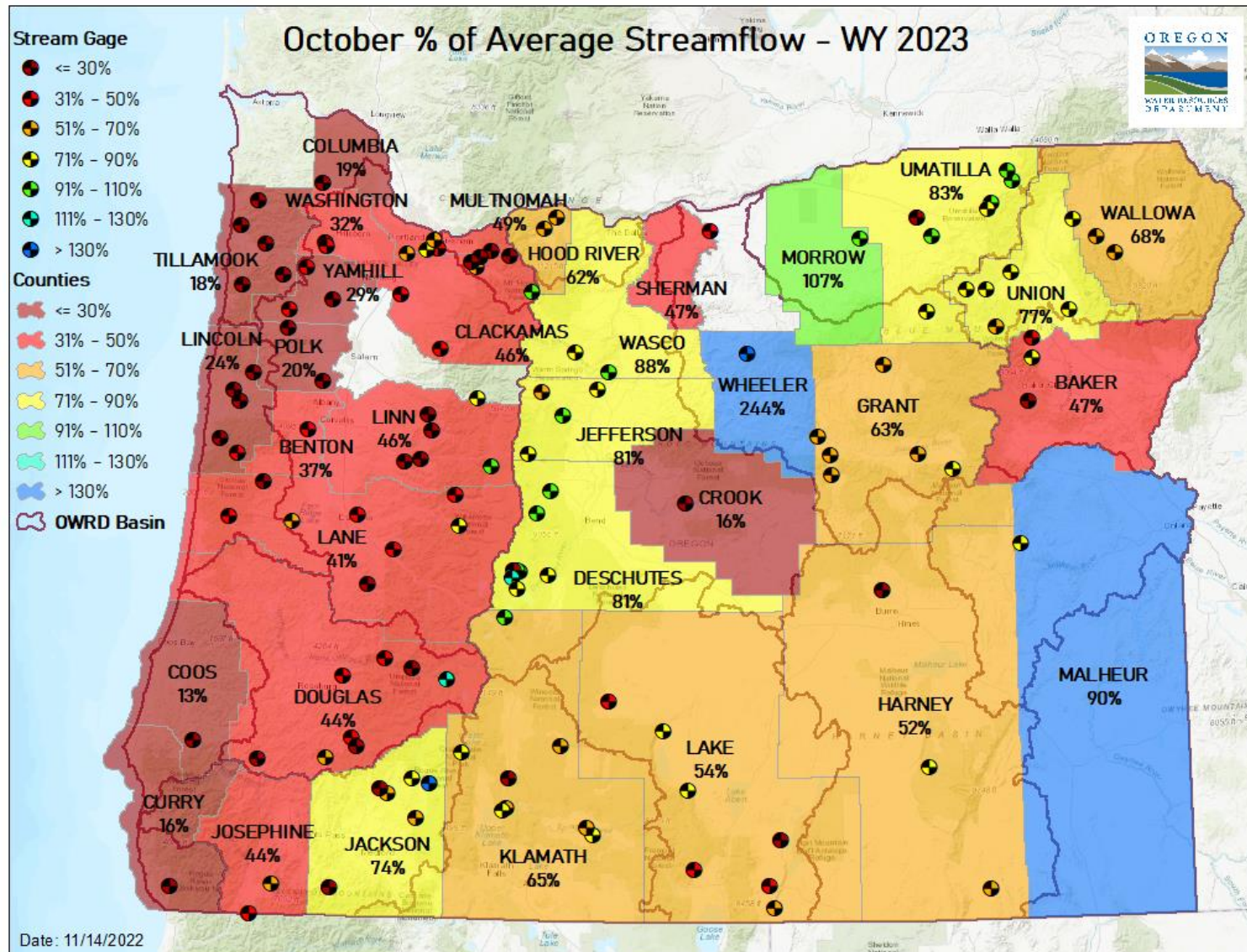
## Seasonal Temperature Outlook



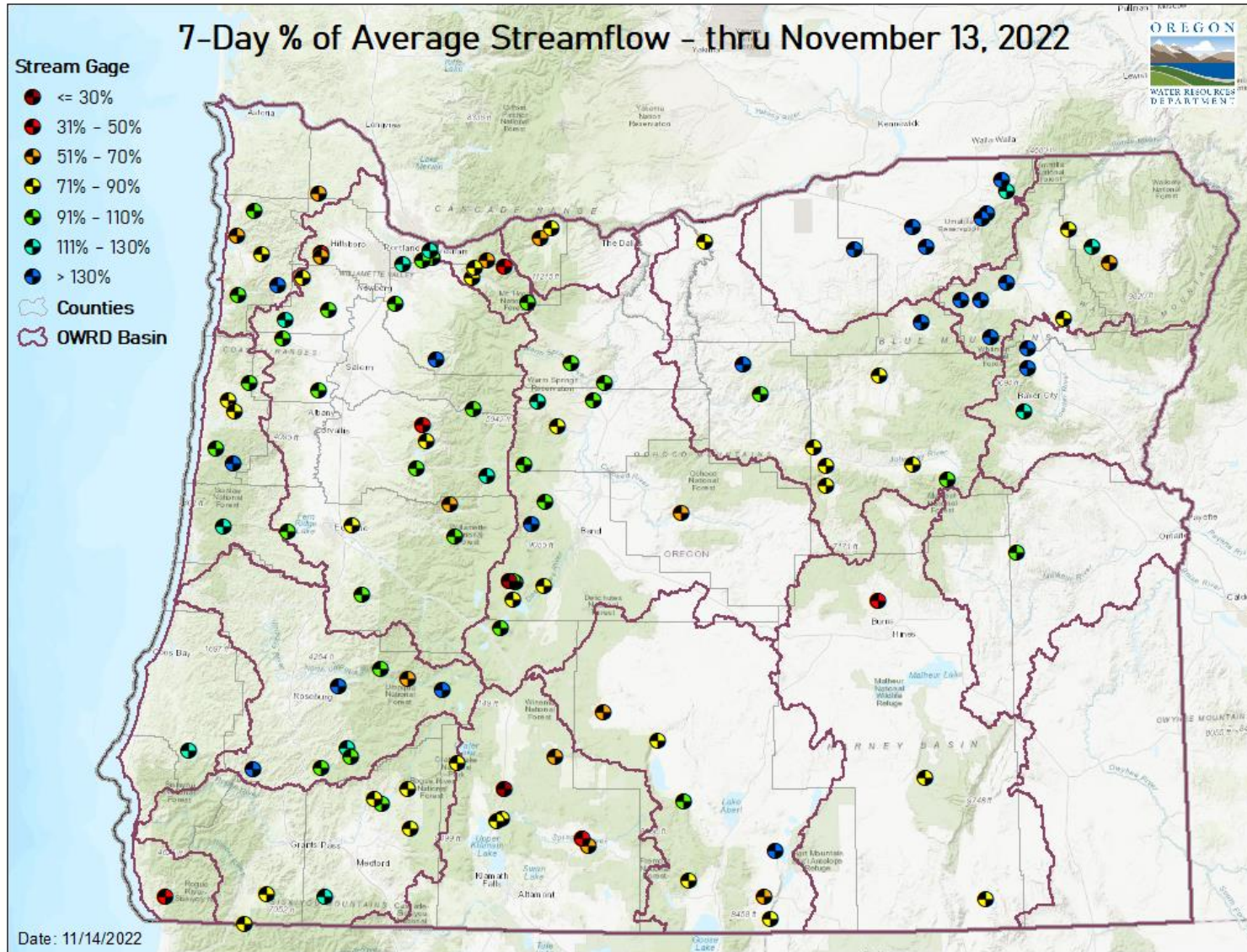
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**STREAMFLOW**  
**OCTOBER**

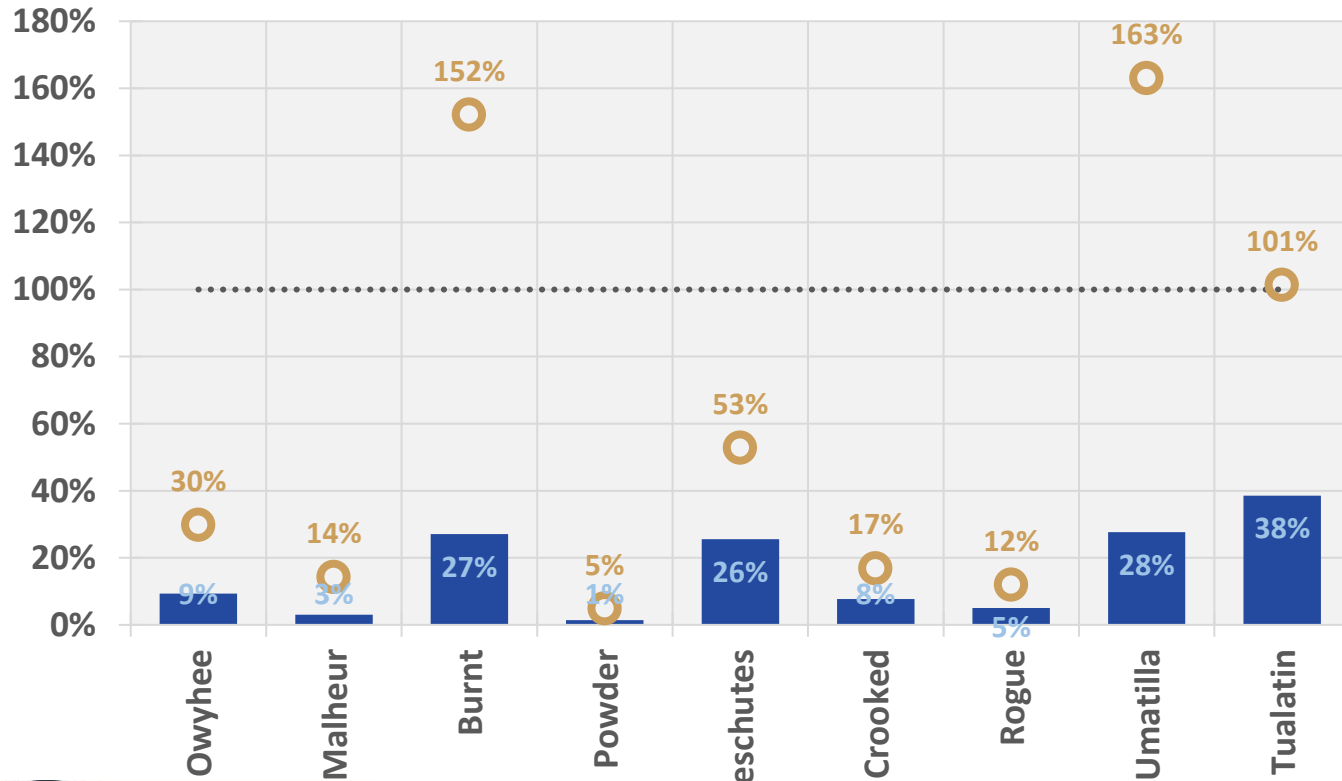








### November 13 Reservoir Storage



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.