

Oregon Water Conditions Report



March 11th, 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

According to the [US Drought Monitor](#), over 9% of Oregon is experiencing moderate (D1) drought conditions. Over the past two weeks, moderate drought has been removed from Lane and Douglas counties.

[Snow water equivalent \(SWE\)](#) is currently measuring below to well above the historical median (min = 90%, max = 154%). SWE has continued to increase in all basins over the past two weeks. For more information see [individual basin SWE plots](#).

Precipitation in February was generally average to above average for much of the state except for parts of northern and western OR where precipitation was below average. [Over the last two weeks](#), most of the state received above-average precipitation, except for north-central Oregon, which was up to 1.5 inches below average.

Temperatures in February were above average for much of the state with some exception in western and central Oregon where temperatures were just below average to average. Temperatures [over the last two weeks](#) have generally been below average, ranging from 2°F to 8°F below average.

[Recent soil moisture indicators](#) generally show a minor increase across much of the state with parts of the Cascades and north-central Oregon showing a decrease in soil moisture. Wet conditions prevail in western Oregon, whereas conditions vary between average and below average in the east.

The [seasonal climate outlook](#) indicates probabilities favoring above average temperatures statewide. The seasonal outlook also indicates probabilities leaning towards below average precipitation for most of the state with the exception of southeast Oregon, where there are equal chances of above or below average precipitation.

Streamflow in February varied between western and eastern OR. West of the Cascades, streamflow was below (60%; Yamhill County) to well above (132%; Curry County) average. East of the Cascades streamflow was near (91%; Umatilla County) to well above (222%; Grant County) average. [Recent streamflow](#) conditions over the past seven days varied across Oregon ranging from well below to well above average.

Reservoir storage in many basins is currently average to above average. However, projects in the Deschutes and Rogue basins are measuring below average. See [USBR](#) (including [Klamath](#)) and [USACE](#) teacup diagrams for more information.

U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

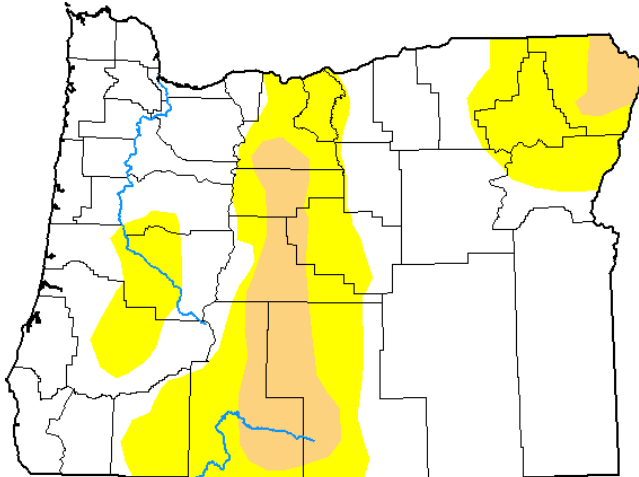
March 5, 2024

(Released Thursday, Mar. 7, 2024)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	63.70	36.30	9.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week <small>02-27-2024</small>	63.69	36.31	14.71	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <small>12-05-2023</small>	42.73	57.27	19.08	3.12	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <small>01-02-2024</small>	47.04	52.96	18.85	3.12	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year <small>09-26-2023</small>	24.13	75.87	54.18	27.06	6.40	0.00
One Year Ago <small>03-07-2023</small>	5.19	94.81	78.02	39.67	14.48	1.40



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>

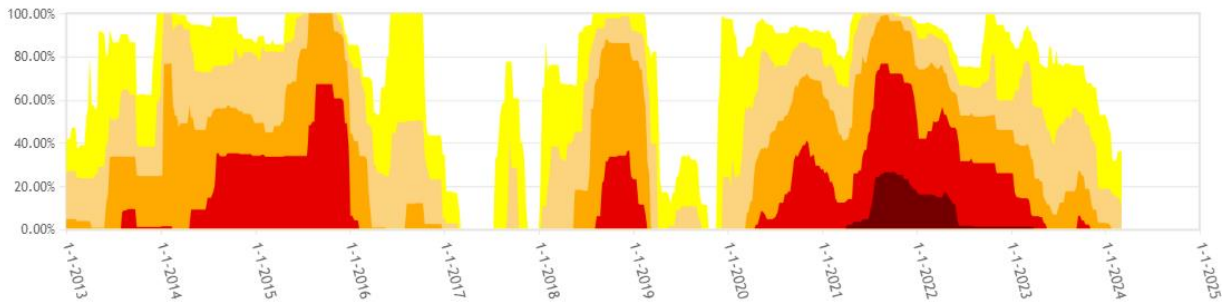
Author:

Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

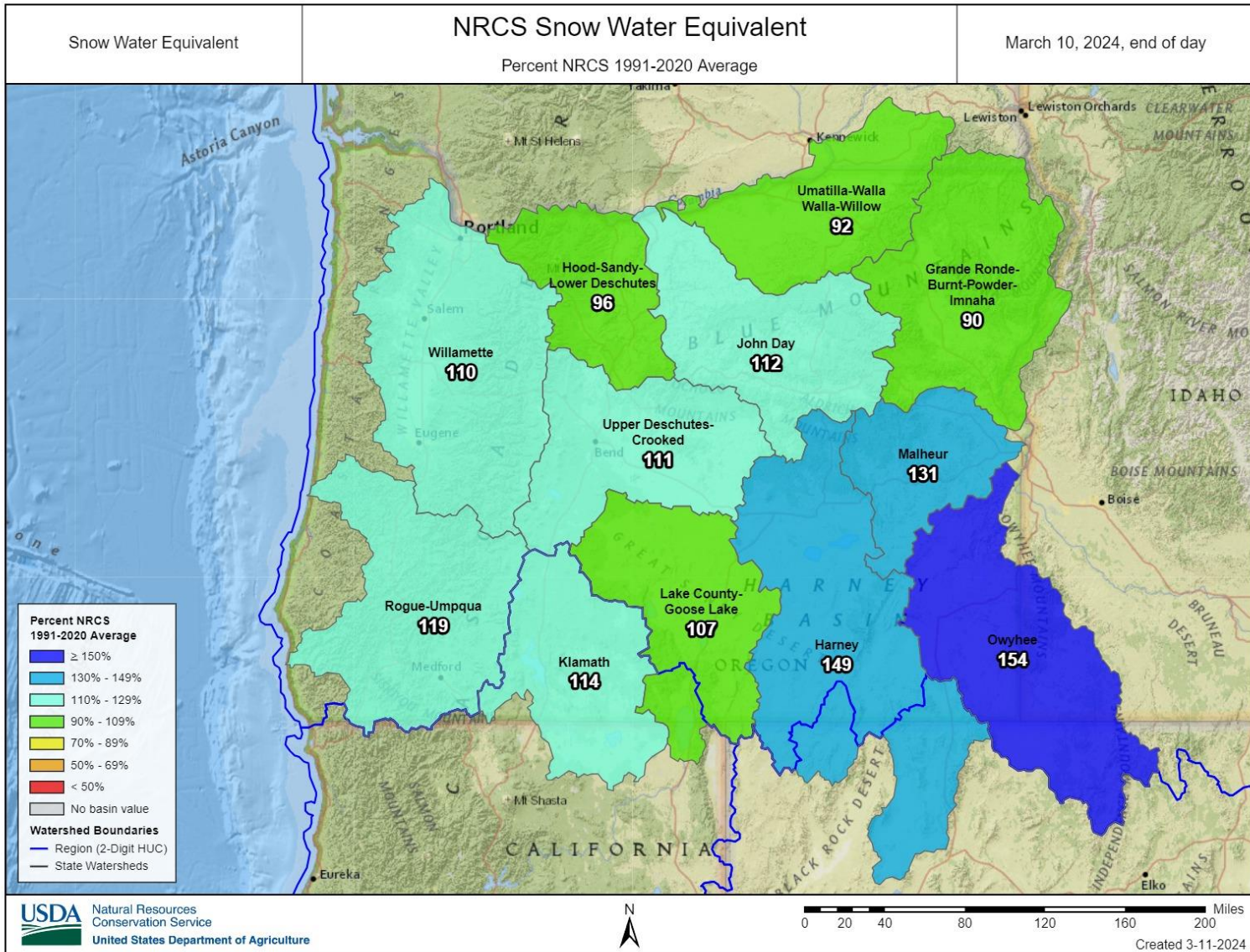
Oregon Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories



From the U.S. Drought Monitor website, <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DmData/TimeSeries.aspx>; 3-11-2024

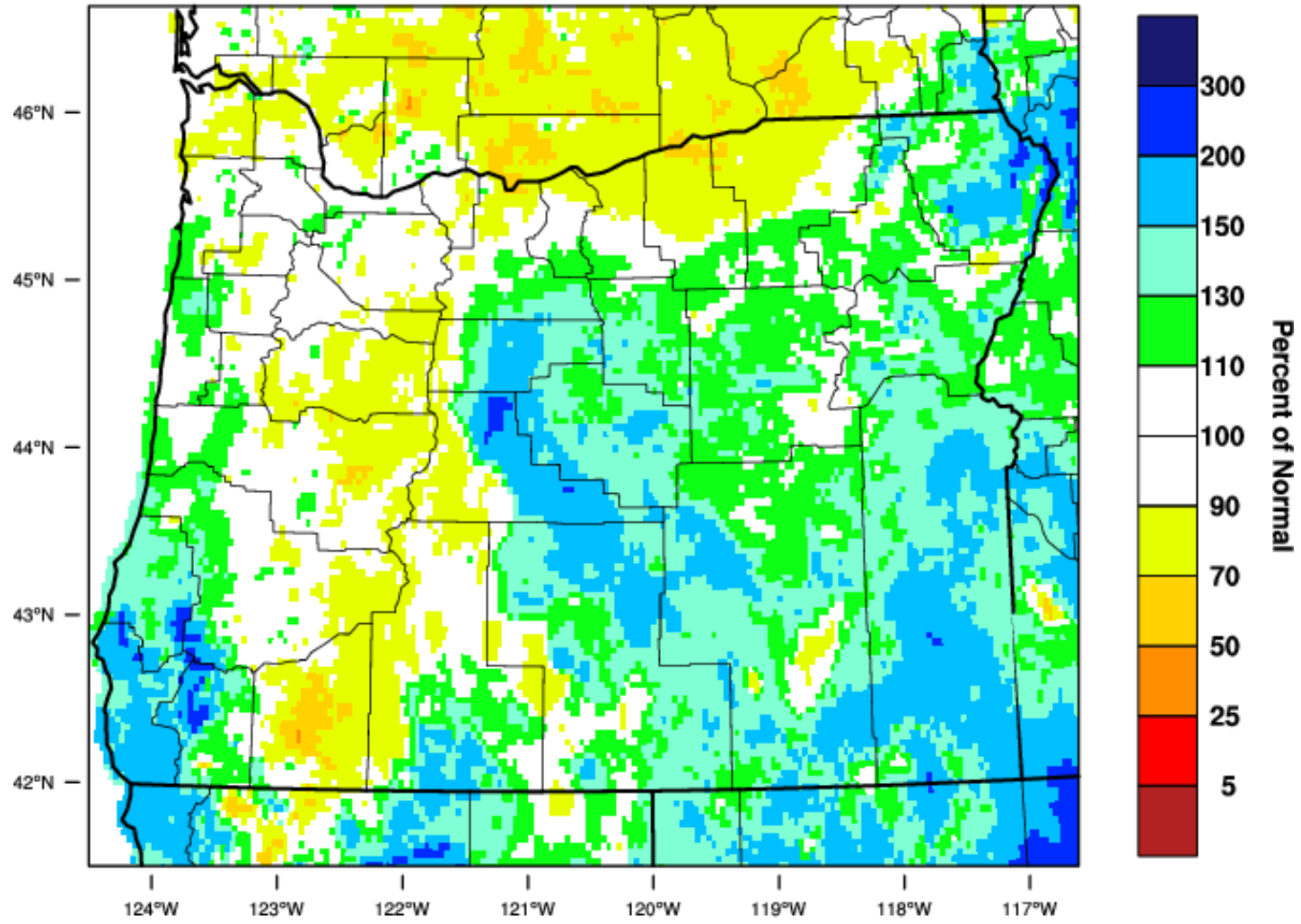


CLIMATE CONDITIONS
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT



Oregon - Precipitation

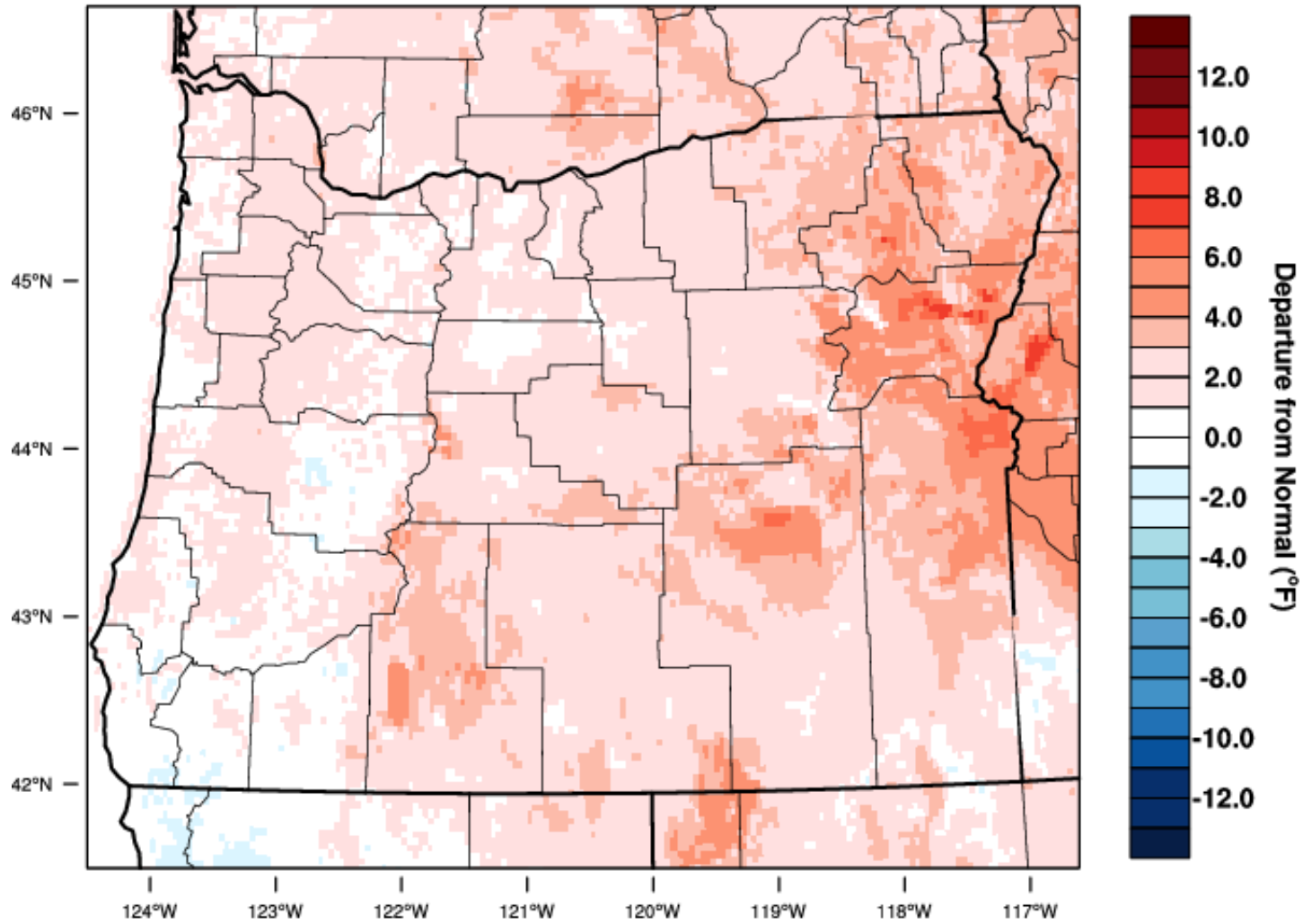
February 2024 Percent of 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 11 MAR 2024

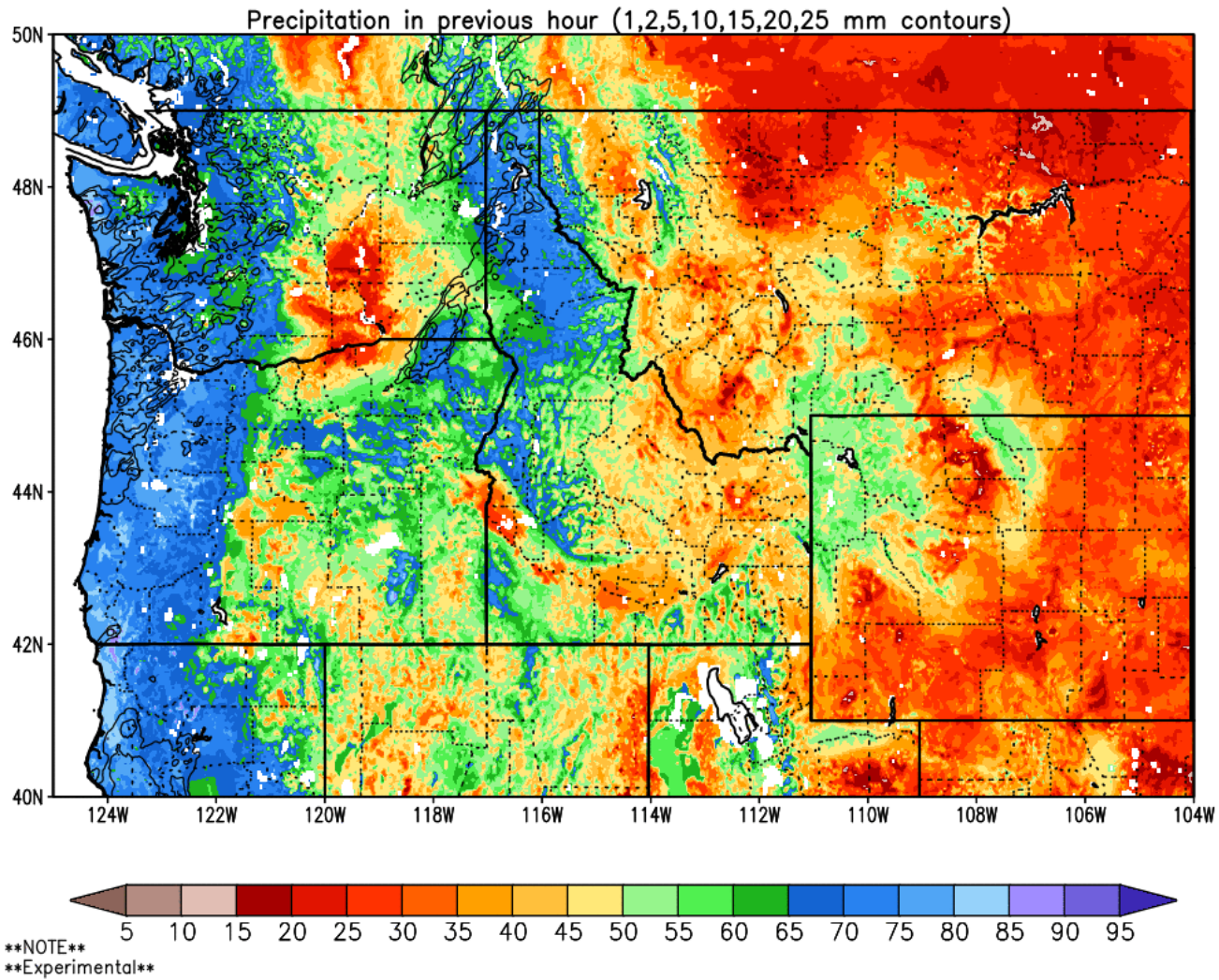
Oregon - Mean Temperature

February 2024 Departure from 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 11 MAR 2024

Column-Integrated Relative Soil Moisture (available water; %) valid 00z 11 Mar 2024

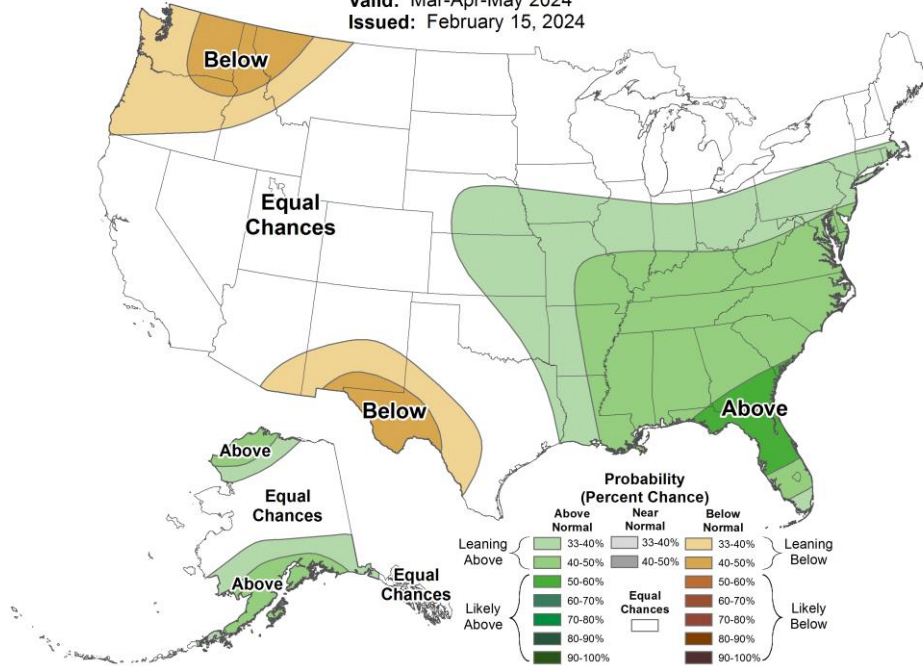




Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



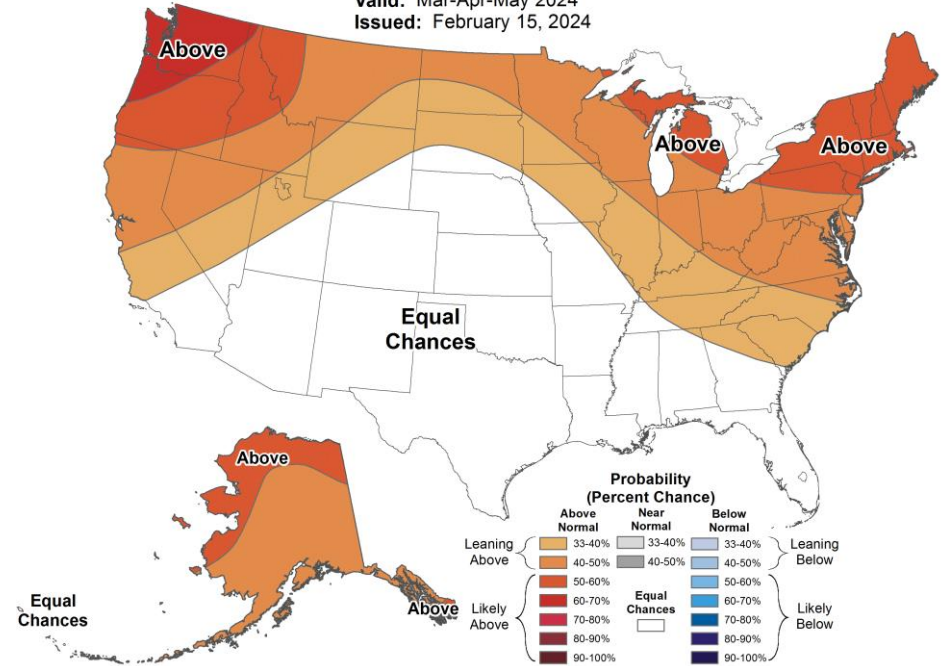
Valid: Mar-Apr-May 2024
 Issued: February 15, 2024



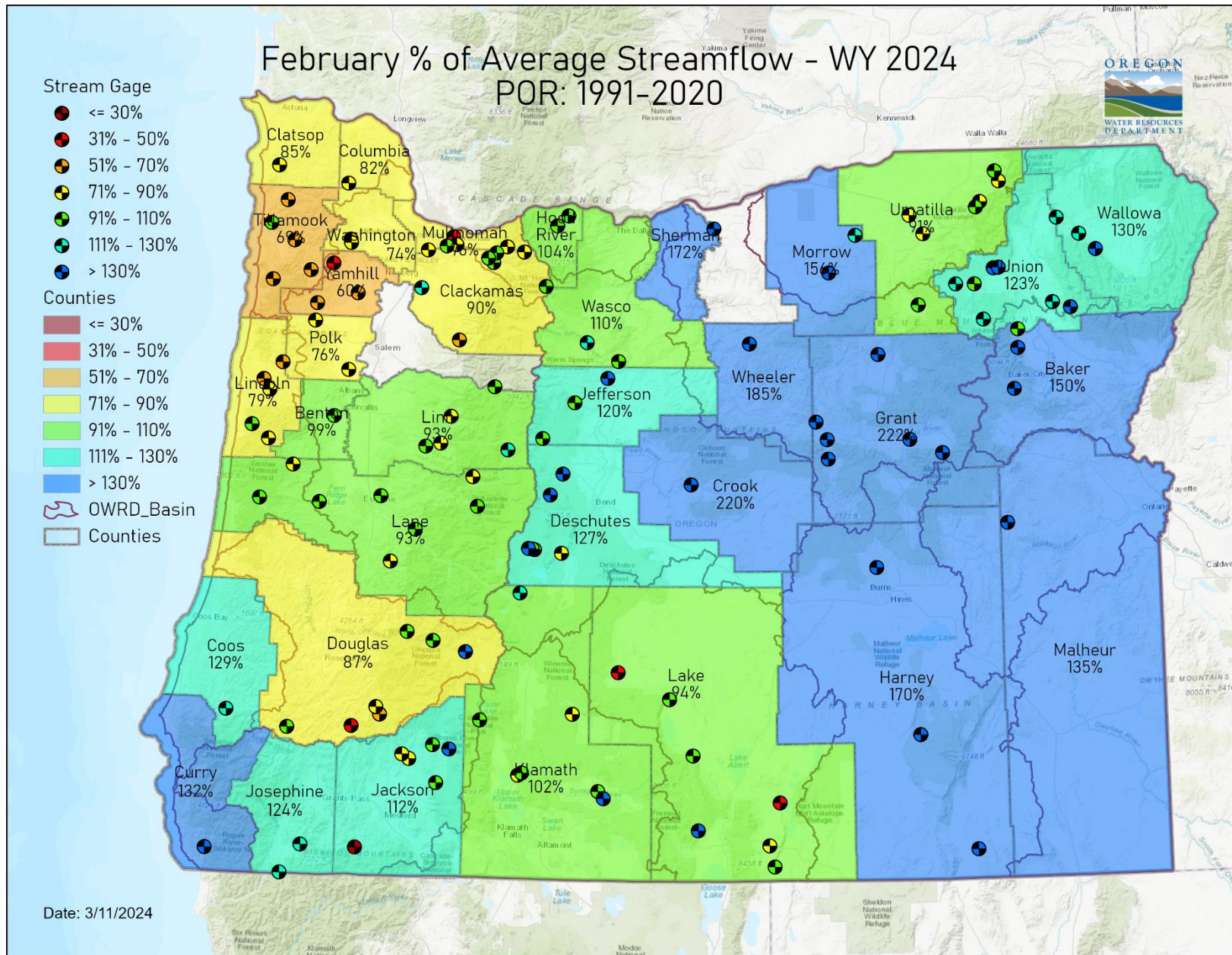
Seasonal Temperature Outlook

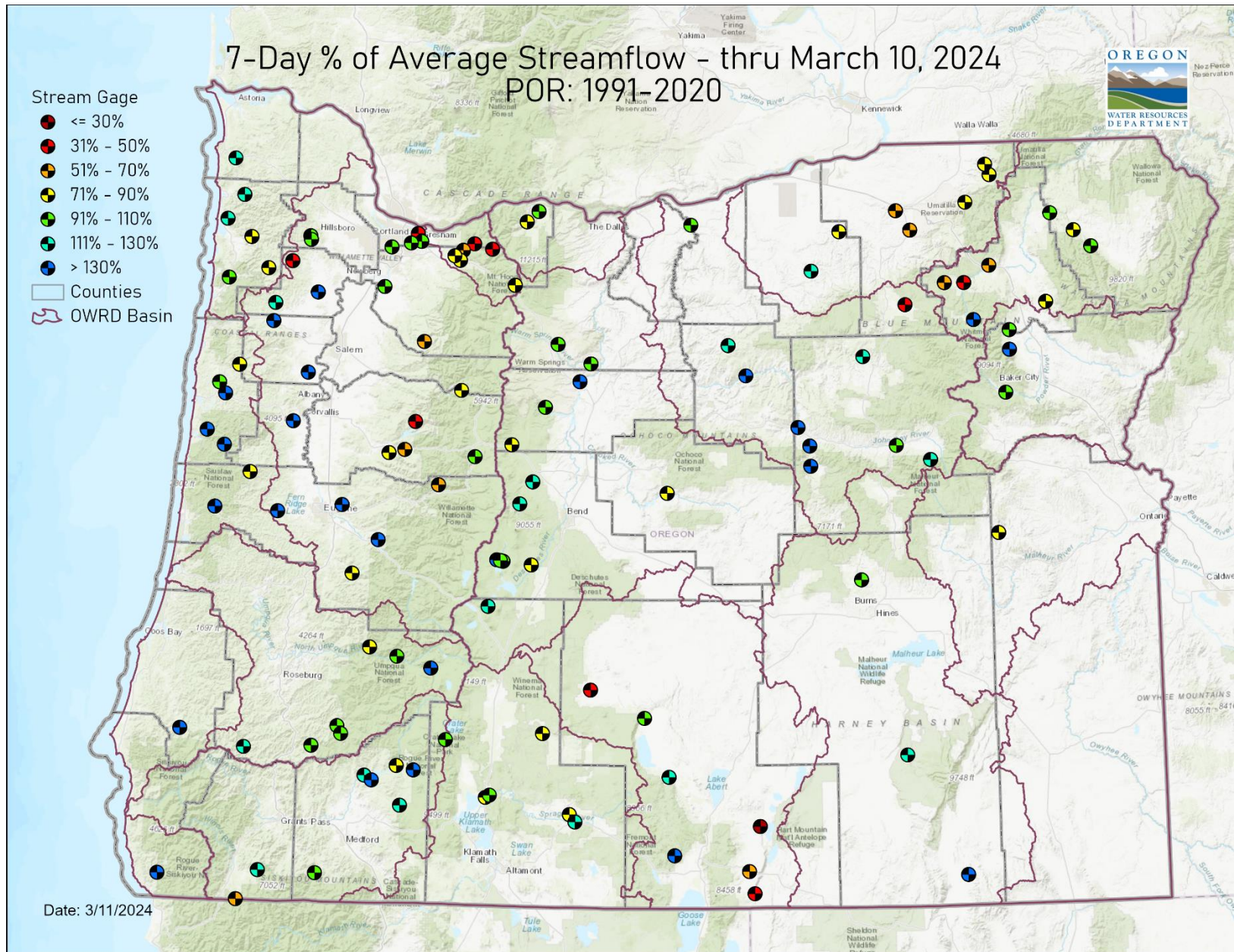


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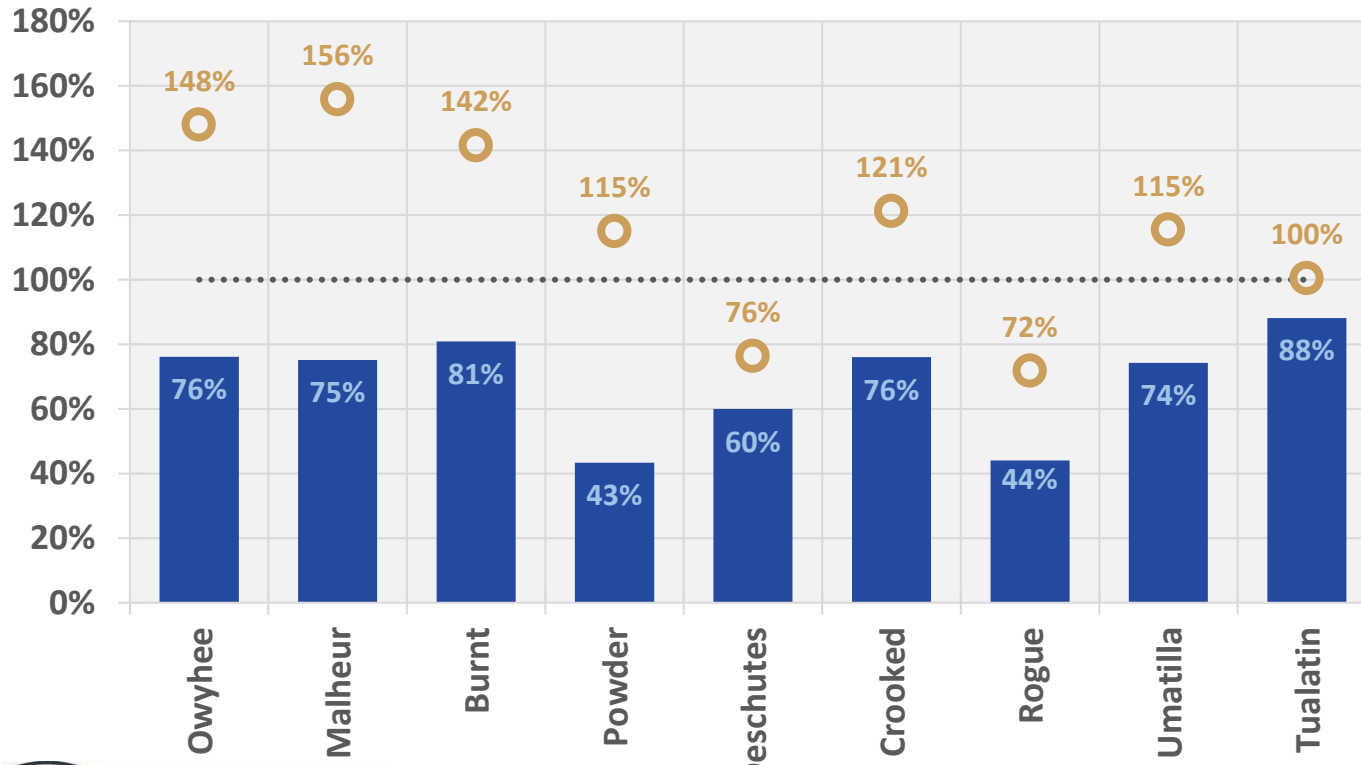


STREAMFLOW





March 10 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.