Oregon Water Conditions Report

March 25th, 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

According to the US Drought Monitor, over 8% of Oregon is experiencing moderate (D1) drought conditions. Over the past two weeks, moderate drought has been removed from Wasco County and most of Jefferson County.

Snow water equivalent (SWE) is currently measuring below to well above the historical median (min = 85%, max = 171%). Over the past two weeks, SWE has decreased for most basins with the exception of the Owyhee and Harney basins. For more information see individual basin SWE plots.

Over the last two weeks, most of the state received below-average precipitation ranging from 0.5 to 2.5 inches below average. However, precipitation in parts of north-central and south-central Oregon was up to 1 inch above average. Additionally, precipitation in coastal southwest Oregon was also above average and ranged from 0.5 to 2 inches above average.

Temperatures over the past two weeks were above average for most of the state, ranging from 2°F to 6°F above average. However, temperatures in the central Cascades were 2°F to 4°F below normal.

Recent soil moisture indicators show a decrease for most of western Oregon and parts of eastern Oregon. Parts of the Cascades and Blue Mountains are showing an increase in soil moisture.

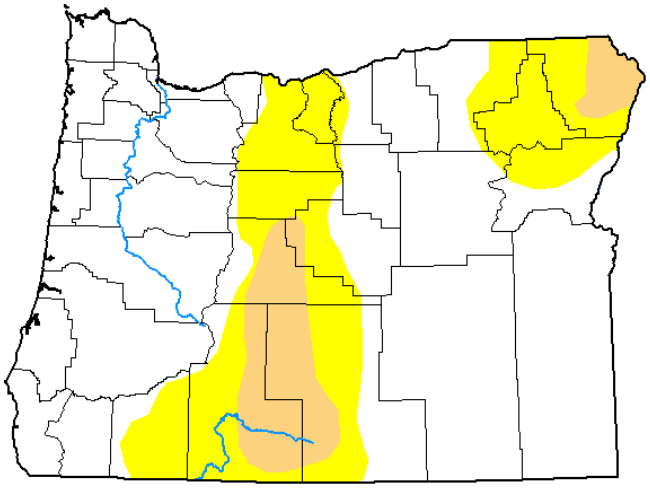
The near-term climate outlook indicates probabilities leaning towards above average precipitation for much of central and eastern Oregon and near normal conditions in most of western Oregon and parts of central Oregon. The near-term outlook also indicates probabilities leaning towards below average temperatures statewide.

Recent streamflow conditions over the past seven days have varied across much of the state. Streamflow was generally below to near average in northwestern Oregon and above average in southwestern Oregon. In eastern Oregon, streamflow was more variable and ranged from well below to well above average. Water year to date (WYTD) streamflow is near to well above average for most basins in the state. However, in south-central Oregon WYTD streamflow is below average but has slightly increased over the past two weeks.

Reservoir storage in many basins is currently 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.

DROUGHT CONDITIONS

U.S. Drought Monitor
Oregon



March 19, 2024
(Released Thursday, Mar. 21, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	69.14	30.86	8.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 03-12-2024	67.64	32.36	9.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 12-19-2023	47.09	52.91	18.85	3.12	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	47.04	52.96	18.85	3.12	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	24.13	75.87	54.18	27.06	6.40	0.00
One Year Ago 03-21-2023	8.50	91.50	73.32	33.49	7.18	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

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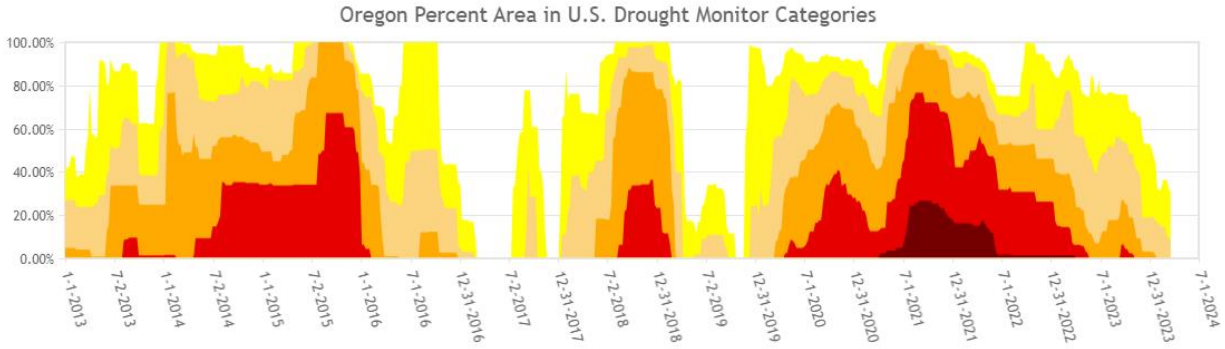
U.S. Department of Agriculture

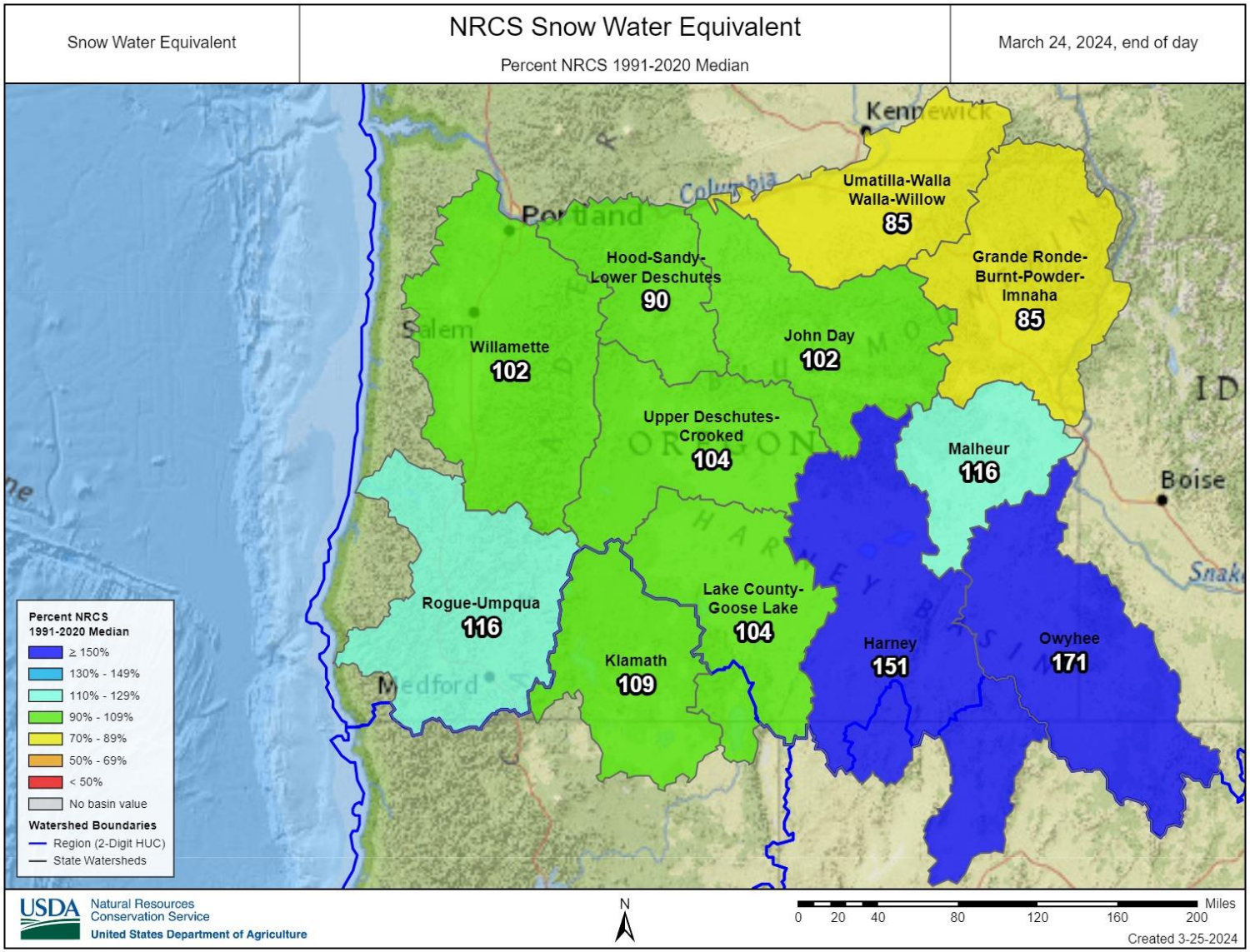
droughtmonitor.unl.edu



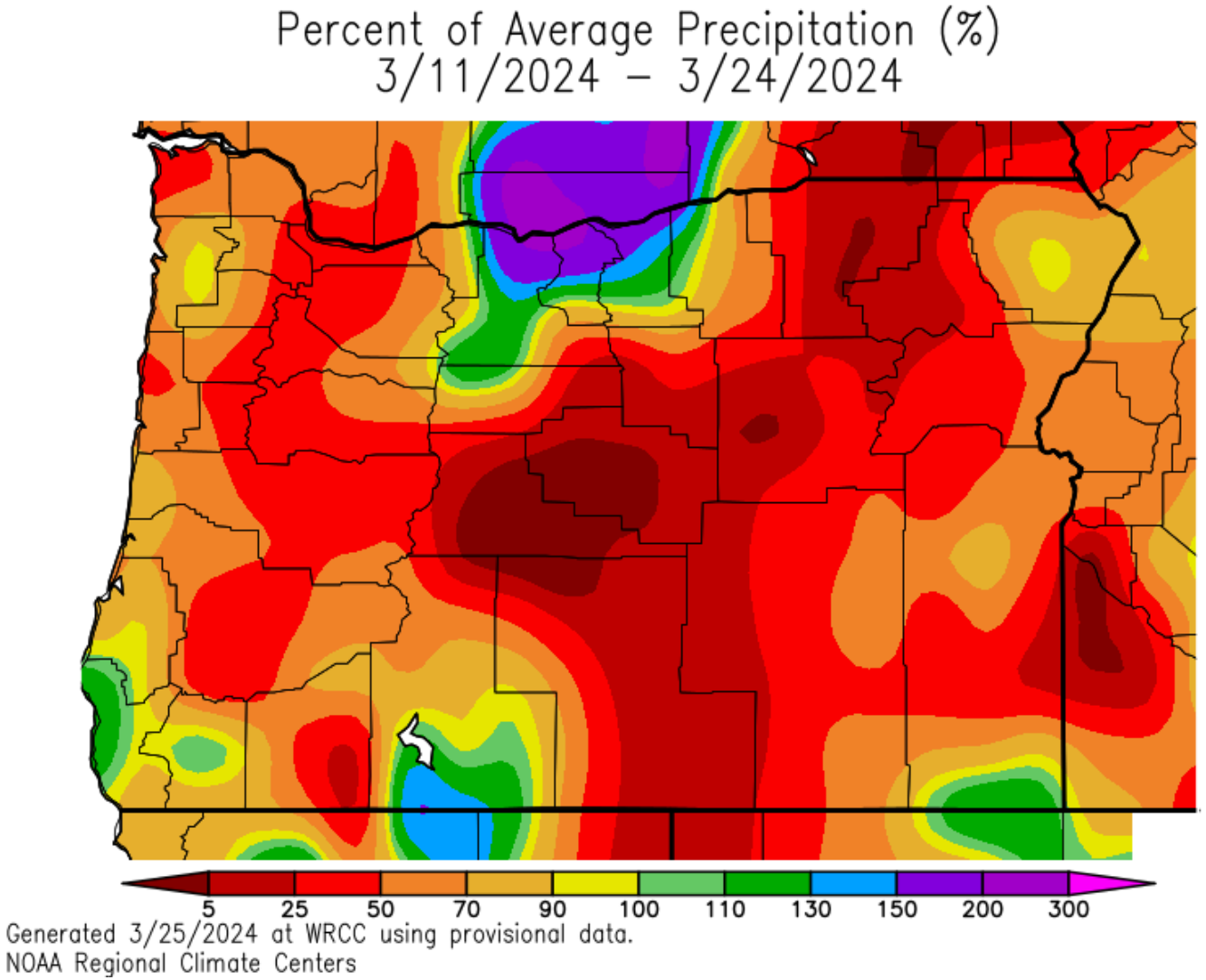
From the U.S. Drought Monitor website, https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DmData/TimeSeries.aspx, 3-25-2024

CLIMATE CONDITIONS

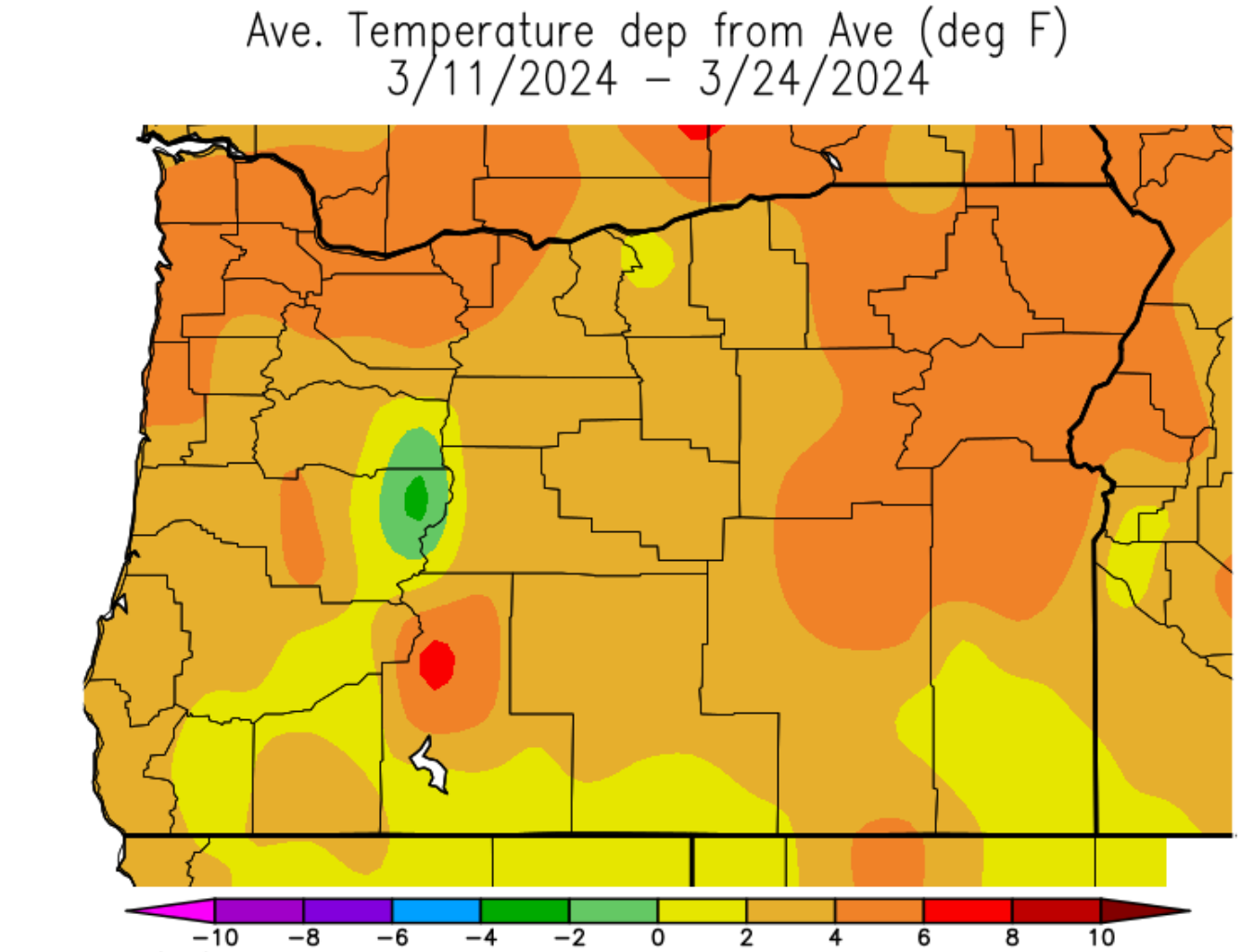
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT



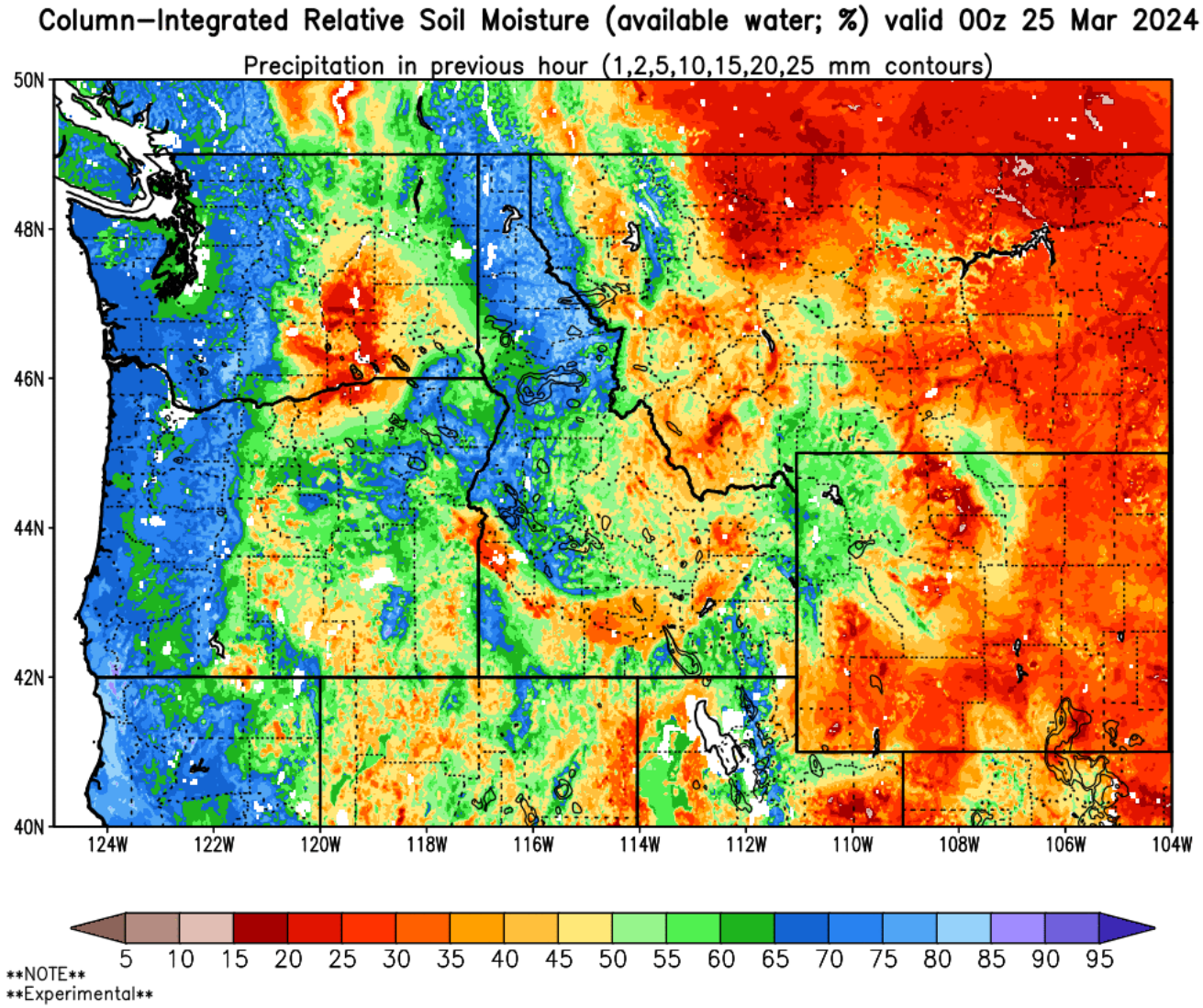
PRECIPITATION



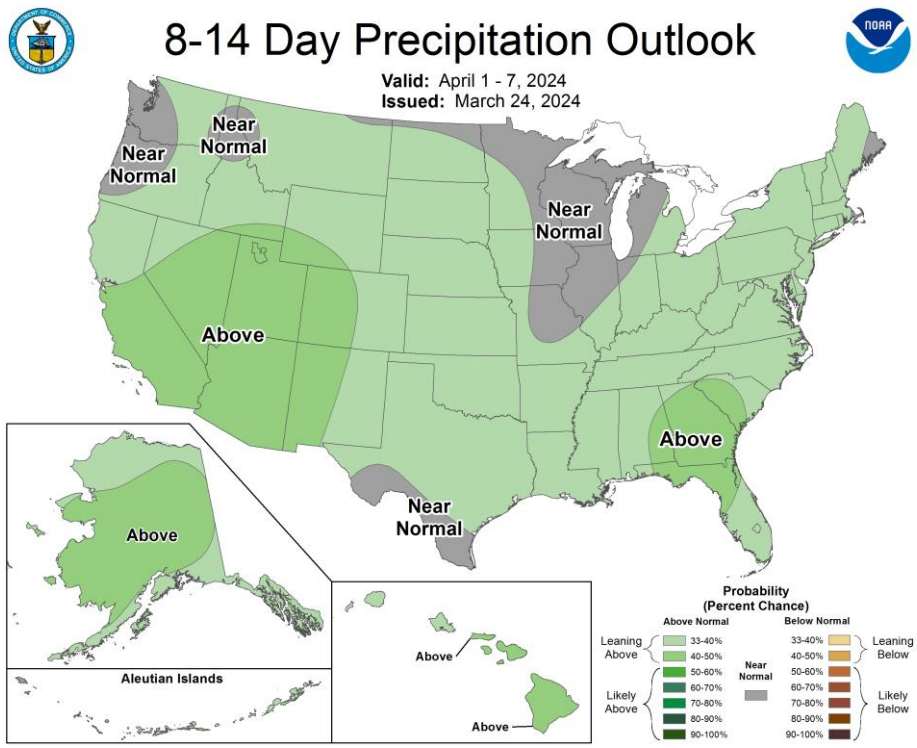
TEMPERATURE

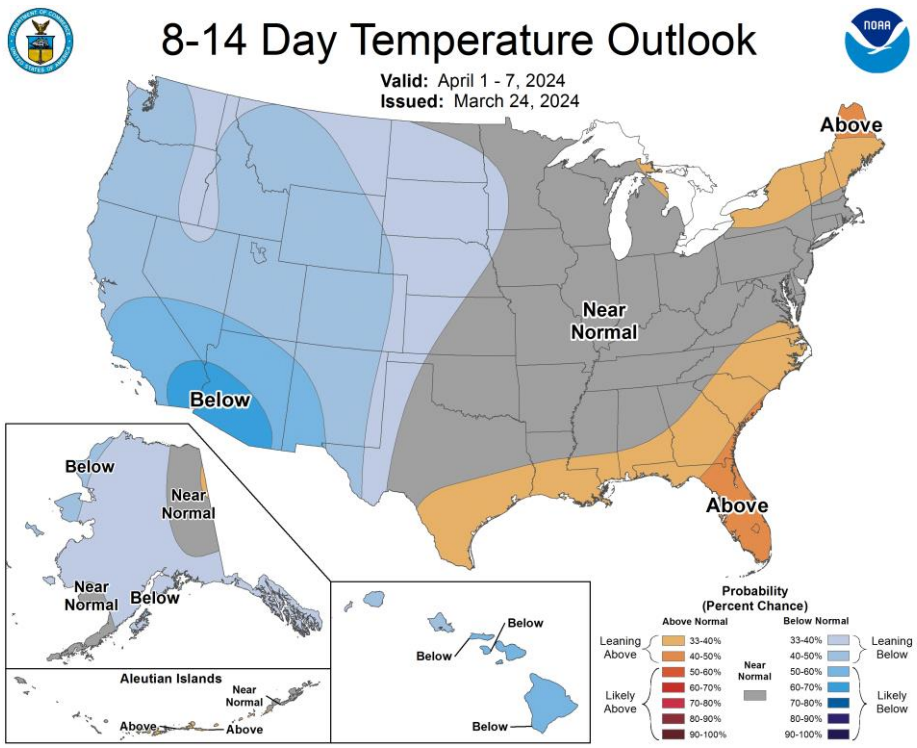


SOIL MOISTURE

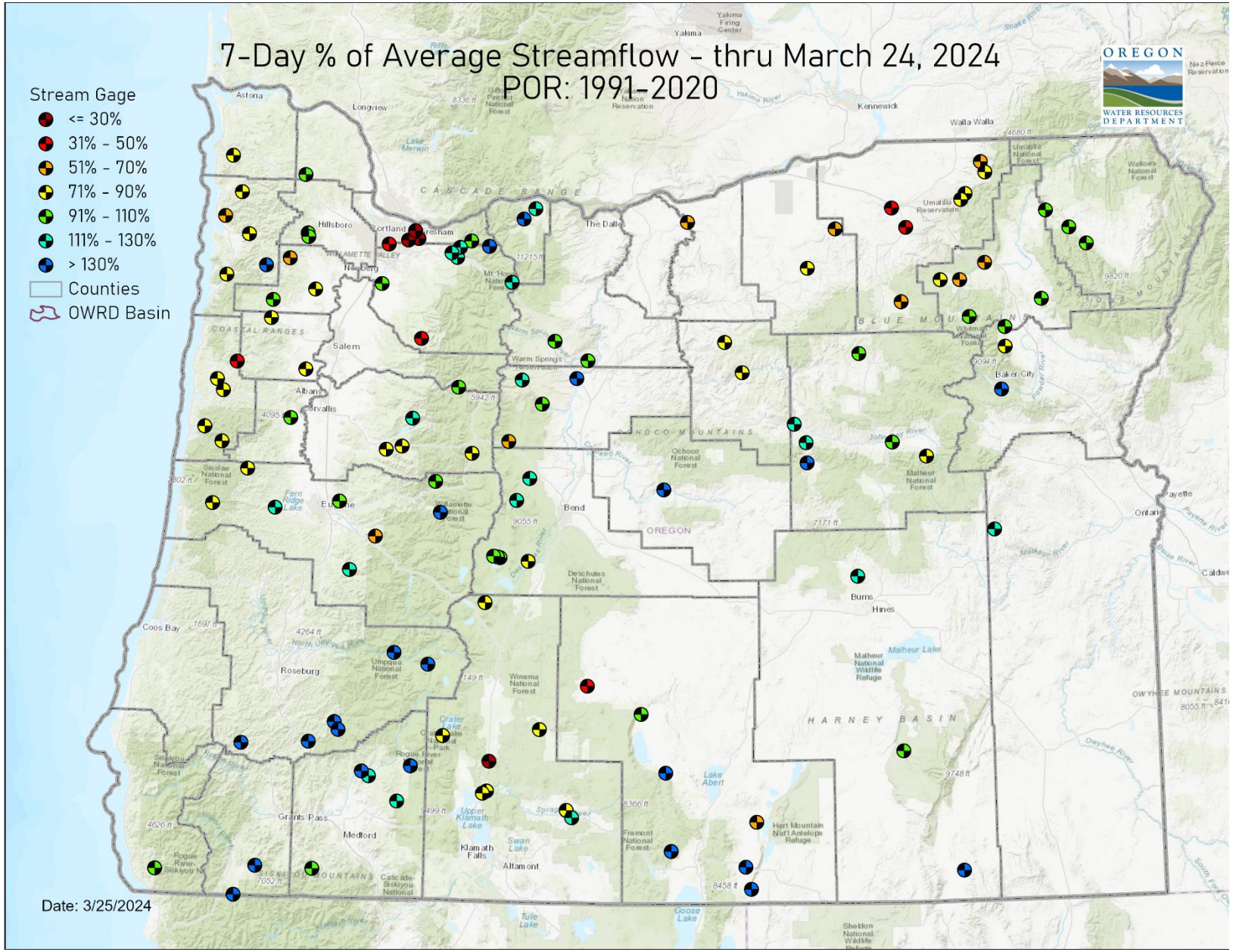


CLIMATE OUTLOOK

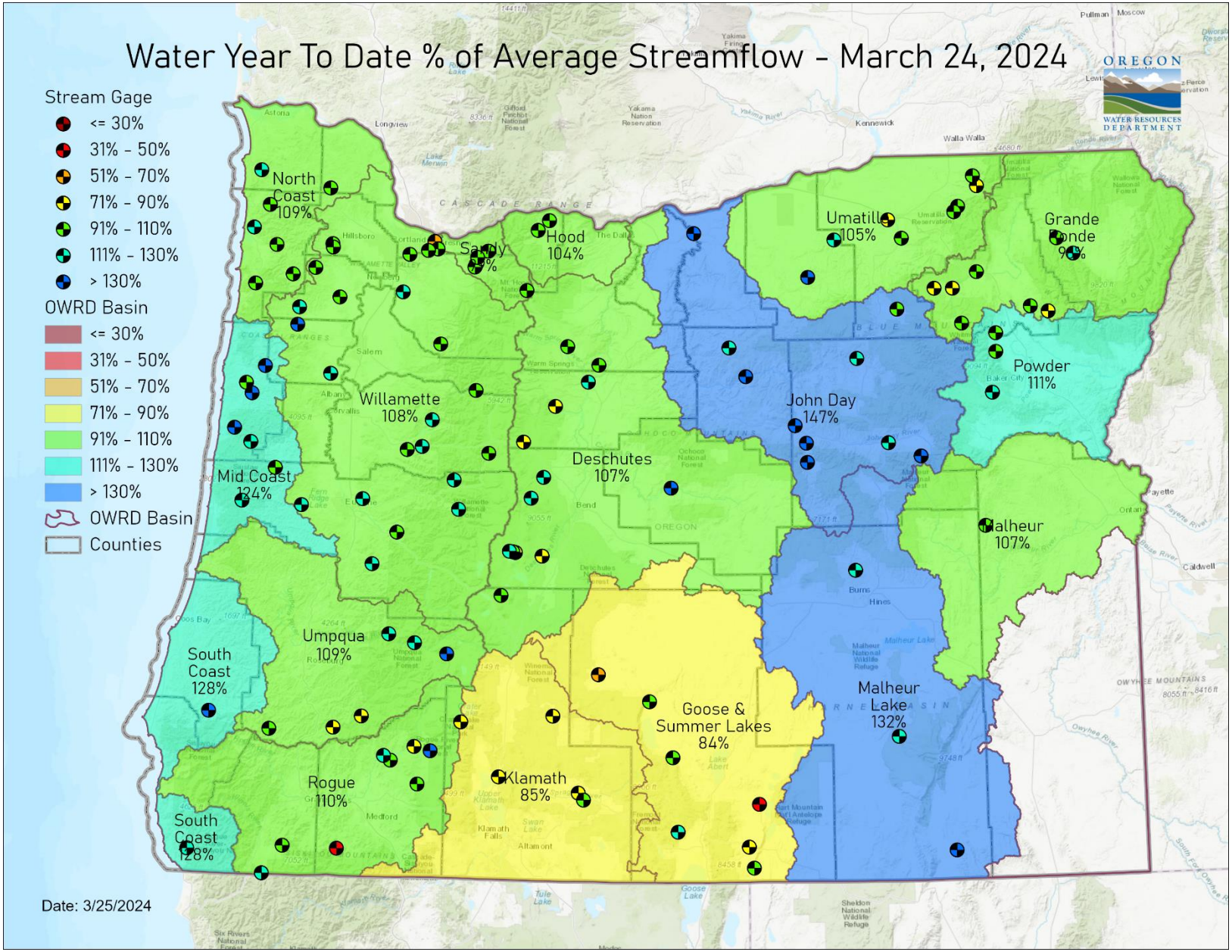


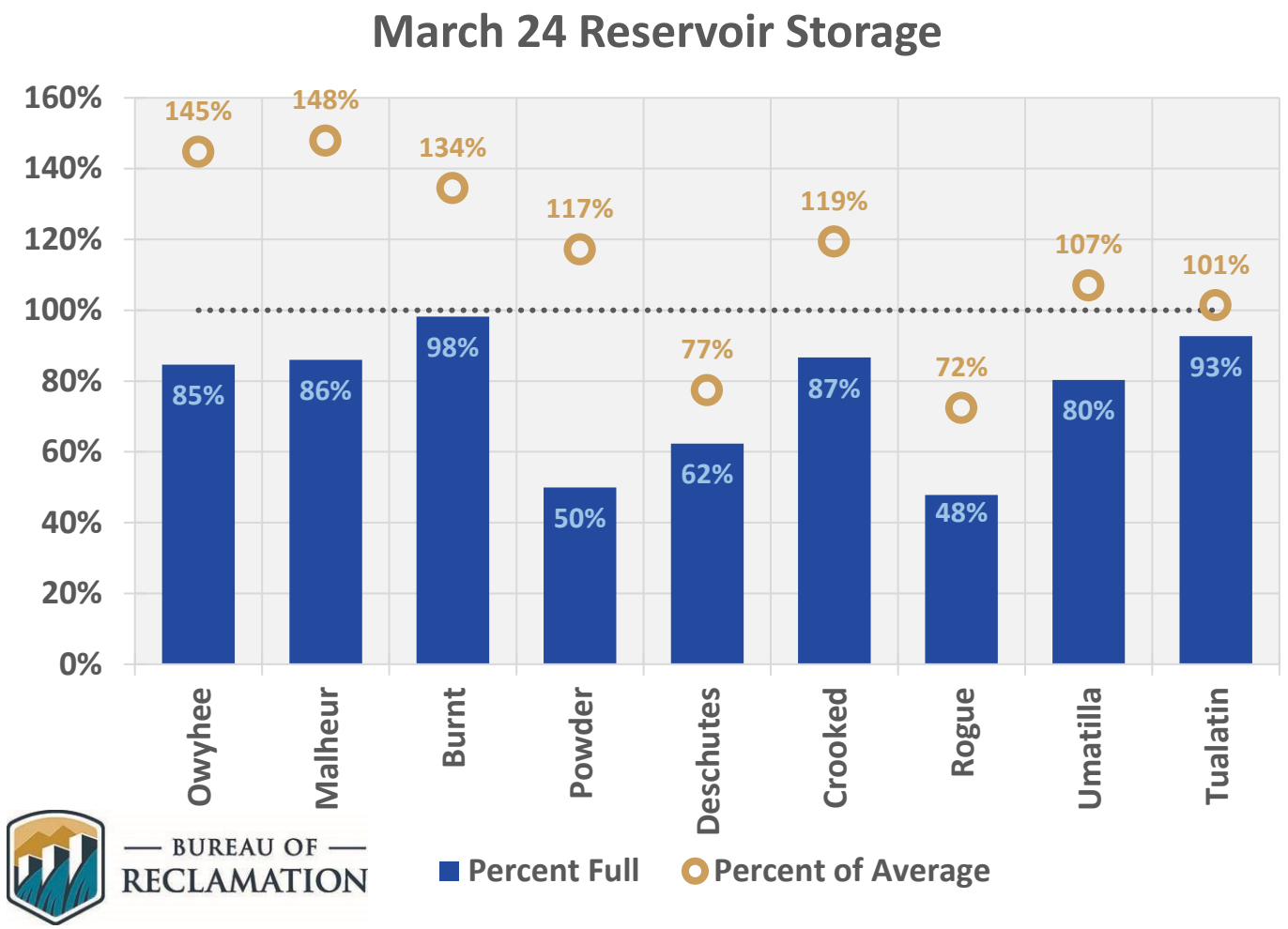


STREAMFLOW


7-Day % of Average Streamflow - thru March 24, 2024
POR: 1991-2020
OREGON
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
Stream Gage
<= 30%
31% - 50%
51% - 70%
71% - 90%
91% - 110%
111% - 130%
> 130%
Counties
OWRD Basin
Date: 3/25/2024

STREAMFLOW


Water Year To Date % of Average Streamflow - March 24, 2024
Stream Gage
<= 30%
31% - 50%
51% - 70%
71% - 90%
91% - 110%
111% - 130%
> 130%
OWRD Basin
<= 30%
31% - 50%
51% - 70%
71% - 90%
91% - 110%
111% - 130%
> 130%
OWRD Basin
Counties
North Coast 109%
Sandy 97%
Hood 104%
Umatilla 105%
Grande Ronde 90%
Powder 111%
John Day 147%
Willamette 108%
Deschutes 107%
Mid Coast 124%
Malheur 107%
Umpqua 109%
South Coast 128%
Goose & Summer Lakes 84%
Malheur Lake 132%
Klamath 85%
Rogue 110%
South Coast 128%
Date: 3/25/2024


March 24 Reservoir Storage
160%
140%
120%
100%
80%
60%
40%
20%
0%
145%
148%
134%
117%
119%
107%
101%
85%
86%
98%
50%
77%
62%
87%
72%
48%
80%
93%
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.