

Oregon Water Conditions Report



May 20th, 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

According to the [US Drought Monitor](#), over 9% of Oregon is experiencing abnormally dry (D0) conditions. Over the past two weeks, moderate drought (D1) conditions have been removed from central Oregon.

Remaining [snow water equivalent \(SWE\)](#) is currently measuring below to well above the historical median (min = 85%, max = 239%). Over the past two weeks, SWE has melted out in the John Day, Malheur, Owyhee, and Goose & Summer Lakes basins. For more information see [individual basin SWE plots](#).

Precipitation [over the last two weeks](#) was well below average for much of the state with accumulated precipitation ranging from 0.45 to 1.8 inches below average. In parts of north-central Oregon, precipitation was above average with accumulated precipitation measuring up to 1.35 inches above average.

[Over the last two weeks](#), temperatures were generally above average for much of the state, especially in western Oregon where temperatures ranged from 1°F to 5°F above average. In parts of the central Oregon Cascades, north-central, and southeastern Oregon temperatures were below average, especially in the central Oregon Cascades where temperatures were 1°F to 5°F below average.

[Recent soil moisture indicators](#) show a decrease in soil moisture statewide with the most significant reduction in western Oregon.

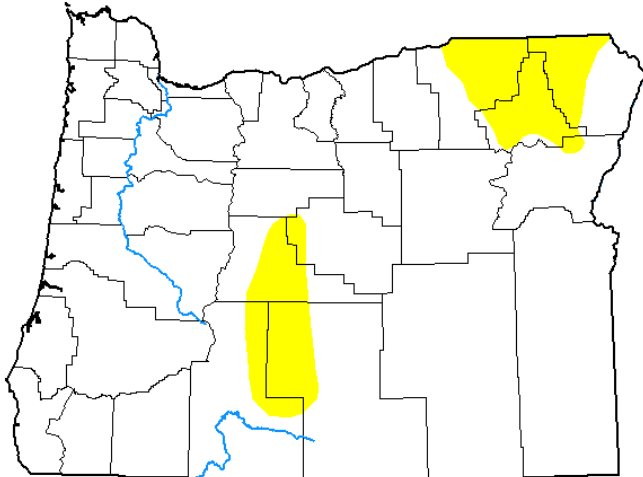
The [near-term climate outlook](#) indicates probabilities leaning towards above average precipitation for western parts of the state and below average precipitation for southeastern parts of the state. The near-term outlook for temperature indicates probabilities leaning towards below average temperatures in western parts of Oregon and near normal temperatures for the rest of the state.

[Recent streamflow](#) conditions over the past seven days were highly variable, ranging from well below to well above average. Water year-to-date (WYTD) streamflow is near to well above average across much of the state. WYTD streamflow in the Mid Coast, South Coast, John Day, Malheur, and Malheur Lake basins is currently above average. The remainder of the state is near average, except for the Grande Ronde Basin where WYTD streamflow is below average.

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.

U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

May 14, 2024
(Released Thursday, May 16, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	90.09	9.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week <small>05-07-2024</small>	58.95	41.05	4.59	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <small>02-13-2024</small>	67.74	32.26	14.71	0.00	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>05-16-2023</small>	25.13	74.87	49.72	13.41	2.52	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>

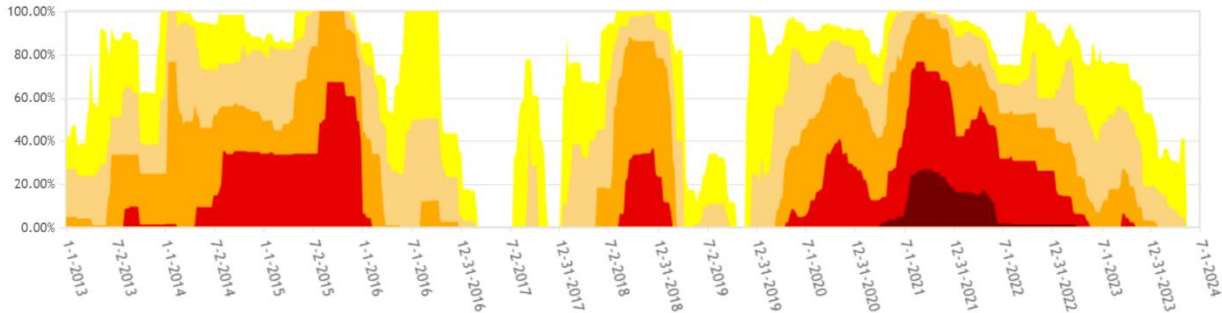
Author:

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National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

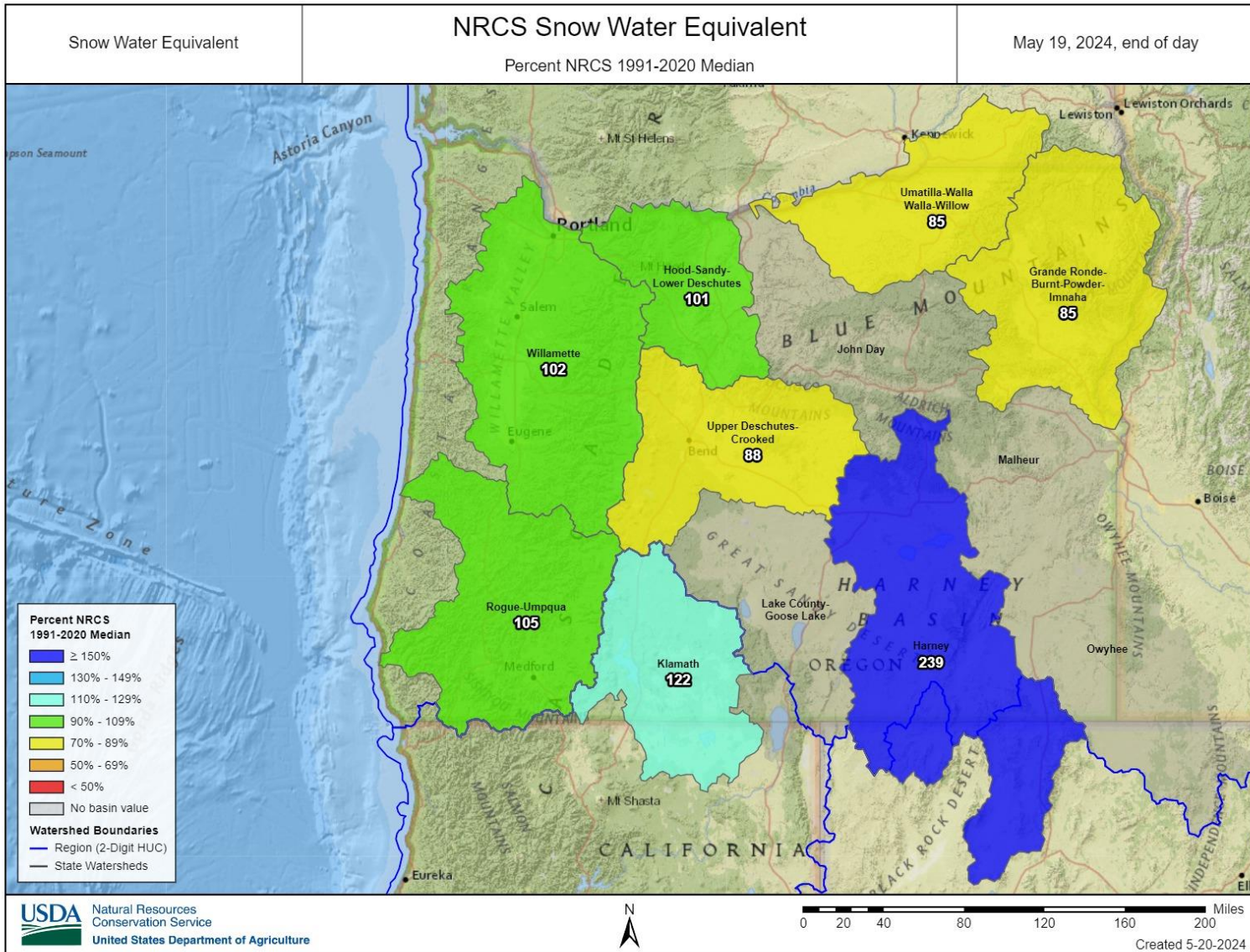
Oregon Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories



From the U.S. Drought Monitor website, <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DmData/TimeSeries.aspx>, 5-20-2024

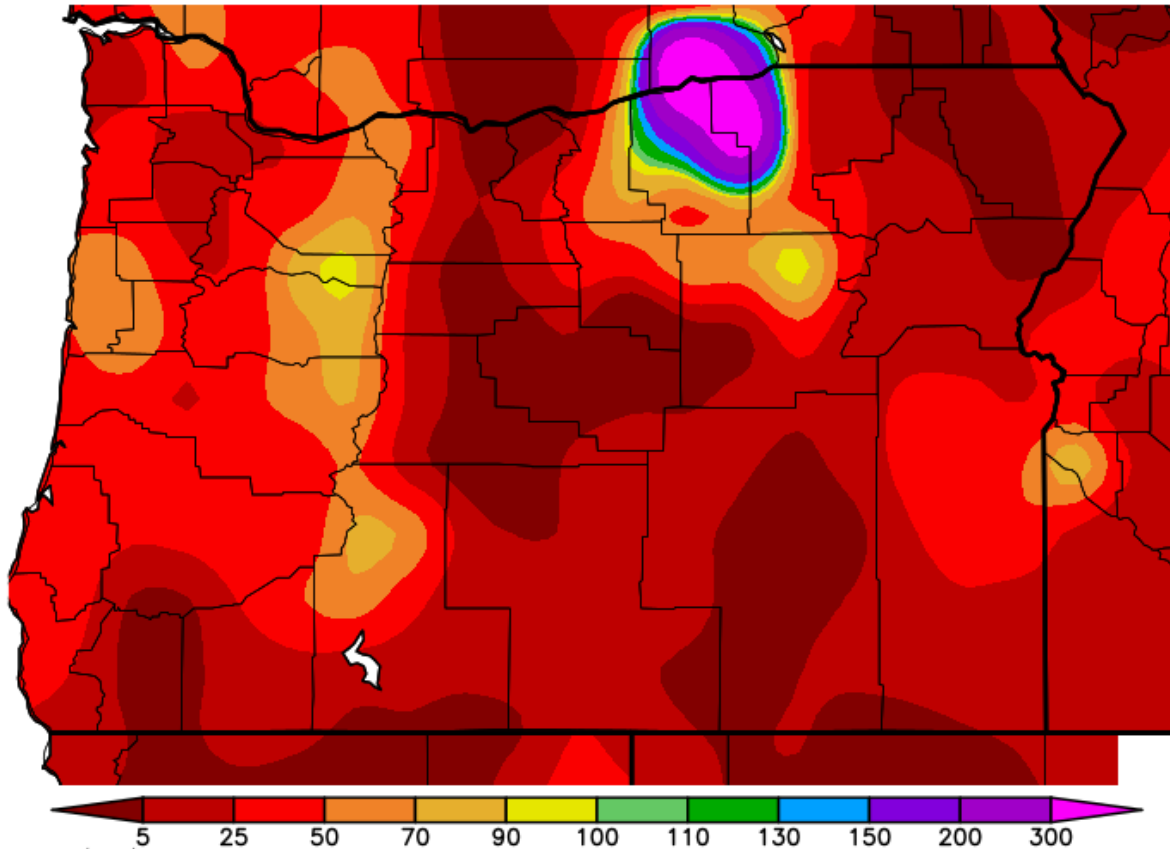


CLIMATE CONDITIONS
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT



PRECIPITATION

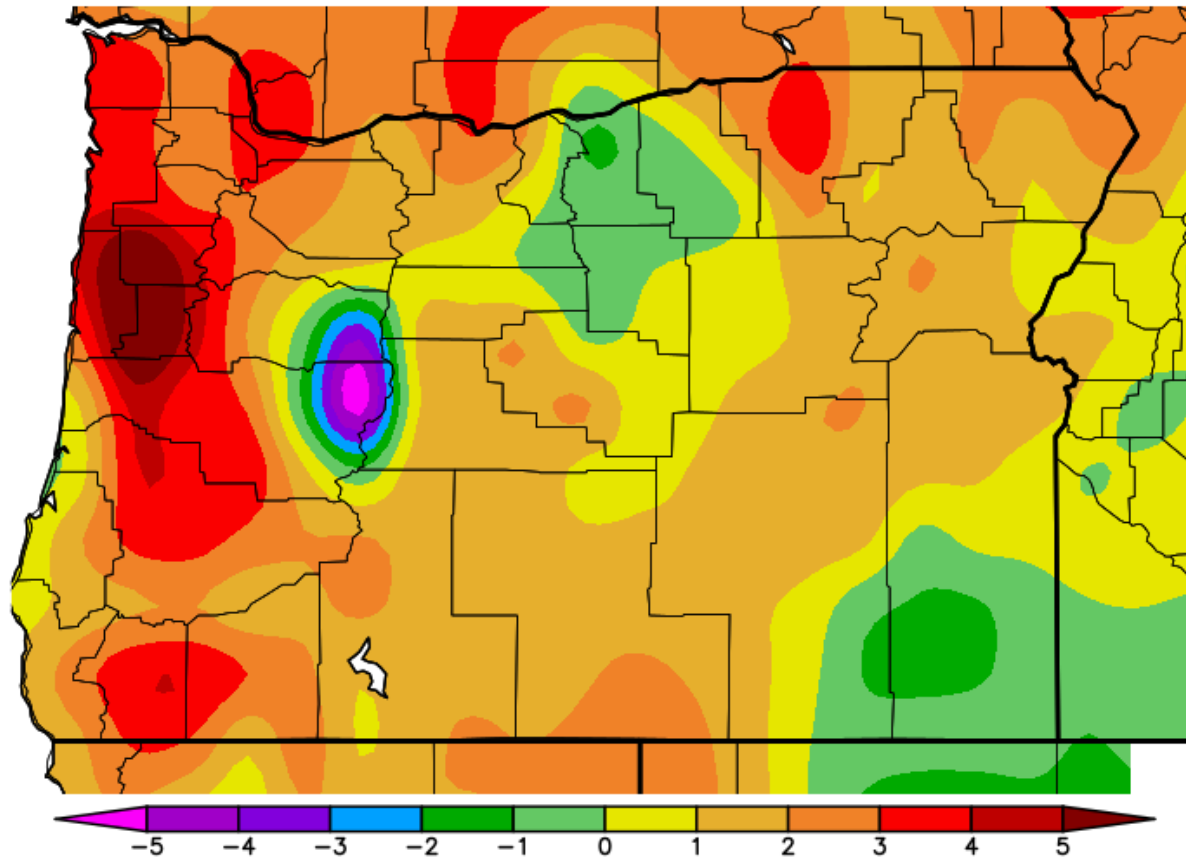
Percent of Average Precipitation (%)
5/6/2024 - 5/19/2024



Generated 5/20/2024 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

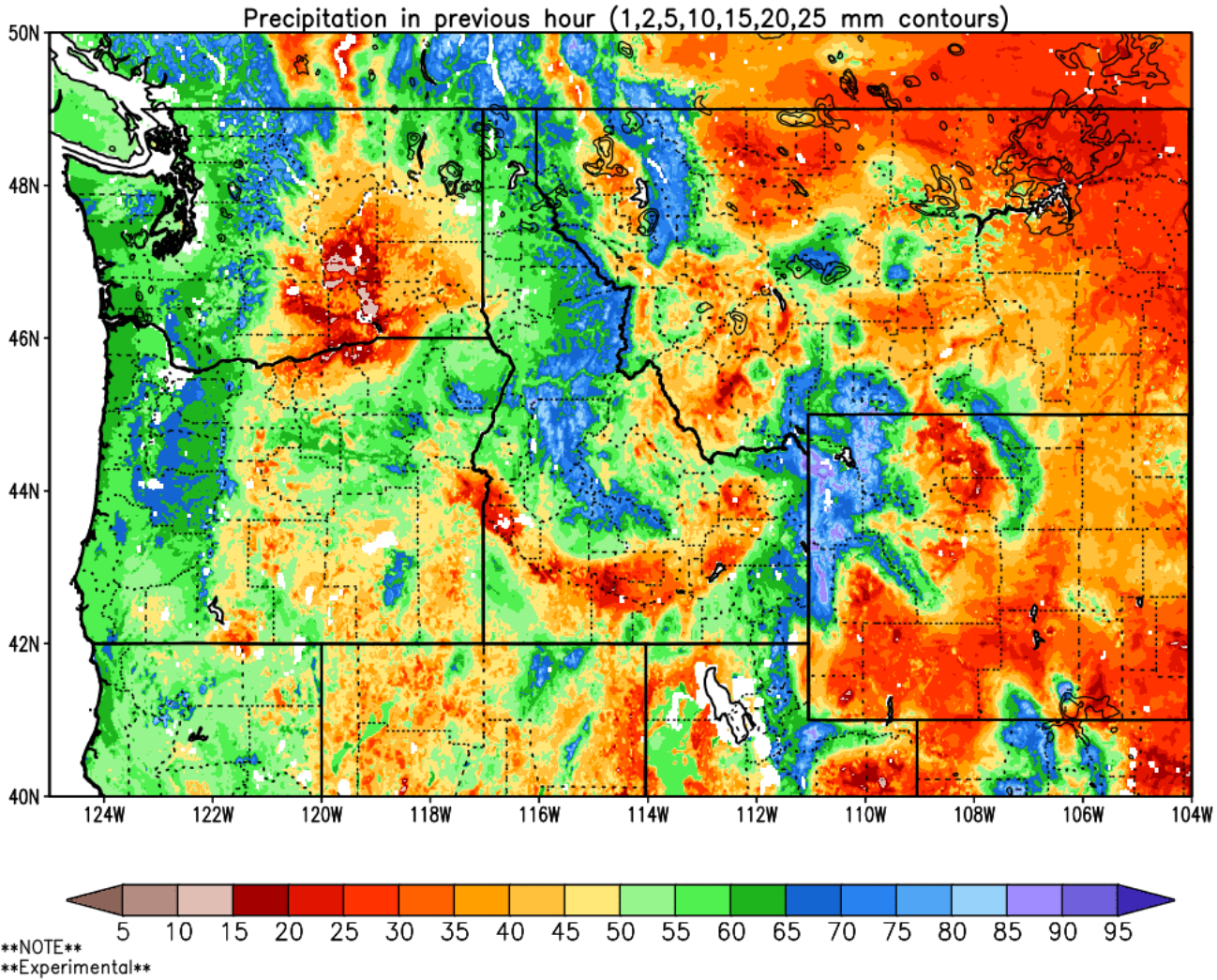
TEMPERATURE

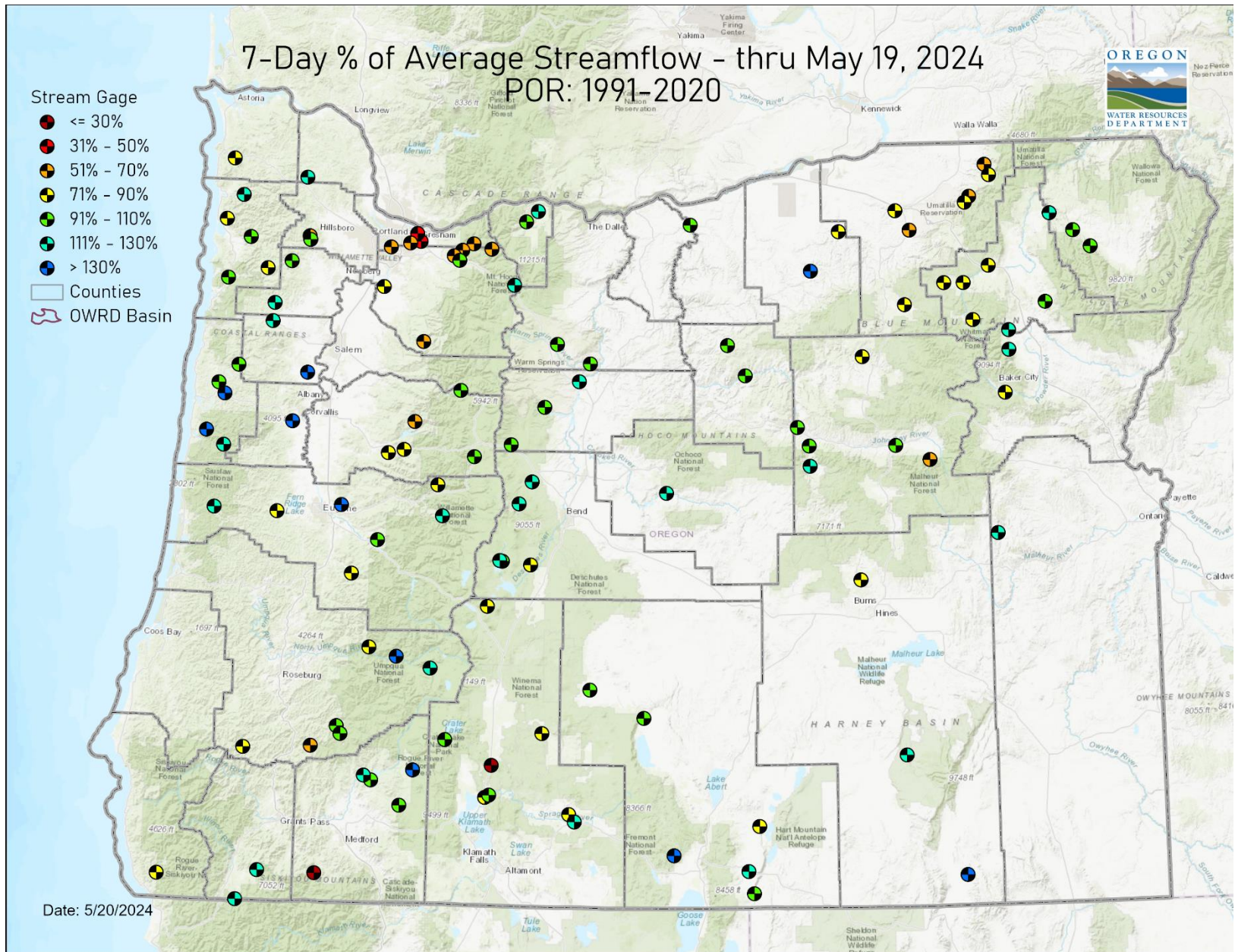
Ave. Temperature dep from Ave (deg F)
5/6/2024 - 5/19/2024



Generated 5/20/2024 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

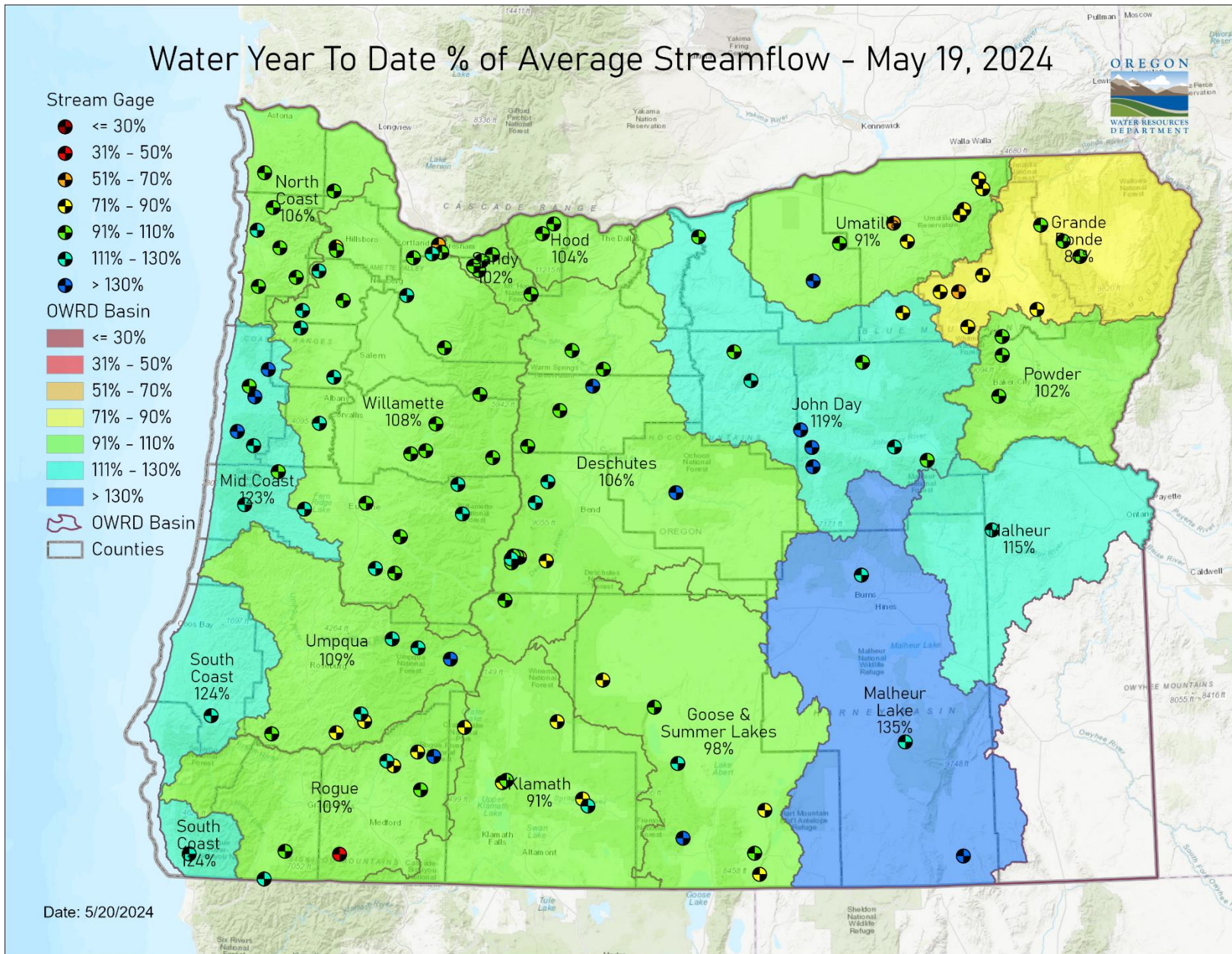
Column-Integrated Relative Soil Moisture (available water; %) valid 00z 20 May 2024



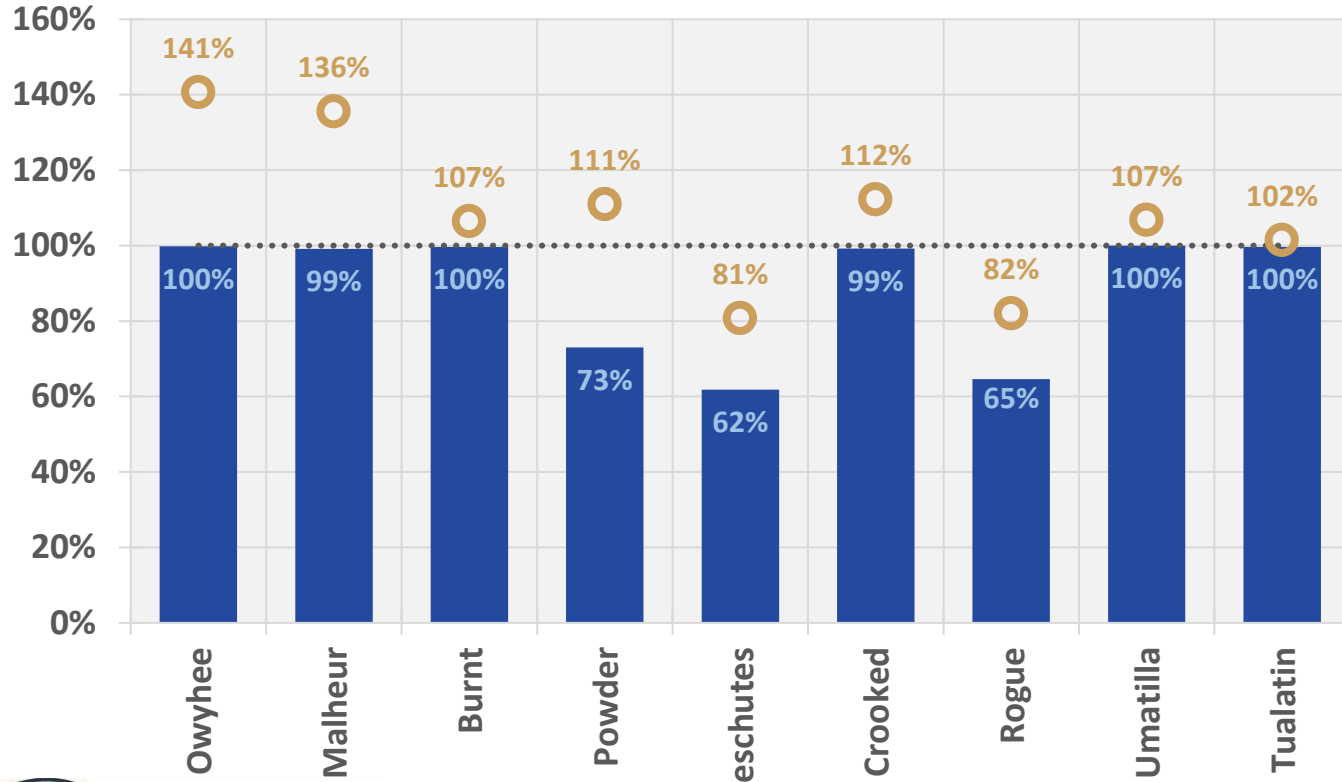


Water Year To Date % of Average Streamflow - May 19, 2024

- 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



May 19 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.