Oregon Water Conditions Report

December 31st, 2024

HIGHLIGHTS

Thus far, four Oregon counties have received Executive Orders issuing state drought declarations under ORS 536.

According to the US Drought Monitor, over 11% of Oregon is experiencing moderate (D1) drought conditions.

Snow water equivalent (SWE) is currently measuring above the historical median statewide (min = 111%, max = 237%). SWE for the entire state is 163% above the historical median. For more information see individual basin plots.

Recent precipitation over the last two weeks has been well above normal for most of the state. In the central Cascades and in parts of the Coast Range, precipitation was 4 to 8 inches above normal. In the southern Cascades precipitation was up to 10 inches above normal.

Recent temperatures over the last two weeks were above normal for most of the state, especially in parts of central and eastern Oregon where temperatures reached 9°F to 12°F above normal. For the rest of the state, temperatures ranged from 3°F to 9°F above normal.

Recent soil moisture indicators show an increase in soil moisture across most of the state, most notably in the Cascade Range and across much of western Oregon.

The near-term climate outlook indicates probabilities leaning towards below normal precipitation for most of the state with below normal precipitation likely for parts of southern Oregon. The outlook also indicates probabilities leaning towards above normal temperatures for much of eastern Oregon with above normal temperatures likely for most of the state.

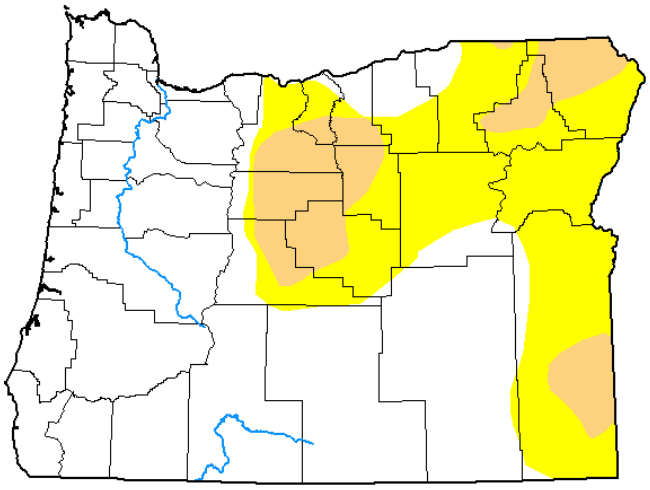
Recent streamflow in Oregon has been well above normal for most of the state due to recent above normal precipitation across most of Oregon. Streamflow over the water year to date (WYTD) is normal to well above normal for most of the state. In parts of north-central and northeastern Oregon, WYTD streamflow continues to be below normal.

Reservoir storage in many basins is near to above average. However, projects in the Deschutes, Powder, 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



December 24, 2024

(Released Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2024)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	62.74	37.26	11.18	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week *12-17-2024*	62.74	37.26	11.18	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago *09-24-2024*	10.56	89.44	61.05	1.36	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 *10-01-2024*	10.56	89.44	61.05	1.36	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago *12-26-2023*	47.04	52.96	18.85	3.12	0.00	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

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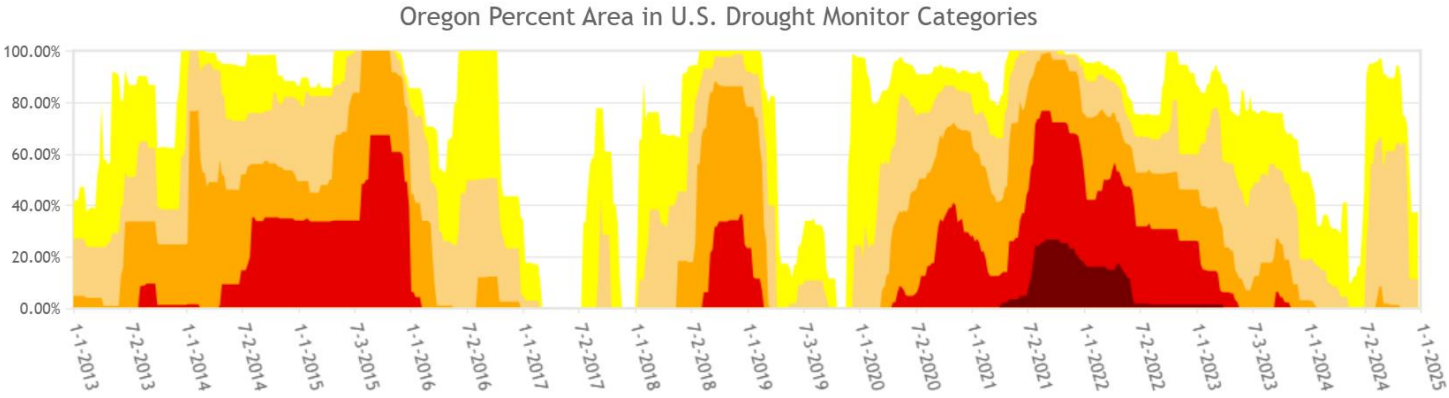
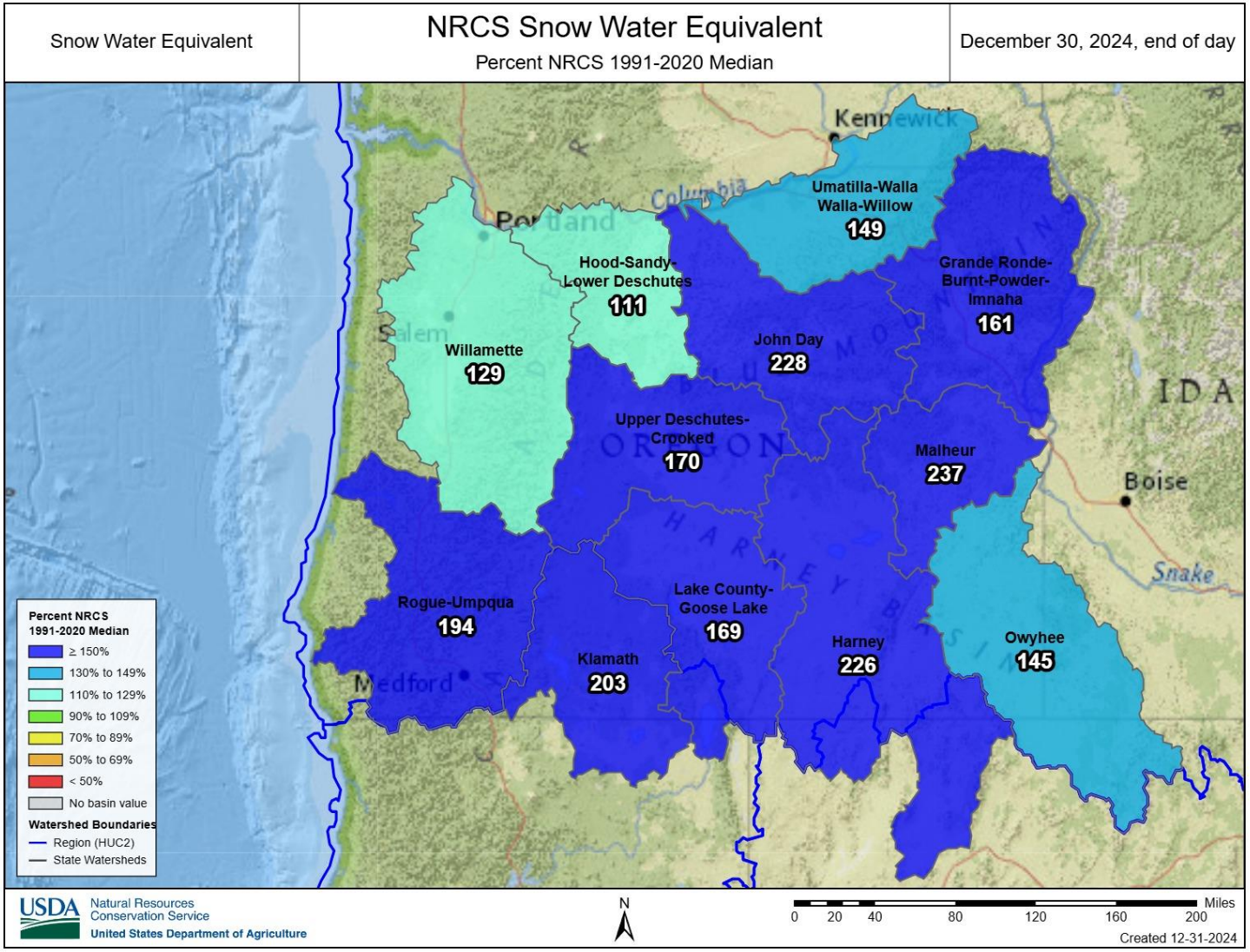
droughtmonitor.unl.edu



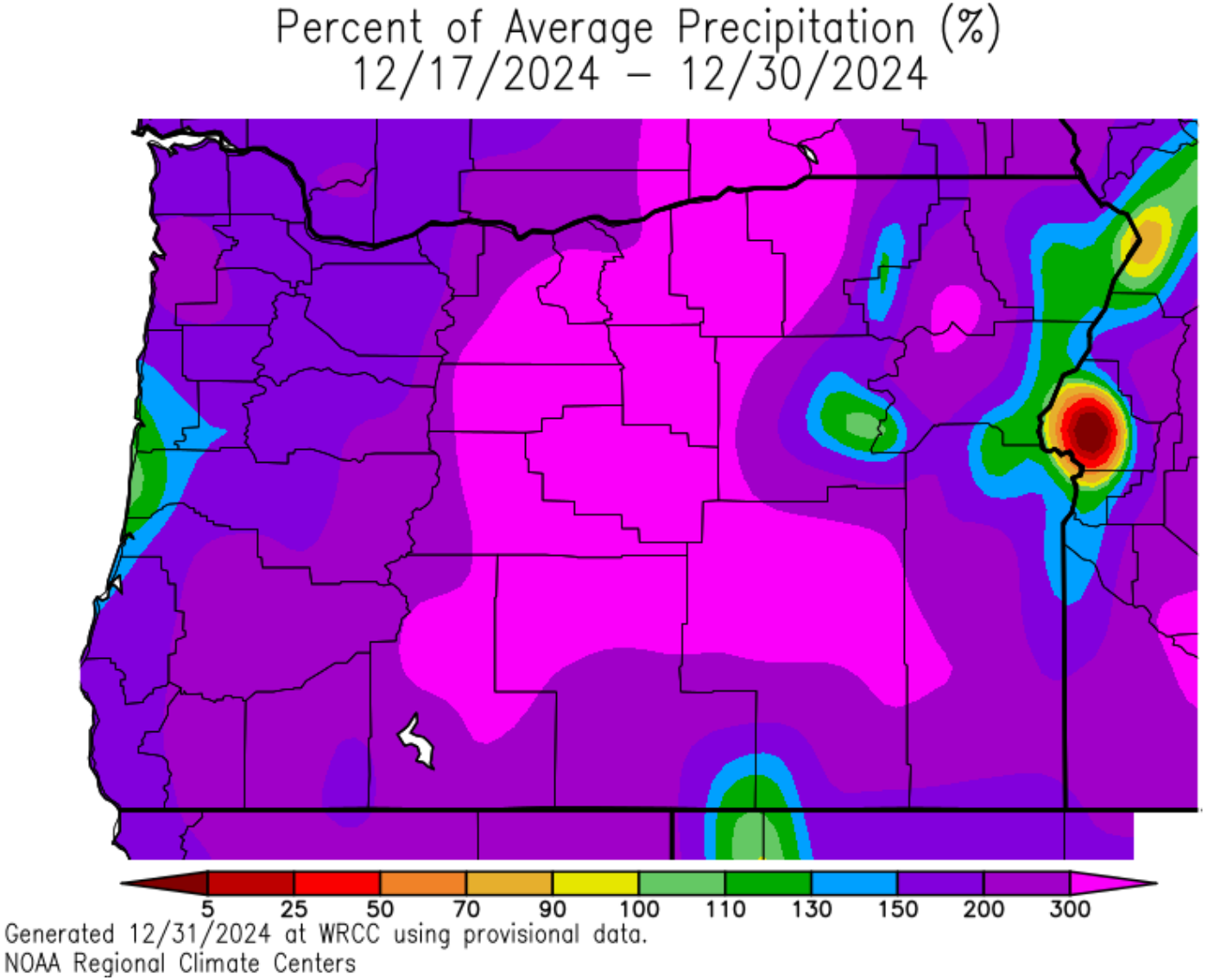
From the U.S. Drought Monitor website, https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DmData/TimeSeries.aspx, 12-31-2024

CLIMATE CONDITIONS

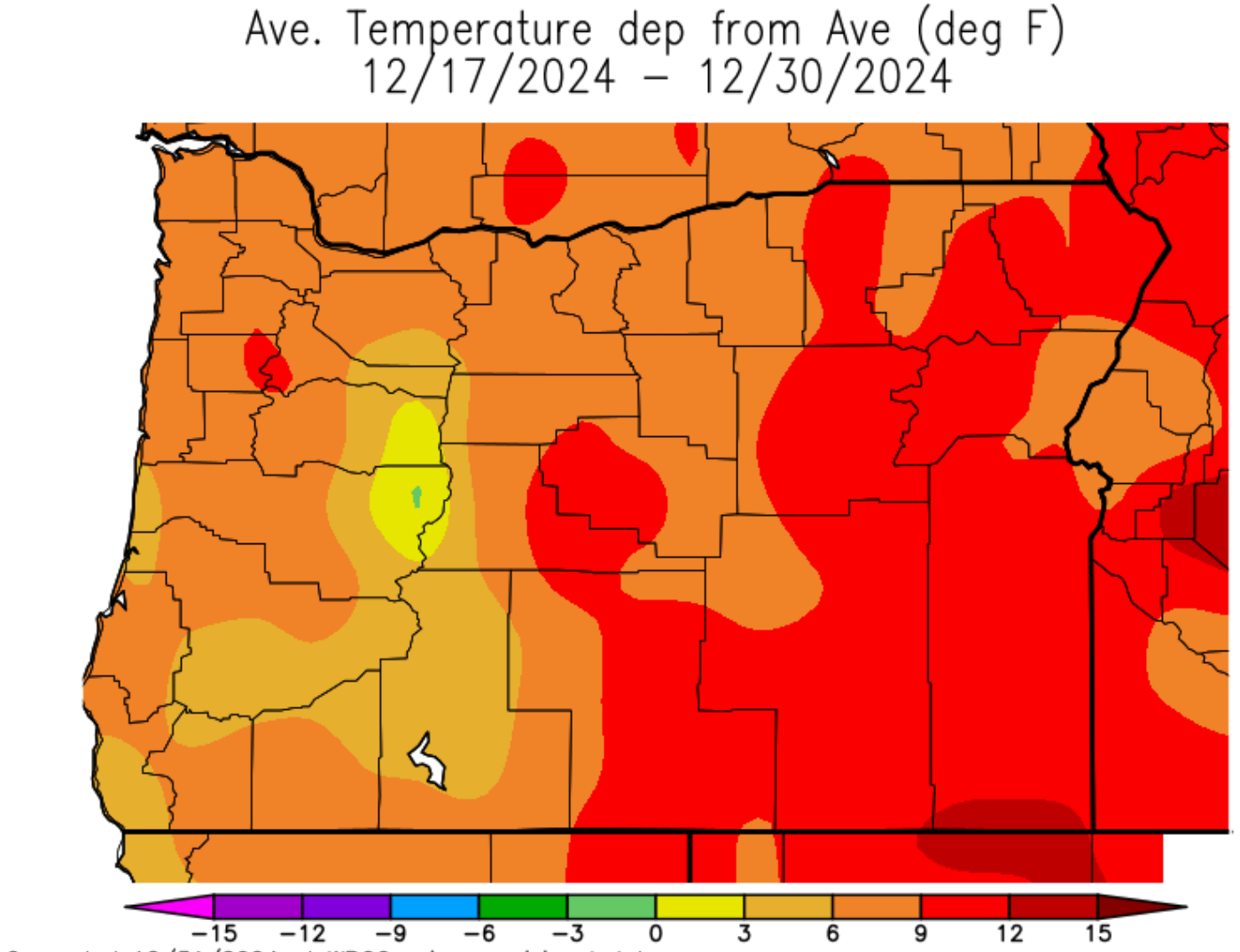
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT



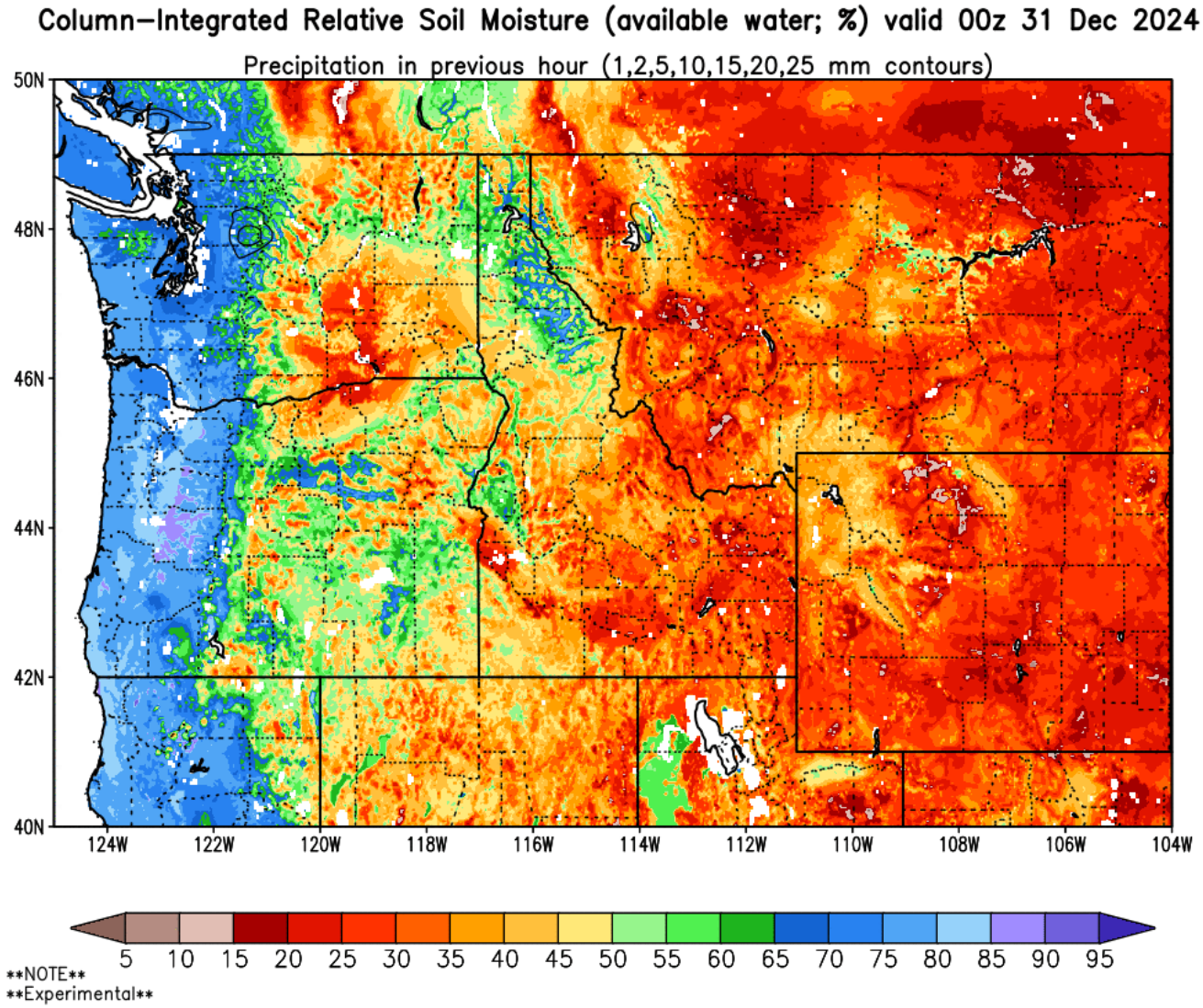
PRECIPITATION



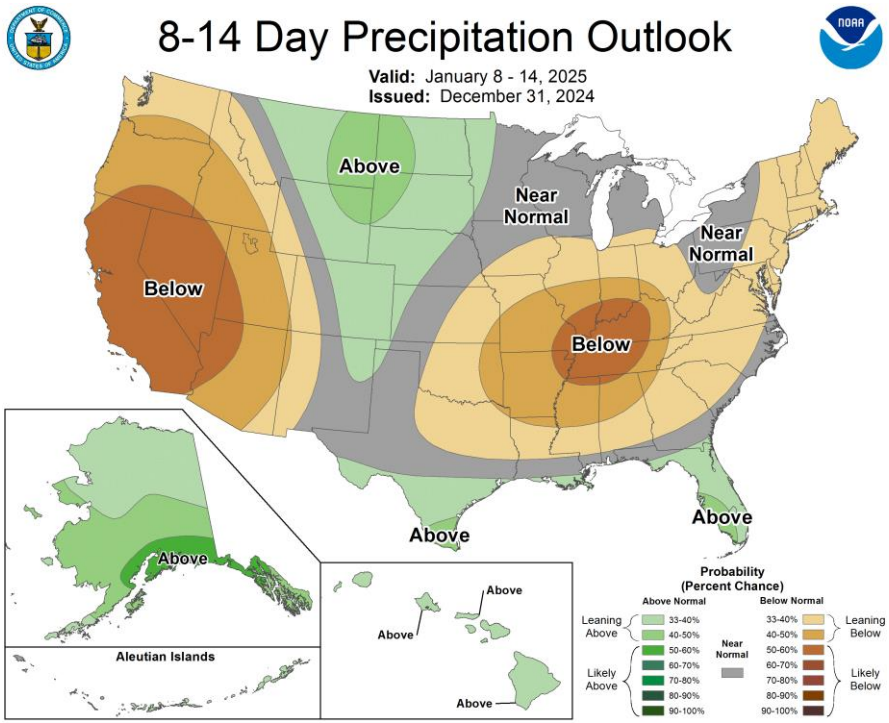
TEMPERATURE

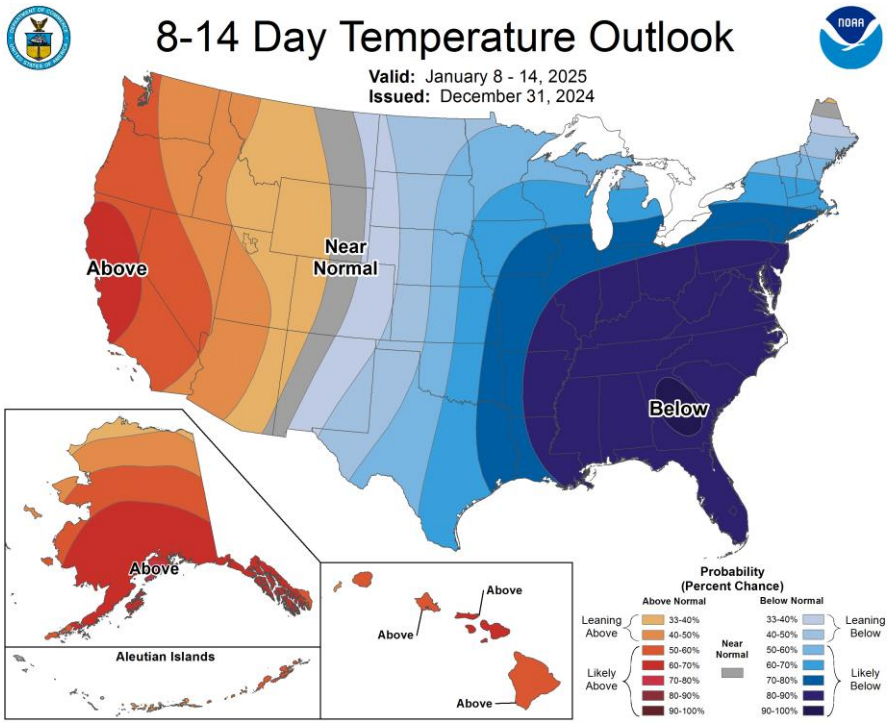


SOIL MOISTURE



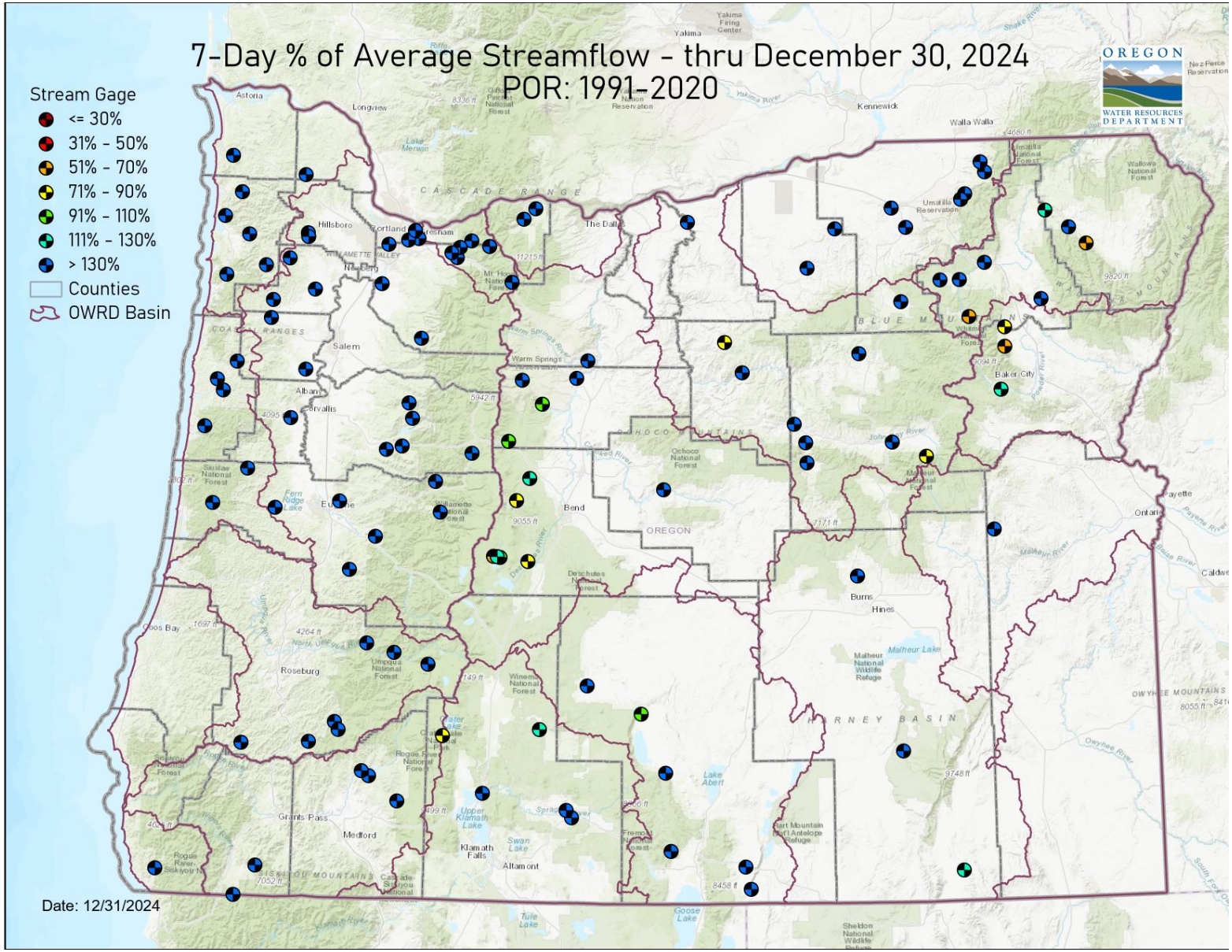
CLIMATE OUTLOOK





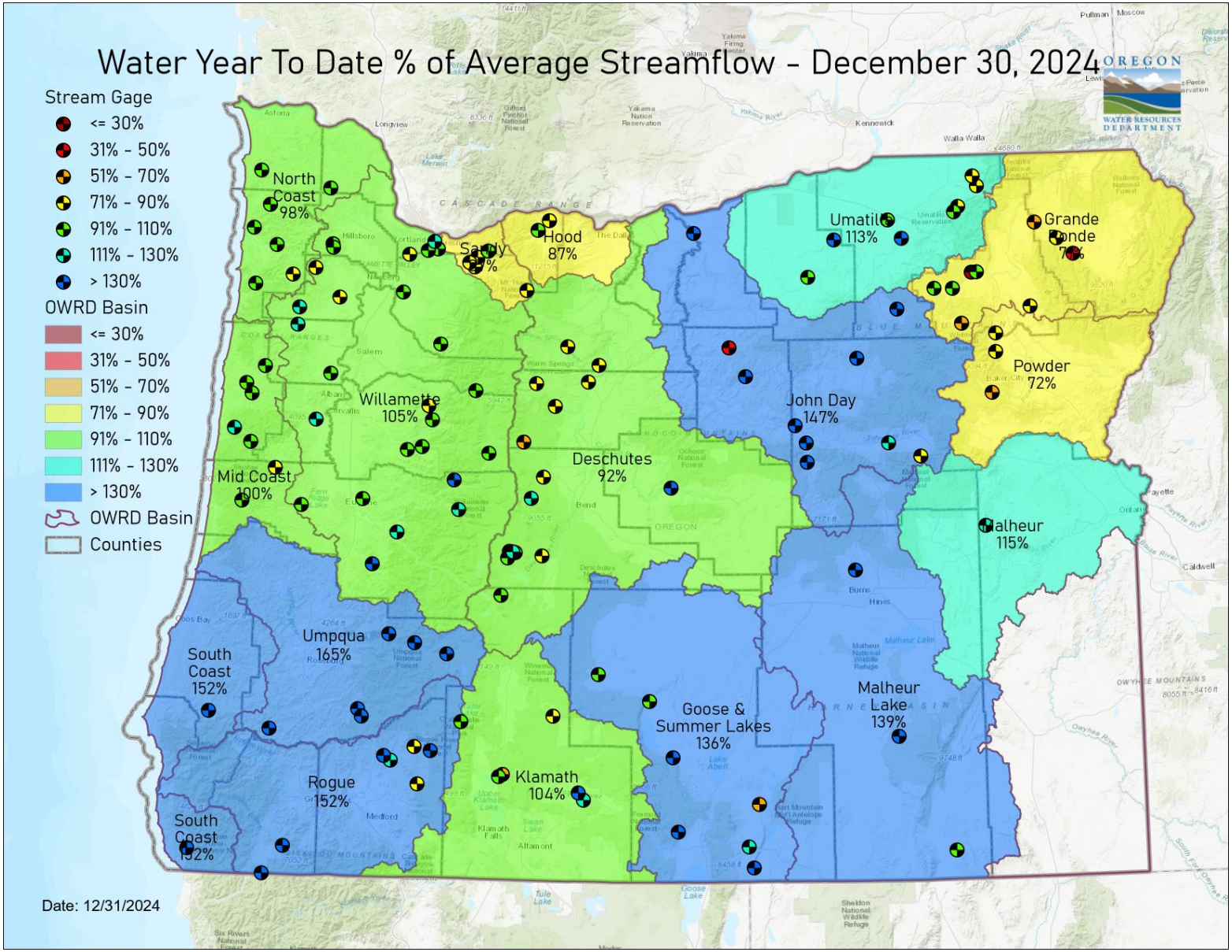
STREAMFLOW

7-DAY MOVING AVERAGE

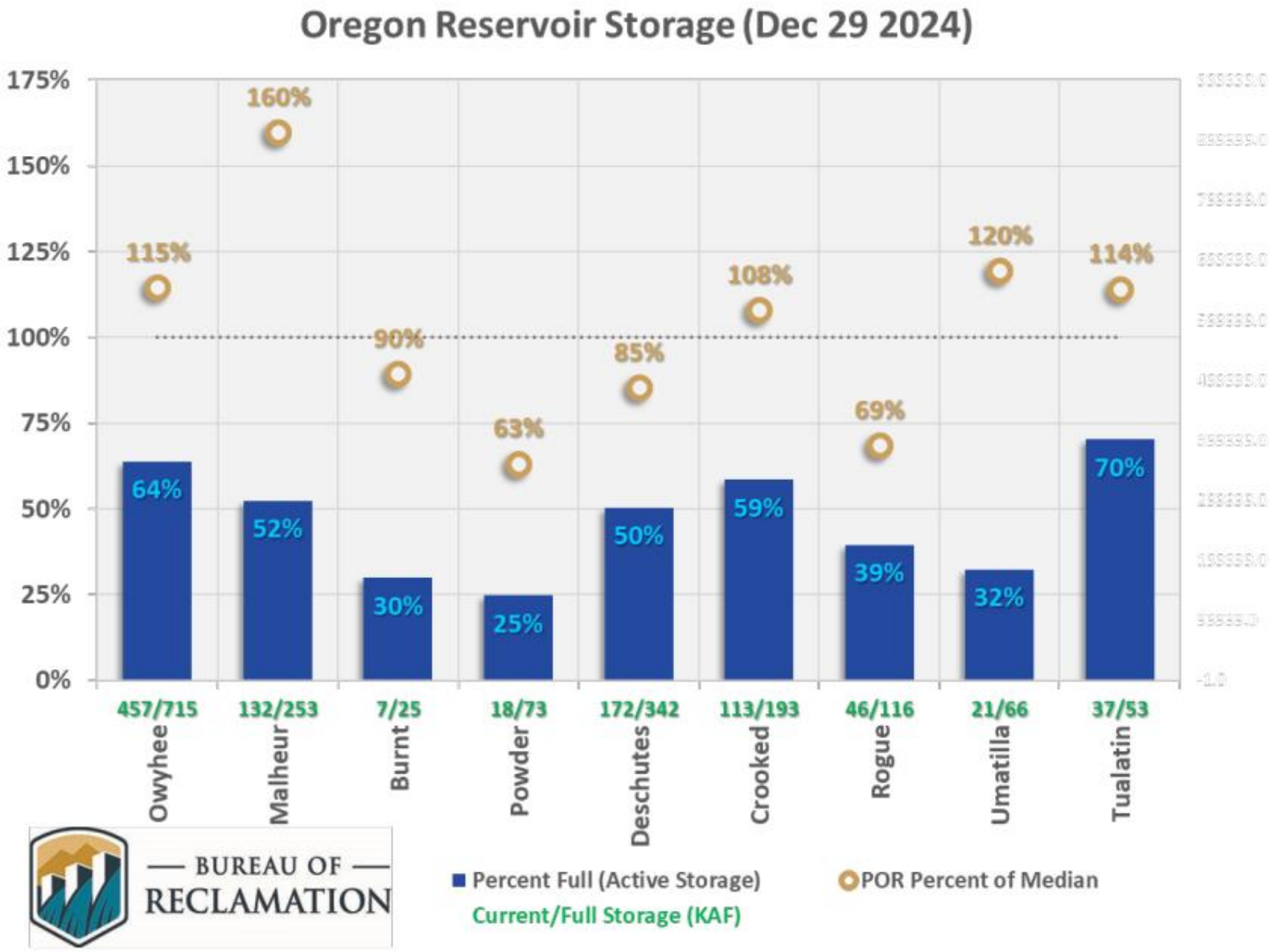


STREAMFLOW

WATER YEAR TO DATE



STORAGE


Oregon Reservoir Storage (Dec 29 2024)
175%
150%
125%
100%
75%
50%
25%
0%
115%
160%
90%
63%
85%
108%
69%
120%
114%
64%
52%
30%
25%
50%
59%
39%
32%
70%
457/715
132/253
7/25
18/73
172/342
113/193
46/116
21/66
37/53
Owyhee
Malheur
Burnt
Powder
Deschutes
Crooked
Rogue
Umatilla
Tualatin
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Percent Full (Active Storage)
POR Percent of Median
Current/Full Storage (KAF)

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.