

# Oregon Water Conditions Report



September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## HIGHLIGHTS

Thus far in 2025, there are [seven Oregon counties](#) with a state drought declaration under ORS 536.

According to the [US Drought Monitor](#), nearly 55% of Oregon is in moderate drought (D1) and nearly 32% is in severe drought (D2). Additionally, less than 1% of the state is experiencing extreme drought (D3) conditions.

August precipitation was below normal for most of western Oregon and in northcentral and northeastern parts of the state. In parts of central, southeastern, and northwestern Oregon, precipitation was above normal. [Over the last two weeks](#), precipitation patterns were similar to those in August: below normal in western and northeastern Oregon, and above normal in southeastern and parts of central Oregon.

Temperatures in August were above normal in western and northern parts of the state. In parts of southcentral and southeastern Oregon, temperature conditions were closer to normal. Temperatures [over the last two weeks](#) were above normal statewide, generally ranging from 4°F to 10°F above normal.

[Recent soil moisture indicators](#) show a decline in conditions for most of the state, with the most significant decreases in western Oregon.

The [seasonal climate outlook](#) indicates probabilities leaning towards above normal temperatures statewide. The outlook also indicates equal chances of below normal, normal, or above normal precipitation for most of the state and leaning towards above normal precipitation in northwestern Oregon.

Streamflow conditions in August were below normal in most of western and northeastern Oregon. The rest of the state recorded normal to above normal streamflow conditions. [Recent streamflow](#) conditions over the last seven days were generally below normal in most of western and northeastern Oregon. However, in parts of central and eastern Oregon, streamflow conditions were generally normal to above normal.

Reservoir storage in most basins is near to above normal. However, projects in the Burnt, Powder, and Tualatin basins are measuring below normal. See [USBR](#) (including [Klamath](#)) and [USACE](#) teacup diagrams for more information.

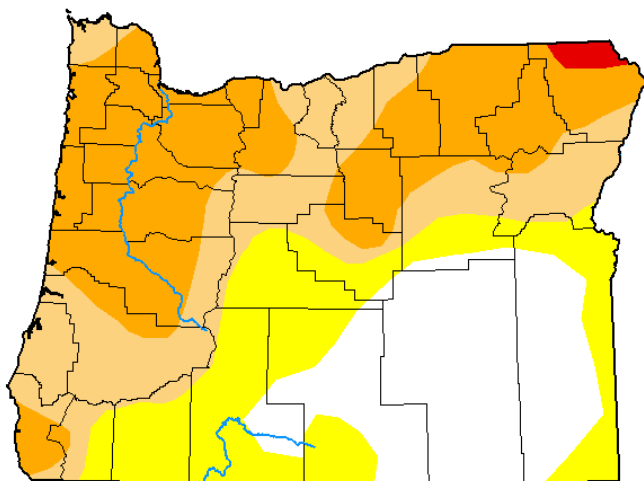
[Significant wildfire potential](#) over the next seven days ranges from a low to an elevated risk in Oregon. Parts of central and northeastern Oregon have a moderate to an elevated risk for much of this week.

# U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

September 2, 2025

(Released Thursday, Sep. 4, 2025)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	23.38	76.62	54.98	31.99	0.69	0.00
Last Week 08-26-2025	23.38	76.62	54.98	31.99	0.69	0.00
3 Months Ago 06-03-2025	48.45	51.55	16.89	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2025	88.40	11.60	1.29	0.00	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 09-03-2024	8.98	91.02	54.02	1.80	0.00	0.00

## Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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>

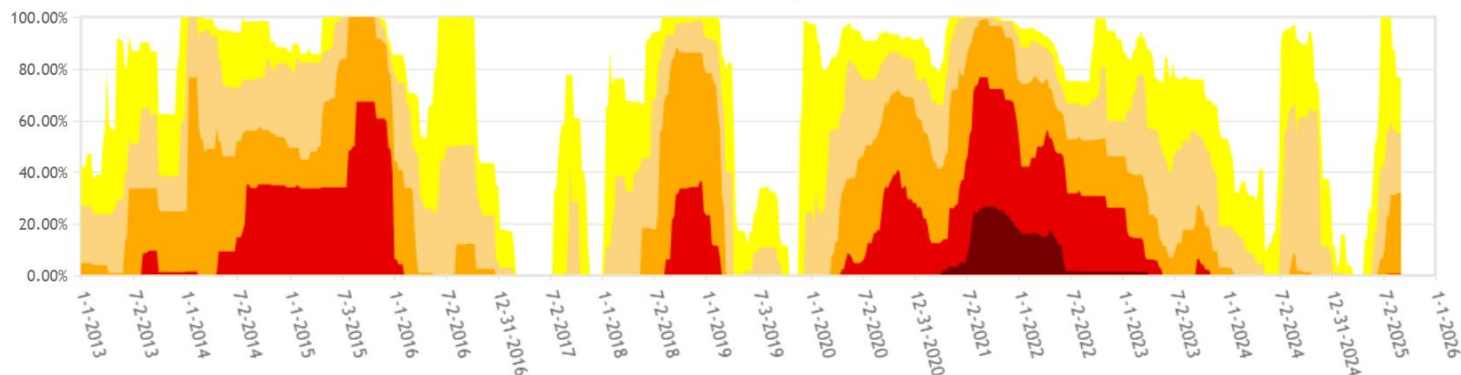
## Author:

David Simeral  
Western Regional Climate Center



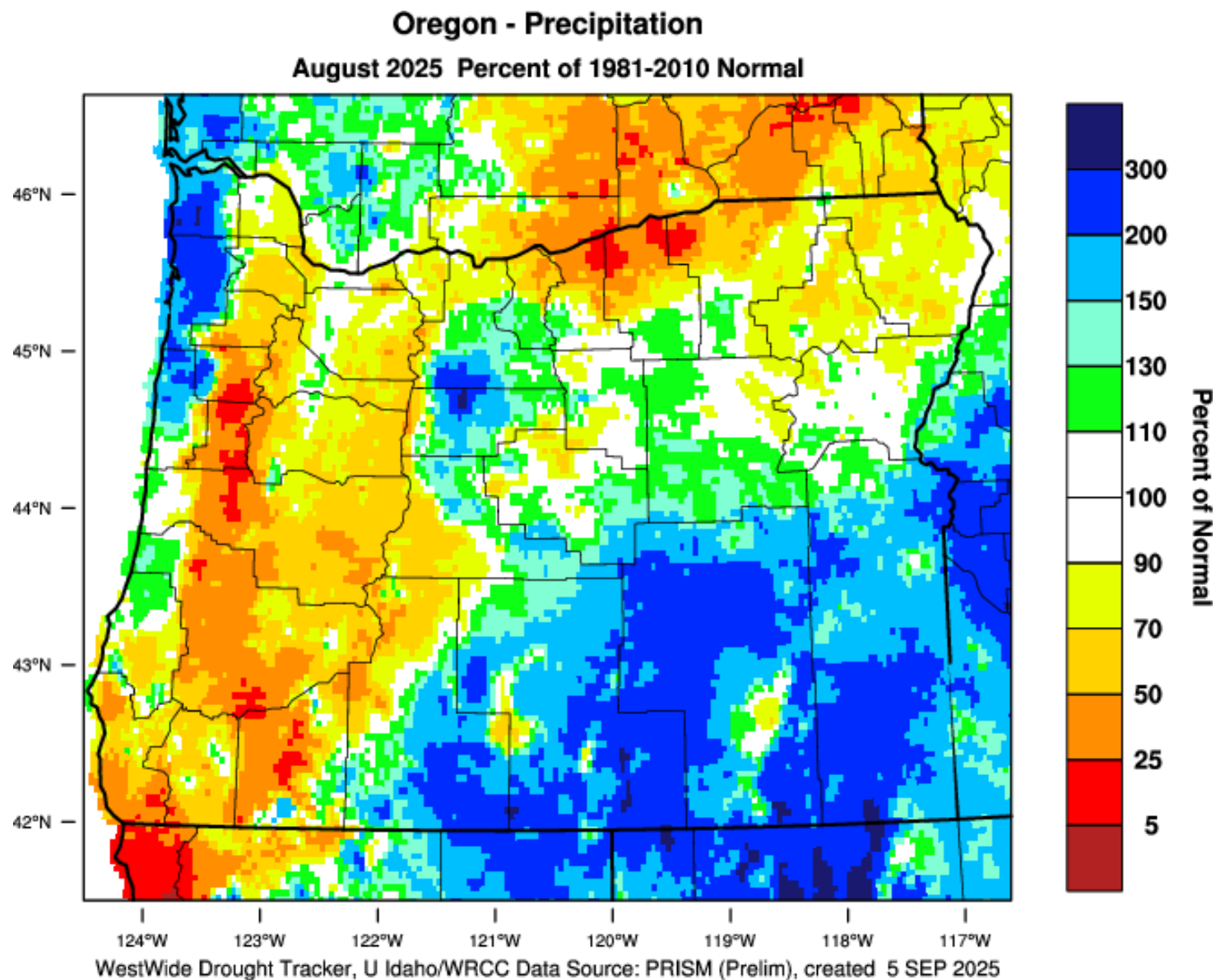
[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

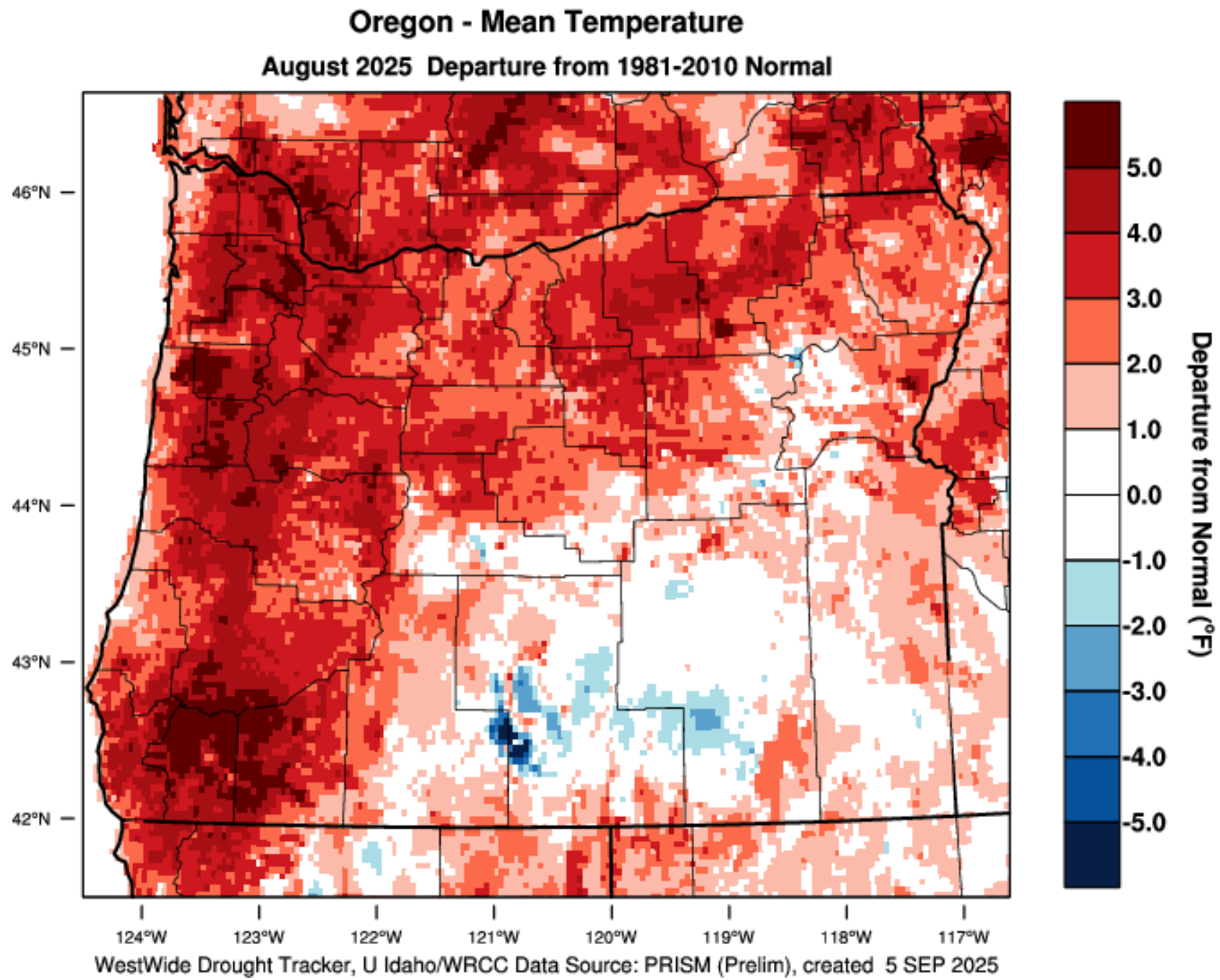
Oregon Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories

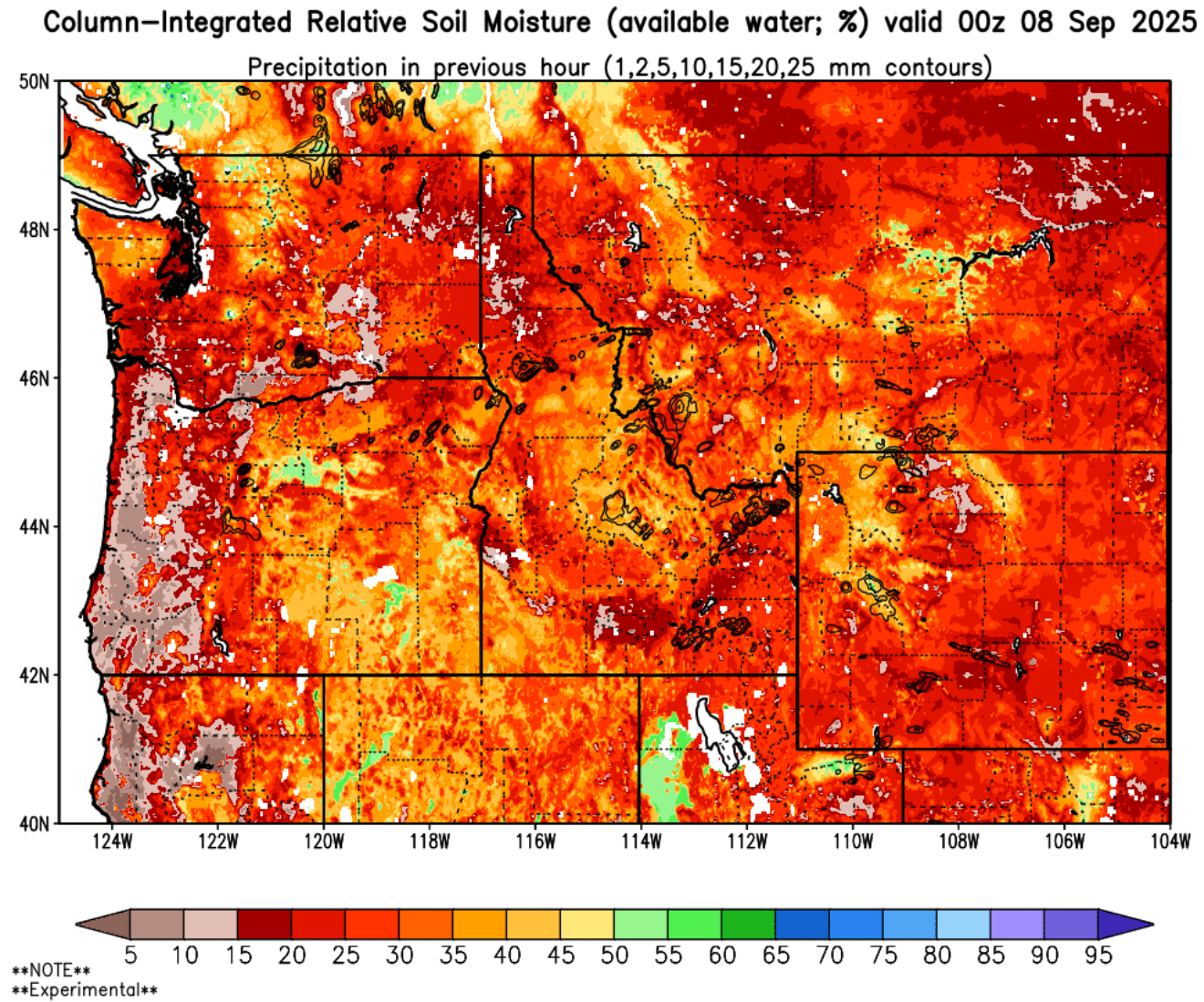


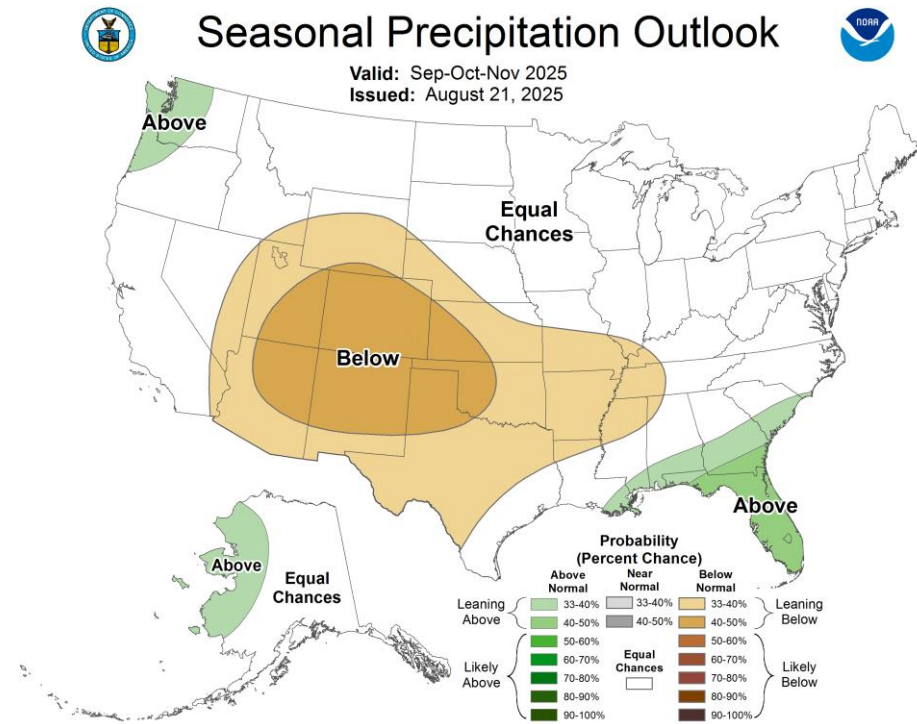
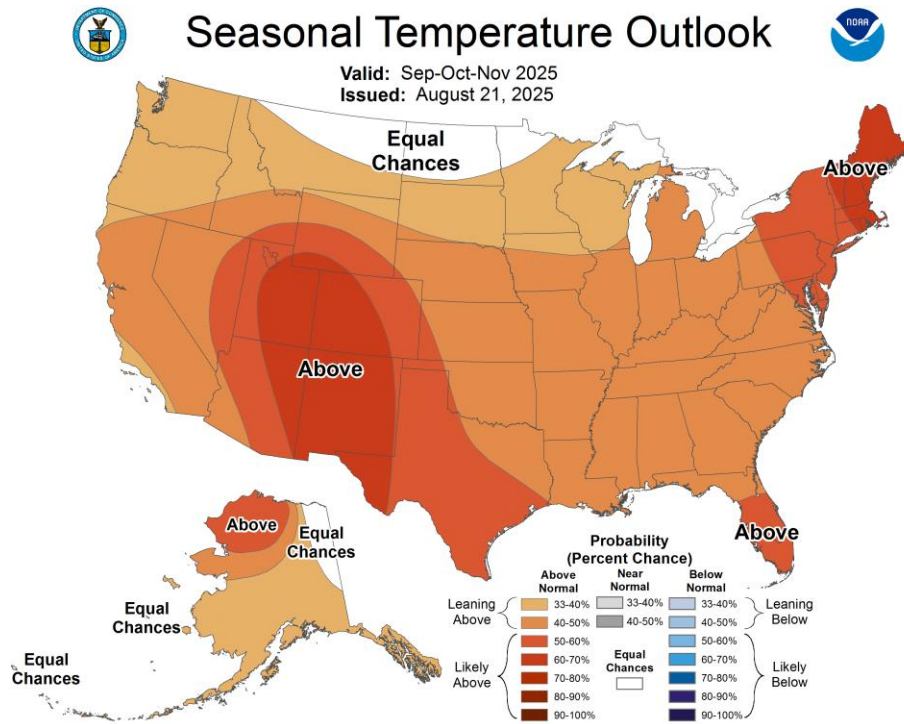
From the U.S. Drought Monitor website, <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DmData/TimeSeries.aspx>, 9-8-2025



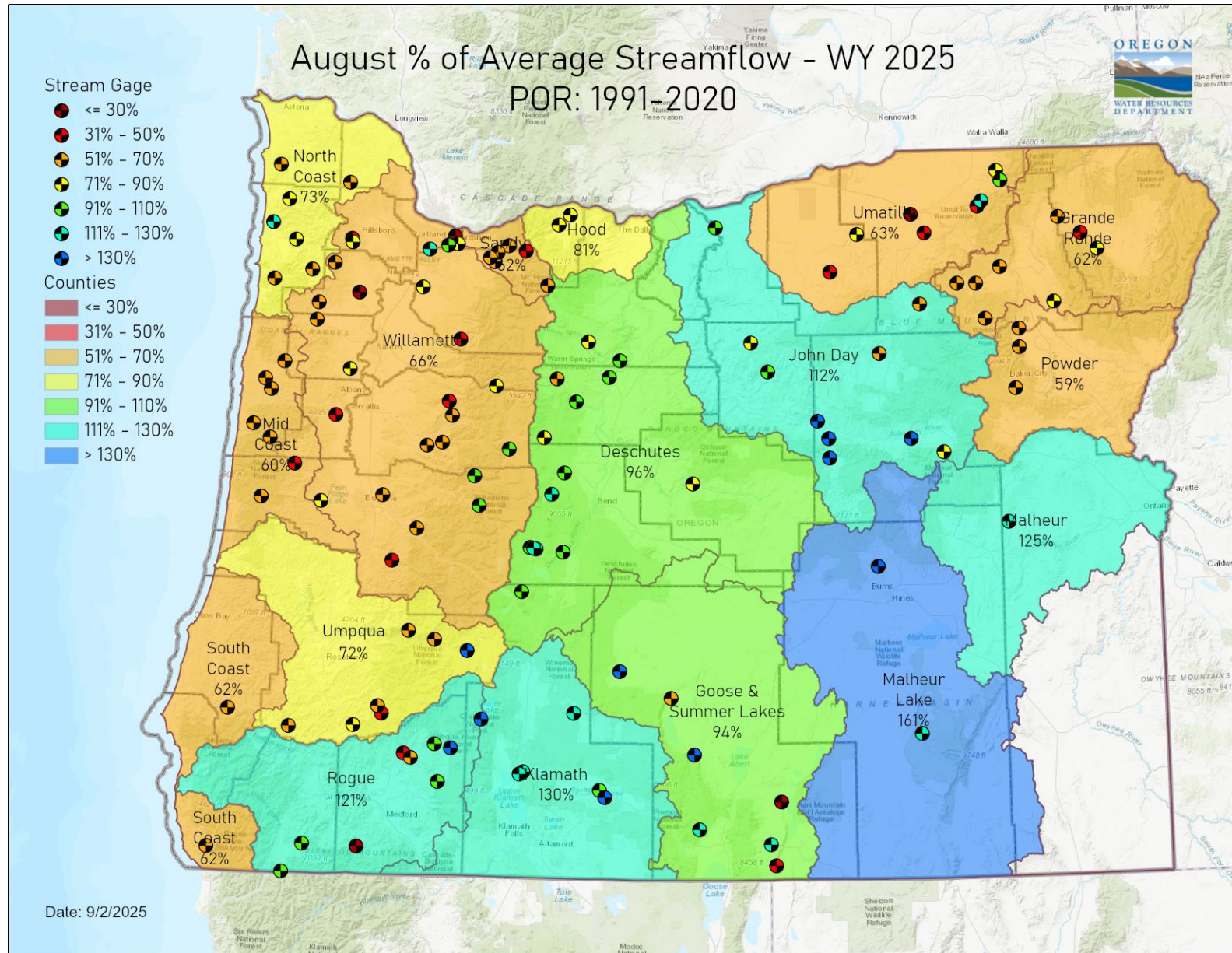




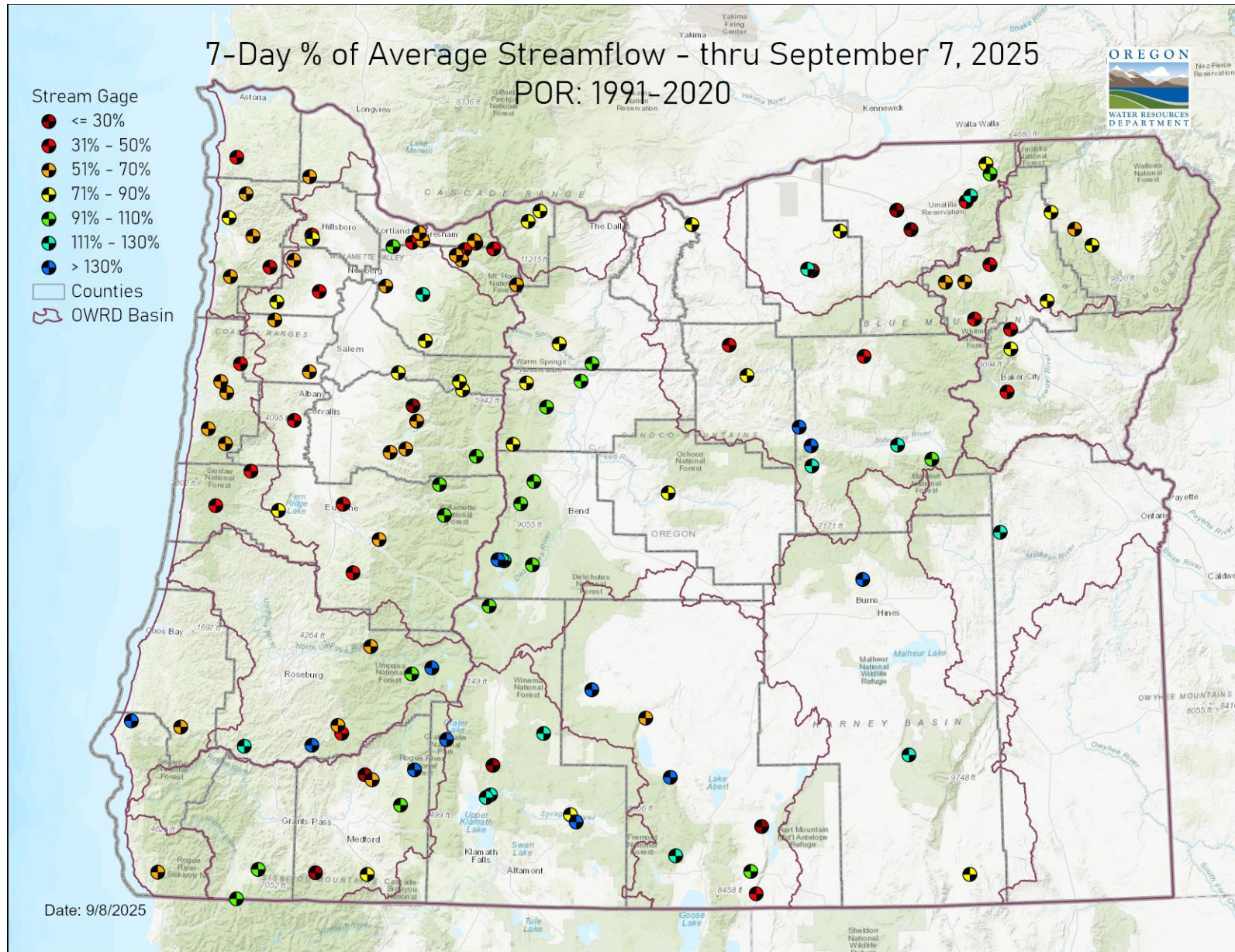




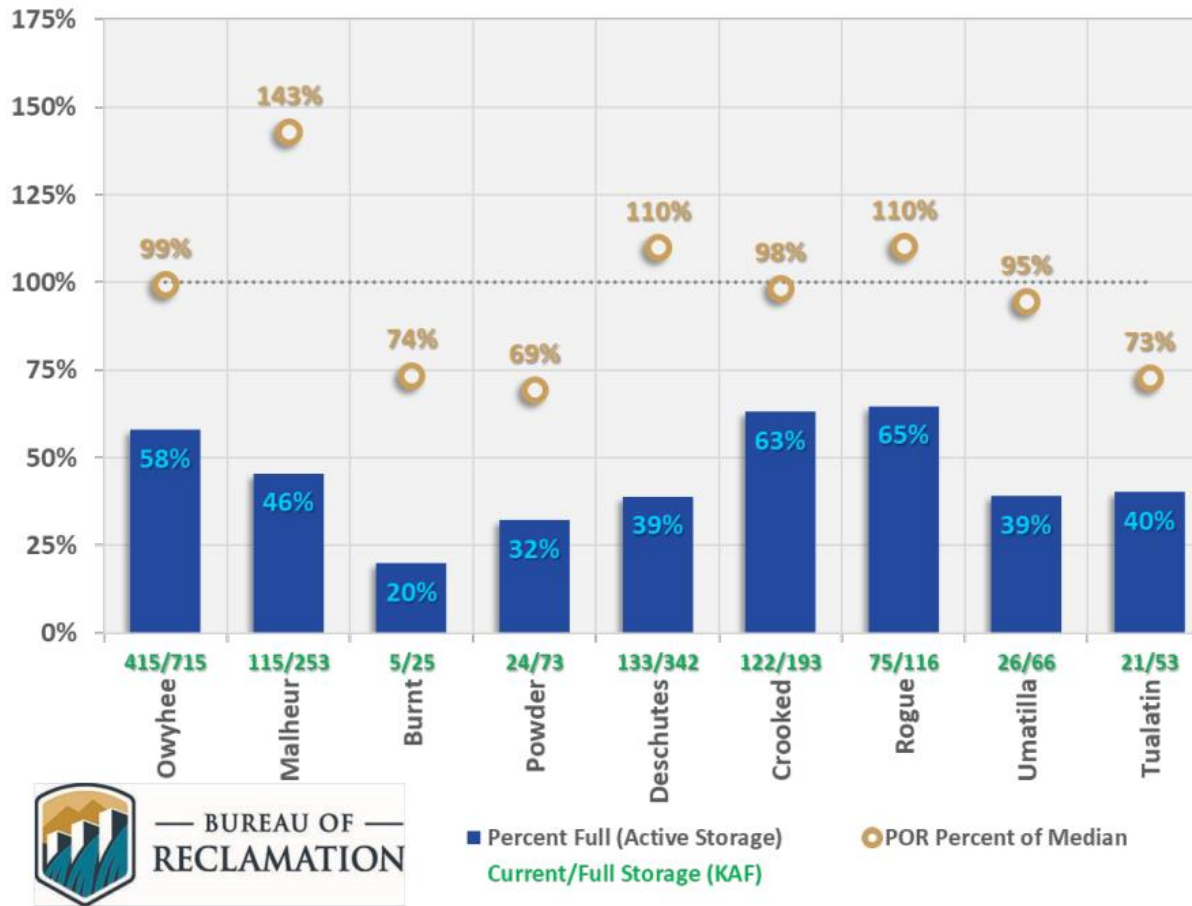
**STREAMFLOW**  
**AUGUST**

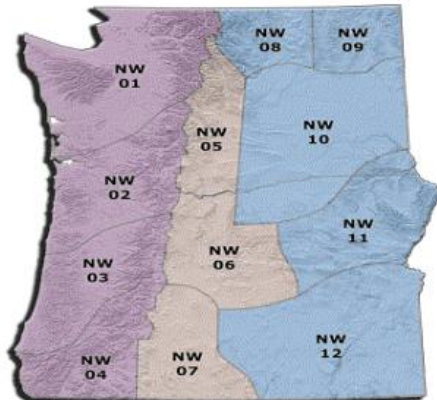


**STREAMFLOW**  
**7-DAY AVERAGE**



## Oregon Reservoir Storage (Sep 4 2025)





### Legend

#### Significant Fire Risk Levels

<b>Low</b>	- The Overall Fire Environment suggests a very low risk for significant fires ( <b>less than 1% chance</b> )
<b>Moderate</b>	- The Overall Fire Environment suggests a moderate risk for significant fires ( <b>1 - 4% chance</b> )
<b>Elevated</b>	- The Overall Fire Environment suggests a moderately high risk for significant fires ( <b>5 - 19% chance</b> )
<b>High Risk</b>	<b>The risk for significant fire(s) is very high (<math>\geq 20\%</math>)</b> Triggers: 1. $\nearrow$ (Significant Lightning) 2. BEN (Critical Burn Environment)

The assessment of Significant Fire risk considers three main factors including: weather elements, number of ignitions, and background fire danger.

Significant Fire risk is derived objectively via statistical methods that combine all three factors. **High Risk** levels ( $\geq 20\%$  probability of a significant fire) are usually due to numerous fire starts from lightning. Human fires don't often result in a large fire probability above 20%.

## Pacific Northwest 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Monday, 9/8/2025



Predictive Service Areas	ytd	Today	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
NW01								
NW02								
NW03								
NW04								
NW05								
NW06								
NW07								
NW08								
NW09								
NW10								
NW11								
NW12								

**Fire Weather:** Low pressure will continue to move inland over the next several days, sustaining unsettled conditions through midweek. Showers and thunderstorms will persist, with increasing rainfall and moderate to locally heavy lightning activity expected. Dry, gusty winds will return to southeast Oregon today, while lighter winds and higher humidity prevail near the central and eastern Columbia Gorge. Fortunately, humidity will trend upward, with minimums struggling to drop below 35% on Wednesday plus strong overnight recovery anticipated. The current upper low exits Friday into Saturday, bringing fire weather conditions back toward daily averages, followed by the arrival of another Pacific system on Sunday.

Check your local NWS forecasts for specific forecast details in your area.

**Fire Potential:** ERCs are expected to continue declining under moderating conditions, ahead of a minor increase in fire activity later in the week. Today, areas unaffected by recent weather still pose a risk for active fire behavior on both initial attack and ongoing incidents. Initial attack activity is likely to remain elevated, with holdovers and additional lightning contributing to new starts until wetting rains arrive this week.

#### Fire Danger Trends:

[https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/fwv/WEB\\_NFDRS\\_graphics.php](https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/fwv/WEB_NFDRS_graphics.php)

#### Preparedness Level:

Northwest: 4  
National: 4

## 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.