Oregon Water Conditions Report

January 12th, 2026

HIGHLIGHTS

According to the US Drought Monitor, over 15% of Oregon is experiencing moderate drought (D1) and over 4% is experiencing severe drought (D2). Over the last two weeks, drought conditions have improved across most of the state except for in parts of southwestern and northeastern Oregon.

Snow water equivalent (SWE) in every basin across the state is currently measuring below the historical median (min = 25%, max = 53%). As of 1/12, statewide SWE is measuring 41% of the historical median.

Precipitation in December was normal to above normal for most of the state. However, in parts of southwestern Oregon precipitation was below normal. Over the last two weeks, most of the state recorded below normal precipitation, with deficits generally ranging from 0.75 to 1.5 inches.

December temperatures were above normal statewide, with most of the state recording temperatures up to 5°F above normal. Over the last two weeks, most of the state remained warmer than normal, with well above normal temperatures recorded across much of eastern Oregon.

Recent soil moisture indicators show normal to wetter-than-normal conditions for most of Oregon. However, in parts of southwestern and northeastern Oregon, conditions are drier-than-normal. Over the last two weeks, soil moisture conditions have generally improved in Oregon except for in parts of western Oregon.

The seasonal climate outlook indicates probabilities leaning towards above normal precipitation for most of Oregon, with southern parts of the state having equal chances of below normal, normal, or above normal precipitation. The outlook also indicates equal chances of below normal, normal, or above normal temperatures for most of Oregon with probabilities leaning towards below normal temperatures in northern parts of the state.

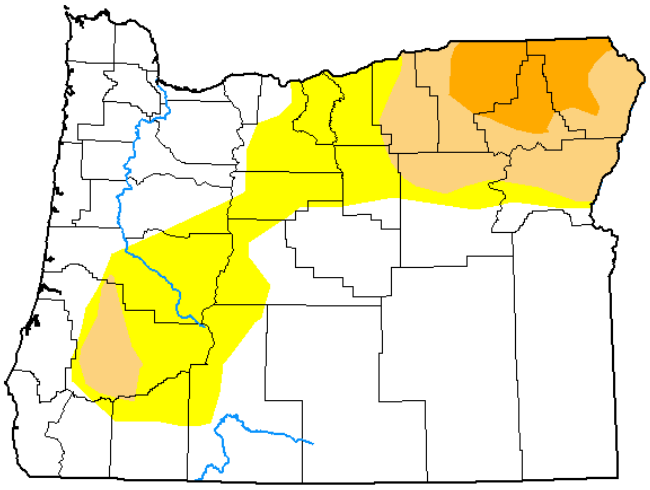
Streamflow conditions in December were above to well above normal for most of the state. In southwestern Oregon, streamflow conditions were below normal. Recent streamflow conditions over the last seven days have generally been normal to above normal for most of the state. However, in parts of southwestern Oregon streamflow conditions have been below normal.

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

DROUGHT CONDITIONS

U.S. Drought Monitor

Oregon



January 6, 2026

(Released Thursday, Jan. 8, 2026)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	65.06	34.94	15.76	4.65	0.00	0.00
Last Week 12-30-2025	40.12	59.88	16.33	5.60	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 10-07-2025	40.23	59.77	43.24	19.26	1.39	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-06-2026	65.06	34.94	15.76	4.65	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	32.92	67.08	47.65	24.35	1.39	0.00
One Year Ago 01-07-2025	88.40	11.60	1.29	0.00	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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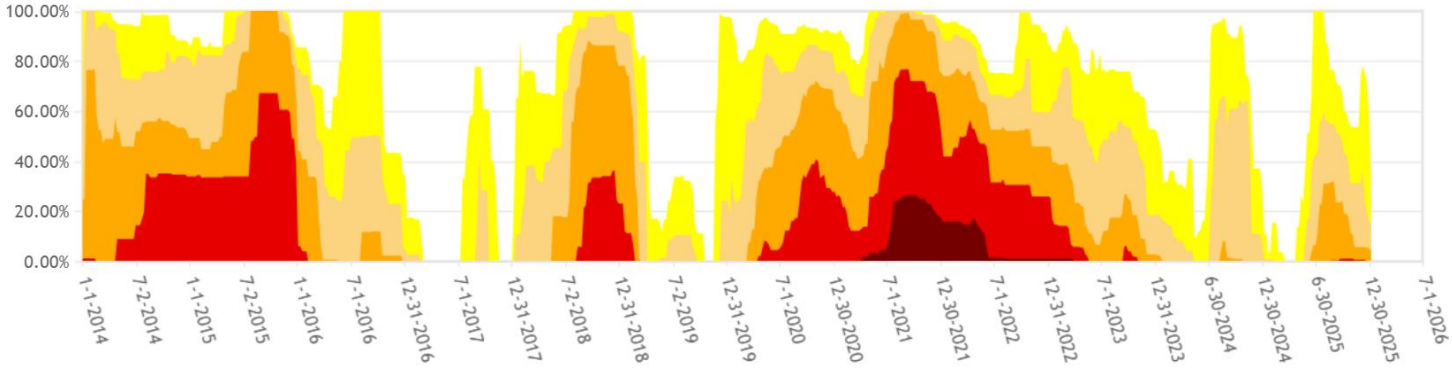
National Drought Mitigation Center

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

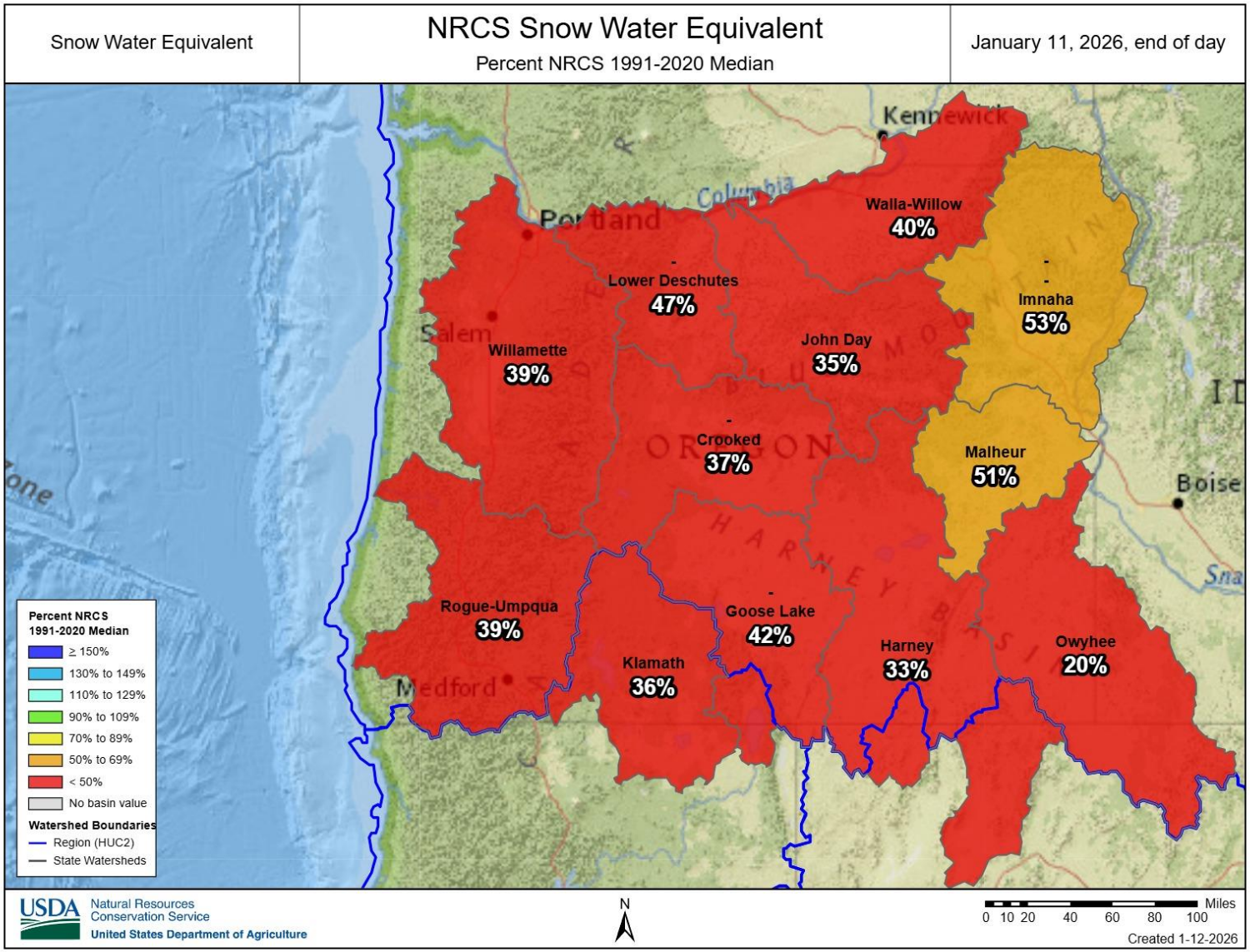
Oregon Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories



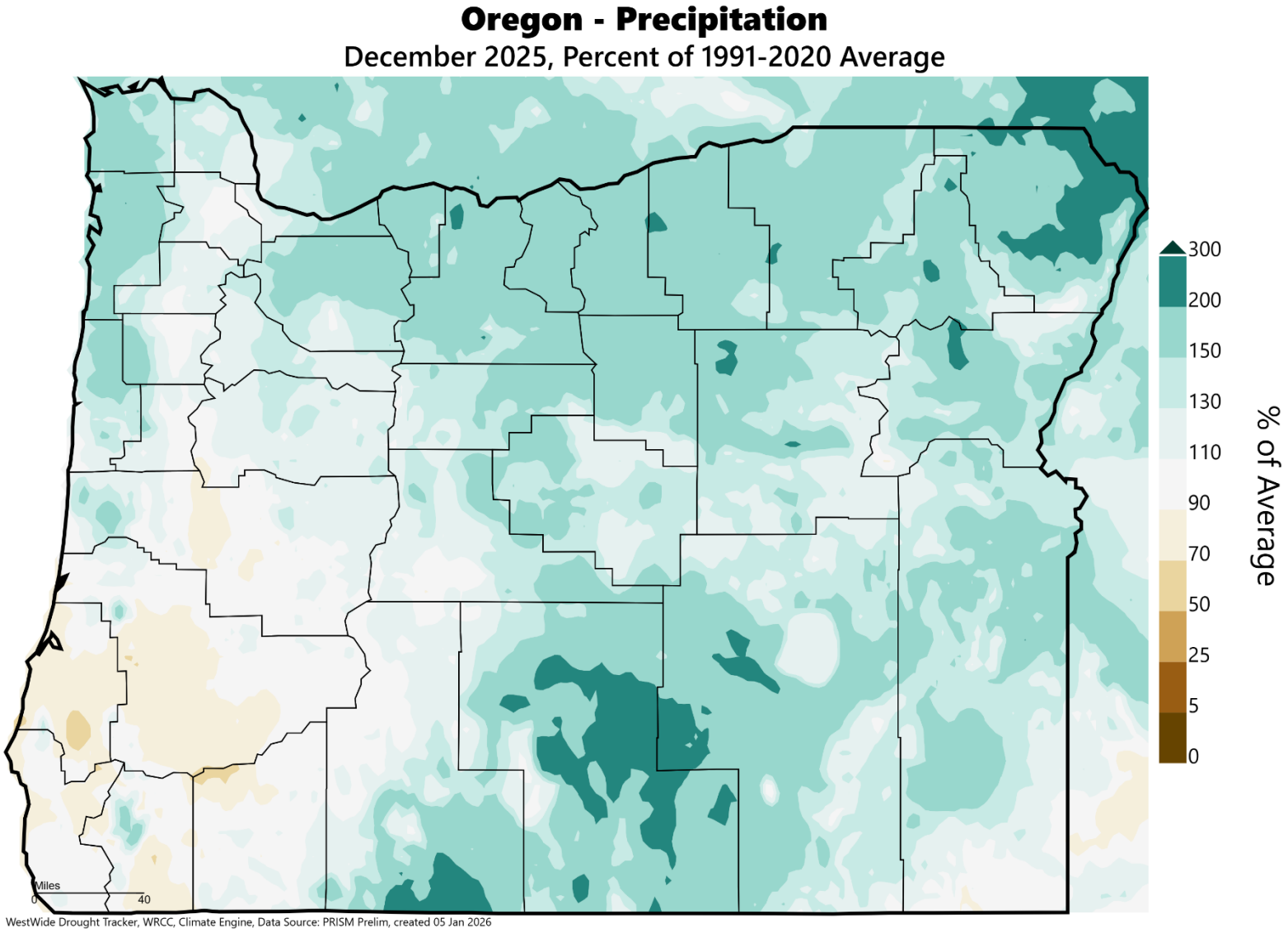
From the U.S. Drought Monitor website, https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DmData/TimeSeries.aspx, 1-12-2026

CLIMATE CONDITIONS

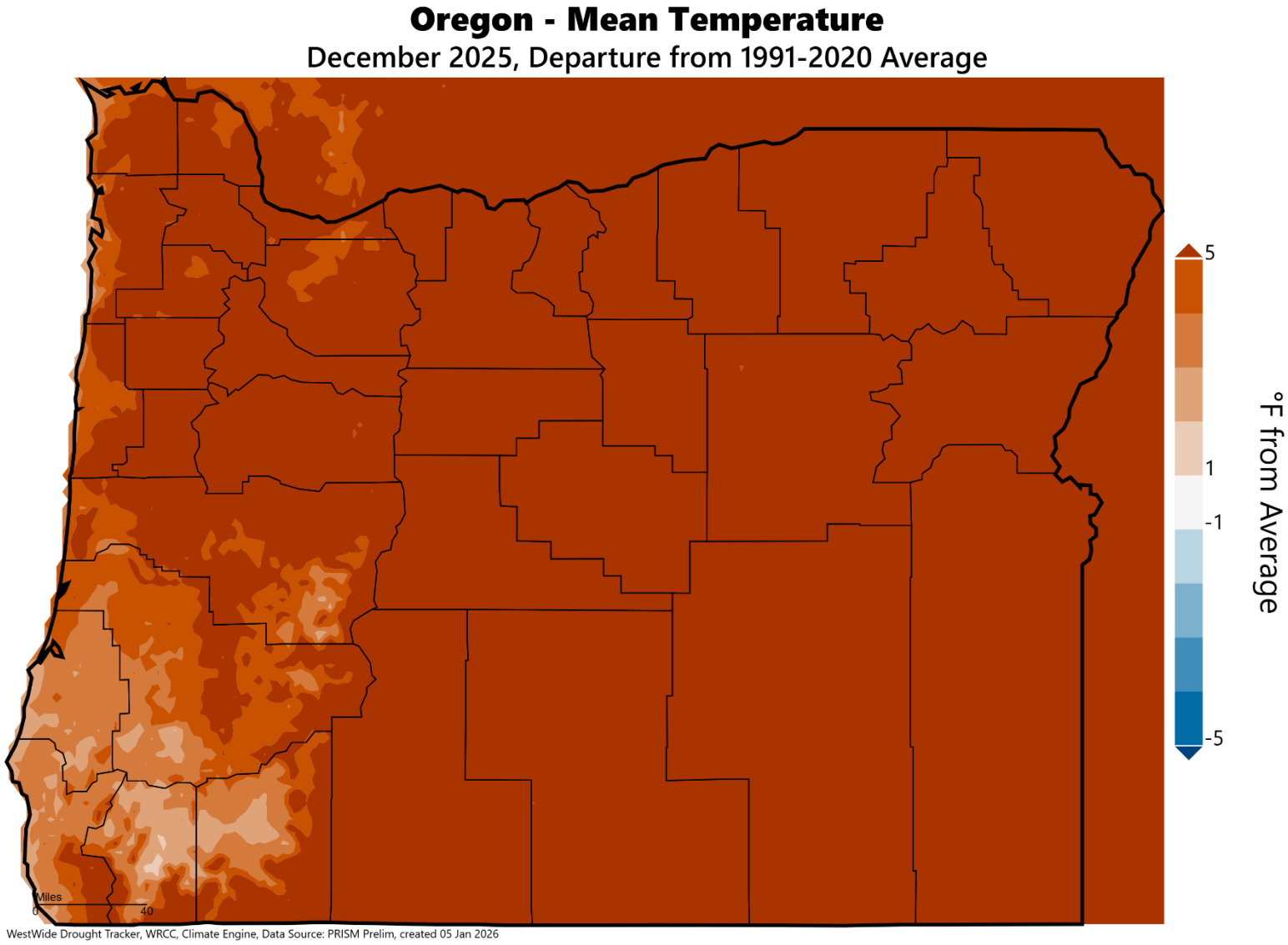
SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT



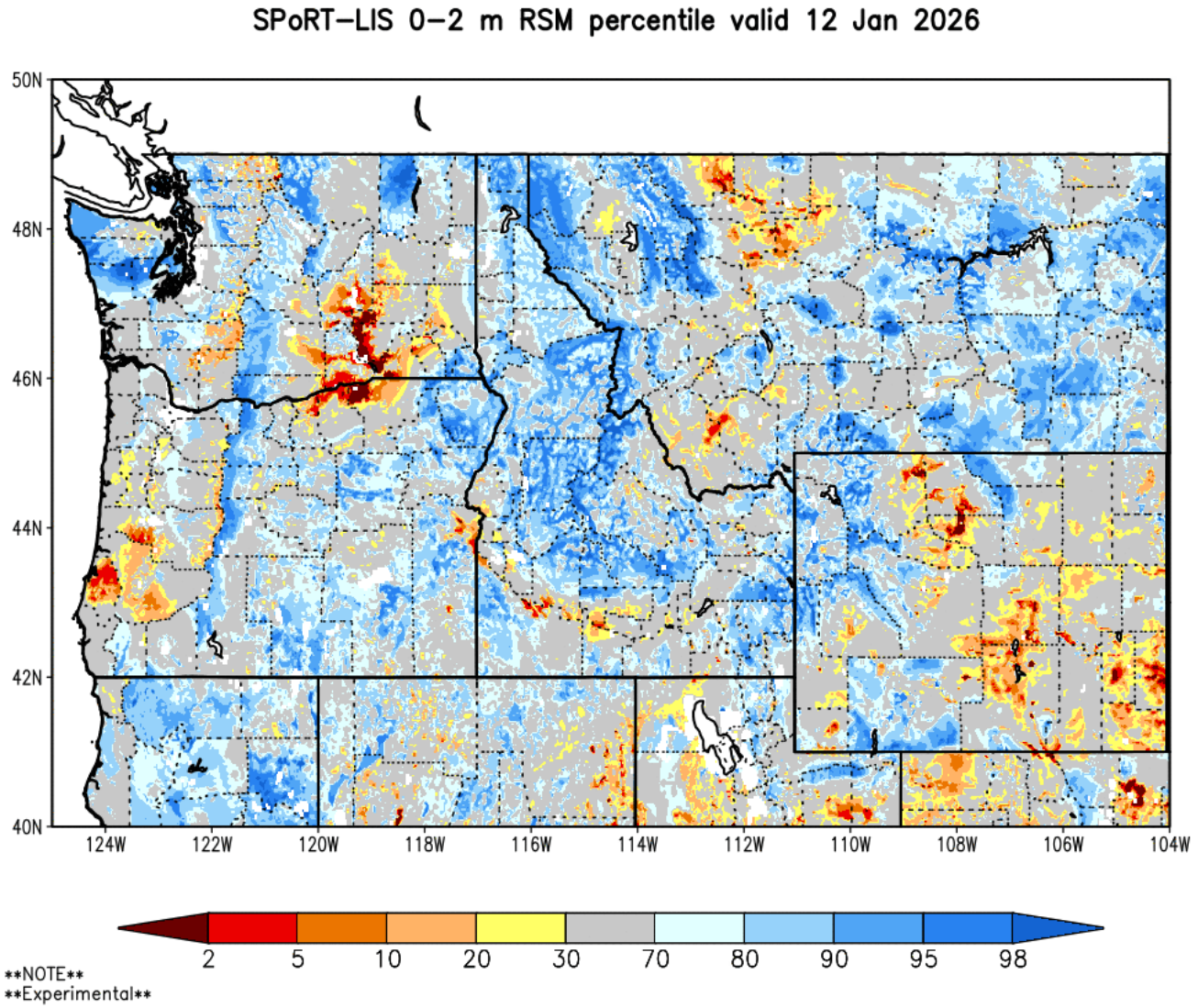
PRECIPITATION



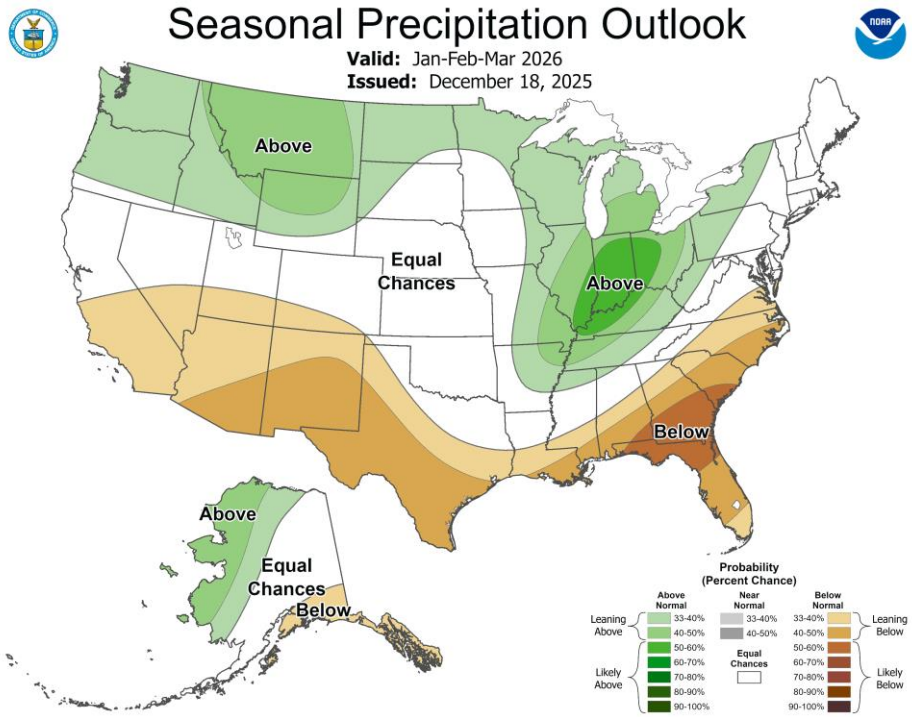
TEMPERATURE

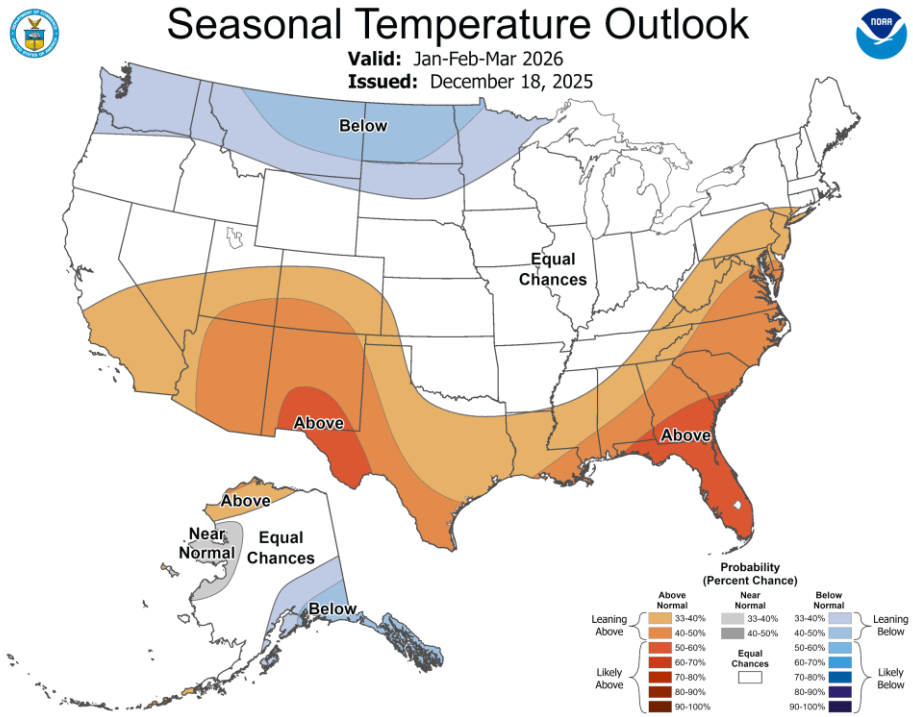


SOIL MOISTURE



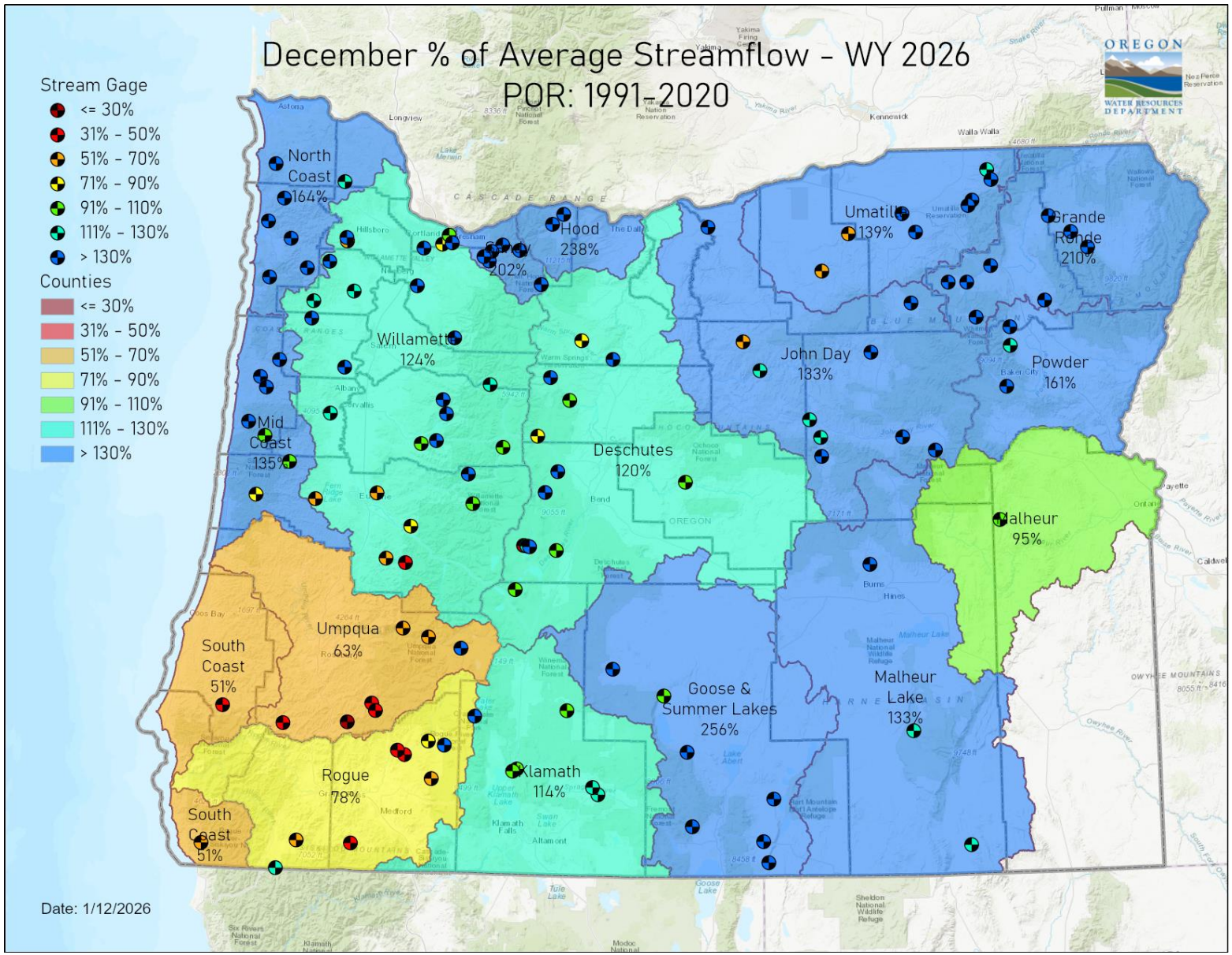
CLIMATE OUTLOOK



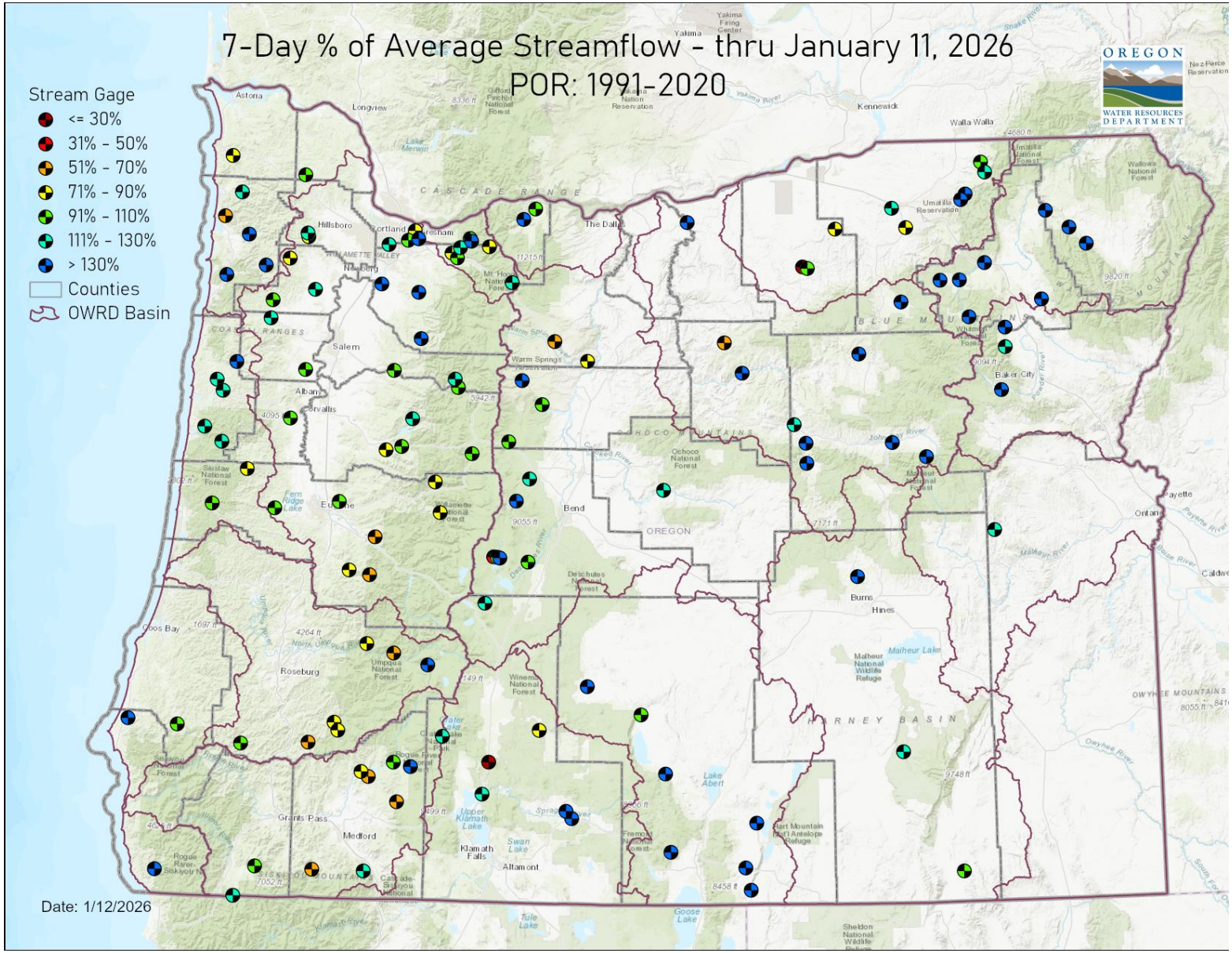


STREAMFLOW

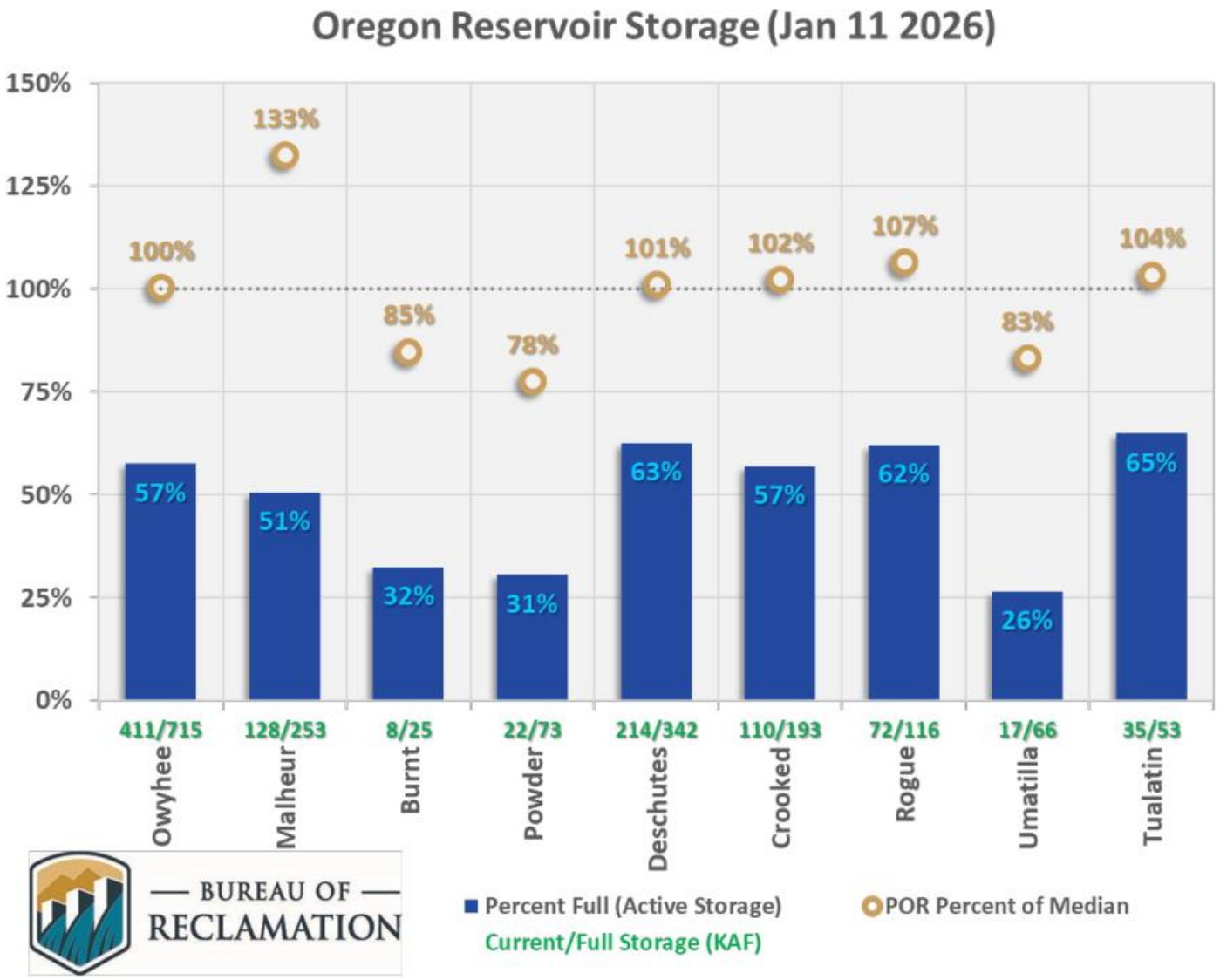
DECEMBER



7-DAY AVERAGE



STORAGE


Oregon Reservoir Storage (Jan 11 2026)
150%
125%
100%
75%
50%
25%
0%
100%
133%
85%
78%
101%
102%
107%
83%
104%
57%
51%
32%
31%
63%
57%
62%
26%
65%
411/715
128/253
8/25
22/73
214/342
110/193
72/116
17/66
35/53
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.