

# Oregon Water Conditions Report



March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## HIGHLIGHTS

According to the [US Drought Monitor](#), over 41% of Oregon is experiencing moderate (D1) to severe drought (D2). Over the last two weeks, drought conditions have expanded across much of the state.

[Snow water equivalent \(SWE\)](#) in basins across the state is currently measuring well below the historical median (min = 0%; max = 39%). Statewide, SWE is 18% of the historical median.

[Over the past two weeks](#), precipitation across most of Oregon was below normal, on the order of 1.5 inches below normal. Southwestern Oregon recorded the largest deficits at 1.5 to 4.5 inches below normal. In parts of northwestern and northeastern Oregon, above-normal precipitation was recorded, with up to 3 inches above normal in northwestern Oregon.

Temperatures over the past two weeks were above normal statewide. For much of southern and central Oregon, temperatures were 5°F to 10°F above normal.

Recent soil moisture indicators show drier-than-normal conditions across much of western Oregon and in northeastern parts of the state. Elsewhere, conditions are generally near normal with scattered areas of drier-than-normal and wetter-than-normal conditions.

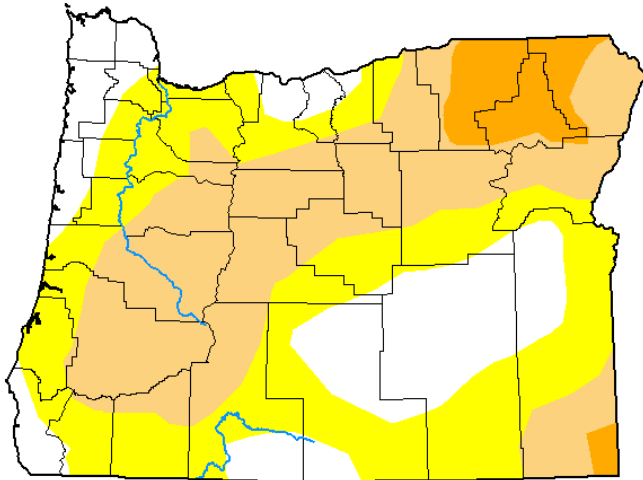
The [near-term climate outlook](#) indicates probabilities leaning towards above-normal precipitation for most of Oregon, with near-normal precipitation for some of northwestern Oregon. The outlook also indicates near-normal temperatures statewide.

[Recent streamflow](#) conditions over the last seven days have been below normal across much of Oregon. Most notably, in southern and eastern regions of the state, conditions were generally below to well below normal. For portions of the Cascade Range, Blue Mountains, and Wallowa Mountains, streamflow conditions were normal to above normal. Water year-to-date (WYTD) streamflow conditions have been below normal for most of the state. However, WYTD conditions for basins in south-central and in subregions of northeastern and northwestern Oregon have been near normal.

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

# U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

**March 17, 2026**  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 19, 2026)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	22.14	77.86	41.16	6.20	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 03-10-2026	22.41	77.59	34.00	5.75	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 12-16-2025	24.82	75.18	23.75	6.03	0.99	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-01-2026	65.06	34.94	15.76	4.65	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-30-2025	32.92	67.08	47.65	24.35	1.39	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 03-18-2025	98.75	1.25	0.00	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>

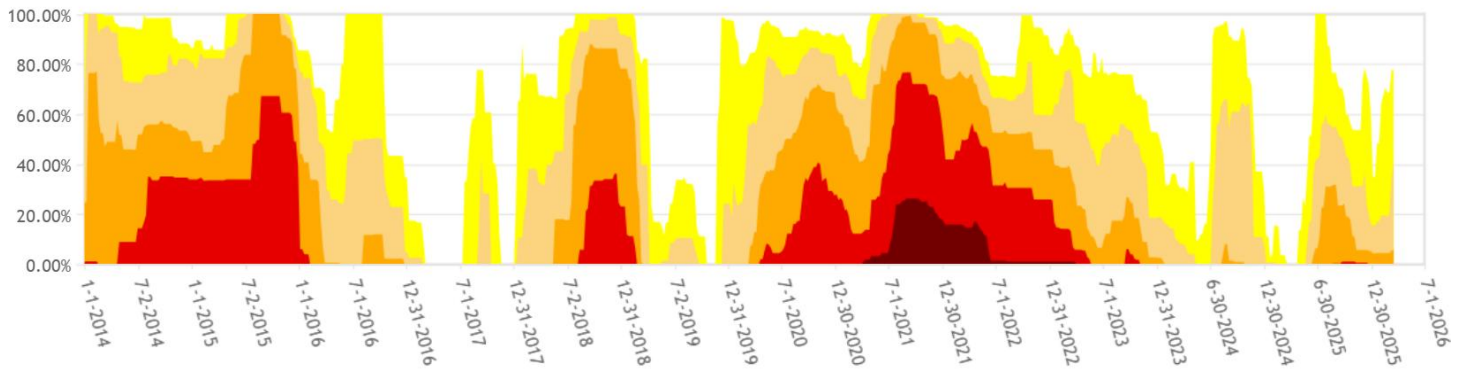
Author:

Curtis Riganti  
National Drought Mitigation Center



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

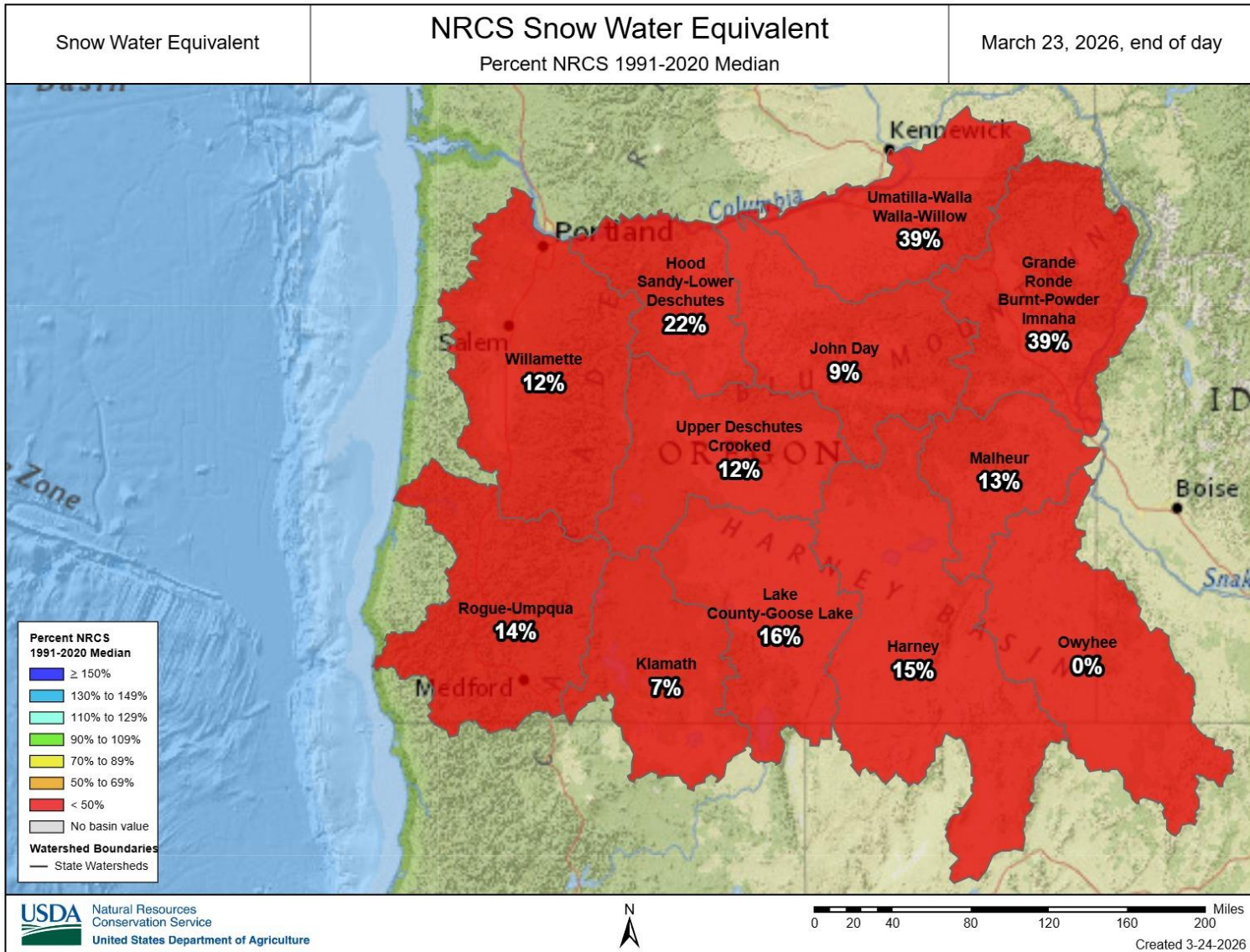
Oregon Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories



From the U.S. Drought Monitor website, <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DmData/TimeSeries.aspx>, 3-22-2026

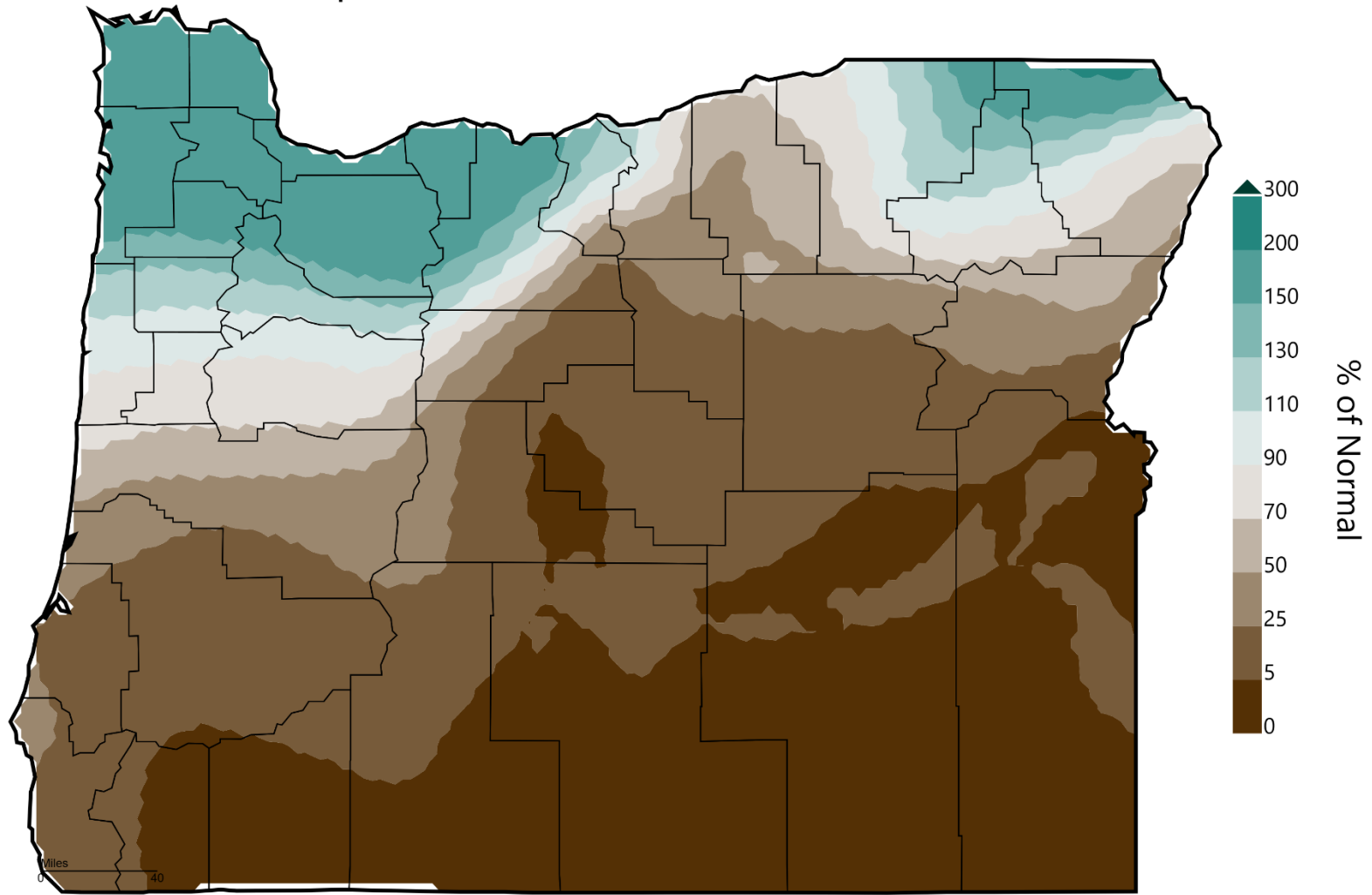


**CLIMATE CONDITIONS**  
**SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT**



### Oregon Contours

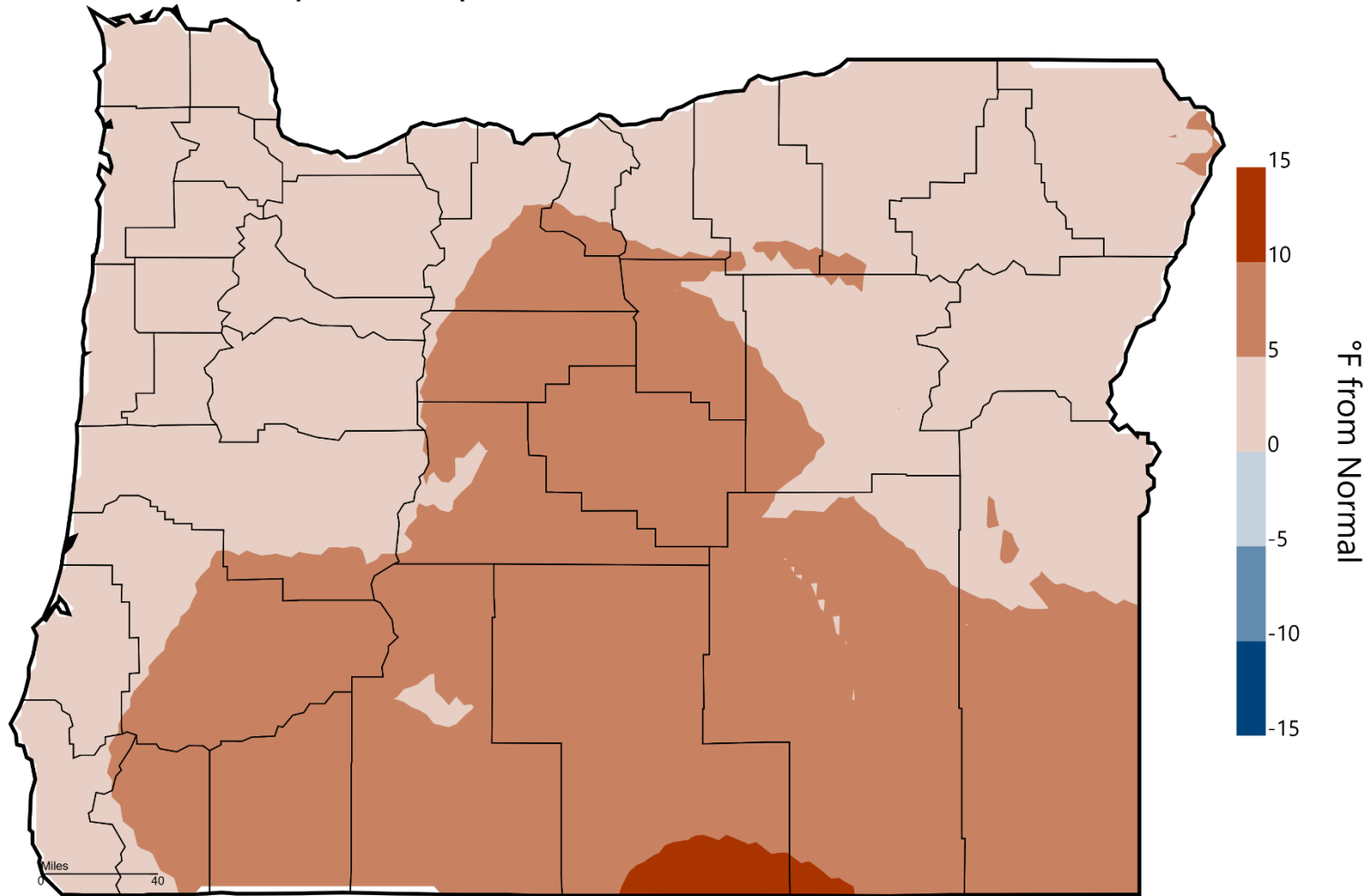
Total Precipitation Percent of Normal (March 10, 2026 - March 23, 2026)



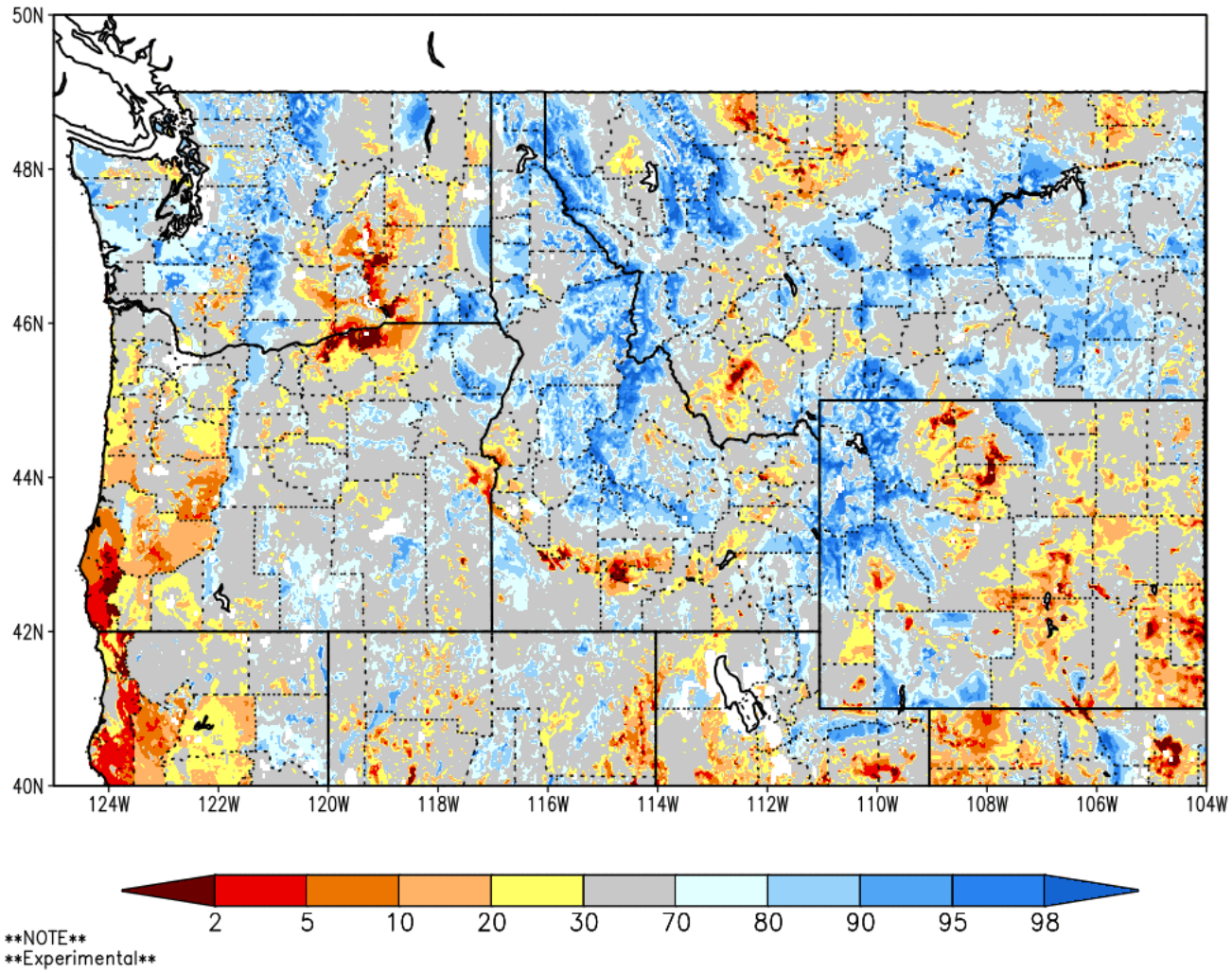
Western Regional Climate Center / High Plains Regional Climate Center

### Oregon Contours

Mean Temperature Departure from Normal (March 10, 2026 - March 23, 2026)



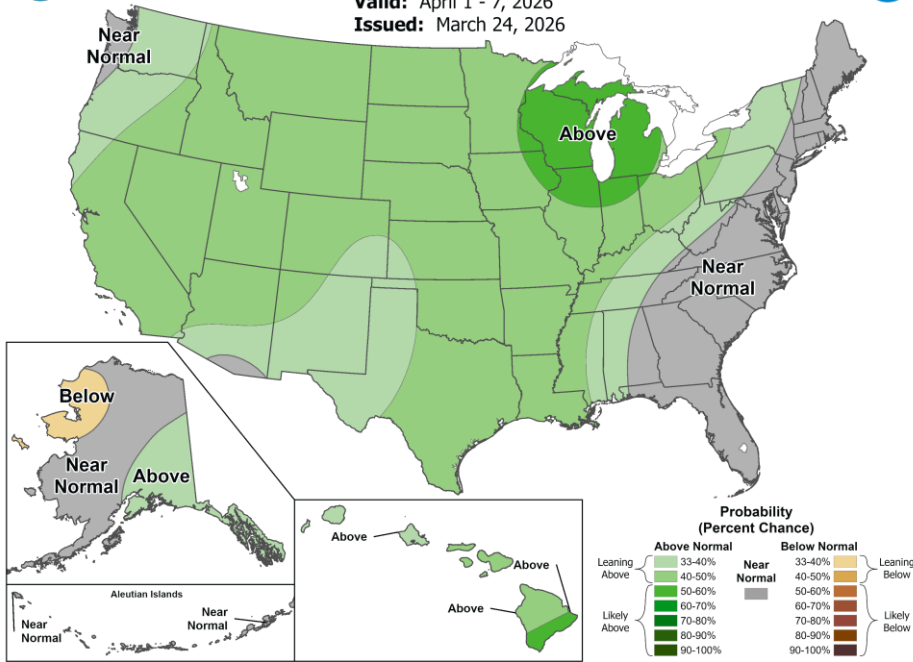
SPoRT-LIS 0-2 m RSM percentile valid 24 Mar 2026





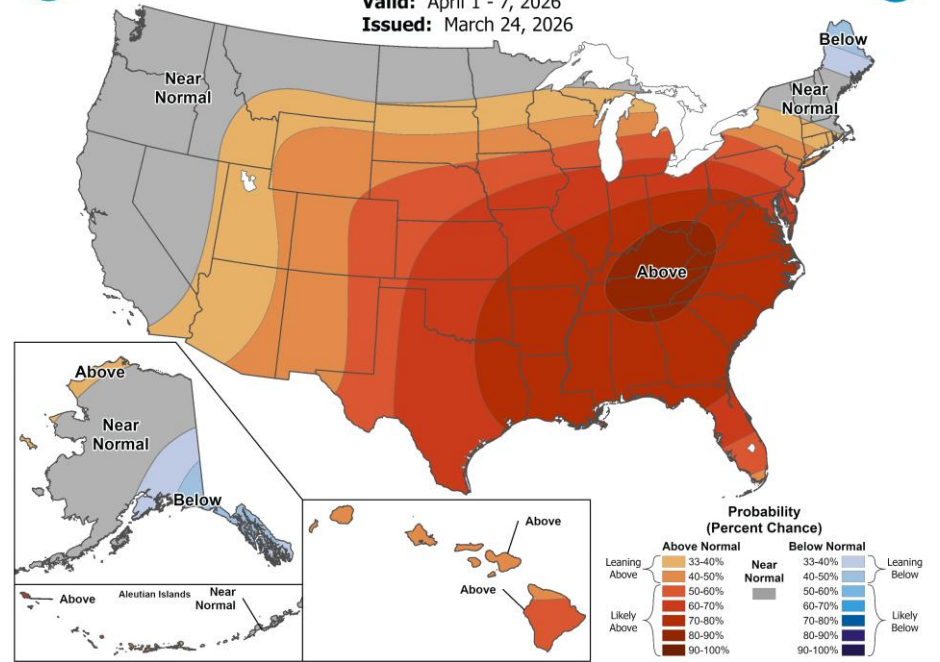
## 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: April 1 - 7, 2026  
 Issued: March 24, 2026



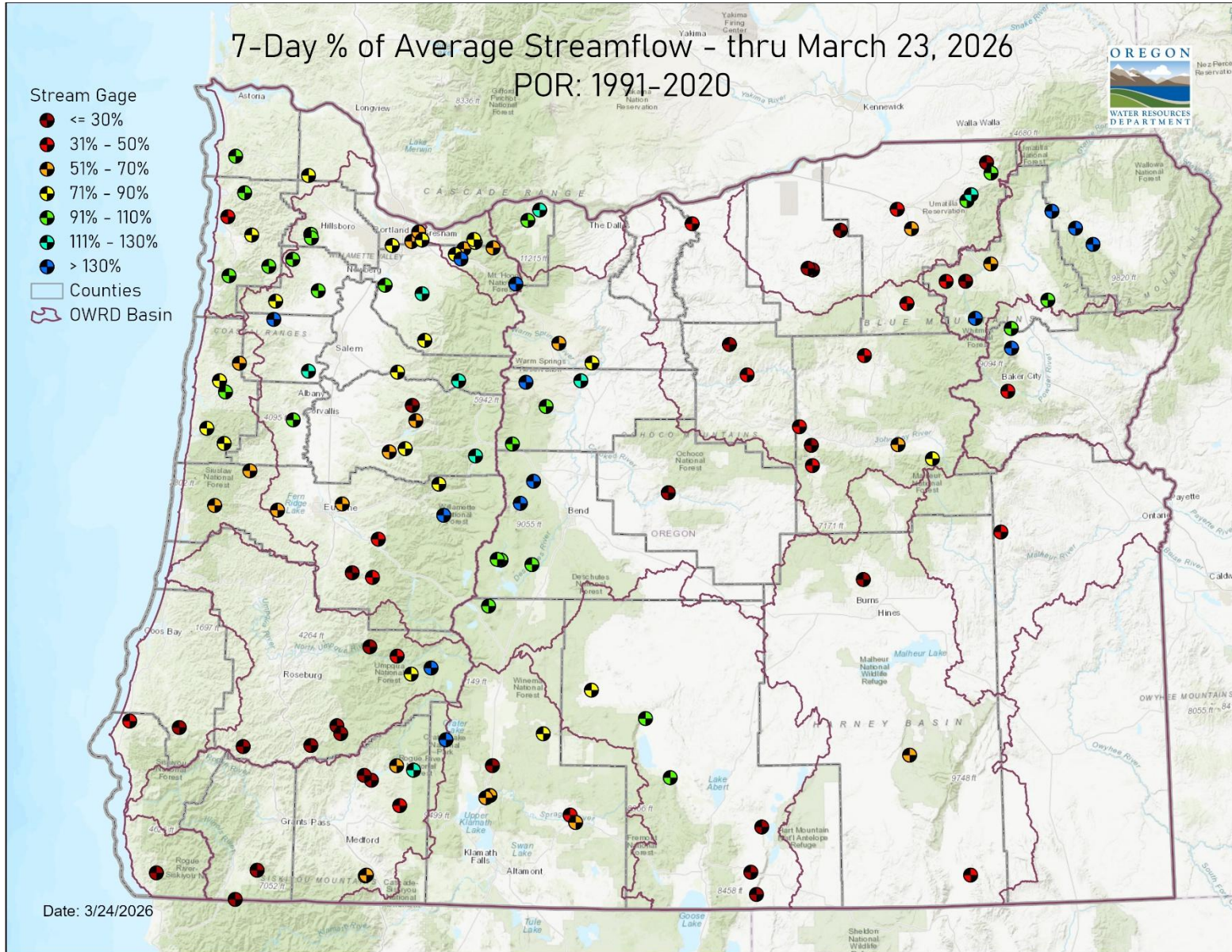
## 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

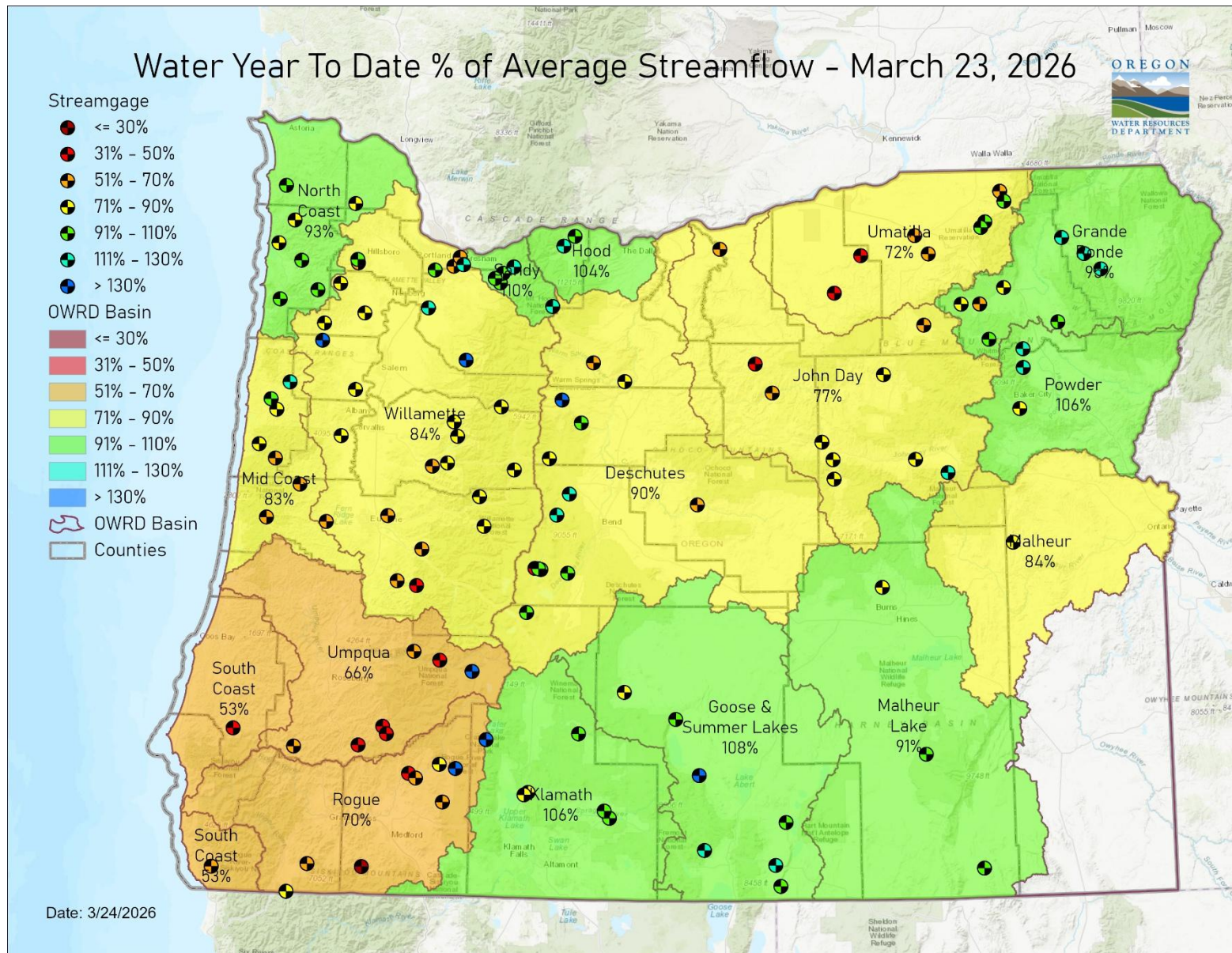
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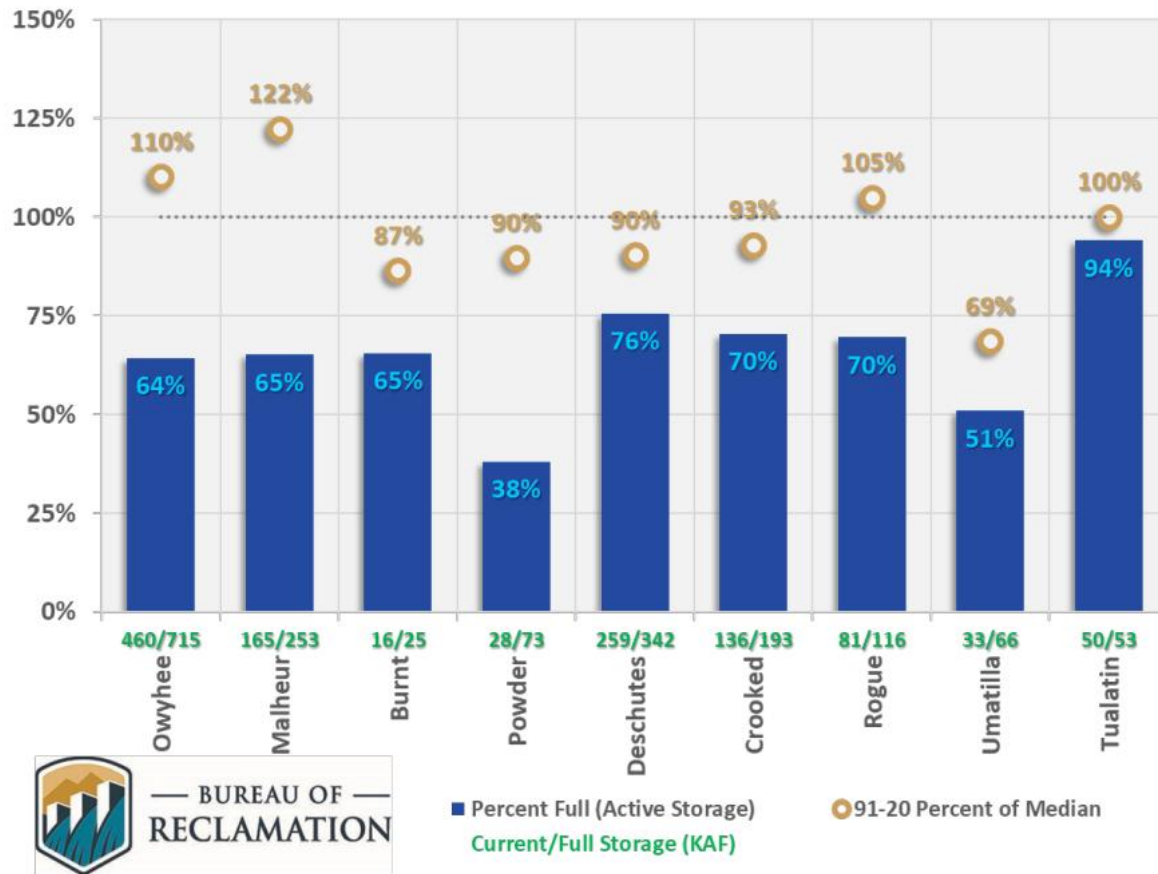
# STREAMFLOW

## 7-DAY AVERAGE





Oregon Reservoir Storage (Mar 22 2026)



## 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.