# Oregon Drought and Water Conditions Report

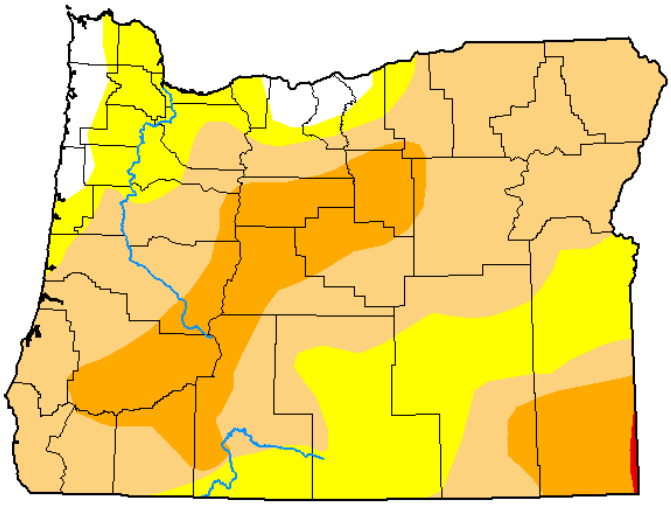
## May 4th, 2026

## Conditions at a Glance

- According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM), as of 4/28, 70% of Oregon is in moderate (D1) to severe drought (D2) with a very small portion of southeastern Oregon in extreme drought (D3).
- Precipitation over the last 30 days was below normal for most of the state. However, across much of eastern Oregon, precipitation was above normal. This prompted the reduction of D2 in northeastern Oregon on the USDM last week.
- Statewide, snowpack is 10% of normal.

***U.S. Drought Monitor***

**Oregon**



**April 28, 2026**

***(Released Thursday, Apr. 30, 2026)***

**Valid 8 a.m. EDT**

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

| | None | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Current** | 3.63 | 96.37 | 70.57 | 20.22 | 0.20 | 0.00 |
| **Last Week** 04-21-2026 | 3.63 | 96.37 | 70.76 | 29.81 | 0.20 | 0.00 |
| **3 Months Ago** 01-27-2026 | 51.50 | 48.50 | 17.33 | 4.77 | 0.00 | 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** 04-29-2025 | 85.85 | 14.15 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

*Intensity:*

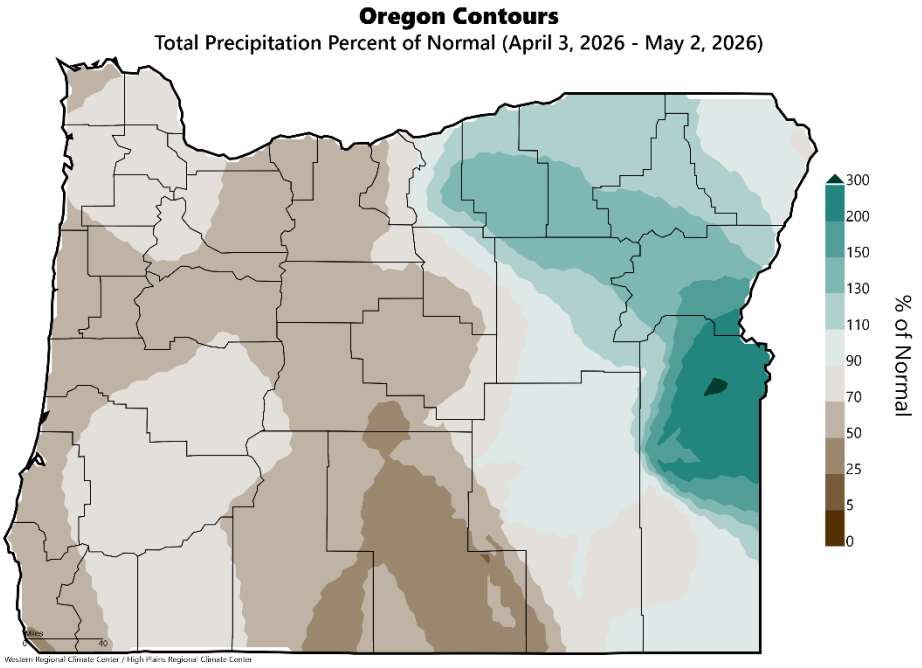
None
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Moderate Drought
D2 Severe Drought
D3 Extreme Drought
D4 Exceptional Drought

*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*

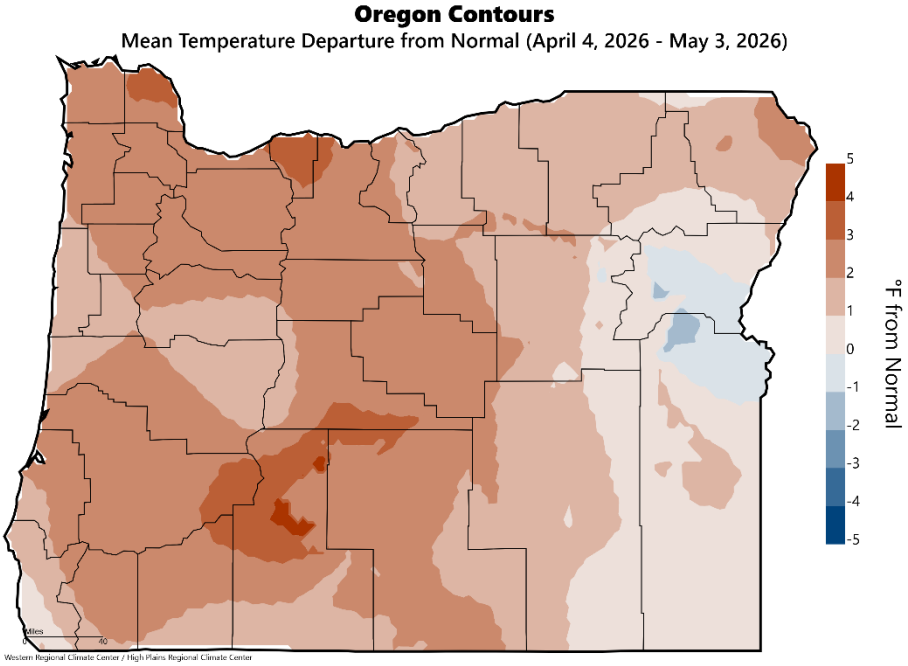
*Author:*
Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture

**droughtmonitor.unl.edu**

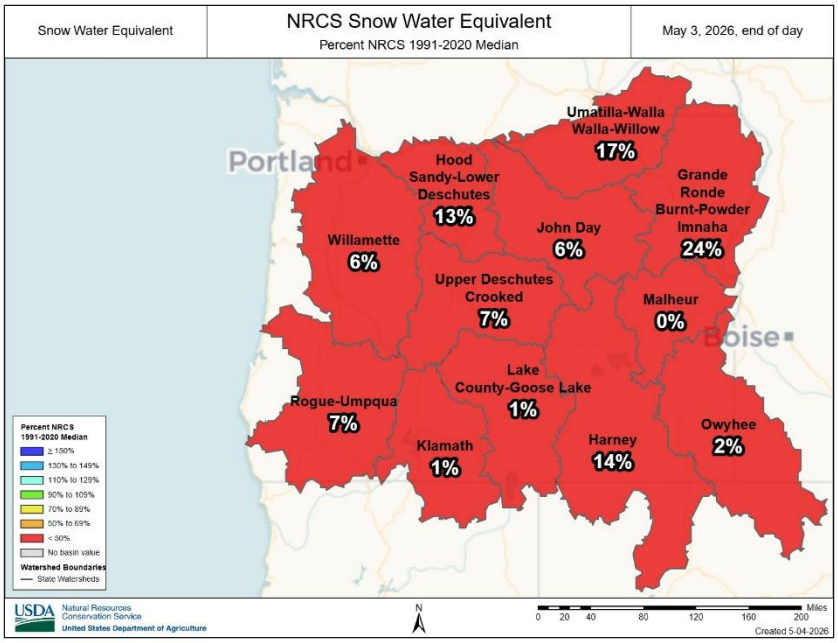
## Recent Conditions



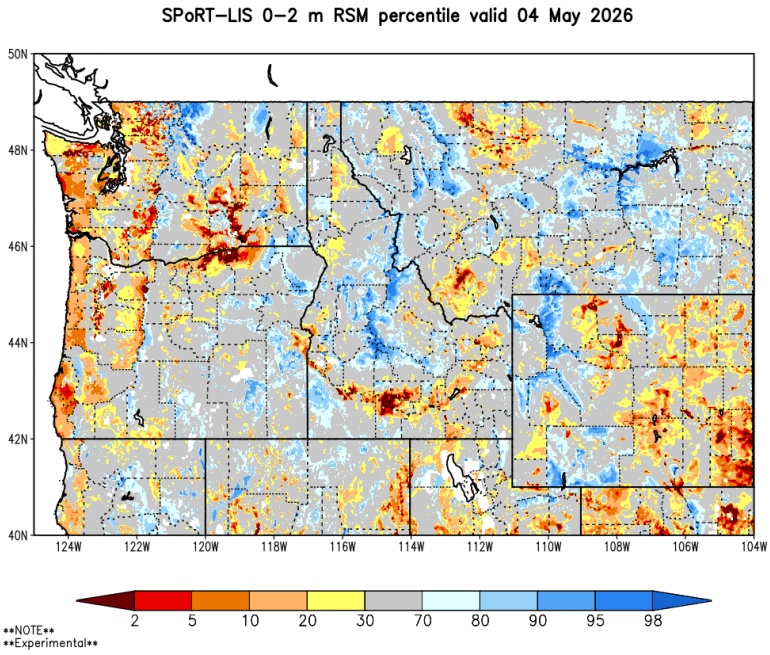

- Precipitation over the last 30 days and past two weeks was below normal for most of the state, except for parts of eastern Oregon, where it ranged from near to above normal.



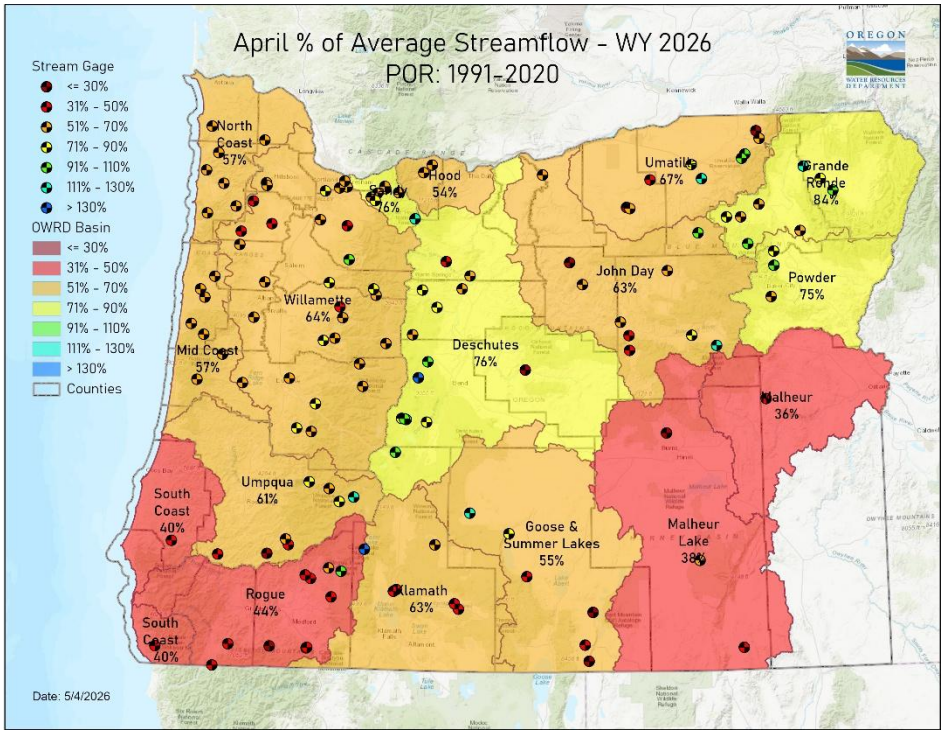

- Temperatures over the last 30 days and past two weeks were generally above normal across most of the state, except in parts of eastern Oregon, where they were near or below normal.



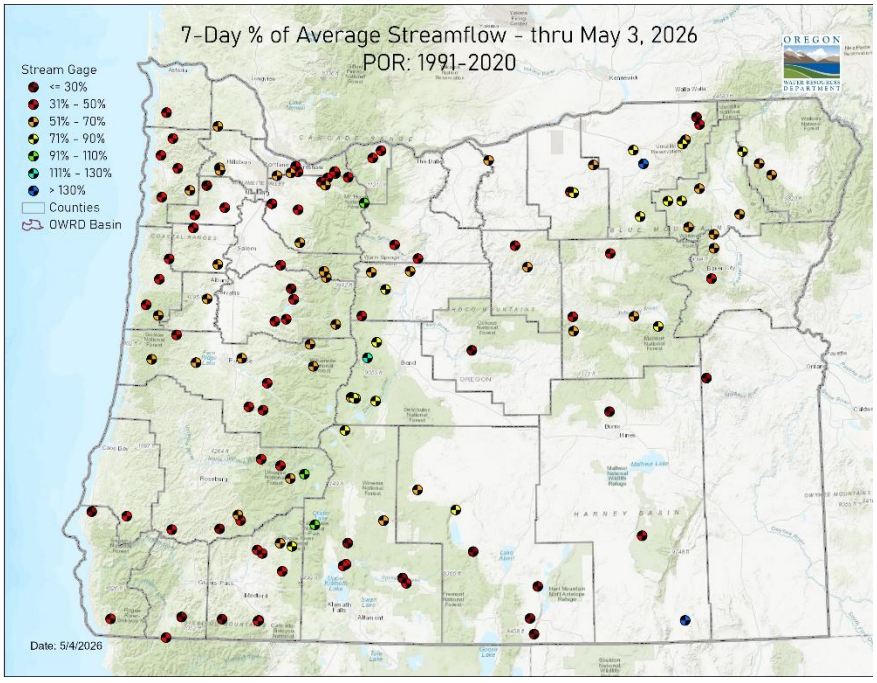

- Snow water equivalent (SWE) in basins across the state is currently measuring well below the historical median (min = 0%; max = 24%). Statewide, SWE is 10% of the historical median.




- Recent soil moisture indicators show that conditions are drier-than-normal across much of western and north-central Oregon.
- Elsewhere in the state, conditions are generally normal, with much of eastern Oregon experiencing wetter-than-normal conditions.

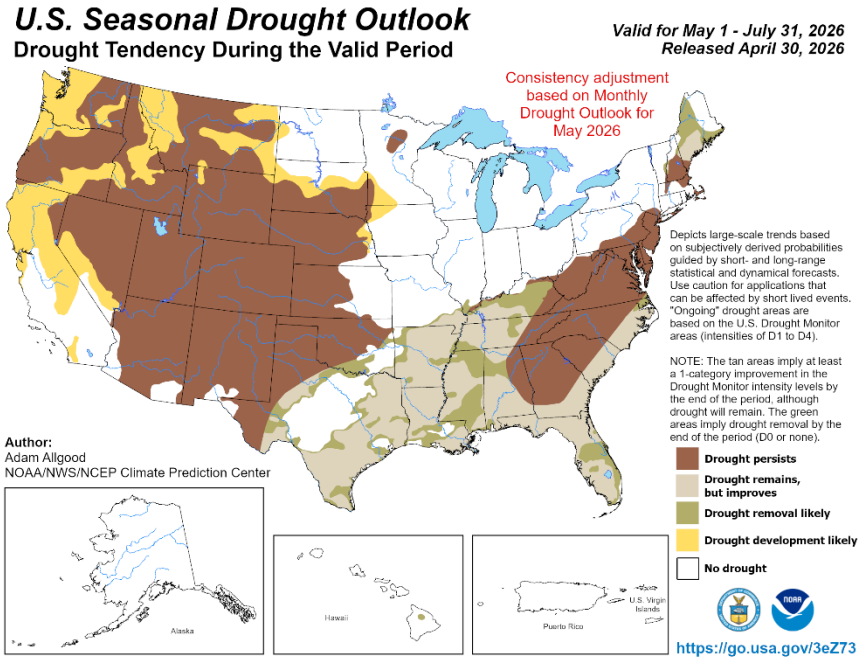



- Streamflow conditions in April were below normal statewide with well-below-normal conditions in the South Coast, Rogue, Malheur Lake, and Malheur basins.




- Recent streamflow conditions over the last seven days have been below normal for most of the state.


- As of 5/3, most USBR storage projects in Oregon are below normal, excluding projects in the Malheur and Tualatin Basin. For more information on reservoir storage projects, refer to the US Army Corps of Engineers and the US Bureau of Reclamation.




- Drought is likely to develop or persist for all of Oregon from May through July.
- The seasonal climate outlook for May through July indicates a likelihood of above-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation.

## Additional Resources and 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.