Oregon
Water Conditions Report
October 16, 2017

Precipitation in mid and late-September brought some relief to areas of western Oregon. East of the Cascades, drier conditions continued to prevail both in terms of soil moisture deficits and streamflow, due to the prolonged dry, hot summer months. With the exception of northeastern Oregon, precipitation in the past two weeks has been below normal. Weather events forecast for this week are likely to bring a considerable amount of precipitation to western Oregon.

With the exception of the northwest corner, most of Oregon was cooler than normal for early October. The past two weeks have seen a cooling trend mitigating the past three months of unusually warm temperatures. July - September 2017 was the 2nd warmest such period in Oregon in the 123 year record (2015 is #1). August of 2017 was the warmest month on record.

Over the next 8 to 14 days, the NOAA Climate Prediction Center is forecasting above normal temperature probabilities across Oregon. The accompanying precipitation outlook is for slightly below normal precipitation across most of the state and below normal probability for the southeast portion of the state.

The NOAA Climate Prediction Center's most recent three month outlook indicates a high likelihood of above normal temperatures along with above normal precipitation for Oregon between now and December. The next outlook will be issued on October 19, 2017.

The Climate Prediction Center has recently issued a La Niña Watch for the upcoming 2017-18 fall-winter season. There is an increasing chance (~55-60%) of La Niña during the Northern Hemisphere fall and winter 2017-18. For in-depth discussions, refer to the diagnostic discussion or the very informative blog by CPC contractor Emily Becker. The situation continues to be monitored and any changes will be made to the status by the Climate Prediction Center.

Statewide streamflows for the first two weeks of October were over 85 percent of normal. This is down from 92 percent for the month of September. Regionally streamflow conditions are at 65 percent west of the Cascades and almost 100 percent east of the Cascades. This trend is likely to reverse with the onset of the rain events forecast this week

Most of the state's water supply reservoirs are at normal levels for this time of year. Willamette and Rogue project reservoirs remain on track this fall. Hills Creek Reservoir in the Willamette Basin was held to lower than normal levels for maintenance projects. Minimum streamflow targets are projected to be met for the rest of the season. Central Oregon reservoirs are between 44 and 82 percent of capacity. Eastern Oregon reservoirs continue to hover between 20 and 60 percent of capacity. Most are ramping down releases of stored water for the supply

season. For the most recent near real-time, site-specific reservoir conditions (teacup diagrams) visit the USBR or USACE websites.

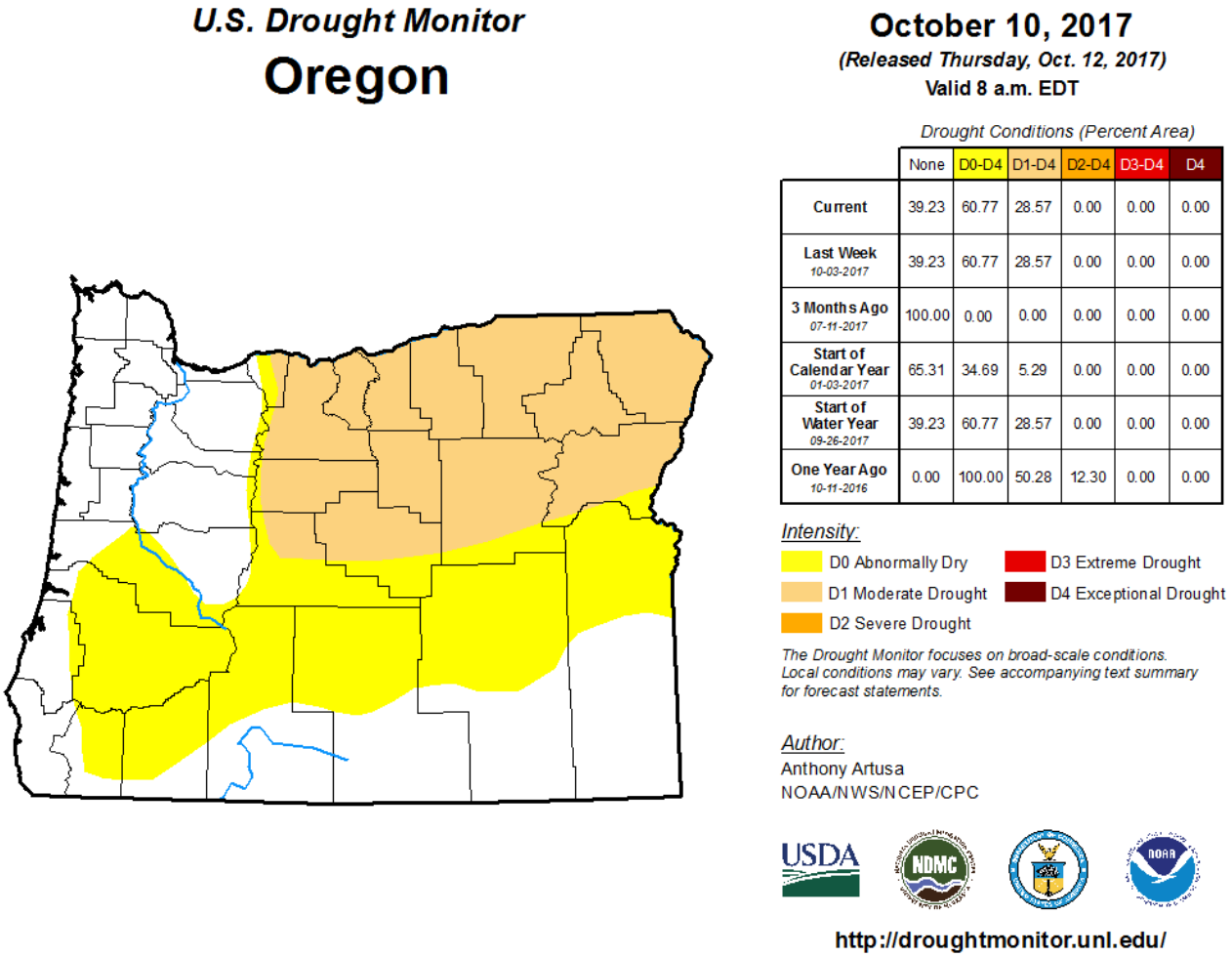
Due to continuing higher than normal temperatures, the US Drought Monitor indicates that 60 percent of Oregon is now categorized as "abnormally dry" along with 28 percent of the state that has now been categorized as in "moderate drought". The outlook should improve this week in consideration of recent weather patterns.

Rain and cooler temperatures have helped to dampen wildfires. Fire potential is now listed as "Low" in the Willamette Valley and the mid-coast to north coast and eastern parts of Oregon listed as "Moderate". A "High" rating is listed for the Rogue and Klamath basins. The Oregon Department of Forestry Significant Fire Potential map provides the latest detail. Information and updates on current and developing wildfire conditions can be accessed at the ODF Wildfire Blog. For statewide incident-specific information refer to the InciWeb incident reporting system.

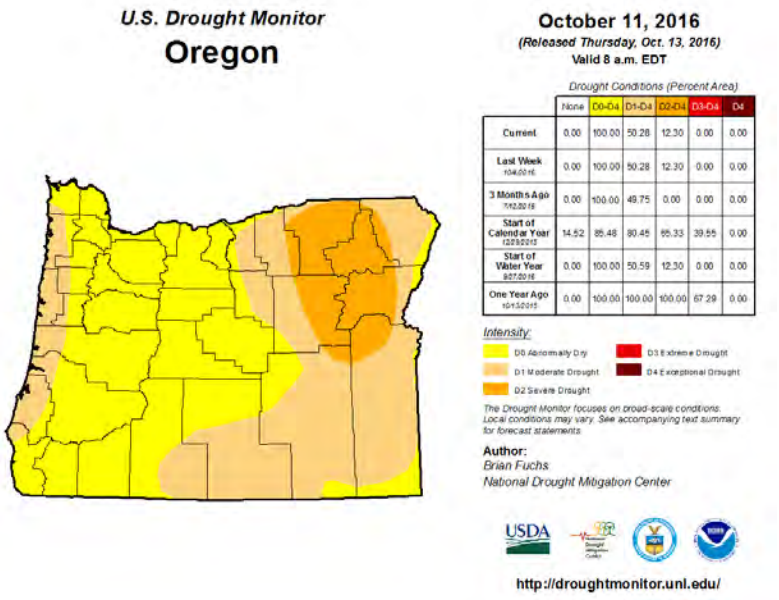
Data & Products: Page:

U.S. Drought Monitor for Oregon

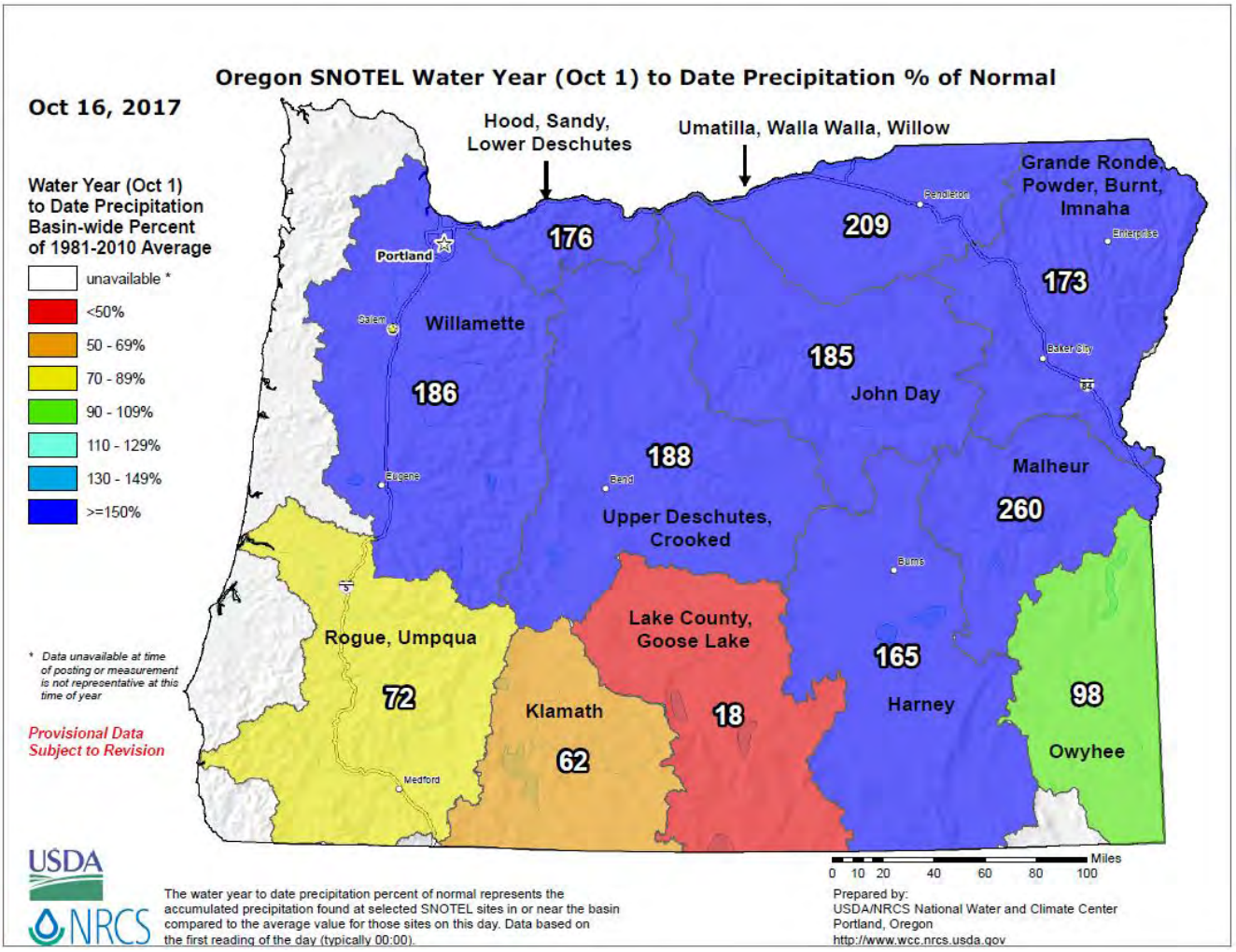
Website: http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?OR



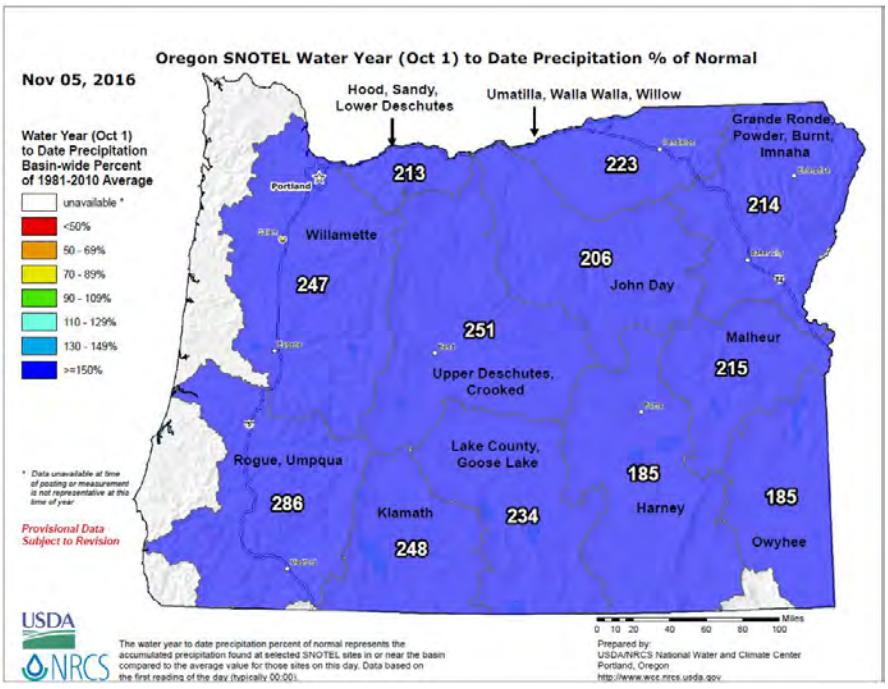
Compared to this time last year:



Precipitation (mountain) - Percent of Normal



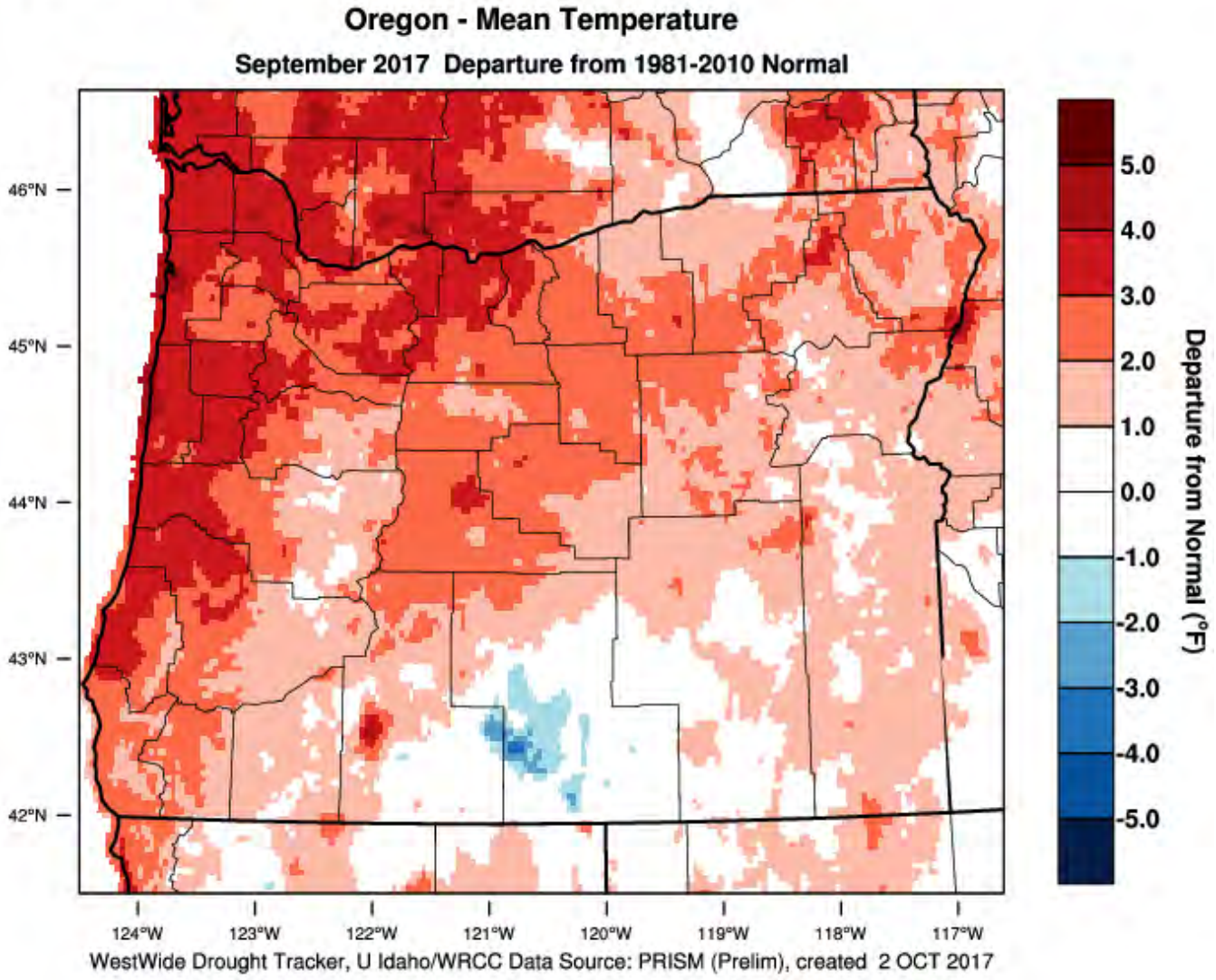
Compared to this time last year -



Temperature – (1 Month) Departure from Normal

Website: http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/wwdt/index.php?folder=mdn1

PRISM > Temperature Anomaly 1 Month > Oregon



Precipitation – (1 Month) Percent of Normal

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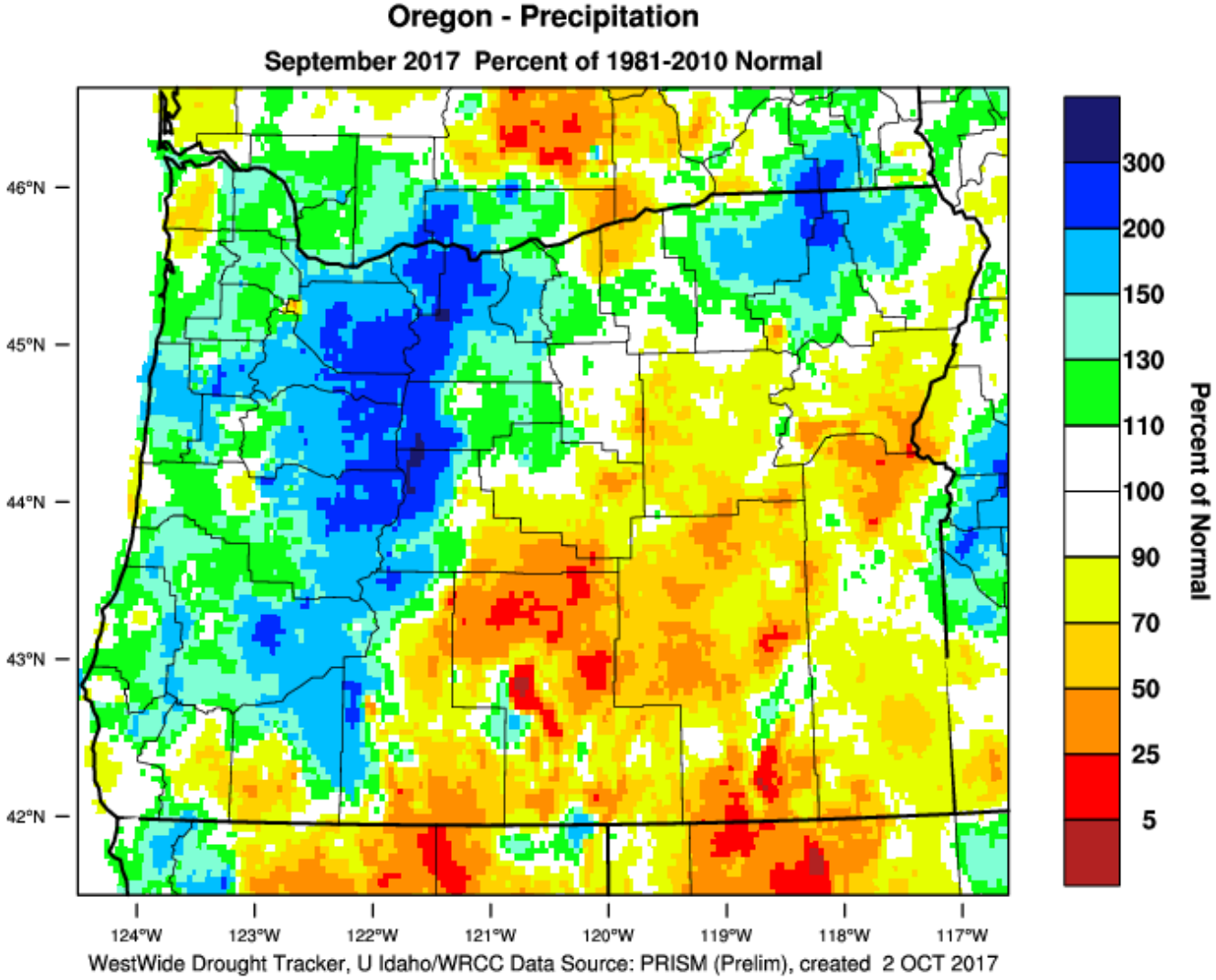
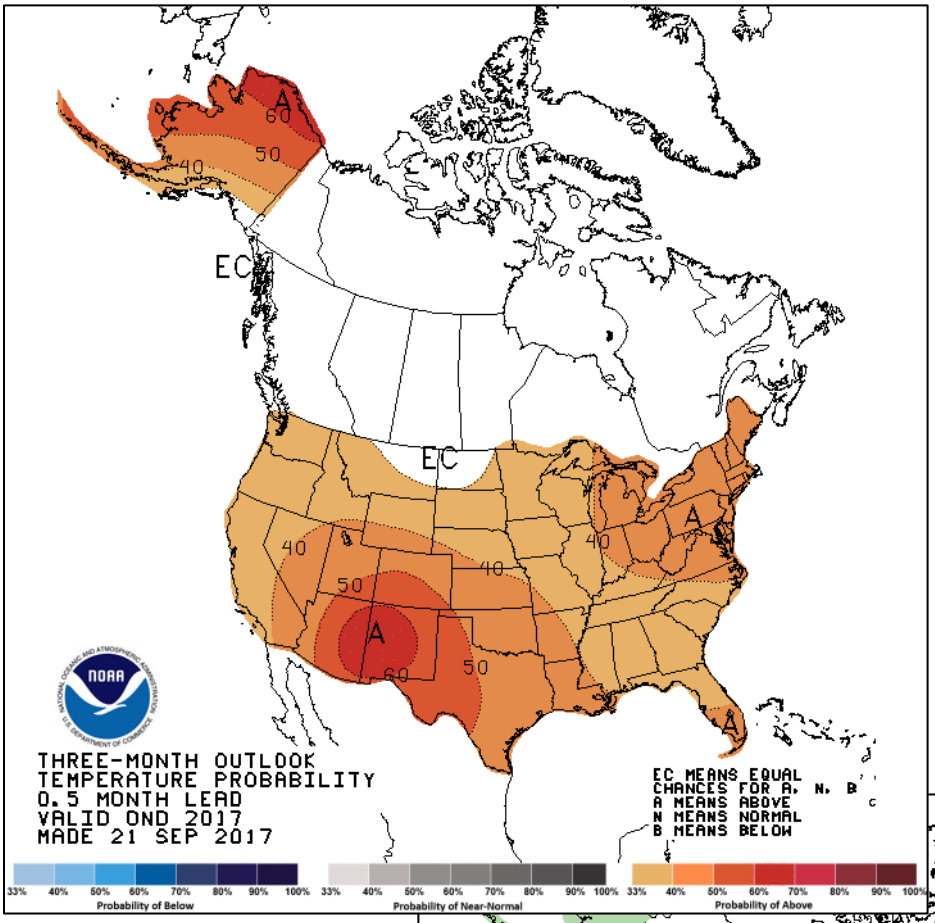
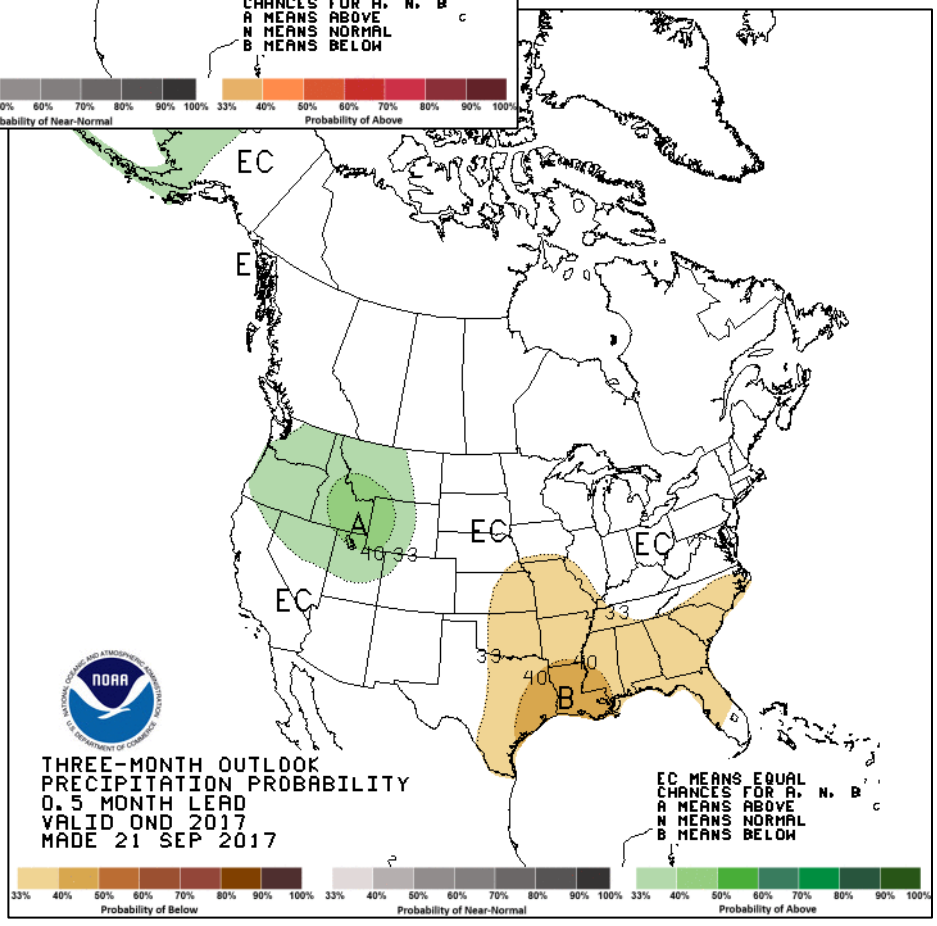


Three Month Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

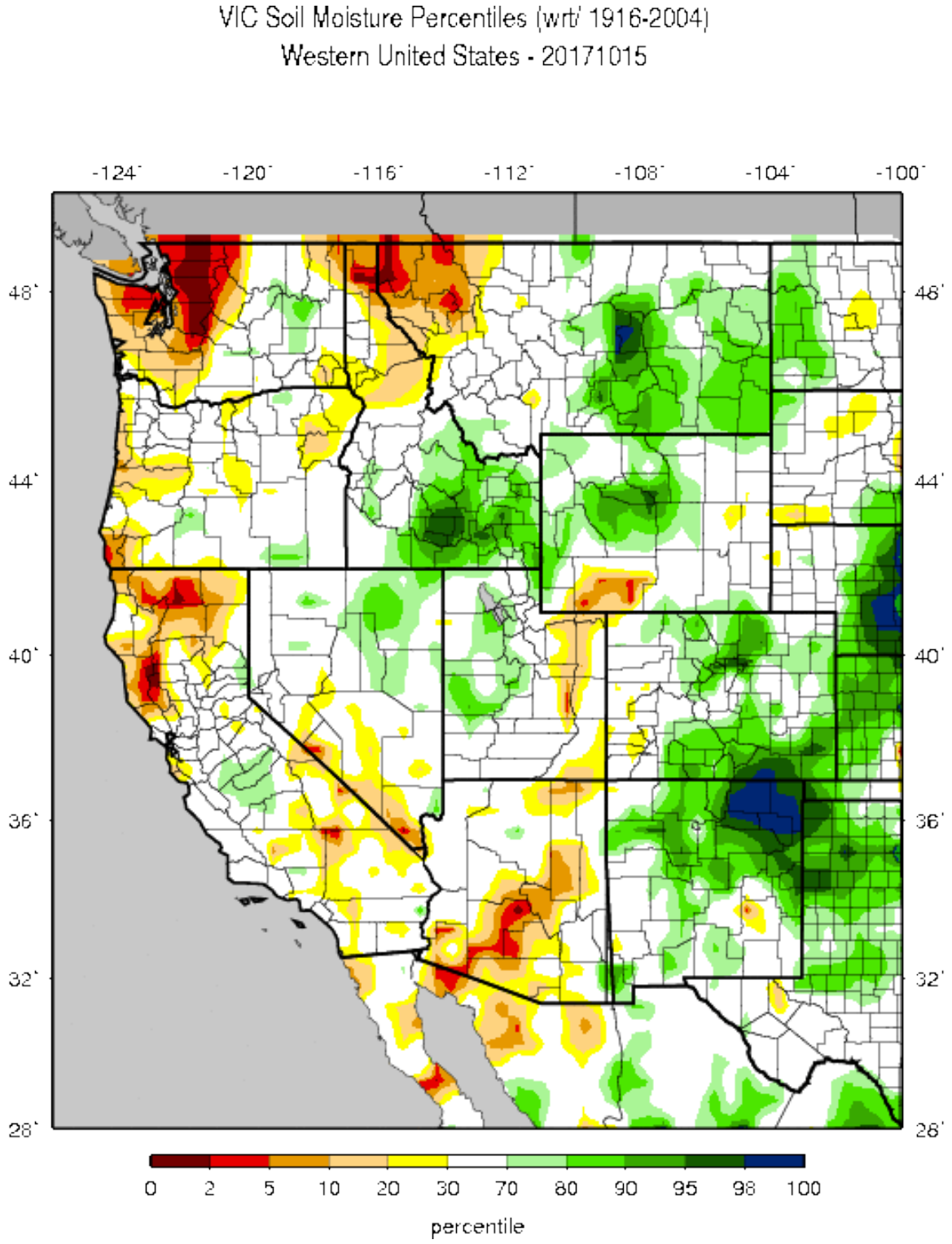
October - December – Follow link for the latest information.
Website: http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=1



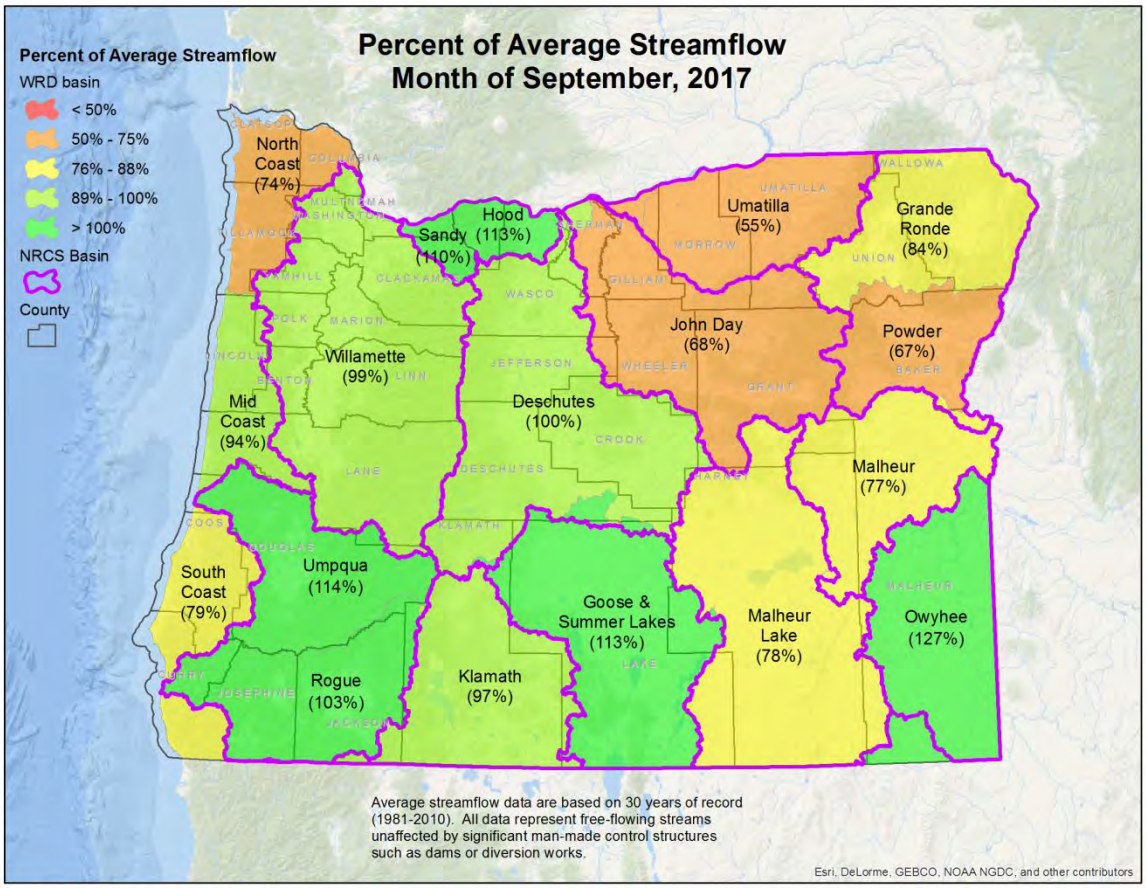


Soil Moisture - Percentile

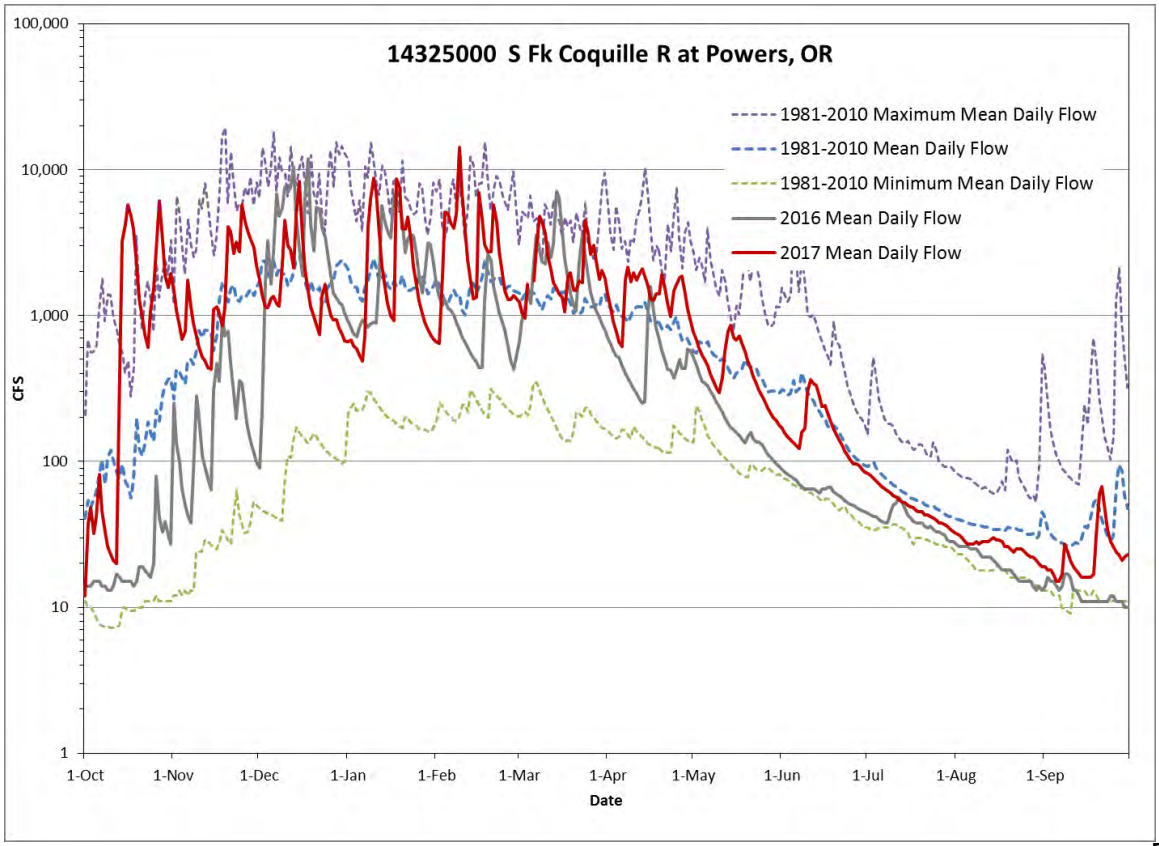
Website:
http://www.hydro.washington.edu/forecast/monitor/curr/conus.mexico/west.vic.sm_qnt.gif



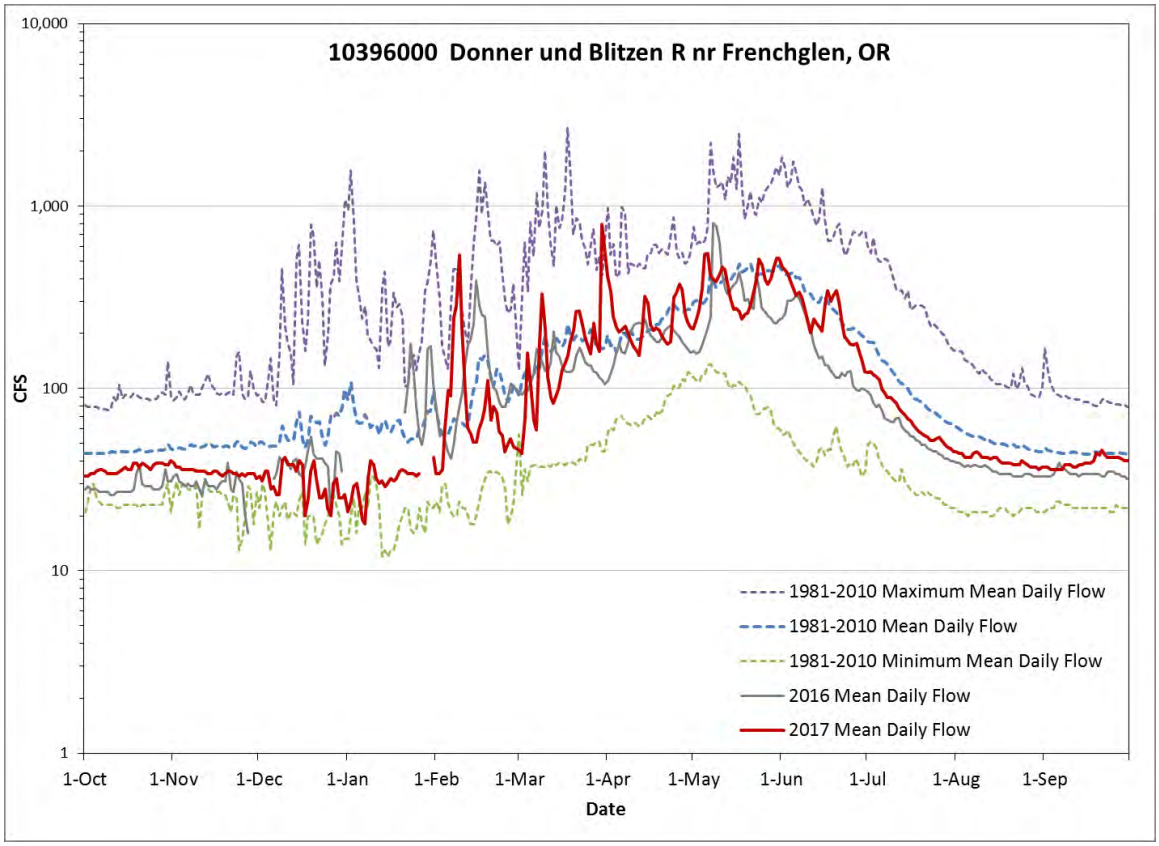
Regional Streamflow Conditions - September



Streamflow Example – South Coast



Streamflow Example – Malheur Lake



Streamflow Example – Grande Ronde