

Oregon Water Conditions Report January 3, 2018



Statewide snowpack has decreased. Measureable snow water equivalent (SWE) values remain well below normal statewide with a value of 42 percent of normal, which continues to show declines due to warmer than normal temperatures and lack of storm impacts. The Grand Ronde, Powder, Umatilla, and Walla Walla basins have continued to receive the highest amounts of precipitation and are measuring the highest SWE amounts in the state, although not significantly more than the statewide values. What little precipitation that has fallen recently has mainly been in the form of rain.

Oregon statewide precipitation at NRCS SNOTEL sites is 89 percent of normal, down from 105 percent of normal three weeks ago. At this time, the regions with the lowest precipitation are the Goose & Summer Lakes Basin 71 percent and the Harney and Klamath basins at 73 percent. Statewide mountain precipitation over the last two weeks has been well under 50% of normal.

Temperatures in the [past two weeks](#) have been warmer than normal. The southern half of Oregon has seen a trend of warmer than normal temperatures, especially evident in the south central region of the state. Over the next [8 to 14 days](#), the NOAA Climate Prediction Center is forecasting an increased probability of above normal temperatures along with above normal precipitation across most of the state.

The NOAA Climate Prediction Center's most recent [three month outlook](#) favors increased chances of below-normal temperatures in the northwestern half of Oregon with equal chances of above or below-normal temperatures for the rest of the state. The precipitation outlook for the same period indicates enhanced probabilities of above-normal precipitation amounts for the northern third of Oregon with equal chances of above or below-normal precipitation for the rest of the state. The next outlook will be issued on January 18, 2018.

La Niña conditions are predicted to continue (~80 percent chance) at least through the Northern Hemisphere winter 2017-18, with a transition to ENSO-neutral most likely during the mid-to-late spring. The [diagnostic discussion](#) issued on December 14, 2017 provides more detail. For the latest discussion on the winter outlook, refer to the [ENSO blog](#) on the climate.gov website. The situation continues to be monitored and any changes will be made to the status by the Climate Prediction Center. The next ENSO Diagnostics Discussion is scheduled for January 11, 2018.

Statewide streamflows for December ended up at less than 65 percent of normal.

This is down significantly from 128 percent seen for the month of November. Regionally for December, streamflow conditions were 52 percent west of the Cascades and 72 percent east of the Cascades.

Most of the state's water supply reservoirs are at above normal levels for this time of year. [Willamette](#) and [Rogue](#) project reservoirs remain on track this fall. [Central](#)

[Oregon](#) reservoirs are between 44 and 88 percent of capacity. [Eastern Oregon](#) reservoirs continue to hover between 36 and 65 percent of capacity. Most if not all water supply reservoir operators are now in active storage mode. For the most recent near real-time, site-specific reservoir conditions (teacup diagrams) visit the [USBR](#) or [USACE](#) websites.

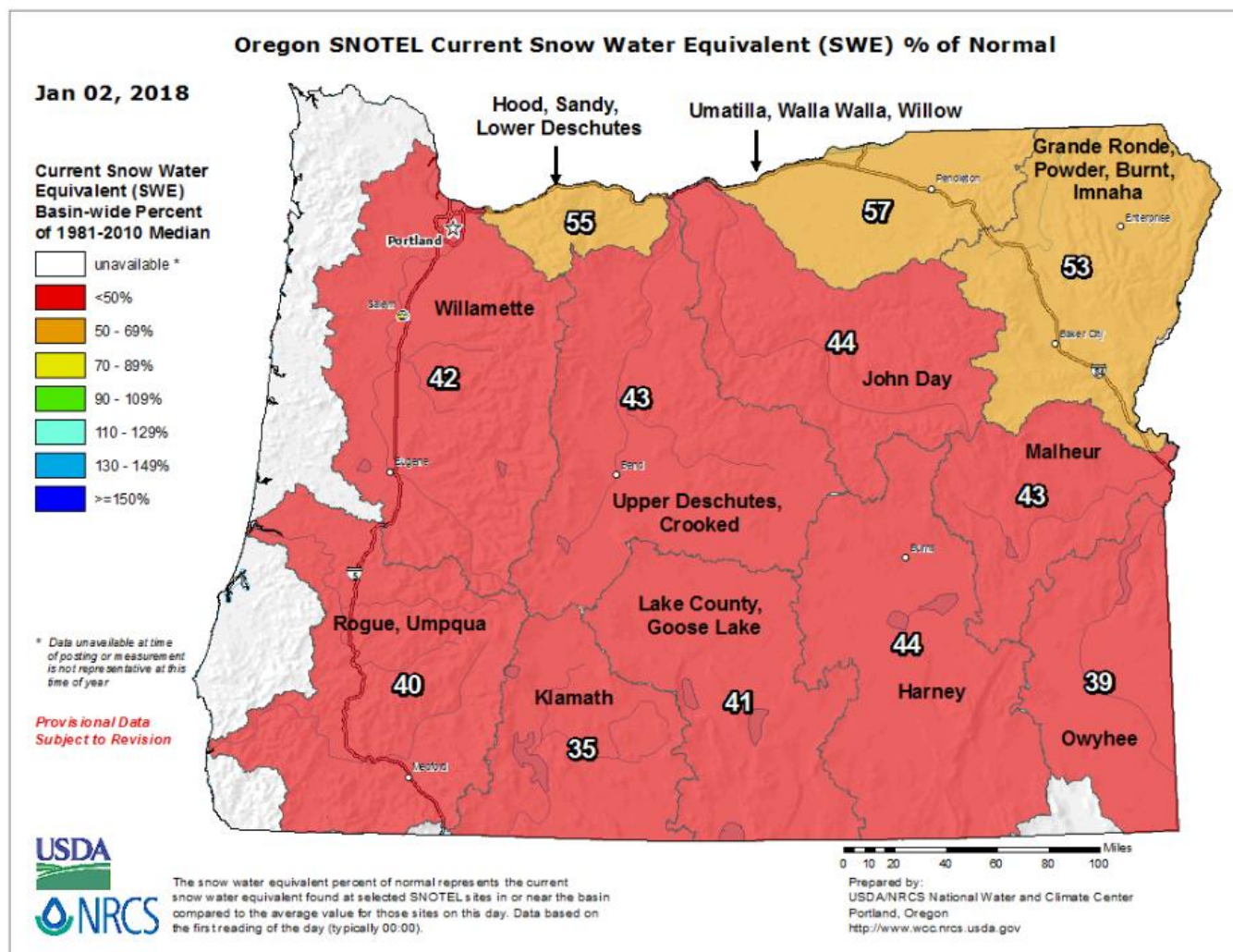
The [US Drought Monitor](#) continues to indicate that Oregon is no longer listed in any drought category.

Data & Products:

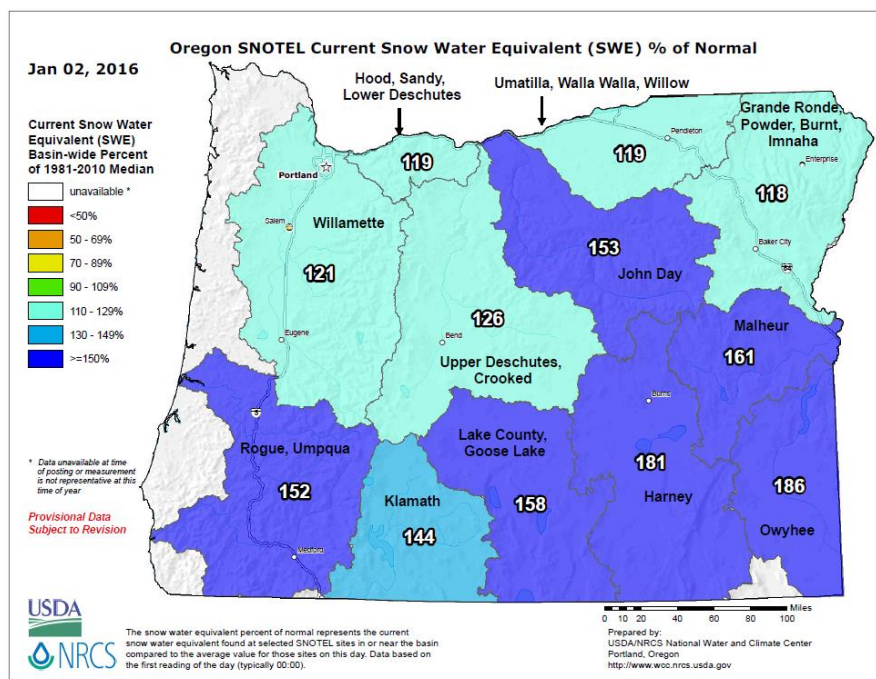
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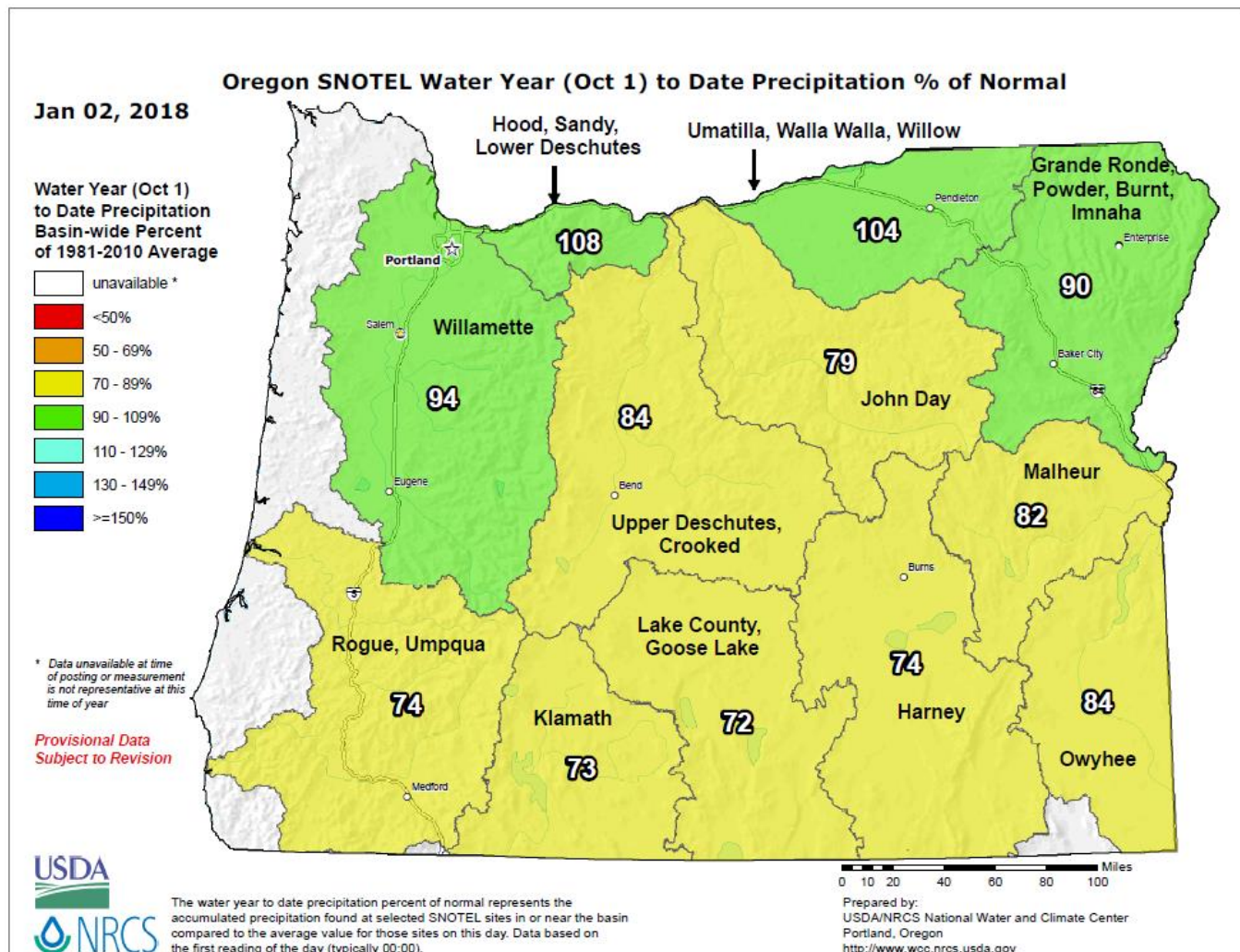
Snow Water Equivalent – Percent of Normal



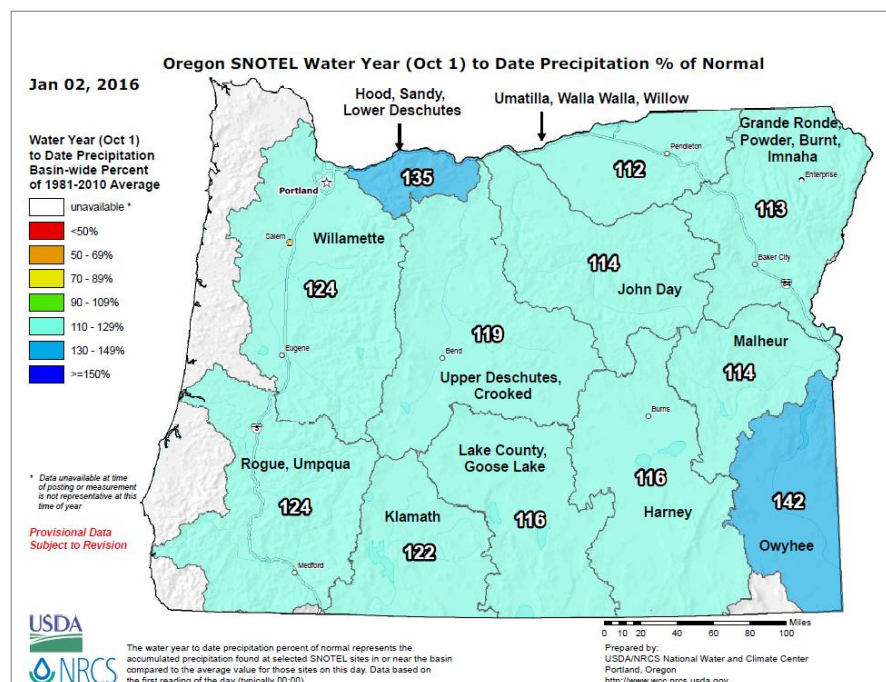
Compared to this time last year -



Precipitation (mountain) - Percent of Normal



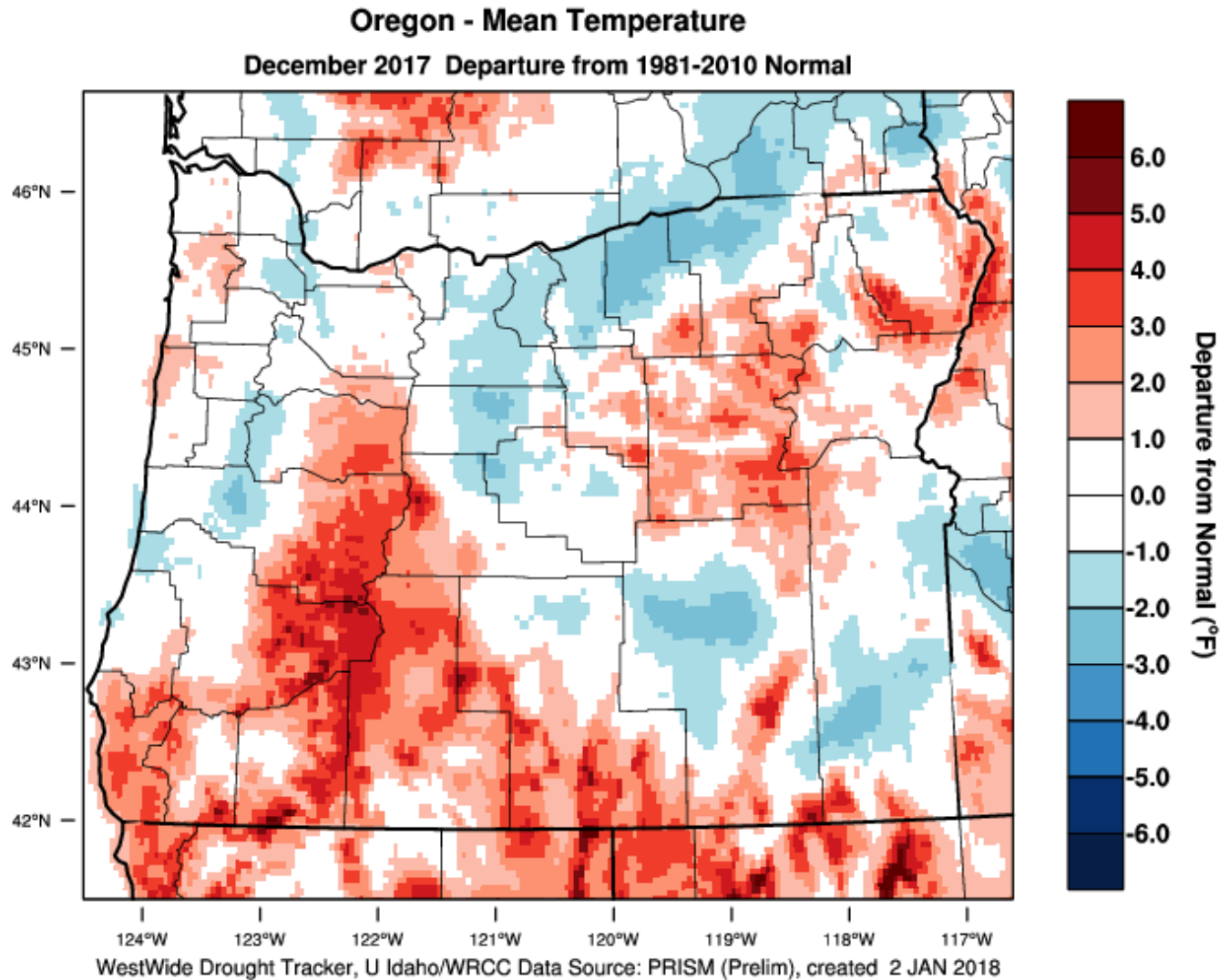
Compared to this time
last year -



Temperature – (1 Month) Departure from Normal

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

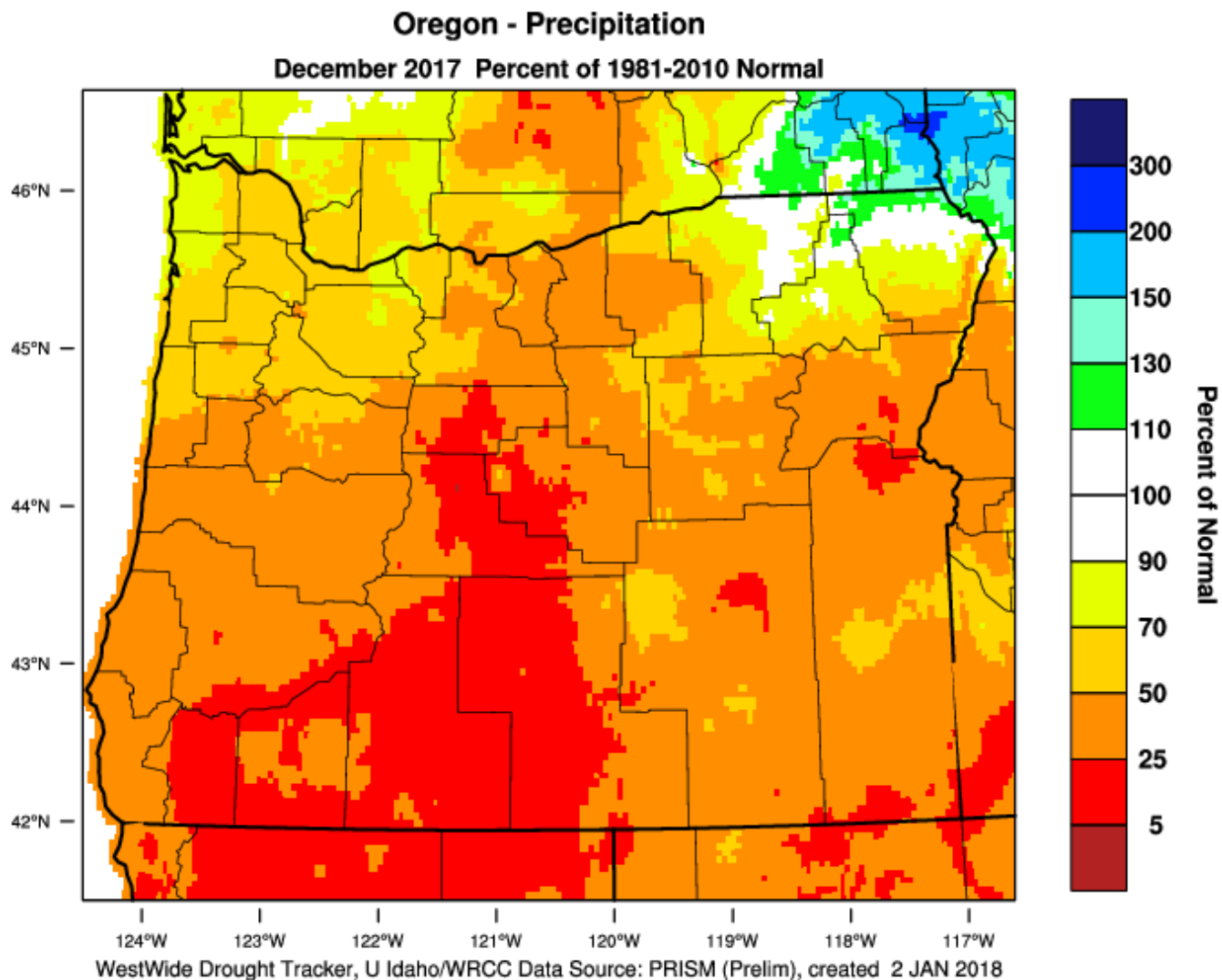
PRISM > Temperature Anomaly 1 Month > Oregon



Precipitation – (1 Month) Percent of Normal

Website: <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/wwdt/index.php?folder=pon1>

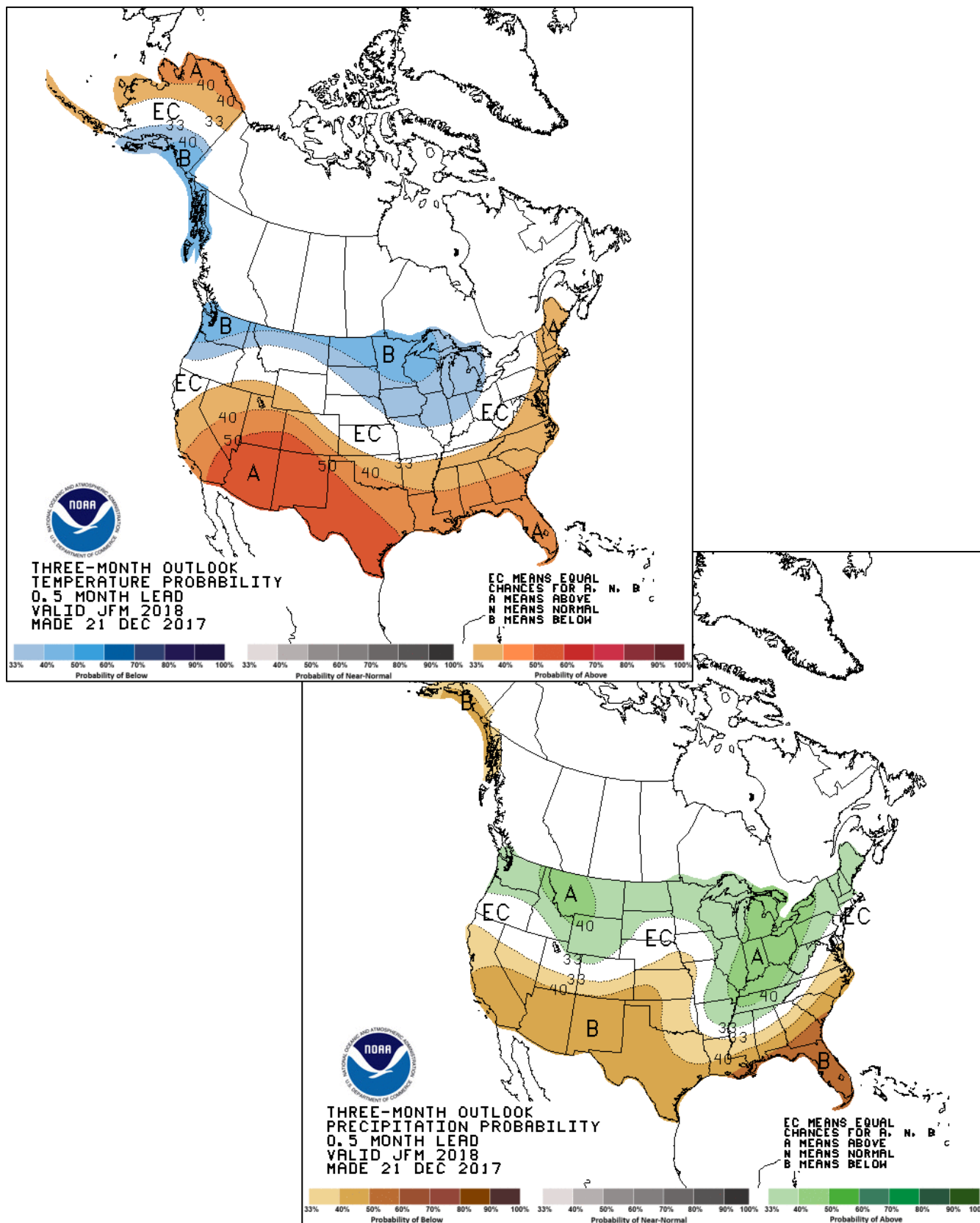
PRISM > Precipitation Anomaly 1 Month > Oregon



Three Month Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

January – March Follow link for the latest information.

Website: http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=1



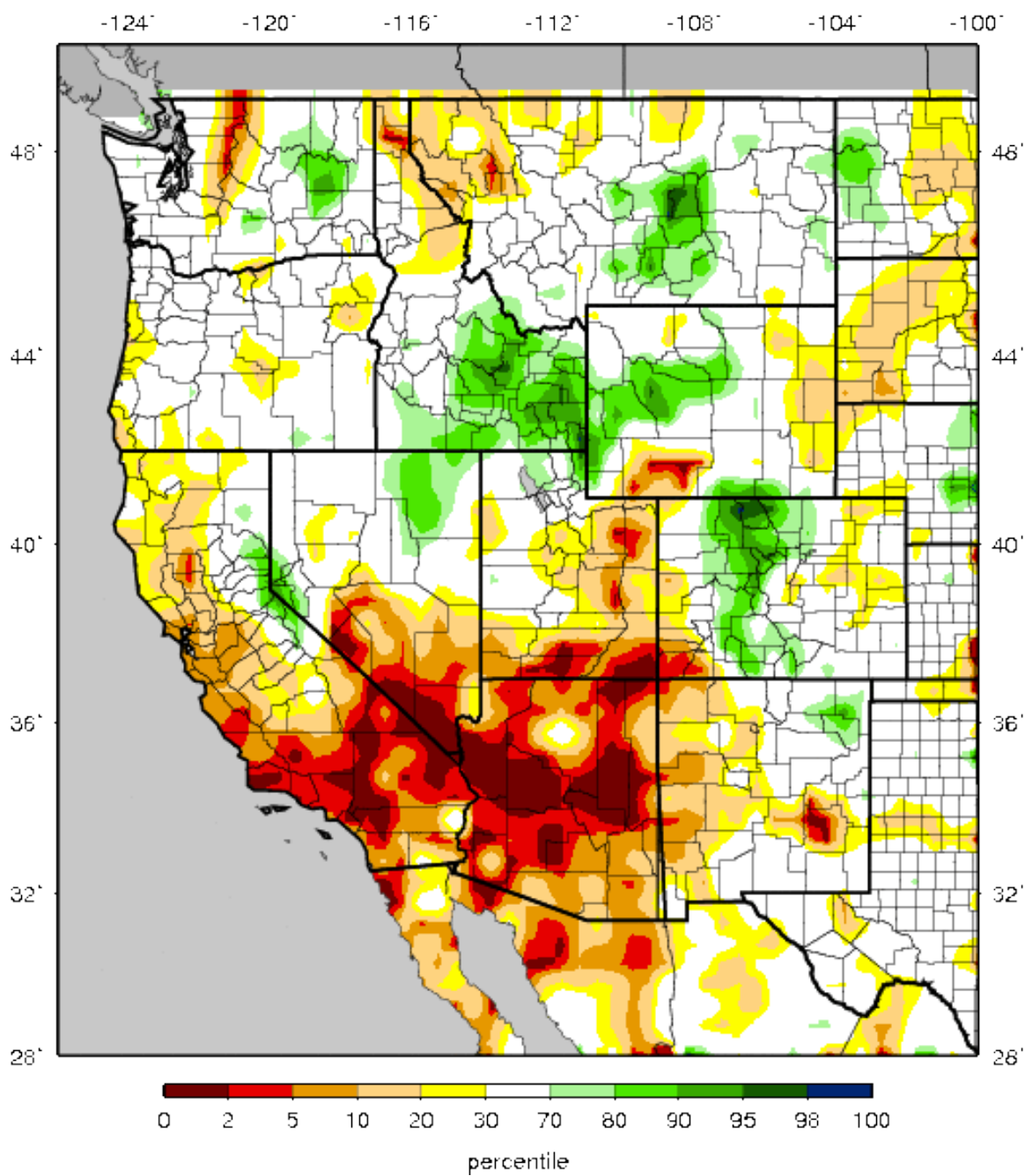
Soil Moisture - Percentile

Website:

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

VIC Soil Moisture Percentiles (wrt/ 1916-2004)

Western United States - 20180101



U.S. Drought Monitor for Oregon

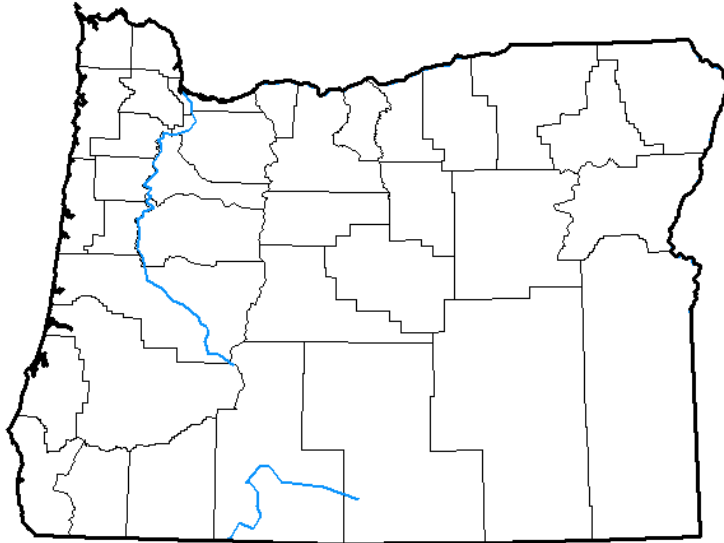
Website: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?OR>

U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

December 26, 2017

(Released Thursday, Dec. 28, 2017)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 12-19-2017	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 09-26-2017	39.23	60.77	28.57	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2017	65.31	34.69	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2017	39.23	60.77	28.57	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 12-27-2016	65.31	34.69	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- 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. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

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<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

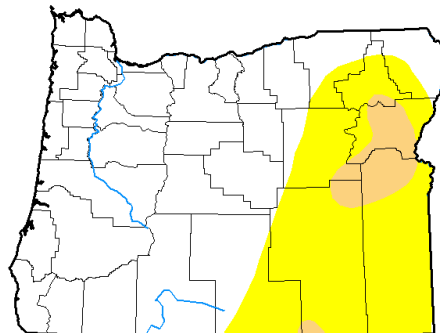
Compared to this time last year:

U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

January 3, 2017

(Released Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	65.31	34.69	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 12-27-2016	65.31	34.69	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 10-04-2016	0.00	100.00	50.28	12.30	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2017	65.31	34.69	5.29	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2016	0.00	100.00	50.59	12.30	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 01-05-2016	14.52	85.48	76.99	44.33	6.35	0.00

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

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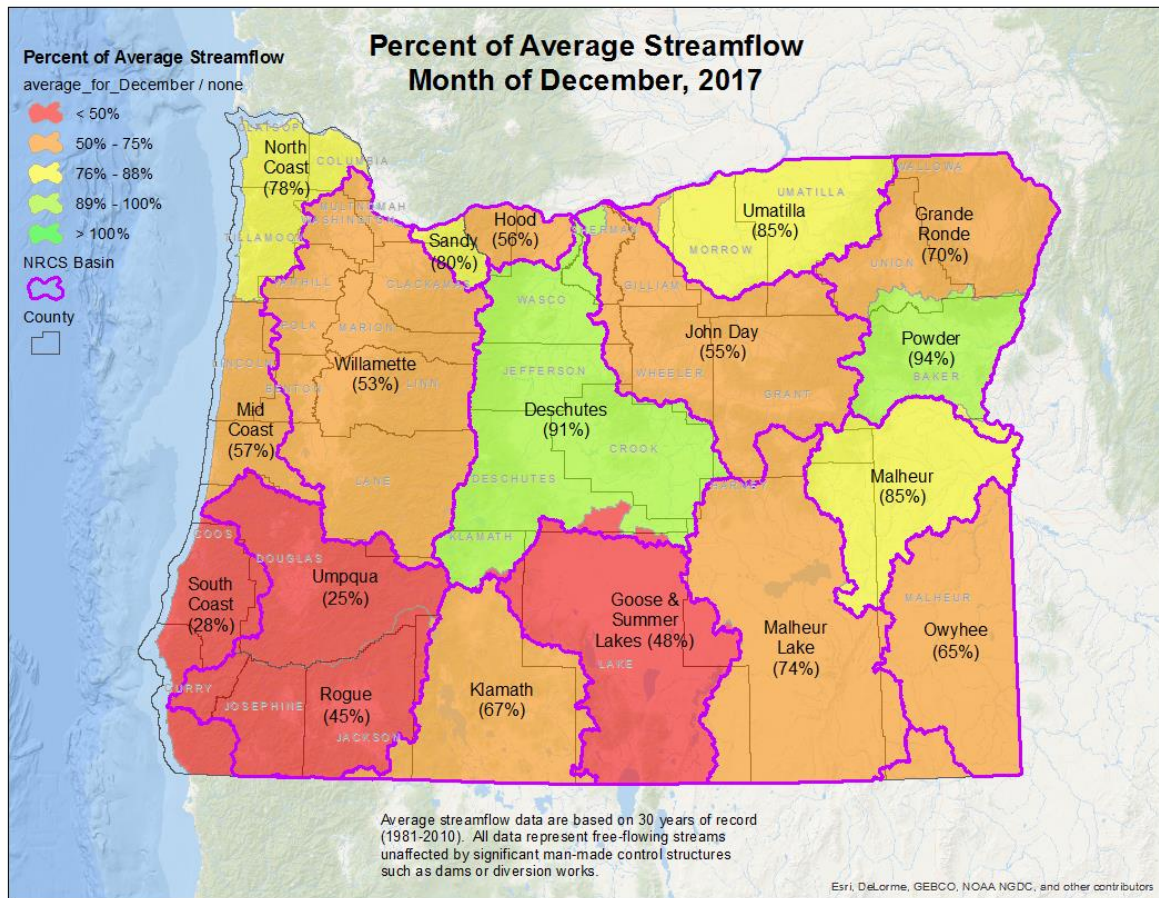
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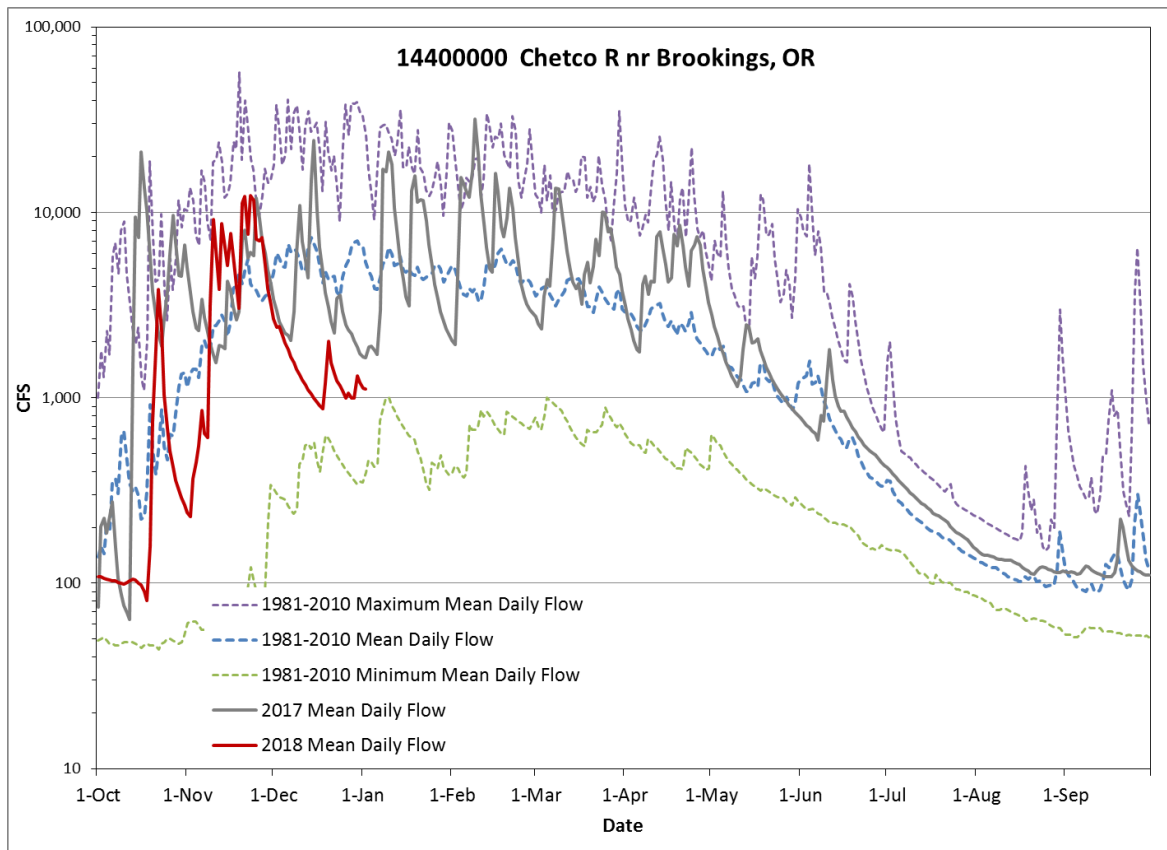


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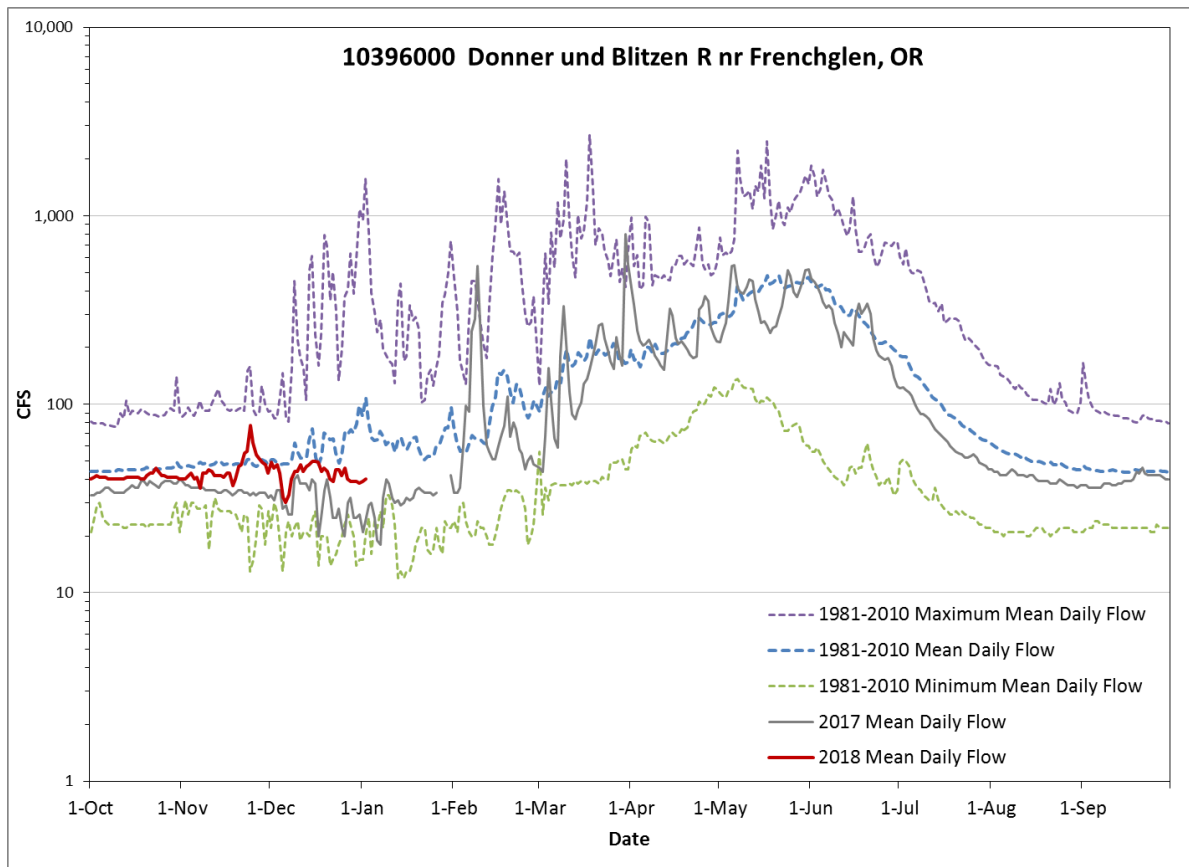
Statewide Streamflow Conditions - December



Streamflow Conditions – South Coast



Streamflow Conditions – Goose & Summer Lake



Streamflow Conditions – Umpqua

