

Oregon

Water Conditions Report

October 8, 2018



Temperatures over the [past two weeks](#) were a mix of cooler and warmer than normal. Regionally temperatures were cooler than normal in the north central and central regions of the state. The remainder of the state was 1 to 3 degrees warmer than normal for this time of year. For the [month of September](#), temperatures were mostly normal to below normal with the exception of the southwest corner of the state where temperatures were above normal.

Oregon statewide water year precipitation at NRCS SNOTEL sites finished up the 2018 water year at about 85 percent of normal. The highest amounts of water year precipitation were in the Umatilla, Walla Walla, and Willow basins with 99 percent. The lowest values are in the Rogue/Umpqua and Harney basins at 75 percent of normal for the water year. Note that the new water year (2019) started on October 1.

Precipitation over the [past two weeks](#) has also been a mix of above and below normal across the state. From the crest of the Cascades westward to the coast precipitation has been well below normal. Precipitation for the [month of September](#) was well below normal, in some areas as low as 5 percent of normal.

Over the next [8 to 14 days](#), the NOAA Climate Prediction Center is forecasting an increased probability of above-normal temperatures across Oregon. The precipitation outlook is for below-normal precipitation across the state. The most recent [three month outlook](#) indicates increased chances of above-normal temperatures statewide. The precipitation outlook for the same period calls for an increased probability of below-normal precipitation. The next long-term outlook will be issued on October 18, 2018.

[ENSO](#)-Neutral conditions are expected to transition this fall. There are increasing chances (50-55 percent) of onset of El Niño conditions during this fall and winter. For more insight, refer to the September 13, 2018 [diagnostic discussion](#) issued by the Climate Prediction Center. For the latest discussion on the fall-winter outlook, refer to the latest [ENSO blog](#) on the climate.gov website. The Climate Prediction Center will continue to provide updates on a regular basis. The next ENSO Diagnostics Discussion is scheduled for October 11, 2018.

Statewide streamflows for September were 55 percent of normal. This is up slightly from 53 percent seen for the month of August. Regionally for September, streamflow conditions were about 57 percent east of the Cascades and 52 percent to the west. More recent conditions indicate that flows are ranging from 30 to 60 percent in the coastal basins to a little under 70 percent in the Hood and Klamath.

[USACE Reservoirs: Rogue:](#) Lost Creek outflow continues to be maintained at about 1,200 cfs. Currently the project is 41 percent full and 23 percent below rule curve. Inflows are holding steady at around 1,000 cfs. Applegate inflows are at about 40 cfs

with outflows at approximately 220 cfs. Currently the project is 17 percent full and 38 percent below rule curve.

[Willow Creek](#): Willow Creek inflow is around 4 cfs and outflow is about 1.4 cfs. The project is currently 12 percent full and 88 percent below rule curve.

[Willamette](#): The Willamette system continues to draft while augmenting mainstem flows. The project is currently 16 percent full and 43 percent below rule curve. The flow in the Willamette River at Albany is about 4,700 cfs and at Salem flows are about 8,000 cfs.

[USBR Reservoirs](#): In north central Oregon, [McKay Reservoir](#) is at 26 percent of capacity, just about normal for this time of year. In the Willamette, [Scoggins Reservoir](#) remains very close to its fill curve and is currently 34 percent full. [Central Oregon](#) reservoirs are between 1 (Wickiup) and 69 (Crescent Lake) percent of capacity. [Eastern Oregon](#) reservoirs (not considering Thief Valley) are all below 35 percent now with Warm Springs at 0 and Owyhee at 30 percent of capacity. [Rogue Basin](#) reservoirs are between 4 and 35 percent of capacity. [Upper Klamath Lake](#) is currently at 25 percent of capacity.

The most recent update to the [US Drought Monitor](#) indicates moderate expansion of drought conditions across the state. Indicators now point toward D3 (Extreme Drought) in over 33 percent of the state. The report also indicates that 86 percent of the state is in D2 (Severe Drought), 98 percent is listed as in D1 (Moderate Drought) and 100 percent of the state is listed as D0 (Abnormally Dry). As of October 3, thirty-one Oregon counties are now under drought [designation](#) by the US Department of Agriculture. Ten counties are now under state-declared drought status. Refer to the Oregon Water Resources Department [web page](#) for the latest information.

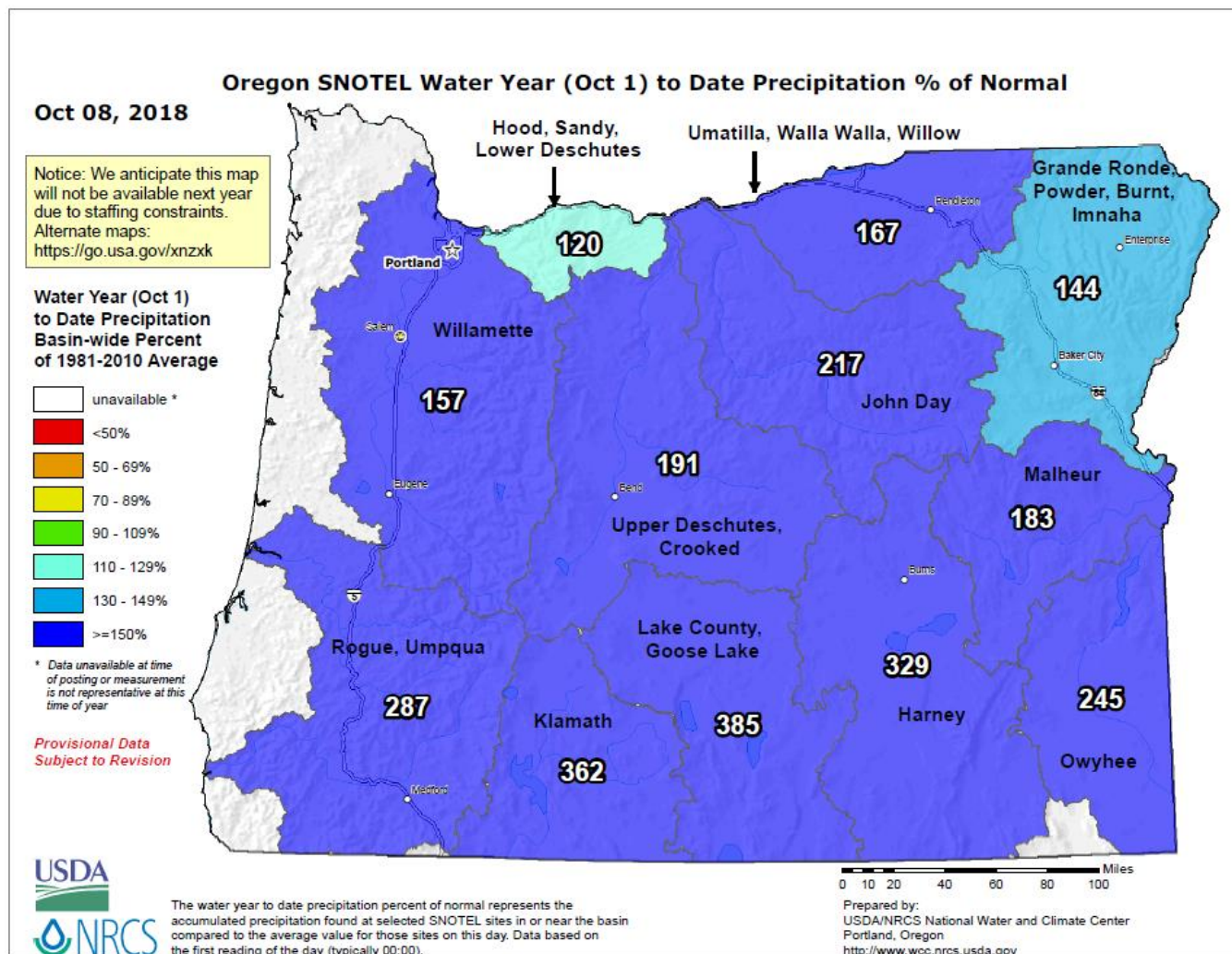
Milder temperatures and higher humidity have helped to ease the potential for wildfires. Wildland fire potential [outlooks](#) will continue to be posted until the end of the season. The Oregon Department of Forestry's [wildfire blog](#) continues to post the latest up-to-date conditions. More information can also be accessed through the Northwest Interagency Coordination Center [website](#). Another recommended resource is the Oregon Office of Emergency Management's [RAPTOR](#) incident mapping program which includes current situational information, such as wildfire perimeters, thermal satellite, fire evacuation boundaries, and air quality info.

Data & Products:

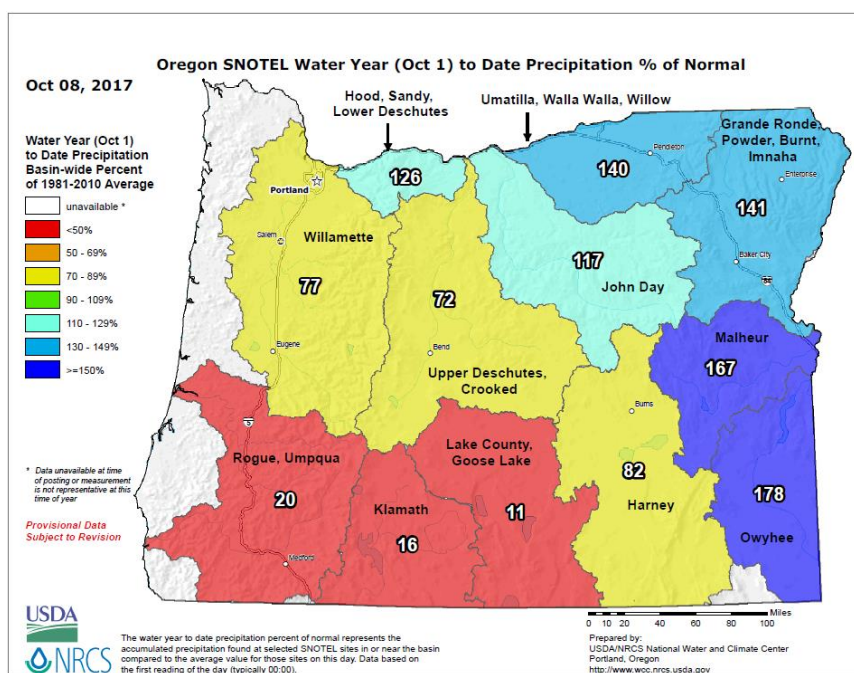
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Precipitation (Mountain) - Percent of Normal



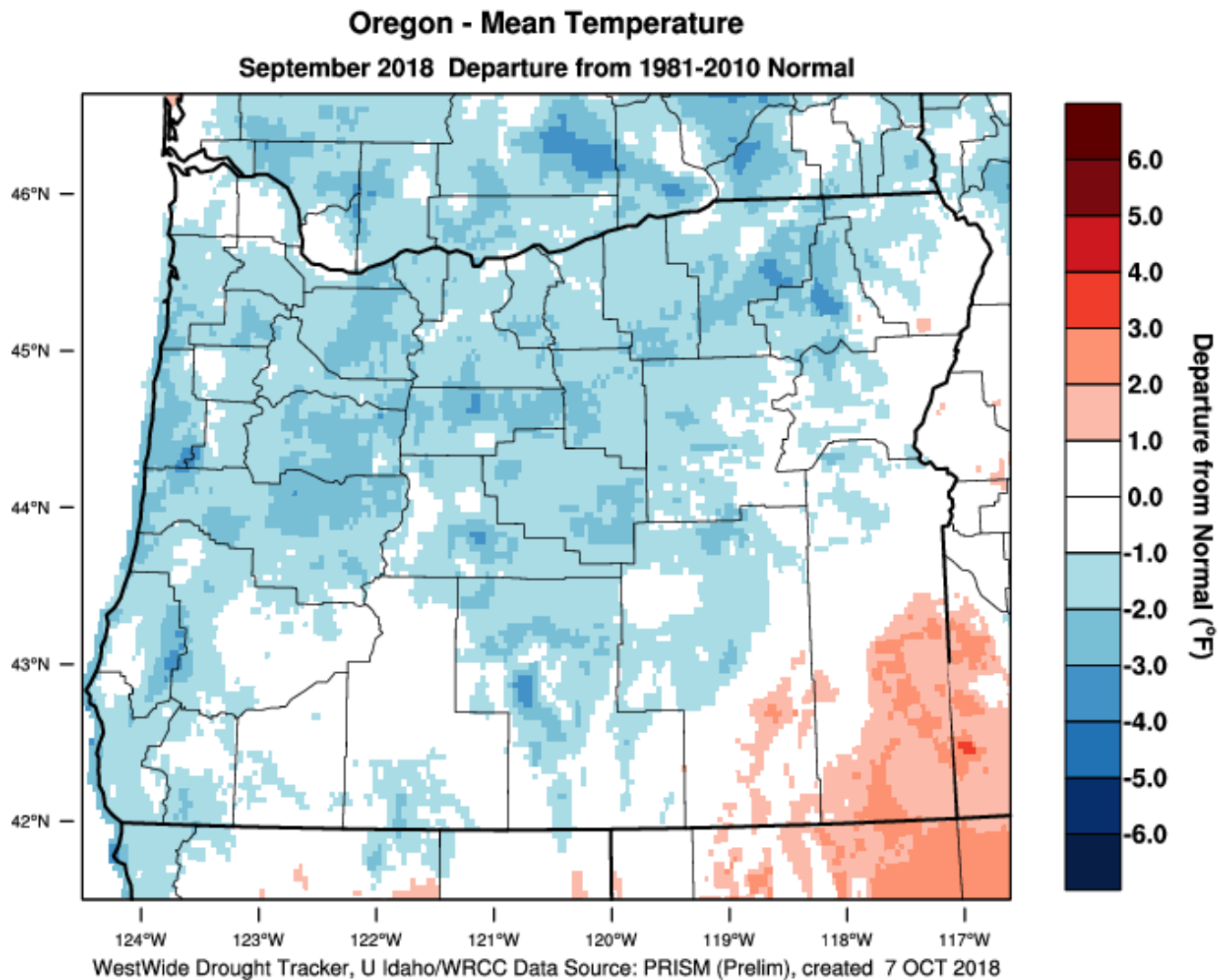
Compared to this time last year -



Temperature – (1 Month) Departure from Normal

Website: <https://wrcc.dri.edu/wwdt/index.php?region=or>

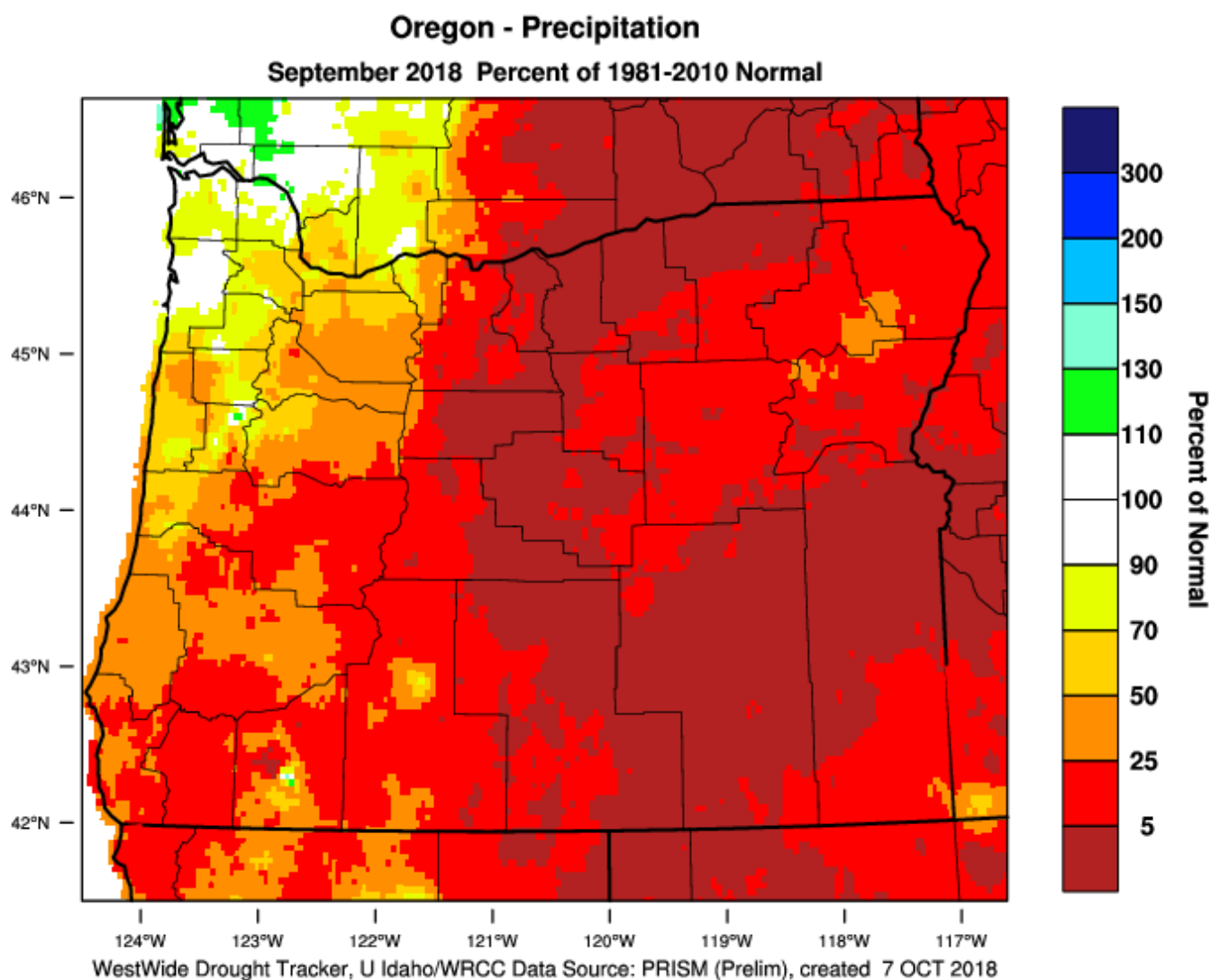
PRISM > Temperature Anomaly 1 Month > Oregon



Precipitation – (1 Month) Percent of Normal

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

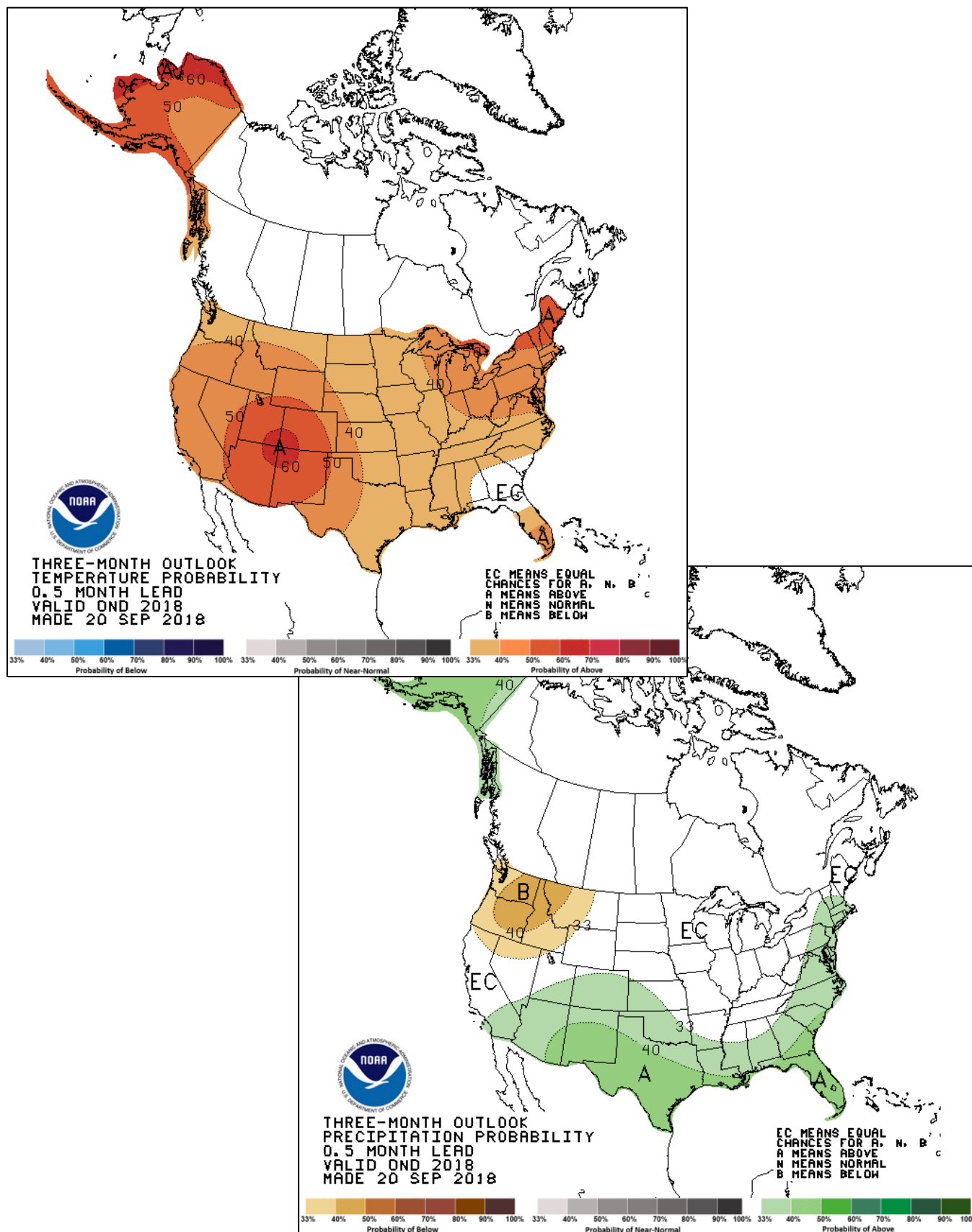
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Three Month Temperature and Precipitation Outlook

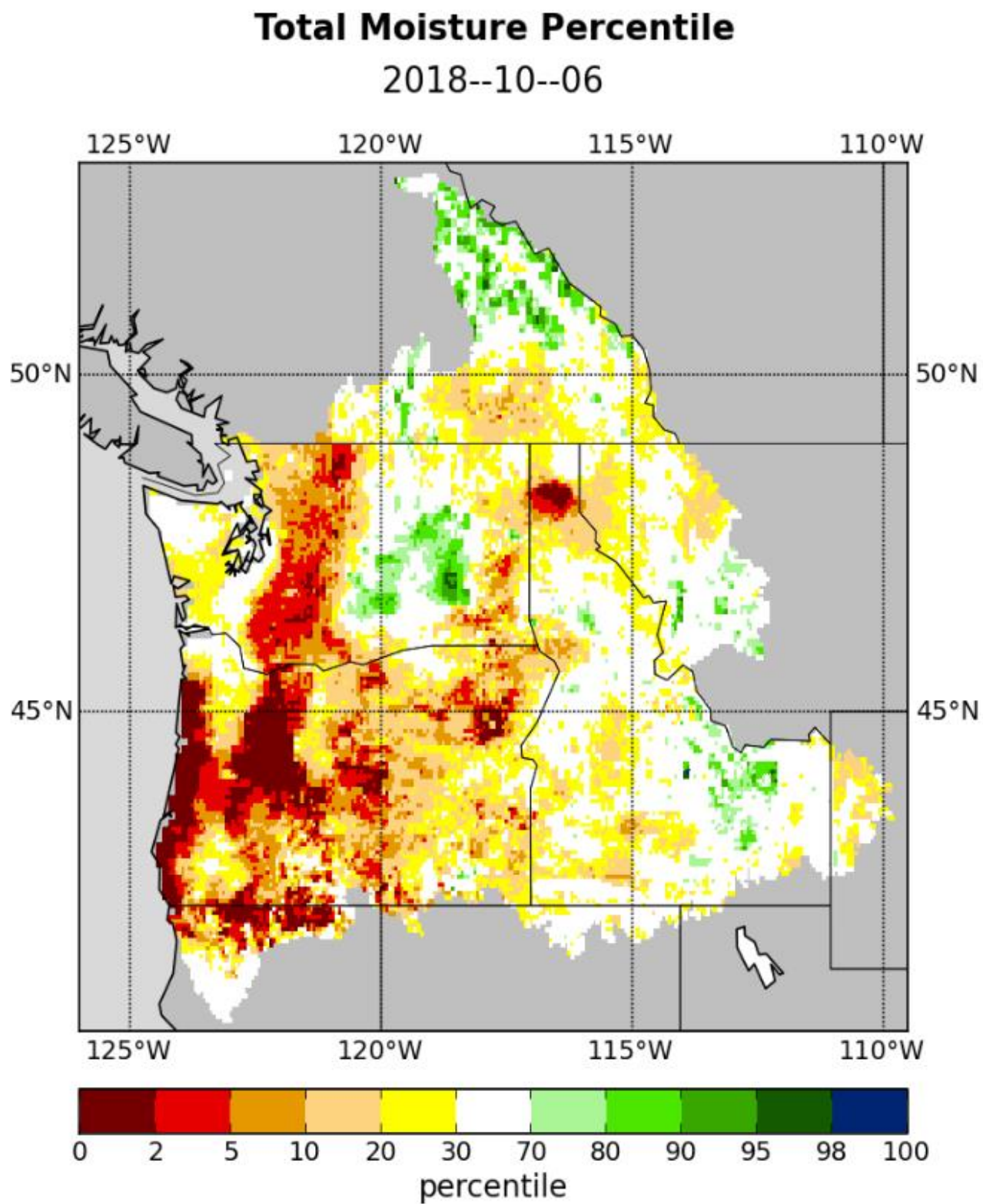
October through December

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



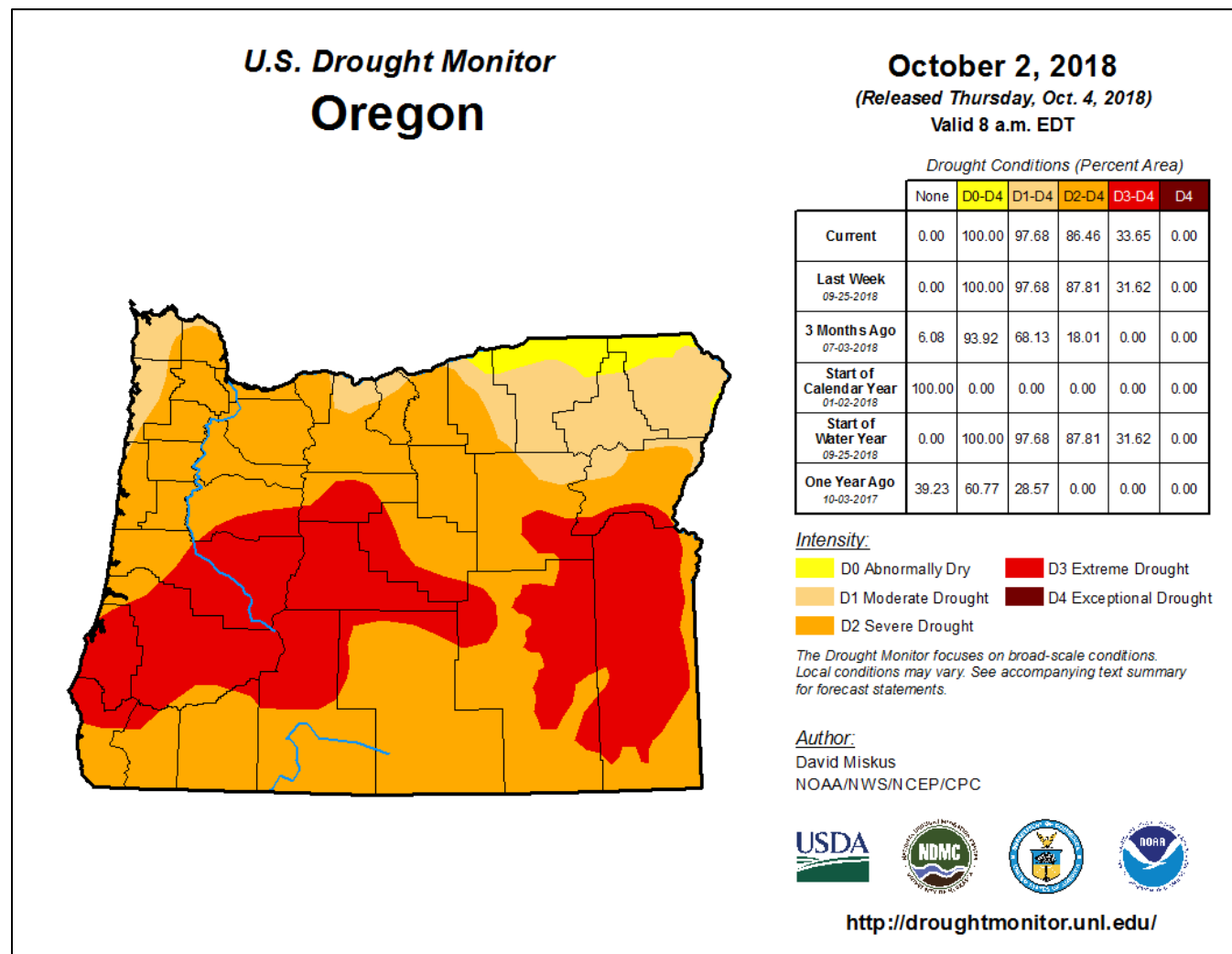
Soil Moisture - Percentile

Website: http://www.hydro.ucla.edu/SurfaceWaterGroup/forecast/monitor_pnw/index.shtml

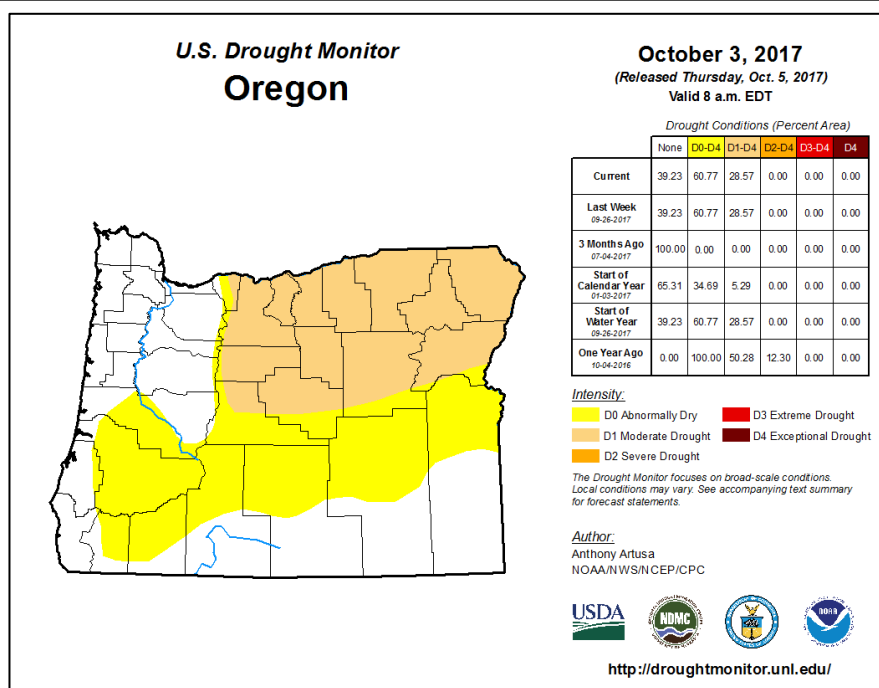


U.S. Drought Monitor for Oregon

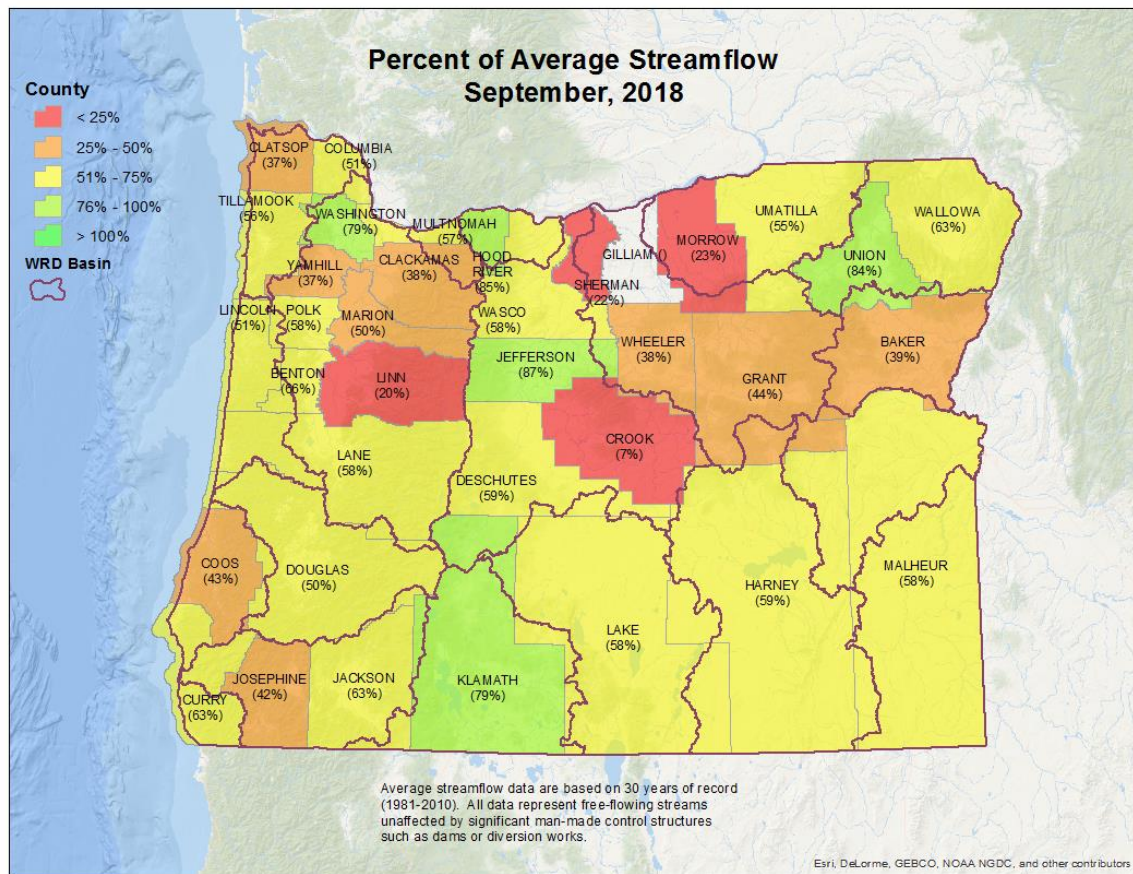
Website: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?OR>



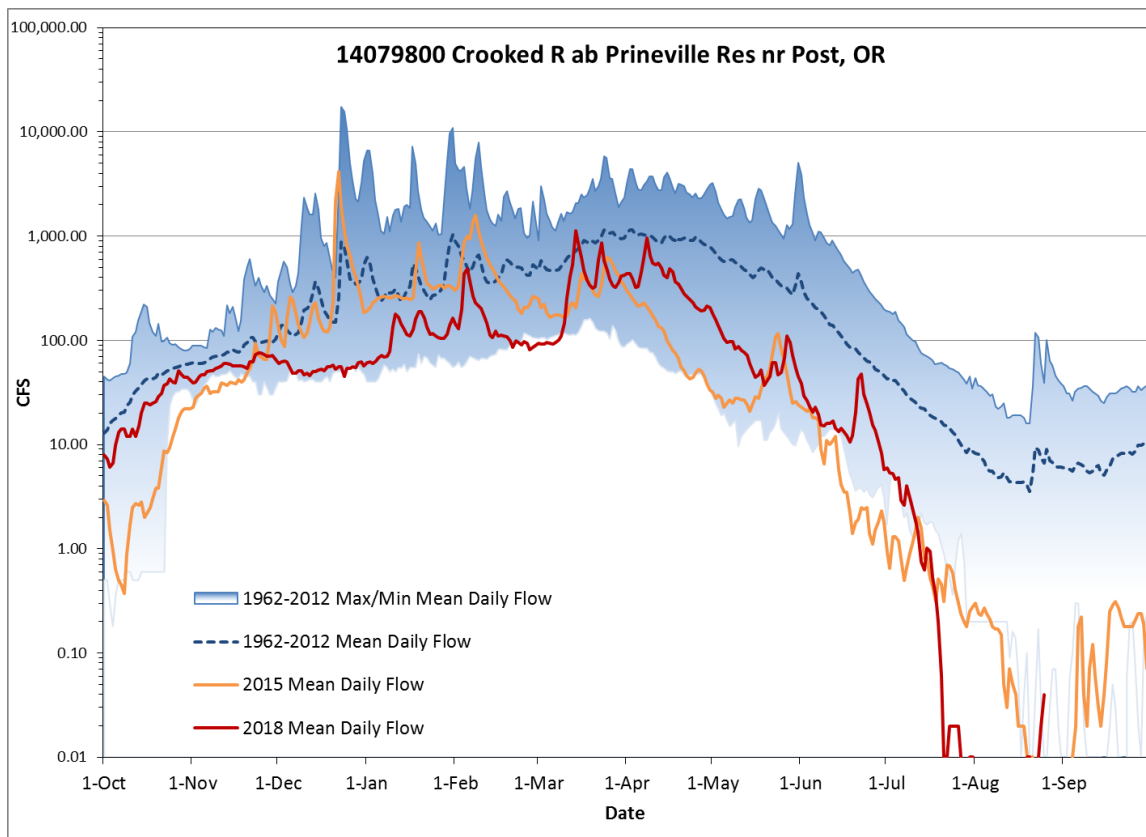
Compared to this time last year:



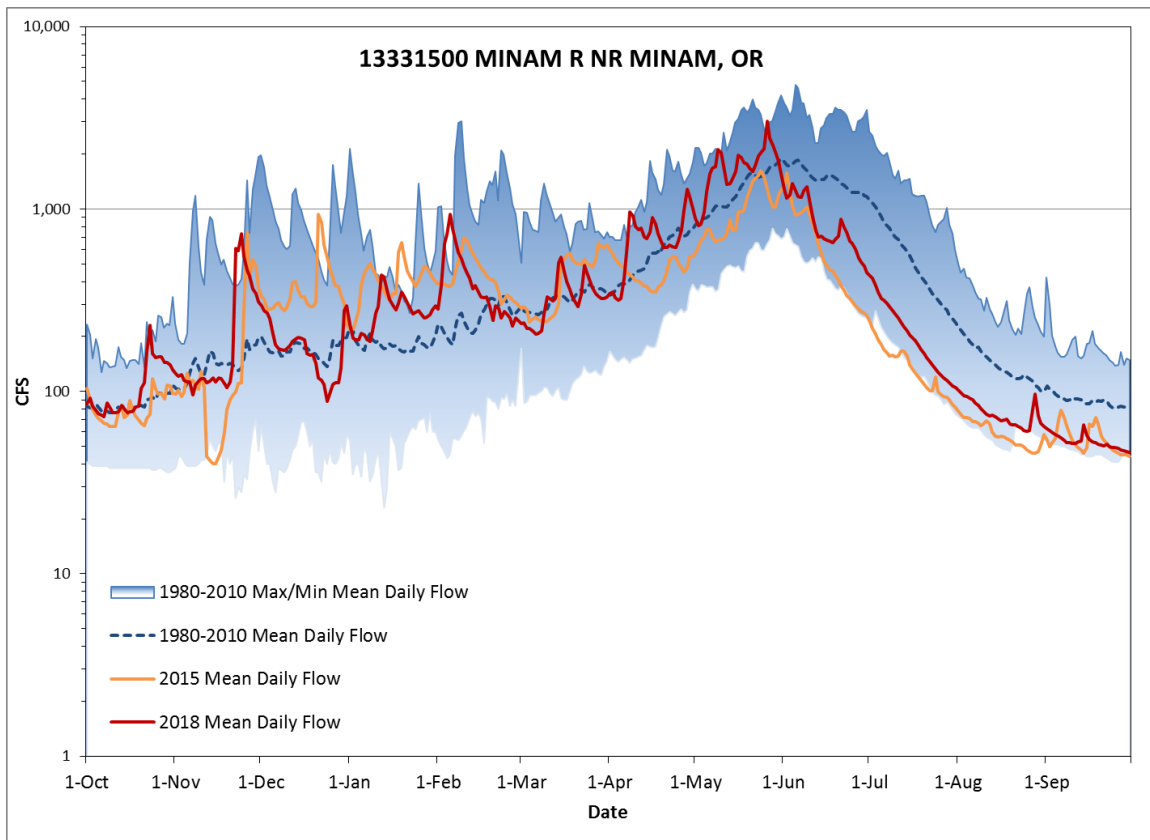
Streamflow Conditions by County- September



Streamflow Conditions – Deschutes



Streamflow Conditions – Grande Ronde



Statewide Reservoir Conditions – September

