



# Drought Report for the Week of July 6, 2015

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**Current Water Conditions:** The NRCS reports that State-wide, Oregon's snowpack this winter peaked at the lowest levels measured in the last 35 years. Many snow monitoring sites set records for the lowest peak snowpack and earliest melt-out date since measurements began. Consequently, streamflow is expected to be well below normal through the end of summer, especially in the more arid regions of the state. The current statewide average precipitation is 86%.

County-wide drought declarations go through a three-part process before securing a drought declaration from the Governor's Office. Counties that have made this determination and are currently asking for the state's help are: Curry and Hood River.

First, County Commissions meet to determine whether they want to seek a Governor's declaration.

Second, these recommendations go to the Water Availability Committee (chaired by the Oregon Water Resources Department) and then the Oregon Drought Council (chaired by Oregon Emergency Management) for technical review. The next meeting of the Oregon's Drought Council is July 9, 2015. The Water Availability Committee will convene if requested by the Drought Council.

Finally, if approved for drought declaration, the Governor's Office issues an Executive Order, declaring drought in specific counties. In recent years, these Executive Order have been set to expire at the end of a calendar year. A Governor's declared drought is in place for 2015 in the following counties: Baker, Coos, Crook, Deschutes, Douglas, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Jackson, Jefferson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Wasco and Wheeler. A Governor's Drought Declaration allows the Water Resources Department to issue emergency drought permits to applicants, using an expedited process.

**To go to a specific section click on title below:**

- Oregon Basin Report (Click picture for full report)
- Water Supply Assessment by Basin
- Oregon Declaration Status
- Oregon SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent % of Normal
- Oregon SNOTEL Water Year to Date Precipitation % of Normal
- Oregon Drought Monitor
- Water Right Drought Permit Application: Summary Report

**Additional Resources:**

- Reservoir Storage Diagrams
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  - [Willamette Basin](#)
  - [Tualatin River Basin](#)
  - [Rogue Basin](#)
  - [Umatilla River Basin](#)
  - [Southeastern Oregon](#)
- [Three Month Outlook – Temperature Probability](#)
- [Three Month Outlook – Precipitation Probability](#)
- [Oregon Surface Water Supply Index](#)



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

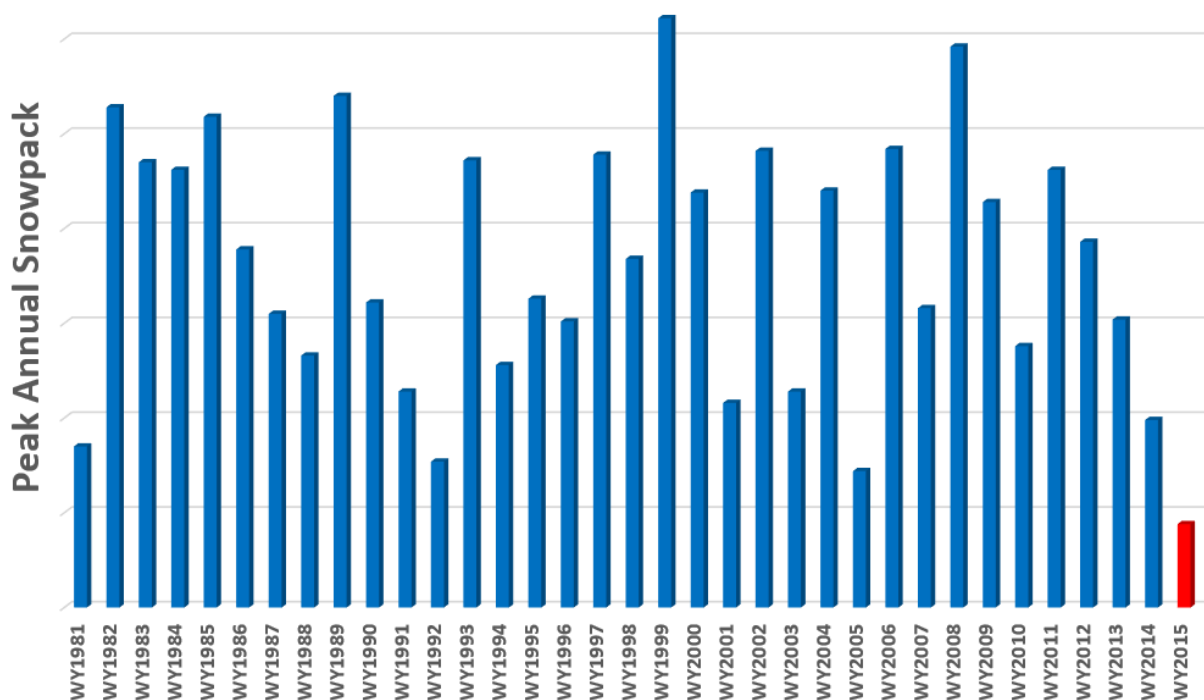


Natural Resources  
Conservation  
Service

# Oregon Basin Outlook Report

June 1, 2015

## Oregon Snowpack Lowest on Record *2015 Water Year*



State-wide, Oregon's snowpack this winter peaked at the lowest levels measured in the last 35 years. The chart above puts this year's record low snowpack into historical context. The height of each bar reflects the peak snowpack—from across the state of Oregon—for each water year. This year, 2015, is shown in red at the far right. Many snow monitoring sites set records for the lowest peak snowpack and earliest melt-out date since measurements began. In western Oregon, the snowpack peaked 60-90% below the normal amounts and the snow melted up to 3 months early. The snowpack in the eastern part of the state was only slightly better, peaking 30-80% below normal levels and up to 2 months earlier than normal. Lack of normal mountain snowpack has led to well below normal streamflow forecasts for the state. Currently, most of Oregon is included in the severe to extreme drought category, according to the National Drought Monitor. Water shortages across Oregon are expected this summer and Governor Kate Brown has declared a drought state of emergency in 15 counties as a result.

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## DROUGHT

### Current Basin Water Status






	Basin #	Basin Name	Basin Status	Reason
<a href="#">Edit</a>	1	North Coast	Drought Unavoidable	
<a href="#">Edit</a>	2	Willamette	Drought Unavoidable	Below normal streamflow; Dry Forecast
<a href="#">Edit</a>	3	Sandy	Drought Unavoidable	Below normal streamflow; Dry Forecast
<a href="#">Edit</a>	4	Hood	Drought Unavoidable	Below normal streamflow; Dry Forecast
<a href="#">Edit</a>	5	Deschutes	Drought Unavoidable	Reservoirs are near full
<a href="#">Edit</a>	6	John Day	Drought Unavoidable	No Storage or Snowpack; Dry Forecast
<a href="#">Edit</a>	7	Umatilla	Drought Unavoidable	Reservoirs are roughly 50%; Dry Forecast
<a href="#">Edit</a>	8	Grande Ronde	Drought Likely	Snowpack >5000'
<a href="#">Edit</a>	9	Powder	Drought Unavoidable	Reservoir Storage is mixed; no snowpack
<a href="#">Edit</a>	10	Malheur	Drought Unavoidable	Reservoir storage is near empty
<a href="#">Edit</a>	11	Owyhee	Drought Unavoidable	Reservoir storage is near empty
<a href="#">Edit</a>	12	Malheur Lake	Drought Unavoidable	No reservoir storage; No snowpack
<a href="#">Edit</a>	13	Goose & Summer Lake	Drought Unavoidable	Reservoir storage is near empty
<a href="#">Edit</a>	14	Klamath	Drought Unavoidable	Stressed soil; No snowpack
<a href="#">Edit</a>	15	Rogue	Drought Unavoidable	Lack of snowpack; Reservoir storage is decent
<a href="#">Edit</a>	16	Umpqua	Drought Unavoidable	Weak Snowpack; Dry Forecast
<a href="#">Edit</a>	17	South Coast	Drought Unavoidable	
<a href="#">Edit</a>	18	Middle Coast	Drought Unavoidable	




# Oregon's Water Availability Committee\* Water Supply Assessment

6/11/2015

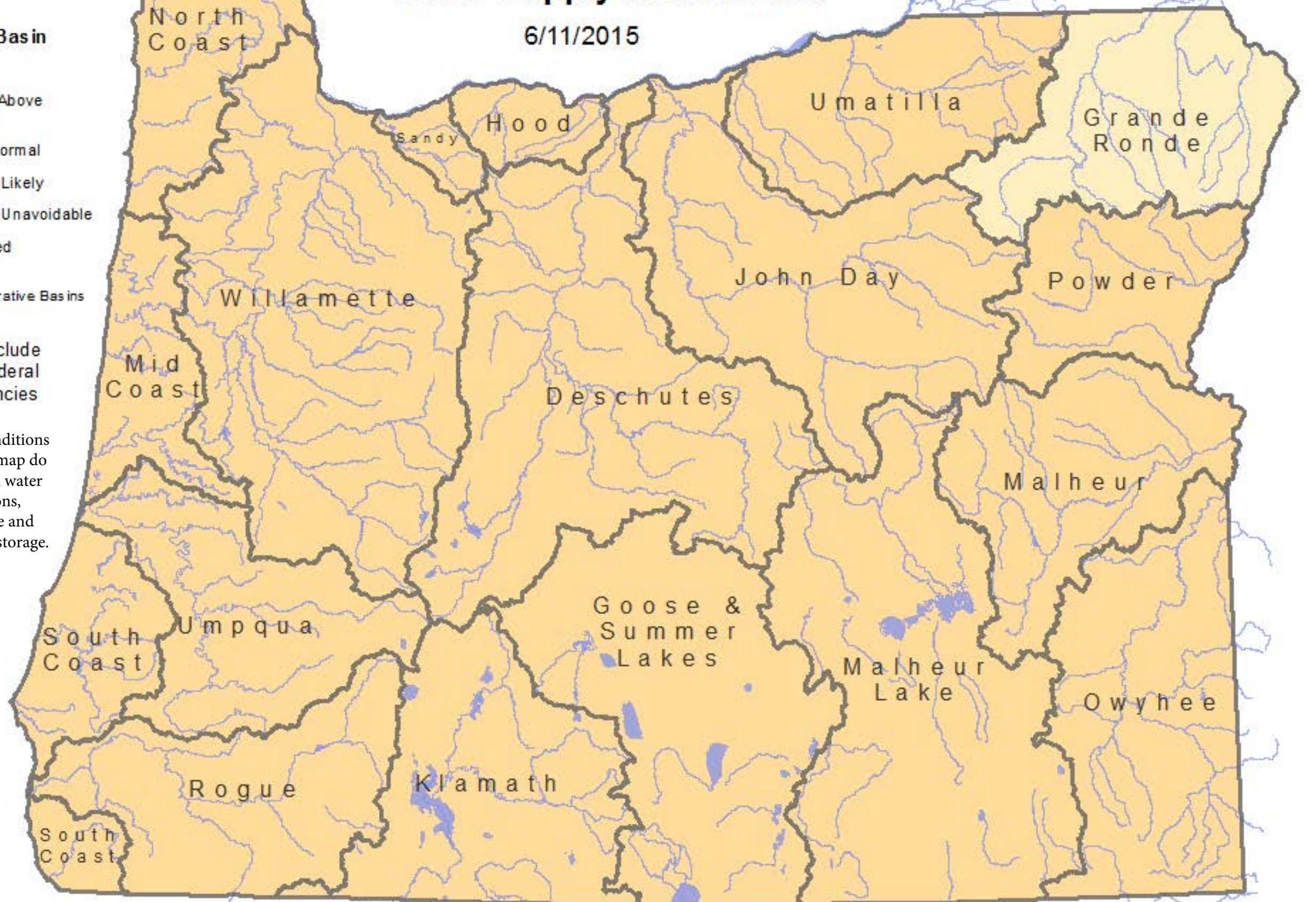
## Drought by Basin Status

-  Near or Above Normal
-  Below Normal
-  Drought Likely
-  Drought Unavoidable
-  Not Rated

 Administrative Basins

\*Members Include  
State and Federal  
Science Agencies

Hydrologic conditions  
shown on this map do  
not reflect local water  
supply conditions,  
including above and  
below-ground storage.



Oregon Water Resources Department  
725 Summer St. NE Suite A  
Salem, OR 97301  
<http://www.wrd.state.or.us/>

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.



0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Updated: 6/12/2015 7:32 AM  
Projection: Oregon Lambert, NAD 83









# Oregon's Drought Council\* Drought Declaration Status

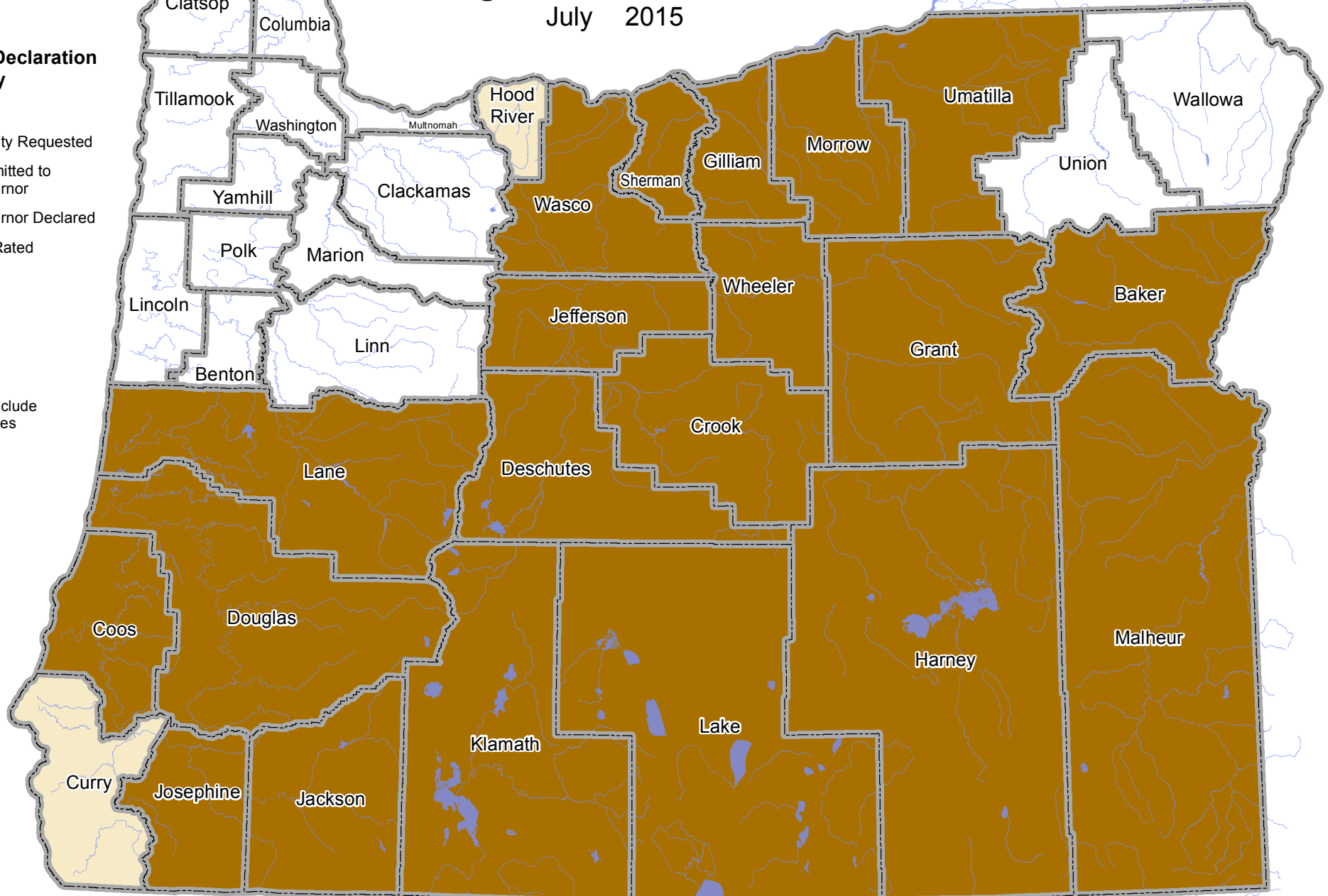
July 2015

## Drought Declaration by County

### Status

-  County Requested
-  Submitted to Governor
-  Governor Declared
-  Not Rated

\*Members Include  
State Agencies



Oregon Water Resources Department  
725 Summer St. NE Suite A  
Salem, OR 97301  
<http://www.wrd.state.or.us/>

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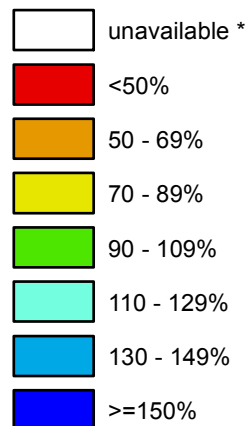
0 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Updated: 7/1/2015 9:49 AM  
Projection: Oregon Lambert, NAD 83

# Oregon SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) % of Normal

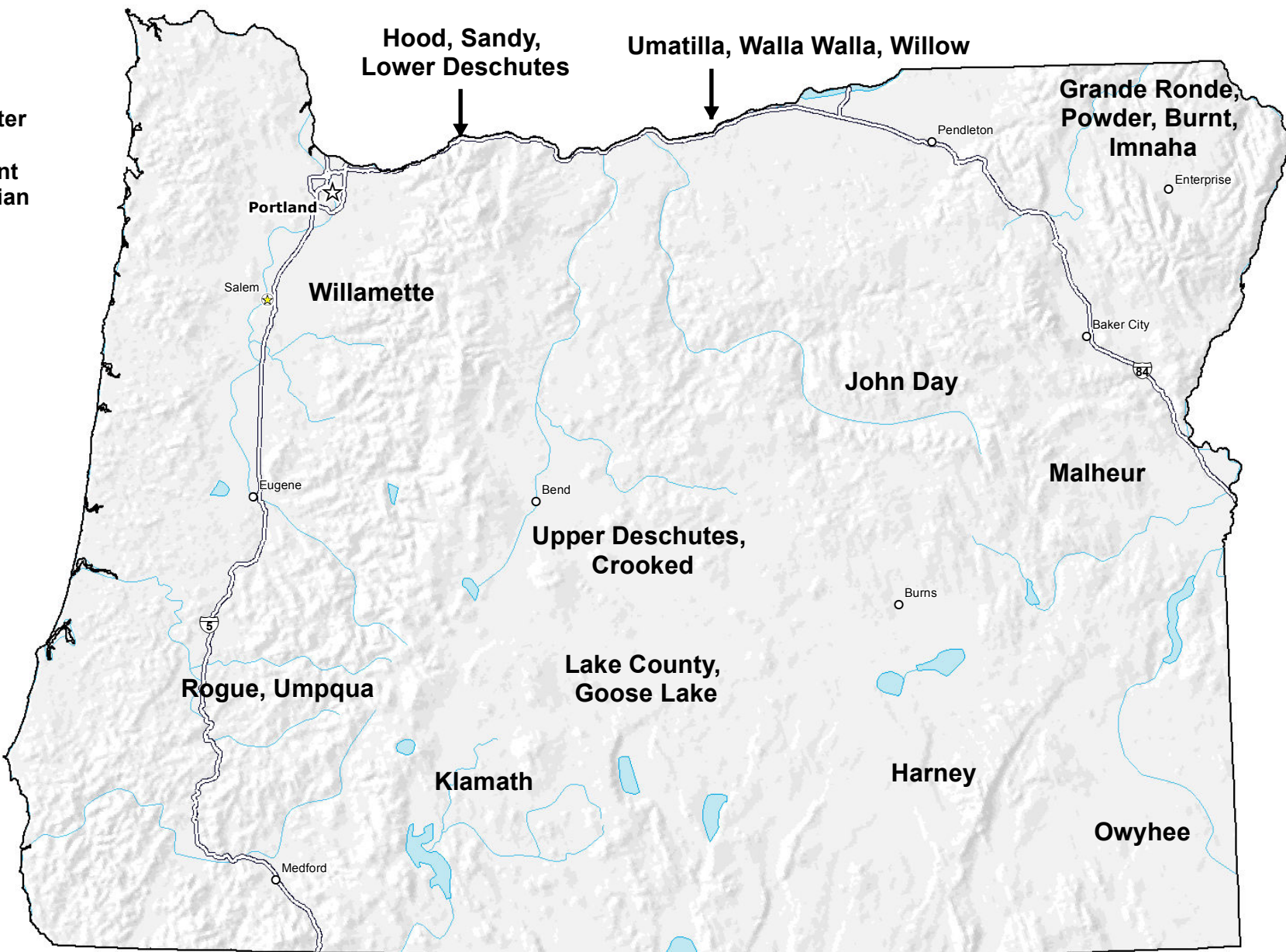
Jul 06, 2015

Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) Basin-wide Percent of 1981-2010 Median



\* Data unavailable at time of posting or measurement is not representative at this time of year

Provisional Data  
Subject to Revision



The snow water equivalent percent of normal represents the current snow water equivalent found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

0 10 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

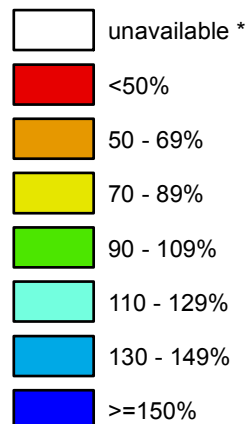
Prepared by:  
USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center  
Portland, Oregon  
<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>



# Oregon SNOTEL Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation % of Normal

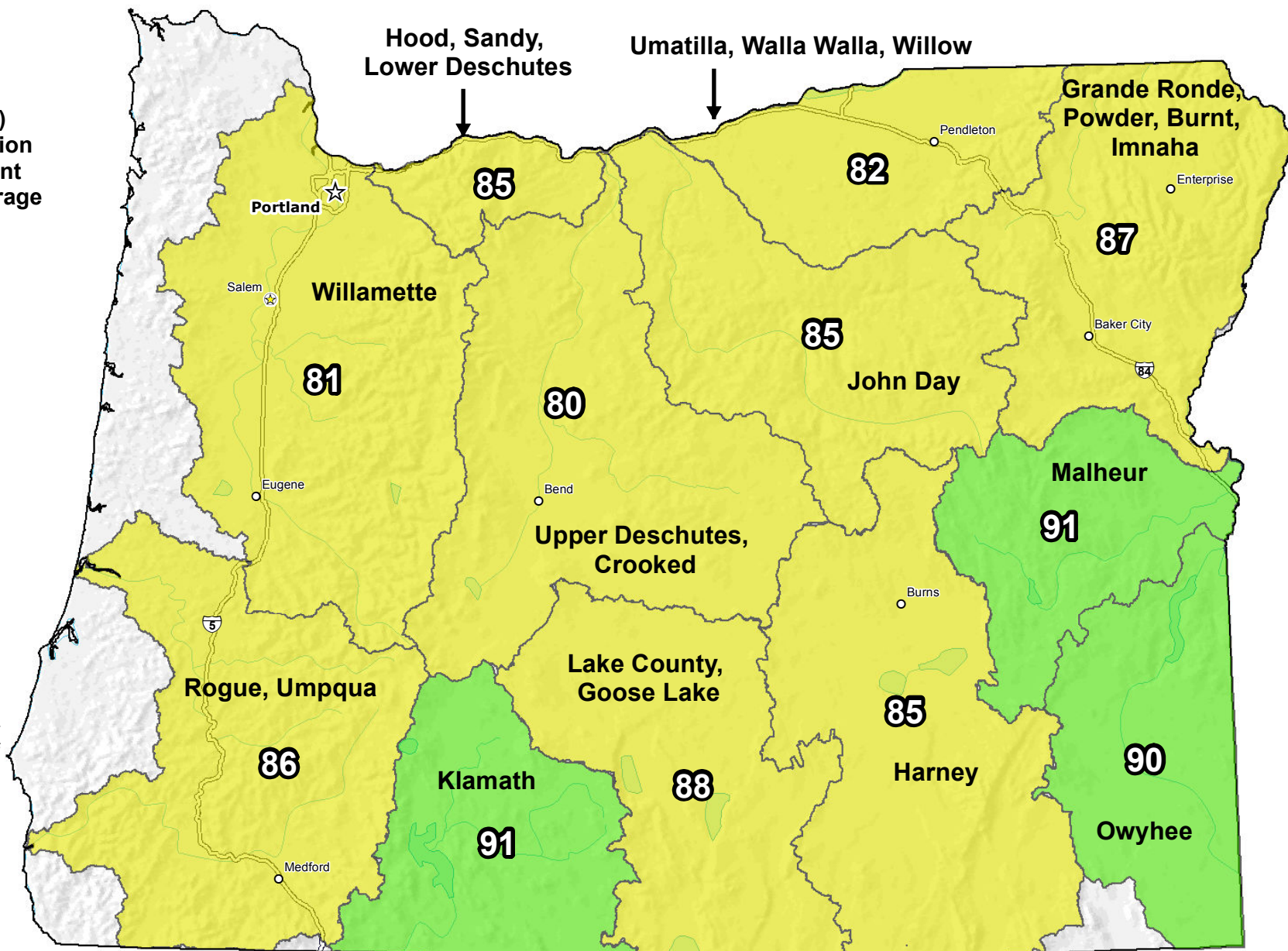
Jul 06, 2015

Water Year (Oct 1)  
to Date Precipitation  
Basin-wide Percent  
of 1981-2010 Average



\* Data unavailable at time  
of posting or measurement  
is not representative at this  
time of year

**Provisional Data  
Subject to Revision**



The water year to date precipitation percent of normal represents the accumulated precipitation found at selected SNOTEL sites in or near the basin compared to the average value for those sites on this day. Data based on the first reading of the day (typically 00:00).

0 10 20 40 60 80 100 Miles

Prepared by:  
USDA/NRCS National Water and Climate Center  
Portland, Oregon  
<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>



# U.S. Drought Monitor Oregon

**June 30, 2015**

*(Released Thursday, Jul. 2, 2015)*

**Valid 8 a.m. EDT**

*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.00	100.00	98.60	83.66	34.09	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> <i>6/23/2015</i>	0.00	100.00	98.60	81.72	34.09	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>3/31/2015</i>	14.36	85.64	82.30	47.93	33.72	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>12/30/2014</i>	13.61	86.39	80.70	49.29	34.11	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>9/30/2014</i>	1.56	98.44	76.61	56.26	35.30	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>7/1/2014</i>	6.09	93.91	72.78	52.00	14.72	0.00

## Intensity:

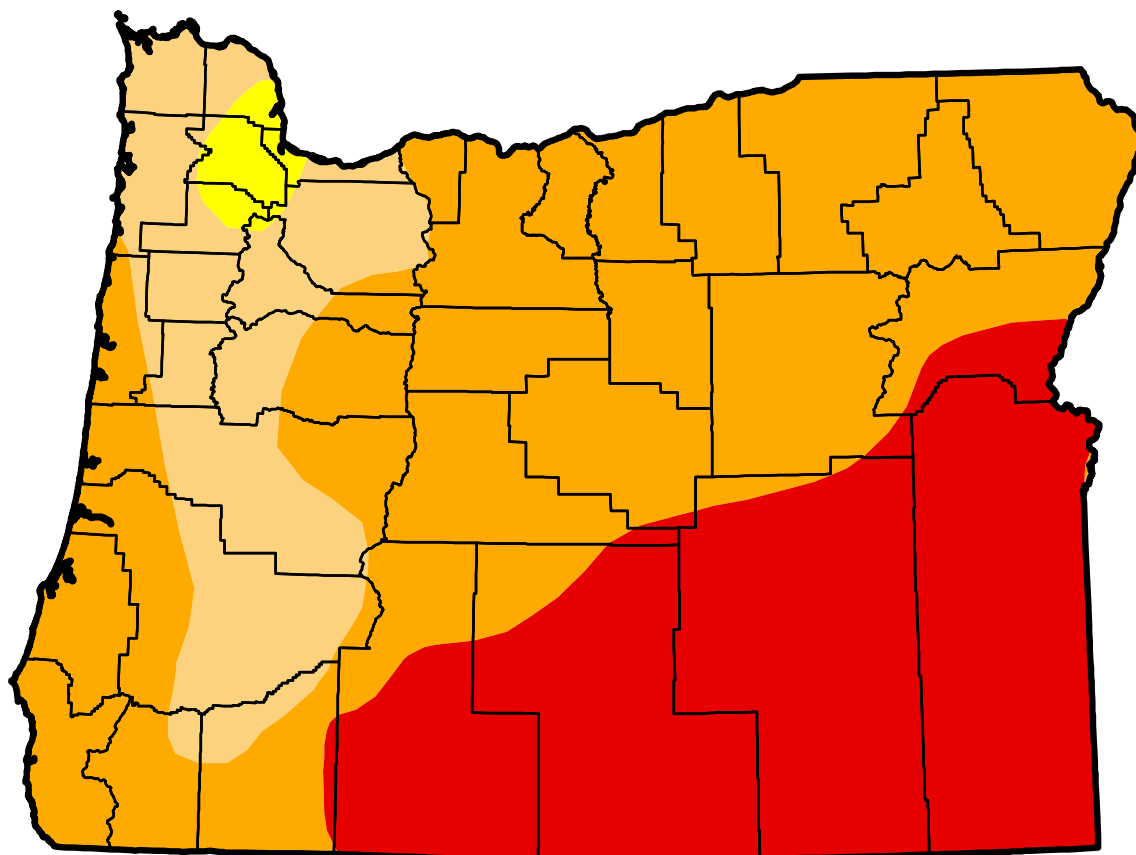
 D0 Abnormally Dry	 D3 Extreme Drought
 D1 Moderate Drought	 D4 Exceptional Drought
 D2 Severe Drought	

*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

## **Author:**

*Brian Fuchs*

*National Drought Mitigation Center*



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

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## Drought Water Right Summary Report

### Search Criteria

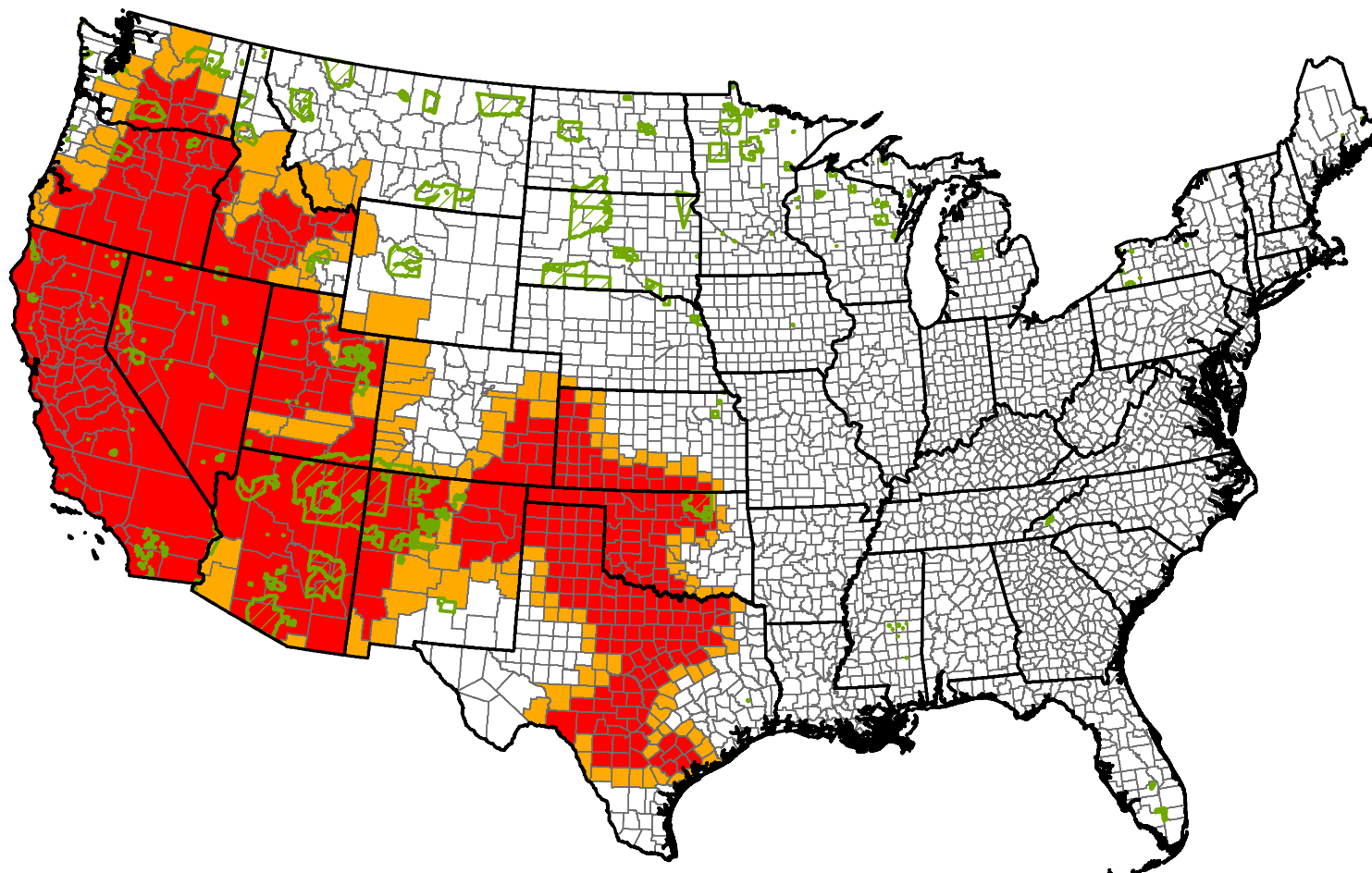
County:	<input type="text"/>	Start Drought Year:	<input type="text" value="2015"/>	<input type="button" value="Search"/>
		End Drought Year:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Clear"/>
				<input type="button" value="Details"/>

Records per Page:

<u>Drought Year</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Applications Rec'd</u>	<u>Applications Denied</u>	<u>Applications Approved</u>	<u>Acres Approved</u>	<u>Transfers Rec'd</u>	<u>Transfers Denied</u>	<u>Transfers Approved</u>
2015	Baker	0				1		
2015	Crook	1				1		1
2015	Harney	2		1	372.60	1	1	
2015	Klamath	38	1	36	21679.59			
2015	Lake	3				2		1
2015	Lane	0				4		1
2015	Malheur	13		13	3006.82	4		4
2015	Morrow	1		1	32.70			
2015	Umatilla	0				1		



# 2015 Secretarial Drought Designations - All Drought



## Secretarial Drought Designations for 2015

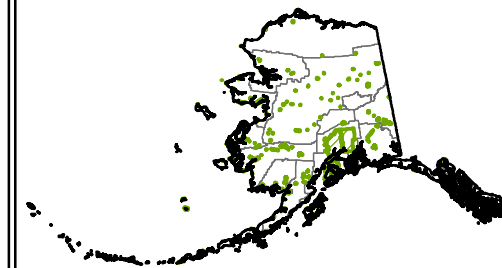
Disaster Incidents as of July 1, 2015

- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- Tribal Lands
- Primary Counties: 357
- Contiguous Counties: 161



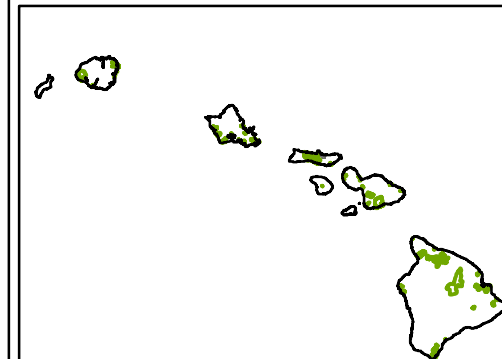
USDA Farm Service Agency  
Production, Emergencies and Compliance Division  
Washington, D.C.  
July 1, 2015

1:23,520,203



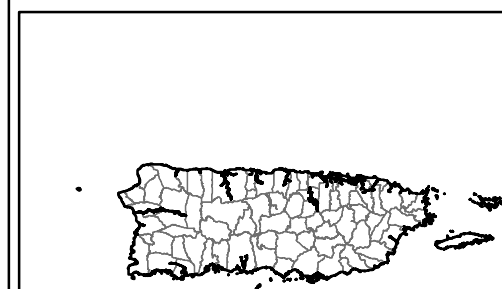
Alaska

1:58,102,399



Hawaii

1:19,740,053



Puerto Rico

1:5,592,808