



# Drought Information Statement for Eastern OR & South Central WA

Valid January 14, 2024

Issued By: NWS Pendleton

Contact Information: [pdt.operations@noaa.gov](mailto:pdt.operations@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/pdt/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.

- Moderate Drought continues to affect portions of northwest Kittitas and northern Wallowa counties while abnormally dry conditions continue in across parts of south central WA, central/north central OR, far northeast OR, and far southeast WA
- Well above normal precipitation (in excess of 200% of normal across the Basin and Blue mountains)
- Well above normal snow water equivalent reported in mountain snowpack across the eastern mountains, near to above normal elsewhere
- Precipitation is forecast to end drought conditions area-wide during the upcoming winter months



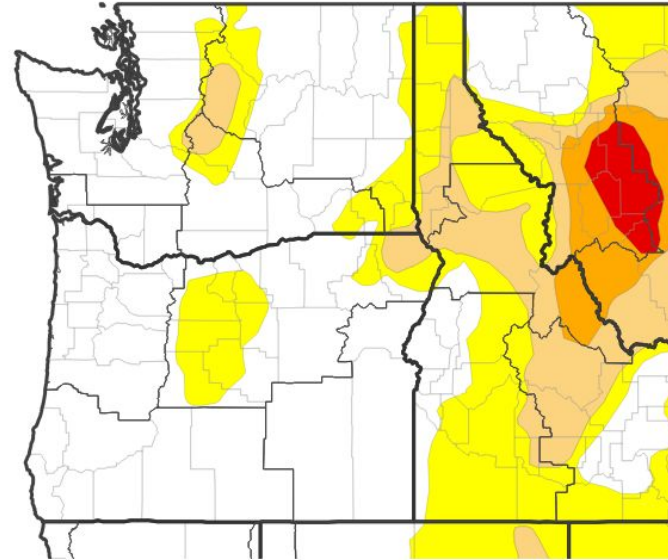


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):** None
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Northwest Kittitas county and northern Wallowa County
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Central Kittitas and northwest Yakima counties, central and north central OR, WA Blue Mountains, northern Union and central Wallowa counties
  - All other areas have improved enough to be removed from Abnormally Dry or Moderate Drought conditions

## U.S. Drought Monitor



### U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 01/07/25



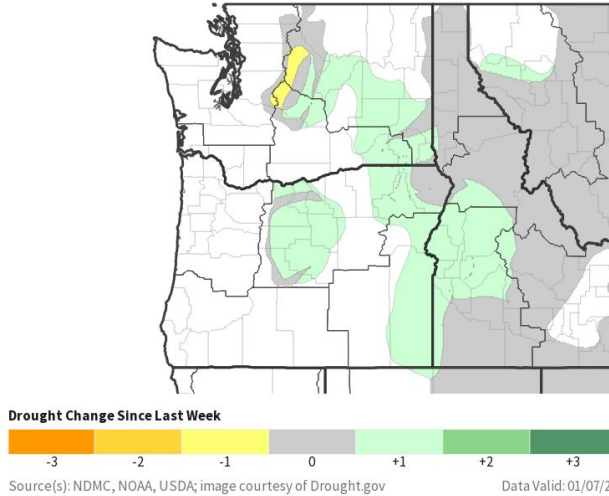


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for the Pacific Northwest

- One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change
  - [Drought Worsened \(1 Class Degradation\)](#): Extreme western Kittitas county
  - [Drought Improved \(1 Class Improvement\)](#): Most of Kittitas county, central and north central OR, the eastern Columbia Basin of WA and OR south through the Blue Mountains, and the Grande Ronde Valley
- Four-Week Drought Monitor Class Change
  - [Drought Worsened \(1 Class Degradation\)](#): Extreme western Kittitas county
  - [Drought Improved \(1 Class Improvement\)](#): Most of OR, Kittitas County, and eastern portions of WA
  - [Drought Improved \(2 Class Improvement\)](#): West central Union county

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Pacific Northwest DEWS 4 Week

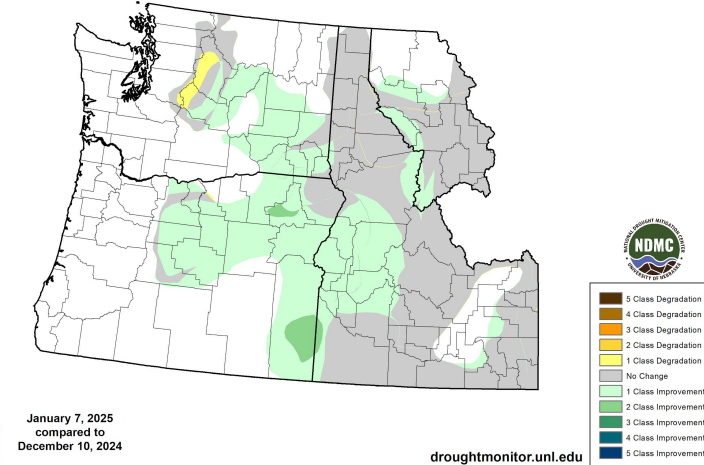
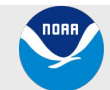


Image Captions:  
 Right - 4 Week Drought Class Change  
 Left - 1 Week Drought Class Change  
 Data Courtesy U.S. Drought Monitor and Drought.gov

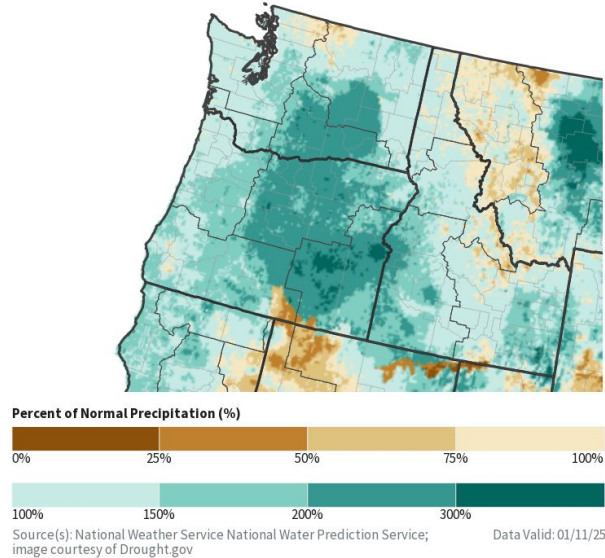




# Precipitation - Last 30 Days

- Mostly well above normal precipitation (150% to 300% of normal), except 100%-150% of normal in eastern Wallowa county
- Near to below normal precipitation (90-100%) along the central WA Cascades crest
- Highest precipitation amounts were over 8 inches over the Cascades with 4 to over 8 inches in the eastern mountains of OR and WA
- Generally 2 to 4 inches in the lower elevations

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)

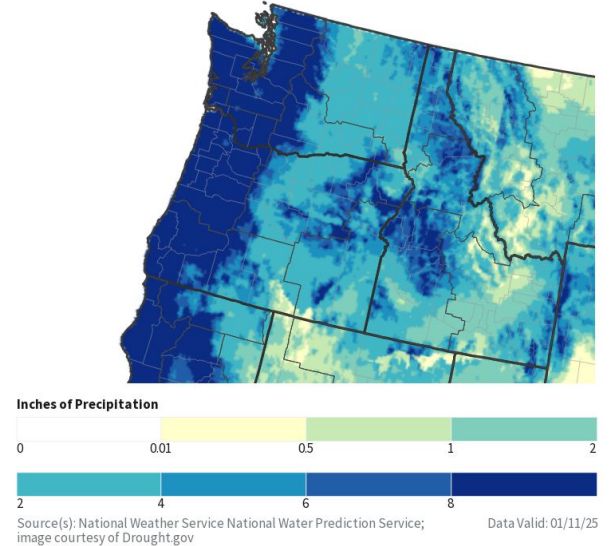


Image Captions:  
 Right - Precipitation Amount for Pacific NW  
 Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW  
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center

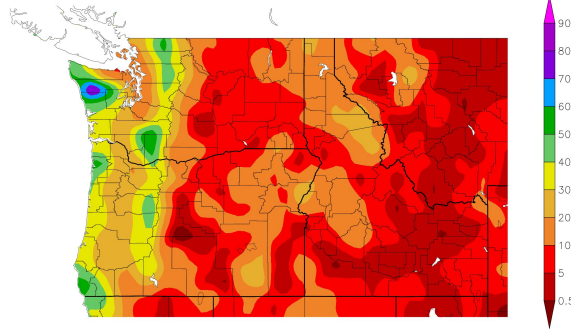




# Precipitation - 4-month (120-day) Precipitation

- Above normal precipitation (in excess of 150%) in the OR and WA Columbia Basin, the southern Blue Mountains and the Ochoco-John Day Highlands over the last 120-days
- Pockets of near to below normal precipitation (75-100% of normal) in portions of the Blue Mountain Foothills, the northern Blue Mountains and Wallowa County over the last 120-days
- Near to above normal precipitation (50-100%) elsewhere

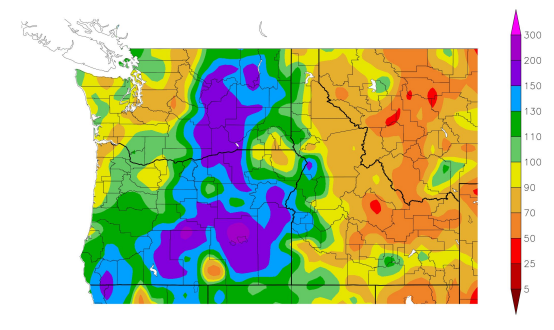
Precipitation (in)  
10/1/2024 - 1/13/2025



Generated 1/14/2025 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
10/1/2024 - 1/13/2025



Generated 1/14/2025 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:  
Right - Precipitation Amounts for Pacific NW  
Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW  
Courtesy of Drought.gov

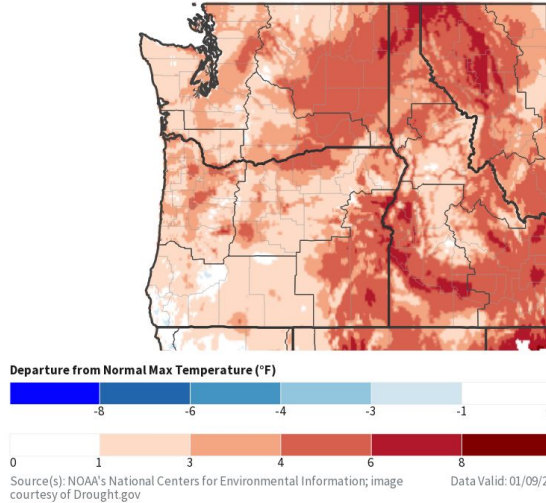




# Temperature - Last 7 and 30 Days

- Mainly near to above normal temperatures (-1 to 3 degrees) all areas, except 3-6 degrees above normal OR Cascades and 1 to 3 degrees below normal Wallowa mountains for the last 7 days
- Above normal temperatures (1 to 6 degrees) the last 30 days
- Greatest departures (4 to 6 degrees above normal) over the last 30 days were seen across the WA and OR Columbia Basin, central OR, the Grande Ronde Valley and Wallowa county during the last seven days

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



7-Day Temperature Anomaly

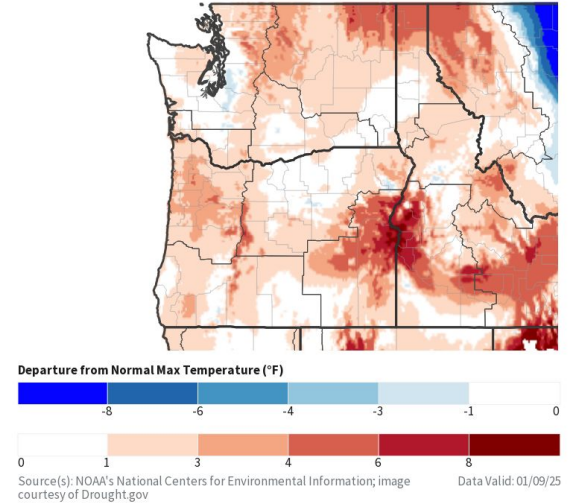
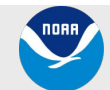


Image Captions:  
 Right - Temperature for Pacific NW  
 Left - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Pacific NW  
 Courtesy of Drought.gov





# Summary of Impacts

See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Most basins report near to well above normal streamflow (76th-100th percentile)
- Near normal streamflow (26th-75th percentile) across the Willow, Upper Deschutes, Upper and Lower Yakima, Upper Columbia-Priest Rapids, Palouse and Clearwater Basins

## Snowpack Impacts

- Most snow telemetry (SNOTEL) monitoring sites show a near to well above normal snowpack (90-250% of normal). There are no known impacts at this time.

## Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

## Other Impacts

- Washington: [Washington Drought Emergency declared for all counties east of the Cascades](#)
- Oregon: [No Drought Declaration for Year 2025 as of this Drought Information Statement](#)

## Mitigation actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information



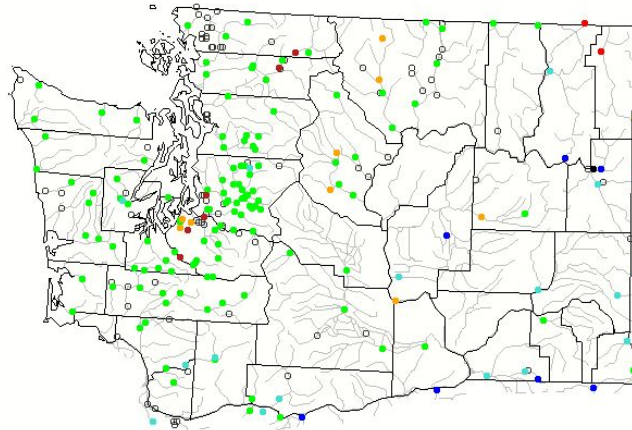


# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts - Washington

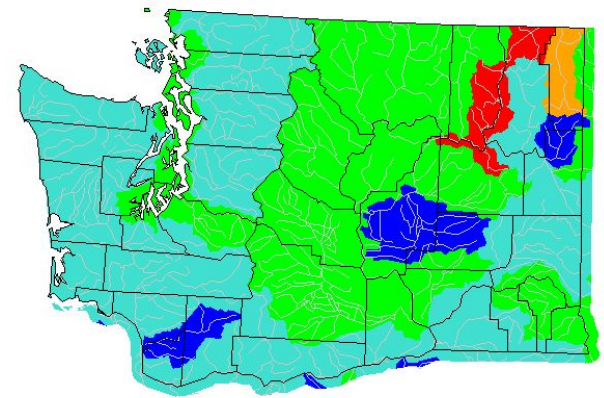
## Main Takeaways

- The Klickitat, Middle Columbia-Hood, Middle Columbia-Lake Wallula, Walla Walla, Lower Snake, Lower Snake-Tucannon, Lower Snake-Asotin and Lower Grande Ronde basins have above normal streamflow (76th-90th percentile)
- Other river, stream, and creek flows are near normal (25th-75th percentile)

Thursday, January 09, 2025



Hednesday, January 01, 2025



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

## Impacts

No known impacts at this time

*Reduced streamflow may be detrimental to aquatic species and recreational activities.*

Image Captions:

Right - USGS 7-day average streamflow station map valid January 1, 2025

Left - USGS 7-day average streamflow HUC map valid January 1, 2025

Data Courtesy USGS Water Watch







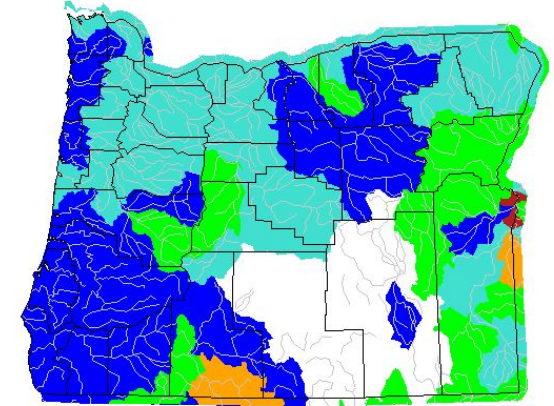
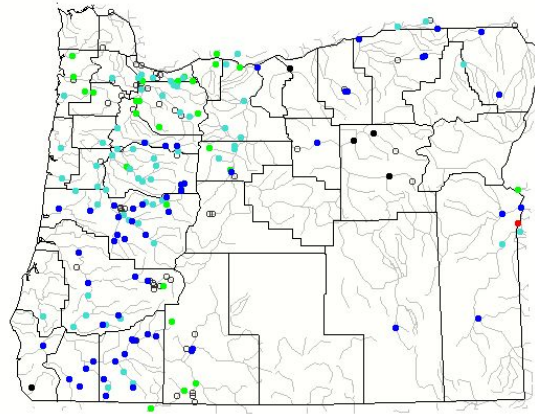
# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts - Oregon

Thursday, January 09, 2025

Wednesday, January 01, 2025

## Main Takeaways

- Much above normal streamflows (91st-100th percentile) for the Lower John Day, Upper John Day, Silvies, North Fork John Day, Umatilla basin
- Near normal streamflows (25th-75th percentile) for the Willow and Upper Deschutes basins
- Above normal streamflows (76th-90th percentile) for all other basins



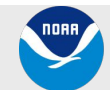
Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

## Impacts

No known impacts at this time

*Reduced streamflow may be detrimental to aquatic species and recreational activities.*

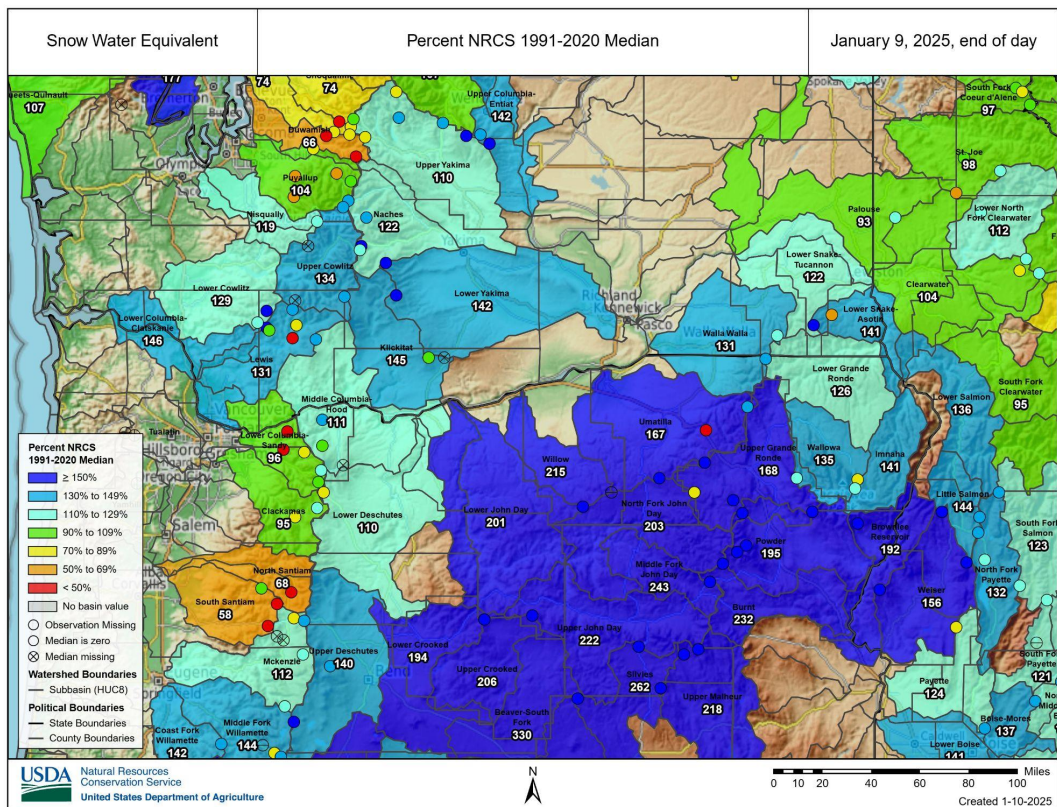
Image Captions:  
 Right - USGS 7-day average streamflow station map valid January 1, 2025  
 Left - USGS 7-day average streamflow HUC map valid January 1, 2025  
 Data Courtesy USGS Water Watch





# Snowpack Conditions and Impacts

Link to the [latest Snow Water Equivalent Percent of 1991-2020 Median map](#)



## Main Takeaways

- Mountain snowpack snow water equivalent reports are well above normal (165%-250% percent) across the OR eastern mountains
- Above normal snowpack values (110%-145%) are seen elsewhere across Washington and Wallowa county basins

## Impacts

No known impacts at this time

*Snow water equivalent is related to the amount of water stored in snowpack.*

- Snow can affect the amount of available water for spring and summer snow melt. This can have impacts on water storage, irrigation, fisheries, vegetation, municipal water supplies, and wildfire.*

Image Captions:  
 Washington SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent % of Normal  
 Data Courtesy USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 Daily Value as of January 9, 2025



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Pendleton, OR



# Water Supply Forecast - April - September 2025

Link to the latest [Northwest River Forecast Center Water Supply Forecast](#).

## Main Takeaways

- Near to above normal water supply (85-125% of the 1991-2020 normal) is forecast across most of the area for the April-September 2025 period
- Well above normal water supply (120-175% of the 1991-2020 normal) is forecast across the southern Blue mountains and the Ochoco-John Day Highlands

## Impacts

No known impacts at this time

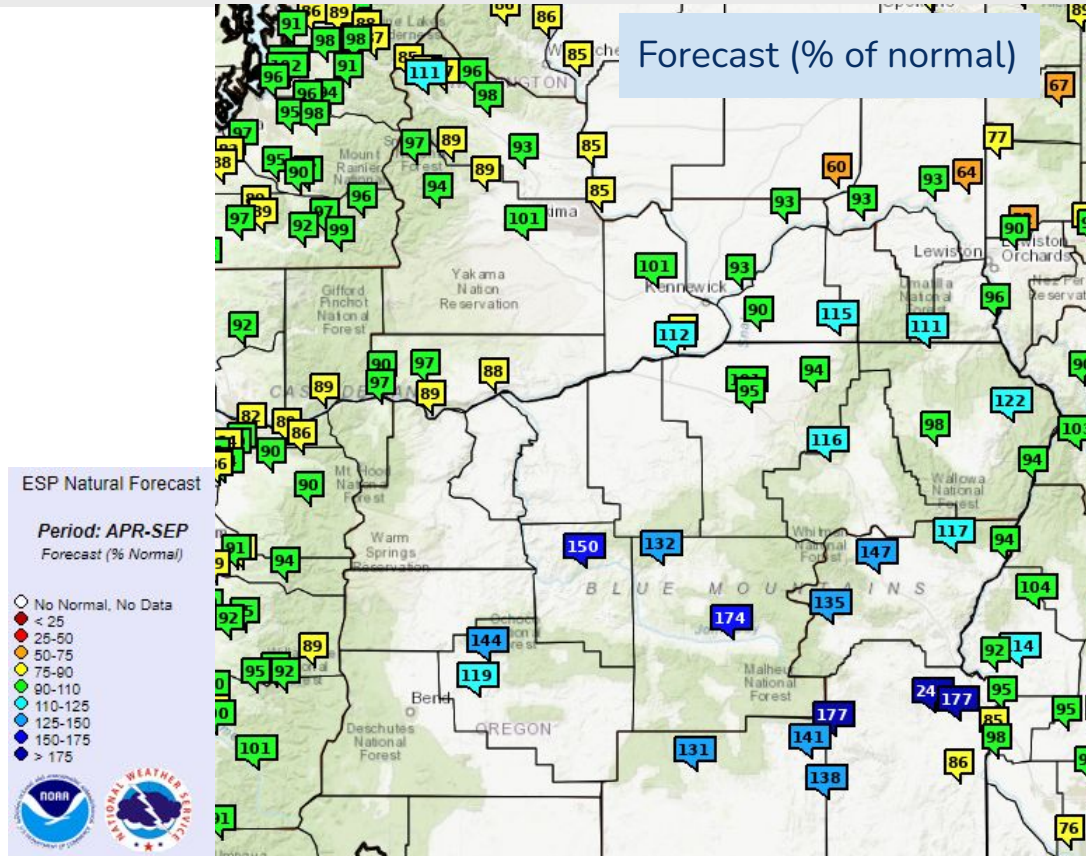
*Low reservoir levels would be expected to affect agriculture production, fish, and other aquatic species.*

Image Caption:

Ensemble Streamflow Prediction Natural Forecast

Data Courtesy NOAA NWS Northwest River Forecast Center

Issued January 10, 2025





# Fire Hazard Impacts - September through December

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

## Main Takeaways

- Normal significant wildland fire potential (i.e., very low risk) for all areas January 2025 through April 2025
- Significant wildland fires are expected at typical times (e.g., warm season) and intervals during normal significant wildland fire potential conditions

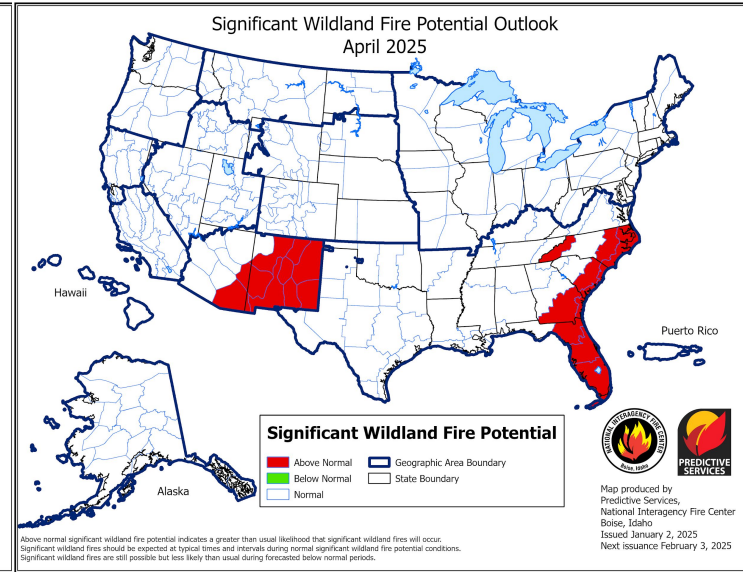
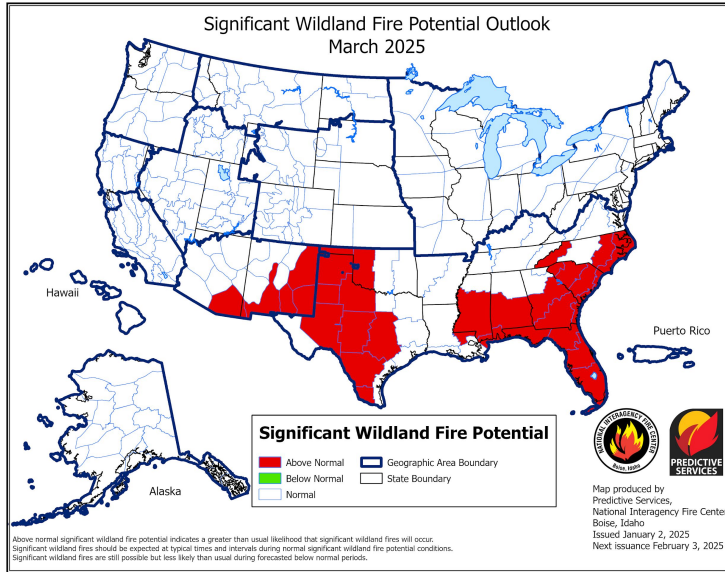


Image Caption:

Left - January 2025

Right - February 2025

Data Courtesy National Interagency Coordination Center

Issued January 2, 2024



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Pendleton, OR



# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A ridge of high pressure will be the main influence on area weather for the next week and this will give us colder and mainly dry weather.
  - Another system brushing the area Thursday afternoon through Friday will bring very precipitation (just a few hundredths of an inch) to the WA Cascade crest and the northern Blue Mountains of WA
  - The rest of the area is forecast to remain dry for the next 7 days
- Visit [weather.gov/Pendleton](https://weather.gov/Pendleton) for the latest weather forecast

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for January 12, 2025–January 19, 2025

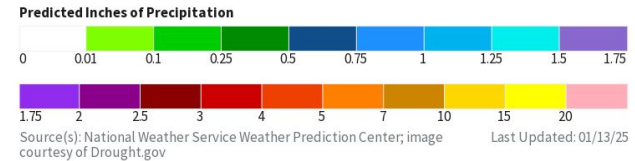
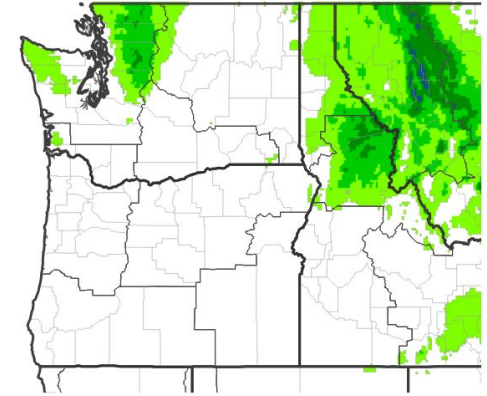
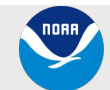


Image Caption:  
Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](https://weather.gov/Pendleton)





# 6-10 Day Outlook

Link to the latest Climate Prediction Center 6 to 10 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

## Main Takeaways

- Leaning towards below normal temperatures in all areas (40-70%)
- Leaning towards below normal precipitation in all areas (50-60%)

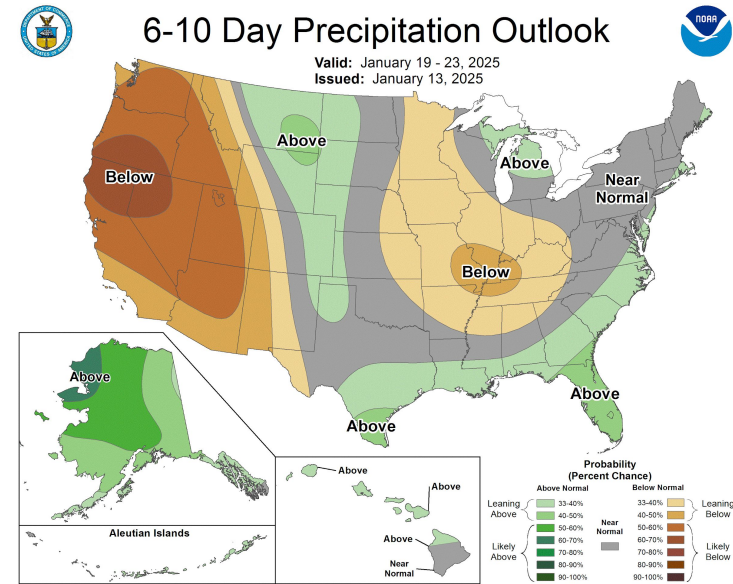
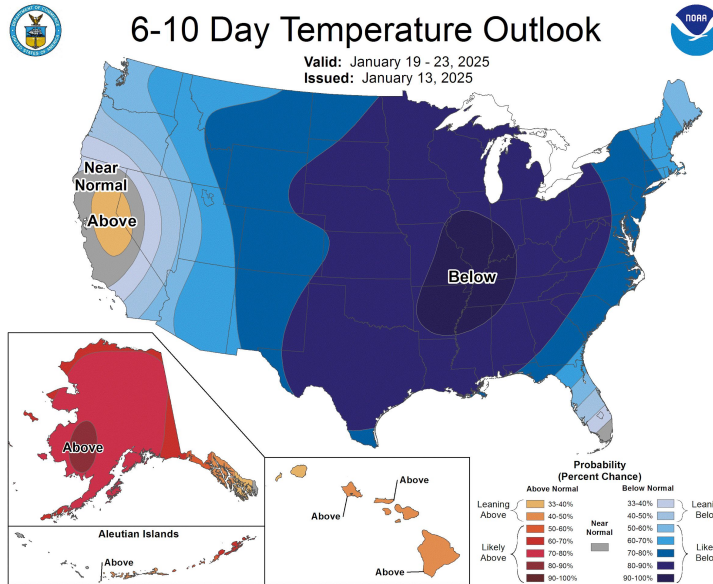
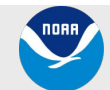


Image Captions:  
 Left - [Climate Prediction Center 6-10 Day Temperature Outlook](#),  
 Right - [Climate Prediction Center 6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook](#),  
 Valid January 19-23, 2025





# 8-14 Day Outlook

Link to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

## Main Takeaways

- Leaning towards below normal temperatures area-wide (33-50%)
- Leaning towards below normal precipitation area-wide (33-50%)

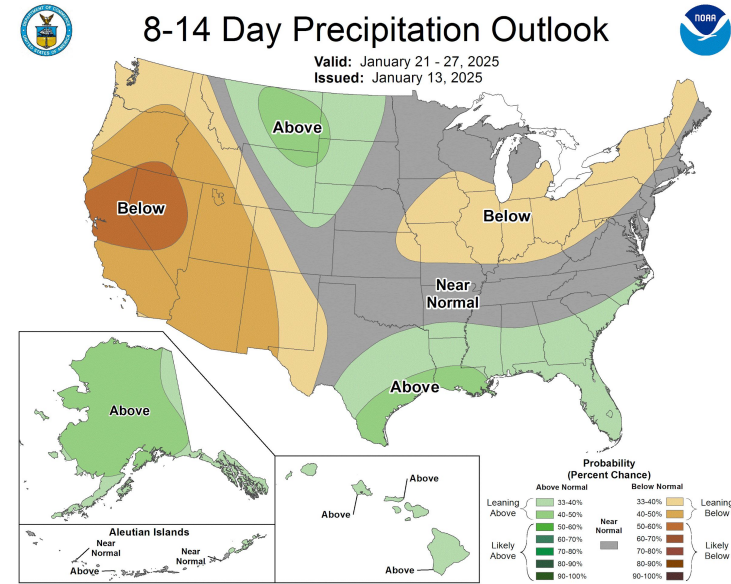
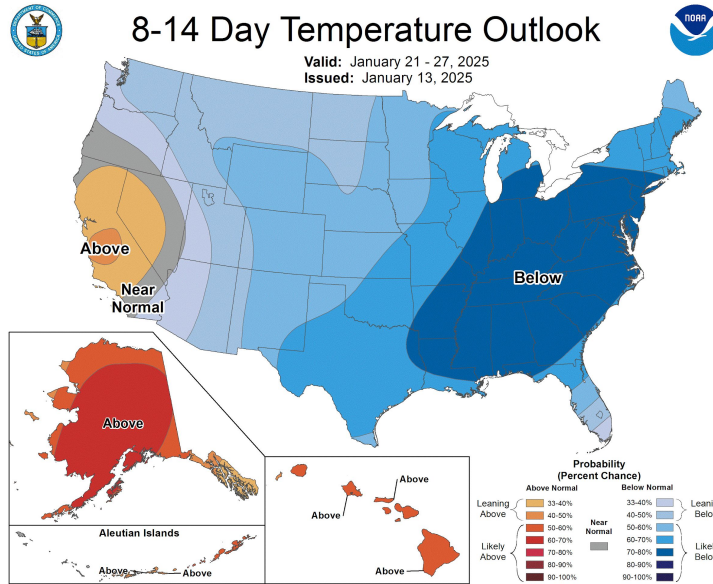
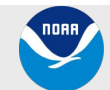


Image Captions:  
 Left - [Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook](#),  
 Right - [Climate Prediction Center 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook](#),  
 Valid January 21-27, 2025





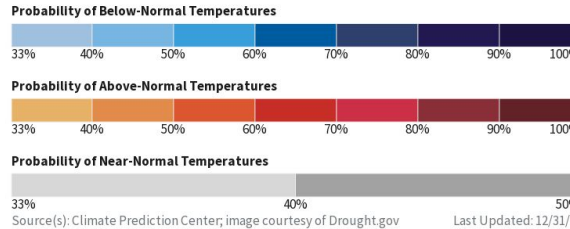
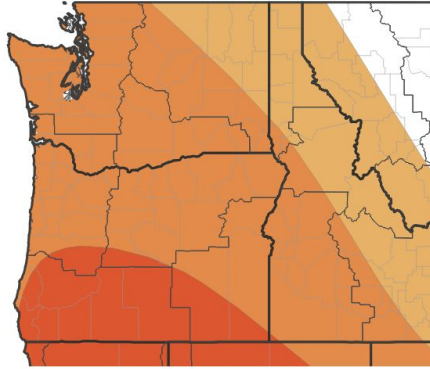
# Monthly Climate Outlook

Link to the latest Climate Prediction Center [Monthly Outlook](#).

## Main Takeaways for January

- Odds favor normal temperatures (40-60%) area-wide
- Odds favor above normal precipitation (33-50%) area-wide

Monthly Temperature Outlook for January 1, 2025–January 31, 2025



Monthly Precipitation Outlook for January 1, 2025–January 31, 2025

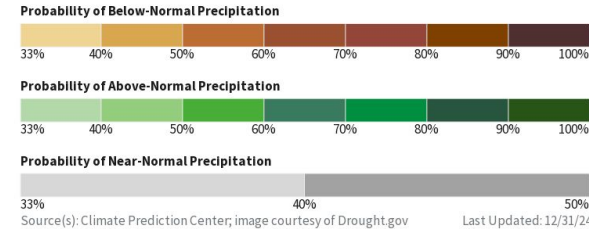
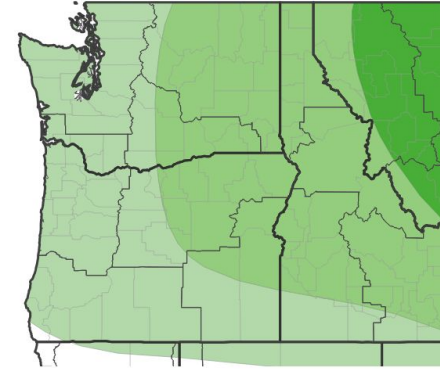


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#).

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#).

Updated December 31, 2024







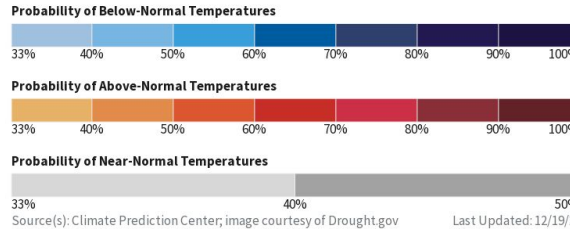
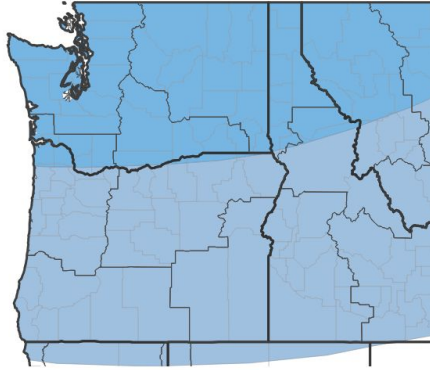
# Seasonal Climate Outlook

Link to the latest Climate Prediction Center [Seasonal Outlook](#).

## Main Takeaways for January-February-March

- Odds leaning towards below normal temperatures (33-50%) for all areas
- Odds leaning towards above normal precipitation (40-50%) for all areas

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for January 1, 2025–March 31, 2025



Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for January 1, 2025–March 31, 2025

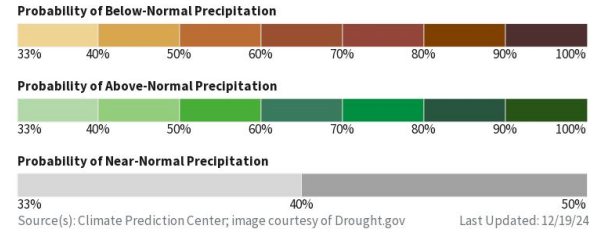
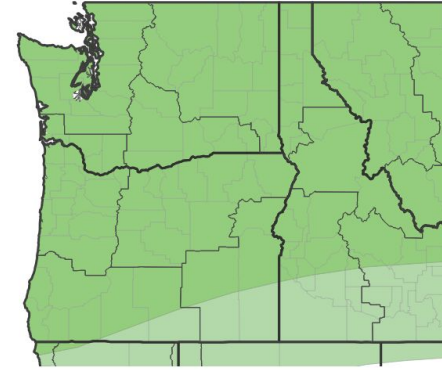


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#).

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid January-March 2025





# Drought Outlook

The latest drought outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#).

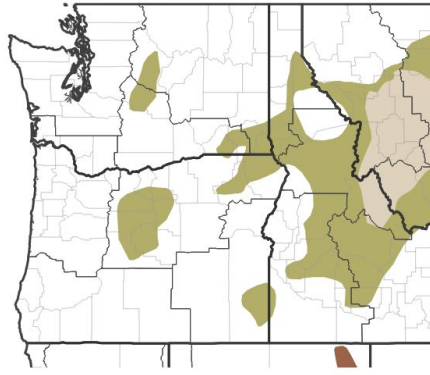
## Main Takeaways

- Drought is expected to end and all areas will no longer be under a drought by the end of January and will remain that way through the end of March

## Possible Impacts

- Reduced streamflows and reservoir levels may persist a while longer and this could result in possible reduction in agricultural yield, crop loss, and poor pasture conditions where irrigation water is not available.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for December 31, 2024–March 31, 2025

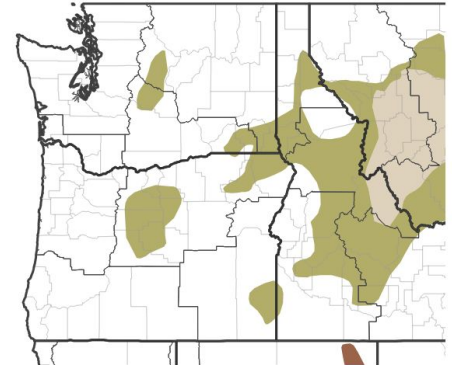


Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 12/31/24

1-Month Drought Outlook for January 1, 2025–January 31, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 12/31/24

Image Captions:

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#) Released December 31, 2024

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#) Released December 31, 2024

