

National Weather Service Medford

April 2017 Climate Summary



*These data are preliminary and have not undergone final QC by NCEI. Therefore, these data are subject to revision. Final and certified climate data can be accessed at the [National Centers for Environmental Information \(NCEI\)](#).

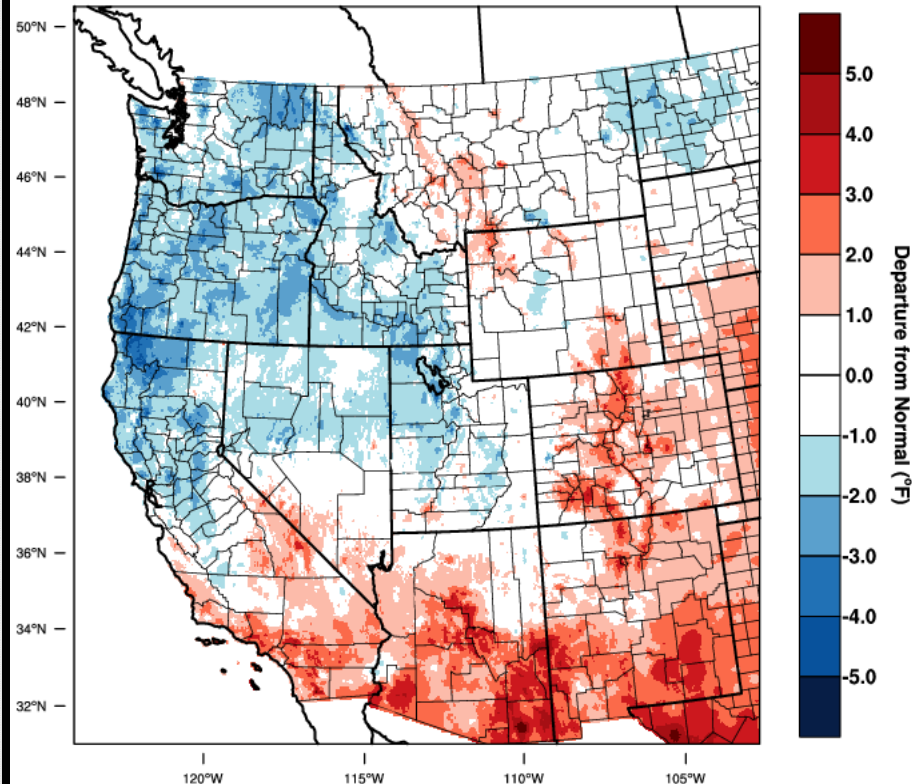
April 2017 Weather Review

Much like March, and the rest of the Wet Season for that matter, active weather continued on into April 2017. Overall, the area experienced colder than normal temperatures and above normal precipitation, along with multiple daily rainfall records broken during the month. As is to be expected with spring months, there were bouts of warm and dry weather followed by cooler and wetter weather. April started off with a bout of warm and dry weather. However, a potent spring storm moved through the area during the 6th and 7th bringing strong winds to much of the area, especially at the coast and in the higher elevations. Even the more sheltered valleys experienced strong winds with this storm. The Medford Airport recorded 42 mph gusts on both the 6th and 7th with sustained winds in the lower 30s during this time. This storm also brought a round of heavy snow above 4,000 feet in the mountains and a couple of inches in the Mount Shasta City area. The mountains in the Mount Shasta area reported around 2 feet of new snow on the 6th and 7th and a spotter in Tennant California reported 6 inches of snow on the morning of the 8th.

Shortly after this system, a second storm brought another round of strong winds to the area around the 11th. Although not as strong as the first system, the sheltered valleys still experienced strong winds. The Medford Airport recorded gusts up to 35 mph on the 12th. The cycle of warm and dry followed by cool and wet continued through the end of the month as a few more storm systems moved through the area.

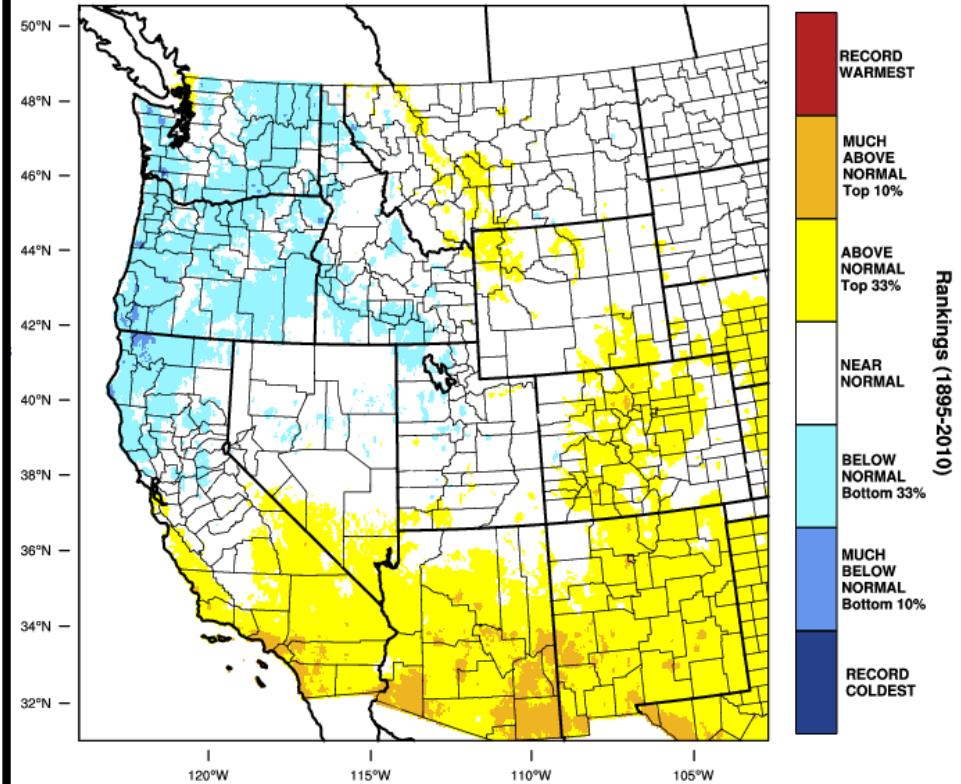
April 2017 Observed Temperatures

Western United States - Mean Temperature
April 2017 Departure from 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 2 MAY 2017

Western United States - Mean Temperature
April 2017 Percentile



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 2 MAY 2017

Average Temperatures

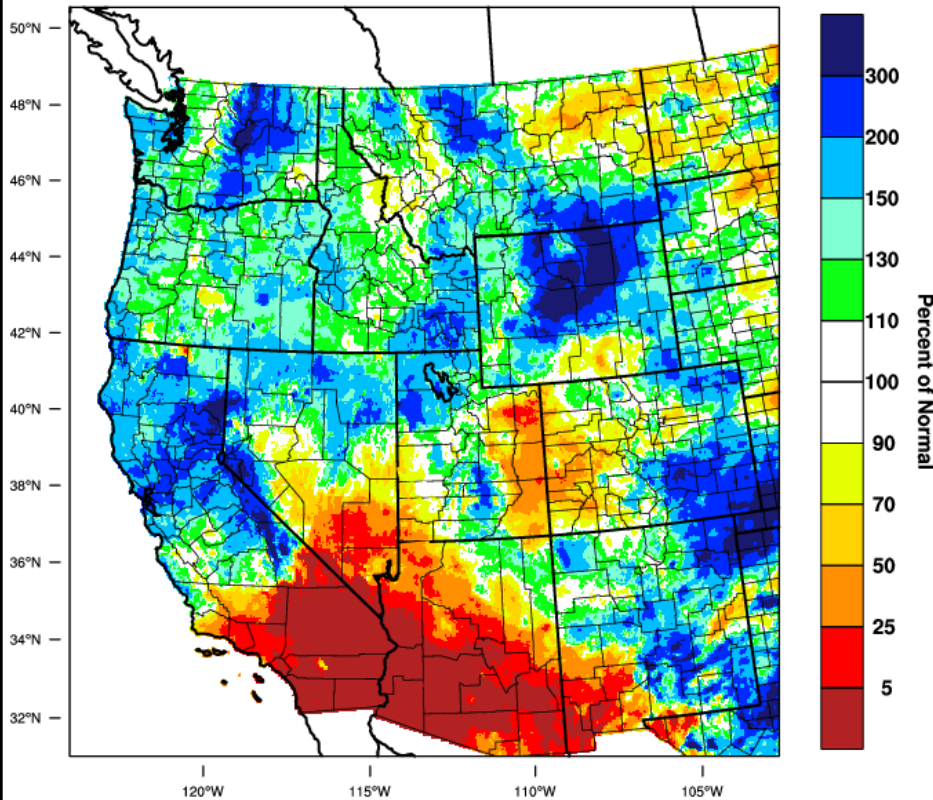
	<i>Average (°F)</i>	<i>Departure from Normal</i>	<i>Average Max (°F)</i>	<i>Departure from Normal</i>	<i>Average Min (°F)</i>	<i>Departure from Normal</i>
<i>North Bend</i>	50.6	+1.4°	57.3	+2.0°	44.0	+0.9°
<i>Roseburg</i>	52.0	-0.2°	61.3	-1.1°	42.7	0.7°
<i>Medford</i>	52.2	-0.6°	63.3	-1.6°	41.1	+0.3°
<i>Klamath Falls</i>	42.3	-0.8°	54.5	-2.0°	30.1	+0.4°
<i>Montague, CA</i>	45.9	-1.2°	59.5	-1.4°	32.2	-1.0°
<i>Mt. Shasta City, CA</i>	46.4	-0.8°	57.2	-3.7°	35.5	+2.1°
<i>Alturas, CA</i>	44.0	+0.8°	56.3	-1.5°	31.7	+3.0°

Monthly Max & Min Temperatures

	<i>Max (°F)</i>	<i>Date(s)</i>	<i>Min (°F)</i>	<i>Date(s)</i>
<i>North Bend</i>	<i>72°</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>37°</i>	<i>3rd & 15th</i>
<i>Roseburg</i>	<i>74°</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>34°</i>	<i>9th</i>
<i>Medford</i>	<i>76°</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>31°</i>	<i>9th</i>
<i>Klamath Falls</i>	<i>66°</i>	<i>1st</i>	<i>20°</i>	<i>9th</i>
<i>Montague, CA</i>	<i>71°</i>	<i>29th</i>	<i>21°</i>	<i>9th</i>
<i>Mt. Shasta City, CA</i>	<i>72°</i>	<i>29th</i>	<i>25°</i>	<i>14th</i>
<i>Alturas, CA</i>	<i>69°</i>	<i>5th</i>	<i>21°</i>	<i>15th</i>

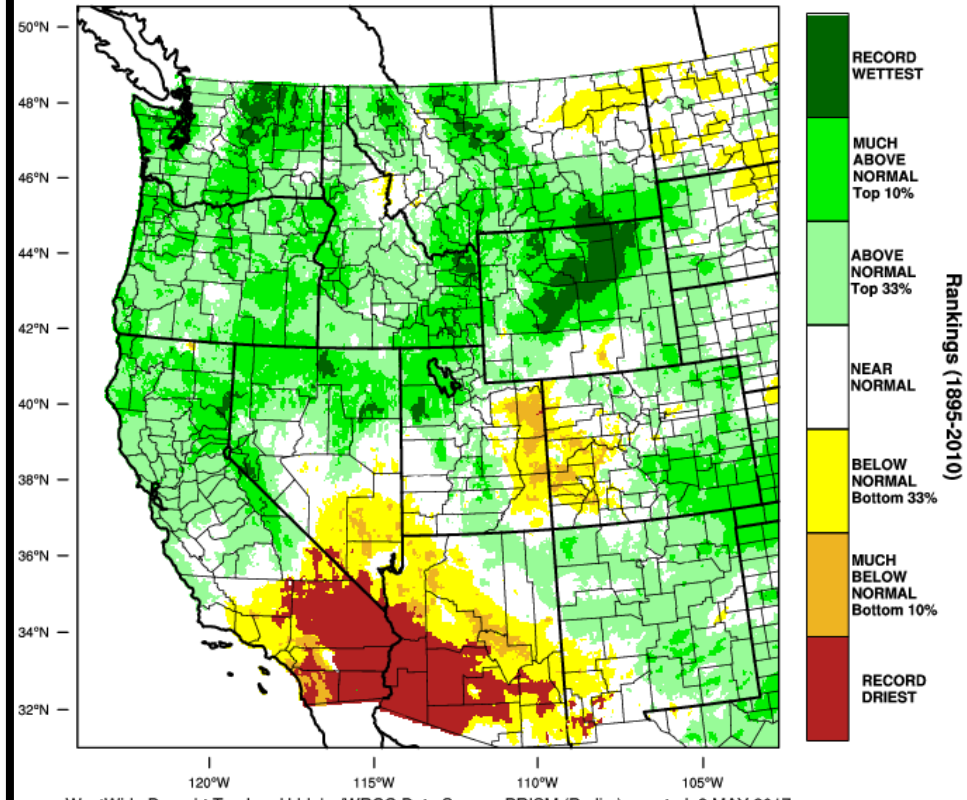
April 2017 Observed Precipitation

Western United States - Precipitation
April 2017 Percent of 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 2 MAY 2017

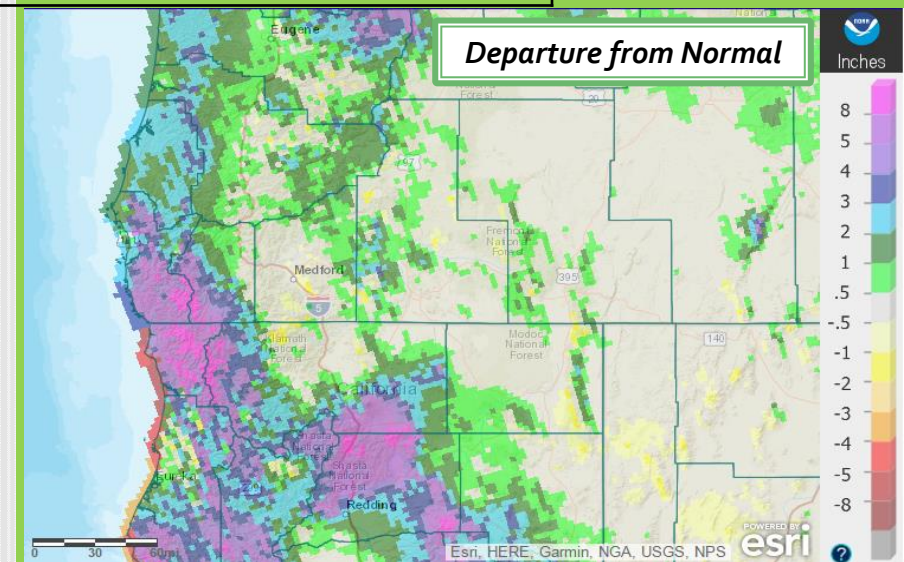
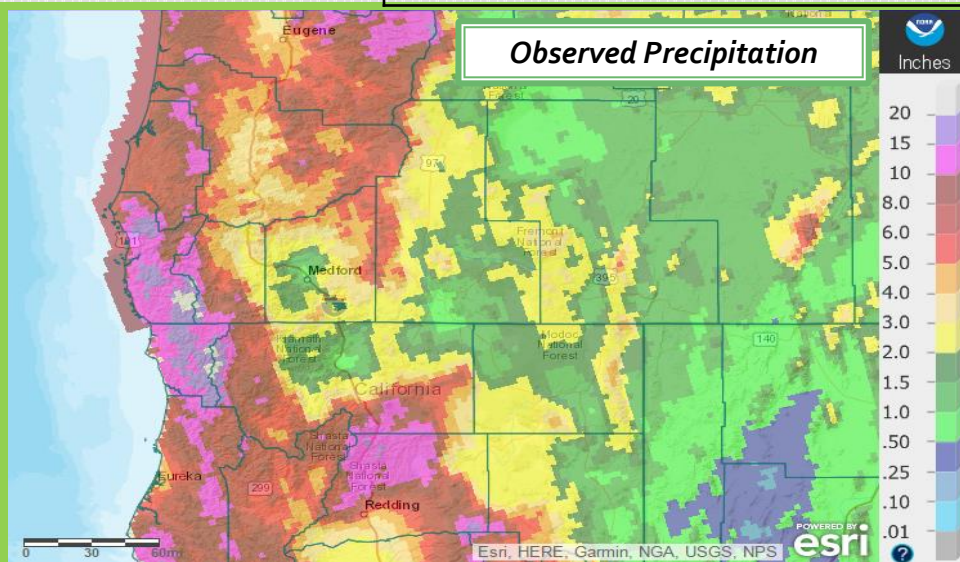
Western United States - Precipitation
April 2017 Percentile



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 2 MAY 2017

April Precipitation

	Total	Departure from Normal	Greatest 24-hr Total	Date(s)
North Bend	6.41"	+1.24"	0.93"	6 th
Roseburg	2.78"	-0.04"	0.63"	26 th
Medford	0.95"	-0.43"	0.27"	26 th
Klamath Falls	0.84"	-0.53"	0.20"	26 th
Montague, CA	1.03"	-0.53"	0.37"	12 th
Mt. Shasta City, CA	8.48"	+5.55"	3.37"	6 th
Alturas, CA	1.51"	-0.05"	0.35"	26 th



Record Precipitation – Daily & Water Year (to date)

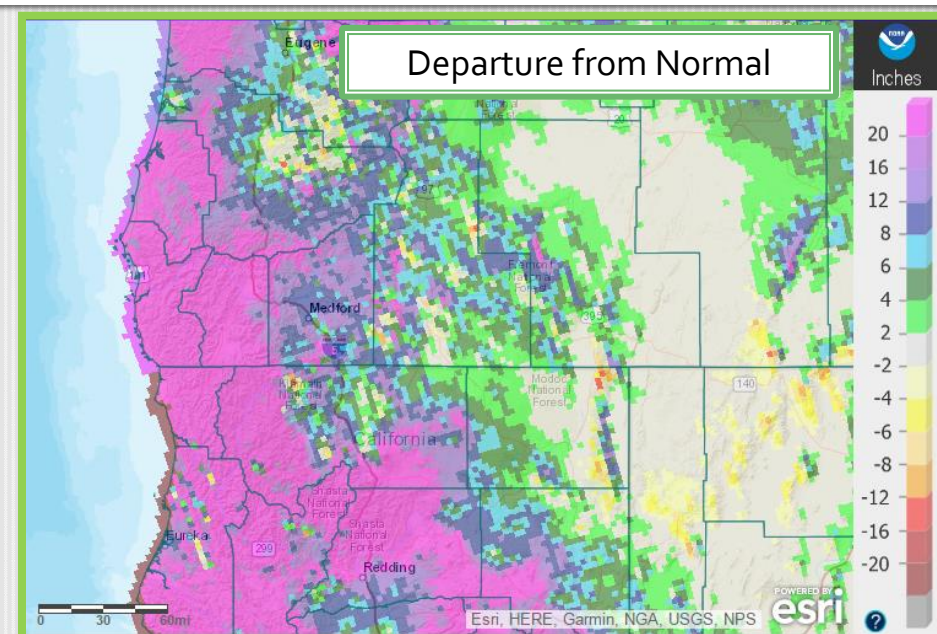
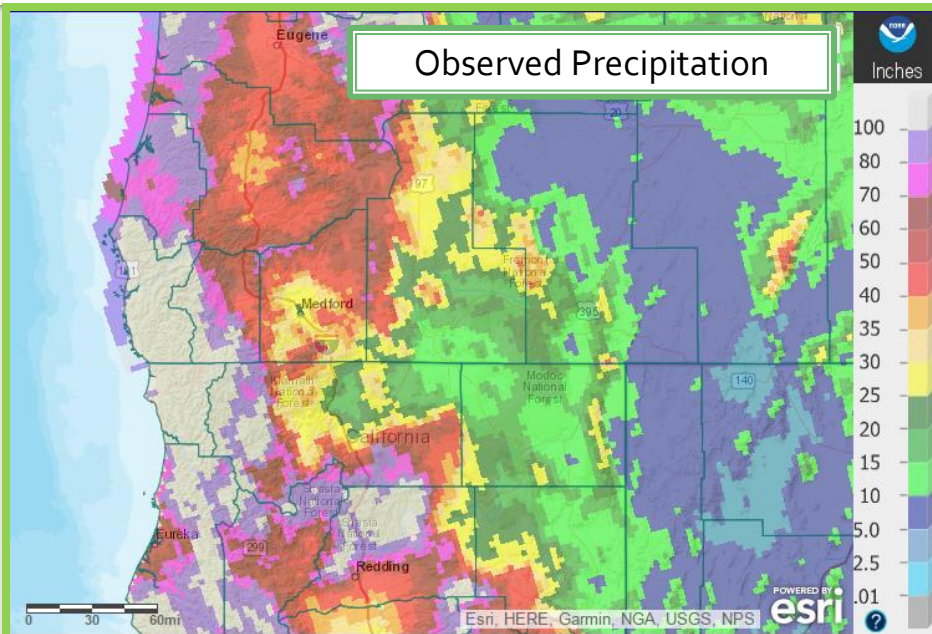
Record Daily (April) Precipitation

	New Record	Date	Old Record	Year
North Bend	0.93"	6 th	0.92"	1937
Roseburg	0.42"	17 th	tied	1958
Roseburg	0.63"	26 th	0.30"	1978
Klamath Falls	0.16"	12 th	0.13"	1992
Alturas	0.28"	13 th	0.25"	2012
Mt Shasta City	3.37"	6 th	0.58"	1967
Mt Shasta City	1.73"	12 th	tied	2012
Montague	0.37"	12 th	0.34"	1972

Water Year Record Tracker

Year to Date – 10/1/2016 – 4/30/2017	Rank	Value	First Place	Value
North Bend	11 th	74.35"	1981-1982	82.28"
Roseburg	3 rd	40.41"	1955-1956	44.66"
Medford	8 th	23.69"	1955-1956	27.59"
Klamath Falls	10 th	10.68"	2005-2006	15.48"
Alturas	1 st	12.93"	2016-2017	New Record
Mt Shasta City	3 rd	57.94"	1982-1983	63.07"
Montague	2 nd	14.90"	2005-2006	18.51"

Water Year to Date

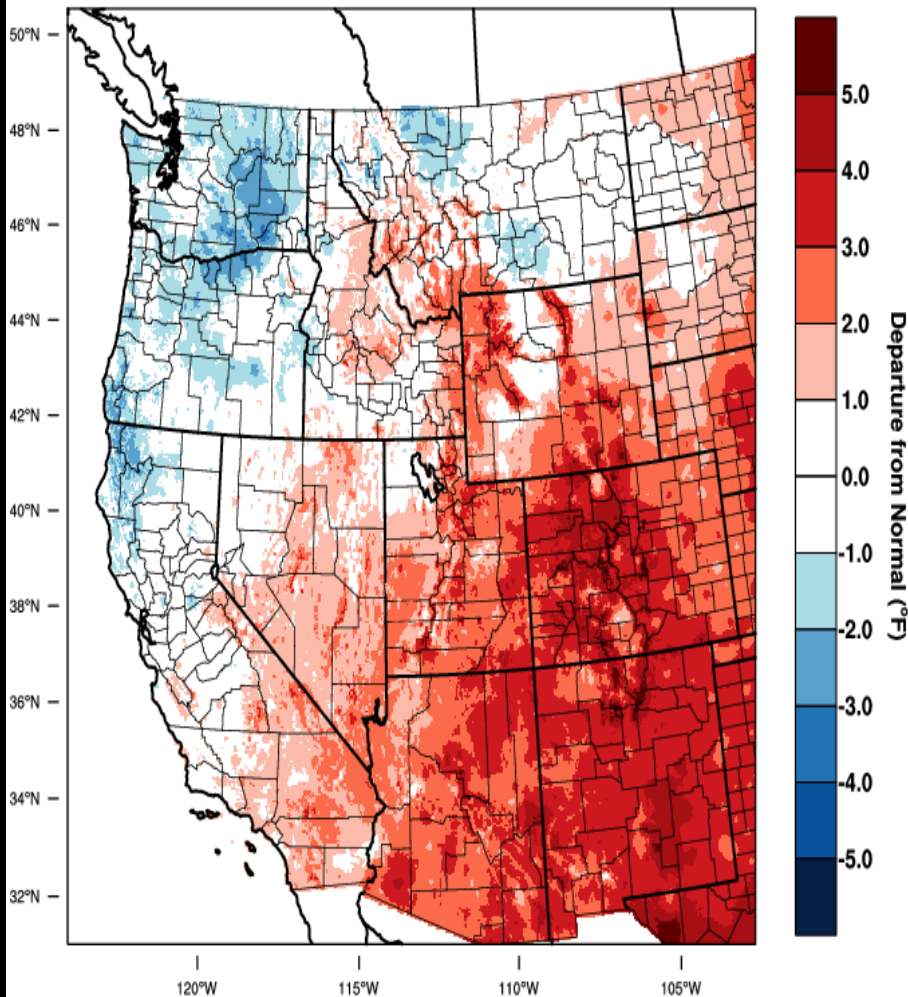


<i>Water Year-to-Date 10/1 – 4/30</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Normal</i>
North Bend	74.35"	56.87"
Roseburg	40.41"	31.01"
Medford	23.69"	15.17"
Klamath Falls	10.68"	11.10"
Montague, CA	14.90"	14.91"
Mt. Shasta City, CA	57.94"	38.39"
Alturas, CA	12.93"	10.69"

Temperatures, Water Year to Date

Western United States - Mean Temperature

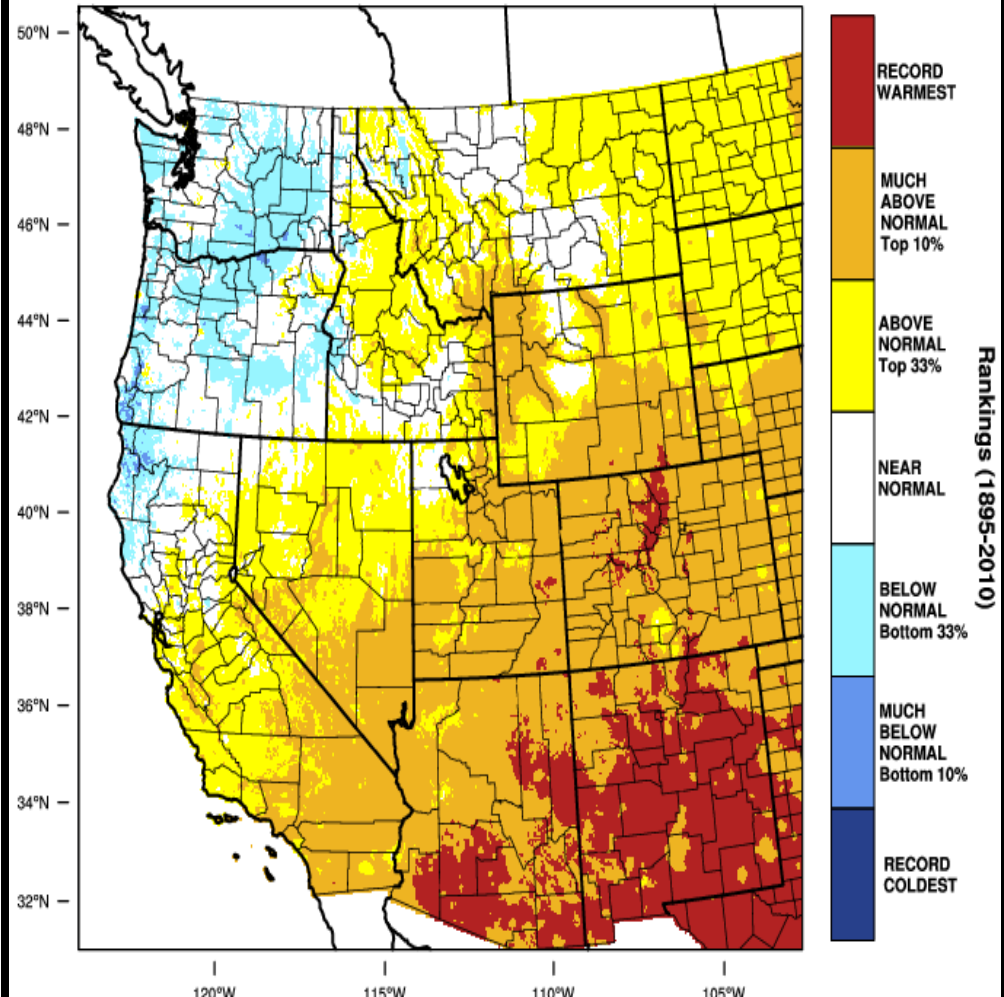
October-April 2017 Departure from 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 7 MAY 2017

Western United States - Mean Temperature

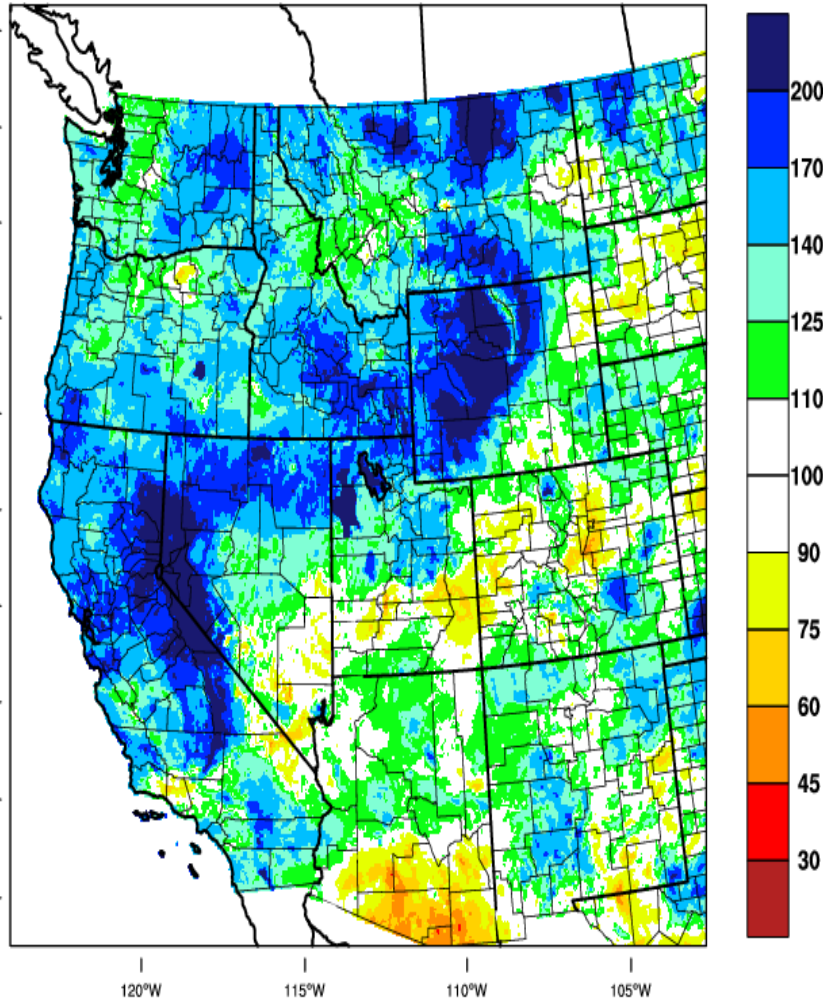
October-April 2017 Percentile



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 7 MAY 2017

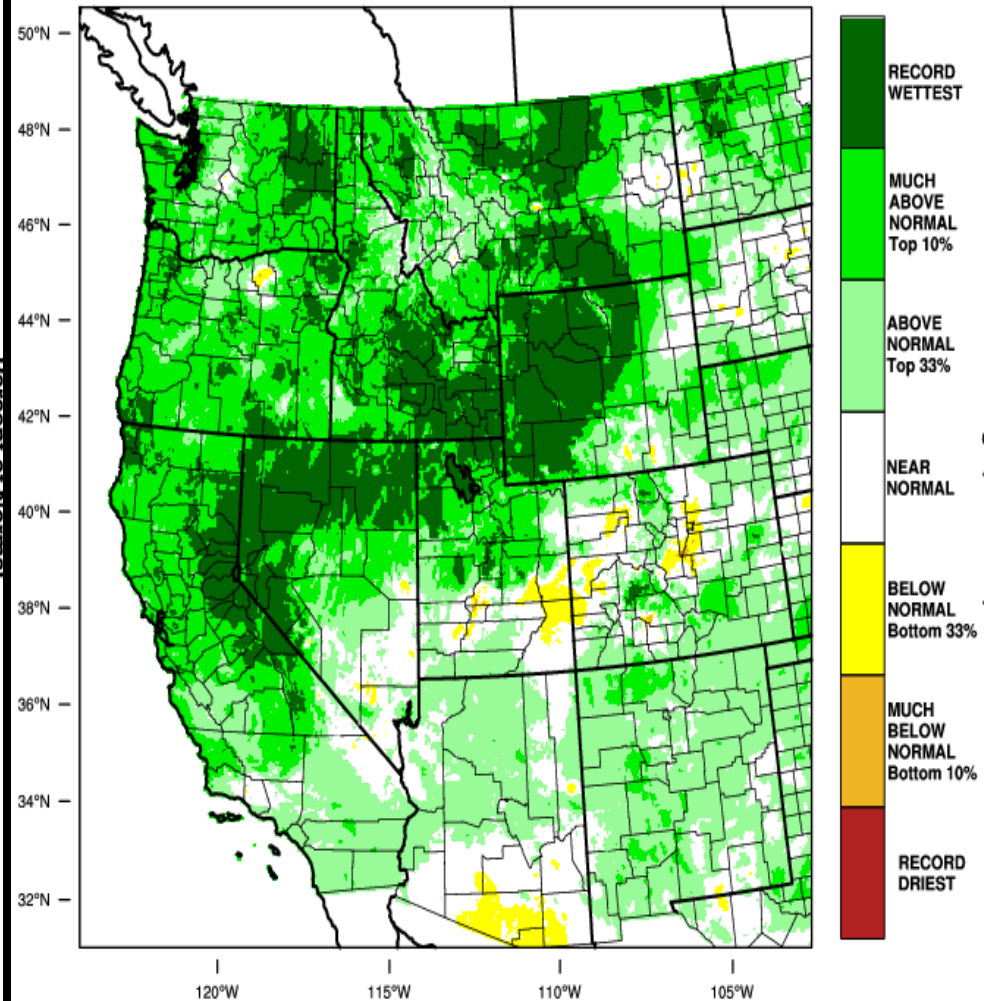
Precipitation, Water Year to Date

Western United States - Precipitation
October-April 2017 Percent of 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 7 MAY 2017

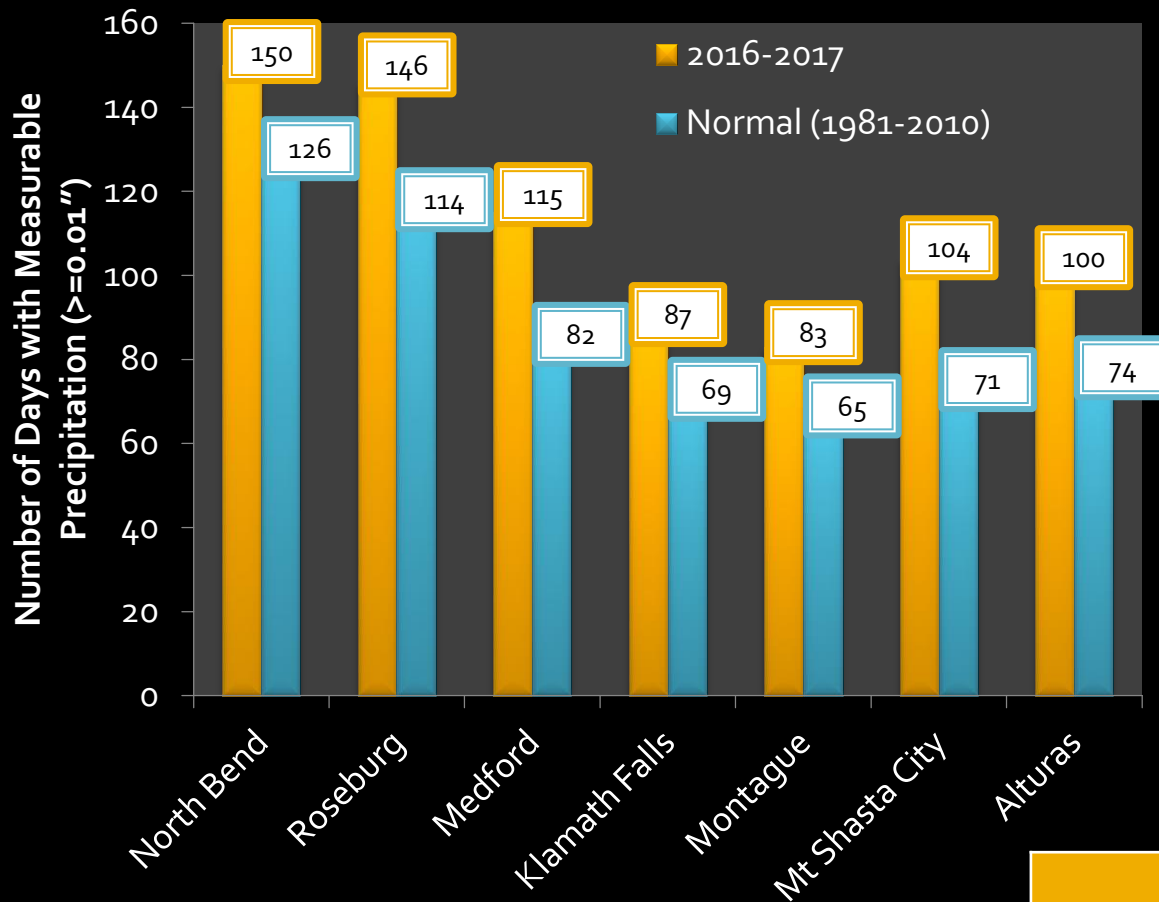
Western United States - Precipitation
October-April 2017 Percentile



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 7 MAY 2017

Rankings (1995-2010)

How Many Days of Rain?!



Not only has it been a record setting water year (to date) based on precipitation totals, but also based on the number of days with measurable precipitation. The exceptions are:

- Roseburg, which is only one day behind the current record
- Klamath Falls and Mt Shasta City which are currently tied with the record setting year.

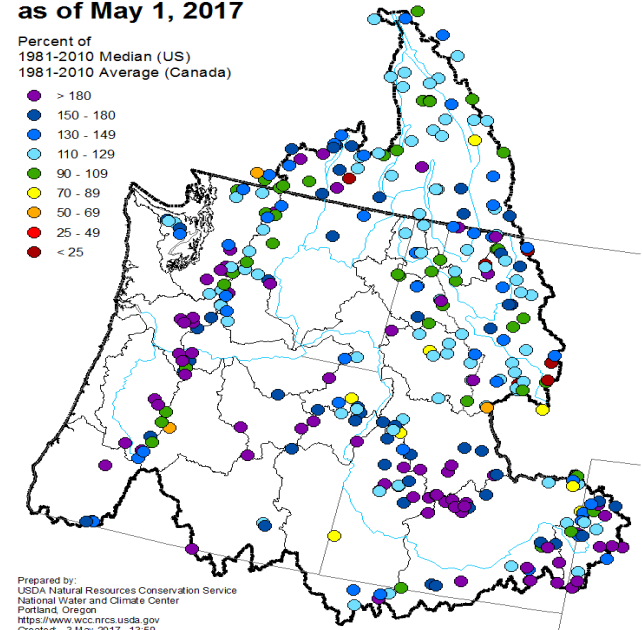
	2016-2017 (10/1 – 4/30)	Previous Record / Year
North Bend	150	146 / 1996-1997
Roseburg	146	147 / 1998-1999
Medford	115	104 / 1997-1998
Klamath Falls	87	87 / 2005-2006
Montague	83	82 / 2010-2011
Mt Shasta City	104	104 / 2005-2006
Alturas	100	92 / 2002-2003

Snowpack Status

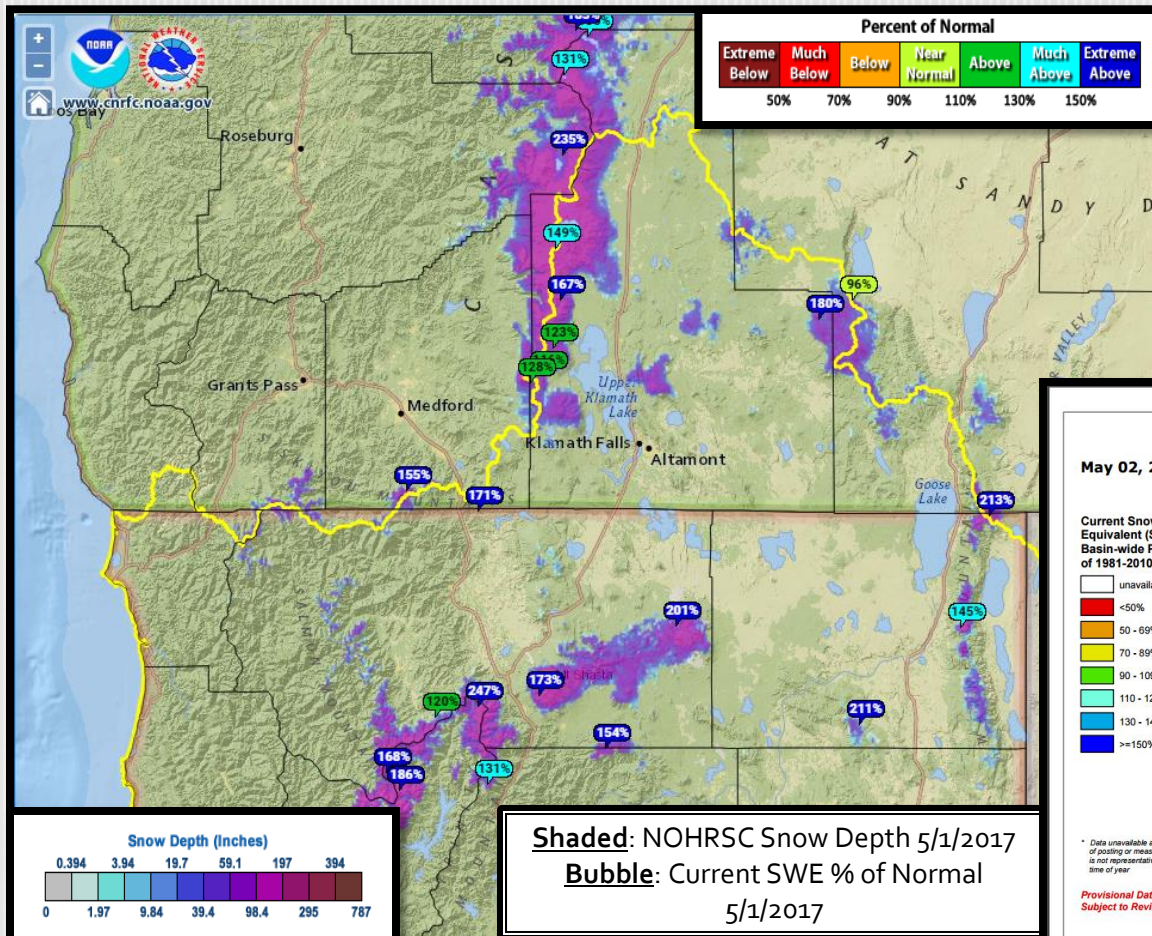
Columbia River and Pacific Coastal Basins Mountain Snowpack as of May 1, 2017

Percent of
1981-2010 Median (US)
1981-2010 Average (Canada)

- > 180
- 150 - 180
- 130 - 149
- 110 - 129
- 90 - 109
- 70 - 89
- 50 - 69
- 25 - 49
- < 25



Prepared by:
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
National Water and Climate Center
Portland, Oregon
<https://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>
Created: 3 May 2017 13:59



Shaded: NOHRSC Snow Depth 5/1/2017
Bubble: Current SWE % of Normal 5/1/2017

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

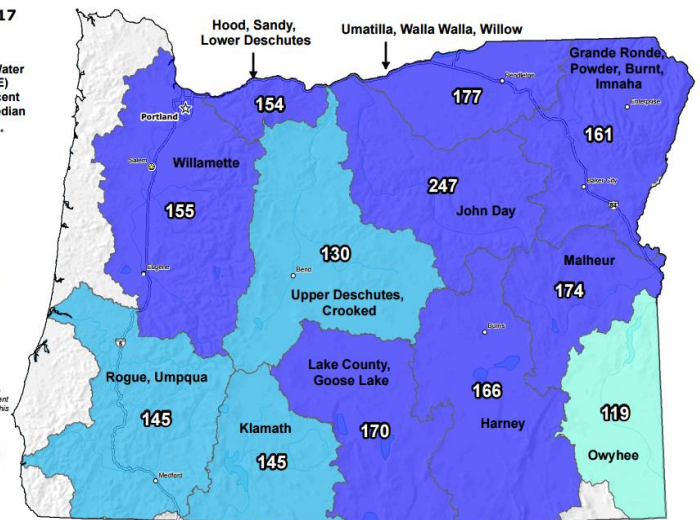
May 02, 2017

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

- unavailable *
- <50%
- 50 - 69%
- 70 - 89%
- 90 - 109%
- 110 - 129%
- 130 - 149%
- ≥150%

* 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 at 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).

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

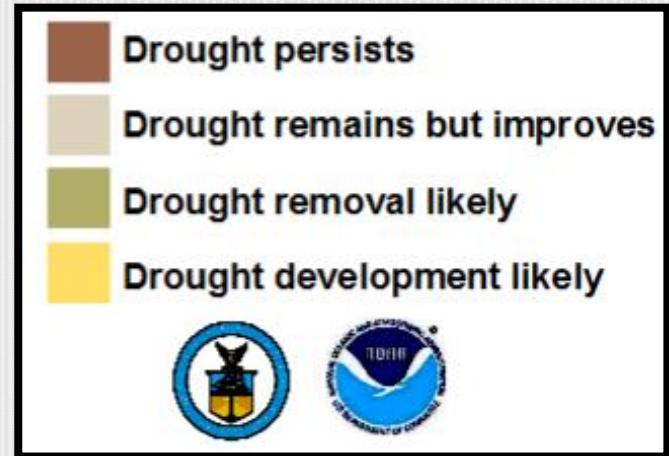
Crater Lake

Image Courtesy: NPS



	<i>Average Max Temp (°F)</i>	<i>Average Min Temp (°F)</i>	<i>Total Precipitation</i>	<i>Total Snowfall</i>	<i>Snow Depth as of: 04/30/17</i>	<i>Highest Max/ Lowest Min</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>39.7°</i>	<i>21.8°</i>	<i>9.09"</i>	<i>60.5"</i>	<i>138"</i>	<i>55° on 2nd / 9° on 9th</i>
<i>Normal (1981-2010)</i>	<i>41.8°</i>	<i>22.6°</i>	<i>5.46"</i>	<i>46.7"</i>	<i>96"</i>	<i>N/A</i>

Drought Outlook: May



***Valid for May 2017
Released April 30, 2017***

Looking Ahead: Normals for May (1981-2010)

Temperatures:

Along the coast, lows are typically in upper 40s to lower 50s with highs in the upper 50s to mid 60s. The Interior West Side valleys usually experiences average lows in the 40s to 50s and highs in the lower 60s to mid 70s. Lows are typically in the 30s across the higher mountains west of the Cascades and the majority of the East Side. Highs across even the higher elevations are typically in the 40s and 50s, while across the valleys east of the Cascades highs are typically 60-70 degrees.

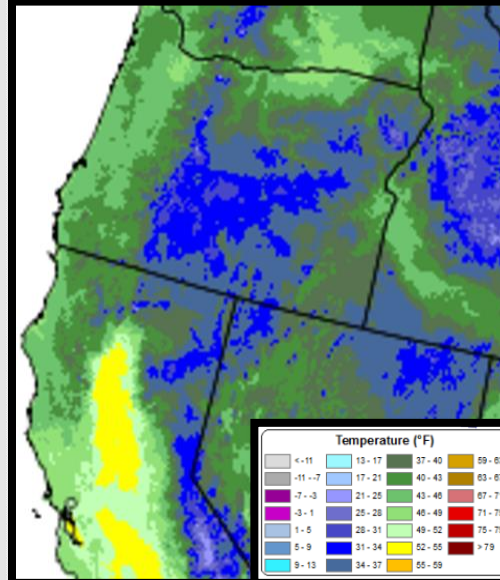
Precipitation:

Curry County usually gets 4 to 10 inches of water. South and southwest flow favored areas west of the Cascades, the Mount Shasta area, and the Cascades and Siskiyou typically get 2 to 5 inches. The remainder of the West Side has a wide range in normals, from as low as 0.50 up to 2 inches. East of the Cascades, the drier portions of Lake County can expect 0.50 to 1.5 inches, while most of the rest of the East Side gets 1 to 3 inches of water, though some of the mountains typically see up to around 4 inches.

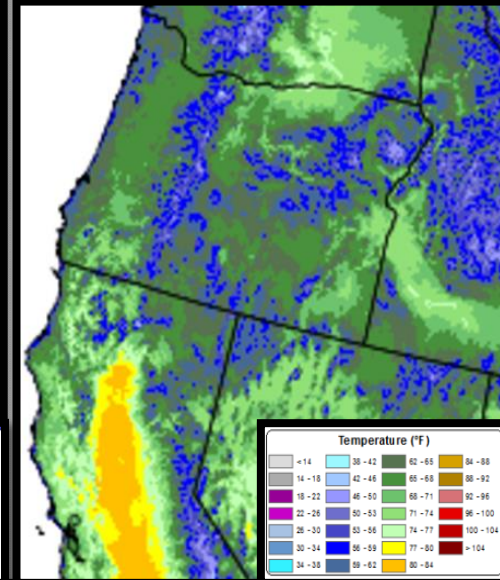
Snow:

With peak snow water equivalent normally having occurred in mid-March, we expect the snowpack to be melting off. However, in some years the snowpack peaks in April. Also, we do sometimes get mountain snow in May that slows the melting process. The snowpack typically melts off much faster on southerly slopes than northerly slopes due to exposure and related temperatures. Snowpack at and above 7000 feet usually remains through the month of May, though it is melting much of the time.

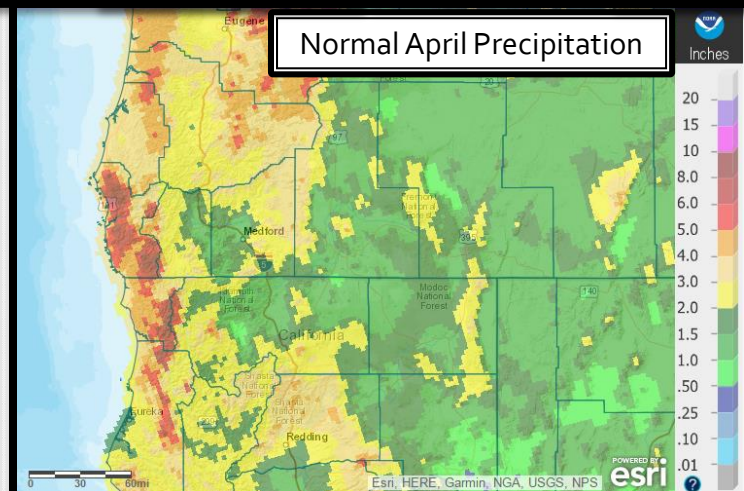
Minimum Temperatures



Maximum Temperatures



Normal April Precipitation

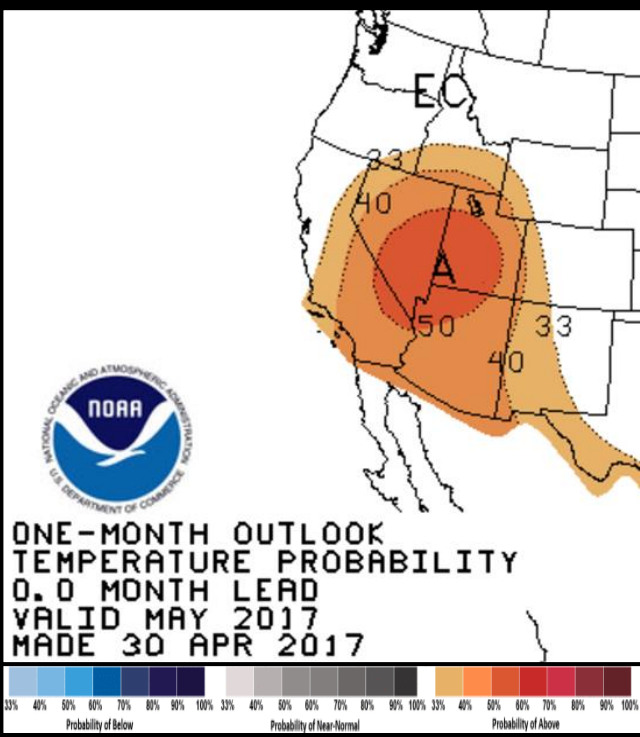


May 2017 Outlook

The official CPC forecast, which was issued at the end of April, generally indicates an increased chance for below normal precipitation across the area, but equal chances for above, below and near normal precipitation for far eastern portions of the area. Temperatures are equal chances of above, near and below normal, except over the farthest southeastern portions of the area, where probabilities slightly favor above normal temperatures.

This May is looking to be something of a roller coaster for temperatures, but leaning near to below normal per the latest short and longer range guidance for the month, as a whole. Precipitation is trending to be near normal across the area, except that convective precipitation means some areas will be above normal, while others nearby may be below normal.

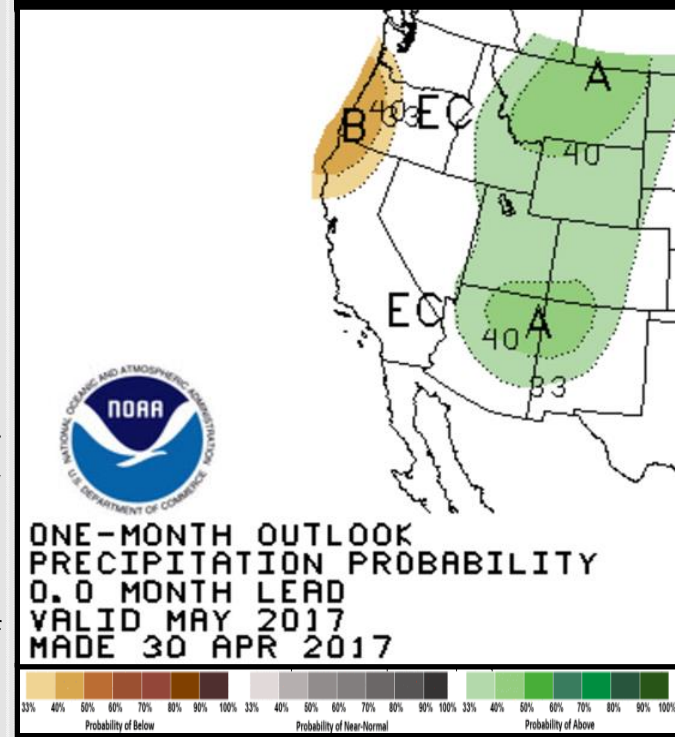
Temperatures



Expected Impact, May 2017:

This May looks to be a continuation of the near to cooler than normal conditions observed this Wet Season, therefore slowing the drying process and melting of snow that usually comes in May. The overall progression of the weather will, of course, be toward spring as the month progresses, but periodic cool downs are likely with the warmer periods. The 2nd week of May looks to be very similar to the first week of the month, with warmer than normal temperatures followed quickly by cooler than normal temperatures, with potentially damaging frost and freezing temperatures through mid-month west of the Cascades. Cold upper level troughs expected through much of the month will lead to periods of showers and thunderstorms and even mountain snow, at times.

Precipitation



*A note about Period of Record (POR)

When looking at record setting events, it's important to consider the length and completeness of the site's period of record (POR). For example, a site may have records back to the early 1900's, but if there is a significant portion of the record missing, it's possible that the POR is not encompassing another significant event that may have surpassed the event in question. Therefore, "record setting" should be considered relative to the completeness/length of POR. To help keep records in context, the POR for each climate site is listed below:

- **North Bend: 1/1/1902 – Present**
- **Roseburg: 4/1/1900 – Present**
 - ❖ *Missing:*
 - 05/1900-01/1901
 - 03/1901-06/1902
 - 08/1902-12/1930
 - 10/1965-06/1997
- **Medford: 3/11/1911 – Present**
- **Klamath Falls: 1/1/1948 – Present**
 - ❖ *Missing:*
 - 08-10/1970
 - 1971-10/1997
- **Montague, CA: 7/1/1948 – Present**
 - ❖ *Missing:*
 - 08-09/1952
 - 02/1953-06/2000
- **Mount Shasta City, CA: 4/15/1948 – Present**
 - ❖ *Missing:*
 - 10/1984-01/1985
 - 10/1985-03/1986
 - 09/1986-07/1997
- **Alturas, CA: 6/1/1998 – Present**
 - ❖ *Missing:*
 - 08/1998