National Weather Service Medford

2022: January 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).

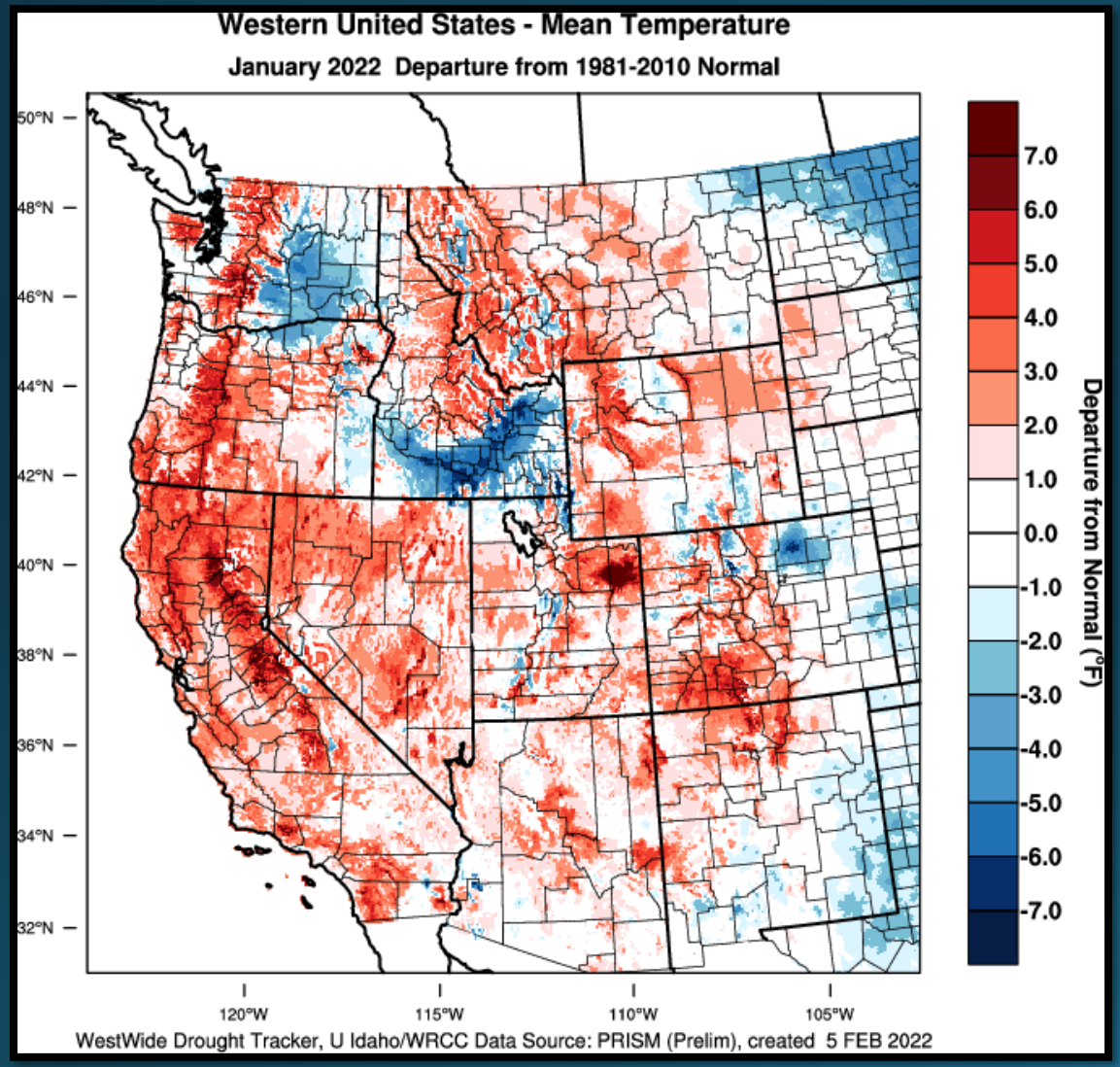
January 2022 Weather Review

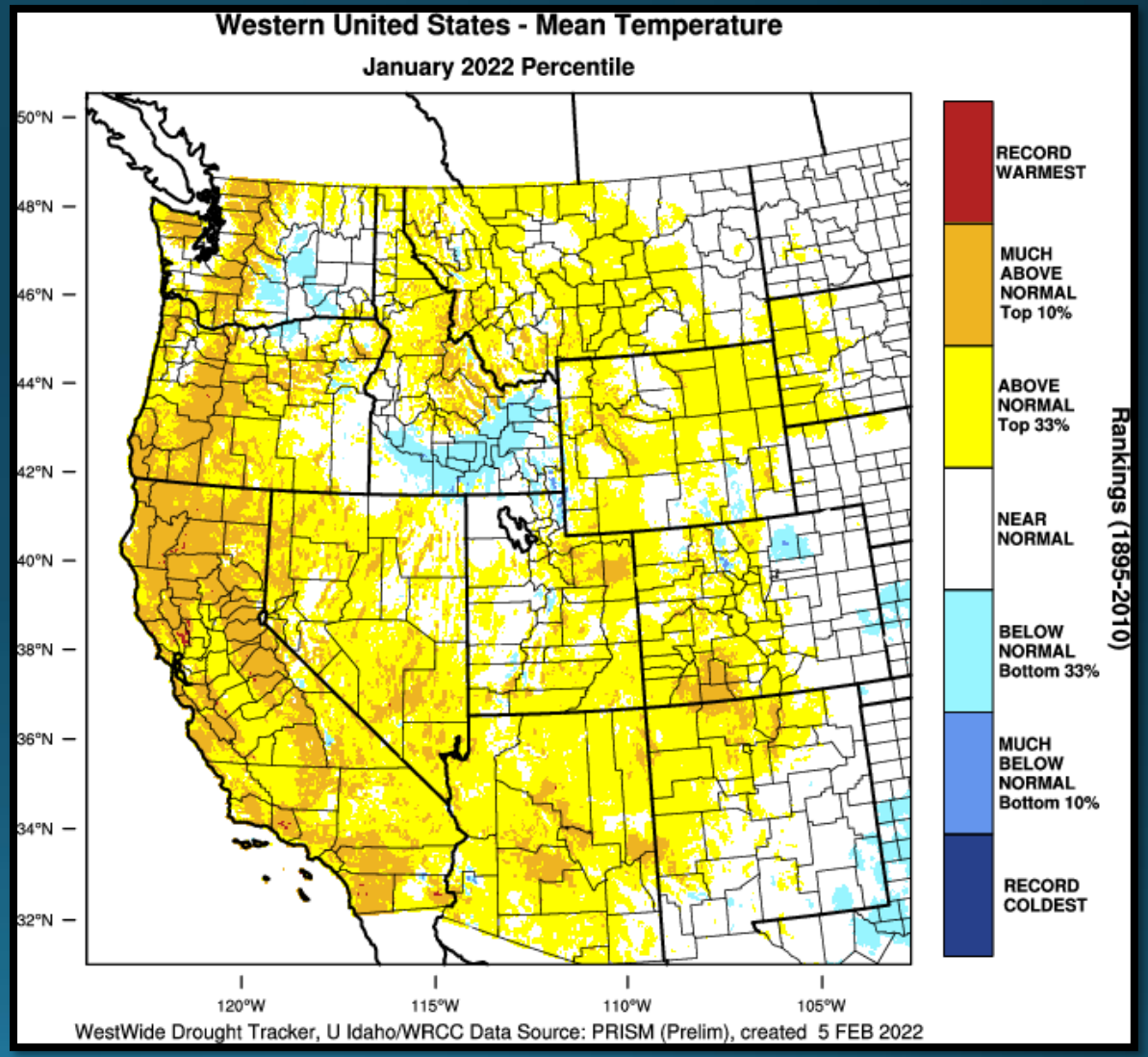
Active weather from the end of December carried on into the first week of January. A strong front moved into the region on the 3rd which brought very strong winds to the area. In fact, the Medford 03/12z upper air sounding recorded the strongest winds on record (since 1948) at the 700 mb level. In addition, historically high surf heights of 24-27 feet affected the area beaches and this contributed to coastal flooding concerns. Another strong front moved through the region later that week, around the 6th/7th, however, it would be the last significant system of the month.

After the first week of the month, high pressure took control for much of the remainder of January, leading to much warmer and drier conditions than normal. Outside of a weak front on the 13th and again on the 20th, which delivered light precipitation to the coast and areas north of the Umpqua Divide, the region remained dry during one of the wettest months of the wet season. The lack of precipitation, and an unusually dry air mass for January, greatly inhibited valley fog formation. This allowed for maximum radiational cooling, which led to below normal overnight temperatures. Conversely, the lack of cloud cover in the mornings allowed for full heating during the day, and this led to well above normal high temperatures and large diurnal temperatures swings. In fact, the greatest number of days with highs over 50°F for the month of January was recorded at the Medford Airport.

With high pressure in control, the region dealt with stagnant conditions for much of the month, especially for the last two weeks when high pressure was strongest and most persistent. Despite the cold nights, the month of January ended with above normal temperatures. Also, with high pressure blocking the storm track, January ended with well below normal precipitation, which only served to worsen drought conditions by month's end.

January 2022 Observed Temperatures





Average Temperatures

	Average (°F)	Departure from Normal	Average Max (°F)	Departure from Normal	Average Min (°F)	Departure from Normal
North Bend	47.9	0.6°	56.0	2.5°	39.8	-1.2°
Roseburg	43.7	0.1°	51.2	1.1°	36.3	-0.8°
Medford	42.6	2.2°	54.2	6.0°	30.9	-1.6°
Klamath Falls	34.0	2.5°	46.9	5.4°	21.0	-0.5°
Montague, CA	38.4	1.7°	51.9	4.7°	24.8	-1.4°
Mt. Shasta City, CA	39.6	3.2°	51.4	7.2°	27.7	-0.9°
Alturas, CA	33.3	1.5°	48.5	5.5°	18.1	-2.5°

Monthly Max & Min Temperatures

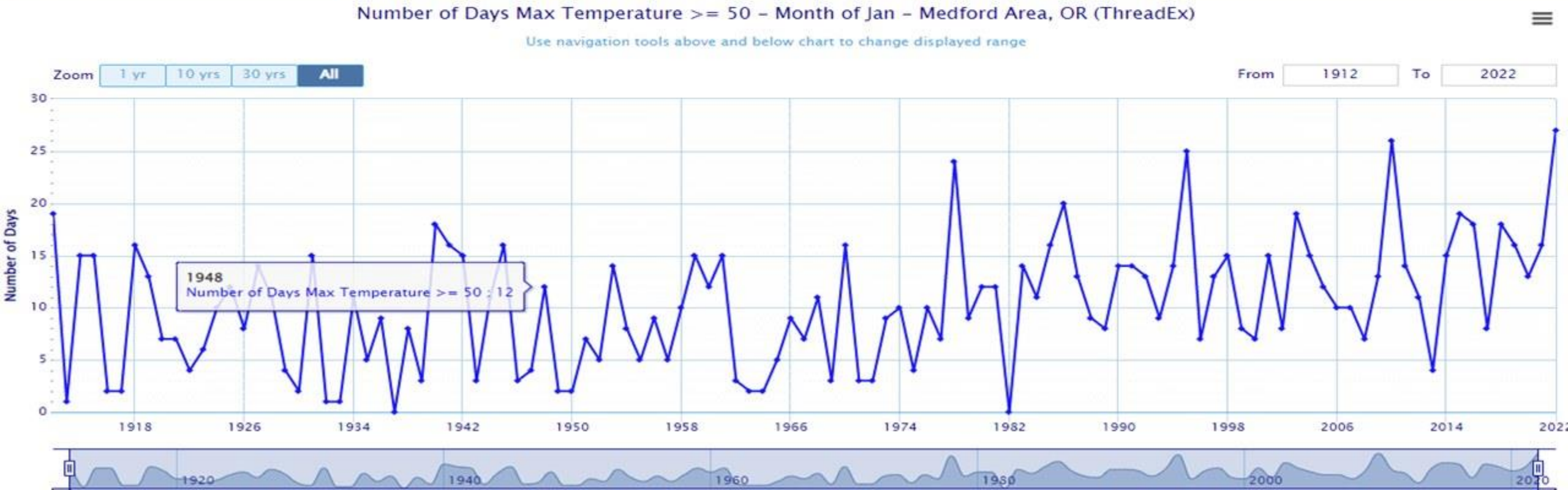
	Max (°F)	Date(s)	Min (°F)	Date(s)
North Bend	69°	23rd	31°	1st & 27th
Roseburg	60°	20th	29°	29th & 30th
Medford	61°	27th & 28th	23°	27th
Klamath Falls	58°	22nd	-1°	1st
Montague, CA	65°	22nd	14°	26th & 27th
Mt. Shasta City, CA	65°	12th	14°	1st
Alturas, CA	61°	12th	-10°	1st

	Date	Record High	Old Record/Year
North Bend	23rd	69°	66° / 1968
Klamath Falls	12th	54°	53° / 1959
Montague	6th	56°	55° / 1962
	22nd	65°	62° / 1981
Mt Shasta City	11th	58°	Ties w/ 1981
	12th	65°	62° / 1983

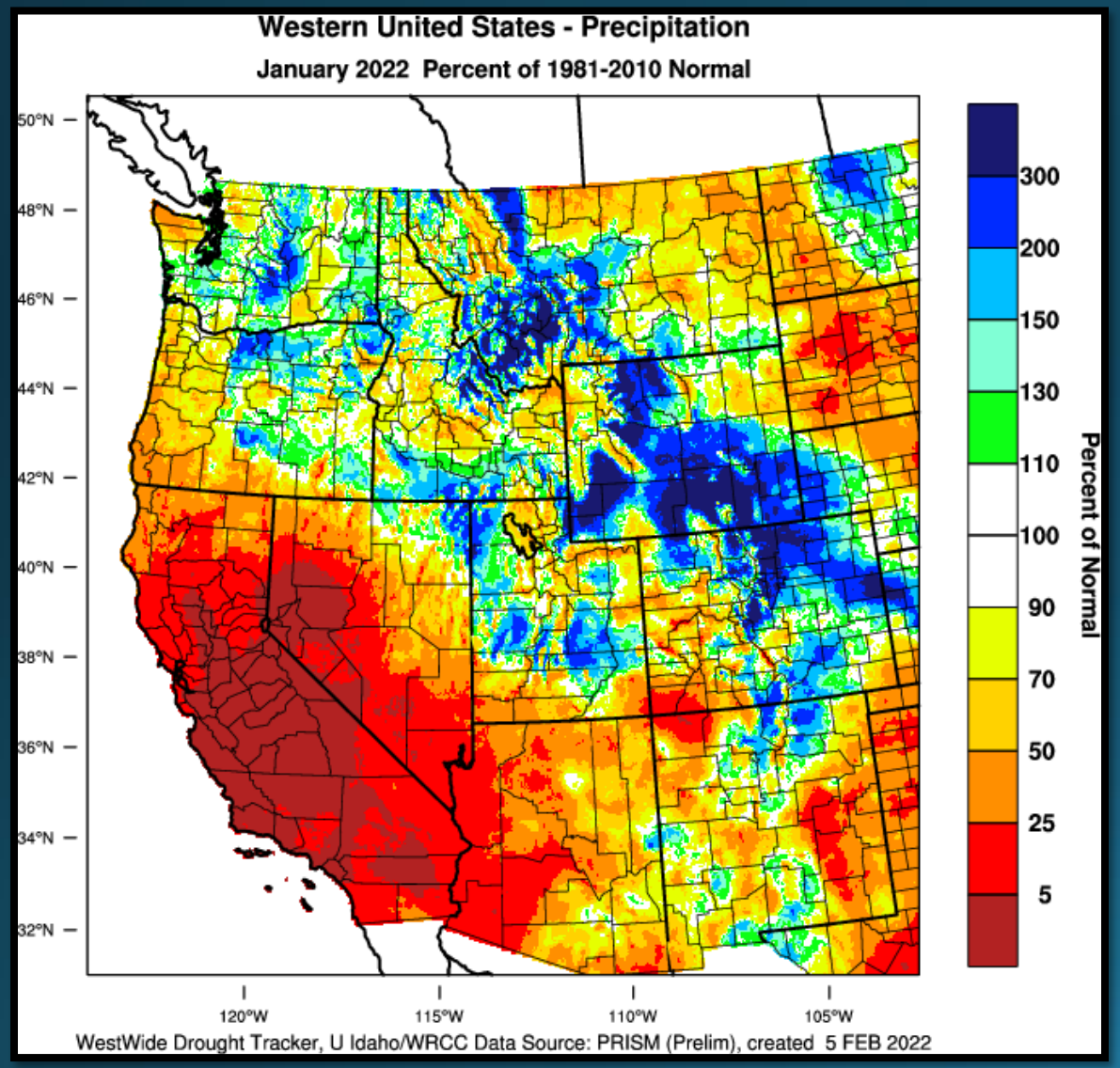
January Records Broken

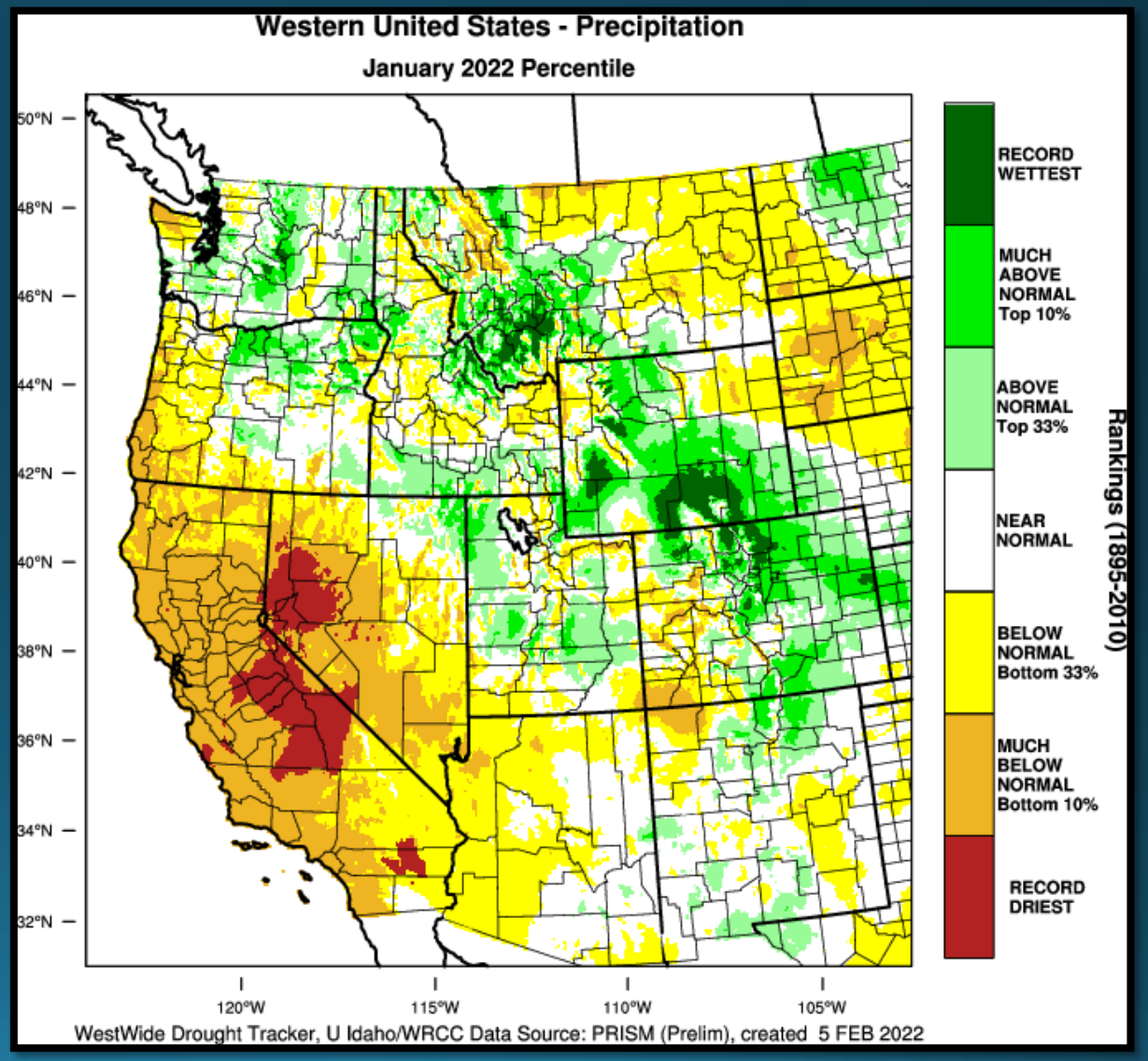
Rank	Year	Number of Days Max Temperature >= 50
1	2022	27
2	2010	26
3	1995	25
4	1978	24
5	1986	20
6	2015	19
-	2003	19
-	1912	19
9	2018	18
-	2016	18
-	1940	18
12	2021	16
-	2019	16
-	1985	16
-	1970	16

The last time the high temperature came in at less than 50 degrees at Medford Rogue Valley International Airport was on January 4th - a stretch of 26 consecutive days at or above 50F! This blew away the longest January run of temperatures >=50F, which was 16 days in January 1986. We've also had a total of 27 days of >=50F this month which broke the January record of 26 days set in 2010. It is truly remarkable, since the average maximum temperature at the beginning of the month is 46F and by month's end, it is 51F. So far, January 2022 ranks as the 10th warmest January on record, buoyed by these mild days, but kept in check by colder nights.

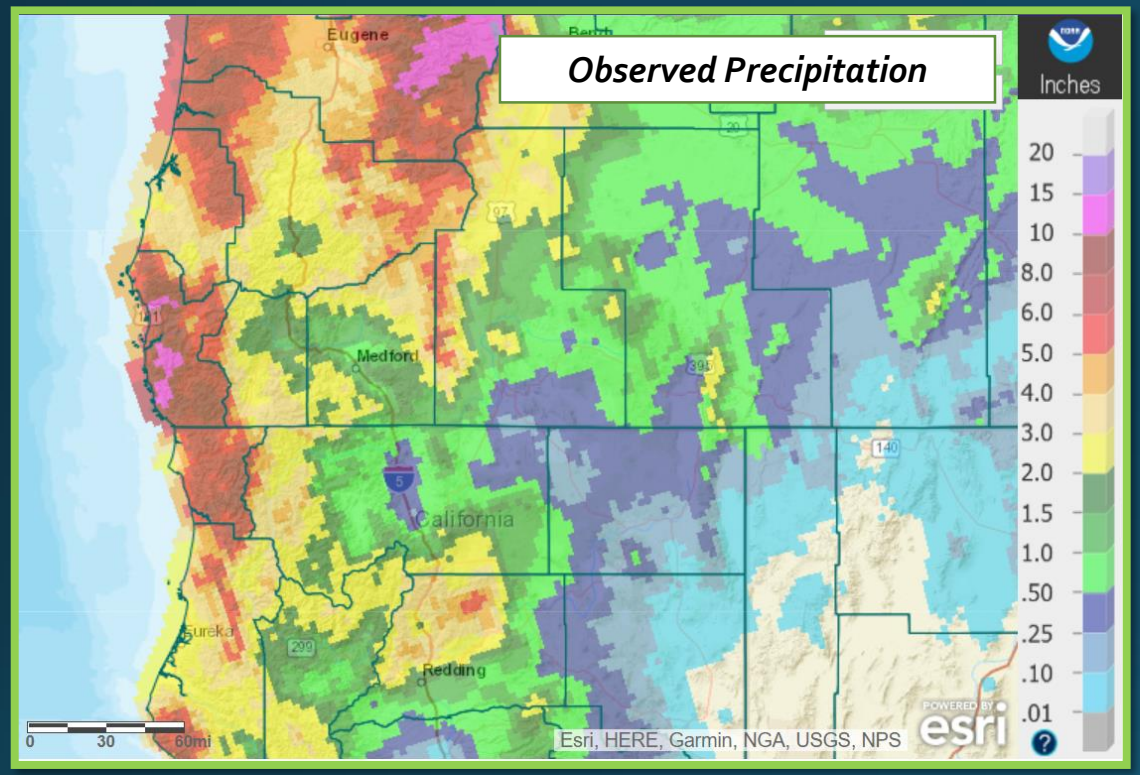


January 2022 Observed Precipitation

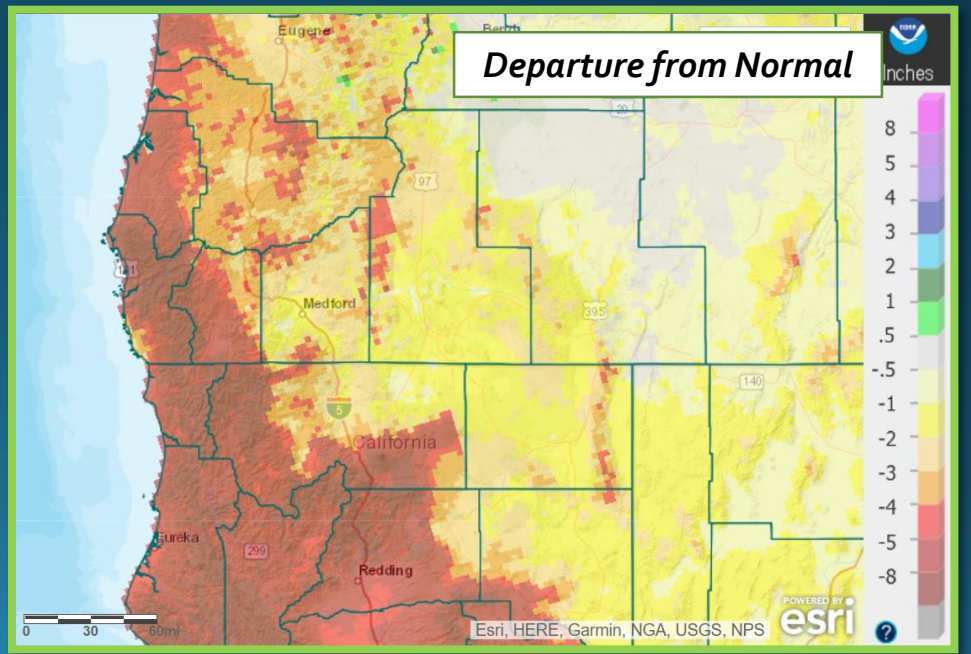




Monthly Precipitation



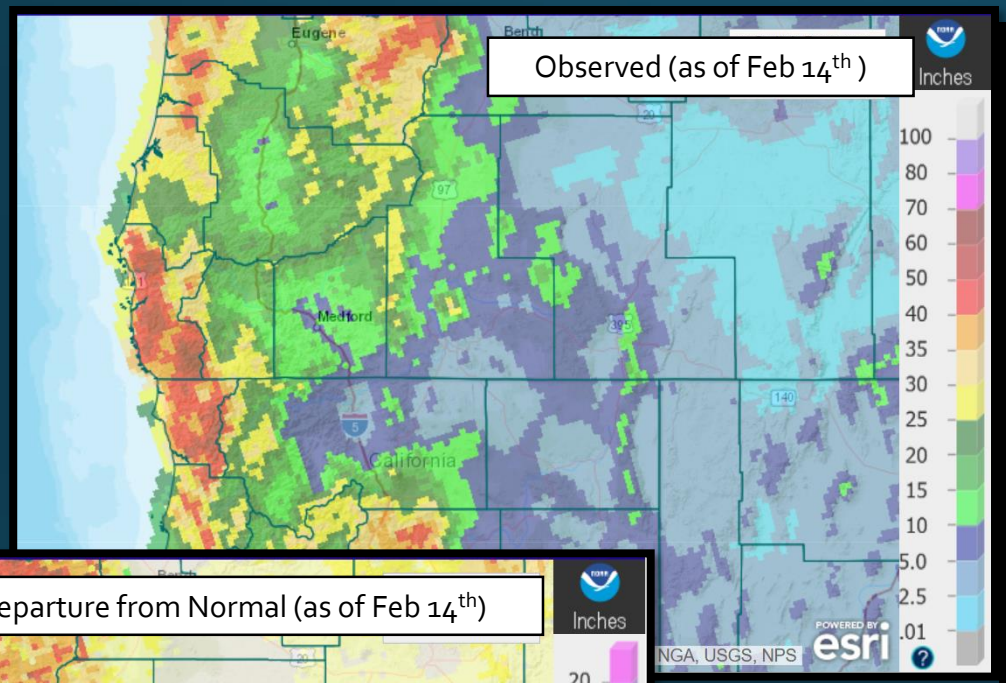
	Total	Departure from Normal	Greatest 24-hr Total	Date(s)
North Bend	*3.40*	*-6.03"*	*M*	*M*
Roseburg	*2.68*	*-2.14"*	*M*	*M*
Medford	*0.61*	*-2.11"*	*M*	*M*
Klamath Falls	*0.34*	*-1.17"*	*M*	*M*
Montague, CA	*0.24*	*-1.19"*	*M*	*M*
Mt. Shasta City, CA	*0.96*	*-5.33"*	*M*	*M*
Alturas, CA	*0.11*	*-1.20"*	*M*	*M*

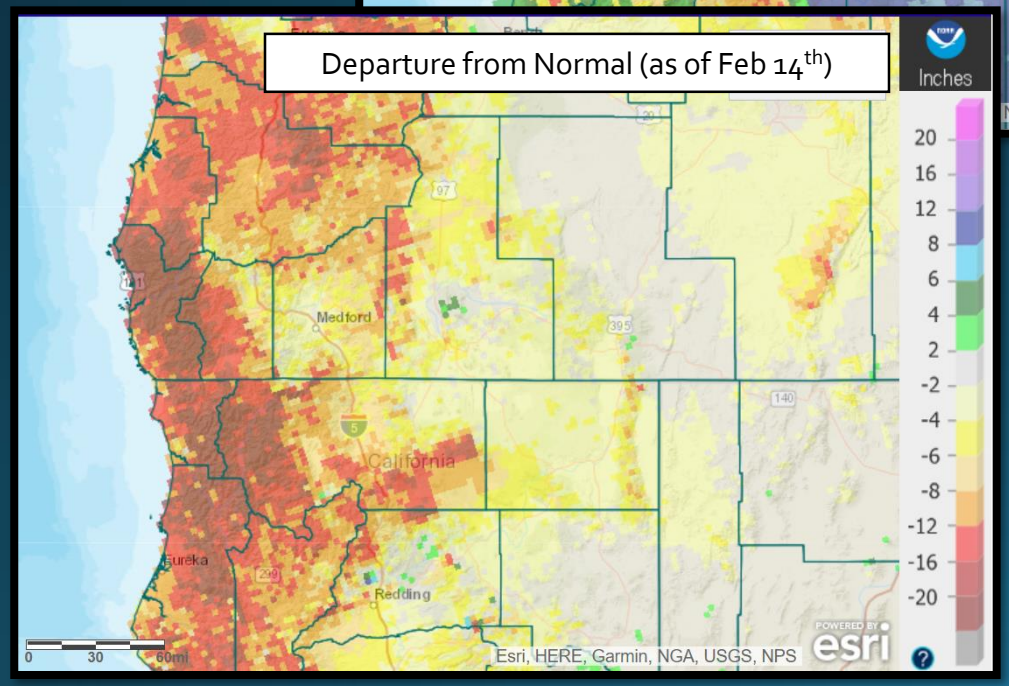


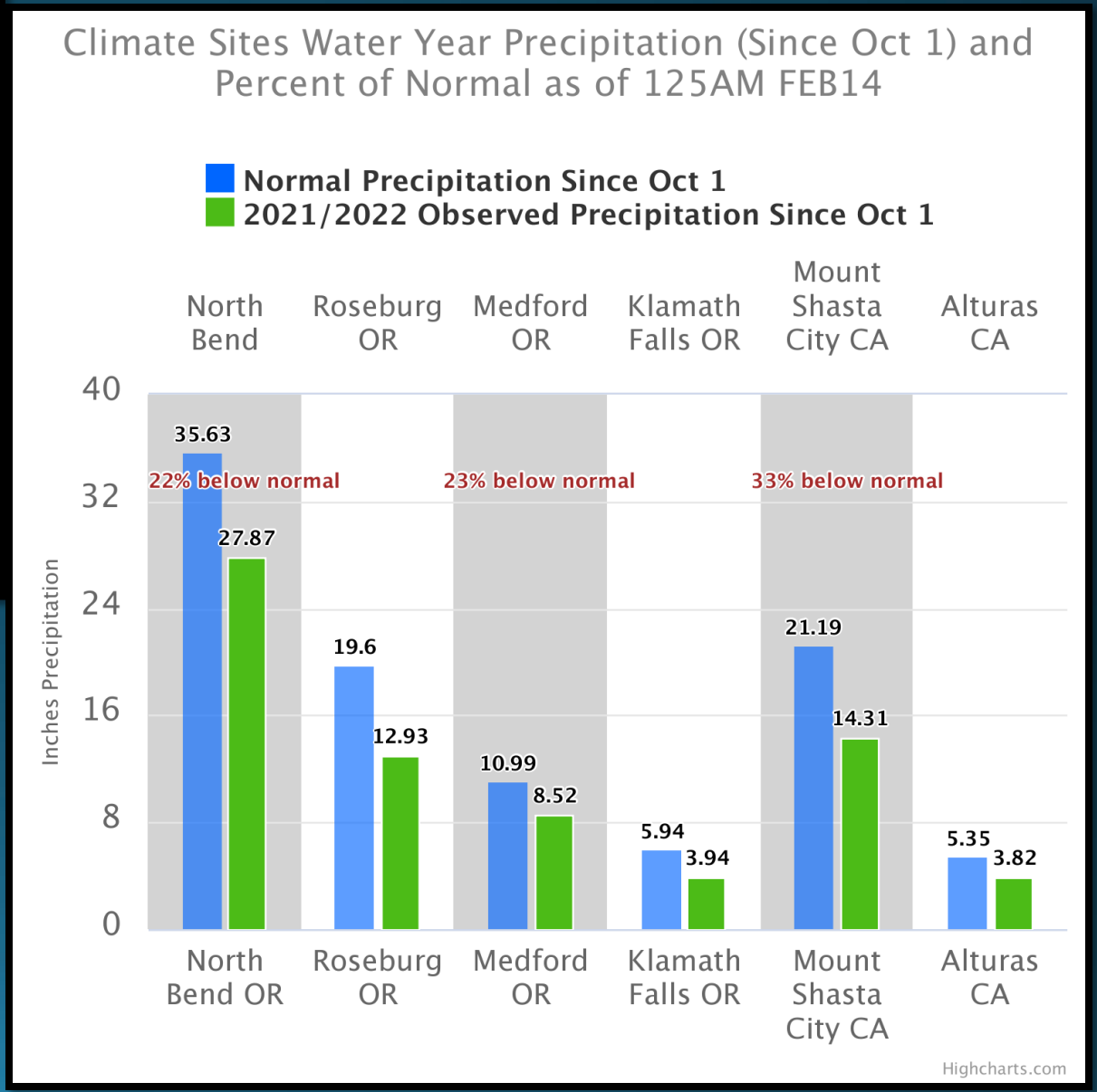
Record Precipitation

	Date / Amount	Old Record / Year
Roseburg	3rd / 1.71"	1.64" / 2007

Water Year Status (As of Feb 14th)



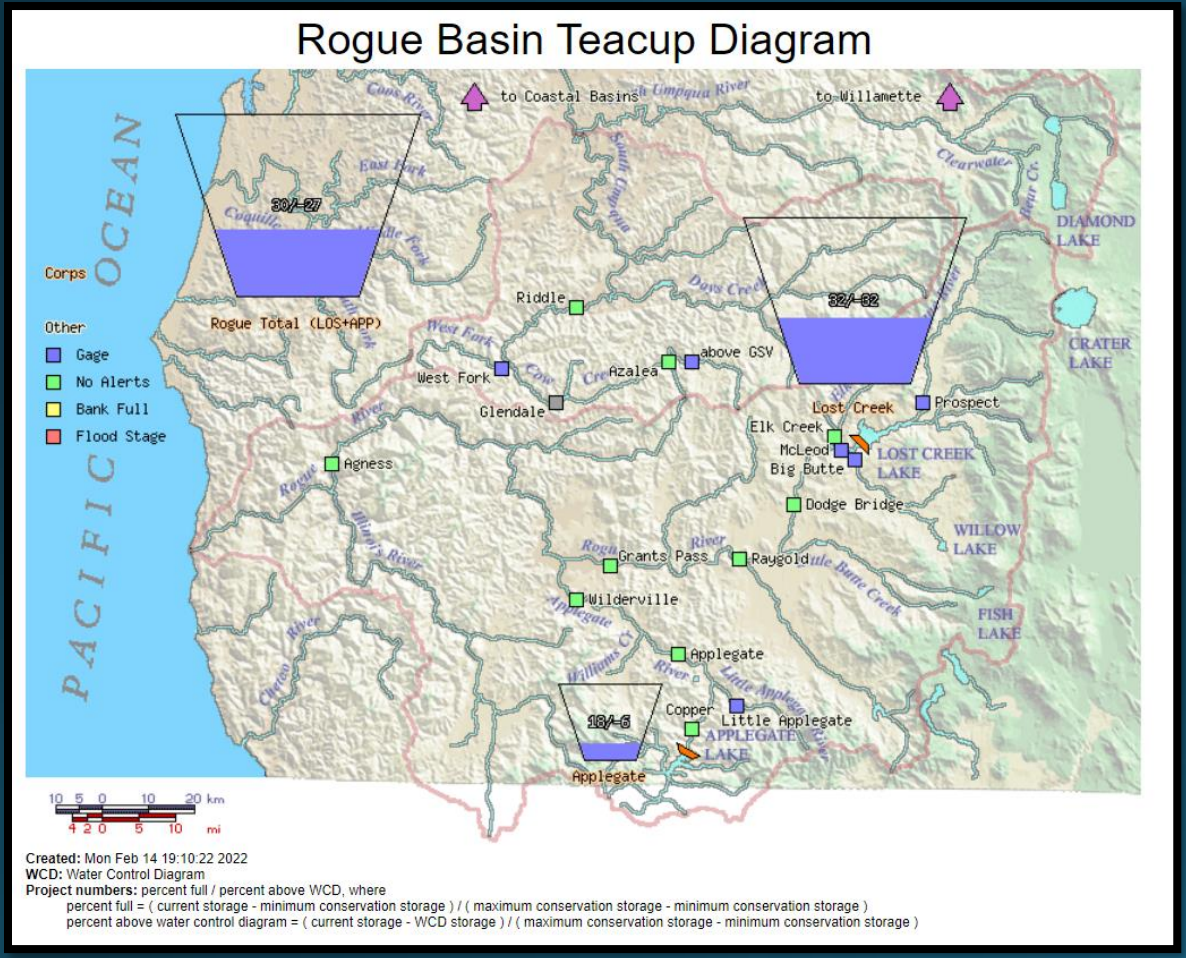


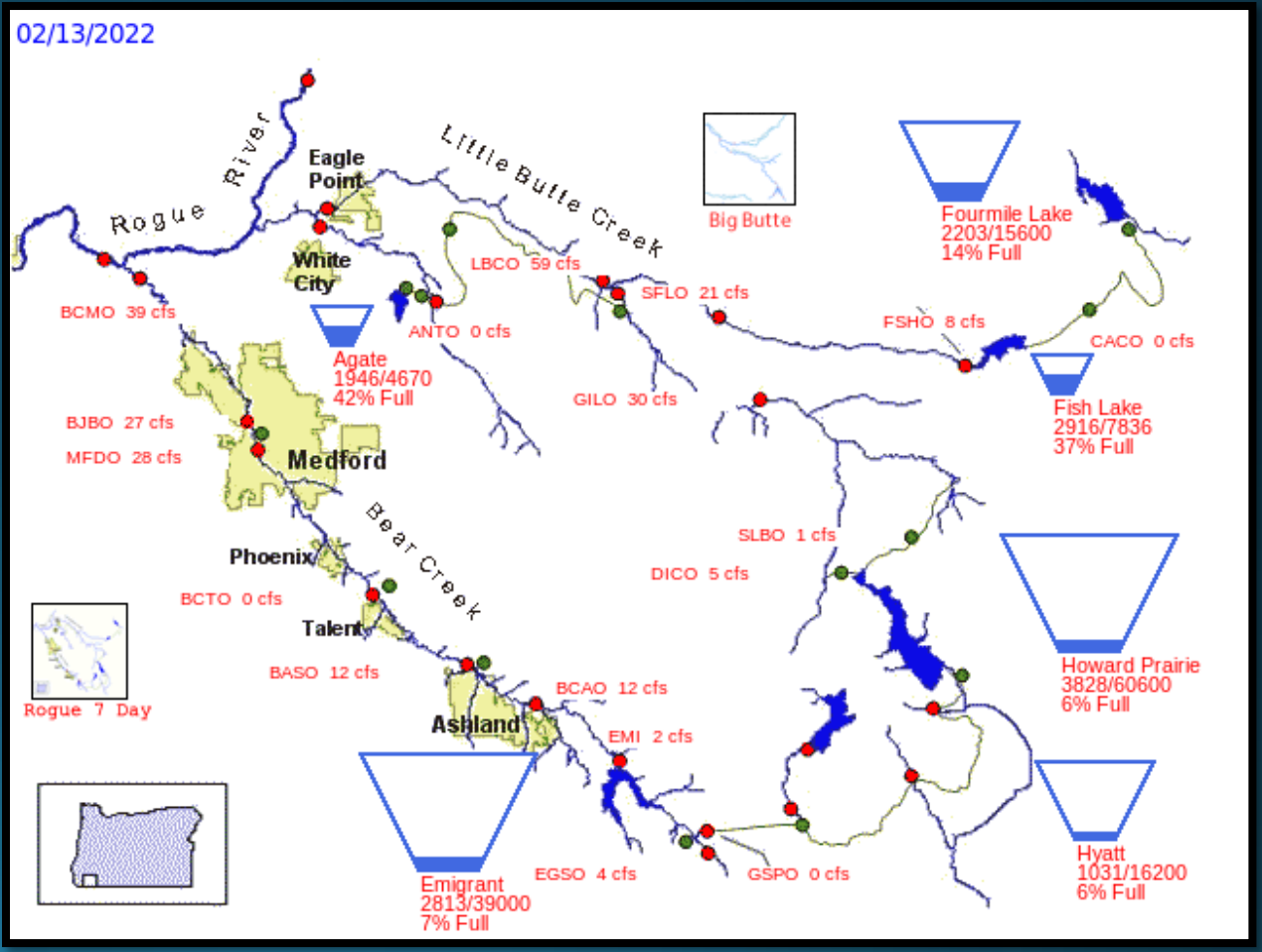


Reservoir Status

Data courtesy of US Army Corps of Engineers

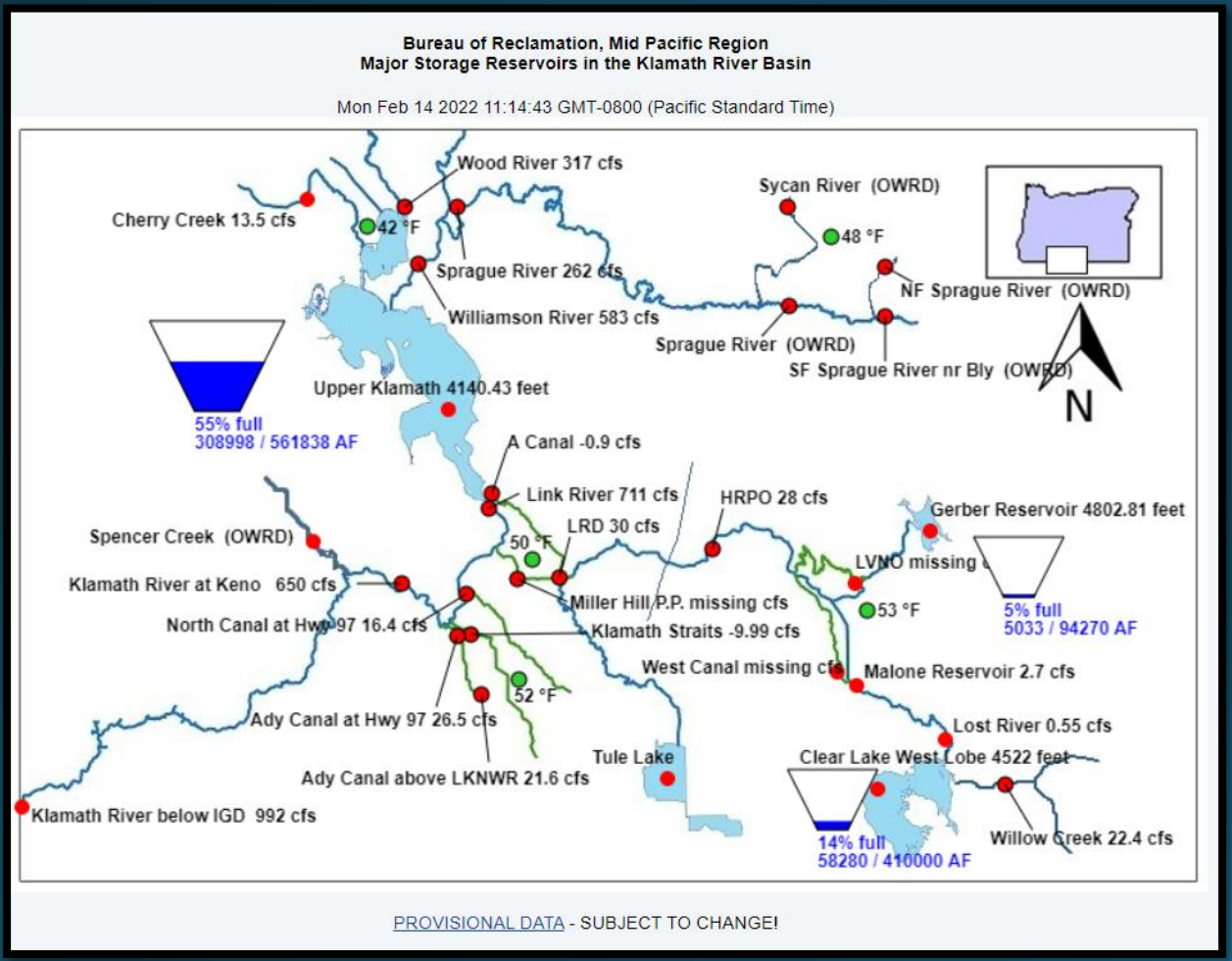
Data courtesy of Bureau of Reclamation

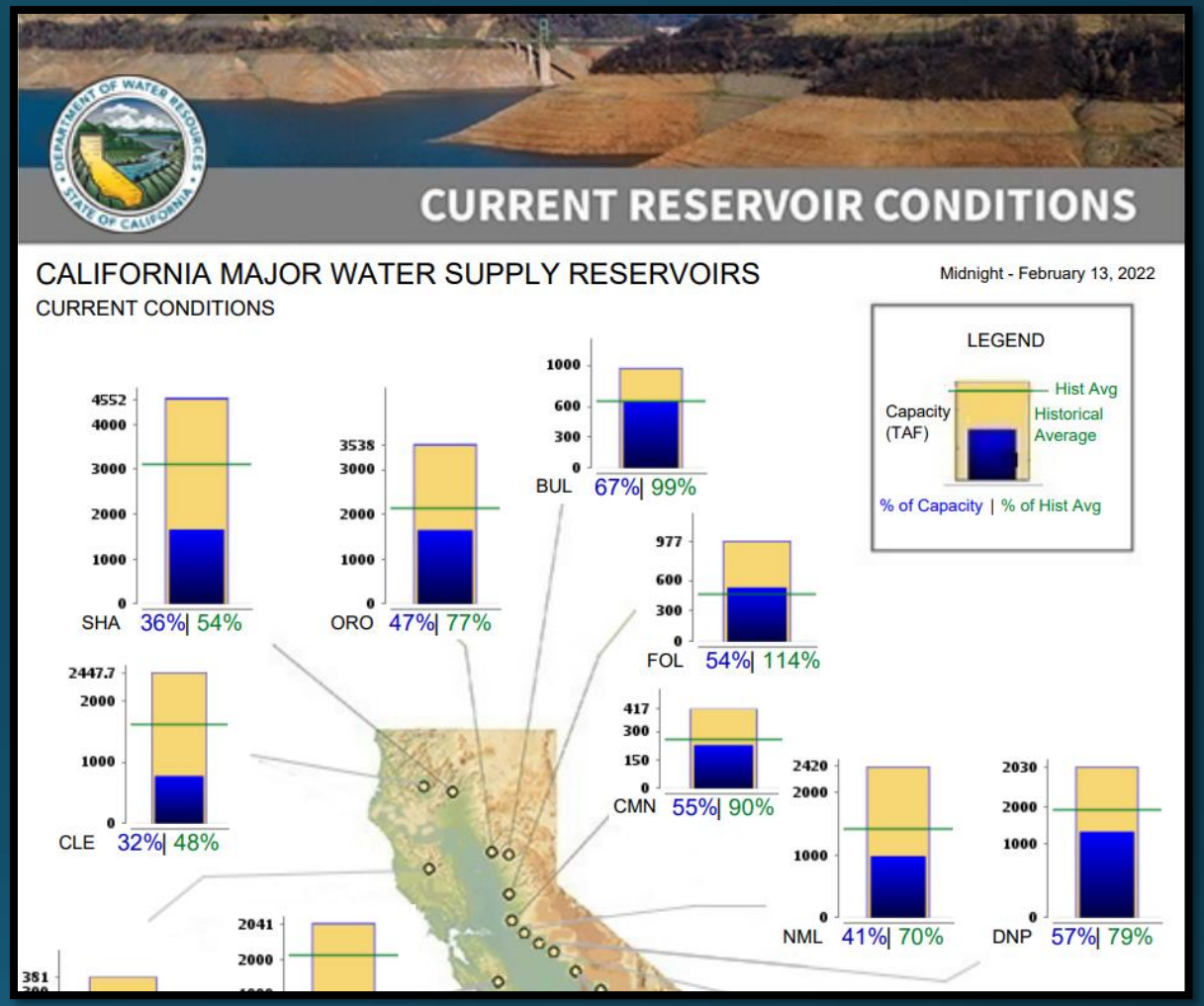




Reservoir Status

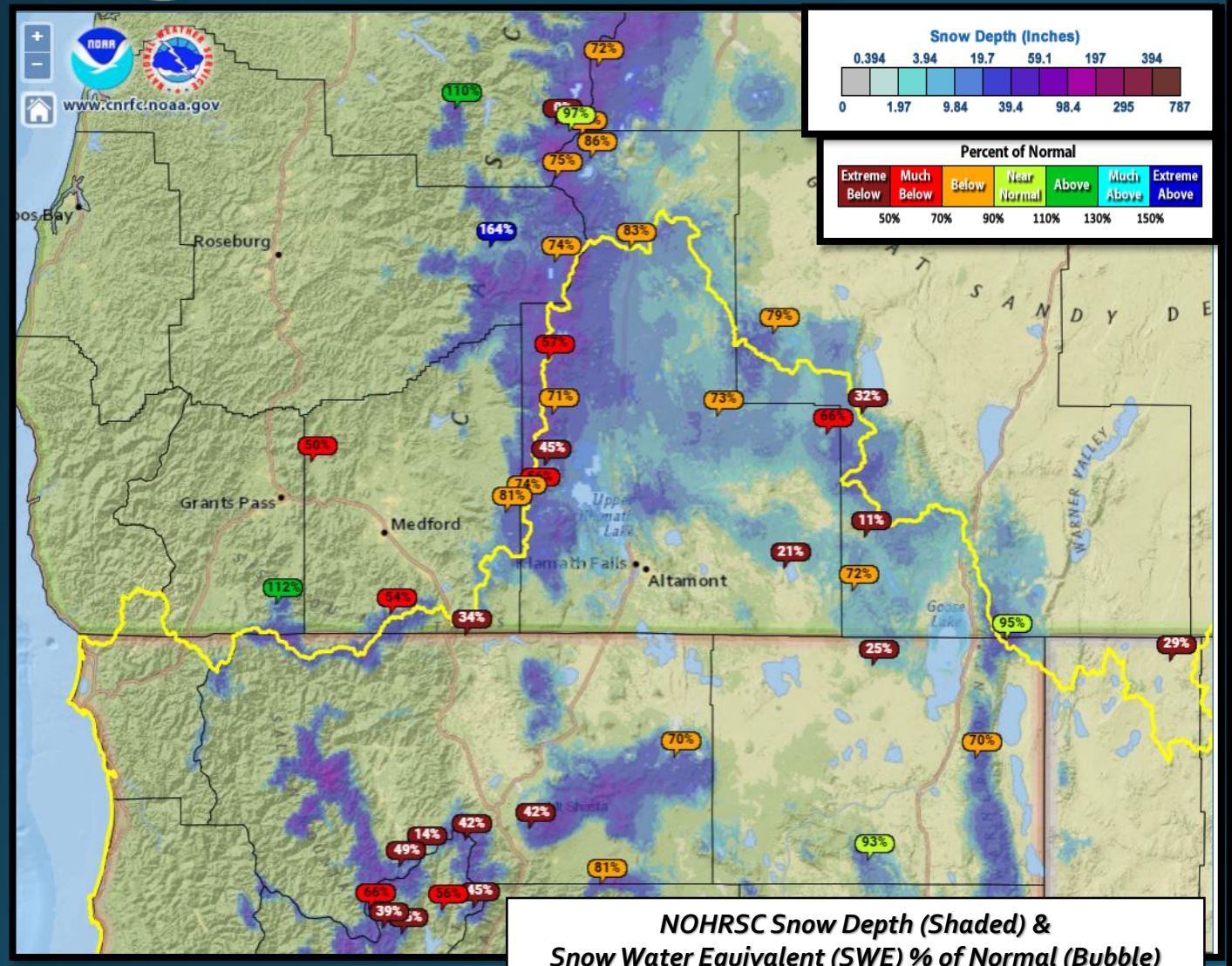
Klamath River Basin. Data courtesy of Bureau of Reclamation



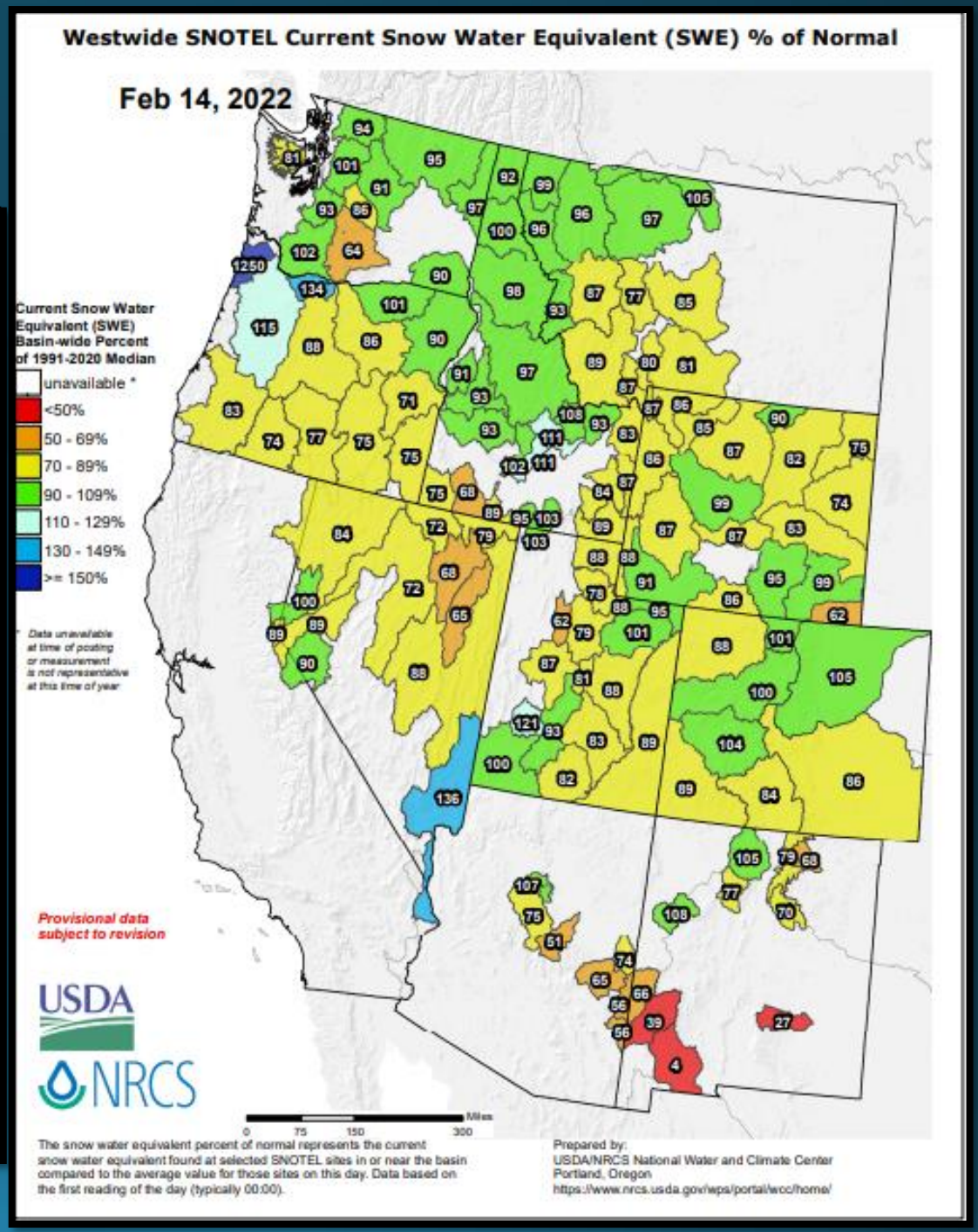


Northern California. California Data Exchange Center

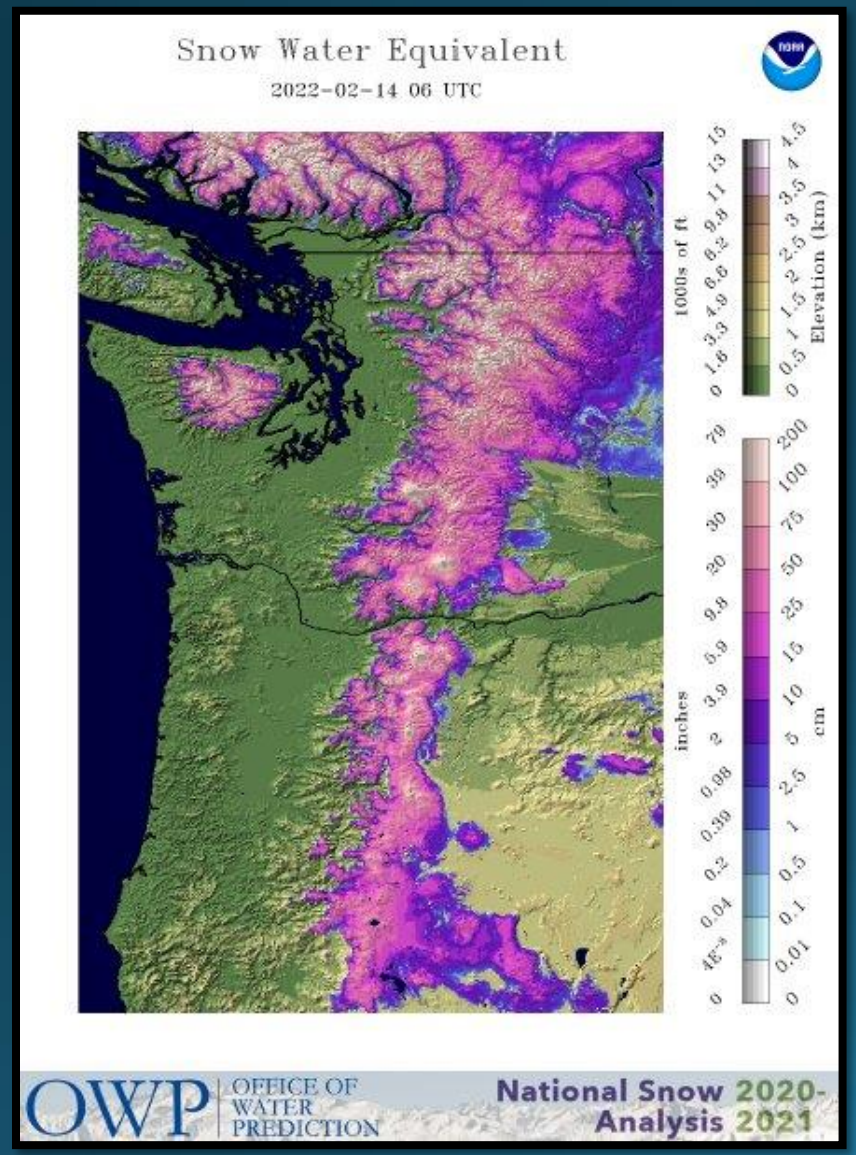
Snowpack Status

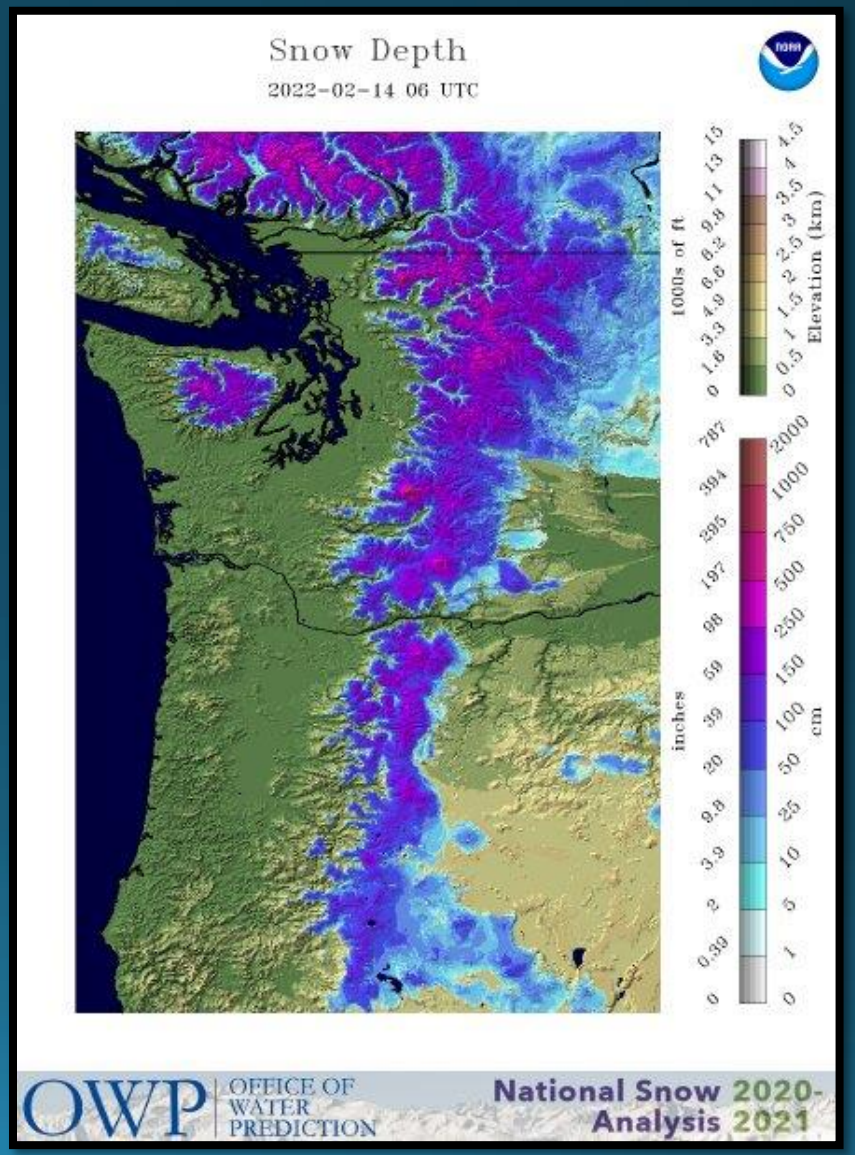


NOHRSC Snow Depth (Shaded) &
Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) % of Normal (Bubble)
as of 1/5/2022

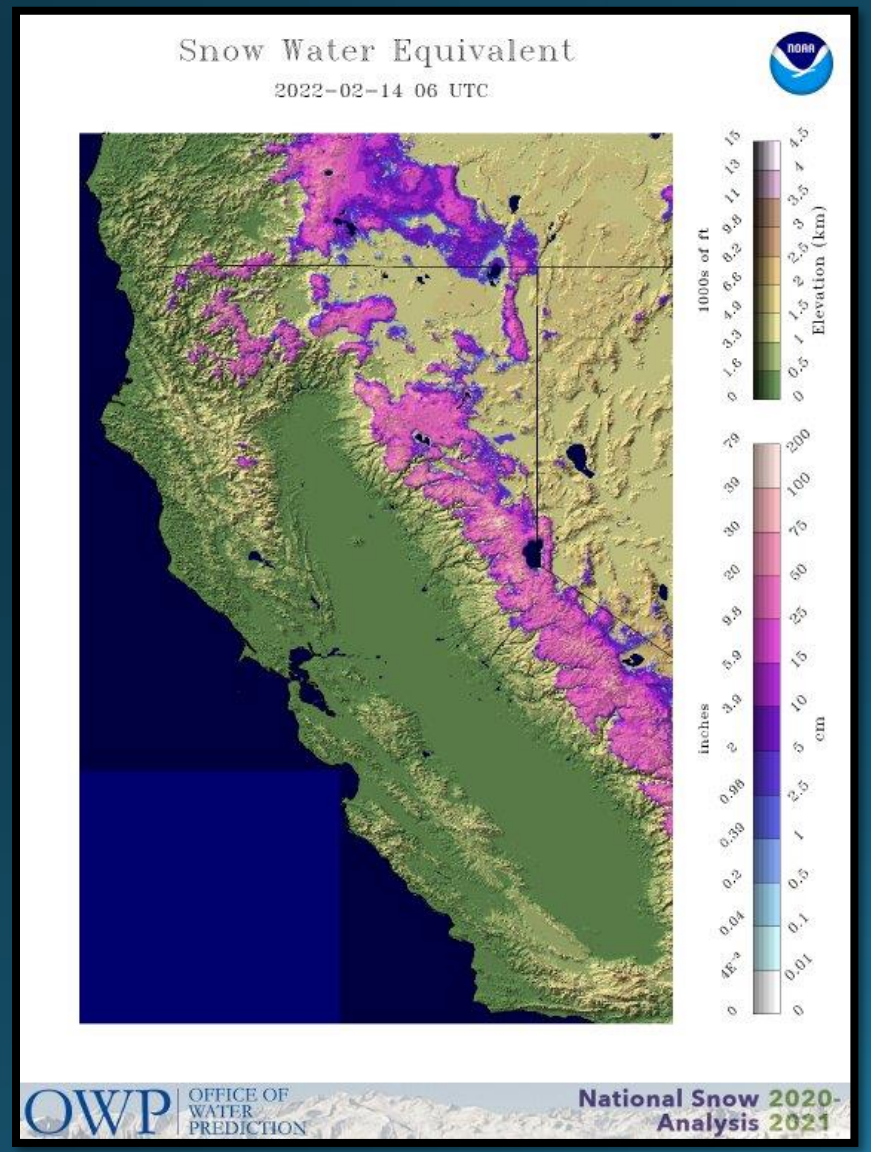


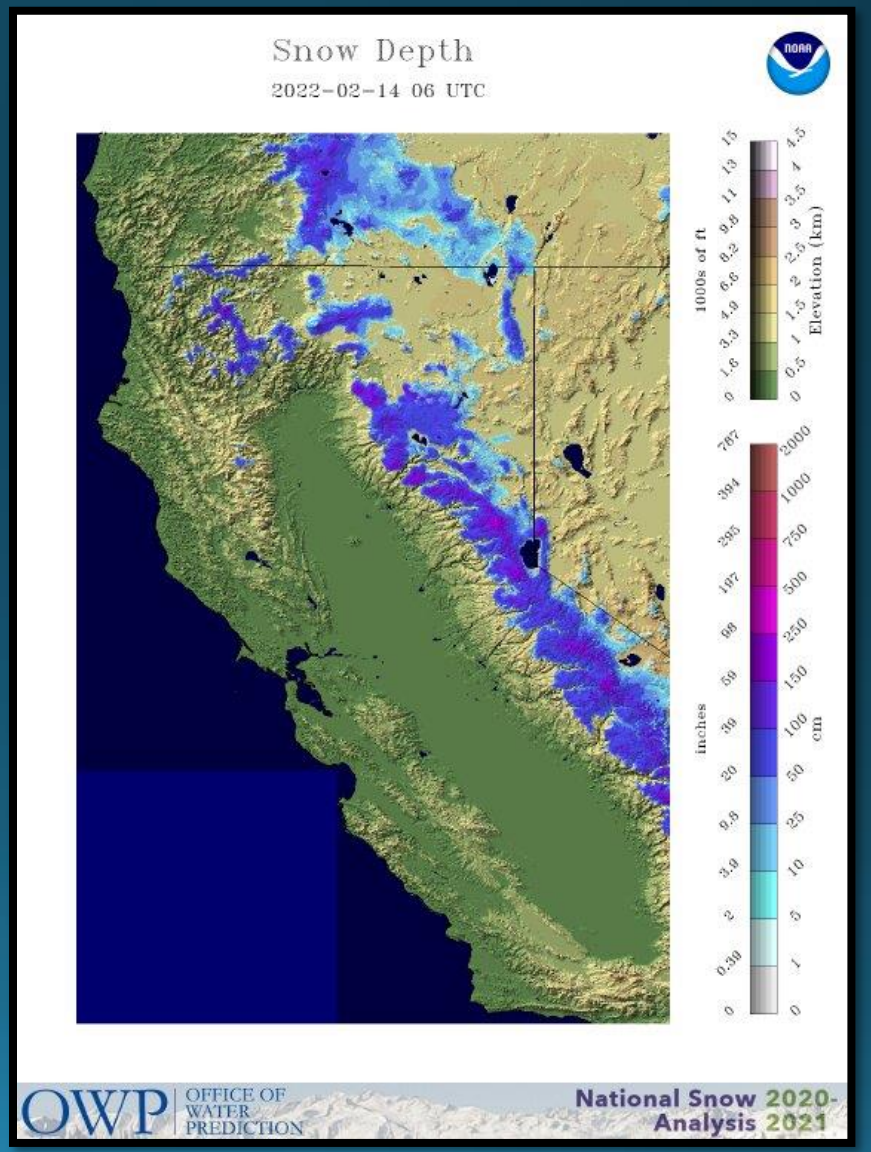
Pacific NW SWE & Snow Depth as of 2/14/22





California SWE & Snow Depth as of 2/14/22



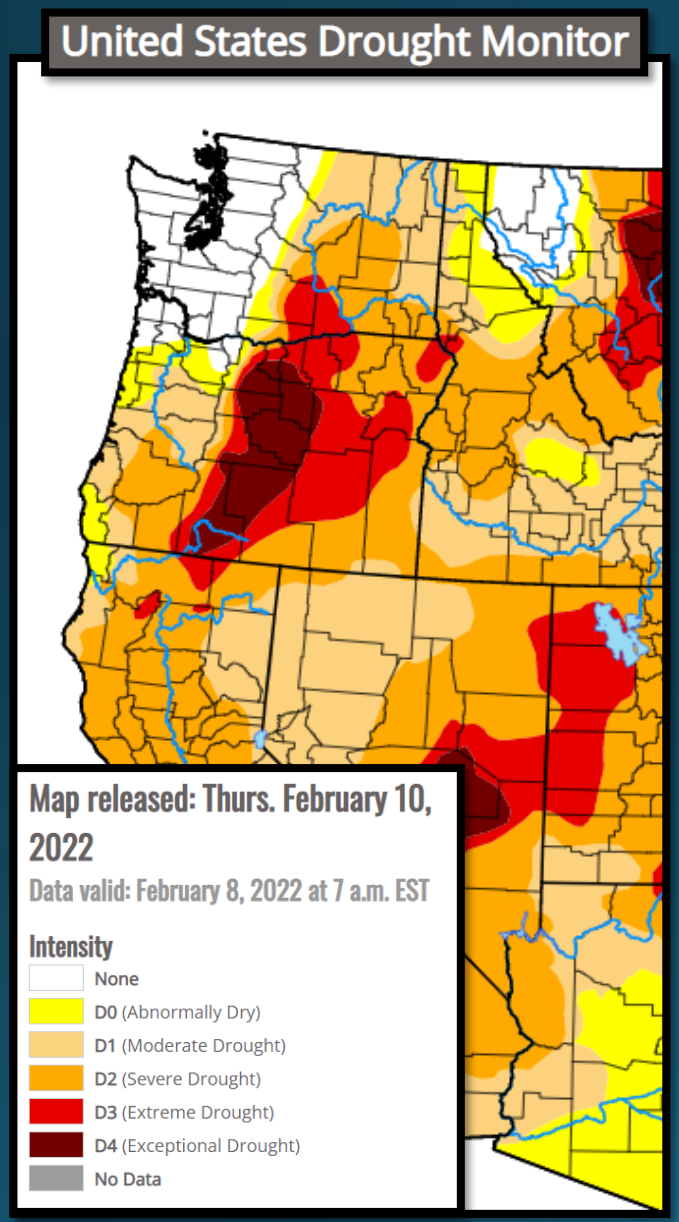


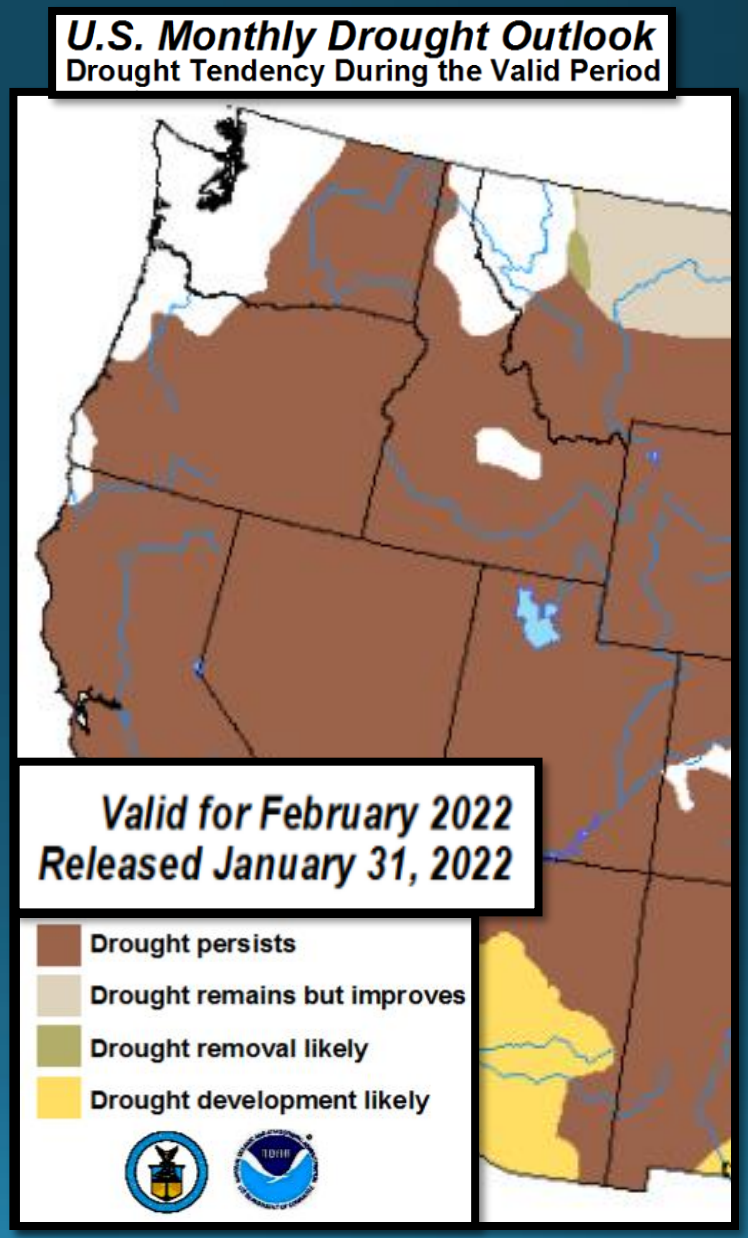
Crater Lake

Image Courtesy: NPS

	Average Max Temp (°F)	Average Min Temp (°F)	Total Precipitation	Total Snowfall	Snow Depth as of: 01/31/22	Highest Max/ Lowest Min
January	40.3°	23.7°	5.64"	34.7"	51"	55° on 24th / 6° on 1st & 2nd
Normal (1991-2020)	33.4°	19.8°	10.10"	86.5"	80"	N/A

Drought Monitor (Current) & Outlook (Feb)





Looking Ahead: Normals for February (1981-2010)

Per the 1981-2010 climate normals, February is a very notable month, as temperatures begin their climb out of the winter minimums that are typical of December and January. As a whole, while the monthly average temperatures along the coast nudge upward only a degree or less from January to February, temperatures inland rise 3-5 degrees, with high temperatures showing the most appreciable rise when compared to January.

Minimum Temps: Lows on the East Side, in the Cascades, Siskiyous, and Trinity Alps are typically in the upper teens and 20s, except for the upper reaches of Mount Shasta, where it's colder. Lows are typically in the 30s for the interior West Side, while upper 30s and 40s are most common along and near the coast.

Maximum Temps: Highs at lower elevations on the East Side are typically in the 40s. In the Cascades, Siskiyous, Trinity Alps, and mountains east of the Cascades, daily maximums are typically in the 30s. Highs on the West Side and along and near the coast are typically in the 45 to 55 degree range, on average, though it is a bit cooler in some West Side mountainous area..

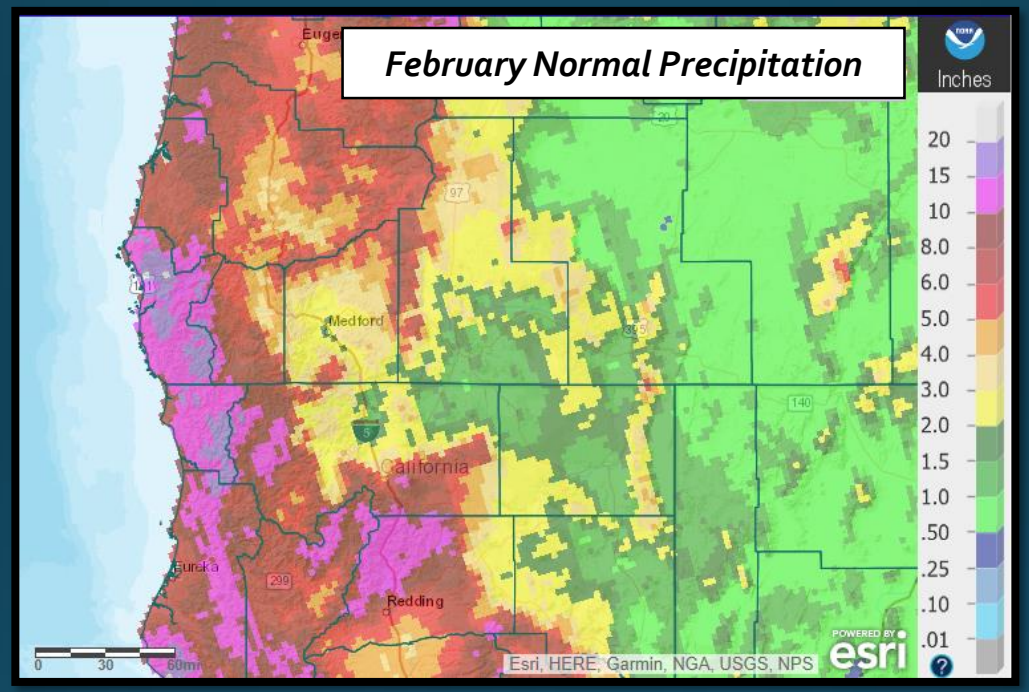
Precipitation: For most of the forecast area, February is certainly still a wet month, but not as wet as November through January and, in some areas, March. Interestingly, however, data indicates that February is the second wettest month of the year for Klamath Falls and Mount Shasta City and is the third wettest for other locations near those two cities. The combination of this wetness and the cool conditions of late winter mean that mountain snowfall is still typically very significant across the area. Mountain snowpack typically continues to grow through mid-March.

As for rainfall and snow water equivalent amounts, the lower elevations east of the Cascades receive at least 1”-3” of water, except in the northeastern half of Lake County, where amounts are a half inch to one inch. Higher elevations east of the Cascades and the Chemult area typically get 2”-6” of water. The Cascades, much of the Siskiyous, and Trinity Alps get 5”-10” of water, although portions of Mount Shasta get a little more. The West Side sees a wide spread in precipitation, with 2”-6” over much of the Interior West Side, with a bit less for Medford and in parts of the Shasta Valley. Douglas, southwestern Josephine, western Siskiyou, Coos, and Curry Counties get 5”-15”, on average, although some locations in the Coast Range typically get over 20” of water during the month of February.

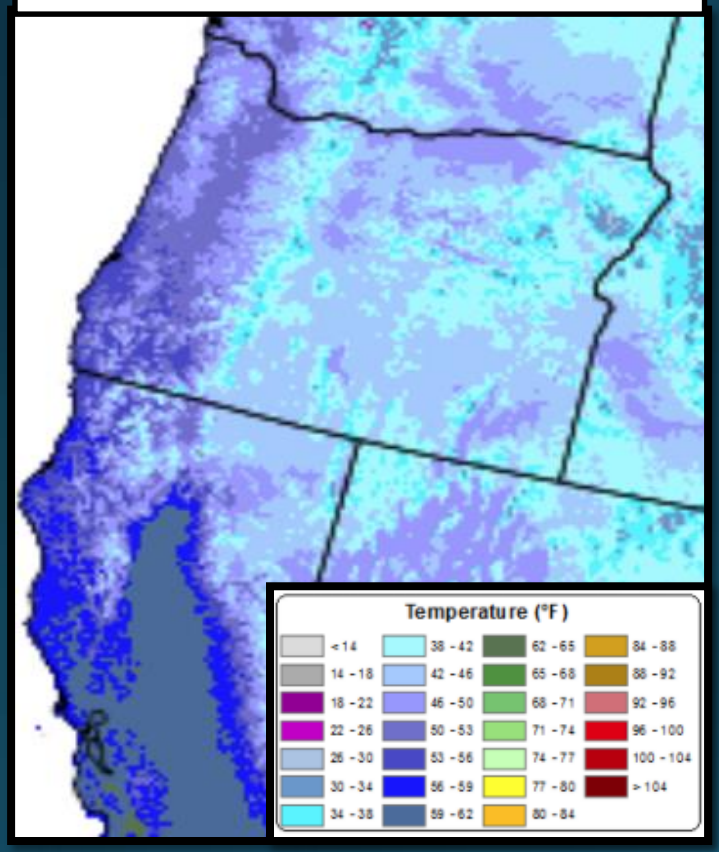
Much of this water typically falls as snow above about 5,000-6,000 feet MSL. For instance, the 1981-2010 average February snowfall for Crater Lake National Park Headquarters is 71.3”. The average snow depth there is usually 88 inches on February 1st and 106 inches on the last day of the month.

Normals for February (1991-2020)

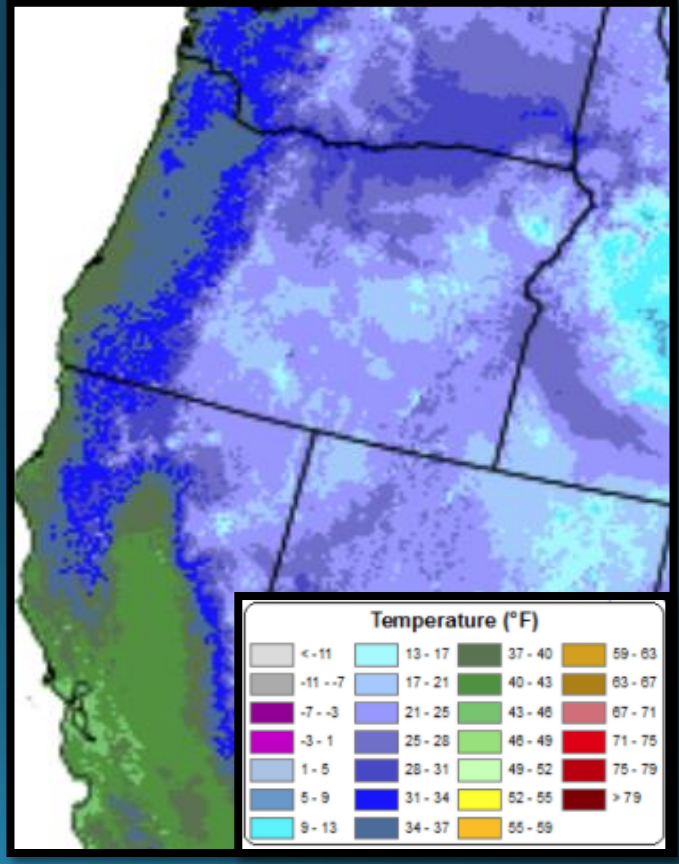
February Normal Precipitation



Average Maximum Temperatures



Average Minimum Temperatures



*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: 01/1902 – Present**
- **Roseburg: 04/1900 – Present**
  - *Missing:*
    - *05/1900-01/1901*
    - *03/1901-06/1902*
    - *08/1902-12/1930*
    - *10/1965-06/1997*
- **Medford: 03/11/1911 – Present**
- **Klamath Falls: 12/1897 – Present**
- **Montague, CA: 07/1948 – Present**
  - *Missing:*
    - *08-09/1952*
    - *02/1953-06/2000*
- **Mount Shasta City, CA: 04/1948 – Present**
- **Alturas, CA: 05/1935 – Present**