National Weather Service Medford

2022: March 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).

March 2022 Weather Review

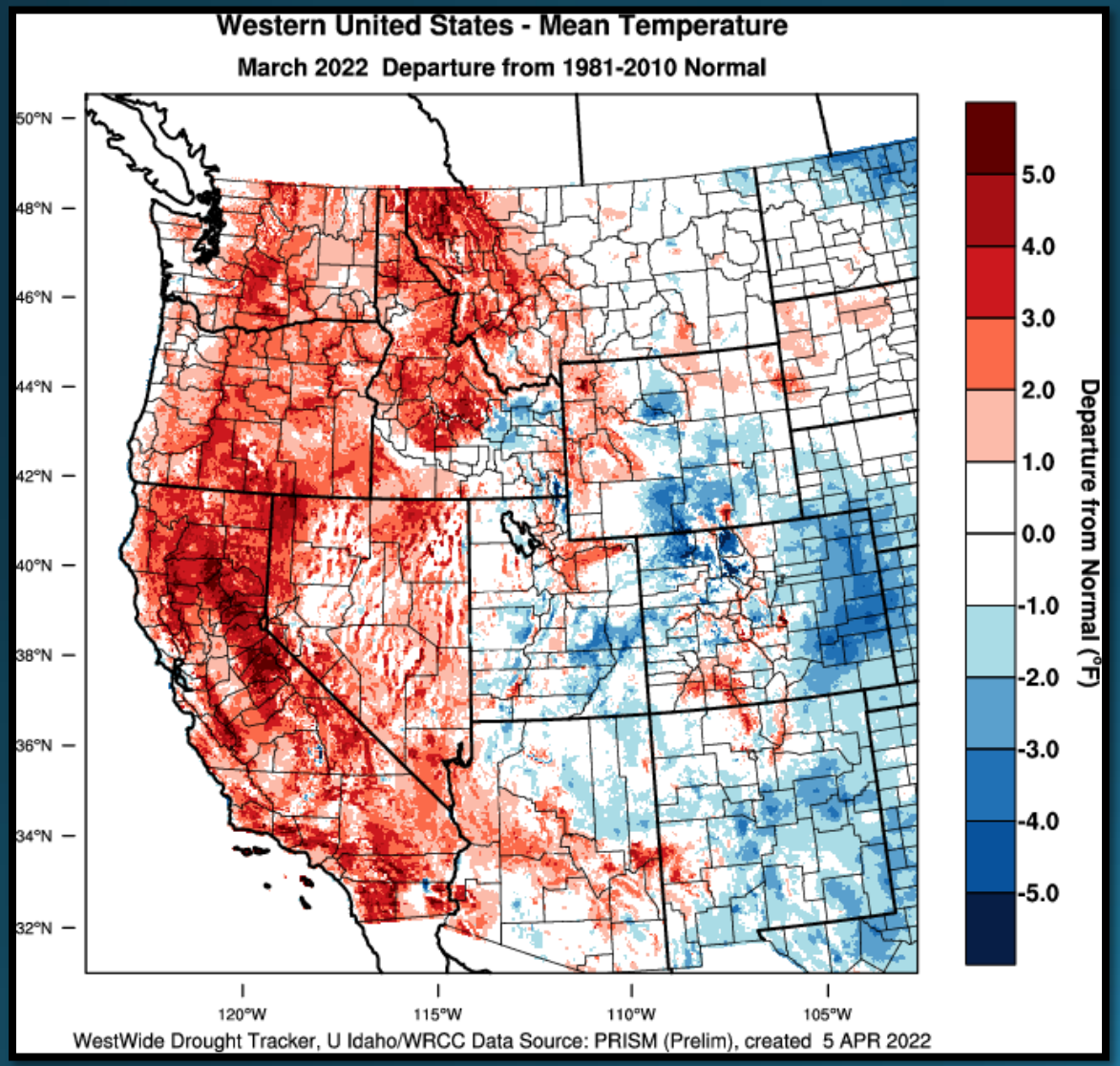
March 2022 was a quieter than average month in terms of storm activity, and as a result, was drier and warmer than normal. A weak front approached the area on the 1st, but stalled out along the coast before very slowly pushing inland during the 2nd through the 4th. Despite weakening and slowing considerably, the system did produce the greatest daily rainfall amounts of the month for several climate sites. In addition, this front brought a much cooler air mass to the region which resulted in roughly a week of near to below normal temperatures.

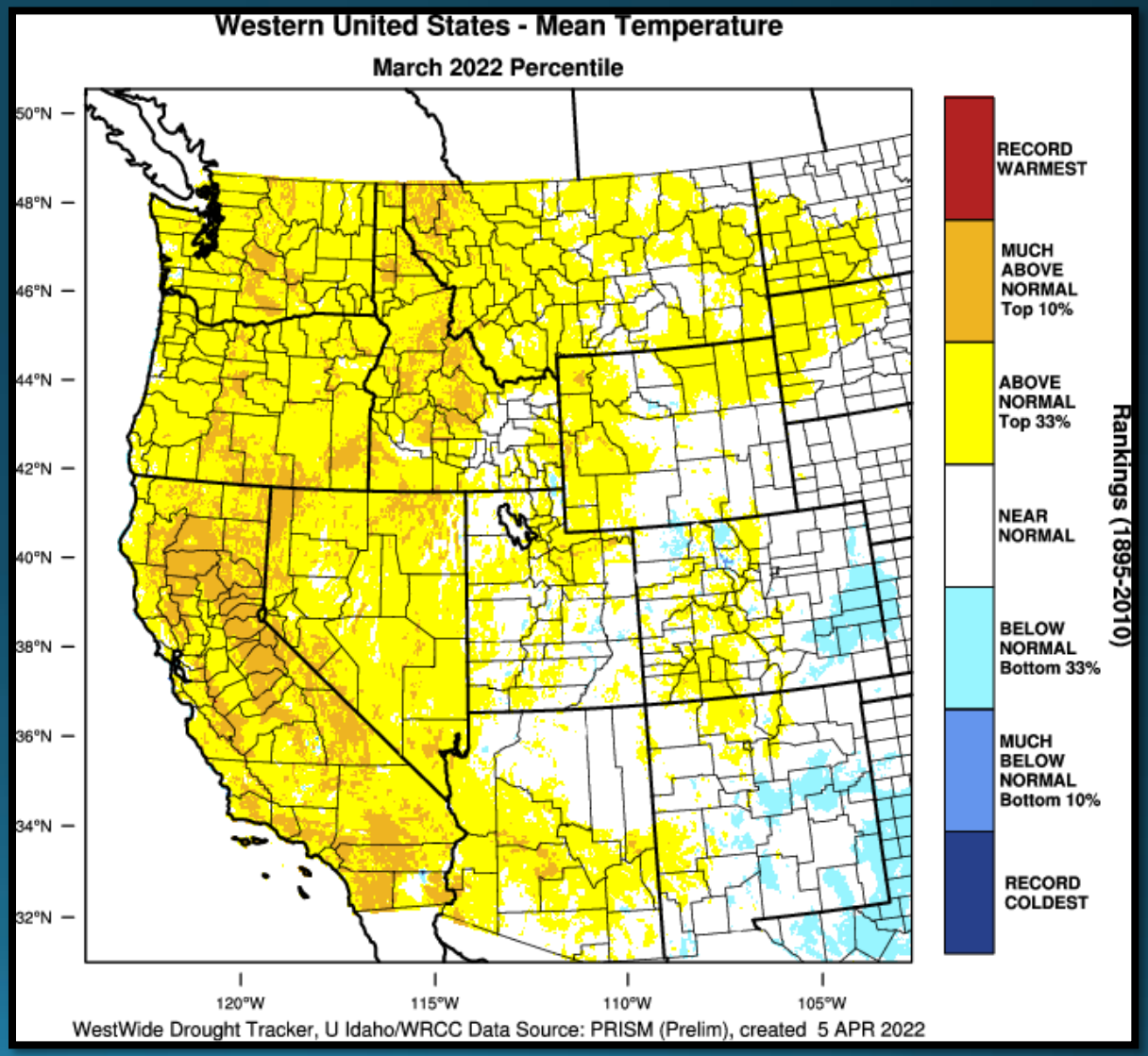
After this front, the weather remained quiet under dry northerly flow. A strong front arrived around the 12th – 13th and this brought strong southwest winds across the region. Even the valleys that are typically more sheltered from these southwest winds, experienced the strong winds. This was largely due to skies being clear at the start of the day, which allowed for maximum heating and full mixing which in turn allowed the stronger winds aloft to reach the surface. Another robust front followed this one on the 15th, then another on the 19th. Both of these fronts brought much needed widespread rainfall, though snow levels were around 5000-7000 ft with the bulk of the precipitation. Gusty winds also accompanied these fronts, but overall, winds were weaker with each subsequent front and overall, these fronts were largely beneficial.

High pressure with dry conditions and warmer temperatures was then the rule for the remainder of the month, with the exception of a system at the end of the month. Until then, a strong ridge built over the region on the 22nd and brought the warmest temperatures of the year, thus far, across the area through the 26th. Originally, it was thought that the Medford Airport would reach almost 80 degrees on the 22nd, but extensive cloud cover in west side valleys limited the warm up and the temperatures only reached 72 degrees that day. The ridge gradually weakened over the next few days, but temperatures remained above normal none the less.

Low pressure stalled off the coast of California briefly before moving inland on the 28th, bringing some light precipitation to the region. With only a few significant systems moving through the area during March, the month ended with below normal precipitation with no notable change in drought conditions or snowpack status.

March 2022 Observed Temperatures





Average Temperatures

	Average (°F)	Departure from Normal	Average Max (°F)	Departure from Normal	Average Min (°F)	Departure from Normal
North Bend	48.2	-0.3°	54.6	-0.5°	41.9	0.0°
Roseburg	50.9	1.7°	60.6	1.9°	41.1	1.5°
Medford	49.9	1.6°	62.3	2.9°	37.6	0.4°
Klamath Falls	40.8	1.4°	56.7	4.4°	24.9	-1.6°
Montague, CA	46.6	2.2°	62.6	4.4°	30.5	-0.1°
Mt. Shasta City, CA	47.0	4.8°	59.8	7.3°	34.1	2.2°
Alturas, CA	41.0	1.4°	57.1	4.4°	24.8	-1.7°

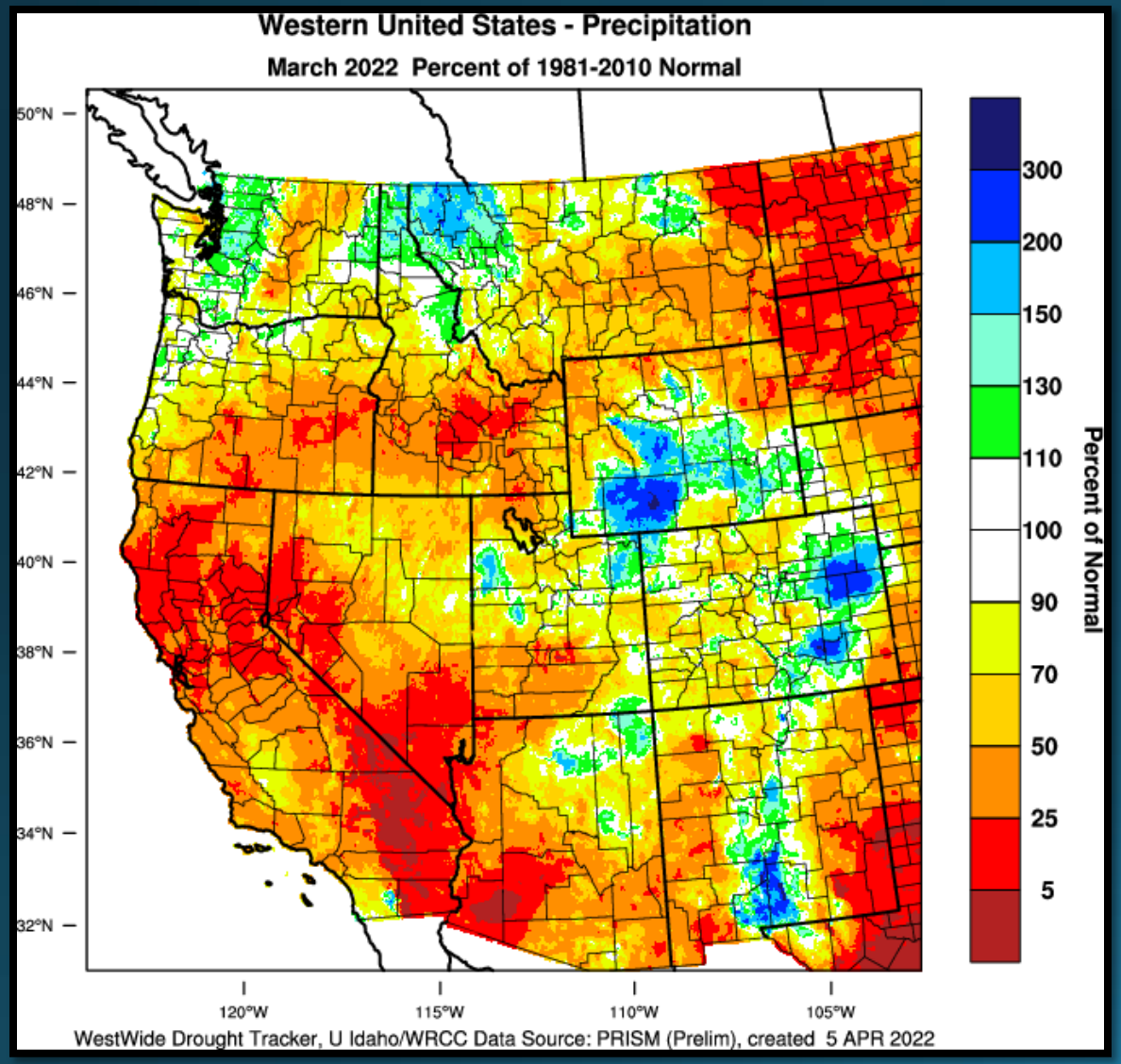
Monthly Max & Min Temperatures

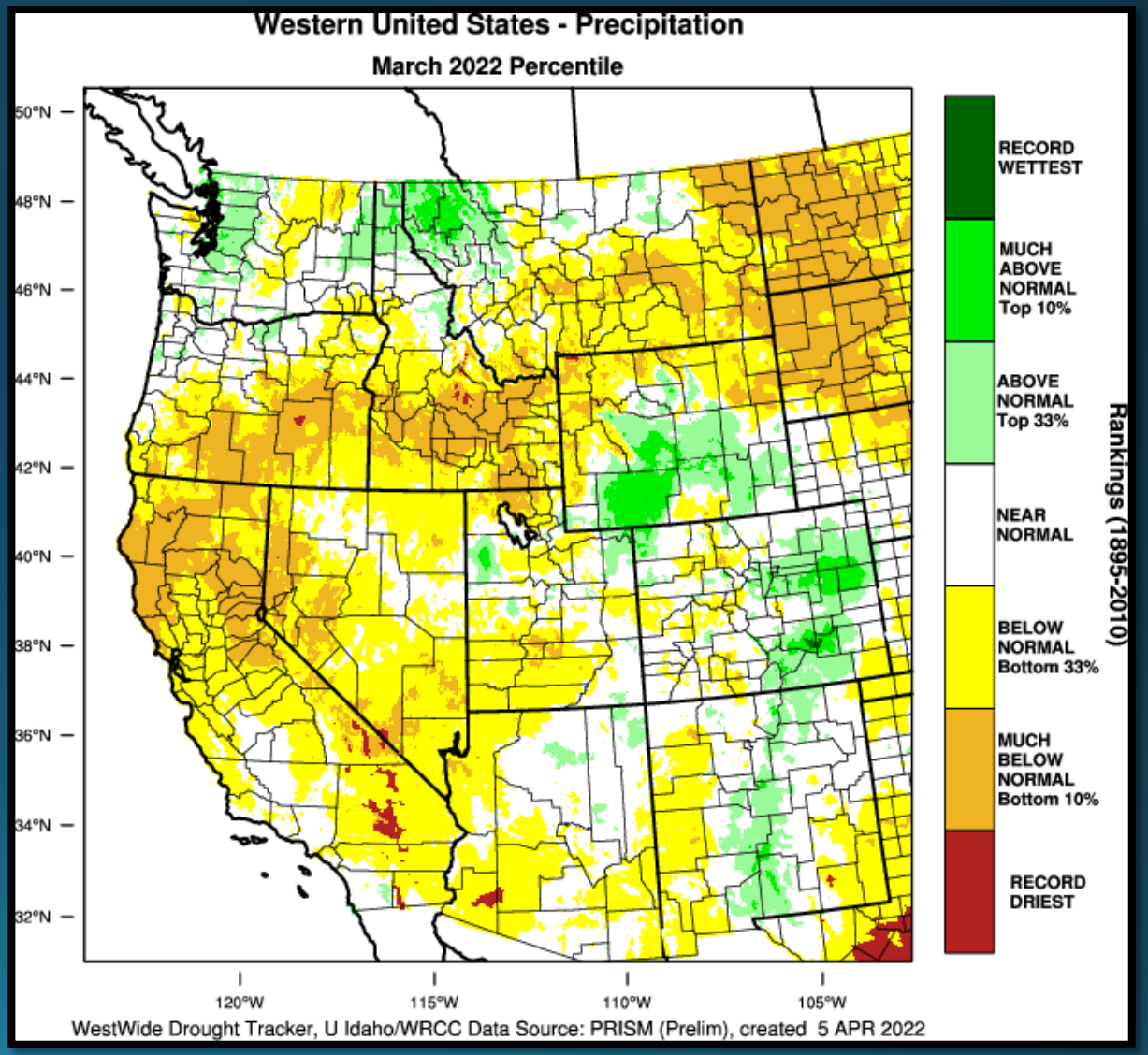
	Max (°F)	Date(s)	Min (°F)	Date(s)
North Bend	66°	22nd	32°	11th
Roseburg	75°	22nd	30°	10th & 11th
Medford	75°	24th & 26th	27°	10th & 11th
Klamath Falls	71°	25th & 26th	12°	6th
Montague, CA	78°	26th	16°	11th
Mt. Shasta City, CA	75°	24th	23°	11th
Alturas, CA	72°	24th & 25th	11°	11th

	Date	Record Low	Old Record/Year
Montague	11th	16°F	18°F / 2009
	20th	19°F	Ties w/ 1994

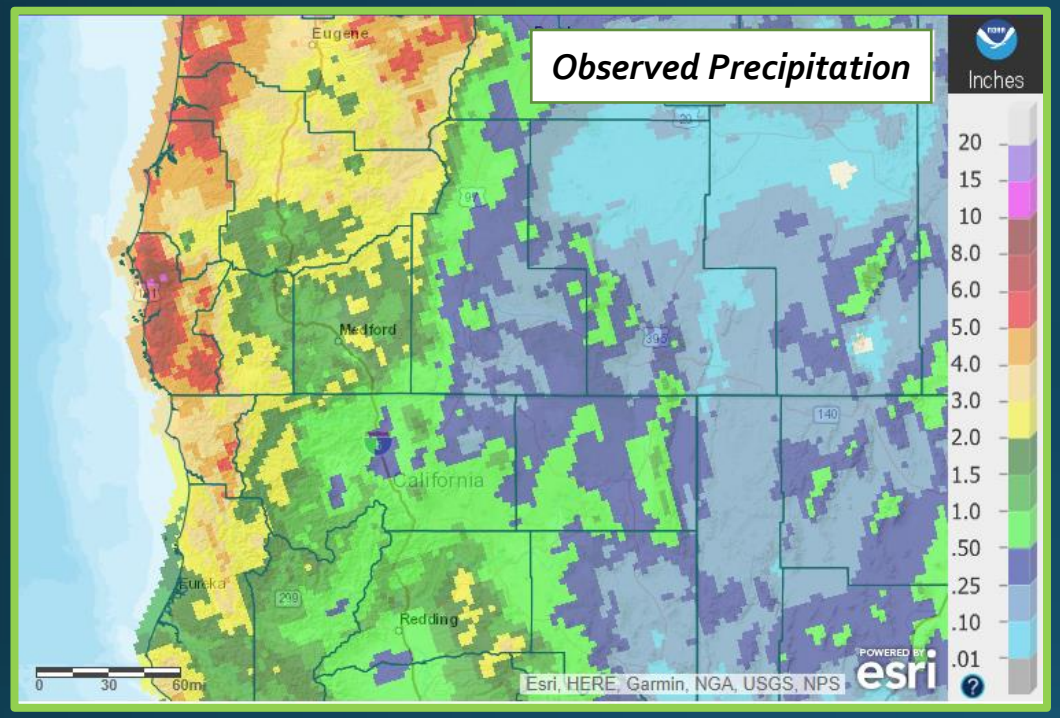
	Date	Record High	Old Record/Year
Alturas	2nd	68°F	67°F / 1968
Mt Shasta City	22nd	74°F	Ties w/ 2004
	23rd	74°F	73°F / 1960
Montague	26th	78°F	75°F / 1994

March 2022 Observed Precipitation

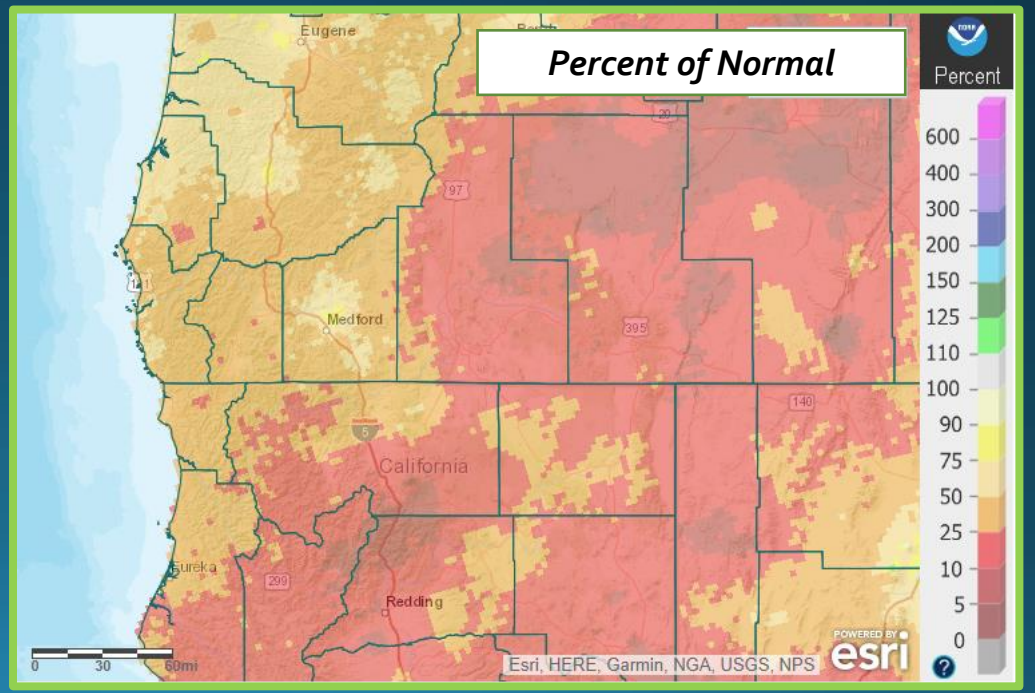




Precipitation



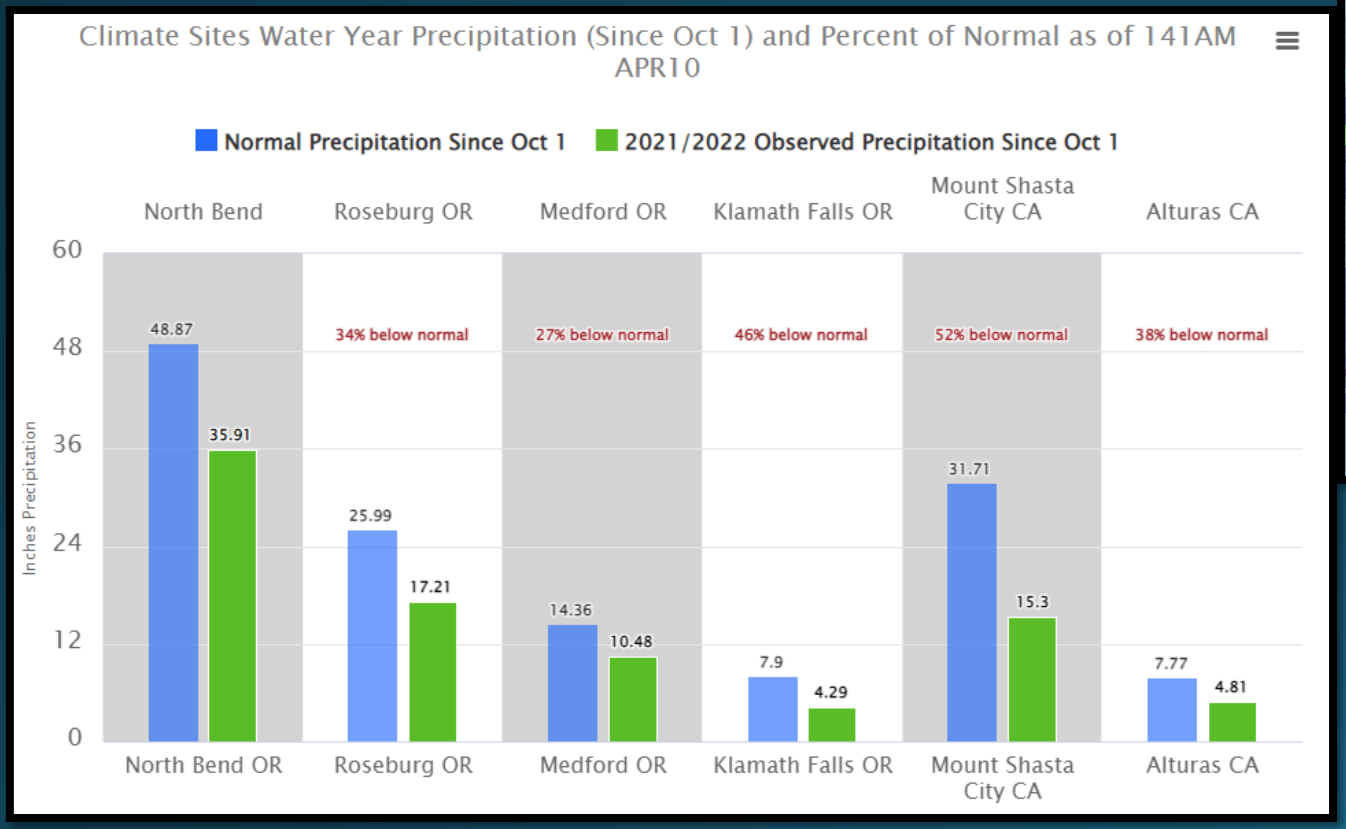
	Total	Departure from Normal	Greatest 24-hr Total	Date(s)
North Bend	4.58"	-2.91"	1.60"	2nd
Roseburg	2.83"	-0.64"	1.10"	1st – 2nd
Medford	1.38"	-0.43"	0.39"	2nd – 3rd
Klamath Falls	0.29"	-0.74"	0.18"	14th – 15th
Montague, CA	0.36"	-0.89"	0.12"	14th – 15th
Mt. Shasta City, CA	0.90"	-4.70"	0.41"	4th – 5th
Alturas, CA	0.59"	-0.79"	0.32"	3rd – 4th

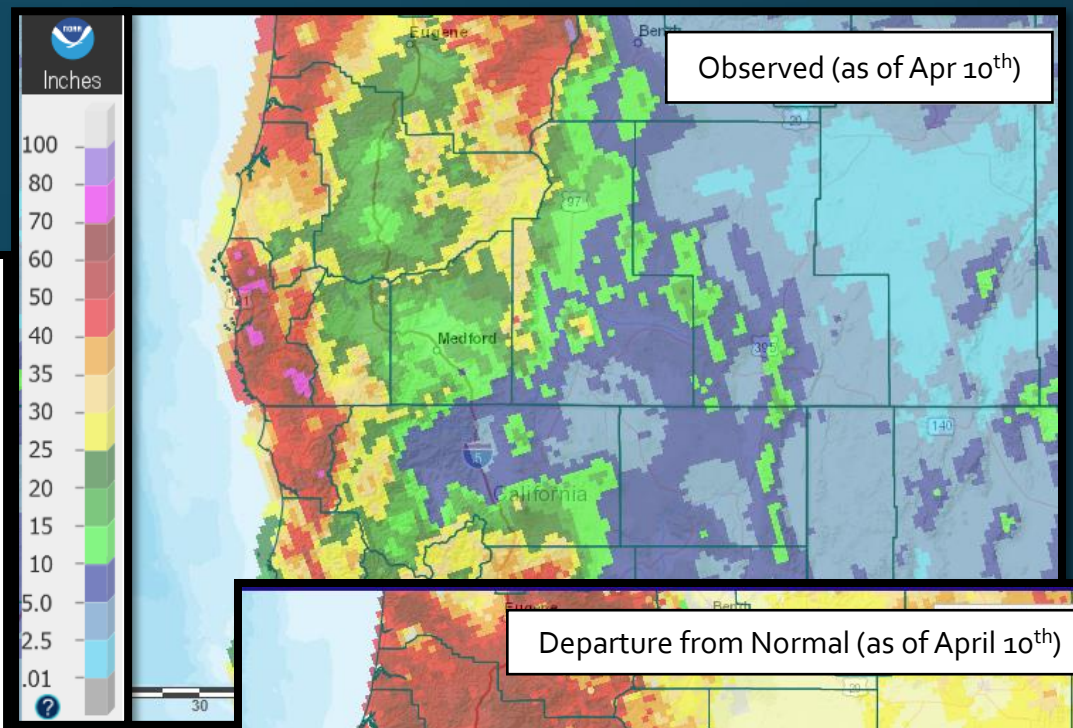


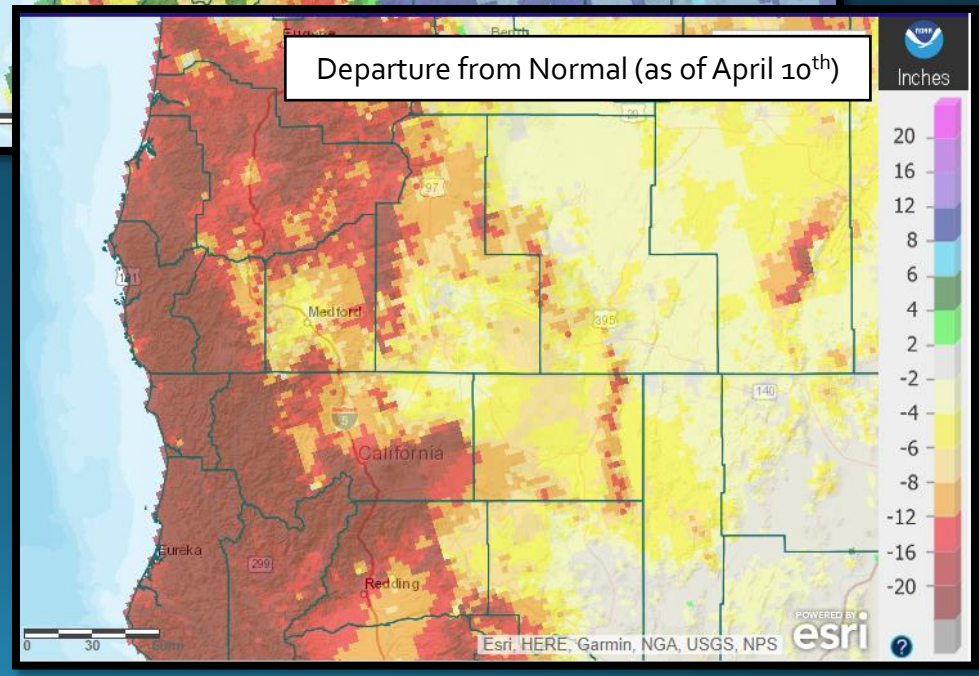
Record Precipitation

	Date / Amount	Old Record / Year
Roseburg	2nd / 1.06"	0.91" / 1972

Water Year Status (As of April 10th)







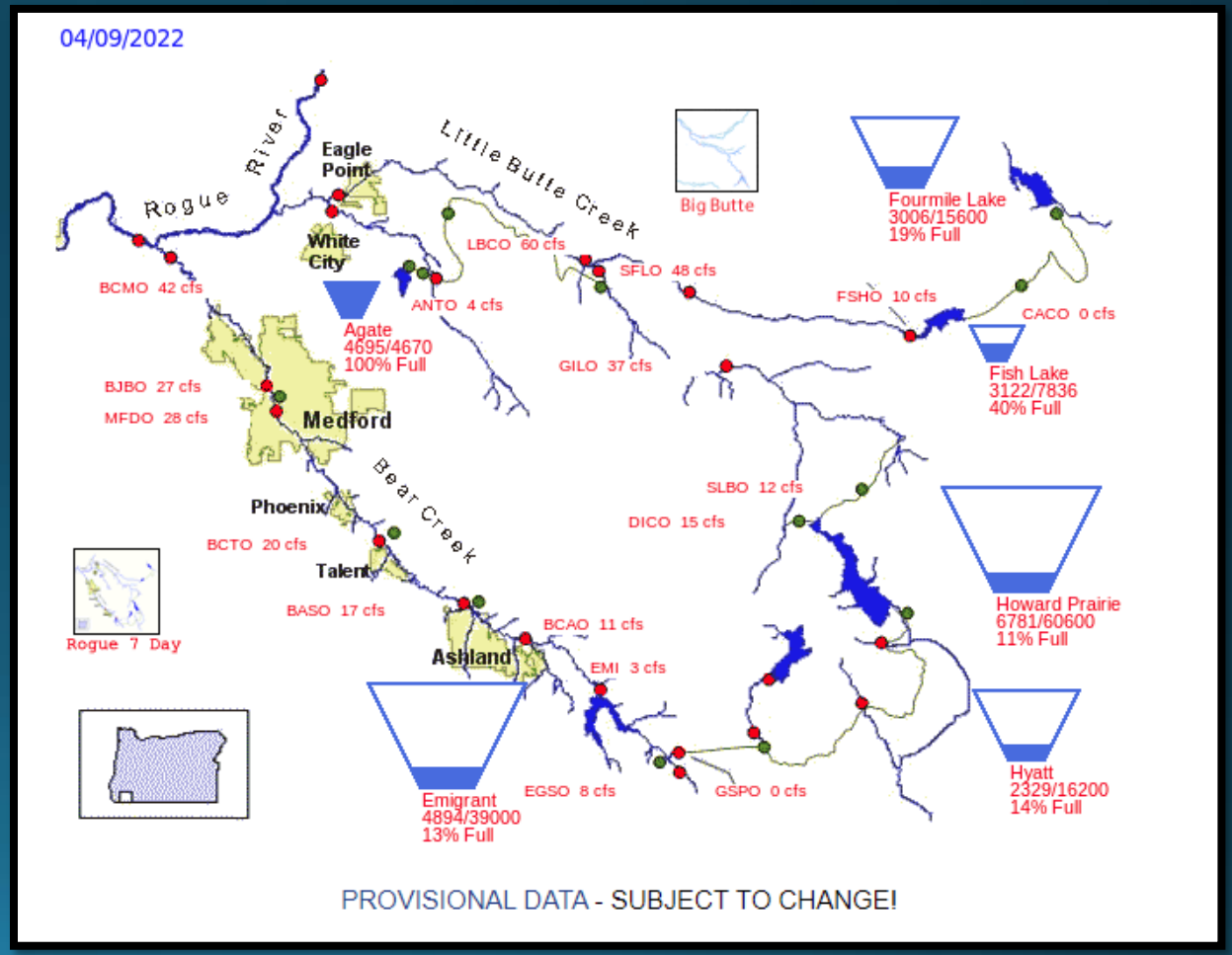
Reservoir Status

Data courtesy of US Army Corps of Engineers

Rogue Basin Teacup Diagram

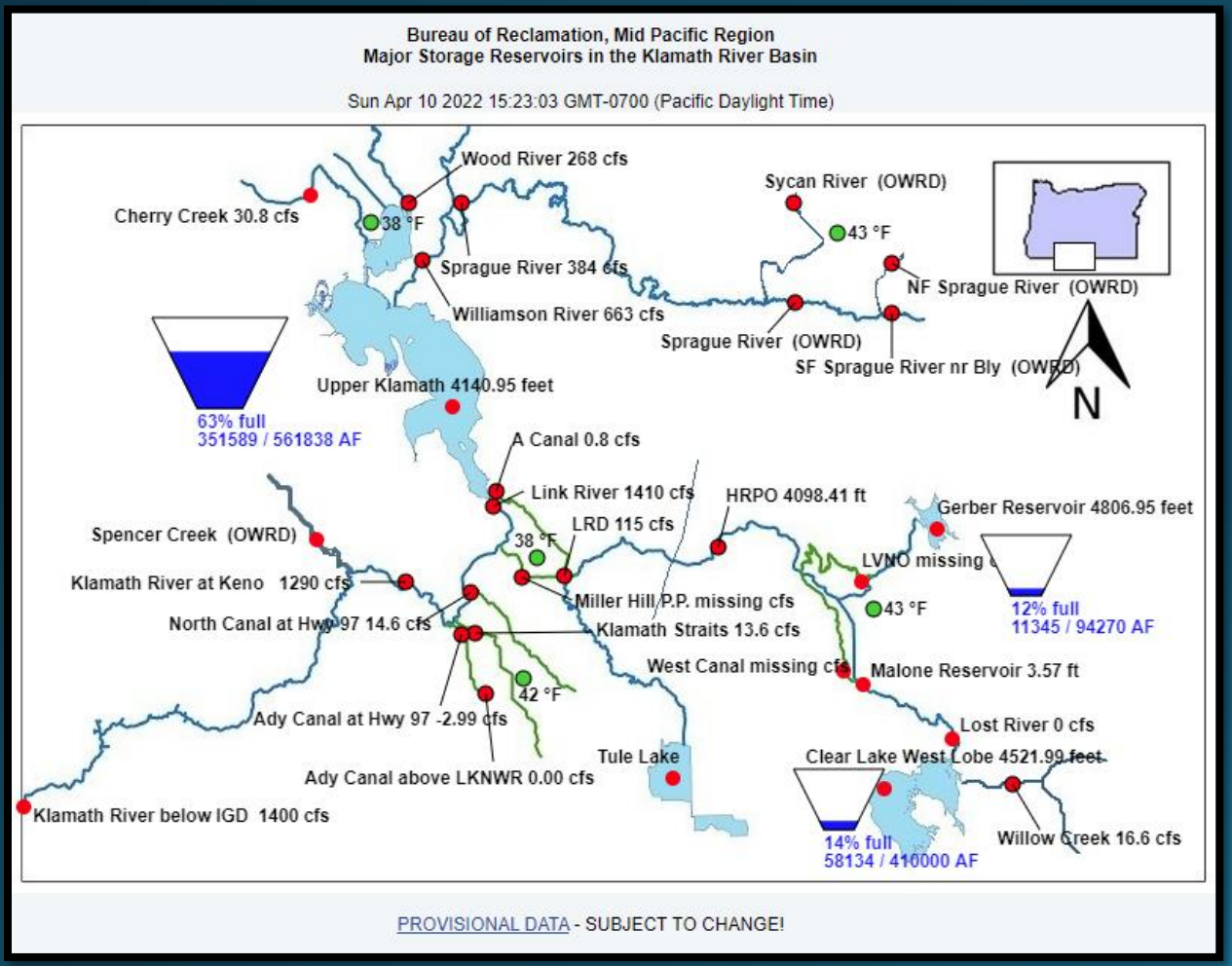
Not available at the time of creation

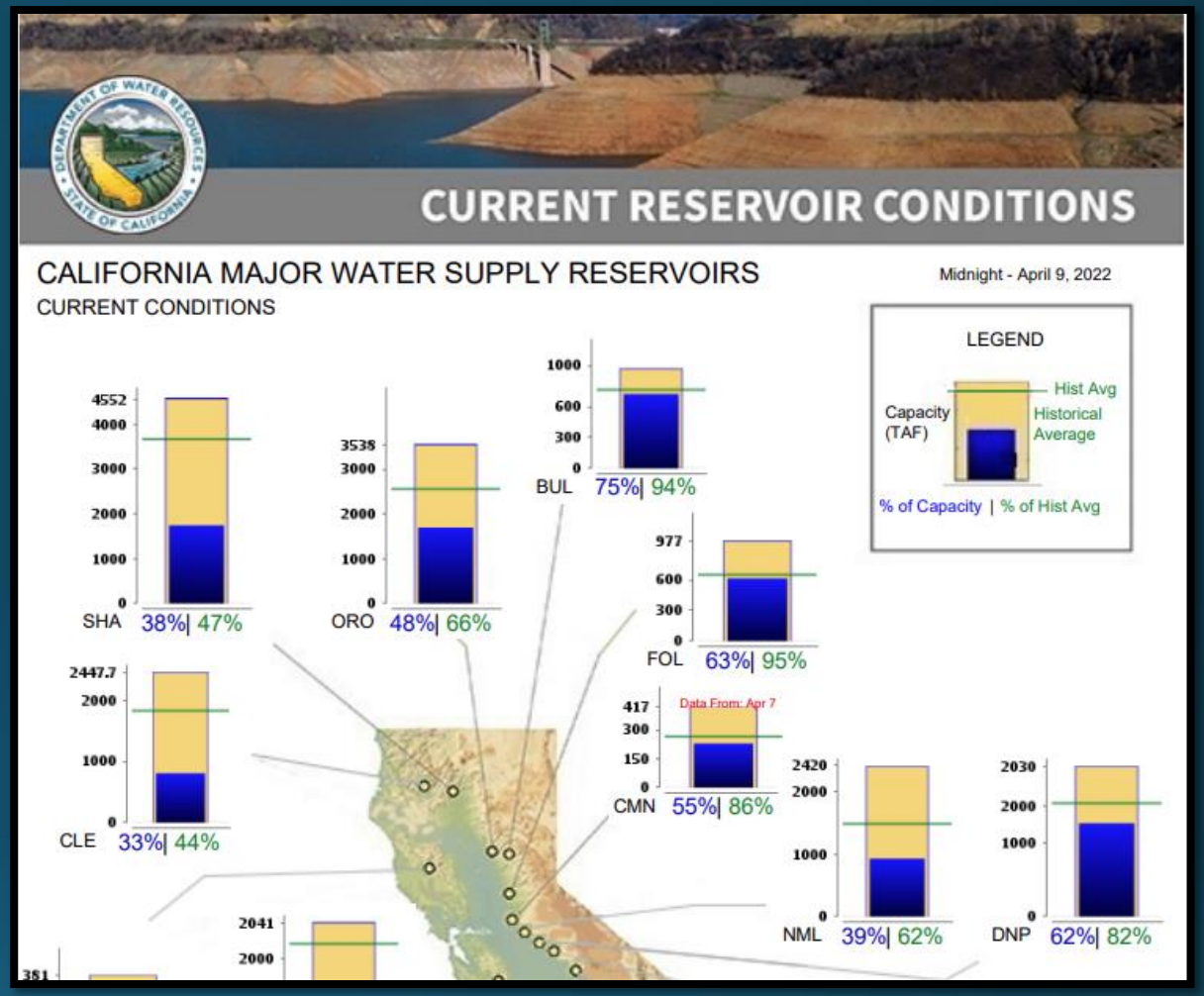
Data courtesy of Bureau of Reclamation



Reservoir Status

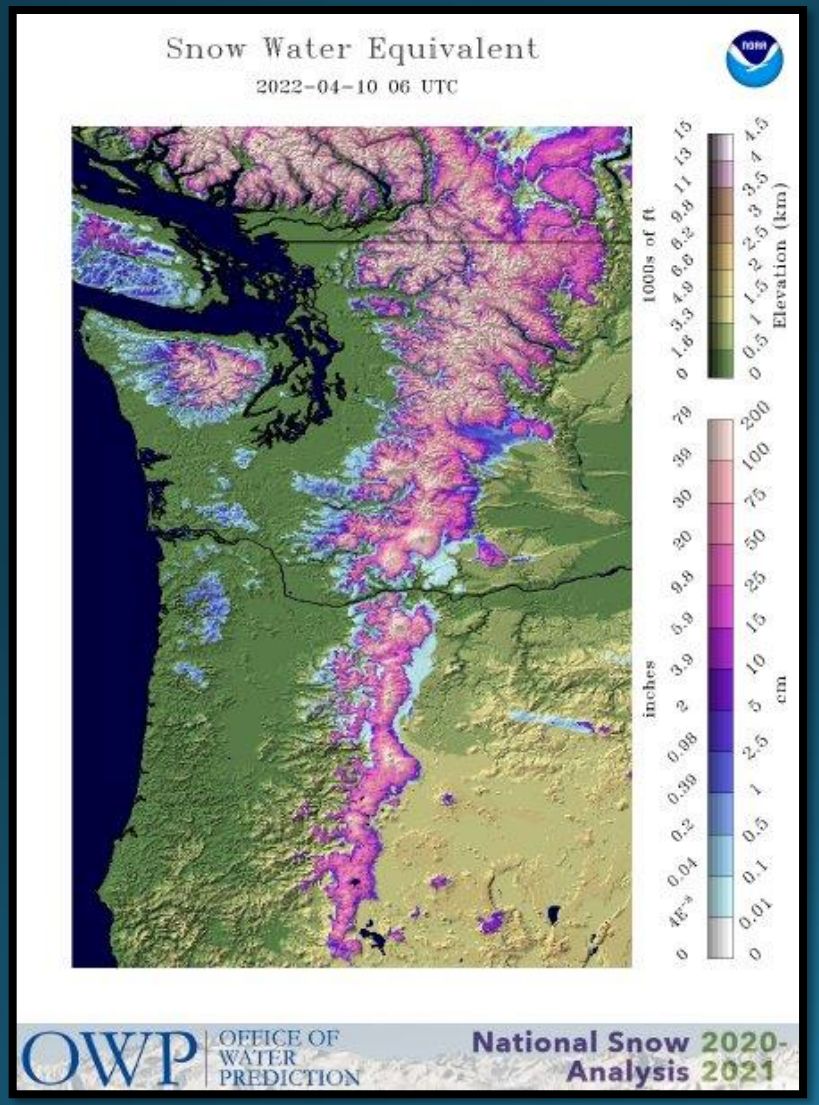
Klamath River Basin. Data courtesy of Bureau of Reclamation

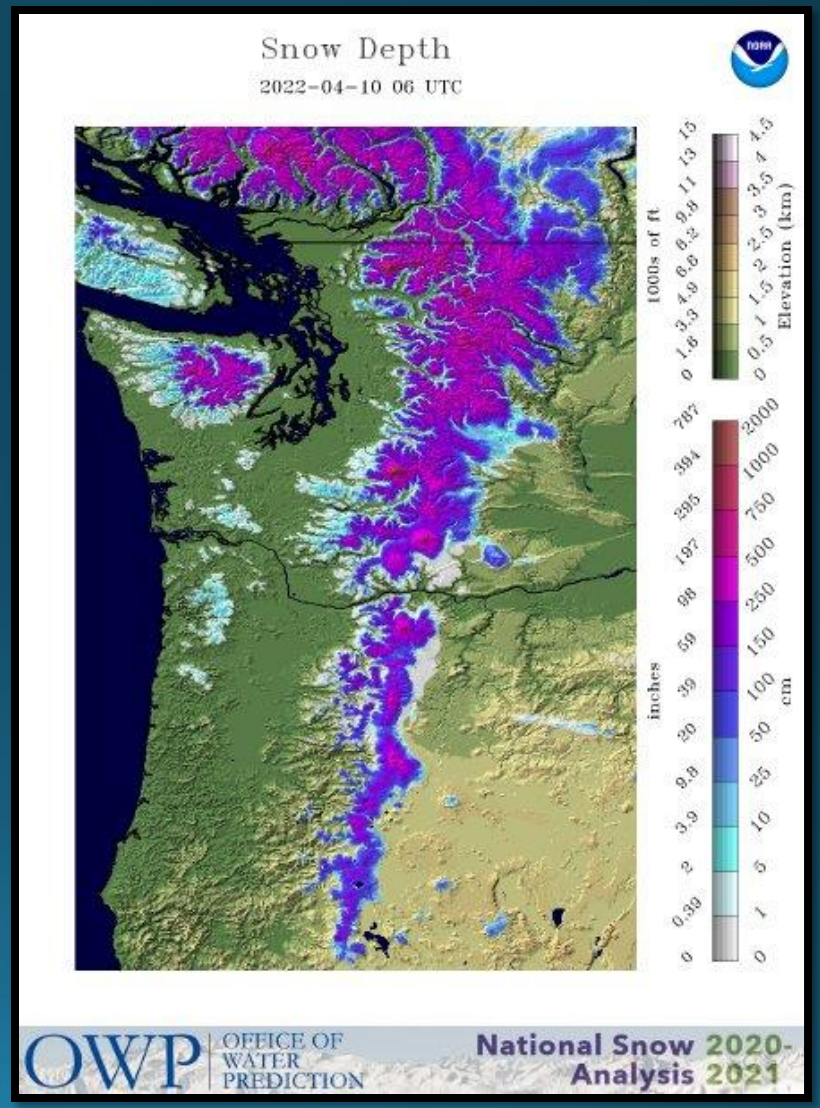




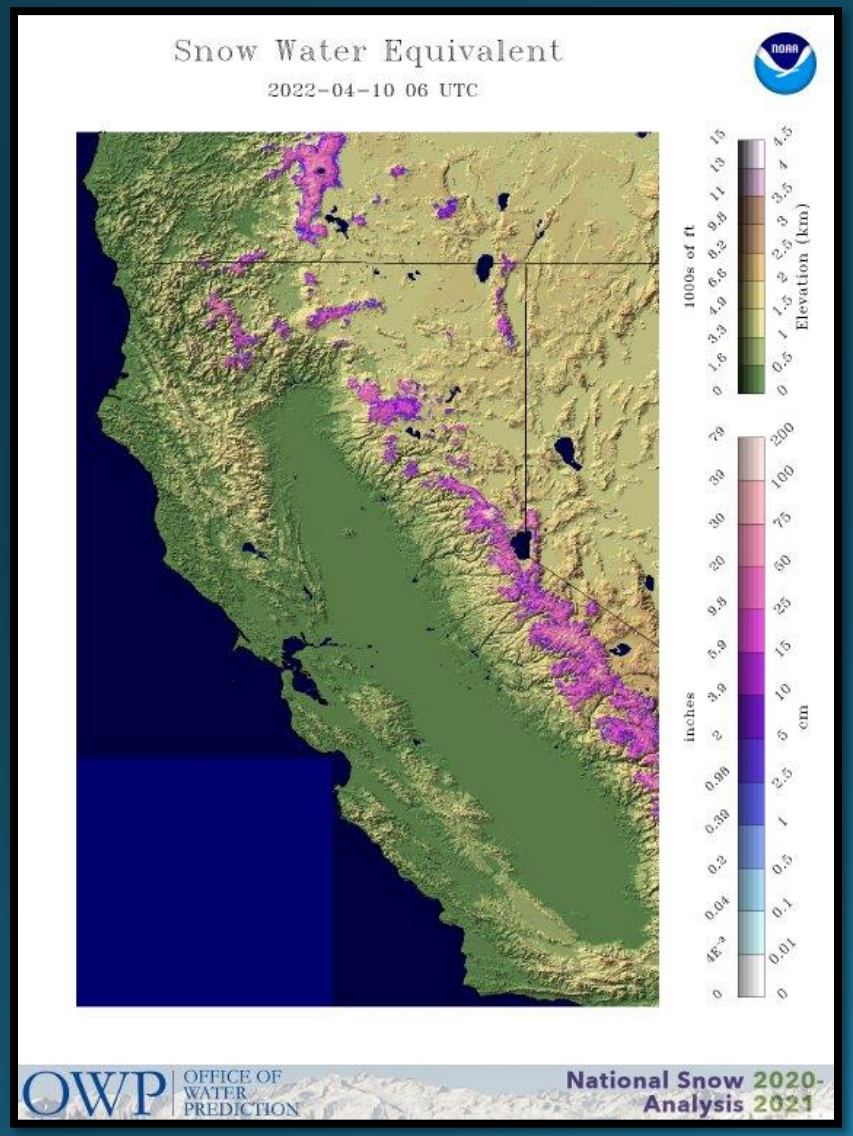
Northern California. California Data Exchange Center

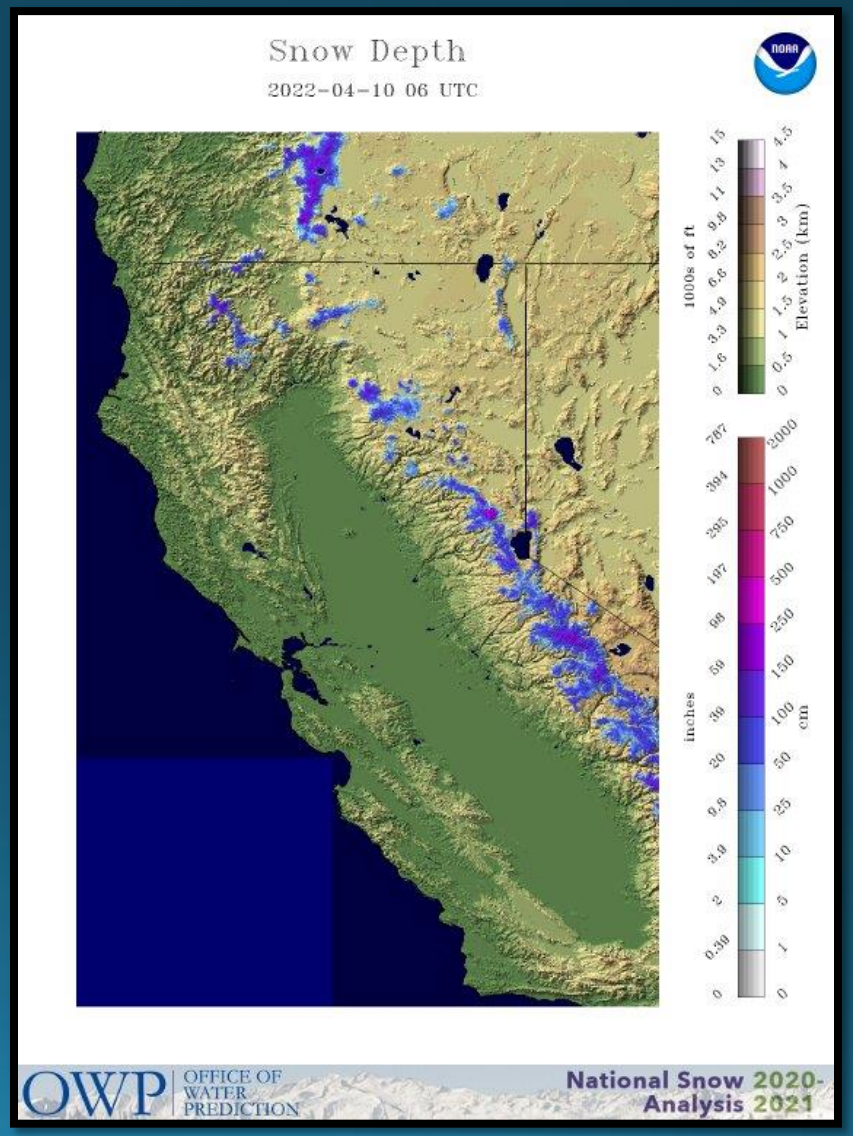
PacNW SWE & Snow Depth as of 4/10/22



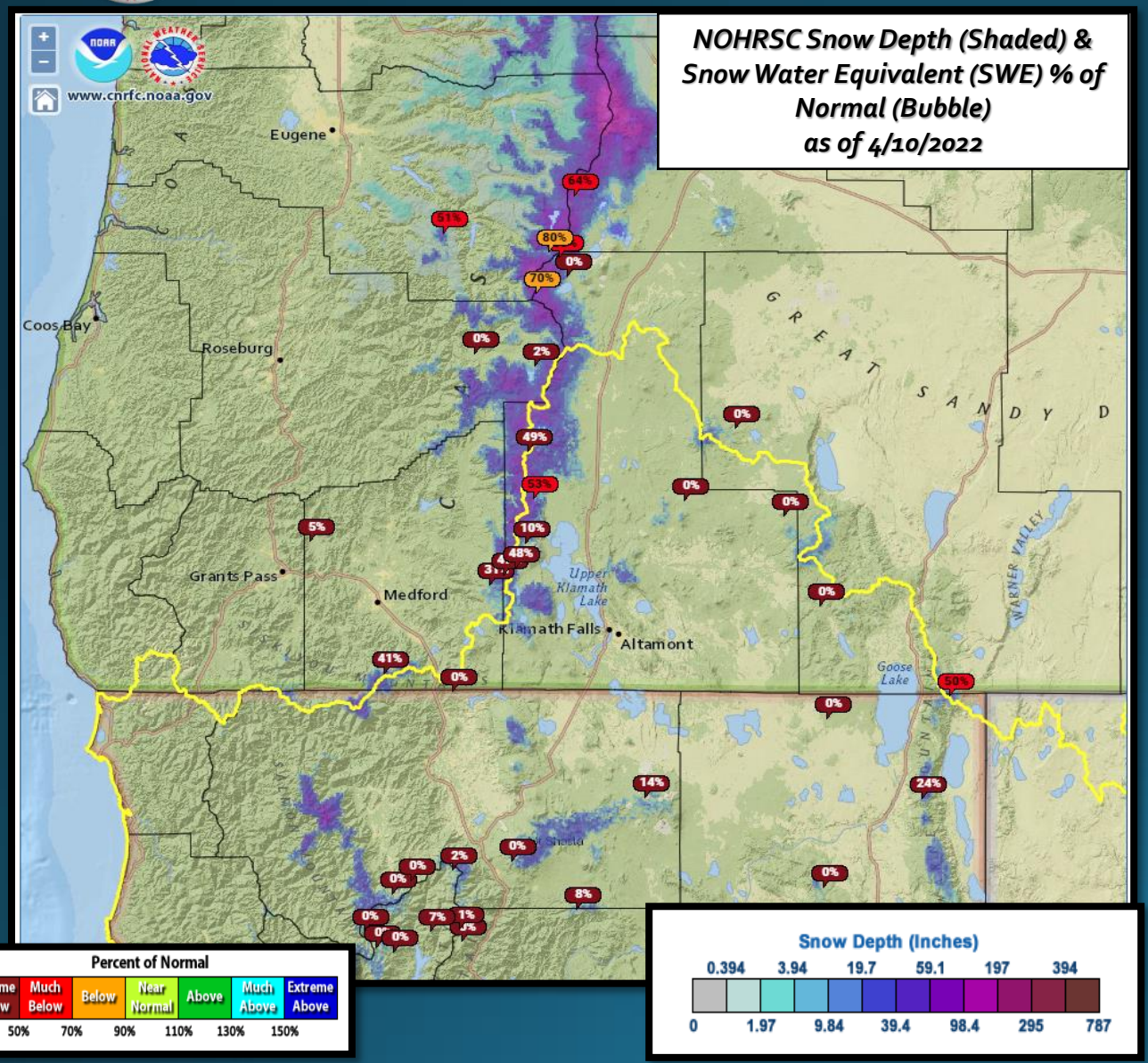


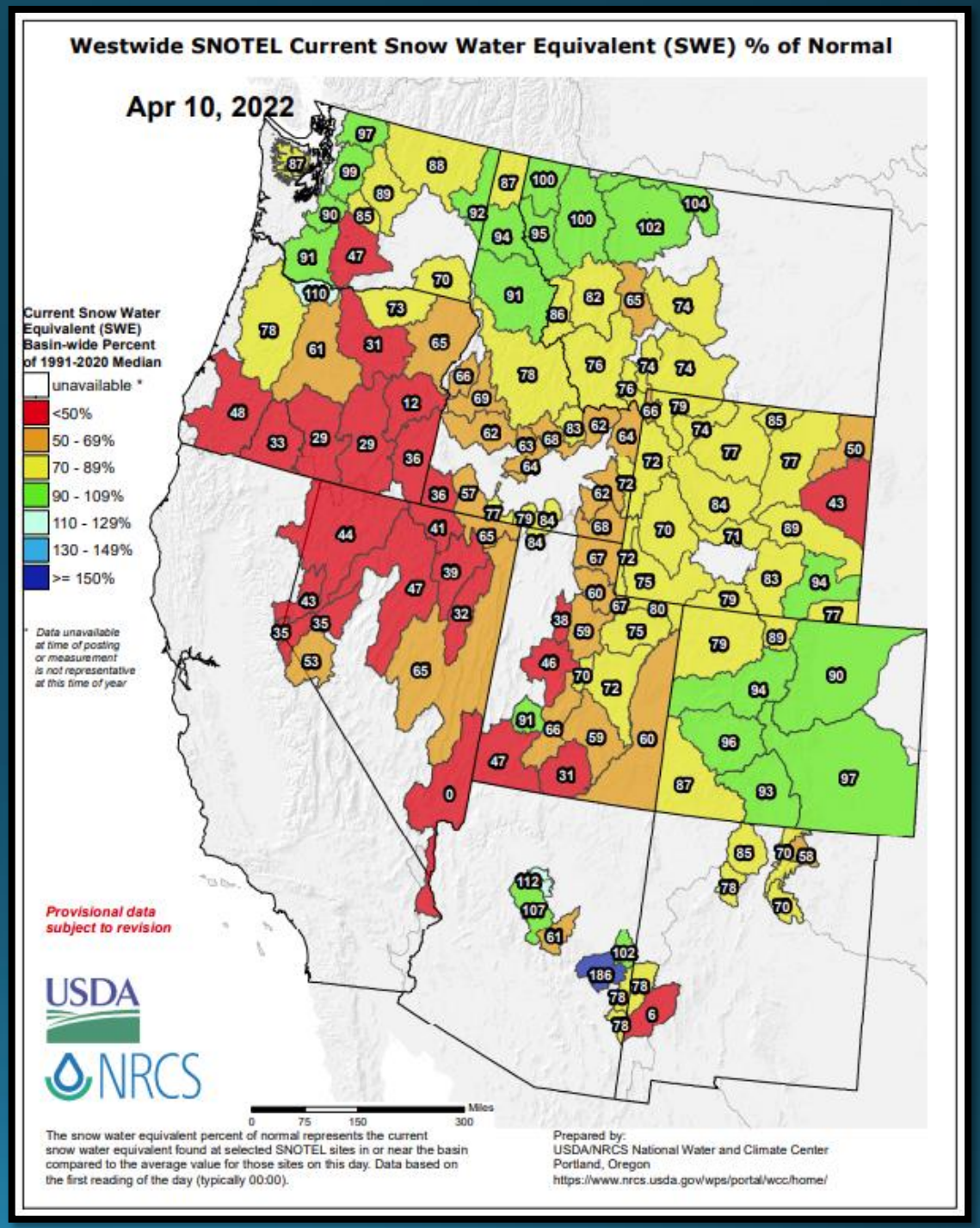
California SWE & Snow Depth as of 4/10/22





Snowpack Status



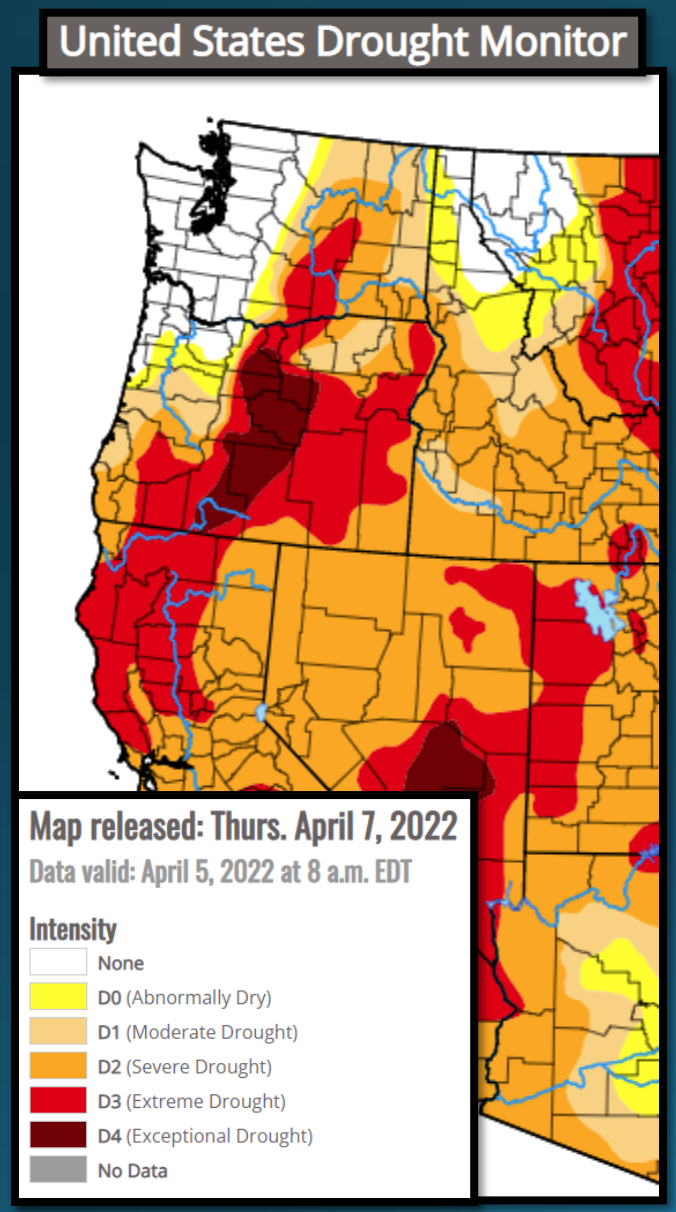


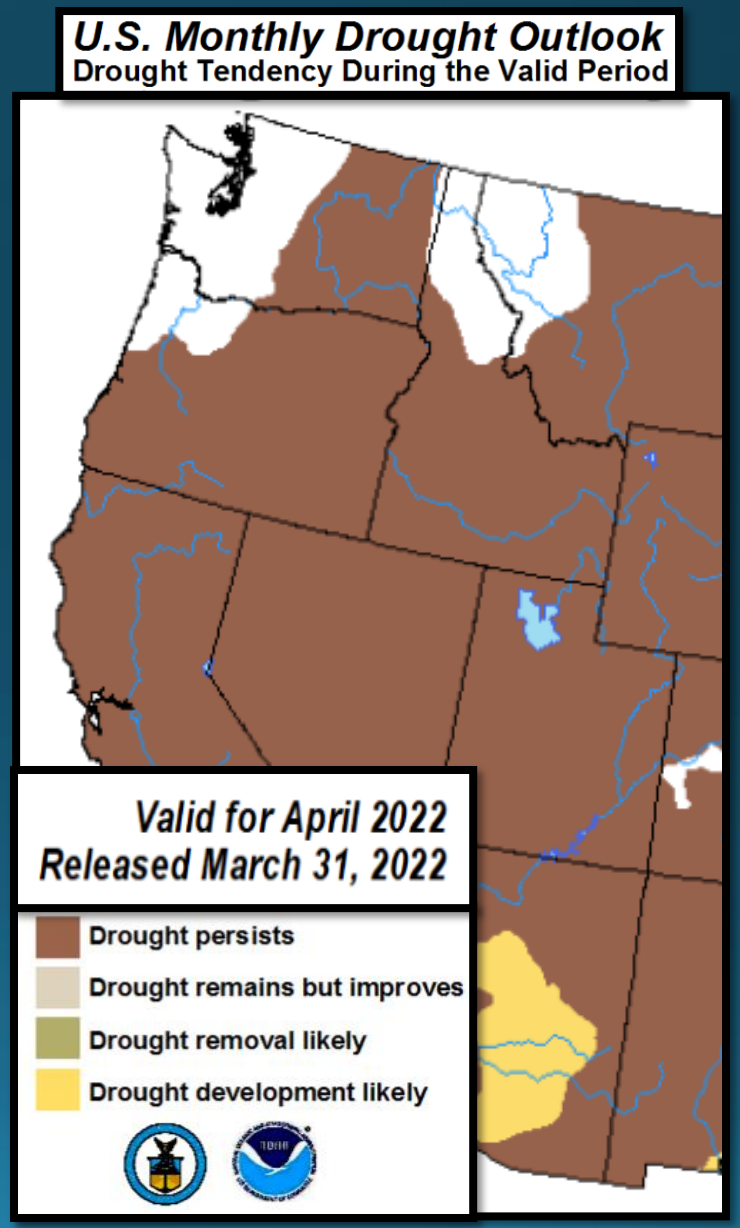
Crater Lake

Image Courtesy: NPS

	Average Max Temp (°F)	Average Min Temp (°F)	Total Precipitation	Total Snowfall	Snow Depth as of: 03/31/22	Highest Max/ Lowest Min
March	41.1°	23.2°	3.11"	25.1"	38"	56° on 23rd & 25th / 6° on 10th
Normal (1991-2020)	36.1°	20.3°	7.81"	71.9"	102"	N/A

Drought Monitor (Current) & Outlook (April)

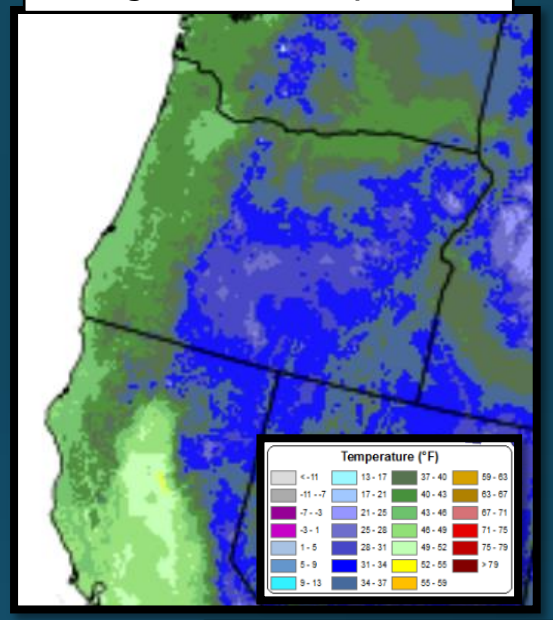




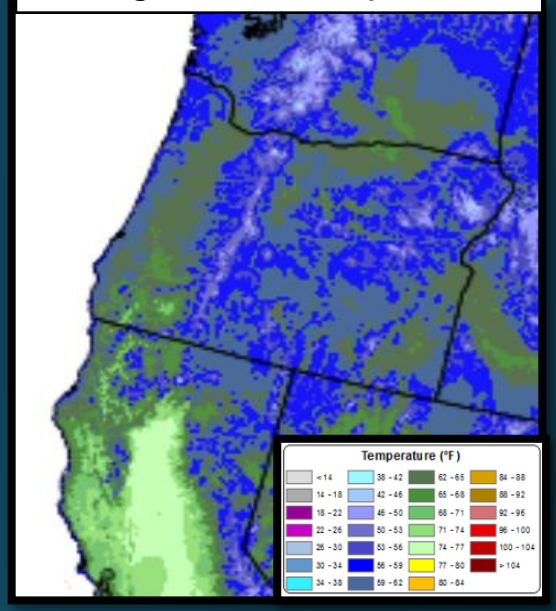
Looking Ahead: Normals for April (1991-2020)

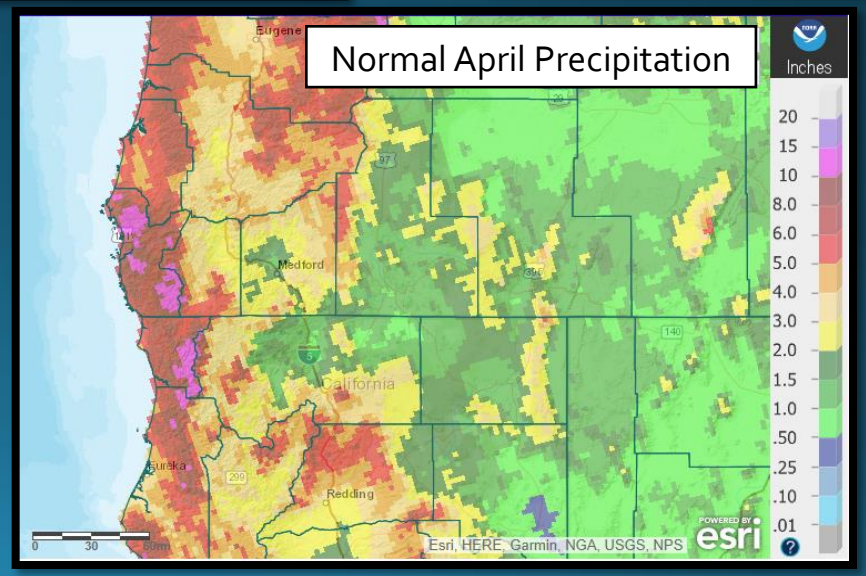
- ***Temperatures:*** Along the coast, lows are typically in 40s with highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s. Valleys west of the Cascades usually experiences average lows in the mid 30s to mid 40s and highs 55 to 65 degrees . Lows in the upper teens to mid 20s occur across the higher, more typically snow packed mountains, with lows in the 20s to lower 30s for the valleys east of the Cascades. Highs in the higher terrain are typically in the upper 30s to mid 40s, while across the valleys east of the Cascades, highs are typically in the upper 40s to upper 50s.
- ***Precipitation:*** Curry County usually gets 6 to 15 inches of water. South and southwest flow favored areas of west of the Cascades, the Mount Shasta area, and the Cascades and Siskiyous typically get 4 to 8 inches. The remainder of the West Side has a wide range in normals, from as low as 0.50 to 4 inches. East of the Cascades, the drier portions of Lake County can expect 0.50" to an inch, while the remainder of the East Side gets 1 to 4 inches of water, with up to around 5 inches in the some of the mountains.
- ***Snow:*** With peak snow water equivalent normally having occurred in mid-March, we expect the snowpack to begin melting off in April. In some years the snowpack peaks in April. Also, we do often get snow in April that slows the melting process. The snowpack typically melts off much faster on southerly aspects than northerly ones due to exposure and related temperatures. Crater Lake NP HQ normal snowfall for April is 48.7 inches.

Average Minimum Temperatures



Average Maximum 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**