# National Weather Service Medford 2023: 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 2023 Weather Review

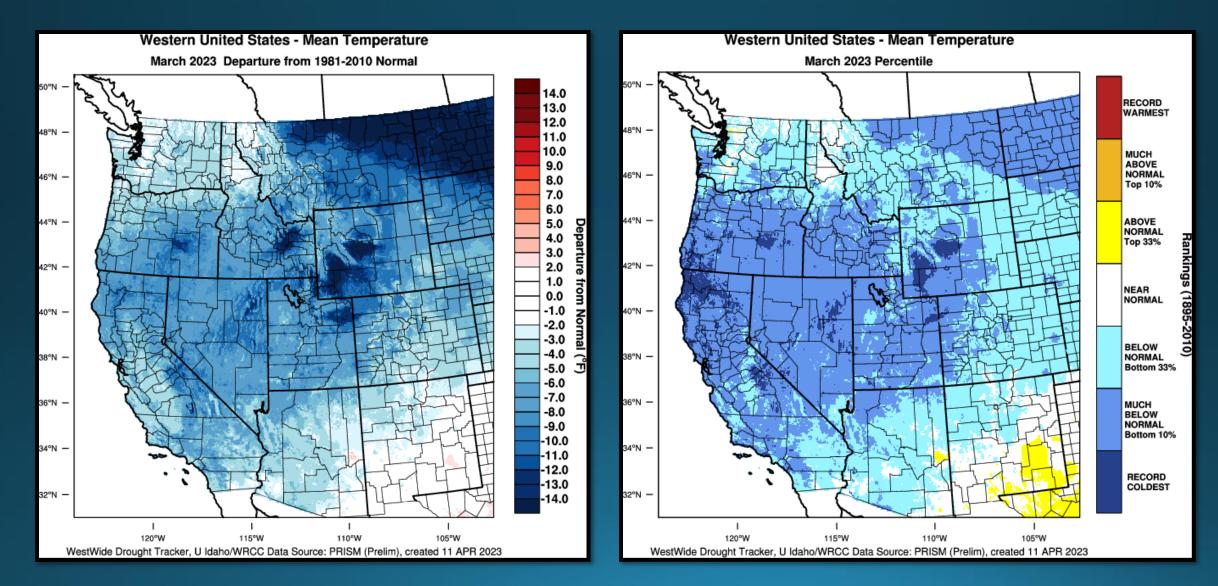
Well below normal temperatures and active weather continued well into March with more rounds of low elevation snow during the first week of the month. Low pressure that brought snow to valley floors at the end of February, exited the region on the first day of March, and this was followed by a shortwave ridge with northwest flow that continued through the 4<sup>th</sup>. The next low pressure arrived on the 5<sup>th</sup> and the region remained under the influence of this broad trough with multiple fronts passing through the region through the 10<sup>th</sup>. Temperatures trended warmer, but still remained below normal and active weather continued. Snow levels trended higher during this time, and ample precipitation on top of low-mid elevation snow pack led to flooding concerns around the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. This was short-lived however, as another arctic front arrived on the 14<sup>th</sup> and brought another round of heavy mountain snow and valley rain.

High pressure moved into the region, and brought a much welcomed break in the weather around the 16<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>. This gave the area's rivers and streams the chance to recede, and with a thermal trough along the coast, offshore flow brought warmer temperatures day by day and temperatures returned to near normal. This relatively warmer pattern continued through around the 23<sup>rd</sup> though average temperatures were still below normal. Active weather continued during this time, with the bulk of the impacts focused over California. Several fronts passed through the region bringing additional rounds of mountain snow, valley rain and gusty winds.

Another cold trough settled over the Pacific Northwest for the last week of the month. Yet another round of arctic air moved into the region with successive systems and well below normal temperatures, underlining the abnormally cold month. There was another round of low elevation snow on the 25<sup>th</sup> when the Medford Airport recorded an inch of snowfall. Temperatures trended slightly warmer as the month came to an end, but still remained below average. All in all, the region recorded near to above normal precipitation and above normal snowpack with March 2023 falling in the top five coldest Marches on record for several of the area's climate sites.



# March 2023 Observed Temperatures





# Average Temperatures

	Average (°F)	Departure from Normal	Average Max (°F)	Departure from Normal	Average Min (°F)	Departure from Normal
North Bend	43.5	-5.0°	50.0	-5.1°	37.0	-4.9°
Roseburg	43.8	-5.4°	52.4	-6.3°	35.2	-4.4°
Medford	42.5	-5.8°	52.5	-6.9°	32.4	-4.8°
Klamath Falls	32.1	-7.3°	41.9	-10.4°	22.3	-4.2°
Montague, CA	38.1	-6.3°	49.0	-9.2°	27.3	-3.3°
Mt. Shasta City, CA	34.5	-7-7°	42.5	-10.0°	26.5	-5.4°
Alturas, CA	31.0	- <b>8</b> .6°	41.0	- <b>11</b> .7°	20.9	-5.6°



# Monthly Max & Min Temperatures

	Max (°F)	Date(s)	Min (°F)	Date(s)
North Bend	58°	12 <sup>th</sup>	30°	1 <sup>st</sup>
Roseburg	64°	18 <sup>th</sup>	30°	16 <sup>th</sup>
Medford	64°	21 <sup>st</sup>	24°	6 <sup>th</sup>
Klamath Falls	54°	18 <sup>th</sup>	3°	1 <sup>st</sup>
Montague, CA	60°	13 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup>	19°	30 <sup>th</sup>
Mt. Shasta City, CA	54°	17 <sup>th</sup>	18°	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Alturas, CA	54°	18 <sup>th</sup>	-1°	2 <sup>nd</sup>

	Date	Record Low	Old Record/Year
Klamath Falls	6 <sup>th</sup>	8°F	9°F / 1917

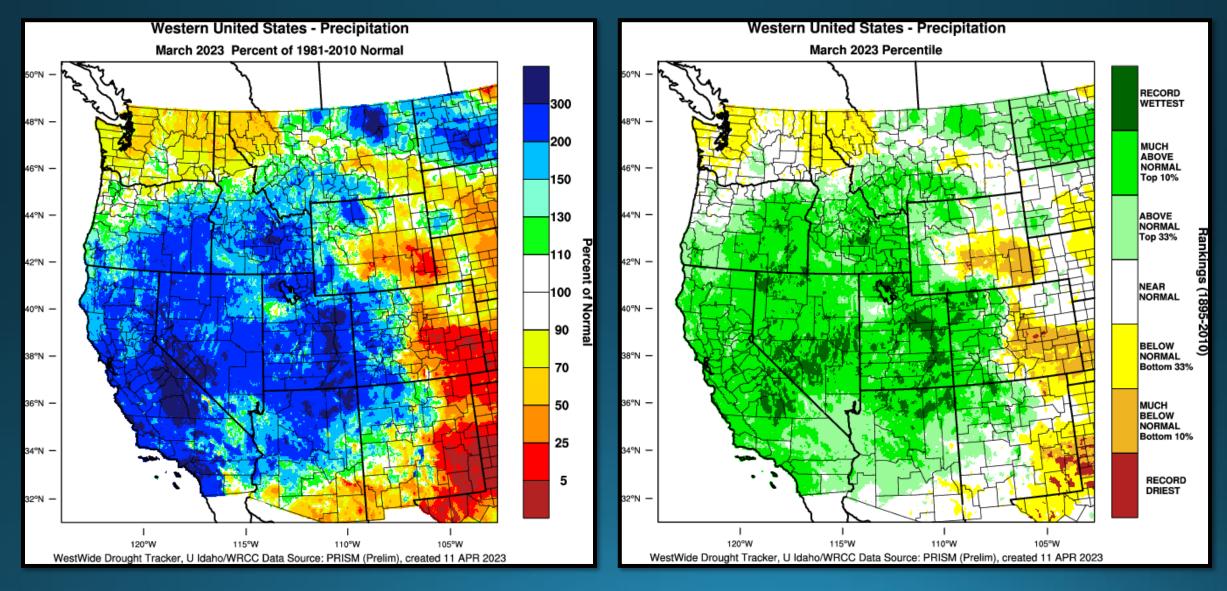
	Date	Record Low <i>Max</i>	Old Record/Year
Roseburg	14 <sup>th</sup>	44°	45°/1943
	25 <sup>th</sup>	46°	49°/2012
	27 <sup>th</sup>	46°	Ties w/1998
Montague	4 <sup>th</sup>	39°	40°/2009
	14 <sup>th</sup>	41°	42°/1952
	25 <sup>th</sup>	41 <sup>°</sup>	45° / 2012
	28 <sup>th</sup>	48°	50° / 2016
Mt Shasta City	9 <sup>th</sup>	34°	Ties w/1969
Alturas	25 <sup>th</sup>	36°	Ties w/1936
Medford	14 <sup>th</sup>	42°	43° / 1963
Klamath Falls	4 <sup>th</sup>	32°	Ties w/1918
	6 <sup>th</sup>	33 <b>°</b>	Ties w/2012
North Bend	27 <sup>th</sup>	46°	Ties w/1976

## Record Cold March

	for RO	31-Day Mean Avg 1 SEBURG REGIONA	AL AP, OR						for Mour	31-Day Mean Avg <sup>·</sup> nt Shasta Area, CA	(ThreadEx)
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Rank	Value	Ending Date	Missing Days					Rank	Value	Ending Date	Missing Days
1	42.9	1955-03-31	0					1	34.2	2006-03-31	0
2	43.8	1954-03-31	0					2	34.5	2023-03-31	0
3	43.8	2023-03-31	0		Minimum	24 Day Mean Ave		3	36.3	1958-03-31	0
4	44.1	1935-03-31	0			31-Day Mean Avg	-	4	37.0	1975-03-31	0
5	44.6	1951-03-31	0	Click colum		edford Area, OR (Th	again to sort descending.	5	37.1	1991-03-31	1
6	44.7	1953-03-31	0	Click colum	in heading t	o son ascending, click	again to sort descending.	6	37.3	1999-03-31	0
7	45.2	2006-03-31	0	Rank	Value	Ending Date	Missing Days	7	37.4	1952-03-31	0
8	45.4	1958-03-31	0	1	39.9	1917-03-31	0	8	37.6	1967-03-31	0
9	45.4	1952-03-31	0	2	42.5	2023-03-31	0	9	37.9	1971-03-31	0
10	45.5	2009-03-31	0	3	42.5	1952-03-31	0	10	37.9	1977-03-31	0
	Period of	of record: 1900-04-01 to 2	2023-04-14	4	42.8	1976-03-31	0		Period o	f record: 1948-04-15 to :	2023-04-14
				5	43.0	1977-03-31	0				
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	for Al	Ituras Area, CA (Thr	readEx)	6 7	43.3 43.3	1948-03-31 1975-03-31	0	ick colum	for Klam	ath Falls Area, OR	(ThreadEx)
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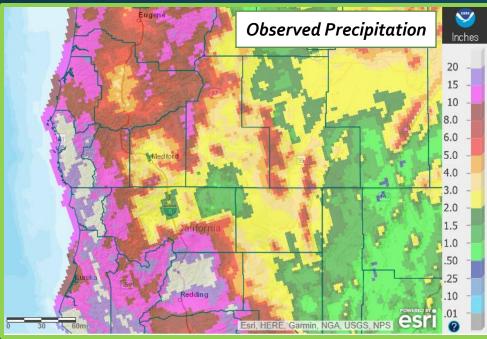


# March 2023 Observed Precipitation





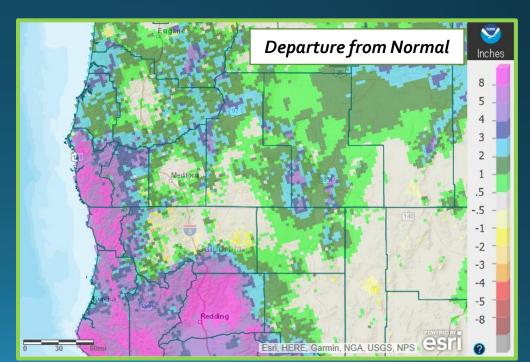
### Precipitation



### **Record Precipitation**

	Date / Amount	Old Record / Year
Klamath Falls	14 <sup>th</sup> / 0.65″	0.44″ / 1987
Montague	14 <sup>th</sup> / 0.75″	0.49″ / 1980
Mt Shasta City	28 <sup>th</sup> / 1.97″	0.80″ / 2006
Alturas	14 <sup>th</sup> / 0.57″	0.40″ / 2003

	Total	Departure from Normal	Greatest 24-hr Total	Date(s)
North Bend	9·35 <sup>″′</sup>	1.86″	1.39″	12 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup>
Roseburg	4.05″	0.58″	0.91″	12 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup>
Medford	1.92″	0.11″	0.74″	<b>13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup></b>
Klamath Falls	1.23″	0.20″	o.68″	13 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>
Montague, CA	1.28″	0.03″	0.76″	13 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>
Mt. Shasta City, CA	10.01″	4.41″	2.12″	27 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup>
Alturas, CA	2.80″	1.42″	0.78″	<b>19</b> <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>





### WaterYear Status (As of April 15<sup>th</sup>)

**V** 

Inches

20

16 12

8

6

4

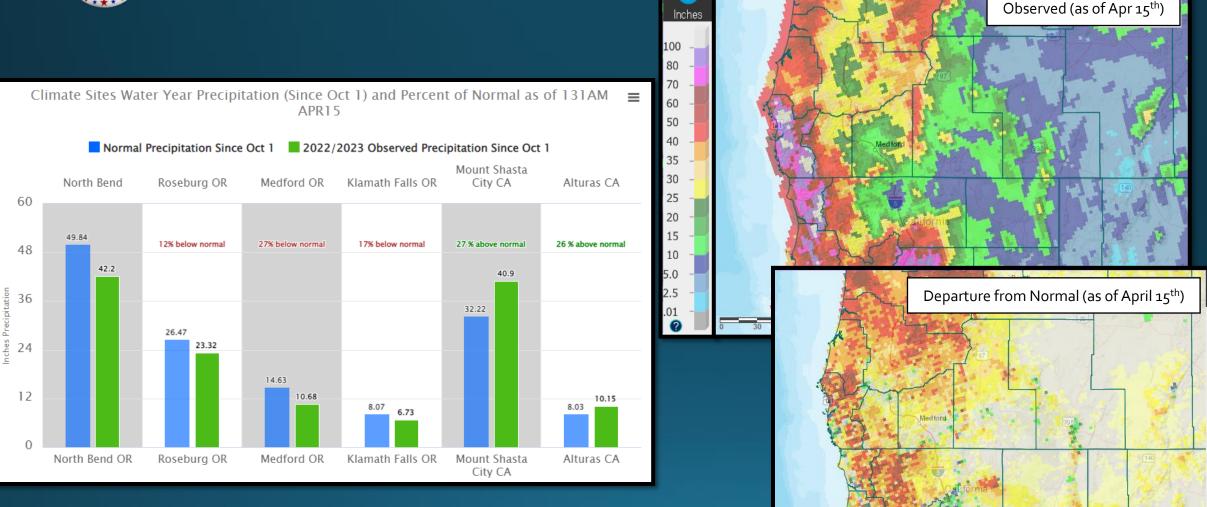
-2

-4

-6 -8 -12 -16 -20

2

Esri, HERE, Garmin, NGA, USGS, NPS





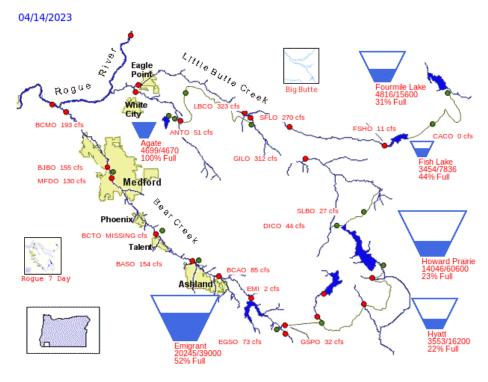
### **Reservoir Status**

Data courtesy of <u>US Army Corps of Engineers</u>



Data courtesy of **Bureau of Reclamation** 

#### US Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region Bear Creek and Little Butte Creek Basins



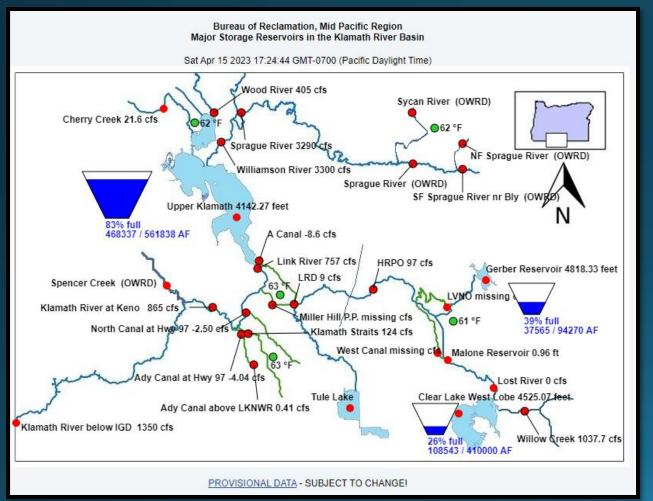
#### PROVISIONAL DATA - SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

percent full = (current storage - minimum conservation storage) / (maximum conservation storage - minimum conservation storage) percent above water control diagram = (current storage - WCD storage) / (maximum conservation storage - minimum conservation storage)



### Reservoir Status

#### Klamath River Basin. Data courtesy of Bureau of Reclamation



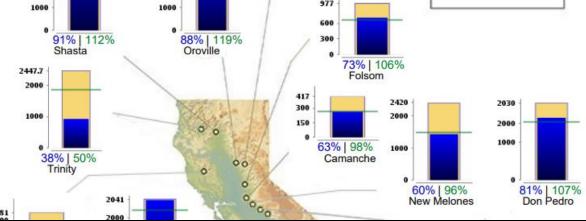
CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

Hist Ava

Historical

Average

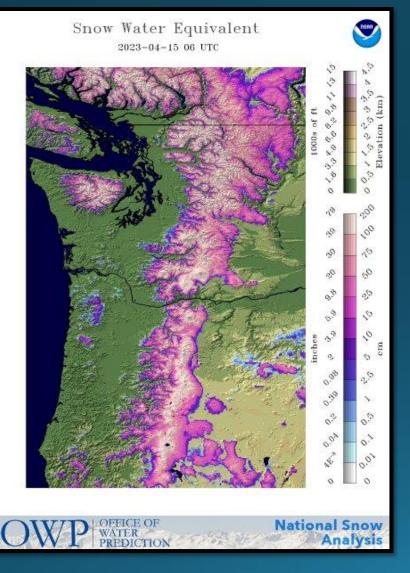


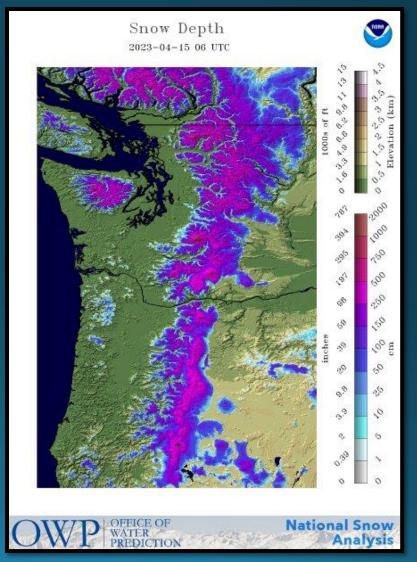


#### Northern California. California Data Exchange Center



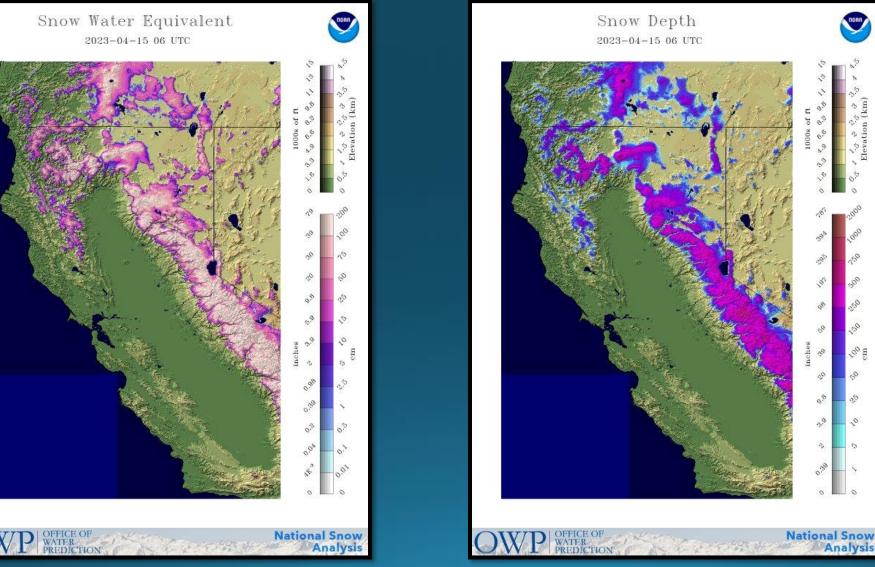
## PacNW SWE & Snow Depth as of 4/15/23







## California SWE & Snow Depth as of 4/15/23



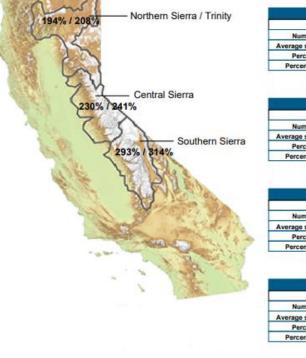


### Snow Water Equivalent Status



#### CURRENT REGIONAL SNOWPACK FROM AUTOMATED SNOW SENSORS

% of April 1 Average / % of Normal for This Date



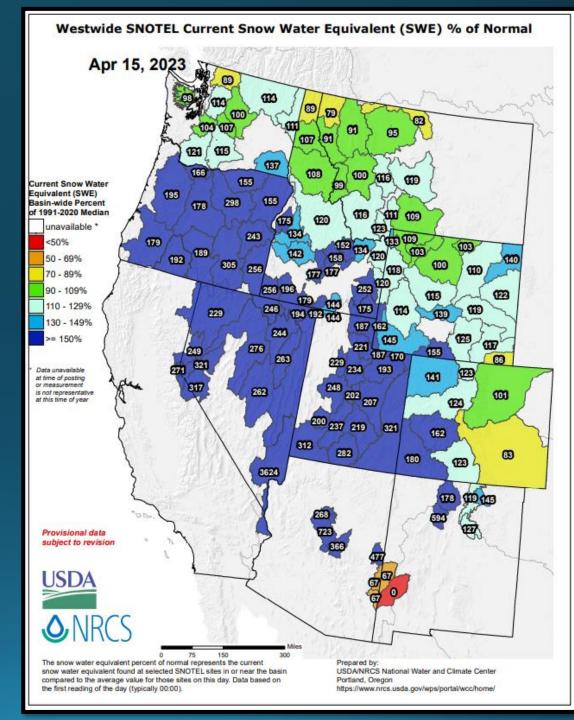
Data as of April 14, 2023	
Number of Stations Reporting	24
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	57.7
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	194
Percent of normal for this date (%)	208

CENTRAL Data as of April 14, 2023	
Number of Stations Reporting	42
verage snow water equivalent (Inches)	60.3
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	230
Percent of normal for this date (%)	241

Data as of April 14, 2023	
Number of Stations Reporting	25
Average snow water equivalent (Inches)	61.6
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	293
Percent of normal for this date (%)	314

STATE	
Data as of April 14, 2023	
Number of Stations Reporting	91
verage snow water equivalent (Inches)	60.0
Percent of April 1 Average (%)	233
Percent of normal for this date (%)	247

#### Data Valid 4/14/2023

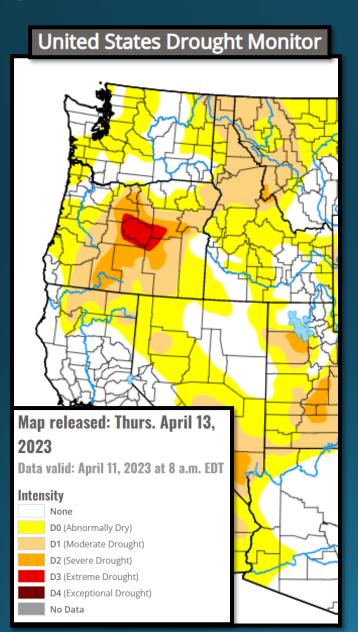


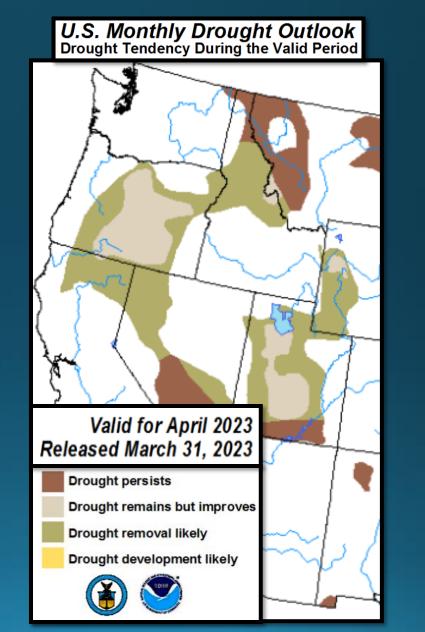
# Crater Lake

Image Courtesy: NPS

DAR		Average Max Temp (°F)	Average Min Temp (°F)	Total Precipitation	Total Snowfall	Snow Depth as of: 03/31/23	Highest Max/ Lowest Min
ATATINE OF	March	26.2°	13.9°	14.12″	179.3″	156″	36° on 19 <sup>th</sup> / 4° on 26 <sup>th</sup>
144	Normal (1991-2020)	36.1°	20.3°	7.81″	71.9″	102″	N/A

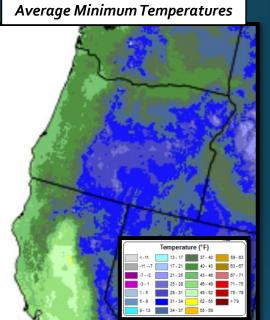
### Drought Monitor (Current) & Outlook (April)



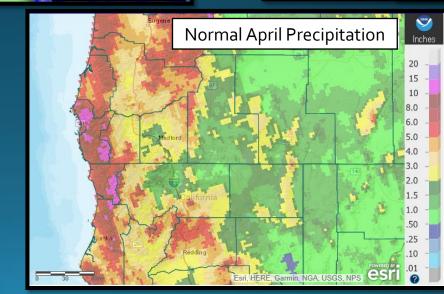


### Looking Ahead: Normals for April (1991-2020)

- **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.
- <u>Snow</u>: 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 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

- <u>Roseburg</u>: 04/1900 Present
   *Missing:*
  - ▶ 05/1900-01/1901
  - ▶ 03/1901-06/1902
  - ▶ 08/1902-12/1930
  - ▶ 10/1965-06/1997
- <u>Medford</u>: 03/11/1911 Present
- <u>Klamath Falls</u>: 12/1897 Present

- Montague, CA: 07/1948 Present
   *Missing:*
  - ▶ 08-09/1952
  - ▶ 02/1953-06/2000
- <u>Mount Shasta City, CA</u>: 04/1948 Present
- <u>Alturas, CA</u>: 05/1935 Present