

Weather Forecast Office

Pendleton, OR

Monday, May 6

Month in Review - April 2024

Photo taken by NWS Pendleton staff
at Wallowa Lake, Oregon



The Month in Review is a retrospective collection of climate statistics for NWS Pendleton's forecast area with specific emphasis on ASOS-based climate sites, snowpack and drought evolution, and various statistics for the water year to date.

Prepared by NWS Pendleton's Climate Services team.



Key Points - April 2024

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- Temperatures ranged from slightly below normal to slightly above normal across the forecast area during April.
- Aside from near- to above-normal precipitation in central and far northeast OR, below-normal precipitation was observed during April.
- Snow water equivalent (SWE) generally declined area-wide during April for all basins/watersheds in NWS Pendleton's forecast area due to an extended dry stretch and typical springtime warming relative to winter months. A small increase in SWE was observed towards the end of the month as a cooler, more unsettled weather pattern brought additional snowfall to the mountains.



Local Storm Reports (LSRs) - April 2024

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- Iowa State University's website provides a nice graphical interface for viewing archived local storm reports. See the following link for April's local storm reports in NWS Pendleton's forecast area:

<https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/lsr/#PDT/202404010700/202405010700/011011>

- For recent LSRs, <https://www.weather.gov/source/crh/lsrcmap.html?sid=pdt> or

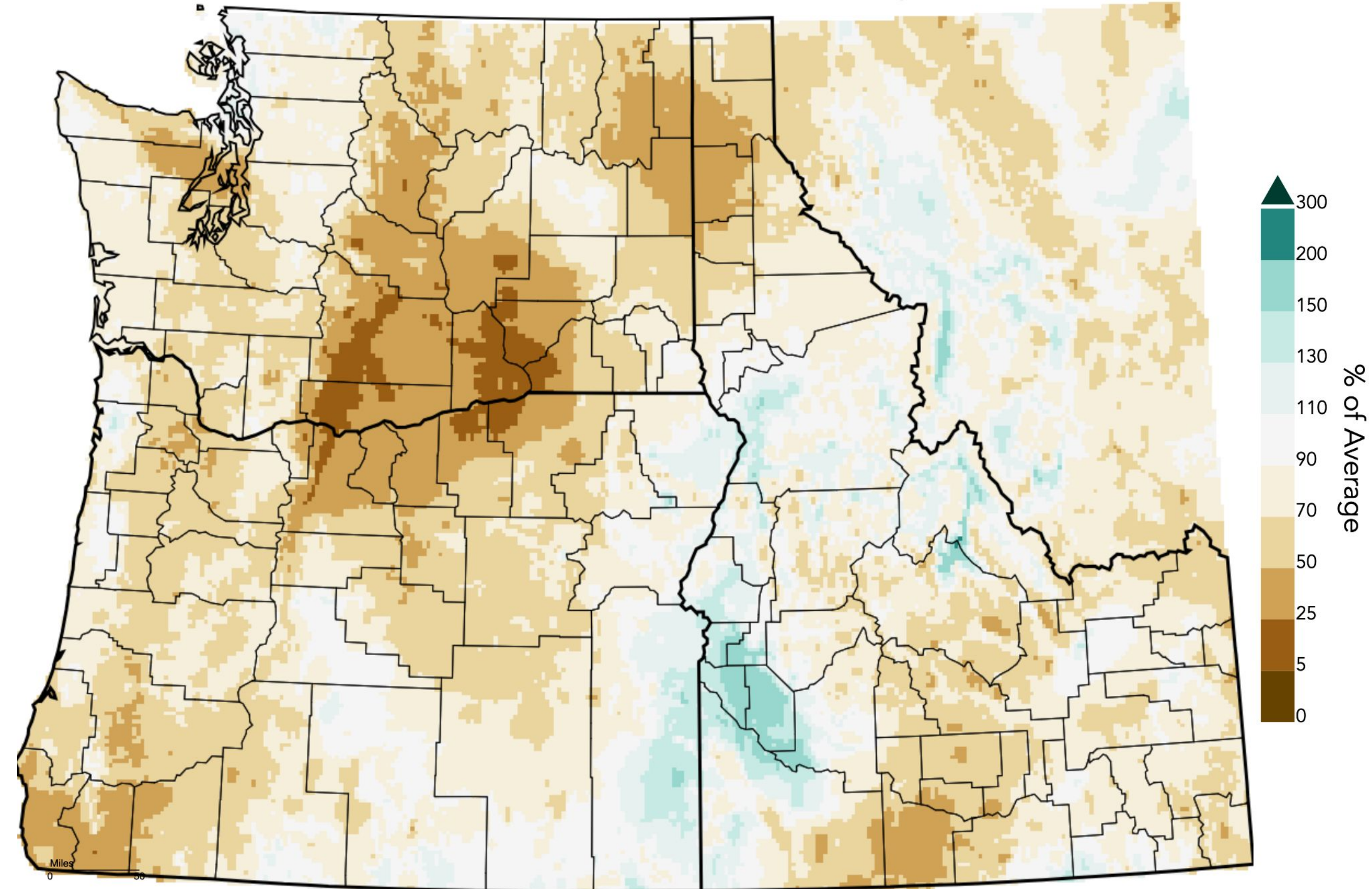
<https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/lsr/#PDT/202405052108/202405062108/111111>



Precipitation Anomaly - April 2024

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Pacific Northwest - Precipitation
April 2024, Percent of 1991-2020 Computed Average(s)



Aside from near- to above-normal precipitation in central and far northeast OR, below-normal precipitation was observed during April.

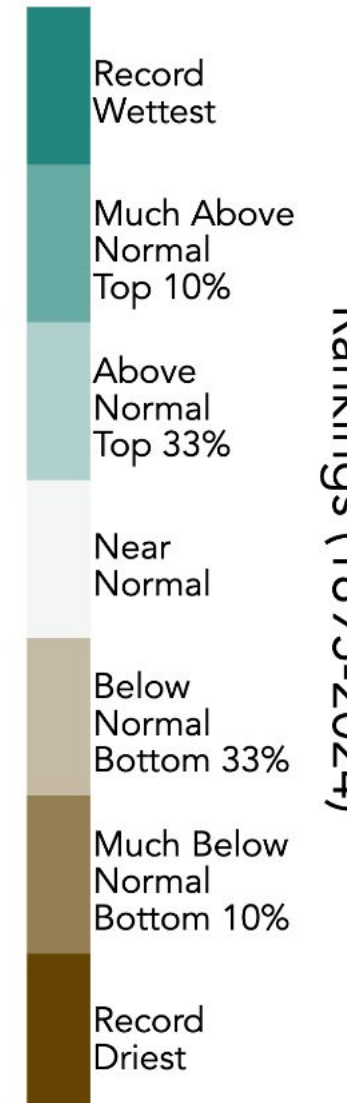
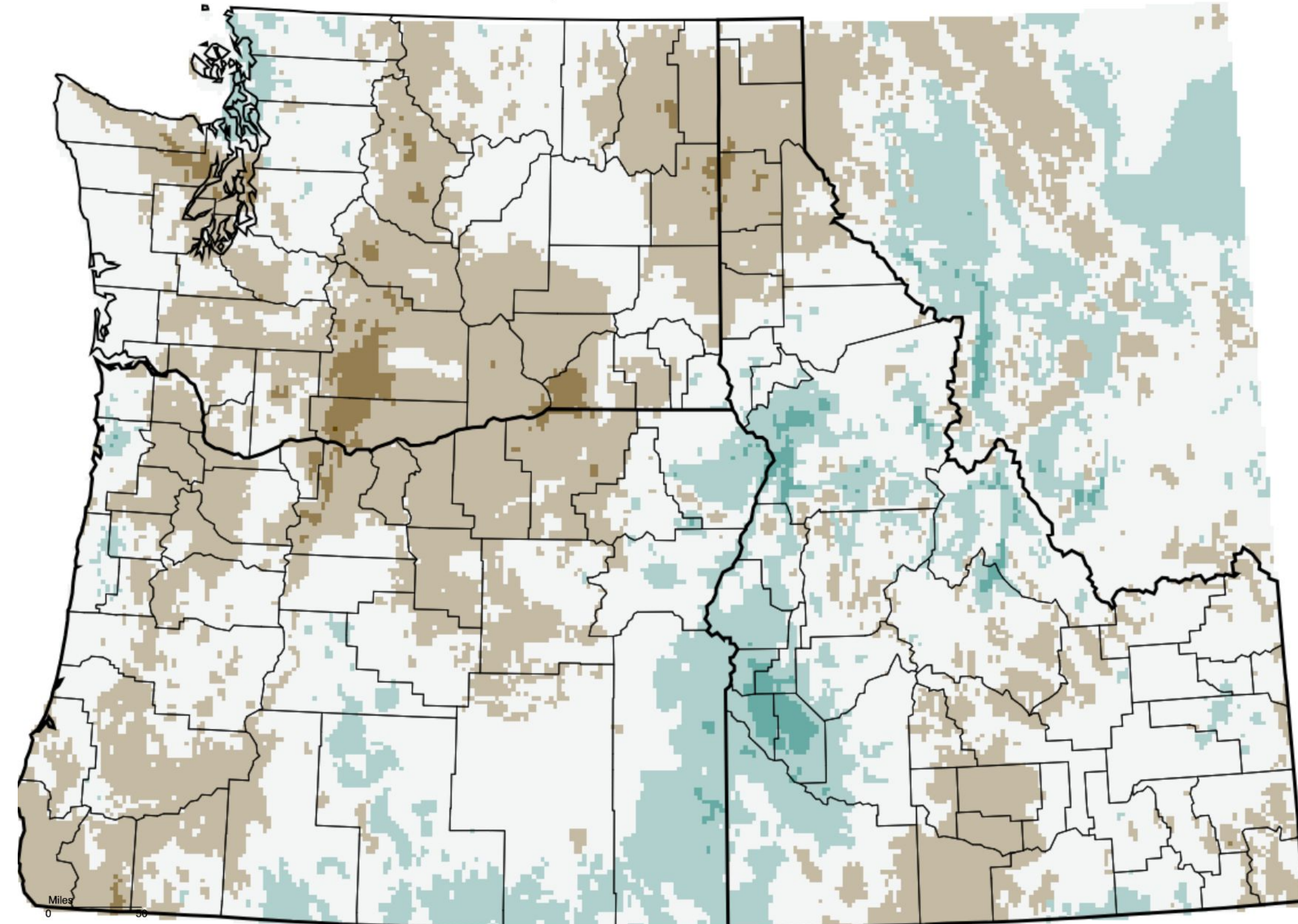


Precipitation Percentiles - April 2024

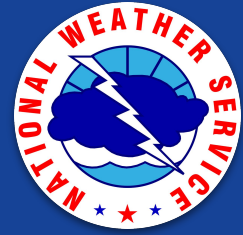
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Pacific Northwest - Precipitation
April 2024, Percentile

Aside from near- to above-normal precipitation in central and far northeast OR, below-normal precipitation was observed during April.



Rankings (1895-2024)

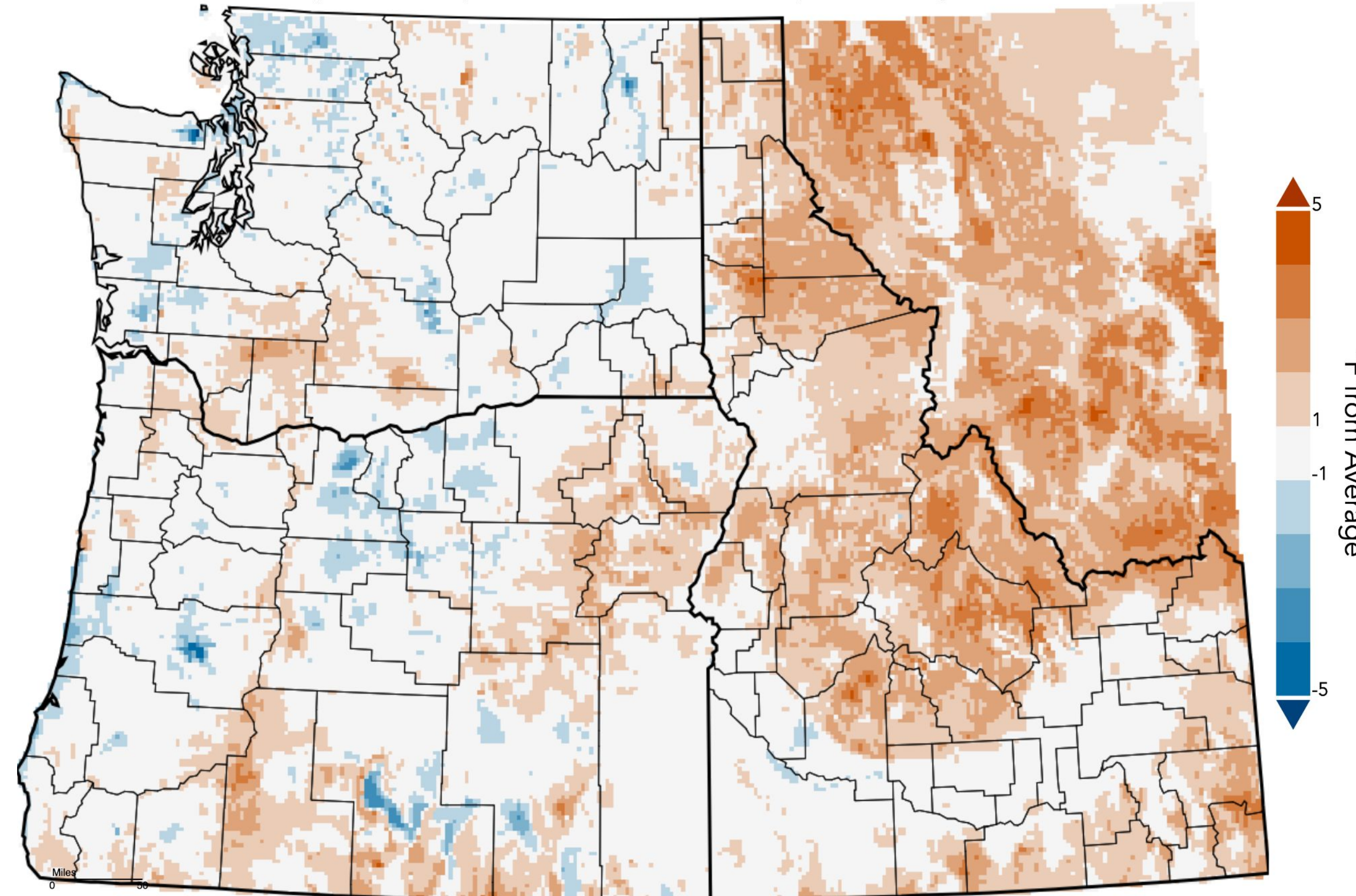


Temperature Anomaly - April 2024

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Pacific Northwest - Mean Temperature
April 2024, Departure from 1991-2020 Computed Average(s)

Temperatures ranged from slightly below normal to slightly above normal across the forecast area during April.



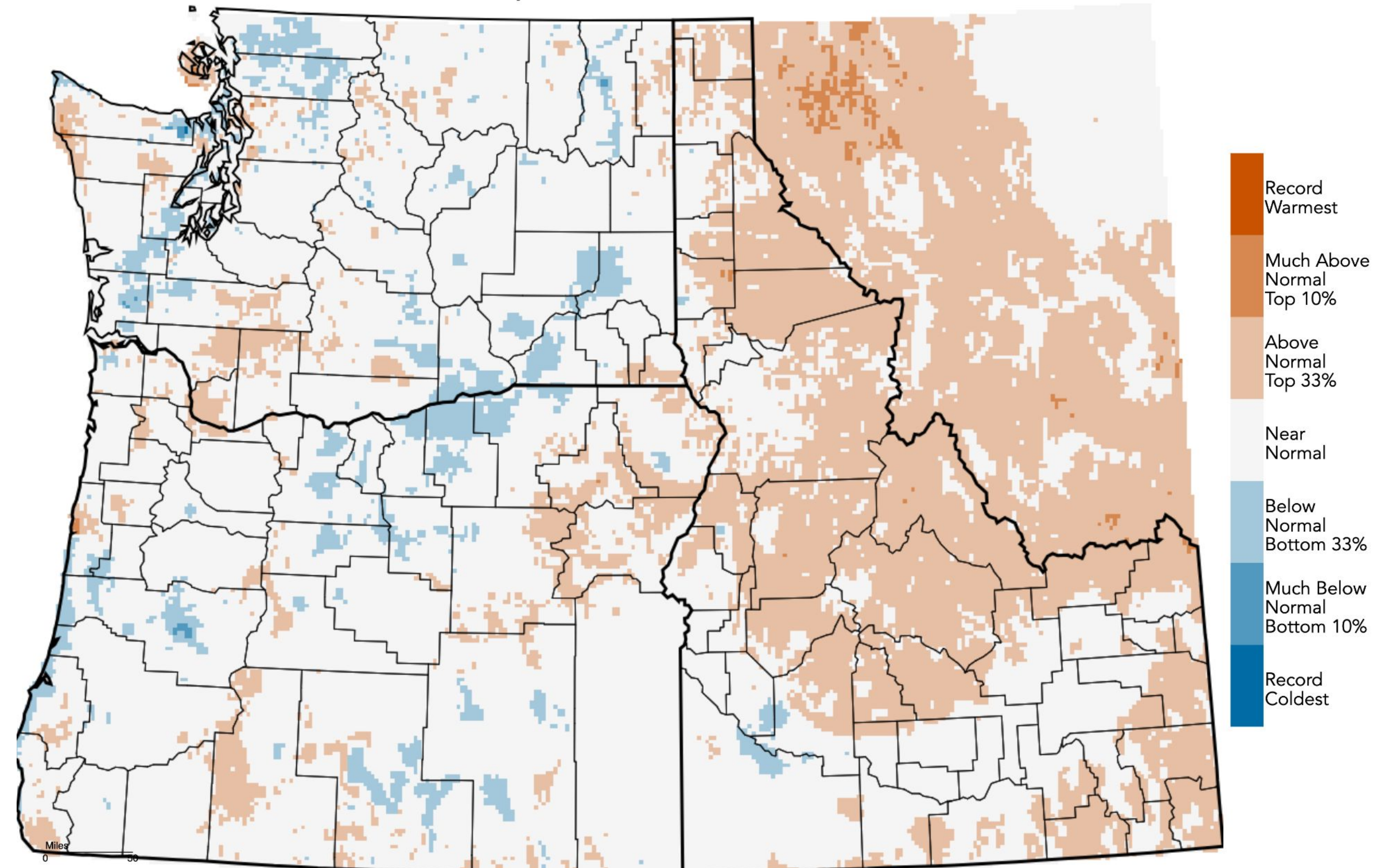


Temperature Percentiles - April 2024

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Pacific Northwest - Mean Temperature
April 2024, Percentile

Temperatures ranged from slightly below normal to slightly above normal across the forecast area during April.



Rankings (1895-2024)



April 2024 Climate Statistics - Pendleton ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	79	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	63.5	61.8	1.7
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	38.8	38.3	0.5
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	29	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	51.1	50.1	1.0
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.51	1.21	-0.70
Total Snow (inches)	0.0	0.0	0.0

Additional climate statistics can be found here: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=pdt>



April 2024 Climate Statistics - Walla Walla ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	77	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	62.2	62.5	-0.3
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	41.4	42.5	-1.1
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	33	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	51.8	52.5	-0.7
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.40	1.98	-1.58

Additional climate statistics can be found here: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=pdt>



April 2024 Climate Statistics - The Dalles ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	80	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	64.1	64.2	-0.1
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	41.0	41.7	-0.7
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	30		
Average Temperature (F)	52.6	53.0	-0.4
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.29	0.83	-0.54

Additional climate statistics can be found here: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=pdt>



April 2024 Climate Statistics - Ellensburg ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	77	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	61.0	61.4	-0.4
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	35.9	36.5	-0.6
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	28	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	48.5	49.0	-0.5
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.13	0.68	-0.55

Additional climate statistics can be found here: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=pdt>



April 2024 Climate Statistics - Hermiston ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	80	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	66.3	66.6	-0.3
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	37.0	38.9	-1.9
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	27	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	51.7	52.8	-1.1
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.12	0.78	-0.66

Additional climate statistics can be found here: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=pdt>



April 2024 Climate Statistics - Meacham ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	71	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	52.7	52.3	0.4
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	28.6	29.0	-0.4
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	18	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	40.6	40.6	0.0
Total Precipitation (inches)	1.58	3.93	-2.35

Additional climate statistics can be found here: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=pdt>



April 2024 Climate Statistics - Pasco ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	83	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	67.7	67.0	0.7
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	39.1	38.4	0.7
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	28	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	53.4	52.7	0.7
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.11	0.66	-0.55

Additional climate statistics can be found here: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=pdt>



April 2024 Climate Statistics - Redmond ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	80		
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	60.3	60.2	0.1
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	28.8	30.7	-1.9
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	19		
Average Temperature (F)	44.5	45.5	-1.0
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.82	0.71	0.11

Additional climate statistics can be found here: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=pdt>



April 2024 Climate Statistics - Yakima ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	81		
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	64.4	64.7	-0.3
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	34.9	35.2	-0.3
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	27		
Average Temperature (F)	49.7	49.9	-0.2
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.15	0.55	-0.40

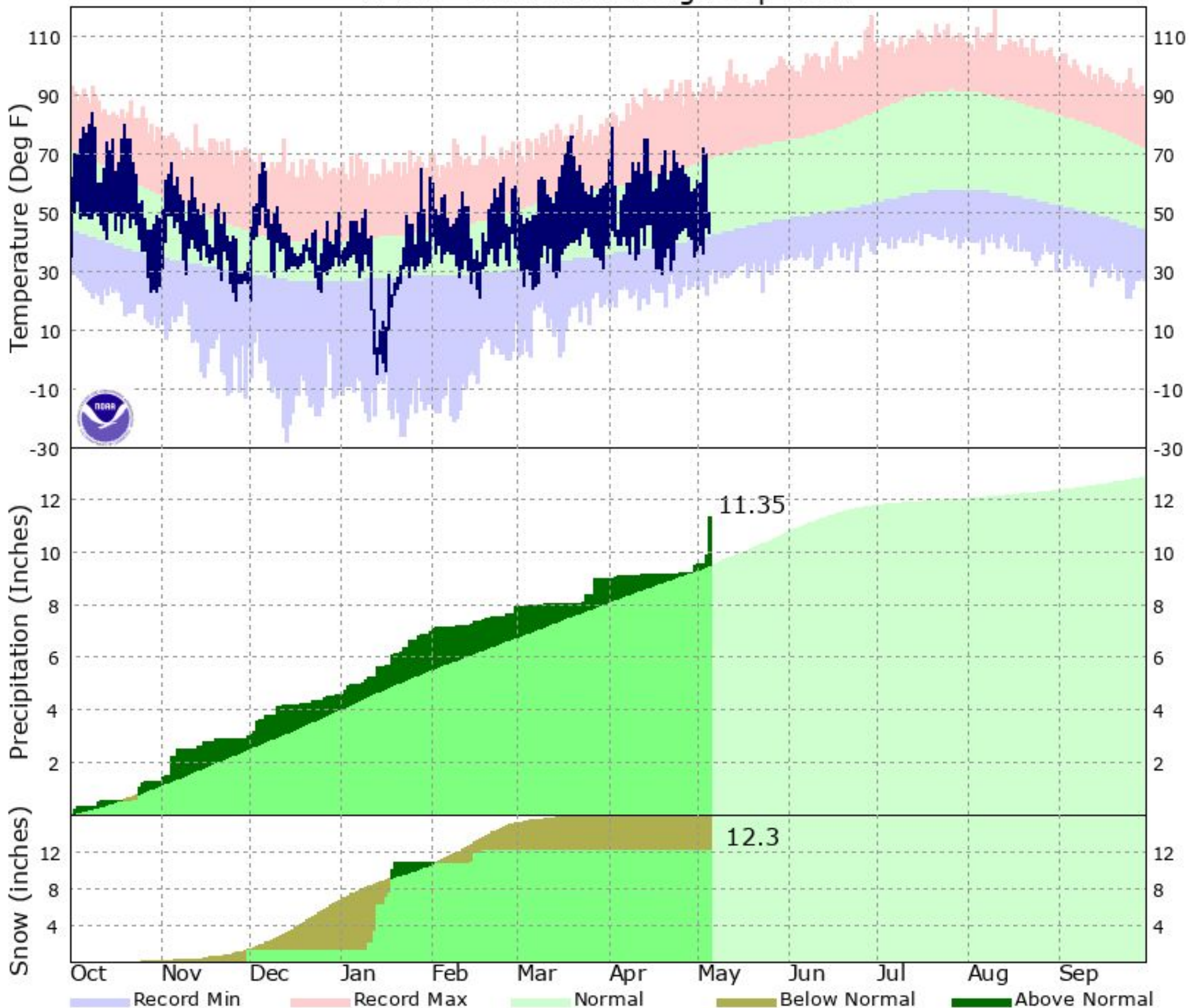
Additional climate statistics can be found here: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=pdt>



Water Year Climate Graphs - Pendleton ASOS

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KPDT - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024



So far this water year, Pendleton has observed above-normal precipitation and slightly below-normal snowfall.

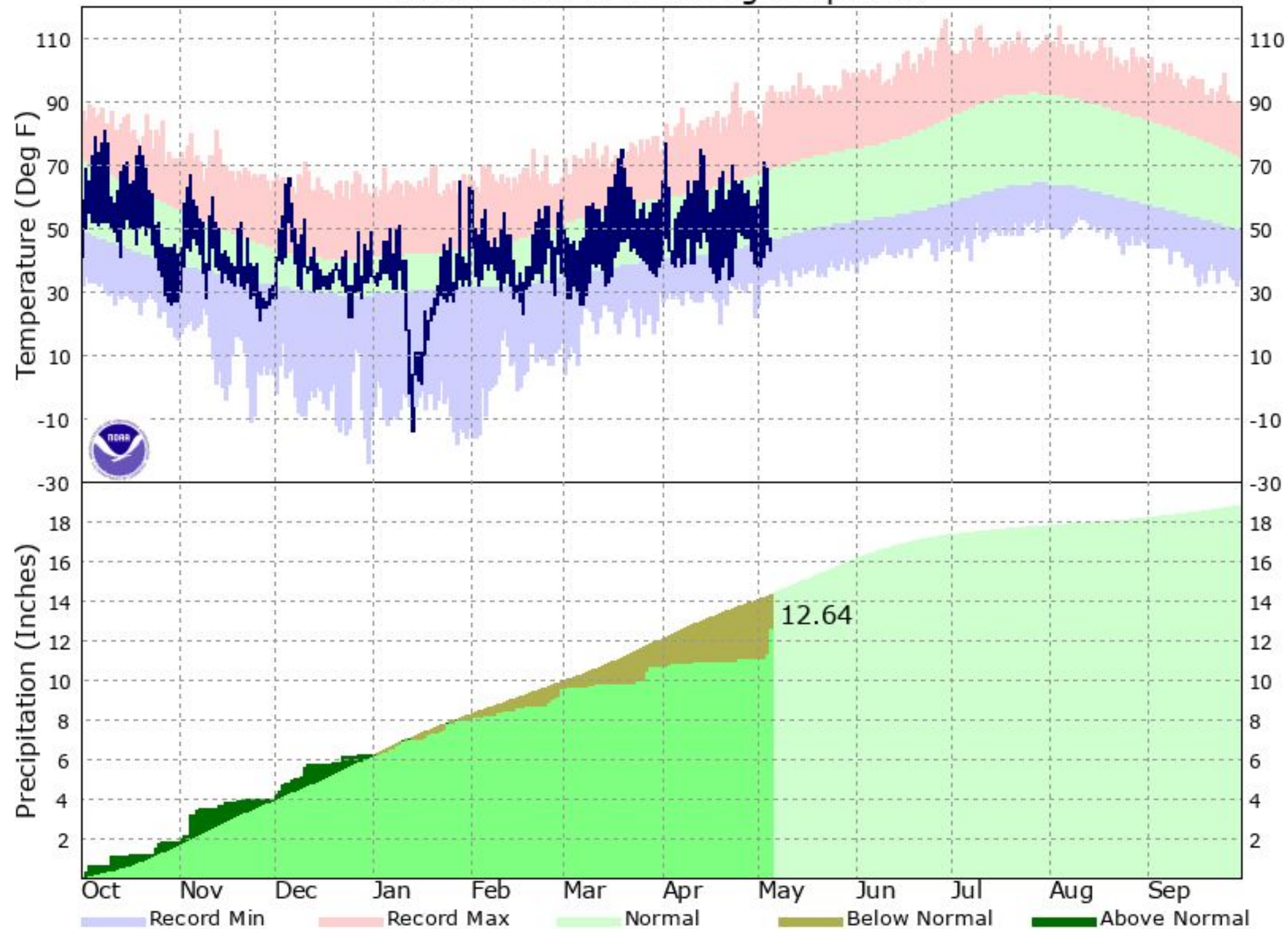


Water Year Climate Graphs - Walla Walla ASOS

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KALW - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024

So far this water year, Walla Walla has received below-normal precipitation.

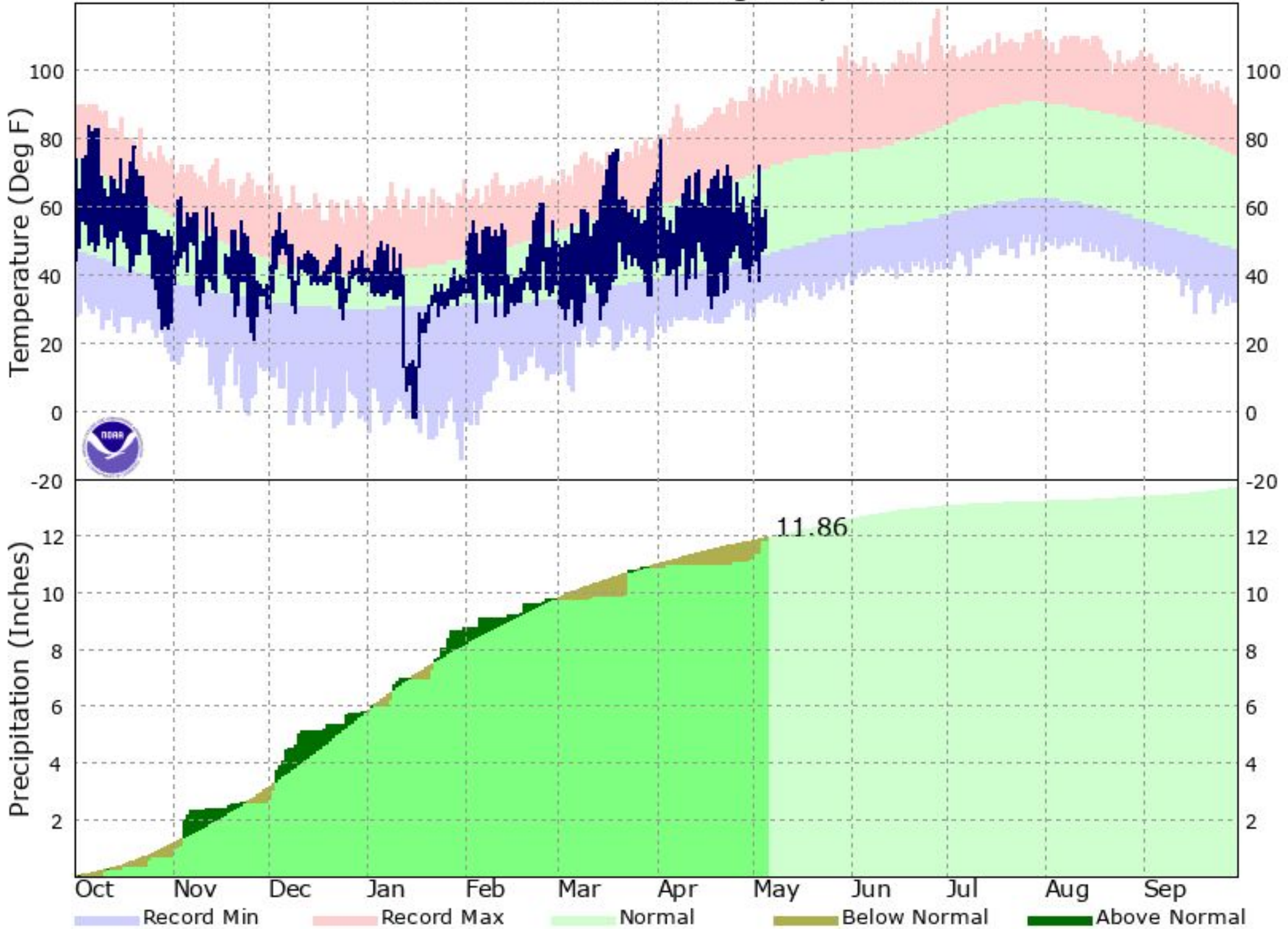




Water Year Climate Graphs - The Dalles ASOS

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KDLS - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024



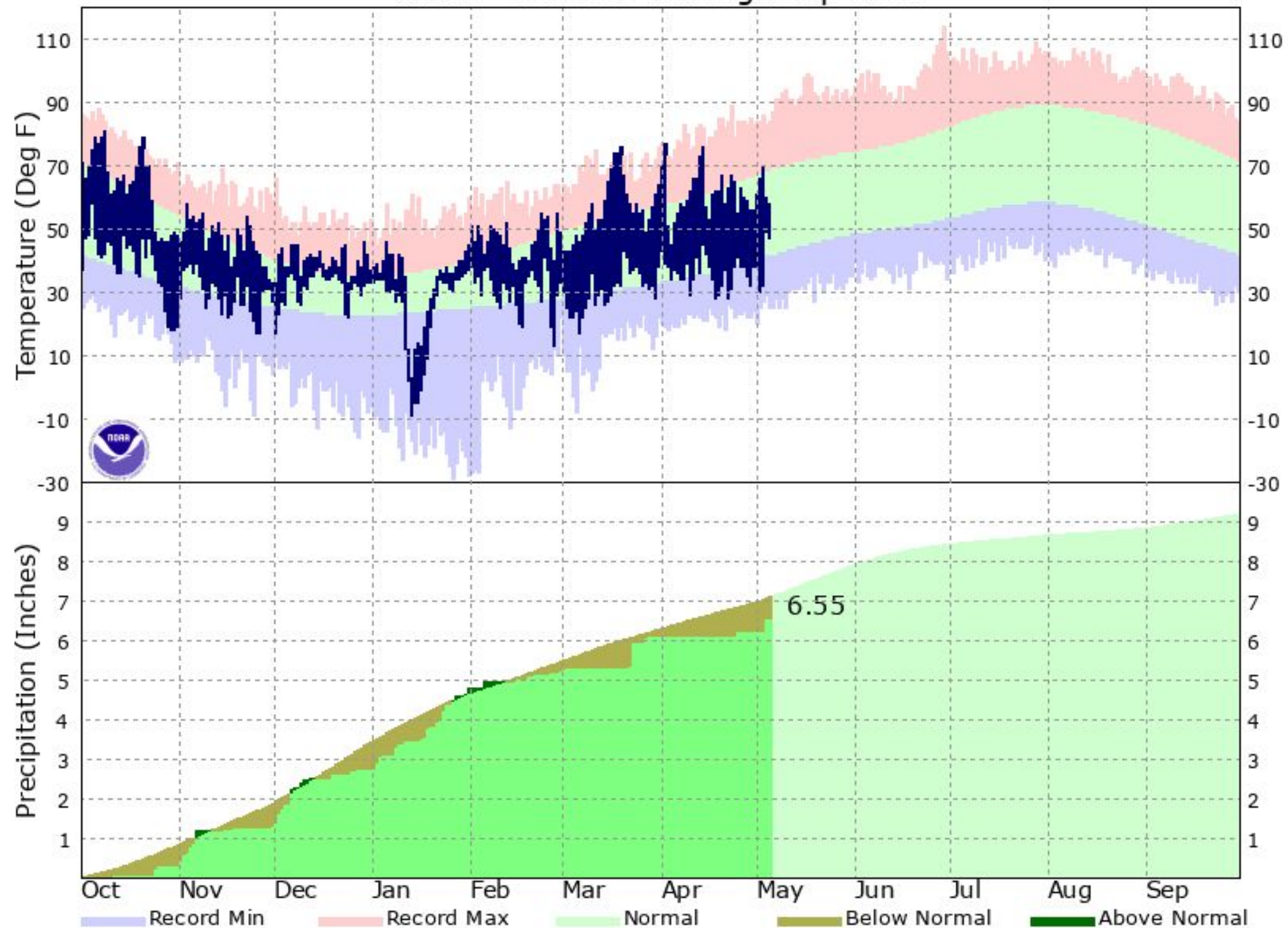
So far this water year, The Dalles has recorded near-normal precipitation.



Water Year Climate Graphs - Ellensburg ASOS

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KELN - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024



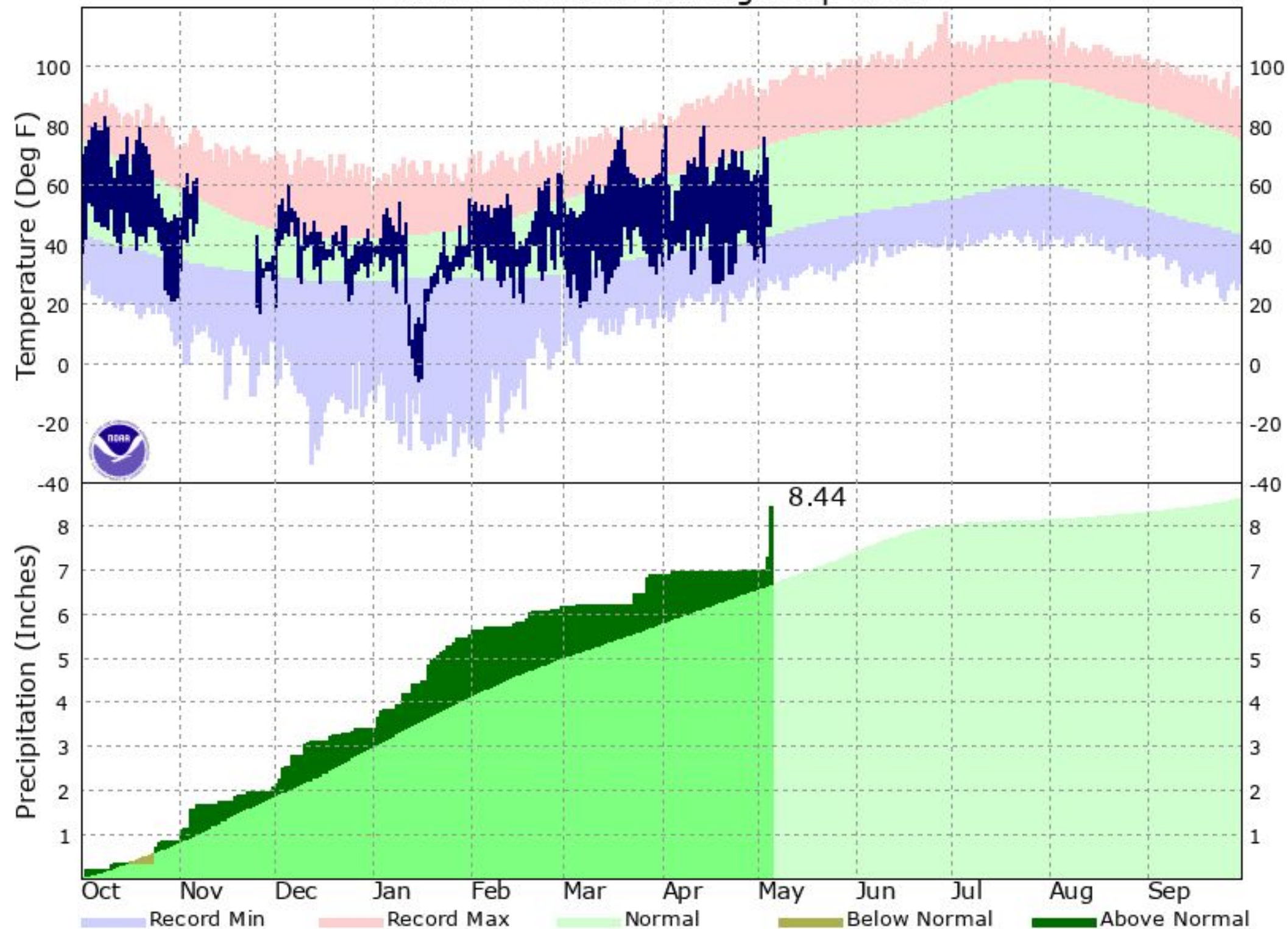
So far this water year, Ellensburg has observed slightly below-normal precipitation.



Water Year Climate Graphs - Hermiston ASOS

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KHRI - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024



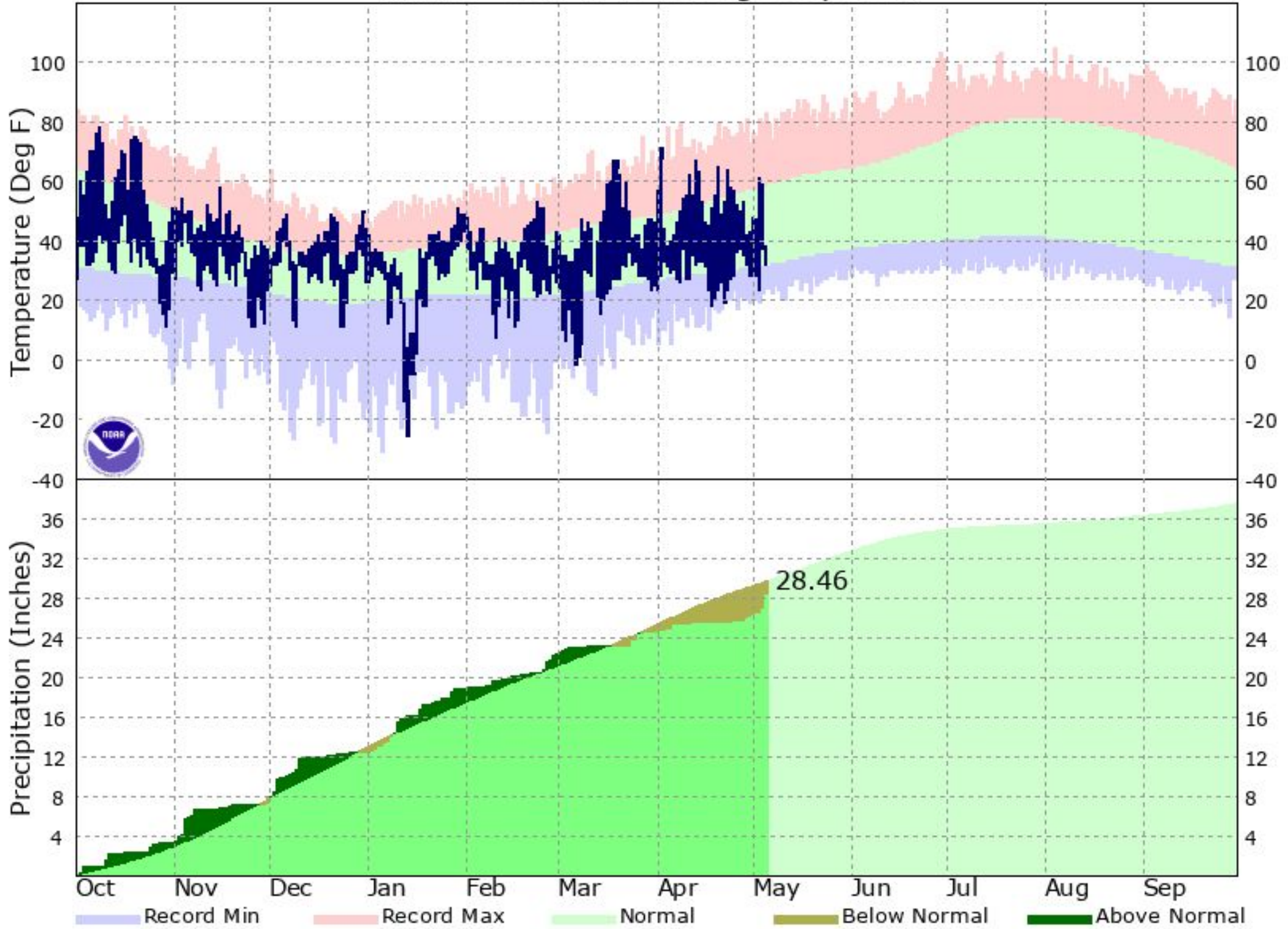
So far this water year, Hermiston has recorded above-normal precipitation.



Water Year Climate Graphs - Meacham ASOS

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KMEH - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024



So far this water year, Meacham has received slightly below-normal precipitation.

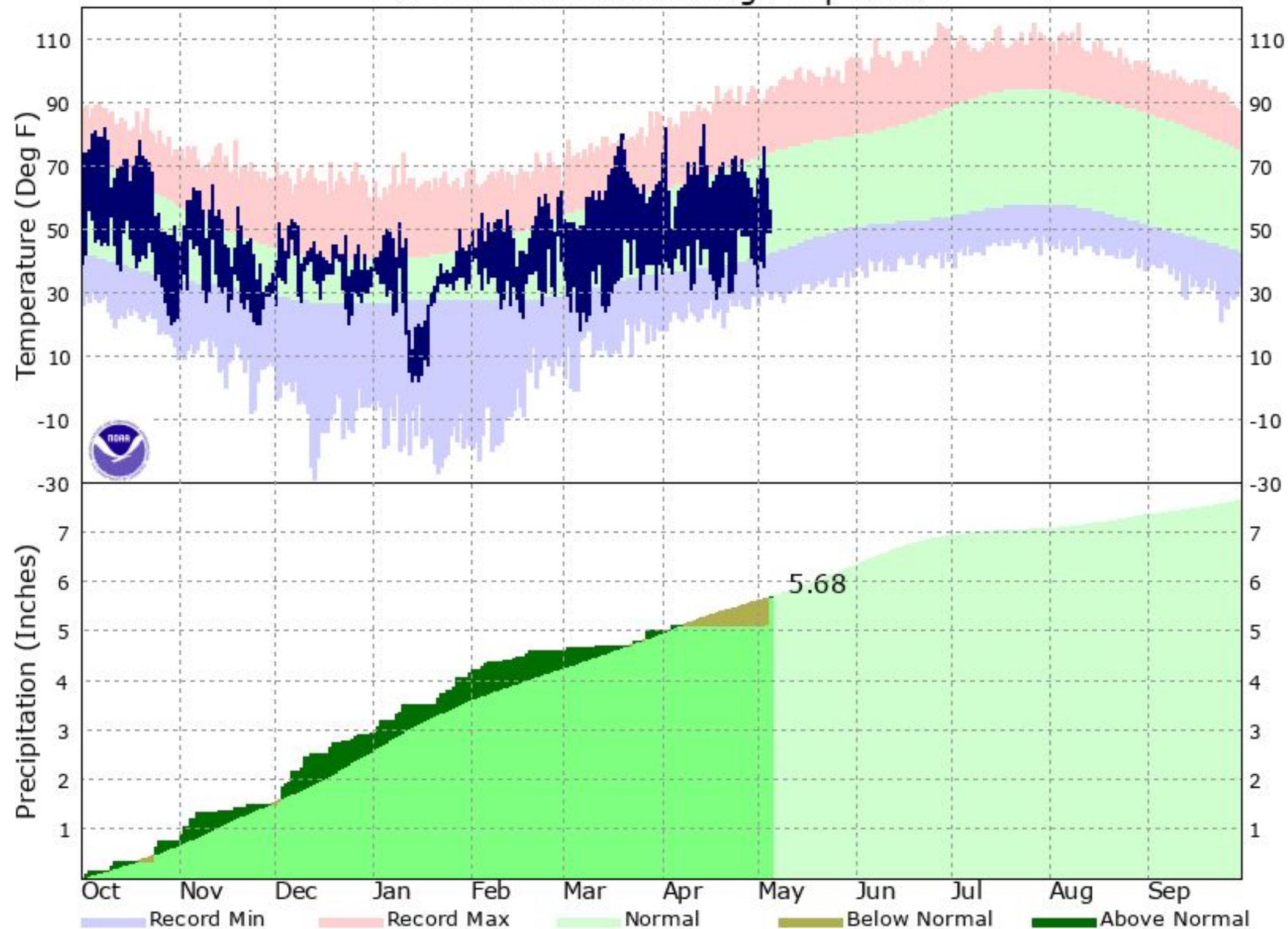


Water Year Climate Graphs - Pasco ASOS

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KPSC - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024

So far this water year, Pasco has observed near-normal precipitation.

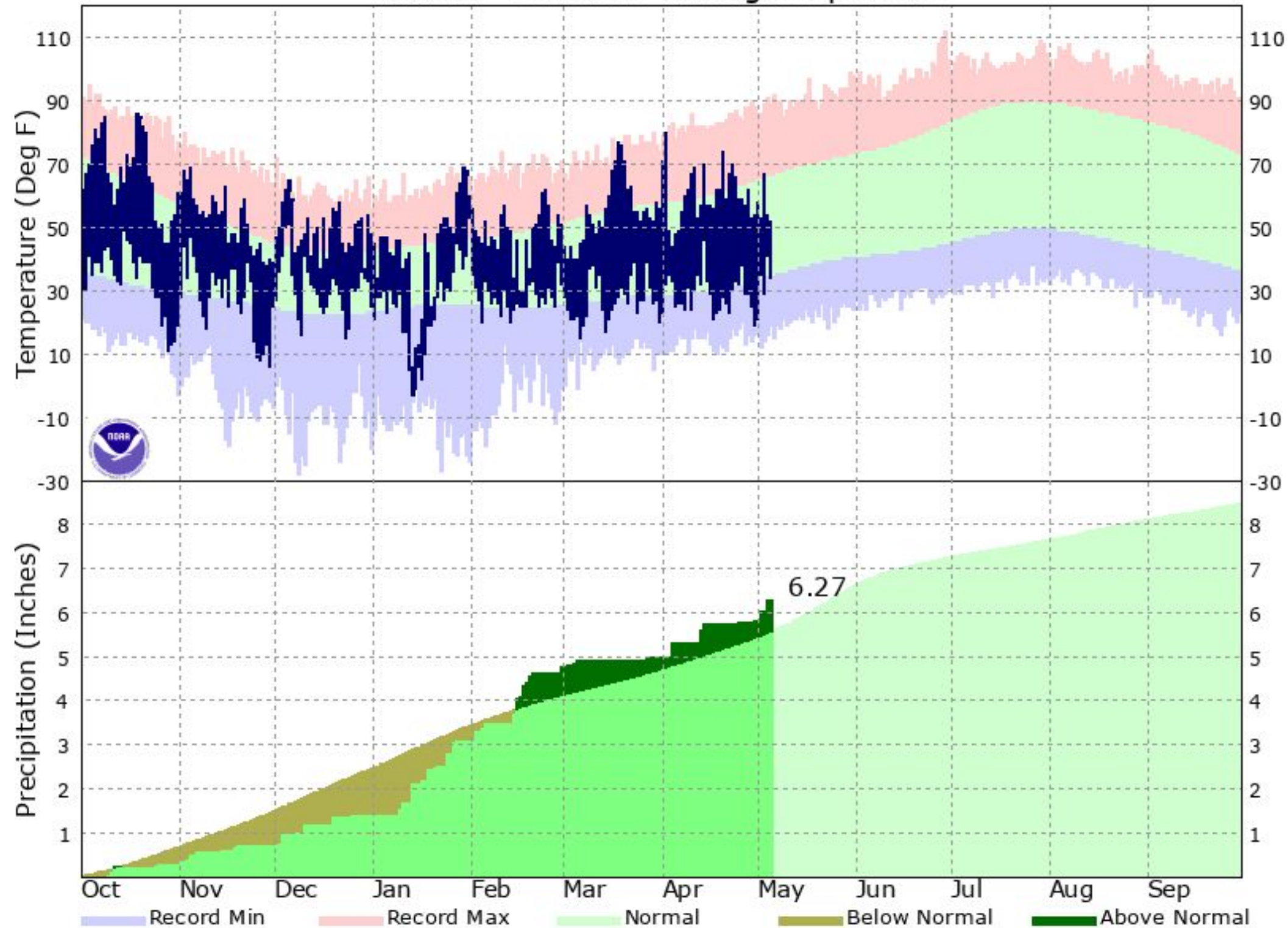




Water Year Climate Graphs - Redmond ASOS

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KRDM - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024



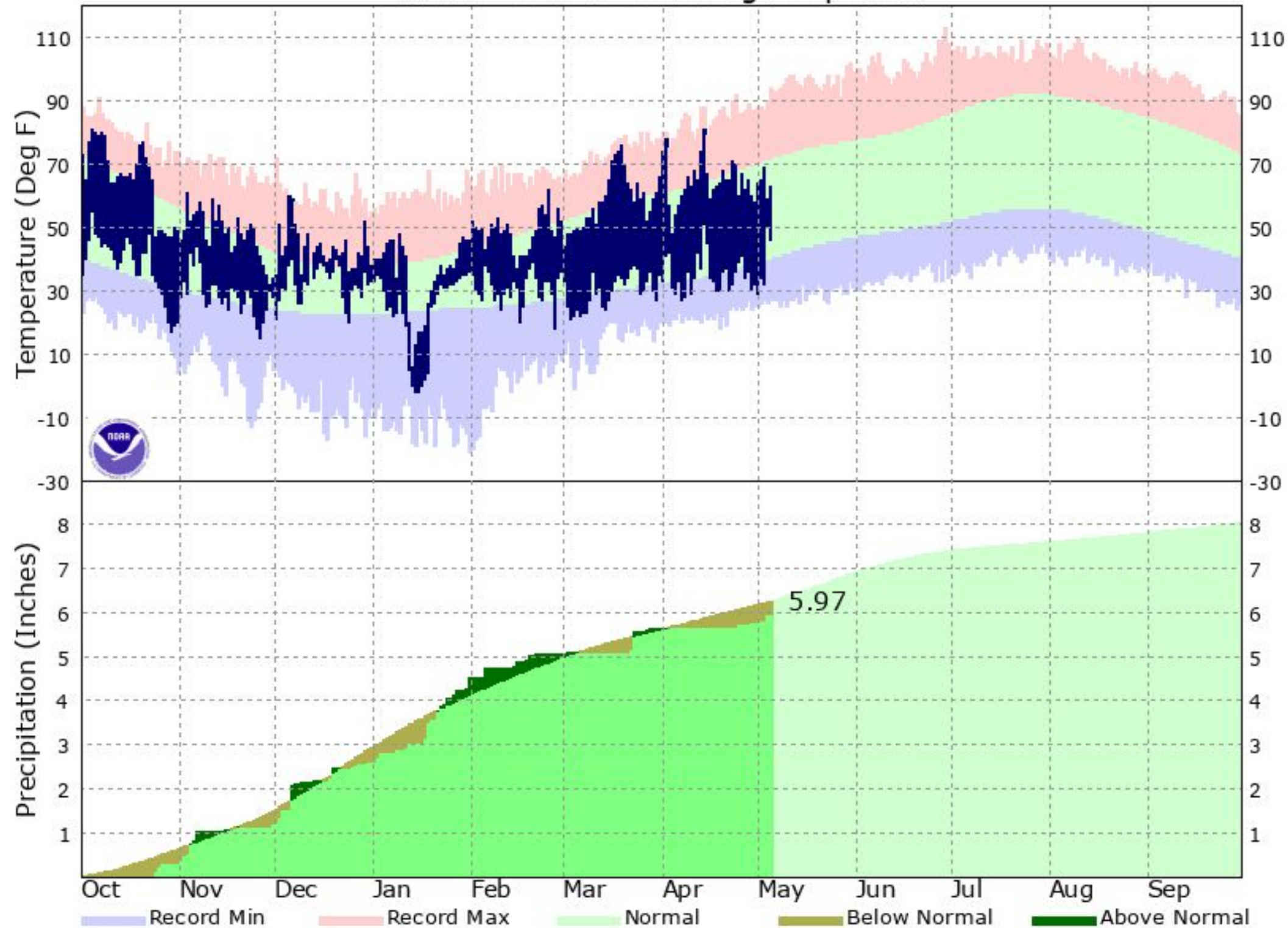
So far this water year, primarily due to a wet January through early May, Redmond has recorded slightly above-normal precipitation.



Water Year Climate Graphs - Yakima ASOS

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KYKM - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024



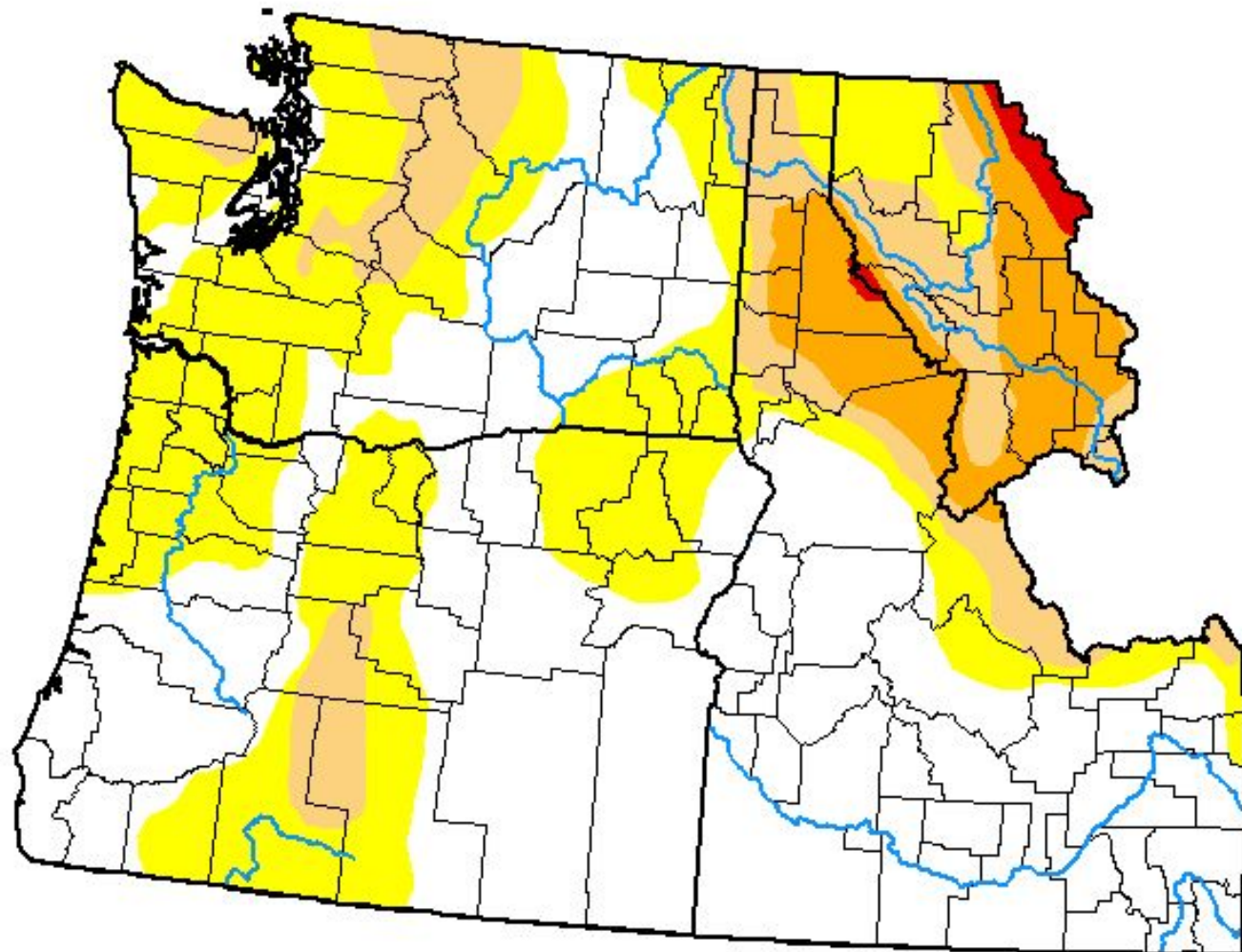
So far this water year, Yakima has recorded slightly below-normal precipitation.



Drought Status: Current Conditions

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U.S. Drought Monitor Pacific Northwest DEWS



April 30, 2024

(Released Thursday, May. 2, 2024)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	52.02	47.98	18.87	7.41	0.57	0.00
Last Week 04-23-2024	52.02	47.98	18.87	7.41	0.57	0.00
3 Months Ago 01-30-2024	55.94	44.06	27.60	8.75	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	44.06	55.94	26.37	4.48	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	34.73	65.27	50.11	28.69	7.48	0.00
One Year Ago 05-02-2023	33.89	66.11	35.65	9.93	2.05	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

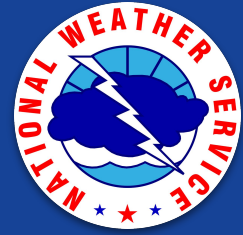
D4 (Exceptional Drought): None.

D3 (Extreme Drought): None.

D2 (Severe Drought): None.

D1 (Moderate Drought): Portions of Jefferson, Deschutes, Crook, Kittitas, and Yakima counties.

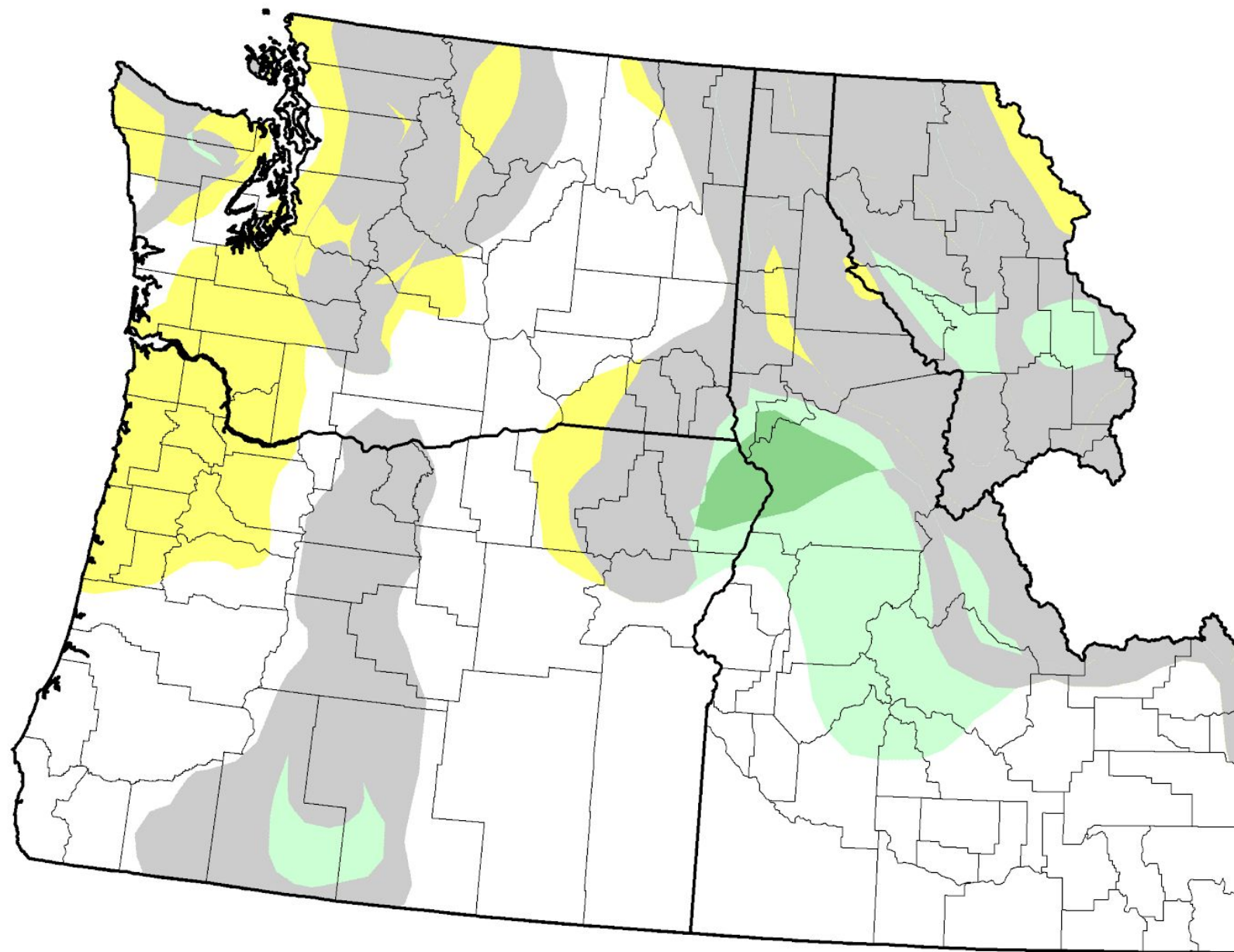
D0 (Abnormally Dry): Portions of Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Grant, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Jefferson, Deschutes, Crook, Wheeler, Klickitat, Yakima, Kittitas, Walla Walla, Columbia, and Benton counties.



Drought Status: 4-Week Change












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



April 30, 2024
compared to
April 2, 2024

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

-  5 Class Degradation
-  4 Class Degradation
-  3 Class Degradation
-  2 Class Degradation
-  1 Class Degradation
-  No Change
-  1 Class Improvement
-  2 Class Improvement
-  3 Class Improvement
-  4 Class Improvement
-  5 Class Improvement

Improved: Portions of eastern Wallowa County.

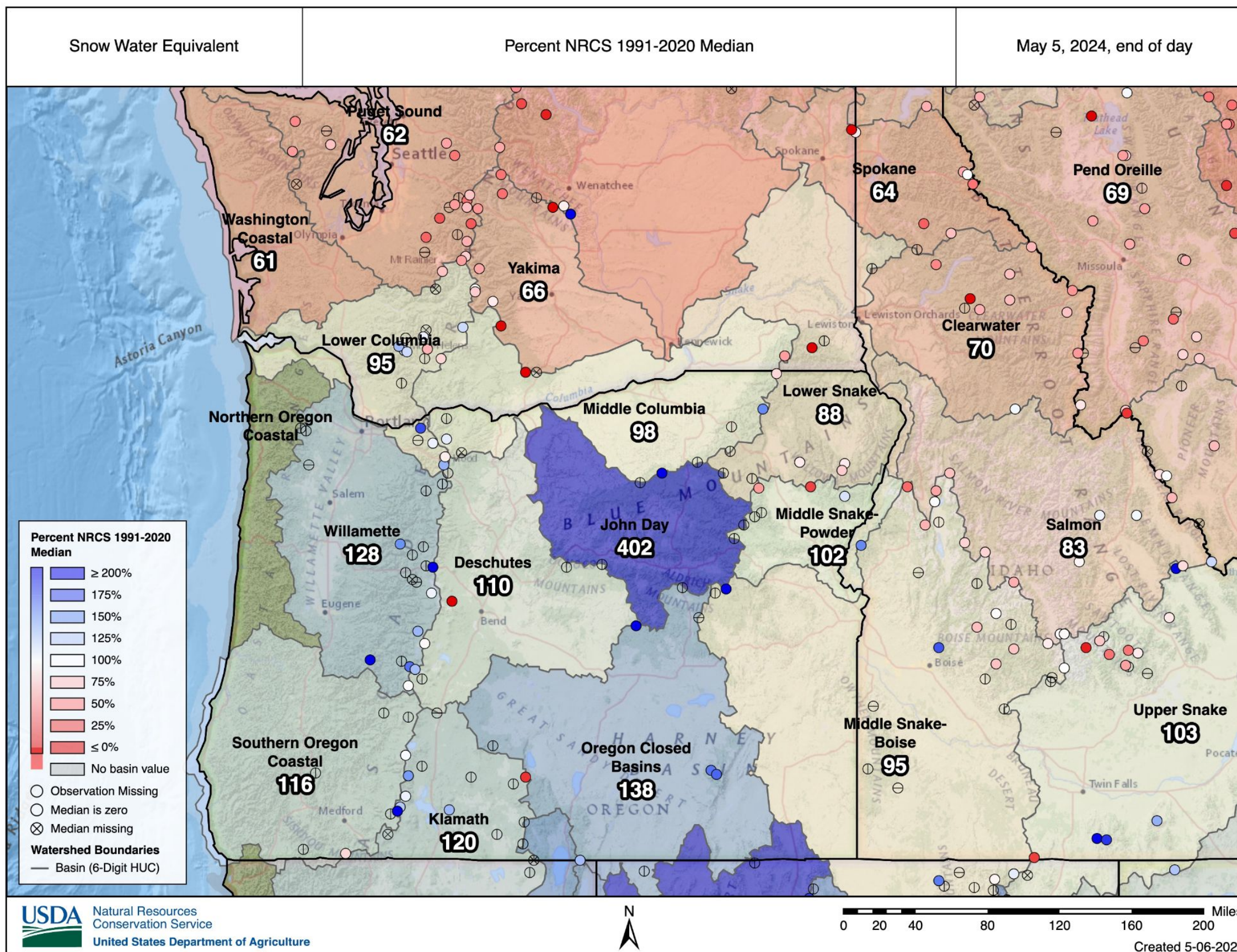
Degraded: Portions of Kittitas, Yakima, Umatilla, Walla Walla, Columbia, Benton, and Grant counties.

No change: Portions of Columbia, Walla Walla, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Grant, Deschutes, Crook, Jefferson, Sherman, Gilliam, Wasco, Yakima, Kittitas, and Klickitat counties.



SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) - Basin/Watershed Map

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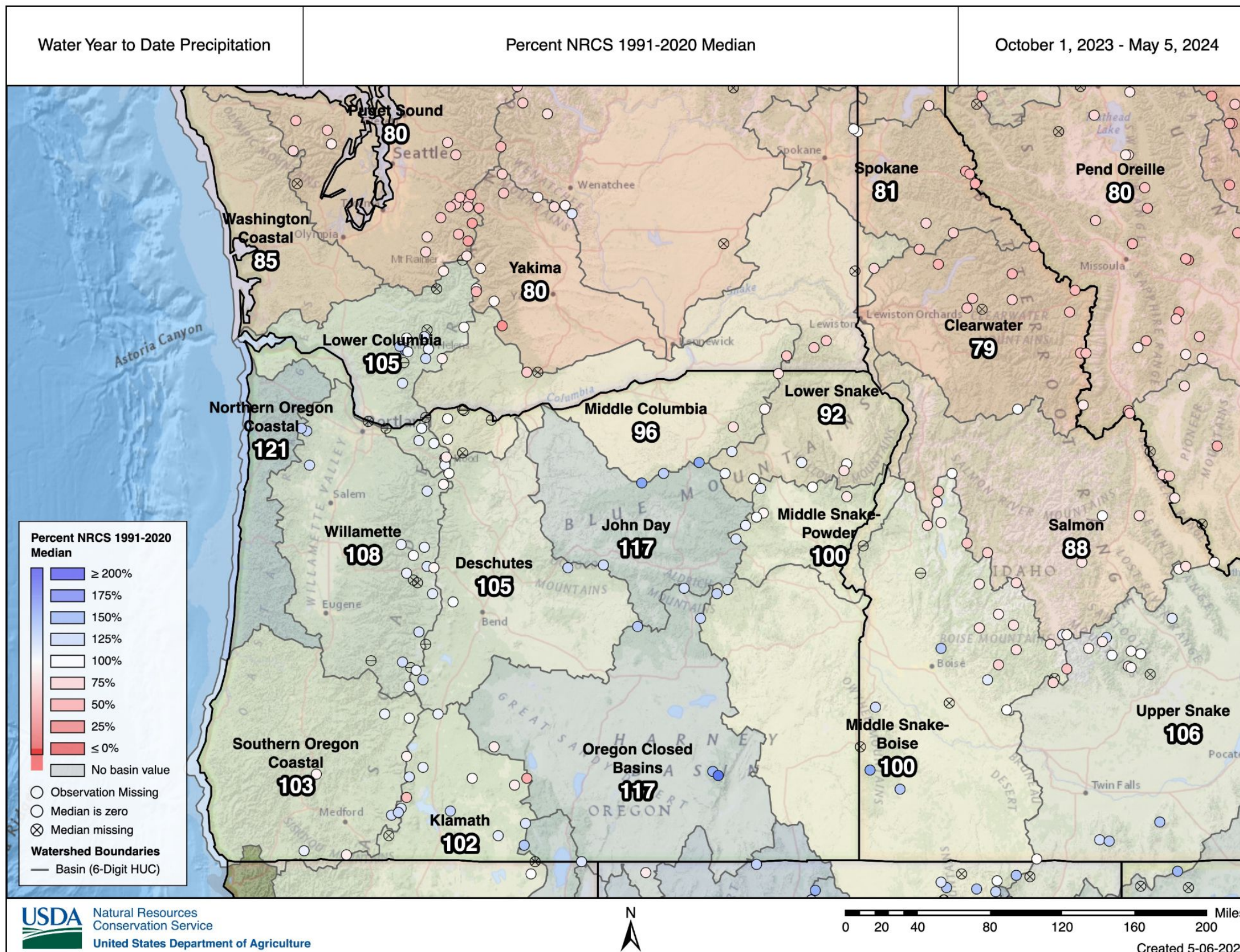
Basin-wide snow water equivalent (SWE) percent of 1991-2020 median is shown on the left. Basin names are displayed, and individual SNOTELs are represented as circles.

Driven by a cool, wet, and snowy end of April and early May, SWE is near to above the climatological median for central and southeast Oregon, and near to below the median for northeast Oregon. SWE remains well below the median for most of Washington.



SNOTEL Precipitation - Basin/Watershed Map

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Basin-wide SNOTEL precipitation for the water year to date (October 1, 2023-May 5, 2024) relative to the 1991-2020 median is shown on the left. Basin names are displayed, and individual SNOTELs are represented as circles.

For the water year to date, precipitation has been mostly near or above the climatological median for areas south of approximately 45-46N latitude. Conversely, precipitation has been mostly near or below the median north of roughly 45-46N latitude.



SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) - Lower Snake Watershed

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN LOWER SNAKE

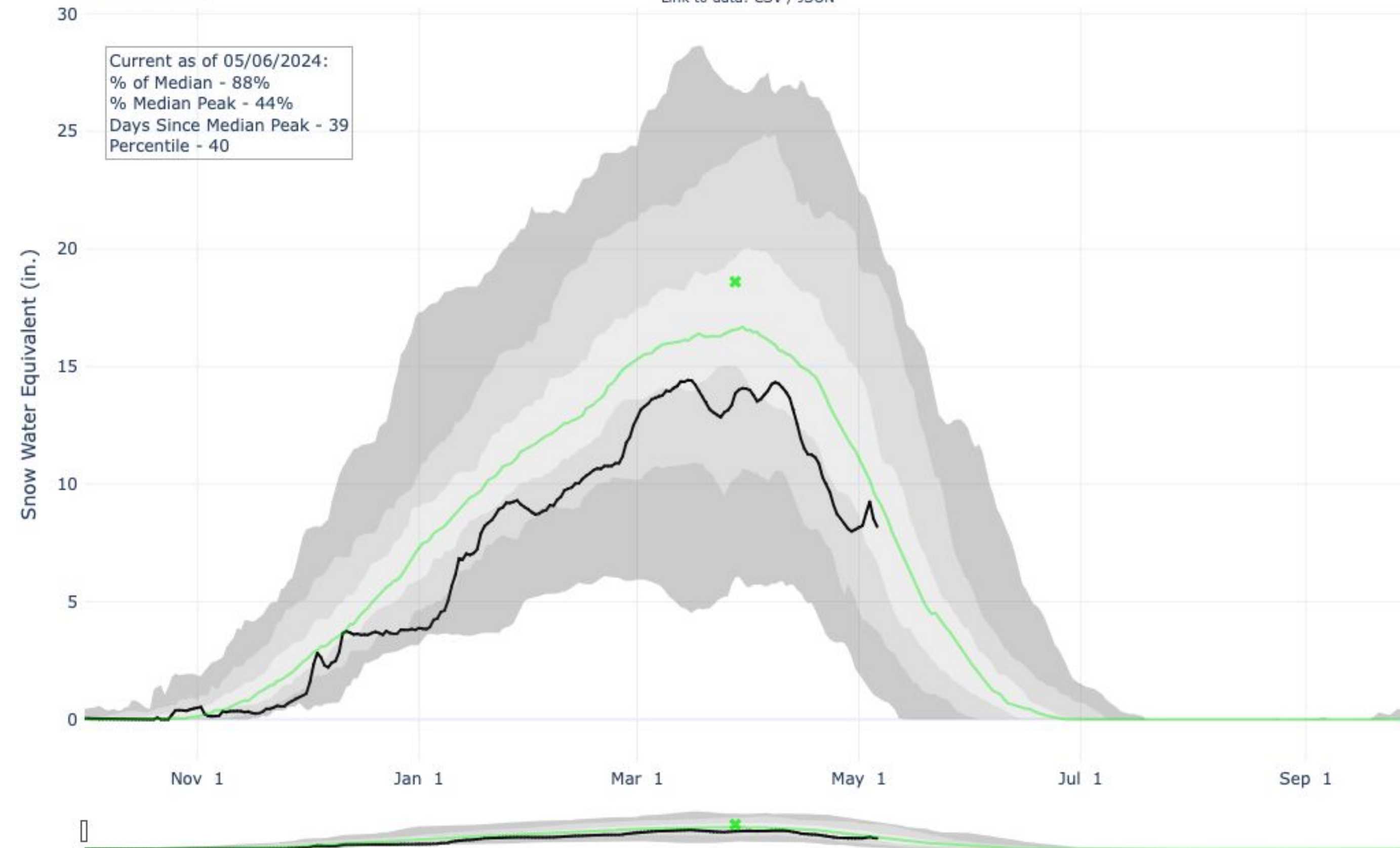
Reset Range

[Link to data: CSV / JSON](#)

Station List

Current as of 05/06/2024:
% of Median - 88%
% Median Peak - 44%
Days Since Median Peak - 39
Percentile - 40

- ✖ Median Peak SWE
- Median ('91-'20)
- ▒ Stats. Shading
- 2024 (16 sites)



Shading breaks at the 10th, 30th, 50th, 70th, and 90th percentiles for the period of record.

The black line indicates the current water year, while the green line shows the median value, and the green "x" is the median peak SWE magnitude and date.





SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) - Middle Columbia Watershed

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN MIDDLE COLUMBIA

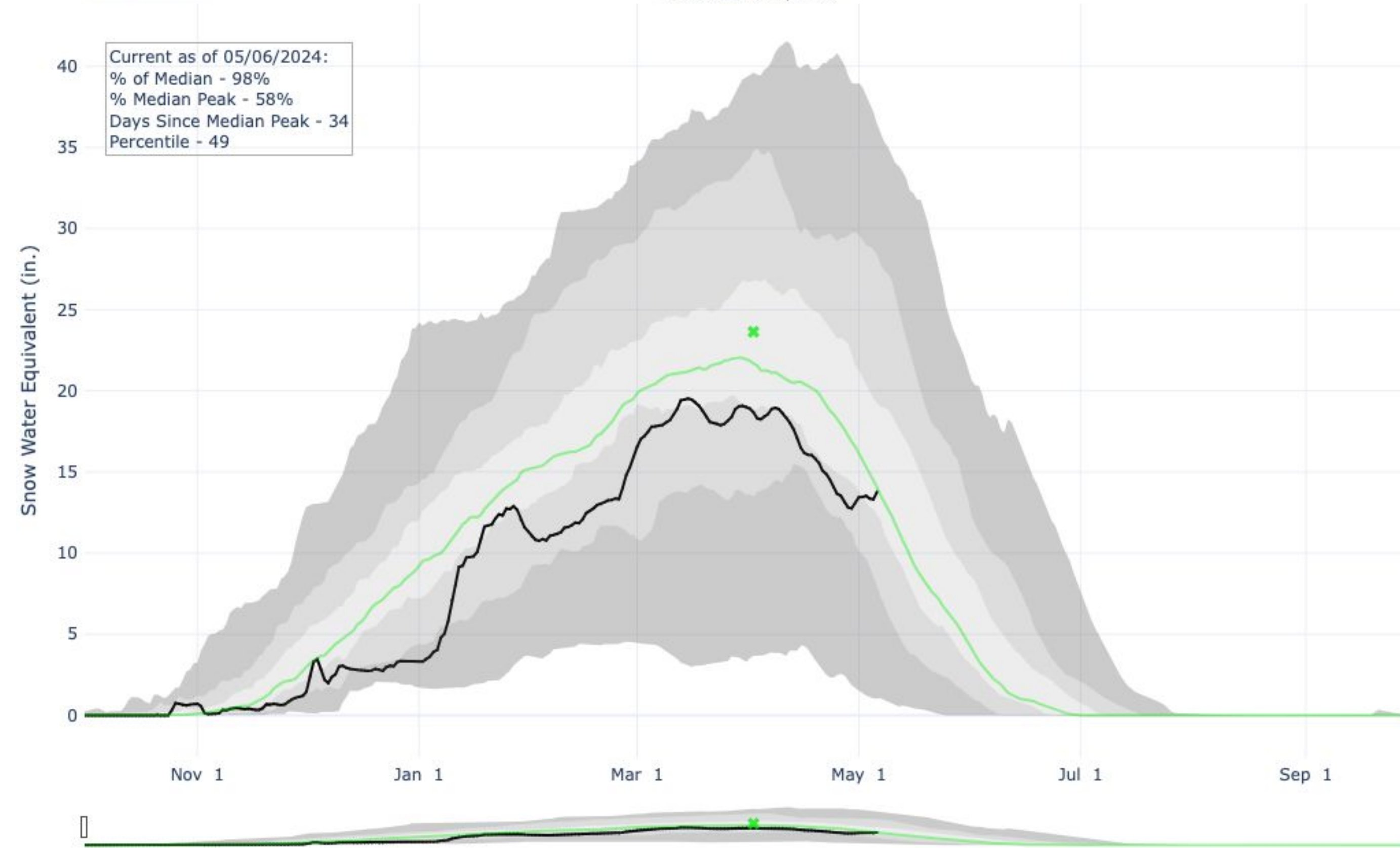
Reset Range

[Link to data: CSV / JSON](#)

Station List

Current as of 05/06/2024:
% of Median - 98%
% Median Peak - 58%
Days Since Median Peak - 34
Percentile - 49

- ✖ Median Peak SWE
- Median ('91-'20)
- Stats. Shading
- 2024 (20 sites)



Shading breaks at the 10th, 30th, 50th, 70th, and 90th percentiles for the period of record.

The black line indicates the current water year, while the green line shows the median value, and the green "x" is the median peak SWE magnitude and date.





SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) - Yakima Watershed

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN YAKIMA

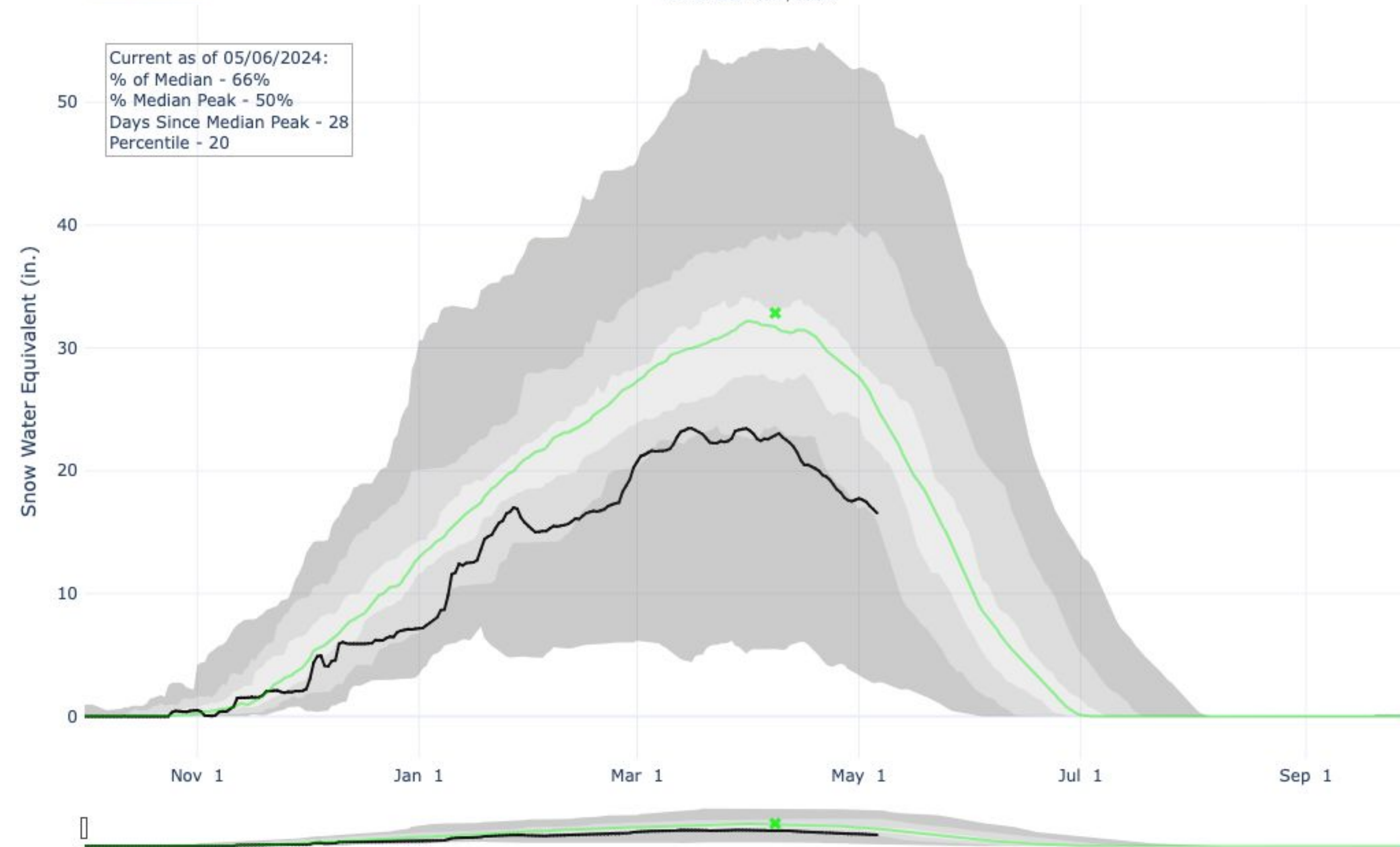
Reset Range

[Link to data: CSV / JSON](#)

Current as of 05/06/2024:
% of Median - 66%
% Median Peak - 50%
Days Since Median Peak - 28
Percentile - 20

Station List

- Median Peak SWE
- Median ('91-'20)
- Stats. Shading
- 2024 (17 sites)



Shading breaks at the 10th, 30th, 50th, 70th, and 90th percentiles for the period of record.

The black line indicates the current water year, while the green line shows the median value, and the green "x" is the median peak SWE magnitude and date.





SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) - Deschutes Watershed

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN DESCHUTES

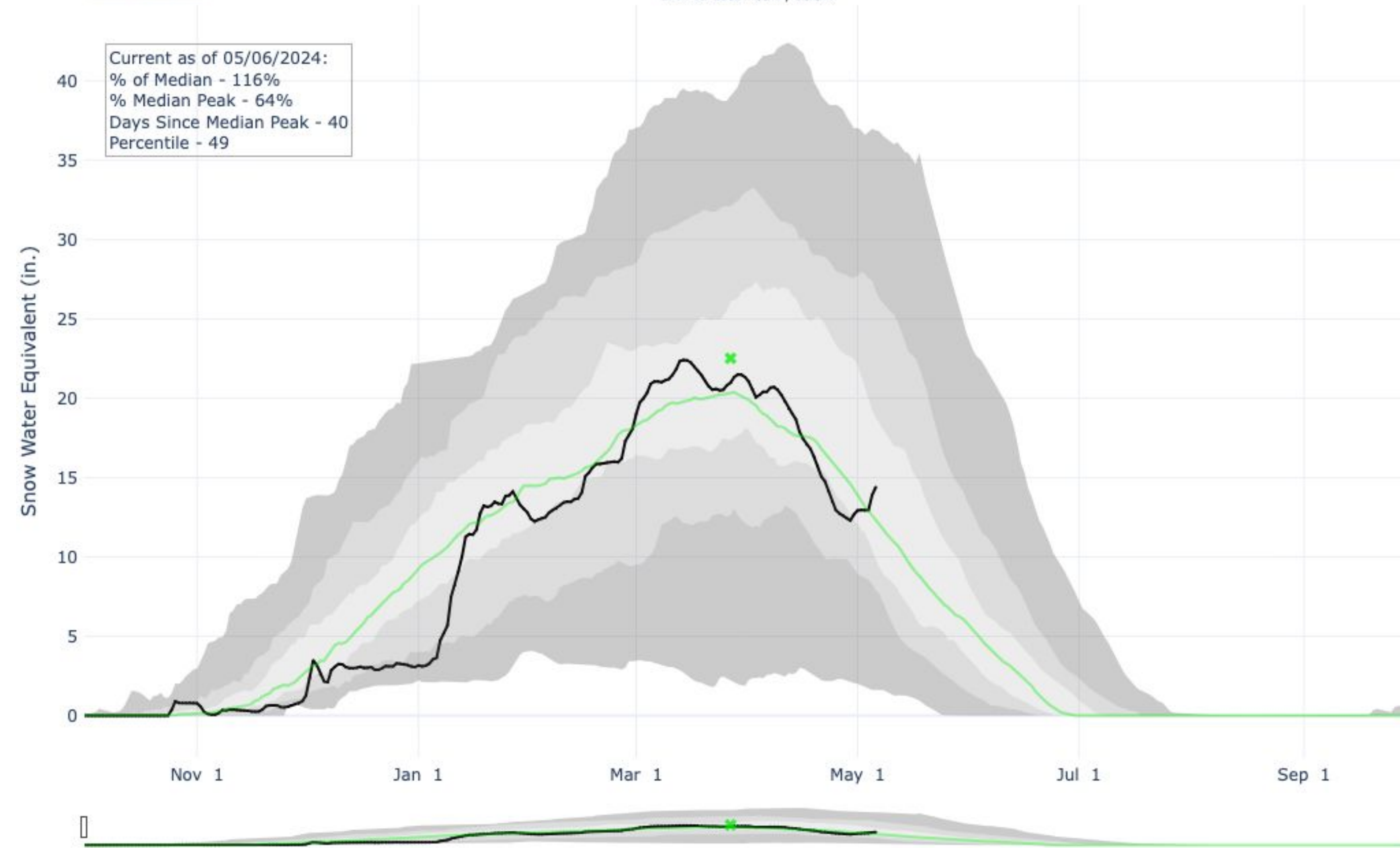
Reset Range

[Link to data: CSV / JSON](#)

Current as of 05/06/2024:
% of Median - 116%
% Median Peak - 64%
Days Since Median Peak - 40
Percentile - 49

Station List

- ✱ Median Peak SWE
- Median ('91-'20)
- Stats. Shading
- 2024 (18 sites)



Shading breaks at the 10th, 30th, 50th, 70th, and 90th percentiles for the period of record.

The black line indicates the current water year, while the green line shows the median value, and the green "x" is the median peak SWE magnitude and date.





SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) - John Day Watershed

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SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN JOHN DAY

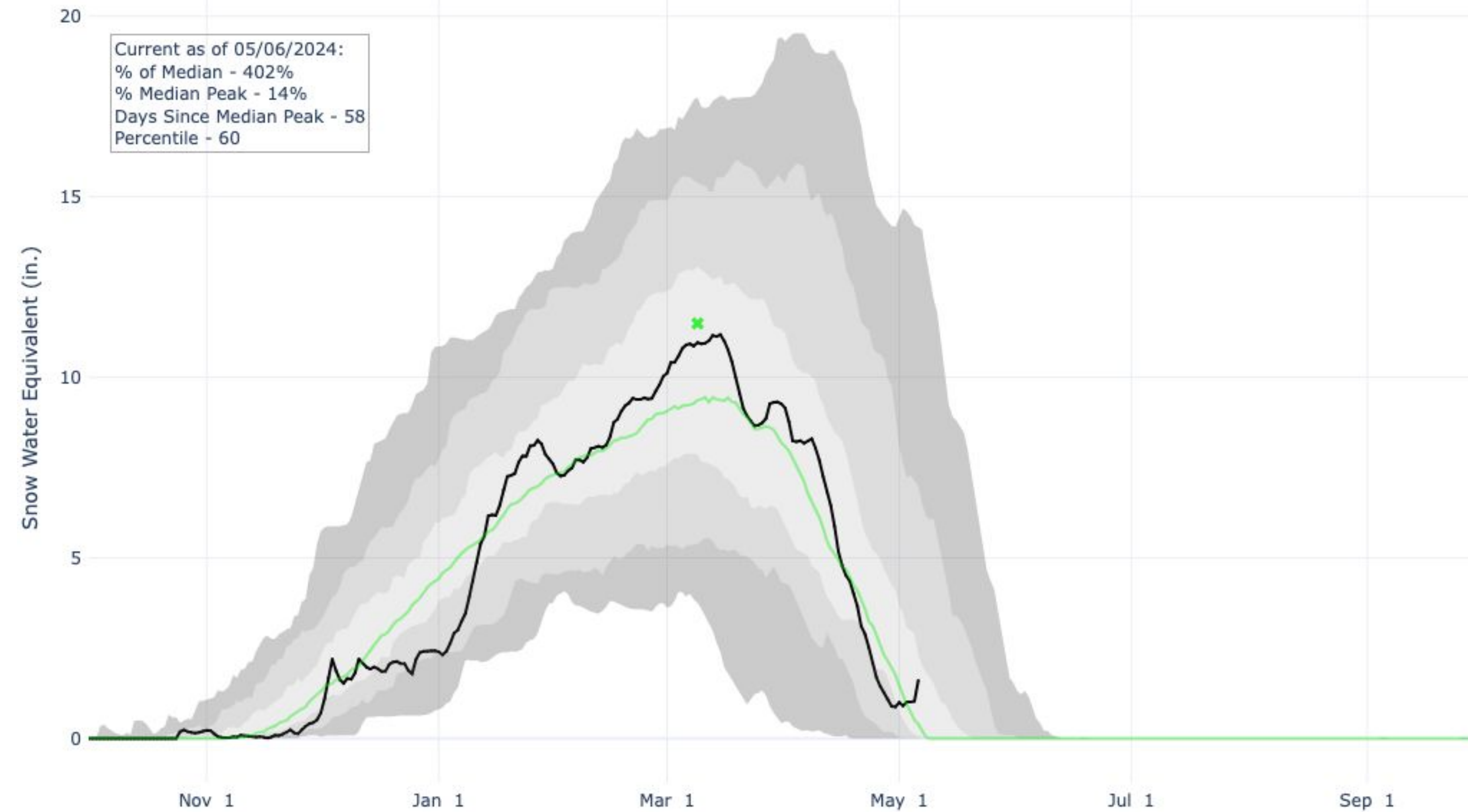
Reset Range

[Link to data: CSV / JSON](#)

Current as of 05/06/2024:
% of Median - 402%
% Median Peak - 14%
Days Since Median Peak - 58
Percentile - 60

Station List

- ✖ Median Peak SWE
- Median ('91-'20)
- Stats. Shading
- 2024 (13 sites)



Shading breaks at the 10th, 30th, 50th, 70th, and 90th percentiles for the period of record.

The black line indicates the current water year, while the green line shows the median value, and the green "x" is the median peak SWE magnitude and date.





Summary

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- Temperatures ranged from slightly below normal to slightly above normal across the forecast area during April.
- Aside from near- to above-normal precipitation in central and far northeast OR, below-normal precipitation was observed during April.
- Snow water equivalent (SWE) generally declined area-wide during April for all basins/watersheds in NWS Pendleton's forecast area due to an extended dry stretch and typical springtime warming relative to winter months. A small increase in SWE was observed towards the end of the month as a cooler, more unsettled weather pattern brought additional snowfall to the mountains.



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