



# AGENDA

## IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

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### Upper Snake River Advisory Committee Meeting No. 5-25

Thursday, May 8, 2025

10:00 a.m. (MDT)

**Brad Little**  
Governor

**Jeff Raybould**  
Chairman  
St. Anthony  
At Large

**Jo Ann Cole-Hansen**  
Vice Chair  
Lewiston  
At Large

**Dean Stevenson**  
Secretary  
Paul  
District 3

**Dale Van Stone**  
Hope  
District 1

**Albert Barker**  
Boise  
District 2

**Brian Olmstead**  
Twin Falls  
At Large

**Marcus Gibbs**  
Grace  
District 4

**Patrick McMahon**  
Sun Valley  
At Large

#### Meeting Location(s):

BOISE  
Water Center  
Conf. Room 602 B  
322 E. Front St.

IDAHO FALLS  
Eastern Regional Office  
Main Conference Room  
900 N. Skyline Dr.

or

VIDEO conference via Zoom is available upon registration, contact  
[cooper.fritz@idwr.idaho.gov](mailto:cooper.fritz@idwr.idaho.gov) for registration information

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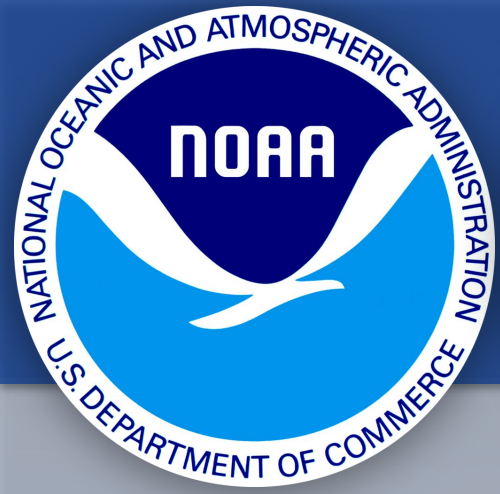
1. Introductions and Attendance
2. Weather Forecast (NOAA)
3. Snow Pack / Streamflow Forecasts (NRCS)
4. Water Supply / Operations Update (USBR)
5. Idaho Power Company Operations Update
6. Water District 01 Briefing
7. IWRB Managed Recharge Operations
8. New Business
9. Adjourn

Committee Member: Brian Olmstead

#### **Americans with Disabilities**

The meeting will be held in person and online. If you require special accommodations to attend, participate in, or understand the meeting, please make advance arrangements by contacting Department staff by email [jennifer.strange@idwr.idaho.gov](mailto:jennifer.strange@idwr.idaho.gov) or by phone at (208) 287-4800.





# Upper Snake Advisory Committee

Late Spring Outlook

Presenter: Mark Dallon

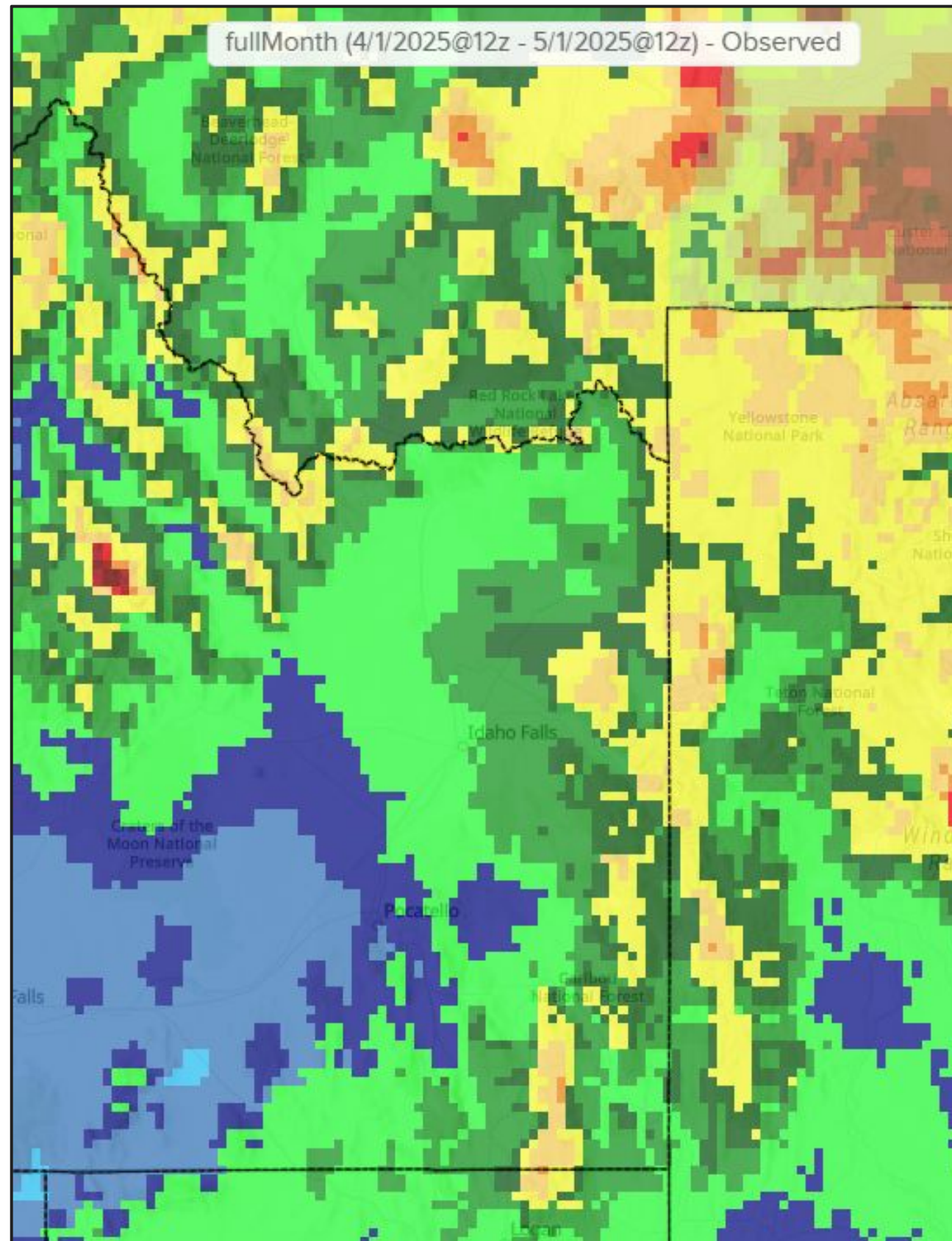
Weather Forecast Office

Pocatello, ID

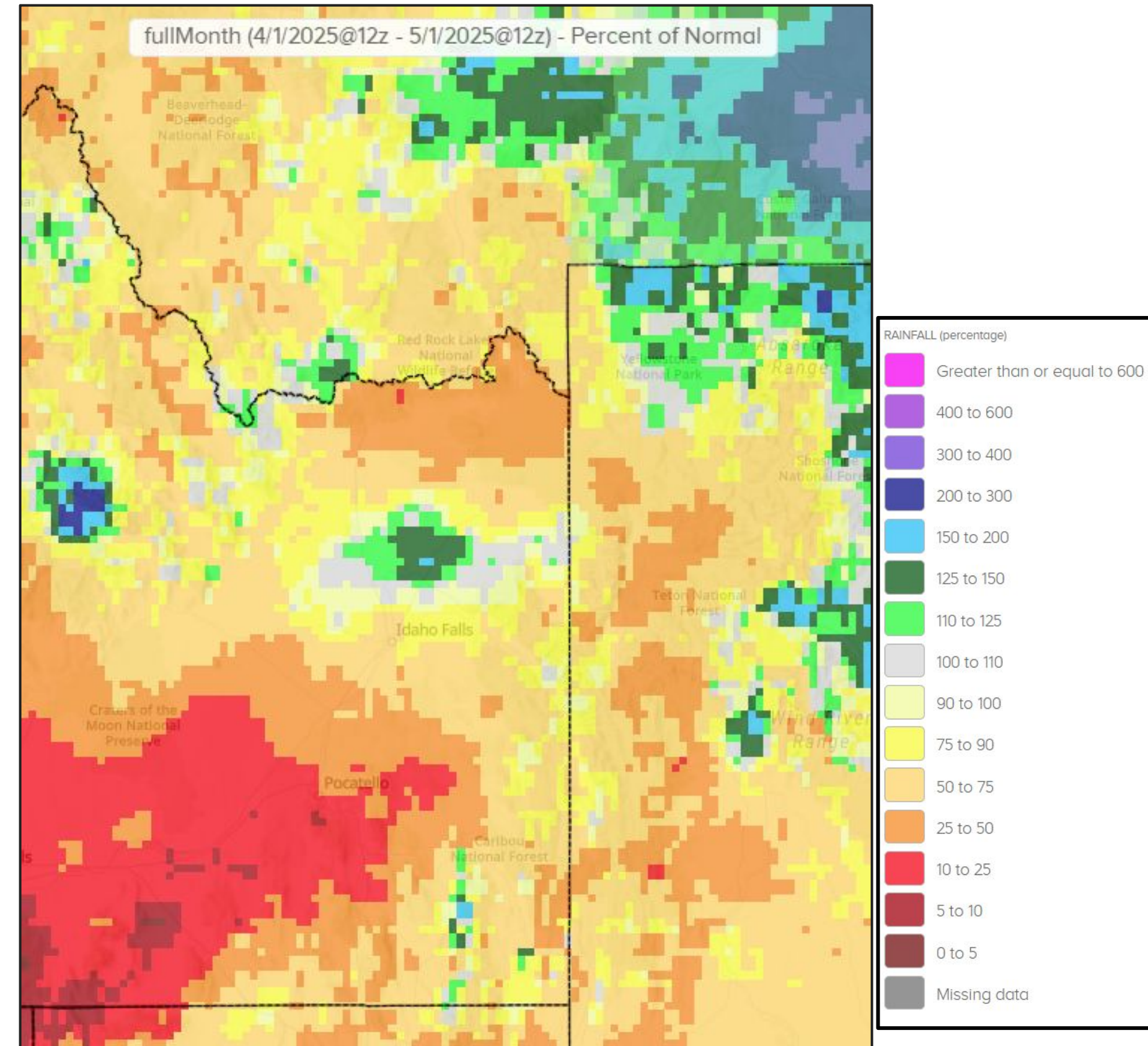
Thursday, May 8







April - Observed Precipitation



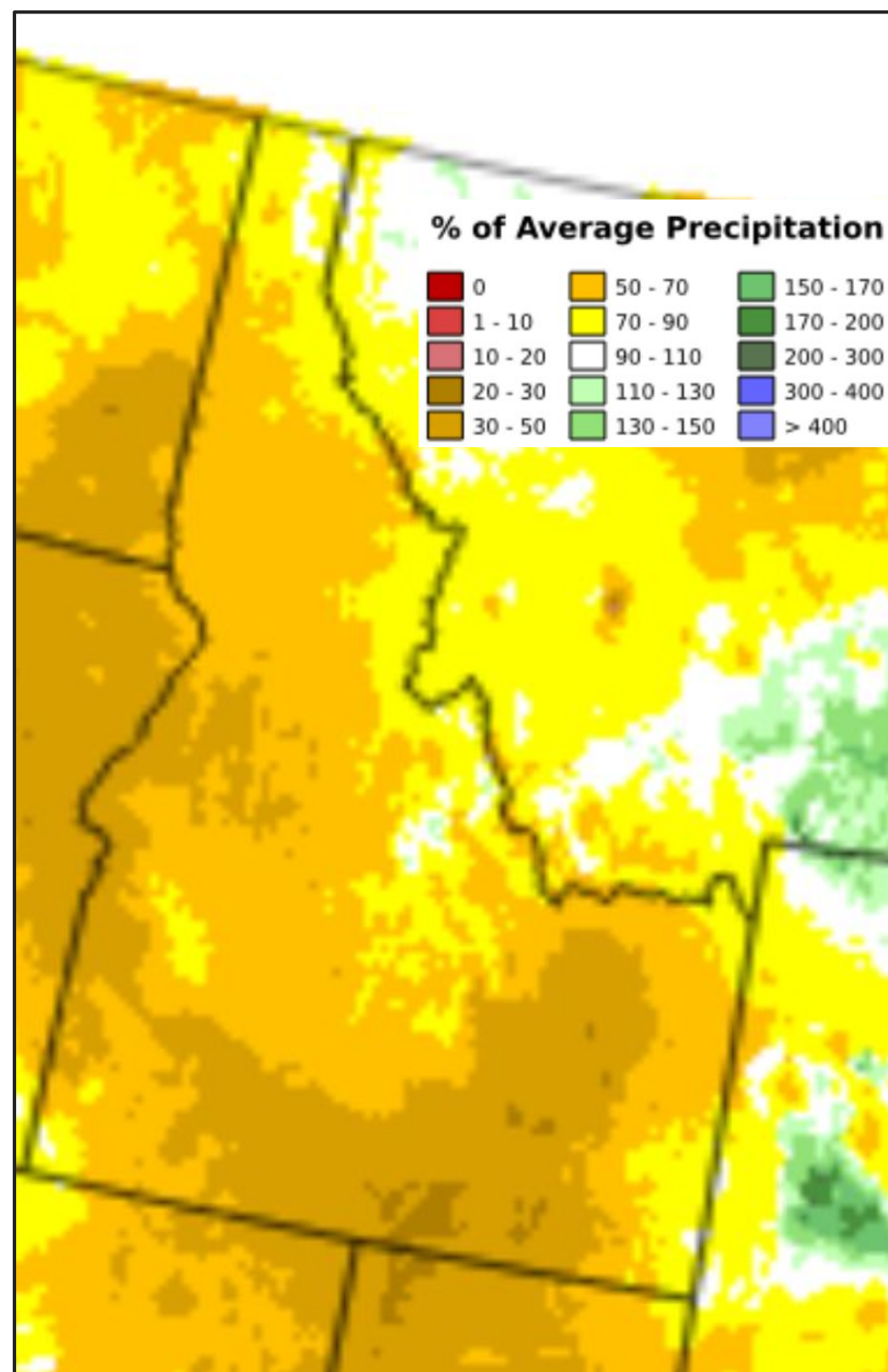
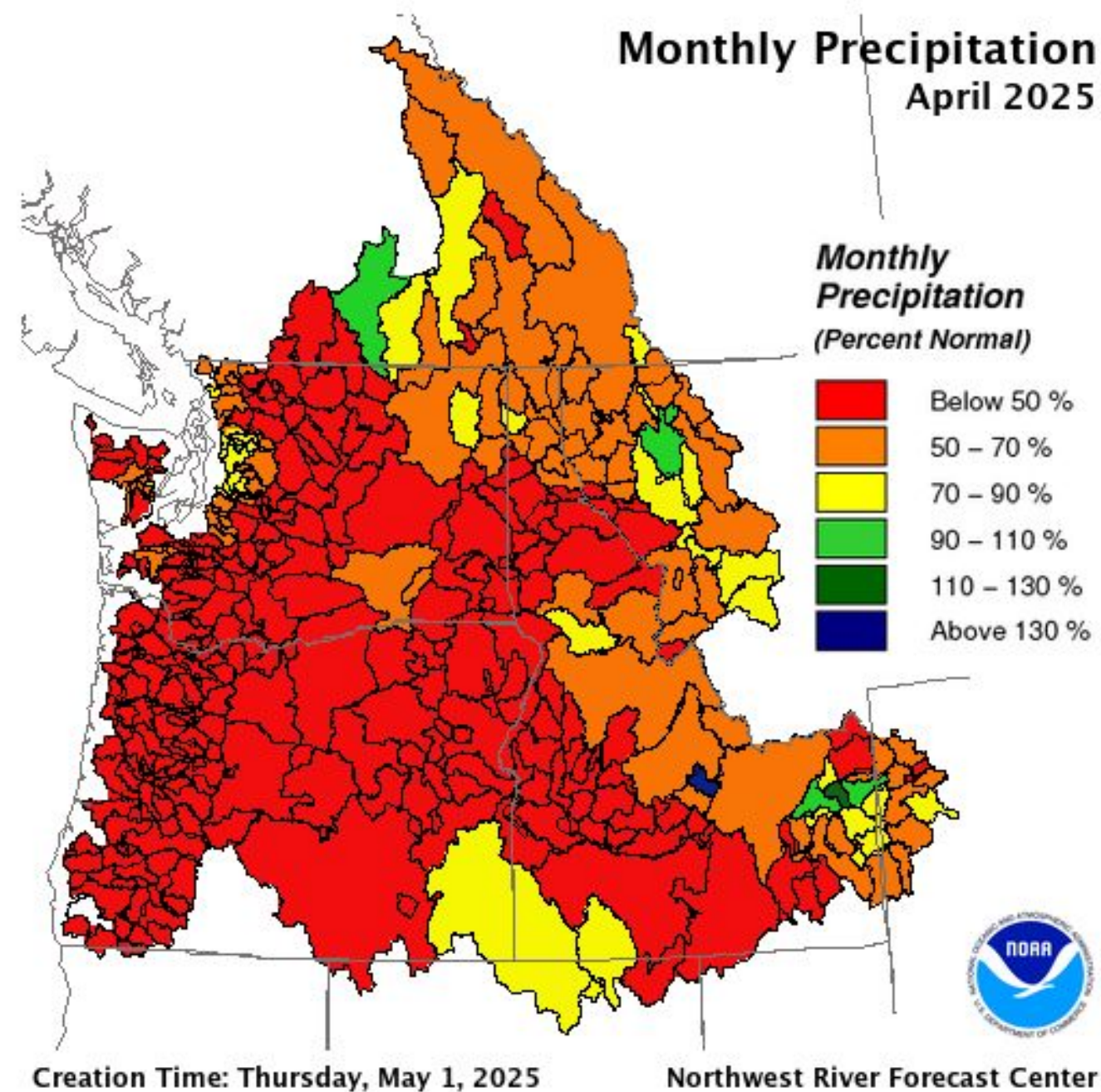
April - Percent of Normal



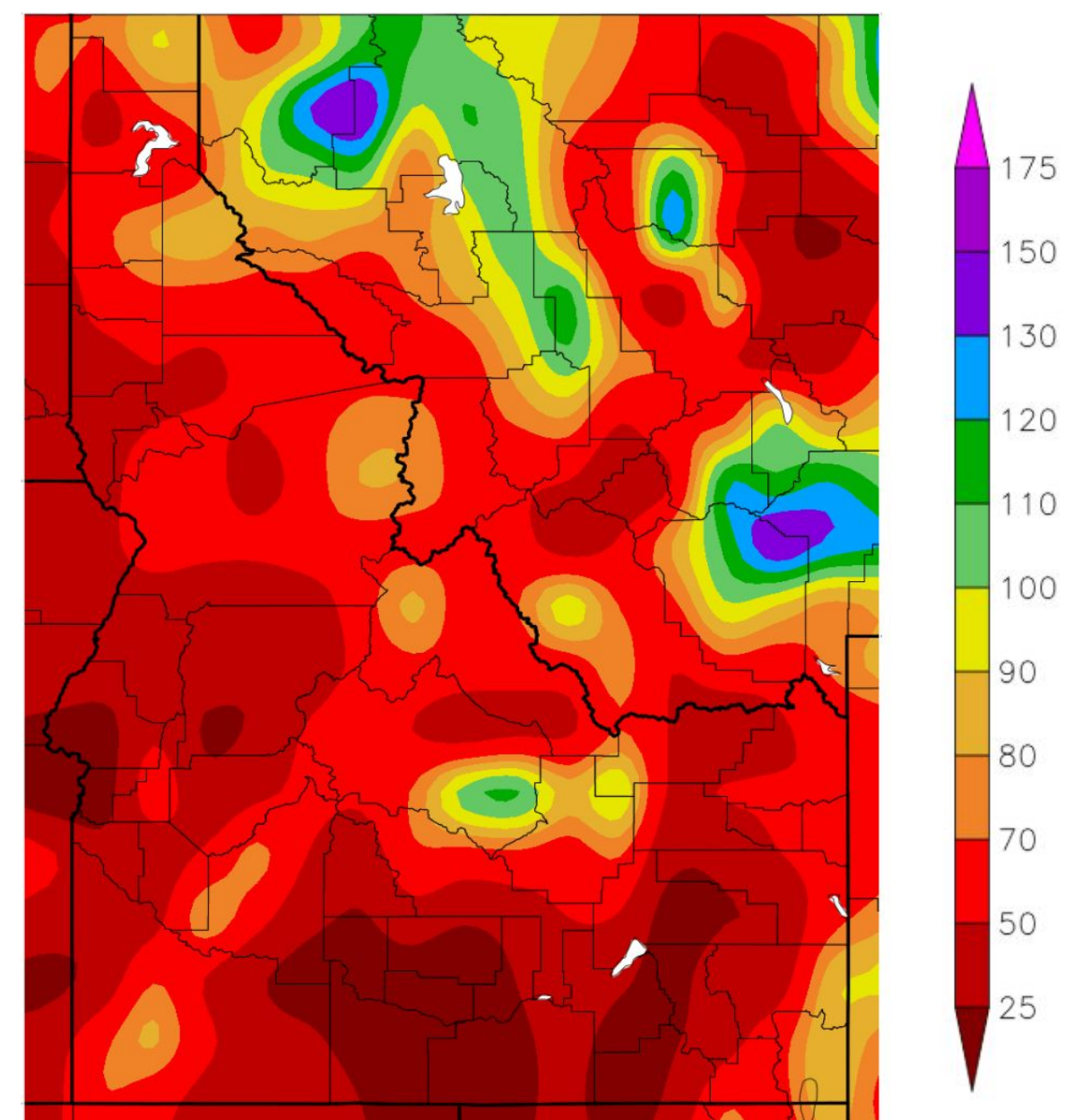


# Precipitation - April

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
4/1/2025 - 4/30/2025



using provisional data.

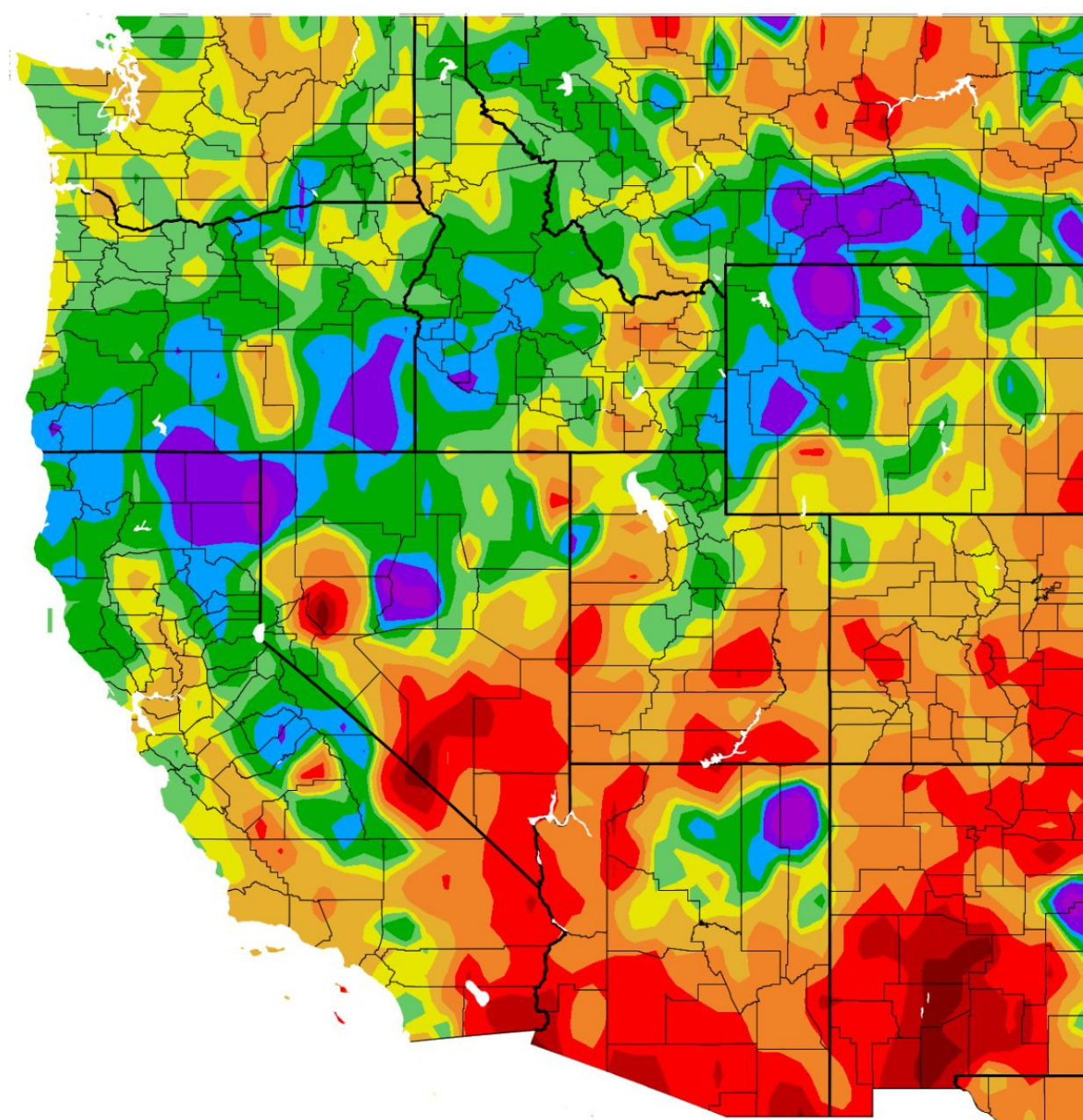




# Precipitation - Last 3 Months (Feb-Apr)

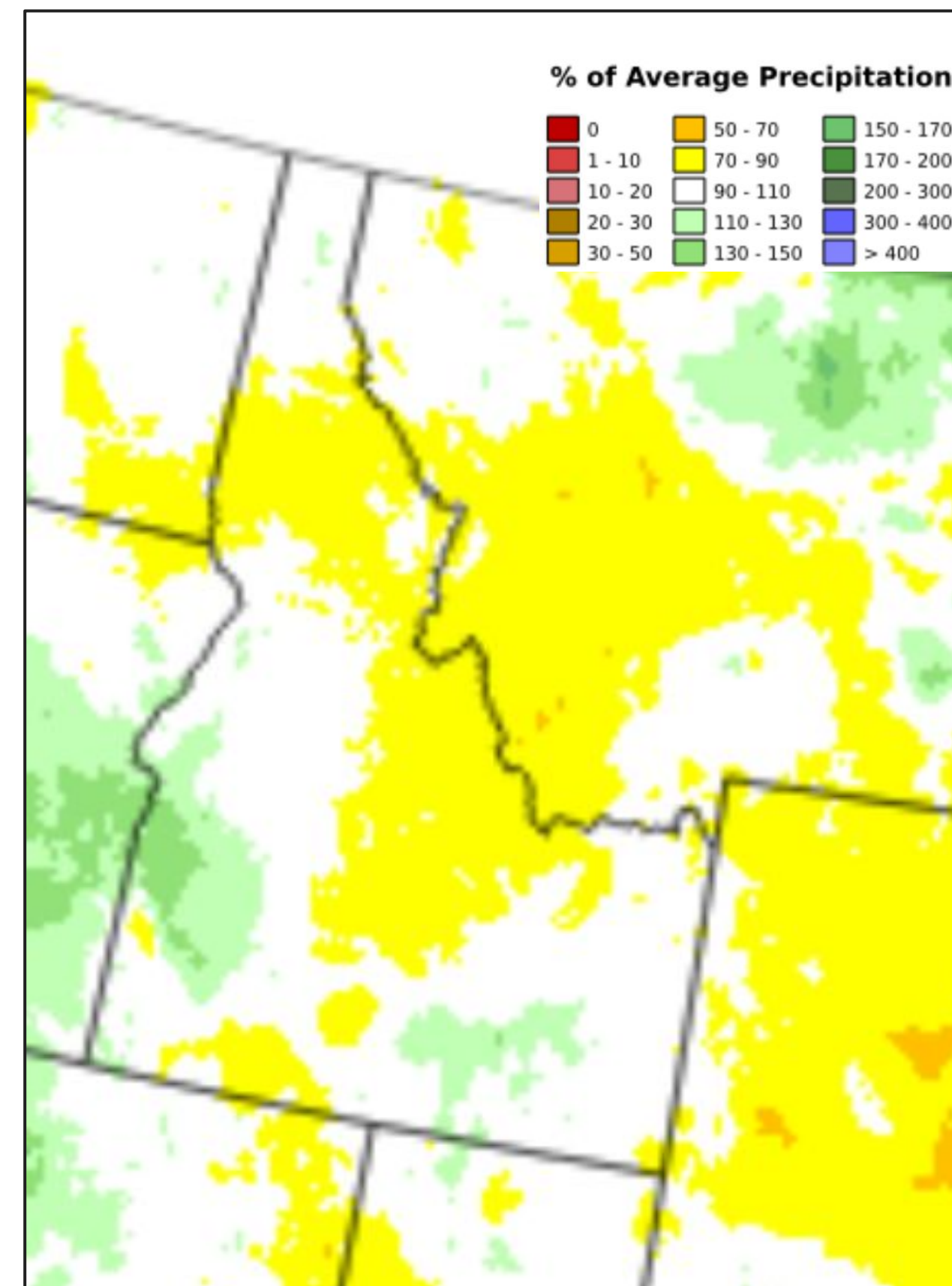
Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
2/1/2025 – 4/30/2025



Generated 5/6/2025 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services





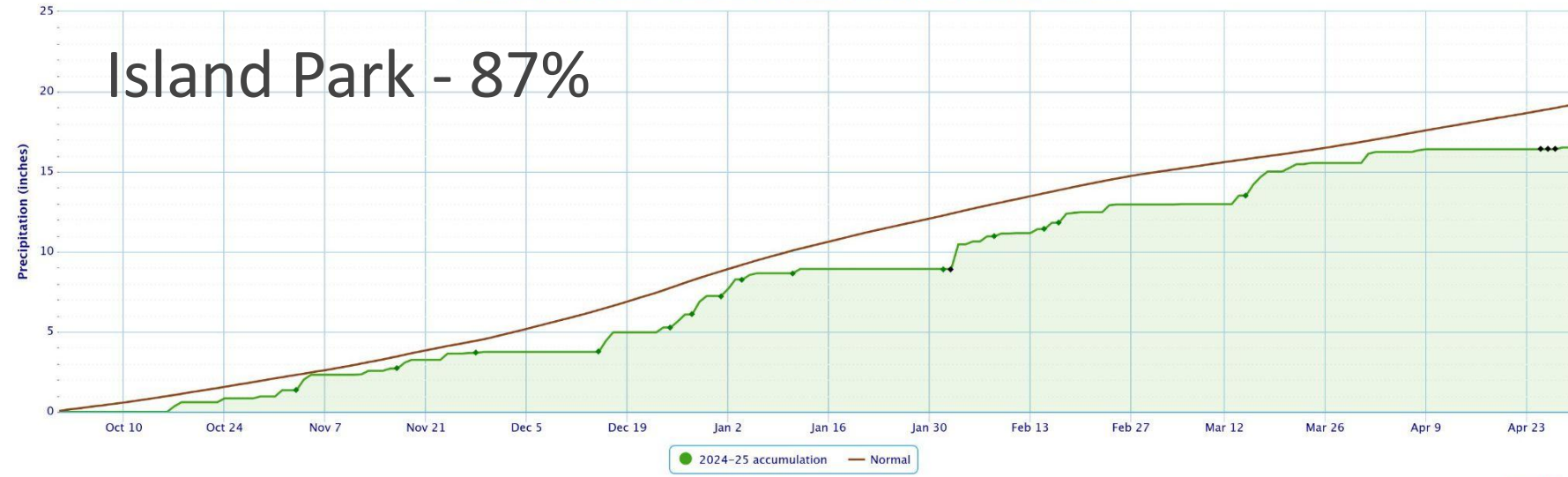


# Precipitation - WY to date

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

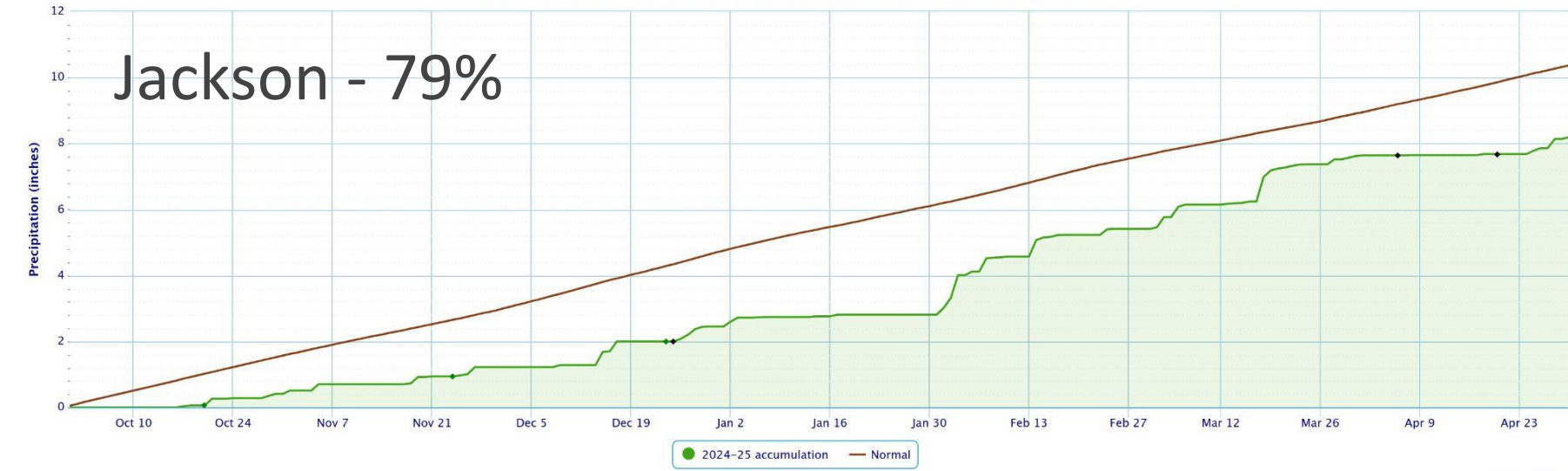
Accumulated Precipitation - ISLAND PARK, ID

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values

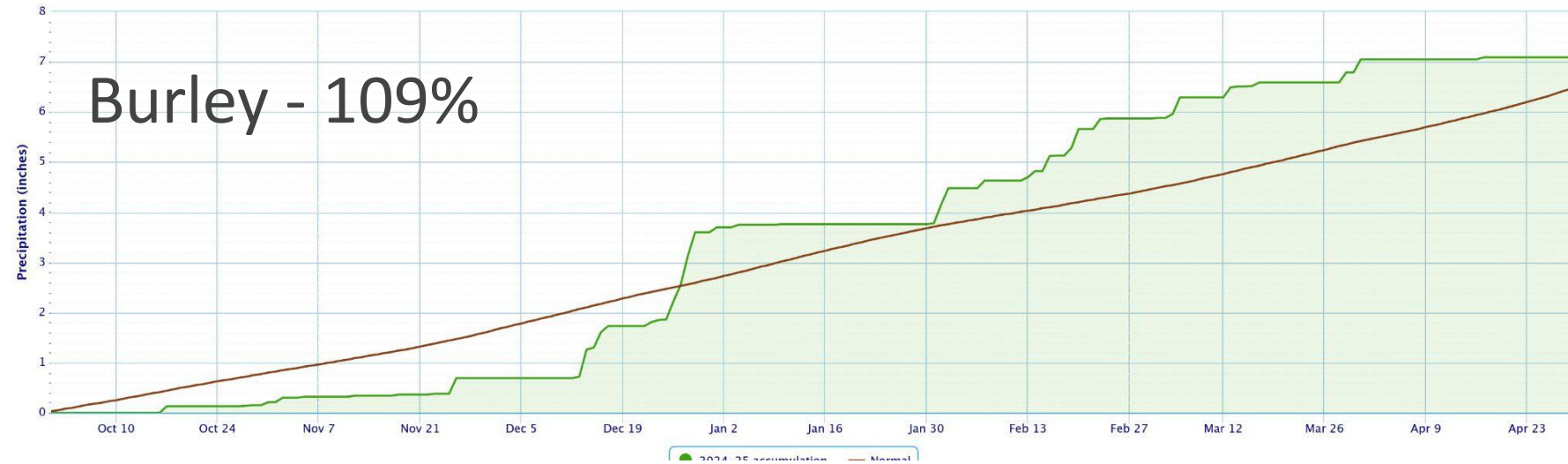


Accumulated Precipitation - JACKSON, WY

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values

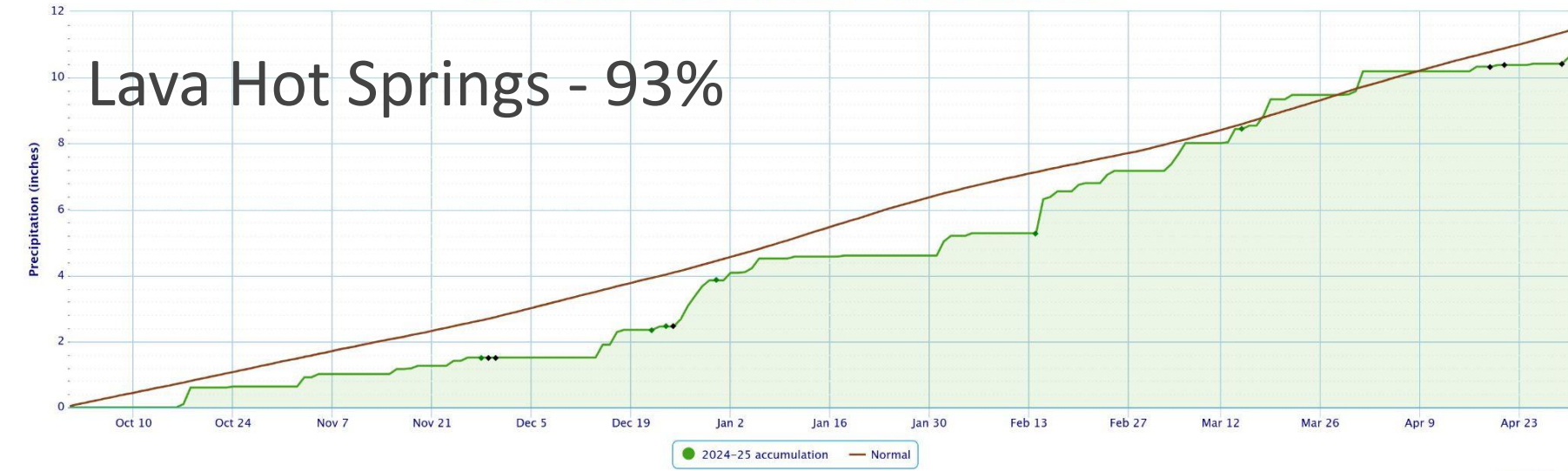


Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



Accumulated Precipitation - LAVA HOT SPRINGS, ID

Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values

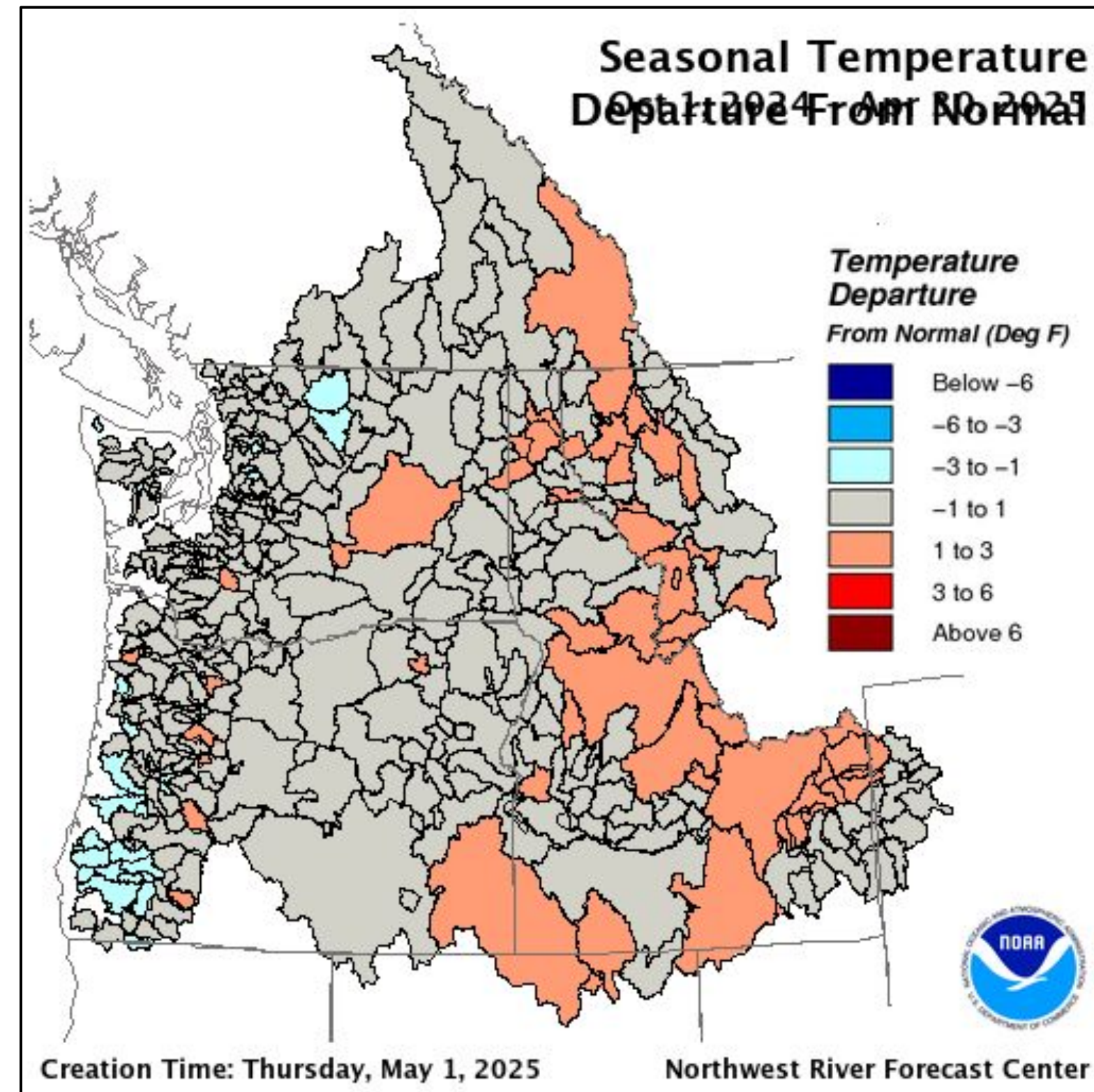
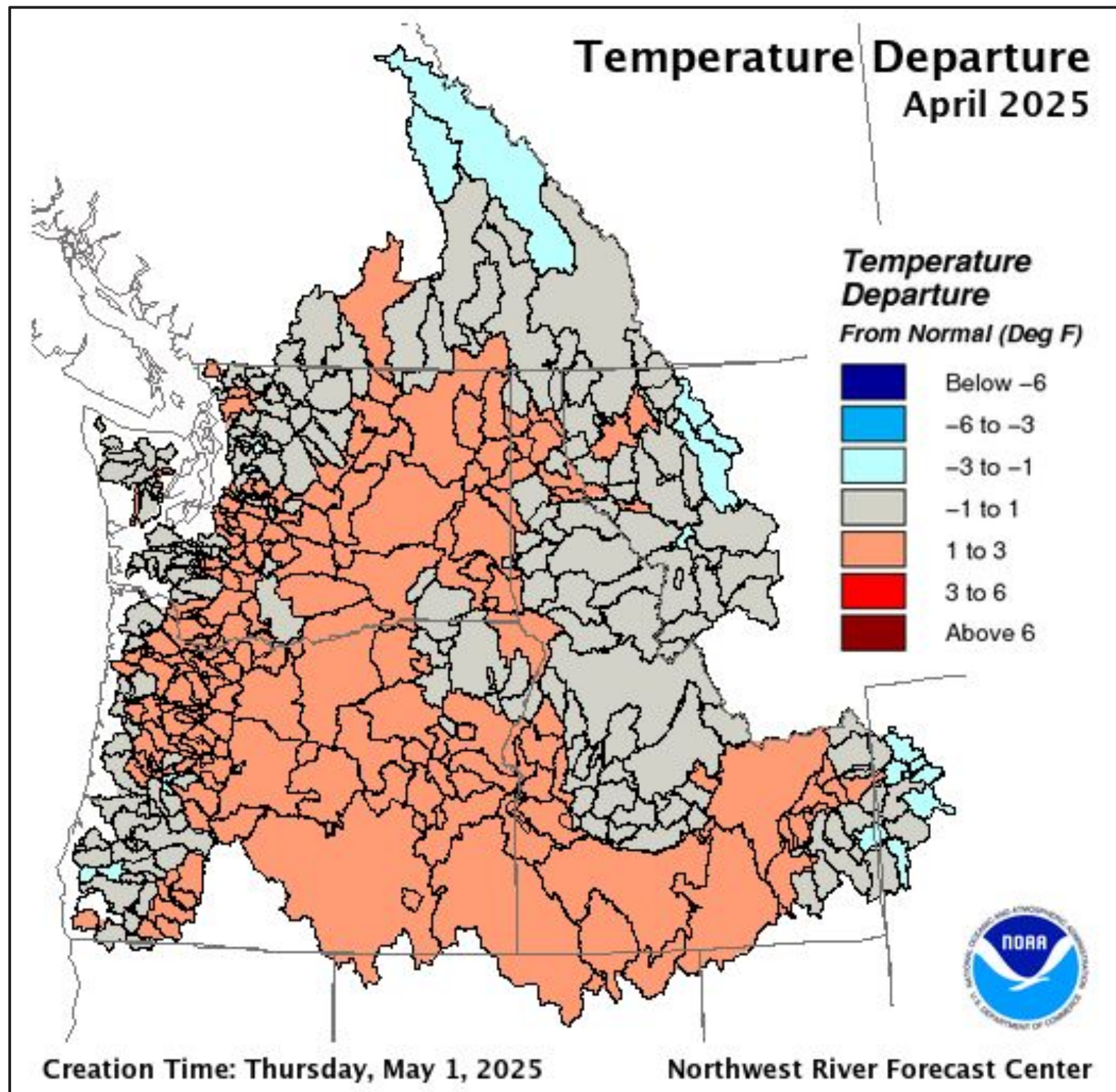






# Temps - April and WY to Date

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

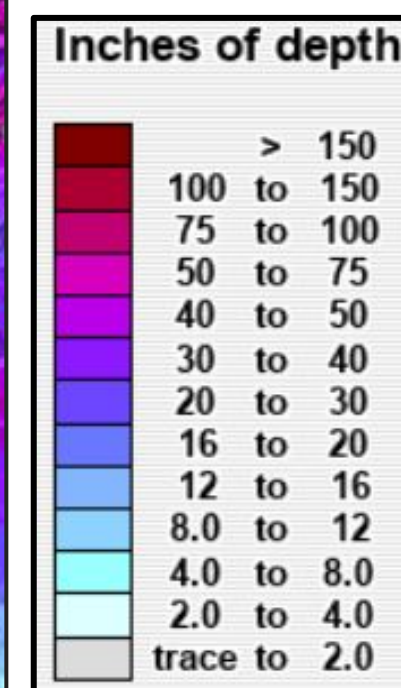
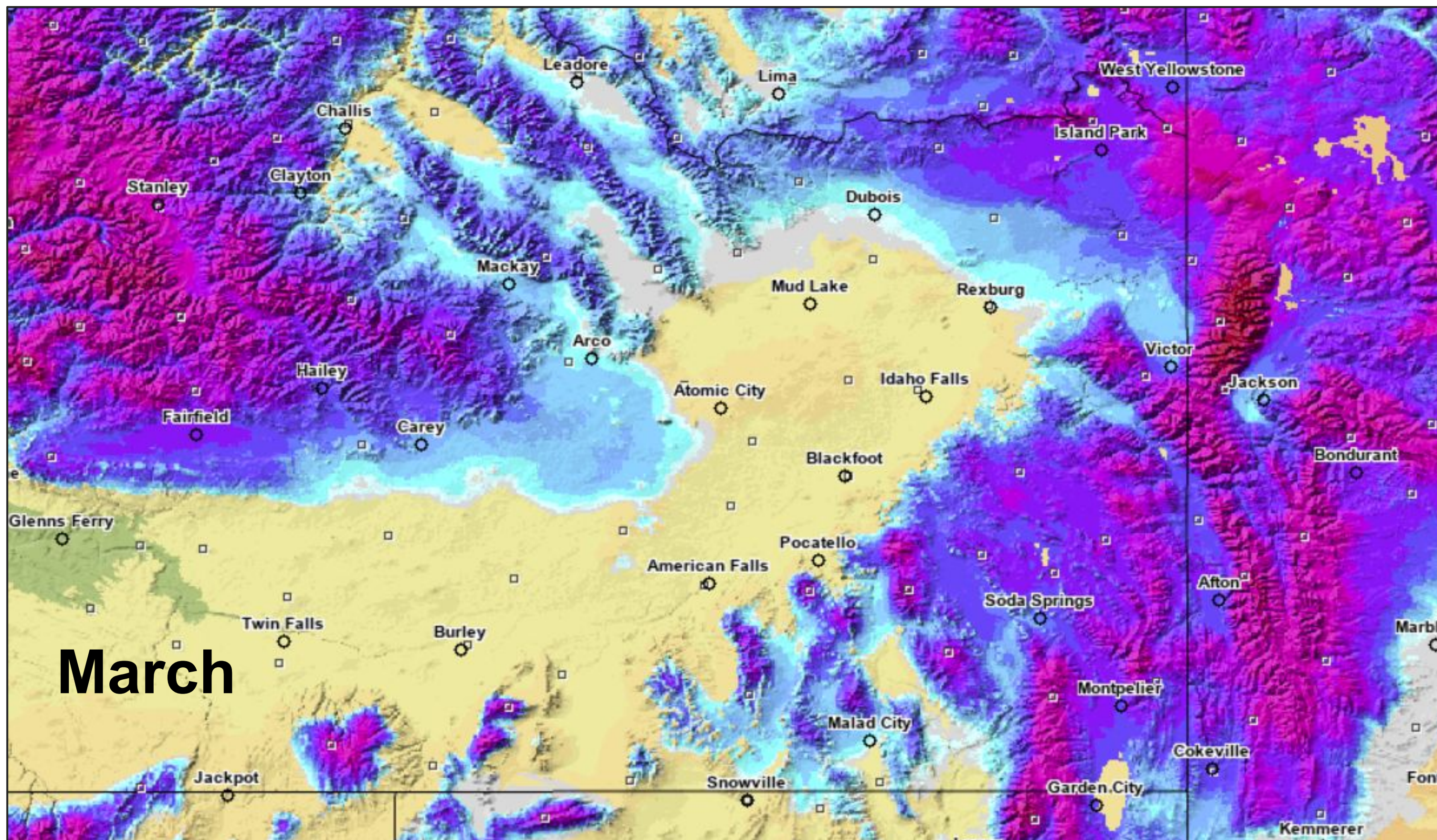






# Modeled Snow Depth for March 13, 2025

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

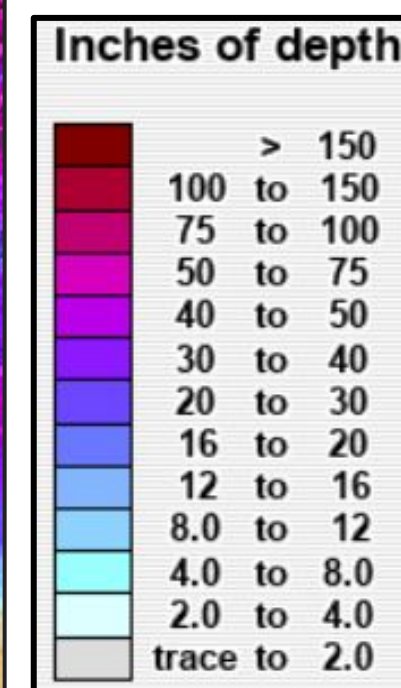
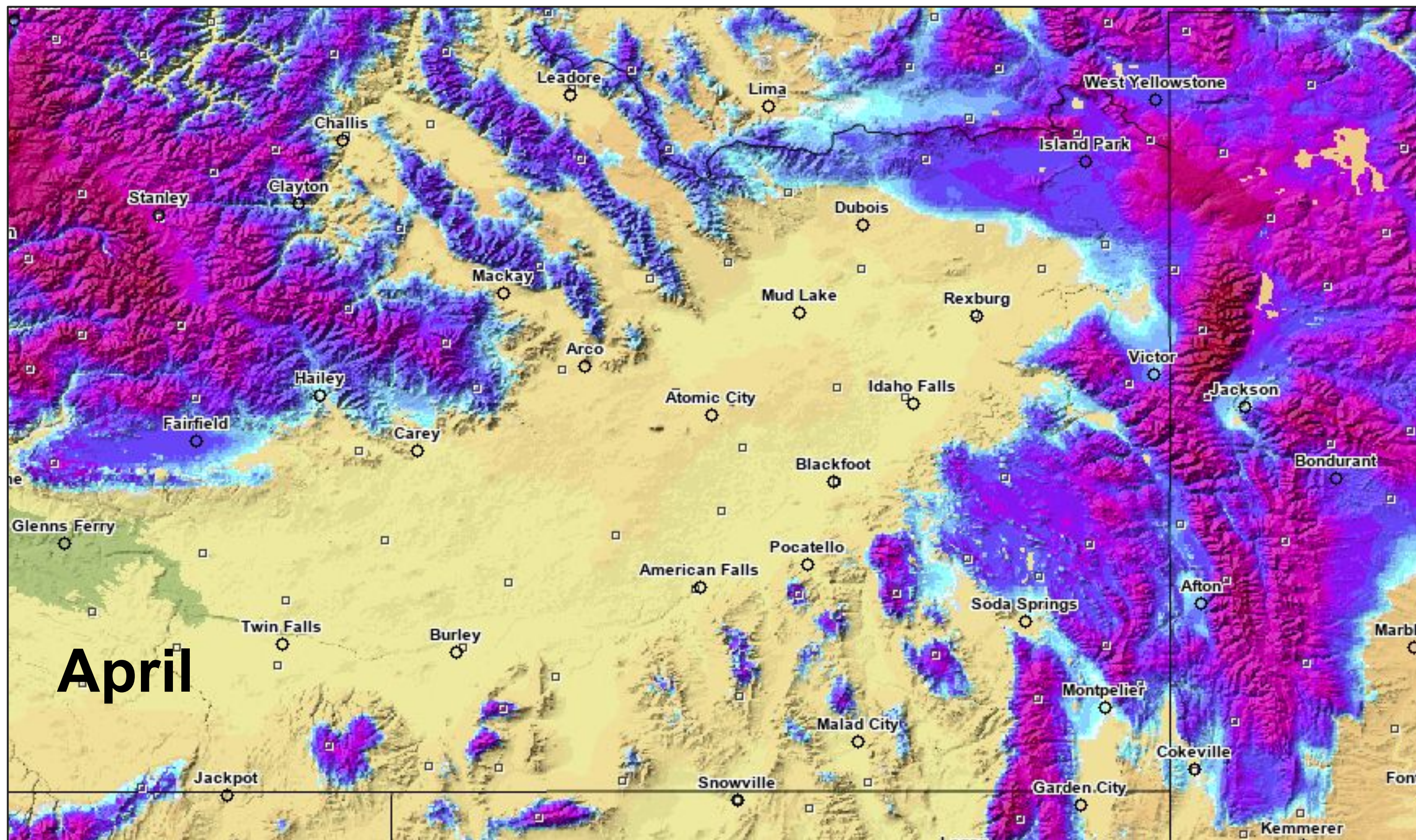






# Modeled Snow Depth for April 10, 2025

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

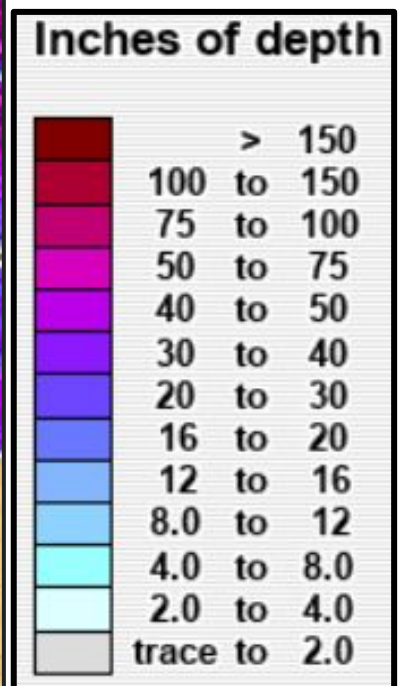
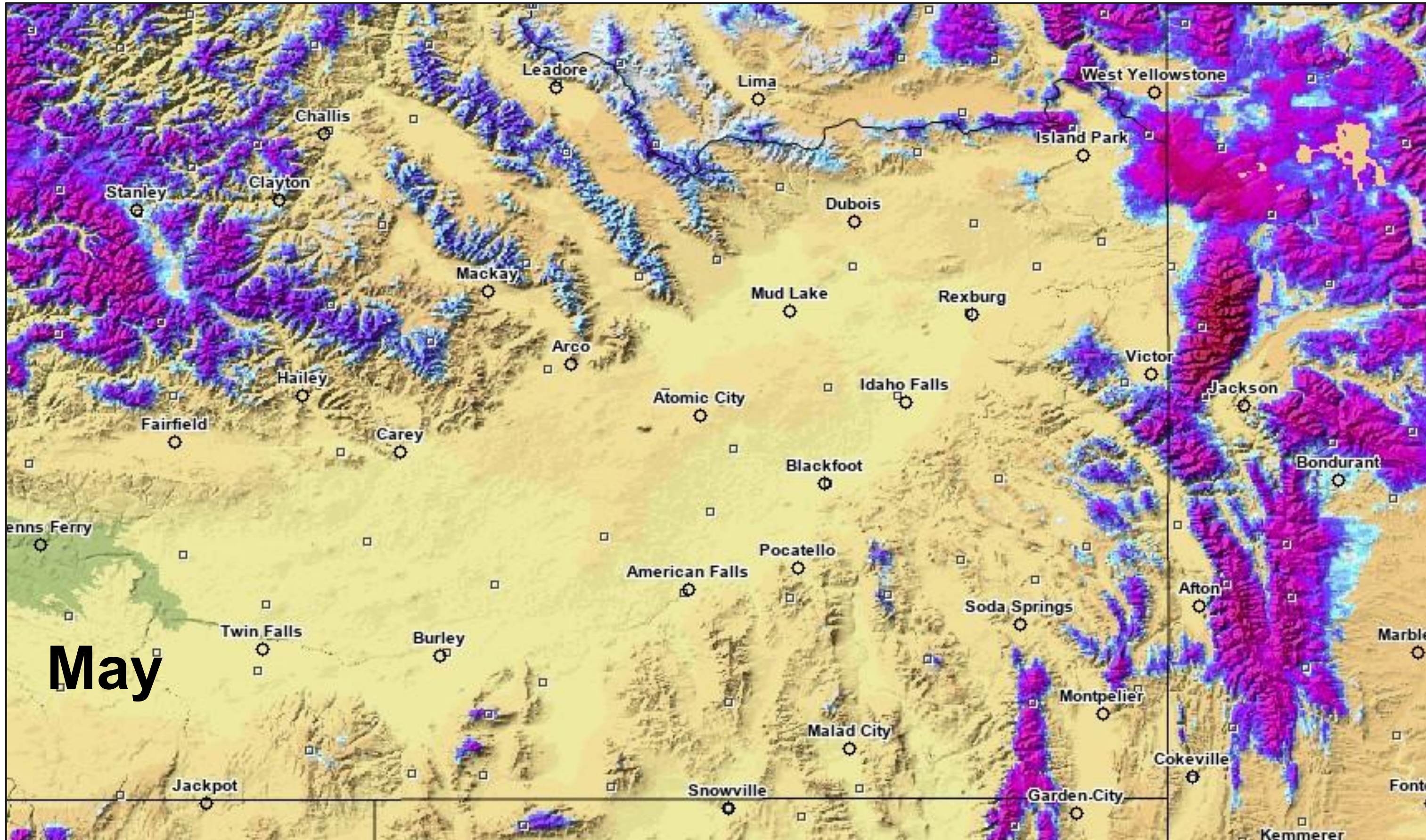






# Modeled Snow Depth for May 7, 2025

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

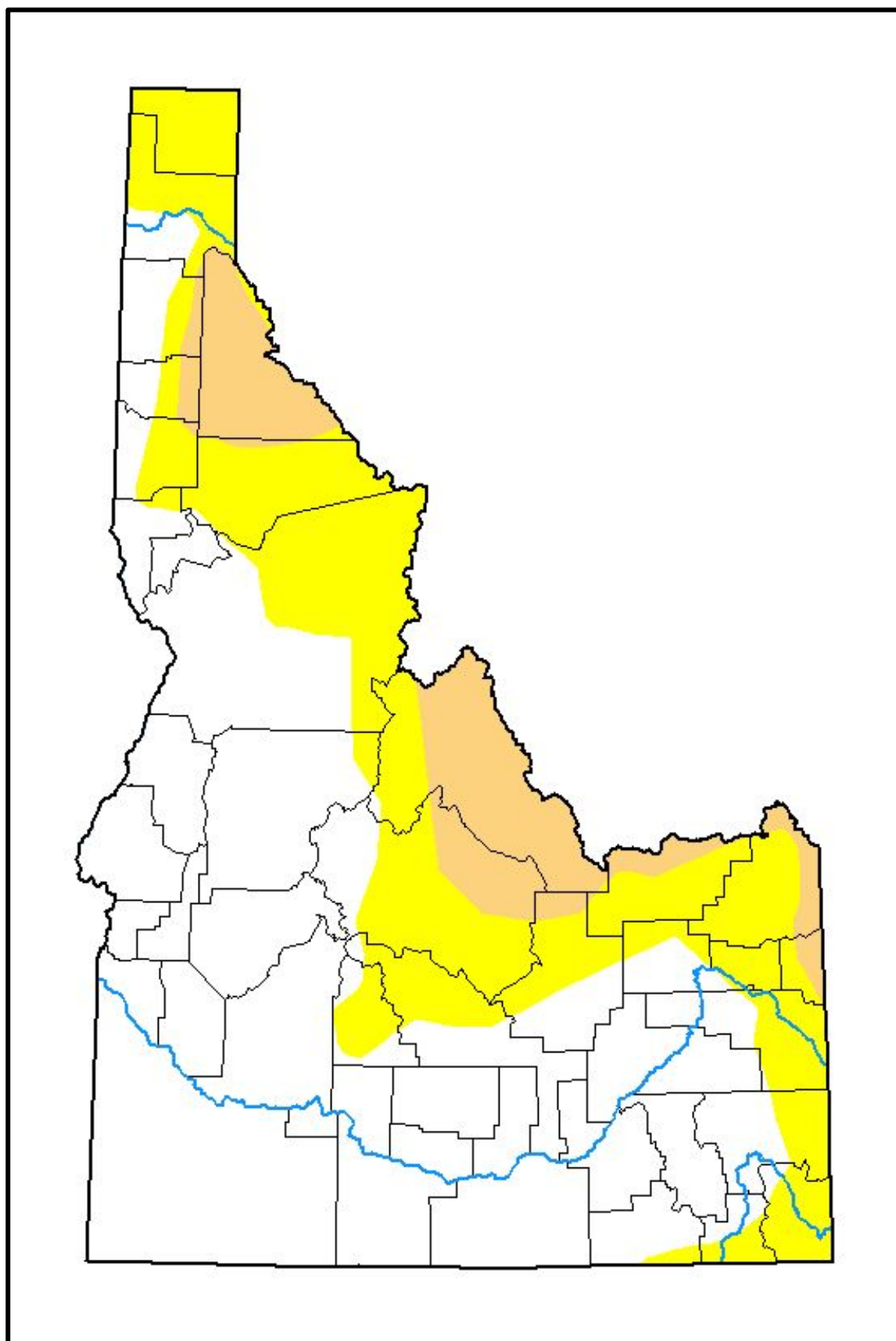




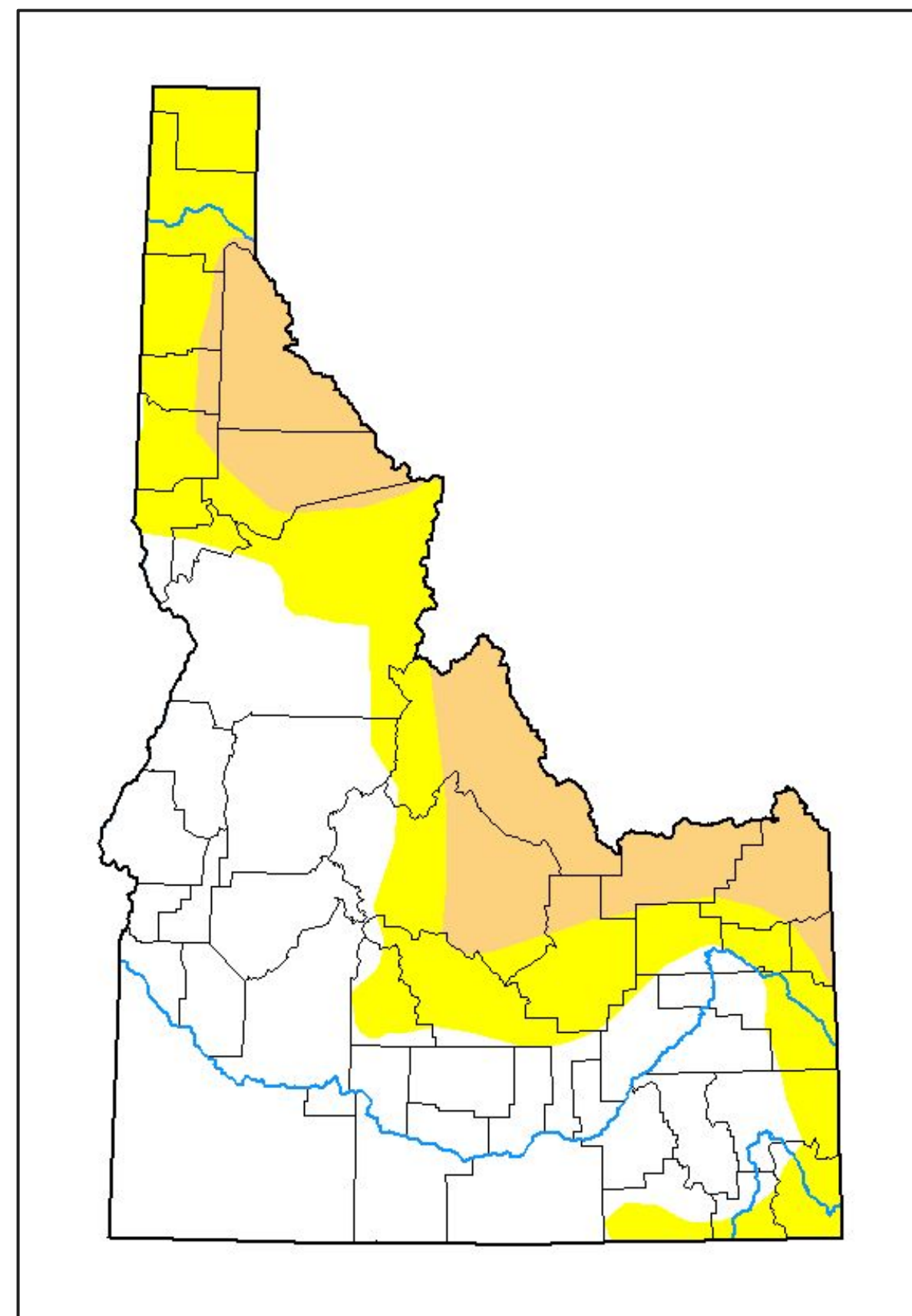
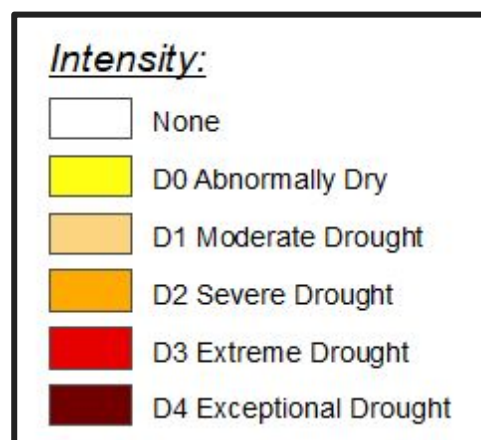


# Drought Status: Idaho

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8



**April 1, 2025**



**May 6, 2025**



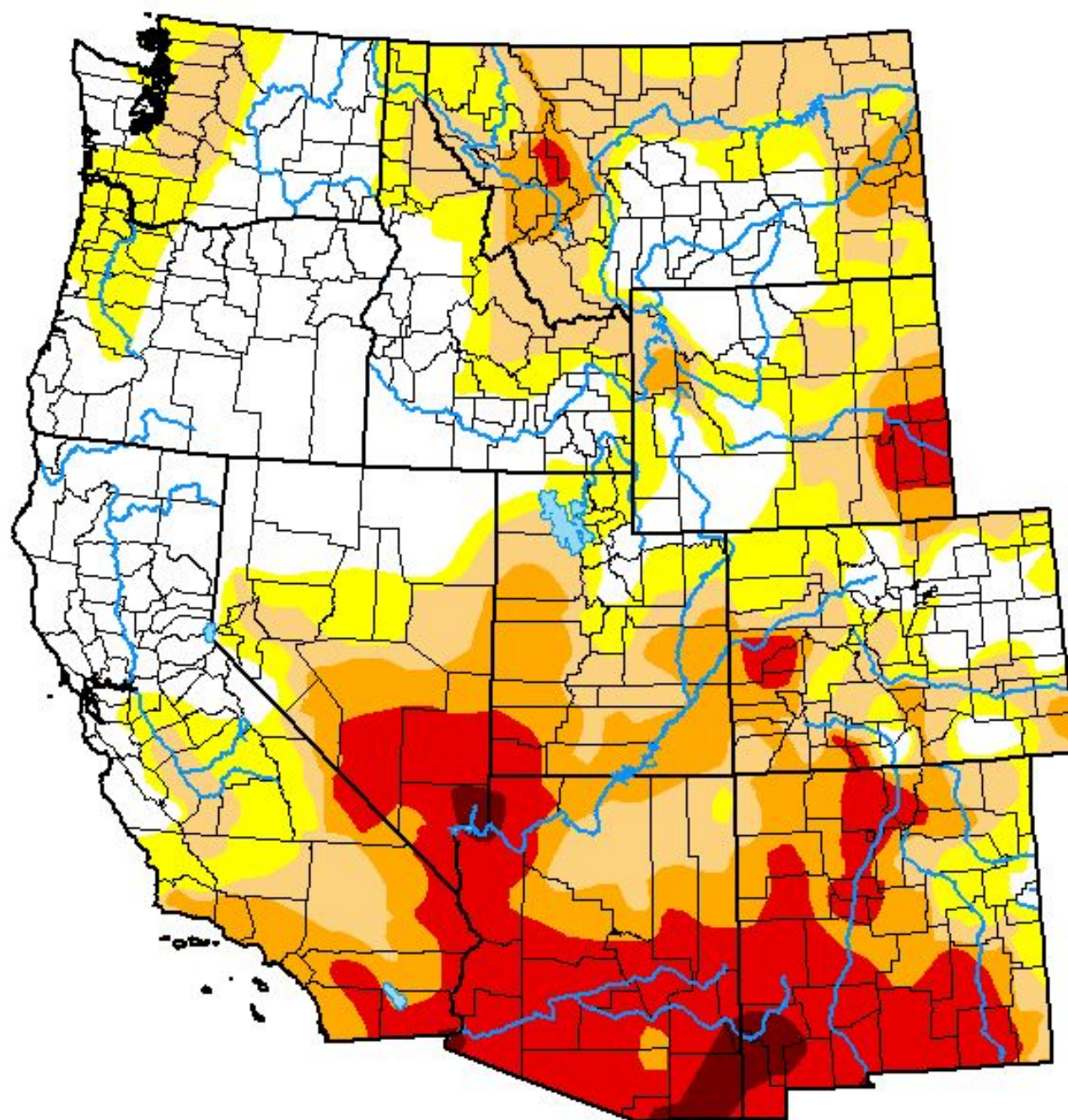


# Drought Status: Region







Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

## U.S. Drought Monitor West

**May 6, 2025**  
(Released Thursday, May 8, 2025)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



### 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:

Brad Pugh  
CPC/NOAA



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)





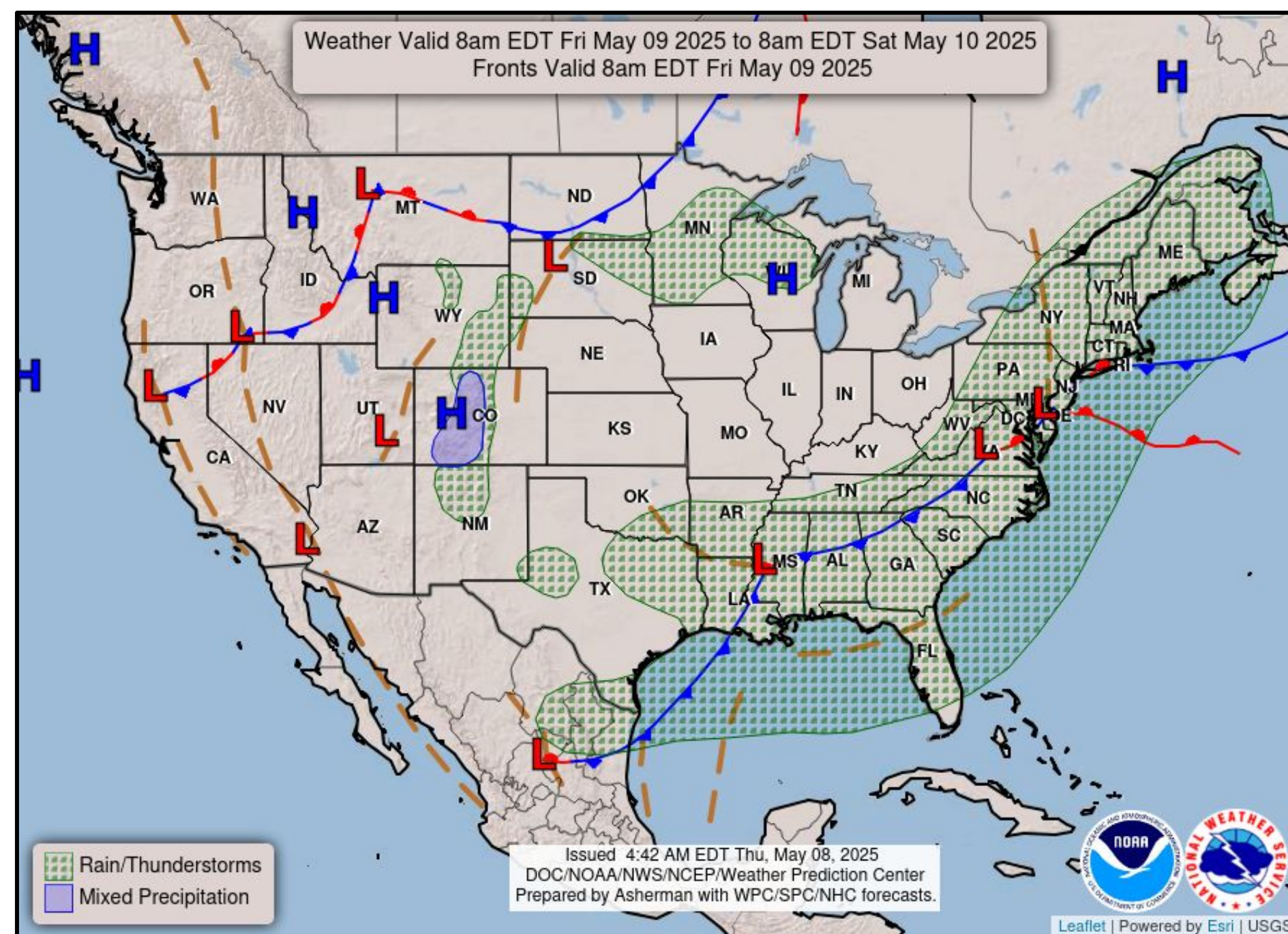
Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

# Looking Ahead: Short & Long Term Forecasts

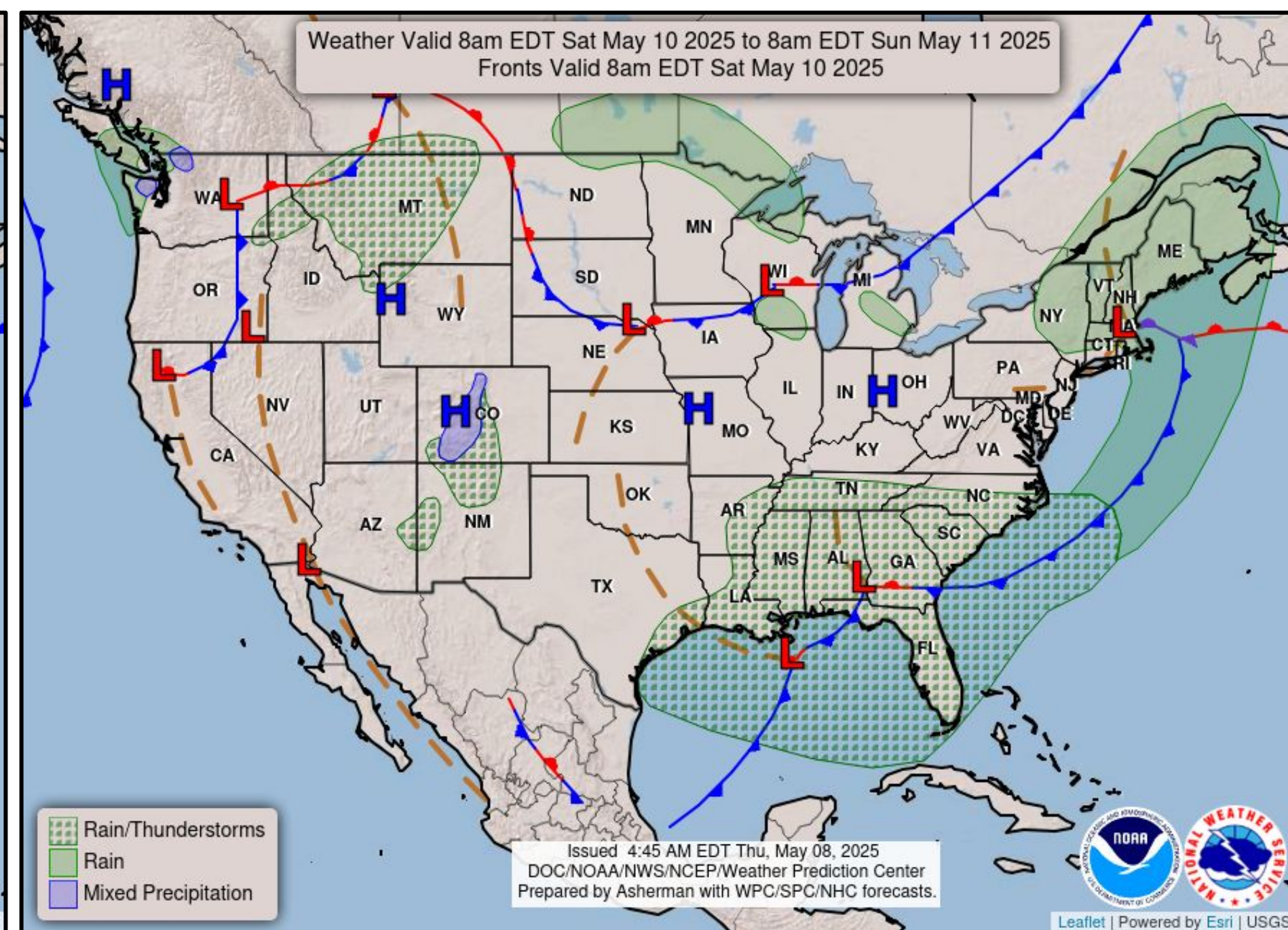




## Friday



## Saturday



Dry, warm Friday through Sunday; pattern change starting Sunday





# Short Term Forecast

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

## High Elevation Forecast (Teton Pass)

Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
								
High: 54 °F	Low: 38 °F	High: 59 °F	Low: 38 °F	High: 64 °F	Low: 44 °F	High: 58 °F	Low: 40 °F	High: 51 °F
Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Partly Cloudy then Isolated Showers	Isolated Showers then Showers Likely	Scattered Showers	Scattered Showers

## Low Elevation Forecast (Pocatello)

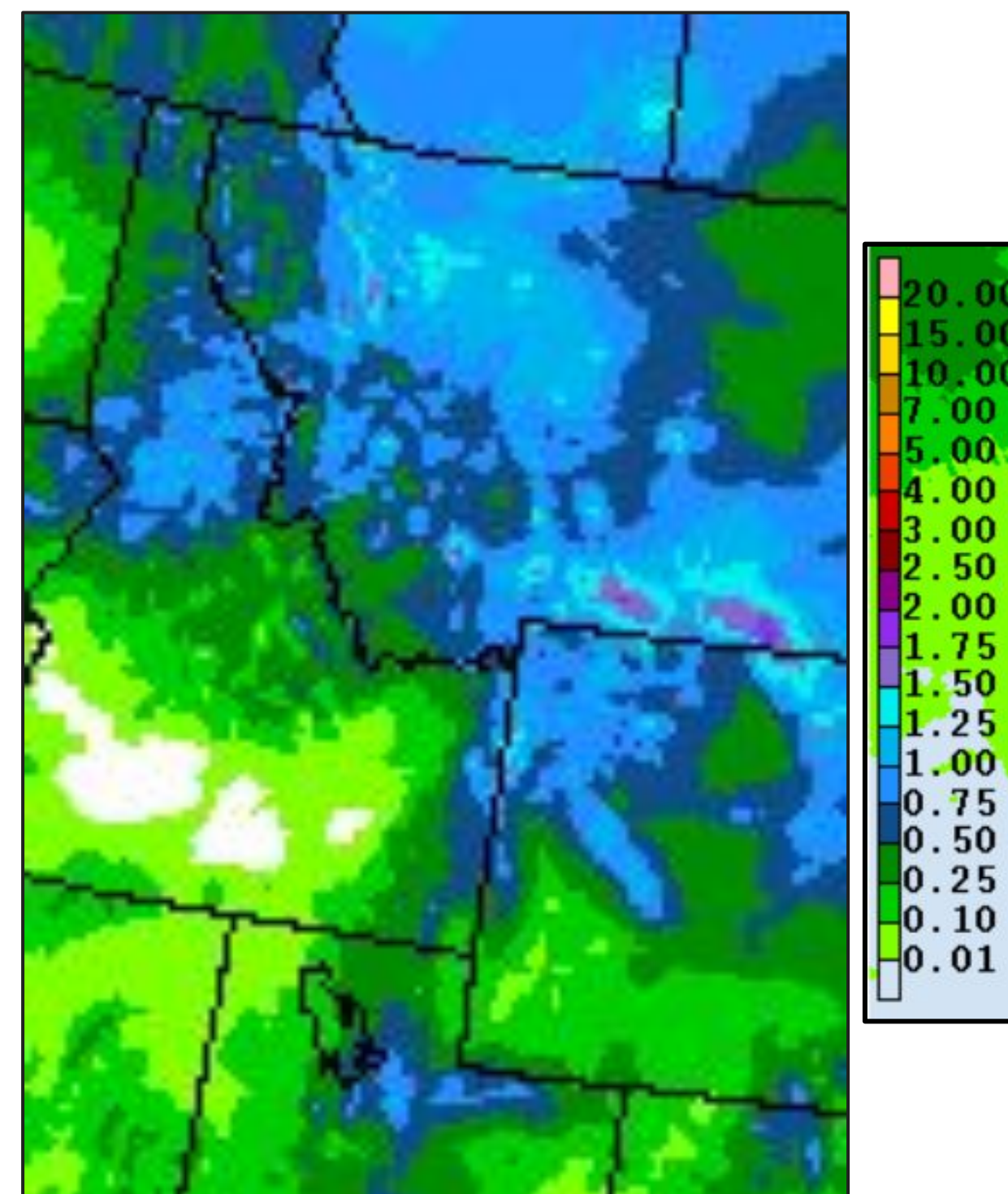
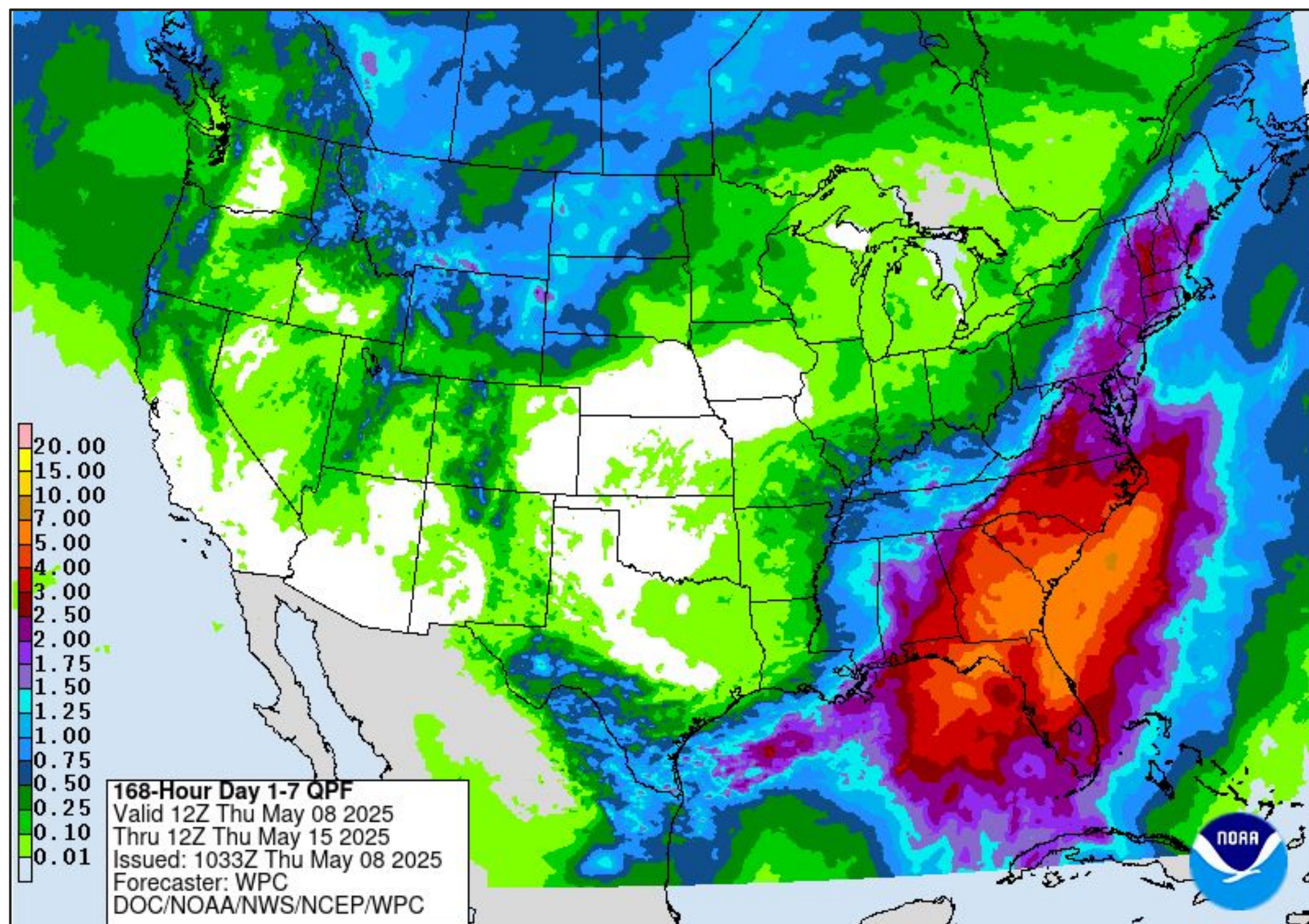
Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
								
High: 76 °F	Low: 44 °F	High: 82 °F	Low: 47 °F	High: 87 °F	Low: 56 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 49 °F	High: 66 °F
Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny then Chance Showers	Chance Showers then Mostly Cloudy	Slight Chance Showers





# Precipitation - Next 7 Days

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8



Valley Locations	0 - 0.25"
Mid Elevations	0.25 - 0.5"
Extreme East Idaho	0.5 - 1.0"





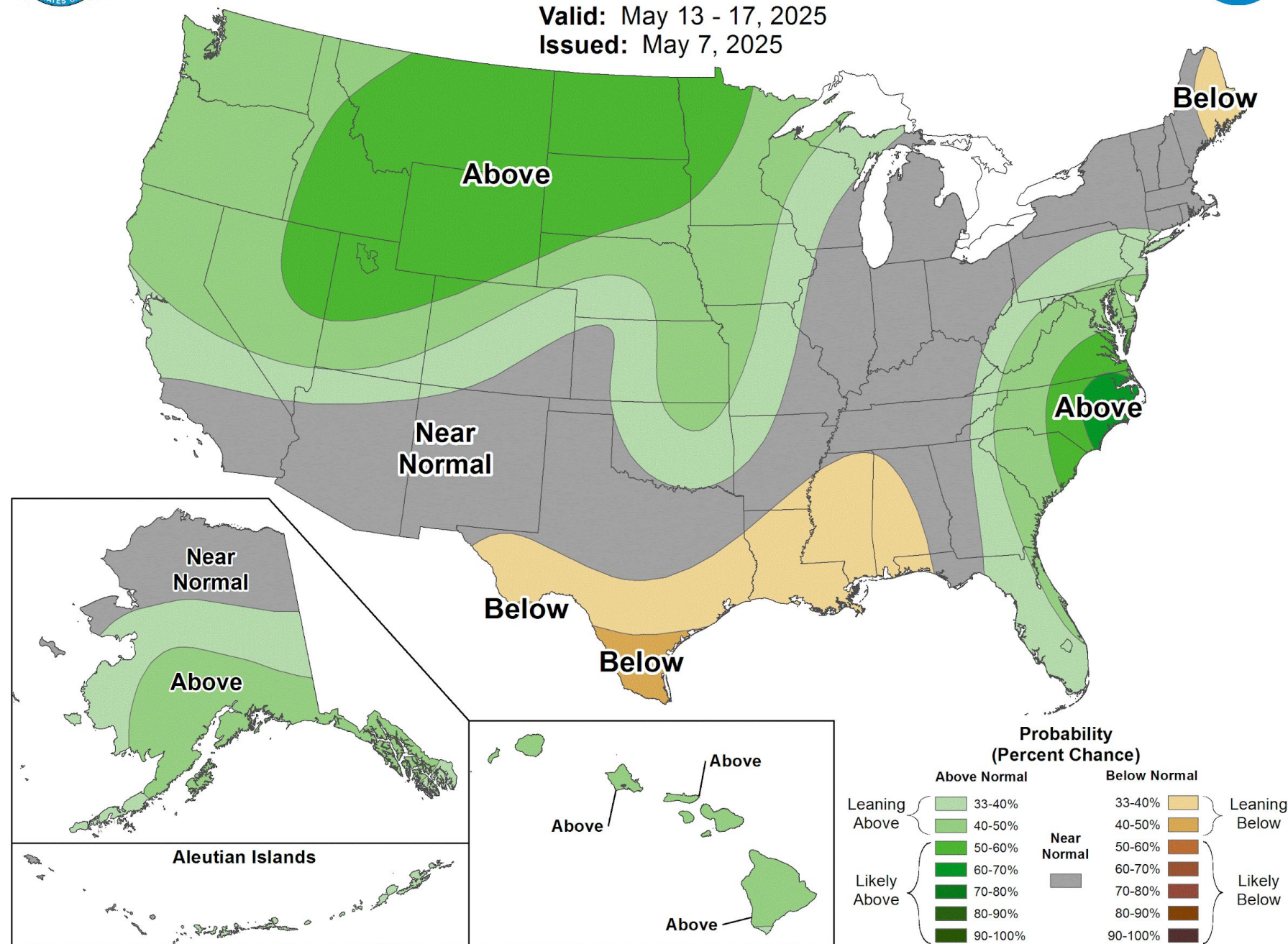
# Short Term Outlook

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8



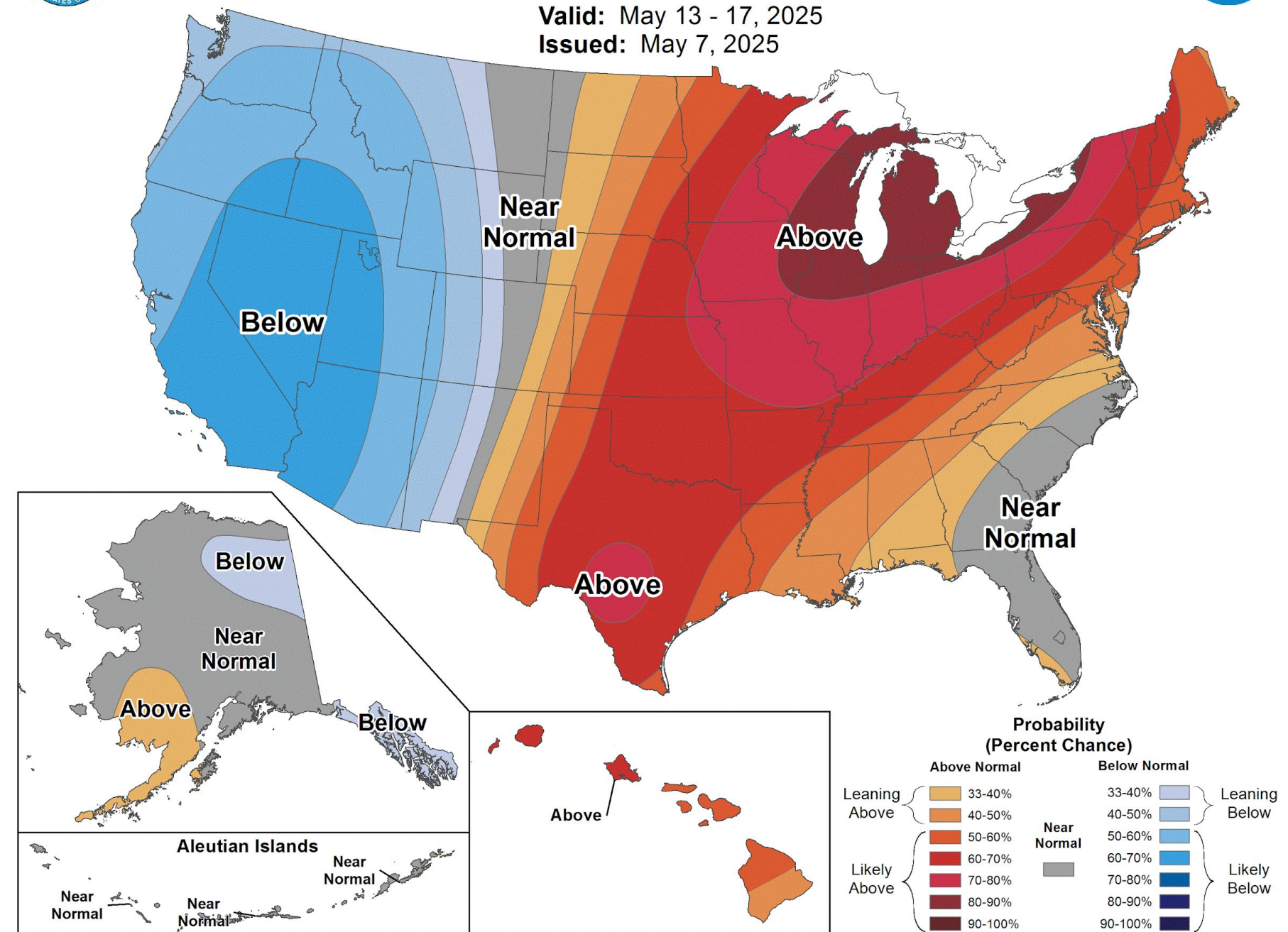
## 6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: May 13 - 17, 2025  
Issued: May 7, 2025



## 6-10 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: May 13 - 17, 2025  
Issued: May 7, 2025







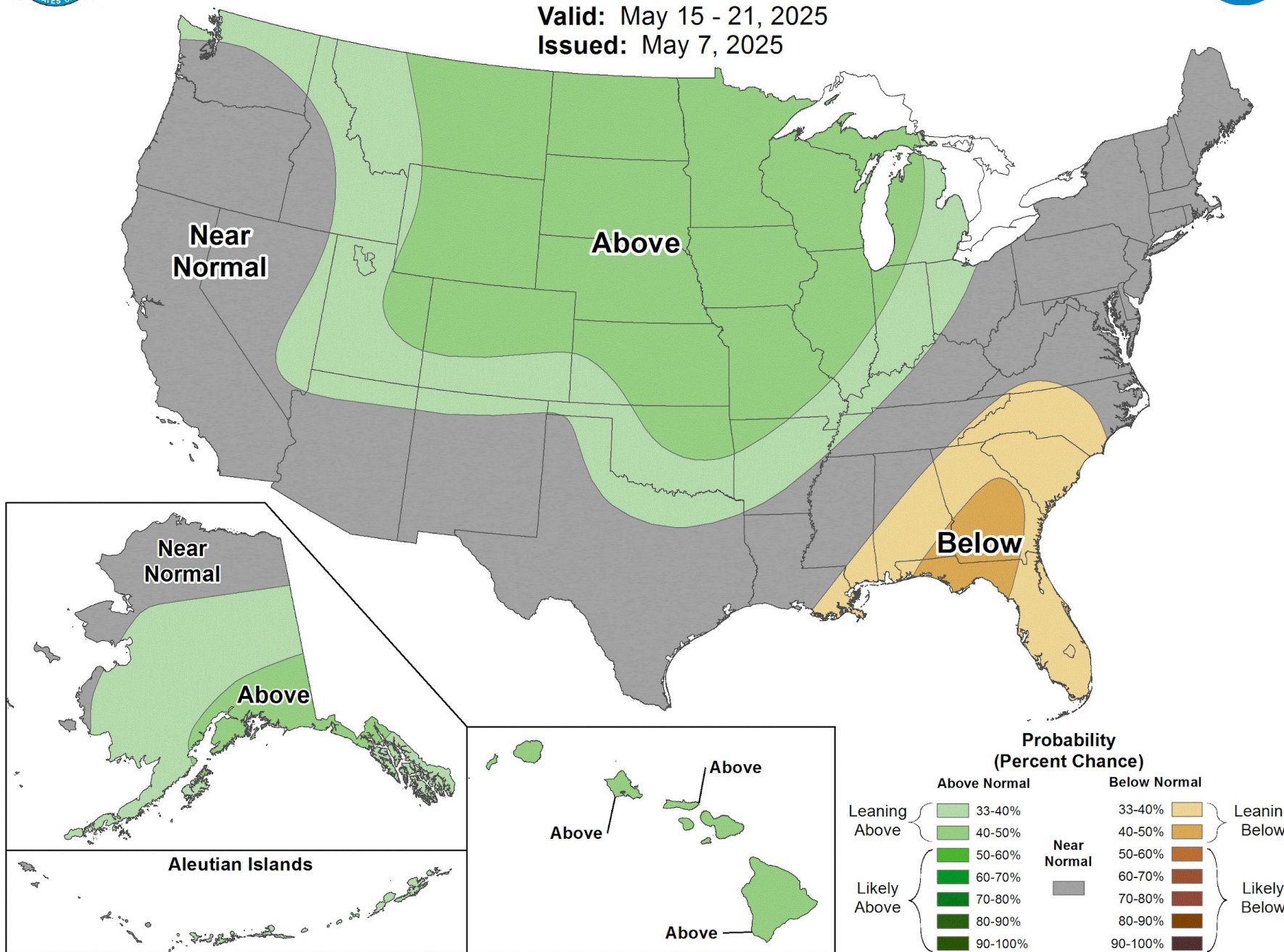
# 1-2 Week Outlook

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8



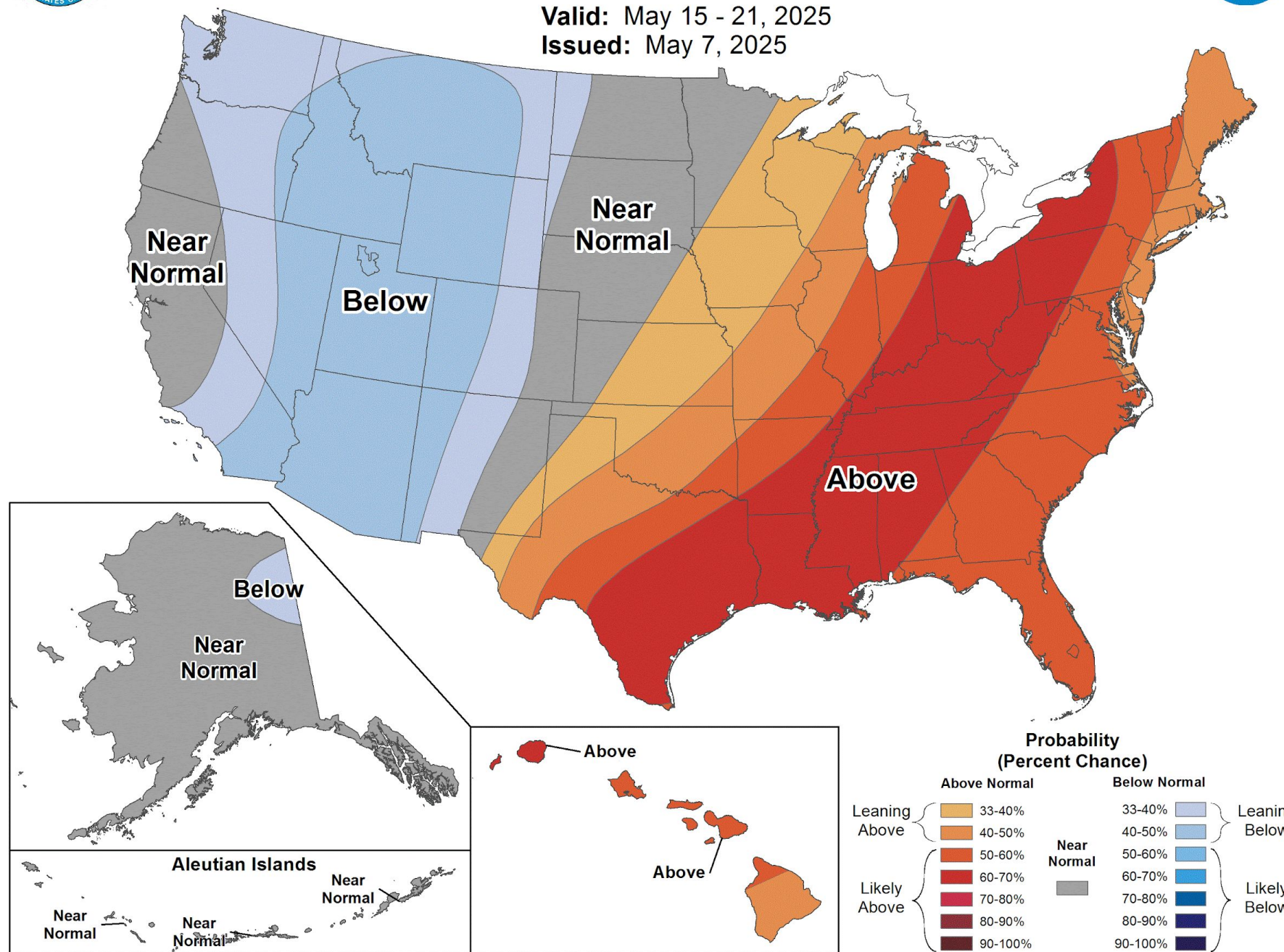
## 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: May 15 - 21, 2025  
Issued: May 7, 2025



## 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: May 15 - 21, 2025  
Issued: May 7, 2025







# 1 Month Outlook

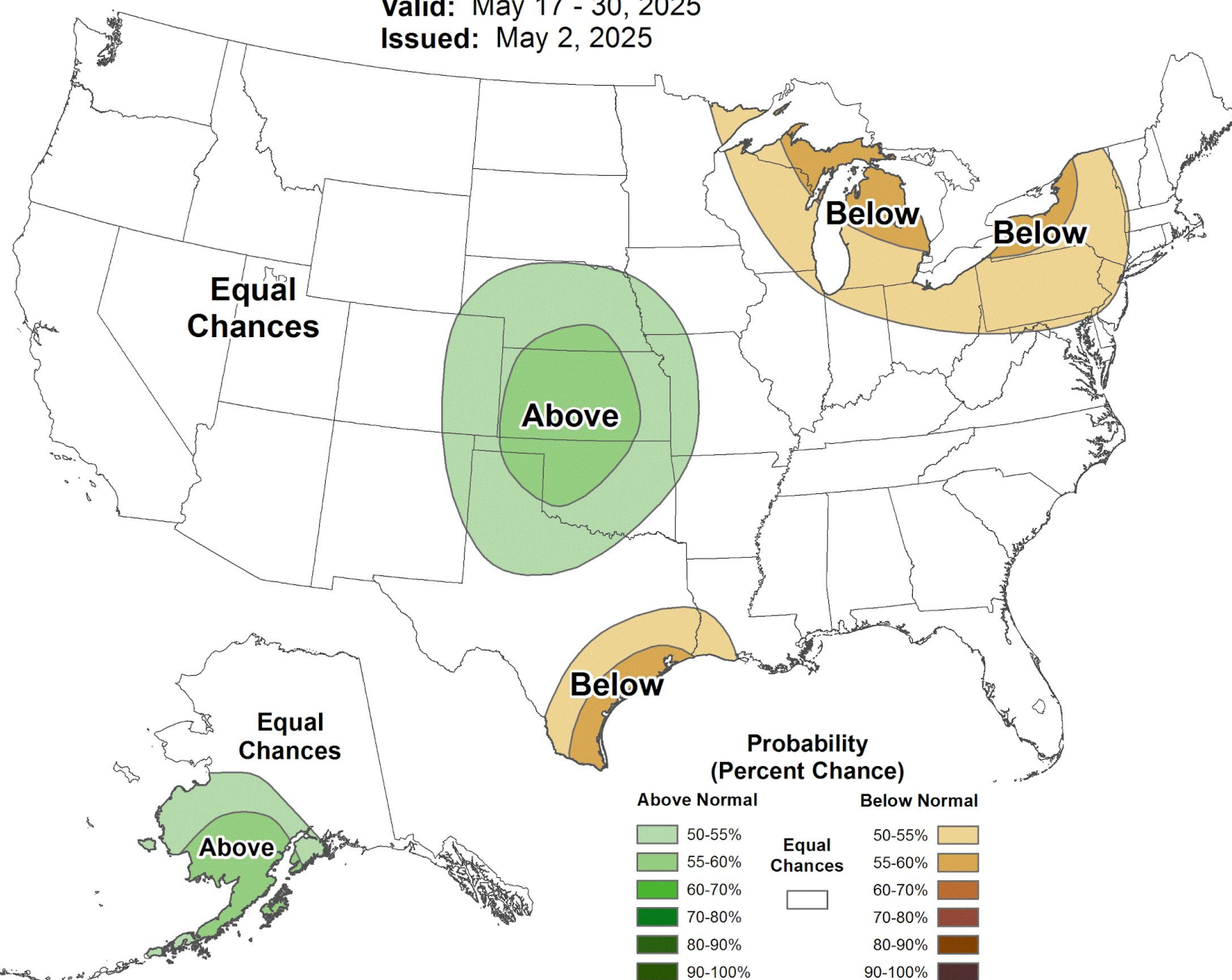
Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8



## Weeks 3-4 Precipitation Outlook



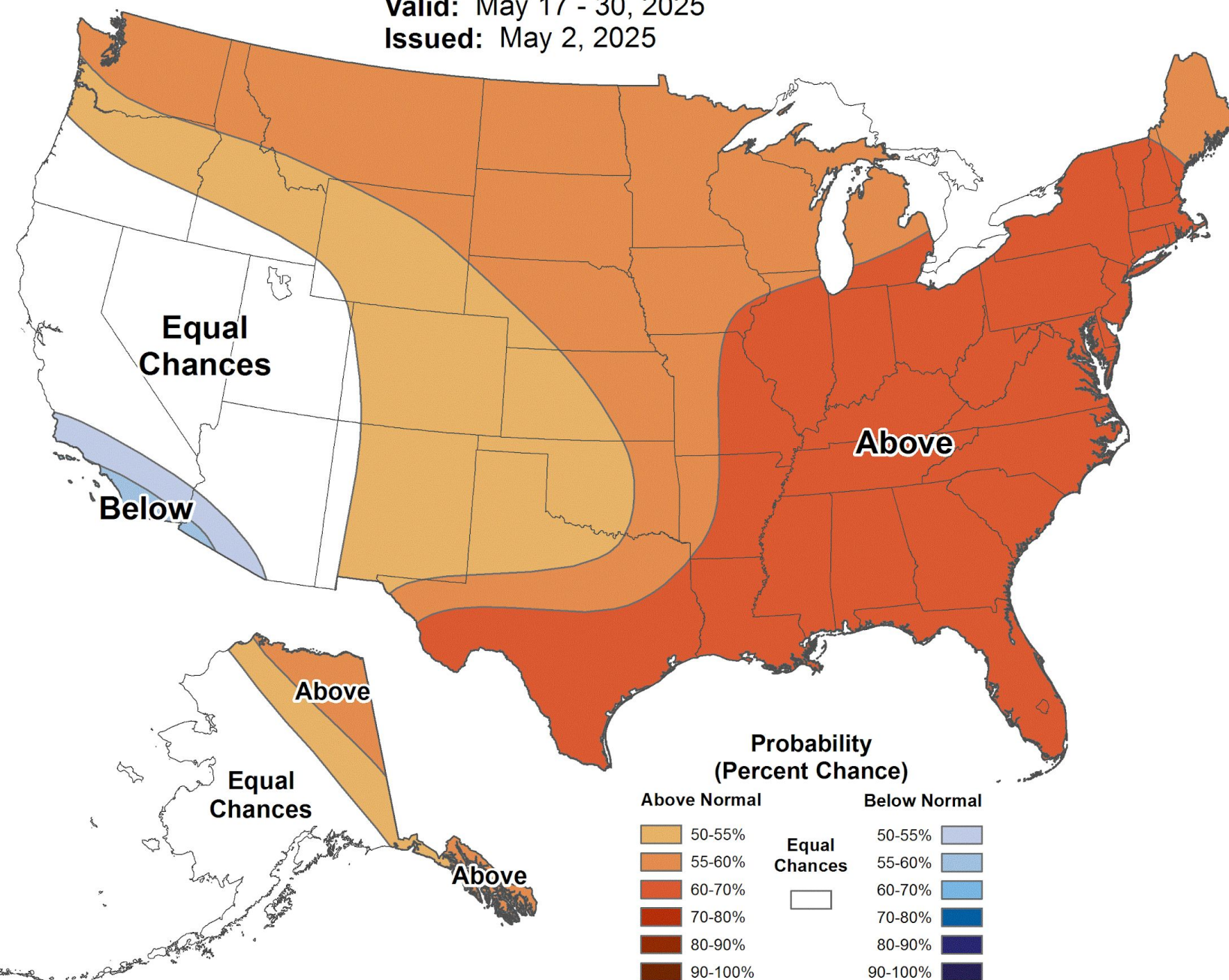
Valid: May 17 - 30, 2025  
Issued: May 2, 2025



## Weeks 3-4 Temperature Outlook



Valid: May 17 - 30, 2025  
Issued: May 2, 2025







# Three-Month Seasonal Outlook

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8



## Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2025  
Issued: April 17, 2025

Equal  
Chances

Below

Equal  
Chances

Above

Equal  
Chances

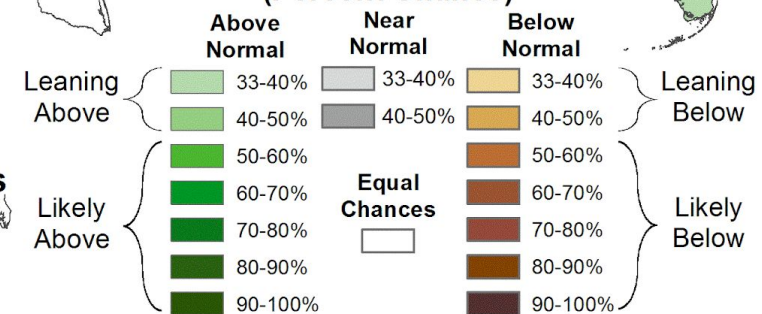
Above

Above

Equal  
Chances

Equal  
Chances

Probability  
(Percent Chance)



## Seasonal Temperature Outlook



Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2025  
Issued: April 17, 2025

Above

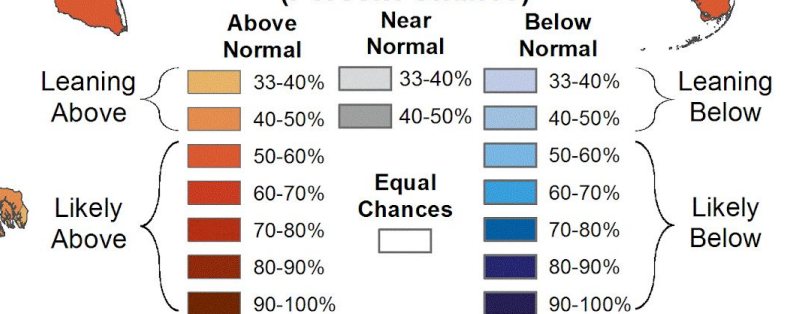
Above

Above

Above

Equal  
Chances

Probability  
(Percent Chance)

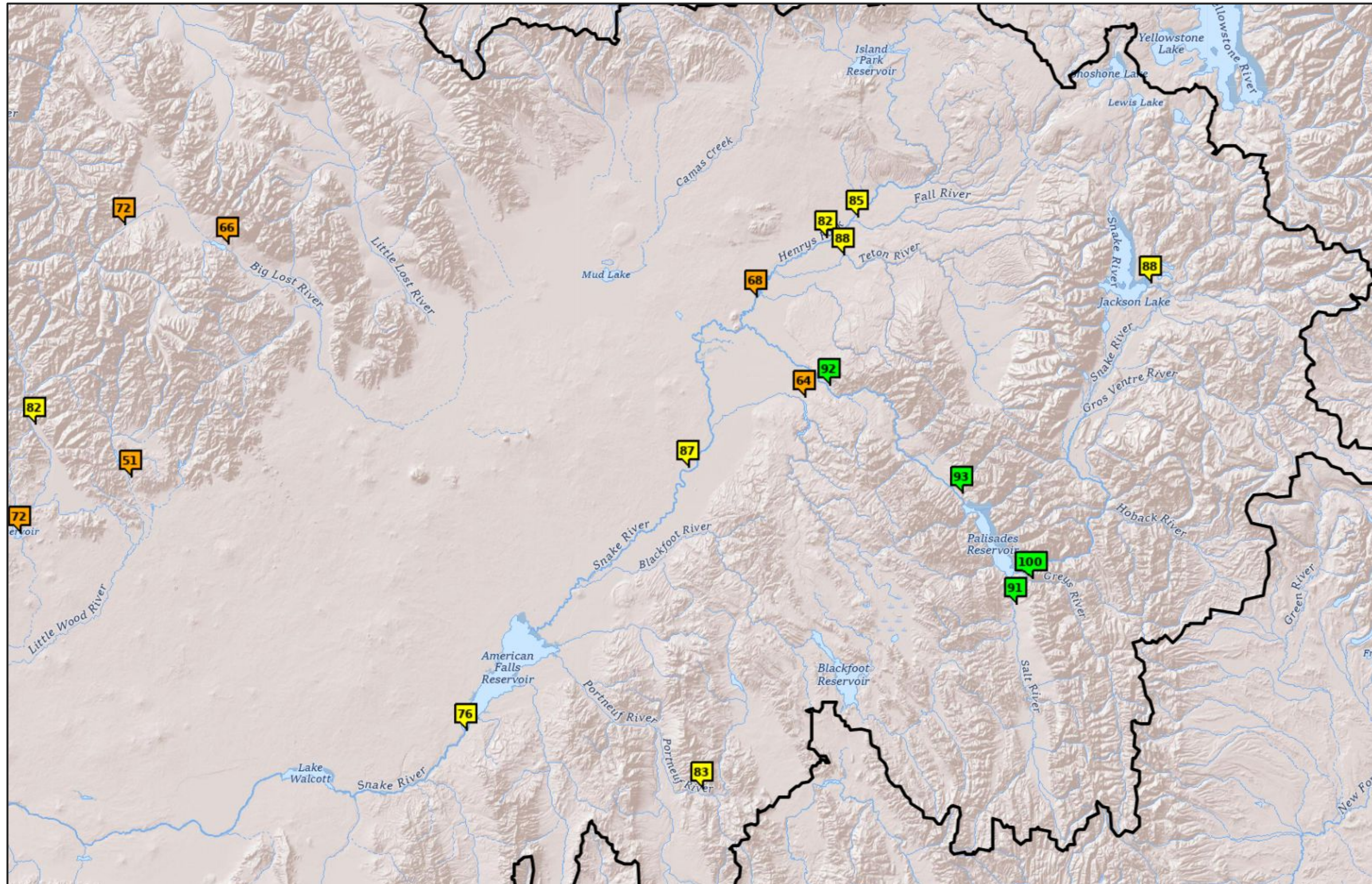






# River Forecast - Water Supply (% of normal)

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

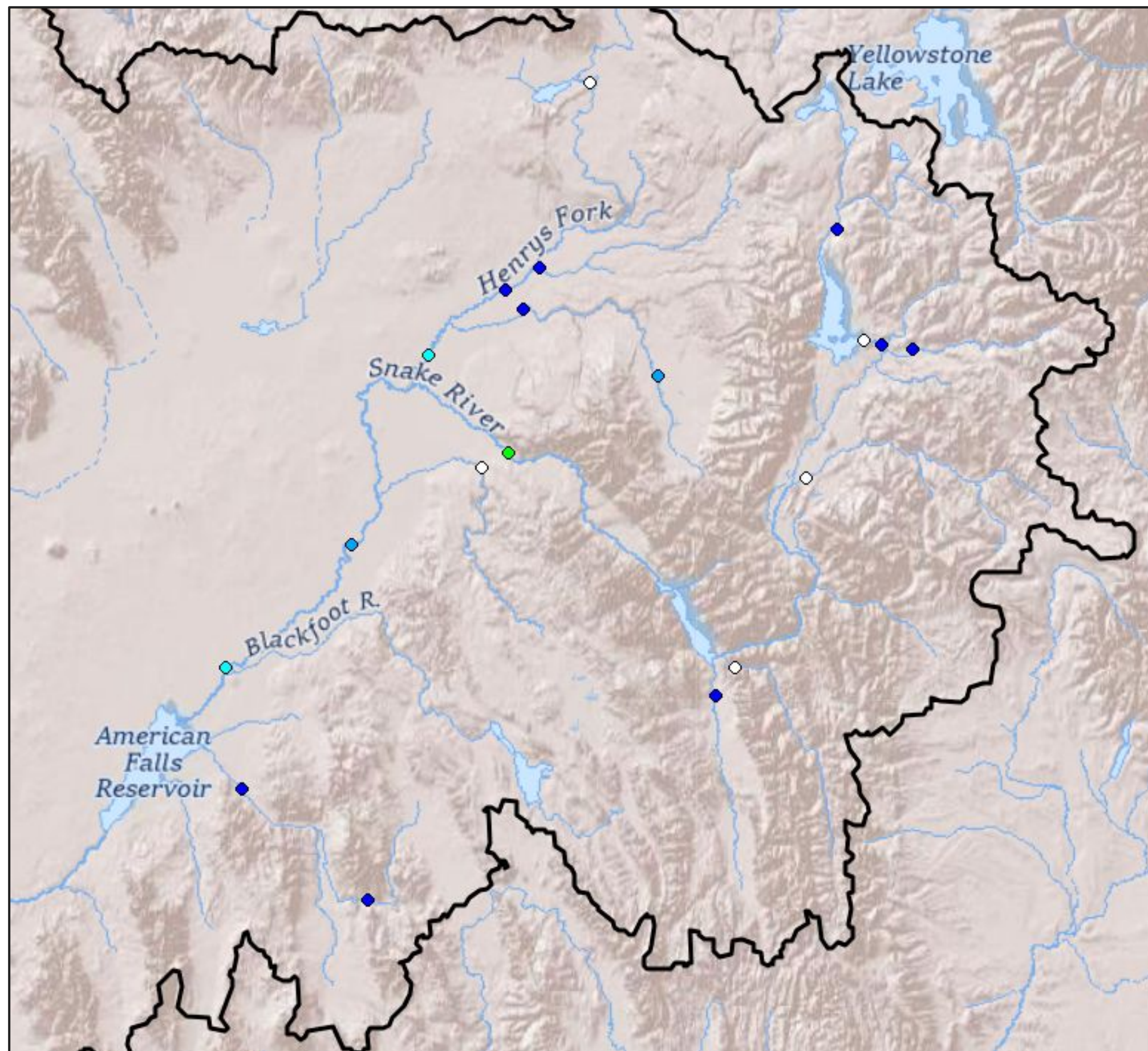
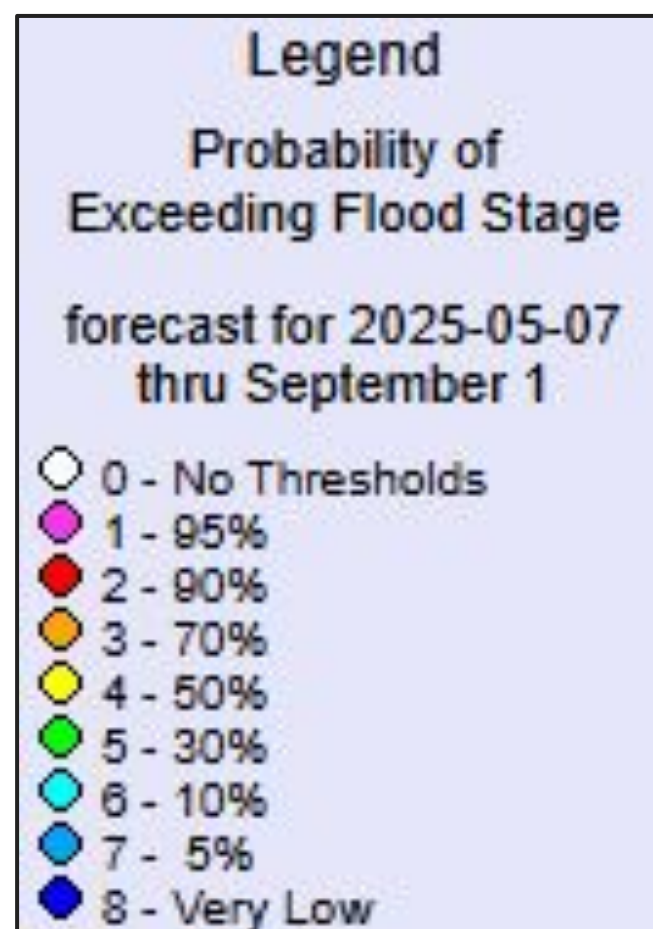






# River Forecasts - Peak Flow Flood Probability

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

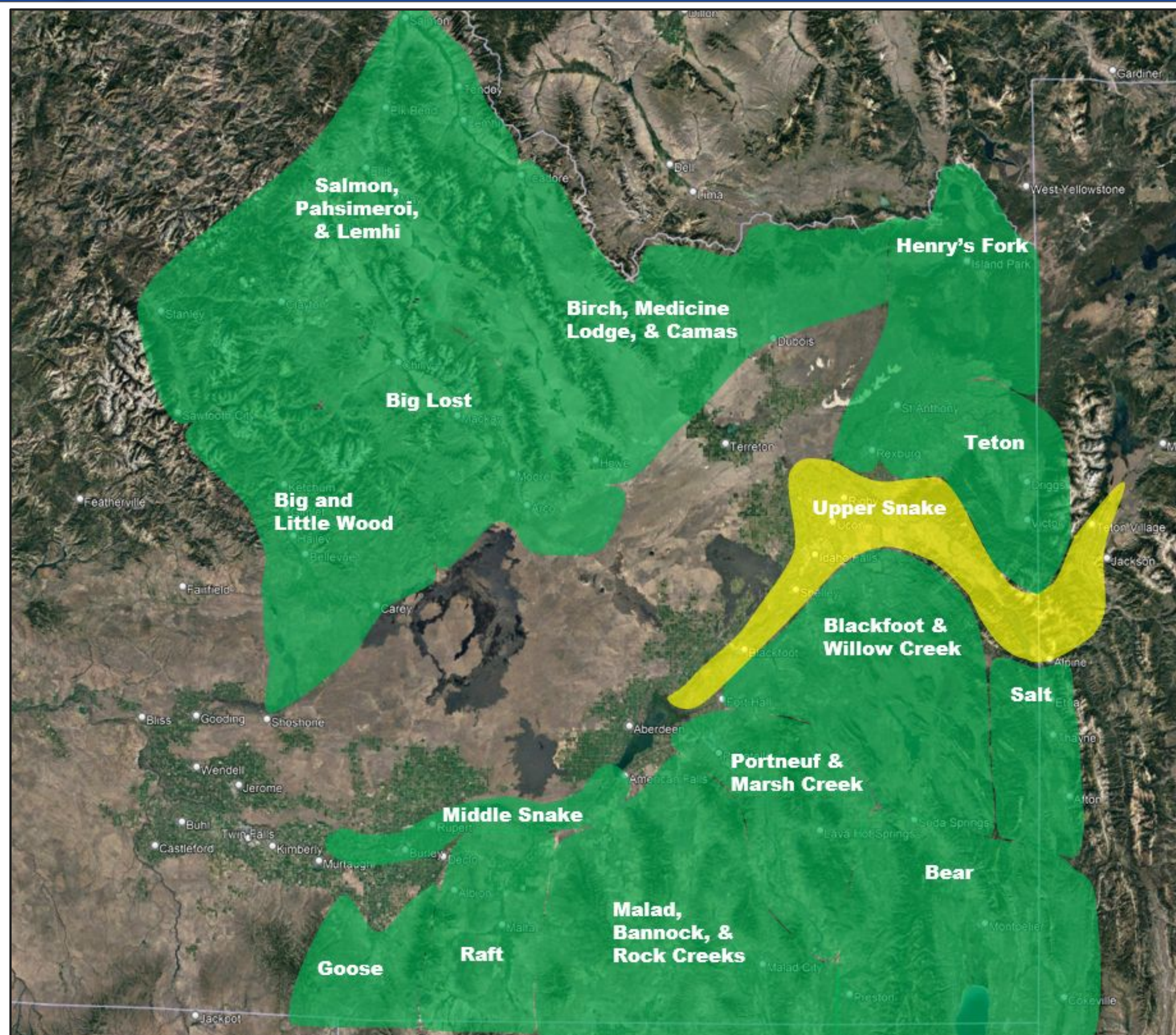




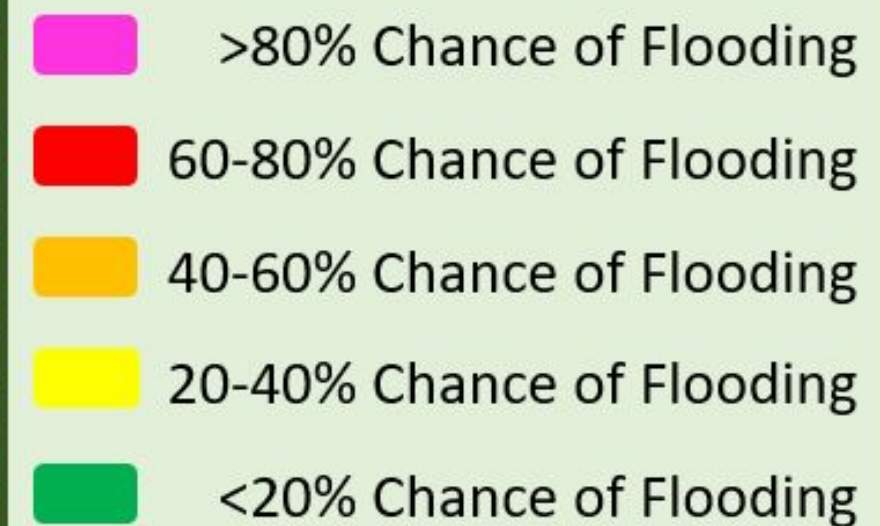


# River Flood Probability - Summary

Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8



## Remaining River Flood Potential 2025







Weather Forecast Office  
Pocatello, ID  
Thursday, May 8

# Questions/Comments

**Mark Dallon**  
Service Hydrologist  
[mark.dallon@noaa.gov](mailto:mark.dallon@noaa.gov)



[pocatello.weather@noaa.gov](mailto:pocatello.weather@noaa.gov)



208-233-0834



[weather.gov/pocatello](https://weather.gov/pocatello)







# Snowpack & Water Supply Forecasts

*Upper Snake River Advisory Committee  
May 8, 2025*



Presented by Erin Whorton

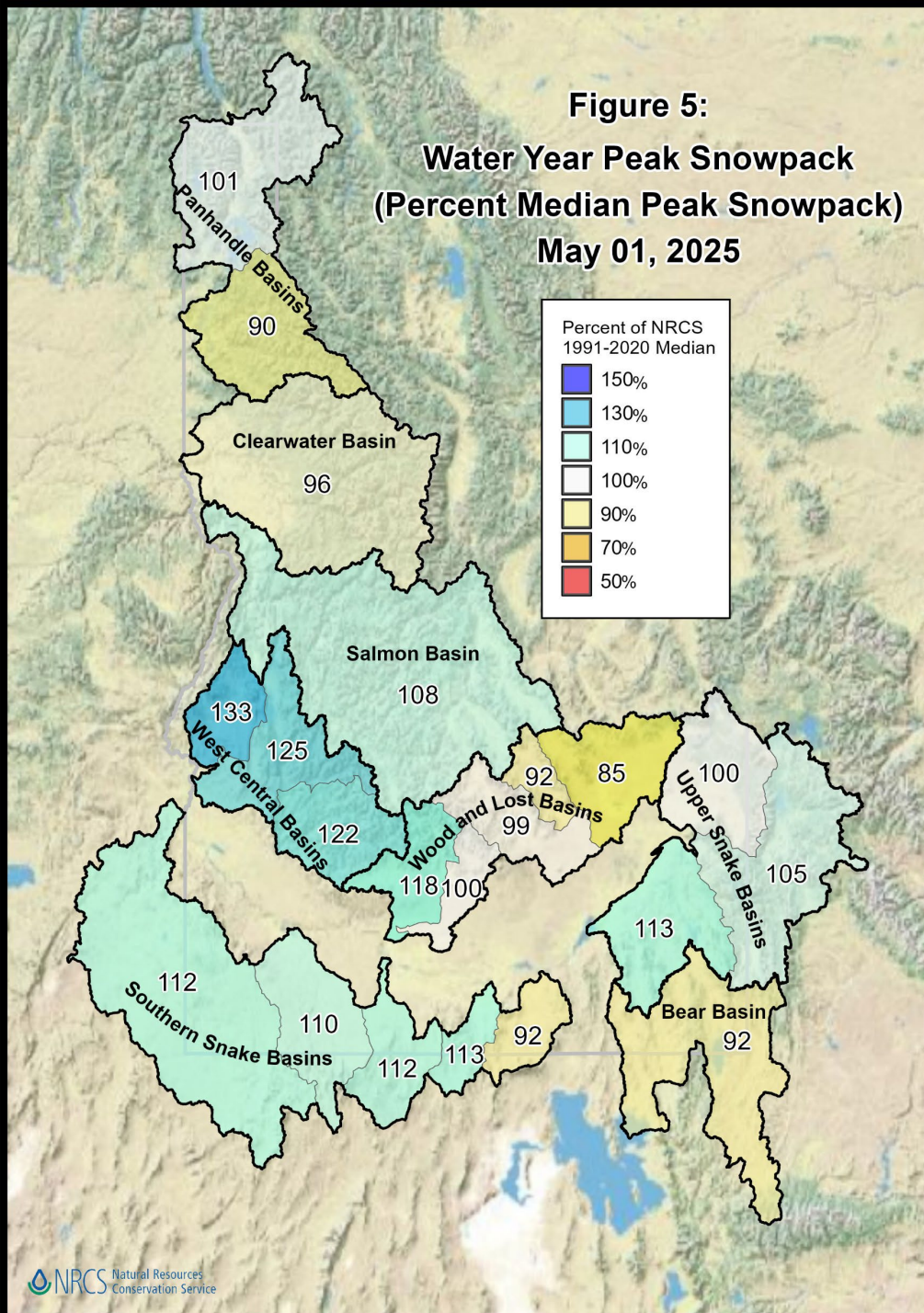


Last Month when we met...the Tetons were at peak snowpack conditions!

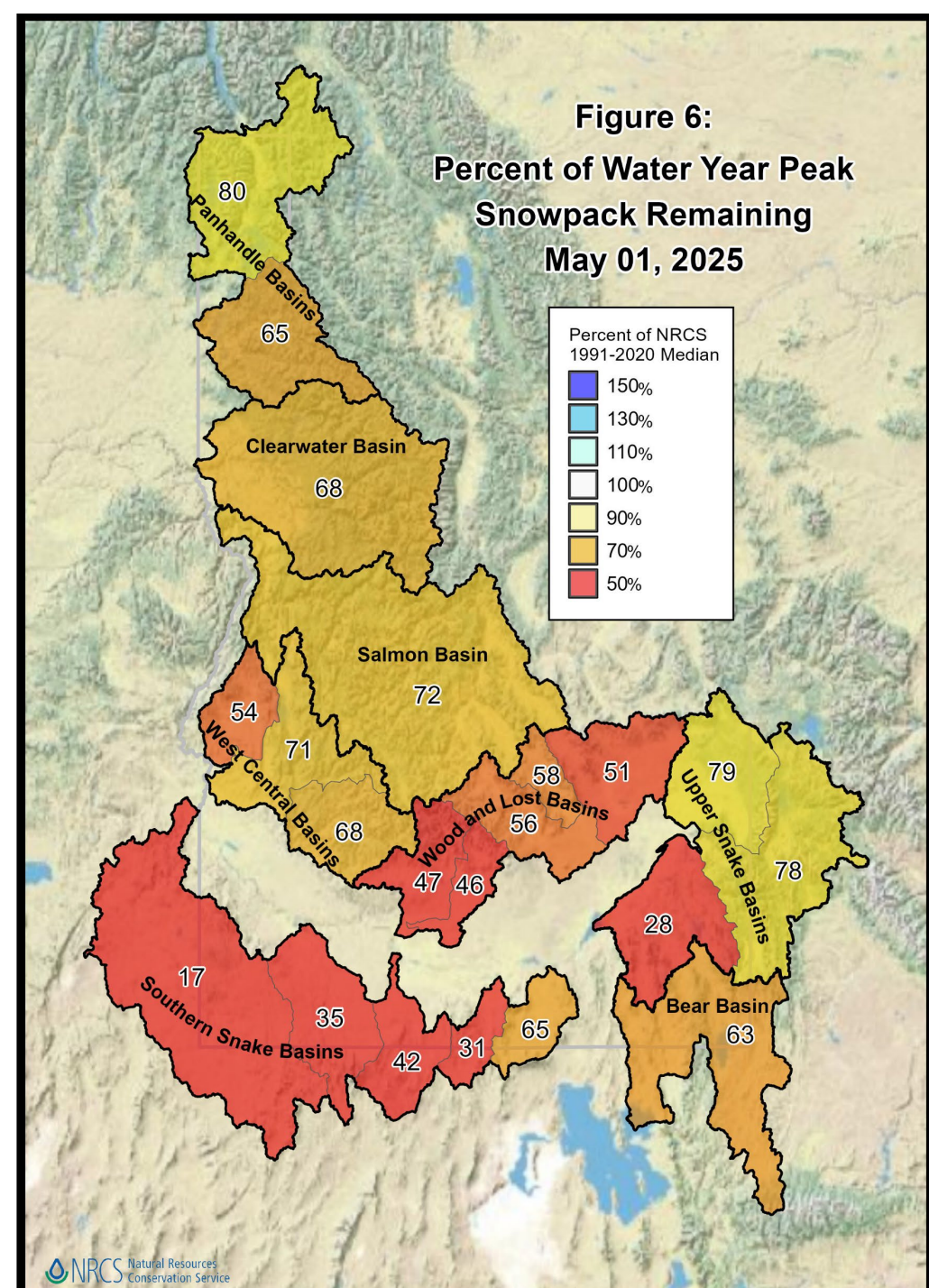




**Figure 5:**  
**Water Year Peak Snowpack**  
**(Percent Median Peak Snowpack)**  
**May 01, 2025**

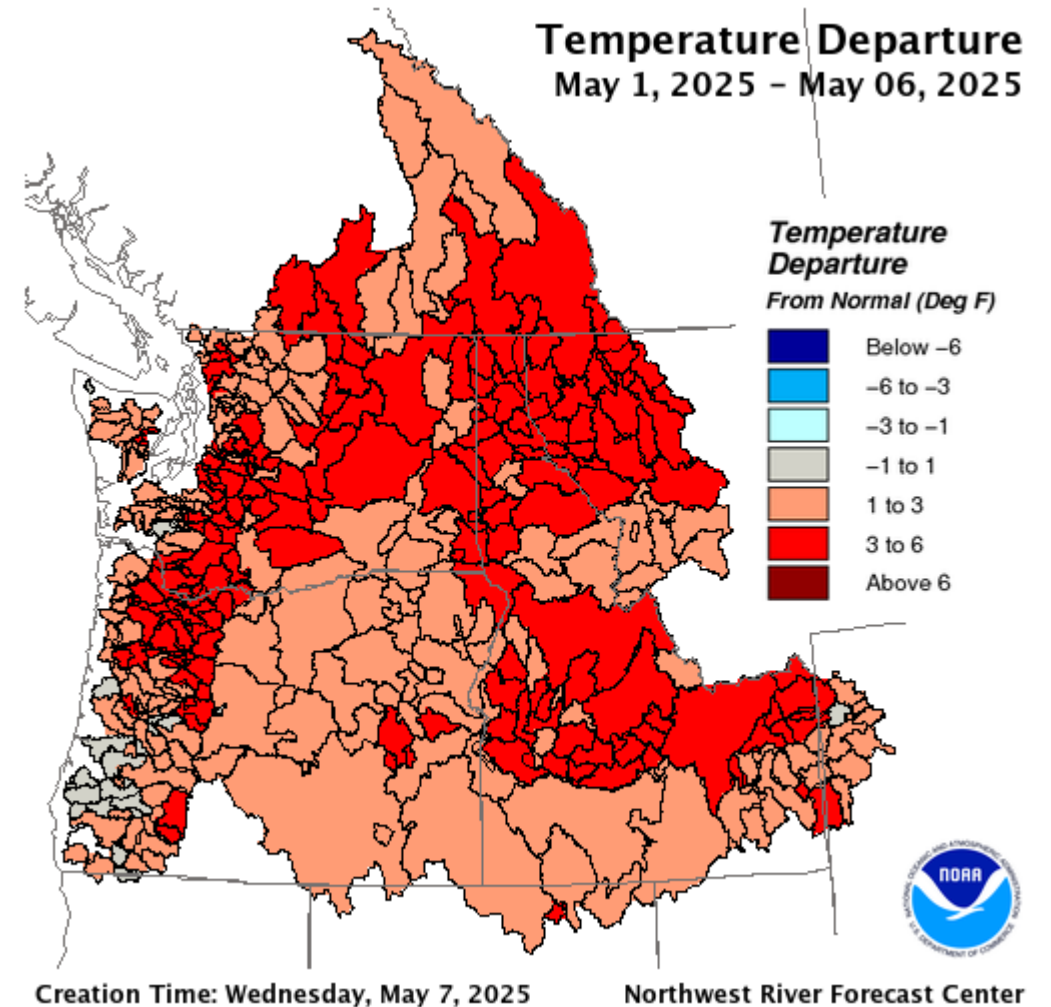
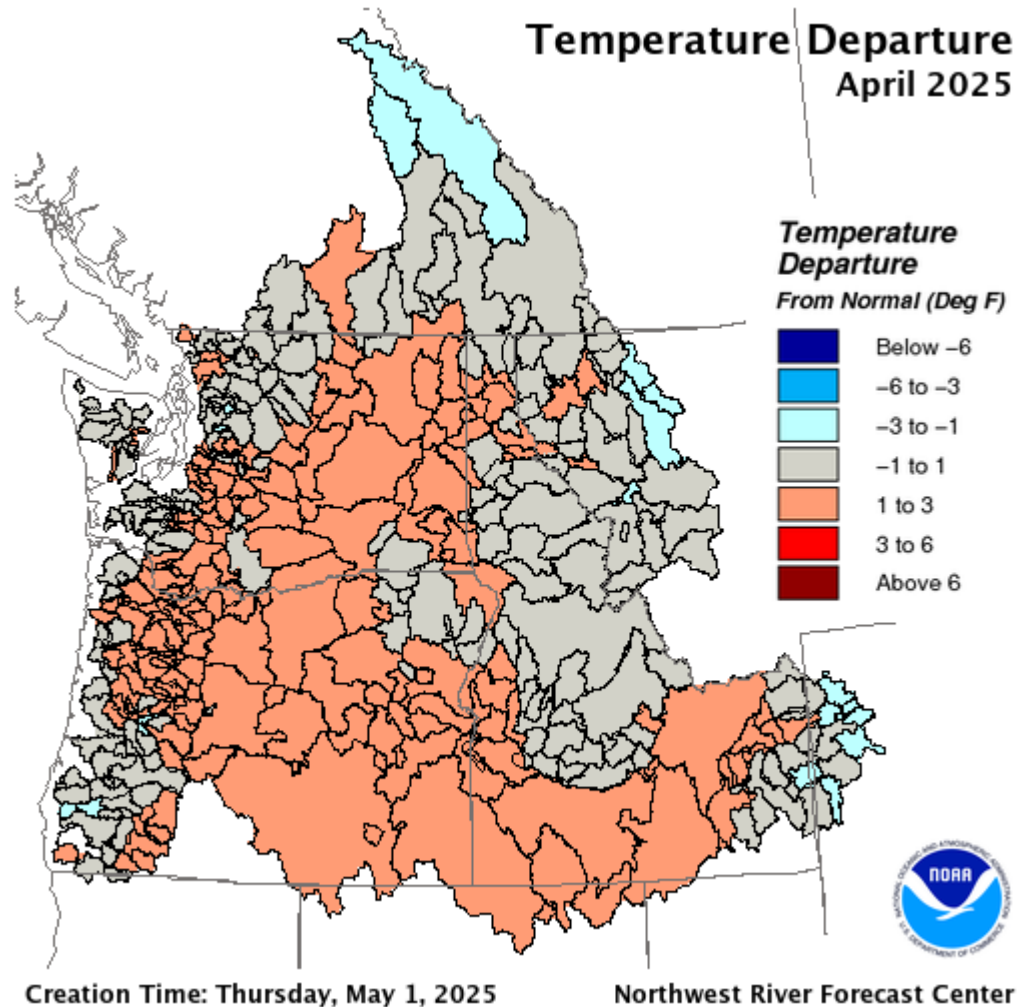


**Figure 6:**  
**Percent of Water Year Peak**  
**Snowpack Remaining**  
**May 01, 2025**



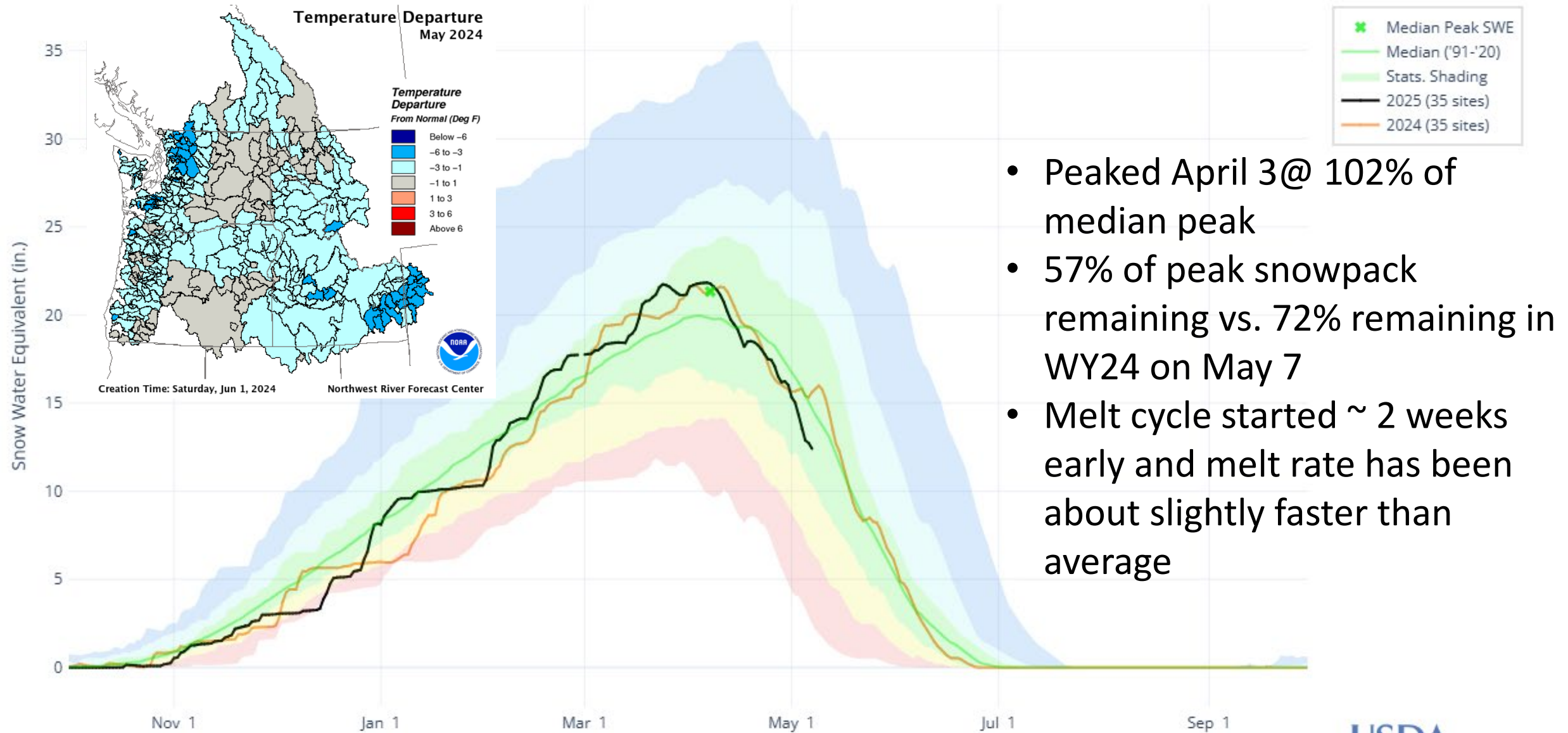


APRIL: Near normal to cooler than normal temperatures  
MAY: Above normal temperatures so far





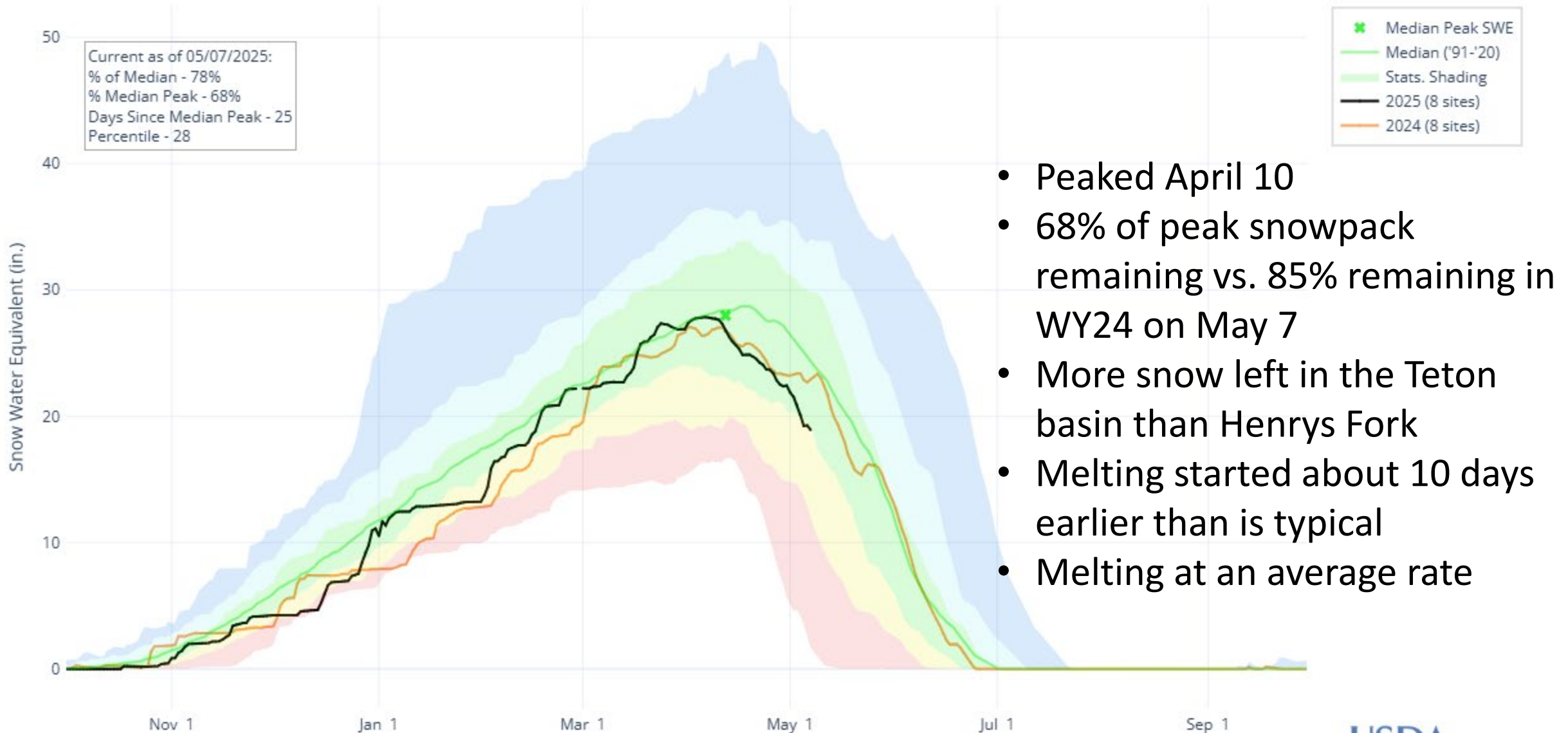
## SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN SNAKE AB MILNER



- Peaked April 3@ 102% of median peak
- 57% of peak snowpack remaining vs. 72% remaining in WY24 on May 7
- Melt cycle started ~ 2 weeks early and melt rate has been about slightly faster than average

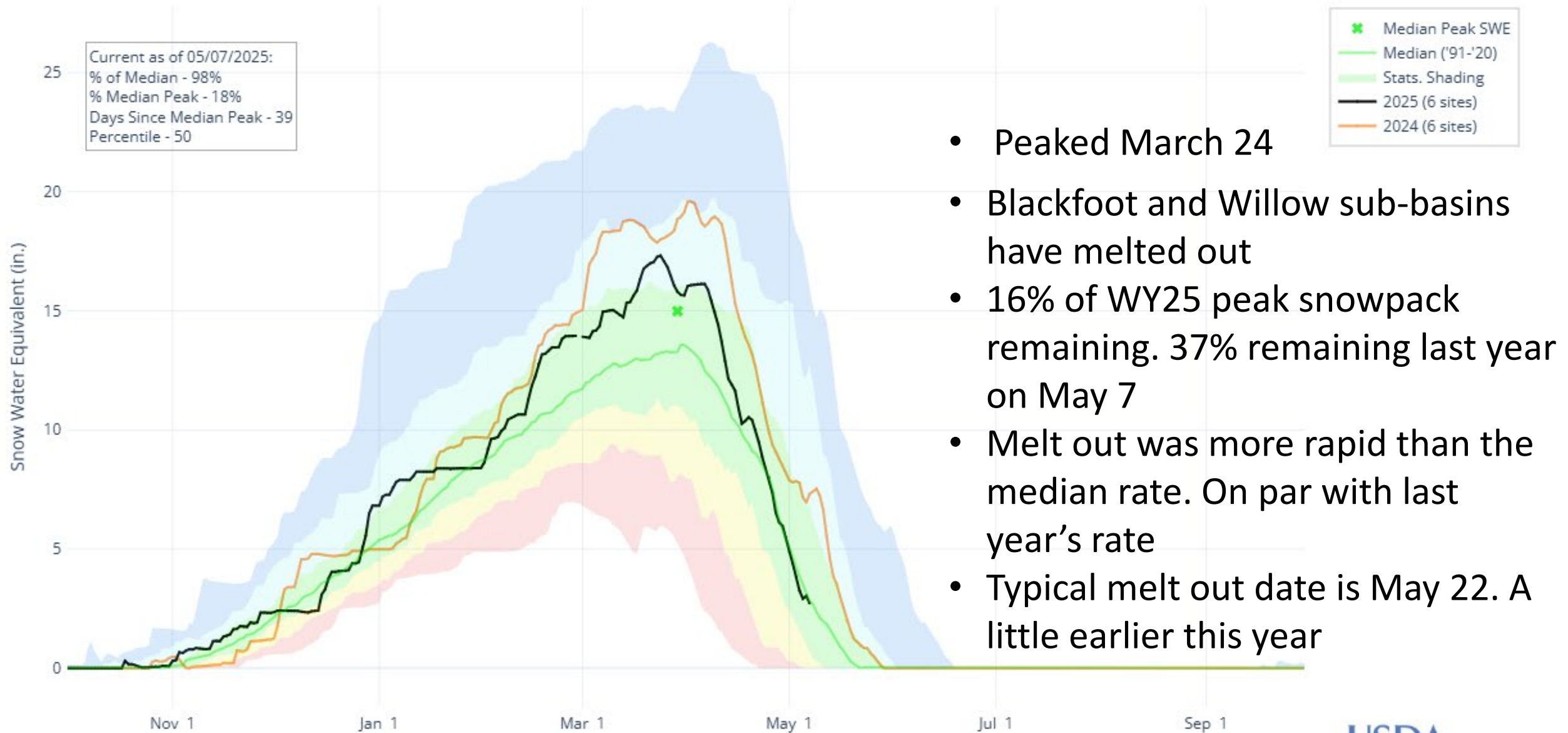


## SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN HENRYS FORK-TETON





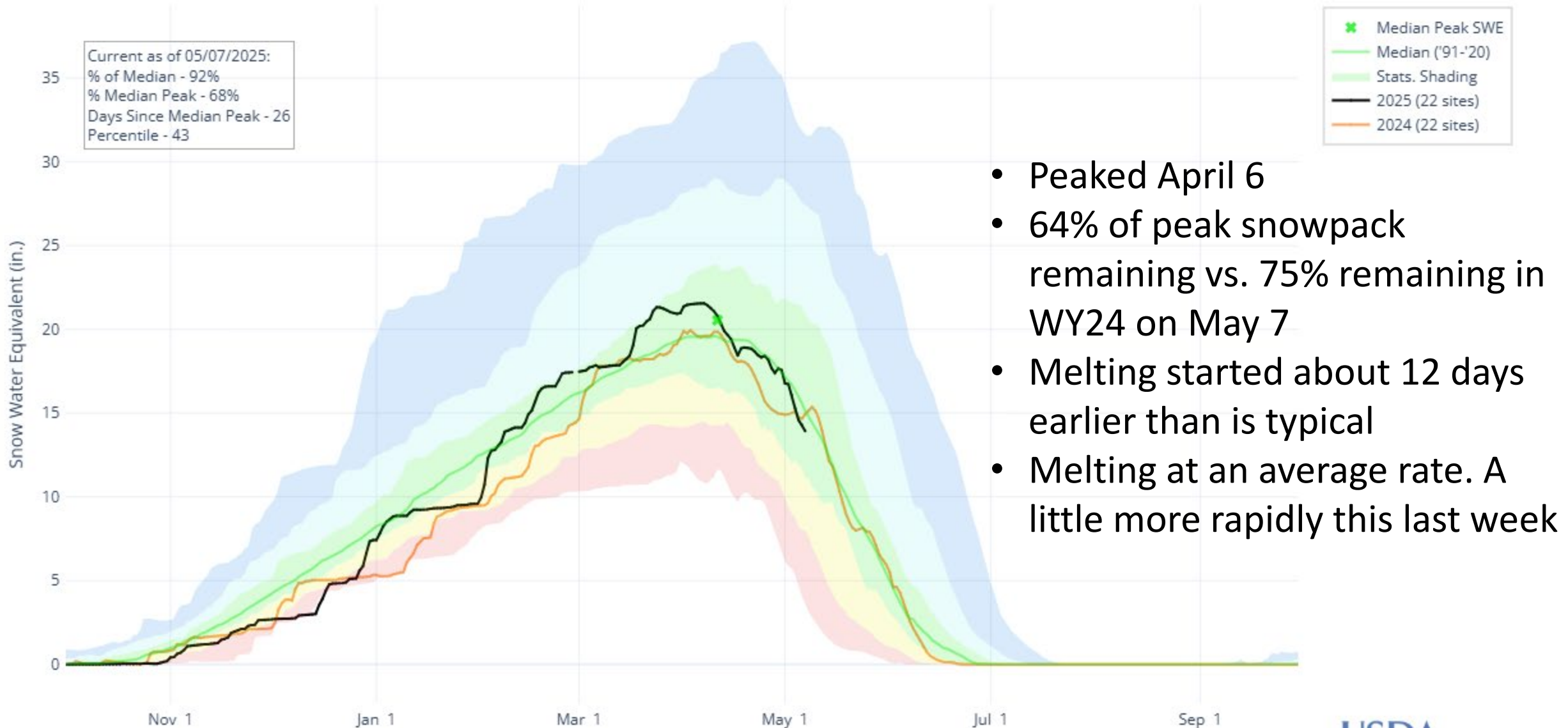
## SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN WILLOW-BLACKFOOT-PORTNEUF



- Peaked March 24
- Blackfoot and Willow sub-basins have melted out
- 16% of WY25 peak snowpack remaining. 37% remaining last year on May 7
- Melt out was more rapid than the median rate. On par with last year's rate
- Typical melt out date is May 22. A little earlier this year



## SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN SNAKE RIVER ABOVE HEISE

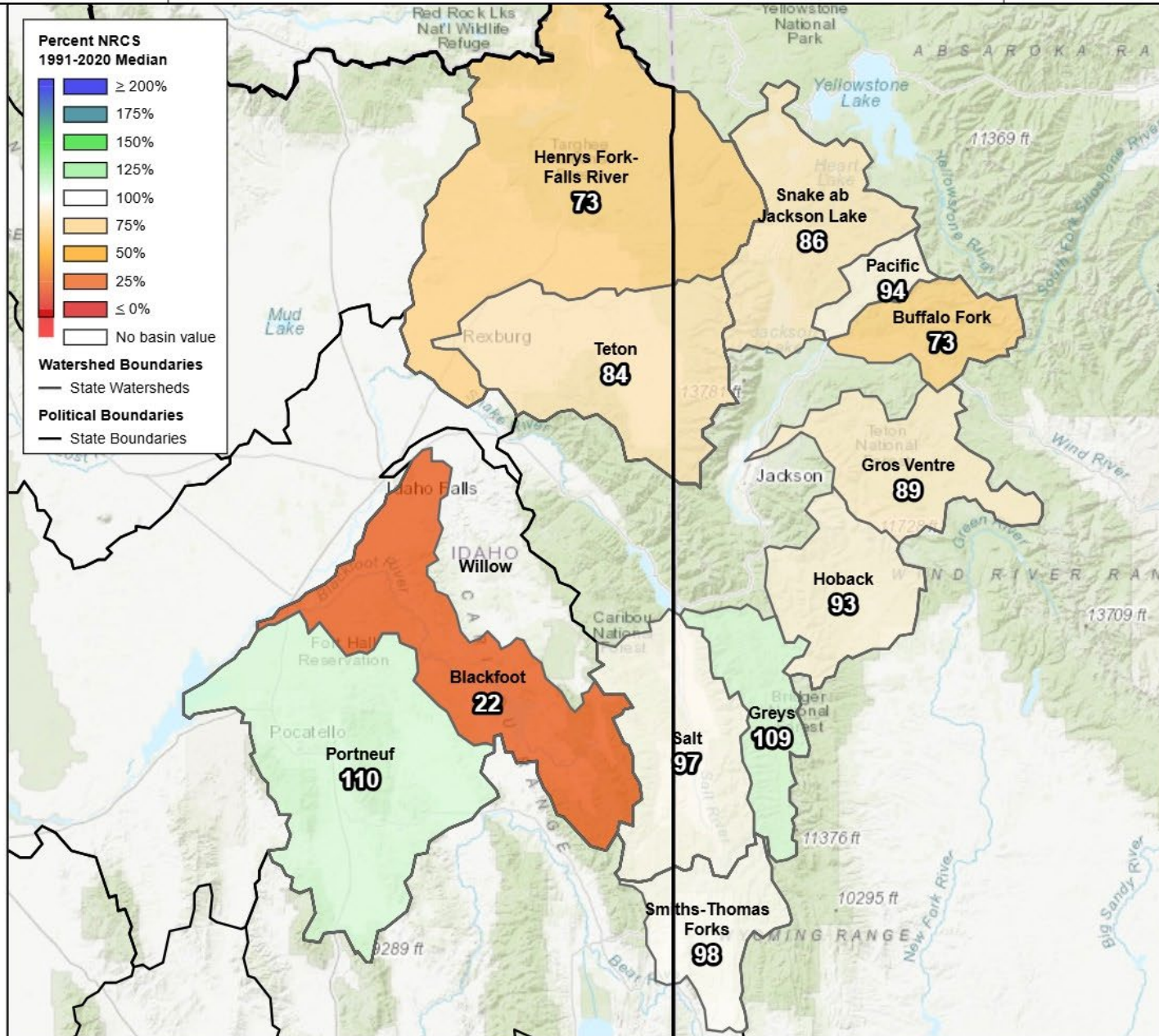




Snow Water Equivalent

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

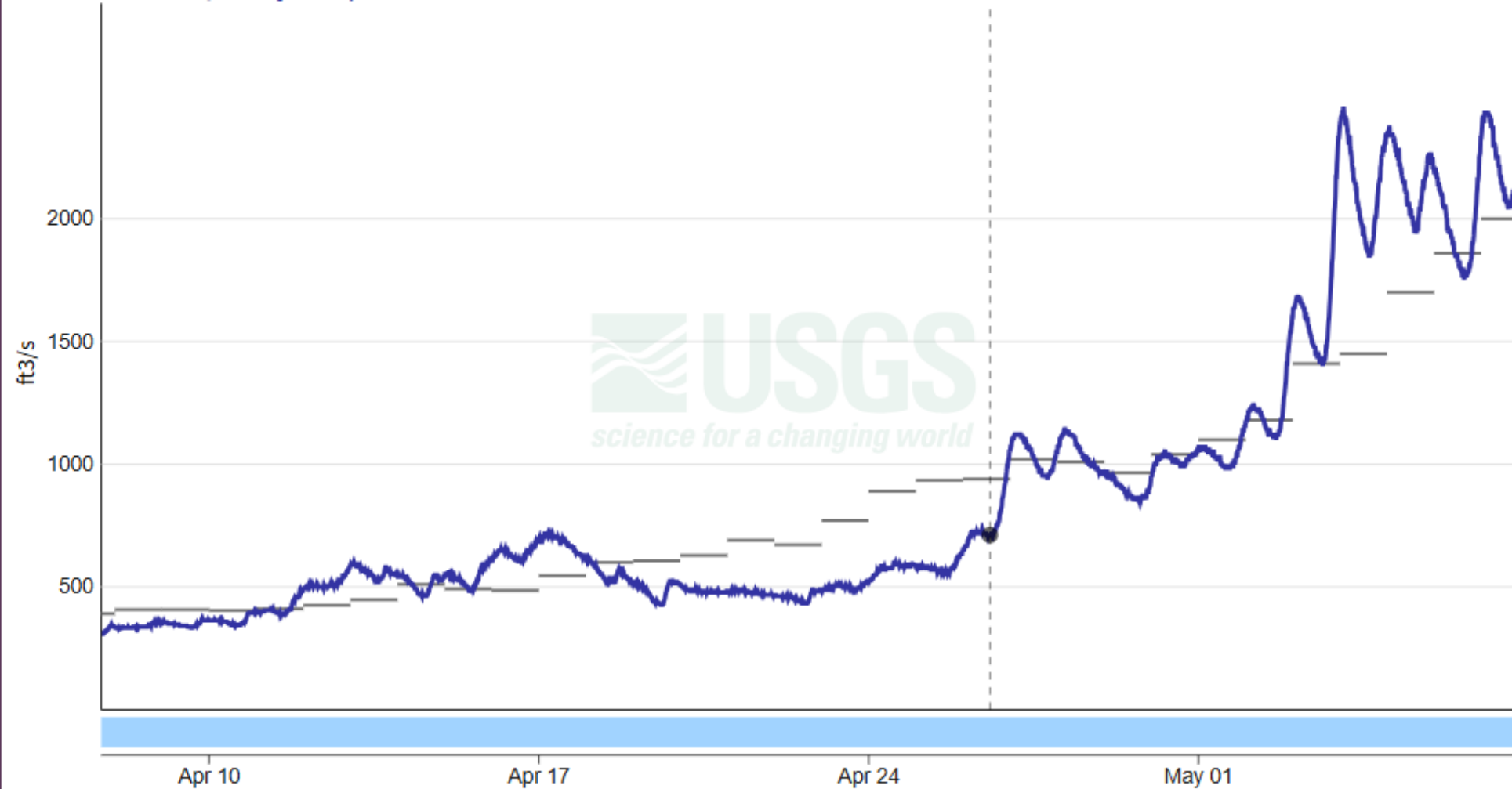
May 7, 2025, first of day





April 7, 2025 - May 7, 2025  
Discharge, cubic feet per second

712 ft<sup>3</sup>/s - Apr 26, 2025 01:45:00 PM MDT

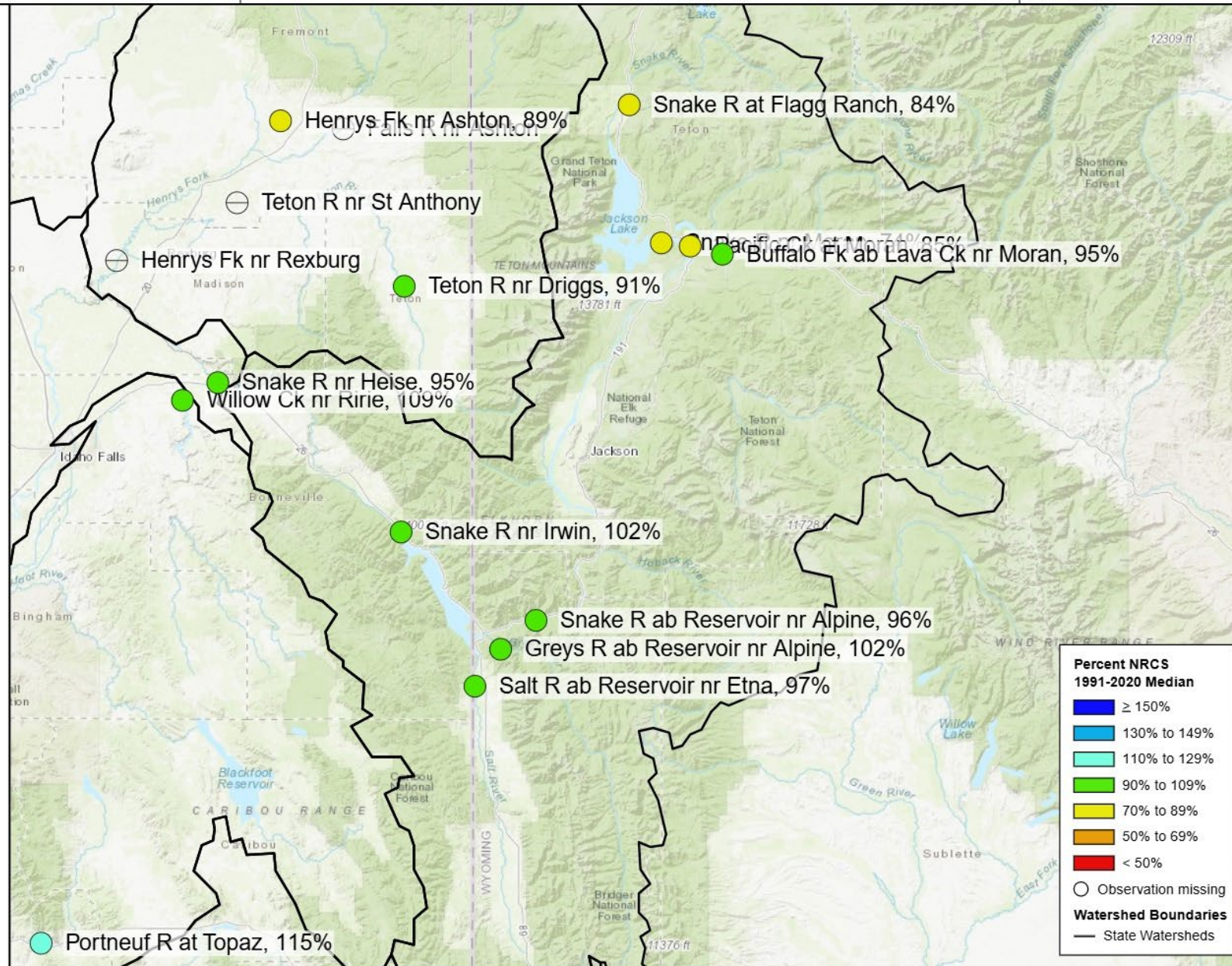




1 month Adjusted Volume,  
Observed

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

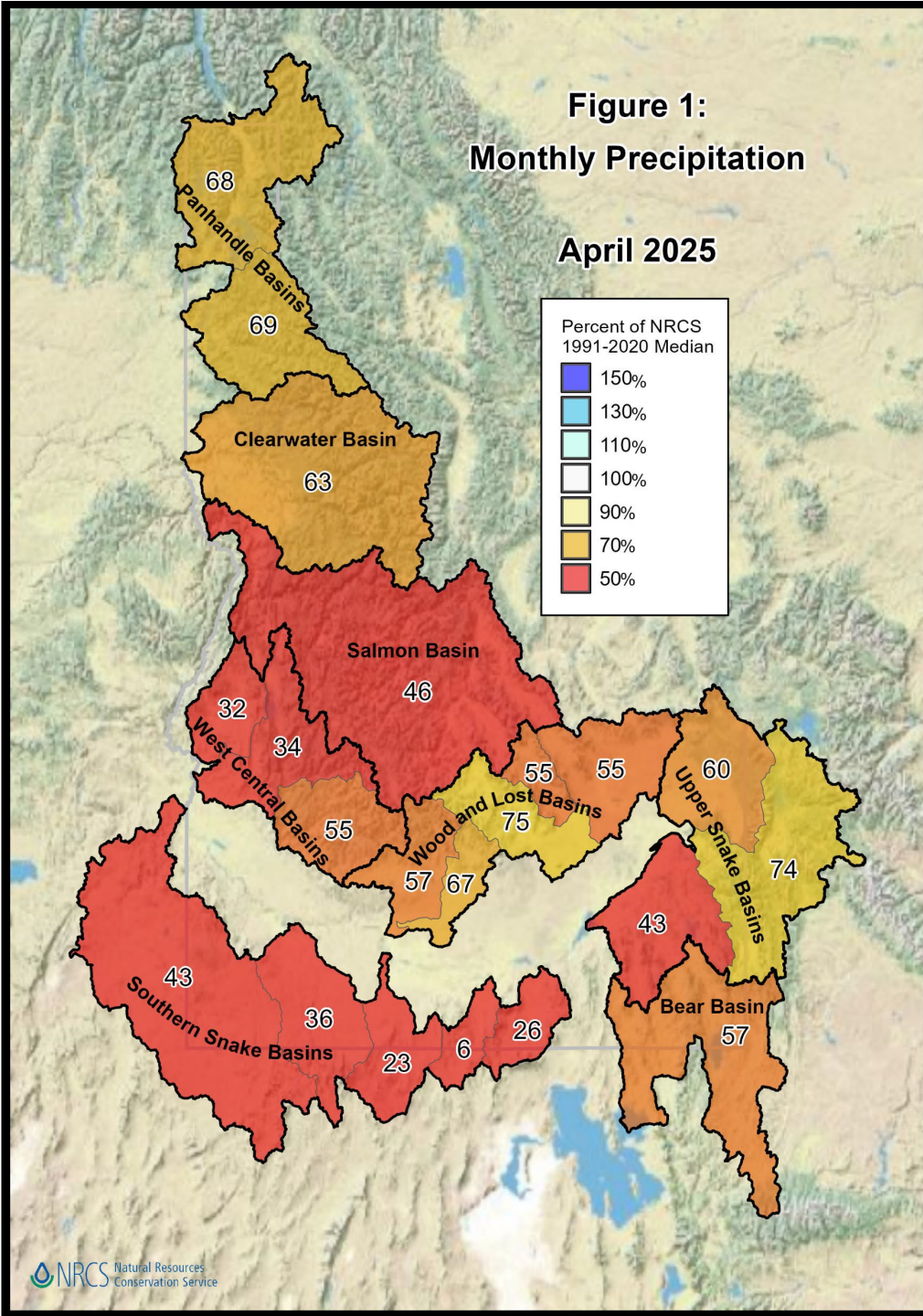
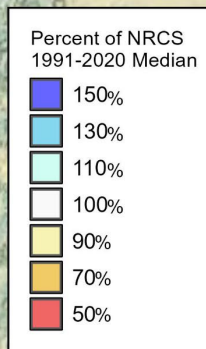
April 1, 2025 - April 30, 2025



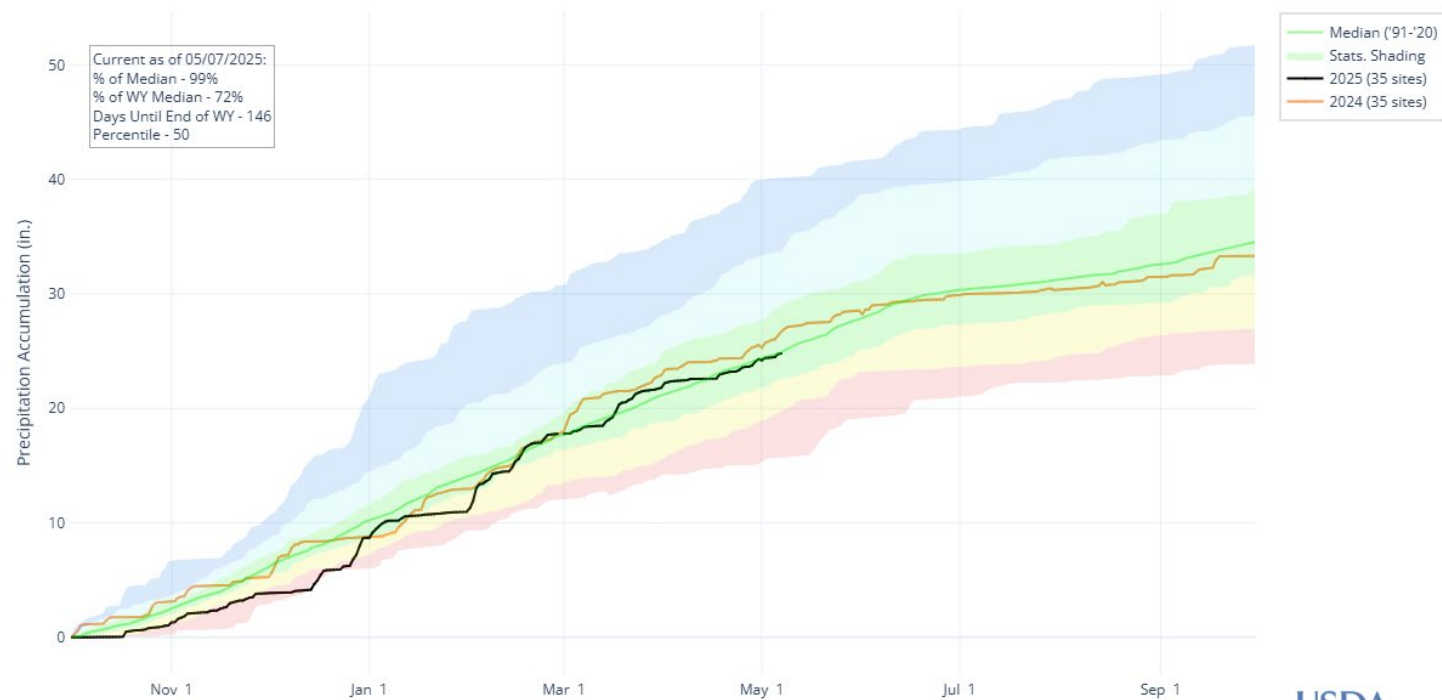


**Figure 1:**  
**Monthly Precipitation**

**April 2025**

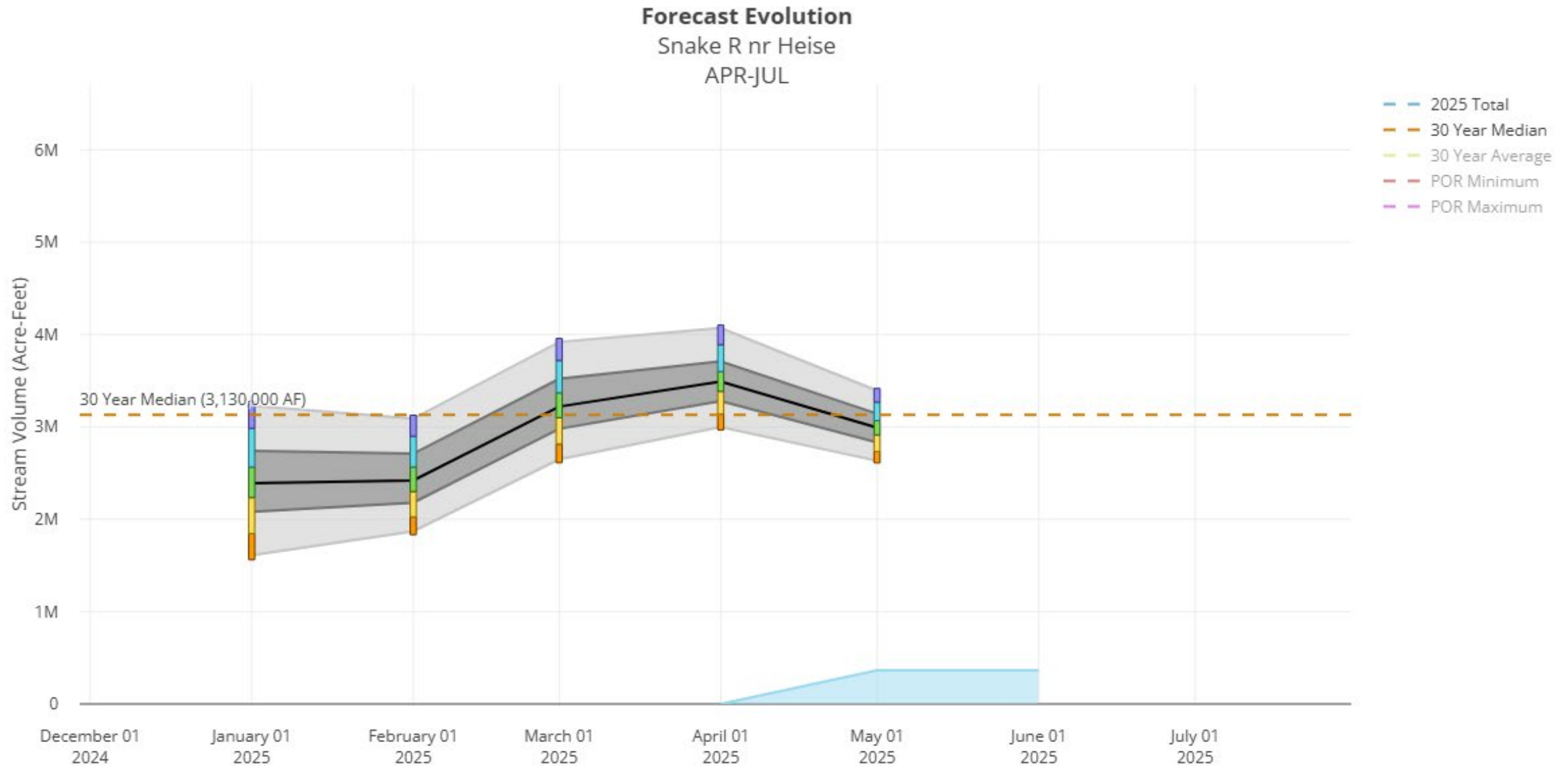


PRECIPITATION ACCUMULATION IN SNAKE AB MILNER

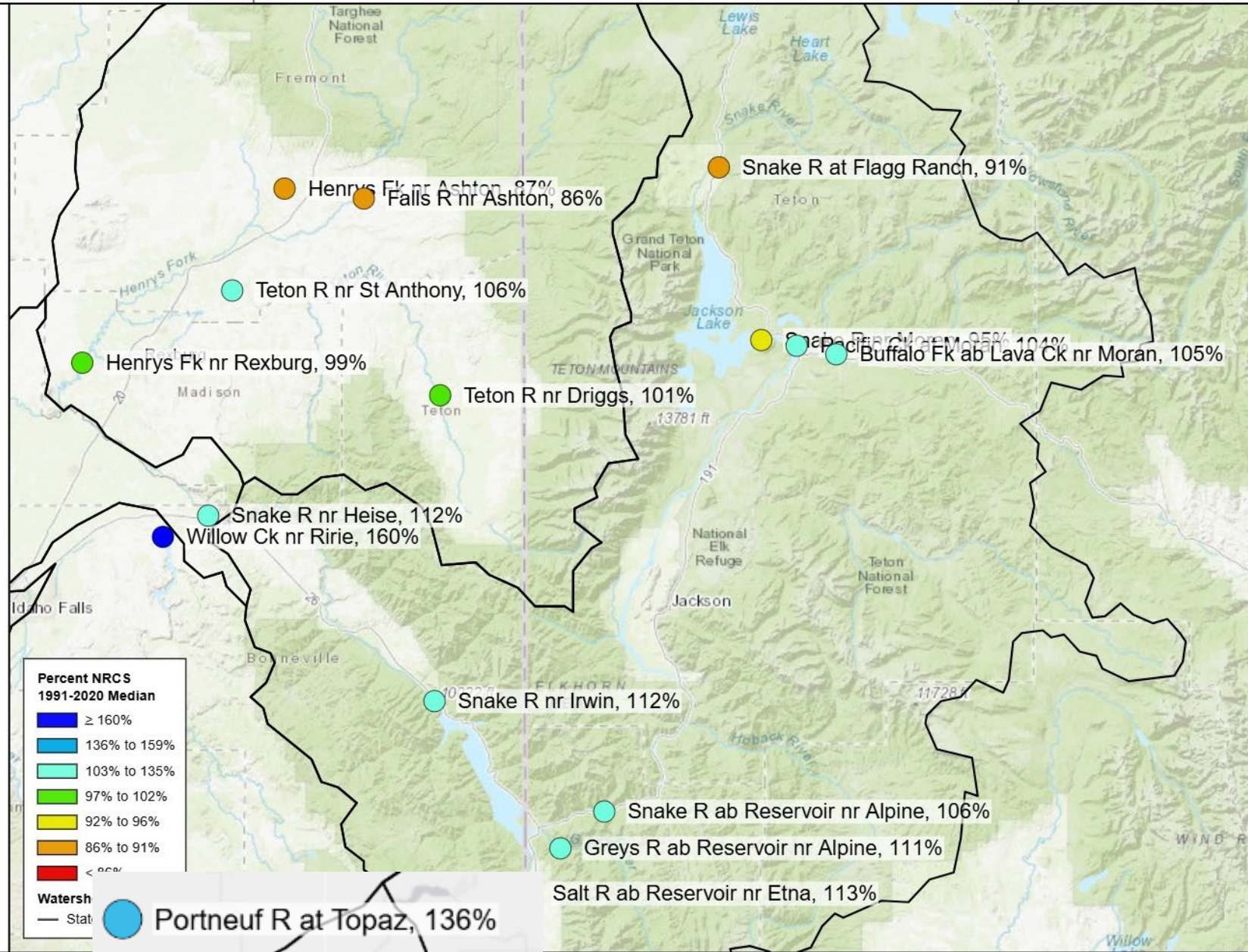




# Streamflow forecasts decreased across the Upper Snake Basins







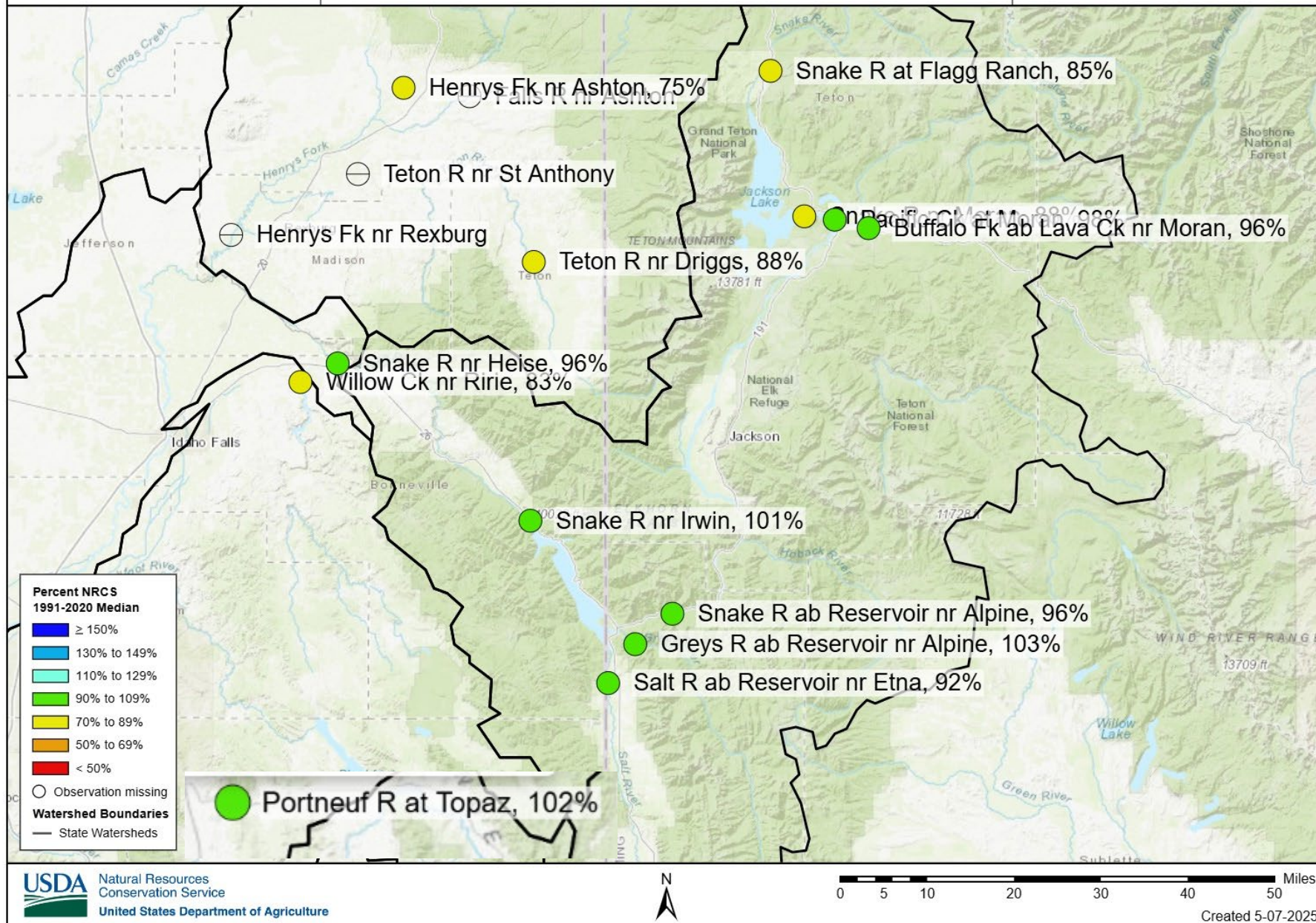
- April 1 forecast
- April to July period
- Heise forecast was 112% of normal



Streamflow Forecast Volume,  
50% Exceedance Probability

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

April - July, May 1, 2025



**Streamflow** ☒ Active Forecast Points Only

○ Adjusted Volume - Observed

● Adjusted Volume - Forecast

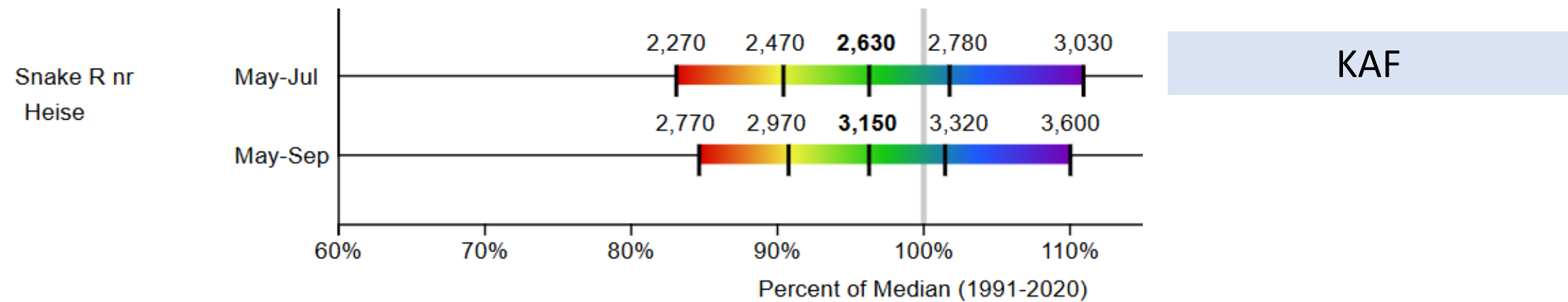
Exceedance Probability: 50% ☒

☒ Use Mixed Past

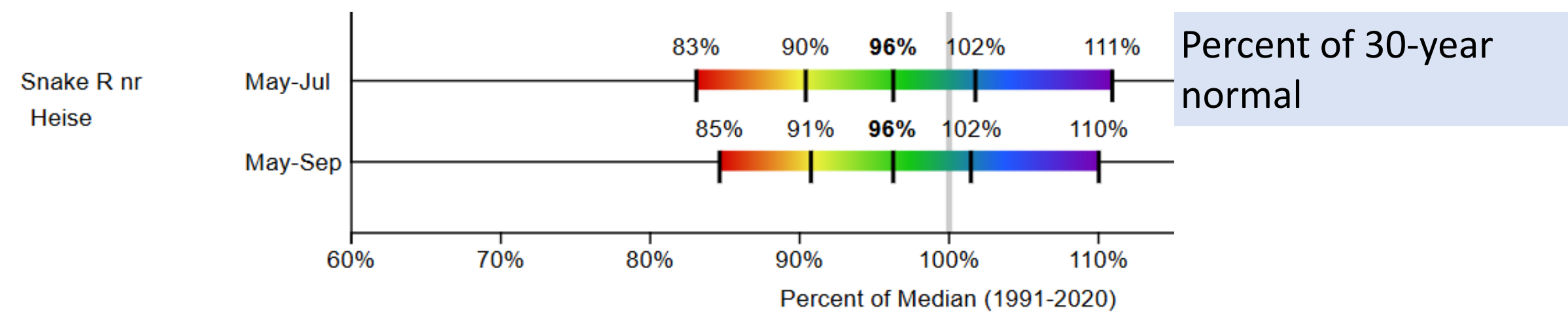
- May 1 forecast
- April to July period
- Uses observed April streamflow
- Heise forecast was 112% of normal and now is 96% of normal
- ~500 KAF decrease



# Streamflow Forecasts for May 1 at Heise



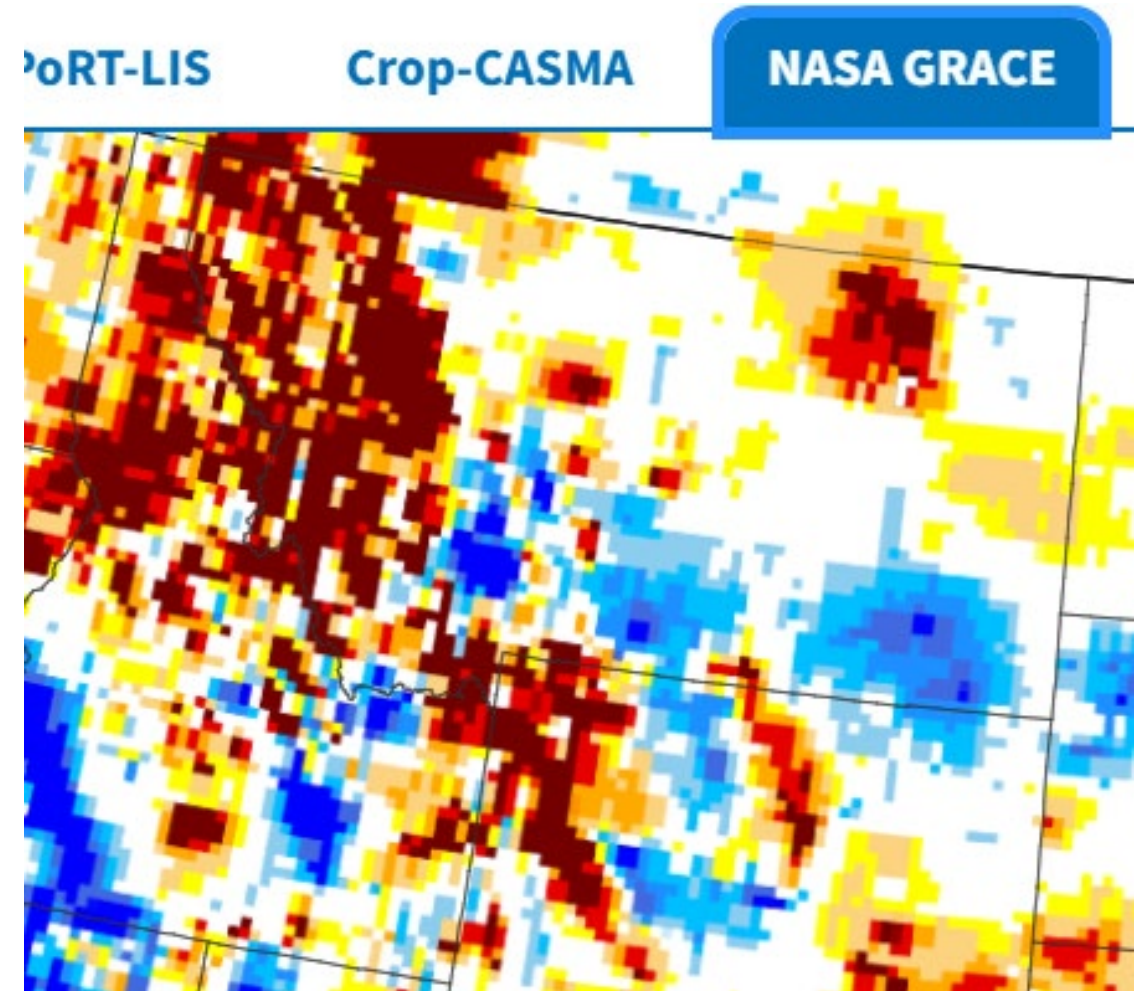
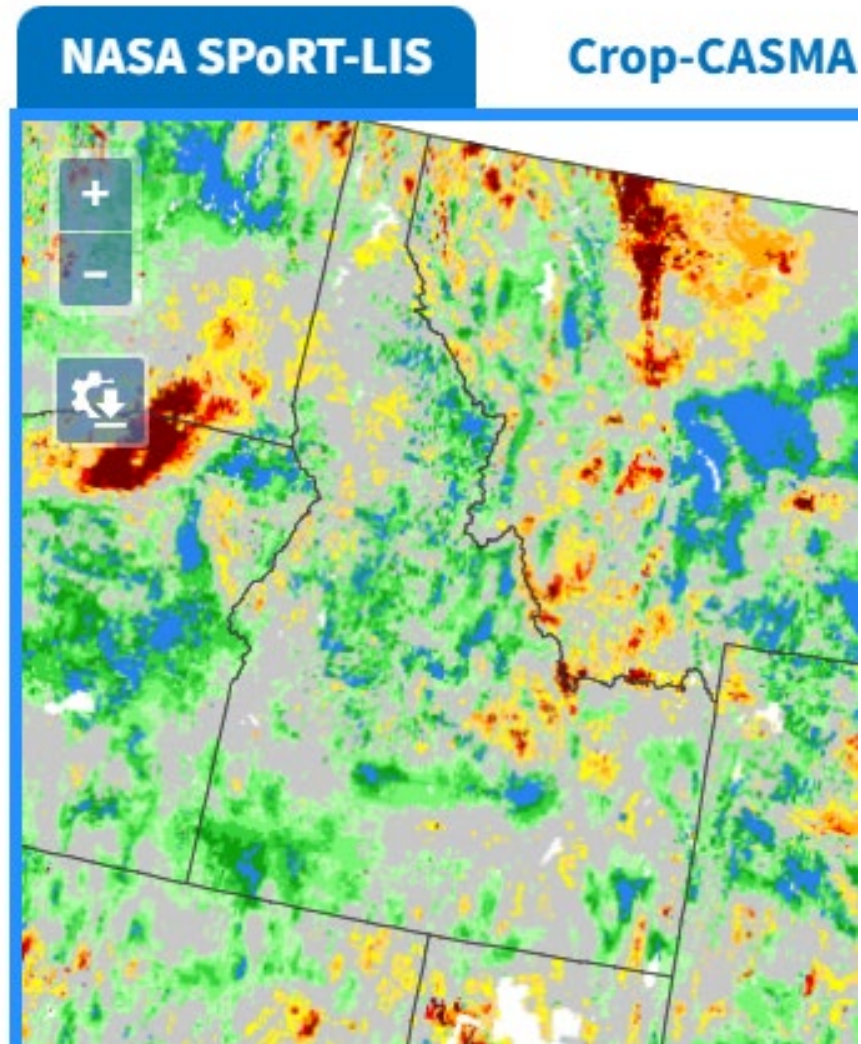
Legend



Legend

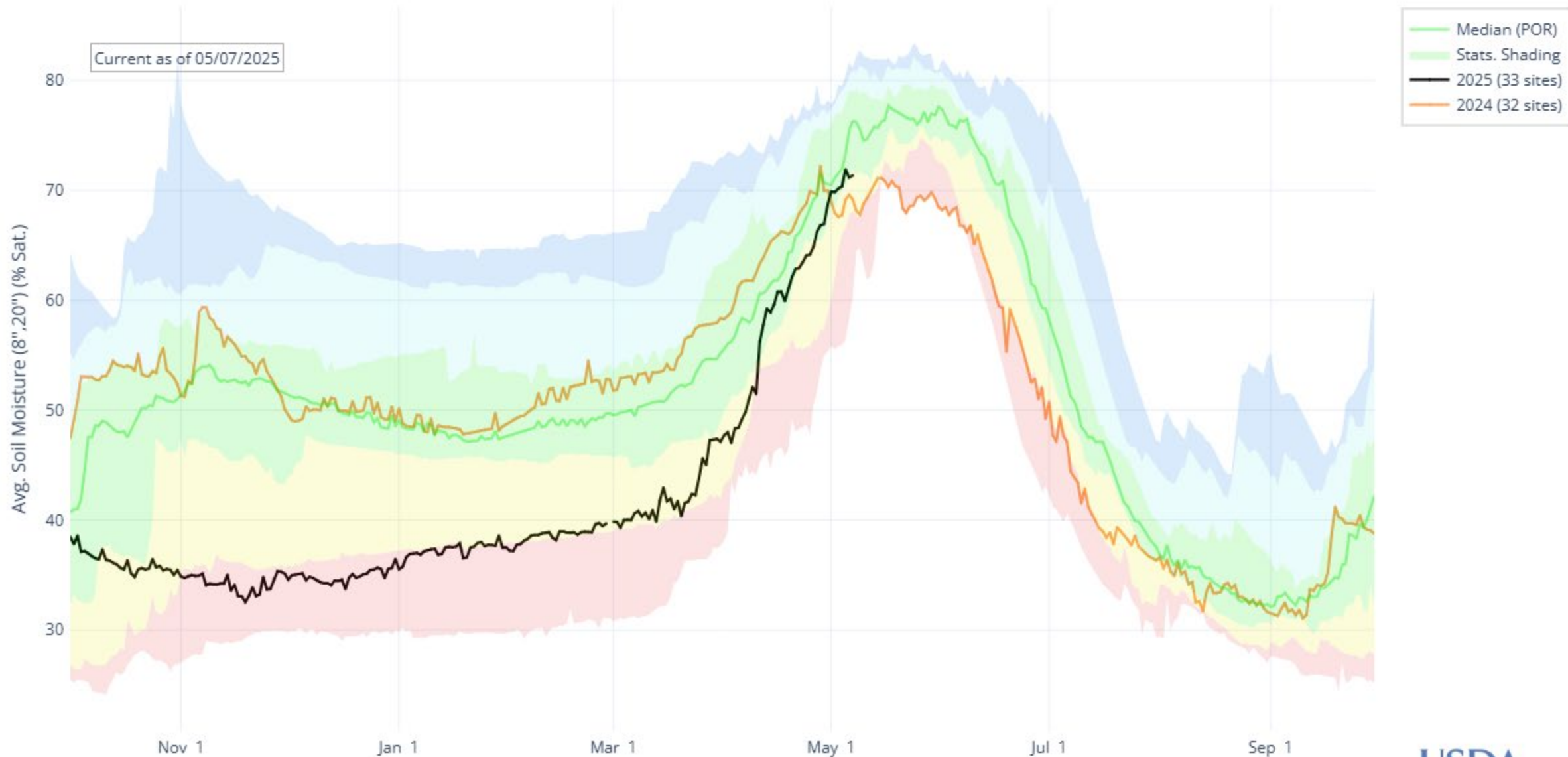


# Soil Moisture: mixed signals





# AVG. SOIL MOISTURE (8",20") IN UPPER SNAKE

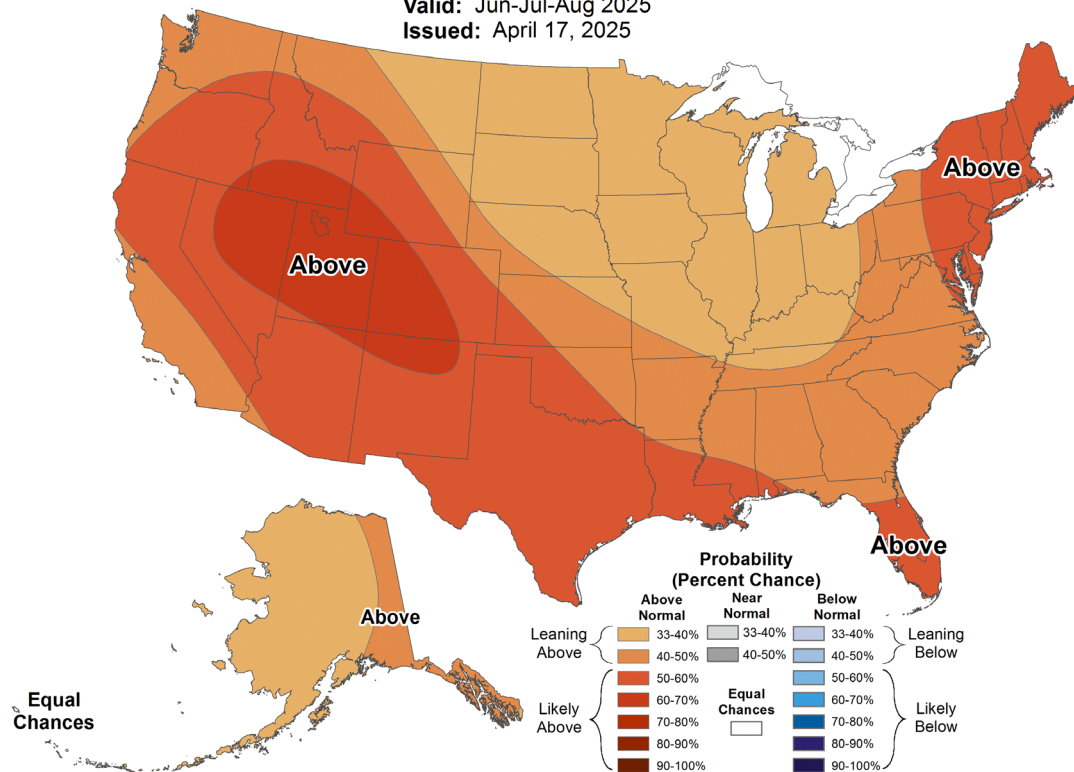






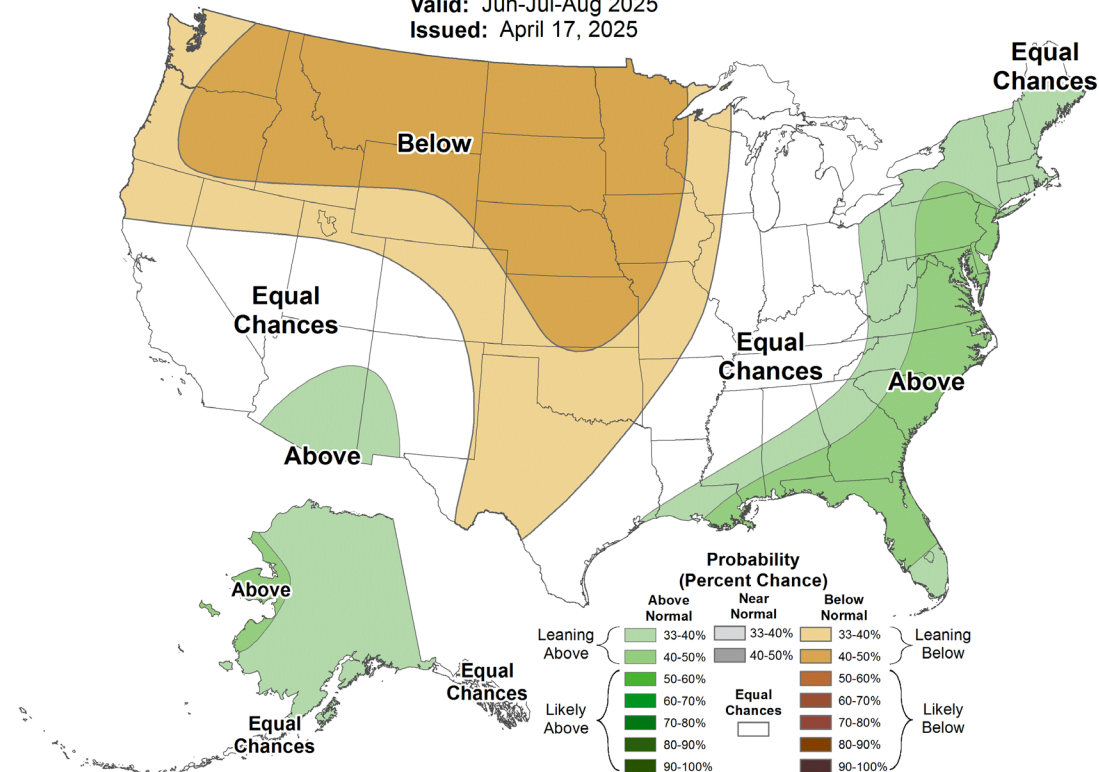
## Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2025  
Issued: April 17, 2025



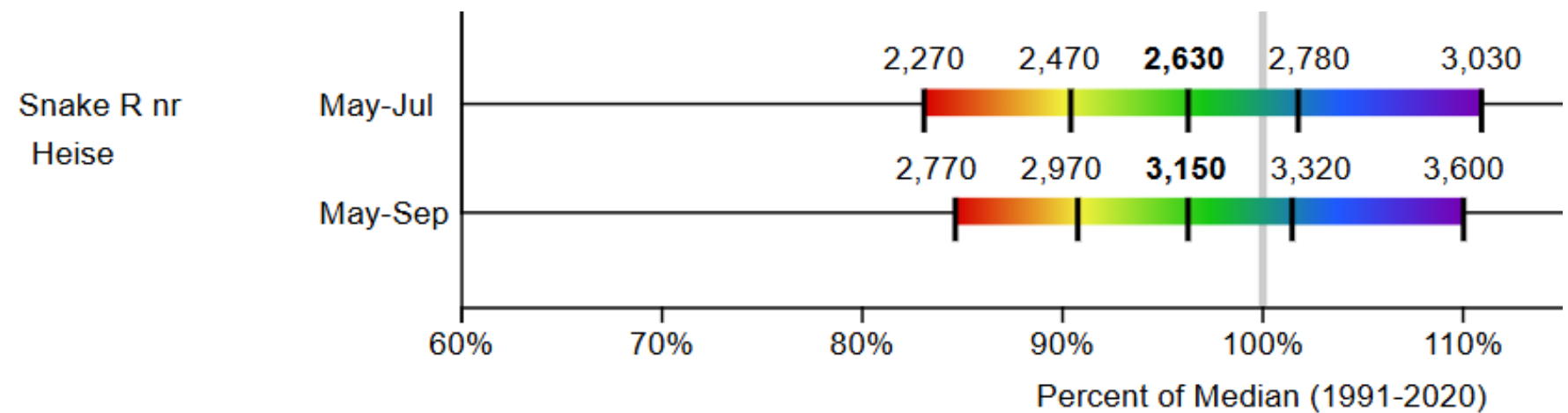
## Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2025  
Issued: April 17, 2025



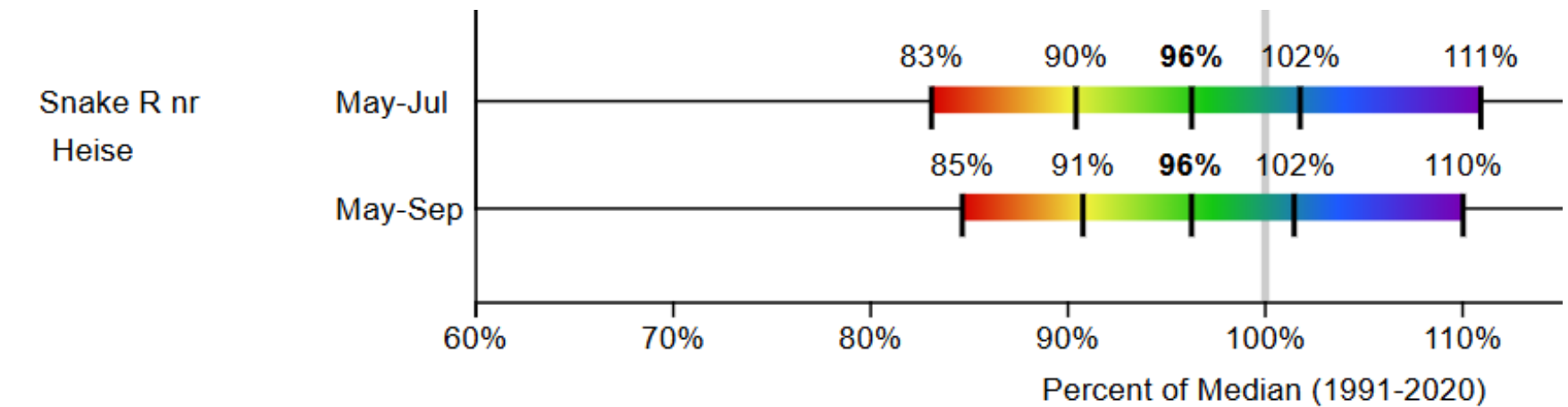


# Streamflow Forecasts for May 1 at Heise



.legend

KAF  
Last year= 3560 KAF  
observed Apr-Sept  
This year forecast:  
May 1 mixed past  
Apr-Sept 3513 KAF

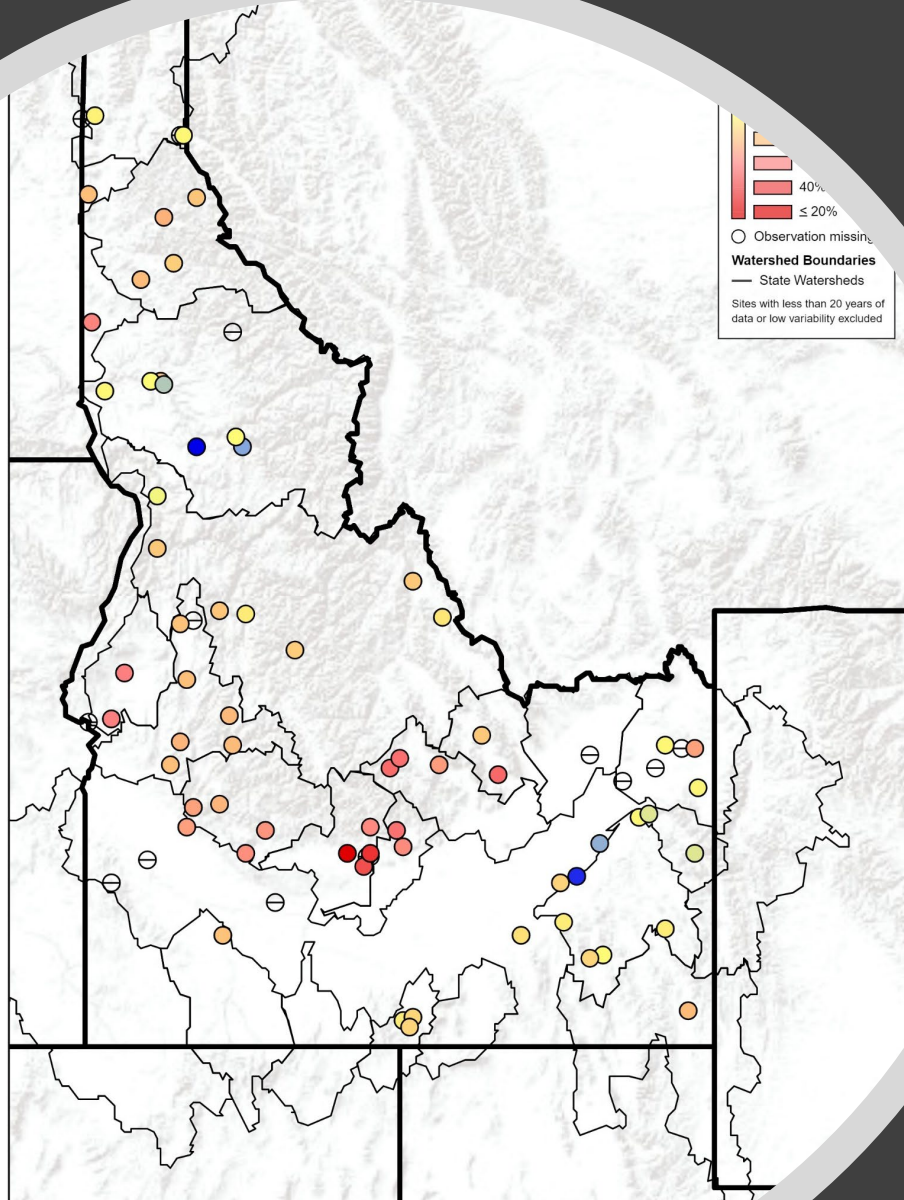


.legend

Percent of 30-year  
normal  
70 -90% exceedance  
last year



# Thank you!



<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/idaho/snow-survey>



Erin Whorton



erin.whorton@usda.gov



208-685-6983







— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

# Upper Snake Advisory Committee Meeting

## Upper Snake Operations Update

May 8, 2025

Presenter: Brian Stevens





# Summary

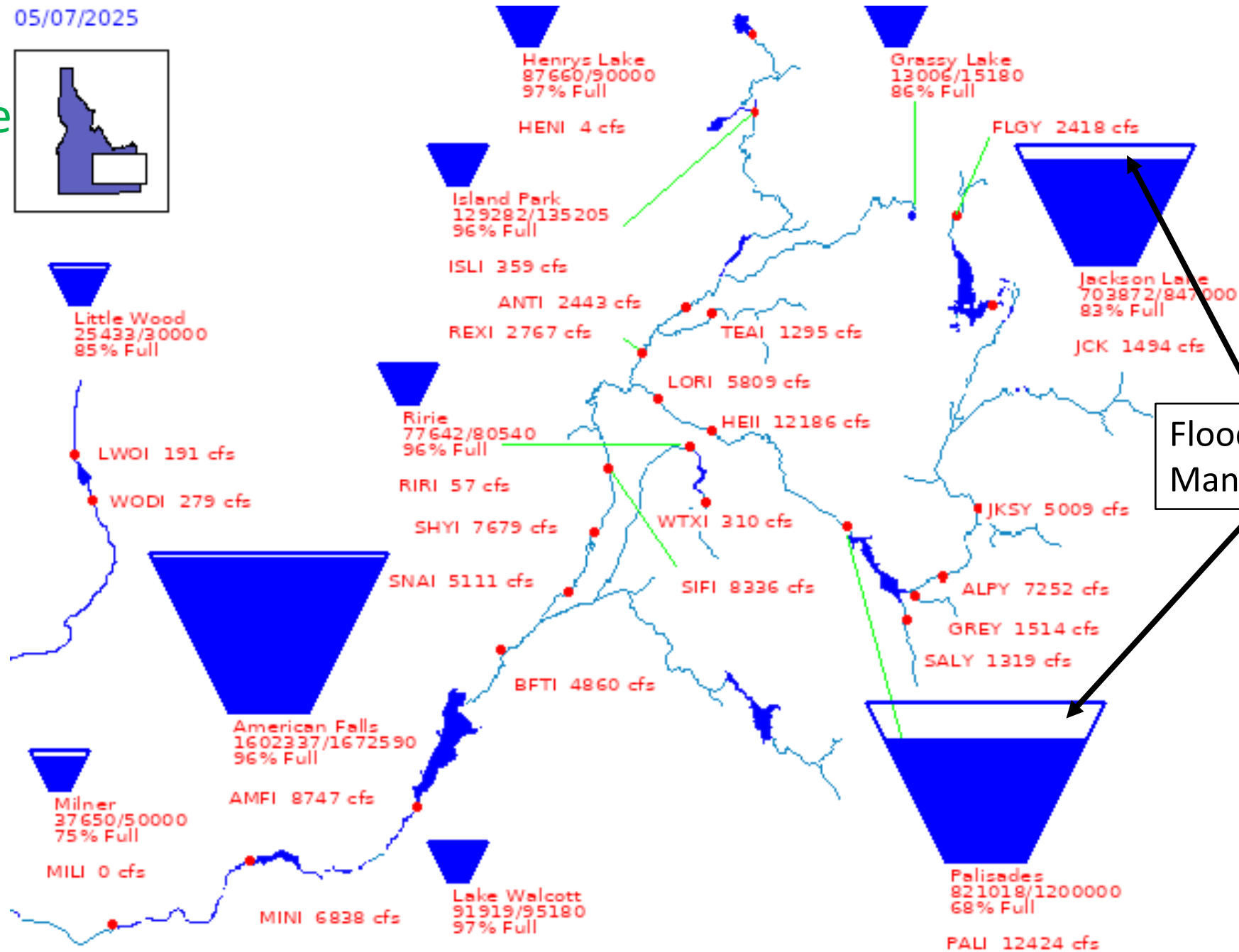
85% Full

116% Average

05/07/2025



## Reservoir System Conditions

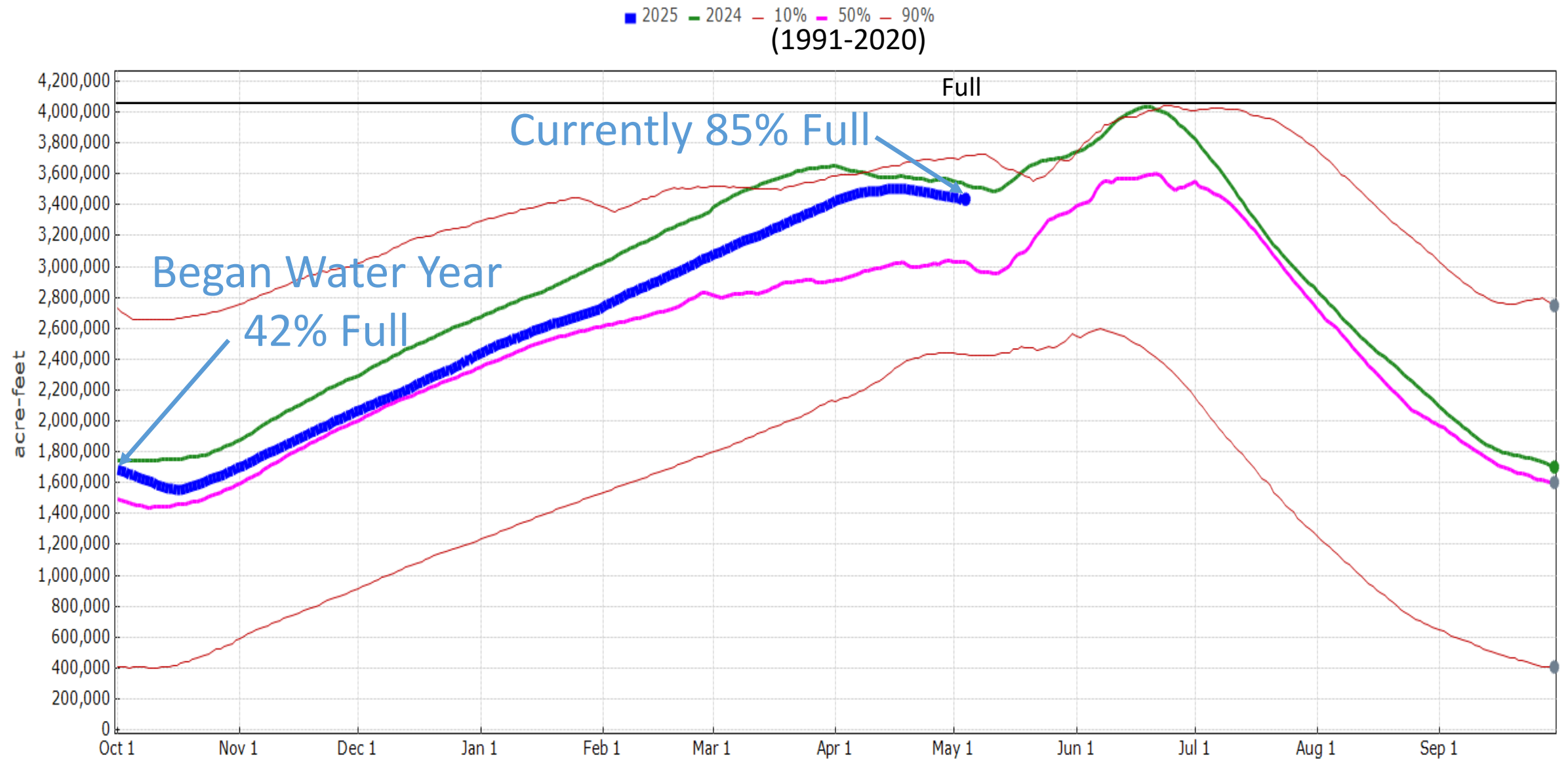


Flood Risk  
Management Space





# Upper Snake Total System Storage





**CURRENT MONTHLY FORECAST SUMMARY**  
**MAY 1, 2025**

FORECAST POINT	FORECAST PERIOD	1991-2020 AVERAGE (KAF)	FORECAST (KAF)	PERCENT NORMAL
*** HEISE	MAY-JUL	2898	2760	95%
JACKSON LAKE	MAY-JUL	701	606	86%
ISLAND PARK	MAY-JUL	158	113	72%
TETON	MAY-JUL	303	219	72%
*** RIRIE	MAY-JUN	35	18	52%
*** LITTLE WOOD	MAY-JUL	52	26	50%

\* Coordinated with USACE

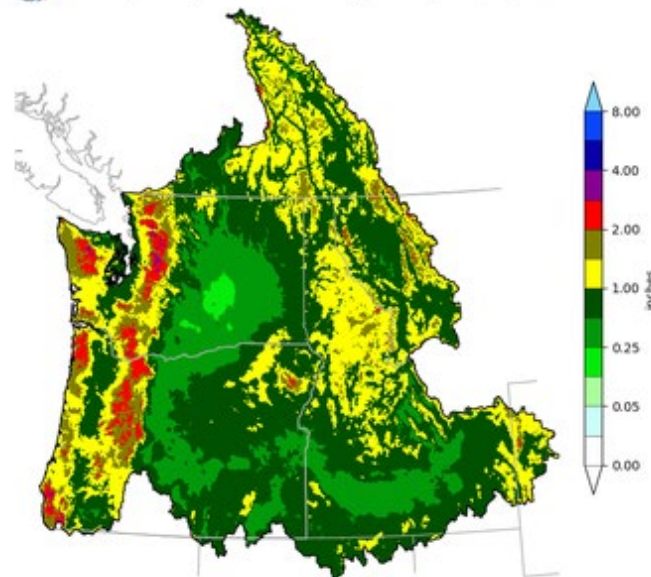




# 10 Day Forecast Precipitation: Volume Analysis



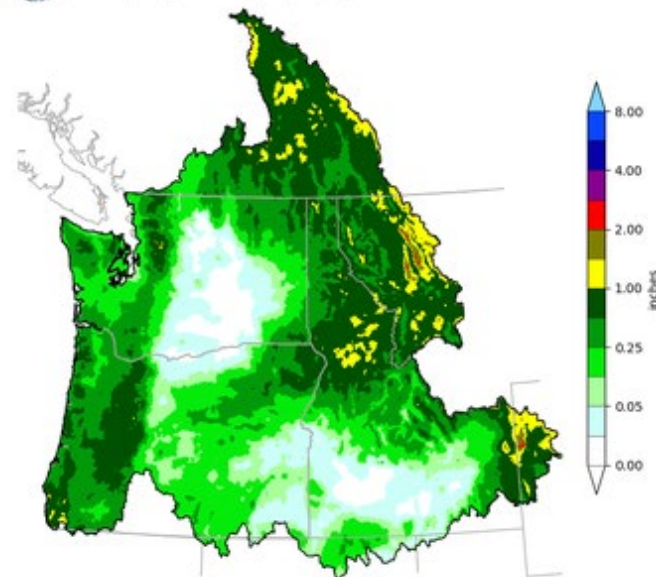
Northwest River Forecast Center  
10 Day Precipitation Climatology, Ending 12Z, 05/18/25



Creation Time: Thu May 8 15:19:08 UTC 2025



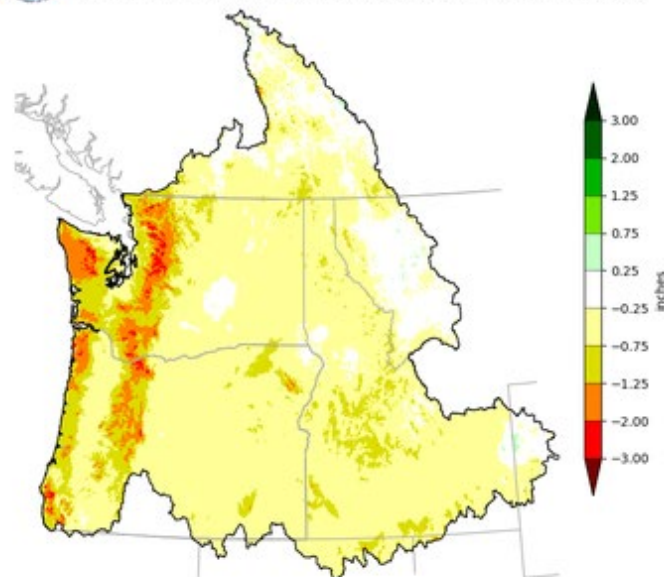
Northwest River Forecast Center  
10 Day QPF, Ending 12Z, 05/18/25



Creation Time: Thu May 8 15:18:57 UTC 2025



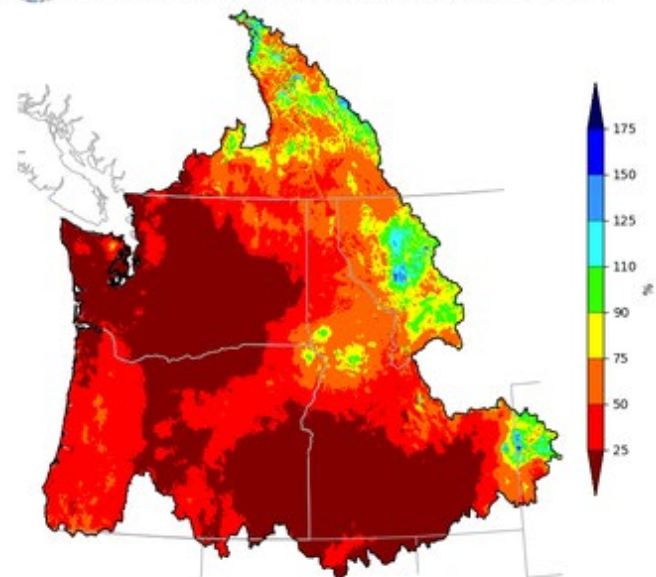
Northwest River Forecast Center  
10 Day QPF (Deviation from Climatology), Ending 12Z, 05/18/25



Creation Time: Thu May 8 15:19:29 UTC 2025



Northwest River Forecast Center  
10 Day QPF (Percent of Climatology), Ending 12Z, 05/18/25

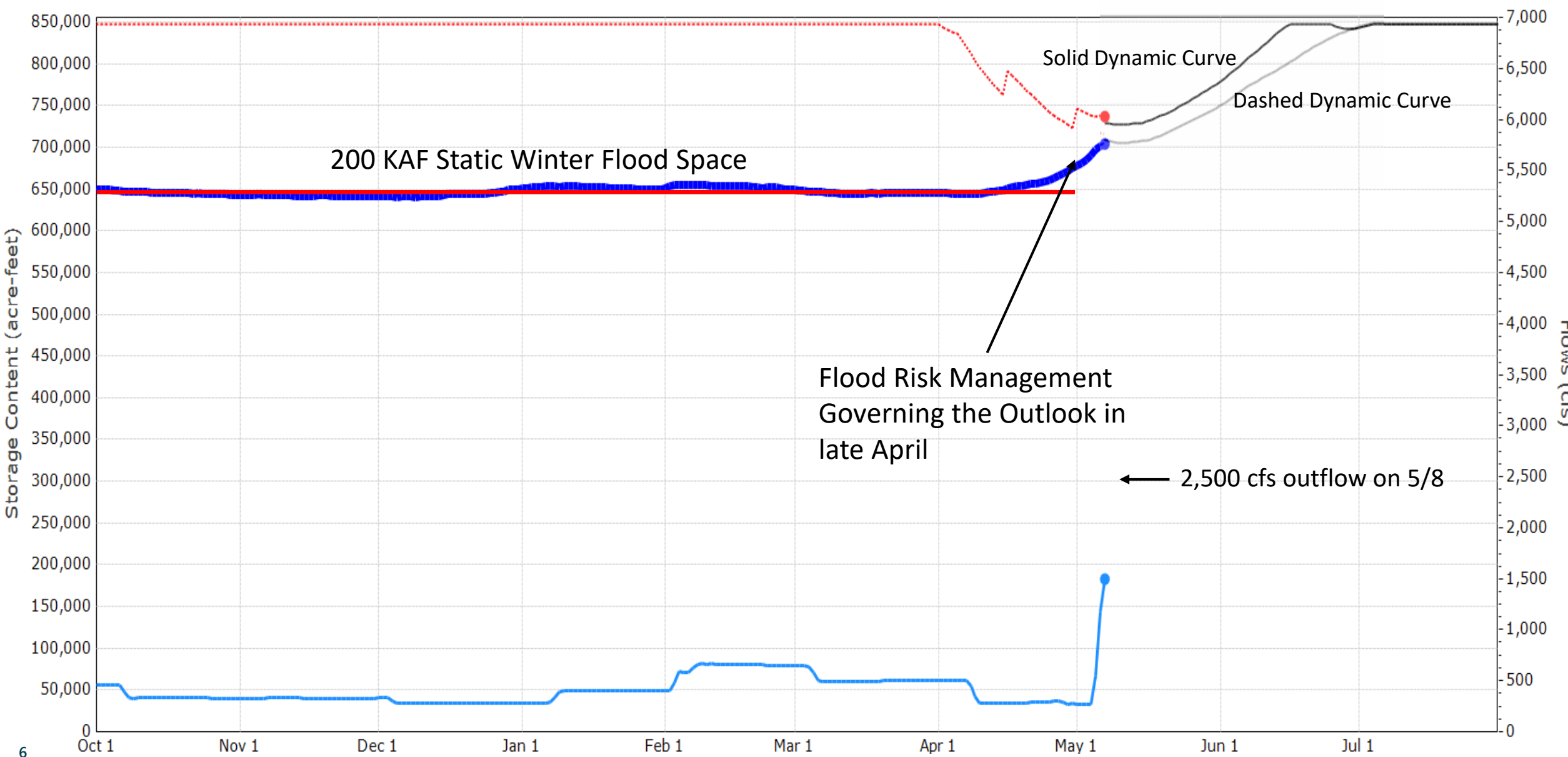


Creation Time: Thu May 8 15:19:19 UTC 2025



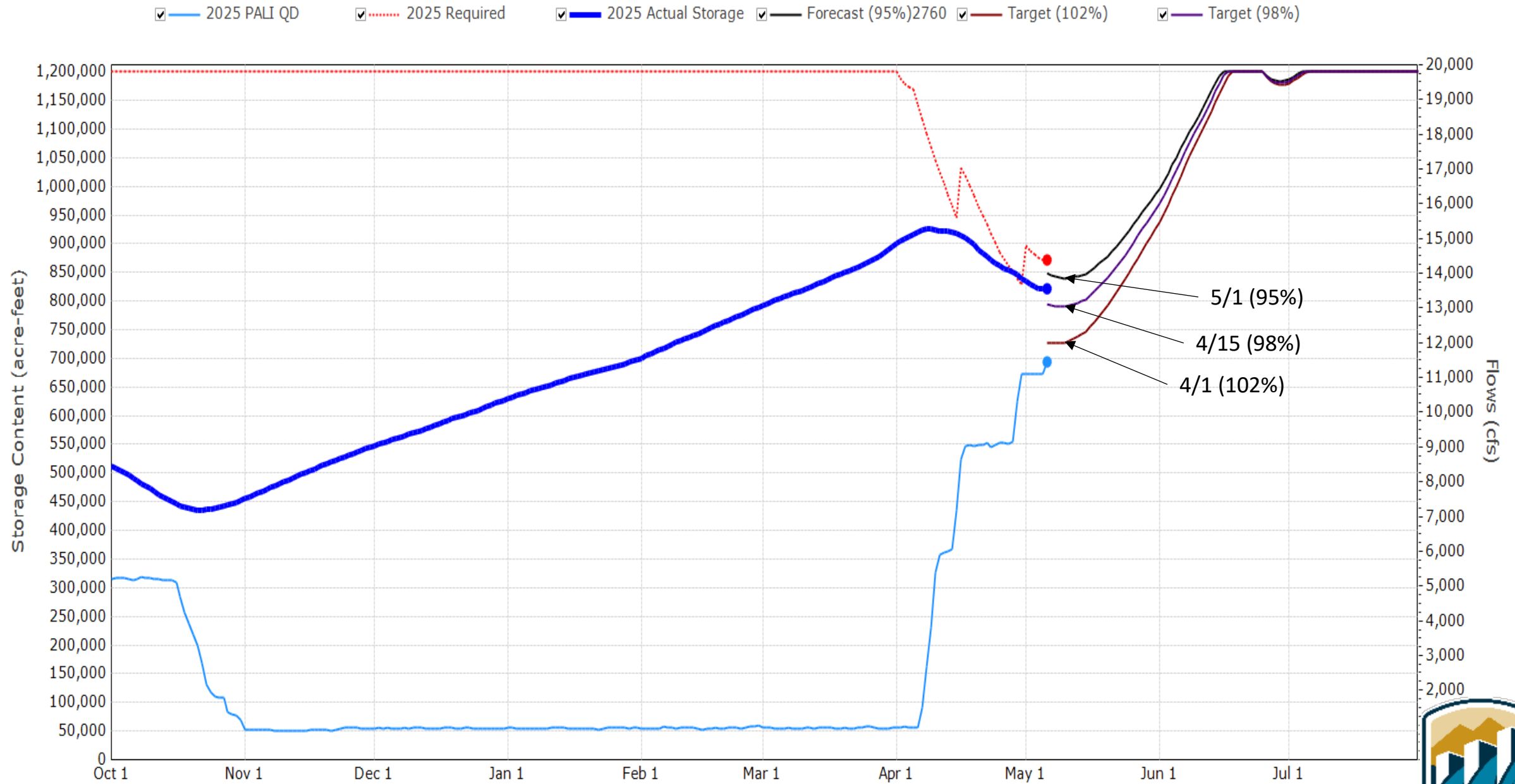
# JCK - Jackson Lake

2025 JCK QD 2025 Required 2025 Actual Storage Forecast (95%)



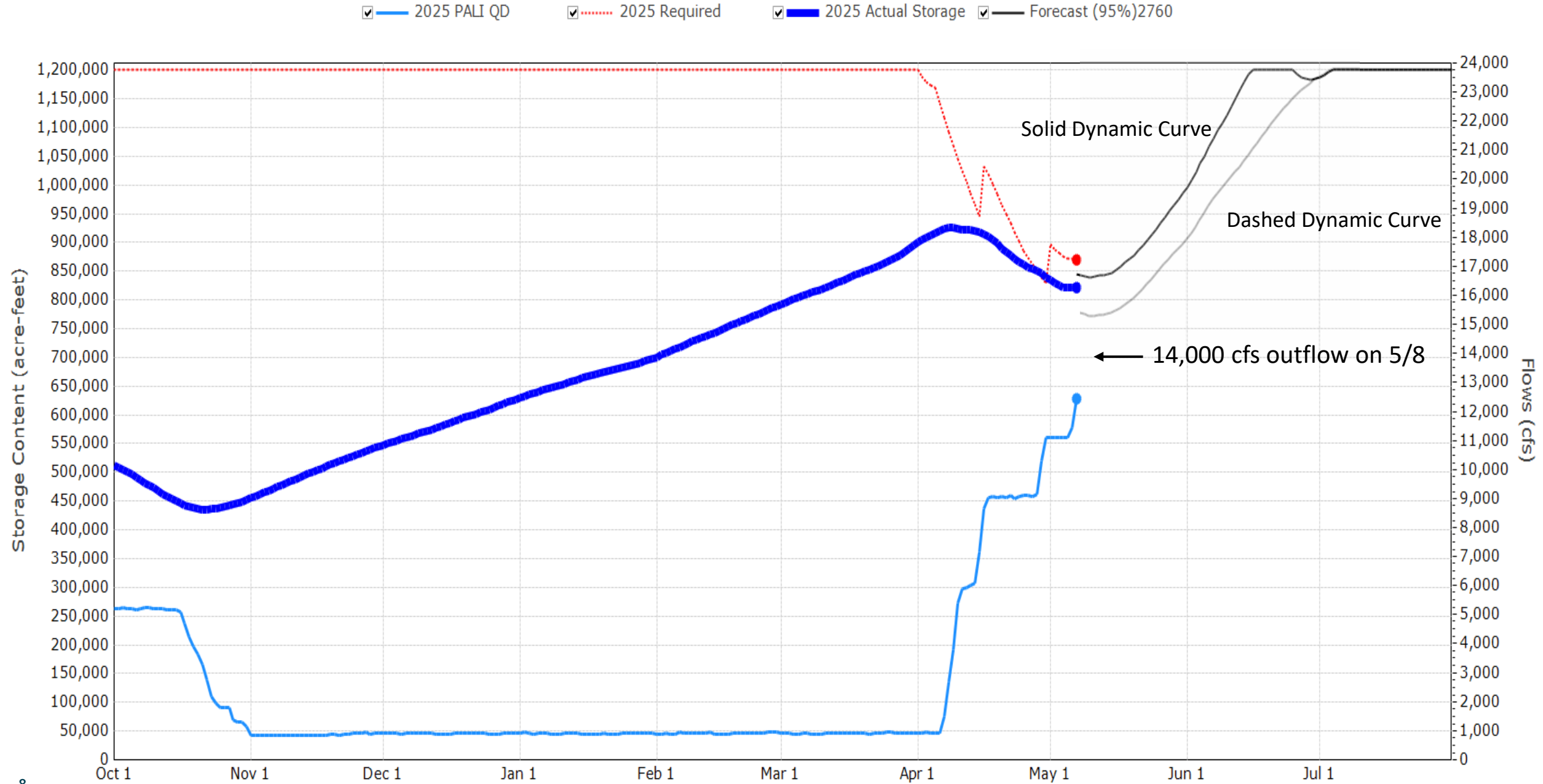


# PAL - Palisades



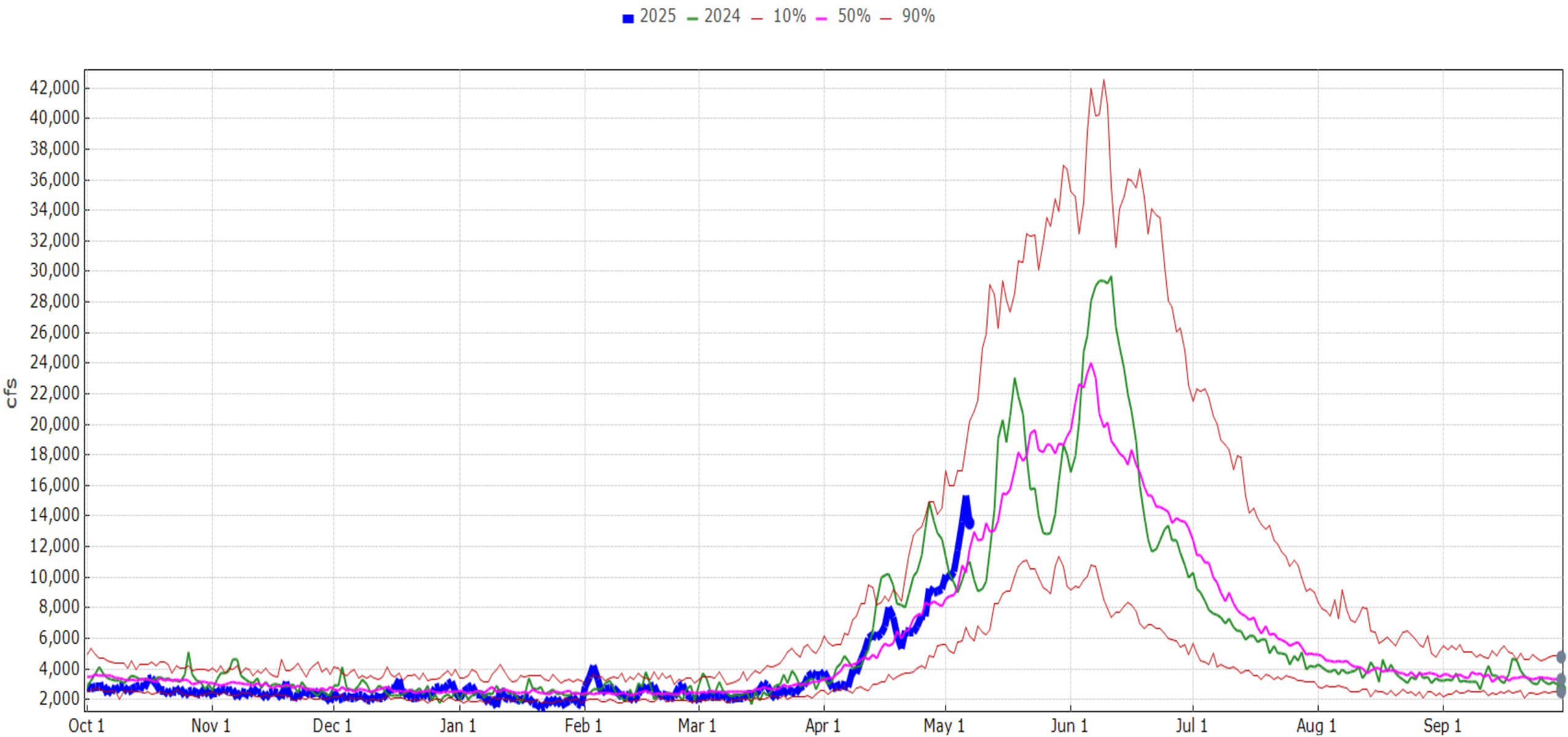


# PAL - Palisades





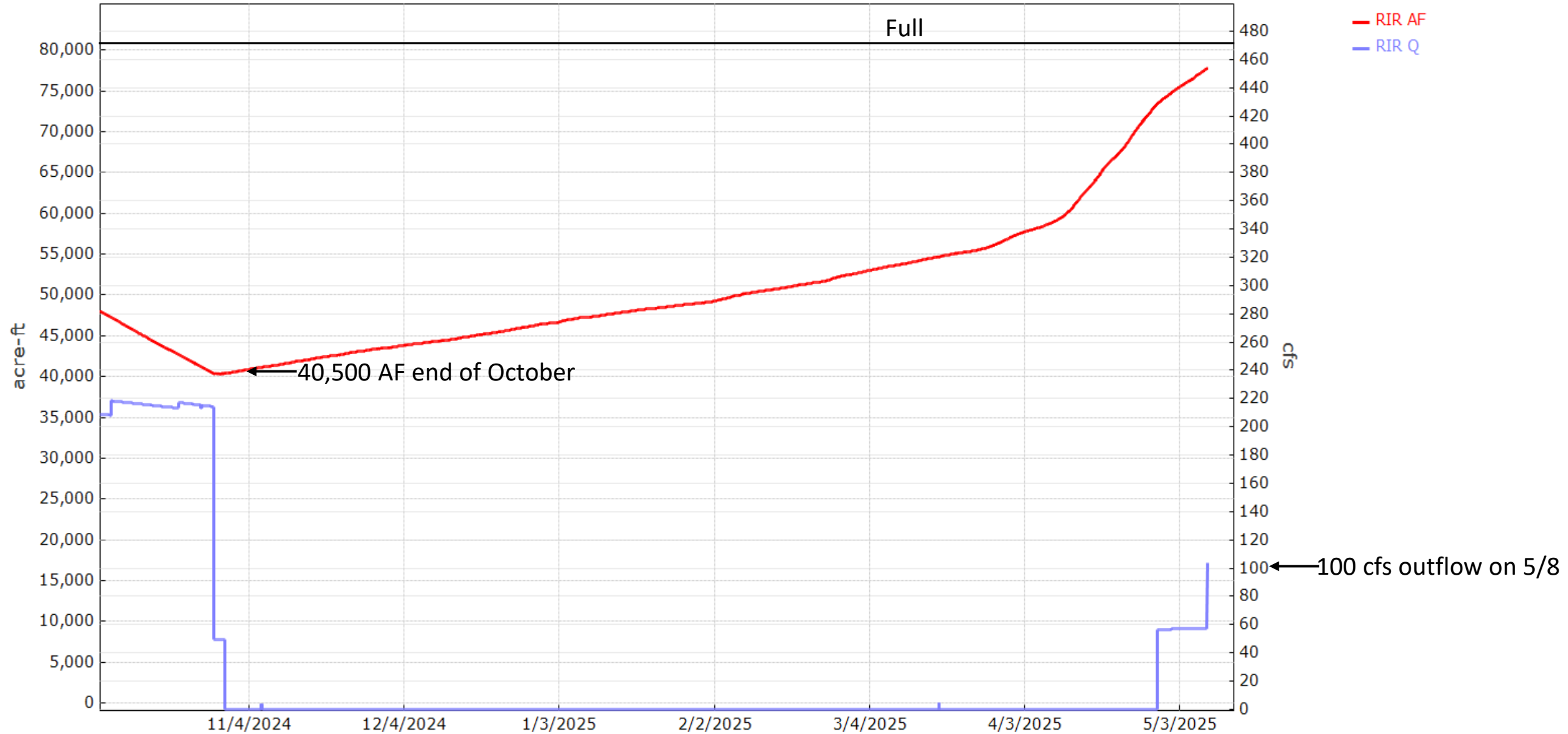
## Unregulated Flow at Palisades Dam (PALI QU)





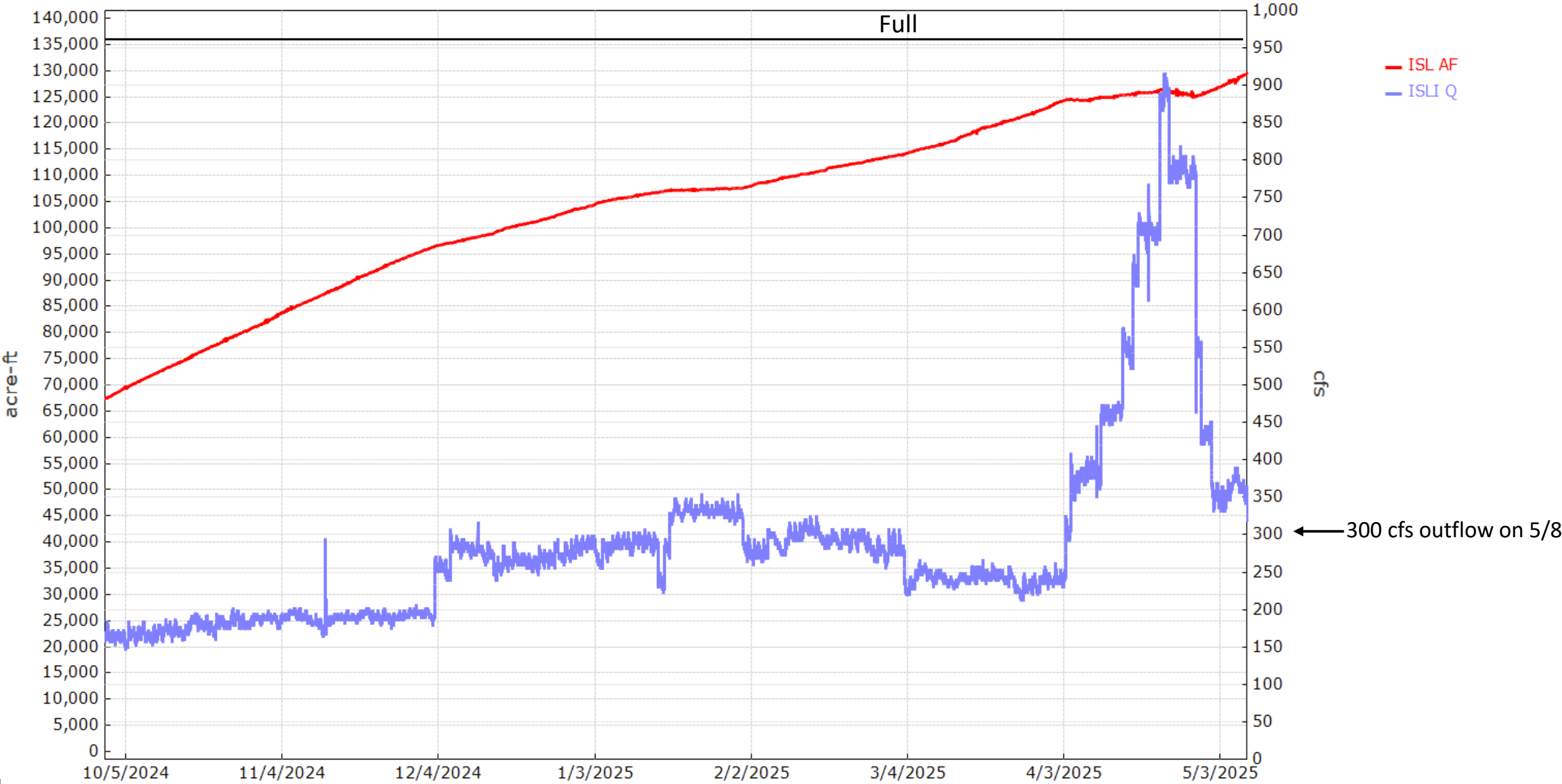
# Ririe Dam and Lake near Ririe, ID

## PNRO - Idaho Falls





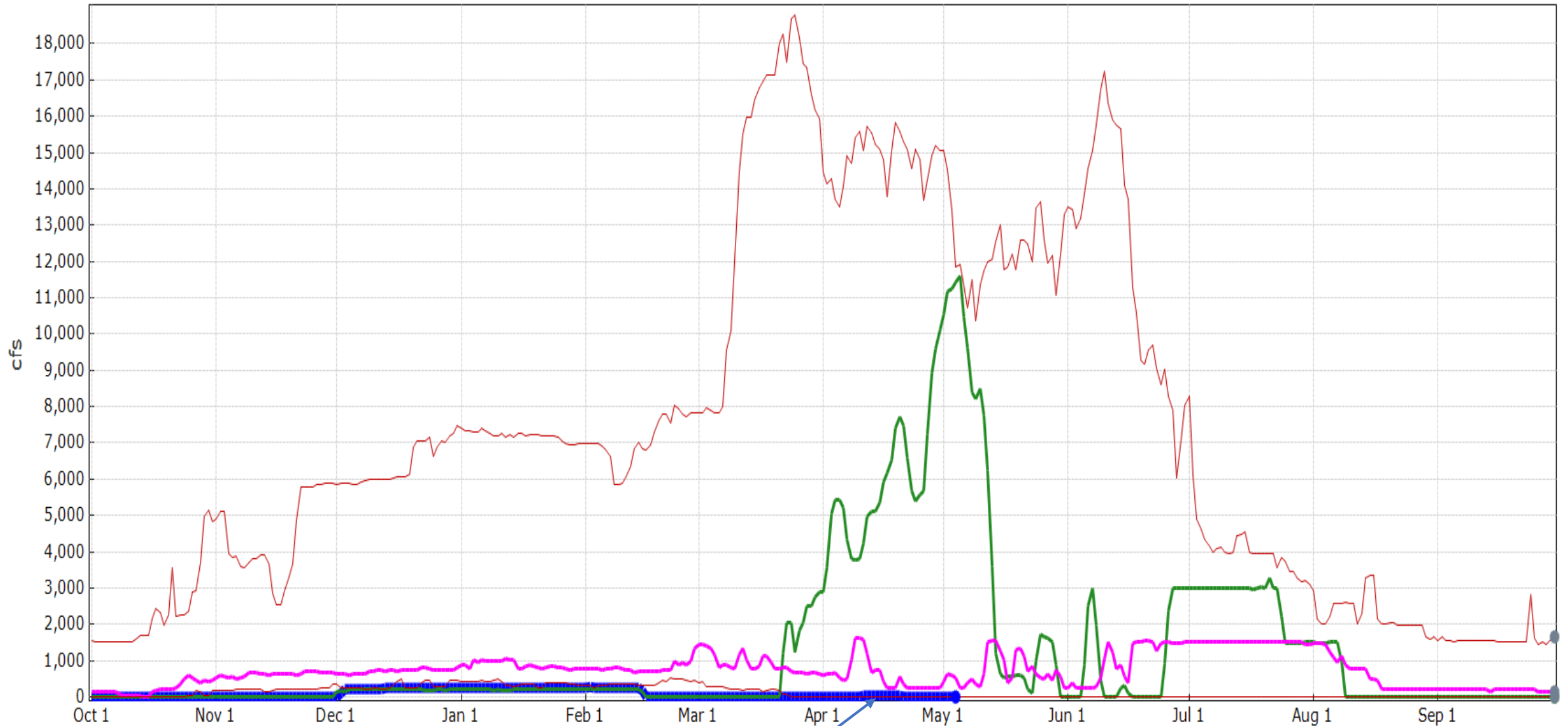
# Island Park Reservoir





# Total Snake River Flow Downstream of Milner Dam

■ 2025 ■ 2024 — 10% — 50% — 90%



~20 cfs for 11 days, now 0 cfs



# 2025 Upper Snake Reservoir System Outlook

## Spring 2025

- **Flood Risk Management** at Jackson, Palisades
- Palisades Dam peak outflow potentially between 14,000 cfs to 16,000 cfs
- Minidoka Dam outflow increased on 3/26 for irrigation delivery
- Approximately **447 AF of unstorable water released past Milner Dam** to the Snake River downstream in April
- **Over 100,000 AF recharged** into the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer since last fall
- Fill of reservoir storage space will be **relatively high this year**;
- **Potential shortfall due to FRM** operations at Jackson and Palisades has typically been deducted 25% from Jackson Lake space holders and 75% from Palisades space holders

## Summer 2025

- Moderate demand for storage releases system wide
- Projected ~170,000 AF of flow augmentation to be released by Milner Dam (Spring/Summer)
- Projected ~40,000 AF of Idaho Power storage water to be released by Milner Dam (Summer)

## Fall 2025

- **0 cfs by Milner Dam once Idaho Power storage water is released downstream**

## Winter 2026

- Projected outflows: Jackson (280 cfs), Palisades (900 cfs), Minidoka (425 cfs)



# For More Information

## Snake River Area Office

Ryan Alcorn - Area Manager (Acting)  
208-292-9353  
[ralcorn@usbr.gov](mailto:ralcorn@usbr.gov)

## Upper Snake Field Office

Mike Hilliard – Assistant Area Manager  
208-678-0461 (x34)  
[mhilliard@usbr.gov](mailto:mhilliard@usbr.gov)  
Brian Stevens – Water Operations Supervisory Civil Engineer (x24)  
[bstevens@usbr.gov](mailto:bstevens@usbr.gov)  
Jeremy Dalling - Water Operations Civil Engineer (x25)  
[jdalling@usbr.gov](mailto:jdalling@usbr.gov)

## Snake River Operations Web Sites

Upper Snake water information site -  
<http://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/uppersnake/index.html>  
USBR HydroMet - <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/>  
Northwest River Forecast Center - <http://www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/rfc/>  
NRCS SNOTEL Data - <http://www.id.nrcs.usda.gov/snow/>





# Upper Snake Advisory Committee

Idaho Power Update

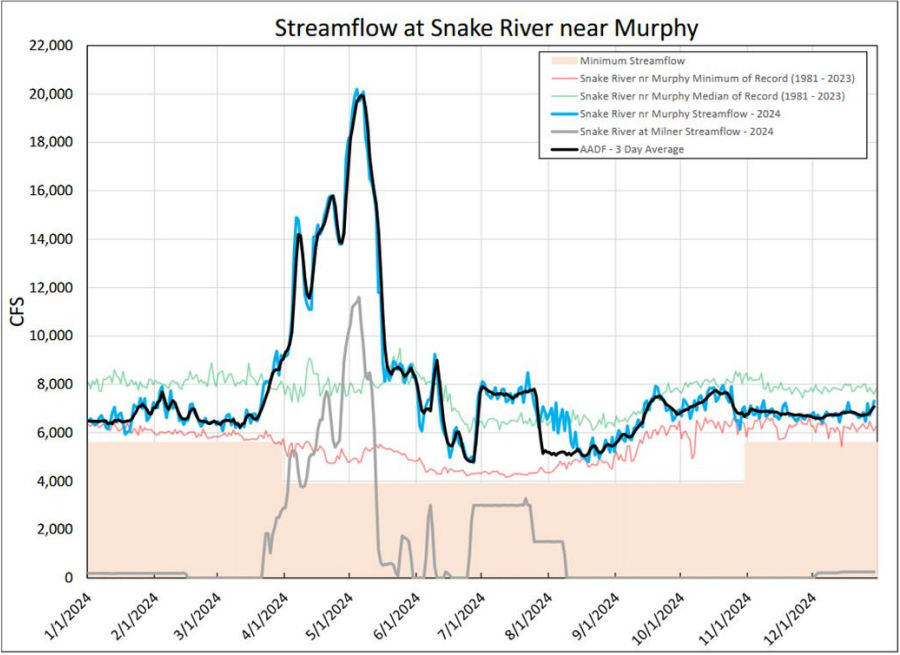
5/08/2025



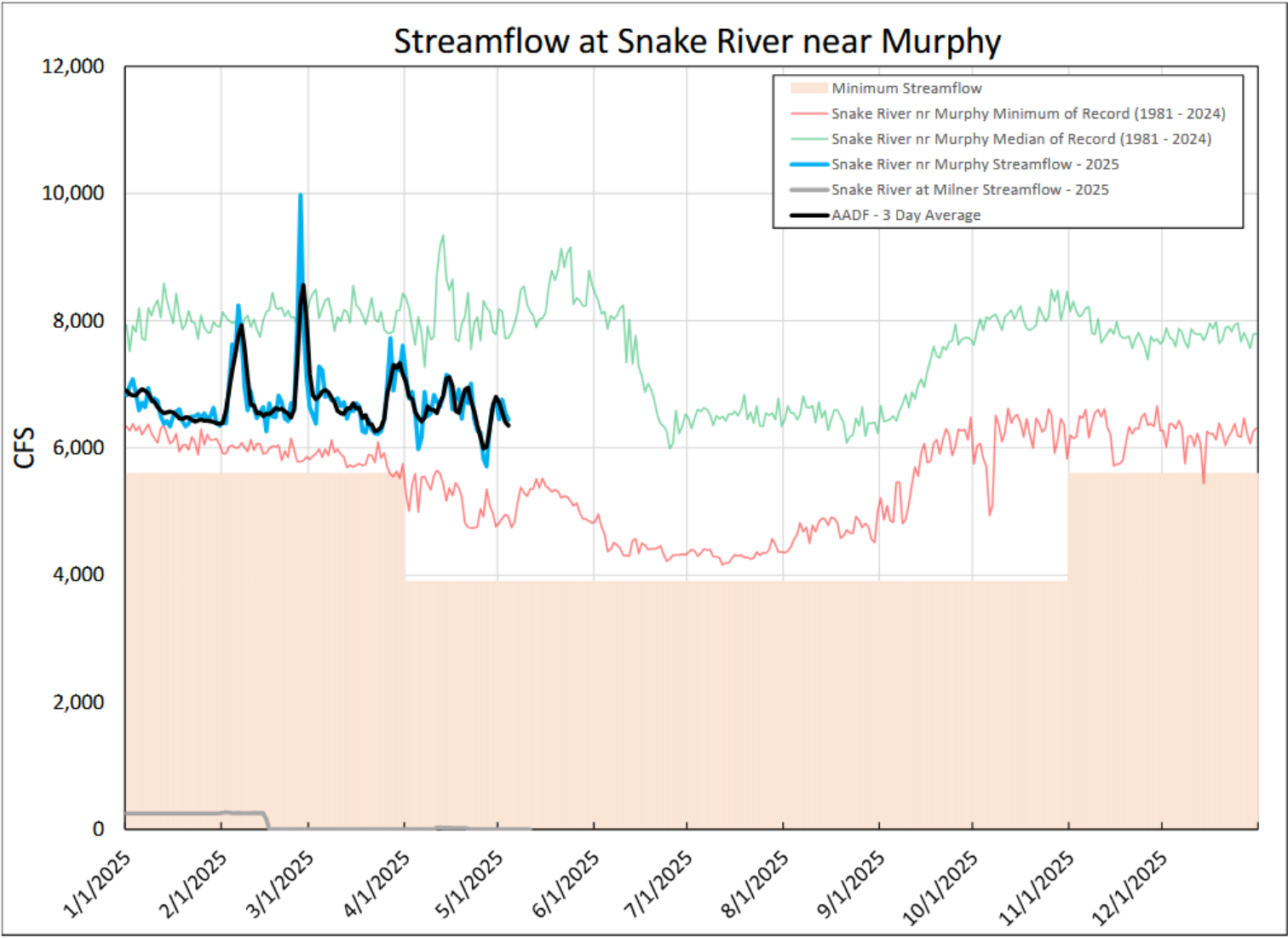
# Snake River Flow Conditions Current



CY2024



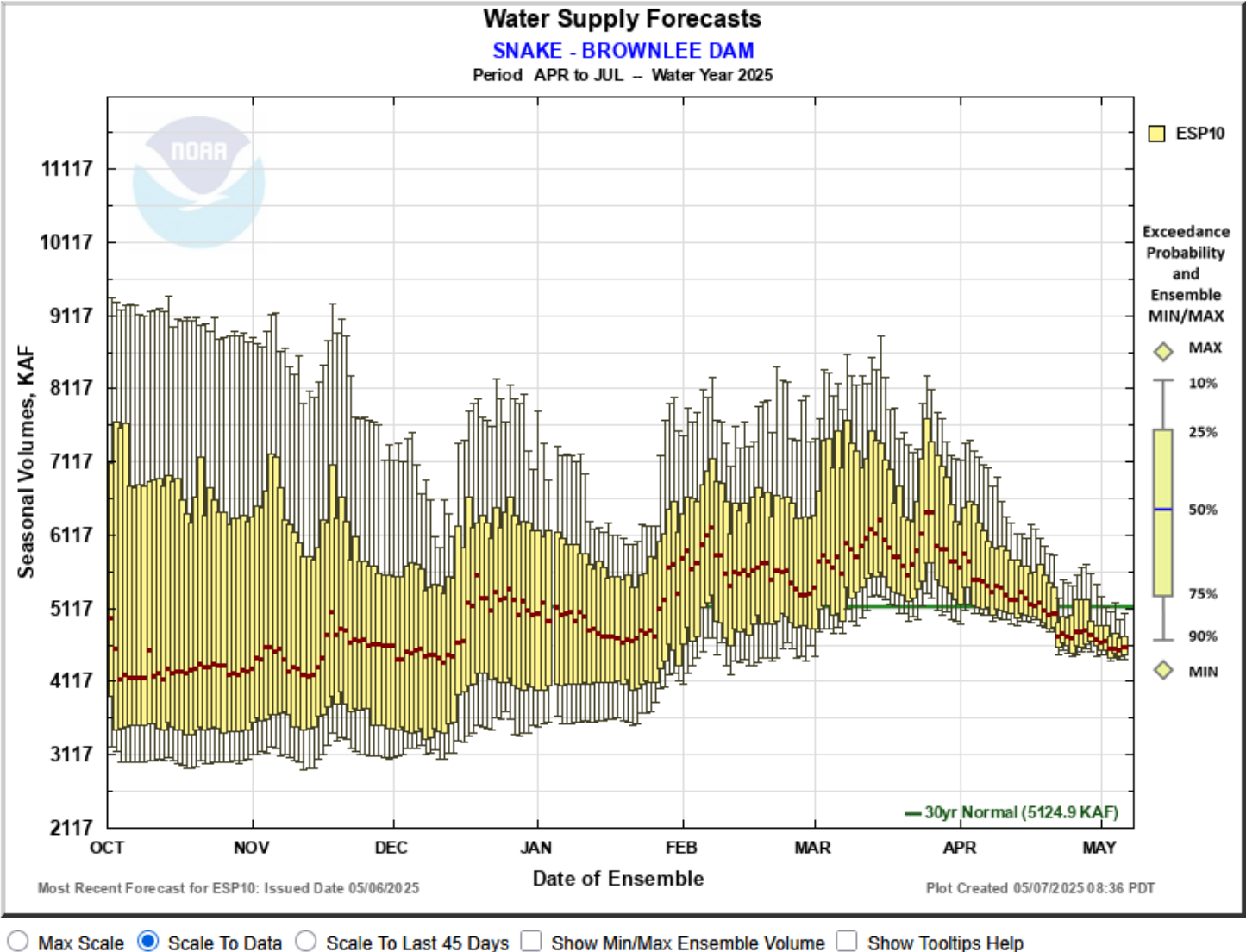
CY2025





# Brownlee Water Supply Forecast

SNAKE - BROWNLEE DAM (BRN11) Forecasts for Water Year 2025					
Official Water Supply					
ESP with 10 Days QPF Ensemble: 2025-05-06 Issued: 2025-05-06					
Forecast Period	Forecasts Are in KAF				30 Year Average (1991-2020)
	90 %	50 %	% Average	10 %	
APR-SEP	5931	6197	97	6814	6398
APR-JUL	4427	4587	89	5054	5125
JAN-SEP	9320	9586	100	10203	9600
JAN-JUL	7816	7976	96	8443	8326
OCT-SEP	11334	11601	97	12218	11906
Experimental Water Supply					
HEFS with 15 days EQPF Ensemble: 2025-05-06 Issued: 2025-05-06					
APR-SEP	5995	6221	97	6792	6398
APR-JUL	4454	4619	90	5195	5125
JAN-SEP	9384	9610	100	10181	9600
JAN-JUL	7843	8008	96	8584	8326
OCT-SEP	11398	11624	98	12195	11906
Reference					
ESP with 0 Days QPF Ensemble: 2025-05-06 Issued: 2025-05-06					
APR-SEP	5923	6258	98	6908	6398
APR-JUL	4412	4683	91	5244	5125
JAN-SEP	9312	9647	100	10297	9600
JAN-JUL	7801	8072	97	8633	8326
OCT-SEP	11326	11661	98	12311	11906
Move the mouse over the desired "Forecast Period" to display a graph.					





# WY 2025 HCC Operations

