

Weather Outlook

December 2021

Presenter : Tim Axford

Weather Forecast Office

Pocatello, ID

Thursday, December 9

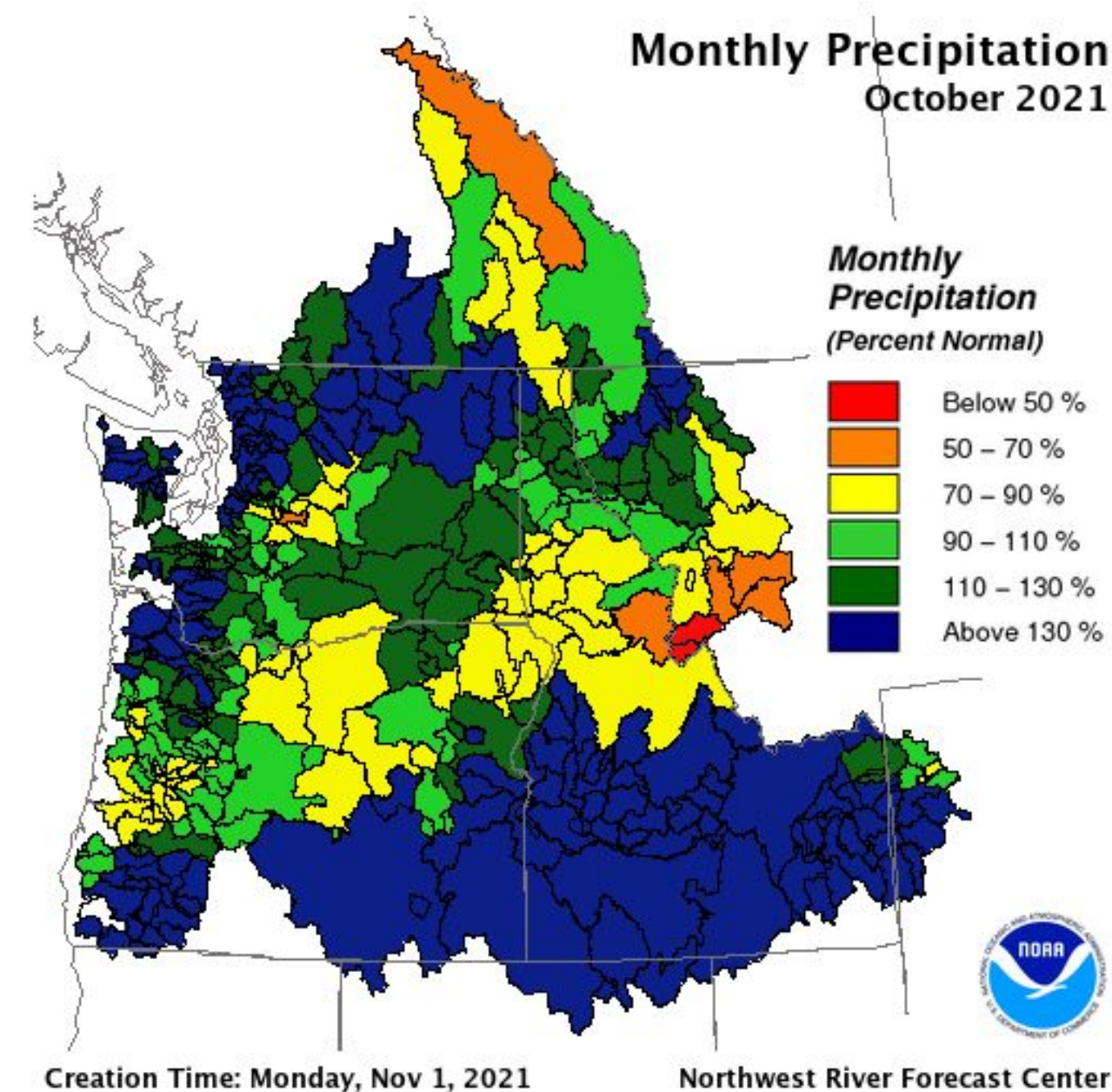
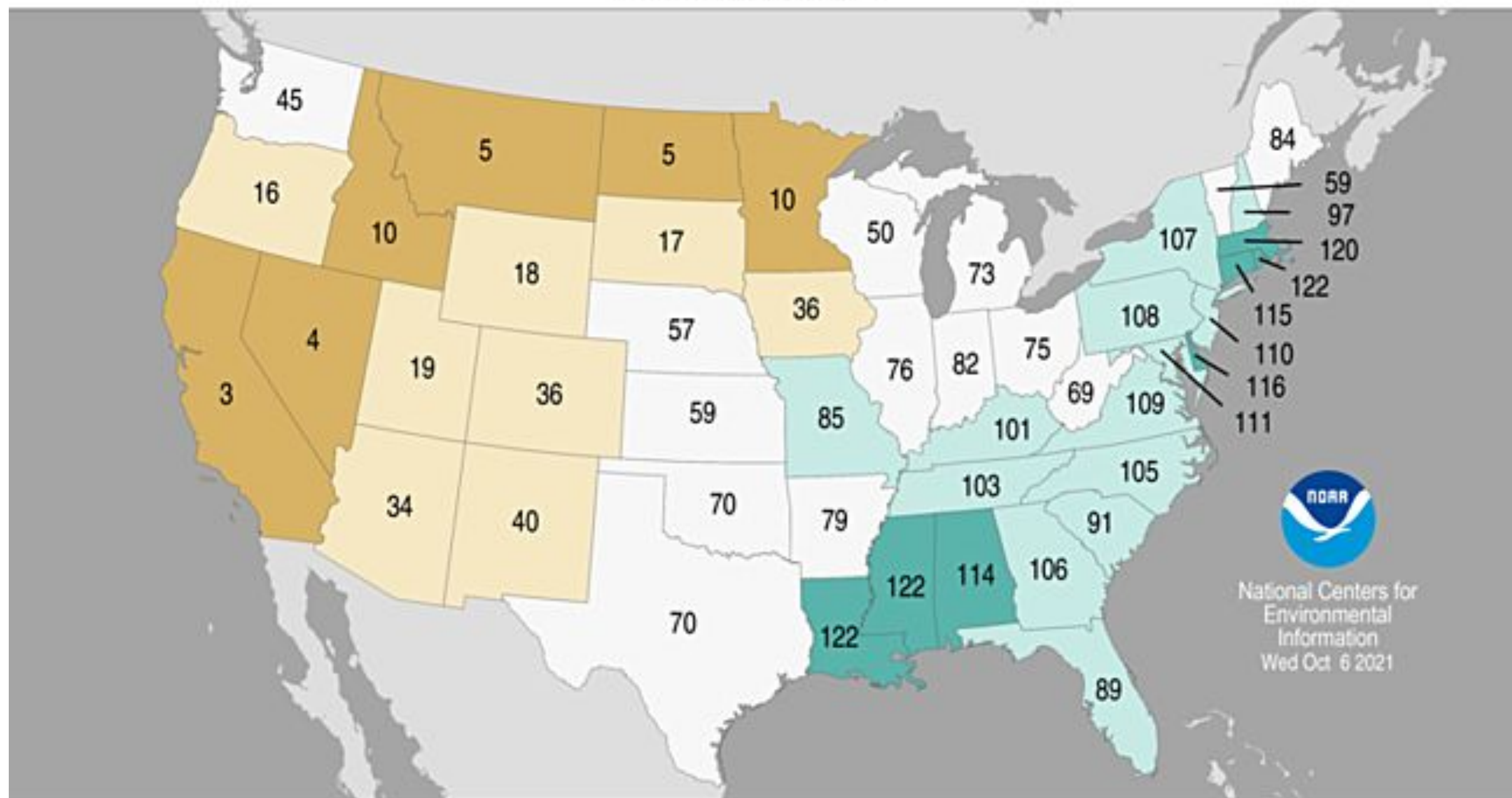




2020 - 2021 Water Year Was Very Dry

Weather Forecast Office
Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9

Statewide Precipitation Ranks October 2020 – September 2021 Period: 1895–2021



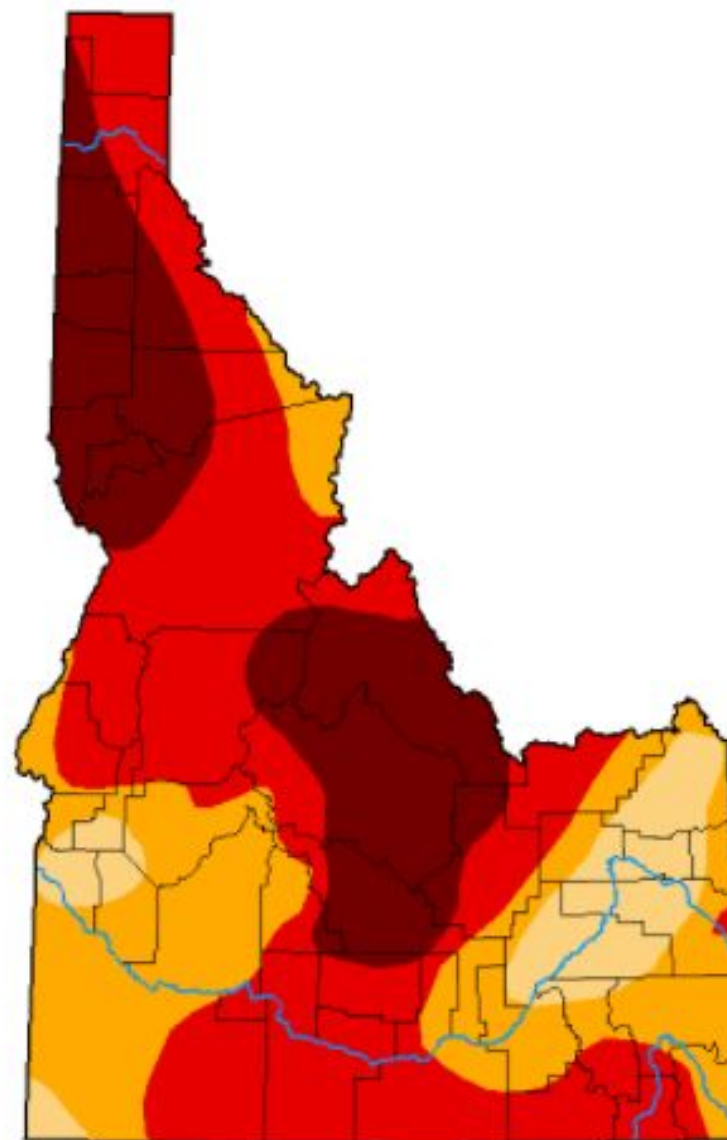
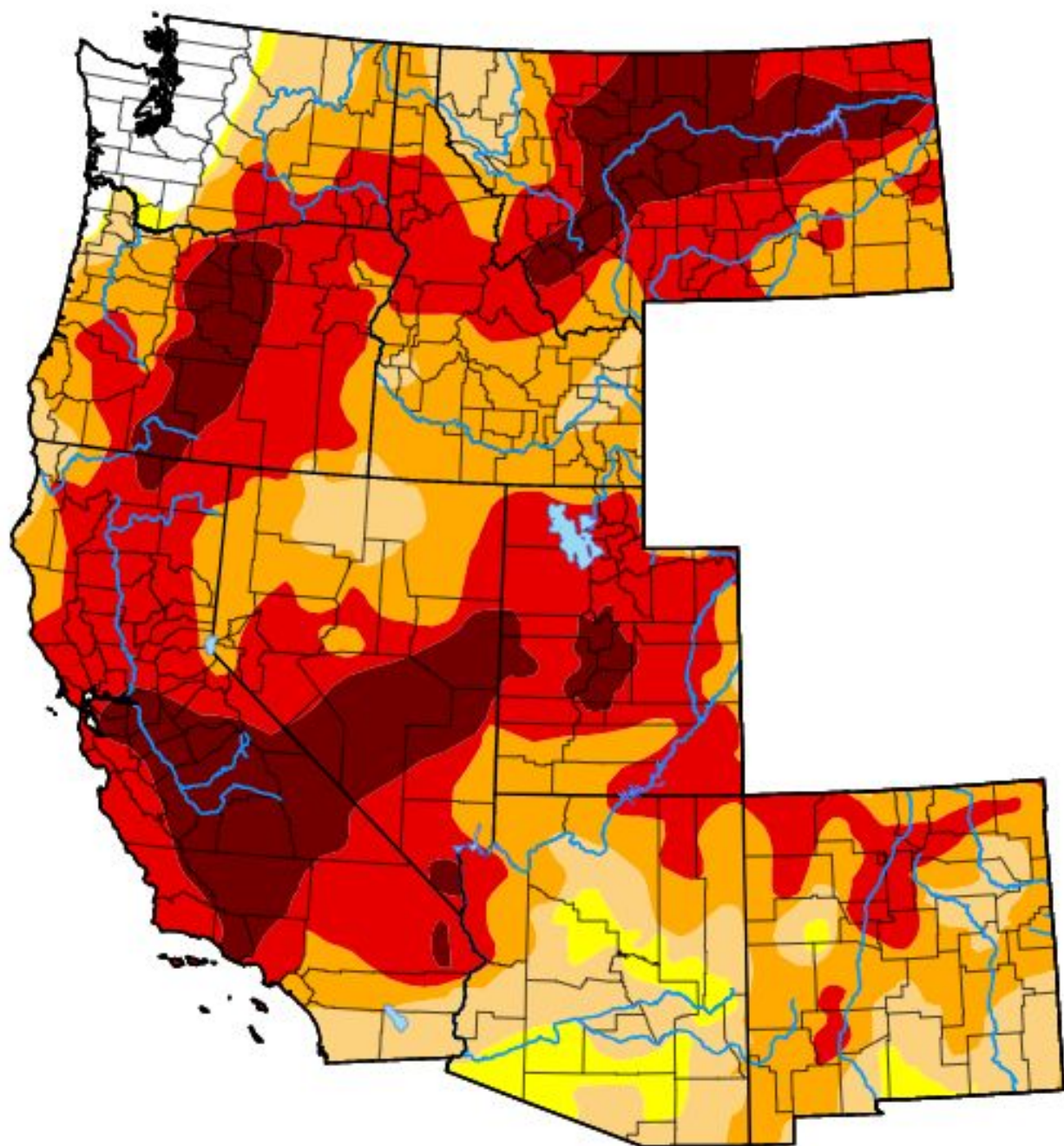


Current Drought Status

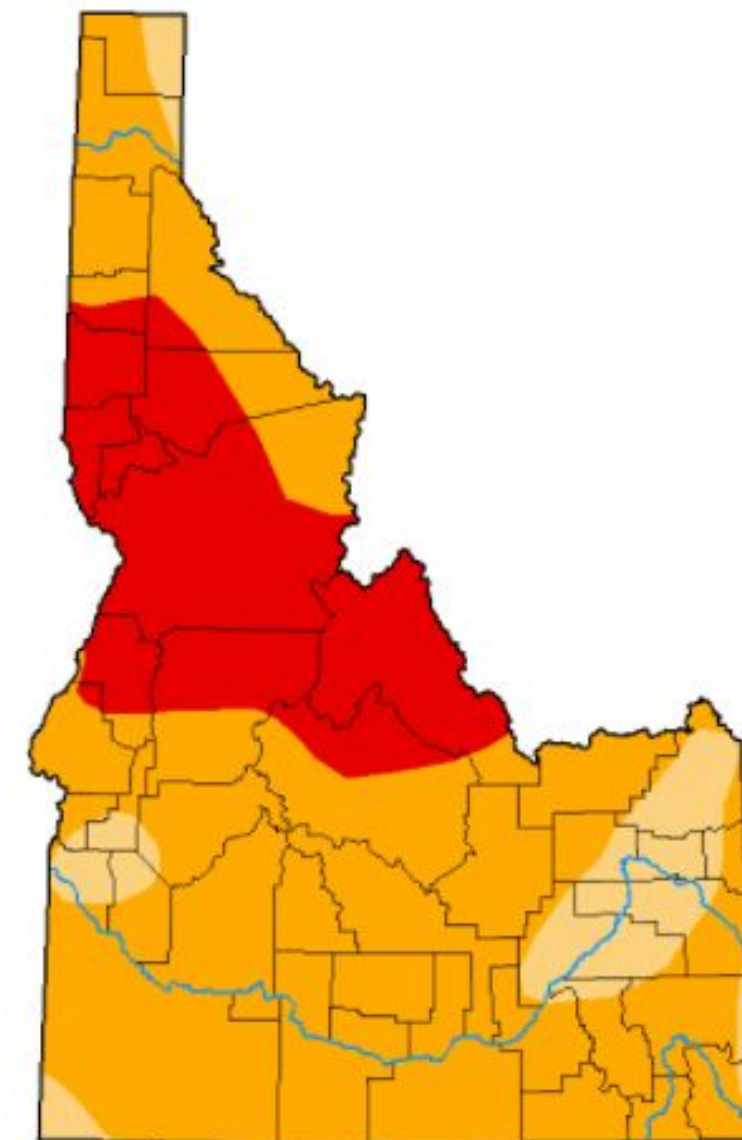
Weather Forecast Office
Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9

West

Drought Classification



< September 14, 2021 >



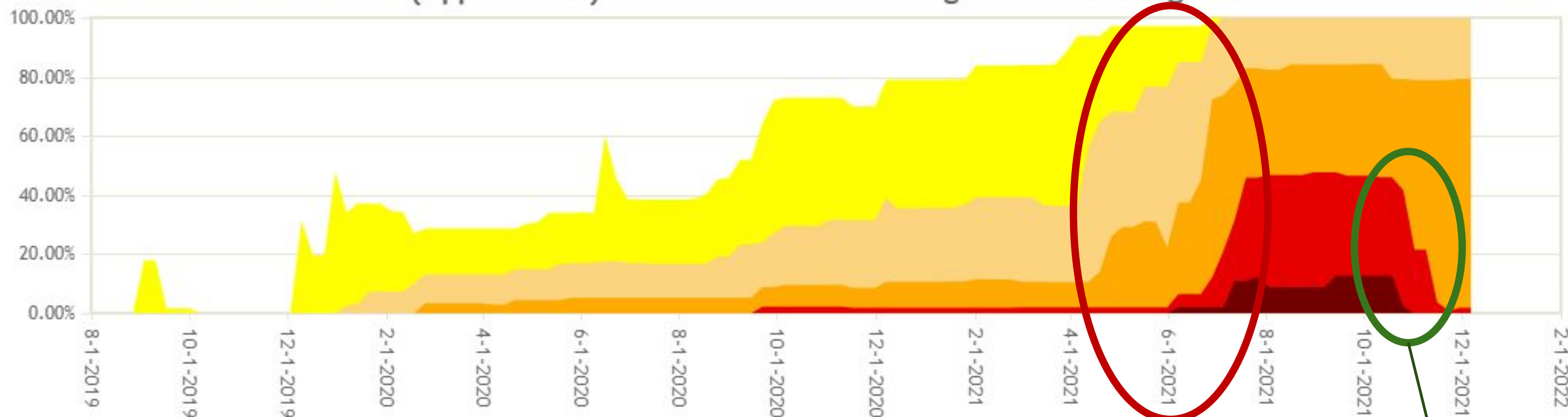
< December 7, 2021 >



Drought Status Timeseries

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Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9

1704 (Upper Snake) Percent Area in U.S. Drought Monitor Categories



Quick transition into nearly
 $\frac{1}{2}$ of Upper Snake in D4

Wet Autumn helped,
but improvement
will be slow

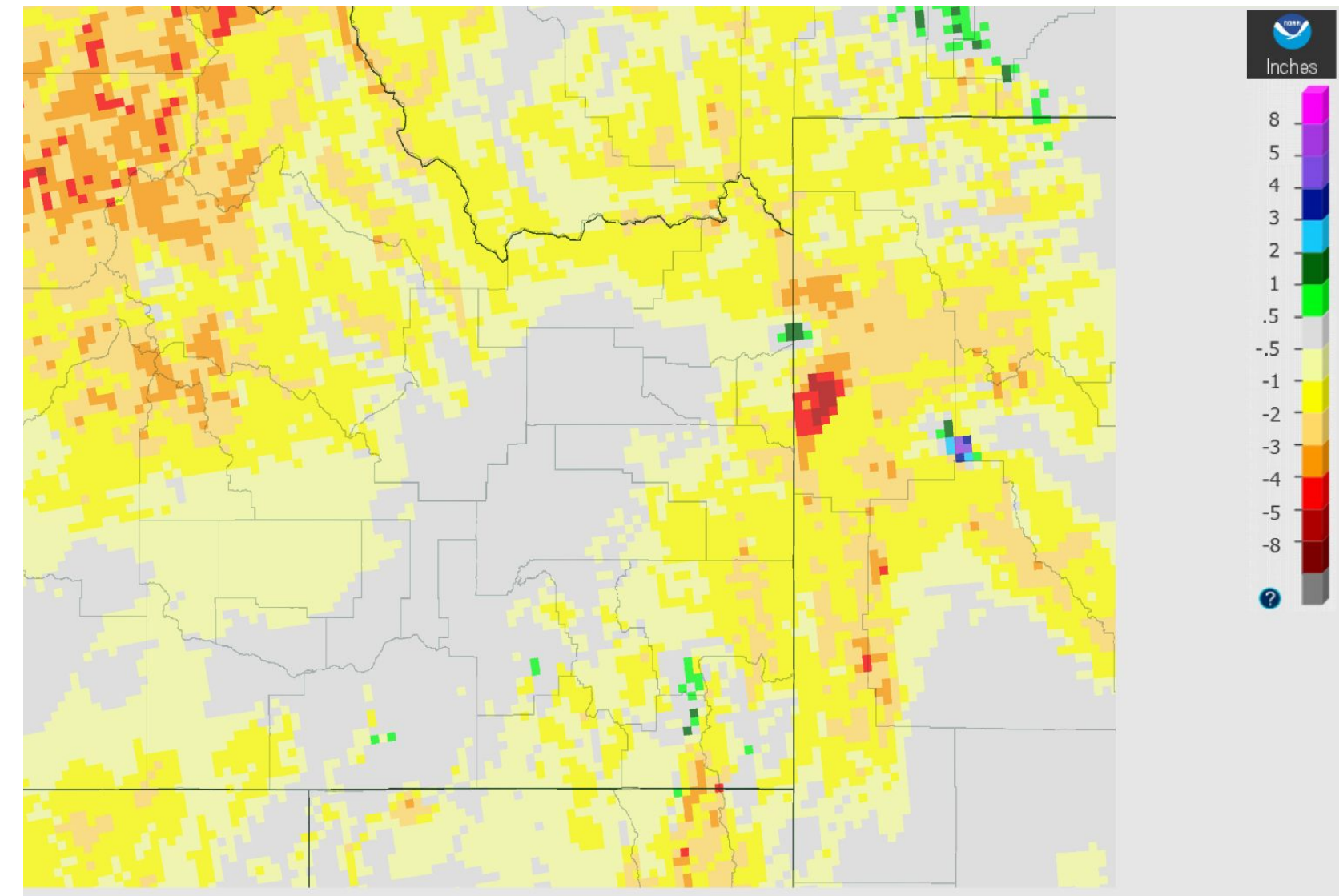
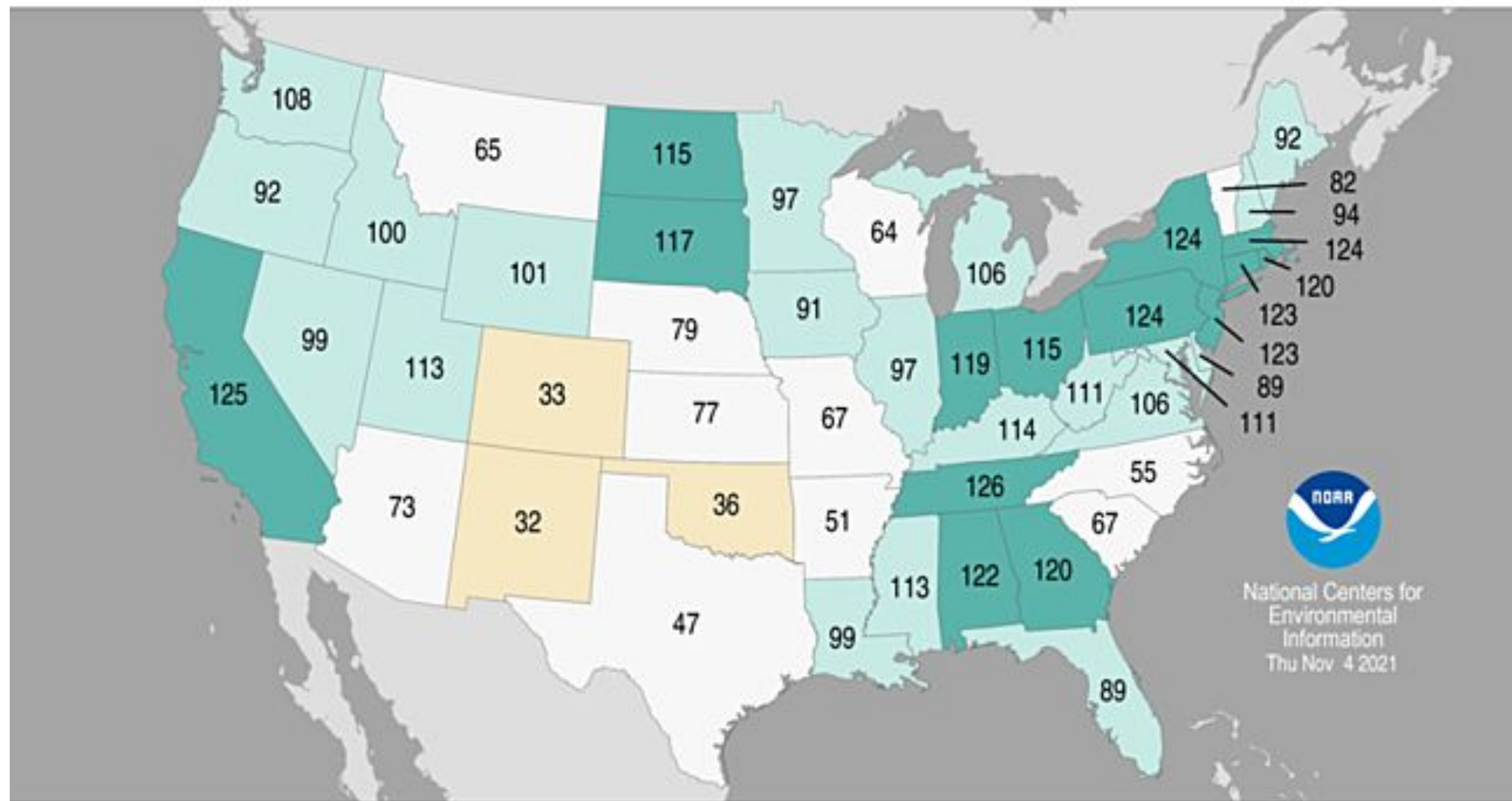


Summer Ended Wet - November Dry

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Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9

Statewide Precipitation Ranks

August – October 2021
Period: 1895–2021



November Precipitation Departure from Normal



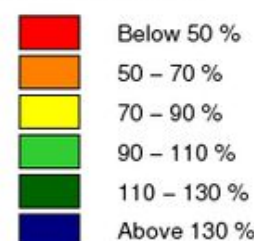
2021-2022 Water Year So Far...

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Thursday, December 9

October

Monthly Precipitation
October 2021

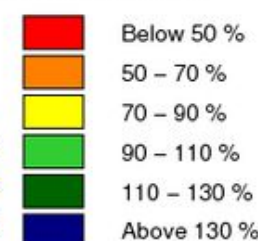
Monthly
Precipitation
(Percent Normal)



November

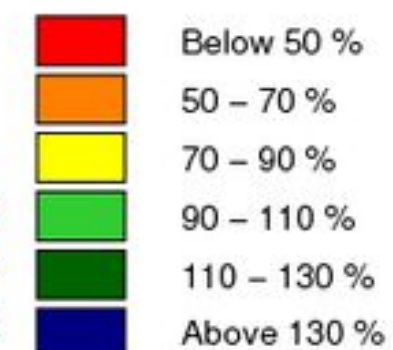
Monthly Precipitation
November 2021

Monthly
Precipitation
(Percent Normal)



Seasonal Precipitation
Oct 1, 2021 – Nov 30, 2021

Seasonal
Precipitation
(Percent Normal)



Creation Time: Wednesday, Dec 1, 2021

Northwest River Forecast Center

The wet October is outpacing the dry conditions of November, but we'll need to transition back to a wetter pattern soon.



Short Term Forecast and Seasonal Outlooks

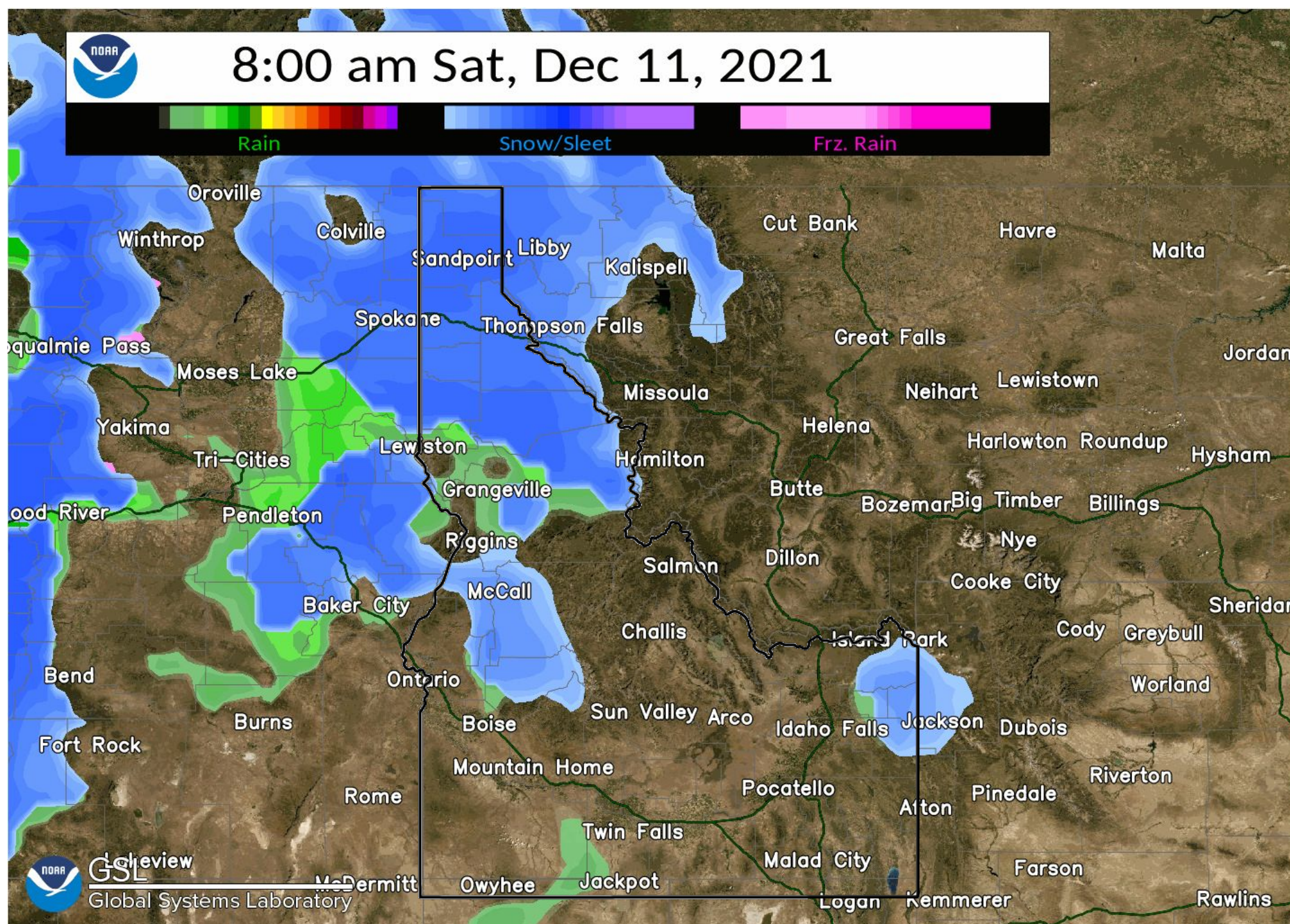
Weather Forecast Office
Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9



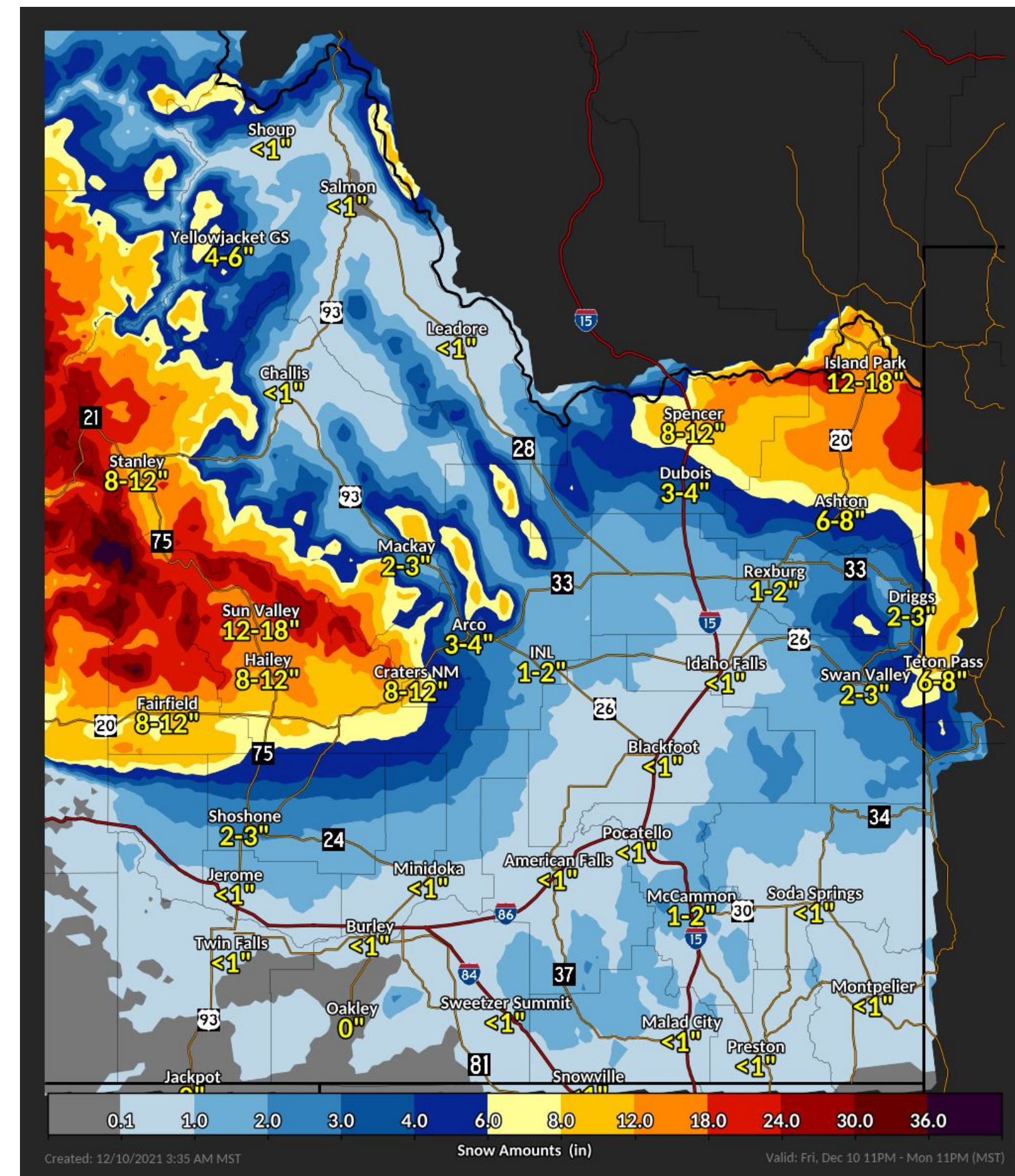


Weekend Snow

Weather Forecast Office
Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9

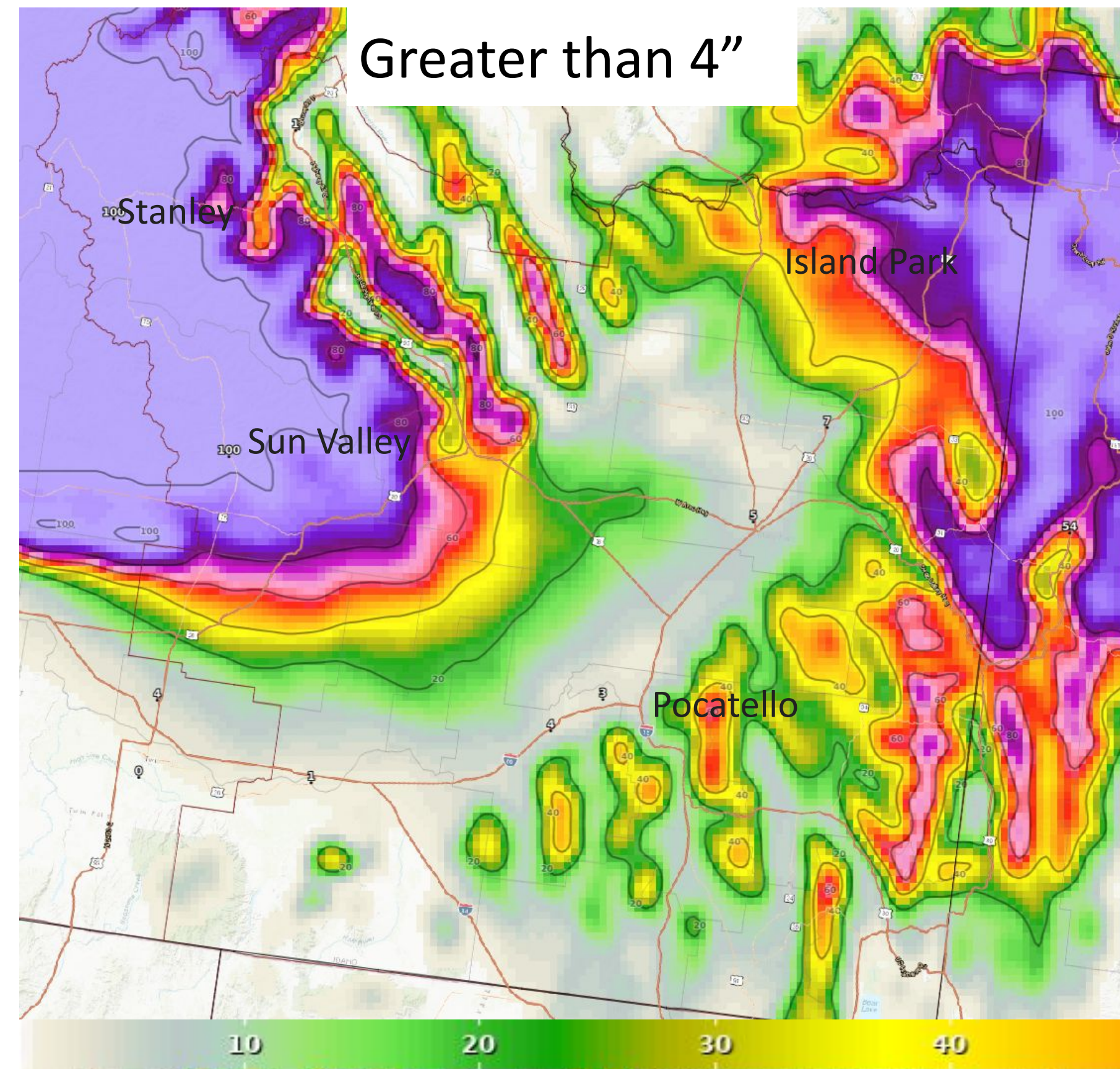


Initial system aimed at the West Central Mountains carrying over into Island Park

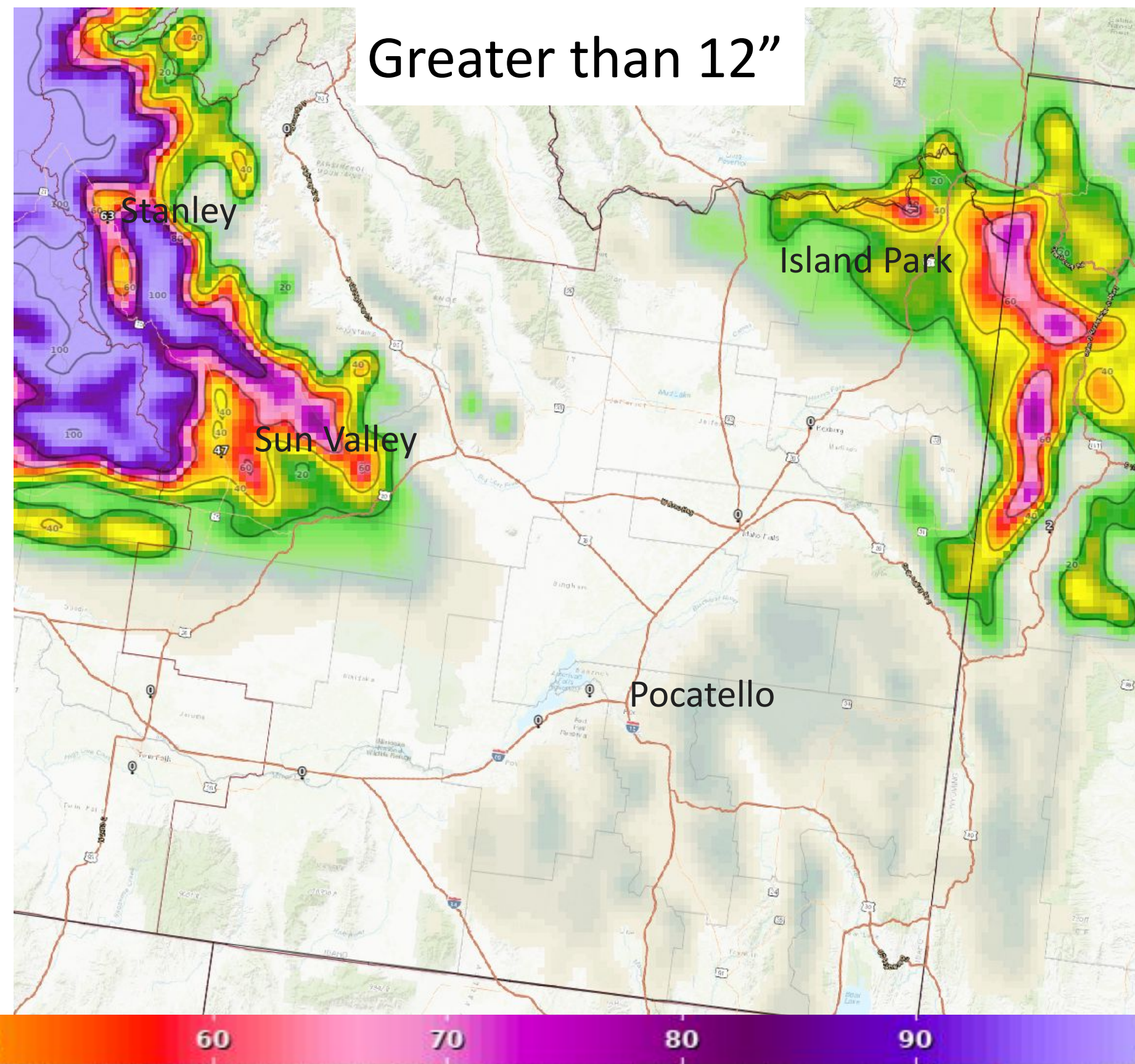


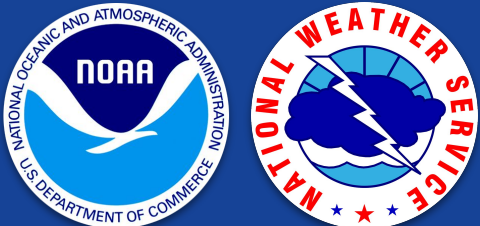
% Chance of Snow Amounts Through Sunday

Greater than 4"

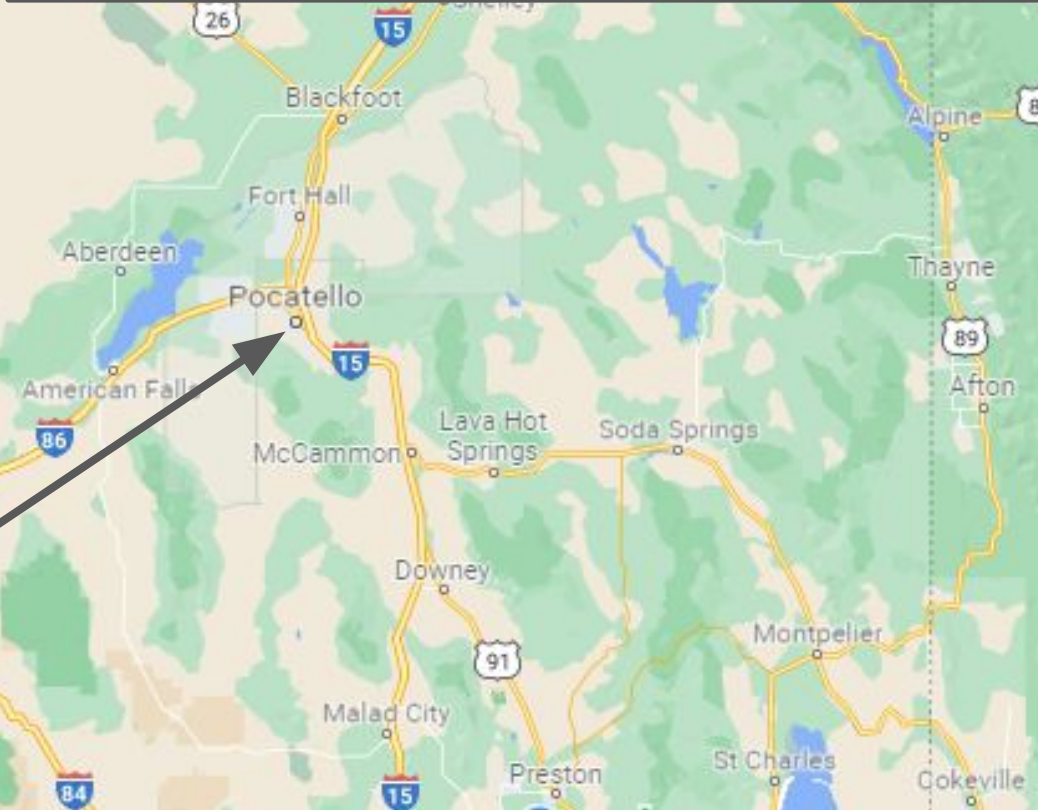
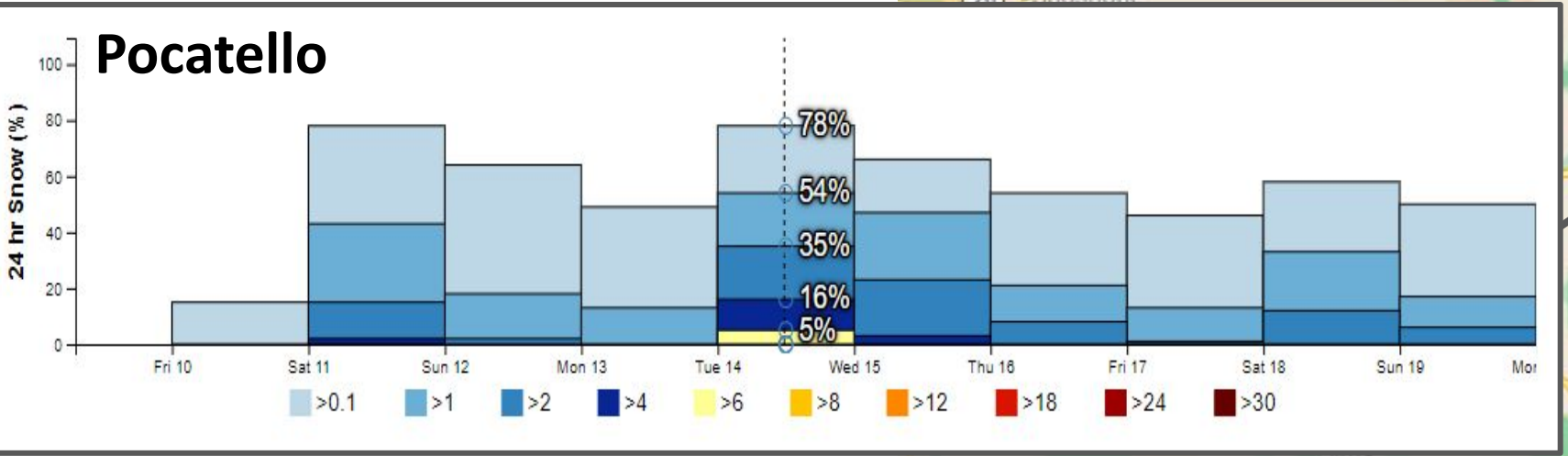
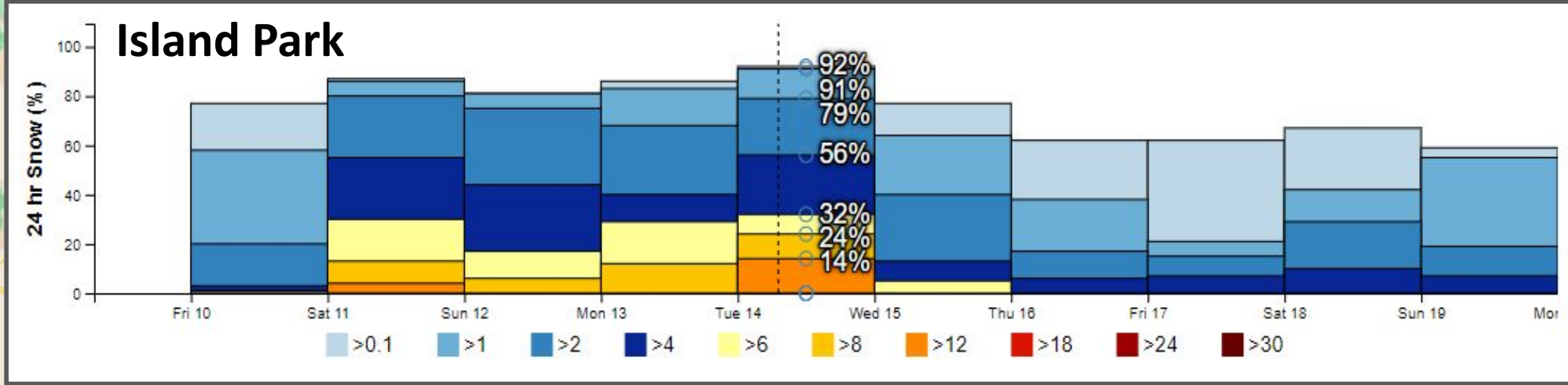
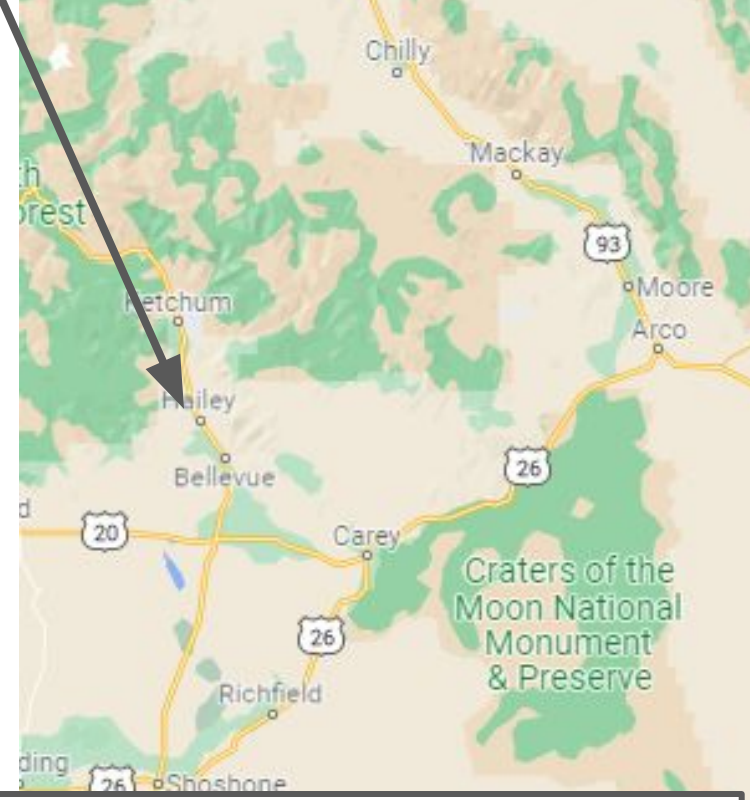
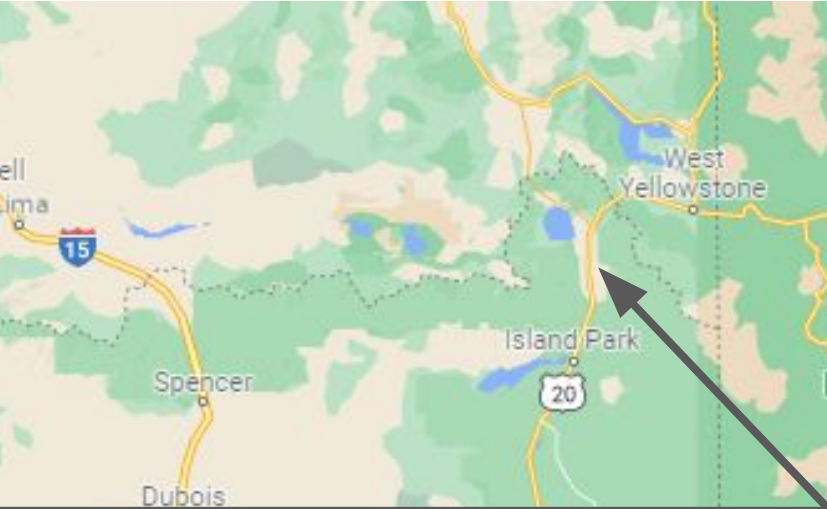
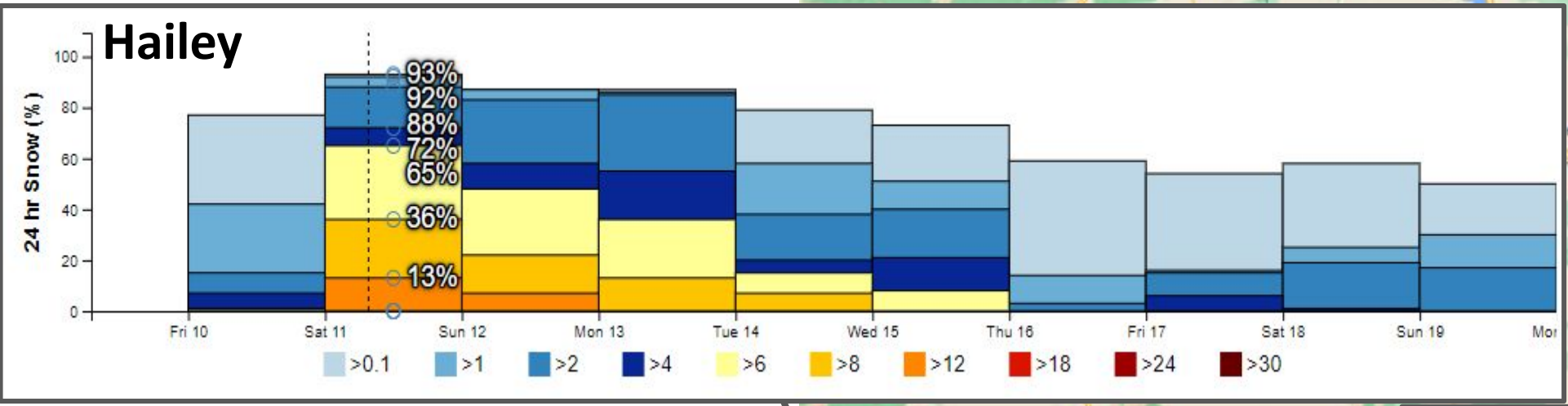


Greater than 12"





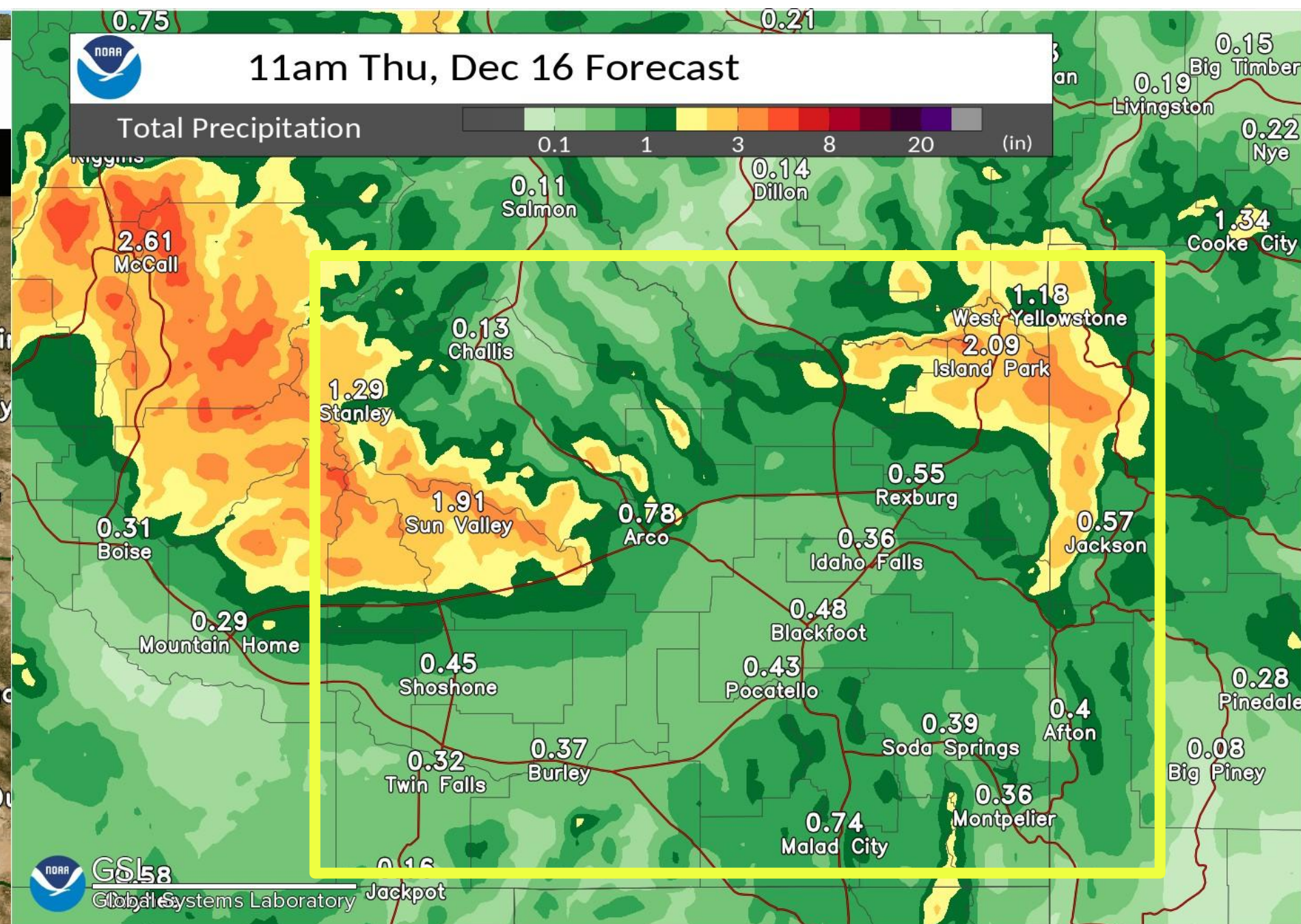
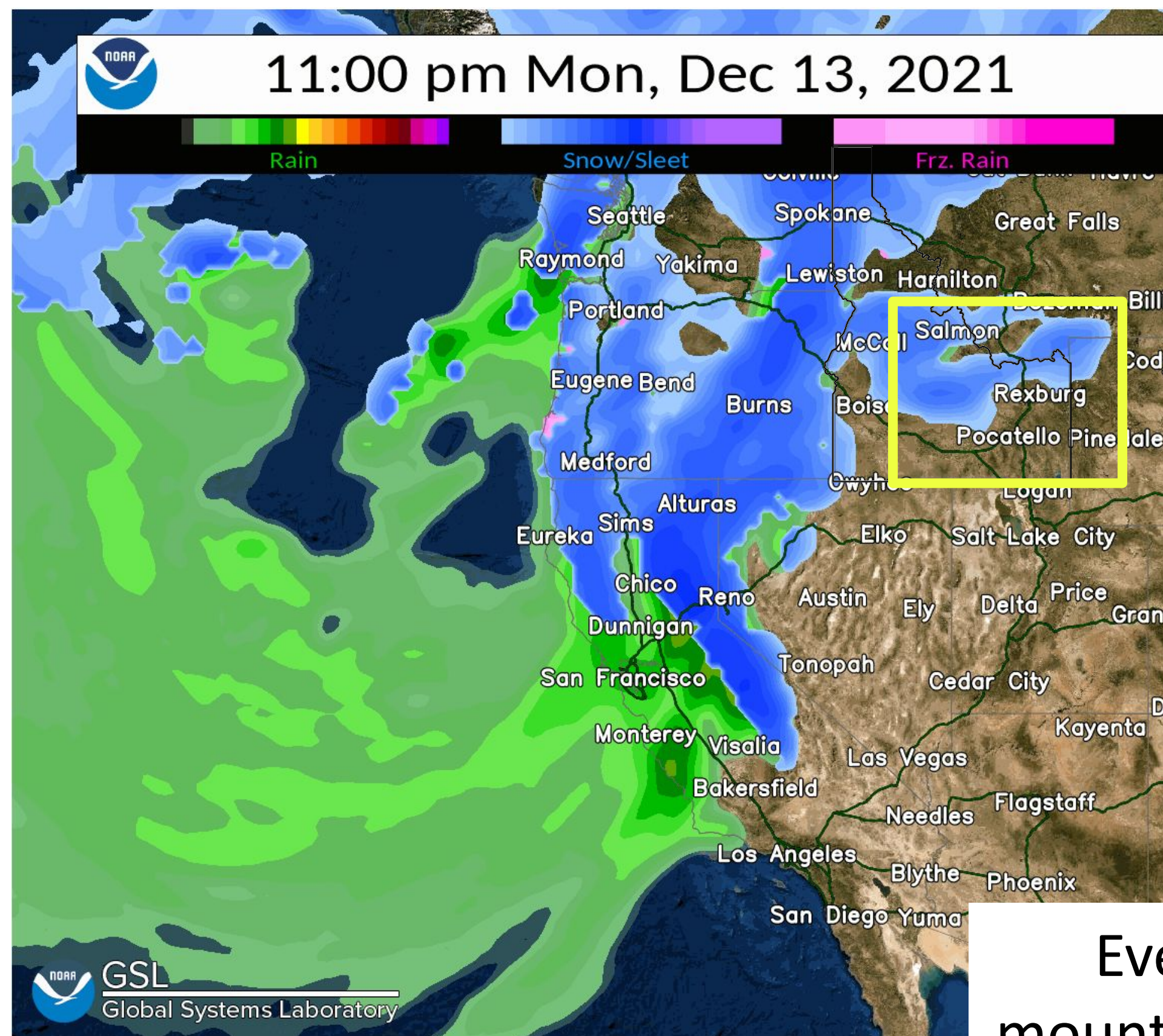
Timing the Heaviest Snow





Wet Pattern Through Next Week

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Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9



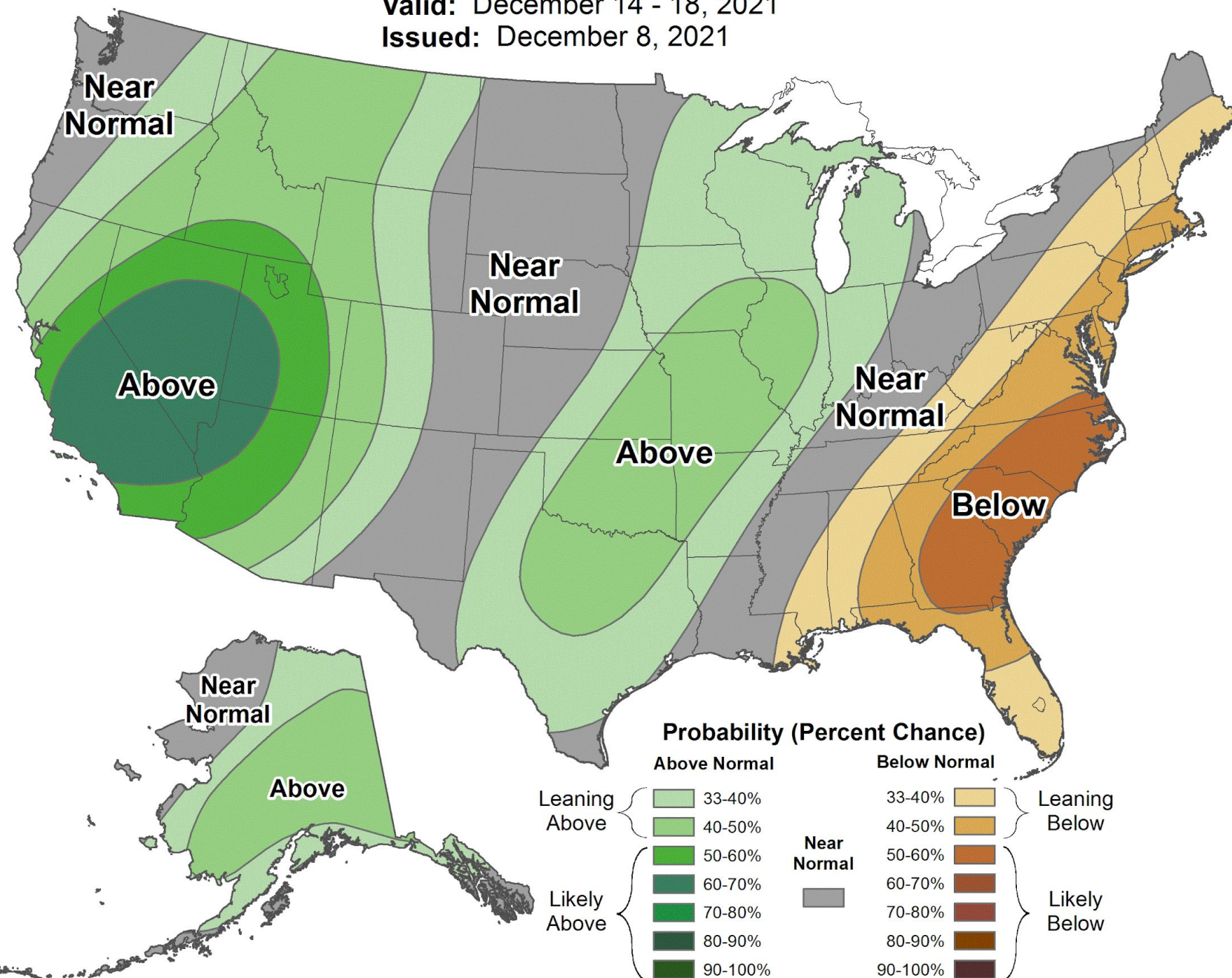
Everyone will see some precipitation with mountains squeezing out relatively high amounts



6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook



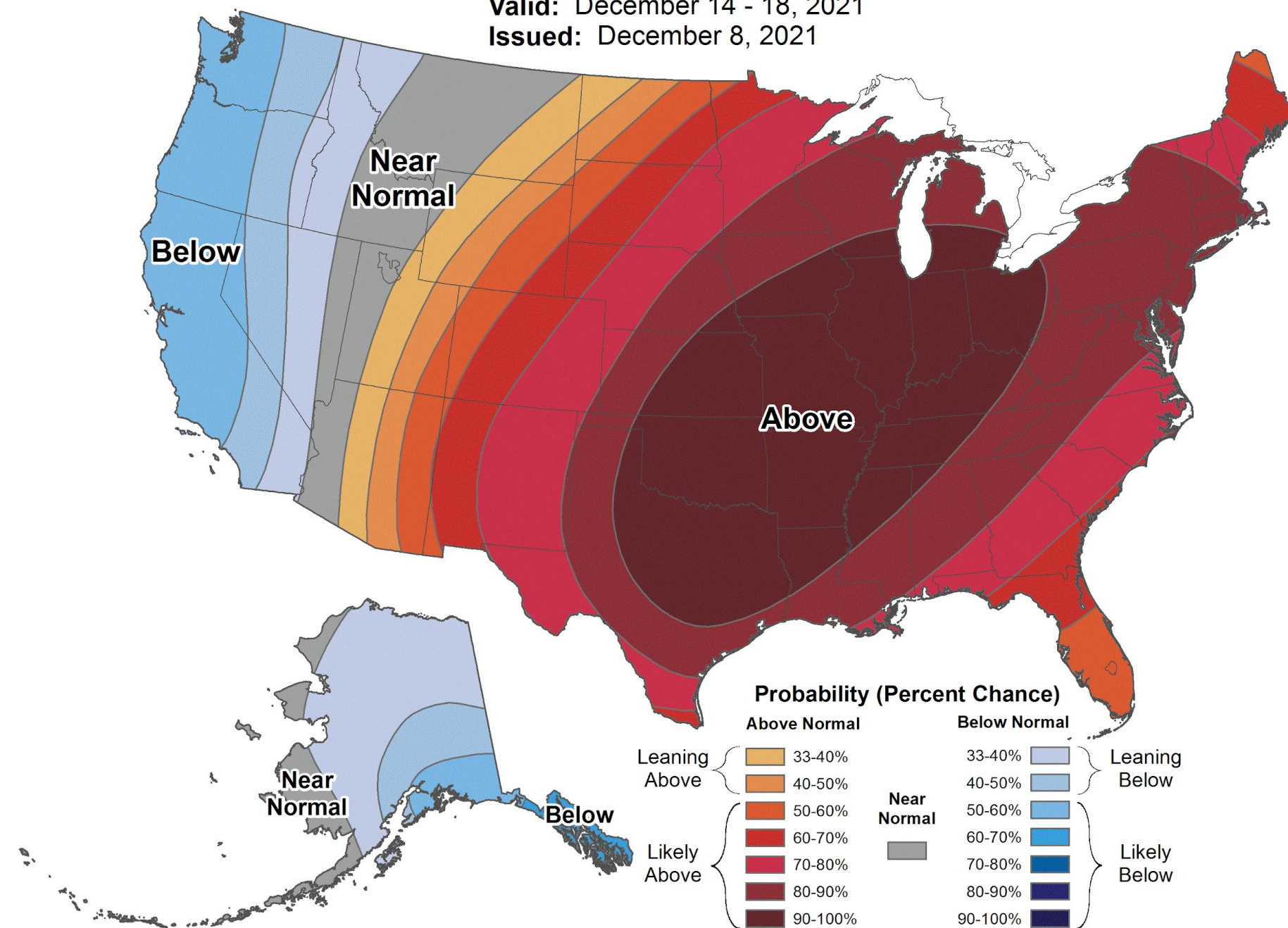
Valid: December 14 - 18, 2021
Issued: December 8, 2021



6-10 Day Temperature Outlook



Valid: December 14 - 18, 2021
Issued: December 8, 2021





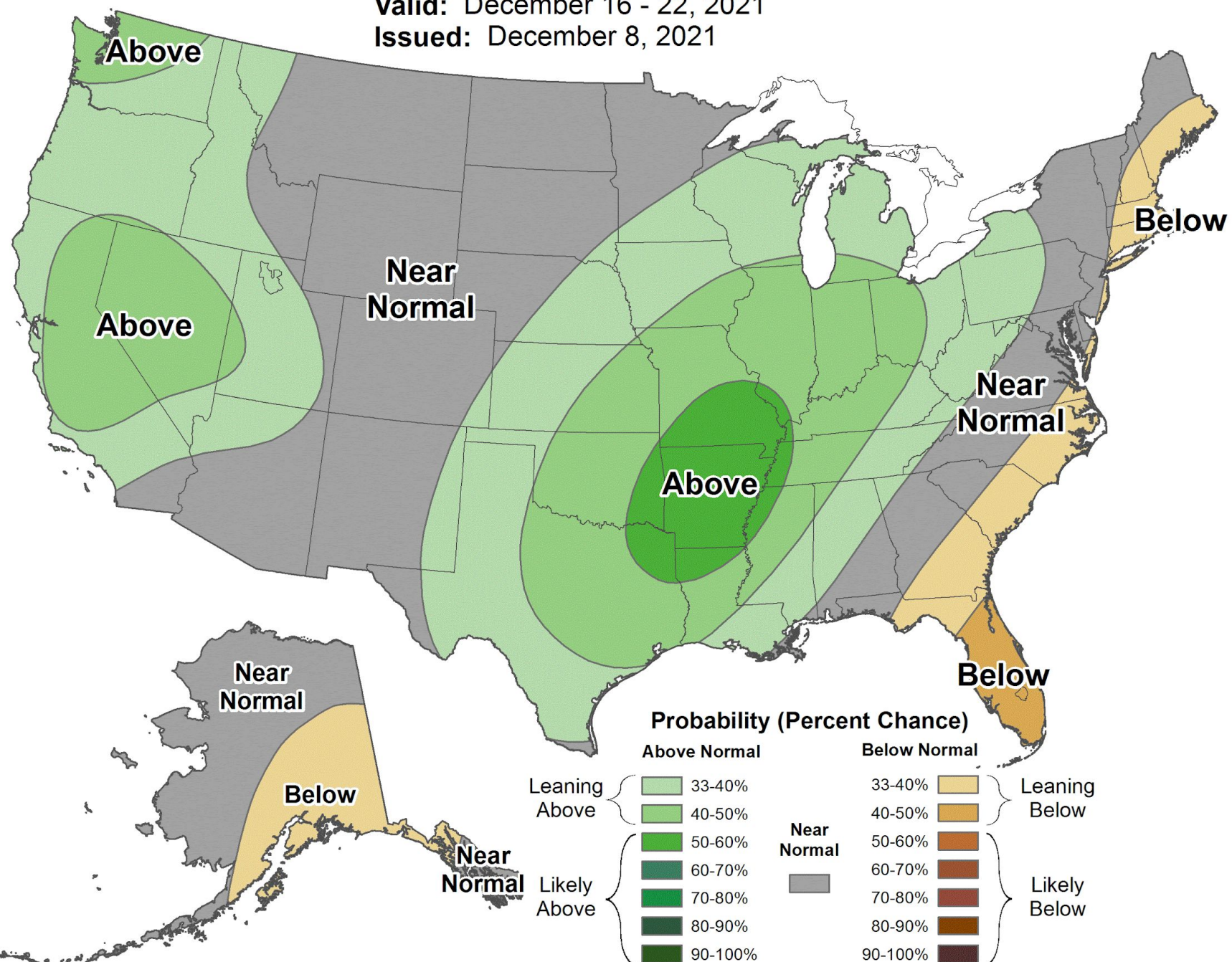
Middle of December

Weather Forecast Office
Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9



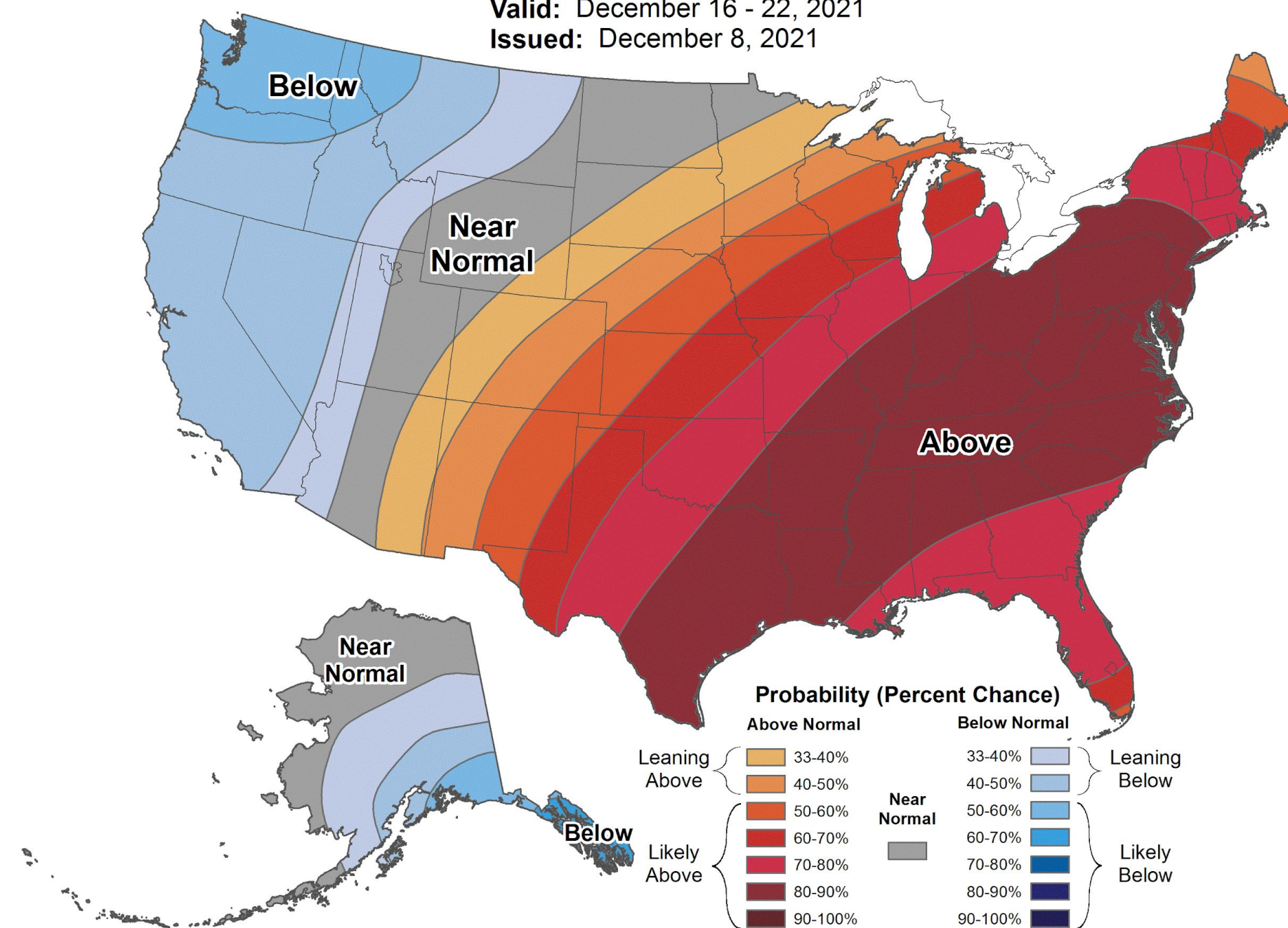
8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: December 16 - 22, 2021
Issued: December 8, 2021

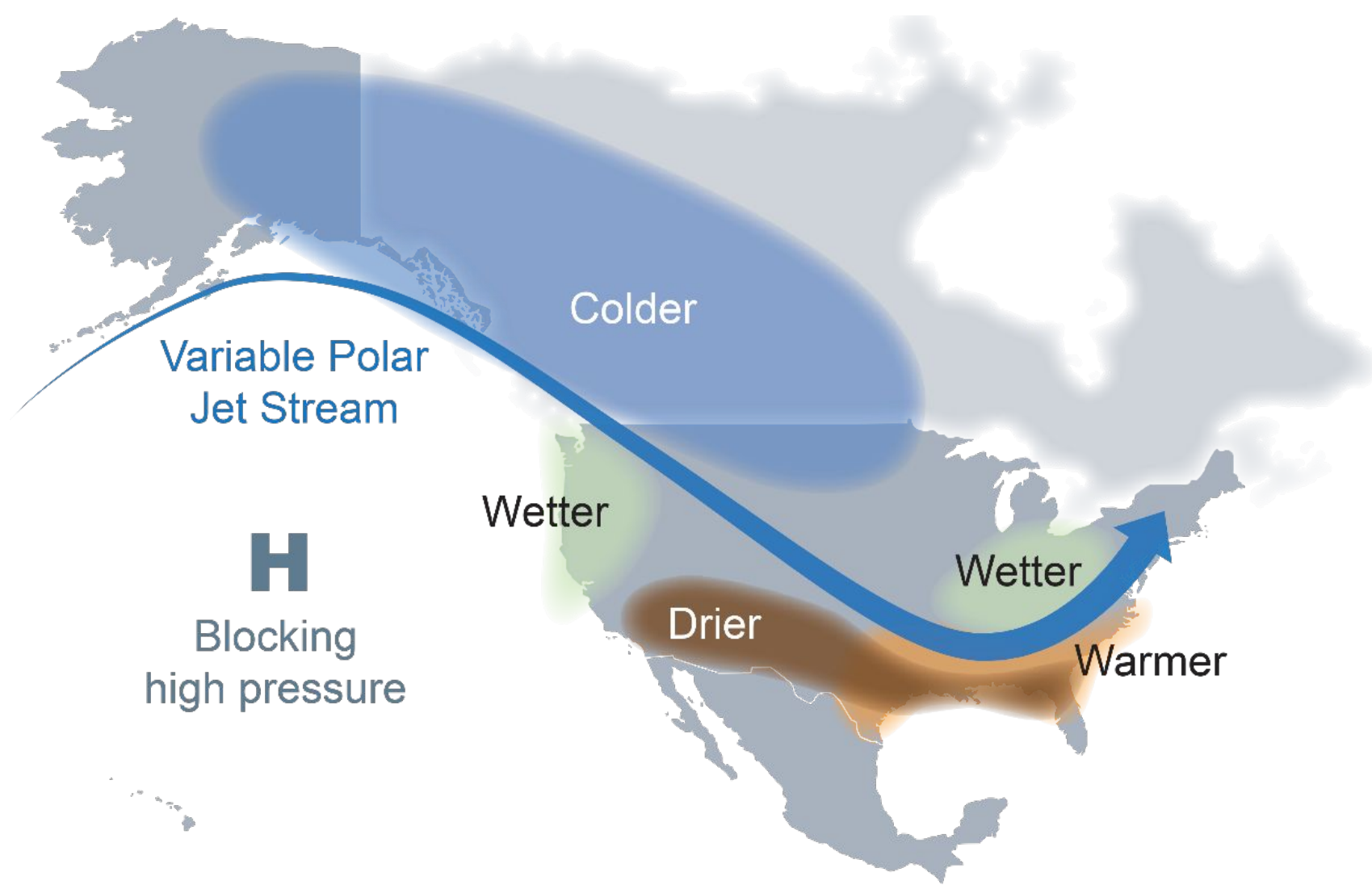


8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

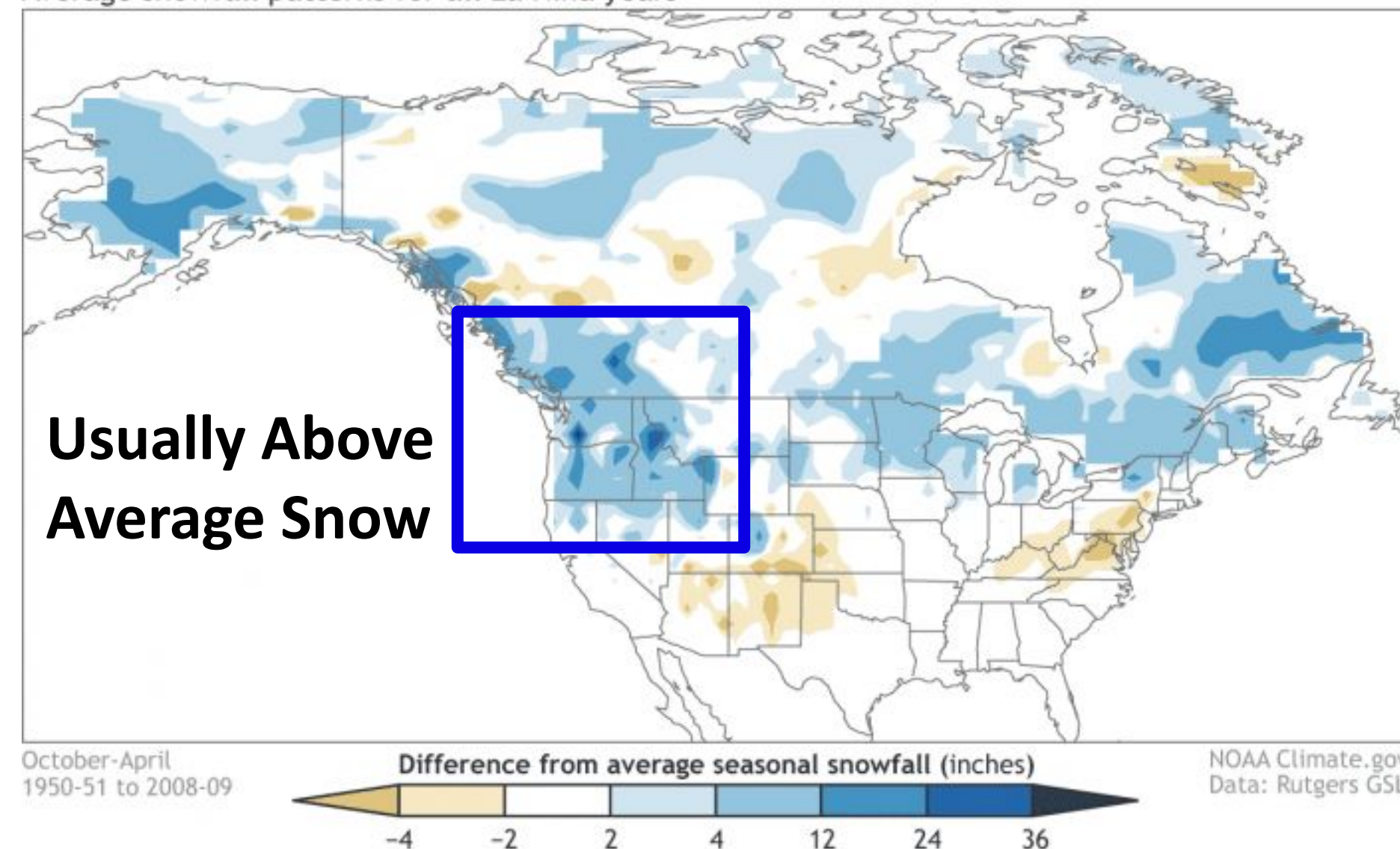
Valid: December 16 - 22, 2021
Issued: December 8, 2021



La Niña Conditions Expected - Again



Average snowfall patterns for all La Niña years



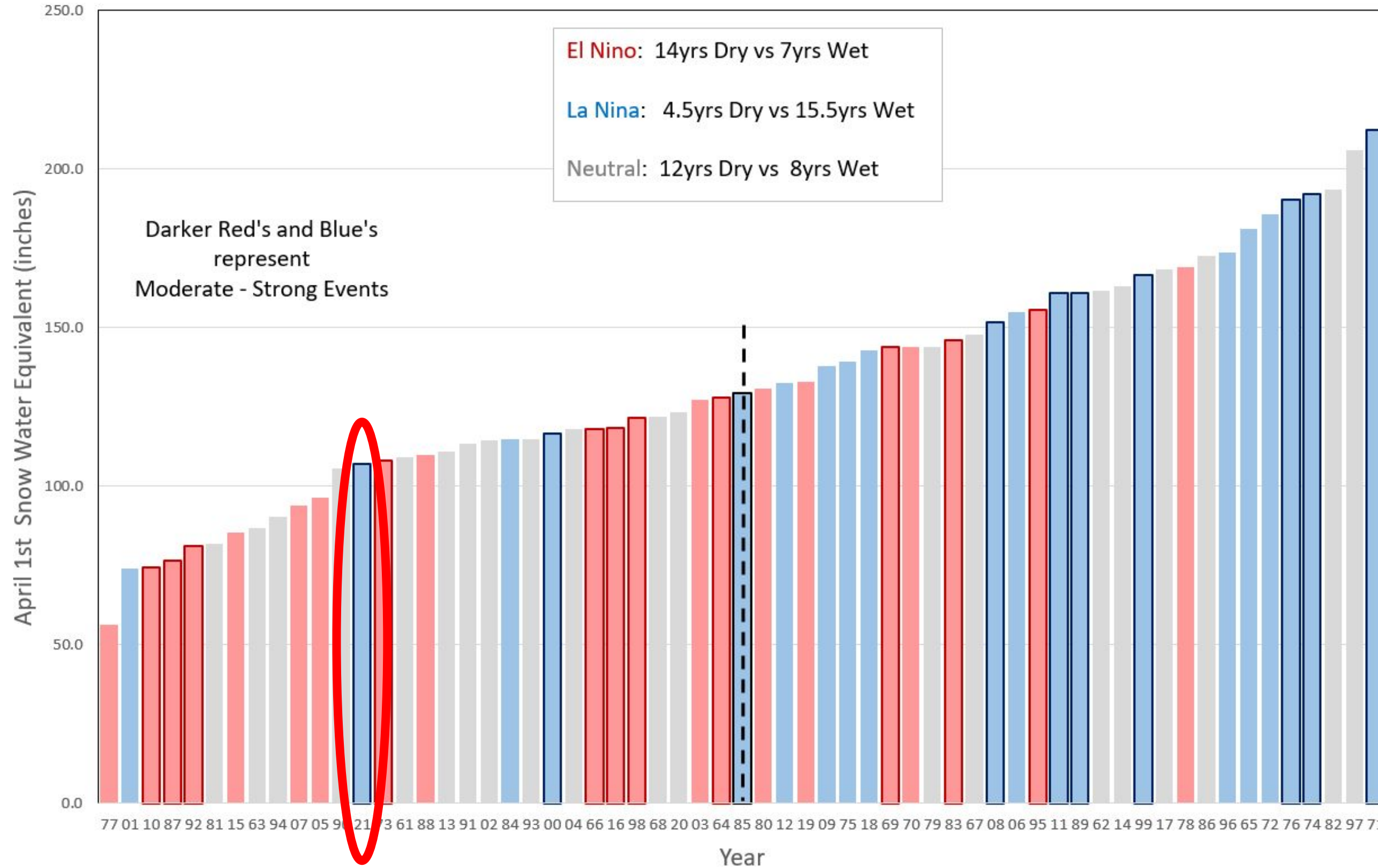


La Niña Snowfall Pattern

Weather Forecast Office
Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9

April 1st Total Snow Water Equivalent

Snake River Basin above Jackson Lake



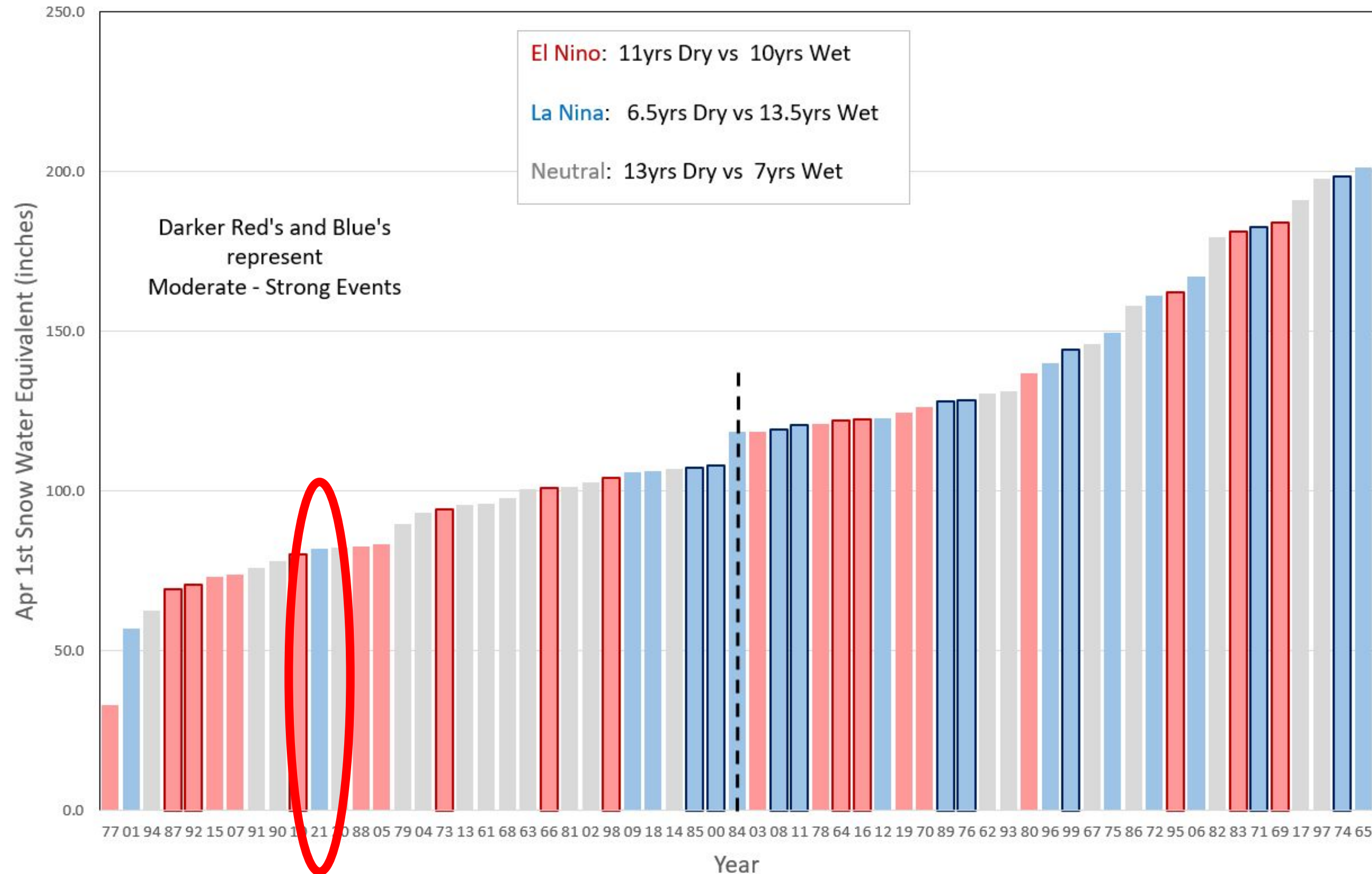


La Niña Snowfall Pattern

Weather Forecast Office
Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9

Apr 1st Total Snow Water Equivalent

Big Wood Basin above Hailey





Dec - Feb Outlook

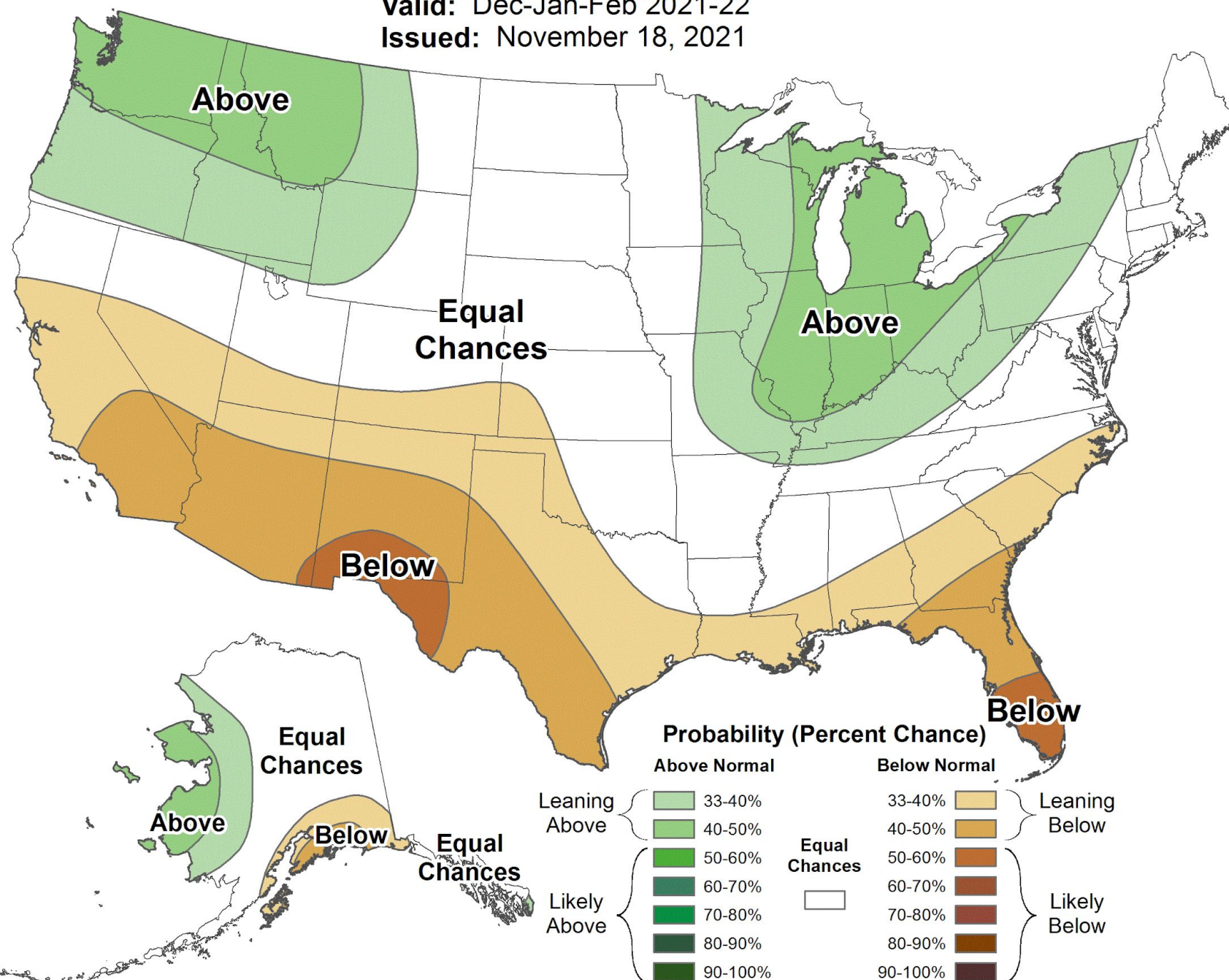
Weather Forecast Office
Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



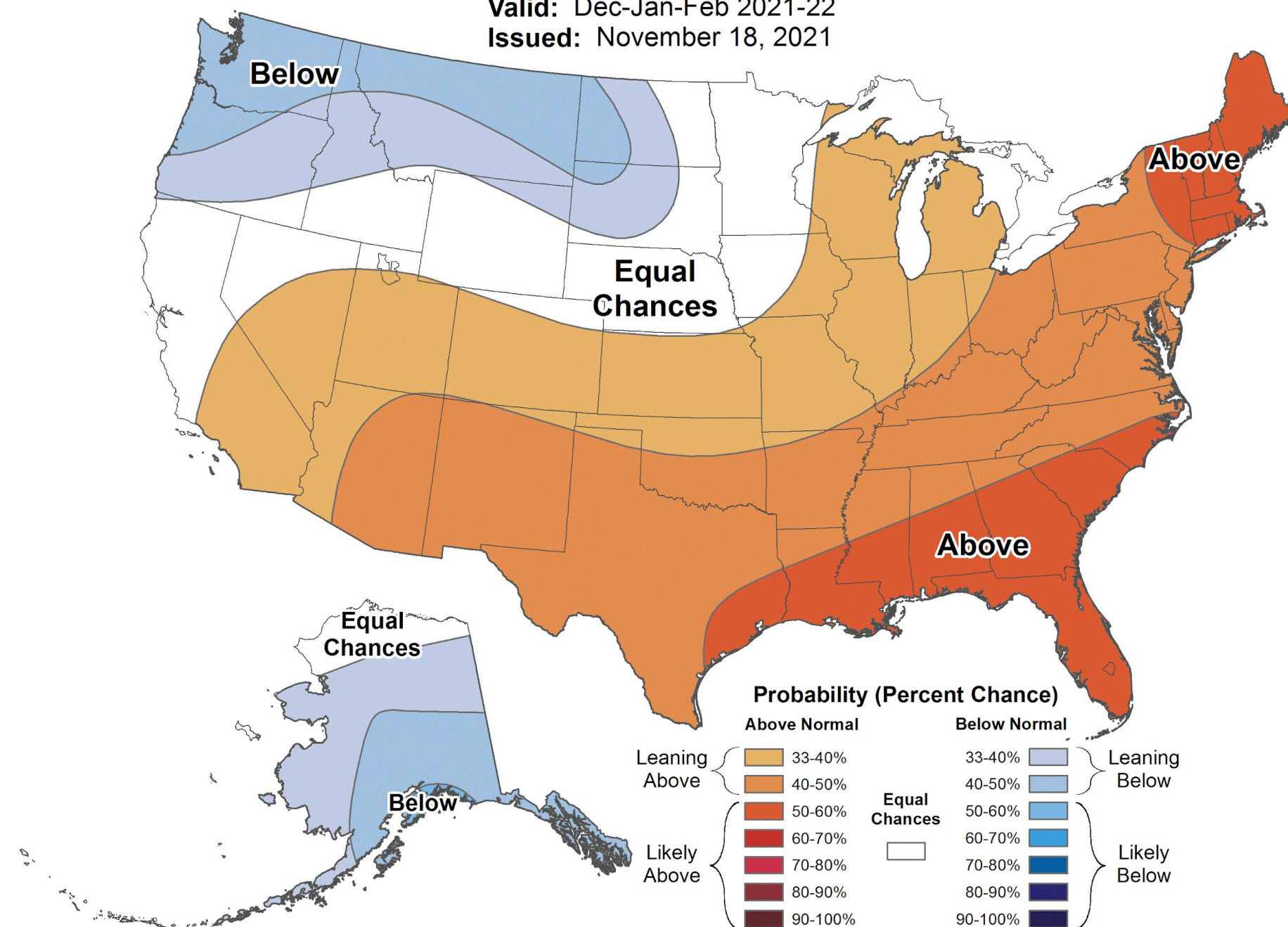
Valid: Dec-Jan-Feb 2021-22
Issued: November 18, 2021



Seasonal Temperature Outlook



Valid: Dec-Jan-Feb 2021-22
Issued: November 18, 2021





3 Month Precipitation Outlook

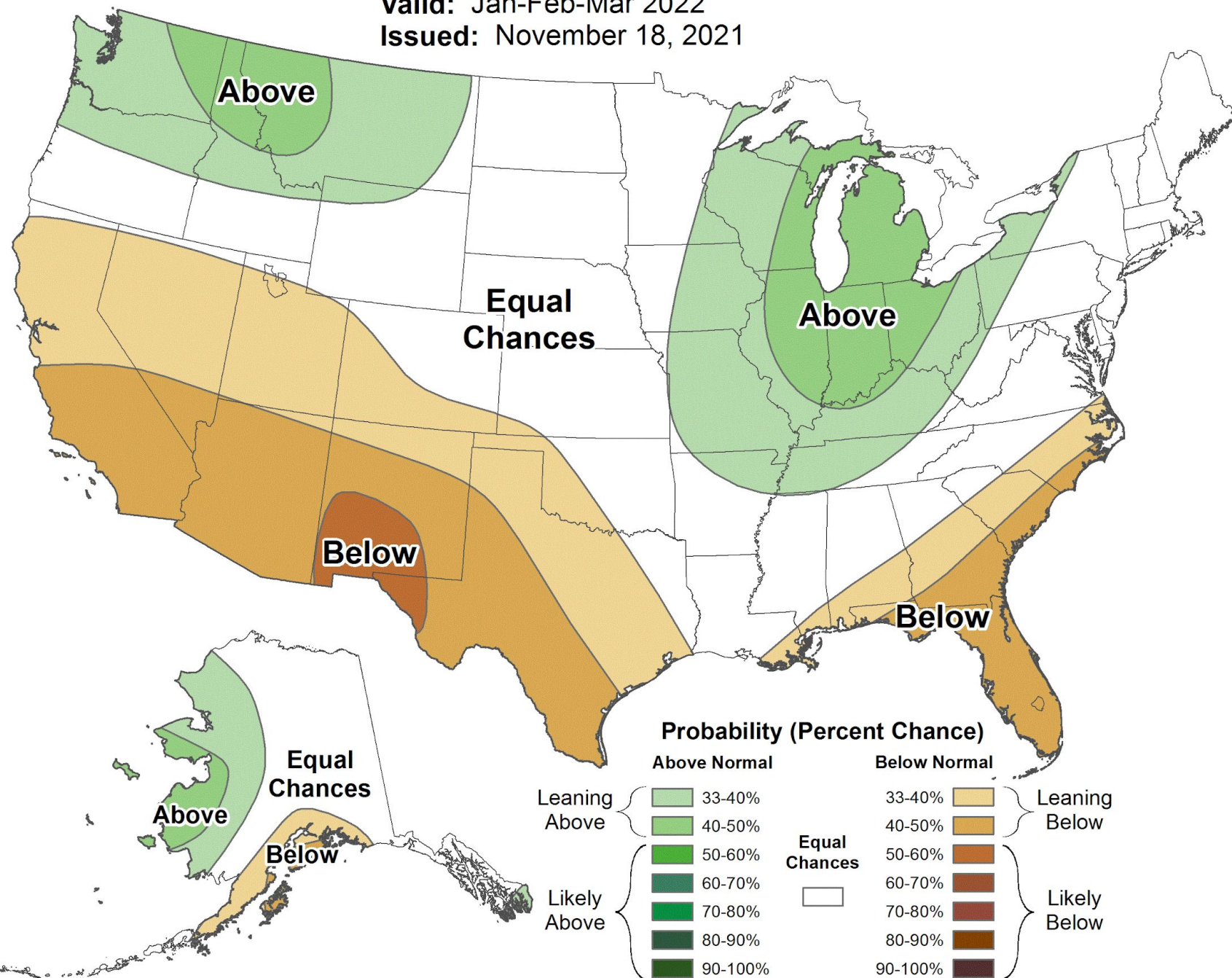
Weather Forecast Office
Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



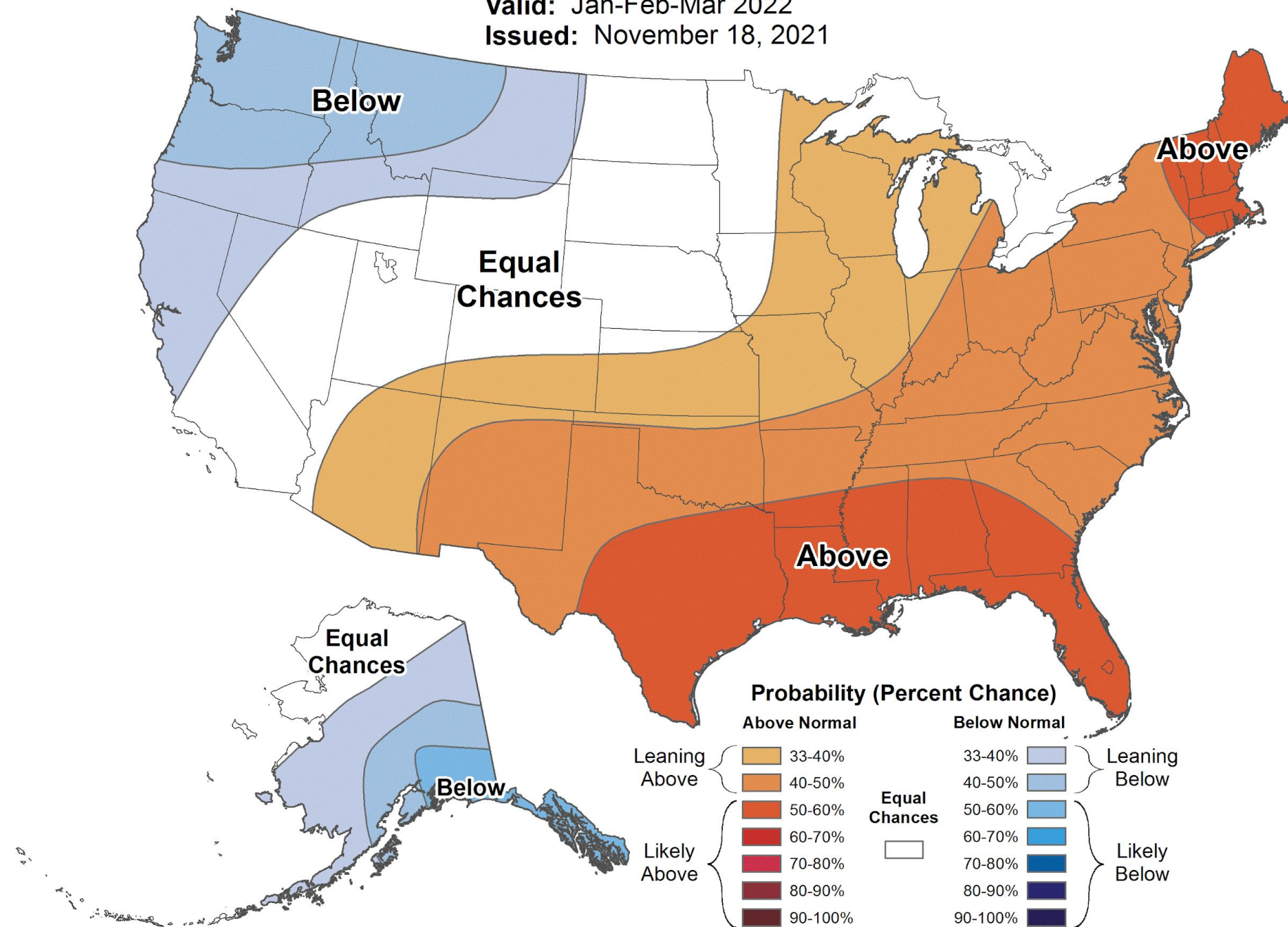
Valid: Jan-Feb-Mar 2022
Issued: November 18, 2021



Seasonal Temperature Outlook



Valid: Jan-Feb-Mar 2022
Issued: November 18, 2021



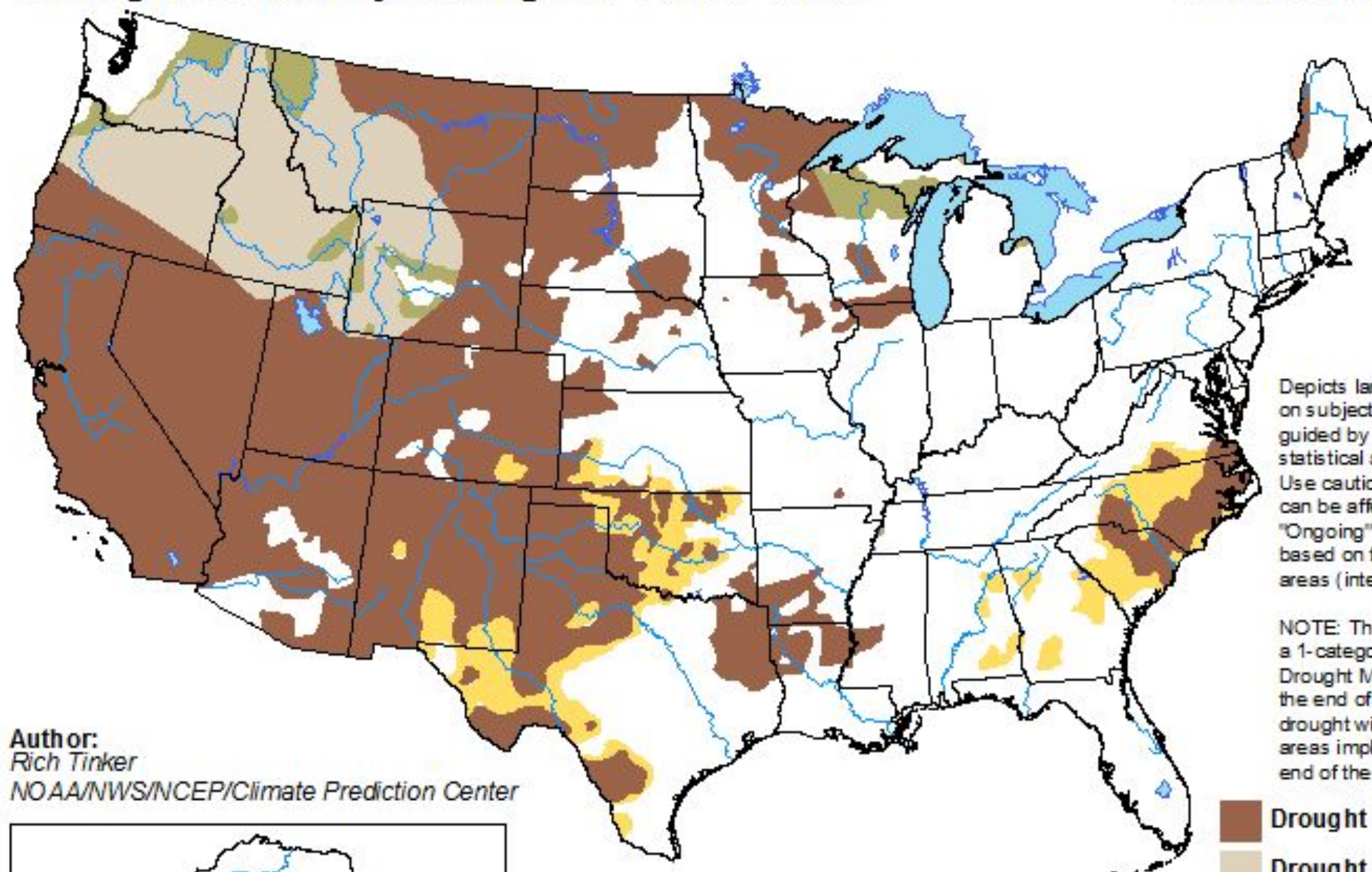


Monthly Drought Outlook

Weather Forecast Office
Pocatello, ID
Thursday, December 9

U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

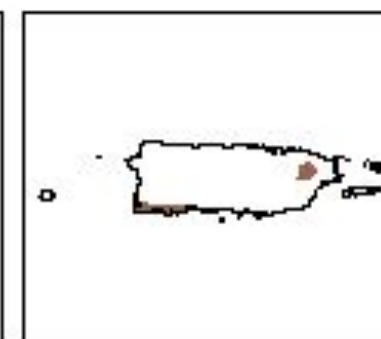
Valid for December 2021
Released November 30, 2021



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
Rich Tinker
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center



- Drought persists
- Drought remains but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>



Any Questions?



pocatello.weather@noaa.gov



(208) 233-0834

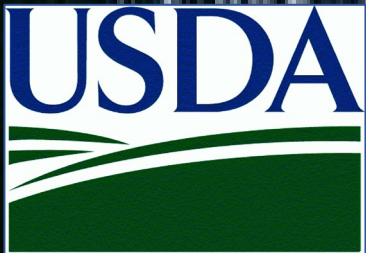


weather.gov/pocatello

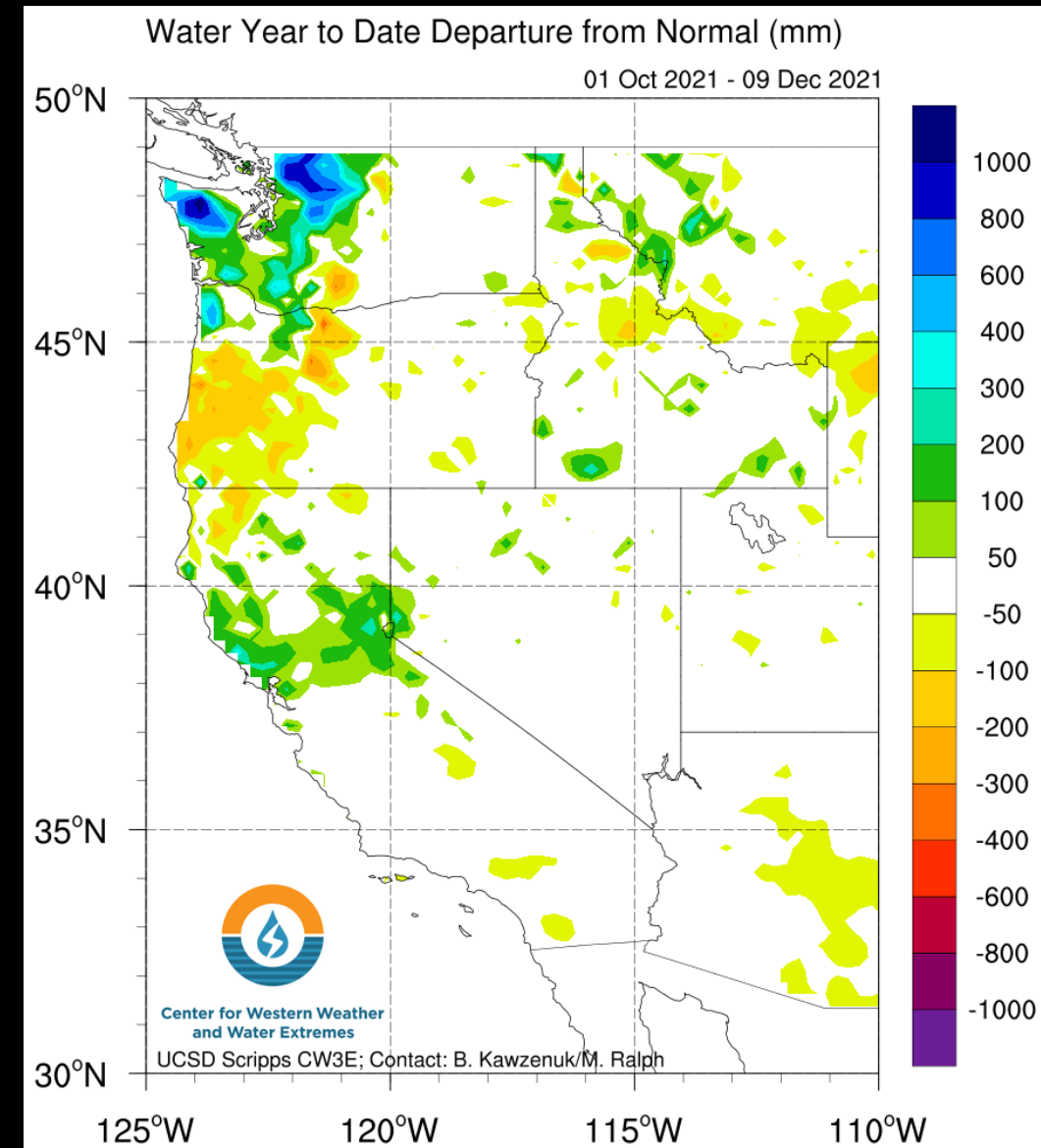
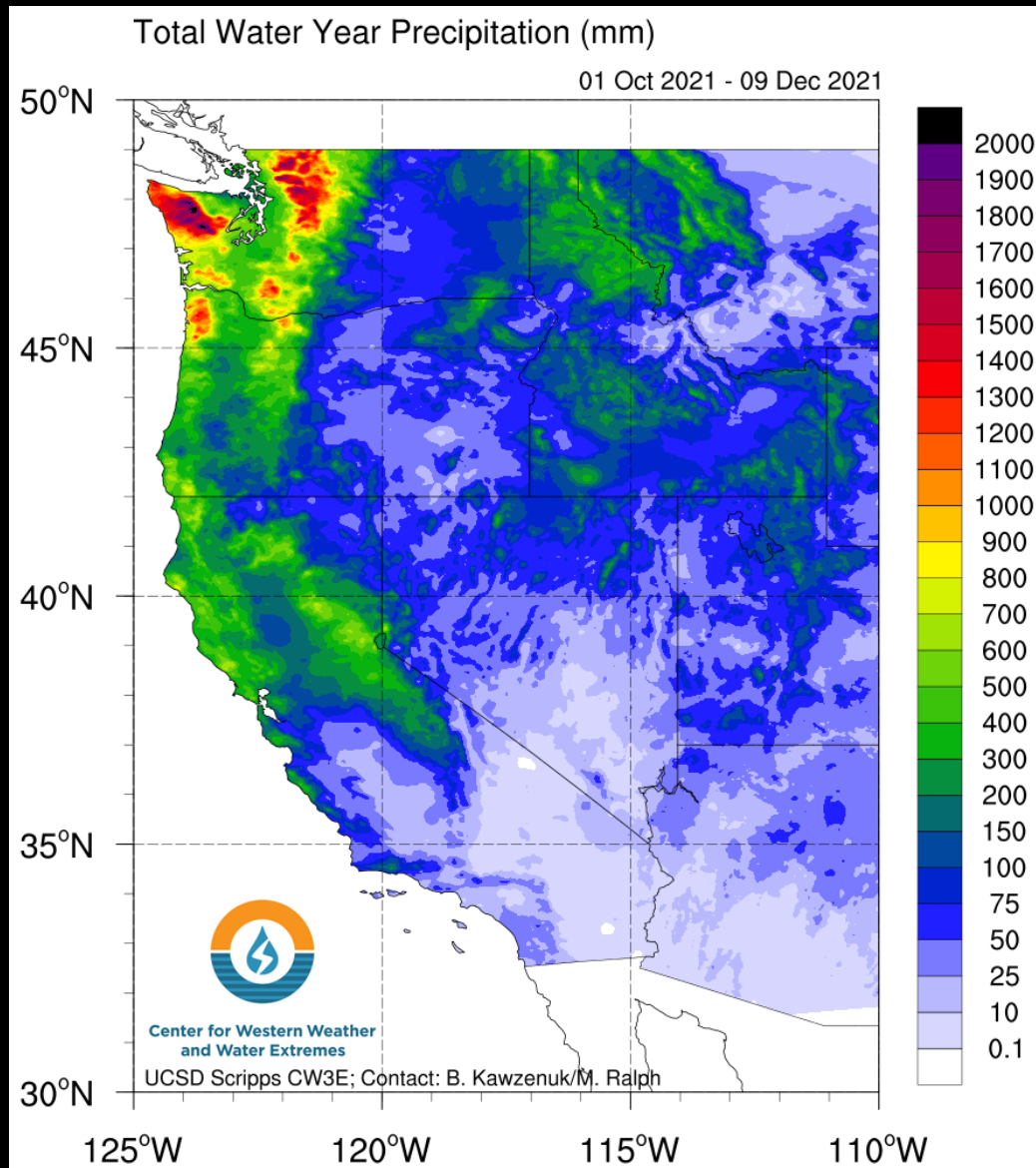


Water Supply Update

*Upper Snake River Advisory Committee
December 10, 2021*



Presented by
Erin Whorton

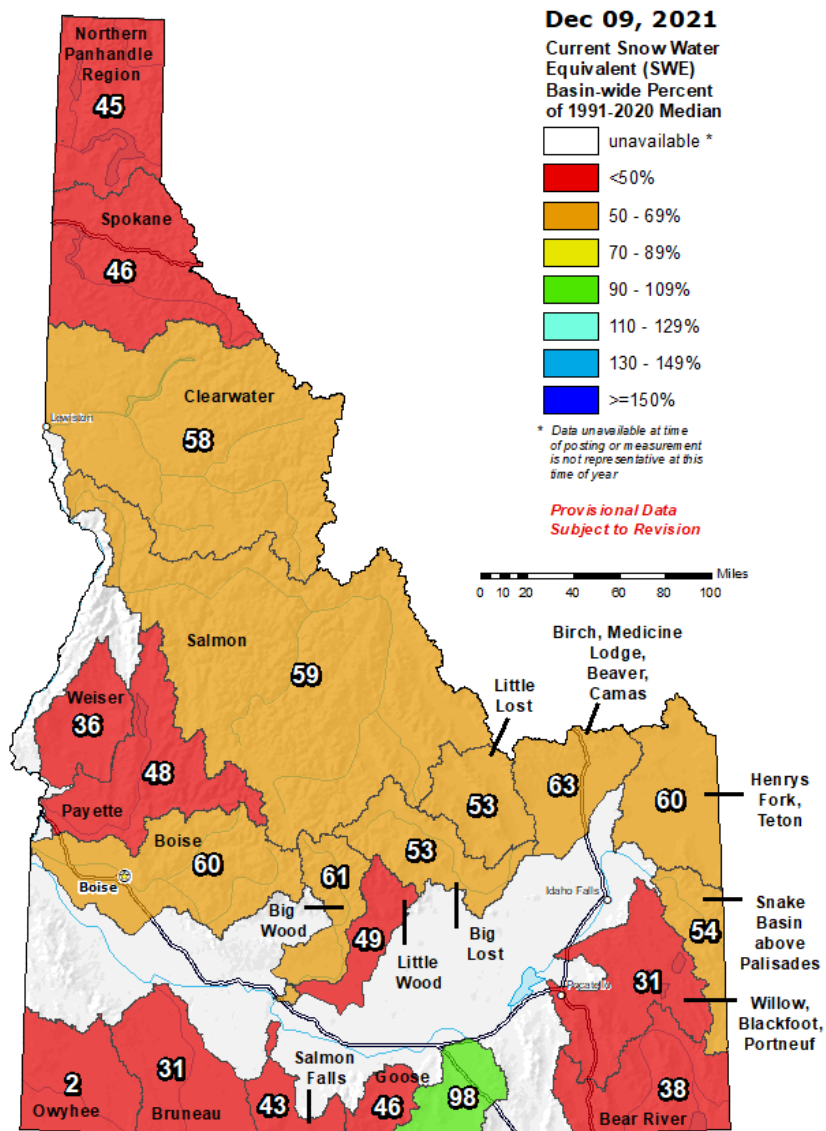


October 14, 2021

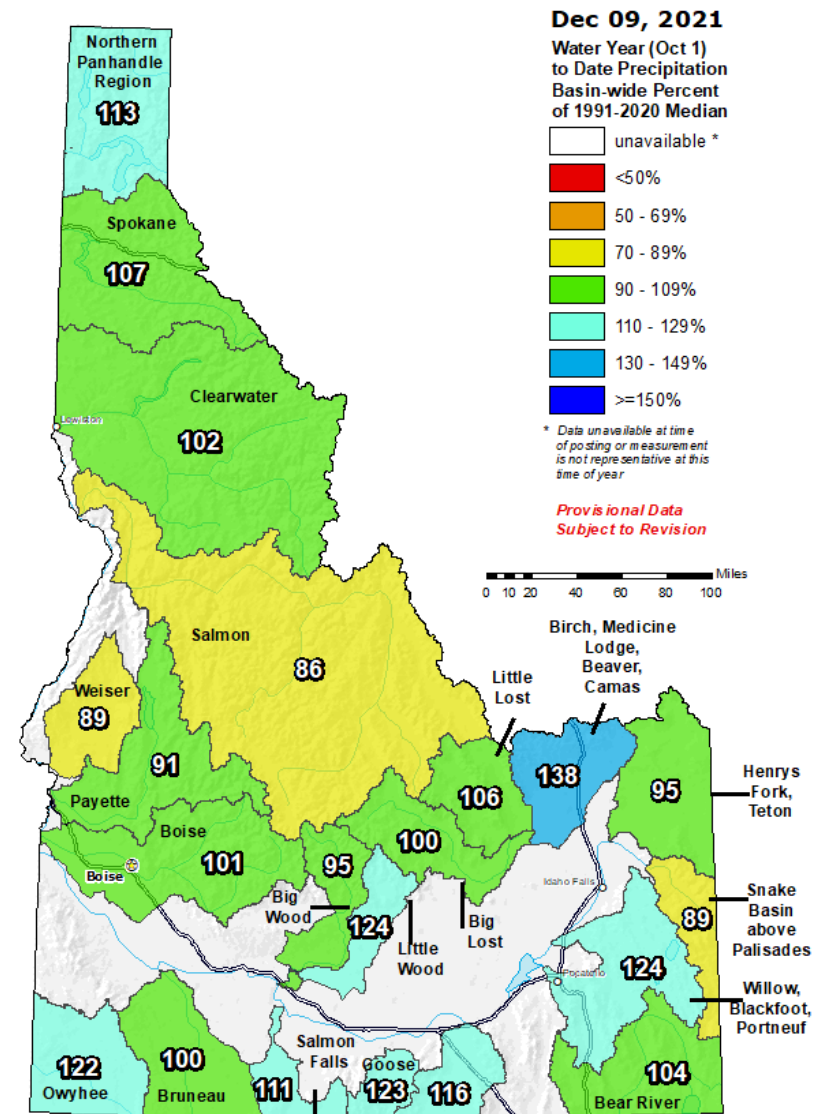


December 9, 2021

Idaho SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) % of Normal



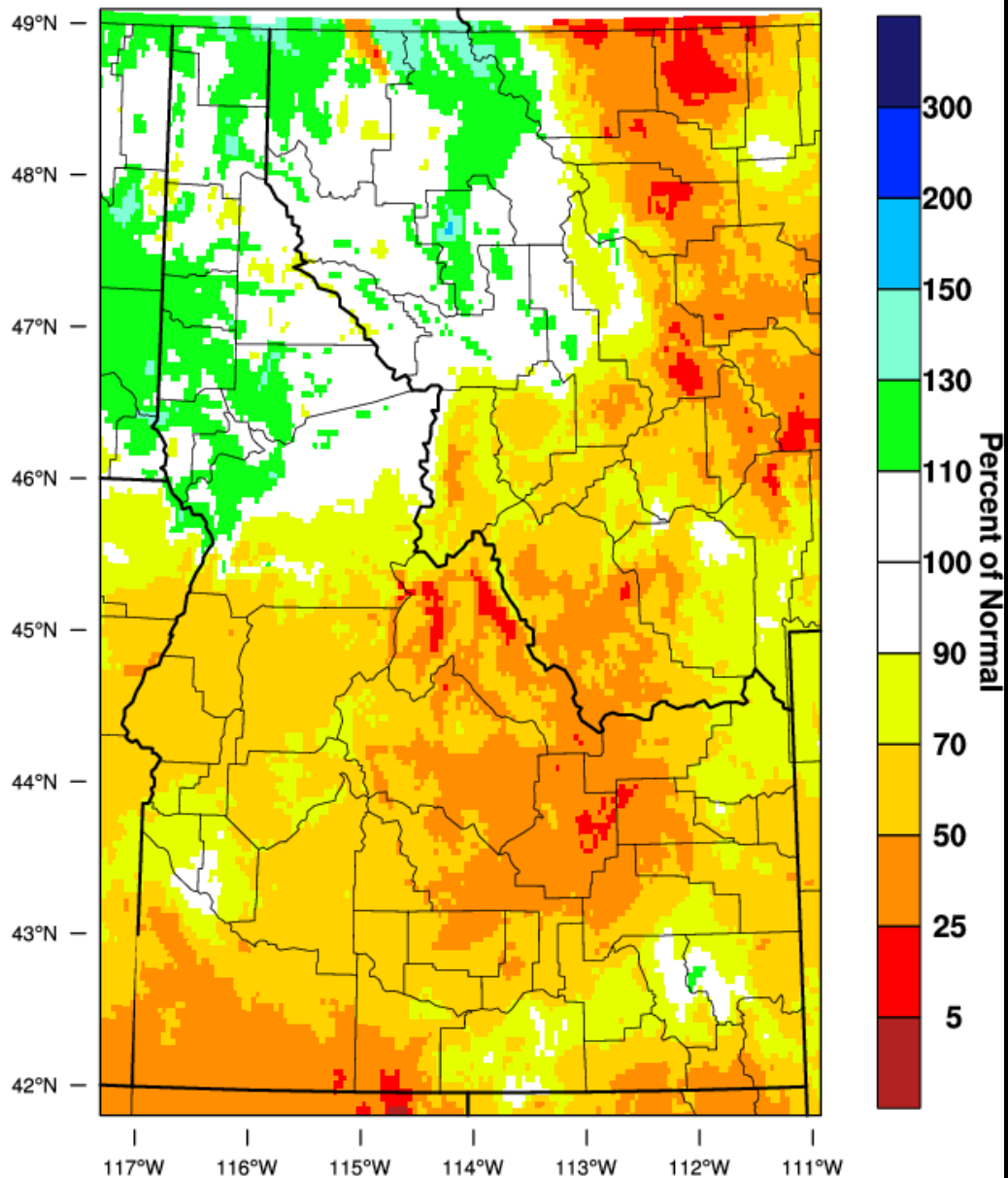
Idaho SNOTEL Water Year (Oct 1) to Date Precipitation % of Normal





Idaho - Precipitation

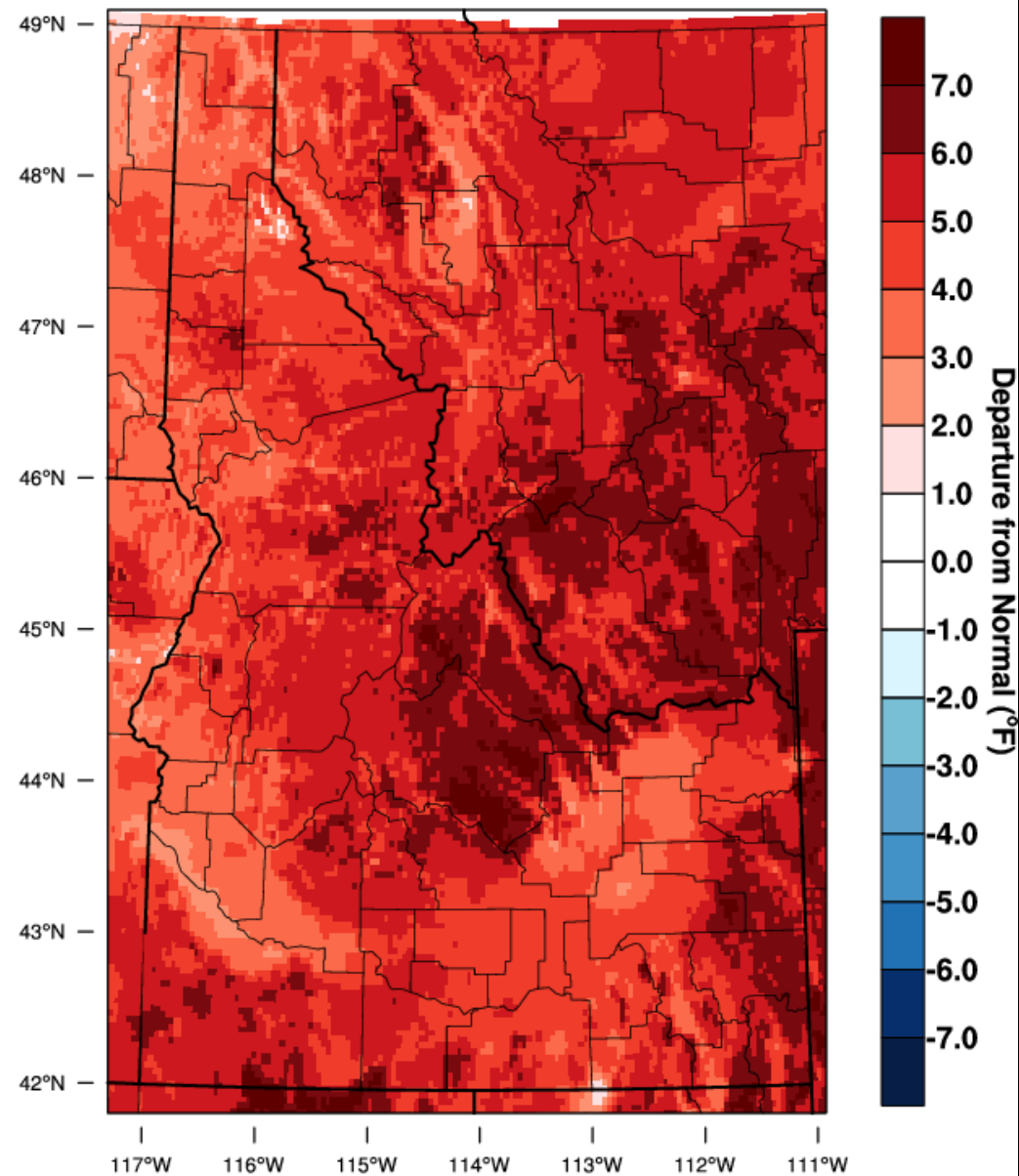
November 2021 Percent of 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 5 DEC 2021

Idaho - Mean Temperature

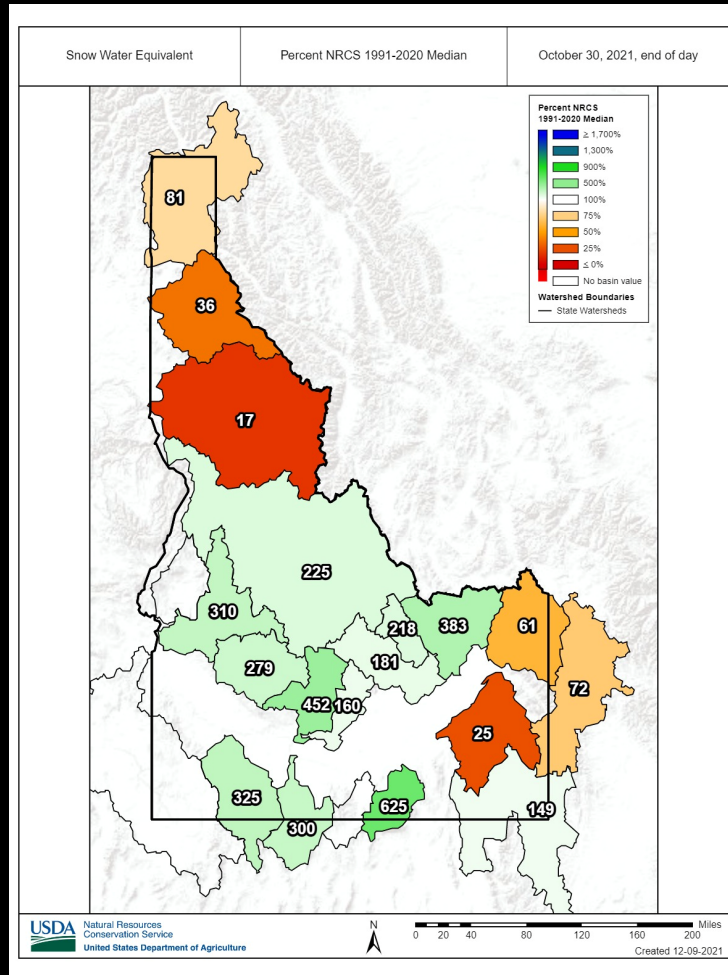
November 2021 Departure from 1981-2010 Normal



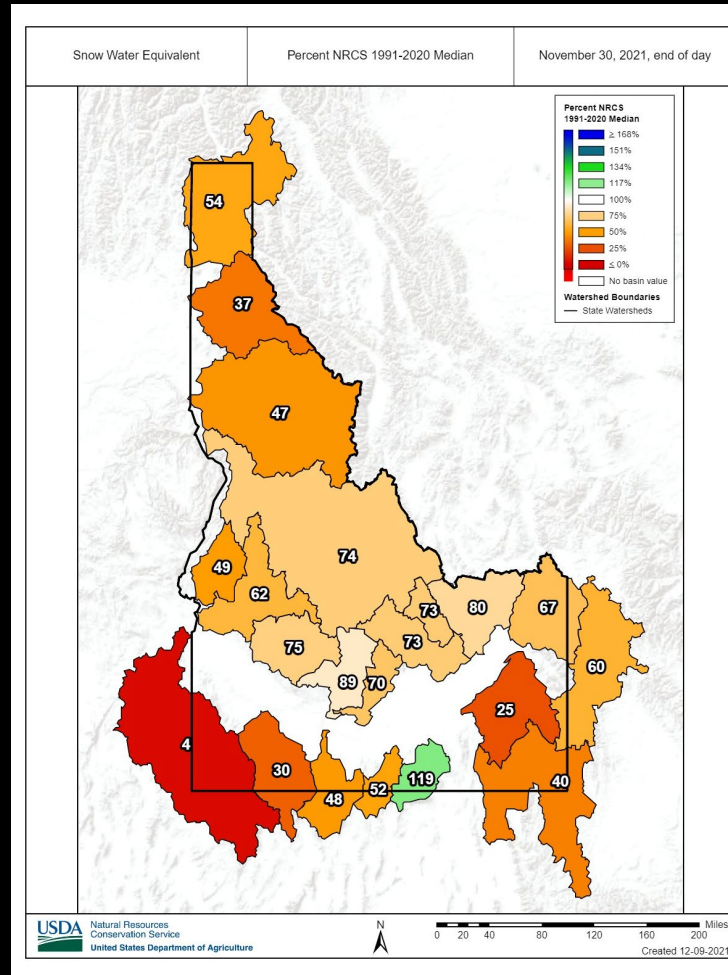
WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 5 DEC 2021



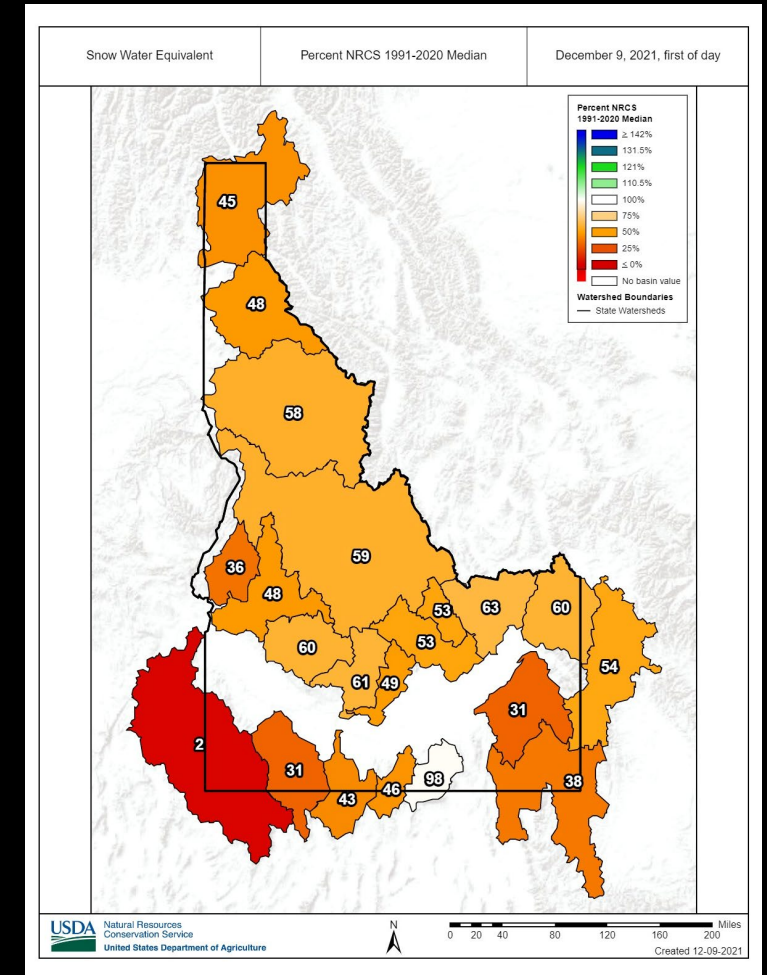
October 31

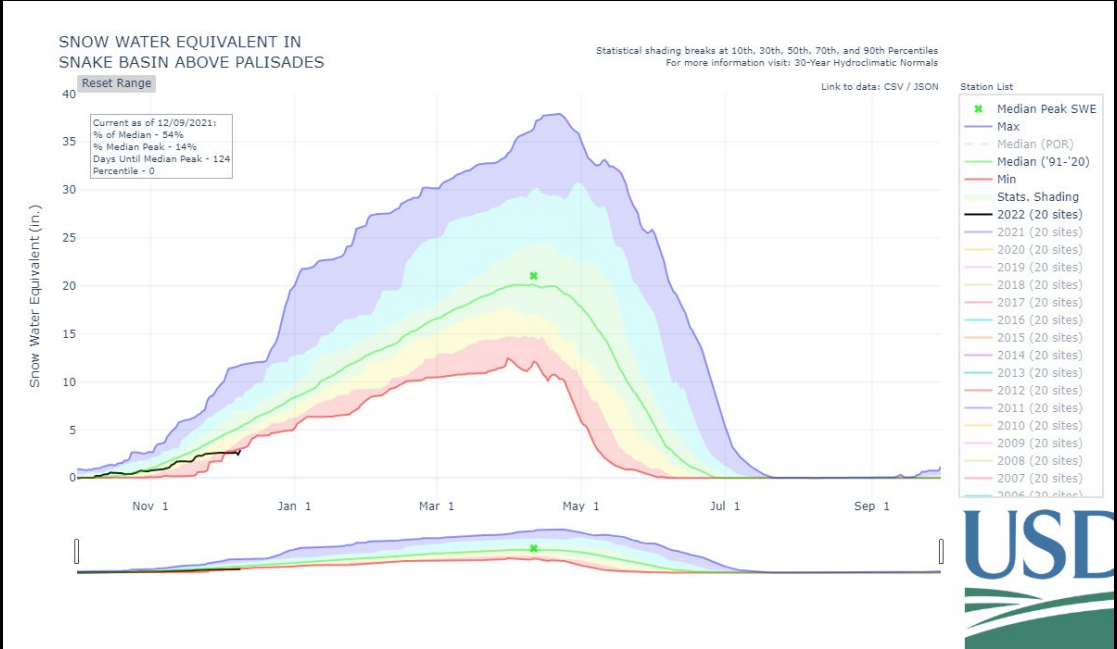
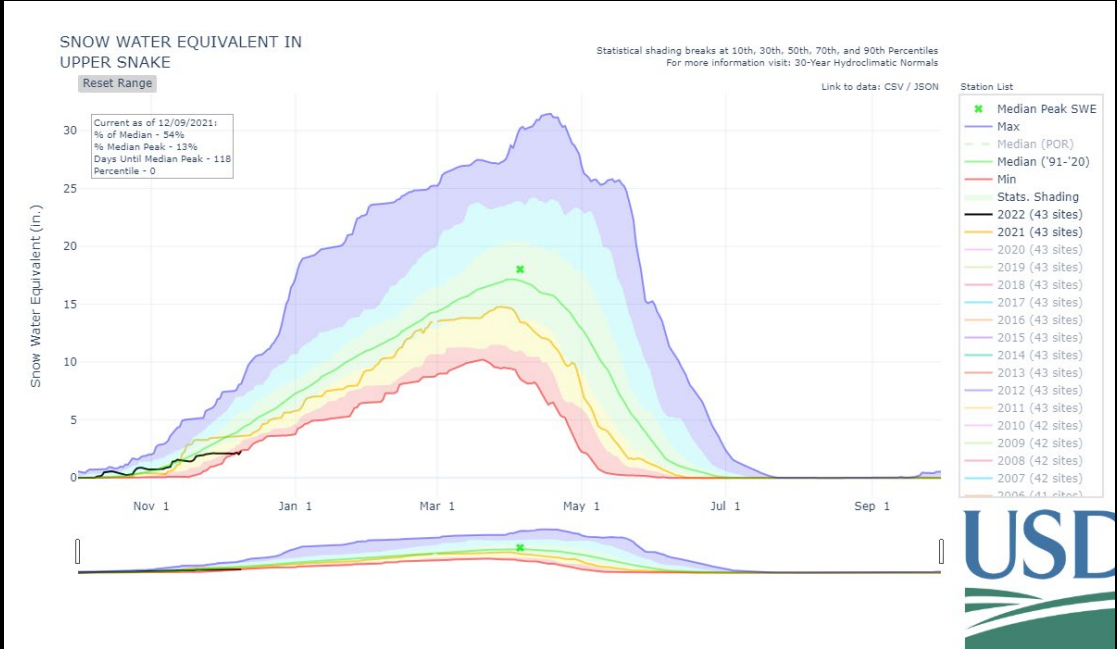


November 30

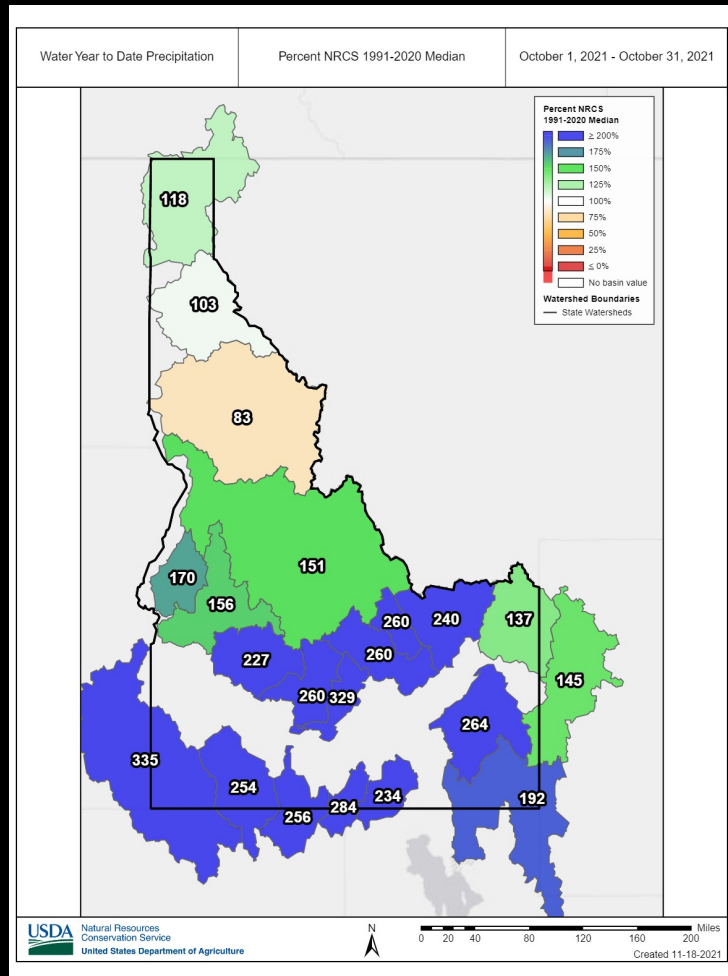


December 9

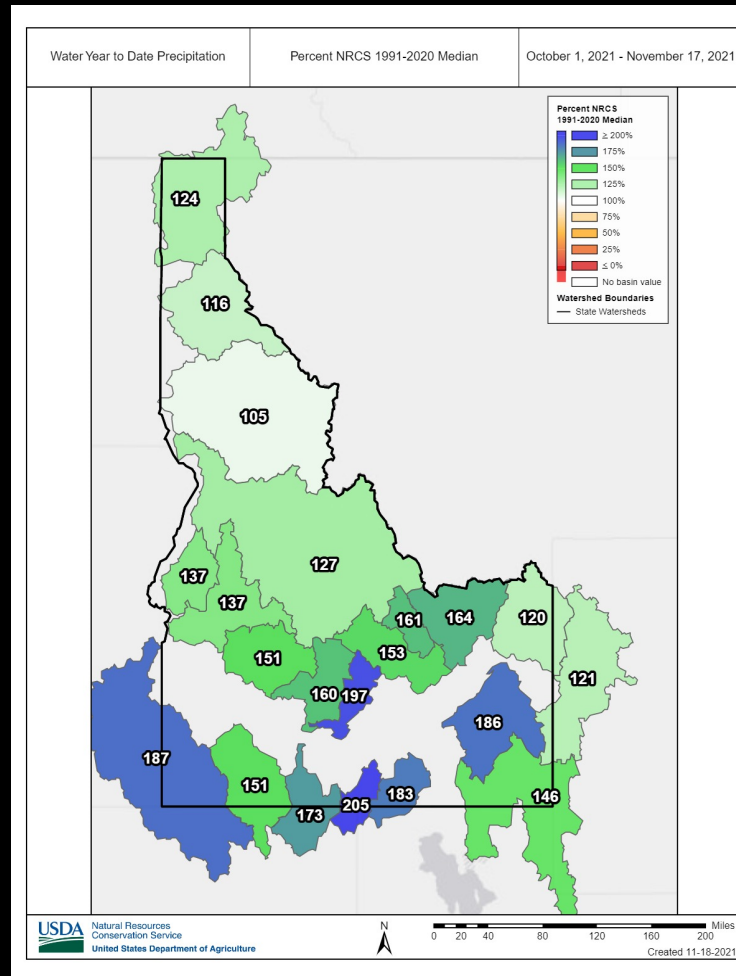




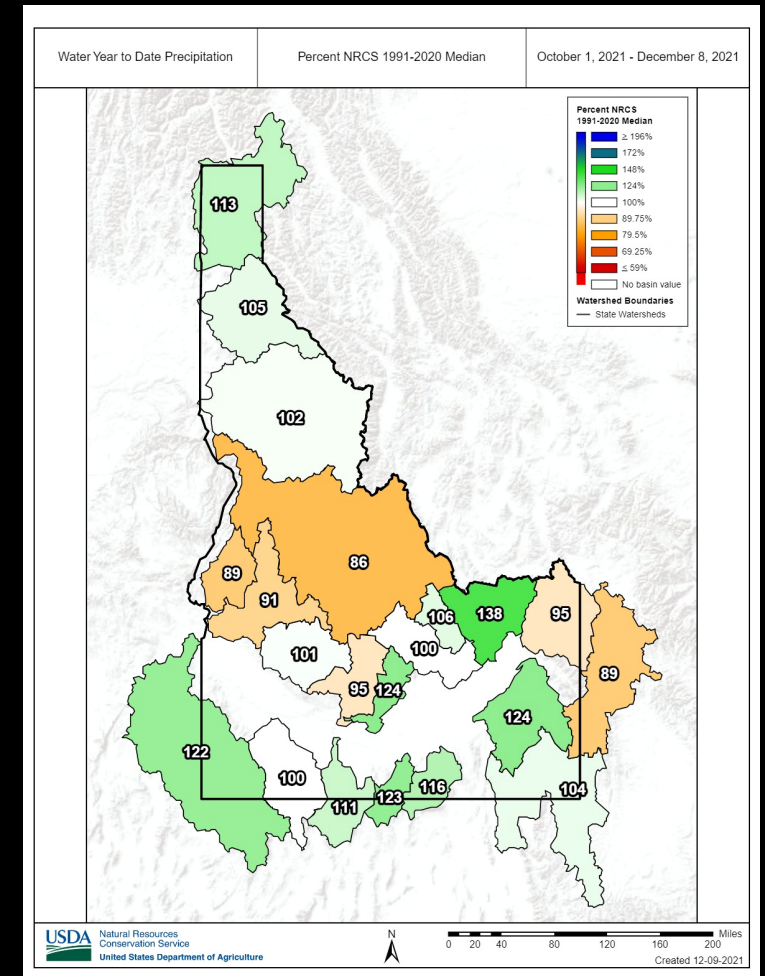
October 31

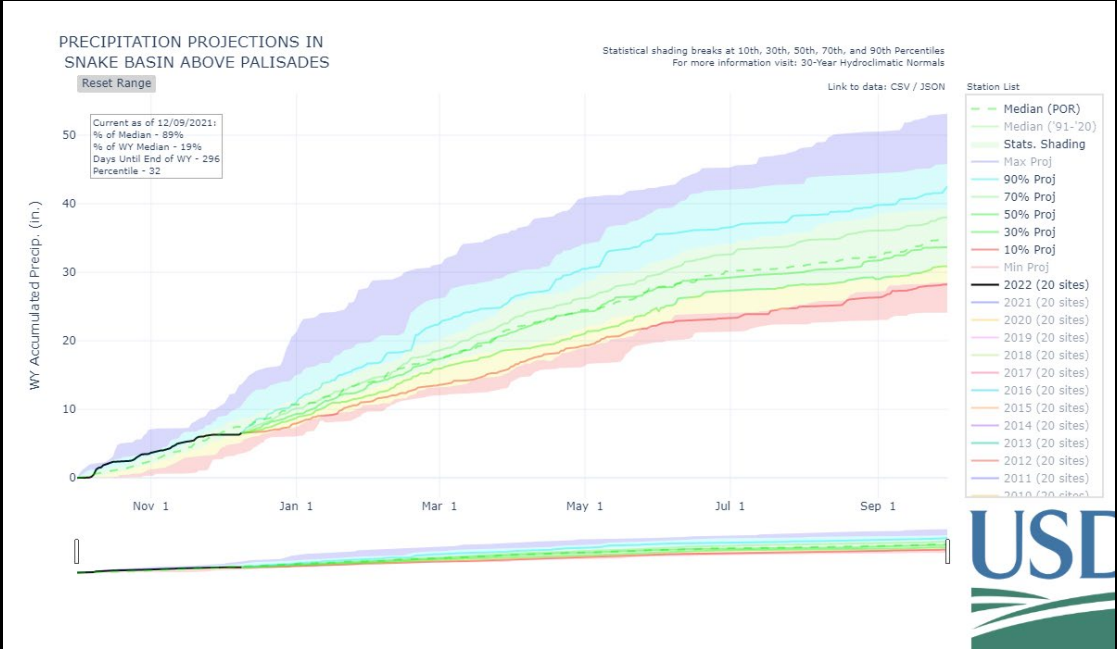
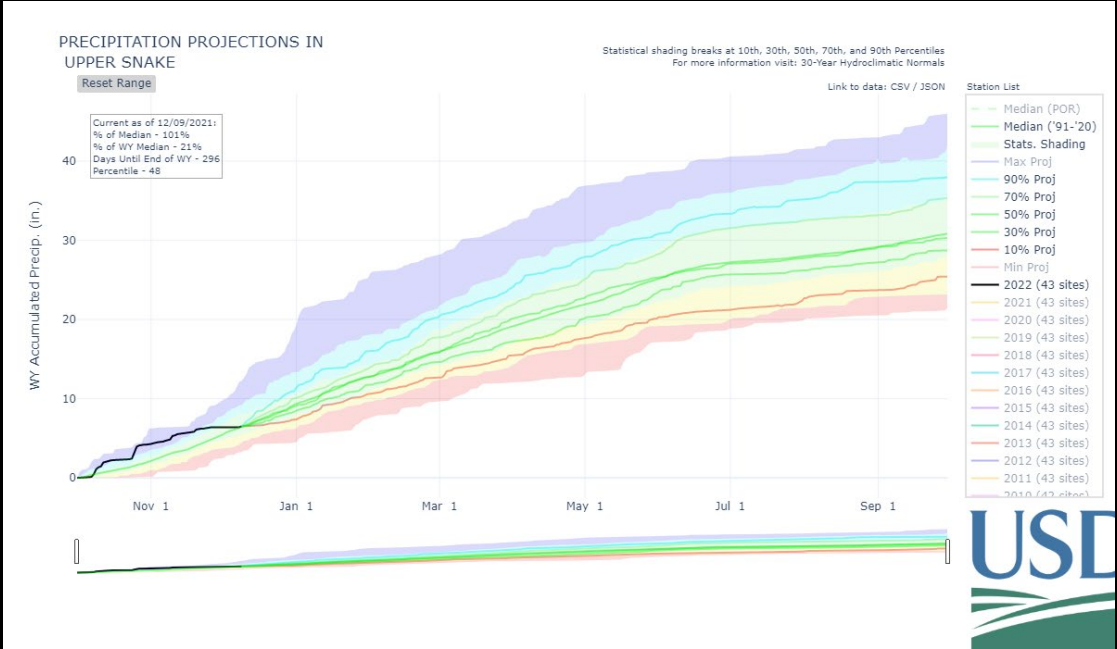


November 17



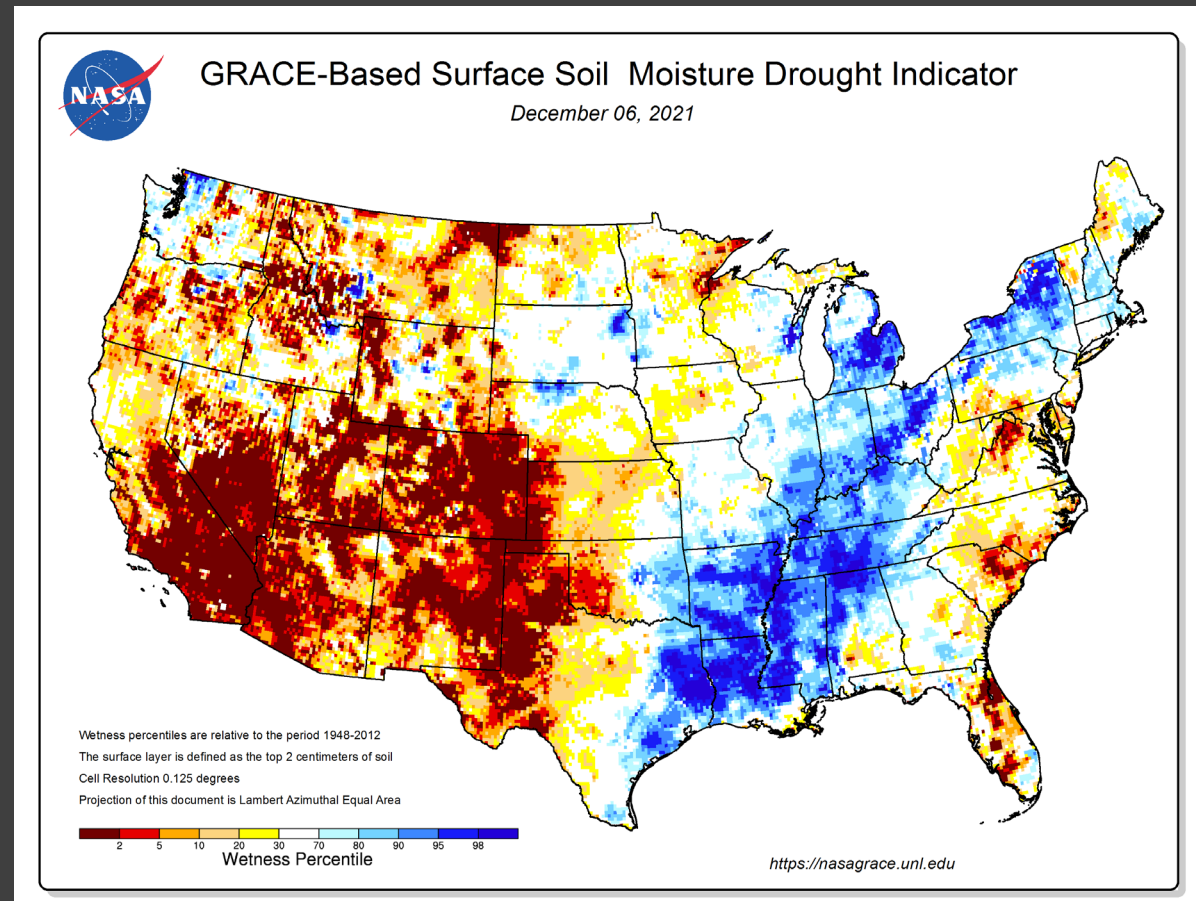
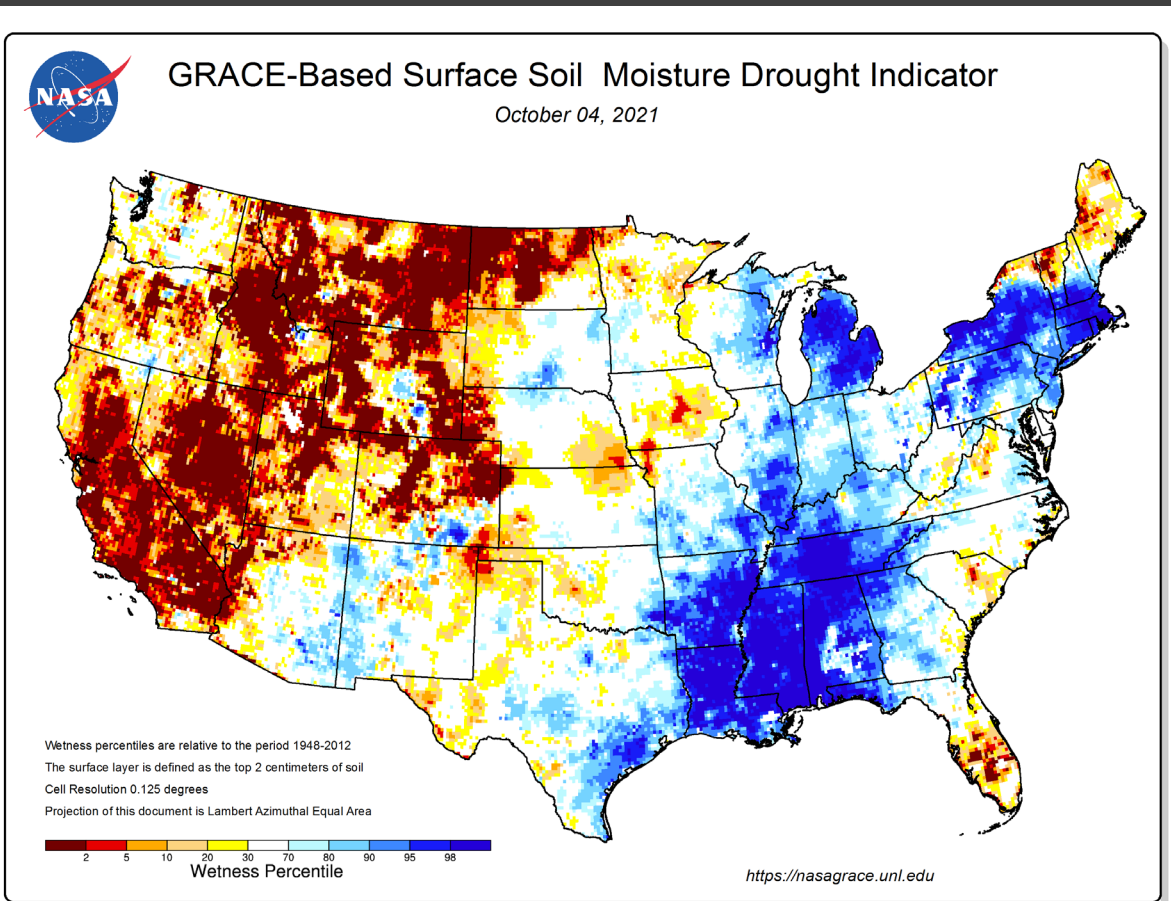
December 8





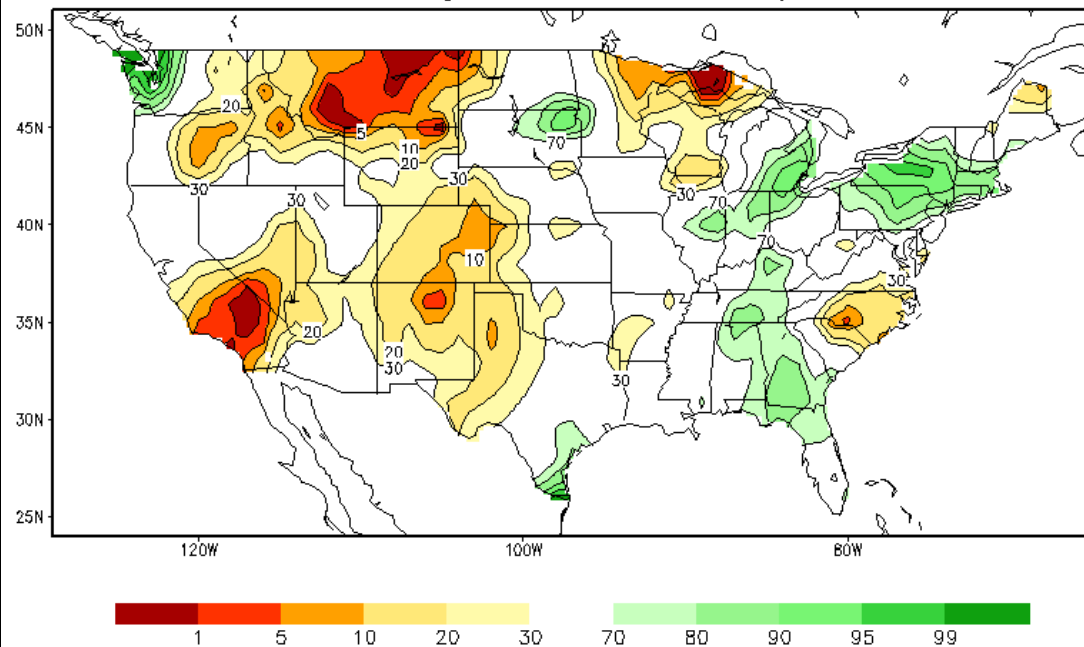
Surface soil moisture conditions

October 4 versus December 6

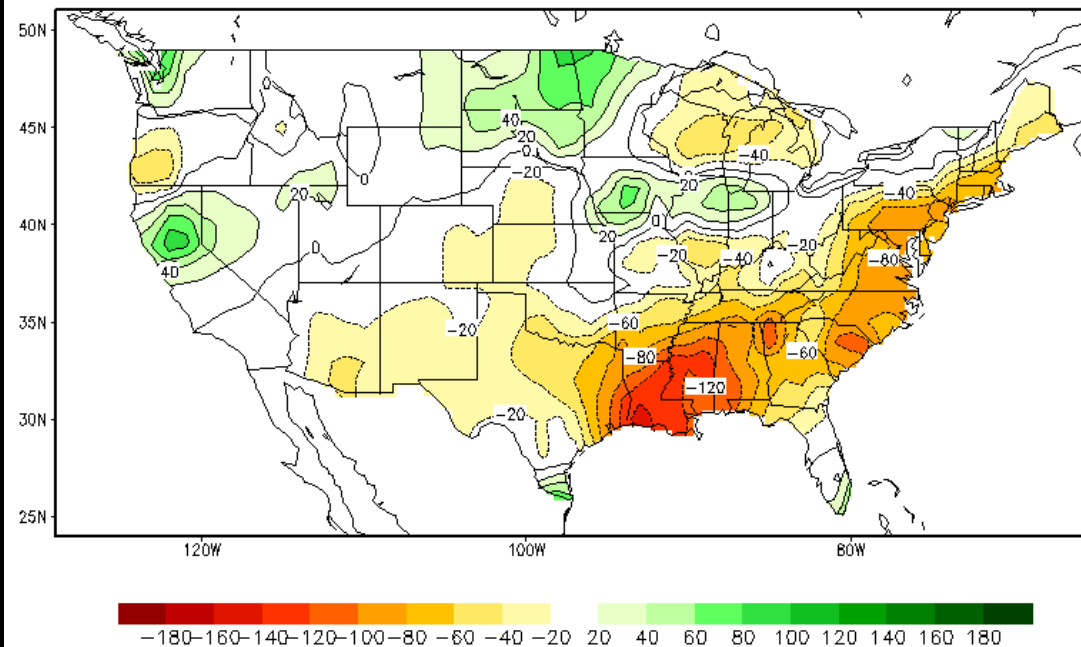


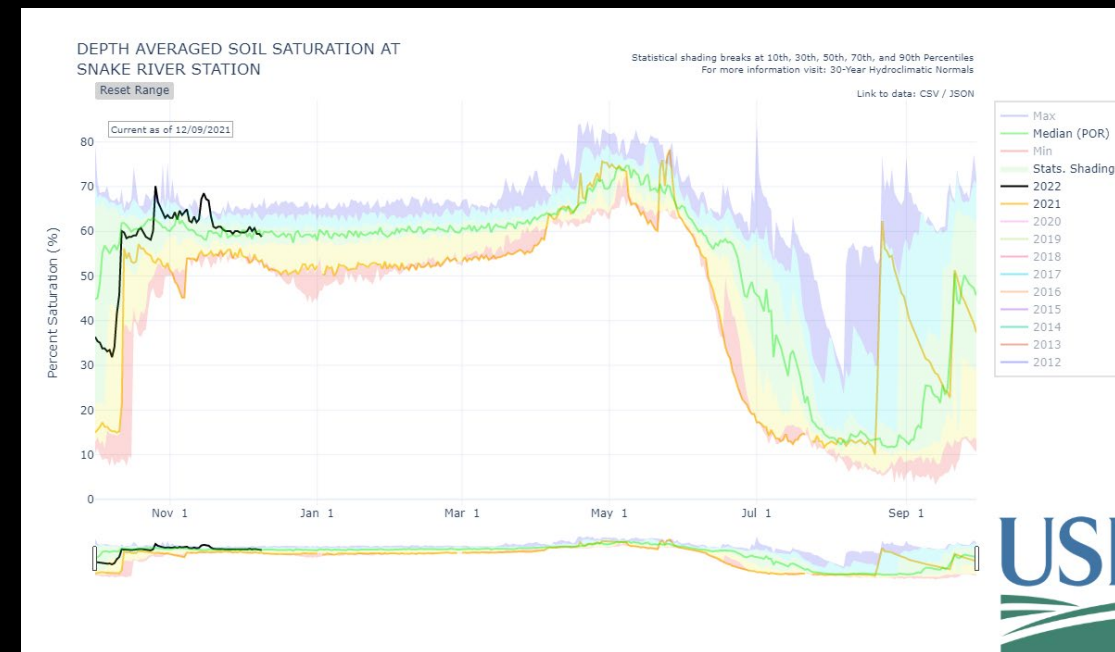
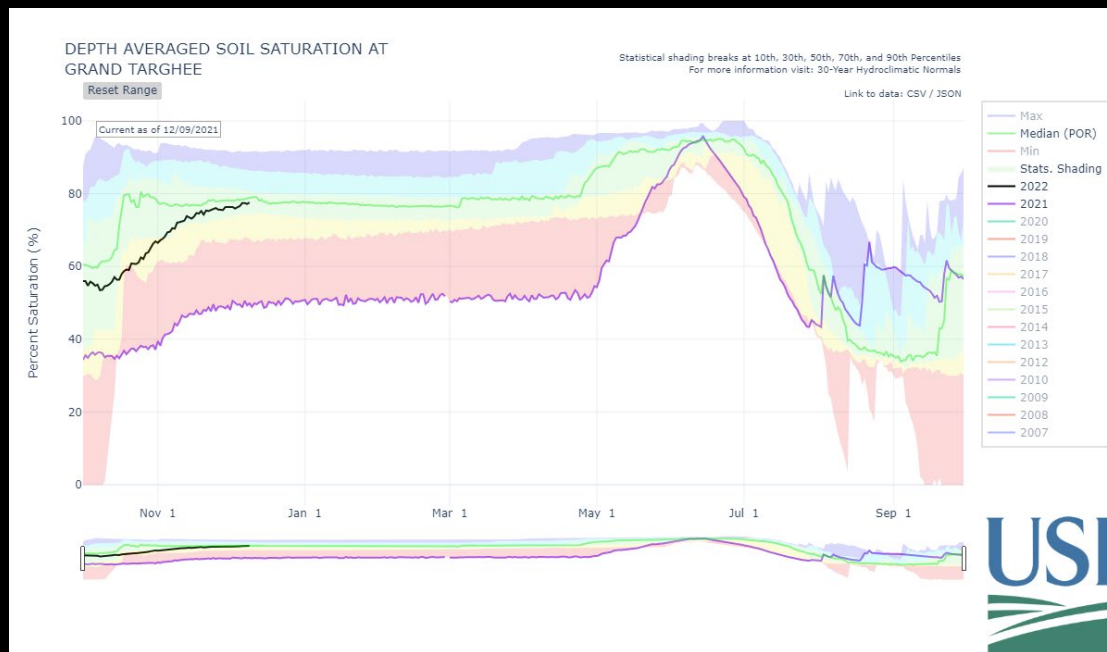


Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile Last day of NOV, 2021



Calculated Soil Moisture Anomaly Change
DEC 08, 2021 from SEP.30





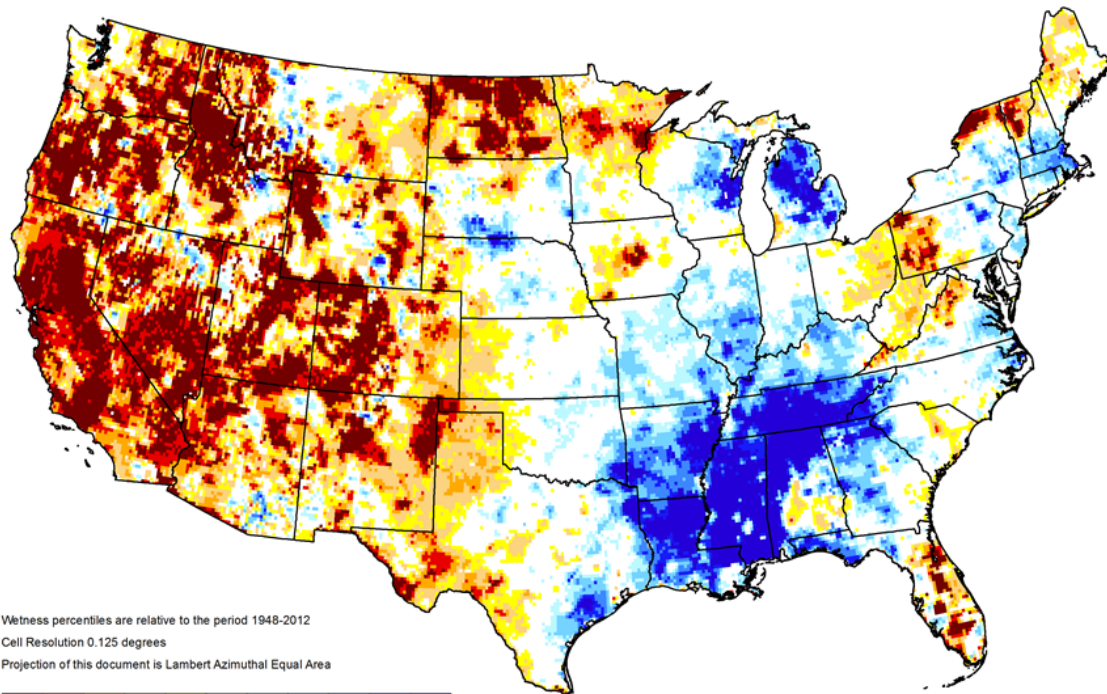
Shallow groundwater conditions

October 11 versus December 6



GRACE-Based Shallow Groundwater Drought Indicator

October 11, 2021



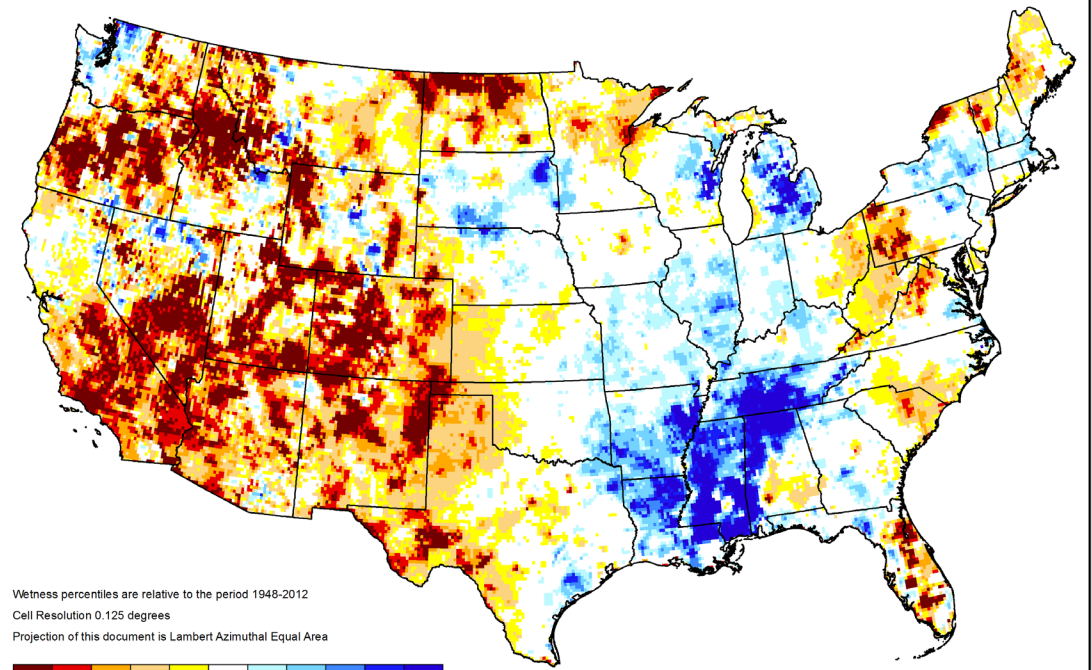
Wetness percentiles are relative to the period 1948-2012
Cell Resolution 0.125 degrees
Projection of this document is Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area

<https://nasagrace.unl.edu>

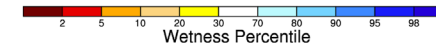


GRACE-Based Shallow Groundwater Drought Indicator

December 06, 2021



Wetness percentiles are relative to the period 1948-2012
Cell Resolution 0.125 degrees
Projection of this document is Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area

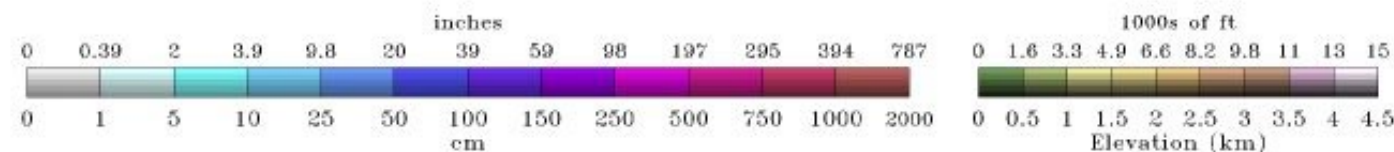
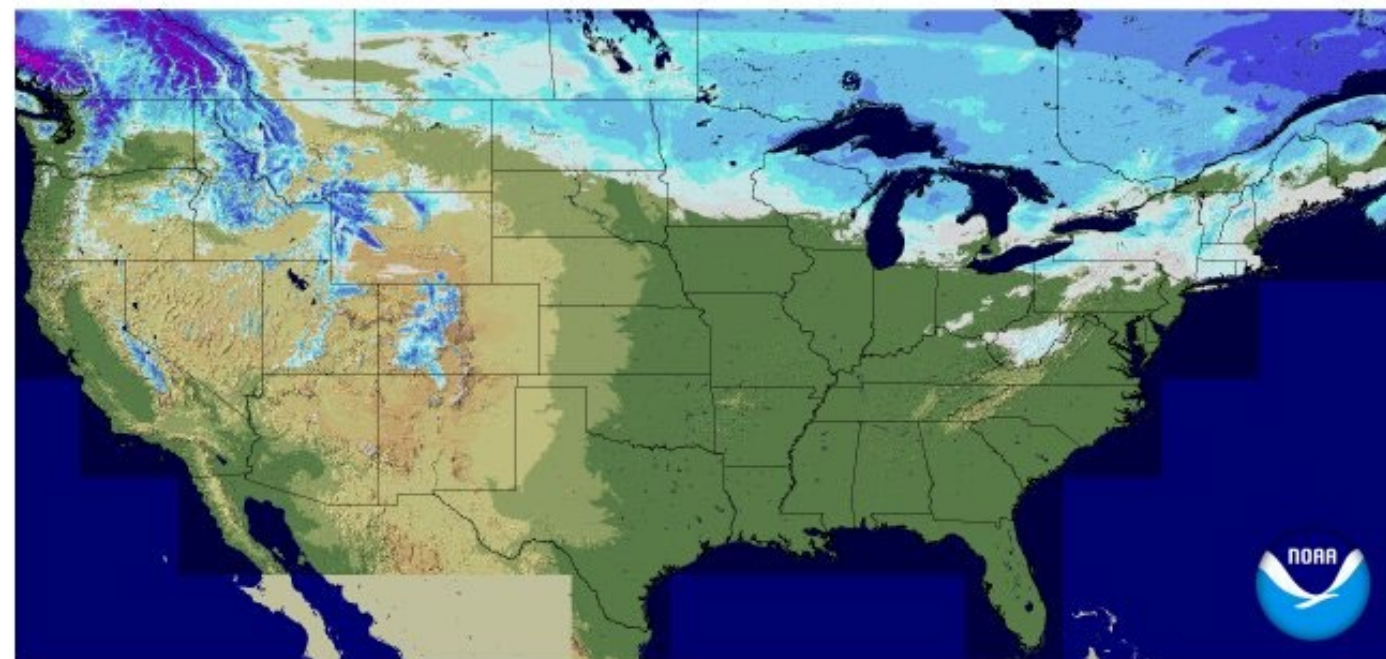


<https://nasagrace.unl.edu>



Snowfall across the West

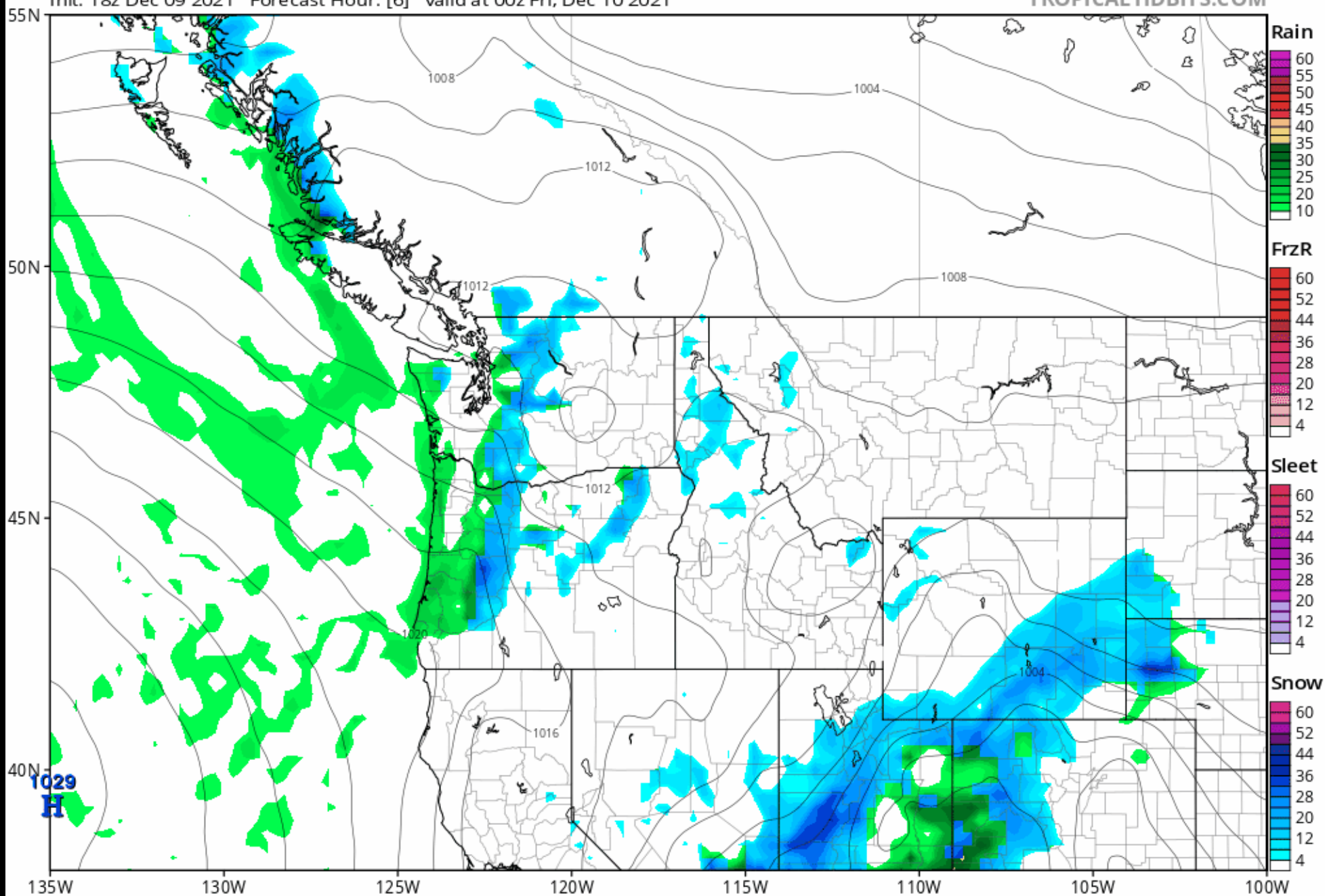
Snow Depth
2021-12-09 06 UTC



GFS Composite Reflectivity (dBZ) and MSLP (mb; 0.5-degree smoothed)

Init: 18z Dec 09 2021 Forecast Hour: [6] valid at 00z Fri, Dec 10 2021

TROPICALTIDBITS.COM

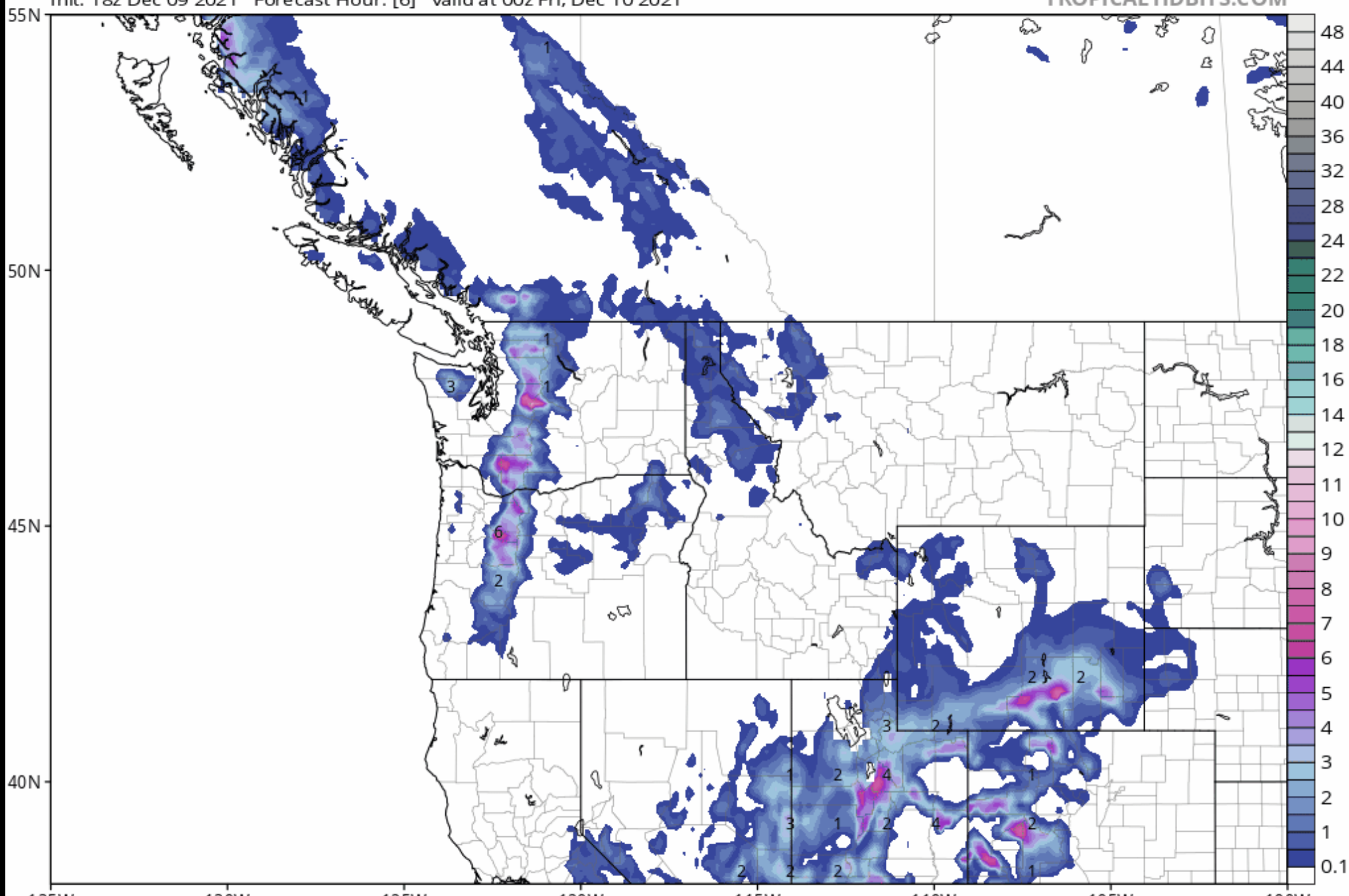




GFS Total Snowfall [*includes sleet*] (inches) (assuming 10:1 snow:liquid ratio)

Init: 18z Dec 09 2021 Forecast Hour: [6] valid at 00z Fri, Dec 10 2021

TROPICALTIDBITS.COM

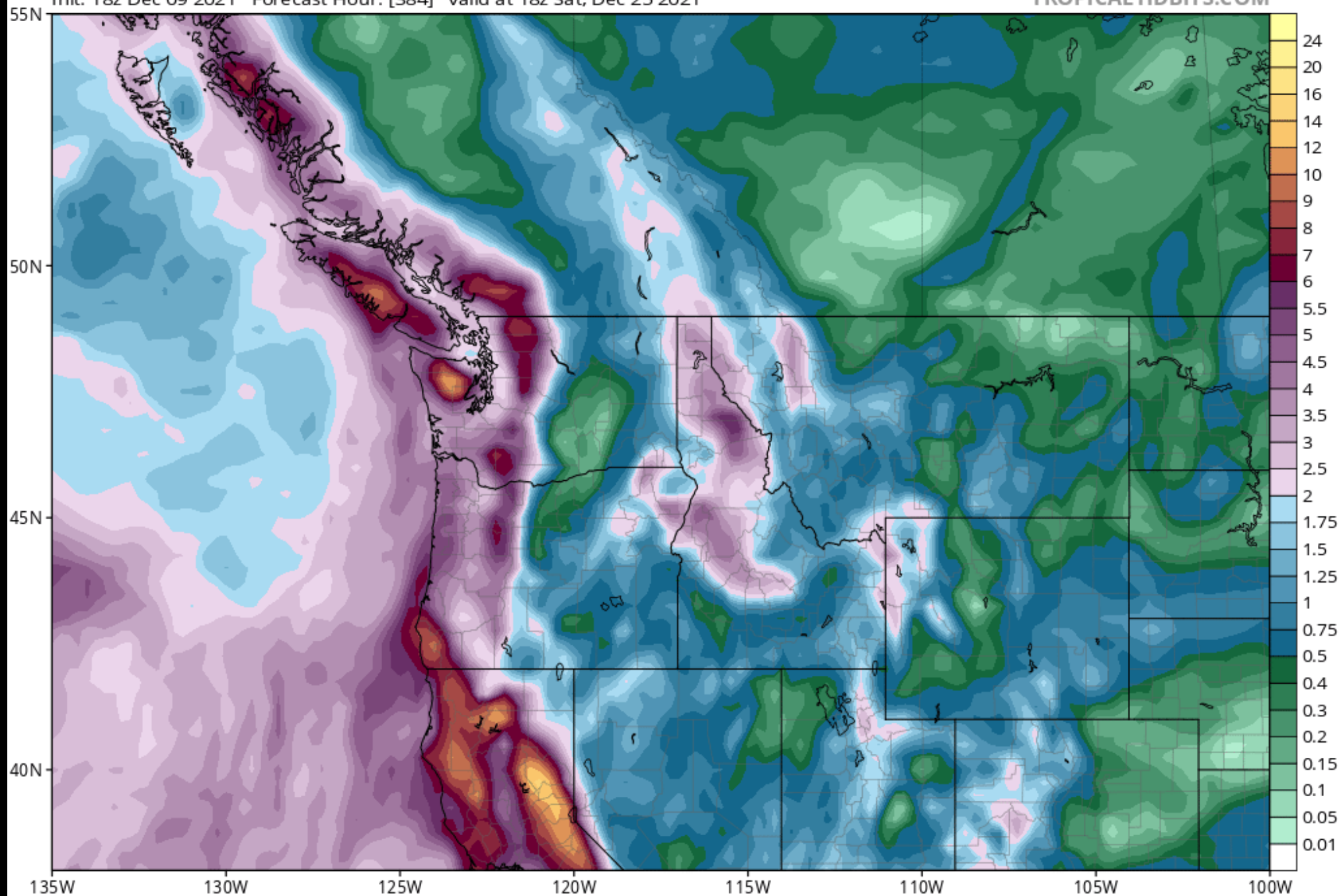




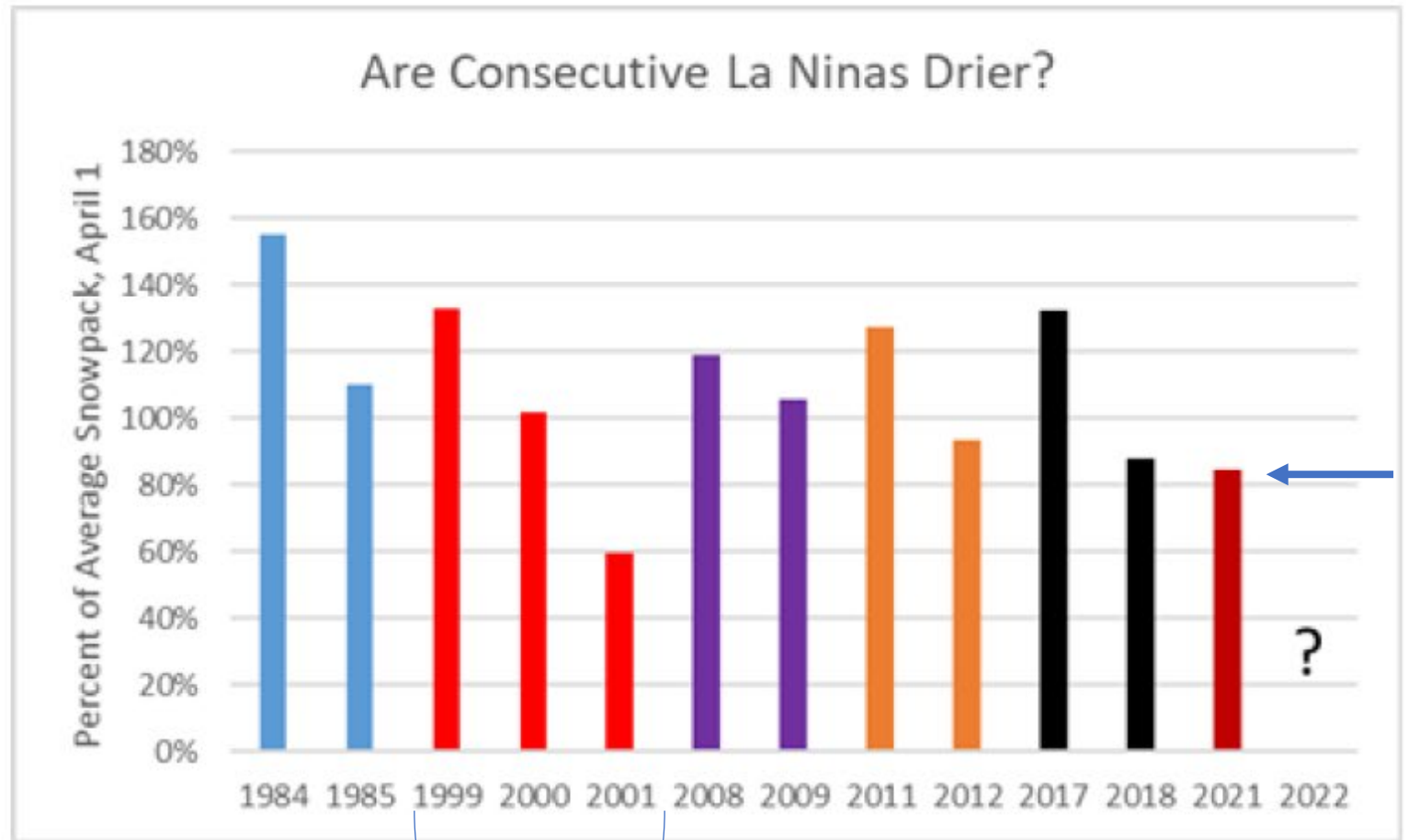
GFS Total Accumulated Precipitation (inches) from 18z09Dec2021 to 18z25Dec2021

Init: 18z Dec 09 2021 Forecast Hour: [384] valid at 18z Sat, Dec 25 2021

TROPICALTIDBITS.COM

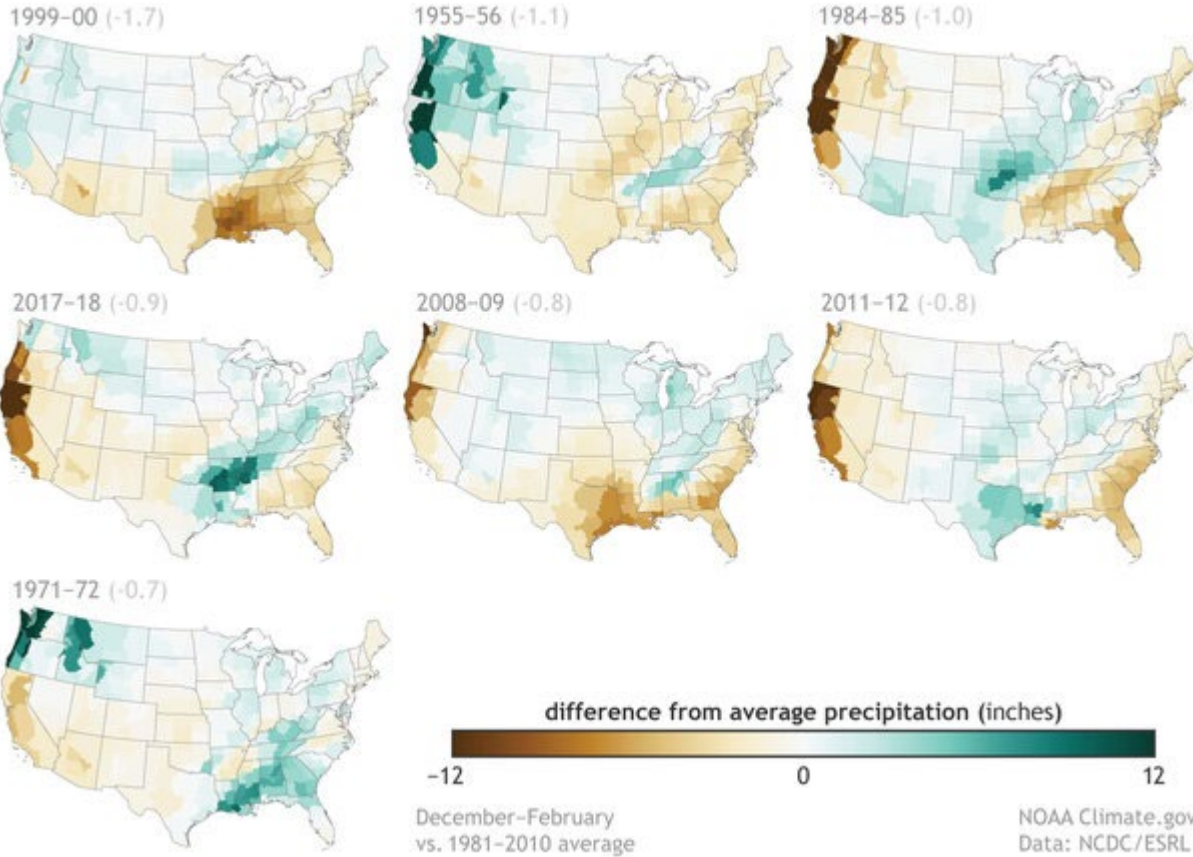


Are
Successive
La Ninas
Drier?



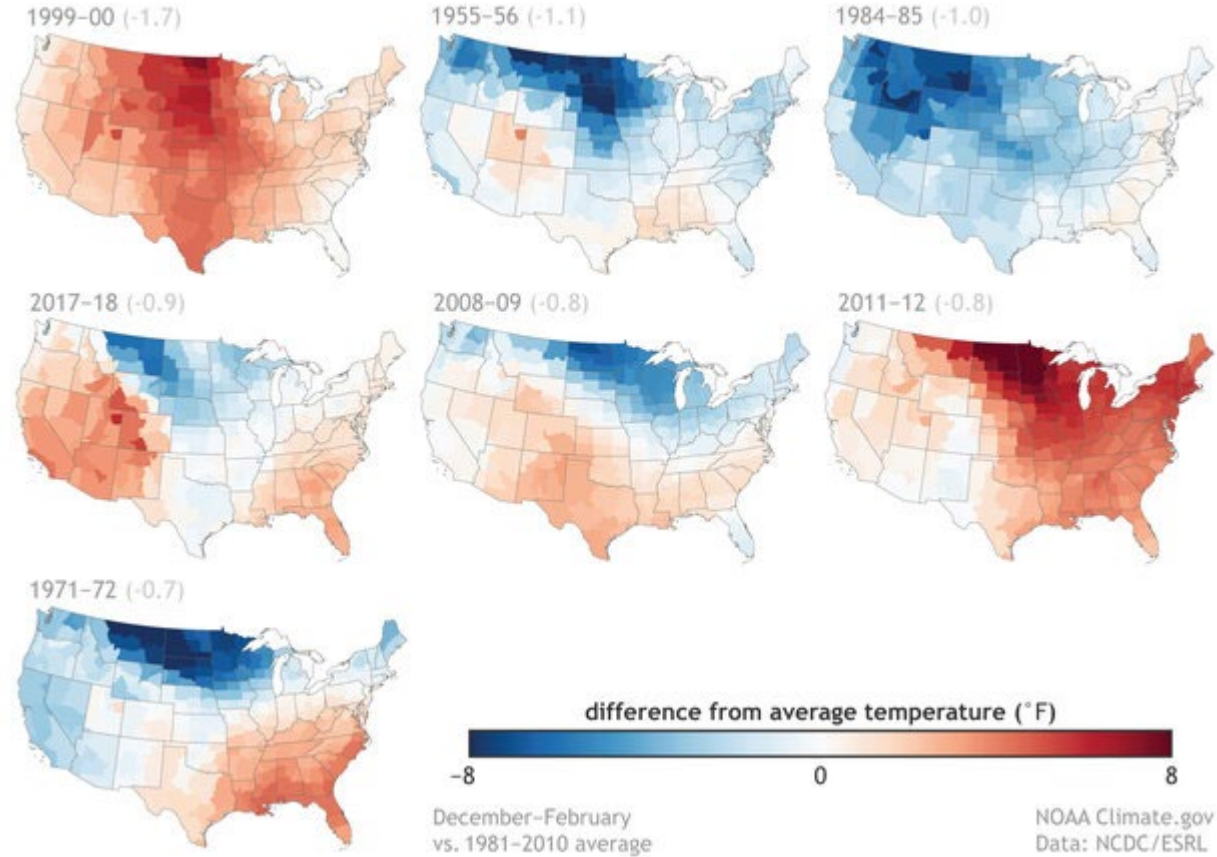
Winter precipitation patterns during the seven strongest 2nd-year La Niña events since 1950

Dec-Feb (ONI value)



Winter temperature patterns during the seven strongest 2nd-year La Niña events since 1950

Dec-Feb (ONI value)

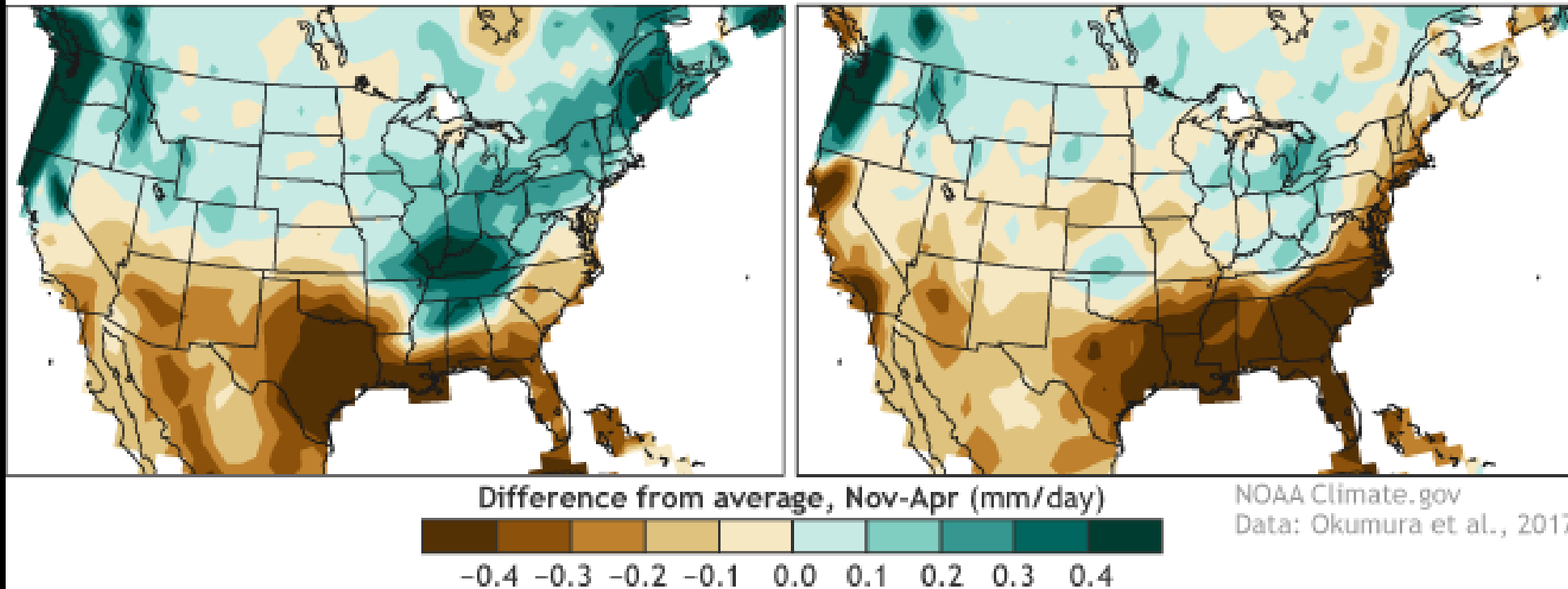


<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/blogs/enso/what-expect-winter-noaa%E2%80%99s-2021-22-winter-outlook>

Precipitation anomalies in double-dip La Niña events

first year

second year



Average November – April precipitation anomalies (mm/day) for the (left) first extended winter and (right) second extended winter of all multi-level La Niñas since 1900. Anomalies are the difference from the long-term (1900-2012) average, with the linear trend removed. Climate.gov figure from GPCC data and adapted from Okumura et al. (2017).

<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/blogs/enso/more-us-drought-second-year-la-ni%C3%B1a>

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN UPPER SNAKE

Statistical shading breaks at 10th, 30th, 50th, 70th, and 90th Percentiles
For more information visit: [30-Year Hydroclimatic Normals](#)

Reset Range

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

Station List

Current as of 12/09/2021:
 % of Median - 54%
 % Median Peak - 13%
 Days Until Median Peak - 118
 Percentile - 0



1985

2018

2009

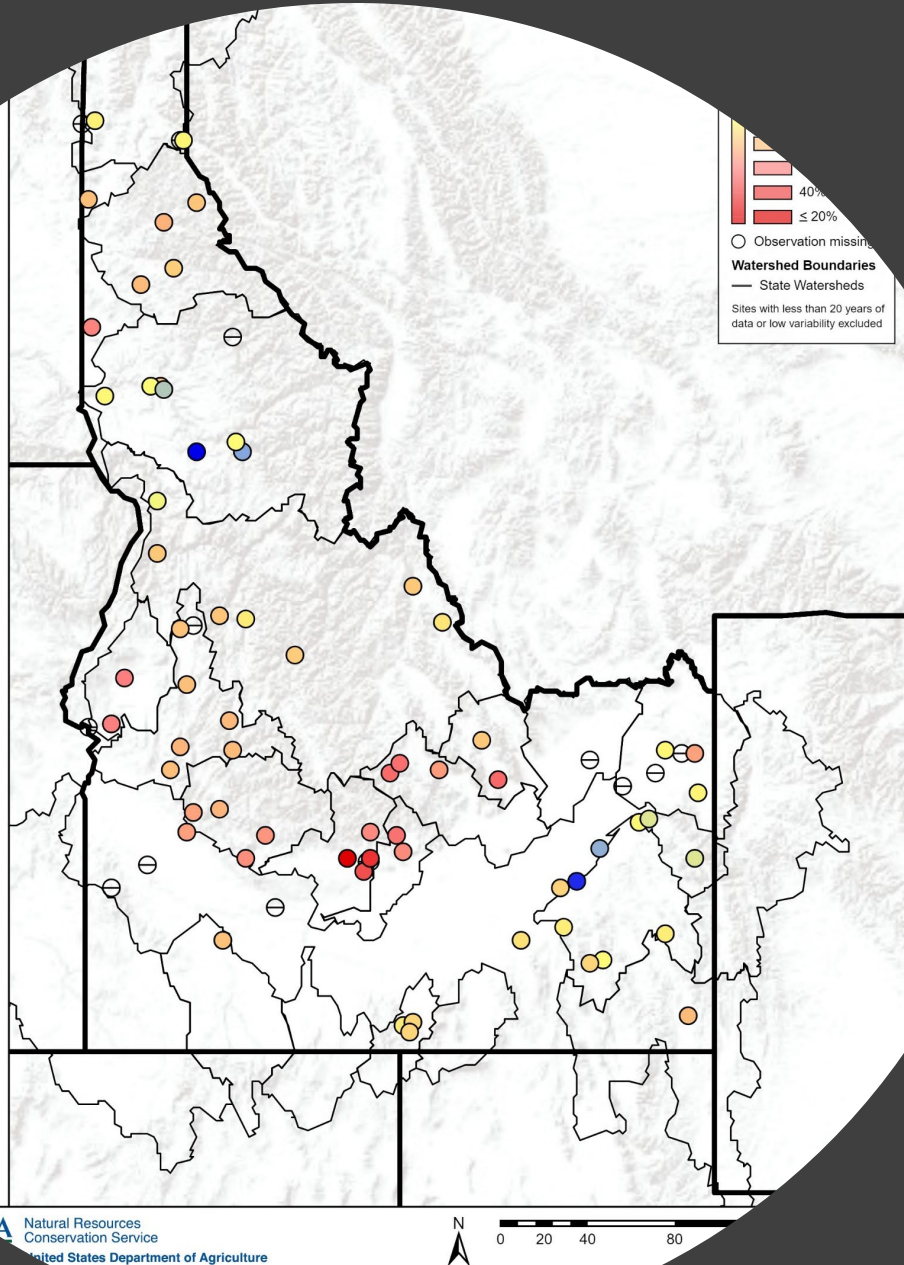
2012

2000

- ✖ Median Peak SWE
 — Max
 — Median (POR)
 — Median ('91-'20)
 — Min
 Stats. Shading
 — 2022 (43 sites)
 — 2021 (43 sites)
 — 2020 (43 sites)
 — 2019 (43 sites)
 — 2018 (43 sites)
 — 2017 (43 sites)
 — 2016 (43 sites)
 — 2015 (43 sites)
 — 2014 (43 sites)
 — 2013 (43 sites)
 — 2012 (43 sites)
 — 2011 (43 sites)
 — 2010 (42 sites)
 — 2009 (42 sites)
 — 2008 (42 sites)
 — 2007 (42 sites)
 — 2006 (41 sites)



Thank you!



 Idaho Snow Survey - NRCS

 Erin Whorton

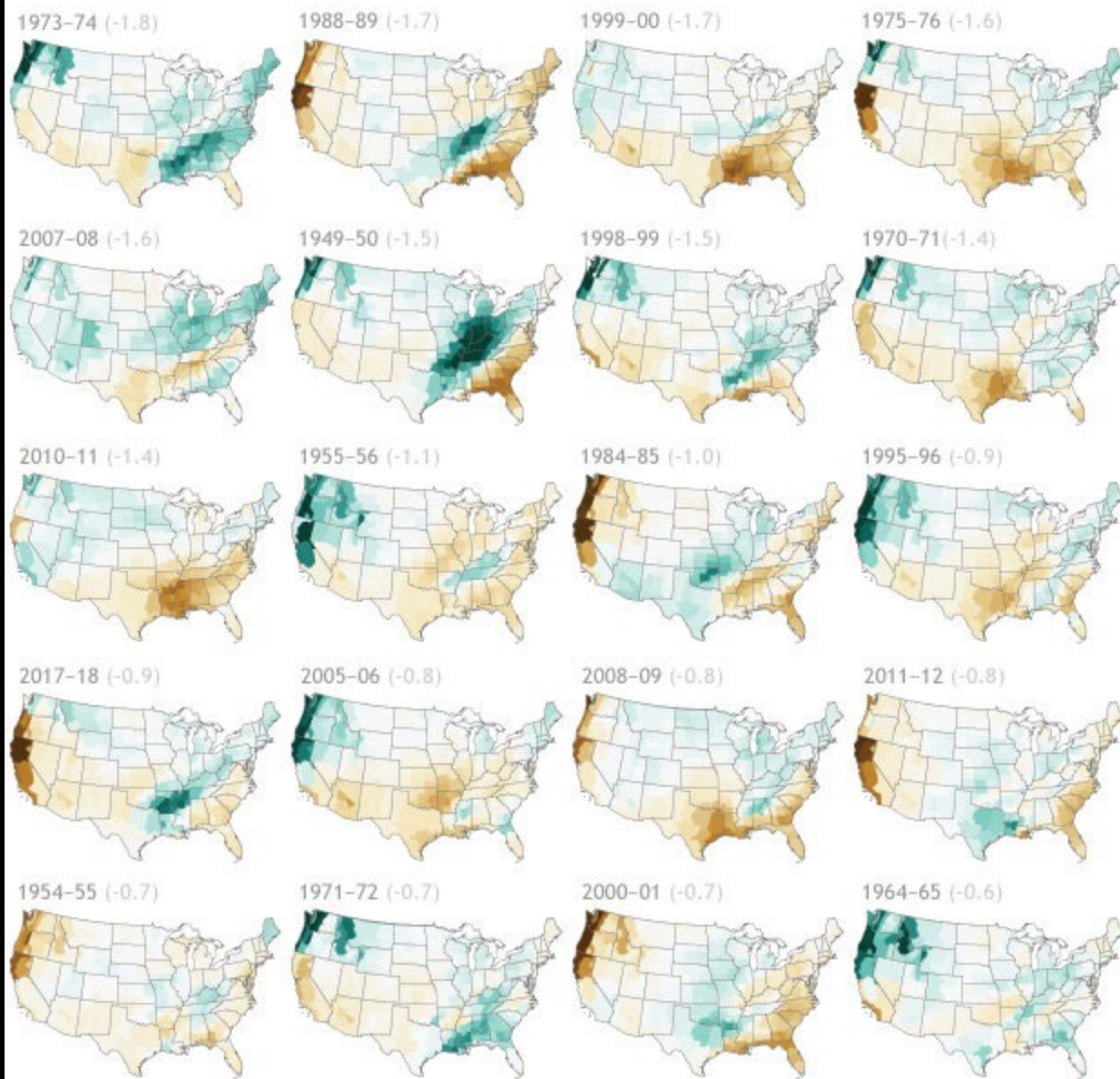
 erin.whorton@usda.gov

 208-685-6983



Winter precipitation during the 20 strongest La Niña events since 1950

Dec-Feb (ONI value)



December-February
vs. 1981-2010 average

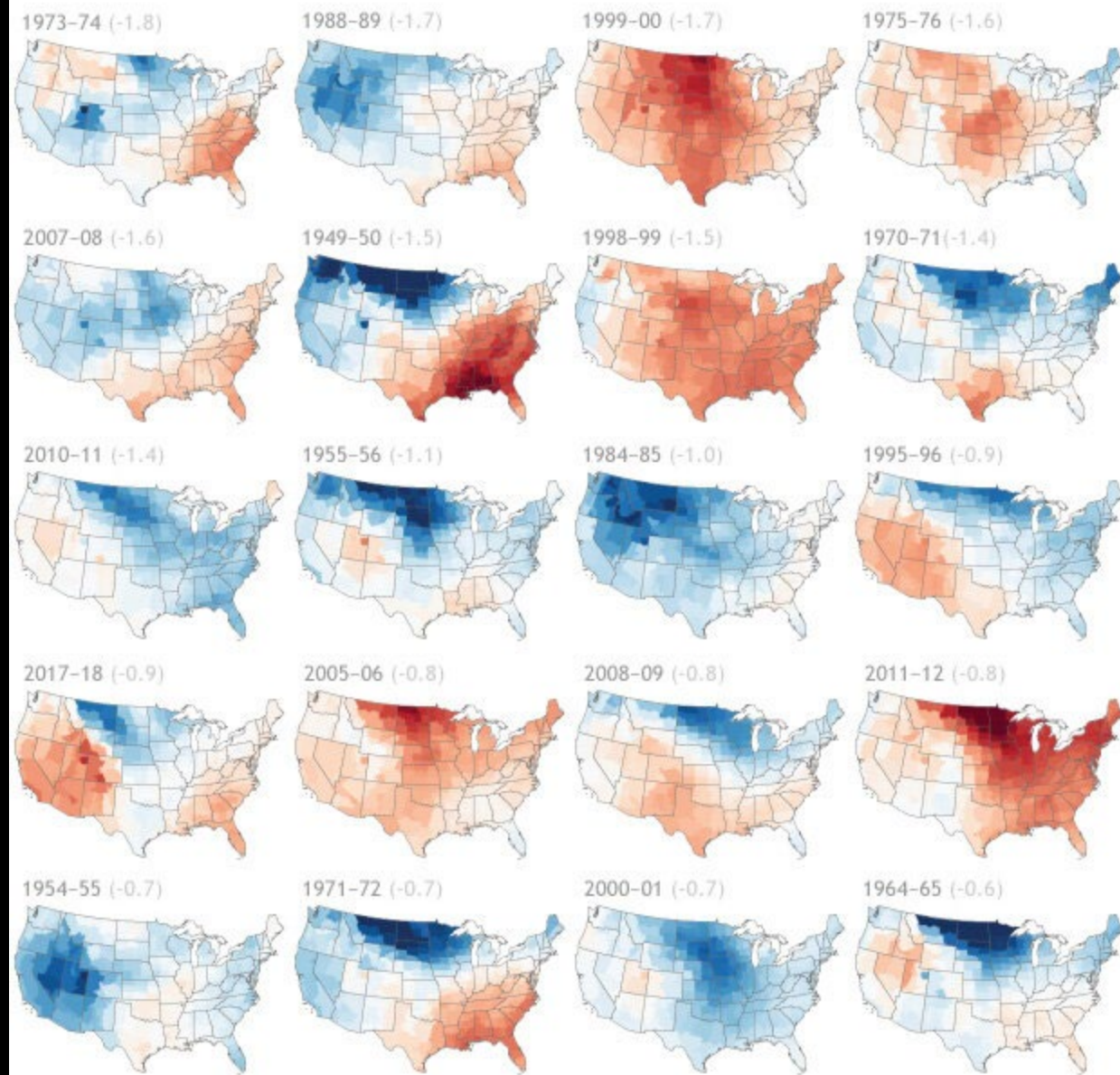
difference from average precipitation (inches)



NOAA Climate.gov
Data: NCDC/ESRL

Winter temperature patterns during the 20 strongest La Niña events since 1950

Dec-Feb (ONI value)



December-February
vs. 1981-2020 average

difference from average temperature (°F)



NOAA Climate.gov
Data: NCDC/ESRL



New 30-year hydroclimatic normals released on iMap

- New normal are now available on iMap and other NRCS products
 - Previous 30-year normal: 1981 – 2010
 - New normal period is: **1991 - 2020**
- For detailed information:
- <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/wcc/home/snowClimateMonitoring/30YearNormals/>

1991-2020 Climatic and Hydrologic Normals

The Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting (SSWSF) normals are site-specific measures of central tendency (either the median or an equivalent (SWE). The statistics are calculated over a 30-year period and updated each decade, in agreement with World Meteorological Organization (WMO) standards. The 1981-2010 reference period was chosen to characterize the current hydroclimatology at each station. The most recent medians and averages have been calculated for the 1991-2020 period. The National Water and Climate Center (NWCC) also provides medians and averages for the 1981-2010 and 1971-2000 reference periods.

The normals available from the NWCC include the median and average for SWE, snow depth (snow courses only), precipitation, volumetric water content, and runoff. These statistics are calculated from data collected by NRCS-managed stations and external agencies such as the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), National Weather Service (NWS), and other organizations. Normals are calculated for various durations including daily, month-to-date, semi-monthly, monthly, seasonal, and annual base period.

1991-2020 Normals Overview

Calculation Methods

Differences Between 1991-2020 and Previous Normals

Median vs. Average

Retrieving 1991-2020 Normals

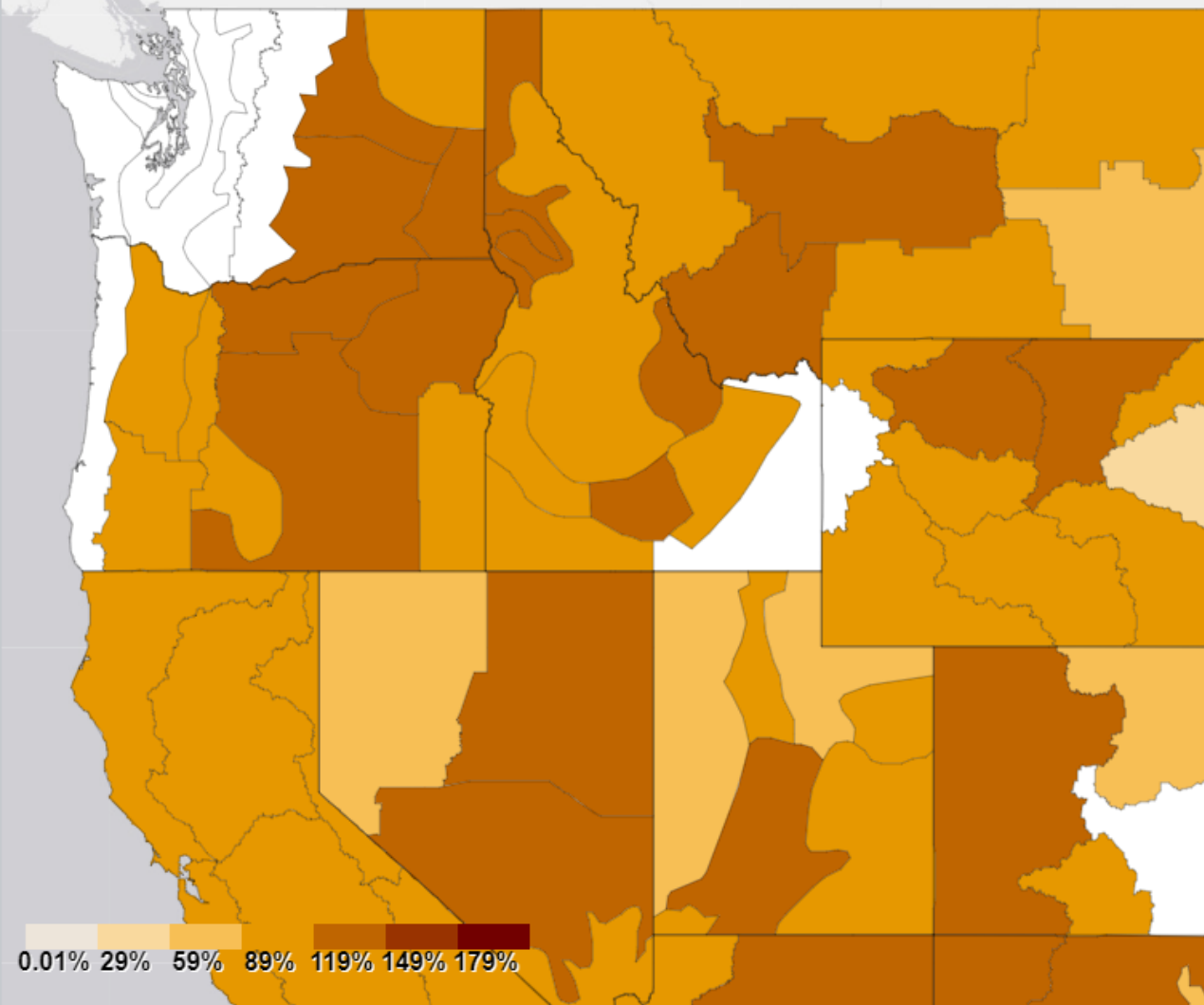




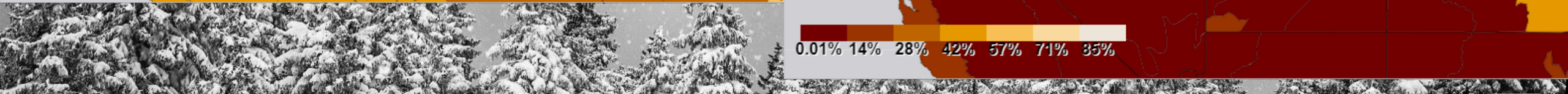
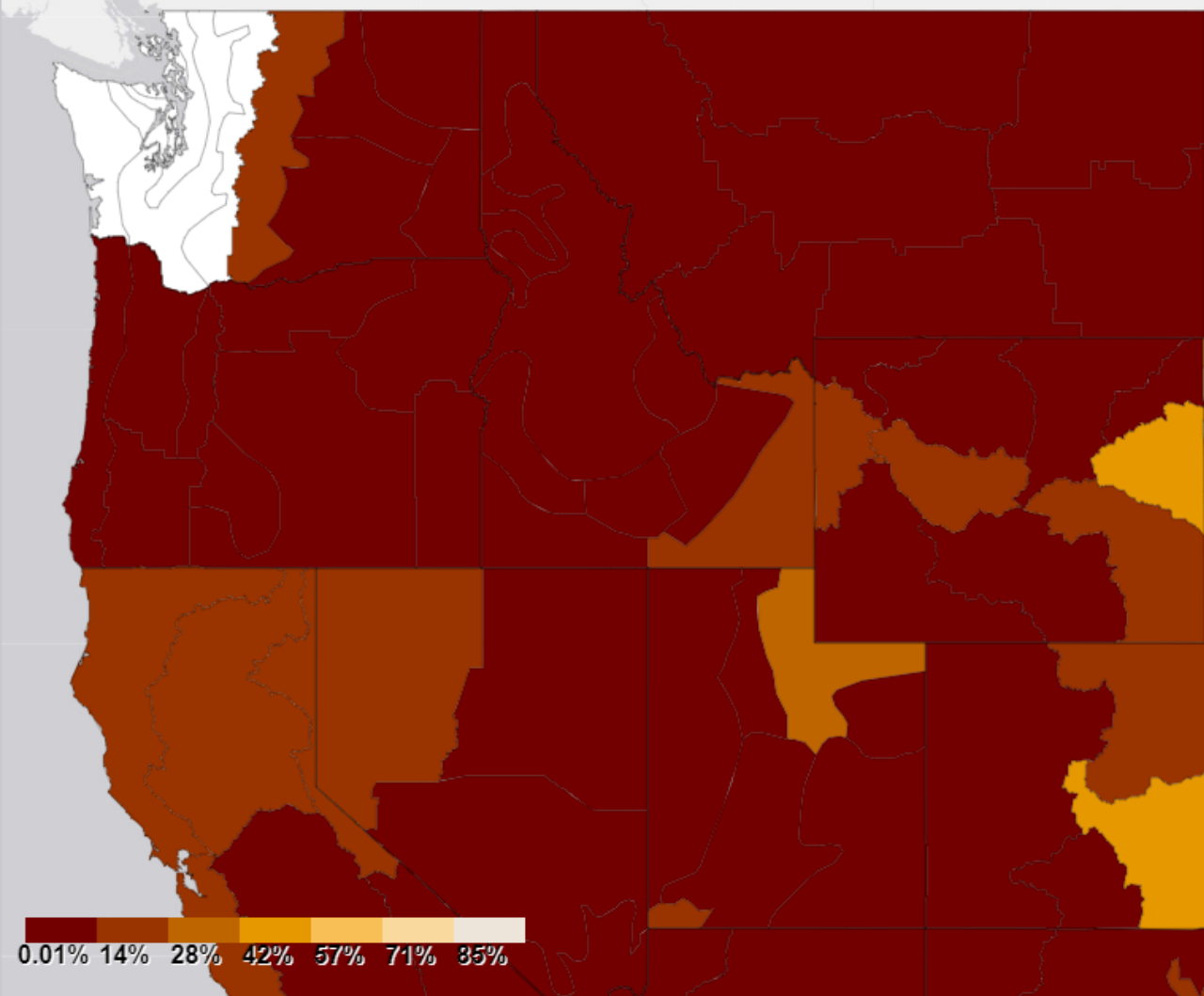
What will it take to end drought conditions?

Percent of Normal Precip Needed to Ameliorate Drought Conditions in 5 Months

Climatological
Conditions
16 Nov 2021

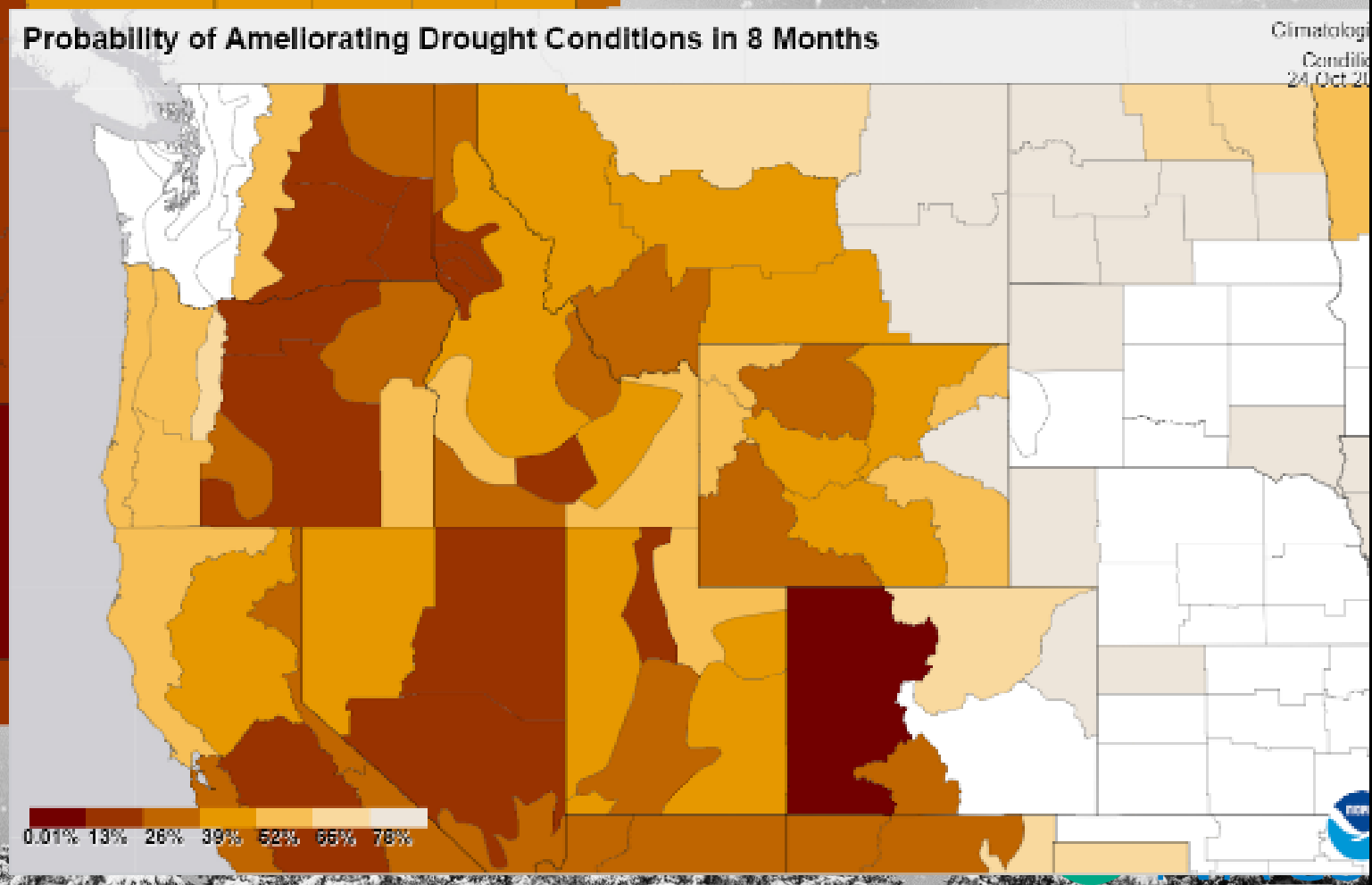
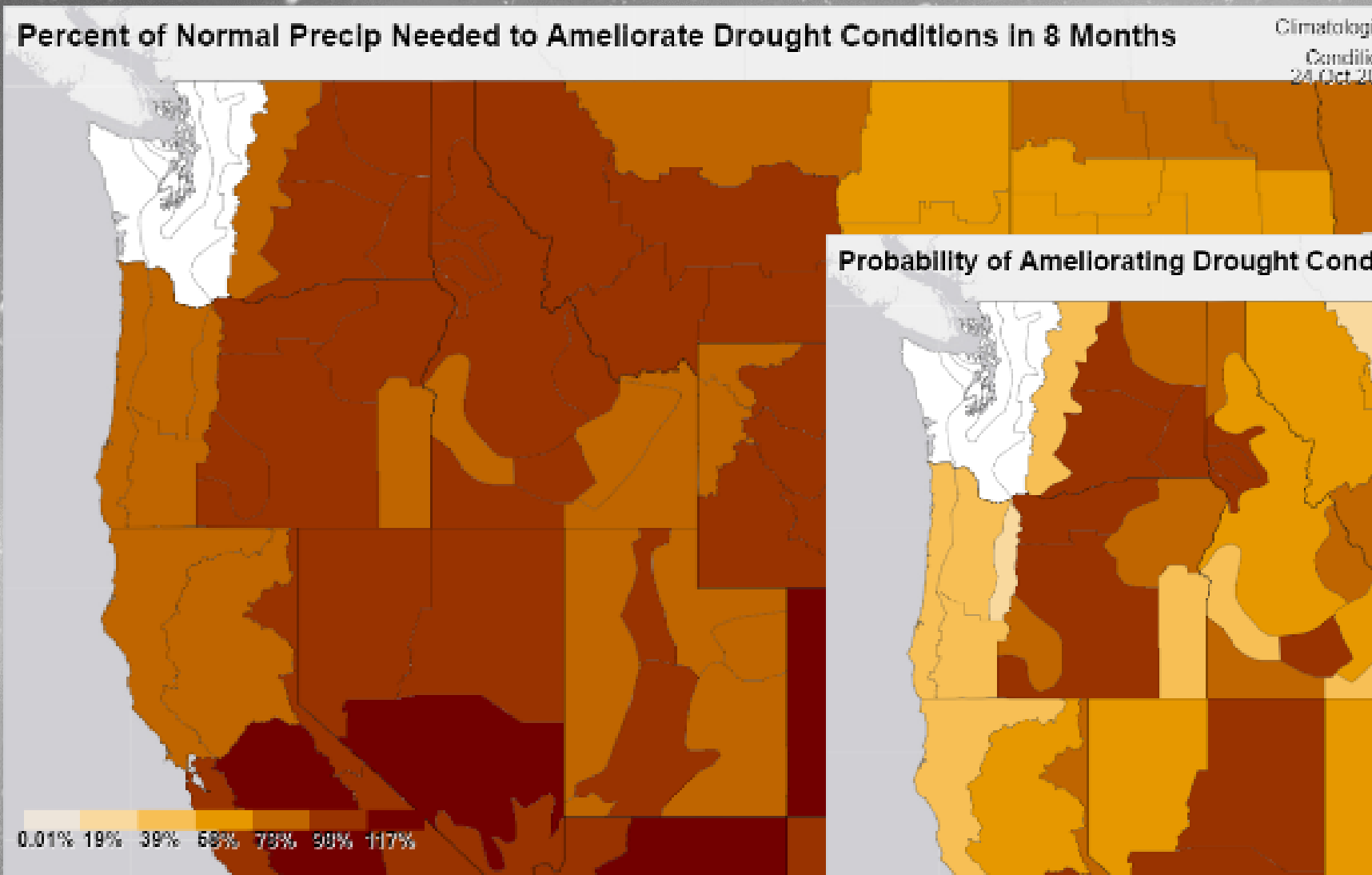


Probability of Ending Drought Conditions in 5 Months





How much precip needed to improve drought conditions?





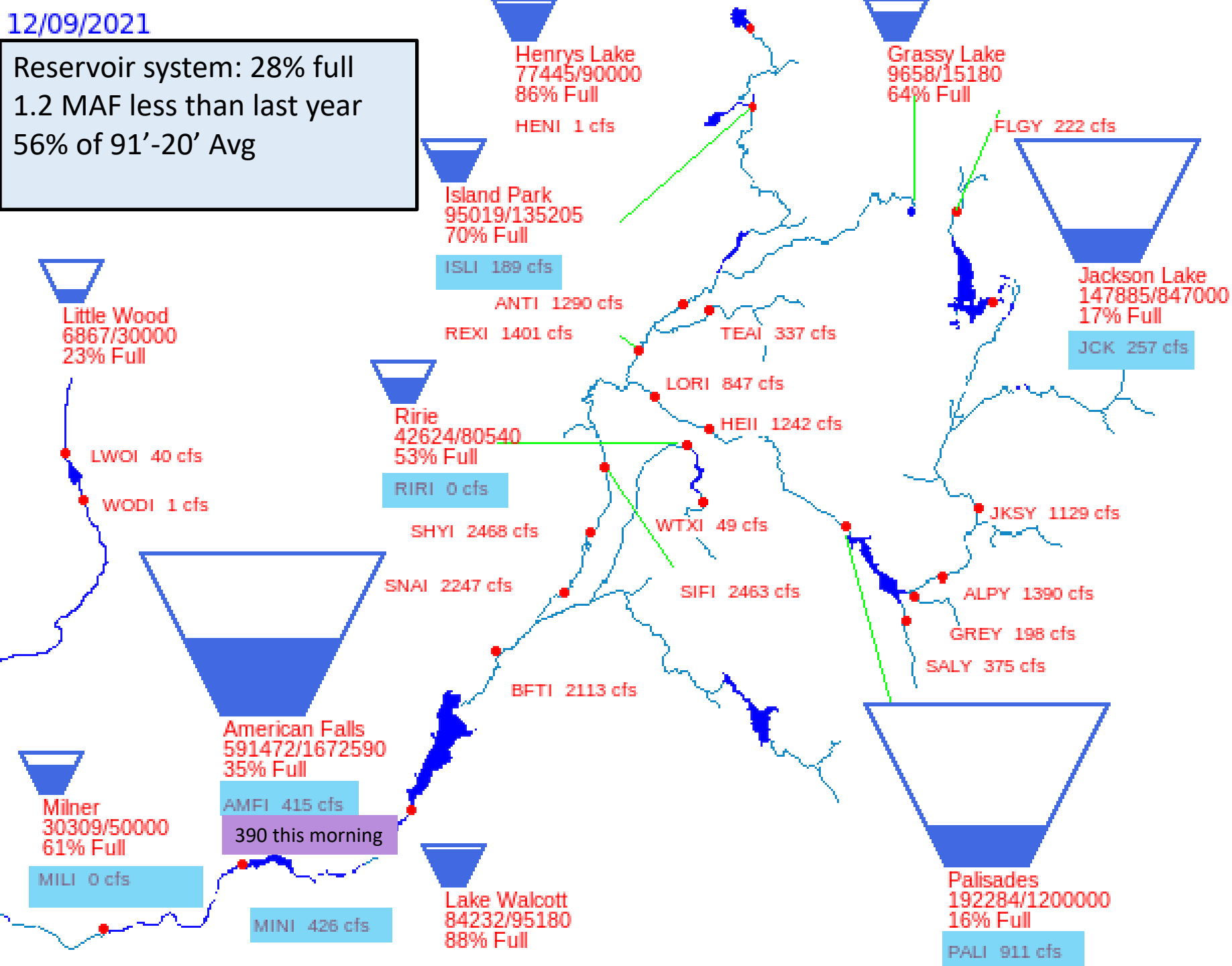
— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Upper Snake Advisory Committee Meeting December 10, 2021

Upper Snake Reservoir Operations

12/09/2021

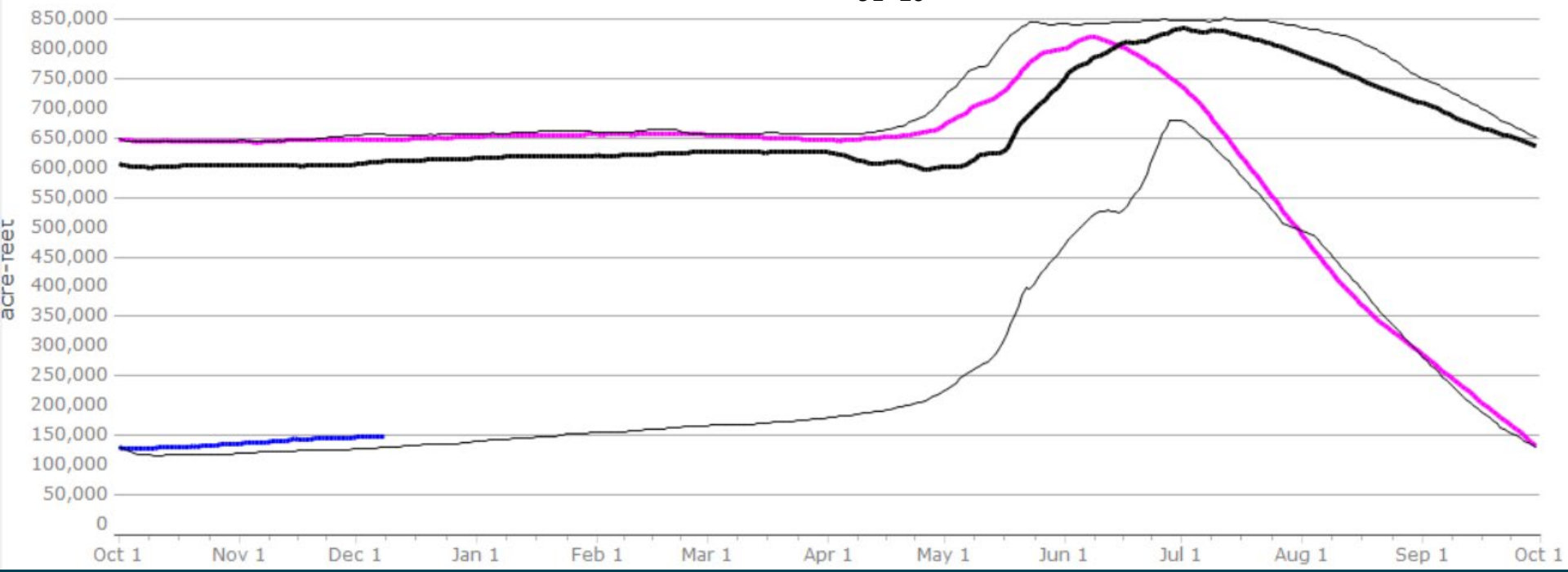
Reservoir system: 28% full
1.2 MAF less than last year
56% of 91'-20' Avg



90%-10-31 119792.406

Jackson Lake

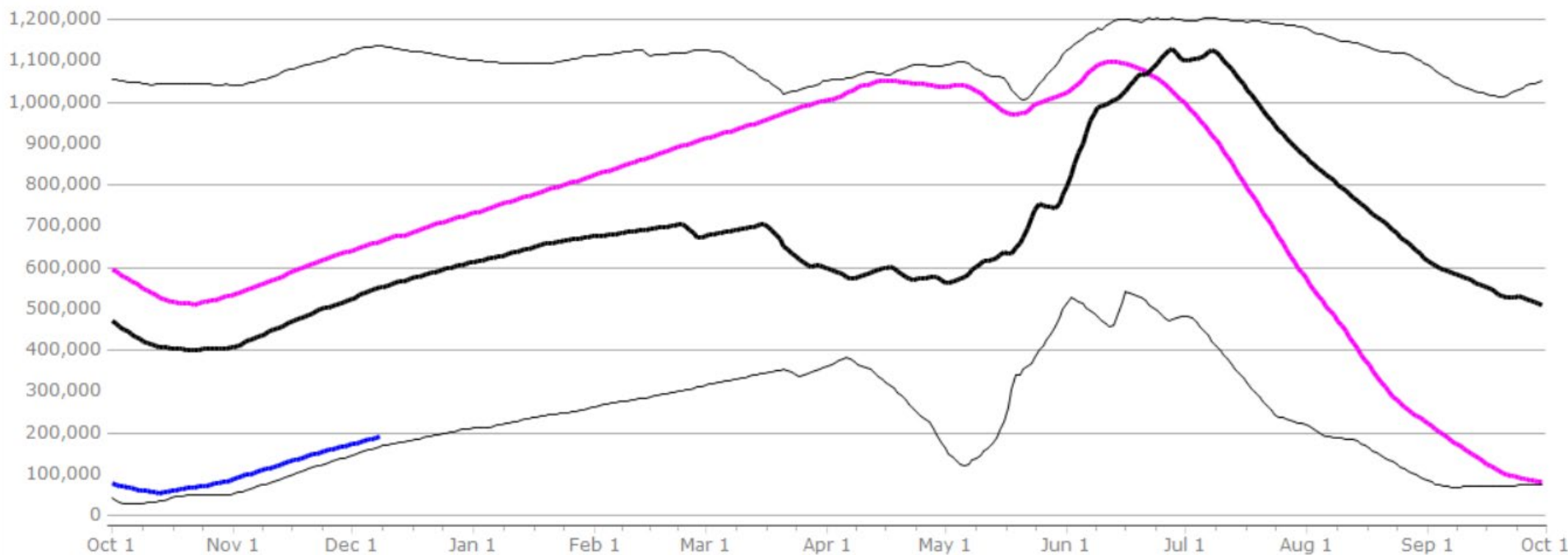
— 2022 — 2021 — 10% — 50% — 90%
*91'-20'



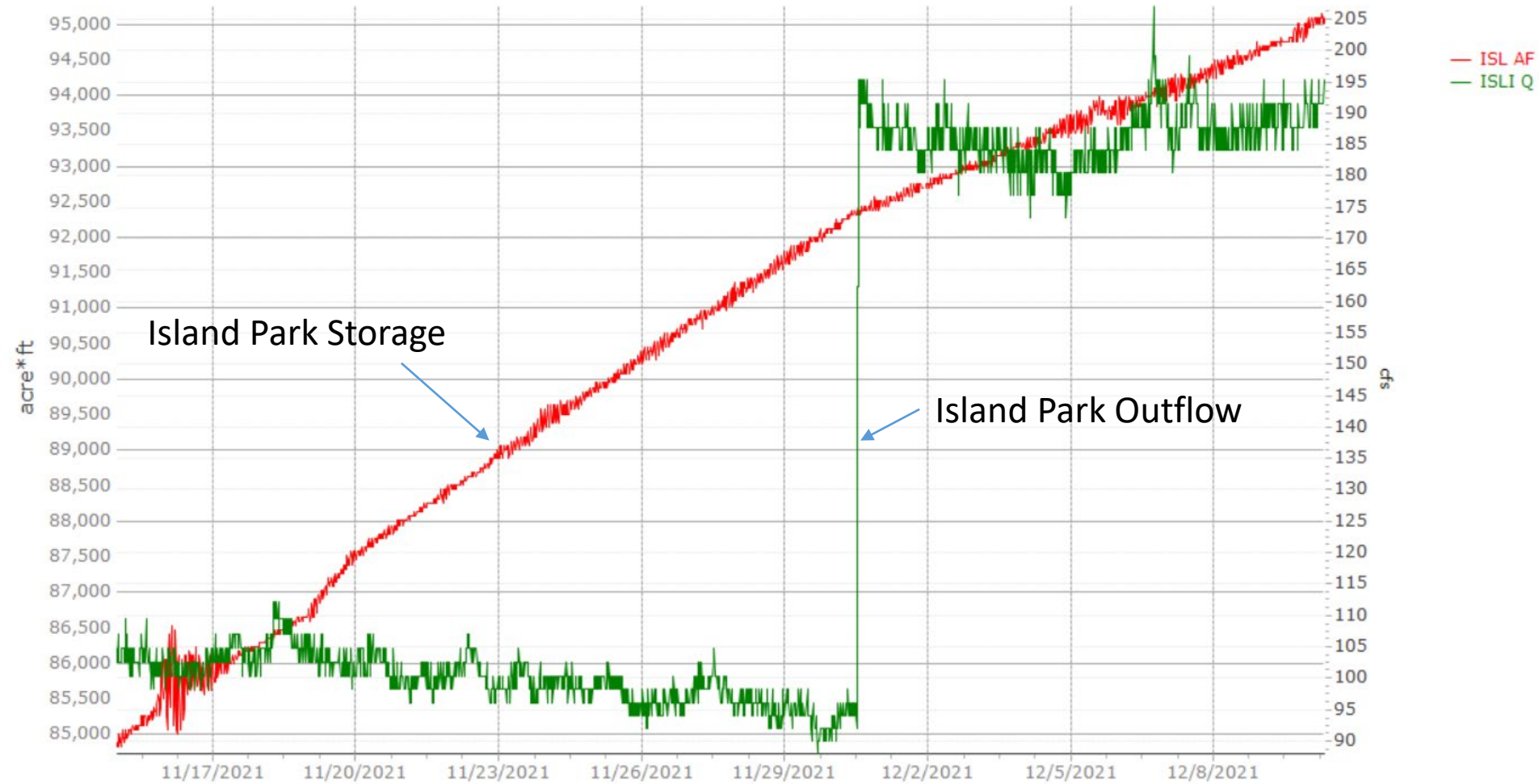
2021-10-29 80758

Palisades Reservoir

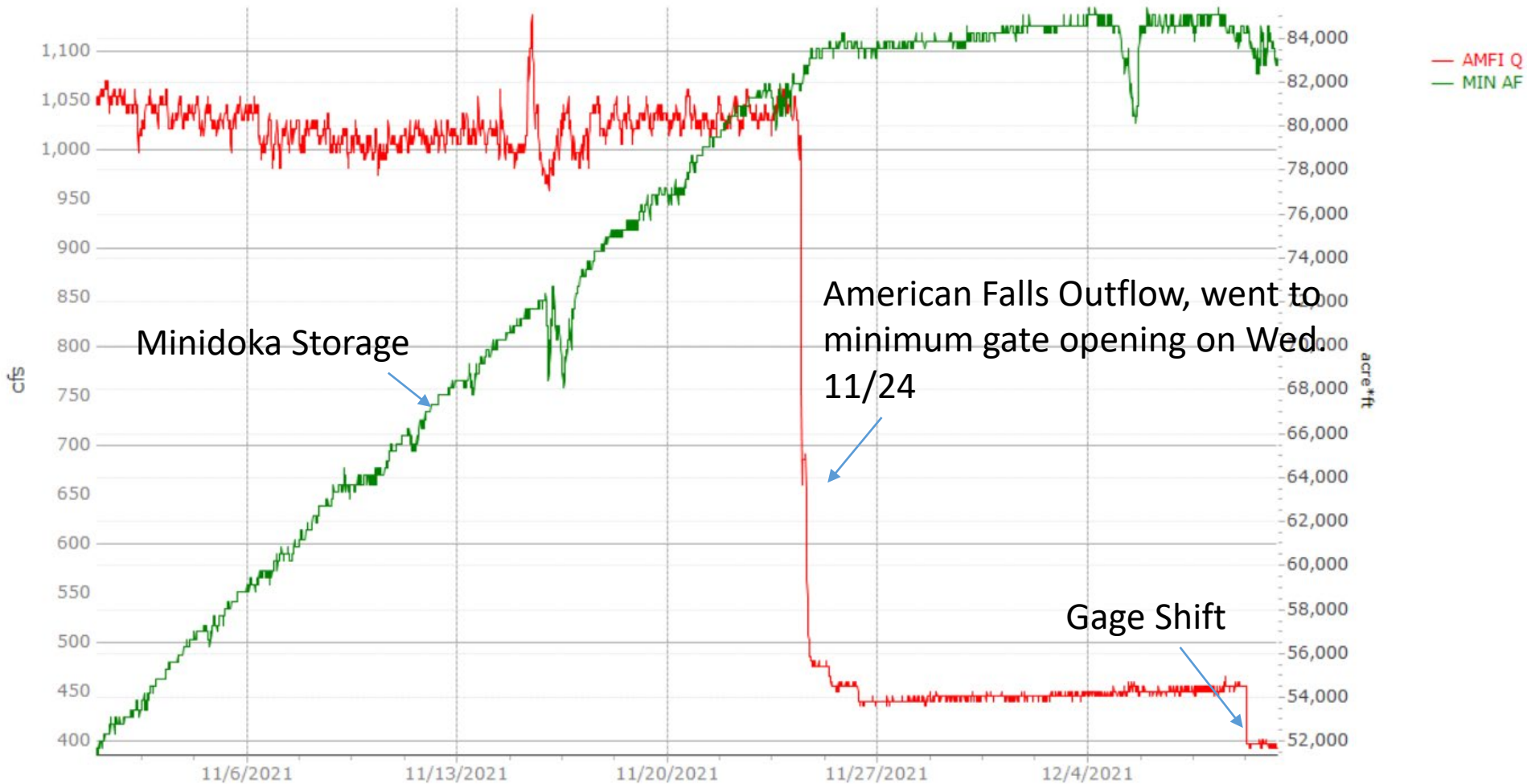
— 2022 — 2021 — 10% — 50% — 90%
*91'-20'



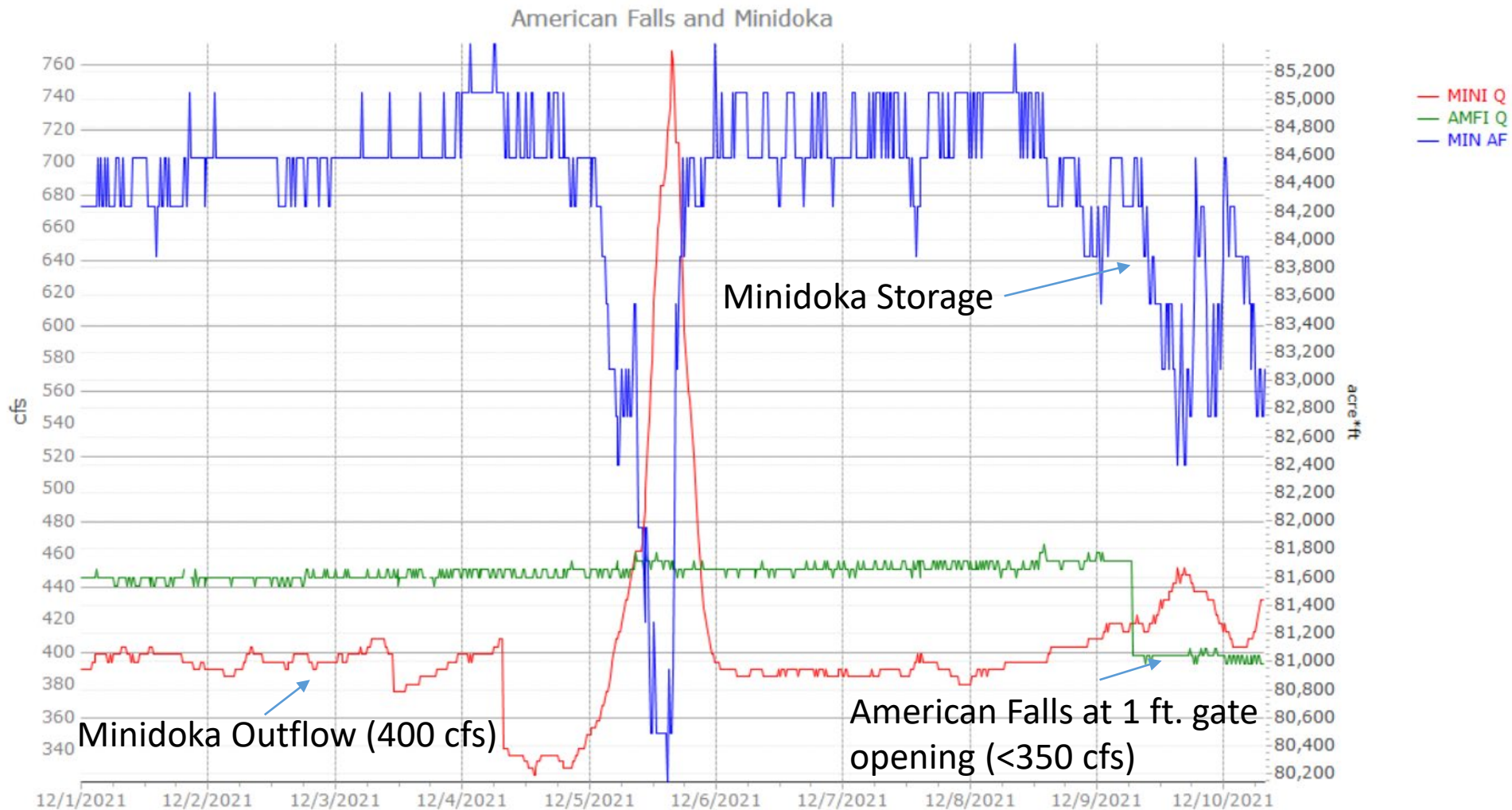
Island Park Overview



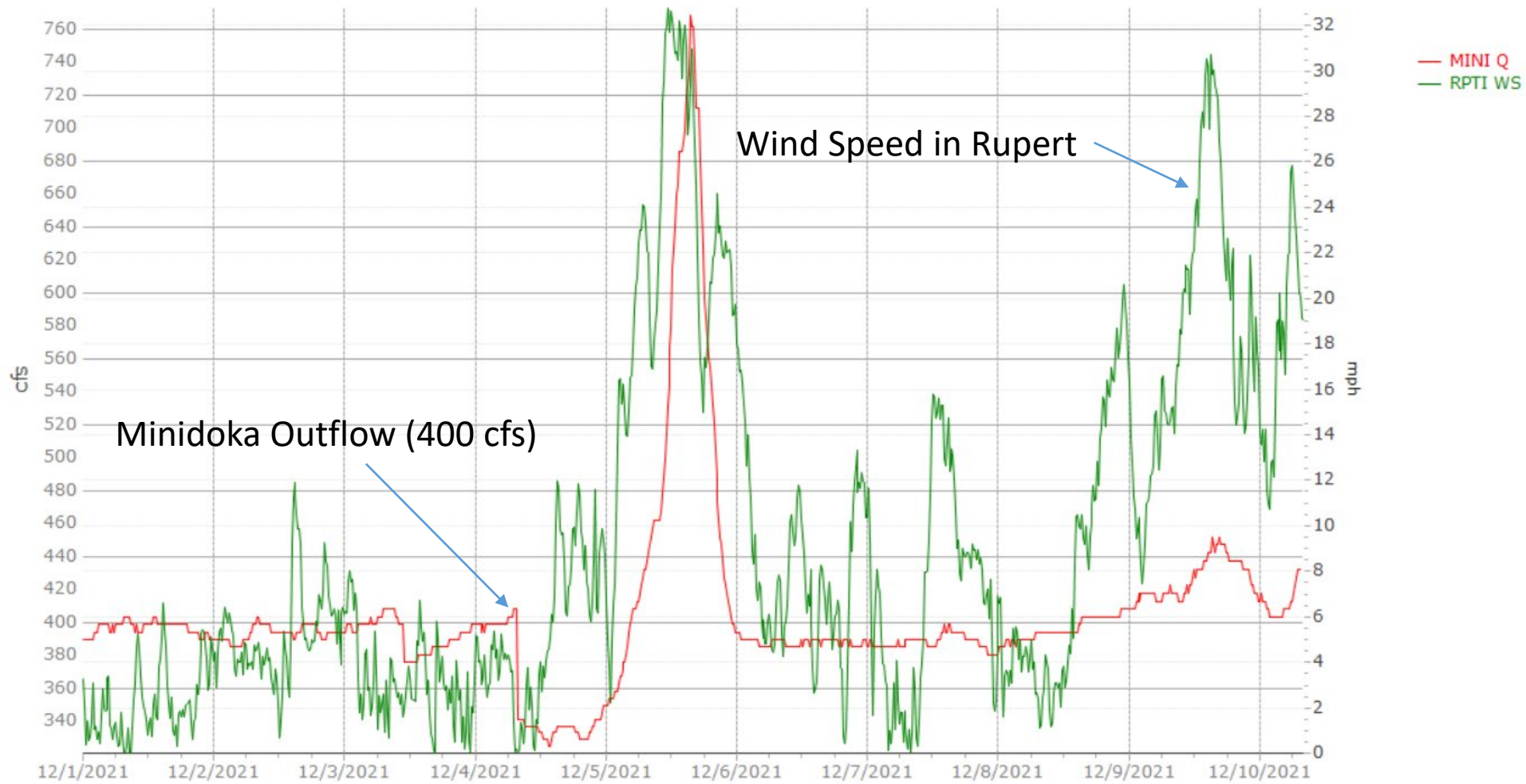
American Falls – Minidoka Overview



American Falls – Minidoka Overview



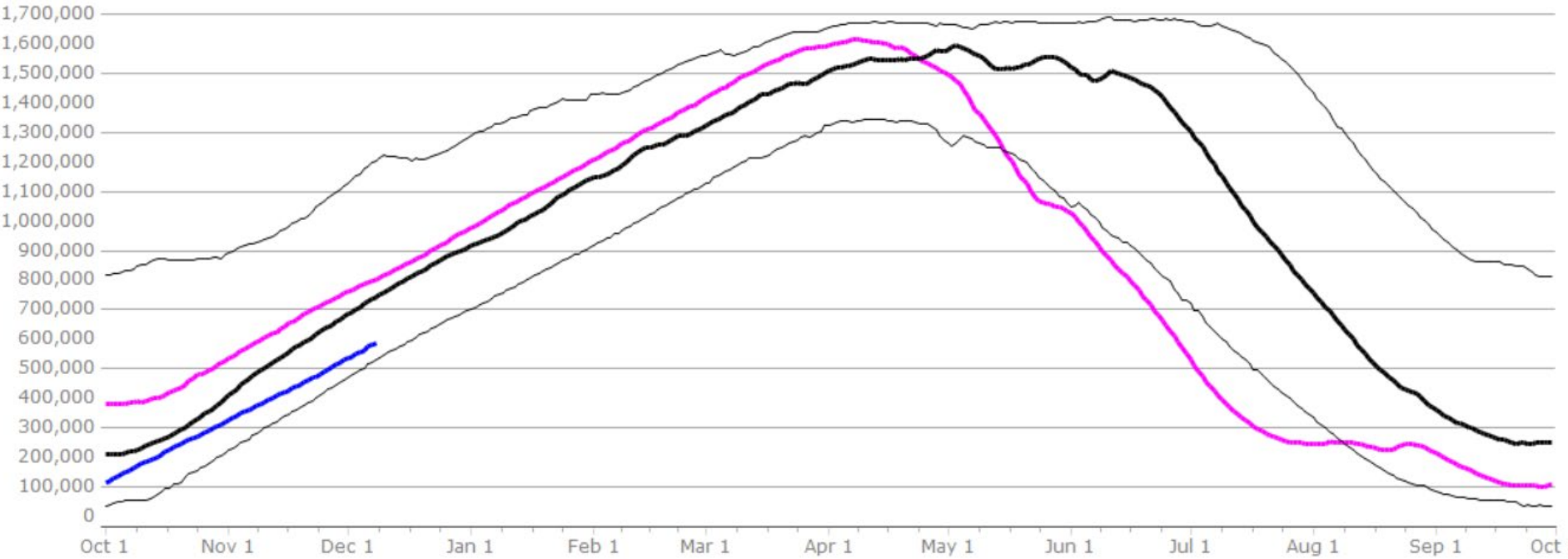
American Falls – Minidoka Overview



2021-05-05 1442715

American Falls Reservoir

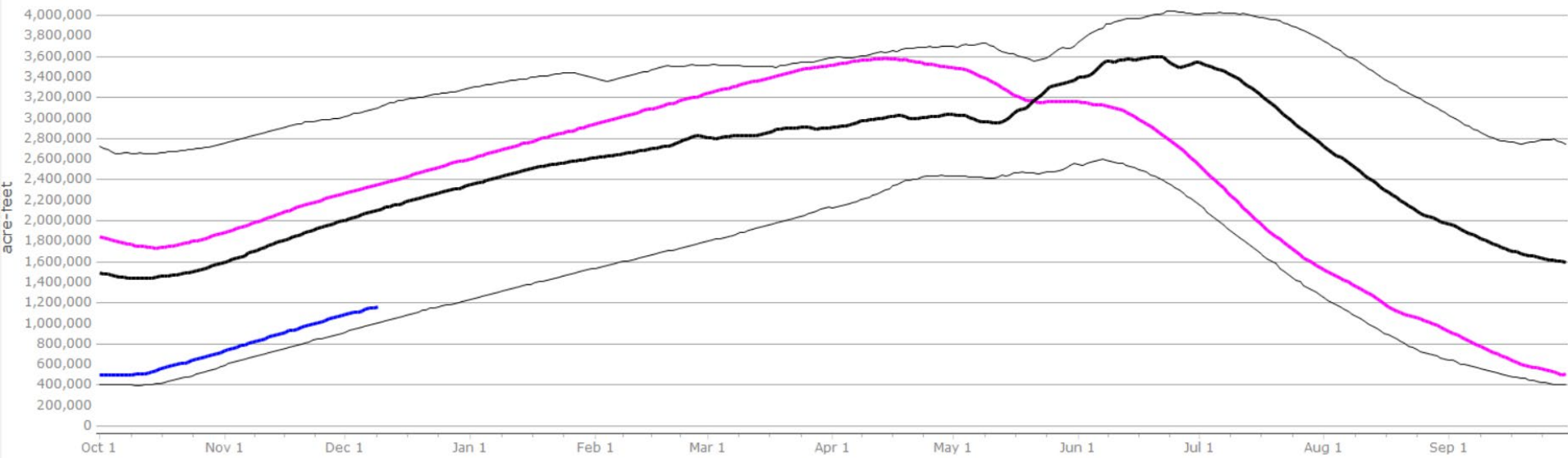
— 2022 — 2021 — 10% — 50% — 90%
*91'-20'



90%-04-09 2215944.775

Upper Snake Total System Storage (SNASYS)

— 2022 — 2021 — 10% — 50% — 90%
*91'-20'



Range of Precipitation for Potential to Fill the System

PRECIPITATION PROJECTIONS IN UPPER SNAKE

Reset Range

Current as of 12/10/2021:
% of Median - 99%
% of WY Median - 21%
Days Until End of WY - 295
Percentile - 45

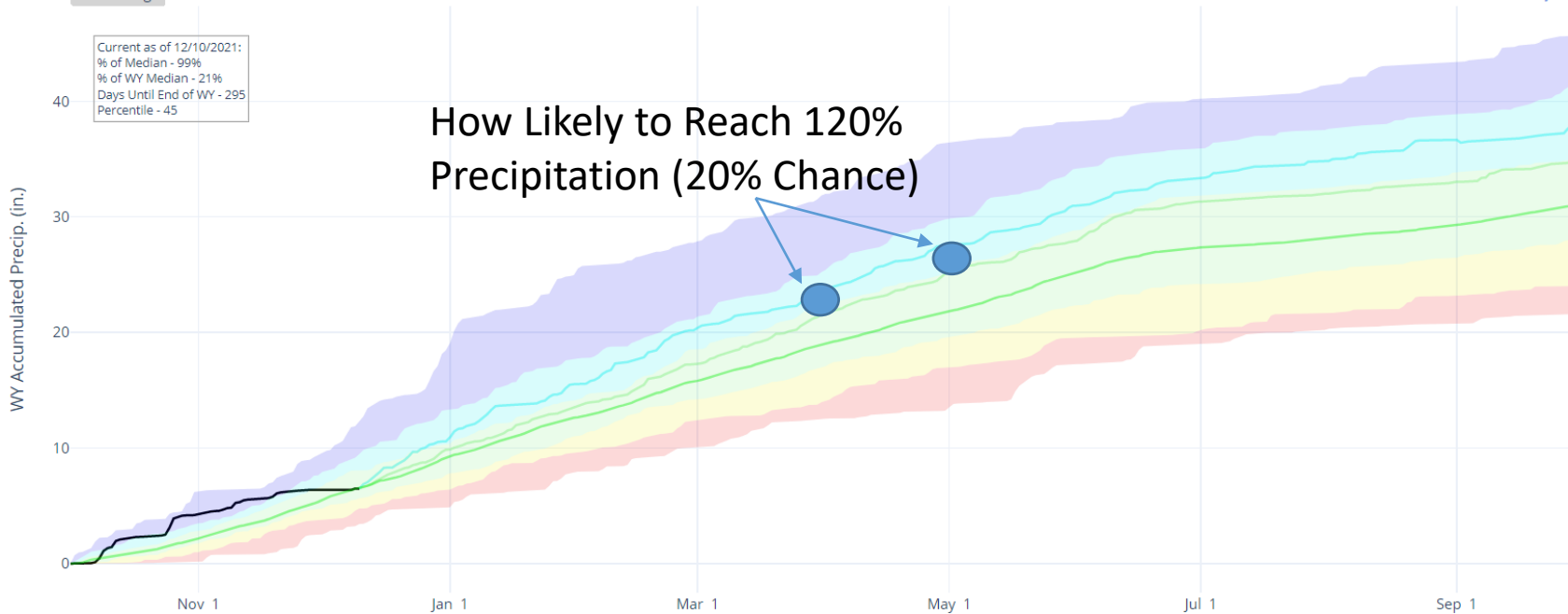
Statistical shading breaks at 10th, 30th, 50th, 70th, and 90th Percentiles
For more information visit: [30-Year Hydroclimatic Normals](#)

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

Station List

- Median (POR)
- Median ('91-'20)
- Stats. Shading
- Max Proj
- 90% Proj
- 70% Proj
- 50% Proj
- 30% Proj
- 10% Proj
- Min Proj
- 2022 (55 sites)
- 2021 (55 sites)
- 2020 (55 sites)
- 2019 (55 sites)
- 2018 (55 sites)
- 2017 (55 sites)
- 2016 (55 sites)
- 2015 (55 sites)
- 2014 (55 sites)
- 2013 (55 sites)
- 2012 (55 sites)
- 2011 (55 sites)
- 2010 (54 sites)
- 2009 (54 sites)
- 2008 (54 sites)

How Likely to Reach 120%
Precipitation (20% Chance)



Operational Outlook

- Jackson: maintain 280 cfs target through the winter
- Palisades: 900 cfs for winter flow
- Island Park: maintain 200 cfs to Spring
- American Falls: <350 cfs until Spring
- Minidoka: 400 cfs until Spring



For More Information

Snake River Area Office

- Lanie Paquin - Area Manager
208-383-2246
mpaquin@usbr.gov

Upper Snake Field Office

- Mike Hilliard – Field Office Manager
208-678-0461 (x34)
mhilliard@usbr.gov
- Tyler Cox – Resource Manager (x15)
tcox@usbr.gov
- Brian Stevens – Water Operations Group Manager (x24)
bstevens@usbr.gov
- Jeremy Dalling - Reservoir Operations Lead (x25)
jdalling@usbr.gov
- Darrin Fredrickson - Staff Assistant (x17)
dfredrickson@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 Meeting – Idaho Power Update

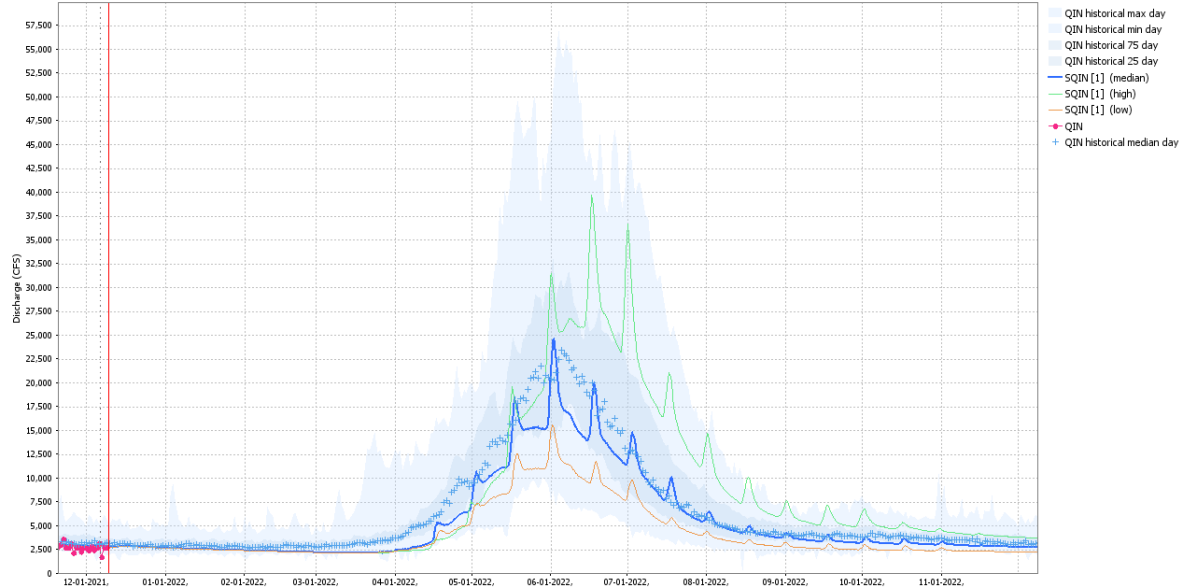


December 10, 2021

Snake River at Heise Forecast

January-July Heise Natural Forecast (KAF)					
	10% Exceedance	Median	Percent of Normal	90% Exceedance	Normal May-Jul (81-10)
IPC	4,252	2,912	75%	2,175	3,871
NWRFC	4,588	2,789	72%	1,893	3,871

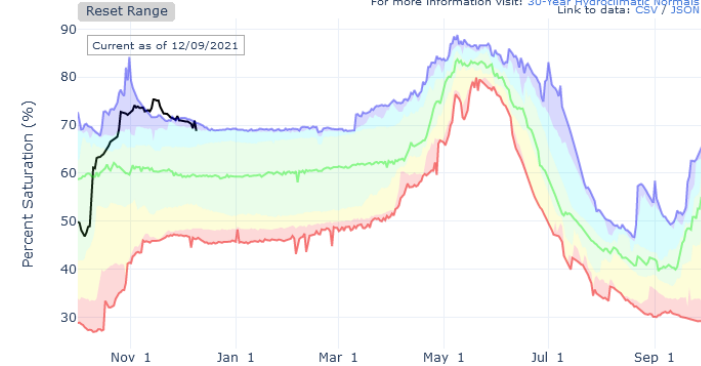
Natural Flow (HEII)



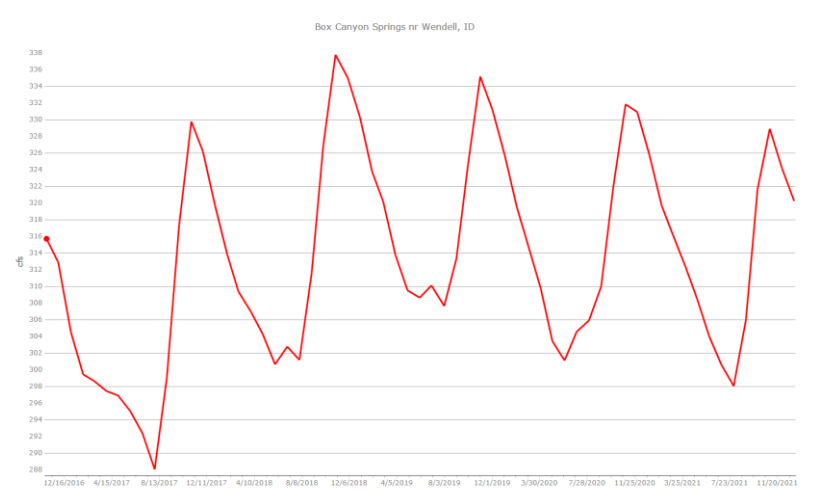
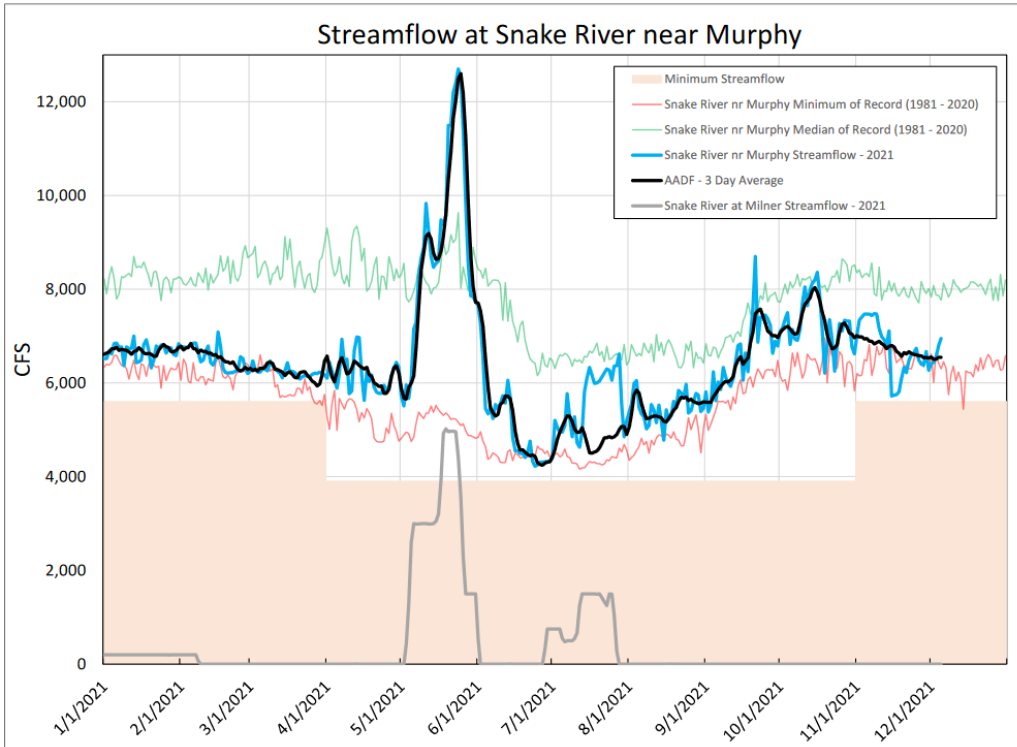
UPPERSNAKE_Forecast: [1] UpperSnake 12-06-2021, 12:00 GMT Current

DEPTH AVERAGED SOIL SATURATION IN SNAKE HEADWATERS

Statistical shading breaks at 10th, 30th, 50th, 70th, and 90th Percentiles
For more information visit: [30-Year Hydroclimatic Normals](#)
[Link to data: CSV / JSON](#)

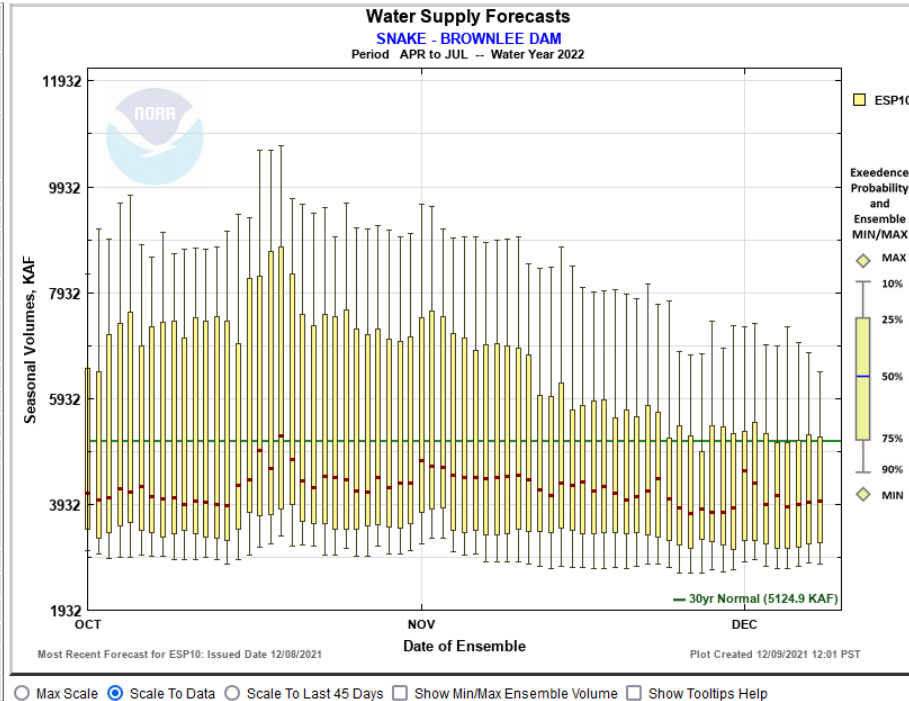


Snake River Flow Conditions



Brownlee Inflow Forecast

SNAKE - BROWNLEE DAM (BRN1) Forecasts for Water Year 2022					
Official Water Supply					
ESP with 10 Days QPF Ensemble: 2021-12-08 Issued: 2021-12-08					
Forecast Period	Forecasts Are in KAF				30 Year Average (1991-2020)
	90 %	50 %	% Average	10 %	
APR-SEP	3892	5244	82	8226	6398
APR-JUL	2800	3988	78	6429	5125
JAN-SEP	6622	8078	84	11948	9600
JAN-JUL	5525	6794	82	10275	8326
OCT-SEP	8538	10068	85	14023	11906
Experimental Water Supply					
HEFS with 15 days EQPF Ensemble: 2021-12-08 Issued: 2021-12-08					
APR-SEP	3799	5255	82	9427	6398
APR-JUL	2752	3913	76	7458	5125
JAN-SEP	6473	8187	85	13425	9600
JAN-JUL	5395	6927	83	11877	8326
OCT-SEP	8396	10199	86	15375	11906
Reference					
ESP with 0 Days QPF Ensemble: 2021-12-08 Issued: 2021-12-08					
APR-SEP	3694	5069	79	8561	6398
APR-JUL	2663	3860	75	6862	5125
JAN-SEP	6391	7990	83	12366	9600
JAN-JUL	5325	6727	81	10710	8326
OCT-SEP	8340	9912	83	14513	11906
Move the mouse over the desired "Forecast Period" to display a graph.					



Columbia River at the Dalles

Forecast

COLUMBIA - THE DALLES DAM (TDAO3) Forecasts for Water Year 2022

Official Water Supply

ESP with 10 Days QPF Ensemble: 2021-12-08 Issued: 2021-12-08

Forecast Period	Forecasts Are in KAF				30 Year Average (1991-2020)
	90 %	50 %	% Average	10 %	
APR-SEP	71720	89292	95	115056	94166
APR-JUL	59899	76643	94	97574	81933
APR-AUG	66267	84189	94	108002	89196
JAN-SEP	86788	109681	95	139642	115946
JAN-JUL	75973	97043	94	122919	103714
OCT-SEP	103145	125680	95	156133	132314

Experimental Water Supply

HEFS with 15 days EQPF Ensemble: 2021-12-08 Issued: 2021-12-08

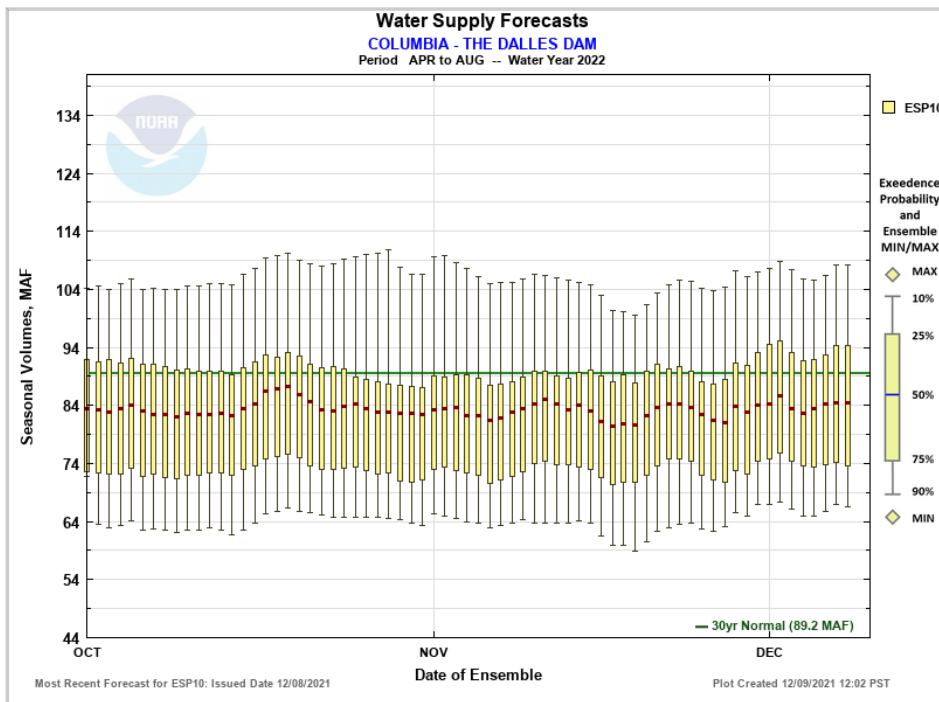
APR-SEP	74385	92399	98	116841	94166
APR-JUL	62696	78891	96	99959	81933
APR-AUG	68682	86782	97	110776	89196
JAN-SEP	90684	112377	97	137963	115946
JAN-JUL	78385	98937	95	123459	103714
OCT-SEP	106818	128652	97	154075	132314

Reference

ESP with 0 Days QPF Ensemble: 2021-12-08 Issued: 2021-12-08

APR-SEP	72106	90729	96	114682	94166
APR-JUL	60589	77005	94	98296	81933
APR-AUG	67183	85324	96	109076	89196
JAN-SEP	89859	110834	96	135687	115946
JAN-JUL	77616	96923	93	121113	103714
OCT-SEP	106206	127514	96	151859	132314

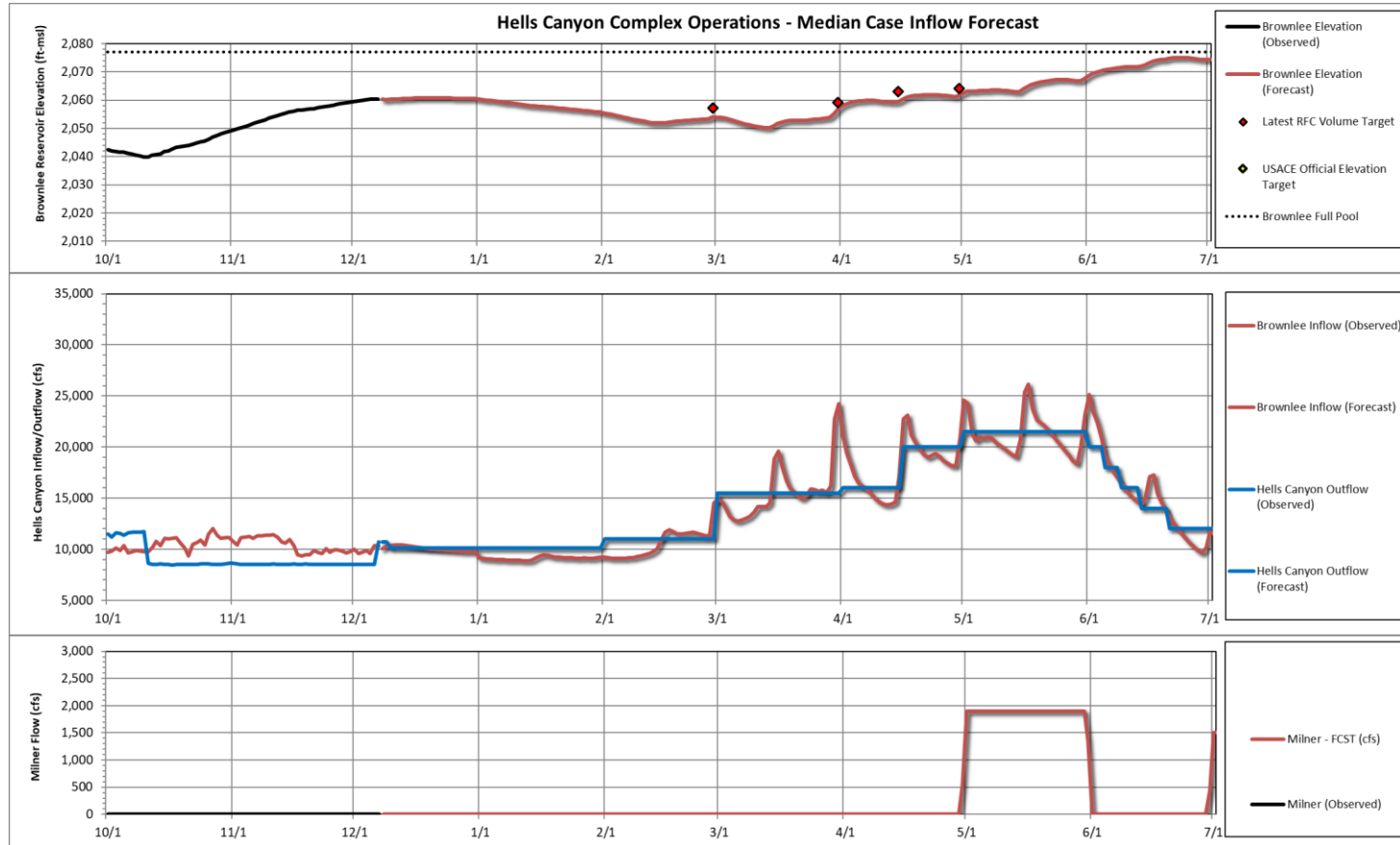
Move the mouse over the desired "Forecast Period" to display a graph.



☐ Max Scale ☒ Scale To Data ☐ Scale To Last 45 Days ☐ Show Min/Max Ensemble Volume ☐ Show Tooltips Help



2022 IPC Flood Control Outlook



Questions?



John Hildreth, P.E.

SENIOR ENGINEER

Idaho Power | Water Resources and Policy

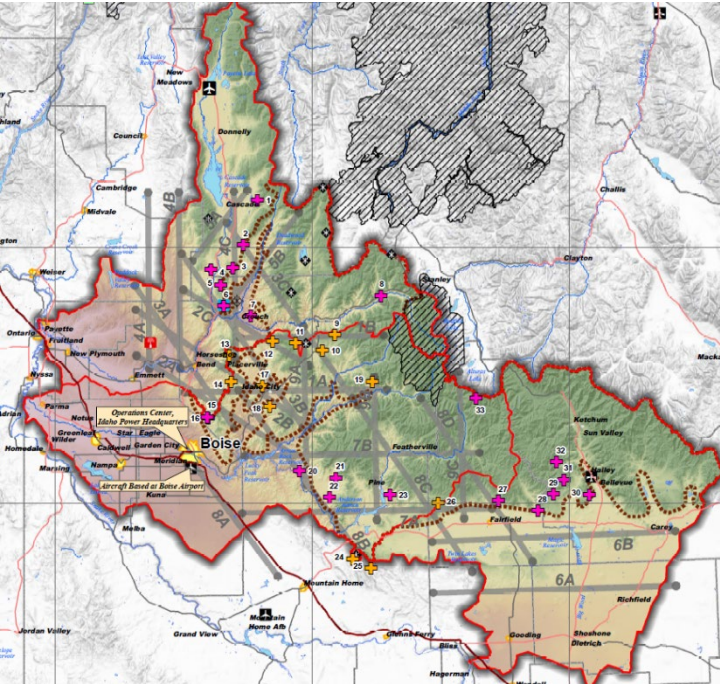
Email: JHildreth@idahopower.com

Upper Snake Water Supply Committee –

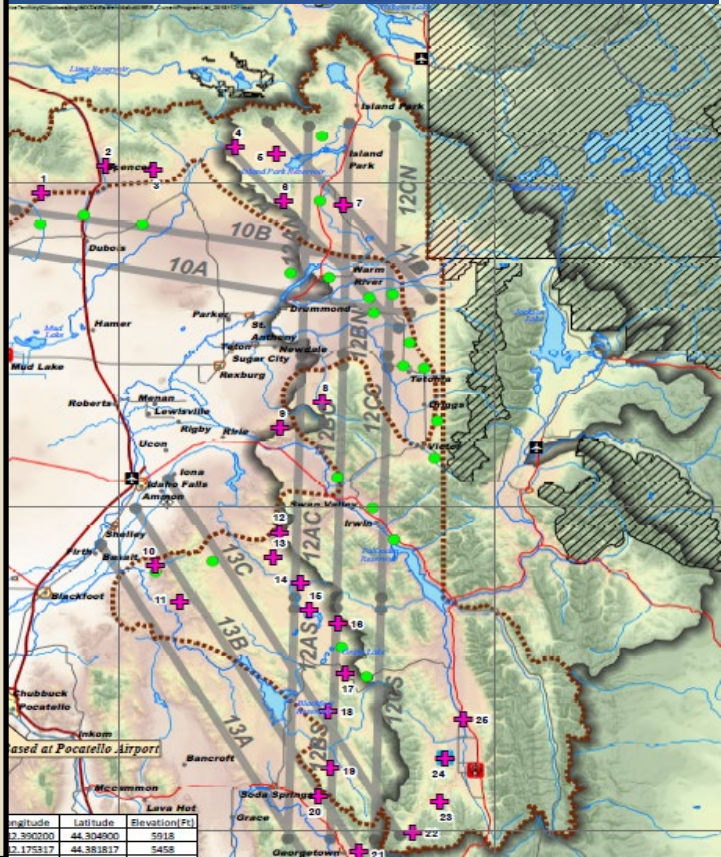


Idaho Collaborative Cloud Seeding Program Update

December 10, 2021



WY 2022 Idaho Collaborative Cloud Seeding Program



Cloud Seeding Operations WY2022

	WY 2022	Operations (WY 2017 - 2021)		
	Nov	November		
		Max	Mean	Min
Central Mountains				
Generator Hours	14.6	362.6	258.3	139.7
Flight Hours	22.1	43.7	27	14.6
BIP Flares	104	282	160	28
EJ Flares	239	1208	542	102
Upper Snake				
Generator Hours	37.8	343.4	179.3	26.2
Flight Hours	15.3	22.1	11.5	4.4
BIP Flares	102	187	70	14
EJ Flares	200	222	92	0



Questions?



IWRB Managed Recharge Program

Upper Snake River Advisory Committee Meeting

Paul Thomas

Recharge Program Project Manager

December 10, 2021

Total Natural Flow Water Recharged 39,729 af

IWRB Recharge - Oct 20 to Dec 6

Diversion Rate

Median: 435 cfs
Max: 582 cfs
Current: 434 cfs

AFRD2

7,027 AF
0 cfs

Twin Falls

NSCC

24,816 AF
361 cfs

TFCC

3,636 AF
29 cfs

SWID

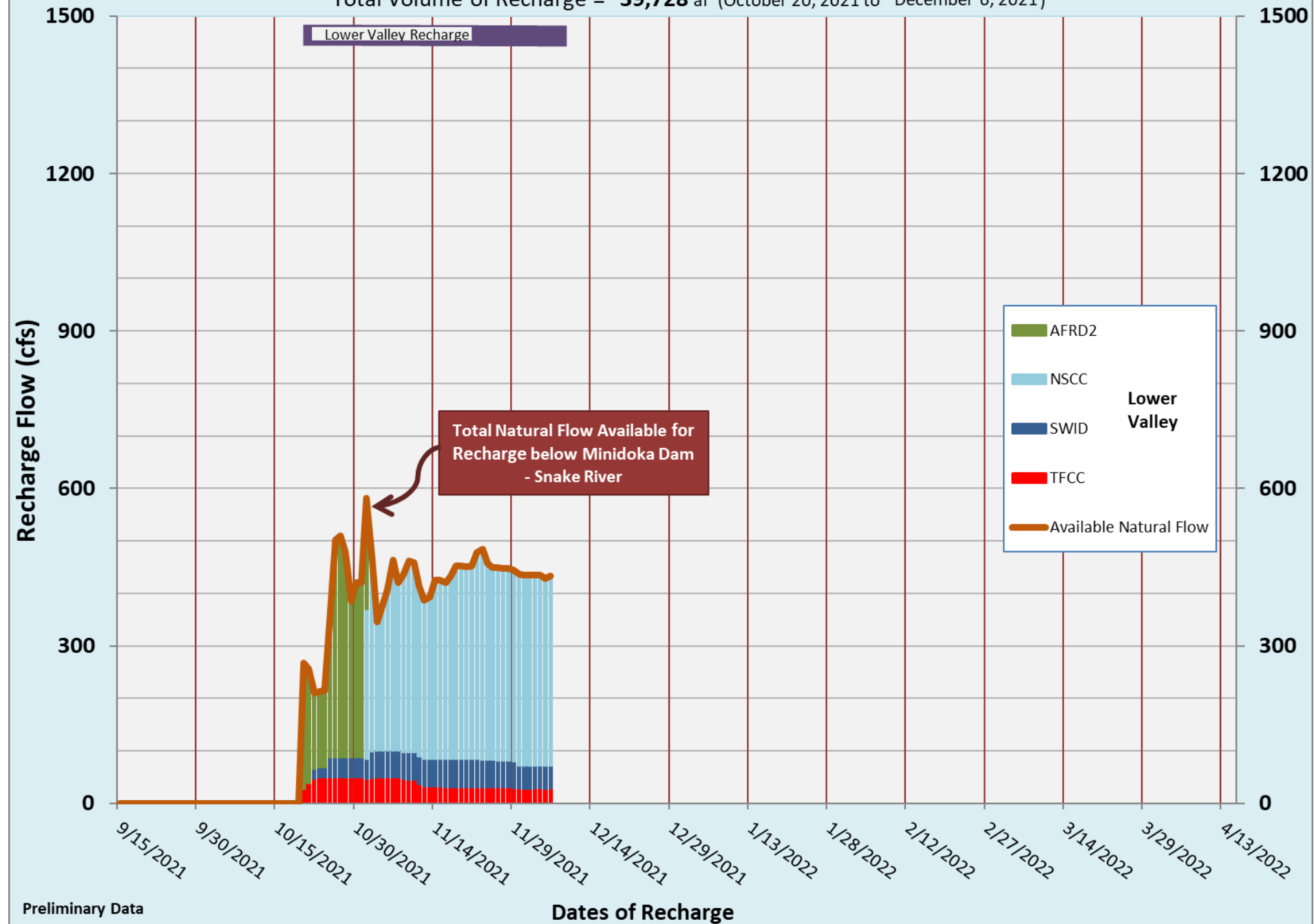
4,250 AF
44 cfs



0 5 10 Miles

IWRB Natural Flow Recharge - 2021/2022 Season

Total Volume of Recharge = **39,728** af (October 20, 2021 to December 6, 2021)



Questions

