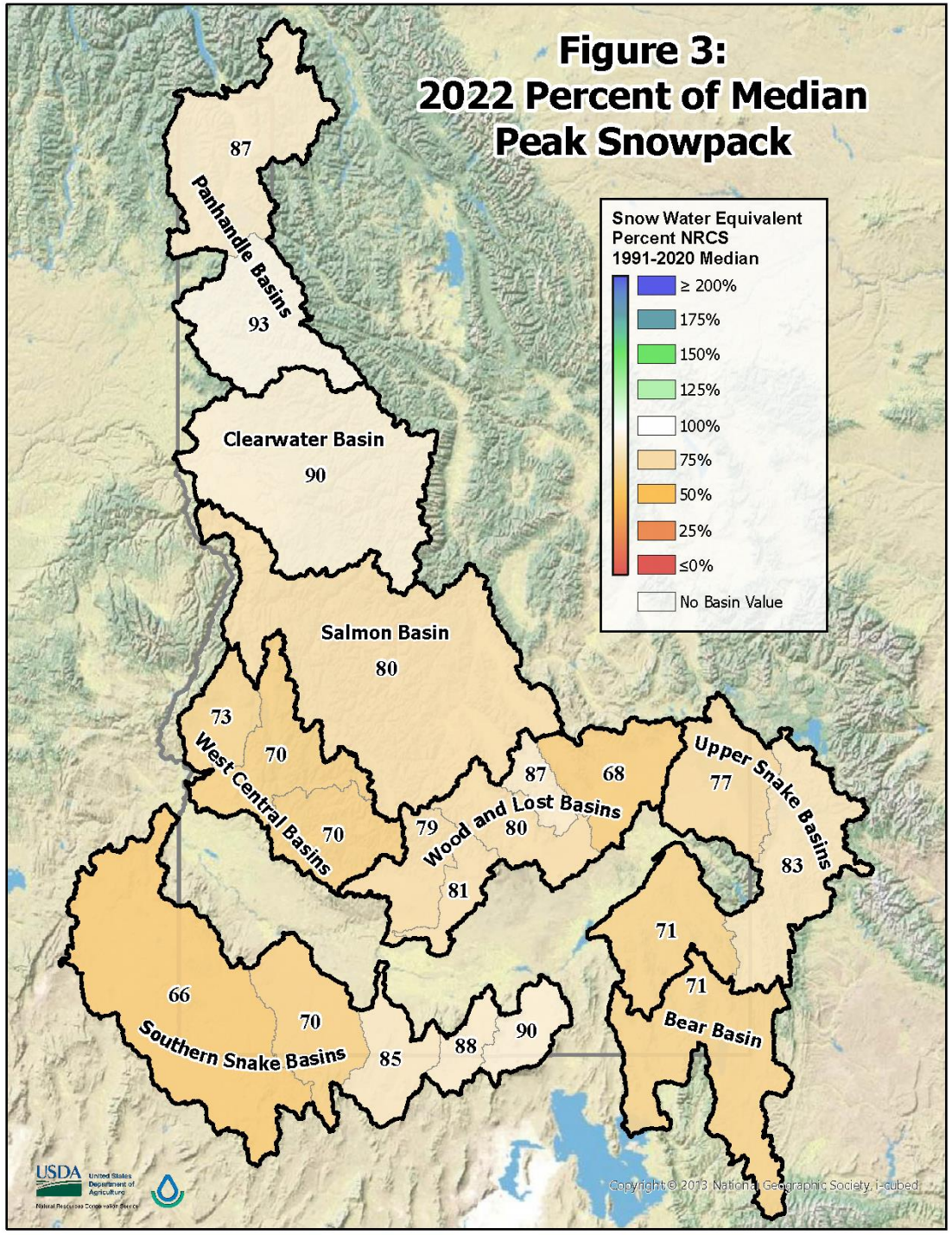
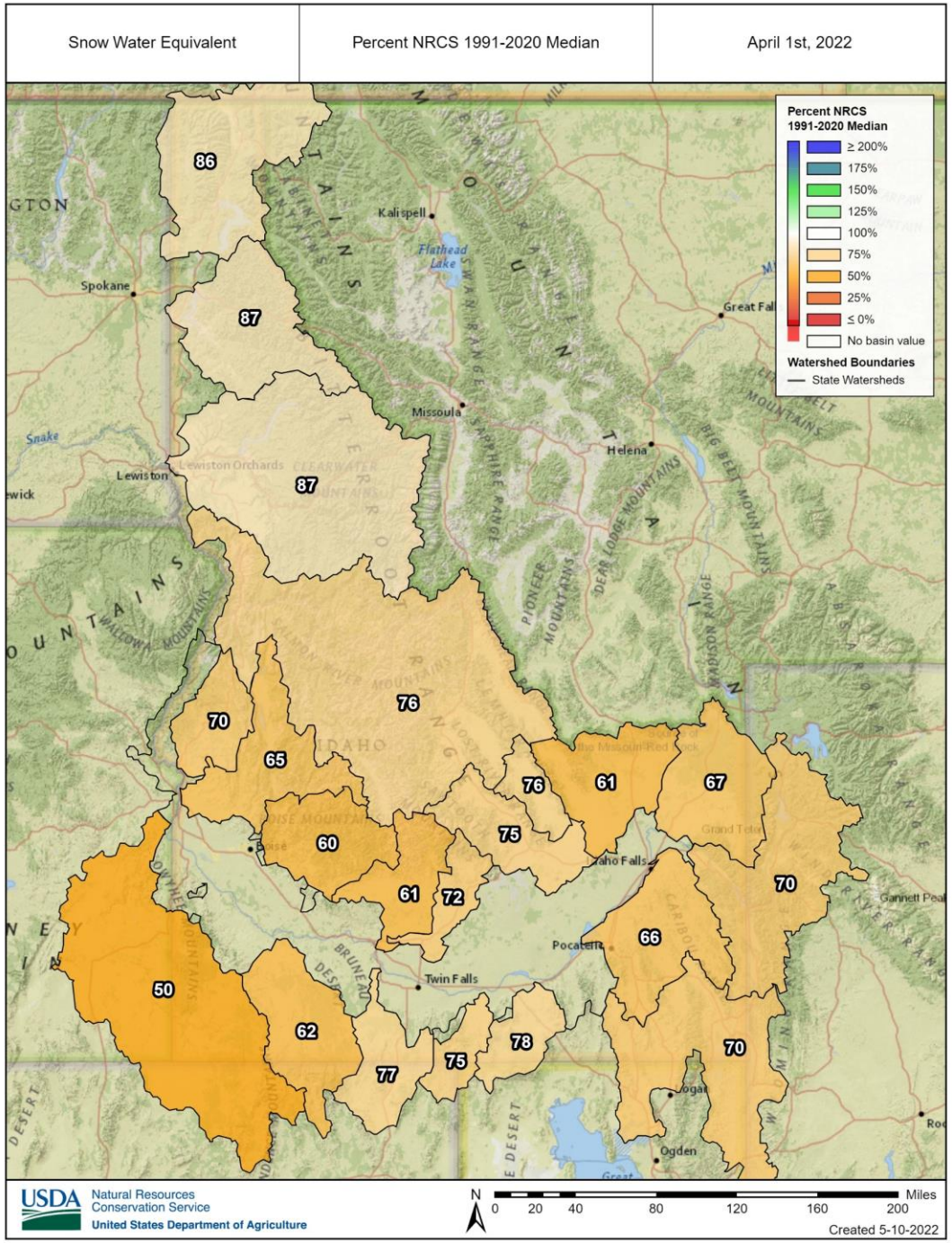
Snowpack and Water Supply Outlook
May 12, 2022

Presented by: Danny Tappa
NRCS Snow Survey



←2022 percent of normal seasonal peak snowpack

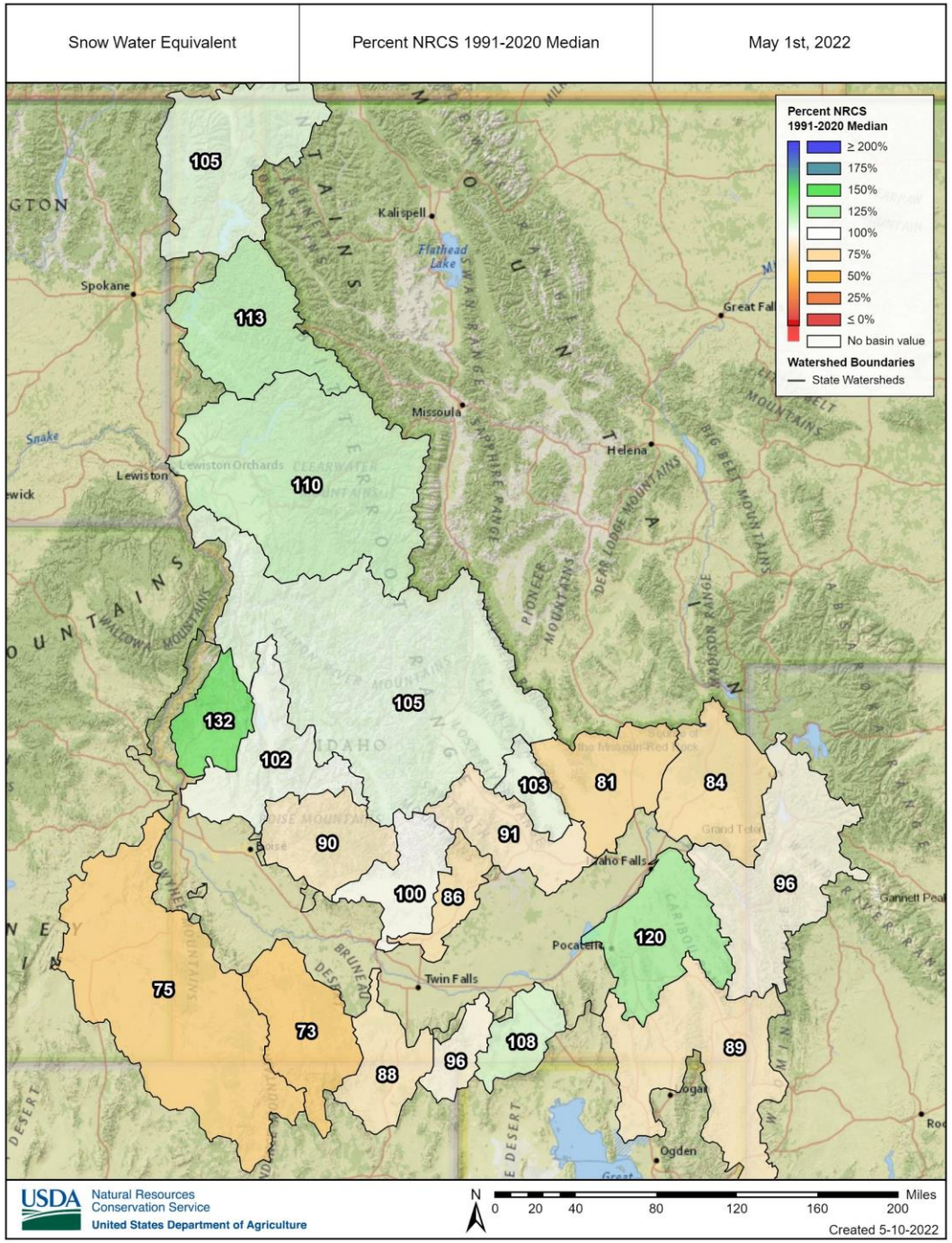


Snowpack

←April 1

VS.

May 1→

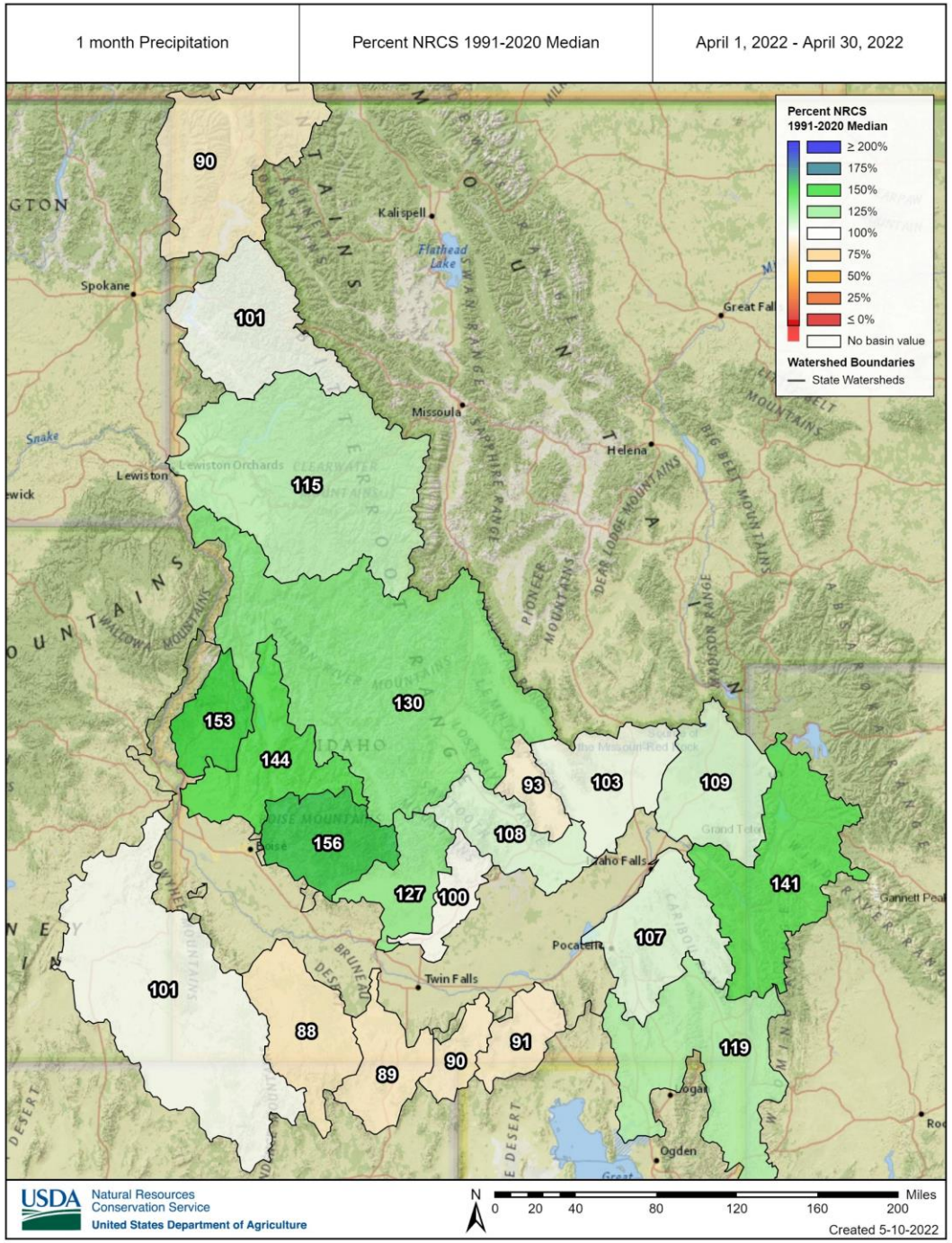


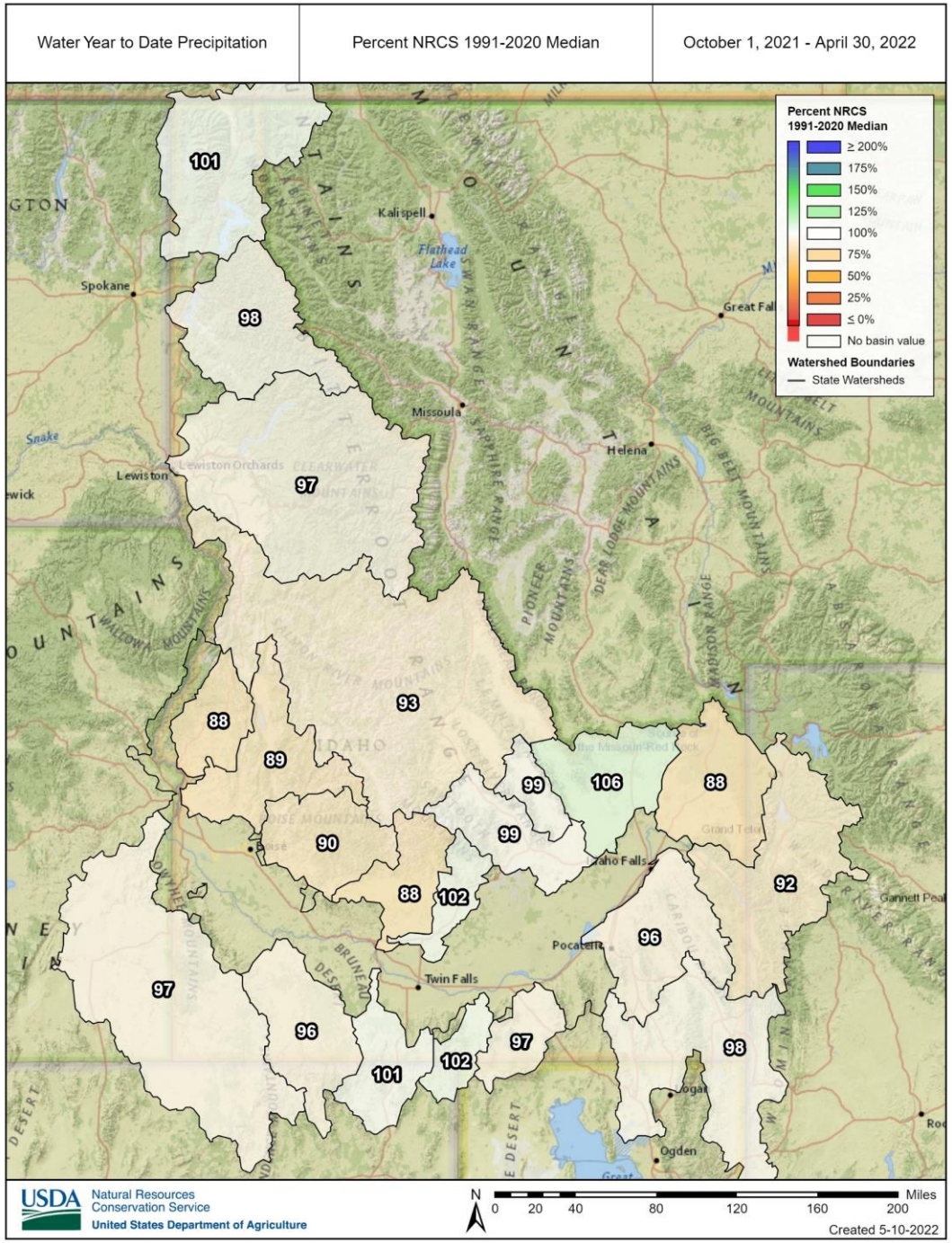
Precipitation

← April

&

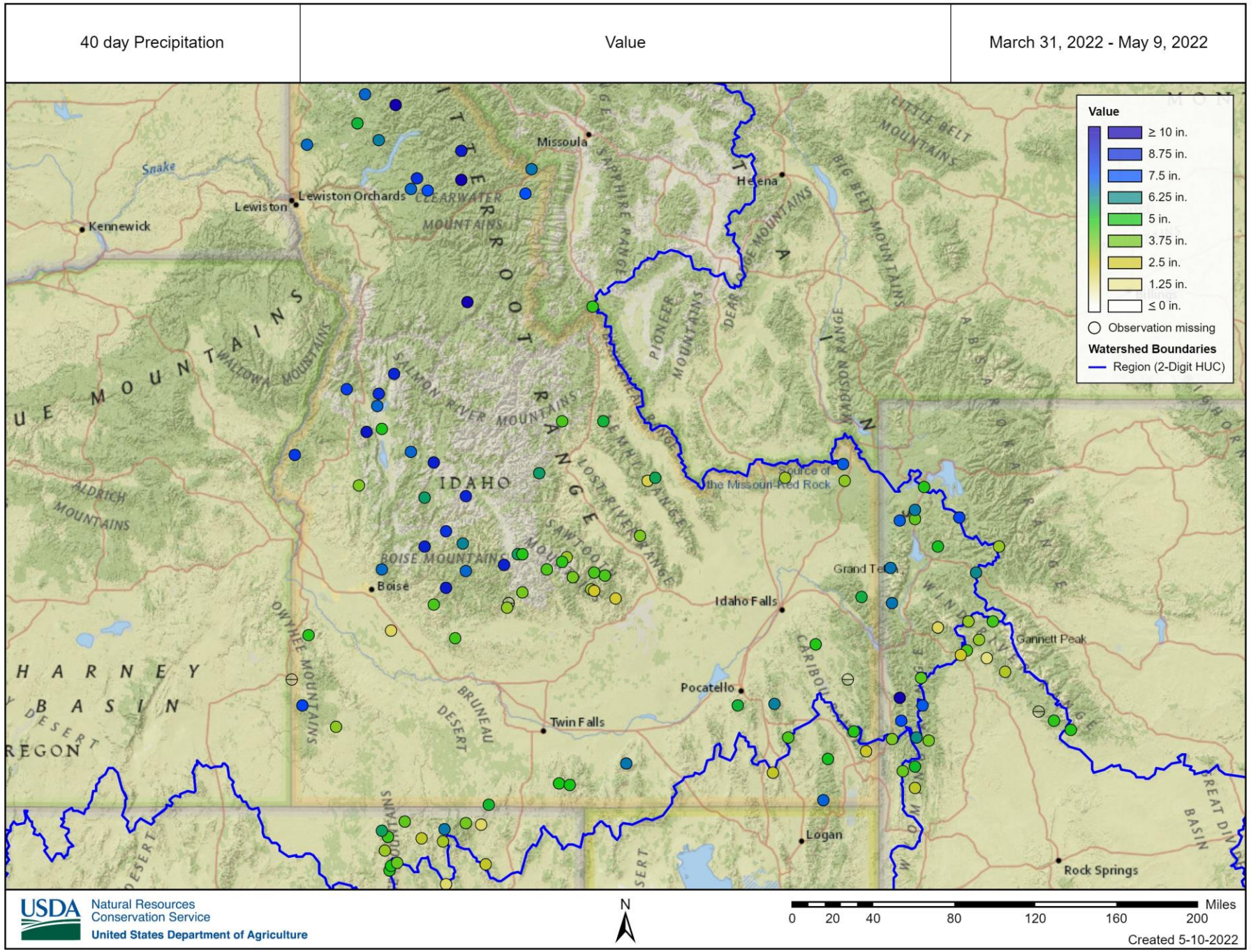
Water Year →





Mountain Precipitation since April 1

- 5-10” in West Central & Salmon
- 4-8” in Southern & Upper Snake
- 2-5” in Wood & Lost



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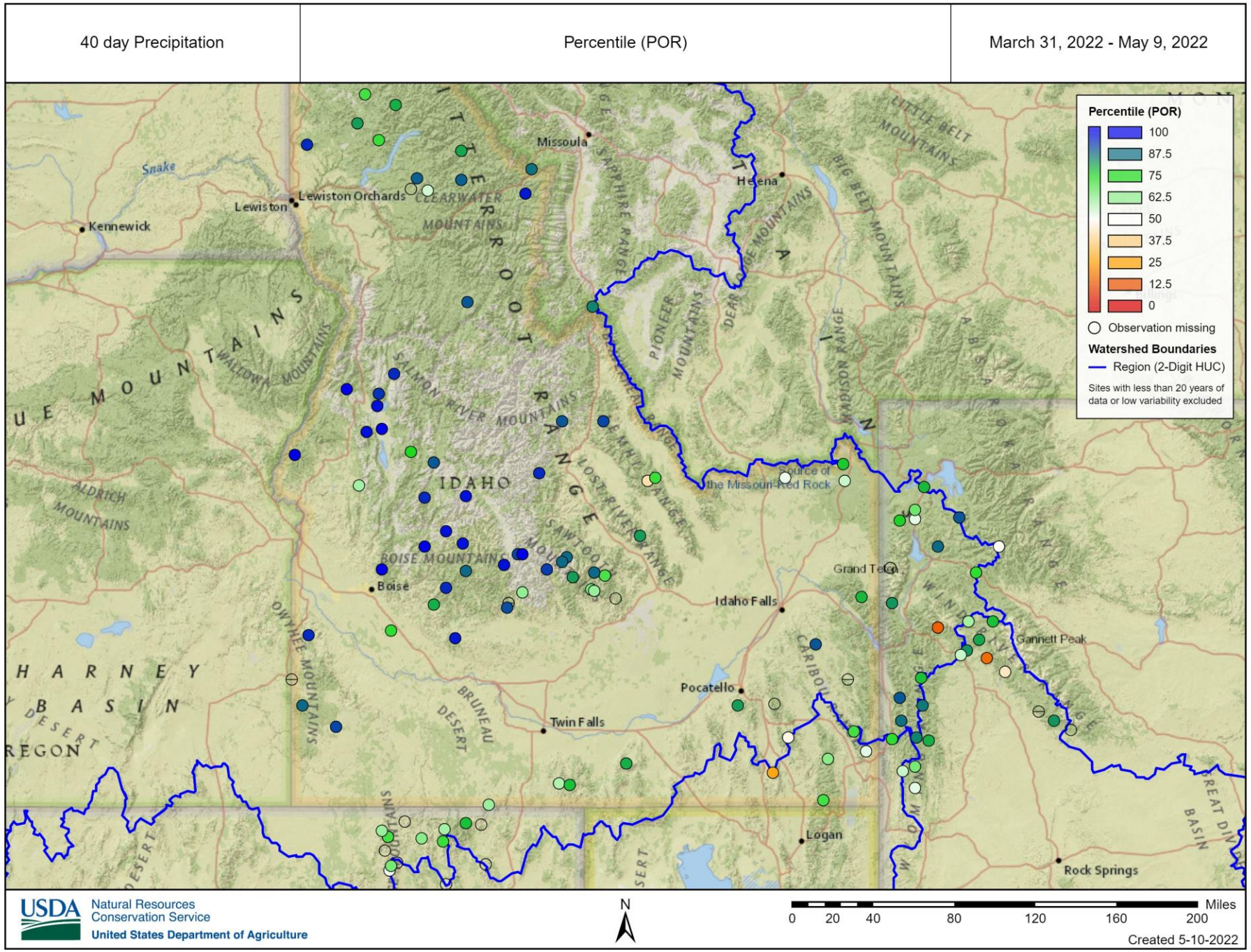
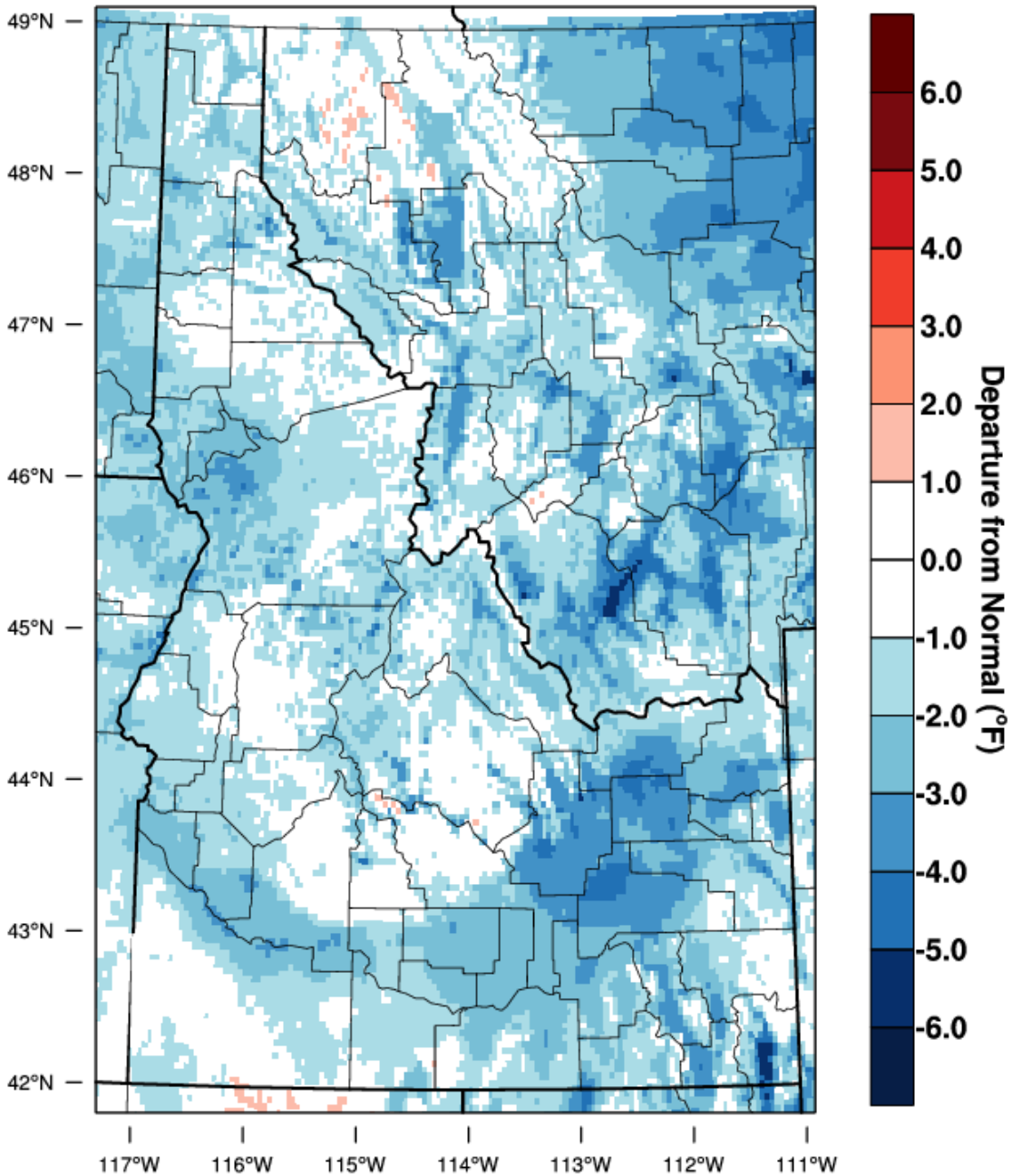


Idaho - Mean Temperature

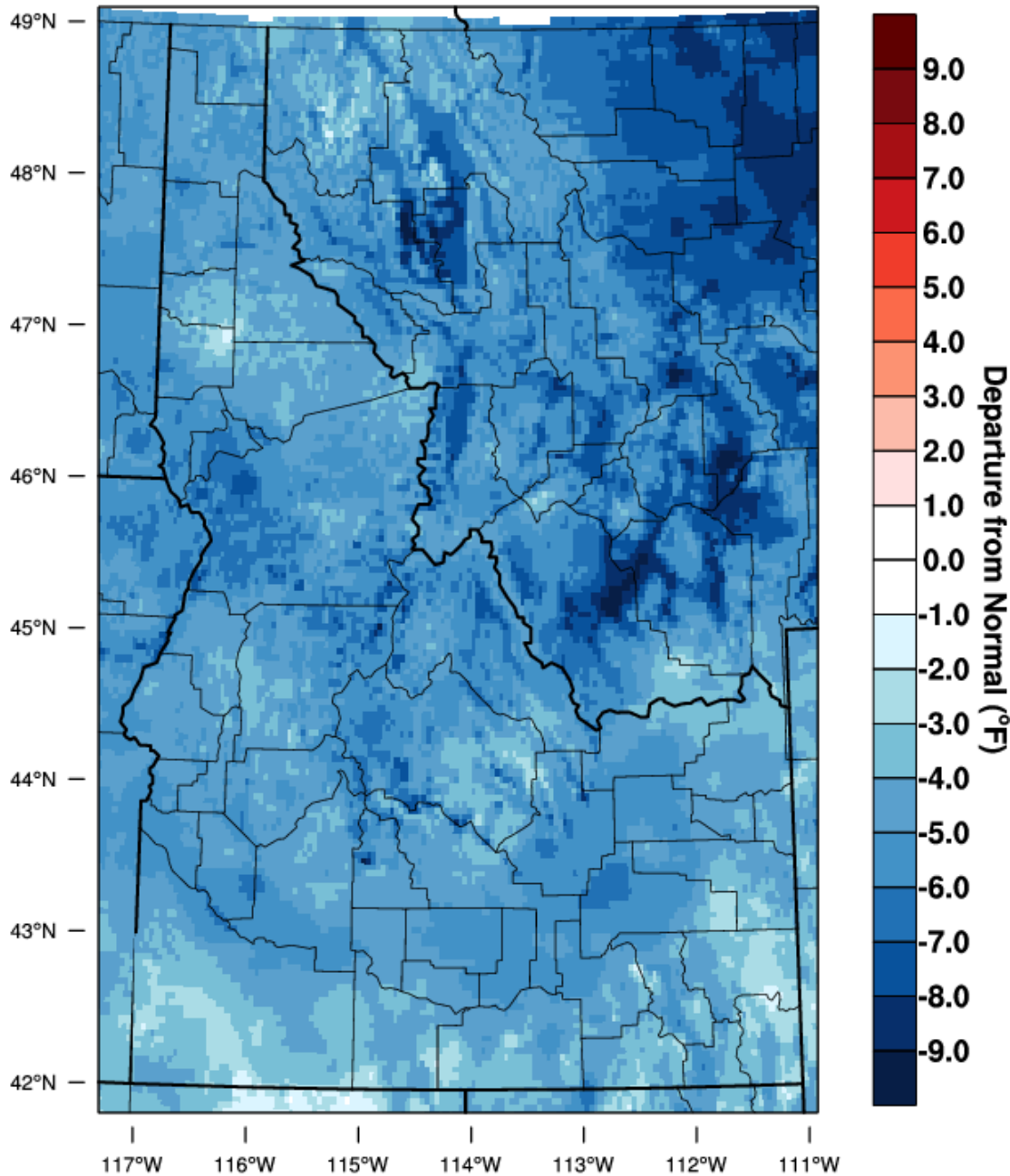
March-April 2022 Departure from 1981-2010 Normal



WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 5 MAY 2022

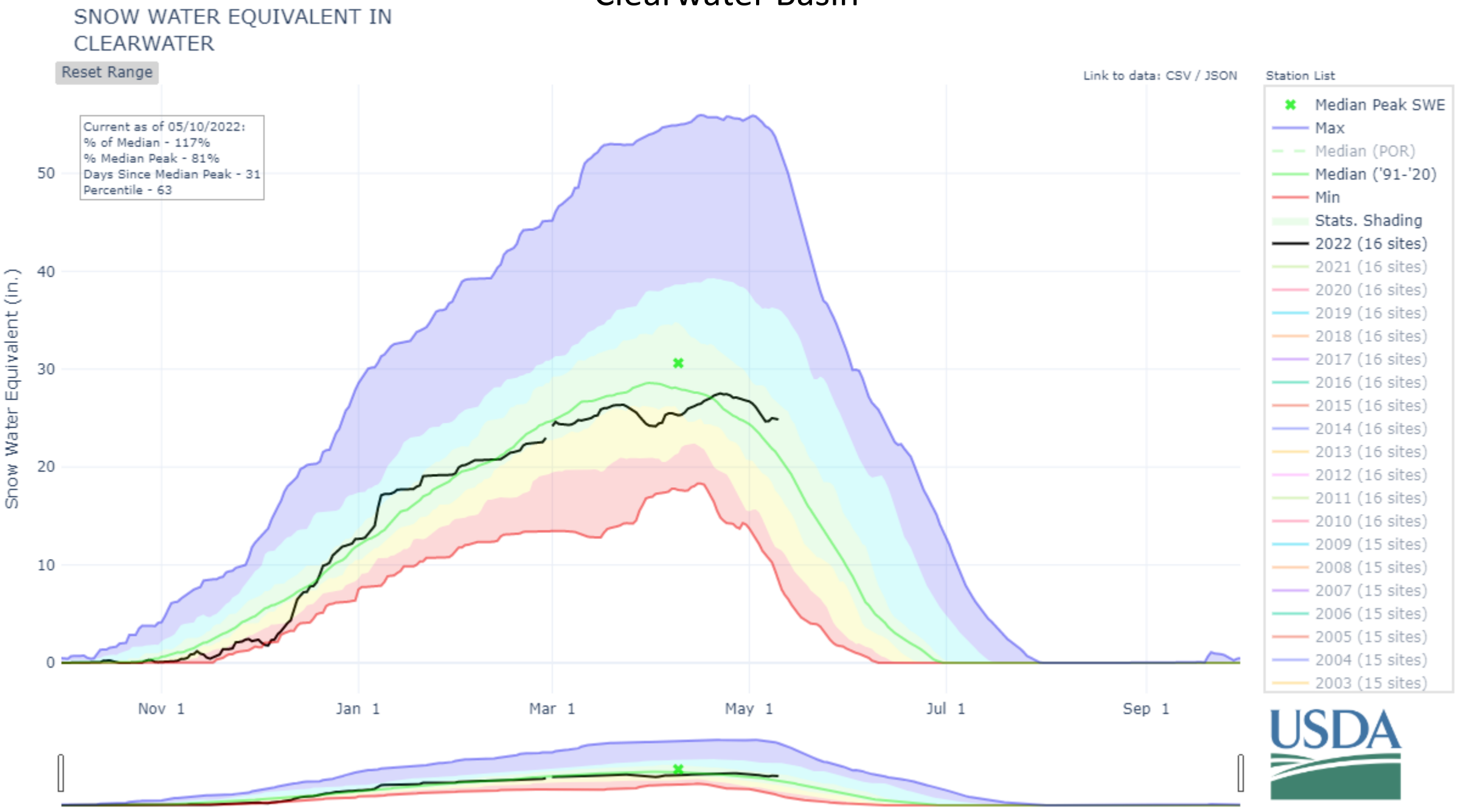
Idaho - Mean Temperature

April 2022 Departure from 1981-2010 Normal

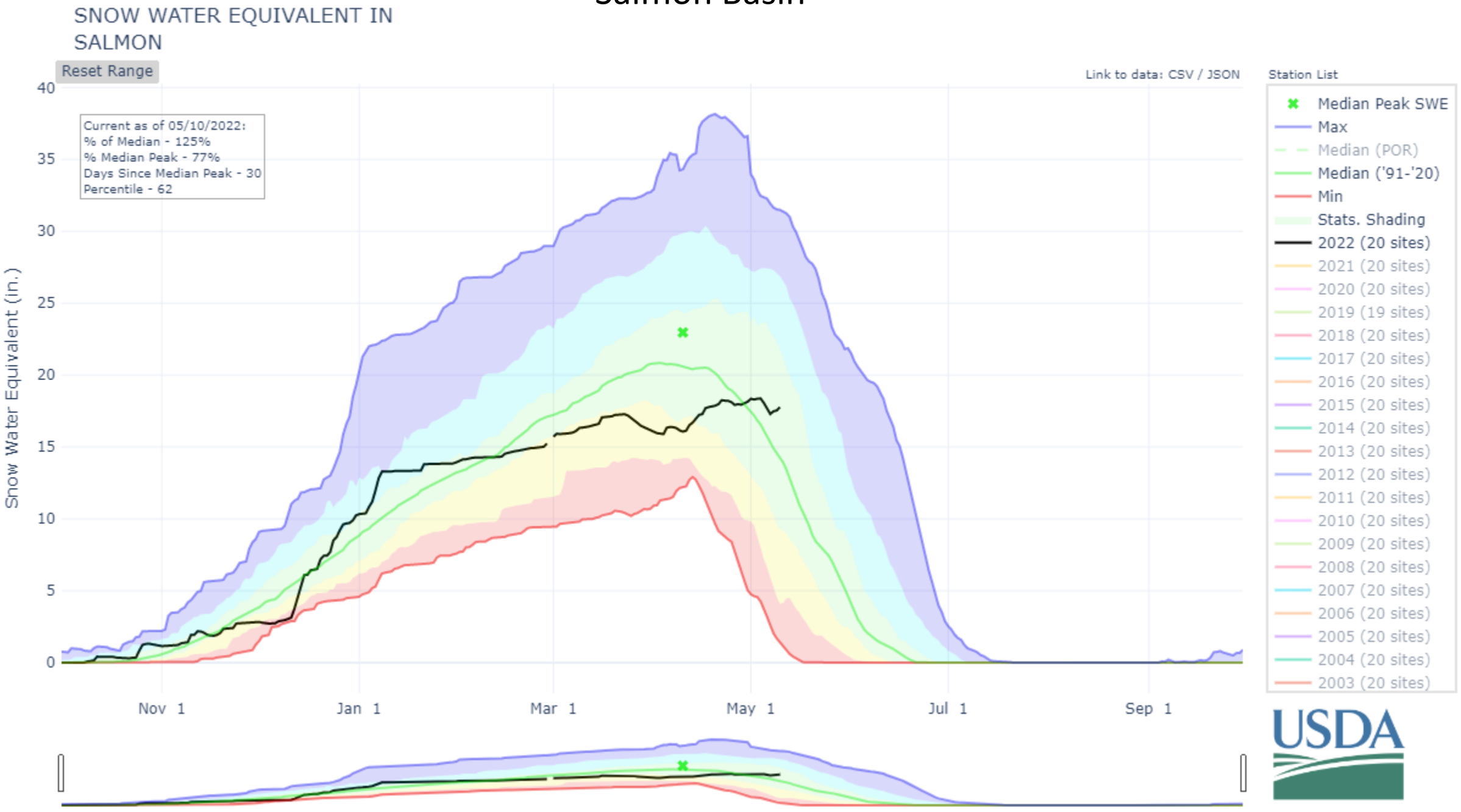


WestWide Drought Tracker, U Idaho/WRCC Data Source: PRISM (Prelim), created 5 MAY 2022

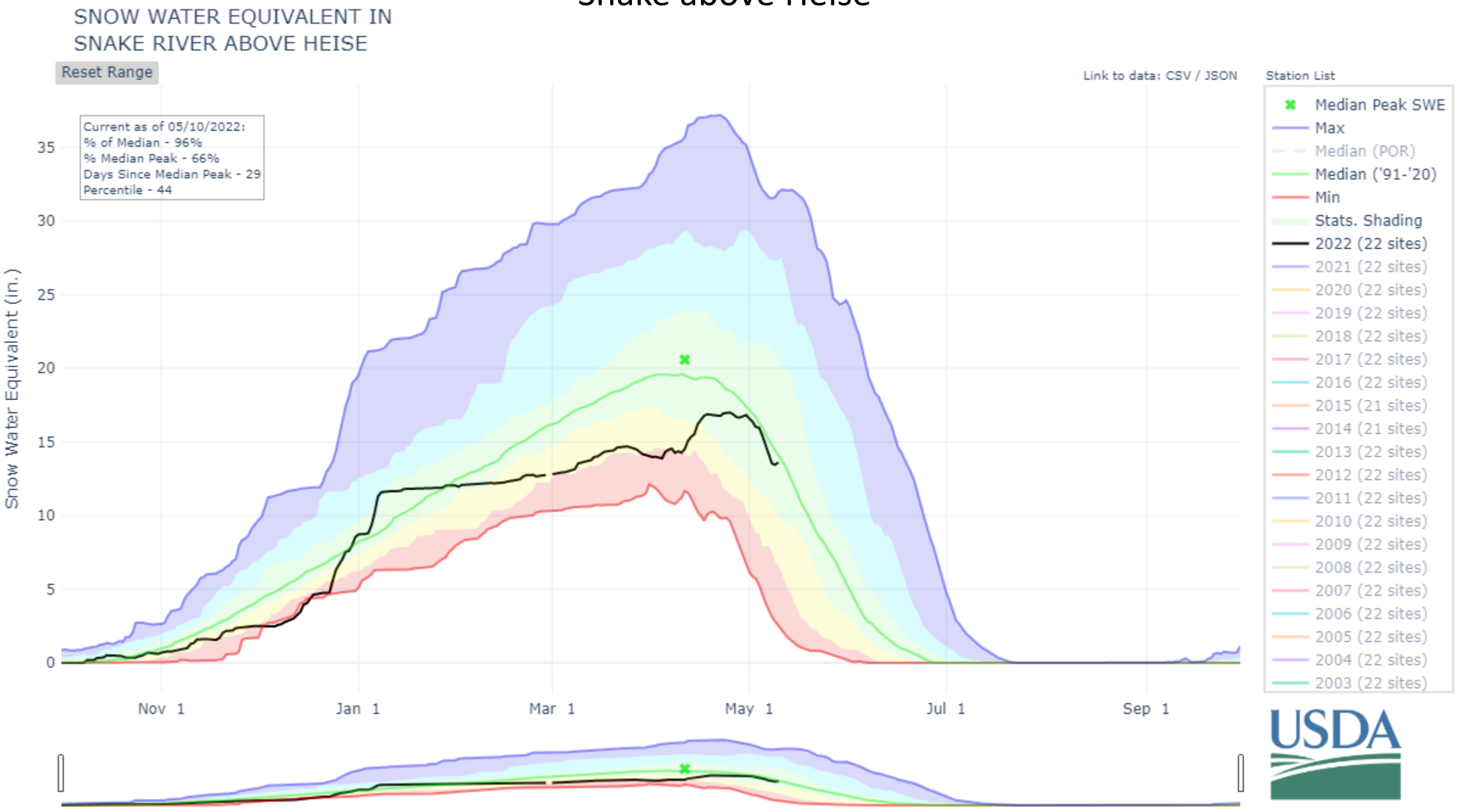
Clearwater Basin



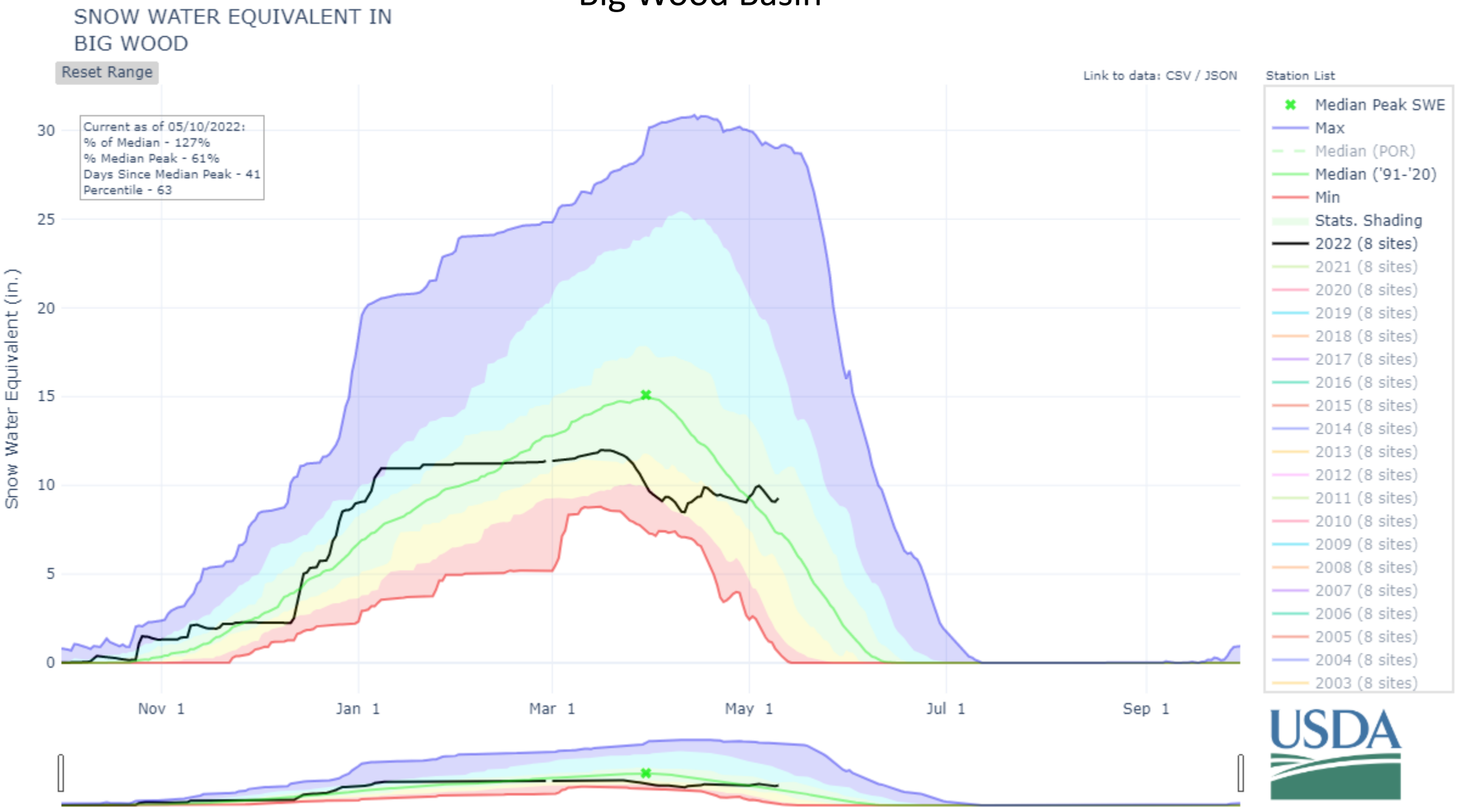
Salmon Basin



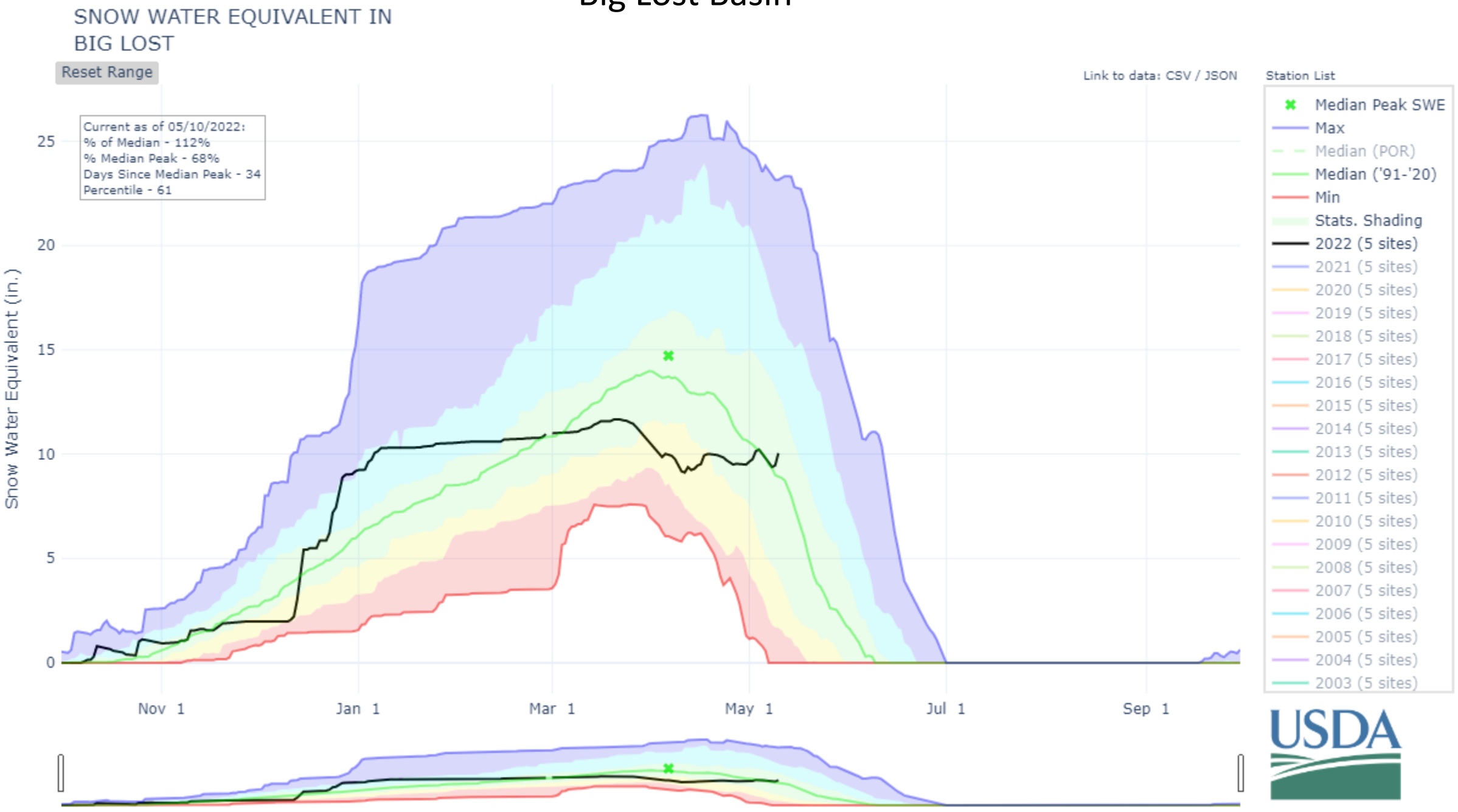
Snake above Heise



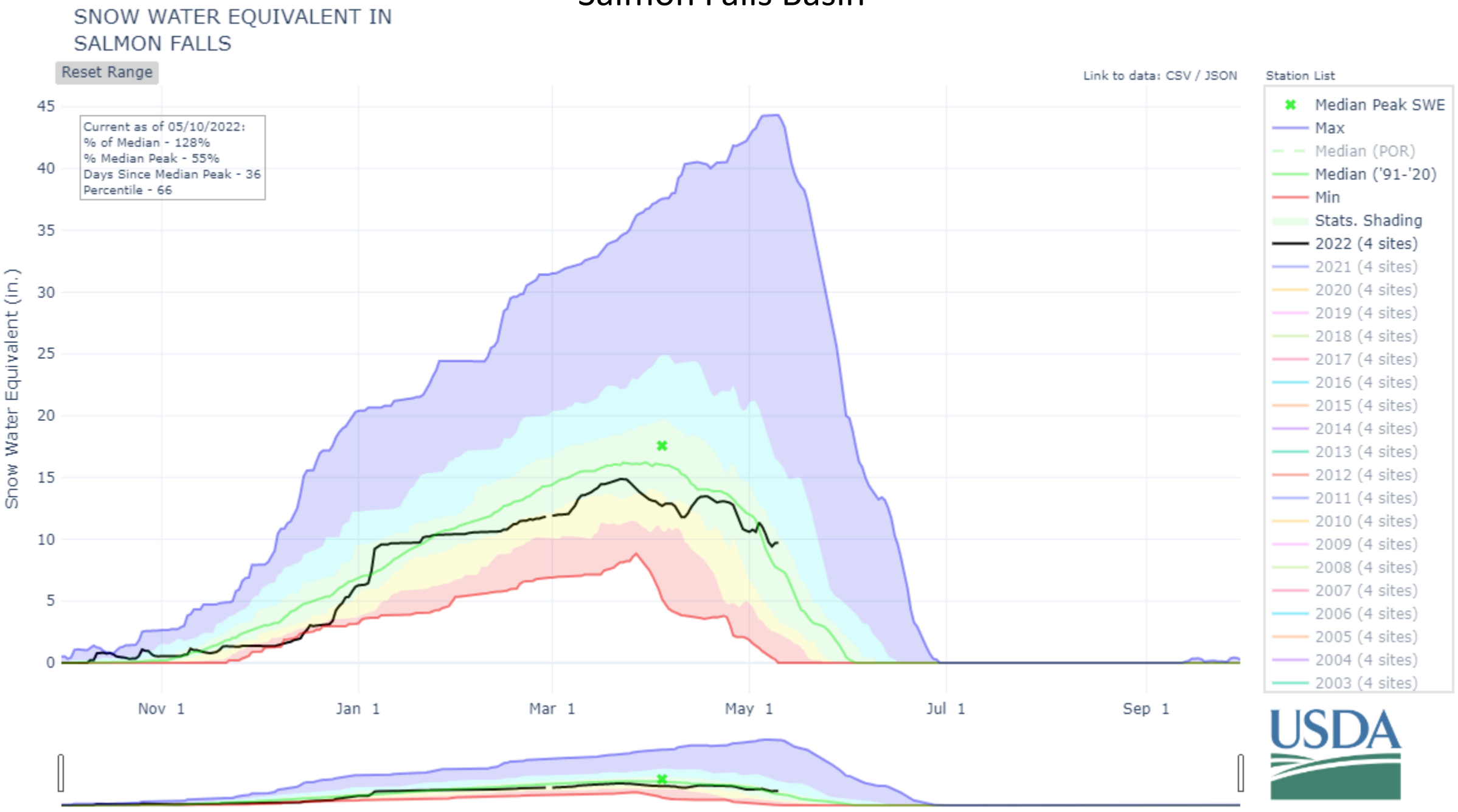
Big Wood Basin



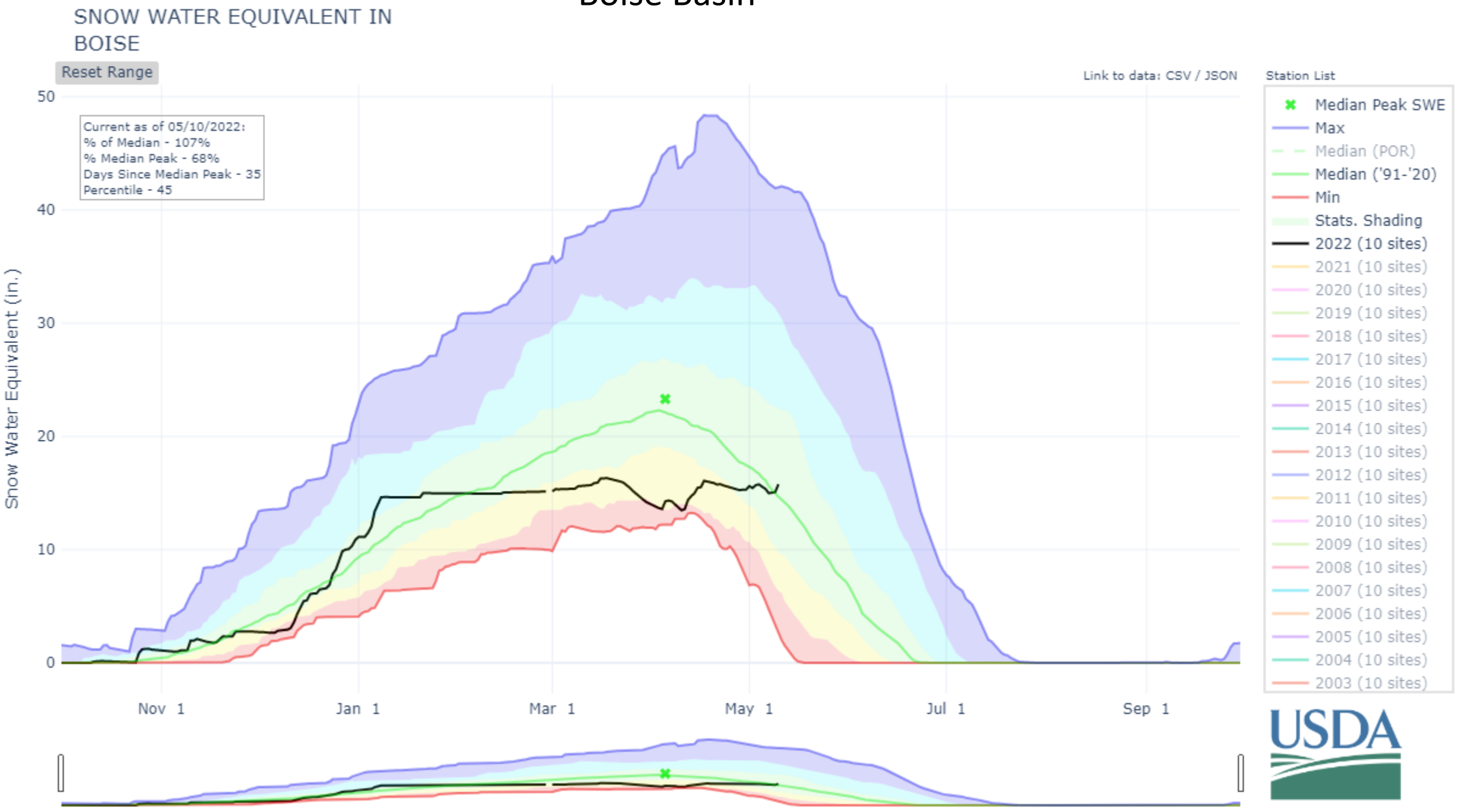
Big Lost Basin

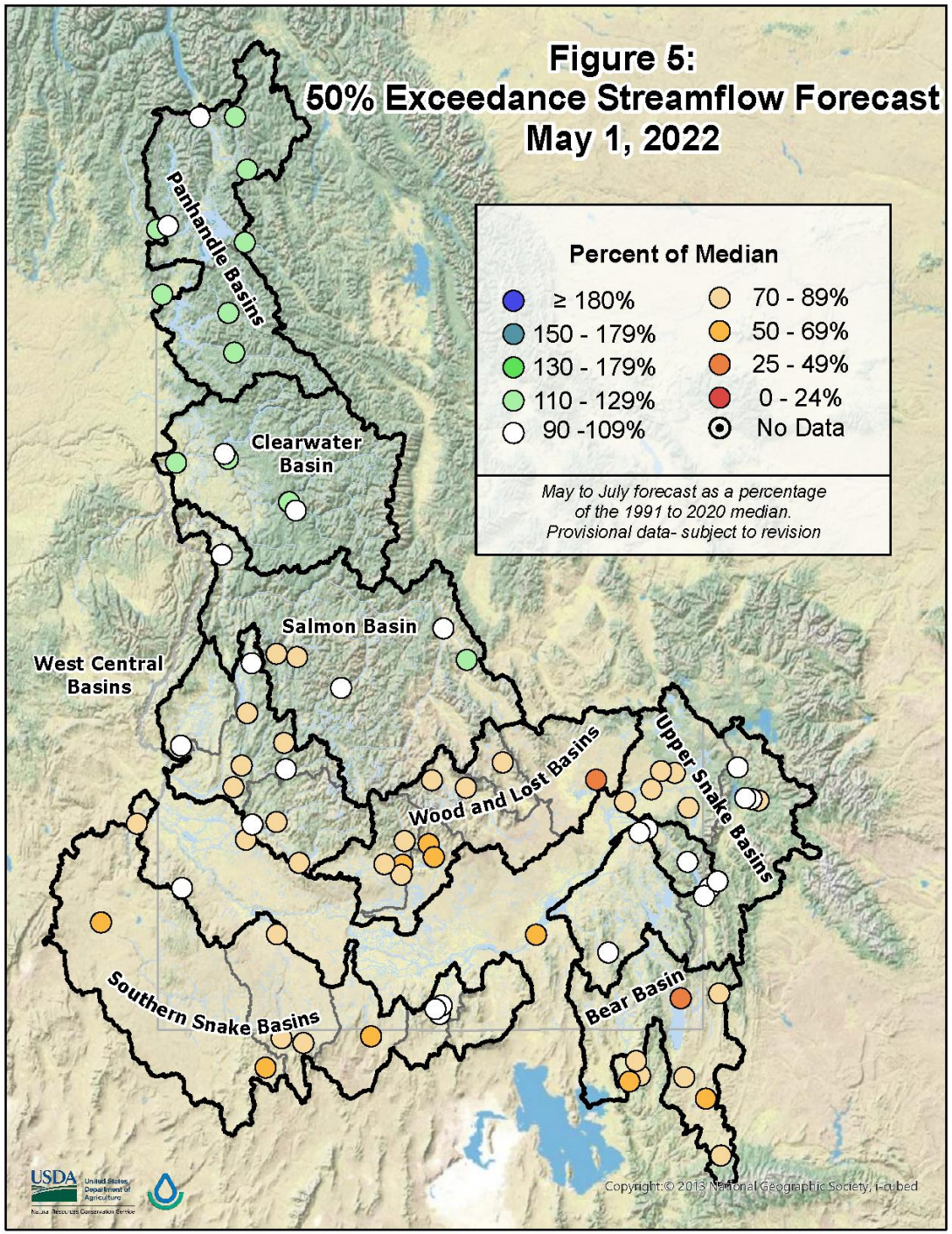


Salmon Falls Basin



Boise Basin


SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN BOISE
Reset Range
Link to data: CSV / JSON
Station List
Current as of 05/10/2022:
% of Median - 107%
% Median Peak - 68%
Days Since Median Peak - 35
Percentile - 45
Snow Water Equivalent (in.)
50
40
30
20
10
0
Nov 1
Jan 1
Mar 1
May 1
Jul 1
Sep 1
Median Peak SWE
Max
Median (POR)
Median ('91-'20)
Min
Stats. Shading
2022 (10 sites)
2021 (10 sites)
2020 (10 sites)
2019 (10 sites)
2018 (10 sites)
2017 (10 sites)
2016 (10 sites)
2015 (10 sites)
2014 (10 sites)
2013 (10 sites)
2012 (10 sites)
2011 (10 sites)
2010 (10 sites)
2009 (10 sites)
2008 (10 sites)
2007 (10 sites)
2006 (10 sites)
2005 (10 sites)
2004 (10 sites)
2003 (10 sites)



Notable May 1 Median Streamflow Forecasts (May-July)

BASIN or REGION	*SWSI Value*	*Most Recent Year With Similar SWSI Value*	*Agricultural Water Supply Shortage May Occur When SWSI is Less Than*
Spokane	0.9	2020	NA
Clearwater	0.7	2012	NA
Salmon	-0.4	2019	NA
Weiser	-0.4	2012	NA
Payette	-1.2	2004	NA
Boise	-1.7	2015	- 2.6
Big Wood above Hailey	-0.9	2000	NA
Big Wood	-2.2	2015	0.5
Camas Creek nr Blaine	-0.1	2012	NA
Little Wood	-1.4	2008	- 1.6
Big Lost	-2.0	2003	0.0
Little Lost	-0.7	2000	1.6
Teton	-0.9	2015	- 3.9
Henrys Fork	-0.9	2003	- 3.1
Snake (Heise)	-2.2	2007	- 1.3
Oakley	-2.2	2021	0.3
Salmon Falls above Jackpot	-1.2	2003	NA
Salmon Falls	-3.0	2015	- 0.8
Bruneau	-0.4	2003	NA
Owyhee	-2.7	1991	- 1.0
Bear River	-0.3	2015	- 3.9

SWSI SCALE, PERCENT CHANCE OF EXCEEDANCE, AND INTERPRETATION

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 -4      -3      -2      -1       0       1       2       3       4
  |------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
99%     87%     75%     63%     50%     37%     25%     13%      1%
-----------------------------------------------------------------------
|Much    | Below     |        Near Normal        | Above    | Much  |
|Below   | Normal    |        Water Supply       | Normal   | Above |
-----------------------------------------------------------------------
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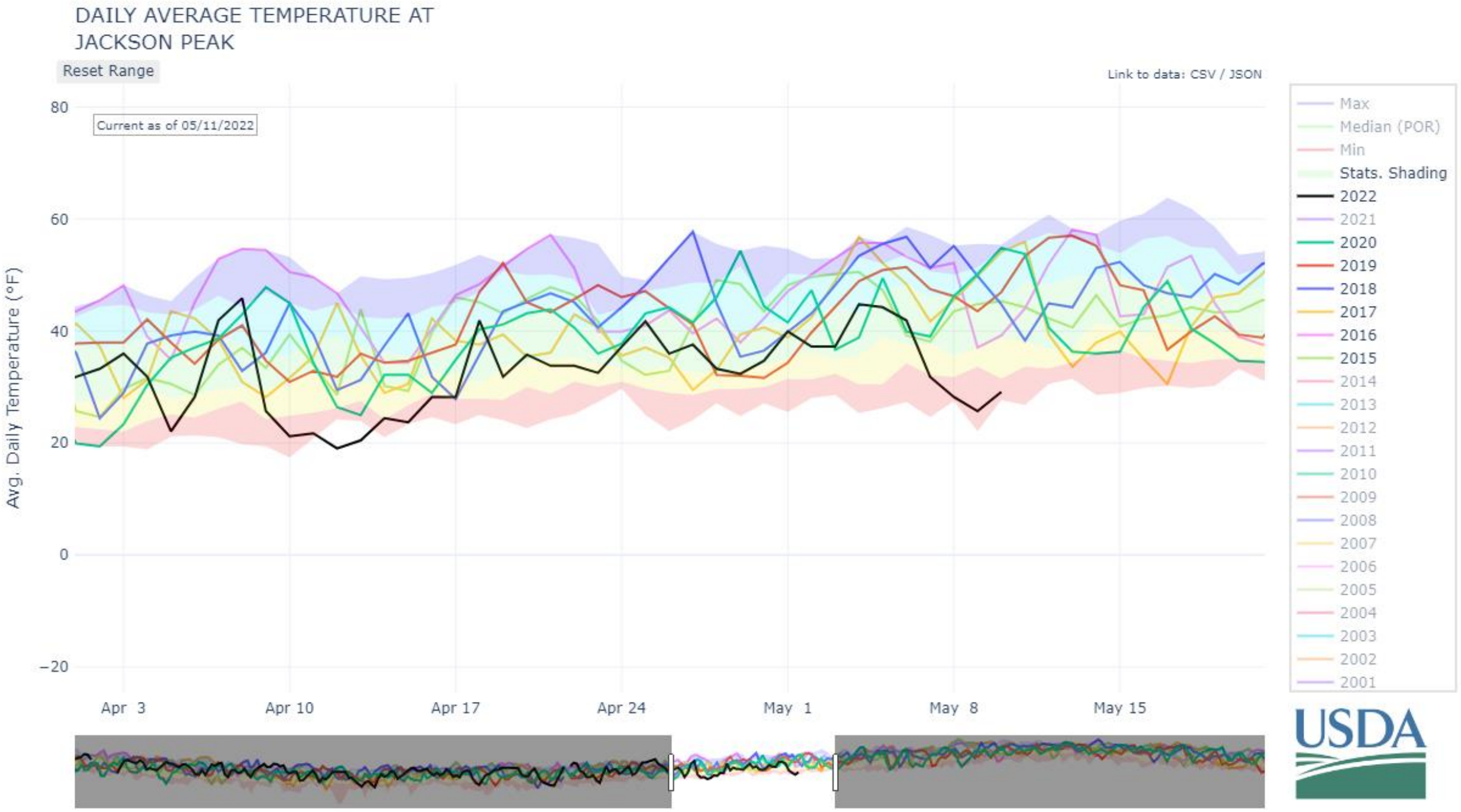

DAILY AVERAGE TEMPERATURE AT
JACKSON PEAK
Reset Range
Link to data: CSV / JSON
Current as of 05/11/2022
Avg. Daily Temperature (°F)
80
60
40
20
0
−20
Apr 3
Apr 10
Apr 17
Apr 24
May 1
May 8
May 15
Max
Median (POR)
Min
Stats. Shading
2022
2021
2020
2019
2018
2017
2016
2015
2014
2013
2012
2011
2010
2009
2008
2007
2006
2005
2004
2003
2002
2001
USDA

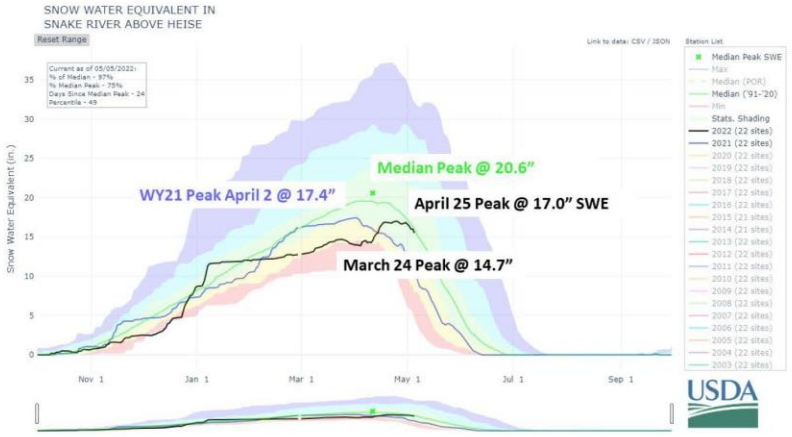
USDA

United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Idaho Water Supply Outlook Report

May 1, 2022



April storms raised SWE levels by 2.3" in the Snake River headwaters since March 24. However, SWE peaked 3.6" below the 30-year median on April 25, which is 83% of normal for this basin.

The wet and cold April brought sighs of relief across Idaho as storms brought more snow and rain to our drought-afflicted region. Last month it looked as though peak snowpack had come very early across the state. Thankfully, the colder than usual temperatures slowed down snowmelt runoff, and at higher elevations, we saw the snowpack continue to increase. Despite the good news, peak snowpack continues to be below to well below normal across all basins (Fig. 3 & 4). We expect that water supply will continue to be restricted in many watersheds this irrigation season and that drought conditions will persist.

NRCS

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Contact Information:

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