

Weather Forecast Office

Pendleton, OR

Monday, June 3

Month in Review - May 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 - May 2024

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- Temperatures were predominantly near to below normal across the forecast area during May.
- Near- to above-normal precipitation was recorded across the Blue Mountain foothills and portions of the lower Columbia Basin and Blue Mountains. Elsewhere, mostly below-normal precipitation was observed during May.
- Drought Monitor conditions worsened across portions of Washington and far northeast Oregon, but improved across central, north-central, and portions of northeast Oregon.
- Snow water equivalent (SWE) continues to decline with melt-out of SNOTELs having already occurred except at the highest elevations.



Local Storm Reports (LSRs) - May 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 May's local storm reports in NWS Pendleton's forecast area: <https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/lsr/#PDT/202405010700/202406010700/011011>
- For recent LSRs, <https://www.weather.gov/source/crh/lsrcmap.html?sid=pdt> or <https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/lsr/#PDT/YYYYMMDDHHmm/YYYYMMDDHHmm/111111> and change the time to your desired date range.

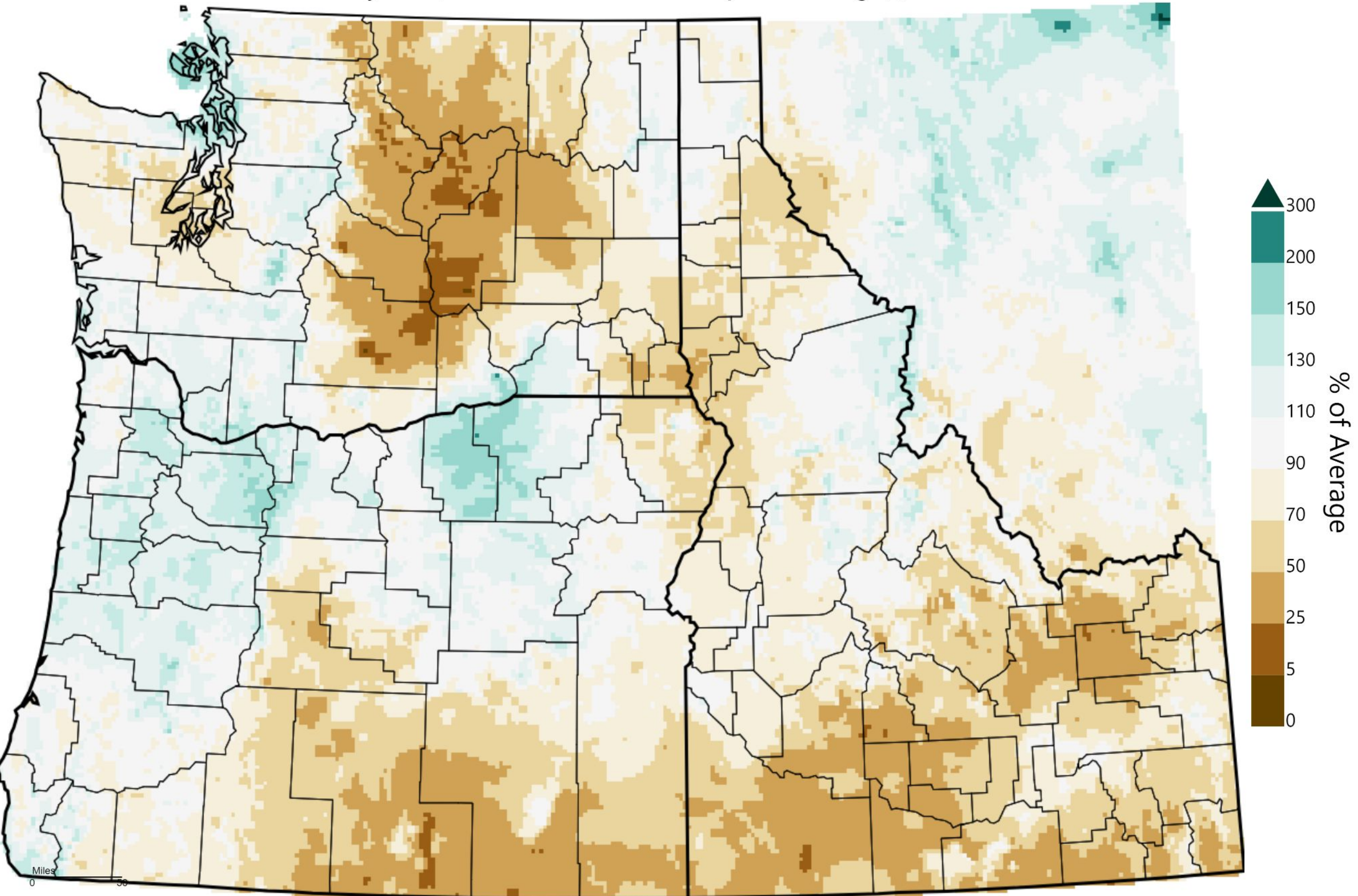


Precipitation Anomaly - May 2024

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Pacific Northwest - Precipitation

May 2024, Percent of 1991-2020 Computed Average(s)



Precipitation was generally below normal across south-central and southeast WA, with the exception of portions of the lower Columbia Basin and foothills of the Blue Mountains in the vicinity of the Tri-Cities and Walla Walla.

Precipitation was mostly below normal across the lower elevations of central OR and Wallowa County.

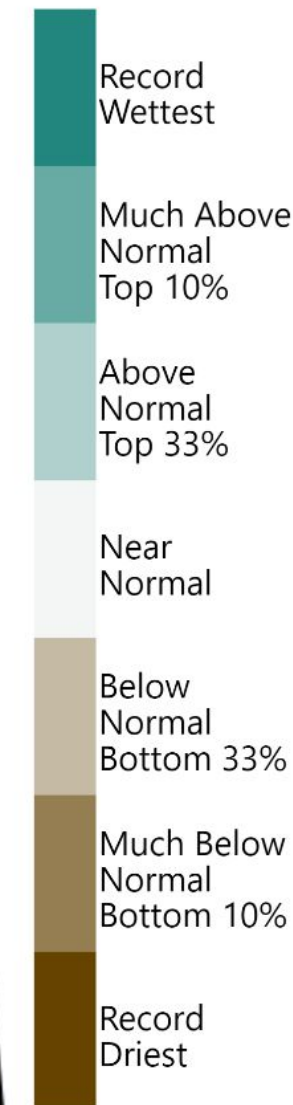
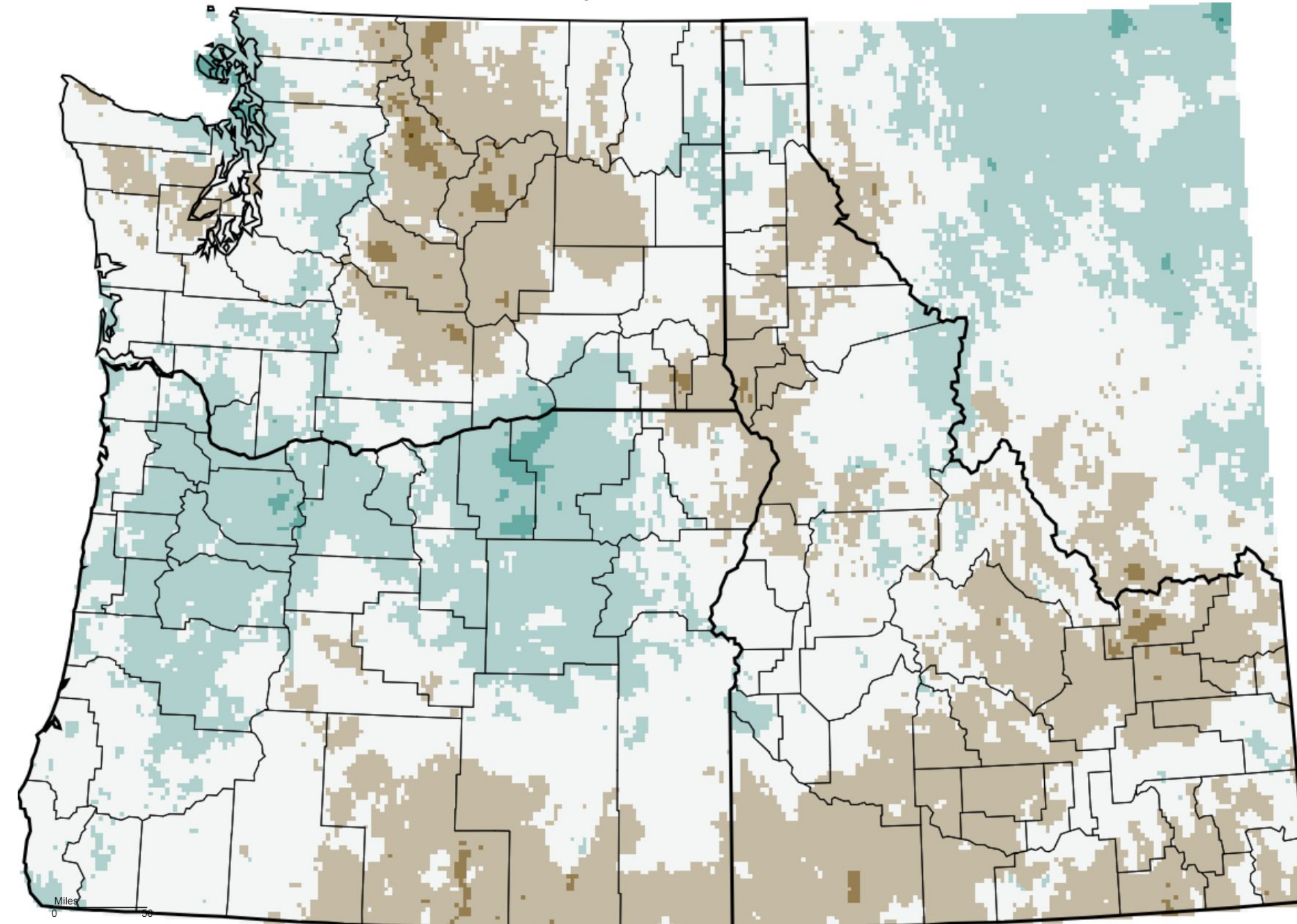
Above-normal precipitation was observed in north-central and northeast OR, with the greatest positive anomaly in the lower Columbia Basin and along the foothills of the northern and southern Blue Mountains.



Precipitation Percentiles - May 2024

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Pacific Northwest - Precipitation
May 2024, Percentile



Rankings (1895-2024)

Precipitation was generally below normal across south-central and southeast WA, with the exception of portions of the lower Columbia Basin and foothills of the Blue Mountains in the vicinity of the Tri-Cities and Walla Walla.

Precipitation was near to below normal across the lower elevations of central OR and Wallowa County.

Above-normal precipitation was observed in north-central and northeast OR, with the greatest positive anomaly in the lower Columbia Basin and along the foothills of the northern and southern Blue Mountains.

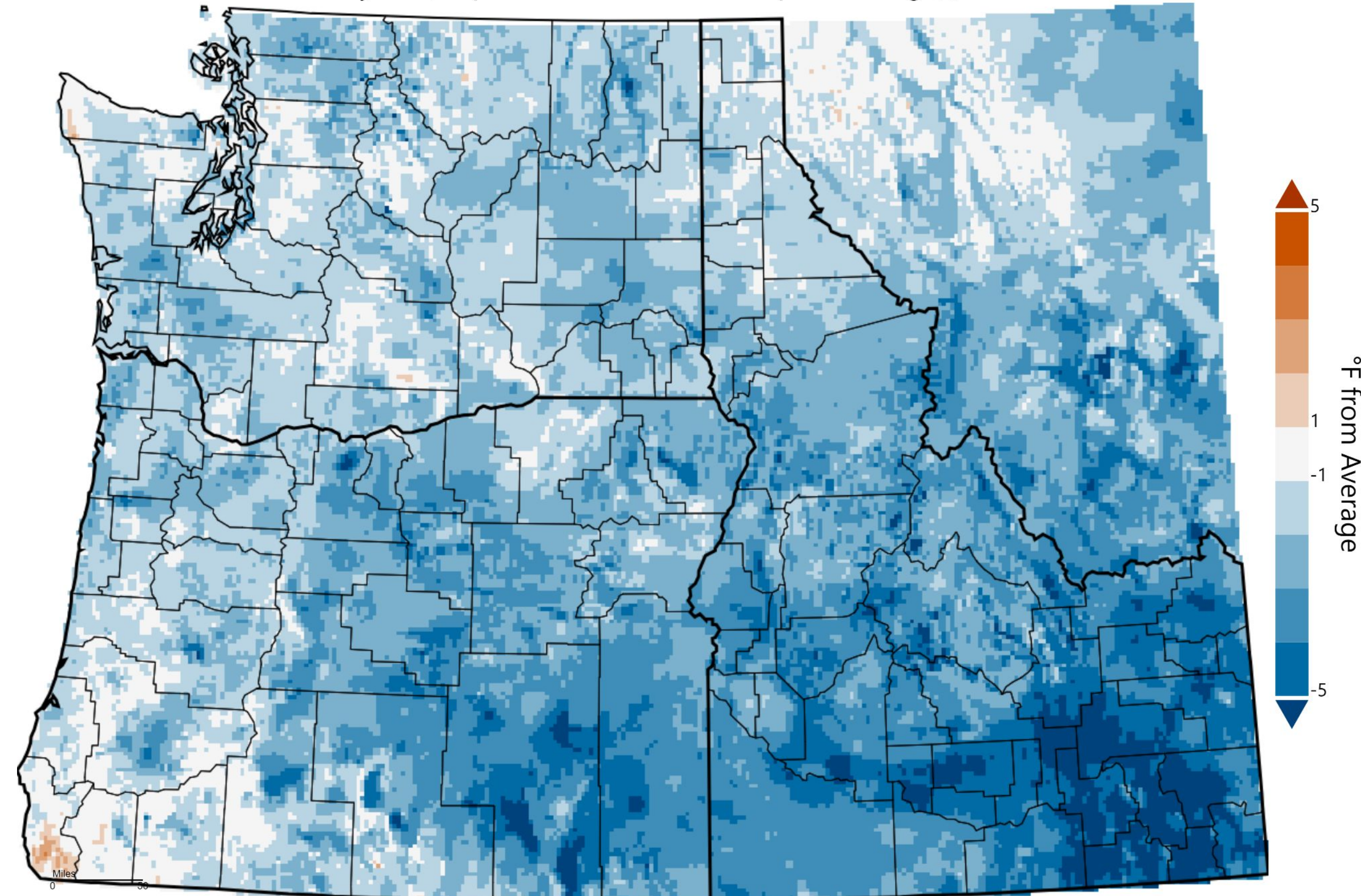


Temperature Anomaly - May 2024

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

Temperatures were predominantly near to below normal across the forecast area during May.



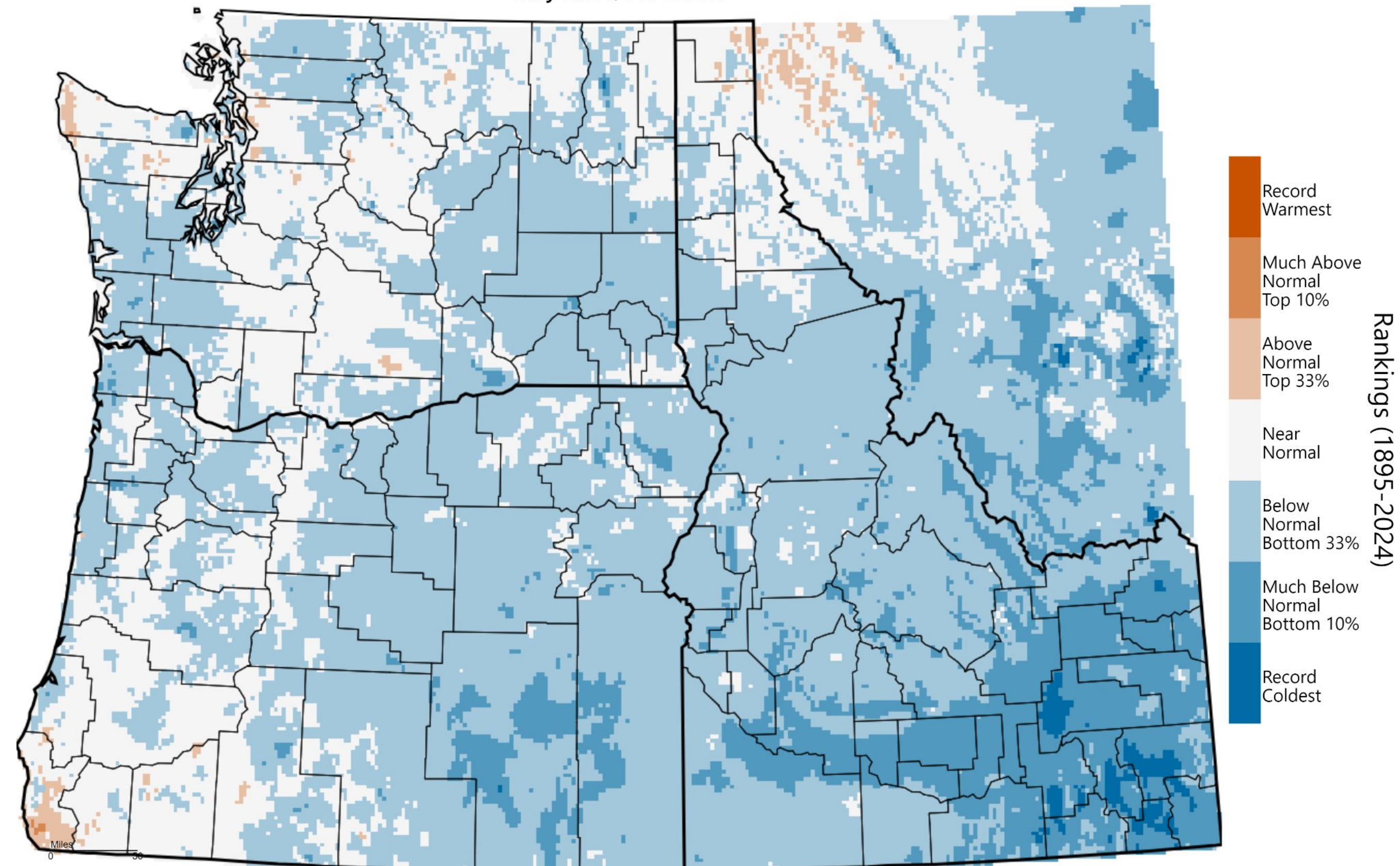


Temperature Percentiles - May 2024

Weather Forecast Office
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Pacific Northwest - Mean Temperature
May 2024, Percentile

Temperatures were predominantly near to below normal across the forecast area during May.





May 2024 Climate Statistics - Pendleton ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	87	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	70.8	70.9	-0.1
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	45.3	45.0	+0.3
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	36	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	58.1	57.9	+0.2
Total Precipitation (inches)	2.62	1.45	+1.17
Total Snow (inches)	0.0	0.0	0.0

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



May 2024 Climate Statistics - Walla Walla ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	85	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	69.4	71.4	-2.0
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	47.1	49.3	-2.2
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	38	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	58.3	60.4	-2.1
Total Precipitation (inches)	2.32	2.07	+0.25

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



May 2024 Climate Statistics - The Dalles ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	93	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	72.0	73.5	-1.5
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	48.1	49.0	-0.9
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	38		
Average Temperature (F)	60.1	61.3	-1.2
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.72	0.76	-0.04

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



May 2024 Climate Statistics - Ellensburg ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	87	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	69.0	71.0	-2.0
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	44.3	44.9	-0.6
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	30	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	56.6	57.9	-1.3
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.37	0.92	-0.55

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



May 2024 Climate Statistics - Hermiston ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	90	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	73.7	76.2	-2.5
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	44.8	46.3	-1.5
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	34	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	59.3	61.2	-1.9
Total Precipitation (inches)	1.73	0.83	+0.90

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



May 2024 Climate Statistics - Meacham ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	76	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	58.9	61.0	-2.1
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	32.4	34.4	-2.0
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	23	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	45.6	47.7	-2.1
Total Precipitation (inches)	4.90	3.55	+1.35

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



May 2024 Climate Statistics - Pasco ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	92	-	-
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	75.8	76.5	-0.7
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	45.8	46.3	-0.5
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	32	-	-
Average Temperature (F)	60.8	61.4	-0.6
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.82	0.71	+0.11

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



May 2024 Climate Statistics - Redmond ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	85		
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	68.8	69.1	-0.3
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	35.3	37.8	-2.5
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	21		
Average Temperature (F)	52.1	53.4	-1.3
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.52	1.20	-0.68

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



May 2024 Climate Statistics - Yakima ASOS

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Variable (units)	Observed	Normal	Departure
Warmest Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	91		
Average Daily Maximum Temperature (F)	73.1	74.1	-1.0
Average Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	41.2	43.5	-2.3
Coolest Daily Minimum Temperature (F)	29		
Average Temperature (F)	57.2	58.8	-1.6
Total Precipitation (inches)	0.27	0.74	-0.47

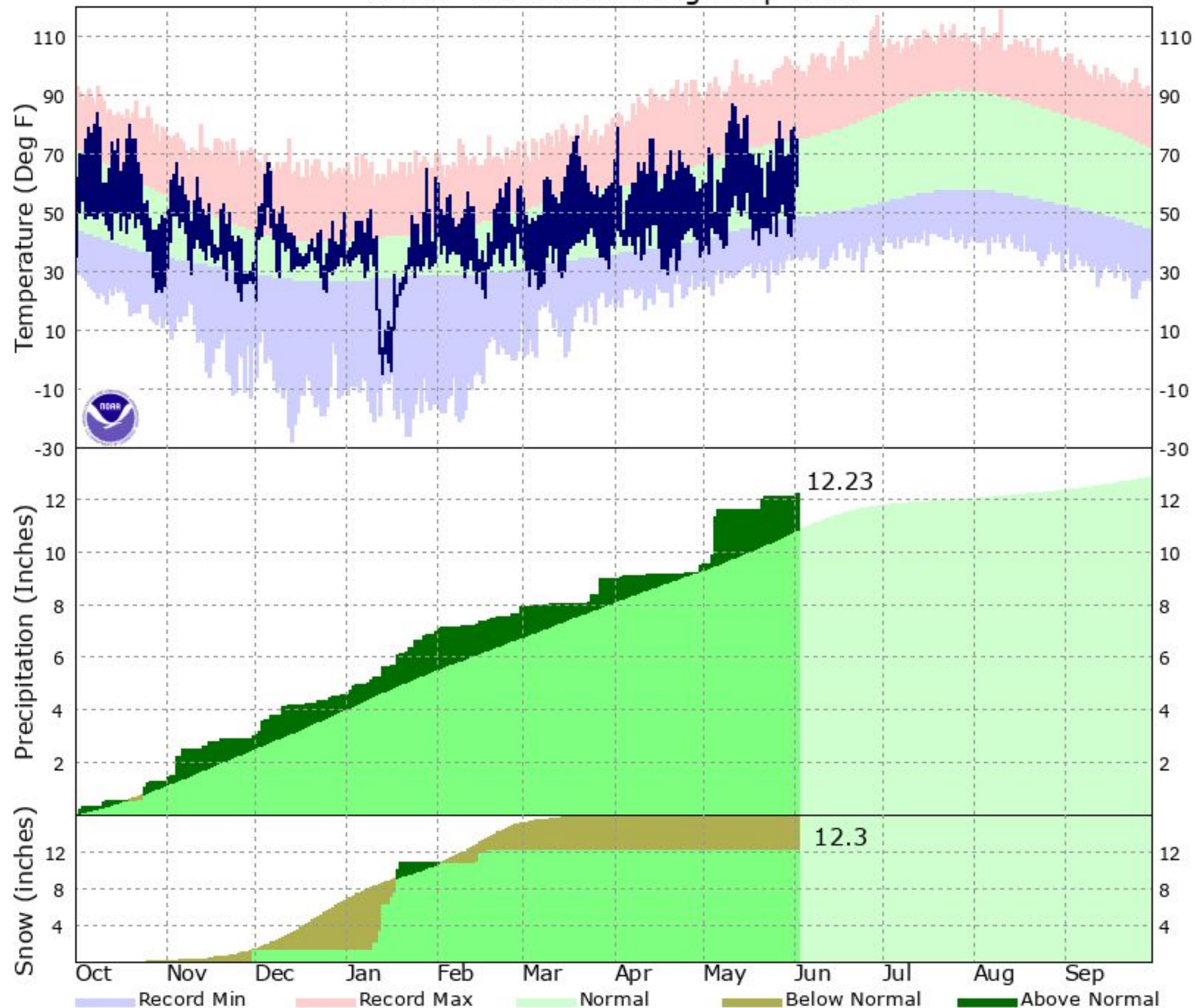
Additional climate statistics can be found here: <https://www.weather.gov/wrh/climate?wfo=pdt>



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.

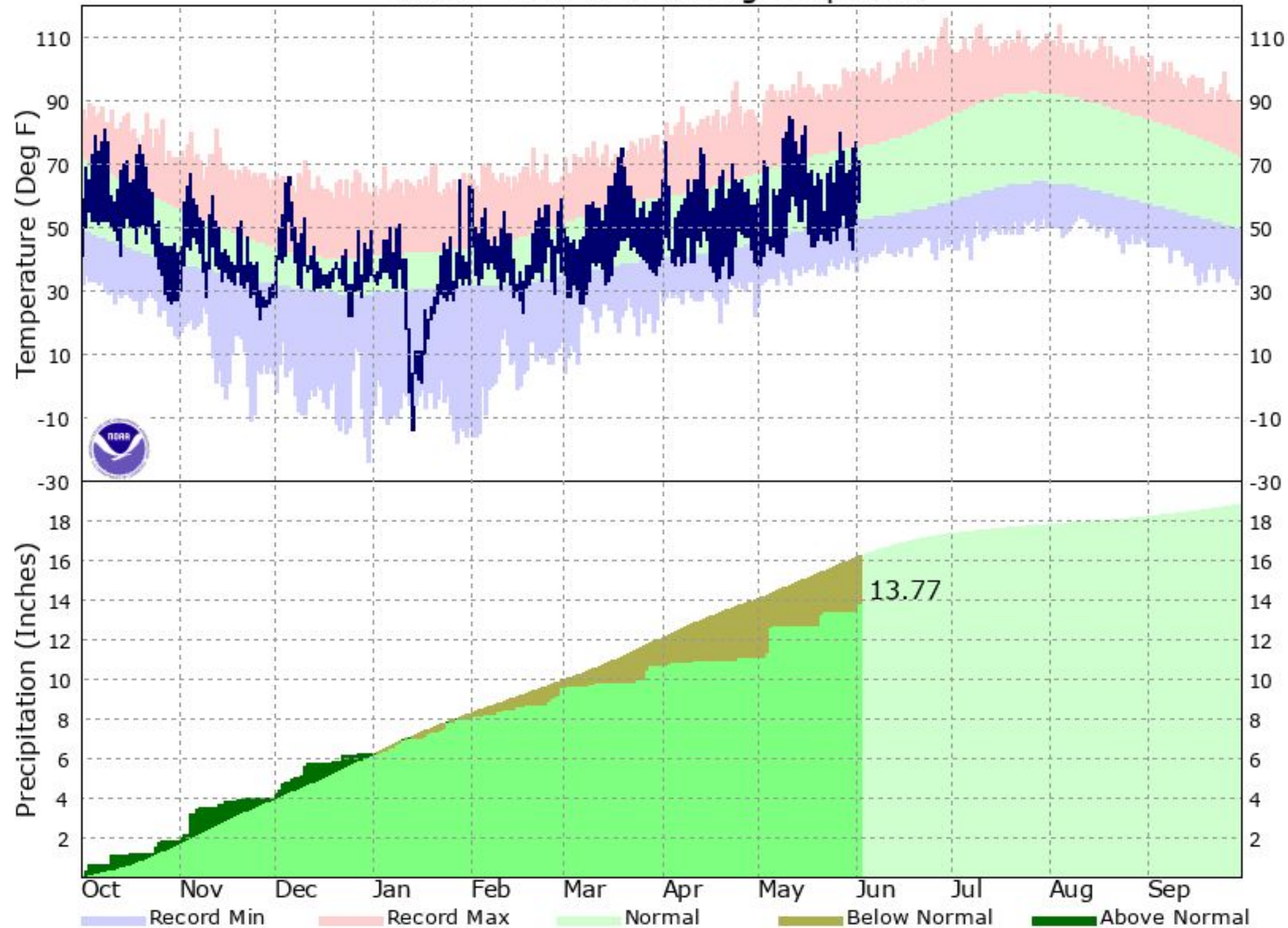
The latest graphs are located here:
<https://www.weather.gov/pdt/CliPlot>



Water Year Climate Graphs - Walla Walla ASOS

Weather Forecast Office
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KALW - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024



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

The latest graphs are located here:

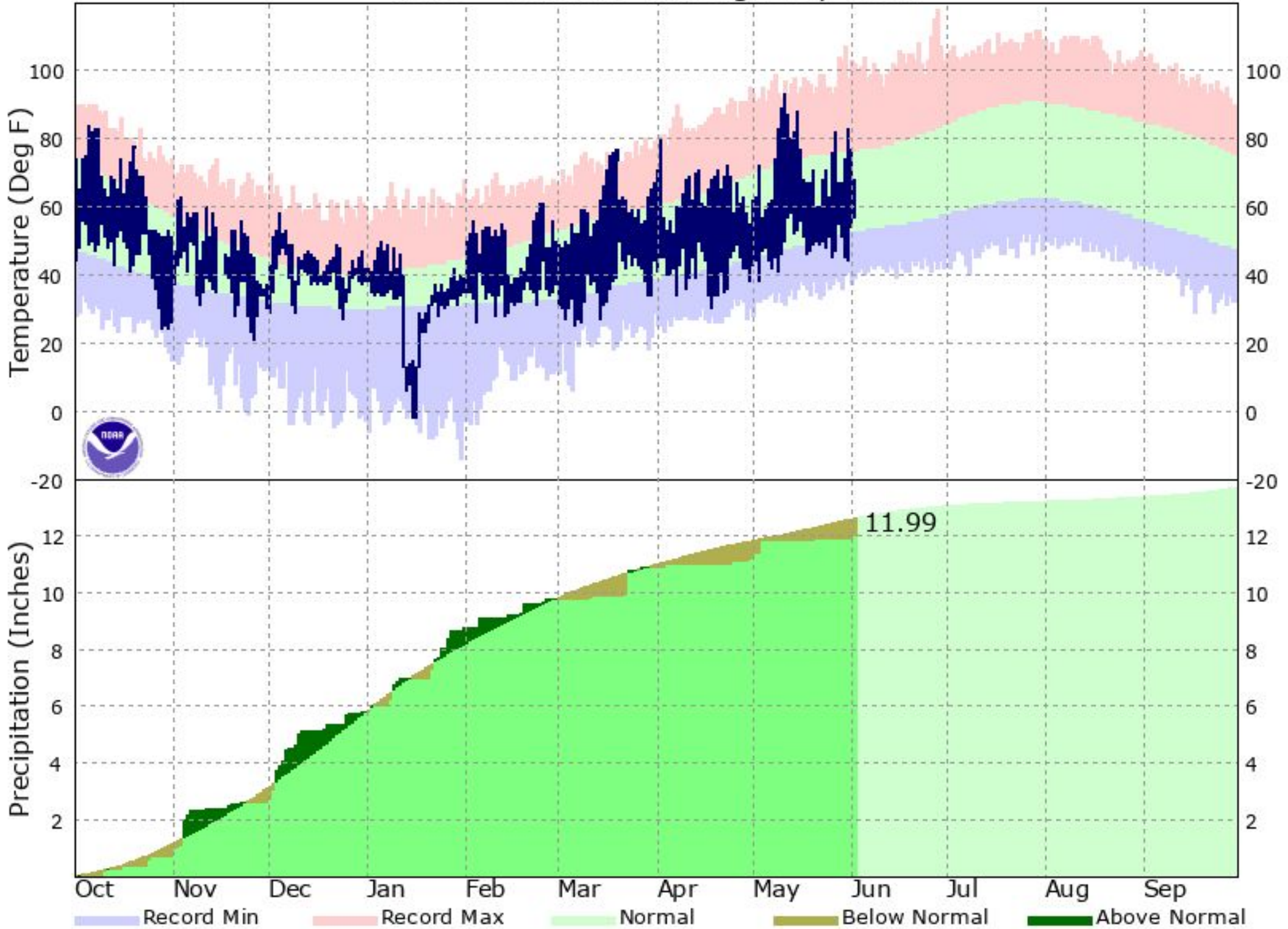
<https://www.weather.gov/pdt/CliPlot>



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 slightly below-normal precipitation.

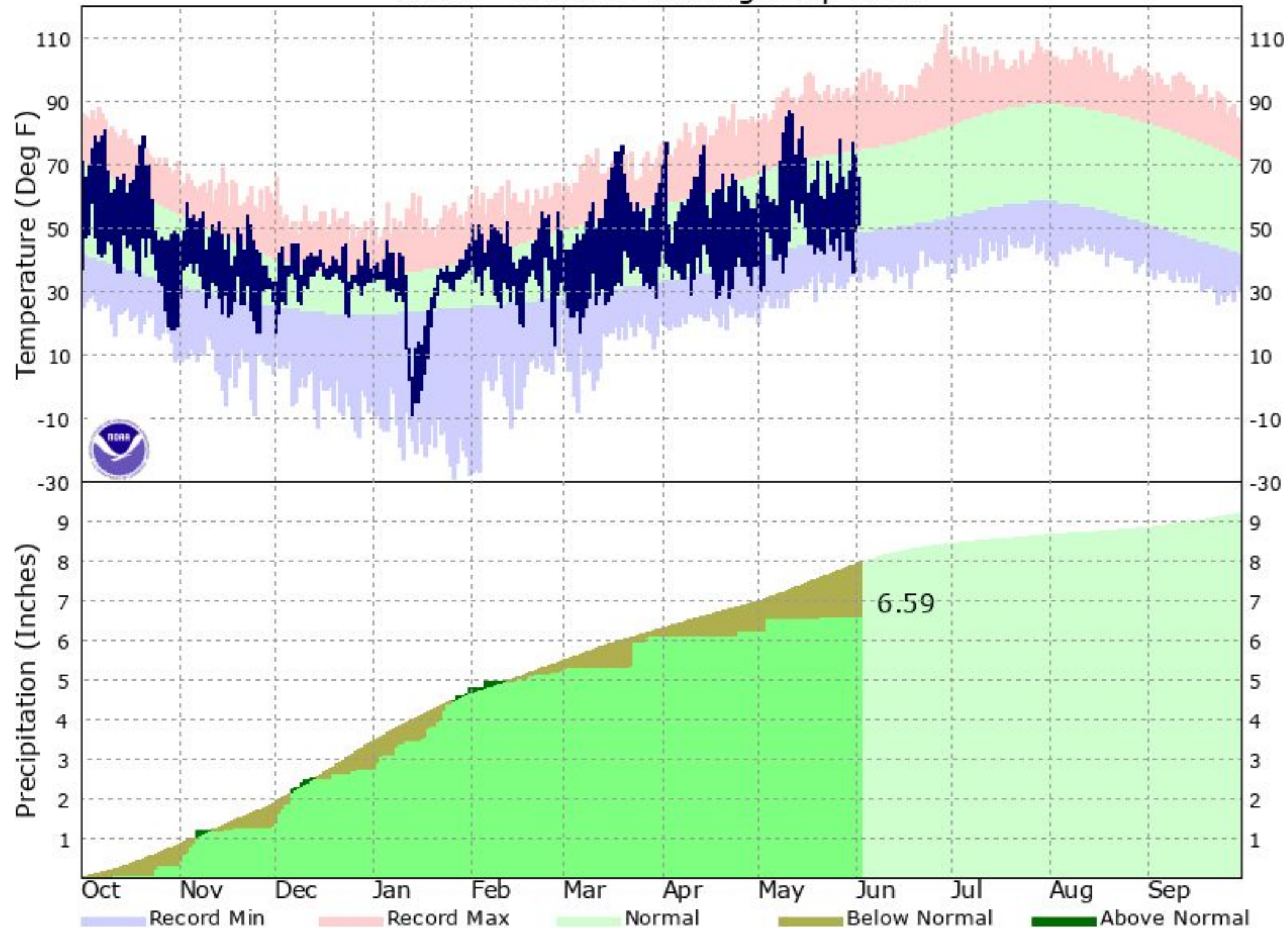
The latest graphs are located here:
<https://www.weather.gov/pdt/CliPlot>



Water Year Climate Graphs - Ellensburg ASOS

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KELN - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024



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

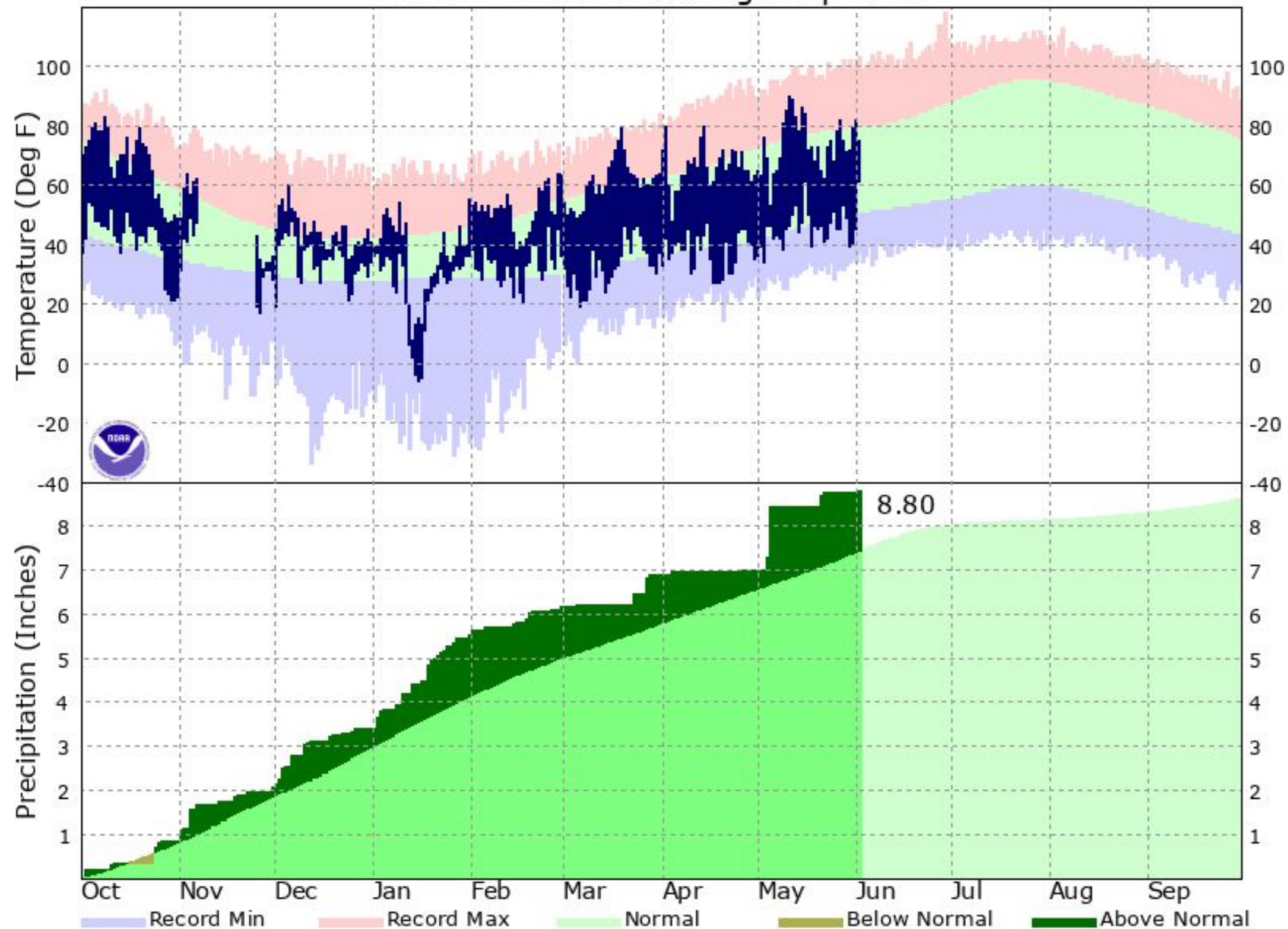
The latest graphs are located here:
<https://www.weather.gov/pdt/CliPlot>



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.

The latest graphs are located here:

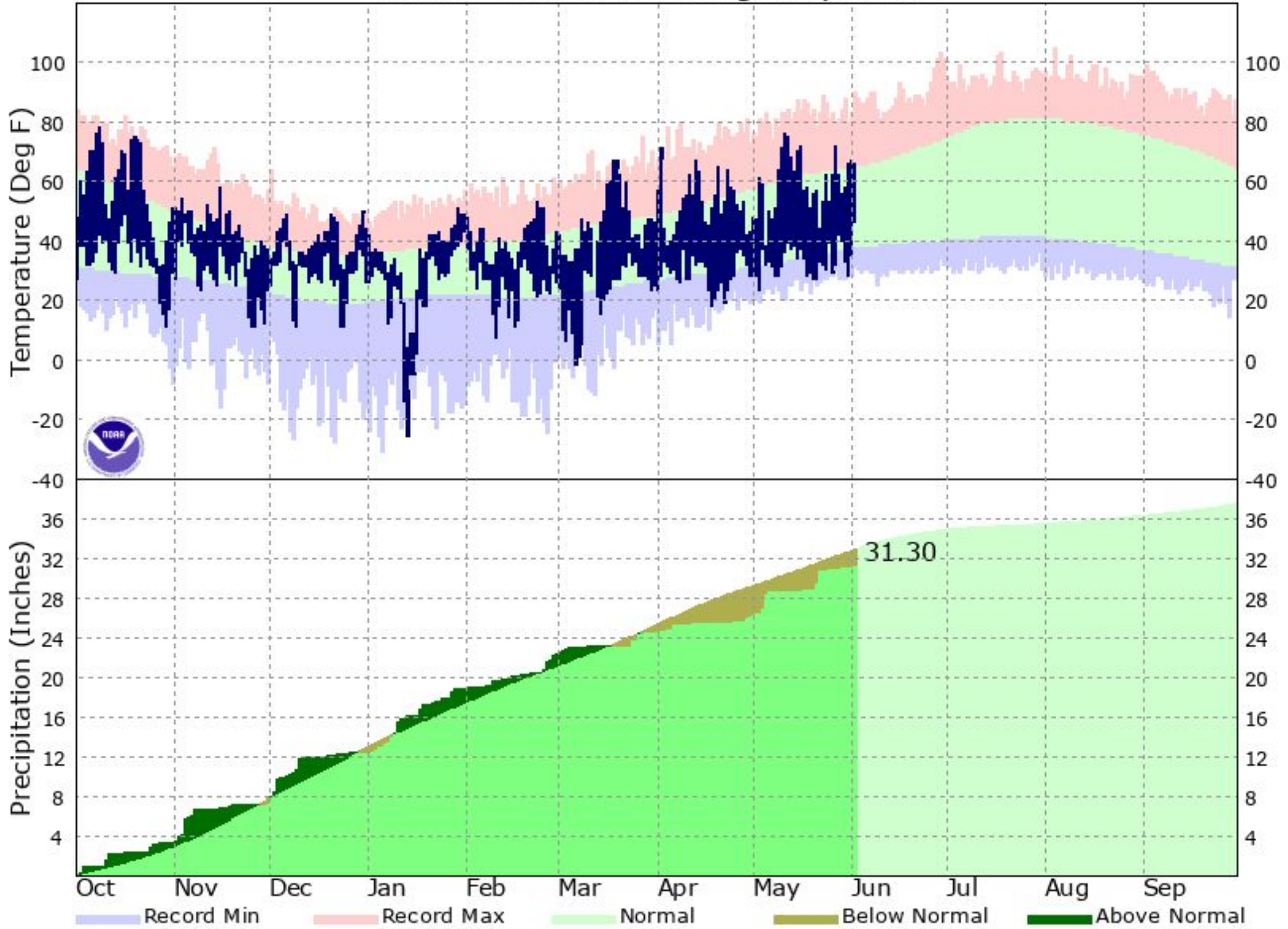
<https://www.weather.gov/pdt/CliPlot>



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.

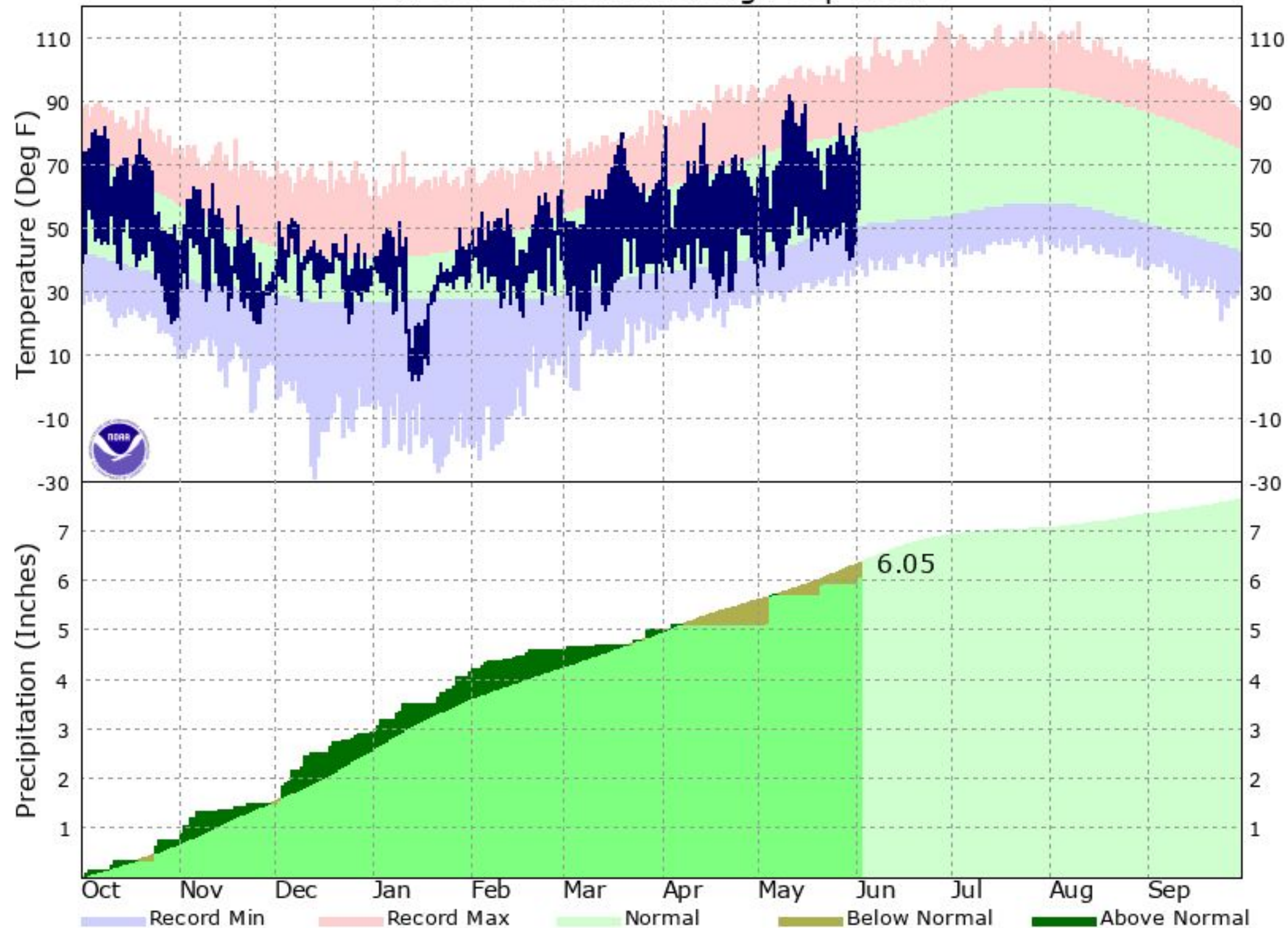
The latest graphs are located here:
<https://www.weather.gov/pdt/CliPlot>



Water Year Climate Graphs - Pasco ASOS

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KPSC - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024



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

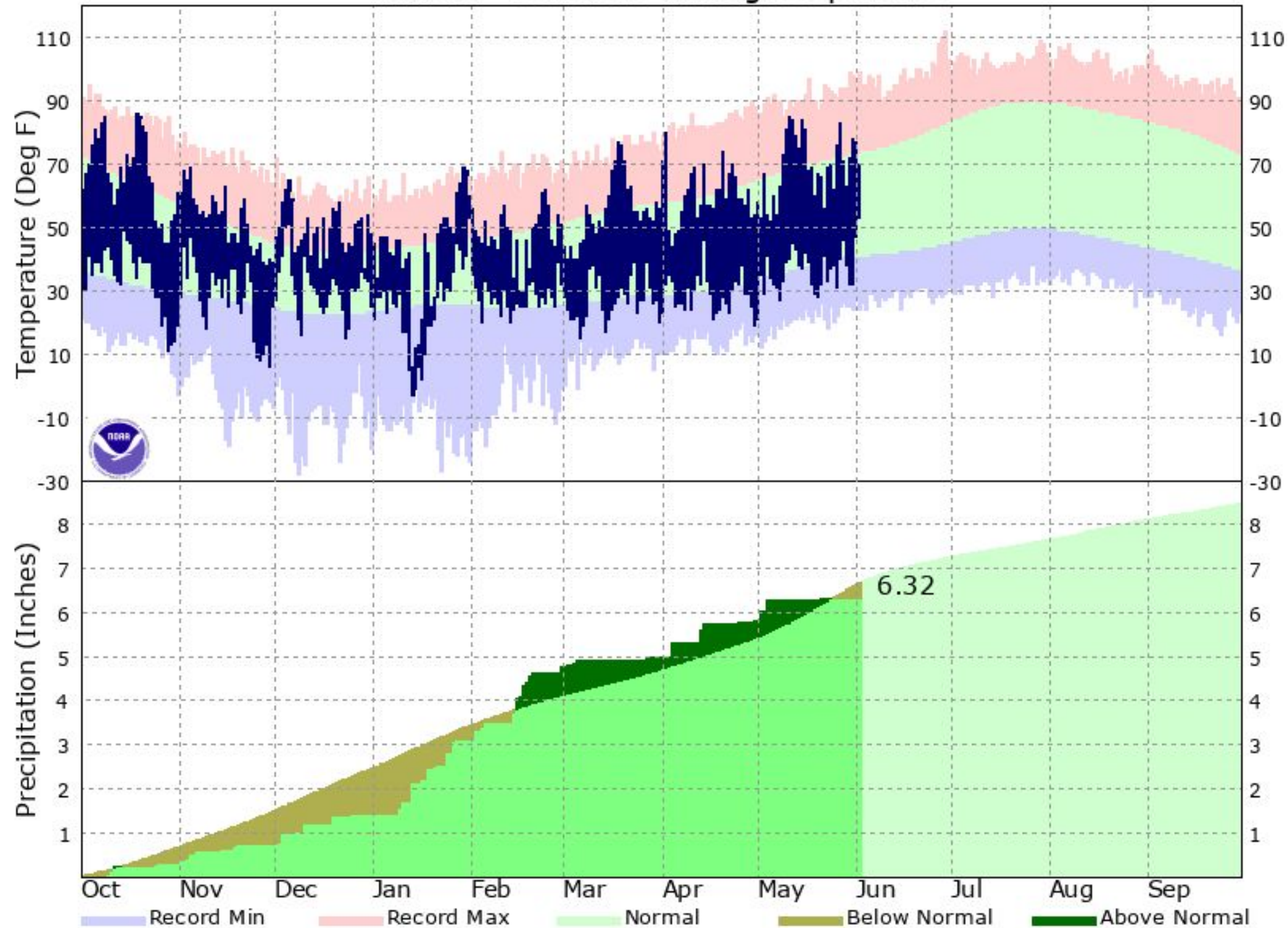
The latest graphs are located here:
<https://www.weather.gov/pdt/CliPlot>



Water Year Climate Graphs - Redmond ASOS

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KRDM - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024



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

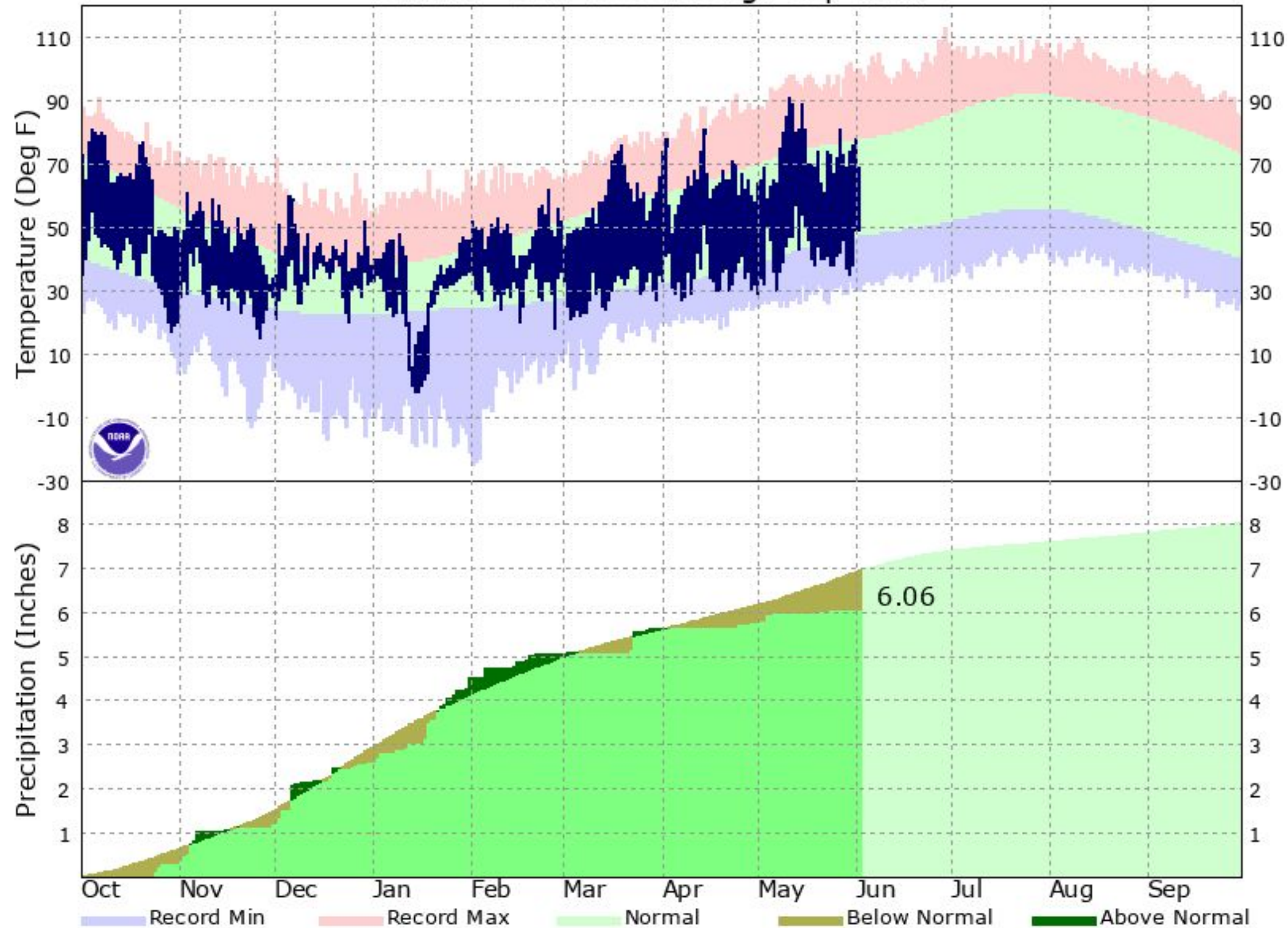
The latest graphs are located here:
<https://www.weather.gov/pdt/CliPlot>



Water Year Climate Graphs - Yakima ASOS

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KYKM - Oct 2023 Through Sep 2024

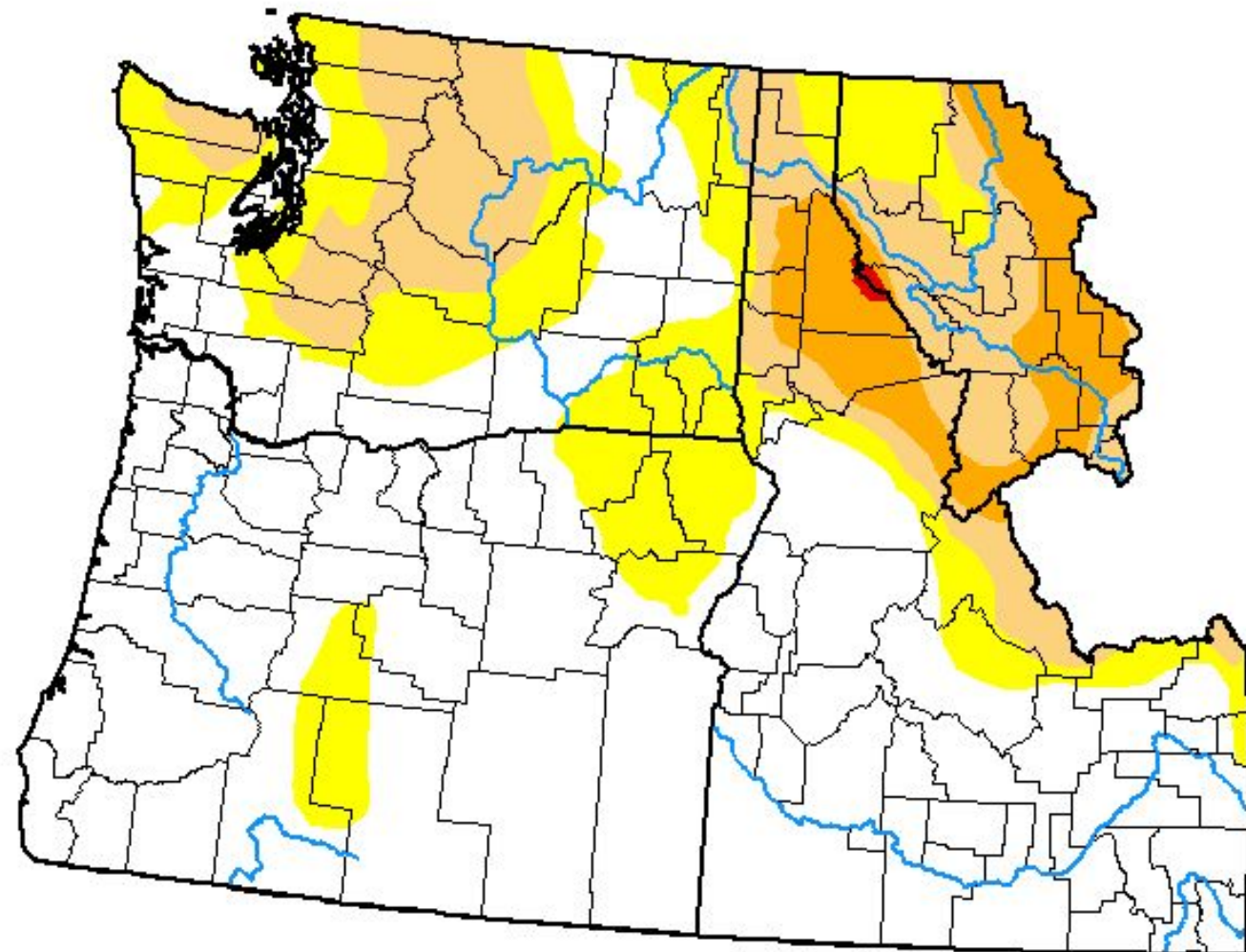


So far this water year, Yakima has recorded below-normal precipitation.

The latest graphs are located here:

<https://www.weather.gov/pdt/CliPlot>

U.S. Drought Monitor Pacific Northwest DEWS



May 28, 2024

(Released Thursday, May. 30, 2024)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	61.22	38.78	20.25	6.01	0.11	0.00
Last Week 05-21-2024	62.65	37.35	18.67	6.01	0.57	0.00
3 Months Ago 02-27-2024	51.91	48.09	27.71	10.09	1.10	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 05-30-2023	34.00	66.00	28.53	5.47	0.00	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:

Rocky Bilotta
NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

D4 (Exceptional Drought): None.

D3 (Extreme Drought): None.

D2 (Severe Drought): None.

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

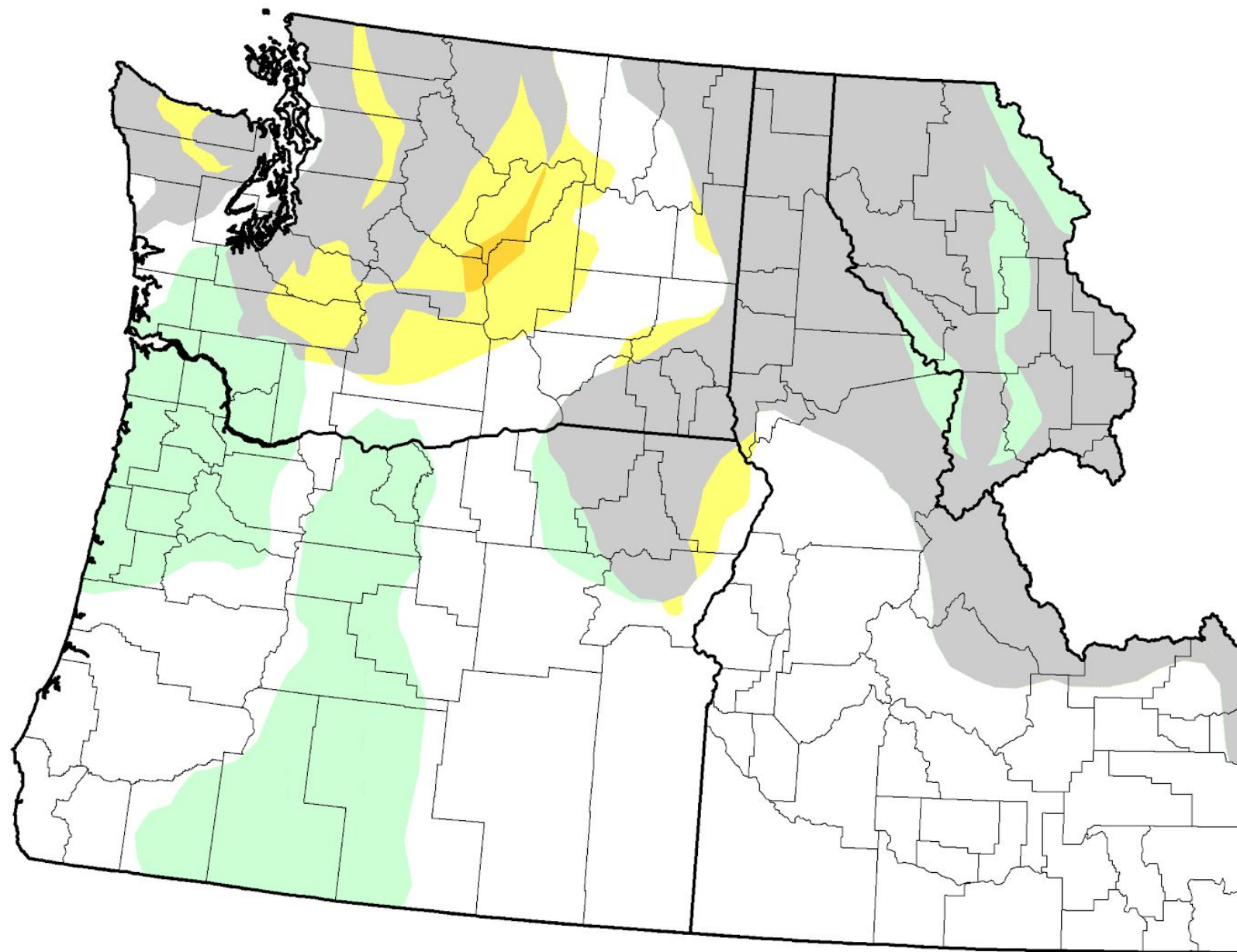
D0 (Abnormally Dry): Portions of Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Grant, Jefferson, Deschutes, Crook, Yakima, Kittitas, Walla Walla, Columbia, Benton, and Franklin counties.



Drought Status: 4-Week Change

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



- 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

May 28, 2024
compared to
April 30, 2024

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Improved: Portions of Klickitat, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Jefferson, Crook, Deschutes, Umatilla, Union, and Grant counties.

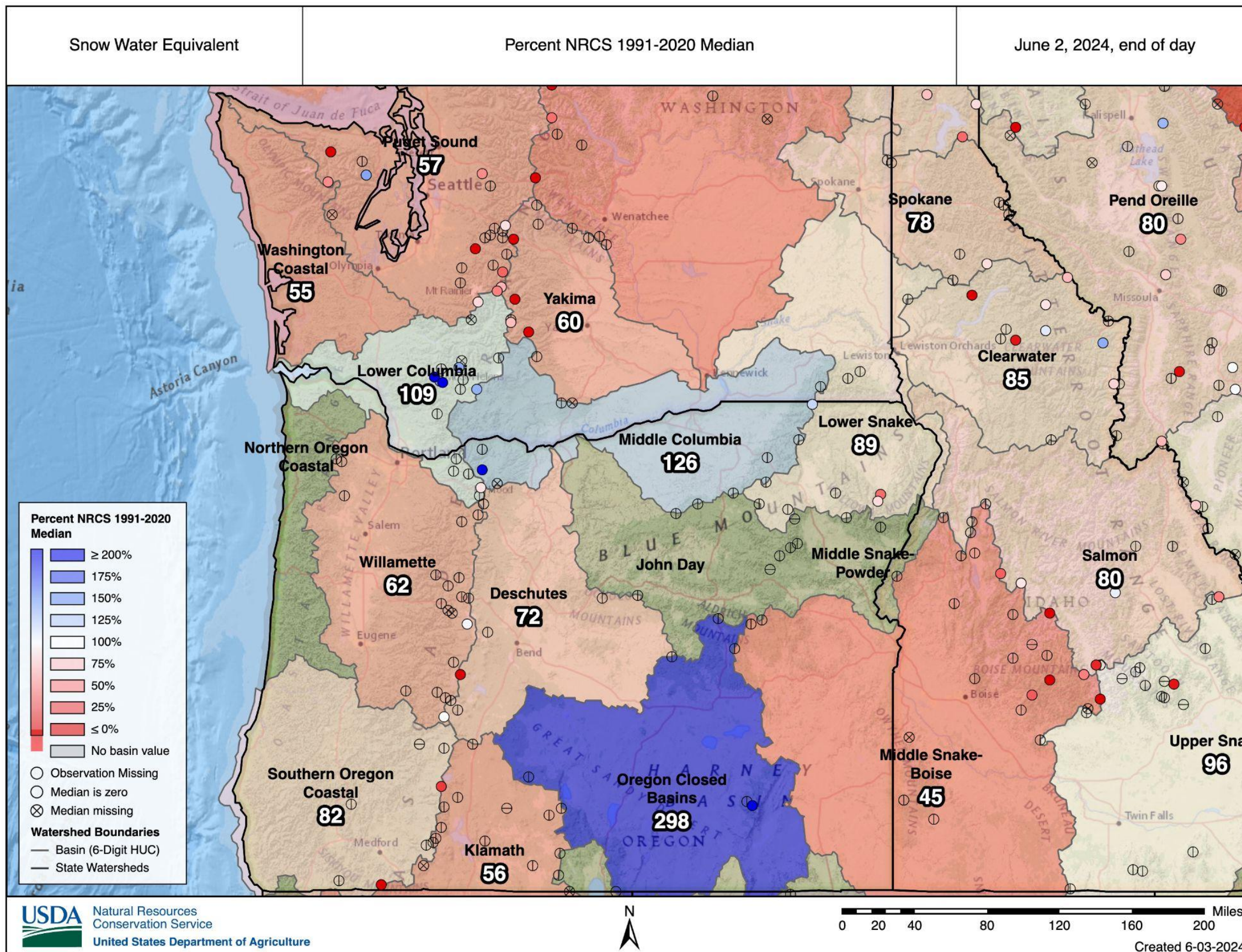
Degraded: Portions of Kittitas, Yakima, Walla Walla, Columbia, Benton, Franklin, Union, and Wallowa counties.

No change: Portions of Columbia, Walla Walla, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Grant, Yakima, and Kittitas 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.

Melt-out of SNOTEL sites has occurred for all but the highest elevations.

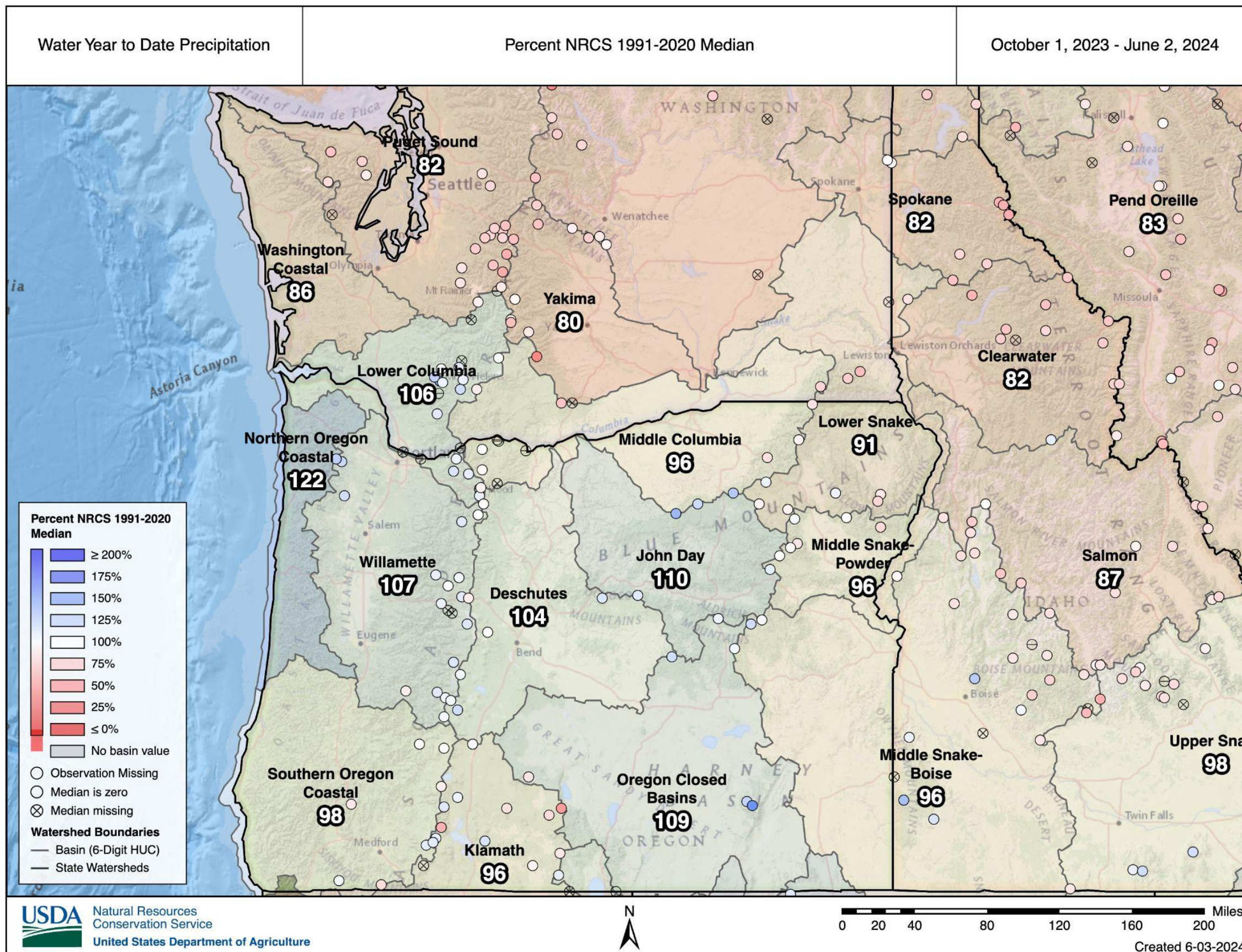
View the latest conditions here:

<https://nwcc-apps.sc.egov.usda.gov/imap/#version=169&elements=&networks=!&states=!&basins=!&hucs=&minElevation=&maxElevation=&elementSelectType=any&activeOnly=true&activeForecastPointsOnly=false&hucLabels=true&hucIdLabels=false&hucParameterLabels=true&stationLabels=&overlays=&hucOverlays=state,tribal&basinOpacity=55&basinNoDataOpacity=25&basemapOpacity=100&maskOpacity=0&mode=data&openSections=dataElement,parameter,date,basin,options,elements,location,networks,overlays,labels&controlsOpen=true&popup=&popupMulti=&popupBasin=&base=esriNgwm&displayType=basinstation&basinType=6&dataElement=WTEQ&depth=-8¶meter=PCTMED&frequency=DAILY&duration=!&customDuration=&dayPart=E&monthPart=E&forecastPubDay=1&forecastExceedance=50&useMixedPast=true&seqColor=1&divColor=5&scaleType=D&scaleMin=&scaleMax=&referencePeriodType=POR&referenceBegin=1991&referenceEnd=2020&minimumYears=20&hucAssociations=true&relativeDate=-1&lat=45.285&lon=-120.027&zoom=6.5>



SNOTEL Precipitation - Basin/Watershed Map

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Basin-wide SNOTEL precipitation for the water year to date (October 1, 2023-June 2, 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.

View the latest conditions here:

<https://nwcc-apps.sc.egov.usda.gov/imap/#version=169&elements=&networks=!&states=!&basins=!&hucs=&minElevation=&maxElevation=&elementSelectType=any&activeOnly=true&activeForecastPointsOnly=false&hucLabels=true&hucIdLabels=false&hucParameterLabels=true&stationLabels=&overlays=&hucOverlays=state,tribal&basinOpacity=55&basinNoDataOpacity=25&basemapOpacity=100&maskOpacity=0&mode=data&openSections=data&Element.parameter.date.basin.options.elements.location.networks.overlays.labels&controlsOpen=true&popup=&popupMulti=&popupBasin=&base=esriNgwm&displayType=basinstation&basinType=6&dataElement=PREC&depth=-8¶meter=PCTMED&frequency=DAILY&duration=wytd&customDuration=&dayPart=E&monthPart=E&forecastPubDay=1&forecastExceedance=50&useMixedPast=true&seqColor=1&divColor=5&scaleType=D&scaleMin=&scaleMax=&referencePeriodType=POR&referenceBegin=1991&referenceEnd=2020&minimumYears=20&hucAssociations=true&relativeDate=-1&lat=45.285&lon=-120.027&zoom=6.5>

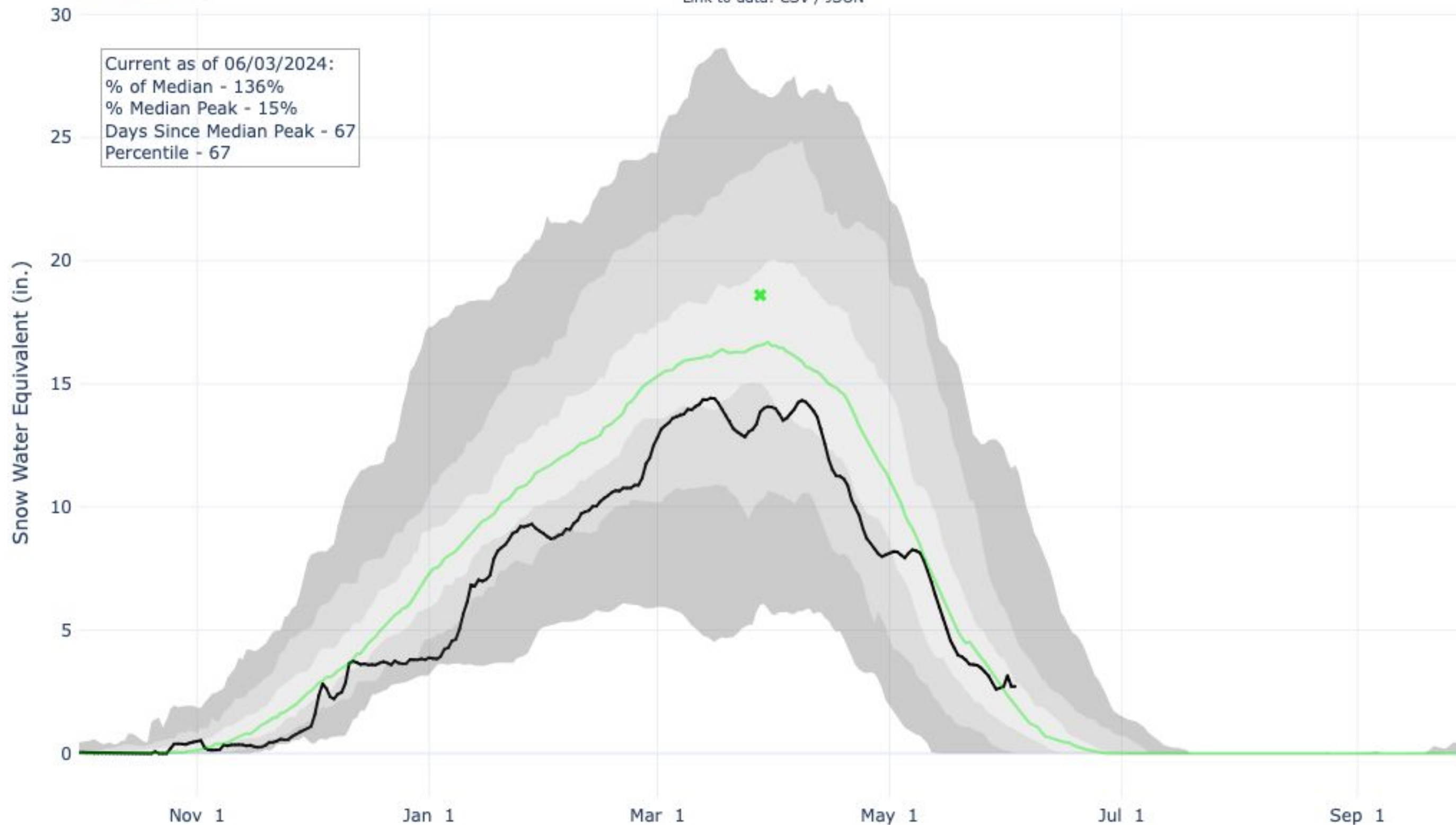


SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) - Lower Snake Watershed

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN LOWER SNAKE

Reset Range

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



Station List

- ✖ 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

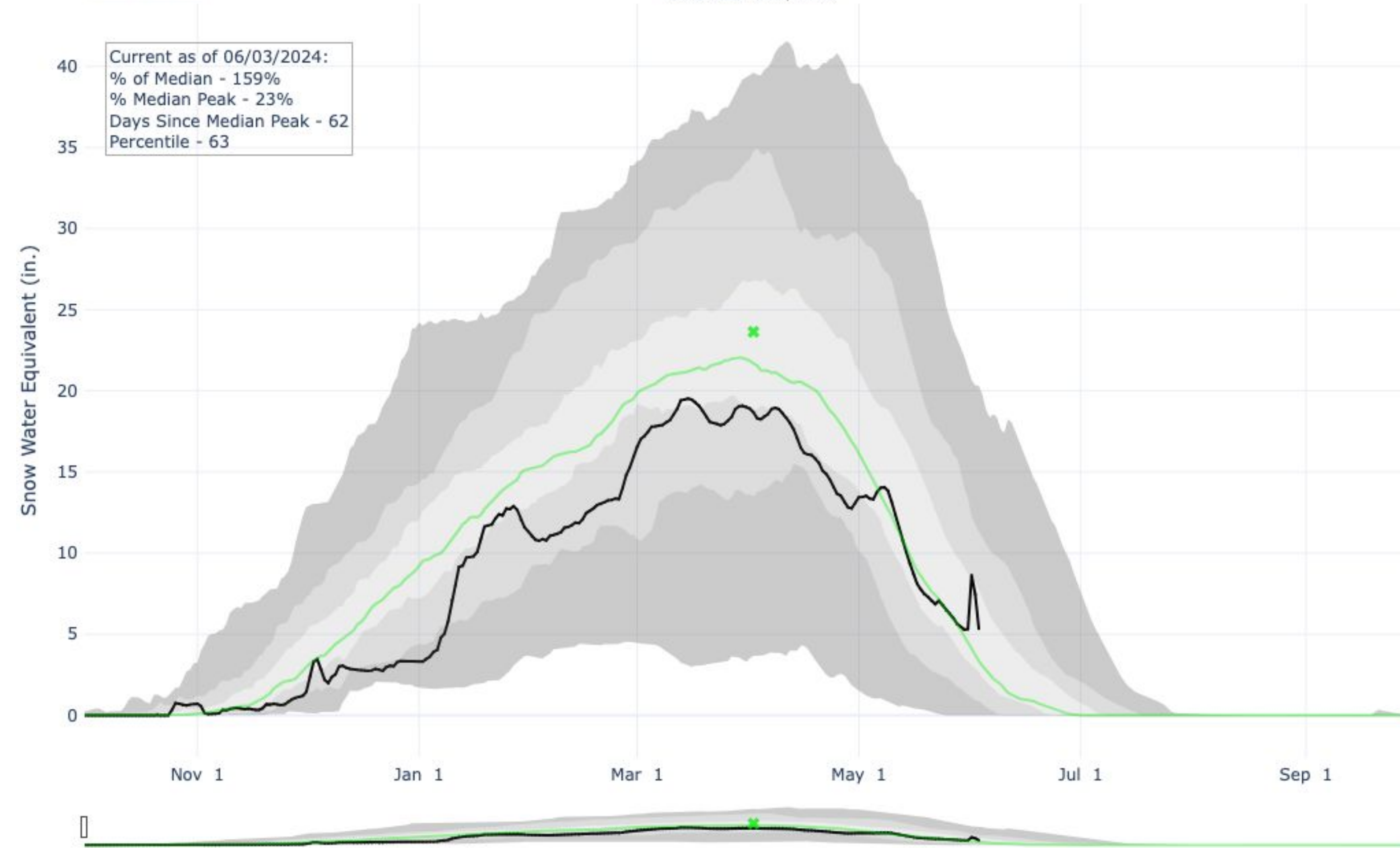
Reset Range

Link to data: CSV / JSON

Station List

Current as of 06/03/2024:
% of Median - 159%
% Median Peak - 23%
Days Since Median Peak - 62
Percentile - 63

- ✖ 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

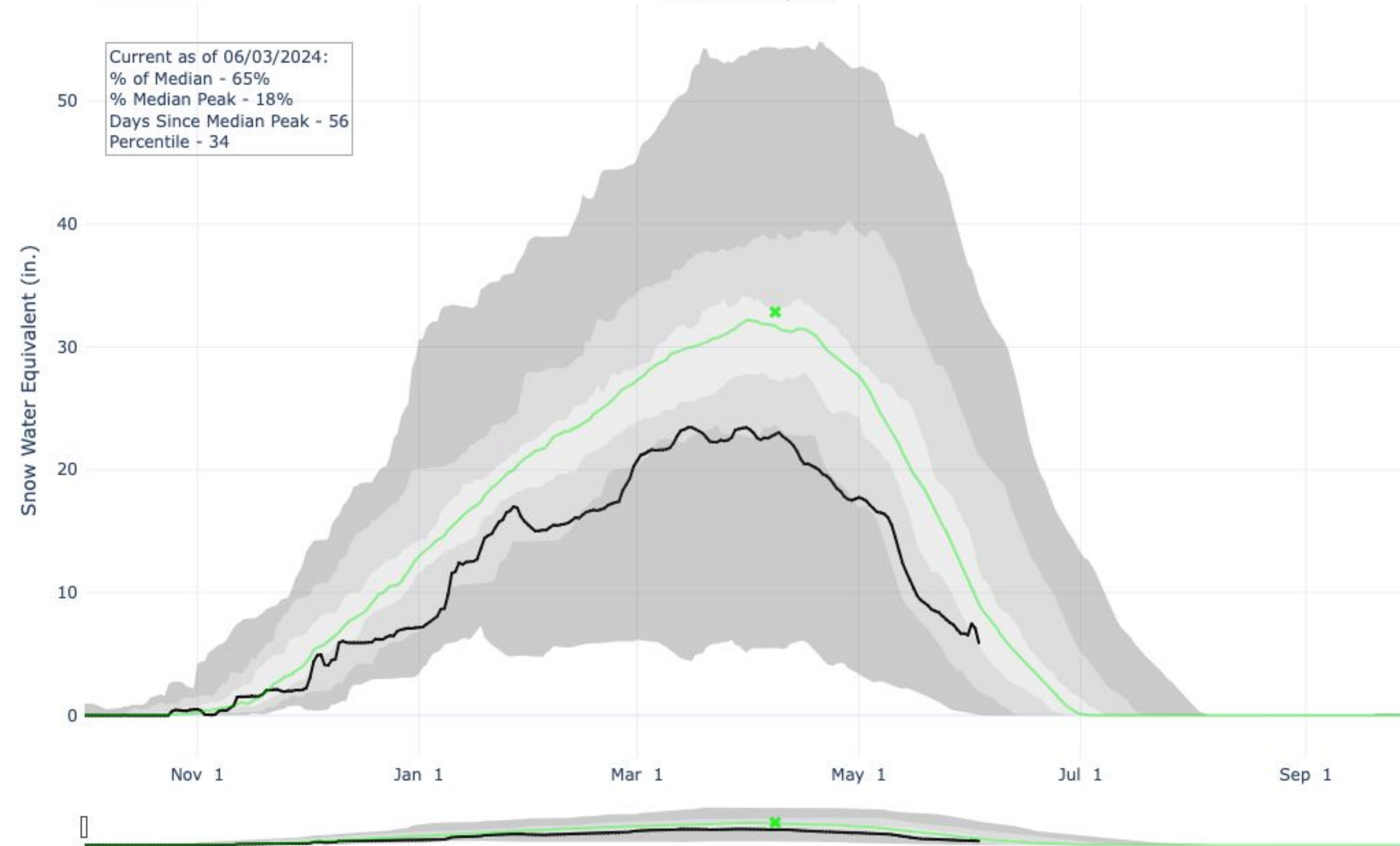
Reset Range

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

Current as of 06/03/2024:
% of Median - 65%
% Median Peak - 18%
Days Since Median Peak - 56
Percentile - 34

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

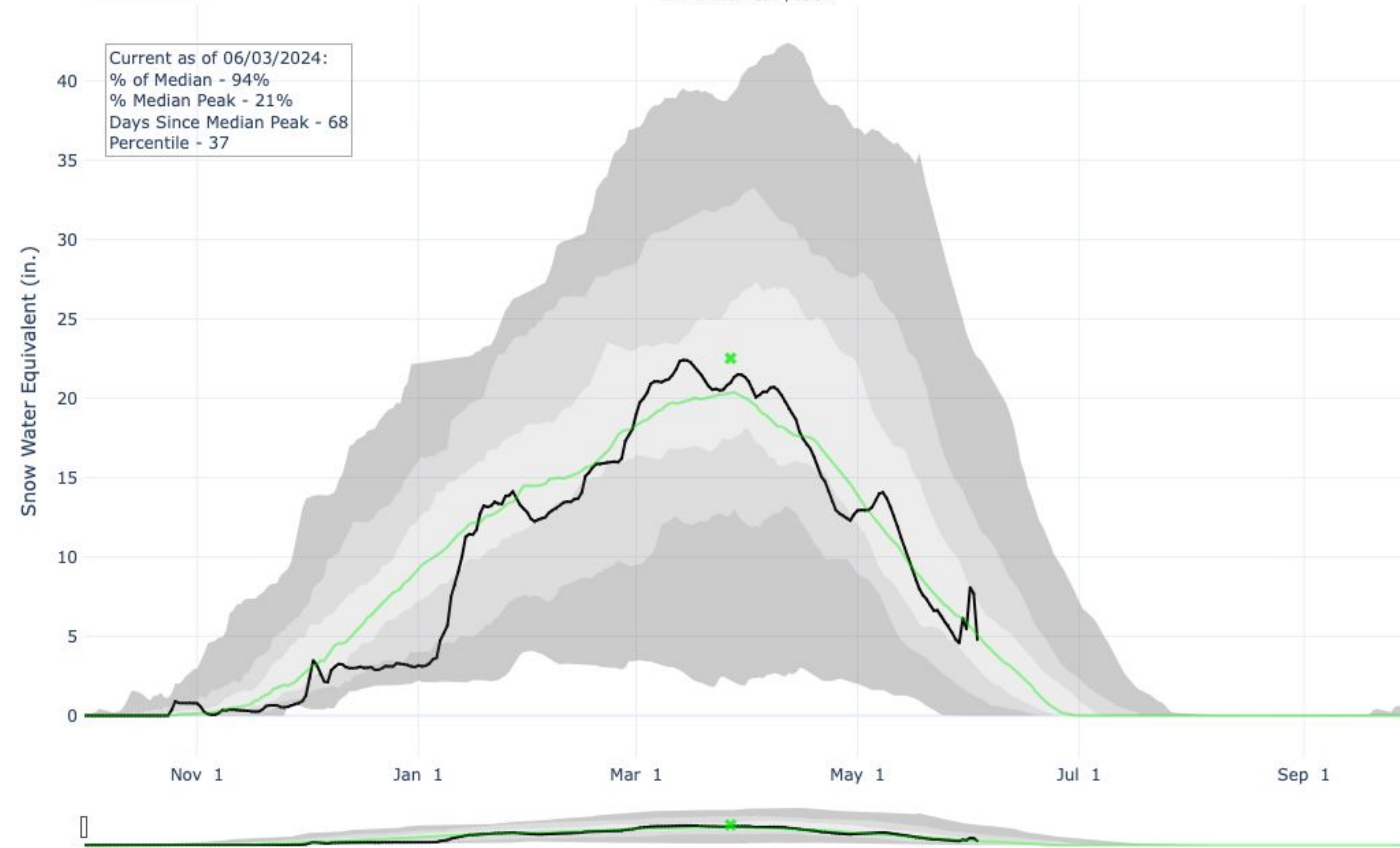
Reset Range

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

Current as of 06/03/2024:
% of Median - 94%
% Median Peak - 21%
Days Since Median Peak - 68
Percentile - 37

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.





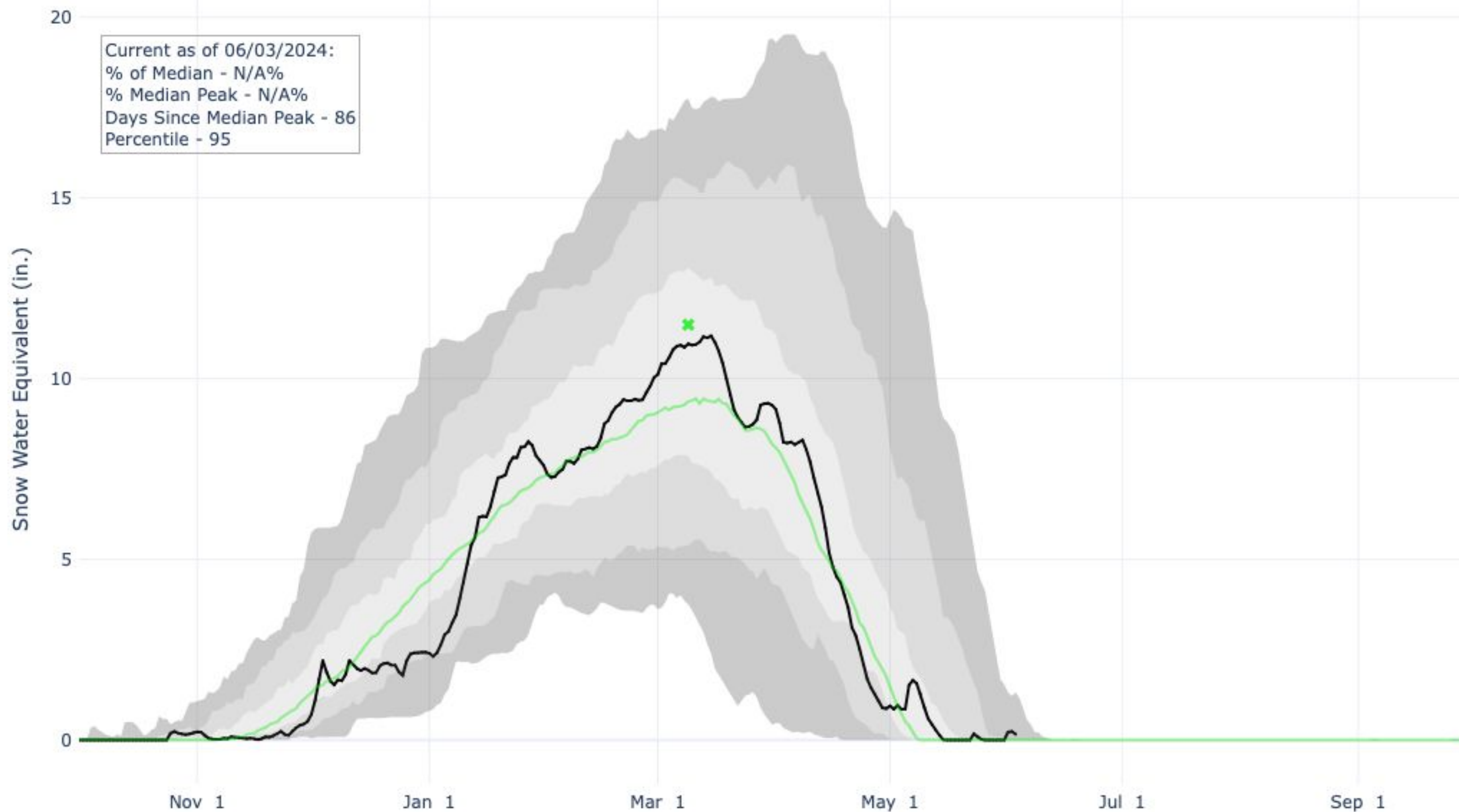
SNOTEL Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) - John Day Watershed

Weather Forecast Office
Pendleton, OR
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SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN JOHN DAY

Reset Range

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



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.

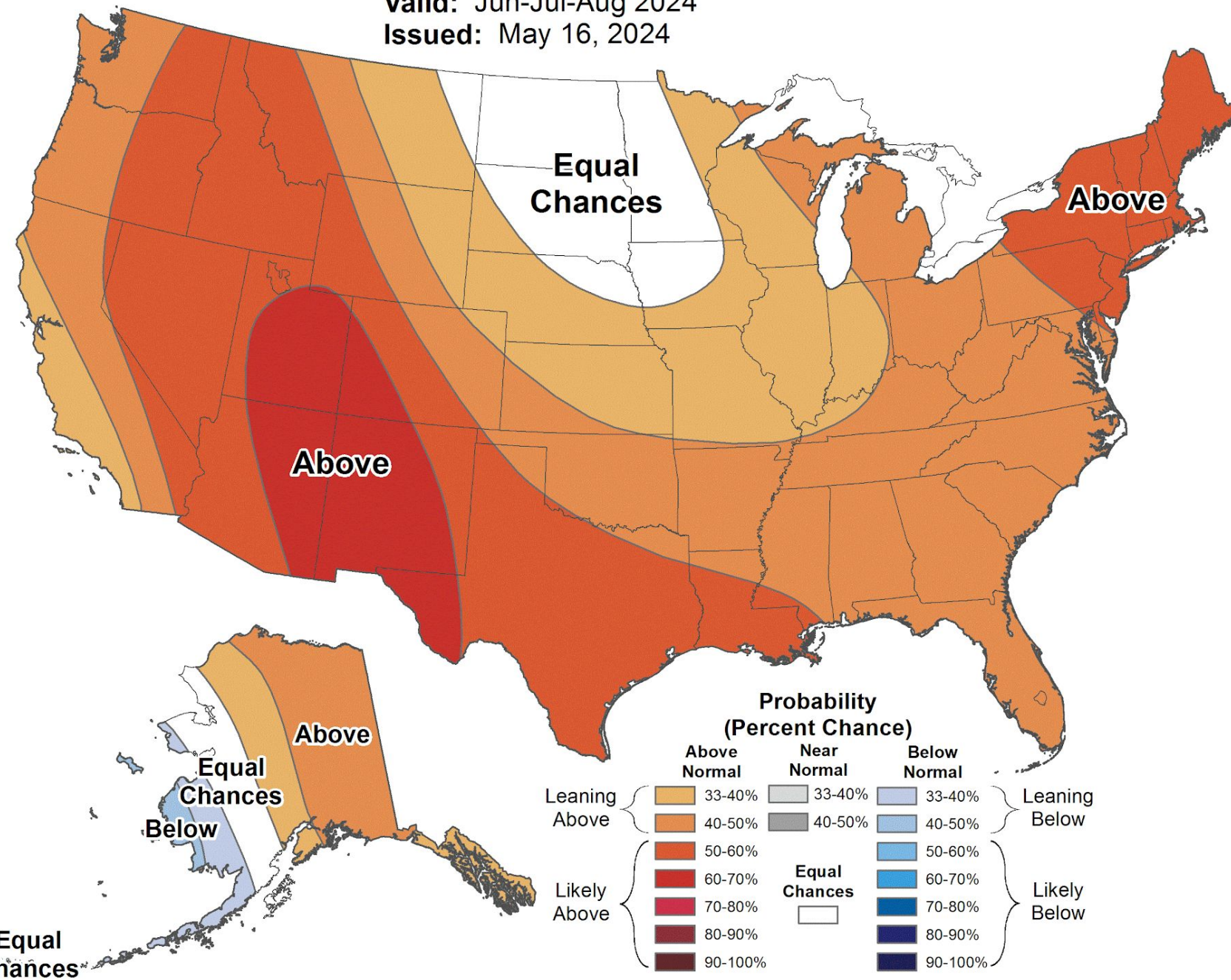




Seasonal Temperature Outlook



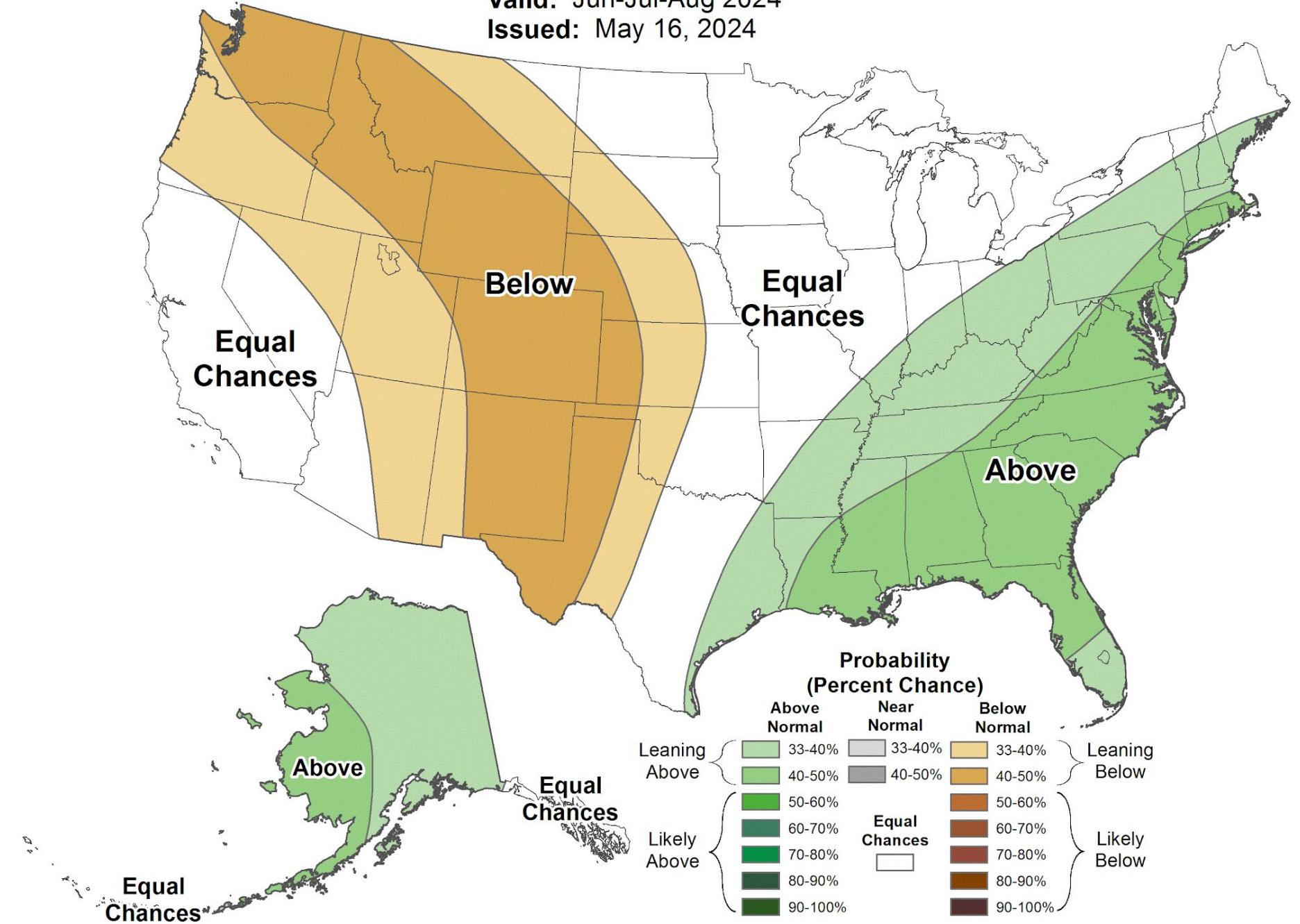
Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2024
Issued: May 16, 2024



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Jun-Jul-Aug 2024
Issued: May 16, 2024



The Climate Prediction Center is forecasting a 40-60% chance of above-normal temperatures and a 33-50% chance of below-normal precipitation for NWS Pendleton's forecast area.



Summary

Weather Forecast Office
Pendleton, OR
Monday, June 3

- Temperatures were predominantly near to below normal across the forecast area during May.
- Near- to above-normal precipitation was recorded across the Blue Mountain foothills and portions of the lower Columbia Basin and Blue Mountains. Elsewhere, mostly below-normal precipitation was observed during May.
- Drought Monitor conditions worsened across portions of Washington and far northeast Oregon, but improved across central, north-central, and portions of northeast Oregon.
- Snow water equivalent (SWE) continues to decline with melt-out of SNOTELs having already occurred except at the highest elevations.



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