Seasonal Weather Forecast

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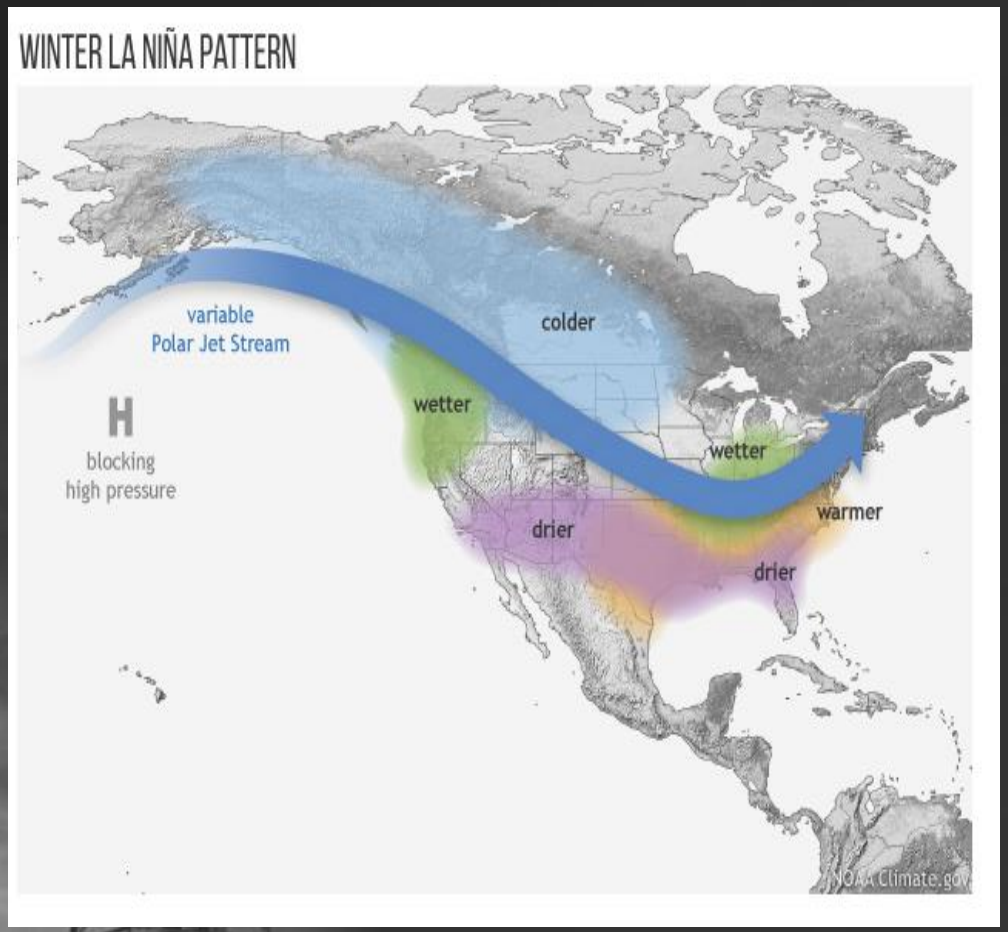
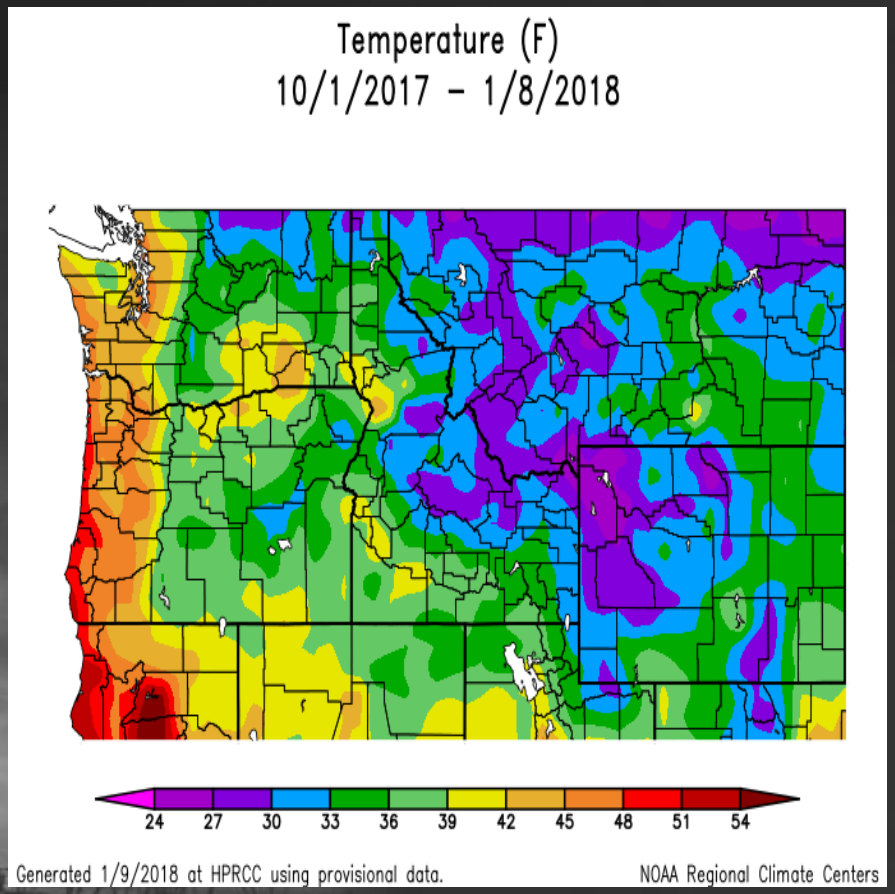
Update on Winter Season



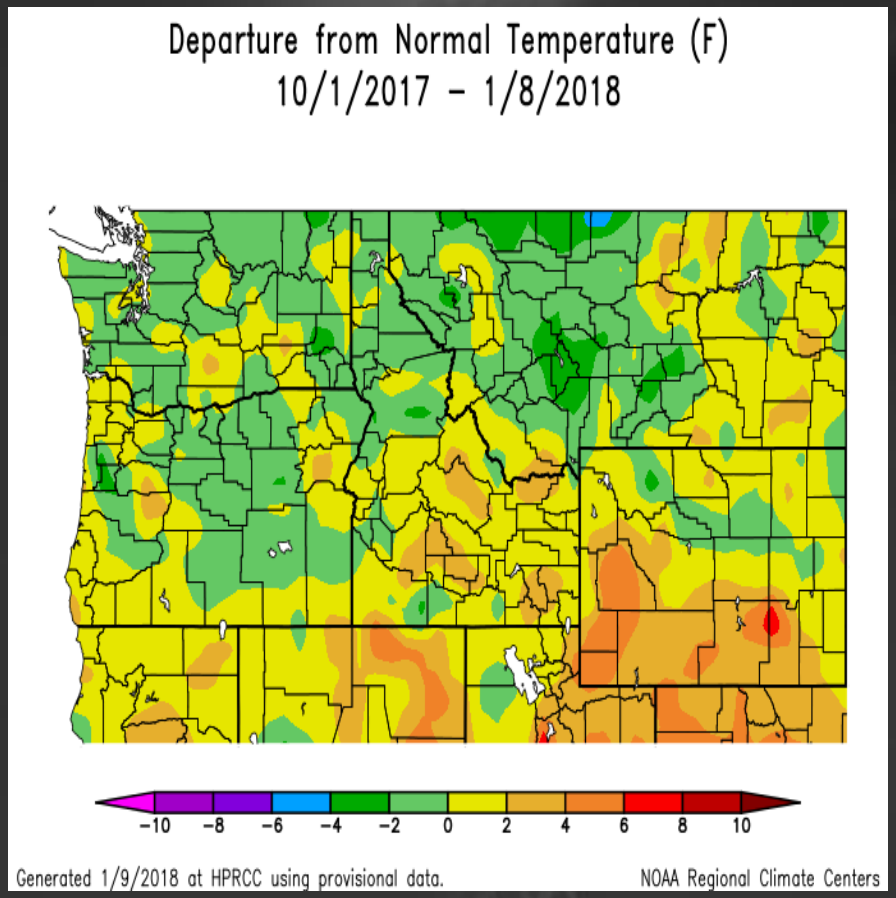
- LaNina episode continues
- Typically, cool and wet pattern for PacNW
- Storm track over WA and OR

Seasonal Temperature (Oct 1 – Jan 8)

Observed

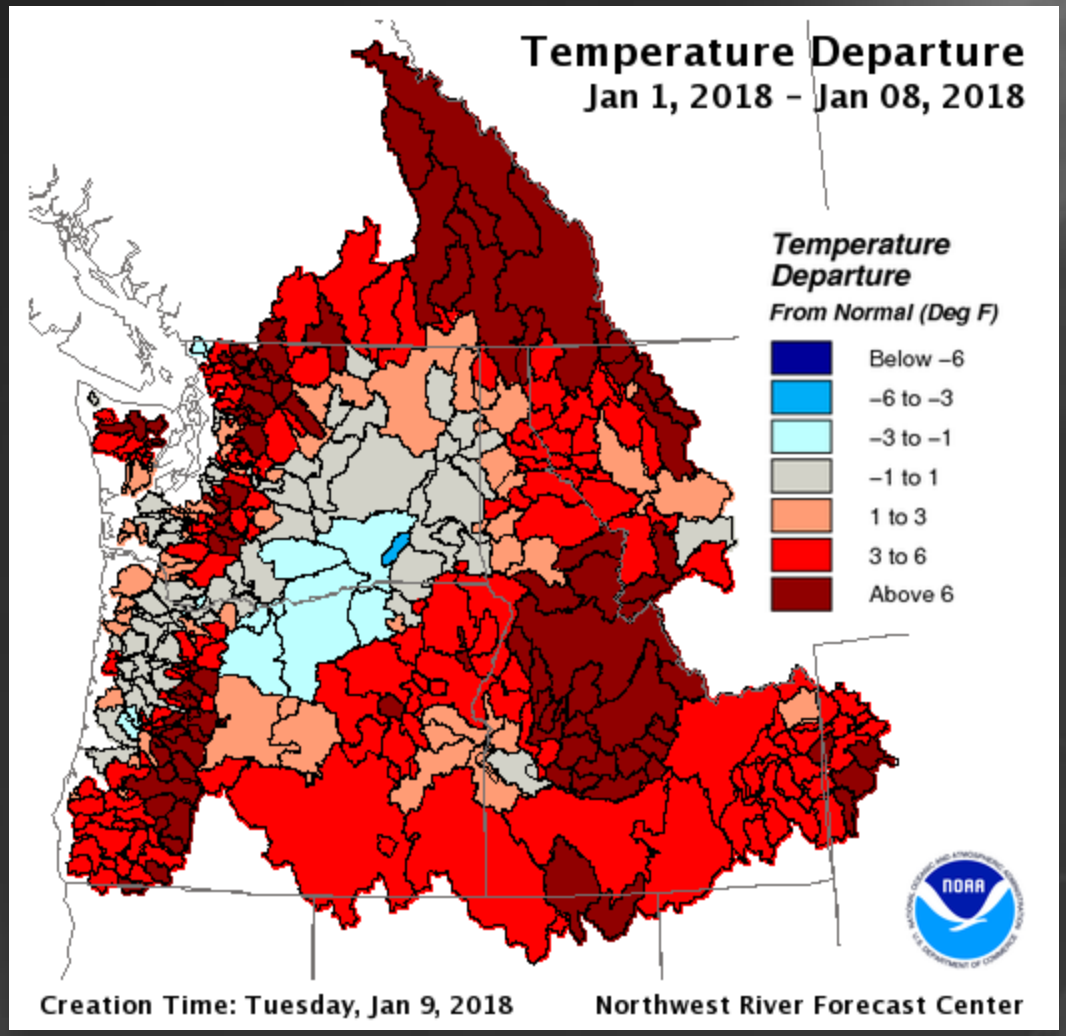


Departure from Normal



Temperature - Where we are Now

(percent of normal)



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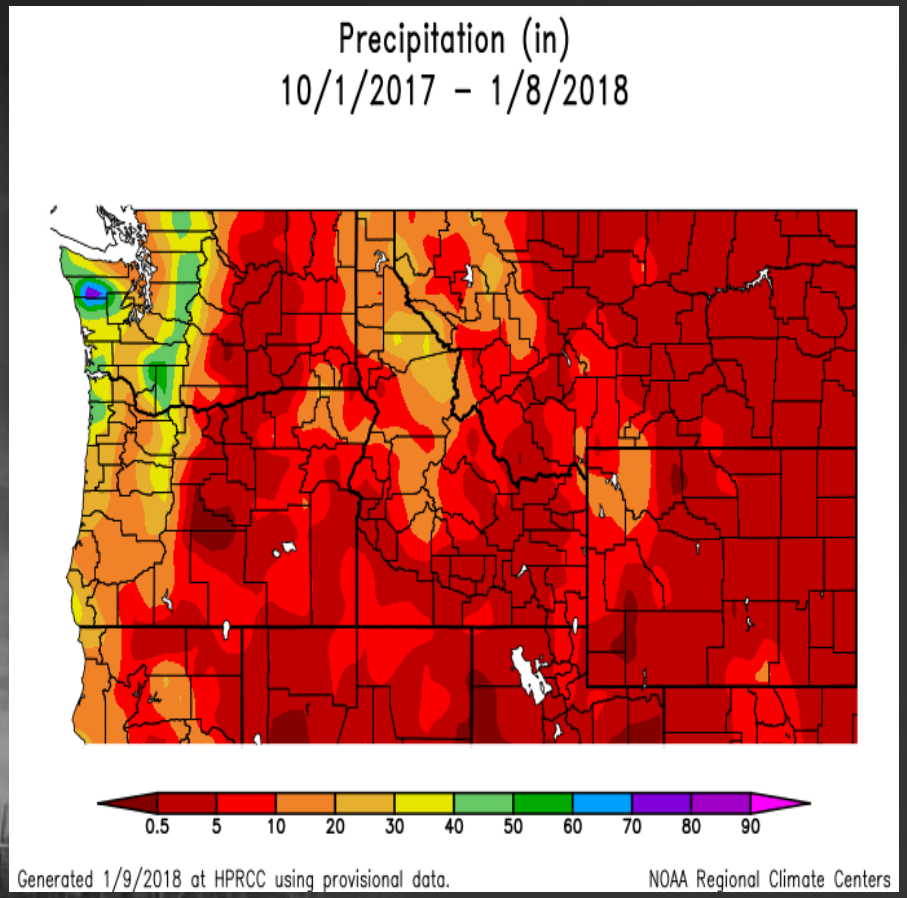
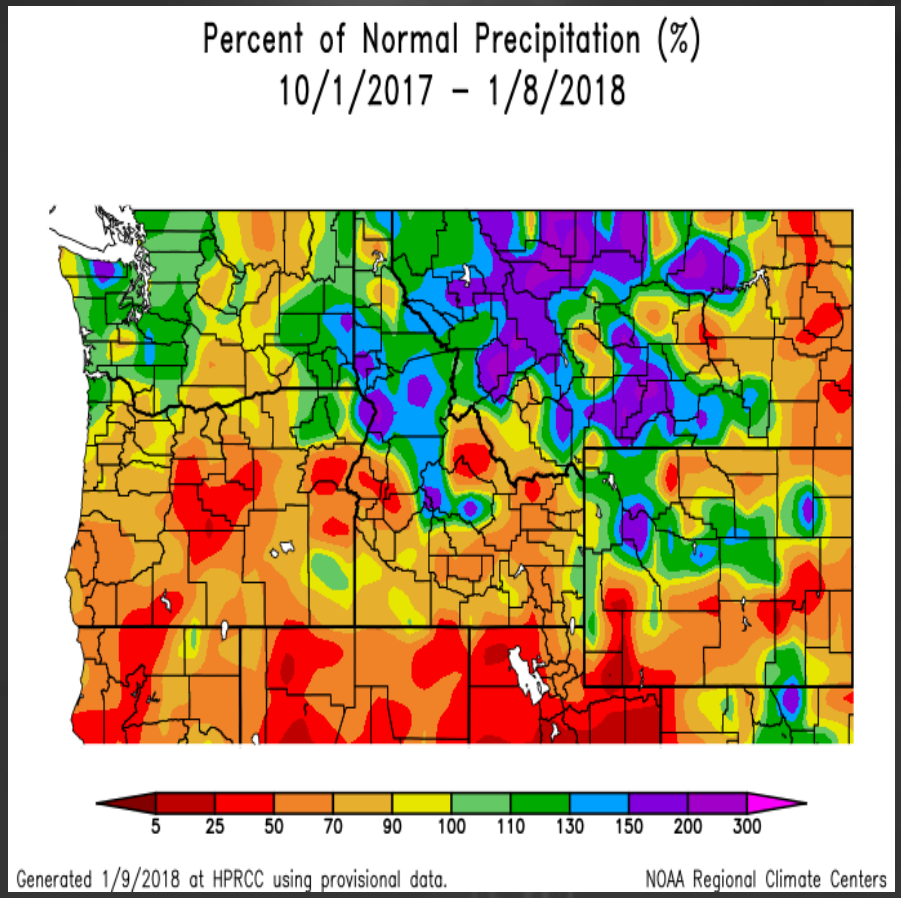
Seasonal Precipitation (Oct 1 – Jan 8)

Observed

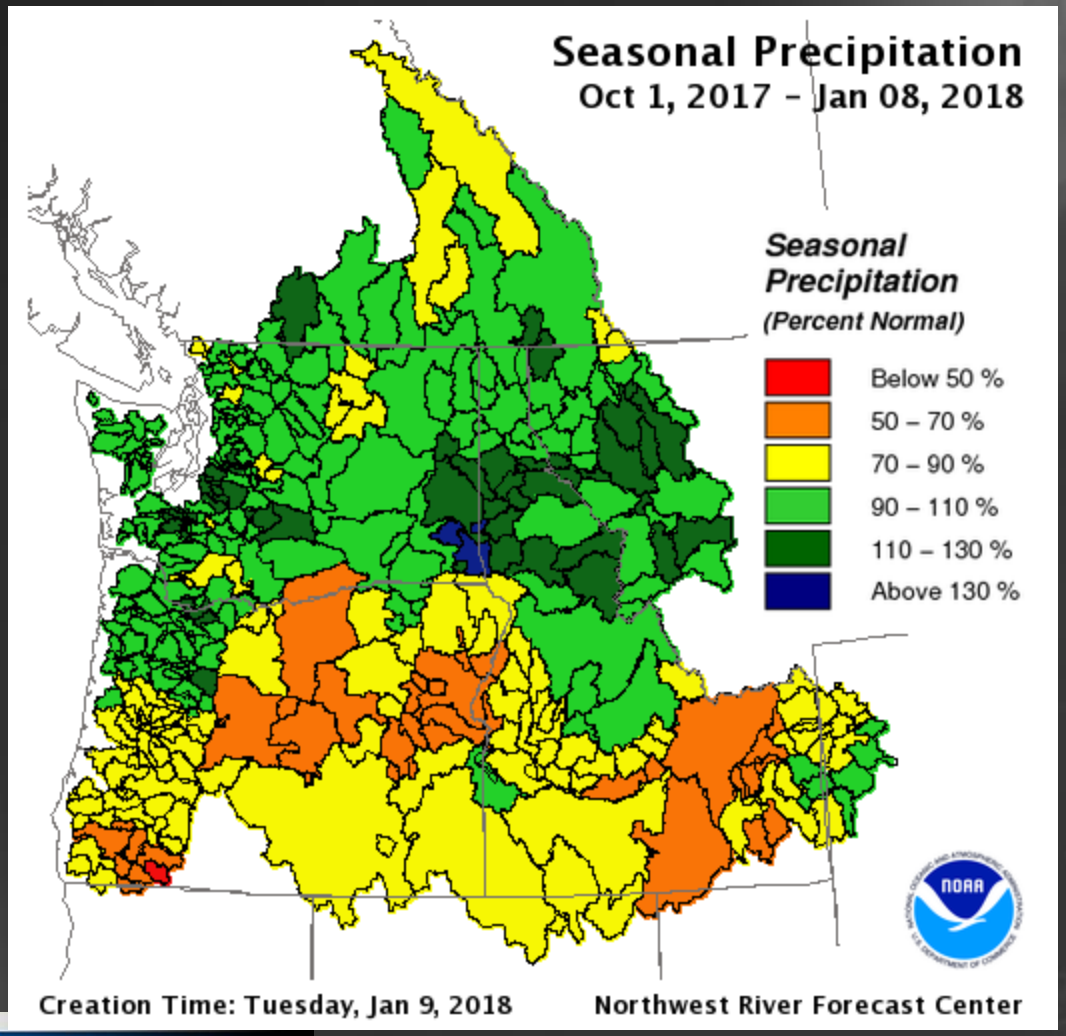


Departure from Normal



Precipitation - Where we are Now

(percent of normal)



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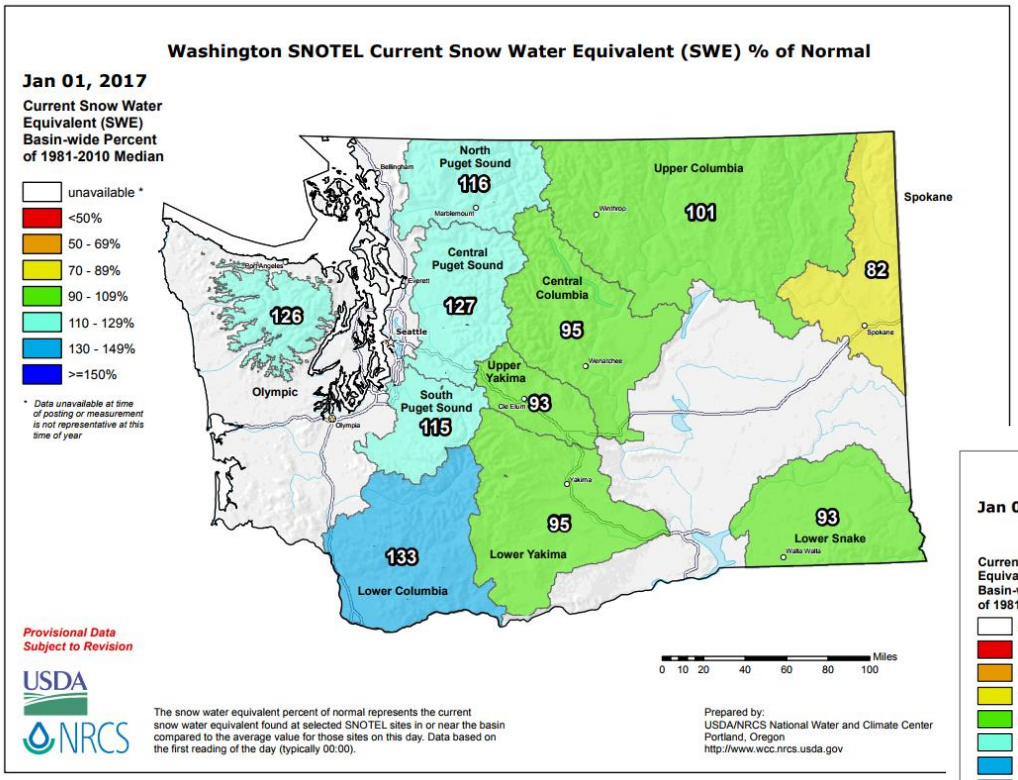
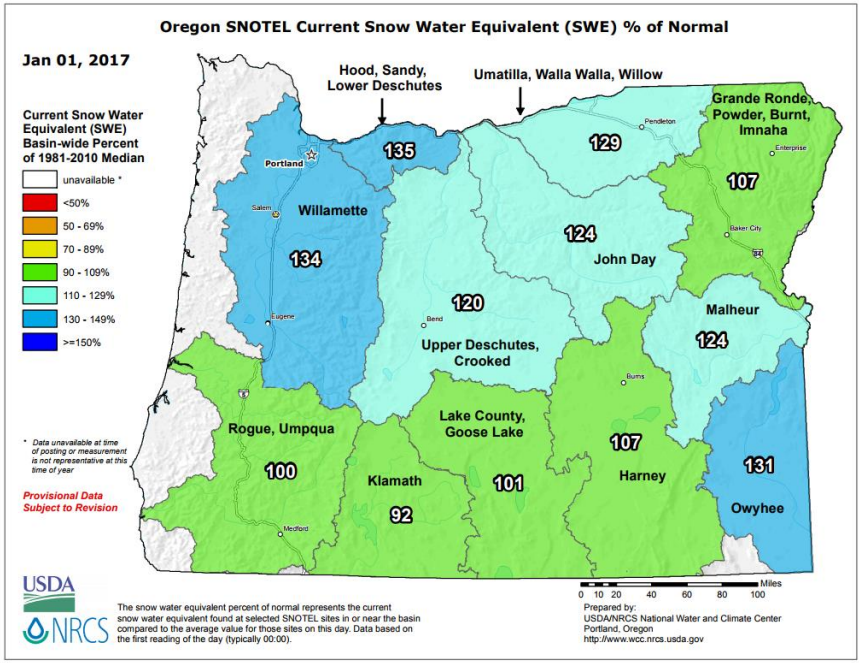
Snow - Where we are Now

(percent of normal)





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LaNina Status

- LaNina has strengthened
- Expected to persist through remainder of winter
- Transition to ENSO Neutral mid to late spring

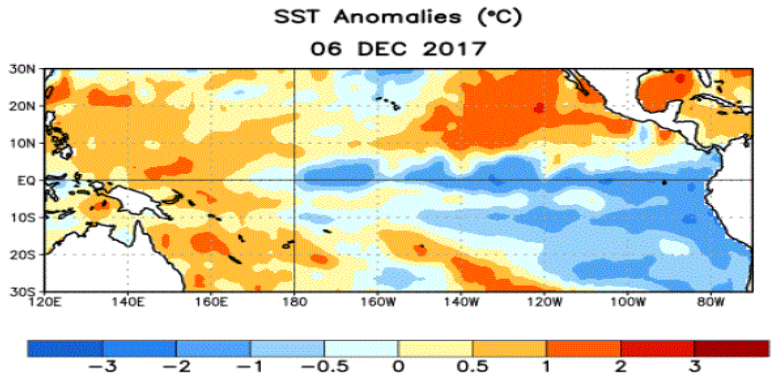

Figure 1. Average sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies (°C) for the week centered on 6 December 2017. Anomalies are computed with respect to the 1981-2010 base period weekly means.

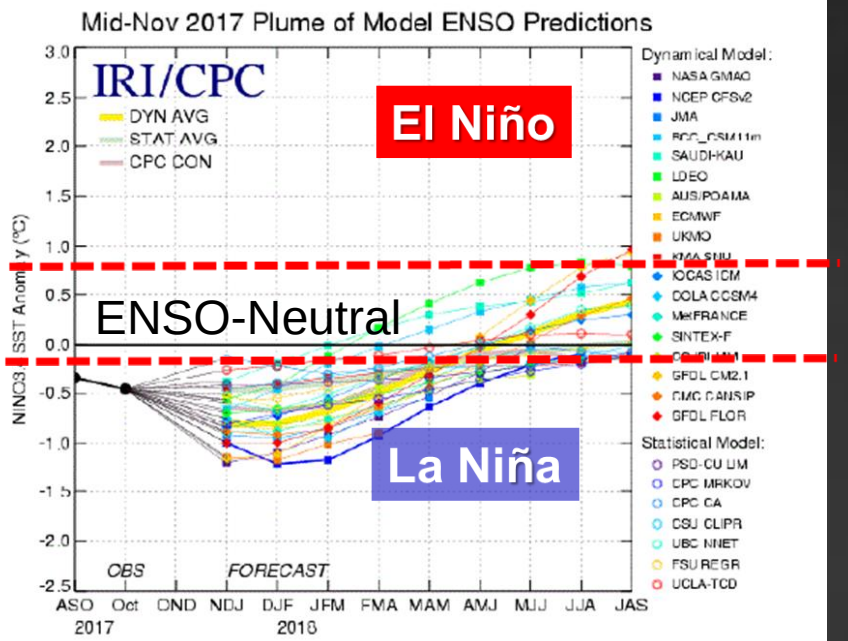

Figure 6. Forecasts of sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies for the Niño 3.4 region (5°N-5°S, 120°W-170°W). Figure updated 17 November 2017.

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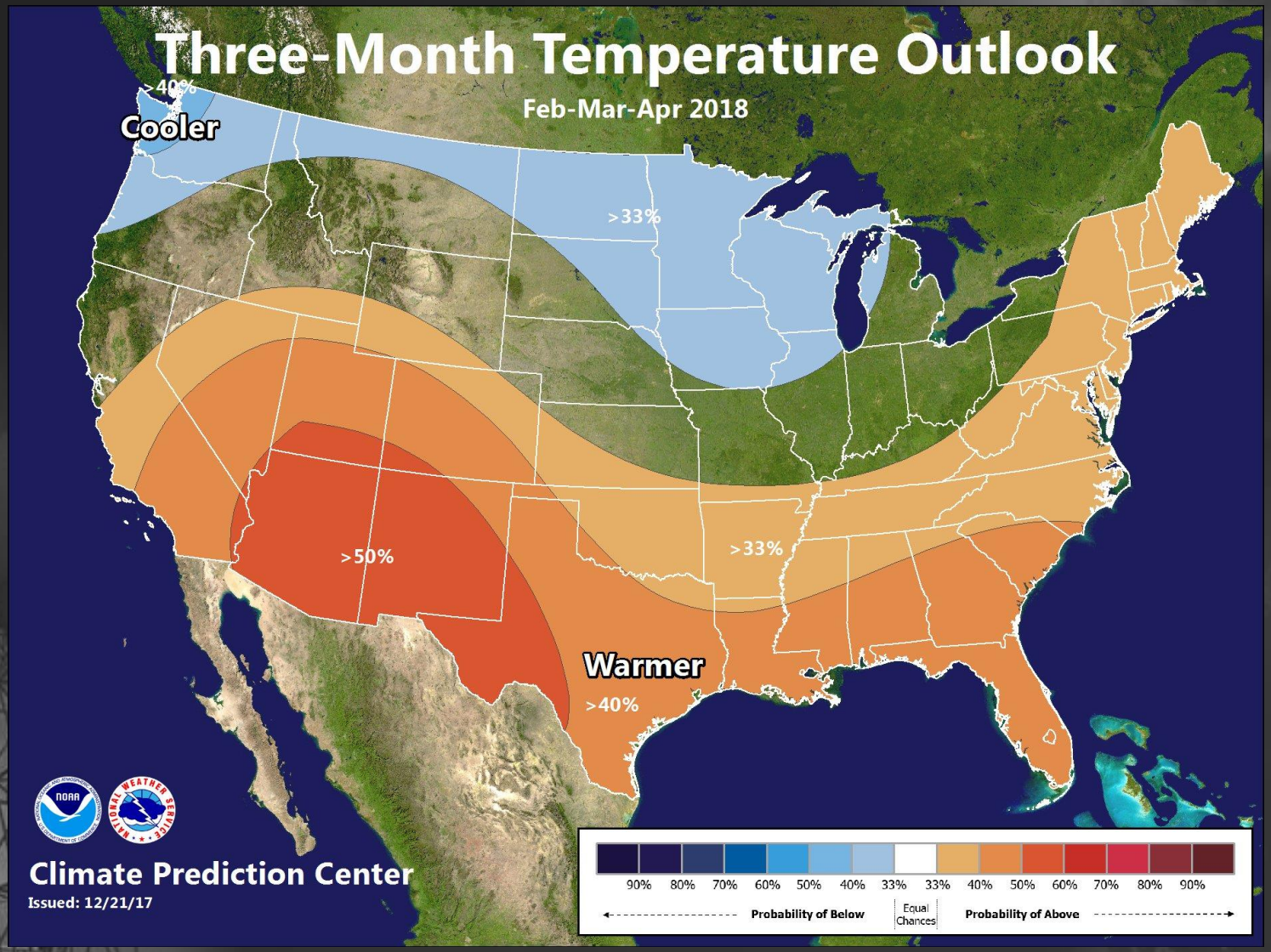
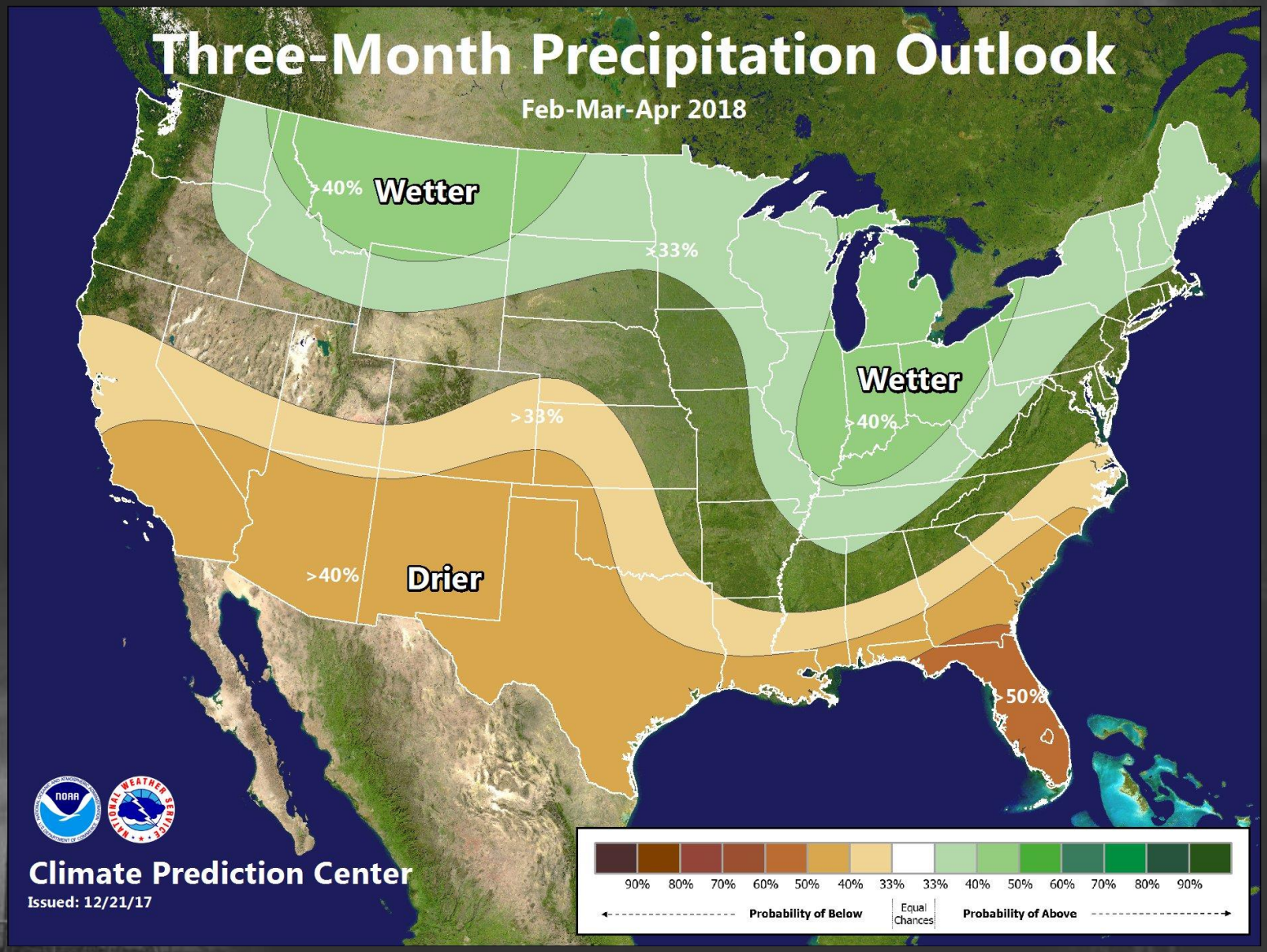
What's in store for Rest of Winter

Temperature Outlook (Feb-Apr)

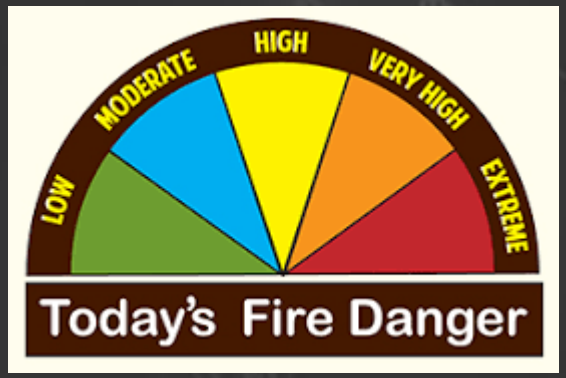


Precipitation Outlook (Feb-Apr)



How does this Relate to Fire Season

- Fire Season
- Highly dependent on type of spring
  - *Wet spring – delays start of fire season, but also more fine fuels to burn*
  - *Dry spring – early start of fire season*



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Summary

- LaNina episode to continue into Spring
- Likely to have cooler than normal temperatures for remainder of winter
- Likely to see near normal precipitation (west), slightly above normal precipitation (east)