



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Snowpack & Water Supply Update

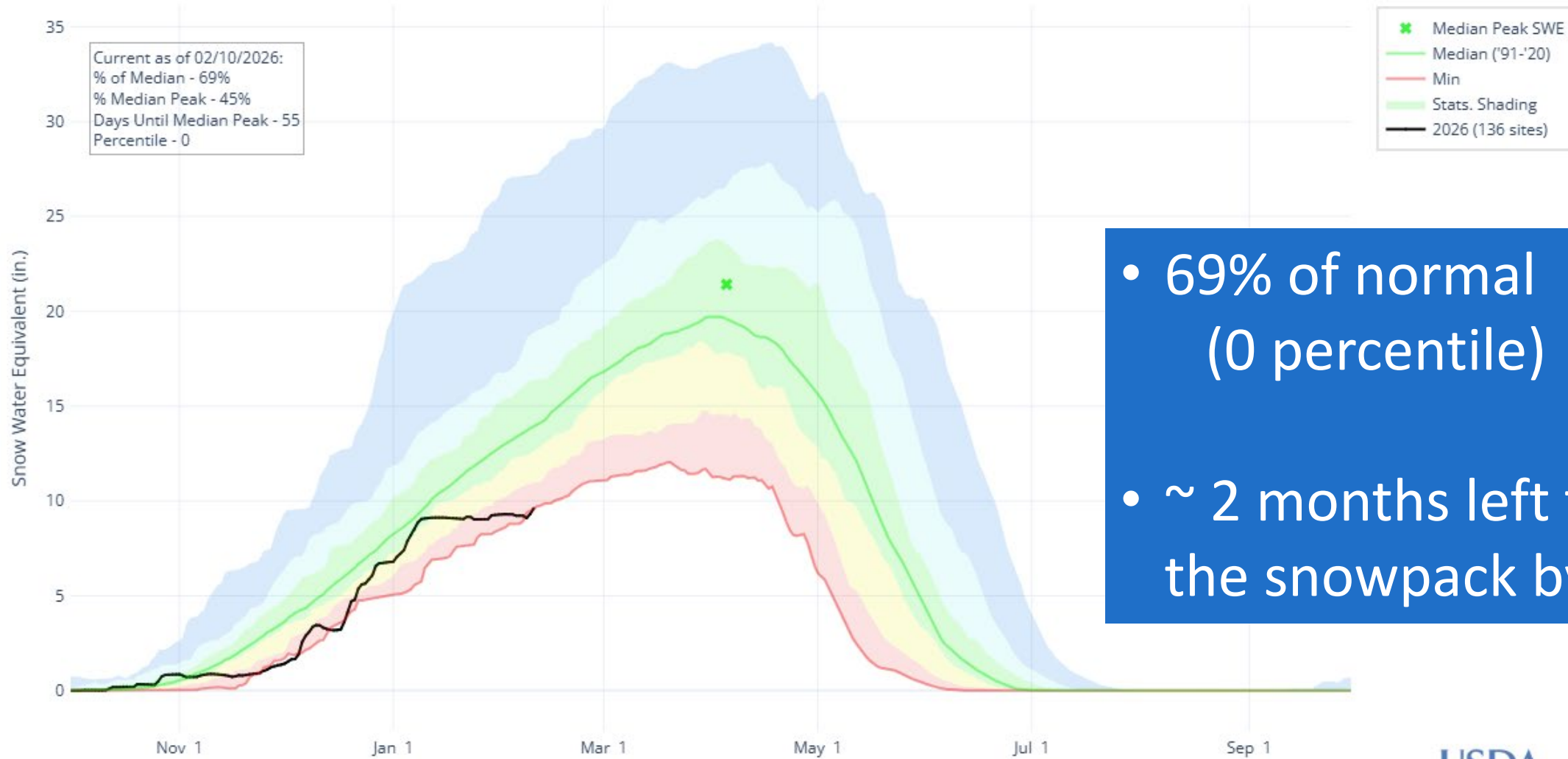
State Technical Advisory Committee– February 10, 2026

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center



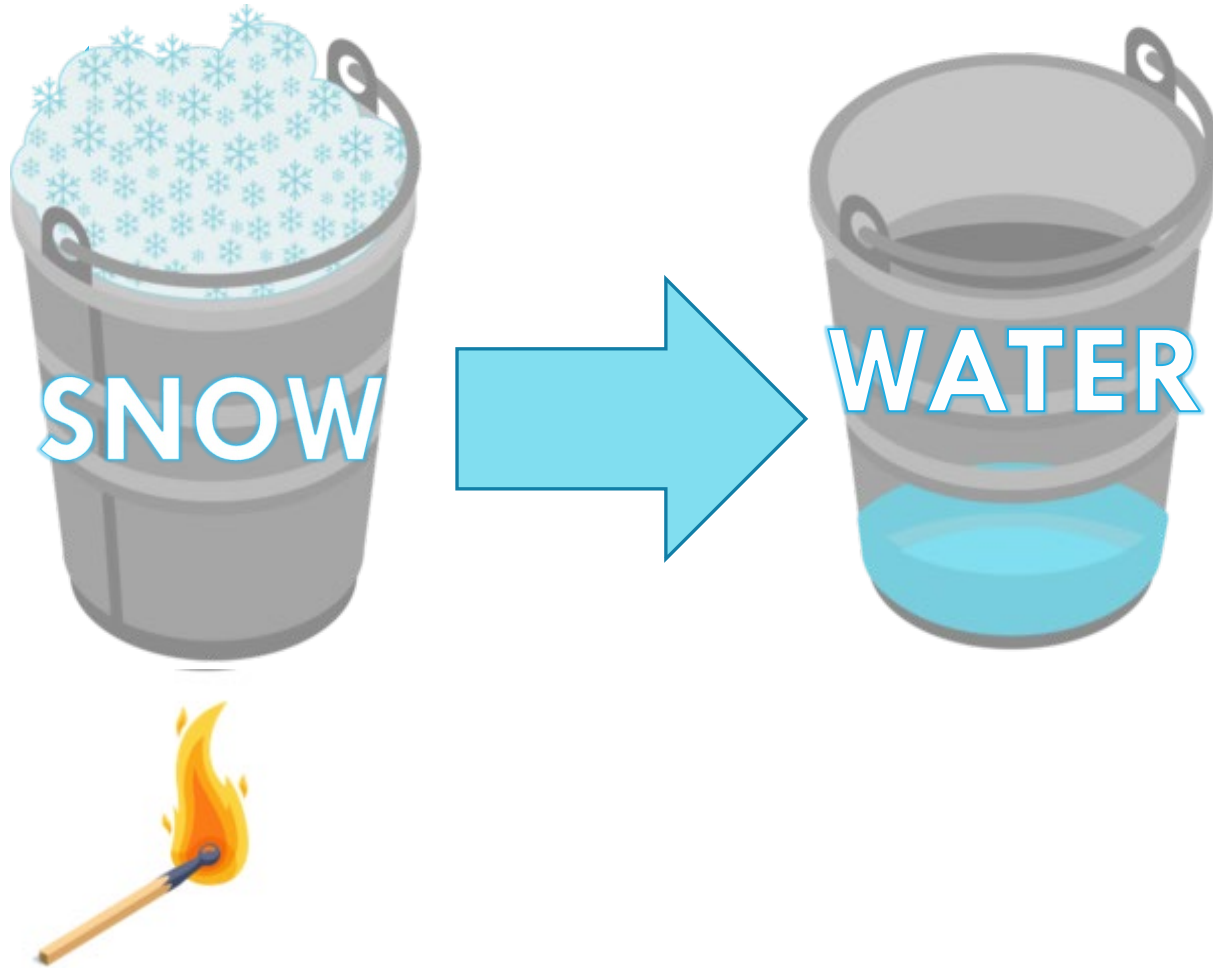
Record low snowpack in Idaho

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN STATE OF IDAHO



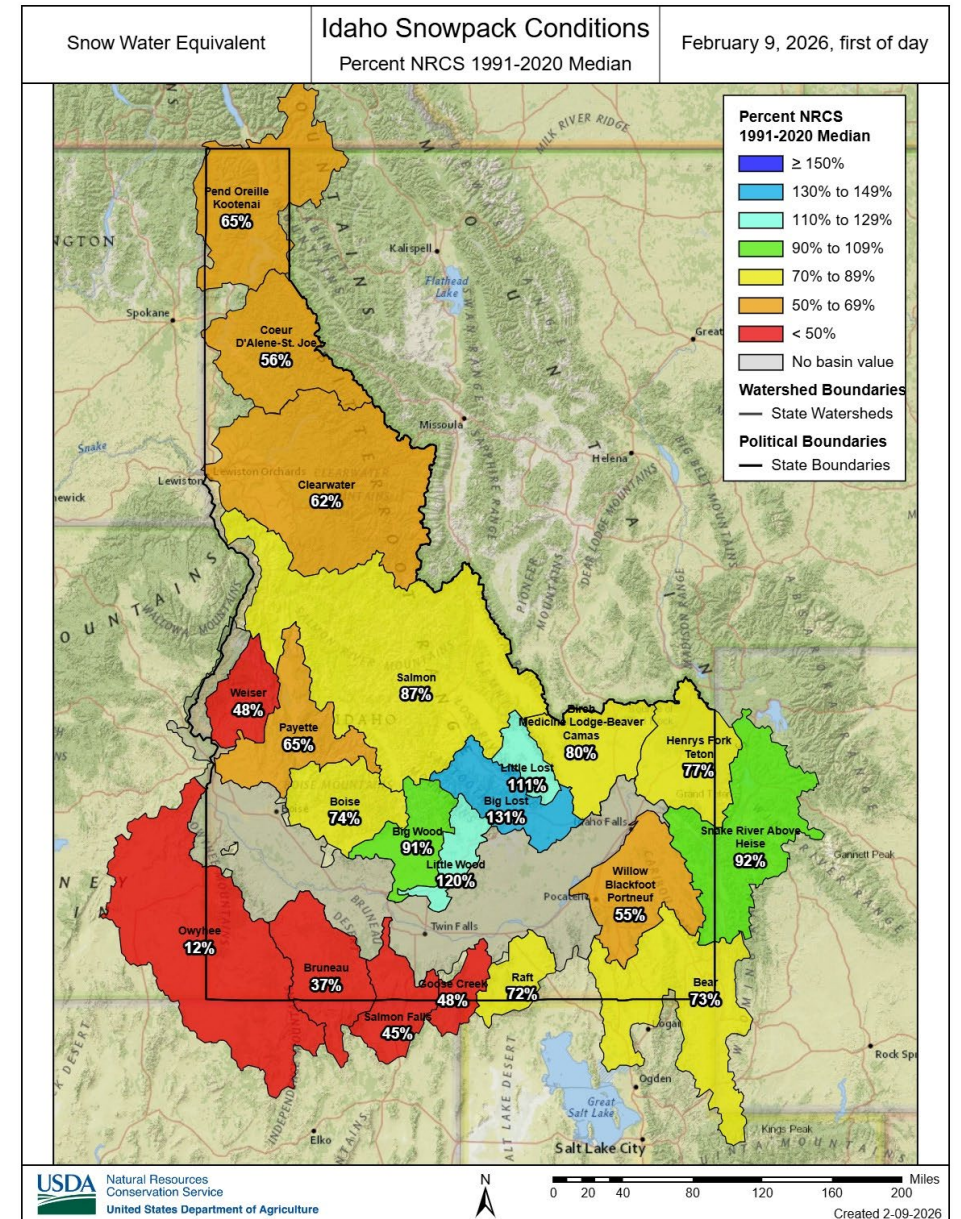
- 69% of normal (0 percentile)
- ~ 2 months left to build the snowpack by April 1

How much water is in the snow?



- **Snow water equivalent (SWE) is the amount of liquid water contained in the snowpack**
- SWE is measured in inches of water
- This helps compare snowpack measurements across the West

- Snowpack conditions are near or at a record low below ~7,000 ft.
- At higher elevations – snowpack is near to above normal





Low snowpack at low & mid-elevations



Bogus Basin (6,370-ft)
Lowest January 1 SWE in 83-years



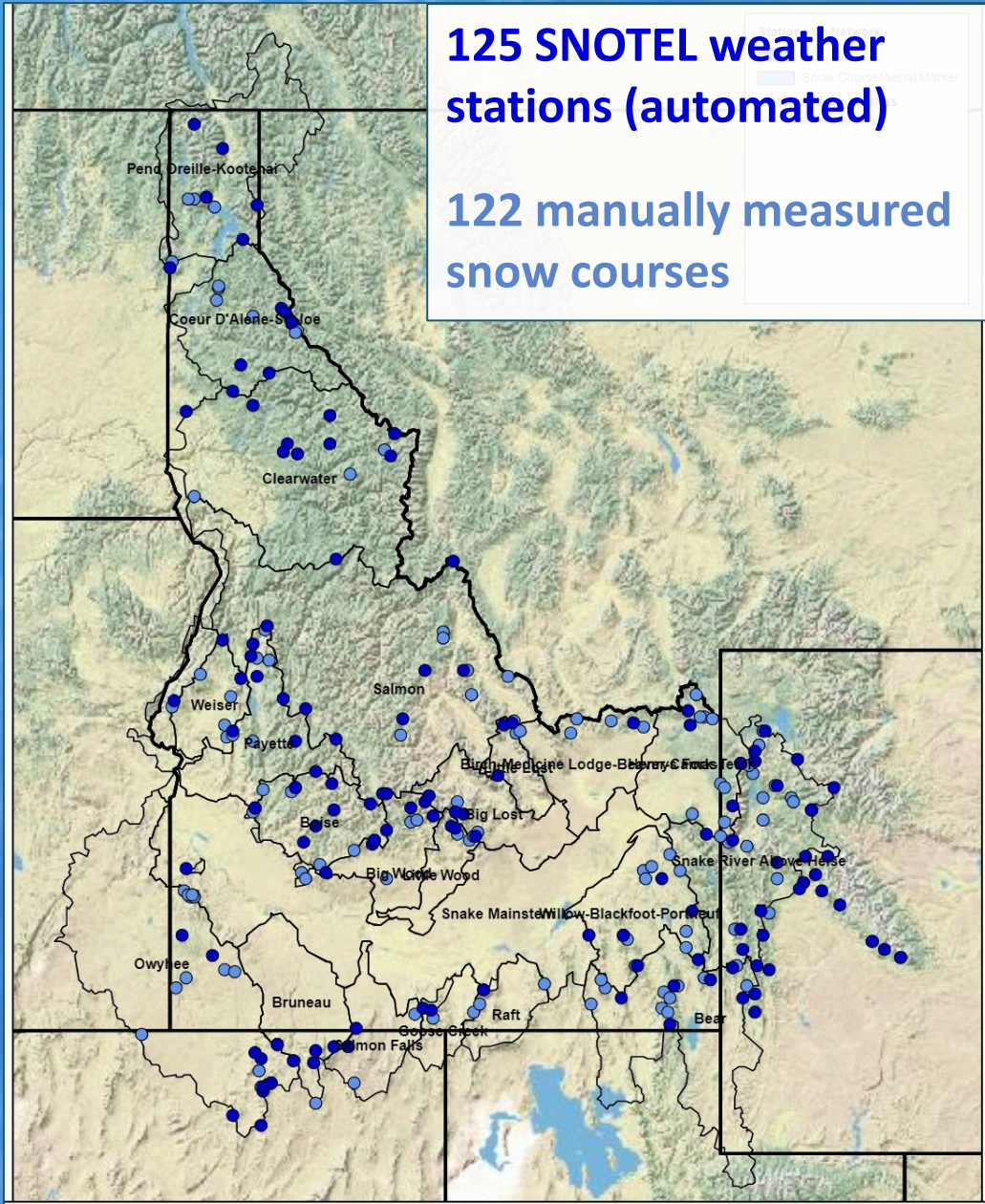
Bogus Basin February 1
snowpack @ 22% of normal



Idaho's snowpack monitoring network

**125 SNOTEL weather
stations (automated)**

**122 manually measured
snow courses**



Snow Course: Bogus Basin Road



**Thank you to our snow
surveyors & partners!**



SNOTEL: automated weather stations

Solar Panels

Air Temperature

Snow Depth

Precipitation Sensor

Shelter

Snow Water Equivalent
Sensor (Snow Pillow)

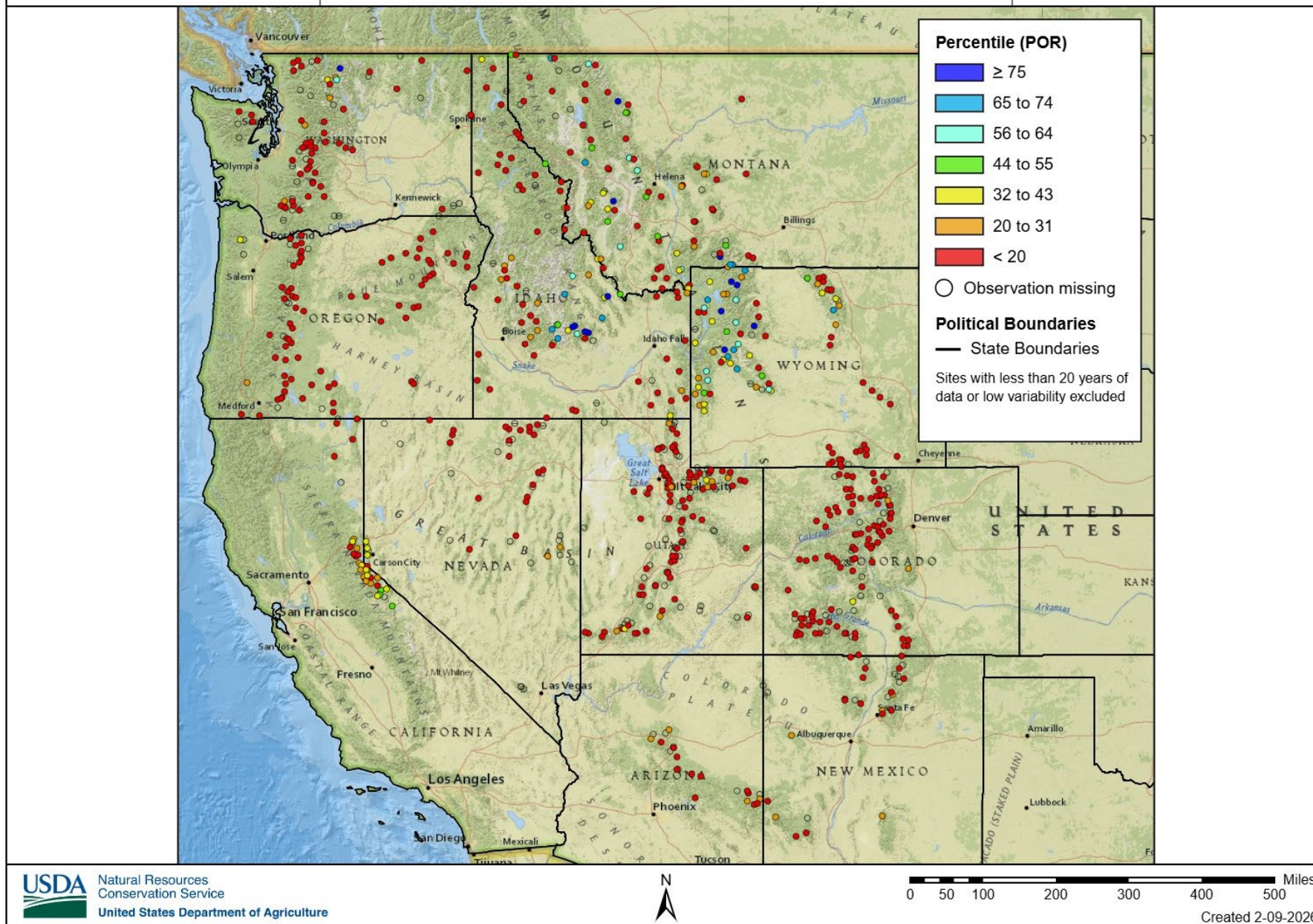


Snow Water Equivalent

Current Snowpack Conditions

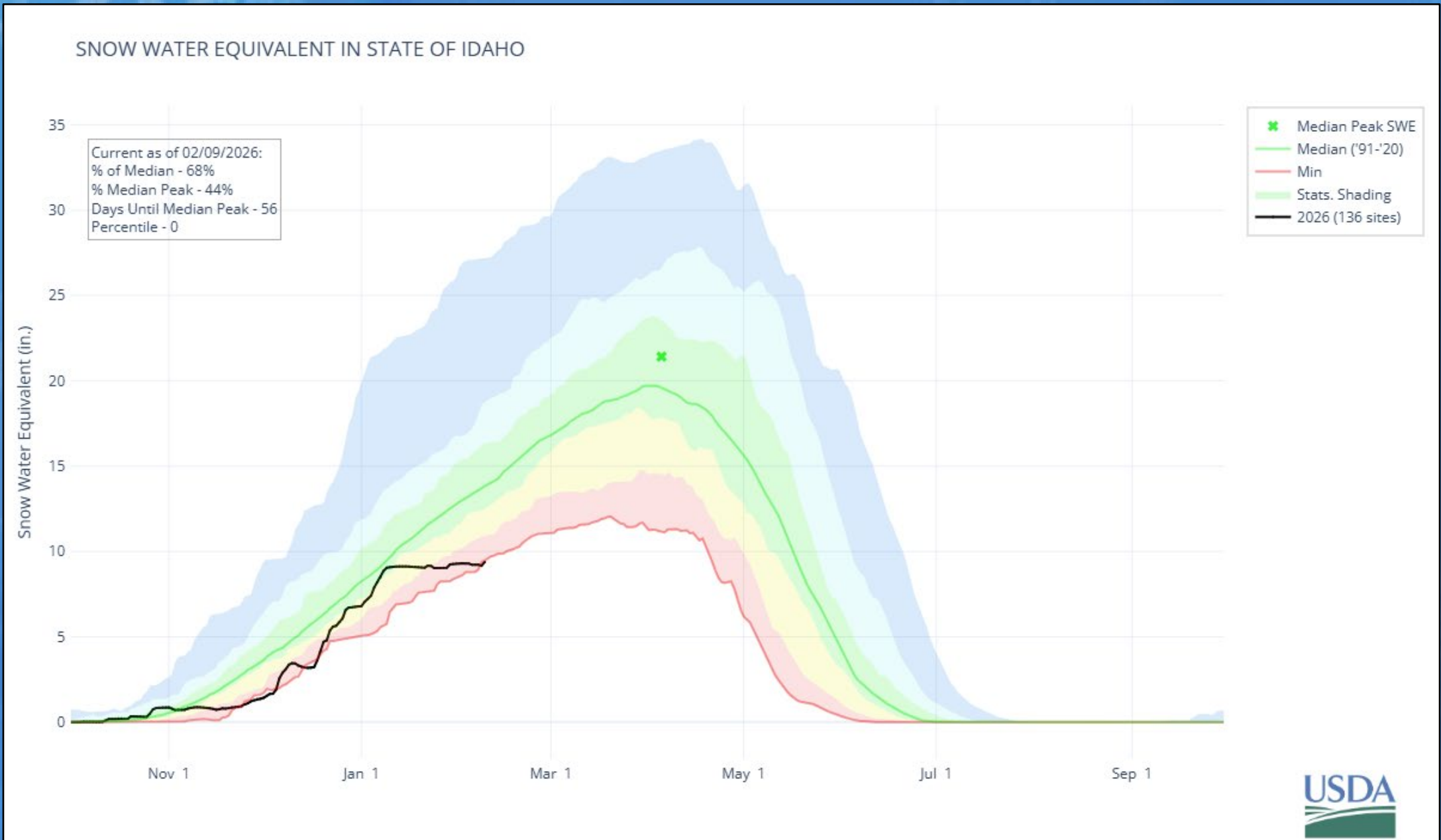
Percentile (POR)

February 9, 2026, first of day

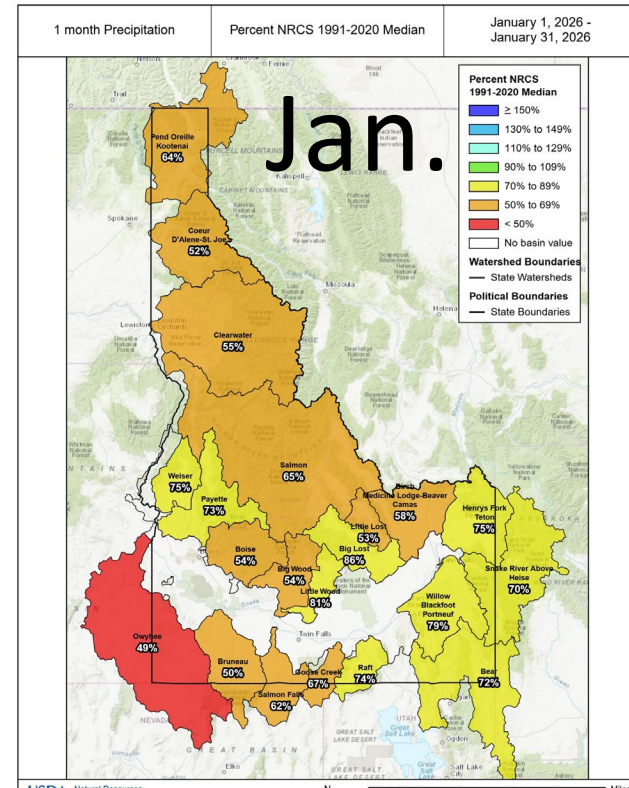
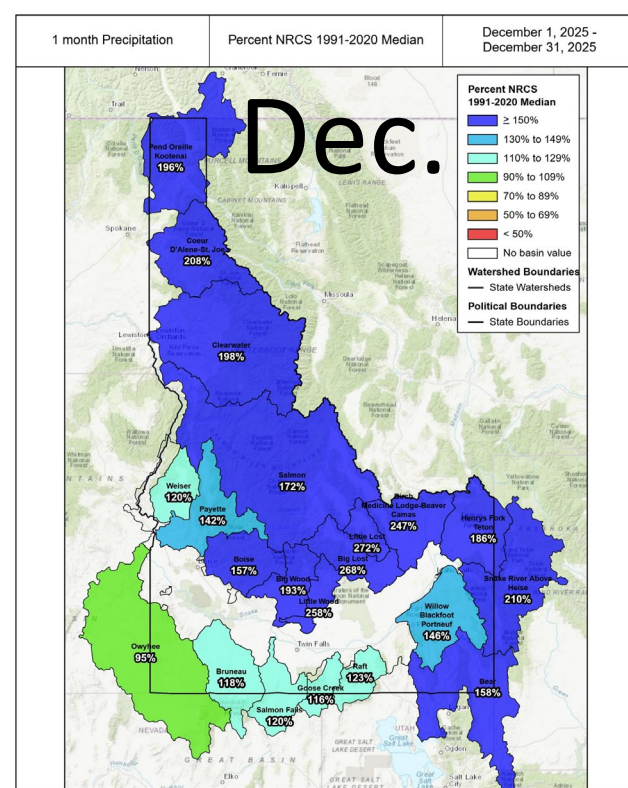
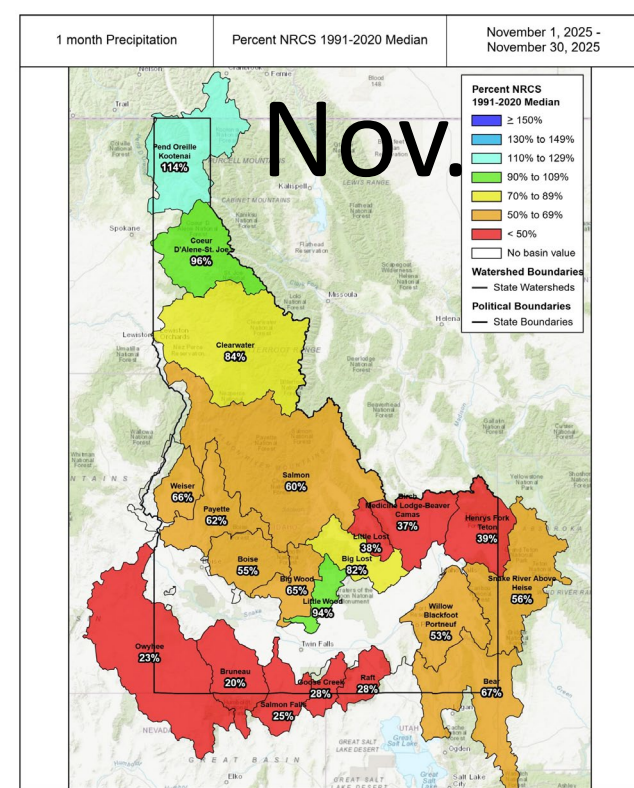




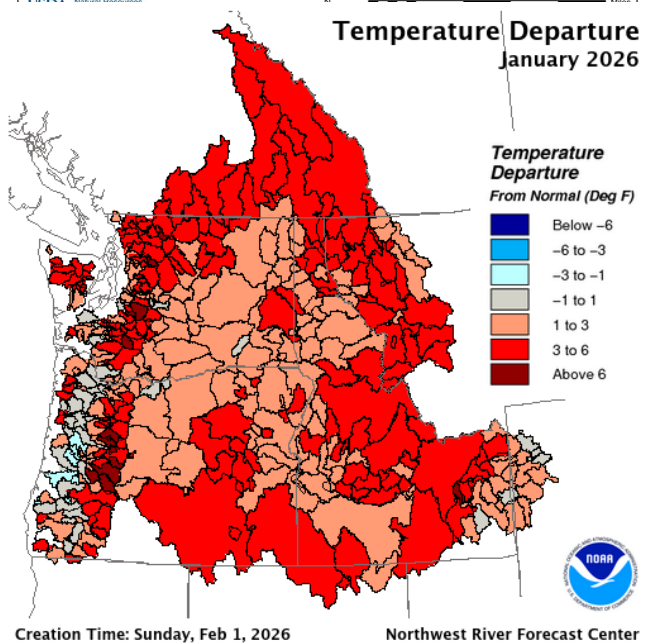
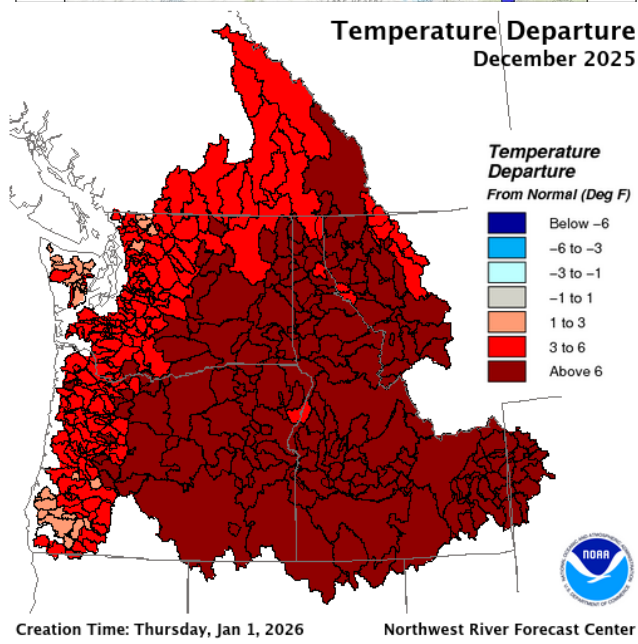
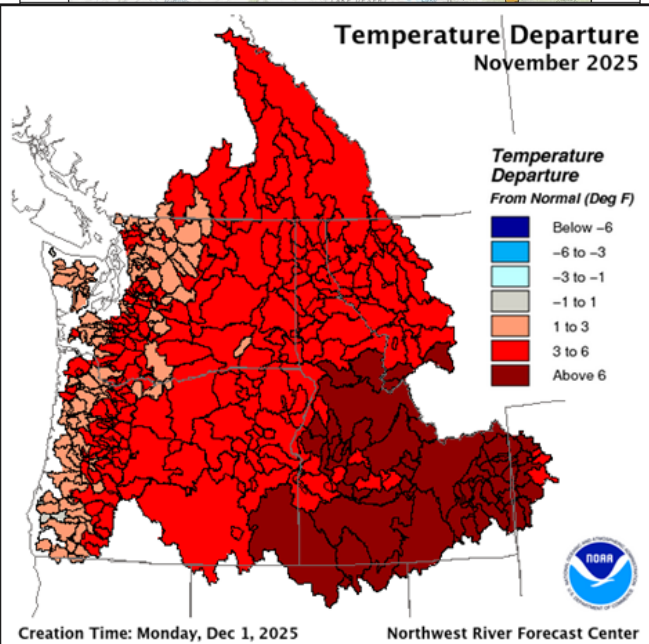
Why is the snowpack so low this winter?



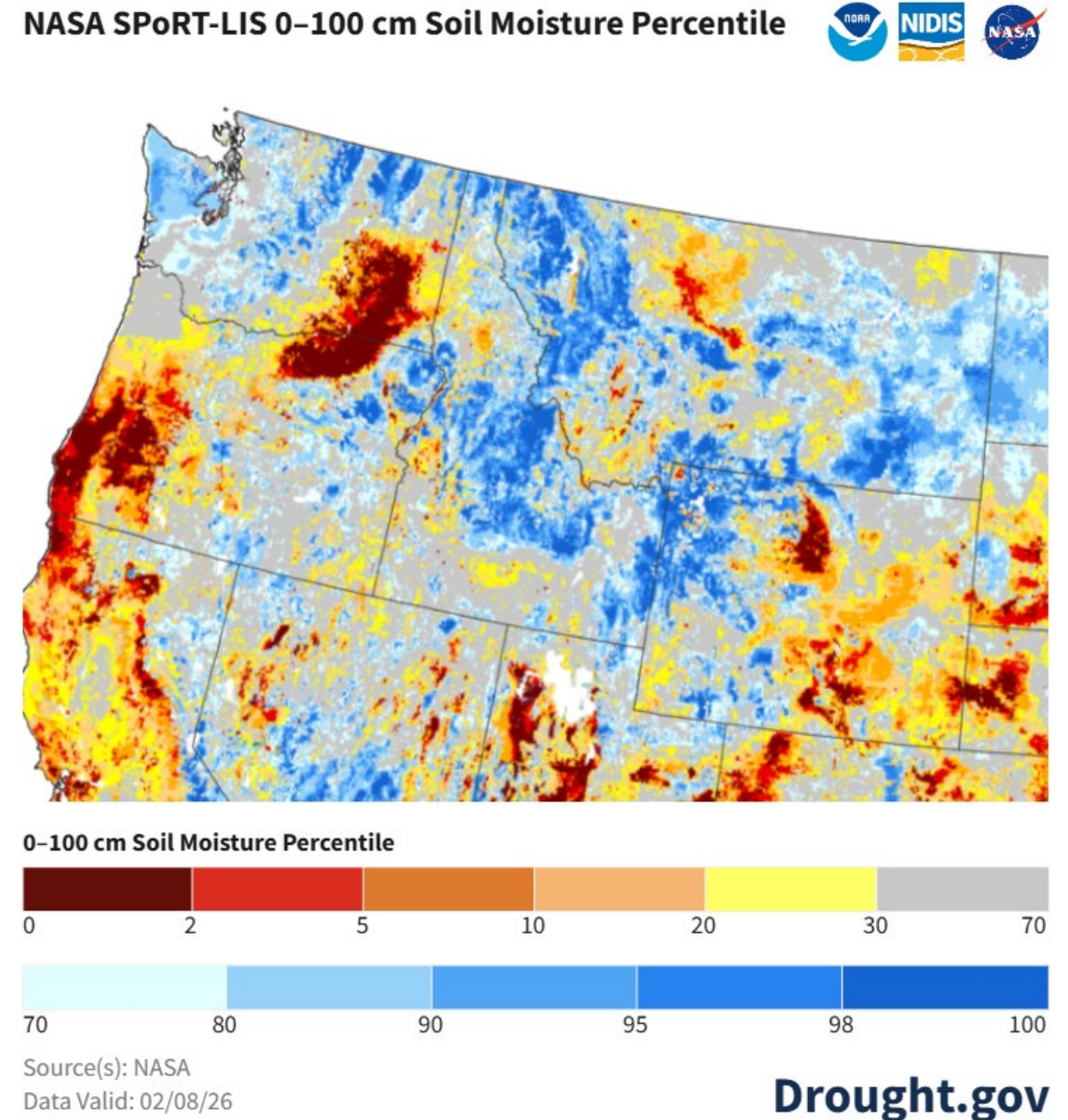
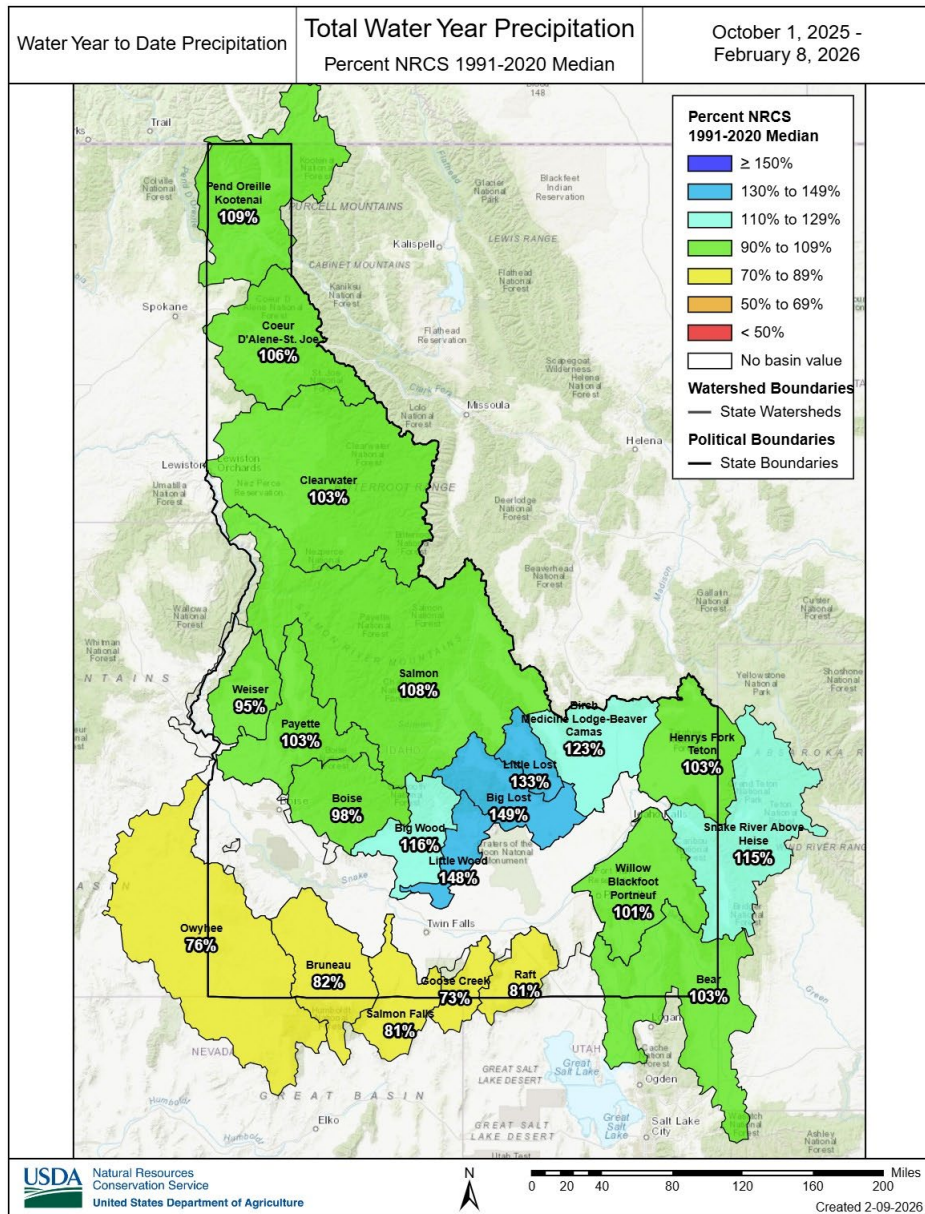
Precipitation



Temperature



Good news: soil moisture improved





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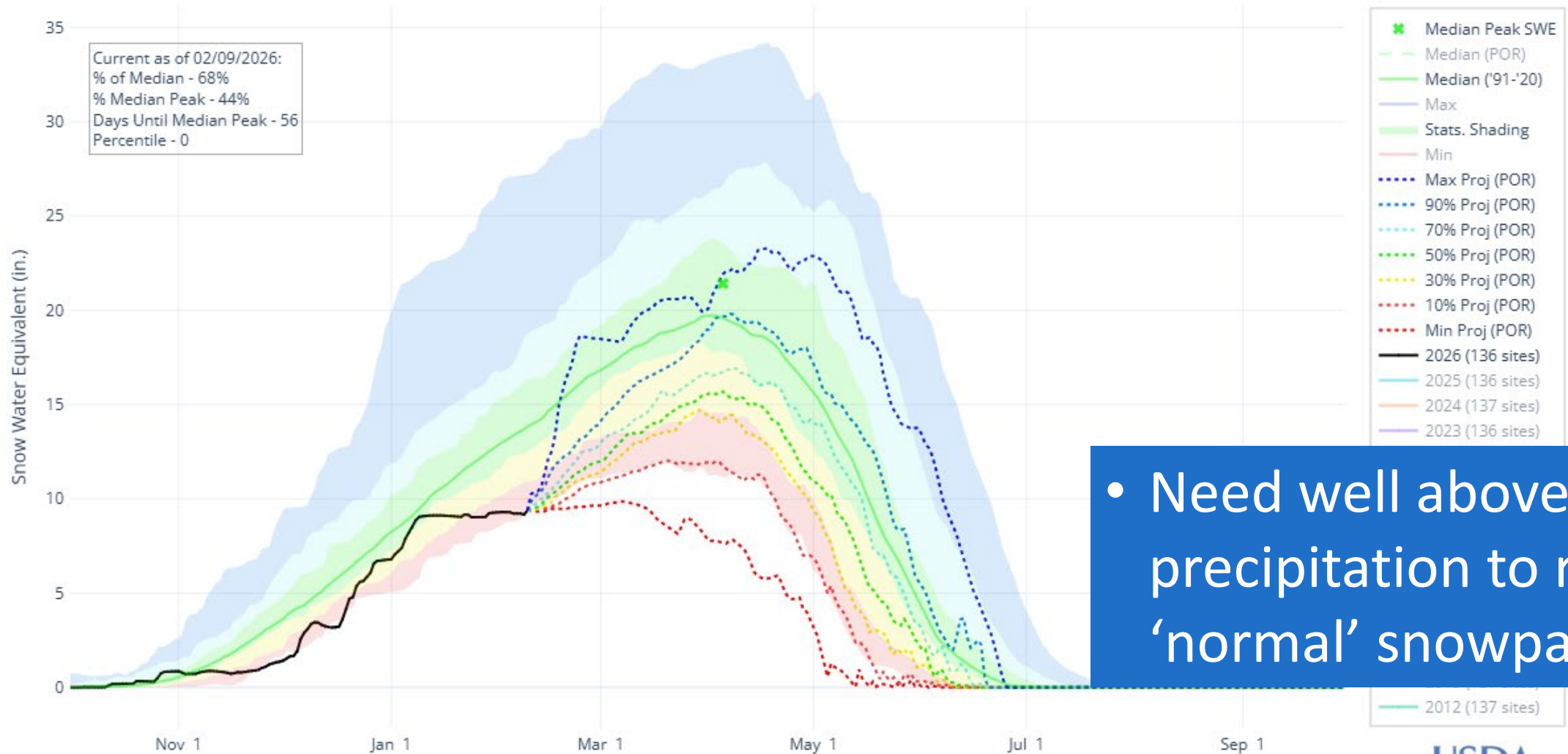
Will wetter soils mean more runoff?





Projected snowpack conditions

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT PROJECTION IN STATE OF IDAHO

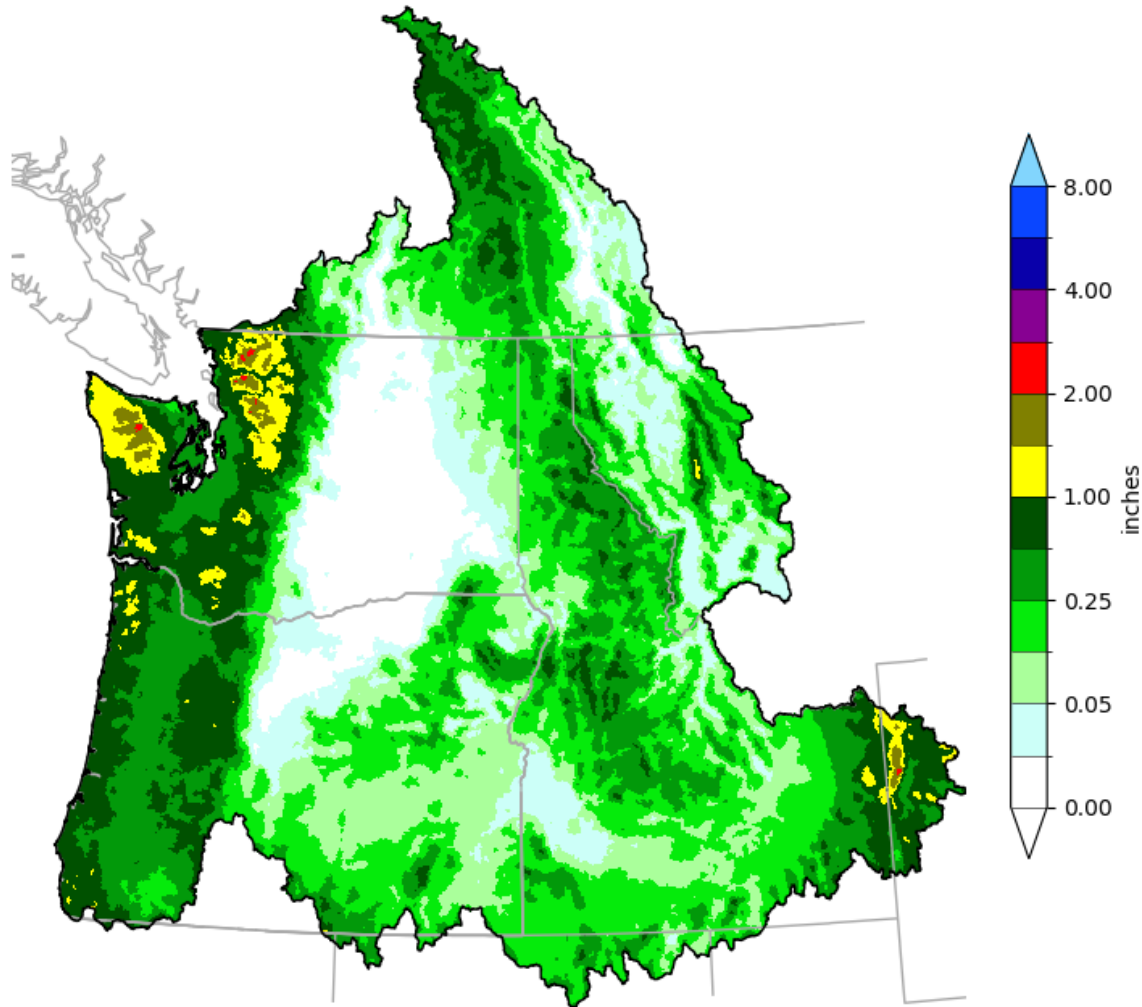


- Need well above normal precipitation to reach a 'normal' snowpack

Some precipitation this week ...



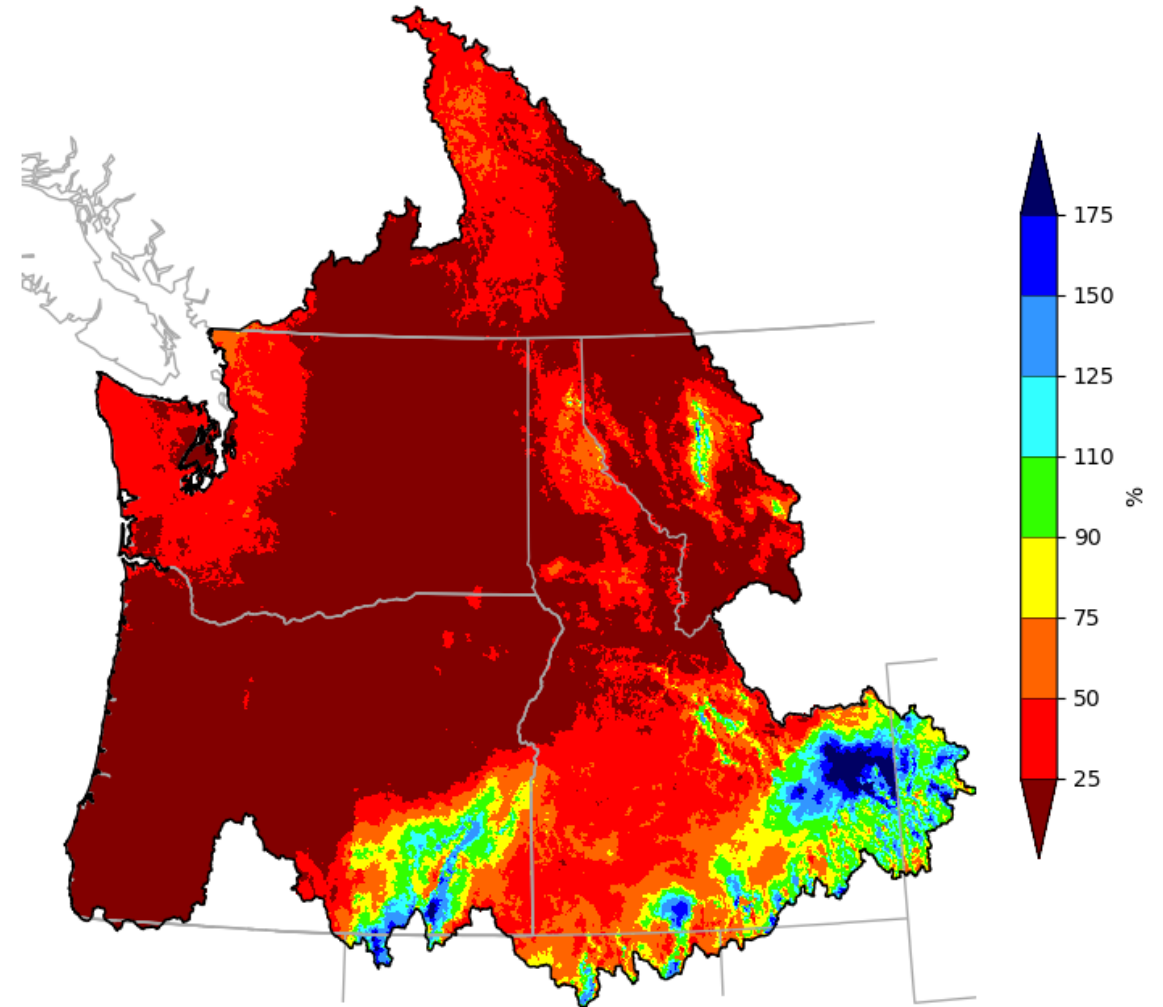
Northwest River Forecast Center
5 Day QPF, Ending 12Z, 02/14/26



Creation Time: Mon Feb 9 15:12:17 UTC 2026



Northwest River Forecast Center
5 Day QPF (Percent of Climatology), Ending 12Z, 02/14/26

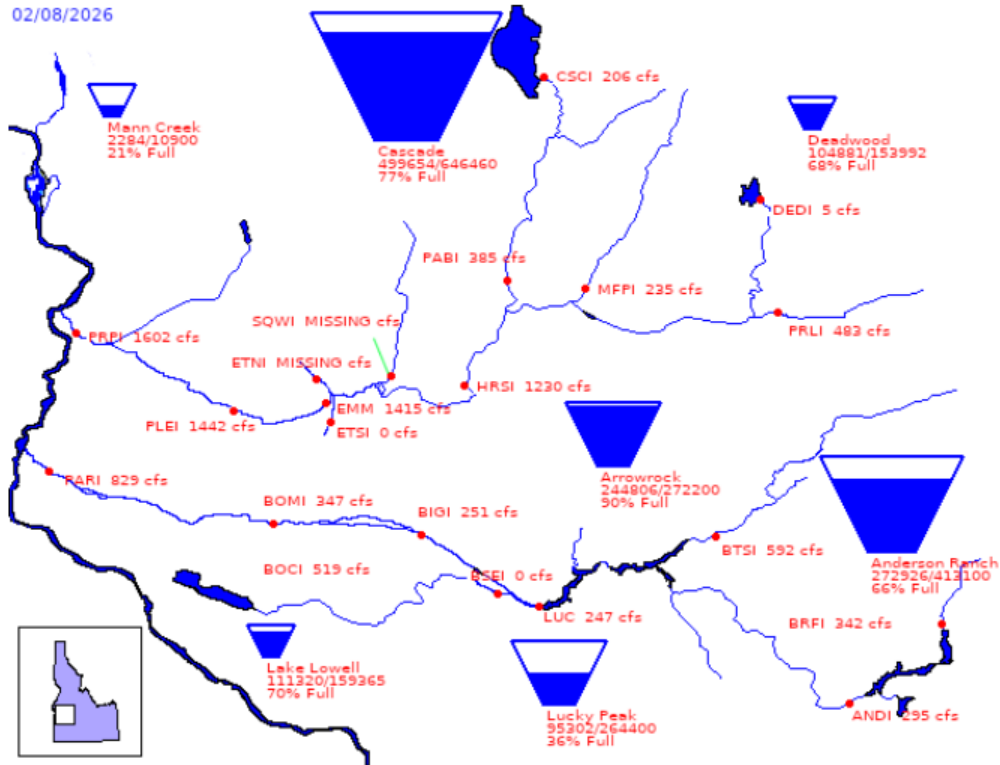


Creation Time: Mon Feb 9 21:09:11 UTC 2026



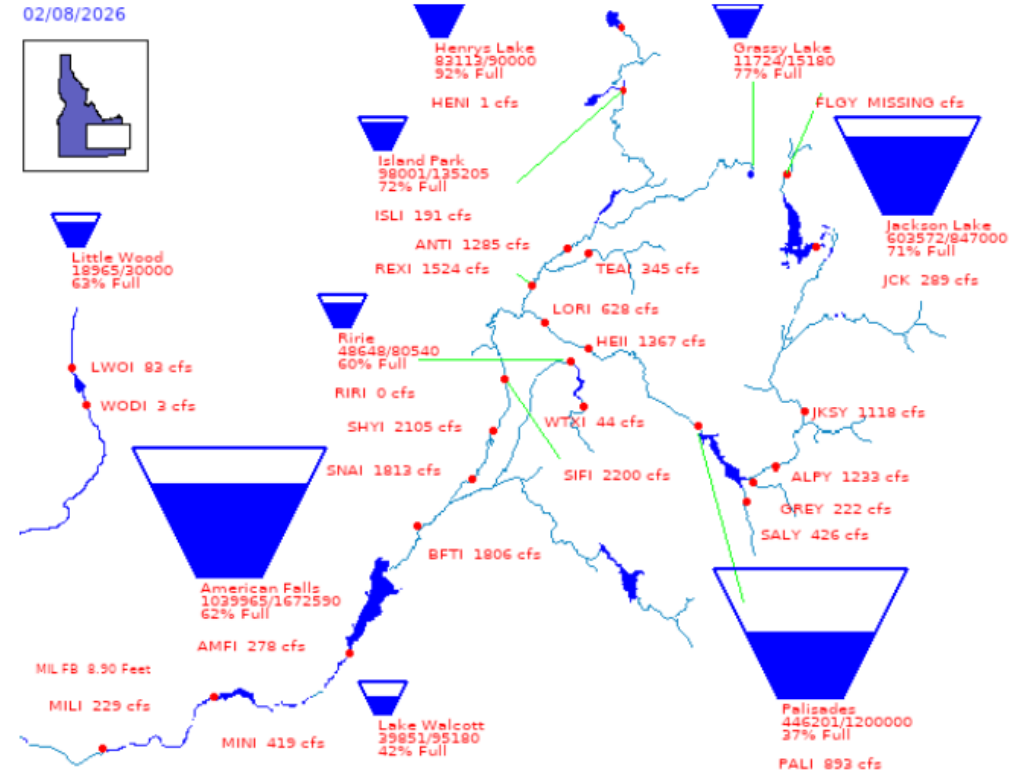
Reservoir storage will play a big role

Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region Major Storage Reservoirs in the Boise & Payette River Basins



Boise system = 65% full
Payette system = 76% full

Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region Major Storage Reservoirs in the Upper Snake River Basin



Upper Snake River system = 57% full
~ 334 KAF less water than average



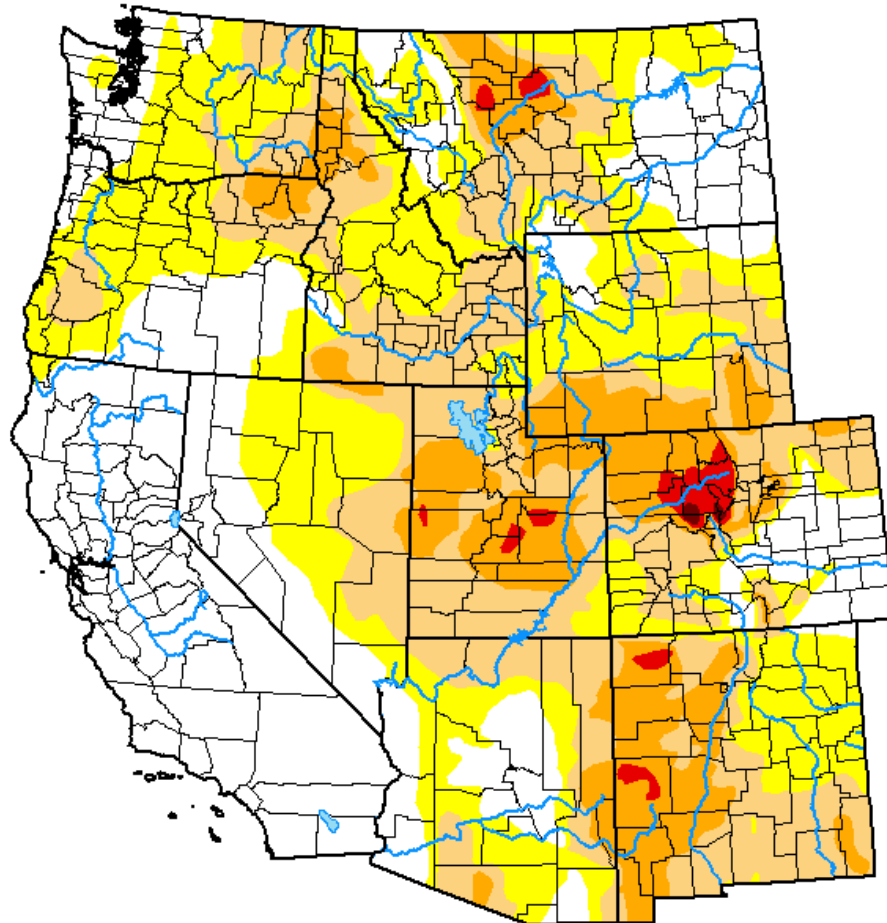
Drought conditions across the West

U.S. Drought Monitor West

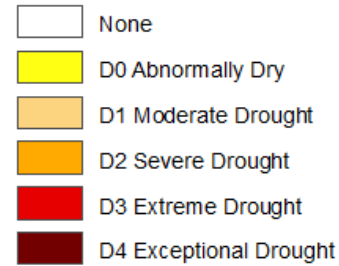
February 3, 2026

(Released Thursday, Feb. 5, 2026)

Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

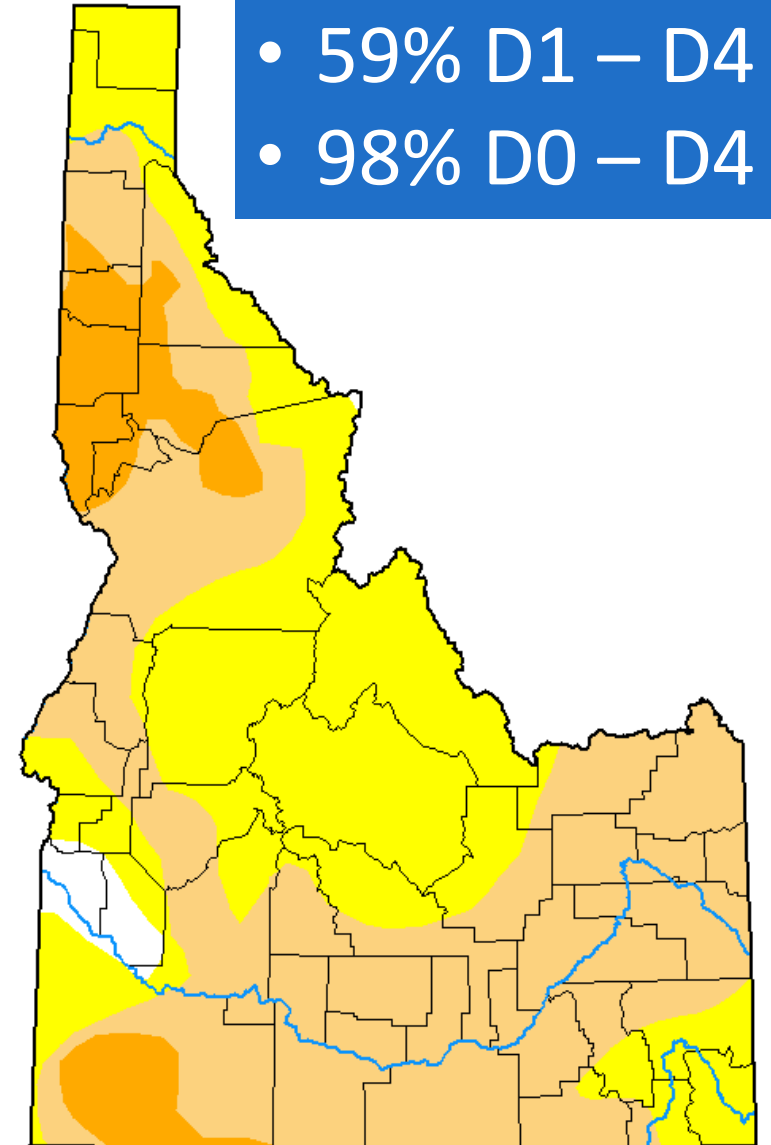
Author:

Lindsay Johnson
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

- 59% D1 – D4
- 98% D0 – D4



Idaho Conditions Summary

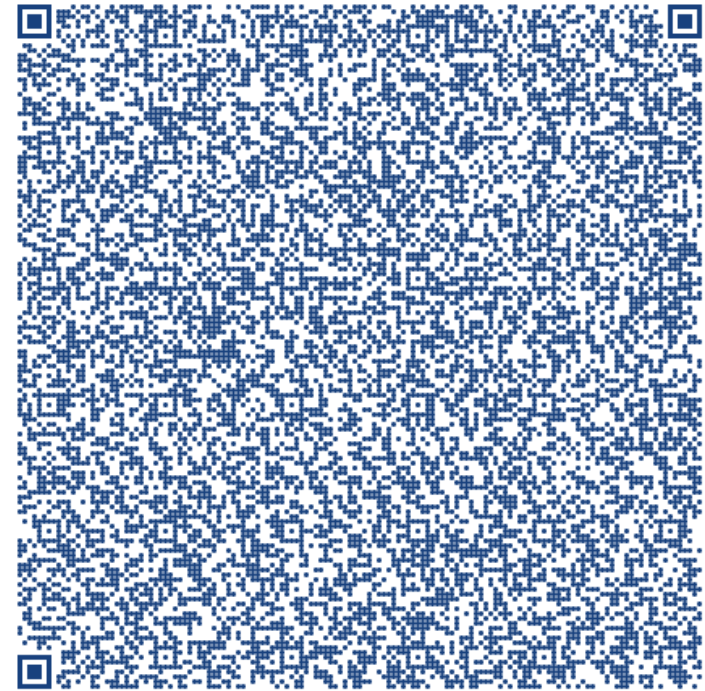
- Idaho & Western U.S. are in a **snow drought**
- Need well above normal precipitation to reach near normal snowpack conditions
- Water supply outlook varies highly – depends on each watershed's **unique combination of reservoir storage & snowpack conditions**



Idaho Snow Survey webpage



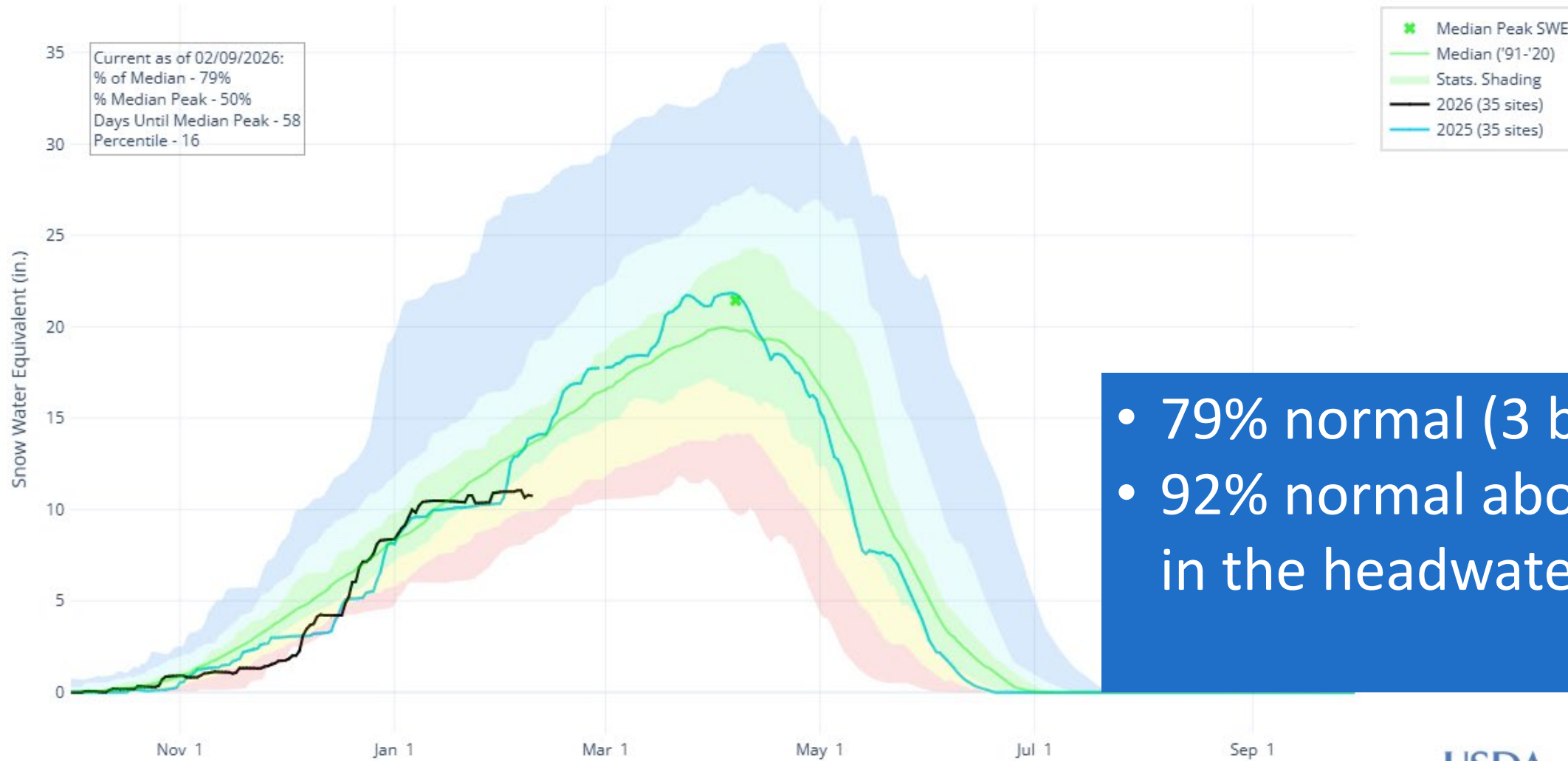
Interactive conditions map





Upper Snake River snowpack conditions

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN SNAKE AB MILNER



- 79% normal (3 basins)
- 92% normal above Heise in the headwaters

Snow course measurement

