

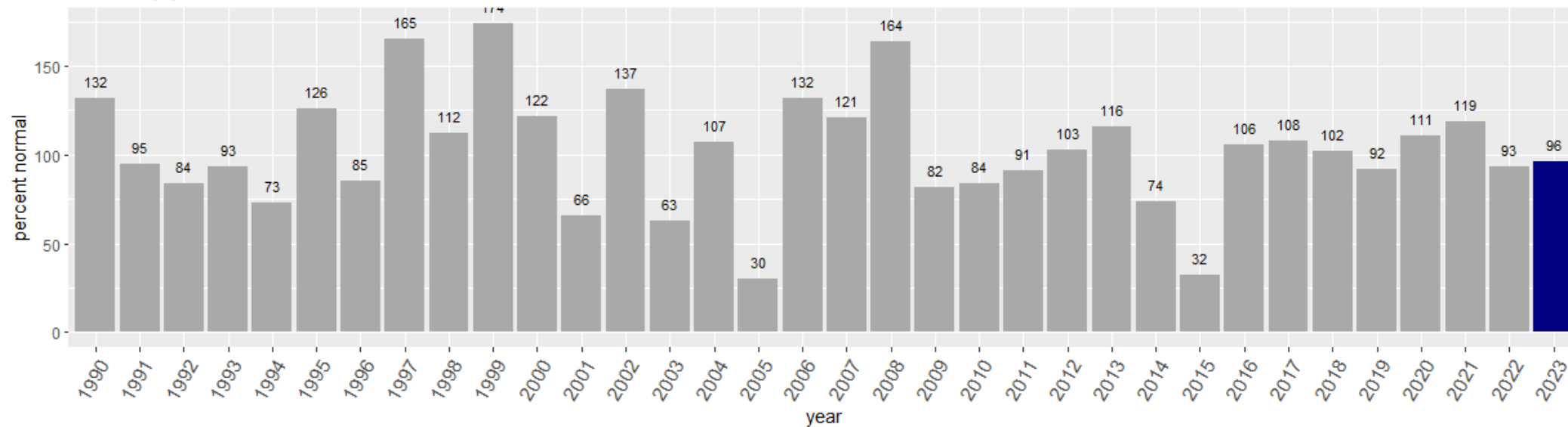
Water Supply Availability Committee

Friday, February 17, 2023				
Start Time	End Time	Duration, min	Description	
10:00	10:10	10	Welcome & Introductions	Jeff Marti, Ecology
10:10	10:25	15	Regional Climate Setting/ ENSO	Karin Bumbaco, OWSC Nick Bond, OWSC
10:25	10:40	15	Mountain Conditions	Scott Pattee, NRCS
10:40	10:50	10	Streamflow and Groundwater	Nick Sutfin, USGS
10:50	11:05	15	Water Supply Forecasts	Amy Burke, NWRFC Brent Bower, NWS
11:05	11:25	20	All	All

BOR releases official Yakima Forecast on March 9th

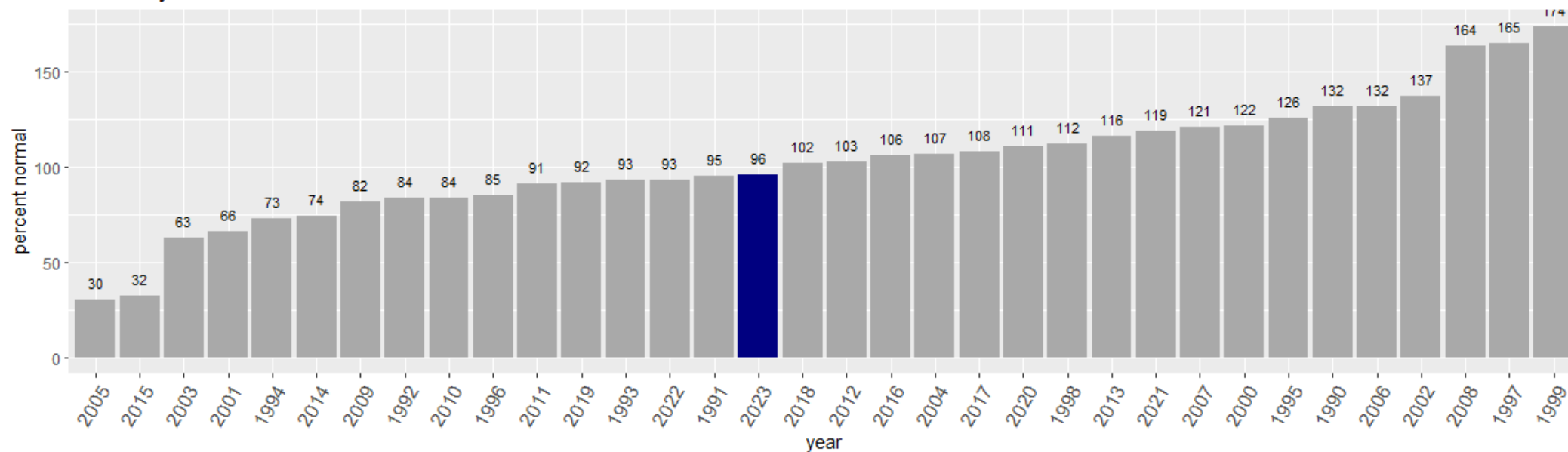
Next WSAC Meeting: Friday, March 24th

Washington statewide average Snow Water Equivalent on February 17 compared to previous years
sorted by year



NRCS data

ranked by SWE



NRCS data

Oct. 1 Snow Storage:
483,442 af

Nov. 17, 2022 :
6,171,010 af

January 1, 2023
24,175,516 af

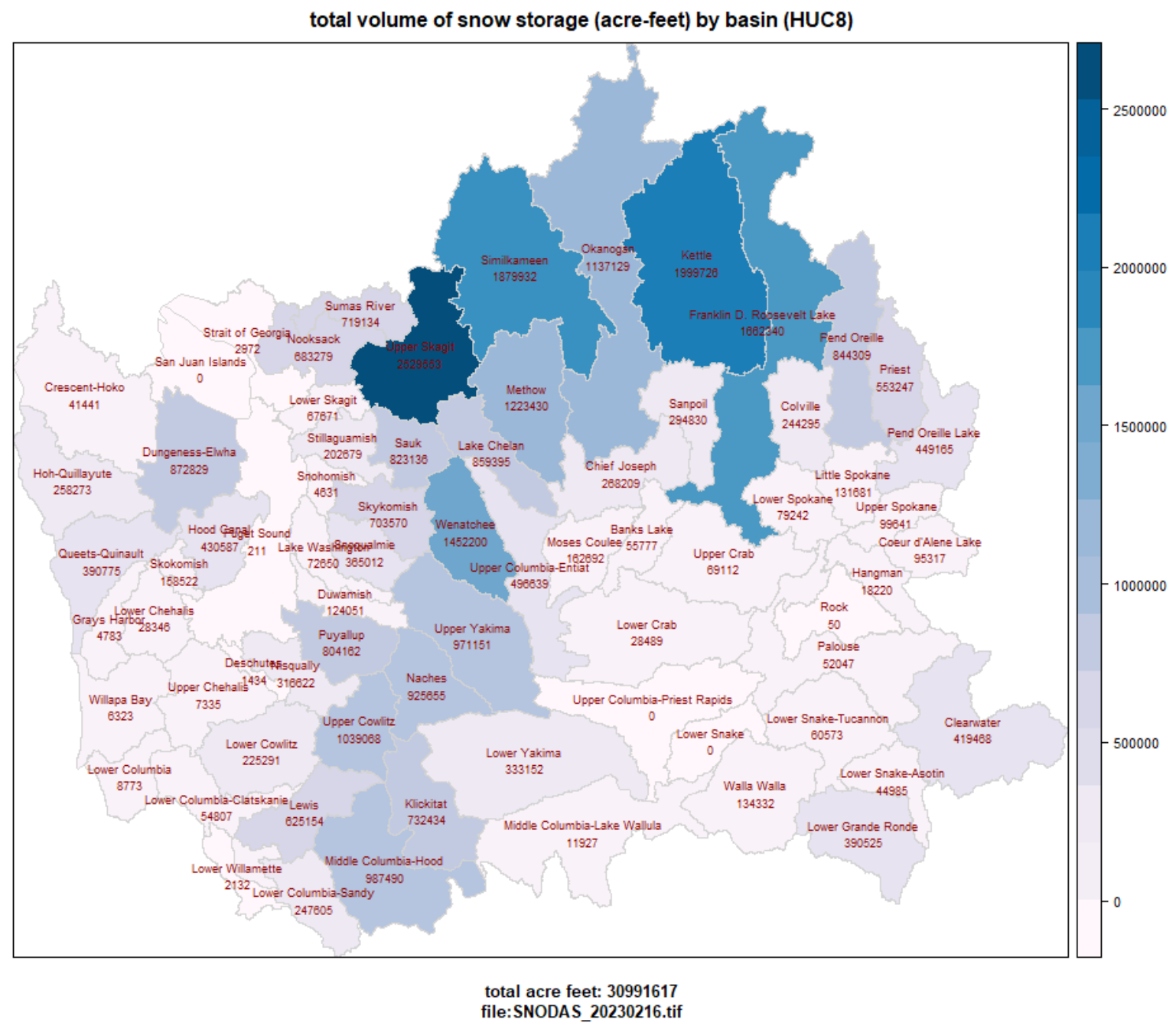
January 18, 2023
26,397,974 af

February 16, 2023:
30,991,617

February 16, 2015:
12,610,187 af

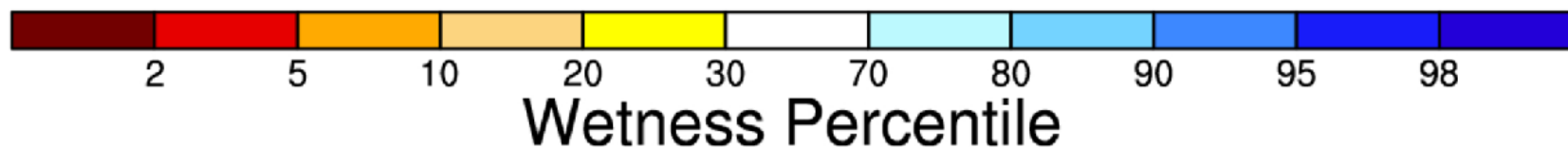
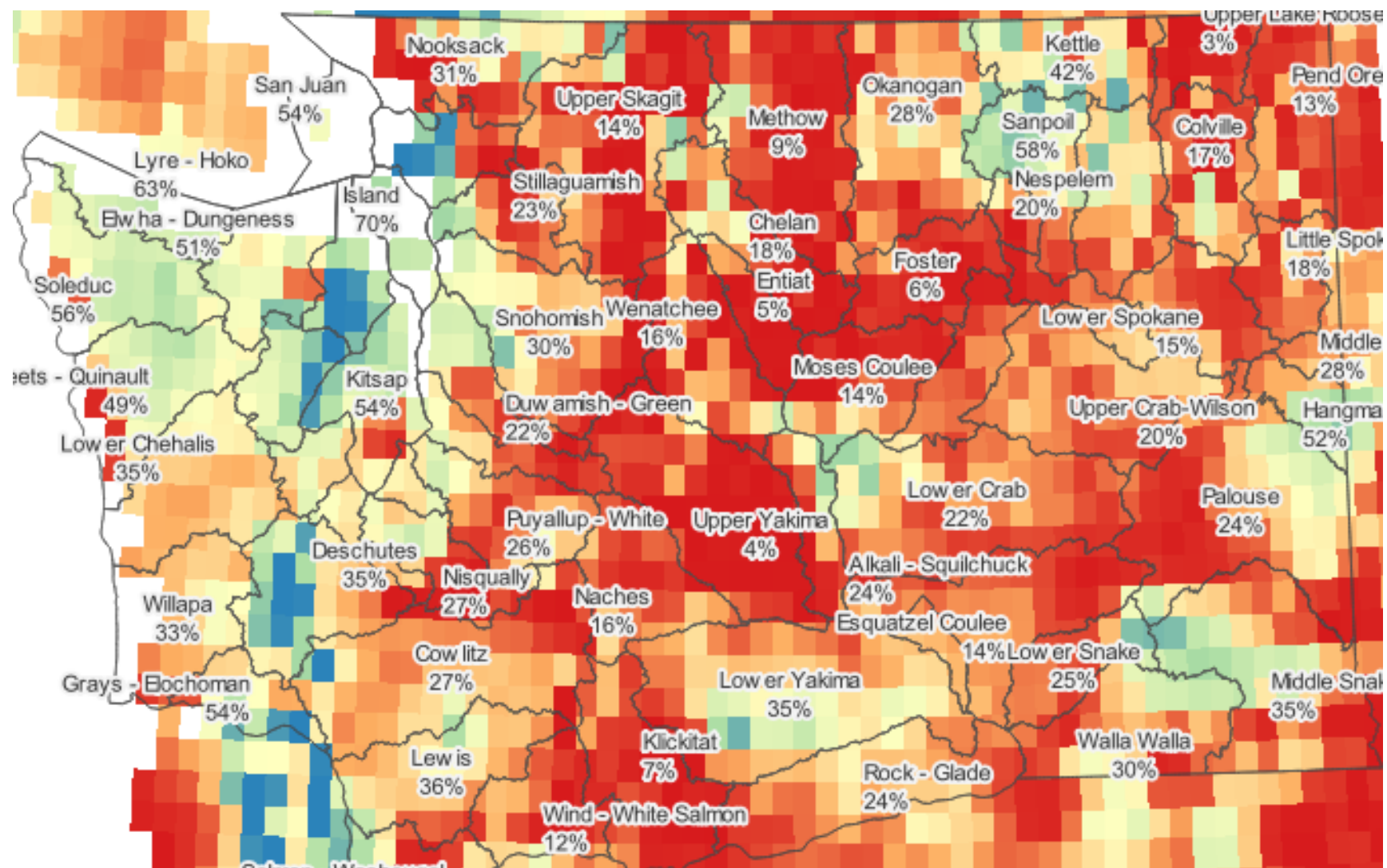
Total Yakima Snow
Storage: 2,229,958 af
+
Reservoir Storage:
509,579 af

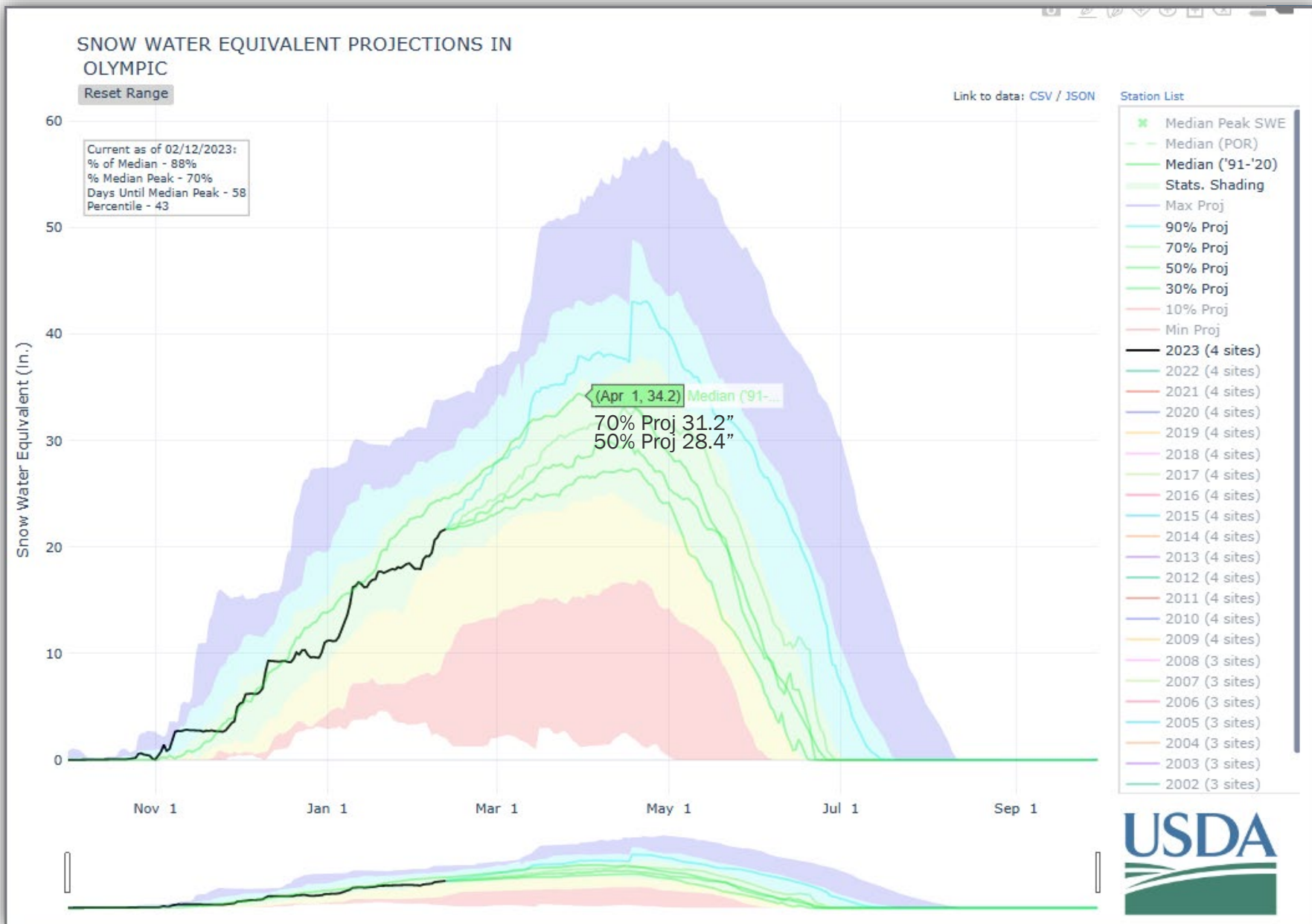
= Total of 2,739,537 af



End

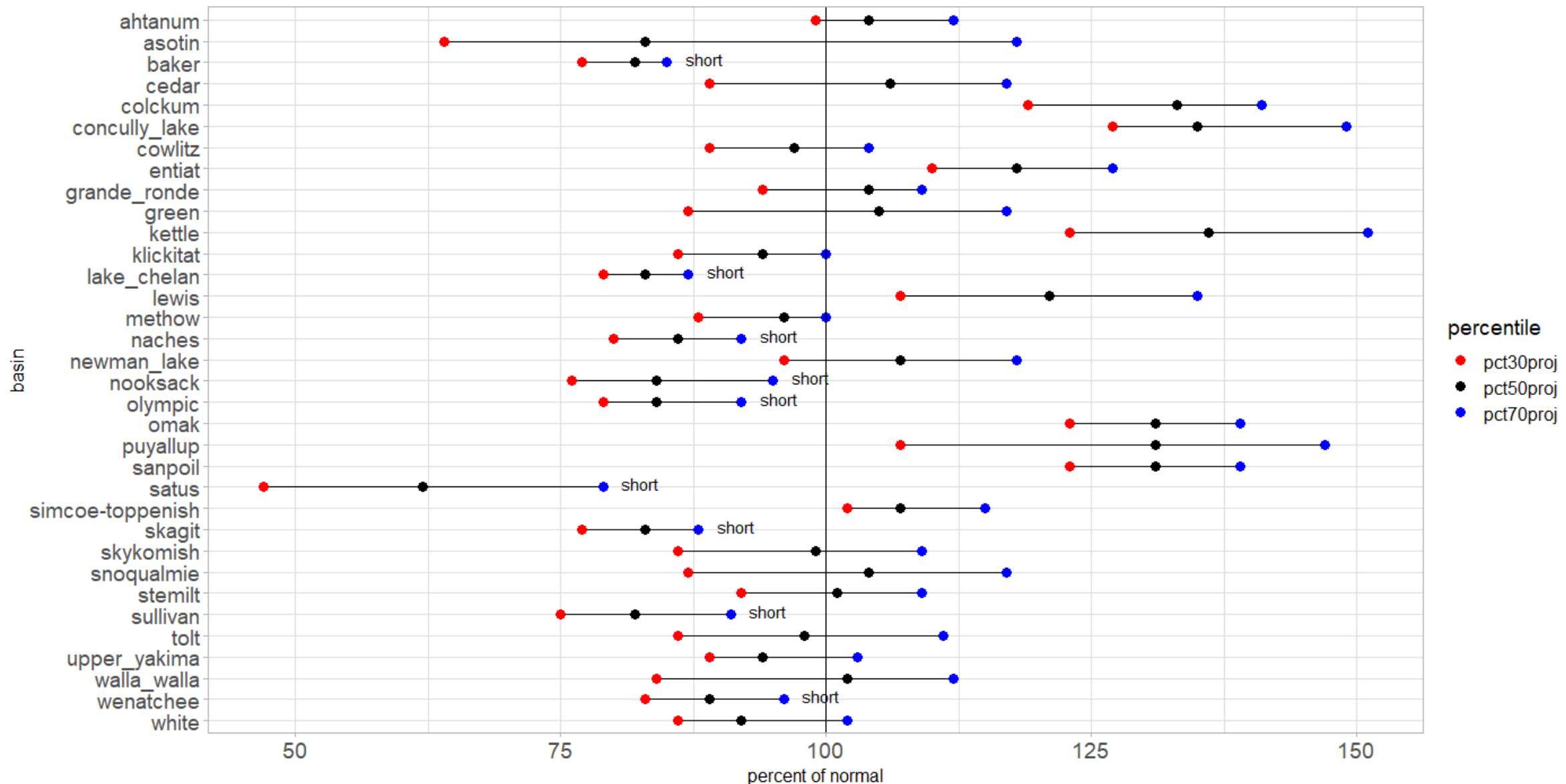
GRACE Root Zone Soil Moisture (1 Meter); Feb 14, 2023





basin SWE projections to April 1 at low (30th percentile), medium (50th percentile), and high (70th percentile) levels of accumulation

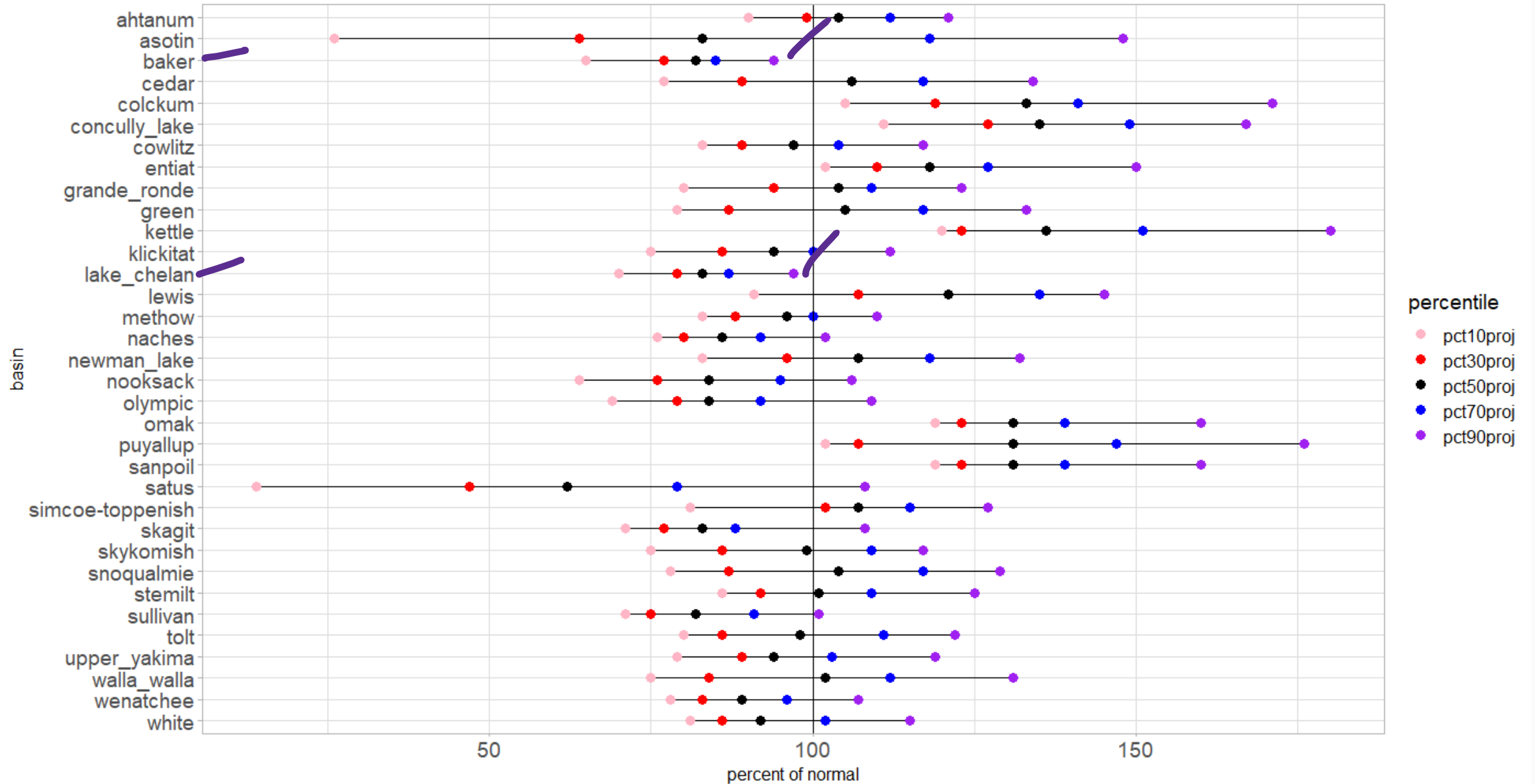
NRCS Data | query date: 02-16



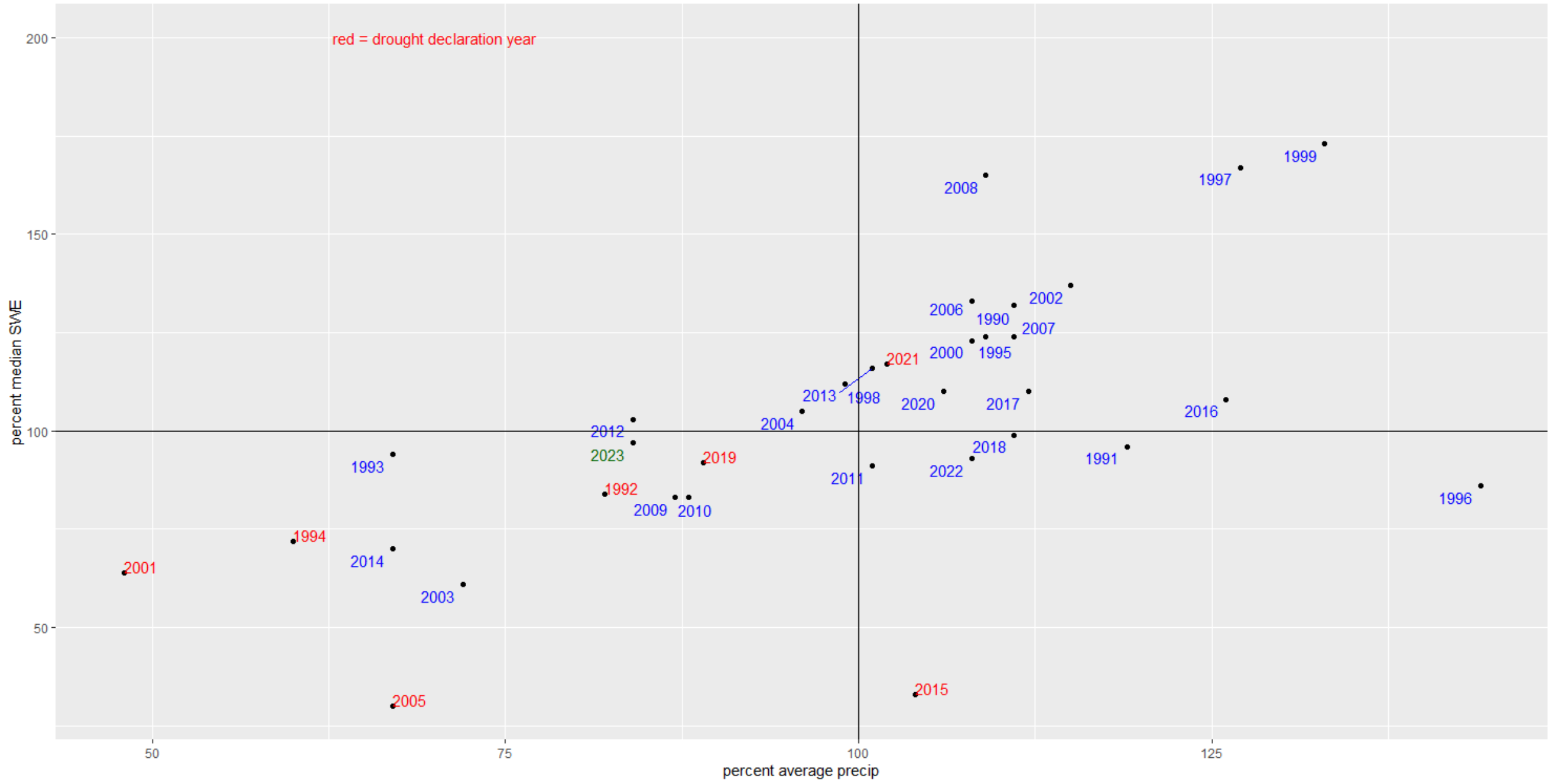
'short' means that even with much better than normal accumulation the basin SWE average will be below normal

basin SWE projections at a range of percentile levels of accumulation

NRCS Data | query date: 02-16



statewide SWE vs accumulated precipitation since Oct 1
day of year February 16





Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

 Search



CONSERVATION BASICS

GETTING ASSISTANCE

PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

RESOURCES

NEWS & EVENTS

CONTACT

Washington Snow Survey & Water Supply Program

WSAC February 2023

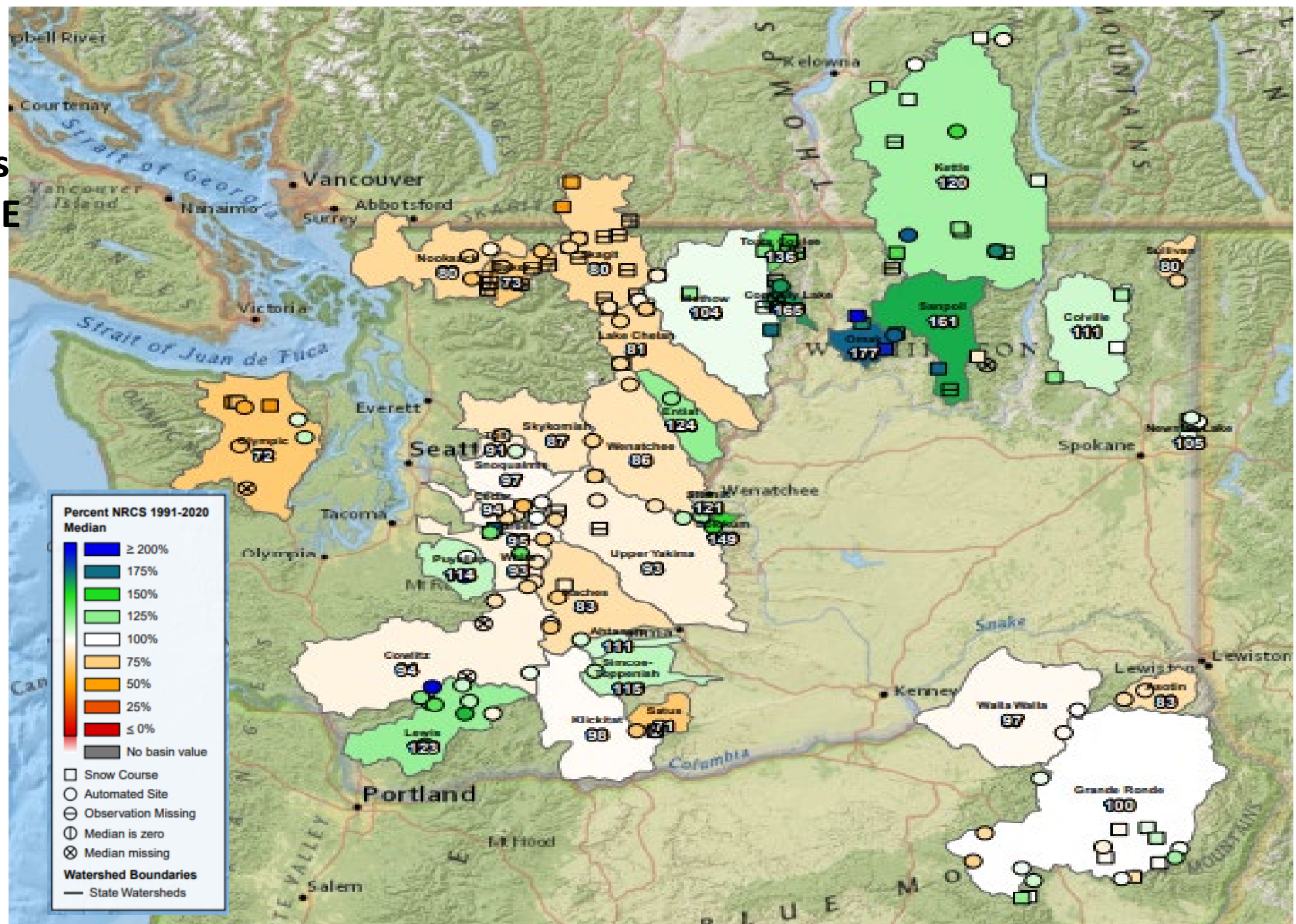
[Home](#) > [Conservation Basics](#) > [Conservation By State](#) > [Washington](#) > [Washington Snow Survey & Water Supply Program](#)

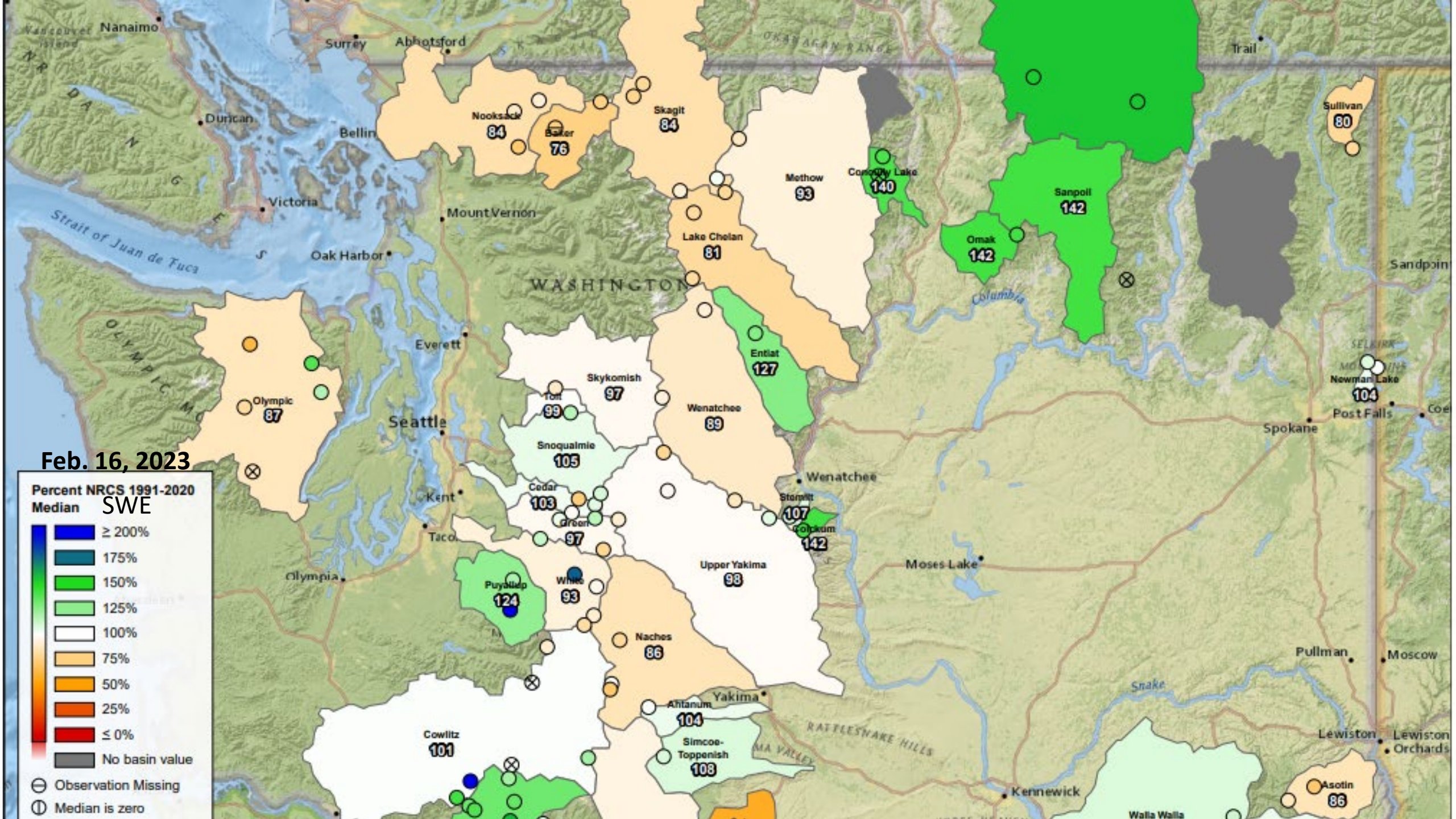
The NRCS Snow Survey Program provides mountain snowpack data and streamflow forecasts for the western United States. Applications of snow survey products include water supply management, flood control, climate modeling, recreation, and



End of January all inclusive snow survey results

Percent normal SWE

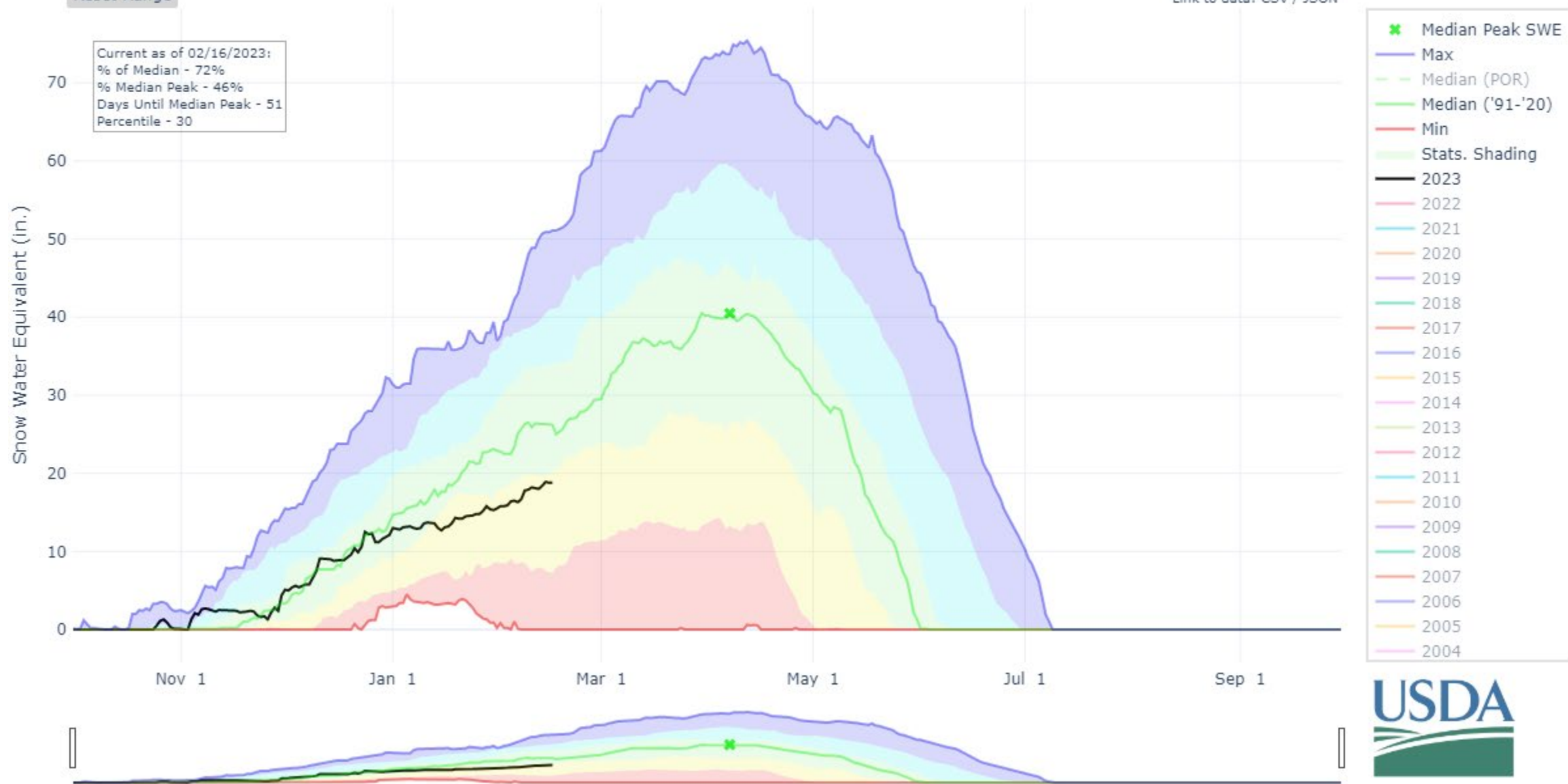




SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT AT ELBOW LAKE

Reset Range

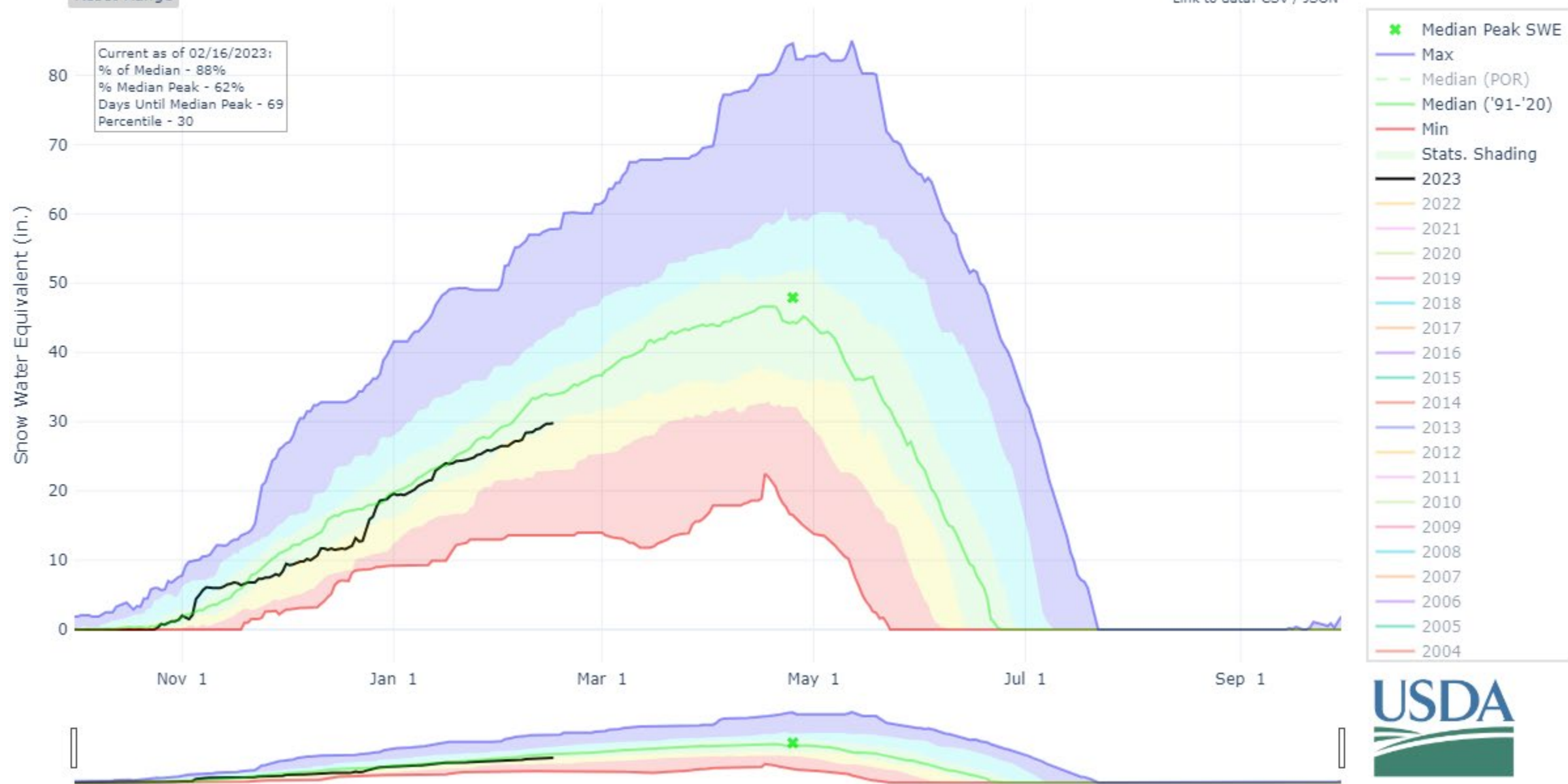
[Link to data: CSV / JSON](#)



SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT AT HARTS PASS

Reset Range

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

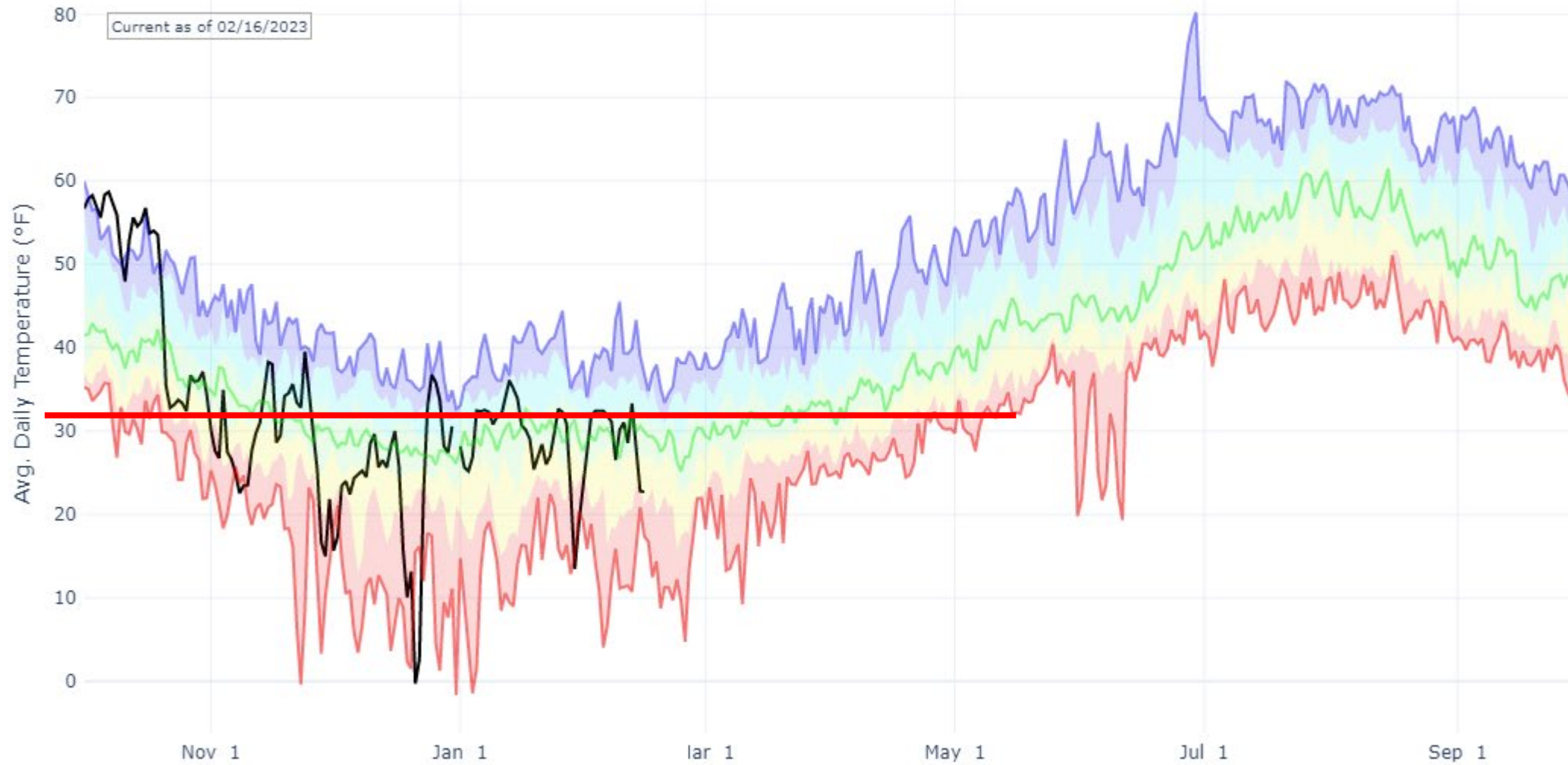


DAILY AVERAGE TEMPERATURE IN NORTH PUGET SOUND

Reset Range

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

Station List



- Max
- Median (POR)
- Min
- Stats. Shading
- 2023 (13 sites)
- 2022 (13 sites)
- 2021 (13 sites)
- 2020 (13 sites)
- 2019 (13 sites)
- 2018 (13 sites)
- 2017 (13 sites)
- 2016 (13 sites)
- 2015 (13 sites)
- 2014 (12 sites)
- 2013 (13 sites)
- 2012 (13 sites)
- 2011 (13 sites)
- 2010 (13 sites)
- 2009 (11 sites)
- 2008 (11 sites)
- 2007 (11 sites)
- 2006 (10 sites)
- 2005 (10 sites)
- 2004 (9 sites)
- 2003 (10 sites)
- 2002 (9 sites)

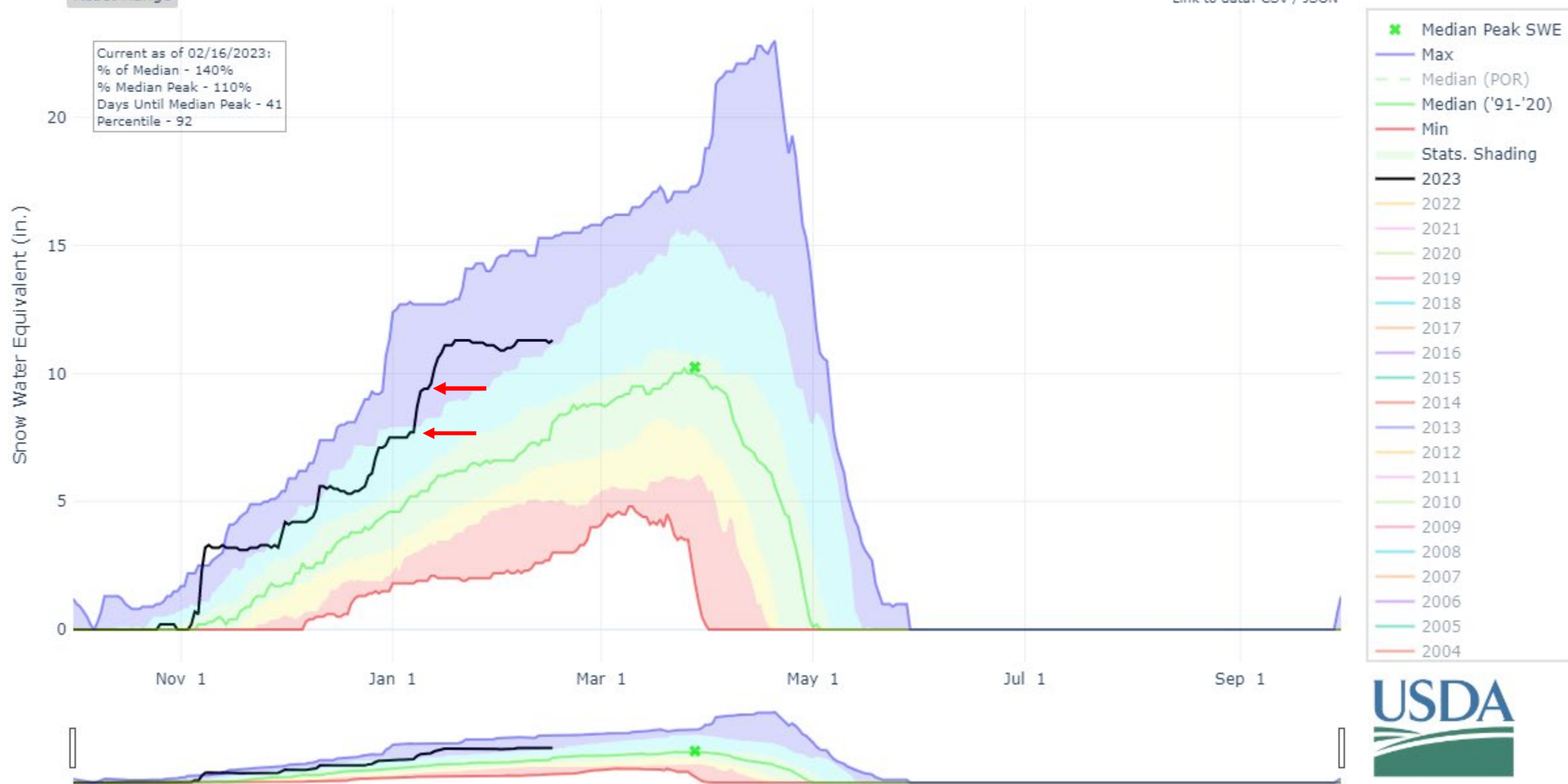


SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT AT SALMON MEADOWS

Reset Range

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

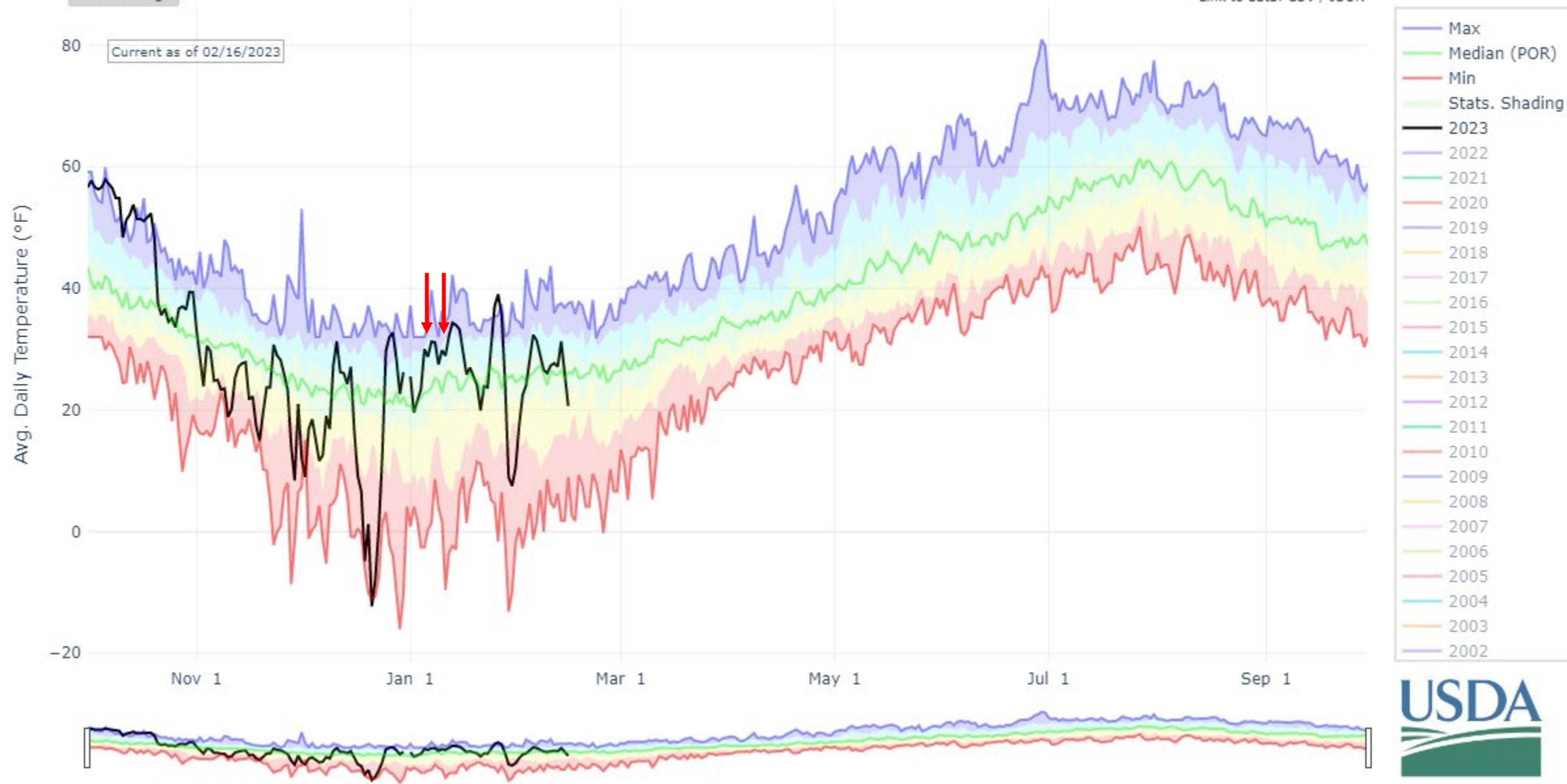
Current as of 02/16/2023:
% of Median - 140%
% Median Peak - 110%
Days Until Median Peak - 41
Percentile - 92



DAILY AVERAGE TEMPERATURE AT SALMON MEADOWS

Reset Range

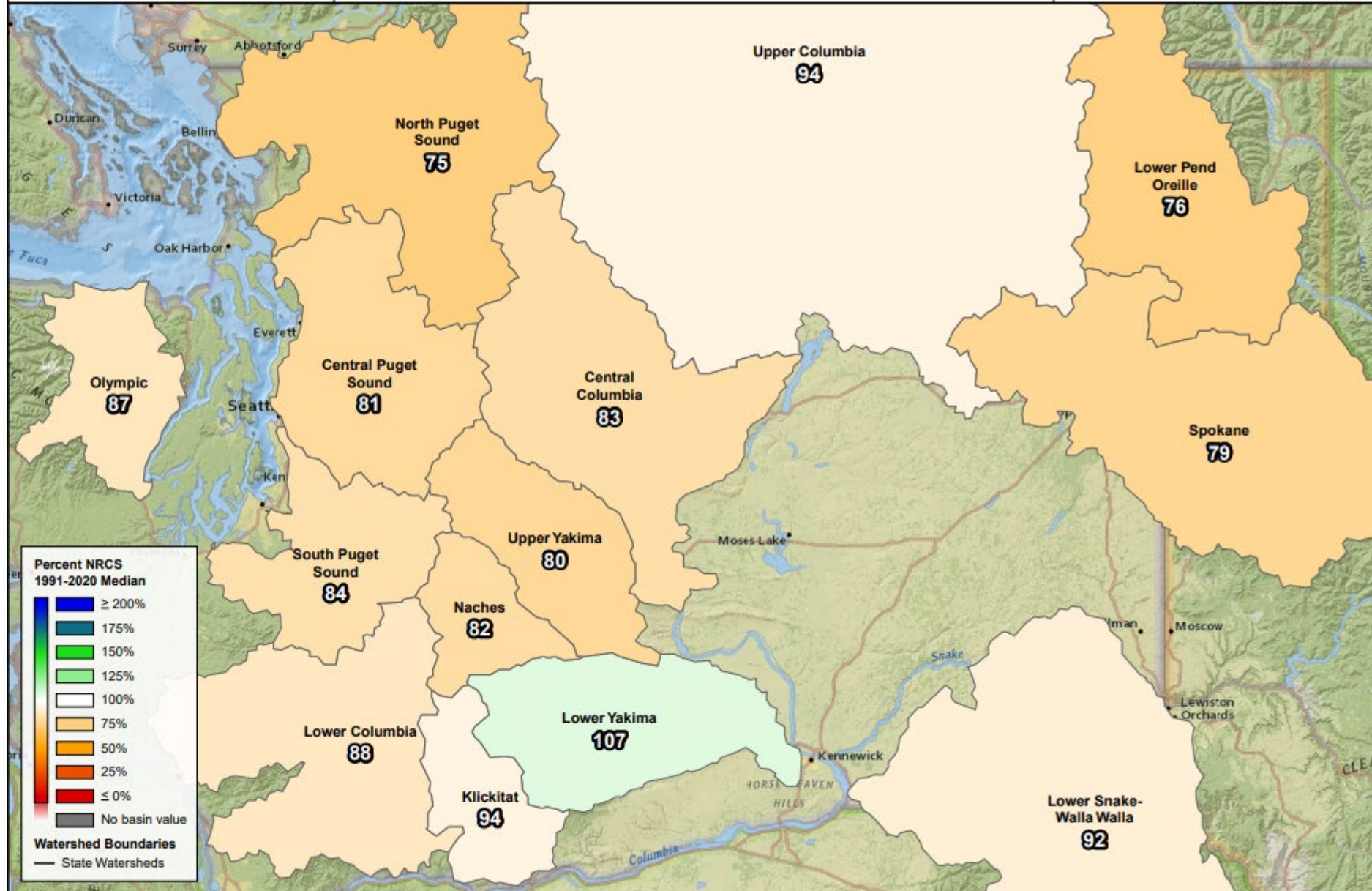
[Link to data: CSV / JSON](#)



Water Year to Date Precipitation

Percent NRCS 1991-2020 Median

October 1, 2022 - February 15, 2023

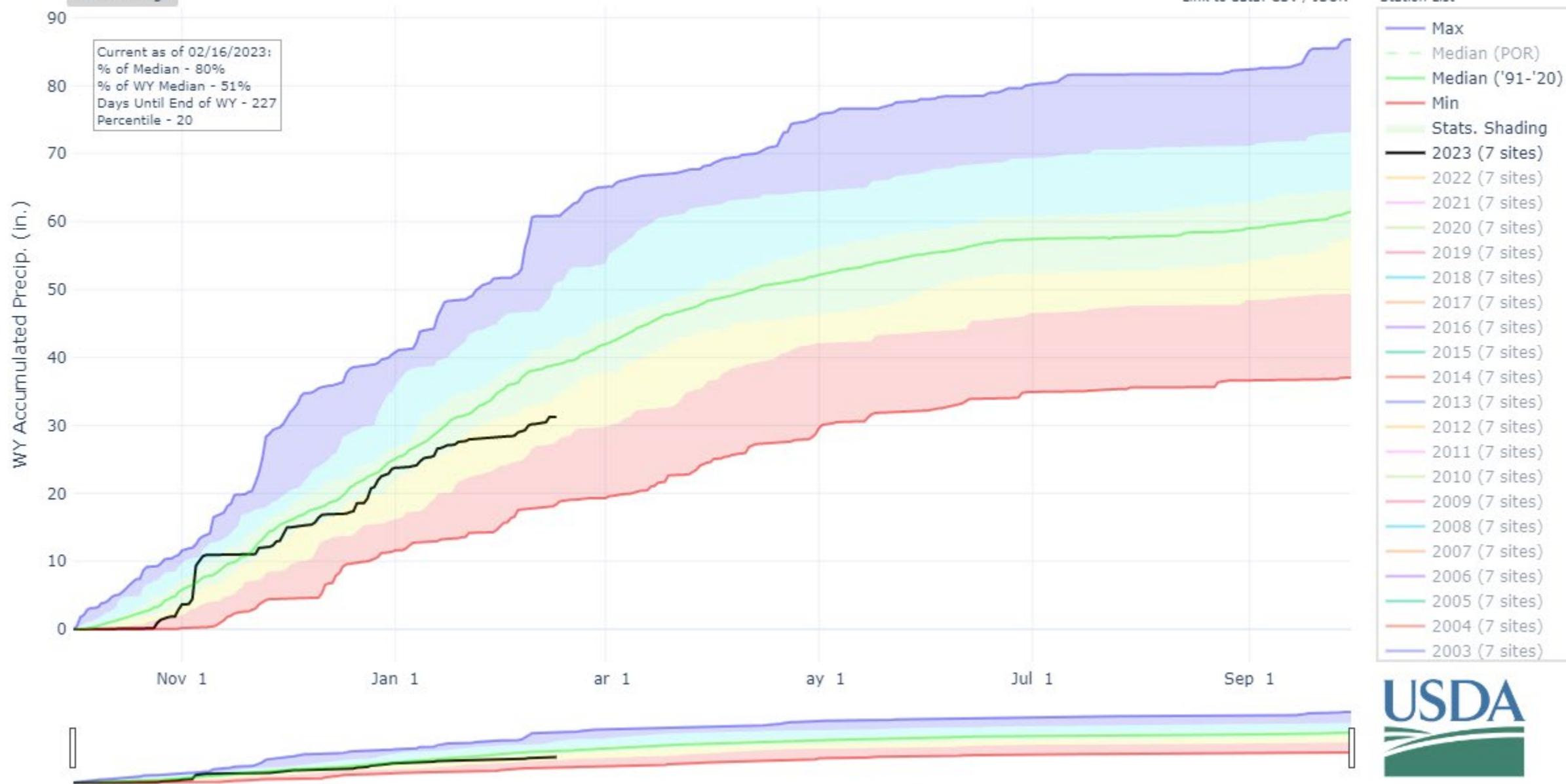


PRECIPITATION IN UPPER YAKIMA

Reset Range

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

Station List

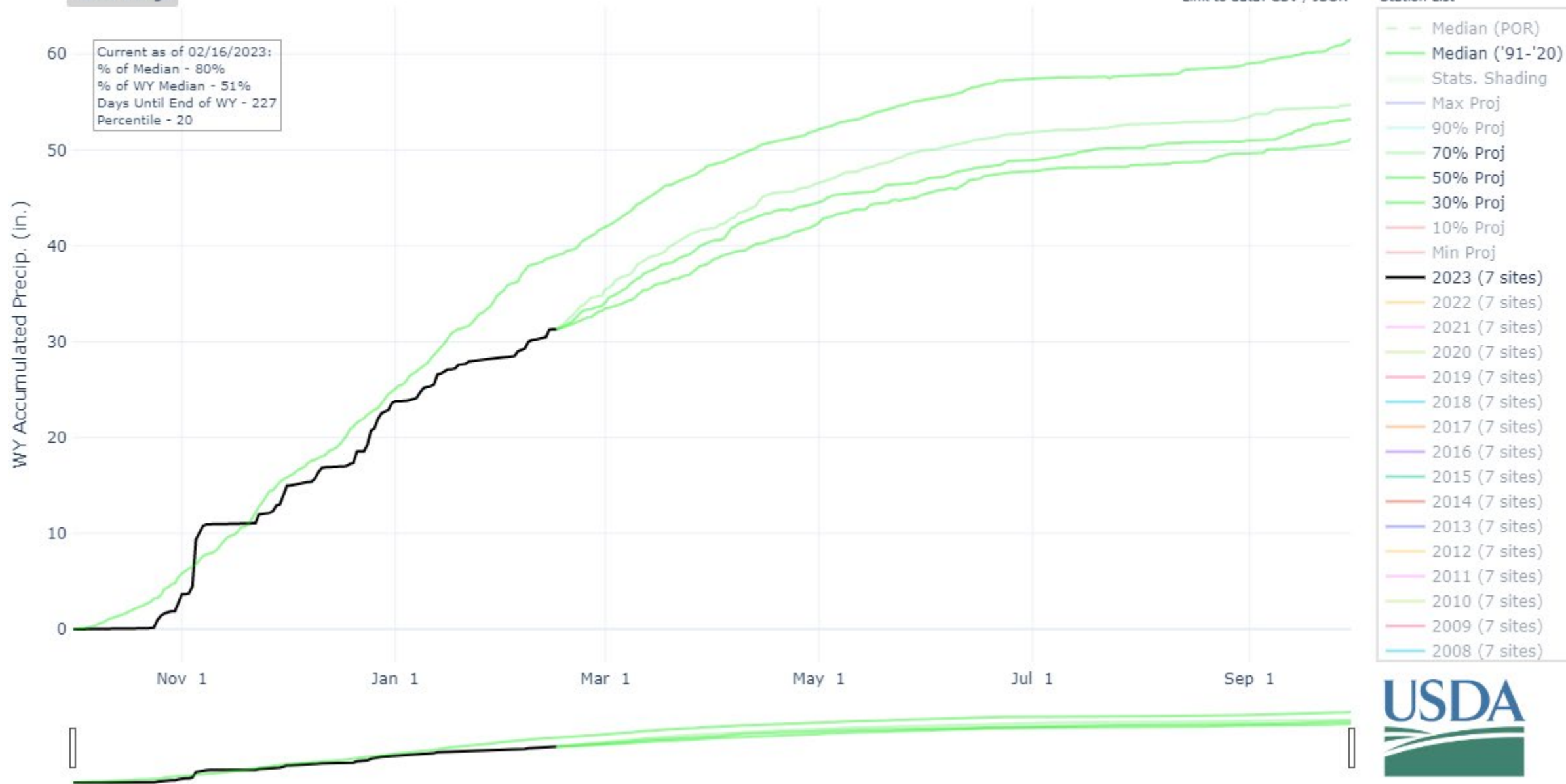


PRECIPITATION PROJECTIONS IN UPPER YAKIMA

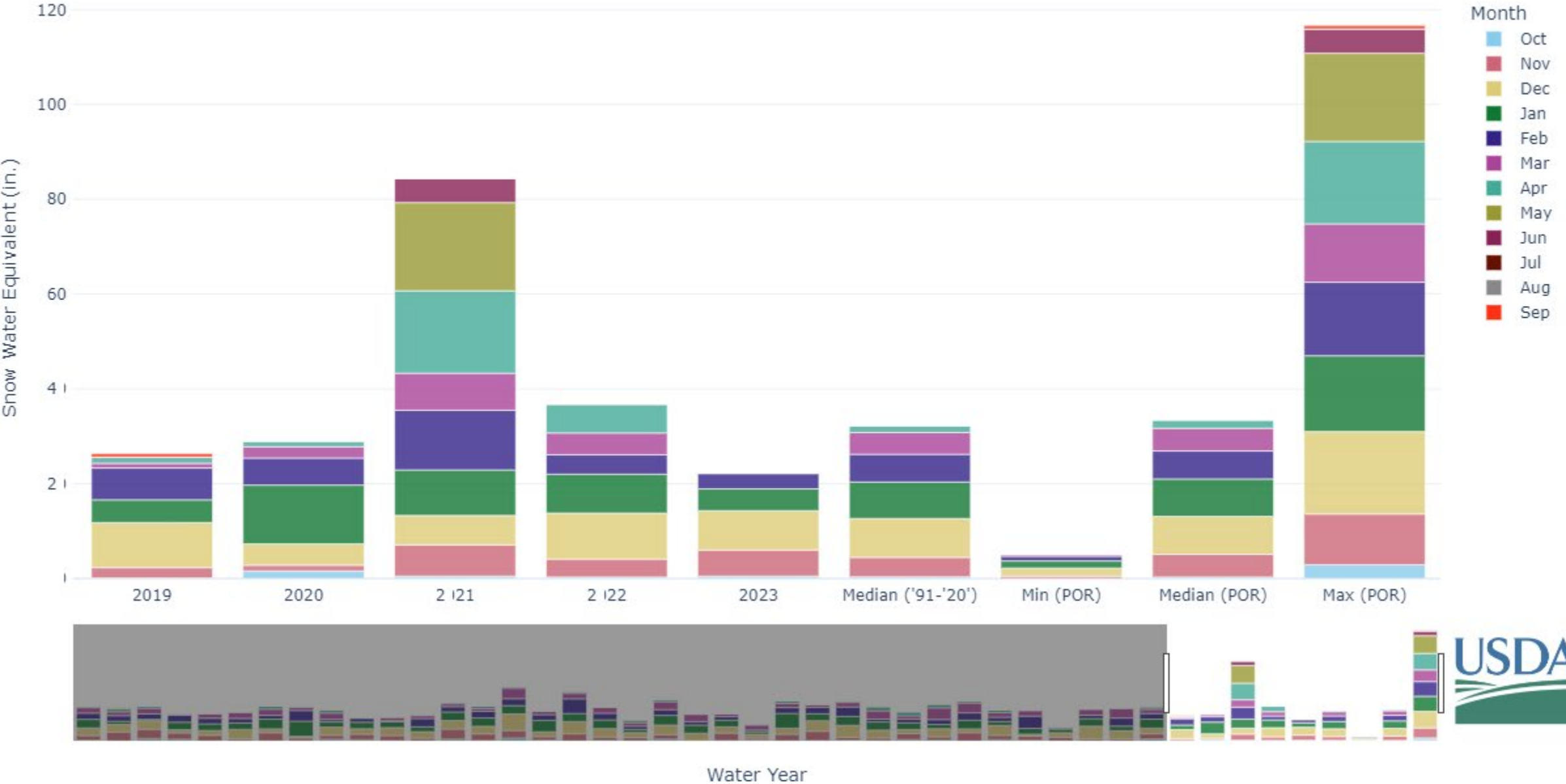
Reset Range

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

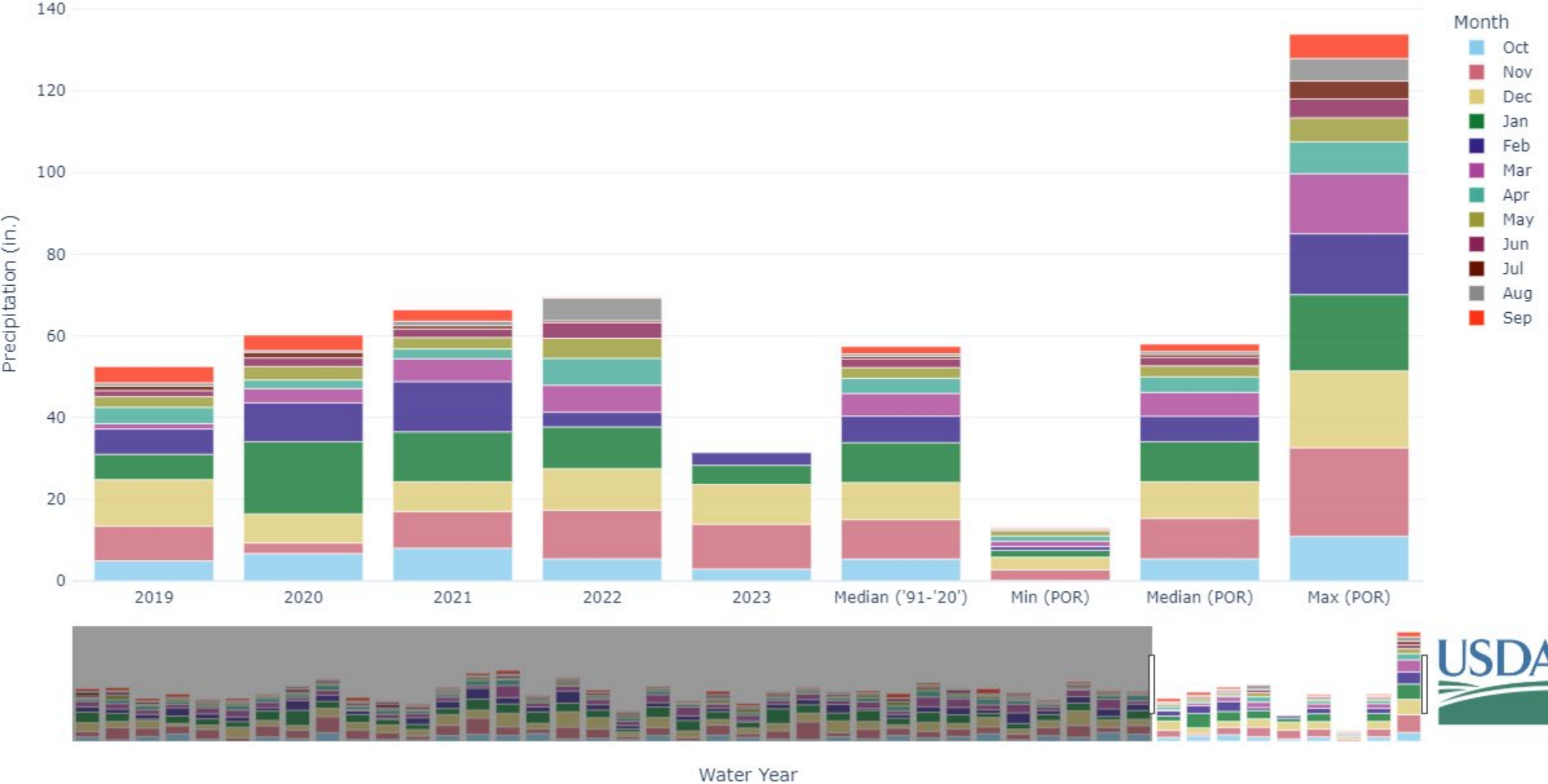
Station List



UPPER YAKIMA MONTHLY SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT SUMMARY



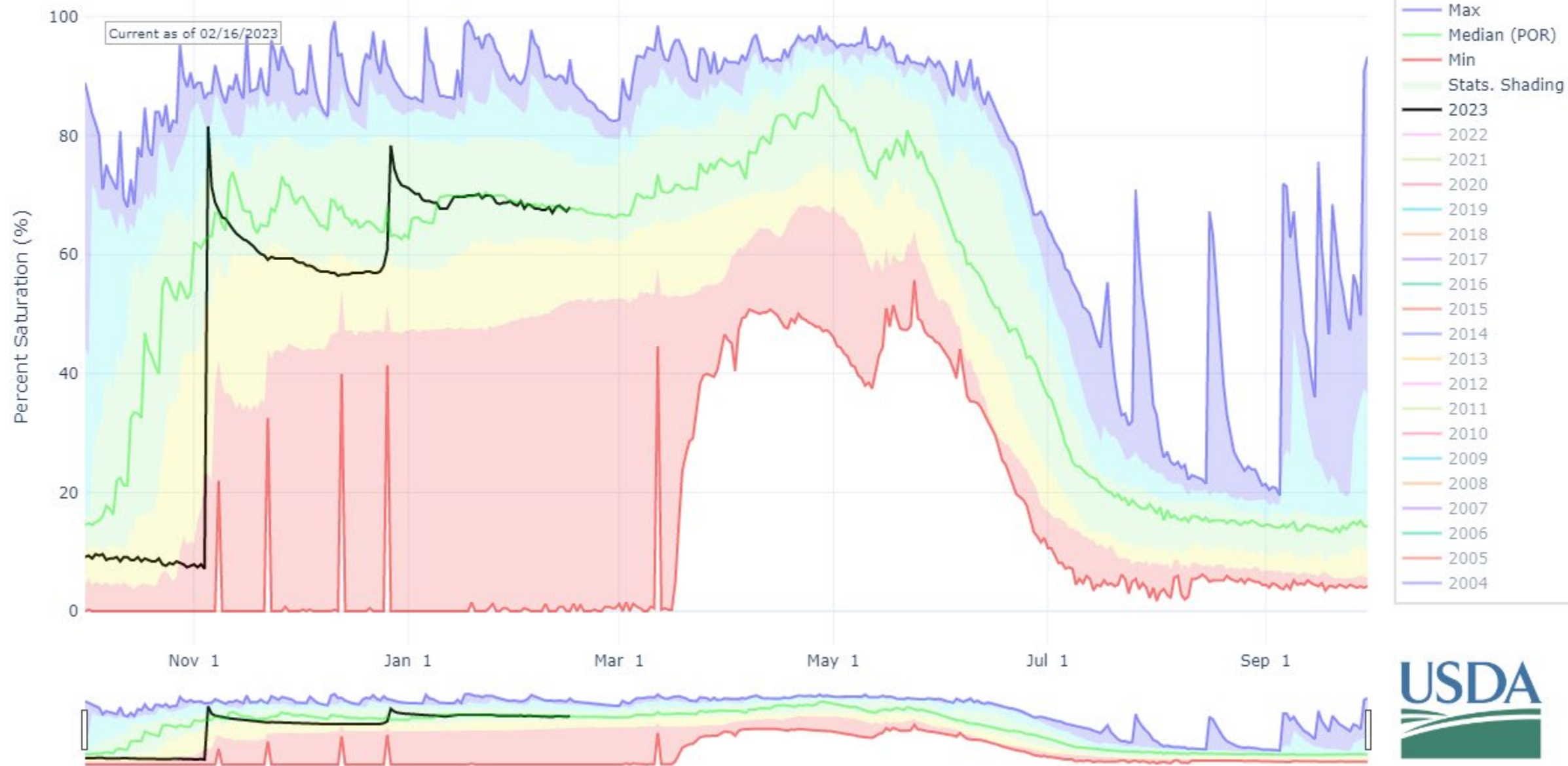
UPPER YAKIMA MONTHLY PRECIPITATION SUMMARY



DEPTH AVERAGED SOIL SATURATION AT TROUGH

Reset Range

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

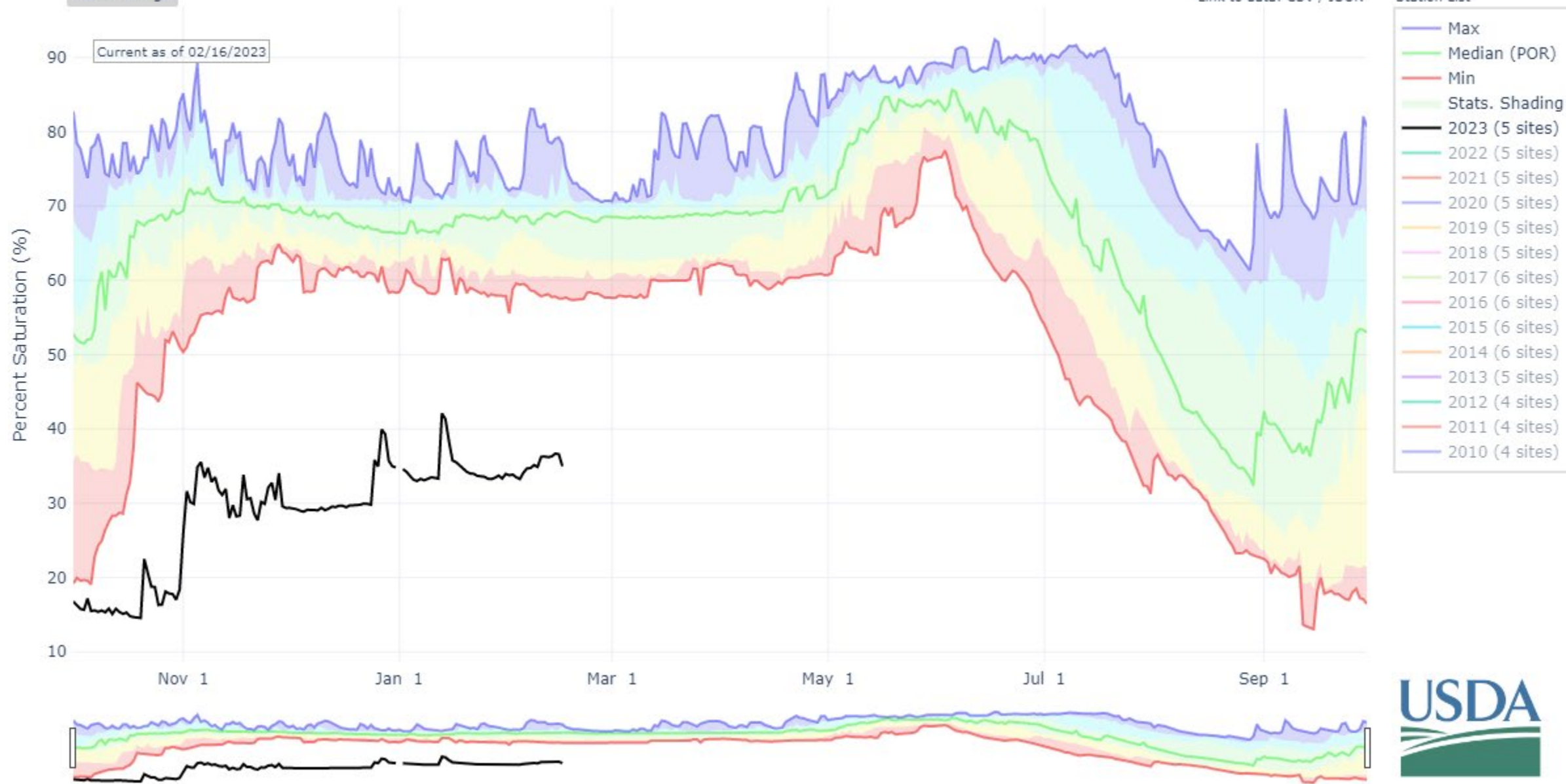


DEPTH AVERAGED SOIL SATURATION IN NORTH PUGET SOUND

Reset Range

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

Station List

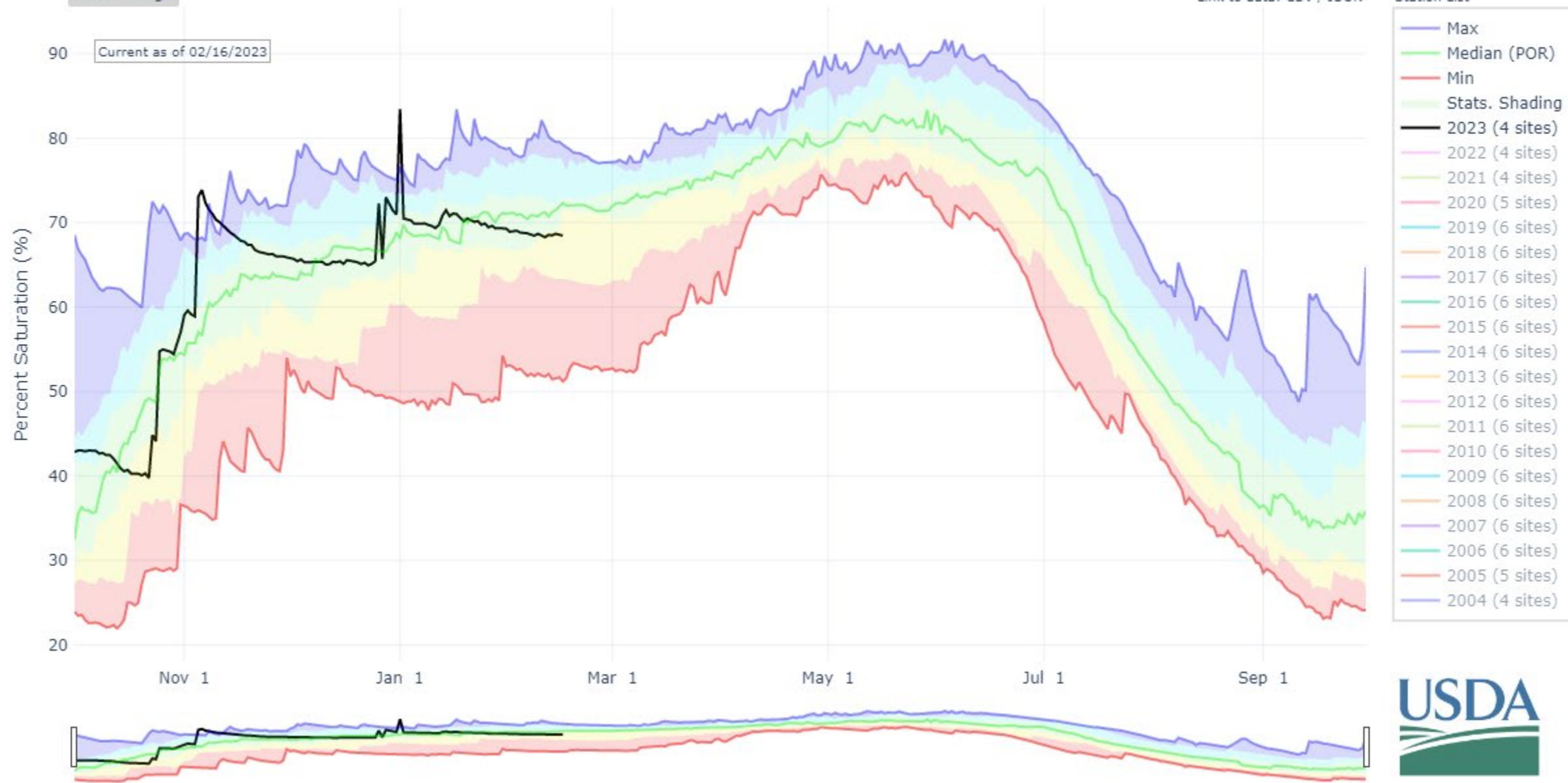


DEPTH AVERAGED SOIL SATURATION IN LOWER SNAKE-WALLA WALLA

Reset Range

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

Station List

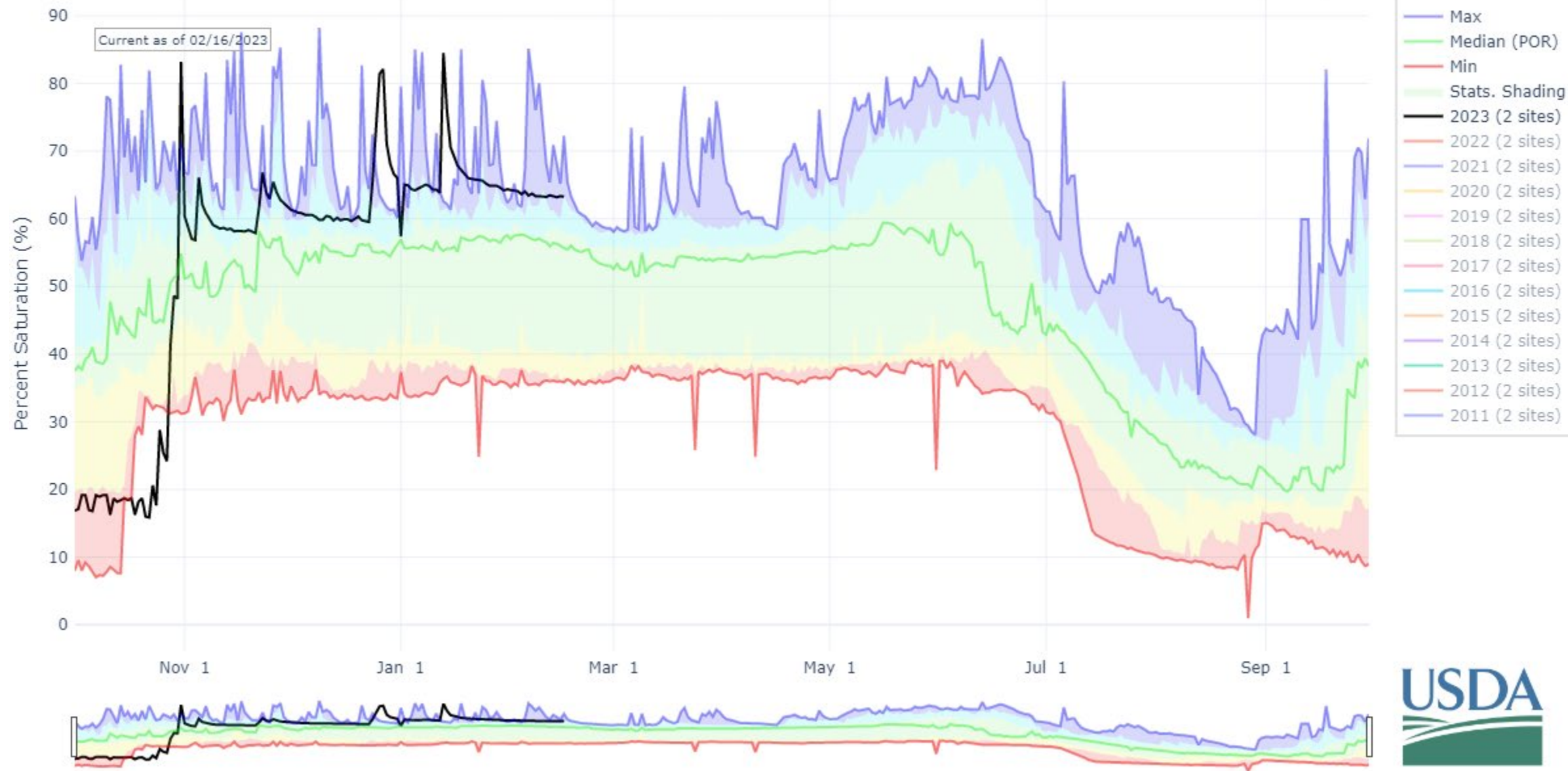


DEPTH AVERAGED SOIL SATURATION IN OLYMPIC

Reset Range

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

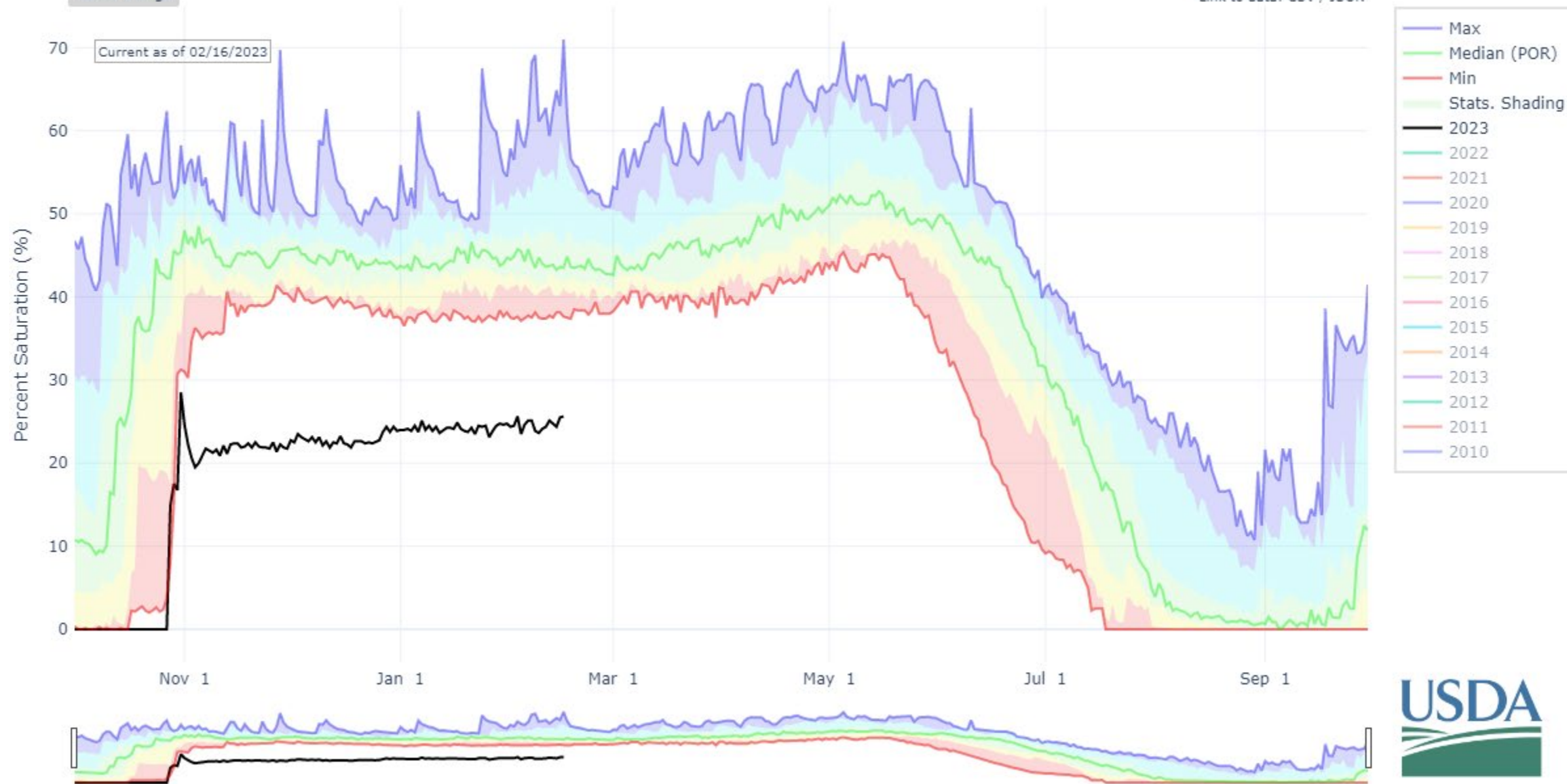
Station List



DEPTH AVERAGED SOIL SATURATION AT PARK CREEK RIDGE

Reset Range

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

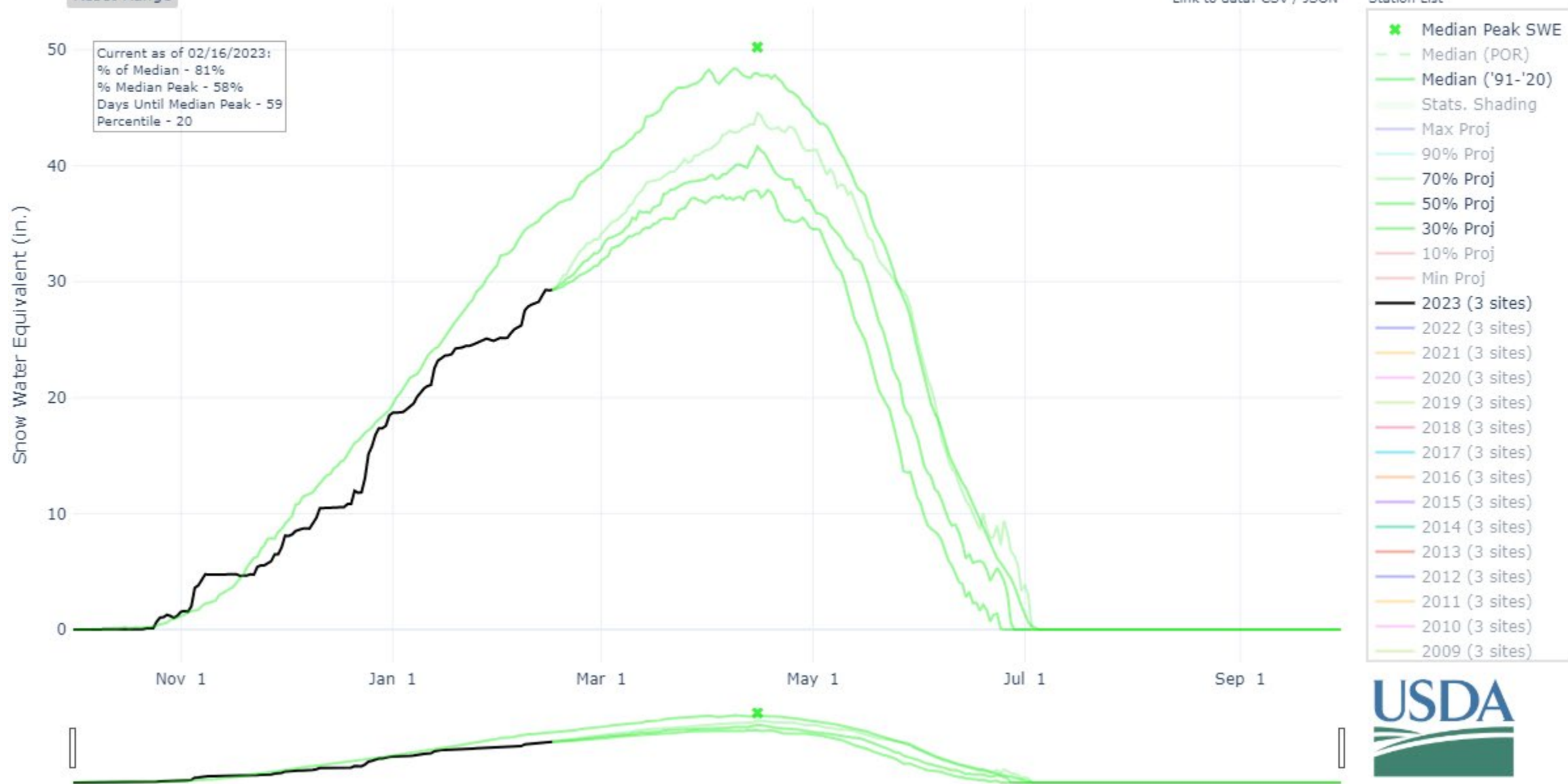


SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT PROJECTIONS IN LAKE CHELAN

Reset Range

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

Station List

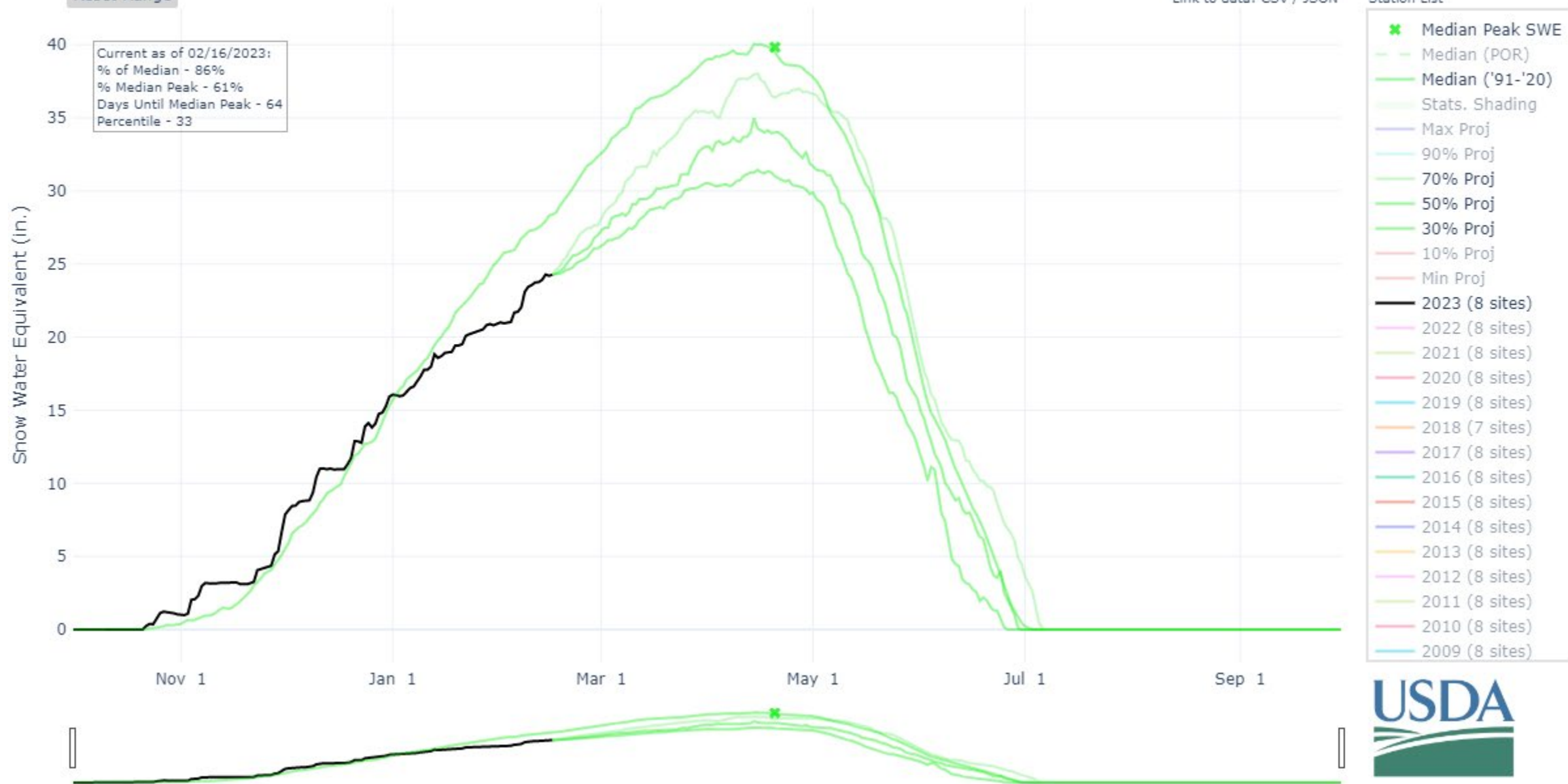


SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT PROJECTIONS IN NACHES

Reset Range








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

Station List



Reset Range

Station List

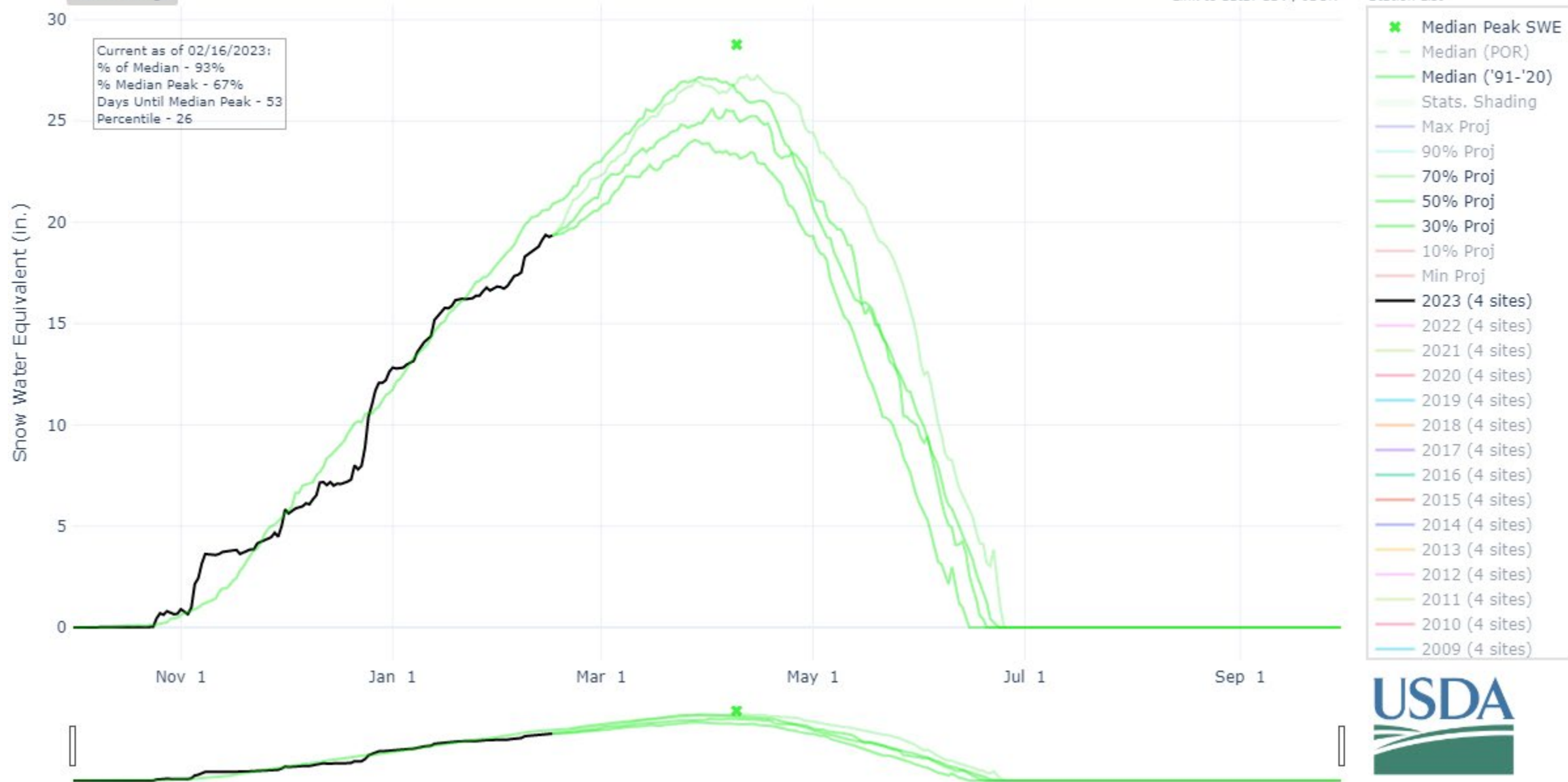
 Median Peak SWE
 Median (POR)
 Median ('91-'20)
 Stats. Shading
 Max Proj
 90% Proj
 70% Proj
 50% Proj
 30% Proj
 10% Proj
 Min Proj
 2023 (6 sites)
 2022 (6 sites)
 2021 (6 sites)
 2020 (6 sites)
 2019 (6 sites)
 2018 (6 sites)
 2017 (6 sites)
 2016 (6 sites)
 2015 (6 sites)
 2014 (6 sites)
 2013 (6 sites)
 2012 (6 sites)
 2011 (6 sites)
 2010 (6 sites)
 2009 (5 sites)

SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT PROJECTIONS IN METHOW

Reset Range

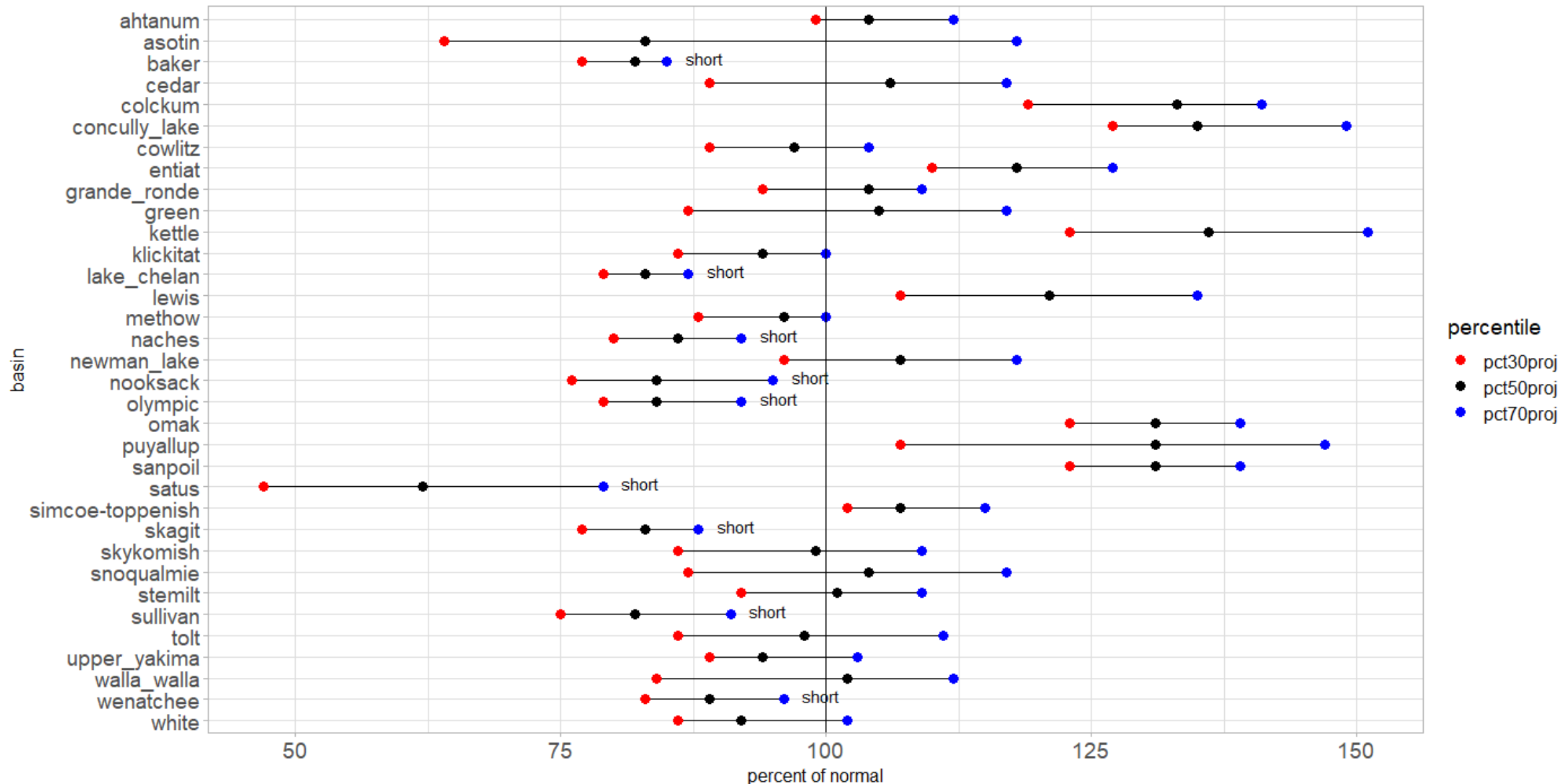
[Link to data: CSV / JSON](#)

Station List



basin SWE projections to April 1 at low (30th percentile), medium (50th percentile), and high (70th percentile) levels of accumulation

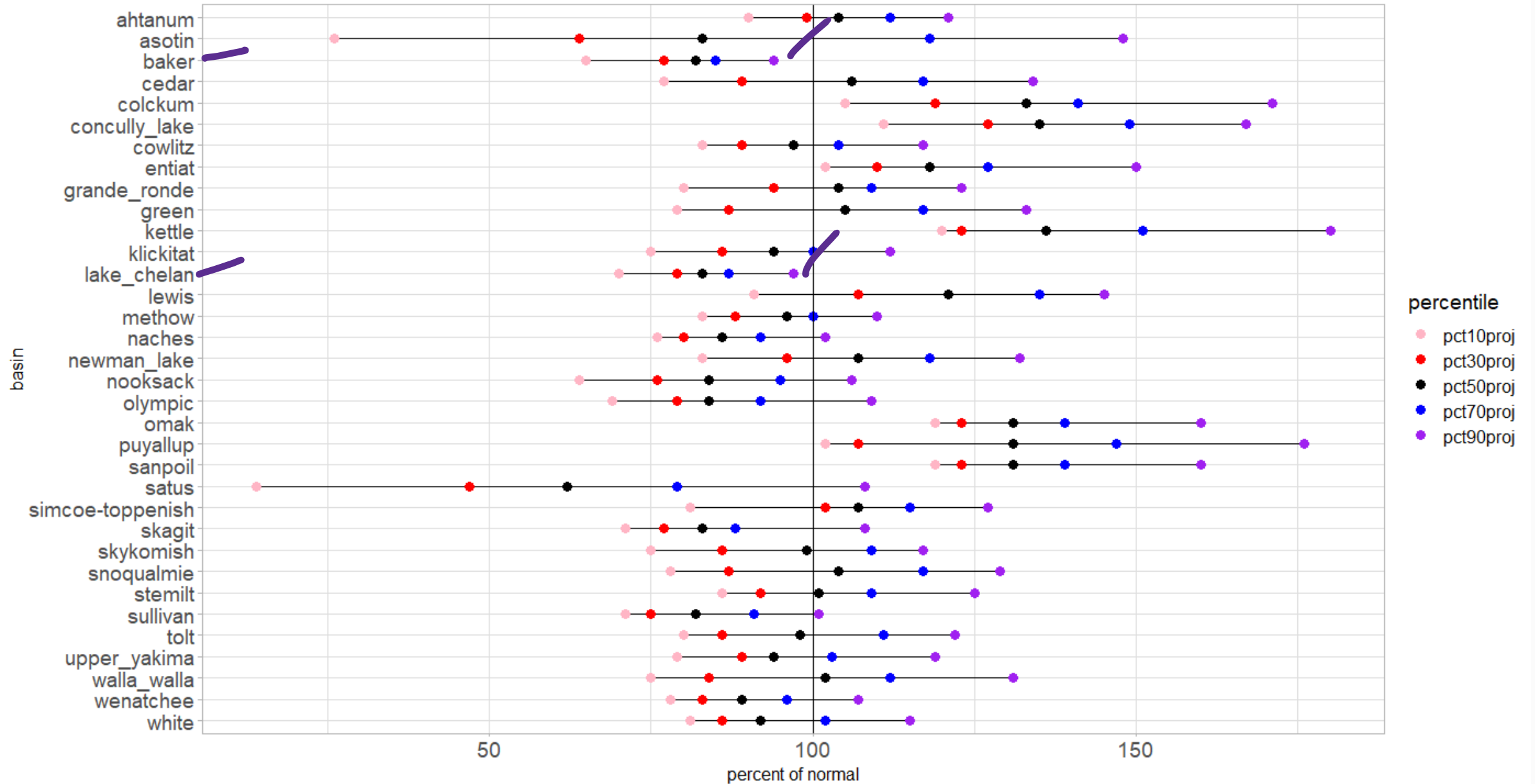
NRCS Data | query date: 02-16

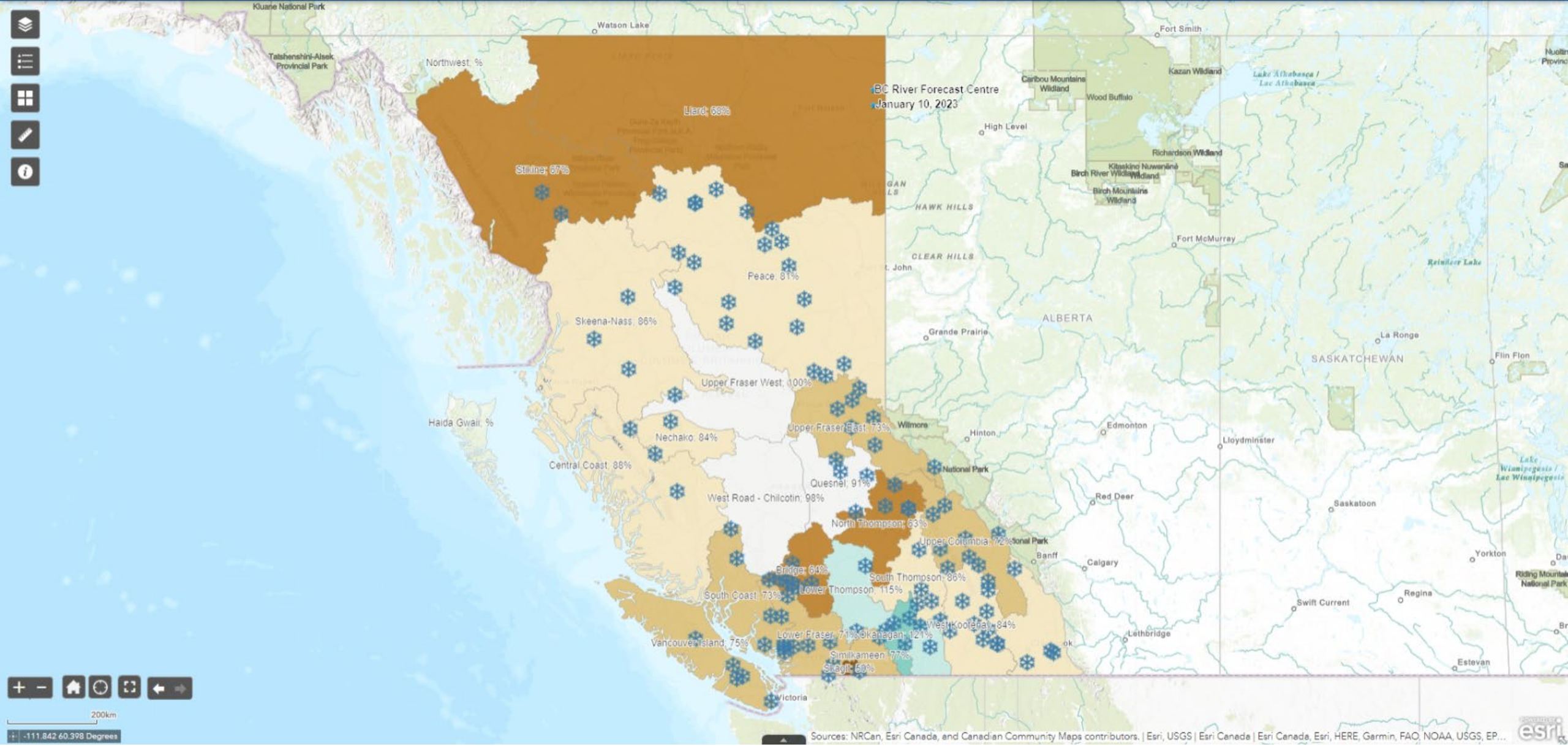


'short' means that even with much better than normal accumulation the basin SWE average will be below normal

basin SWE projections at a range of percentile levels of accumulation

NRCS Data | query date: 02-16







Questions?



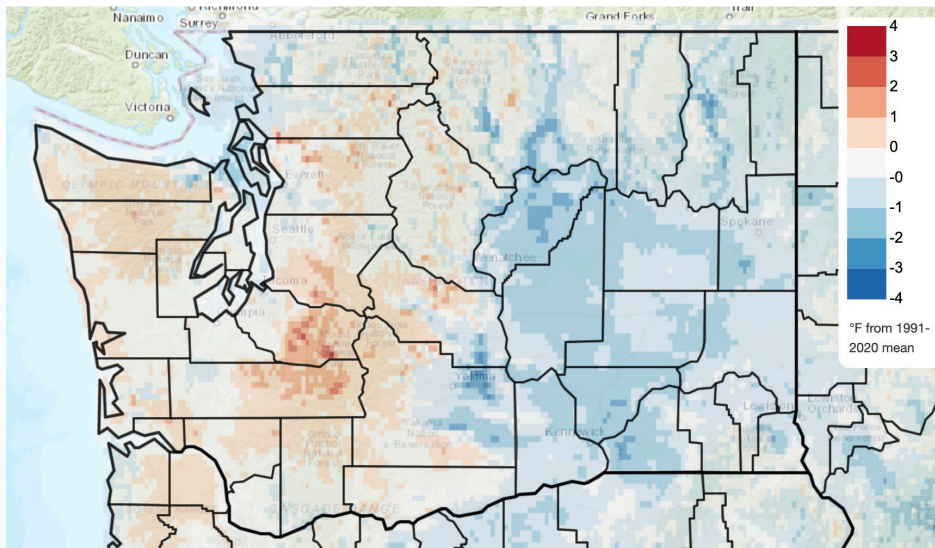
Current Conditions and Seasonal Outlook

Nick Bond & Karin Bumbaco
Office of the Washington State Climatologist
Cooperative Institute for Climate, Ocean, and Ecosystem Studies
University of Washington
17 February 2023

Water Year 2023

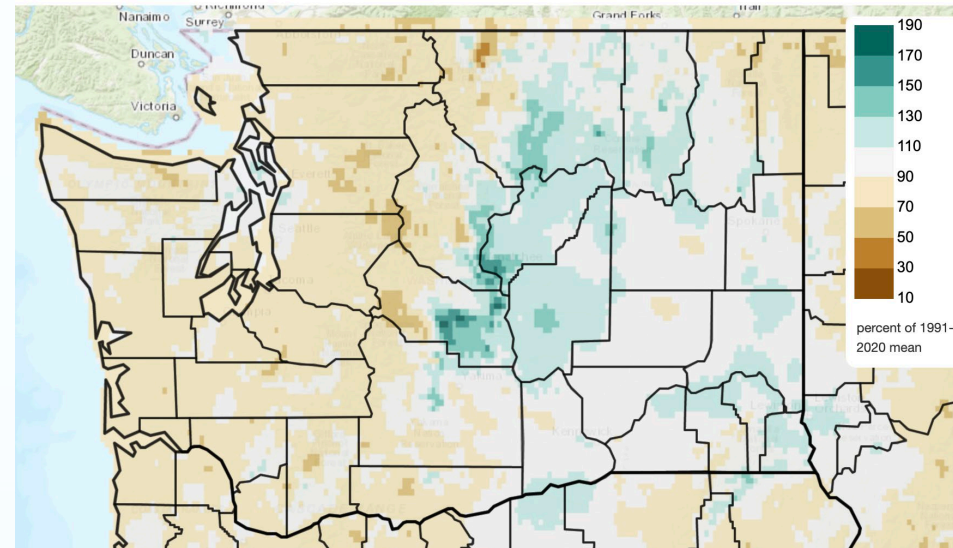
Temperature

Mean Daily Temperature Anomaly, Since Oct 1st
2022/10/01 - 2023/02/14



Precipitation

Total Precipitation Anomaly, Since Oct 1st
2022/10/01 - 2023/02/14



Climate Toolbox

- Oct-Jan averages to cooler than normal* (-0.5°F) when averaged statewide
- Averaged statewide, Oct-Jan precipitation ranks as the 39th driest ($-3.26''$)*

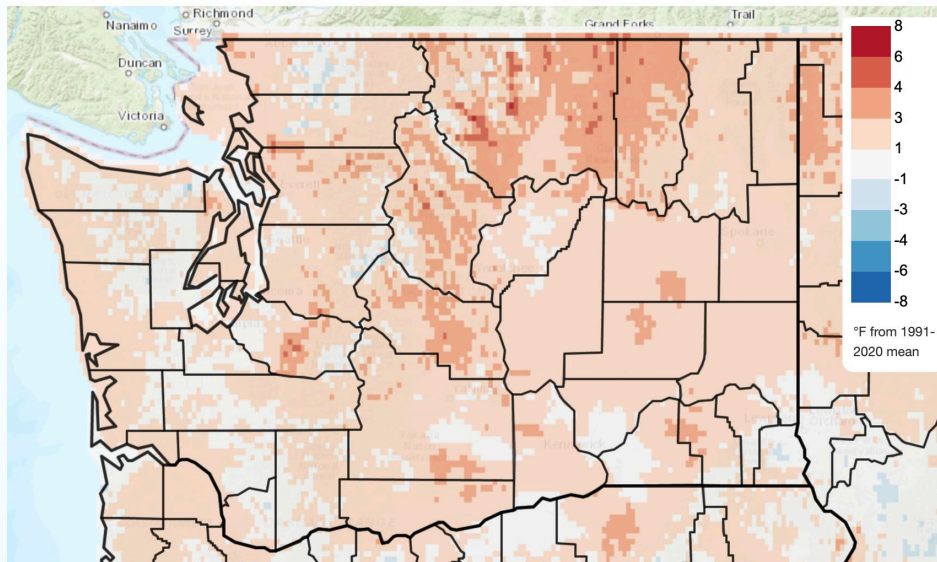
*Records since 1895; 1991-2020 normal

January 2023

Temperature

Mean Daily Temperature Anomaly, Last Full Month

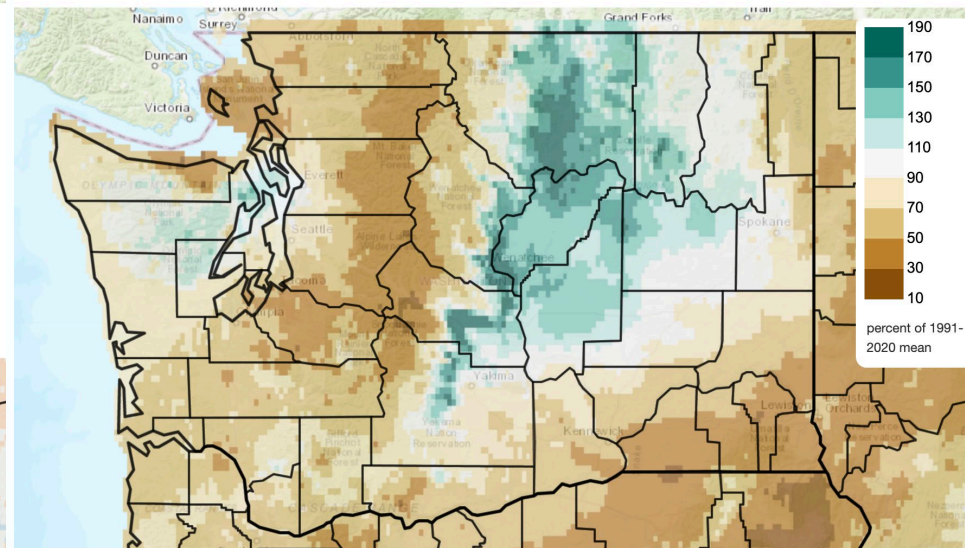
2023/01/01 - 2023/01/31



Precipitation

Total Precipitation Anomaly, Last Full Month

2023/01/01 - 2023/01/31



Climate Toolbox

- Averaged statewide, January was the 23rd warmest on record (+1.4°F)*
- Averaged statewide, January was 26th driest (-2.06") on record*

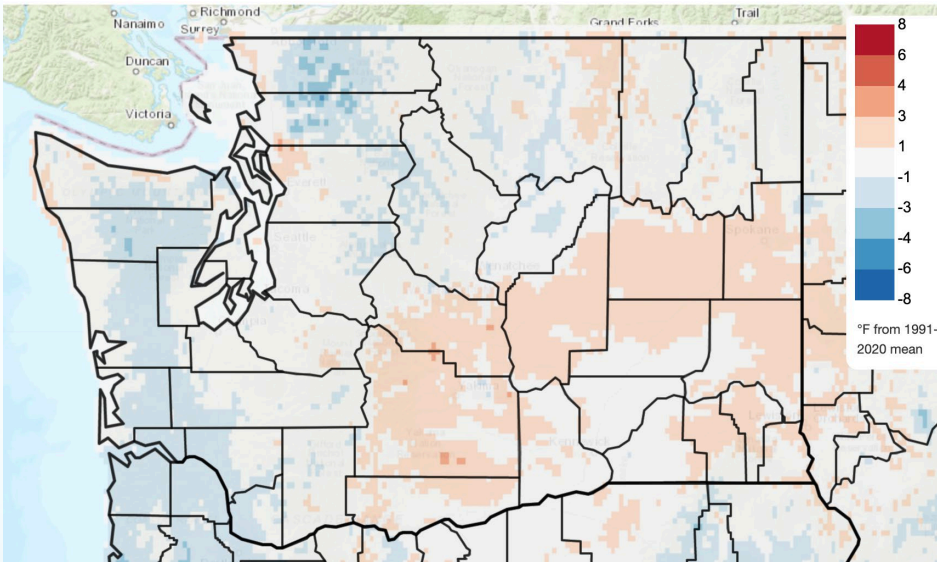
*Records since 1895

February 2023 so far

Temperature

Mean Daily Temperature Anomaly, Last 15 Days

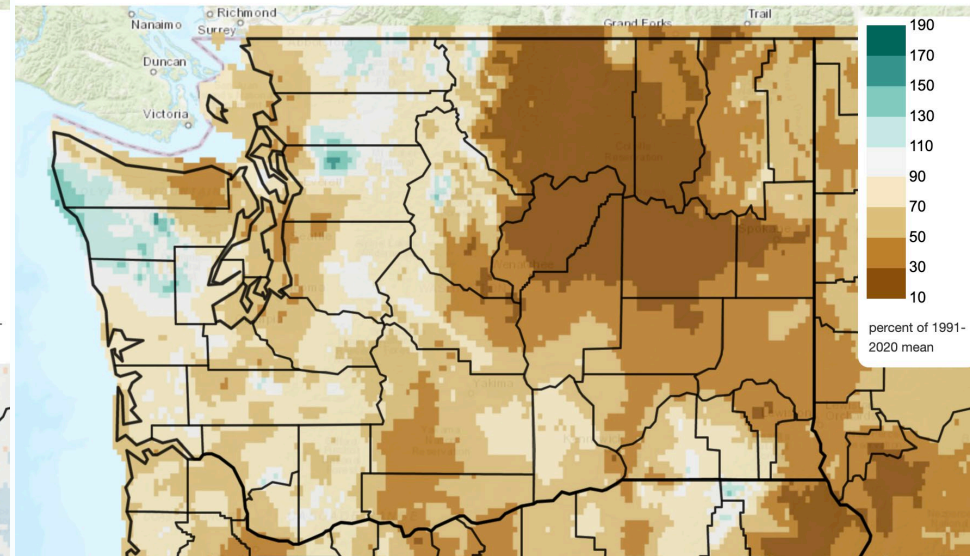
2023/01/31 - 2023/02/14



Precipitation

Total Precipitation Anomaly, Last 15 Days

2023/01/31 - 2023/02/14

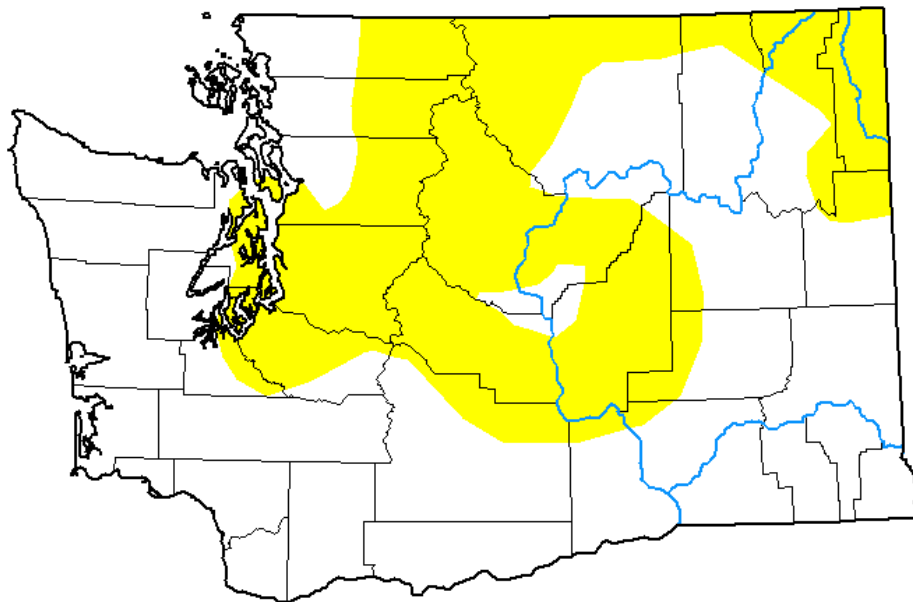


Climate Toolbox







U.S. Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor Washington

February 14, 2023
(Released Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



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:

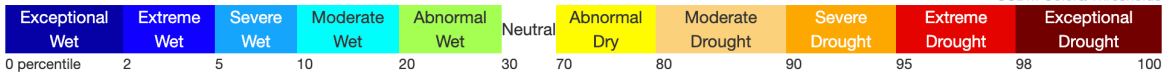
Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

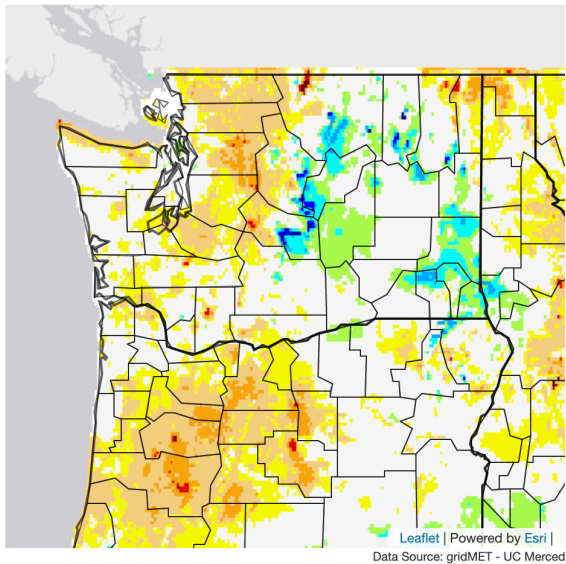
Classification of Water Extremes: Wet-to-Dry

USDM Colors/Thresholds



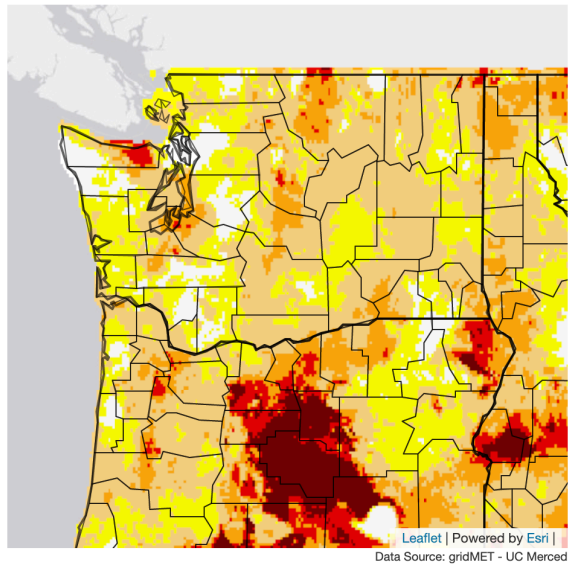
Precipitation

Oct. 1, 2022 - Feb. 14, 2023



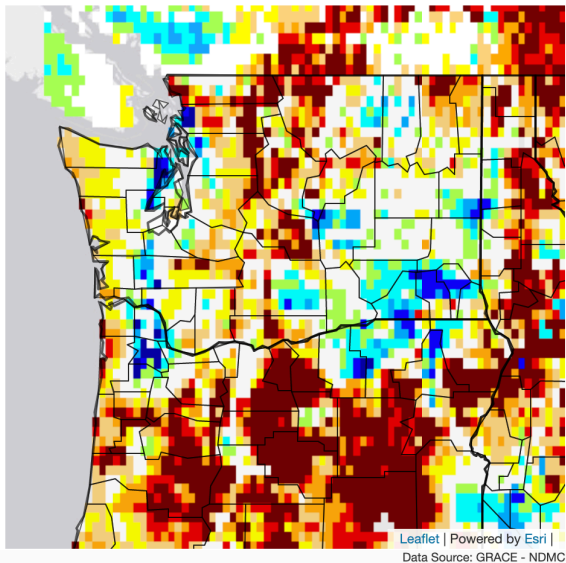
Precipitation

Jan. 16, 2023 - Feb. 14, 2023



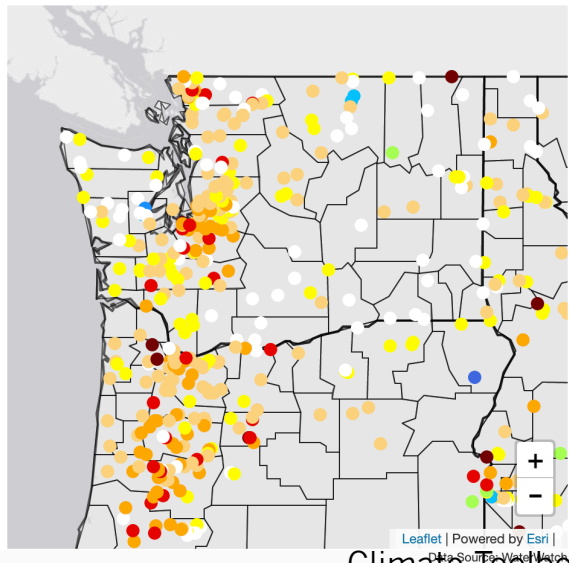
Soil Moisture (Surface)

Feb. 6, 2023



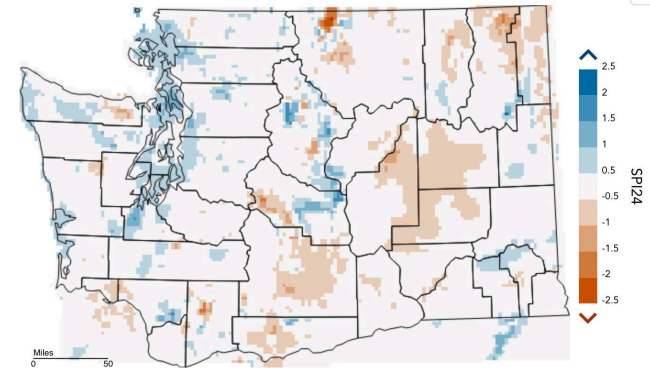
Streamflow

Jan. 20, 2023 - Feb. 16, 2023

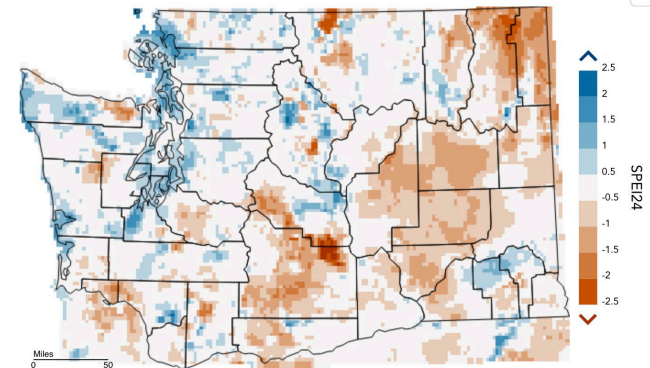


24-month SPI and SPEI

SPI

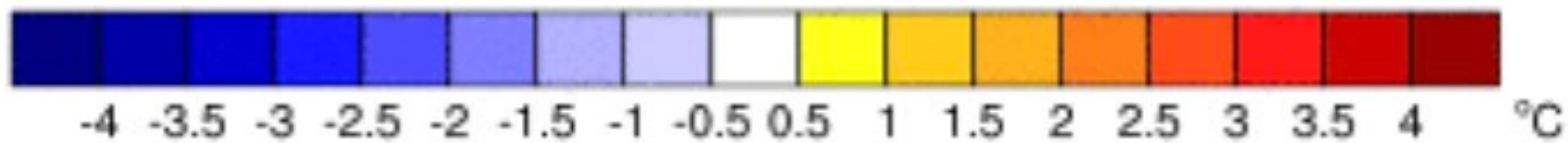
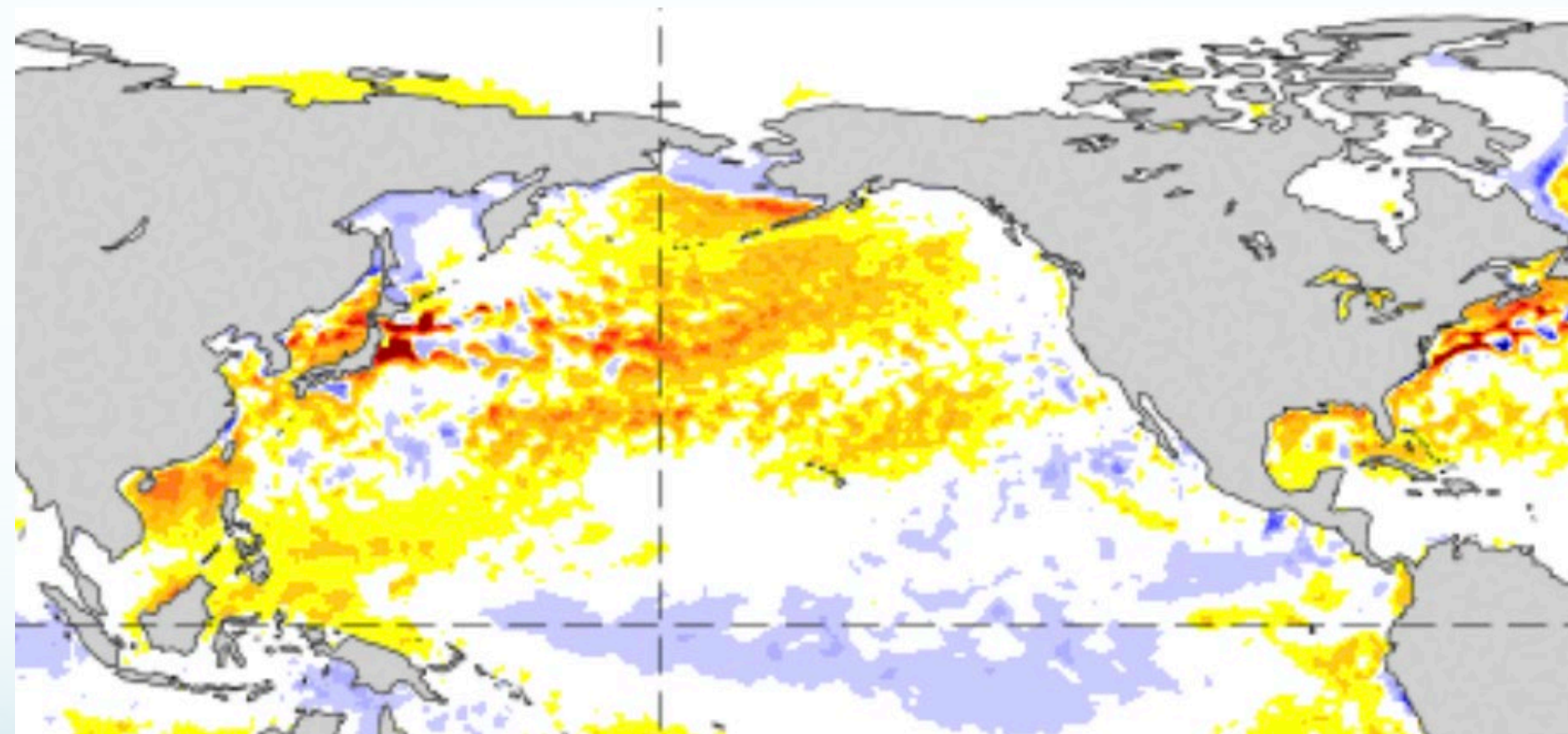


SPEI

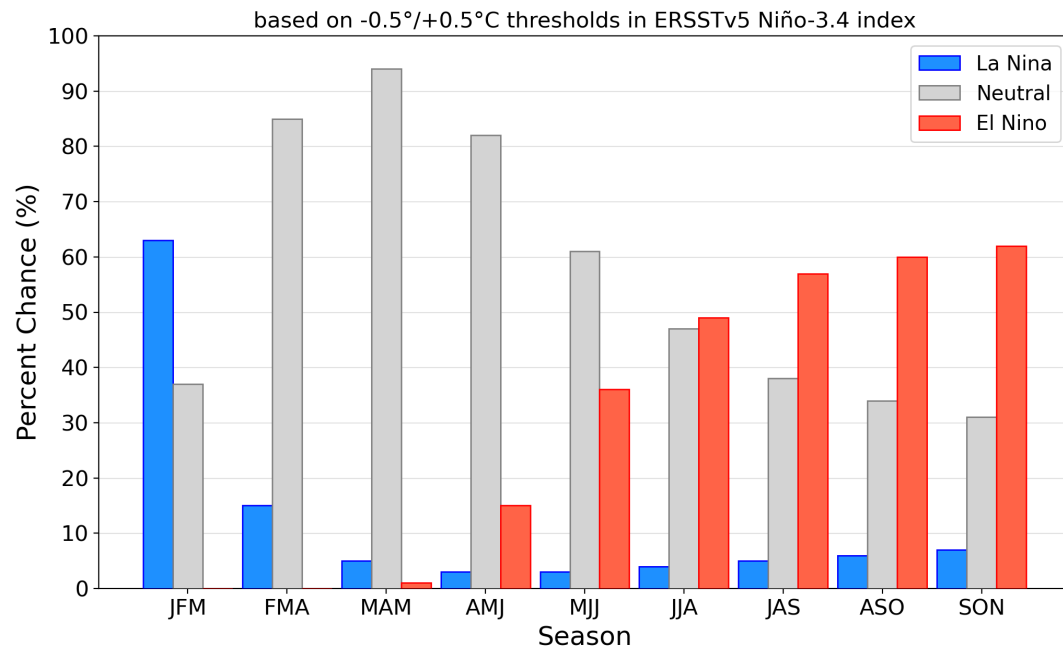


WestWide Drought Tracker

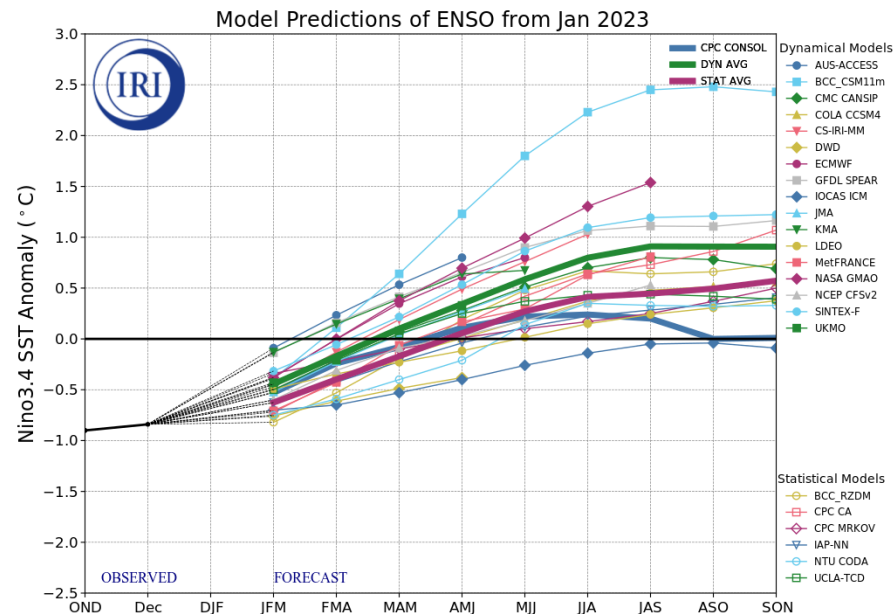
Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies: 05-11 Feb 2023



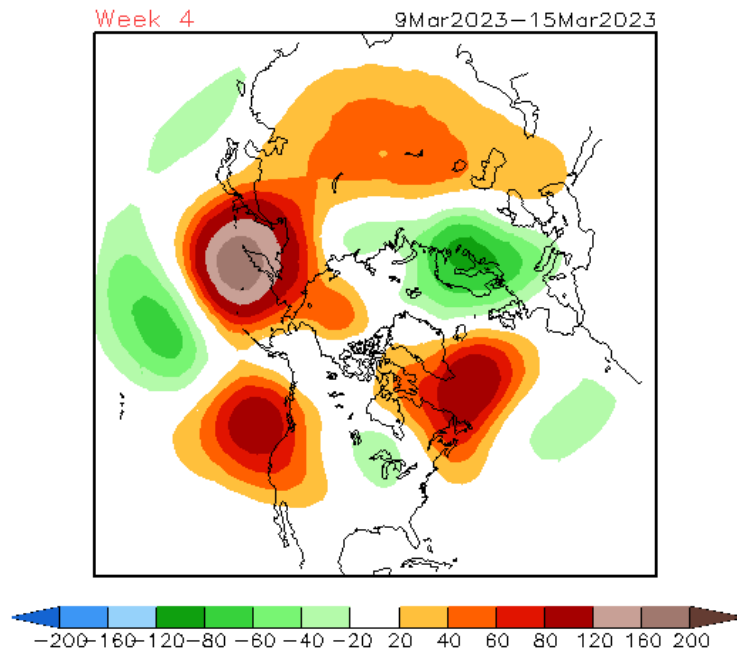
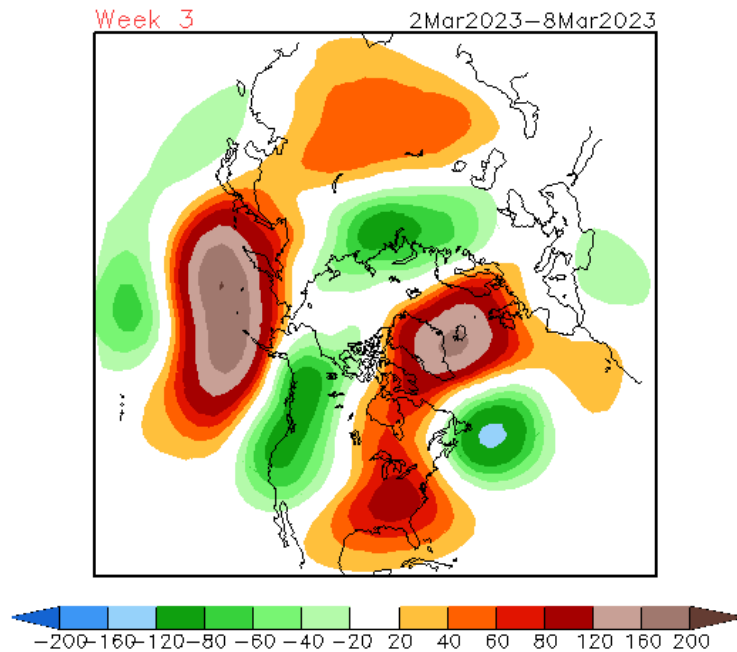
Official NOAA CPC ENSO Probabilities (issued Feb. 2023)



Latest ENSO predictions indicate that La Nina will be ending any minute



CFSv2 Weeks 3 & 4 500 hPa Z Anomalies (m)
16 Member Ensemble Mean Forecast from 15Feb2023



**CFS 3 & 4 Week 500 hPa
Model Projections: Wet
and Cool in Early March and
then Drying Out in WA State**

C3S multi-system seasonal forecast

ECMWF/Met Office/Météo-France/CMCC/DWD/NCEP/JMA/ECCC

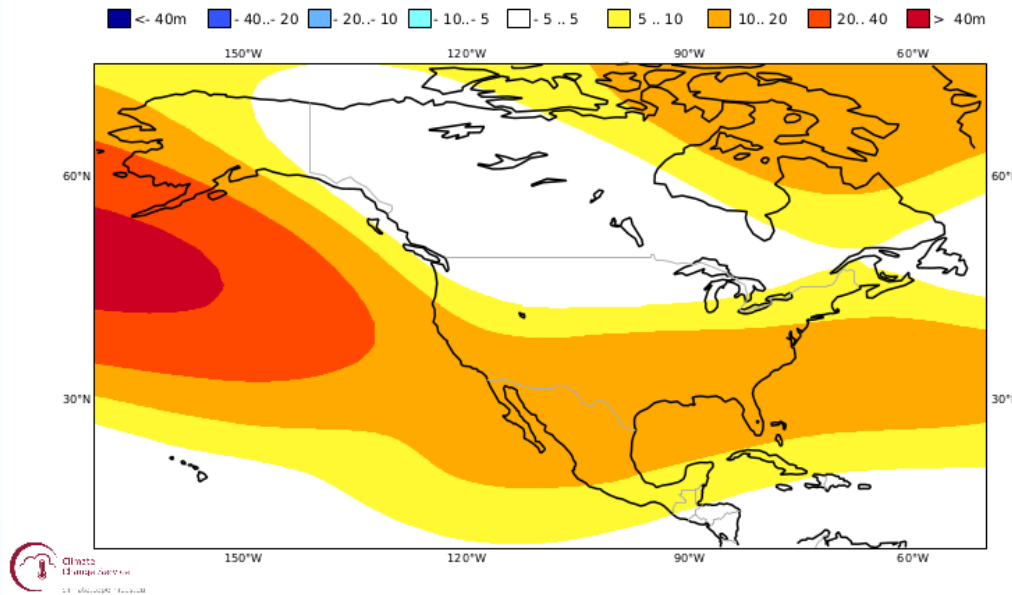
Mean Z500 anomaly

MAM 2023

Nominal forecast start: 01/02/23

Variance-standardized mean

500 hPa Z



**IMME Projections
for Mar-May:
Consistent with
the Demise of
La Nina**

C3S multi-system seasonal forecast

ECMWF/Met Office/Météo-France/CMCC/DWD/NCEP/JMA/EC

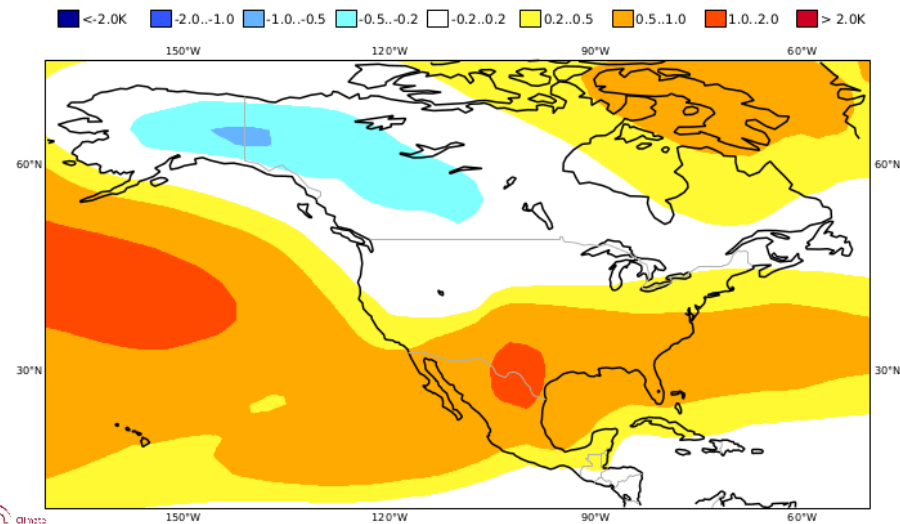
Mean T850 anomaly

MAM 21

Nominal forecast start: 01/02/23

Variance-standardized mean

Temperature at 850 hPa



C3S multi-system seasonal forecast

ECMWF/Met Office/Météo-France/CMCC/DWD/NCEP/JMA/ECCC

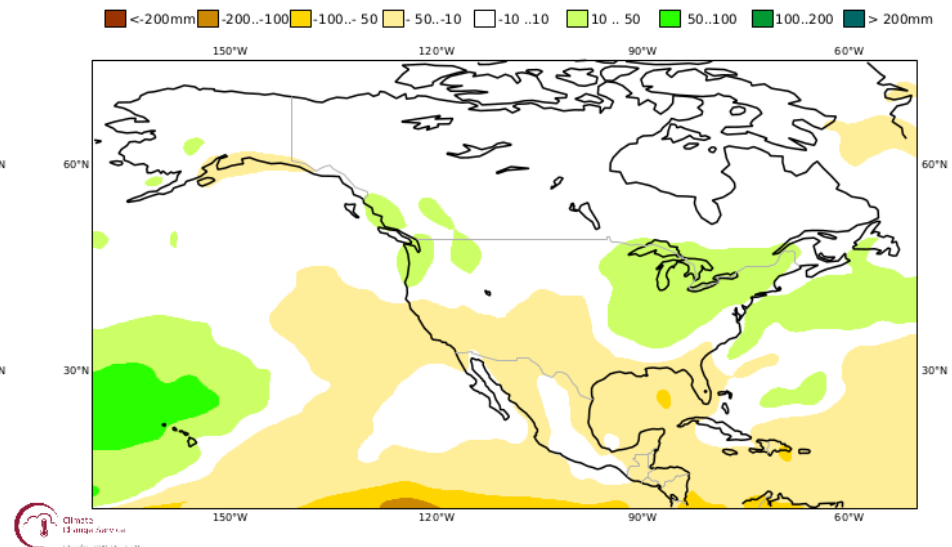
Mean precipitation anomaly

MAM 2023

Nominal forecast start: 01/02/23

Variance-standardized mean

Precipitation



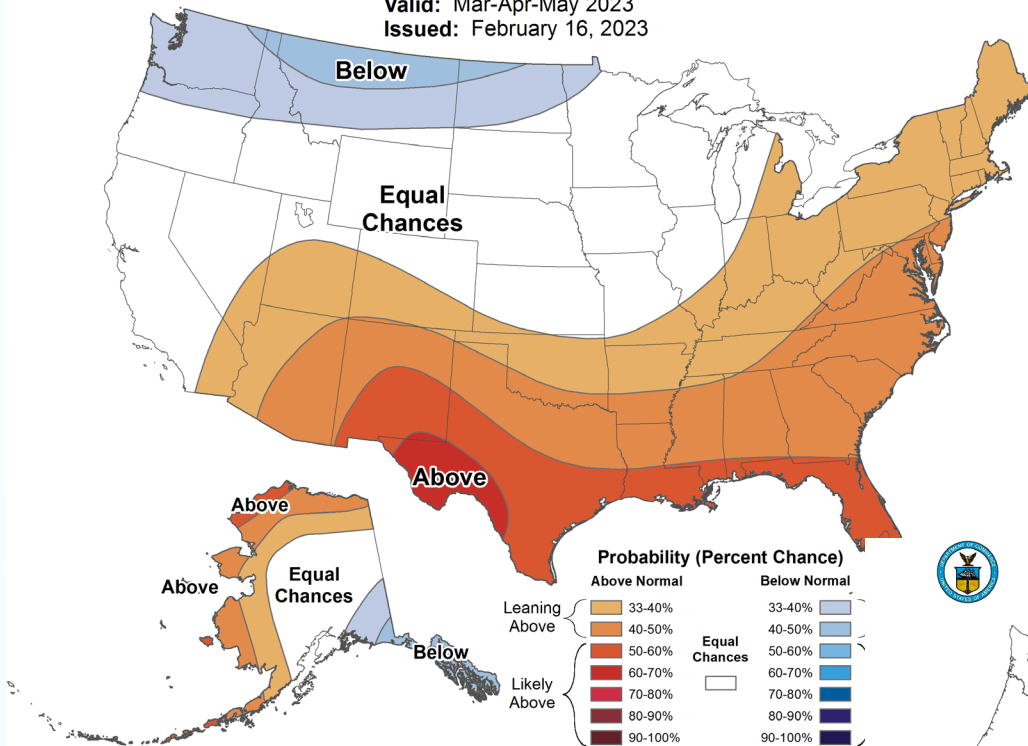


Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: Mar-Apr-May 2023
Issued: February 16, 2023

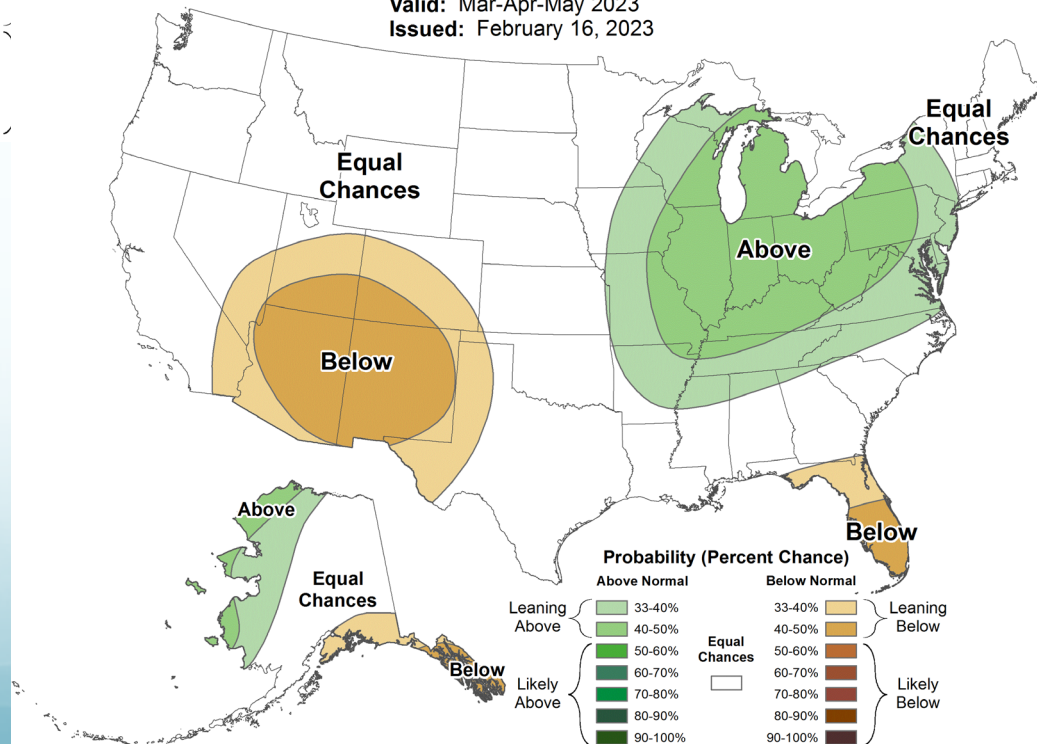


NOAA/CPC Forecasts for March-May 2023



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

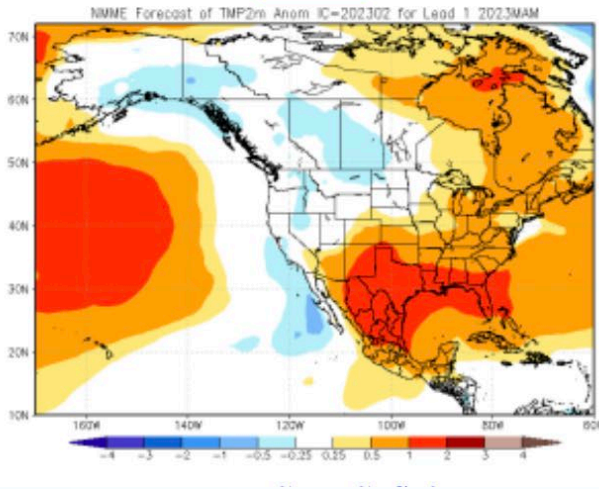
Valid: Mar-Apr-May 2023
Issued: February 16, 2023



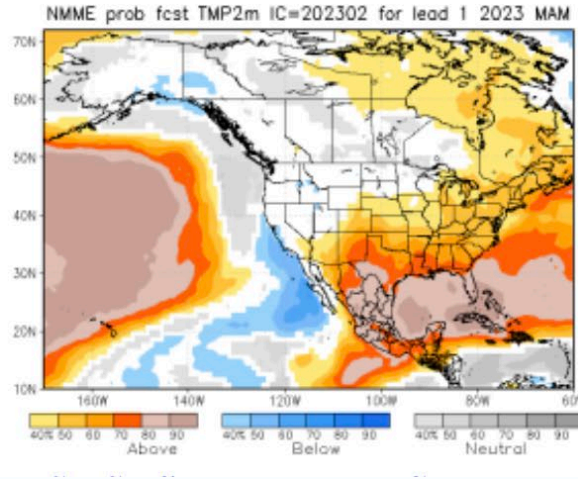
NMME Temperature Projections

Spring (MAM) 2023

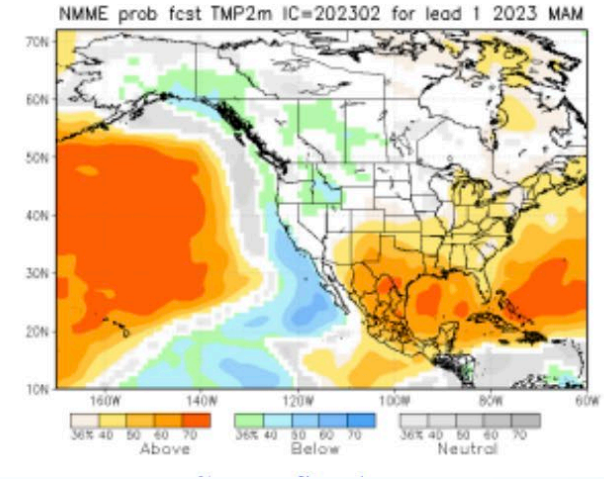
NMME



Prob fcst

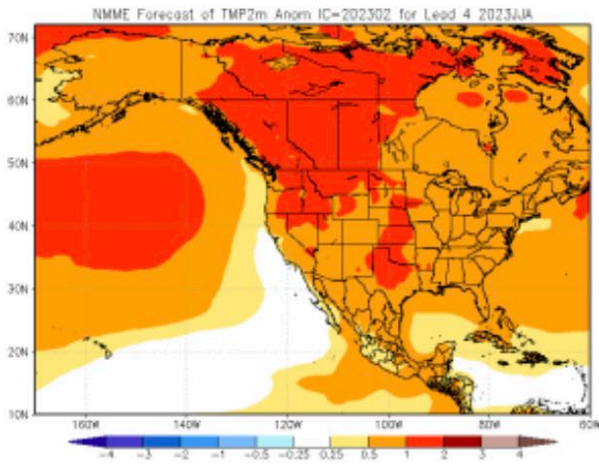


PAC calib. prob fcst

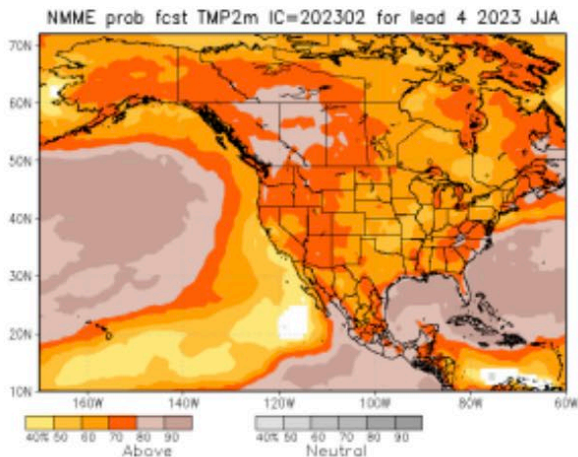


Summer (JJA) 2023

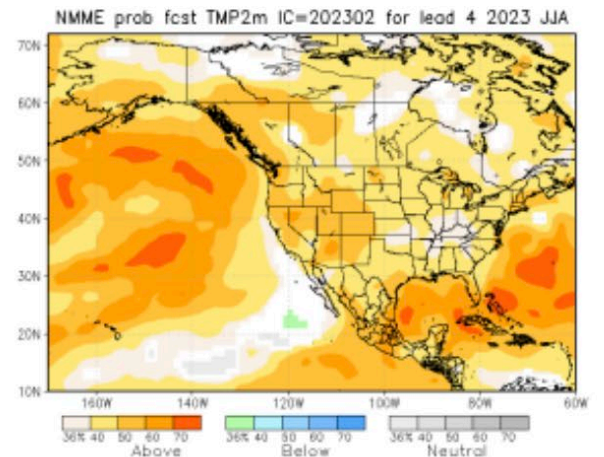
NMME



Prob fcst

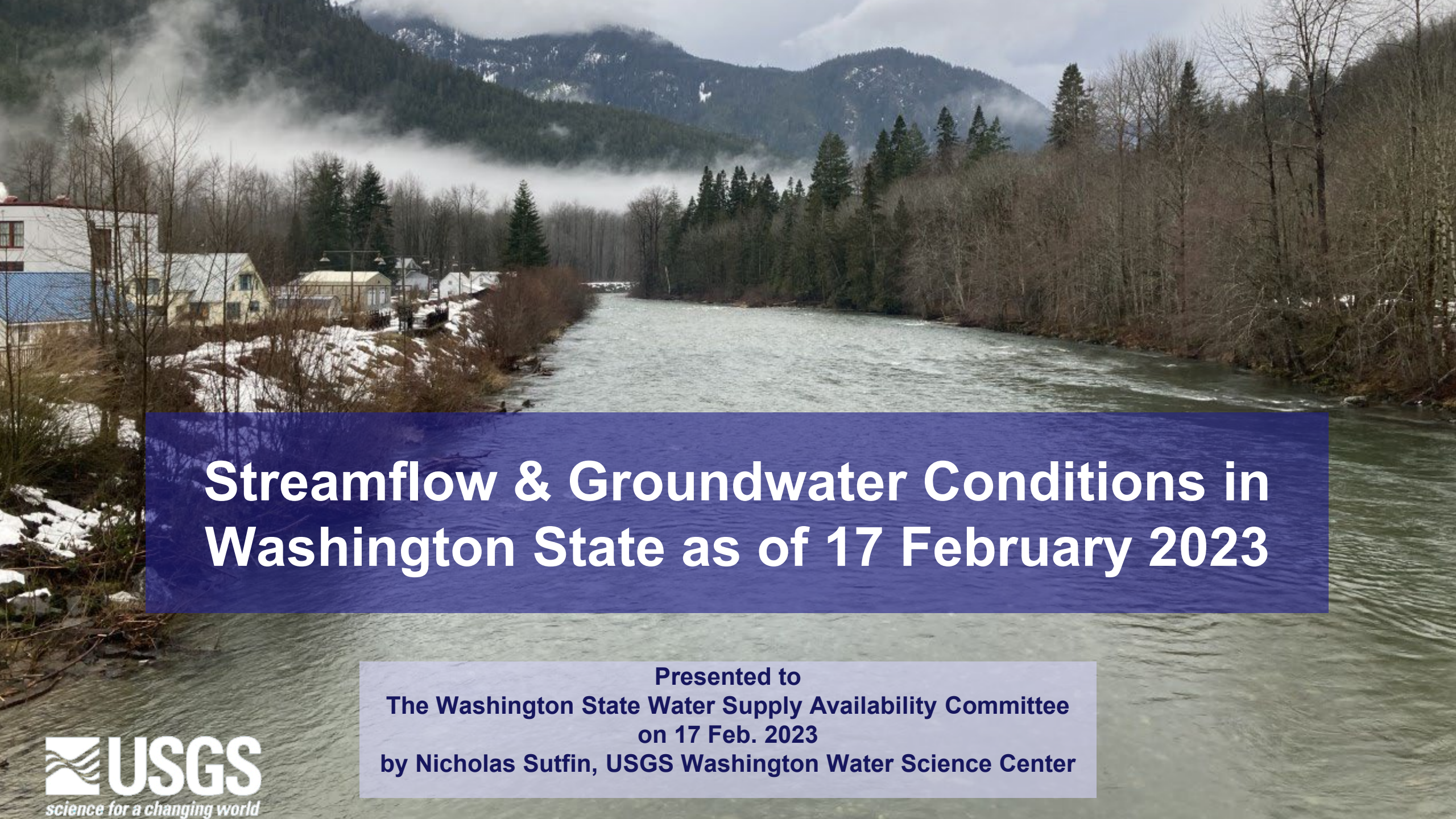


PAC calib. prob fcst



Summary

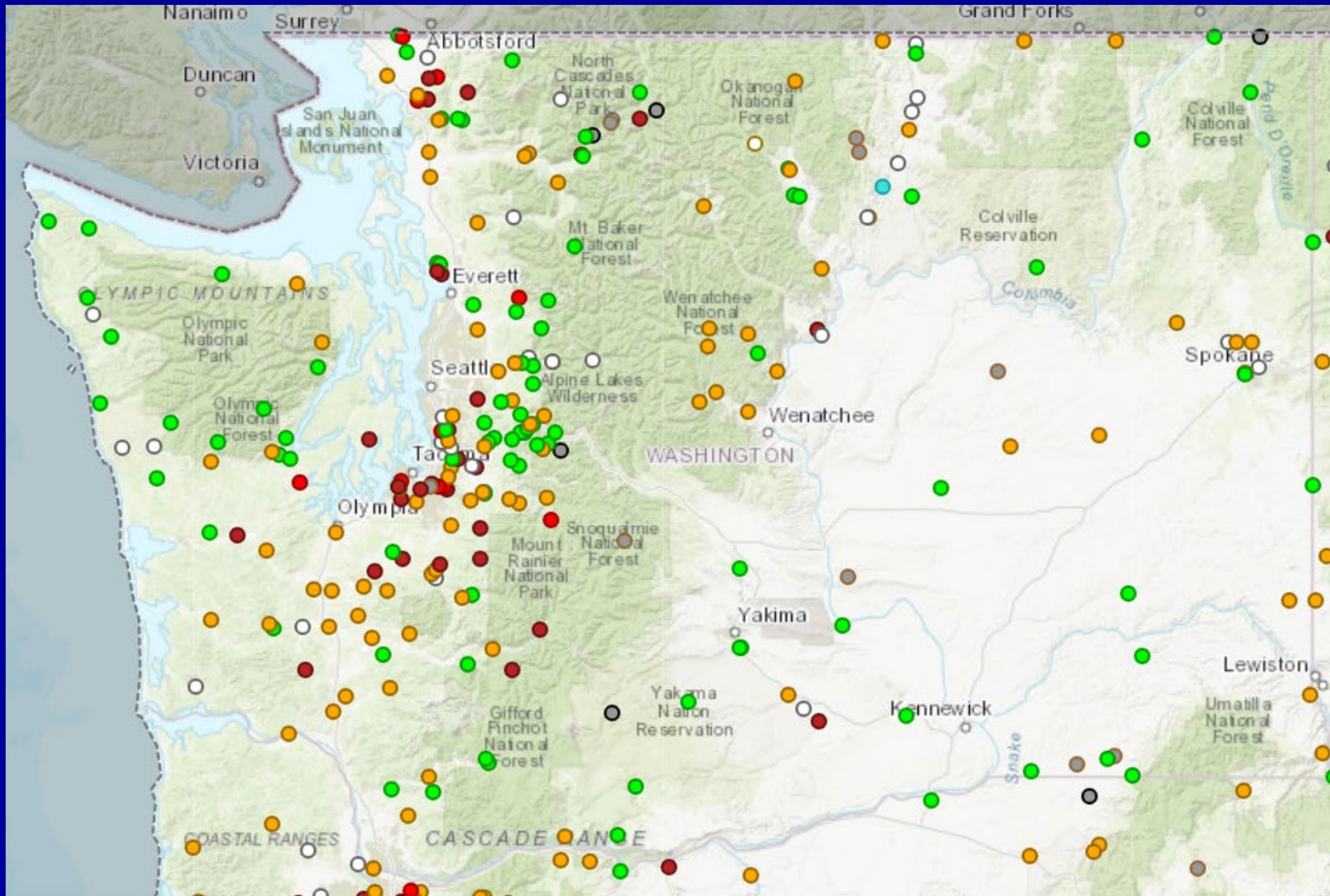
- Water year on average has generally been drier and warmer in western WA and wetter and cooler in eastern WA
- Long-term eastern WA precipitation deficits improving, but there is a recent pause
- Growth in the winter snowpack is anticipated over the next couple of months
- Spring 2023: *Probably* a warm-up relative to seasonal norms
- Don't pack away the long johns quite yet



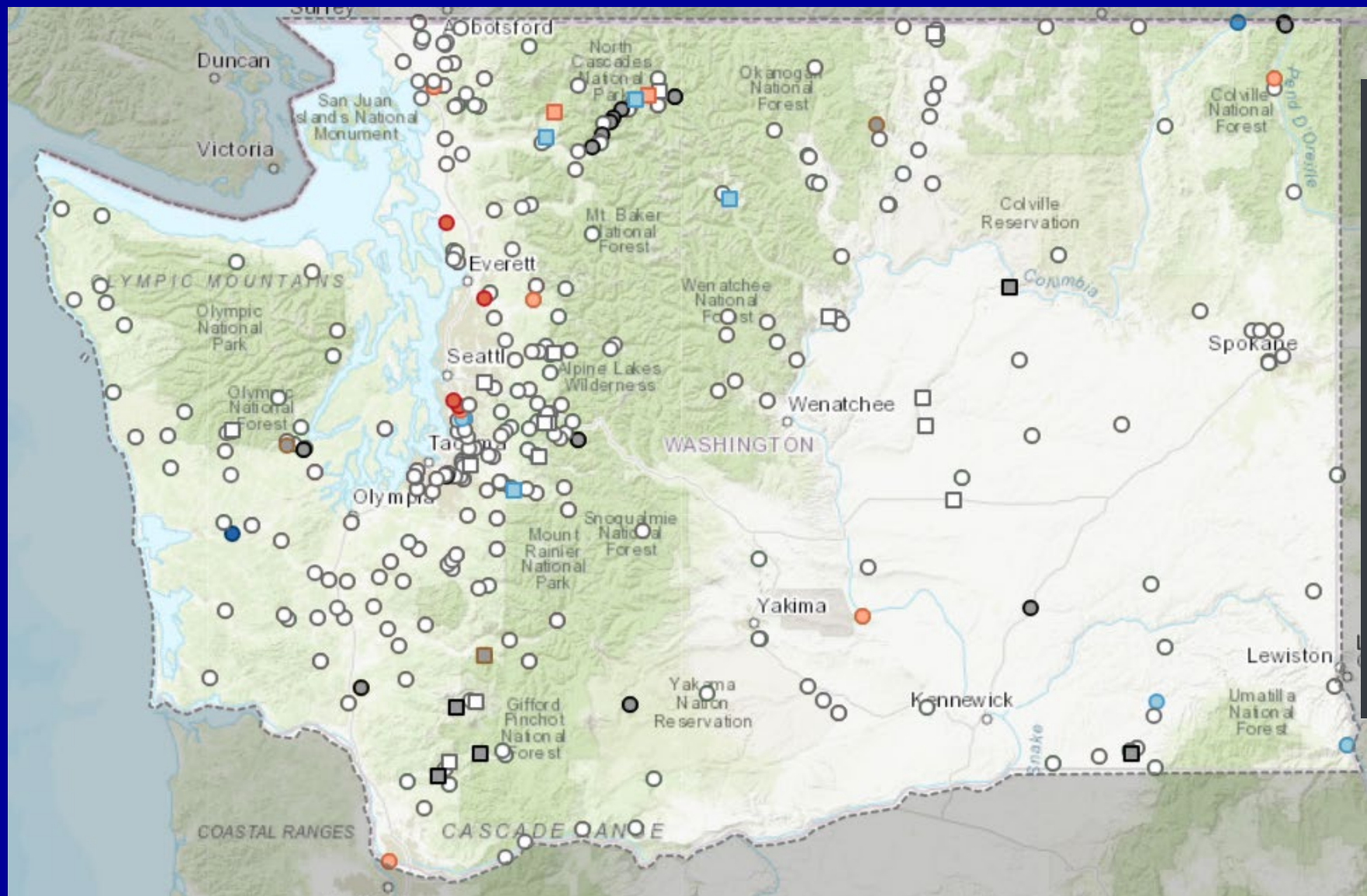
Streamflow & Groundwater Conditions in Washington State as of 17 February 2023

Presented to
The Washington State Water Supply Availability Committee
on 17 Feb. 2023
by Nicholas Sutfin, USGS Washington Water Science Center

WA Current Streamflow Conditions, 17 Feb. 2023



Rising and Falling conditions of WA streams on 17 Feb. 2023



Surface-Water Levels: Rising and falling

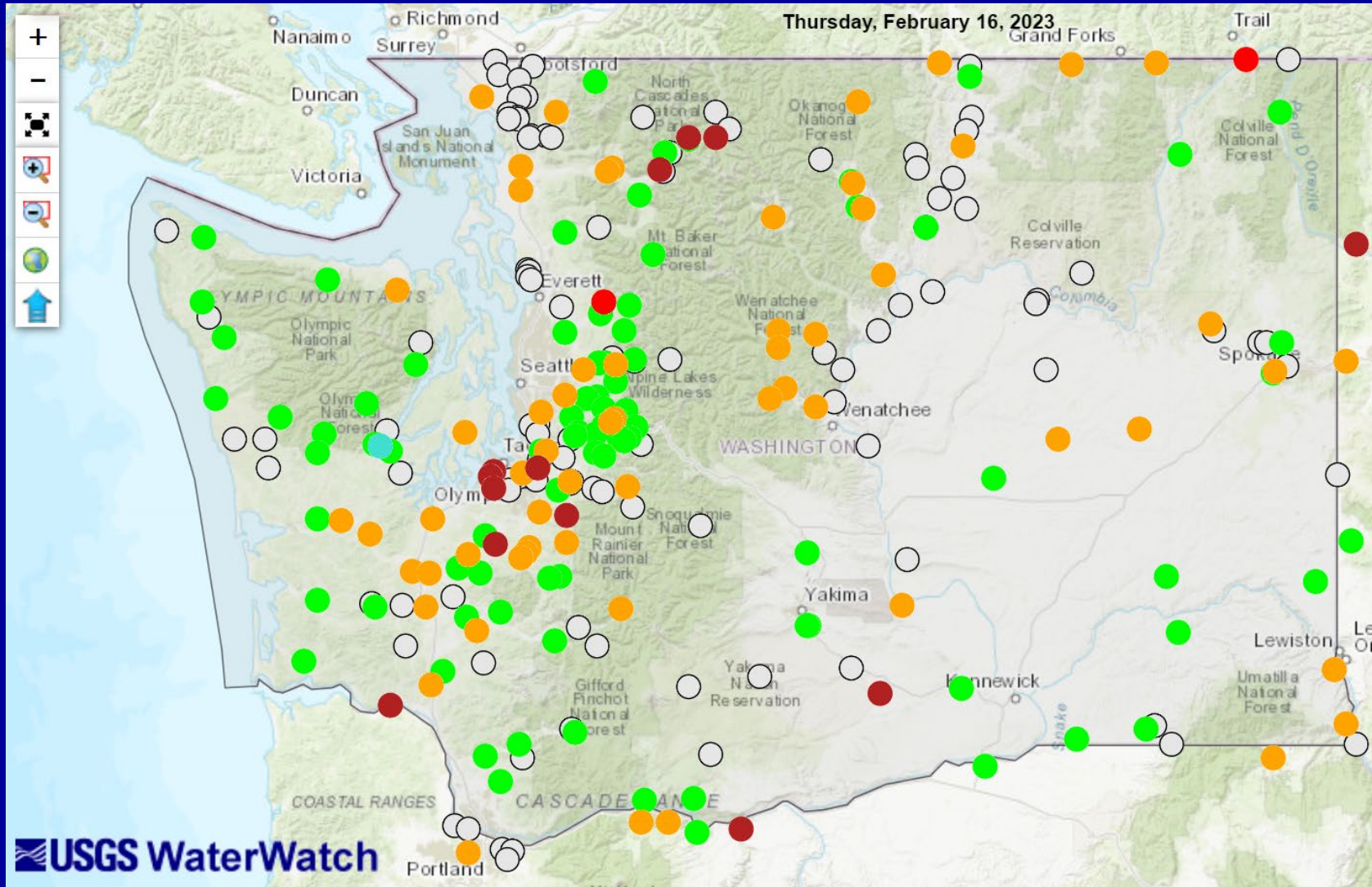
COLOR – CHANGE

- Water level rising ≥ 1 foot/hour
- Water level rising $\geq 0.5 - 1$ foot/hour
- Water level rising $\geq 0.05 - 0.5$ foot/hour
- Water level changing < 0.05 foot/hour
- Water level falling $\geq 0.05 - 0.5$ foot/hour
- Water level falling $\geq 0.5 - 1$ foot/hour
- Water level falling ≥ 1 foot/hour

SHAPE – SITE TYPE

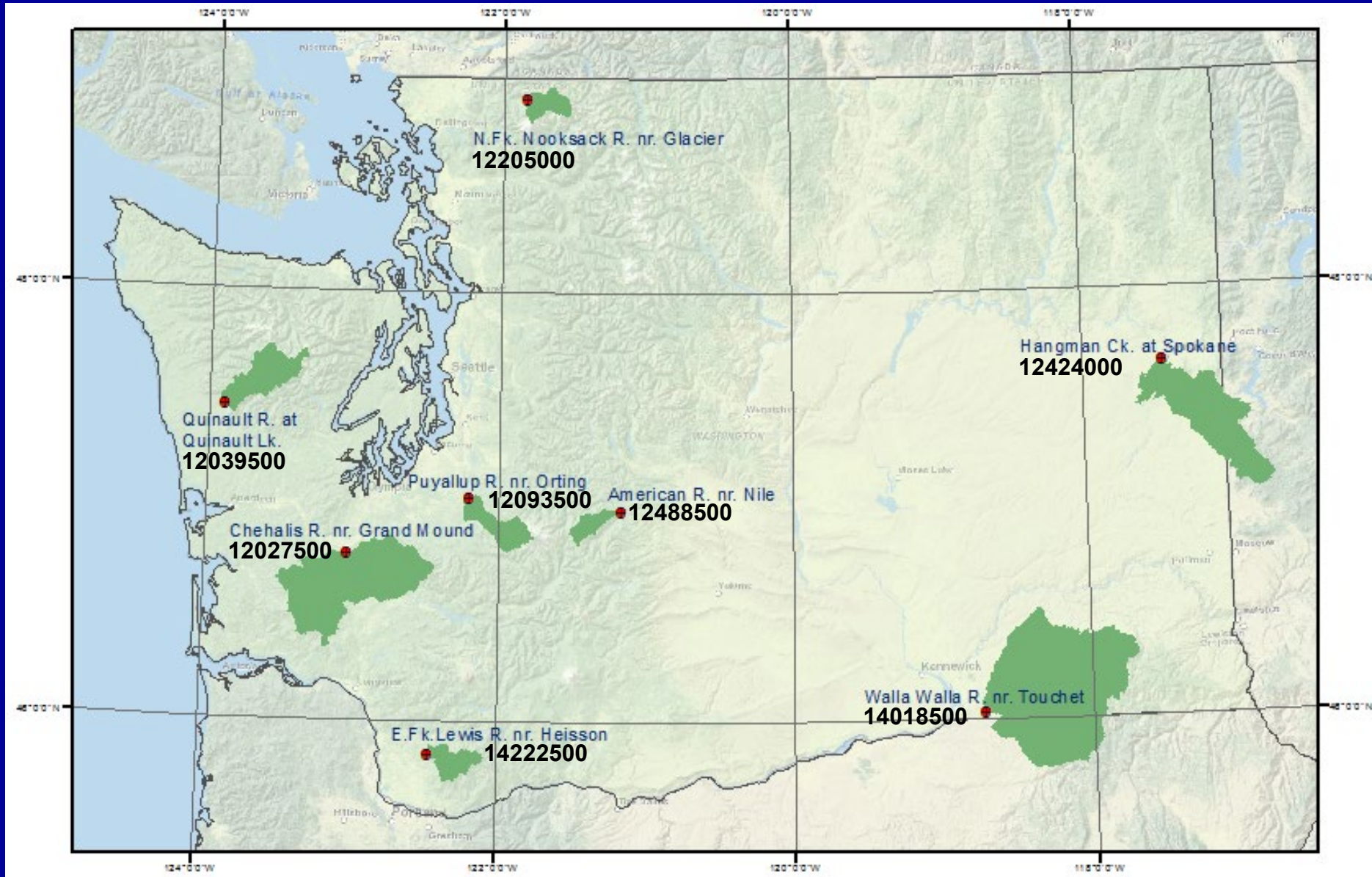
- Stream
- Lake
- Wetland
- Estuary
- Coastal

WA 7-day Average Streamflow Conditions as of 17 Feb. 2023

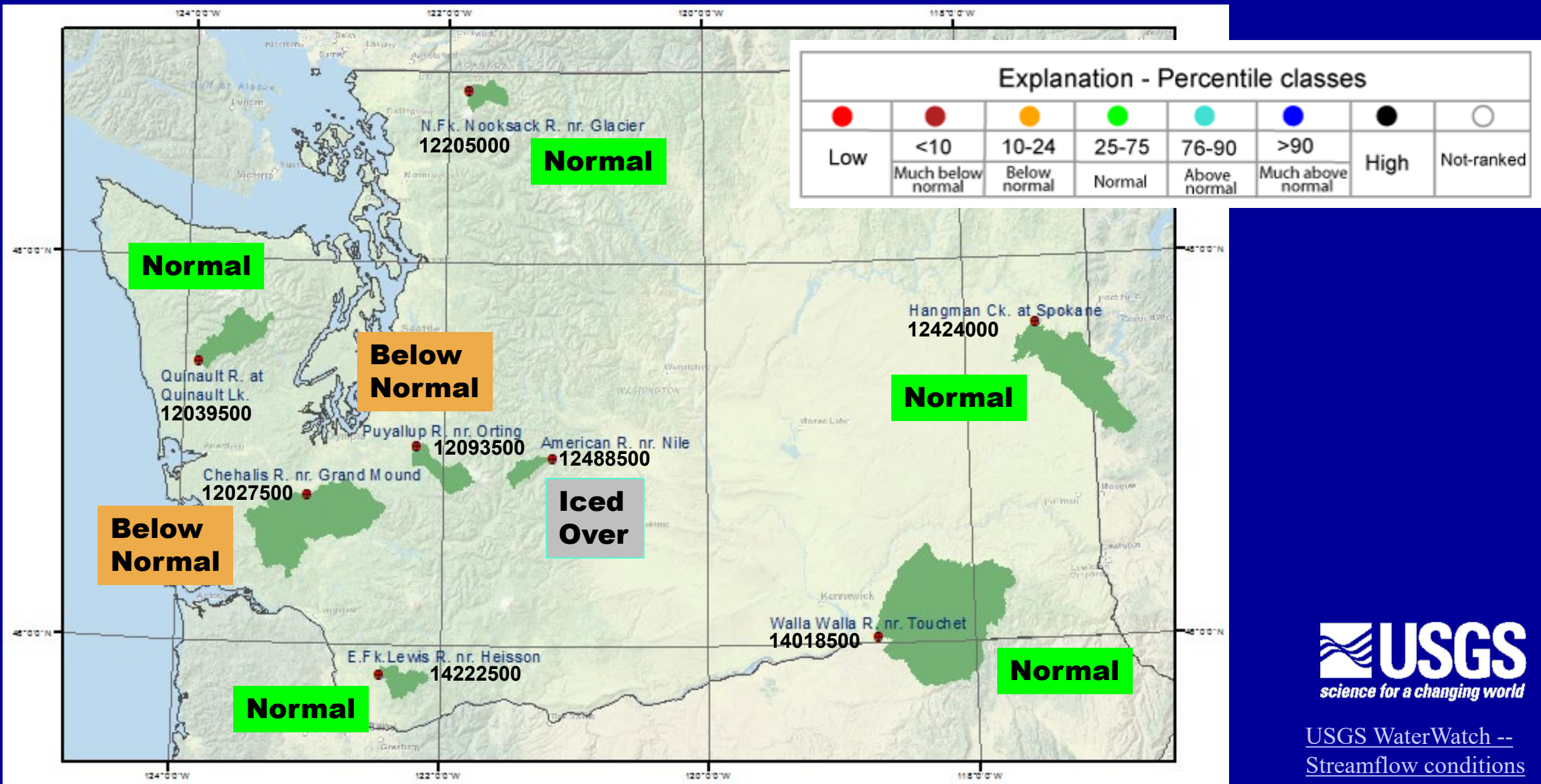


Index Gaging Stations

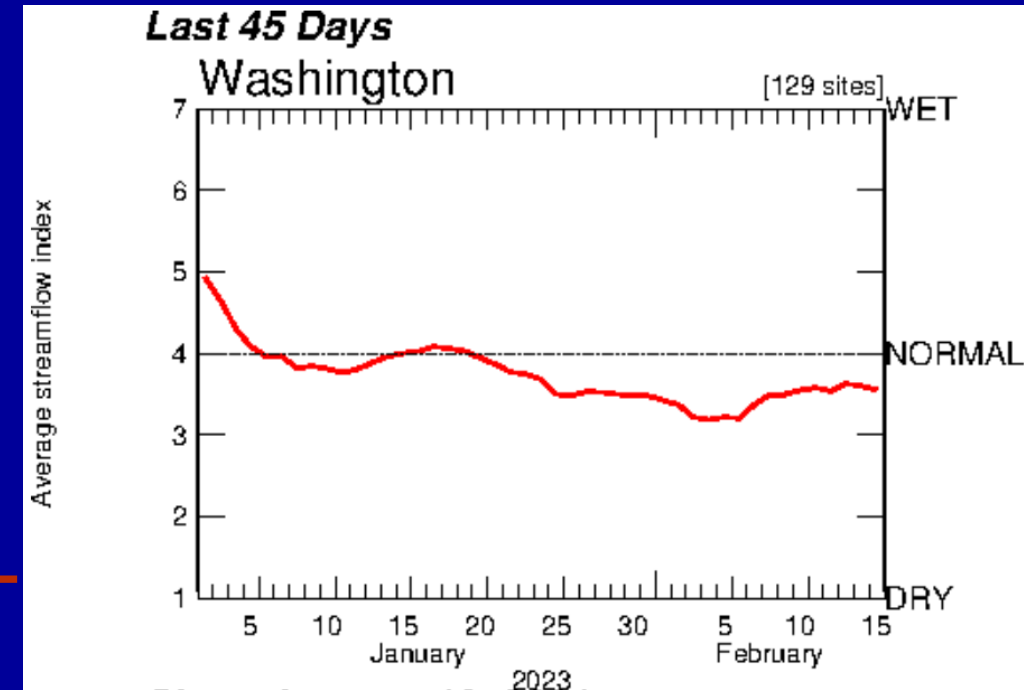
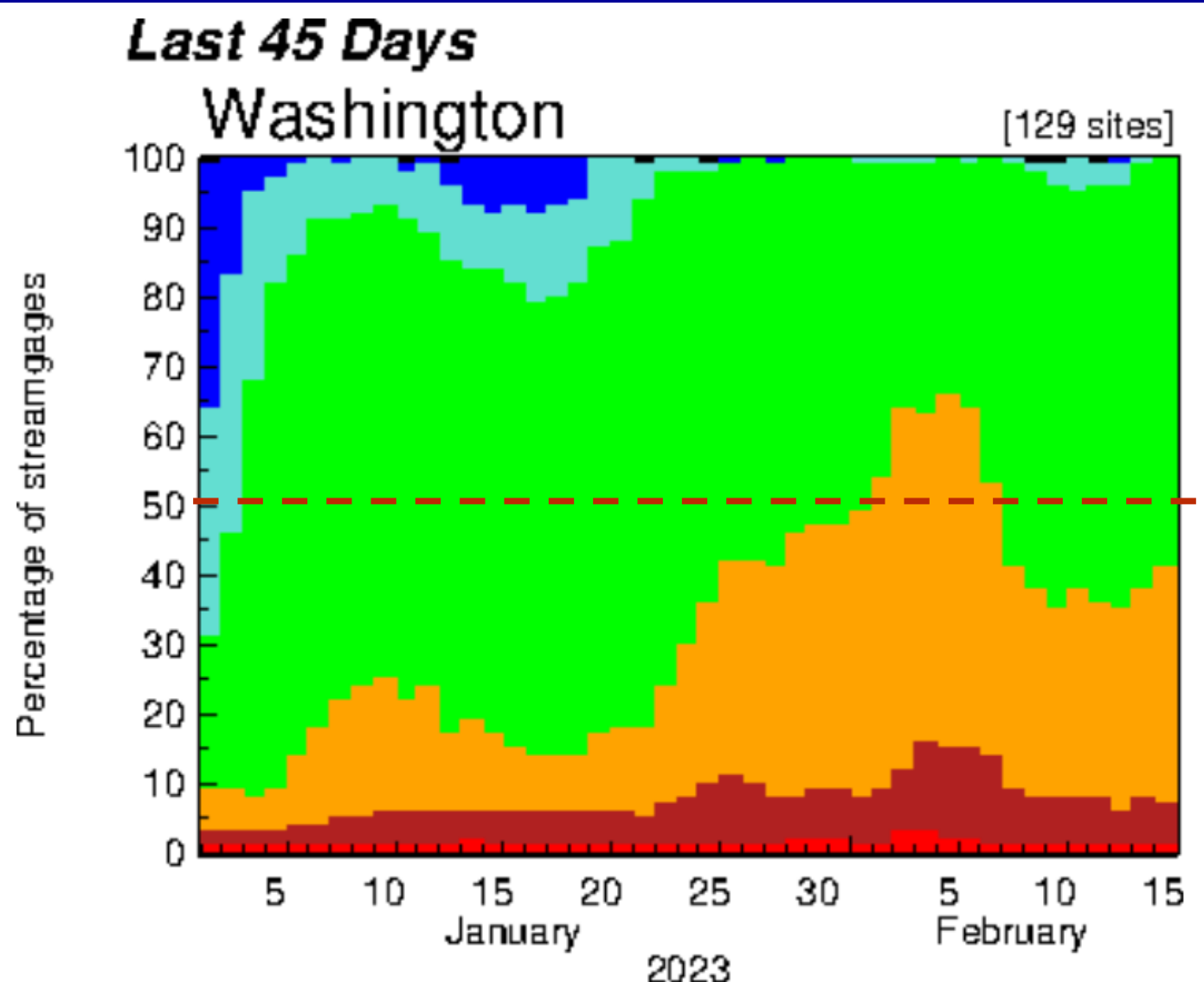
(Stations that measure natural or near-natural streamflow)



Index Gaging Stations, 7-day average streamflow (as of 17 Feb. 2023)



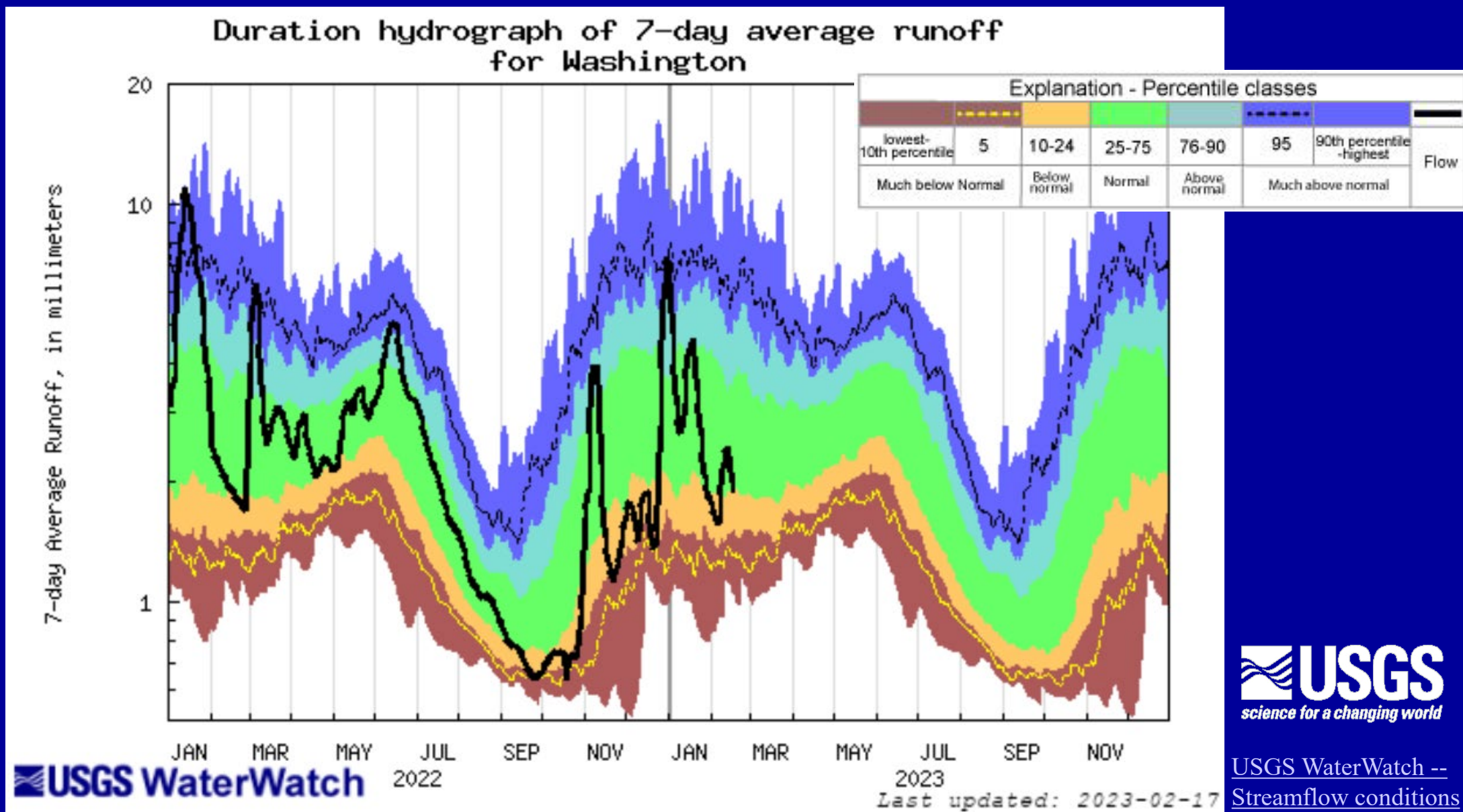
Daily streamflow in Washington Rivers compared to historical streamflow, Jan. 2023 to Feb. 2023



Explanation - Percentile classes						
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

Duration Hydrograph, Washington State

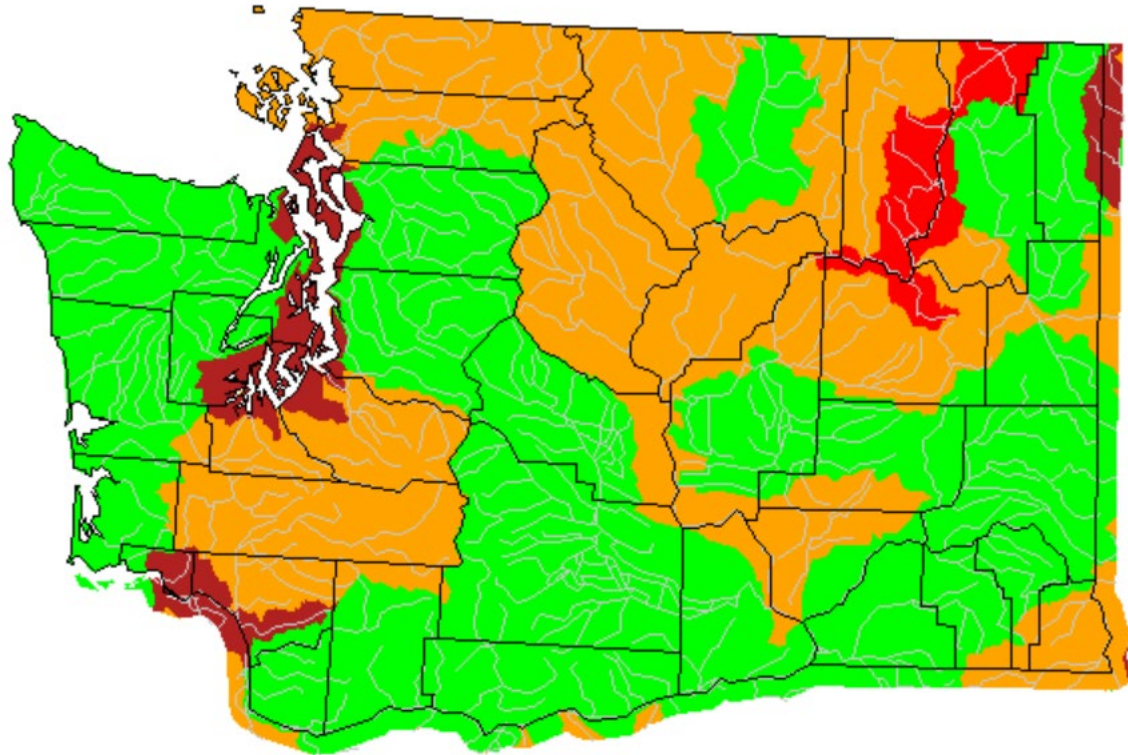
7-day Average Streamflow (as of 17 Feb. 2023) is normal/below normal



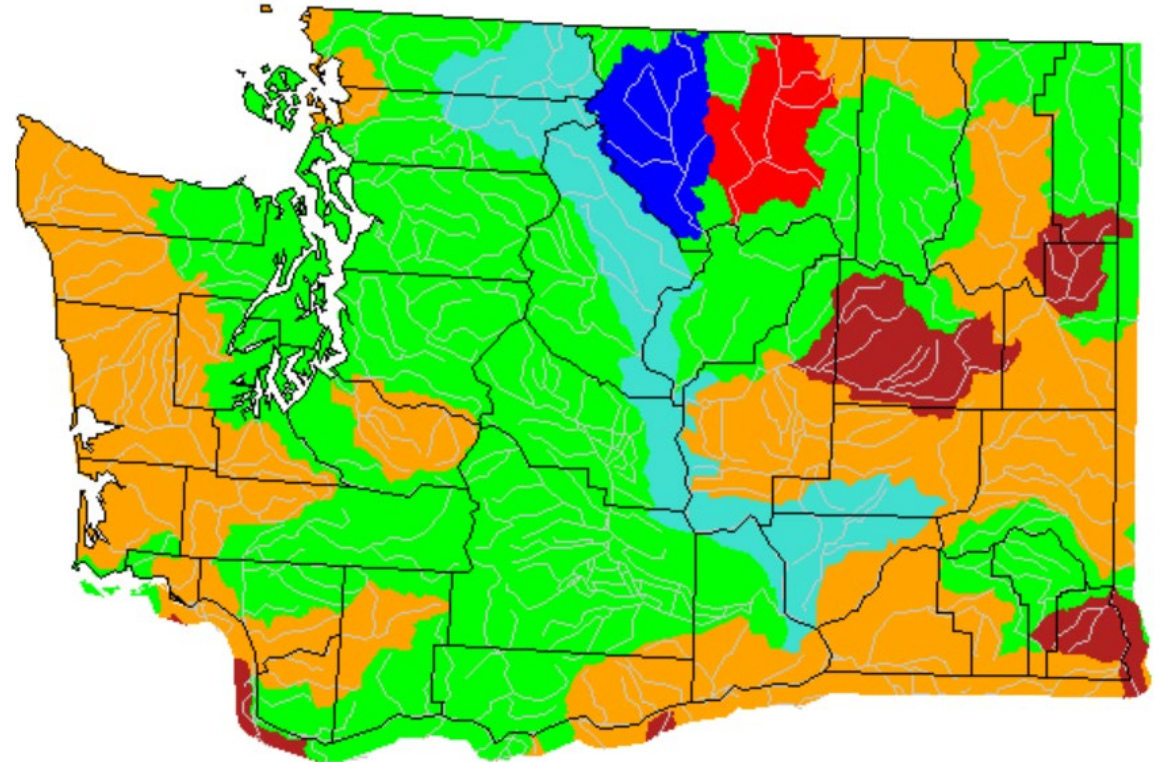
WA 14-day average streamflow


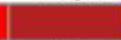




as of 17 January 2023, compared to February 2022

Last 14 days



February 2022

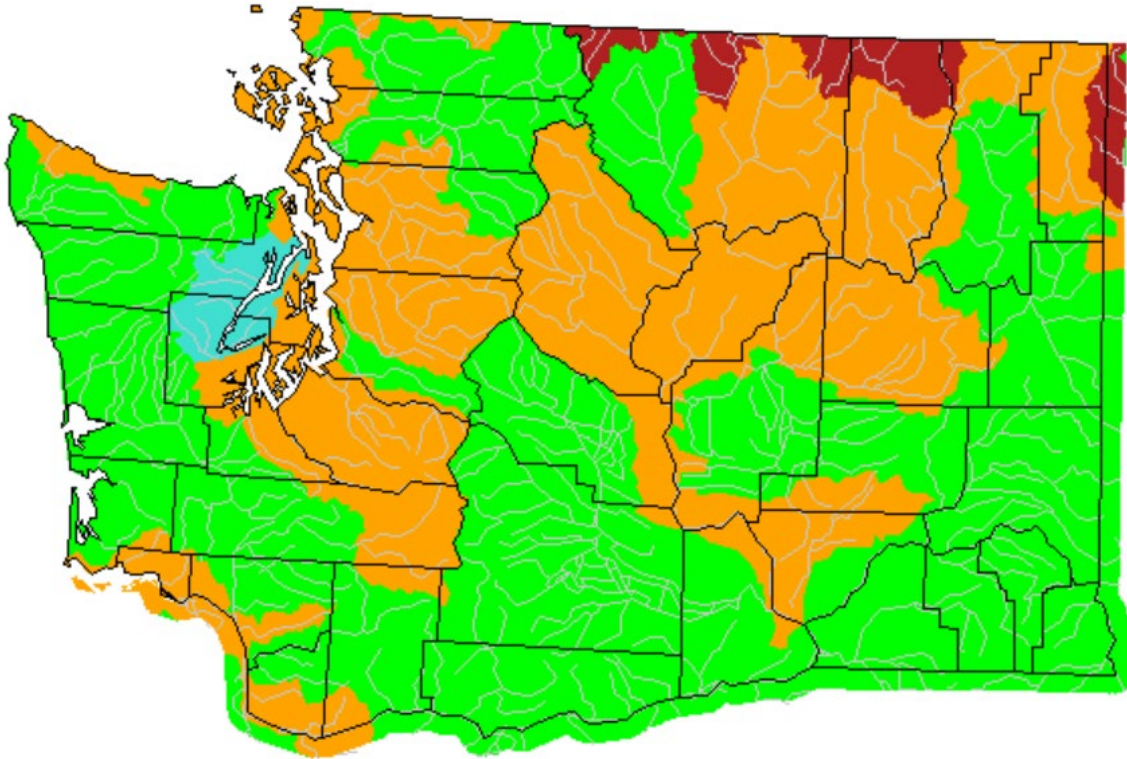


Explanation - Percentile classes						
						
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

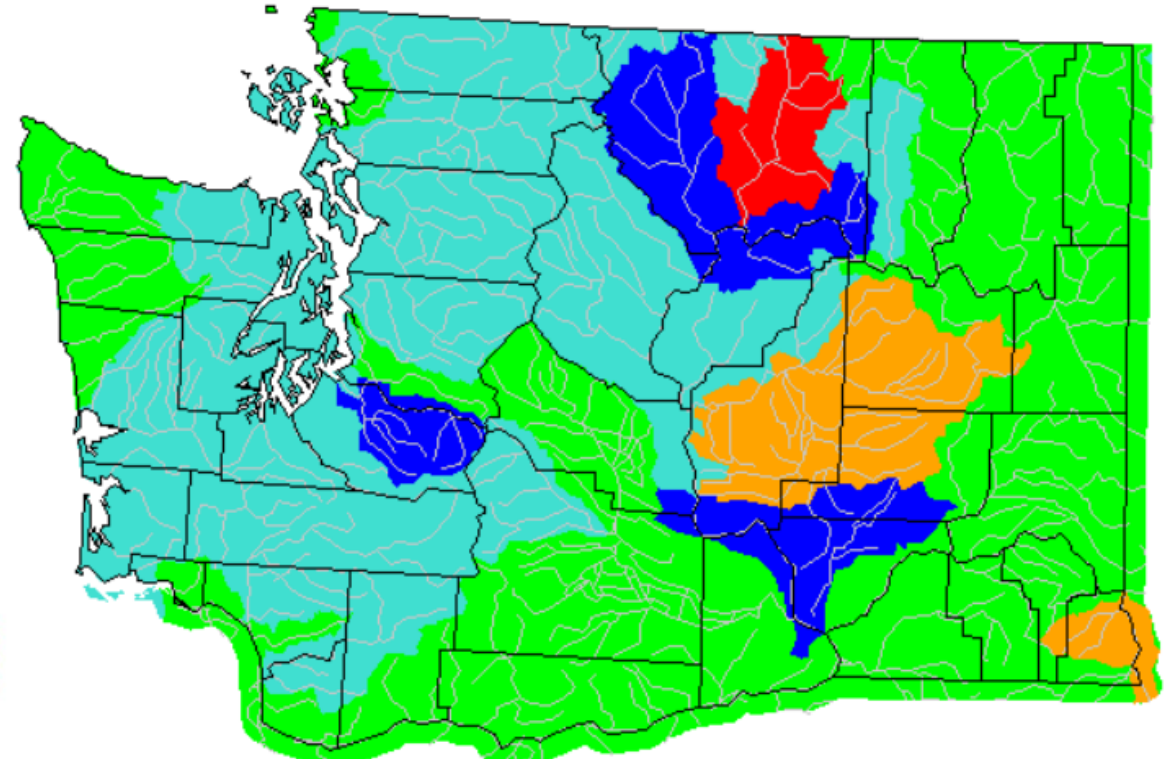
Monthly average streamflow compared to historical

January 2023 compared to January 2022

January 2023

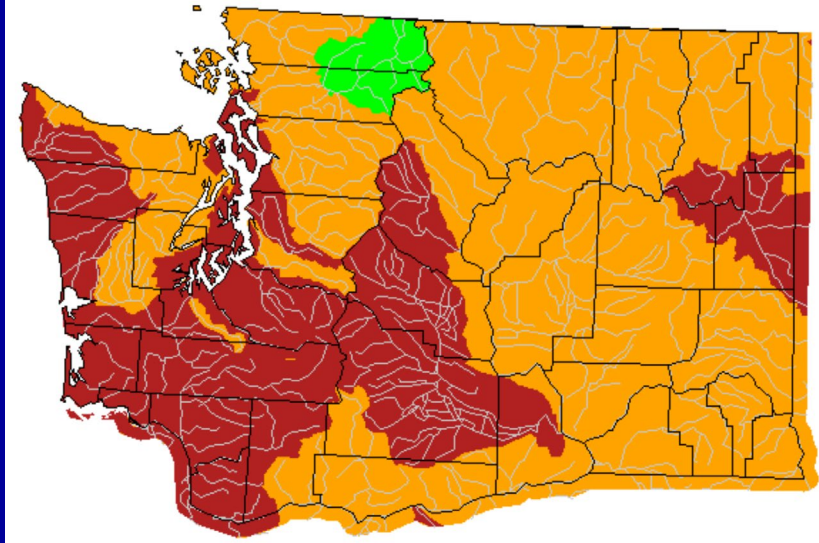


January 2022

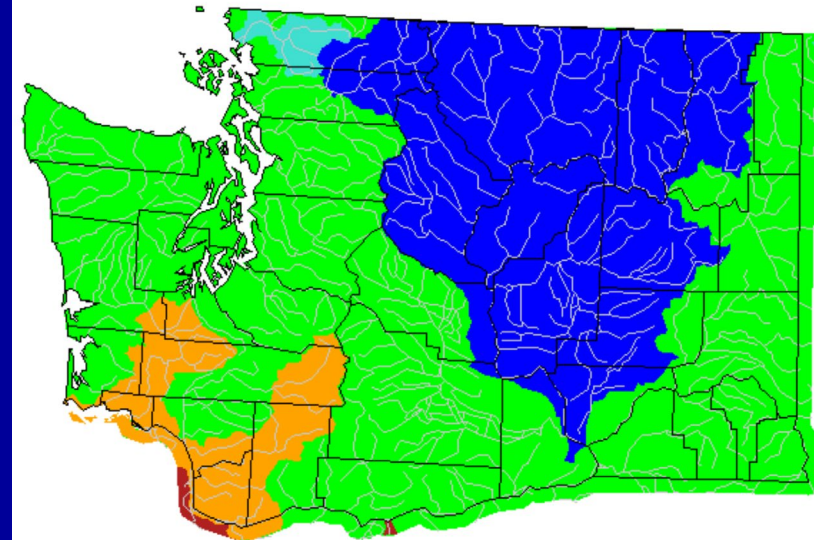


Explanation - Percentile classes						
	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	
Low	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	High

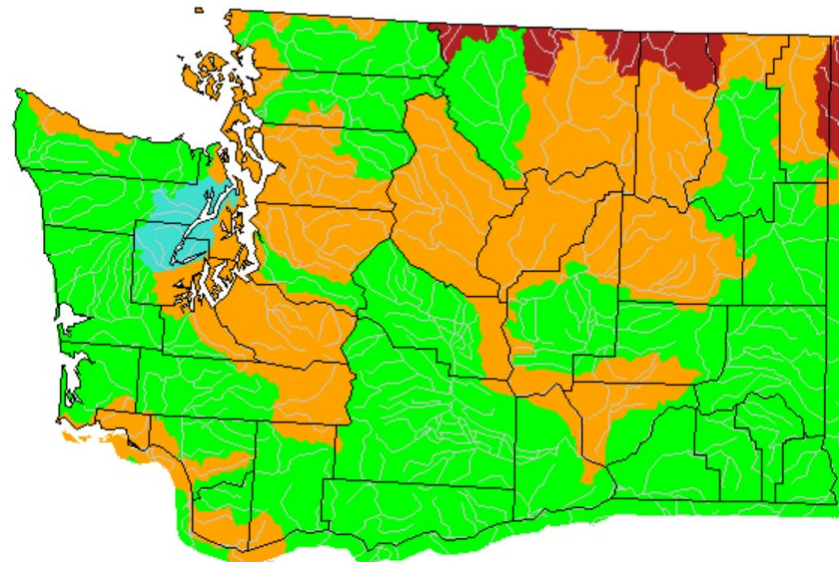
January 2001



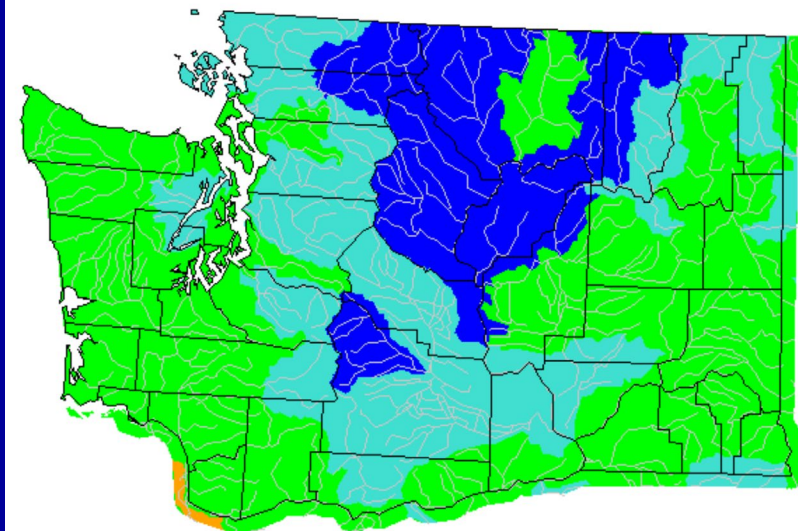
January 2005



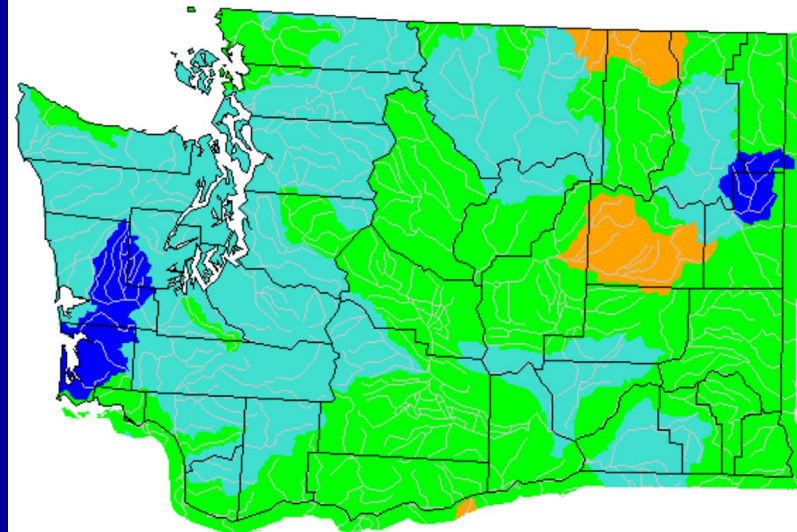
January 2023



January 2015



January 2021

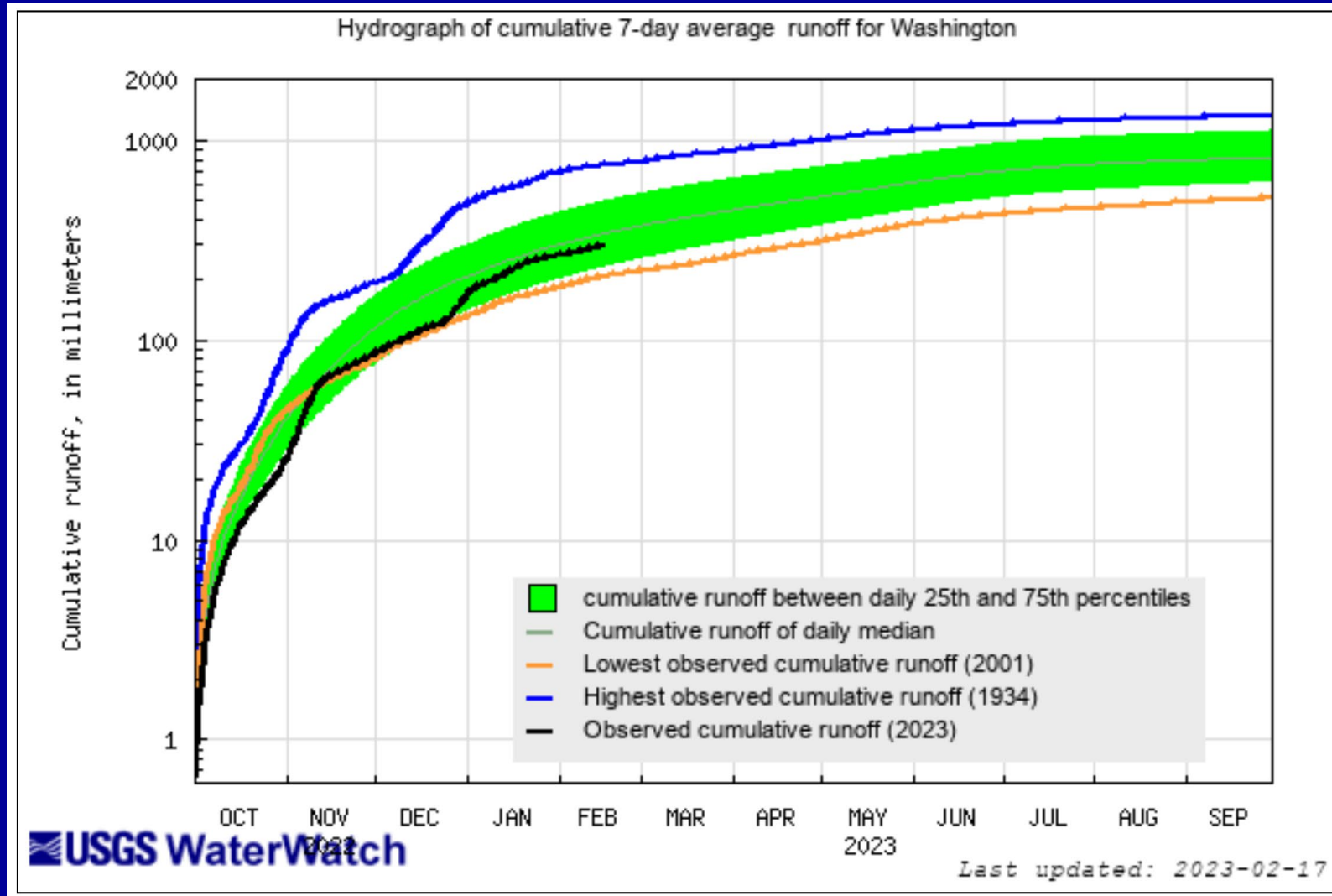


Explanation - Percentile classes

Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

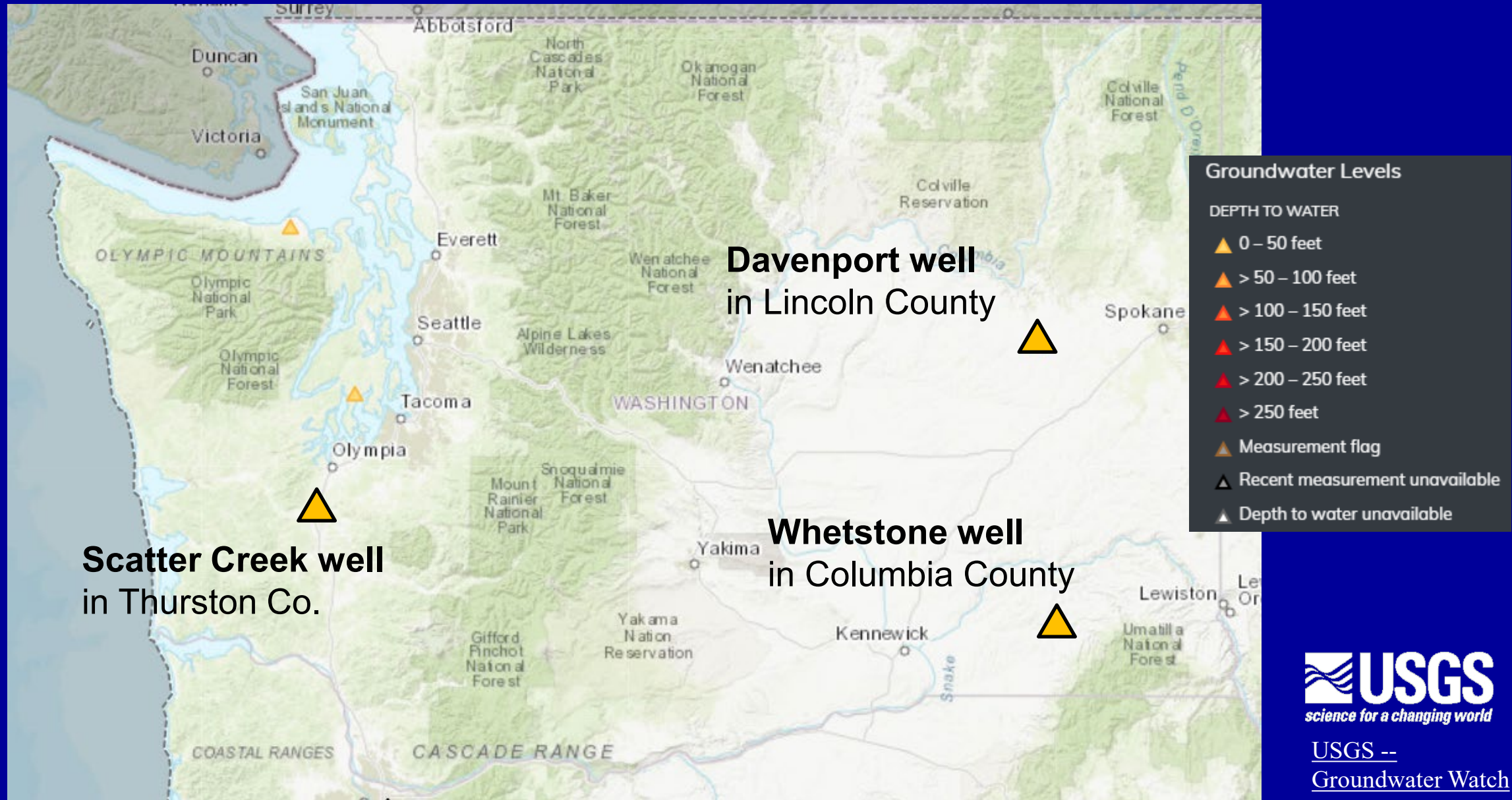
Hydrograph of cumulative 7-day average Area-based Hydrograph, Washington State

2023 Water year (as of 17 Feb. 2023) is normal

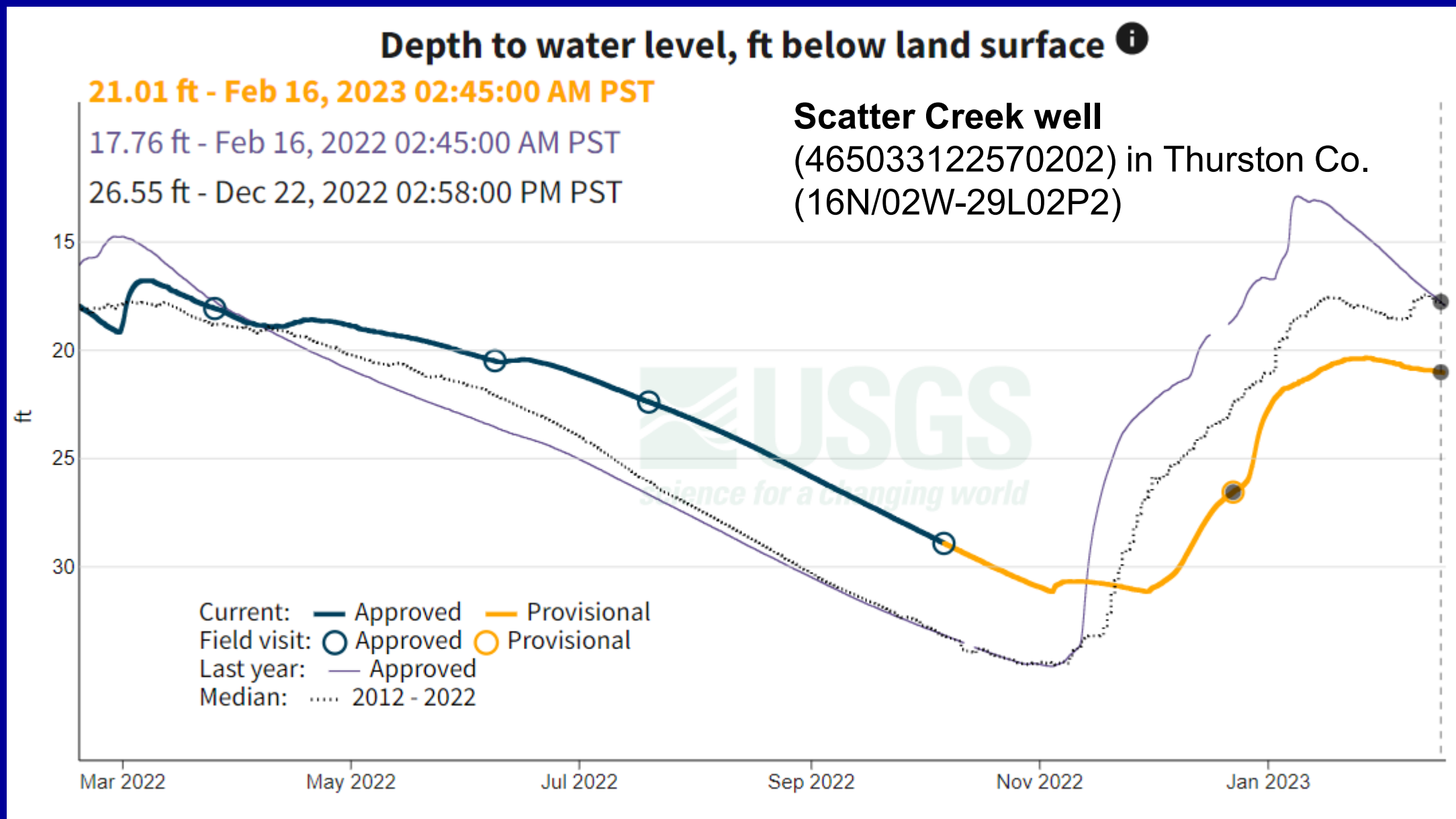


USGS WaterWatch --
Streamflow conditions

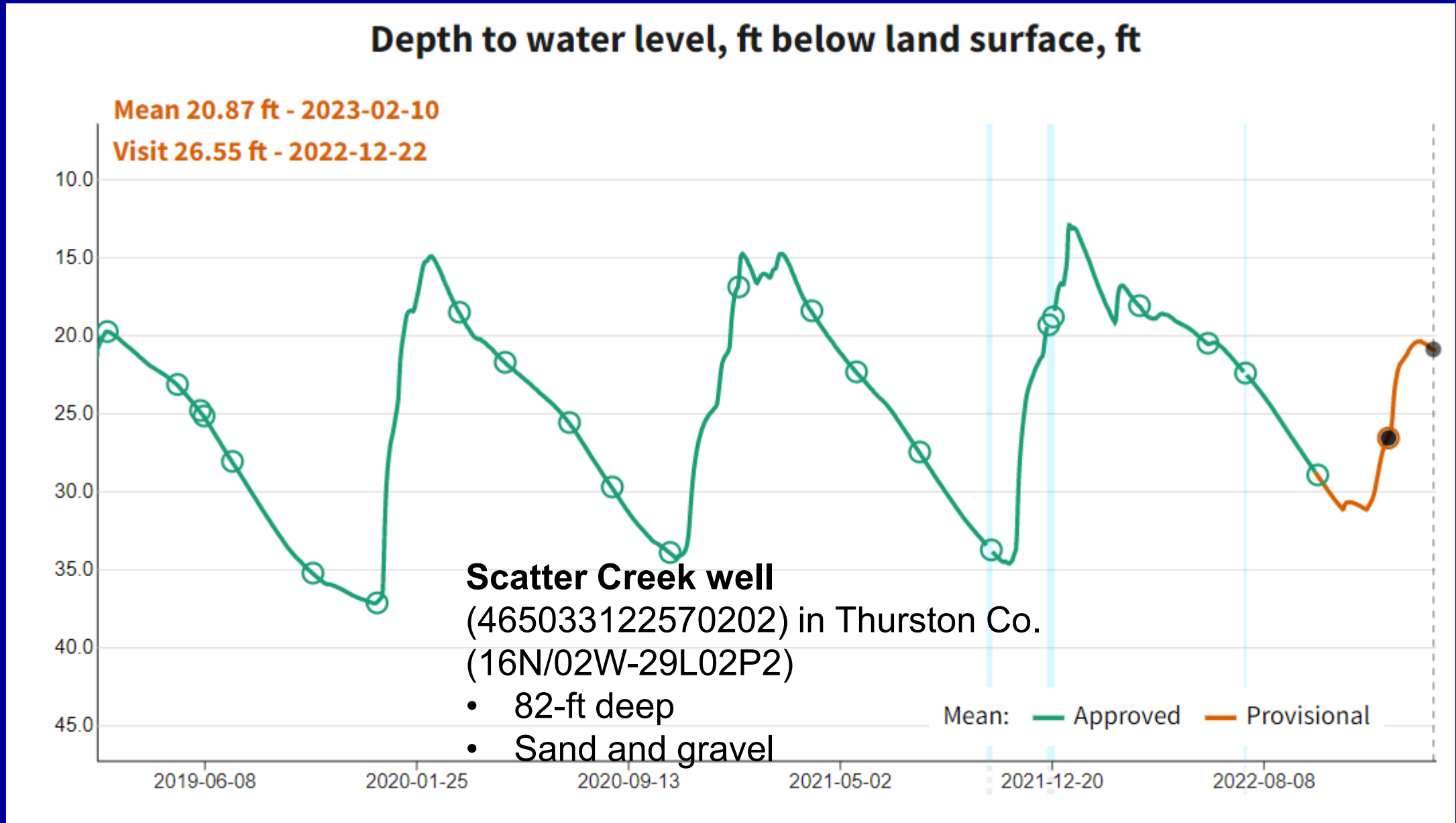
WA Current Groundwater Conditions (17 Feb. 2023)



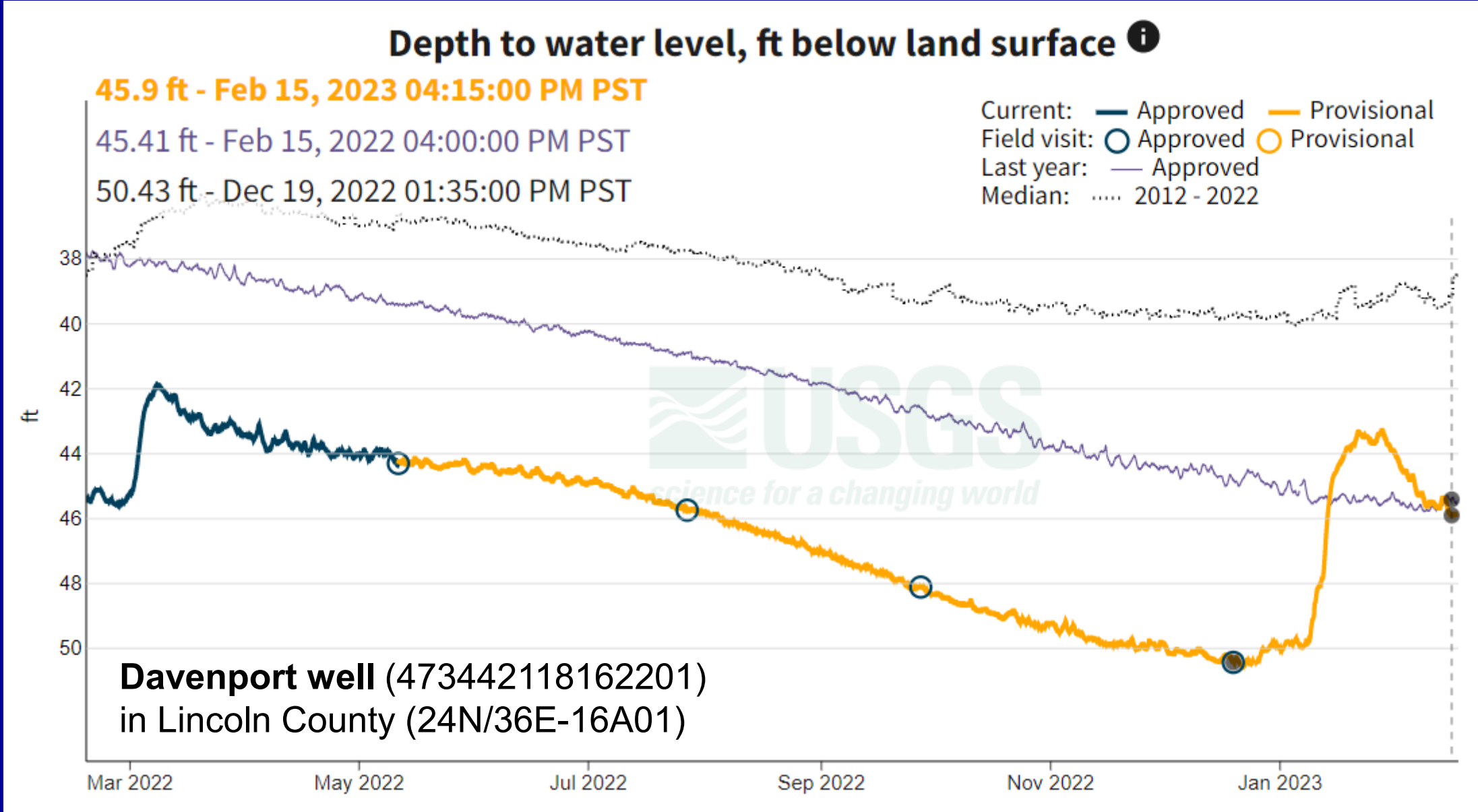
Scatter Creek Well Groundwater Conditions (17 Feb. 2023)



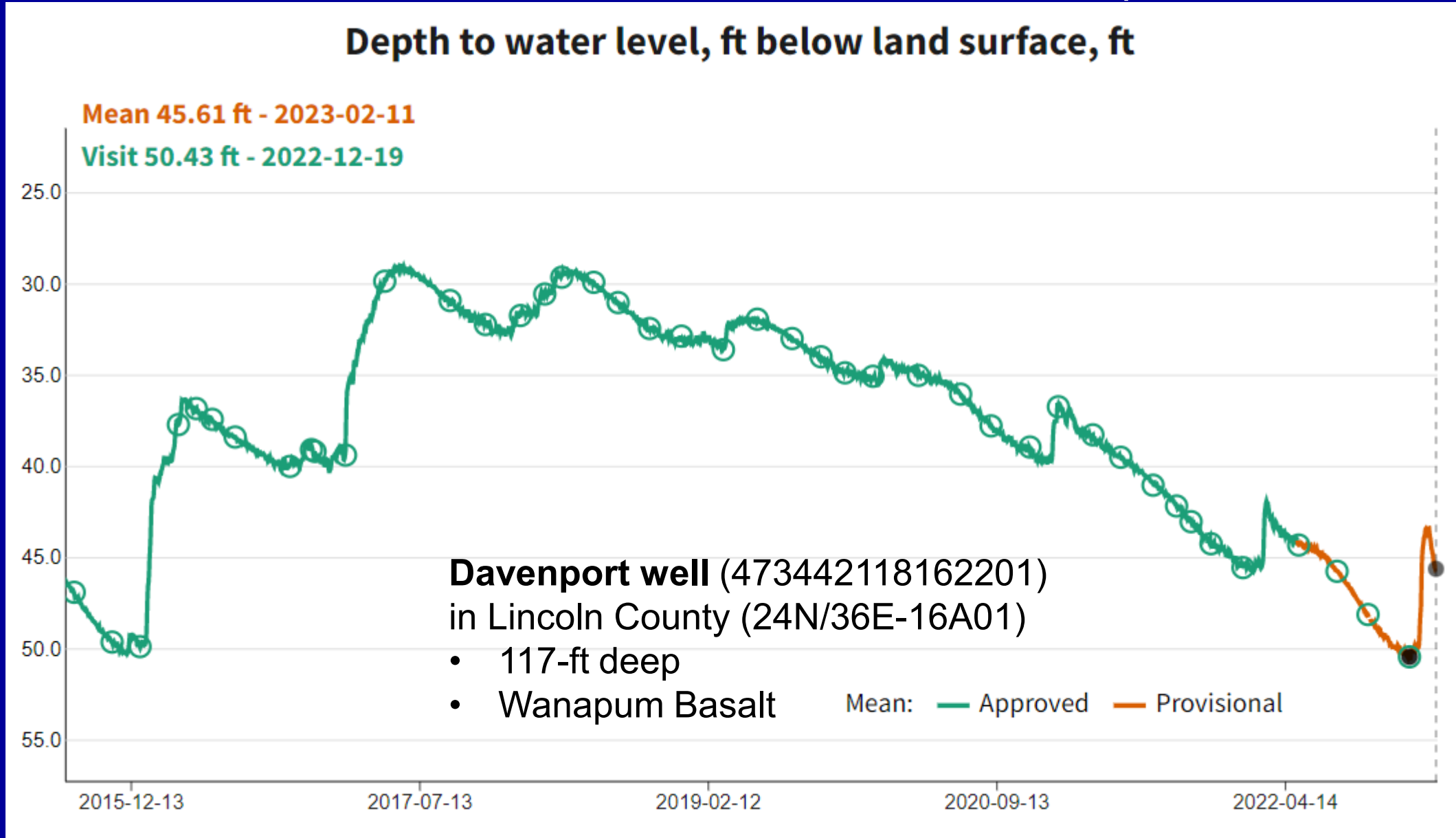
Scatter Creek Well Groundwater Conditions (17 Feb. 2023)



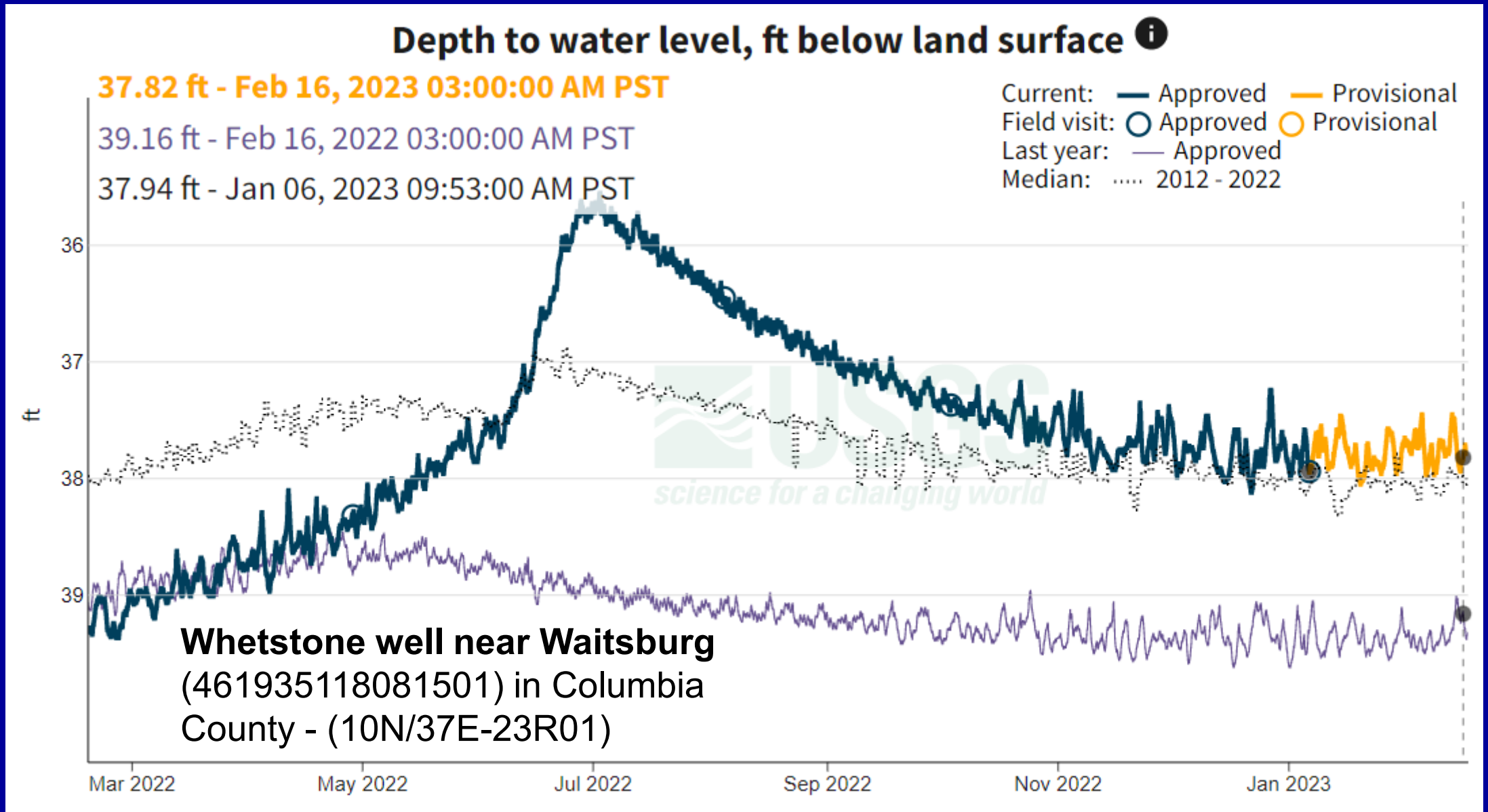
Davenport Well Groundwater Conditions (17 Feb. 2023)



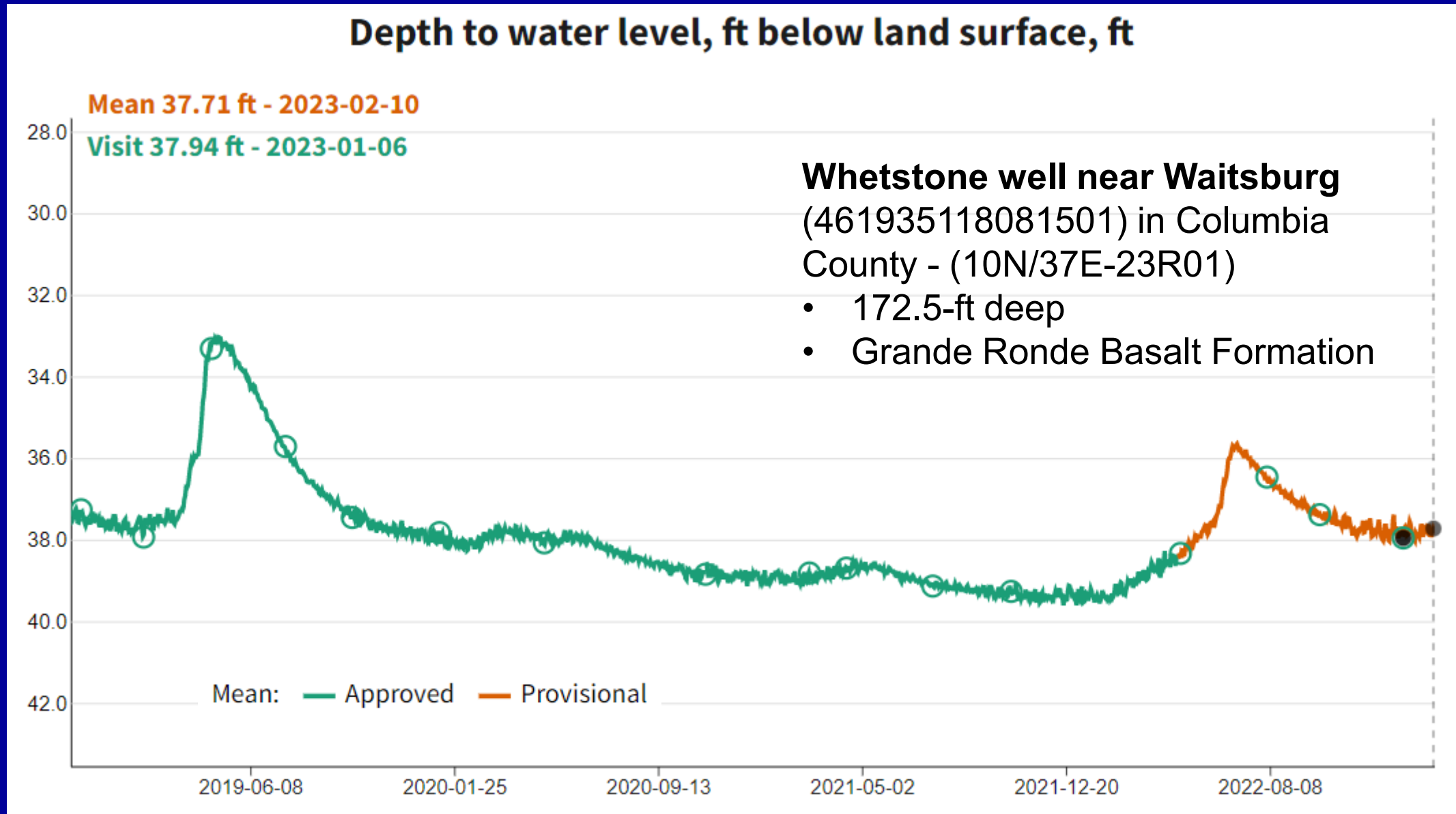
Davenport Well Groundwater Conditions (17 Feb. 2023)



Whetstone Well Groundwater Conditions (17 Feb. 2023)

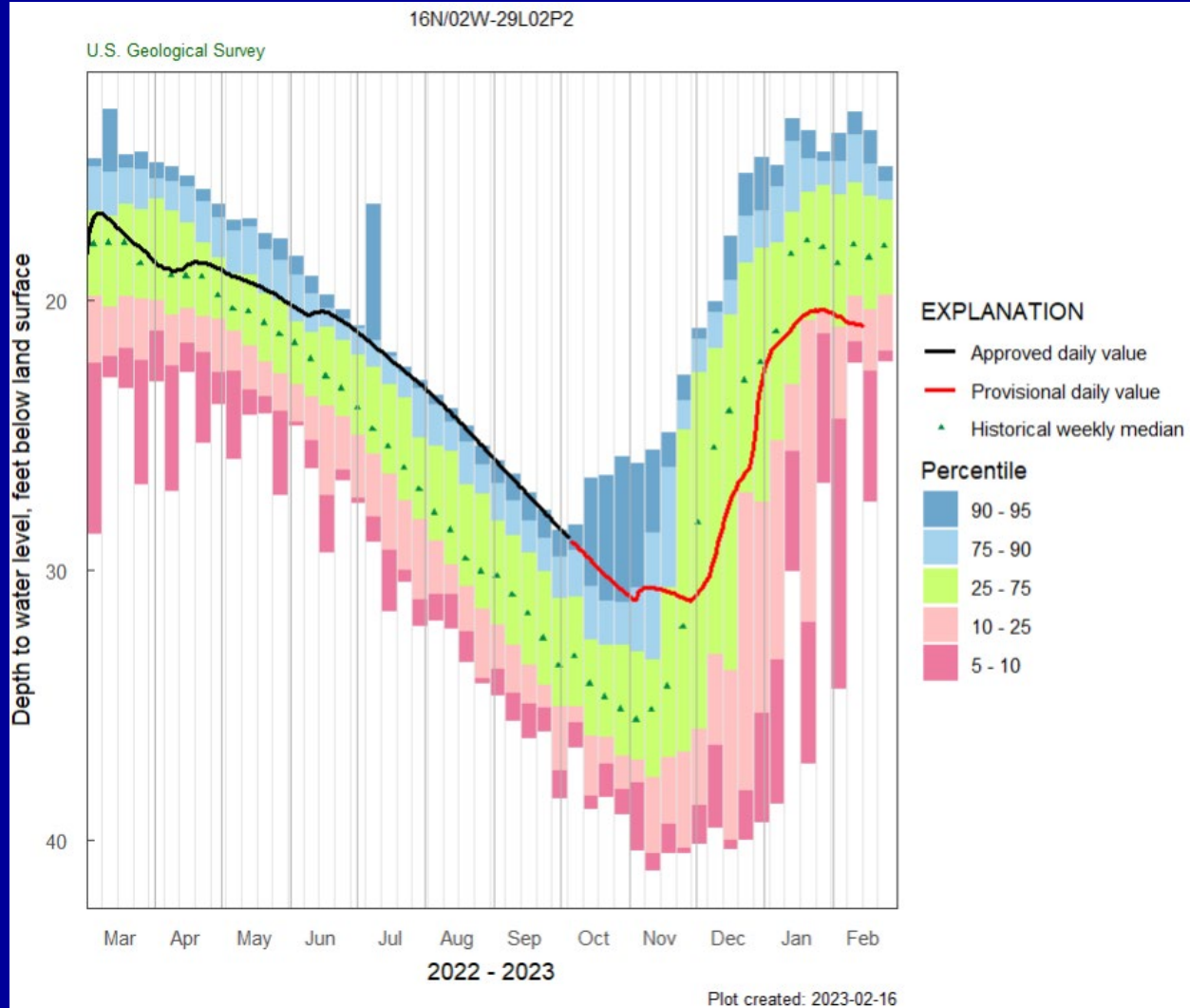


Whetstone Well Groundwater Conditions (17 Feb. 2023)

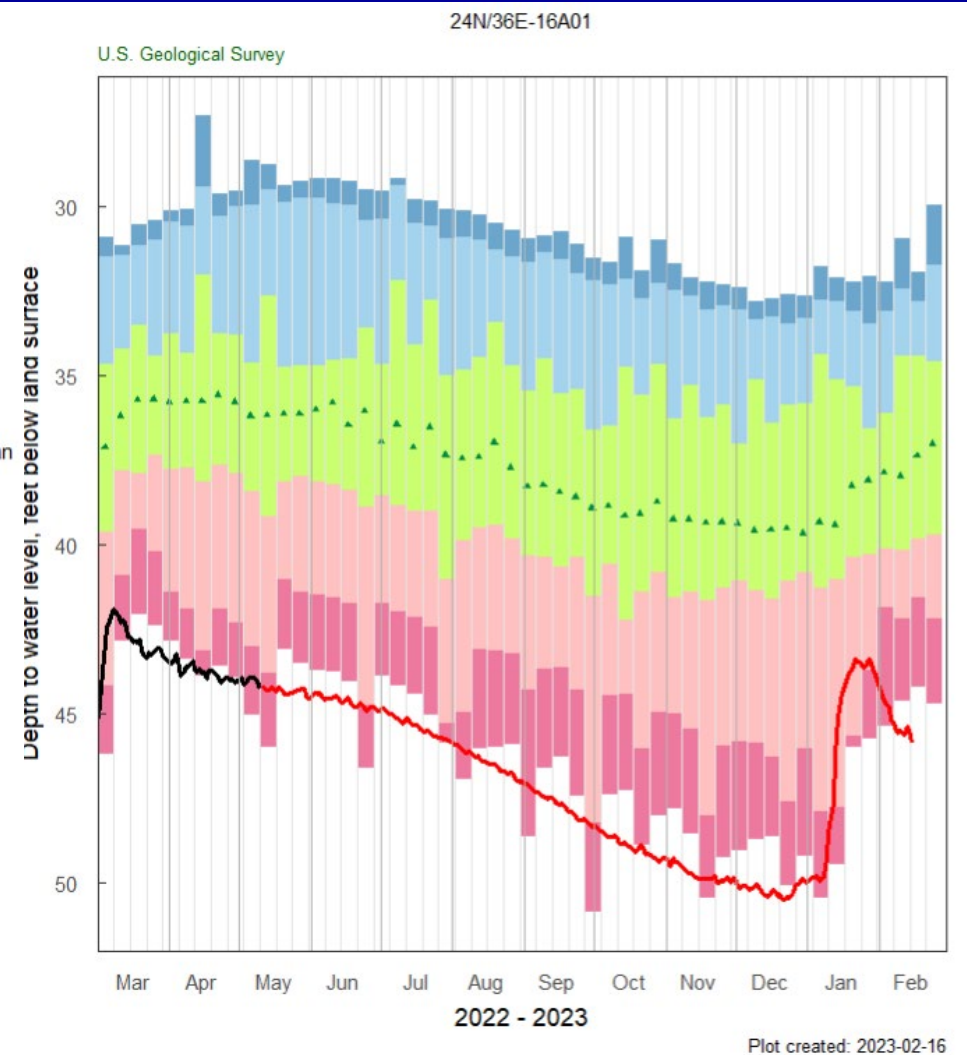


WA Current Groundwater Condition (17 Feb. 2023)

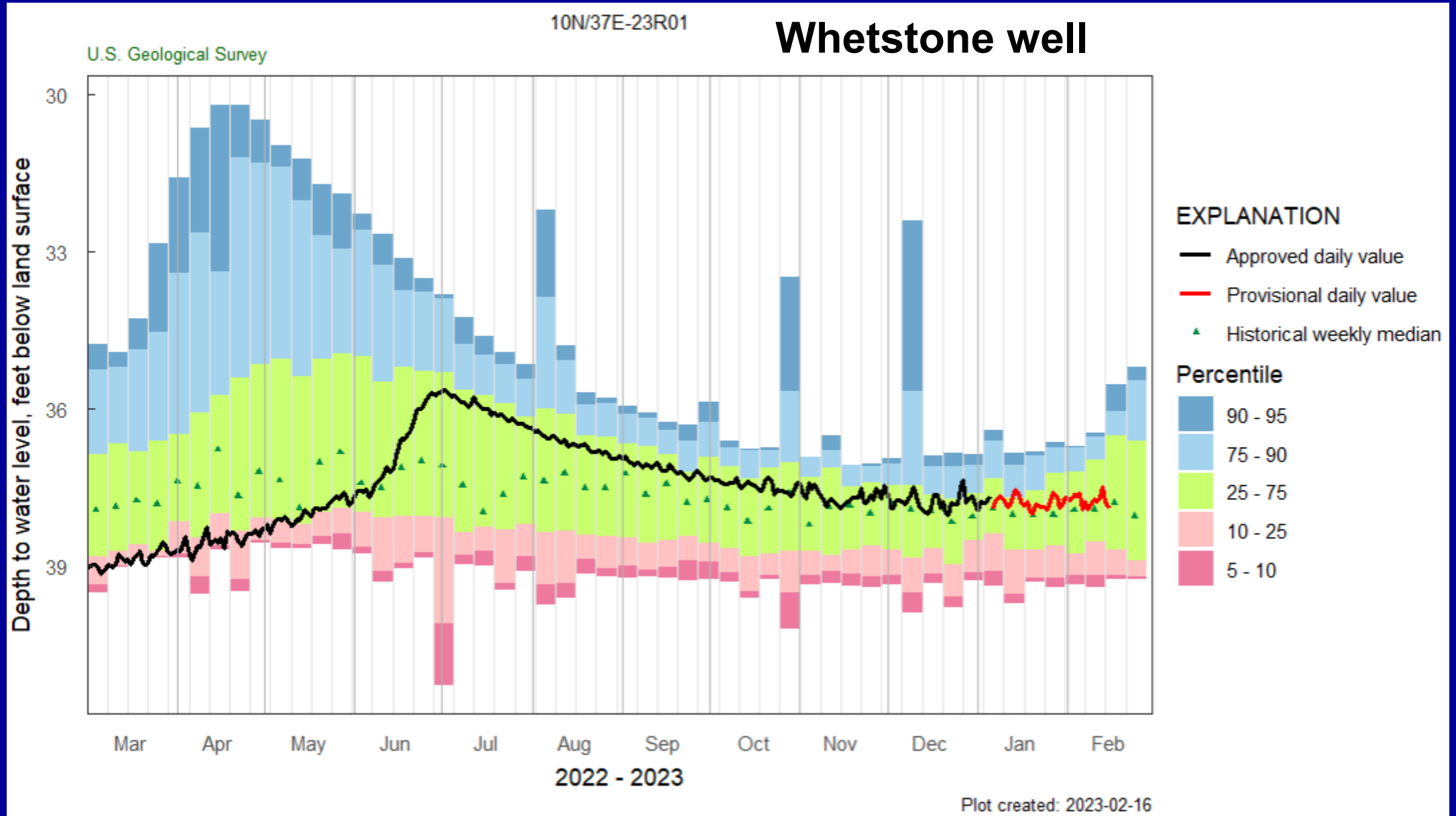
Scatter Creek well



Davenport well



WA Current Groundwater Conditions (17 Feb. 2023)



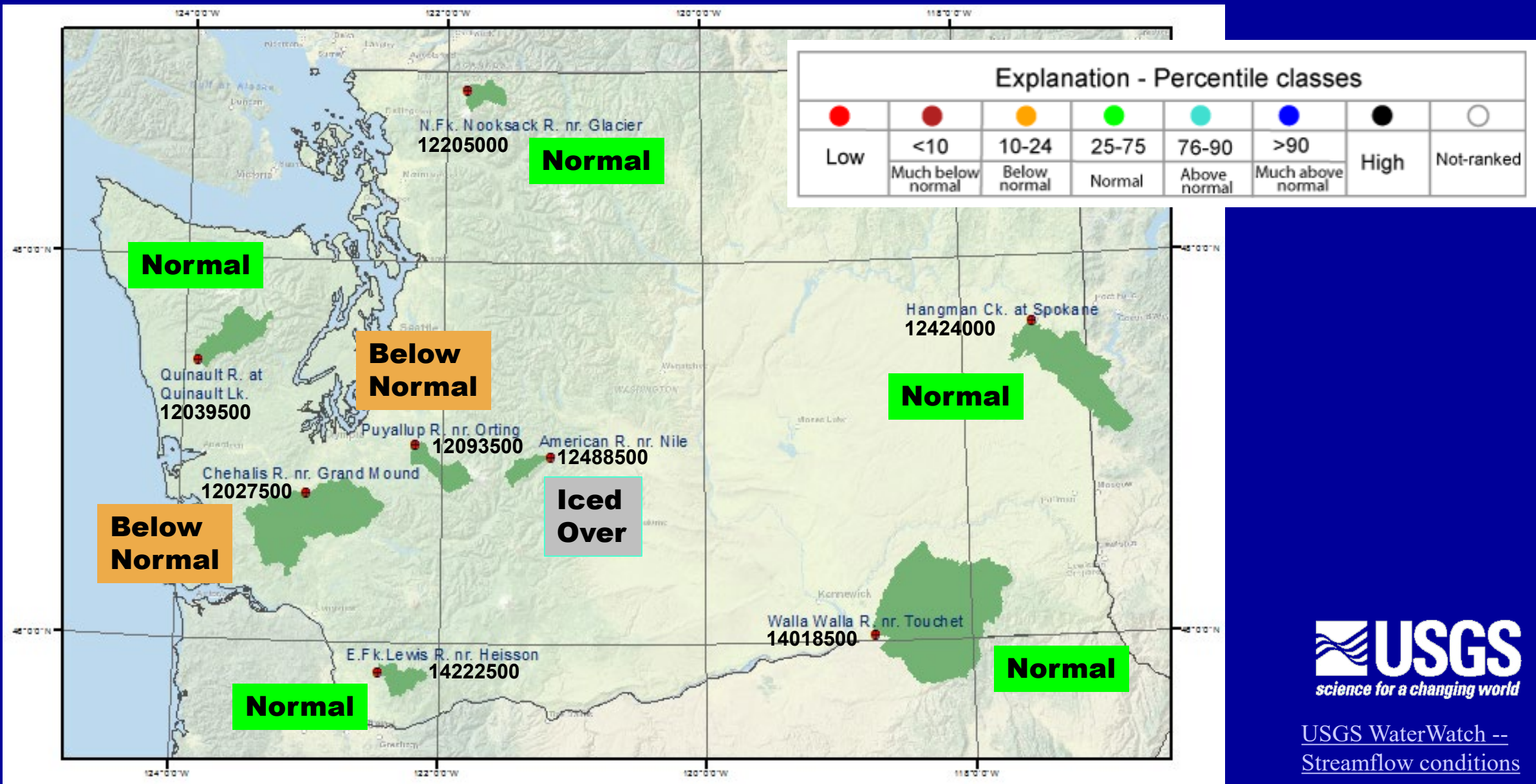
Summary of Washington Streamflow & GW conditions as of 17 Feb. 2023

- 7-day average streamflow statewide is normal/below normal
- 7-day average streamflow at eight index gaging stations:

Northern WA

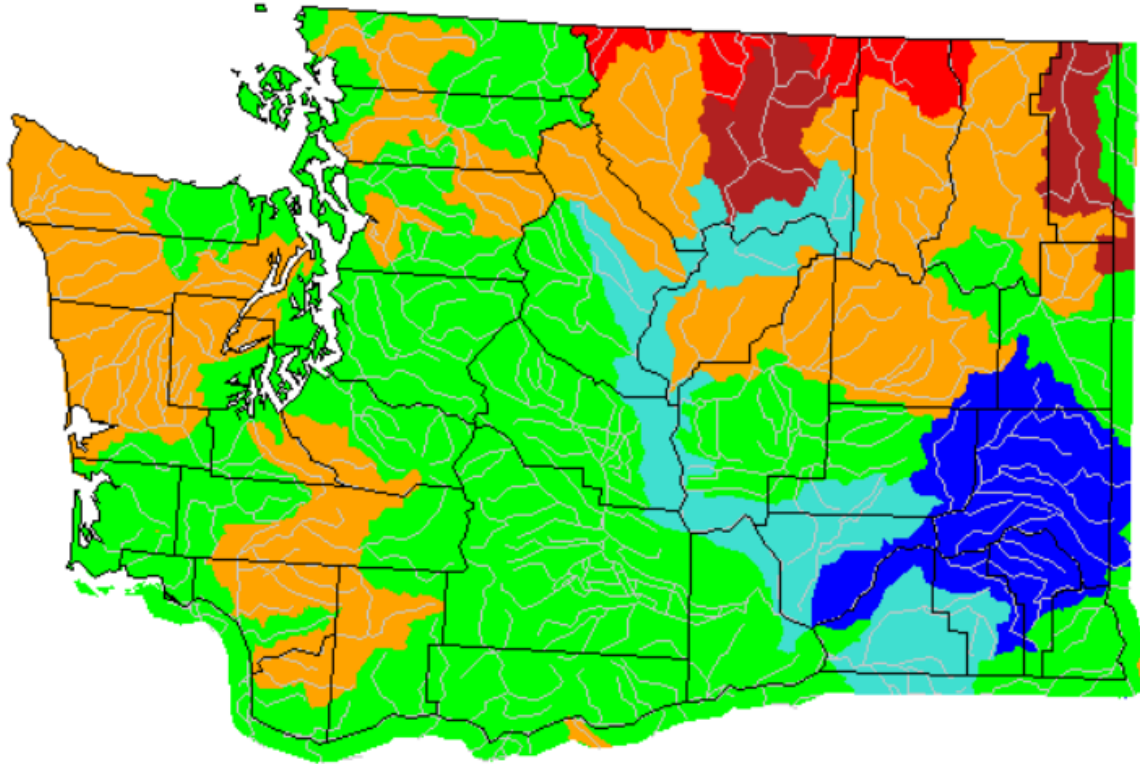
- Quinault River –Normal
 - NF Nooksack River –Normal
 - Hangman Creek –Normal
 - Chehalis River nr. Grand Mound – Below Normal
 - Puyallup River nr. Orting – Below Normal
 - Walla Walla River –Normal
 - EF Lewis River – Normal
 - American River - Iced Over
- Index groundwater sites: (**below normal**)
 - Scatter Creek well (west) – Below Normal
 - Davenport well (east) – Much Below normal
 - Waitsburg well (southeast) - Normal

Index Gaging Stations, 7-day average streamflow (as of 19 Jan. 2023)

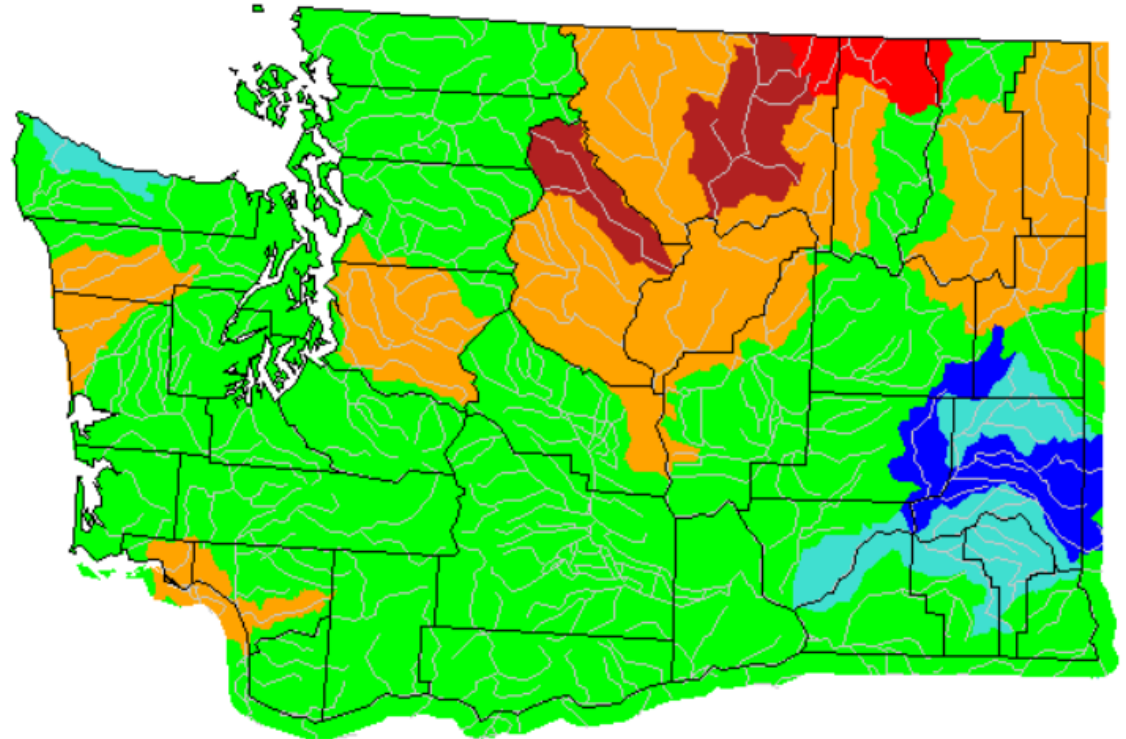



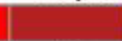




Monthly average streamflow compared to historical record for Nov. 2022 & Dec. 2022

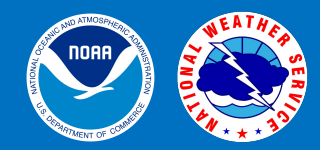
November 2022



December 2022



Explanation - Percentile classes						
						
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	



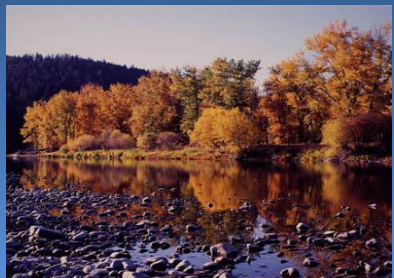
Northwest River Forecast Center



Feb 17, 2023 Washington Water Supply Availability Meeting



Amy Burke
NWRFC.watersupply@noaa.gov



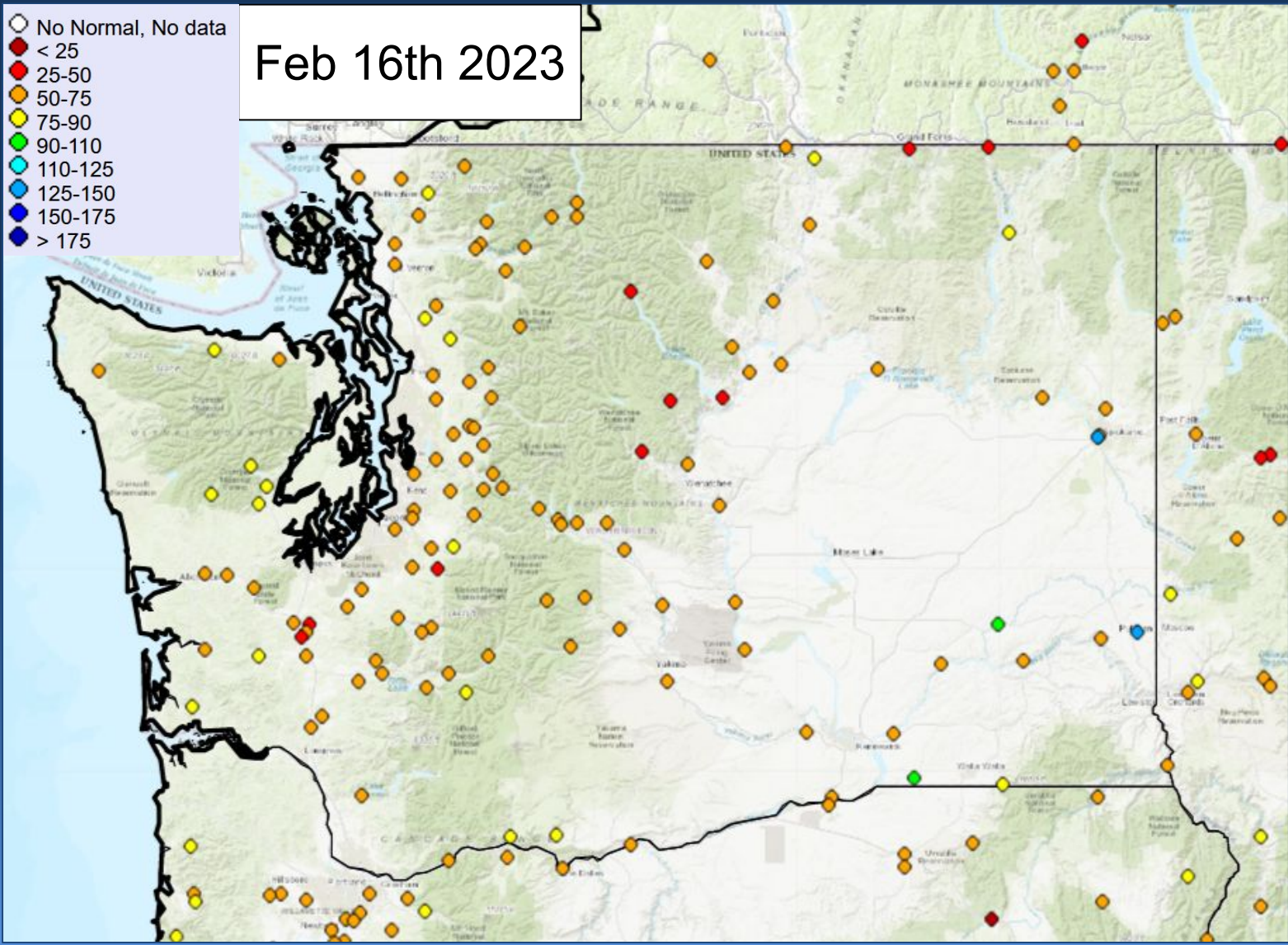


Take Home Messages

- Adjusted Runoff to date is below normal
- 10 day QPF forecast is above normal for the west slope of the Cascades
- ESP10 Natural Water Supply is a mix of normals and below normal



YTD Adjusted Runoff



% Normal Runoff Oct 1st – Feb 16th Washington

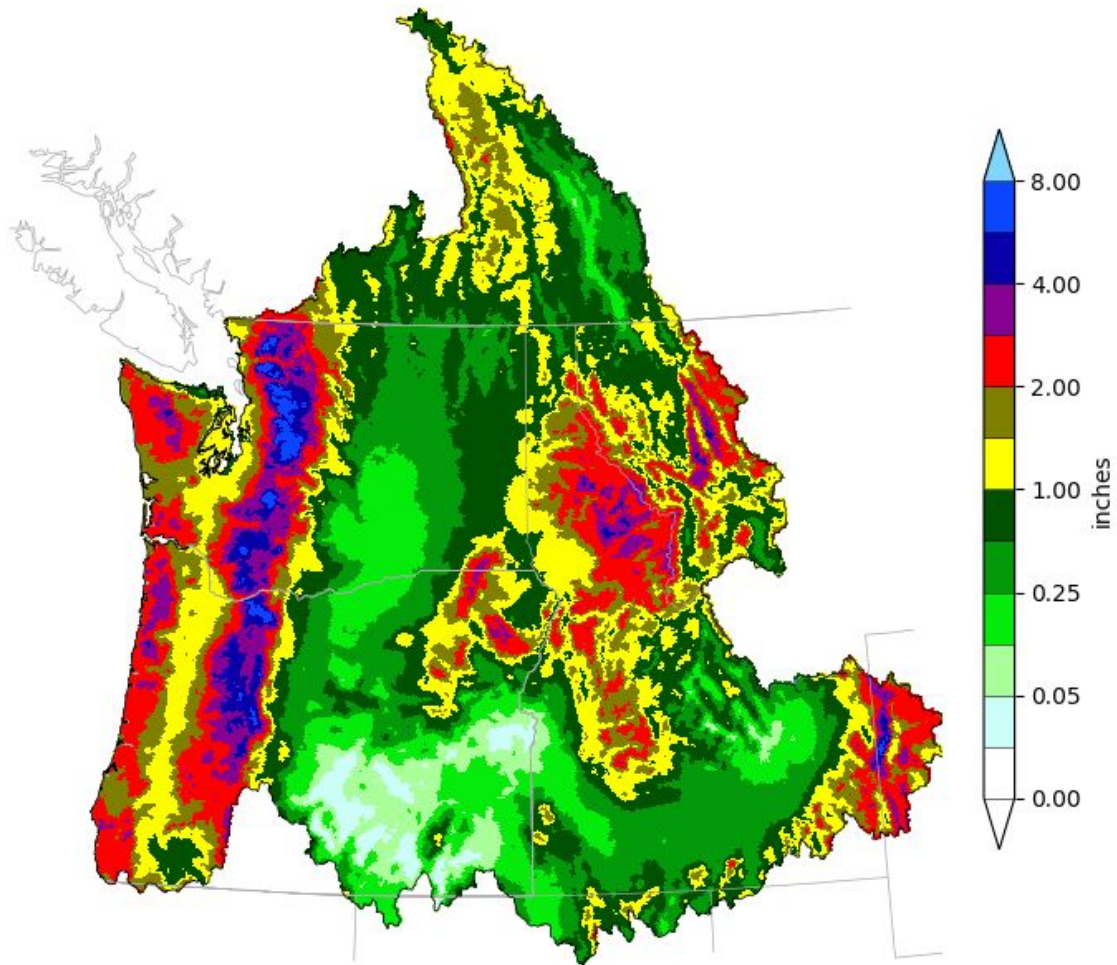
Skagit nr Mt Vernon	62
Dungeness nr Sequim	63
Chehalis at Porter	65
Okanogan at Malott	61
Methow nr Pateros	63
Yakima at Parker	68
Walla Walla nr Touchet	99



Precipitation Forecast (Feb 17-26)



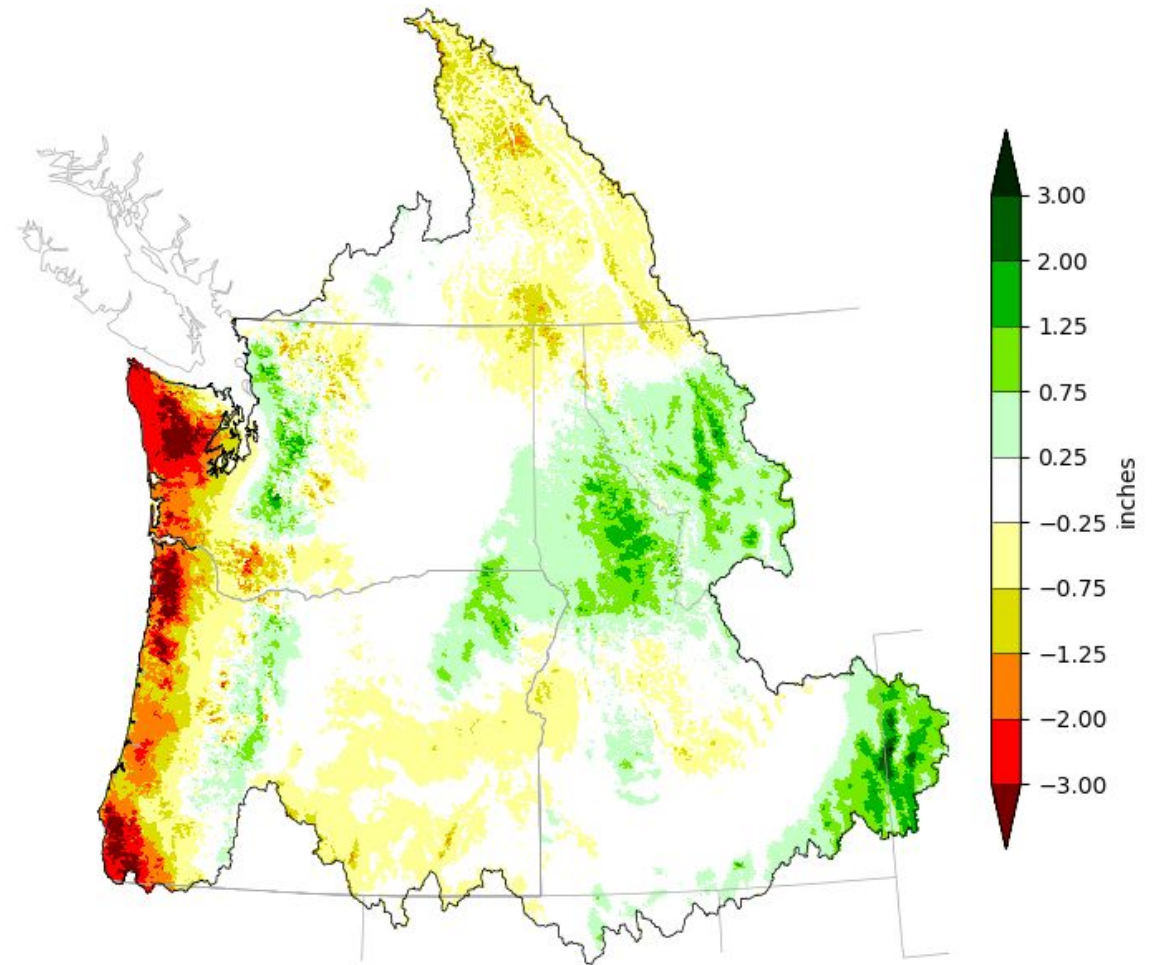
Northwest River Forecast Center
10 Day QPF, Ending 12Z, 02/26/23



Creation Time: Thu Feb 16 14:59:38 UTC 2023



Northwest River Forecast Center
10 Day QPF (Deviation from Climatology), Ending 12Z, 02/26/23

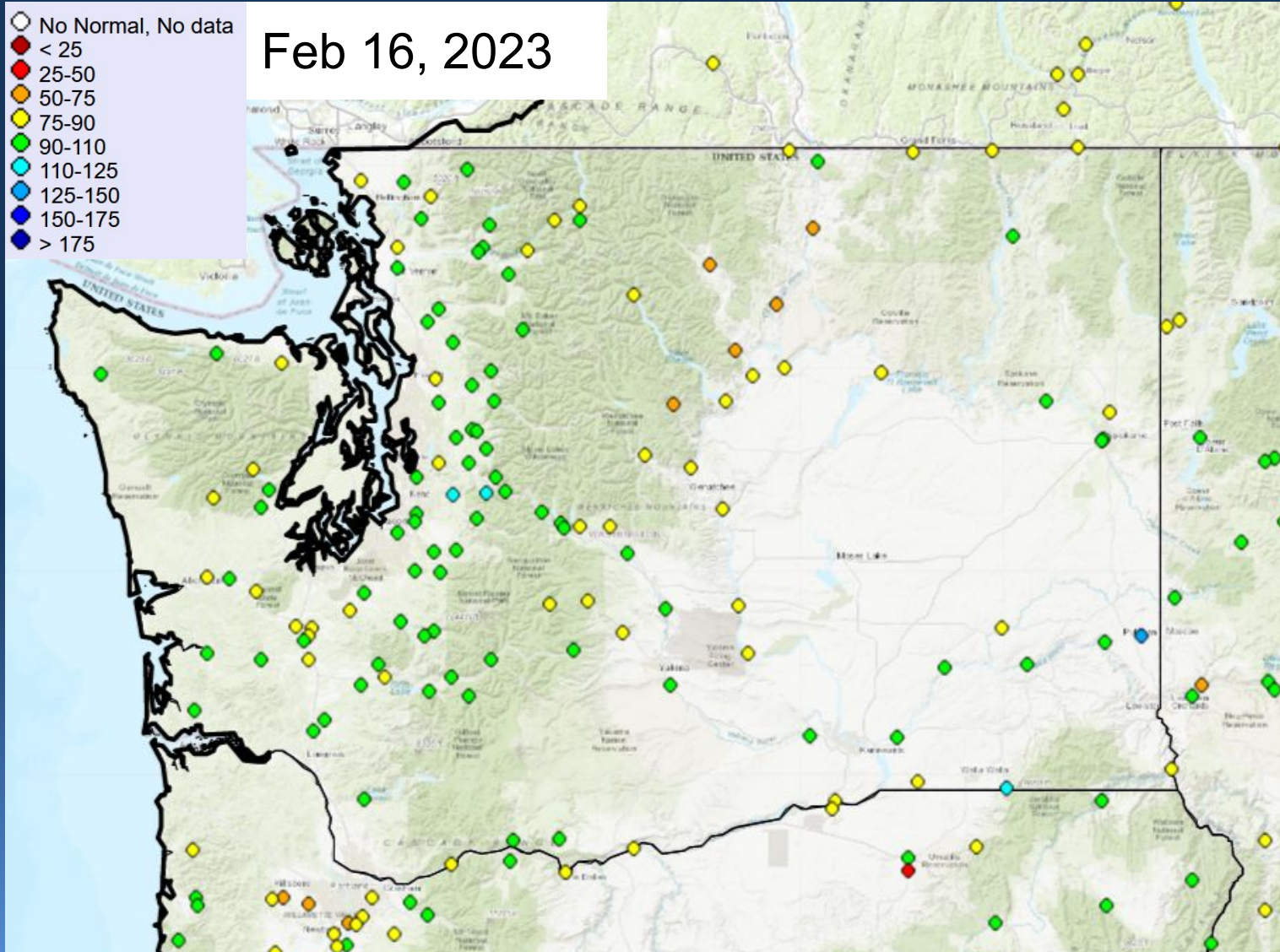


Creation Time: Thu Feb 16 15:01:17 UTC 2023



ESP10 Natural Water Supply Forecasts

Feb 16, 2023



% Normal Apr -Sep Volume Washington

Skagit nr Mt Vernon	92
Dungeness nr Sequim	84
Chehalis at Porter	87
Okanogan at Malott	71
Methow nr Pateros	67
Yakima at Parker	94
Walla Walla nr Touchet	88



Take Home Messages

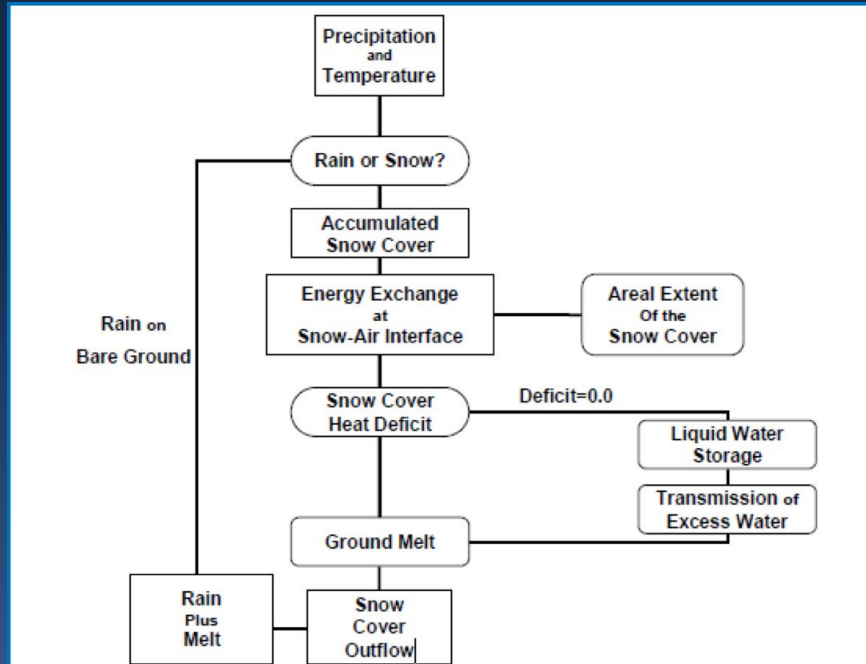
- Adjusted Runoff to date is below normal
- 10 day QPF forecast is above normal for the west slope of the Cascades
- ESP10 Natural Water Supply is a mix of normals and below normal



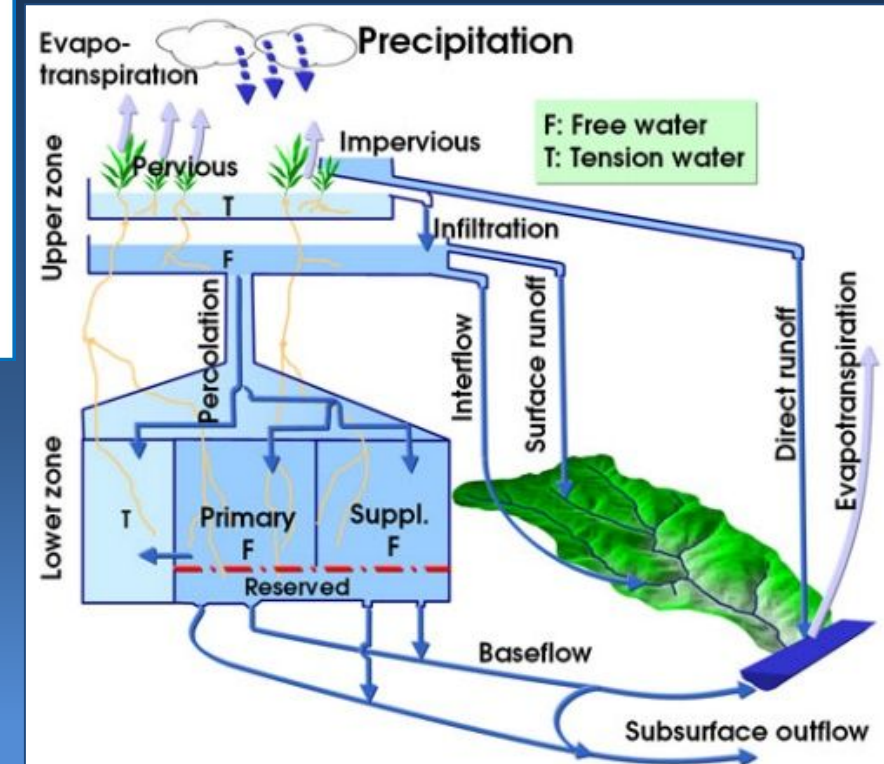
NWRFC Forecast Technique



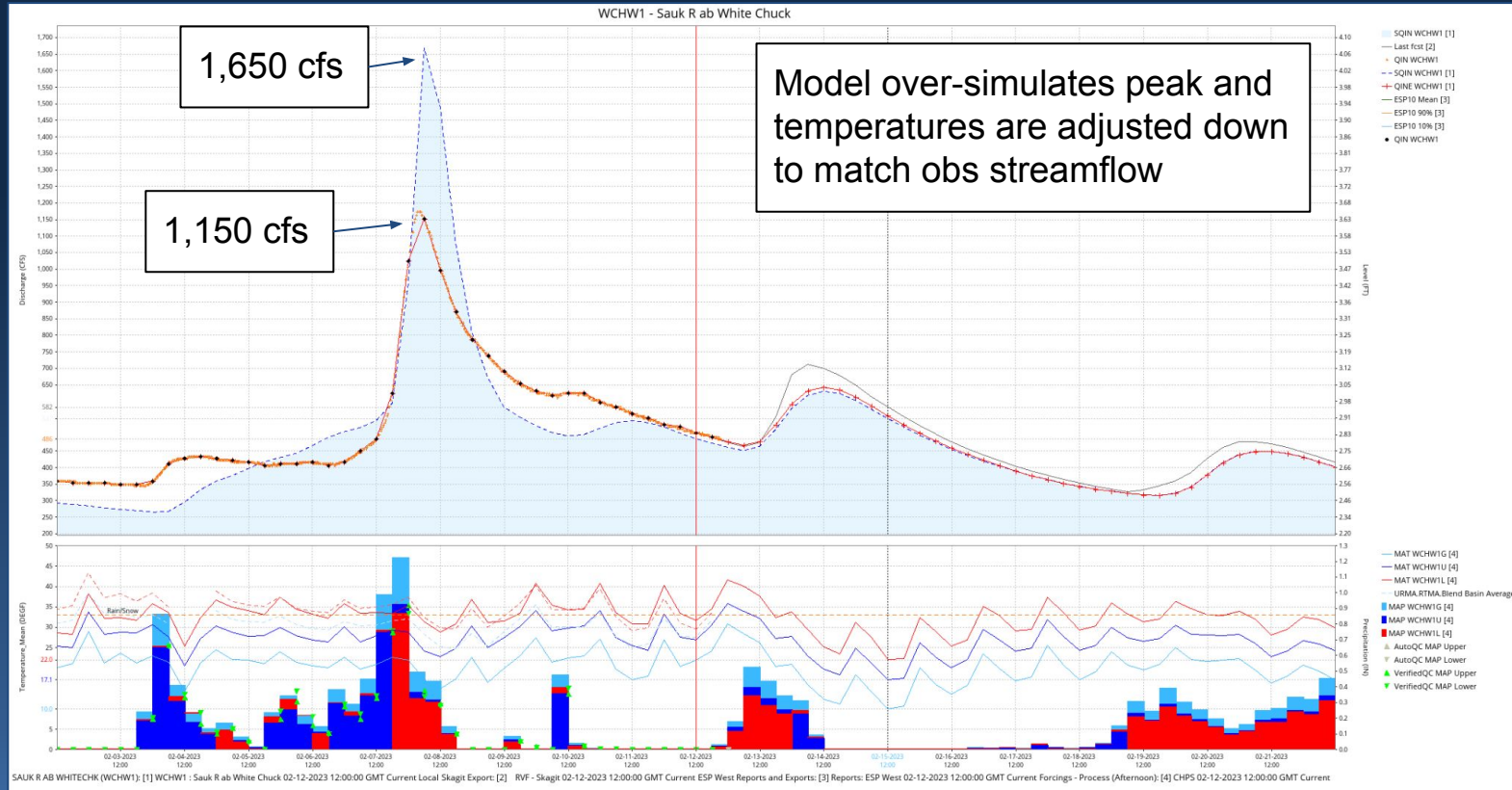
Snow17 Model



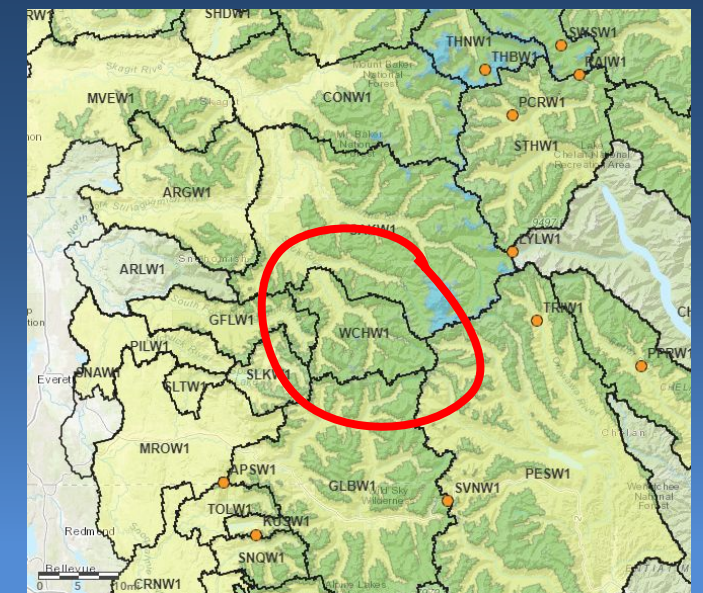
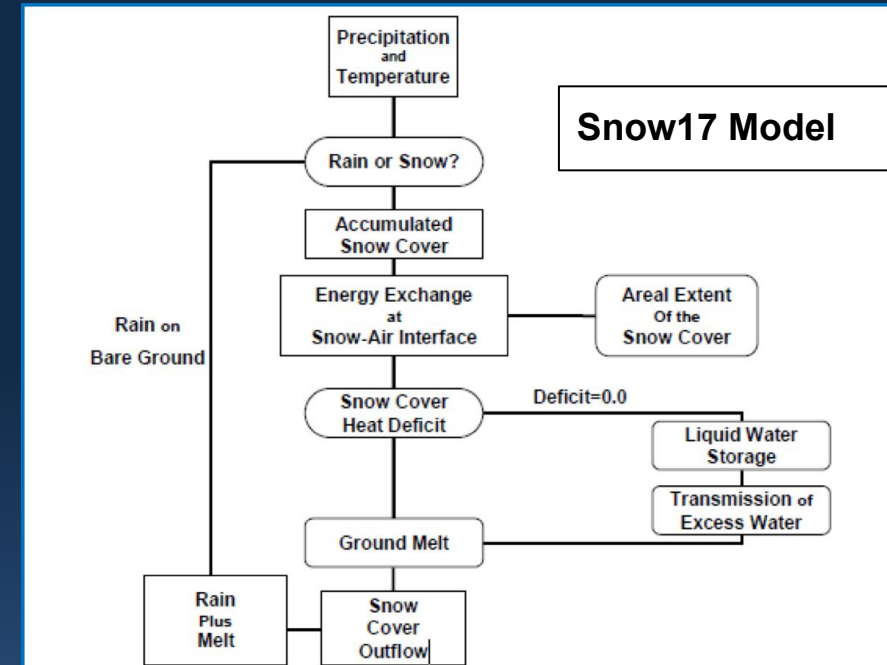
SAC SMA Model



Adjusting Snow States



The bottom plot shows the forcings that drive the model





Adjusting Snow States

Upper Zone simulated SWE 41.6 inches

Lower Zone simulated SWE 4.5 inches

Snow Analysis

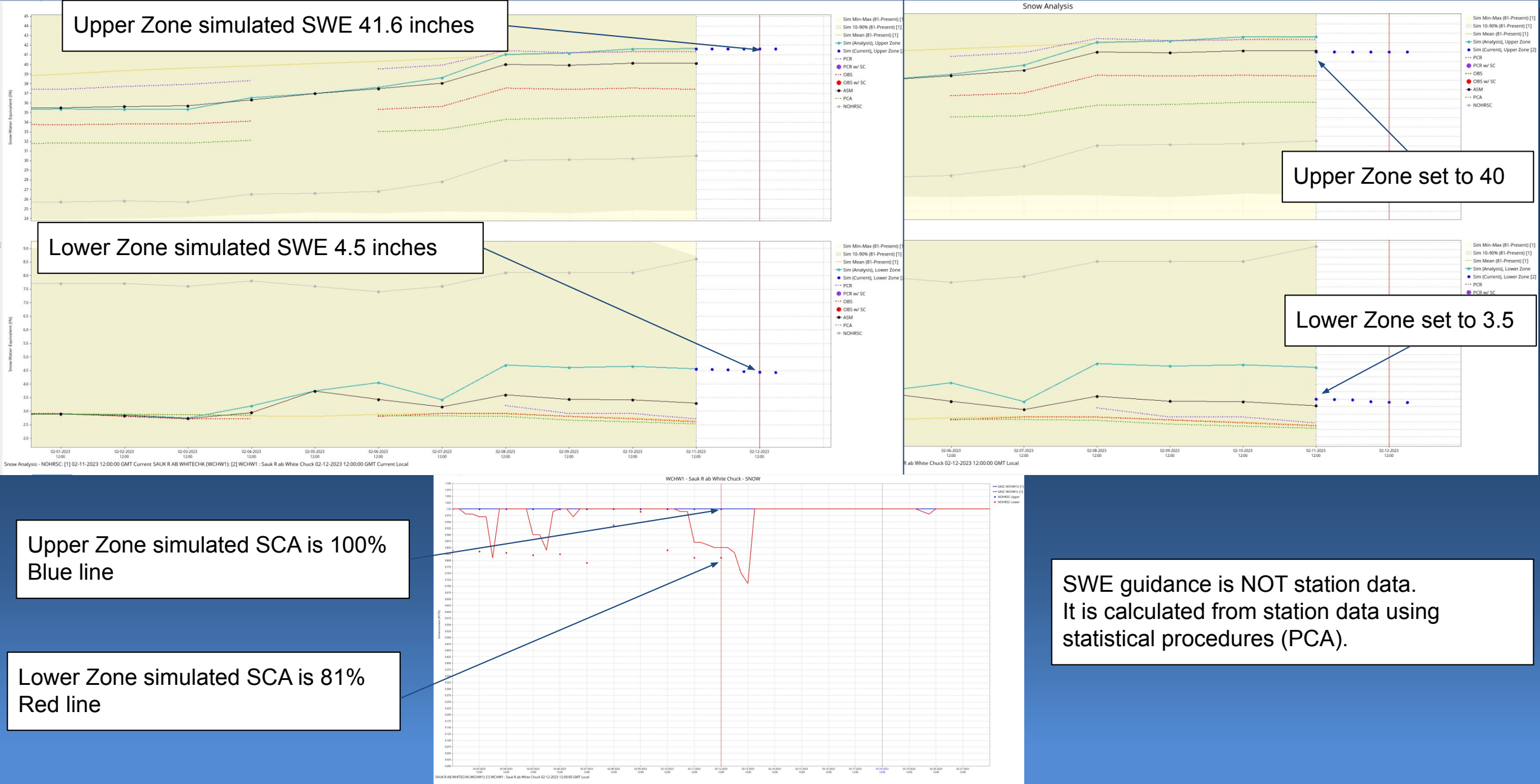
Upper Zone set to 40

Lower Zone set to 3.5

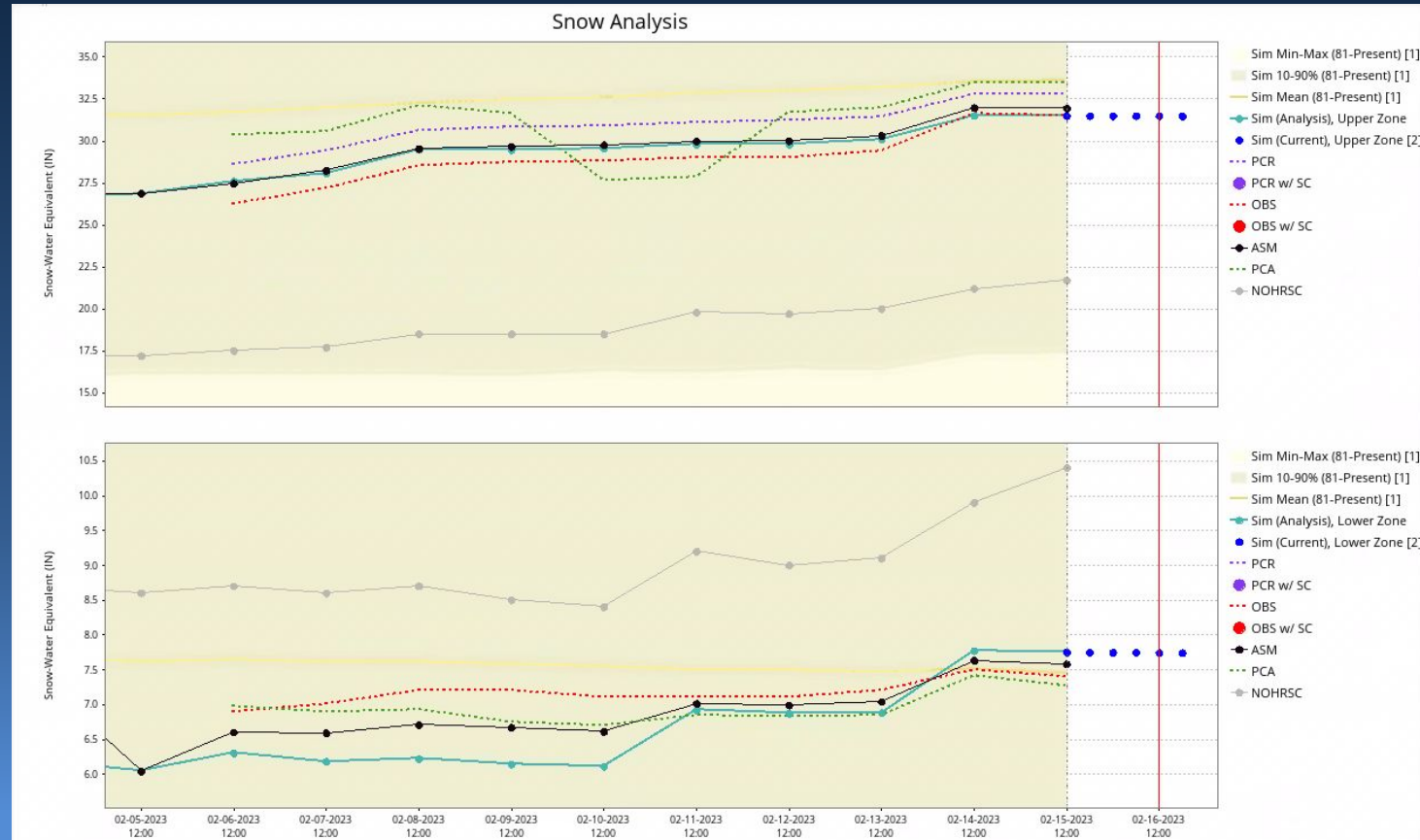
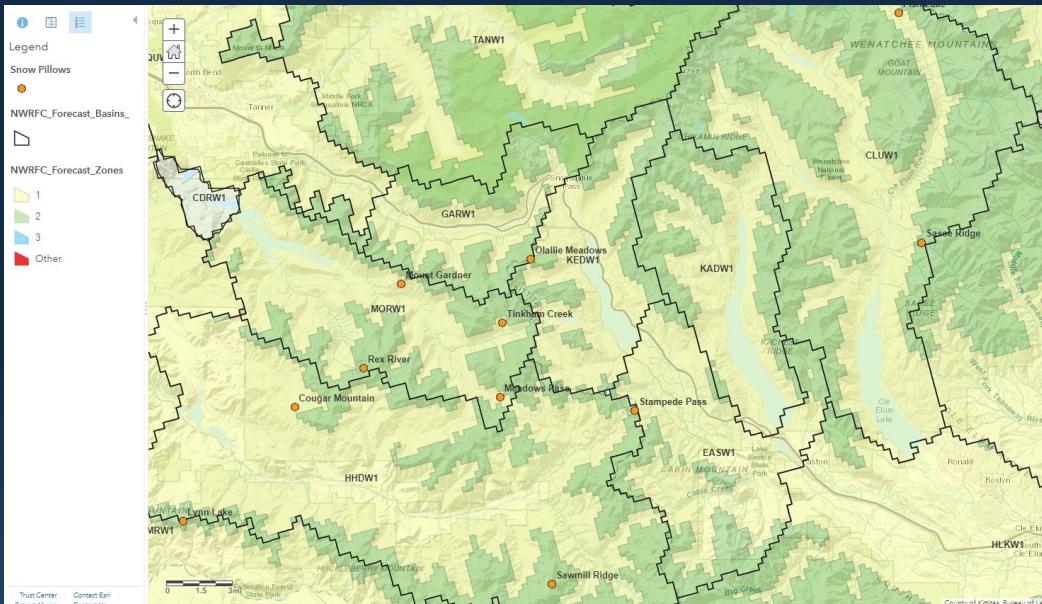
Upper Zone simulated SCA is 100%
Blue line

Lower Zone simulated SCA is 81%
Red line

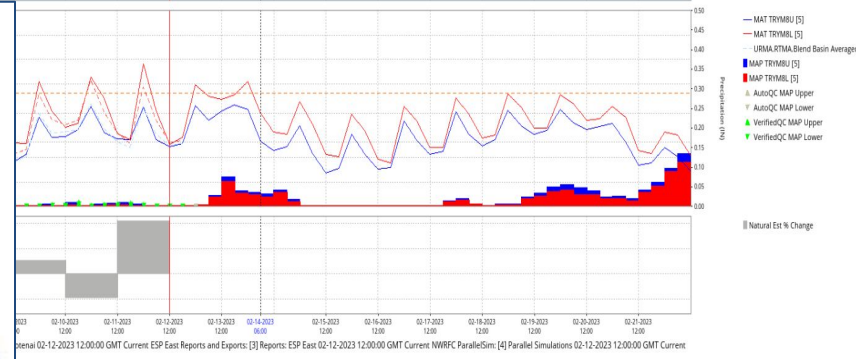
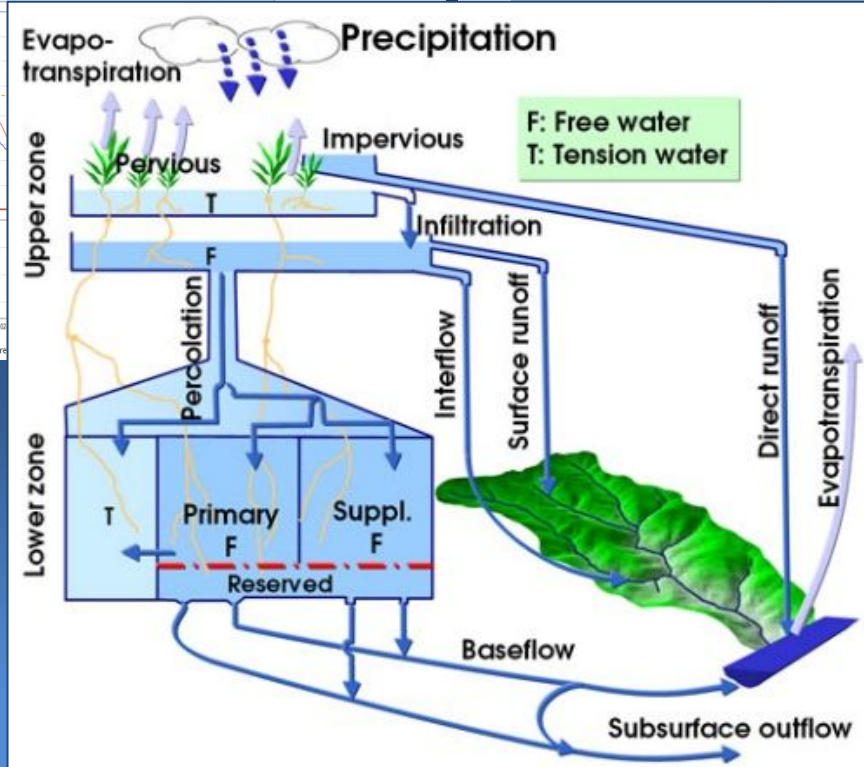
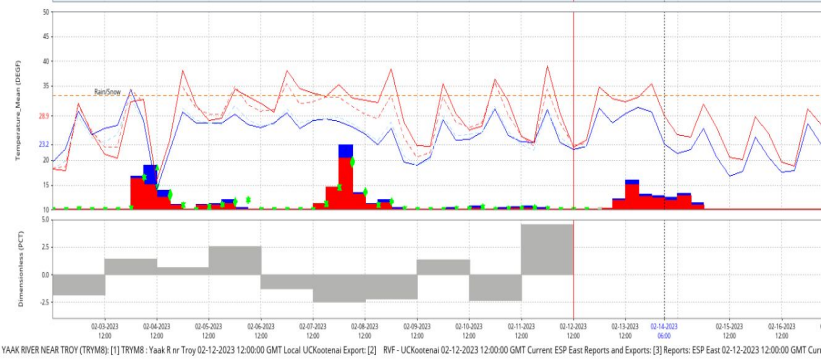
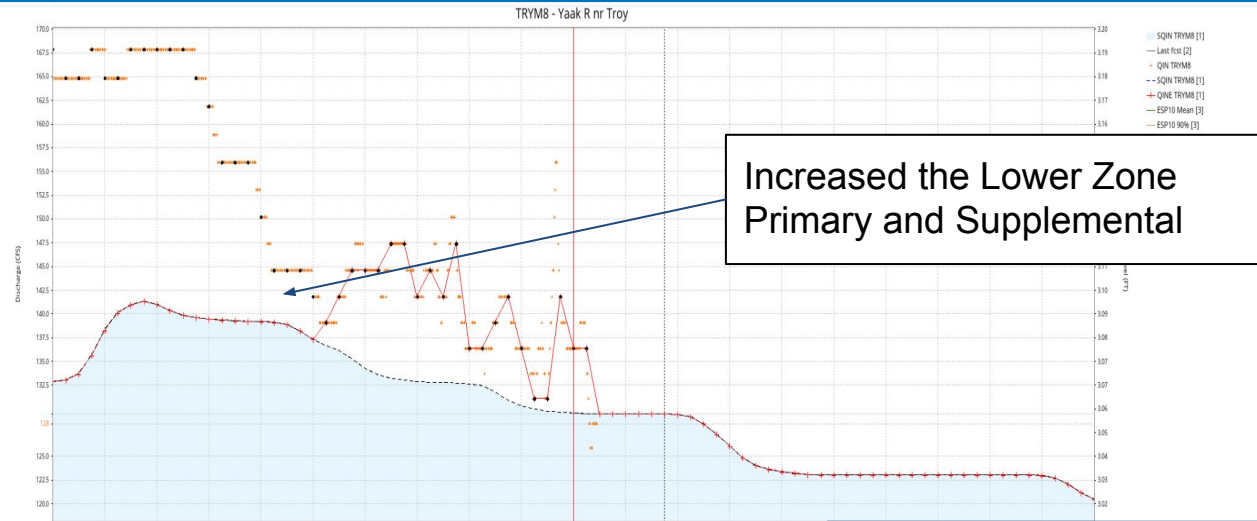
SWE guidance is NOT station data.
It is calculated from station data using
statistical procedures (PCA).



SWE guidance is NOT station data.
It is calculated from station data using
statistical procedures (PCA).



Adjusting Soil States





NWRFC Forecast Technique

