

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Klamath Project 2018 Hydrologic Update Meeting #2

March 20, 2018

Jeff Nettleton

Area Manager, Klamath Basin Area Office



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Overview

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Opening Statements
3. Current Water Conditions
4. Key Components for 2018 Water Management
5. Current and Planned Efforts/Activities and Timing
6. Future Updates
7. Question/Answer Session
8. Closing & Adjourn

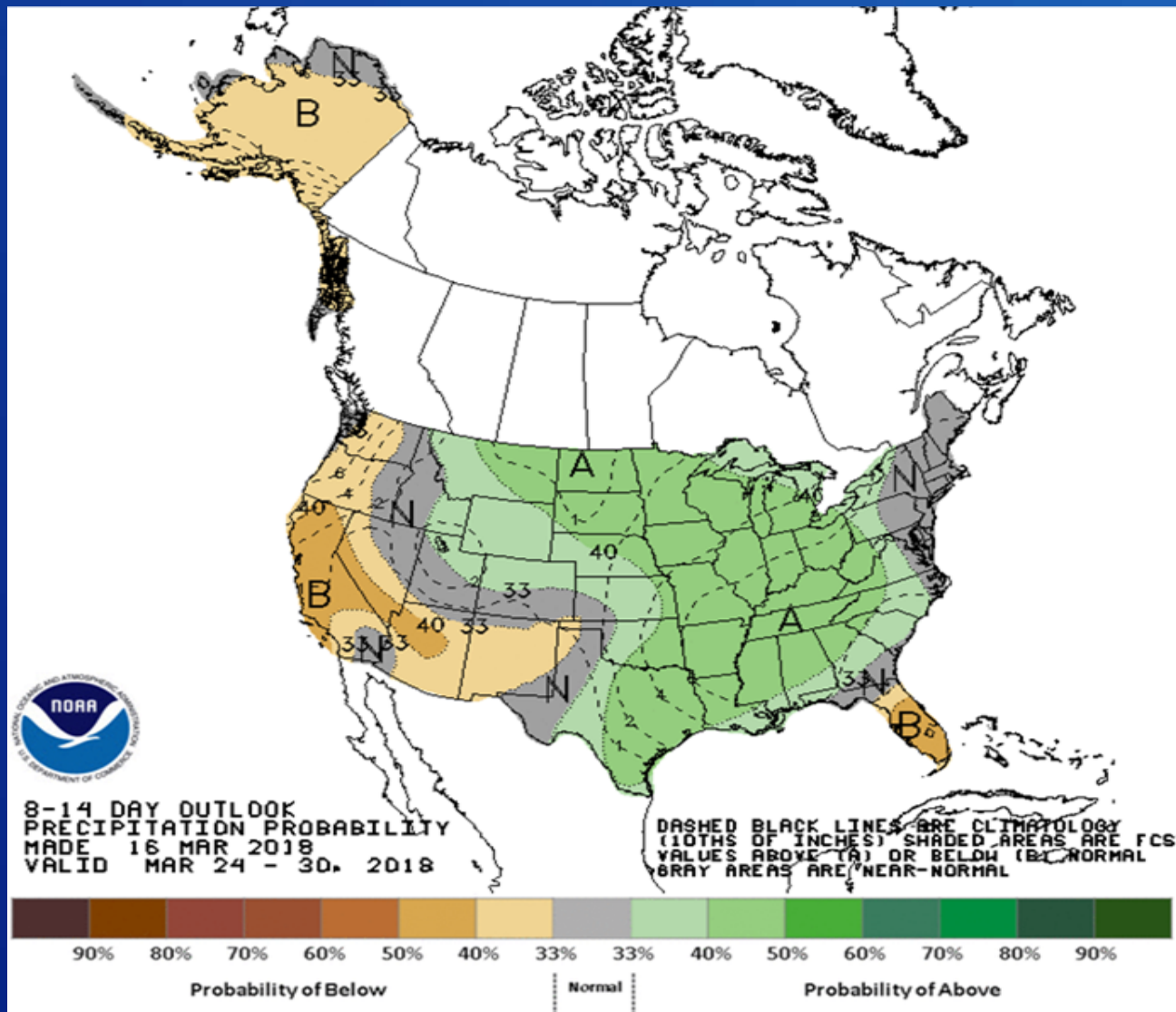
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Welcome & Introductions / Opening Statements

- Klamath Water Users Association
 - Scott White, Executive Director
- Bureau of Reclamation
 - Jeff Nettleton, Area Manager
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Dan Blake, Deputy Field Supervisor
 - Greg Austin, Refuge Project Leader

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Current Water Conditions

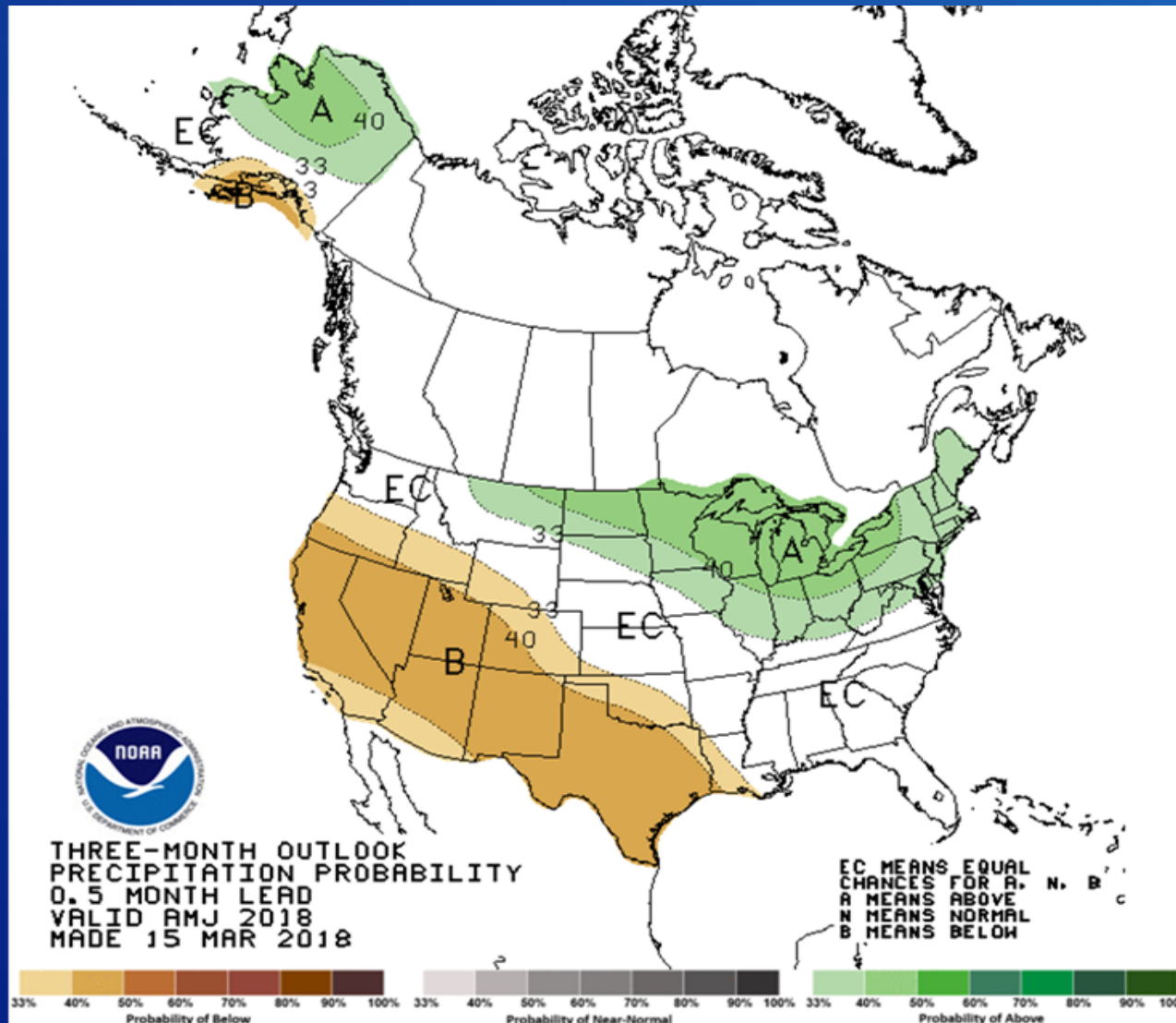


Precipitation
Outlook

8-14 Days

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Current Water Conditions



Precipitation
Outlook

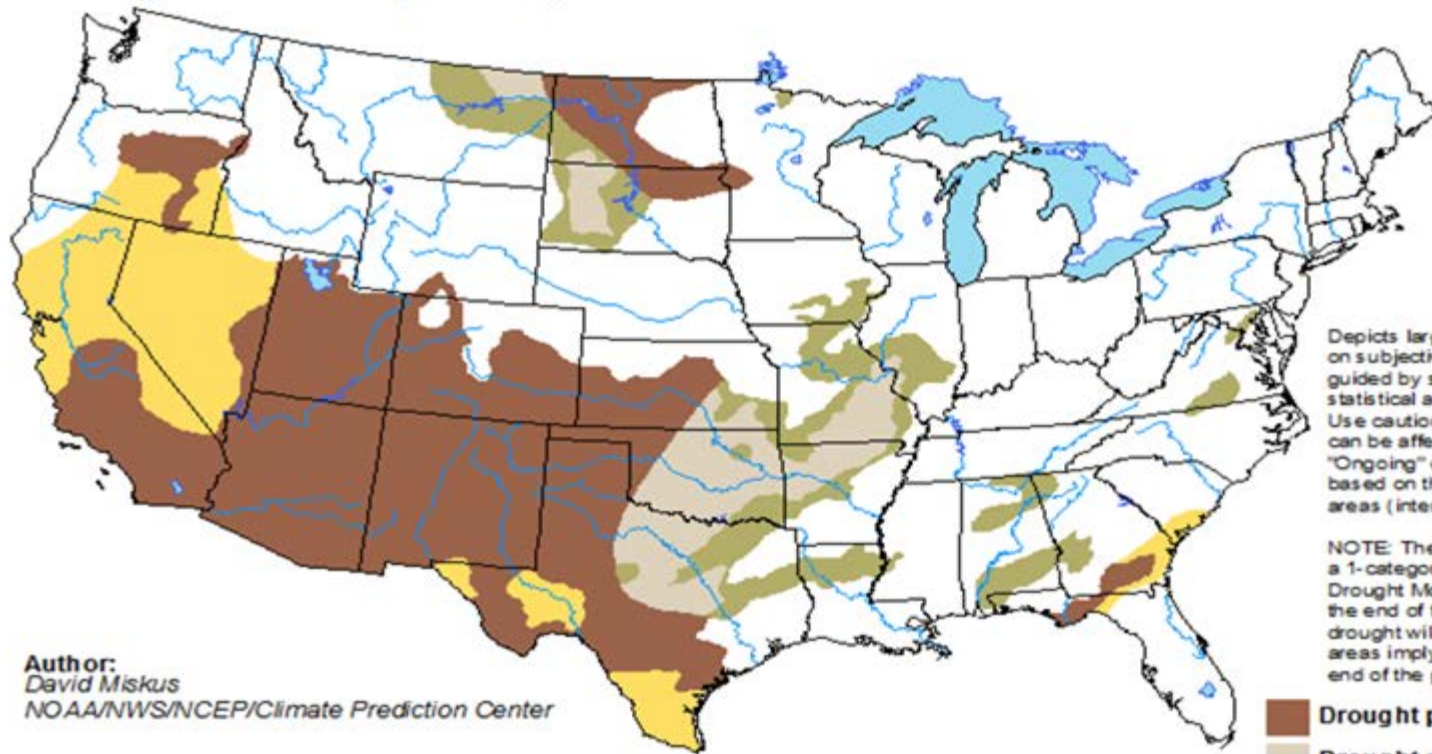
April - June

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Current Water Conditions

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period


Valid for February 15 - May 31, 2018
Released February 15, 2018



Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

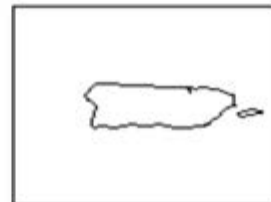
Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

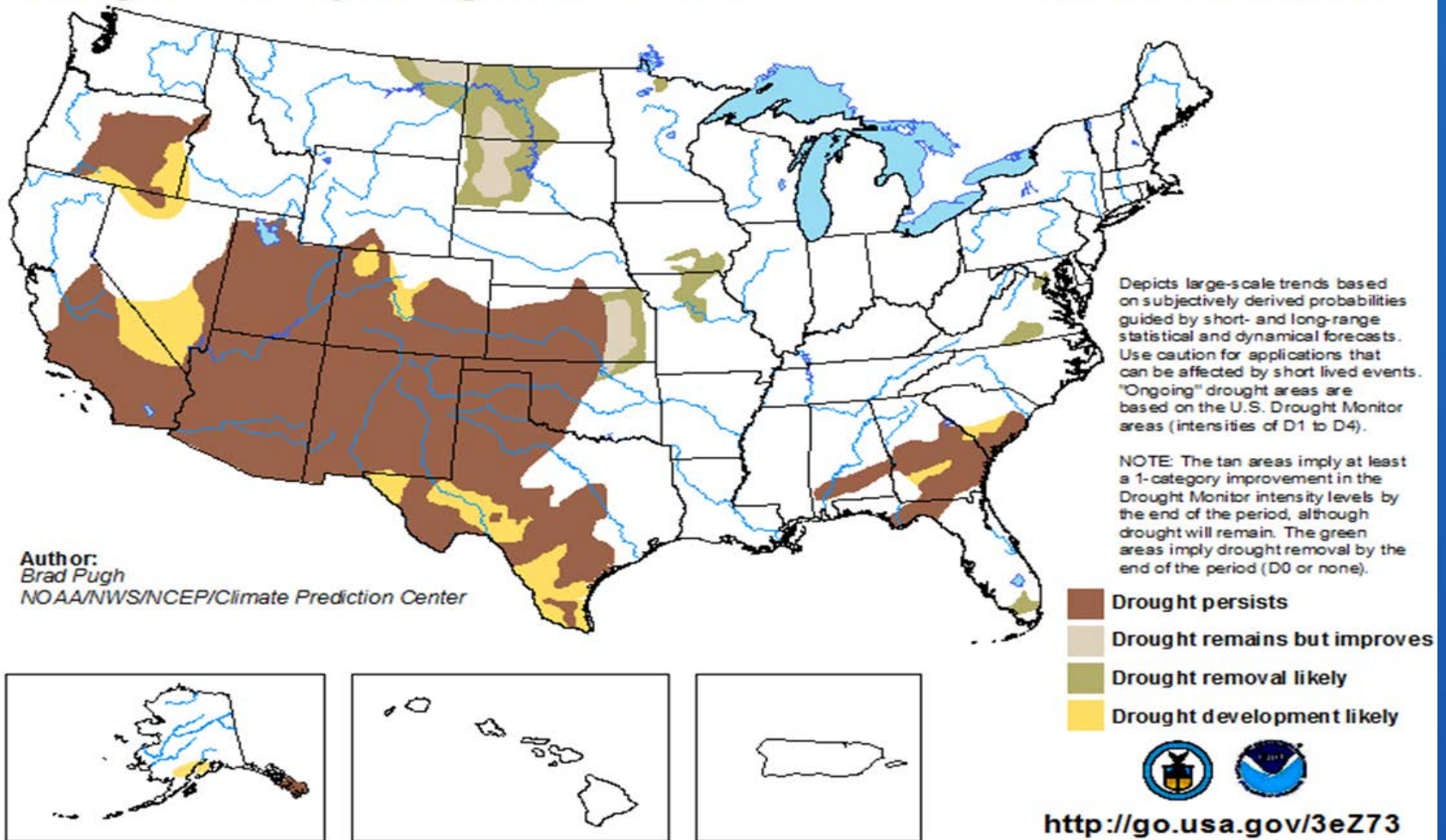


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Current Water Conditions

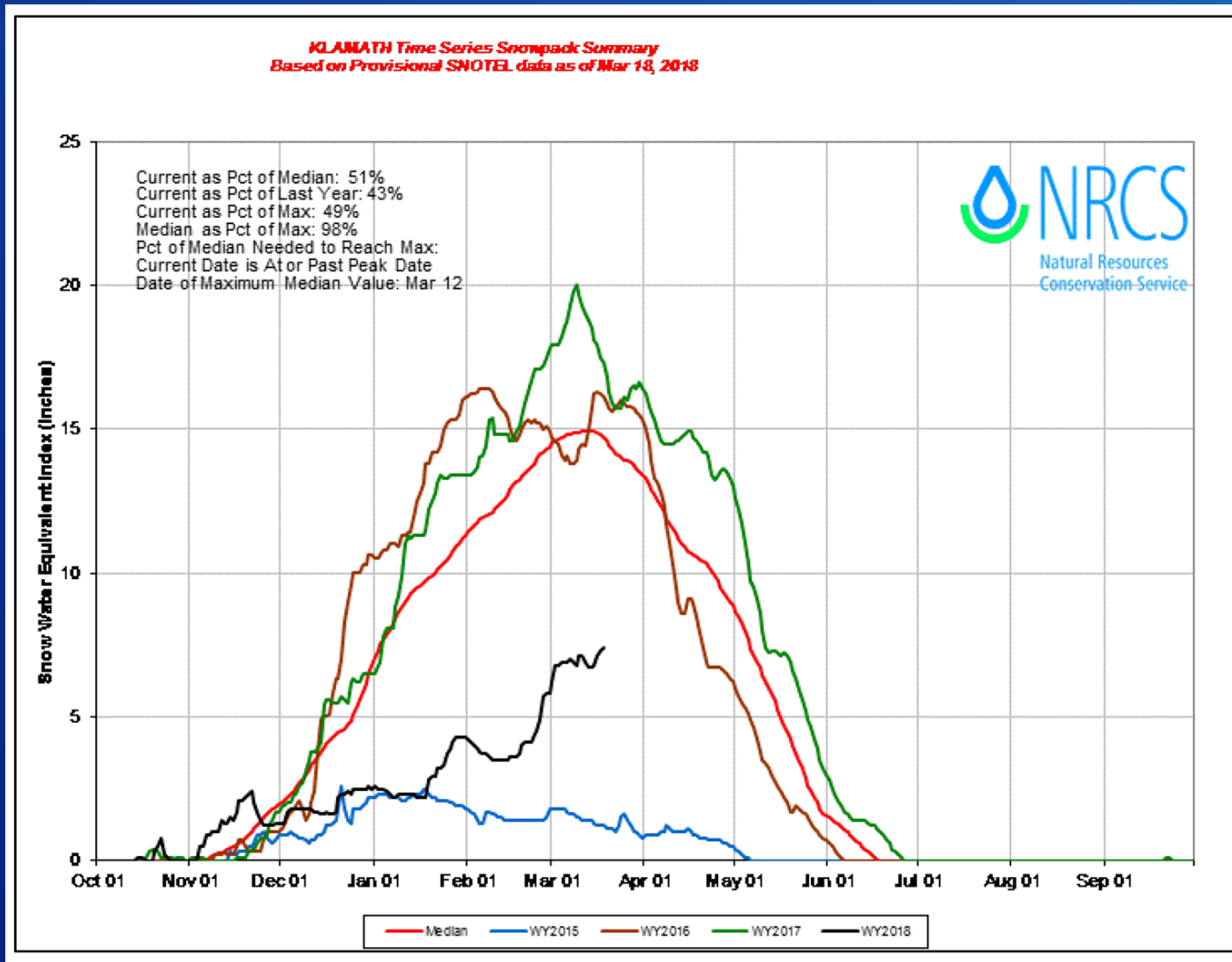
U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

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Snowpack and Precipitation To Date



52% of
median
snowpack
76% of
water year
to date
precipitation

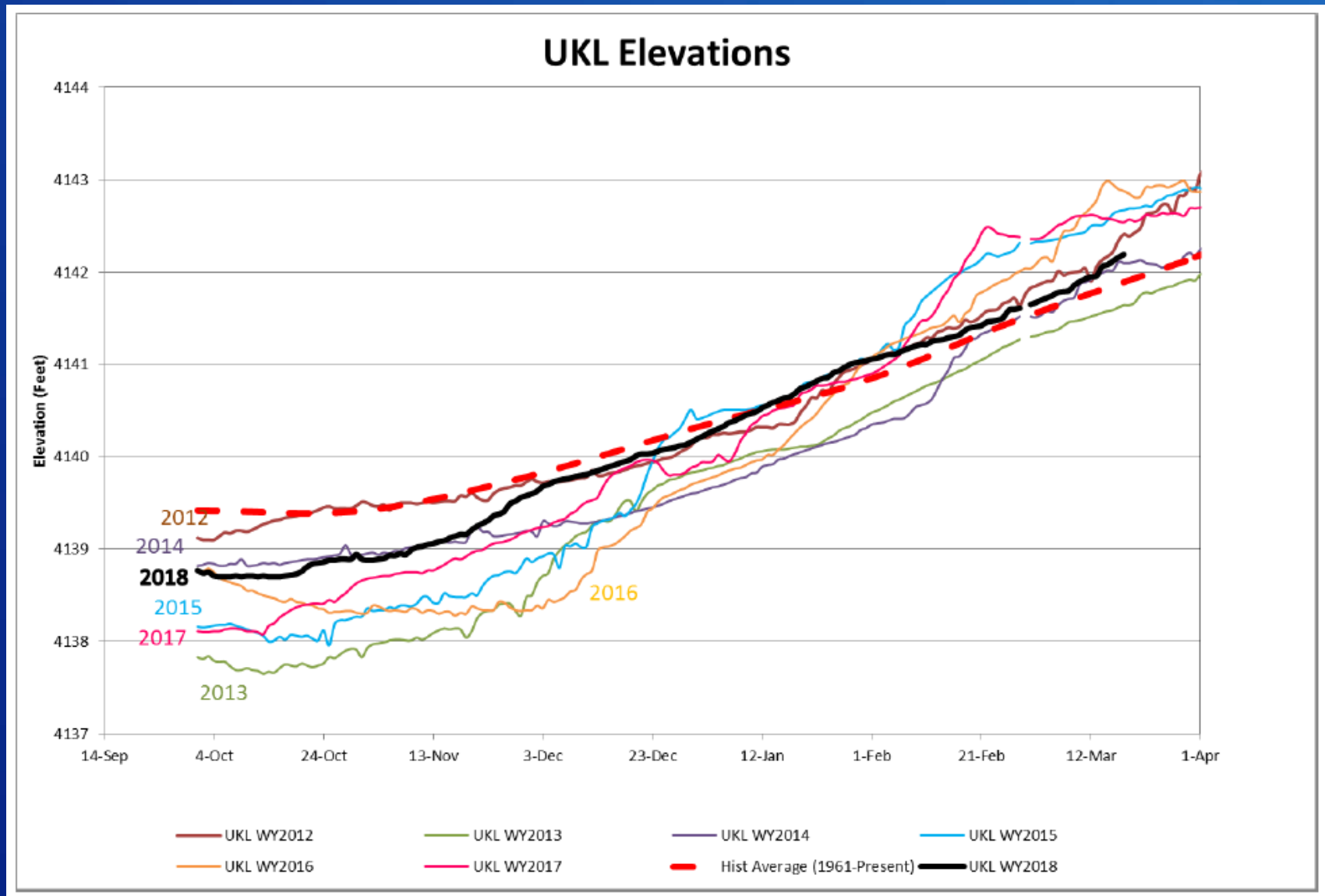
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NRCS Inflow Forecast - Upper Klamath Lake

NRCS Update	Forecast Period	Forecasted Inflow (TAF)	% Historical Avg.
1-Jan	Apr-Sept	335	70
Mid-Jan	Apr-Sept	280	58
1-Feb	Apr-Sept	270	56
Mid-Feb	Apr-Sept	230	48
1-Mar	Apr-Sept	255	54
Mid-Mar	Apr-Sept	270	56

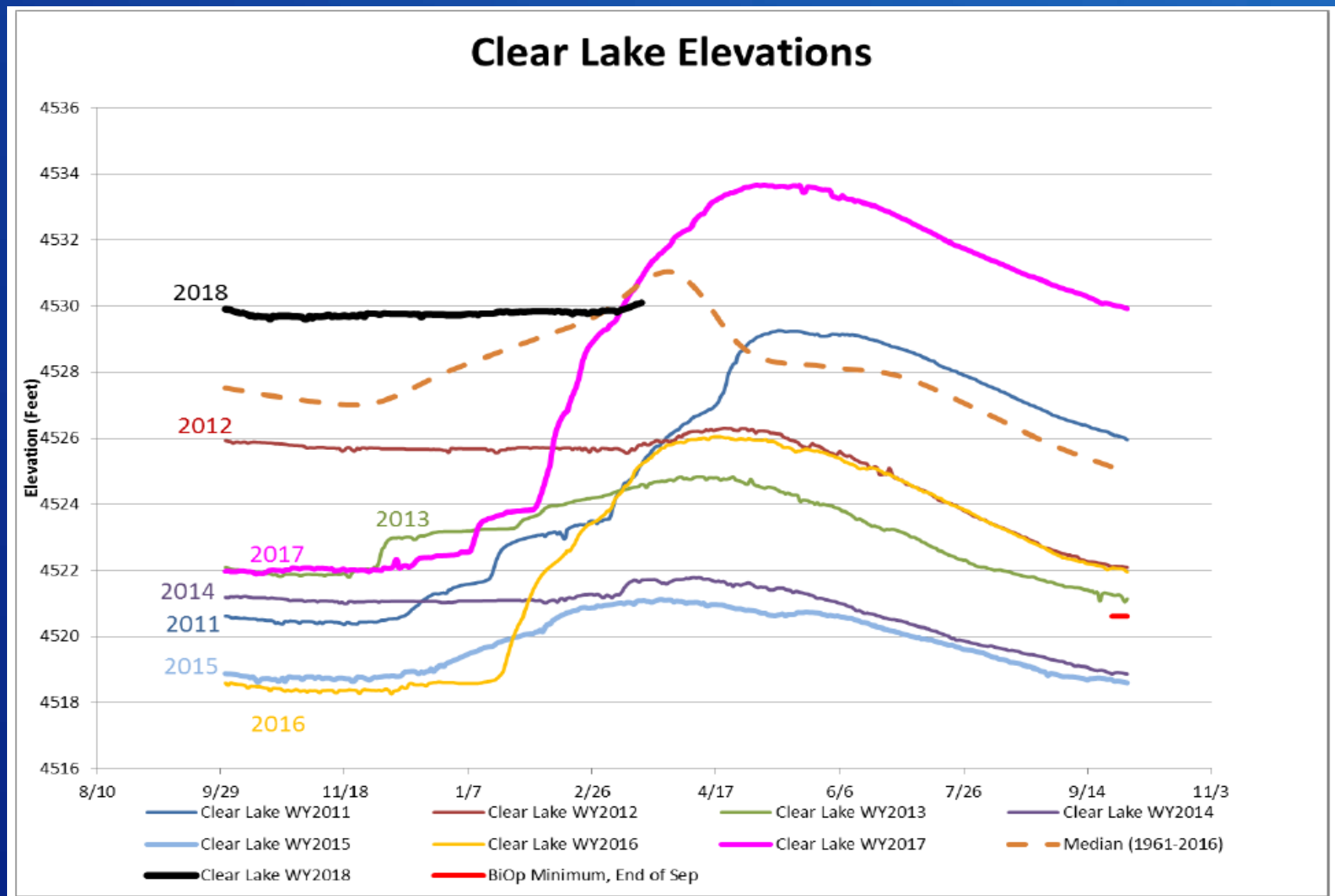
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Current Water Conditions



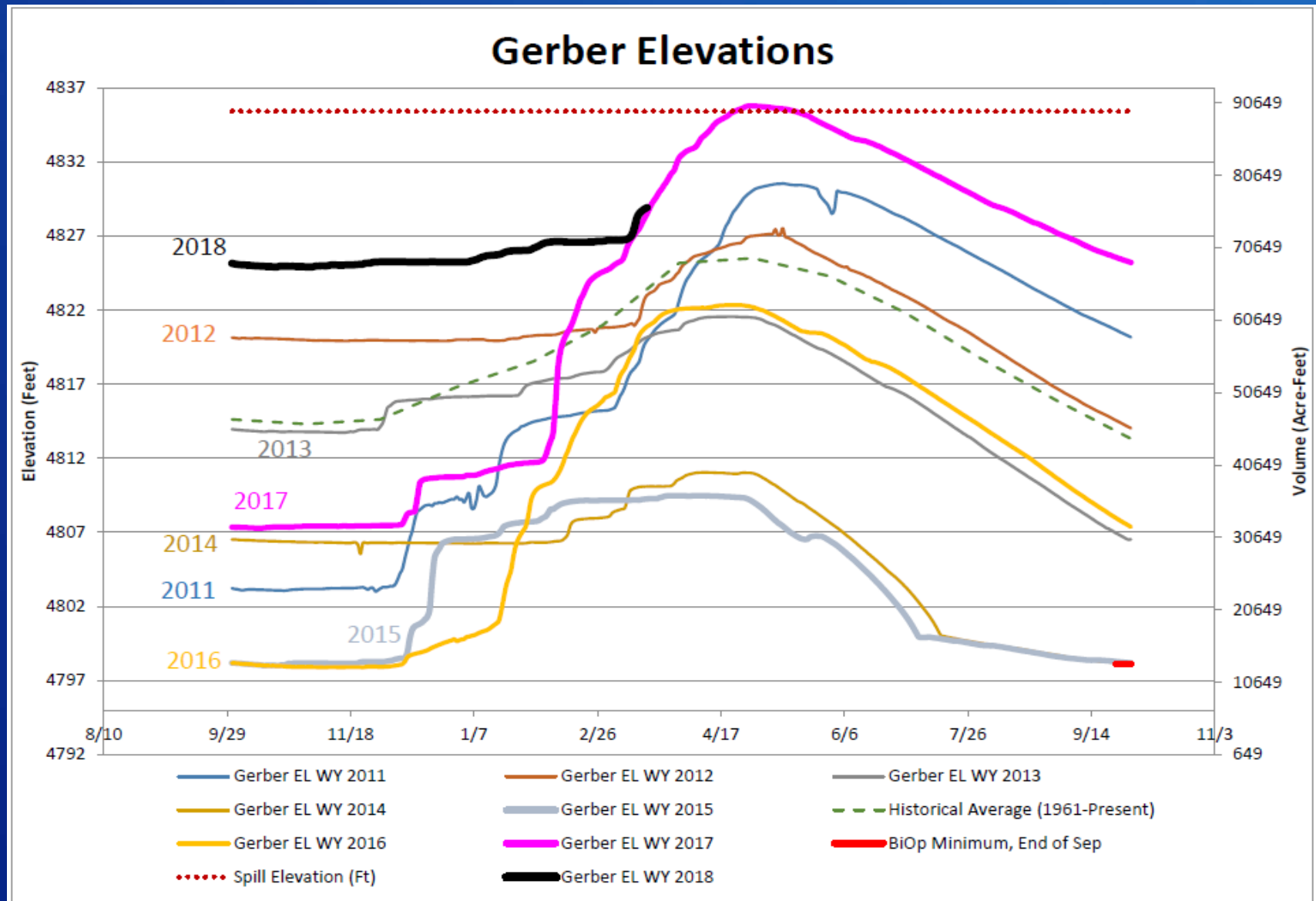
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Current Water Conditions



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Current Water Conditions



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2018 Water Operations Considerations

2017 Court Injunction

- Surface flushing flow of 6,030 cubic feet per second (cfs) for 72 hours (*November 1 – April 30*)
- Reserve 50,000 acre-feet (AF) by April 1 for emergency dilution flows (*April 1 - June 15 or 80% outmigration, whichever occurs first*)
- Deep flushing flow of 11,250 cubic feet per second (cfs) for 24 hours (February 15 - May 31) **(Not required in 2018)**

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2018 Water Operations Considerations

2017 Court Injunction (continued)

- Paragraph 2: In all other respects the 2013 Biological Opinion on Klamath Project operations and incidental take statement remain in effect pending completion of the reinitiated formal consultation (e.g., UKL end-of-month thresholds).
- Paragraph 3: In no event shall the mitigation measures interfere with the conditions necessary to protect endangered suckers.

2018 Water Operations Considerations

2017 Court Injunction (continued)

- Paragraph 13: Reclamation will manage the Klamath Project, including deliveries from Upper Klamath Lake, in a manner that will not preclude the ability to provide Reserve Water to implement up to 50 TAF of emergency dilution flows and/or interfere with its ability to meet its obligations under the ESA with regard to endangered suckers and/or their critical habitat.

2018 Water Operations Considerations

2017 Court Injunction (continued)

- Developing hydrology and the Court Injunction prevents Reclamation from being able to fully define and commit to a Project allocation and start date at this time.
- Reclamation developed a proposal, that if approved by the Court, would allow Reclamation to establish an allocation and start date.
- The United States is working on/negotiating a schedule that would have our proposal filed with the court on Friday, March 23.
 - Filing will be publically available through a press release, on the KBAO website, and distributed to KWUA, and District managers

****For your information copies of the March 24, 2017, Court Injunction are available at the sign-in table.**

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2018 Water Operations Considerations

2017 Court Injunction (continued)

- The parties are working on/negotiating a schedule that would allow us to move the hearing date up a week
 - The request, if granted, would move hearing date from April 11 to April 4

Current and Planned Efforts/Activities

March-April:

- Submission of a Response to KWUA Motion
 - Upcoming:
 - Court hearing potentially April 4 or April 11
- Continue to refine the hydrologic model based on revised NRCS inflow forecasts and incoming weather events
 - Upcoming:
 - April 1 NRCS Forecast

April-June:

- Continue coordination and collaboration with:
 - Klamath Project Districts, KWUA, Klamath County et al.
 - Revised hydrologic forecasts, Project allocation, and start dates
 - USFWS, NMFS, KWUA, Tribes, et al.
 - Relative to Klamath River and UKL management

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Future Updates

- Reclamation will provide updates via public meetings, email, and at <https://www.usbr.gov/mp/kbao/>
- Anticipated next meeting on April 11 at the KWUA Annual Meeting
 - Please provide current phone number and email address at the sign-in desk for future notifications
- For those within an irrigation/drainage district please work with your District Managers as a first line of communication
- Reclamation will coordinate closely with the Klamath Water Users Association on changing water conditions
- For those with individual contracts with Reclamation please call the Klamath Basin Area Office 541-883-6935

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Question/Answer Session

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Closing Statements and Adjourn

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- Bureau of Reclamation
 - Jeff Nettleton, Area Manager

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Thank You

Bureau of Reclamation

Mid-Pacific Region

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