

USDA NRCS Snow Surveys

NRCS California

Greg Norris

CA- DWR Annual
Cooperative Snow
Survey Meeting

November 5-7, 2014



NRCS Contact for CA

■ Greg Norris

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■ NRCS contact for:

- Snotel/snow course data, forecasts and products.
- NRCS Climate information and products.

■ Water supply forecasts and products

SNOTEL Contacts

- **Jeff Anderson**, New Nevada Water Supply Specialist.

1(775) 857-8500 ext. 152

Nevada Snow Surveys

Natural Resources Conservation Service

1365 Corporate Blvd.

Reno, NV 89502

Maintains Sierra California sites

- NRCS Data Collection Offices:

Oregon Data Collection Office

USDA NRCS

1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 900

Portland, OR 97232

SNOTEL Sites in Northeeast CA

Utah Data Collection Office

Oregon Snow Surveys

1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 900

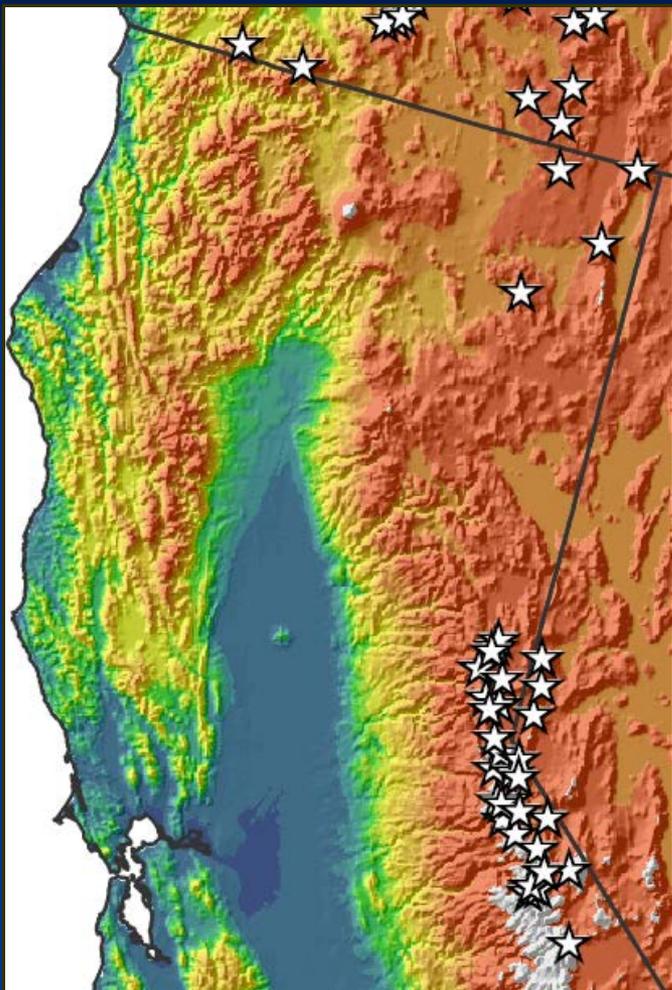
Portland, OR 97232

Sites in Central Sierras.

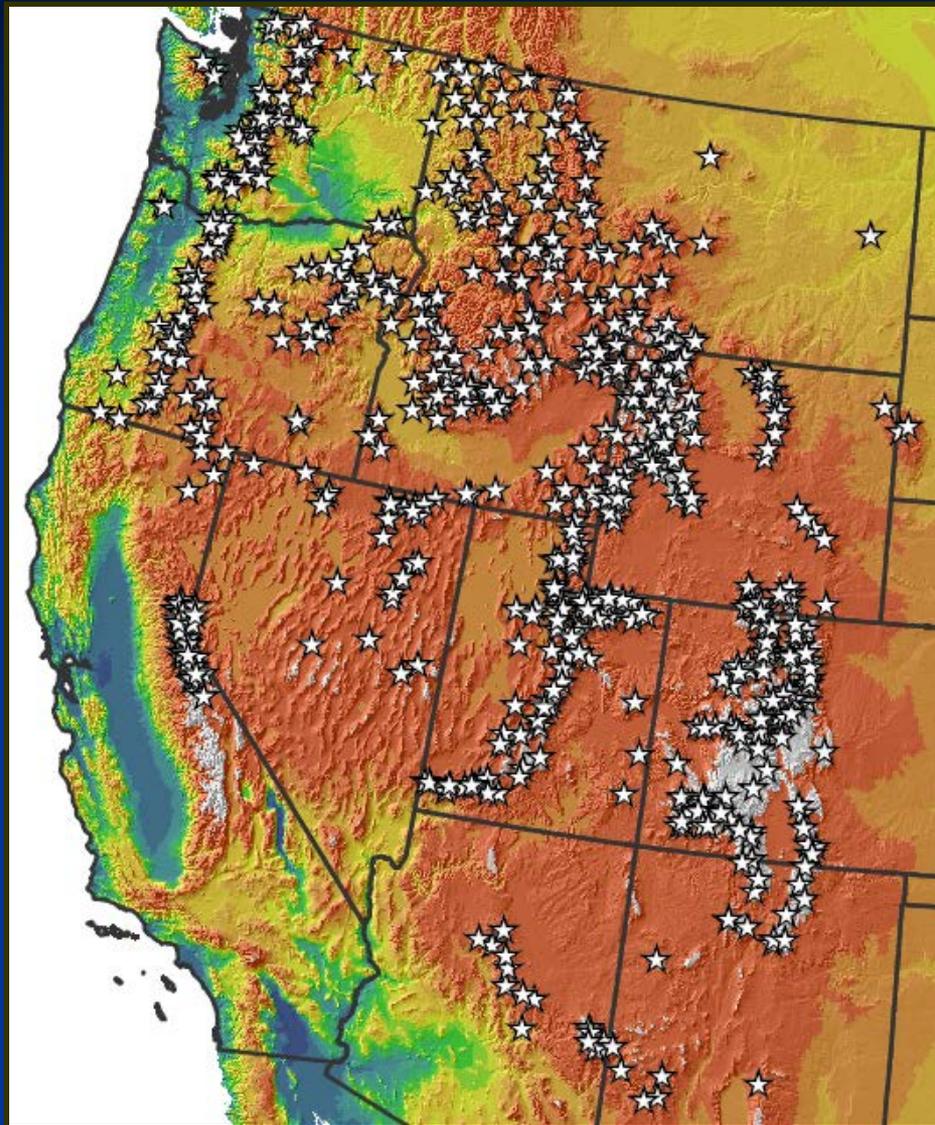


November 6 – 8, 2013

Westwide SNOTEL Network



34 SNOTEL sites in
California

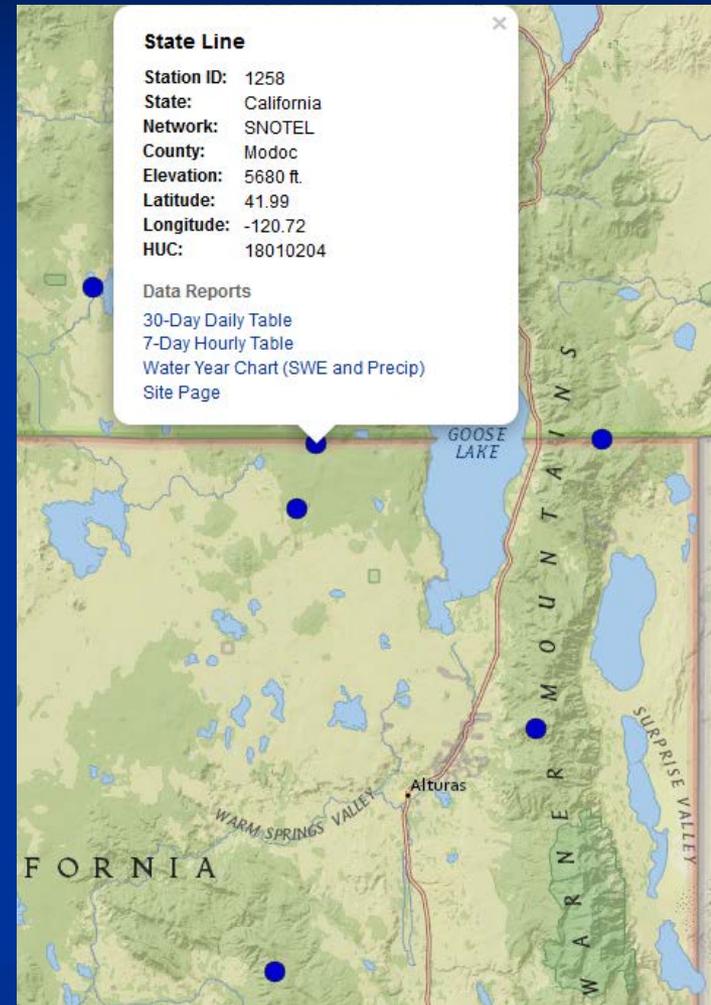


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New SNOTEL Site

- A new SNOTEL site is installed “Stateline” SE Klamath Basin near Clear Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Northeastern CA. The site is located at the State Line Aerial Marker. There is very little data in this area, and forecasts for Clear Lake Inflow are poor. The Bureau of Reclamation is supporting this new site.



Many SNOTEL Sites have climate and soil sensors

➤ Soil Moisture/Temperature Monitoring

- Vitel Hydra Probes located in a vertical profile at 2", 4", 8", 20" and 40"
- Complete soil descriptions, lab sampling, and bulk density measurements at monitoring sites



November 5 – 7, 2014

➤ Climate Monitoring

- Air Temperature
- Relative Humidity
- Solar Radiation
- Wind Speed & Direction
- Vapor Pressure

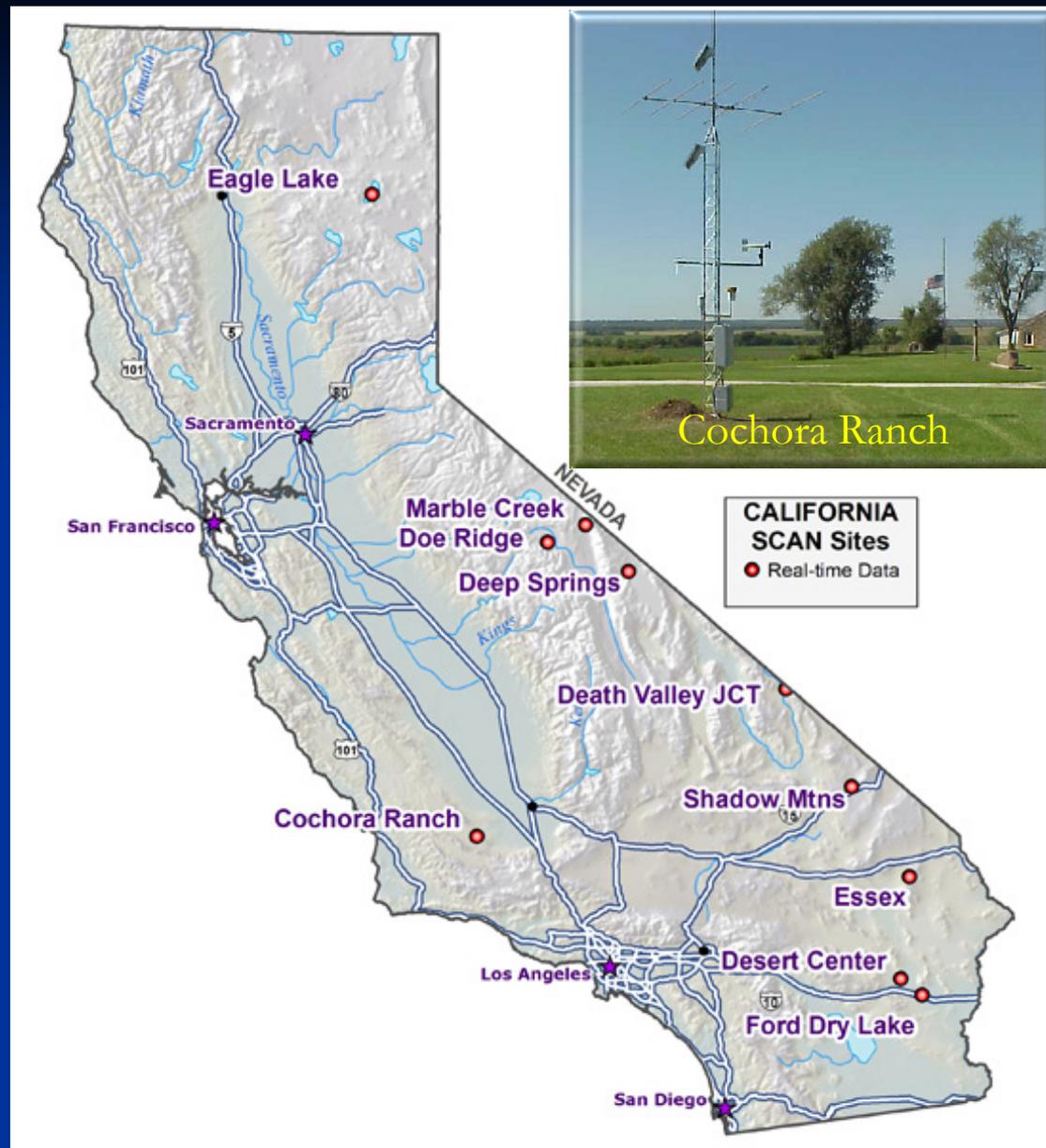


NRCS SCAN Sites (Soil – Climate Analysis Network)

5 NEW sites were installed last week. These new sites are funded by the BLM.

Counties that they are located in:
**Kern, Fresno, Mono, Shasta,
and Lassen**

Sites collect climate data as well as soil moisture and soil temperature.

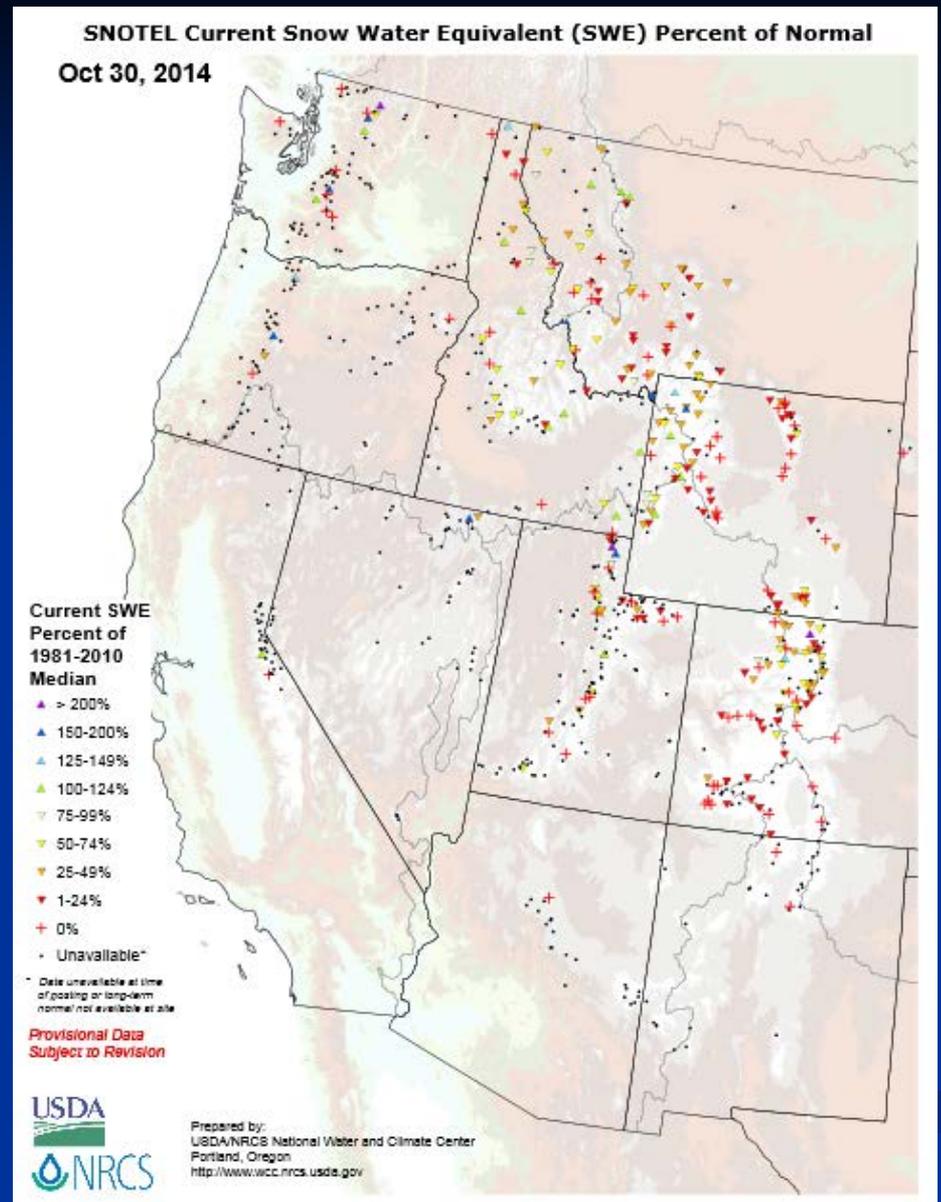


GIS Products:

- Current daily data maps.
- Changes over different selectable timeframes maps.
- State, basin and West maps.
- Data and percent of normal.

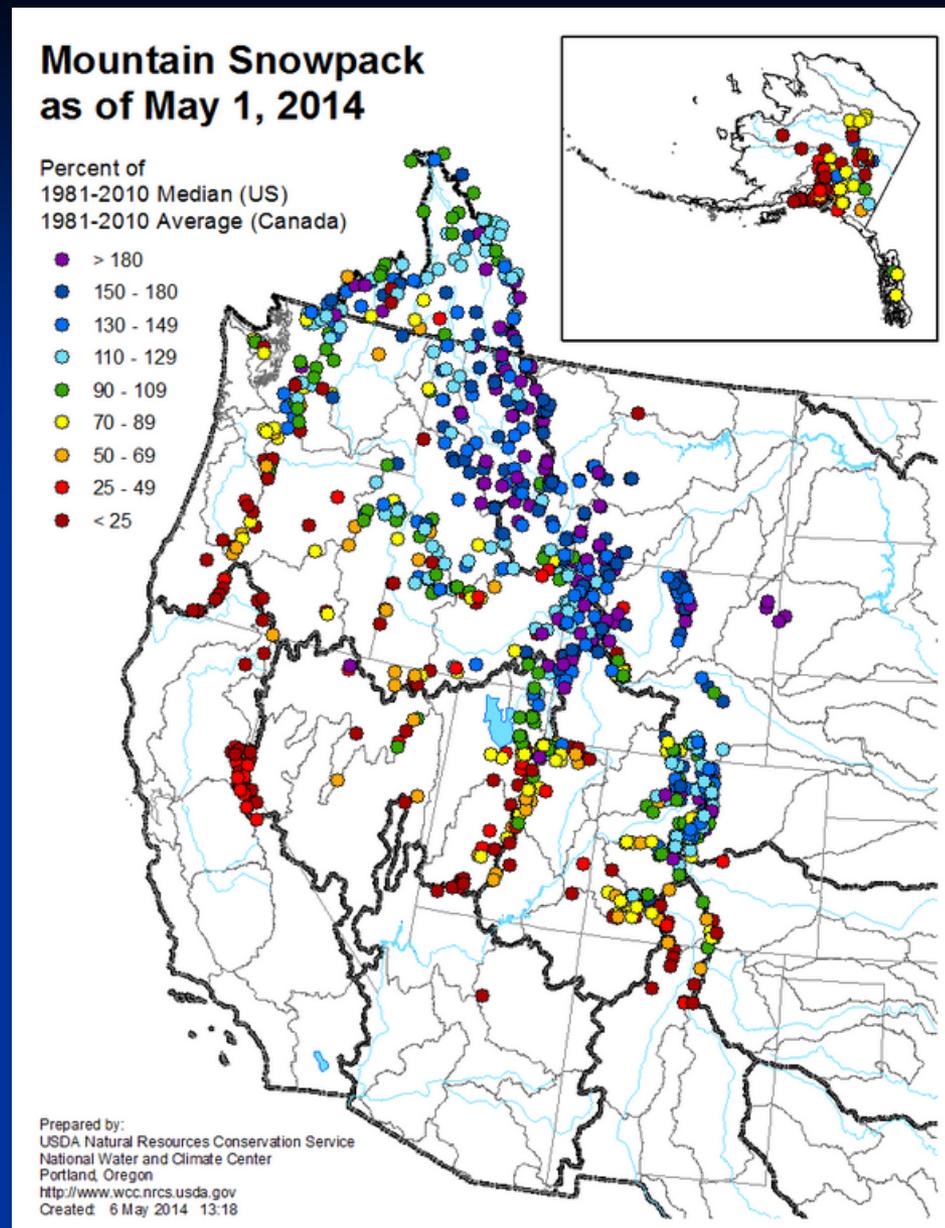
<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/ftpref/data/water/wcs/gis/maps/WestwideSWEPercent.pdf>

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Where We Are:

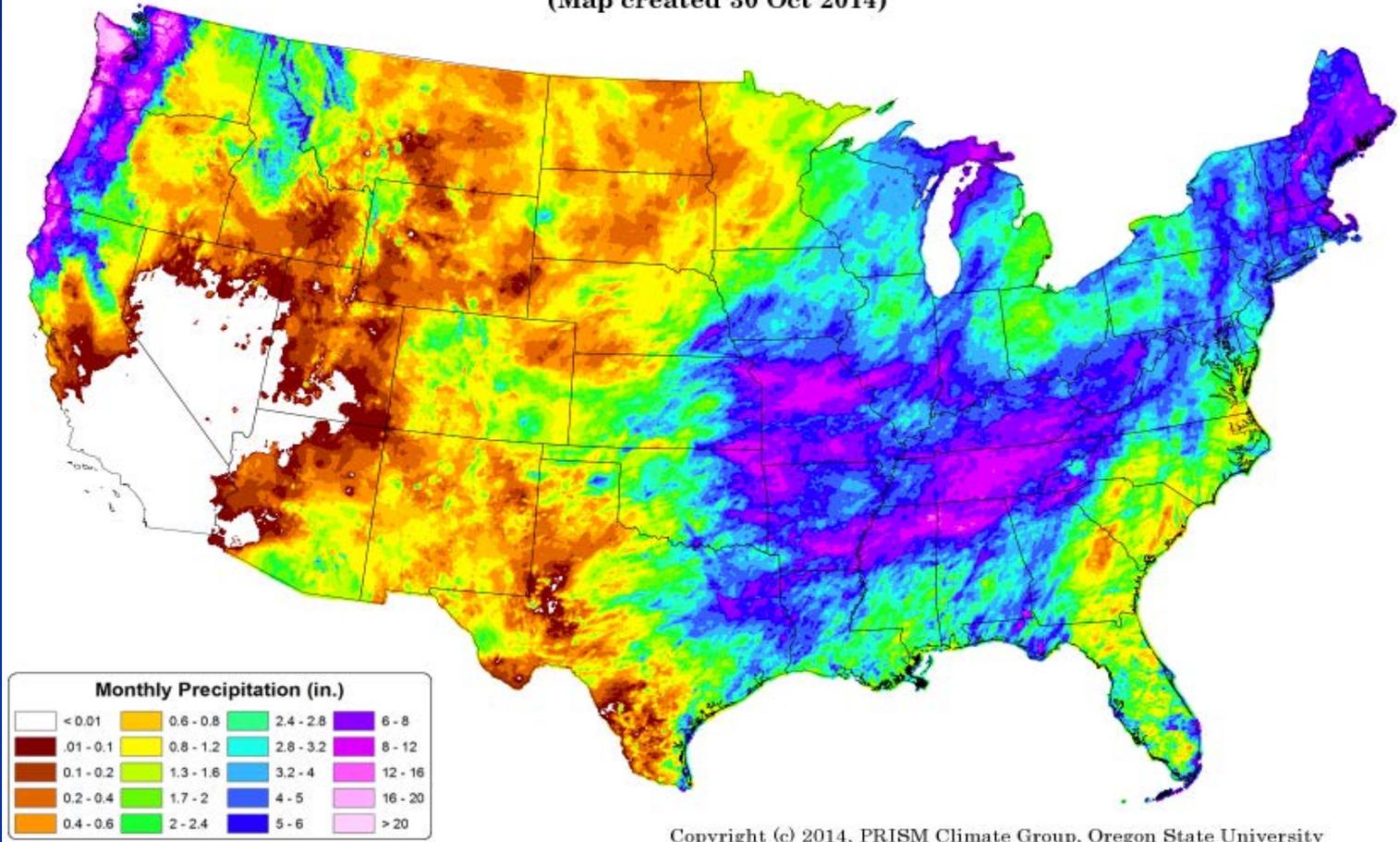
Snowpack
Last Year
Conditions:



PRISM – Precipitation for the start of 2015 water year.

Precipitation Products supported by the NRCS.

Total Precipitation: 01 October 2014 - 29 October 2014
Period ending 7 AM EST 29 Oct 2014
(Map created 30 Oct 2014)



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NRCS 2014 Westwide Snow Survey Training School

- **January 11 - 15, 2015**

- Tahoe City, CA

- More information is at:

<http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/snowschooL/index.htm>

- Copies of the invitation letter are available.

- See Greg or the CA-DWR folks for more info.



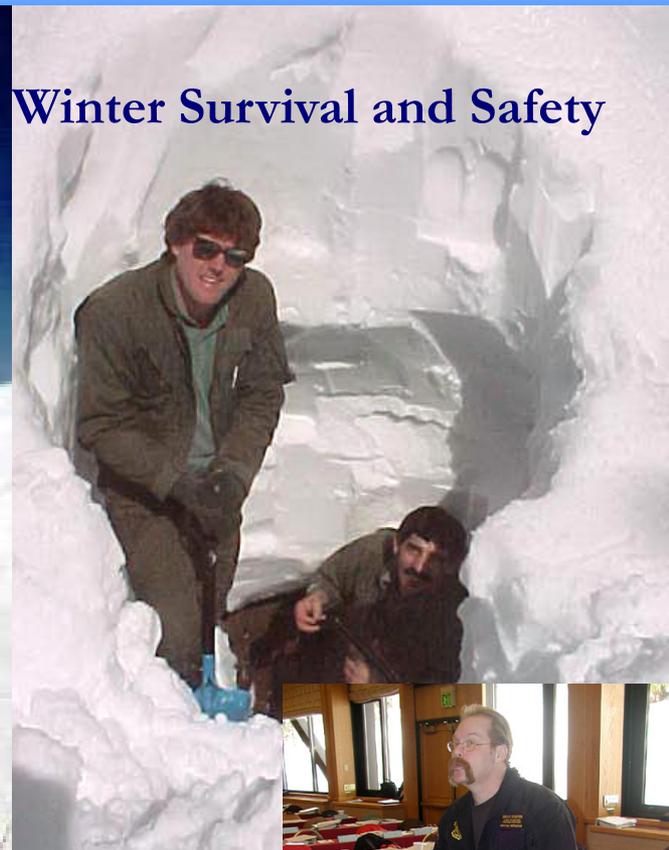
NRCS WESTWIDE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEY TRAINING SCHOOL



Avalanche Training



Snow Measurement Training



Winter Survival and Safety



Winter travel



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