Idaho
The state of Idaho continued to have a mild winter. The statewide temperatures in Idaho for the month of January were well above average throughout most of the state. In northern Idaho, thawing temperatures created slush and mud throughout the lower elevations. There was still some snow on the ground in Boundary County; more than a foot in most places. Farther south in Latah and Nez Perce Counties, rainfall removed much of the snow cover from area cropland. In southwest Idaho, the mild weather provided good calving conditions. Good precipitation, mainly in the form of rain, fell at lower elevations. A mix of rain and snow fell in the mountains. A sufficient quantity of all types of hay was available. In south central Idaho, the last three weeks of January provided both snow and rain moisture. Mountain snow packs improved. With the mild temperatures and moisture, some producers were concerned with stripe rust on cereal grains. Producers planned to keep early scouting presence in the fields this crop year. In Camas County, snow was reported on the valley floor. Most producers wished for more. In southeastern Idaho, heavy snow and winter weather conditions impacted travel in and out of Teton County. Ranchers began feeding hay to livestock. In Bannock and Bingham Counties, lambing and calving progressed normally. In Clark and Fremont Counties, it was cold and stormy.

Oregon
The statewide temperatures in Oregon for the month of January remained near normal to above average throughout the state. Some major storm activity brought above-average moisture to a good portion of the State. In the northern coastal region of Oregon, Polk County crops such as grass and specialty seeds, small grains, and hazelnuts all experienced normal conditions this month. Pastures were not affected by mid-January cold weather. Some seasonal mild temperatures and rains allowed grasses to continue to grow this month. In Tillamook County, heavy rains saturated some fields. There was some standing water at times. Grass growth slowed but the fields still looked good. A few dairy animals were reported confined on pasture. Local rivers ran full during rain events but created minimal damage to adjacent fields. In northeastern Oregon, weather was warmer than normal. Mountains saw some snow. Valleys received some snow along with rain. Cattle were moved to calving grounds in Baker County. In Umatilla County, winter wheat progressed nicely. Stands looked good. Winter canola looked excellent. In southwestern Oregon, a very dry fall planting season for cover crops and small grains was replaced by a January with over five inches of rain. The steady rains were absorbed nicely without much ponding or runoff. The winter temperatures were mild with only a few short periods with night time lows going into the upper 20’s. Producers were able to make very timely dormant sprays for tree fruit and berry crops before the rain arrived. In several parts of south central and southeastern Oregon, a very mild January was observed. Very little snow was on the low lands. The mountains received a good shot of snow which brought central Oregon snowpack levels to near normal. In Lake County, spring calving began. Temperatures in the upper 30’s and low 40’s were a welcome sight when compared to this time the previous year. Livestock mortality rates were reported much lower this January.
Western Washington precipitation was well above average in January. Repeated storms really helped the snowpack levels in both the Olympic and Cascade Mountain Ranges. Wet conditions and standing water were reported throughout western Washington. Some producers in western Washington were concerned that the colder temperatures and snow in mid-January may have affected fall planted crops. Unusually cold temperatures and lowland snow also concerned cranberry and blueberry growers. January weather conditions around Snohomish County created multiple flooding situations along Stillaguamish, Skokomish and Snoqualmie rivers. In San Juan County, water was flowing seasonally high due to saturated layers of soil. Small streams and the larger watersheds were filling fast. Many ponds were already full. Livestock farmers brought out the stock tank heaters and added a bit more feed to the daily rations. Farms with orchards pruned during lulls in the weather. In central Washington, the Okanogan Valley experienced cold temperatures, snow, and high winds the second week in January. Later in the month, warmer temperatures brought rain and melting snow. This caused some runoff and ponding. The crop-producing areas of Yakima County got a little over one inch of precipitation during eight rain and snow events in January. Throughout the month, the low temperature dropped into single digits only once on January 17. No crop damage was reported. In the northeast region, Stevens County received approximately 13 inches of snow. Fall planted crops did well. In east central Washington, Winter wheat condition was normal. It was too early to assess whether the cold temperatures in early January adversely affected any exposed wheat not protected by snow. In southeast Washington, the January weather was mostly favorable for farmers and ranchers in Whitman County. November was very dry, but December and January brought much needed moisture and mild temperatures. The winter wheat stands throughout the county looked good. The late seeded fields had emerged. Recent rains helped subsoil moisture replenishment. The rangeland conditions in Whitman County also looked good.
Accumulated Precipitation (in): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals
January 01, 2020 to January 27, 2020

http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1981-2010 Normals
January 01, 2020 to January 27, 2020

http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE/
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