Idaho

The Idaho snowpack looked good for mid-January. Most all the basins were near to above normal for snowpack. Average temperatures in Idaho for the month of January varied from below normal to near normal in most parts of the State. Accumulated precipitation in most of the State also remained above average for the water year. While early winter snowpack levels were encouraging, there was the need for continued snowpack to help alleviate the drought and low soil moisture levels observed in 2021. In northern Idaho, Benewah County reported an inch of rain since January 7. Temperatures were reported in the mid 20's at night, with daytime temperatures rising to above freezing. In Latah and Nez Perce Counties, temperatures above freezing and regional rainfall reduced or eliminated snow cover on several of the farm fields. In Lewis County, snow covered fields remained the norm, with soil conditions set for good moisture retention. Snowpack looked good in southwest Idaho. Calving started in some areas and was proceeding well. Hay stocks were reported very short. Culling rates were running above normal due to high feed prices. In south-central Idaho, most farms remained under snow cover for most of the month. Most of the region remained cold for the month. Dairies used large amounts of straw for bedding cows. Supplies of straw and hay were also reported as tight. In southeastern Idaho, crop producers were cautiously optimistic about current snowpack levels. Most fields remained covered with snow, and hay was shipped. Calving was underway. Bear Lake experienced moderate winter temperatures. No major or new snow accumulation was reported. Current snow accumulations on the ground had a soft base with crusty top which made travel for animals through the fields difficult. Cattle were on full feed rations with majority of those rations being comprised of grass, alfalfa, or mixed hay. Less than one percent of the Bear Lake County herd had calved. Calving and lambing progressed in Bannock and Bingham Counties.

Oregon

Temperatures in Oregon varied from below normal to above normal in the western and south-central parts of the State. In northwest Oregon, conditions dried out with the break in the weather. Previous rain events produced erosion in areas where cover was not established. Above average rainfall replenished the subsoil. Field operations were also possible with the break in the rain. In Polk County, 36 percent of the county was in moderate drought, and some fields were left fallow due to drier conditions. In Clatsop and Tillamook Counties, there was significant rain and forage crops were in dormancy. In Benton and Lincoln Counties, it was wet and cool. A few big storms knocked out power and caused flood advisories in low-lying areas. In north-central Oregon, the weather was mild. The snow melted slowly into the ground. Most grounds, except north slopes at a higher elevation, were snow-free. Crops were good and cattle were calving well. In Baker County, there was an inversion with cold, stagnant air. In Lake County, precipitation was above the median, and snow water equivalent was below the median. Spring calving was underway in portions of the County. It was unseasonably warm this month in the area.
Washington
Statewide temperatures in Washington for the month of January were below normal. In western Washington, early January was cold with snow and freezing temperatures. Late January transitioned back to heavy rainfall throughout the district. In San Juan County, vine and tree fruit pruning had started on days without massive storm events and rain. Most other crops planted for fall into winter harvest were hit badly. Some high tunnels successfully carried crops over, but some crops were lost to frigid temperatures. In Whatcom County, farmers were still trying to assess the damage left from the floods late last year. Many portions of fields were under water as excessive moisture continued into December and January. Some berries had been under water for over two months. The floods resulted in the need for replanting of grass and berries. Streams and ditches were inundated with silt and debris, which backed up water flow. In central Washington, additional amounts of freezing rain and light snow occurred. In Chelan County, snowpack across the region was in good shape. Warmer temperatures during this time of year helped settle and melt snow on the ground. Farmers were excited about the prospects of finally coming out of the drought. In Yakima County, there was some orchard pruning and tree training completed. Livestock were on feed only and ranchers were preparing to start calving. In east-central Washington, farmers spent most of the month doing repairs and preparing for the upcoming season. In Adams County, conditions were overall favorable for winter wheat. Moisture and temperatures were near average but above average precipitation was needed. In southeast Washington, most conditions were normal for the month of January. Cold temperatures, snow, and fog remained throughout the area. Some flooding was received in late January, but there were no effects on livestock or cropping systems.

October 01, 2021 to January 23, 2022

[Map Image]

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

Average Temperature (°F): Departure from 1991-2020 Normals

January 01, 2022 to January 23, 2022

[Map Image]

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