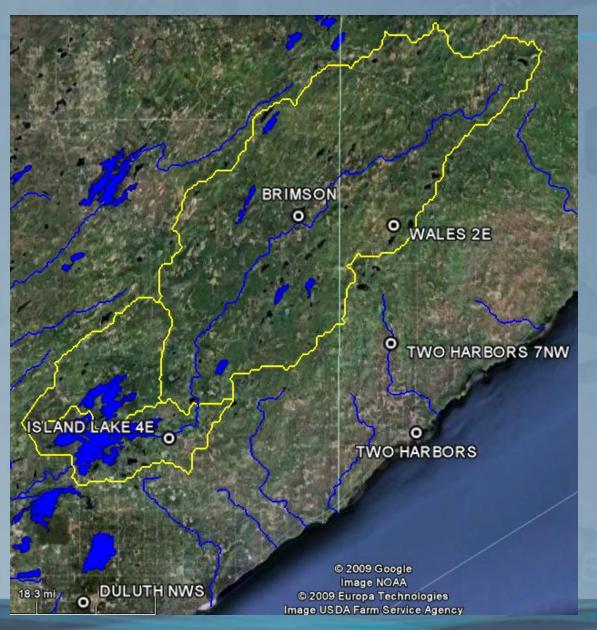
## Island Lake Technical Committee Spring Refill 2022

Steve Gohde
National Weather Service
WFO Duluth
Observing Program Leader

Laura Diamond
North Central River Forecast Center
Hydrologic Forecaster

April 21st, 2022

#### **Island Lake Basin**



#### **Bottom Line Up Front**

- Persistent precipitation since October
  - Drought conditions eased.
- Weather outlooks
  - Above normal precipitation in near term
  - Turning dry for the end of April
  - Short term warming 4/22-24 Cold spell 4/26!

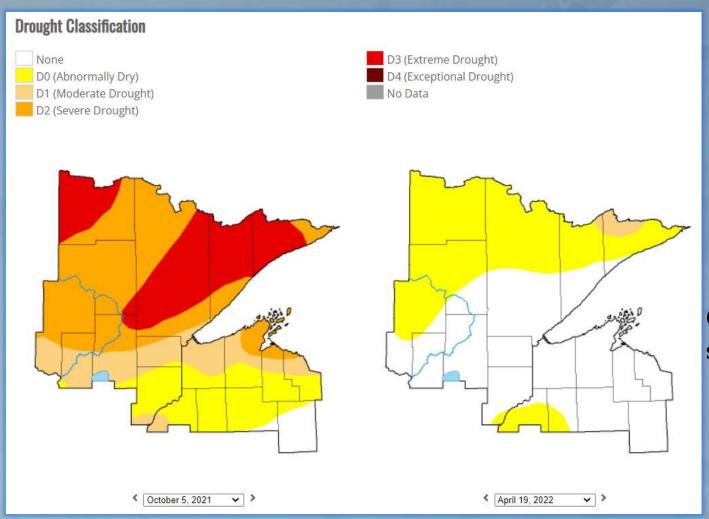
#### River Forecast Model run 4/19/2022

- Refill certain as model shows 100% chance of refill
- One to 6 inches of snow water equivalent still remain in basin.

#### Setting Up Current Conditions

- Above normal precipitation 2022 water year (10/1/21-9/30/22)
- Slow thaw and frequent April fresh snowfalls have preserved snowpack in the North.
- Our snowmelt runoff is underway
- 4/22-24 Precipitation will increase rate of fill

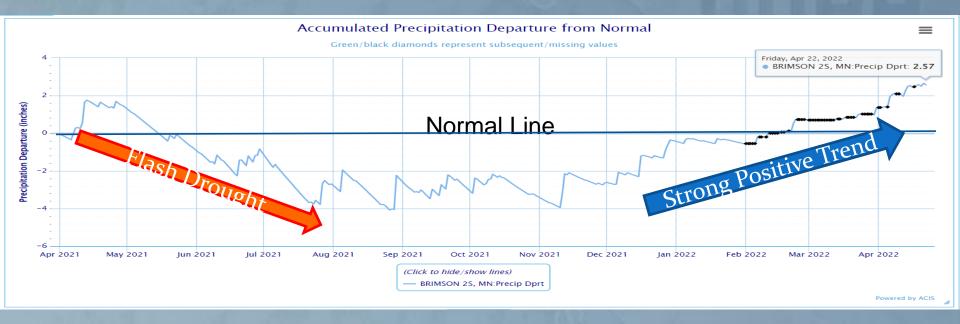
### Most Recent Drought Monitor



Cloquet River Basin Free of Drought conditions

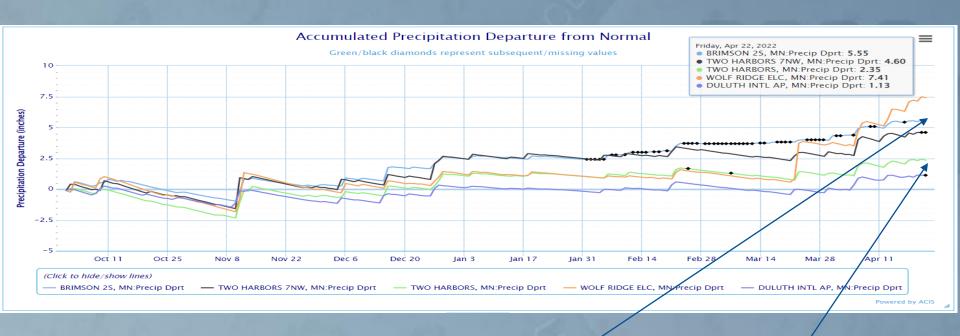
Great improvement since October

# Brimson Precipitation Departure (4/2021-4/22/2022)



- Brimson is most representative of the Cloquet River Basin
- Positive precipitation since Autumn 2022

## 2022 Water Year Precipitation Departure 10/1-4/21



#### Departures ending 2/28

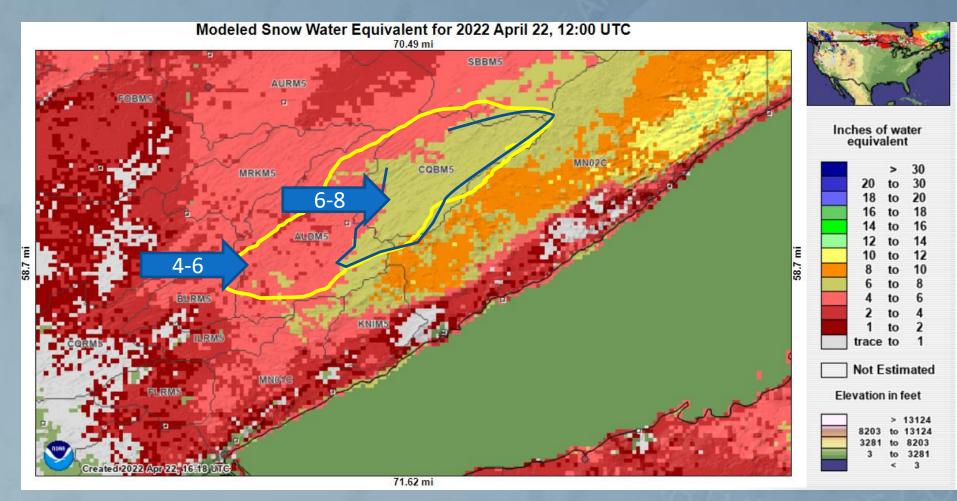
Monday, Feb 28, 2022

- BRIMSON 2S, MN:Precip Dprt: 3.58
- TWO HARBORS, MN:Precip Dprt: 1.54
- TWO HARBORS 7NW, MN:Precip Dprt: 3.21
- WOLF RIDGE ELC, MN:Precip Dprt: 1.37
- DULUTH INTL AP, MN:Precip Dprt: 0.37

Brimson is most representative of Cloquet R. Basin

Two Harbors 7NW not within basin. But reflects NE headwaters.

#### April 22nd 2022 - Snowpack



Snow contains 4-8 inches of water. Higher amounts in NE Basin

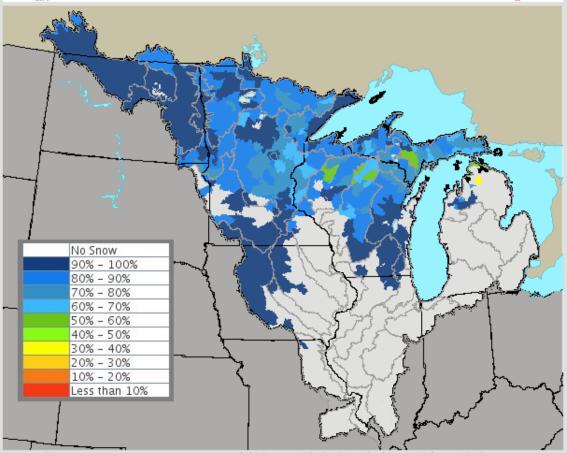
https://www.nohrsc.noaa.gov/

#### Snowpack Ranking



North Central River Forecast Center Ranked Simulated Snow Water Equivalent Valid for 04/18/2022 12 GMT



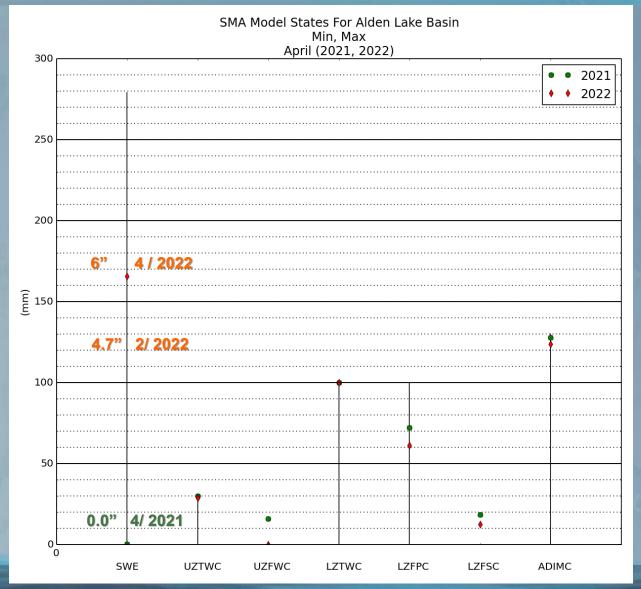


Note: This map compares current NCRFC Modeled SWE with the historical record of modeled SWE for each basin. An area ranked as 'Less than 10 percent' is at the lower end of the record and one ranked near 100 percent is at the higher end. A 50 percent ranking indicates current SWE is in the middle of our historical record.

Created on 04/19/2022 at 02:07:21 AM CDT

**Modeled Snow** Water contents Rank in the 80<sup>th</sup> to 100<sup>th</sup> percentile.

#### Soil Moisture - Modeled

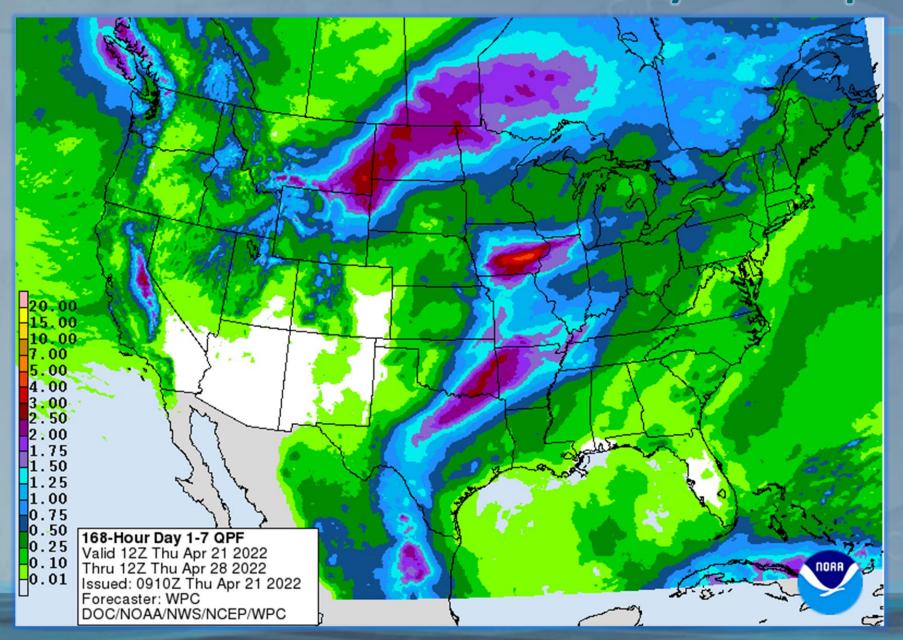


- Basin average snow water equivalent (SWE) 6"
- River model moisture contents very strong
- Above normalFall precipitation

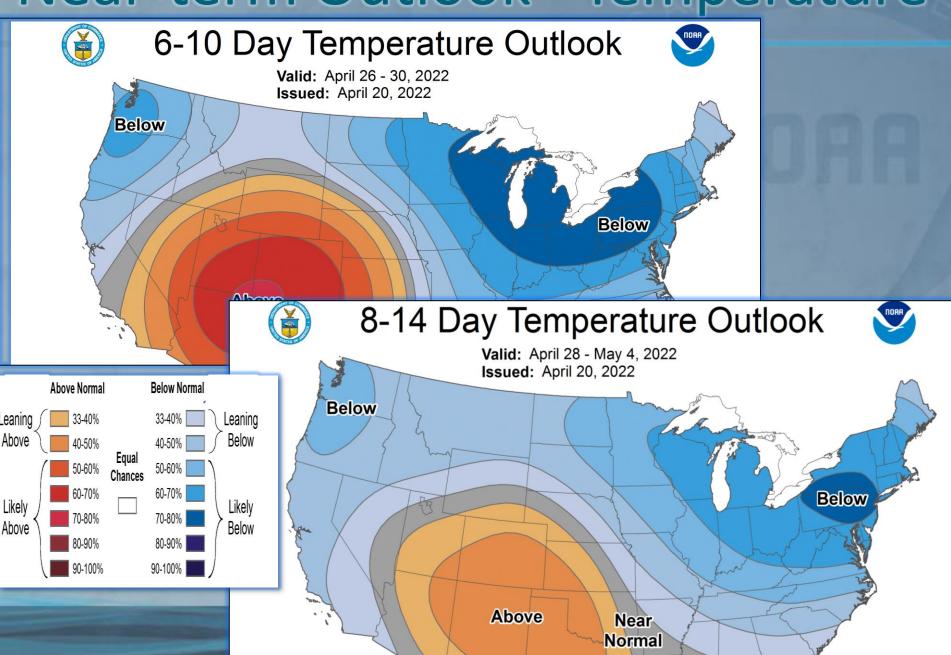
#### Weather Outlook

- Near-term
  - Rain expected this weekend
  - Above normal temps through 25<sup>th</sup>
  - Snowmelt runoff kicks into gear
  - Cooler than normal temperatures favored the next several weeks
- Precipitation Outlook
  - Half inch to inch of rain Fri-Sun
  - Below normal remainder of April
  - No strong signal for May

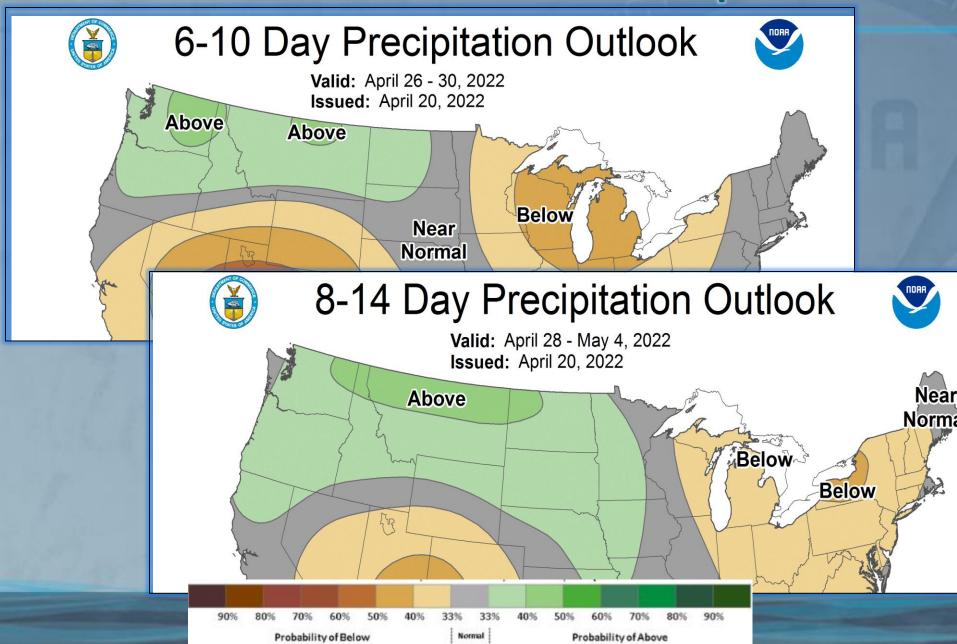
### Near-term Outlook 7 Day Precip.

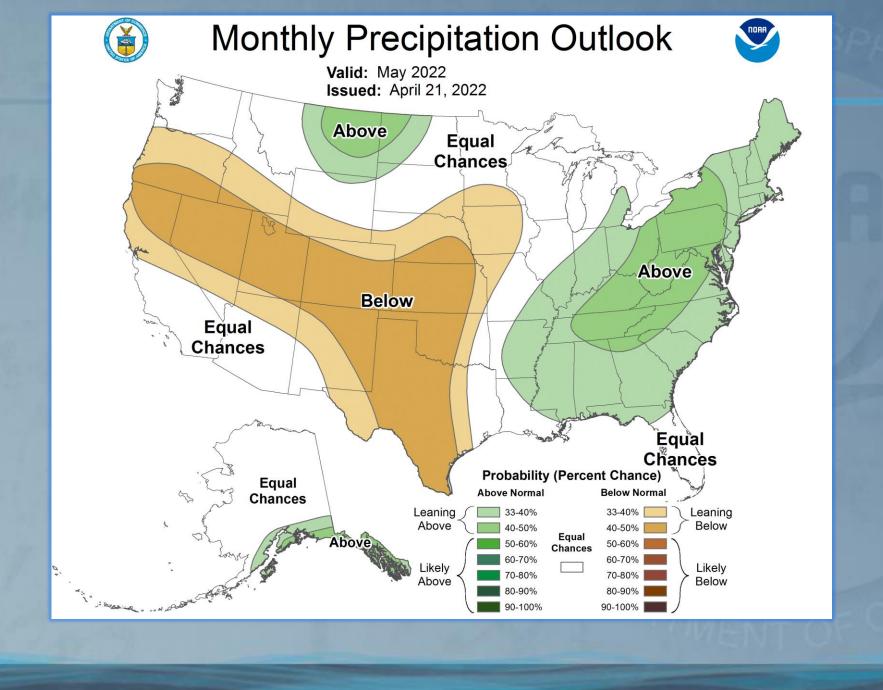


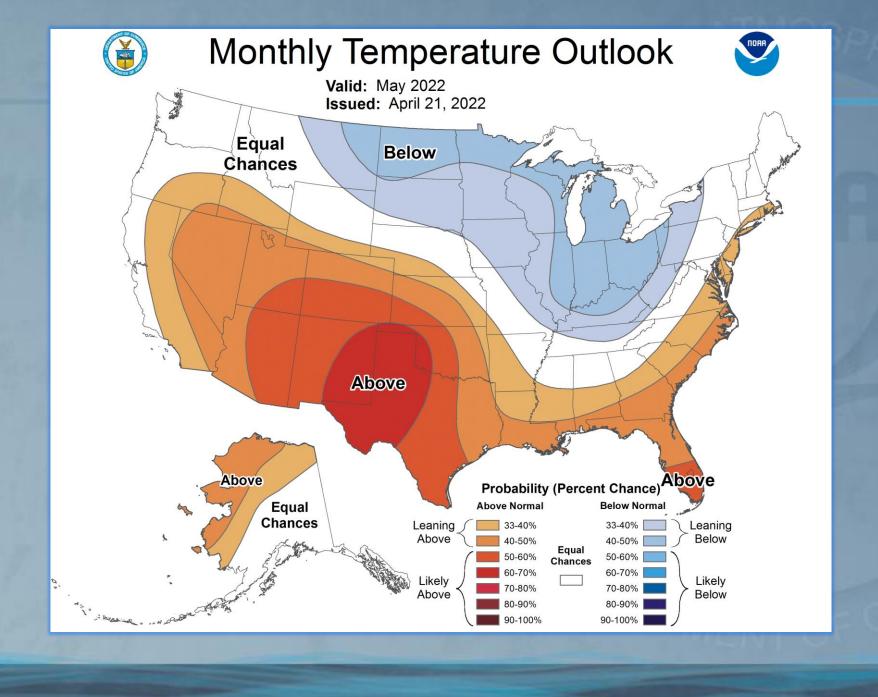
#### Near-term Outlook - Temperature

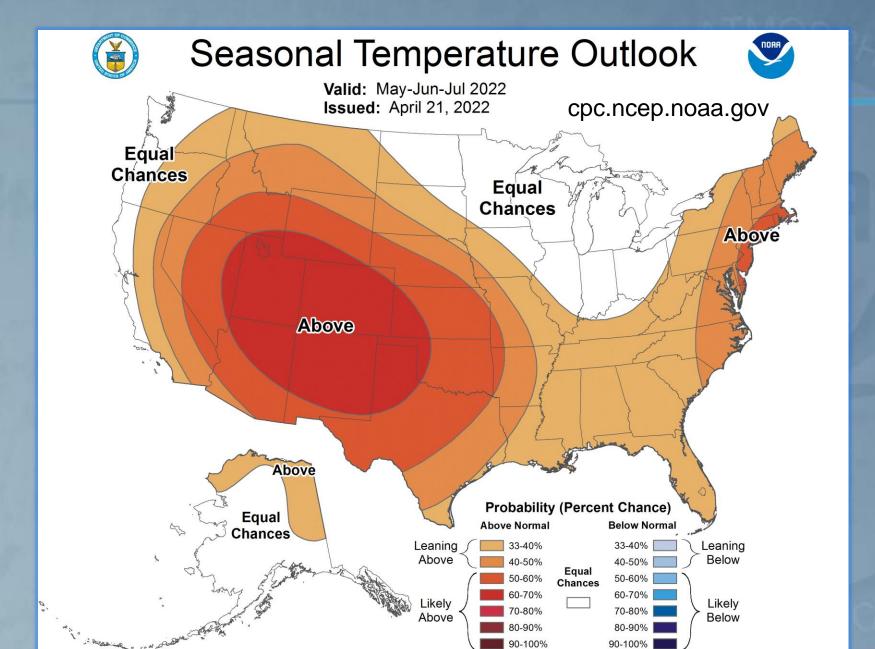


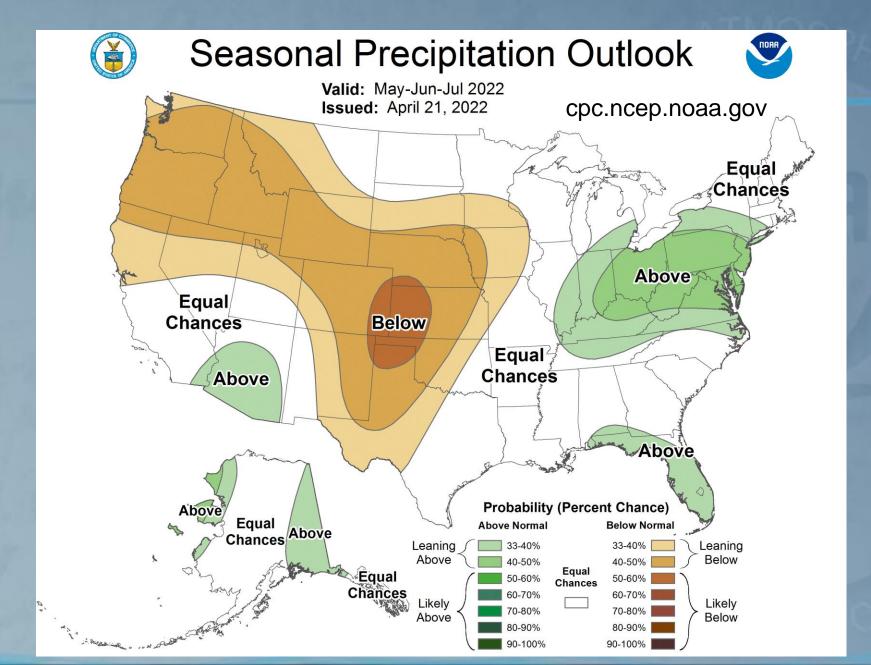
### Near-term Outlook - Precipitation









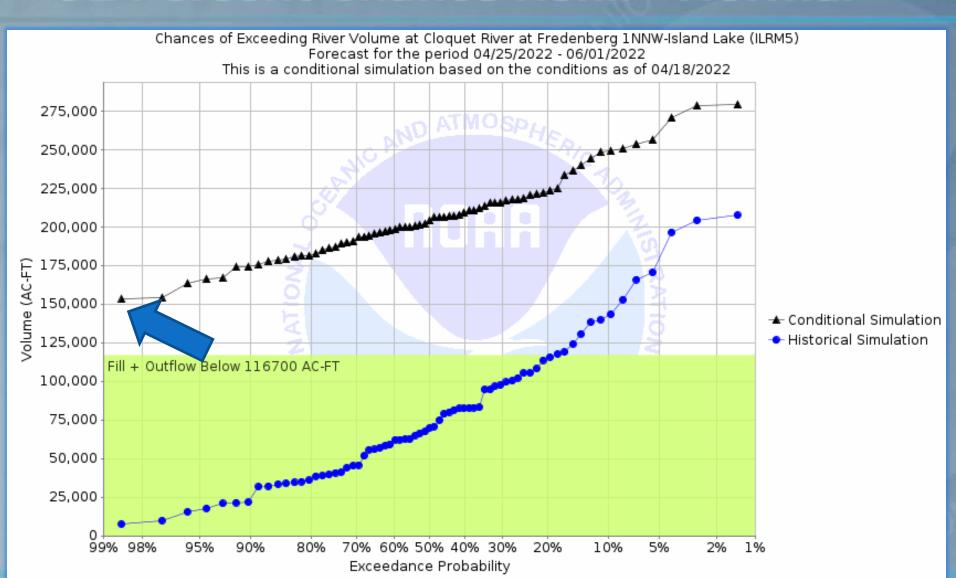


### Hydrologic Outlook - Refill

• High volume of water stored in snowpack is forecast to fill the reservoir in all cases.



#### 92 Percent Chance Refill - Normal



## 2021-22 Weather/Hydro Outlook - Summary

- Antecedent conditions
  - Long term drought has been erased
  - Heavy snowpack with high water content remains
- Weather Outlook
  - Short term forecast shows above normal precipitation
  - Long term forecasts not leaning one way or another
  - After short warm up cool weather expected to persist
- Hydrologic Outlook
  - Refill is under way with plenty of snow and forecast rain to fill Island Lake

#### Resources

- <a href="https://cpc.ncep.noaa.gov">https://cpc.ncep.noaa.gov</a>
- https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-7.shtml
- https://prism.oregonstate.edu/comparisons/drought.php
- https://www.nohrsc.noaa.gov/interactive/html/map.html
- https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/
- weather.gov/forecastpoints
- https://weather.gov/mpx/islandlake
- https://www.weather.gov/media/dlh/DssPacket.pdf (when storms are pending)