

Jealousy leads to cracks in trio's relationships



DEAR ABBY
ADVICE

DEAR ABBY: My best friend of a few years, "Leia," and I are very close. We were basically a unit, spending every day together. But now I have a girlfriend, "Kara." She's a mutual friend of both of us.

Kara and I have been together for only a few months, but I already care about her very much. I don't want things to change. The problem is, she's jealous of the connection I have with Leia, and Leia feels ditched,

like I'm not spending enough time with her.

I know the conventional advice is to dump one or the other, but I care about them both too much to lose either one, and I need to find a balance instead. How do I go about having a best friend and a relationship at the same time? — **PULLED IN TWO DIRECTIONS**

DEAR PULLED: Start by telling Kara that if you wanted a romance with Leia, it would have already happened, and that your friendship with Leia is important to you. Then tell Kara you care about her and feel there could be a future with her, but only if she's able to control her jeal-

ousy and insecurity where Leia is concerned.

After that, explain to Leia that you care about your friendship very much and don't want her to feel neglected, but now that you have a girlfriend, you have less time to spend with her than you did in the past. Then cross your fingers.

DEAR ABBY: From the time I was a child, I've always wanted to be helpful. If people asked me for favors, no matter how small or out of the way they were, I was always happy to help. Recently, though, I have been noticing that when I ask for help in return, there are very few people I can actually rely on.

I know a lot of people consider me naive and gullible because of my willingness to help, but I have reached the point where I don't want to do anything for anyone unless they're sincere about their friendship. How do I politely show them I'm not as clueless and naive as they think I am? — **FRUSTRATED AND ANNOYED**

DEAR FRUSTRATED: You don't have to be confrontational or unpleasant. Accomplish that goal by being less helpful — far less helpful — to those who don't return the favors you bestow.

DEAR ABBY: We are planning our daughter's wedding and trying to figure out how to politely ask the groom's mother to help with the finances. When is the best time, or should I ask the groom to do it? We don't think he wants to ask her. — **QUESTIONING IN NEW JERSEY**

Have a "truth session" with your daughter and her fiancé. If the wedding they're planning is too rich for your budget, it is important to make it plain now. As to who should ask his mother to contribute, that question should come from your daughter's fiancé, after which a conversation may or may not begin with your soon-to-be in-law.

Hot spring forecast: Drought deepens in West

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**
AP Science Writer

There's no relief in sight for the West's record-shattering megadrought, which will likely only deepen this spring, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said in its seasonal outlook Thursday, March 17. But central and eastern states should be mostly spared from significant flooding.

Spring is likely to be hotter than normal in most states and drier as well for much of the West, NOAA meteorologists said. They said the high heat and drought will fuel each other as the lack of rain makes it hotter, intensifying dry conditions.

NOAA predicts all of the Lower 48 states to be warmer than normal in April, May and June except Washington, Oregon, Montana, North Dakota and much of Idaho. Only an area around the Great Lakes down to Kentucky is forecast to be wetter than normal. Worsening allergies are expected in the areas that will be hot and wet.

"Drought has increased, especially in the West as it has warmed," said Deke Arndt, NOAA's climate science and services chief. "The reason the West is warming is climate change, especially over the multiple decade timeframe."

Already, 60% of the nation is in some form of drought, the

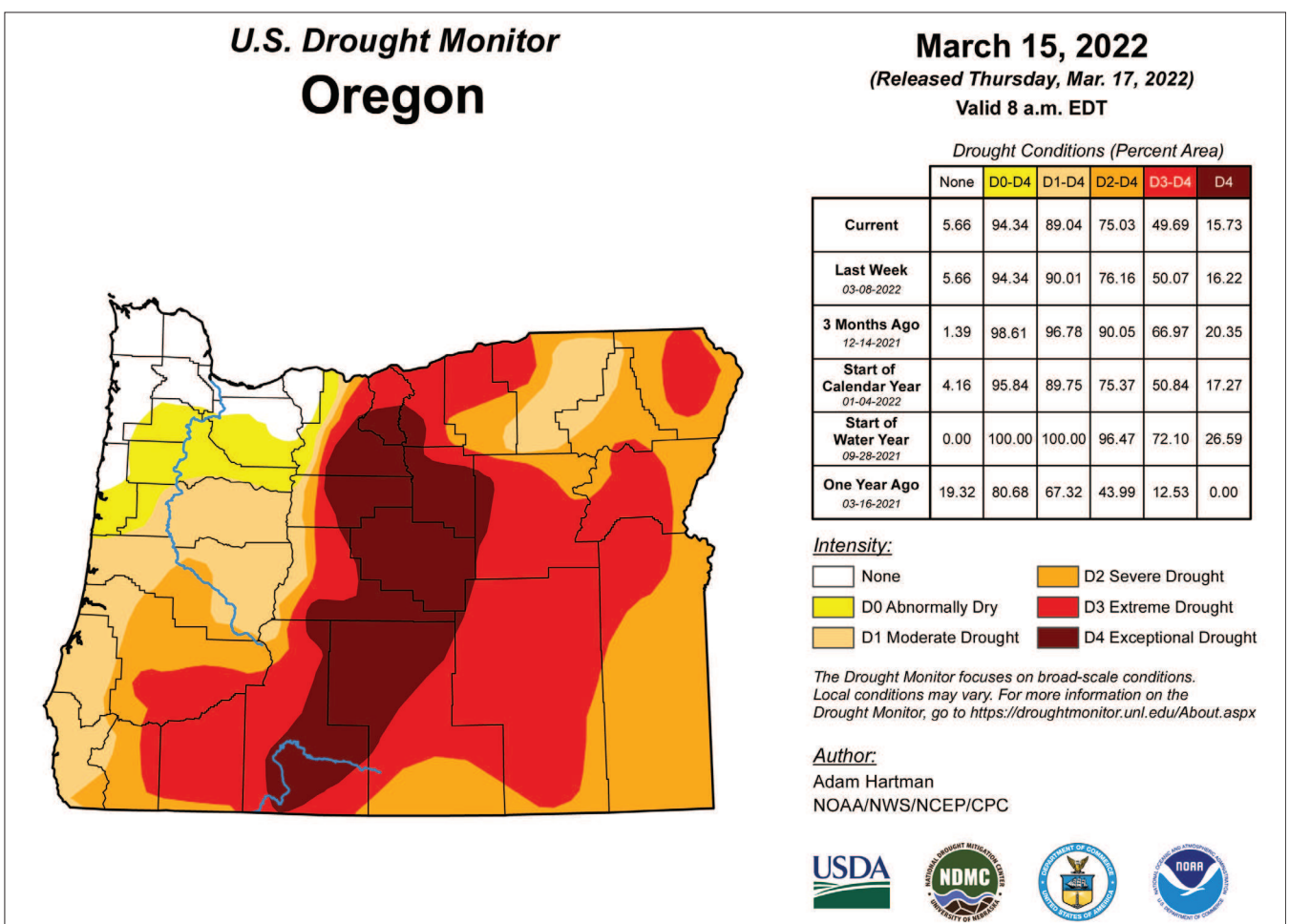
largest drought coverage since 2013, said Jon Gottschalck, operational prediction chief at NOAA's Climate Prediction Center. He said the conditions are likely to get worse in many of those areas and could set the stage for more heat waves.

La Nina, a natural periodic cooling of the central Pacific that affects climate worldwide, is a huge factor in the spring outlook, Gottschalck said.

In California, especially the Central Valley, three-year rain and snow levels will soon reach the lowest on record since 1922, said Brett Whitin, a hydrologist at NOAA's California Nevada River Forecast Center. California has 1.5 million acre feet less water available than it did this time last year, and he said the only hope is for heavy December snow to make up for some of the shortfall.

"It does make for some very difficult (crop) producer decisions as what to continue to grow and what to keep alive," said Brad Rippey, a U.S. Department of Agriculture meteorologist, in a press briefing.

The more than 20-year megadrought gripping the West is the worst in 1,200 years and is stoked by human-caused climate change from the burning of coal, oil and natural gas, studies have found. Worsening drought also sets the stage for more dangerous wildfires in summer, said Brad Pugh, a drought meteorologist



Most of Eastern Oregon is in severe or extreme drought.

with the NOAA's Climate Prediction Center.

In the central part of the country, spring often brings flooding worries. But this year, the flooding risk is minor for much of the Mississippi River valley and Tennessee Valley.

Major flooding and significant damage might affect about 500,000 people, which is far fewer than in most years. Above average precipitation and other factors increased flood risk near the Red River that divides North Dakota and Minnesota, NOAA said.



This image taken from a drone on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2021, shows Mason Dam at lower right, and the water intake structure, center right near the shore, at Phillips Reservoir.

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weather

	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	Partly cloudy	Snow showers in the a.m.	A morning shower; cloudy	Not as cool	A shower in the afternoon
Baker City	26	44 27	51 35	60 34	63 35
Comfort Index™	1	0	3	9	10
La Grande	32	43 29	50 36	60 37	66 37
Comfort Index™	0	0	4	10	10
Enterprise	27	40 28	46 37	56 35	62 39
Comfort Index™	2	0	4	10	10

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Thursday	51°	53°	55°
Low Thursday	20°	22°	24°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	Trace	Trace	0.01
Month to date	0.05	0.39	1.45
Normal month to date	0.40	0.93	1.26
Year to date	0.44	2.26	7.00
Normal year to date	1.69	3.83	6.87

THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)
 High: 97° McAllen, Texas
 Low: -3° Daniel, Wyo.
 Wettest: 2.84" Leonardtown, Md.

OREGON
 High: 64° Grants Pass
 Low: 18° Burns
 Wettest: 0.02" Astoria

AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SUNDAY

Lowest relative humidity	45%
Afternoon wind	NW at 8 to 16 mph
Hours of sunshine	0.0
Evapotranspiration	0.07

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Friday)

Phillips Reservoir	6% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	44% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	28% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	59% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	32% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	77% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)

Grande Ronde at Troy	5230 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	1 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	7 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	550 cfs
Minam River at Minam	306 cfs
Powder River near Richland	53 cfs

WEATHER HISTORY

A heavy, wet snowstorm began in the mid-Atlantic region on March 19, 1958. By the time it ended, over 18 inches of snow had accumulated from northern Virginia to Massachusetts.

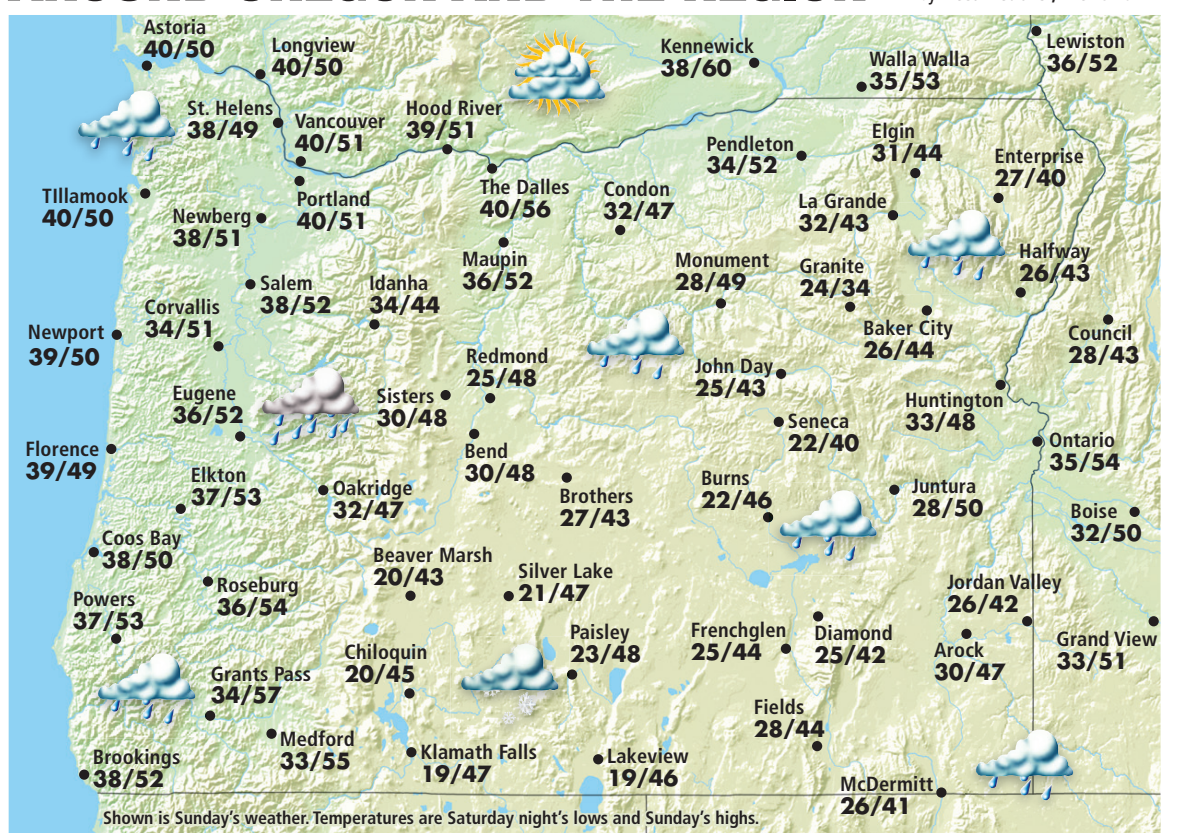
SUN & MOON

	SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	6:58 a.m.	6:56 a.m.
Sunset	7:03 p.m.	7:05 p.m.
Moonrise	9:00 p.m.	10:17 p.m.
Moonset	7:53 a.m.	8:14 a.m.

MOON PHASES

	Last	New	First	Full
	Mar 24	Mar 31	Apr 8	Apr 16

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION



REGIONAL CITIES

City	SUN. HI/Lo/W	MON. HI/Lo/W	City	SUN. HI/Lo/W	MON. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	50/44/r	51/44/sh	Lewiston	52/36/pc	53/42/c
Bend	48/34/c	58/43/c	Longview	50/43/r	50/48/r
Boise	50/30/pc	52/36/pc	Meacham	44/28/sn	48/38/c
Brookings	52/42/c	57/48/c	Medford	55/37/c	59/41/c
Burns	46/26/pc	54/32/c	Newport	50/40/r	51/44/sh
Coos Bay	50/40/c	52/43/c	Olympia	49/40/r	51/45/r
Corvallis	51/41/sh	52/43/r	Ontario	54/33/c	57/35/c
Council	43/24/pc	48/30/c	Pasco	60/41/c	62/43/r
Elgin	44/29/sf	49/37/c	Pendleton	52/39/pc	56/45/c
Eugene	52/42/c	55/43/r	Portland	51/44/r	53/46/r
Hermiston	57/43/c	62/42/c	Powers	53/41/r	59/46/c
Hood River	51/43/r	55/45/r	Redmond	48/31/pc	54/36/c
Imnaha	44/35/c	50/42/c	Roseburg	54/42/c	57/43/c
John Day	43/32/c	51/36/c	Salem	52/42/r	55/45/r
Joseph	37/27/pc	44/35/c	Spokane	48/32/pc	46/36/c
Kennewick	60/44/c	62/42/r	The Dalles	56/43/c	57/46/c
Klamath Falls	47/24/pc	55/30/c	Ukiah	40/29/sf	47/38/c
Lakeview	46/23/pc	57/32/c	Walla Walla	53/40/pc	55/45/c

RECREATION FORECAST SUNDAY

ANTHONY LAKES A little snow	20	19	PHILLIPS LAKE Clouds and sun	39	29
MT. EMILY REC. A little a.m. snow	30	25	BROWNLEE RES. Mostly cloudy	45	29
EAGLE CAP WILD. Clouds and sun	25	16	EMIGRANT ST. PARK Snow showers	36	26
WALLOWA LAKE Clouds and sun	37	27	MCKAY RESERVOIR Some sun, a shower	48	36
THIEF VALLEY RES. Snow showers	44	27	RED BRIDGE ST. PARK Snow showers	43	29

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice