



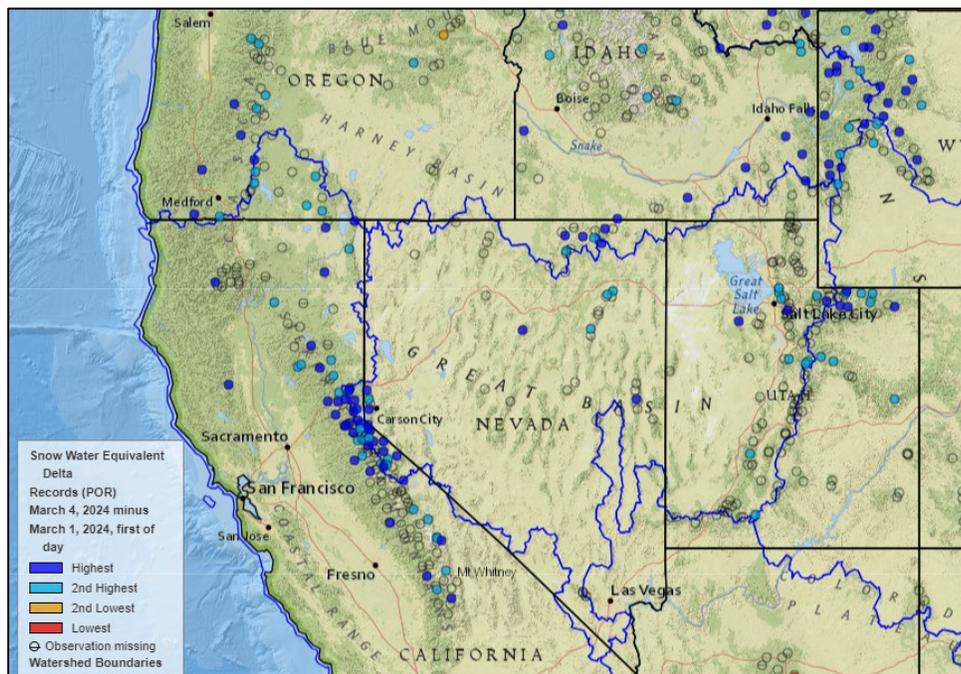
Water and Climate Update

March 07, 2024

The Natural Resources Conservation Service produces this weekly report using data and products from the [National Water and Climate Center](#) and other agencies. The report focuses on seasonal snowpack, precipitation, temperature, and drought conditions in the U.S.

Snow	2	Drought	10
Precipitation	4	Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators	13
Temperature.....	8	More Information	19

California gains record snow accumulation in March



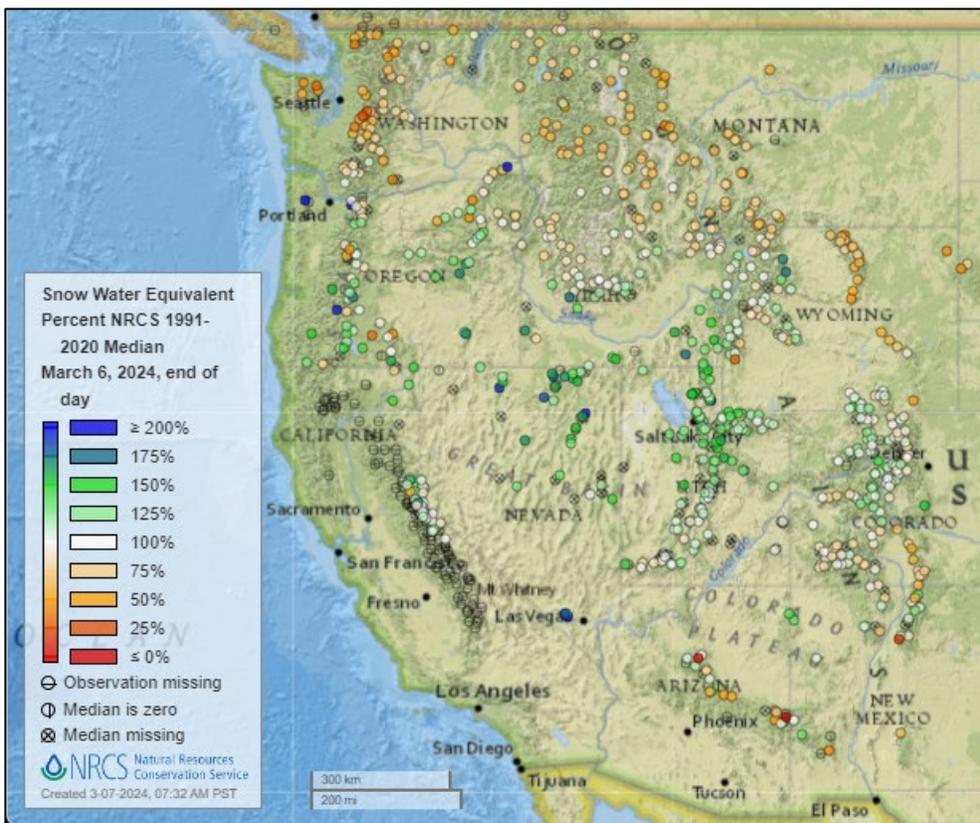
In California, March came in like a lion, as the saying goes, and delivered high winds and feet of new snow during recent storms. The powerful storm activity left vehicles stranded as it forced the closure of interstate highways. Recreational ski areas in the region were also closed for safety reasons, leaving crews to dig out chairlifts. Sugar Bowl Ski Resort, northwest of Lake Tahoe, reported over 10 feet of snow accumulation within three days. Record snow increases occurred throughout the Sierra Nevada, changing the water supply outlook for the region in a matter of days. In many locations, snowpack readings were below normal as of February 28, but by March 4, the same areas were indicating near to well-above normal snowpack conditions.

Related:

- [Photos: California towns buried under more than 10 feet of snow](#) – CNN
- [More snow hits Northwest following blizzard in California's Sierra Nevada mountains](#) – ABC News
- [Torrential snow storm leaves Northern California covered in powder: See the top photos](#) – USA Today

[March 1 - 4 Record Snowpack Accumulation](#) – Interactive Map, NRCS Snow Survey & Water Supply Forecasting Program

Snow



[Snow water equivalent percent of median map](#)

See also:
[Snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)

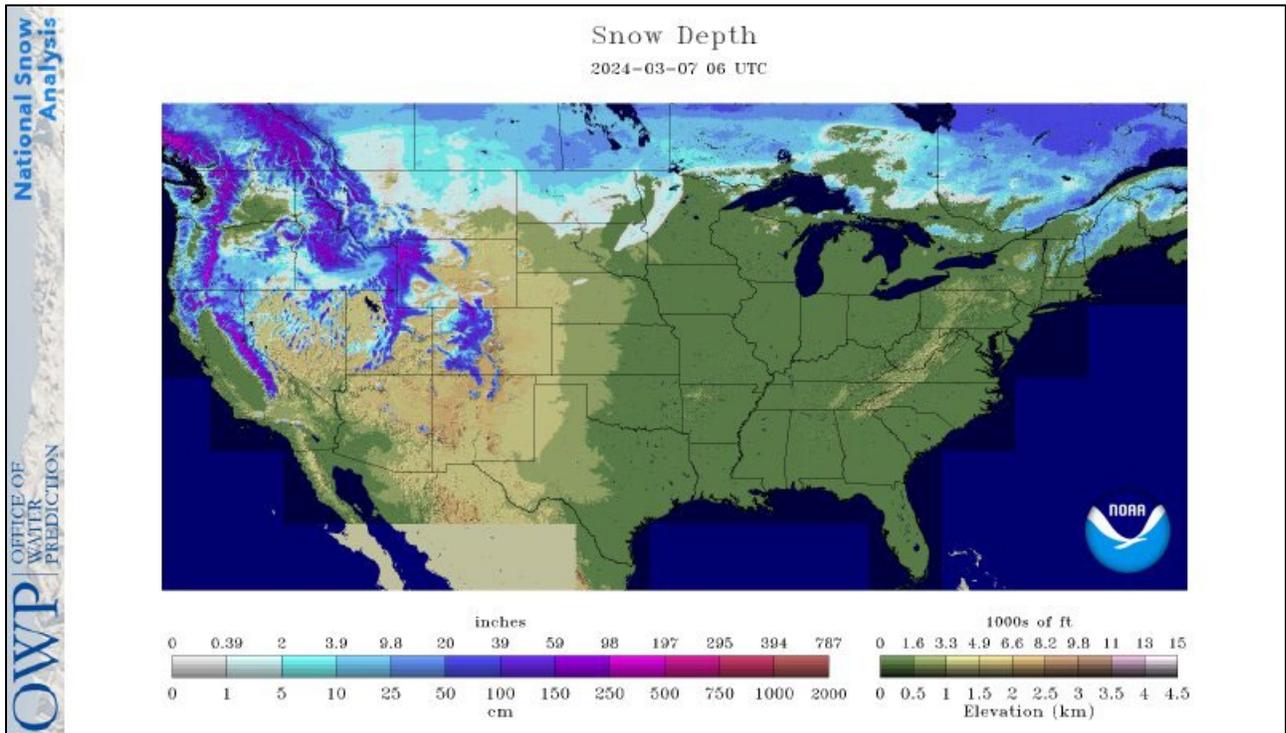


[Alaska snow water equivalent percent of median map](#)

See also:
[Alaska snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)

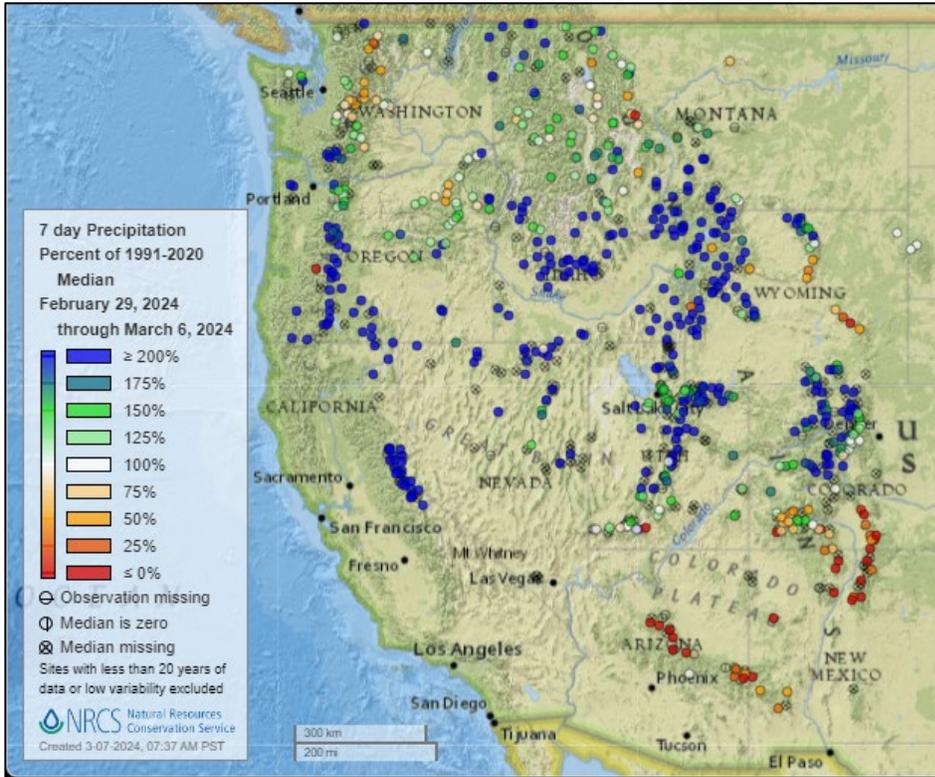
Current Snow Depth, National Weather Service Snow Analysis

Source: NOAA NWS National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center



Precipitation

Last 7 Days, NRCS SNOTEL Network

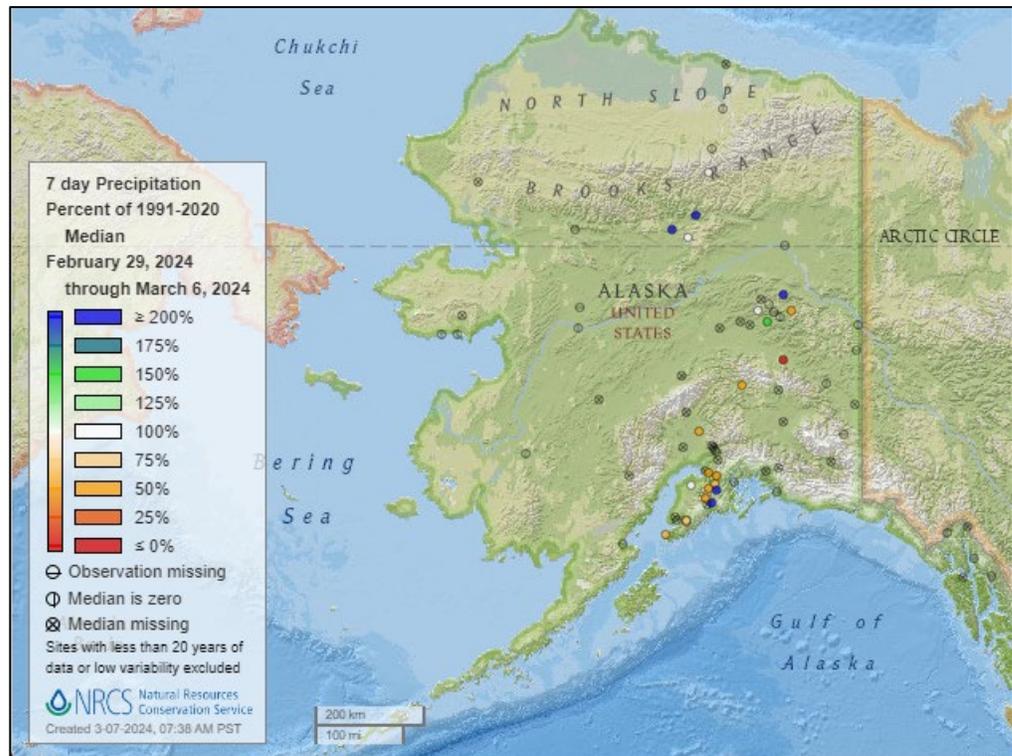


[7-day precipitation percent of median map](#)

See also:
[7-day total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

[Alaska 7-day precipitation percent of median map](#)

See also:
[Alaska 7-day total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)



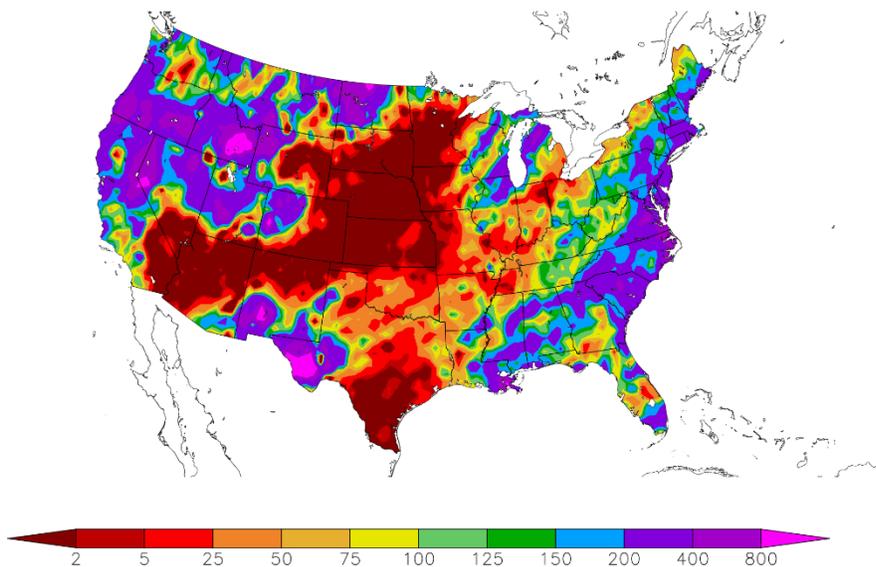
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

[7-day precipitation percent of normal map](#) for the continental U.S.

See also: [7-day total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
2/29/2024 – 3/6/2024



Generated 3/7/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

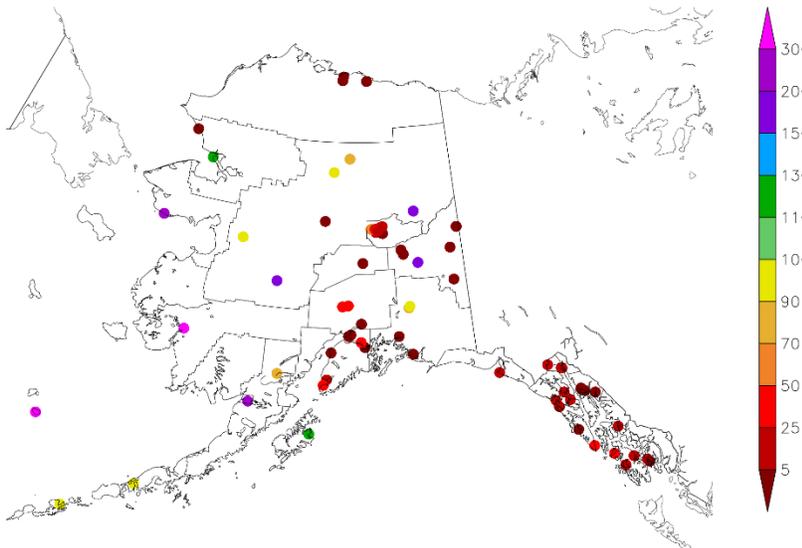
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

[7-day precipitation percent of normal map](#) for Alaska.

See also: [7-day total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
2/29/2024 – 3/6/2024



Generated 3/7/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Month-to-Date, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

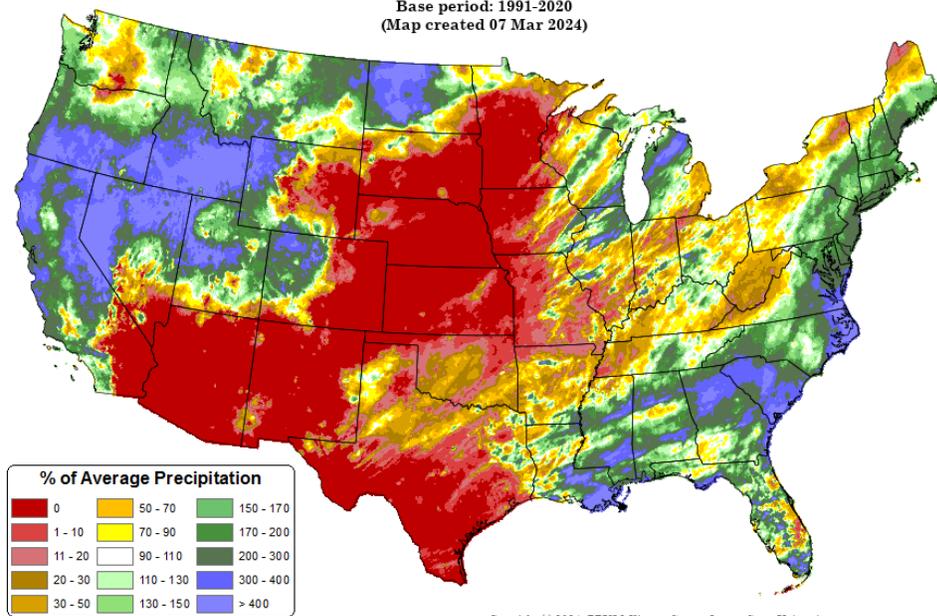
Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 Mar 2024 - 06 Mar 2024

Period ending 7 AM EST 06 Mar 2024

Base period: 1991-2020

(Map created 07 Mar 2024)

[Month-to-date national total precipitation anomaly map](#)



Copyright (c) 2024, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University

Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

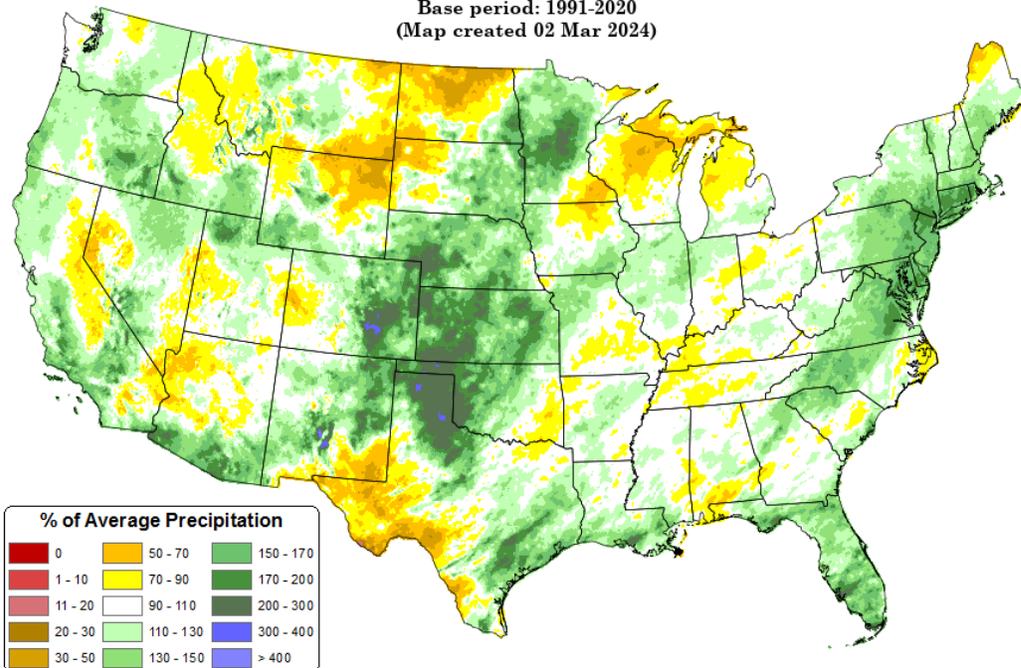
[December 2023 through February 2024 precipitation anomaly map](#)

Total Precipitation Anomaly: Dec 2023 - Feb 2024

Period ending 7 AM EST 29 Feb 2024

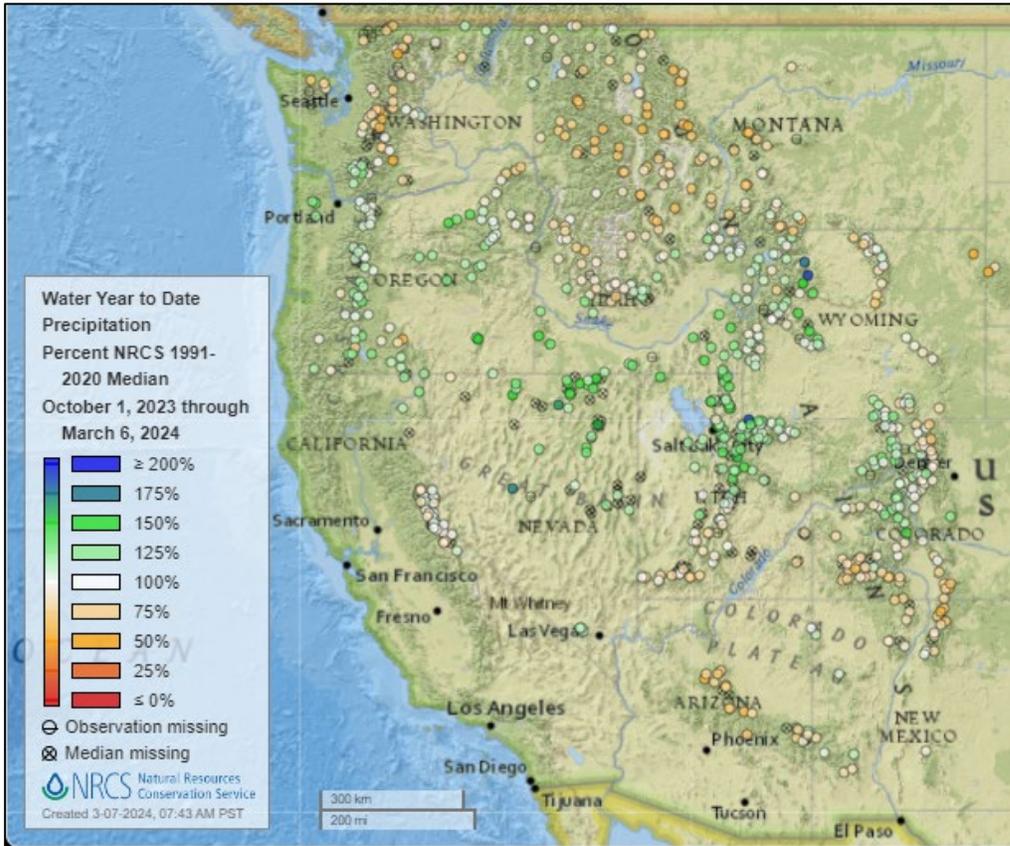
Base period: 1991-2020

(Map created 02 Mar 2024)



Copyright (c) 2024, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University

Water Year-to-Date, NRCS SNOTEL Network

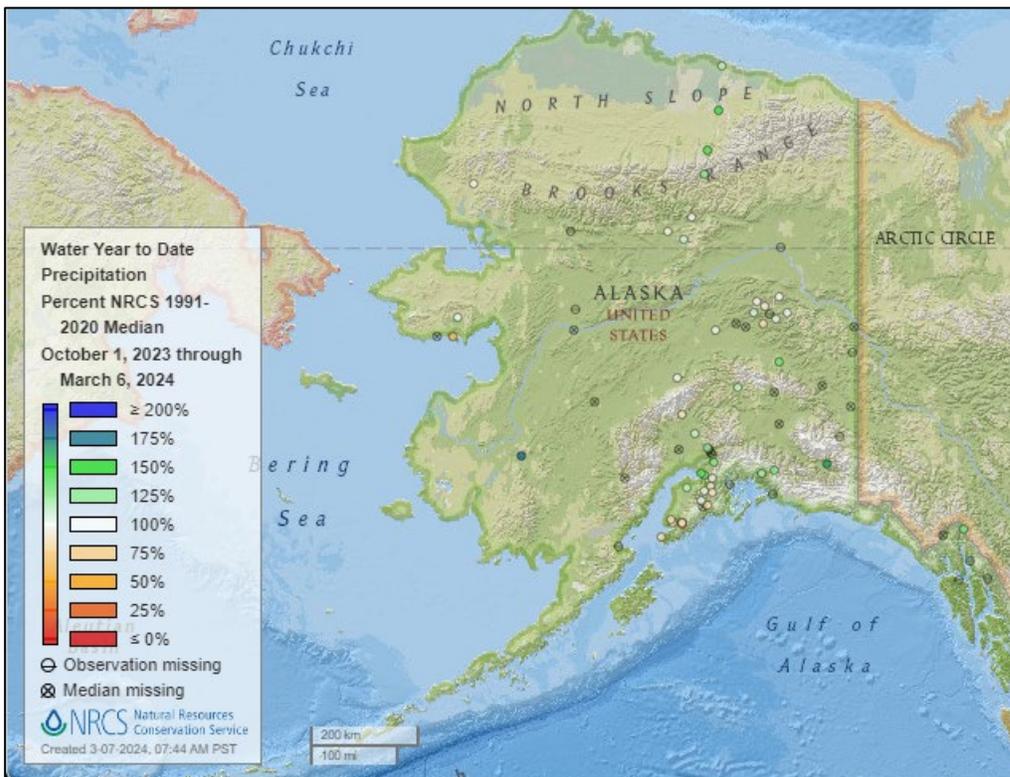


[2024 water year-to-date precipitation percent of median map](#)

See also:

[2024 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

[2024 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)



[Alaska 2024 water year-to-date precipitation percent of median map](#)

See also:

[Alaska 2024 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

[Alaska 2024 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

Temperature

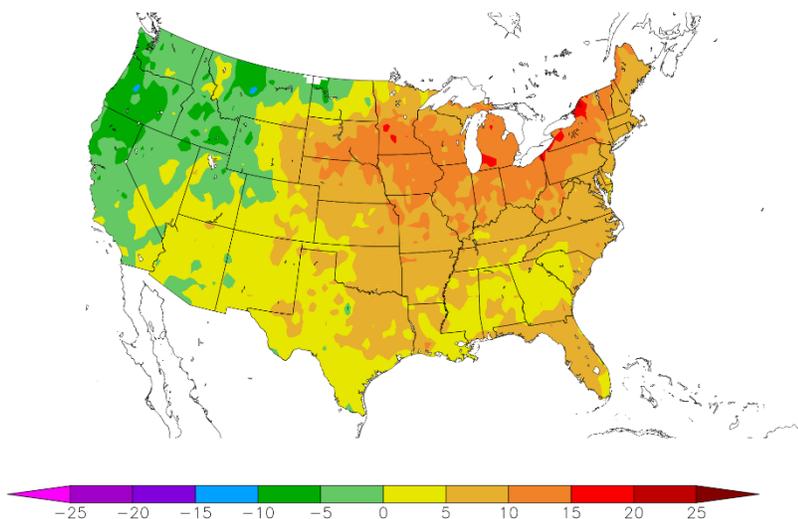
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

[7-day temperature anomaly map](#) for the contiguous U.S.

See also: [7-day temperature \(° F\) map](#)

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
2/29/2024 – 3/6/2024



Generated 3/7/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

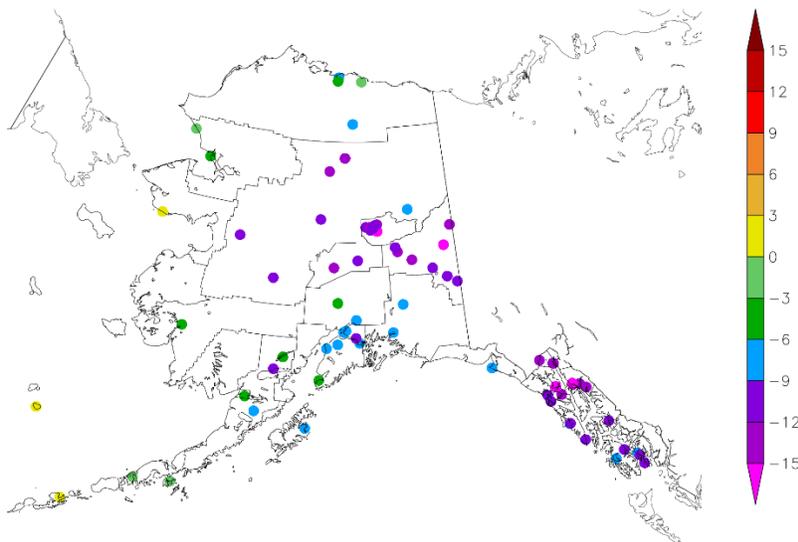
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

[7-day temperature anomaly map](#) for Alaska.

See also: [7-day temperature \(° F\) map](#)

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
2/29/2024 – 3/6/2024



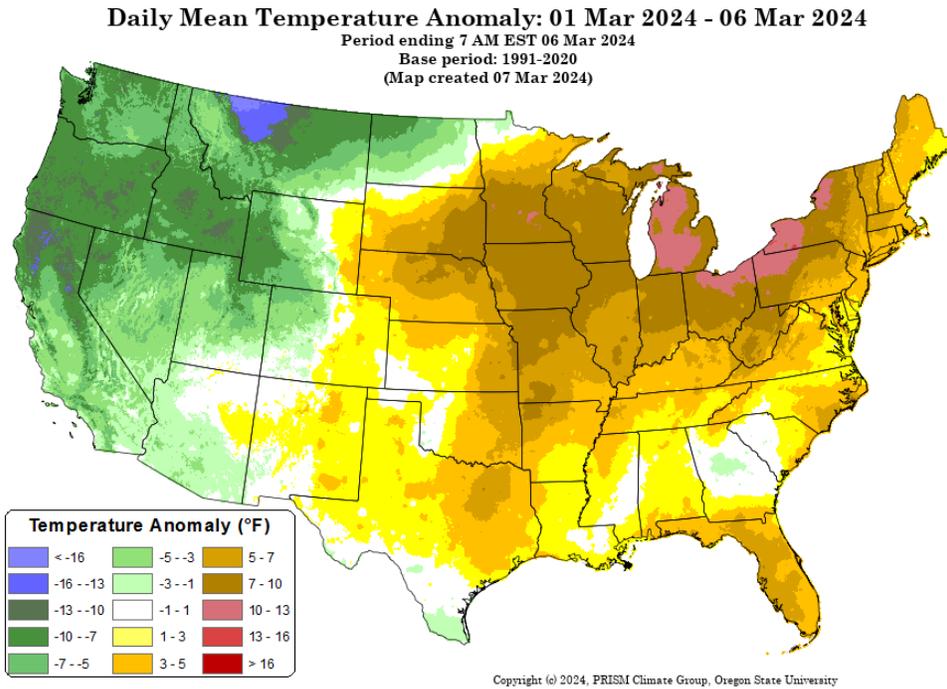
Generated 3/7/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Month-to-Date, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

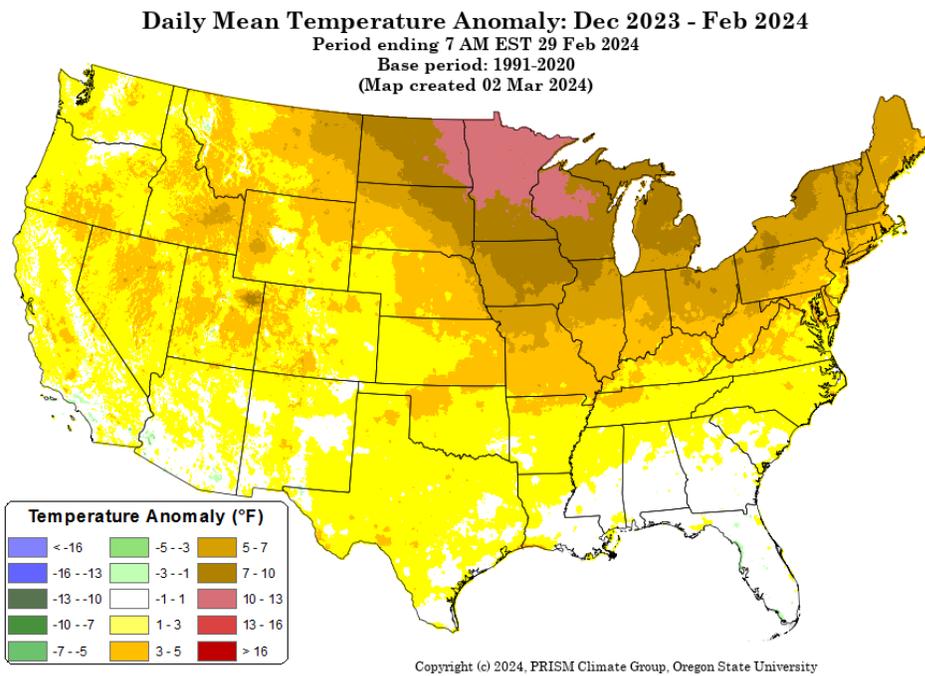
[Month-to-date national daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

[December 2023 through February 2024 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



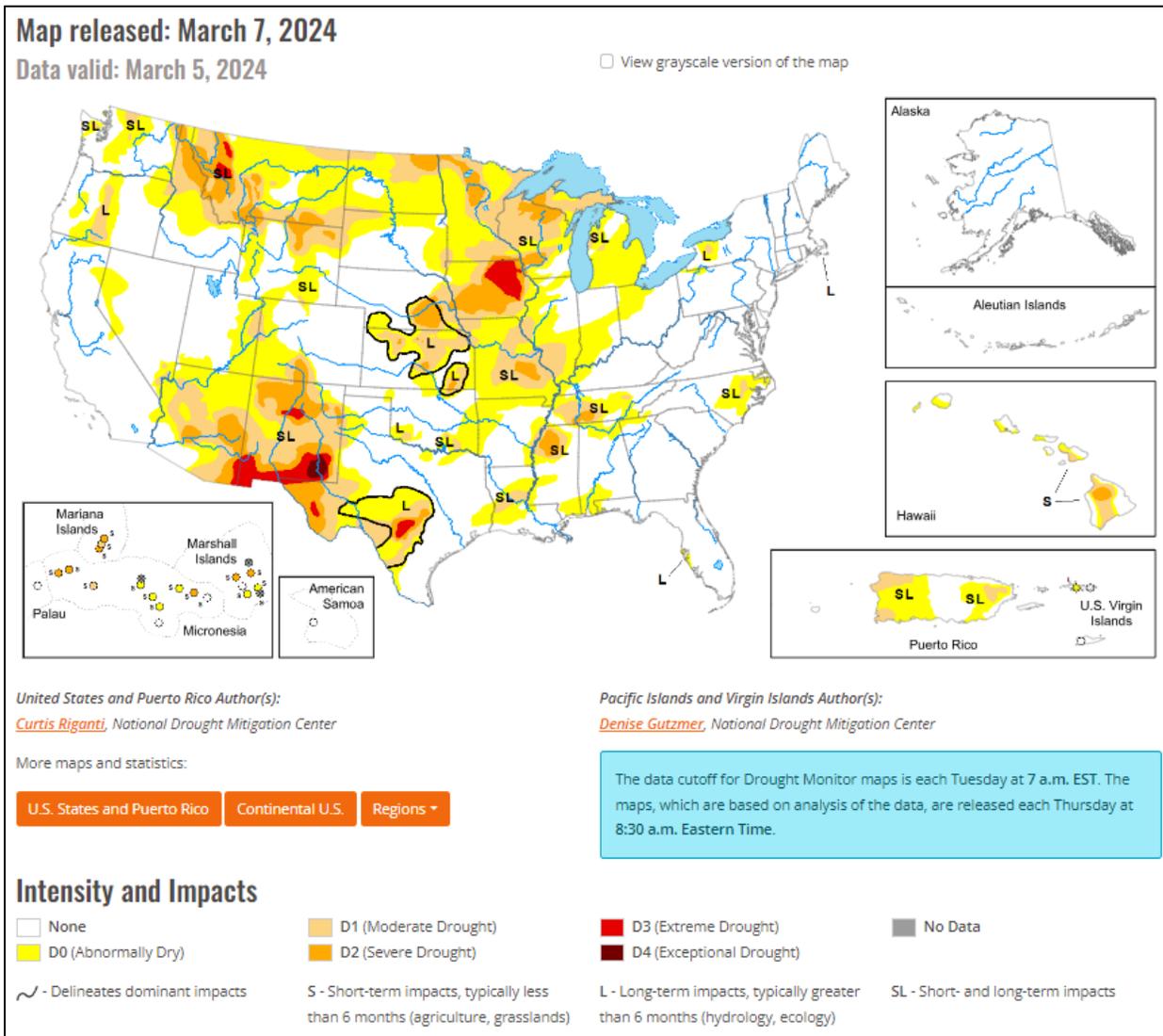
Drought

[U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

[U.S. Drought Portal](#)

Source: NOAA



Current [National Drought Summary](#), March 05, 2024

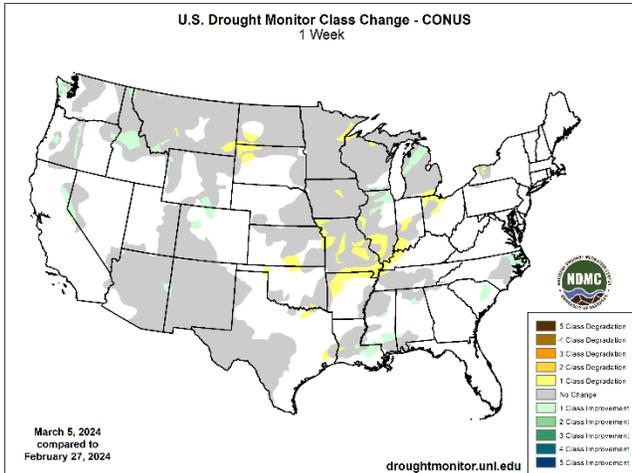
Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

“Heavy precipitation fell across parts of the southern and eastern U.S., and in parts of the West, especially in the Sierra Nevada, where a major blizzard significantly increased snowpack in that range. The Great Plains were mostly dry this week, as were parts of the Midwest, except for rain in parts of Illinois, southeast Wisconsin and Michigan. Recent rainfall improved conditions across much of Puerto Rico. Hawaii has been in a trade wind pattern recently, leading to wet weather on the windward sides of the islands but drier conditions on the leeward sides. Thus, a mix of improvements and degradations occurred there. Temperatures were near or below normal in much of the western U.S. west of the Continental Divide. In most of the central and eastern U.S., temperatures were near or above normal, especially in the Upper Midwest and Great Lakes, where temperatures from 10 to 15 degrees warmer than normal were common. A few spots in the Great Lakes area checked in even warmer than that, with readings 15-20 degrees above normal.”

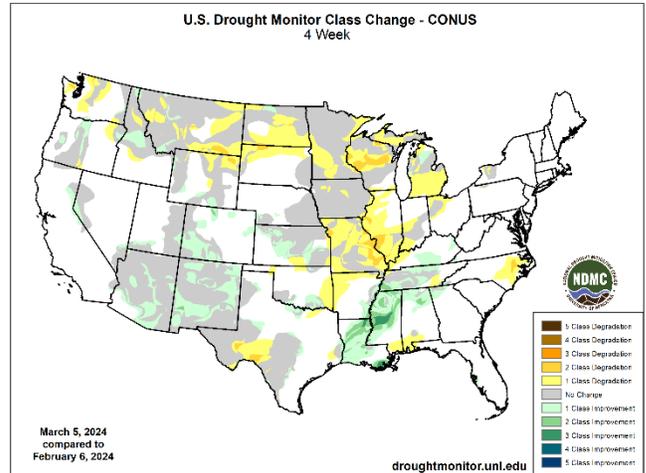
Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

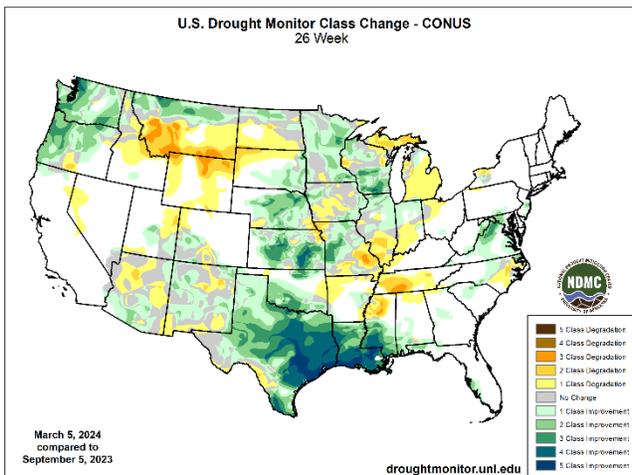
1 Week



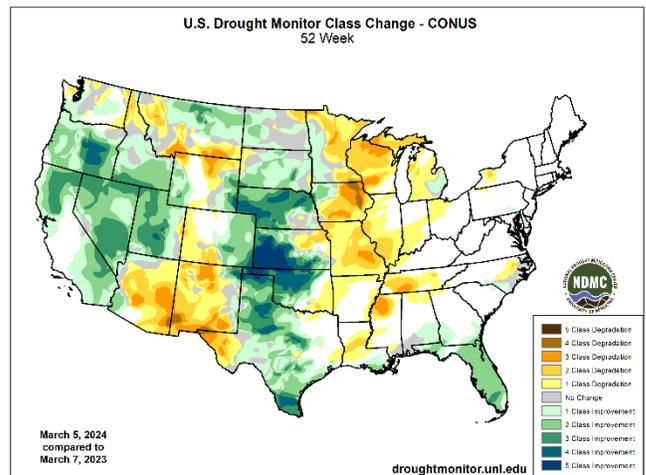
1 Month



6 Months



1 Year



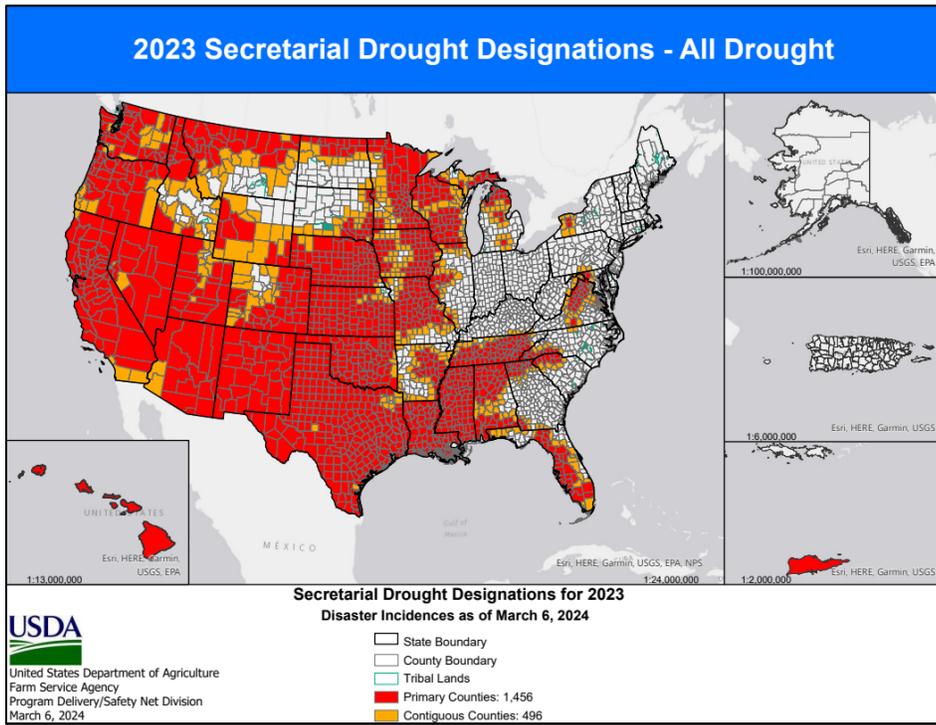
[Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months for the contiguous U.S.](#)

Highlighted Drought Resources

- [Drought Impact Reporter](#)
- [Quarterly Regional Climate Impacts and Outlook](#)
- [U.S. Drought Portal Indicators and Monitoring](#)
- [U.S. Population in Drought, Weekly Comparison](#)
- [USDA Disaster and Drought Information](#)

USDA Secretarial [Drought Designations](#)

Source: USDA Farm Service Agency



Wildfires: [Fire Information for Resource Management System US/Canada](#)

Source: NASA/USDA Forest Service



Current active wildfires larger than 1,000 acres in size

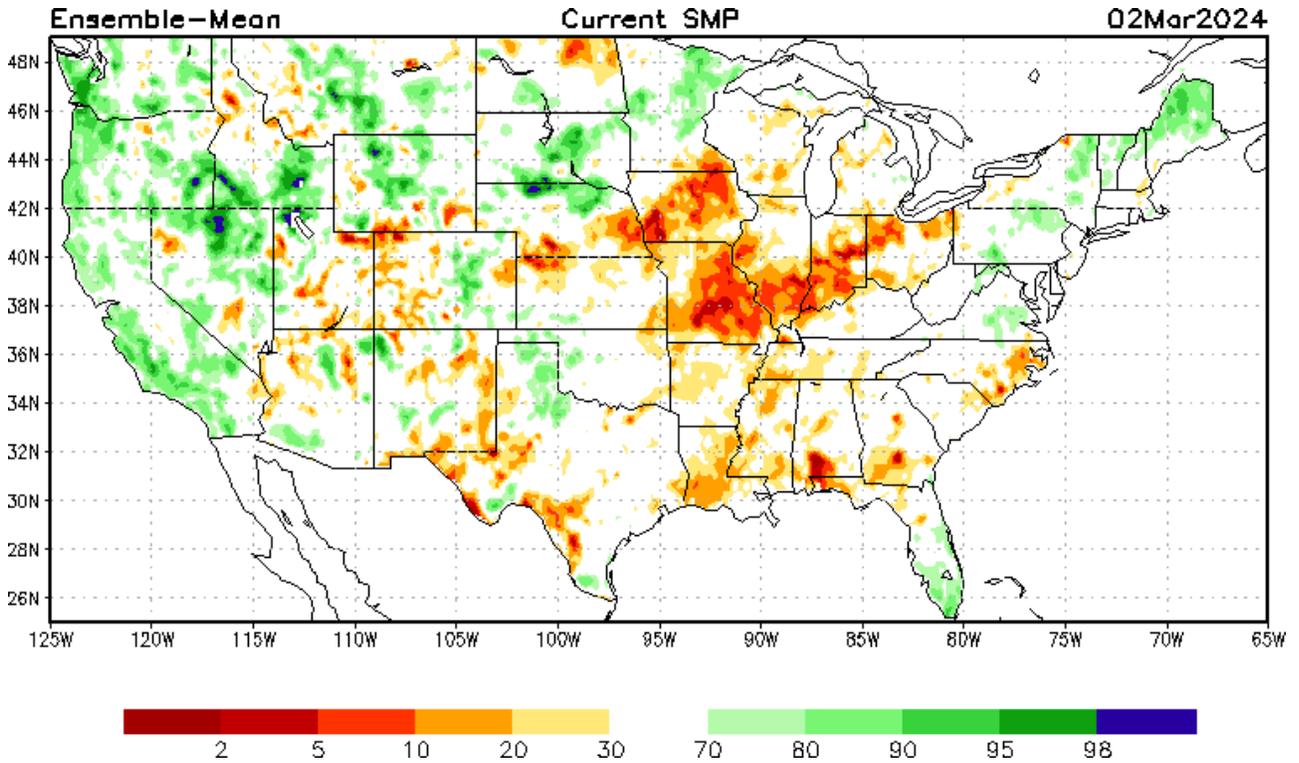
Highlighted Wildfire Resources

- [National Interagency Fire Center](#)
- [InciWeb Incident Information System](#)
- [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook](#)

Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

Soil Moisture

Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Prediction

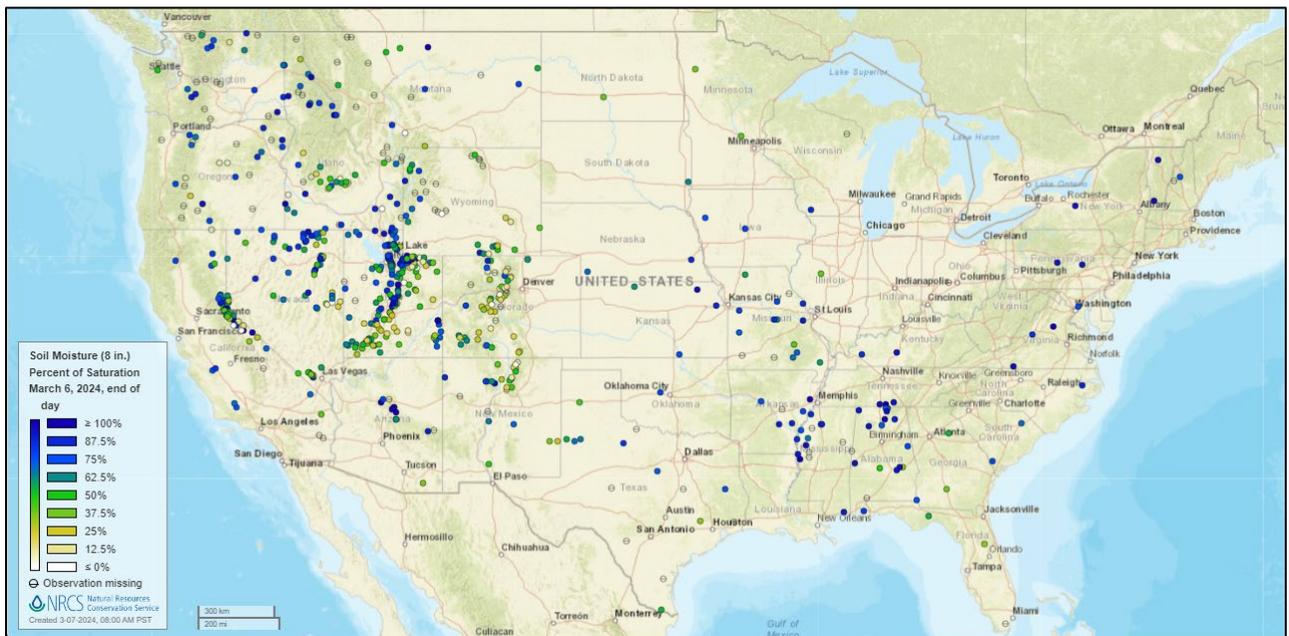


[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of March 02, 2024

Soil Moisture Percent of Saturation

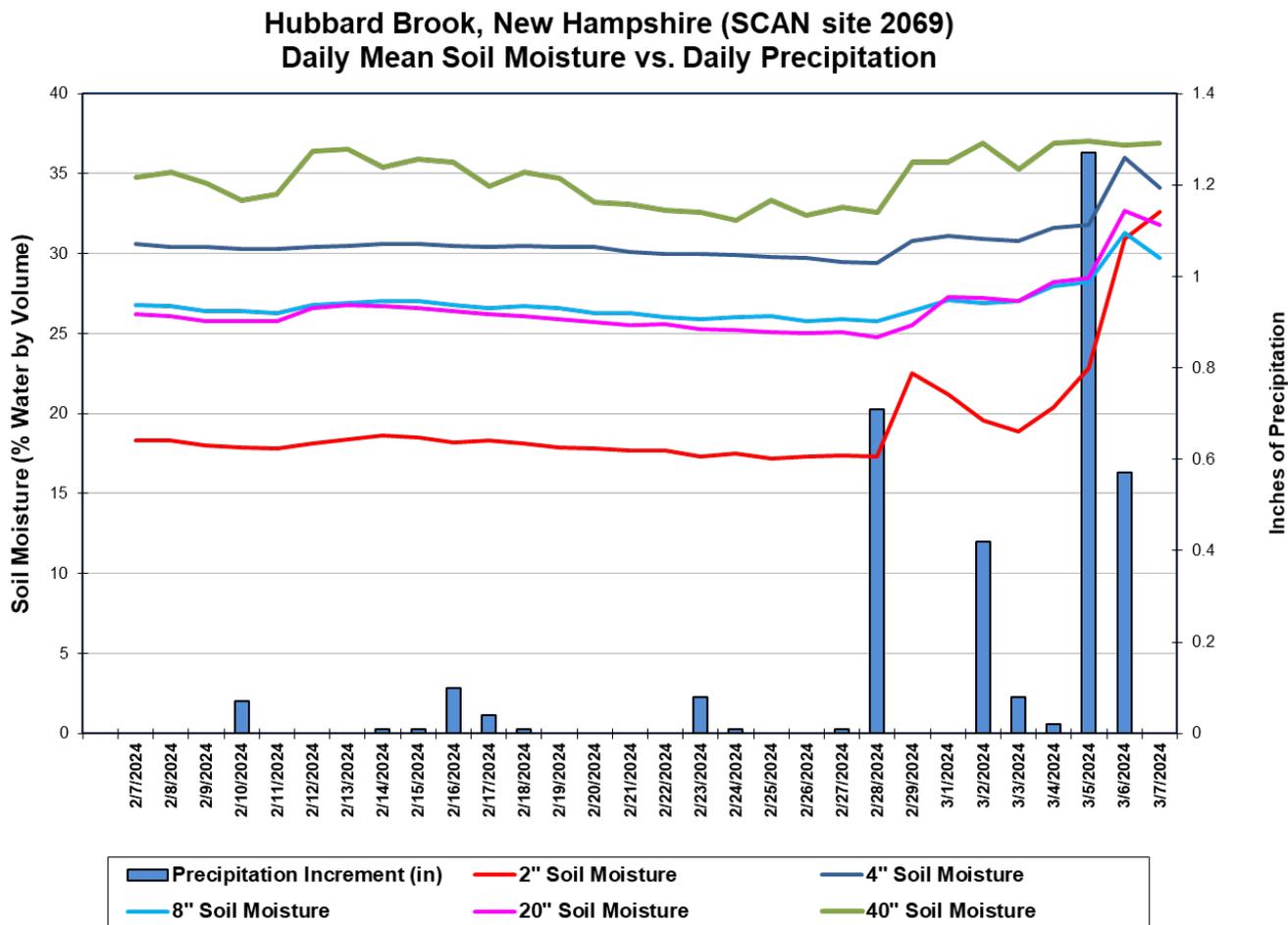
Source: NRCS SNOTEL and [Soil Climate Analysis Network](#) (SCAN)

[U.S. soil moisture map at 8-inch depth:](#)



Soil Moisture

Source: NRCS [Soil Climate Analysis Network](#) (SCAN)



This chart shows the precipitation and soil moisture for the last 30 days at the [Hubbard Brook](#) SCAN site in New Hampshire. Soil sensors at all depths indicate an increase in soil moisture after the site received 3.07 inches of precipitation between February 28 through March 6. Total precipitation for the 30-day period was 3.41 inches.

Soil Moisture Data Portals

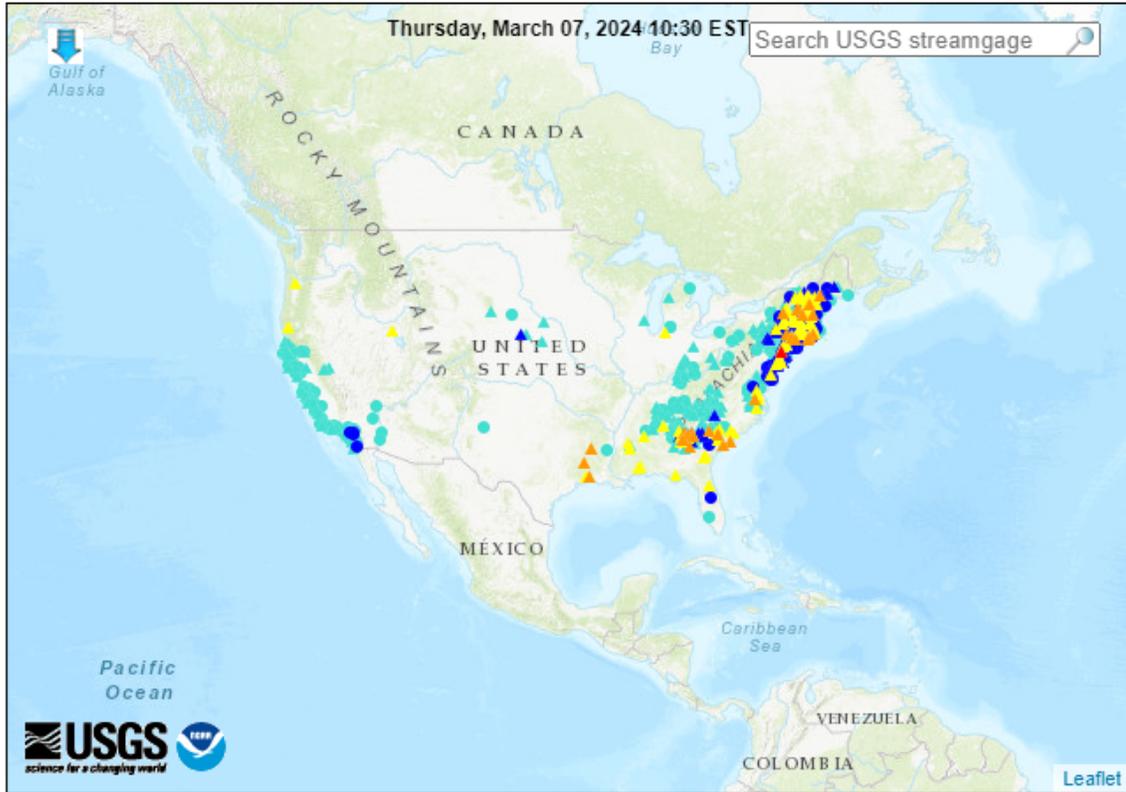
- [USCRN Soil Moisture](#)
- [National Soil Moisture Network](#)
- [NOAA Climate Prediction Center Soil Moisture](#)
- [NASA Grace](#)

Streamflow, Drought, Flood, and Runoff

Source: U.S. Geological Survey [WaterWatch Streamflow Map](#)

Map of flood and high flow conditions

(32 in floods [moderate: 1, minor: 31], 72 in near-flood)



Explanation - Percentile classes						
<95	95-98	>= 99	Above action stage	Above flood stage	Above moderate flood stage	Above major flood stage
△ Streamgauge with flood stage			○ Streamgauge without flood stage			

[WaterWatch: Streamflow, drought, flood, and runoff conditions](#)

Reservoir Storage

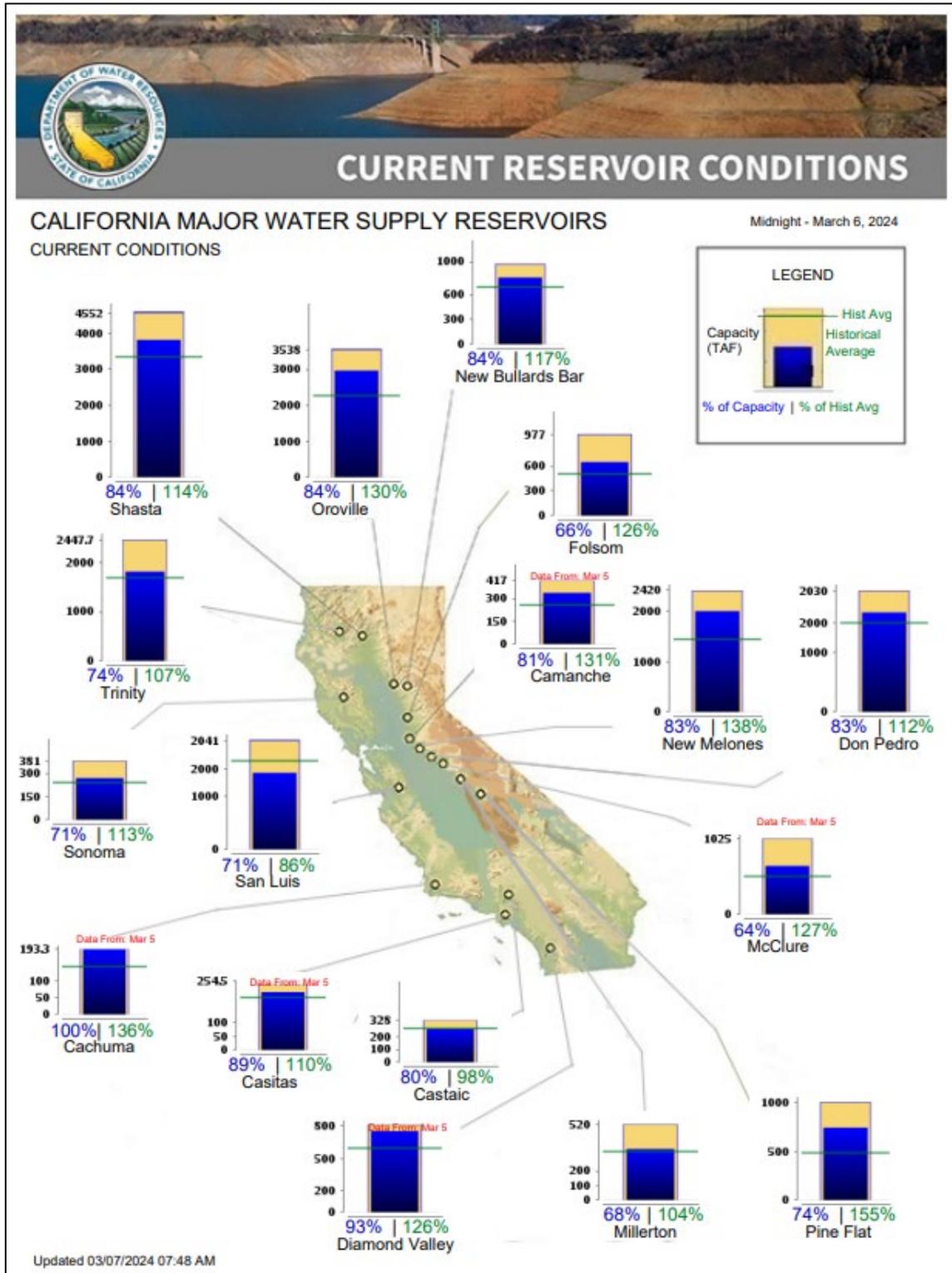
Hydromet Teacup Reservoir Depictions

Source: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

- [Upper Colorado](#)
- [Pacific Northwest/Snake/Columbia](#)
- [Sevier River Water, Utah](#)
- [Upper Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas](#)

Current California Reservoir Conditions

Source: California Department of Water Resources



[Current California Reservoir Conditions](#)

Agricultural Weather Highlights

Author: Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB

National Outlook, Thursday March 07, 2024: “Heavy rain along the northern Atlantic Coast will end later today. Meanwhile, locally severe thunderstorms will develop this afternoon into tonight across the south-central U.S., though rain will largely bypass the southern High Plains. The Southern threat of severe weather will gradually shift eastward, reaching the southern Atlantic Coast by Saturday evening. In addition, rainfall could total 1 to 3 inches in parts of the South, increasing the flood threat in areas that already experienced downpours a few days ago. Significant, late-week rain, generally 1 to 2 inches, will extend as far north as the southern and eastern Corn Belt, as well as the Northeast. In contrast, mostly dry weather will prevail during the next 5 days across the northern Plains and far upper Midwest. Elsewhere, much of the West will experience several days of cool, tranquil weather, although precipitation will return during the weekend across the Pacific Northwest. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for March 12 – 16 calls for the likelihood of near- or above-normal temperatures and precipitation across most of the country. Colder-than-normal conditions will be confined to portions of the northern Intermountain West, while drier-than-normal weather should be limited to areas along and near the Pacific Coast, including much of California.”

Weather Hazards Outlook: [March 09 – 13, 2024](#)

Source: NOAA Weather Prediction Center

U.S. Day 3-7 Hazards Outlook

[About the Hazards Outlook](#)

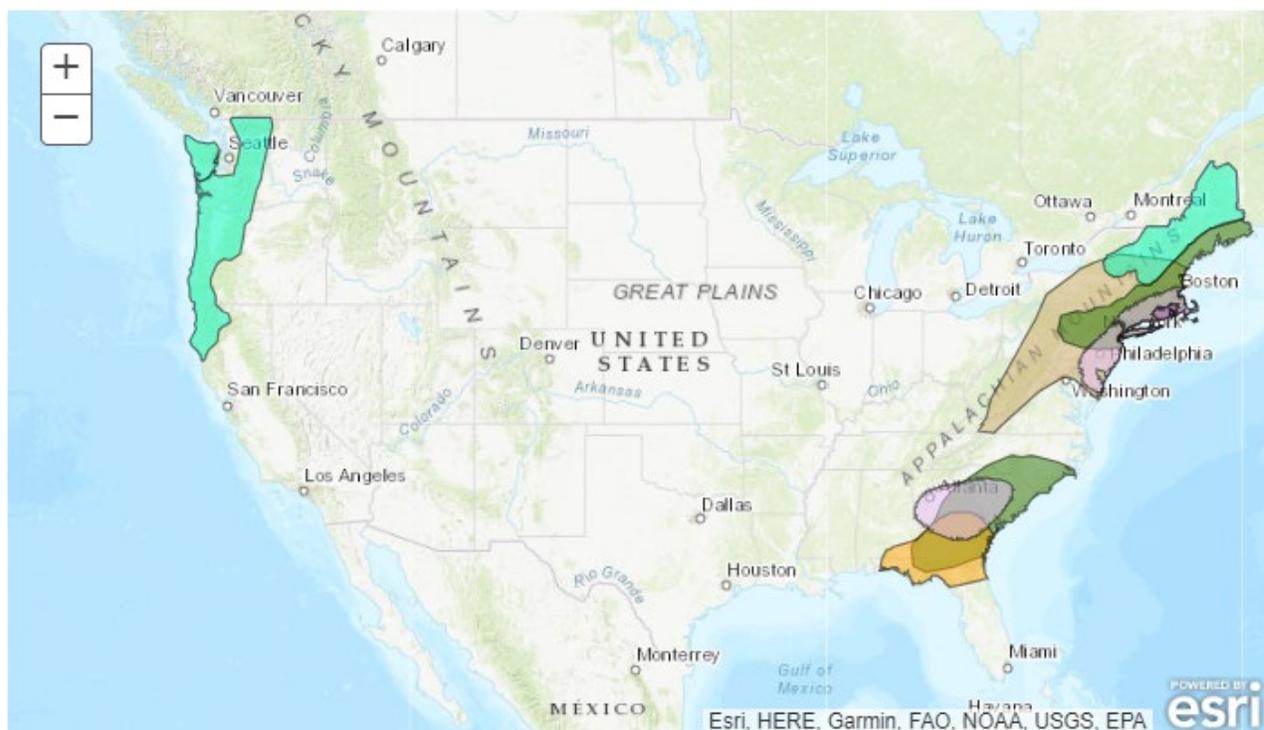
Created March 06, 2024

NOTE: These products are only created Monday through Friday. Please exercise caution using this outlook during the weekend.

Precipitation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Temperature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wildfires	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>

Legend			
	Flooding Likely		Hazardous Heat
	Flooding Occurring or Imminent		Hazardous Cold
	Flooding Possible		Frost/Freeze
	Freezing Rain		High Winds
	Heavy Precipitation		Significant Waves
	Heavy Rain		Critical Wildfire Risk
	Heavy Snow		Severe Weather

Valid March 09, 2024 - March 13, 2024

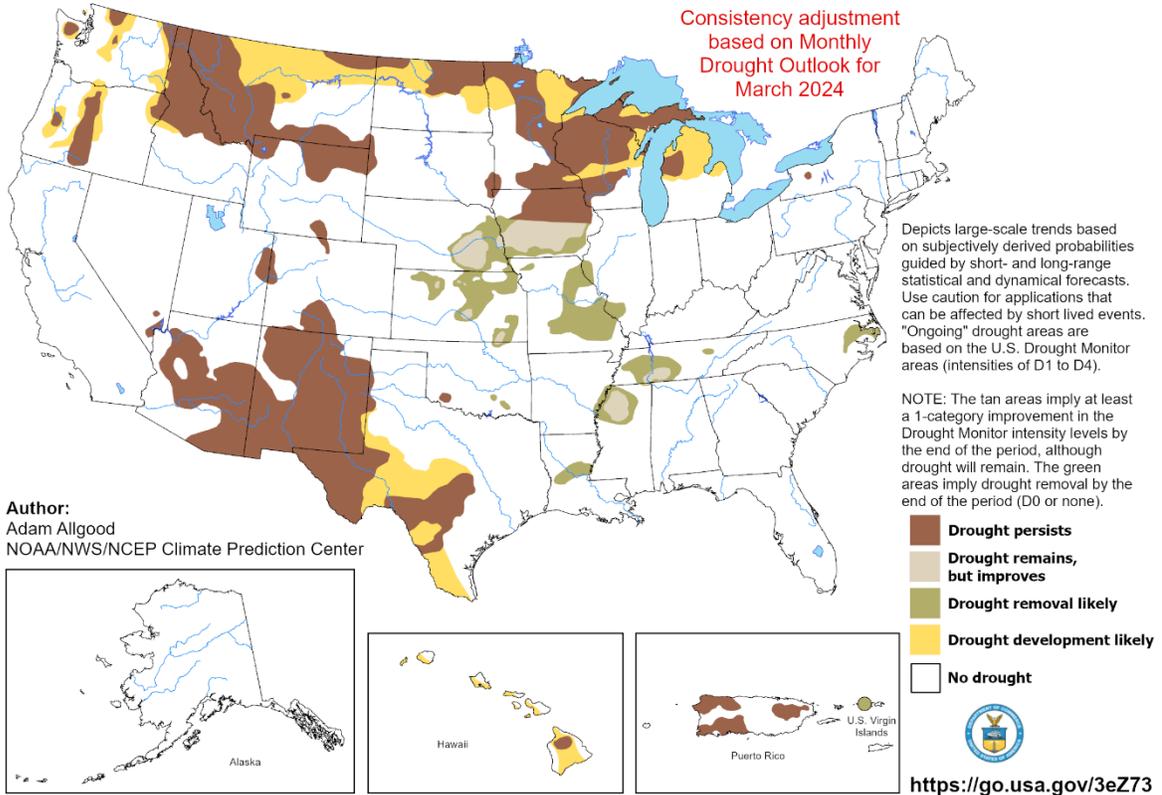


Seasonal Drought Outlook: [March 01 – May 31, 2024](#)

Source: National Weather Service

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for March 1 - May 31, 2024
Released February 29, 2024

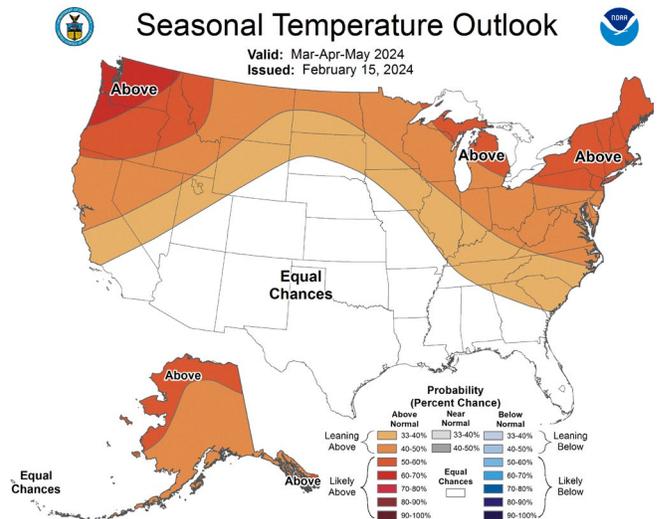
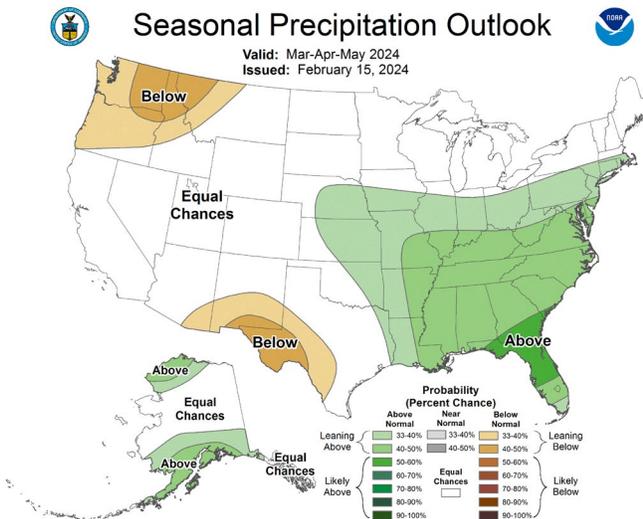


Climate Prediction Center Three-month Outlook

Source: National Weather Service

[Precipitation](#)

[Temperature](#)



[March-April-May 2024 precipitation and temperature outlook summaries](#)

More Information

The NRCS [National Water and Climate Center](#) publishes this weekly report. We welcome your feedback. If you have questions or comments, please [contact us](#).