

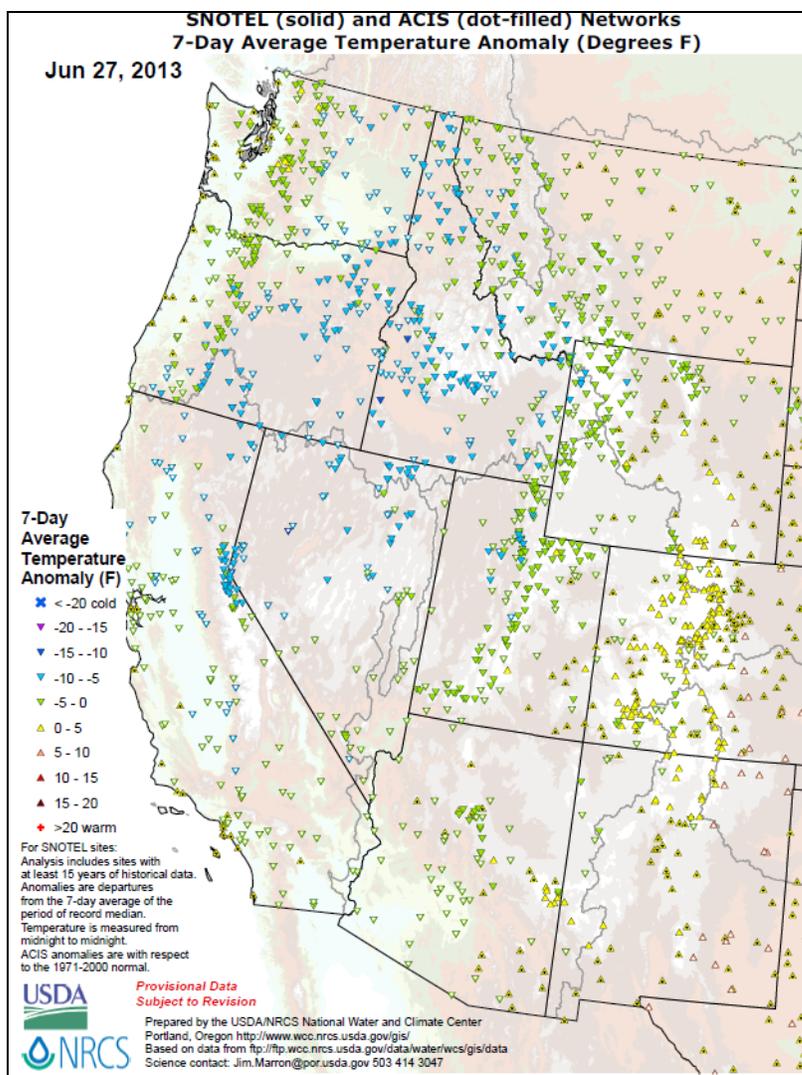


Natural Resources Conservation Service
 P.O. Box 2890
 Washington, D.C. 20013

Weekly Snowpack / Drought Monitor Update 27 June 2013

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Temperature



SNOTEL and ACIS 7-day temperature anomaly ending this morning reveals cooler than normal departures concentrated over much of the Pacific Northwest, northern Great Basin, and northern California. Slightly warmer than normal conditions dominated the eastern slope of the Rockies from southern Wyoming to southern New Mexico.

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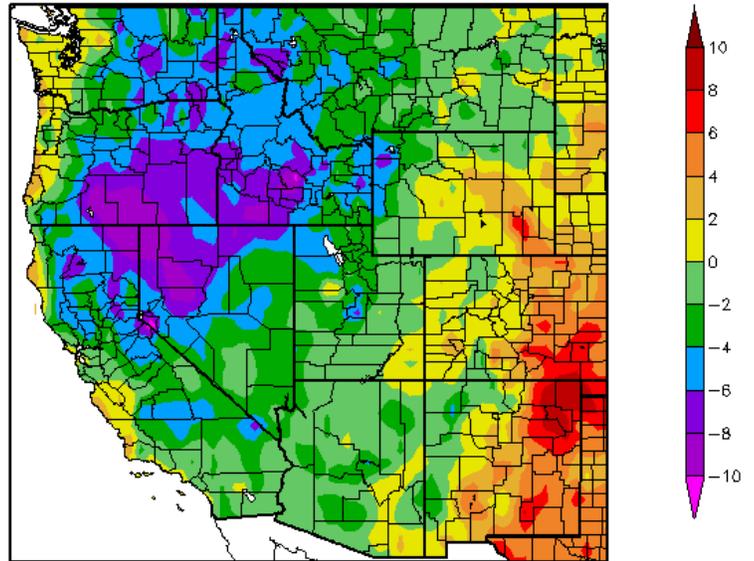
Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

[ACIS 7-day](#) average temperature anomalies, ending yesterday, show the greatest positive temperature departures over southeast Colorado and northeast New Mexico (>+8°F). The greatest negative departures occur over south-central Oregon to northwest Nevada (<-8°F).

This map currently does not use SNOTEL data, but is expected to later this summer.

For more figures, see the Western Water Assessment's Intermountain West Climate [Dashboard](#). See the [Westwide Drought Tracker](#) for more maps.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
6/20/2013 – 6/26/2013



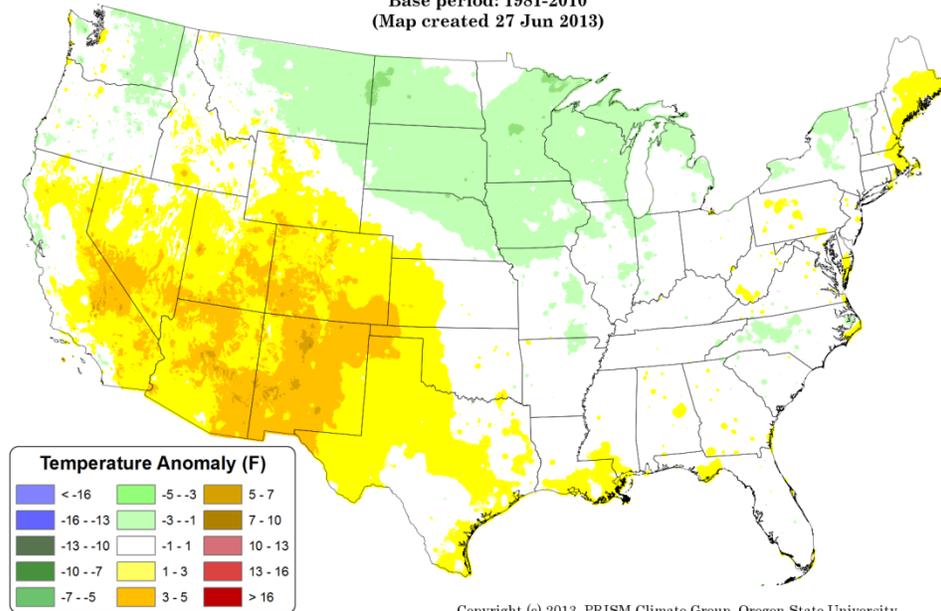
Generated 6/27/2013 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

This preliminary [PRISM](#) temperature map, updated daily, will be readily available to the public by early fall.

The map contains all available network data, including SNOTEL data, and will be updated periodically as additional data become available and are quality controlled.

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: 01 June 2013 - 26 June 2013
Period ending 7 AM EST 26 Jun 2013
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 27 Jun 2013)



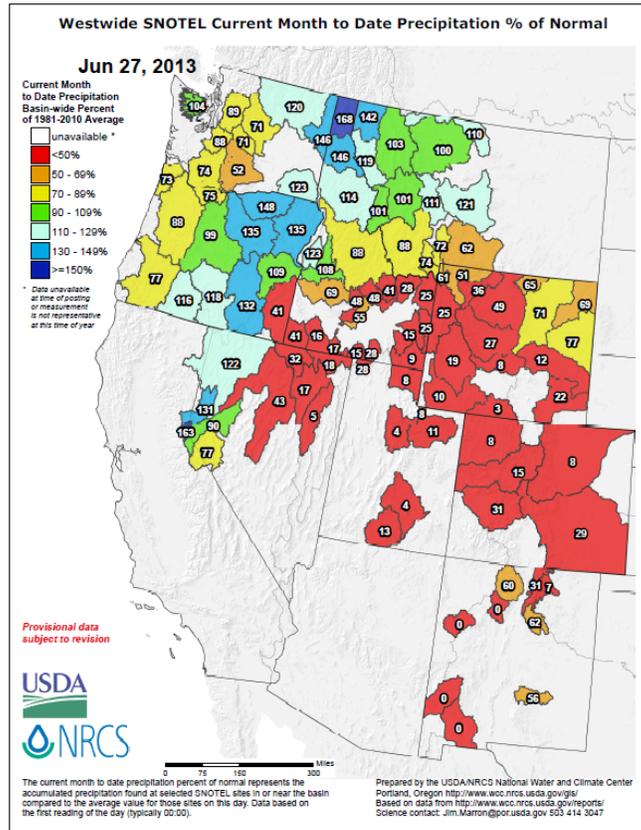
Copyright (c) 2013, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University

In this current map, June is trending with warmer than normal temperatures across eastern California, the southern Great Basin, and the Southwest, and slightly cooler than normal temperatures over eastern Washington and the northern high plains. Much of the East Coast and the Southeast are experiencing near normal conditions.

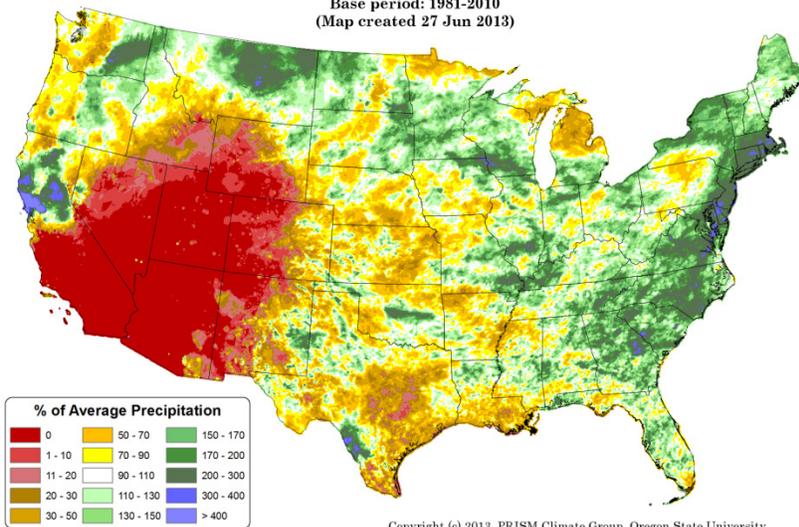
Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Precipitation

SNOTEL [month to date](#) precipitation percent of normal pattern shows drier conditions over much of the West; especially over the southern half. The notable exception of above normal precipitation extends from the Montana Rockies southward to the western Great Basin.



Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 June 2013 - 26 June 2013
 Period ending 7 AM EST 26 Jun 2013
 Base period: 1981-2010
 (Map created 27 Jun 2013)



This preliminary [PRISM](#) precipitation map, updated daily, will be available to the public by early fall. It contains all available network data, including SNOTEL data, and will be updated periodically as additional data become available and are quality controlled.

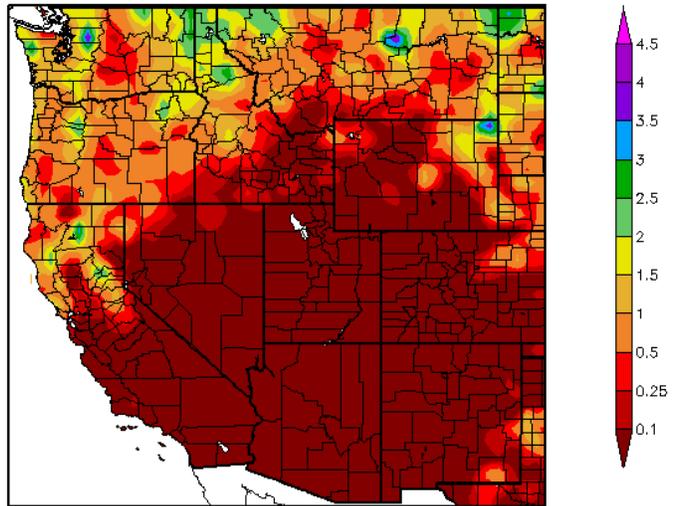
In the West, June's precipitation pattern has been one that has favored much of Montana, northern California, eastern Washington, the western Great Lakes, and the eastern third of the country with surplus moisture. The central and southern plains have been drier with few exceptions (central OK & southwest TX).

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

[ACIS](#) 7-day average precipitation amounts for the period ending June 26 shows scattered precipitation confined across the upper Missouri River in Montana, the Panhandle of Idaho, and along the Cascades and northern Sierra Nevada ranges. Elsewhere, rainfall was negligible.

This map currently does not use SNOTEL data, but is expected to later this summer.

Precipitation (in)
6/20/2013 – 6/26/2013



Generated 6/27/2013 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

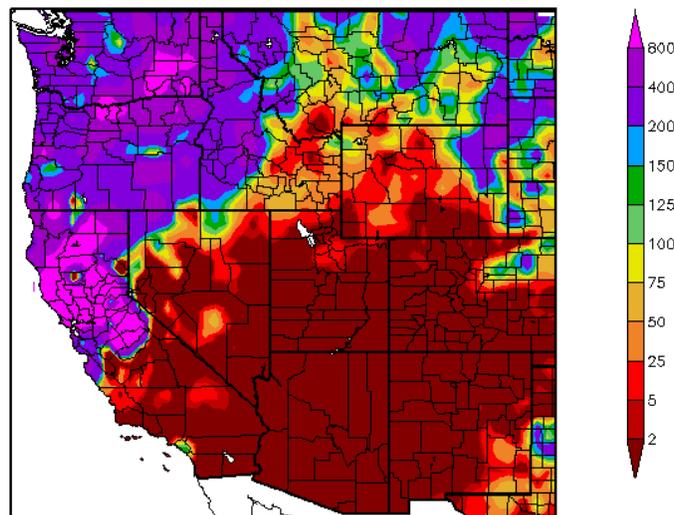
In this [map](#), the normally dry Pacific Northwest and California received some rains (>1") and as a result caused exceptionally high percent of normal values. More common thunderstorm amounts occurred over Montana and resulted in lower (but still high) percent of normal values.

Note large tracks of land with little, if any, precipitation across the southern half of the West.

The summer Southwest Monsoons on average starts within the next two weeks.

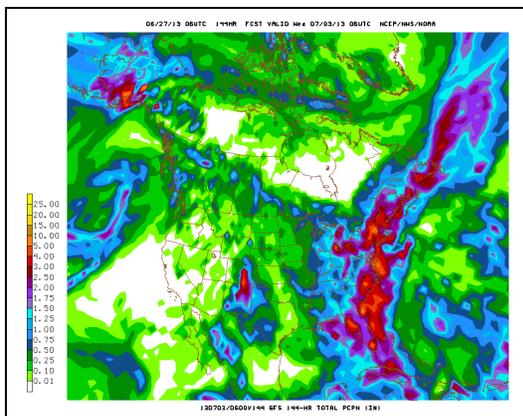
This map currently does not use SNOTEL data, but is expected to later this summer.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
6/20/2013 – 6/26/2013



Generated 6/27/2013 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers



The latest forecasts suggest some enhanced precipitation will occur for the Southwest starting next week (see map: click to enlarge for time series).

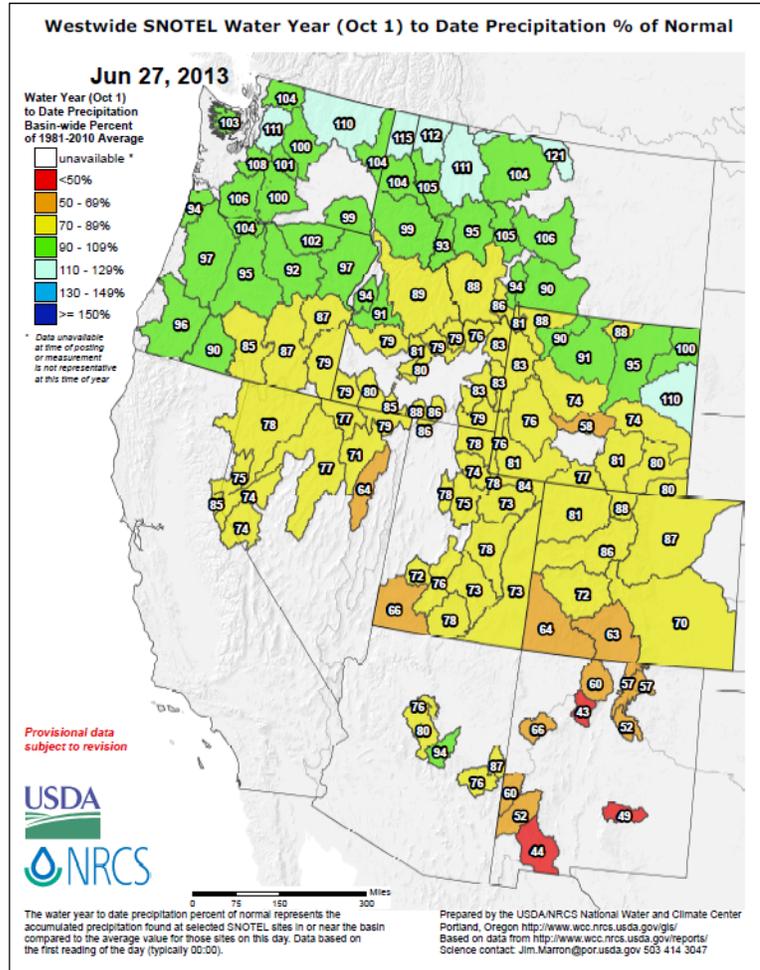
Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

For the [2013 Water Year](#) that began on 1 October 2012, the pattern continues to resemble La Niña (i.e., wetter northern tier).

Southeastern Oregon, southern Idaho, and northern Nevada have bucked this tendency over the northern tier states with less precipitation. Southwestern Utah and southwestern Colorado along with all of New Mexico are experiencing considerable deficits.

For the last three months of the water year, values should not change significantly.

For additional information, daily reports by SNOTEL sites are available [here](#).



Snow

The snow season has essentially ended. This feature will resume in late November.

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Weather and Drought Summary

Western Drought Summary -- June 25, 2013

The following **Weather and Drought Summary** is provided by this week's NDMC Author: [Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center](#).

The West: “Changes aplenty this week as spring gives way to summer and summer heat is making its presence felt with fires (or the threat of) continuing to steal the impacts spotlight for many. New Mexico continues to forge into uncharted territory, with data from NOAA-National Climatic Data Center (records going back to 1895) showing the past 12 months to be the driest on record for the state coupled with the past 24 and 36 months coming in as the second driest on record. Virtually the entire state falls within the two worst categories on our drought severity scale, D3 and D4. All eyes will be squarely affixed on the upcoming monsoon season.”

“Wyoming sees improvements in the northeastern corner of the state and degradation in the south, with the trimming of D0/D1 in the northeast and expansion of D2/D3 in the south in proximity to the Colorado and Nebraska borders.”

“Colorado’s situation continues to deteriorate under the influence of summer’s heat, noted by expansion of D2 in the northeastern corner of the state as well as a slight push north and west of D3 in the southeastern corner. Fire still remains front and center with regard to impacts, but rangeland conditions continue to take a beating all along the Front Range.”

“Arizona and Nevada both see increases in drought conditions this week. In Nevada, D2 pushes farther east toward the Utah border while in Arizona both D2 and D3 expand slightly in the north central region and within the Navajo Nation.”

“For a second consecutive week, California sees a push of D2 across all of the Sacramento Valley and points eastward into more of both the Cascades and the Sierra Nevada. Recent rains in and along the northwestern coastal ranges have not been nearly enough to offset the record to near-record year-to-date deficits that have led to reduced streamflows in many basins.”

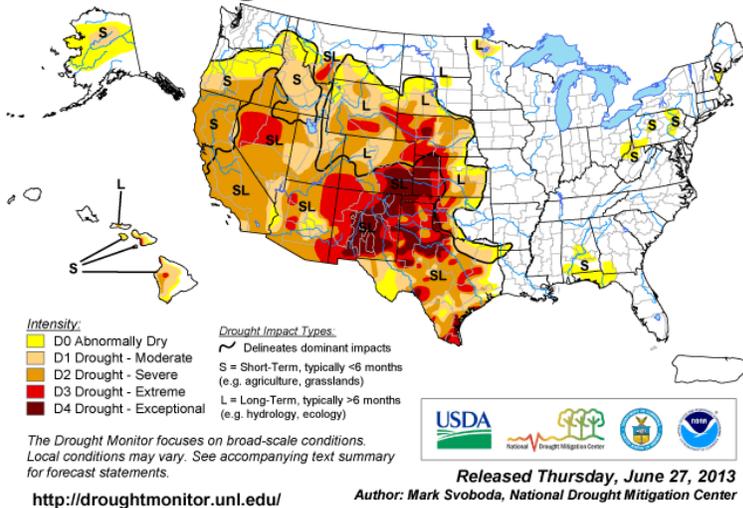
Pacific Northwest: “Much cooler temperatures (4 to 8F) and beneficial rains bring some slight improvements to parts of western Oregon and the Cascades, noted by some trimming of the D0 there and in northern part of the state. D0 and D1 were also trimmed in the Blue and Wallowa ranges, which also saw good rains this past week. The improvements spilled over the border into southeastern and eastern Washington with trimming of the D0 and D1. Idaho also shared in the cooler, wetter weather, particularly in the Panhandle where D0 and D1 were reduced, and extreme northwestern Montana also saw some minor reduction of D0.”

A comprehensive narrative describing drought conditions for the nation can be found toward the end of this document. For drought impacts definitions for the figures below, click [here](#).

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

U.S. Drought Monitor

June 25, 2013
Valid 7 a.m. EDT



Current [Drought Monitor](#) weekly summary. The exceptional D4 levels of drought are scattered across the western Corn Belt of the Plains into southeastern Colorado and much of New Mexico. For more drought news, see [Drought Impact Reporter](#).

The latest [drought indicator blend and component percentiles](#) spreadsheet is a great resource for climate division drought statistics. This link is for the latest [Drought Outlook](#) (forecast).

- [Drought Expected to Improve in Plains While Persisting in West](#)
- [Federal spending on weather event preparedness lagging](#)

[NDMC launching a new monthly Drought Summary Service](#)

See:

Drought Monitor for the [Western States](#)
 Drought Impact Reporter for [New Mexico](#)
[California Data Exchange Center](#) & [Flood Management](#)

News Stories:

- [Low water season draws concerns for summer energy](#) – June 18, Idaho
- [Massive Wildfire Headed Toward Colo. Mountain Town](#) - June 21, S. Fork in srn CO
- [Raging Colorado, Arizona wildfires prompt evacuations](#) – June 21, Colorado, Arizona
- [WILDFIRES: Conditions ripe for volatile season, officials predict](#) - June 19, California
- [Drought conditions returning to Northern Colorado](#) - June 19, Colorado
- [No drought relief in sight along lower Arkansas](#) - June 16, SE Colorado
- [Mosquitoes, West Nile virus still a risk in drought, officials say](#) - June 18, Doña Ana County, New Mexico
- [NM agencies team up to give water to wildlife during drought](#)
- [Roadkills up as drought drives wildlife](#)
- [The heat's on state parks](#)
- [Water crisis rocks Lehi](#)

U.S. Drought Monitor

June 25, 2013
Valid 7 a.m. EST

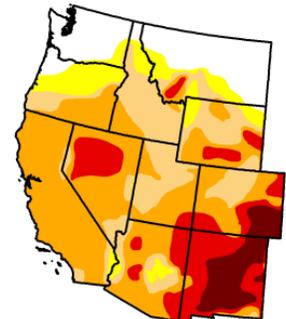
West

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	14.76	85.24	76.67	56.71	19.66	6.13
Last Week (06/18/2013 map)	13.62	86.38	77.50	51.90	18.47	6.06
3 Months Ago (03/26/2013 map)	19.44	80.56	63.42	41.27	15.54	2.49
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2013 map)	24.39	75.61	69.31	45.04	18.01	2.15
Start of Water Year (09/25/2012 map)	15.12	84.88	77.15	43.65	16.85	1.77
One Year Ago (06/19/2012 map)	26.24	73.76	58.33	37.40	7.88	0.00

Intensity:
 D0 Abnormally Dry
 D1 Drought - Moderate
 D2 Drought - Severe
 D3 Drought - Extreme
 D4 Drought - Exceptional

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>



USDA National Drought Mitigation Center

Released Thursday, June 27, 2013
Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center

Conditions in the West deteriorated slightly from last week at the highest D-categories.

[June 2013 Southwest Climate Outlook](#)

NIDIS [Upper Colorado River Regional Drought Earlier Warning System](#)

- [Dry conditions may impact farming, recreation, fire season](#) - June 19, Southeastern Idaho
- [Magdalena, NM to get more water delivered](#)

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

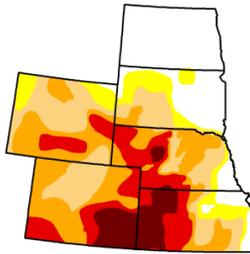
U.S. Drought Monitor

June 25, 2013
Valid 7 a.m. EST

High Plains

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D1	D1-D2	D2-D3	D3-D4	D4
Current	24.34	75.66	66.65	45.80	22.97	8.03
Last Week (06/18/2013 map)	20.55	79.45	69.76	45.46	21.27	8.03
3 Months Ago (03/26/2013 map)	4.65	95.35	91.34	81.30	54.82	22.24
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2013 map)	1.54	98.46	93.01	86.20	60.25	26.99
Start of Water Year (09/25/2012 map)	0.00	100.00	98.91	83.80	61.28	24.35
One Year Ago (06/18/2012 map)	18.53	81.47	59.11	21.59	6.35	0.00

Intensity:
 D0 Abnormally Dry D3 Drought - Extreme
 D1 Drought - Moderate D4 Drought - Exceptional
 D2 Drought - Severe



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

Released Thursday, June 27, 2013
Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center

No significant changes during this past week.

Region with D-4 Exceptional Drought

See [Kansas Drought Update](#).

- [Wichita fountains flow again under conservation plan](#)

Region with D-4 Exceptional Drought

Check out the Texas Drought [Website](#). See [Texas Reservoirs](#).

[Report assesses drought economic impact](#) - June 20, Rio Grande Valley in deep south Texas

[Drought emergency extended for 200 Texas counties](#) - June 19, Texas

[Price Of Rice Going Up Thanks To Drought And Unseasonably Cool Weather](#) - June 19, Texas

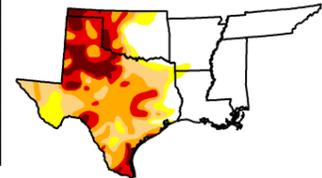
U.S. Drought Monitor

June 25, 2013
Valid 7 a.m. EST

South

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D1	D1-D2	D2-D3	D3-D4	D4
Current	44.32	55.68	48.03	35.49	18.71	6.85
Last Week (06/18/2013 map)	43.55	56.45	48.74	34.43	18.37	7.10
3 Months Ago (03/26/2013 map)	28.28	71.72	60.09	42.94	22.09	6.64
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2013 map)	21.18	78.82	63.69	50.50	32.80	10.98
Start of Water Year (09/25/2012 map)	24.13	75.87	66.61	51.50	29.86	9.11
One Year Ago (06/18/2012 map)	21.52	78.48	52.54	25.63	3.77	0.00

Intensity:
 D0 Abnormally Dry D3 Drought - Extreme
 D1 Drought - Moderate D4 Drought - Exceptional
 D2 Drought - Severe



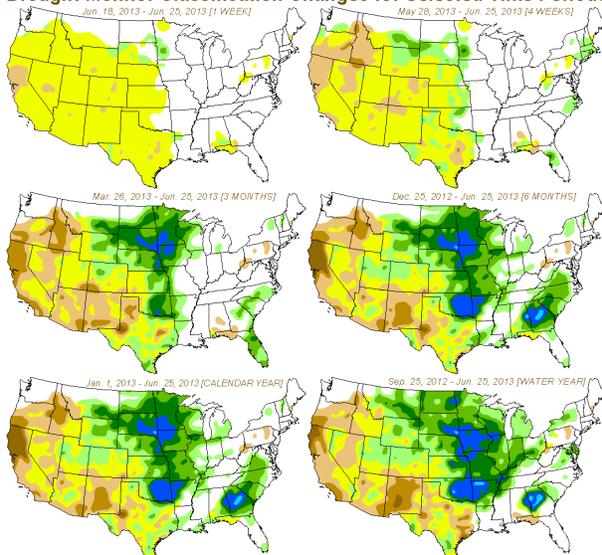
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

Released Thursday, June 27, 2013
Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center

No significant changes during this past week.

Drought Monitor Classification Changes for Selected Time Periods



5 class improvement 1 class deterioration
 4 class improvement 2 class deterioration
 3 class improvement 3 class deterioration
 2 class improvement 4 class deterioration
 1 class improvement 5 class deterioration
 unchanged

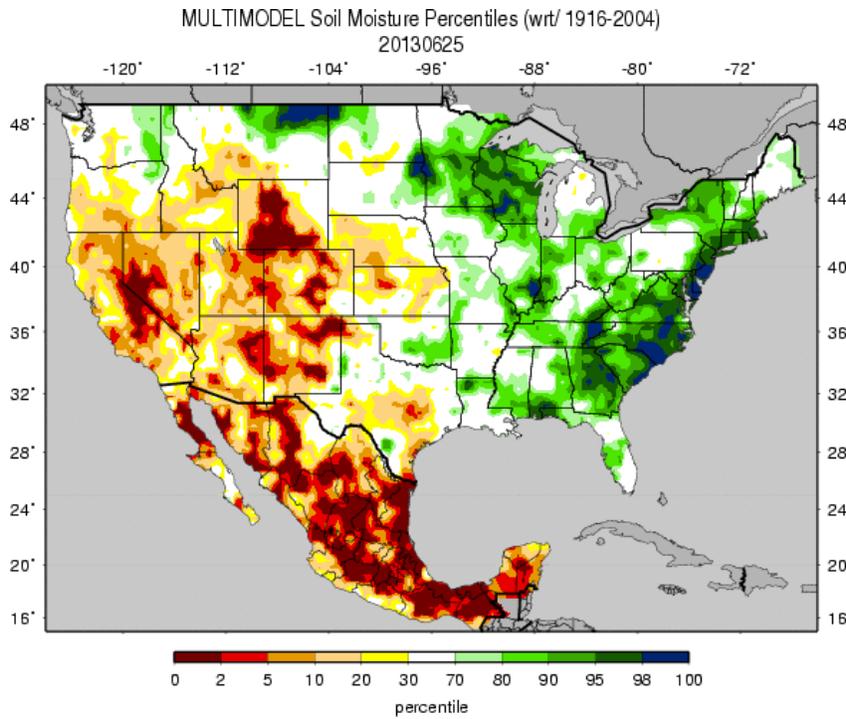
These maps depict approximate changes in drought intensity from selected initial times to the current week, with no consideration given to intervening weeks. The change calculations are based on interpolated 4 km grids of the Drought Monitor depiction, and as a result, will be smoother than if based on the published version.

Changes in D-Categories over various time periods as of 25 June show some deterioration over parts of northern California, and some improvement over the Northern Plains (upper left panel) this past week.

Over the longer term, conditions have improved over the central and southeastern regions of the nation.

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Soil Moisture

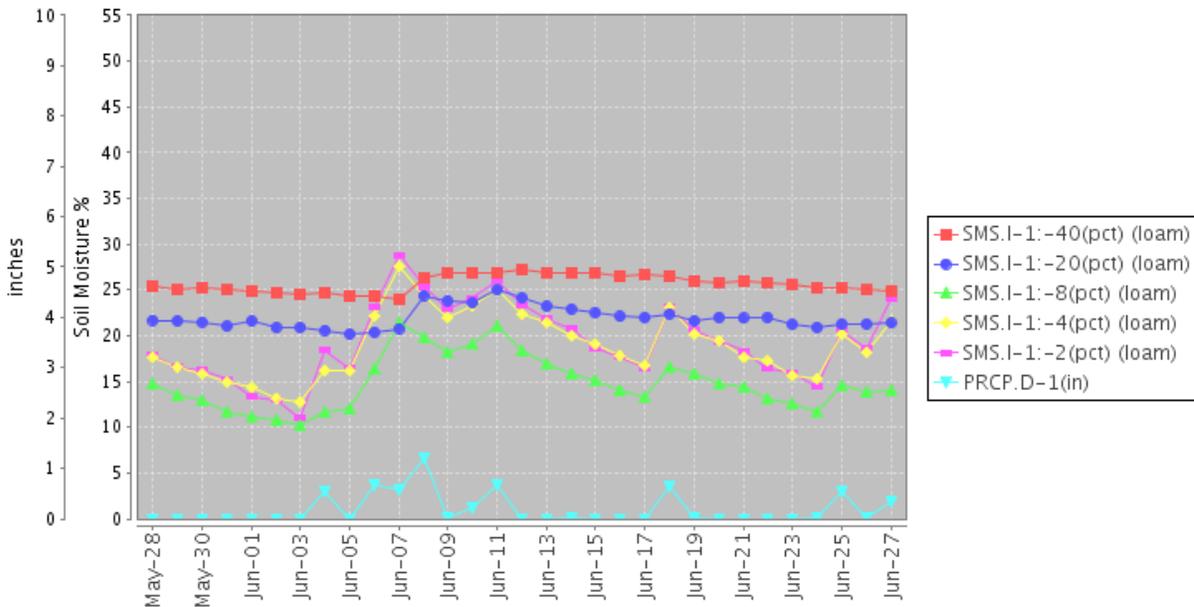


Soil moisture ranking in [percentile](#) as of June 25 shows significant dryness over the southwestern, central Rockies, and the western Great Basin into California. Excess moisture is noted over the northeastern Montana, the western Great Lakes States, southern Illinois, and much of the eastern seaboard.

Useful Hydrological Links: [Crop Moisture Index](#); [Palmer Drought Severity Index](#); [Standardized Precipitation Index](#); [Surface Water Supply Index](#); [Weekly supplemental maps](#), [Minnesota Climate Working Group](#).

Soil Climate Analysis Network (SCAN)

Station (2037) MONTH=2013-05-28 (Daily) NRCS National Water and Climate Center – Provisional Data – subject to revision as of Thu Jun 27 08:19:11 PDT 2013



This NRCS resource shows a site in eastern South Carolina. Note soil moisture responding to recent rains.

Useful Agriculture Links: [Vegetation Drought Response Index](#); [Evaporative Stress Index](#); [Vegetation Health Index](#); [NDVI Greenness Map](#); [GRACE-Based Surface Soil Moisture](#); [North American Soil Moisture Network](#). [Monthly Wild Fire Forecast Report](#).

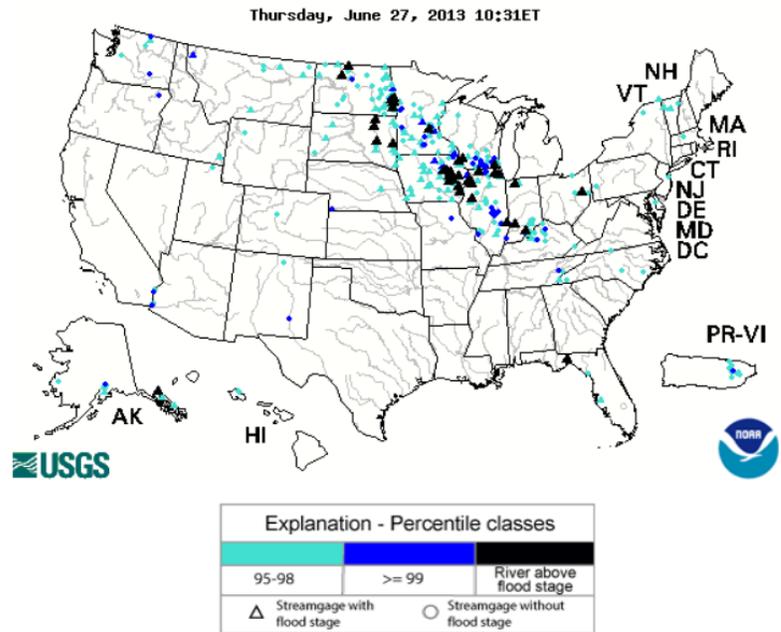
Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

U.S. Historical Streamflow

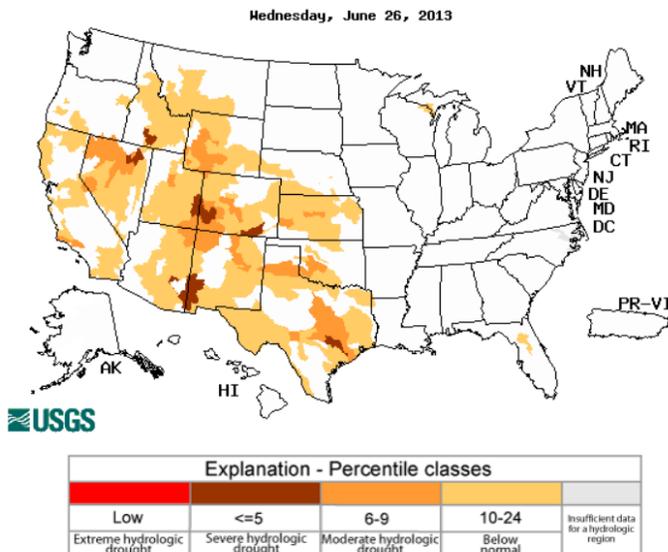
Flooding has increased significantly over the mid-West and northern plains this week due to recent rainfall in excess of 3".

See the USGS [National Water Information System Mapper](#).

Map of flood and high flow condition (United States)



Map of below normal 7-day average streamflow compared to historical streamflow for the day of year (United States)



Severe conditions exist over southeastern Texas, the Four Corners, south-central Idaho, and northeastern Nevada.

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

The following complete **Weather and Drought Summary** is provided by this week's NDMC Author: [Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center](#).

National Drought Summary June 25, 2013

The discussion in the Looking Ahead section is simply a description of what the official national guidance from the National Weather Service (NWS) National Centers for Environmental Prediction is depicting for current areas of dryness and drought. The NWS forecast products utilized include the HPC 5-day QPF and 5-day Mean Temperature progs, the 6-10 Day Outlooks of Temperature and Precipitation Probability, and the 8-14 Day Outlooks of Temperature and Precipitation Probability, valid as of late Wednesday afternoon of the USDM release week. The NWS forecast web page used for this section is: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/forecasts/>.

The Northeast: "Status quo this week, although recent dryness in Pennsylvania warrants keeping an eye on possible expansion in the coming weeks if rains continue to miss.

Mid-Atlantic: Following recent improvements the past few weeks, the map remains unchanged this week after relatively quiet weather.

The Southeast: The same relatively quiet weather pattern settled in across most of the region, with seasonal rains and unseasonably cooler temperatures. Deficits over the past 60-90 days continue to accumulate across parts of southern Alabama, southwest Georgia and the Florida panhandle, leading to some slight expansion of D0 in these areas.

Midwest: The transformation to normal continues in the upper Midwest with heavy rains (2-5+ inches) bringing substantial improvements to Minnesota and northwestern Iowa. D1 has been removed from southwest Minnesota and D0 has been reduced as a result, leaving the only drought in the state confined to the Red Lake region in the northwest. Abnormally dry (D0) conditions were also reduced in northwestern Iowa on the heels of recent improvements.

The Plains and Lower Mississippi Basin: Most of the biggest changes in the region this week were of the better variety, especially in South Dakota, where generous widespread rains led to 1-category improvements and a push westward of D0/D1 across the Missouri River. Only a small amount of D0 remains between north central South Dakota and south central North Dakota because of longer-term deficits. The western half of the state still has plenty of drought to overcome moving forward into summer, so all is not clear. Farther south, favorable rains of late mean more improvement is noted in extreme northeastern Kansas with a trimming of D0 there. Spotty normal rains result in status quo for Nebraska this week.

In the southern Plains, Oklahoma dried out a bit this week and the rains that did fall were not enough to warrant improvement in the Panhandle. With the increasing temperatures, D4 nudges slightly north in western Oklahoma. Texas sees a second consecutive week of several changes, mostly for the worse as things continue to warm up (4-8F above-normal) and dry out save for spotty convective thunderstorm activity, which continues to bring some relief to some. As a result, southern and southeastern Texas see an expansion of drought this week while extreme northeastern Texas sees a reduction of D0/D1 along with northwestern Louisiana and southwestern Arkansas this week. The Texas Panhandle sees some shifting around of D3/D4, with most cases reflecting relative improvement given the recent rains. Western Texas sees some slight improvements to their drought situation this week as well.

The West: Changes aplenty this week as spring gives way to summer and summer heat is making its presence felt with fires (or the threat of) continuing to steal the impacts spotlight for many. New Mexico continues to forge into uncharted territory, with data from NOAA-National Climatic Data Center (records going back to 1895) showing the past 12 months to be the driest on record for the state coupled with the past 24 and 36 months coming in as the second driest on record. Virtually the entire state falls within the two worst categories on our drought severity scale, D3 and D4. All eyes will be squarely affixed on the

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

upcoming monsoon season.

Wyoming sees improvements in the northeastern corner of the state and degradation in the south, with the trimming of D0/D1 in the northeast and expansion of D2/D3 in the south in proximity to the Colorado and Nebraska borders.

Colorado's situation continues to deteriorate under the influence of summer's heat, noted by expansion of D2 in the northeastern corner of the state as well as a slight push north and west of D3 in the southeastern corner. Fire still remains front and center with regard to impacts, but rangeland conditions continue to take a beating all along the Front Range.

Arizona and Nevada both see increases in drought conditions this week. In Nevada, D2 pushes farther east toward the Utah border while in Arizona both D2 and D3 expand slightly in the north central region and within the Navajo Nation.

For a second consecutive week, California sees a push of D2 across all of the Sacramento Valley and points eastward into more of both the Cascades and the Sierra Nevada. Recent rains in and along the northwestern coastal ranges have not been nearly enough to offset the record to near-record year-to-date deficits that have led to reduced streamflows in many basins.

Pacific Northwest: Much cooler temperatures (4 to 8F) and beneficial rains bring some slight improvements to parts of western Oregon and the Cascades, noted by some trimming of the D0 there and in northern part of the state. D0 and D1 were also trimmed in the Blue and Wallowa ranges, which also saw good rains this past week. The improvements spilled over the border into southeastern and eastern Washington with trimming of the D0 and D1. Idaho also shared in the cooler, wetter weather, particularly in the Panhandle where D0 and D1 were reduced, and extreme northwestern Montana also saw some minor reduction of D0.

Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico: For a second consecutive week, the Big Island's northwestern shores see degradation in the form of D3 within the North Kohala District, where D2 was introduced just last week. Impacts are ramping up with regard to vegetation stress in the area, particularly pasture conditions.

Alaska sees expansion of D0 and D1 on this week's map as all-time record high temperatures (90F and higher was commonplace), coupled with the recent dryness and low humidity levels, are starting to take their toll, marked by reduced streamflows and red flag fire warnings across most of the state's interior. In fact, North Pole, Alaska (a Fairbanks borough), has issued a fireworks ban because of the heightened concerns. Puerto Rico remains drought free this week.

Looking Ahead: The NWS WPC 5-Day (June 26 – July 1) Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) shows the best chances for precipitation east of the Mississippi River, with the heaviest rains possible in the Ohio Valley and Northeast as well as the Gulf Coast and Atlantic Coast, where 2-3 inches or more could fall. West of the Mississippi, prospects look much bleaker with only modest rains being forecasted. Temperatures over this same period look to be seasonable or even below normal over the eastern third of the country in combination with the forecasted rains. The same can't be said for the West, where temperatures will build in concert with the high pressure ridging there, bringing the prospects of well above normal readings (in the 6-13 degree range) in California, the Intermountain West, the Pacific Northwest and the northern Rockies.

The 6-10 day (July 2-6) outlooks are showing that temperatures are likely to stay above normal in the Intermountain West and Pacific Northwest, including all of California. Alaska will also stay under the high pressure influence along with the resultant above-normal temperatures that accompany it. The Northeast appears more likely to be above normal on the temperature side too. The central U.S. looks to be cooler than normal from the Front Range to the Ohio Valley. As for precipitation, the Southeast and Northeast look to be wetter than normal, as do parts of southern Nevada, northern Arizona and central New Mexico in what may signal a start to the monsoon. Below-normal precipitation is expected in northern reaches of the Pacific Northwest (Washington over to Montana) & over into the northern Plains & Upper Midwest."

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

State Activities

State government drought activities can be tracked at the following URL: <http://drought.unl.edu/mitigate/mitigate.htm>. NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting (SSWSF) Program State Office personnel are participating in state drought committee meetings and providing the committees and media with appropriate SSWSF information - <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/cgibin/bor.pl>. Additional information describing the products available from the Drought Monitor can be found at the following URLs: <http://drought.unl.edu/dm/> and <http://www.drought.gov>.

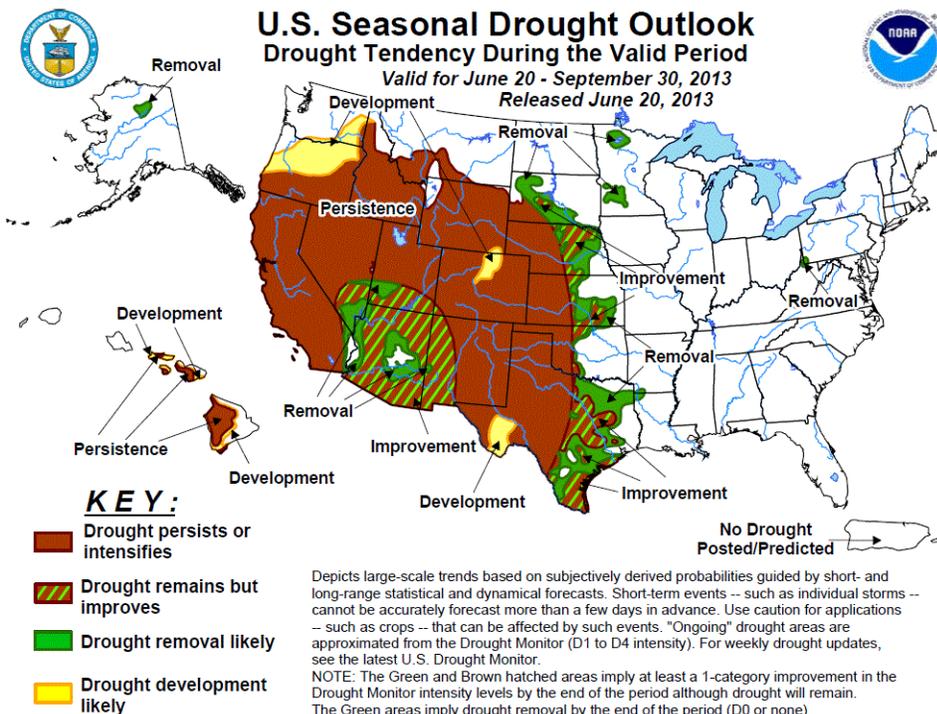
For More Information

The National Water and Climate Center (NWCC) Homepage provides the latest available snowpack and water supply information. Please visit us at <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>. This document is available from the following location on the NWCC homepage - <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/water/drought/wdr.pl>. Reports from 2007 are available online. Reports from 2001-2006 are available on request.

This report uses data and products provided by the Interagency Drought Monitor Consortium members and the National Interagency Fire Center.

/s/
Micheal L. Golden
Deputy Chief, Soil Science and Resource Assessment

Drought Outlook (Forecast)

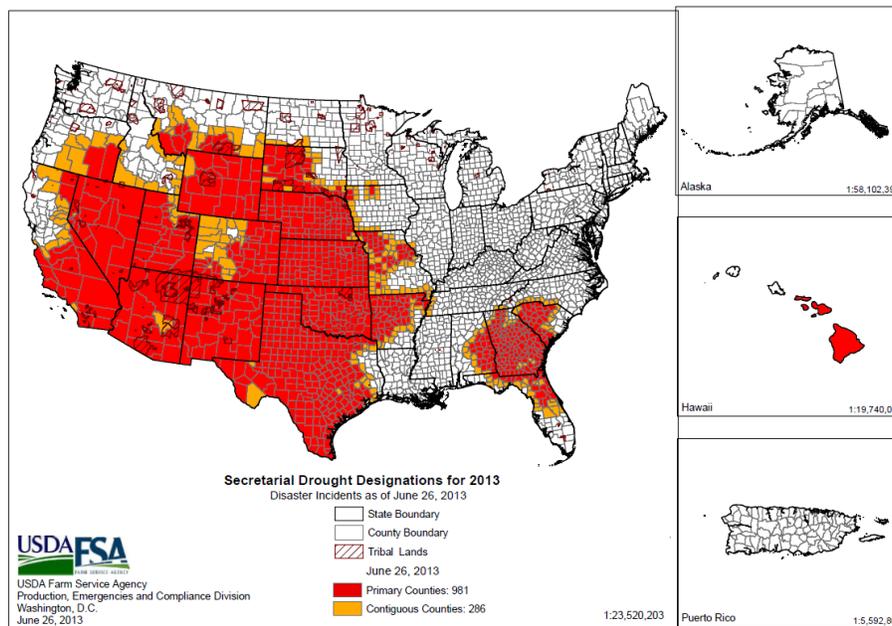


U.S. Seasonal [Drought Outlook](#) as of today.

Note that there are no significant changes since the last update two weeks ago. Also note the [format change](#).

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

2013 Secretarial Drought Designations - All Drought



Refer to USDA Drought Assistance [website](#) and [National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service](#). Read about the new [USDA Regional Climate Hubs](#).

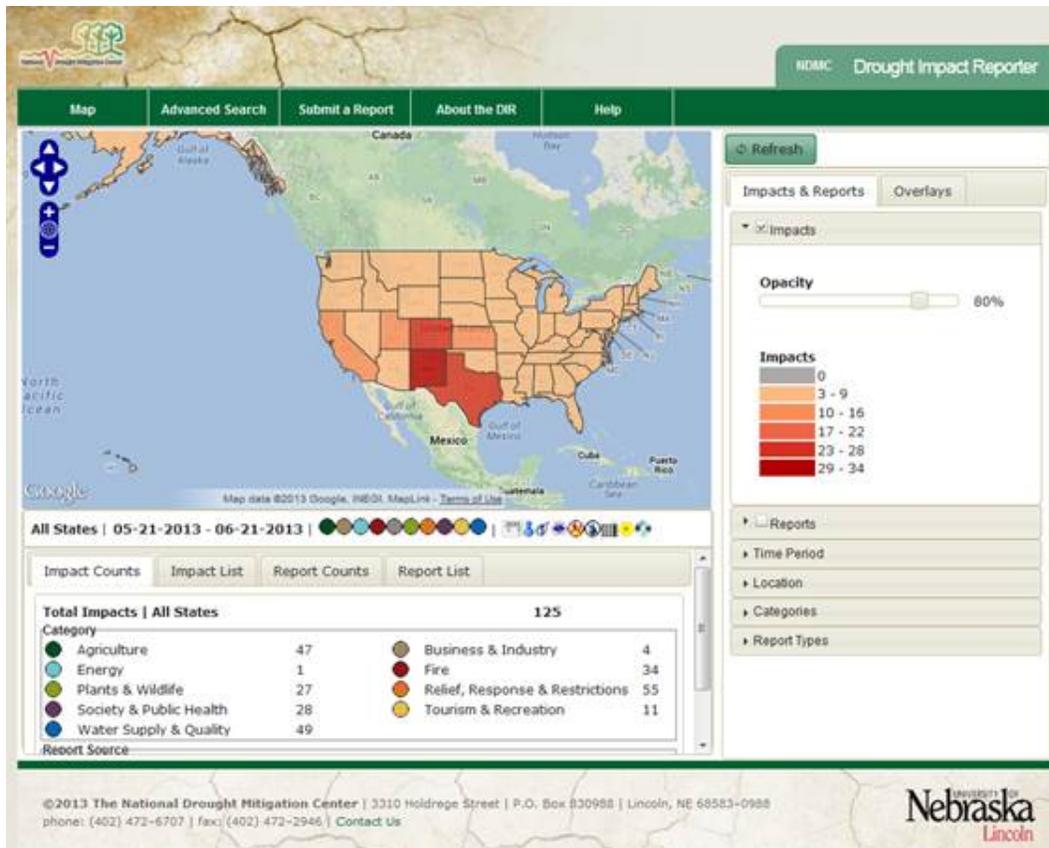
Drought Impacts

This is a collection of drought-related news stories from the past seven days or so. Impact information from these articles is entered into the [Drought Impact Reporter](#). A number of these articles will also be posted on the [Drought Headlines](#) page at the NDMC website. – Courtesy of Denice Gutzmer Drought Impact Specialist, National Drought Mitigation Center

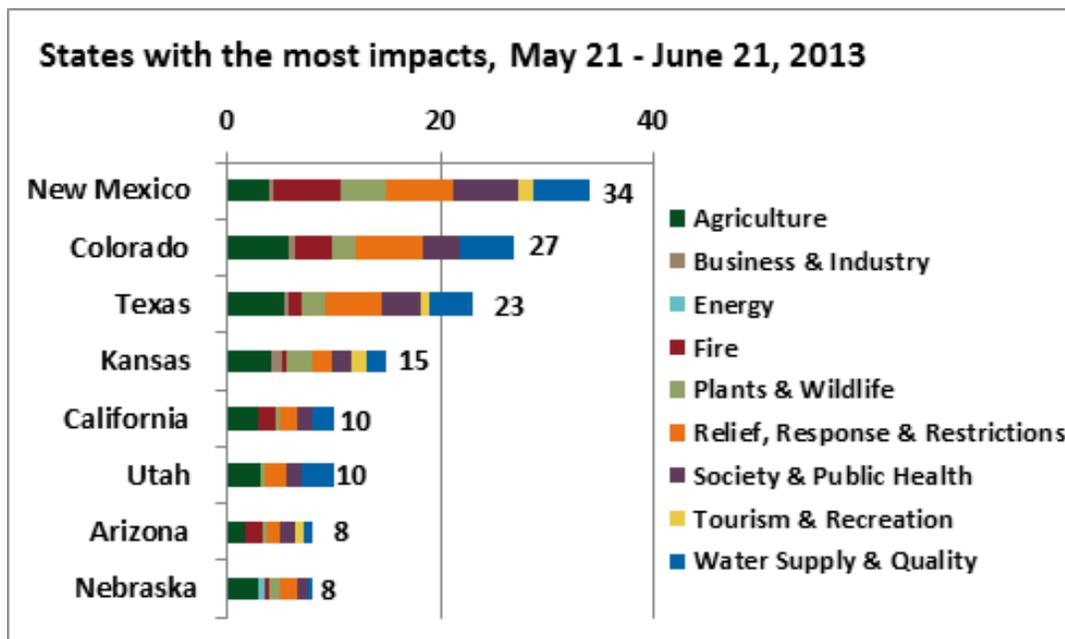
Noteworthy topics in the news this week:

- **Wildfires continue to burn in the West** with more fires sparking daily. Numerous large wildfires are burning in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah.
- **California** fire officials are bracing for the **worst fire season** in a century, given the fire activity year-to-date.
- The **South Texas irrigation water shortage has cost \$229.2 million in crop revenue loss** and may cost the region nearly \$395 million in economic losses and the loss of more than 4,800 jobs, said an agricultural economist with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Ten cities may run out of water in August without additional water.
- **Water shortage for irrigators in southern Idaho.** Idaho Power in Boise is conserving water so there is adequate water for generating electricity this summer.
- More **animals are being killed by vehicles in New Mexico.**
- **U.S. spends six times as much on weather-related disaster relief and recovery** as it does on preparedness.

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The image of the Drought Impact Reporter, above, is remarkable because, for the past few weeks, Texas has not had the most impacts. With 254 counties and numerous newspapers, it's easy for Texas to rack up the most impacts. At the end of May, New Mexico took the lead with the greatest number of impacts.

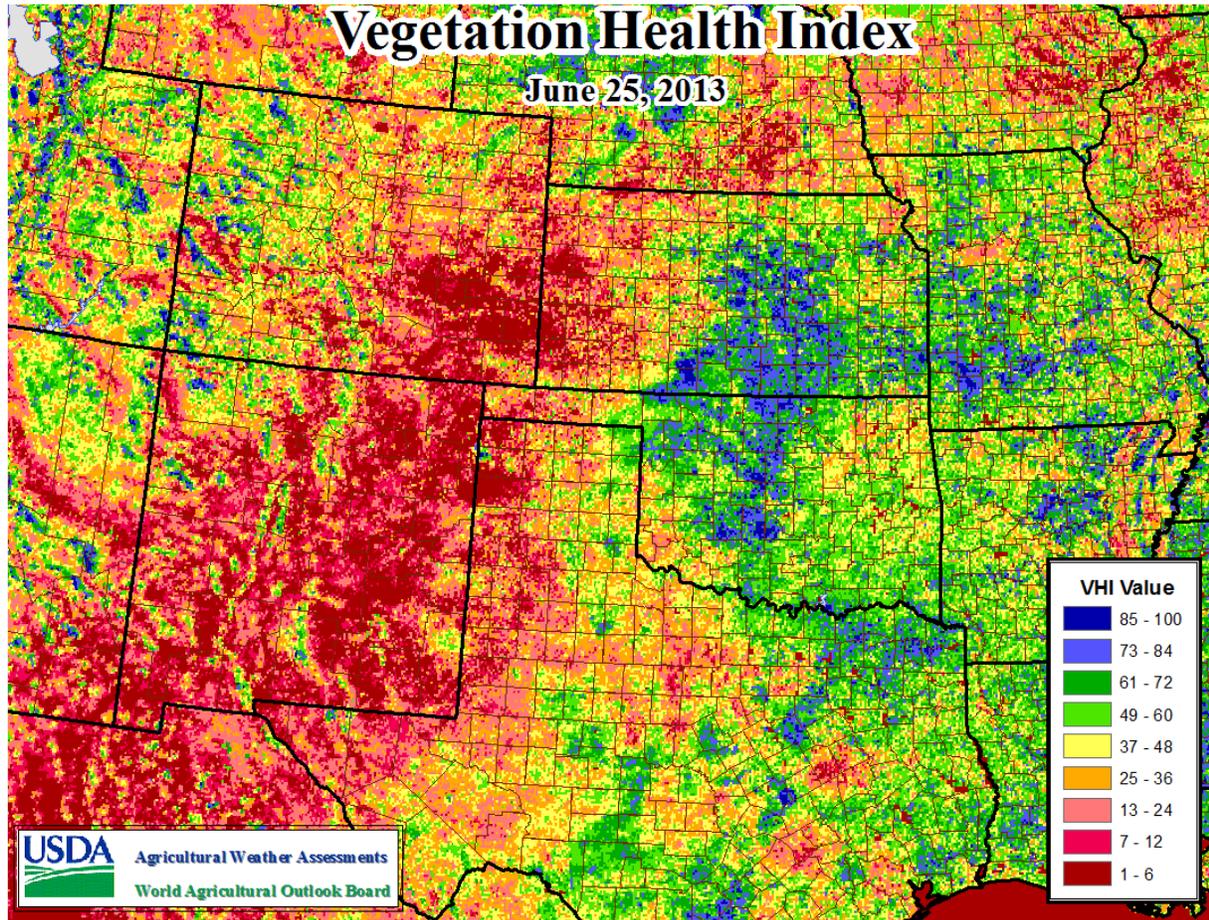


Because impacts may have more than one category, the category color is shown in proportion to the total number of categories selected for all of the impacts.

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Because the volume of news is overwhelming some weeks, we regularly review news articles from a number of media sources that we refer to as our “sample.” It isn’t possible to keep up with *all* of the news articles related to drought, so most of the articles come from the sample only, with other articles from “non-sample” sources thrown in, time permitting, when they contain valuable information.

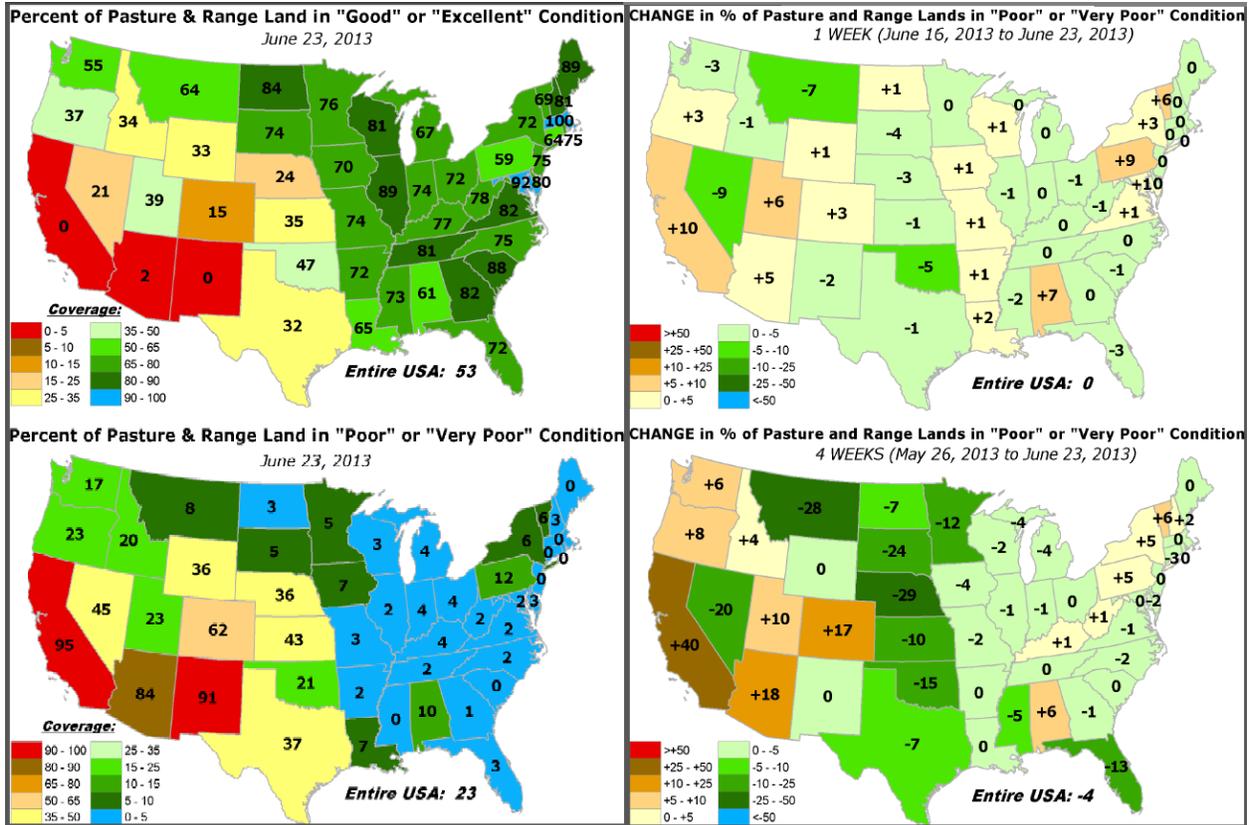
Supplemental Data



[Vegetation Health](#) is poor over parts of the Southwest. However, [vegetation health](#) is excellent over central Oklahoma and central Kansas. The poor conditions in NE Kansas aren't drought related, but are a result of excess moisture. This situation resulted in delayed planting/emergence and the need to replant in some fields. Courtesy: Eric Luebehusen, USDA

For more data on plant health: [VegDRI](#), [Evaporative Stress Index](#), [Vegetation Health Indices](#), [NVDI Greenness Maps](#), [NWS Precipitation Analysis](#), [GRACE Groundwater and Soil Moisture](#).

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Pasture and Rangelands maps show that the eastern half of the nation has abundant, healthy conditions, whereas the opposite holds for the Western States; especially over New Mexico, Arizona, and California.

