

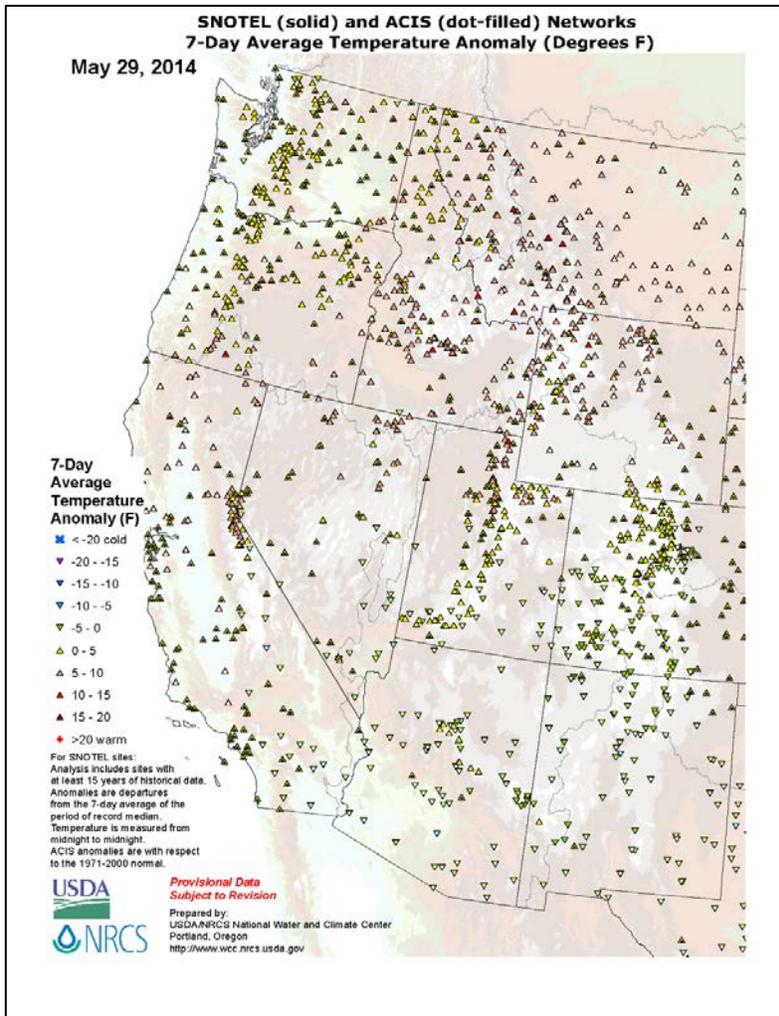


Natural Resources Conservation Service
 P.O. Box 2890
 Washington, D.C. 20013

Weekly Snowpack / Drought Monitor Update May 29, 2014

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Temperature



[SNOTEL](#) and [ACIS 7-day temperature anomaly](#) shows temperatures above normal over the northern and central Rockies and Cascades. Below normal temperatures prevailed over the southern Rockies and Southwest.

Click on most maps in this report to enlarge and see latest available update.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment

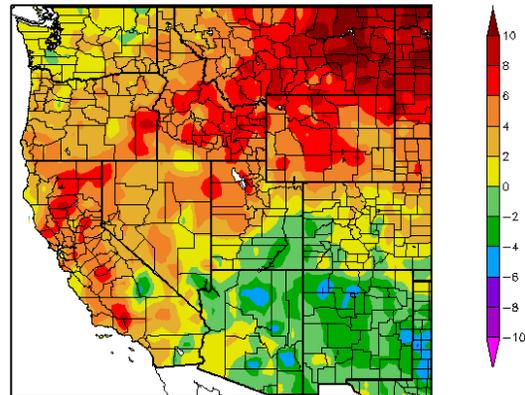
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Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

ACIS 7-day average temperature anomalies, ending May 28 show the greatest negative temperature departures scattered over Arizona and New Mexico (<-4°F). The greatest positive temperature departures occurred in the northern Great Plains (>+10°F).

- ✓ Also, see [Dashboard](#) and the [Westwide Drought Tracker](#).

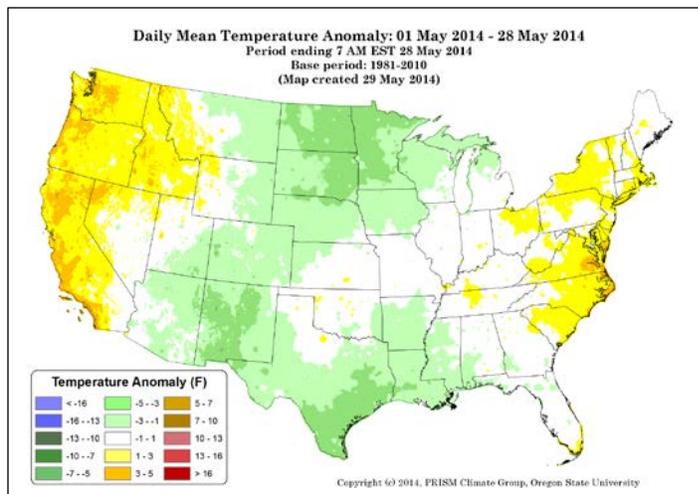
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
5/22/2014 – 5/28/2014



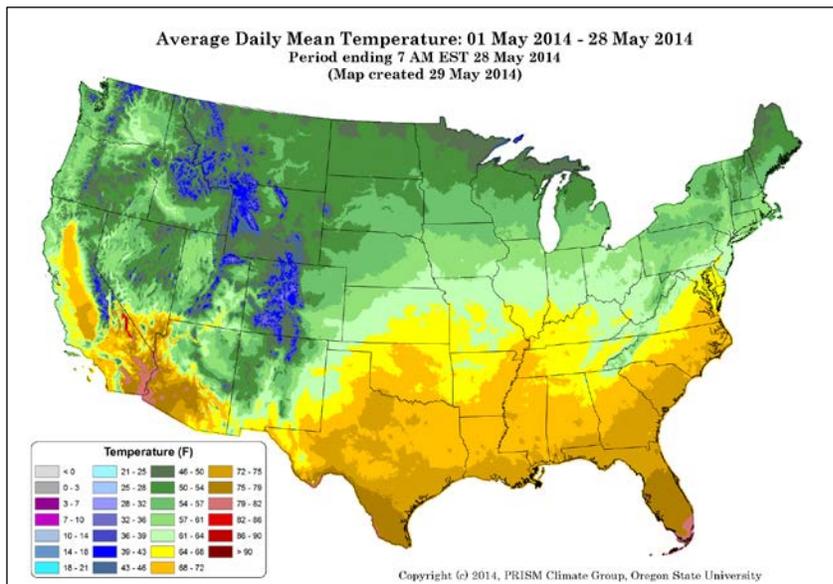
Generated 5/29/2014 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

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



← During May 2014, the temperature anomaly map shows a cold pattern over the northern interior sections of the country, New Mexico, and southern Texas (<-5°F). Above normal temperatures dominated the coastal areas of California to Washington and over eastern North Carolina and Virginia (>+5°F).



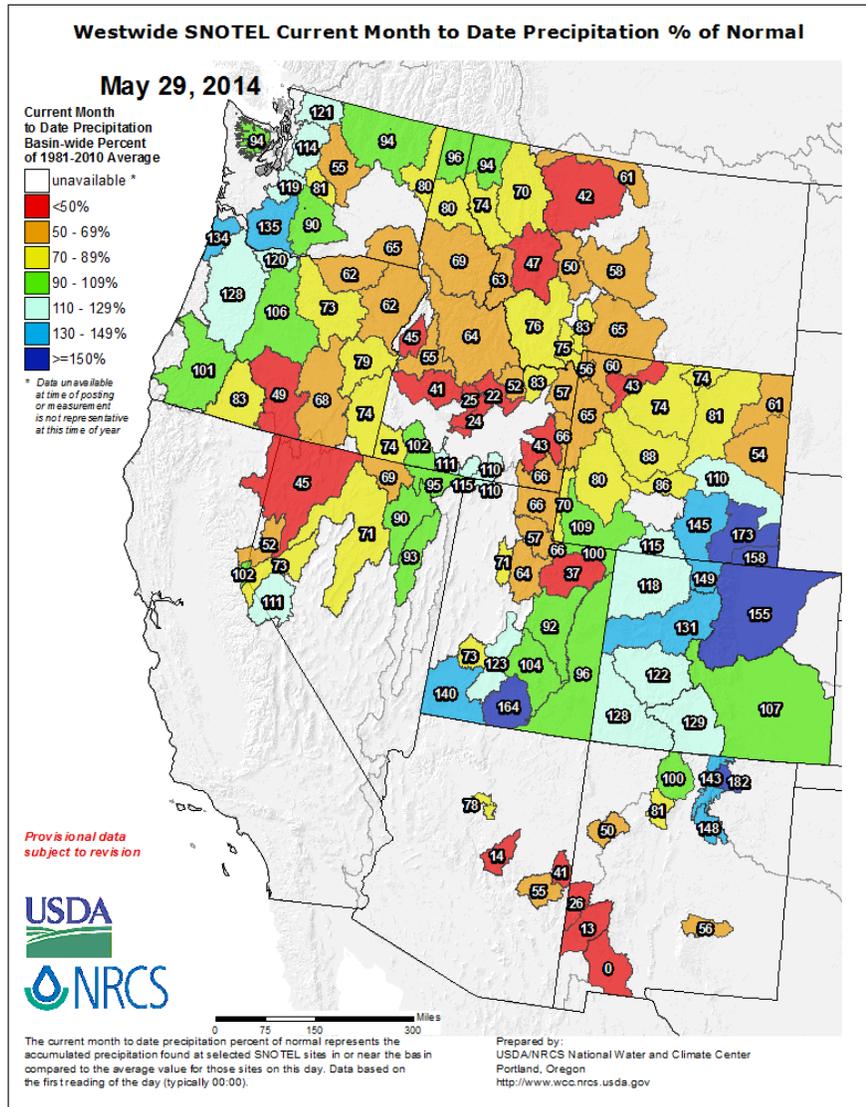
Forecasting the start of the spring snowmelt and subsequent runoff depends, in part, on when average temperatures warm to above freezing. Monitoring this type of climate map is a useful way to gauge when this onset is likely to occur.

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

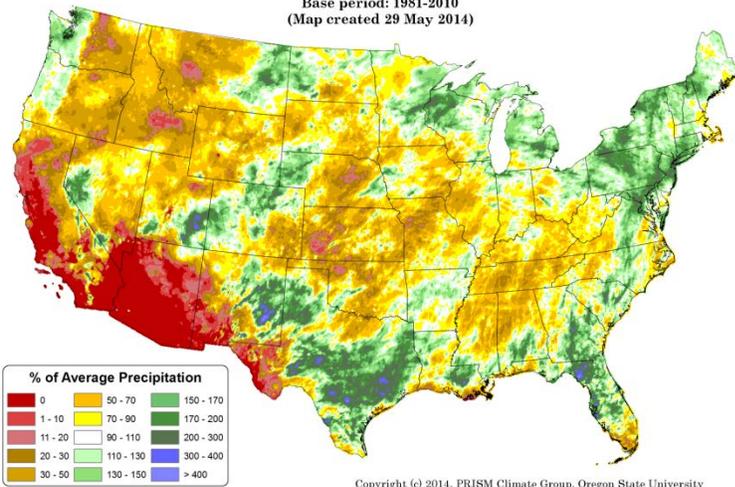
Precipitation

The May 29 [SNOTEL](#) precipitation percent of normal map shows predominately deficit conditions over much of the interior West, including much of Montana, northern Wyoming, and the Southwest.

Surpluses are noted over the central Cascades, coastal ranges of Oregon, southeastern Wyoming, southwestern Utah, northeast New Mexico, and the most of Colorado.



Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 May 2014 - 28 May 2014
 Period ending 7 AM EST 28 May 2014
 Base period: 1981-2010
 (Map created 29 May 2014)



← Thus far for May, the precipitation anomaly pattern reveals surplus moisture scattered across the nation. Parts of the Southwest, including California, have seen little or no precipitation. Above normal precipitation is seen in Florida, New England, parts of the mid-Atlantic states, the northern Midwest, Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, southeast Utah, and the Coastal Ranges in Washington and Oregon.

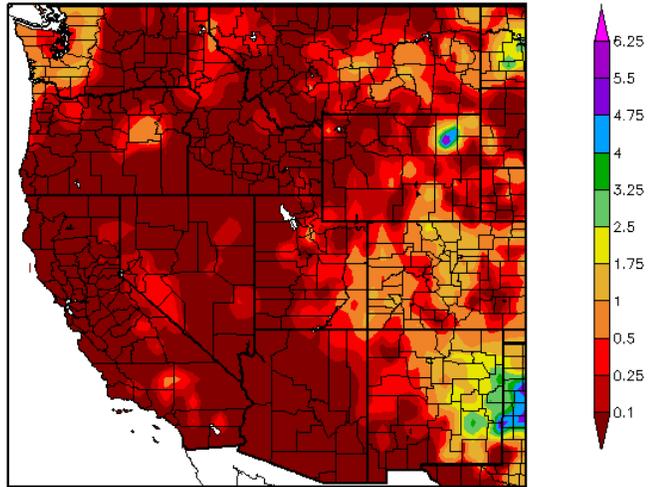
This preliminary daily PRISM precipitation map contains all available network data, including SNOTEL data, and is updated periodically as additional data become available and are quality controlled.

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

The [ACIS 7-day](#) total precipitation map shows abundant moisture falling over eastern New Mexico. Scattered thunderstorms are beginning to pop up in areas in the northern Great Plains.

Little, if any, precipitation occurred over vast areas of the West.

Precipitation (in)
5/22/2014 - 5/28/2014



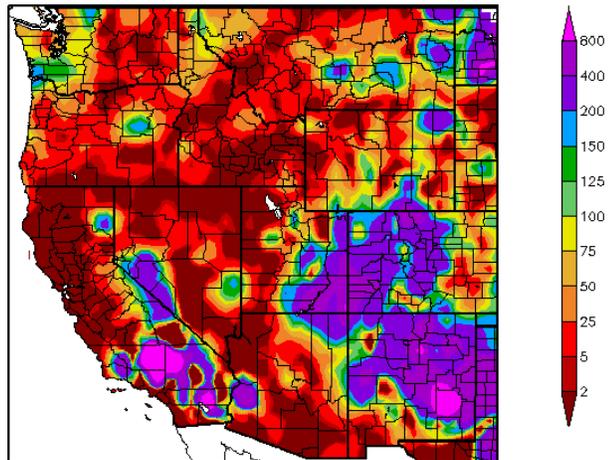
Generated 5/29/2014 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

As would be expected based on the map above, this [map](#) reflects the heaviest precipitation falling across New Mexico. Scattered thunderstorms across the West also are reflected as isolated high percentages.

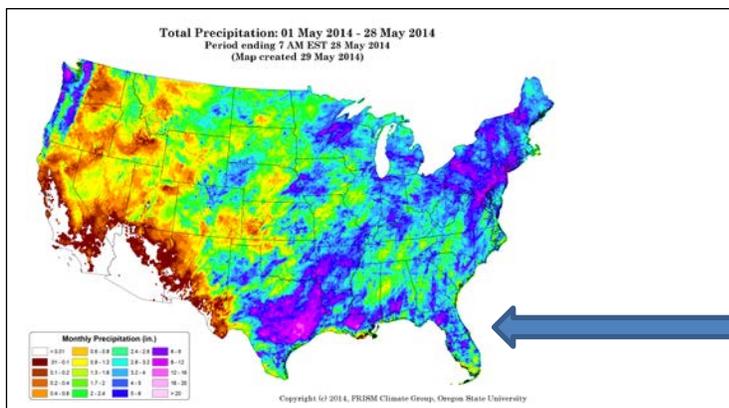
Percent of normal precipitation may be exaggerated in areas where the average for this period is near zero. →

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
5/22/2014 - 5/28/2014



Generated 5/29/2014 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers



The May 2014 [precipitation](#) map indicates no precipitation has fallen over Arizona to most of California. Texas, the upper mid-Atlantic to New England, a few areas in the Midwest, and the western mountains in Oregon and Washington have had the highest totals.

See [Go Hydrology](#) for current and forecast conditions over southern Florida.

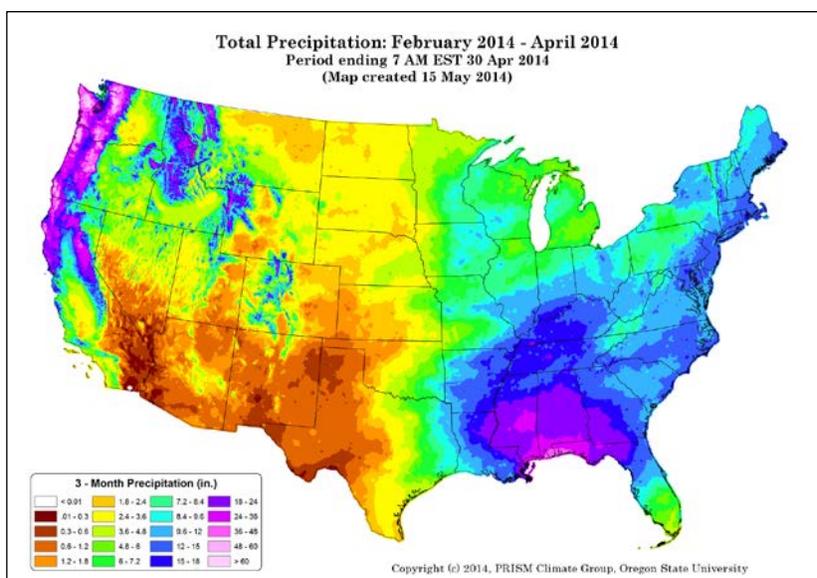
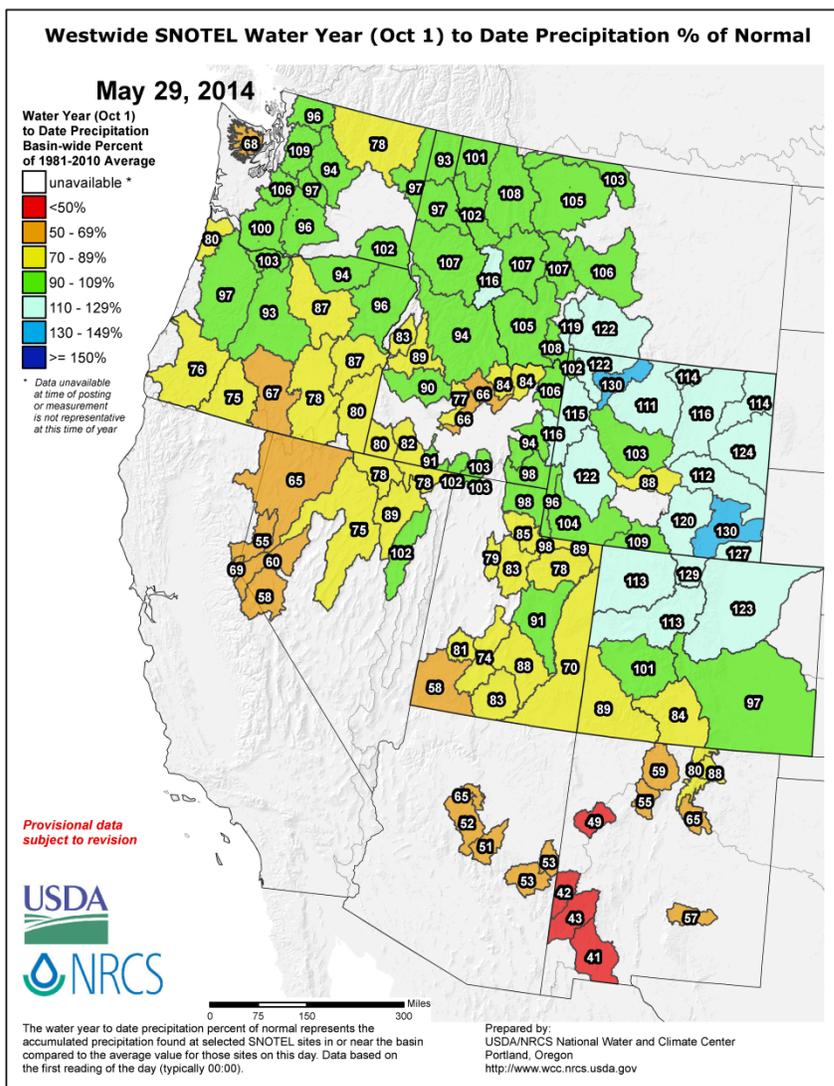
Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

For the [2014 Water Year](#) that began on October 1, 2013, only central Montana, most of Wyoming and northern Colorado are experiencing surpluses.

Near average conditions dominated the northern half of the Cascades, the northern half of Idaho, northwestern-most Montana, the Lower Bear River in eastern Utah and southeast Idaho, and parts of the southern half of Colorado.

The largest deficits are centered over southern Oregon, western Nevada, southern and eastern Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico.

As the Water Year advances, it becomes more difficult for river basins to change bin categories.



The three-month period (February through April) shows that the eastern half of the nation received precipitation in the range from 5 to greater than 24 inches.

On the other hand, parts of the West received totals less than three inches. The exceptions in the West are over the Rockies, Cascades, and Sierra Nevada, where totals exceeded 24 inches.

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Weather and Drought Summary

National Drought Summary – May 20, 2014

The following **Weather and Drought Summary** is provided by this week's NDMC Drought Author: Michael J Brewer, NIDIS U.S. Drought Portal Manager, and NOAA's National Climatic Data Center.

USDM Map Services: (contains [archived maps](#))

“For the contiguous 48 states, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed 37.93 percent of the area in moderate drought or worse, compared with 38.12 percent a week earlier. D4 decreased from 4.99 to 3.35.

For all 50 U.S. states and Puerto Rico, the U.S. Drought Monitor showed 31.68 percent of the area in moderate drought or worse, compared with 31.85 percent a week earlier.”

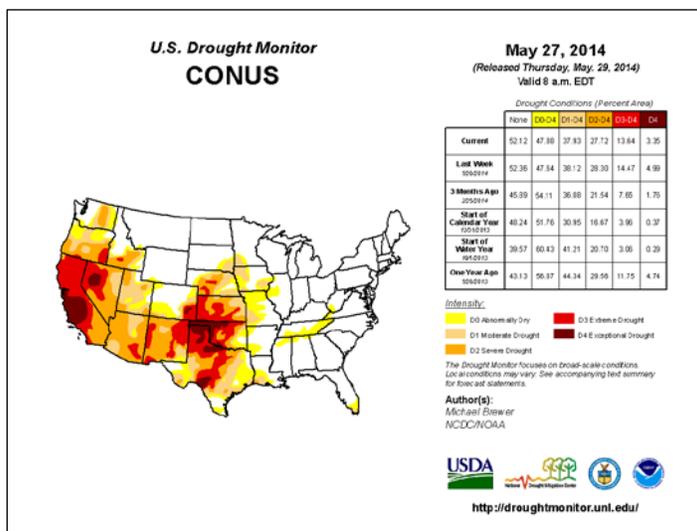
[Current Drought Monitor](#) weekly summary. The exceptional D4 levels of drought are scattered across CA, NV, CO, TX, OK, and NM.

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). See [climatological rankings](#).

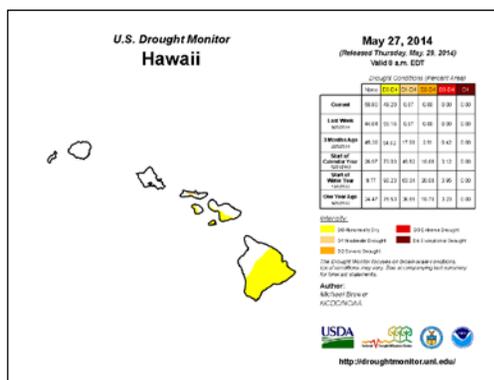
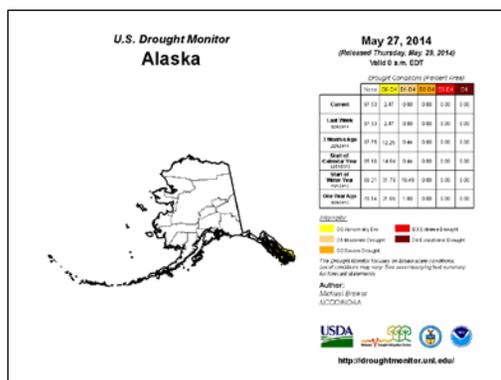
For more drought news, see [Drought Impact Reporter](#). **New:** [ENSO Blog](#).

Drought Management Resources (v):

- ✓ [Watch AgDay TV](#)
- ✓ [Drought Impacts Webinar Series](#)
- ✓ [Quarterly Climate Summary and Outlooks for the Great Lakes, Midwest and Missouri Basin States](#)
- ✓ [The Spring 2014 edition of DroughtScope](#)
- ✓ [U.S. drought conditions stable in April: improvements unlikely in western states and much of plains](#)



See: Latest Drought [Impacts](#) during the past week.



“The [49th](#) and [50th](#) States show relatively benign drought conditions. No changes noted for Alaska and Hawaii this week.

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

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

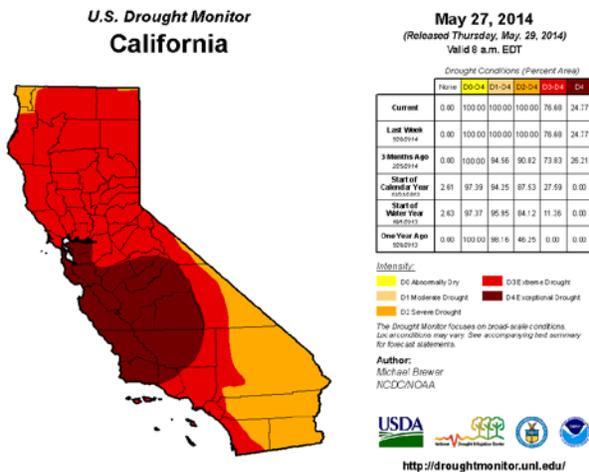
Risk Management Web Resources

- ✓ Drought Monitor for the [Western States](#)
- ✓ Drought Impact Reporter for [New Mexico](#)
- ✓ [California Data Exchange Center](#) & [Flood Management](#)
- ✓ [Intermountain West Climate Dashboard](#)
- ✓ [Great Basin Dashboard](#)
- ✓ [California Sierra Nevada-related snow pack](#)

U.S. [Impacts](#) during the past week

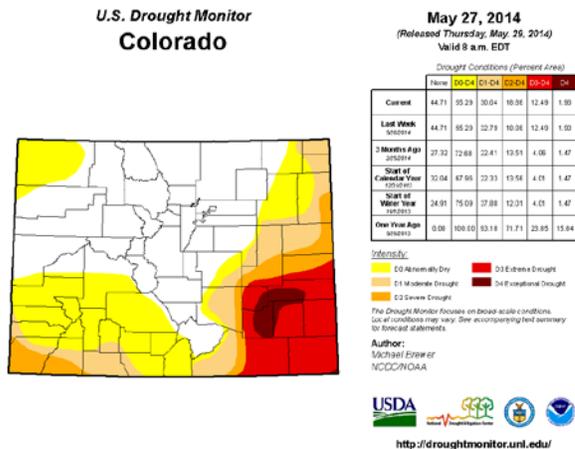
[Click to enlarge maps](#)

State with D-4 Exceptional Drought



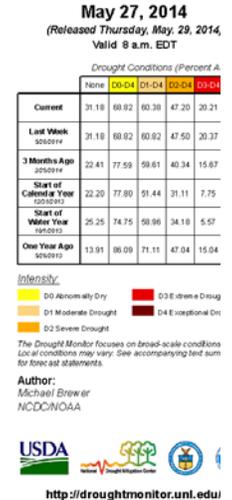
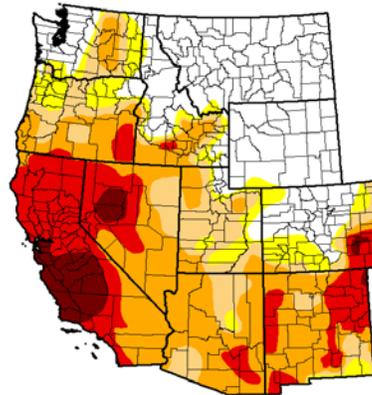
No changes occurred this past week.

State with D-4 Exceptional Drought



No changes have occurred this past week.

U.S. Drought Monitor West



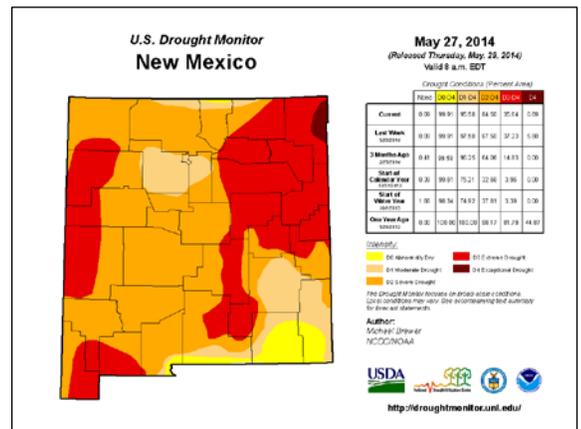
No significant changes occurred this past week.

CA Drought Information Resources

Drought News from California

- [California drought costs Central Valley \\$2 billion](#) - May 19
- [Senate passes California drought-relief bill](#) - May 22
- [Food giveaway aims to combat drought-driven hunger](#) - May 19
- [California's golf courses gird for long, dry summer](#) - May 19
- [Drought's upside? Better water quality at beaches, report says](#) - May 22
- [California takes first step toward curtailing water rights](#) - May 21
- [East Valley farmers sue to stop Millerton Lake water release](#) - May 22
- [Merced County landowners try to sell groundwater](#) - May 20

U.S. Drought Monitor New Mexico

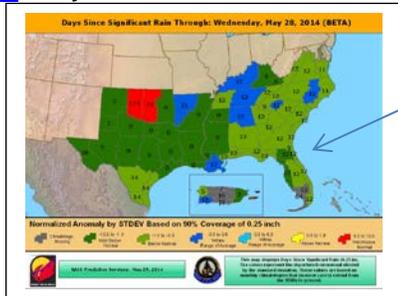


Significant reduction in D43 occurred during this past week.

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

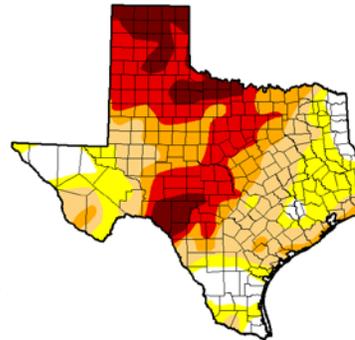
State with D-4 Exceptional Drought

- ✓ [Texas Drought Website.](#)
- ✓ [Texas Reservoirs.](#)
- ✓ [Texas Drought Monitor Coordination Conference Call: on Monday's 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM CST](#)
- [Drought forces park in Texas to use trucked water – May 20](#)
- [Lakeway stops issuing swimming pool permits – May 21](#)
- [Nearly 20 Texas towns could run out of water in 90 days – May 20](#)



[Days since Significant Rain Summary](#)

U.S. Drought Monitor Texas



May 27, 2014
(Released Thursday, May 29, 2014)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
Current	10.72	89.28	71.16	49.18	32.81	10.16
Last Week (2014)	9.82	90.18	72.31	56.11	40.35	25.95
3 Months Ago (2014)	7.36	92.62	67.88	33.55	9.45	0.93
Start of Calendar Year (2014)	20.48	71.52	43.84	21.15	5.02	0.79
Start of Water Year (2013)	6.62	93.38	70.95	25.63	4.01	0.12
One Year Ago (2013)	3.49	96.51	88.27	60.34	32.45	18.82

Intensity:
 D0 Abnormally Dry
 D1 Moderate Drought
 D2 Severe Drought
 D3 Extreme Drought
 D4 Exceptional Drought
 D5 Catastrophic Drought

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

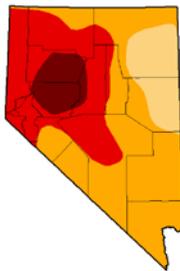
Author: Michael Brown
NCCO/NOAA

USDA
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

A large reduction in D4 occurred during the past week.

State with D-4 Exceptional Drought

U.S. Drought Monitor Nevada



May 27, 2014
(Released Thursday, May 29, 2014)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Last Week (2014)	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
3 Months Ago (2014)	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Start of Calendar Year (2014)	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Start of Water Year (2013)	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
One Year Ago (2013)	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Intensity:
 D0 Abnormally Dry
 D1 Moderate Drought
 D2 Severe Drought
 D3 Extreme Drought
 D4 Exceptional Drought
 D5 Catastrophic Drought

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

Author: Michael Brown
NCCO/NOAA

USDA
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

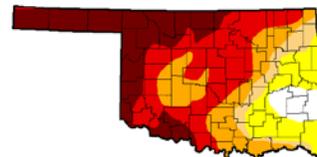
No changes have occurred during this past week.

Related area news:

- ✓ [2014 Kansas Drought Report and Summary](#)
- [Kansas wheat condition declines as drought endures.](#) – May 20
- [More than half of Kansas in drought emergency](#) – May 21
- [Past 30 days precipitation totals](#)
- [Past 30 days precipitation percent of normal](#)
- [Calendar Year precipitation totals](#)
- [Calendar Year precip percent of normal](#)
- [Short Crop ET](#)

State with D-4 Exceptional Drought

U.S. Drought Monitor Oklahoma



May 27, 2014
(Released Thursday, May 29, 2014)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D1	D2	D3	D4	D5
Current	5.70	64.22	79.04	73.26	66.34	36.11
Last Week (2014)	5.70	64.22	68.08	73.26	61.24	34.25
3 Months Ago (2014)	0.00	98.91	62.41	20.96	13.07	2.40
Start of Calendar Year (2014)	28.04	45.18	33.17	13.99	4.04	2.40
Start of Water Year (2013)	21.74	76.28	43.00	17.62	4.42	1.46
One Year Ago (2013)	21.88	60.12	58.93	43.33	26.51	11.34

Intensity:
 D0 Abnormally Dry
 D1 Moderate Drought
 D2 Severe Drought
 D3 Extreme Drought
 D4 Exceptional Drought
 D5 Catastrophic Drought

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

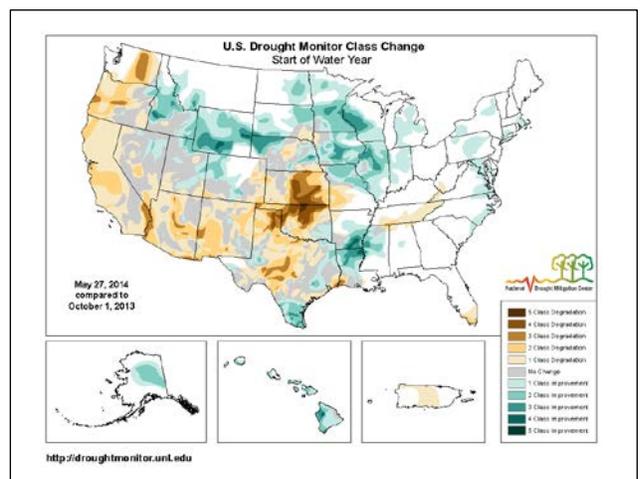
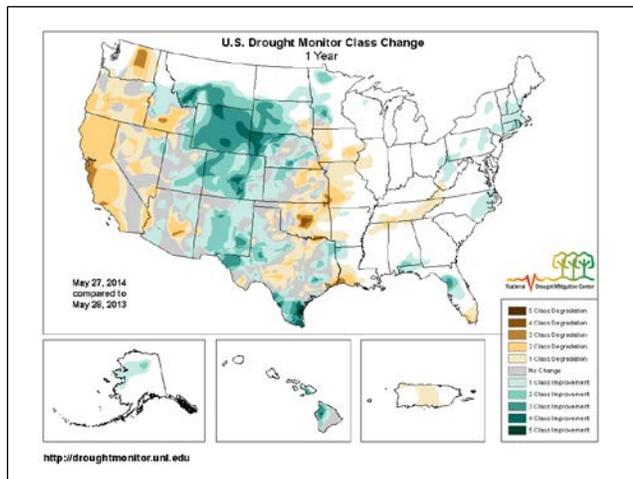
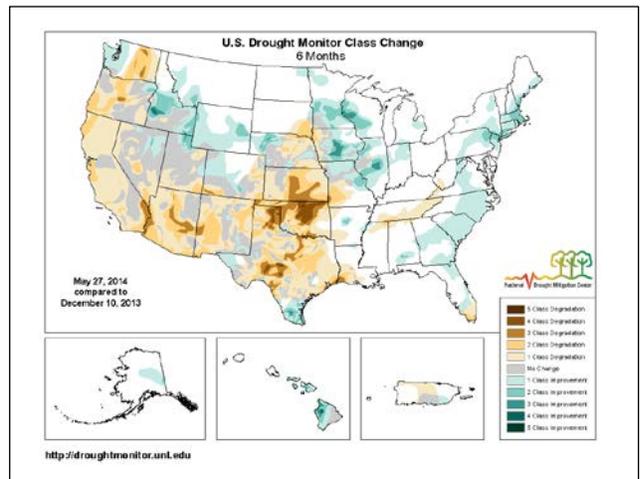
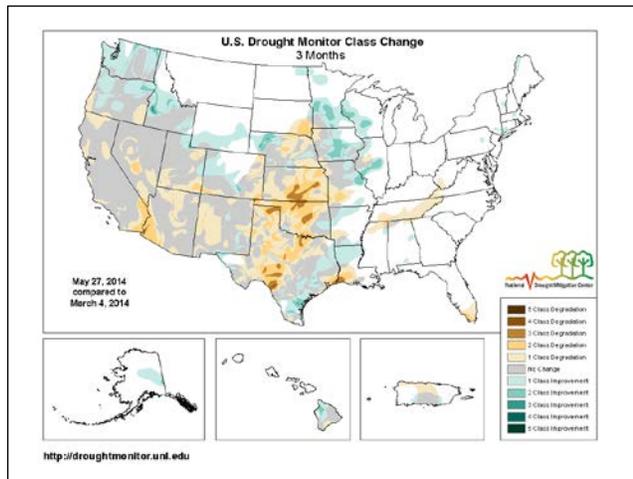
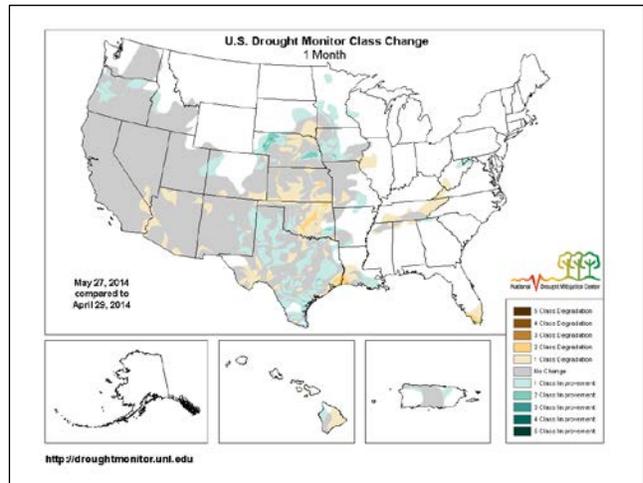
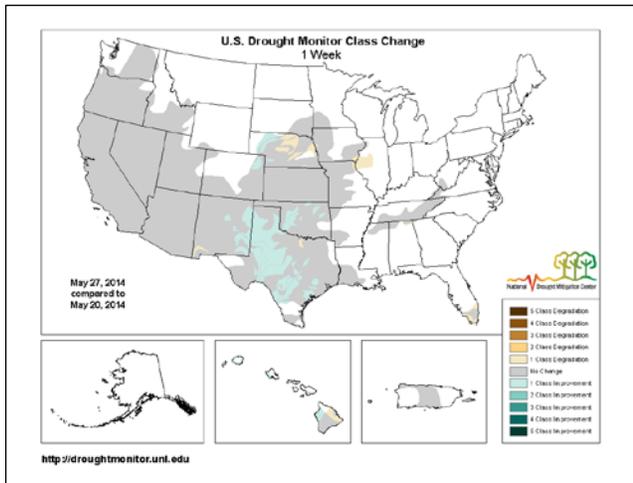
Author: Michael Brown
NCCO/NOAA

USDA
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Significant improvements have occurred in D3 and D4 during this past week.

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

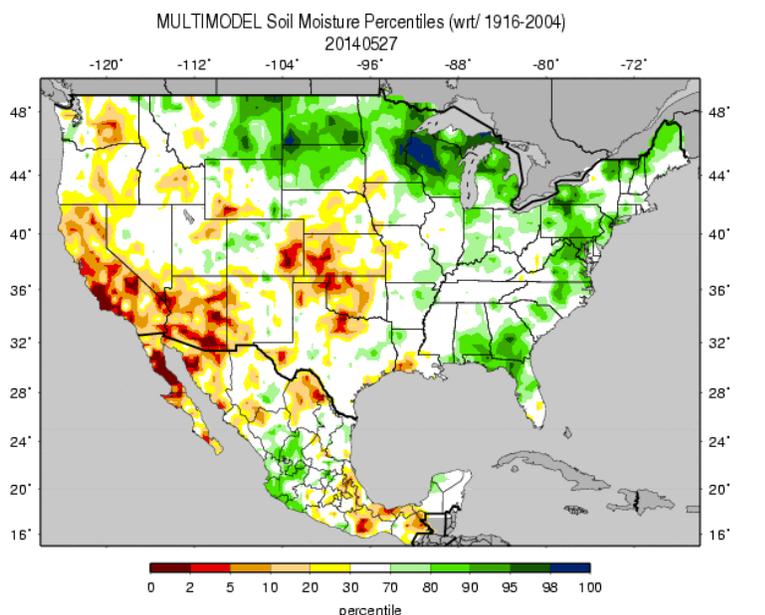
Changes in Drought Monitor Categories (over various time periods)



Click on any of these maps to enlarge. Note how the conditions over the Rockies and northern Great Plains have improved between 6 to 12 months (middle right to lower left maps). However, also note that since the start of the 2014 Water Year last October, conditions over the middle and southern Great Plains have deteriorated significantly (lower right map).

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Soil Moisture

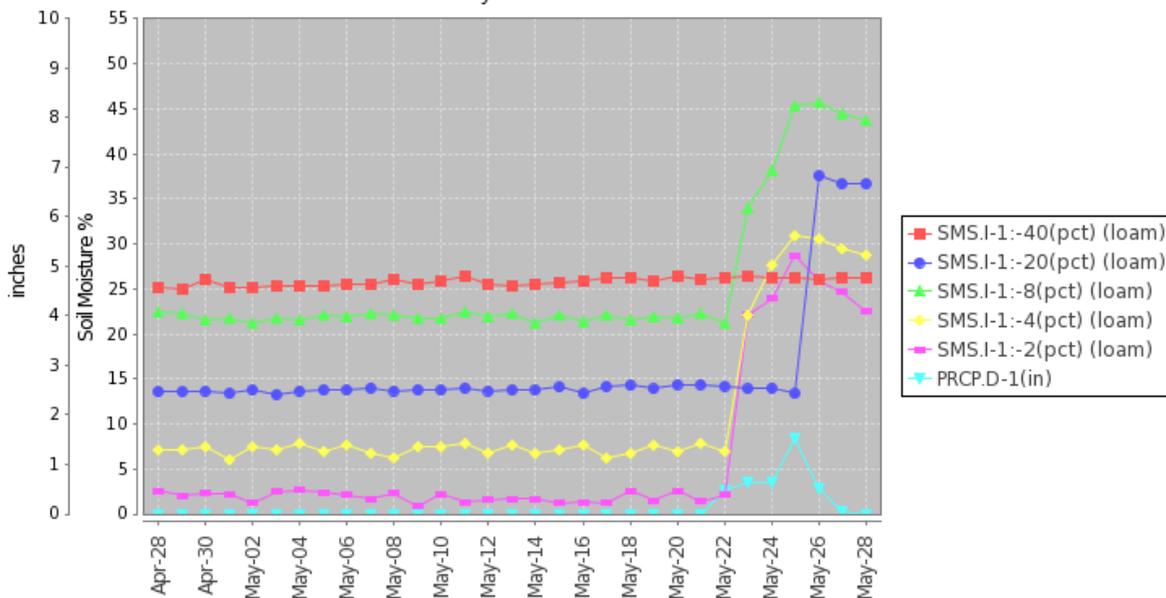


Soil moisture ranking in [percentile](#) as of May 27 shows dryness over central California, most of Arizona, and the south-central Great Plains. Moist soils dominated the southeastern Gulf Coast states, much of the Atlantic coast states, and from central Montana eastward, especially over the western Great Lakes.

Useful Hydrological Links: [Crop Moisture Index](#); [Palmer Drought Severity Index](#); [Standardized Precipitation Index](#); [Surface Water Supply Index](#); [Weekly supplemental maps](#); [Minnesota Climate Working Group](#); [Experimental High Resolution Drought Trigger Tool](#); [NLDAS Drought Monitor](#); [Soil Moisture](#).

Soil Climate Analysis Network ([SCAN](#))

Station (2006) MONTH=2014-04-28 (Daily) NRCS National Water and Climate Center - Provisional Data - subject to revision
Wed May 28 09:56:47 PDT 2014

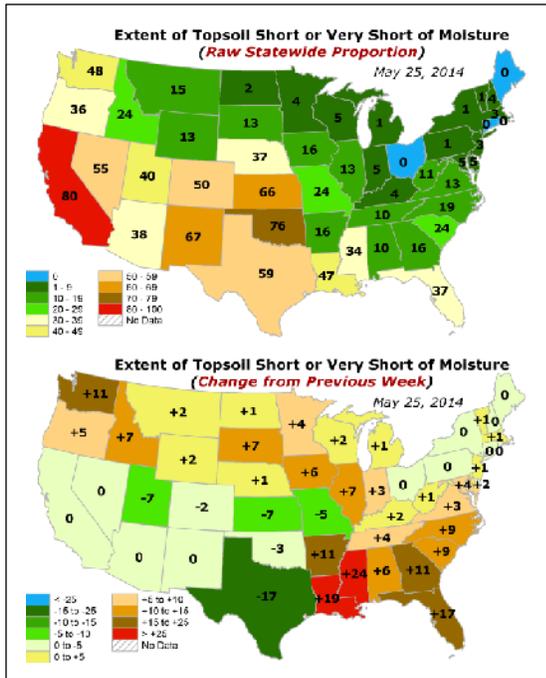


This NRCS resource shows soil moisture data at the Bushland #1 SCAN site located in the [Panhandle of Texas](#). Note the improving soil moisture trend as a result of recent heavy rainfall (precipitation trace in light blue). Also, the deepest sensor at 40 inches shows no improvement at this time.

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](#).

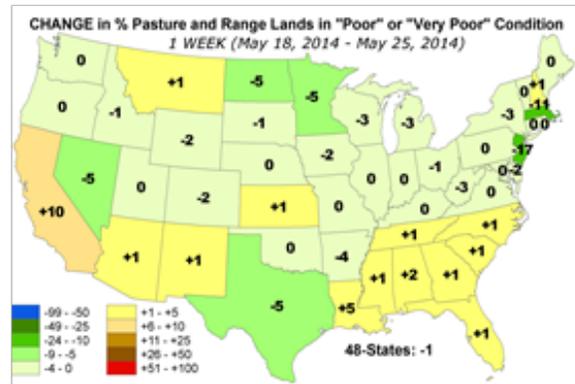
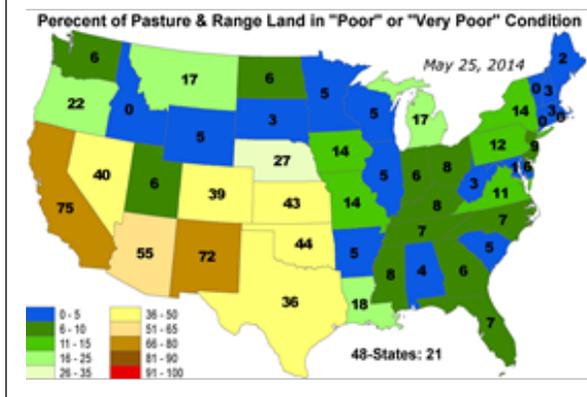
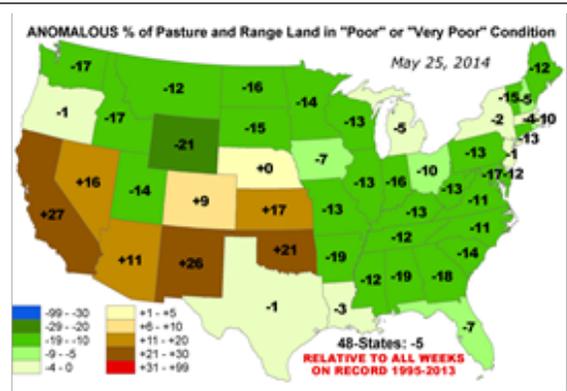
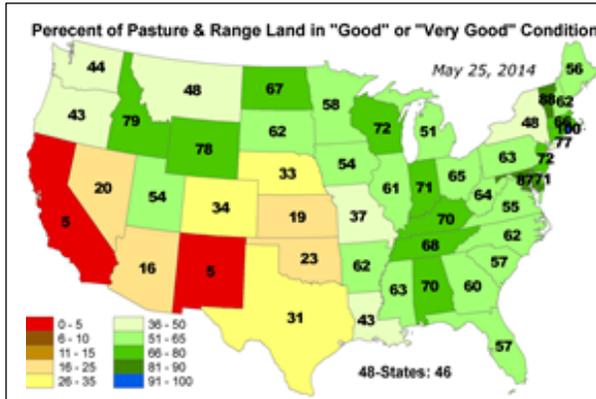
Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Topsoil and Pasture & Rangeland Conditions



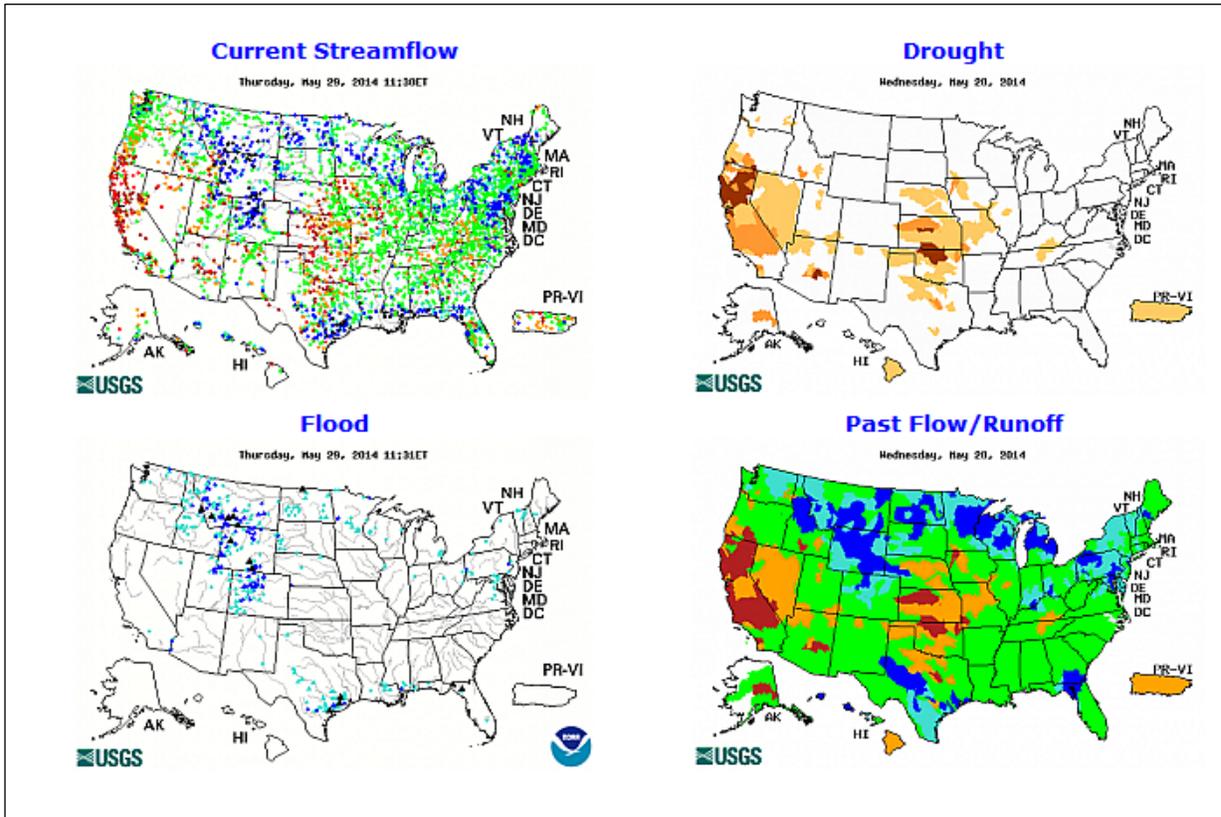
← Topsoils are exceptionally poor (top) over Kansas and Oklahoma, values representing more than 50 percent worse conditions than the median for this time of year (bottom panel). Low values over Washington are suspect, considering pasture and rangeland conditions are significantly better (below). Locations such as Georgia and Florida have seen abundant moisture with topsoils exceeding 50 percent above the May 25 median.

Much of the states east of the Mississippi River, are doing well, as noted below. These conditions also extend across the northern Great Plains and northern Rockies. Pasture and rangelands are stressed over California, the Great Basin, the Southwest, and the southern half of the Great Plains. Conditions have remained about the same over this past week.



Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

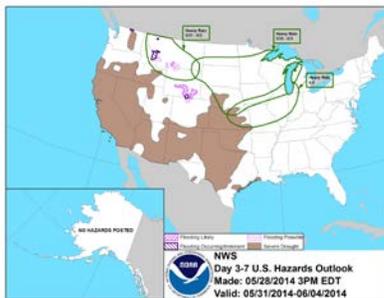
Streamflow



Streams are high over the upper Missouri, northern Colorado, and the upper Ohio Valley (left maps). Some flooding is occurring over parts of western Montana, northwest Wyoming, northern Colorado, and along the gulf coast (lower left map).

[Click maps to enlarge and update](#)

[Weather hazards](#)



Heavy rains are expected over the northern Great Plains and upper Mississippi River during the next several days.

National Long Range Outlook



During the next three months, flooding is possible in a few places over the Red River Valley in North Dakota, the upper Midwest, the middle Mississippi River Valley and west central Florida. Currently, **1** gage has a greater than 50% chance to experience major flooding; **2** gages for moderate flooding; **13** gages for minor flooding.

These numbers represent a major improvement since last week.

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

[National Drought Summary for May 27, 2014](#)

Prepared by: Drought Monitor Author: Michael J Brewer, NIDIS U.S. Drought Portal Manager, NOAA's National Climatic Data Center.

Summary

"This US Drought Monitor week was dominated by a weather system that moved across the Rockies, into the Southern Plains and Midwest and through the South and Mid-Atlantic. The system brought damaging wind, hail, and tornadoes. On May 21, a widespread area of Colorado was impacted by an associated supercell thunderstorm which spawned multiple tornadoes and dumped golf ball-sized hail on Colorado Springs. This storm continued eastward dumping much needed precipitation in the Southern Plains through the end of the Drought Monitor week.

Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico

A lack of trade winds continues to keep windward sections of the Big Island of Hawaii drier than normal while conditions north of Kona have benefitted from above normal precipitation. As a result, the existing area of Abnormal Dryness (D0) shifted south and eastward. Beneficial rains have also covered Oahu and Kauai leading to removal of the Abnormal Dryness (D0) on those islands. No changes were made in Puerto Rico or Alaska.

The Midwest

Abnormal Dryness (D0) expanded through southeastern Iowa and into east-central Illinois. Other areas of the Midwest remained unchanged.

The Northeast and Mid-Atlantic

Rain fell throughout the area during the week. The area remains unchanged from last week and largely drought-free, with the exception of some Abnormal Dryness (D0) in the Appalachian Mountains.

The Plains

Locally heavy rain came to the Southern Plains during the Drought Monitor week. Areas from New Mexico and Texas up into western Nebraska benefitted. Texas experienced widespread improvements in Exceptional (D4), Extreme (D3), and Severe (D2) Drought largely throughout the central part of the state and the Panhandle. Moderate Drought (D1) and Abnormal Dryness (D0) also decreased, mainly in the eastern part of the state. Oklahoma likewise experienced an improvement mostly in Exceptional (D4) and Extreme (D3) Drought throughout the center of the state. Conversely, limited improvement in drought conditions in western Nebraska was more than offset by degradation of Extreme (D3), Severe (D2), and Moderate Drought (D1) and Abnormal Dryness (D0) in the central and eastern part of the state.

The West

Little precipitation fell west of the Rockies this week. Conditions remain very dry. Areas of Extreme Drought (D3) expanded slightly in western New Mexico, while precipitation in eastern New Mexico alleviated small areas of Exceptional (D4), Extreme (D3), and Severe (D2) Drought there. Northeast Colorado experienced an improvement in Moderate Drought (D1). Statewide, California, at 75%, and New Mexico, at 72%, lead the nation in percent of pasture and rangeland in Poor or Very Poor conditions. The rest of the West remained unchanged. Wildfires remain a problem in parts of the West. According to the US Forest Service, the current large incidents are all in California, Arizona, and Alaska. So far this year nationwide, there have been 23,339 fires that have burned 710,011 acres which is below the 10-year average (2004 – 2014 average, year to date, is 28,631 fires and 1,139,433 acres according to the National Interagency Fire Center).

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Looking Ahead

During the May 28-June 2, 2014 time period, precipitation is expected across the Northern and Central Plains and into the Southeast. At the same time, below normal temperatures are expected along the Mid-Atlantic Coast and in the states along the western Gulf of Mexico. Above normal temperatures are expected in the center of the country and along the West Coast.

For the ensuing 5 days (June 3-7, 2014), the odds favor normal to above-normal temperatures across the entire contiguous U.S. and southern Alaska, with the exception of the western Gulf of Mexico Coast. Below-normal temperatures are favored in northern Alaska and along the aforementioned area around the Gulf of Mexico. Above-normal precipitation is likely from the Central and Northern Plains, through the Midwest and into the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast. Below-normal precipitation is expected from the Southern Plains through most of the West. Alaska is likely to see above-normal precipitation to the north and below-normal precipitation in the south.”

State Activities

[State government drought activities](#) can be tracked through their drought plans. 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](#). Additional information describing the [tools](#) available from the Drought Monitor can also be found at the [U.S. Drought Portal](#).

More Information

The National Water and Climate Center (NWCC) [Homepage](#) provides the latest available snowpack and water supply information. This document is available [weekly](#). CONUS Snowpack and Drought 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.

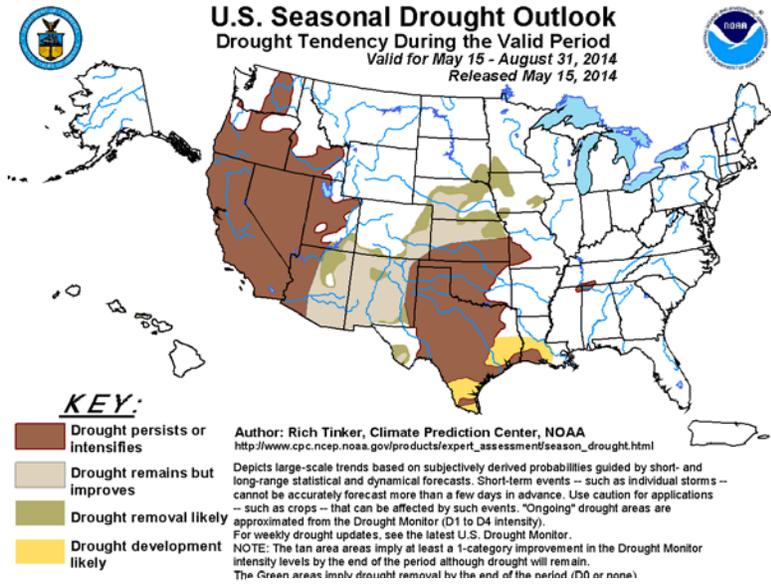
Congratulations and many thanks to Jan Curtis who is retiring. He provided many years of support in getting this product produced for the NRCS.

/s/

David W. Smith
Acting Deputy Chief, Soil Science and Resource Assessment

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Supplemental Drought Information



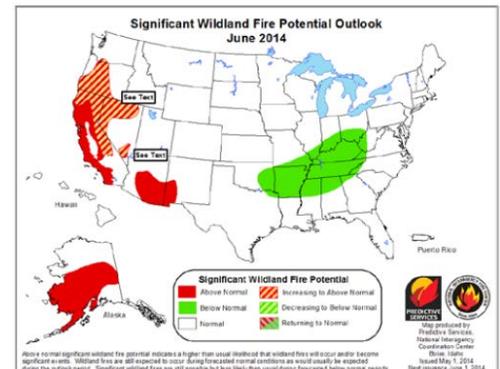
June

- Above normal fire potential will expand to include northern California, Nevada, and much of Oregon. Most of Alaska will continue to see above normal significant fire potential.

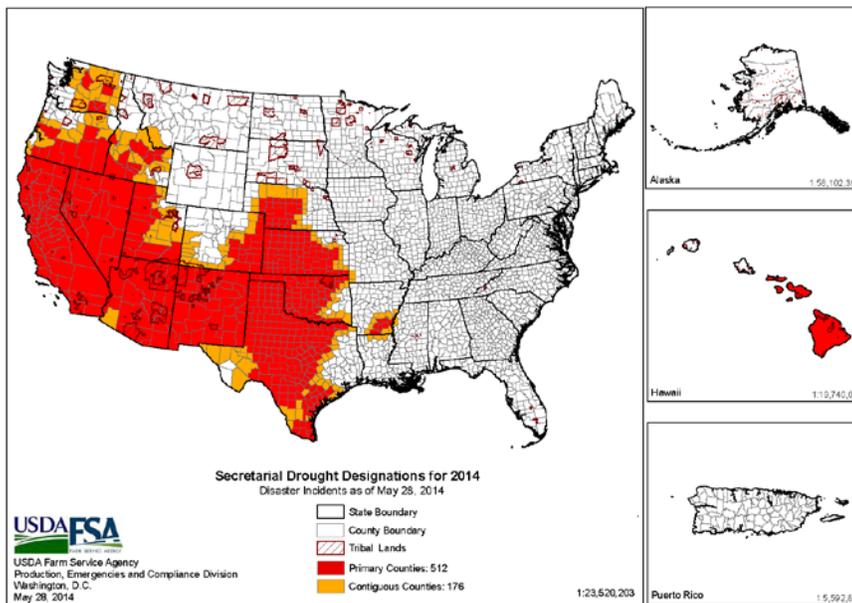
- Below normal fire potential will continue over the lower and mid-Mississippi, Tennessee and Ohio Valleys.

Drought is expected to persist over much of the West and southern Great Plains. Improvements are expected from the Southwest to the central Great Plains.

Also see: [National Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook](#) (updated on the first of each month) contains a content summary of the previous month's conditions.



2014 Secretarial Drought Designations - All Drought



Refer to the USDA Drought Assistance [website](#) and [National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service](#).

Read about the new [USDA Regional Climate Hubs](#).

New useful resource: [NASS Quick Stats](#)

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Additional Maps

U.S. Maps PowerPoint presentation can be found at: <http://dmcommunity.unl.edu/maps/US-Maps.ppt>.

The regional zooms of ACIS station data percent-of-normal precipitation can be found at:

<http://dmcommunity.unl.edu/maps/All-CONUS-ACIS-PNP.pptx>.

Supplemental Drought-Agriculture News

Download [archived](#) "U.S. Crops in Drought" files

The following 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. The list is compiled by Denise D. Gutzmer, Drought Impact Specialist, and National Drought Mitigation Center.

Estimated \$1.7 billion loss to California's agricultural economy

The shortage of water for crop irrigation in California is expected to lead to an estimated \$1.7 billion loss to the state's agricultural economy and leave roughly 14,500 farm workers looking for jobs, according to a preliminary study by the University of California, Davis, Center for Watershed Sciences. Computer models and recent water delivery amounts were used to tally up the estimated losses in the survey, commissioned by the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

Central Valley farmers may fallow about 6 percent or 410,000 acres because water deliveries will likely be two-thirds of normal this year. With less irrigation water from surface supplies, farmers are anticipated to pump more groundwater at an estimated cost of \$450 million.

Minimum flows in Sacramento River tributaries

The State Water Resources Control Board approved regulations that could limit water use from low streams flowing into the Sacramento River this summer. Farmers strongly opposed the new regulations, which set standards for the minimum volume of water that must flow in three Sacramento River watersheds to protect endangered fish.

Water conflicts in California

The Friant Water Authority, representing 15,000 growers on the east side of the San Joaquin Valley, filed a lawsuit to stop the release of water from Millerton Lake, saying that water from a Northern California water supply should be used to help west side growers, rather than junior water users, such as wildlife refuges and the State Water Project. A long-established water-rights prioritization would have east side growers receiving the water in Millerton Lake.

The proposed sale of nearly 100,000 acre-feet of Merced County water per year for four years to west-side water districts in Stanislaus County has some agricultural leaders worried that irrigation supplies will become depleted. A Merced County supervisor intends to seek the support of her colleagues for an emergency ordinance to prevent the sale.

Texas water supplies

More than 30 small Texas water suppliers could be out of drinking water within 45 to 90 days, according to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, which assures the public that water will be brought in if faucets go dry. There are 11 water suppliers, providing water to about 8,600 businesses and residential connections that have less than 45 days' worth of water. Twenty-one other suppliers have less than 90 days' worth left. Voluntary water restrictions were in effect in 387 water systems, while mandatory water restrictions governed water use in 778 water systems.

Arizona wildfires

A wind-driven wildfire burning in the Slide Rock State Park south of Flagstaff had blackened about 4,500 acres through the afternoon of May 21. Three hundred structures north of the state park were threatened, and roughly 3,200 residents were warned to be ready to evacuate. Steep terrain, thick pine forest, unpredictable strong winds and drought conditions made the fire difficult to fight. Several other large fires were also burning in the state.

Sparse Utah forage

Drought in Utah has reduced the amount of available forage, which has ranchers frustrated with the overpopulation of elk and other big game animals. The state Division of Wildlife Resources issued more hunting permits to cull some of the wildlife in drought-stricken parts of southwestern Utah.

Water supplies in Utah

As Utah enters its third season of drought, several communities in Utah County have enacted water restrictions to prolong the water supply. Water use restrictions will take effect in Alpine on June 1 and already took effect in American Fork. Voluntary water conservation was requested in Cedar Hills, Highland, Lindon, Orem, Provo, Santaquin, Saratoga Springs and Springville. Mandatory water restrictions were ongoing in Payson and Pleasant Grove.

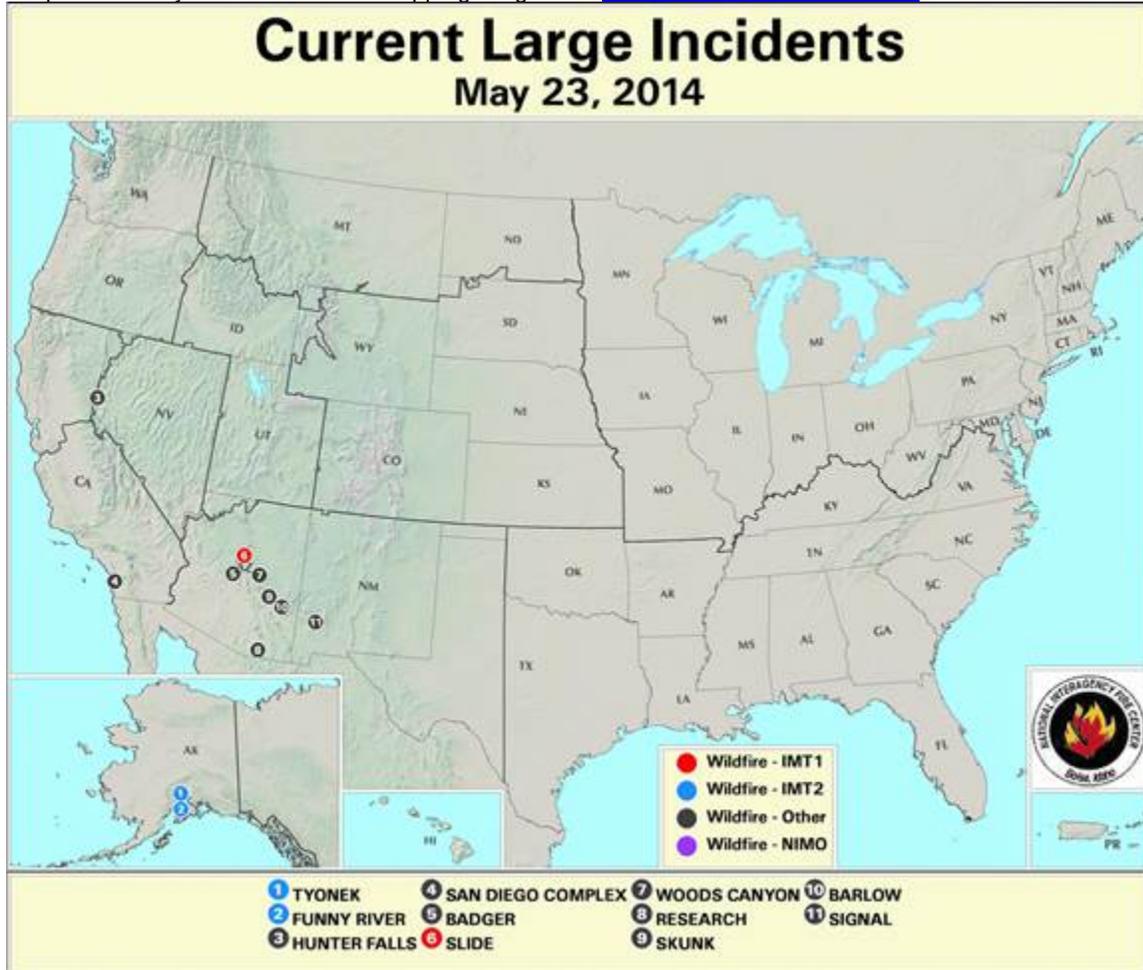
Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Failed wheat in Kansas

Some Kansas cattle producers have turned their cattle out into failed wheat fields since pasture grasses were short. Fifty-nine percent of the winter wheat was in poor to very poor condition, 29 percent was fair, while just 11 percent was considered to be in good condition and 1 percent was excellent, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Large fires burning in the U.S.

Graphic courtesy of the Active Fire Mapping Program at <http://activefiremaps.fs.fed.us/>



Correction: Last week I said that the Metropolitan Water District was rerouting 30,000 acre-feet that was intended for Castaic Lake in Los Angeles County and sending it to Lake Perris in Riverside County. In reality, it is the State Water Project that rerouted the water for the benefit of the Metropolitan Water District.

Tea Cup reservoir depictions:

- <http://www.usbr.gov/uc/water/basin/> ← Upper Colorado
- http://www.usbr.gov/uc/wcao/water/basin/tc_gr.html; ← Upper Snake
- <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/burtea.html> ← Upper Colorado
- http://www.usbr.gov/uc/water/basin/tc_cr.html ← Upper Colorado
- <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/select.html> ← Pacific Northwest
- <http://www.sevierriver.org/reservoirs/teacup-diagram-of-reservoirs/> ← Sevier River Water (UT)

NWCC's Surface Water Supply Index (SWSI) maps are located [here](#).

Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

Supplemental Information for the Week

Welcome rain was recorded in areas that had extremely dry conditions, improving conditions in New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, and Nebraska.

West Gulf RFC Ft Worth, TX: Current 7-Day Observed Precipitation
Valid at 5/27/2014 1200 UTC- Created 5/27/14 23:45 UTC

