



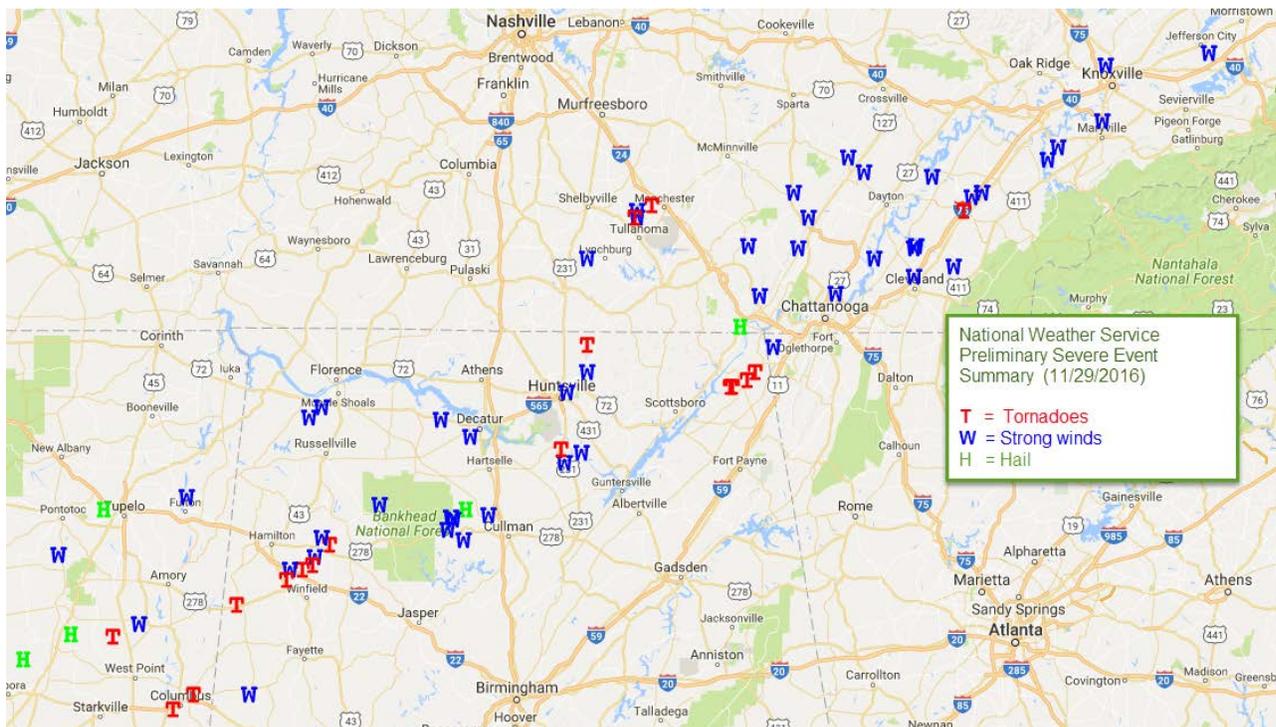
# Water and Climate Update

December 1, 2016

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.

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## Drought, fires, high winds, and tornados in the Southeast



[National Weather Service Graphic](#) With NRCS-added legend.

Many fires are still burning in the southeast U.S. Fires have been fanned by a strong storm system that moved through the area. In Gatlinburg, Tennessee, the 15,600 acre Chimney 2 fire originating in the Smoky Mountain National Park reported winds up to 87 mph that spread through the much of the town before some rain arrived. The Gatlinburg area reported 7 dead and 53 injured, with many businesses and homes destroyed.

### More news:

[7 Dead, at Least 53 Injured in Tennessee Wildfire, Officials Say](#)

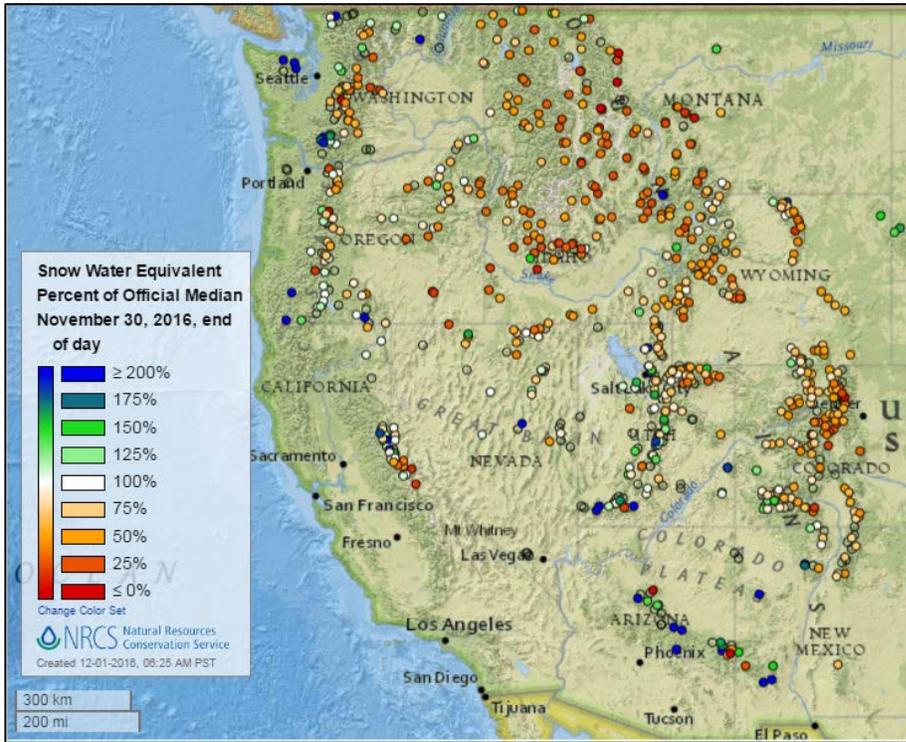
[700+ buildings damaged or destroyed in Tennessee fires](#)

[Rain finally comes to fire-ravaged Tennessee — along with tornadoes, mudslides and the threat of floods](#)

[Tennessee officials say wildfires that left 7 dead 'likely to be human-caused'](#)

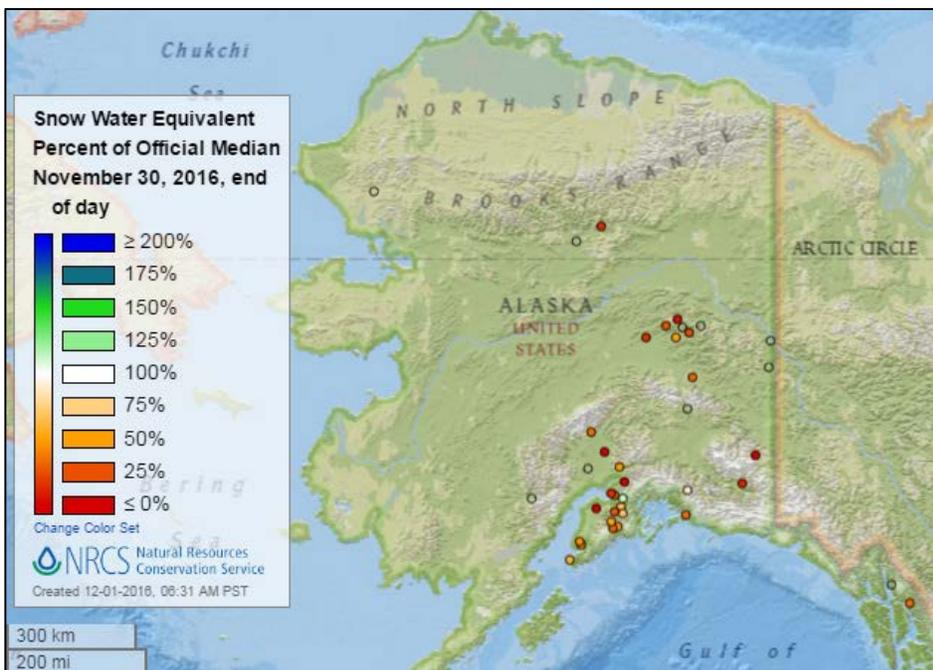
## Snow

### Current Snow Water Equivalent, NRCS SNOTEL Network



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

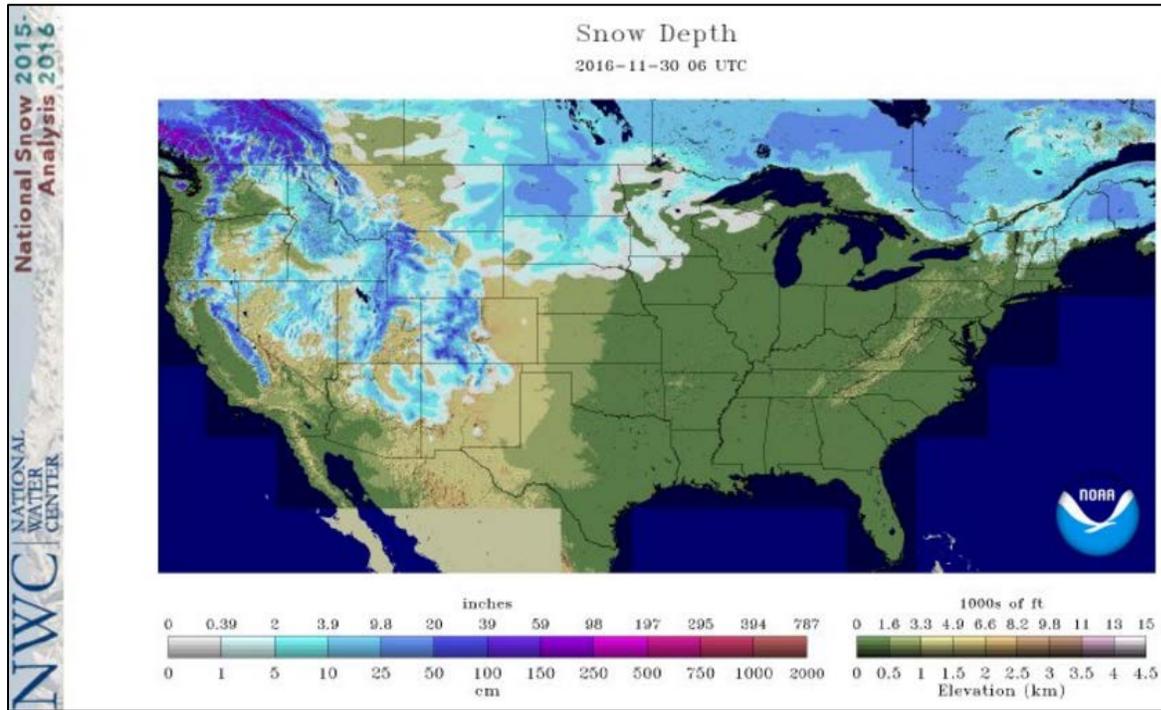
**See also:**  
[Snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)



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

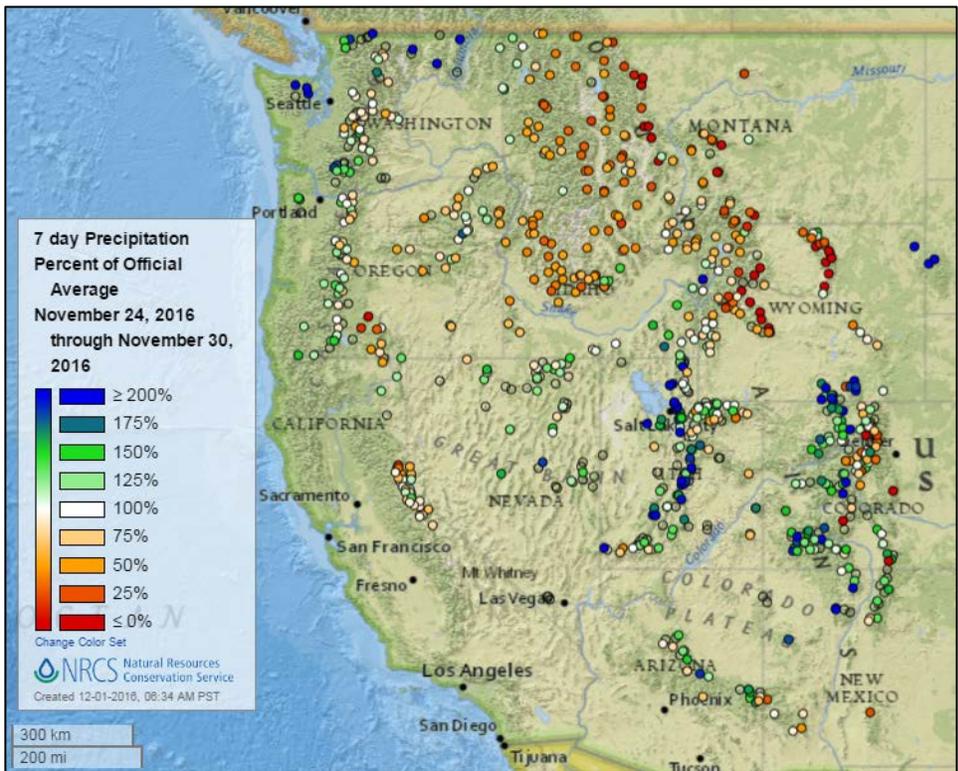
**See also:**  
[Alaska snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)

Current Snow Depth, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks



## Precipitation

### Last 7 Days, Western Mountain Sites (NRCS SNOTEL Network)



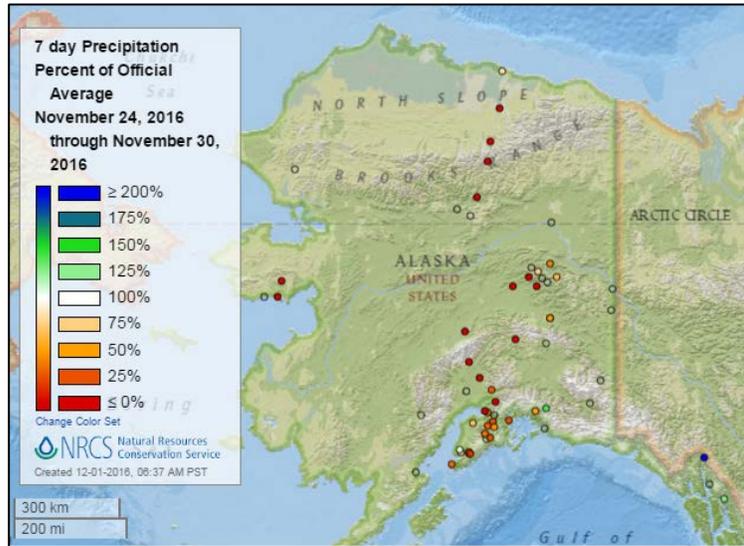
[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

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

# Water and Climate Update

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

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



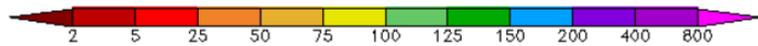
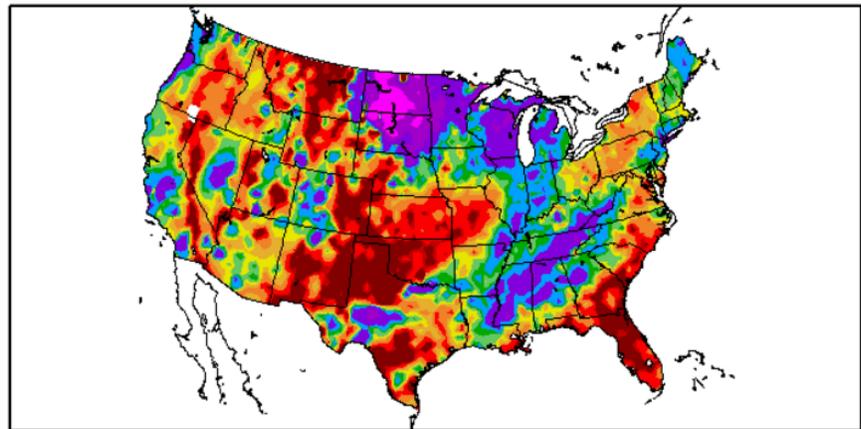
## Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
11/24/2016 – 11/30/2016

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

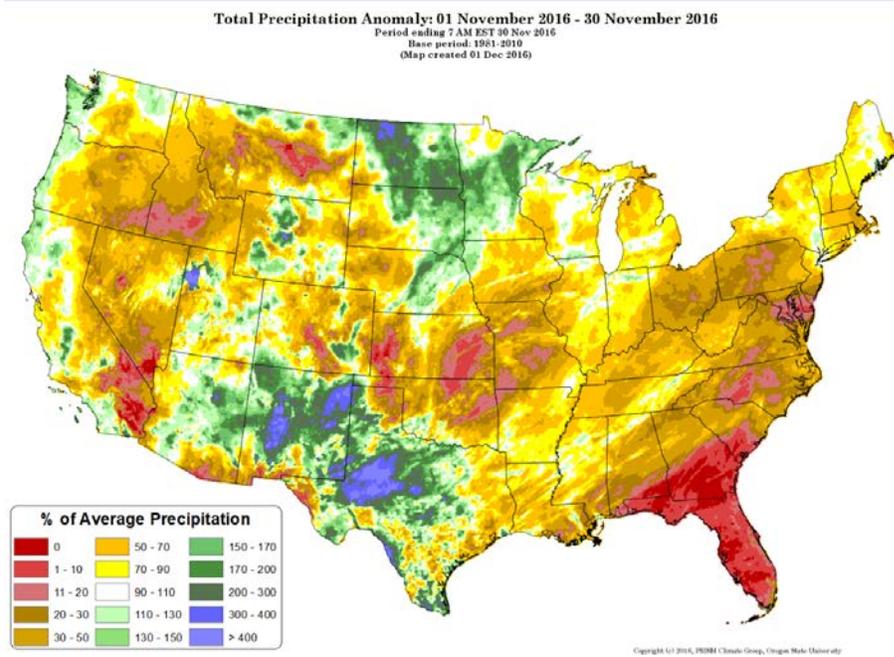


Generated 12/1/2016 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

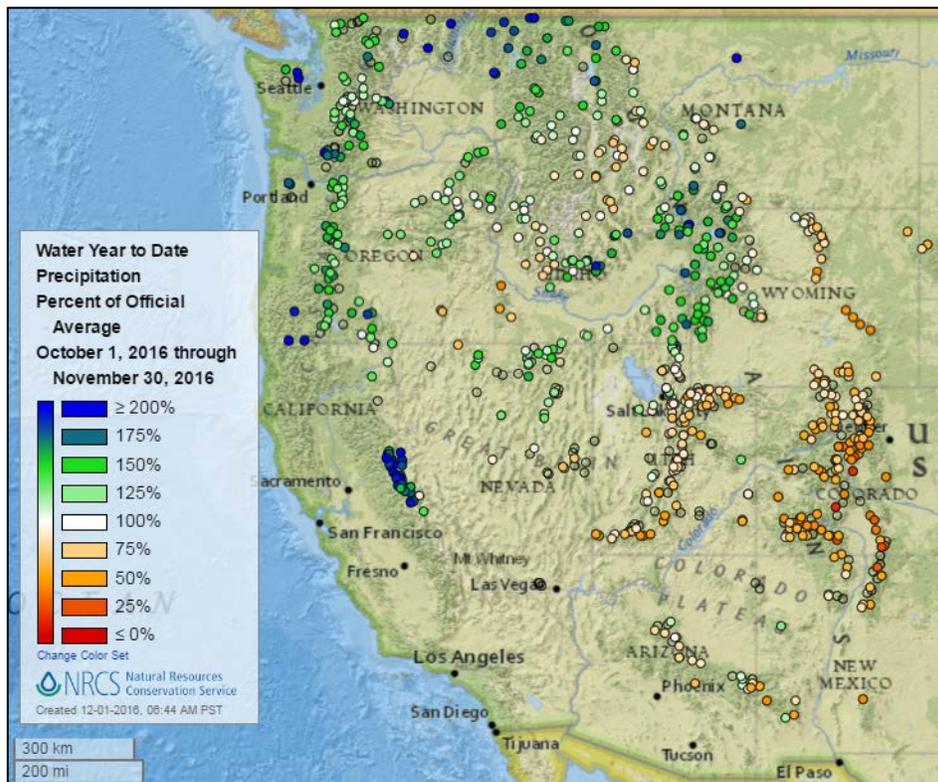
Previous Month, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM



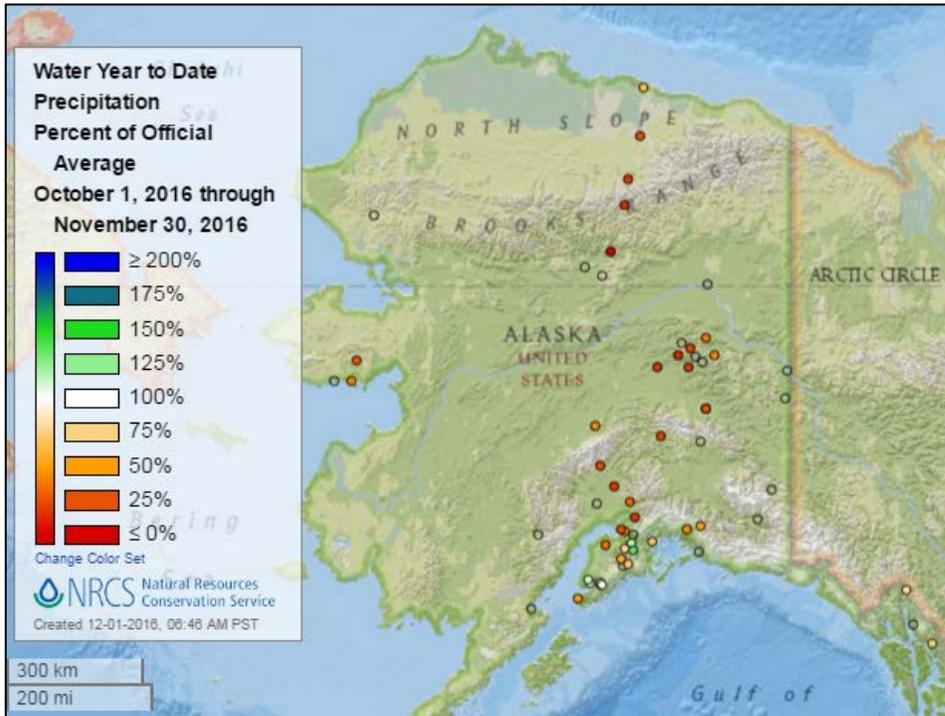
[Previous month national precipitation percent of average map](#)

Water Year-to-Date, Western Mountain Sites (NRCS SNOTEL Network)



[2017 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

[See also: 2017 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\)](#)



[Alaska 2017 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

[See also: Alaska 2017 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

## Temperature

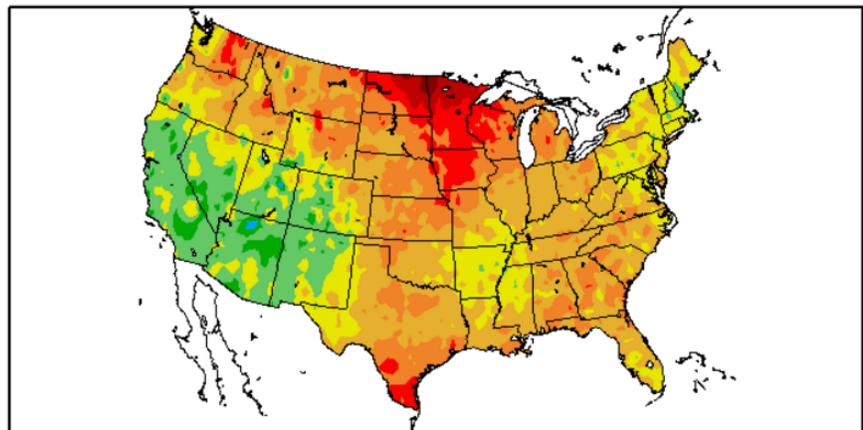
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
11/24/2016 – 11/30/2016



Generated 12/1/2016 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

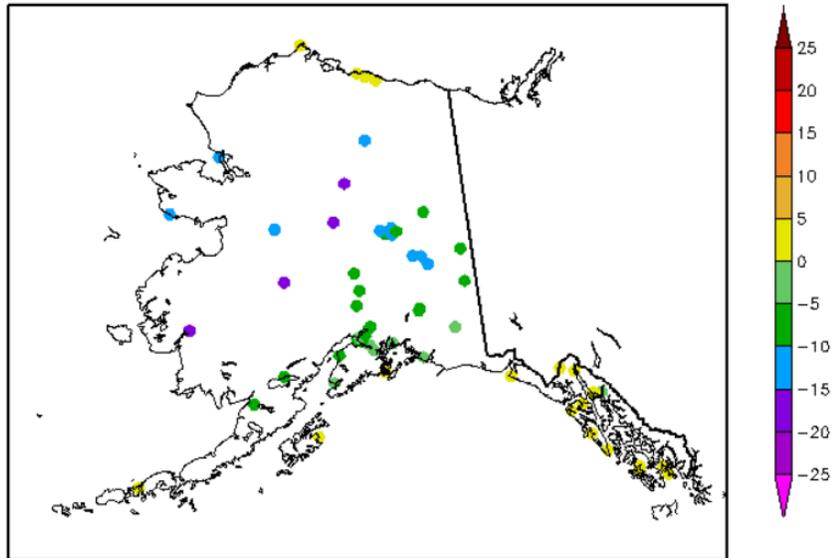
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
11/24/2016 – 11/30/2016



Generated 12/1/2016 at HPRCC using provisional data.

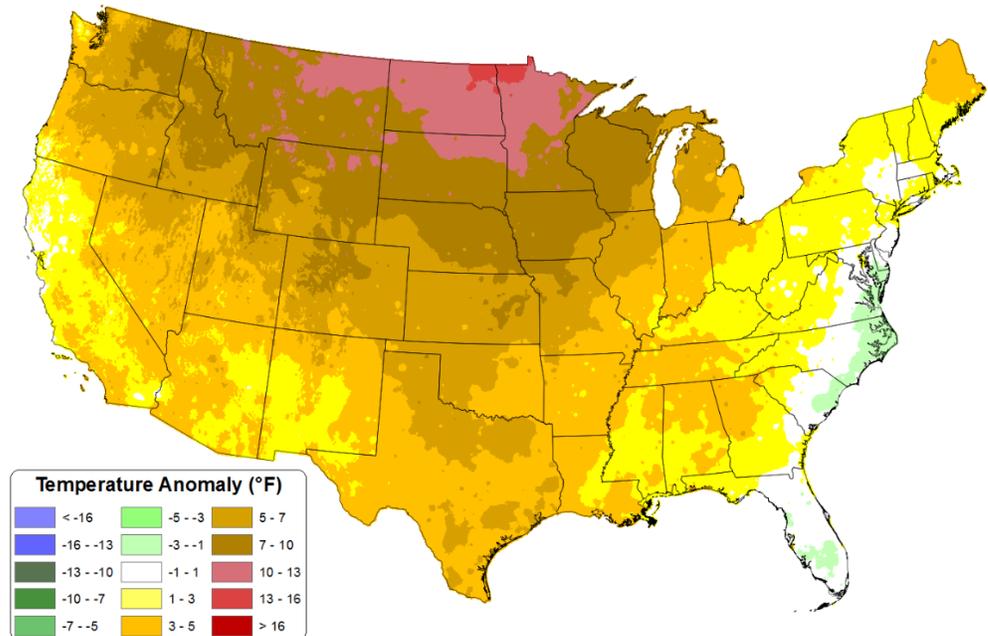
Regional Climate Centers

Previous Month, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

[Previous month national daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: 01 November 2016 - 30 November 2016  
Period ending 7 AM EST 30 Nov 2016  
Base period: 1981-2010  
(Map created 01 Dec 2016)



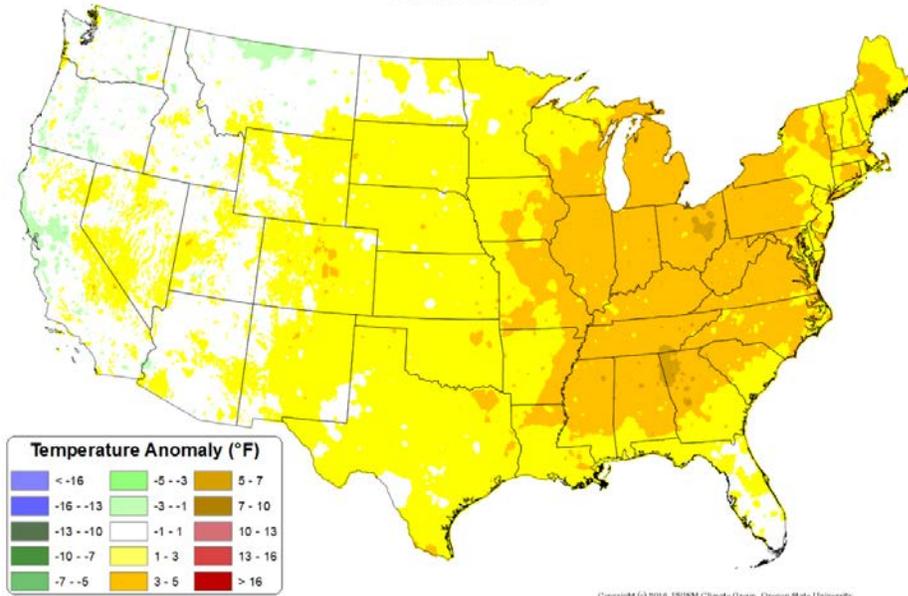
Copyright © 2016, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University

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

Source: PRISM

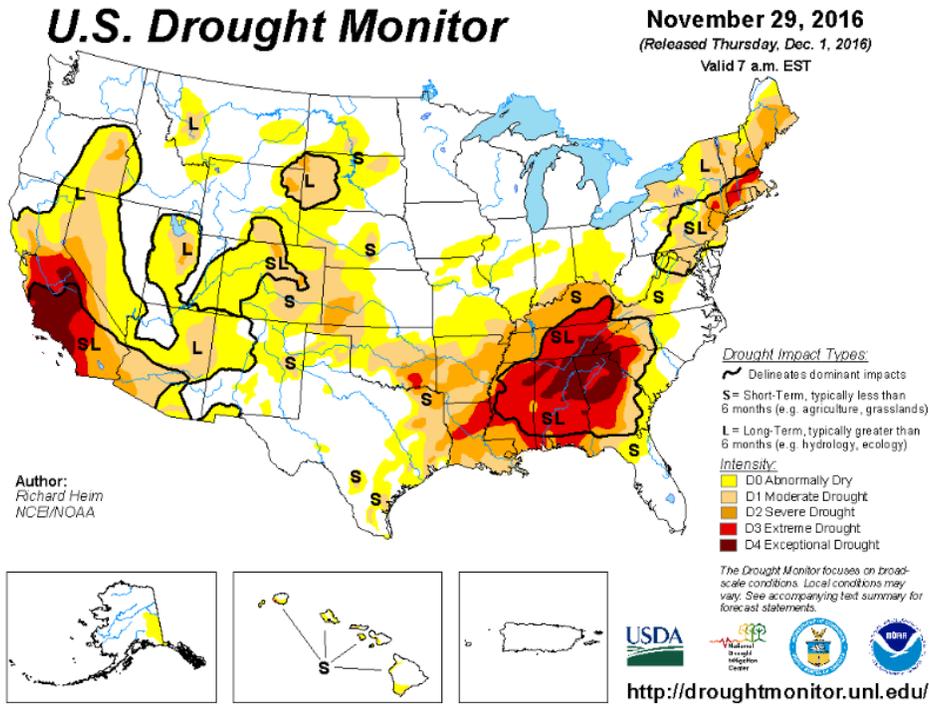
Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: August 2016 - October 2016  
Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Oct 2016  
Base period: 1981-2010  
(Map created 02 Nov 2016)

[August through October daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



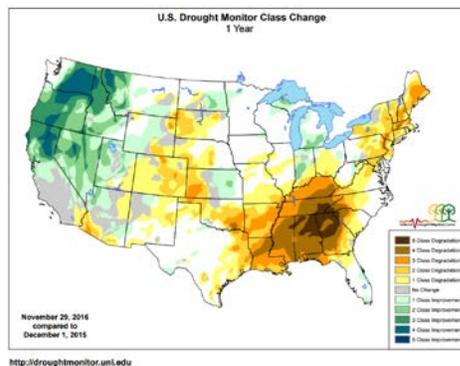
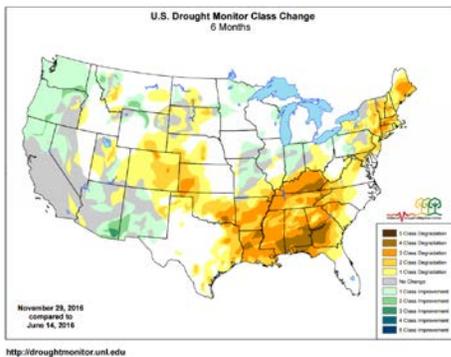
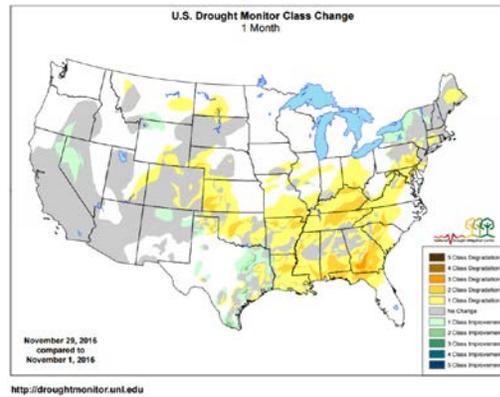
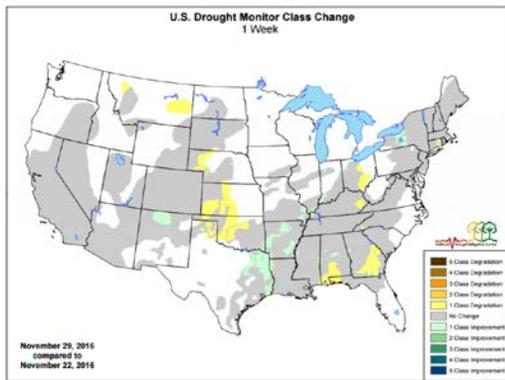
# Drought

[U.S. Drought Monitor](#) See map below. [U.S. Drought Portal](#) Comprehensive drought resource.



## Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

Click any map to enlarge



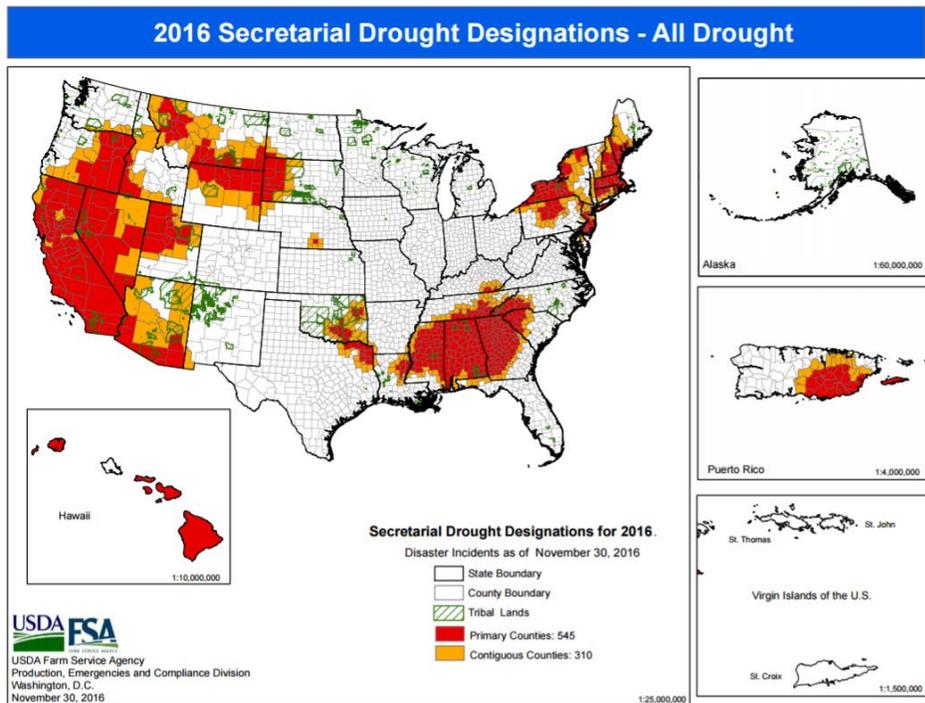
[Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months](#)

## Current National [Drought Summary](#), November 29, 2016

Author: Richard Heim, NOAA/NCEI

“This USDM week began with an upper-level ridge bringing above-normal temperatures to much of the central third of the CONUS. Short-wave troughs moving through the ridge brought surface lows and cold fronts as they moved across the country. By the end of the week, a large upper-level trough and its associated surface low and front were bringing cooler temperatures and much-needed precipitation to many drought areas. Drought contracted in parts of the Ohio to Lower Mississippi Valleys and Southern Plains. Drought expanded in parts of the Central to Southern Plains which missed out on the frontal precipitation. The early week fronts fell apart before reaching the Southeast drought area, and the late week front did not reach most of the Southeast before the cutoff date for this week’s USDM. As a result, drought expanded in southern Alabama to southeast Georgia, and in eastern Kentucky, and did not improve in the Southeast much from the frontal passages.”

## USDA 2016 Secretarial [Drought Designations](#)

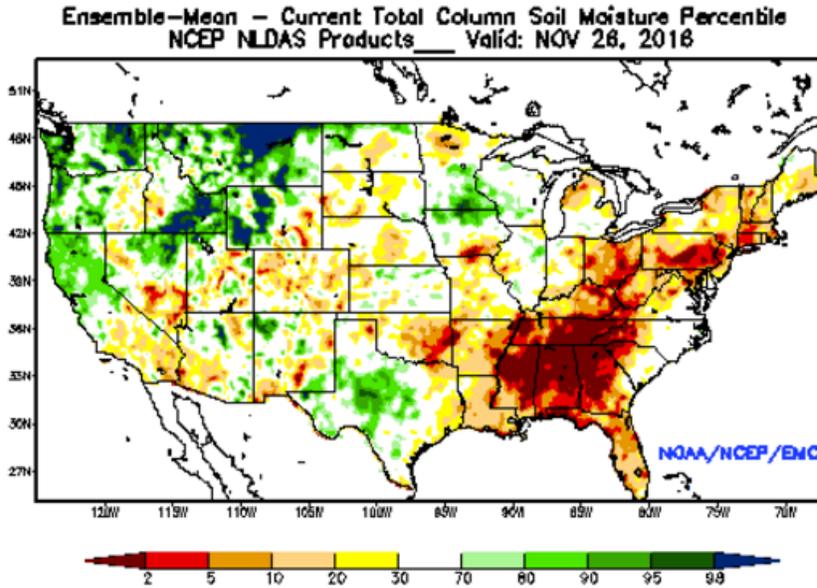


### Highlighted Drought Resources

- [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](#)

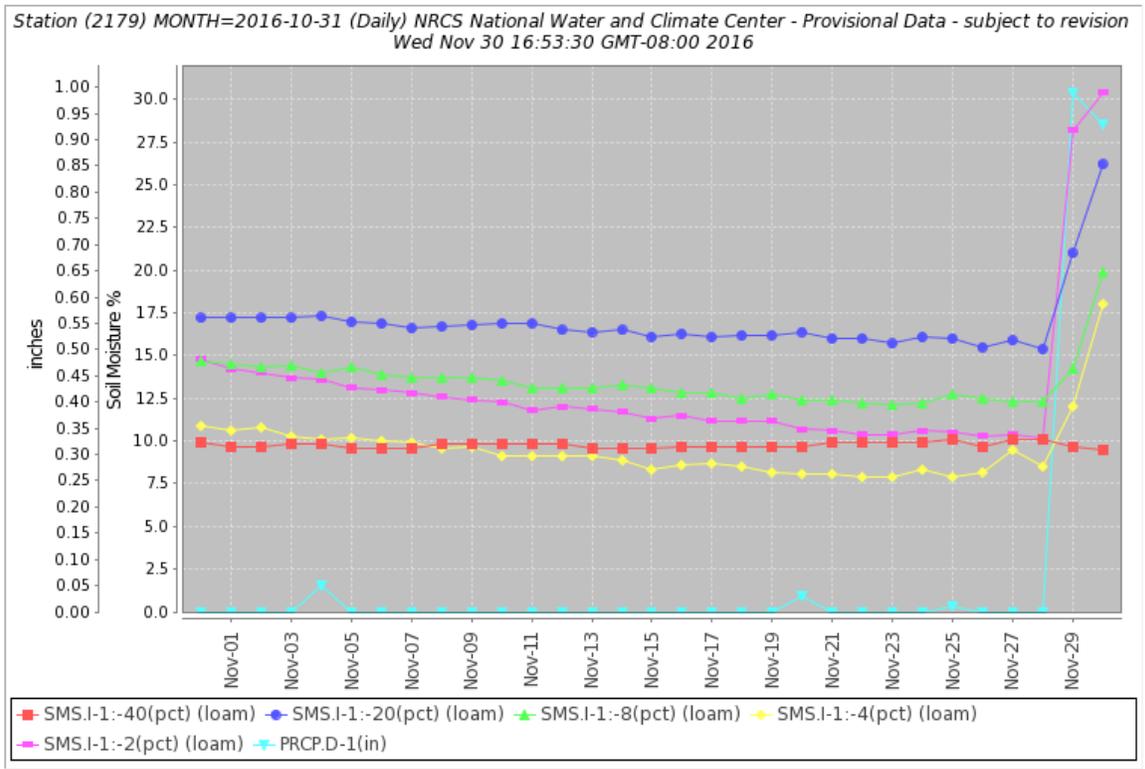
## Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

### Soil Moisture



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of November 29, 2016.

### Soil Moisture Data: NRCS [Soil Climate Analysis Network \(SCAN\)](#)



Soil moisture (at 2-, 4-, 8-, 20-, and 40-inch depths) and precipitation for the last 30 days at the [Sudduth Farms SCAN Site 2179](#) in Alabama. The precipitation on November 29 and 30 resulted in an increase in soil moisture at all but the 40-inch sensor depth.

## Soil Moisture Data Portals

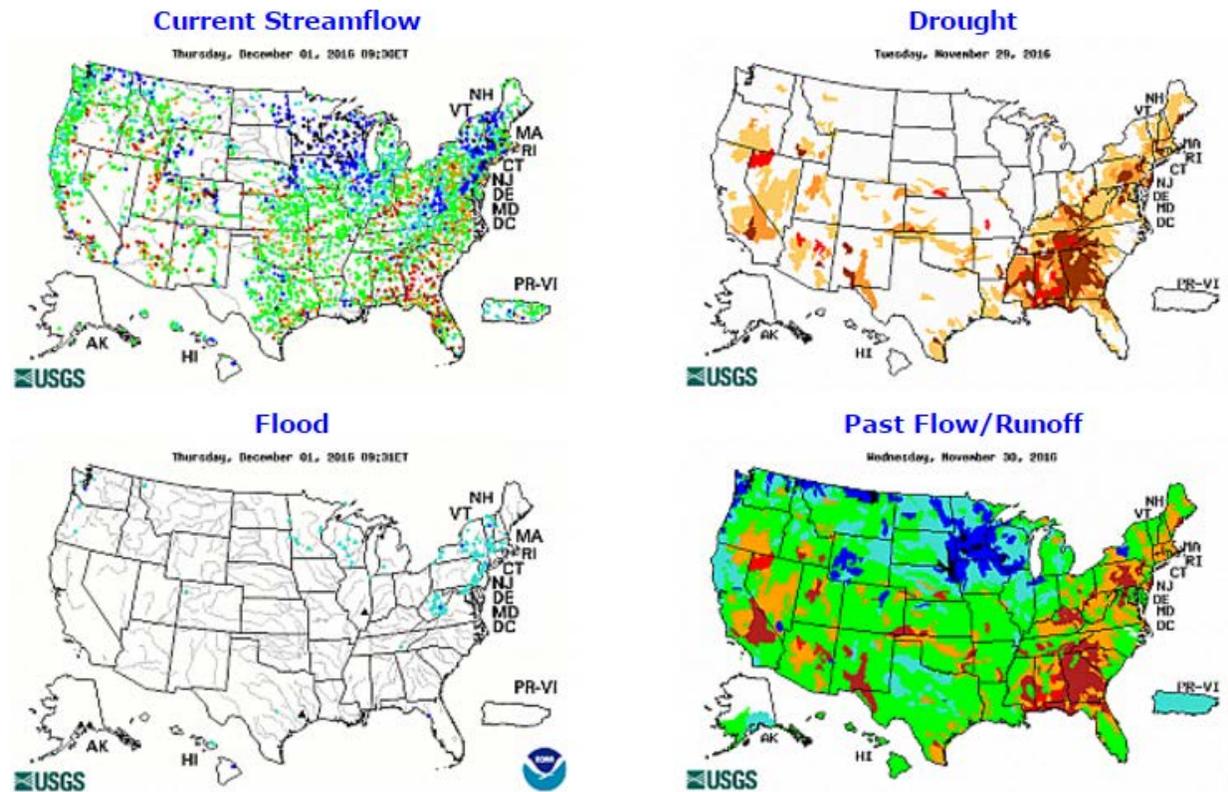
[CRN Soil Moisture](#)

[Texas A&M University North American Soil Moisture Database](#)

[University of Washington Experimental Modeled Soil Moisture](#)

## Streamflow

Source: USGS



Click to enlarge and display legends

[Current streamflow maps](#)

## Current Reservoir Storage

[National Water and Climate Center Reservoir Data](#)

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Hydromet Tea Cup Reservoir Depictions:

[Upper Colorado](#)

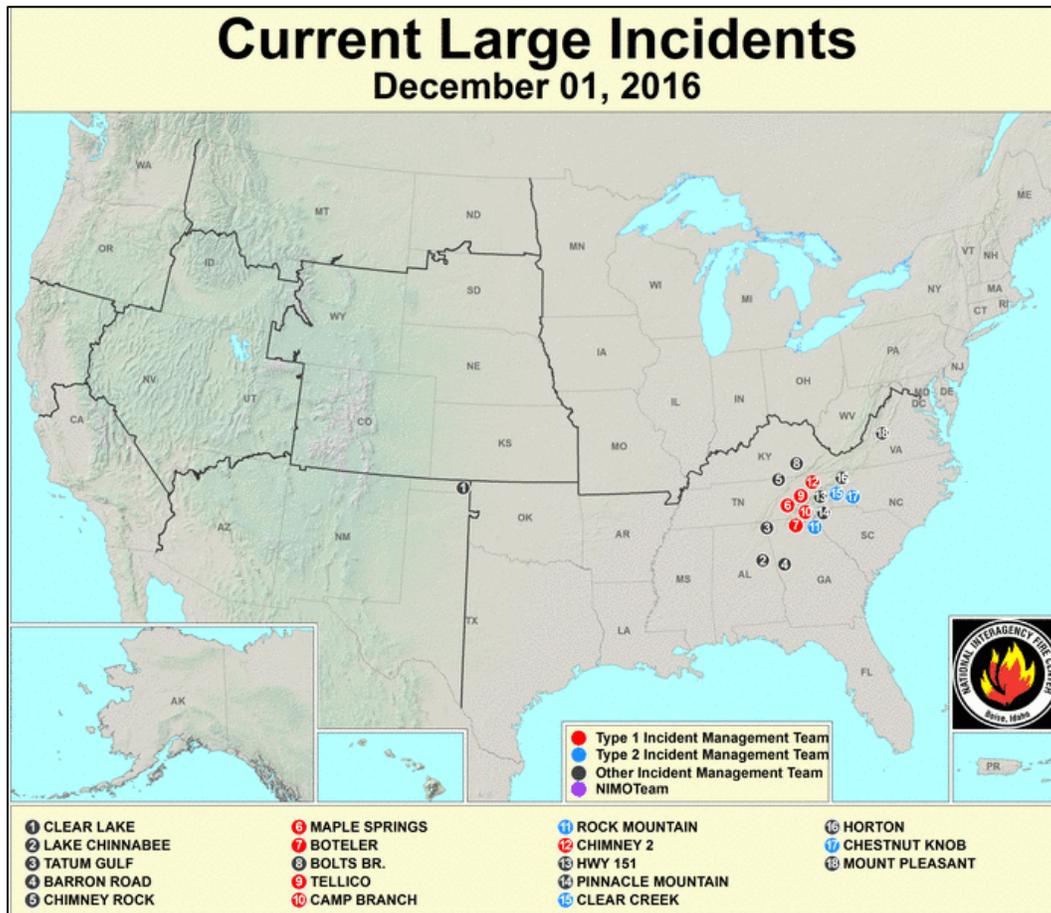
[Pacific Northwest/Snake/Columbia](#)

[Sevier River Water, Utah](#)

[Upper Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas](#)

[California Reservoir Conditions](#)

Wildfires: [USDA Forest Service Active Fire Mapping](#)



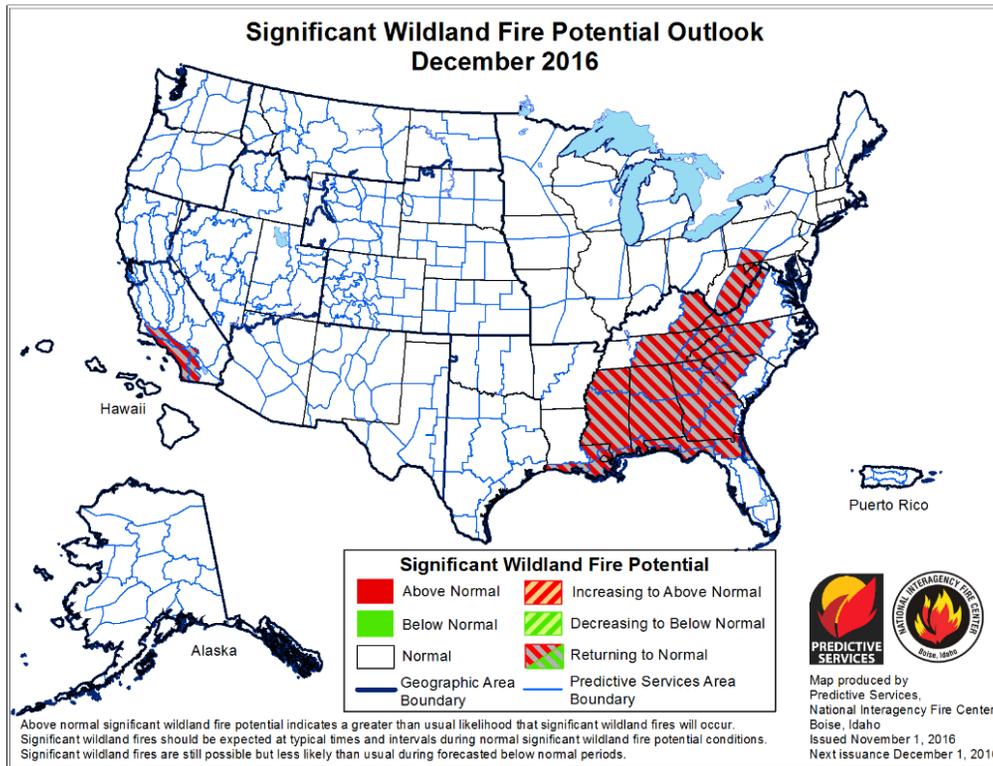
## Short- and Long-Range Outlooks

### Agricultural Weather Highlights

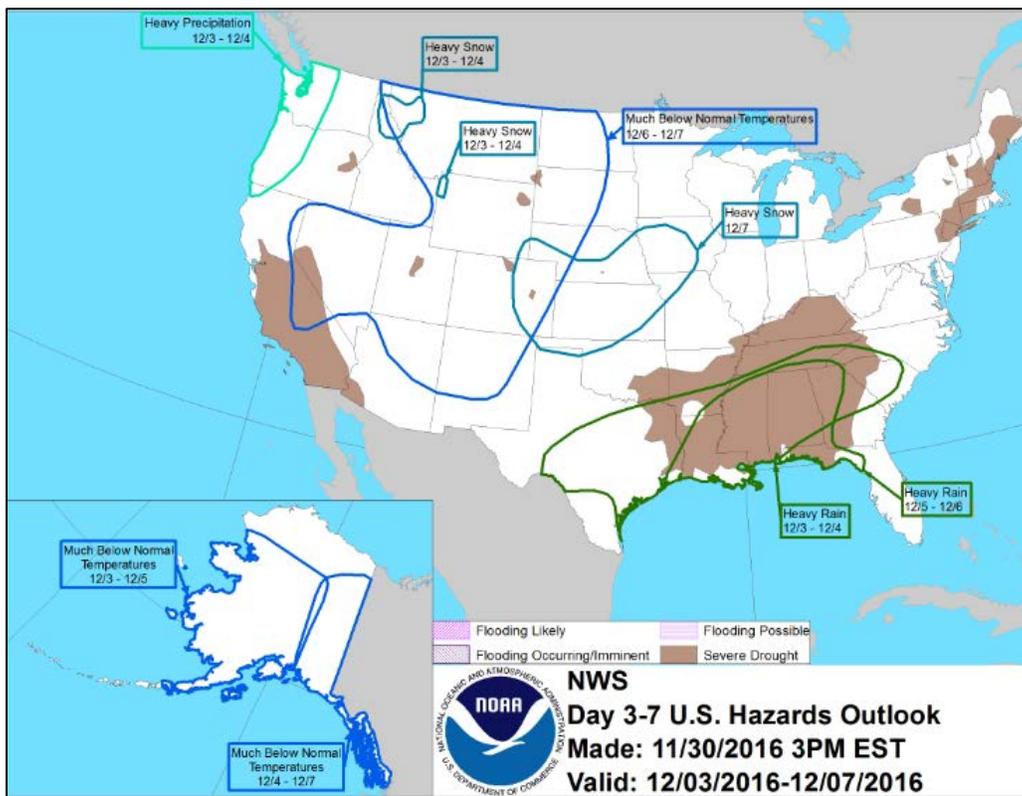
Author: Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB

[National Outlook, December 1, 2016](#): “A brief period of generally tranquil conditions will soon be replaced by a return to active weather. On Friday, precipitation will develop across the south-central U.S. and overspread the Pacific Northwest. During the weekend, rain will become heavy across parts of the South, while showery weather will engulf the northern half of the West. Five-day rainfall totals could reach 2 to 6 inches across the South, excluding the southern Atlantic region; 1 to 4 inches in the Pacific Northwest; and 1 to 3 inches in the northern Rockies. Higher Northwestern elevations will receive significant snow. In contrast, mostly dry weather will prevail into next week from southern California into the Desert Southwest, and from the central High Plains into the upper Midwest. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for December 6 – 10 calls for the likelihood of colder-than-normal conditions from the Pacific Coast to the Mississippi River, while near- to above-normal temperatures will be confined to the eastern one-third of the U.S. Meanwhile, wetter-than-normal weather throughout the northern and eastern U.S. will contrast with below normal precipitation from southern California to Texas.”

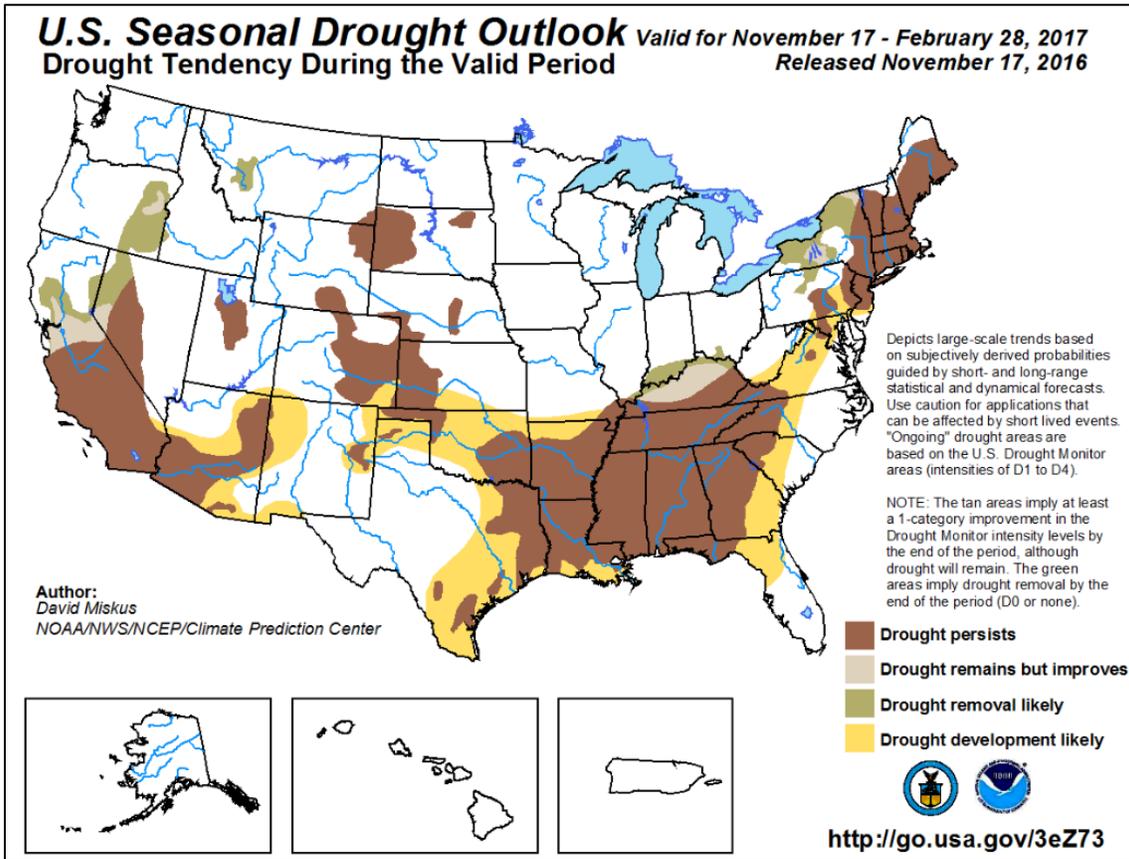
Fire Potential Outlook: [December 2016](#)



NWS Climate Prediction Center [Weather Hazard Outlook: December 3-7, 2016](#)



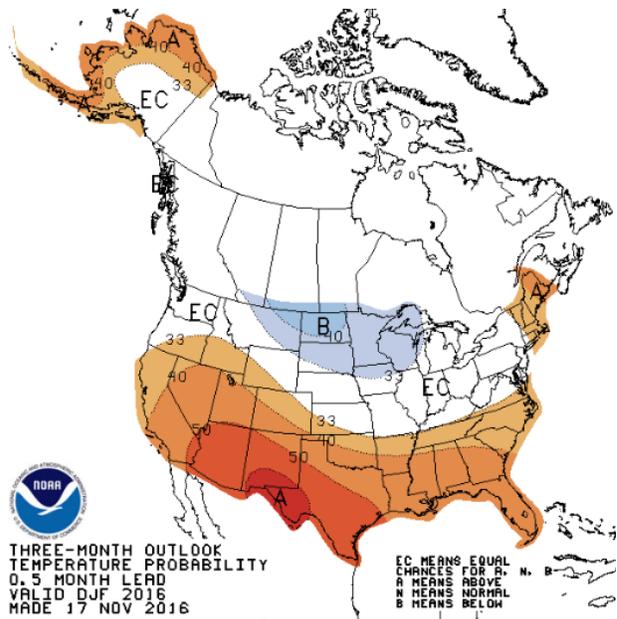
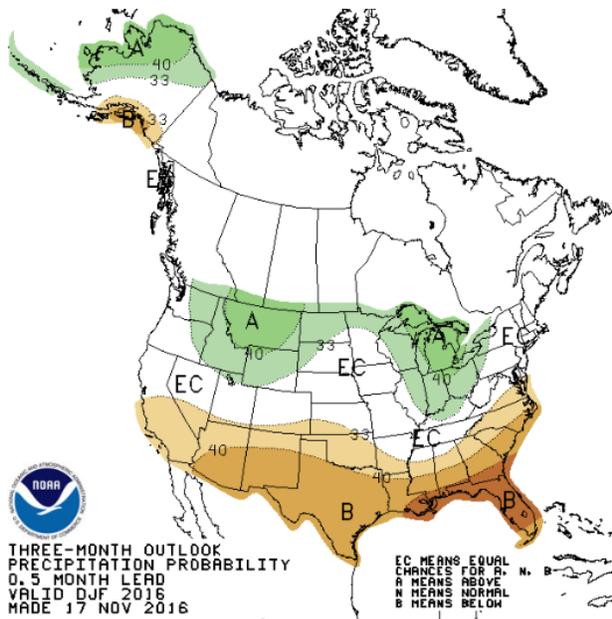
Seasonal Drought Outlook: [November 17, 2016 – February 28, 2017](#)



NWS Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook

[Precipitation](#)

[Temperature](#)



[December-January-February \(DJF\) 2016/2017 precipitation outlook summary](#)

[December-January-February \(DJF\) 2016/2017 temperature outlook summary](#)

## 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](#).