

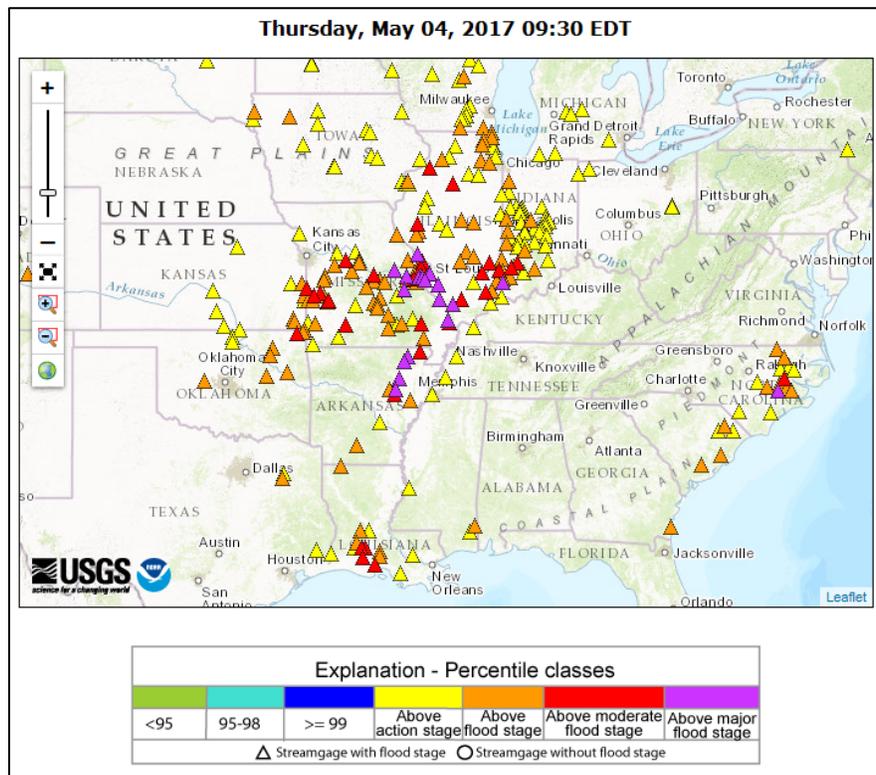
Water and Climate Update

May 4, 2017

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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Major flooding occurring throughout the Midwest



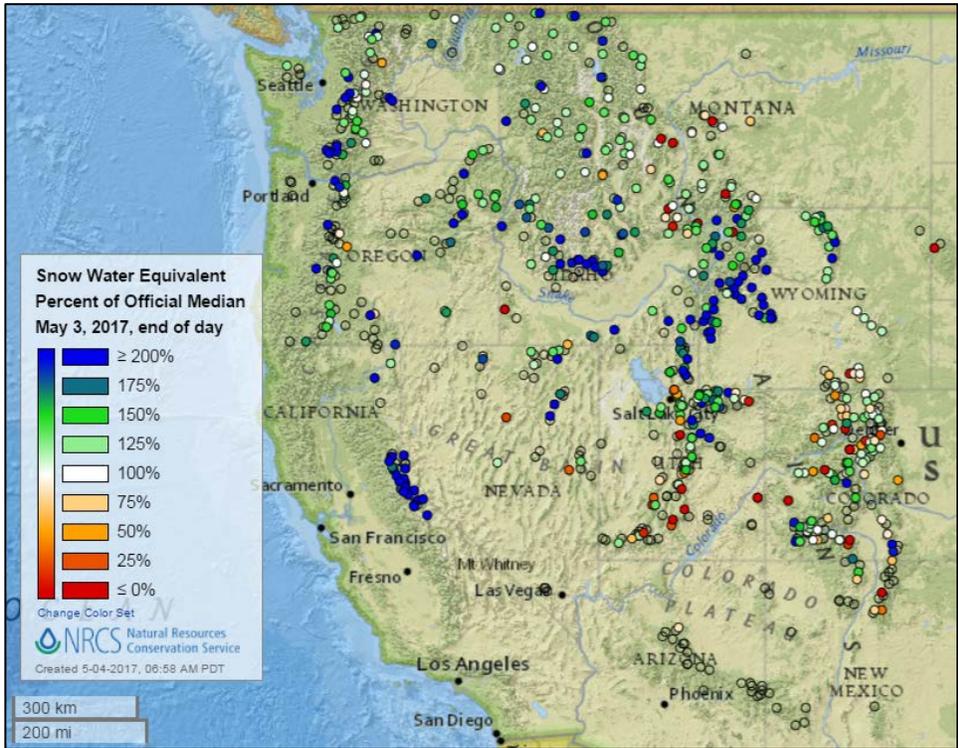
A slow-moving storm system produced heavy rain with totals of up to 12 inches across the Midwest this week. Flooding reached record levels in some areas with hundreds of homes evacuated. Missouri reported five deaths and extensive flood damage with road closures. River traffic on a 14.5-mile stretch of the Mississippi River was closed due to unsafe conditions. Two levees gave way in rural eastern Missouri and northeast Arkansas extending the floodwaters and causing additional damage. Thousands of volunteers are filling sandbags as floodwaters move downstream.

More Information:

- [After historic weekend flooding, Missouri braces for next deluge](#)
- [Levee Breaks, River Closure Latest Fallout From Flooding](#)
- [More rain hits Missouri after deadly weekend flooding](#)
- [Flood fears rise in Missouri with more rain in the forecast](#)
- [Levee fails in Arkansas as flooding threatens South, Midwest](#)

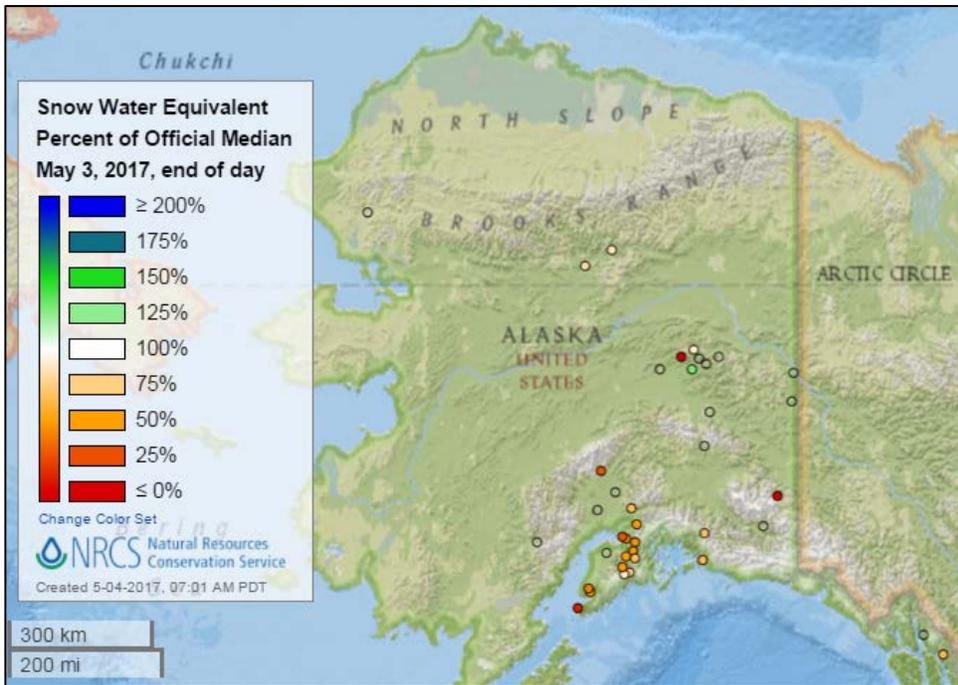
Snow

Current Snow Water Equivalent, NRCS SNOTEL Network



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

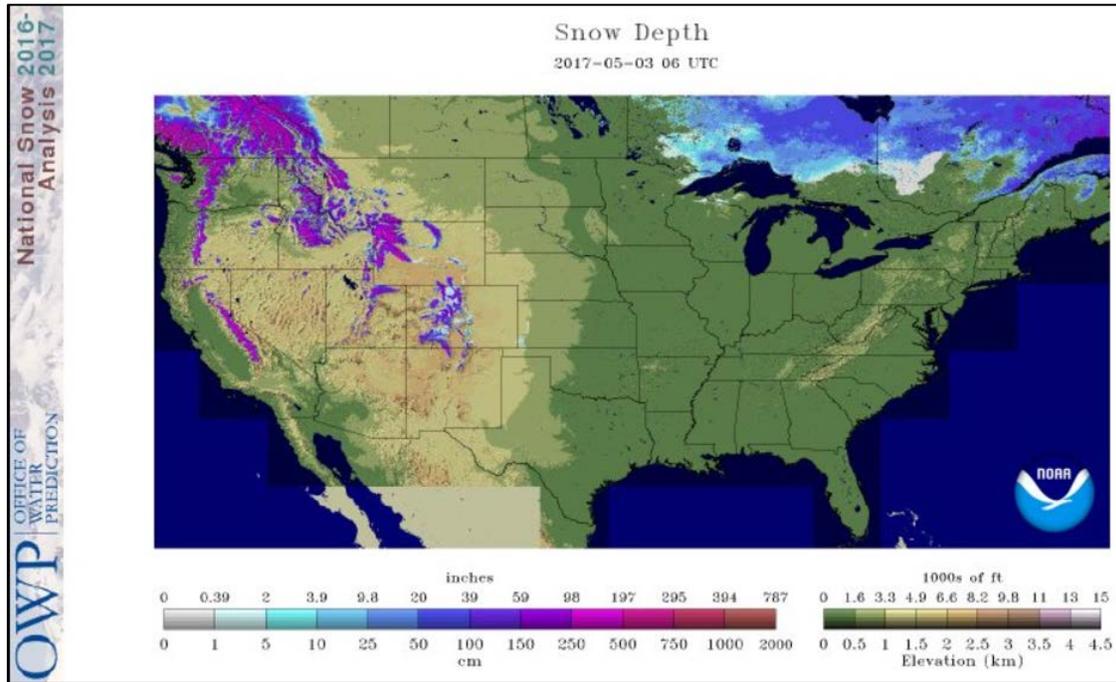
See also:
[Snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)



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

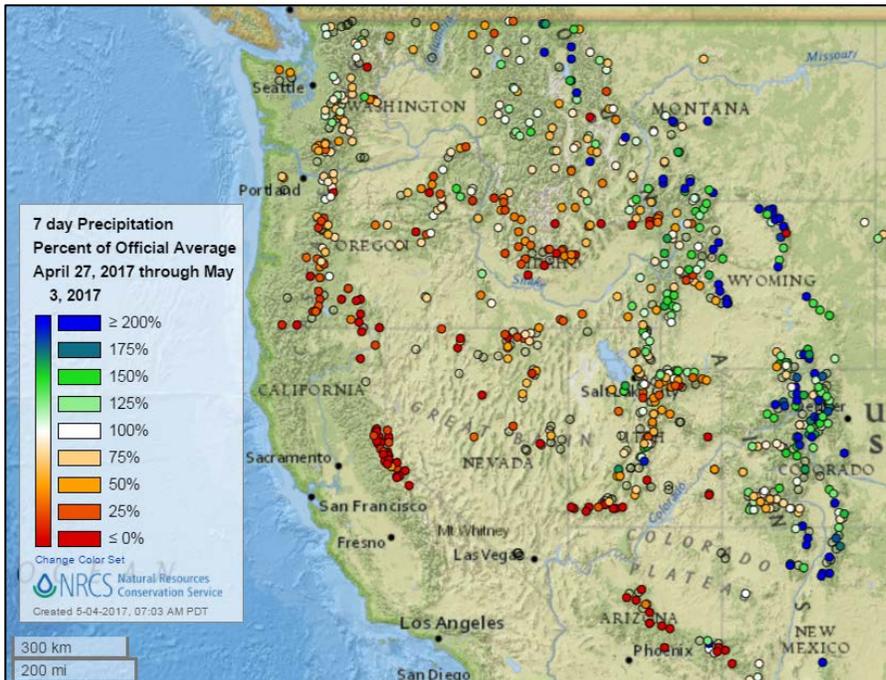
See also:
[Alaska snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)

Current Snow Depth, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks



Precipitation

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



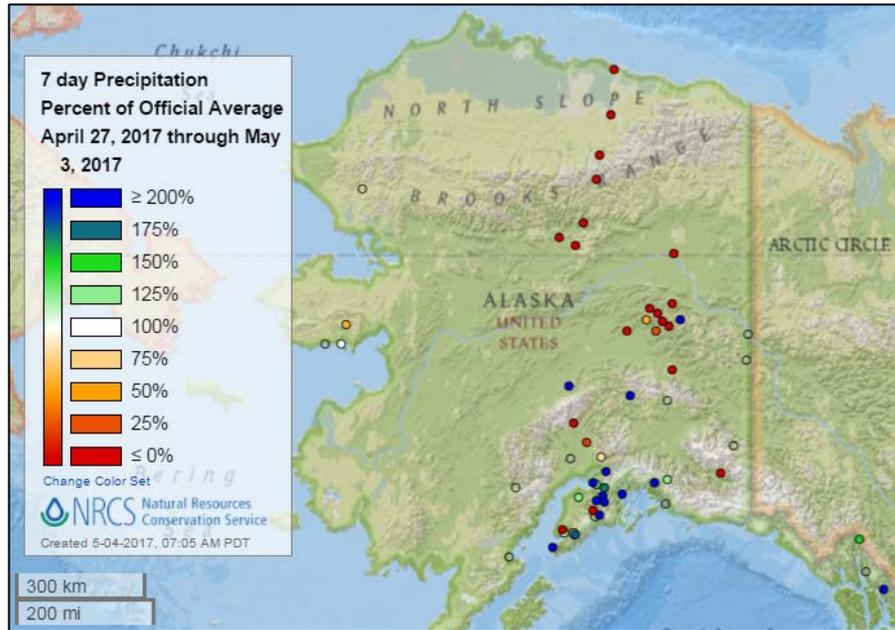
[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

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](#)



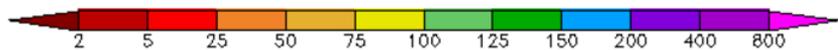
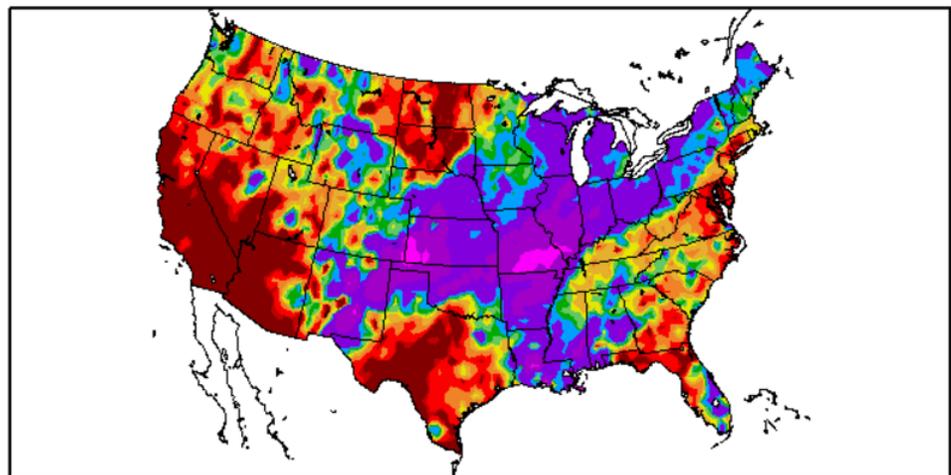
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
4/27/2017 – 5/3/2017

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

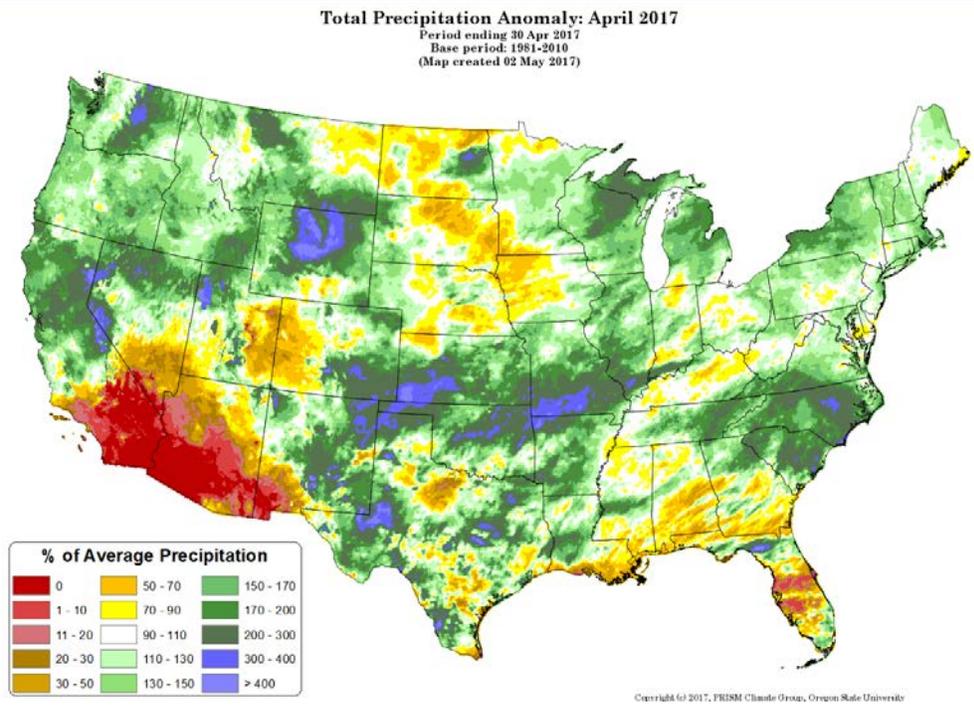


Generated 5/4/2017 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

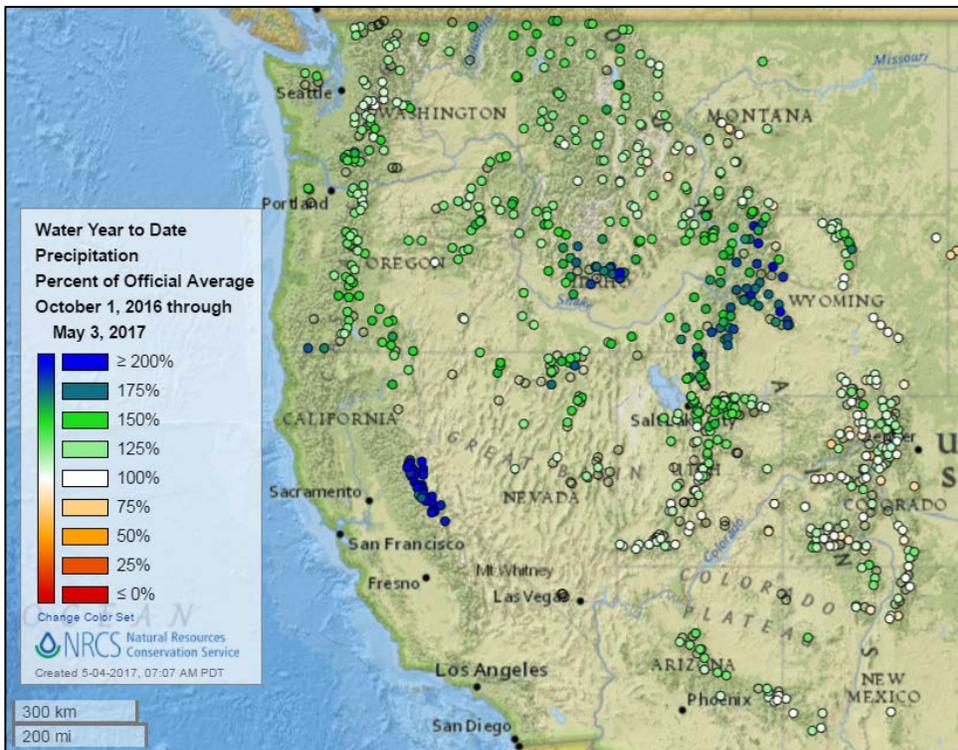
Previous Month, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM



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

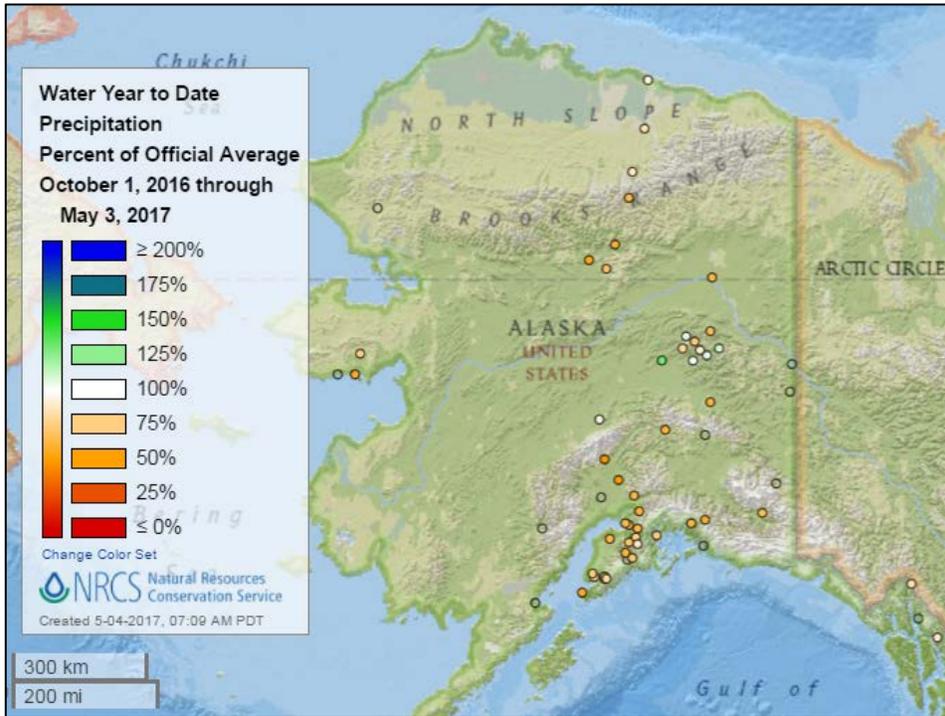
Water Year-to-Date, Western Mountain Sites (NRCS SNOTEL Network)



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

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

Water and Climate Update



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

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

Temperature

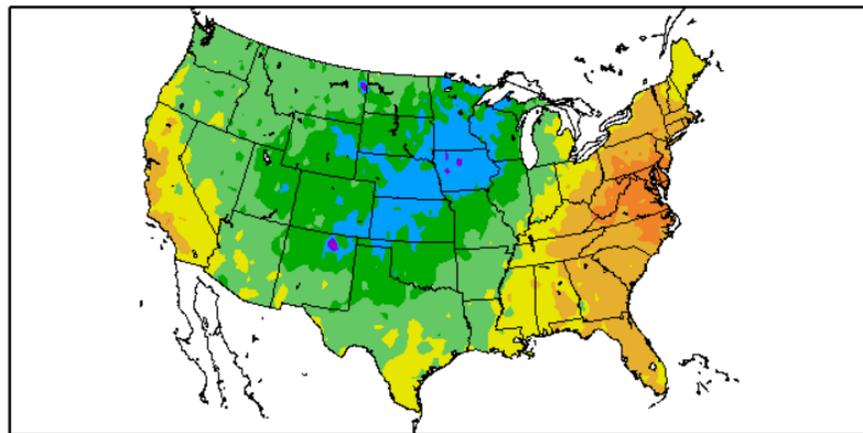
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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)
4/27/2017 – 5/3/2017



Generated 5/4/2017 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

Water and Climate Update

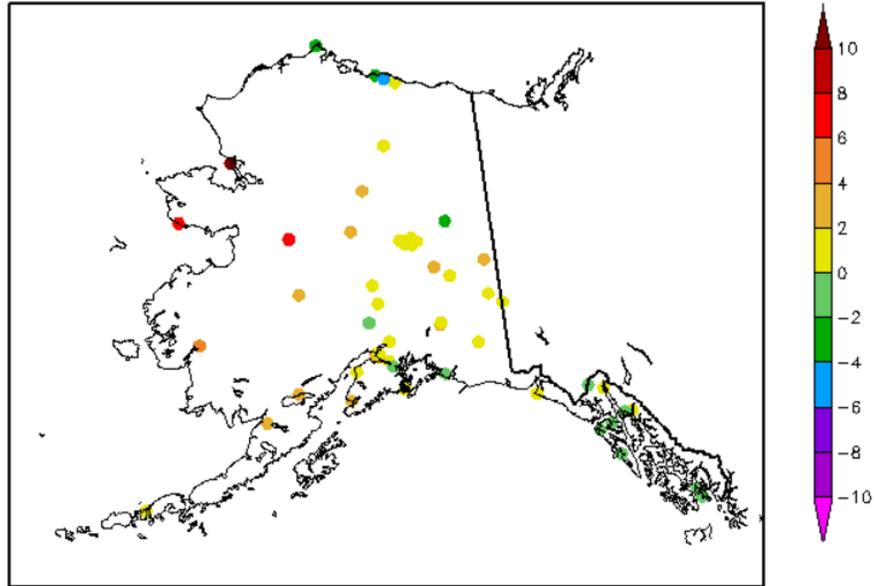
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F) 4/27/2017 - 5/3/2017



Generated 5/4/2017 at HPRCC using provisional data.

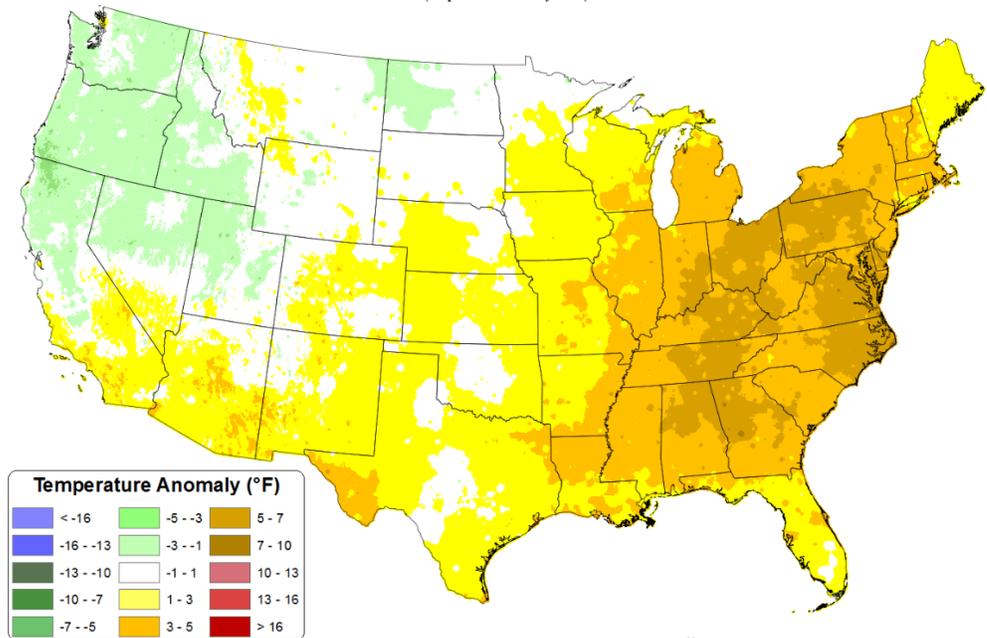
Regional Climate Centers

Previous Month, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

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

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: April 2017 Period ending 7 AM EST 30 Apr 2017 Base period: 1981-2010 (Map created 02 May 2017)



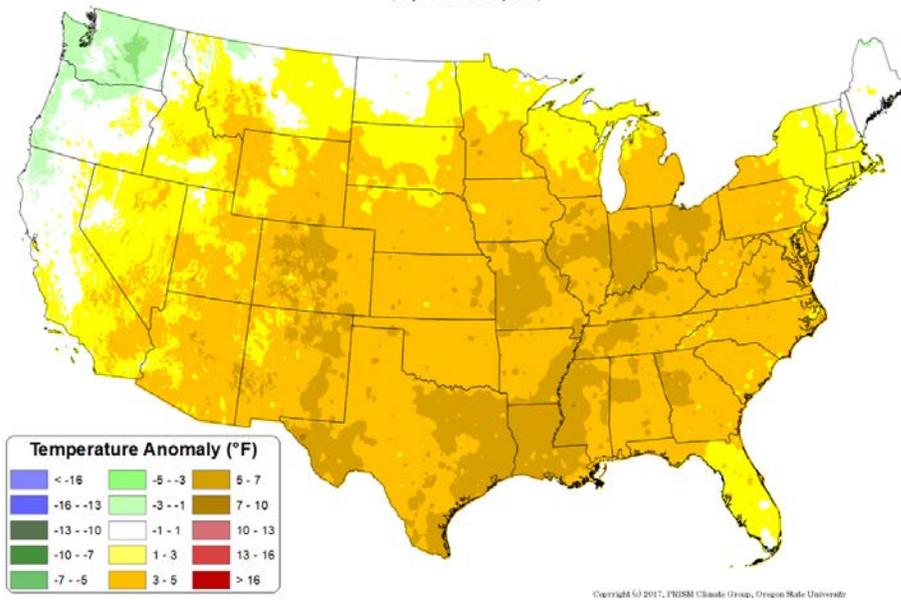
Copyright © 2017, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University

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

Source: PRISM

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: February 2017 - April 2017
 Period ending 7 AM EST 30 Apr 2017
 Base period: 1981-2010
 (Map created 02 May 2017)

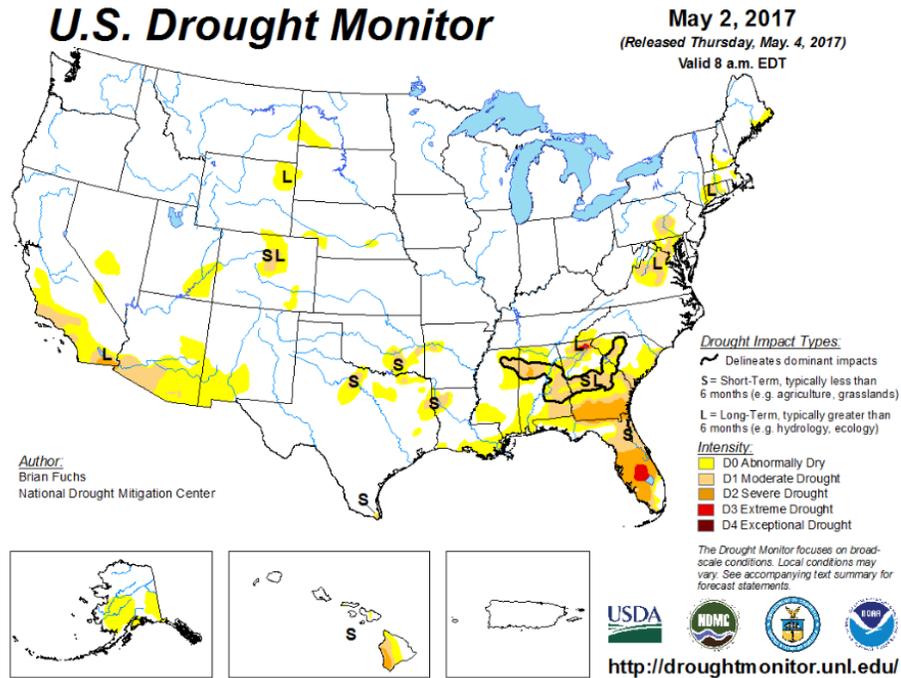
[February through April 2017 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



Drought

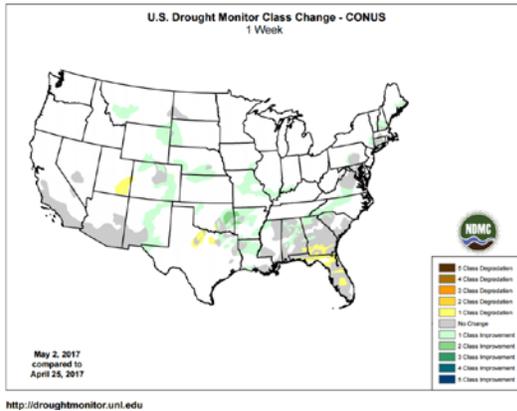
[U.S. Drought Monitor](#) See map below.

[U.S. Drought Portal](#) Comprehensive drought resource.

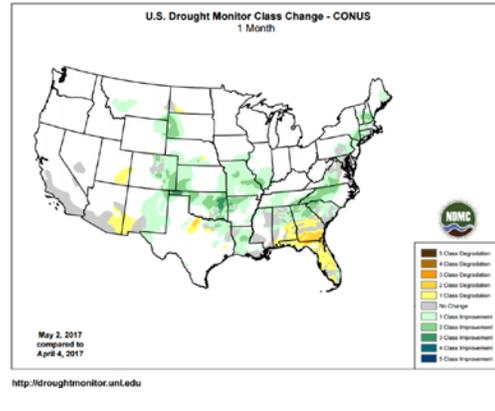


Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

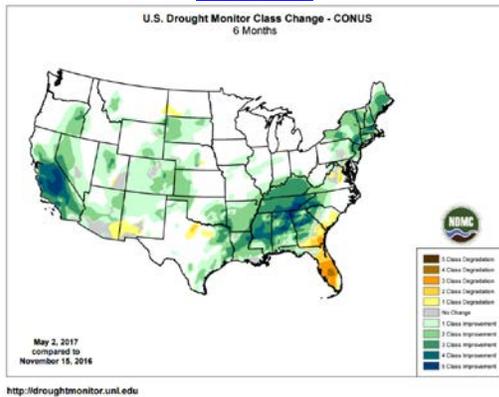
1 Week



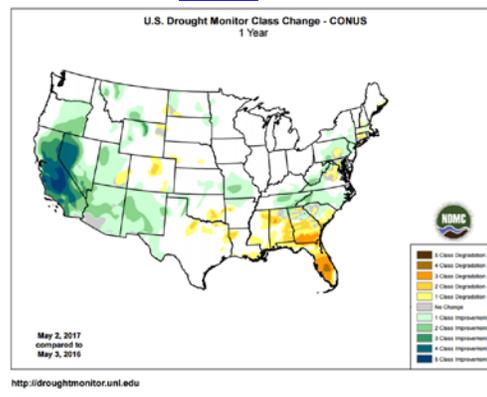
1 Month



6 Months



1 Year



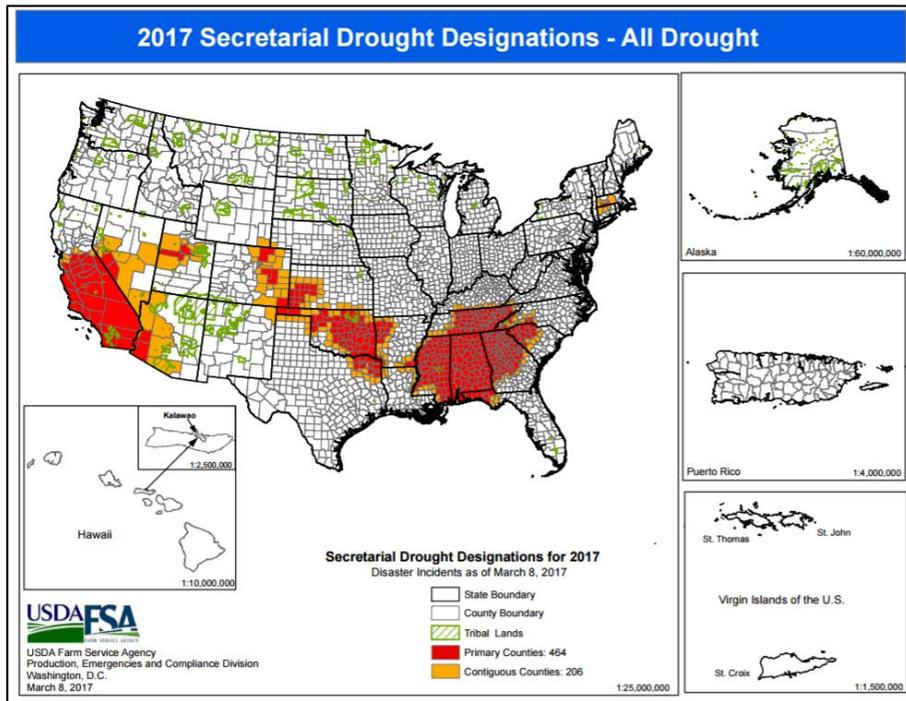
Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months

Current National Drought Summary, May 2, 2017

Author: Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center

“An intense storm developed over the central Plains and moved through the Midwest, bringing with it torrential rains and thunderstorms on the front side and heavy, wet snow on the back side. A wide swath of the country from eastern Oklahoma through Arkansas, Missouri and into Illinois recorded over 5 inches of rain with the event. Portions of western Kansas and the Oklahoma Panhandle recorded several inches of snow, with some places over a foot. The Southeast remained dry as well as much of the Southwest. Long-term drought issues still linger in the Northeast even with the wet pattern of the last several months. Snow was still accumulating in the upper elevations of the Rocky Mountains, with water managers making room for the anticipated runoff.”

USDA 2017 Secretarial [Drought Designations](#)

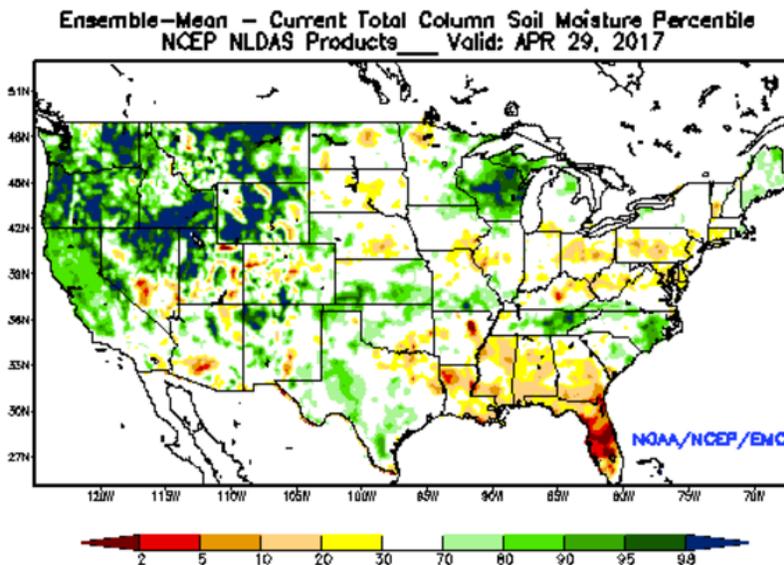


Highlighted Drought Resources

- [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](#)

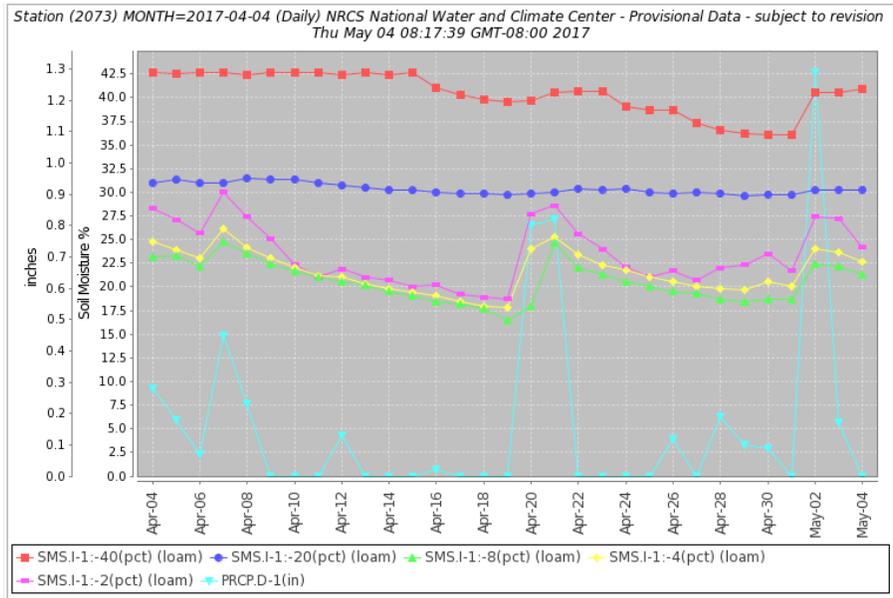
Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

Soil Moisture



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of April 29, 2017.

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



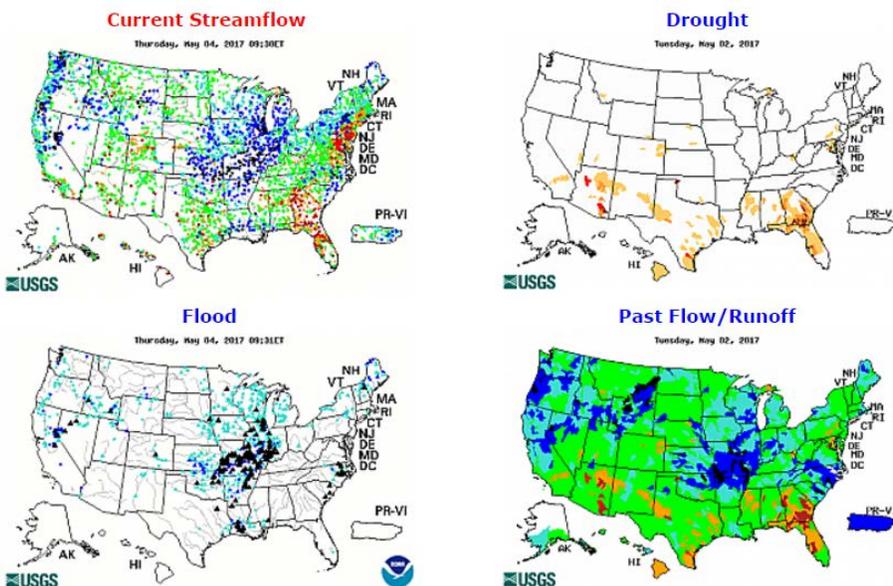
Soil moisture (at 2-, 4-, 8-, 20-, and 40-inch depths) for the past 30 days at the [Sunleaf Nursery SCAN site 2073](#) in Ohio. All sensors reacted to the larger precipitation events in the last 30 days. The 2-inch depth sensor was the most responsive, whereas the other sensors required larger precipitation amounts to increase the soil moisture percentages at those depths.

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



[Current streamflow maps](#) Click image to enlarge and display legends

Reservoir Storage

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

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

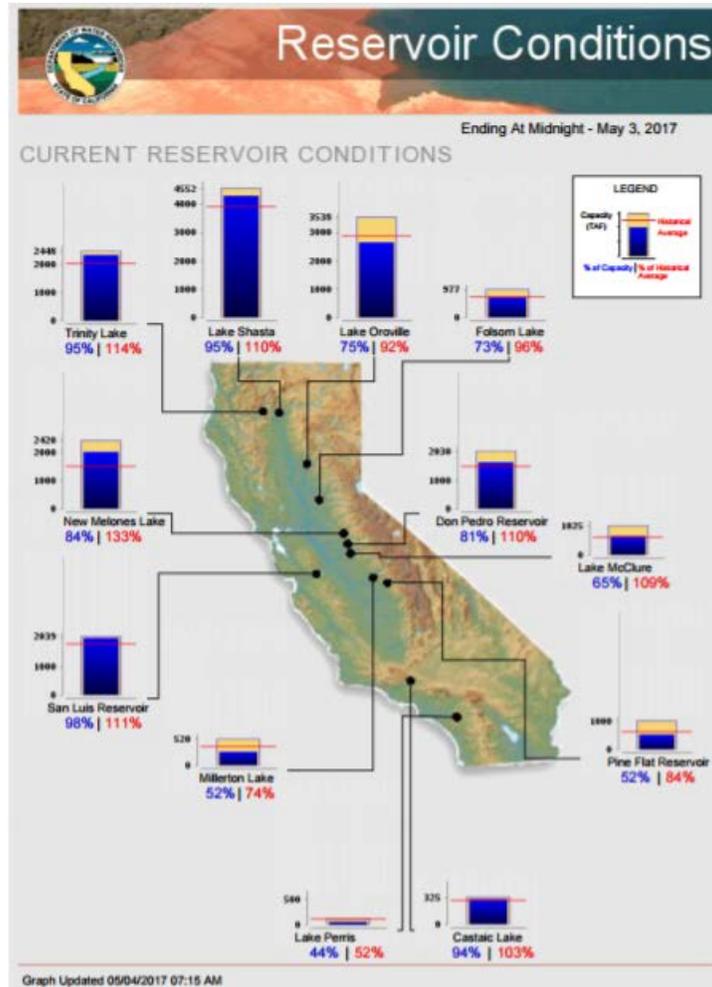
[Upper Colorado](#)

[Pacific Northwest/Snake/Columbia](#)

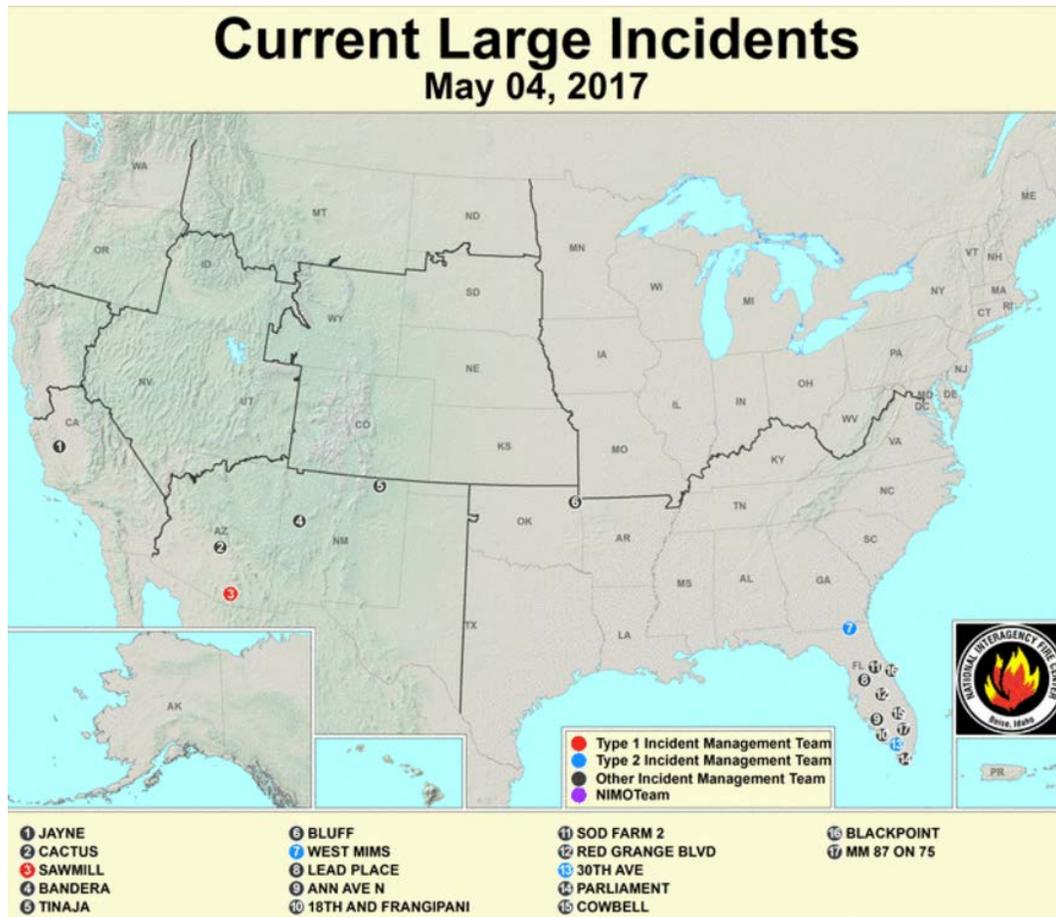
[Sevier River Water, Utah](#)

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

[California Current Reservoir Conditions](#)



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



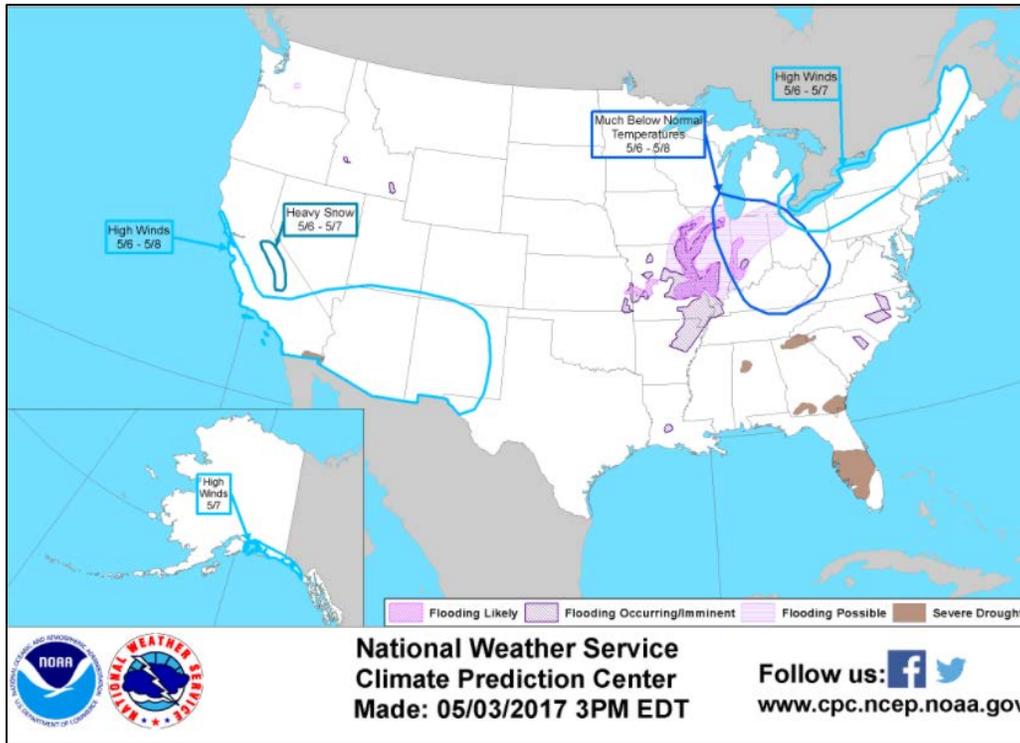
Short- and Long-Range Outlooks

Agricultural Weather Highlights

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

[National Outlook, May 4, 2017](#): “A slow-moving storm will reach the Northeast by week’s end, sparking rainfall that could total 1 to 3 inches across much of the eastern U.S. Some additional flooding can be expected from the middle Mississippi Valley into the lower Great Lakes region, especially in areas that were already experiencing high river levels prior to the arrival of the latest round of heavy rain. During the weekend and early next week, cooler weather and scattered showers will return to the West, while warm, dry weather will dominate the nation’s mid-section. Very cool weather will prevail, however, in the East, with frost possible early next week as far south as the northern Mid-Atlantic States. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for May 9 – 13 calls for the likelihood of near- to above-normal temperatures nationwide, except for cooler-than-normal conditions in the Northeast and Southwest. Meanwhile, near- to below-normal precipitation across most of the eastern half of the U.S. will contrast with wetter-than-normal weather in New England and from the Pacific Coast to the High Plains.”

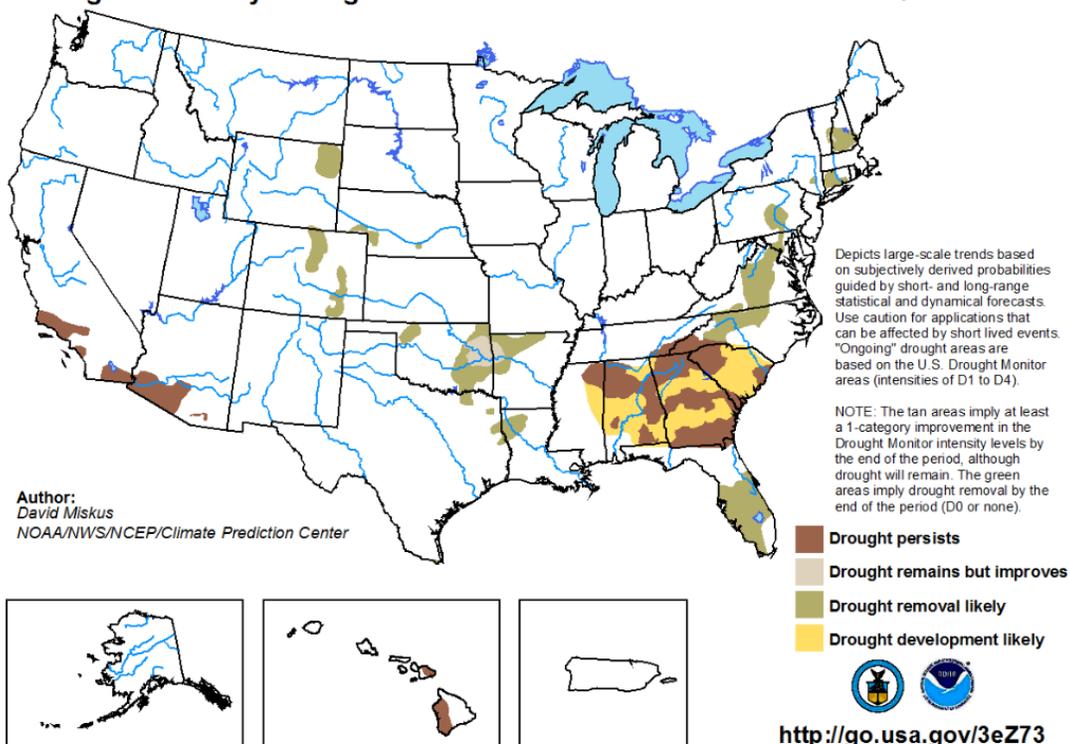
NWS Climate Prediction Center Weather Hazard Outlook: [May 6 - 10, 2017](#)



NWS Seasonal Drought Outlook: [April 20 - July 31, 2017](#)

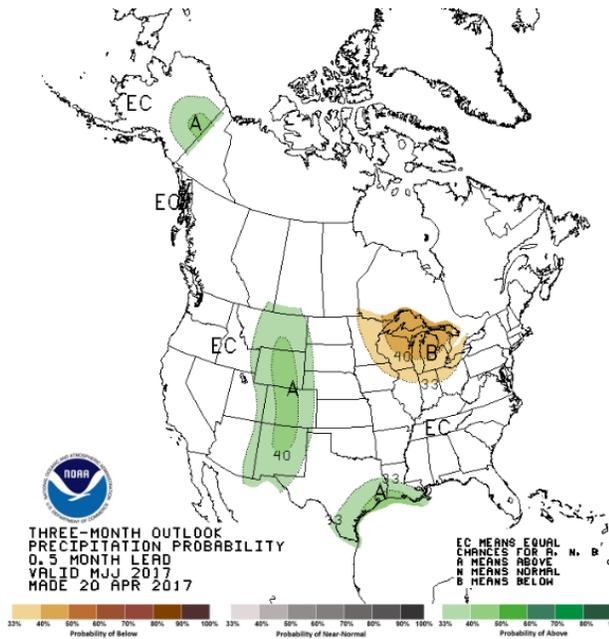
U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for April 20 - July 31, 2017
Released April 20, 2017

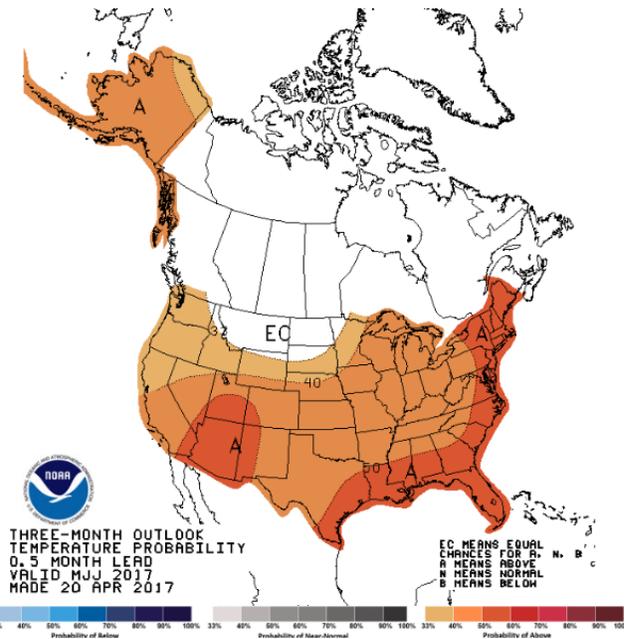


NWS Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook

Precipitation



Temperature



[May-June-July \(MJJ\) 2017 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](#).