



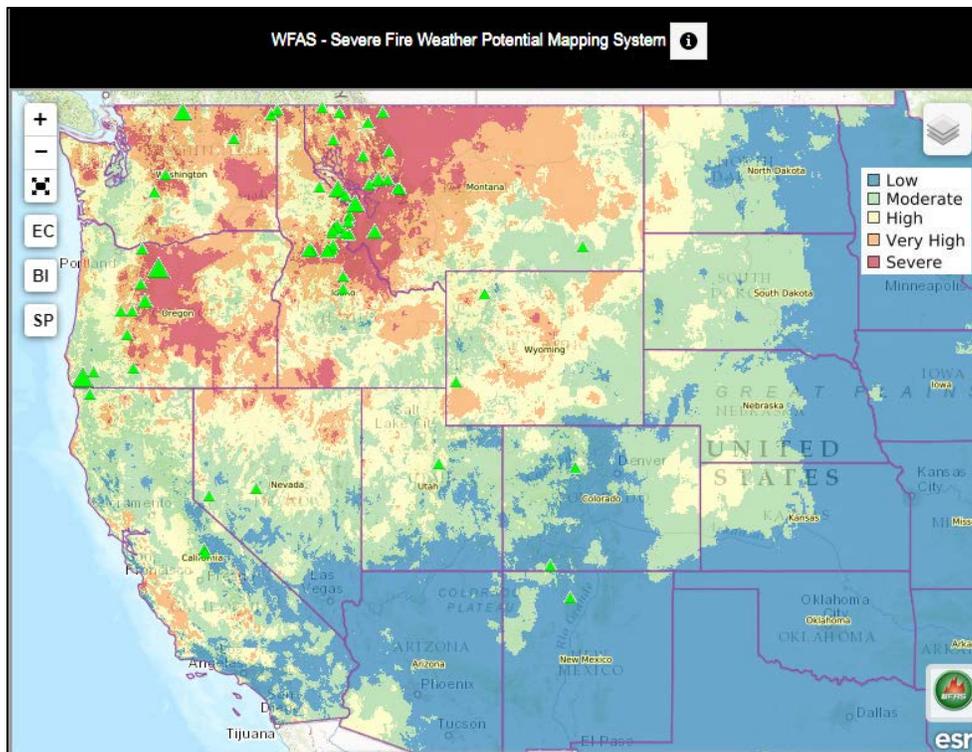
Water and Climate Update

August 24, 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.

<i>Precipitation</i>	1	<i>Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators</i>	11
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Wildfires burning across the western states



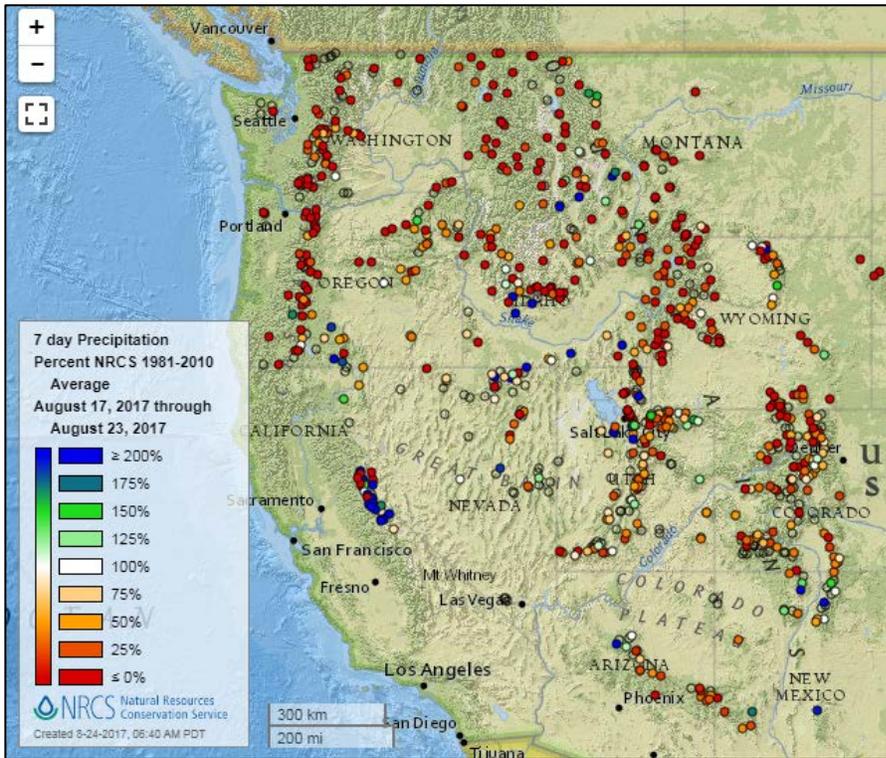
The U.S. Forest Service [Wildland Fire Weather Potential Mapping System](#) shows active wildfires burning throughout the West. The map also indicates Very High to Severe fire weather potential for many parts of the Northwest, including the Oregon and Washington Cascades, and portions of northern Idaho and western Montana.

Related:

- [Chetco Bar Fire now “top priority” wildfire in U.S.](#), Koin 6
- [Risk of wildfires, poor air quality to increase in western US as heat builds](#), Accuweather
- [New pre-evacuation notice issued for Oregon wildfire near Sisters](#), KGW

Precipitation

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

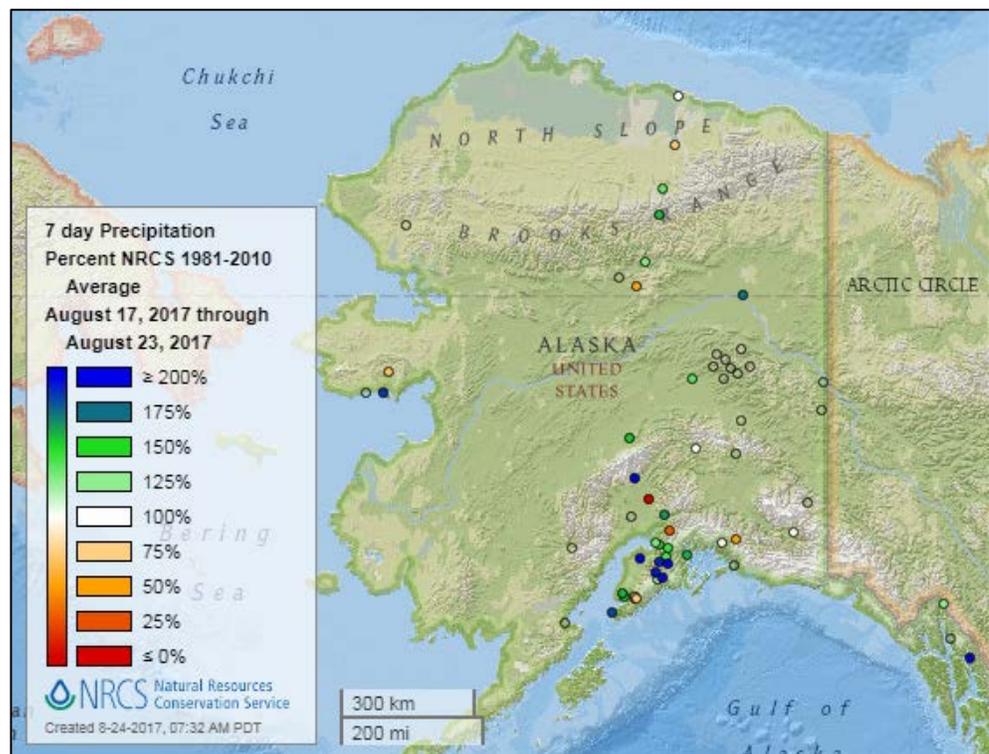


[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

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

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

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



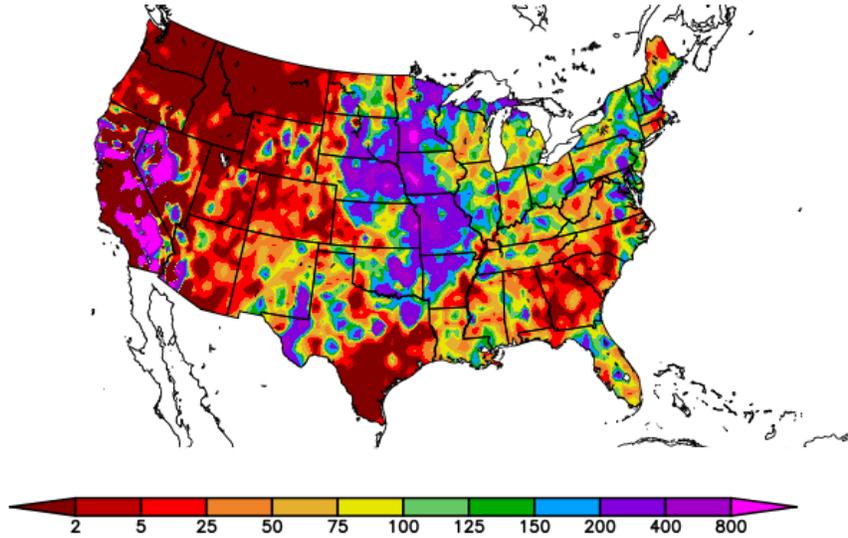
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
8/16/2017 - 8/22/2017



Generated 8/23/2017 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

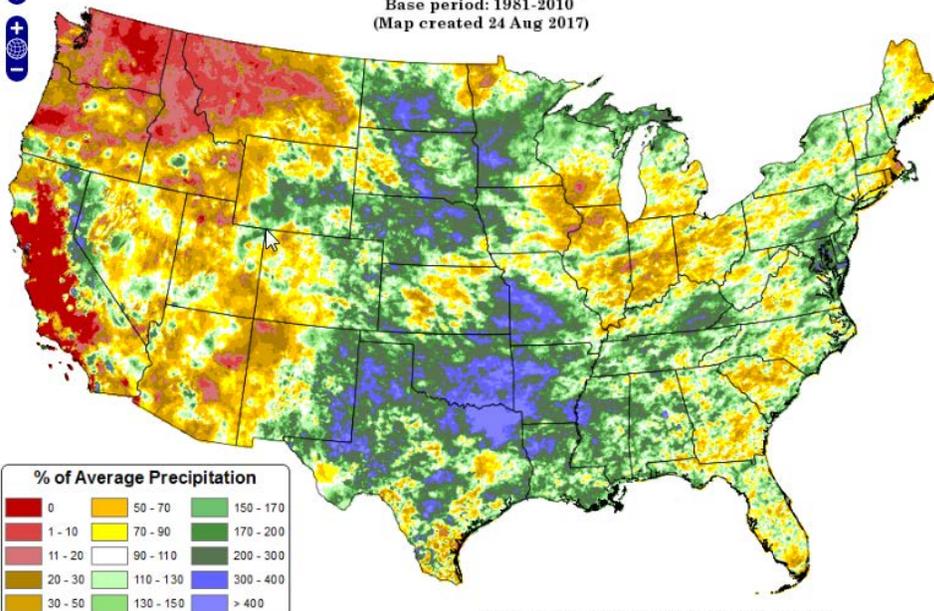
Month-to-Date, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM



Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 August 2017 - 23 August 2017

Period ending 7 AM EST 23 Aug 2017
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 24 Aug 2017)



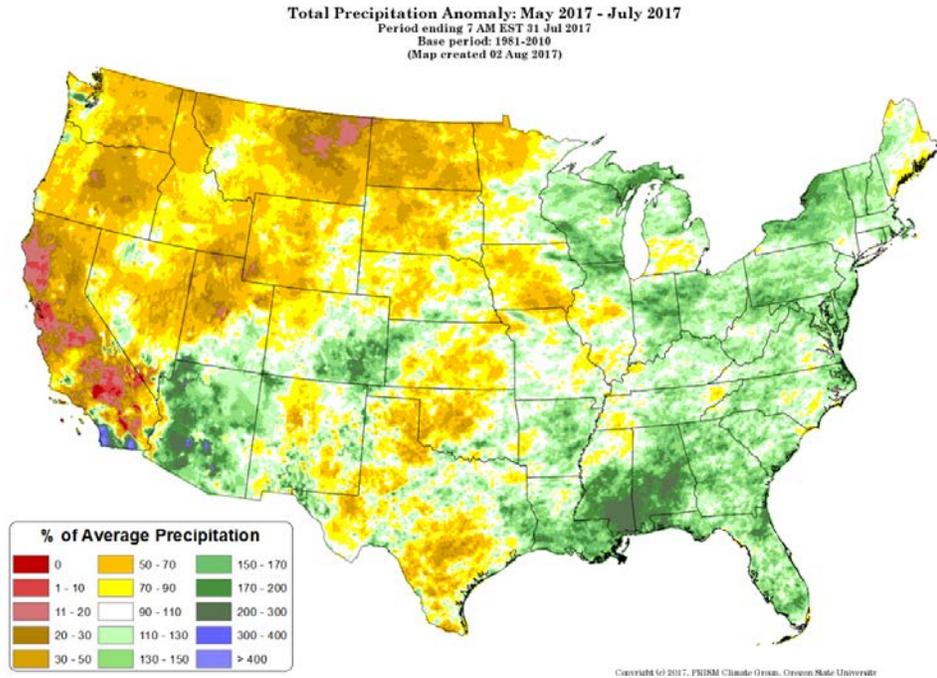
Copyright (c) 2017, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University

[Month-to-date national precipitation percent of average map](#)

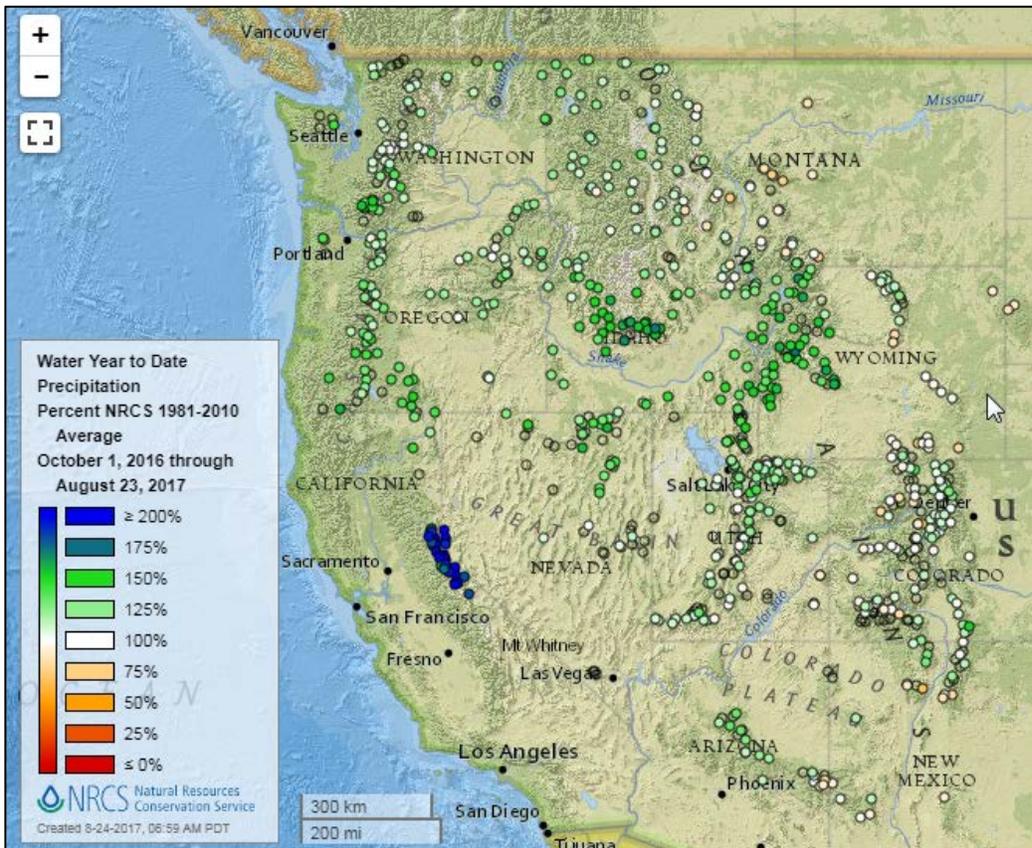
Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

[May through July 2017 daily mean precipitation anomaly map](#)



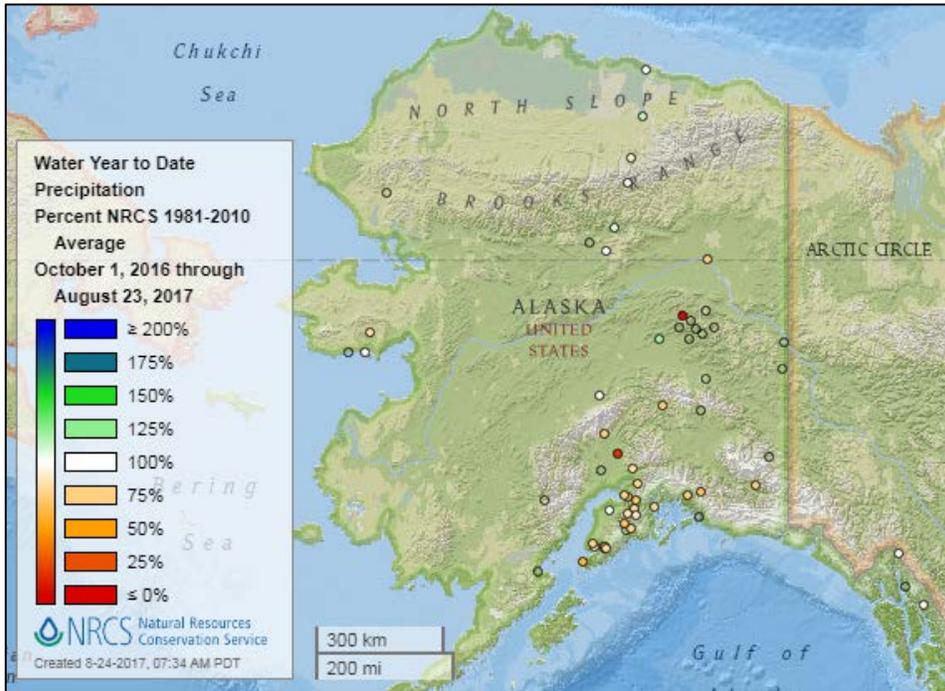
Water Year-to-Date, Western Mountain Sites (NRCS SNOTEL Network)



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

See also:
[2017 water year-to-date precipitation n 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

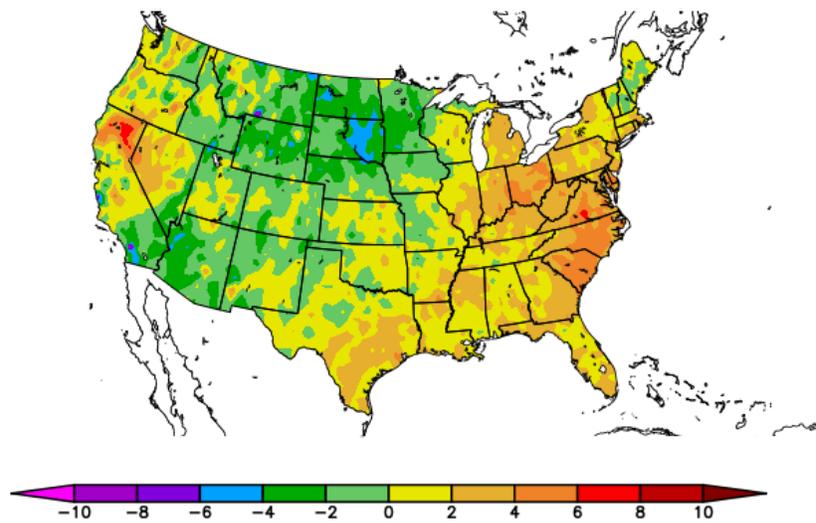
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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)
8/16/2017 – 8/22/2017



Generated 8/23/2017 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Water and Climate Update

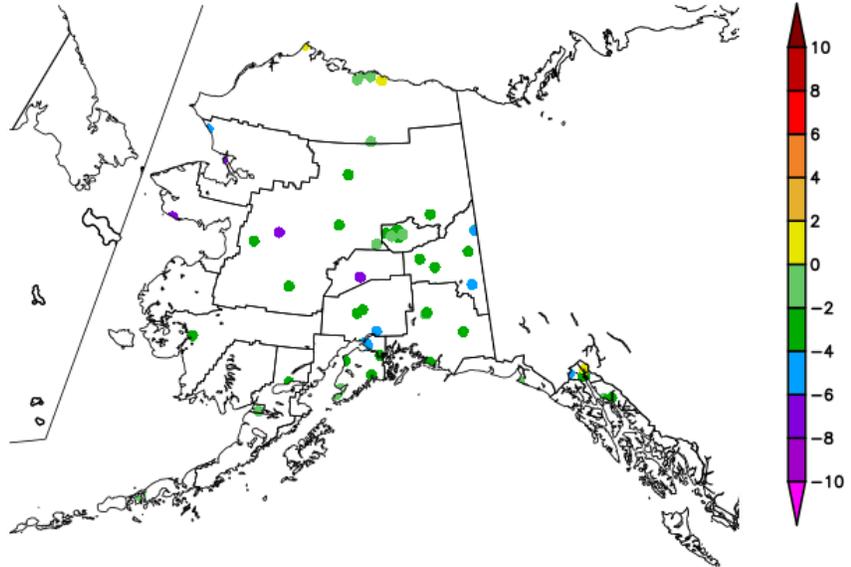
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F) 8/16/2017 – 8/22/2017

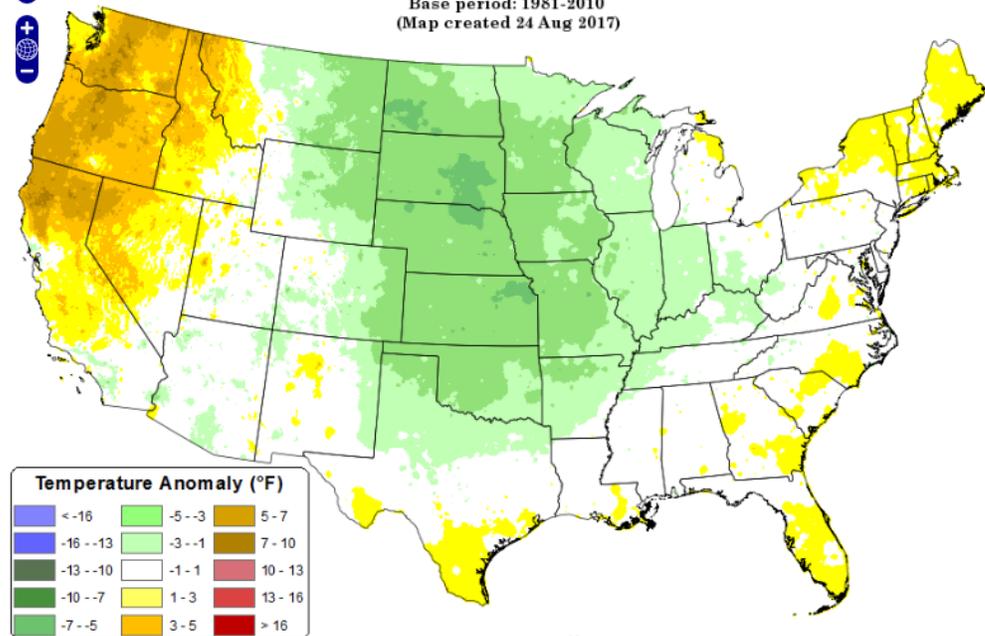


Month-to-Date, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

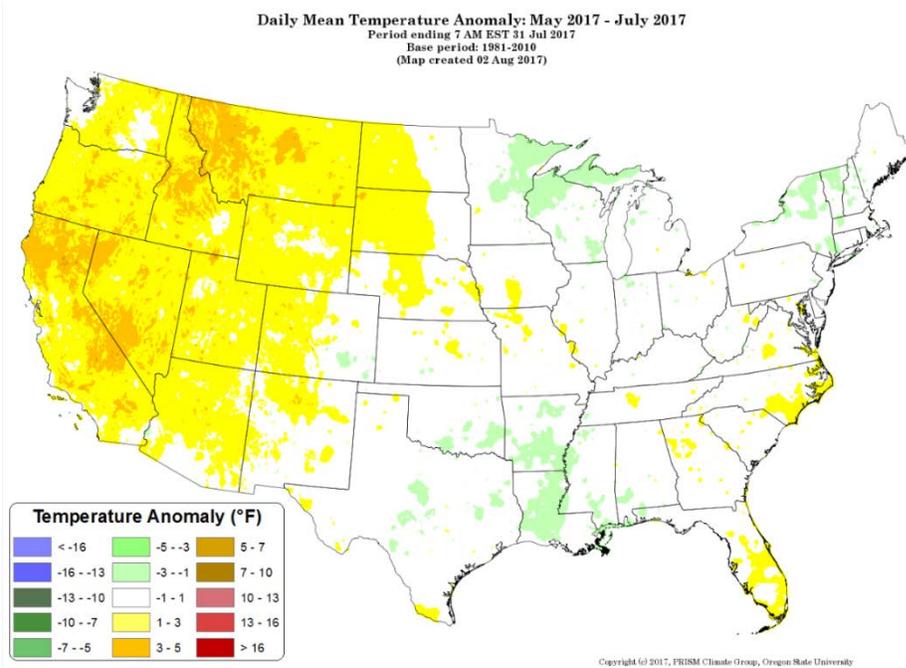
[Month-to-Date national daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: 01 August 2017 - 23 August 2017 Period ending 7 AM EST 23 Aug 2017 Base period: 1981-2010 (Map created 24 Aug 2017)



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

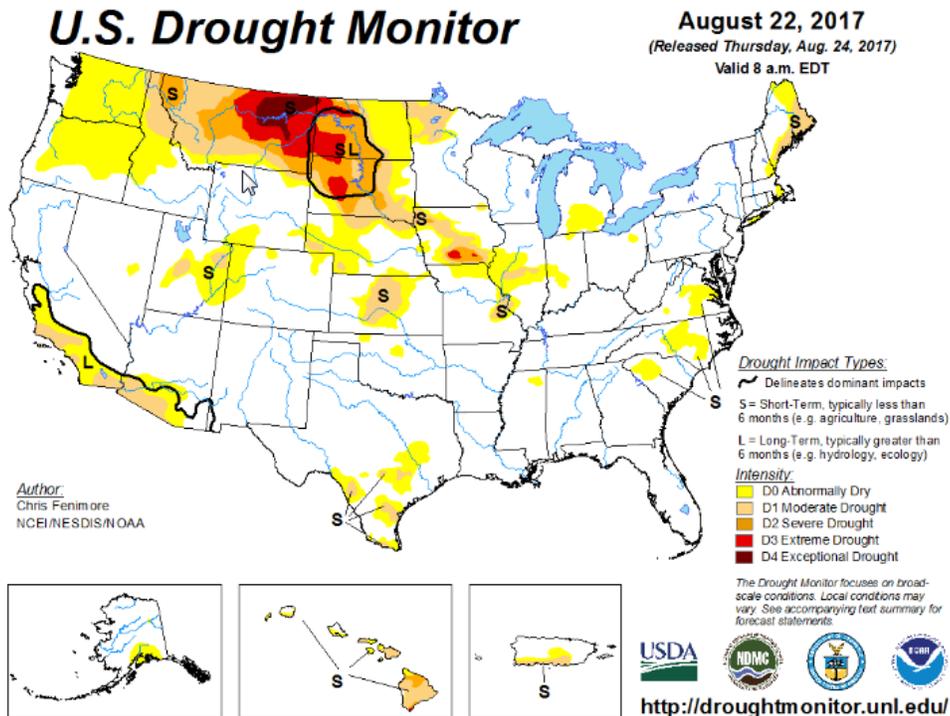
Source: PRISM



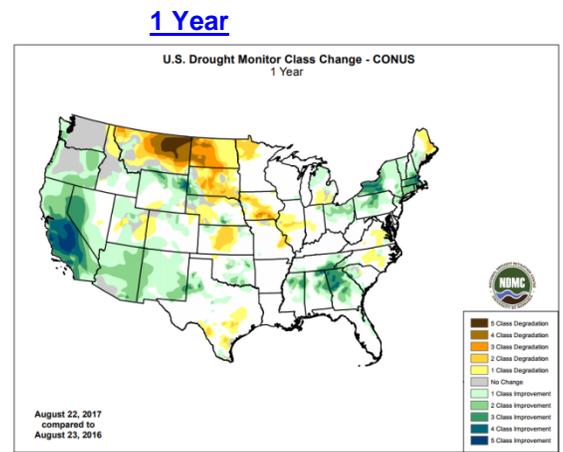
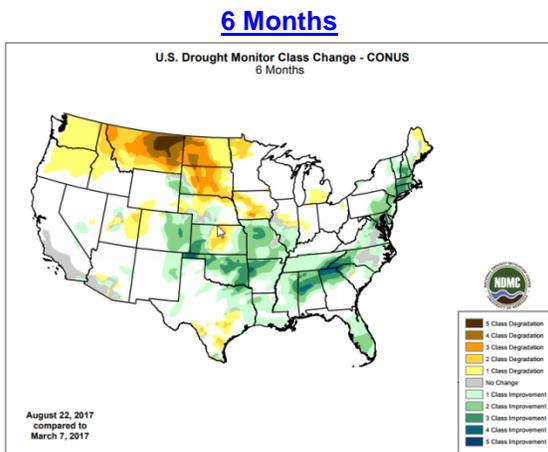
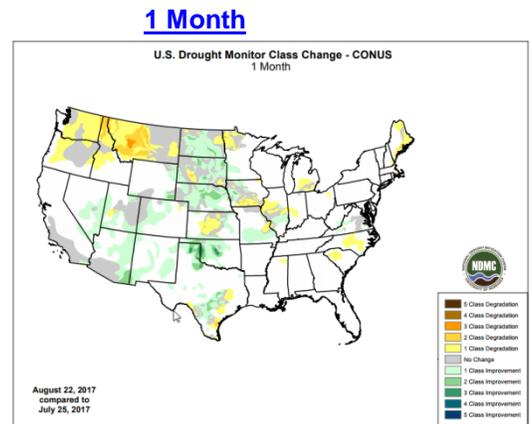
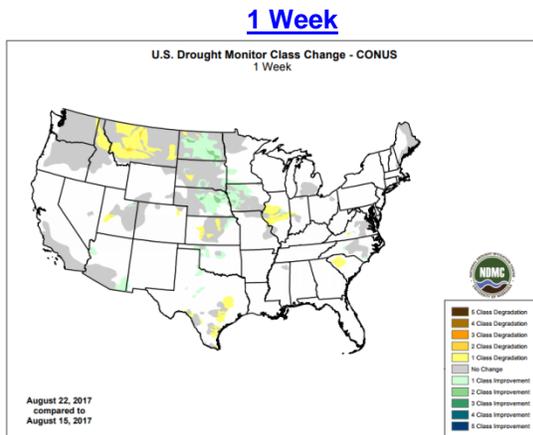
[May through July 2017 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)

Drought

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



Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time



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

Current National [Drought Summary](#), August 22, 2017

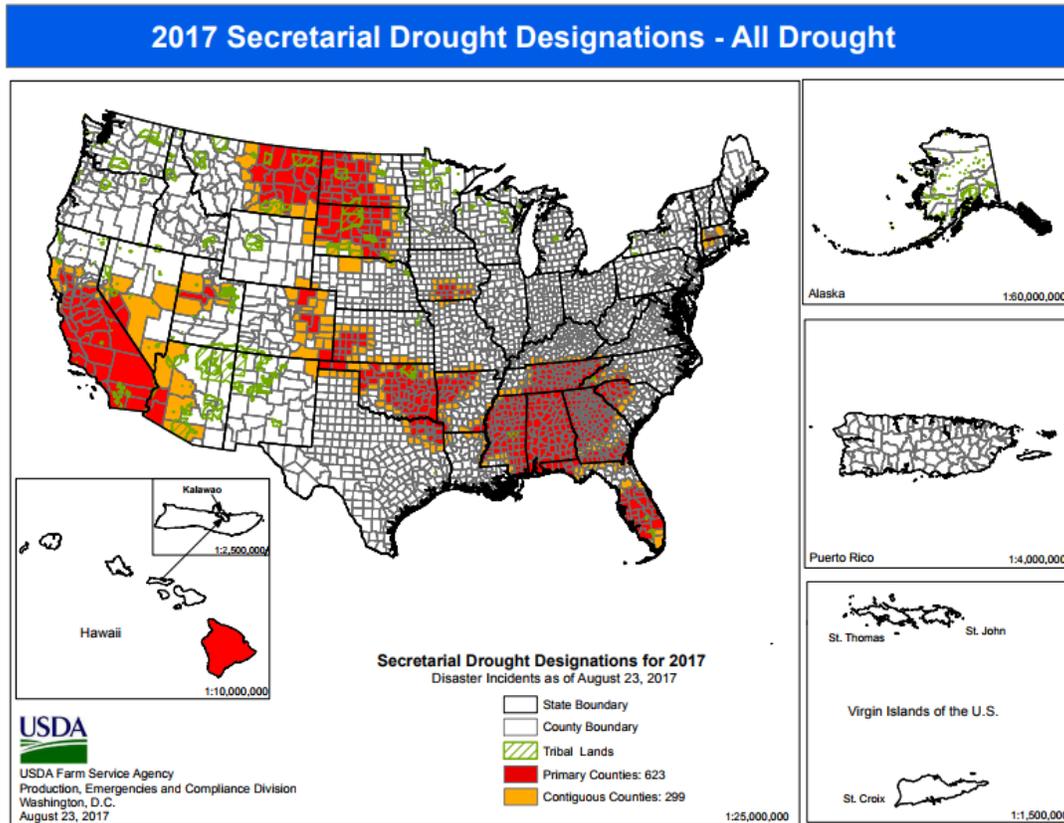
Author: Chris Fenimore, NOAA/NESDIS/NCEI

“Precipitation was above normal across much of the nation’s mid-section and below normal in portions of the Deep South, Southeast, Ohio Valley and much of the West. The heaviest rainfall was in southern Minnesota, western Iowa, eastern Nebraska, western Missouri, eastern Kansas and northwest Arkansas. Temperatures were above normal for much of the eastern third of the nation, the Deep South and Far West. The Northern Plains, Southwest and much of the West had below-normal temperatures. Drought and dryness persisted in the northern Plains and expanded westward significantly in Montana.”

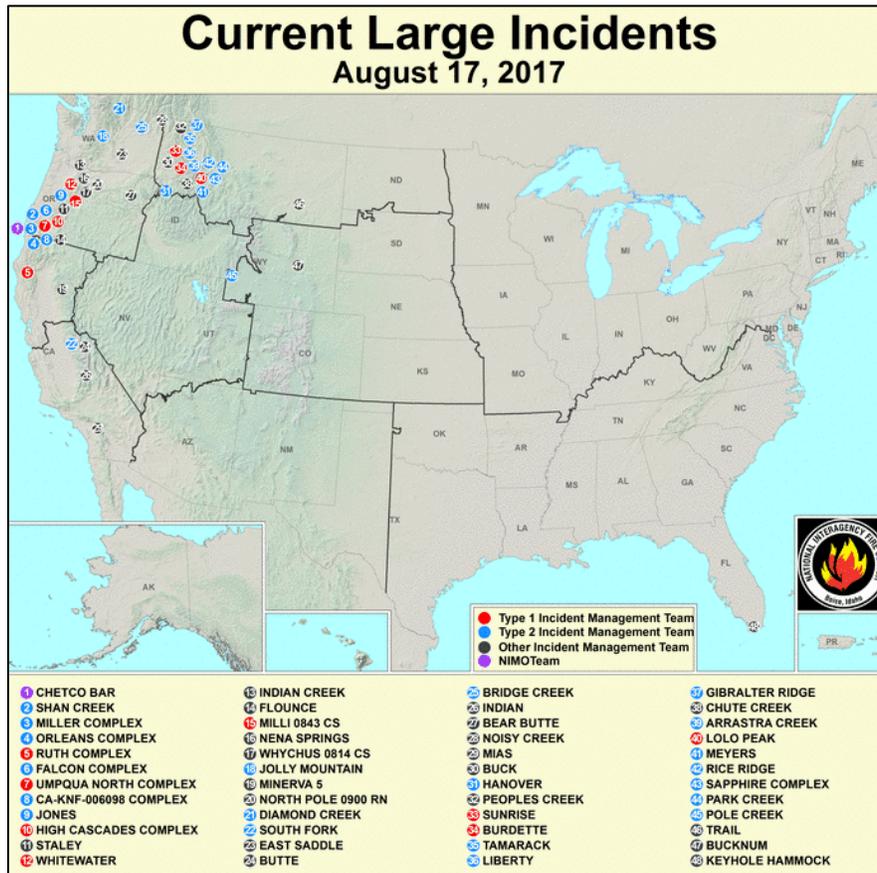
Highlighted Drought Resources

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

USDA 2017 Secretarial [Drought Designations](#)



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

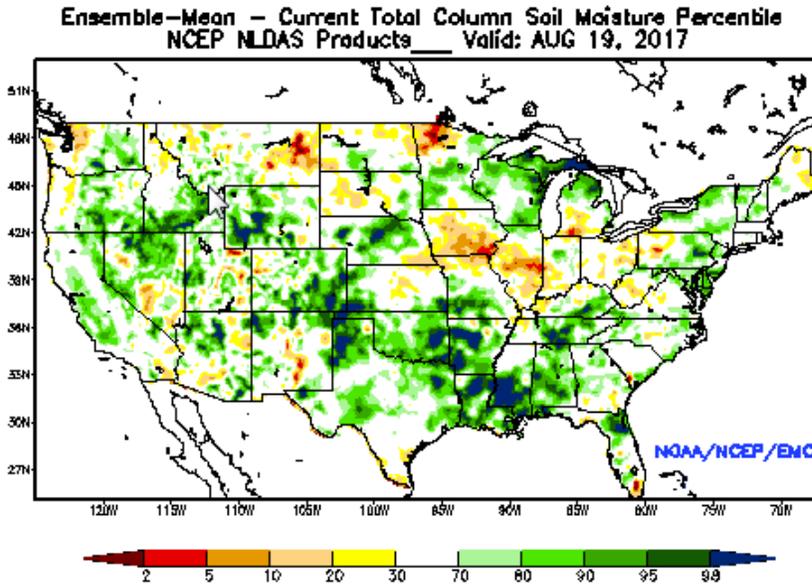


Highlighted Wildfire Resources

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

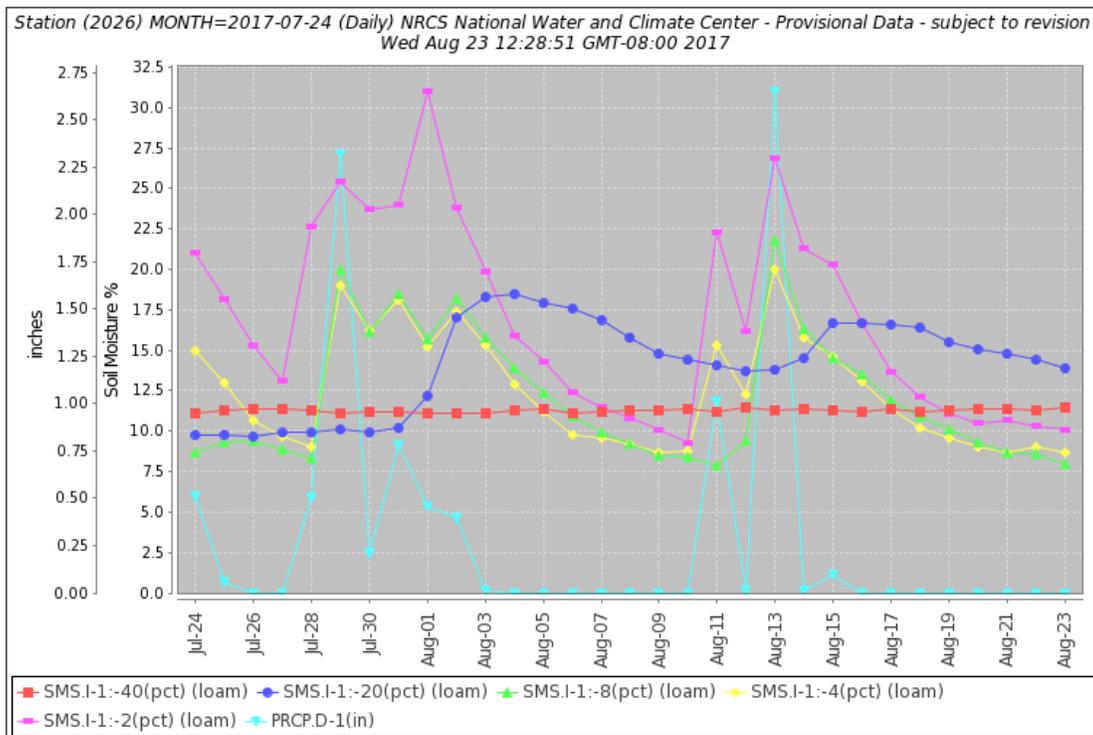
Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

Soil Moisture



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of August 19, 2017.

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



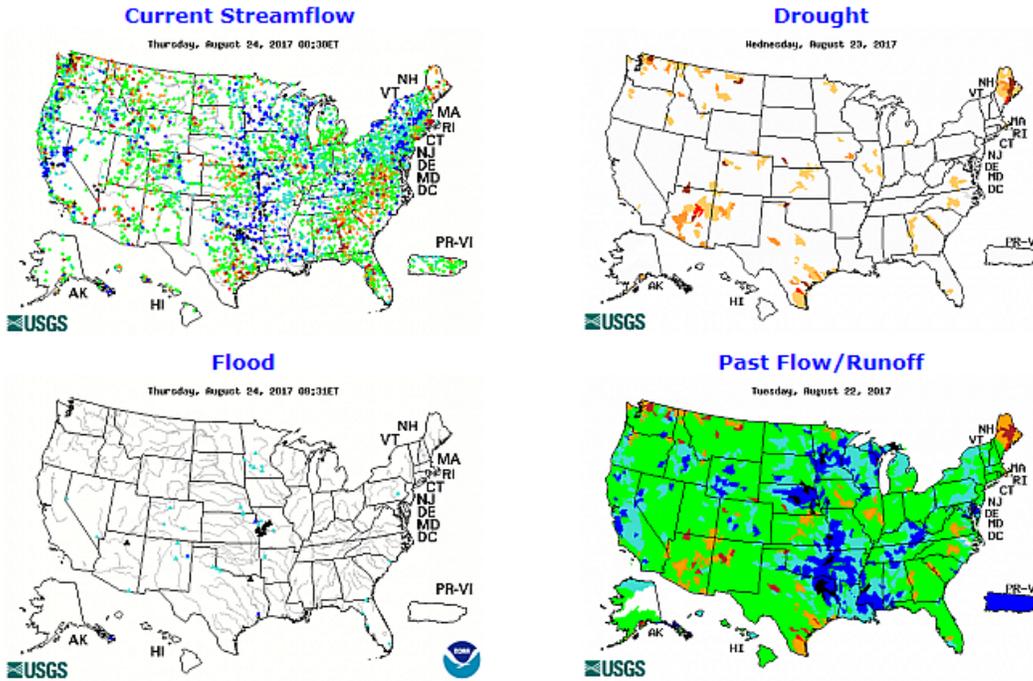
In contrast to the wildfires in the Northwest, portions of the Southwest are experiencing seasonal monsoons. The chart shows precipitation and soil moisture for the last 30 days at the [Walnut Gulch #1 SCAN site 2026](#) in southern Arizona. Several large precipitation events over this time increased soil moisture at the 2-, 4-, 8-inch depths. The 20-inch sensor showed increased soil moisture in response to the large events on July 29 and August 13. The 40-inch sensor was unchanged.

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

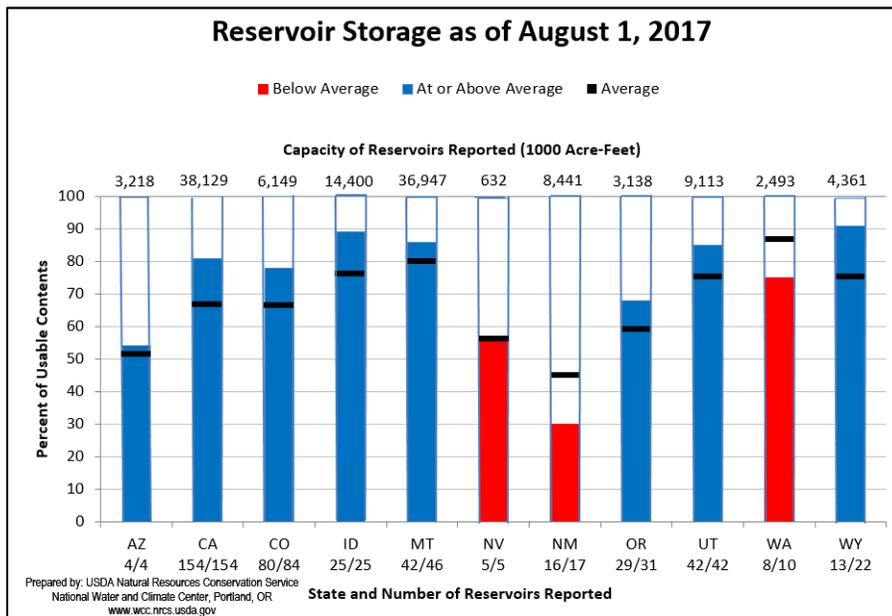


[Current streamflow maps](#) Click image to enlarge and display legends

Reservoir Storage

August 1 Western States Reservoir Storage

Source: NRCS National Water and Climate Center



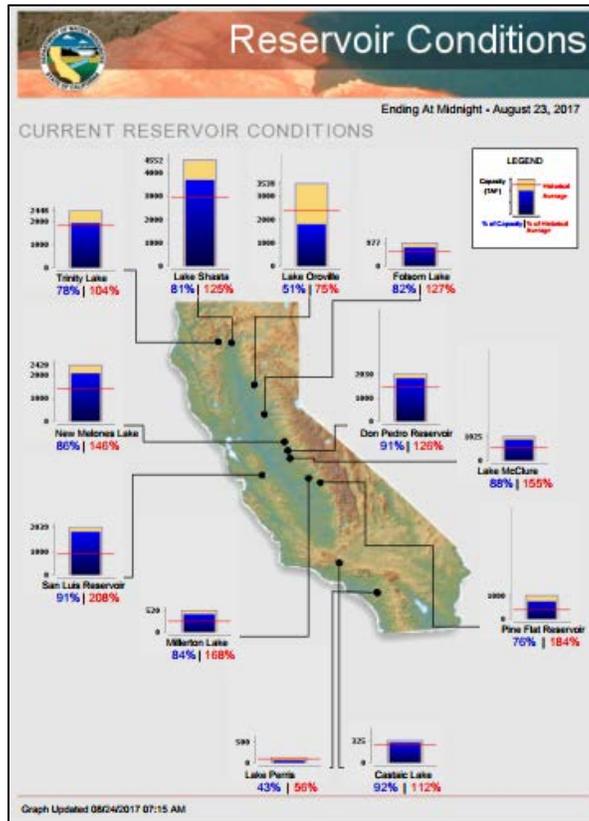
[National Water and Climate Center Reservoir Data](#)

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](#)

Current California Reservoir Conditions

Source: California Department of Water Resources



[California Current Reservoir Conditions](#)

Short- and Long-Range Outlooks

Agricultural Weather Highlights

Author: Eric Luebehusen, Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB

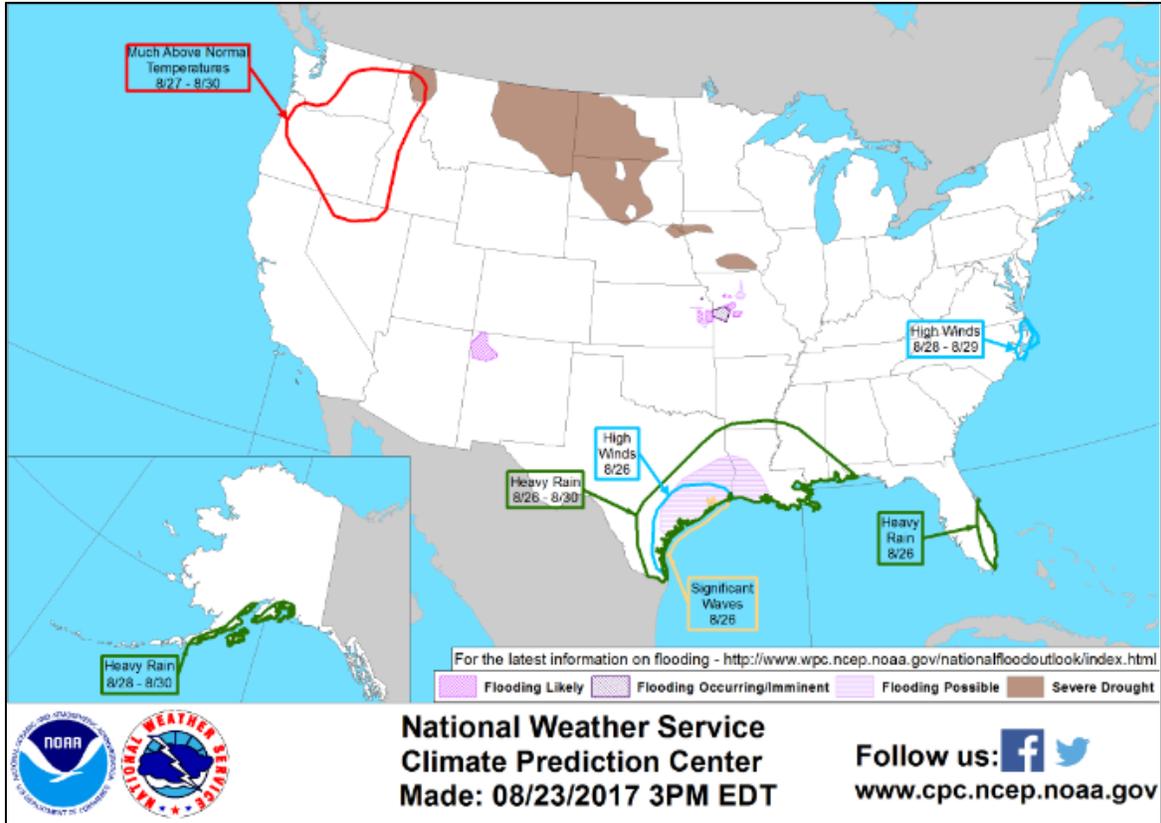
[National Outlook, Wednesday, August 24, 2017](#): "Tropical Storm Harvey, currently intensifying in the southern Gulf of Mexico, will reach hurricane strength well before making landfall in southeastern Texas on Saturday. Meanwhile, a broad area of high pressure over the central and eastern U.S. will cause Harvey to stall, raising the possibility of torrential rainfall (10-20 inches, locally more) over a multi-day period across parts of southern Texas. Heavy rain associated with Harvey will extend eastward into the Delta, though a rather sharp north-south rainfall gradient is expected. No large organized areas of rain are expected elsewhere in the U.S., though moderate to heavy showers (5-day totals locally more than an inch) are possible in the Four Corners, Corn Belt, and lower Southeast. Furthermore, a stalled front along the southern Atlantic Coast will need to be monitored for possible tropical storm development over the weekend. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for August 29 – September 2 calls for unseasonable warmth to persist throughout the West and in southern Florida. In contrast, cooler-than-normal conditions will prevail from the central and southern Plains to the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast Coasts.

Water and Climate Update

Above-normal rainfall is forecast in the Southwest and from the Gulf Coast into the Mid-Atlantic States, while drier-than-normal conditions are anticipated from Texas to the Great Lakes and along the nation's northern tier."

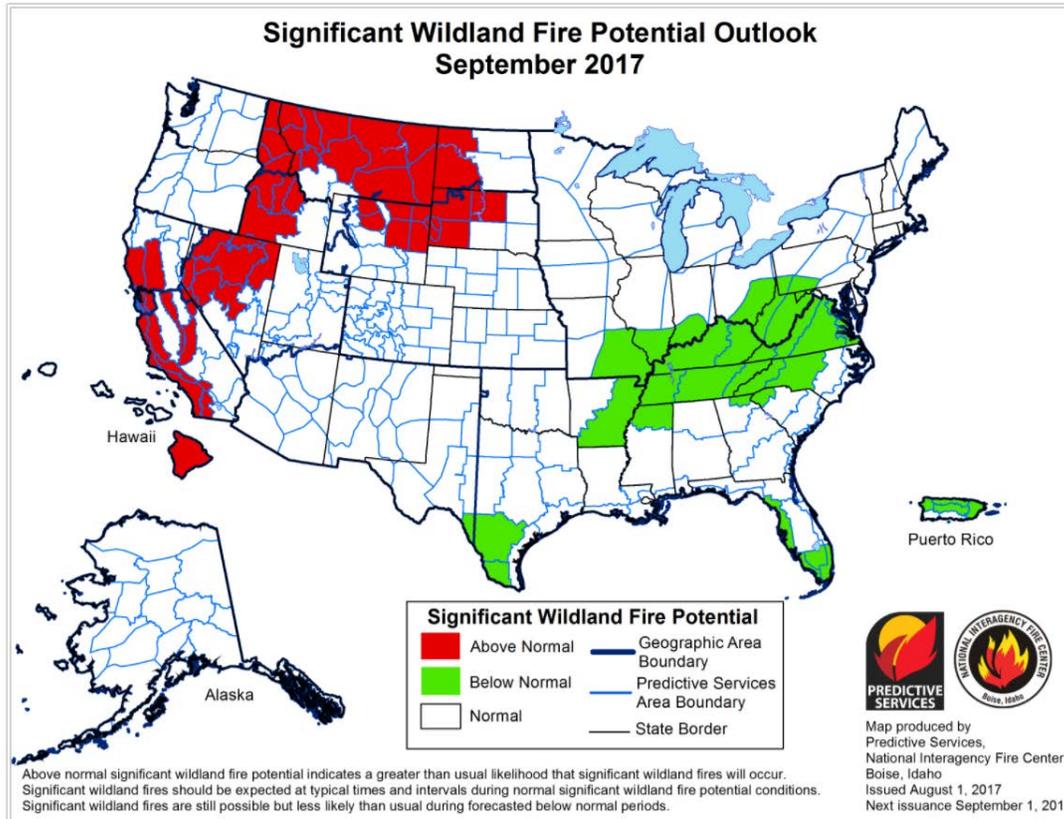
Weather Hazard Outlook [August 26 - 30, 2017](#)

Source: Climate Prediction Center



Significant Wildland [Fire Potential Outlook](#)

Source: National Interagency Fire Center

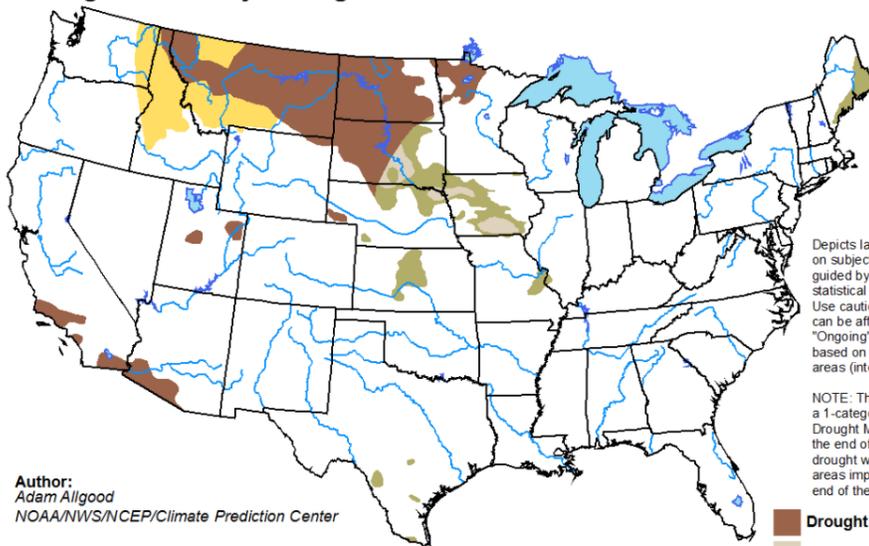


Seasonal Drought Outlook: [August 17 - November 30, 2017](#)
Service

Source: National Weather Service

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

Valid for August 17 - November 30, 2017
Released August 17, 2017



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

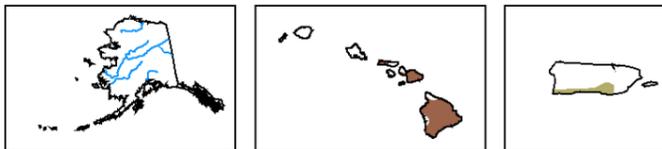
NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
Adam Aligood
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

- Drought persists
- Drought remains but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

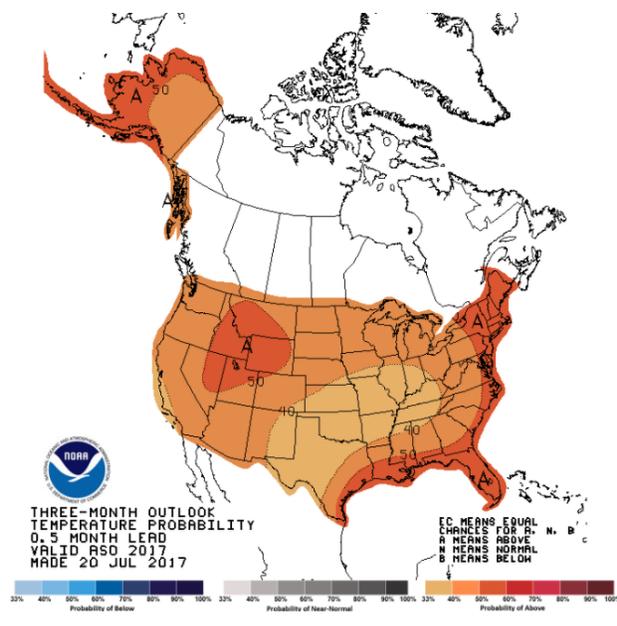
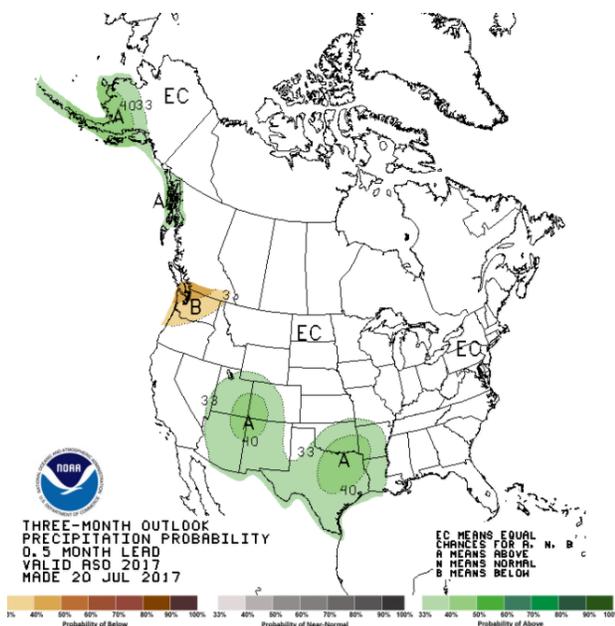


Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook

Source: National Weather Service

Precipitation

Temperature



[Sep-Oct-Nov \(SON\) 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](#).