

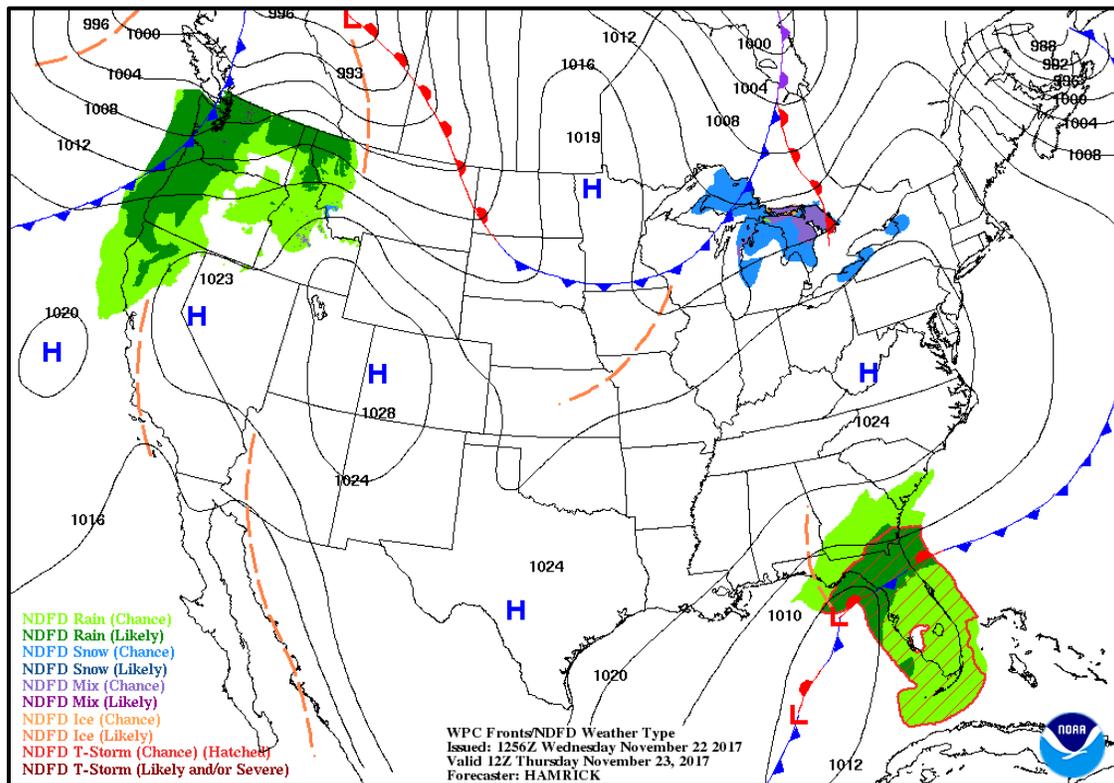
Water and Climate Update

November 22, 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.

Snow	2	Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators	13
Precipitation	4	Short- and Long-Range Outlooks.....	16
Temperature.....	8	More Information	18
Drought	10		

National Weather Service forecast map for Thanksgiving Day



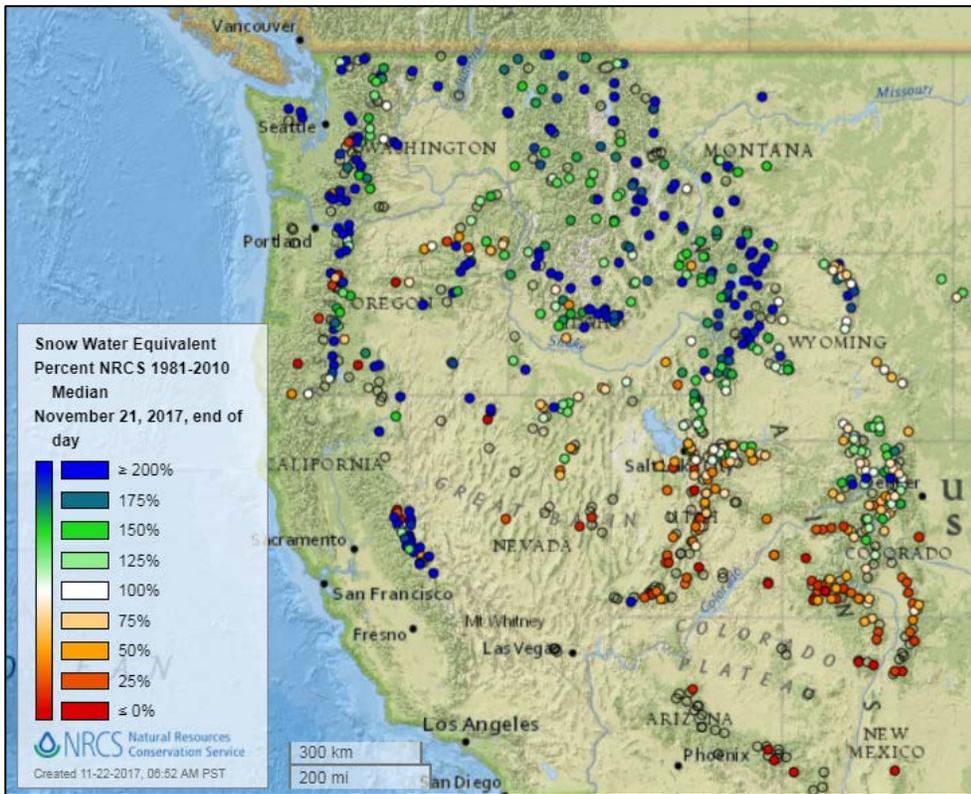
The National Weather Service forecast map for Thanksgiving Day calls for heavy rain in the Pacific Northwest, southern Texas, and in the Southeast, especially in Florida where a chance of thunderstorms is forecast. There is a possibility of snow in a small area of Montana, the Great Lakes, and two small areas of lake-effect snow in New York. Elsewhere, in the majority of the U.S., high pressure dominates and no rain is predicted. Warm and dry conditions will continue in the Southwest.

Related:

- [Thanksgiving travel weather forecast: Clear sailing, except for Great Lakes and Northwest](#)
- [AAA expects 50 million Americans to travel over Thanksgiving](#)
- [Travel forecast: Messy in the northwest, stormy Florida tomorrow](#)
- [Thanksgiving weather: Near record-breaking warmth in West, cold in East](#)
- [Expect record-high temps, 'copious rain' in Seattle area as we head toward Thanksgiving](#)

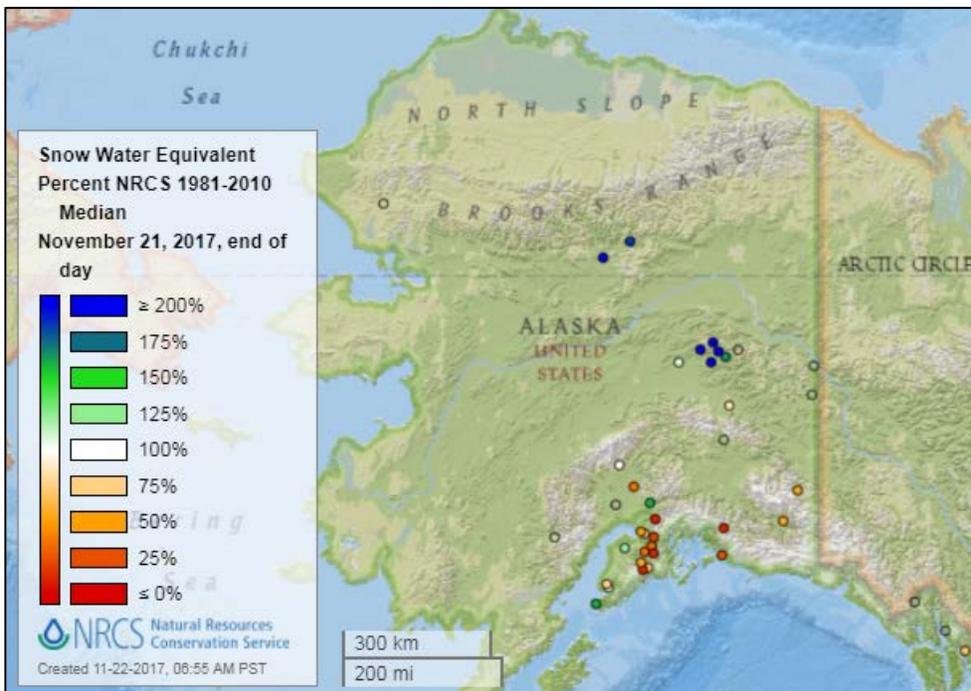
Snow

Current Snow Water Equivalent, NRCS SNOTEL Network



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

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

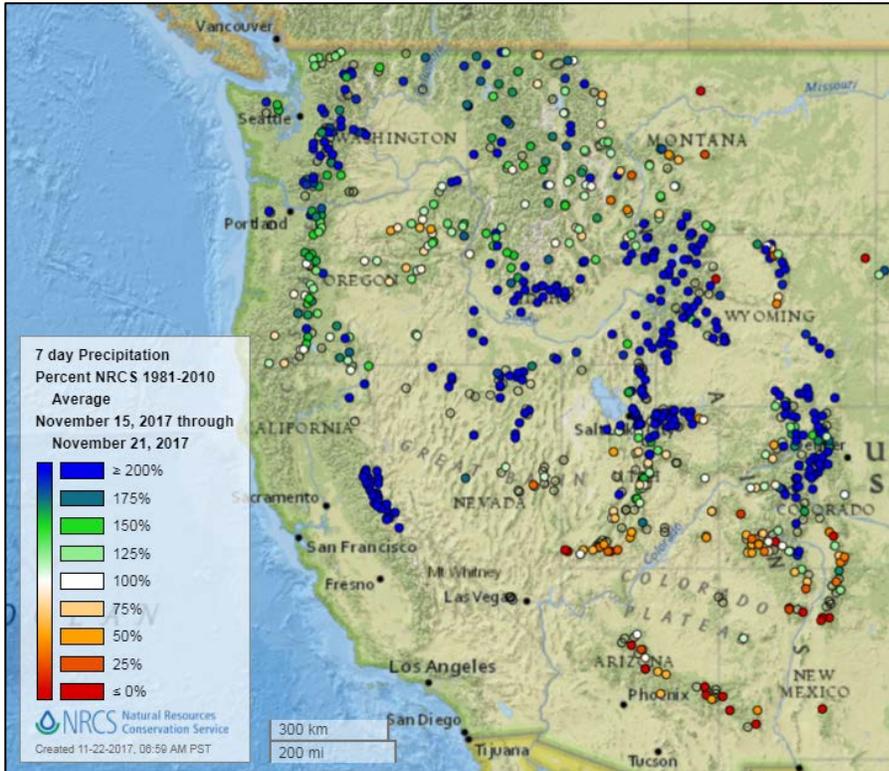


[Alaska snow water equivalent percent of median map](#)

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

Precipitation

Last 7 Days, NRCS SNOTEL Network

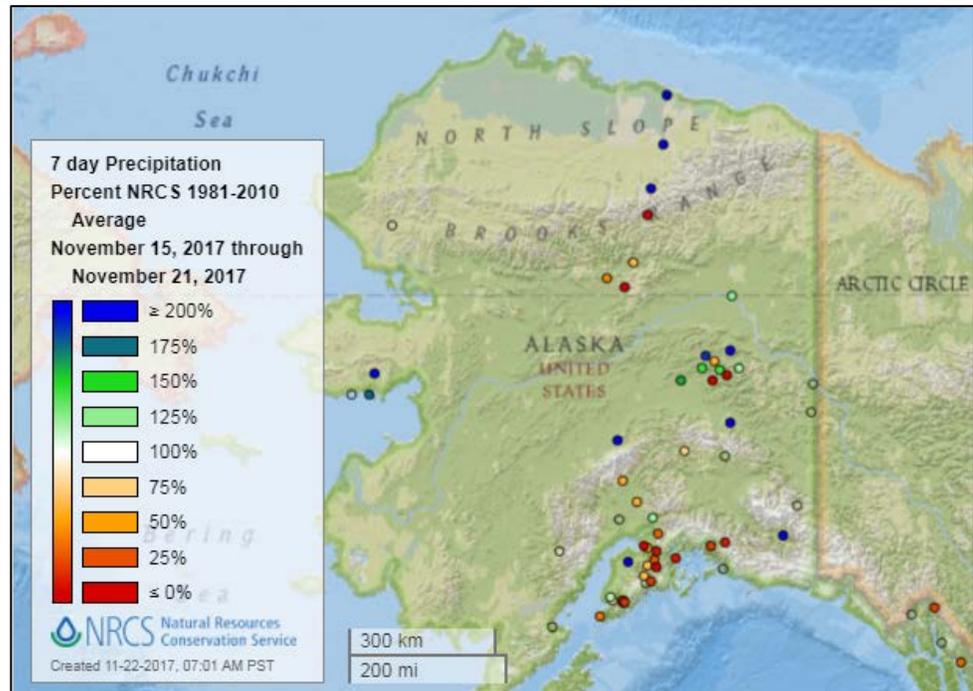


[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

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](#)



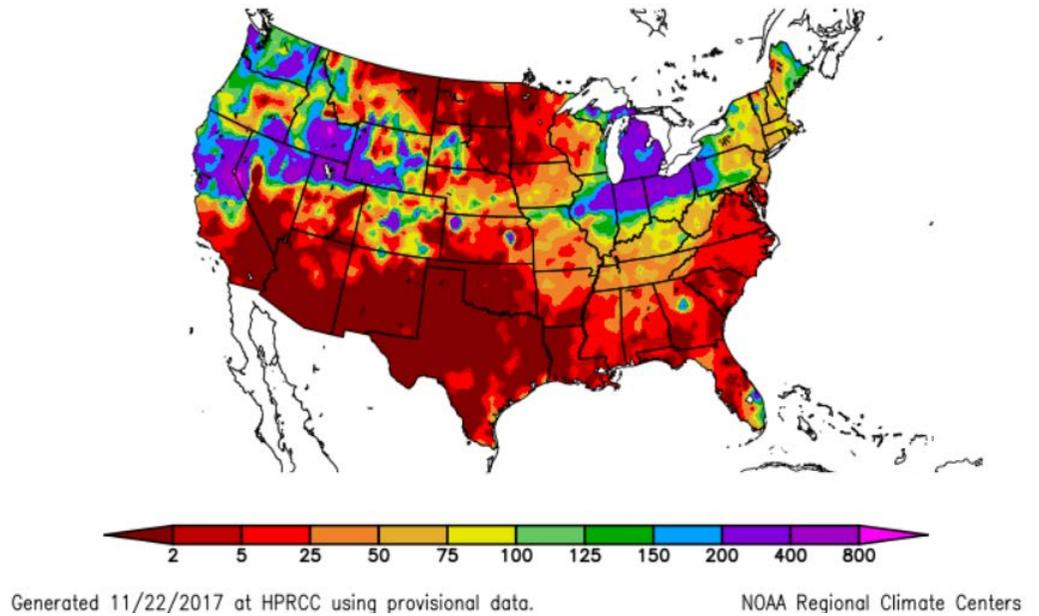
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

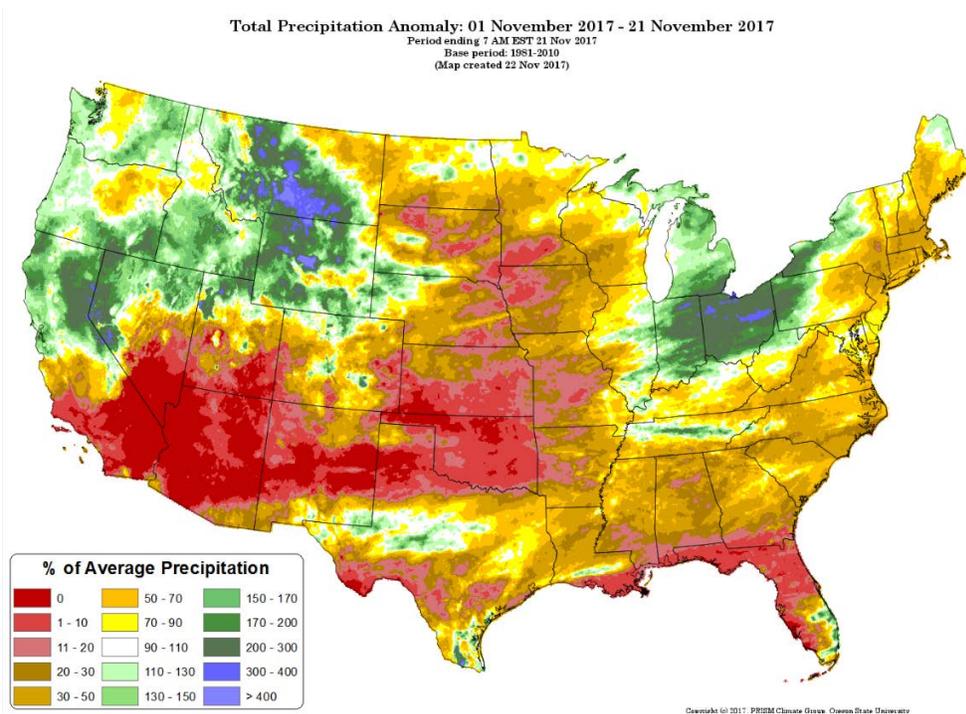
See also: [7-day total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
11/15/2017 – 11/21/2017



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

Source: PRISM



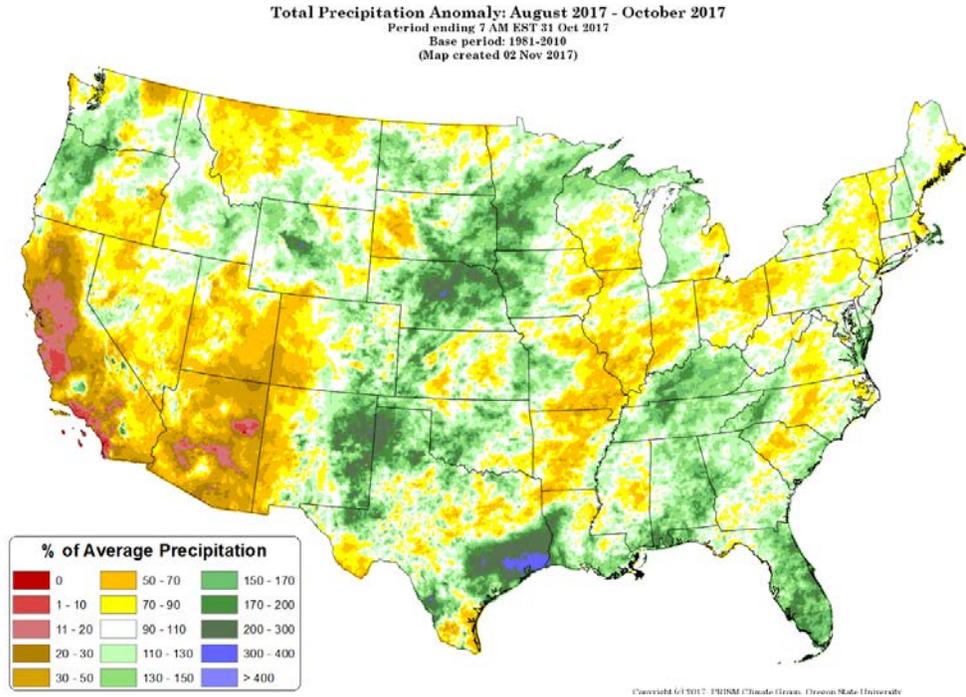
[Month-to-date national precipitation percent of average map](#)

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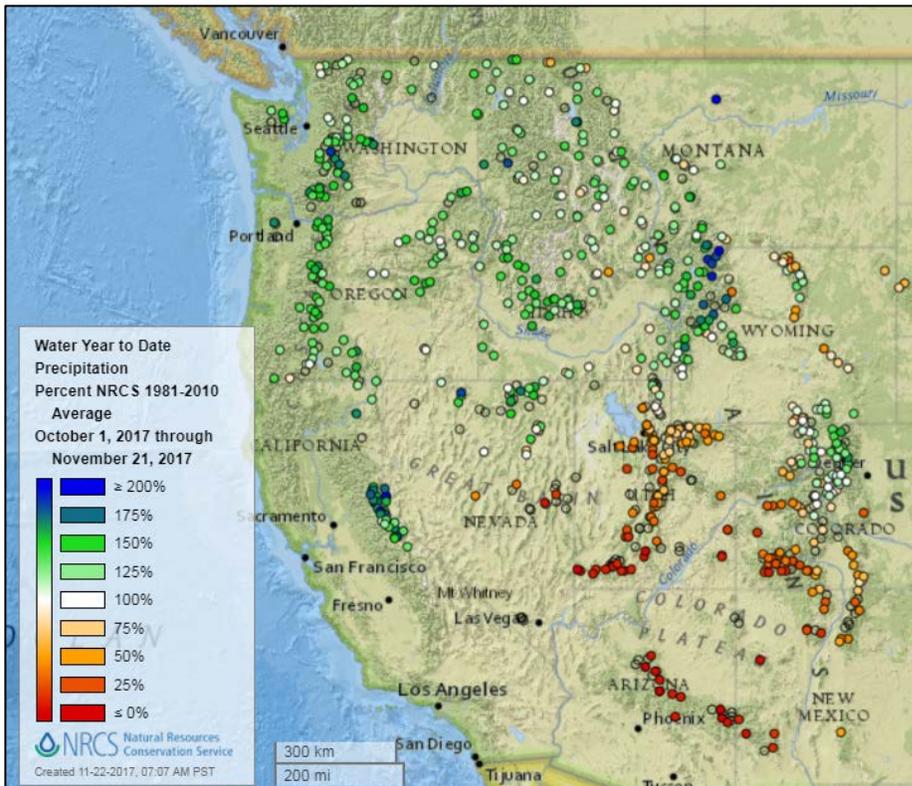
Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

[August through October 2017 total precipitation anomaly map](#)



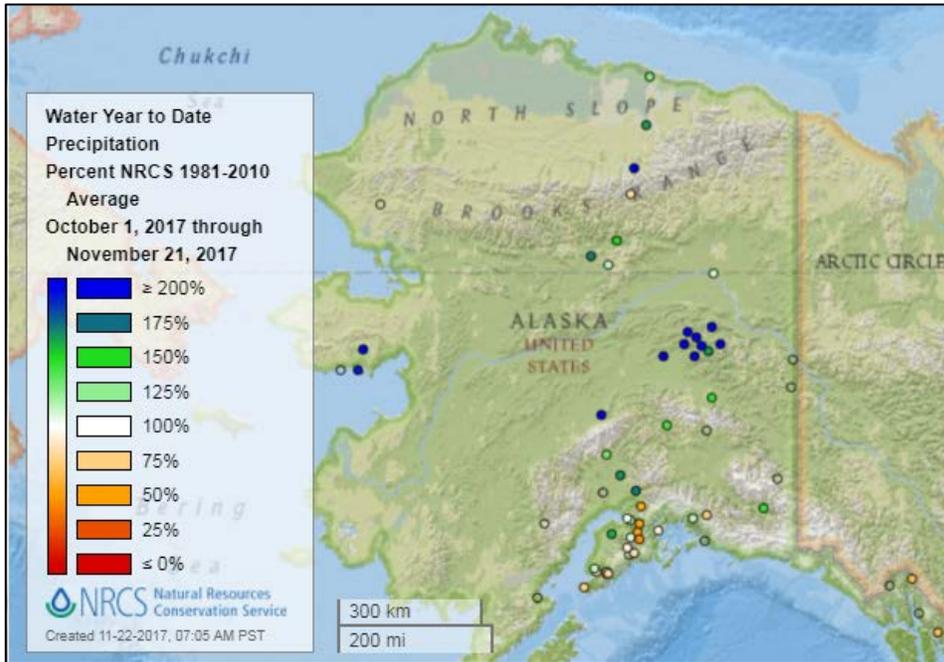
Water Year-to-Date, NRCS SNOTEL Network



[2018 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

See also: [2018 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\)](#)

Water and Climate Update



[Alaska 2018 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

See also: [Alaska 2018 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

Temperature

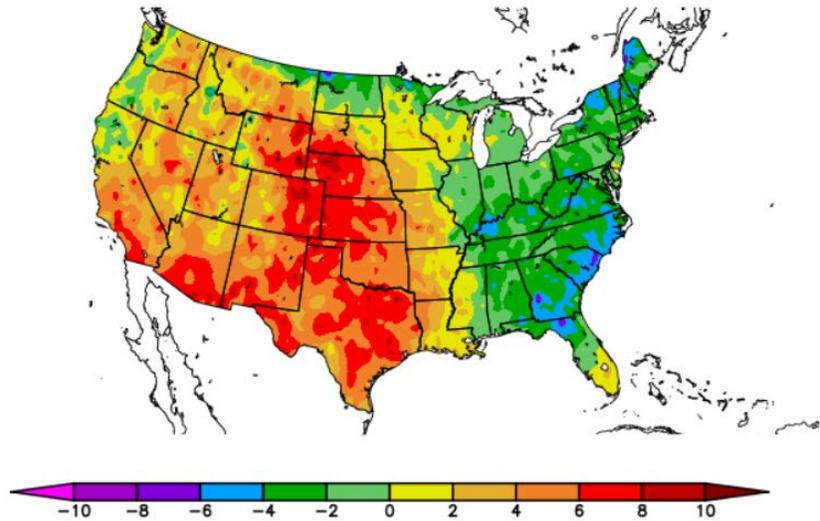
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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)
11/15/2017 – 11/21/2017



Generated 11/22/2017 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

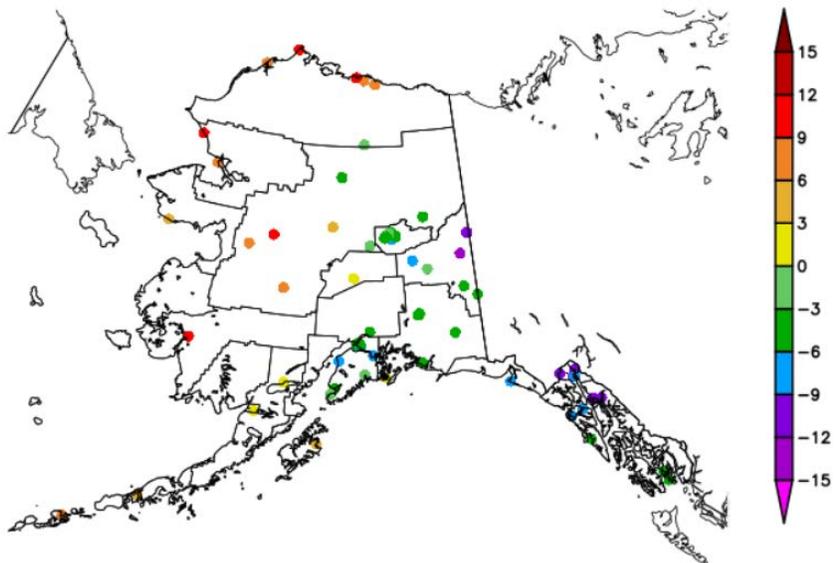
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
11/15/2017 – 11/21/2017



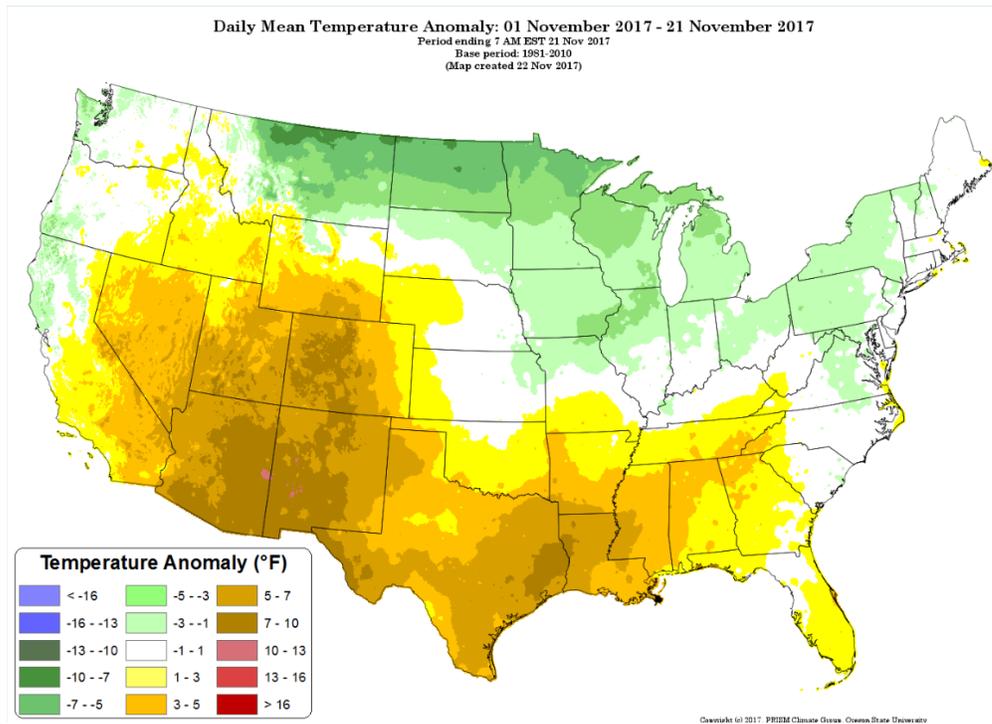
Generated 11/22/2017 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

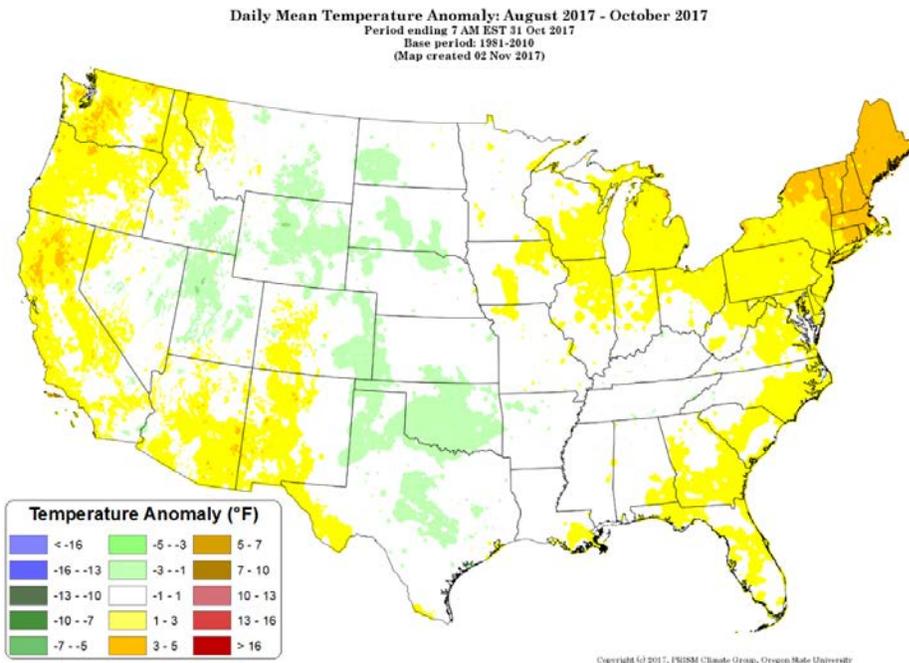
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Month-to-Date, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks Source: PRISM

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



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

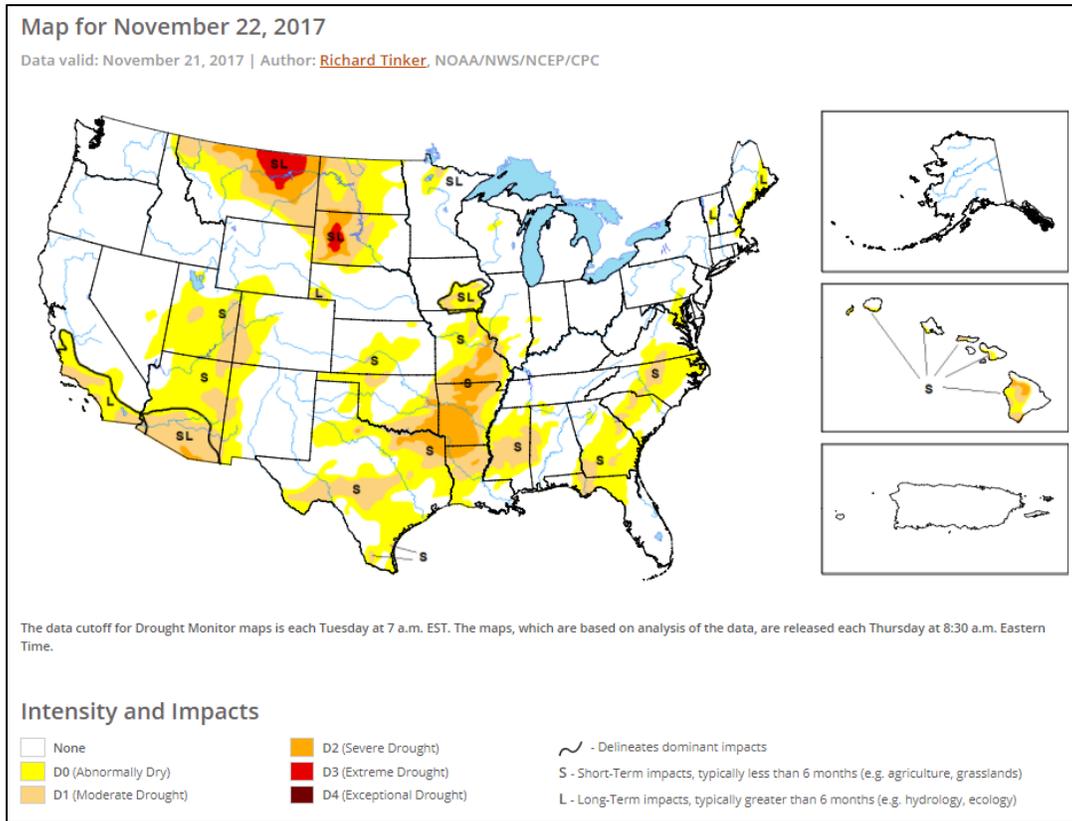


[August through October 2017 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)

Drought

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

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



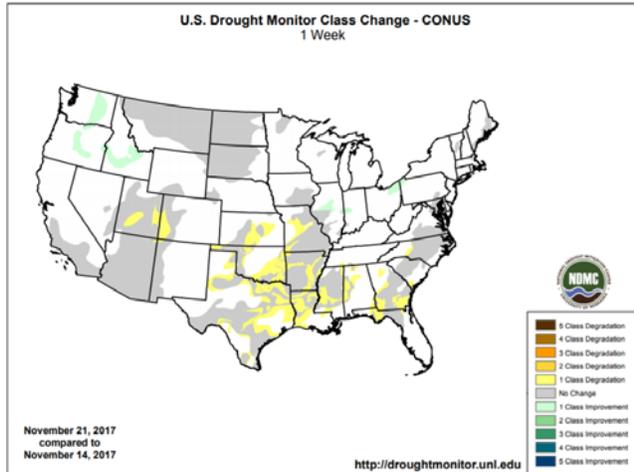
Current [National Drought Summary](#), November 22, 2017

Author: Richard Tinker, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

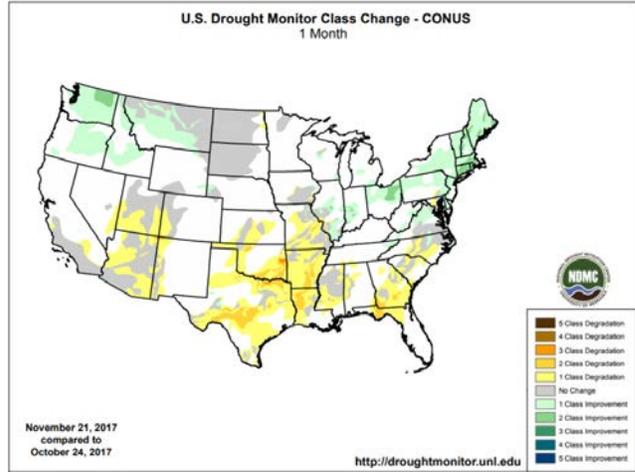
“With a few exceptions, dry weather dominated the contiguous 48 states this past week, particularly in areas already experiencing dryness and drought. Heavy precipitation fell on the orographically-favored areas in the West (specifically, the Sierra Nevada, windward slopes of the Cascades, and much of the coastline from northern California to the Canadian border). Anywhere from 4 to locally 12 inches doused much of these areas. Between 2 and 4 inches fell from central and eastern Illinois eastward across central and northern sections of Indian and Ohio, Michigan, and northwestern Pennsylvania, and similar amounts were more isolated across the higher elevations of the northern Idaho Panhandle, south-central Idaho, western Wyoming and adjacent areas, and a few scattered areas in northern sections of Nevada and Utah. Southern New England and eastern Maine recorded 1 to locally 3 inches of precipitation. Elsewhere - the vast majority of the country from the Great Basin and Southwest eastward across most of the Rockies and Plains, the Mississippi Valley, the Southeast, and the mid-Atlantic region – only a few tenths of an inch of precipitation was recorded, if any.”

Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

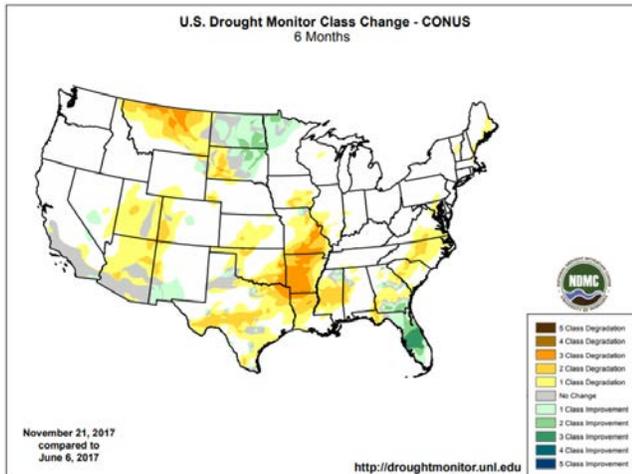
1 Week



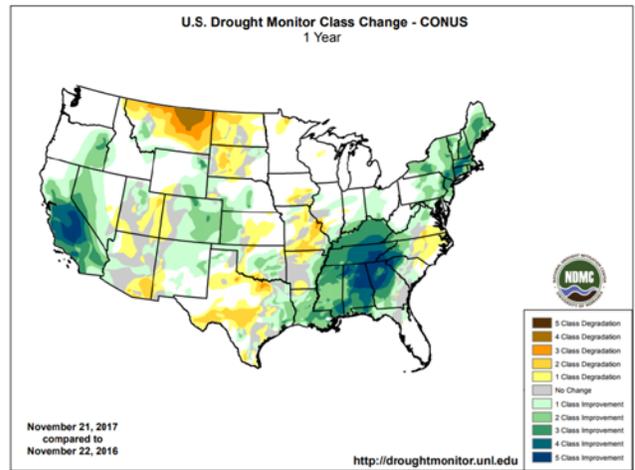
1 Month



6 Months



1 Year

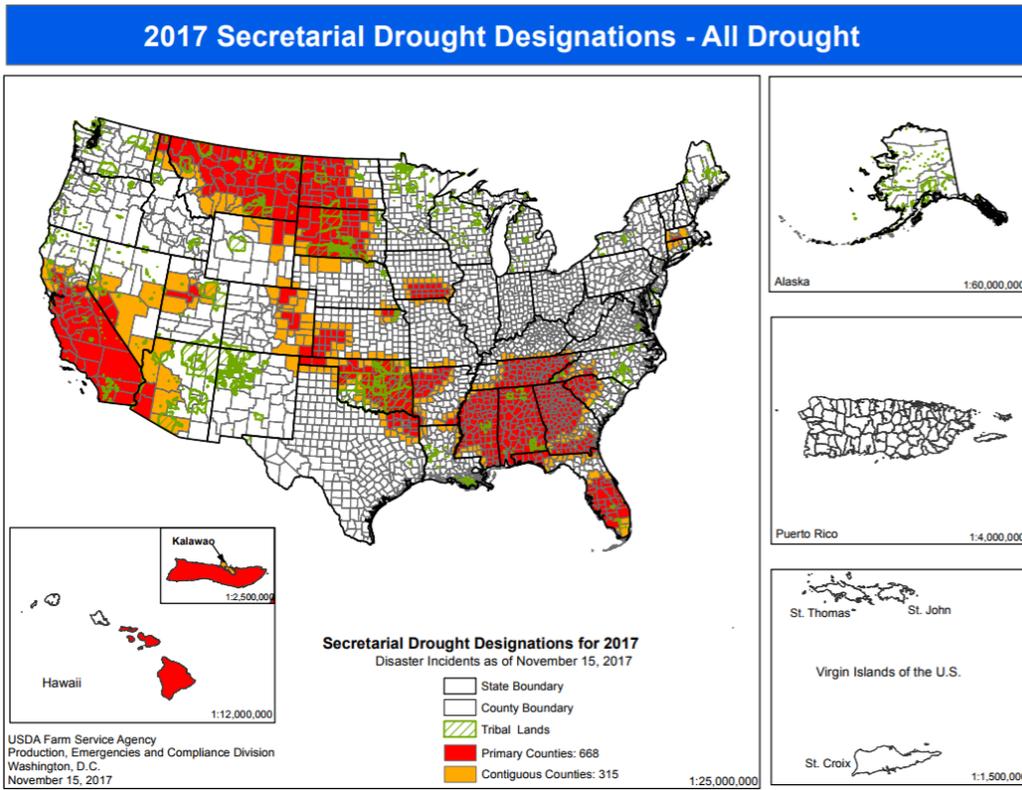


Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months

Highlighted Drought Resources

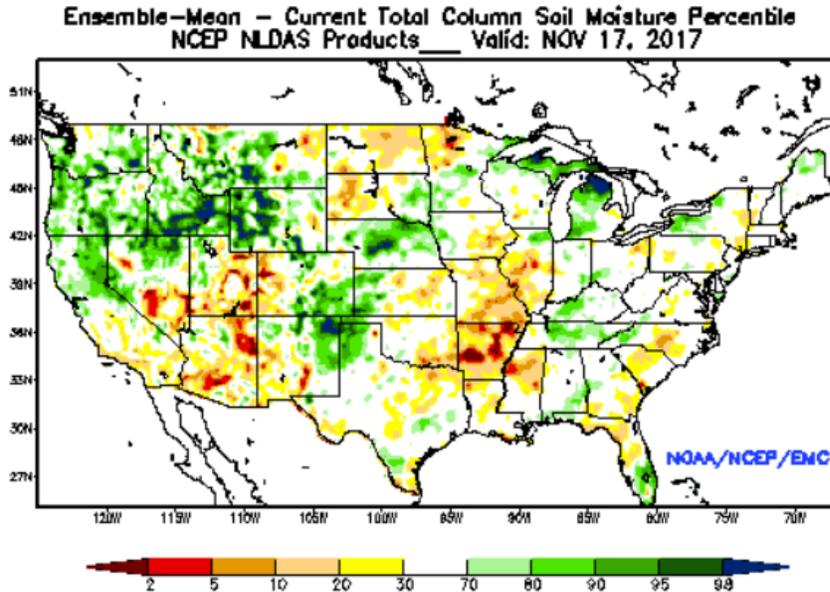
- [Drought Impact Reporter](#)
- [Quarterly Regional Climate Impacts and Outlook](#)
- [U.S. Drought Portal Indicators and Monitoring](#)
- [U.S. Population in Drought, Weekly Comparison](#)
- [USDA Disaster and Drought Information](#)

USDA 2017 Secretarial Drought Designations



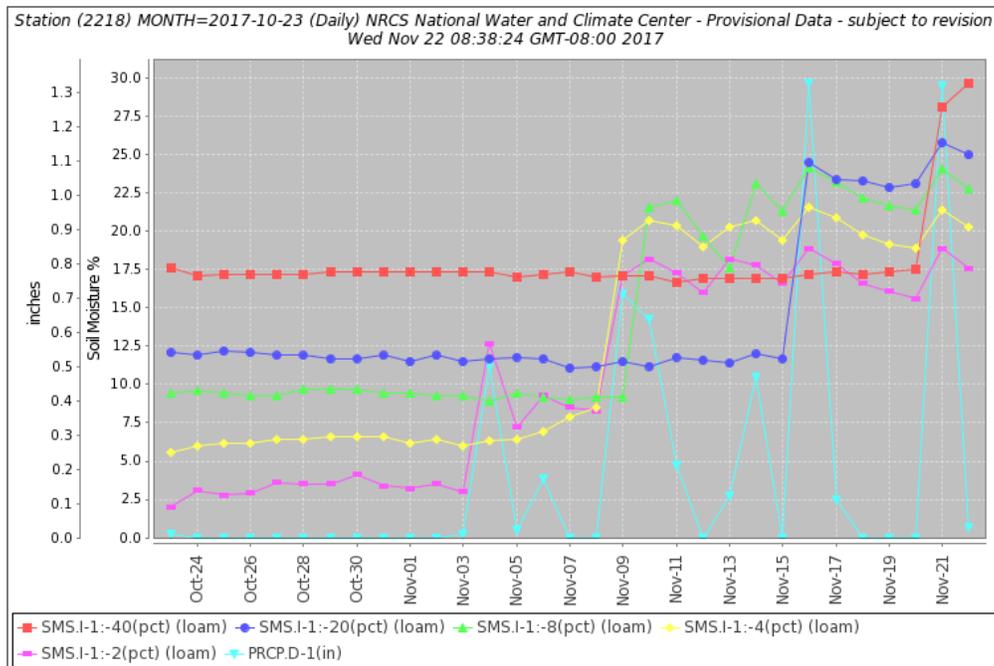
Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

Soil Moisture



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of November 17, 2017.

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



The chart shows precipitation and soil moisture for the last 30 days at the [French Gulch SCAN site 2218](#) in northern California. The first part of the last 30 days was dry. Precipitation occurred on almost every day starting on November 3. The first rainfall event increased moisture at the 2-inch sensor and storms in the next few days produced increases in soil moisture at the 4- and 8-inch sensors. On November 16 the 1.3 inches of precipitation also increased the soil moisture at the 20-inch sensor and an additional 1.3 inches on November 21 increased the soil moisture at all sensor depths.

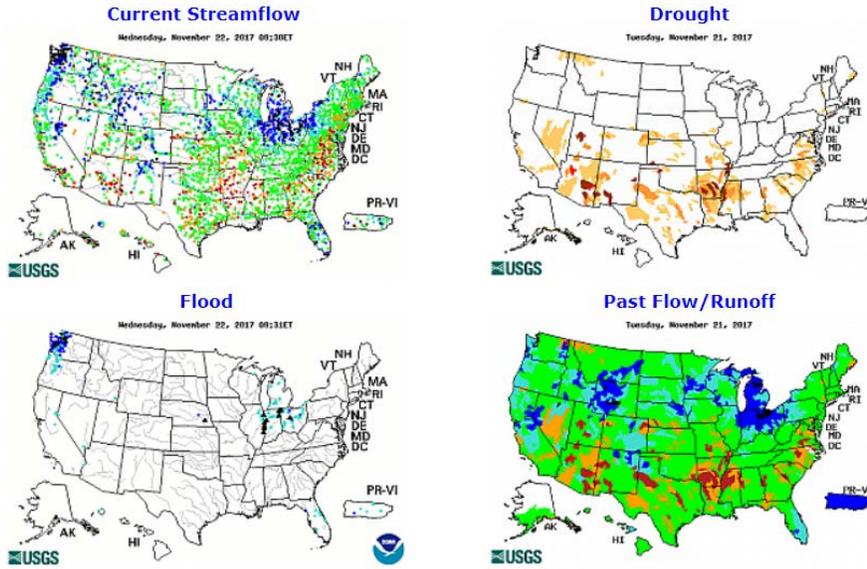
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Soil Moisture Data Portals

- [CRN Soil Moisture](#)
- [Texas A&M University North American Soil Moisture Database](#)
- [University of Washington Experimental Modeled Soil Moisture](#)

Streamflow

Source: USGS

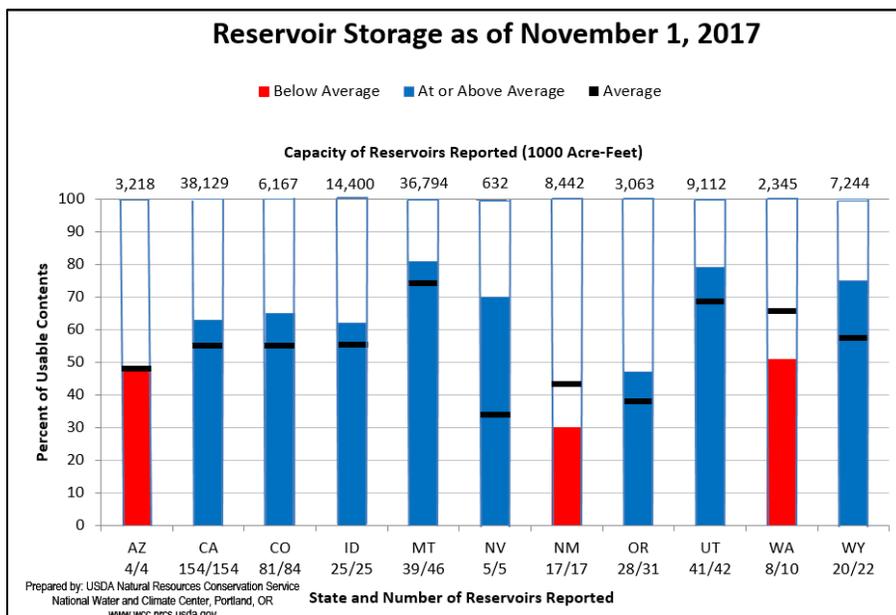


[WaterWatch: Streamflow, drought, flood, and runoff conditions](#)

Reservoir Storage

Western States Reservoir Storage

Source: NRCS National Water and Climate Center



November 1 Reservoir Storage: [Chart](#) | [Dataset](#)

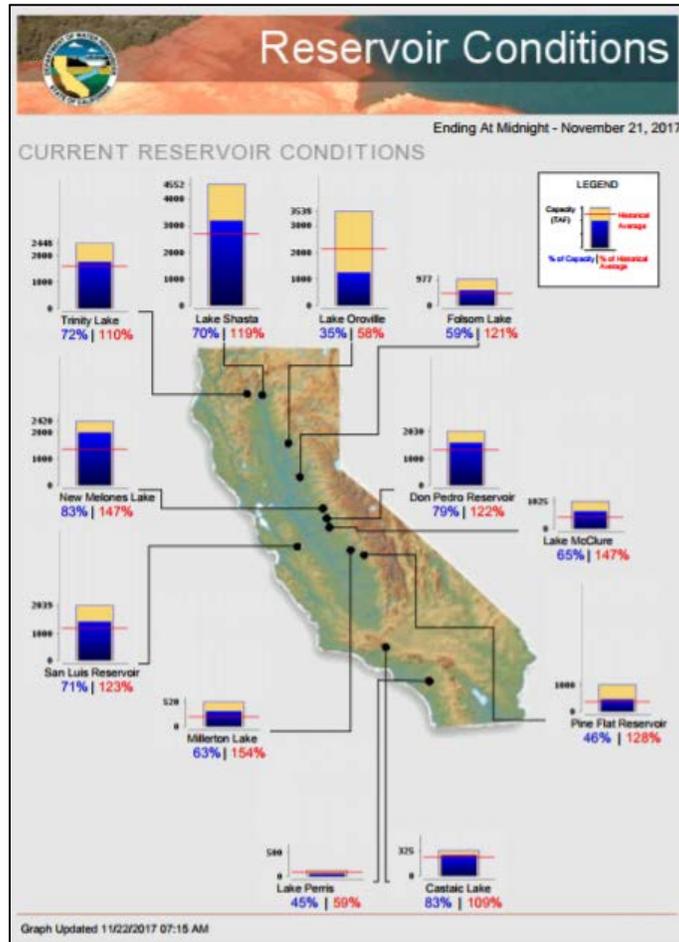
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U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Hydromet Tea Cup Reservoir Depictions

- [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

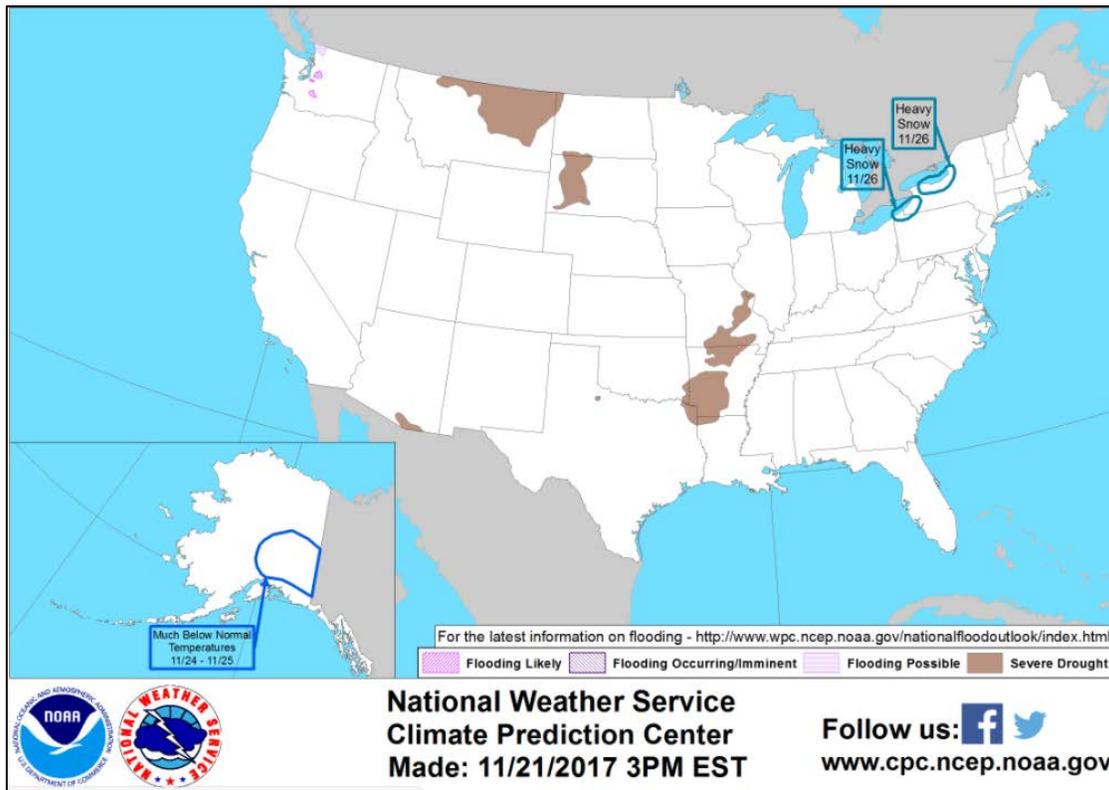
Agricultural Weather Highlights

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

[National Outlook, Wednesday, November 22, 2017](#): “Pre-Thanksgiving travel weather will be mostly favorable for the remainder of today, with warm weather covering the western half of the country and precipitation limited to the Northwest and a few areas along the Atlantic Coast. Thanksgiving Day should feature record-setting warmth across the High Plains and Intermountain West, with temperatures expected to top 70°F as far north as Montana and surpass the 90-degree mark in portions of the Desert Southwest. Thanksgiving precipitation should be limited to the Northwest and the lower Southeast. Northwestern wetness will persist through week’s end, with 5-day totals reaching 2 to 12 inches from the Cascades westward. However, little or no precipitation will fall during the next 5 days across the Plains, Southwest, Midwest, mid-South, and interior Southeast. Elsewhere, mild weather will dominate much of the country, although cool conditions will return across the East during the weekend. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for November 27 – December 1 calls for the likelihood of warmer-than-normal weather nationwide, except for near- to below-normal temperatures in the Atlantic Coast States. Meanwhile, wetter-than-normal conditions from the northern Rockies to Lake Superior should contrast with near- to below-normal precipitation across the remainder of the U.S.”

Weather Hazard Outlook [November 24 – 28, 2017](#)

Source: Climate Prediction Center



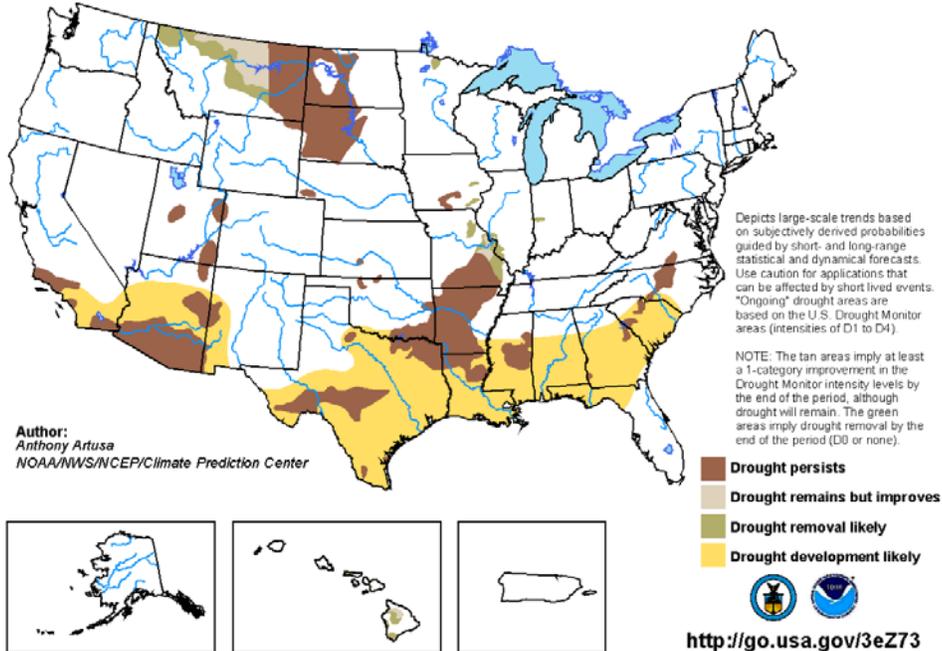
Significant Wildland [Fire Potential Outlook](#)

Source: National Interagency Fire Center



Seasonal Drought Outlook: [November 16, 2017 - February 28, 2018](#) Source: National Weather Service

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Valid for November 16 - February 28, 2018
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period Released November 16, 2017

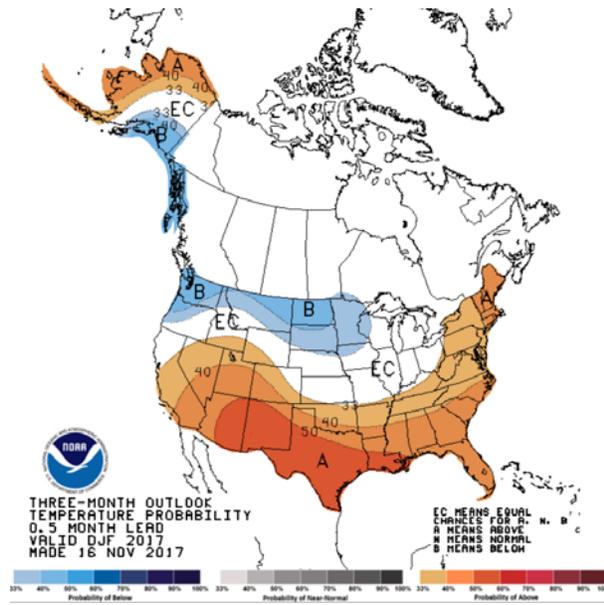
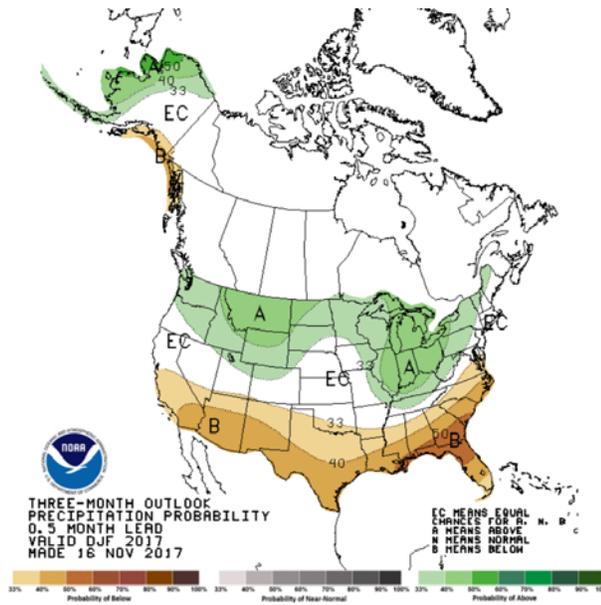


Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook

Source: National Weather Service

[Precipitation](#)

[Temperature](#)



[Dec-Jan-Feb \(DJF\) 2017-2018 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](#).