

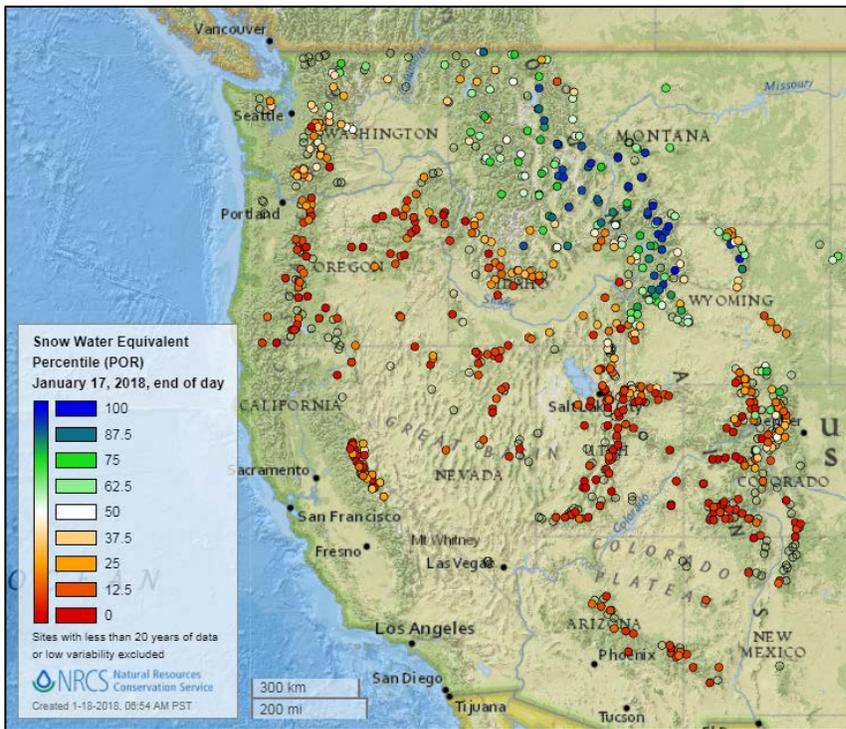
# Water and Climate Update

January 18, 2018

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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## Low snowpack across most of the West



From Oregon to New Mexico, the snowpack is minimal. The SNOTEL percentile map compares the current snow water equivalent to the period of record (POR). Precipitation since October 1 is at record lows for many sites in Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico.

In the past two months, temperatures in the same areas have been 2 to 10°F above average. The combination of low precipitation with warm temperatures is not a good mix for building or maintaining a snowpack.

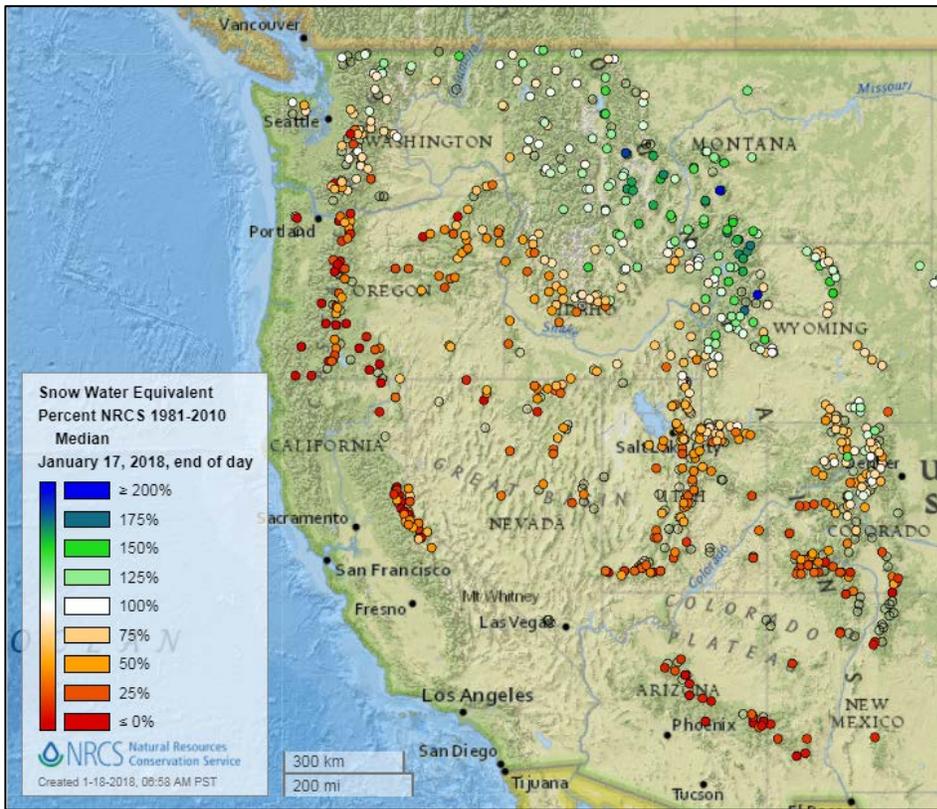
Currently, the only region in the West with an above average snowpack is in the north central Rocky Mountains in Wyoming, Montana, and eastern Idaho.

### Related:

- [Snowpack Near Record Lows Spells Trouble for Western Water Supplies](#) – Inside Climate News
- ['Moderate' Drought Conditions In Southern Colorado As Snowpack Remains Well Below Average](#) - KRCC
- [Oregon's snowpack levels very low after warm, sunny December](#) – KATU
- [Low Rocky Mountain snowpack brings a bleak forecast for Colorado River](#) – Steamboat Pilot and Today
- [Water storage levels up at Lake Powell and Lake Mead, but snowpack low](#) – Colorado Springs Gazette
- [Montana snowpack is high, and more storms are on the way](#) – Helena Independent Record

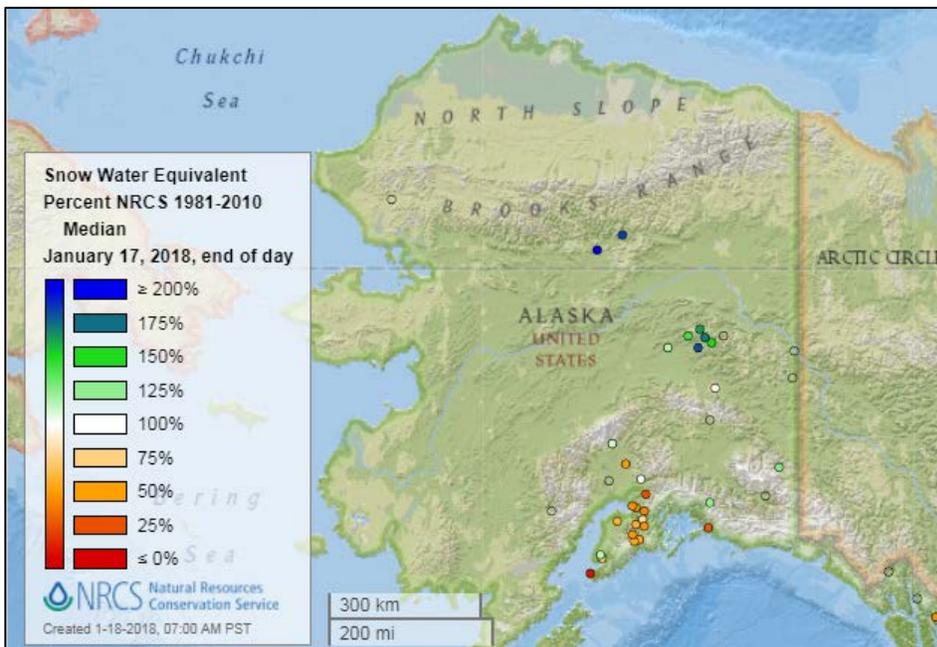
## Snow

### Current Snow Water Equivalent, NRCS SNOTEL Network



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

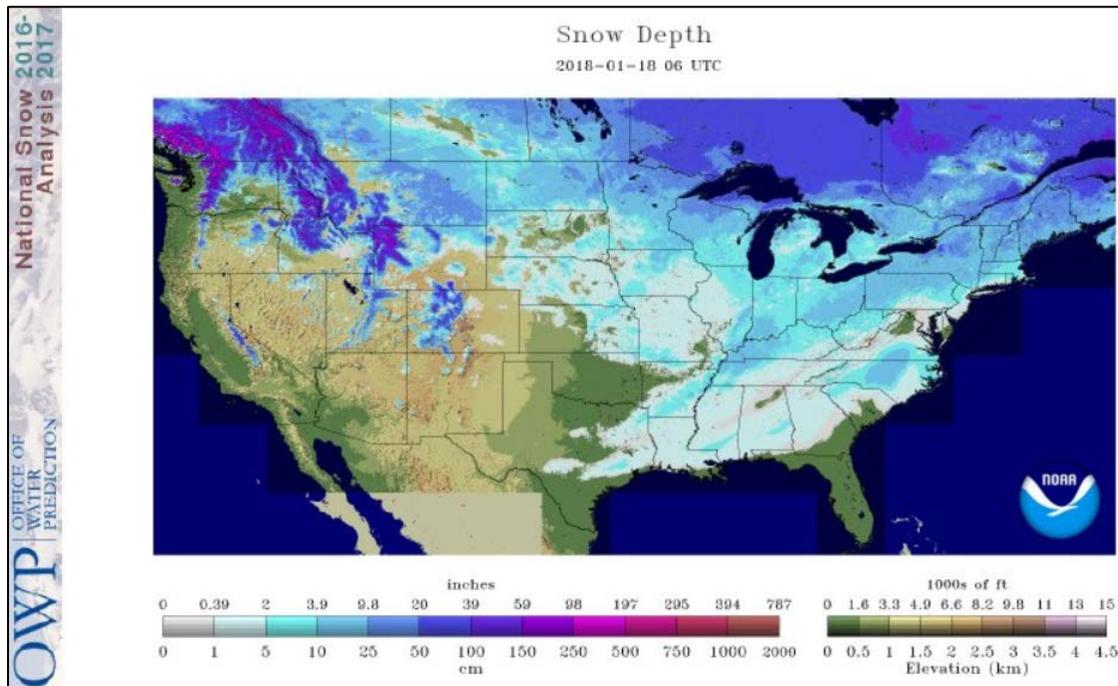
**See also:**  
[Snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)



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

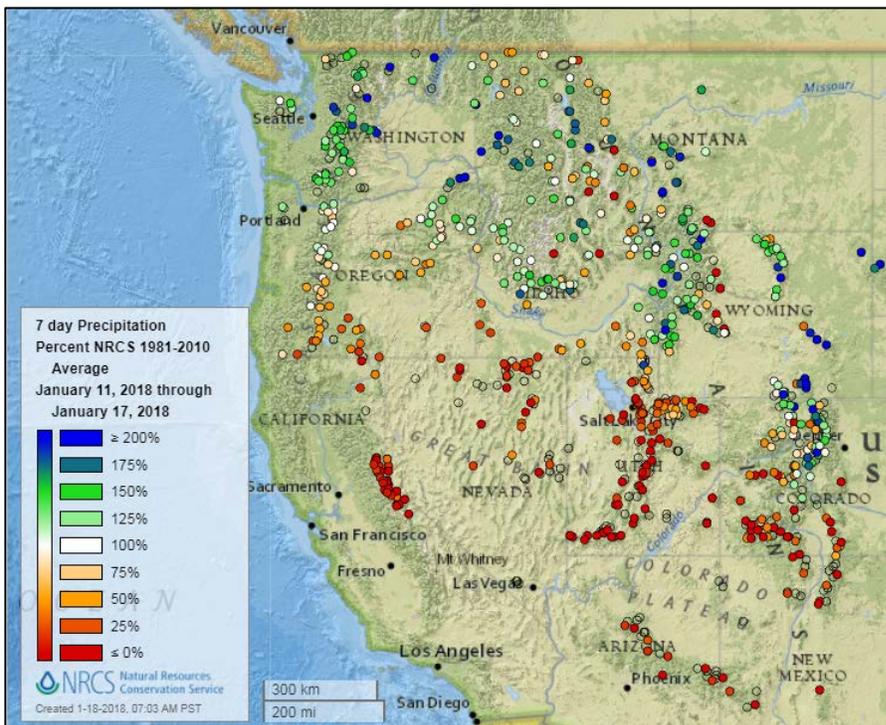
**See also:**  
[Alaska snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)

Current Snow Depth, National Weather Service Snow Analysis



## Precipitation

### Last 7 Days, NRCS SNOTEL Network



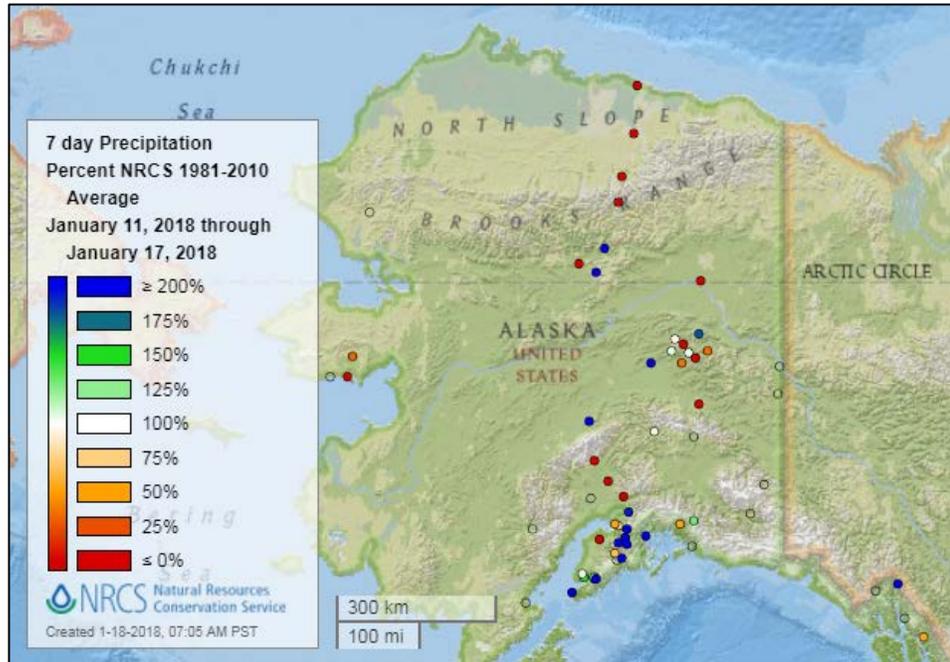
[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

**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](#)



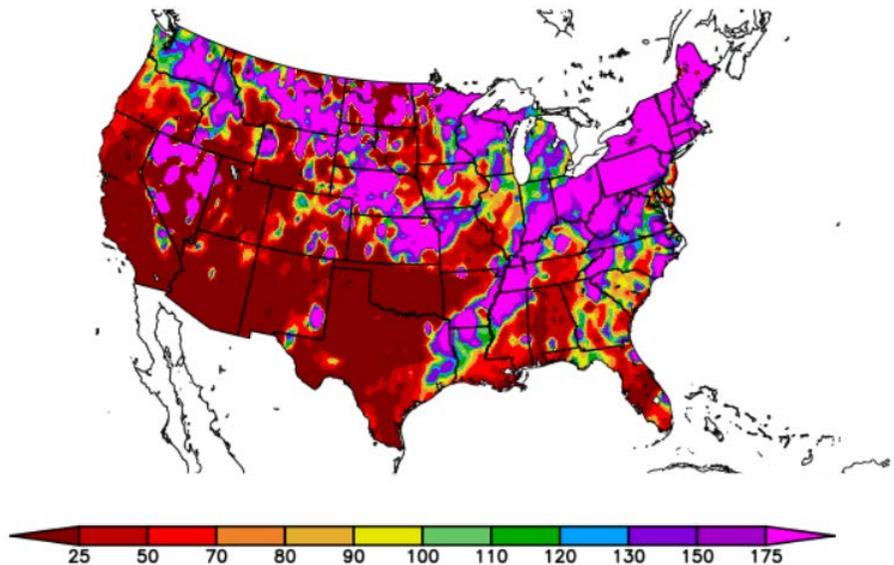
## Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

## Percent of Normal Precipitation (%) 1/11/2018 – 1/17/2018



Generated 1/18/2018 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

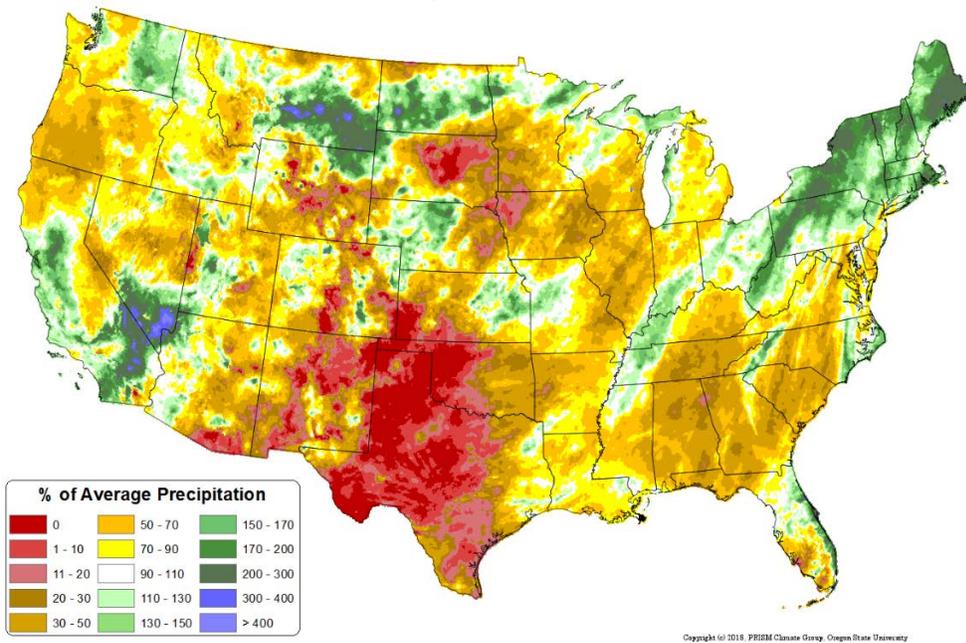
# Water and Climate Update

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

Source: PRISM

Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 January 2018 - 17 January 2018  
Period ending 7 AM EST 17 Jan 2018  
Base period: 1981-2010  
(Map created 18 Jan 2018)

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

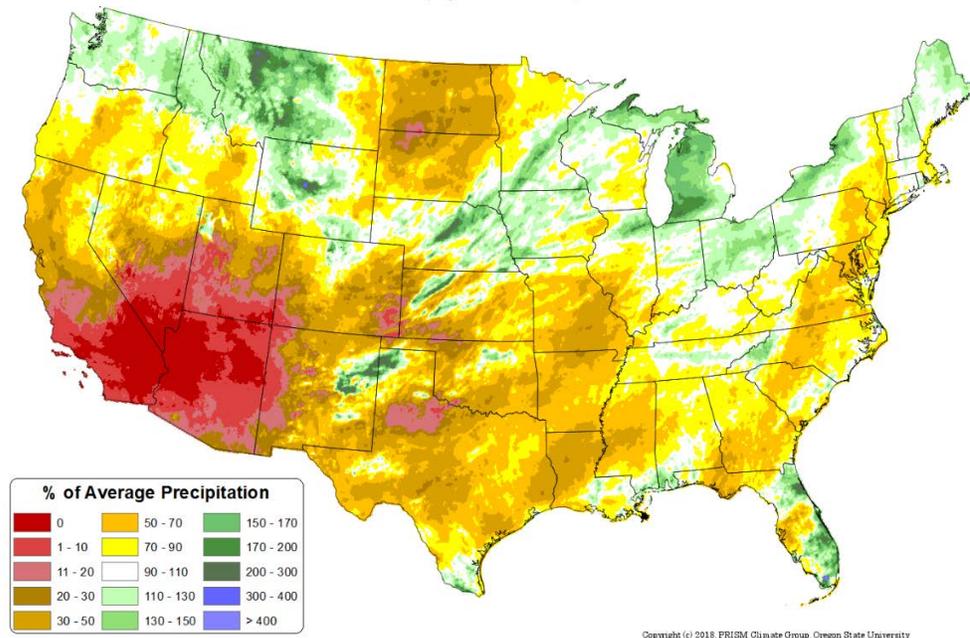


## Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

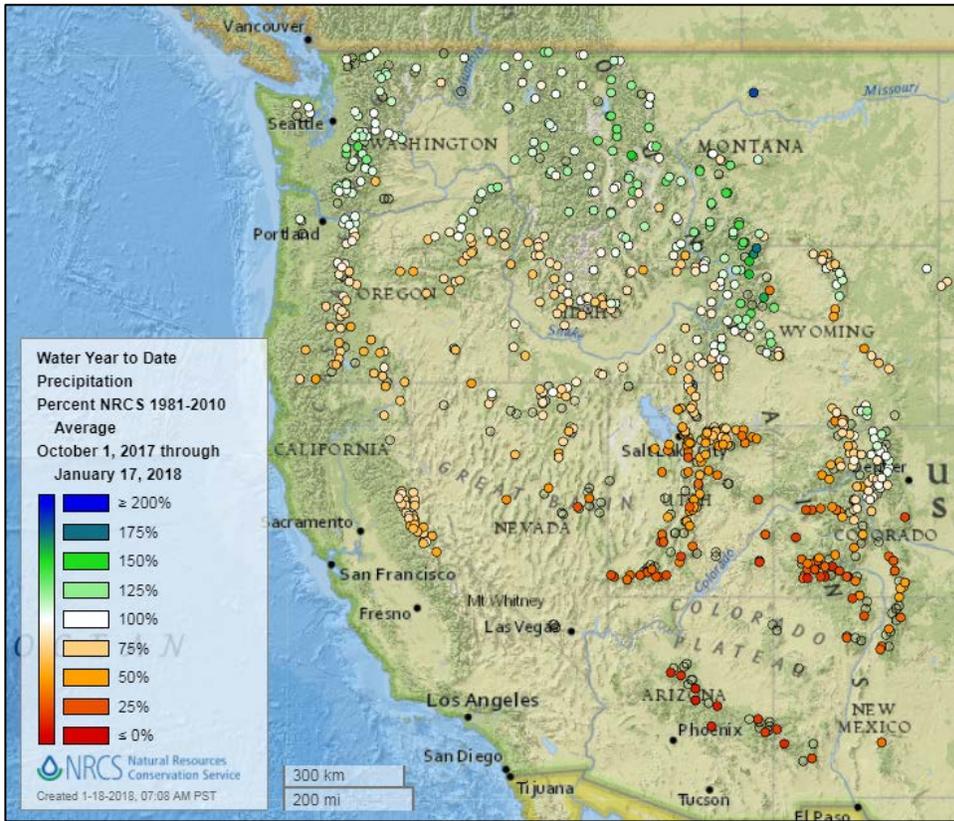
Source: PRISM

[October through December 2017 total precipitation percent of average map](#)

Total Precipitation Anomaly: October 2017 - December 2017  
Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Dec 2017  
Base period: 1981-2010  
(Map created 02 Jan 2018)

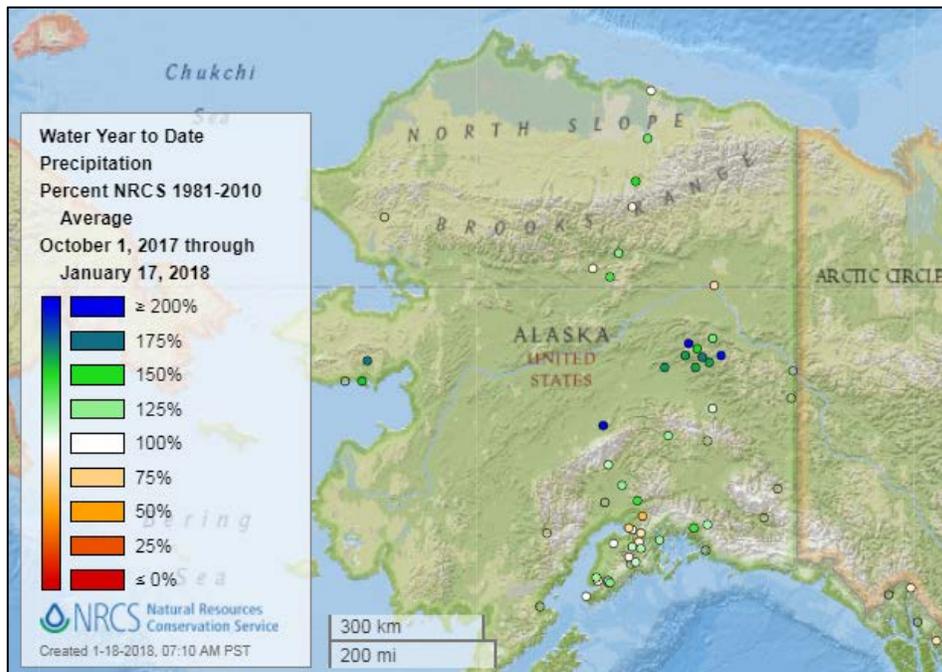


Water Year-to-Date, NRCS SNOTEL Network



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

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



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

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

## Temperature

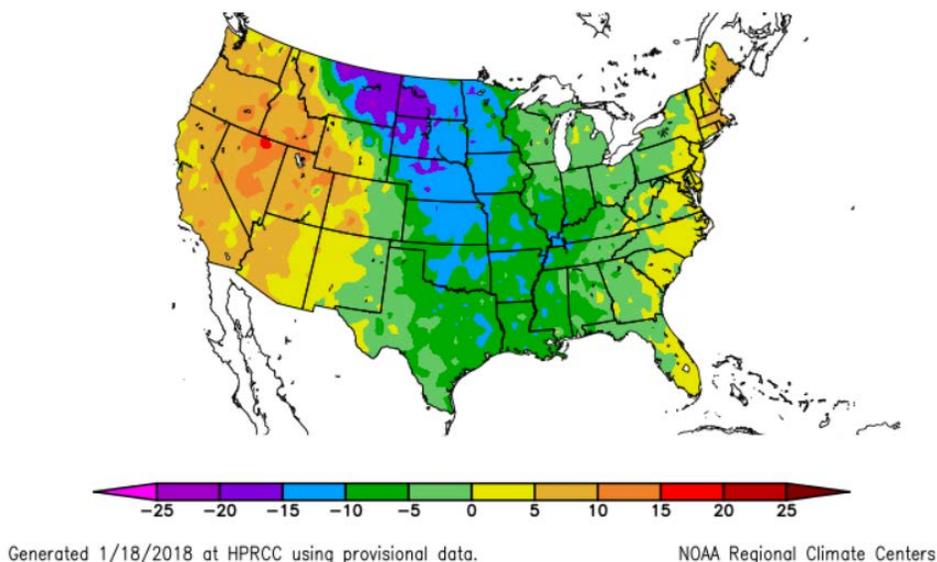
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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)  
1/11/2018 – 1/17/2018



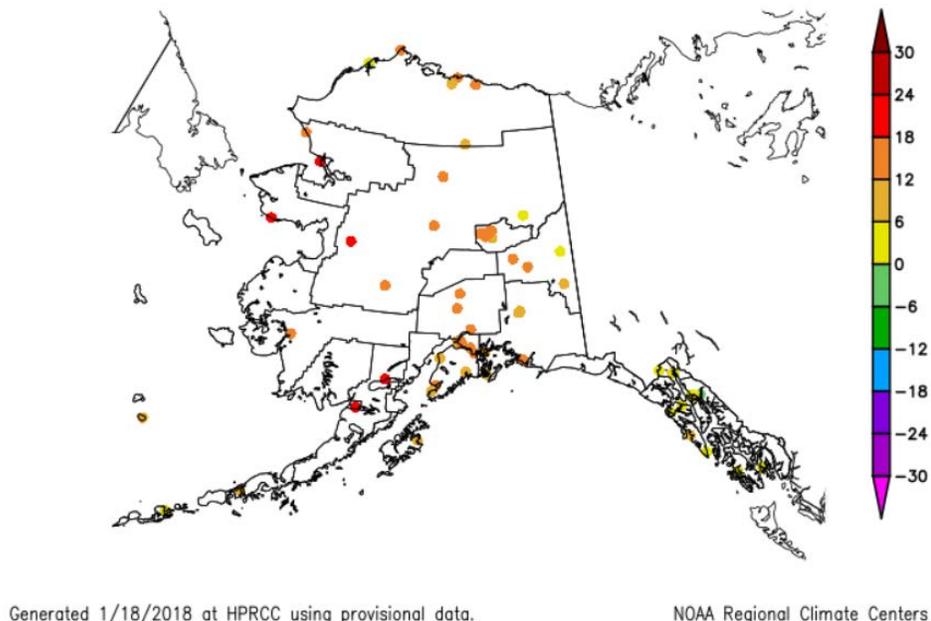
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

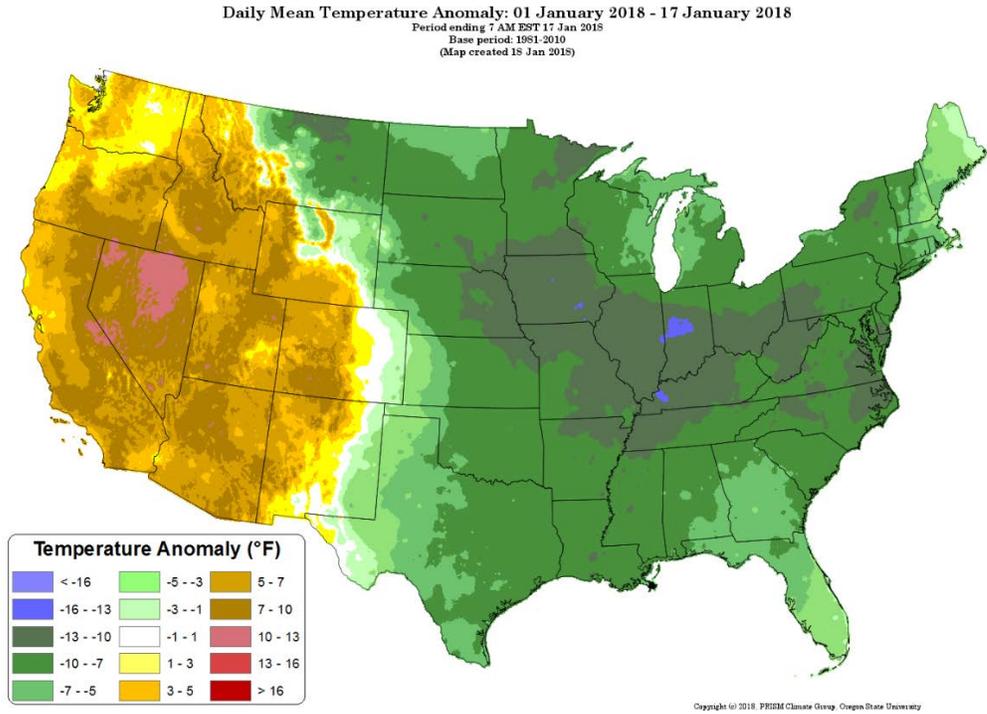
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
1/11/2018 – 1/17/2018



# Water and Climate Update

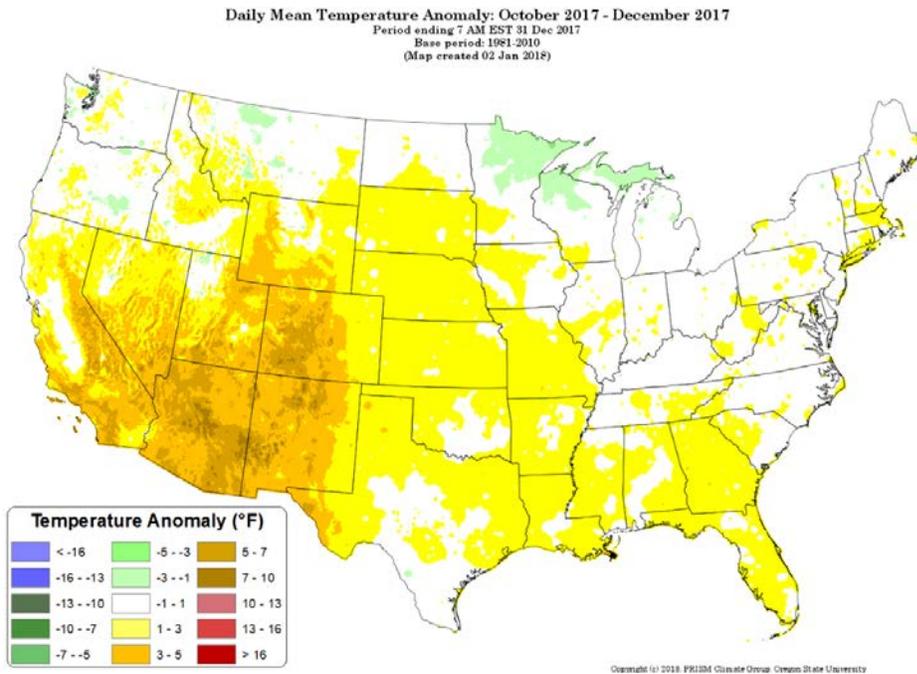
Month-to-Date, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks Source: PRISM

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



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

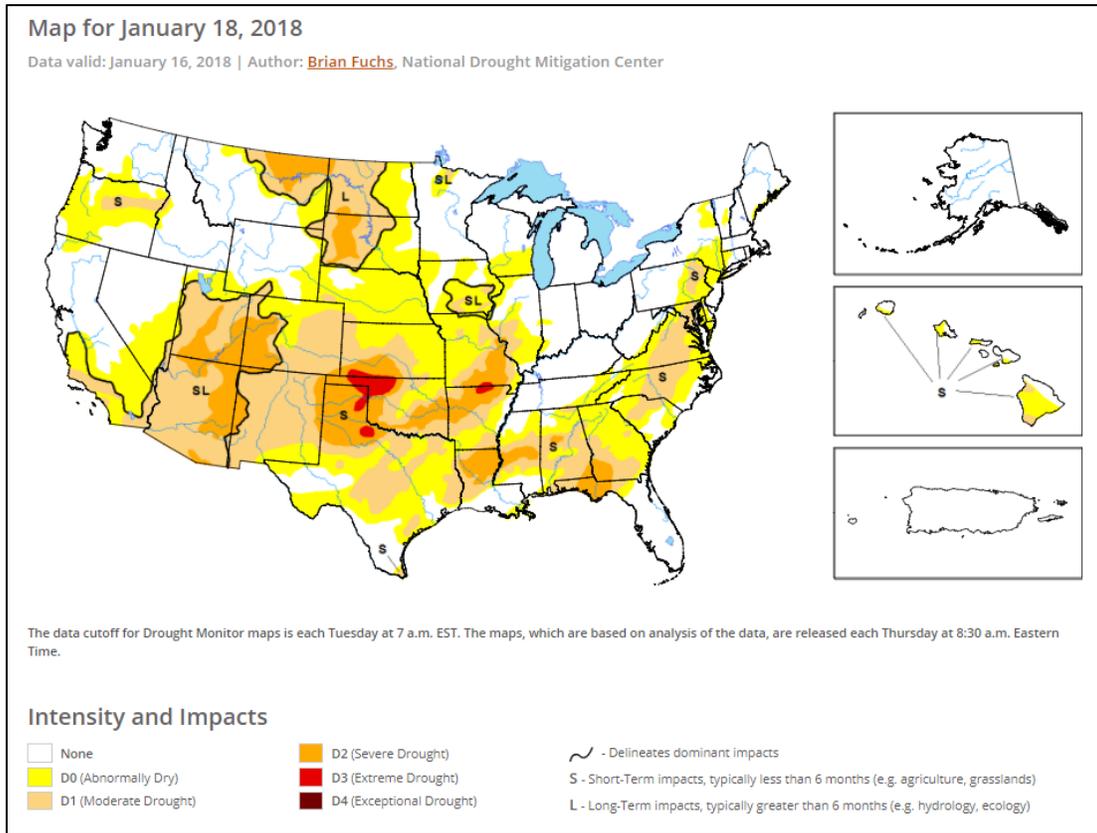
[October through December 2017 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



## Drought

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

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



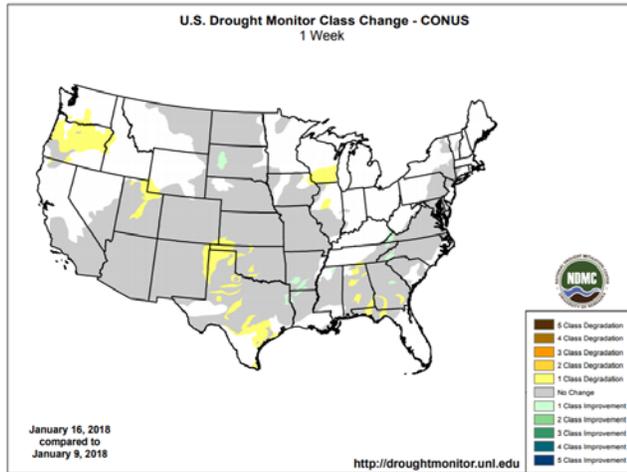
### Current [National Drought Summary](#), January 18, 2017

Author: Brian Fuchs, National Drought Mitigation Center

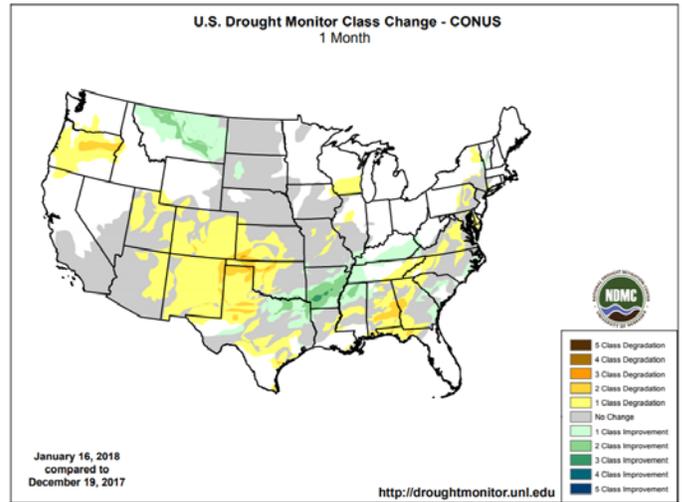
“A significant weather system impacted the lower Mississippi Valley and pushed northeast into the Ohio River Valley and the Northeast. The active pattern over the Pacific Northwest and northern Rocky Mountains continued, bringing much-needed rain and snow to these regions. Cooler than normal temperatures dominated the Plains region and the South, with areas of the northern Plains 15-20 degrees below normal. Warmer than normal conditions dominated the West, with areas of the Great Basin 10-15 degrees warmer than normal.”

## Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

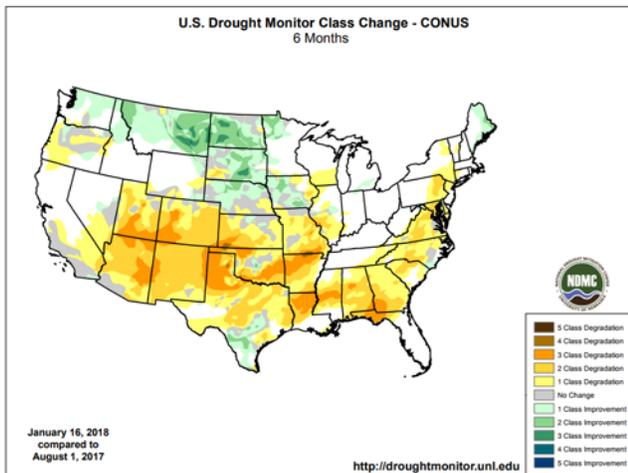
### 1 Week



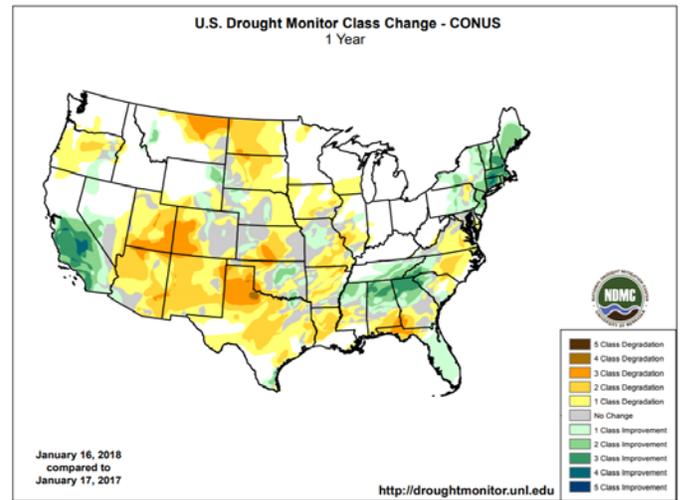
### 1 Month



### 6 Months



### 1 Year

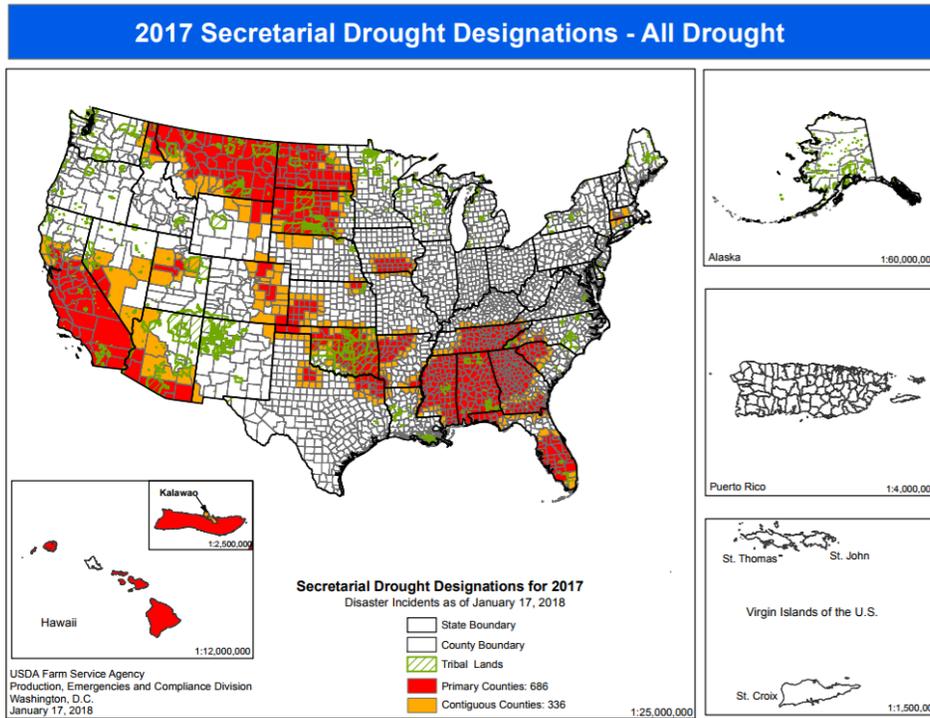


### Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months

#### Highlighted Drought Resources

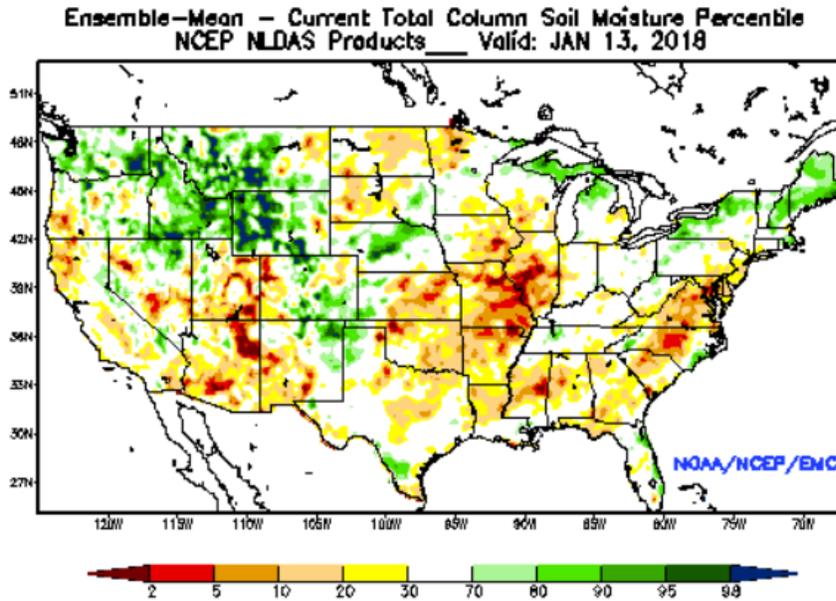
- [Drought Impact Reporter](#)
- [Quarterly Regional Climate Impacts and Outlook](#)
- [U.S. Drought Portal Indicators and Monitoring](#)
- [U.S. Population in Drought, Weekly Comparison](#)
- [USDA Disaster and Drought Information](#)

USDA 2017 Secretarial Drought Designations



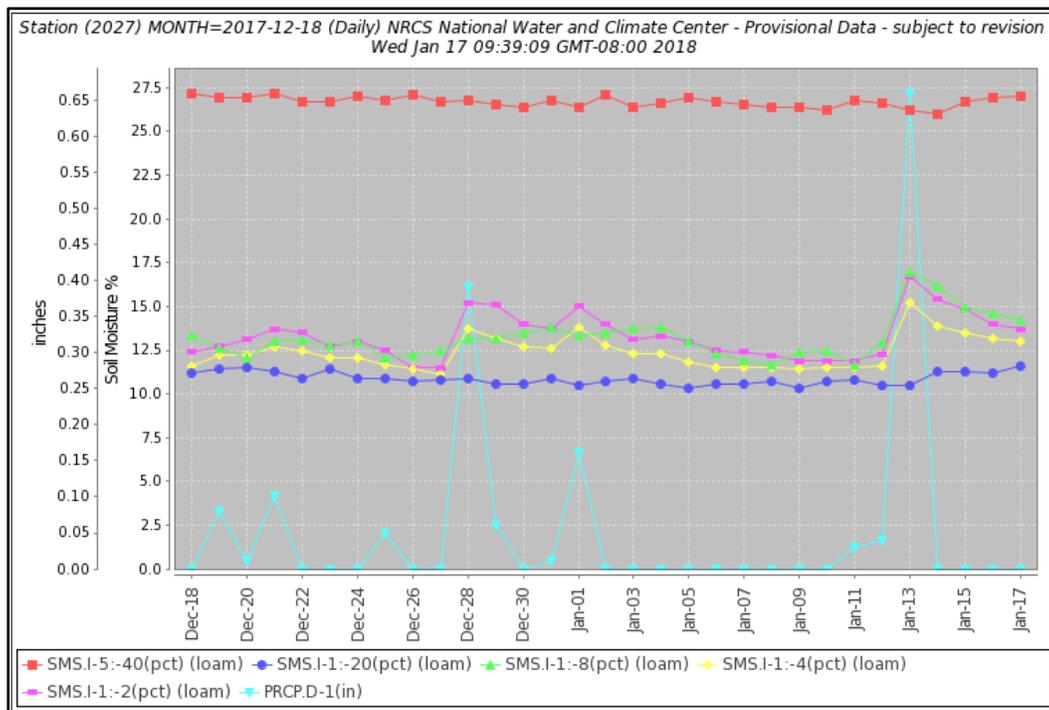
## Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

### Soil Moisture



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of January 13, 2018.

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



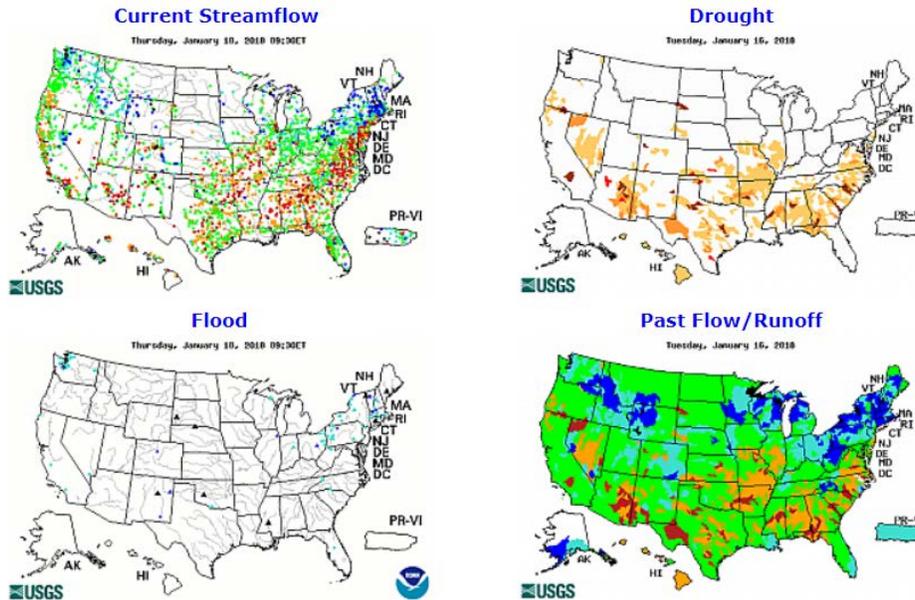
The chart shows precipitation and soil moisture for the last 30 days at the [Little River SCAN site 2027](#) in Georgia. The past 30 days show intermittent precipitation with increases in soil moisture at the 2-, 4-, and 8-inch depth sensors.

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

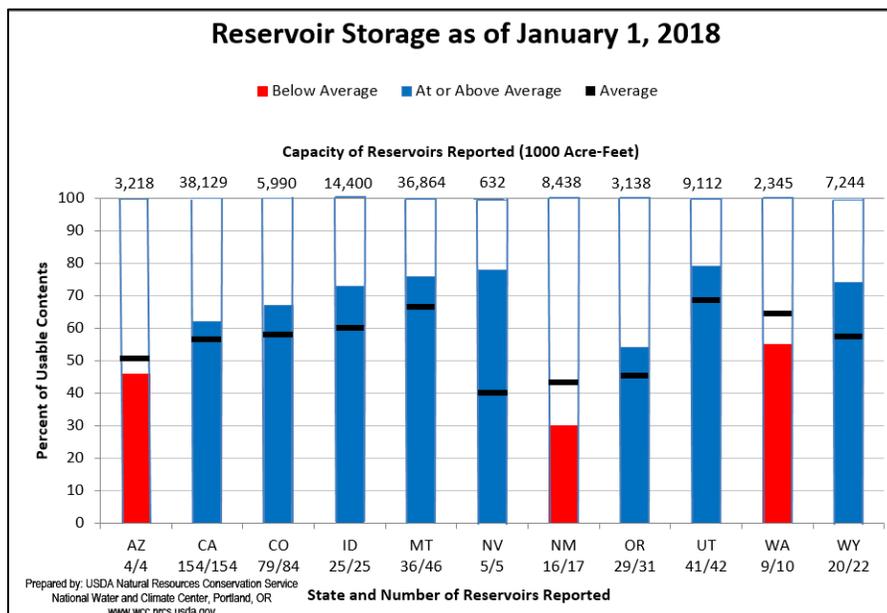


[WaterWatch: Streamflow, drought, flood, and runoff conditions](#)

Reservoir Storage

Western States Reservoir Storage

Source: NRCS National Water and Climate Center



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

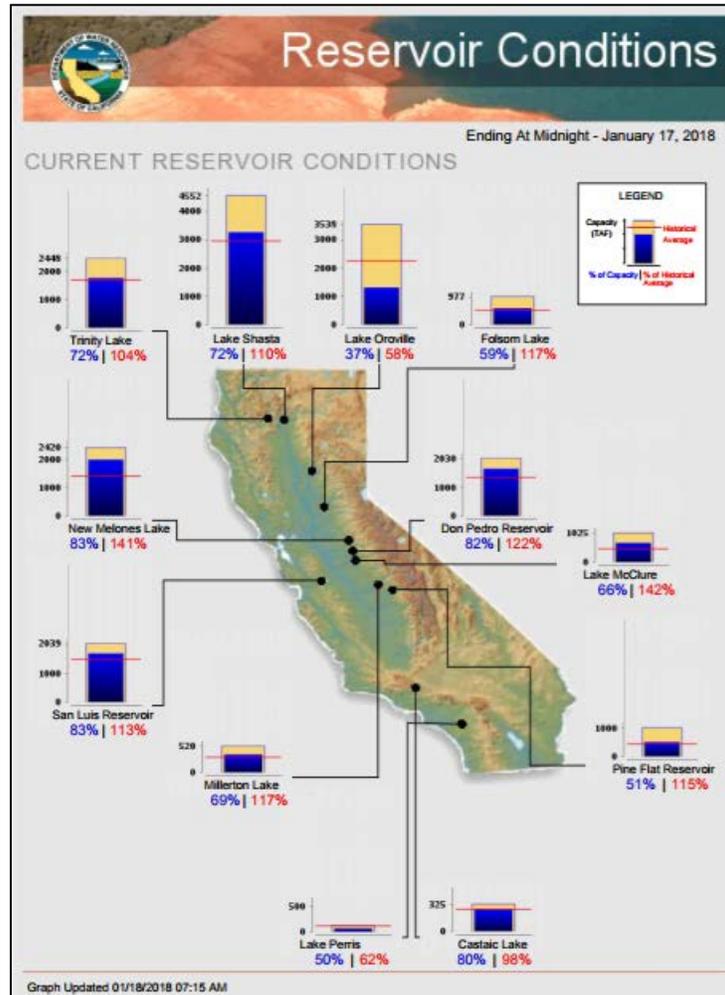
# Water and Climate Update

## 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



## [Current California Reservoir Conditions](#)

## Short- and Long-Range Outlooks

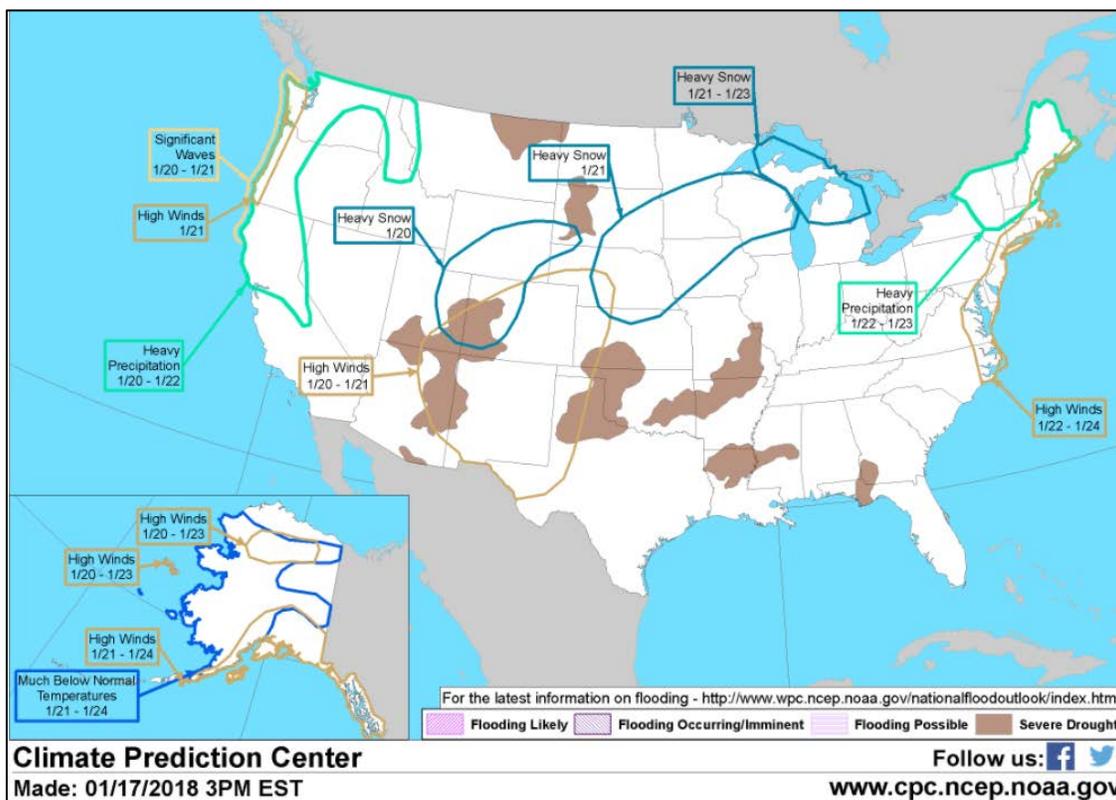
### Agricultural Weather Highlights

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

**National Outlook, Thursday, January 18:** “Recovery efforts from recent snow and ice accumulations will continue today across the South, amid dry weather and a gradual warming trend. In fact, mild weather will gradually overspread all of the central and eastern U.S., from northwest to southeast, during the next several days. During the weekend and early next week, a storm system emerging from the West will result in possibly significant snow accumulations from the central Plains into the upper Great Lakes region, as well as showers and thunderstorms in the mid-South and environs. Before reaching the central U.S., the storm will be responsible for a cooling trend and scattered showers from California into the Southwest. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for January 23 – 27 calls for the likelihood of below-normal temperatures from the Pacific Coast States to the northern Plains, while warmer-than-normal weather will prevail from the mid-South to the Eastern Seaboard. Meanwhile, near- to above-normal precipitation across most of the country will contrast with drier-than-normal conditions in southern California and the Desert Southwest.”

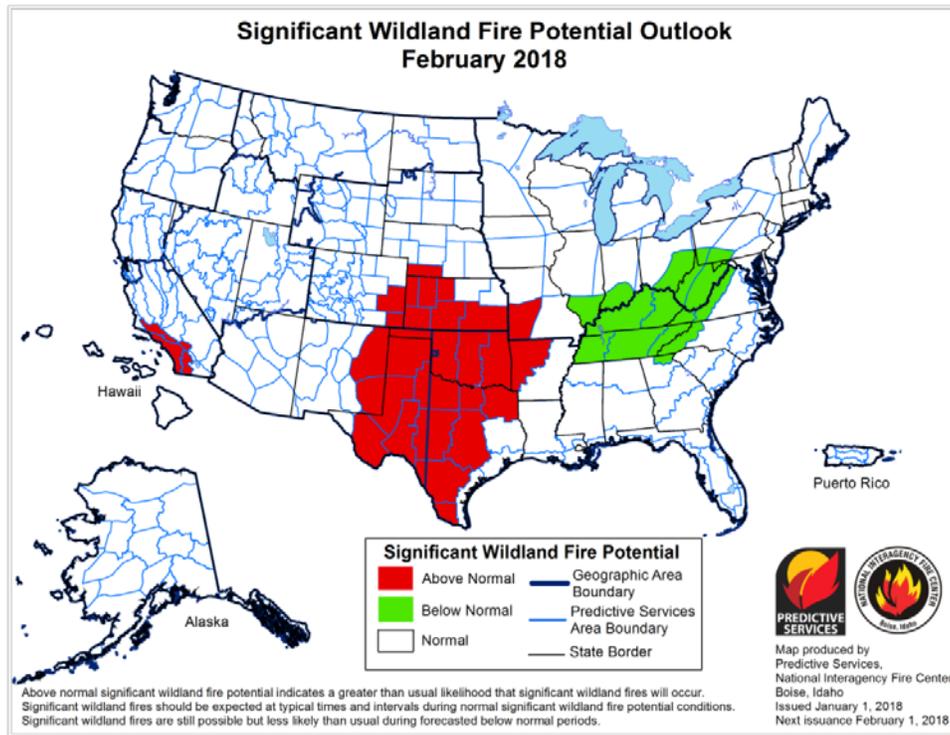
### Weather Hazard Outlook January 20 – 24, 2018

Source: Climate Prediction Center



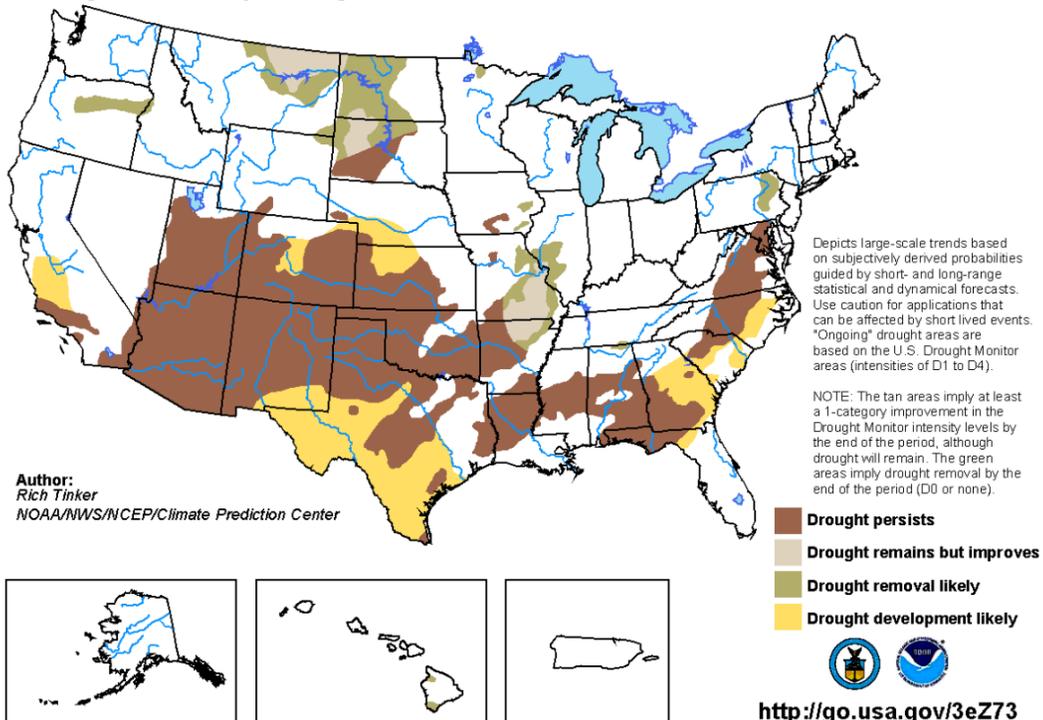
Significant Wildland [Fire Potential Outlook](#)

Source: National Interagency Fire Center



Seasonal Drought Outlook: [January 18 – April 30, 2018](#) Source: National Weather Service

**U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook** Valid for January 18 - April 30, 2018  
 Drought Tendency During the Valid Period Released January 18, 2018

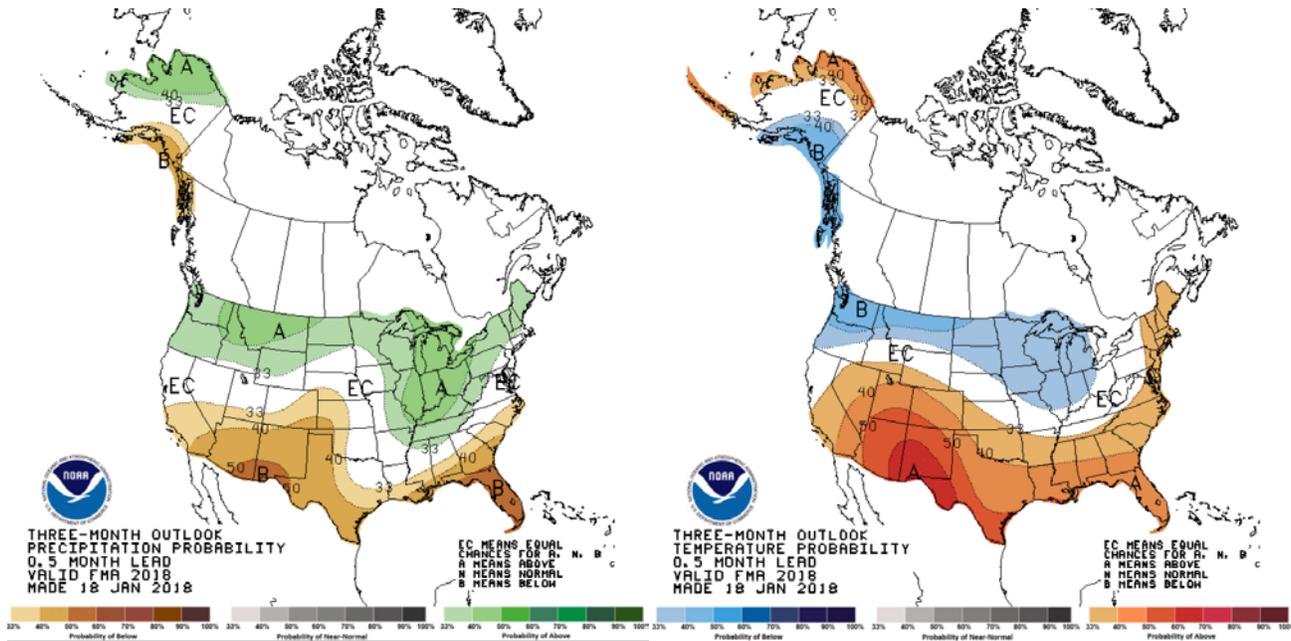


Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook

Source: National Weather Service

[Precipitation](#)

[Temperature](#)



[Feb-Mar-Apr \(FMA\) 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](#).