

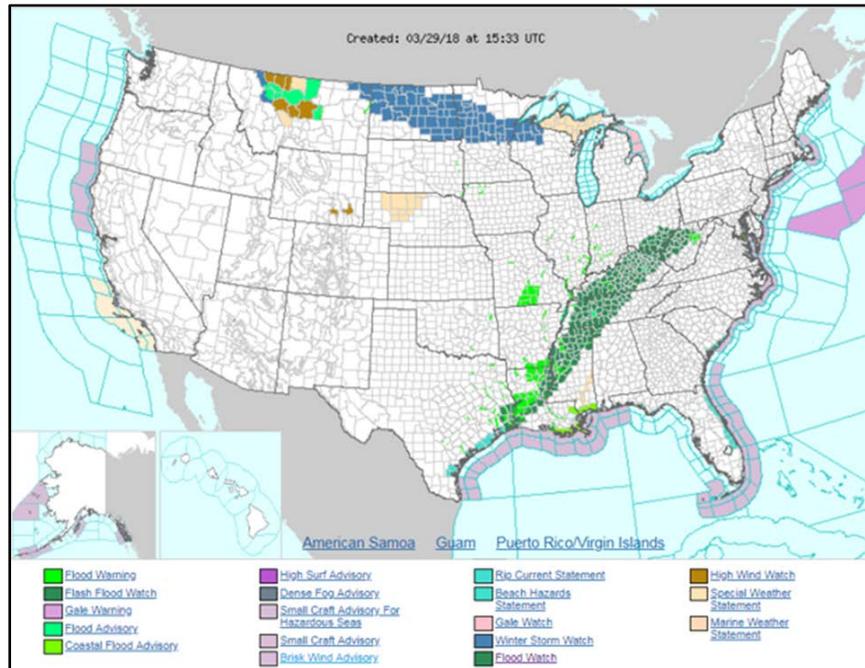
Water and Climate Update

March 29, 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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Precipitation	3	Short- and Long-Range Outlooks.....	15
Temperature	7	More Information	18
Drought	9		

Severe storms, flood watches, and warnings from Texas to West Virginia



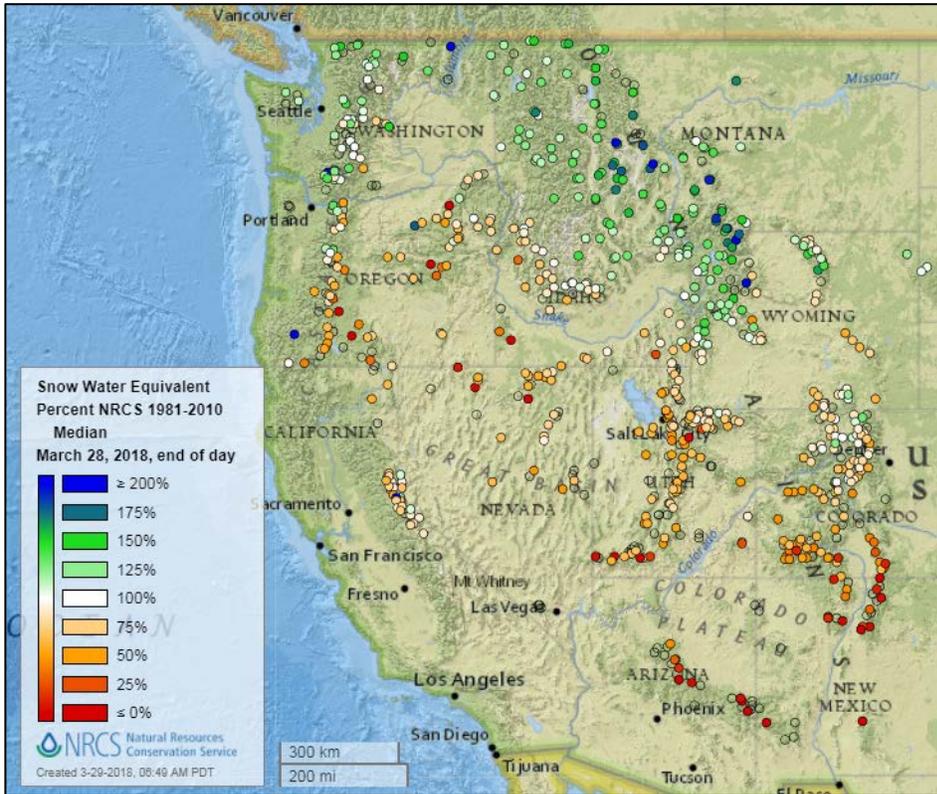
A slow-moving severe storm system with tornados, damaging winds, heavy rainfall, and flooding is covering a wide area from Texas to West Virginia. Storm totals could exceed nine inches in parts of Louisiana. Flash flood watches and flood warnings have been issued throughout the region. The severe weather may continue as the storms move eastward. Refer to page 13 for a map showing flood and high streamflow conditions.

Related:

- [South bracing for more flooding, possible tornadoes](#) – ABC News
- [Flood alerts in 10 states from Texas to Ohio with more rain expected](#) – ABC News
- [Damage and flooding from storms reported across Louisiana](#) KATC, LA
- [Flood Watch for portions of Louisiana, severe weather threat possible for Acadiana too](#) – KATC, LA
- [Flash Flood Watch issued for entire Mid-South](#) WREG, TN
- [Flash Flood Warning Issued For Austin Area](#) – Patch.com, TX
- [Severe weather, flash flooding threaten millions in central US](#) - KMBZ, KS

Snow

Current Snow Water Equivalent, NRCS SNOTEL Network



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

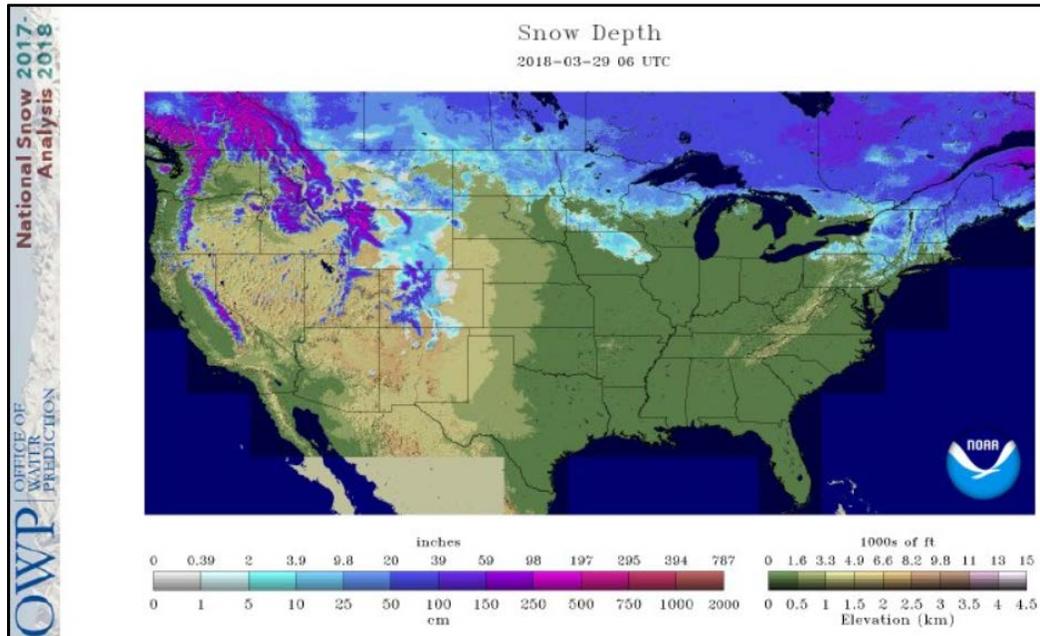
See also:
[Snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)



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

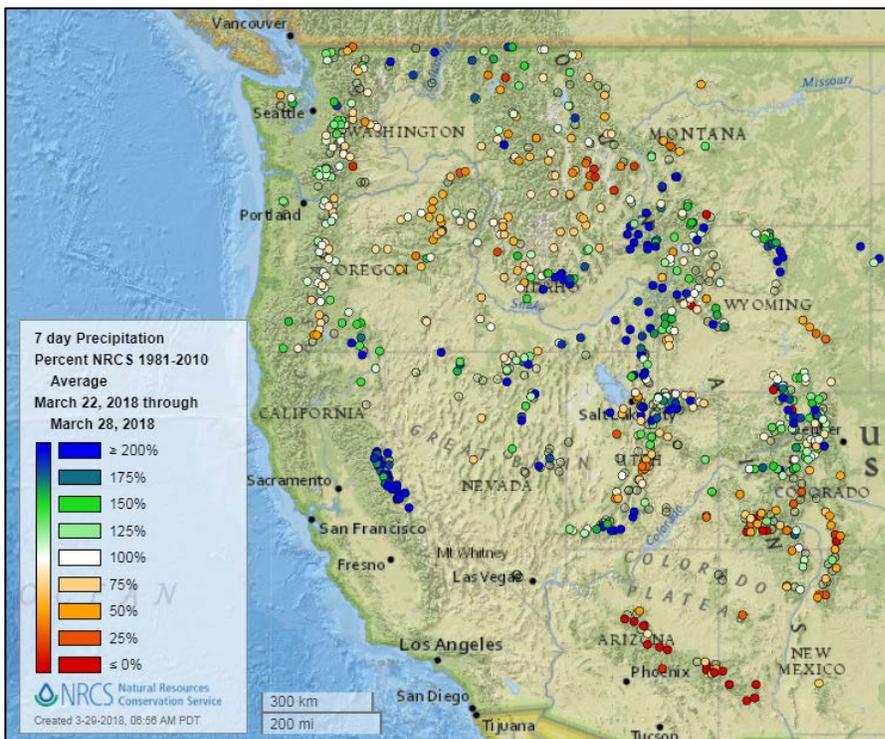
See also:
[Alaska snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)

Current Snow Depth, National Weather Service Snow Analysis



Precipitation

Last 7 Days, NRCS SNOTEL Network



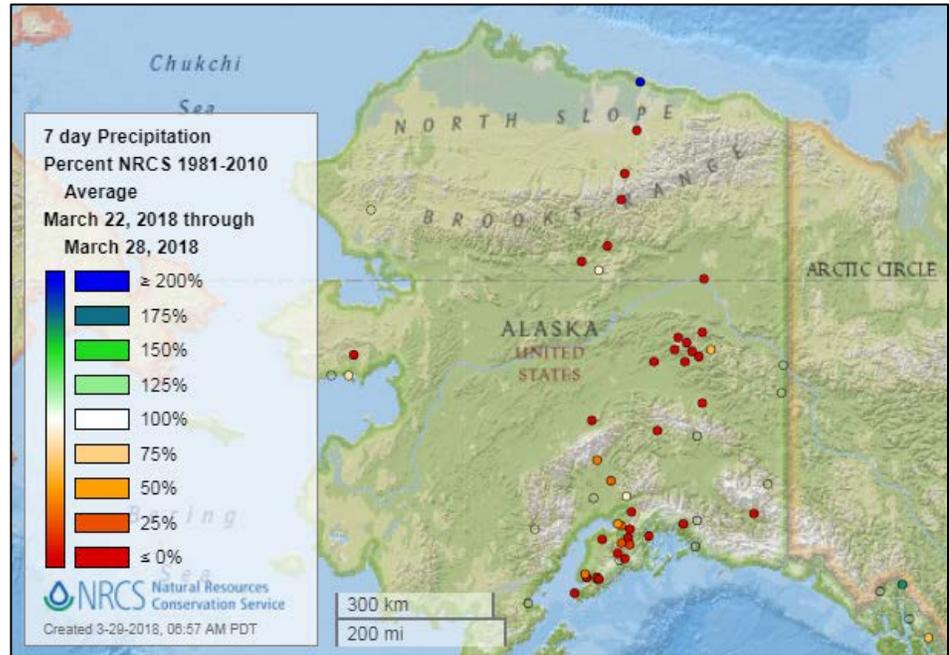
[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

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](#)



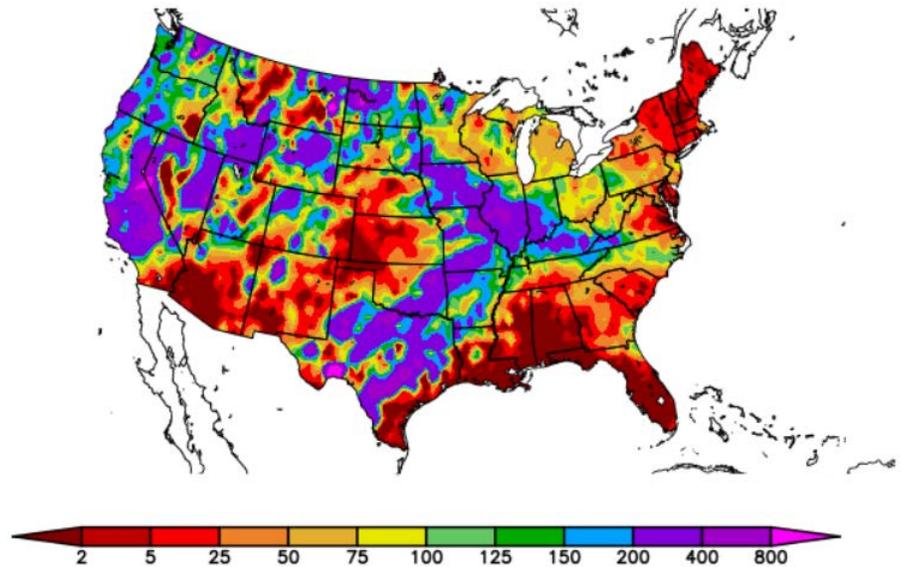
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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 (%) 3/22/2018 – 3/28/2018



Generated 3/29/2018 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

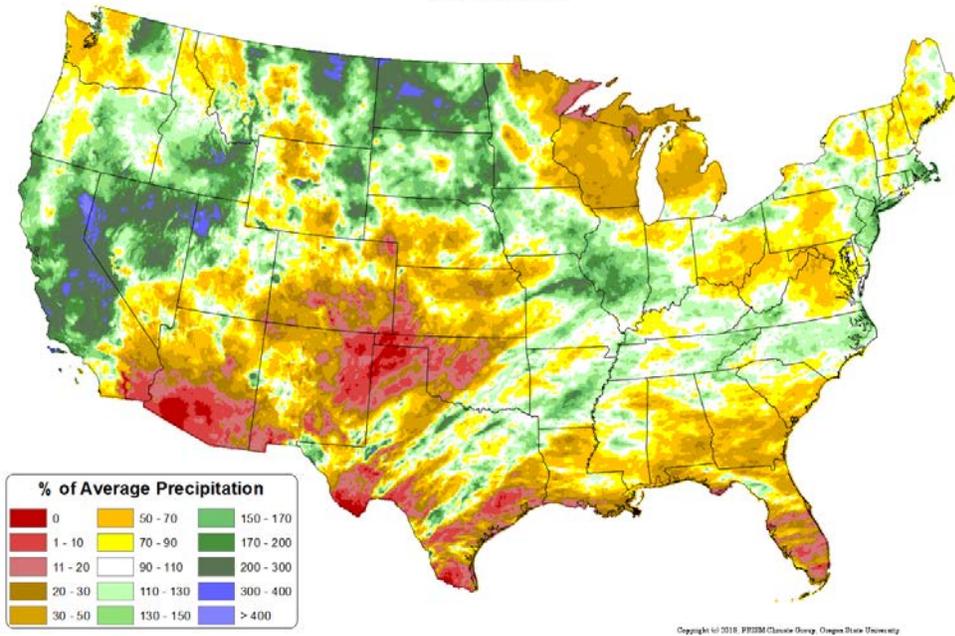
Water and Climate Update

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

Source: PRISM

Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 March 2018 - 28 March 2018
Period ending 7 AM EST 28 Mar 2018
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 29 Mar 2018)

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

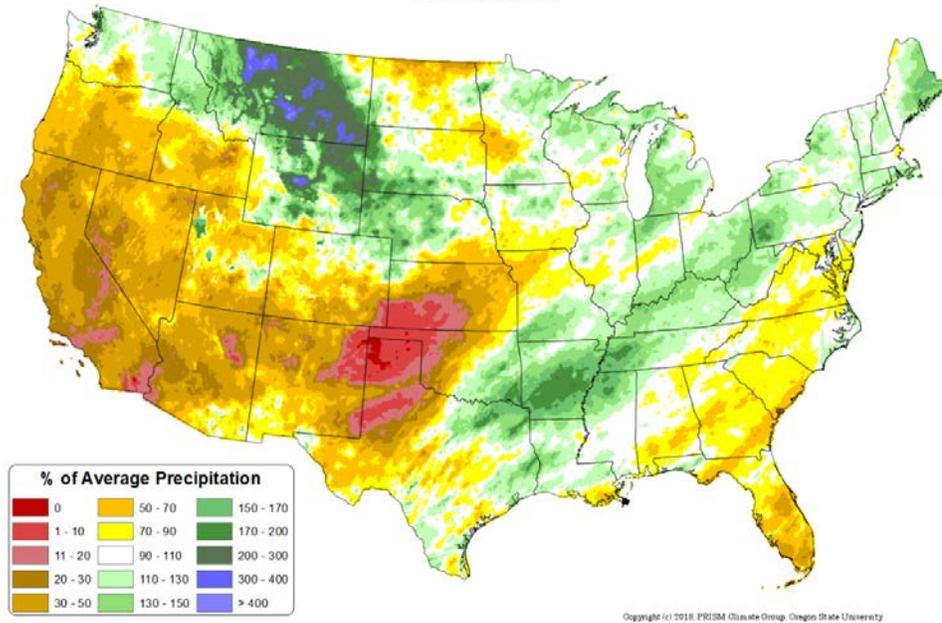


Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

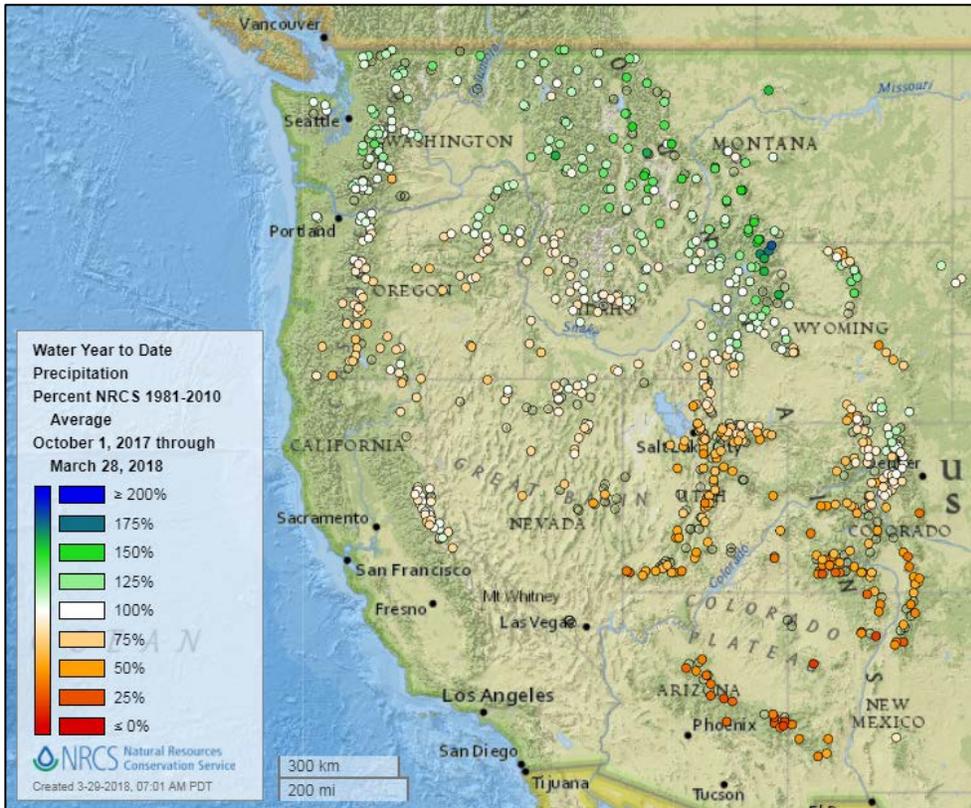
Source: PRISM

[December 2017 through February 2018 total precipitation percent of average map](#)

Total Precipitation Anomaly: December 2017 - February 2018
Period ending 7 AM EST 28 Feb 2018
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 02 Mar 2018)

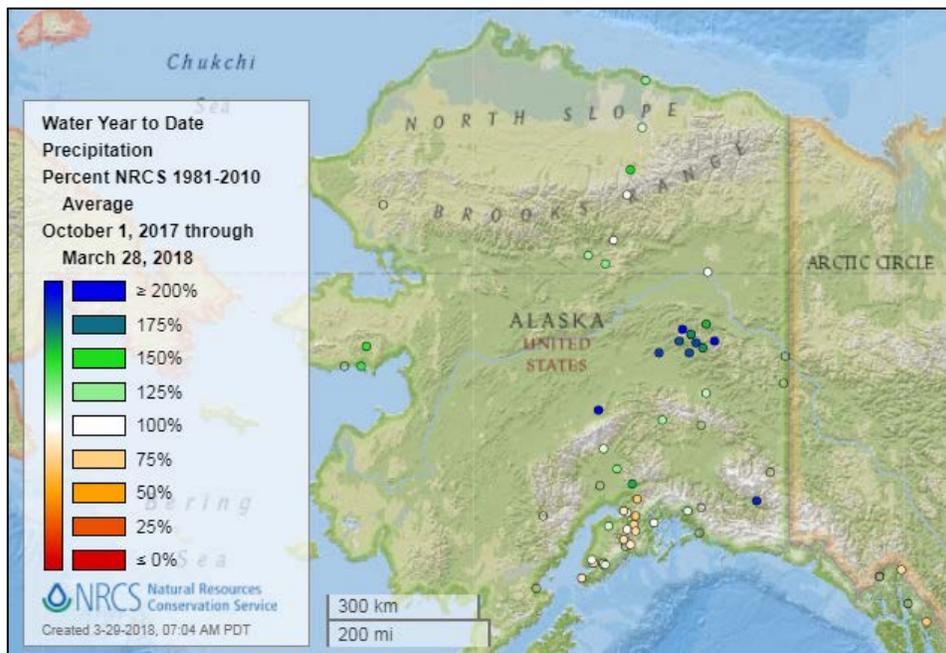


Water Year-to-Date, NRCS SNOTEL Network



[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

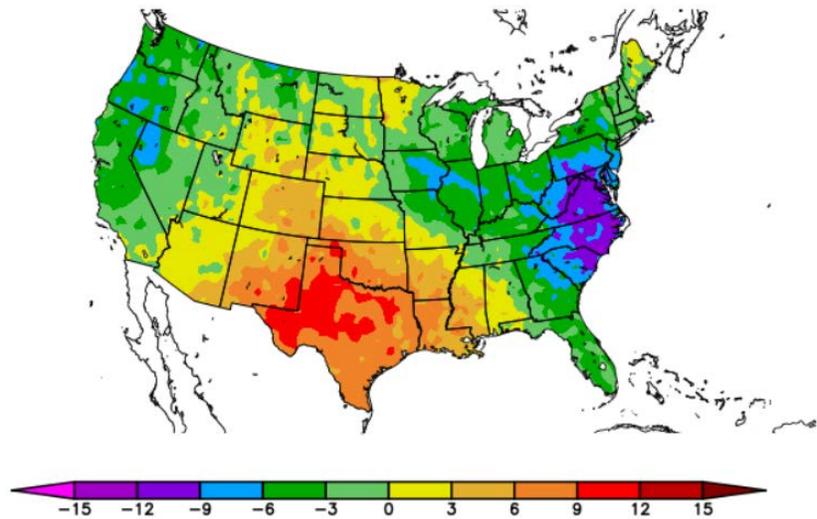
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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) 3/22/2018 – 3/28/2018



Generated 3/29/2018 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

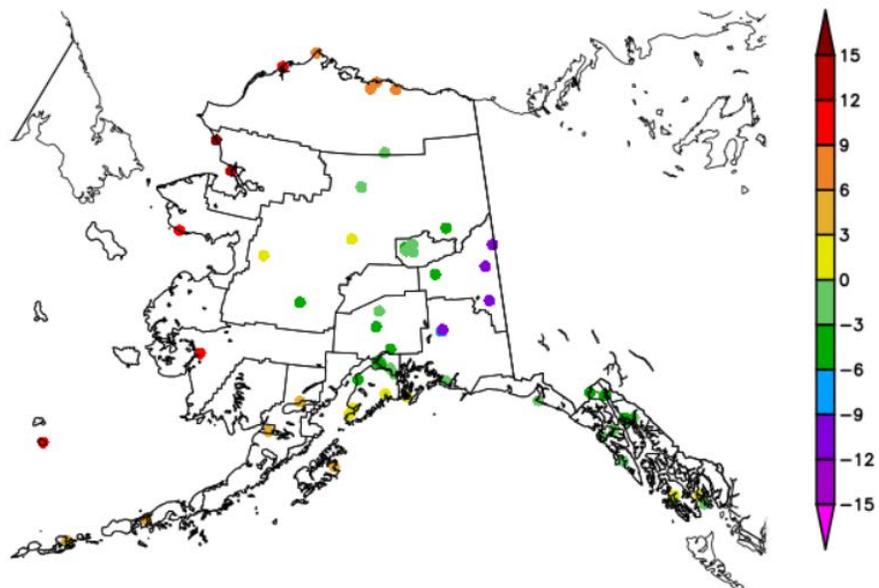
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F) 3/22/2018 – 3/28/2018



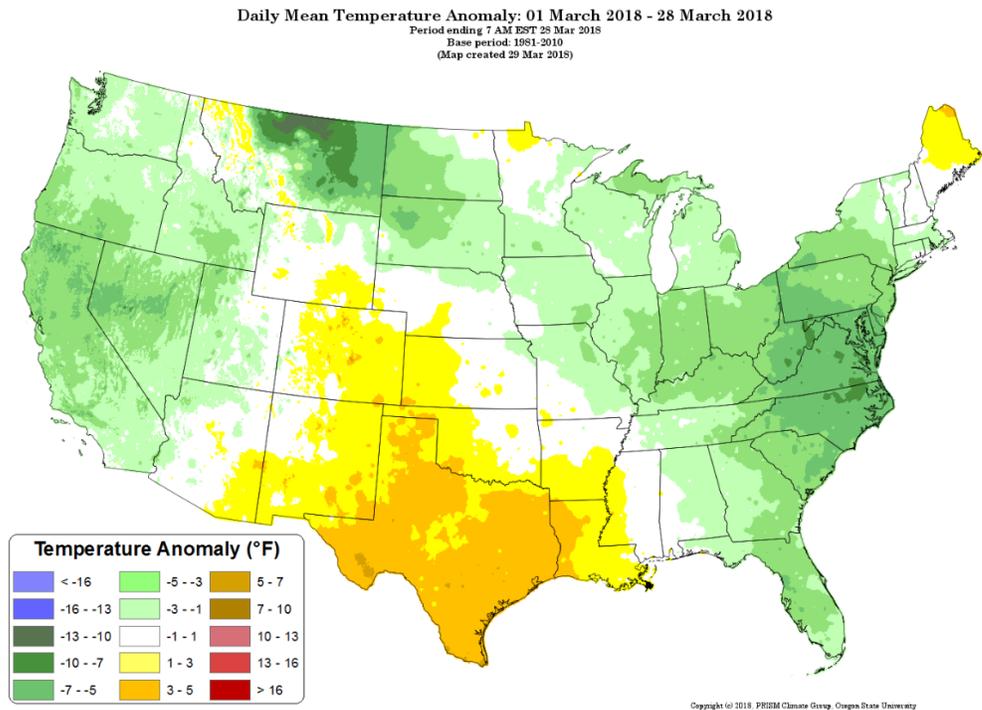
Generated 3/29/2018 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

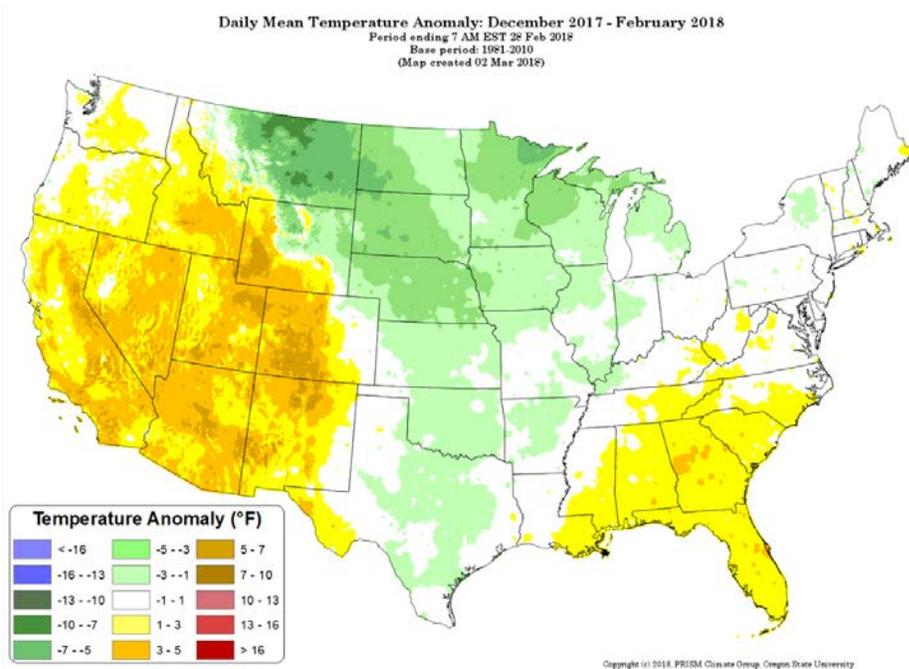
Water and Climate Update

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

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



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

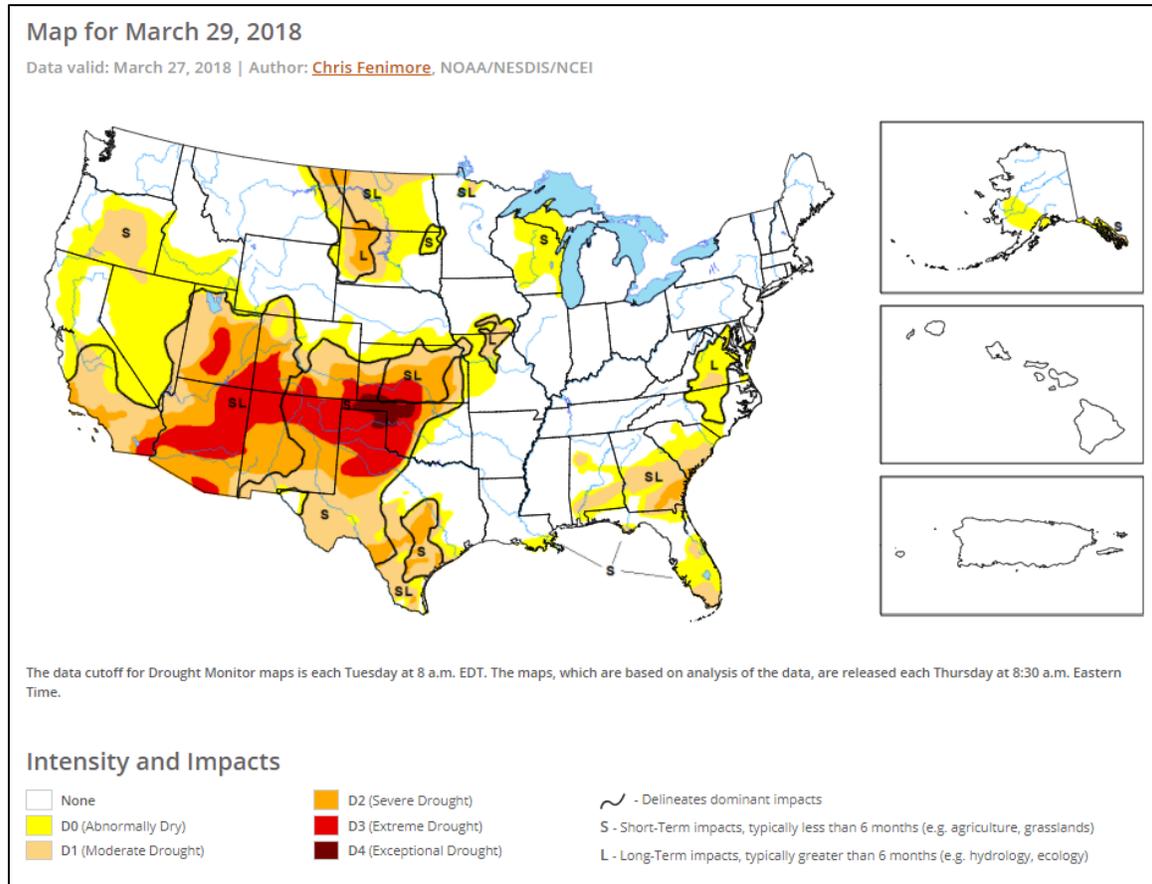


[December 2017 through February 2018 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)

Drought

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

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



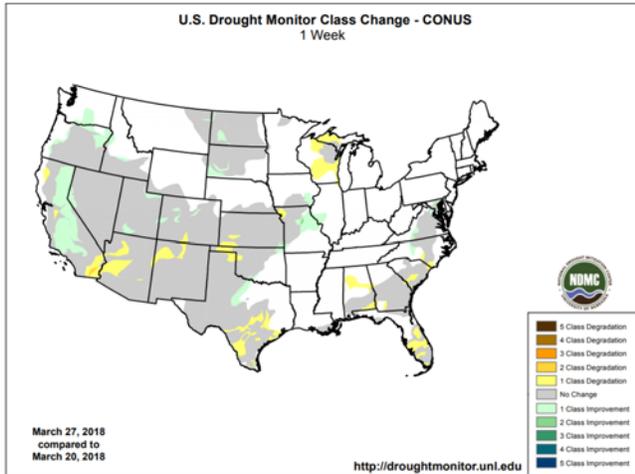
Current [National Drought Summary](#), March 29, 2018

Author: Chris Fenimore, NOAA/NESDIS/NCEI

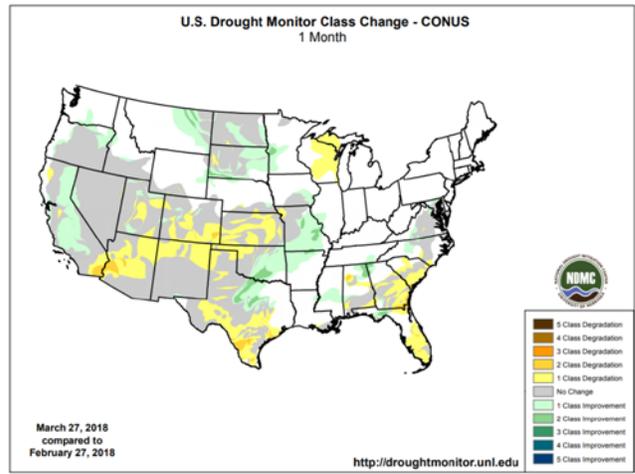
“Early in the drought week, moderate precipitation fell in an area covering southern Minnesota stretching southeastward through central Iowa and Illinois, southern Indiana, Kentucky, southwestern Virginia, and much of North Carolina. Heavier precipitation fell in coastal California and the Sierra range. Coastal Oregon and Washington also saw moderate to heavy precipitation amounts during the first half of the drought week. The Northeast experienced its fourth Nor’easter in as many weeks. Near the end of the drought week, a swath of precipitation fell from Texas, eastern Oklahoma, into Missouri and Indiana. The dry pattern continued for the drought stricken areas of the southern Rockies and Plains and parts of the Southeast.”

Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

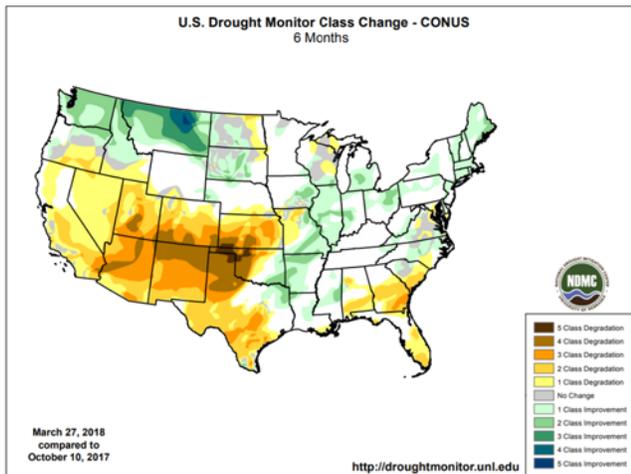
1 Week



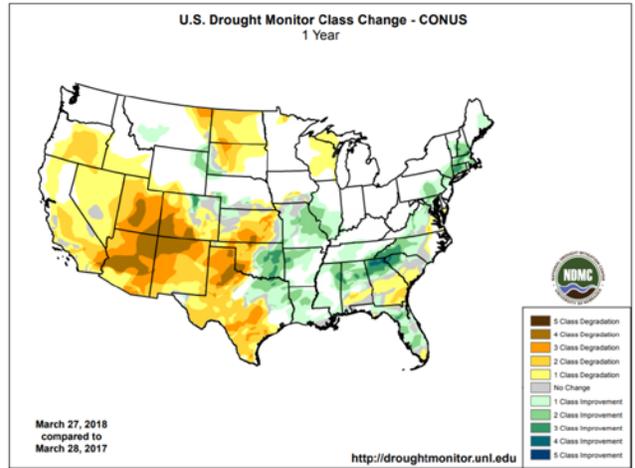
1 Month



6 Months



1 Year



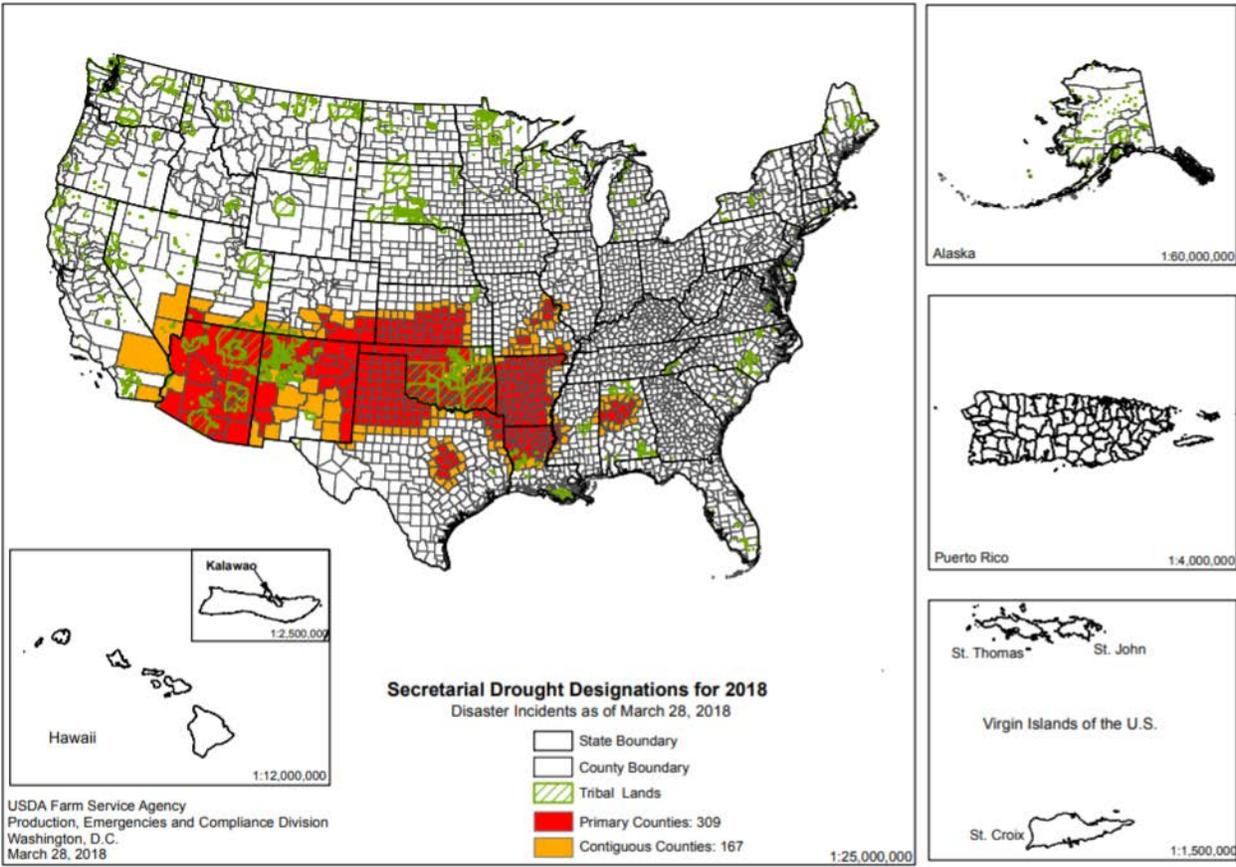
Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months

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 2018 Secretarial [Drought Designations](#)

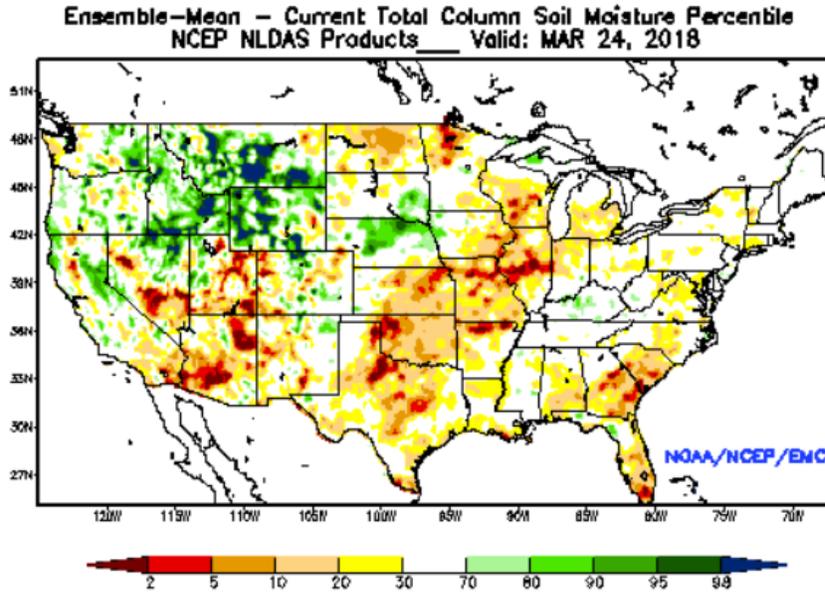
2018 Secretarial Drought Designations - All Drought



Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

Soil Moisture

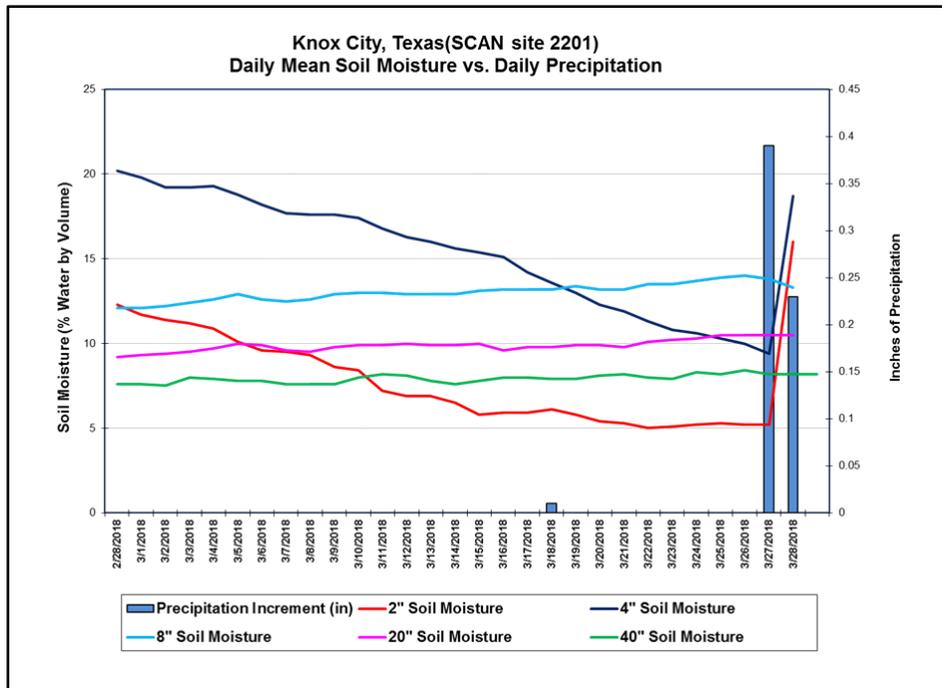
Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Prediction



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of March 24, 2018.

Soil Moisture Data

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



The chart shows precipitation and soil moisture for the last 30 days at the [Knox City SCAN site 2201](#) in Texas. This station is in an area designated with extreme drought conditions. Throughout the month, the soil moisture at the shallow depth sensors has been steadily decreasing. Precipitation in the last few days has increased the soil moisture at the 2- and 4-inch depth sensors, whereas deeper sensors remain relatively unchanged.

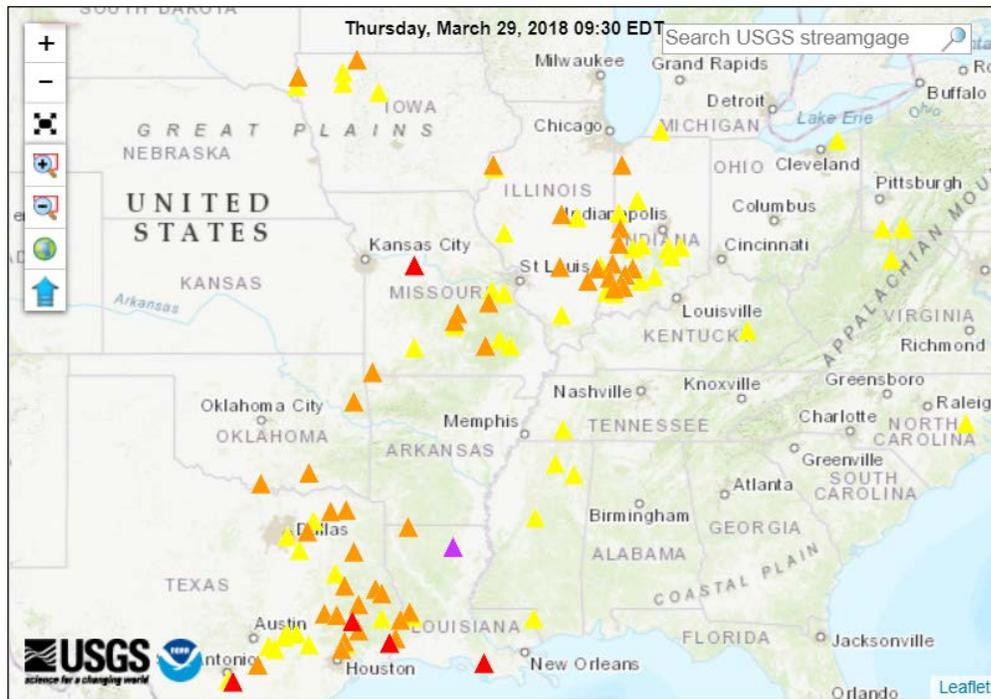
Soil Moisture Data Portals

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

Streamflow

Source: USGS

Map of flood and high flow conditions



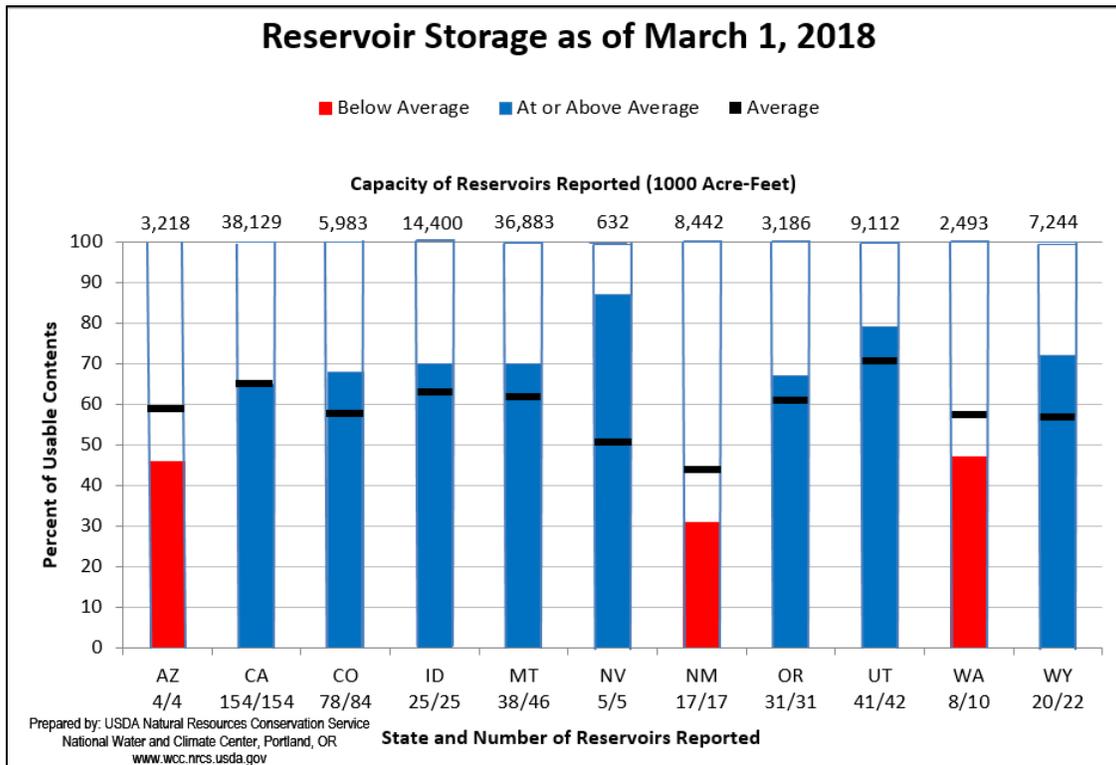
Explanation - Percentile classes						
<95	95-98	>= 99	Above action stage	Above flood stage	Above moderate flood stage	Above major flood stage
			△ Streamgage with flood stage		○ Streamgage without flood stage	

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

Reservoir Storage

Western States Reservoir Storage

Source: NRCS National Water and Climate Center



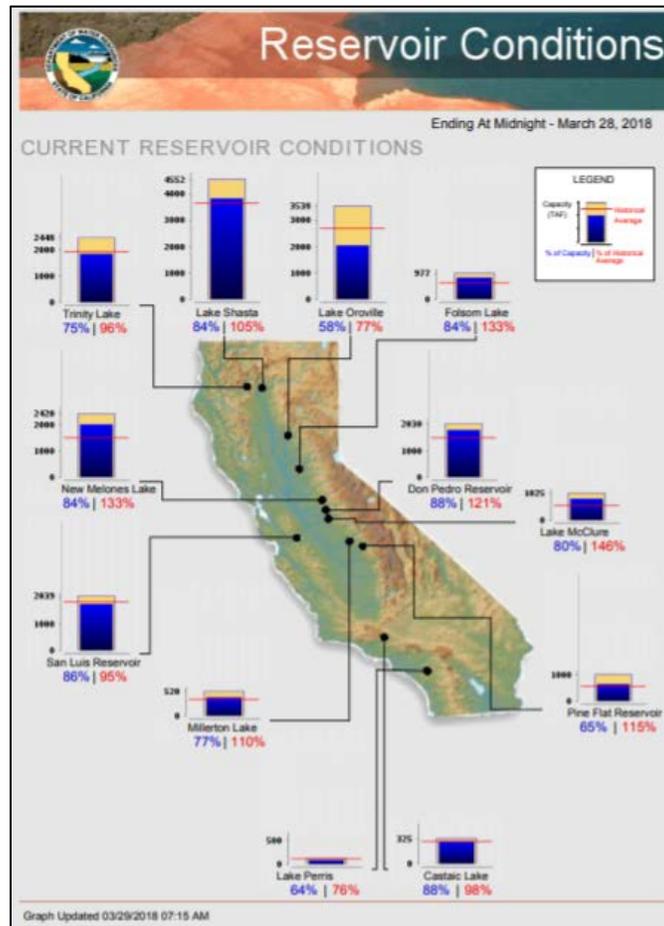
March 1 Reservoir Storage: [Chart](#) | [Dataset](#)

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

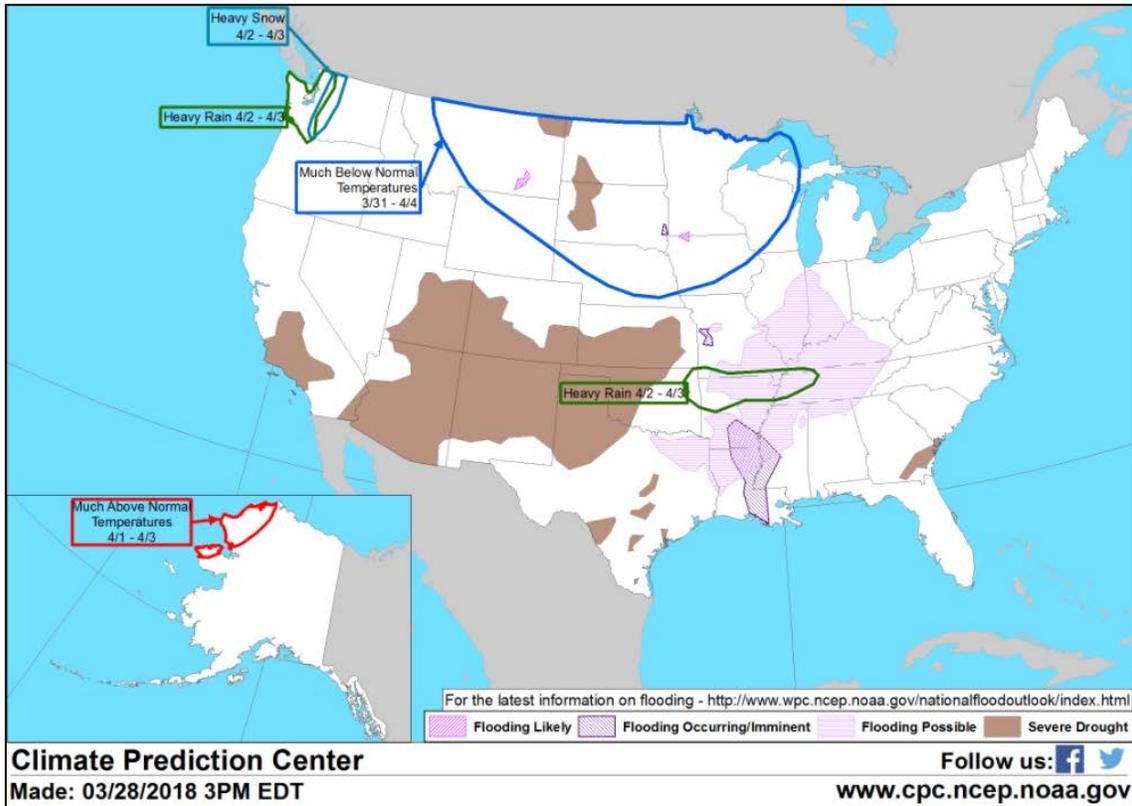
Agricultural Weather Highlights

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

[National Outlook, Thursday, March 29](#): "Rain across the nation's mid-section will gradually shift eastward in conjunction with a slow-moving cold front, reaching the Atlantic Seaboard by Friday. Additional precipitation could total 2 to 4 inches, with locally higher amounts, from eastern Texas into the Ohio and Tennessee Valleys. During the weekend, a storm system traversing the nation's northern tier will produce rain and snow from the northern Plains into the Northeast. Meanwhile, dry weather will prevail during the next 5 days in the West, except for some light precipitation in the Pacific Northwest and northern and central Rockies. Elsewhere, a surge of very cold air will reach the northern Plains and upper Midwest toward week's end. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for April 2 – 6 calls for the likelihood of below-normal temperatures from the Plains to the middle and northern Atlantic States, while warmer-than-normal weather will prevail west of the Rockies and along and near the Gulf Coast. Meanwhile, near- to above-normal temperatures across most of the country should contrast with drier-than-normal weather in much of California and the Southwest."

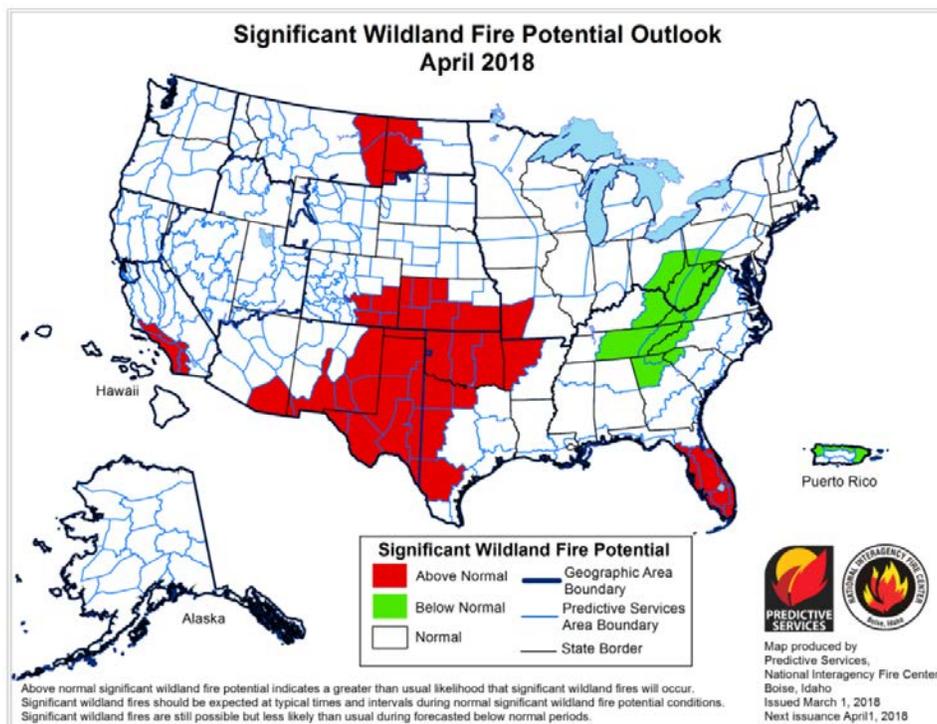
Weather Hazard Outlook [March 31 - April 4, 2018](#)

Source: Climate Prediction Center



Significant Wildland [Fire Potential Outlook](#)

Source: National Interagency Fire Center

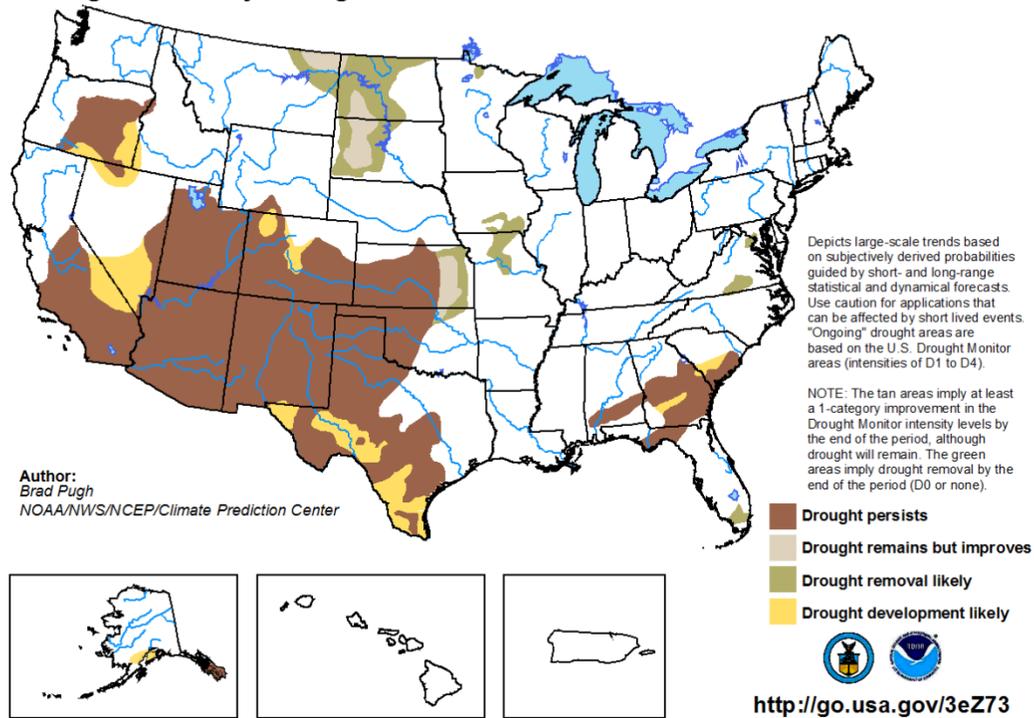


Seasonal Drought Outlook: [March 15 - June 30, 2018](#)

Source: National Weather Service

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

Valid for March 15 - June 30, 2018
Released March 15, 2018

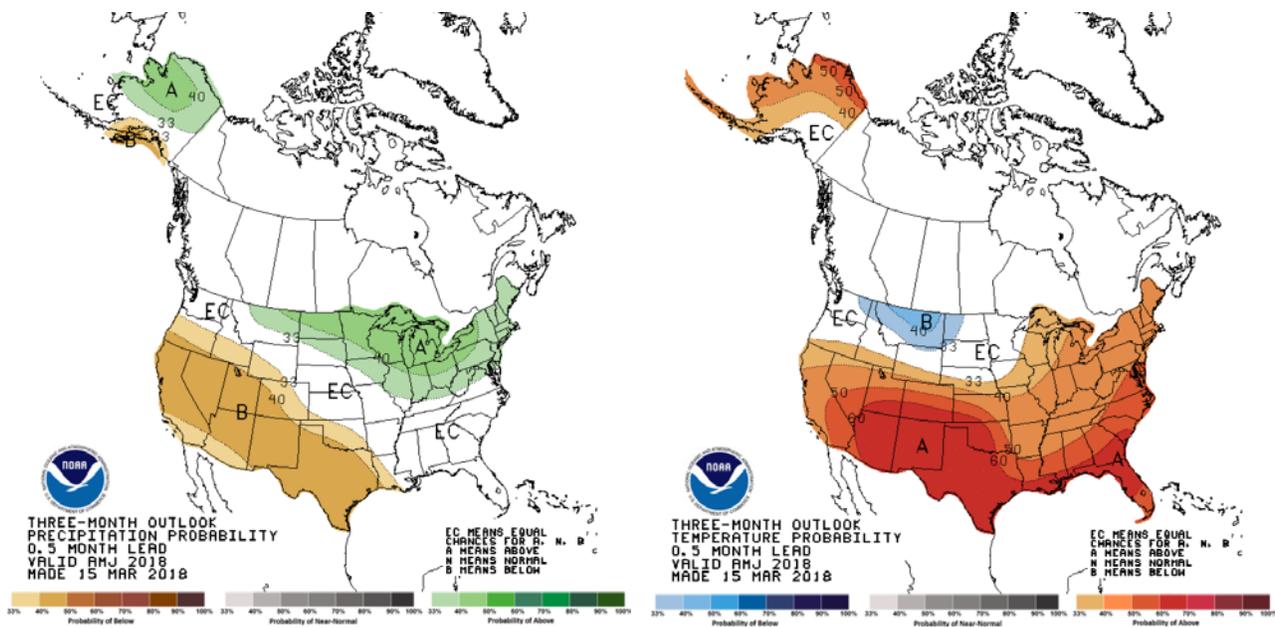


Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook

Source: National Weather Service

[Precipitation](#)

[Temperature](#)



[Apr-May-June \(AMJ\) 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](#).