

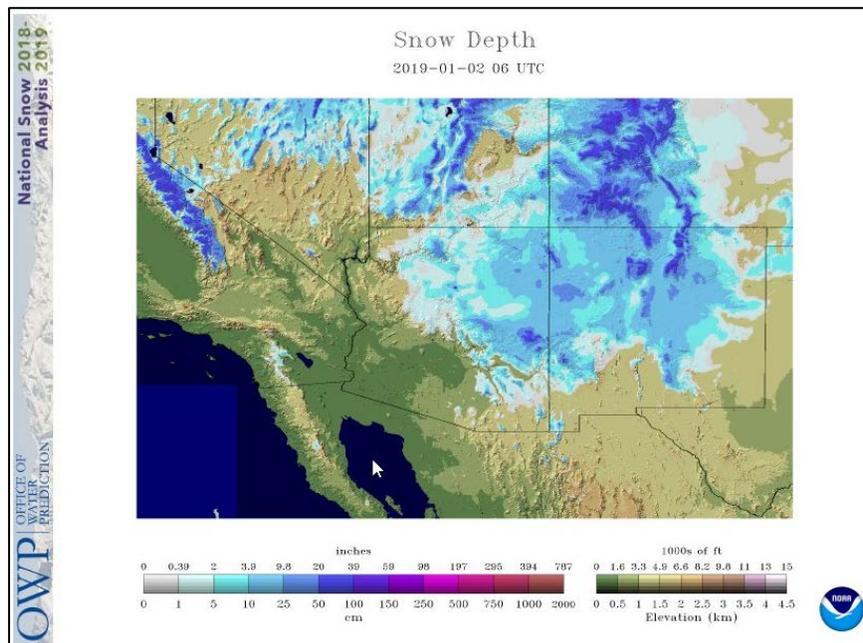
# Water and Climate Update

January 3, 2019

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 .....	4	Short- and Long-Range Outlooks.....	17
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## Cold and snow blanket the Four Corners region



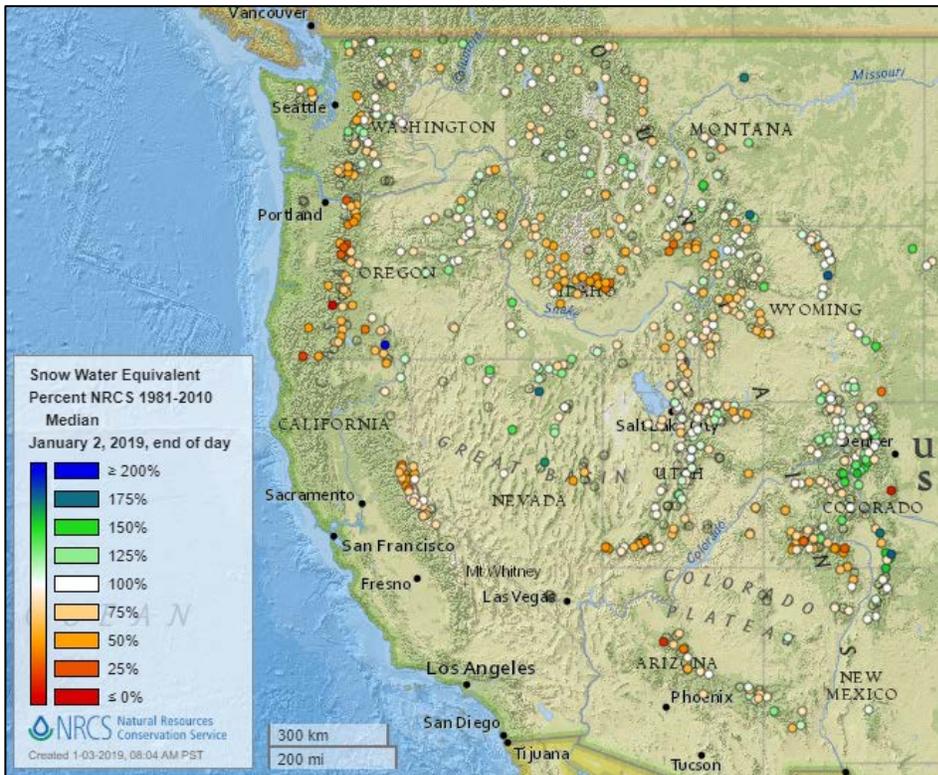
A cold winter storm has blanketed the Four Corners region of the Southwest. The National Weather Service received reports from southeast Arizona of snow depths from a trace at Tucson International Airport to up to 6 inches in Nogales along the Mexican border. Snow is continuing today making travel conditions difficult. Temperatures have also been well below normal across the region. Phoenix's Sky Harbor International Airport reported a low of 30°F, with the National Weather Service reporting the coldest temperature in the area since January 15, 2013.

### Related:

- [Phoenix drops to 30 degrees, coldest temperature since 2013, National Weather Service says](#) – ABC15 (AZ)
- [Phoenix low temperature drops to 30 degrees, coldest since 2013](#) Fox10 Phoenix (AZ)
- [Arizona ushers in 2019 with bitter Phoenix-area cold, southern snow](#) – KTAR News (AZ)
- [Snowfall hits southern Arizona, causing traffic delays](#) – The Arizona Republic (AZ)
- [Freezing temps continue to grip Arizona](#) – AZFamily (AZ)
- [Winter storm brings wind, snow on New Year's Day](#) KOB4 (NM)

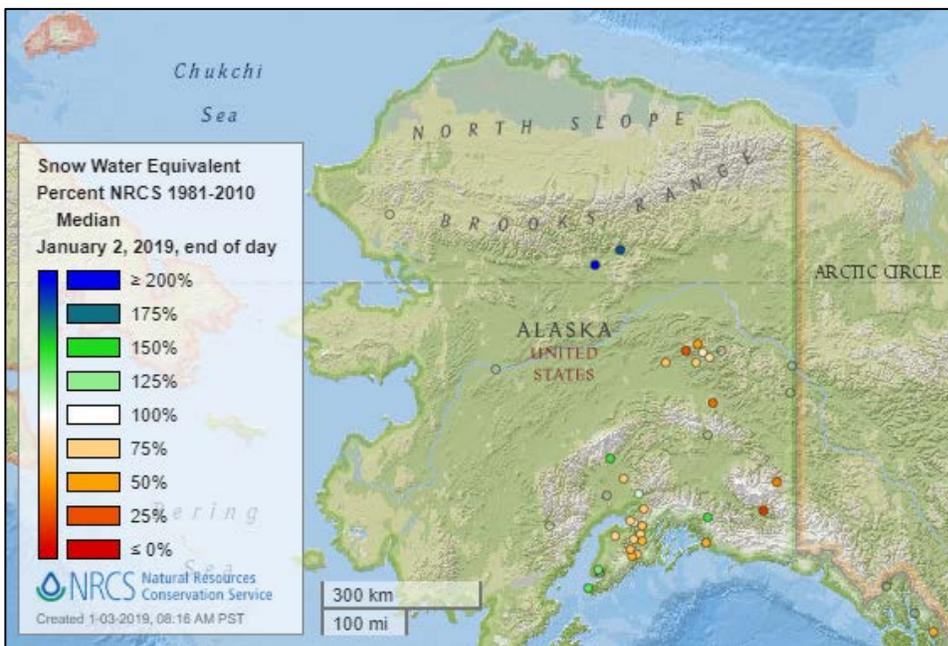
## Snow

### Current Snow Water Equivalent, NRCS SNOTEL Network



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

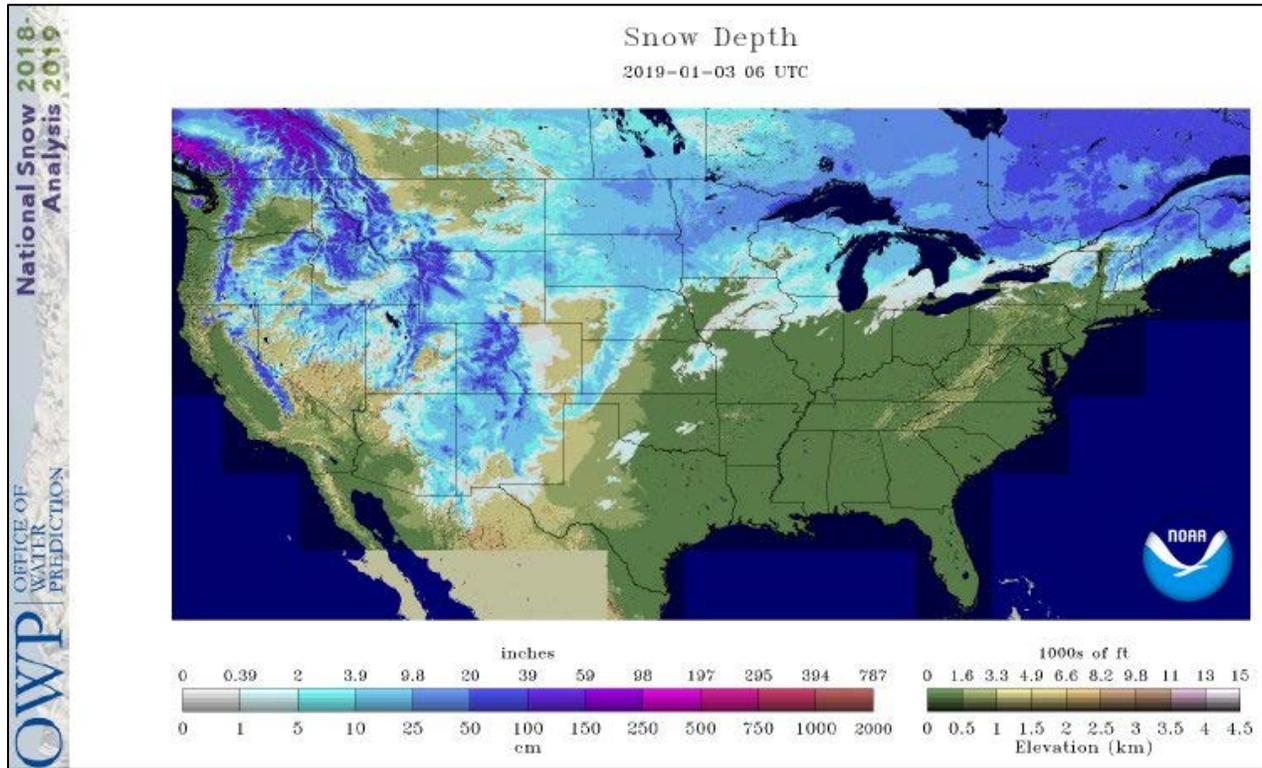
See also:  
[Snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)



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

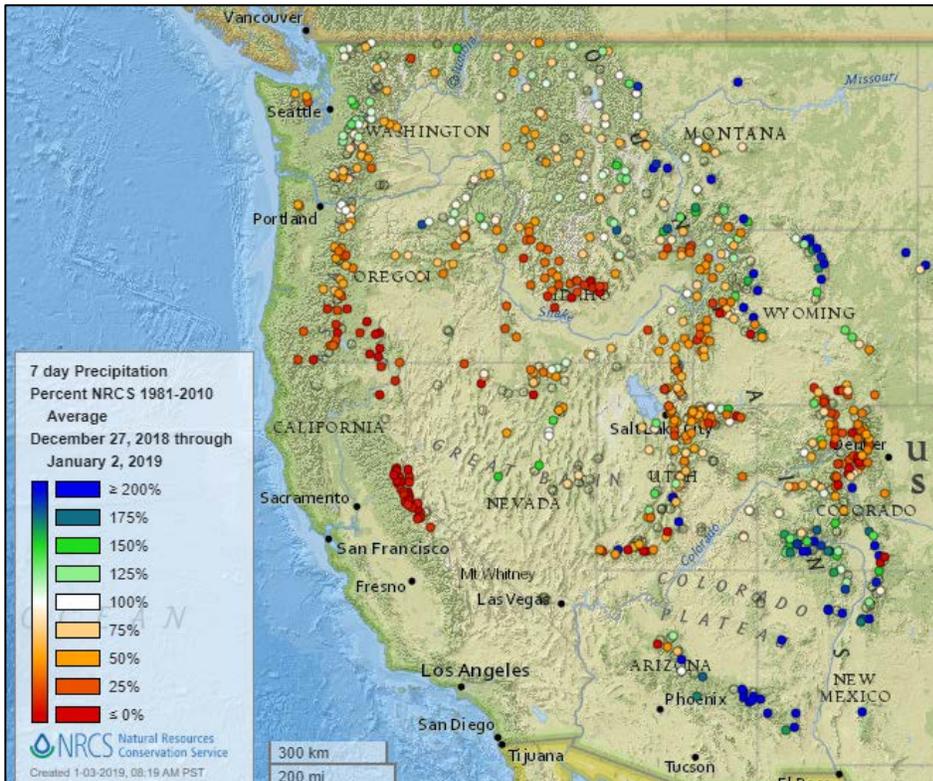
See also:  
[Alaska snow water equivalent values \(inches\) map](#)

Current Snow Depth, National Weather Service Snow Analysis



## Precipitation

### Last 7 Days, NRCS SNOTEL Network

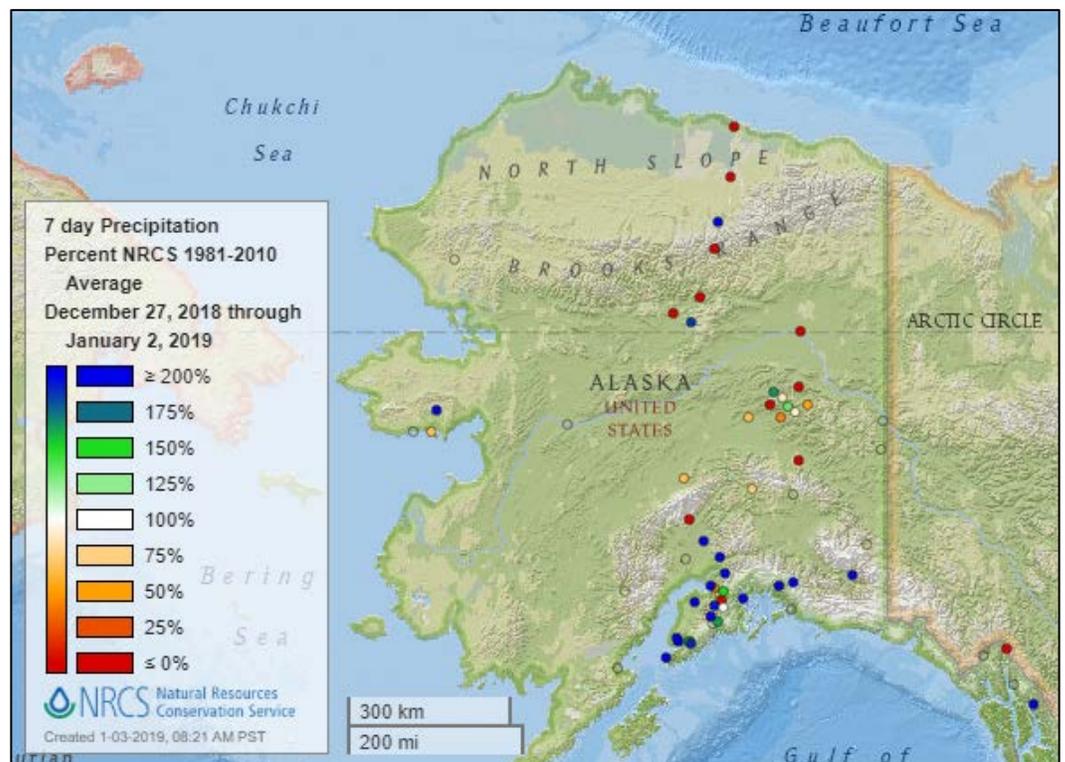


[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

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

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

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



# Water and Climate Update

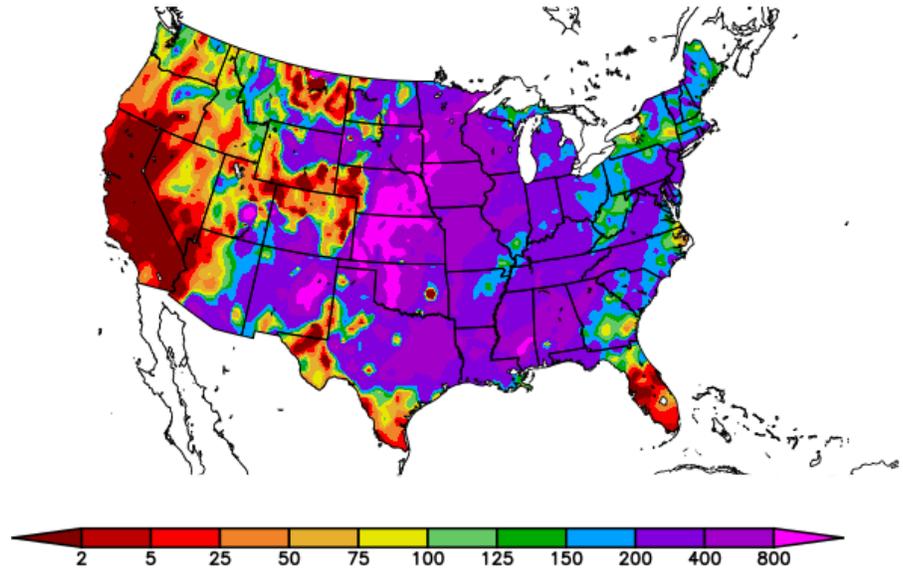
## Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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 (%) 12/27/2018 – 1/2/2019



Generated 1/3/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

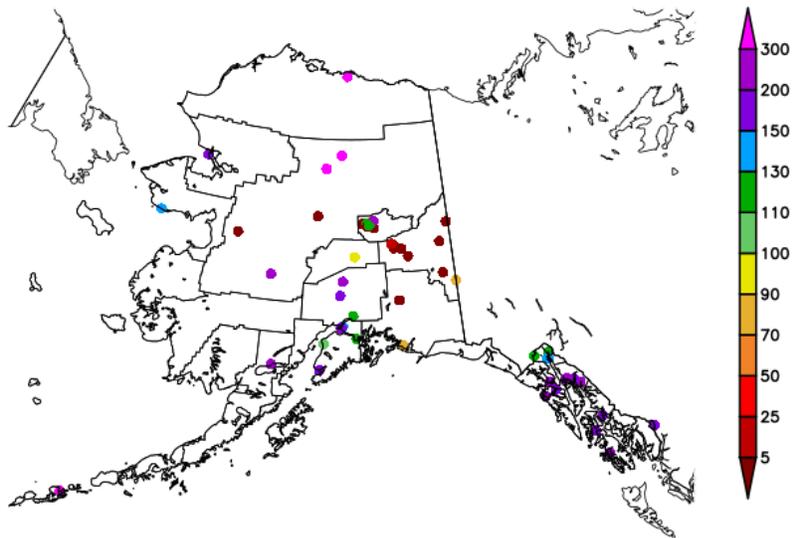
## Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

### Percent of Normal Precipitation (%) 12/27/2018 – 1/2/2019

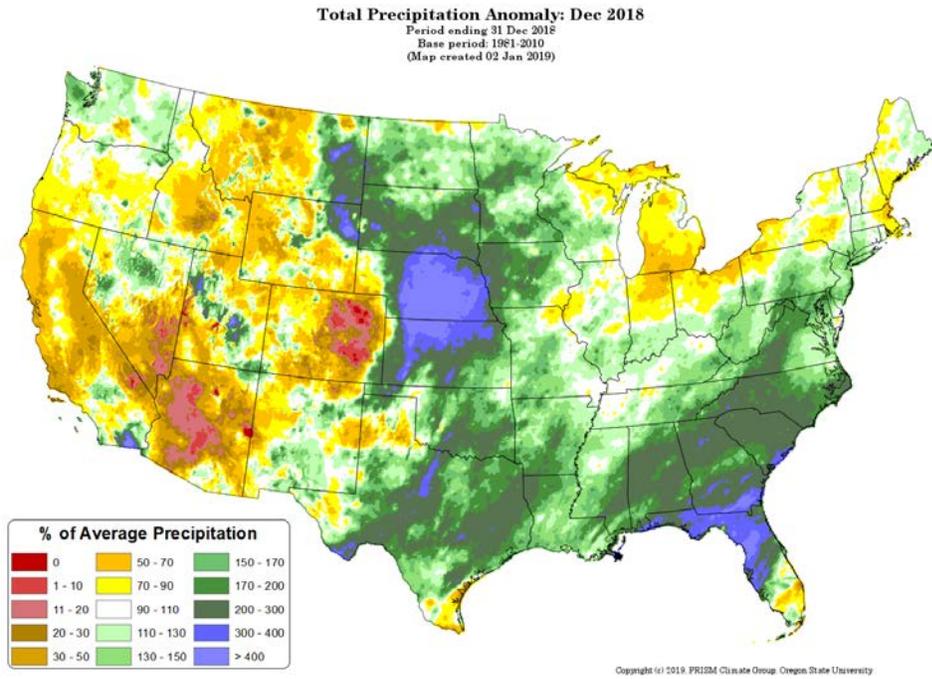


Generated 1/3/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Previous Month, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

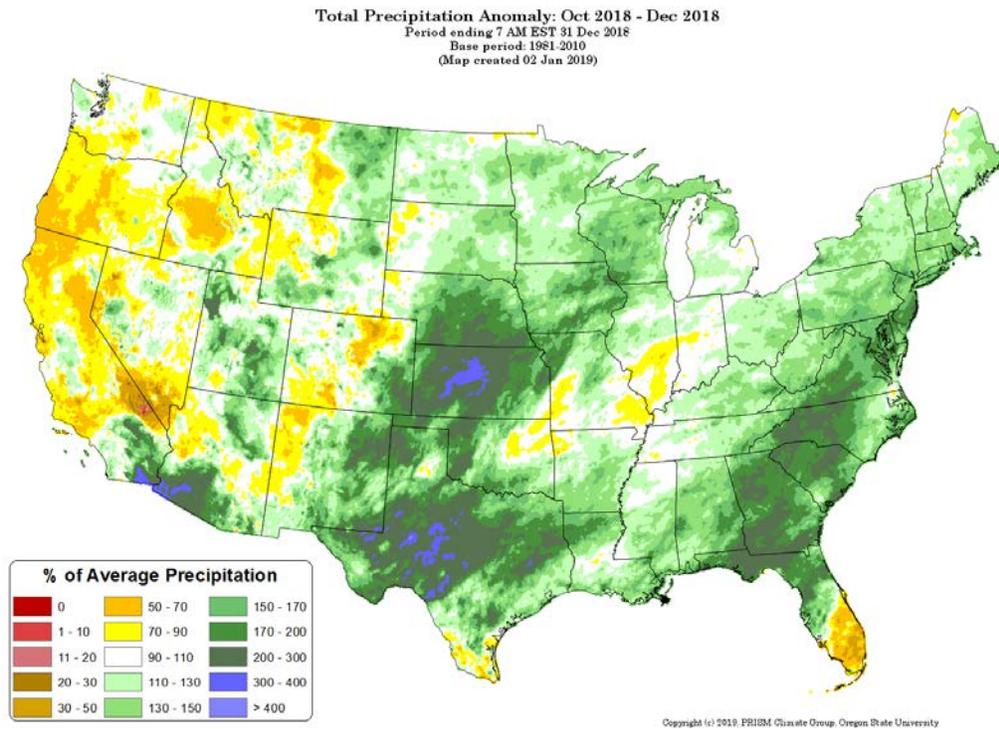


[Previous month national total precipitation percent of average map](#)

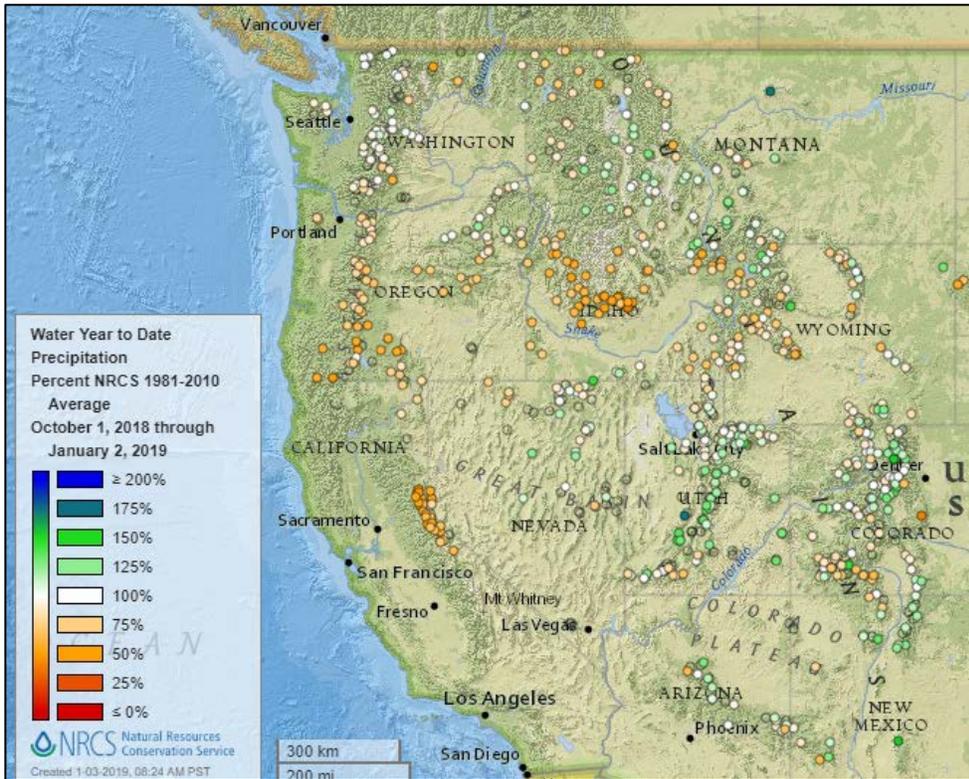
Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

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

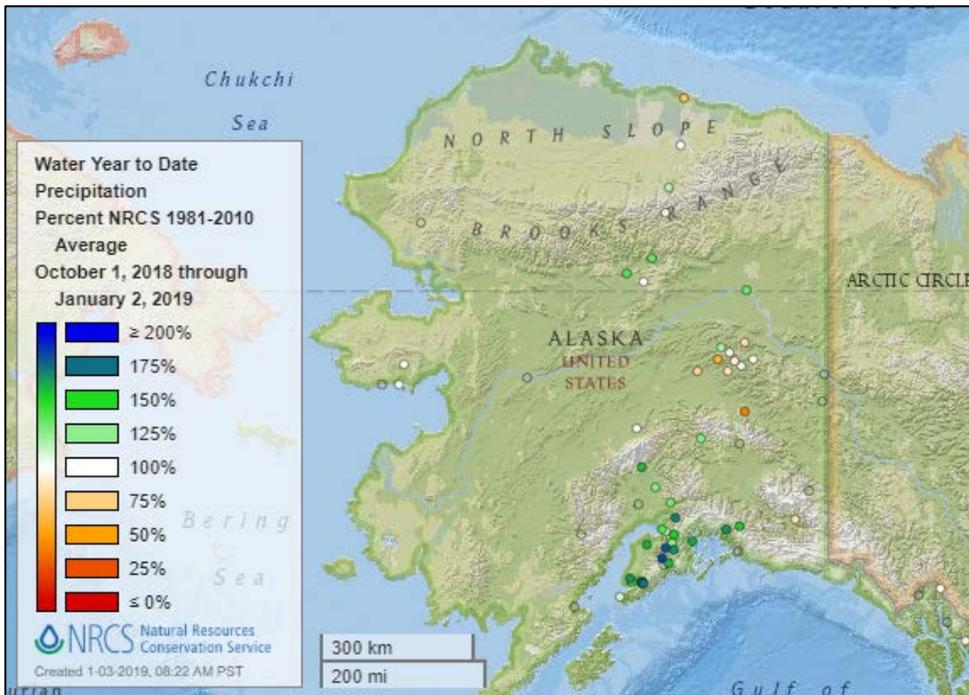


Water Year-to-Date, NRCS SNOTEL Network



[2019 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

**See also:**  
[2019 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)



[Alaska 2019 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

**See also:** [Alaska 2019 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

## Temperature

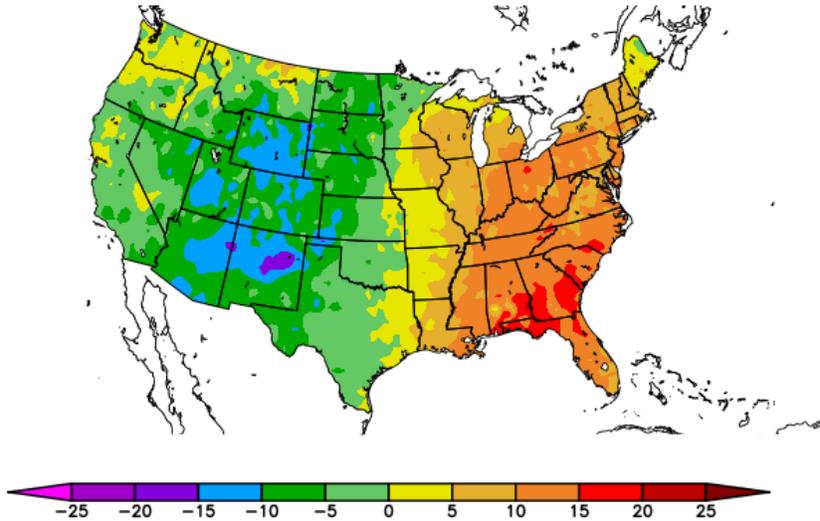
### Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

[7-day temperature anomaly map](#) for the contiguous U.S.

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
12/27/2018 – 1/2/2019



Generated 1/3/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

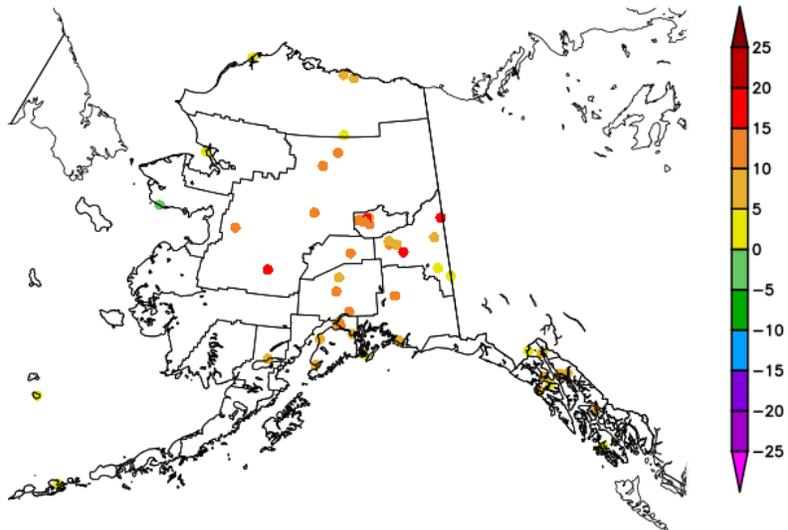
### Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
12/27/2018 – 1/2/2019



Generated 1/3/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

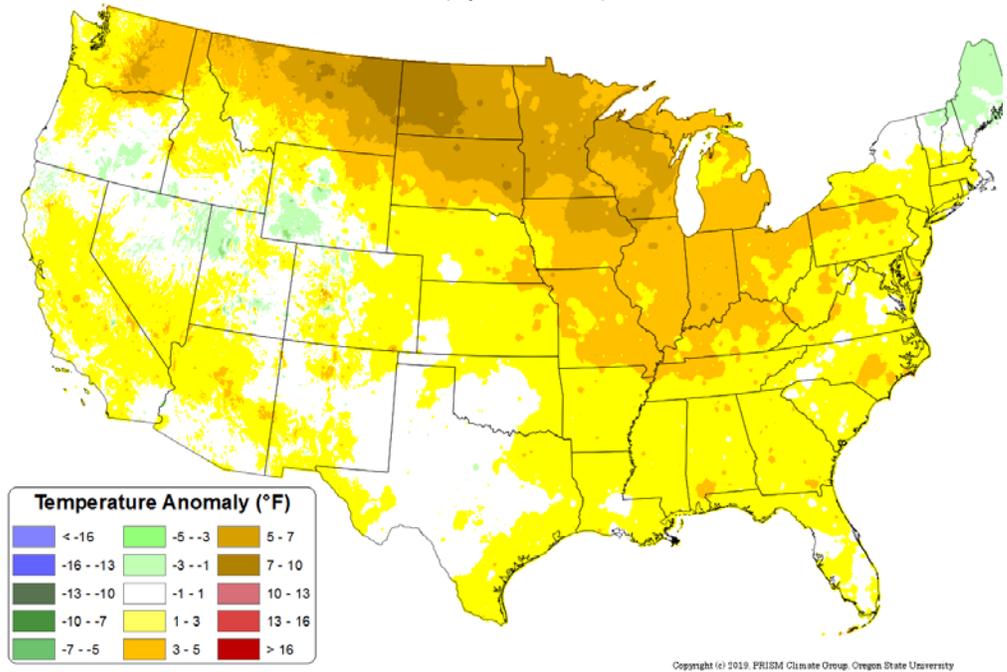
Previous Month, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

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

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: Dec 2018

Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Dec 2018  
Base period: 1981-2010  
(Map created 02 Jan 2019)



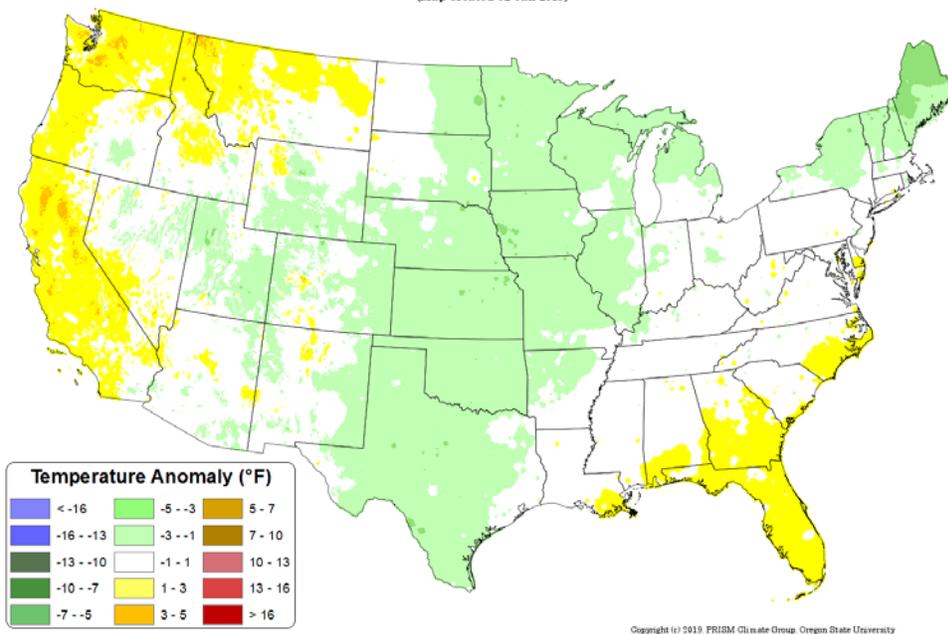
Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: Oct 2018 - Dec 2018

Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Dec 2018  
Base period: 1981-2010  
(Map created 02 Jan 2019)

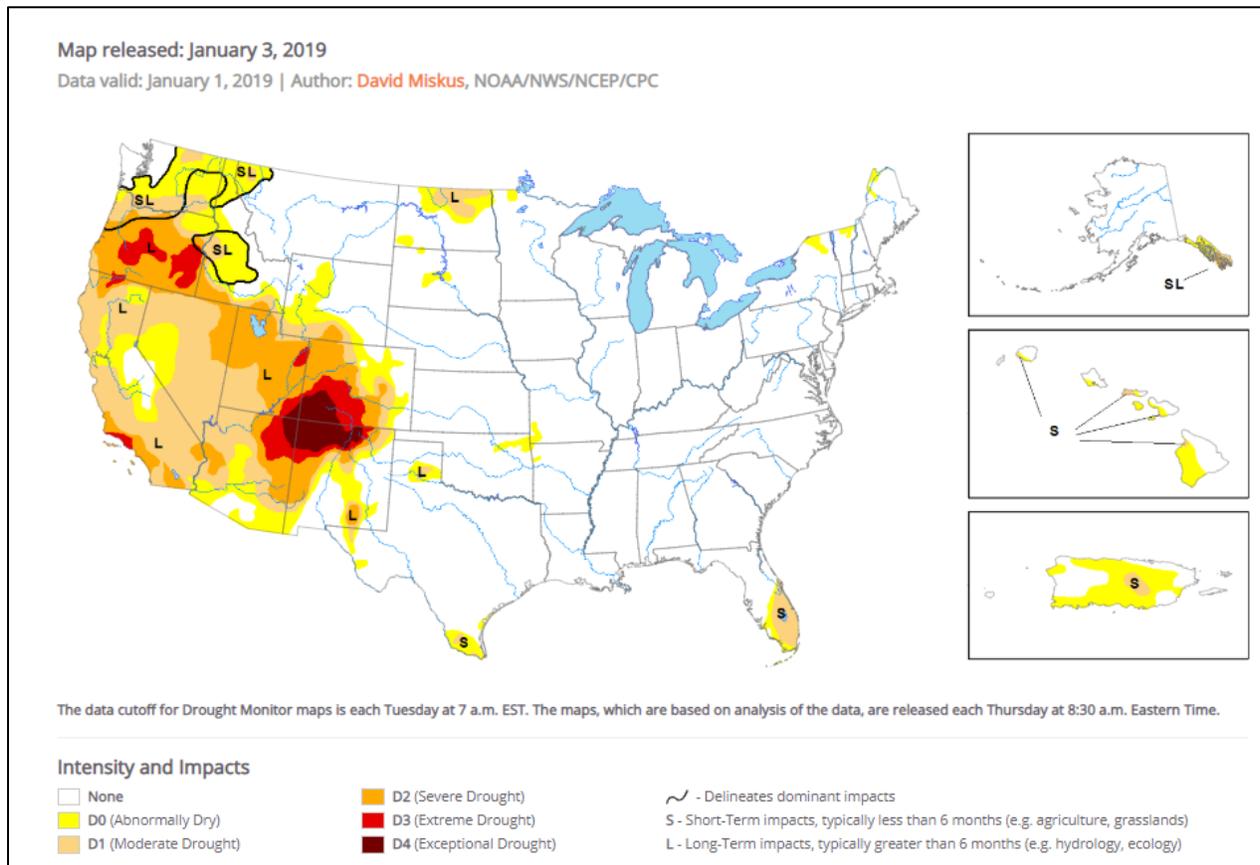
[October through December 2018 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



## Drought

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

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



### Current [National Drought Summary](#), January 3, 2019

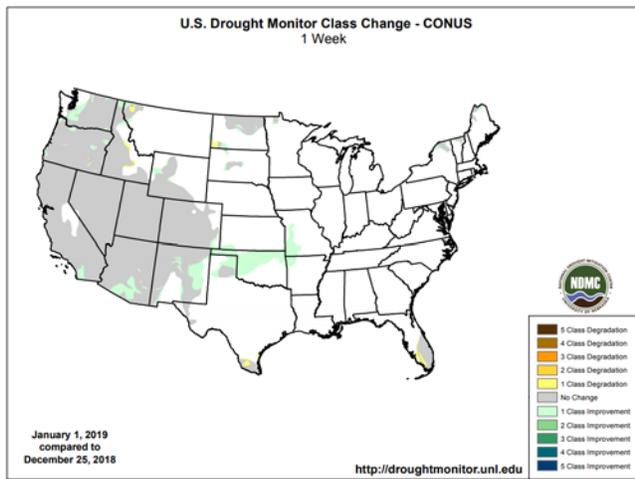
Author: David Miskus, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

“A series of storm systems traversed across the lower 48 States this week, dropping precipitation on most section of the contiguous U.S. The exceptions to this included most of California, northern Montana, the central High Plains, and southern sections of Texas and Florida. In contrast, light to moderate precipitation fell on the Northwest, parts of the Southwest, most of the Plains, Midwest, Northeast, and Southeast. Widespread heavy precipitation (more than 2 inches) inundated coastal Washington and the Cascades, the southern Great Plains, lower Missouri, lower and middle Mississippi, and Tennessee Valleys, parts of the mid-Atlantic, and the Deep South (Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia). With dozens of stations measuring their wettest year on record in the East and Southeast (e.g. Wilmington, NC, 102.26 inches, old record 83.65 inches in 1877), it was not surprising that very little drought existed east of the Rockies. With subnormal weekly temperatures in the western half of the Nation and above-normal readings in the eastern half, the precipitation fell as snow in the southern Rockies, central and northern Plains, and upper Midwest. Snow also fell on most of the interior West, boosting WYTD basin average Snow Water Content (SWC) and precipitation closer to or above normal as of Jan. 1, according to the NRCS SNOTEL data.”

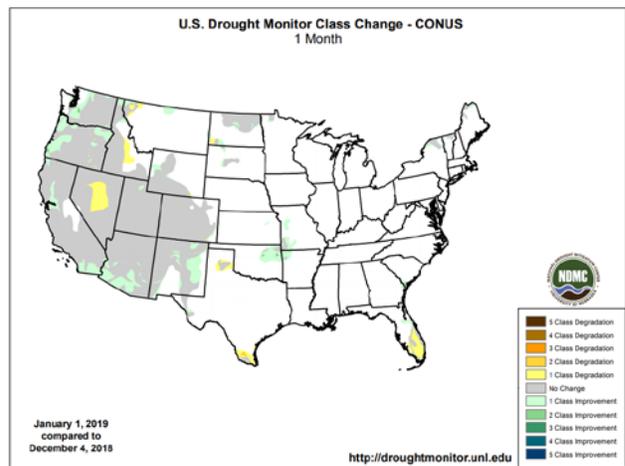
## Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

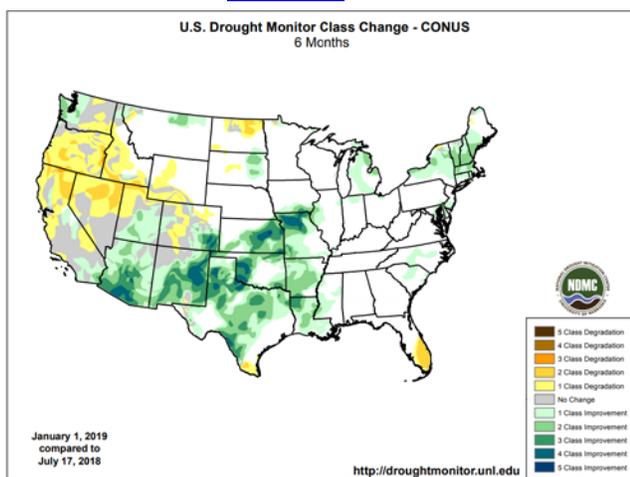
### 1 Week



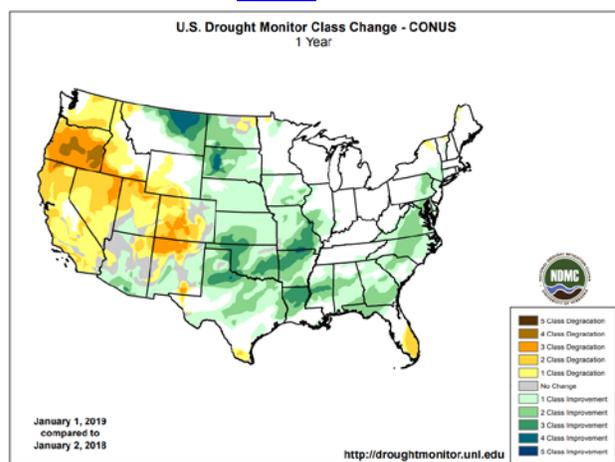
### 1 Month



### 6 Months



### 1 Year



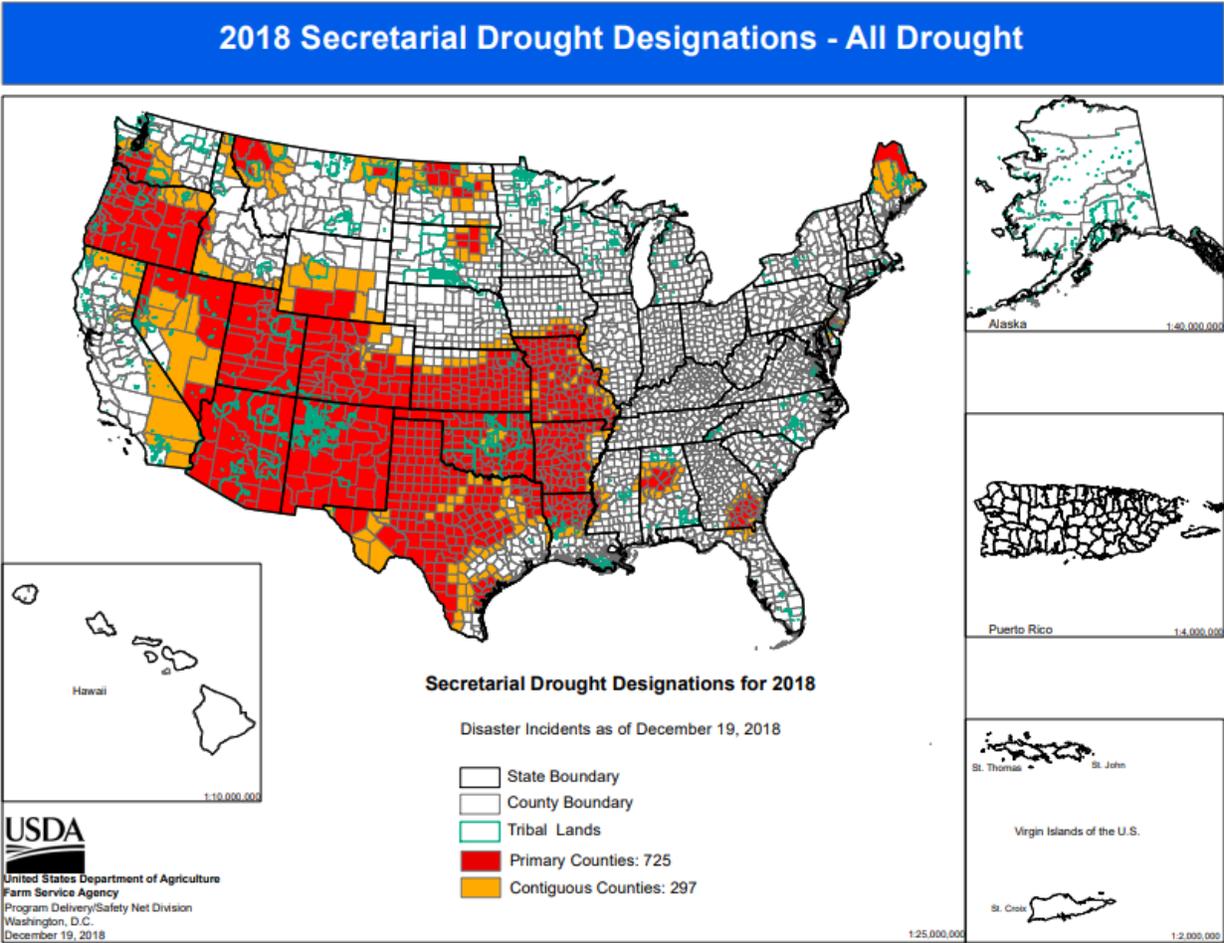
### Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months

#### 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 Secretarial [Drought Designations](#)

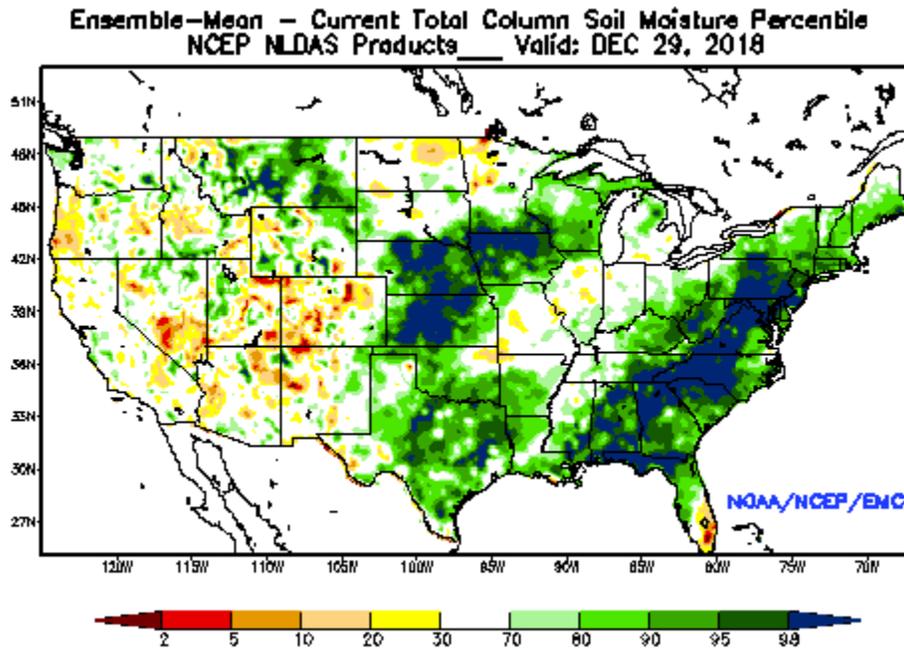
Source: Farm Service Agency



## Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

### Soil Moisture

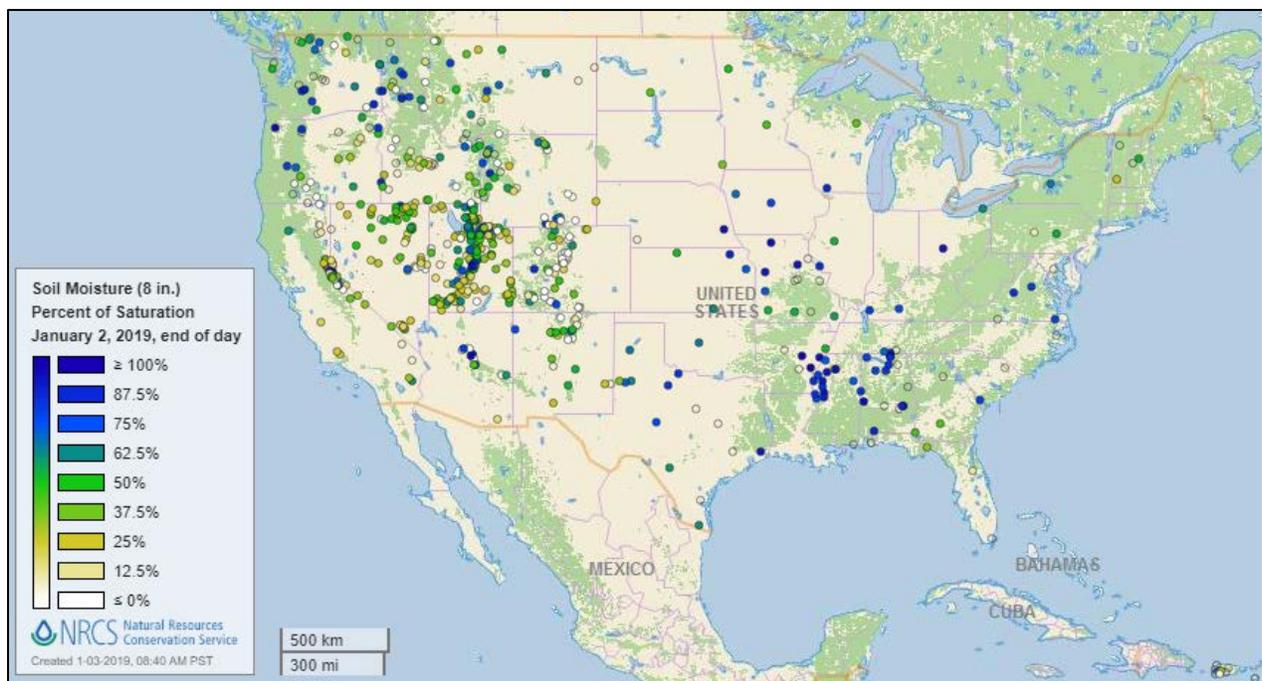
Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Prediction



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of December 29, 2018

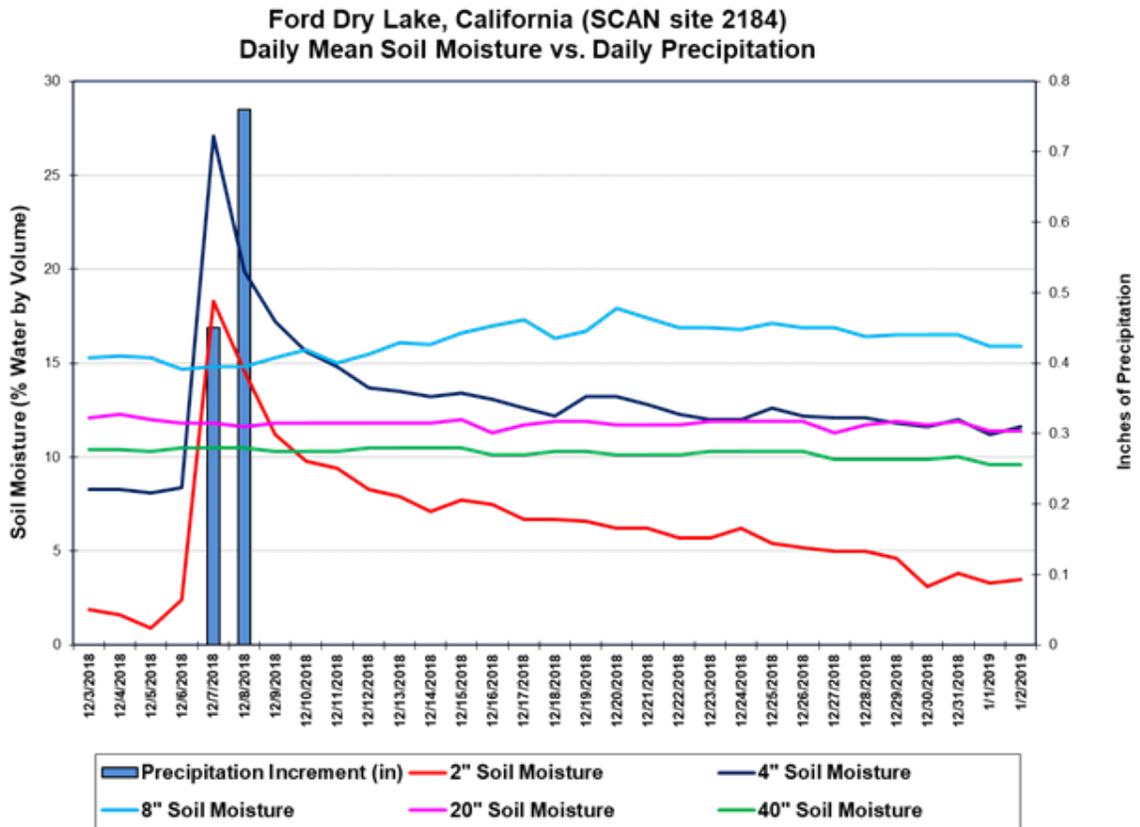
### **NEW!** Soil Moisture Percent of Saturation

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



**Soil Moisture Data**

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



This chart shows precipitation and soil moisture during the last 30 days at the [Ford Dry Lake SCAN site](#) in California. On December 7-8 accumulated precipitation totaled 1.21 inches, followed by a short period of increased soil moisture at the 2- and 4-inch sensor levels.

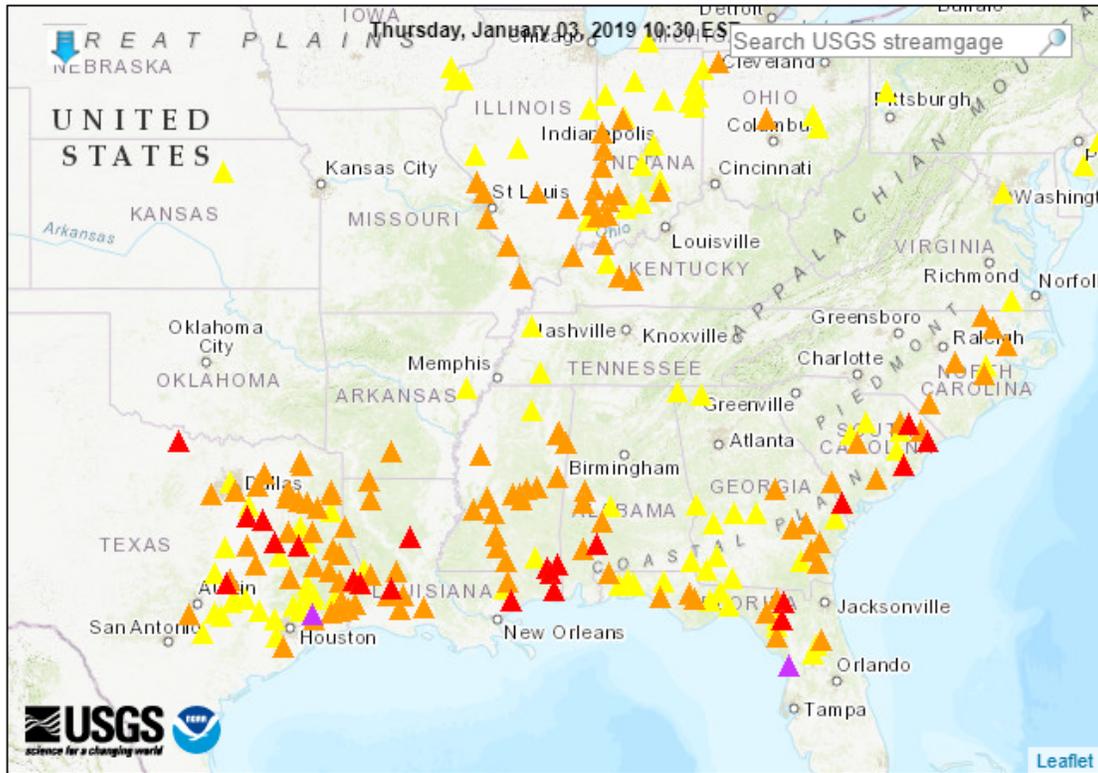
**Soil Moisture Data Portals**

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

**Streamflow**

Source: U.S. Geological Survey

**Map of flood and high flow conditions**



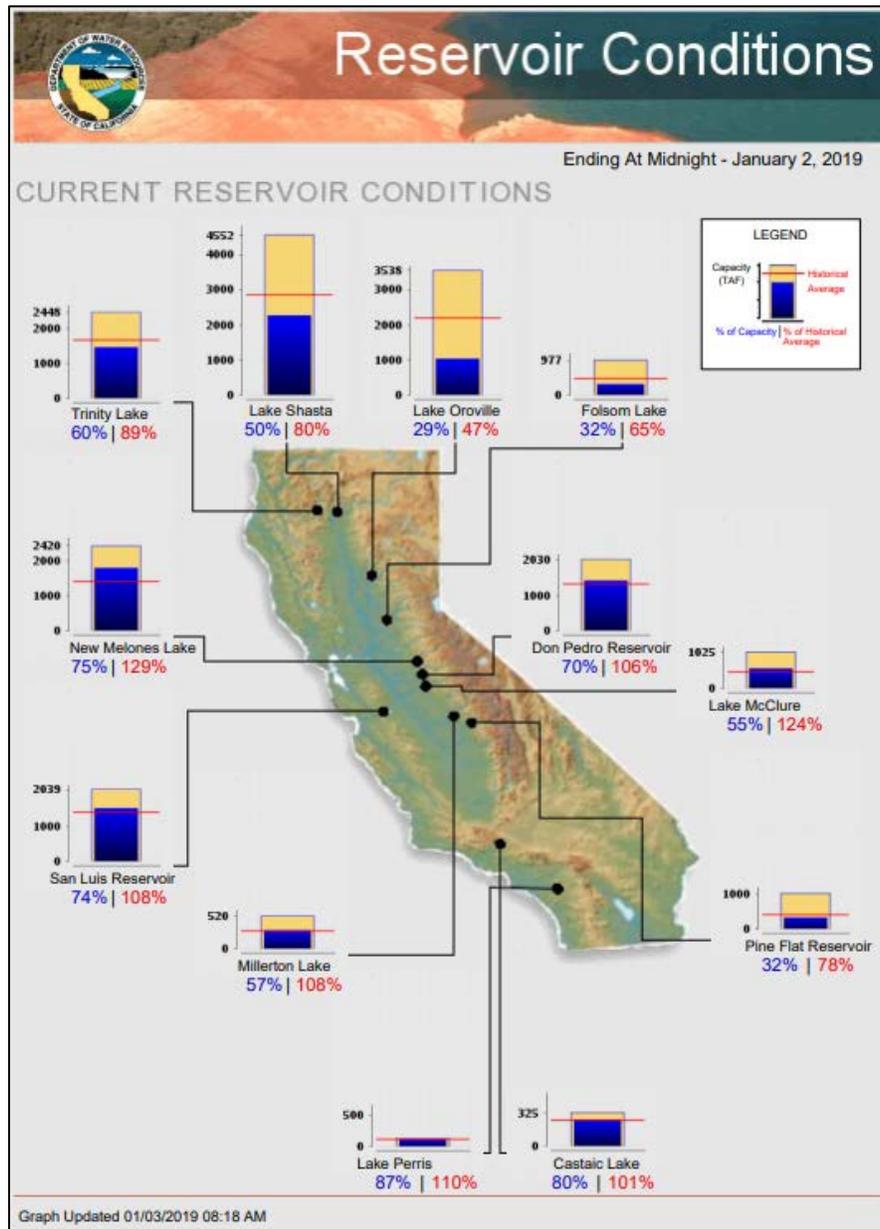
Explanation - Percentile classes						
<95	95-98	>= 99	Above action stage	Above flood stage	Above moderate flood stage	Above major flood stage
Streamgage with flood stage			Streamgage without flood stage			

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

## Reservoir Storage

### Current California Reservoir Conditions

Source: California Department of Water Resources



[Current California Reservoir Conditions](#)

### Hydromet Tea Cup Reservoir Depictions

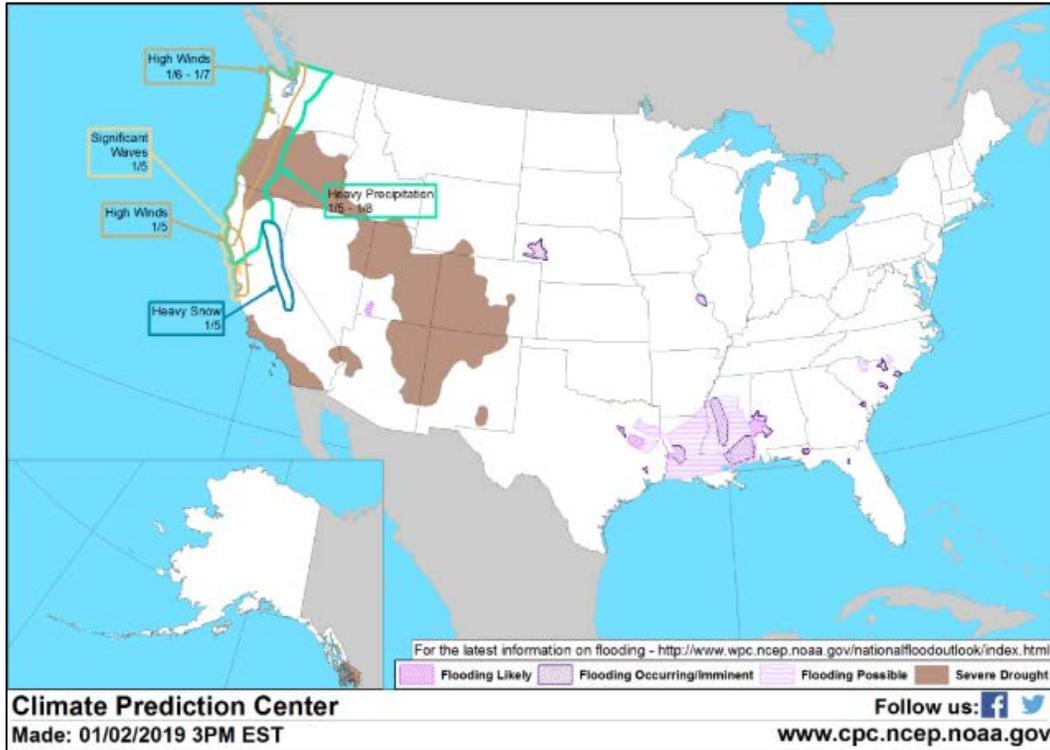
Source: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

- [Upper Colorado](#)
- [Pacific Northwest/Snake/Columbia](#)
- [Sevier River Water, Utah](#)
- [Upper Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas](#)

## Short- and Long-Range Outlooks

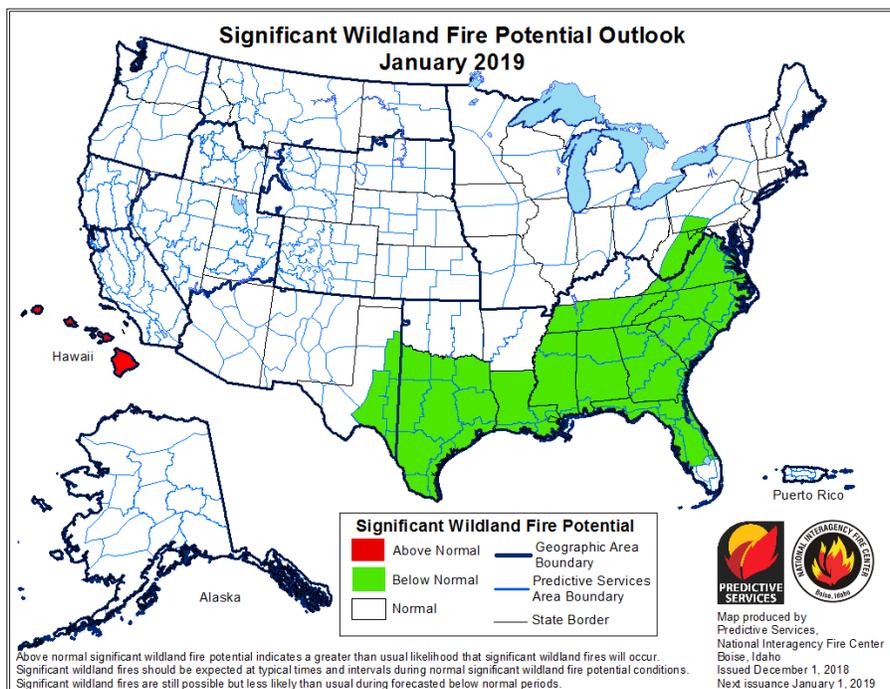
### Weather Hazards Outlook: [January 5 – January 10, 2019](#)

Source: Climate Prediction Center



### Significant Wildland [Fire Potential Outlook](#)

Source: National Interagency Fire Center

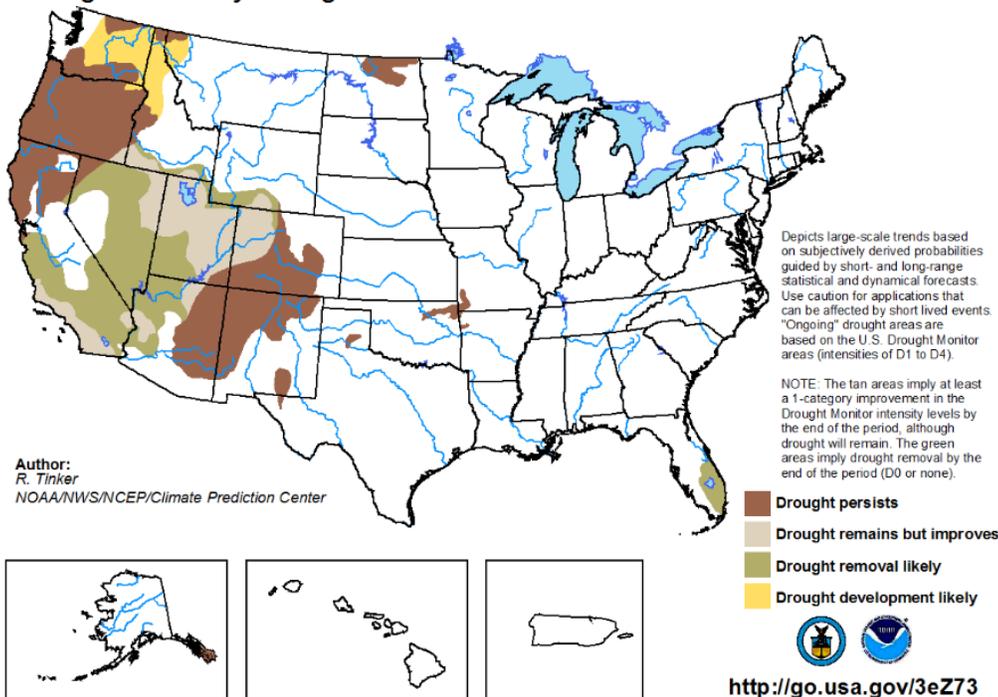


**Seasonal Drought Outlook: [December 20, 2018 – March 31, 2019](#)**

Source: National Weather Service

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

Valid for December 20, 2018 - March 31, 2019  
Released December 20, 2018

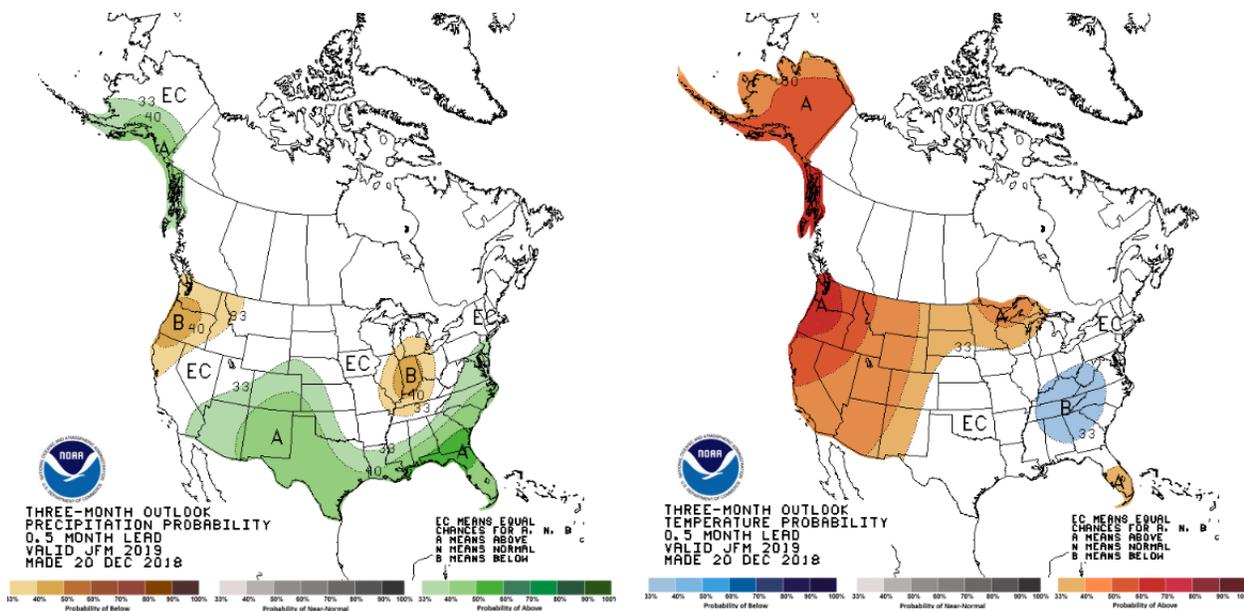


**Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook**

Source: National Weather Service

Precipitation

Temperature



[January-February-March \(JFM\) 2019 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](#).