

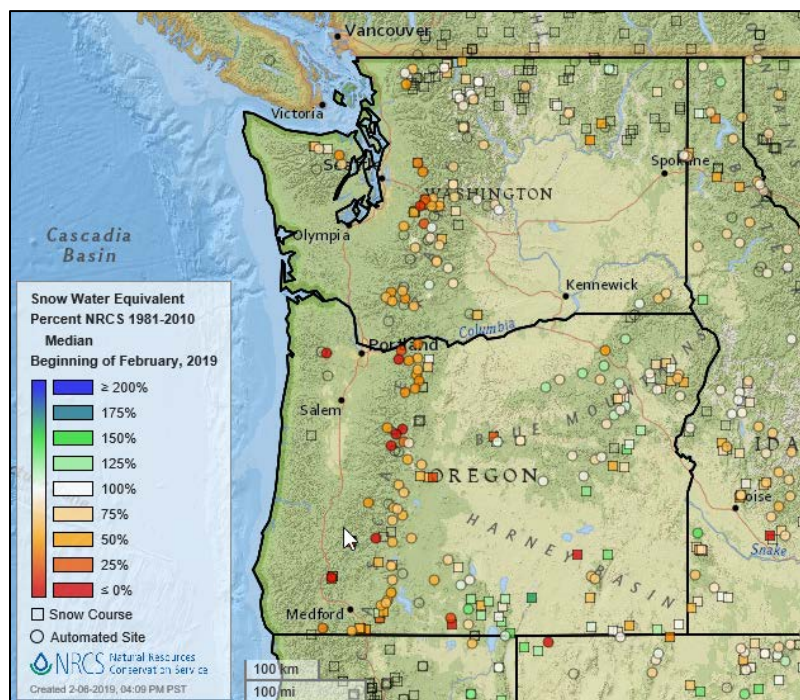
# Water and Climate Update

February 7, 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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## Unusual snow at sea level has little impact on Pacific Northwest snowpack



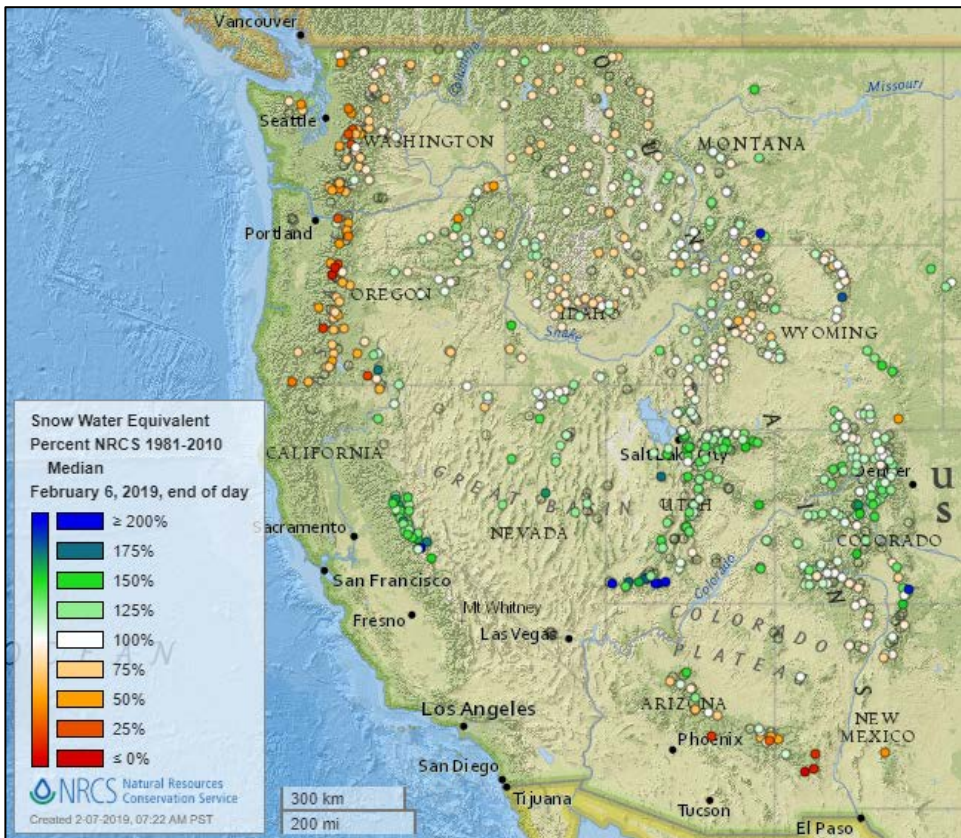
A winter storm blanketed the Pacific Northwest this week, from the beaches of the Pacific to the Cascade Range and beyond. Snow and ice in Seattle and Portland closed schools and slowed traffic with hundreds of crashes. SNOTEL sites in the Cascade Range reported depth increases from 1 to 14 inches in the last few days. Although the recent snow helped to boost the overall snowpack in the region, most of the SNOTEL and snow course sites are below to well below normal for the beginning of February. The dry winter follows a dry 2018 with the U.S. Drought Monitor reporting much of Oregon and Washington in drought conditions. Meanwhile, in California the same storm caused rain, flooding, and heavy snow up to 10 feet in the Sierra Nevada.

### Related:

[Wild weather in the West: California faces dangerous flooding as snow strikes Seattle](#) – ABC News  
[Seattle area's first snow of the season expected to stick around as cold lingers](#) – The Seattle Times (WA)  
[Winter storm dumps rare snow on Seattle as Midwest warms up](#) – The Washington Post  
[Unusual snow blankets Seattle, Oregon's coast](#) – The Bend Bulletin (OR)  
[Drought in Western Oregon likely to persist, even with rain, snow in forecast](#) – The Register Guard (OR)  
[The state of Oregon's drought: how dry is your county?](#) – The Oregonian (OR)

## Snow

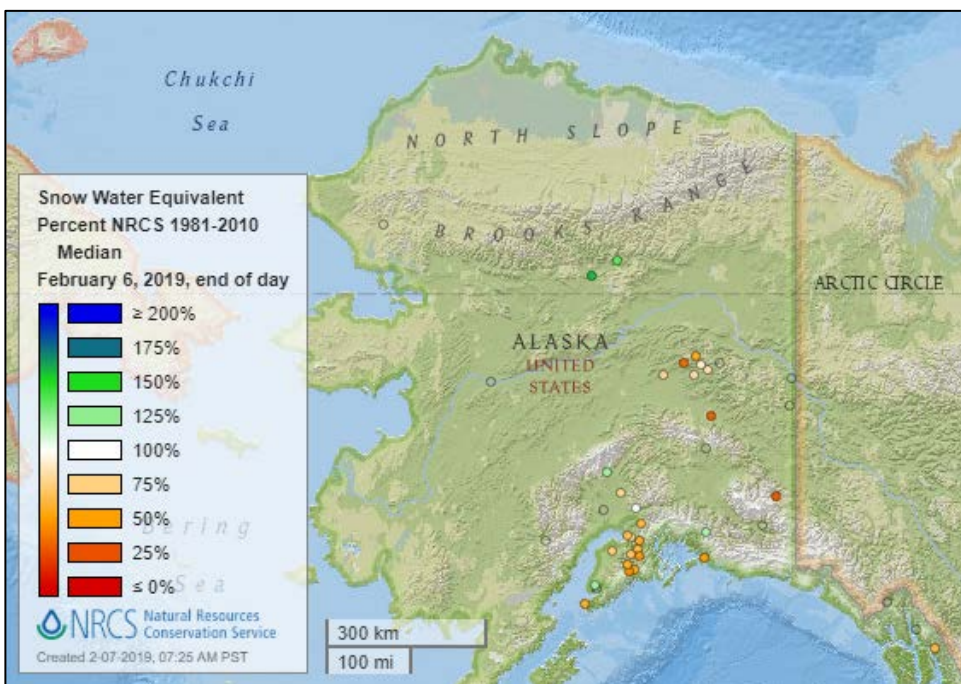
### Current Snow Water Equivalent, NRCS SNOTEL Network



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

**See also:**

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



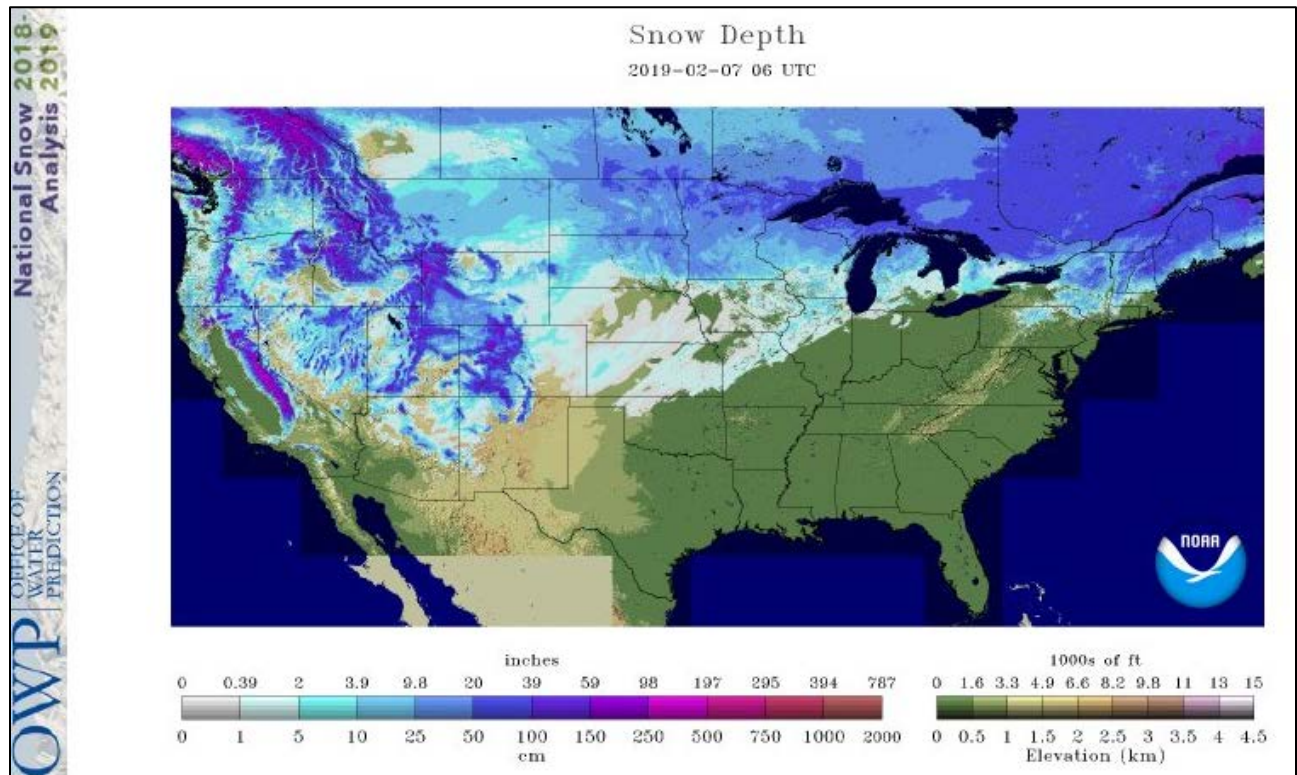
[Alaska snow water equivalent percent of median map](#)

**See also:**

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

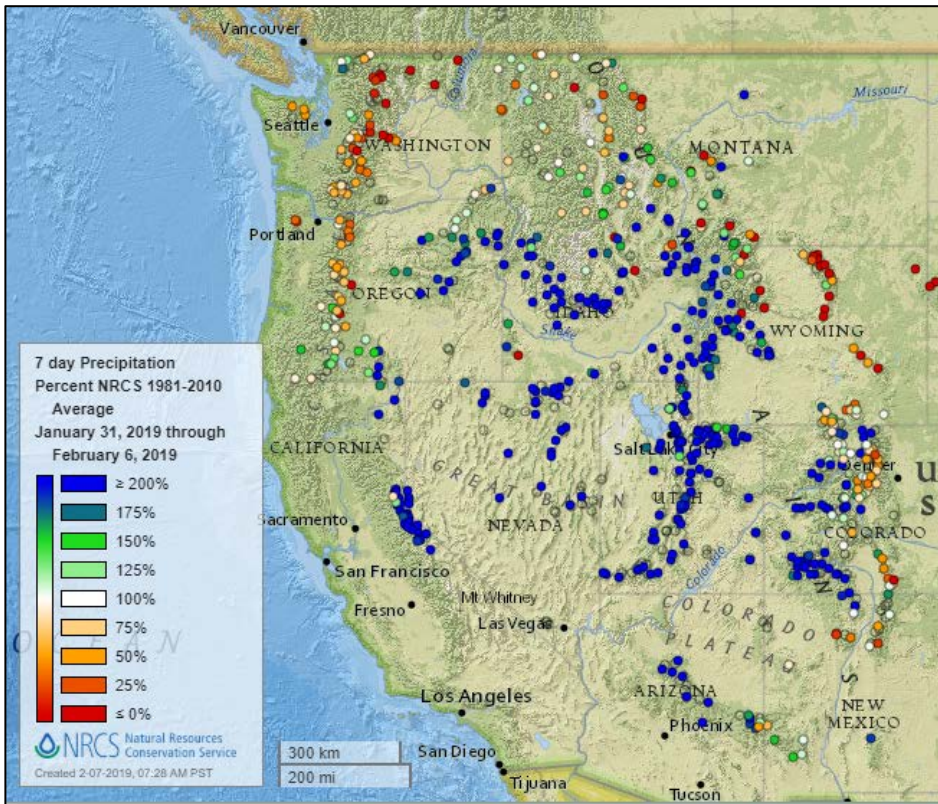


[Current Snow Depth](#), National Weather Service Snow Analysis



## Precipitation

### Last 7 Days, NRCS SNOTEL Network

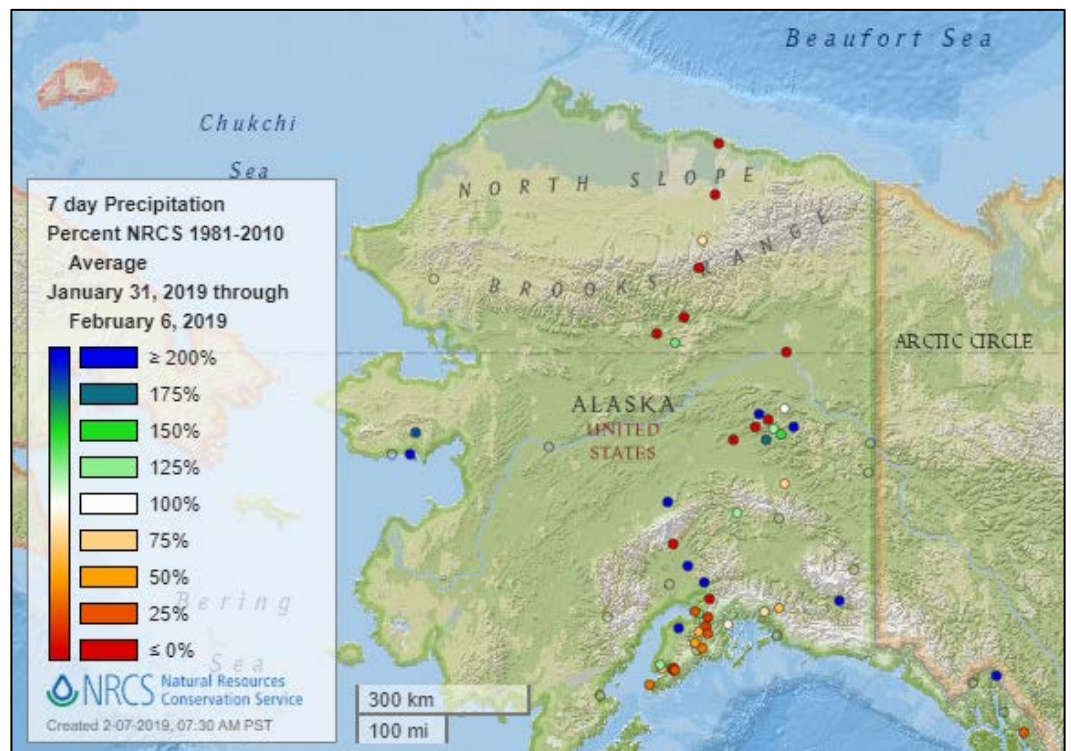


[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

**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](#)



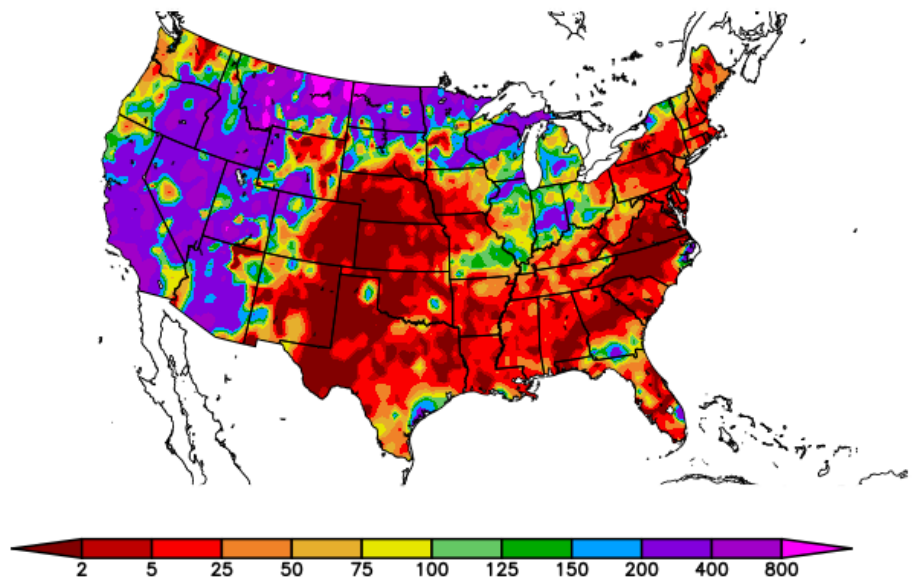
## Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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 (%)  
1/31/2019 – 2/6/2019



Generated 2/7/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

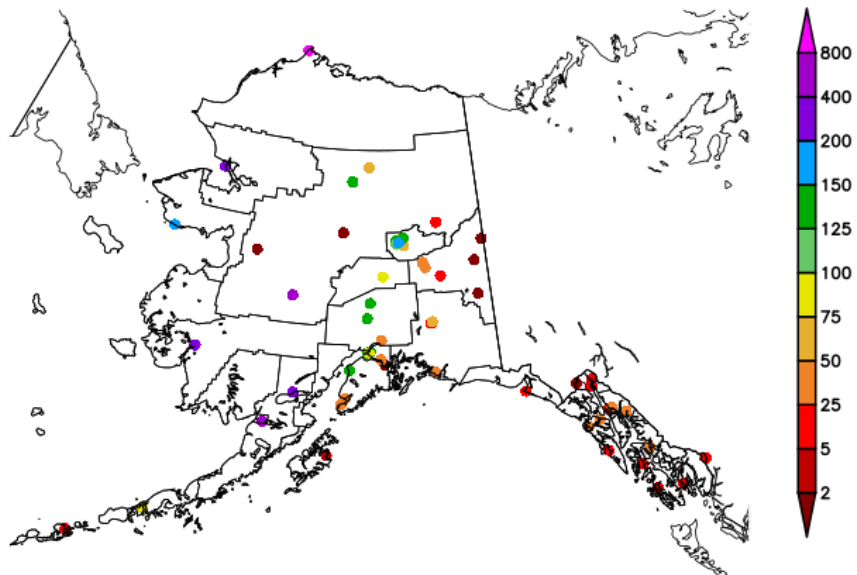
## Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
1/31/2019 – 2/6/2019



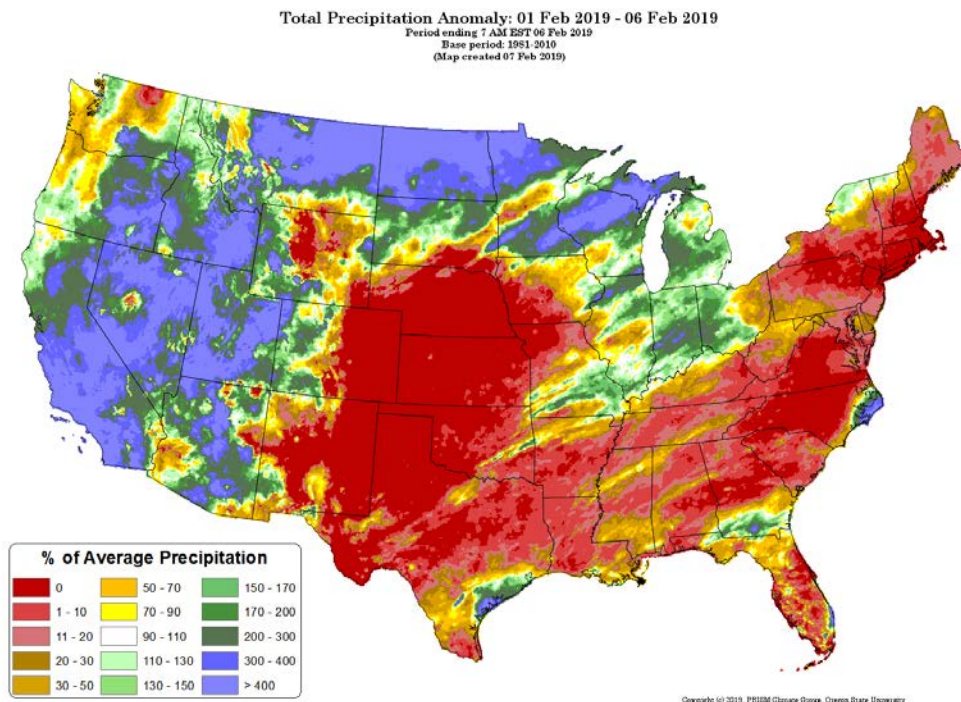
Generated 2/7/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers



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

Source: PRISM

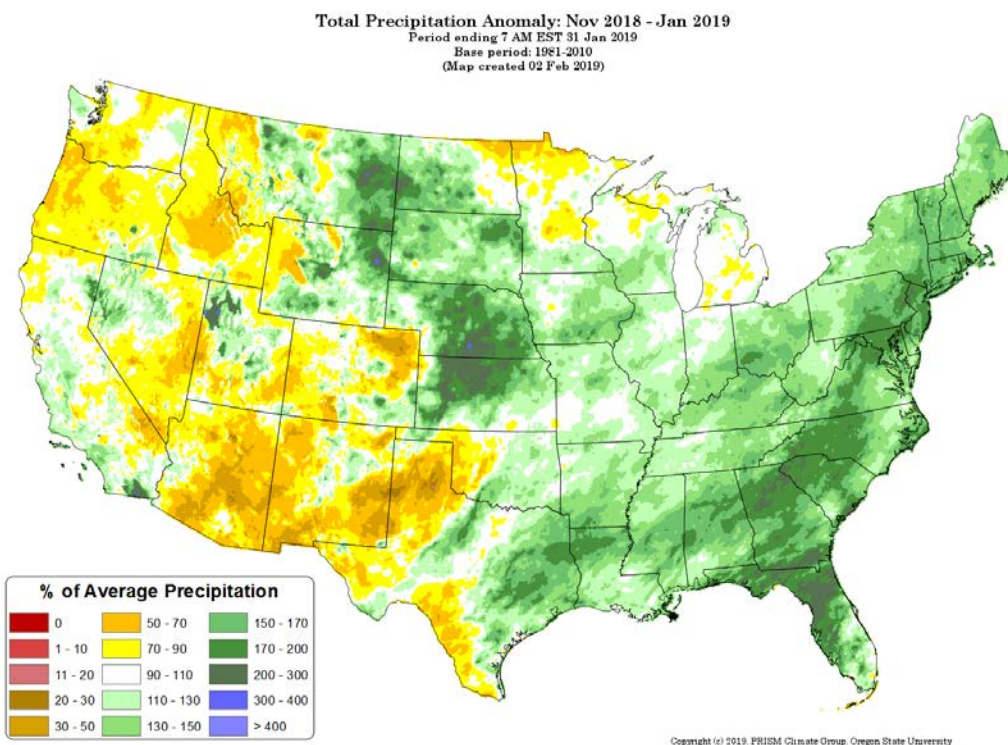


[Month-to-date national total precipitation percent of average map](#)

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

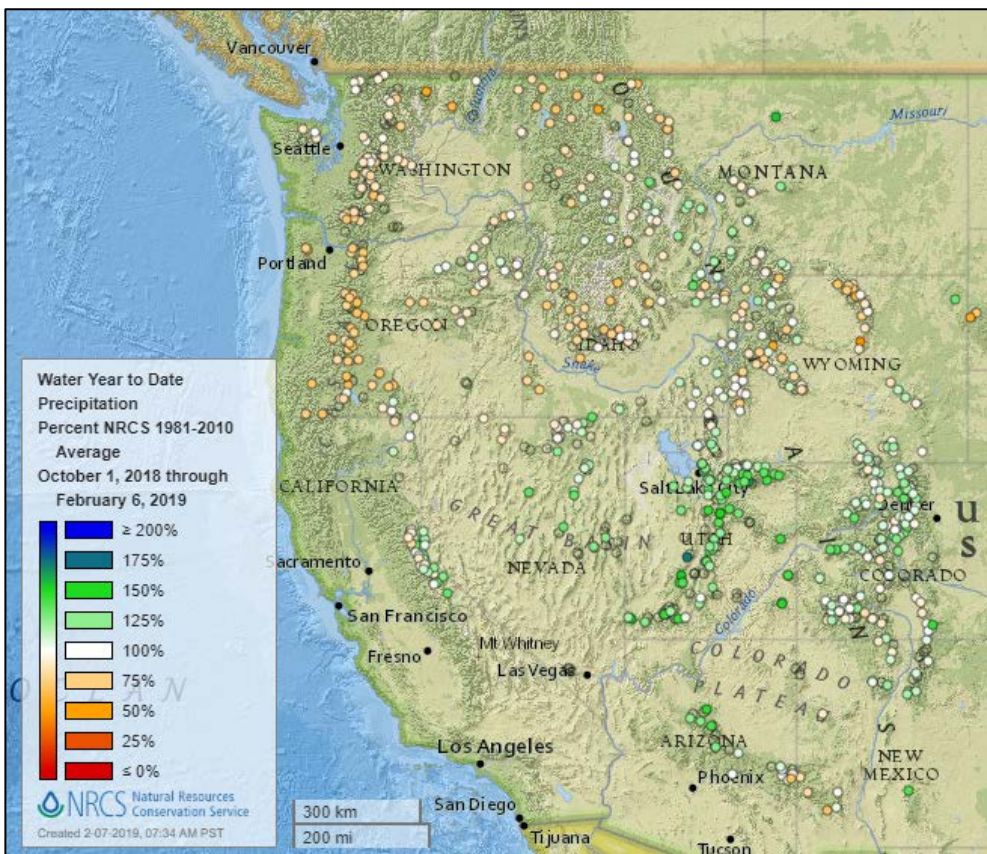
Source: PRISM

[November 2018 through January 2019 total precipitation percent of average map](#)



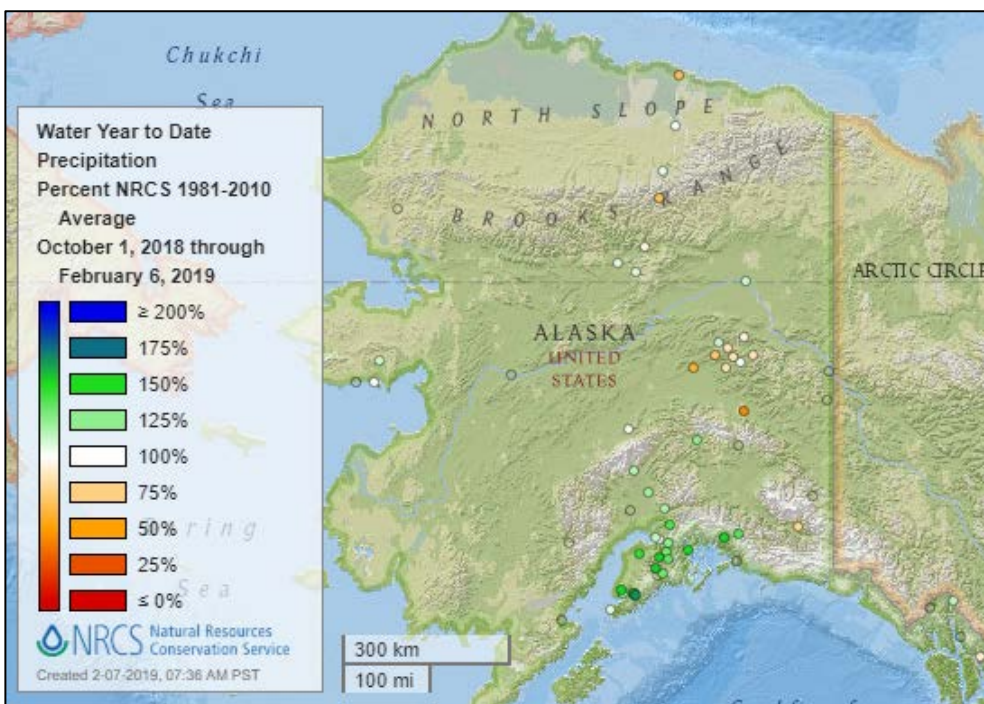


Water Year-to-Date, NRCS SNOTEL Network



[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

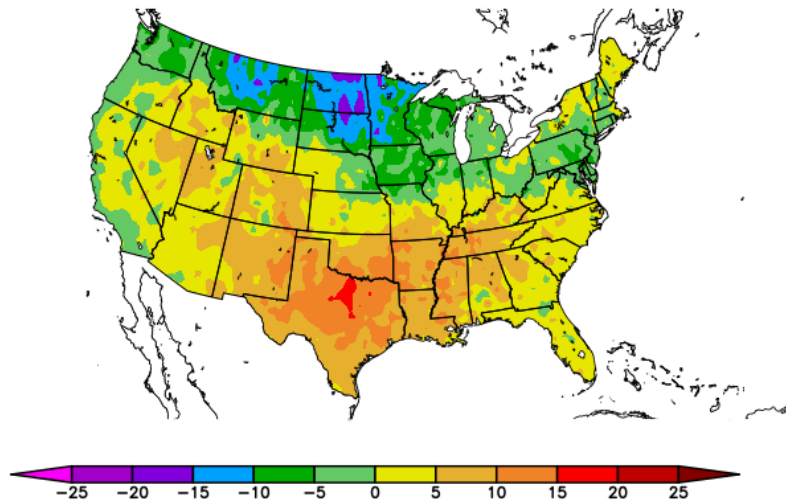
### Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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)  
1/31/2019 – 2/6/2019



Generated 2/7/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

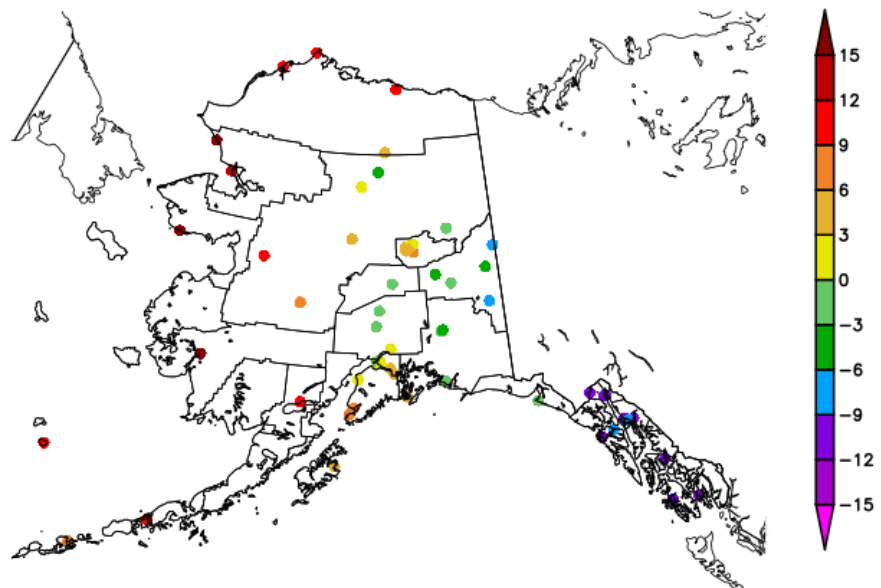
### Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
1/31/2019 – 2/6/2019



Generated 2/7/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

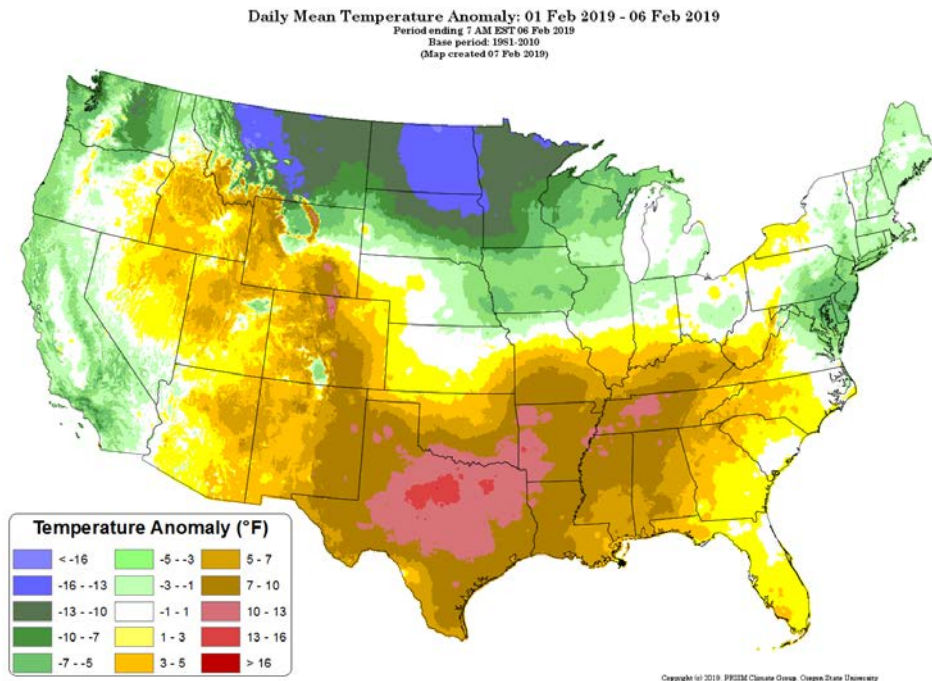
NOAA Regional Climate Centers



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

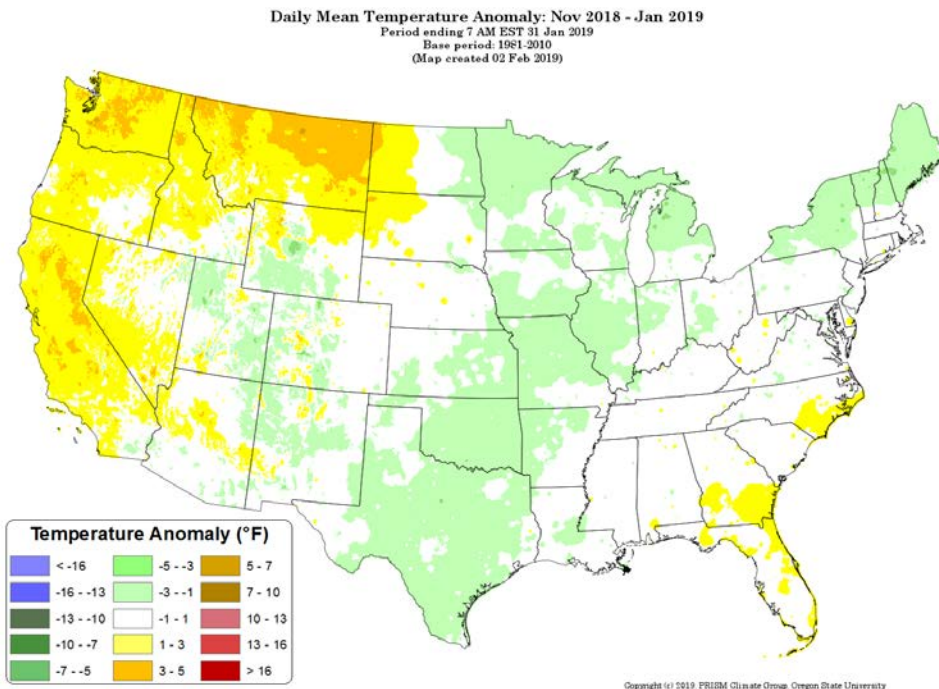
Source: PRISM

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



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

Source: PRISM



[November 2018 through January 2019 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)

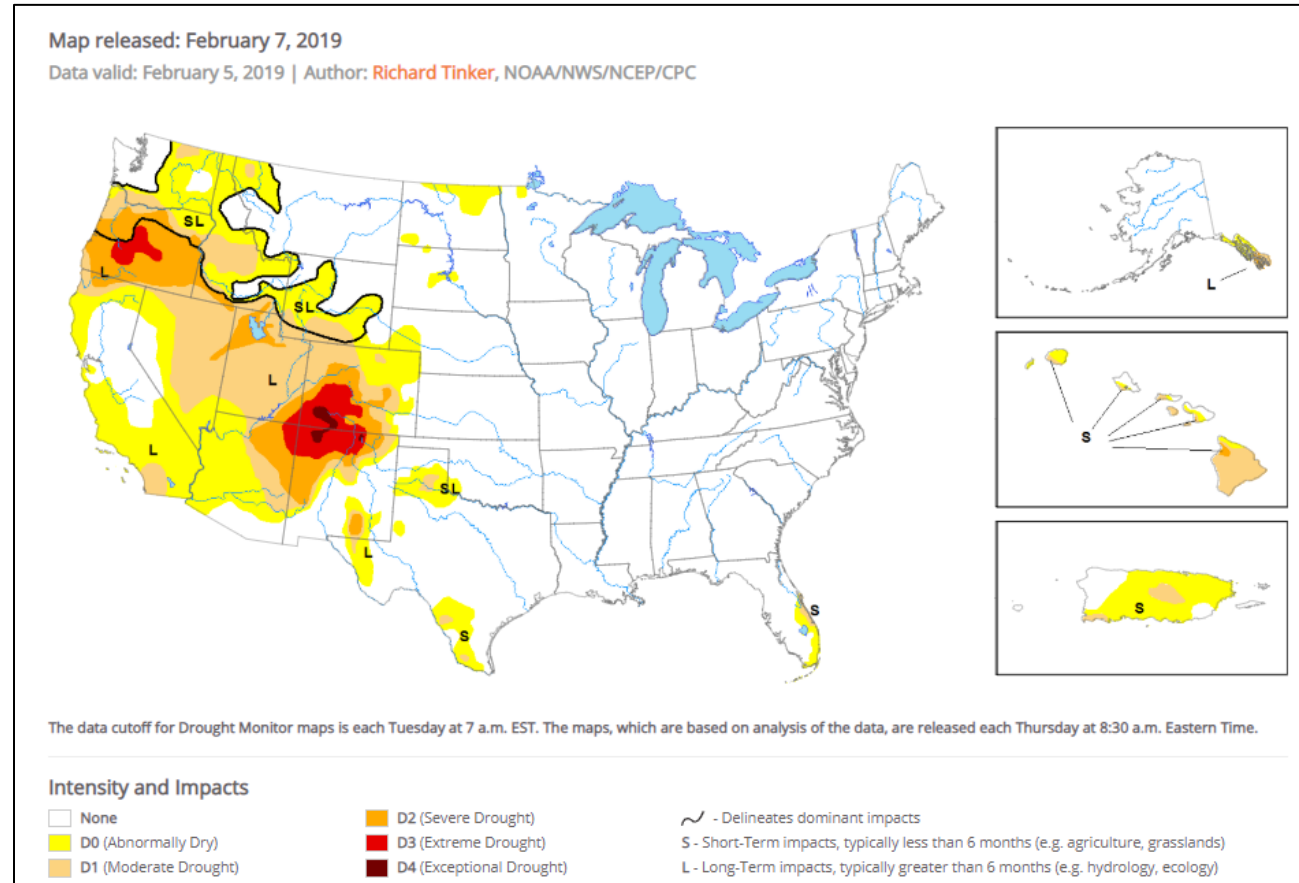
## Drought

### [U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

### [U.S. Drought Portal](#)

Source: NOAA



### **Current [National Drought Summary](#), February 7, 2019**

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

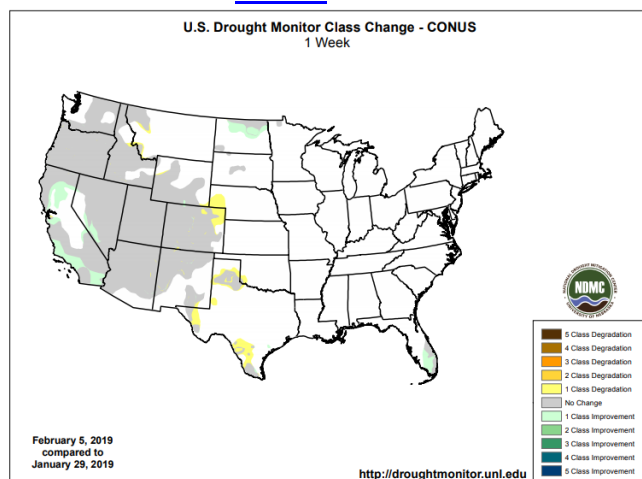
"Significant precipitation evaded most areas of dryness and drought this week, with one major exception. Heavy precipitation pelted much of California, particularly along the coast and in the higher elevations. Most of the higher Sierra Nevada received 4 to 8 inches, with locally higher amounts. Coastal areas from Los Angeles northward through the Bay Area received 3 to 6 inches of precipitation, as did much of the Cascades and interior northwestern California. Only parts of the interior valleys, the Mojave Desert, and northeastern sections of the state received less than an inch. In sharp contrast, the only dry areas recording over an inch of precipitation in the rest of the 48 contiguous states were in parts of the northern Intermountain West, isolated higher elevations in the central Rockies, a few patches in western parts of Washington and Oregon, and a small sliver along the southeastern Florida coast."



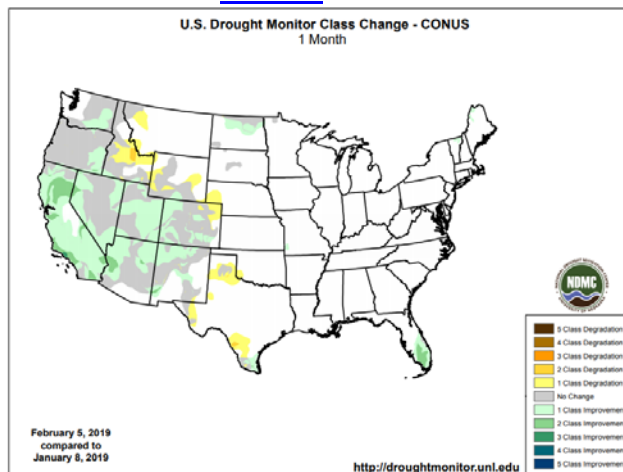
## Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

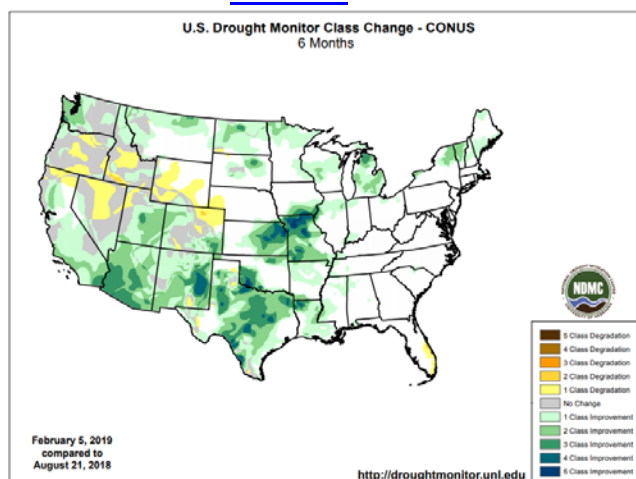
### 1 Week



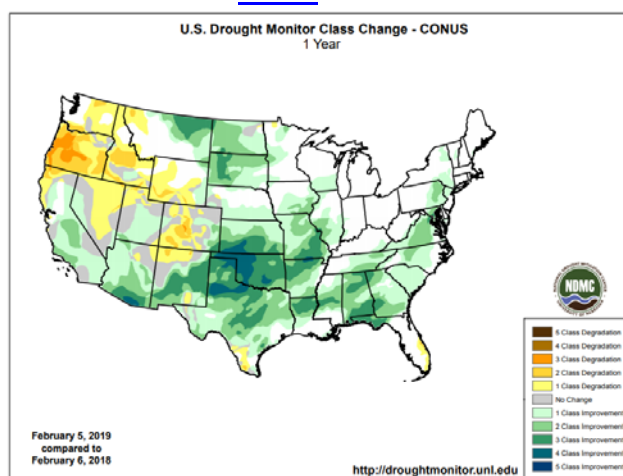
### 1 Month



### 6 Months



### 1 Year



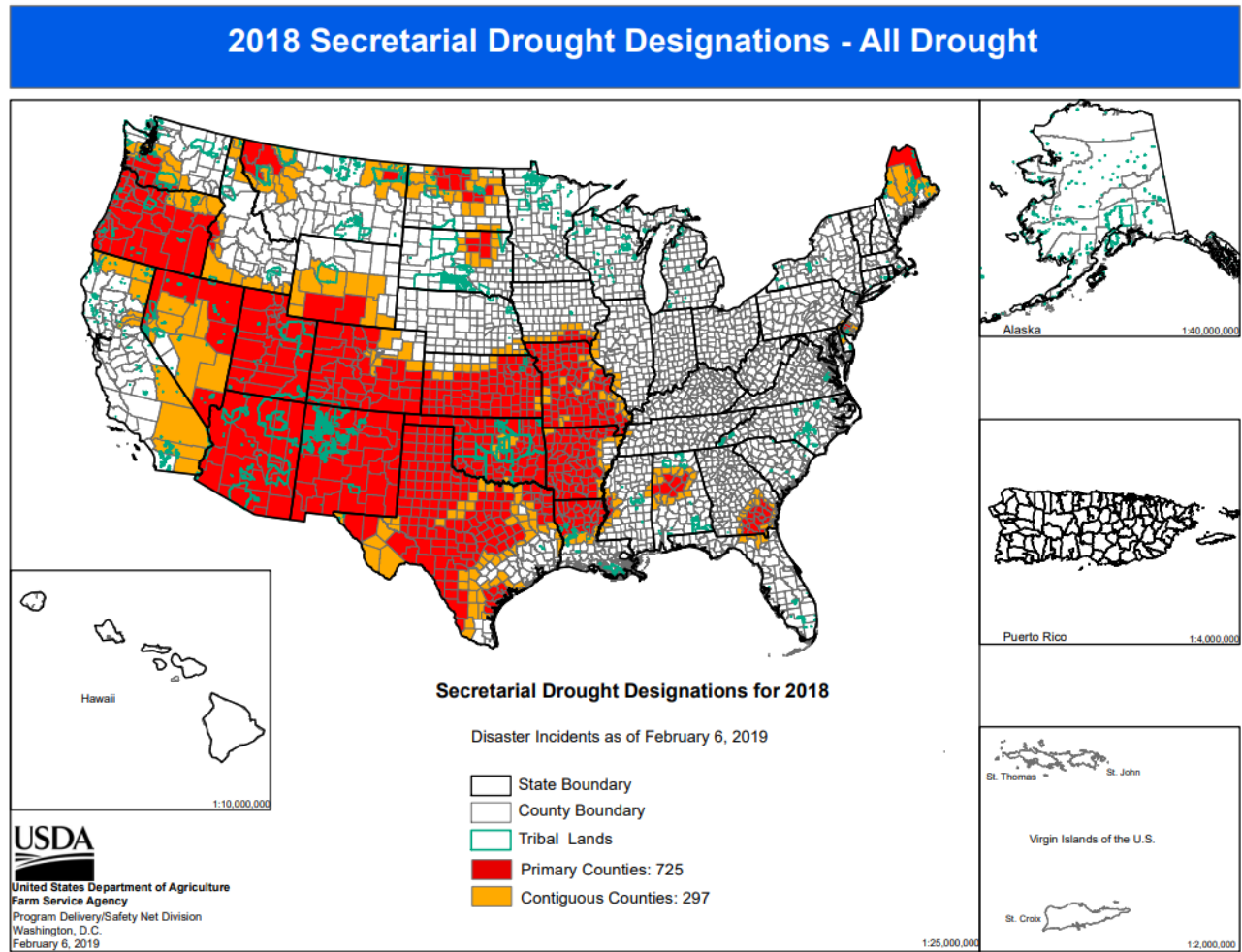
[Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months for the contiguous U.S.](#)

## 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](#)

## Secretarial [Drought Designations](#)

Source: USDA Farm Service Agency

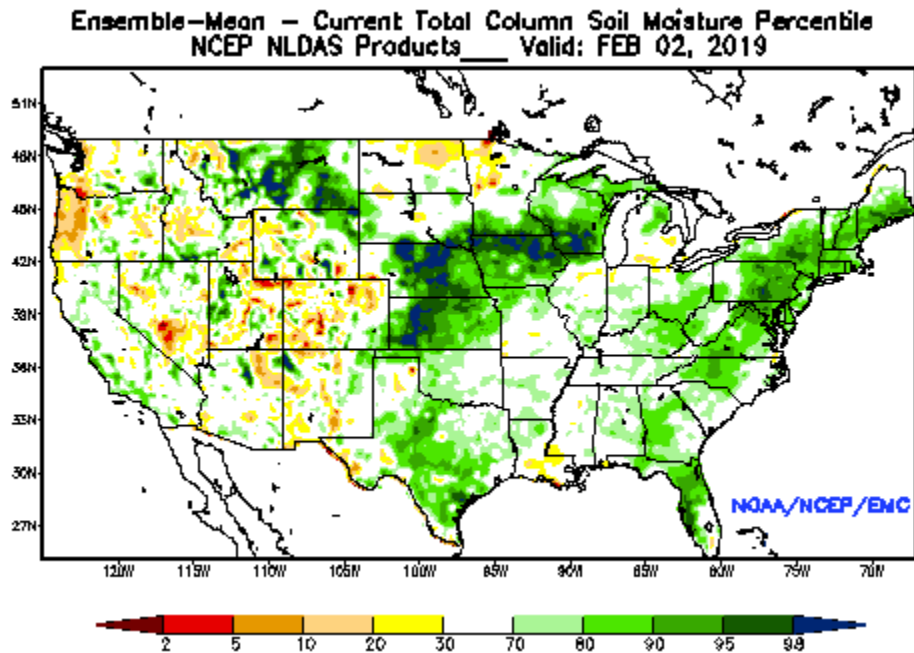




## Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

### Soil Moisture

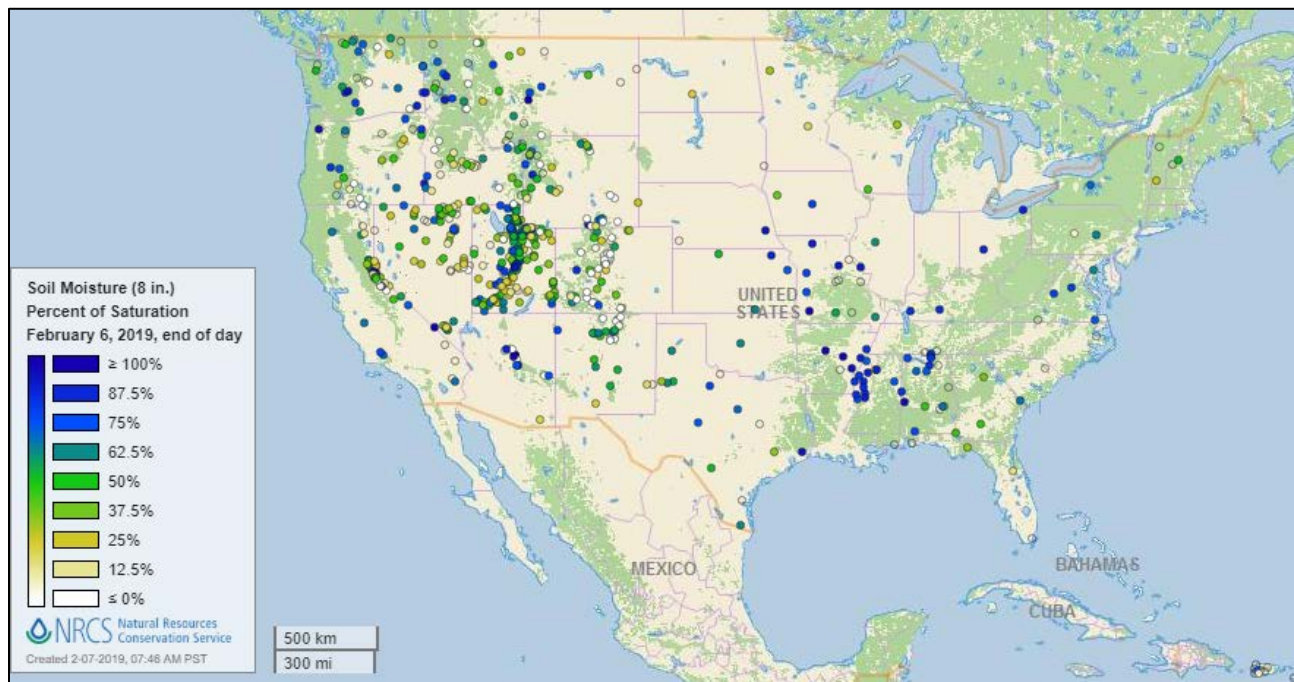
Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Prediction



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of February 2, 2019

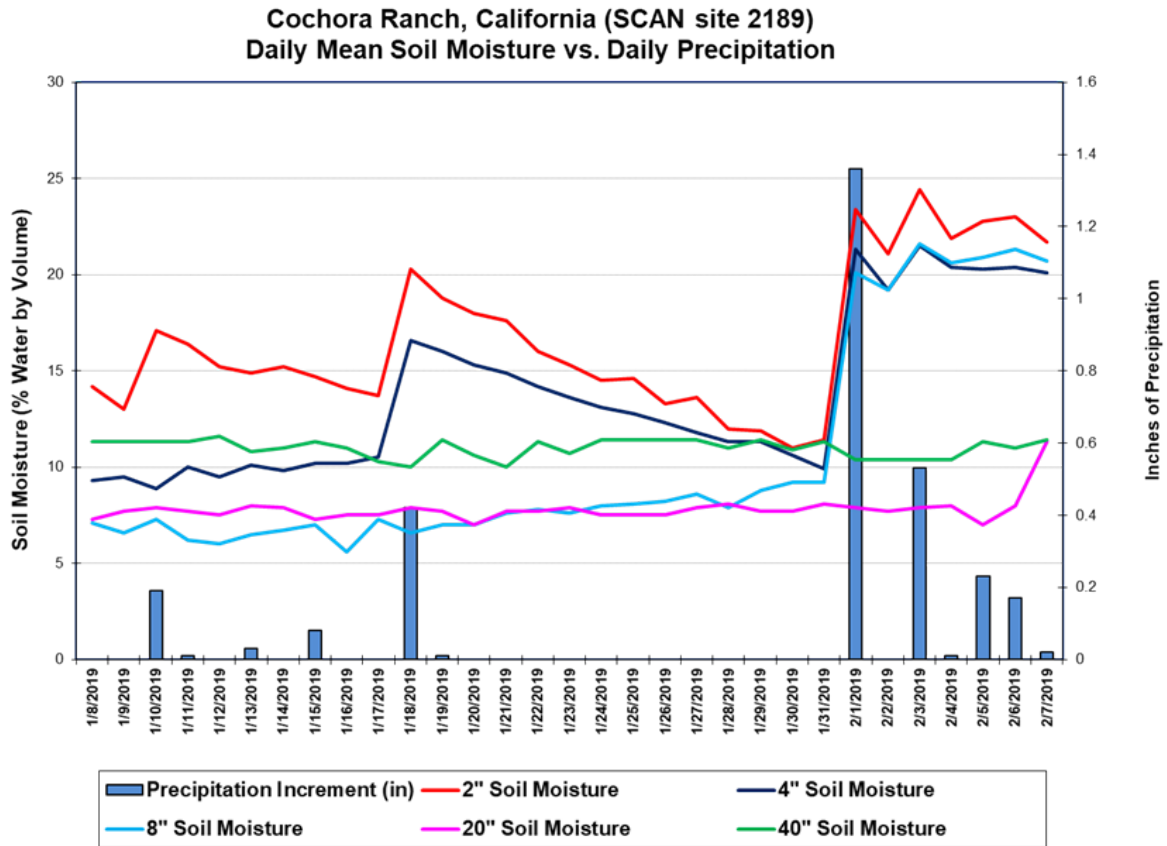
### **NEW!** Soil Moisture Percent of Saturation

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



## Soil Moisture Data

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



This chart shows the soil moisture and precipitation for the last 30 days at the [Cochora Ranch SCAN site](#) in California. On Friday, February 1, the accumulated precipitation totaled 1.36 inches followed by an increase in soil moisture at the 2-, 4-, and 8-inch sensor levels.

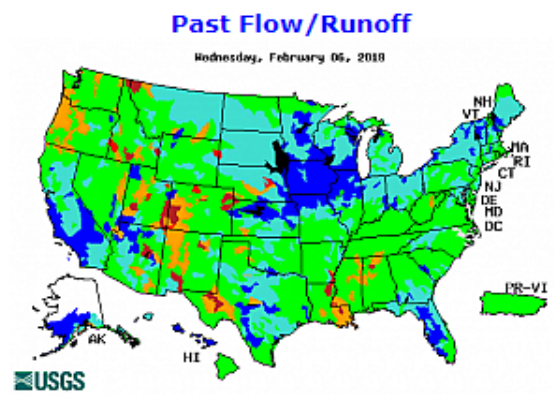
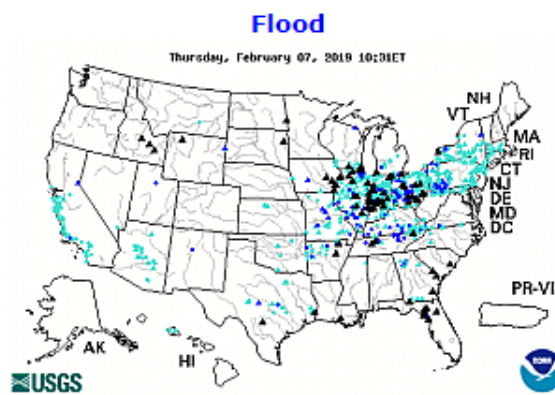
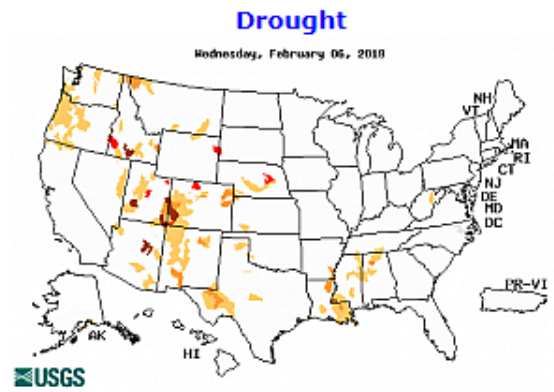
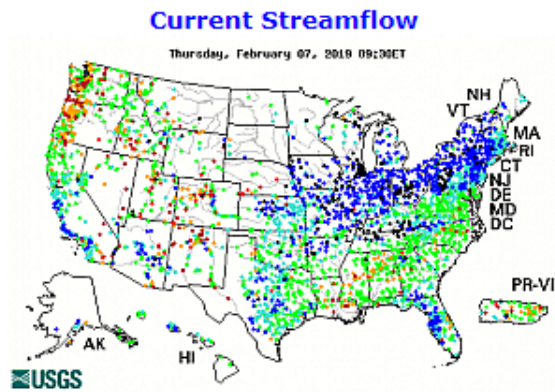
## Soil Moisture Data Portals

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



## Streamflow, Drought, Flood, and Runoff

Source: U.S. Geological Survey

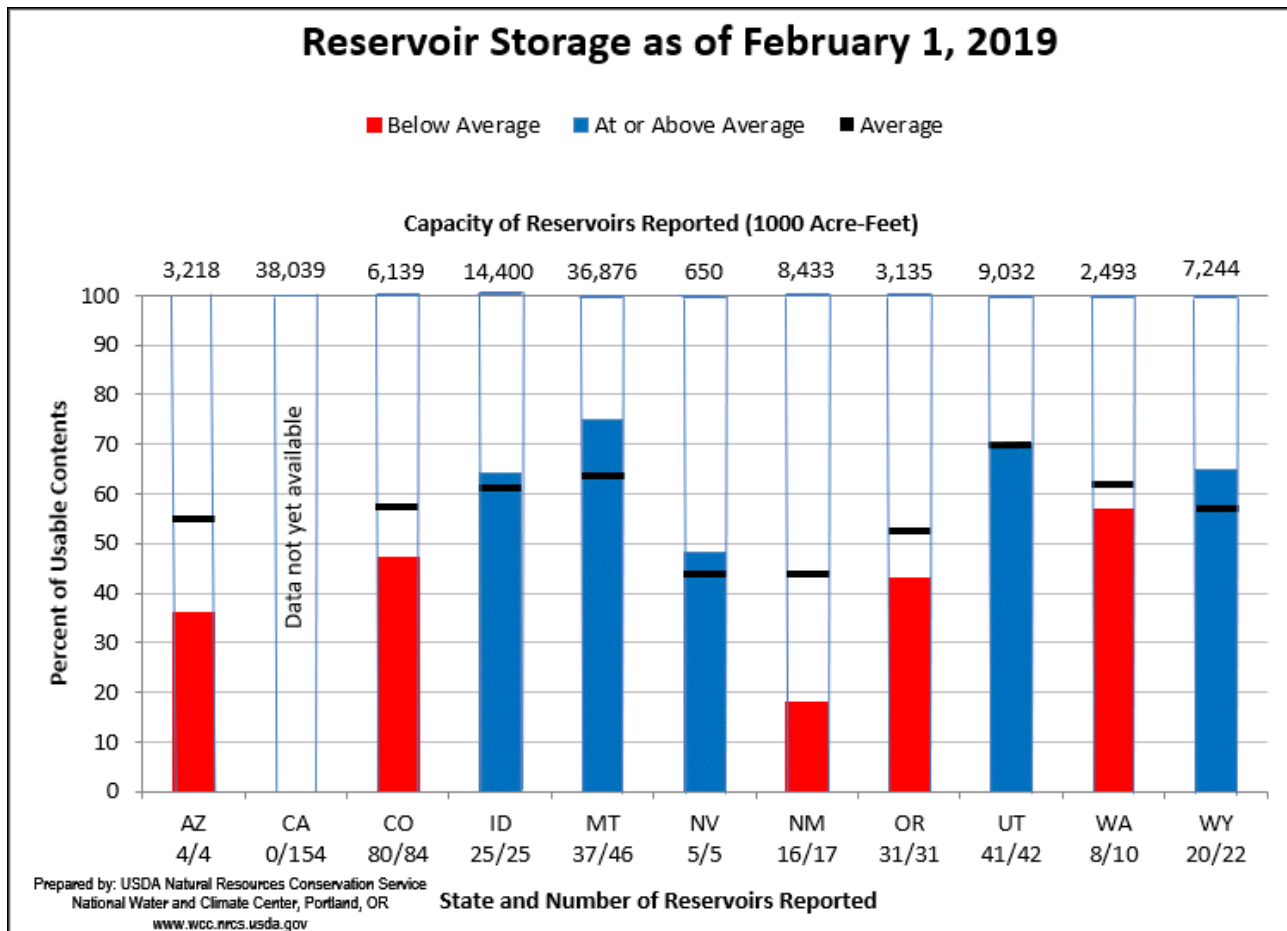


[WaterWatch: Streamflow, drought, flood, and runoff conditions](#)

## Reservoir Storage

### Western States Reservoir Storage

Source: NRCS National Water and Climate Center



February 1, 2019 Reservoir Storage: [Chart](#) | [Dataset](#)

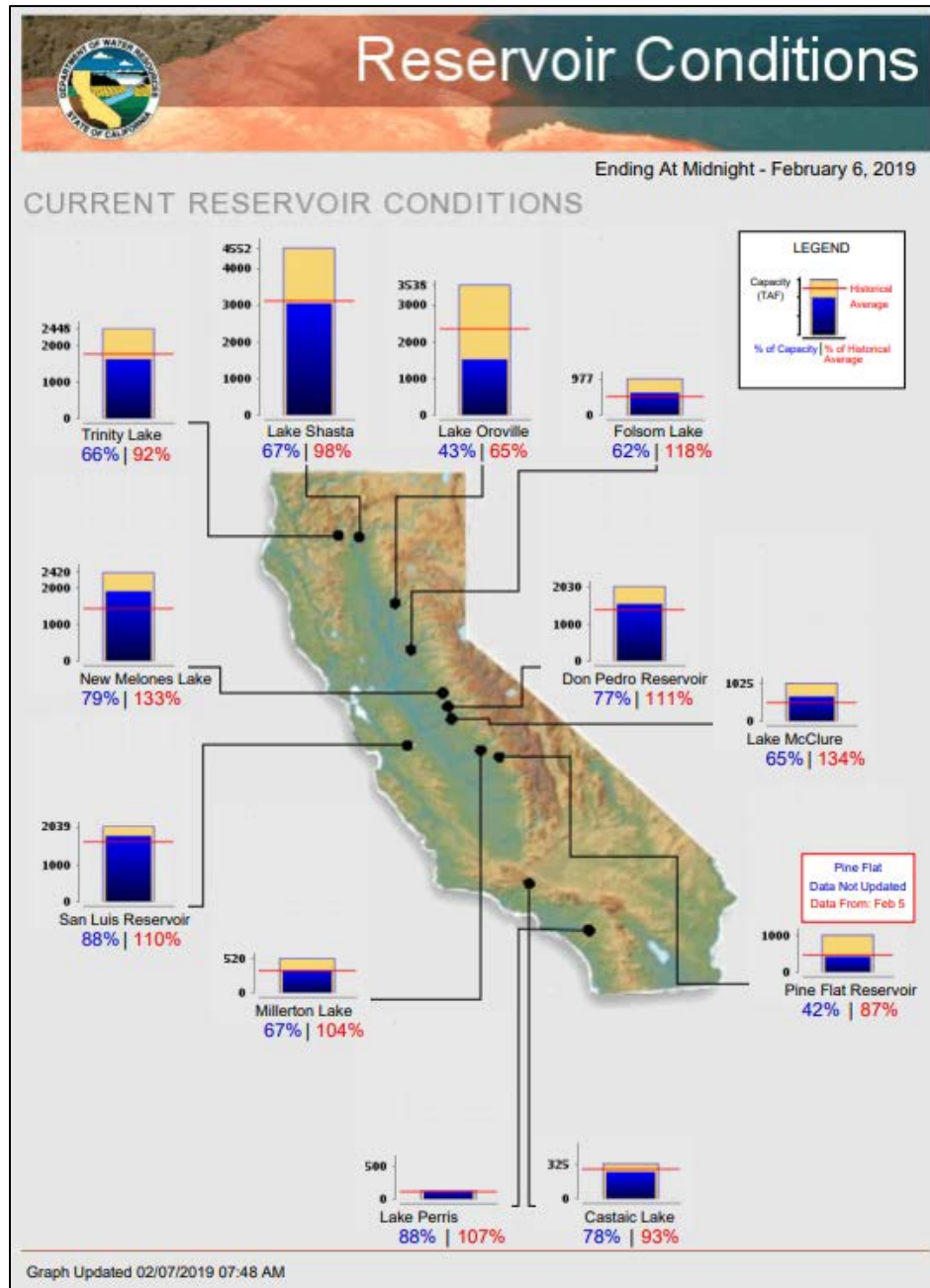
### Hydromet Tea Cup Reservoir Depictions

Source: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

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

## Current California Reservoir Conditions

Source: California Department of Water Resources



[Current California Reservoir Conditions](#)



## Short- and Long-Range Outlooks

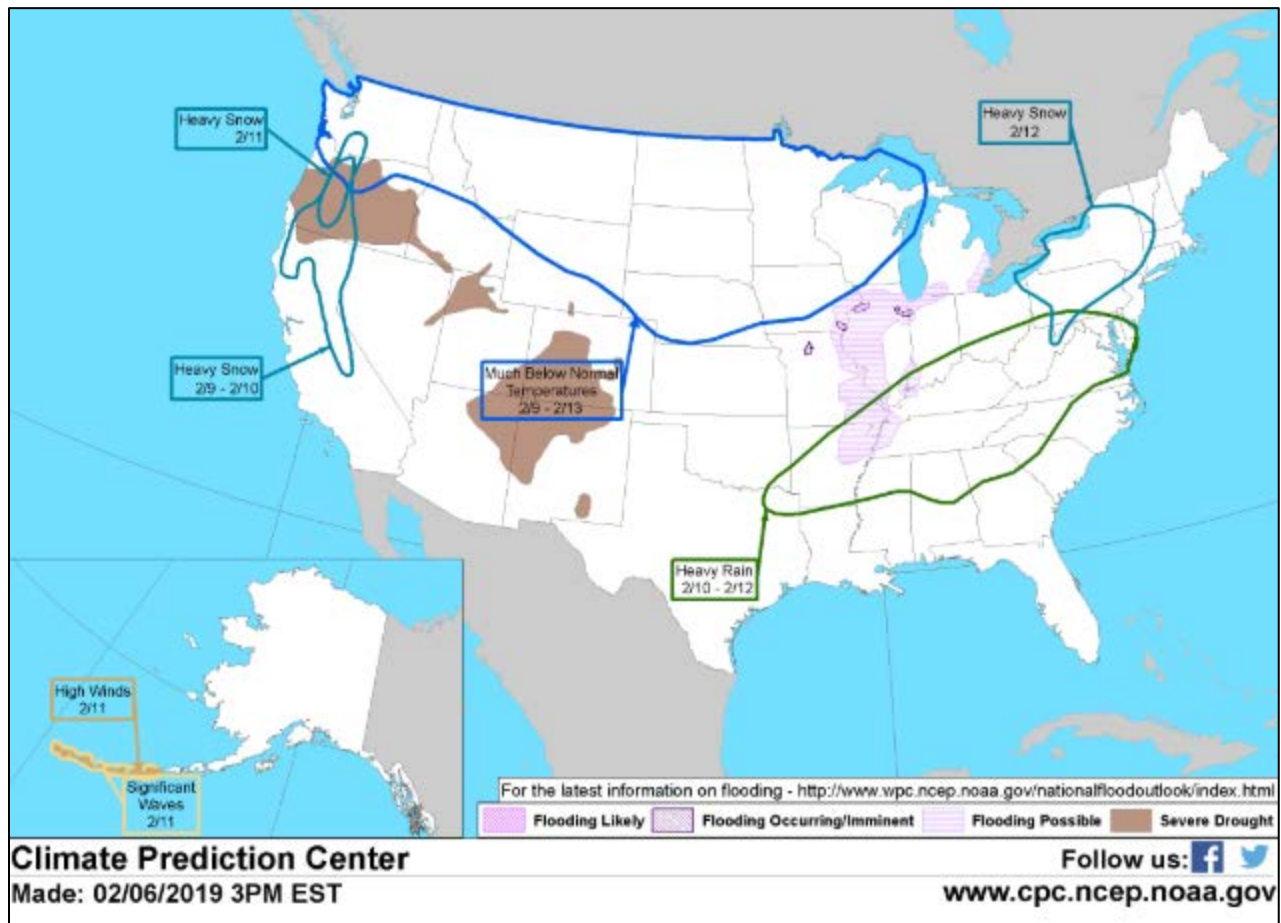
### Agricultural Weather Highlights

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

**National Outlook, Thursday, February 7, 2019:** “For the remainder of today, a low-pressure system will move into the Great Lakes region and intensify, delivering heavy rain in the Ohio Valley and environs, and wind-driven snow across the upper Midwest. By week’s end, however, cold, mostly dry weather will engulf the entire country, except for lingering warmth in Florida and the return of stormy weather in the Pacific Coast States. Early next week, temperatures will quickly rebound to above-normal levels in the Deep South, but cold air will remain deeply entrenched across the North and West. Widespread precipitation will return early next week across the central and eastern U.S., with additional snow expected across the northern and central Plains and upper Midwest. In addition, wintry precipitation may affect the Mid-Atlantic region, while showers and thunderstorms should sweep across the South. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for February 12 – 16 calls for the likelihood of above-normal temperatures in the Rio Grande Valley and from the Gulf Coast into southern New England, while colder-than-normal conditions will prevail from the Pacific Coast into the middle and upper Mississippi Valley. Meanwhile, wetter-than-normal weather will prevail nearly nationwide, with below-normal precipitation limited to the southern High Plains.”

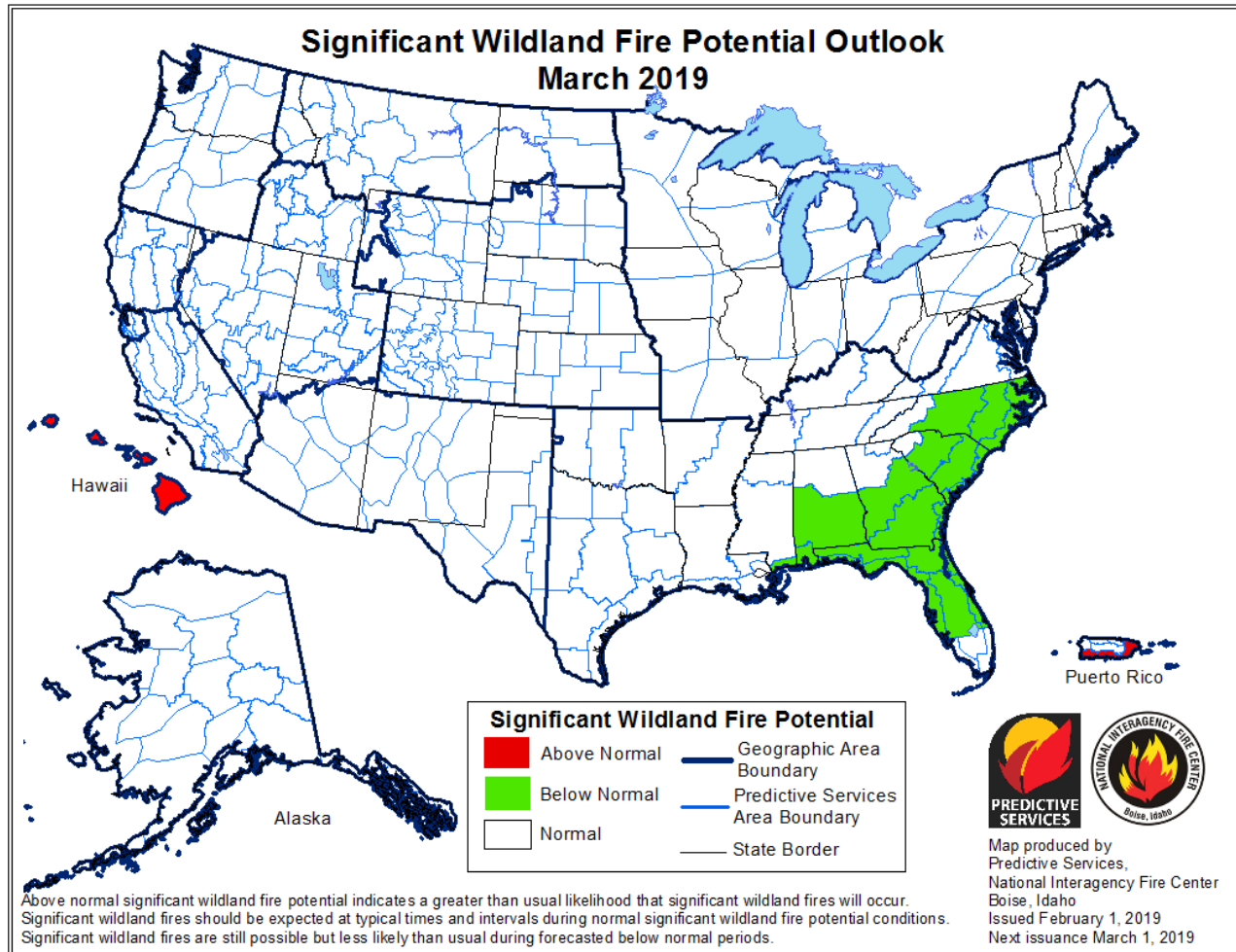
### Weather Hazards Outlook: February 9 – 13, 2019

Source: Climate Prediction Center



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

Source: National Interagency Fire Center

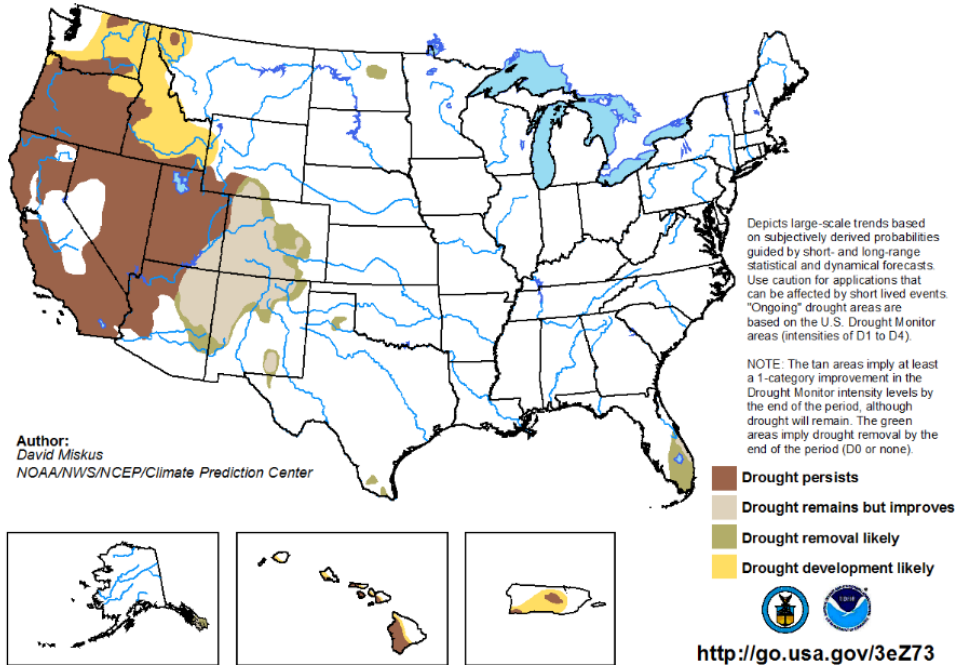


**Seasonal Drought Outlook: [January 17 – April 30, 2019](#)**

Source: National Weather Service

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

Valid for January 17 - April 30, 2019  
Released January 17

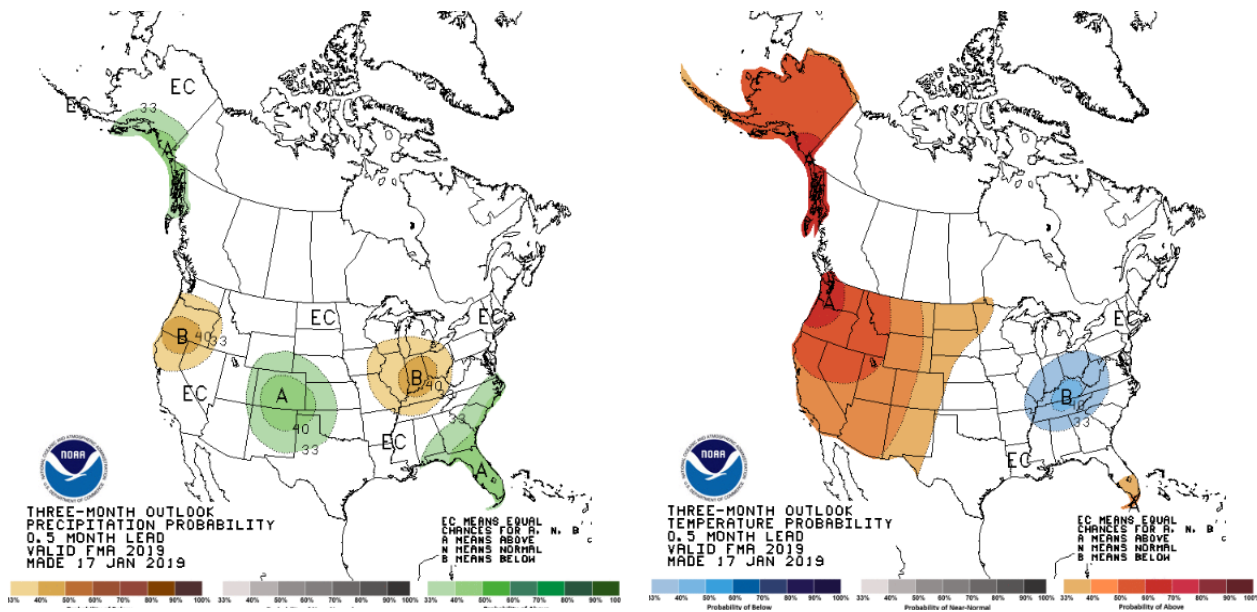


**Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook**

Source: National Weather Service

Precipitation

Temperature



February-March-April (FMA) 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](#).