

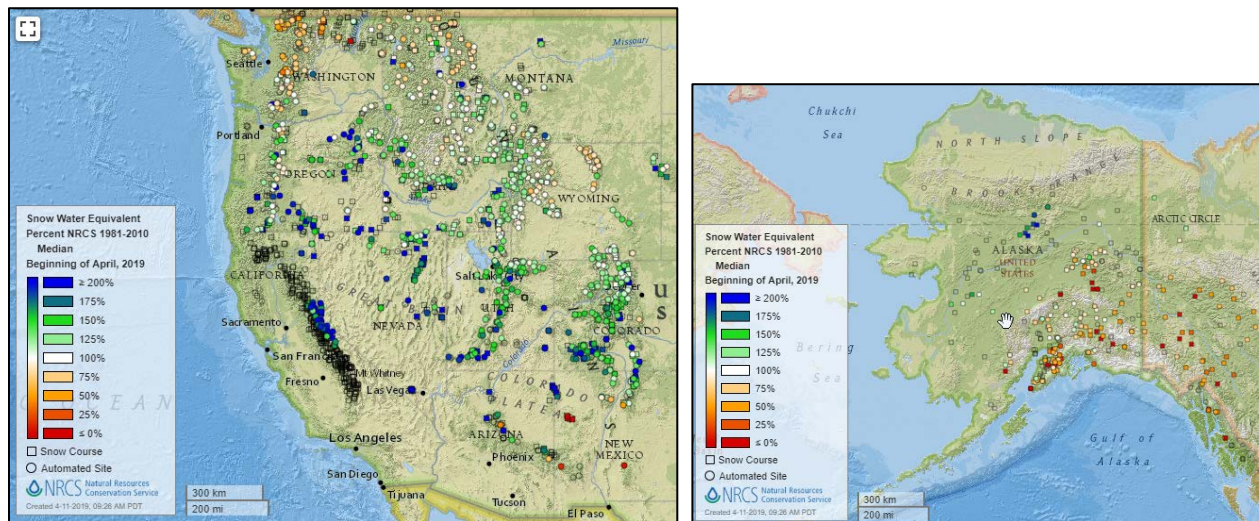
Water and Climate Update

April 11, 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.

Snow	2	Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators	13
Precipitation	3	Short- and Long-Range Outlooks.....	18
Temperature.....	8	More Information	20
Drought	10		

April 1 western snowpack summary



The April 1 snowpack in the West shows the central latitudes from the southern Cascades and Sierra Nevada to the central Rockies have generally above normal to much above normal snowpack. The small areas of below normal snowpack are restricted to Washington, northern Idaho, and northern Montana. The dwindling snowpack in the Southwest has little to no snow in central to southern New Mexico and Arizona. Southern and eastern Alaska into the southern Yukon Territory have below normal to much below normal snowpack for this time of year, with a few stations reporting record low snow. The snowpack in Alaska is above normal in a small area south of the Brooks Range near the Arctic Circle.

Related:

[State Water Officials: Sierra Snowpack 'A California Water Supply Dream'](#) KPIX5 (CA)

[Sierra Snowpack at 156% as Some CA Ski Resorts Get Over 550 Inches of Snow This Season](#) – KTLA5 (CA)

[Water outlook strong for Tahoe Basin](#) – The record Currier (NV)

[Snow still piling up in the mountains](#) – Elko Daily Free Press (NV)

[Utah's snowpack gives water managers a reason to celebrate](#) – KSL.com (UT)

[March brings record low snowfall to mountains](#) – Daily Inter Lake (MT)

[Mountain snowpack hovering near normal after dry March](#) – Montana Standard (MT)

[Colorado's epic snowfall helps ease drought conditions, but state not out of the woods](#) – Lamar Ledger (CO)

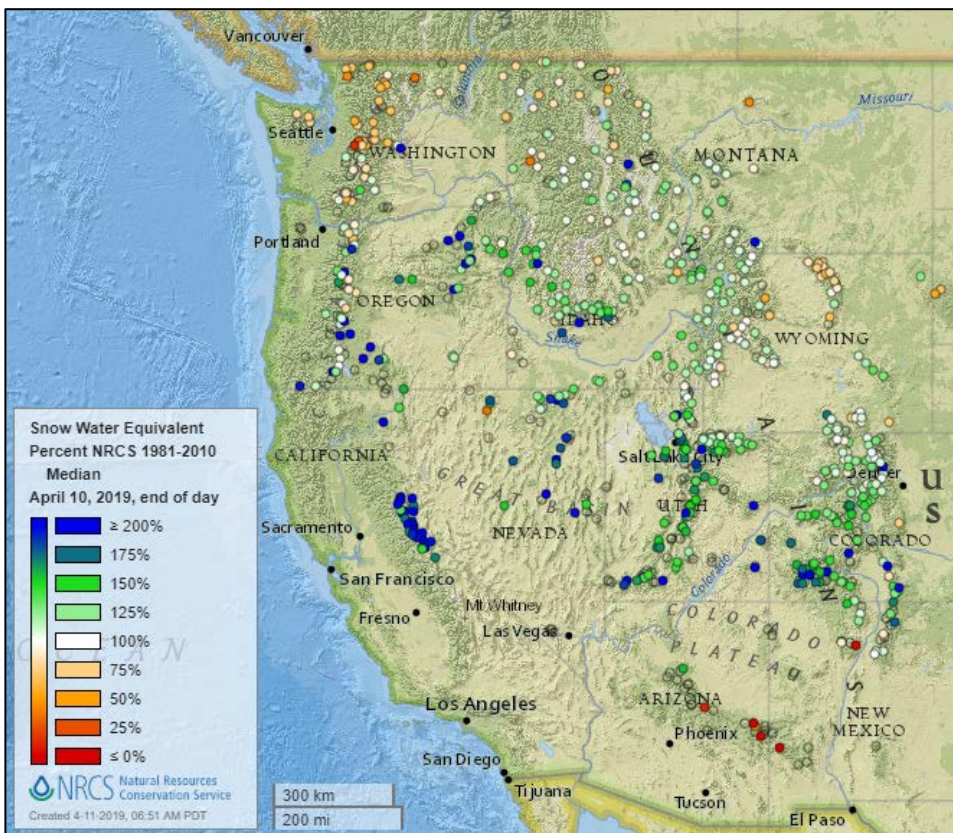
[Oregon snowpack holds steady, despite drier March](#) – KTVZ.com (OR)

[Less snowpack may impact region this summer](#) – Skagit Valley Herald (WA)

[Warm March leads to numerous new records statewide](#) – KTVA (AK)

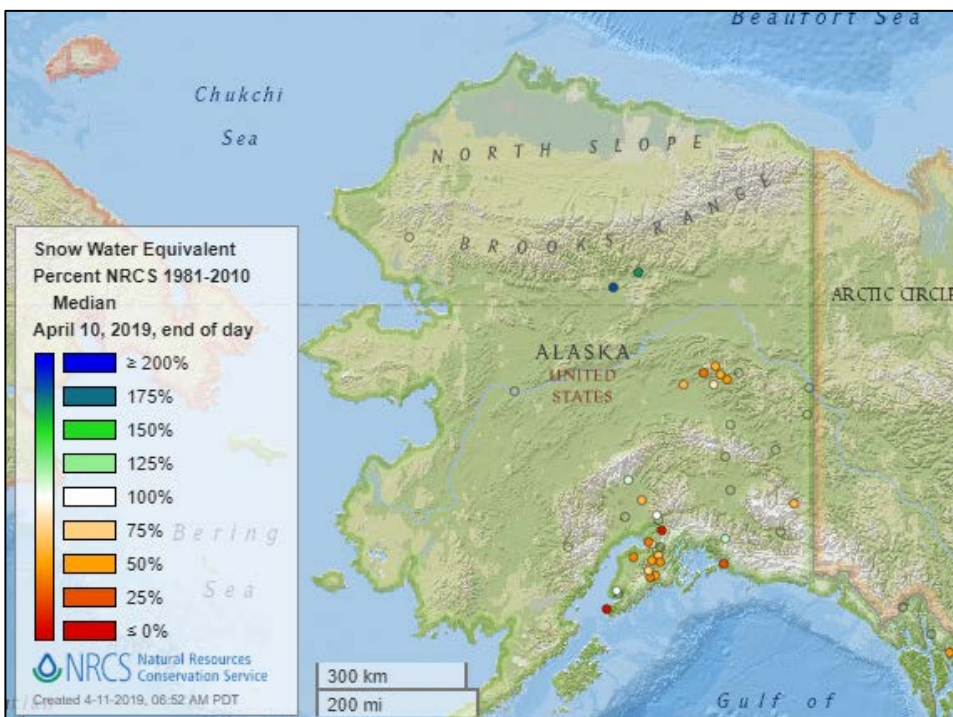
Snow

Current Snow Water Equivalent, NRCS SNOTEL Network



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

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

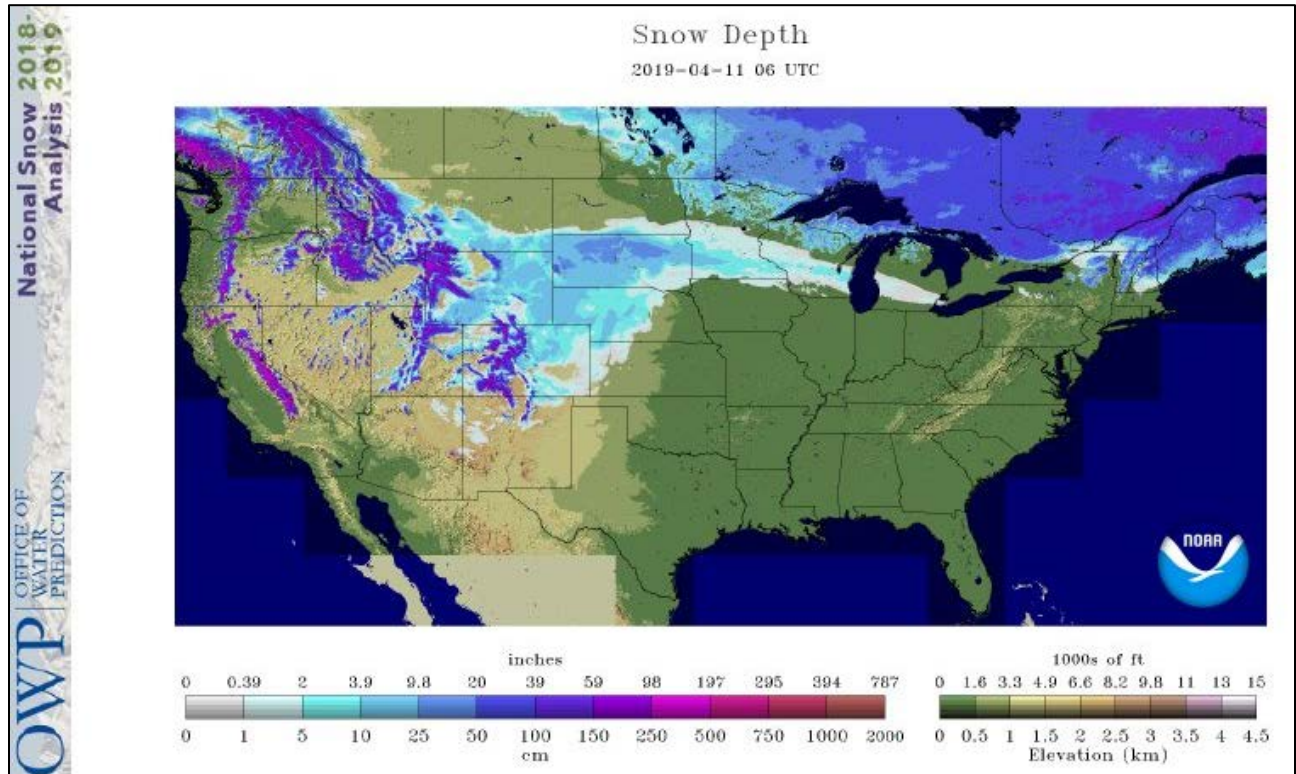


[Alaska snow water equivalent percent of median map](#)

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

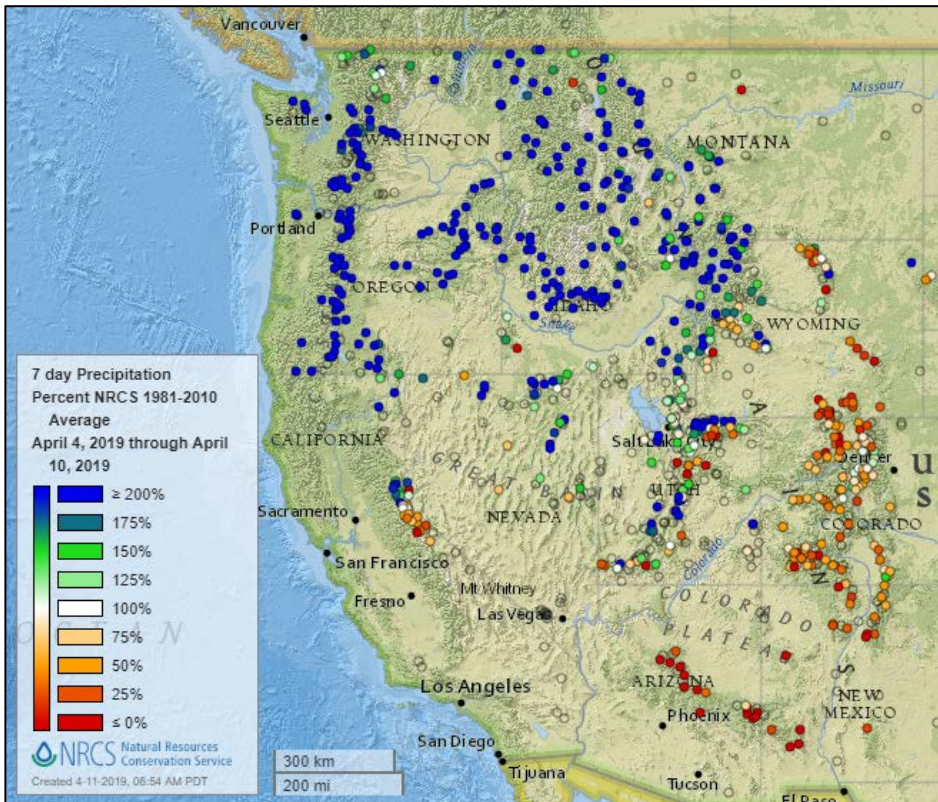
Current Snow Depth

Source: National Weather Service Snow Analysis



Precipitation

Last 7 Days, NRCS SNOTEL Network

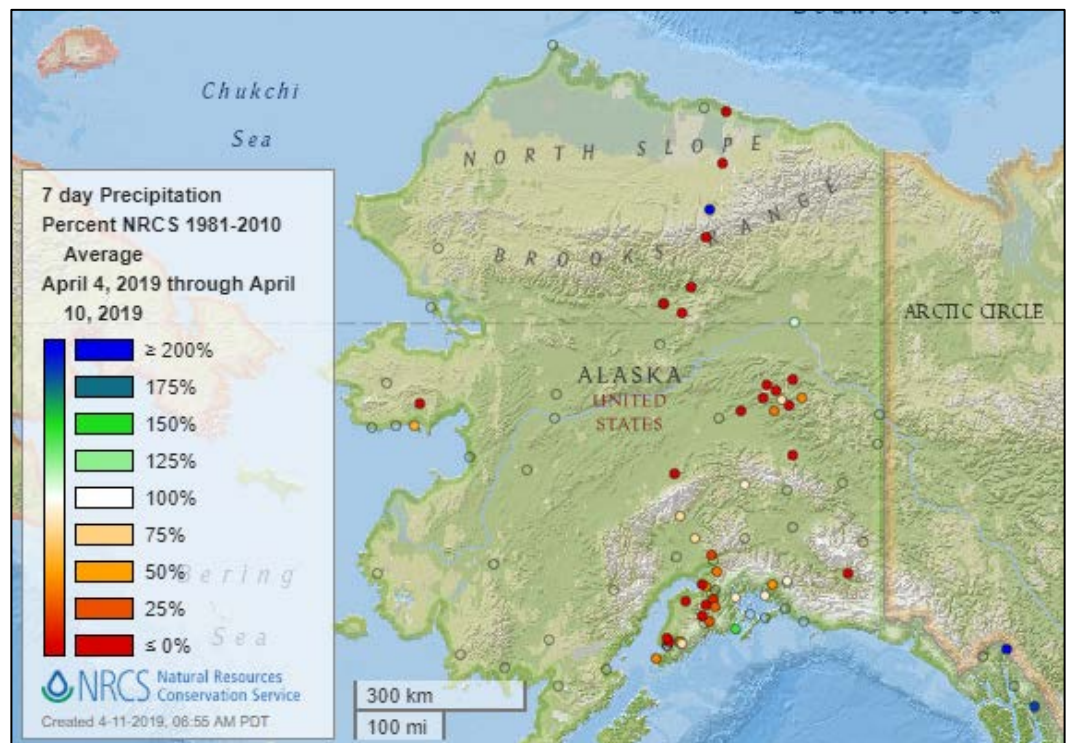


[7-day precipitation
percent of average
map](#)

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](#)



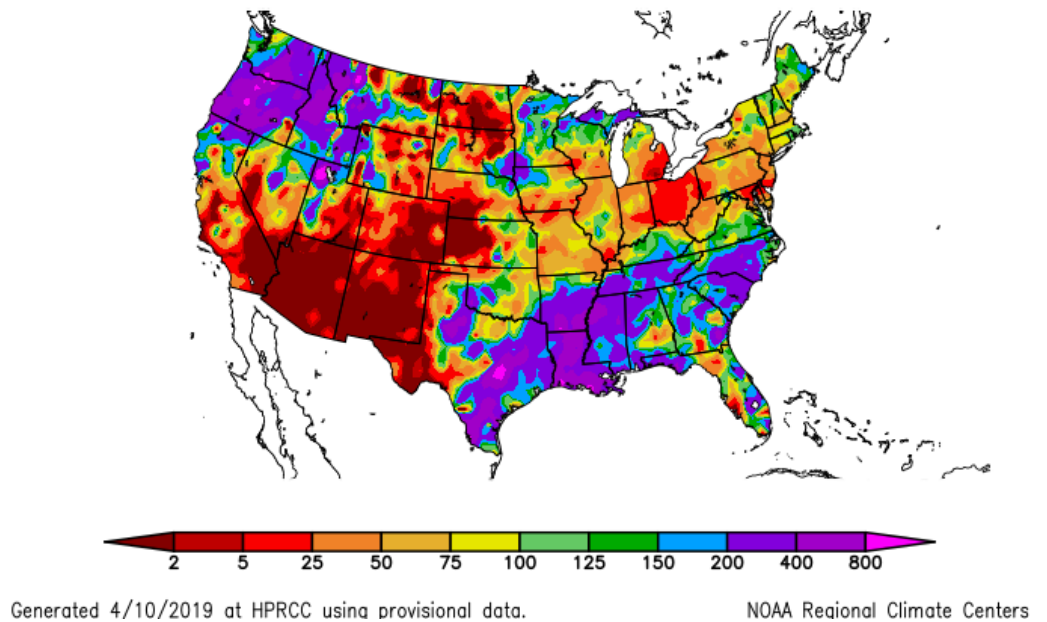
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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 (%)
4/3/2019 – 4/9/2019



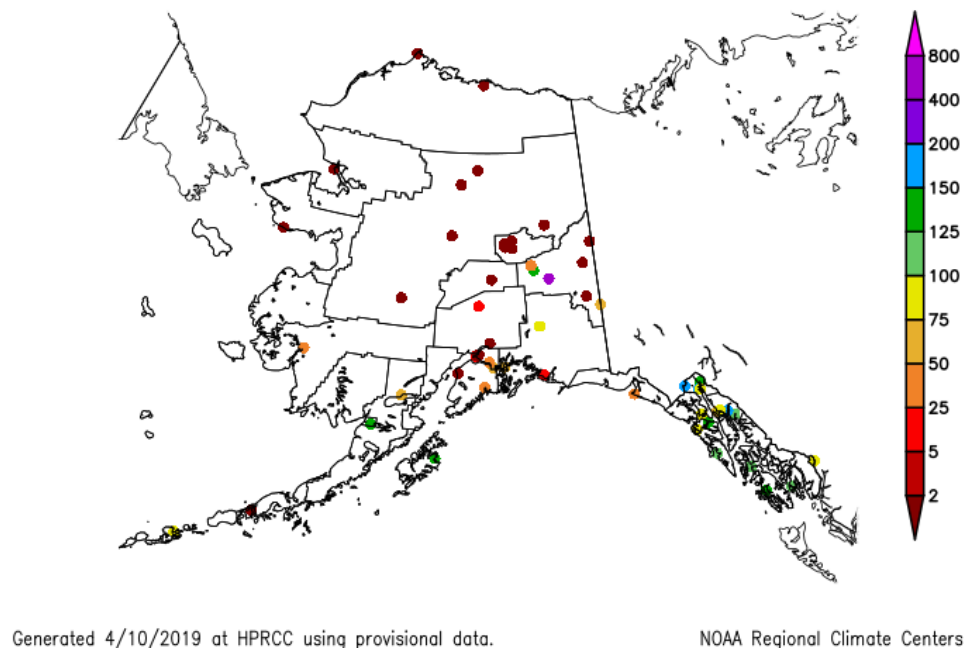
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

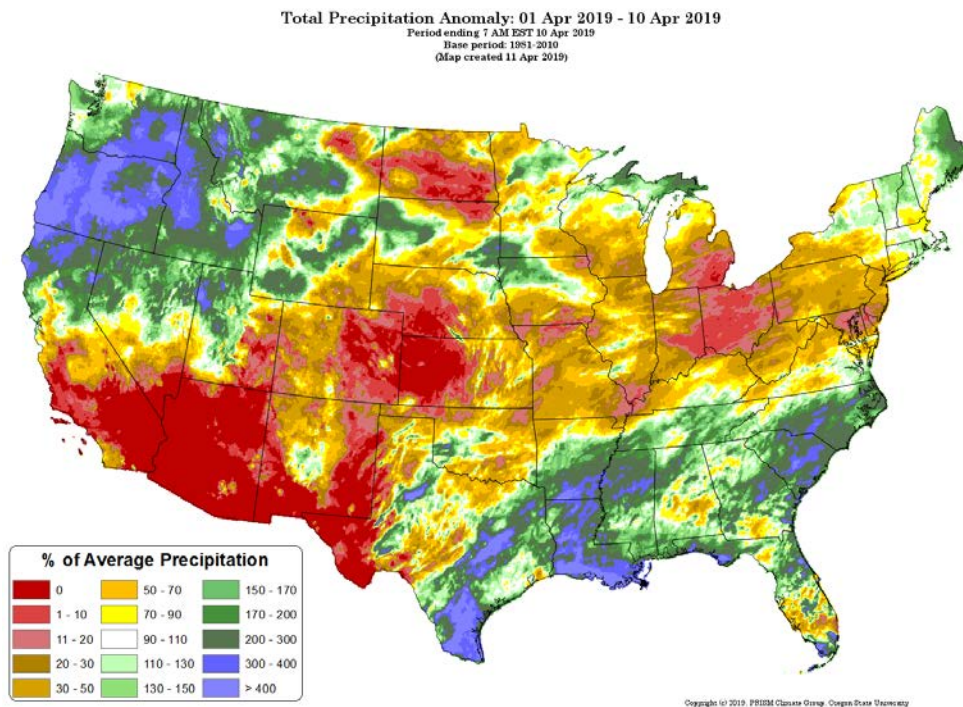
See also: [7-day total precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
4/3/2019 – 4/9/2019



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

Source: PRISM

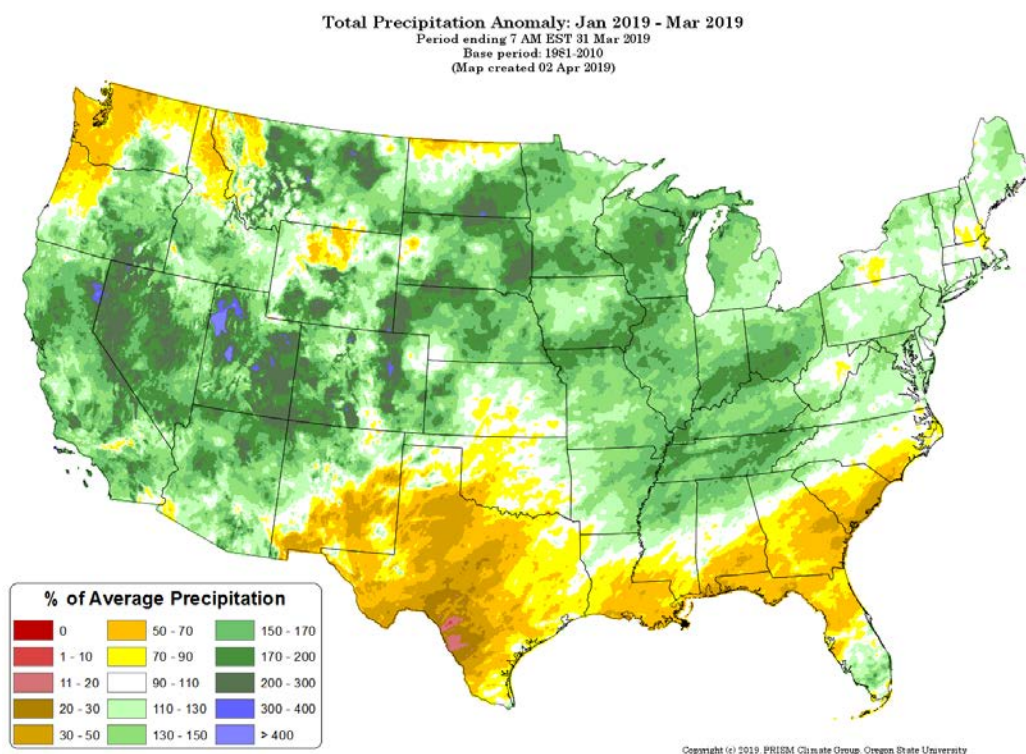


[Month-to-date national total precipitation percent of average map](#)

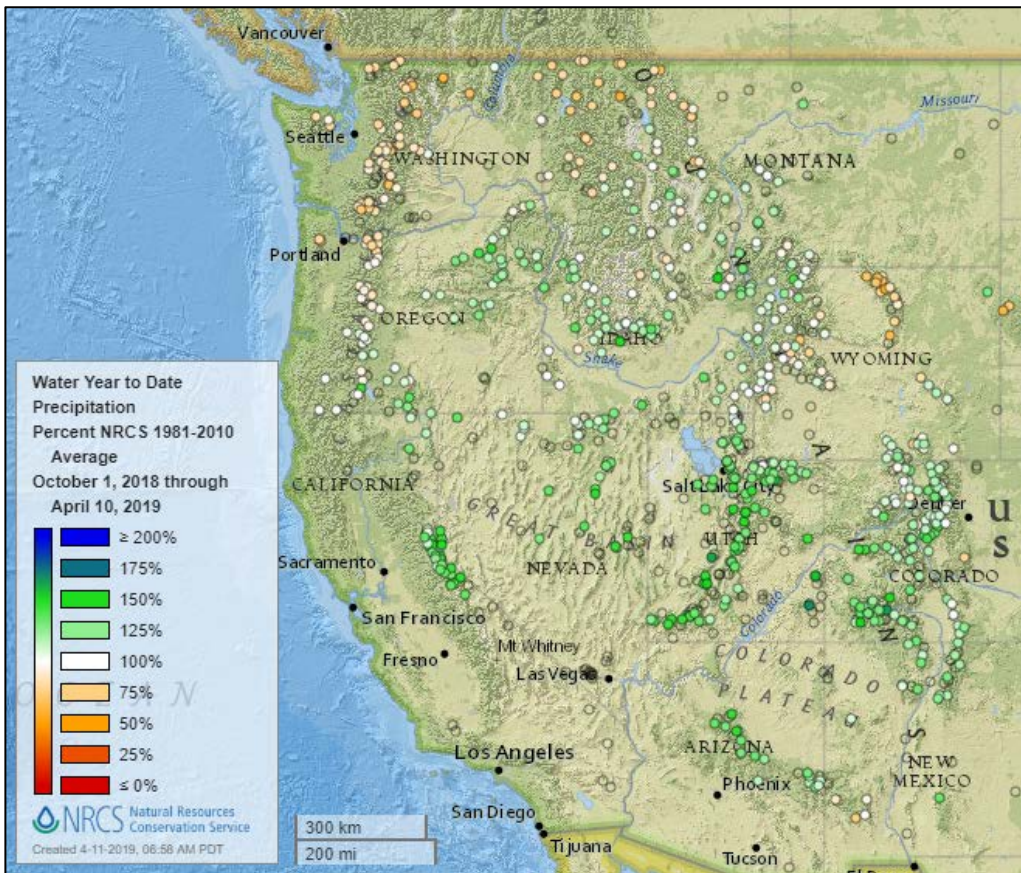
Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

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

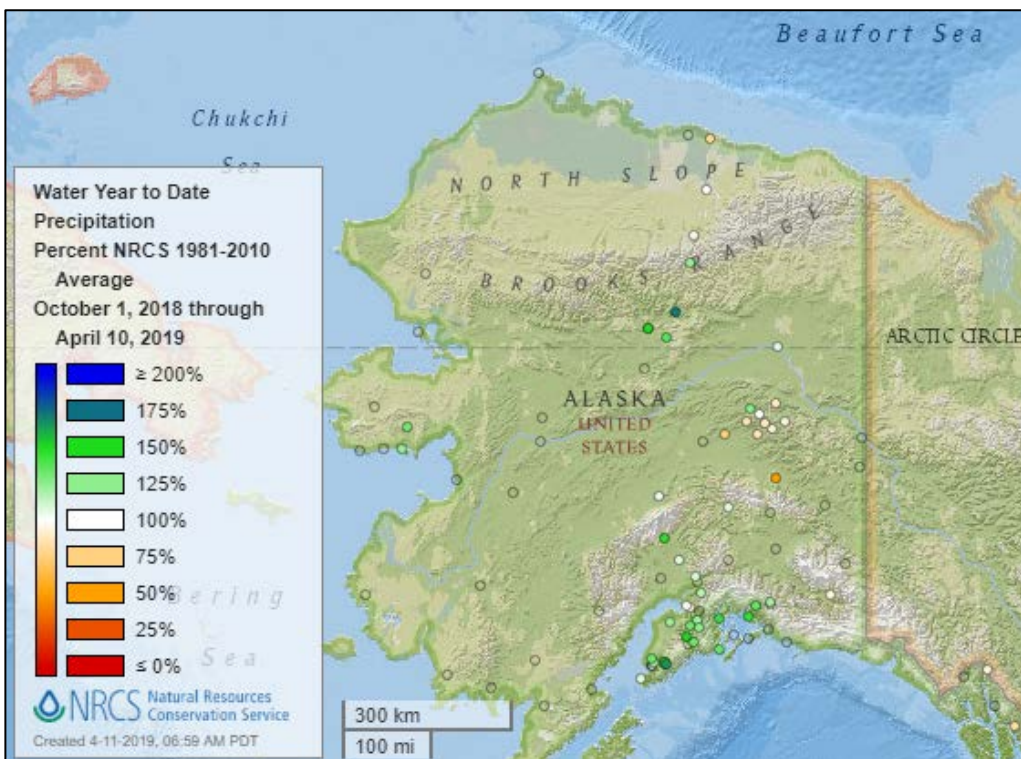


Water Year-to-Date, NRCS SNOTEL Network



[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

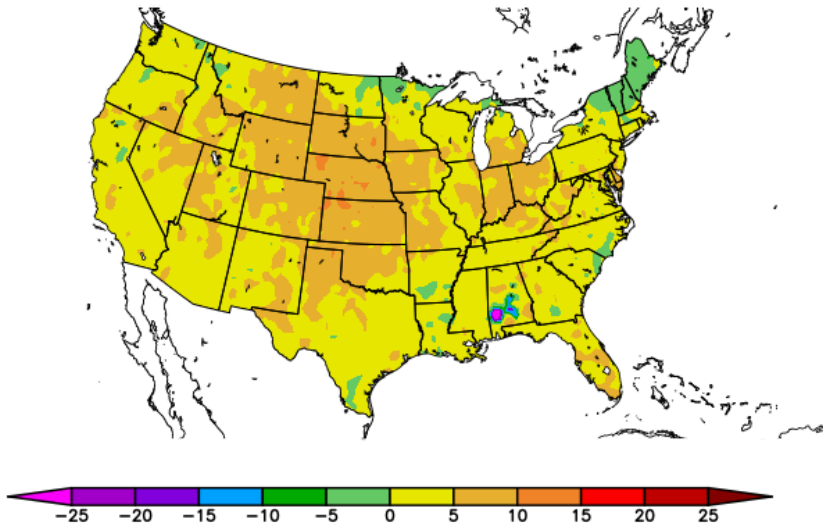
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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)
4/3/2019 – 4/9/2019



NOAA Regional Climate Centers

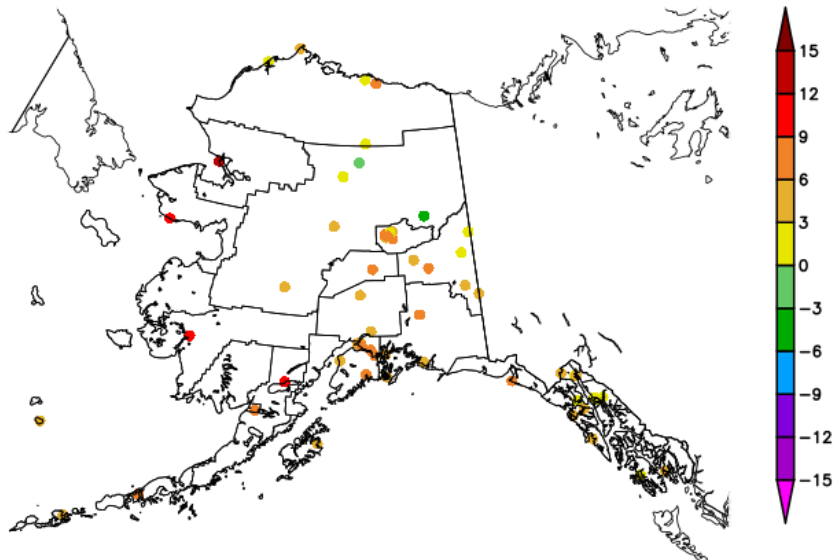
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
4/3/2019 – 4/9/2019

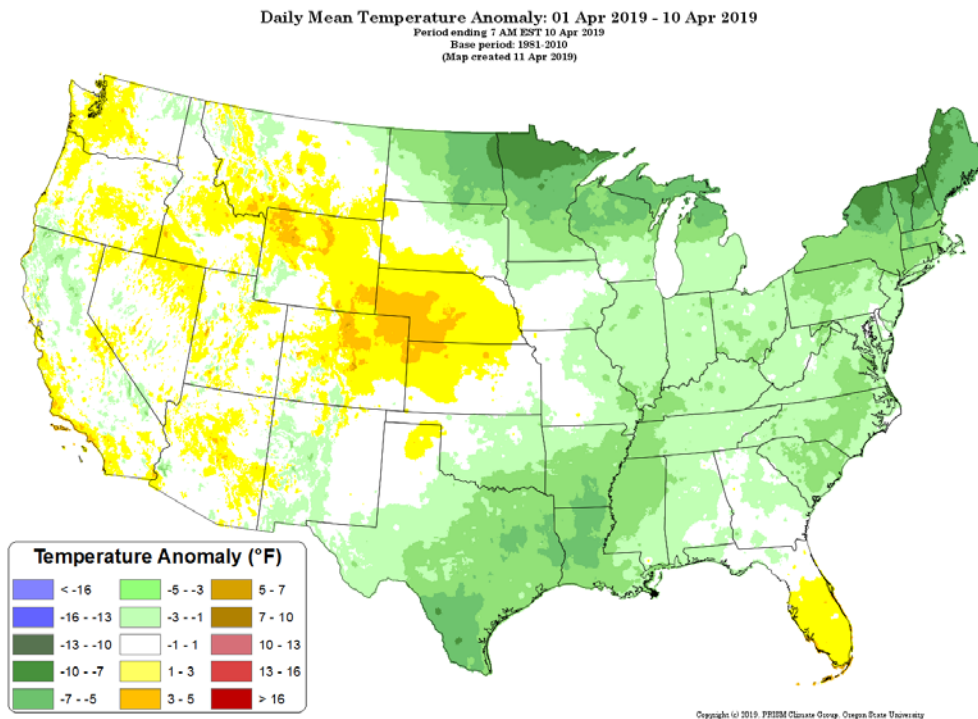


NOAA Regional Climate Centers

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

Source: PRISM

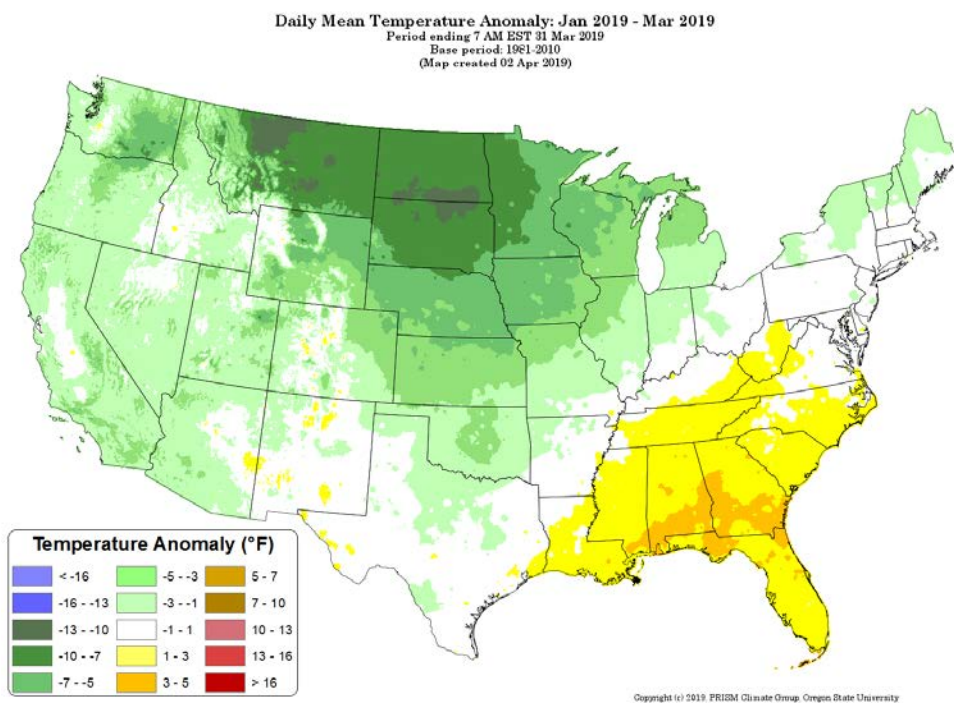
[Month-to-date
national daily
mean
temperature
anomaly map](#)



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

Source: PRISM

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



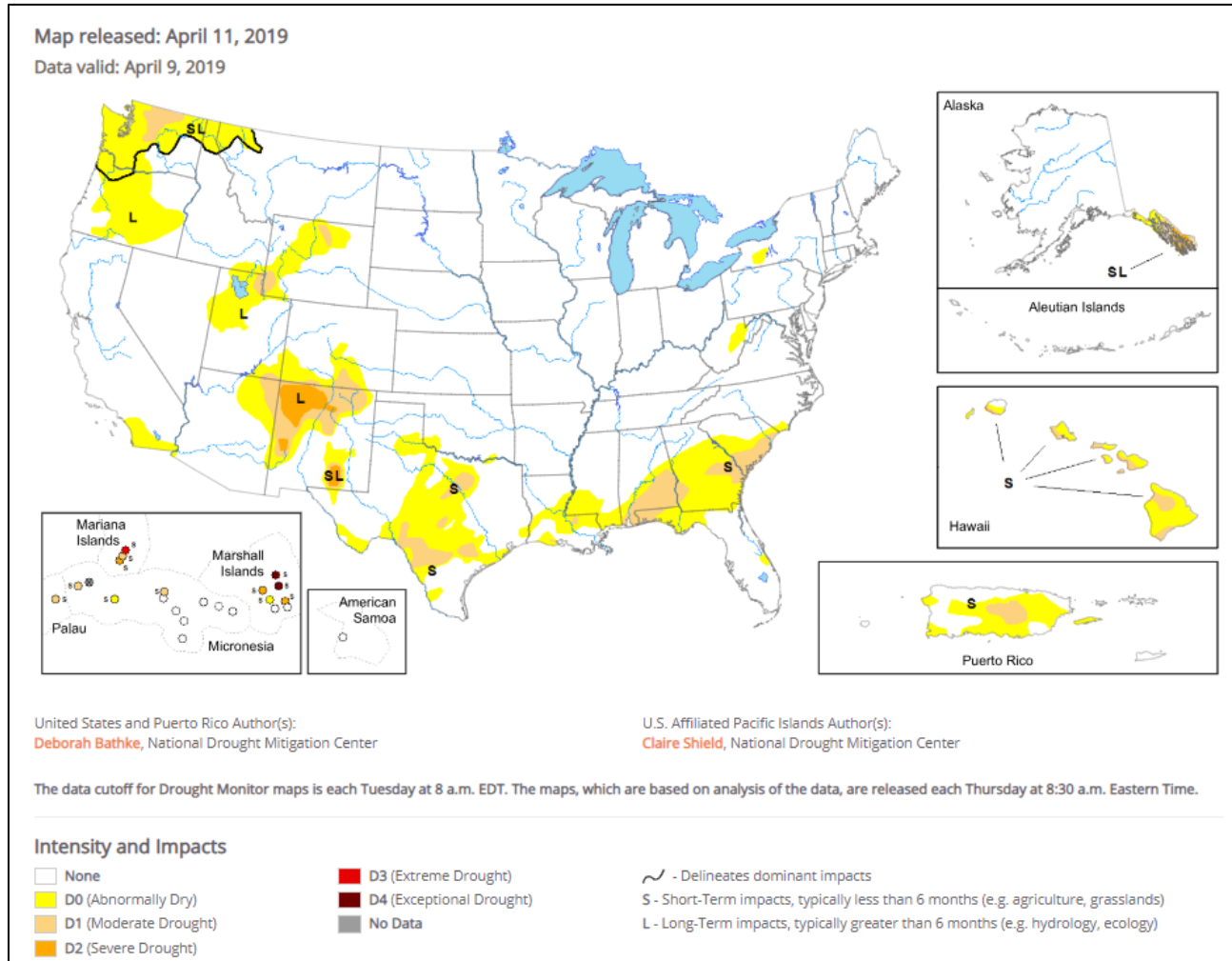
Drought

[U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

[U.S. Drought Portal](#)

Source: NOAA



[Current National Drought Summary](#), April 11, 2019

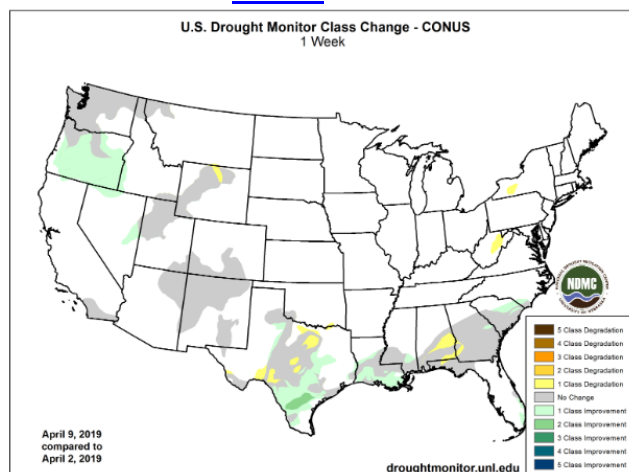
Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

"After a dry March, a series of storms brought much needed precipitation to the Pacific Northwest, staving off further degradations in Washington and resulting in local flooding and broad drought improvements in Oregon. Elsewhere, the West remained largely status quo with the only degradation in drought conditions occurring in the Big Horn Mountains where snowpack has been well below normal all winter. The South and Southeast saw a mixture of improvements and degradations. Locally heavy rainfall brought improvements to parts of Texas, Louisiana, and the Carolinas while areas such as southeastern Alabama saw an expansion of moderate drought. Much of the remainder of the country remains largely free of drought and abnormal dryness."

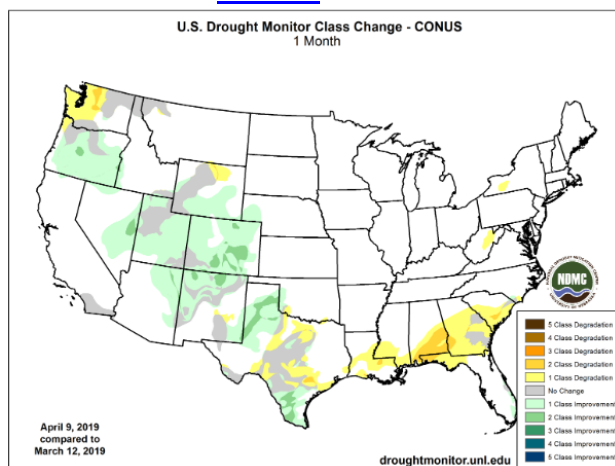
Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

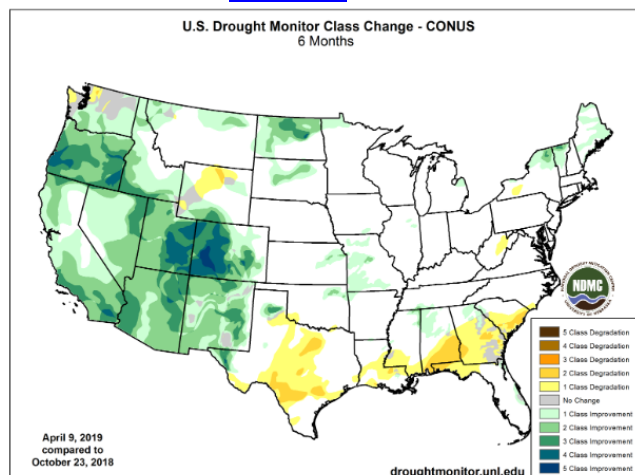
1 Week



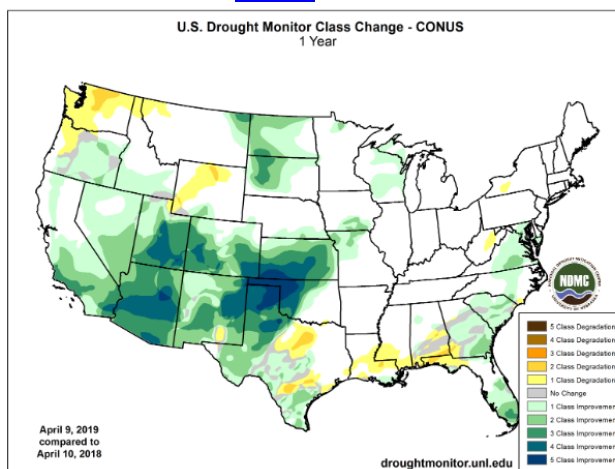
1 Month



6 Months



1 Year



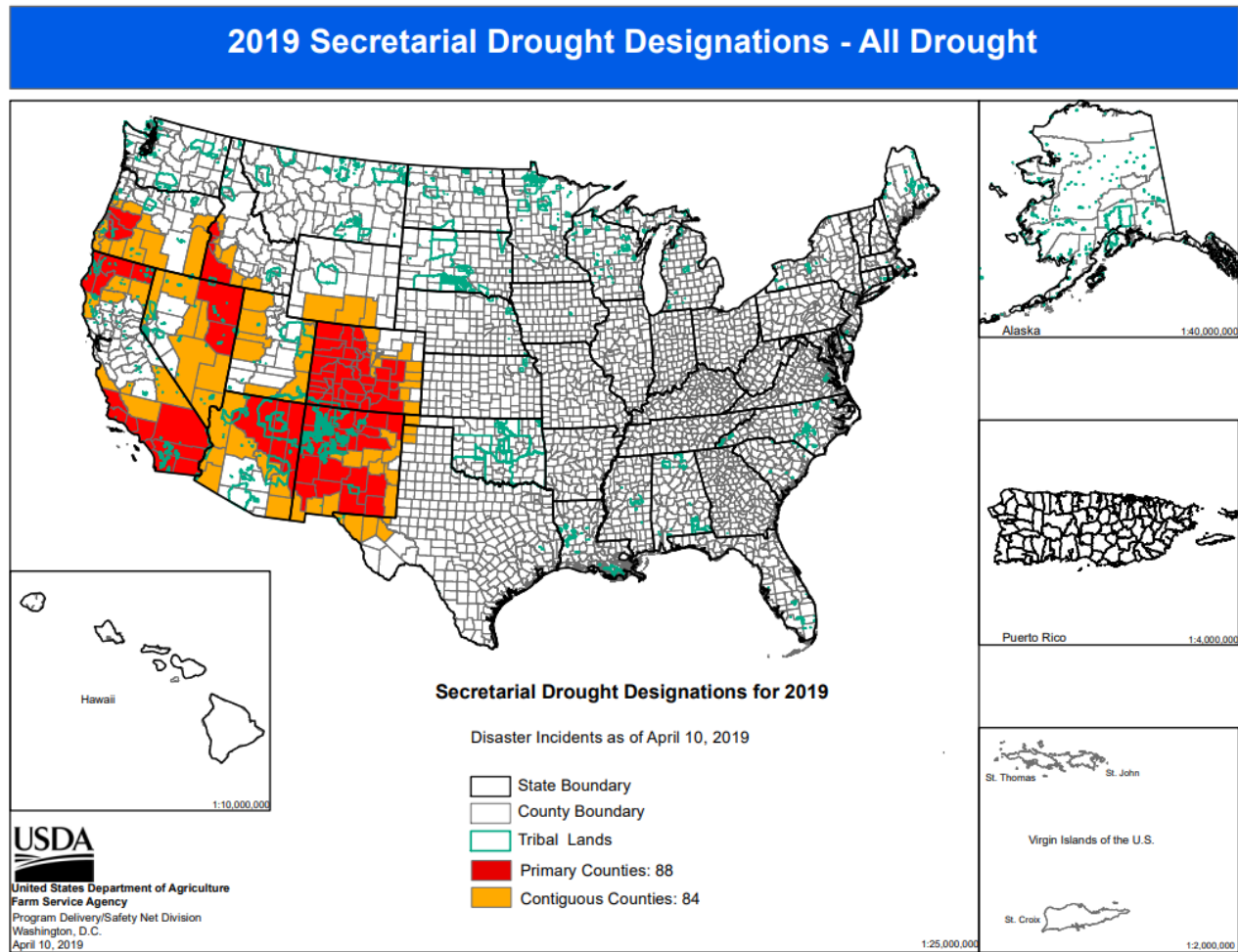
[Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months for the contiguous U.S.](#)

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](#)

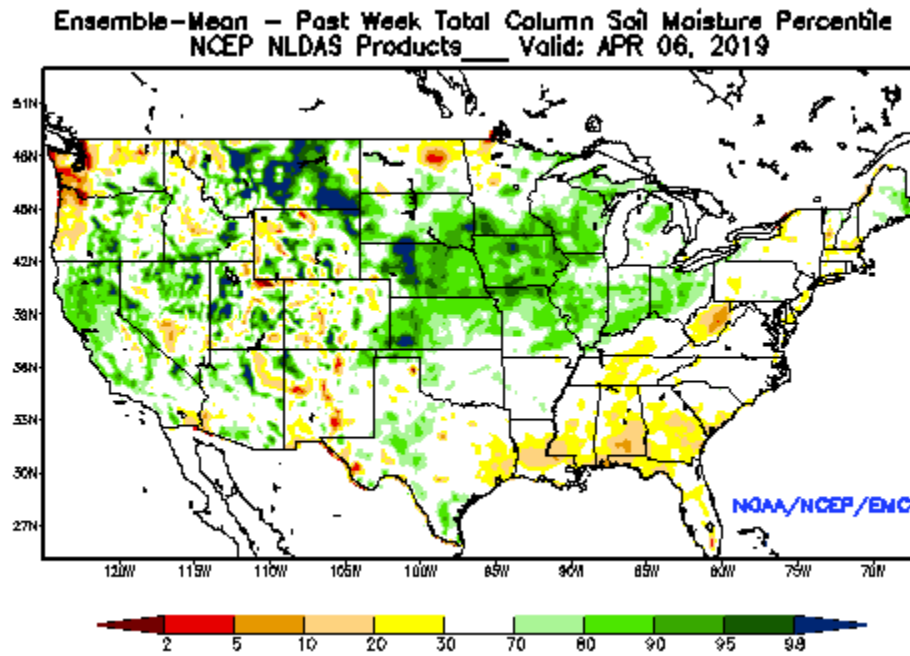
Source: USDA Farm Service Agency



Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

Soil Moisture

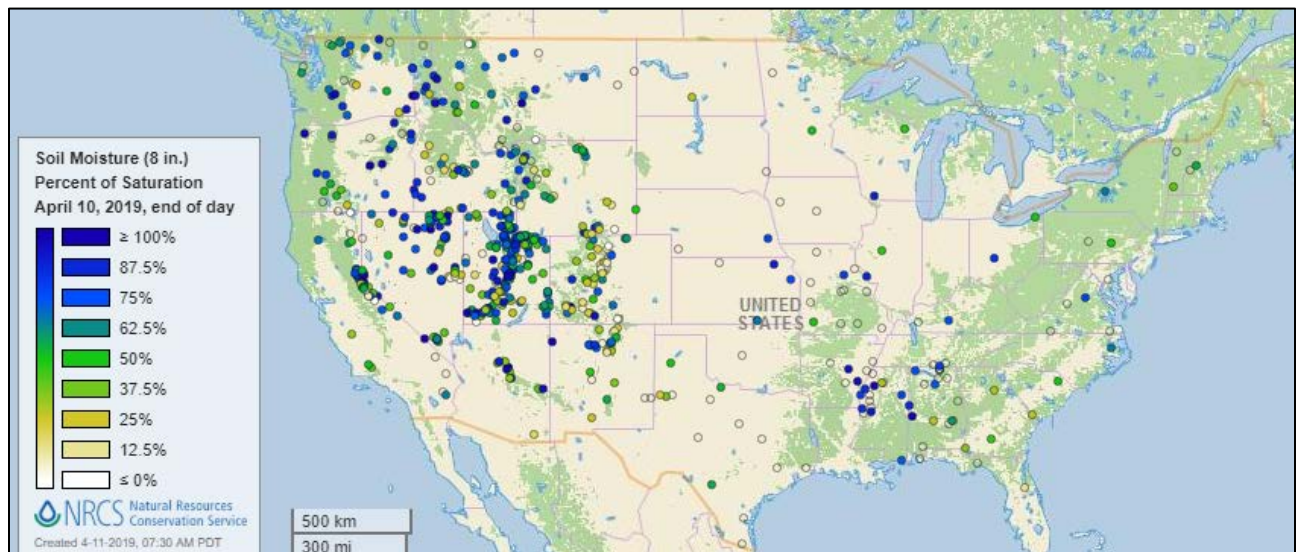
Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Prediction



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of April 6, 2019

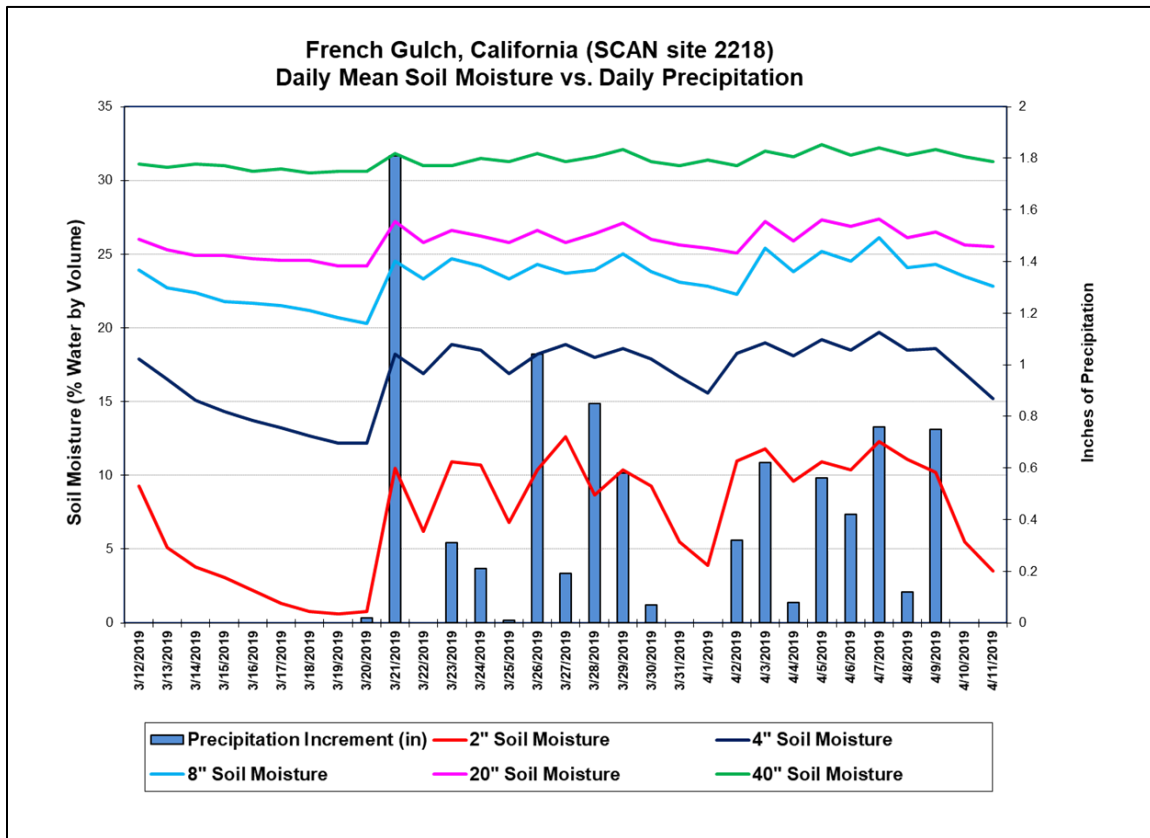
Soil Moisture Percent of Saturation

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



Soil Moisture Data

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



This graph shows the precipitation and soil moisture for the last 30 days at the [French Gulch SCAN site](#) in northern California. This site is in an area that has experienced a large amount of rainfall in the last month. Between April 2-9, the accumulated precipitation totaled 3.63 inches followed by an overall increase in soil moisture at all sensor levels.

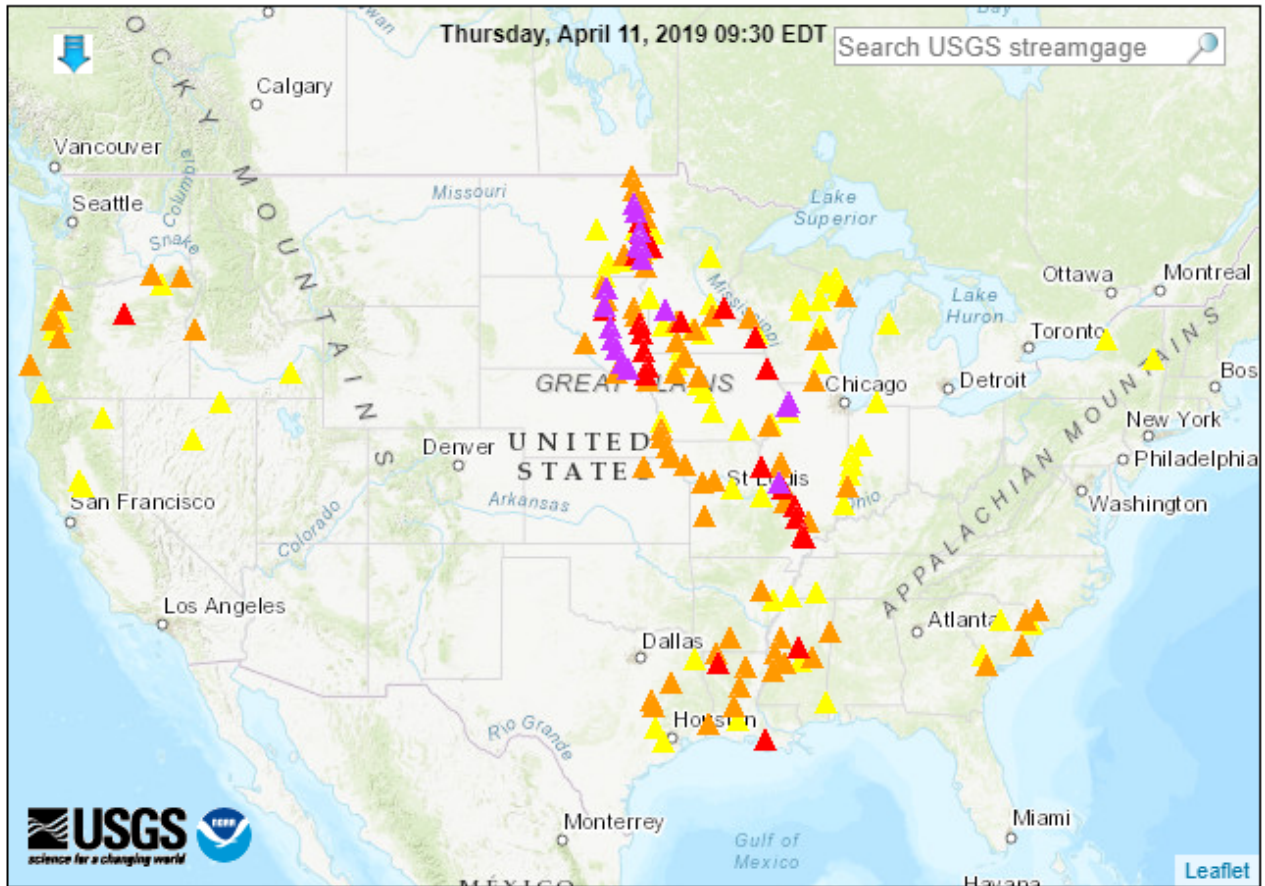
Soil Moisture Data Portals

- [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

Map of flood and high flow conditions (18 in major flood, 25 in moderate flood, 72 in minor flood, 65 in near flood)



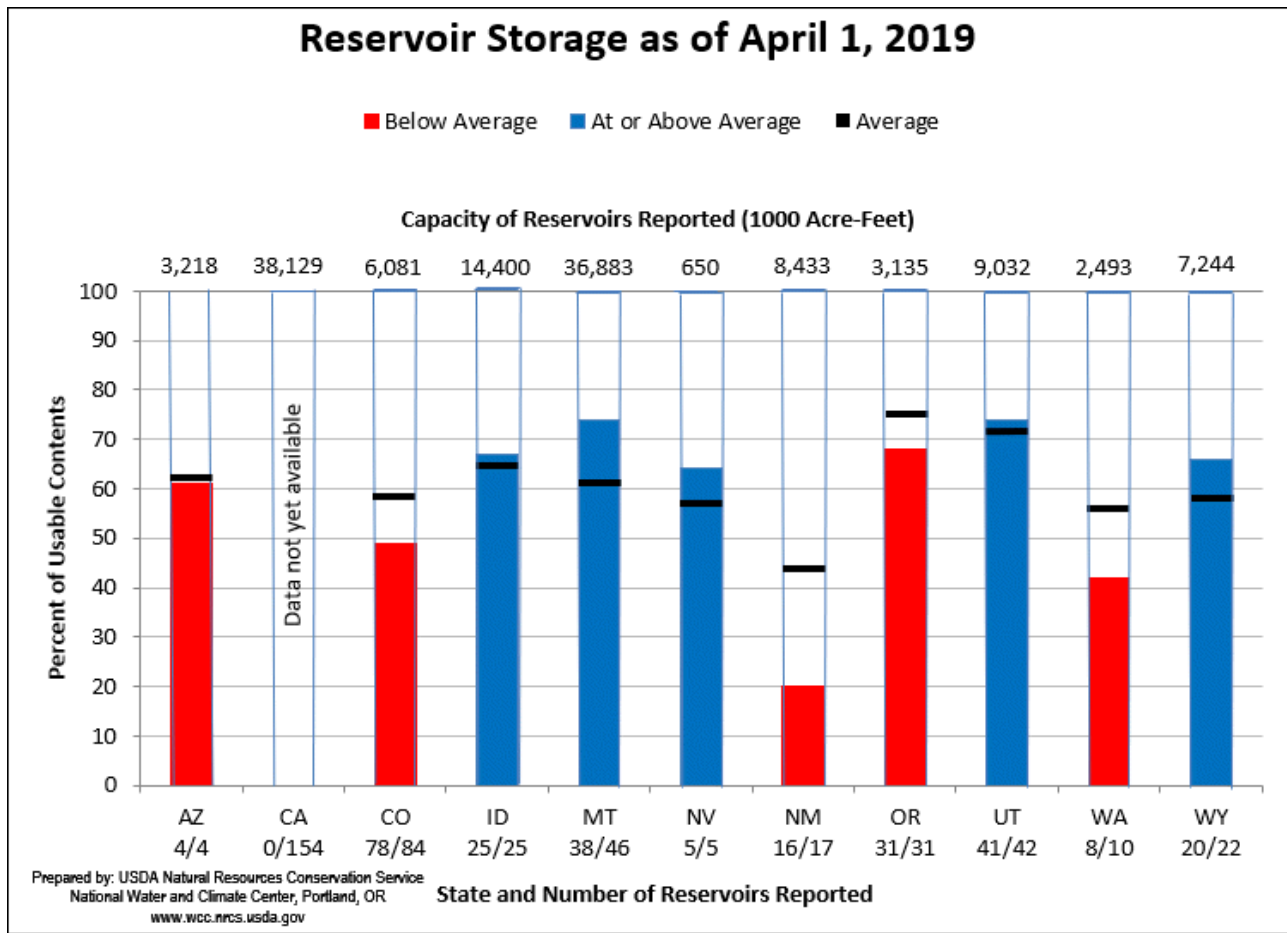
Explanation - Percentile classes						
<95	95-98	>= 99	Above action stage	Above flood stage	Above moderate flood stage	Above major flood stage
△ Streamgage with flood stage ○ Streamgage without flood stage						

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

Reservoir Storage

Western States Reservoir Storage

Source: NRCS National Water and Climate Center



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

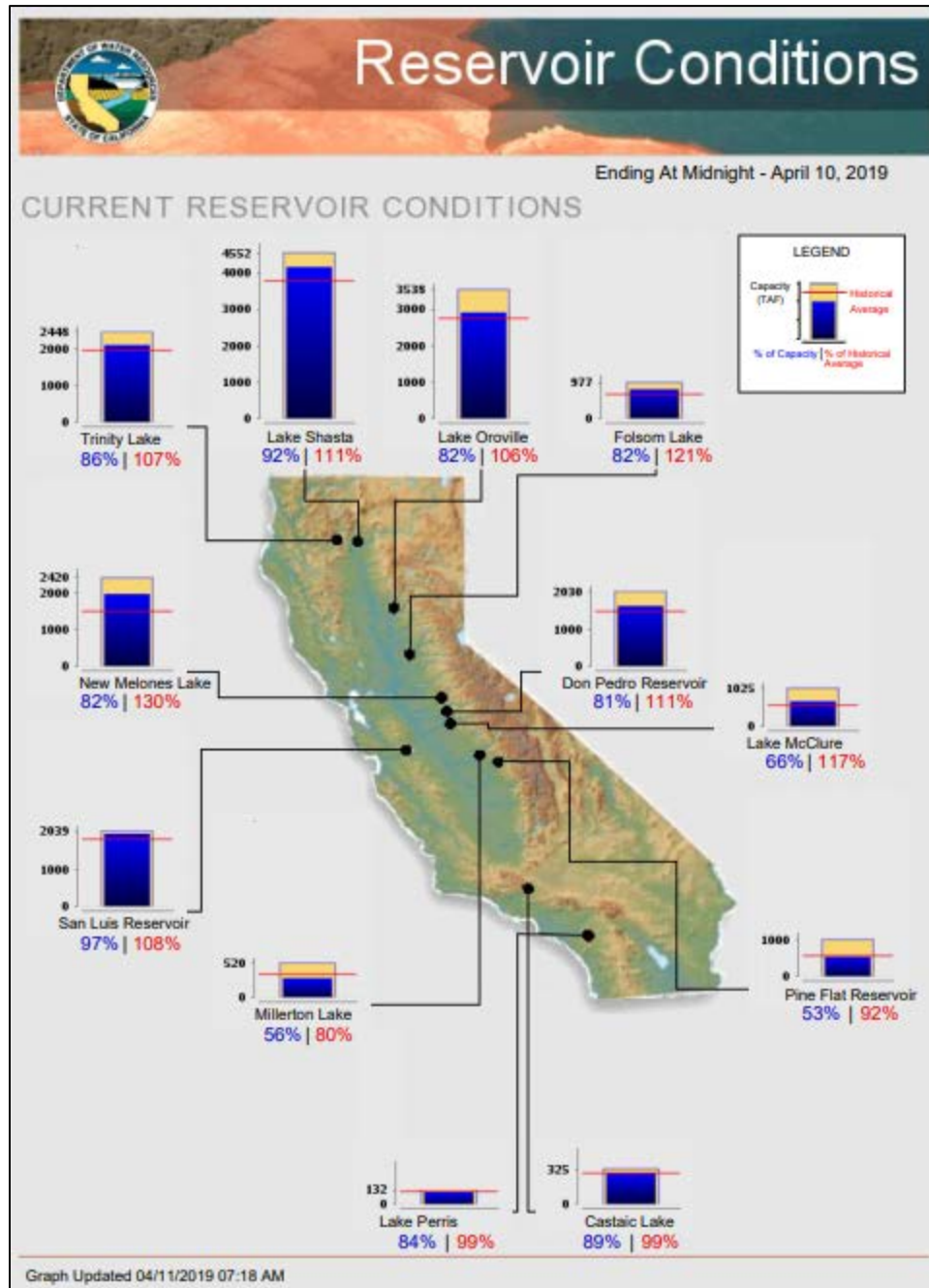
Hydromet Tea Cup Reservoir Depictions

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

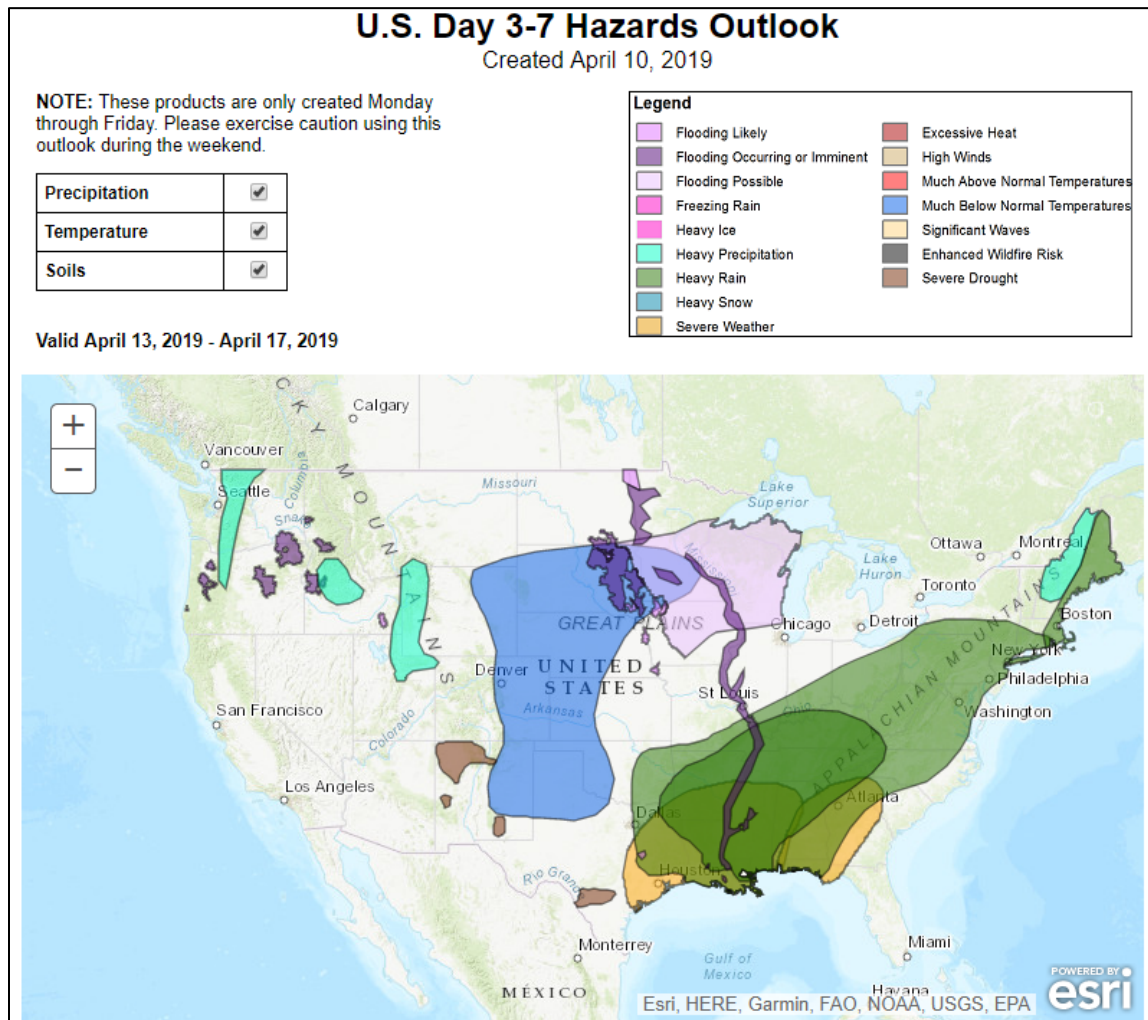
Agricultural Weather Highlights

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

National Outlook, Thursday, April 11, 2019: “A powerful, slow-moving spring storm currently centered near the Iowa-Missouri-Nebraska triple point will drift northeastward, crossing the upper Great Lakes region on Friday. For the remainder of today, wind-driven precipitation—mostly snow and freezing rain—will maintain harsh conditions for livestock and curtail travel across the northern and western Corn Belt. Meanwhile, severe thunderstorms will sweep across portions of the mid-South and lower Midwest. By Friday, weather conditions will begin to improve across the northern Plains and upper Midwest. However, cold weather in the storm’s wake will result in possible freezes through the weekend on the High Plains as far south as Texas’ northern panhandle. During the weekend, a new storm system will cross the South, East, and lower Midwest, delivering as much as 1 to 3 inches of rain. In addition, strong weekend thunderstorms may affect the South. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for April 16 – 20 calls for near- or below normal temperatures from the Rockies to the Mississippi Valley, while warmer-than-normal weather will prevail in the Atlantic Coast States and the Far West. Meanwhile, below-normal precipitation in California and environs should contrast with wetter-than-normal conditions in the Four Corners States and the eastern half of the U.S.”

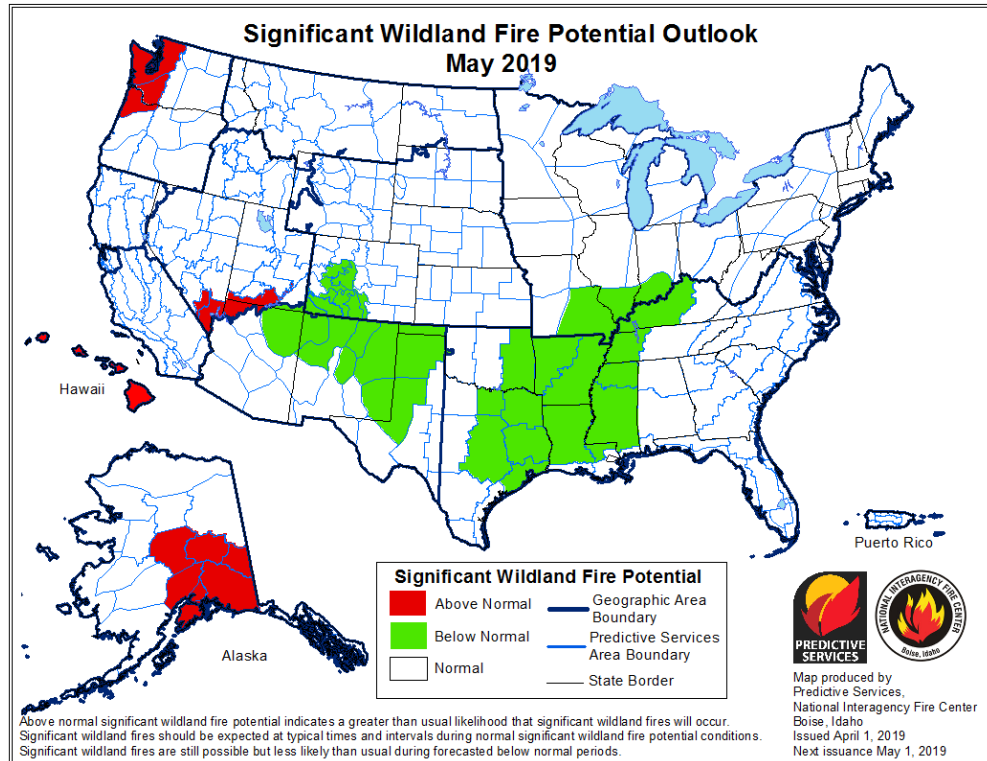
Weather Hazards Outlook: [April 13 – April 17, 2019](#)

Source: NOAA Climate Prediction Center



Significant Wildland [Fire Potential Outlook](#)

Source: National Interagency Fire Center

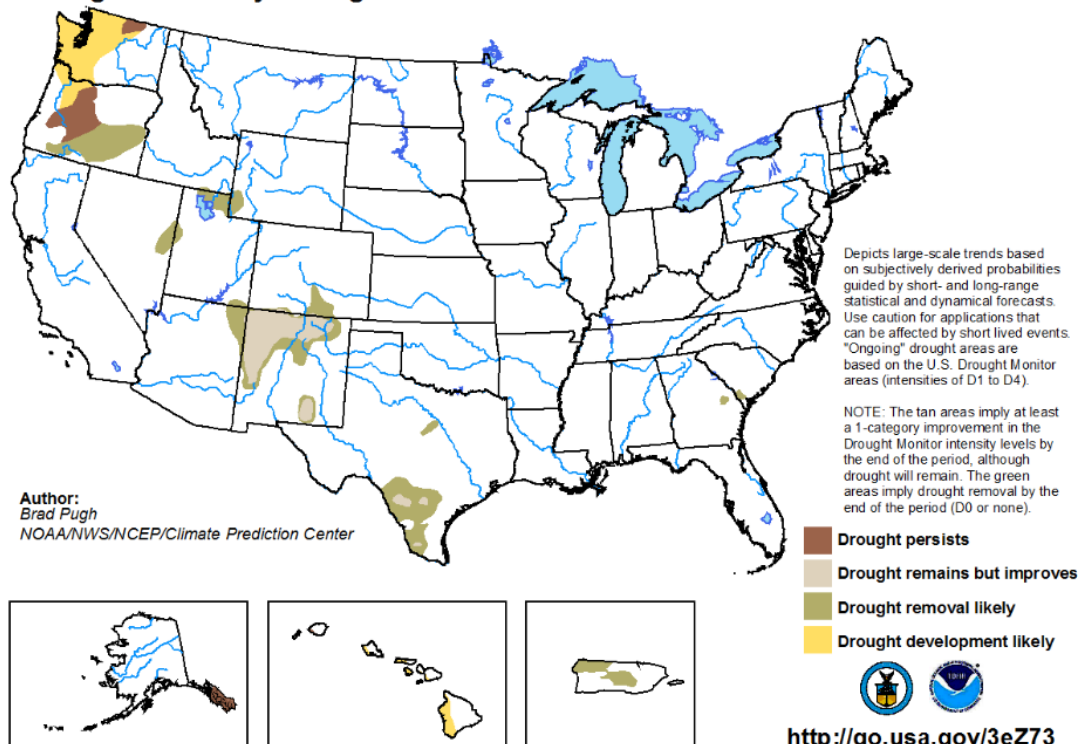


Seasonal Drought Outlook: [March 21 – June 30, 2019](#)

Source: National Weather Service

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

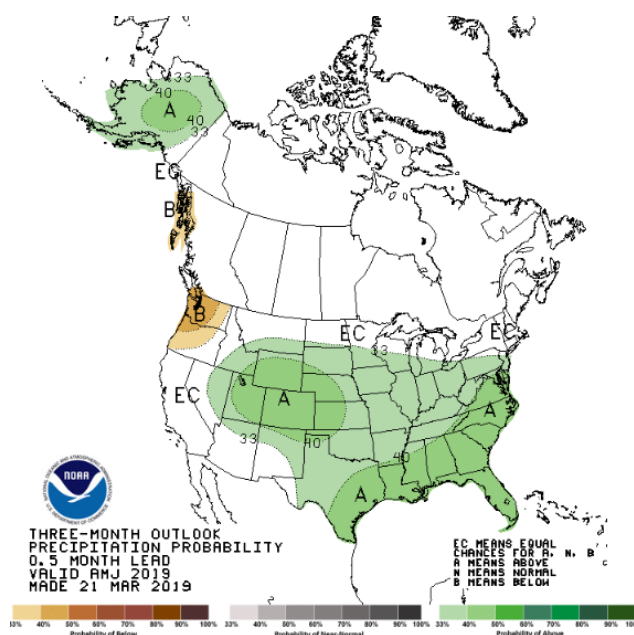
Valid for March 21 - June 30, 2019
Released March 21



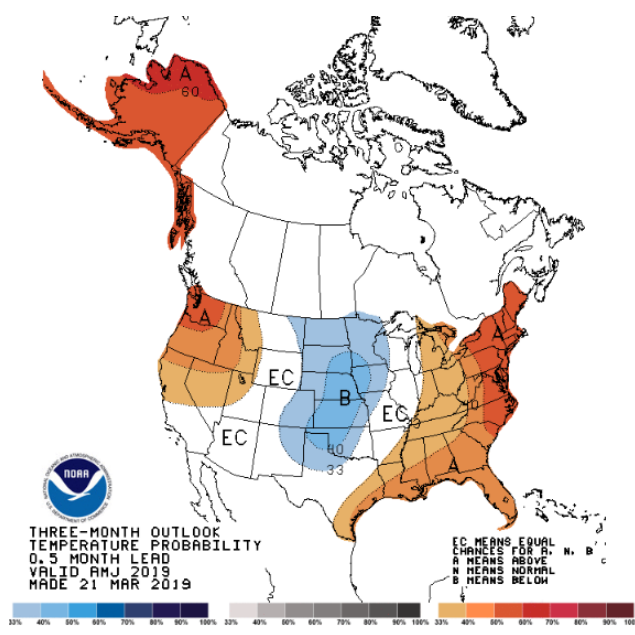
Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook

Source: National Weather Service

Precipitation



Temperature



April-May-June (AMJ) 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](#).