

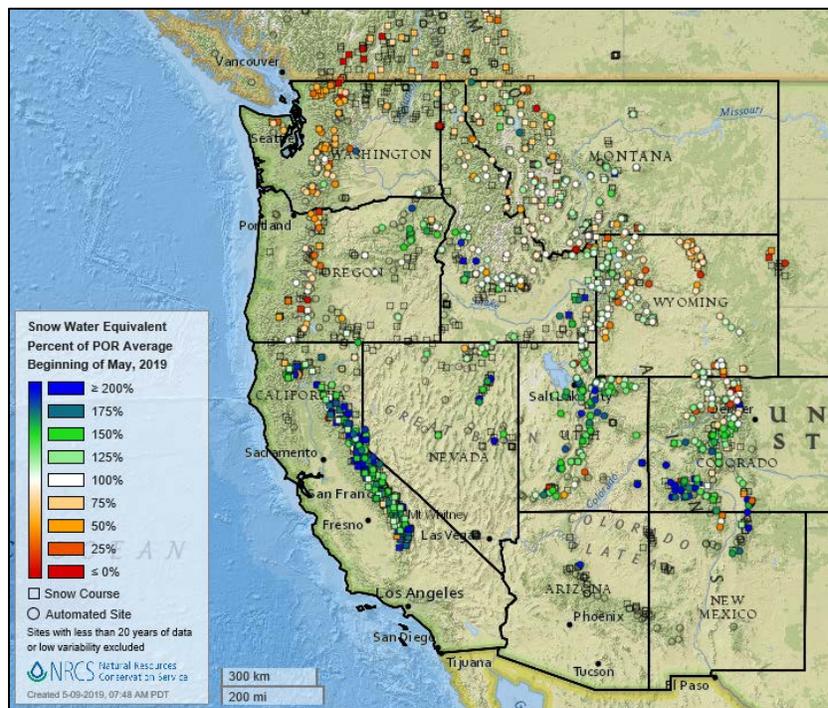
Water and Climate Update

May 9, 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	4	Short- and Long-Range Outlooks.....	17
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May snowpack map shows most snow from California to Colorado



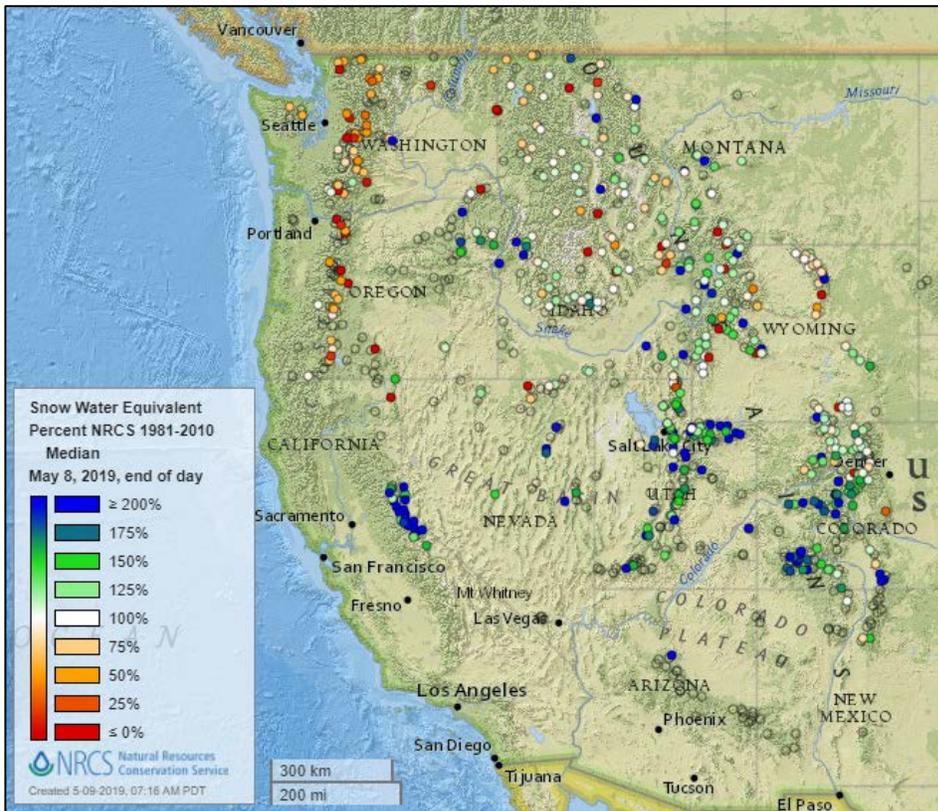
Although the snow is now quickly melting across the West, there are some still areas that have much above normal snowpack. The current snowpack from California to Colorado is mainly above normal to over twice normal, which bodes well for water supply forecasts. Meanwhile, the Pacific Northwest to Montana and Wyoming have normal to below normal snowpack for this time of year. In Alaska, most areas have below to well below normal snowpack, with the exception of the Brooks Range in northern Alaska.

Related:

- [Sierra Snowpack Is Measured at 188% of Average in Final Survey of the Year](#) – KTLA (CA)
- [Good news for California water supply: Spring snowpack still deep and will melt slowly](#) – LA Times (CA)
- [Above average water supply forecast](#) – Local News 8 (ID)
- [Colorado Snowpack Is Three Times Better Compared To 2018](#) – CBS4 (CO)
- [Wet April bolsters Montana's snowpack](#) – Independent Record (MT)
- [Utah officials urge safety as above-average snowpack begins to melt](#) – KSL.com (UT)
- [Snowpack drops to nearly half of normal in Olympic National Park](#) – King5News (WA)
- [Glaciers 'deflating' with Cascades snowpack 28% below normal](#) – Seattle Weekly (WA)

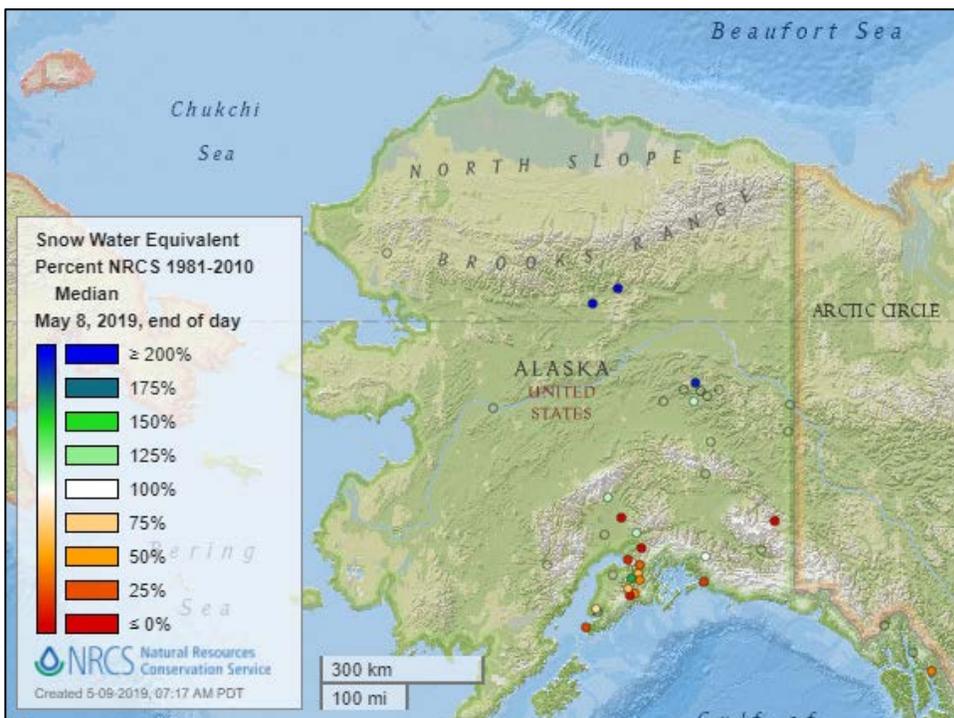
Snow

Current Snow Water Equivalent, NRCS SNOTEL Network



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

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

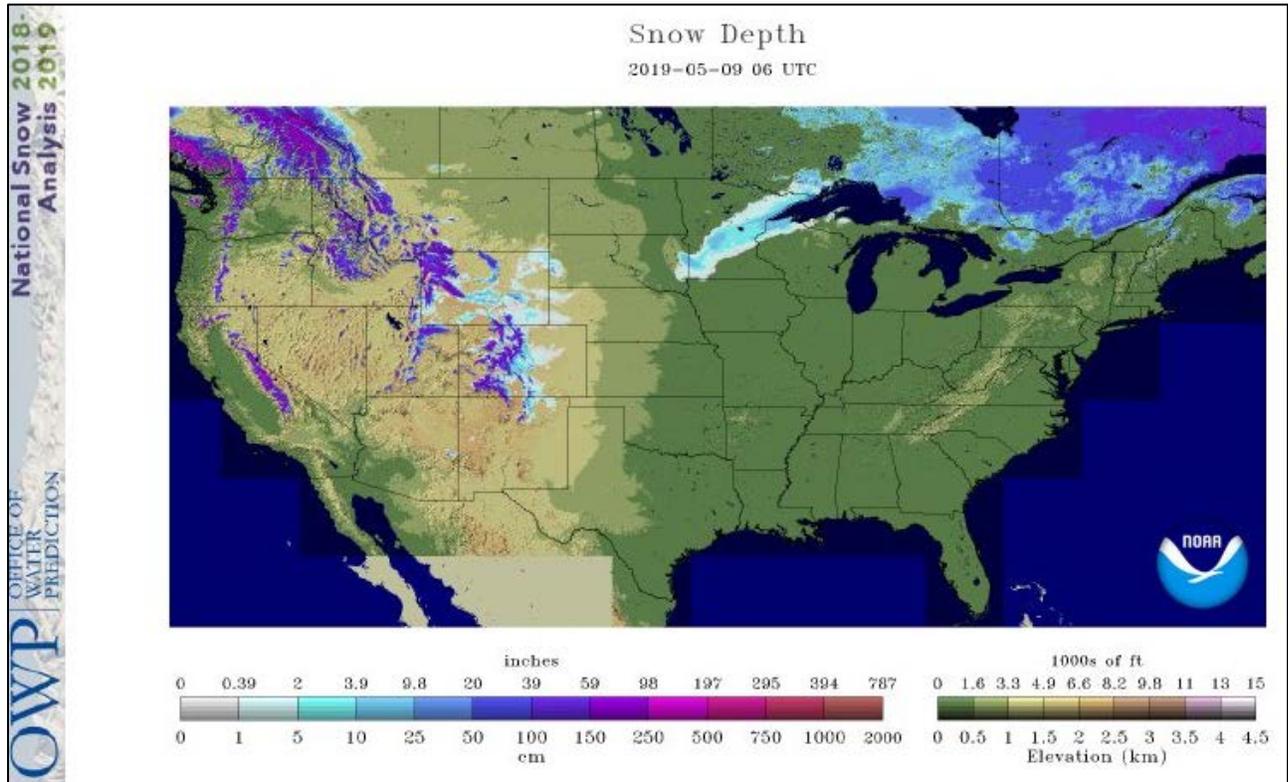


[Alaska snow water equivalent percent of median map](#)

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

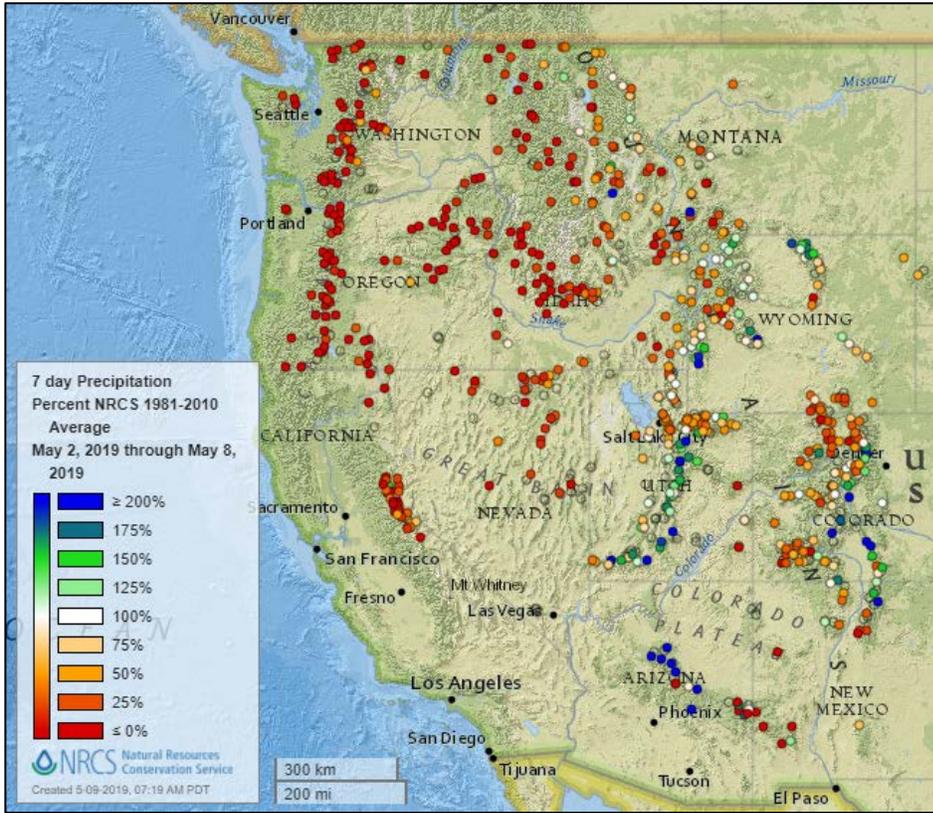
Current Snow Depth

Source: National Weather Service Snow Analysis



Precipitation

Last 7 Days, NRCS SNOTEL Network

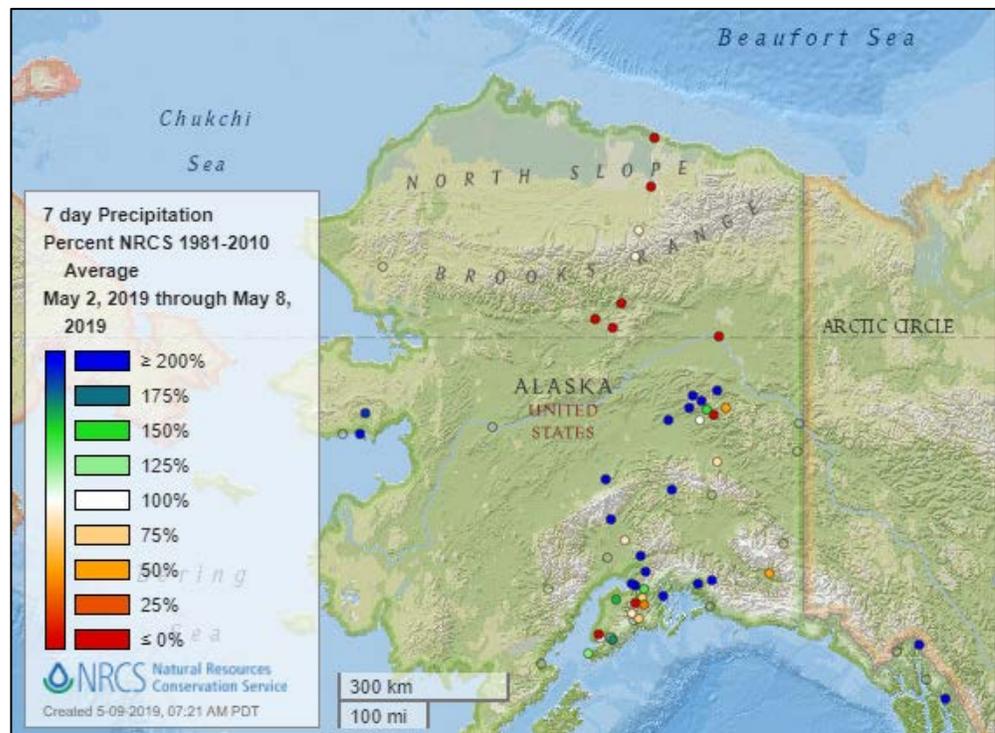


[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

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](#)



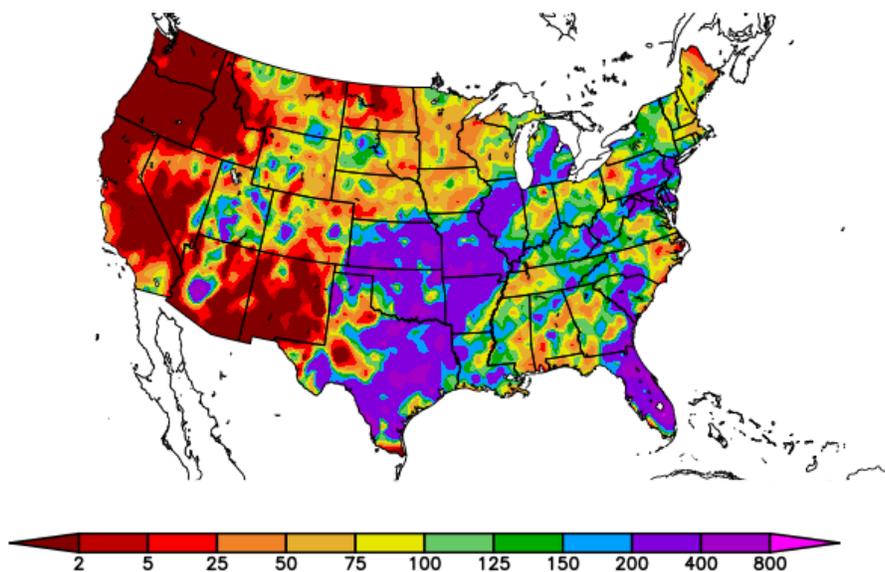
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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 (%)
5/1/2019 – 5/7/2019



Generated 5/8/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

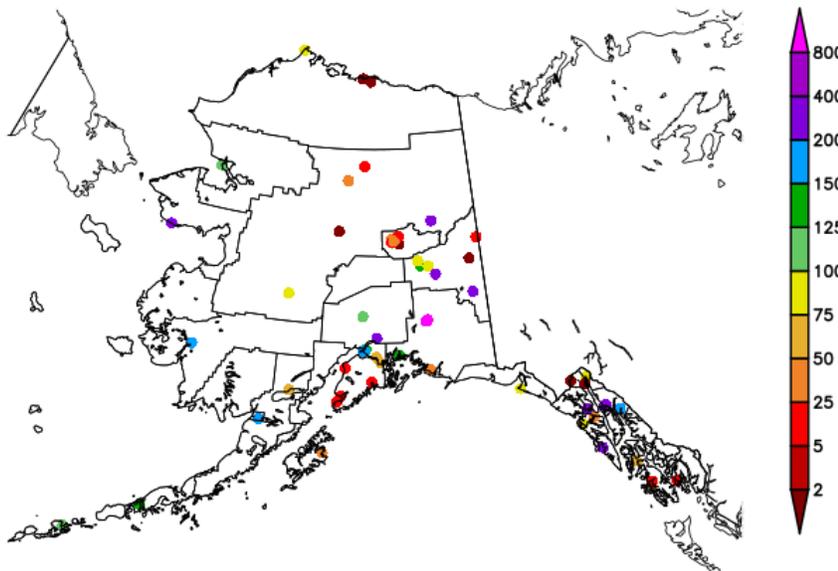
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
5/1/2019 – 5/7/2019



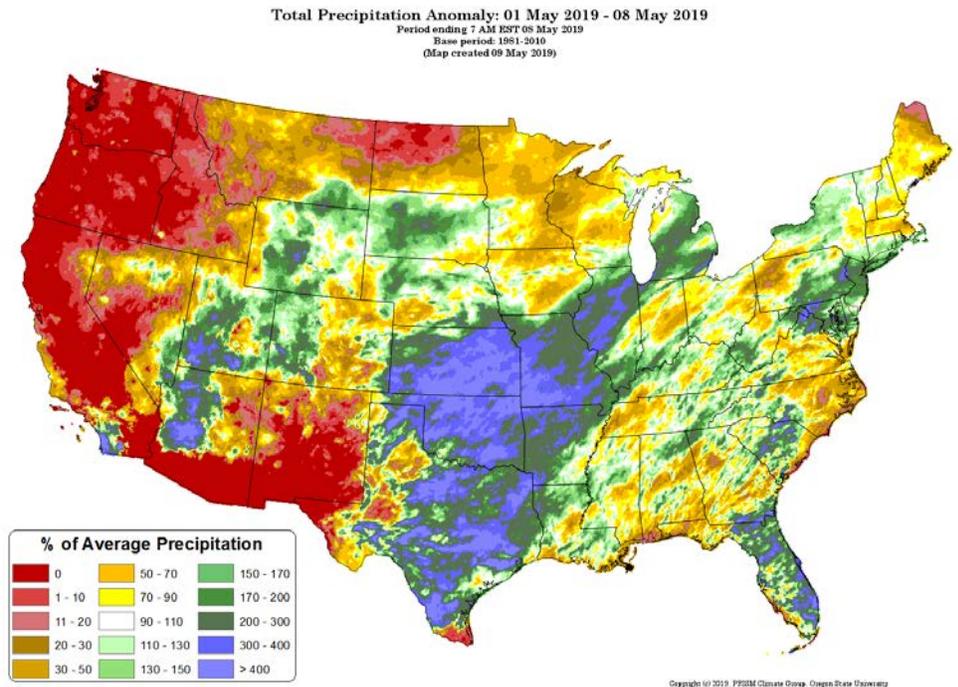
Generated 5/8/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Water and Climate Update

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

Source: PRISM

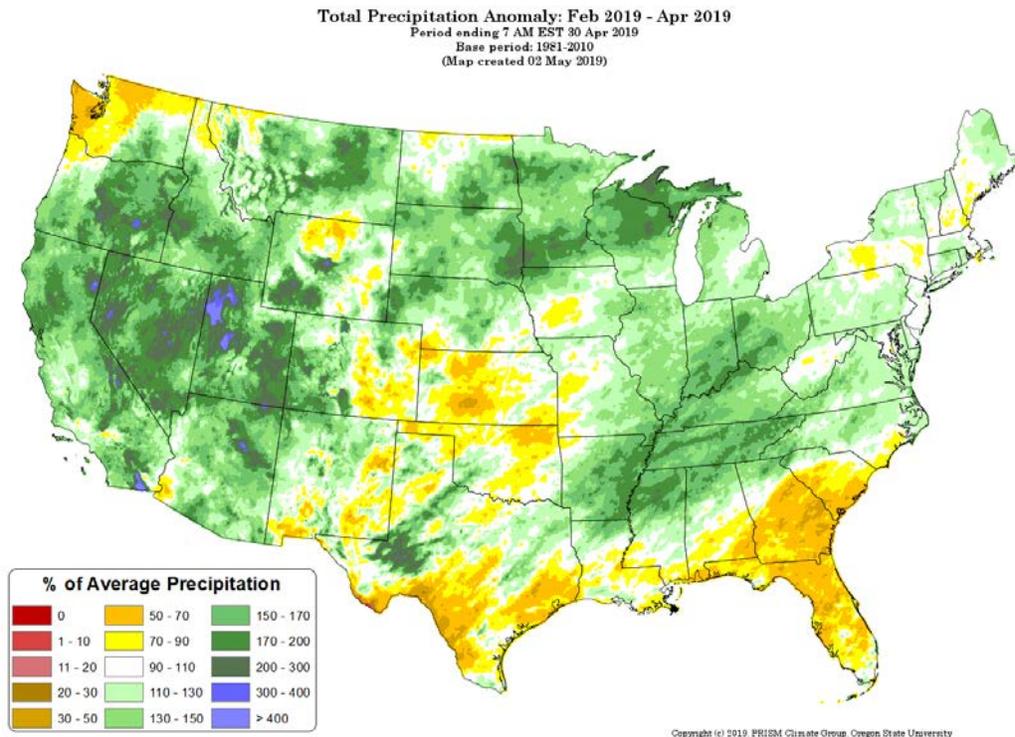


[Month-to-date national total precipitation percent of average map](#)

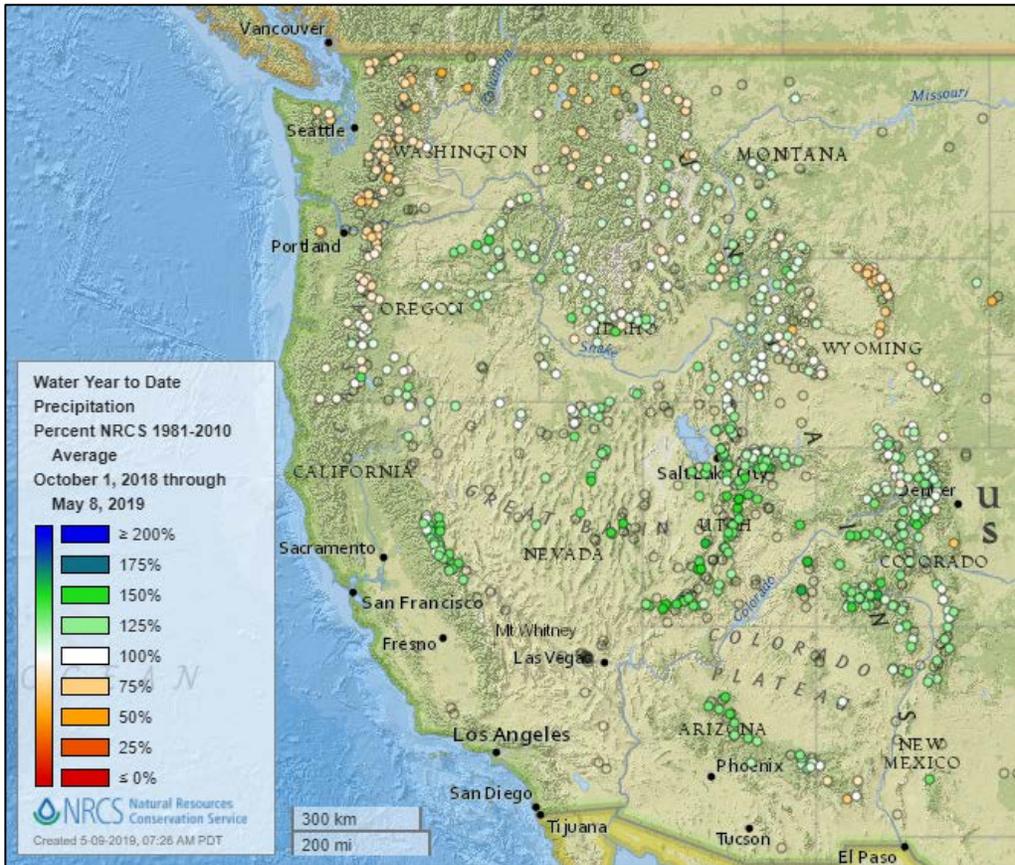
Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

Source: PRISM

[February through April 2019 total precipitation percent of average map](#)

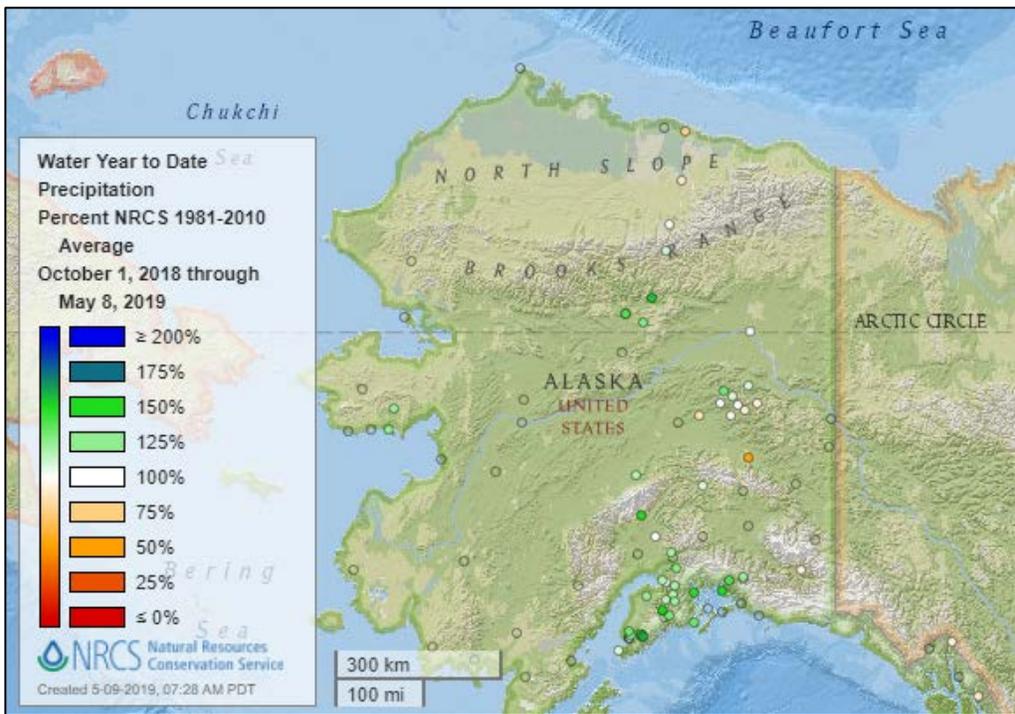


Water Year-to-Date, NRCS SNOTEL Network



[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

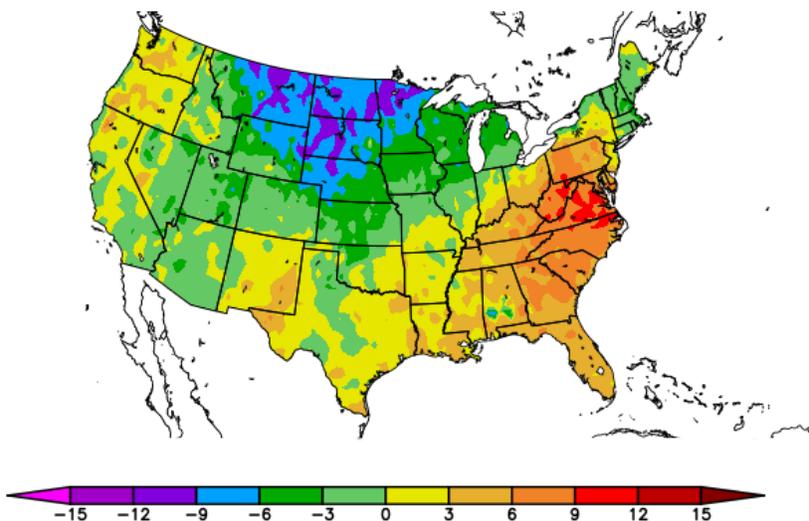
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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)
5/1/2019 – 5/7/2019



Generated 5/8/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

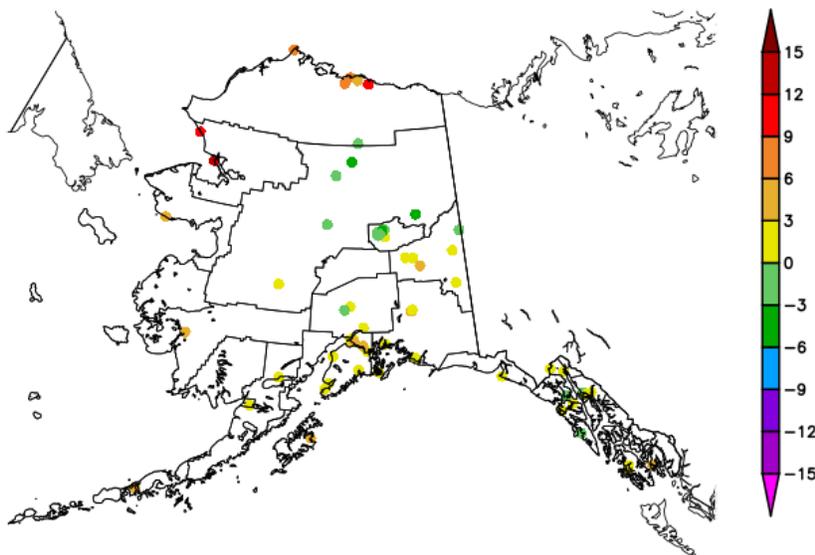
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
5/1/2019 – 5/7/2019



Generated 5/8/2019 at HPRCC using provisional data.

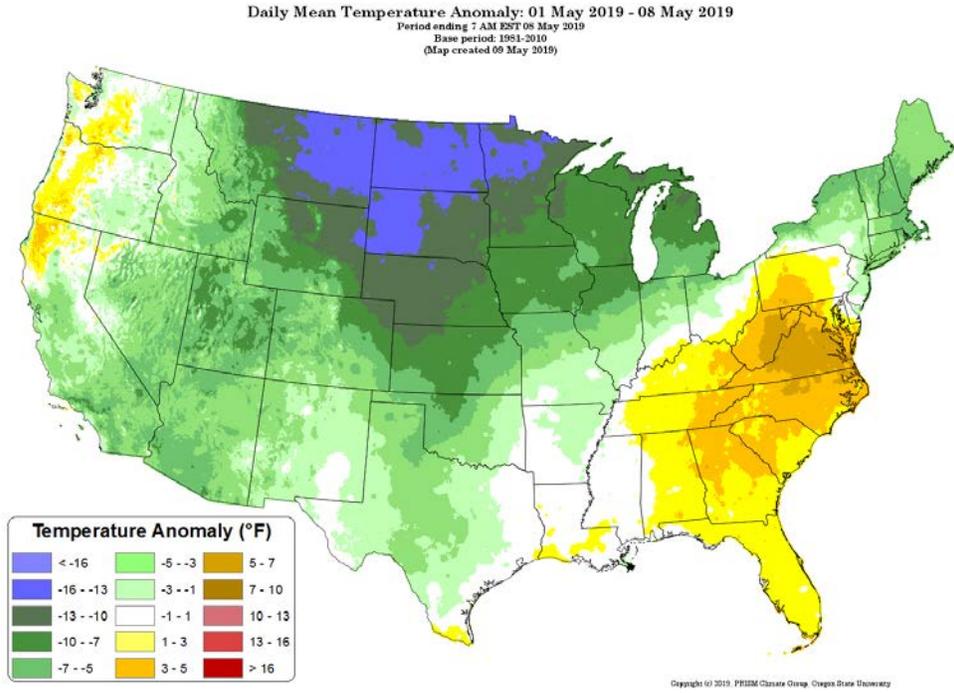
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Water and Climate Update

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

Source: PRISM

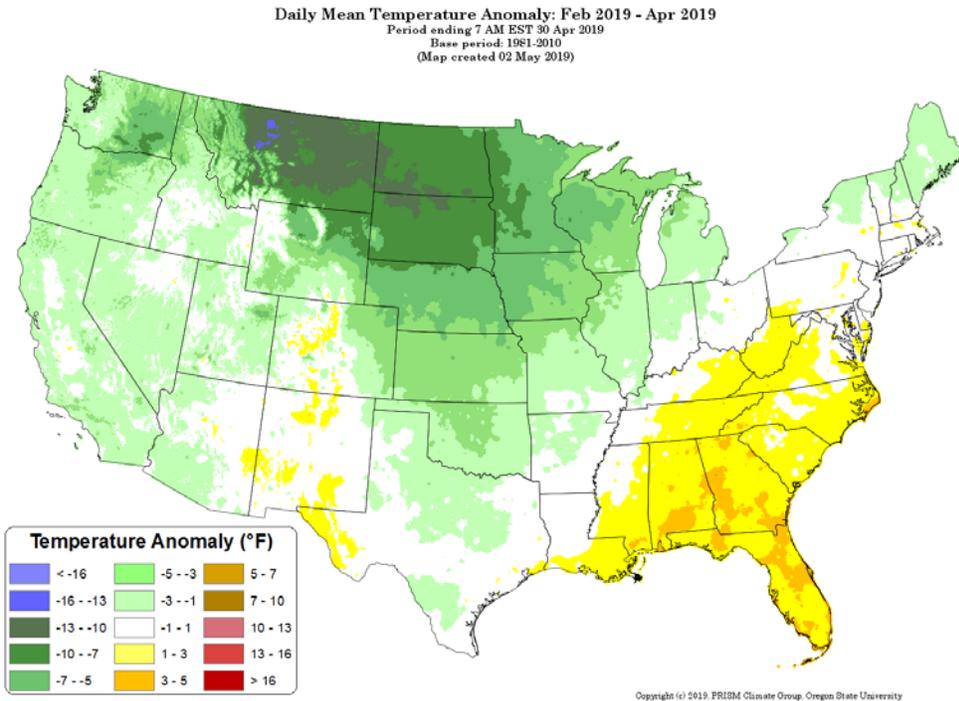
[Month-to-date national daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



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

Source: PRISM

[February through April 2019 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



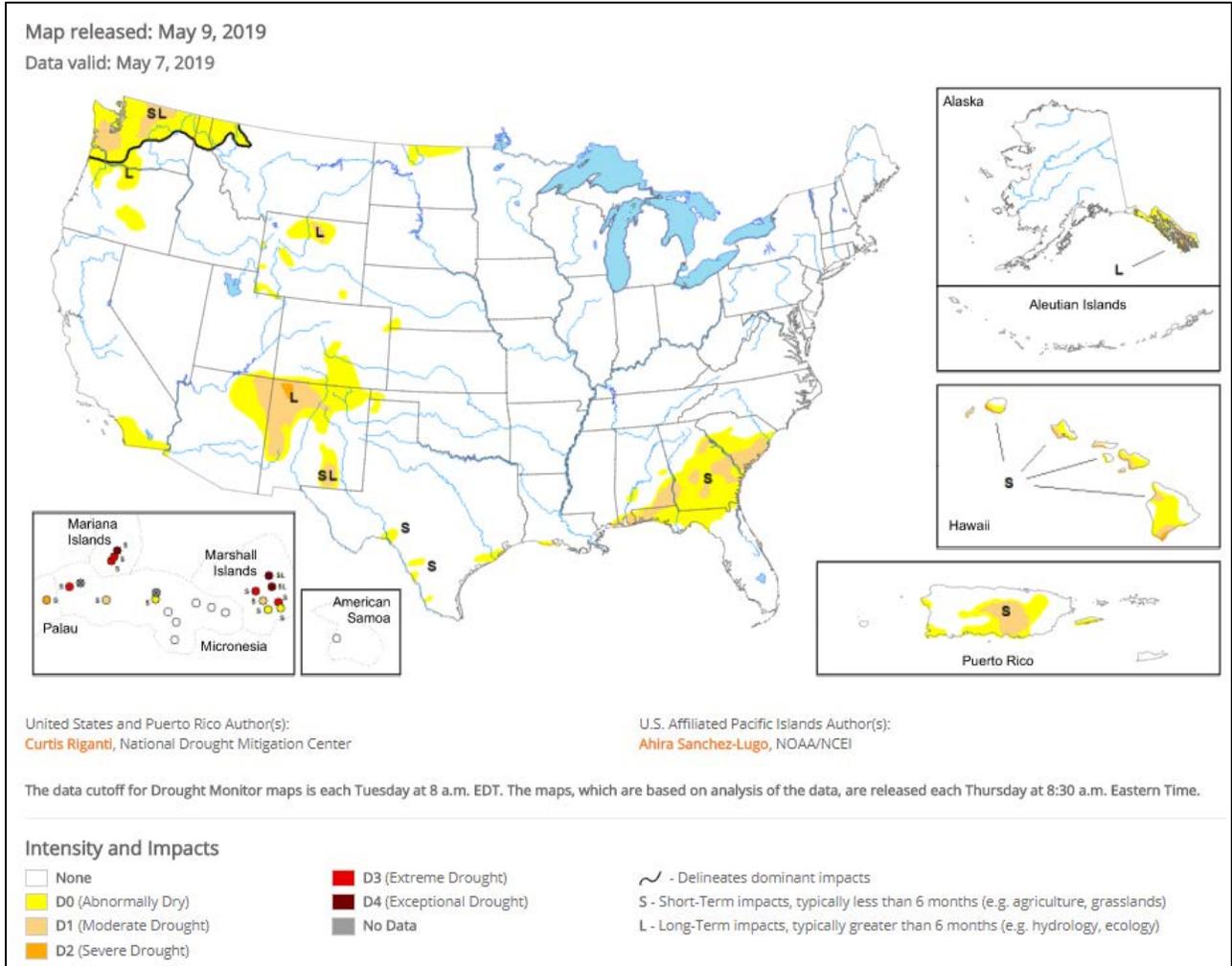
Drought

[U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

[U.S. Drought Portal](#)

Source: NOAA



Current [National Drought Summary](#), May 9, 2019

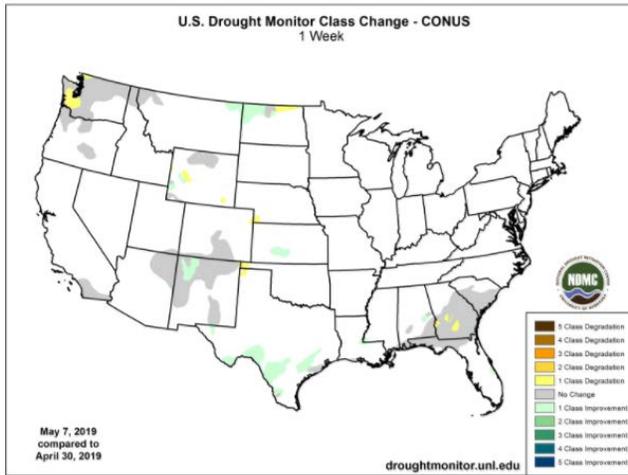
Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

“A large portion of the lower 48 states remains free of drought or abnormal dryness this week, including the entire Northeast and Midwest regions. Moderate drought coverage shifted in Georgia in response to precipitation patterns over the past week. Areas of short-term moderate drought were removed in Texas, where widespread moderate to heavy precipitation fell. Severe drought in northwest New Mexico was reduced in coverage because of improved short-term conditions, though some long-term precipitation deficits remain in the area. Moderate drought was added in western Washington because of worsening short- and long-term precipitation deficits and low streamflow. Widespread improvements to the drought depiction were made in Hawaii. The northern part of the drought area in southeast Alaska improved some, while severe drought expanded slightly to the south of its position last week in southeast Alaska. No changes were made this week in Puerto Rico.”

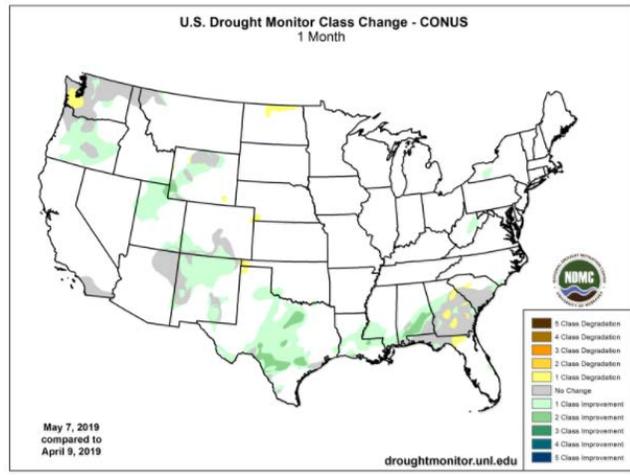
Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

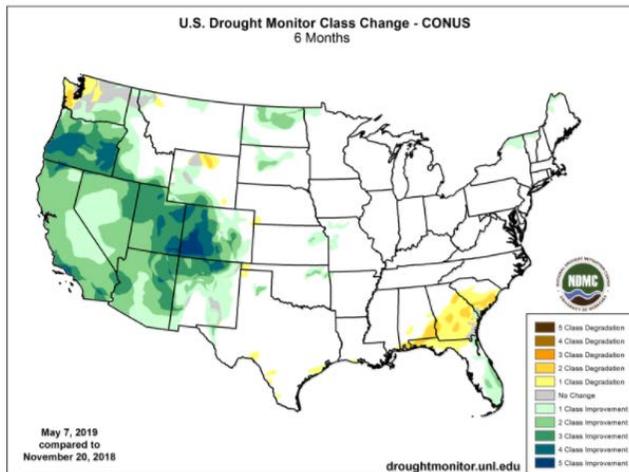
1 Week



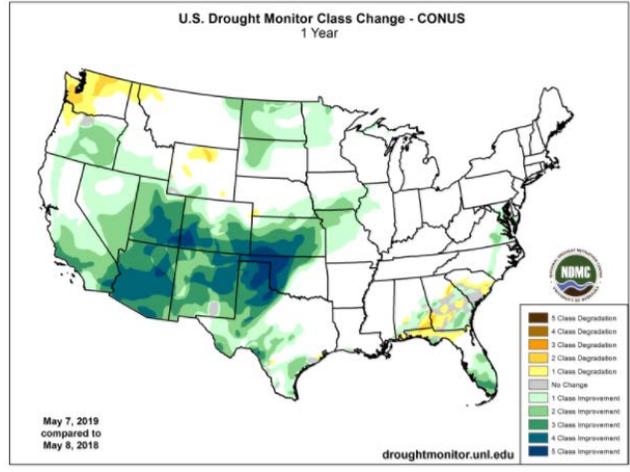
1 Month



6 Months



1 Year



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

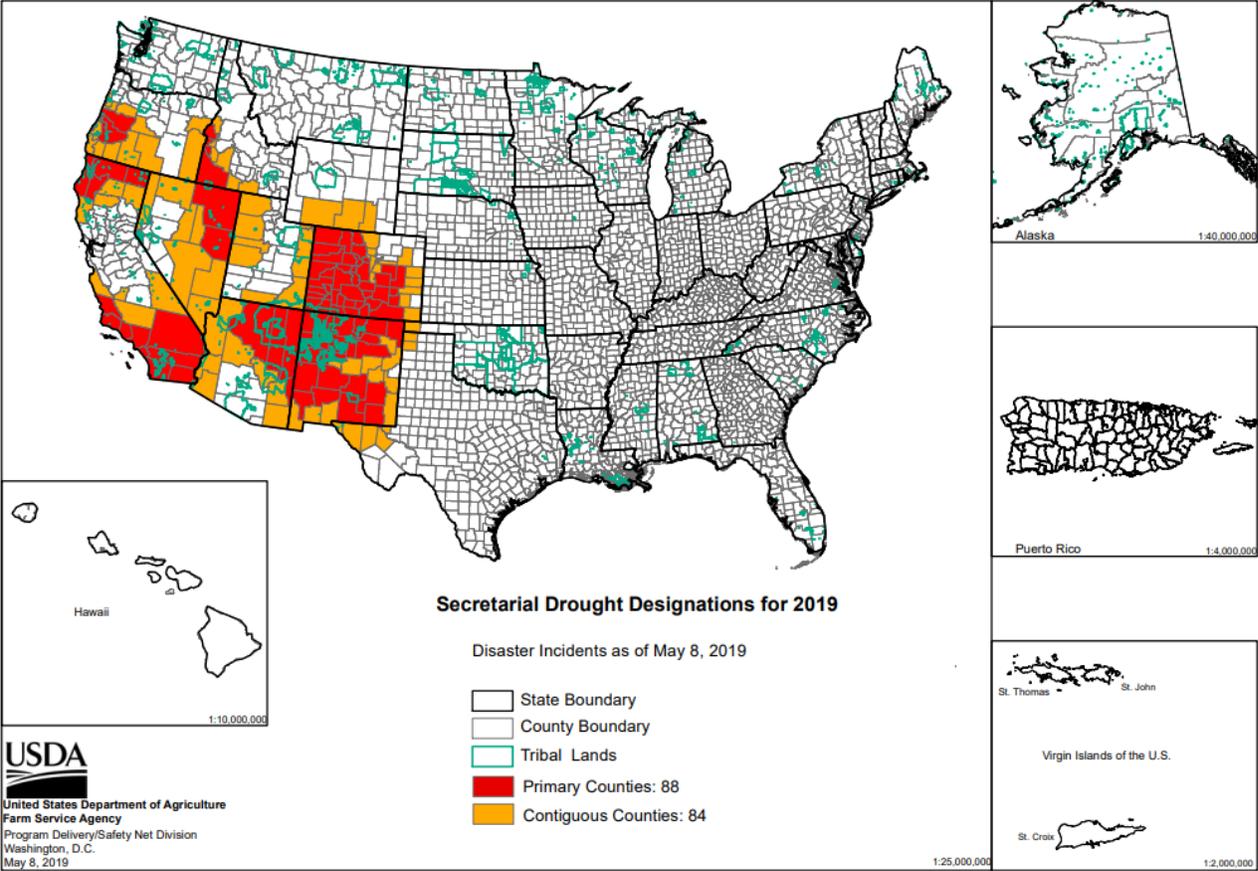
Highlighted Drought Resources

- [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

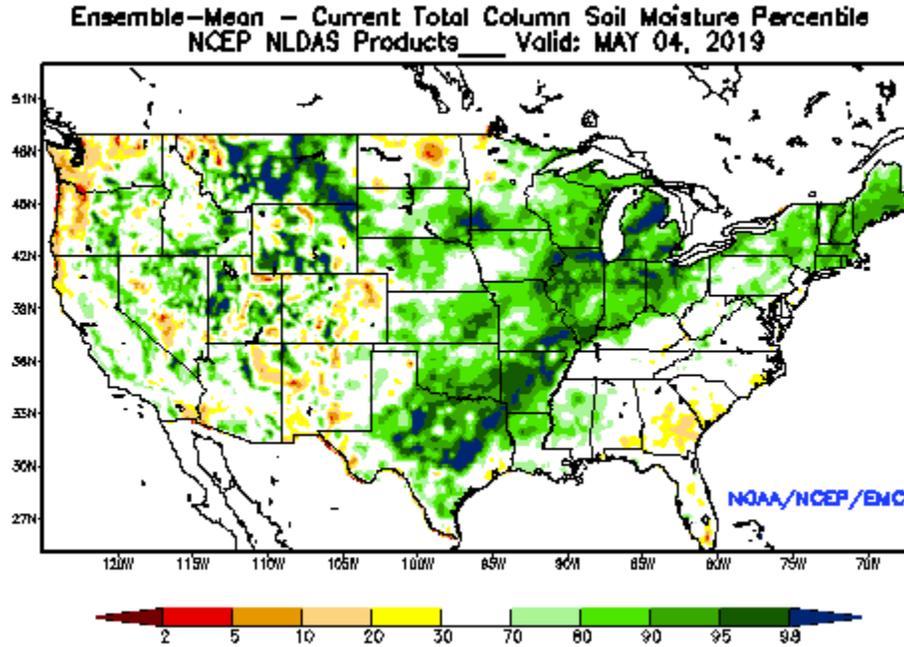
2019 Secretarial Drought Designations - All Drought



Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

Soil Moisture

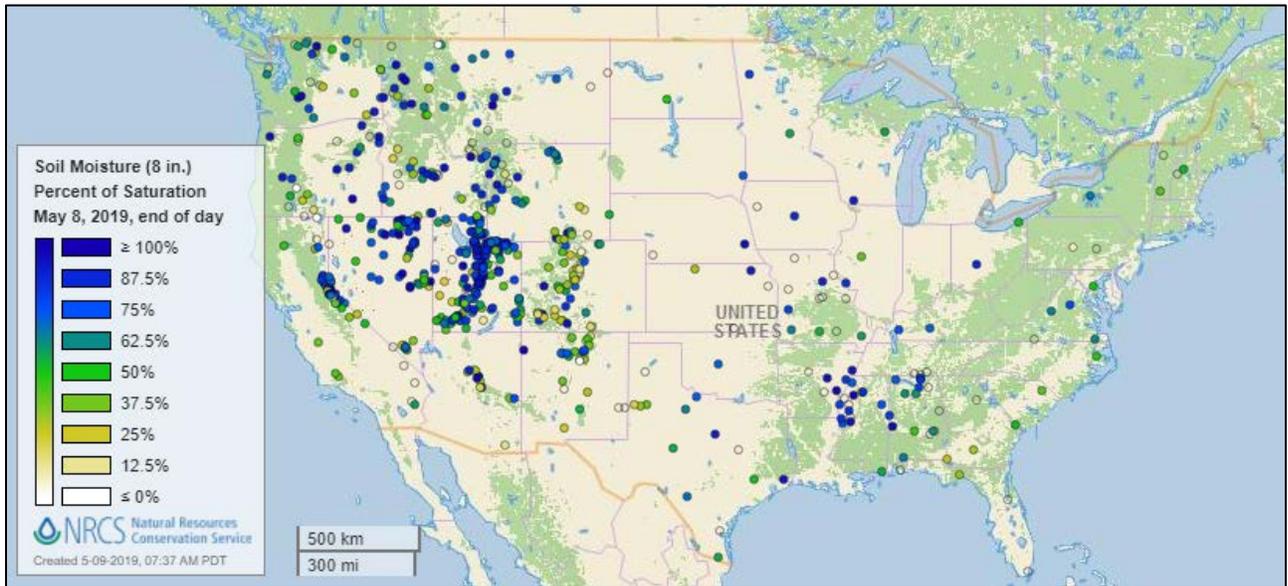
Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Prediction



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of May 4, 2019

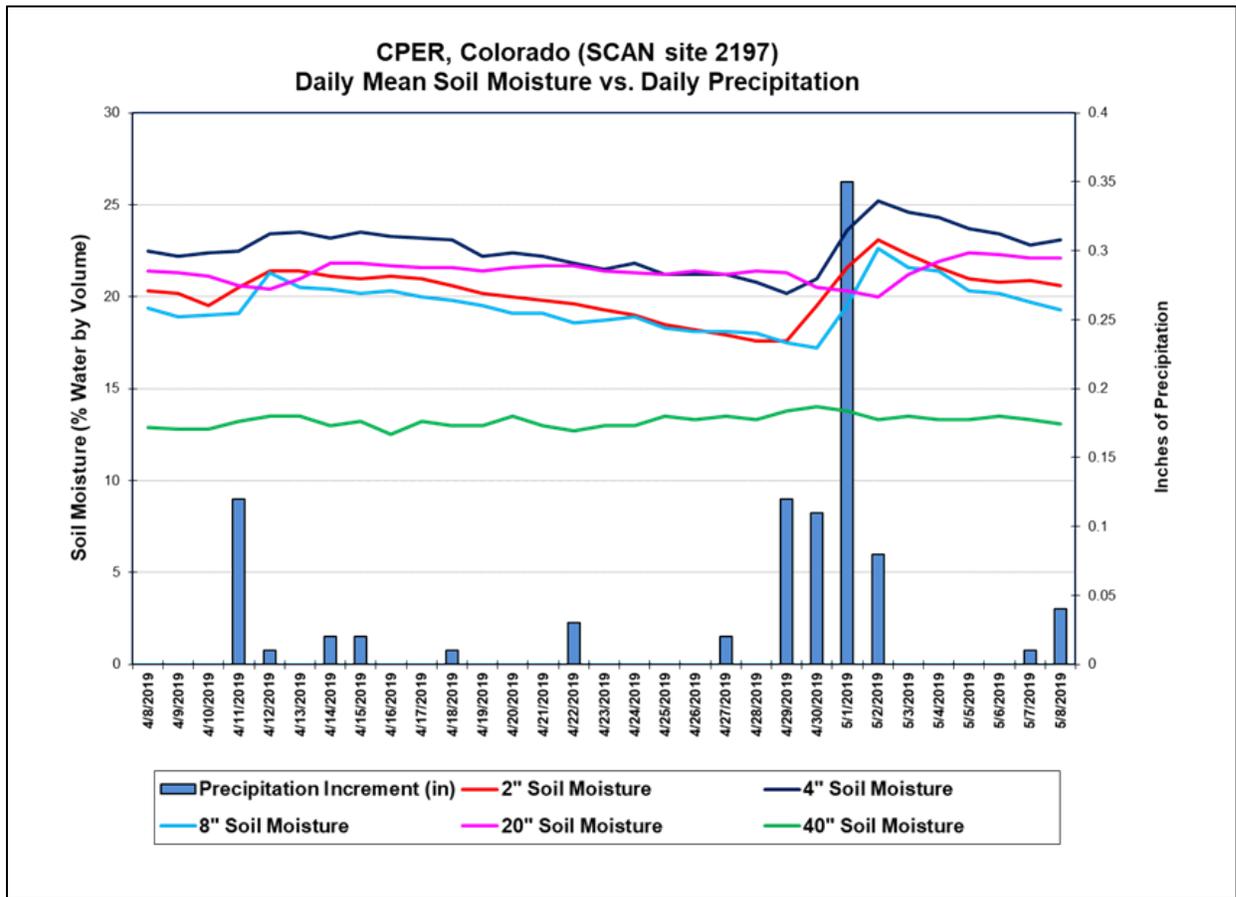
Soil Moisture Percent of Saturation

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



Soil Moisture Data

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



This chart shows the soil moisture and precipitation for the last 30 days at the [CPER SCAN site 2197](#) in Colorado. The accumulated precipitation from April 29 to May 2 increased the soil moisture at the 2-, 4-, 8-, and 20-inch sensor levels. Soil moisture at the 40-inch sensor level remained at the same level.

Soil Moisture Data Portals

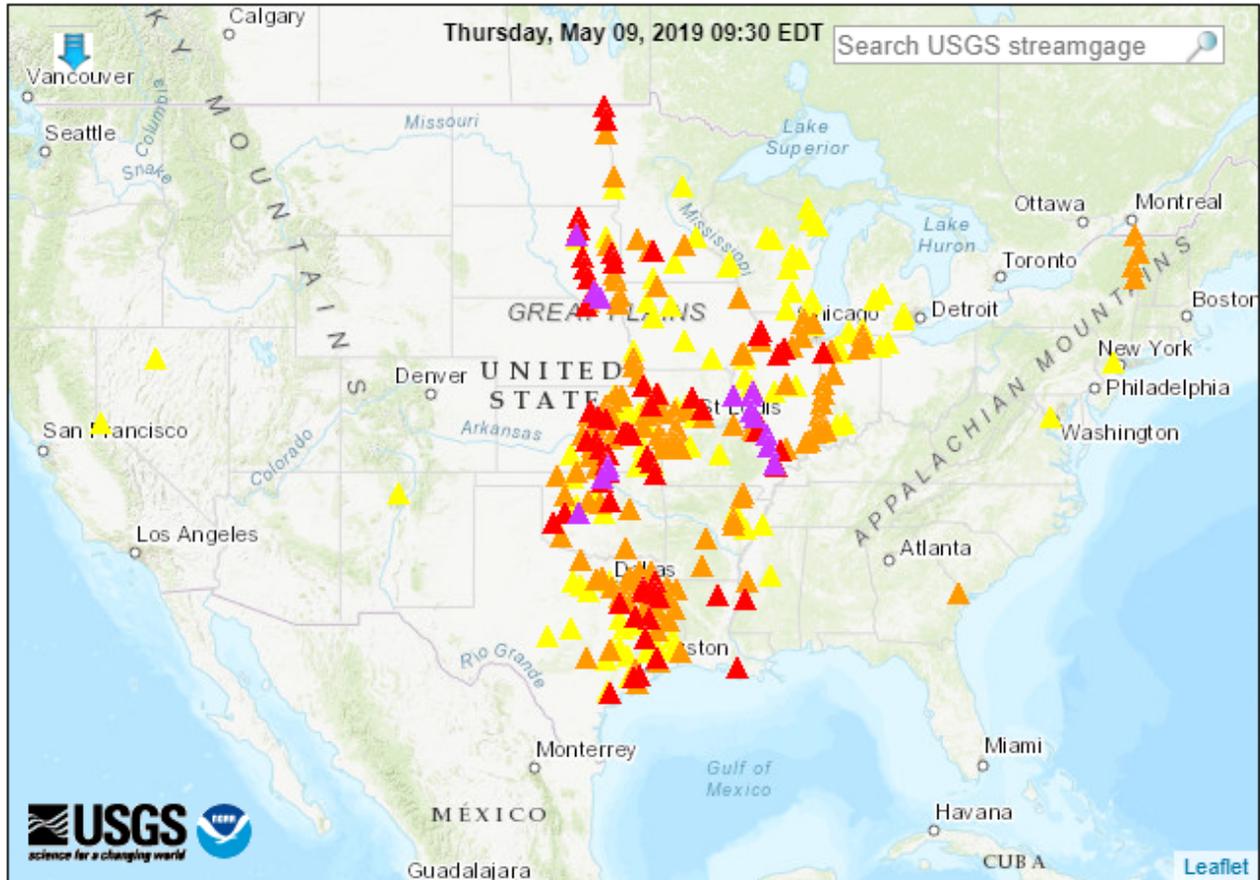
- [CRN Soil Moisture](#)
- [Texas A&M University North American Soil Moisture Database](#)
- [University of Washington Experimental Modeled Soil Moisture](#)

Streamflow, Drought, Flood, and Runoff

Source: U.S. Geological Survey

Map of flood and high flow conditions

(15 in major flood, 60 in moderate flood, 138 in minor flood, 98 in near flood)



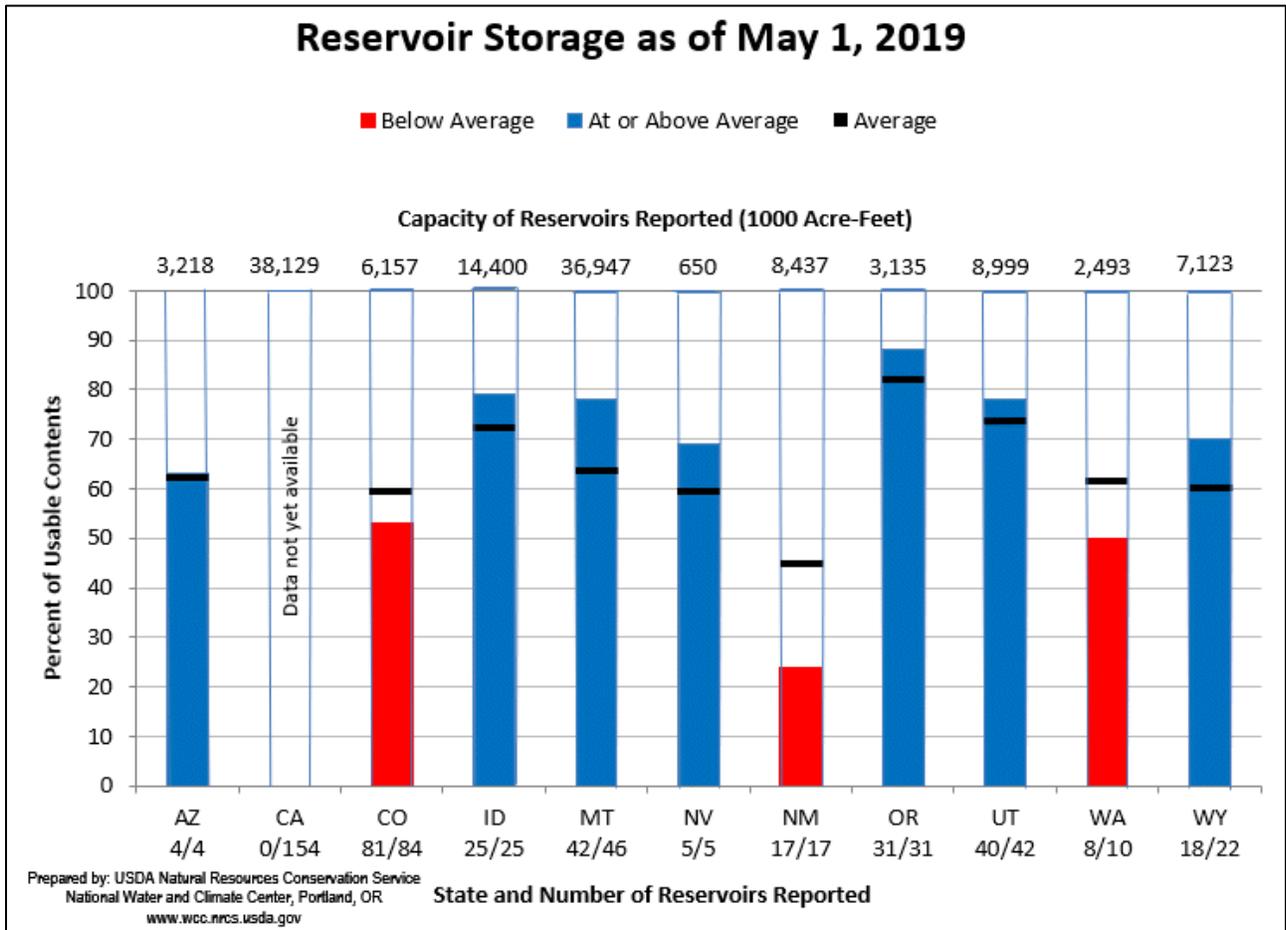
Explanation - Percentile classes						
<95	95-98	>= 99	Above action stage	Above flood stage	Above moderate flood stage	Above major flood stage
Streamgage with flood stage			Streamgage without flood stage			

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

Reservoir Storage

Western States Reservoir Storage

Source: NRCS National Water and Climate Center



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

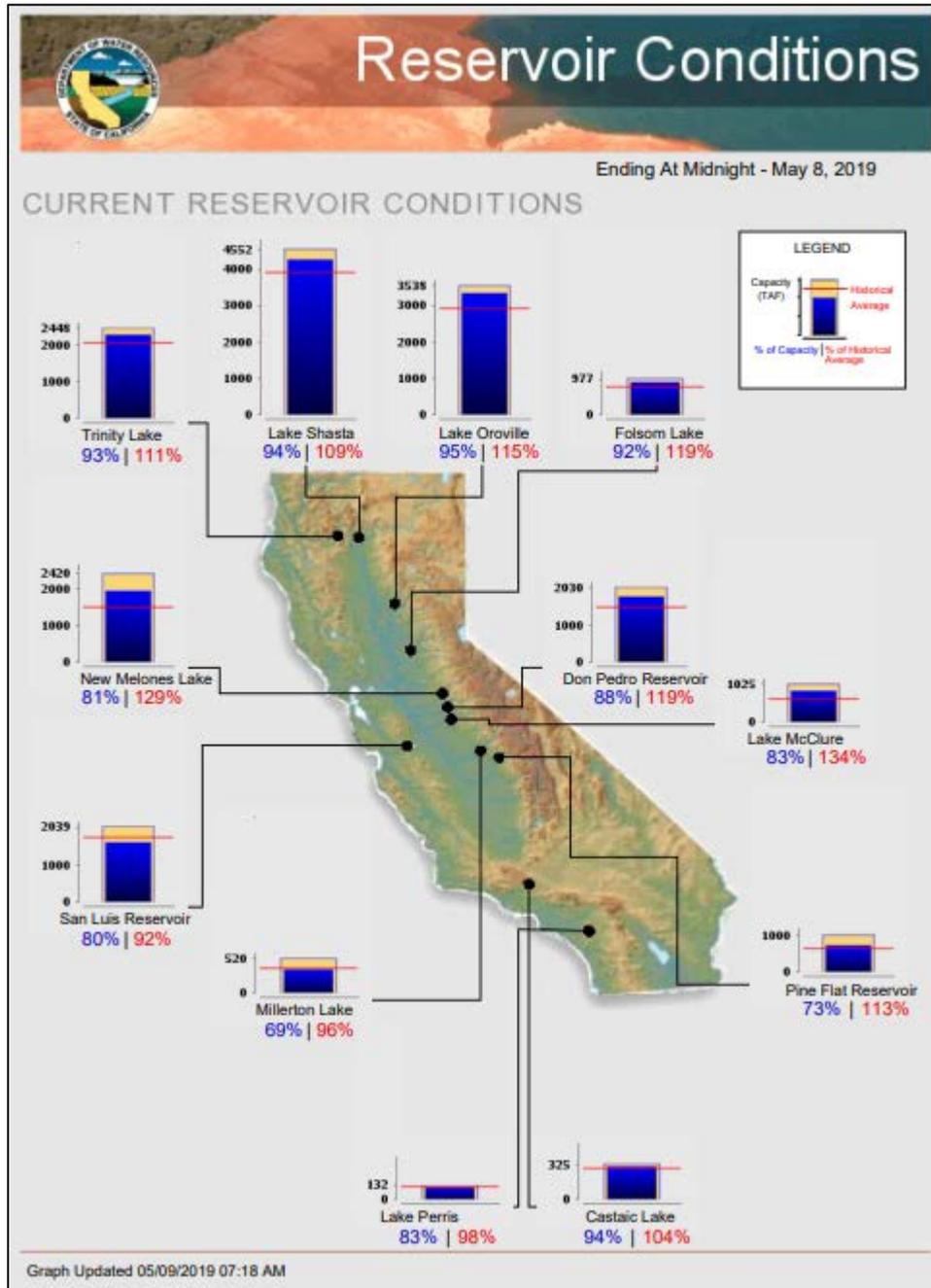
Hydromet Tea Cup Reservoir Depictions

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

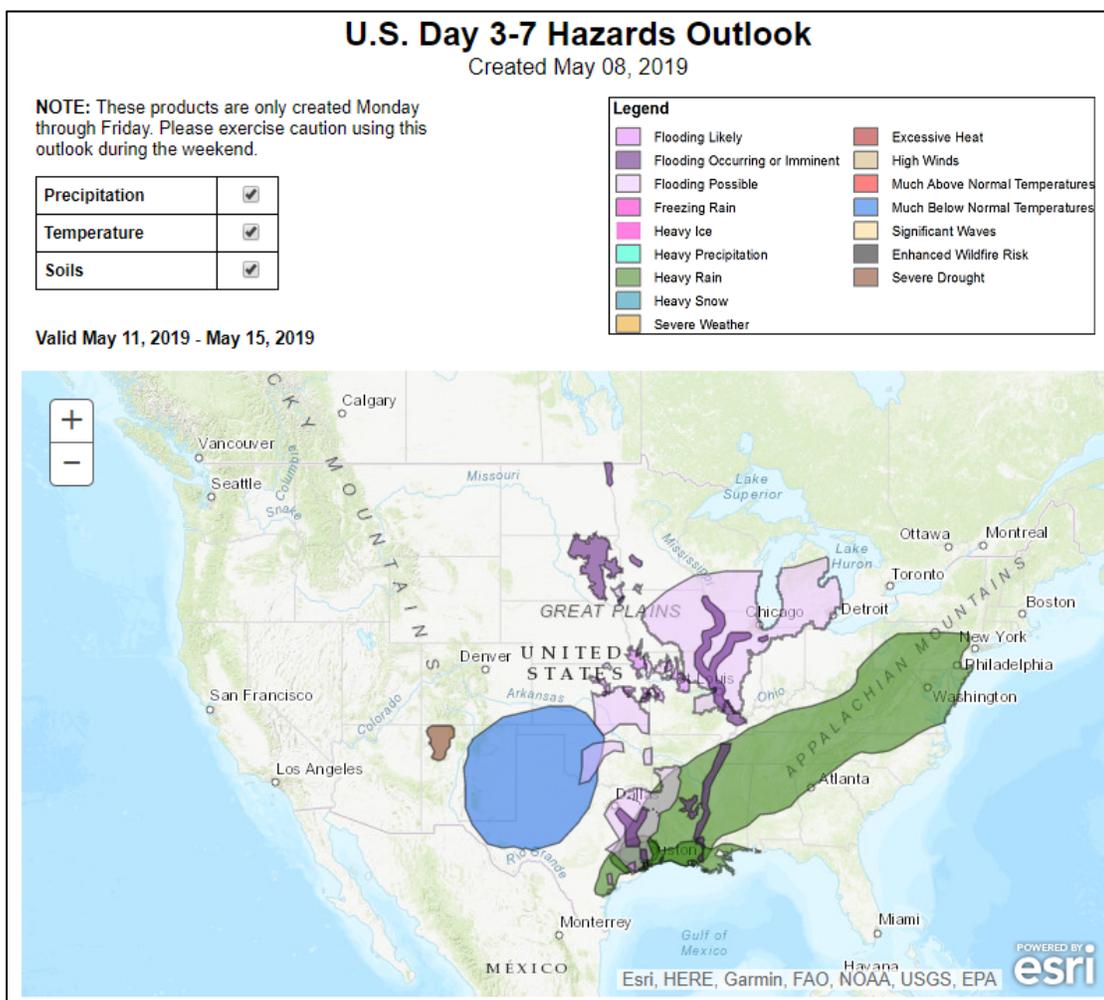
Agricultural Weather Highlights

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

National Outlook, Thursday, May 9, 2019: “The cold front currently advancing toward the Southeast will remain the focus for stormy conditions throughout much of the South and East well into the weekend. Including today’s rainfall, three-day accumulations of 2 to 4 inches or more are possible from South Texas to the Tennessee Valley. Moderate rain (1/2 to 2 inches) is expected from the Ohio Valley and mid-Atlantic into New England. Drier, cooler air will spread southward behind the front and a freeze is possible tomorrow morning as far south as Kansas and Colorado, warranting a close watch on heading winter wheat. Meanwhile, scattered showers will linger from central California to West Texas while drier conditions dominate the Pacific Northwest. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for May 14 – 18 depicts wetter-than-normal conditions throughout much of the West and South, as well as New England, with favorably drier conditions anticipated over the Midwest. Below-normal temperatures are forecast from southern California to the Delta, northward into the Great Lakes Region and New England. Unseasonable warmth is most likely in the Pacific and intermountain Northwest and along coastal areas from Texas to the mid-Atlantic.”

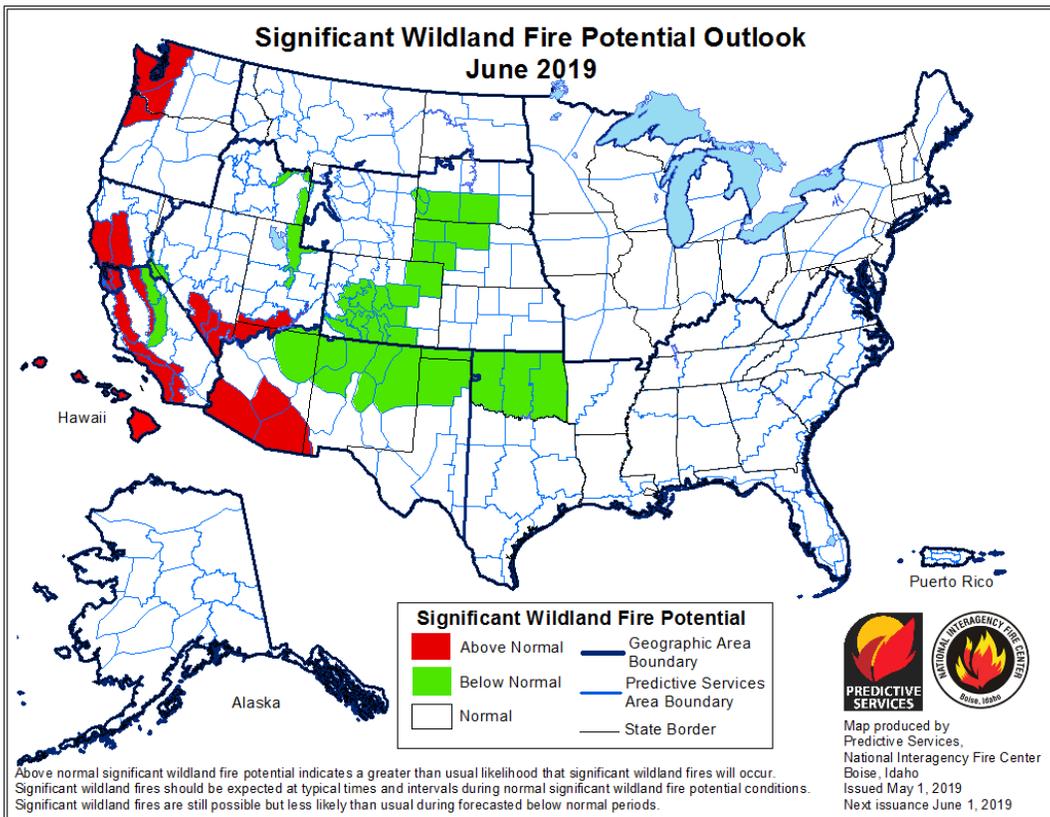
Weather Hazards Outlook: May 11 – May 15, 2019

Source: NOAA Climate Prediction Center



Significant Wildland [Fire Potential Outlook](#)

Source: National Interagency Fire Center

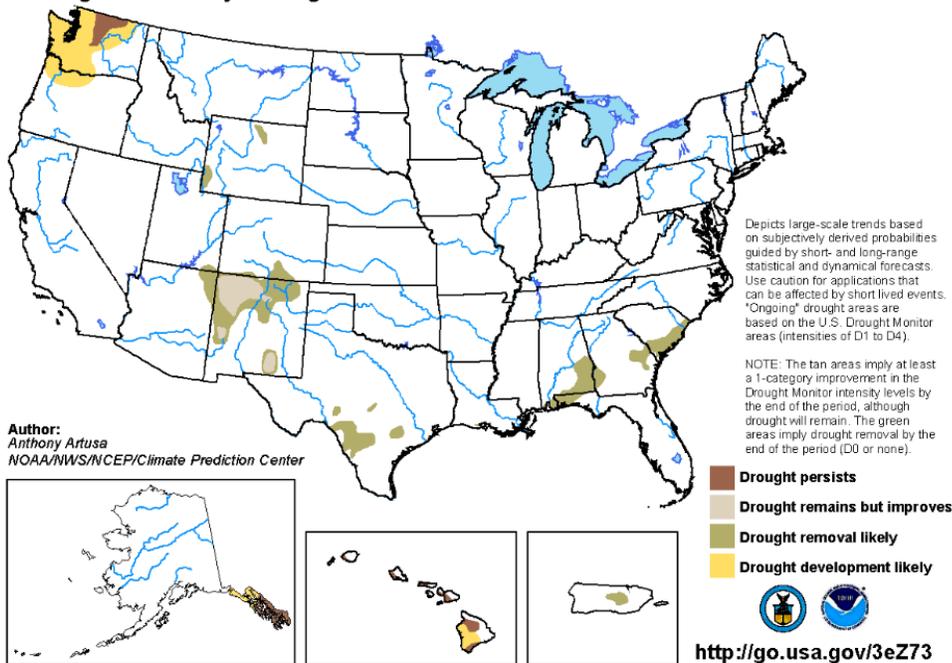


Seasonal Drought Outlook: [April 18 – July 31, 2019](#)

Source: National Weather Service

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

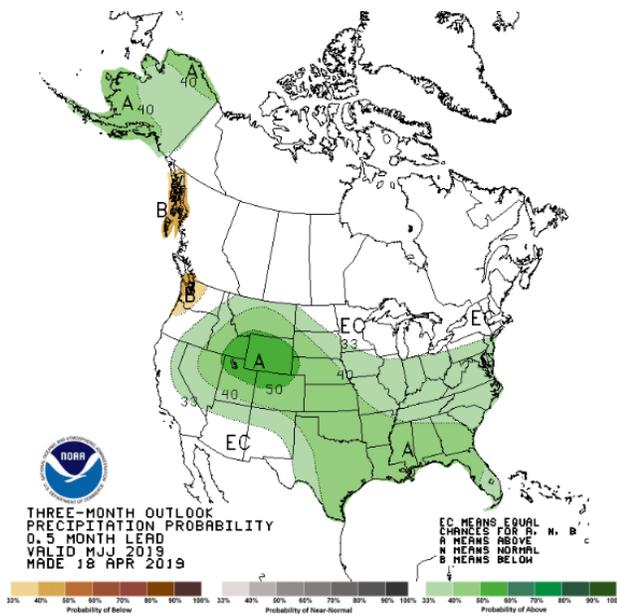
Valid for April 18 - July 31, 2019
Released April 18



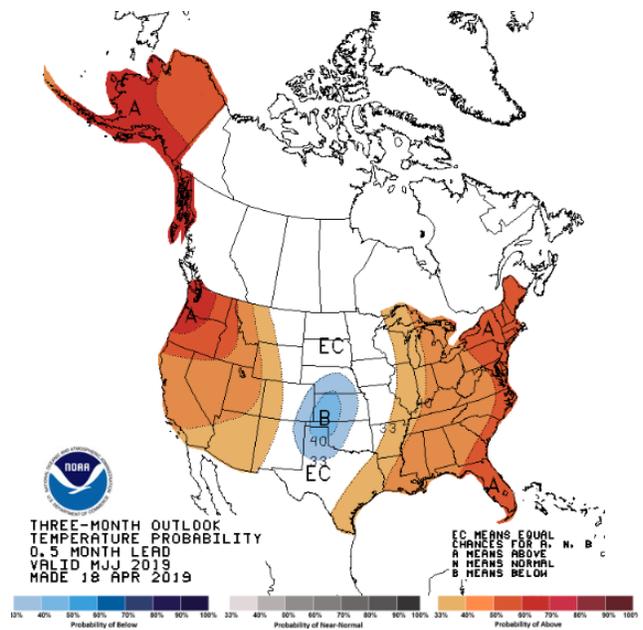
Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook

Source: National Weather Service

Precipitation



Temperature



[May-June-July \(MJJ\) 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](#).