



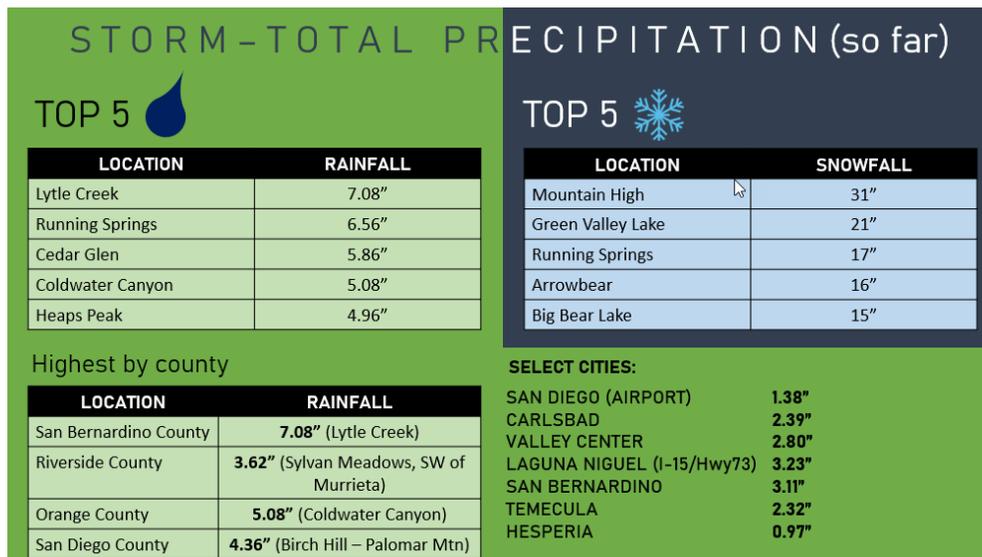
Water and Climate Update

April 9, 2020

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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Cold storm brings significant precipitation to southern California

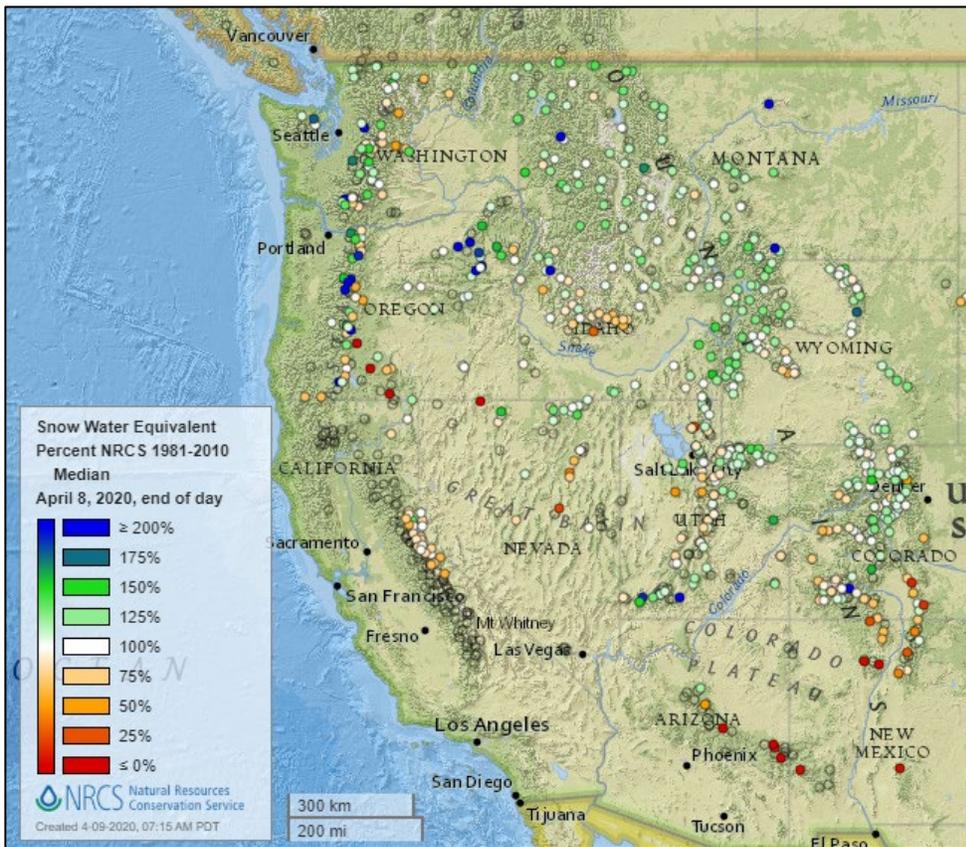


A slow-moving low-pressure system is continuing to cross southern California producing heavy rain in the valleys and mountain snow. As of yesterday, the National Weather Service reported in the graphic above, a storm total high of 7.08 inches of rainfall at Lytle Creek and peak snowfall total of 31 inches at Mountain High. A few daily rainfall totals were broken in the Los Angeles area. Mountain travel was impacted by snow covered roads and decreased visibility. The heavy rain triggered flash flood warnings in the area. The storm is expected to continue until Friday. [Full list of 3-day totals.](#)

Related:

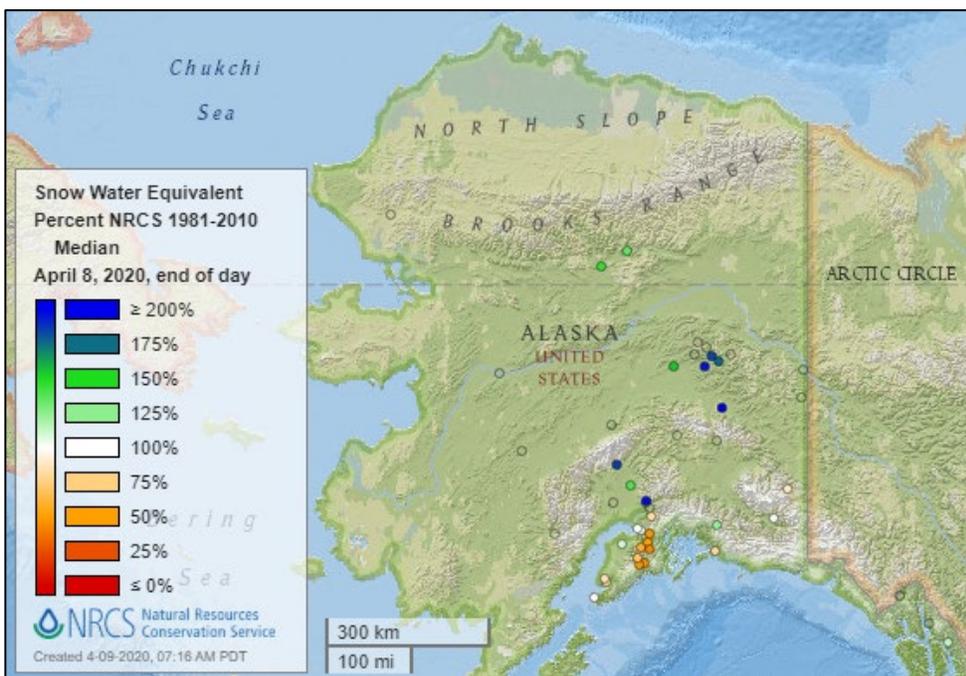
- [Rainfall total in downtown Los Angeles tops a record set in 1958](#) – Lo Angeles Daily News (CA)
- [Rain and snow will continue to fall on Southern California](#) – Orange County Register (CA)
- [Temperatures drop and rain continues, dumping snow on local mountains](#) – Fox 5 San Diego (CA)
- [Flash flooding, mudslides and feet of snow for California, severe weather possible for Midwest](#) ABC
- [Record-setting storm to continue crawl over California, Desert Southwest](#) – Yahoo!
- [Winterlike storm dumps much-needed heavy rain, mountain snow on Southern California](#) – Washington Post
- [Southern California weather: rain all over, heavy snow in mountains, flooding possible](#) – Orange County Register (CA)

Snow



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

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

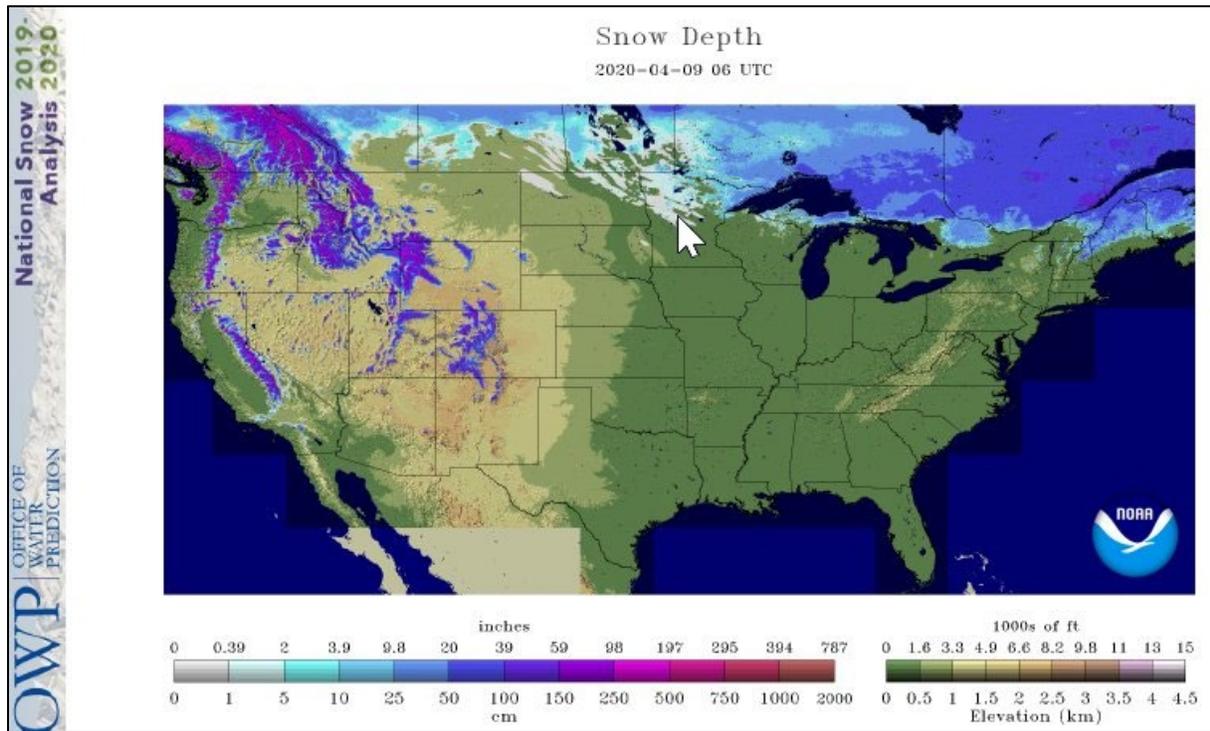


[Alaska snow water equivalent percent of median map](#)

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

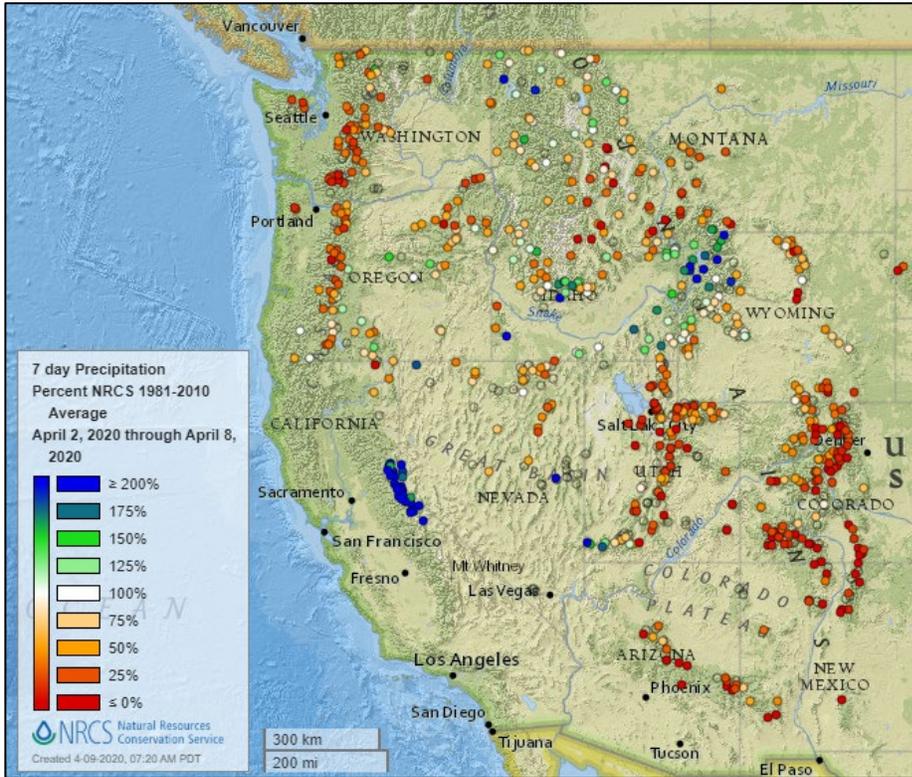
[Current Snow Depth](#), National Weather Service Snow Analysis

Source: NOAA Office of Water Prediction



Precipitation

Last 7 Days, NRCS SNOTEL Network

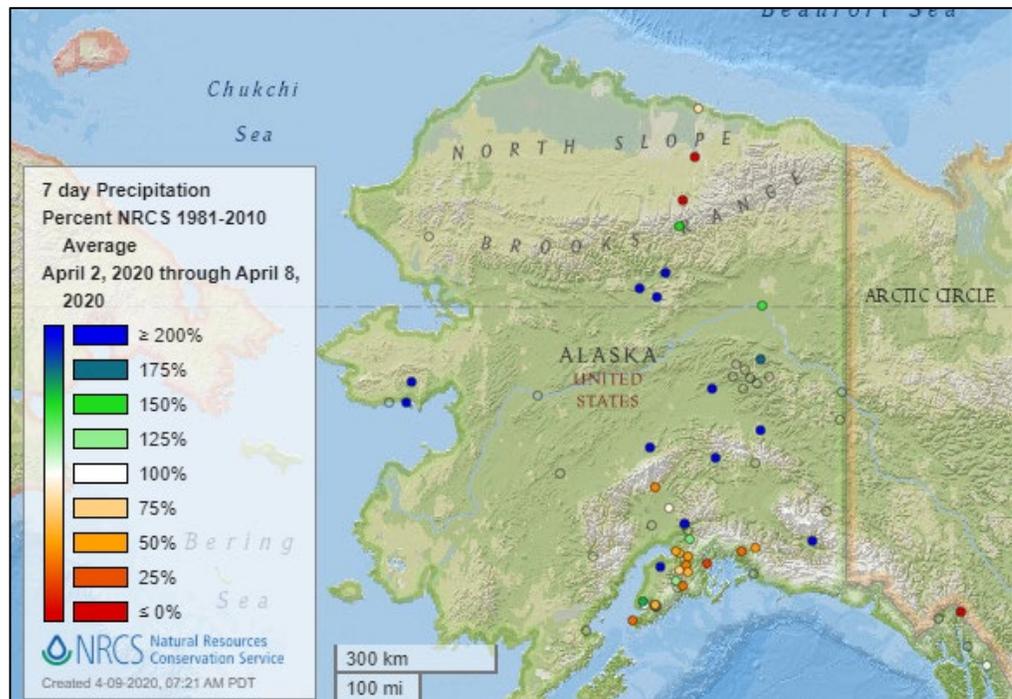


[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

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](#)



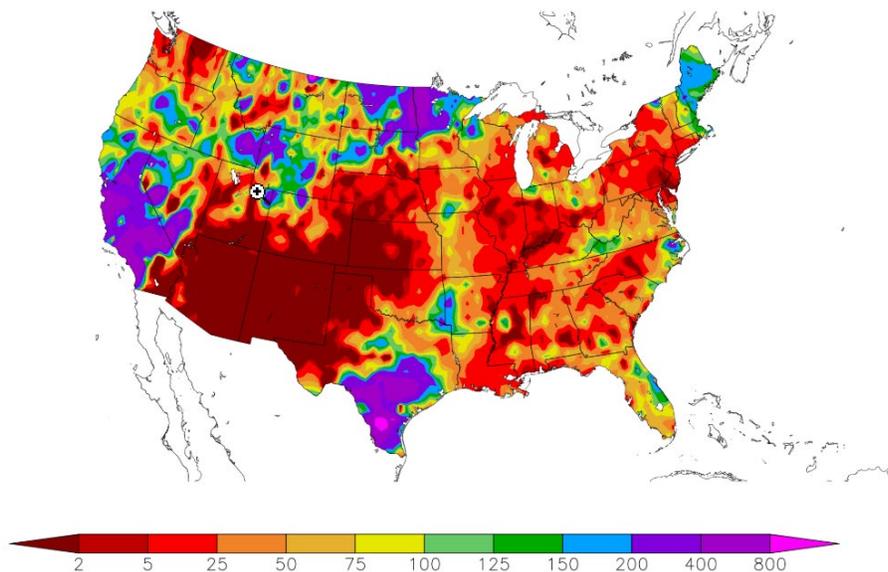
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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 (%)
4/1/2020 – 4/7/2020



Generated 4/8/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

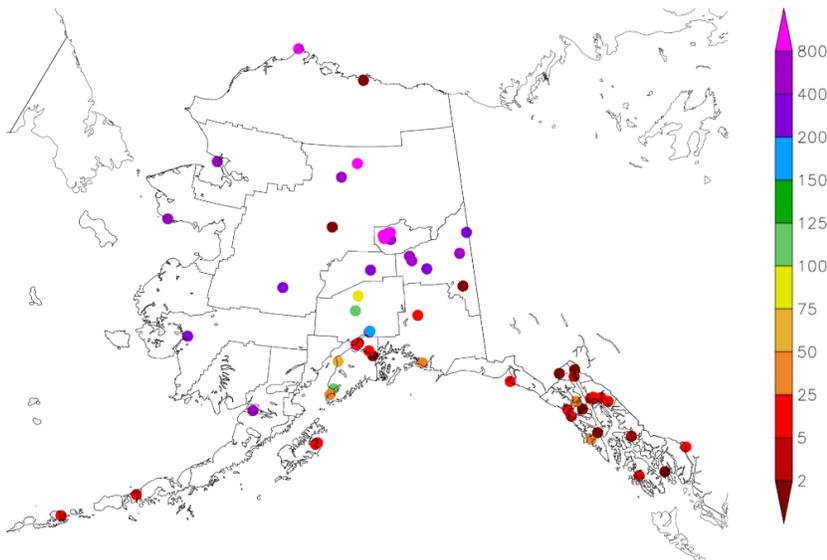
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
4/1/2020 – 4/7/2020



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NOAA Regional Climate Centers

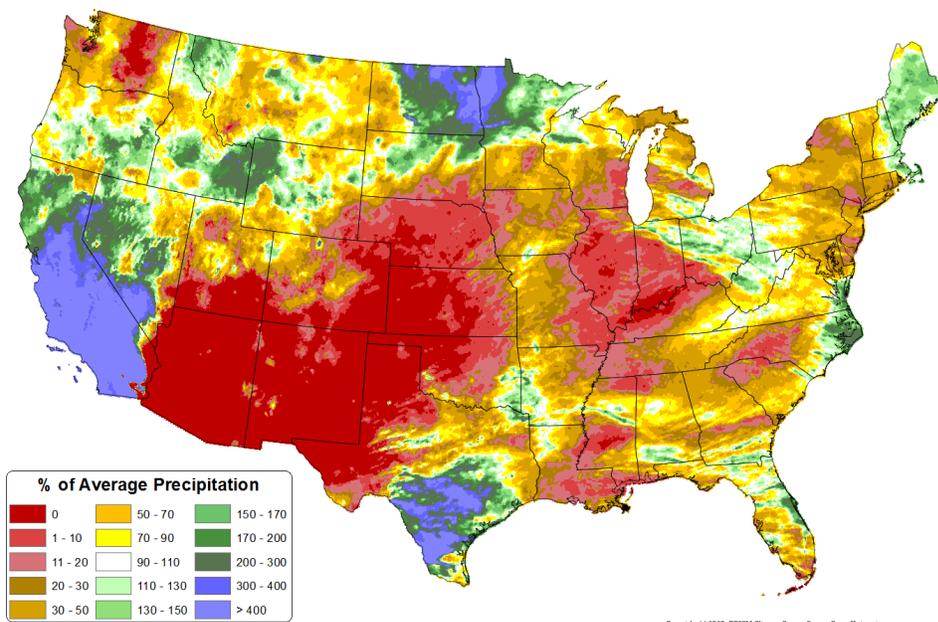
Water and Climate Update

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

Source: PRISM

Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 Apr 2020 - 08 Apr 2020
Period ending 7 AM EST 08 Apr 2020
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 09 Apr 2020)

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

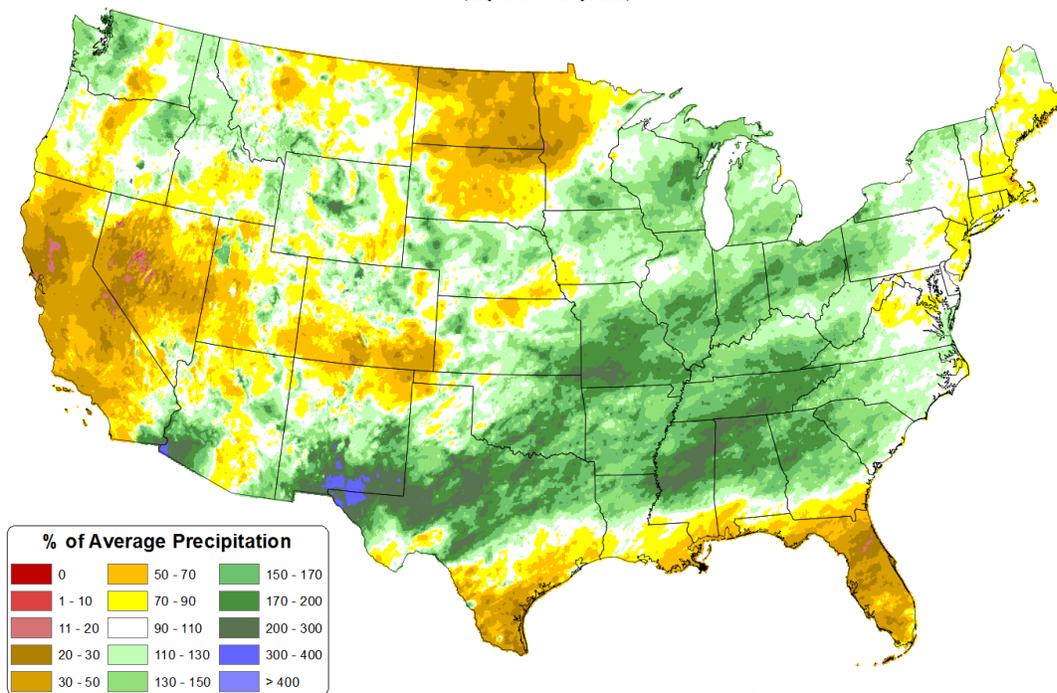


Last 3 Months, All Available Data Including SNOTEL and NWS Networks

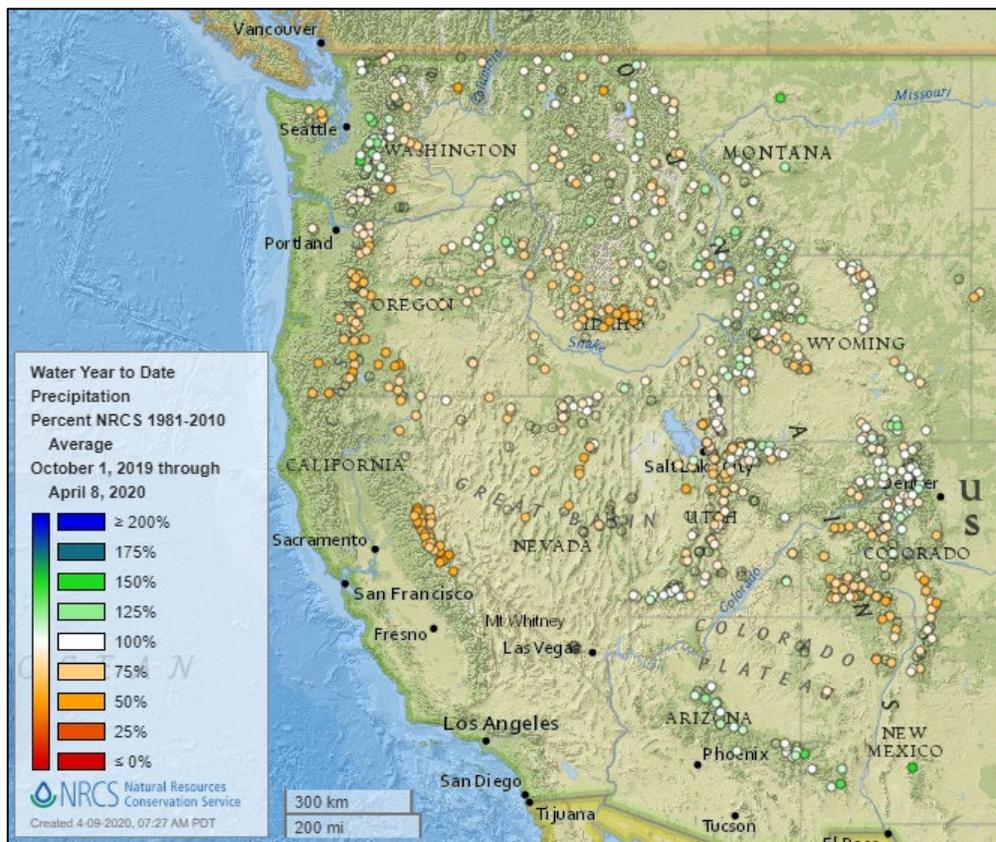
Source: PRISM

[January through March 2020 total precipitation percent of average map](#)

Total Precipitation Anomaly: Jan 2020 - Mar 2020
Period ending 7 AM EST 31 Mar 2020
Base period: 1981-2010
(Map created 02 Apr 2020)

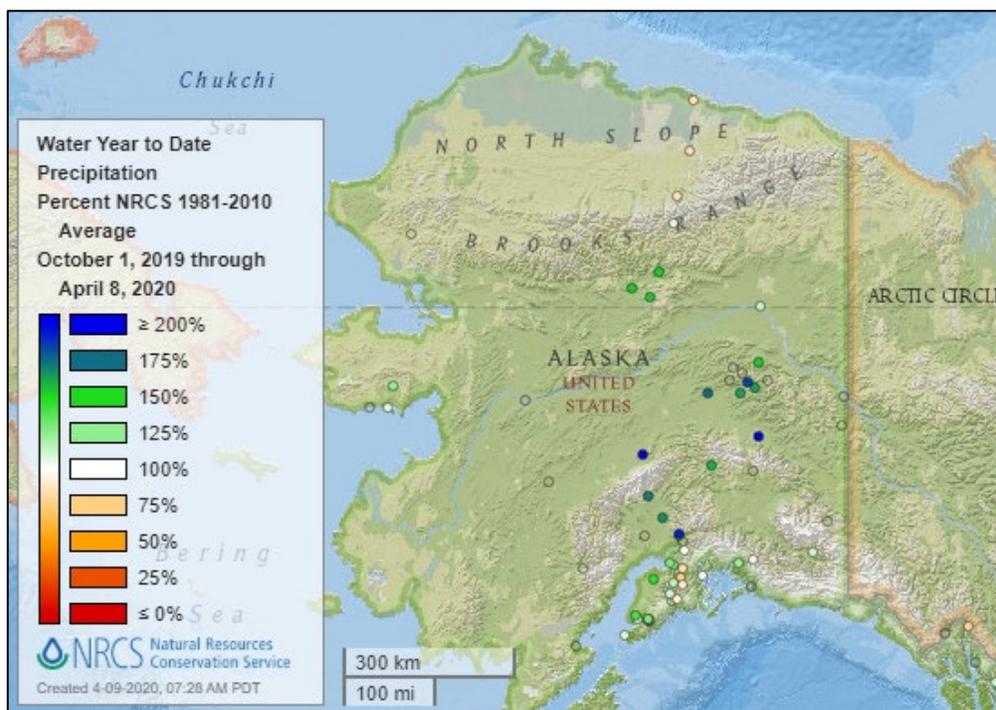


Water Year-to-Date, NRCS SNOTEL Network



[2020 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

See also:
[2020 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)



[Alaska 2020 water year-to-date precipitation percent of average map](#)

See also: [Alaska 2020 water year-to-date precipitation values \(inches\) map](#)

Temperature

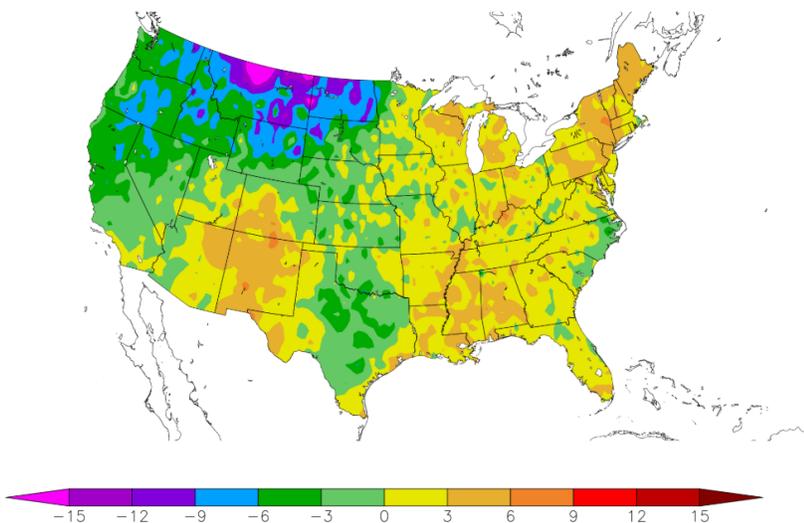
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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)
4/1/2020 – 4/7/2020



Generated 4/8/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

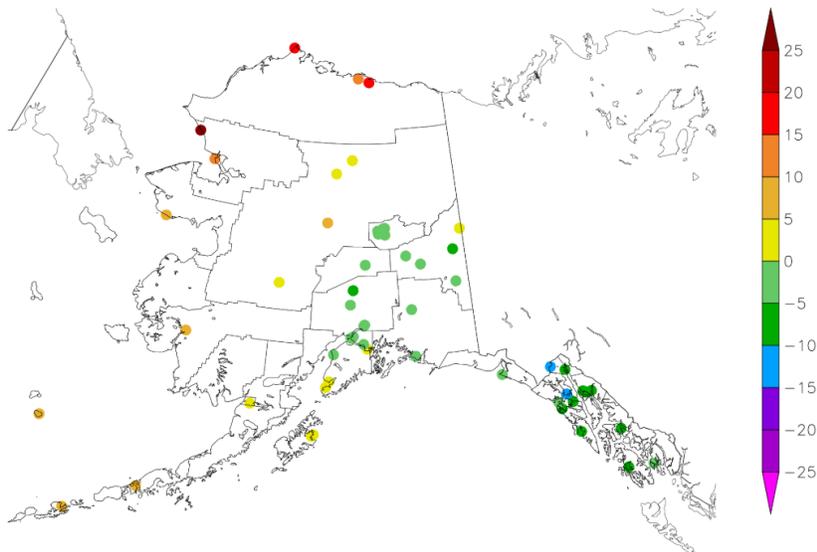
Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
4/1/2020 – 4/7/2020



Generated 4/8/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

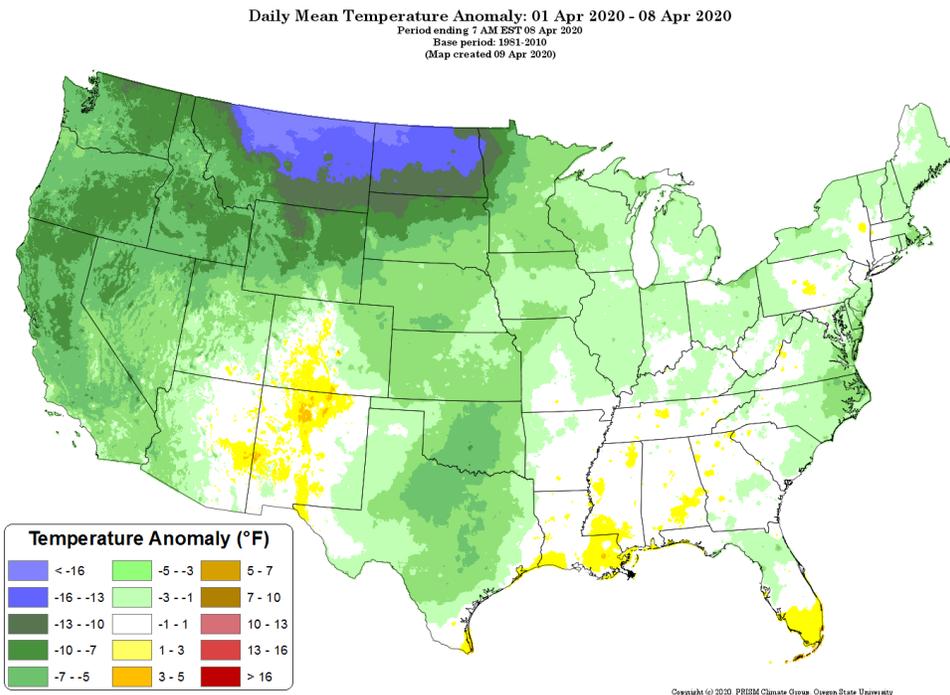
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Water and Climate Update

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

Source: PRISM

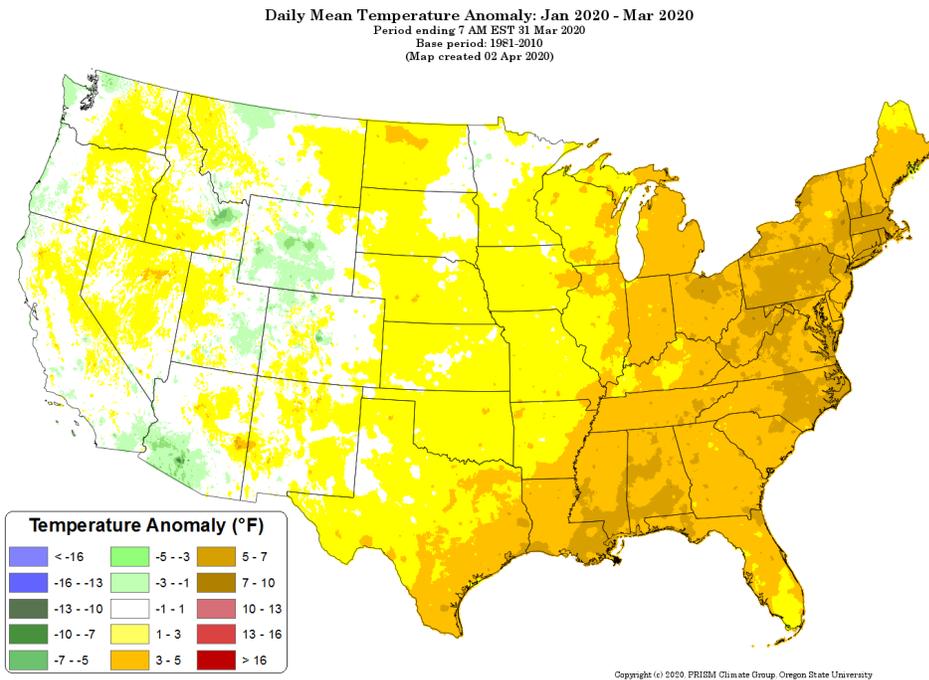
[Month-to-date national daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



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

Source: PRISM

[January through March 2020 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



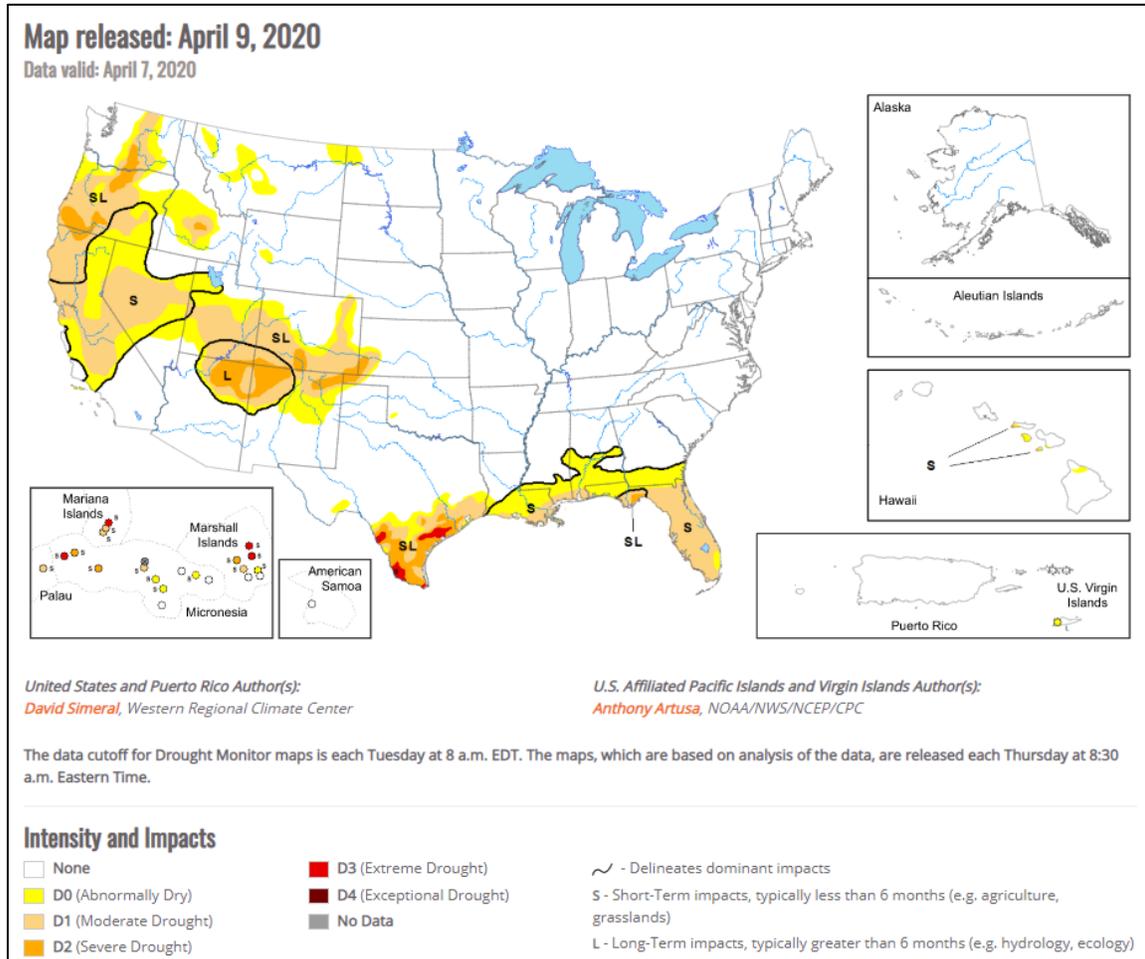
Drought

[U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

[U.S. Drought Portal](#)

Source: NOAA



Current [National Drought Summary](#), April 9, 2020

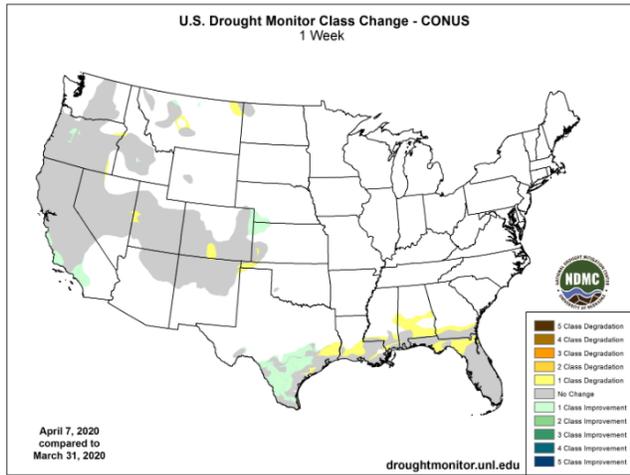
Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

“This U.S. Drought Monitor week saw drought expansion across portions of the South (Louisiana, Mississippi) and Southeast (Florida) where warm and dry conditions prevailed during the past 90-day period causing declines in soil moisture and streamflow levels. In Texas, significant rainfall across parts of the state led to improvement in drought-related conditions in South Texas and the Hill Country while areas along the Texas Gulf Coast missed the heavier accumulations. In the northern Plains, record-breaking cold affected the region including eastern portions of Wyoming and Montana. Further West, another series of Pacific storms delivered beneficial rainfall to coastal areas and valley locations in California and Oregon while significant mountain snowfall was observed across the Sierra Nevada, Trinity Mountains of northern California, Cascades, and the northern Rockies. For the month of March, the contiguous U.S. experienced its 30th wettest on record as well as its 10th warmest including record-warmth observed in areas of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida.”

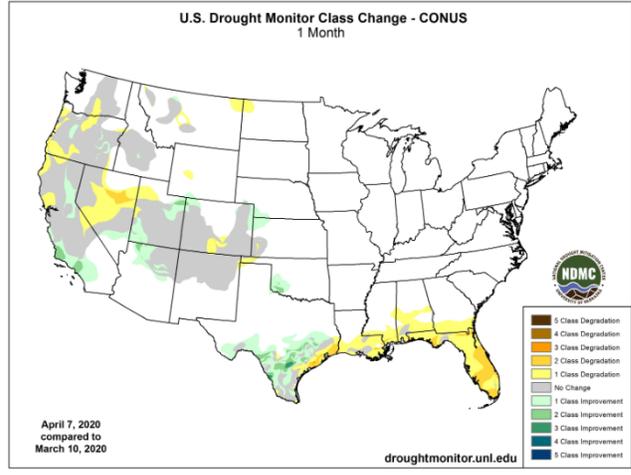
Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

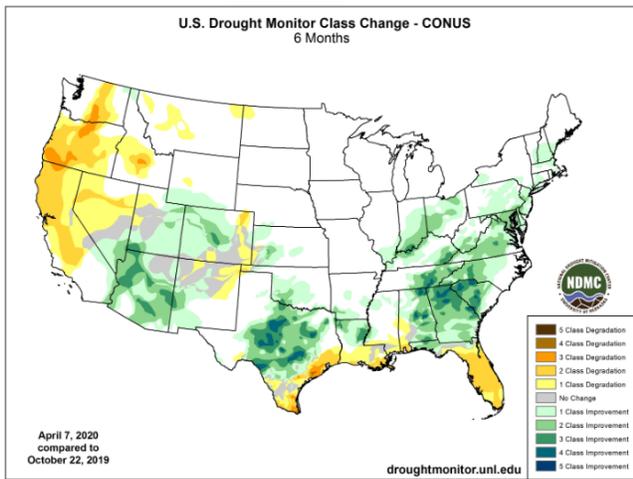
1 Week



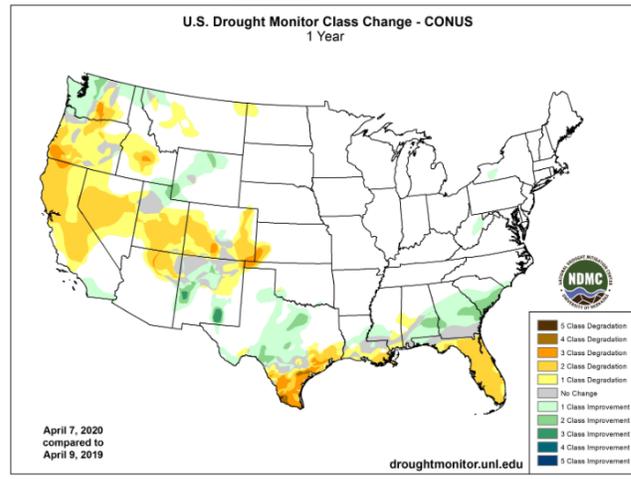
1 Month



6 Months



1 Year



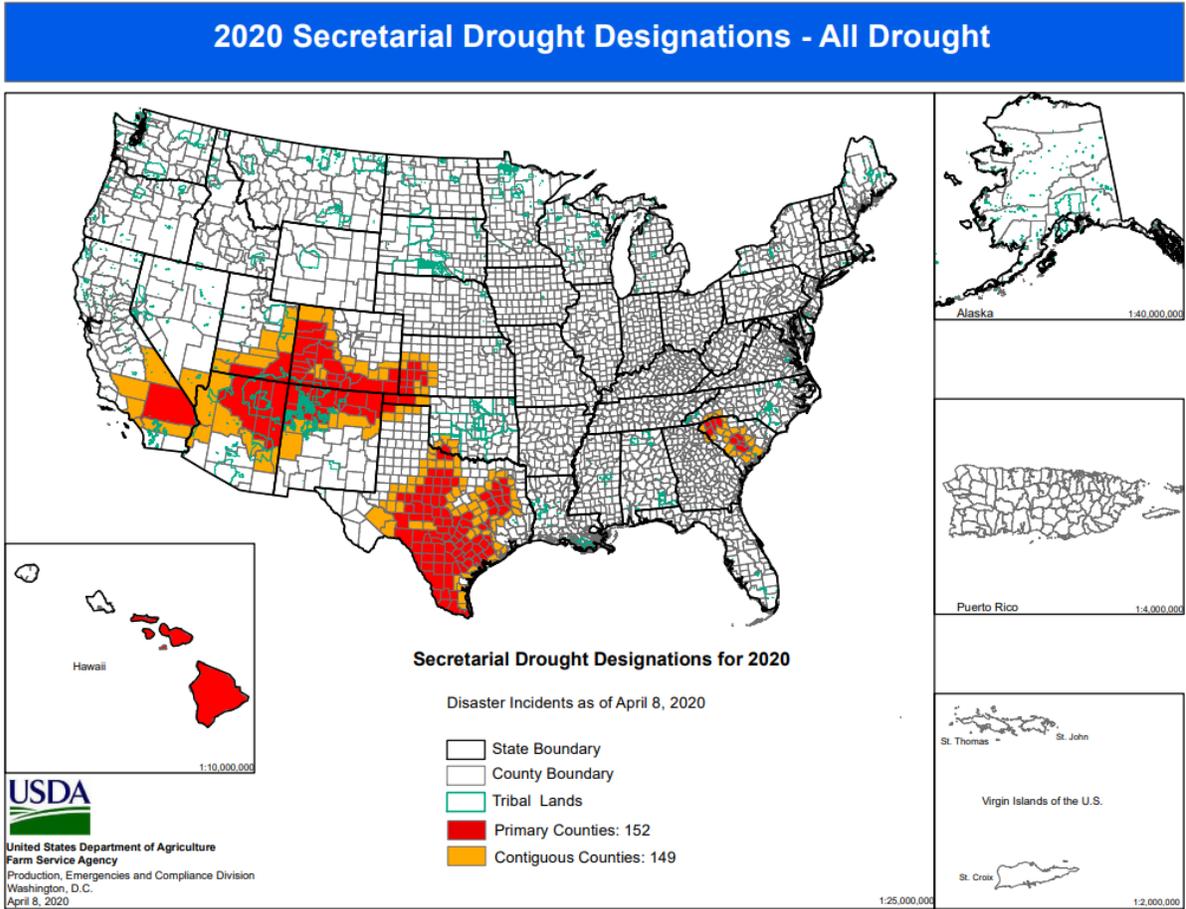
[Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months for the contiguous U.S.](#)

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

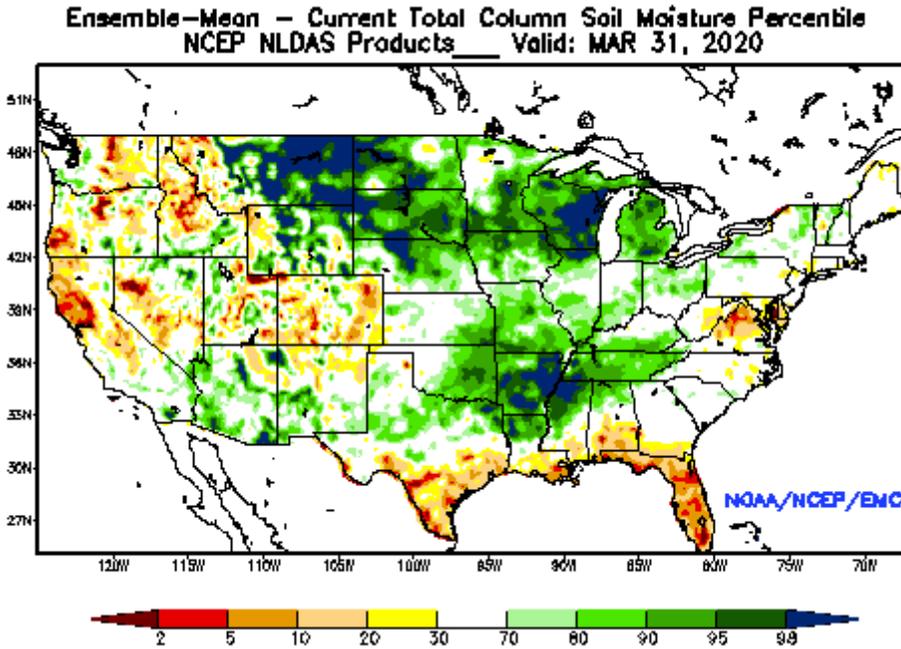
Source: USDA Farm Service Agency



Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

Soil Moisture

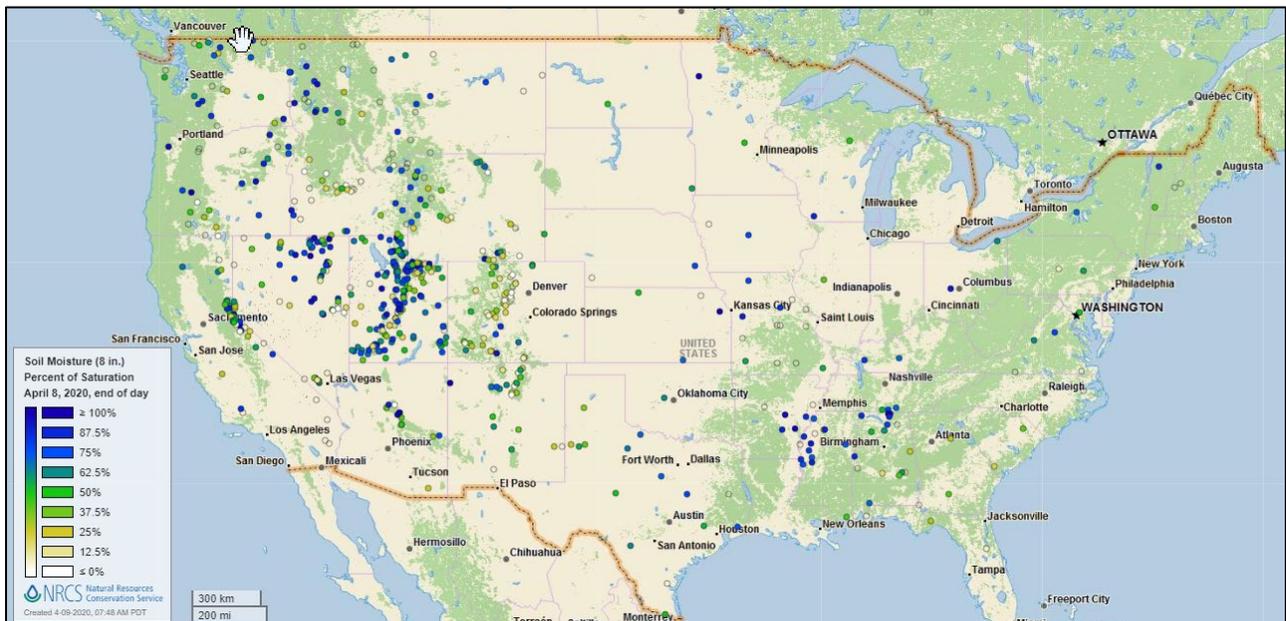
Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Prediction



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of March 31, 2020

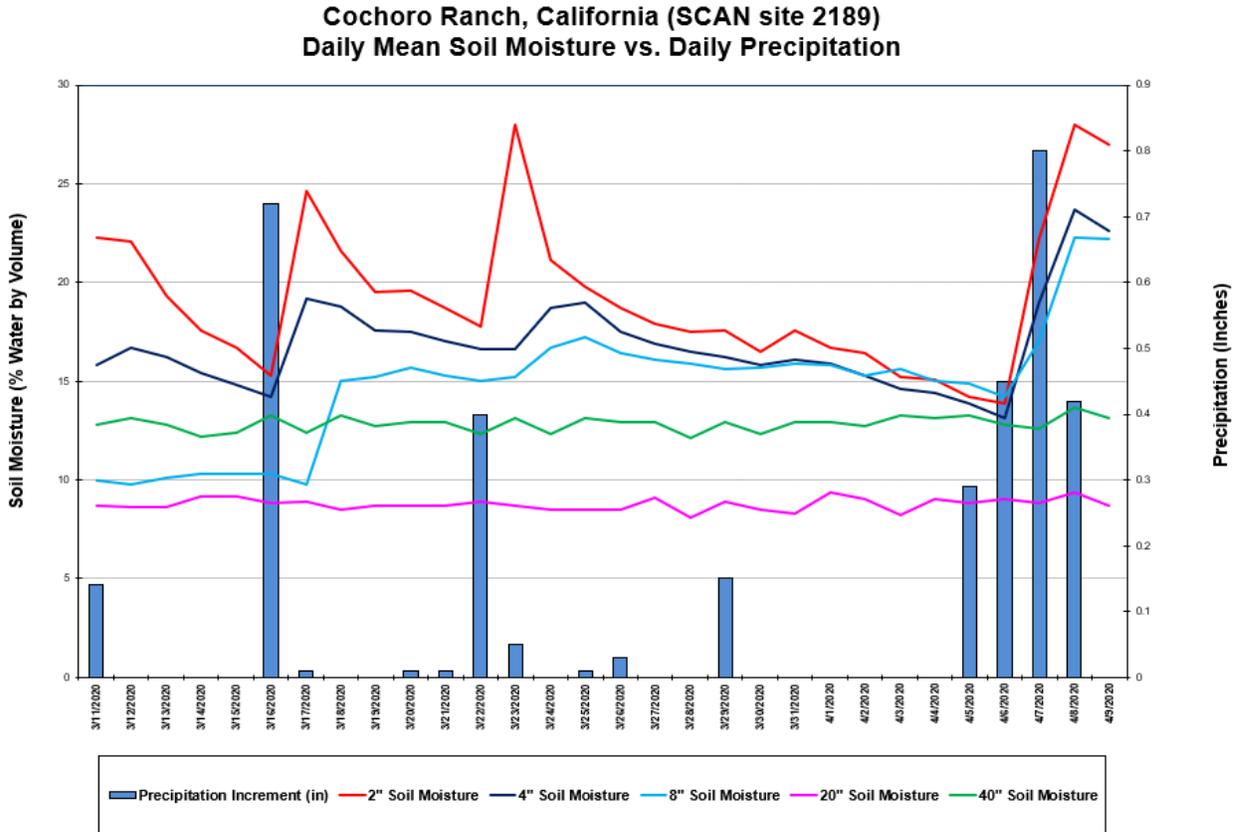
Soil Moisture Percent of Saturation

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 [Cochoro Ranch](#) SCAN site in California. The recent precipitation event resulted in increased soil moisture at the -2", -4", and -8" levels, whereas the -20" and -40" depths showed little change. Accumulated precipitation for the 30-day period totaled 3.49 inches.

Soil Moisture Data Portals

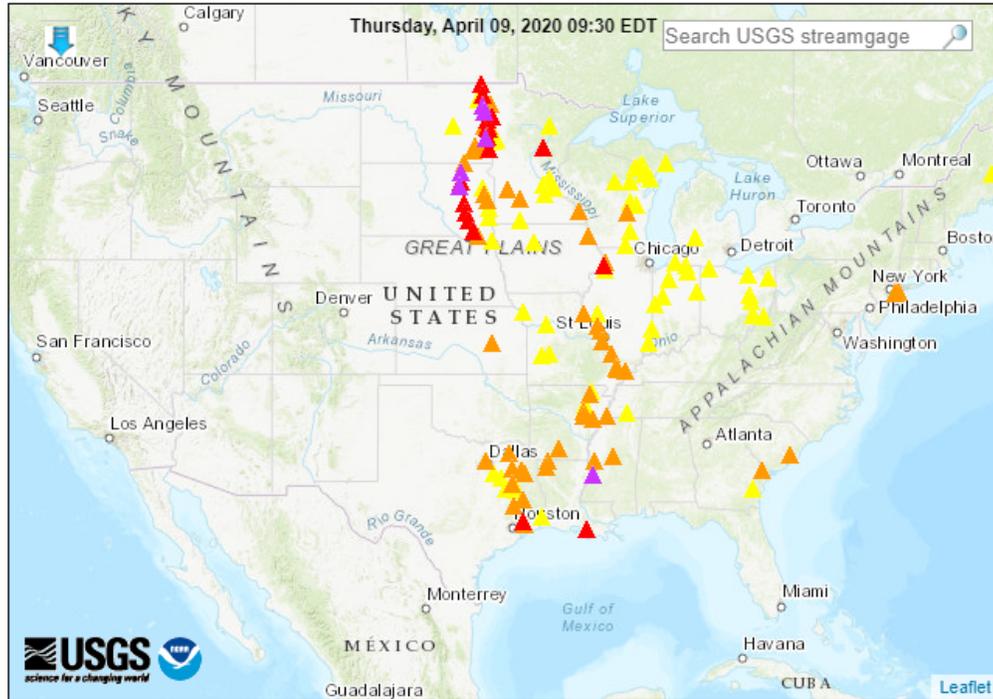
- [CRN Soil Moisture](#)
- [Texas A&M University North American Soil Moisture Database](#)
- [University of Washington Experimental Modeled Soil Moisture](#)

Streamflow, Drought, Flood, and Runoff

Source: U.S. Geological Survey

Map of flood and high flow conditions

(72 in floods [major: 6, moderate: 17, minor: 49], 60 in near-flood)



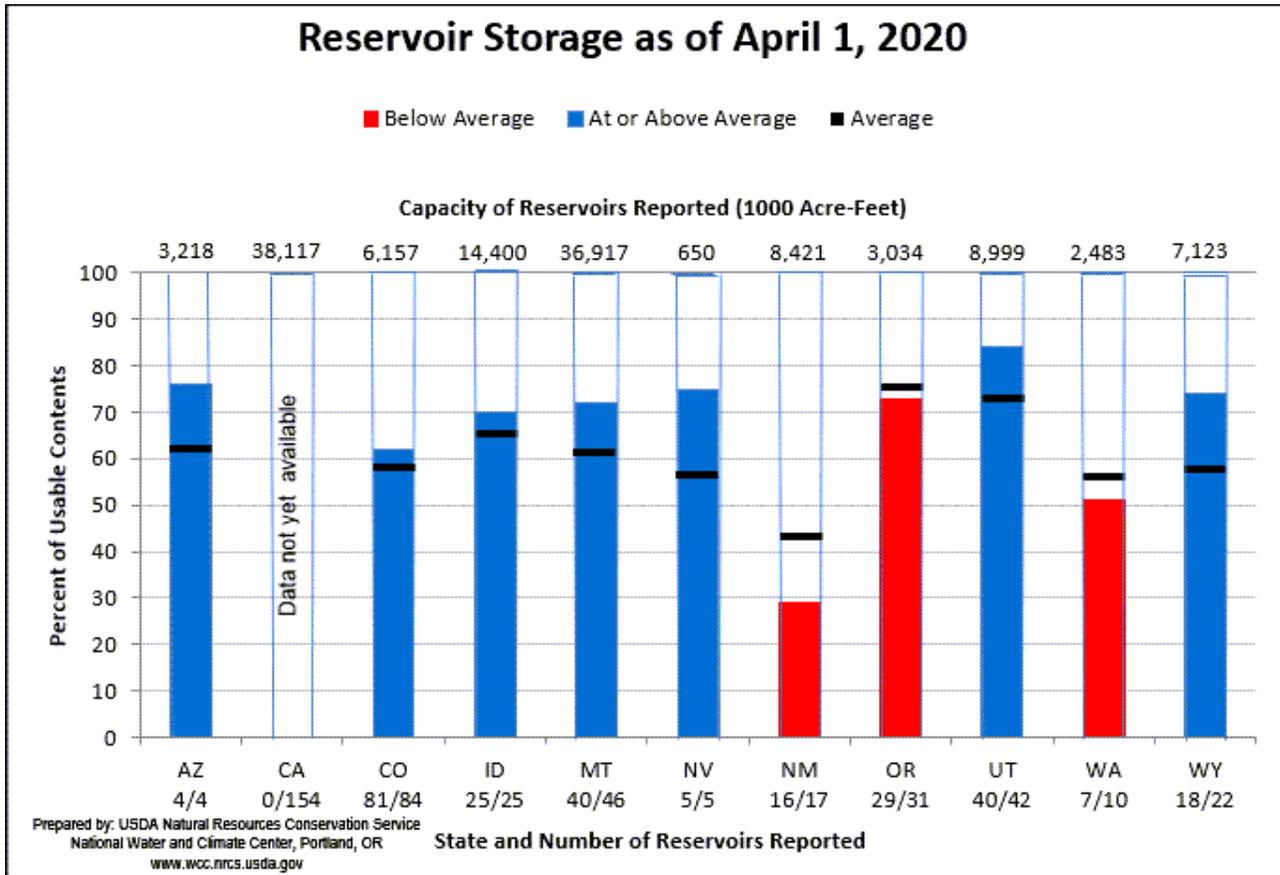
Explanation - Percentile classes						
<95	95-98	>= 99	Above action stage	Above flood stage	Above moderate flood stage	Above major flood stage
			△ Streamgage with flood stage	○ Streamgage without flood stage		

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

Reservoir Storage

Western States Reservoir Storage

Source: NRCS National Water and Climate Center



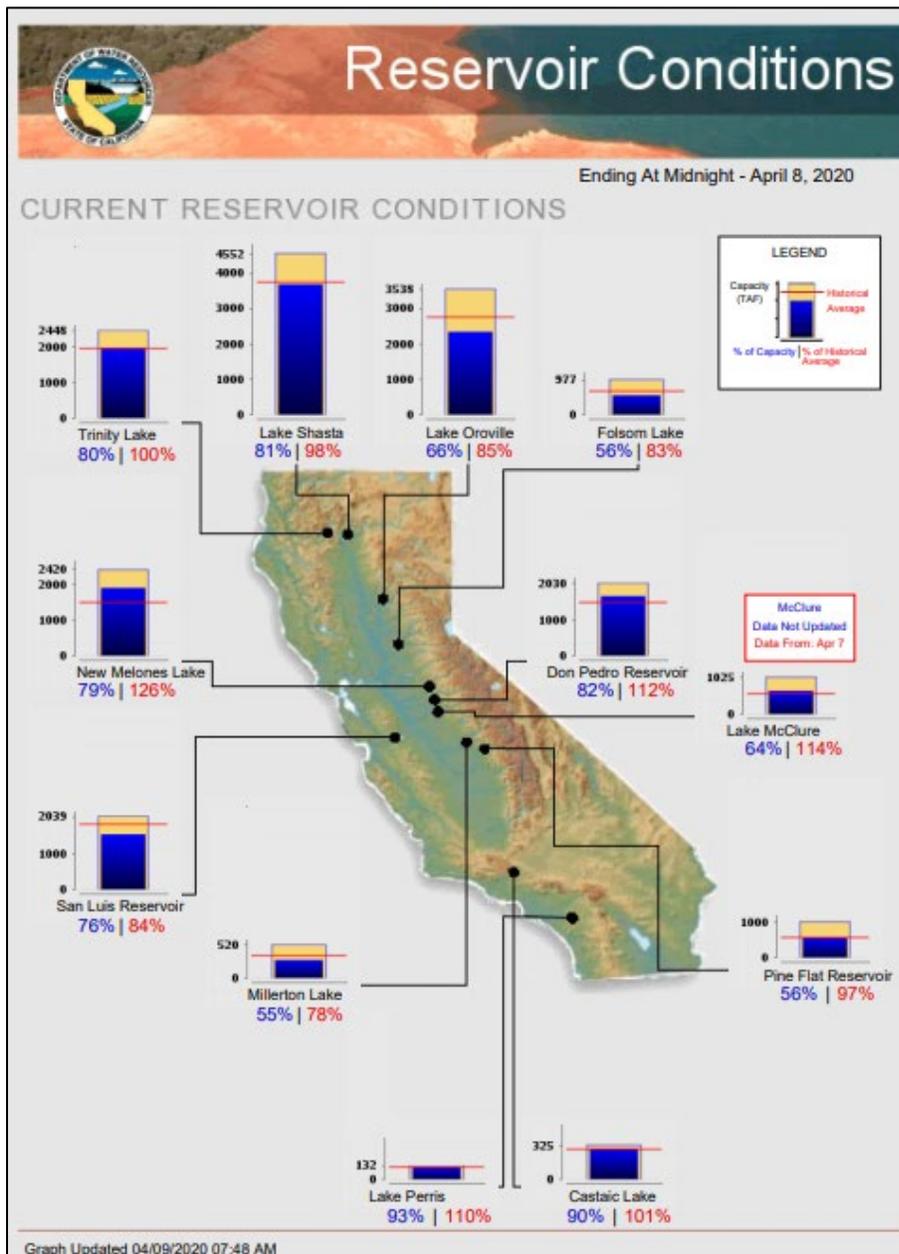
April 1, 2020 Reservoir Storage: [Chart](#) | [Dataset](#)

Hydromet Teacup 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

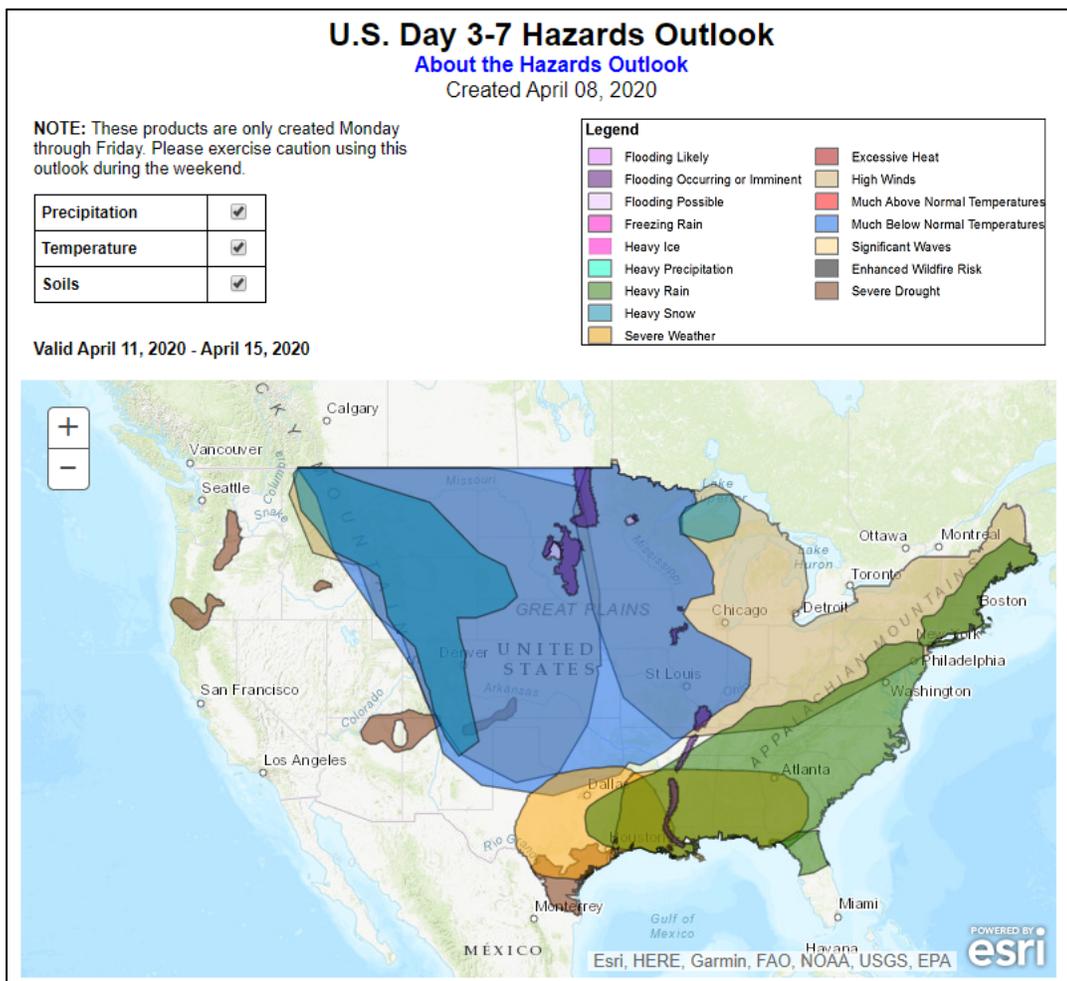
Agricultural Weather Highlights

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

National Outlook, Thursday, April 9, 2020: “The first in a series of cold fronts will drive southeastward, reaching the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts by Thursday. On Saturday morning, freezes may occur as far south as the middle Ohio Valley and the central Appalachians. Meanwhile, rainfall could become heavy during the weekend and early next week across the South, as the storm system currently affecting southern California begins to drift eastward. Storm-total rainfall could reach 2 to 4 inches from eastern Texas into Georgia and the Carolinas. By early next week, a complex weather scenario unfolding across the central and eastern U.S. may include a rapidly intensifying storm system over the Midwest and a second, stronger cold outbreak. Potential impacts from the mid-April storm and subsequent cold wave could include wind-driven snow in parts of the Midwest; stress on livestock, especially in areas where calving and lambing operations are in progress; and a sharp cold snap in regions where winter wheat, blooming fruits, ornamentals, and emerging summer crops may be vulnerable to freeze injury. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for April 13 – 17 calls for the strong likelihood of below-normal temperatures nationwide, except for warmer-than-normal weather across Florida’s peninsula and along the Pacific Coast. Meanwhile, near- or below-normal precipitation in much of the central and western U.S. should contrast with wetter-than-normal conditions in the East and a small area covering the central and southern Rockies and environs.”

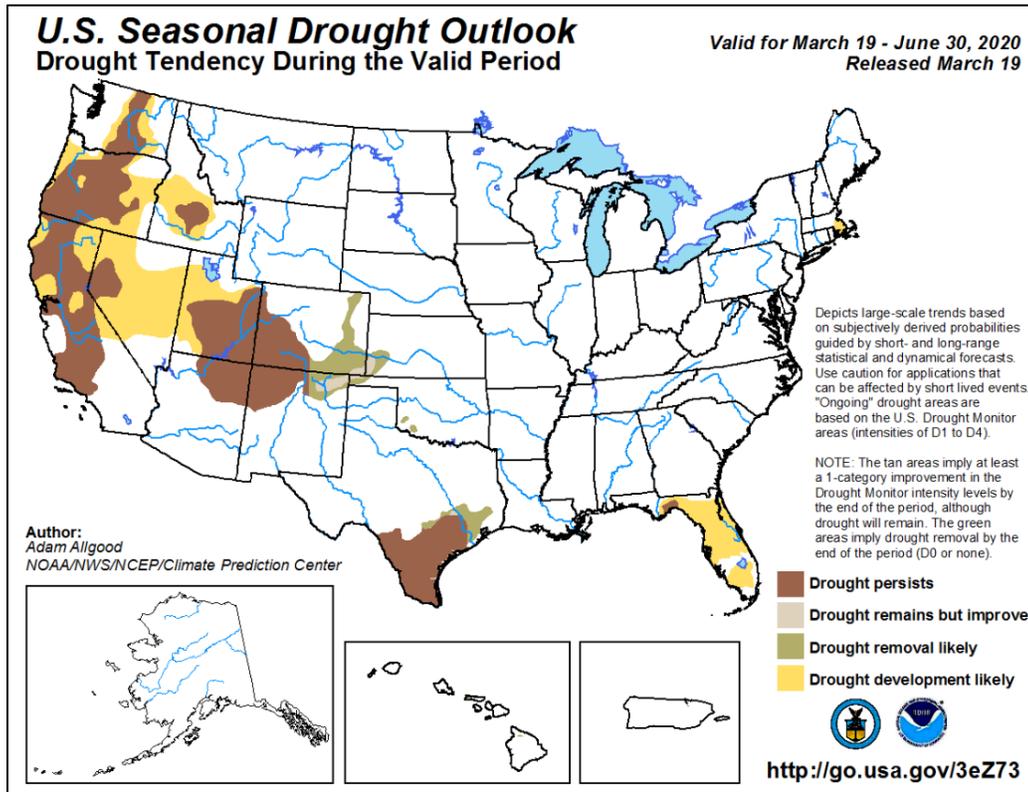
Weather Hazards Outlook: [April 11 – 15, 2020](#)

Source: NOAA Weather Prediction Center



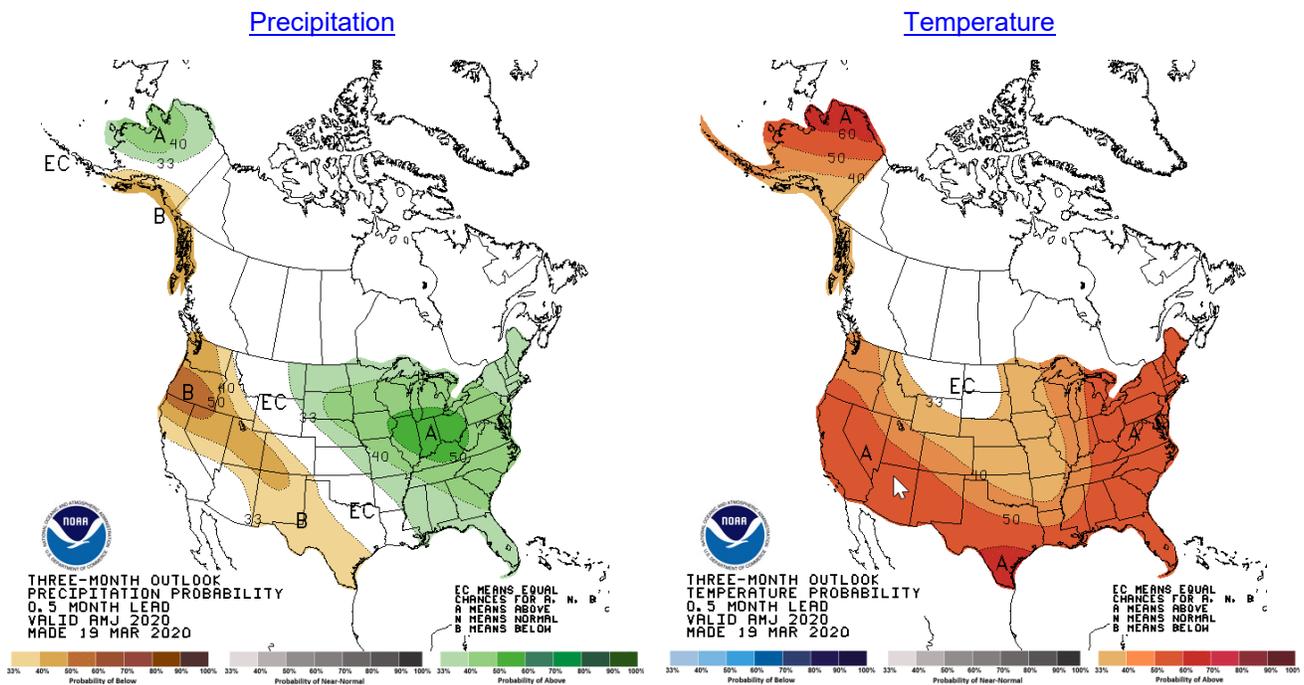
Seasonal Drought Outlook: [March 19 – June 30, 2020](#)

Source: National Weather Service



Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook

Source: National Weather Service



[April-May-June \(AMJ\) 2020 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](#).