

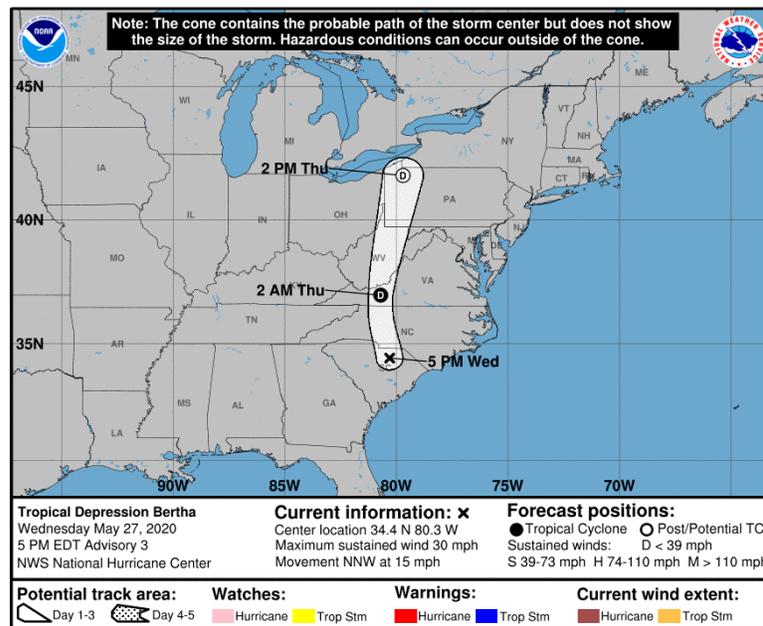
# Water and Climate Update

May 28, 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.

Snow .....	2	Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators .....	13
Precipitation .....	4	Short- and Long-Range Outlooks.....	18
Temperature.....	8	More Information .....	20
Drought .....	10		

## Second tropical storm of 2020 makes landfall in South Carolina

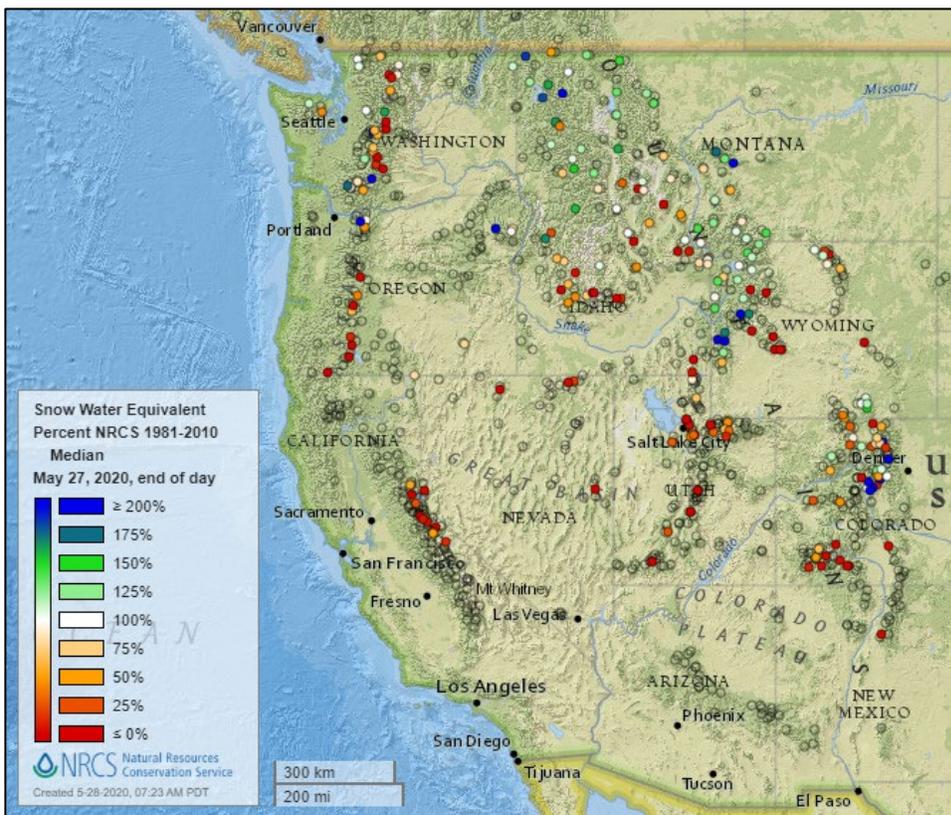


The second named storm of the season, tropical storm Bertha, strengthened quickly off the coast of South Carolina this week. Bertha had received its name just two hours before it made landfall at Mt. Pleasant. The storm began as a tropical disturbance with heavy rain in Florida accompanied by flash flooding. It strengthened quickly as it moved over water. Once over land again, Bertha left heavy rain and flooding along its track. The storm weakened significantly as it traveled inland. The remnants of Bertha are currently centered over eastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania.

**Related:**

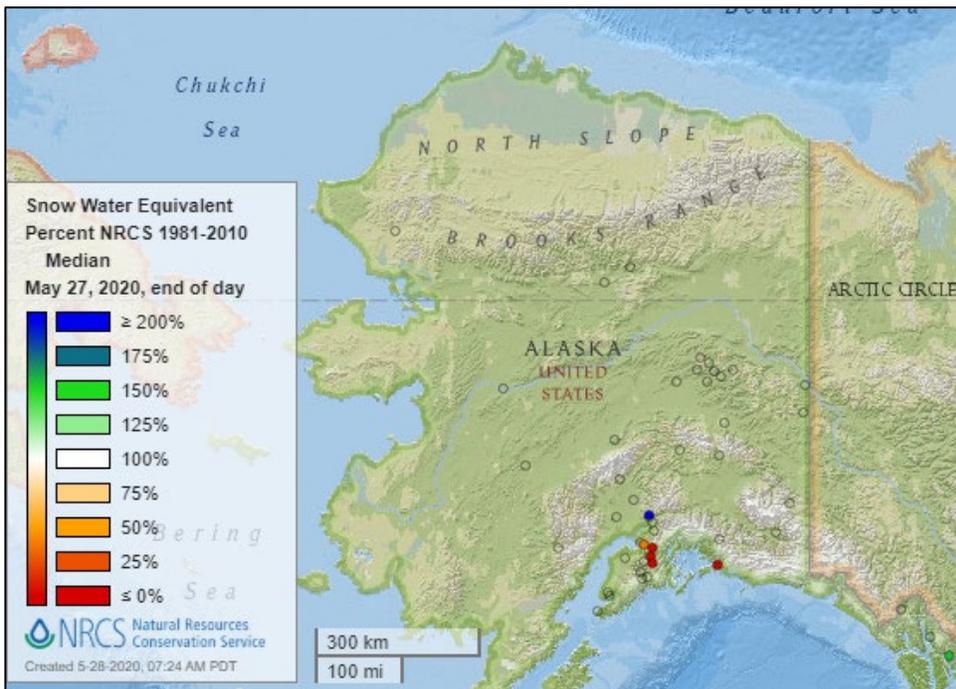
- [Tropical Storm Bertha makes landfall on South Carolina's coast](#) - CBS News
- [Tropical Storm Bertha brings heavy winds, potential flooding for Carolinas, Virginia](#) – NBC News
- [Tropical Storm Bertha quickly forms, strikes South Carolina after dumping 14 inches of rain in Miami](#) – Washington Post
- [Tropical Storm Bertha develops unexpectedly, causes rain, flooding in Charleston area](#) – The Post and Courier (SC)
- [Tropical Storm Bertha makes landfall less than two hours after becoming a named system](#) - CNN
- [Bertha now a tropical depression](#) – WITN (NC) on MSN

# Snow



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

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

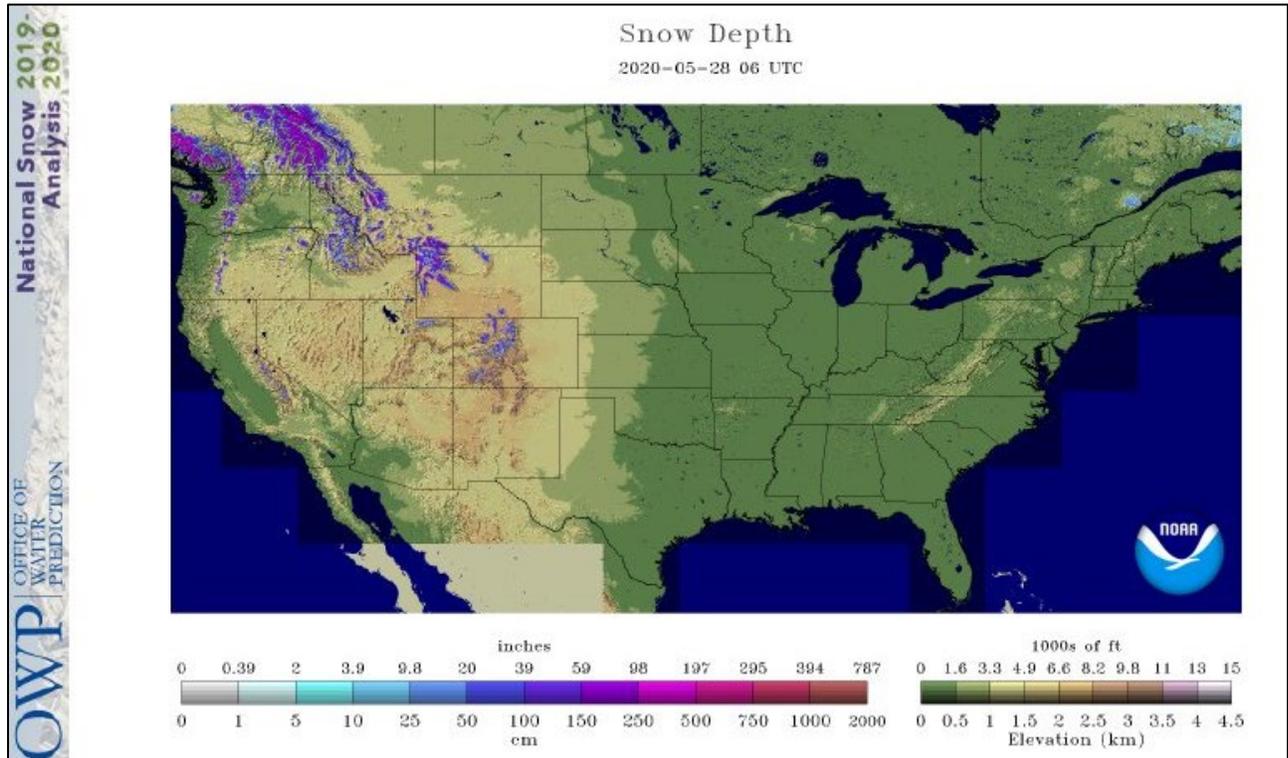


[Alaska snow water equivalent percent of median map](#)

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

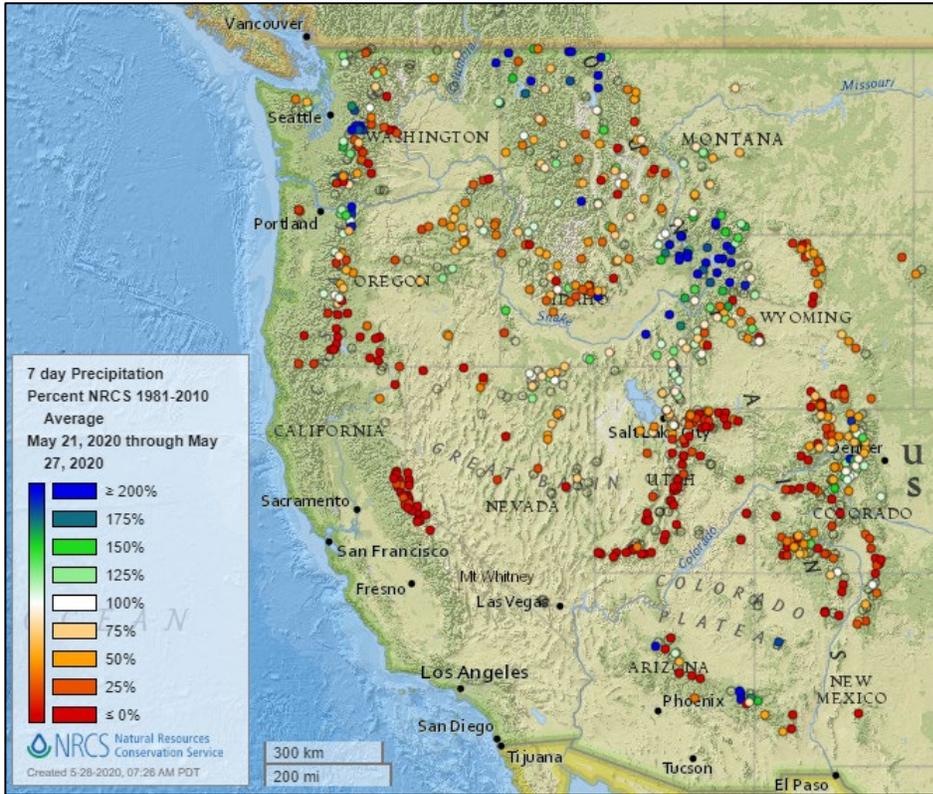
**Current Snow Depth, National Weather Service Snow Analysis**

Source: NOAA Office of Water Prediction



# Precipitation

## Last 7 Days, NRCS SNOTEL Network

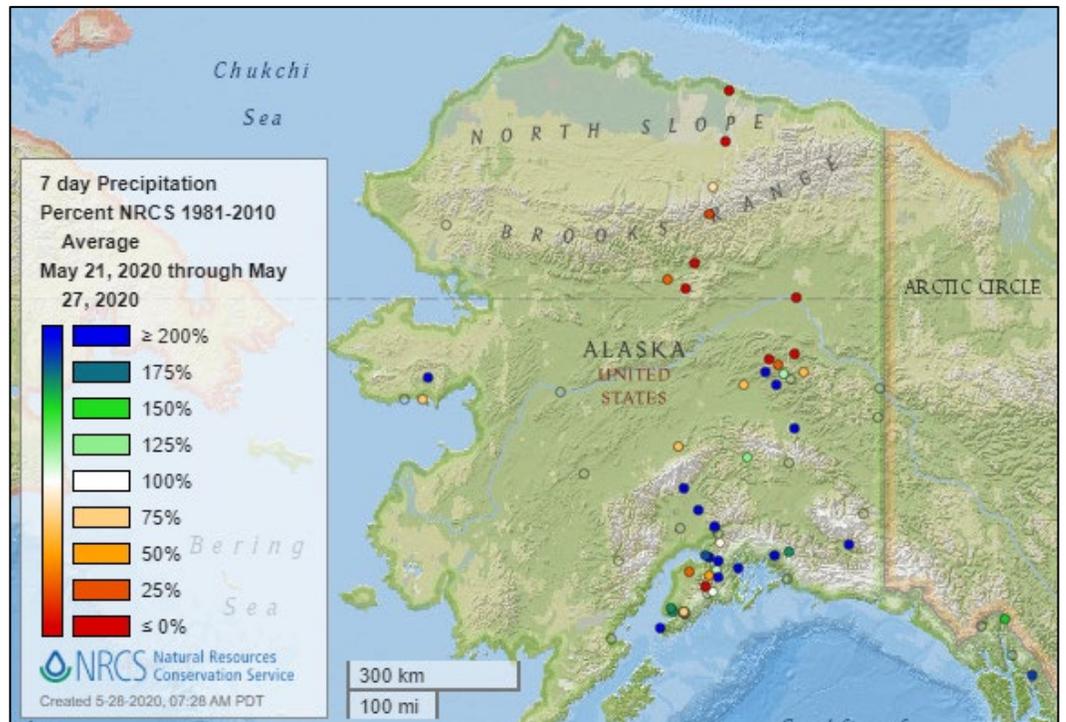


[7-day precipitation percent of average map](#)

**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](#)



# Water and Climate Update

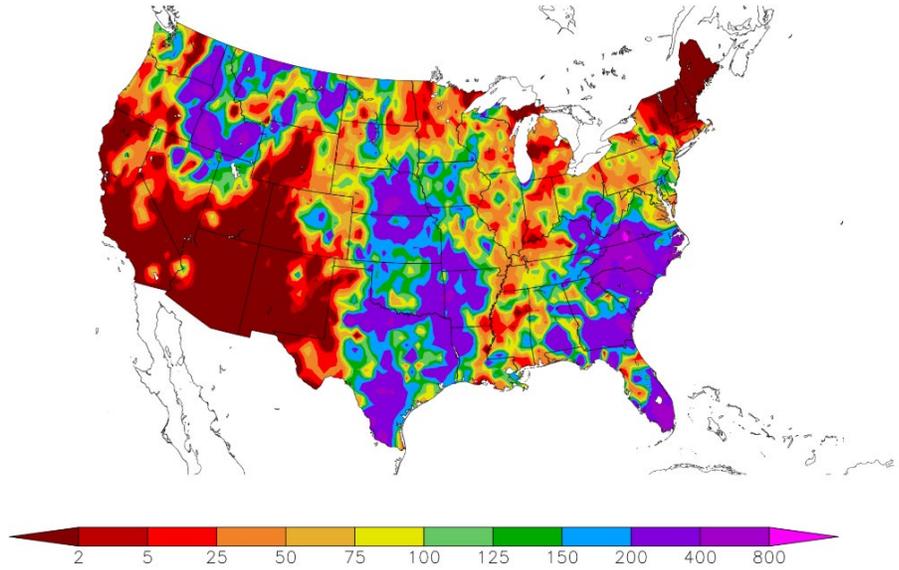
## Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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 (%)  
5/20/2020 – 5/26/2020



Generated 5/27/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

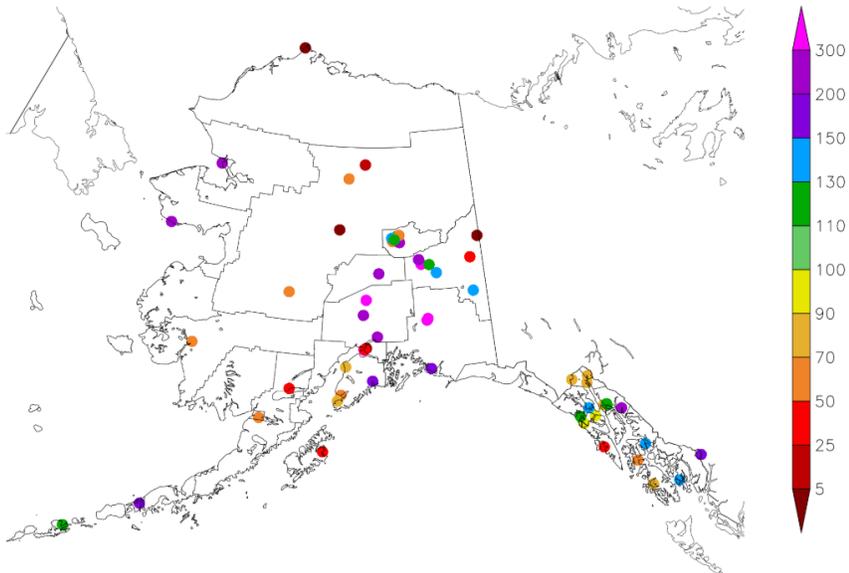
## Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
5/20/2020 – 5/26/2020



Generated 5/27/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

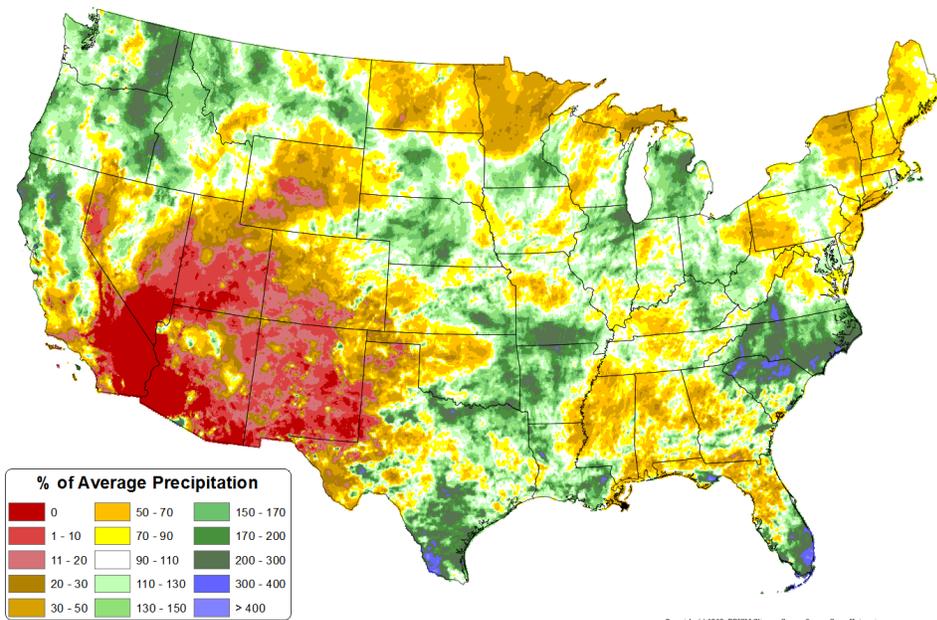
# Water and Climate Update

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

Source: PRISM

Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 May 2020 - 27 May 2020  
Period ending 7 AM EST 27 May 2020  
Base period: 1981-2010  
(Map created 25 May 2020)

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



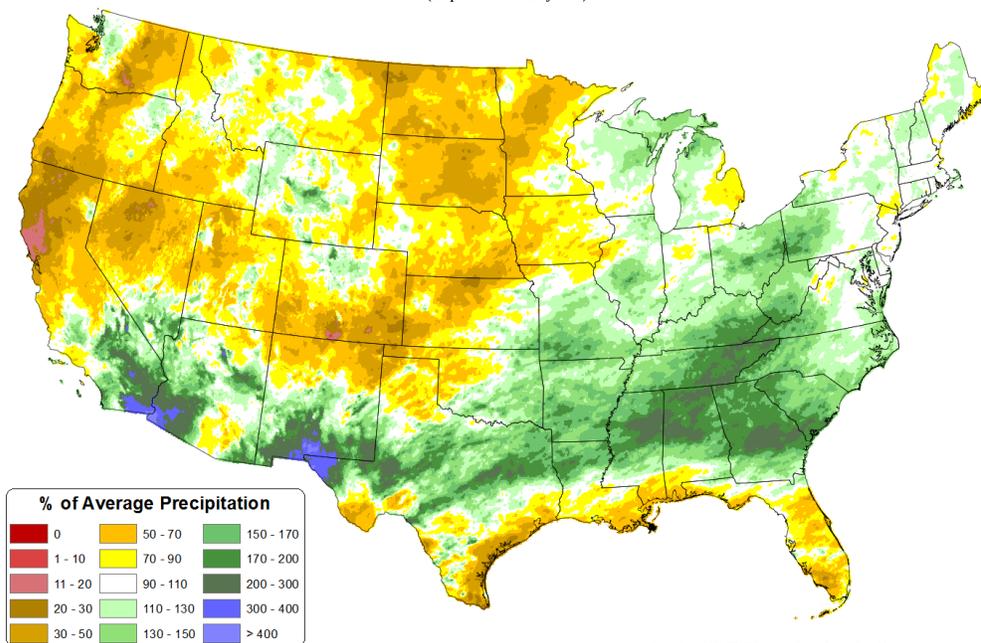
Copyright (c) 2020, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University

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

Source: PRISM

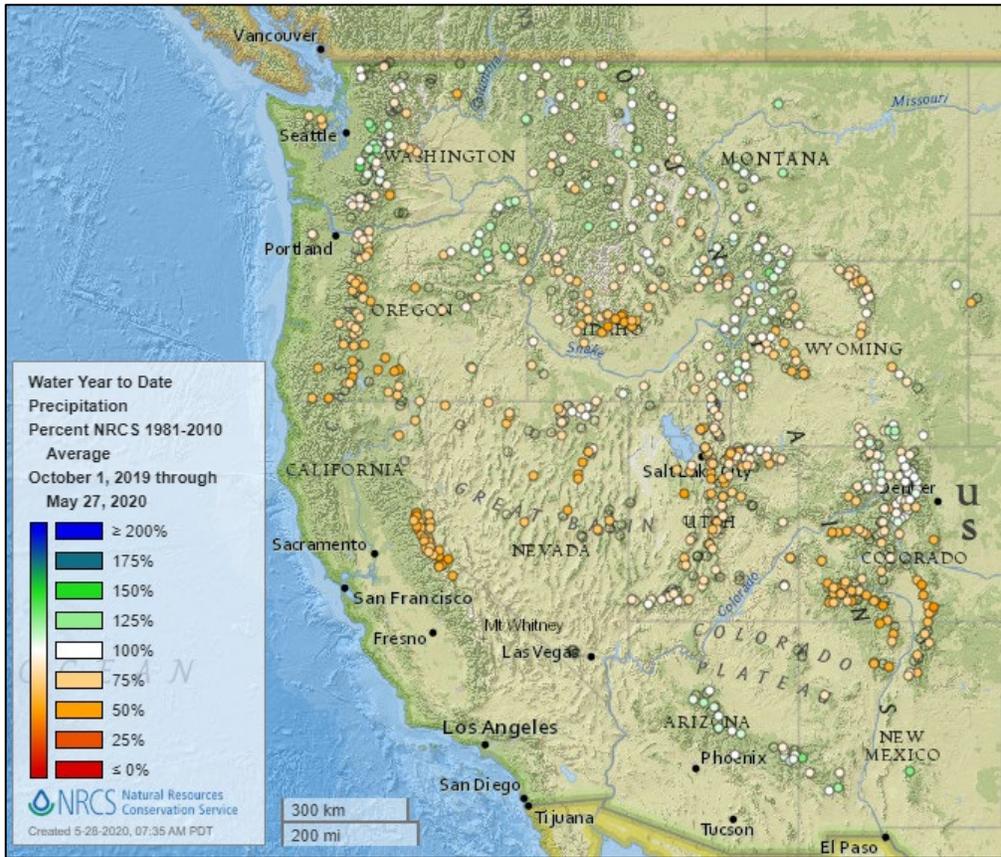
[February through April 2020 total precipitation percent of average map](#)

Total Precipitation Anomaly: Feb 2020 - Apr 2020  
Period ending 7 AM EST 30 Apr 2020  
Base period: 1981-2010  
(Map created 02 May 2020)



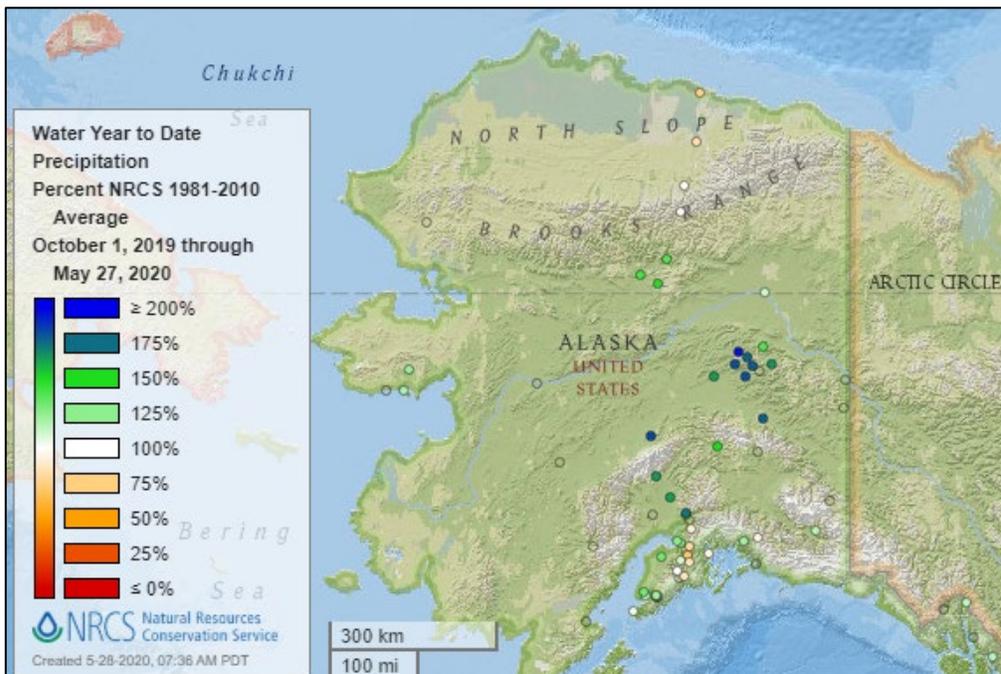
Copyright (c) 2020, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University

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

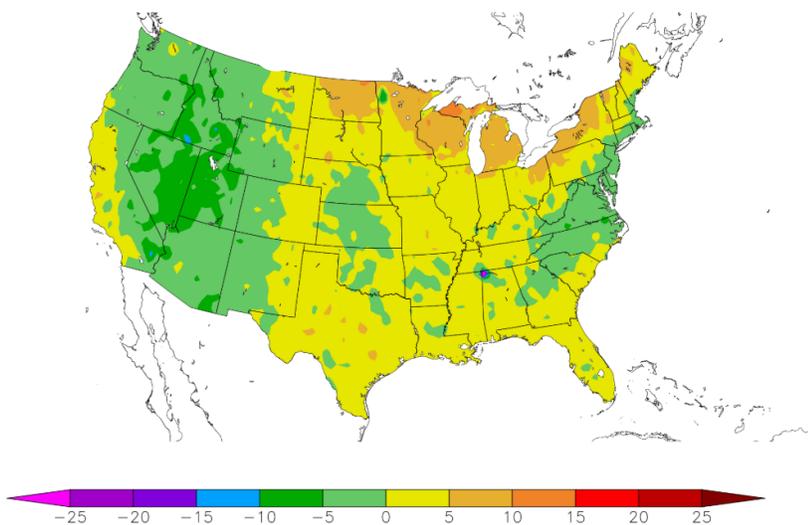
### Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

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)  
5/20/2020 – 5/26/2020



Generated 5/27/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

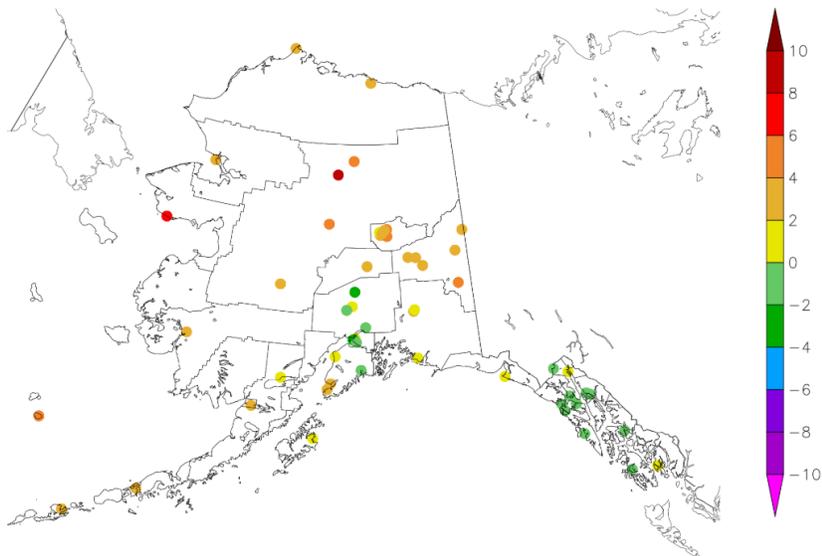
### Last 7 Days, National Weather Service (NWS) Networks

Source: Regional Climate Centers

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

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

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
5/20/2020 – 5/26/2020



Generated 5/27/2020 at HPRCC using provisional data.

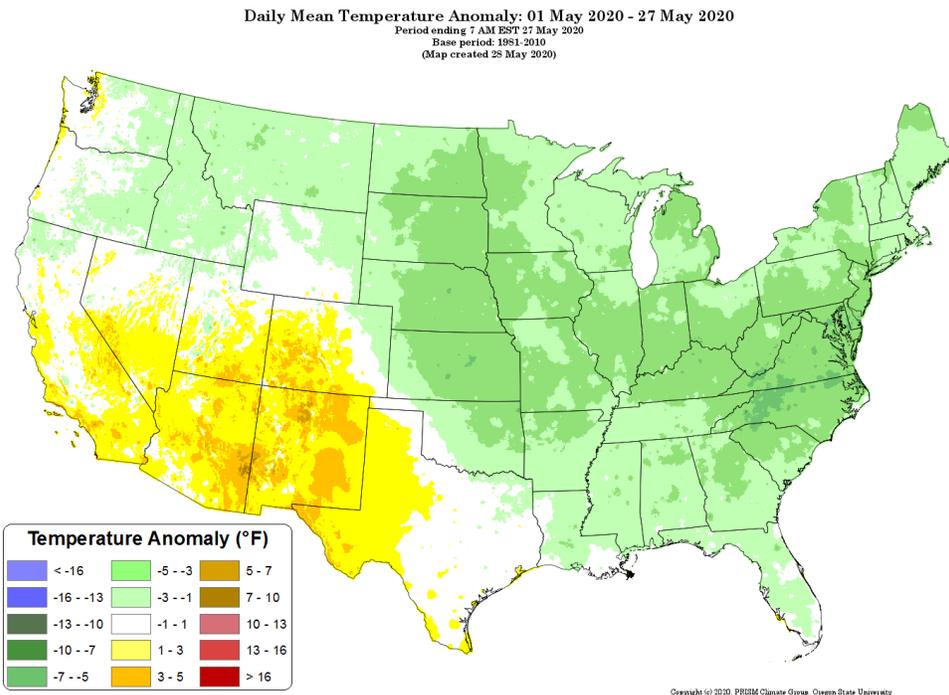
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

# Water and Climate Update

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

Source: PRISM

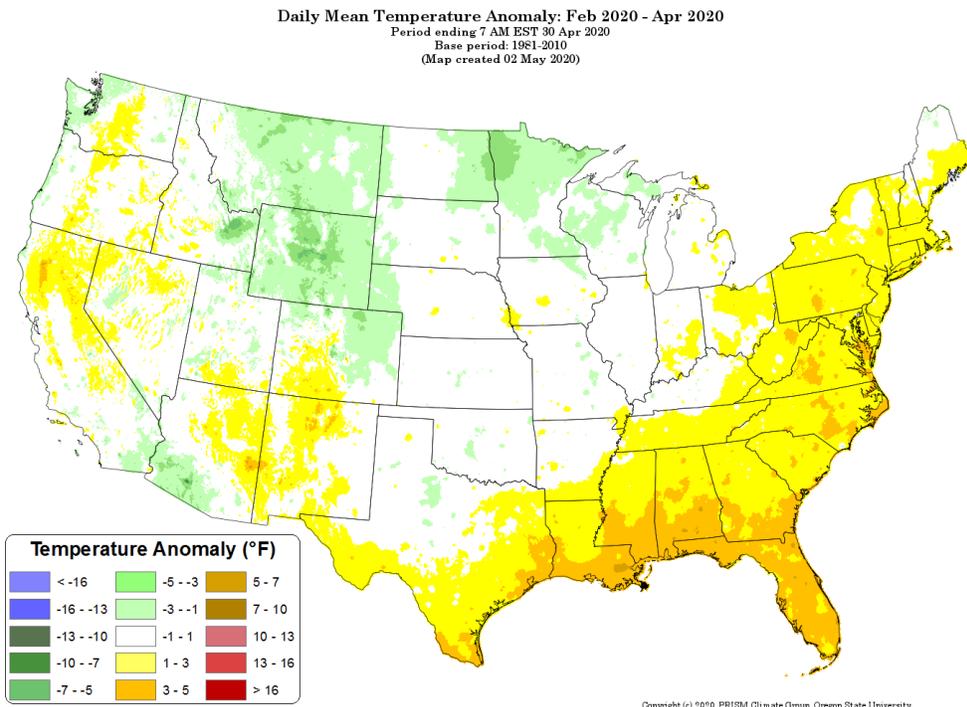
[Month-to-date national daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



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

Source: PRISM

[February through April 2020 daily mean temperature anomaly map](#)



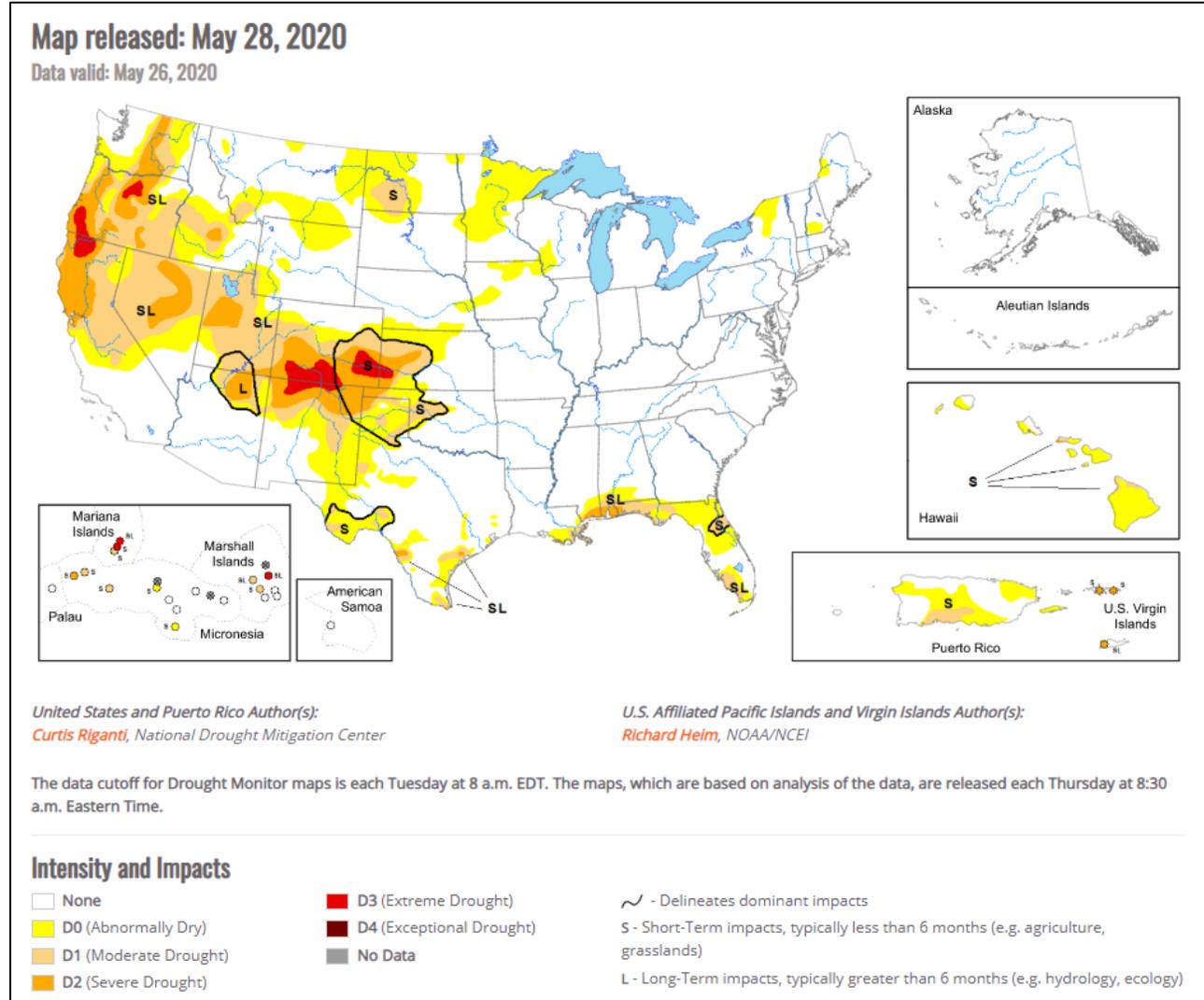
# Drought

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

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

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

Source: NOAA



## Current [National Drought Summary](#), May 28, 2020

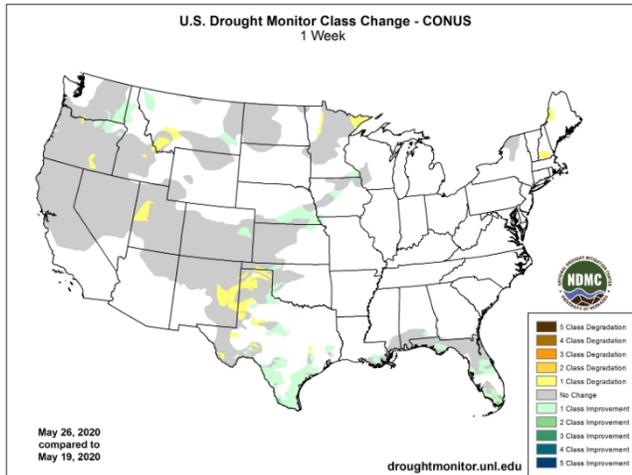
Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

“During the past week, widespread rain and thunderstorms fell across parts of the Great Plains, including a few instances of severe weather. Particularly large amounts of rain in central and eastern Nebraska, as well as in adjacent states, improved what had been a quickly drying scenario in many locations. Above-normal precipitation also fell in parts of the Northwest, which led to improvement in parts (though not all) of the ongoing drought areas there. Large rainfall amounts also occurred in south Florida and in parts of the central Florida Panhandle, leading to improvements in or removal of drought in these locations. Widespread rain in parts of Texas also led to drought improvement in the state, though some areas that missed out on the rain (particularly in the Panhandle) saw conditions worsen. Moderate and severe drought were also added to parts of Molokai and the Big Island in Hawaii. Moderate drought coverage lessened in southern Louisiana after precipitation fell there.”

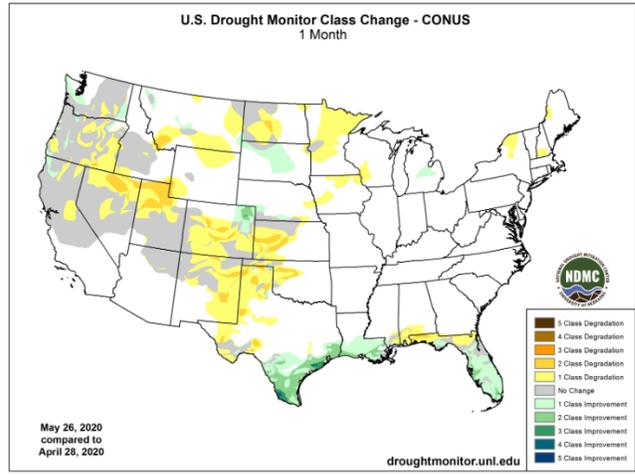
## Changes in Drought Monitor Categories over Time

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

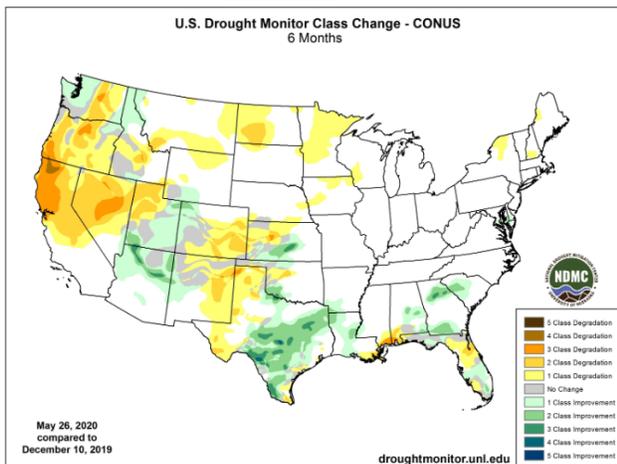
### 1 Week



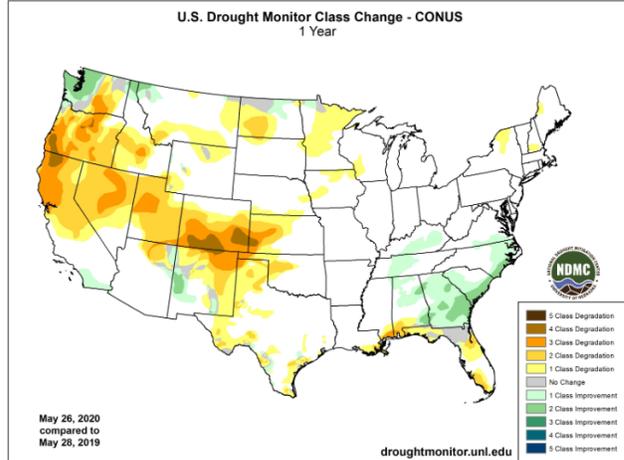
### 1 Month



### 6 Months



### 1 Year



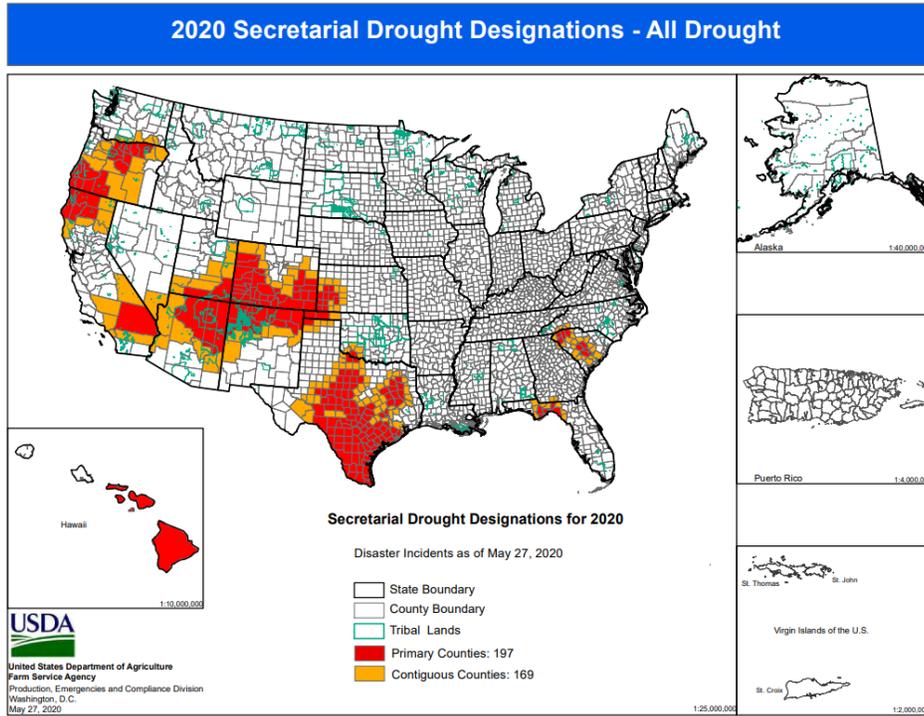
[Changes in drought conditions over the last 12 months for the contiguous U.S.](#)

## Highlighted Drought Resources

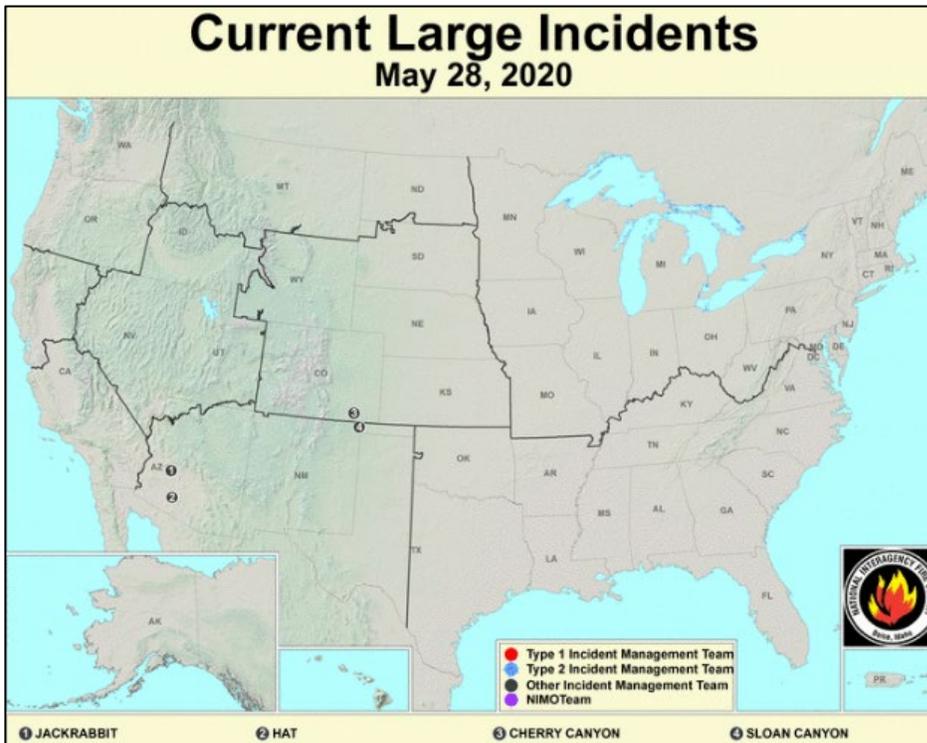
- [Drought Impact Reporter](#)
- [Quarterly Regional Climate Impacts and Outlook](#)
- [U.S. Drought Portal Indicators and Monitoring](#)
- [U.S. Population in Drought, Weekly Comparison](#)
- [USDA Disaster and Drought Information](#)

### Secretarial Drought Designations

Source: USDA Farm Service Agency



### Wildfires: USDA Forest Service Active Fire Mapping



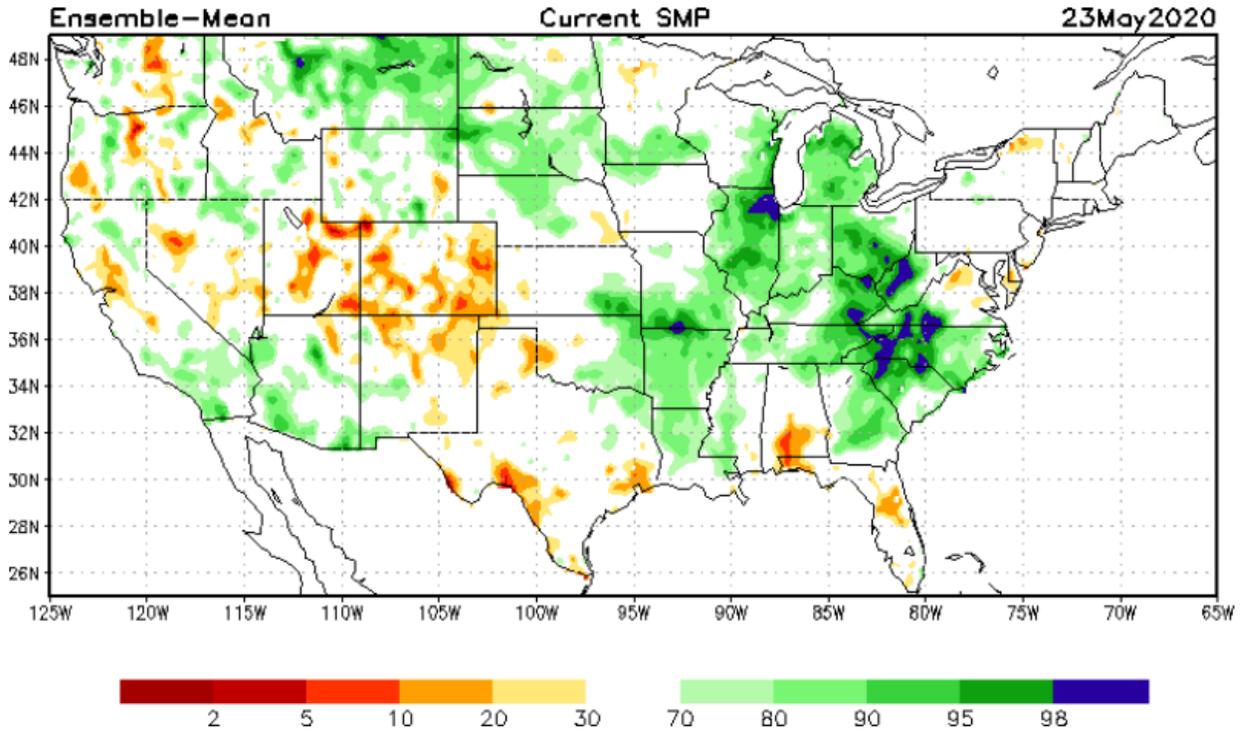
#### Highlighted Wildfire Resources

- [National Interagency Fire Center](#)
- [InciWeb Incident Information System](#)
- [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook](#)

## Other Climatic and Water Supply Indicators

### Soil Moisture

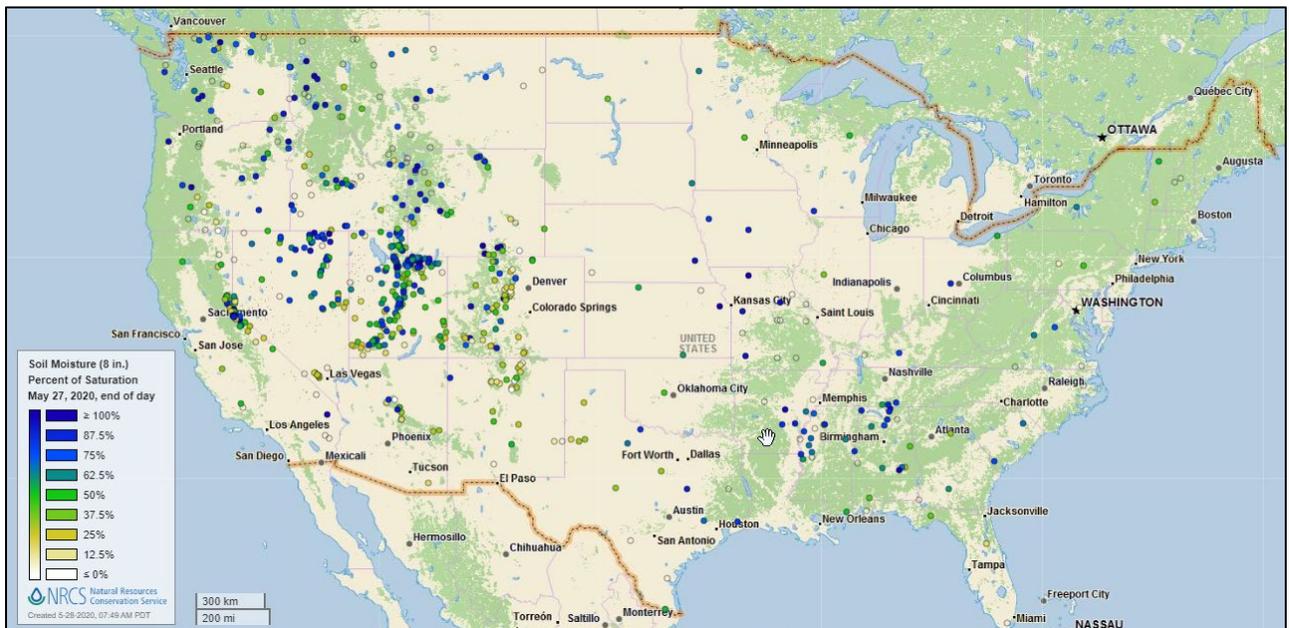
Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Prediction



[Modeled soil moisture percentiles](#) as of May 23, 2020

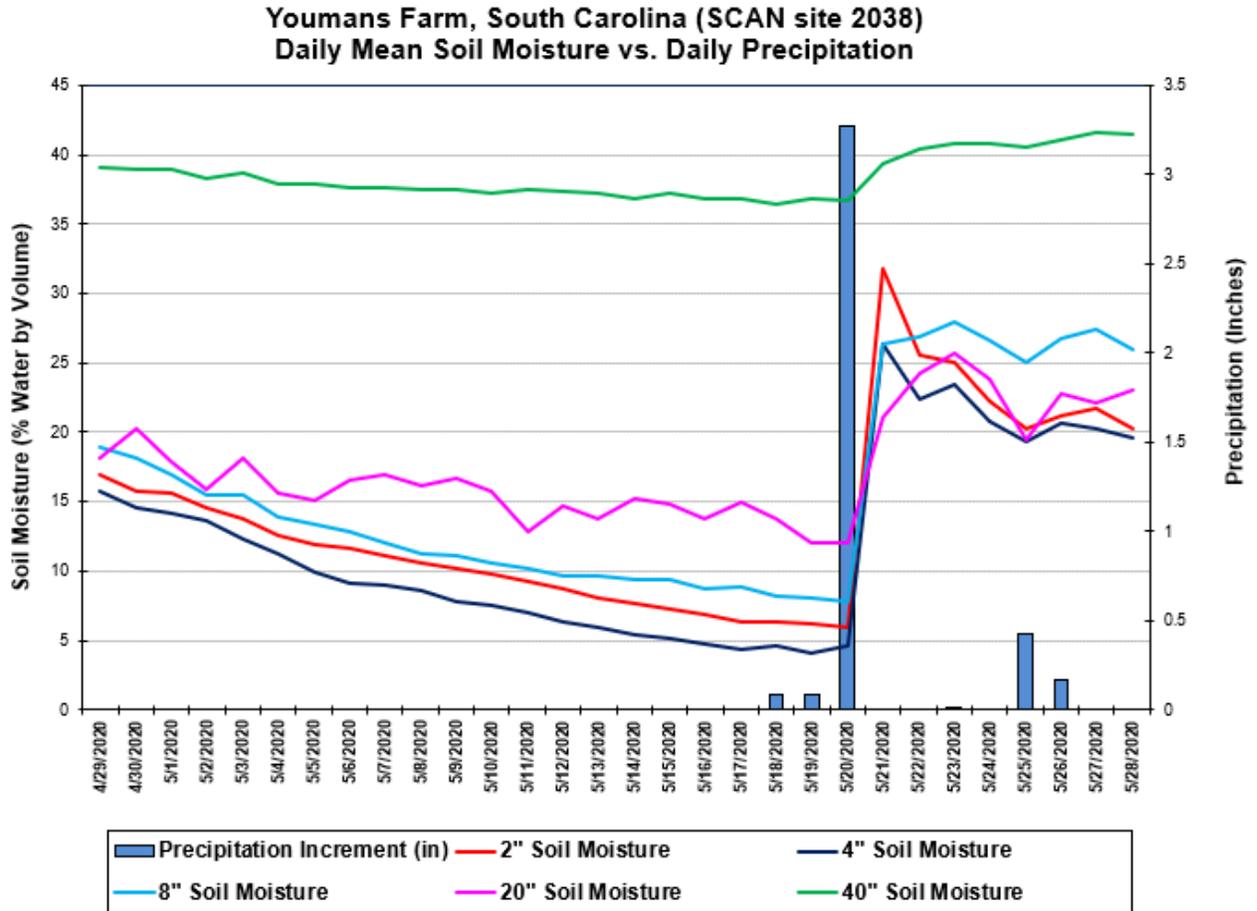
### Soil Moisture Percent of Saturation

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 [Youmans Farm](#) SCAN site in South Carolina. At the beginning of the period, soil moisture was gradually decreasing at all sensor levels. However, a large precipitation event of 3.27 inches on May 20 sharply increased soil moisture at the -2", -4", -8", and -20" sensors. The -40" sensor also showed an increase in soil moisture.

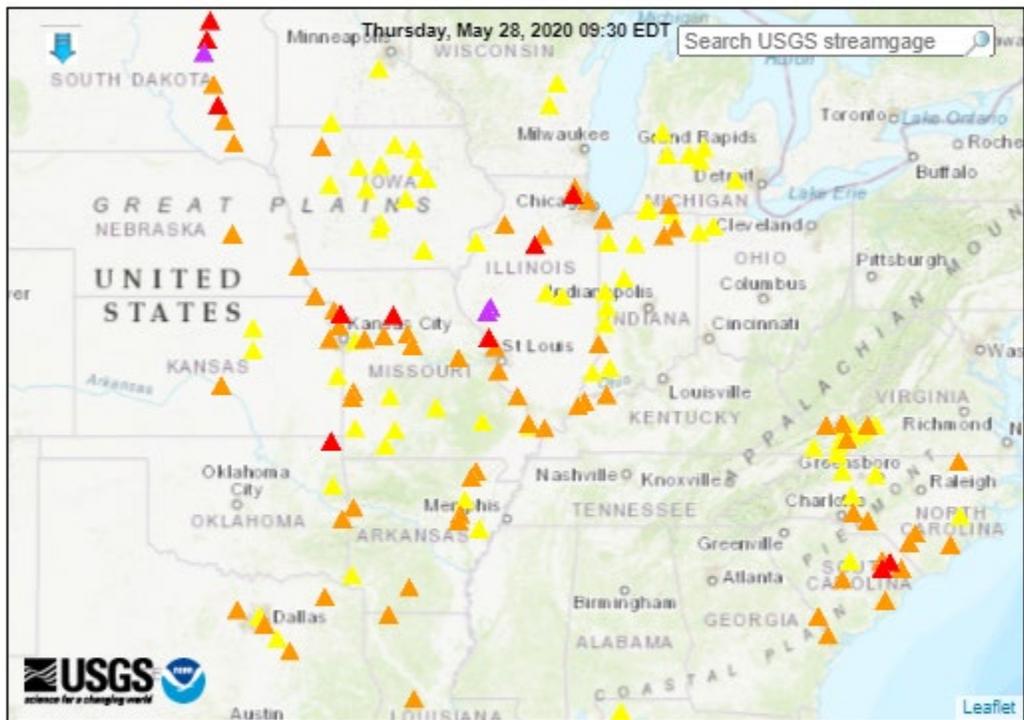
**Soil Moisture Data Portals**

- [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**  
 (80 in floods [major: 3, moderate: 11, minor: 66], 78 in near-flood)



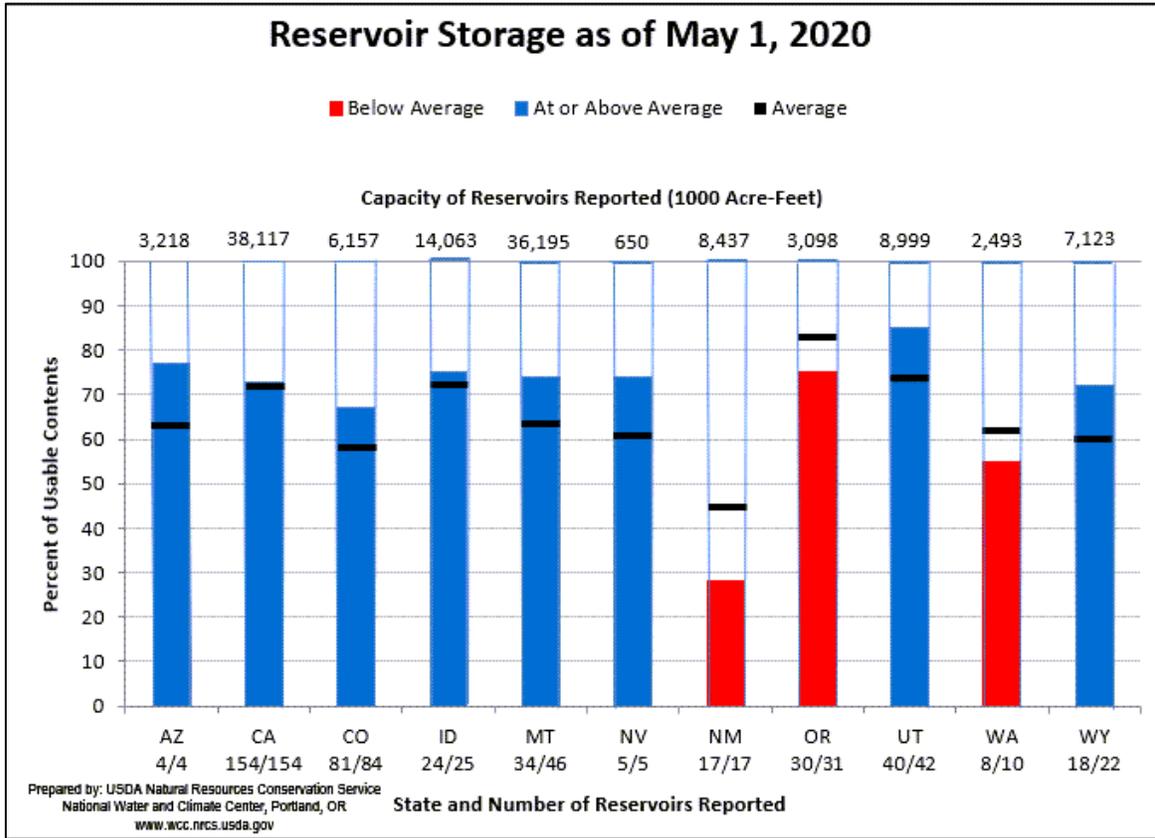
Explanation - Percentile classes						
<95	95-98	>= 99	Above action stage	Above flood stage	Above moderate flood stage	Above major flood stage
			△ Streamgage with flood stage	○ Streamgage without flood stage		

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

## Reservoir Storage

### Western States Reservoir Storage

Source: NRCS National Water and Climate Center



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

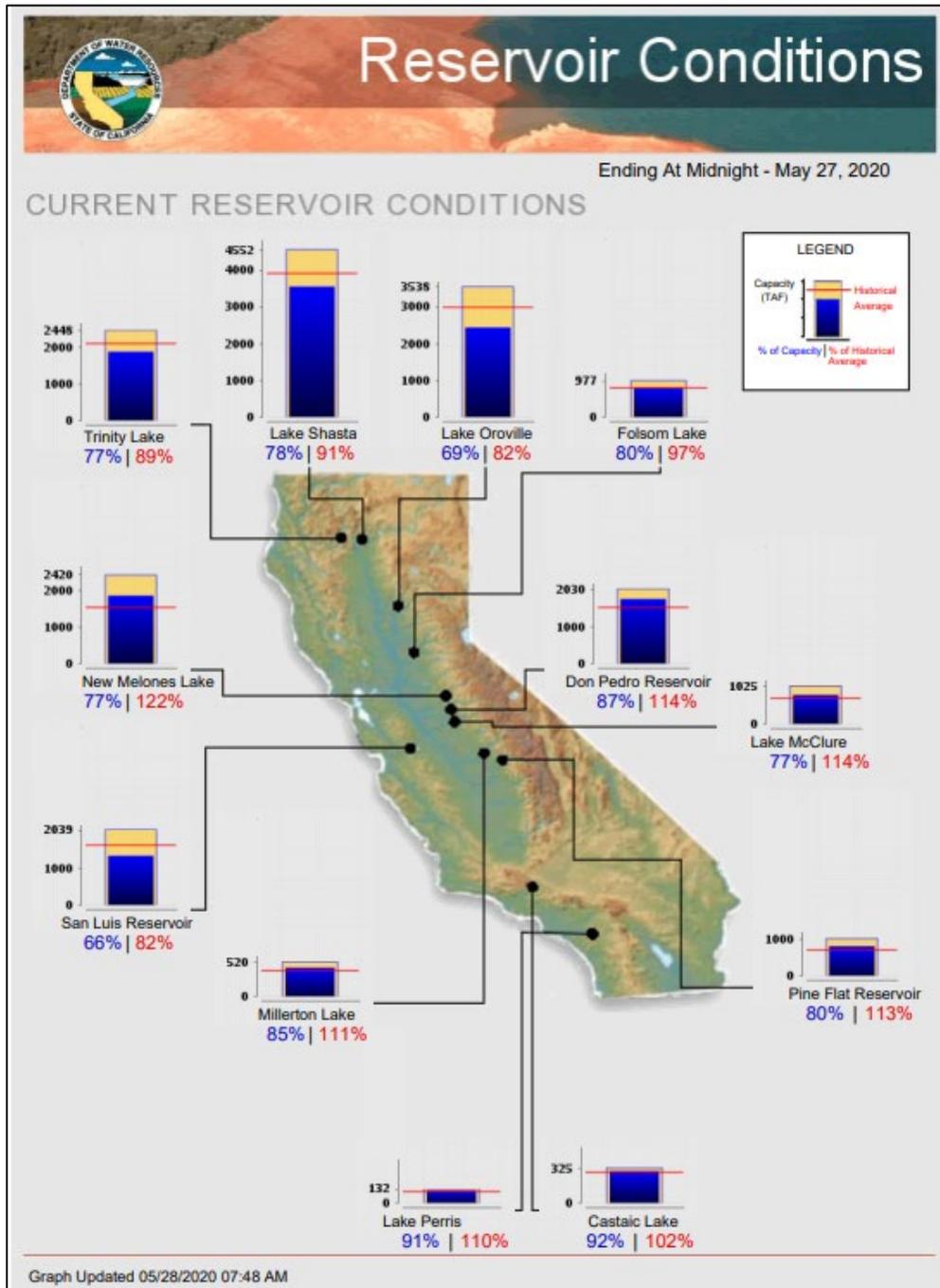
### Hydromet Teacup Reservoir Depictions

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

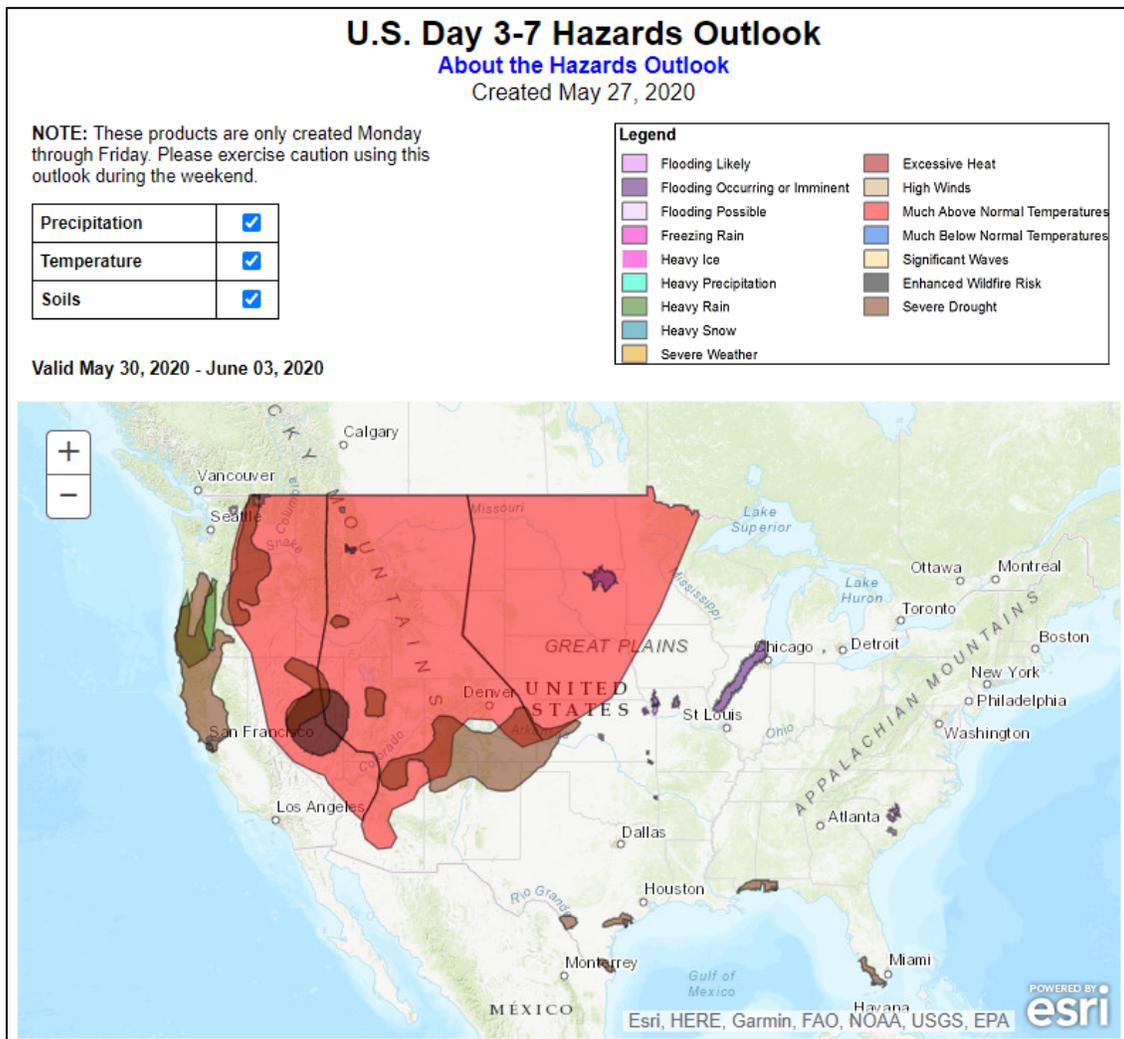
### Agricultural Weather Highlights

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

**National Outlook, Thursday, May 28, 2020:** “A drier weather pattern will gradually overspread the eastern half of the country, with rain ending tonight or early Friday in the Mississippi Valley; by late Friday in the Ohio Valley; and during the weekend along the Atlantic Seaboard. Before precipitation ends, however, additional rainfall could total 1 to 3 inches in the southern Atlantic region and 1 to 2 inches in parts of the Midwest. Meanwhile, mostly dry weather will prevail from the Rockies westward, except for weekend showers in northern California and the Pacific Northwest. Elsewhere, hot weather in the Pacific Coast States will be replaced by cooler conditions during the weekend, while heat will build eastward across the nation’s mid-section. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for June 2 – 6 calls for the likelihood of warmer-than-normal weather nationwide, except for near- or below-normal temperatures in the Pacific Northwest, the lower Rio Grande Valley, and along the Atlantic Seaboard. Meanwhile, drier-than-normal conditions in most areas from the central and southern Plains to the East Coast should contrast with above-normal rainfall in several regions, including southern sections of Florida and Texas, the Four Corners region, and the Far West.”

### Weather Hazards Outlook: [May 30 – June 3, 2020](#)

Source: NOAA Weather Prediction Center

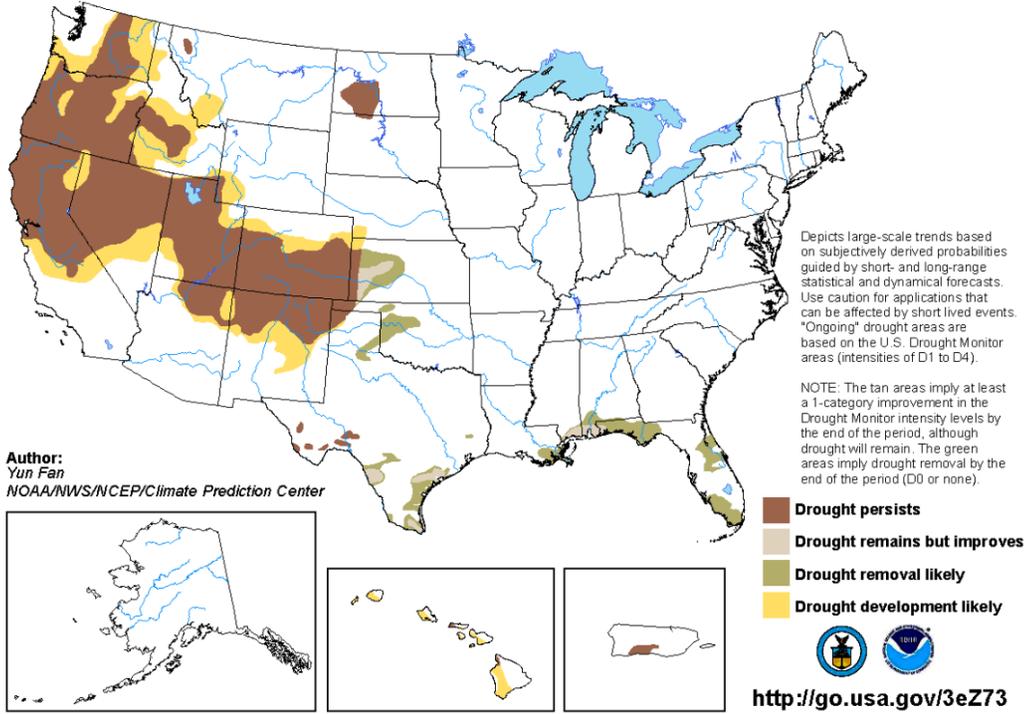


Seasonal Drought Outlook: [May 21 – August 31, 2020](#)

Source: National Weather Service

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

Valid for May 21 - August 31, 2020  
Released May 21

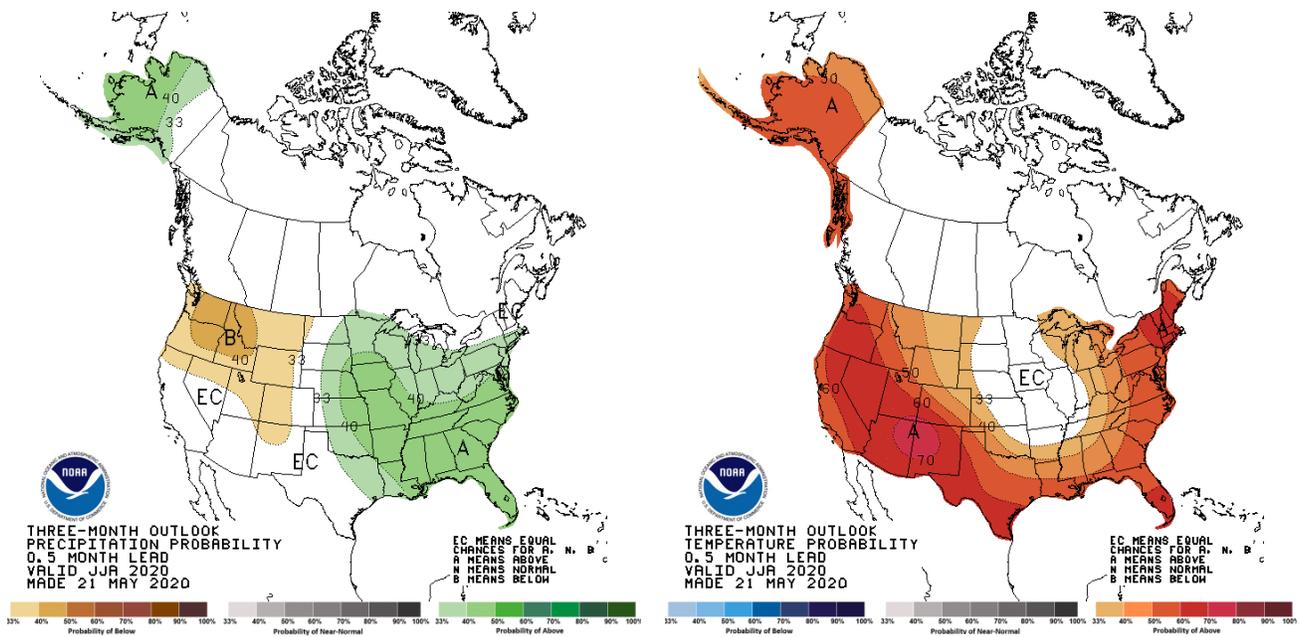


Climate Prediction Center 3-Month Outlook

Source: National Weather Service

Precipitation

Temperature



[June-July-August \(JJA\) 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](#).