



# Drought Information Statement for Western and North Central Nebraska

Valid February, 20, 2025

Issued By: NWS-North Platte, NE

## Contact Information:

- This product will be updated March, 20, 2025 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
  - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
  - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/LBF/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
  - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
- 
- Drought has expanded slightly across northwestern and southwestern Nebraska over the past month.



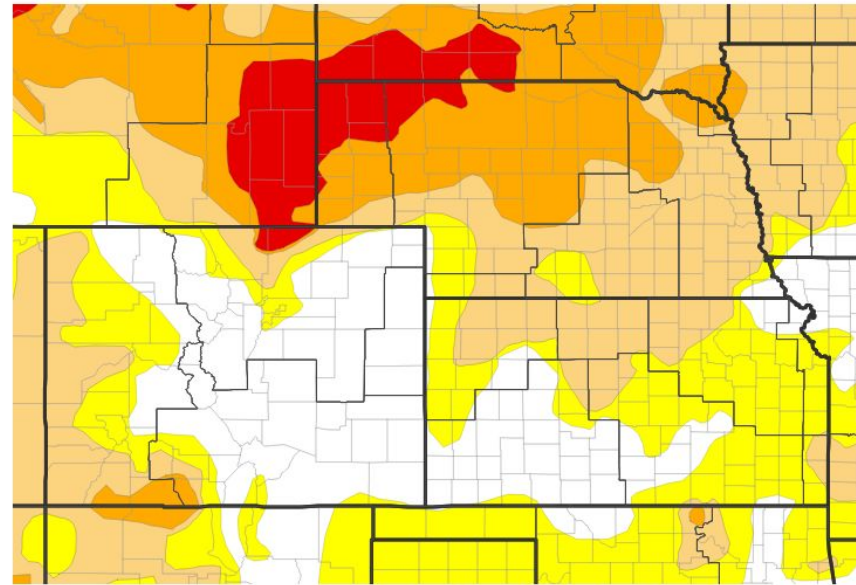


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** No counties in western and north central Nebraska.
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Northern portions of Sheridan, northwestern Cherry County and around Valentine Nebraska.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Sheridan, Cherry, Brown, Rock, Keya Paha, Holt, Boyd, Wheeler, Garfield, Loup, Blaine Thomas, Hooker, Grant, Arthur, Garden, Mcpherson, Lincoln, Logan and Custer.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Garden, Arthur, Deuel, Keith, McPherson, Lincoln, Custer, Frontier and Hayes
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Deuel, Arthur, Keith, Hayes, Perkins, Chase and Lincoln.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 02/18/25

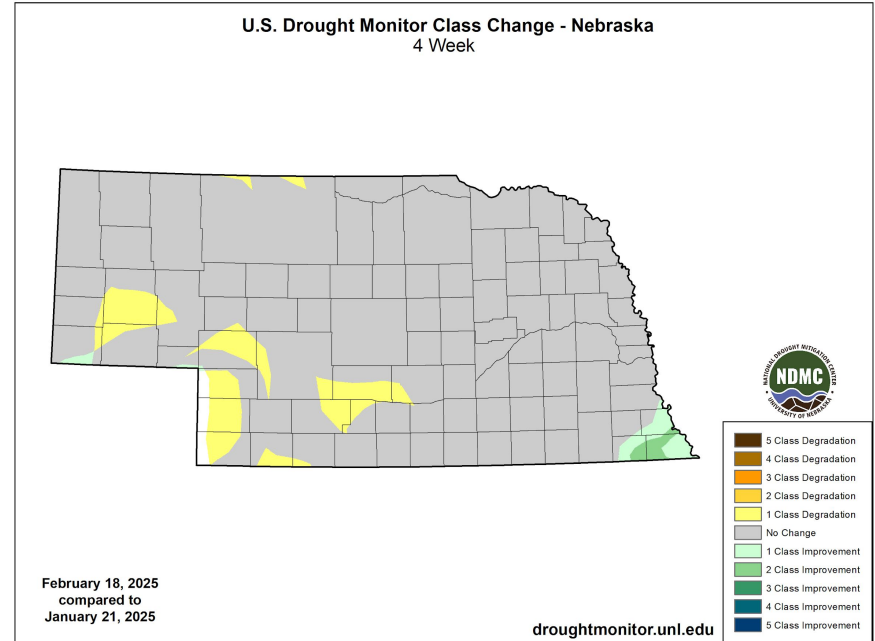




# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for The High Plains

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Cherry, Deuel, Garden, Keith, Lincoln, Perkins, Chase, Hayes and Frontier Counties.
  - No Change: Sheridan, Cherry, Brown, Rock, Keya Paha, Boyd, Holt, Wheeler, Garfield, Loup, Blaine, Thomas, Hooker, Grant, Garden, Arthur, McPherson, Logan, Custer, Deuel, Keith, Lincoln and Frontier Counties.
  - Drought Improved: No areas.

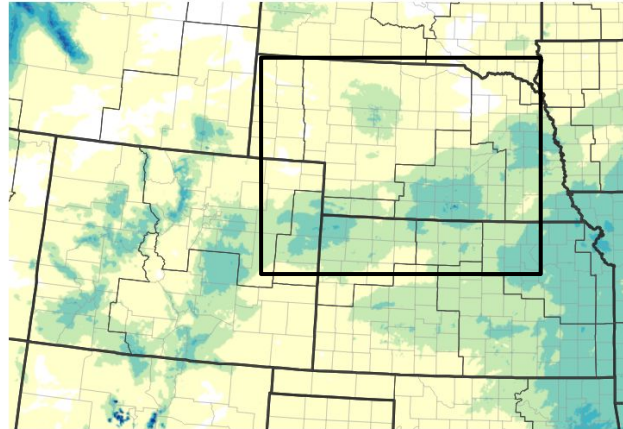




# Precipitation

- Most locations across most of western and north central Nebraska saw less than a quarter of an inch of precipitation over the past 30 days which was below normal. Slightly higher amounts of precipitation occurred across Chase, Hayes and Frontier Counties where near normal to slightly above normal precipitation fell.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

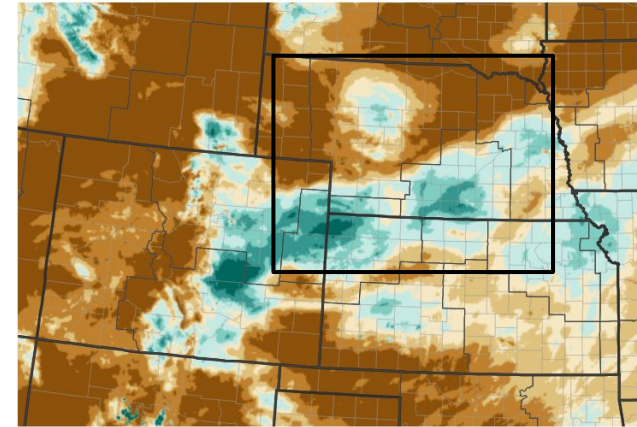


Inches of Precipitation

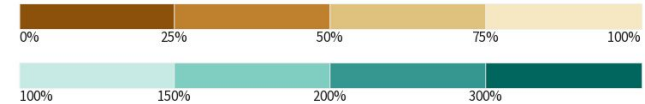


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 02/20/25

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/20/25



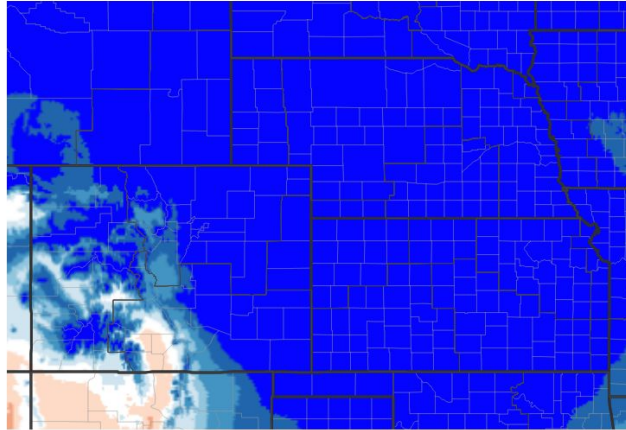




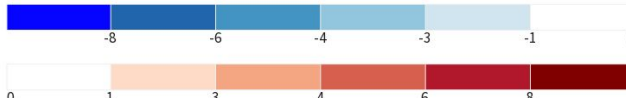
# Temperature

- Over the past week, temperatures have been well below normal across all of western and north central Nebraska. Numerous record low temperatures occurred on the 19th and 20th of February.
- Over the past 30 days, below normal temperatures were present over all western and north central Nebraska.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



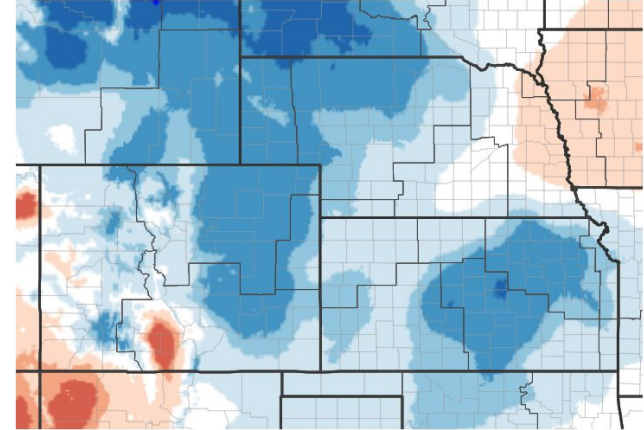
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



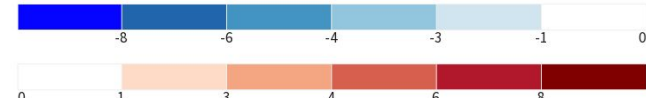
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 02/16/25

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 02/16/25





# Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

## Hydrologic Impacts

- “There are no known impacts at this time”

## Agricultural Impacts

- “There are no known impacts at this time”

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Local fire partners have indicated that fine fuels (grasses) remain cured in western and southwestern Nebraska and will burn given the right wind and humidity conditions.

## Other Impacts

- “There are no known impacts at this time”

## Mitigation Actions

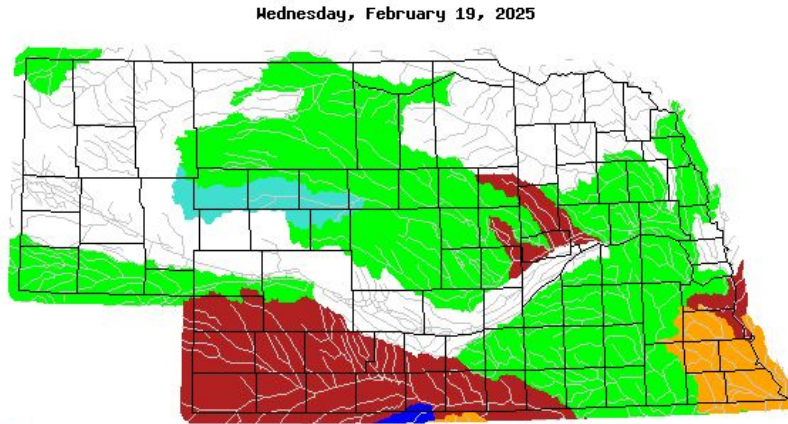
- “None reported”





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow across the northern half of the area was normal to above normal for this time of year.
- Flows in the Medicine Creek, Frenchman, and Stinking Water Creeks' are much below normal for this time of year.



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 2 19 2025

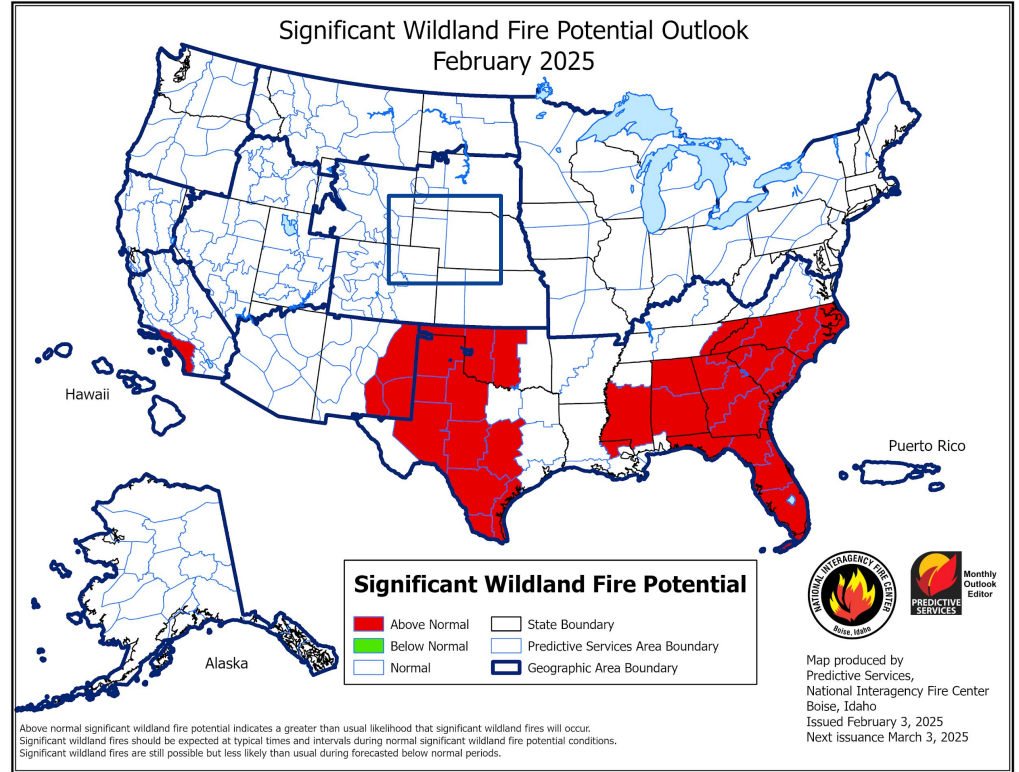




# Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- Significant wildland fire potential is near normal for this time of year.
- However, fire partners have indicated that one hour fuels are cured in western and southwestern Nebraska and will burn given favorable wind and humidity conditions.



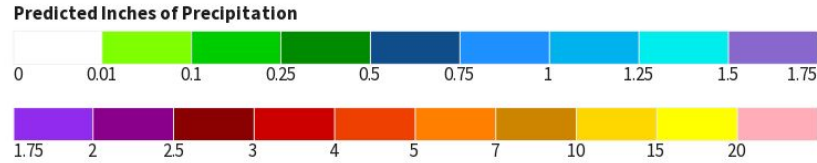
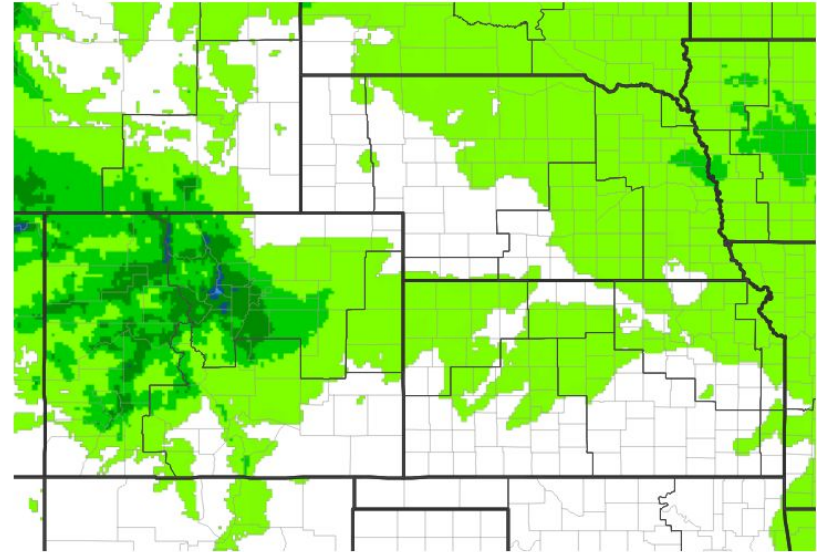




# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- The precipitation forecast over the next 7 days calls for near zero precipitation across most of western and north central Nebraska.
- For locations north of a line from Gordon to Broken Bow, up to a tenth of an inch is possible over the next 7 days.

**7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for February 20, 2025–February 27, 2025**



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/20/25



# Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

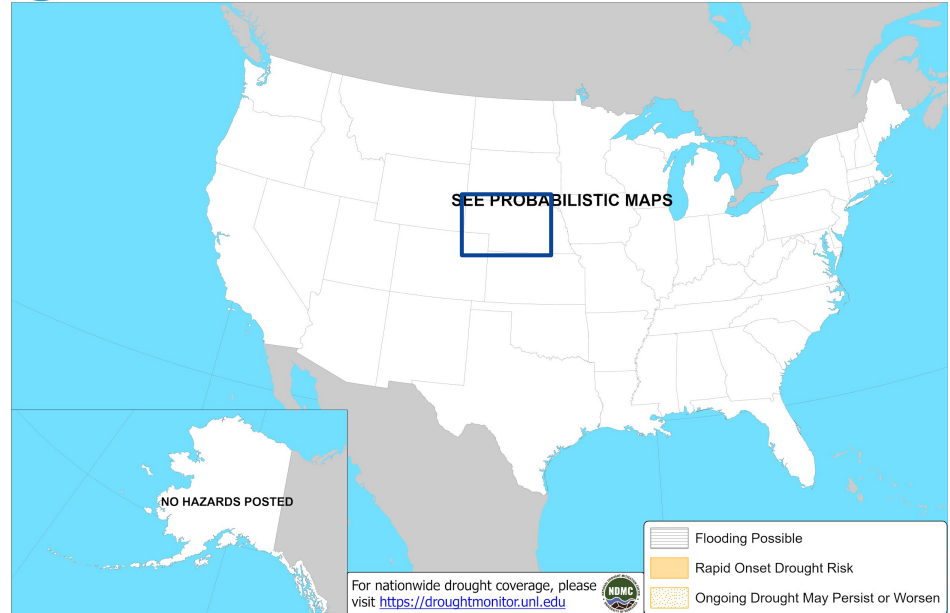
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- Rapid onset of drought is not anticipated across western and north central Nebraska over the next couple of weeks.



## Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: February 28 - March 6, 2025



Climate Prediction Center

Released: February 20, 2025 3:00 PM EST

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[www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)



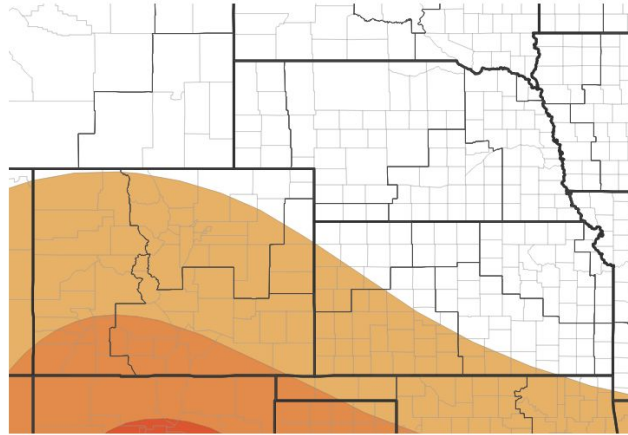


# Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The outlook for March calls for equal chances for above, below or near normal temperatures.
- The precipitation outlook for March calls for equal chances for above, below or near normal precipitation.

Monthly Temperature Outlook for March 1, 2025–March 31, 2025



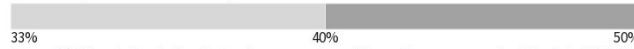
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



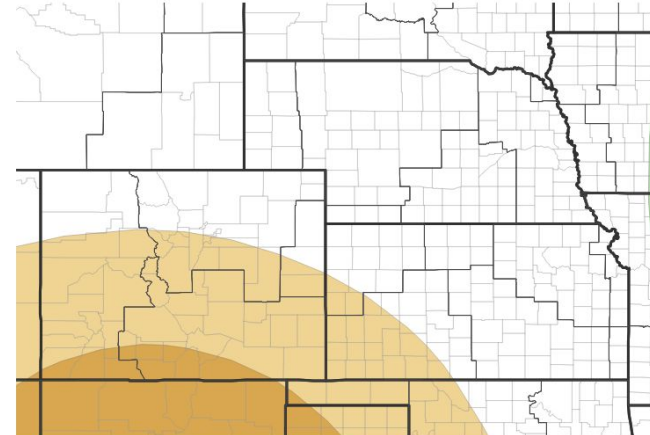
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 02/20/25

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for March 1, 2025–March 31, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation

