



Drought Information Statement for Western and North Central Nebraska

Valid October, 17, 2024

Issued By: NWS-North Platte, NE

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated November, 21, 2024 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.
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- Severe drought conditions have expanded into a large portion of north central Nebraska and the eastern Nebraska Sandhills. Abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions encompass the remainder of southwestern into portions of central Nebraska.



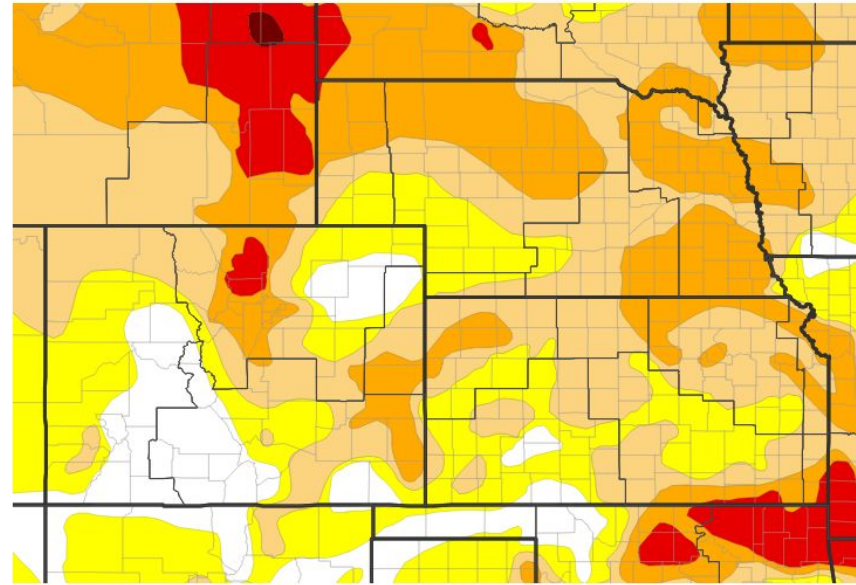


U.S. Drought Monitor

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)**: No counties in western and north central Nebraska.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Sheridan, Cherry, Brown, Rock, Holt, Garfield, Loup, Blaine Thomas, Hooker, Logan and Custer.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Garden, Grant, Hooker, McPherson, Logan, Custer, Lincoln and Arthur.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Garden, Deuel, Arthur, Keith, Perkins, Chase, Hayes, Frontier and Lincoln.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 10/15/24

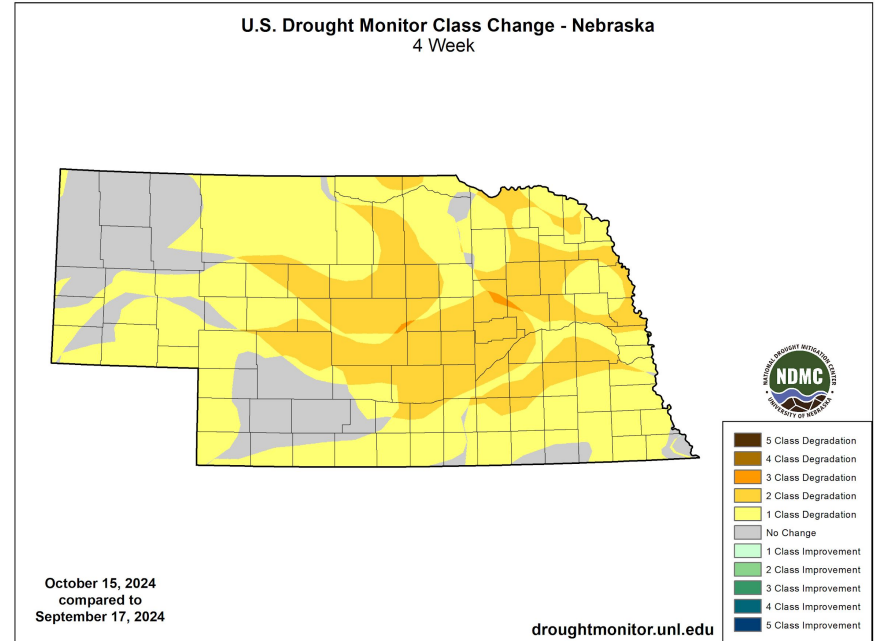




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: All of western and north central Nebraska with the exception of portions of Sheridan, Garden, Arthur, Keith, Perkins, Chase, Lincoln, Hayes and frontier counties.
 - No Change: Portions of Sheridan, Garden, Arthur, Keith, Perkins, Chase, Lincoln, Hayes and Frontier counties.
 - Drought Improved: No counties.

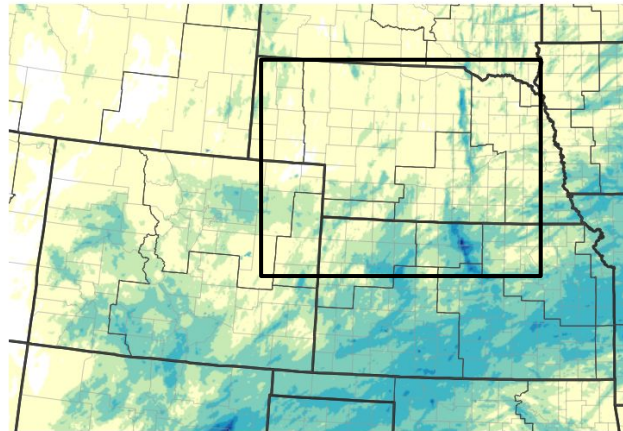




Precipitation

- Locations in far southwestern Nebraska and a strip from eastern Wheeler to eastern Holt county, saw the highest rainfall over the past 30 days with amounts around a quarter inch. Most of this fell in the third week of September.
- Elsewhere, precipitation amounts ranged from a trace to a quarter inch.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

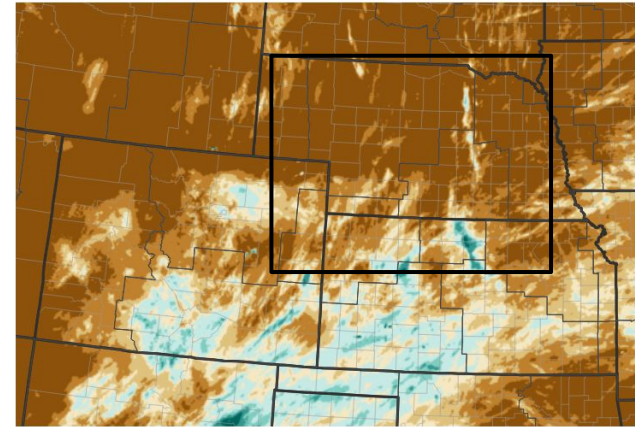


Inches of Precipitation

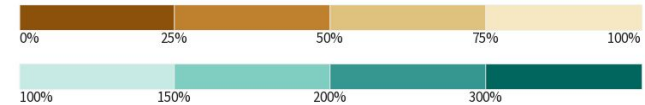


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 10/17/24

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 10/17/24
image courtesy of Drought.gov

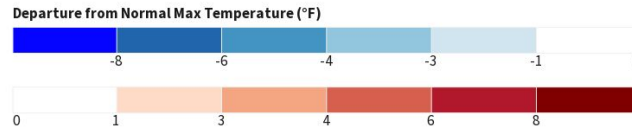
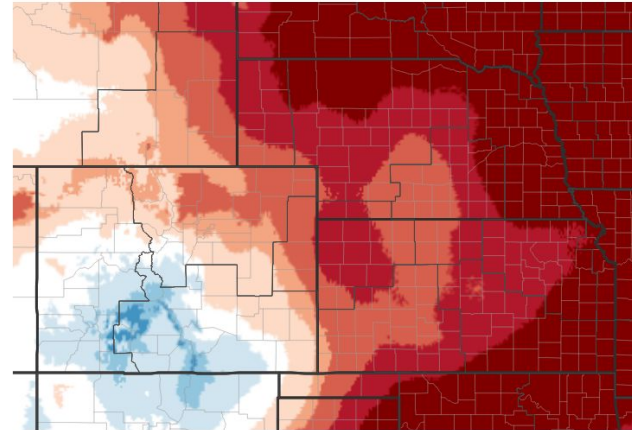




Temperature

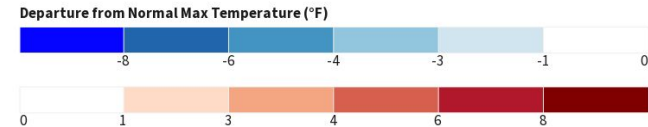
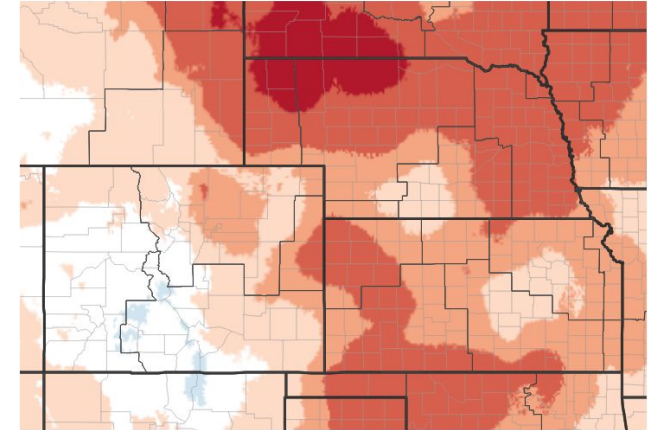
- Over the past week, temperatures have been well above normal across all of western and north central Nebraska.
- Over the past 30 days, well above normal temperatures were present over all of western and north central Nebraska.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 09/23/24

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 09/23/24





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) are cured in western and southwestern Nebraska and are ready to burn given the right wind and humidity conditions. Numerous grass fires have occurred over the past month and have increased in frequency over the past week.

Other Impacts

- “There are no known impacts at this time”

Mitigation Actions

- “None reported”

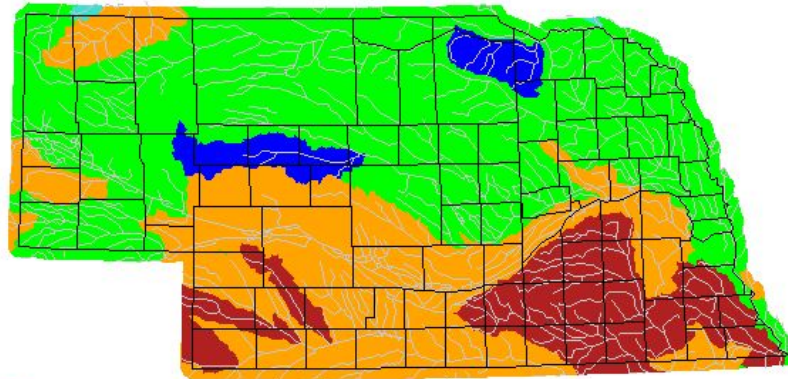




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

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

Hednesday, October 16, 2024



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		

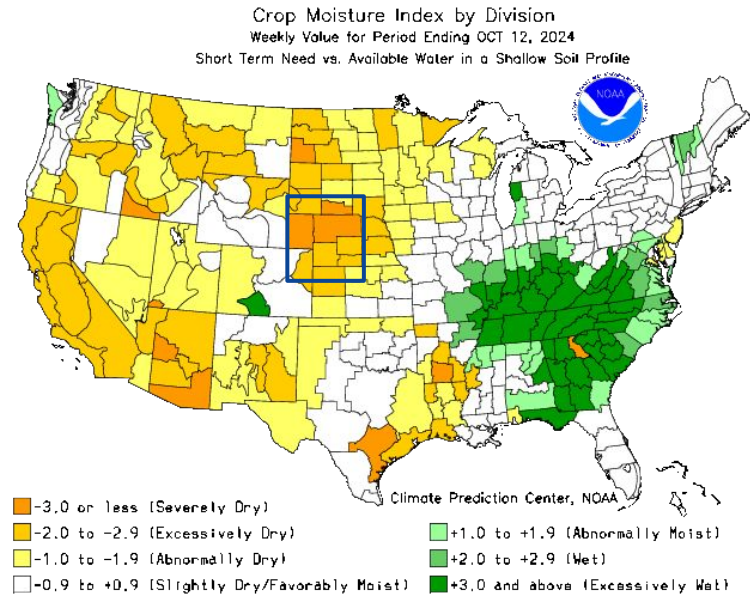
Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 08 14 2024





Agricultural Impacts

- The crop moisture index across western and north central Nebraska, is excessively dry to Severely dry currently. Locations over north central Nebraska into the eastern panhandle are the driest.

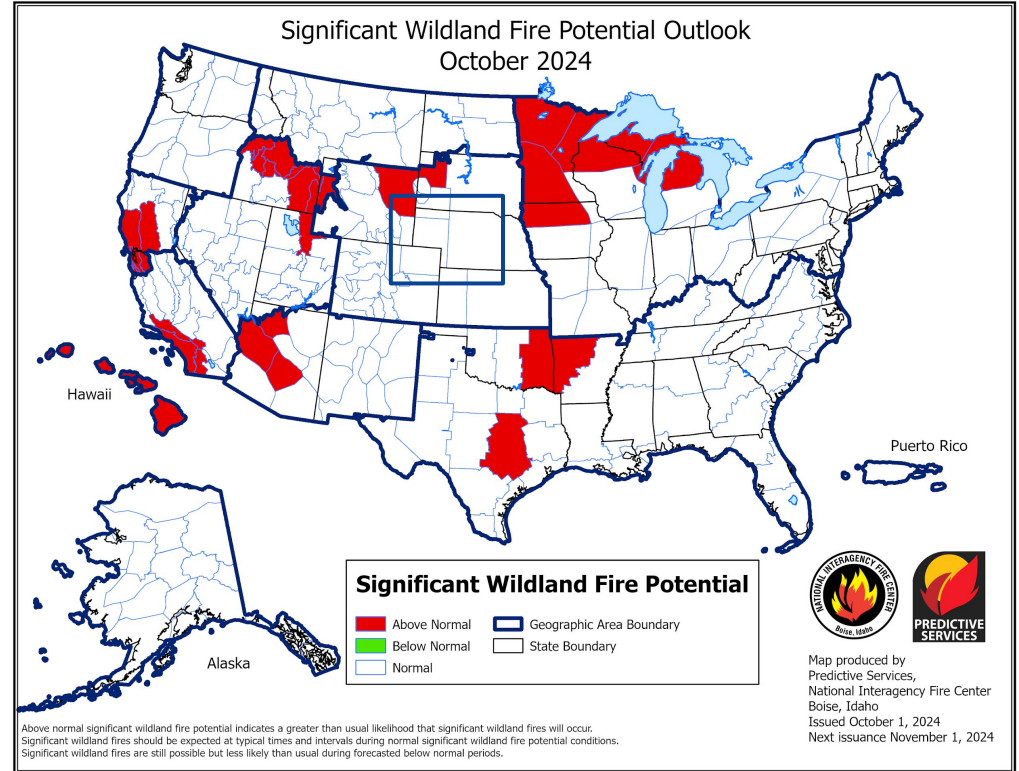




Fire Hazard Impacts

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 are ready to burn given favorable wind and humidity conditions. Numerous fires have been reported across the area over the past month with an increase in fires over the past week.

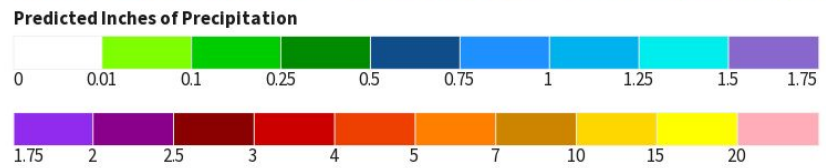
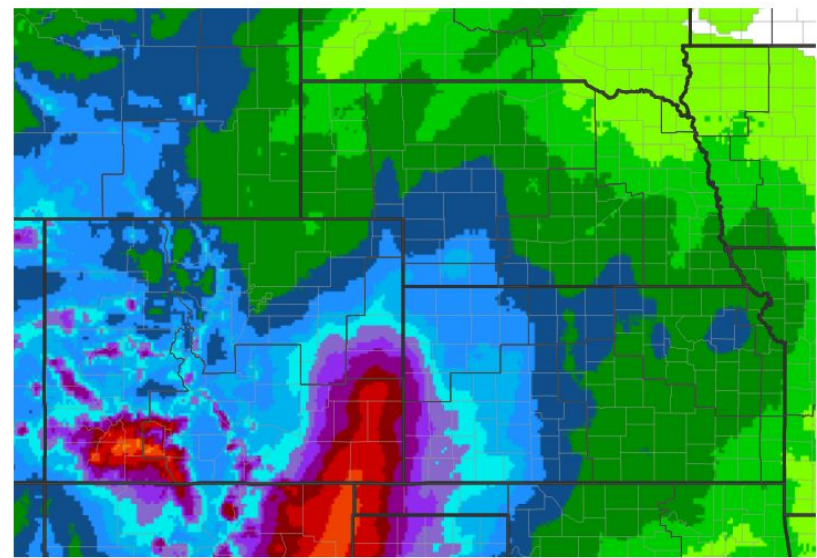




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- The precipitation forecast over the next 7 days calls for around a quarter to half an inch across southwestern Nebraska.
- For locations over the Sandhills into north central Nebraska, forecast precipitation is under a quarter inch.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 17, 2024-October 24, 2024



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 10/17/24



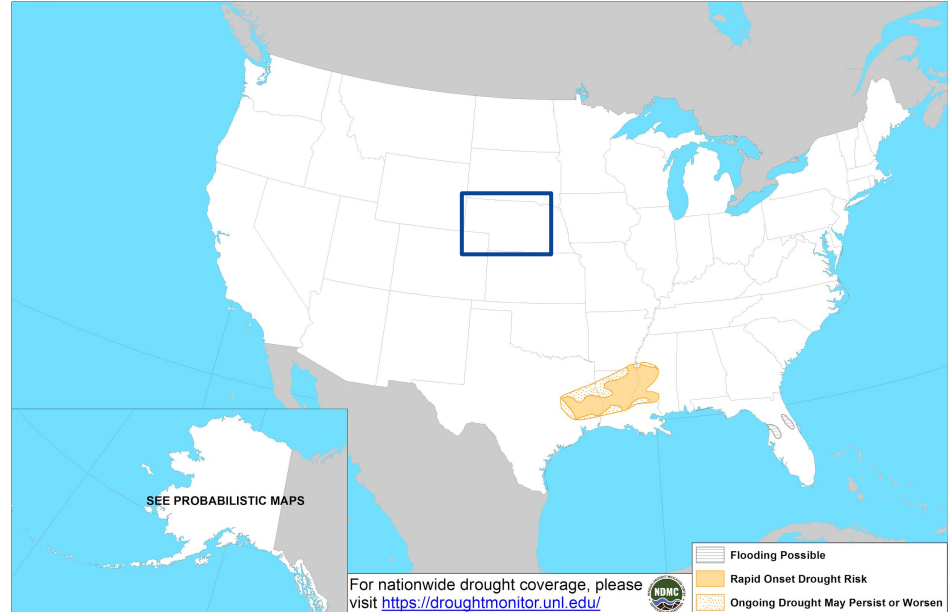
Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

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.



Day 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook
Valid: 10/25/2024-10/31/2024



Climate Prediction Center
Made: 10/17/2024 3PM EDT

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www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov



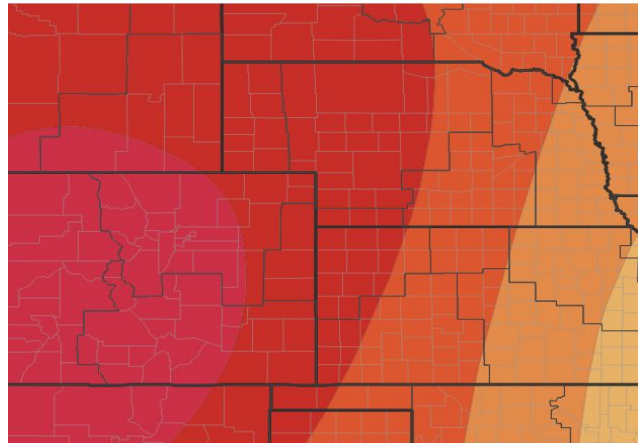


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The outlook for November calls for above normal temperatures.
- The precipitation outlook for November calls for below normal precipitation.

Monthly Temperature Outlook for November 1, -November 30, 2024



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



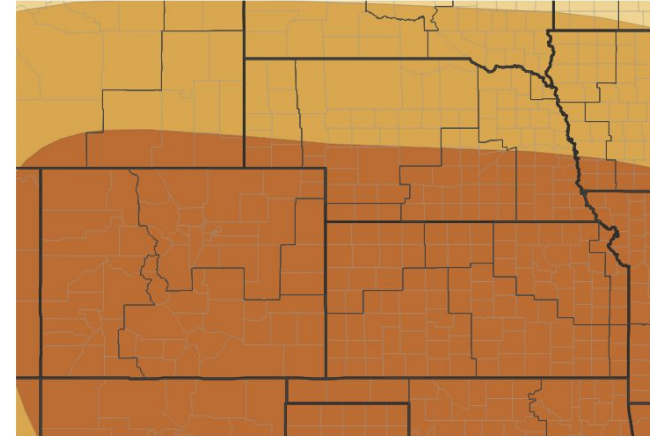
Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



Monthly Precipitation Outlook for November 1, 2024-November 30, 2024



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation

