



Drought Information Statement for Southwestern California

Valid March 4, 2025

Issued By: NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard, CA

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated Month, April 7, 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/LOX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/?dews_region=136 for regional drought status updates.
-
- Dry conditions across southern California from May 2024 through January 2025 have resulted in short term areas of D1 (moderate drought), D2 (Severe Drought, and D3 (Extreme Drought) as shown on the U. S. Drought Monitor Map. Recent precipitation in February 2025 did bring some minor improvements to the drought depiction.

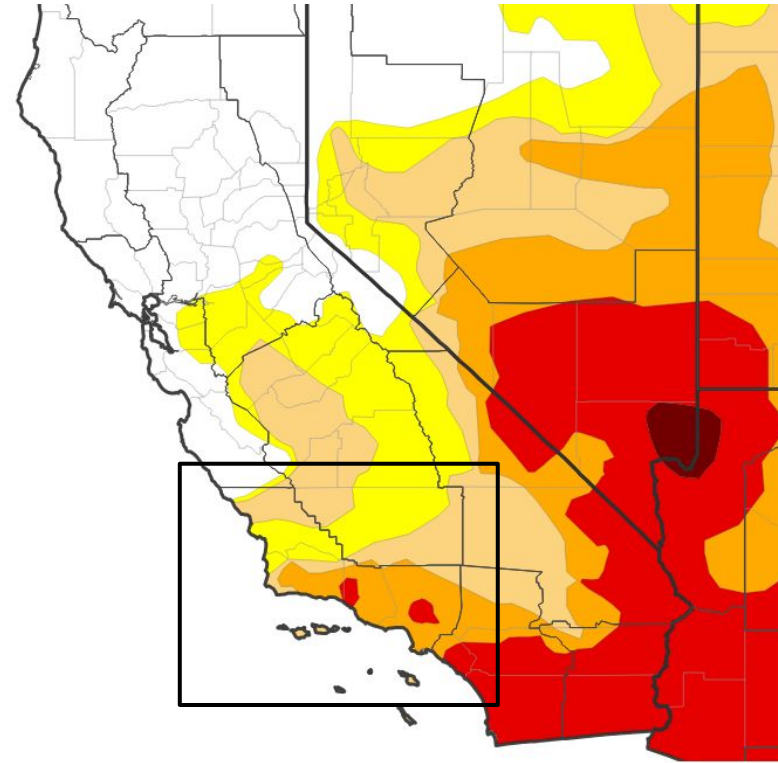




U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: None at this time
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Small portion of central Los Angeles County and an area in western Ventura and eastern Santa Barbara Counties.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Portions of Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Small portions of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Small portions of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties.



U.S. Drought Monitor

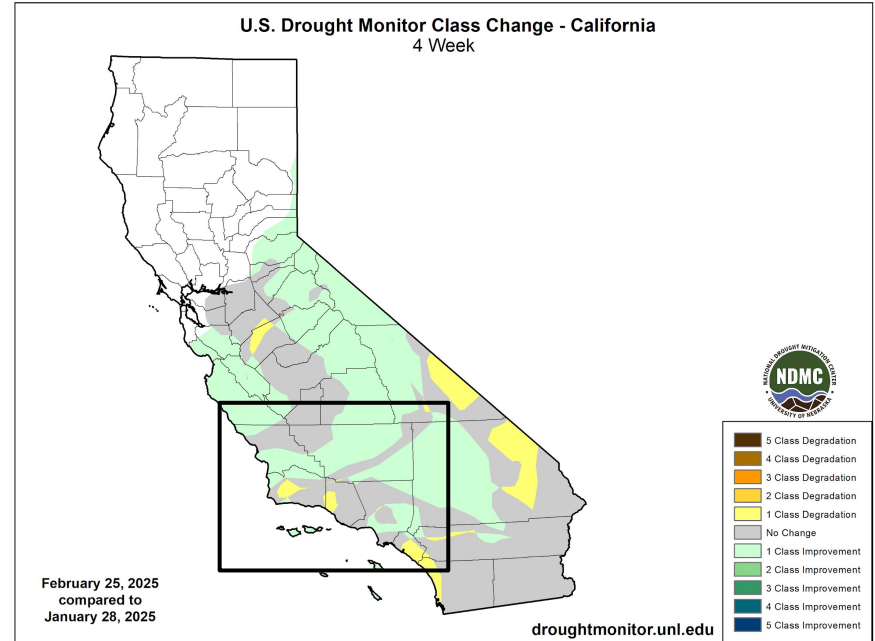




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for California and Nevada

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Small area of 1 class degradation in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.
 - No Change: Areas shown in grey depict no drought monitor change in the past 4 weeks.
 - Drought Improved: Areas in green show 1 class of drought category improvement.

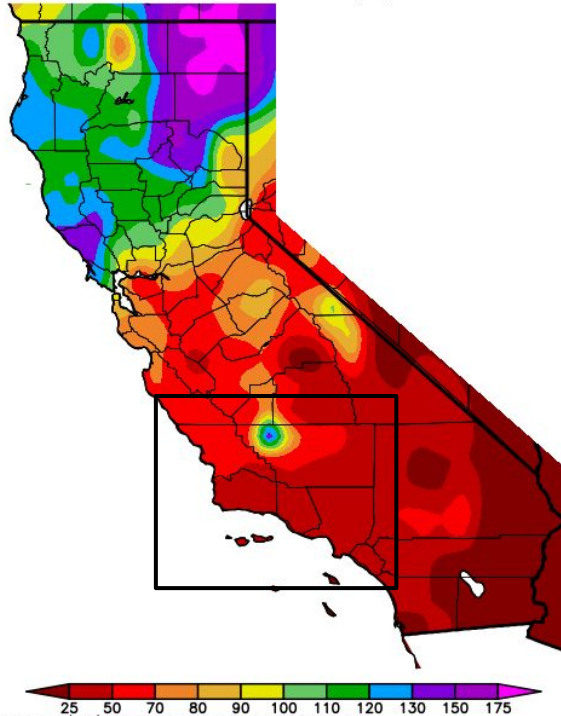




Precipitation

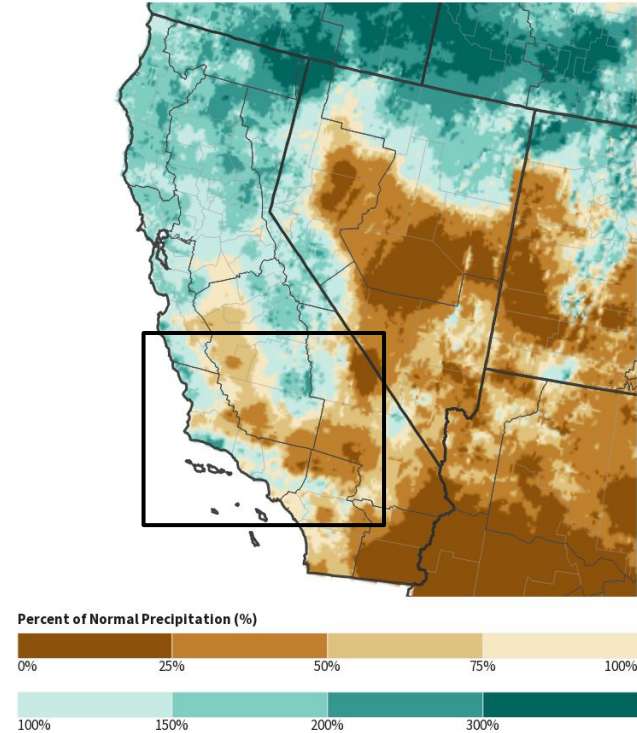
- Below normal precipitation has been observed across most of Southern California during the current water year (October 1, 2024 through March 3, 2025).
- Looking at the past 30 days of precipitation does show some areas across Southern California that have seen normal to above normal precipitation.

Percent of Average Precipitation (%)
10/1/2024 – 3/3/2025

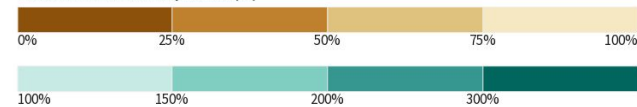


Generated 3/ 4/2025 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov
Data Valid: 03/03/25



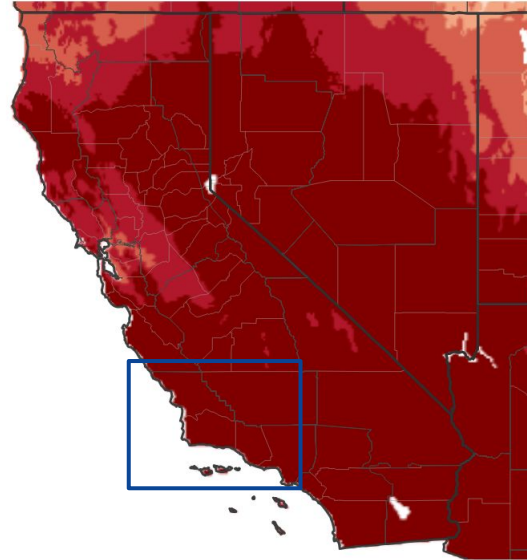


Temperature

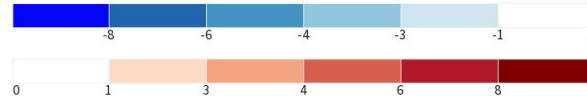
Link to HPRCC

- The 7-day temperature anomaly shows above normal temperatures, while the 30 day temperature anomaly is showing some area of near normal to slightly above normal in Southern California.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly

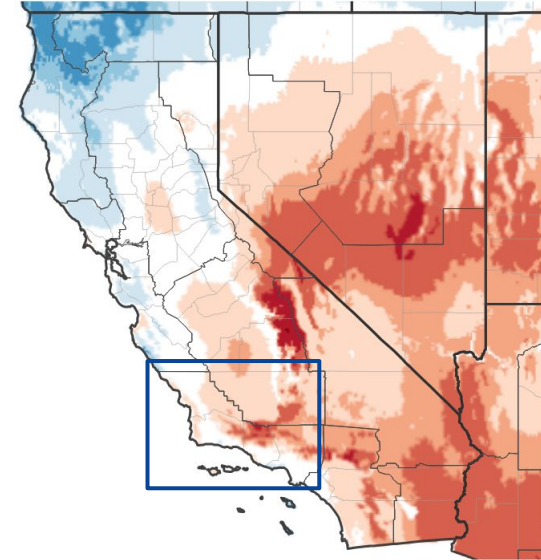


Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 02/28/25

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: 02/28/25





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Precipitation deficits over the past 9 months have resulted in low soil moisture and below normal stream flow.

Agricultural Impacts

- Non-irrigated pasture lands have been impacted from below normal precipitation.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire weather impacts have been lessened due to the recent precipitation across areas of Southern California

Other Impacts

- None reported at this time

Mitigation Actions

- None reported at this time





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Generally normal streamflow conditions exist at this time across southern California

California snowpack

<https://cdec.water.ca.gov/snowapp/sweq.action>

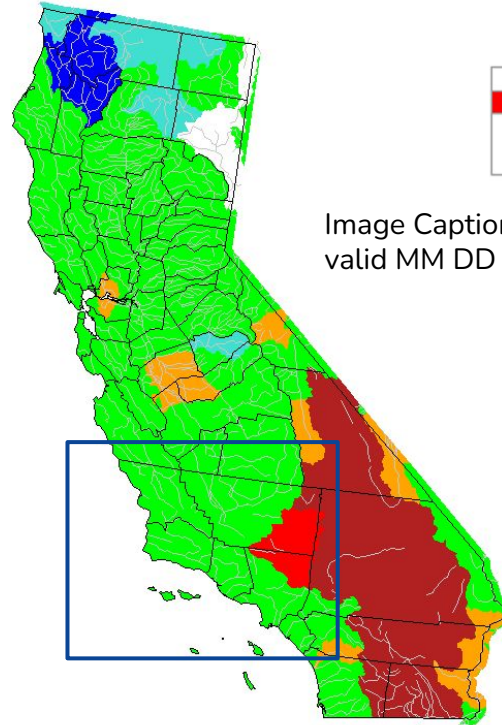
California water supply

<https://cdec.water.ca.gov/resapp/RescondMain>

Southern California water supply

https://www.bewaterwise.com/water_supply_conditions/water_supply_conditions.pdf

Monday, March 03, 2025



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 MM DD YYYY

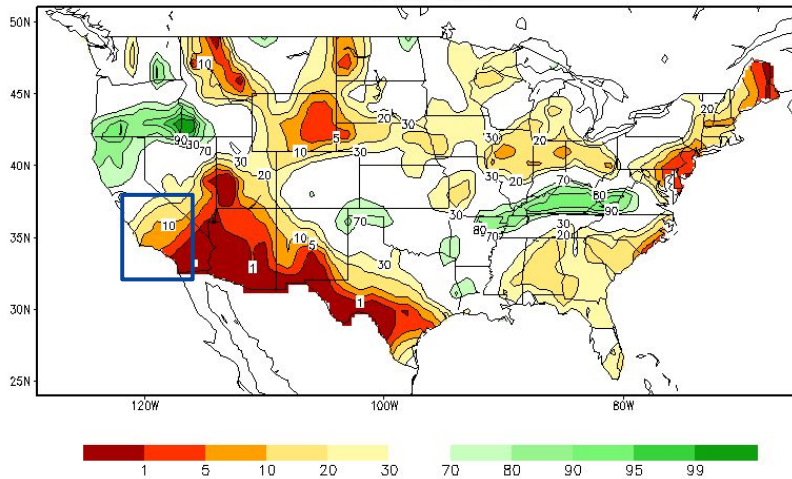




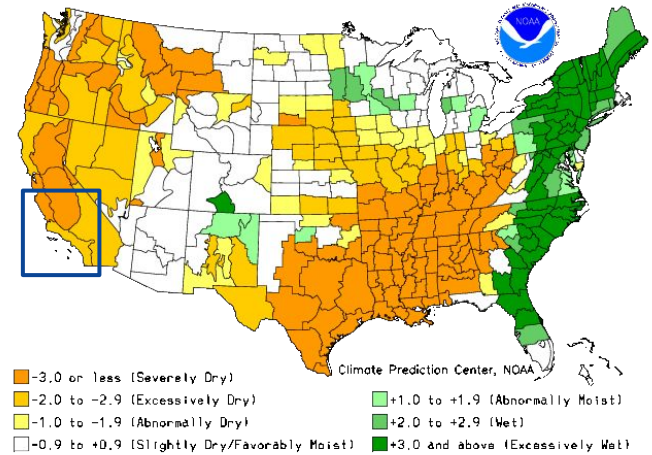
Agricultural Impacts

- Below normal soil moisture and crop moisture exists across southern California at this time.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
MAR 03, 2025



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 26, 2024
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

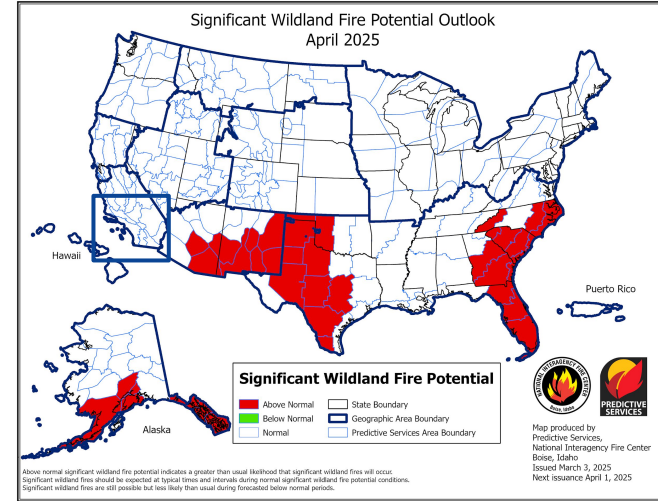
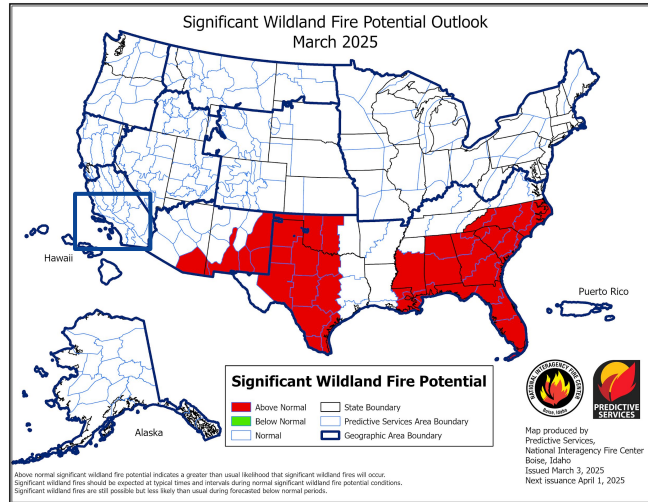




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Fire weather impacts have been lessened due to recent rainfall in late January and February.

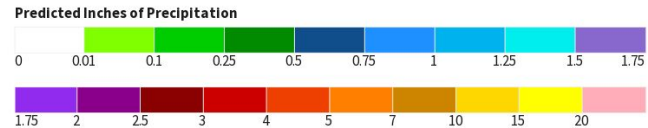
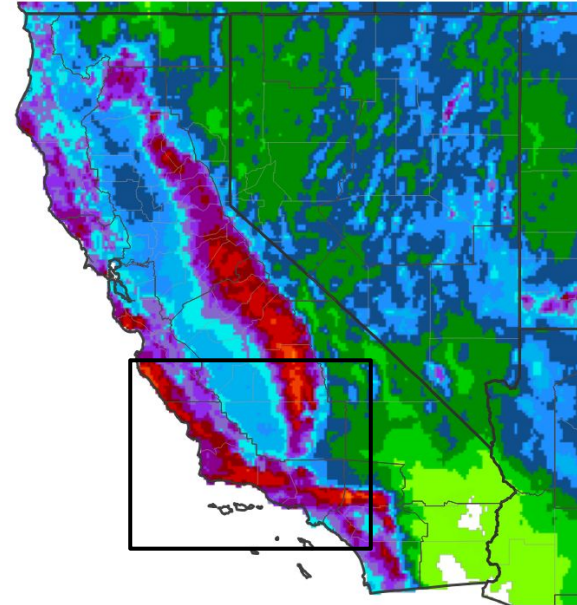




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Precipitation is expected over the next seven days across in Southern California.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for March 3, 2025-March 10, 2025



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/04/25





Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

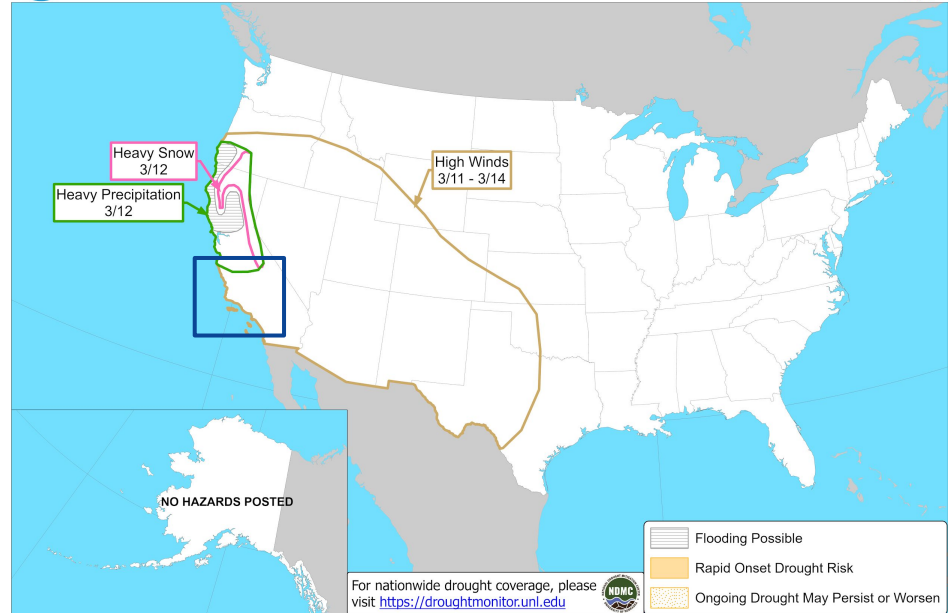
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- Ongoing drought conditions will most likely persist across southern California.
- With precipitation forecast over the next 1-2 weeks, there may be some slight drought improvements shown in the next few weeks on the U.S. Drought Monitor Map.



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: March 11 - 17, 2025



Climate Prediction Center

Released: March 3, 2025 3:00 PM EST

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Los Angeles/Oxnard, CA

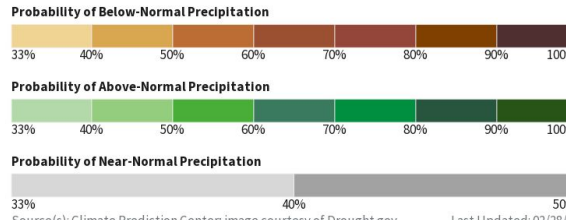
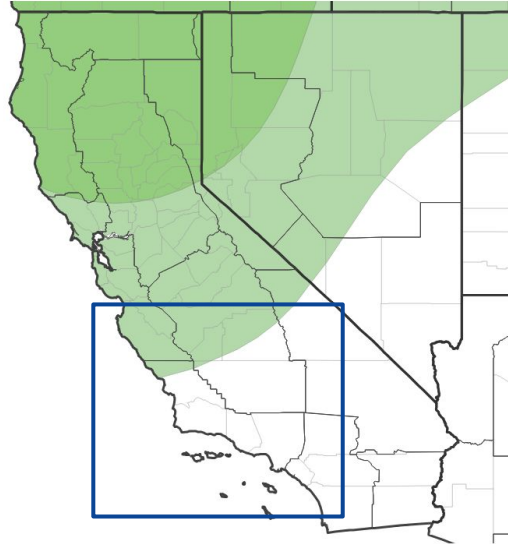


Long-Range Outlooks

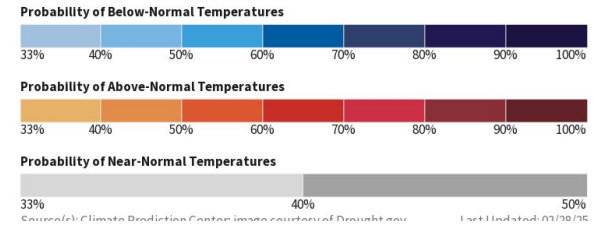
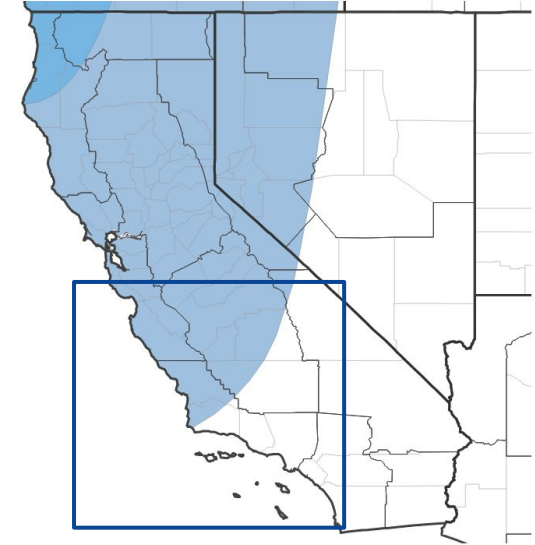
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The precipitation and temperature outlooks across southern California for March 2025 are projected to be near normal in most areas except slightly higher than normal precipitation and slightly lower temperature in portions of San Luis Obispo County.

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



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



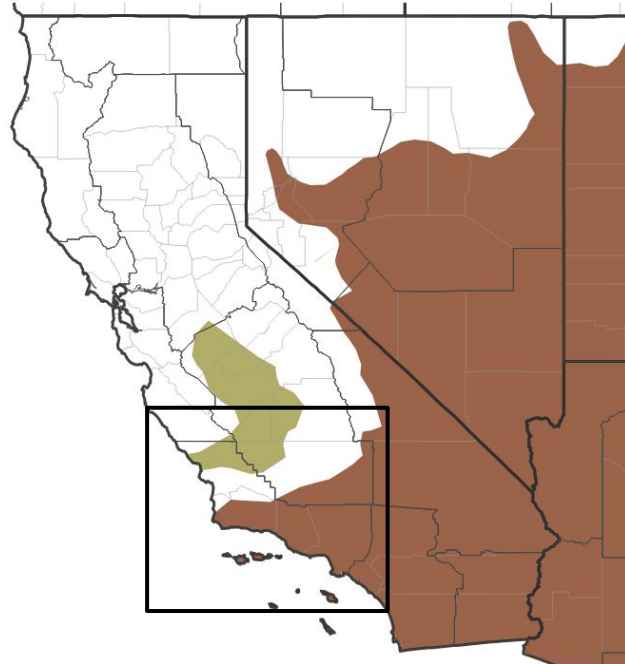


Drought Outlook

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

1-Month Drought Outlook for March 1, 2025–March 31, 2025

- The 1-month drought outlook for March 2025 is for drought conditions to end across San Luis Obispo County and the northern portion of Santa Barbara County and persist across most of Santa Barbara, Ventura, and Los Angeles Counties



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/28/25

Links to the latest:

- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

