



Drought Information Statement for Far southwestern California

Valid **February 20, 2025**

Issued By: NWS San Diego

Contact Information: weather.gov/SanDiego

- This product will be updated March 10, 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/SGX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates?dews_region=136&state=141 for updates.
-
- **Improvement of drought severity for San Bernardino and Riverside Counties**
 - Most of southern California is in D2 severe to D3 extreme drought conditions
 - No longer the record driest start to the water year
 - **Significant precipitation limited to February 13-14, 2025 otherwise dry and warmer than average rest of February**

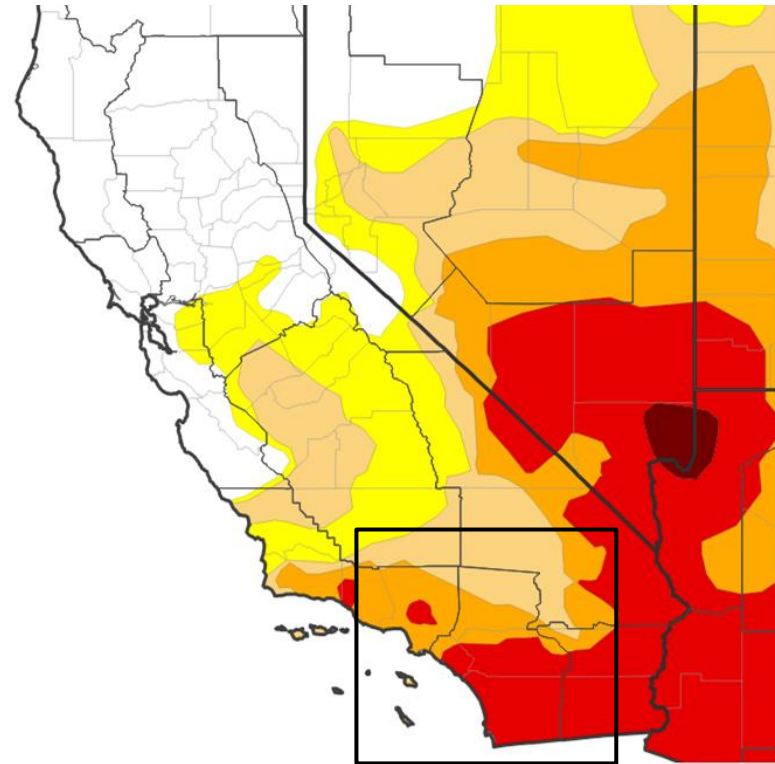




U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: No areas.
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: All of San Diego County, southern half of Riverside County, interior southern Orange County.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Extreme southwest San Bernardino County, far northern Riverside County (Inland Empire) and northern Orange County.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: High Desert (Mojave) of San Bernardino County.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: N/A.



U.S. Drought Monitor





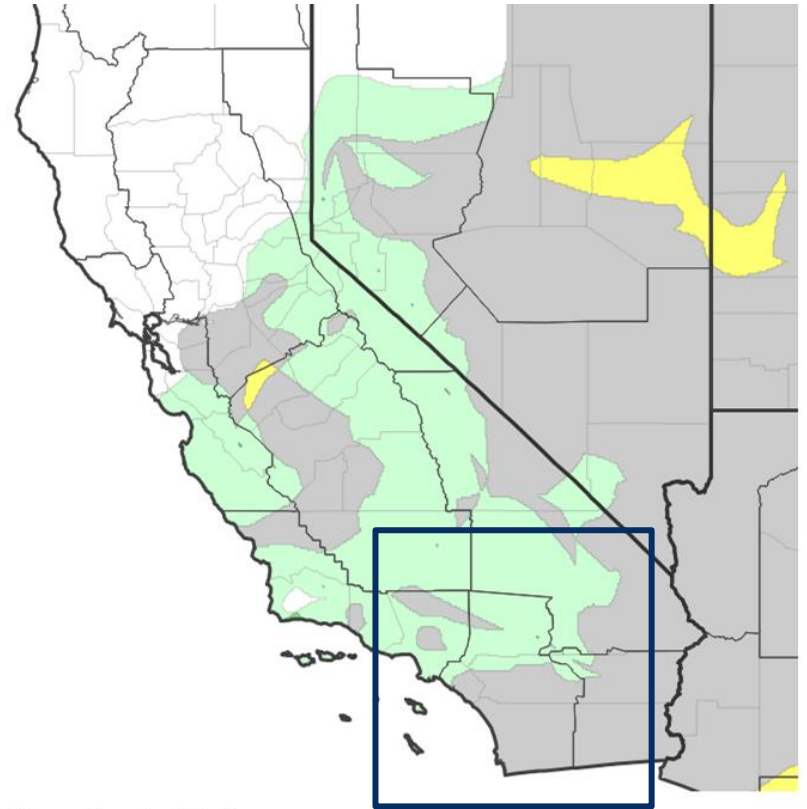
Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for West

Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change

Areas Where...

- **Drought Worsened:** No areas.
- **No Change:** The [past week](#) there are no changes to the drought intensity for southern half including much of Orange, Riverside and all of San Diego Counties.
- **Drought Improved:** Drought improvement for San Bernardino County mountains and High Desert as well as far northern Orange County.



Drought Change Since Last Week





Precipitation past 30 days

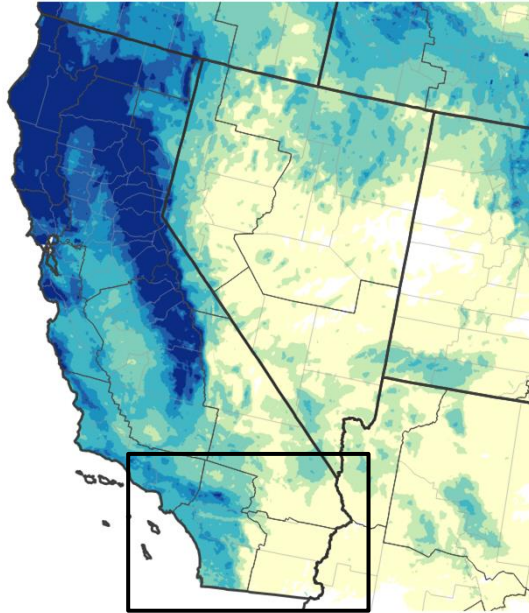
- Heavy precipitation occurred February 13-14, including 3 to 7 inches in the mountains and 1 to 3 inches in the valleys and on the coast

7-day precipitation totals

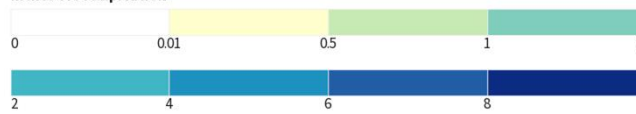
7-day percent of average precipitation

30-day percent of average precipitation

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



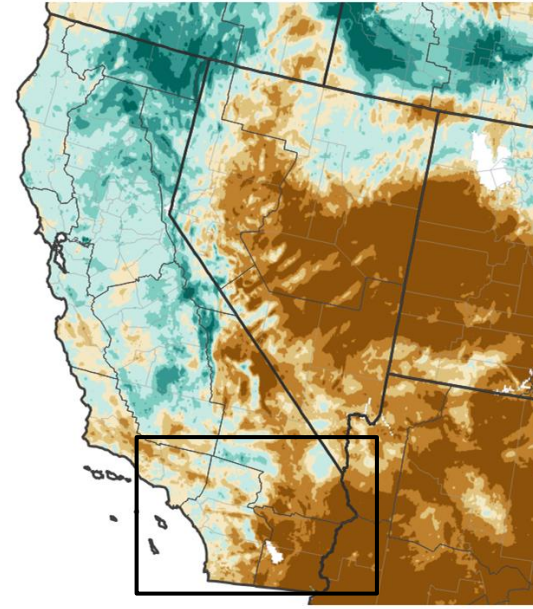
Inches of Precipitation



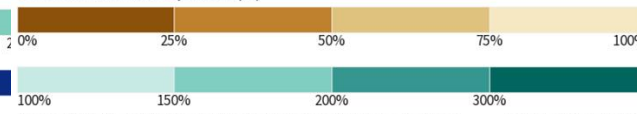
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

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



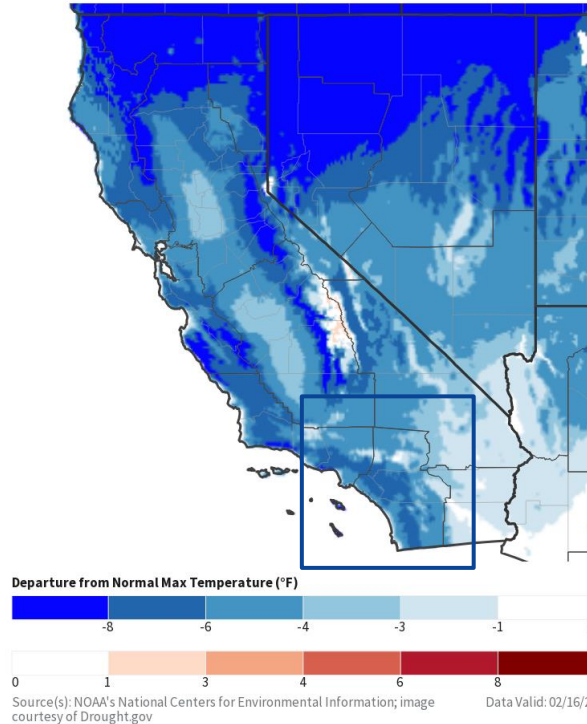


Temperature past week and 30 days

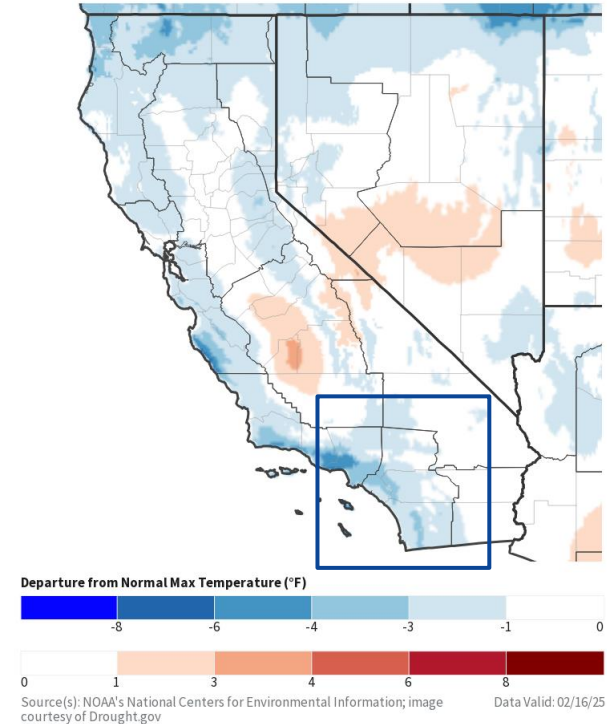
Link to [HPRCC](#) and [WRCC](#)

- Below normal temperatures during the past week and 30 days for coast and valleys
- Near normal to slightly below temperatures past 30 days in mountains and deserts

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



30-Day Temperature Anomaly





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflow back to near averages due to widespread significant precipitation mid February.

Agricultural Impacts

- Winter rains lacking for germination of seeds but widespread rainfall February 13-14 and cooler weather followed by a significant warming should help.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Improved to moderate to high (historically) dry fuel moisture and wildfire danger

Other Impacts

- Heavy wet snow occurred February 13-14 with up to 12 inches at 8000 feet. Limited to no snowpack and strain on outdoor recreation (5 ski snow play areas). Snow melt will occur late February.

Mitigation Actions

- Significant water use for snowmaking efforts





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Low water stream flow levels back to near normal levels

California snowpack

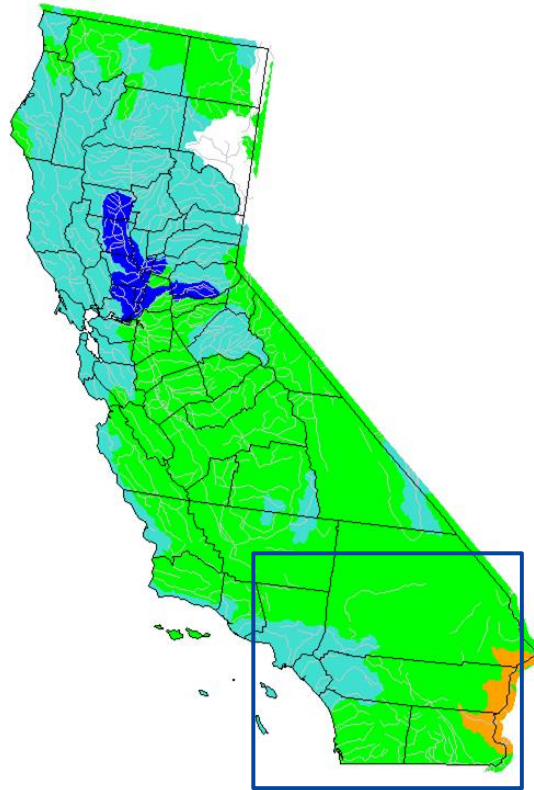
<https://cdec.water.ca.gov/snowapp/sweq.action>

California water supply

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

Socal water supply

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



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 February 2025

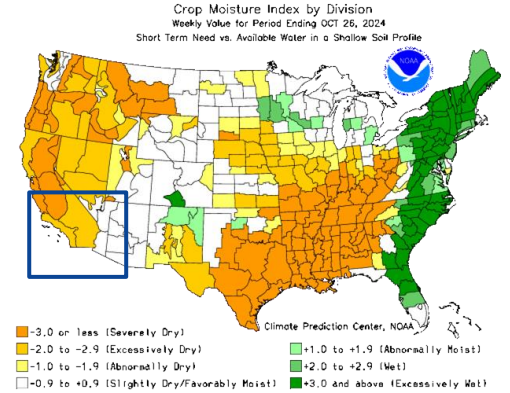
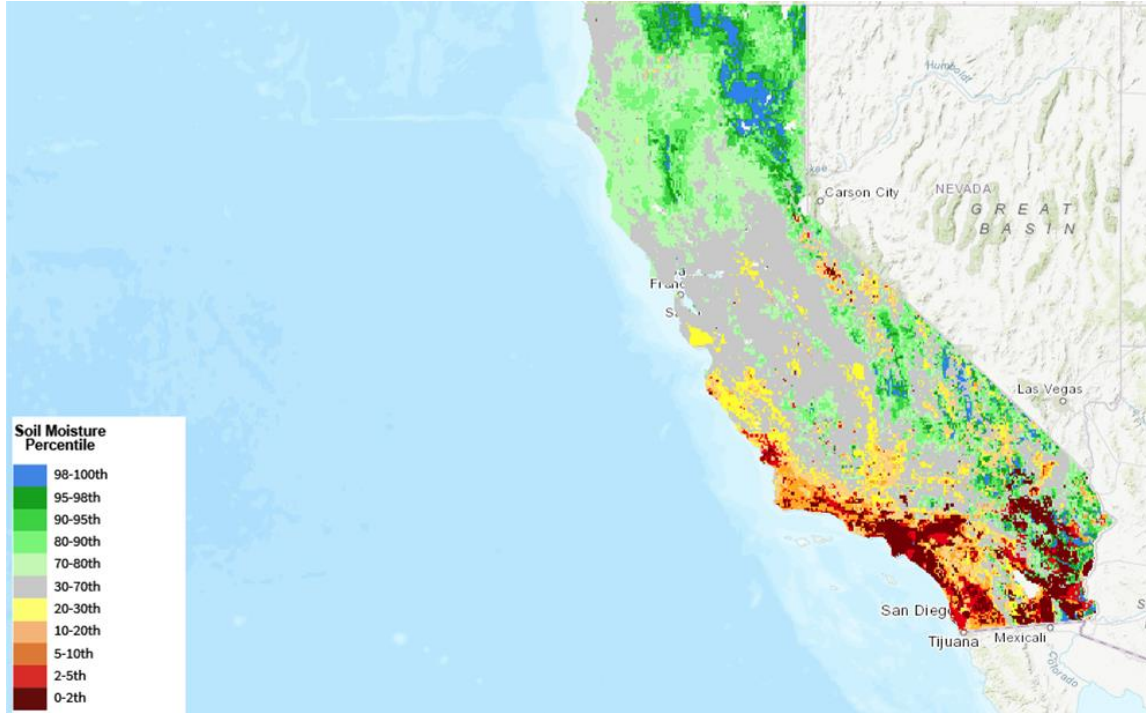




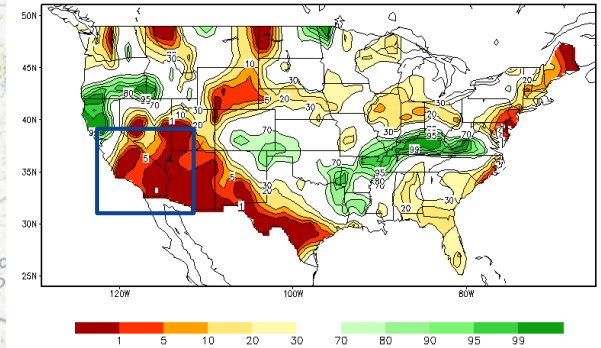
Agricultural Impacts

California water watch

Dry soil conditions in southern California but some improvement due to mid February precipitation



Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
FEB 19, 2025





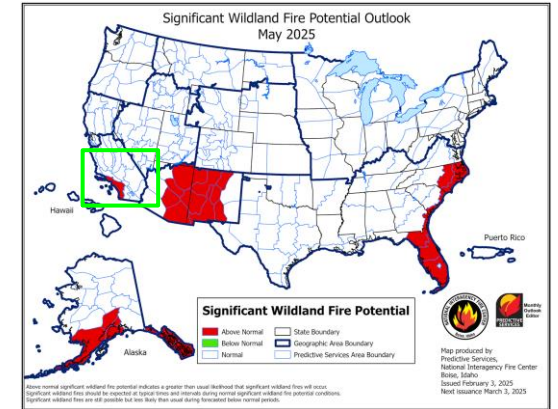
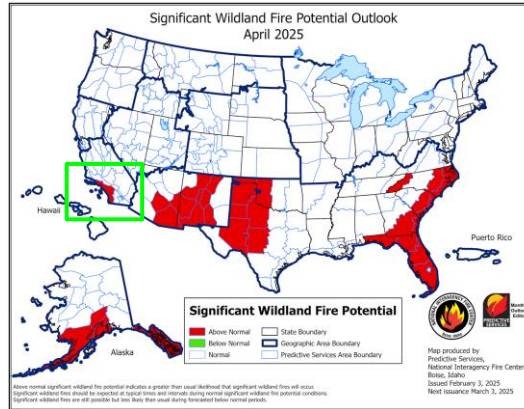
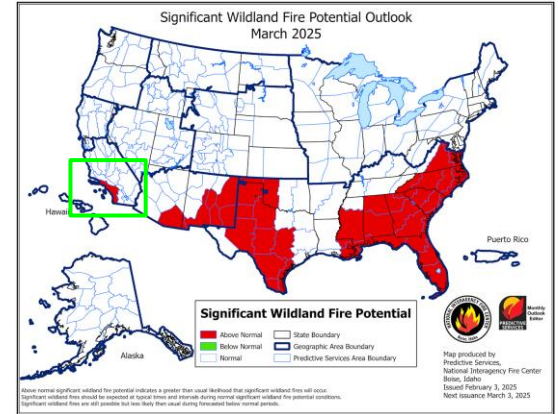
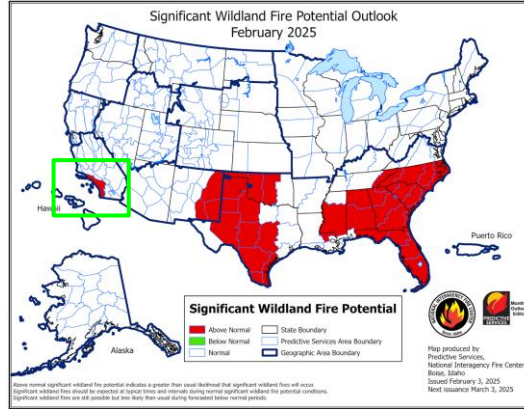
Fire Hazard and Air Quality Impacts

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

- High fire danger continues due to precipitation deficits
- High wildfire potential continues into the spring 2025

Latest GACC South Ops fuel moisture available [here](#).

South Coast Air Quality and burn bans [here](#)

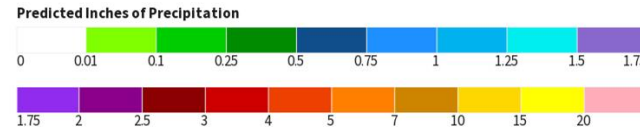
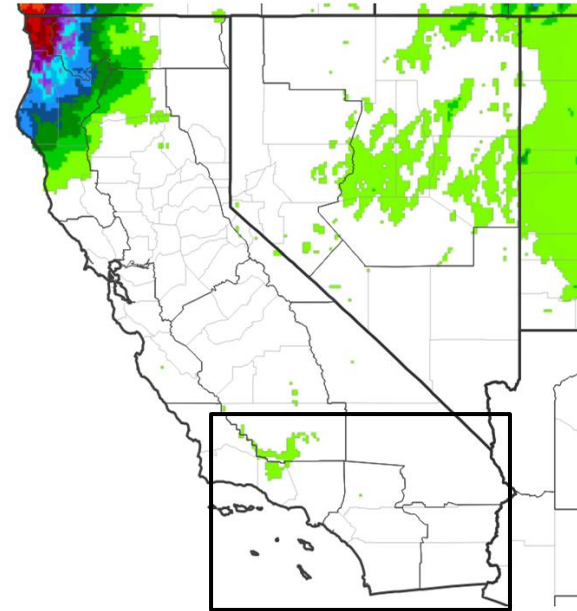




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Dry and warmer than average weather pattern next week.
- No precipitation expected through end of February.

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

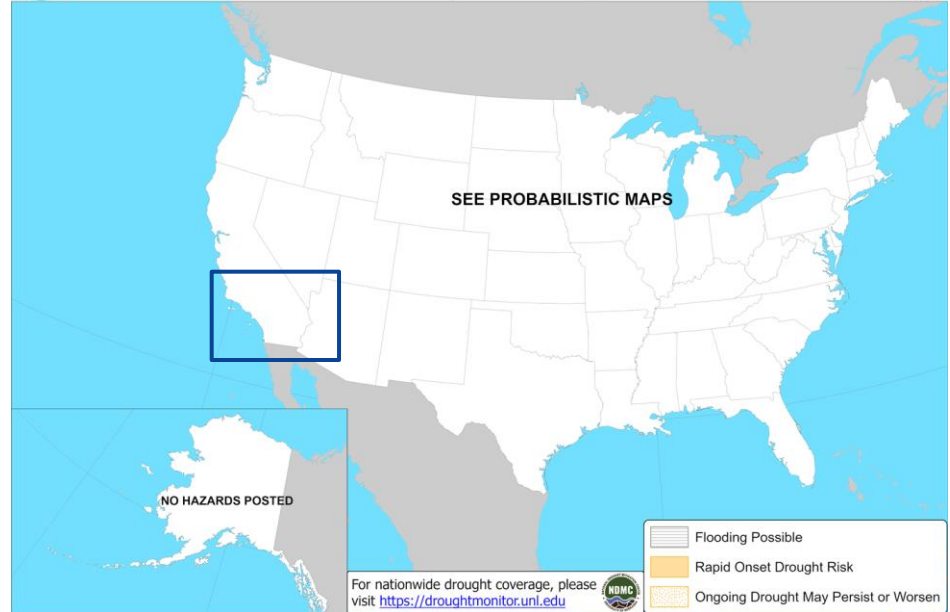
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center **8 to 14 day** [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- No significant threats next 2 weeks
- Dry and milder than average until March



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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San Diego, CA



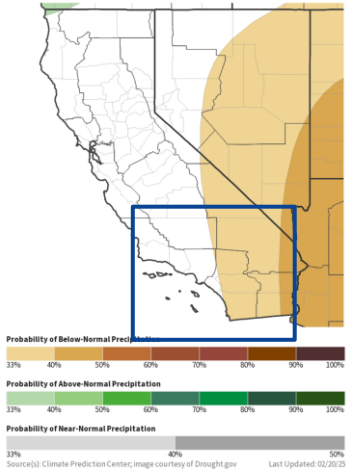
Long-Range Outlooks

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

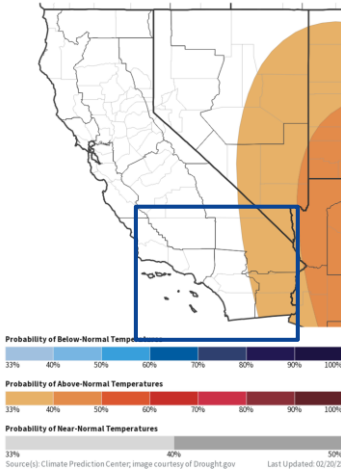
- **March** - precipitation and temperature outlook - no significant signal in southern California
- Below average precipitation in in the spring - **March to May 2025**

3-month precipitation and temperature outlook

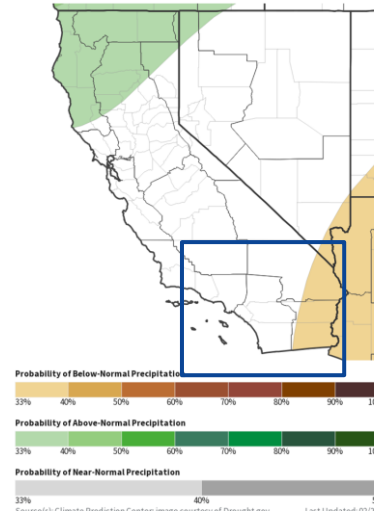
Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for March 1, 2025-May 31, 2025



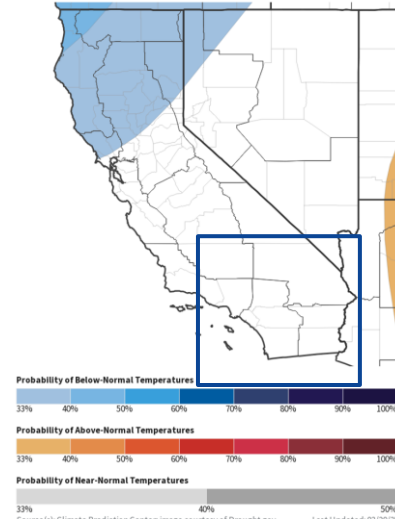
Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for March 1, 2025-May 31, 2025



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



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



1 month outlooks



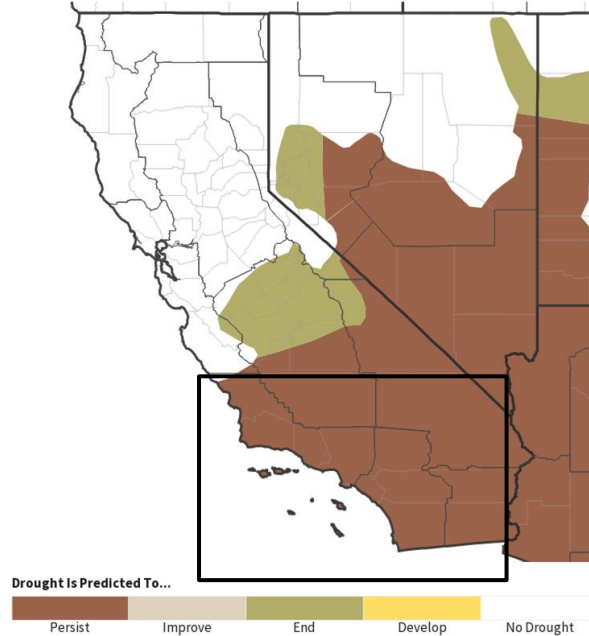


Drought Outlook

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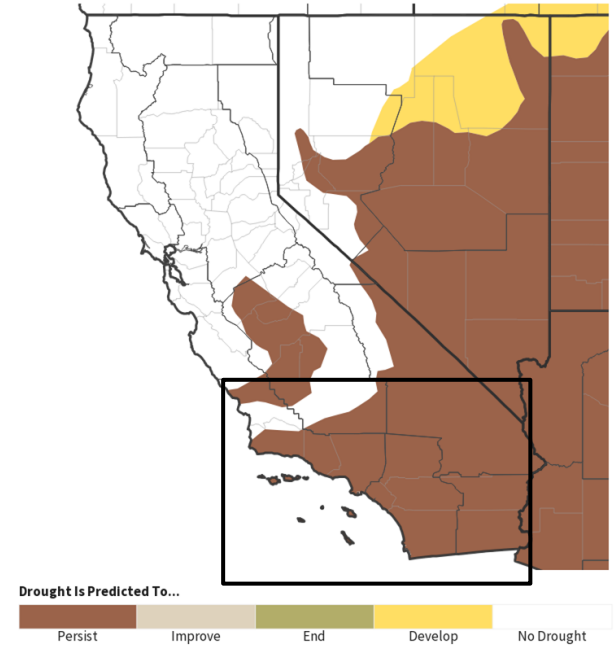
- Drought conditions persisting in southern California

1-Month Drought Outlook for February 1, 2025–February 28, 2025



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 01/31/25

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for February 20, 2025–May 31, 2025



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

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

