



Drought Information Statement for Southwest California

Valid January 25, 2025

Issued By: NWS San Diego

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated January 30th, 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/wrh/climate?wfo=sgx> for previous statements.
- Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates?dews_region=136&state=141 (regional)

- Rapid increase from D0 to D3 across southern California due to a record dry start (driest at San Diego airport) to the water year
- Very warm conditions continue for mountains and deserts since summer 2024





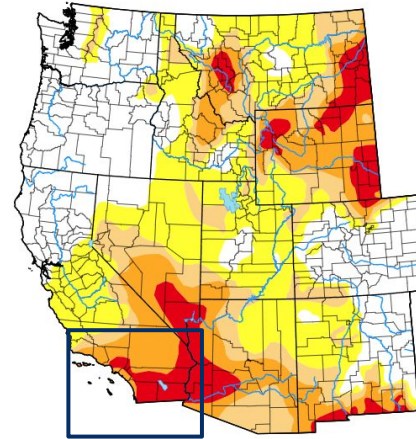
U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** None
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** southern Riverside County, inland Orange County Santa Ana mountains, inland San Diego County]
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Rest of Southern California
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** N/A
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** N/A

West

[Home](#) / [West](#)



Map released: Thurs. January 23, 2025

Data valid: January 21, 2025 at 7 a.m. EST

Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):
[Brian Fuchs](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):
[Curtis Riganti](#), National Drought Mitigation Center



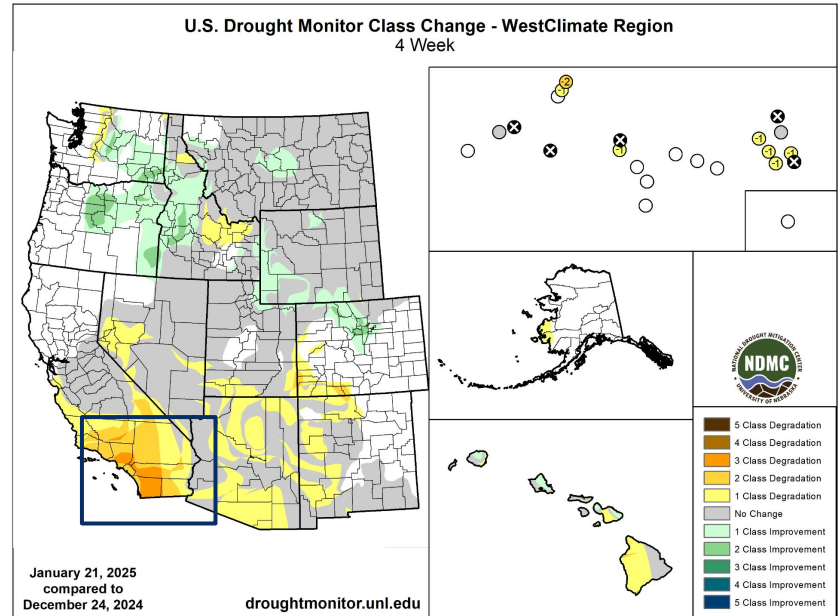


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - **Drought Worsened:** 3 categories worse for San Diego, Riverside and inland Orange County. 2 categories degradation for western San Bernardino county and coastal Orange and San Diego counties.
 - No Change: All areas worse
 - Drought Improved: None.

<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>



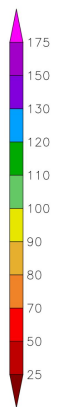
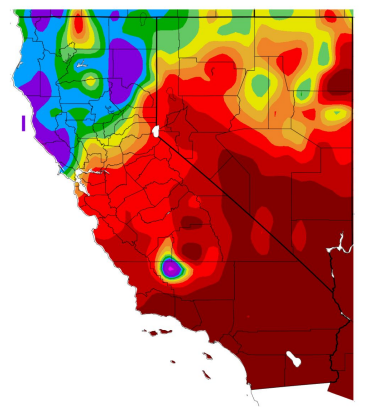


Precipitation - percent of average since October

<https://wrcc.dri.edu/my/> or <https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps>

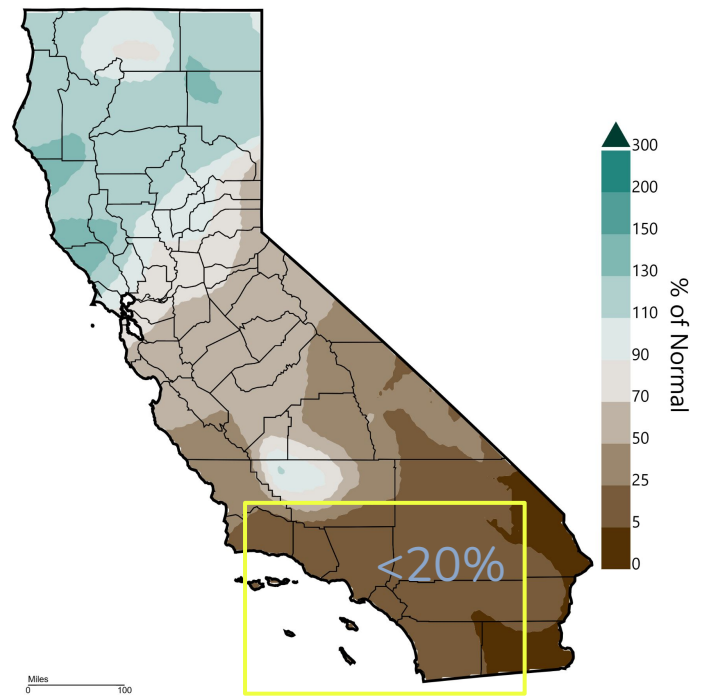
- Most of Socal under 20 percent of 30 year average
- **Record driest** start to water year (October 1) for most areas

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
10/1/2024 - 1/26/2025



California Contours

Total Precipitation Percent of Normal (October 1, 2024 - January 27, 2025)



Western Regional Climate Center / High Plains Regional Climate Center

Generated 1/27/2025 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers





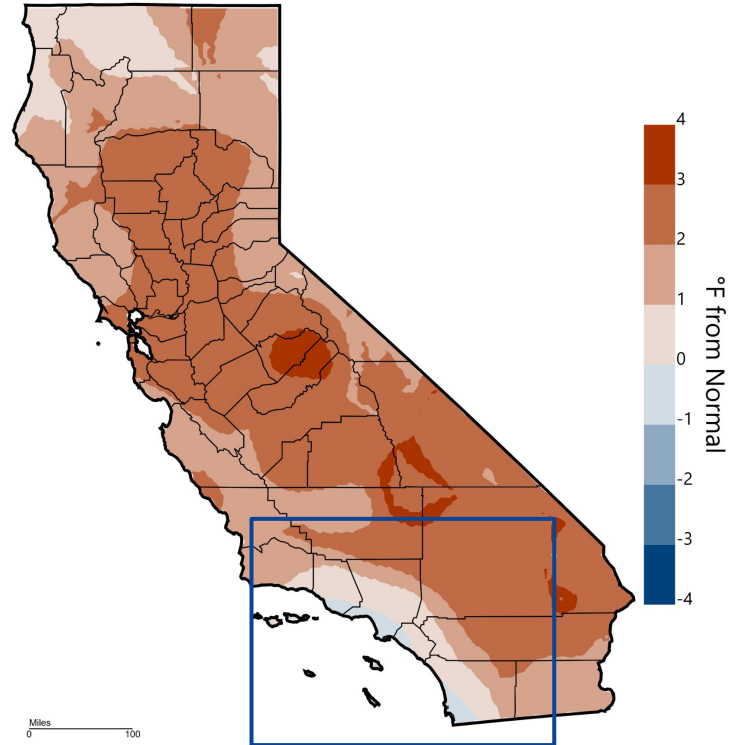
Temperature - departure from average since October 1

<https://wrcc.dri.edu/my/> or <https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps>

- Continued above normal for inland mountains and deserts, but near averages (normal) for the coast since October 1

California Contours

Mean Temperature Departure from Normal (October 1, 2024 - January 21, 2025)



Western Regional Climate Center / High Plains Regional Climate Center



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
San Diego, CA



Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Dry soil and vegetation so very low soil moisture and water flow (below average stream flow).

Agricultural Impacts

- Winter rains lacking for germination of seeds

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Extreme (historical) dry fuel moisture and critical wildfire danger

Other Impacts

- Limited to no snowpack and strain on outdoor recreation (5 ski snow play areas)

Mitigation Actions

- Significant water use for snowmaking efforts and wildfire suppression



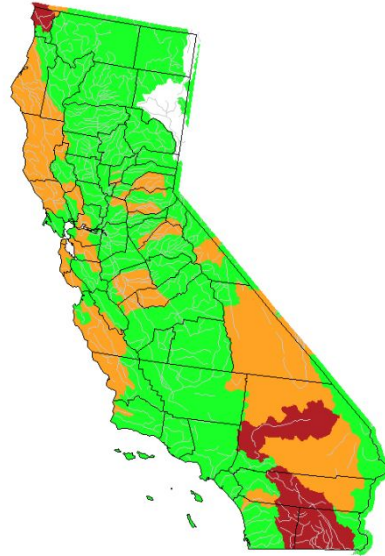


Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/index.php?m=pa07d_nwc&r=ca&w=map

Monday, January 27, 2025

- Very low or no stream flow except during the precipitation January 26–27



USGS

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 1-15-2025

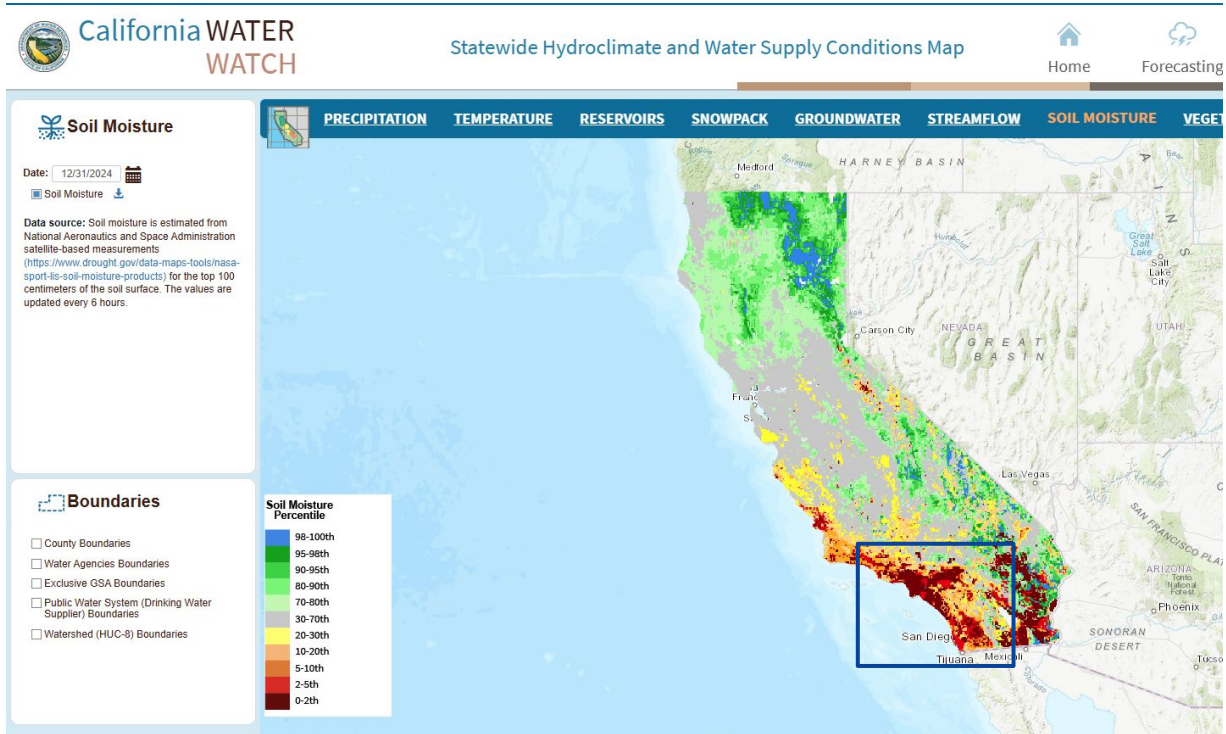




Agricultural Impacts

<https://cww.water.ca.gov/maps?tab=soil> (California water watch)

- Very dry soil moisture, under 25th percentile





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Minimal or no Fire Weather concerns due to precipitation and high humidity January 26-27

7 day fire outlook map available [here](#).

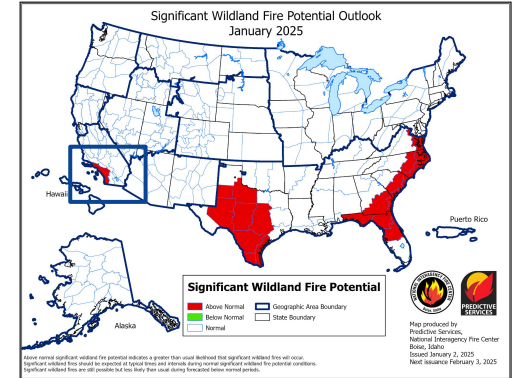
Southern California fire outlook map [here](#)

National Predictive Services Forecast

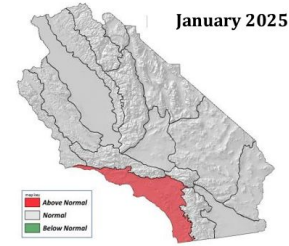
California South Ops

Published: Jan 27, 2025 6:58:50 AM

Predictive Service Area (PSA)	Mon 27 Jan	Tue 28 Jan	Wed 29 Jan	Thu 30 Jan	Fri 31 Jan	Sat 1 Feb	Sun 2 Feb
SC01 - Eastern Sierra							
SC02 - Central Sierra							
SC03 - Southern Sierra							
SC04 - Sierra Foothills							
SC05 - Central Valley							
SC06 - Central Coast Interior							
SC07 - Central Coast							
SC08 - South Coast							
SC09 - Western Mountains							
SC10 - Eastern Mountains							
SC11 - Southern Mountains							
SC12 - Lower Deserts							
SC13 - Eastern Deserts							
SC14 - Central Mojave							
SC15 - Upper Deserts							
SC16 - Northern Deserts							



Southern Operations
MONTHLY/SEASONAL OUTLOOKS
 ISSUED DECEMBER 31, 2024 VALID JANUARY 2025 – APRIL 2025

February – April 2025 all areas normal

*Monthly Images will only be shown when there are changes

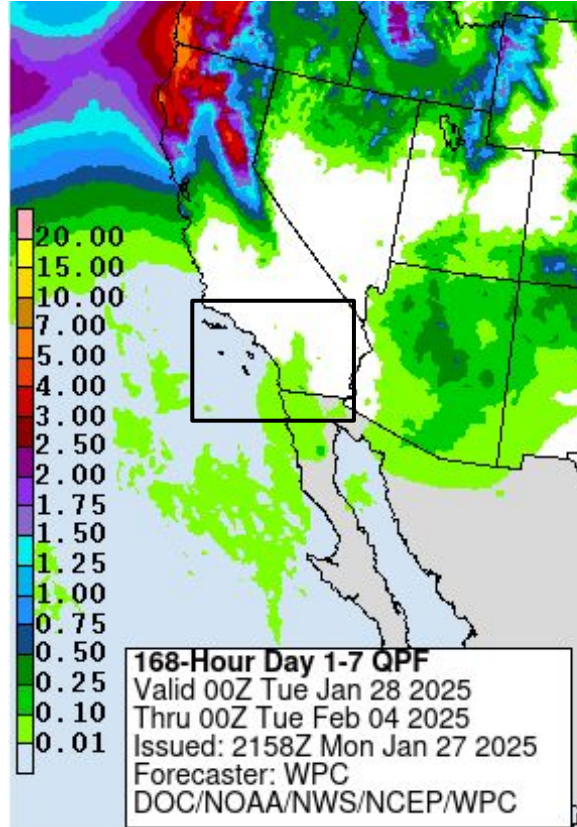




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

<https://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-7.shtml>

- Significant precipitation for northern California during early February





Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

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

Early Drought Warning System (DEWS)

<https://www.drought.gov/dews/california-nevada>

DROUGHT EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

California-Nevada

Drought in California and Nevada is a common occurrence that can last for multiple years. The regional climate is characterized by a distinct dry season (approximately May to September) and wet season (October to April) defined by a few large precipitation events. Additional peaks in precipitation can occur, such as summer precipitation in southern Nevada due to the North American monsoon. Topography within the region creates a diverse set of climate conditions, from the snowy peaks of the Sierra Nevada Range to the Mojave Desert, to the mountains and valleys of the Basin and Range. Given the extreme variability, both spatially and temporally, efficiently using and effectively managing finite water resources is a high priority. Based on the many connections the two states share with respect to geography, climate, water, and drought, a joint CA-NV drought early warning system (DEWS) was developed to support enhanced drought early warning across the region and to build out NIDIS's national drought early warning system.

Primary contact: [Amanda Sheffield](#), Regional Drought Information Coordinator

[READ THE STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

[LATEST DROUGHT UPDATE](#)

Drought indicators show drought may be present or developing in this region. View [CNAP drought tracker](#) >

[Help Improve This](#)





Long-Range Outlook

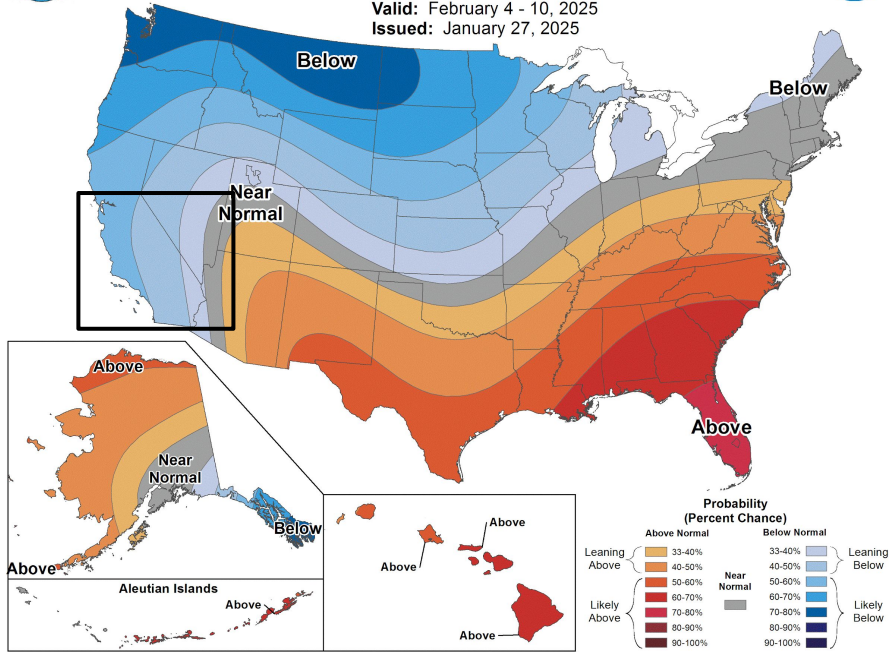
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Cooler than average temperature and slightly above precipitation for February 4-10, 2025



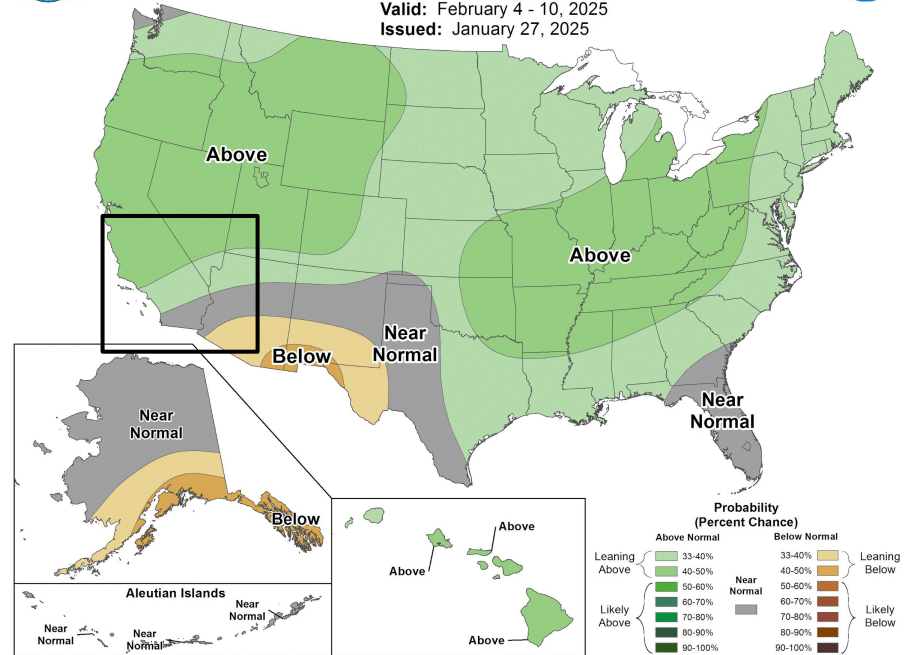
8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: February 4 - 10, 2025
Issued: January 27, 2025



8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: February 4 - 10, 2025
Issued: January 27, 2025





Longer-Range Outlooks

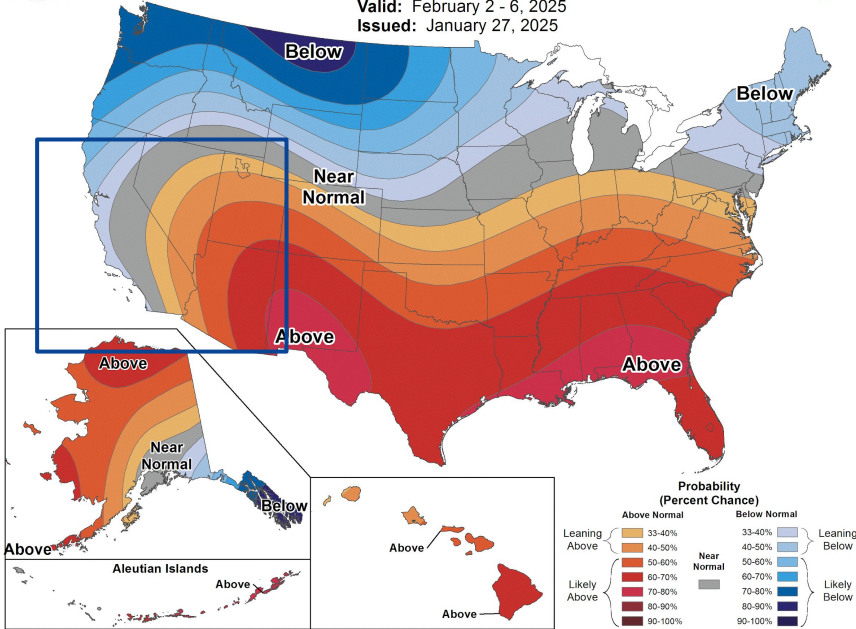
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Near average temperature and precipitation
February 2-6, 2025



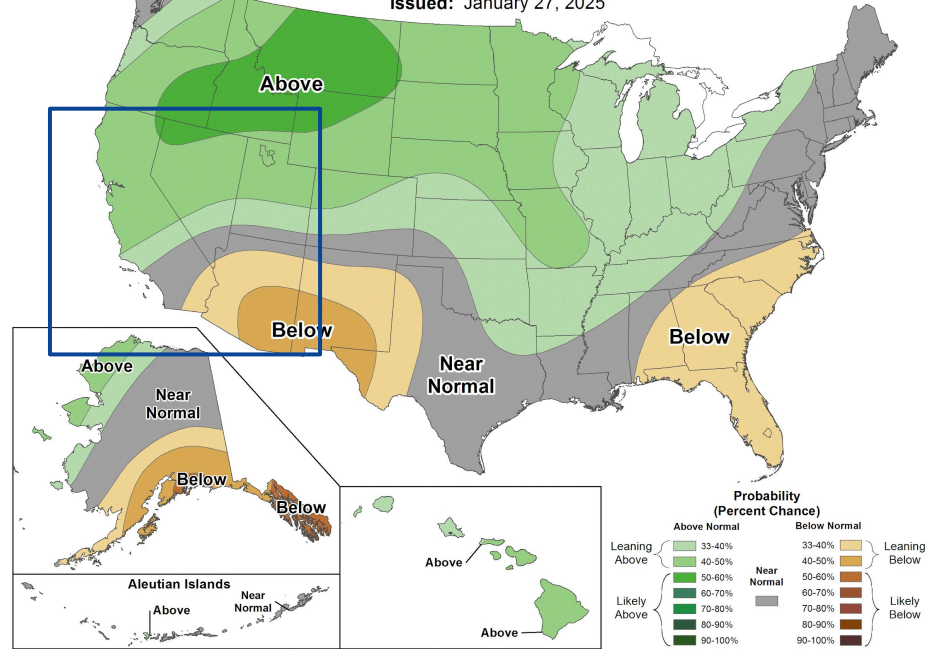
6-10 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: February 2 - 6, 2025
Issued: January 27, 2025



6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: February 2 - 6, 2025
Issued: January 27, 2025





Drought Outlook

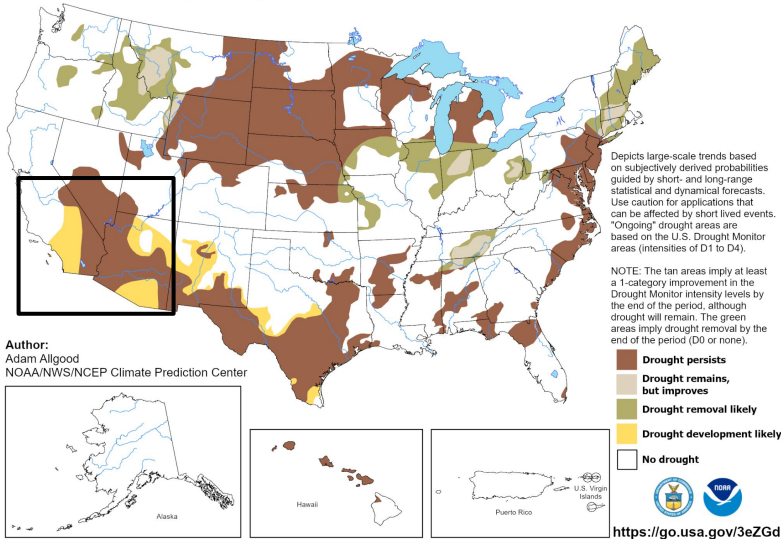
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Drought ongoing development and persisting

U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for January 2025
Released December 31, 2024

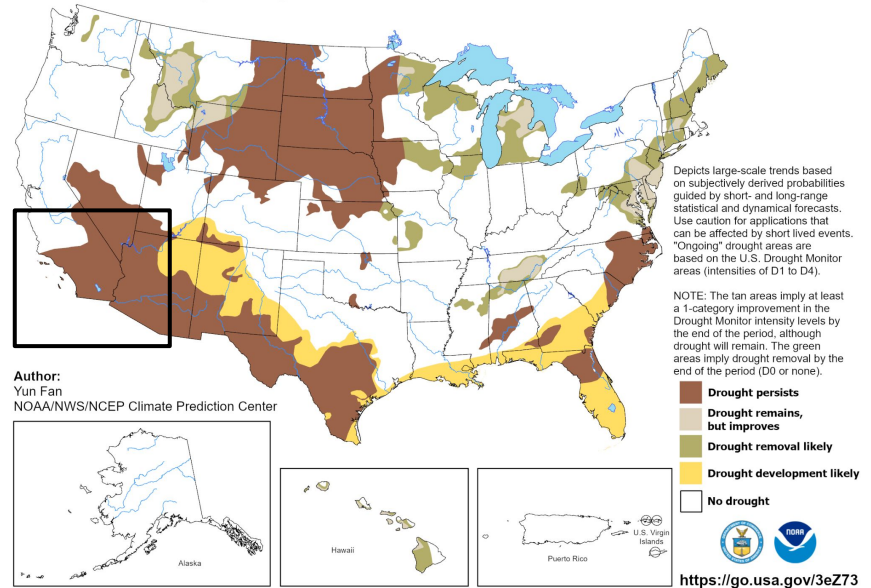


Author:
Adam Allgood
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for January 16 - April 30, 2025
Released January 16, 2025



Author:
Yun Fan
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
San Diego, CA



Monthly to Seasonal Outlooks

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

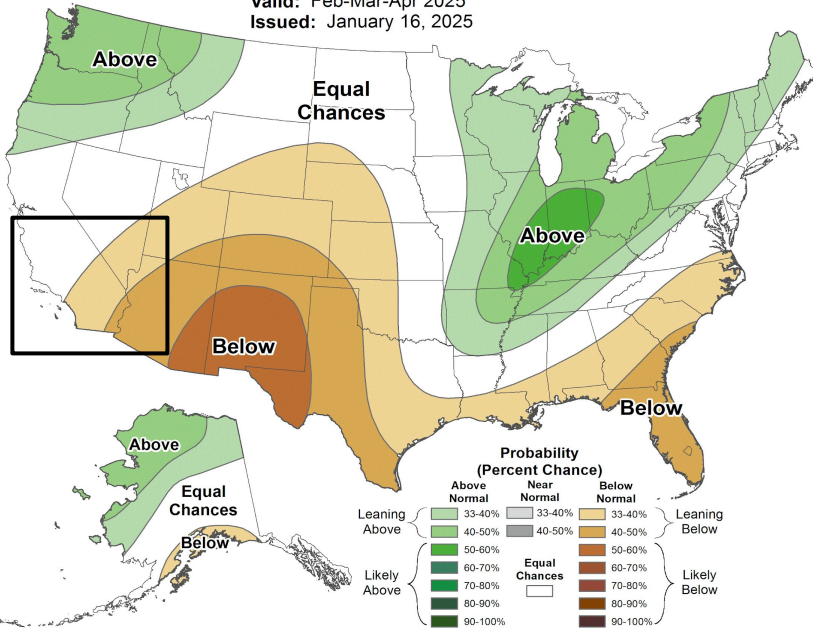
- Outlook for February to April 2025
- Drier than average and near normal temperatures



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



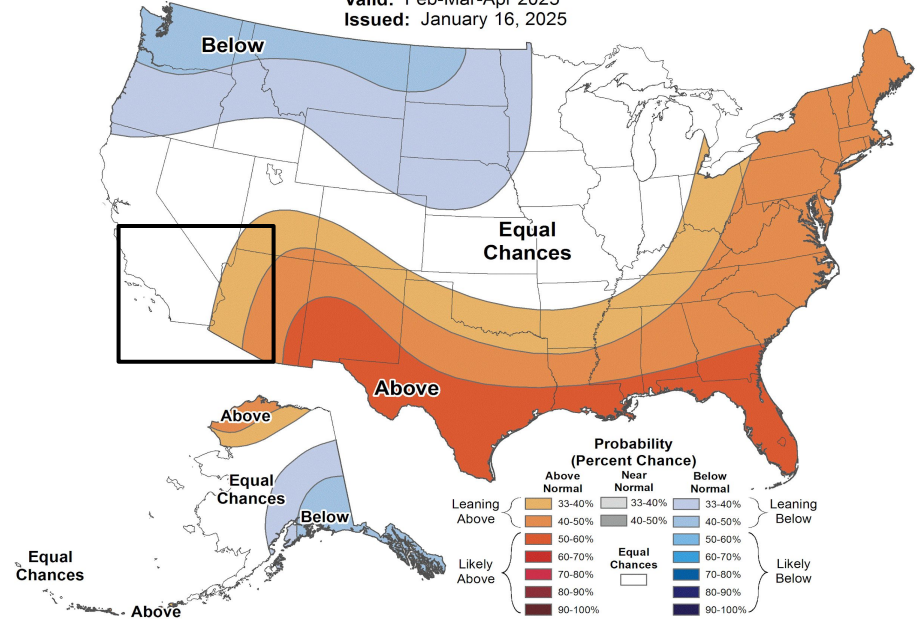
Valid: Feb-Mar-Apr 2025
Issued: January 16, 2025



Seasonal Temperature Outlook



Valid: Feb-Mar-Apr 2025
Issued: January 16, 2025

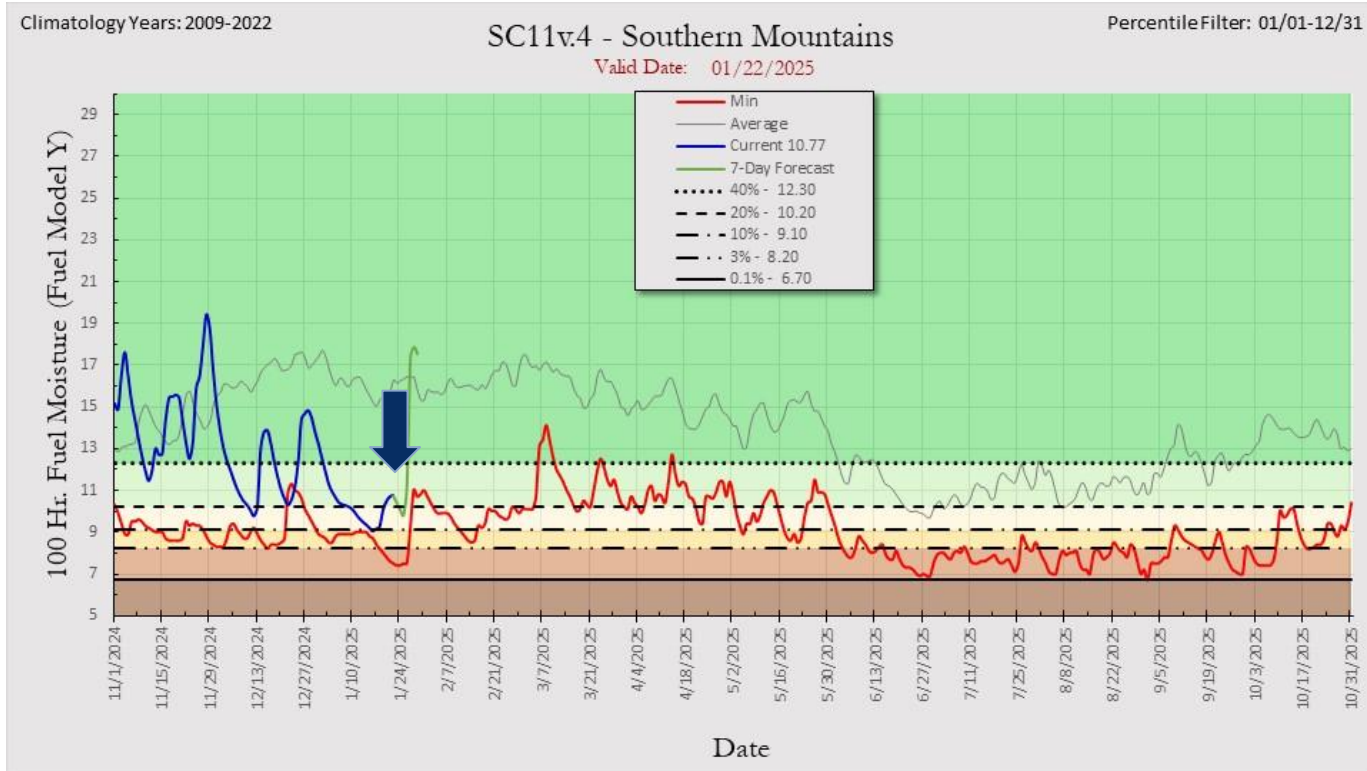




Fire weather fuel moisture

<https://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/fuelsFireDanger.php>

- Record dry fuel before any precipitation

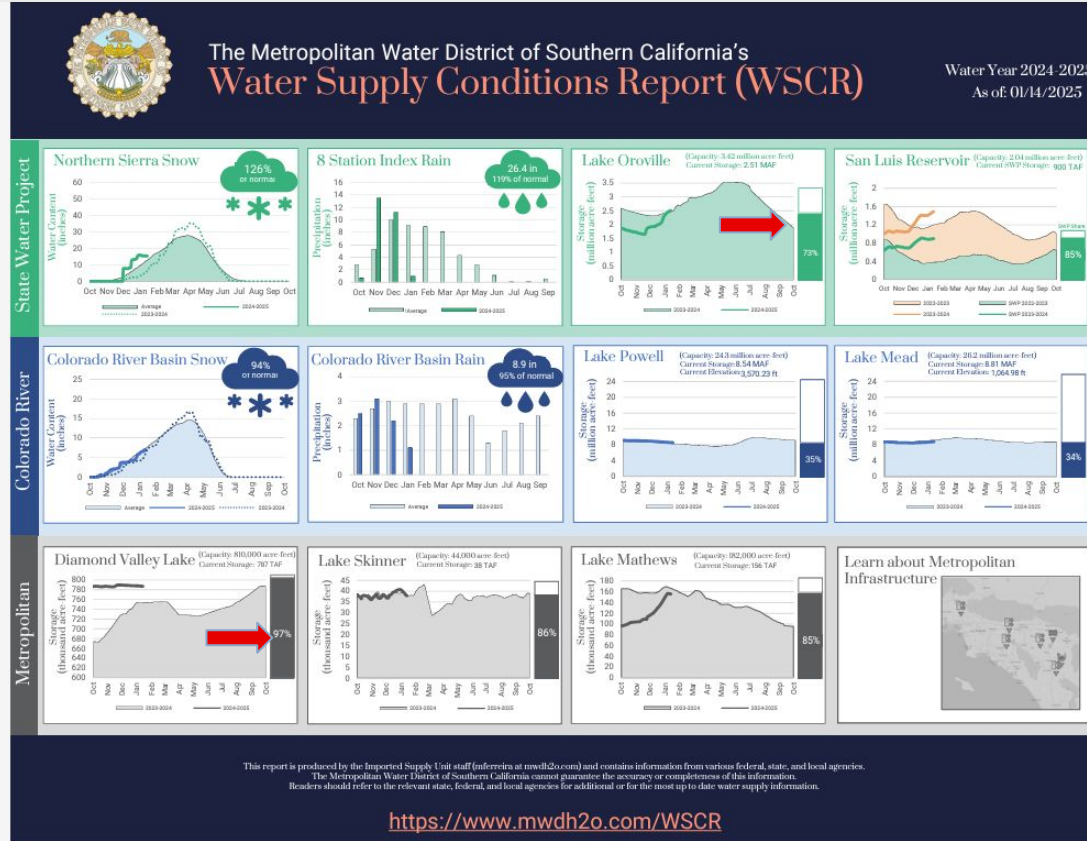




California and Colorado River Water Supply

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

- At or above historical averages in Socal

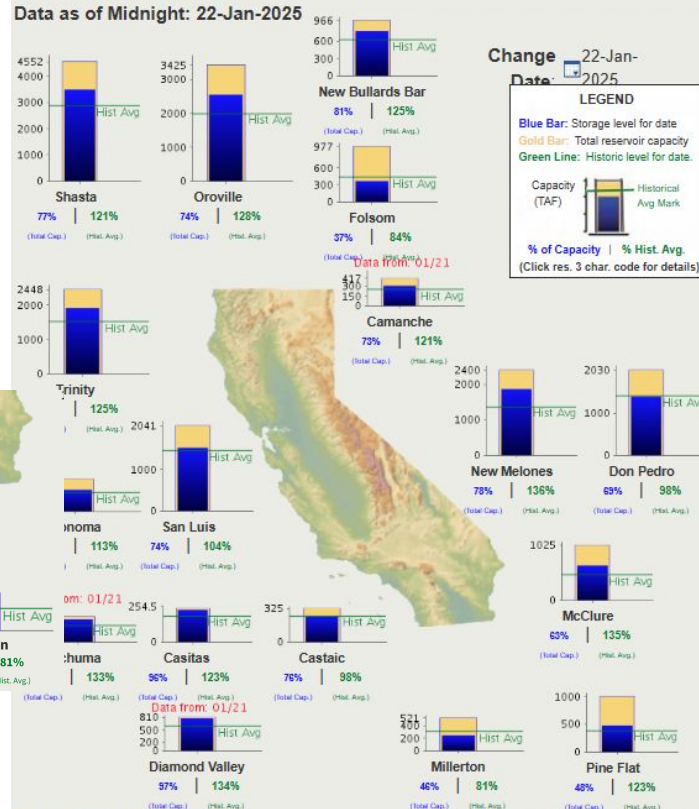




California Water Supply and Snowpack

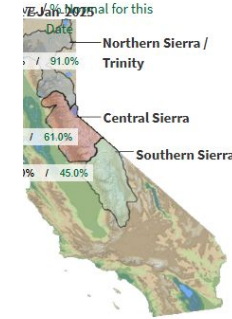
<https://cdec.water.ca.gov/resapp/RescondMain>

- Water storage at or above historical averages
- Snowpack below average at 65%



Water Equivalents (inches)

by the California Cooperative Snow Surveys



NORTH	
Date For:	27-Jan-2025
Number of Stations Reporting	35
Average snow water equivalent	14.7"
Percent of April 1 Average	54%
Percent of normal for this date	91%

CENTRAL	
Date For:	27-Jan-2025
Number of Stations Reporting	81
Average snow water equivalent	11.0"
Percent of April 1 Average	37%
Percent of normal for this date	61%

SOUTH	
Date For:	27-Jan-2025
Number of Stations Reporting	30
Average snow water equivalent	6.3"
Percent of April 1 Average	27%
Percent of normal for this date	45%

STATEWIDE SUMMARY	
Date For:	27-Jan-2025
Number of Stations Reporting	146
Average snow water equivalent	10.9"
Percent of April 1 Average	39%
Percent of normal for this date	65%

Printable Version of Current Data

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

Click for printable version of

Report Generated: 23-Jan-2025 10:26 AM