



# Drought Information Statement for Northeast IA, Southeast MN, & Western, WI

Valid February 20, 2025

Issued By: WFO La Crosse, WI

Contact Information: [w-arx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:w-arx.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated Thursday, March 6, 2024.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/ARX/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.

- **Drought & Dryness Continues**



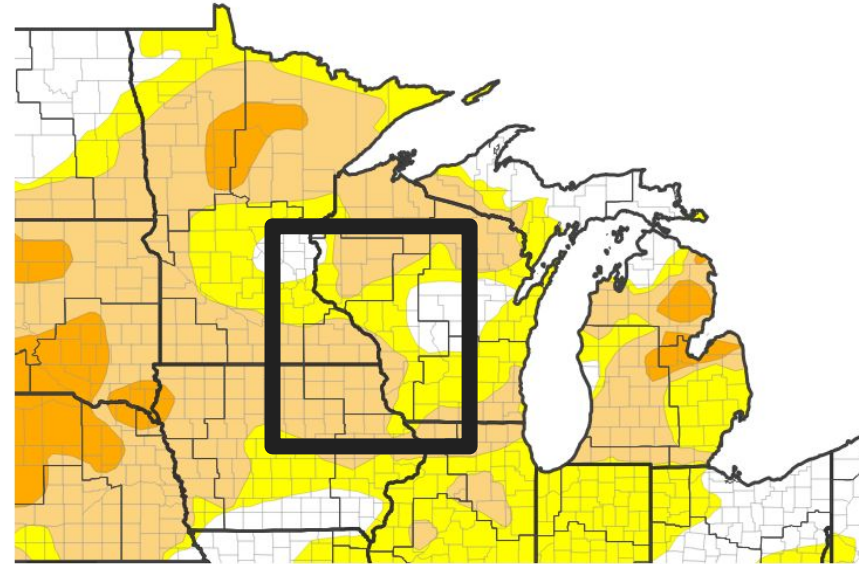


# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and extent
  - **Moderate Drought (D1)** conditions continues in northeast Iowa and southeast Minnesota.
  - **Abnormally Dry (D0) & Moderate Drought (D1)** conditions continue in western Wisconsin.

## U.S. Drought Monitor



## U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 02/18/25



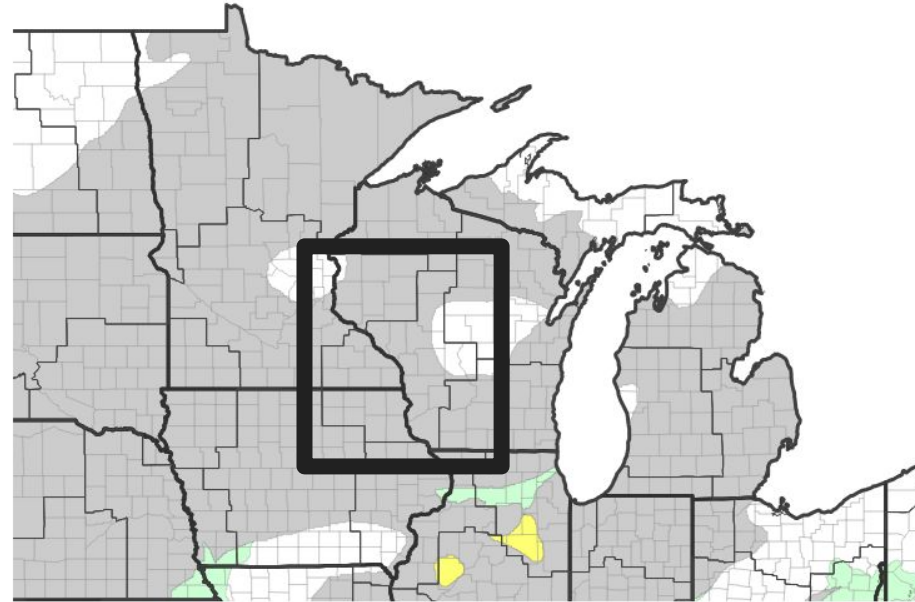


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Northeast IA, southeast MN, & Western IA

- 1-Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - During the past 2-weeks, there has been no change in the abnormally dry (D0) and moderate (D1) drought areas.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



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

Data Valid: 02/18/25

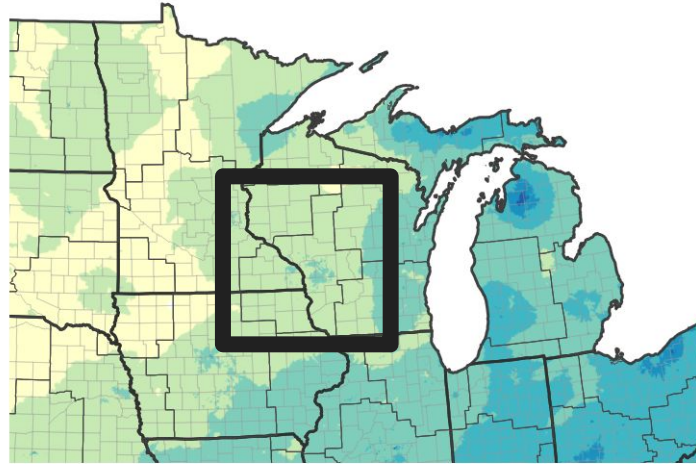




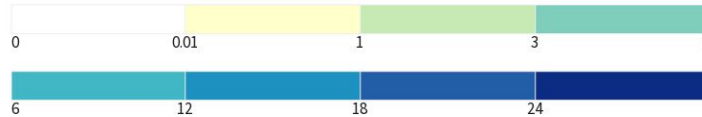
# Precipitation

- From December through mid-February, precipitation totals ranged from 1.29" near Osage, IA to 3.35" near Warrens, WI. Precipitation anomalies ranged from a 1/2" to 2 1/2" drier than normal.

### 90-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

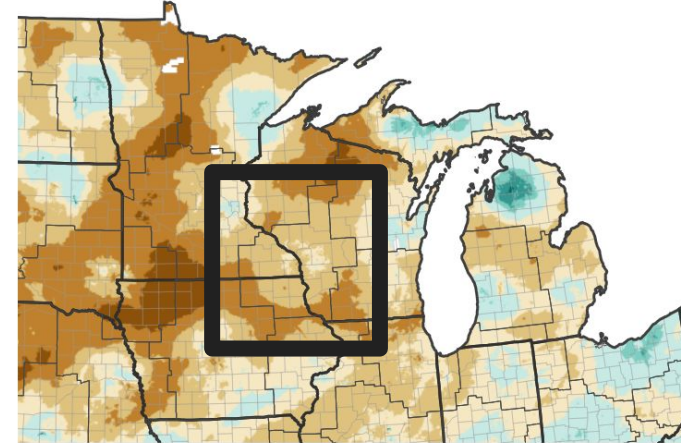


#### Inches of Precipitation

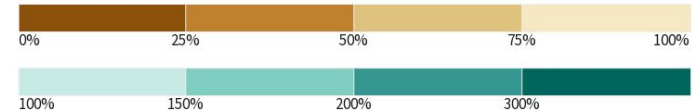


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/20/25

### 90-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



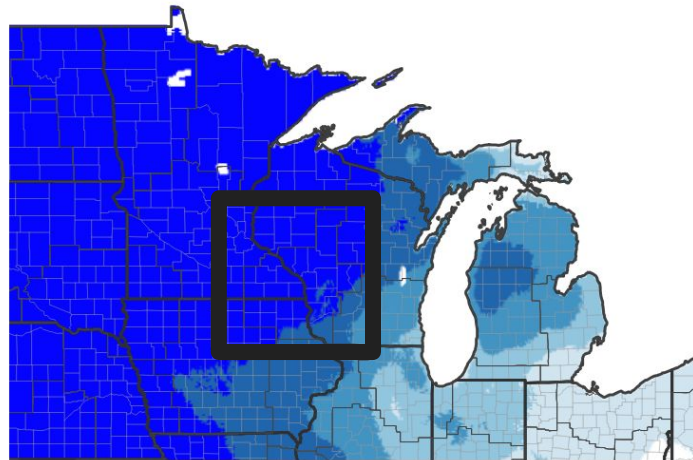




# Temperature

- During the past week (February 14-20) temperatures averaged well-below normal (14 to 22°F below normal) across the Upper Mississippi River Valley.
- During the past 30 days, temperature departures ranged from 3°F colder than normal to 3°F warmer than normal.

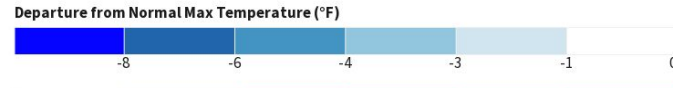
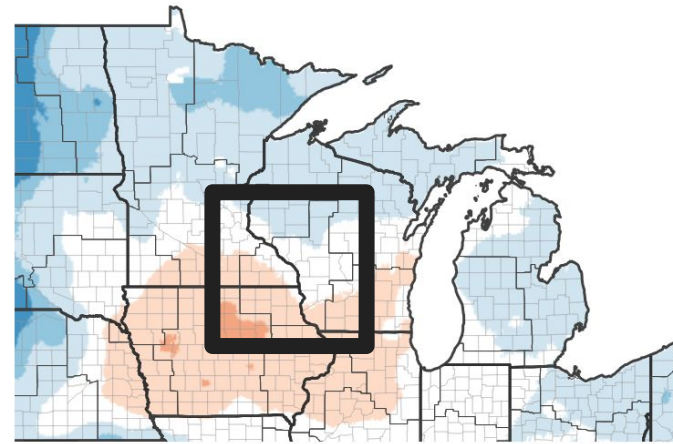
### 7-Day Temperature Anomaly



0 1 3 4 6 8

Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image Data Valid: 02/16/25

### 30-Day Temperature Anomaly



0 1 3 4 6 8

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

- As of the morning of February 18, fire danger remained low (fires are not easily started) across the Driftless Area.

## Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

## Mitigation Actions

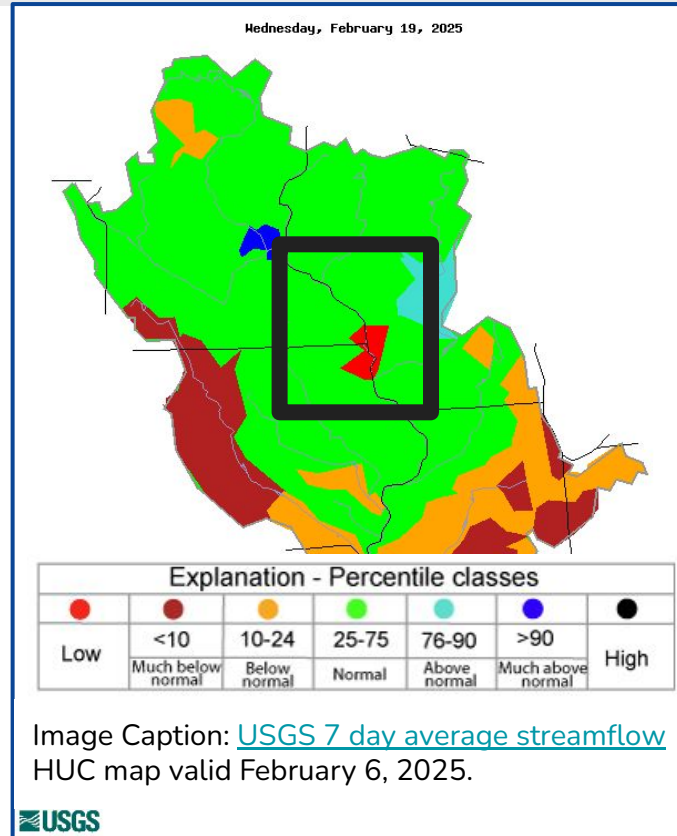
- No known actions are taking place in northeast Iowa, southeast Minnesota, and western Wisconsin.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- From September 1 through November 30 (meteorological autumn), precipitation totals ranged from 3.58" near Oelwein, IA to 11.16" near Hillsboro, WI. Precipitation anomalies ranged from 4" drier than normal to 1" wetter than normal. During this same time period, temperatures anomalies ranged from 3 to 5°F warmer than normal.
- This dryness continued into meteorological winter. From December through mid-February, precipitation totals ranged from 1.29" near Osage, IA to 3.35" near Warrens, WI. Precipitation anomalies ranged from a 1/2" to 2 1/2" drier than normal.
- As of the morning of February 6, rivers and stream flows were near normal in northeast Iowa, southeast Minnesota, and from southwest into central Wisconsin.





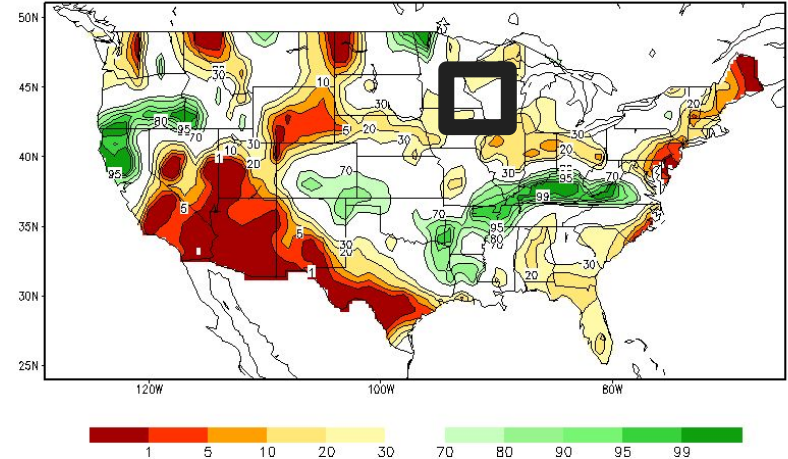
# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

As of the morning of February 18, 2025...

- fire danger remained low (fires are not easily started) across the Driftless Area.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
FEB 19, 2025



For updated DNR Fire Conditions consult the following Web Sites:

- [Iowa](#)
- [Minnesota](#)
- [Wisconsin](#)



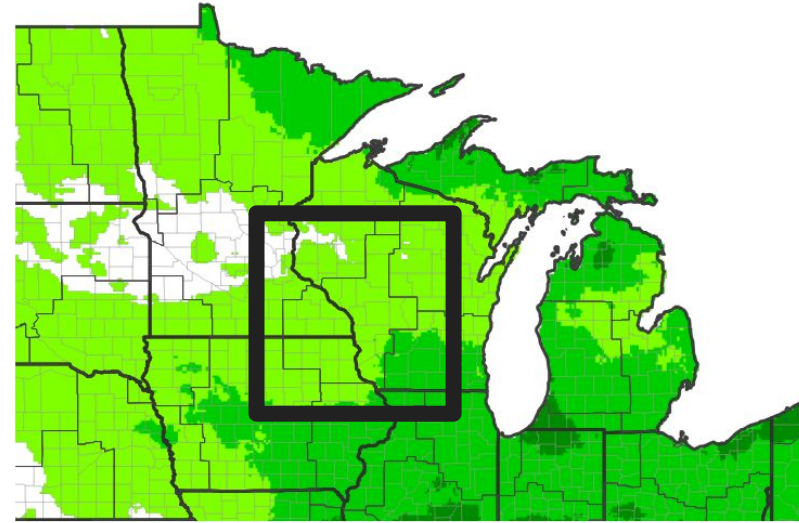




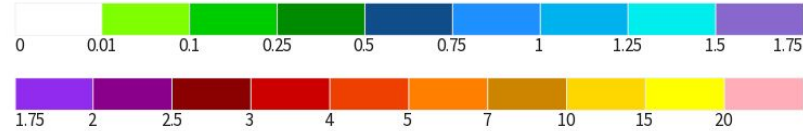
# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- From February 20 through February 27, the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is forecasting up to a tenth of an inch.
- Normal precipitation is around 1/4" for this time period.

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



**Predicted Inches of Precipitation**



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





# Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

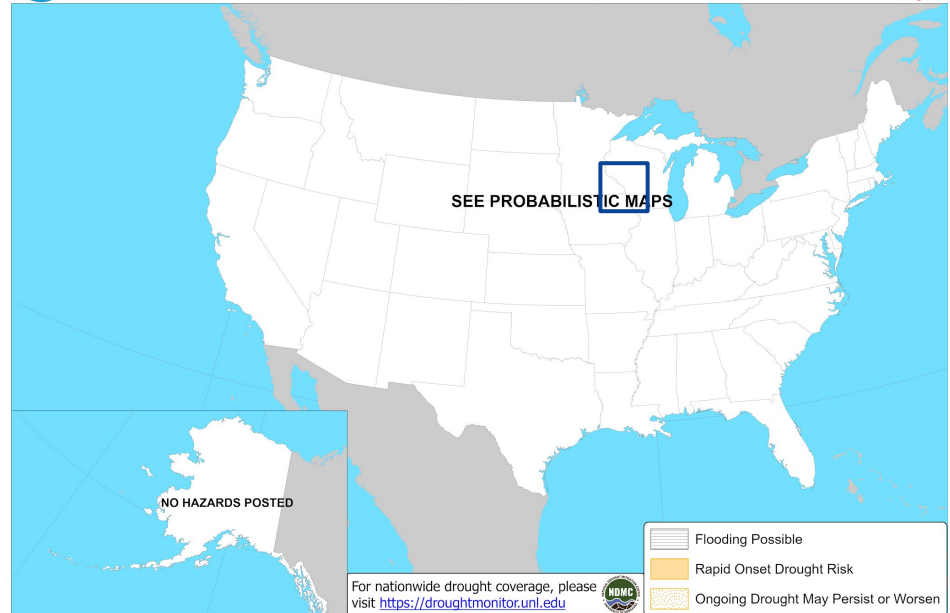
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- From February 28 through March 6, rapid onset drought (at least a 2-category degradation) is not expected in northeast Iowa, southeast Minnesota, and from southwest into central Wisconsin.



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

Valid: February 28 - March 6, 2025



Climate Prediction Center

Released: February 20, 2025 3:00 PM EST

Follow us:

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



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
La Crosse, WI

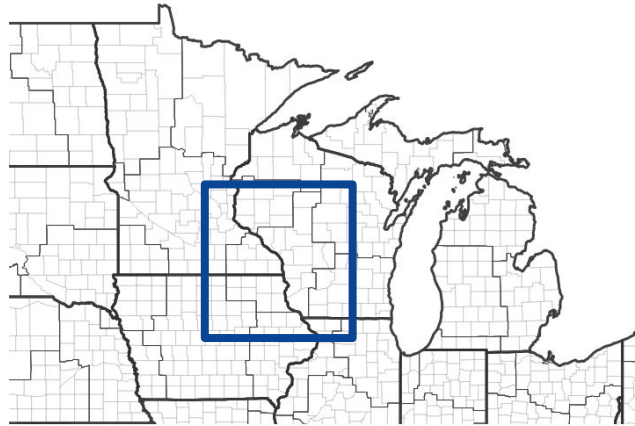


# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- From March through May, the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) has equal chances of warmer-, near-, and colder-than-normal for the Upper Mississippi River Valley.
- The odds are tilted to wetter-than-normal (33 to 40%) east of an Eau Claire, WI to New Hampton, IA line.

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



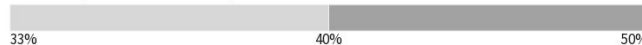
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



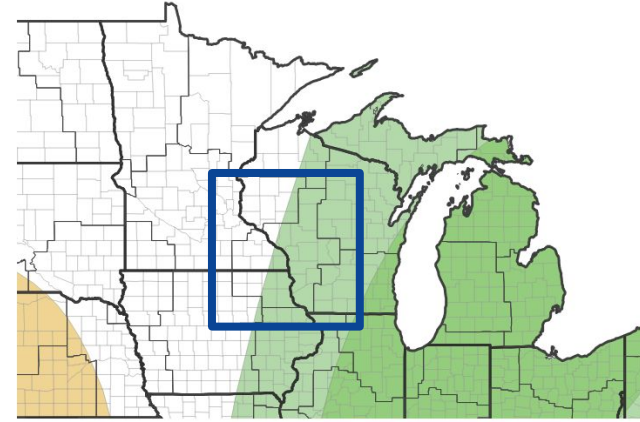
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 02/20/25

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



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 02/20/25



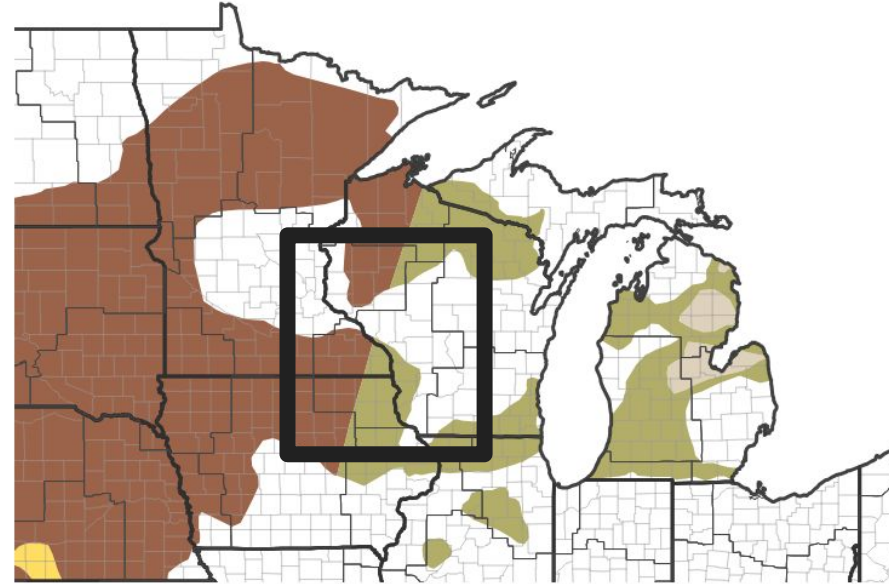


# Drought Outlook

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

- The drought is expected to either improve or end by the end of May east of Highway 52 and persist across the remainder of the area.

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



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 02/20/25

