



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

Valid March 20, 2025

Issued By: WFO La Crosse, WI

Contact Information: w-arx.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated Thursday, March 27, 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**



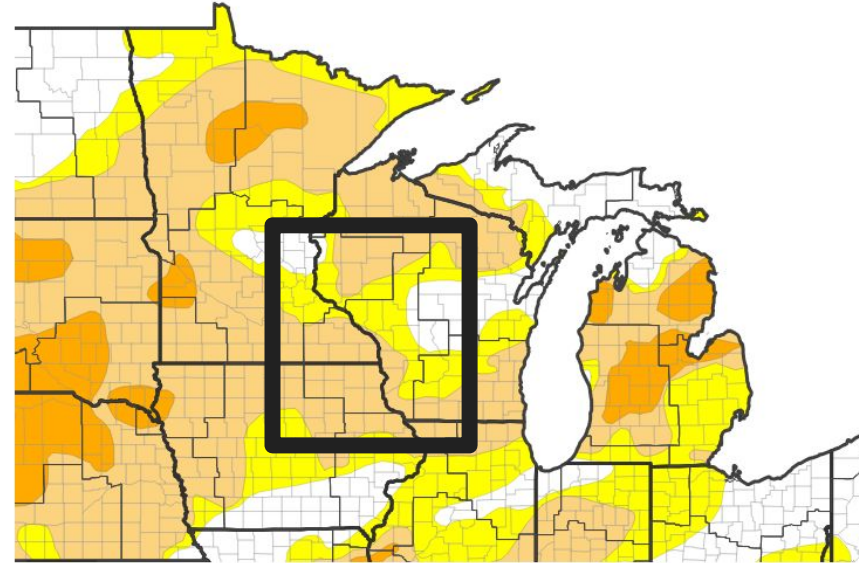


U.S. Drought Monitor

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: 03/18/25



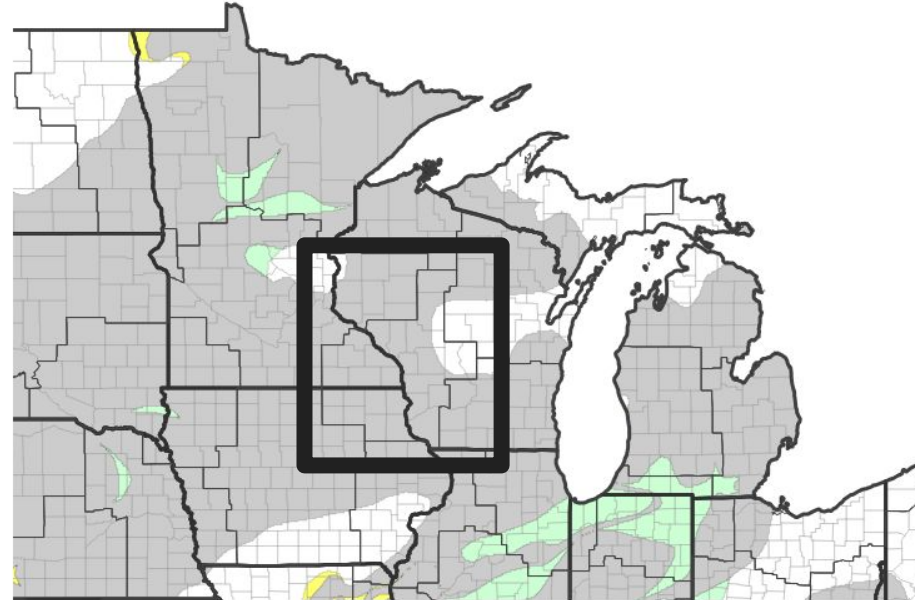


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- 1-Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - During the past week, 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: 03/18/25

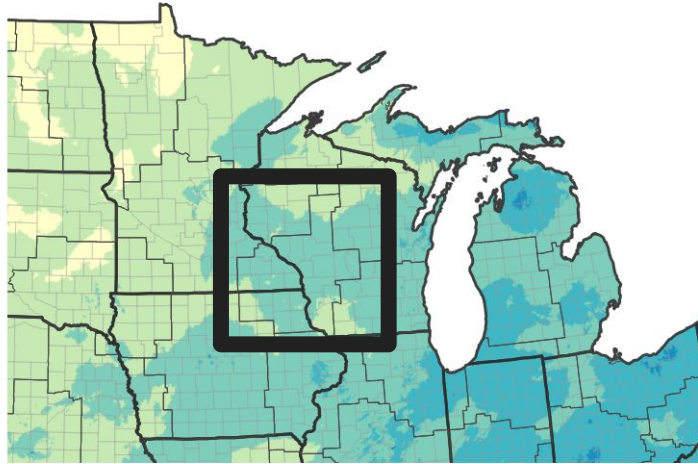




Precipitation

- The dryness from meteorological autumn continued into meteorological winter.
- This resulted in 2 to 7" deficits along and west of the Mississippi River.

90-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

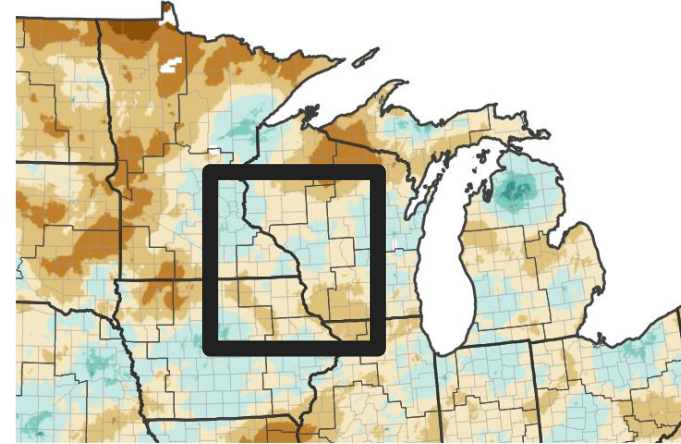


Inches of Precipitation

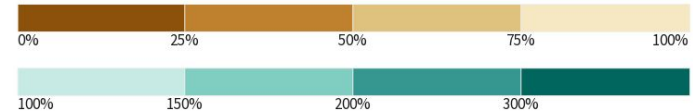


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/20/25

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: 03/20/25

- While March has been on the wetter side (precipitation anomalies from near normal to 2" wetter than normal), the amounts have not been enough to alleviate the deficits that grew during these 2 seasons.

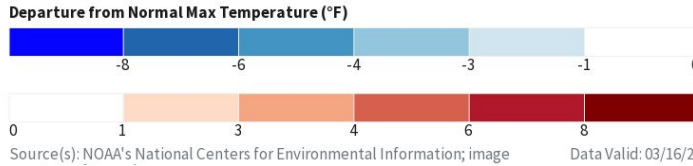
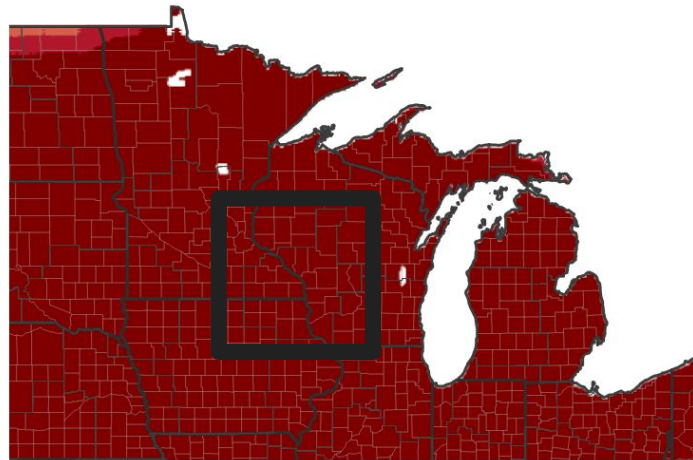




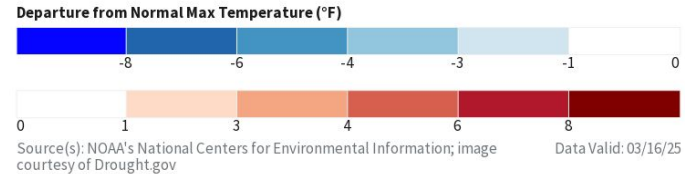
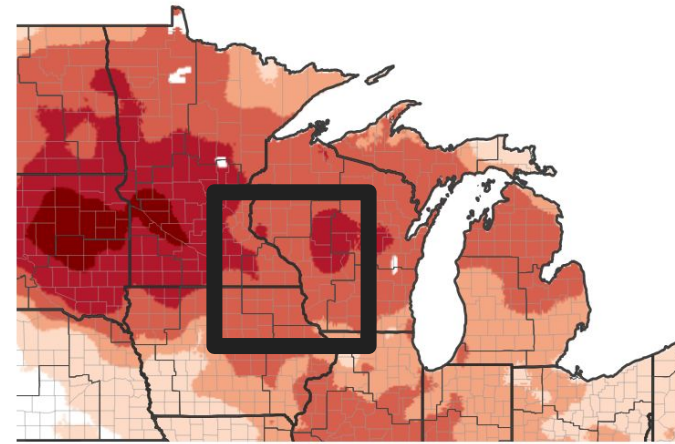
Temperature

- During the past week (March 9-16) temperatures averaged well-above normal (+10 to +16° F) across the Upper Mississippi River Valley.
- During the past 30 days, temperature departures ranged from 4°F to 8°F warmer than normal.

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

- 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 March 20, fire danger was low (fires are not easily started) to high (fires start easily and spread at a fast rate) across northeast Iowa, moderate (fires start easily and spread at a moderate rate) across southeast Minnesota and Taylor County in north-central Wisconsin, and low elsewhere in southwest and central Wisconsin.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

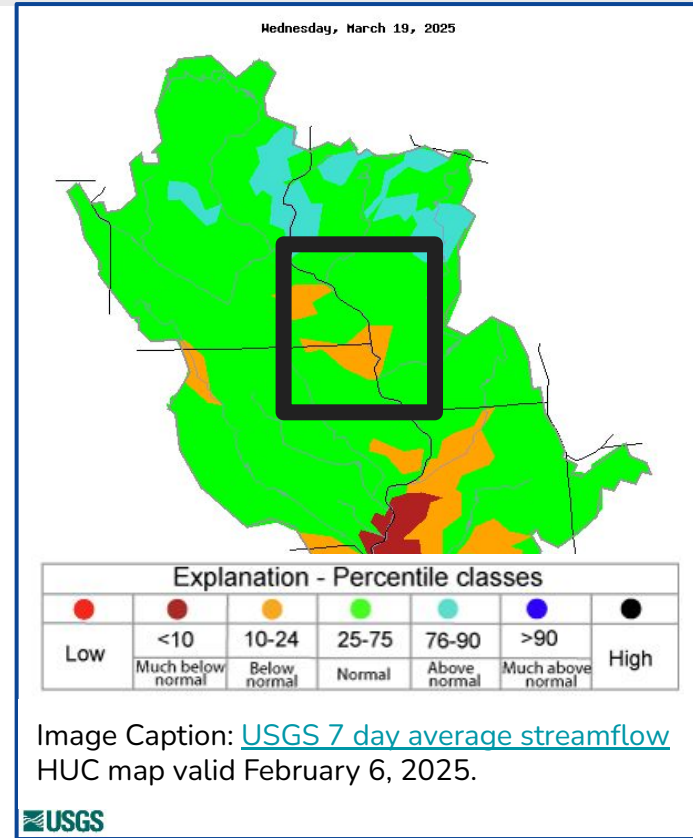
- No known actions are taking place in northeast Iowa, southeast Minnesota, and western Wisconsin.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- The dryness from meteorological autumn continued into meteorological winter. This resulted in 2 to 7" deficits along and west of the Mississippi River.
- While March has been on the wetter side (precipitation anomalies from near normal to 2" wetter than normal), the amounts have not been enough to alleviate the deficits that grew during these 2 seasons. As a result, abnormally dry (D0) to moderate (D1) drought continue across much of the La Crosse Hydrologic Service Area (HSA).
- As of the morning of March 20, rivers and stream flows were below to near normal in northeast Iowa and southeast Minnesota, and near normal from southwest into central Wisconsin.





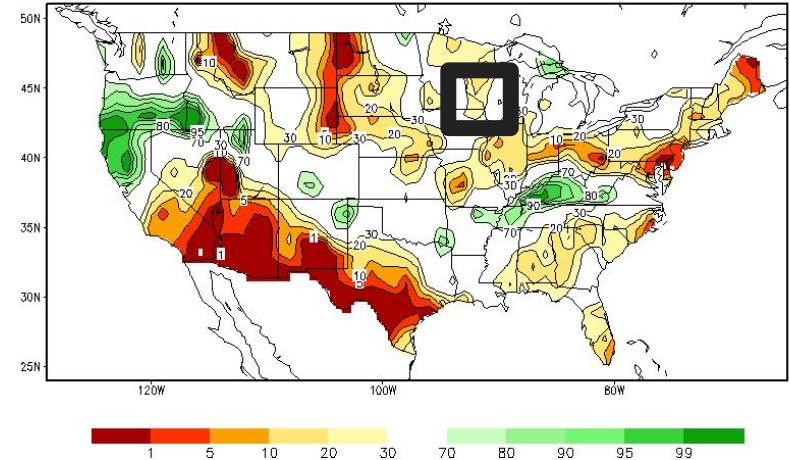
Fire Hazard Impacts

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

As of the morning of March 20, 2025...

- fire danger was low (fires are not easily started) to high (fires start easily and spread at a fast rate) across northeast Iowa, moderate (fires start easily and spread at a moderate rate) across southeast Minnesota and Taylor County in north-central Wisconsin, and low elsewhere in southwest and central Wisconsin.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
MAR 19, 2025



For updated DNR Fire Conditions consult the following Web Sites:

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

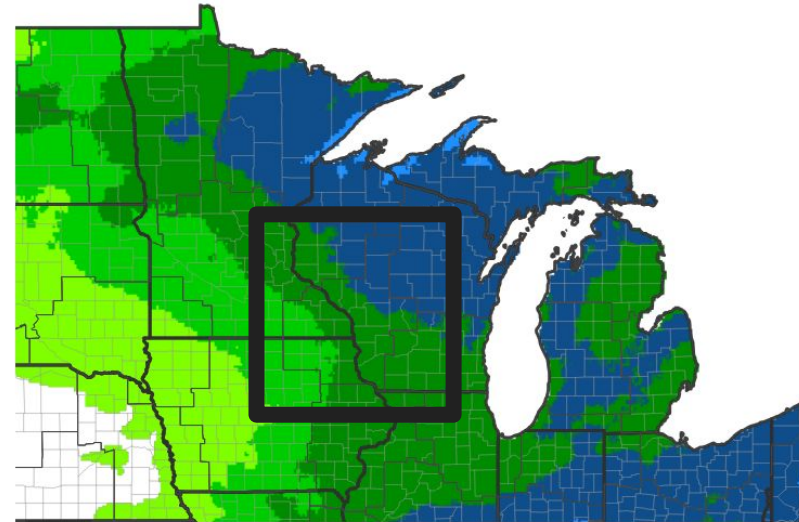




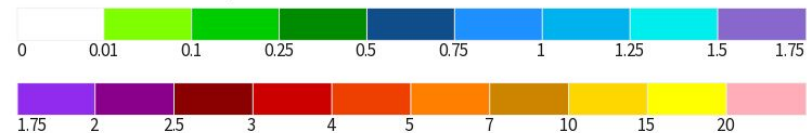
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- From March 20 through March 27, the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is forecasting a tenth to a half-inch south of Interstate 94 and half to three-quarters of an inch elsewhere.
- Normal precipitation is around 1/2" for this time period.

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



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 03/20/25





Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

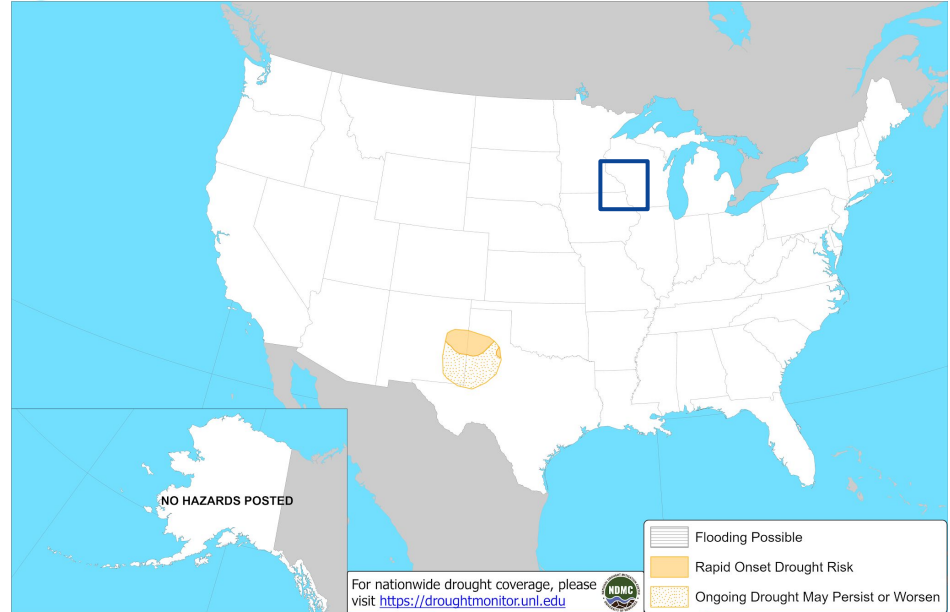
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- From March 28 through April 3, 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: March 28 - April 3, 2025



Climate Prediction Center

Released: March 20, 2025 3:00 PM EDT

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
La Crosse, WI

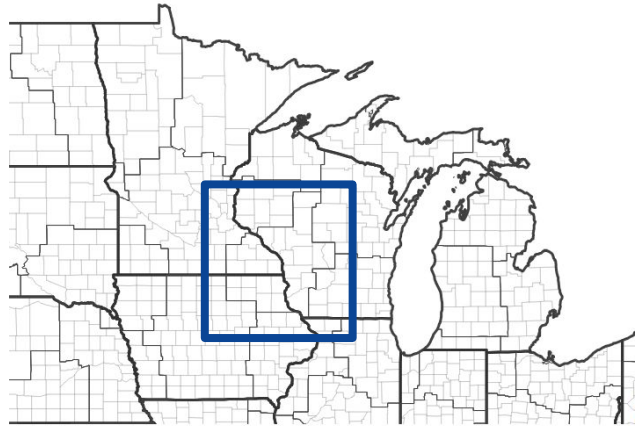


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- During April, 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 toward wetter-than-normal (33 to 50%).

Monthly Temperature Outlook for April 1, 2025–April 30, 2025



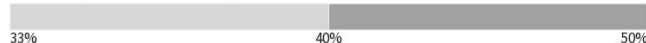
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



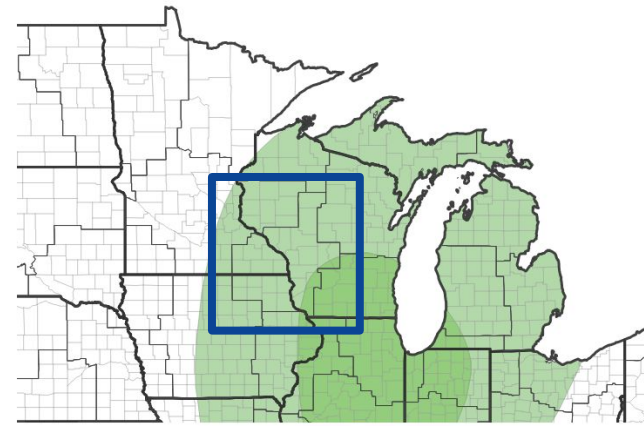
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

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Monthly Precipitation Outlook for April 1, 2025–April 30, 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

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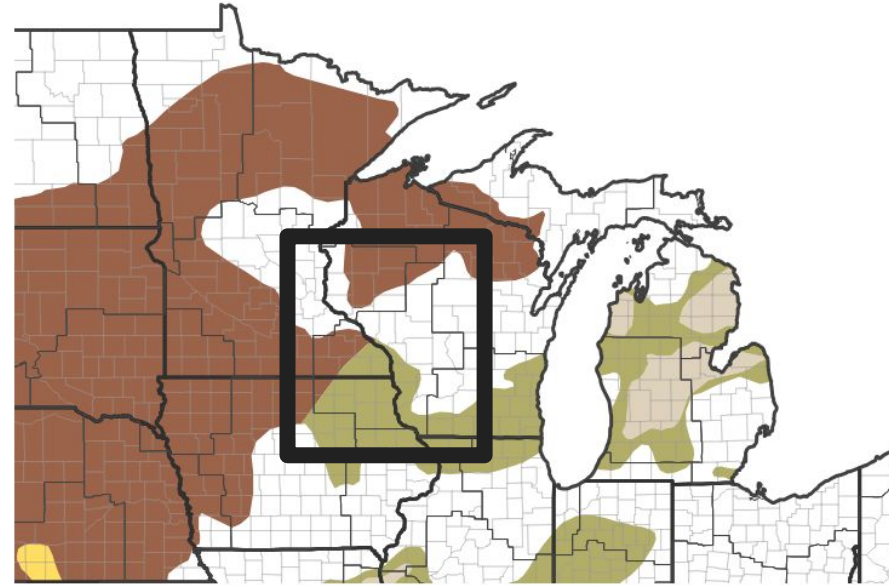


Drought Outlook

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 June south of a Charles City, IA to Medford, WI line and persist across the remainder of the area.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for March 20, 2025–June 30, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 03/20/25

