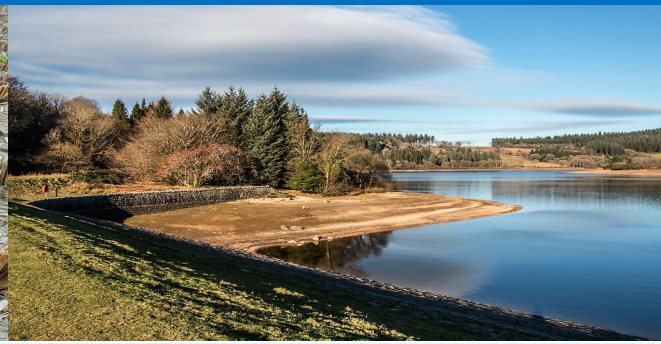
Drought Information Statement for Northeast IA, Southeast MN, & Western, WI

Valid December 28, 2023

Issued By: WFO La Crosse, WI

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

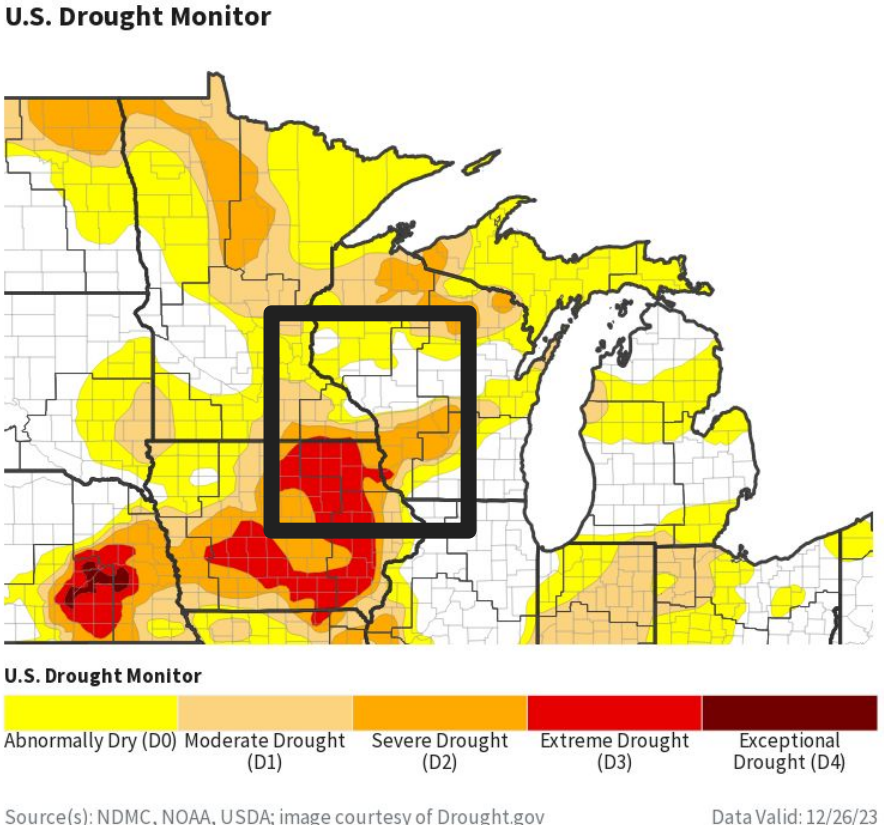
- This product will be updated January 18, 2023 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/ARX/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.



U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for Northeast IA, southeast MN, & Western IA

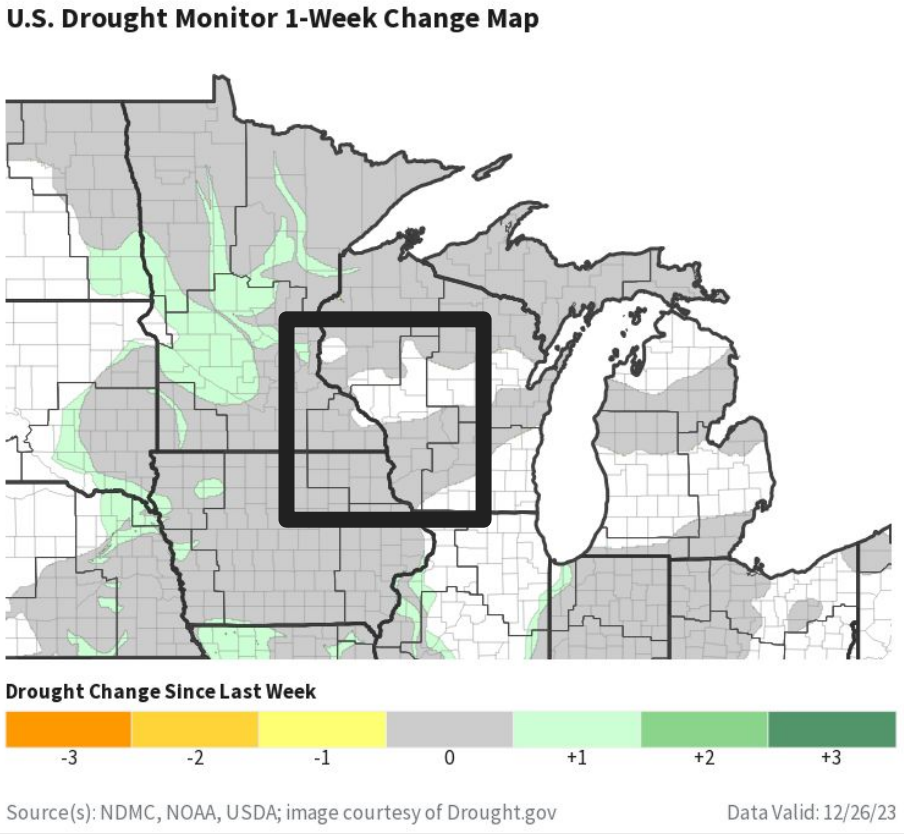
- Drought intensity and extent:
  - Northeast Iowa: Severe (D2) to extreme (D3) drought.
  - Southeast Minnesota: Abnormally dry (D0) to extreme (D3) drought.
  - Western Wisconsin: Abnormally dry (D0) to extreme (D3) drought. The worst of the drought is mainly along and south of Interstate 90.



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

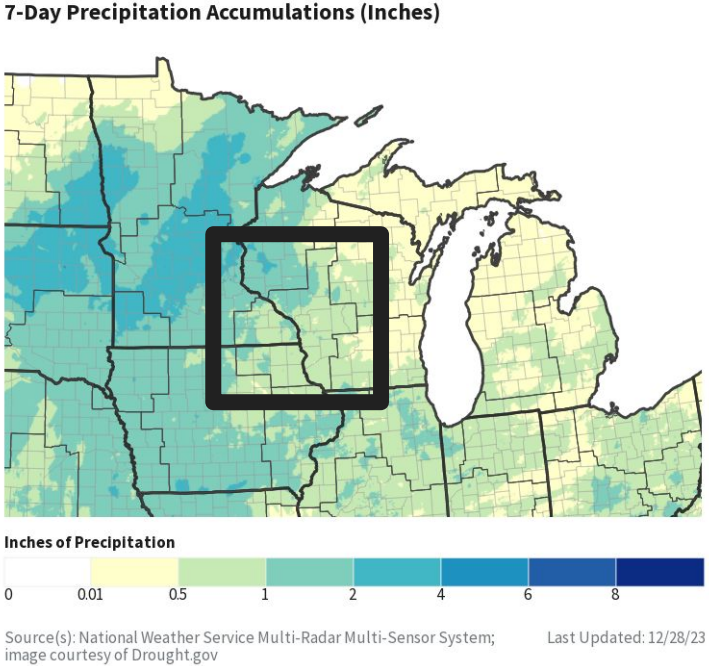
Link to the latest 4-week change map for Northeast IA, southeast MN, & Western IA

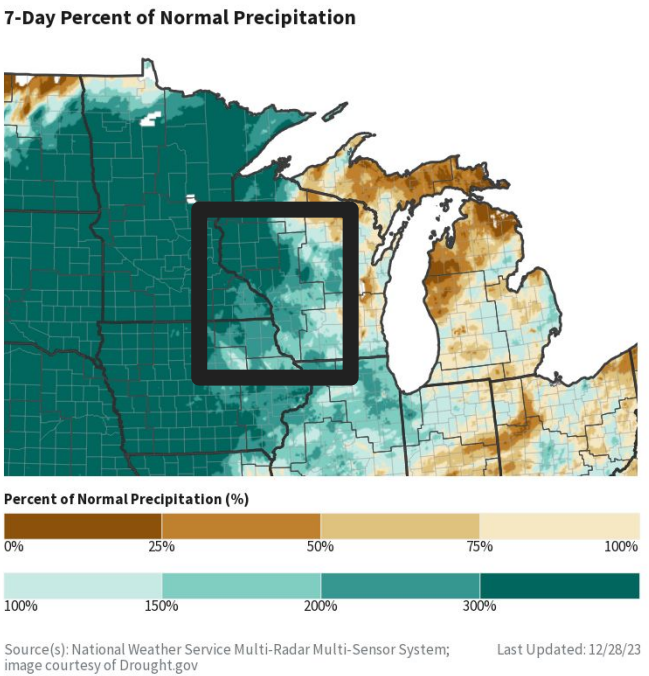
- 1-Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - During the past week, there has been no change in the drought situation.



Precipitation

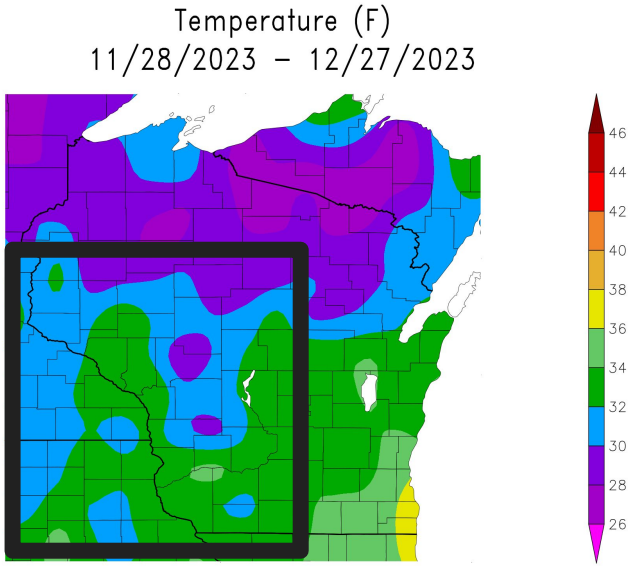
- From December 21 through December 28, precipitation ranged from 0.48” at Sparta, WI to 1.42” at St. Ansgar, IA.
- Normally, 0.30” of precipitation falls.
- While this precipitation was above-normal, it was not significant enough to reduce the long-term deficits.





Temperature

- During the past month (November 28 through December 27), temperatures ranged from 6°F to 10°F warmer than normal.



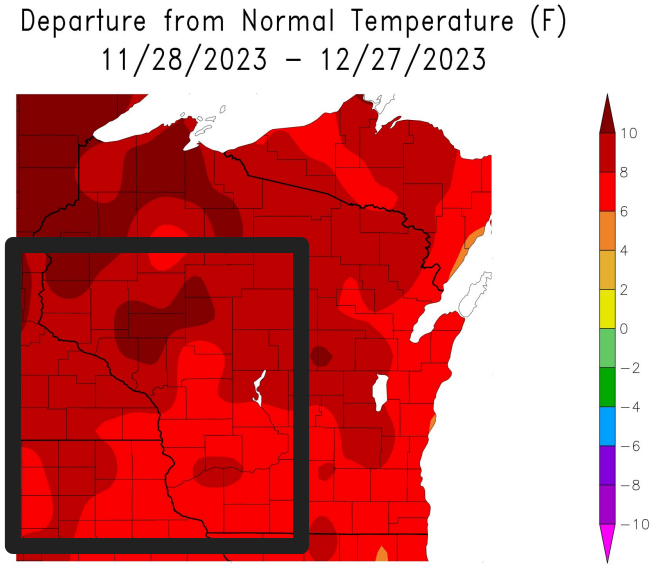


Image Captions:

- Left - Average Temperature for northeast IA, southeast MN, & Western WI
- Right - Departure from Normal Temperature for northeast IA, southeast MN, & Western WI
- Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
- Data over the past 30 days ending December 27, 2023

Summary of Impacts

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

Fire Hazard Impacts

- As of the morning of December 28, fire danger was high (fires start easily and spread at a high rate) across northeast Iowa.
- Meanwhile, there was low (fires start easily and spread at a low rate) fire danger in southeast Minnesota. and western Wisconsin.

Mitigation Actions

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

Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- From November 28 through December 26, precipitation totals ranged from 0.28" near Stewartville, MN to 1.56” near Steuben, WI.
- During this period, typically 1.4 to 1.8” of precipitation falls.
- With generally below-normal precipitation falling during the month, there was no change in the drought situation.
- River and stream flows are either normal or not ranked in northeast Iowa and southeast Minnesota. Meanwhile, in western Wisconsin, they were normal south of Interstate 90 and ranged from normal to above-normal across the remainder of the area.

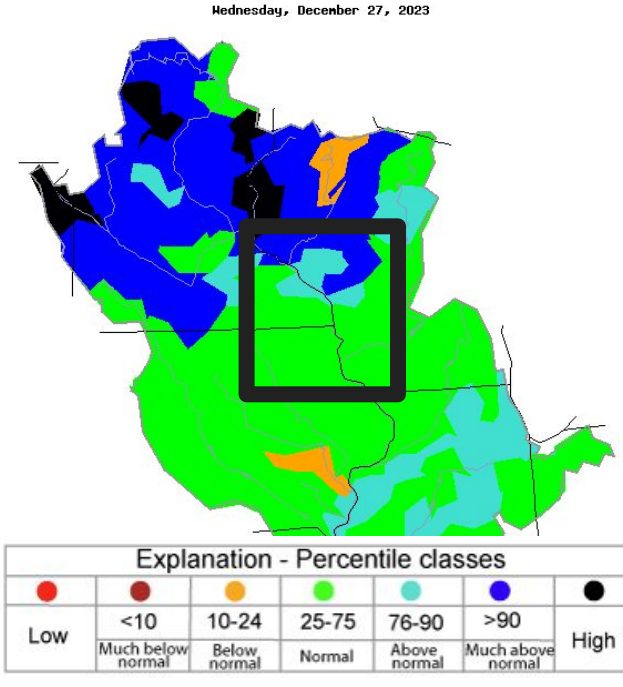
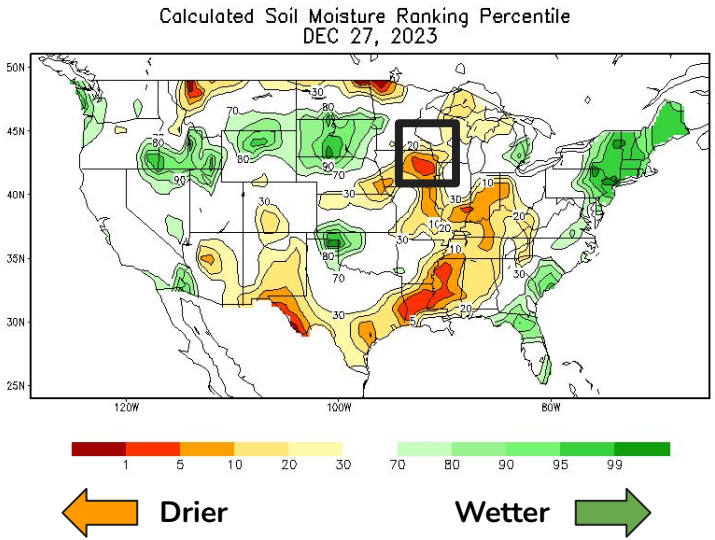
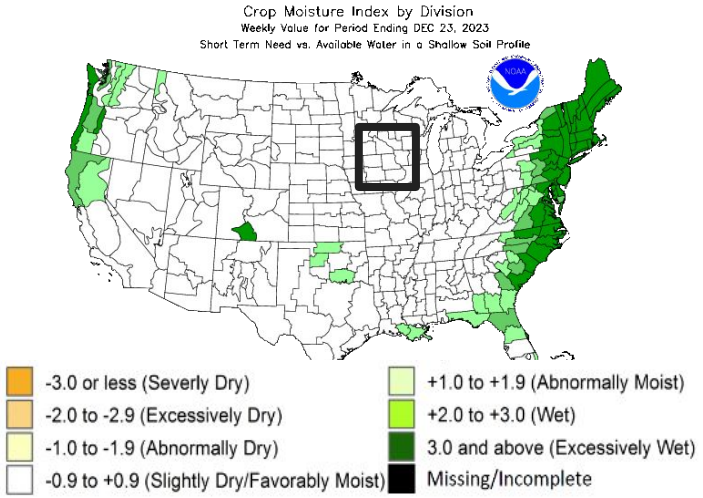


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid December 27, 2023.

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture remains below normal along and south of Interstate 90.





For more details:

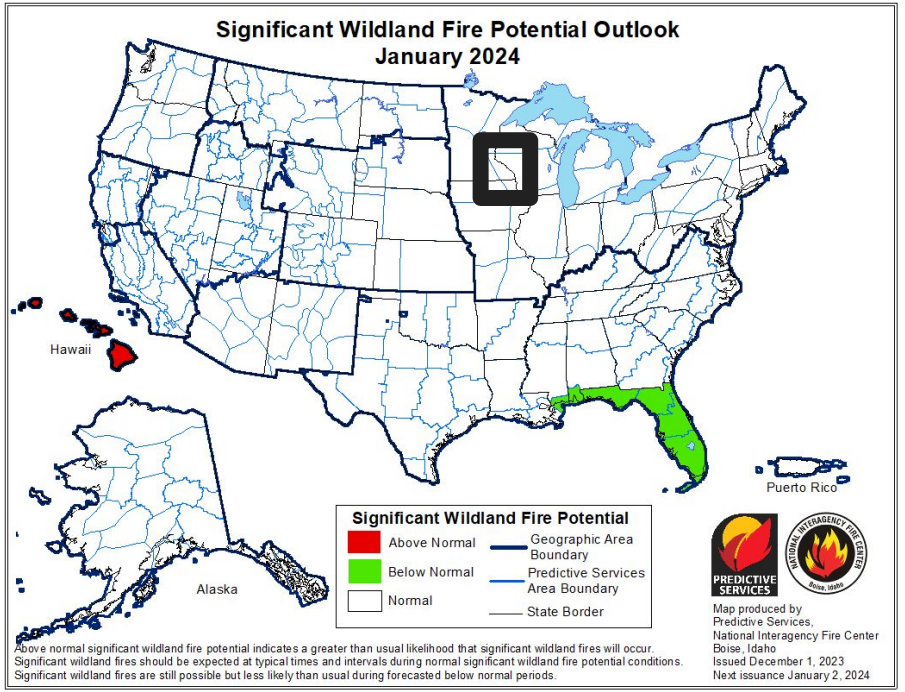
- Iowa
- Minnesota
- Wisconsin

Fire Hazard Impacts

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

As of the morning of December 28,

- Fire danger was high (fires start easily and spread at a high rate) across northeast Iowa.
- Meanwhile, there was low (fires start easily and spread at a low rate) fire danger in southeast Minnesota and western Wisconsin.

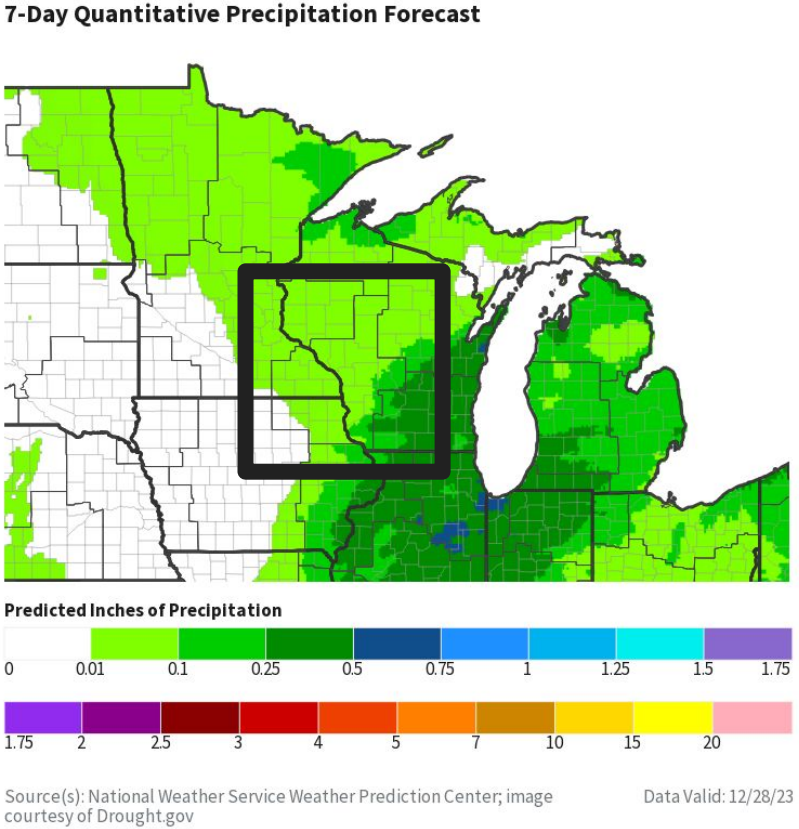


For updated DNR Fire Conditions consult the following Web Sites:

- Iowa
- Minnesota
- Wisconsin

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

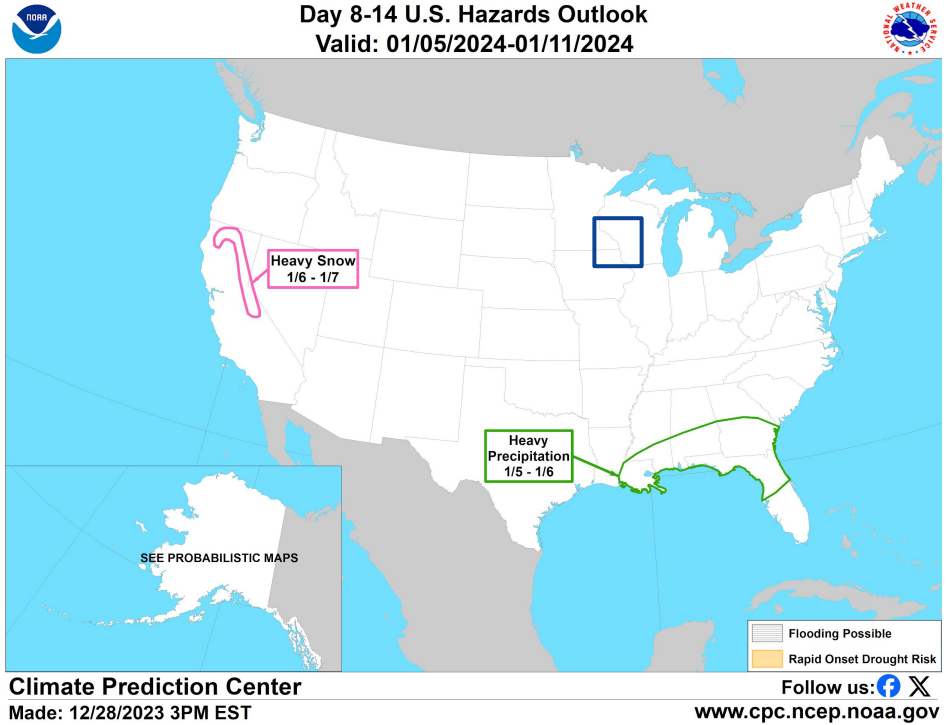
- From December 28 through January 2, the Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is forecasting up to a quarter inch.
- The highest totals are forecast to be in southwest and central Wisconsin.
- Normal rainfall is around 3-tenths of an inch for this time period.



Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day Temperature Outlook and Precipitation Outlook.

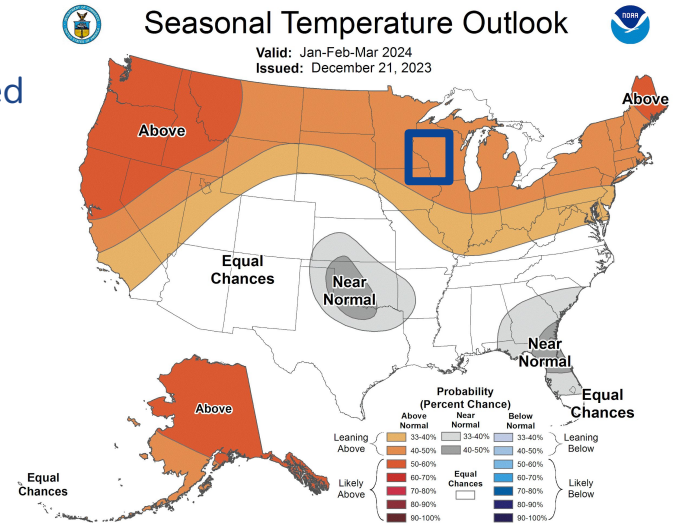
- With enhanced chances of above-normal temperature and near-normal precipitation from January 5 through January 11, rapid onset drought (at least a 2-category degradation) is not expected.

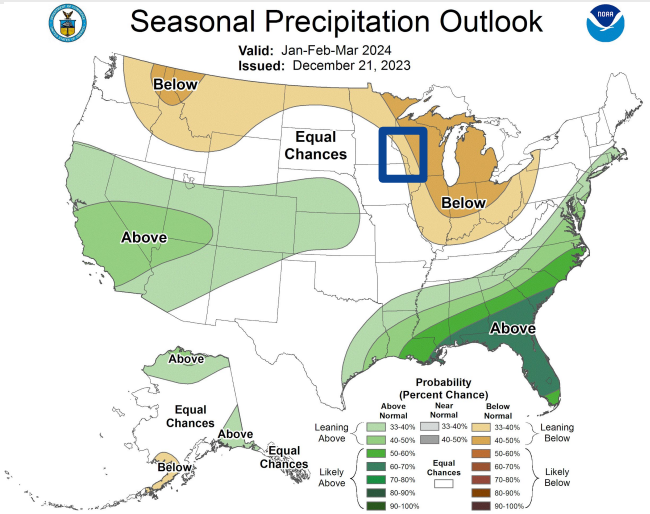


Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- From January through March, there is enhanced chances for warmer-than-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation.





Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal drought outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- According to the latest U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook (December 21 through March 31), the drought is expected to either develop or persist along and south of Interstate 90.