



# Drought Information Statement for NE Minnesota & NW Wisconsin

Valid October 24, 2024

Issued By: NWS Duluth, MN

## Contact Information:

- Next Update: Friday, November 8, 2024
  - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
  - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/DLH/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
  - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
- 
- Moderate to Severe Drought conditions have continued to expand across the Northland early this fall. A few rounds of lighter precipitation have not been enough to alleviate the drought.



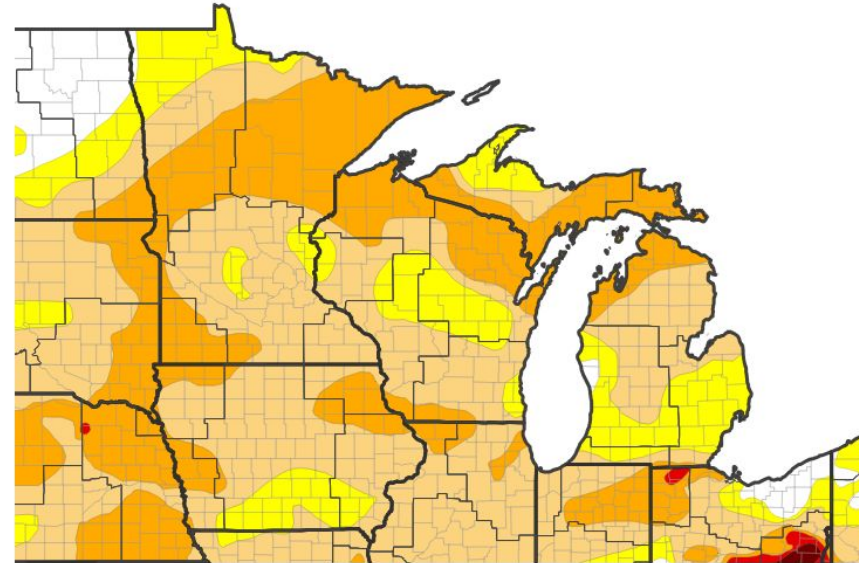


# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Arrowhead, Twin Ports, South Shore, parts of inland northwest Wisconsin, and north-central Minnesota.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: The remainder of inland northwest Wisconsin not in a Severe Drought, parts of east-central Minnesota, and far north-central Minnesota.
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Near International Falls, St. Croix River Valley, and far southern Price County

## U.S. Drought Monitor



## U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 10/22/24



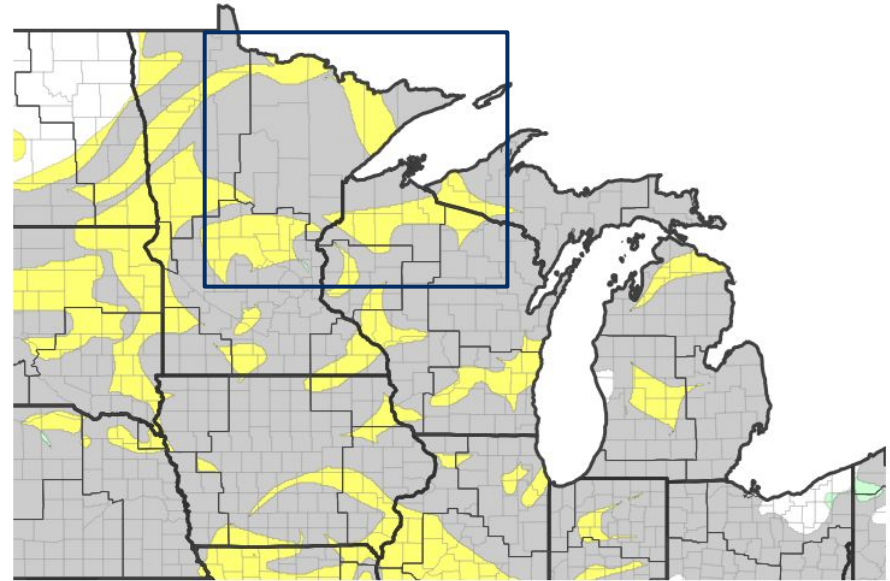


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

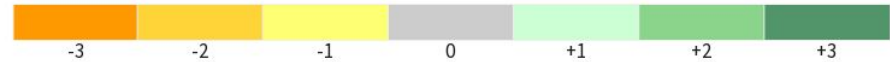
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for NE Minnesota and NW Wisconsin

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Inland northwest Wisconsin portions of the Minnesota Arrowhead, far north-central Minnesota, and small portions of Pine and southern Cass counties in Minnesota.
  - No Change: The remainder of the Northland that didn't see drought worsen.
  - Drought Improved: Not Applicable

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: 10/22/24



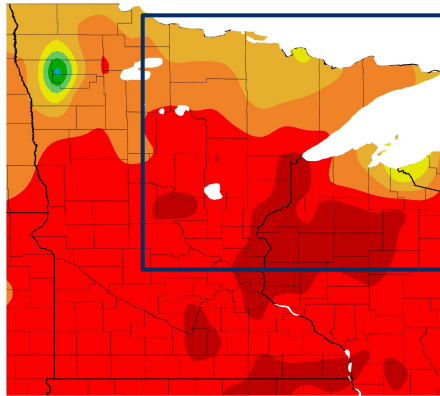


# Precipitation

Precipitation (sum of liquid and melted frozen) that was observed in the Northland over the last month

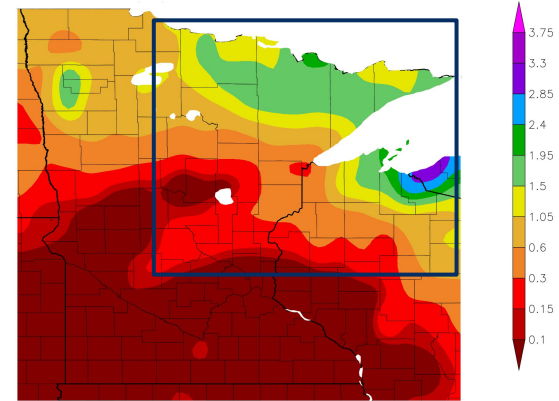
- Regional precipitation in the past month has been below to well-below normal.
  - Only north-central MN, the Arrowhead, and portions of the South Shore have seen over 1" of rain since late September.
  - There is a pocket of near-normal precipitation in northern Iron County, WI.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
9/24/2024 – 10/23/2024



Generated 10/24/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Precipitation (in)  
9/24/2024 – 10/23/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers Generated 10/24/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center



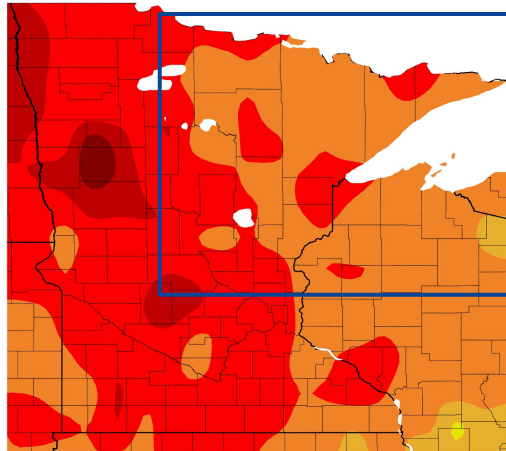


# Temperature

Temperatures that were observed in the Northland over the last month

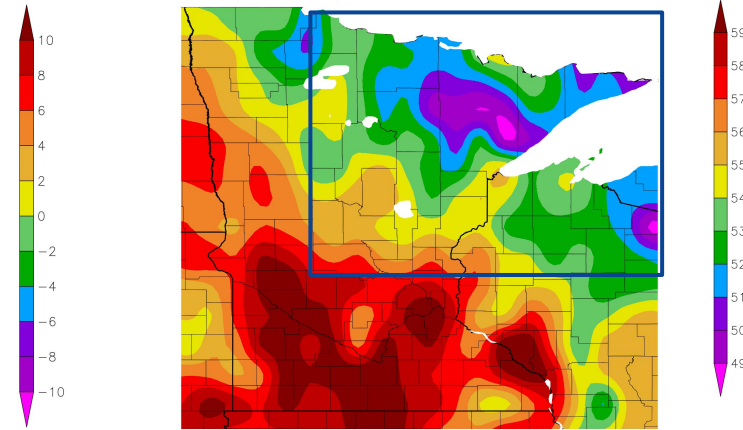
- Temperatures have been an average of 4°F to 8°F above normal across the entire Northland over the past month.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
9/24/2024 – 10/23/2024



Generated 10/24/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Temperature (F)  
9/24/2024 – 10/23/2024



rated 10/24/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Ce

NOAA Regional Climate Centers





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows are running below to much below normal around the region ([USGS Streamflow](#)).

## Agricultural Impacts

- Pastures provide very little or no feed. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock conditions.
- Very low soil moisture

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire danger is Moderate to High for north-central into east-central Minnesota ([MN Fire Danger](#)). Fire danger is also High for northwest Wisconsin ([WI Fire Danger](#)).

## Other Impacts

- Increased irrigation of gardens and golf courses.
- Less water for wildlife.
- Change in wetlands or swamps.

## Mitigation Actions

- Burn Restrictions - Four counties in [northeast Minnesota](#) have 'Elevated Burning Restrictions', with several counties in east-central Minnesota having either 'Restricted' or 'No Open Burning - Campfires Allowed' restrictions in place.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- **Northeast Minnesota** - Streams are running much below normal for all basins except far north-central MN.
- **Northwest Wisconsin** - Streams are running much below normal for basins on the South Shore and are below to near normal for inland northwest Wisconsin.

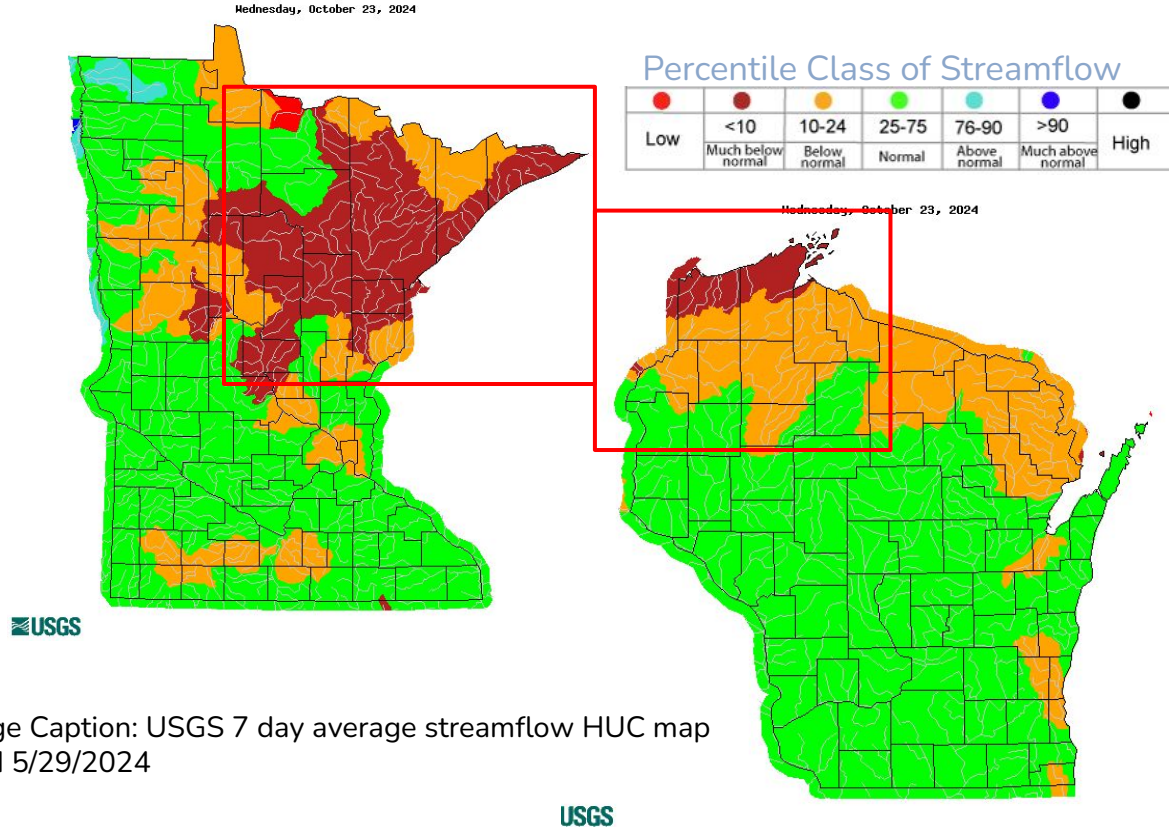


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 5/29/2024

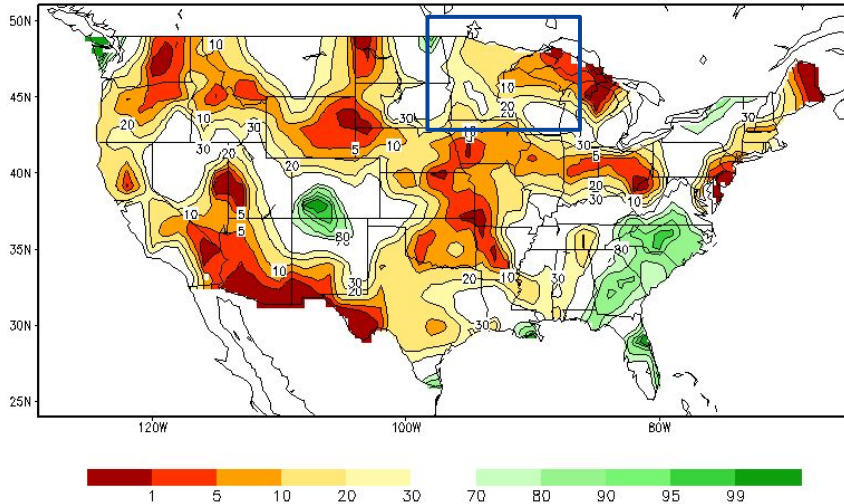




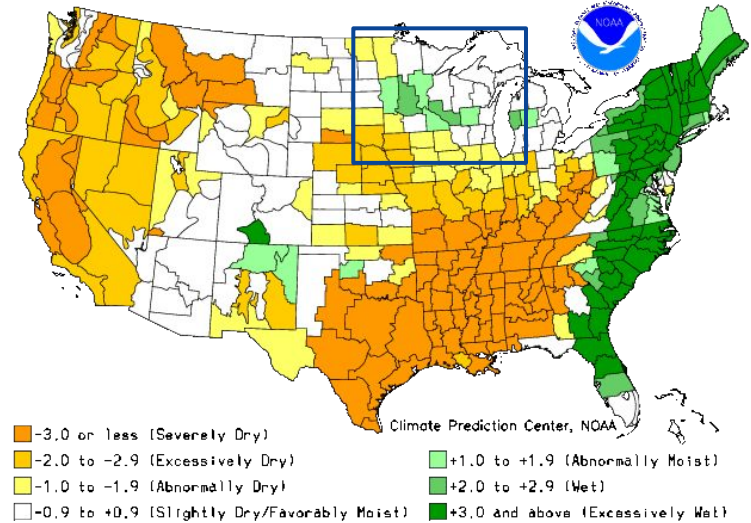
# Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is below normal in the Northland.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
OCT 23, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division  
Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 19, 2024  
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile



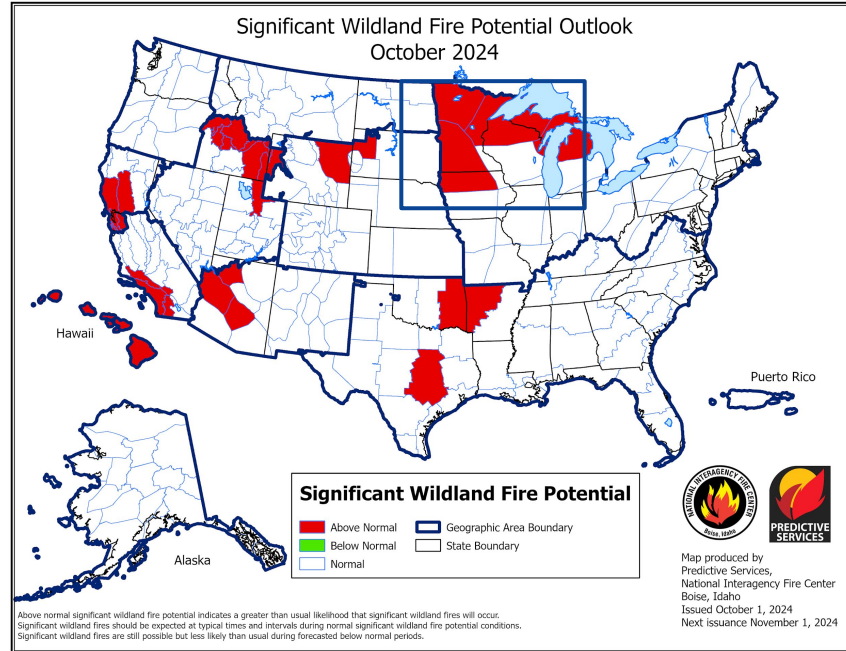




# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Below to well-below average precipitation and very warm temperatures in late Summer and early Fall are creating persistent elevated fire hazards as shown by the **Significant Wildland Fire Potential** continuing to be **above normal** for the remainder of October.



Latest MN burn ban and fire danger information available [here](#).

Latest WI burn ban and fire danger information available [here](#).



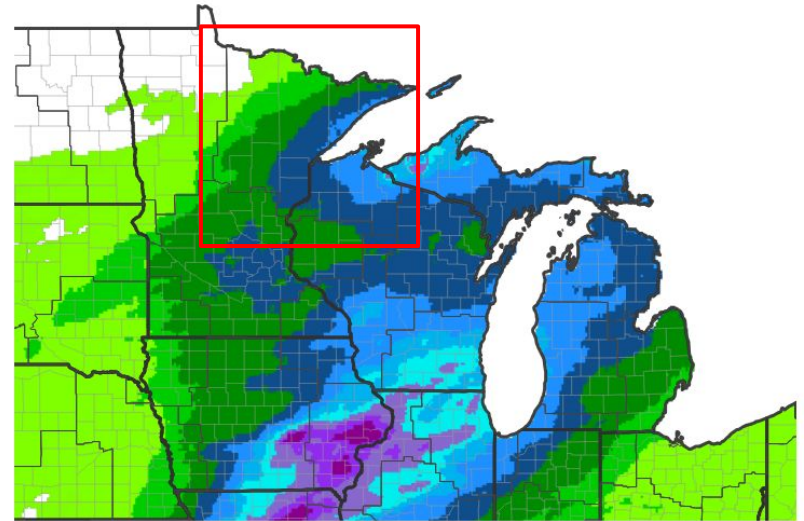


# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

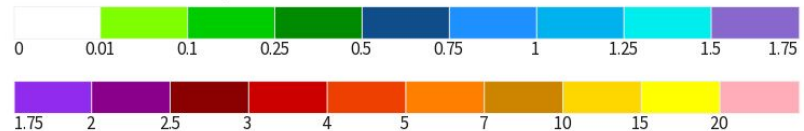
Amount of liquid equivalent precipitation forecast over the next seven days

- One tenth to one-quarter of an inch of rainfall is forecast to occur Thursday evening and night, 10/24, as a cold front crosses over the Upper Midwest.
- An additional cold front is forecast to move through the Northland on Tuesday, 10/29, bringing rain with and behind it Tuesday, 10/29, and Wednesday, 10/30. This additional light to moderate rainfall and perhaps a few thunderstorms could bring an additional one-quarter to three-quarters of an inch of rain to the Northland.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 24, 2024-October 31, 2024



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 10/24/24





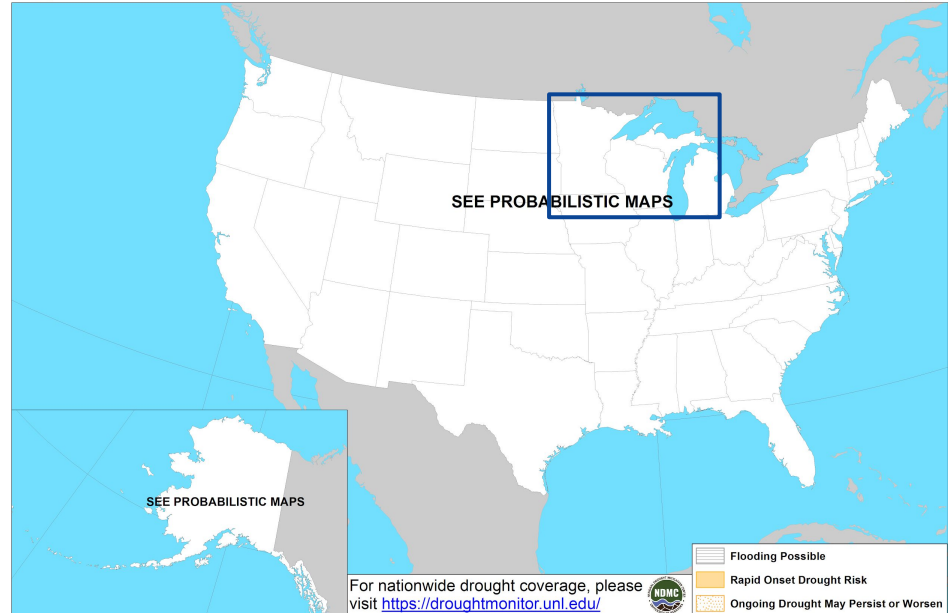
# Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

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

- No rapid onset drought expected.



Day 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook  
Valid: 11/01/2024-11/07/2024



Climate Prediction Center  
Made: 10/24/2024 3PM EDT

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



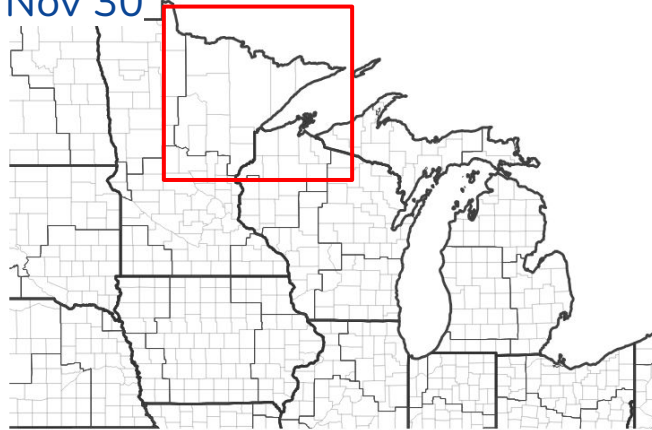


# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Longer-term forecasts show equal chances for above or below normal precipitation.
- Longer-term forecasts show a slight lean (33-40% chance) of above normal temperatures being favored in the month of November.

## Precipitation Outlook Nov 1 - Nov 30



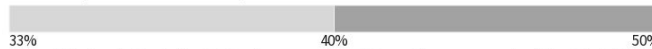
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



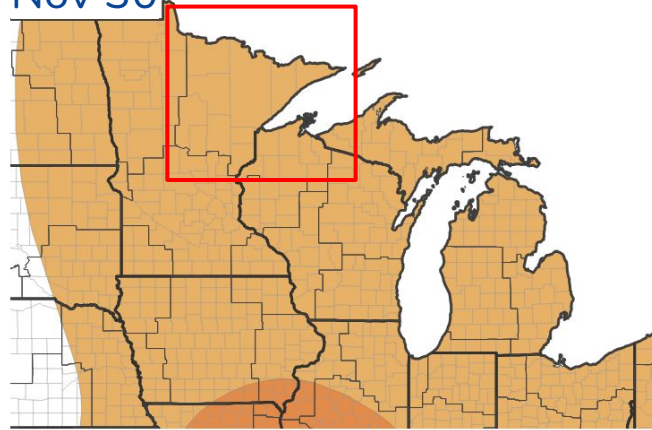
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 10/17/24

## Temperature Outlook Nov 1 - Nov 30



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: 10/17/24



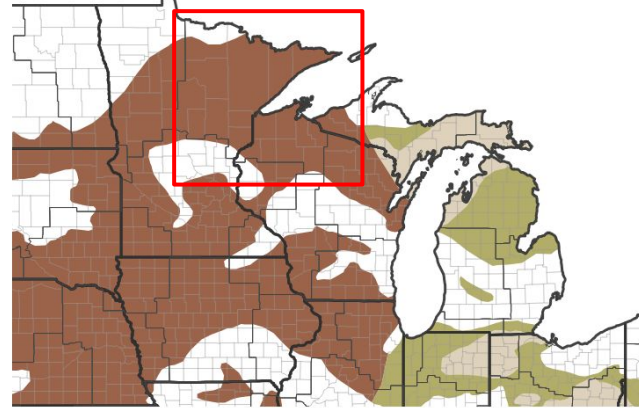


# Drought Outlook

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

- Most of the Northland is currently experiencing drought, with the drought expected to persist through at least January.

## Seasonal Outlook Late October 2024 - January 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 10/17/24

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  
Duluth, MN