

# **Spring Flood Outlook**

### **Key Messages**

→ The overall spring flood threat is <u>Below-Normal</u> due to ongoing drought conditions.

### **Important Information**

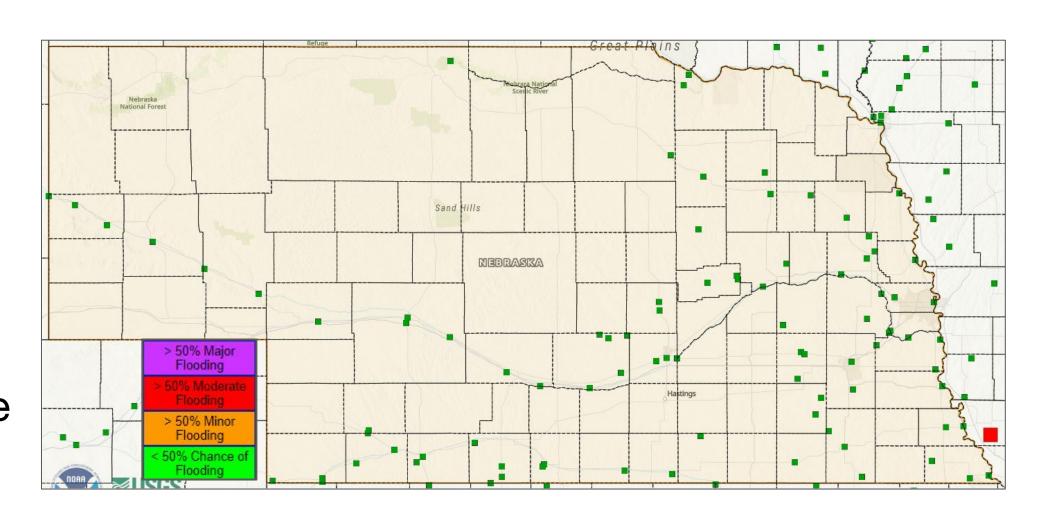
- → While there is some snow away from the mountains, the plains snowpack is not substantial.
- → Area rivers have a growing ice cover, lending to a continued ice jam threat.
- → This information will be updated again on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025.



# Spring Flood Outlook (Nebraska)

### **Key Messages**

- → The overall spring flood threat for Nebraska is Below-Normal
- → Based on current conditions, there are no areas of concern in Nebraska.



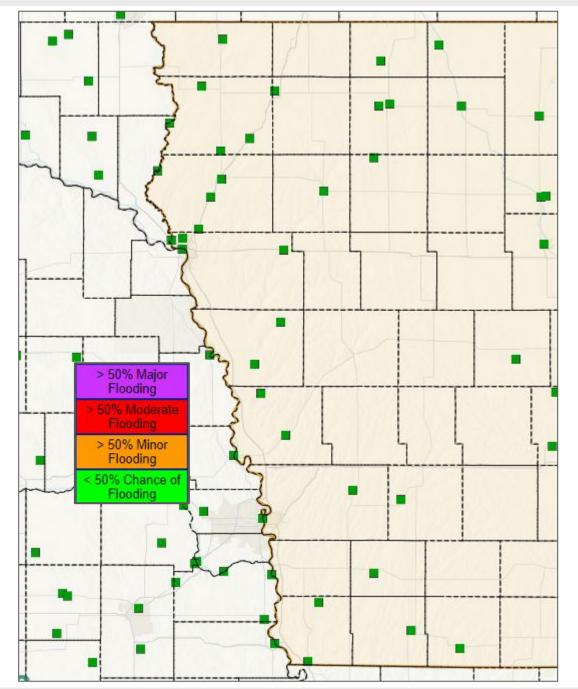


# Spring Flood Outlook (Iowa)

### **Key Messages**

→ The overall spring flood threat for western lowa is Below-Normal

→ Based on current conditions, there are no areas of concern in western lowa.





# Spring Flood Outlook

Flood Risk Contribution Factor	Contribution to Flood Risk		
Snowpack (Plains)	Low		
Snowpack (Missouri River headwaters)	Low		
Snowpack (Platte River headwaters)	Normal		
Soil Moisture	Low		
Frost Depth	Normal		
River Ice Thickness	Normal (increasing threat)		
Precipitation Outlook	Low		

All flood indicators point to a below-normal risk for Spring flooding.





# Spring Flood Outlook

River Basin	Flood Risk
Niobrara River	Below-Normal
Missouri River (below Sioux City to Platte River)	Below-Normal
Missouri River (below the Platte River)	Below-Normal
Platte River	Below-Normal
Elkhorn River	Below-Normal
Big Blue River	Below-Normal
Salt Creek	Below-Normal
Wahoo Creek	Below-Normal
Nishnabotna River	Below-Normal

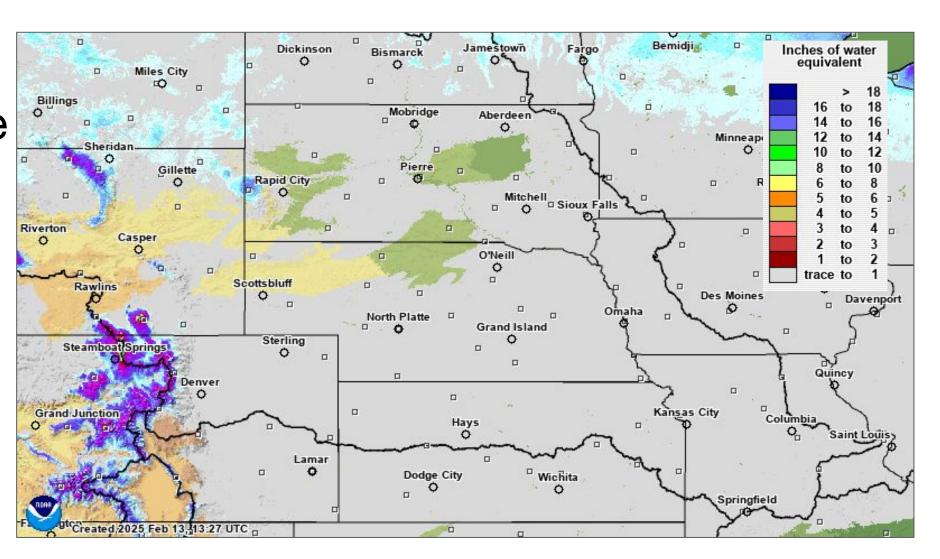




# **Basin-wide Snowpack**

### **Key Messages**

→ There is snow basin-wide, however the water content of the Plains snow is minimal.

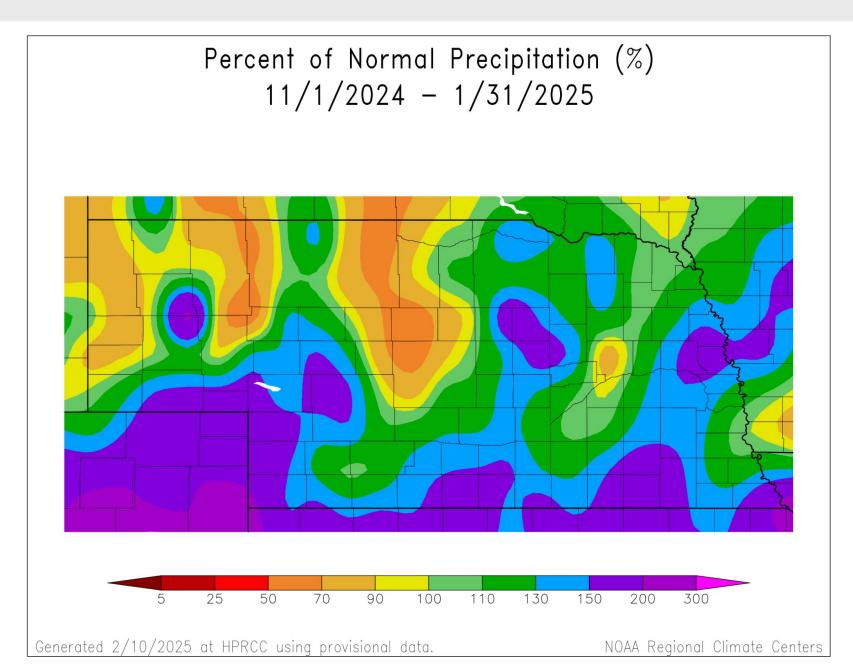




# Winter Precipitation

### **Key Messages**

→ Precipitation this winter has been a mixed bag. Early on in winter some moisture was observed, otherwise precipitation has been below-normal.



Source: High Plains Regional Climate Center





# Drought Status One Year Ago

Intensity:

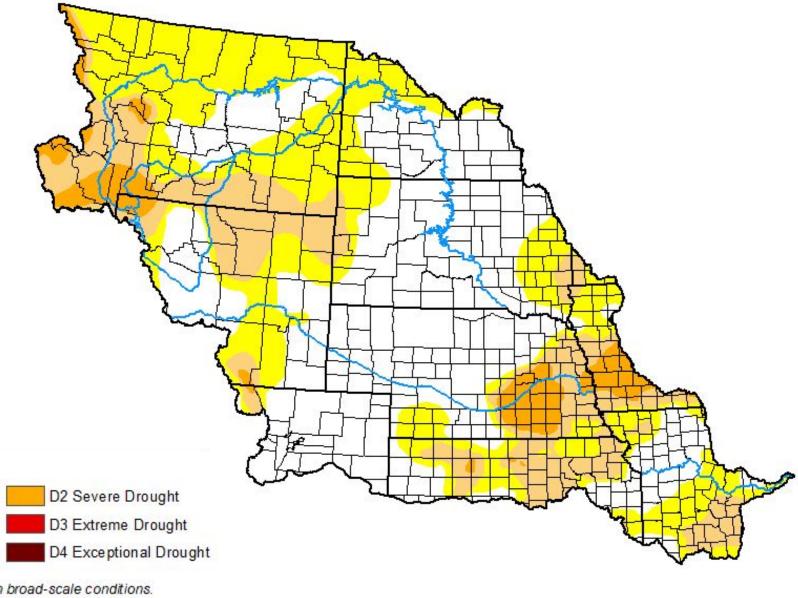
None

D0 Abnormally Dry

D1 Moderate Drought

### **Key Messages**

→ No extreme drought, with much of the basin doing "okay".



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.

Local conditions may vary. For more information on the

Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx





# **Drought Status Today**

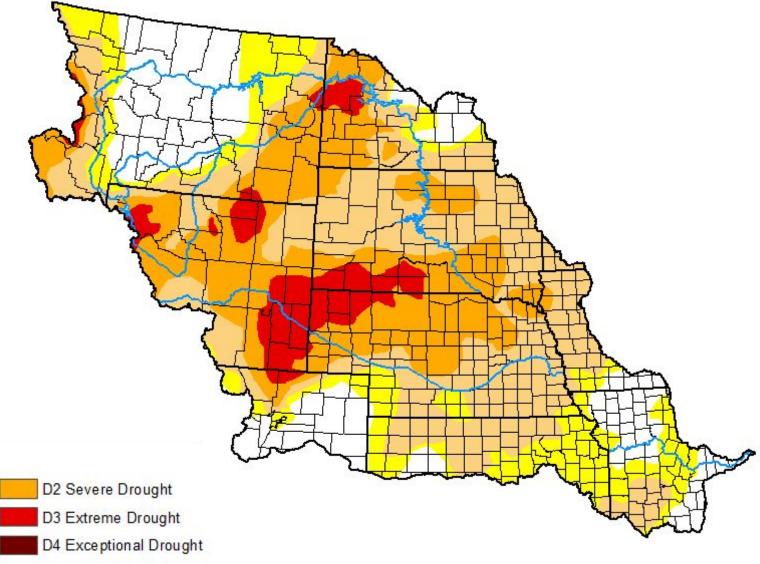
Intensity:

None

D0 Abnormally Dry

### **Key Messages**

→ Drought conditions have worsened, basin-wide.



D1 Moderate Drought

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Local conditions may vary. For more information on the
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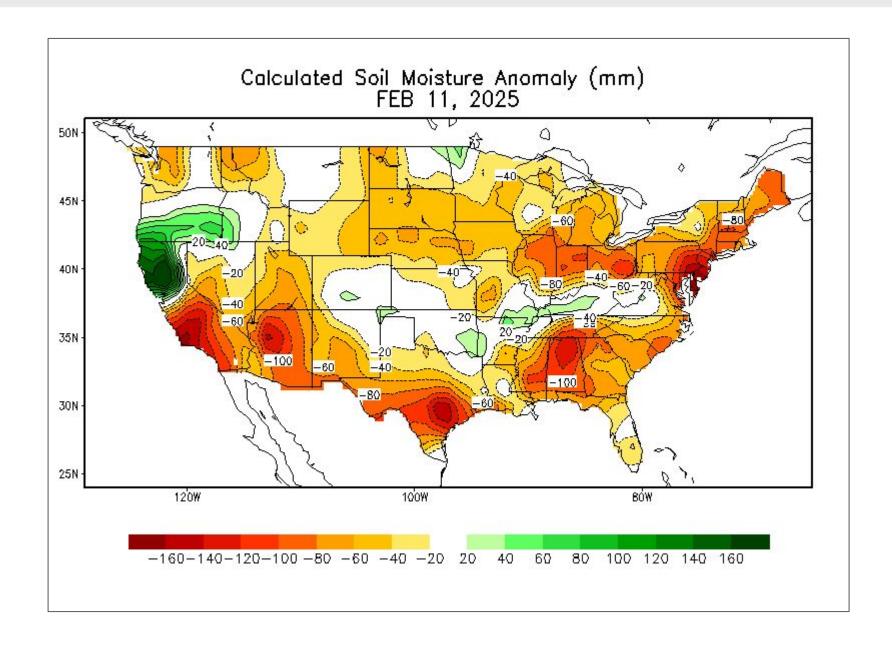




## **Soil Moisture**

### **Key Messages**

- → Soil moisture across the region is below normal.
- → The driest areas are in eastern Nebraska and western Iowa.

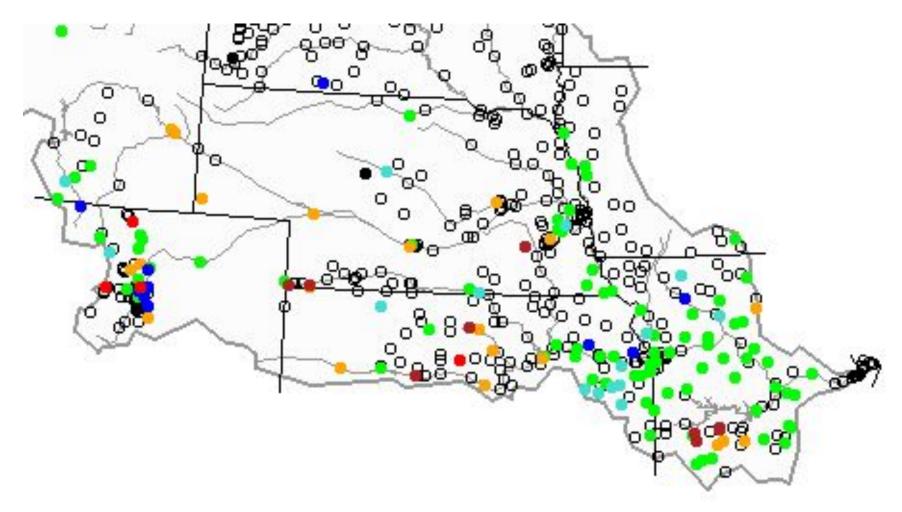




## **Current Streamflow**

### **Key Messages**

→ Most rivers are currently near-to-below normal in eastern Nebraska and western lowa.



Explanation - Percentile classes							
•	•	0			•	•	0
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	Not-ranked
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

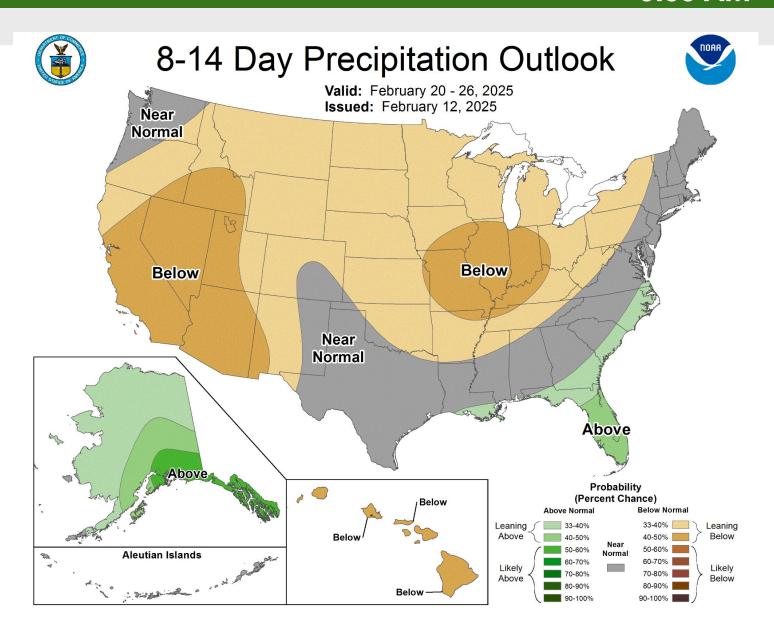




# Temperature Outlook (rest of February)

### **Key Messages**

→ Below-normal temperatures are favored for the rest of February.

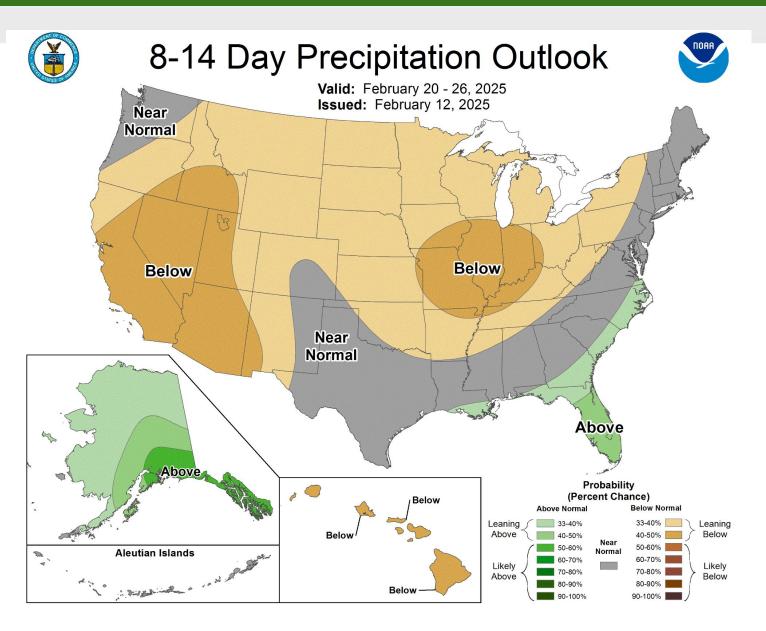




# Precipitation Outlook (rest of February)

### **Key Messages**

→ Below-normal precipitation is favored for the rest of February.

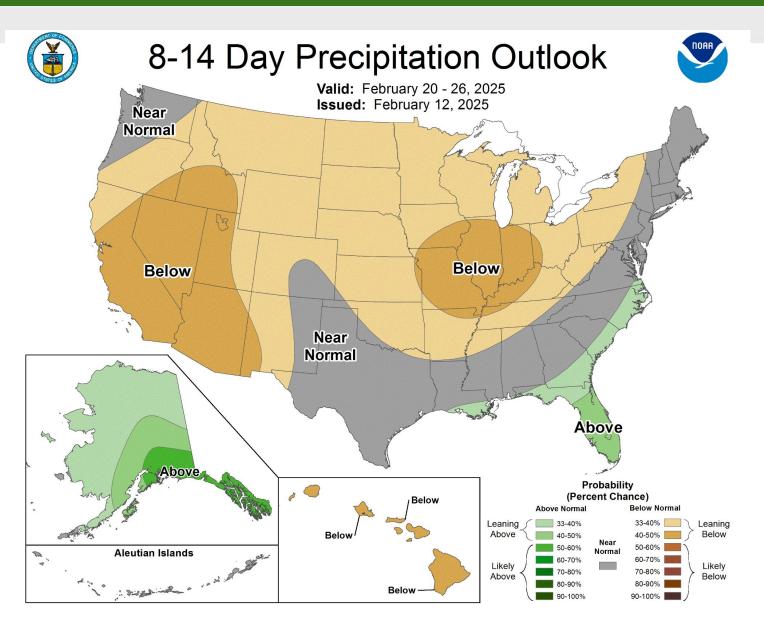




# Temperature Outlook (early March)

### **Key Messages**

→ Below-normal temperatures are favored for early March.



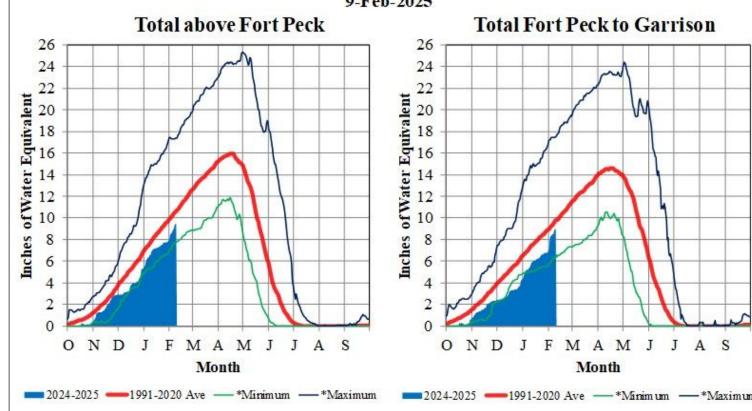


# Mountain Snowpack (Missouri River)

### **Key Messages**

- → For this time of year the snowpack in the Missouri River headwaters is near average.
- → Above Fort Peck, the water content is around 9.5 inches, average is near 10 inches.
- → Between Fort Peck and Garrison, the water content of the snow is 9.0 inches which is just below average.
- → The normal peak snowpack date is typically around April 15th.

#### Missouri River Basin – Mountain Snowpack Water Content 2024-2025 with comparison plots from recent high and low years 9-Feb-2025



On February 9, 2025 the mountain Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) in the "Total above Fort Peck" reach is 9.5" and 89% of the (1991-2020) average. The mountain SWE in the "Fort Peck to Garrison" reach is 9.0" and 92% of the (1991-2020) average. The normal peak for both reaches occurs near April 17.

\*Refers to the minimum or maximum SWE in the basin for that day in the historical years 1991-2020.

Provisional data. Subject to revision





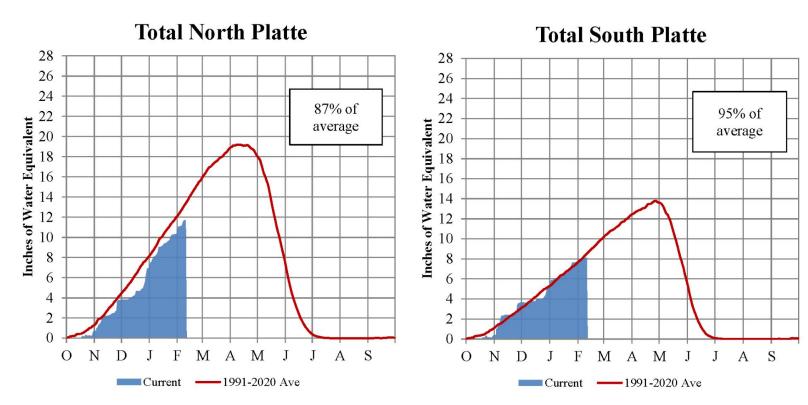
# Mountain Snowpack (Platte River)

### **Key Messages**

- → Snow conditions in the North Platte River headwaters are below average.
- → Snow conditions in the South Platte River headwaters are near average.
- → In a typical winter, snow accumulates in the Platte River headwaters through mid to late April.

#### Platte River Basin - Mountain Snowpack Water Content Water Year 2024-2025

February 11, 2025



The North and South Platte River Basin mountain snowpacks normally peak near April 10 and the end of April, respectively. As of February 11, 2025, the mountain snowpack SWE in the "Total North Platte" reach is 11.7", 87% of the (1991-2020) average. The mountain snowpack SWE in the "Total South Platte" reach is 8.1", 95% of the (1991-2020) average.

Source: USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service

Provisional Data. Subject to Revision

