



Drought Information Statement for Eastern Washington & North Idaho

Valid July 18, 2024

Issued By: NWS Spokane, WA

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

- This product will be updated by August 15, 2024 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/otx/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
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- **DROUGHT CONTINUES ACROSS THE INLAND NW**
 - Severe drought remains in central WA and the central ID Panhandle
 - Abnormally dry conditions expands across eastern WA



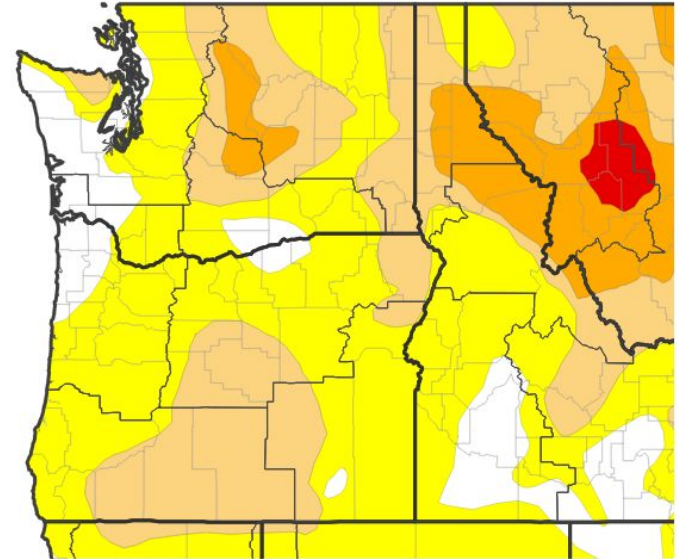


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for eastern Washington and north Idaho

U.S. Drought Monitor

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: central Idaho Panhandle and lee of the Cascades, **more than 18%**
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: central WA, extreme eastern WA, and much of the ID Panhandle, **near 52%**
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Reminder of the Inland NW, **near 30%**
 - NONE: **0%**



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 07/16/24

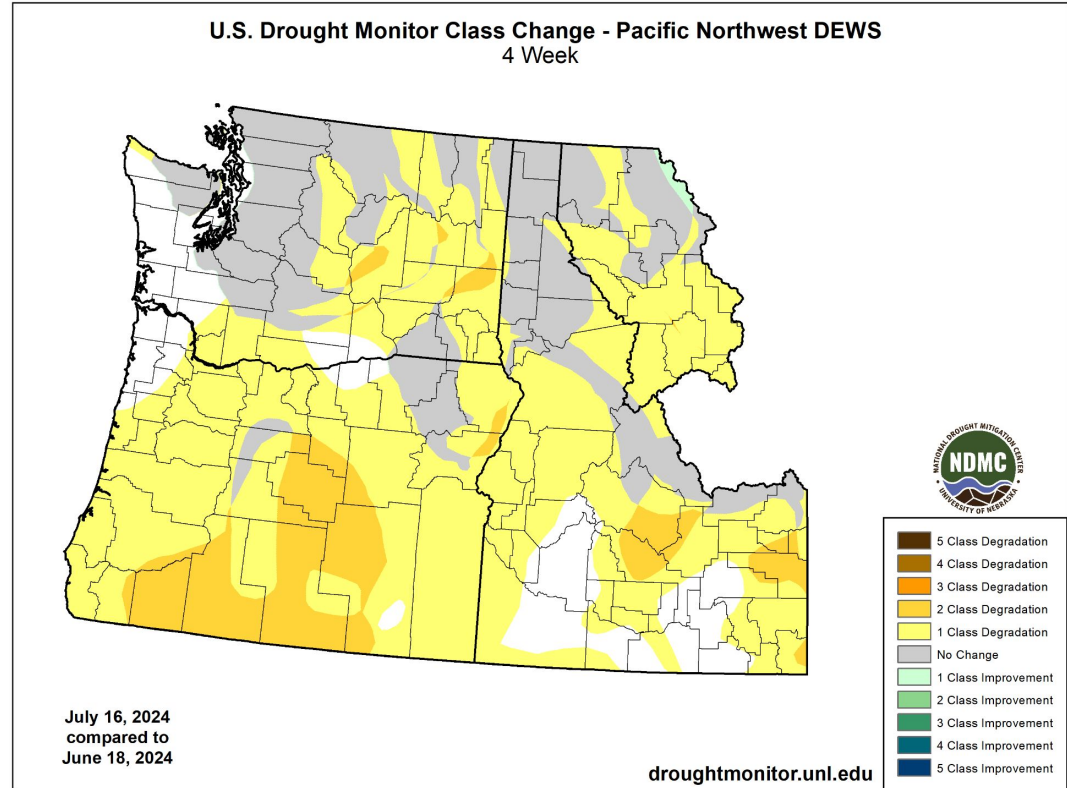




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4 week [change map](#) for eastern Washington and north Idaho

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change
 - No Change: parts of north-central WA, northeast WA, and much of north ID
 - Drought Improved: none
 - Drought degraded: much of eastern WA



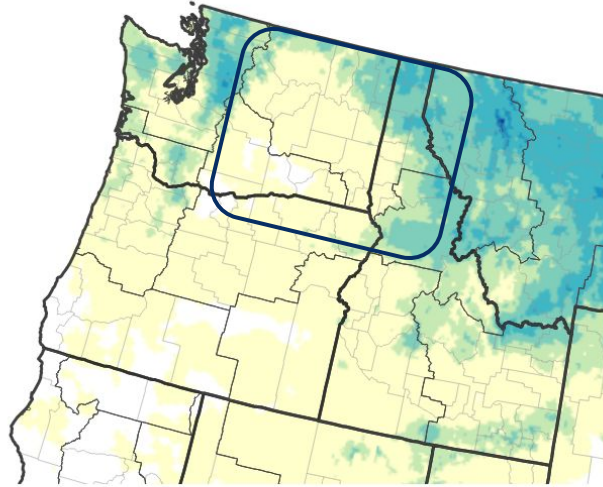


Precipitation

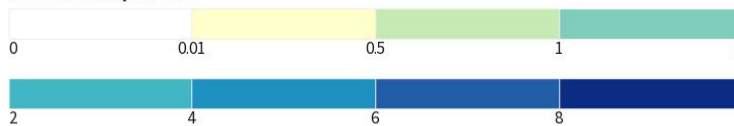
Last 30 Days

- Last 30 Days were extremely dry across the Columbia Basin in eastern WA with little to no precipitation reported. Showers across the northern and Panhandle mountains brought near seasonal precipitation amounts.

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



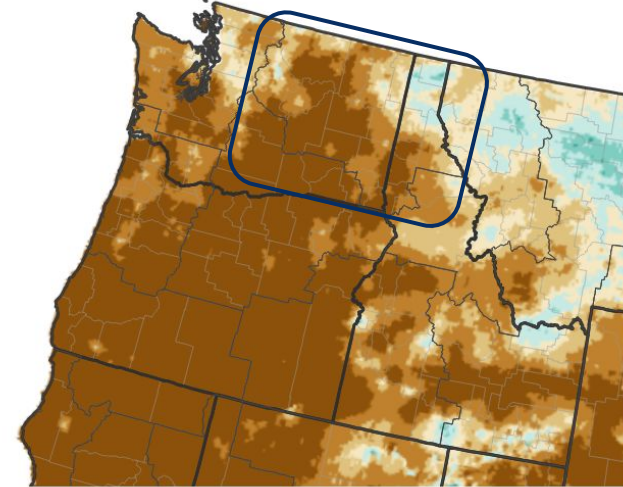
Inches of Precipitation



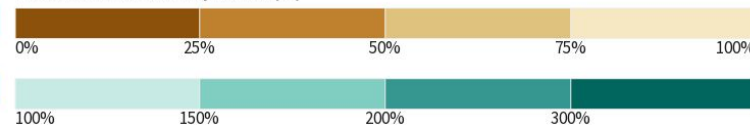
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07/17/24

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



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

Data Valid: 07/17/24



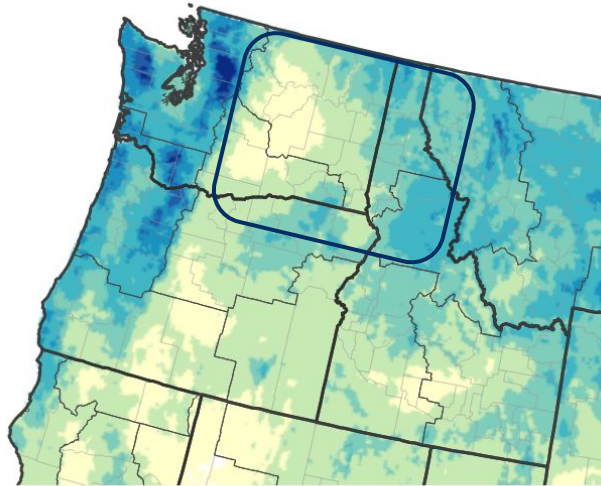


Precipitation

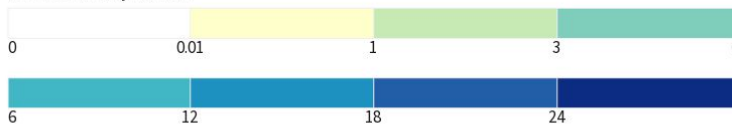
Last 90 Days

- Last 90 Days shows the dry signal across central WA with less than 25% of normal of precipitation, meanwhile more seasonal precipitation was observed across northeast WA into the northern ID Panhandle.

NWPS 90-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



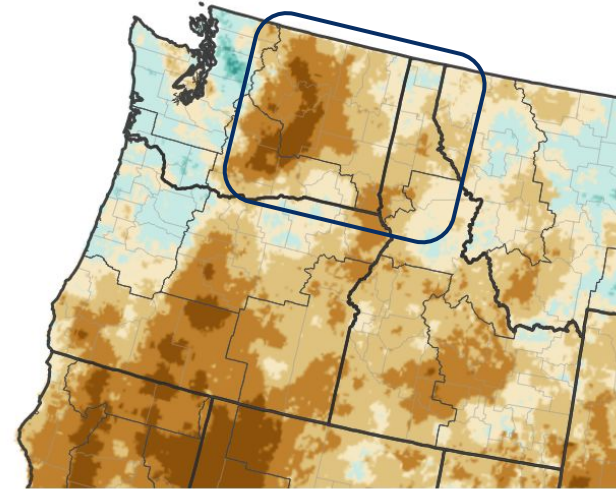
Inches of Precipitation



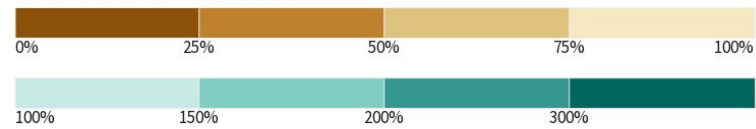
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07/17/24

90-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



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

Data Valid: 07/17/24



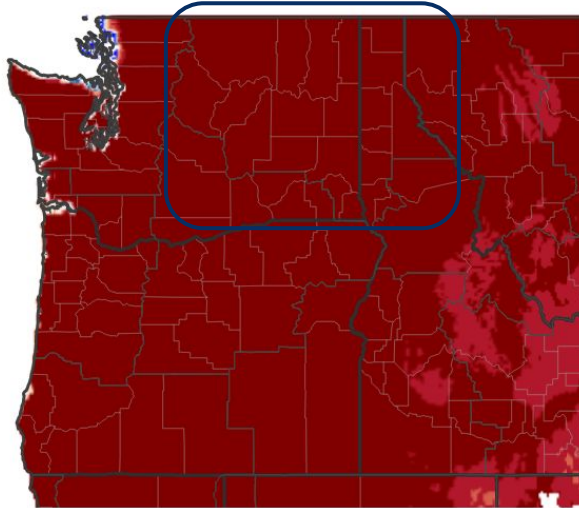


Temperature

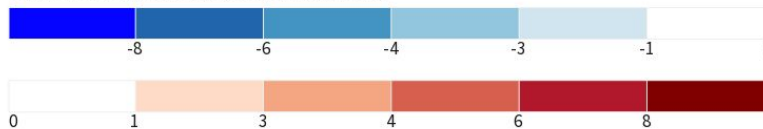
Last 7 Days and 30 Days

- Temperatures for the last week have been well above normal by over 8°F with daytime highs well into the 90s to around 100. In the last 30 Days, temperatures have been running slightly above normal by 1-4°F.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly

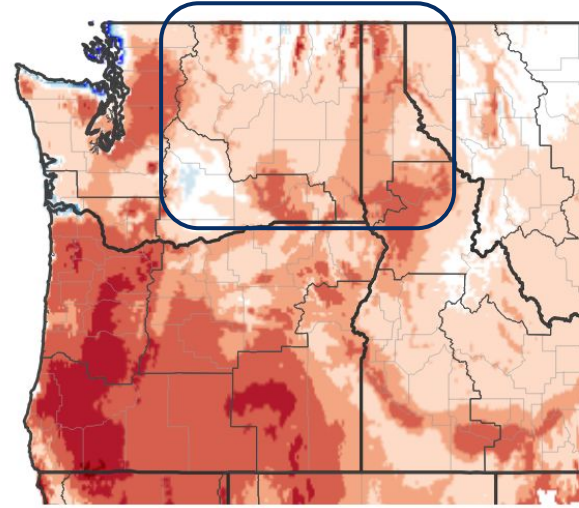


Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)

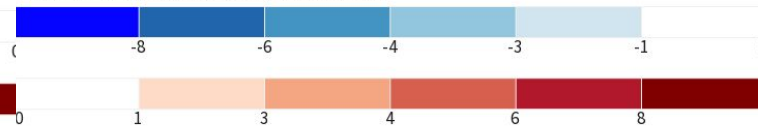


Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Data Valid: 07/14/2024 Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 07/14/2024





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Stream flows over the past 7 days continue to be below normal across the Inland NW, and this trend has expanded in coverage since last month.

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture continues to be drier than normal across the Inland NW, especially over the Cascades and the ID Panhandle. Crop moisture index was near normal for extreme eastern WA and north ID, yet dipped below normal across central WA. Below normal yields of dryland crops are expected across Adams, parts of Douglas and Lincoln counties. Weather was good for harvesting hay and grass seed, but other crops need rain. Irrigated crops are doing well. Winter wheat harvest starting to pick up.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fuels are cured across much of central WA and continue to dry across extreme eastern WA and north ID. The Pioneer fire on Lake Chelan continues to grow, while other spotty fires have developed after dry lightning events and windy days.

Mitigation Actions

- WA declared a [Drought Emergency](#) for much of the state on April 16th due to the low mountain snowpack and projected decrease in water supply.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Stream flows over the past 7 days continue to be below normal across the Inland NW, and this trend has expanded in coverage since last month. Being a dry period with above normal temperatures had helped to contribute.

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

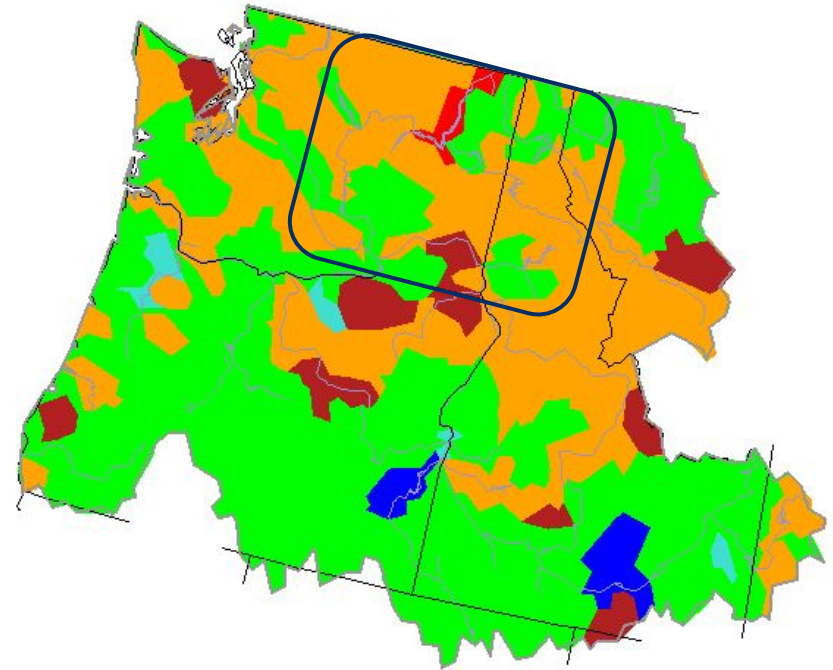


Image Caption: [USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map](#) valid July 17, 2024

Explanation - Percentile classes

Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data	
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal			

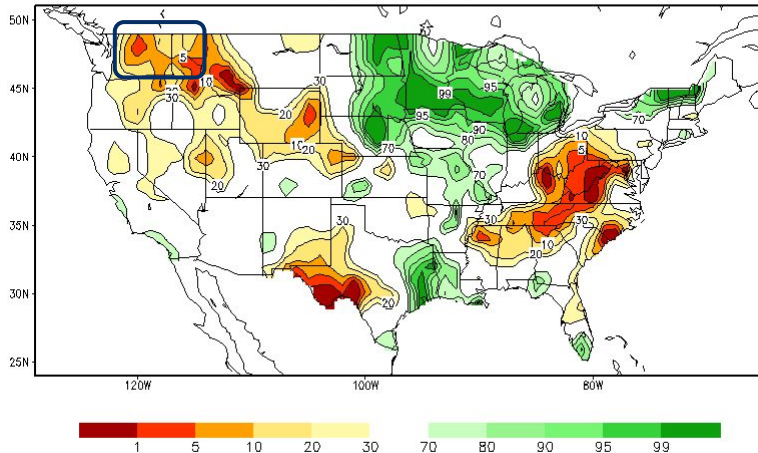




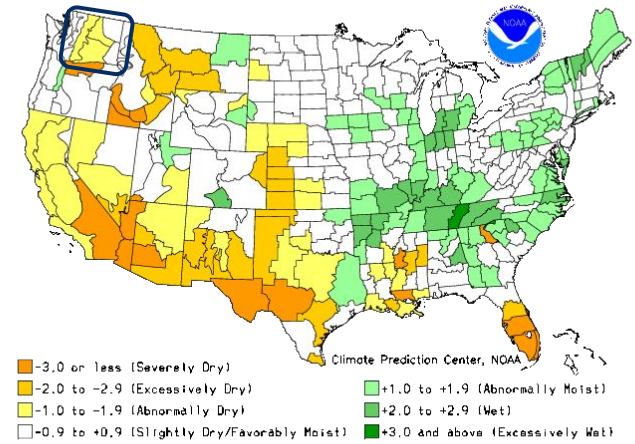
Agricultural Conditions and Impacts

- Soil moisture continues to be drier than normal across the Inland NW, especially over the Cascades and the ID Panhandle.
- Crop moisture index was near normal for extreme eastern WA and north ID, yet dipped below normal across central WA. Below normal yields of dryland crops are expected across Adams, parts of Douglas and Lincoln counties. Weather was good for harvesting hay and grass seed, but other crops needed rain. Irrigated crops are doing well. Winter wheat harvest starting to pick up.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
JUL 17, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending JUL 13, 2024
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

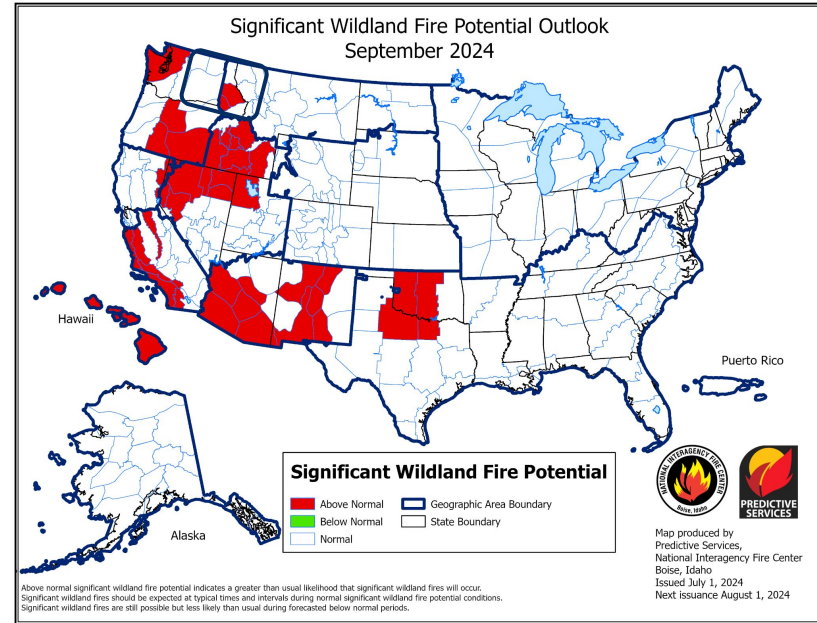
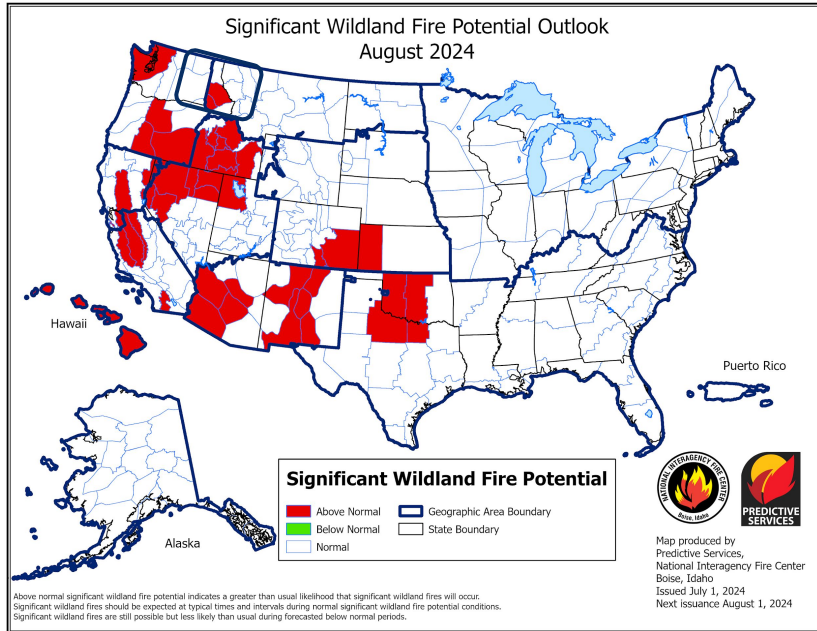




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Fuels are cured across much of central WA and continue to dry across extreme eastern WA and north ID. The Pioneer fire on Lake Chelan continues to grow, while other spotty fires have developed after dry lightning events and windy days.
- The significant wildland fire potential becomes above normal across the southern ID Panhandle by August.

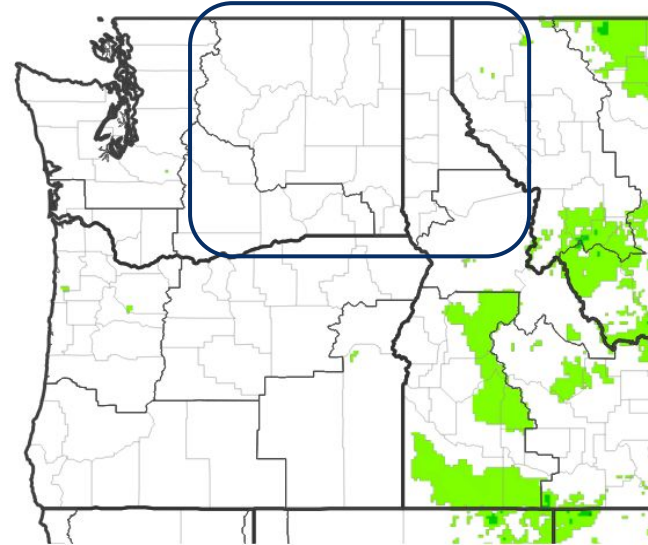




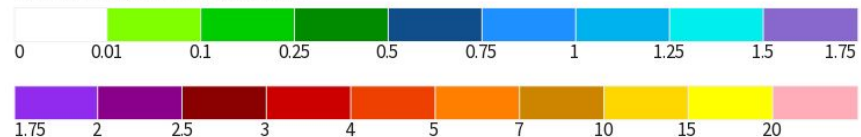
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Here is a forecast of precipitation for the Pacific NW for the upcoming week.
- Dry conditions continue
- The 8-14 day outlook favors near to 30% below normal temperatures and 30-40% for late July.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 07/18/24





Monthly Outlook

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

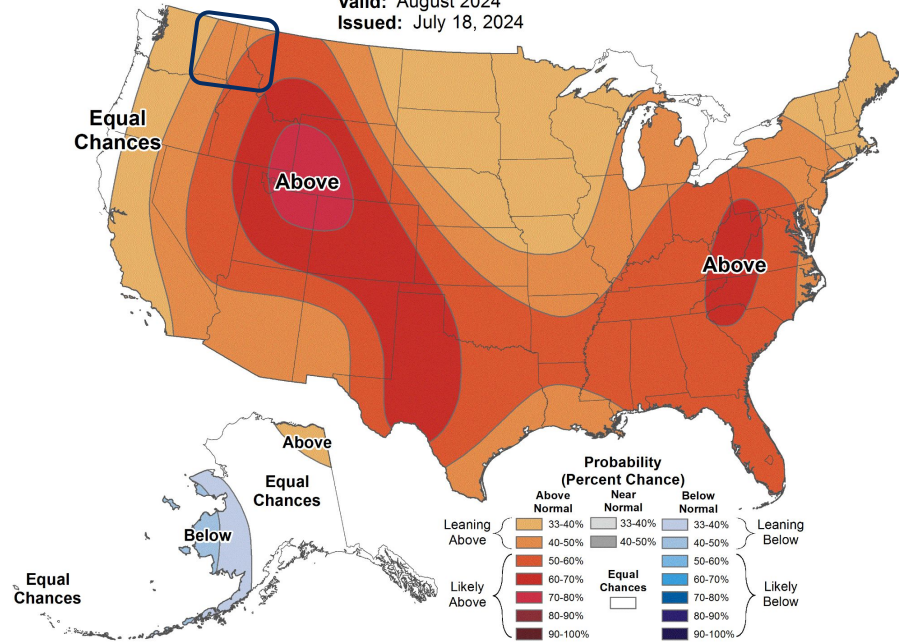
- AUGUST** is favoring above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation for the Inland NW.



Monthly Temperature Outlook



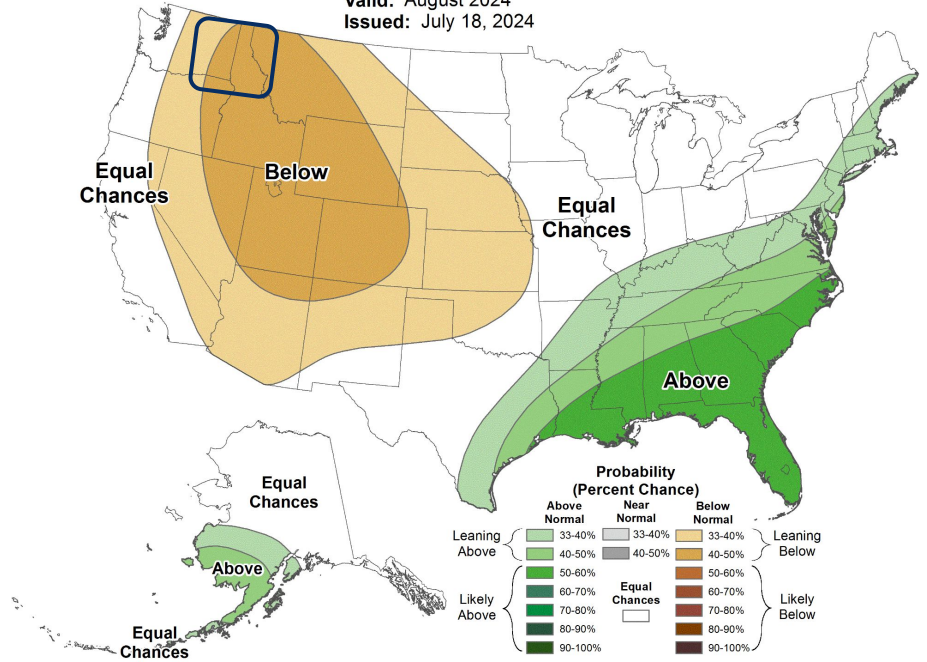
Valid: August 2024
Issued: July 18, 2024



Monthly Precipitation Outlook



Valid: August 2024
Issued: July 18, 2024





Long-Range Outlooks

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

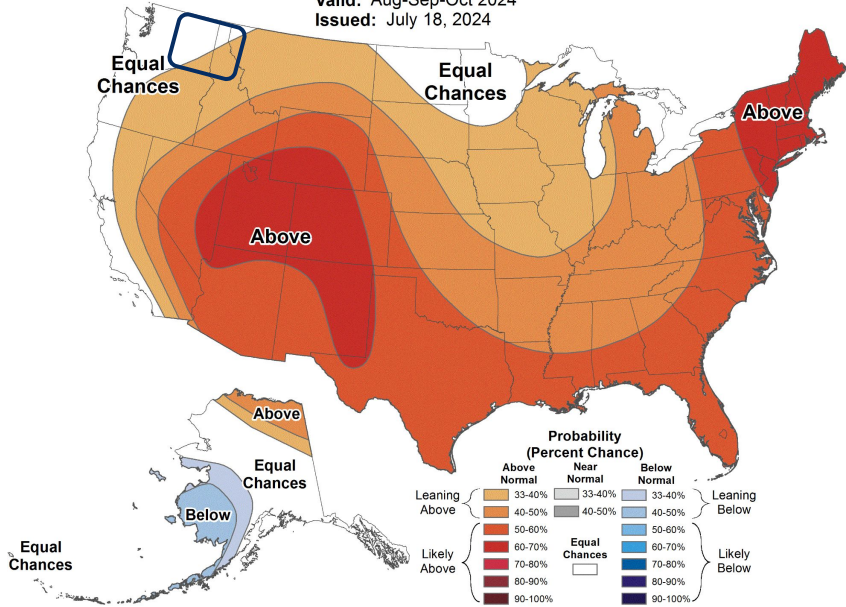
- AUG-SEP-OCT outlook has equal chances to slightly above normal temperatures and equal chances of near, below to above normal precipitation across the Inland NW.



Seasonal Temperature Outlook



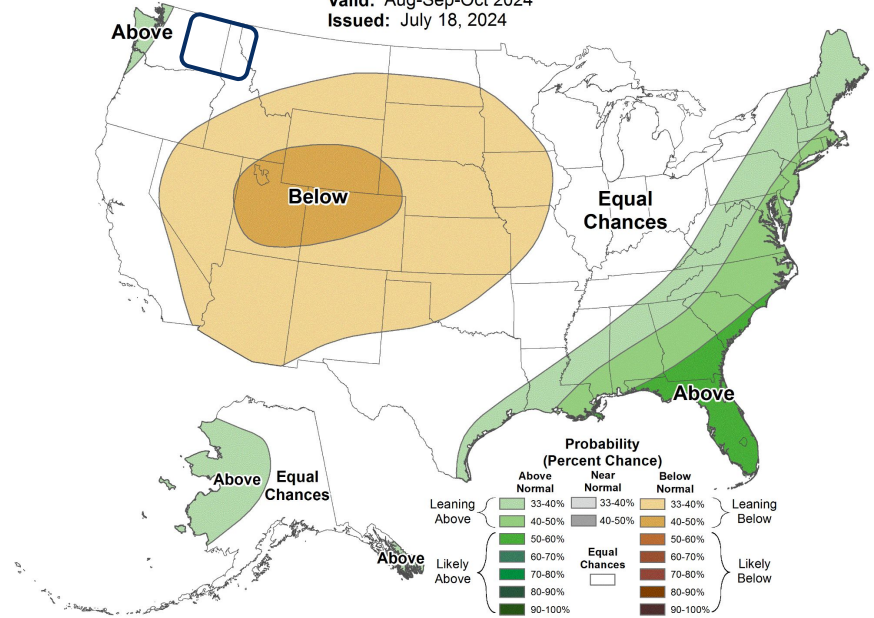
Valid: Aug-Sep-Oct 2024
Issued: July 18, 2024



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Aug-Sep-Oct 2024
Issued: July 18, 2024





Drought Outlook

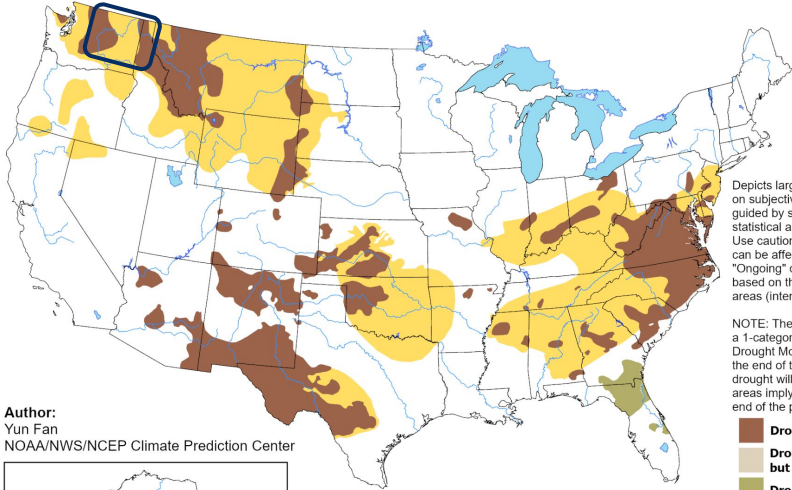
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- The Monthly and Seasonal Drought Outlook show drought is likely to persist and expand across the region.

U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for July 2024
Released June 30, 2024

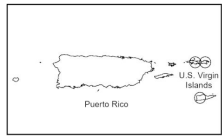
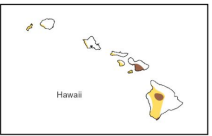


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought

Author:
Yun Fan
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center

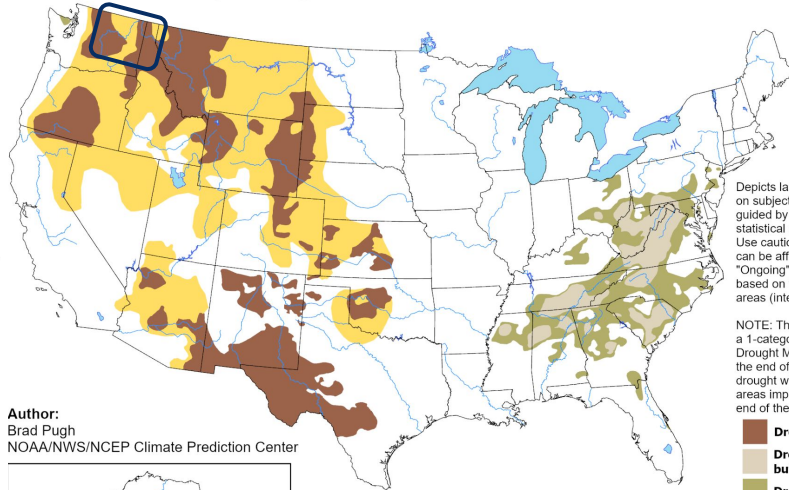


<https://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for July 18 - October 31, 2024
Released July 18, 2024

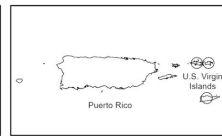
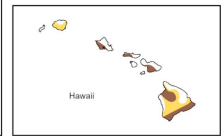


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- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought

Author:
Brad Pugh
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>