



# Drought Information Statement for South Central and Southeast Colorado

Valid February 8th, 2025

Issued By: NWS Pueblo, Colorado

Contact Information: [nws.pueblo@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.pueblo@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated by March 15th, 2025 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/pub/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.

- Moderate to Severe Drought Conditions developing across the Southwest Mountains





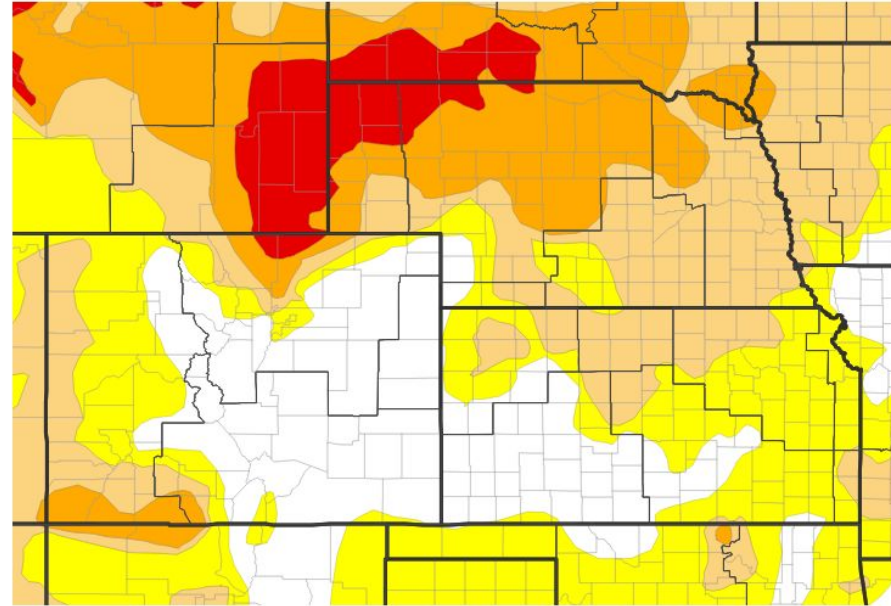
# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

Valid February 4th, 2025

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** N/A
  - **D3 Extreme Drought:** N/A
  - **D2 Severe Drought:** Southeastern Mineral county, southwestern Rio Grande county and western Conejos county.
  - **D1 Moderate Drought:** Most of Mineral county, southwestern Rio Grande county into central Conejos county.
  - **D0: Abnormally Dry:** Extreme northern Mineral county, southwestern Saguache county, eastern Rio Grande county, eastern Conejos county, eastern Costilla county, southwestern Huerfano county, western Las Animas county, and extreme southeastern Las Animas county into southwestern Baca county.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 02/04/25





# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

## Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.

- **Drought Worsened:** Portions of the southwest mountains into western portions of the San Luis Valley.
- **No Change:** Most of south central and southeast Colorado.
- **Drought Improved:** NA.

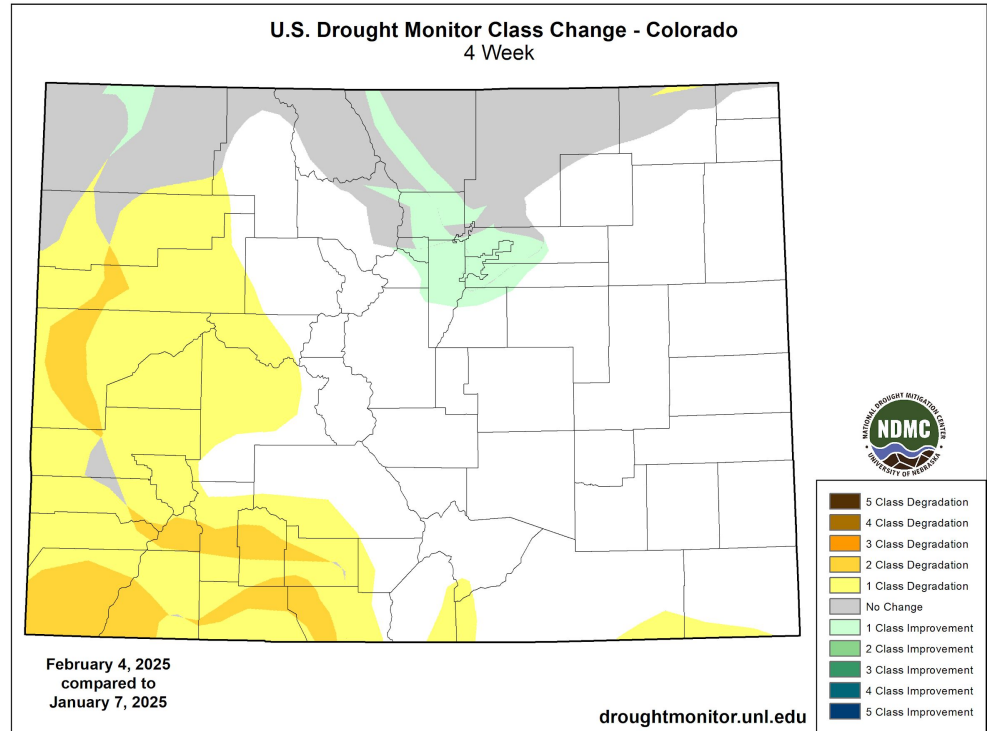


Image Caption: [Drought Monitor Colorado 4 Week Change Map](#)  
valid February 4th, 2025



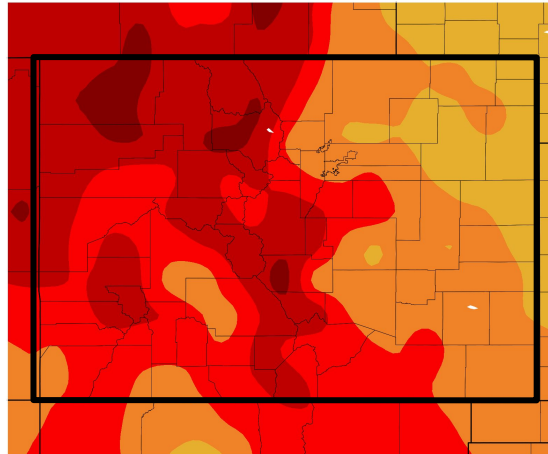


# Month to Date Temperature and Precipitation Departures

Links to the latest [HPRCC Temperature](#) and [Precipitation](#) departure from normal for February

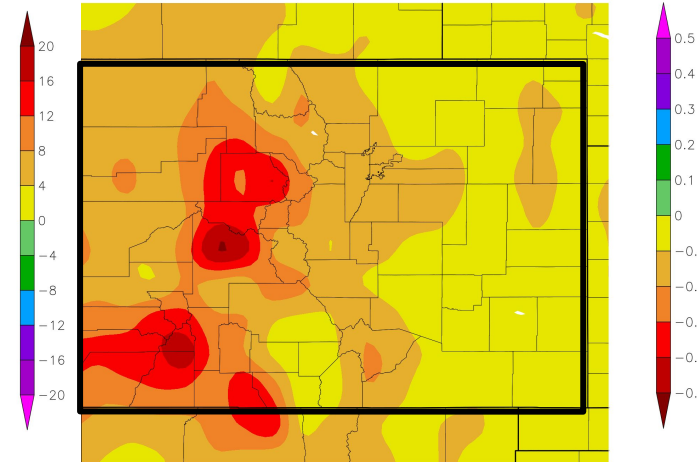
- February of 2025 has started off very warm and dry thus far. This will give way to cooler temperatures and increased chances of precipitation this weekend into early next week.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
2/1/2025 – 2/6/2025



2/7/2025 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
2/1/2025 – 2/6/2025



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 5 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center





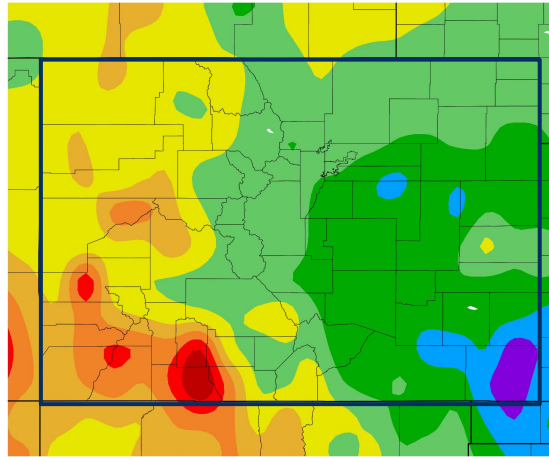


# 3 Month Precipitation and Temperature Summary

Links to [HPRCC Departure from Normal Precipitation](#) and [Departure from Normal Temperature](#) for the past 3 months

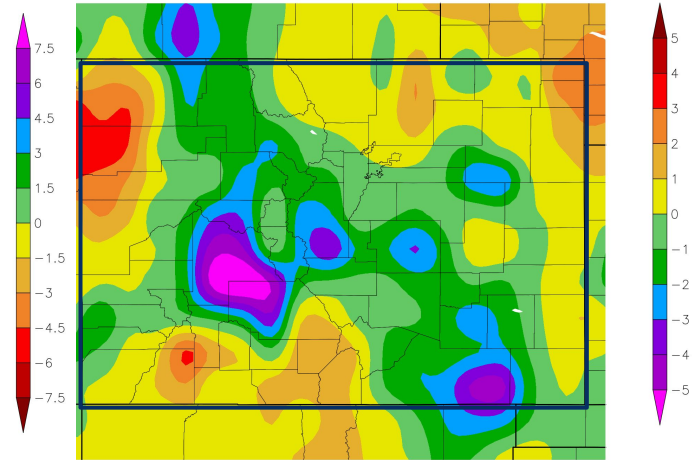
- November of 2024 was cool and wet across south central and southeast Colorado.
- December of 2024 was very warm and generally dry across south central and southeast Colorado.
- January was very cold and generally wet, across eastern Colorado, with warmer and drier conditions across portions of south central Colorado.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
11/1/2024 – 1/31/2025



Generated 2/6/2025 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
11/1/2024 – 1/31/2025



NOAA Regional Climate Centers <sup>25</sup> at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- February 1st Statewide snowpack is 90 percent of median, with the southern basins lagging behind the northern basins.
- Streamflow conditions are near to slightly below normal across south central and southeast Colorado.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is at to slightly above seasonal levels across south central and southeast Colorado. ([CPC Daily Soil Moisture Ranking](#))

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Seasonally dry fuels across snow free areas has produced moderate to at times high fire danger across southeast Colorado.

## Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.



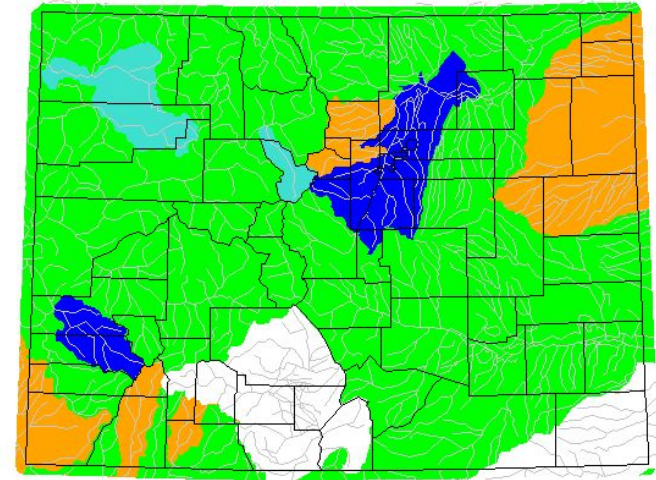


# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Links to [Current NRCS Mountain Precipitation](#) and [NRCS StreamFlow Forecast \(January-June\)](#)

Thursday, February 06, 2025

- Latest 7 day average stream flows are near normal across south central and southeast Colorado.
- NRCS data indicates **statewide mountain precipitation** for the month of January was at 77 percent of median, as compared to 127 percent of median at this time last year. This brings statewide Water Year 2025 to date precipitation to 91 percent of median, as compared to 86 percent of median at this time last year.
- In the **Arkansas basin**, January precipitation came in at 90 percent of median, as compared to 143 percent of median at this time last year. This brings Arkansas basin Water Year 2025 to date precipitation to 107 percent of median, as compared to 90 percent of median at this time last year,
- In the **Upper Rio Grande basin**, January precipitation came in at 63 percent of median, as compared to 118 percent of median at this time last year. This brings Upper Rio Grande basin Water Year 2025 to date precipitation to 87 percent of median, as compared to 71 percent of median at this time last year.



USGS

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

Image Caption: [USGS 7 day average streamflow for Colorado](#) valid February 6th, 2024





# Hydrologic Conditions Colorado Snowpack

Link to [USDA NRCS Colorado Water Supply Outlook Report \(January-June\)](#)

- At the end of January, NRCS data indicated [Colorado Statewide Snowpack](#) was at 90 percent of median, as compared to 87 percent of median at this time last year.
- February 1st snowpack in the [Arkansas basin](#) snowpack was at 96 percent of median, as compared to 84 percent of median at this time last year. Early streamflow forecasts range from 62% of median at Grape Creek near Westcliffe to 111% of median at the Arkansas River above Pueblo.
- February 1st snowpack in the [Upper Rio Grande basin](#) was at 71 percent of median, as compared to 65 percent of median at this time last year. Early streamflow forecasts range from 31% of median at San Antonio River near Ortiz to 111% of median at Saguache Creek near Saguache.

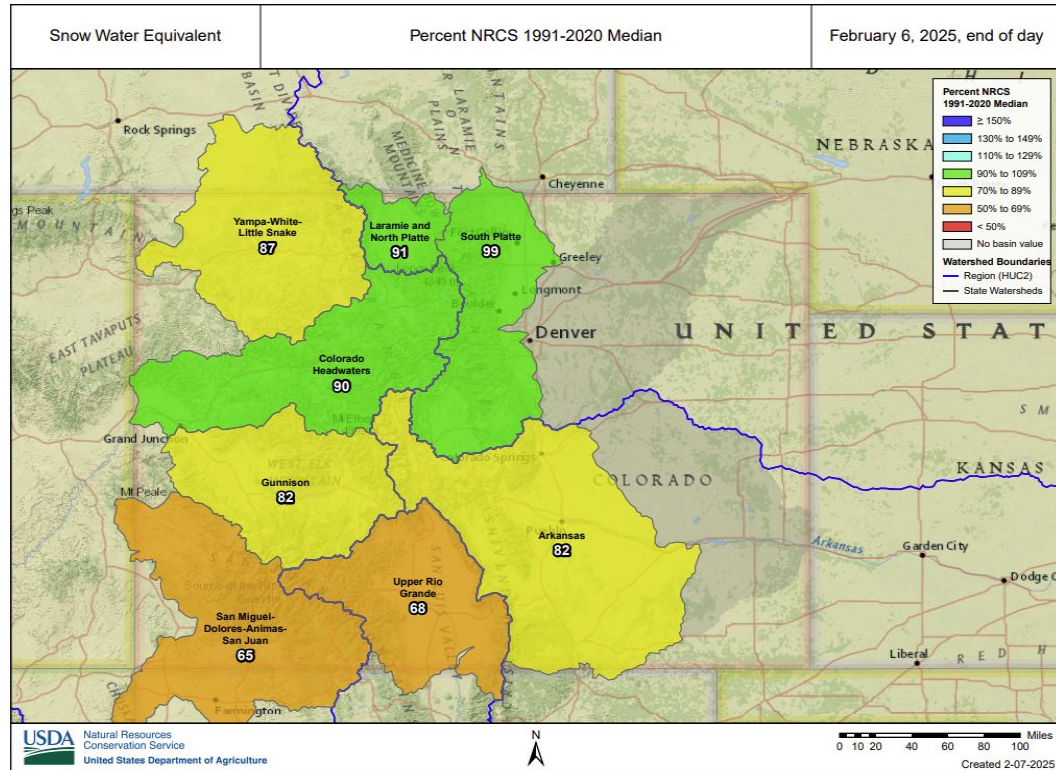


Image Caption: Current [USDA NRCS Colorado SNOWTEL SWE % of Normal](#)







# Agricultural and Water Storage Impacts

Link to the latest [USDA Colorado Crop Progress and Condition Report](#)

- Latest CPC data indicates soil moisture is running at to slightly above seasonal norms across south central and southeast Colorado.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
FEB 06, 2025

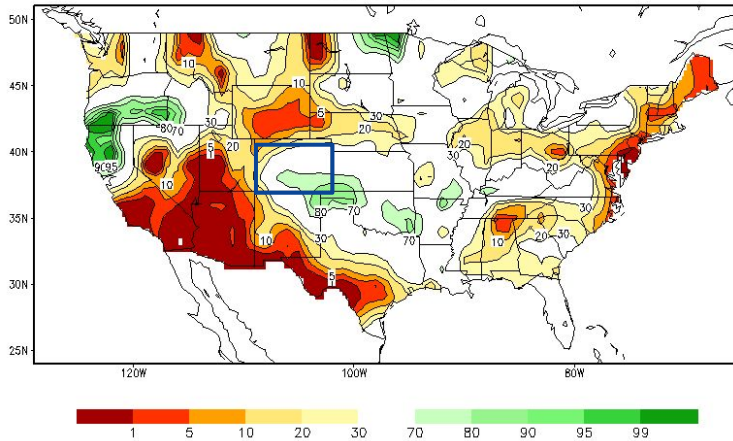


Image Caption: [CPC Daily Soil Moisture Ranking](#)  
valid February 6th, 2025

- NRCS data indicated [statewide Colorado Reservoir Storage](#) was at 94 percent of median at the end of January, as compared to 100 percent of median at this time last year.
- In the **Arkansas basin**, reservoir storage was at 114 percent of median at the end of January, as compared to 113 percent of median at this time last year.
- In the **Rio Grande basin**, reservoir storage was at 122 percent of median at the end of January, as compared to 119 percent of median at this time last year.







# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

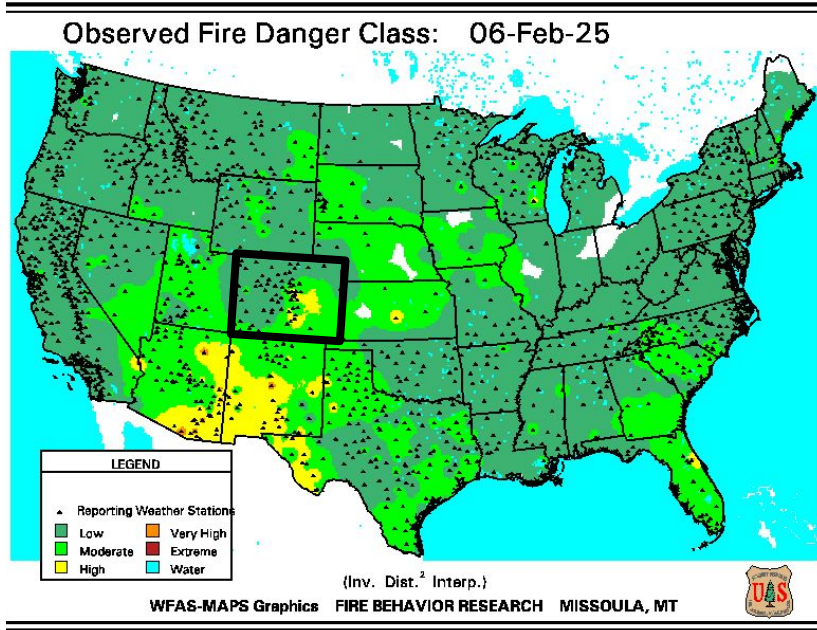


Image Caption: [Wildland Fire Assessment System Observed Fire Danger](#) valid Feb 6th, 2025

Link to [Latest Fire Restrictions across the state of Colorado](#)

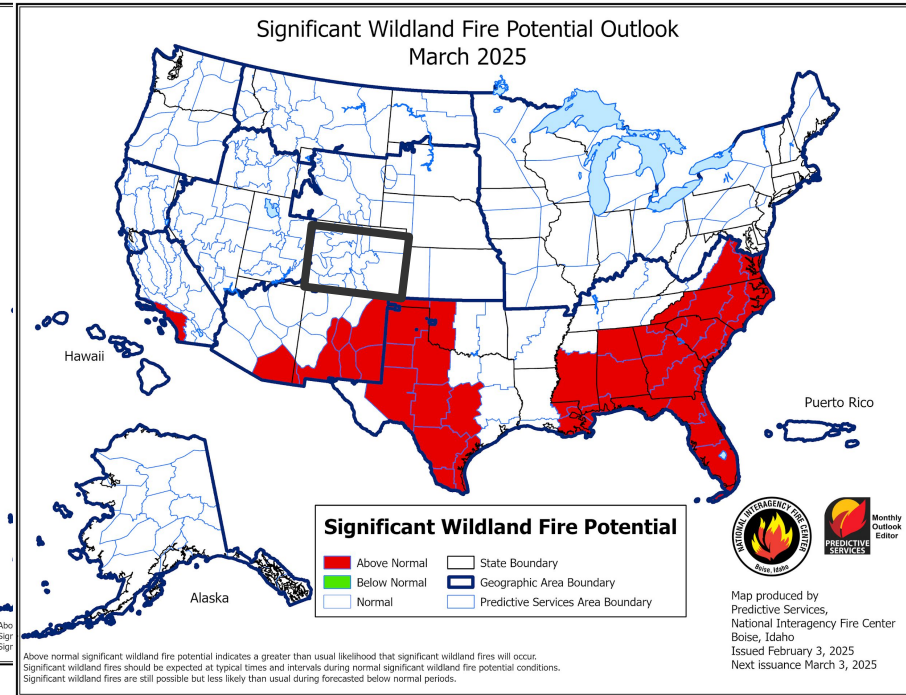


Image Caption: [NIFC Monthly Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook](#) valid for March 2025





# Long-Range Three Month Outlook (February-April)

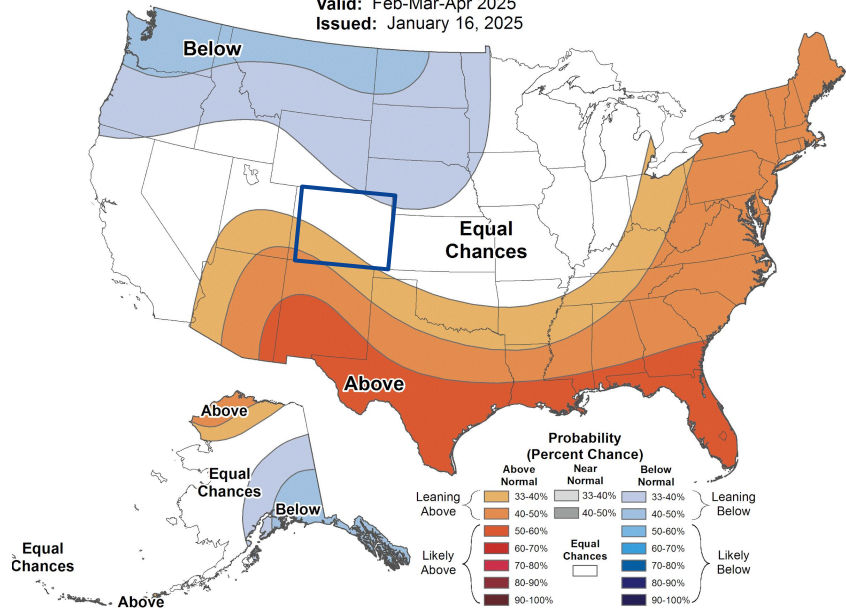
The latest seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



## Seasonal Temperature Outlook



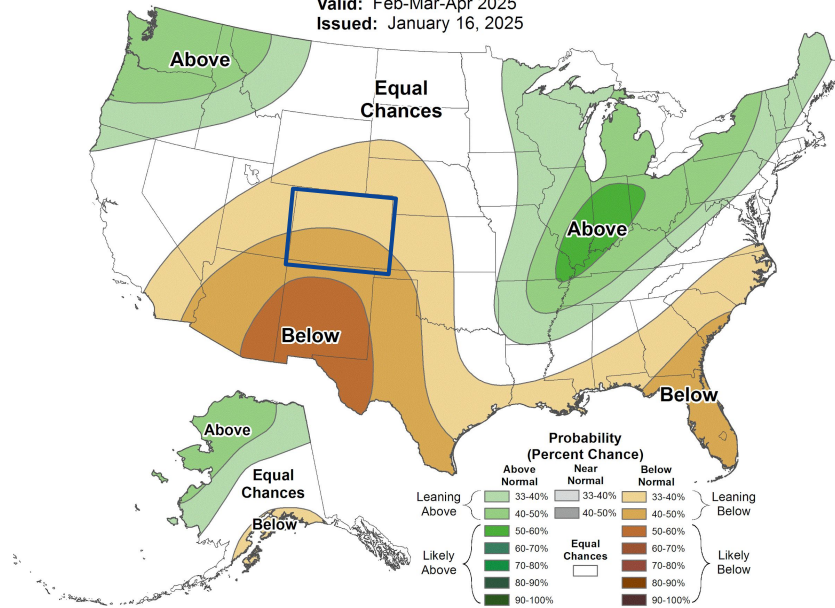
Valid: Feb-Mar-Apr 2025  
Issued: January 16, 2025



## Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Feb-Mar-Apr 2025  
Issued: January 16, 2025



The CPC outlook for February through April gives equal chances of above, below and near normal temperatures, save for a slight lean to above normal temperatures across the southern tier. The precipitation outlook leans to below normal conditions across south central and southeast Colorado.



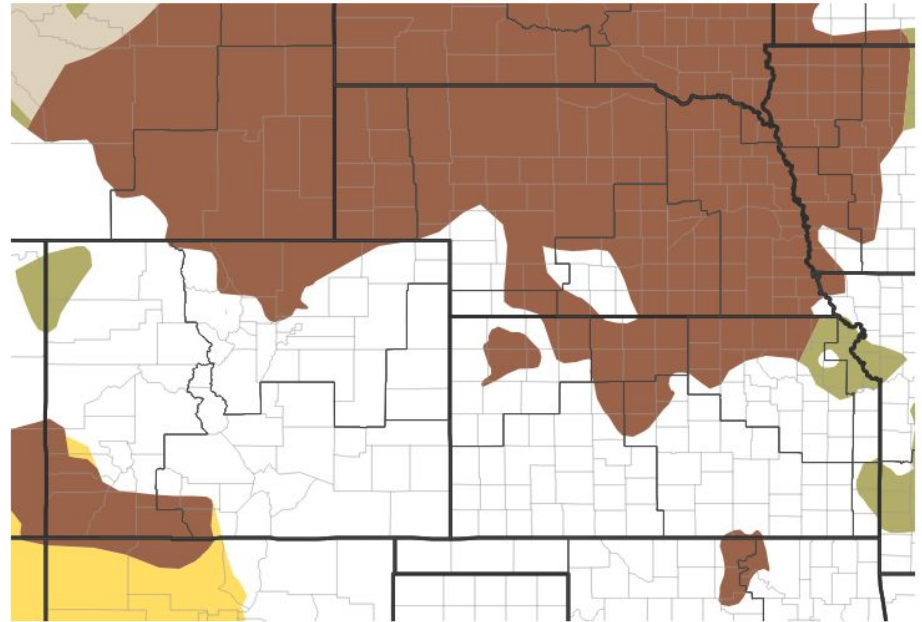


# Drought Three Month Outlook

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

- Drought conditions look to persist and expand across portions of south central Colorado into the Spring.

## Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for January 31, 2025–April 30, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source: Climate Prediction Center image courtesy of Drought.gov. Last Updated: 01/21/25

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  
Pueblo, Colorado