



# Drought Information Statement for South Central and Southeast Colorado

Valid November 14th, 2024

Issued By: NWS Pueblo, Colorado

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

- This product will be updated by December 12th, 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/pub/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.

- Abundant November moisture eases drought conditions across southern Colorado.





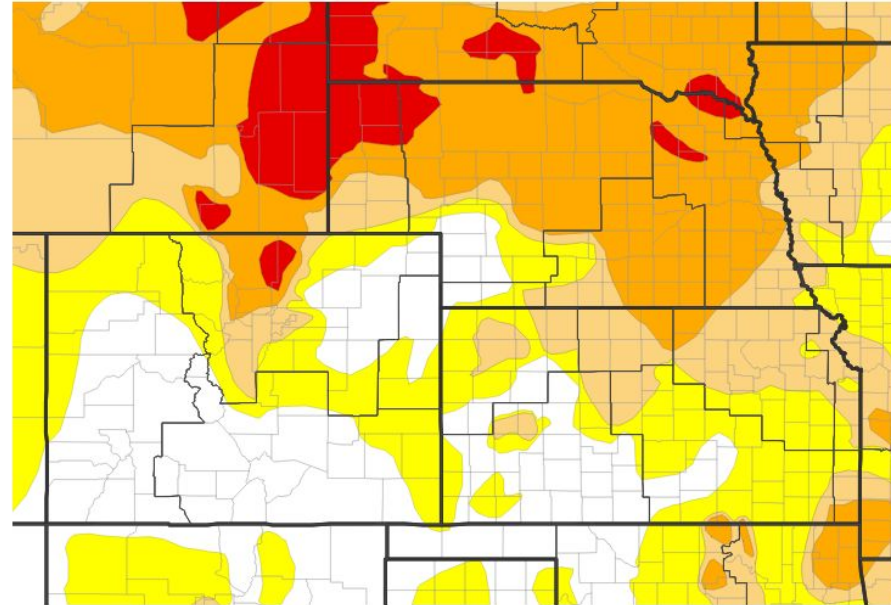
# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

Valid November 12th, 2024

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** N/A
  - **D3 Extreme Drought:** N/A
  - **D2 Severe Drought:** NA
  - **D1 Moderate Drought:** NA
  - **D0: Abnormally Dry:** Portions of Chaffee, Fremont, Teller, El Paso, Crowley, Otero, Bent, Kiowa, Prowers, and Baca counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 11/12/24





# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

## Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.

- **Drought Worsened:** NA
- **No Change:** NA
- **Drought Improved:** 1 to 2 category improvements across southern Colorado.

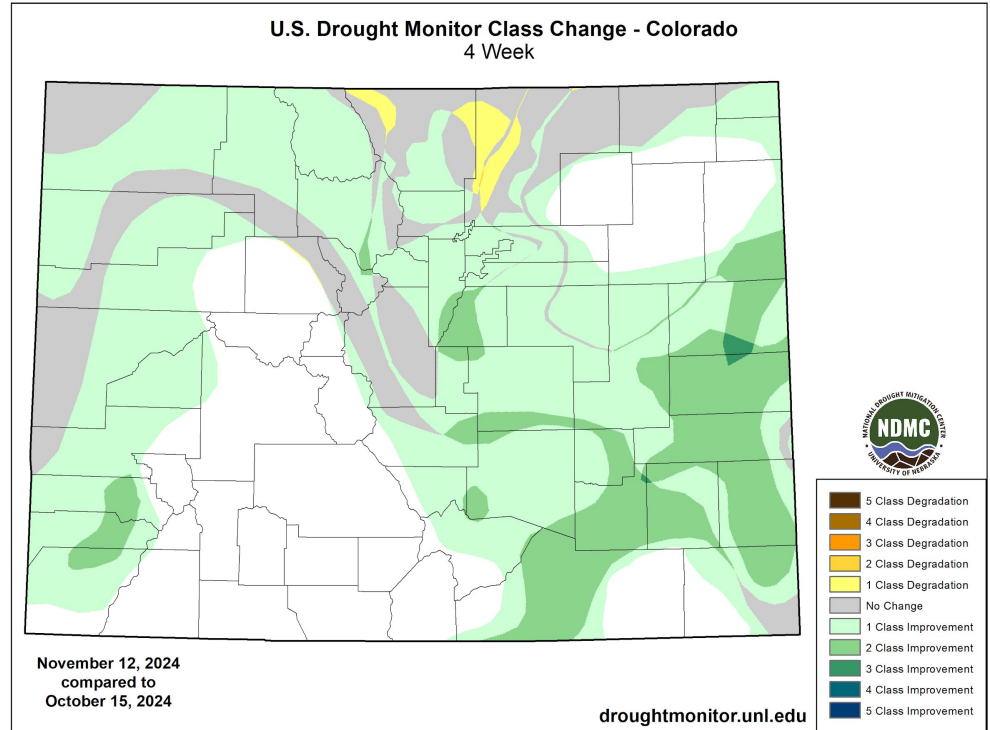


Image Caption: [Drought Monitor Colorado 4 Week Change Map](#)  
valid November 12th, 2024



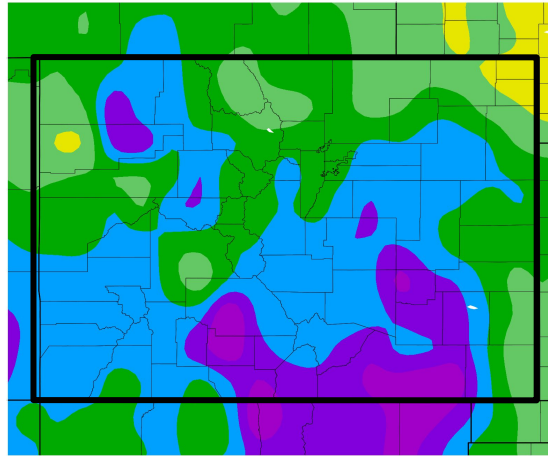


# Month to Date Temperature and Precipitation Departures

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

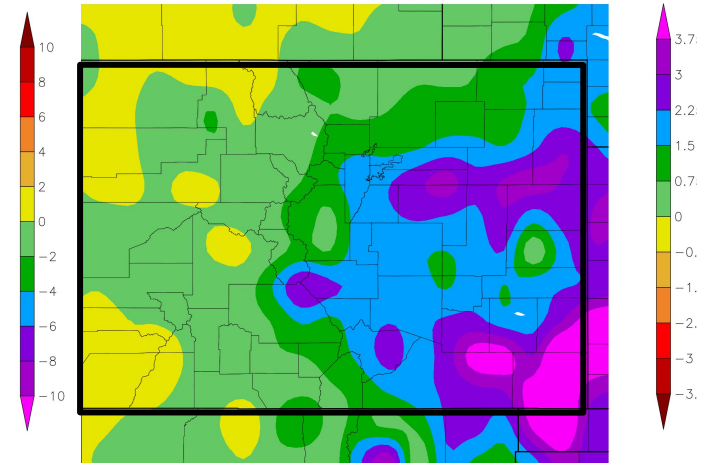
- November thus far, has seen well below normal temperatures and well above normal precipitation, with widespread 2 to 4 inches of precipitation recorded across south central and southeast Colorado in the 5 day period ending November 9th, 2024.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
11/1/2024 – 11/13/2024



11/14/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
11/1/2024 – 11/13/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center



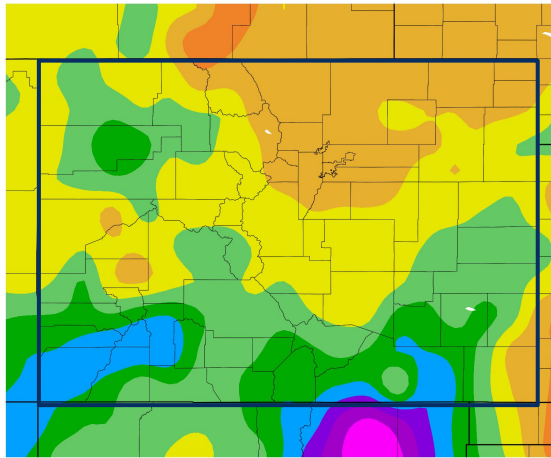


# October Precipitation and Temperature Summary

Links to [HPRCC Average Temperature](#) and [Departure from Normal Temperature](#) for October of 2024

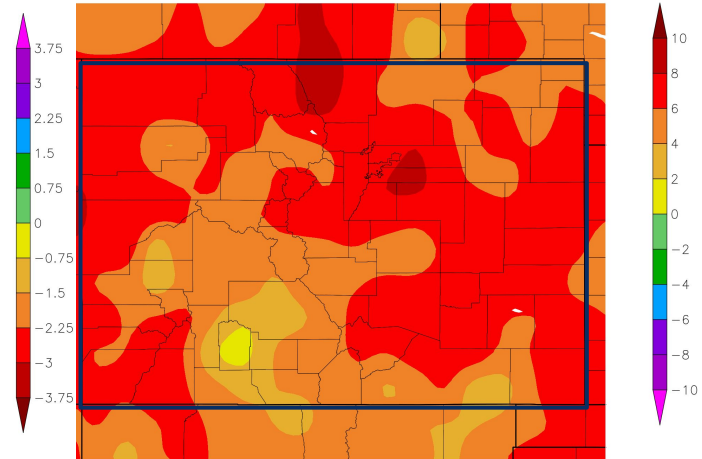
- October temperatures were well above normal across the region with Alamosa, Colorado Springs, and Pueblo all experiencing their 4th warmest October on record.
- A slow moving weather system through the middle of October brought abundant moisture to portions of southern Colorado.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
10/1/2024 – 10/31/2024



Generated 11/10/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
10/1/2024 – 10/31/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 2024 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

- Stream flows at to well above normal across south central and southeast Colorado.

## Agricultural Impacts

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

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Abundant moisture and snowpack has curtailed fire danger.

## Mitigation Actions

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



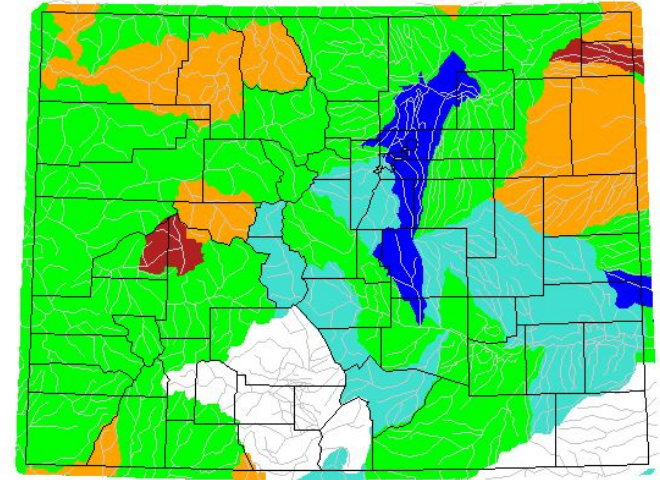


# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

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

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

- Latest 7 day average stream flows are above to well above normal across south central and southeast Colorado, with widespread 2-4 inches of precipitation received in Nov 5th-Nov 9th timeframe.
- NRCS data indicates **statewide mountain precipitation** for the month of October was at 100 percent of median, as compared to 83 percent of median at this time last year. This also brings statewide Water Year 2025 to date precipitation up to 100 percent of median.
- In the **Arkansas basin**, October precipitation came in at 116 percent of median, as compared to 86 percent of median at this time last year. This also brings Arkansas basin Water Year 2025 to date precipitation up to 100 percent of median.
- In the **Upper Rio Grande basin**, October precipitation came in at 160 percent of median, as compared to 67 percent of median at this time last year. This also brings Upper Rio Grande basin Water Year 2025 to date precipitation up to 160 percent of median.



USGS

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		

Image Caption: [USGS 7 day average streamflow for Colorado](#) valid November 13th, 2024





# Hydrologic Conditions Colorado Snowpack

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

- Although it's very early in the season, [Colorado Statewide Snowpack](#) was at 146 percent of median, as of November 13th, 2024.
- Although it's very early in the season, [Arkansas basin](#) snowpack was at 246 percent of median, as of November 13th, 2024.
- Although it's very early in the season, [Upper Rio Grande basin](#) snowpack was at 237 percent of median as of November 13th, 2024.

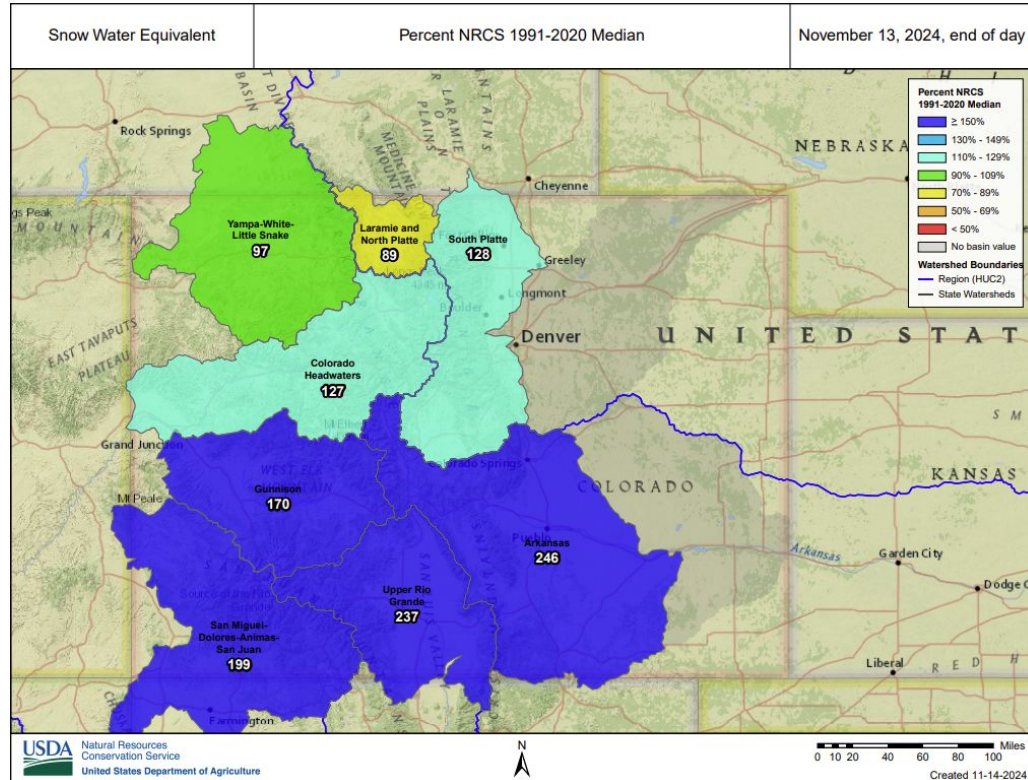


Image Caption: Current [USDA NRCS Colorado SNOWTEL SWE % of Normal](#)







# 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 well above seasonal norms across south central and southeast Colorado.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
NOV 13, 2024

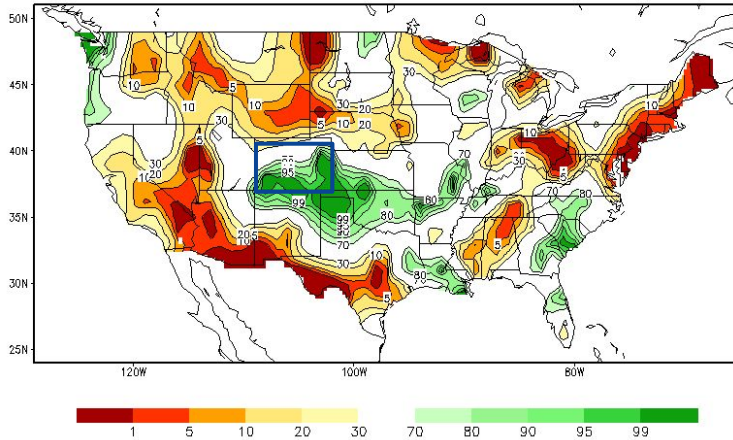


Image Caption: [CPC Daily Soil Moisture Ranking](#)  
valid November 13th, 2024

- NRCS data indicated [statewide Colorado Reservoir Storage](#) was at 92 percent of median at the end of October, as compared to 100 percent of median at this time last year.
- In the **Arkansas basin**, reservoir storage was at 115 percent of median at the end of October, as compared to 115 percent of median at this time last year.
- In the **Rio Grande basin**, reservoir storage was at 128 percent of median at the end of October, as compared to 135 percent of median at this time last year.





# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

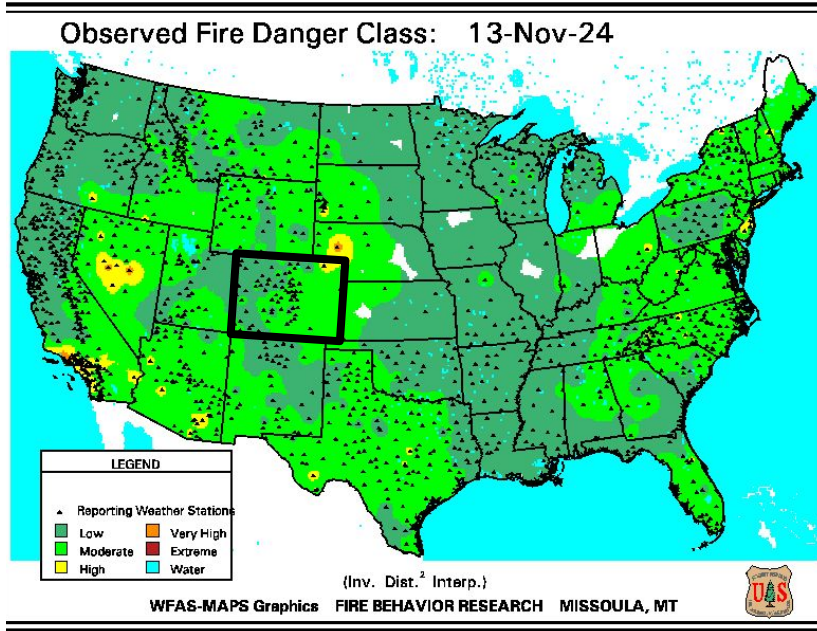


Image Caption: [Wildland Fire Assessment System Observed Fire Danger](#) valid Nov 13th, 2024

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

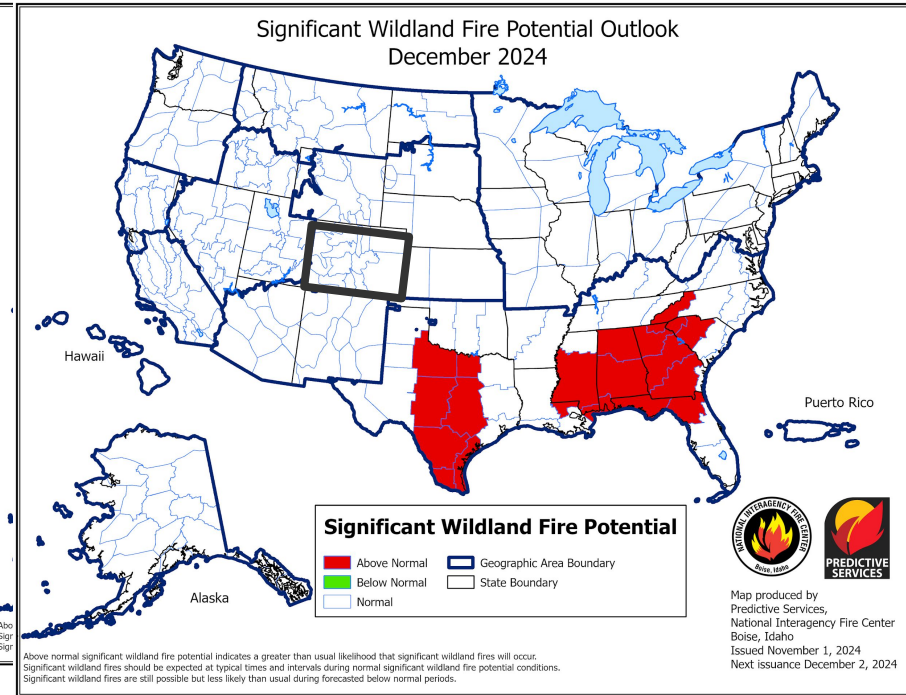


Image Caption: [NIFC Monthly Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook](#) valid for December 2024





# Long-Range Three Month Outlook (Nov-Jan)

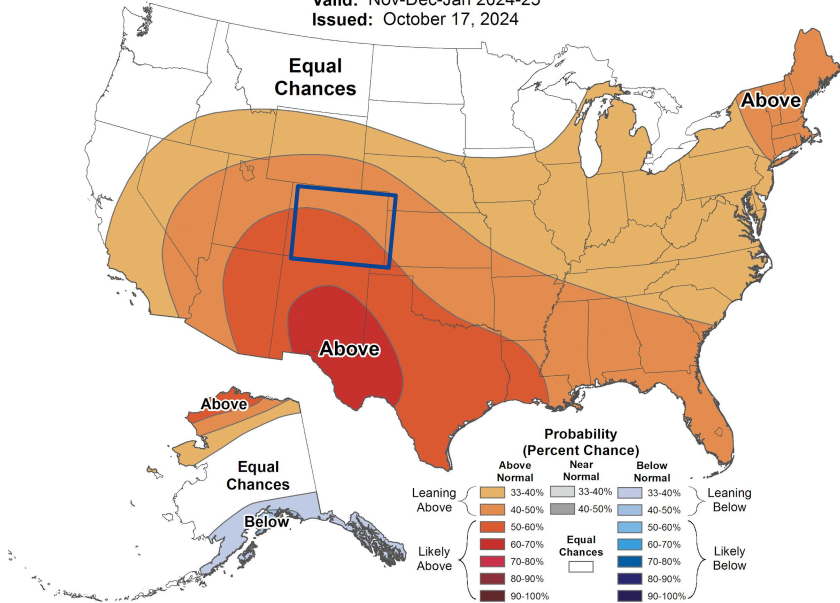
The latest seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



## Seasonal Temperature Outlook



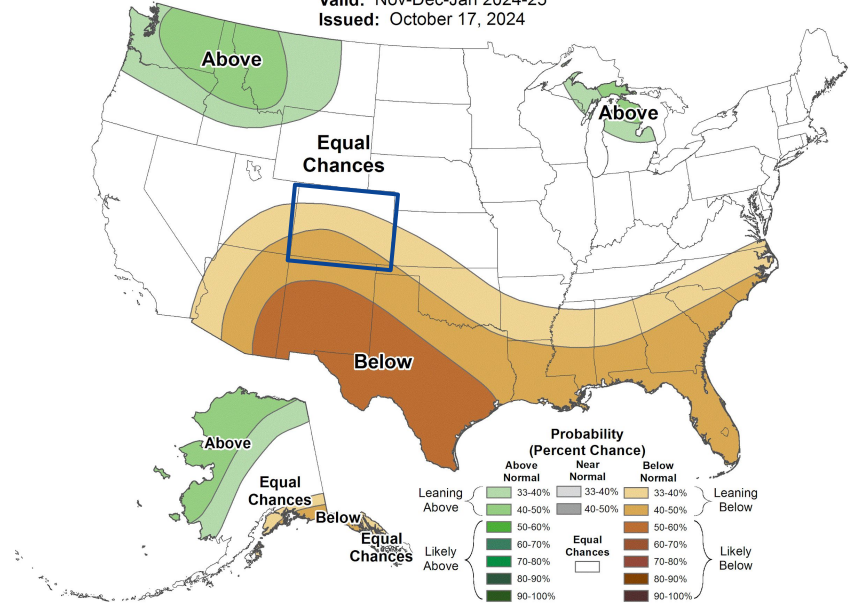
Valid: Nov-Dec-Jan 2024-25  
Issued: October 17, 2024



## Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Nov-Dec-Jan 2024-25  
Issued: October 17, 2024



The CPC outlook for November of 2024 through January of 2025 again leans to above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation across south central and southeast Colorado.



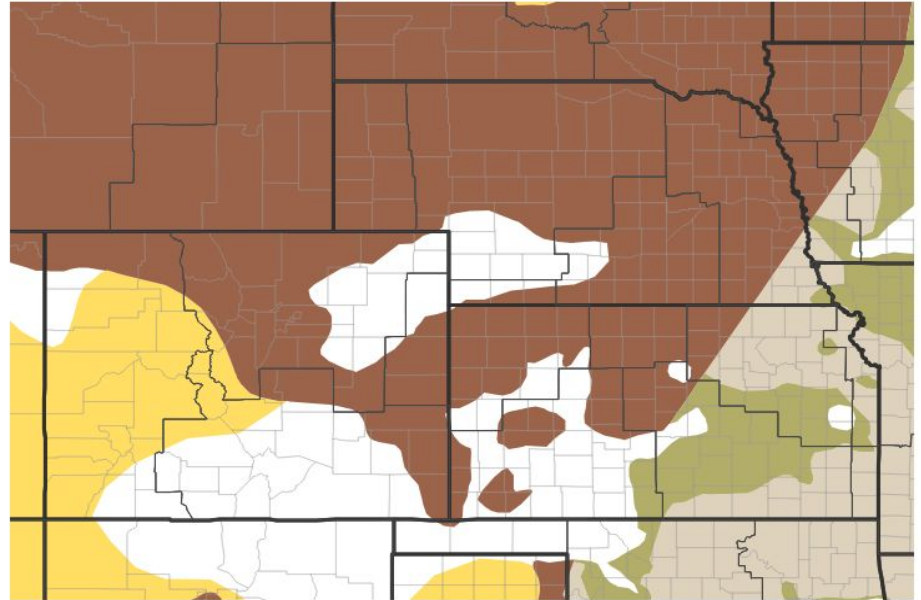


# Drought Three Month Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are predicted to persist and possibly expand across south central and southeast Colorado through the rest the Fall and into the early Winter.

## Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for October 31, 2024–January 31, 2025



### Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 10/31/24

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  
Pueblo, Colorado