



# Drought Information Statement for Eastern Washington & North Idaho

Valid October 17, 2024

Issued By: NWS Spokane, WA

Contact Information: [w-otx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:w-otx.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This will be the last monthly update until drought significantly degrades.
  - 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.
- 
- LITTLE CHANGE TO DROUGHT OVER THE INLAND NW, YET WETTER OUTLOOK FAVORED
    - Moderate to Severe drought remains across much of the region
    - Above normal precipitation favored for late fall into early winter which should help alleviate drought conditions



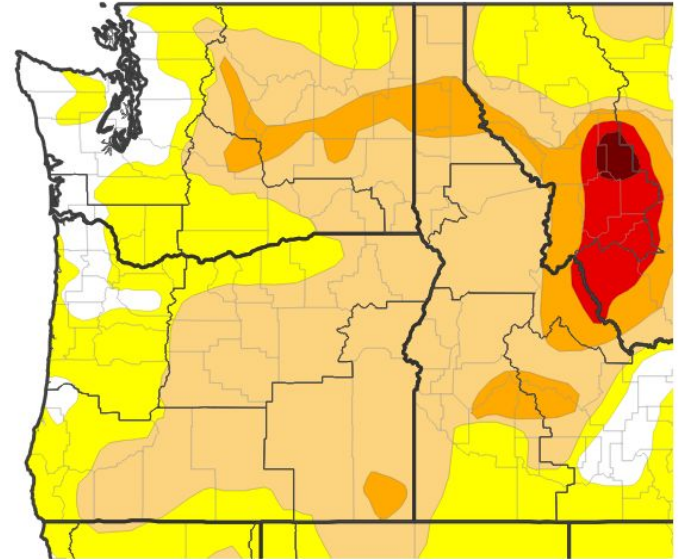


# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent for the Inland NW
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** NONE **0%**
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):** central Idaho Panhandle to the lee of the central Cascades ~ **more than 21%**
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** much of central central and eastern WA and the ID Panhandle ~ **less than 63%**
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Northcentral and northeast WA, and the far northern ID Panhandle ~ **near 16%**
  - NONE: **0%**

## U.S. Drought Monitor



## U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 10/15/24

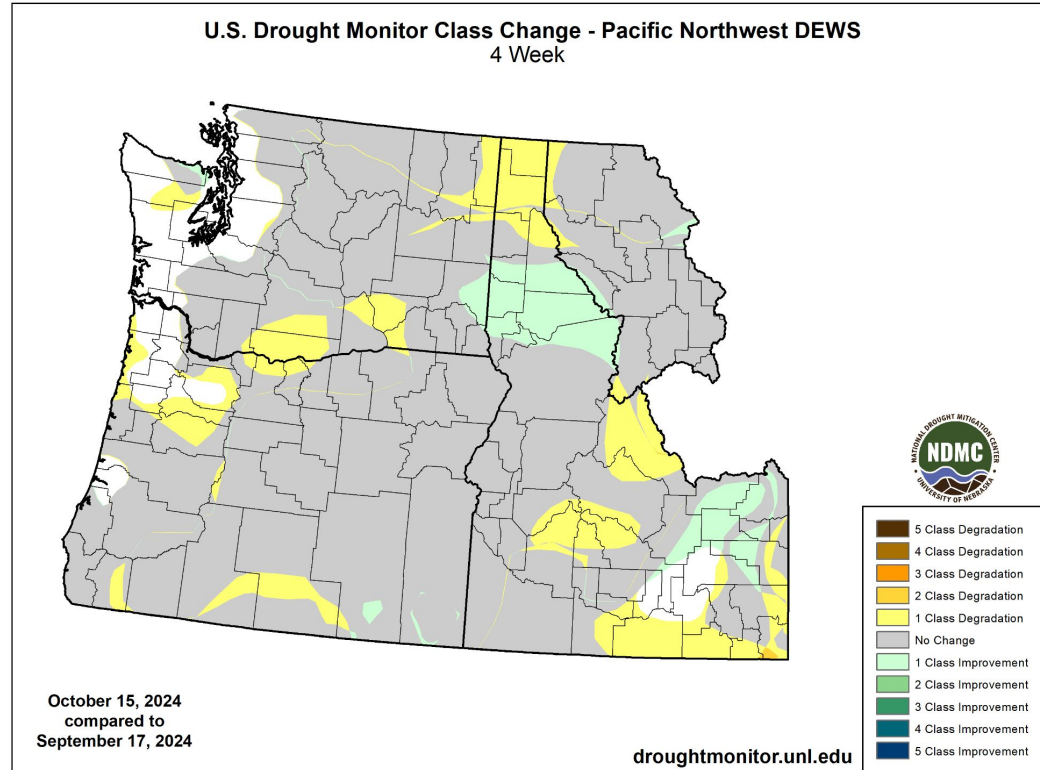




# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change
  - No Change: much of eastern WA
  - Drought Improved: southern ID Panhandle
  - Drought degraded: northern ID Panhandle



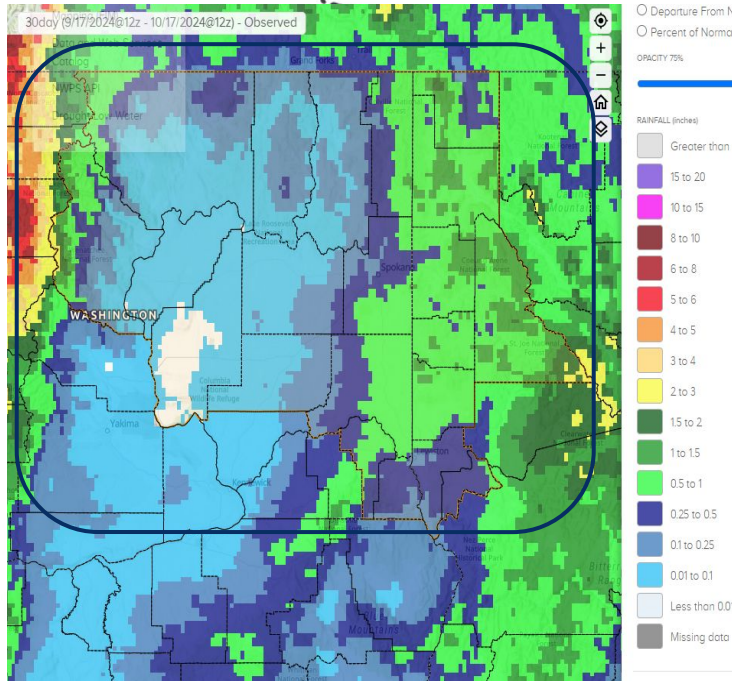


# Precipitation

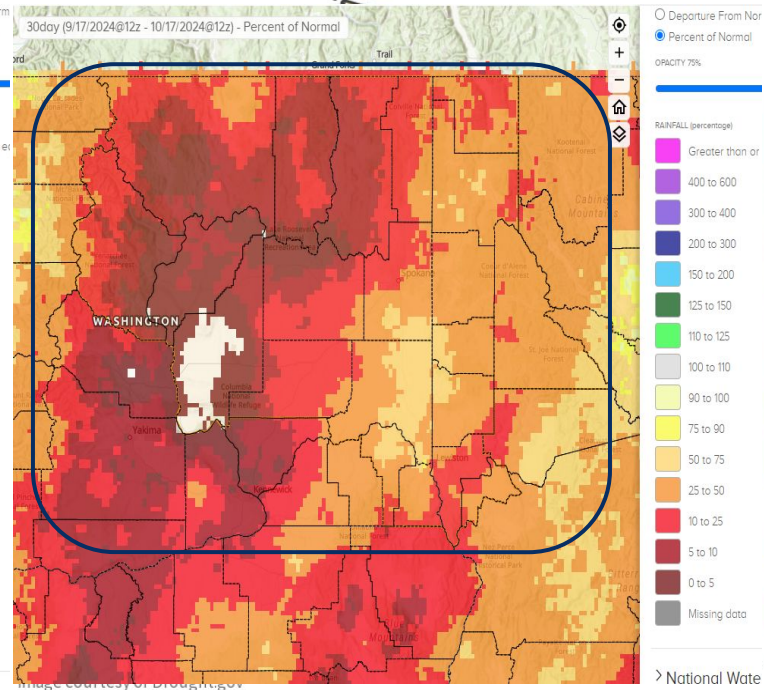
Last 30 Days

Precipitation over the last 30 days has been below normal across the Inland NW and especially dry across the western Columbia Basin.

### NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



### 30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



> National Water





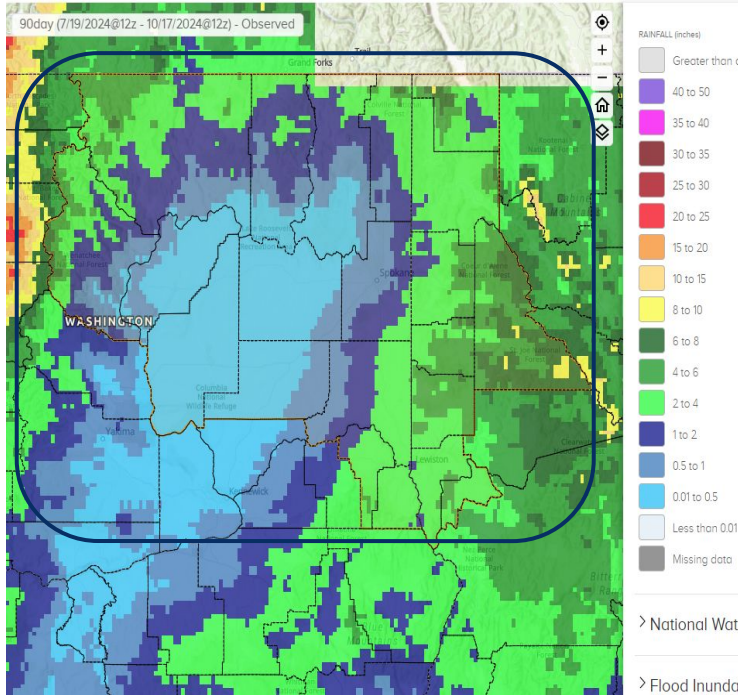
# Precipitation

Last 90 Days

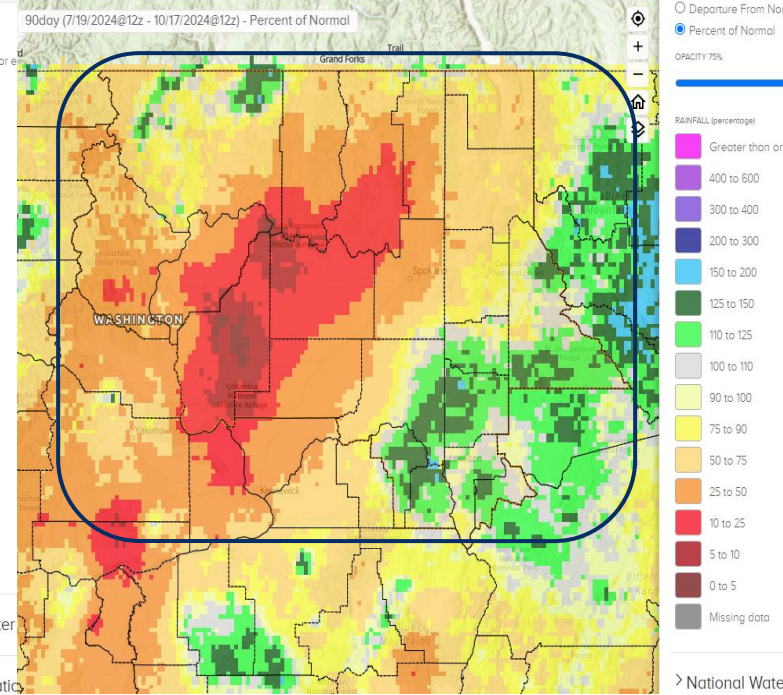
Precipitation over the last 90 days has been wetter across the Palouse region and the central ID Mountains.

Unfortunately long term dryness remains across central WA.

### NWPS 90-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



### 90-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal





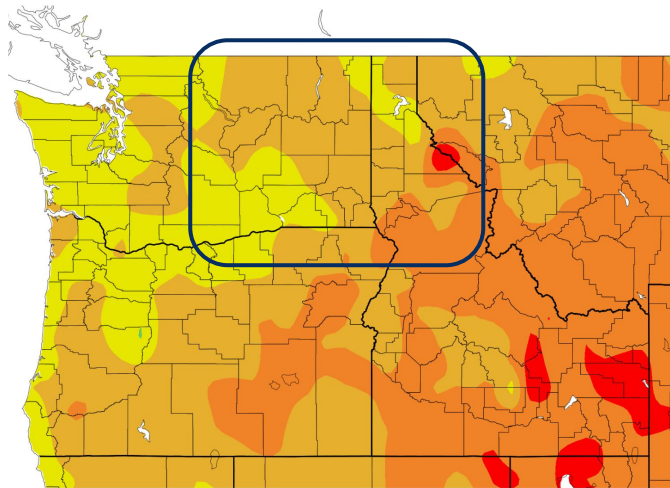
# Temperature

Last 7 Days and 30 Days

Temperatures the last week and last 30 days have been warmer than normal across much of the Inland NW by 1 to 4 degrees.

## 7-Day Temperature Anomaly

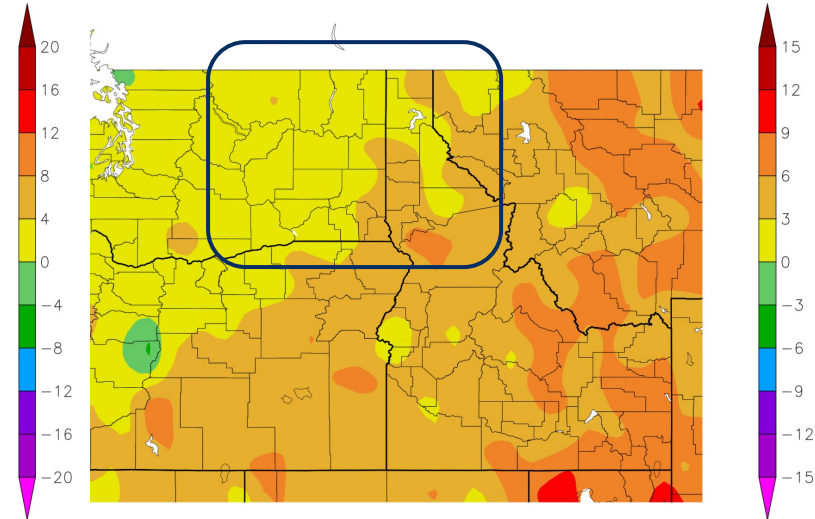
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
10/10/2024 - 10/16/2024



10/17/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

## 30-Day Temperature Anomaly

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
9/17/2024 - 10/16/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 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 over the past 7 days have been near to mostly below normal across much of the region given the drier weather pattern.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture remains drier than normal across much of the Inland NW and has expanded in the last month with soil moisture percentiles in single digit percentiles. Crop moisture index ranges from Excessively Dry in central WA and Abnormally Dry in extreme eastern WA and north ID. Producers brought their cattle home, and fall planting was underway. Winter wheat seeding was mostly complete, although soil conditions were dry. All other harvests continued as normal. According the [USDA Crop Progress Reports](#)

## Mitigation Actions

- The WA [Drought Emergency](#) for much of the state remains in effect.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Hednesday, October 16, 2024

- Stream flows over the past 7 days have been near to mostly below normal across much of the region given the drier weather pattern. Near normal flows were found across the northern ID Panhandle due to the regulated flows.

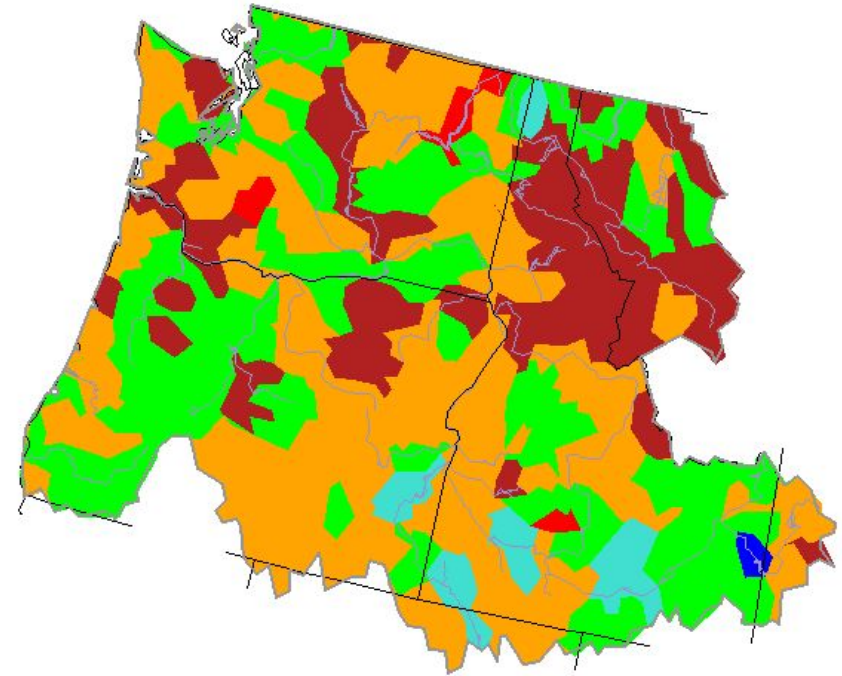


Image Caption: [USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map](#) valid October 16, 2024

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			



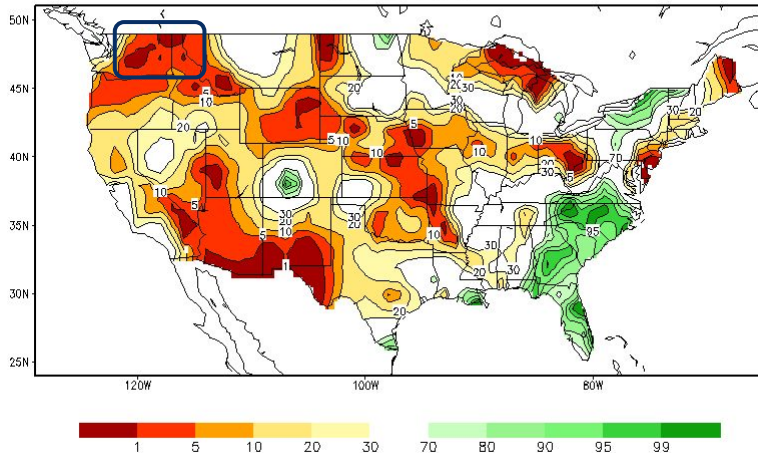




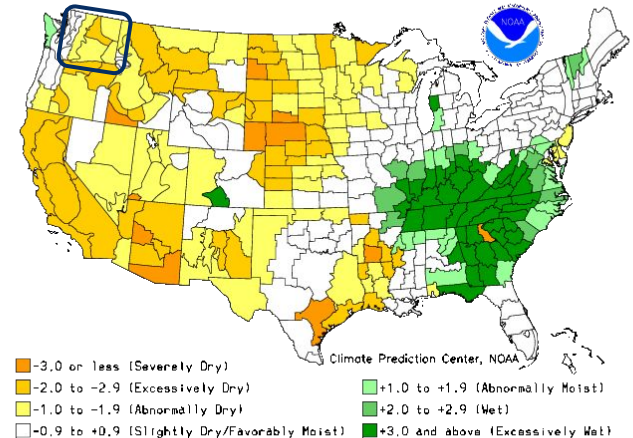
# Agricultural Conditions and Impacts

- Soil moisture remains drier than normal across much of the Inland NW and has expanded in the last month with soil moisture percentiles in single digit percentiles.
- Crop moisture index ranges from Excessively Dry in central WA and Abnormally Dry in extreme eastern WA and north ID. Producers brought their cattle home, and fall planting was underway. Winter wheat seeding was mostly complete, although soil conditions were dry. All other harvests continued as normal.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
OCT 16, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division  
Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 12, 2024  
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

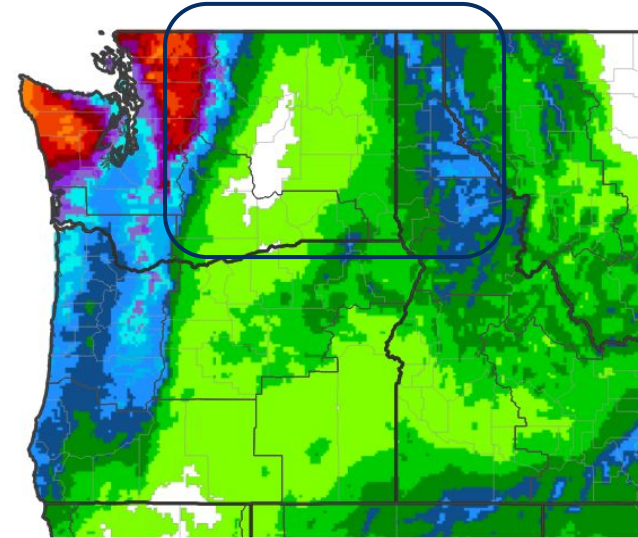




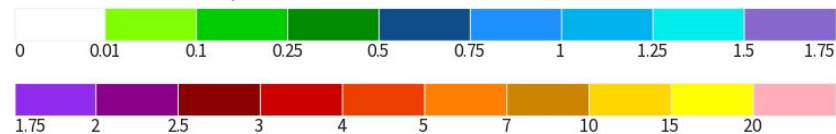
# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Here is a forecast of precipitation for the Pacific NW for the upcoming week.
- Rounds of precipitation are anticipated this week, especially for Oct 21-22. High elevation snow is forecast.
- The 8-14 day outlook favors
  - 30-40% of **below normal temperatures**
  - 40-50% of **above normal precipitation** for late October.

## 7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for October 17, 2024–October 24, 2024



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 10/17/24

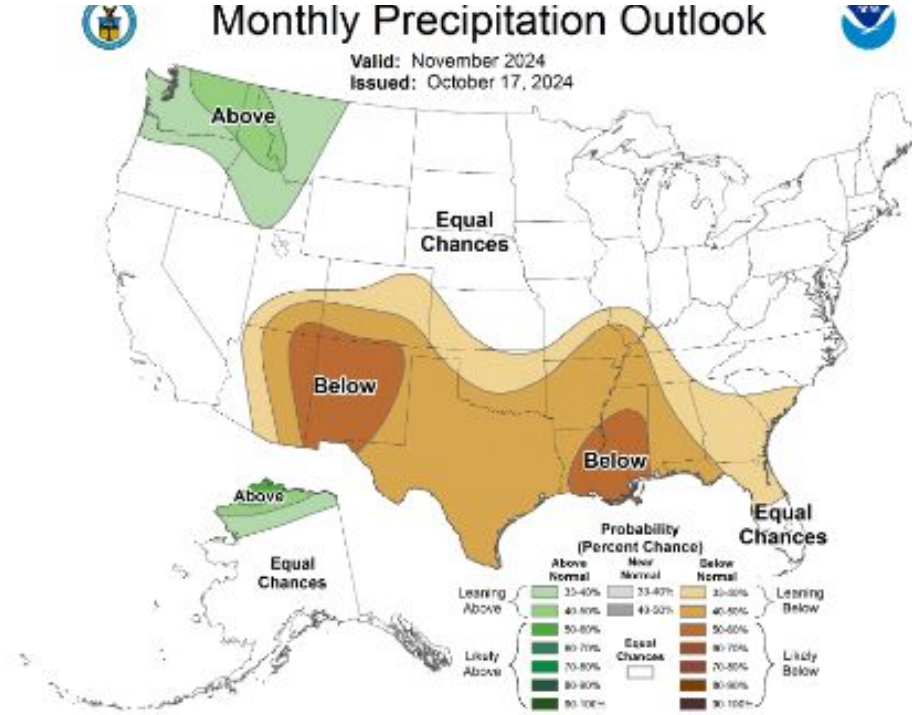
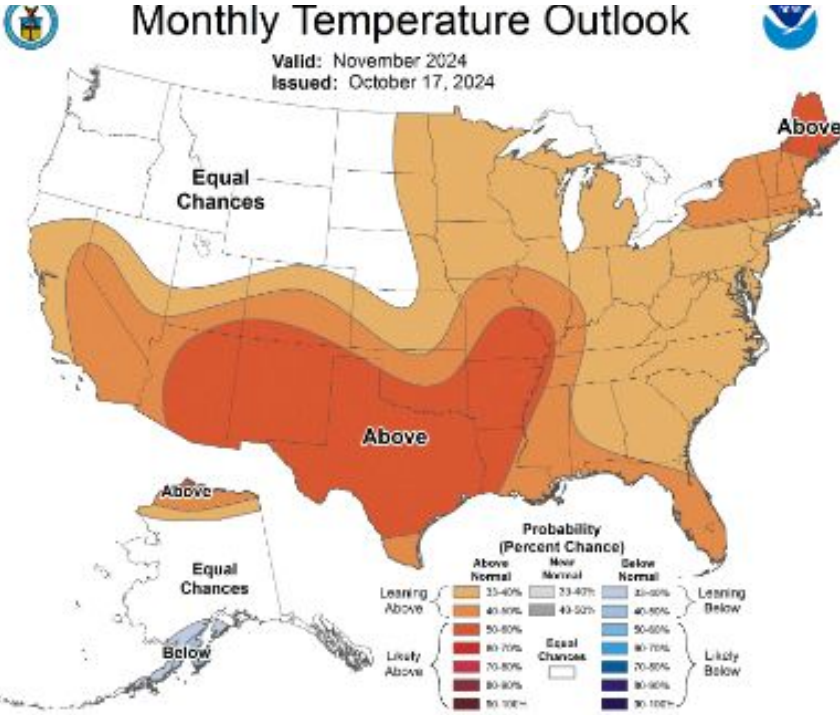




# Monthly Outlook

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

**NOVEMBER** is favoring equal chances of near, below, to above normal temperatures and 30-50% chances to above normal precipitation across the Inland NW.

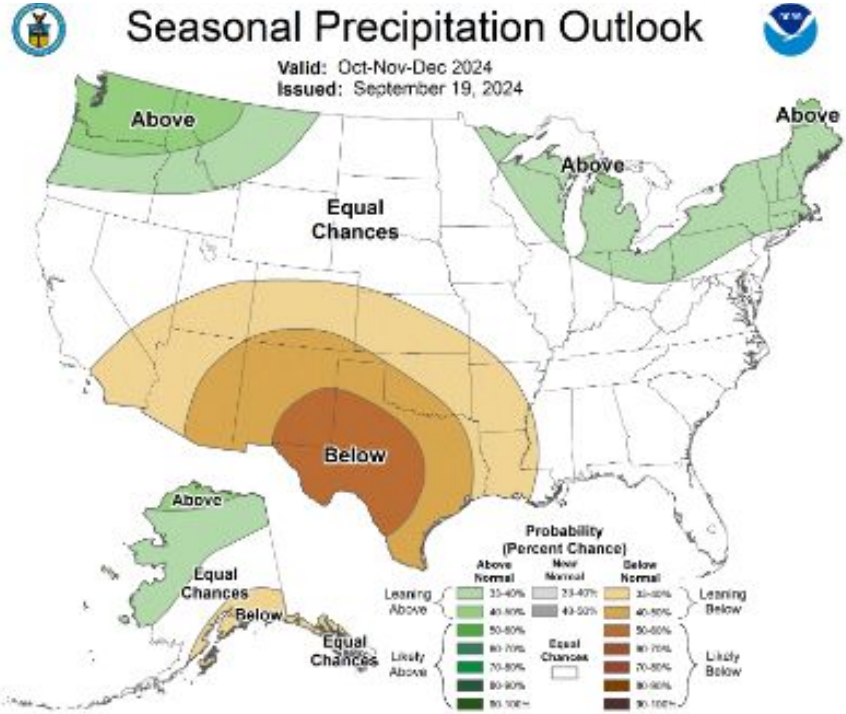
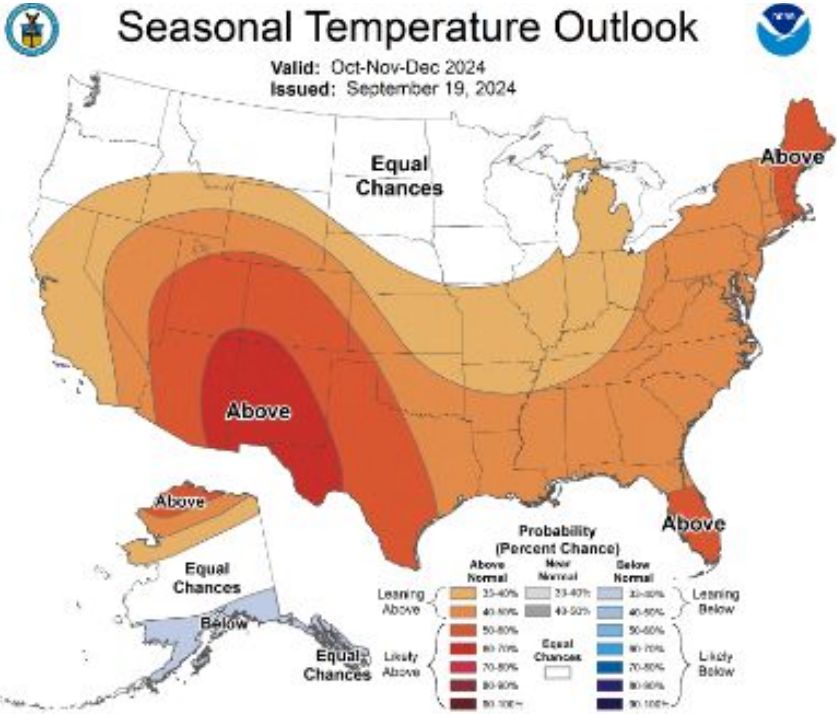




# Long-Range Outlooks

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

OCT-NOV-DEC outlook has equal chances of near, above, to below normal temperatures and up to 50% chance of above normal precipitation across the Inland NW.





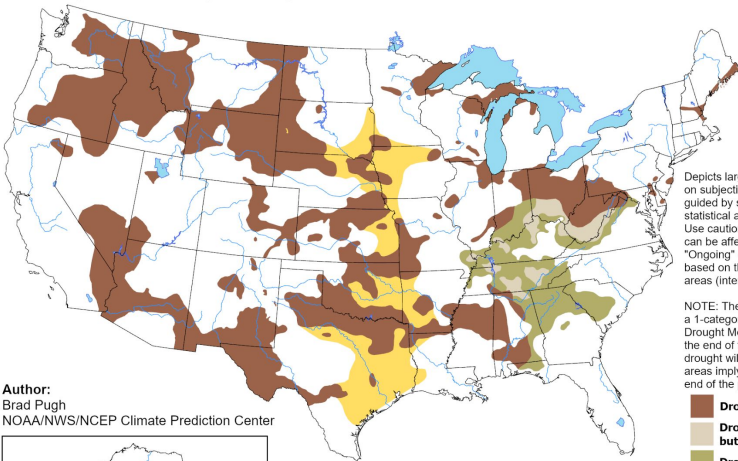
# Drought Outlook

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

The Monthly Drought Outlook shows drought likely to persist across the Inland NW. The Seasonal Drought Outlook shows drought likely to improve or end across the Inland NW by January 2025.

## U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for October 2024  
Released September 30, 2024

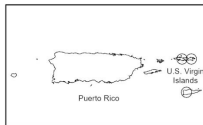
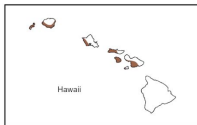


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to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

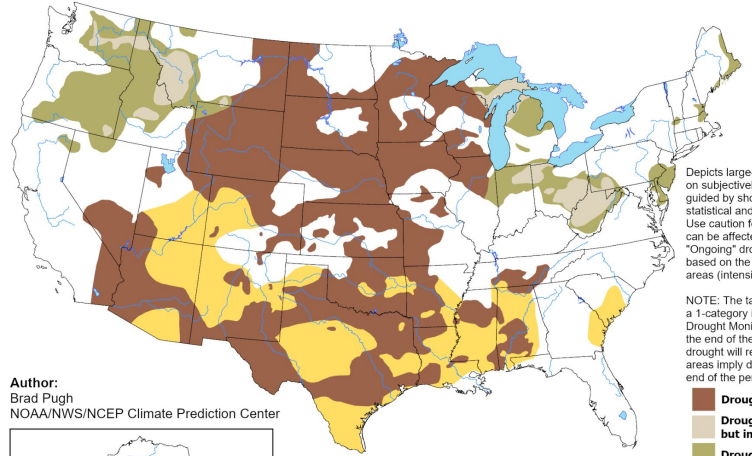
Author:  
Brad Pugh  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



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

## U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for October 17, 2024 - January 31, 2025  
Released October 17, 2024

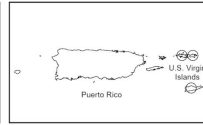
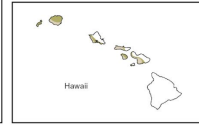


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to 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:  
Brad Pugh  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



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



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Spokane, WA