

NWS GRAND JUNCTION COLORADO



A L O O K
BACK AT

AUGUST 2022

WEATHER ACROSS E UTAH / W COLORADO

The monsoon continued unabated through the month of August, with daily thunderstorm activity producing heavy rain across eastern Utah and western Colorado. Short breaks between moisture surges allowed temperatures to climb to unseasonable, near-record levels. During the peak moisture days, numerous flood products were issued all over the area. Some significant flooding events occurred in eastern Utah and southwestern Colorado, where some of the deepest moisture resided. Utah 211 and Highway 191 experienced significant damage on the 14th, with vehicles stranded and parts of the road washed out. Perhaps the most high profile event of the month was the Moab-Mill Creek flood on the evening of August 20th, where heavy precipitation over the headwaters of Mill Creek led to an 11.6 foot rise on the creek near Moab, and flooding several downtown homes and businesses. The last week of August saw a pattern shift that finally shut down the monsoonal tap, allowing the West Slope to dry out.

AUGUST 2022

CLIMATE SUMMARY



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NOTE: all data mentioned is collected from our automated observing stations from 10 airports across the area. Some observers in more remote areas DECEMBER have measured warmer or colder temperatures, or more or less precipitation than mentioned in this summary.

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STORY OF THE MONTH **MOAB FLASH FLOOD**

At the tail end of an unusually long monsoon season, August had its fair share of flooding events, including a major flash flood in Moab. On the evening of August 20th, the combination of deep monsoonal moisture and ample daytime heating fired off storms over the Mill Creek watershed. Over the course of an hour, two rain gauges in Spanish Valley registered between 1 and 2 inches of rainfall, followed by around 2 hours of lighter rain. This rainfall ultimately led Mill Creek to rise by 11.6 feet in an hour, flooding downtown Moab and numerous businesses and homes in the area.

Flooding in Downtown Moab (credit: Salt Lake Tribune)



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2022

TEMPERATURES



Location	Average Temp (°F) (VS Normal)	Warmest Temp (°F)	Coldest Temp (°F)
Aspen, CO	64.5 (+1.2)	87 on 8/9	40 on 8/29
Cortez, CO	72.0 (+2.1)	96 on 8/3	47 on 8/29
Craig, CO	69.2 (+2.9)	97 on 8/10	40 on 8/30
Durango, CO	69.5 (+2.0)	89 on 8/10, 14	45 on 8/29
Grand Junction, CO	78.9 (+2.6)	100 on 8/11	55 on 8/27
Meeker, CO	67.6 (+0.8)	93 on 8/10	42 on 8/29
Montrose, CO	72.7 (+1.3)	94 on 8/9, 10	50 on 8/27
Rifle, CO	73.9 (+2.6)	99 on 8/11	48 on 8/27, 29
Canyonlands Airport, UT	79.2 (+1.2)	100 on 8/4, 9	57 on 8/27
Vernal, UT	75.2 (+3.4)	98 on 8/10	53 on 8/27, 29



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PRECIPITATION



Location	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)
Aspen, CO	2.29	+0.81
Cortez, CO	2.24	+0.65
Craig, CO	0.60	-0.37
Durango, CO	1.28	-0.09
Grand Junction, CO	0.43	-0.49
Meeker, CO	0.81	-0.52
Montrose, CO	0.60	-0.30
Rifle, CO	0.66	-0.41
Canyonlands Airport, UT	0.62	-0.01
Vernal, UT	0.47	-0.29

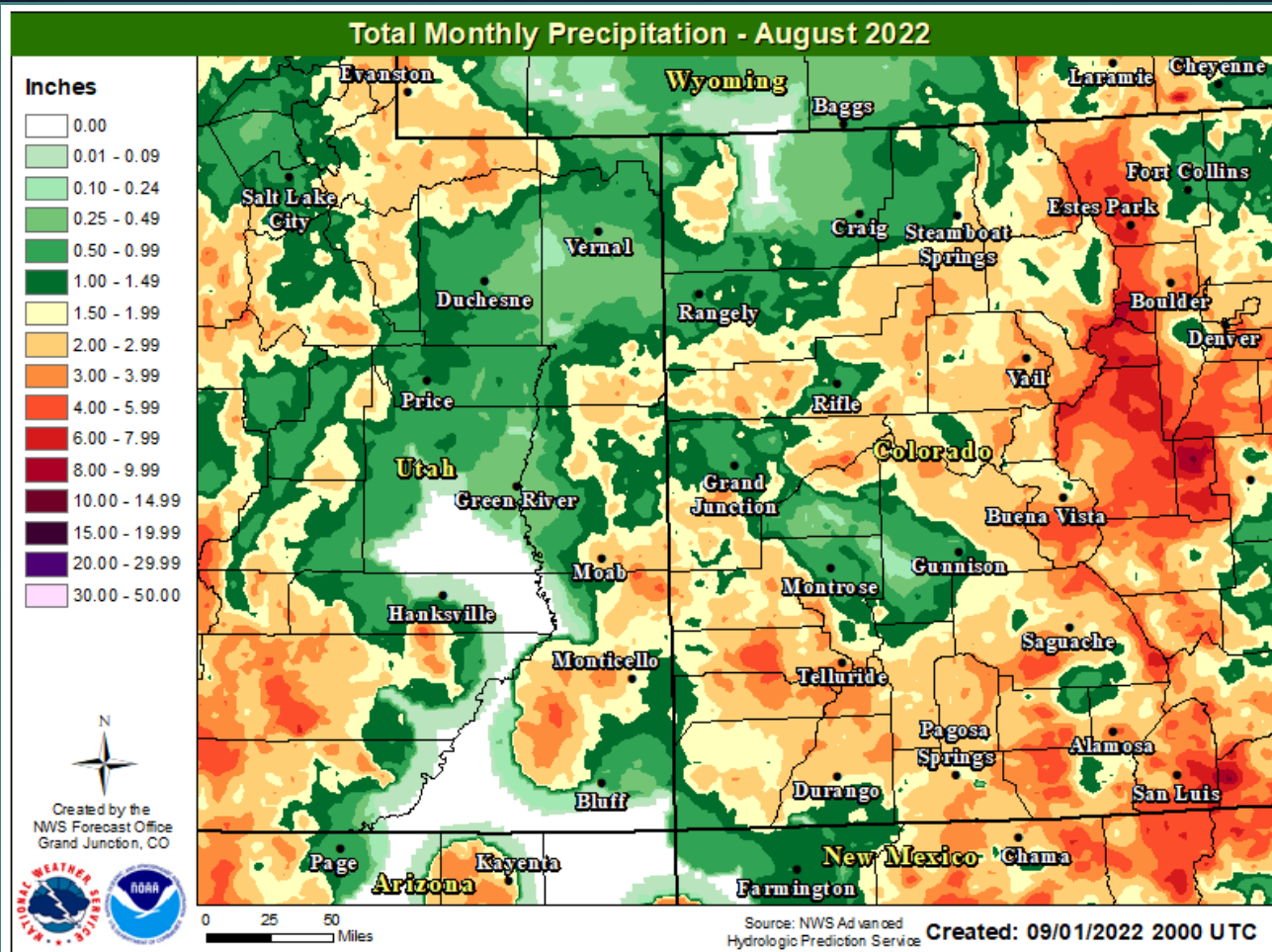


AUGUST 2022

CLIMATE SUMMARY



TOTAL MONTHLY PRECIPITATION



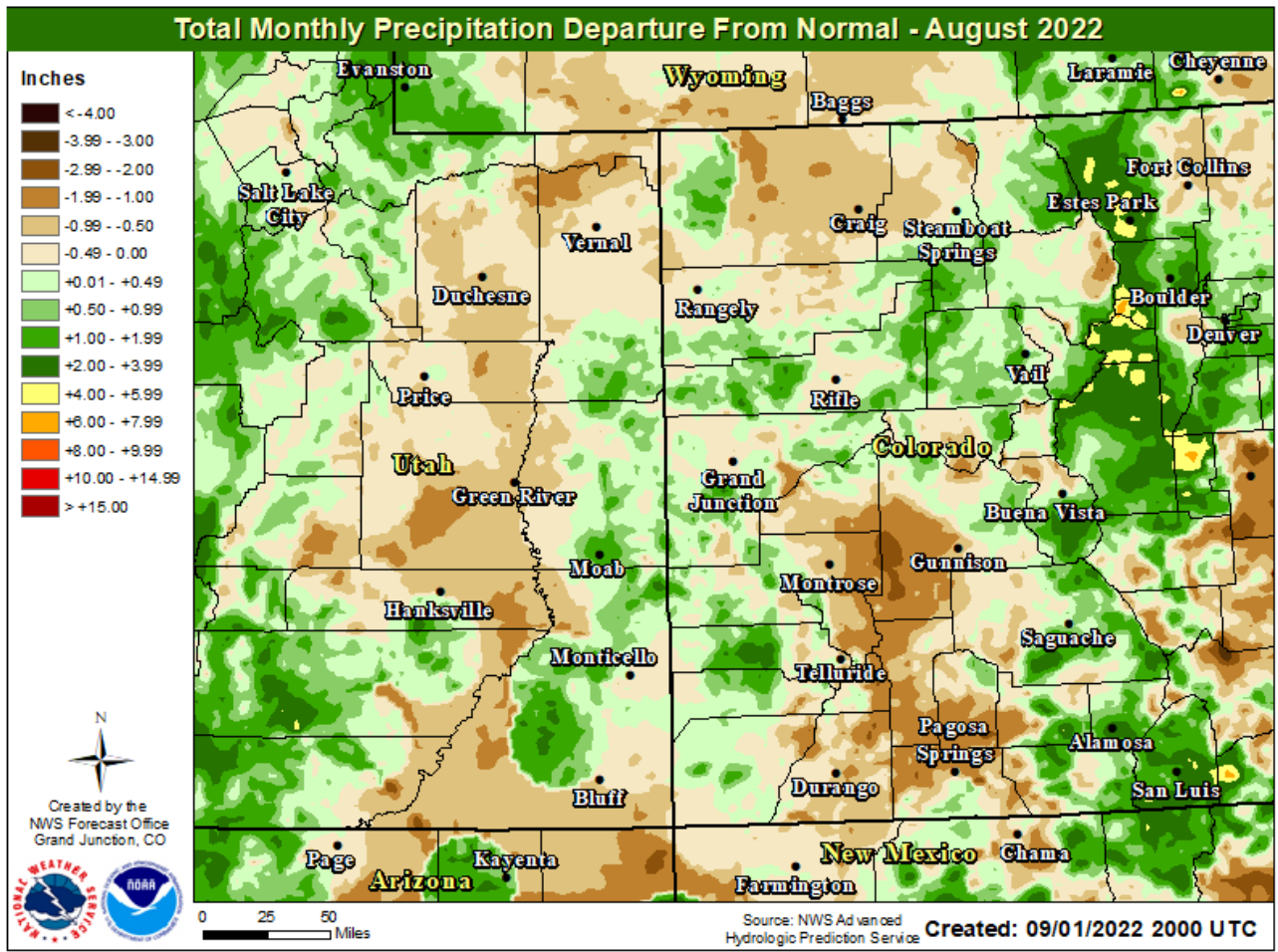
AUGUST 2022

CLIMATE SUMMARY



TOTAL MONTHLY PRECIPITATION

DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL



AUGUST 2022

CLIMATE SUMMARY



DAILY RECORDS **R E P O R T**

A total of 3 daily records were set across the primary climate sites

Site	Date	Record Type	New Record	Previous Record
Grand Junction, CO	August 5th	High Min Temperature	75 F	75 F, set in 1960
Grand Junction, CO	August 14th	High Min Temperature	71 F	71 F, set in 2021
Grand Junction, CO	August 31st	High Max Temperature	98 F	98 F, set in 2019

High Max

Low Max

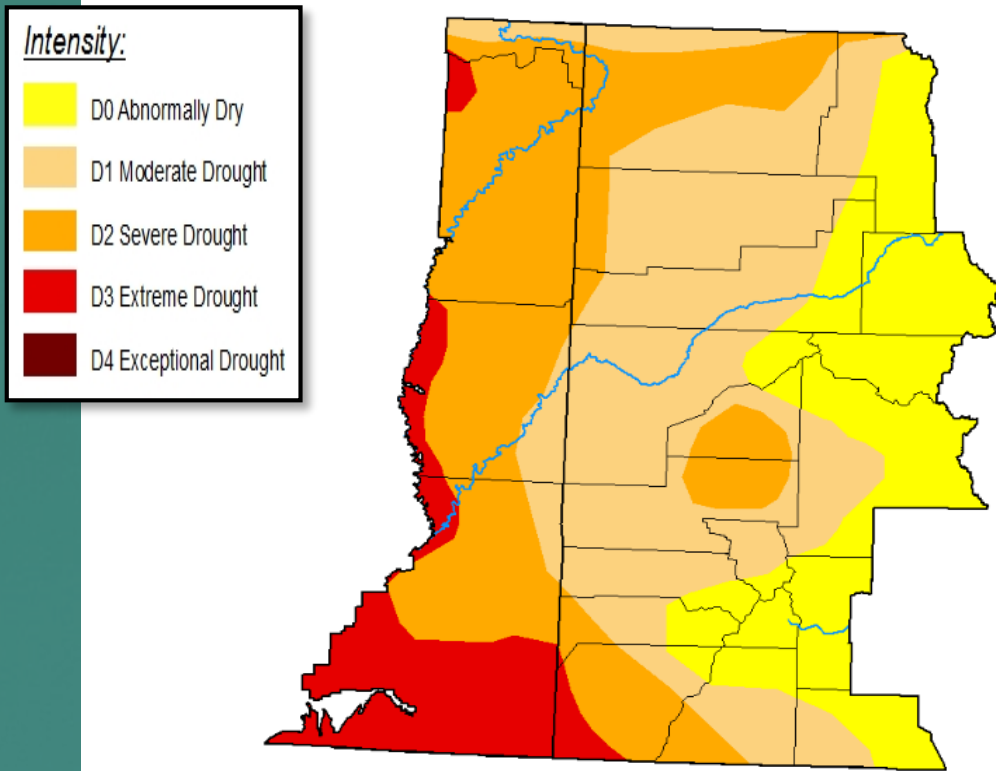
Precip

High Min

Low Min



Extreme (D3) drought remains across eastern Utah and far southwest Colorado. Eastern portions of southwest Colorado, corresponding roughly with the San Juan Mountain range and some of the central mountain ranges, has seen significant improvement over the last month, with conditions moving from Severe (D2) drought to Moderate (D1) drought and Abnormally Dry (D0). Some improvement has also occurred along the far northern border with Wyoming. Otherwise, the remainder of the area has seen little change.



Source: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>

SEPTEMBER
2 0 2 2

OUTLOOK

TEMPERATURES & PRECIPITATION



For southeast Utah and southwest Colorado, odds are slightly favoring below normal temperatures for the month of AUGUST. Northeast Utah and northwest Colorado are not favored for either above or below normal temperatures for the month. All of eastern Utah and western Colorado are favored slightly for above normal precipitation, with the Four Corners region and eastern Utah slightly more favored.

Above

Temperatures

**Equal
Chances**

Precipitation