Drought Information Statement for New Mexico

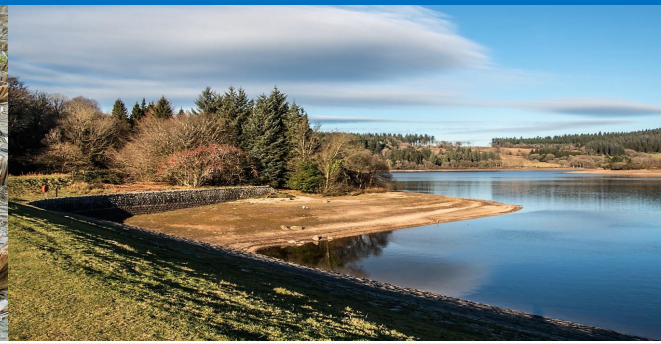
Valid April 11, 2024

Issued By: WFO Albuquerque, NM

Contact Information: sr-abq.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated May 12, 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/abq/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.





U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for New Mexico

- DROUGHT CONDITIONS WIDESPREAD IN NM
  - **D4:** 3.51% of the state is under **Exceptional Drought** conditions. Primarily in the SE.
  - **D3:** 12.74% of the state is under **Extreme Drought** conditions. S NM primarily.
  - **D2:** 19.43% of the state is under **Severe Drought** conditions.
  - **D1:** 39.17% of the state is under **Moderate Drought** conditions.
  - **D0:** 21.63% of the state is under **Abnormally Dry** conditions. Confined to small areas in west central and northeast NM.
  - **No Drought:** 3.53% of the state is under no drought conditions in the west central part of NM.

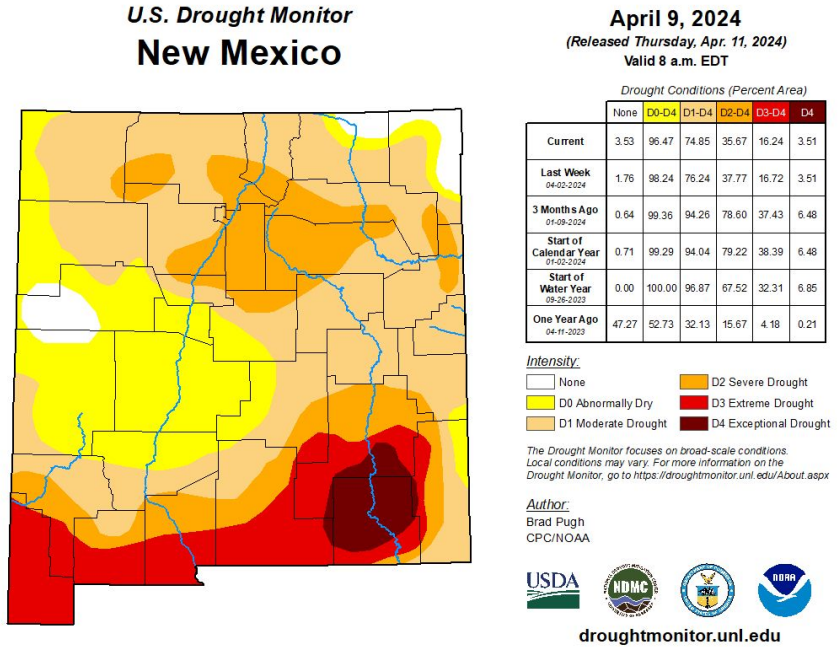


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 7am EST March 7th.

Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4-week change map for [region]

- **Four Week Drought Monitor Class Changes. How did the drought change in NM?**
  - **Drought Worsened?:** 1 and 2 class degradation in the far northeast of the state.
  - **No Change?:** The majority of the state saw no change.
  - **Drought Improved?:** Western and Northwestern New Mexico saw widespread 1 category improvements. Two category improvements were observed in western and southwestern New Mexico.

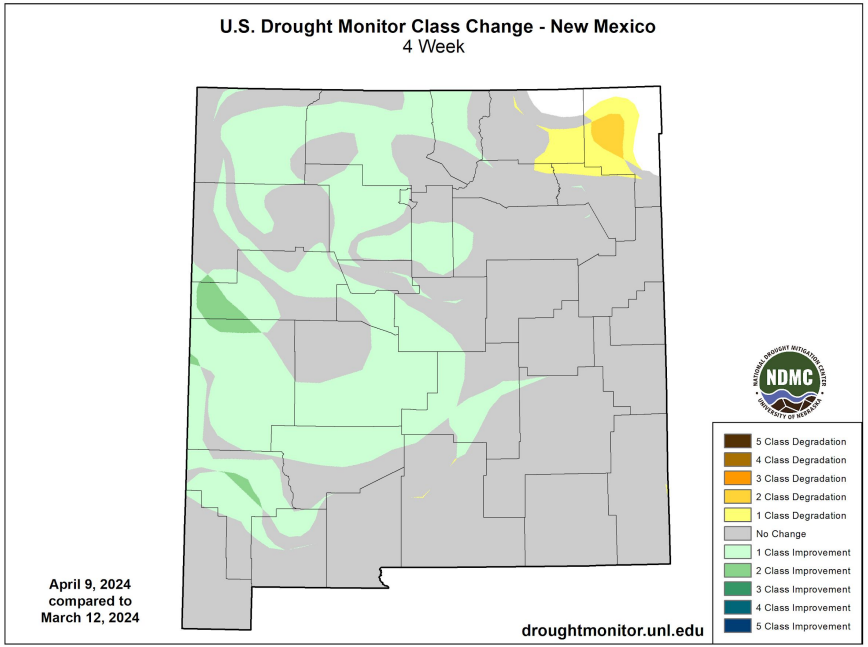
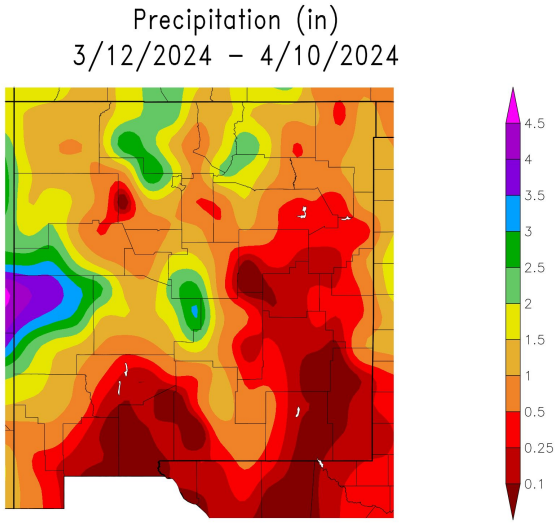


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 7am EST April 9th.

Precipitation

- Much of the western part of the state saw well above normal precipitation in the last month. While in the south and south east precipitation was well below normal. It is important to note that Normal Precipitation for this time of year can be as low as 0.1”.



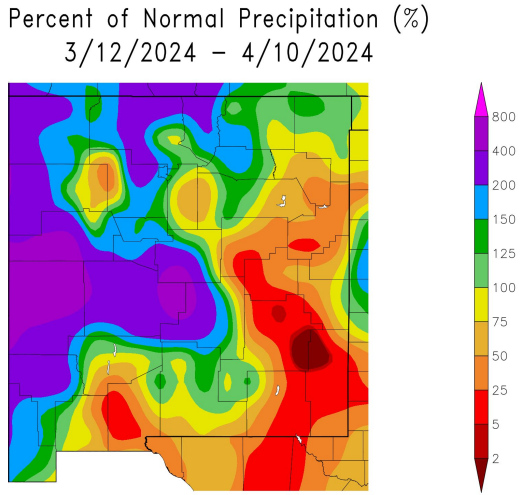
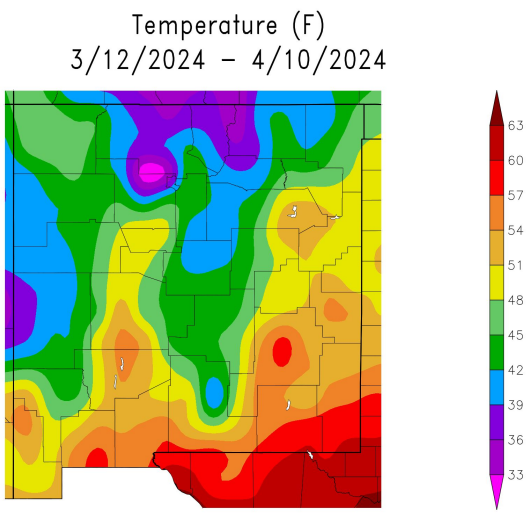


Image Captions:
Left - Precipitation Amount for New Mexico
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for New Mexico
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending April 10, 2024

Temperature

- Temperatures have been largely below normal for most of the state during this unusually cool start to spring.



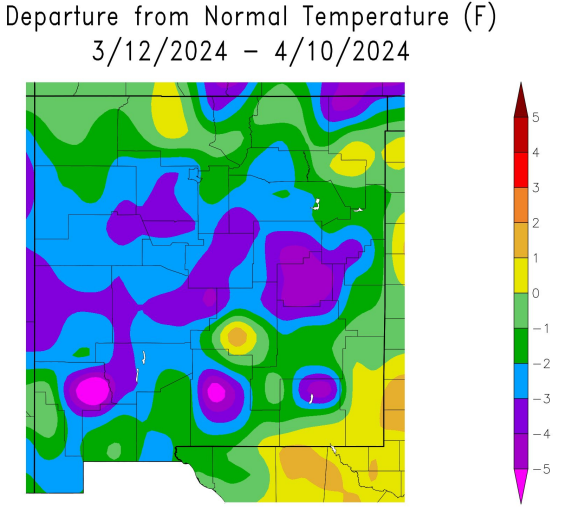


Image Captions:
Left - Average Temperature
Right - Departure from Normal Temperature
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending April 10 2024

Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- This map shows how various river basins are performing compared to a 7 day average streamflow for the week of April 10 over the last 30 years.
- Most of the state is reading as normal with some areas below or much below normal.
- It is important to keep in mind that the major river systems of New Mexico are largely controlled by dams and reservoirs and that “performance” is heavily influenced by human activity.

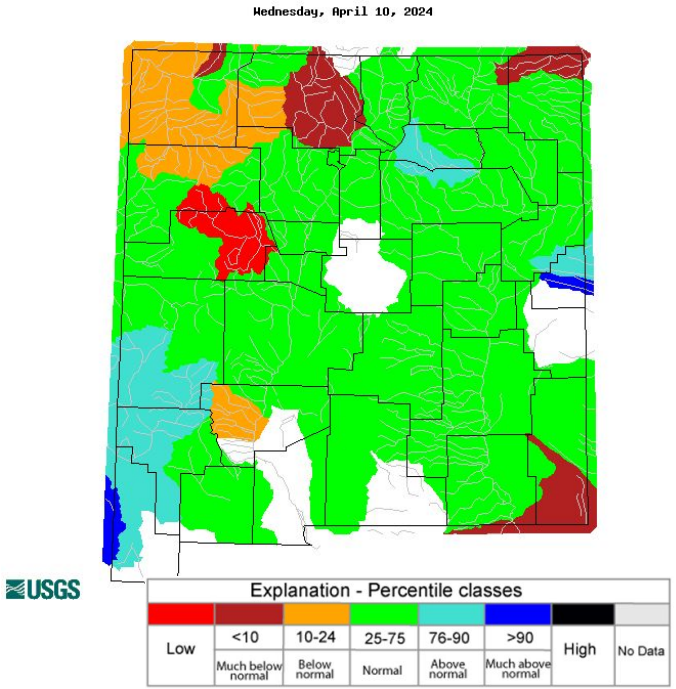
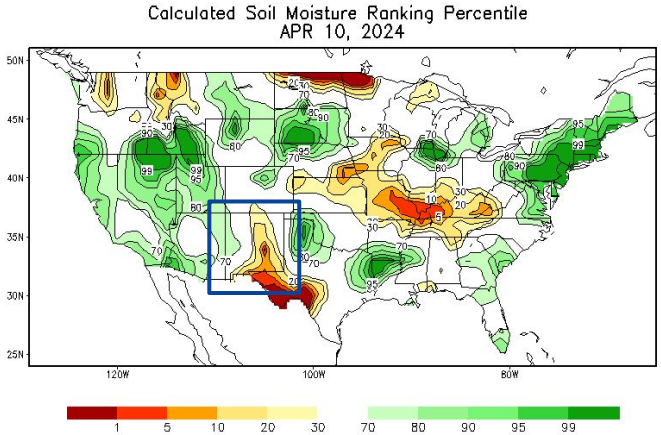


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 04/10/2024

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil Moisture conditions are dry throughout most of central and far southern New Mexico. But along the western border soil conditions are wetter than normal.
- Crop moisture conditions are considered normal.



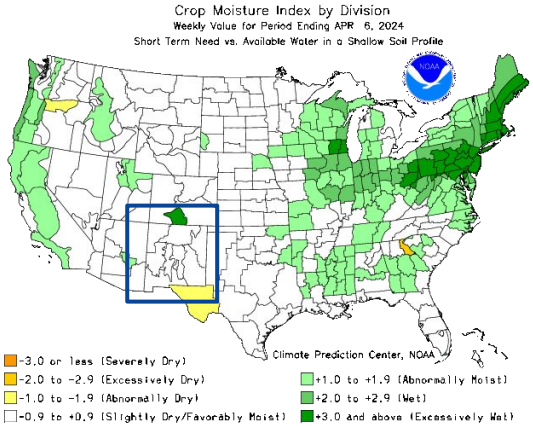


Image Captions:
Left: CPC Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile valid 04/10/2024
Right: Crop Moisture Index by Division. Weekly value for period ending 04/06/2024

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- No significant precipitation is forecast for the state of New Mexico in the next week.

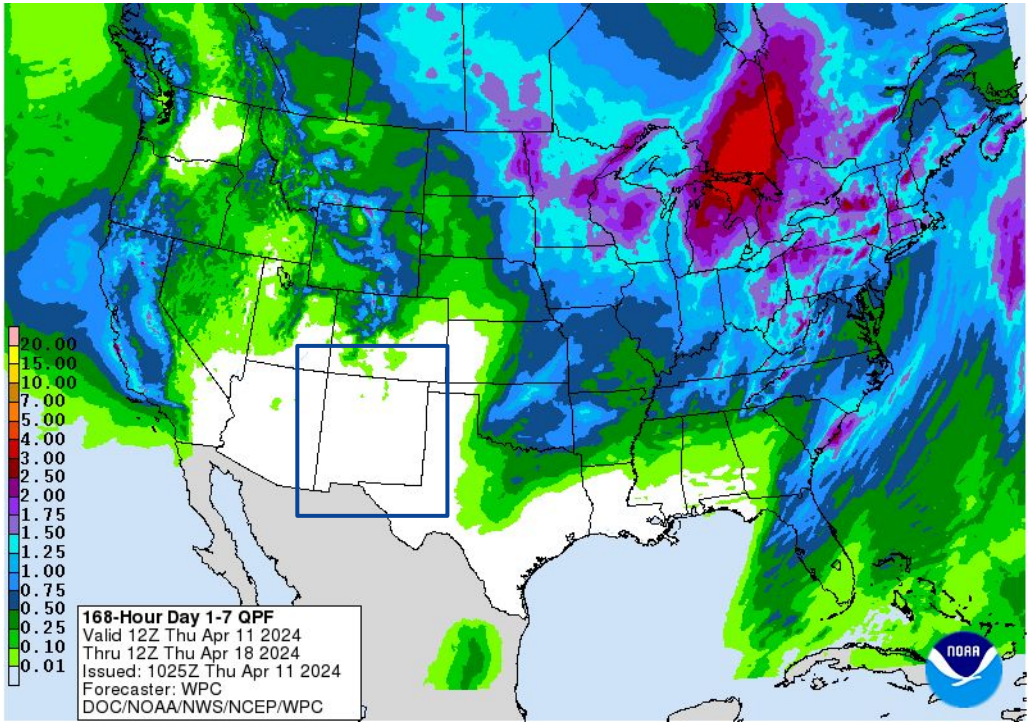
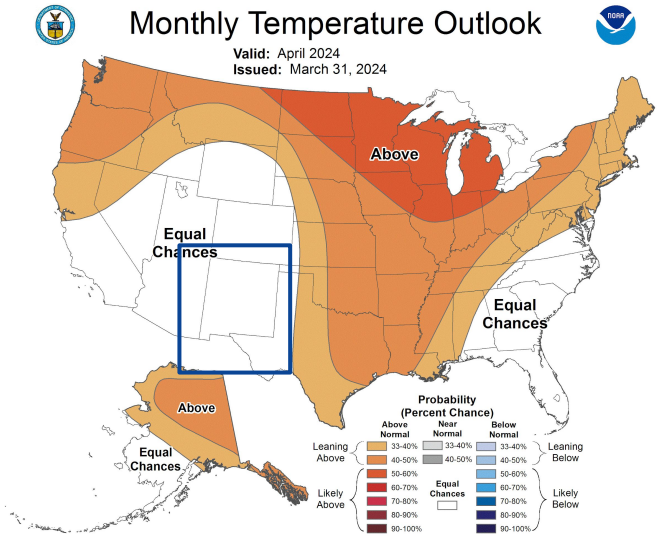


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid 4/11 to 4/18.

Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- The Climate Prediction Center is indicating equal chances of above, below or near normal Temperatures in April.
- The CPC is indicating increased chances of below normal precipitation for April, already one of our driest months.



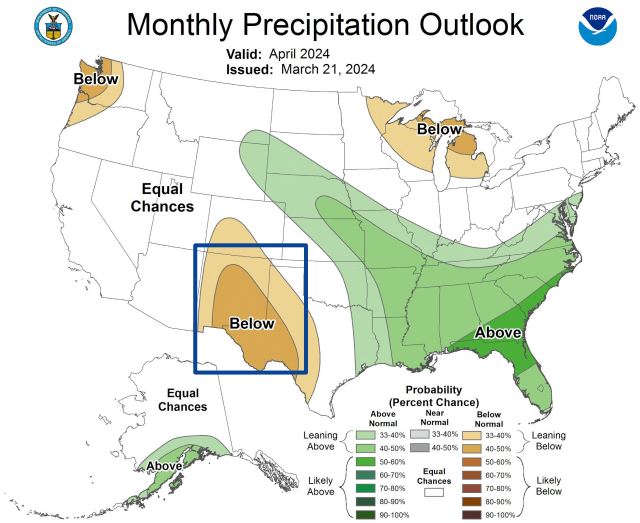
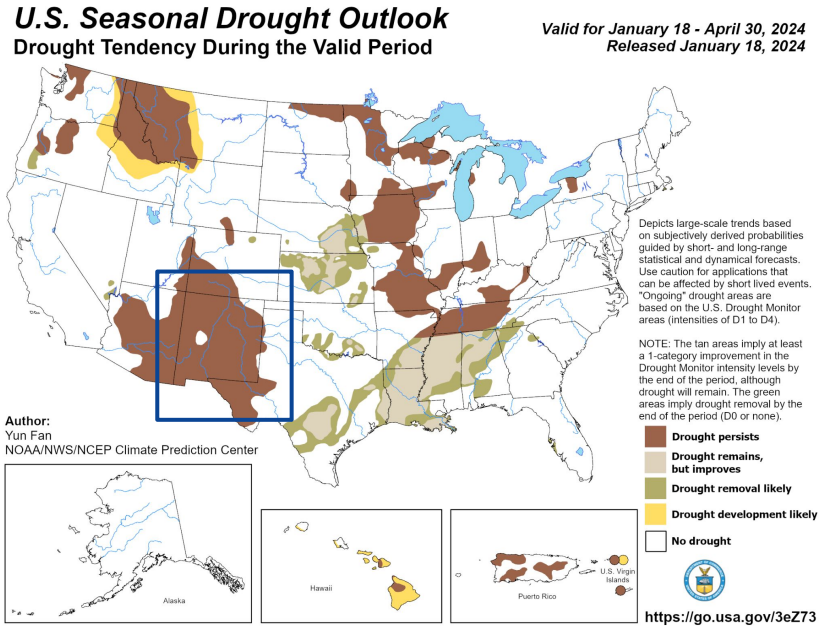


Image Captions:
Left - Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook.
Right - Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook.
Valid April, 2024

Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- Based on the fact that conditions can be quite dry in New Mexico when we call for near normal temperatures and precipitation, the Climate Prediction Center is calling for persistence of drought conditions throughout the state.



Links to the latest:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook

Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released January 18, 2024 valid through April 30th 2024