



Drought Information Statement for Southeast Wyoming and the Nebraska Panhandle

Valid December 30, 2025

Issued By: WFO Cheyenne, WY

Contact Information: nws.cheyenne@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated February 1, 2026 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/cys/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
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- December has been an exceptionally warm month across the area. While higher elevation areas received near average precipitation, most of the High Plains and other valley areas were dry.
 - Drought has expanded over the last month. Moderate (D1) drought or worse now covers nearly the entire Nebraska panhandle and much of southeast Wyoming.
 - Mountain snowpack is at or near record lows in southeast Wyoming and northern Colorado.



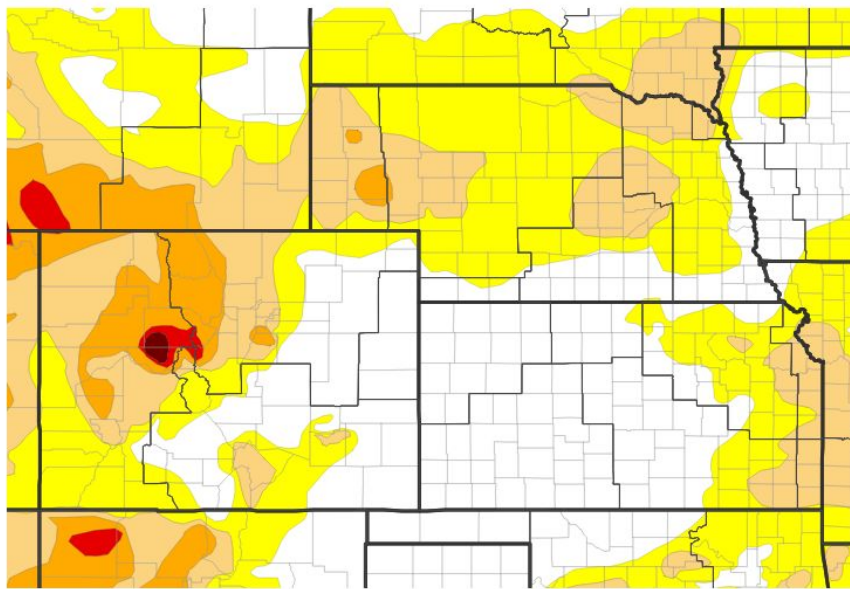


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** None
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** None
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Southern Carbon county and southwest Albany county, portions of Morrill, Box Butte, and Cheyenne counties.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Portions of Carbon, Albany, Laramie, Platte, and Goshen Counties, most of the Nebraska panhandle
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Remaining portions of the Nebraska panhandle, southeast and east central Wyoming.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 12/23/25



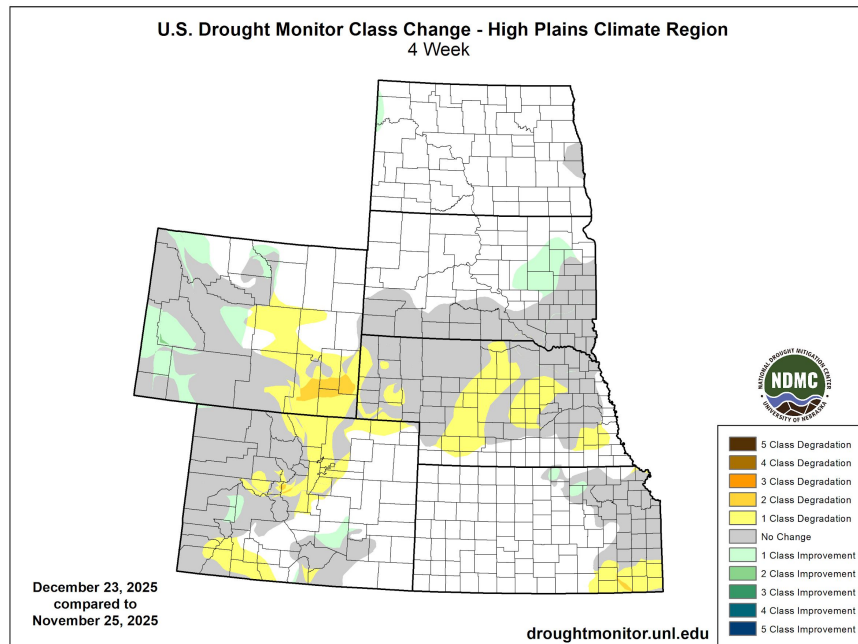


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for the High Plains

- **Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change**

- **Drought Worsened:** Much of southeast Wyoming, particularly in Albany, Laramie, Platte, and Goshen counties, and the periphery of the drought area in the Nebraska panhandle.
- **No Change:** Much of Carbon, Converse, and Niobrara counties, remaining areas of the Nebraska panhandle.
- **Drought Improved:** None



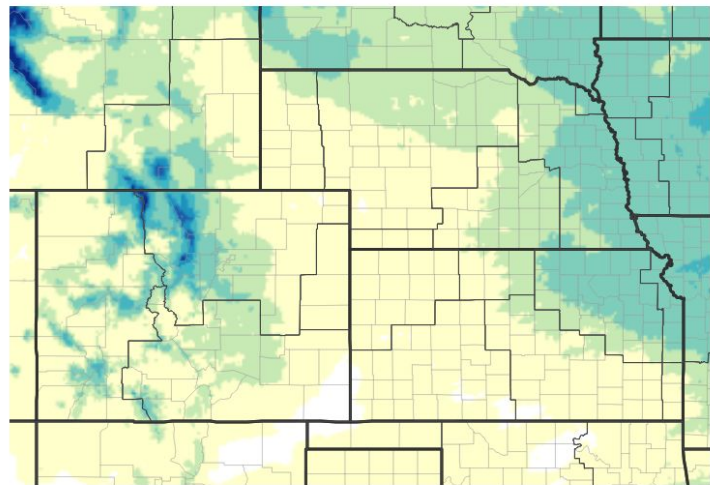


Precipitation

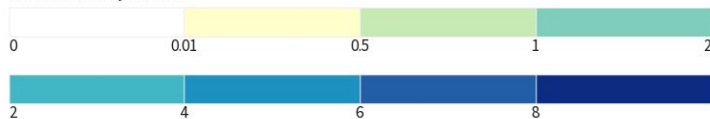
Precipitation was limited over the last 30 days in lower elevations and valleys, especially in far eastern Wyoming and most of the Nebraska panhandle where little to no precipitation has fallen.

Higher elevations of southeast Wyoming have seen near to slightly above average precipitation over the last 30 days.

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



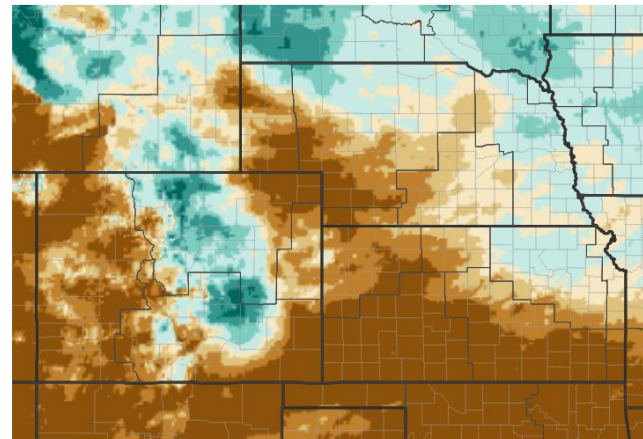
Inches of Precipitation



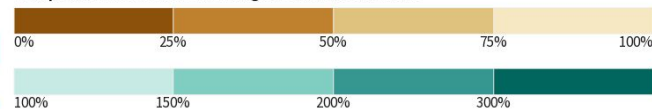
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/28/25

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/29/25

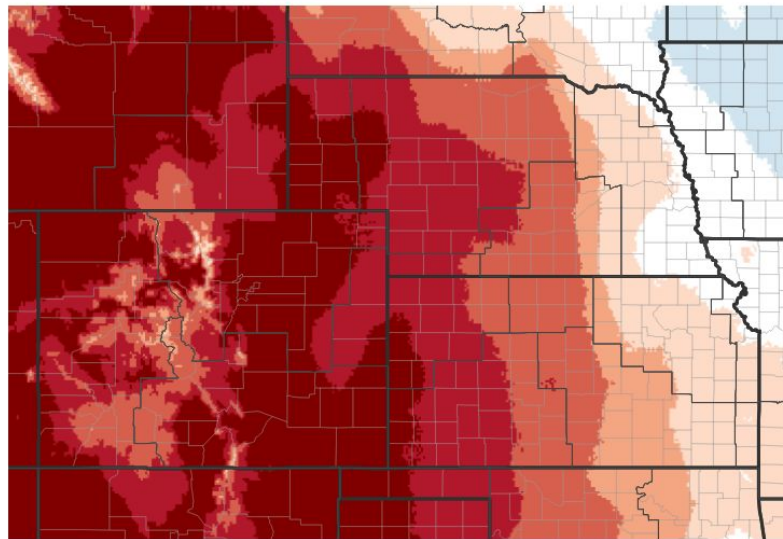




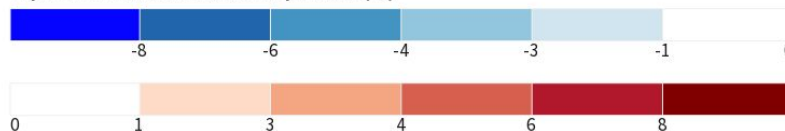
Temperature

- Temperatures have been exceptionally warm over the last 30 days, with most of the area seeing anomalies of 6° to 10°F above average.
- Due to the unseasonable warmth, evaporation has been more of a factor than typical for early winter.

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/26/25





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Stream flows remain largely near normal, but some areas of below normal streamflow are present along Lodgepole Creek. Additional information from the USGS can be found [here](#).

Agricultural Impacts

- [Soil moisture](#) has slightly over the last 30 days over the High Plains. Most of the area has soil moisture between the 10th and 30th percentiles for late December.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Normal wildland fire potential is expected for through the winter for the area. The most recent significant wildland fire potential outlook can be found [here](#).

Mitigation Actions

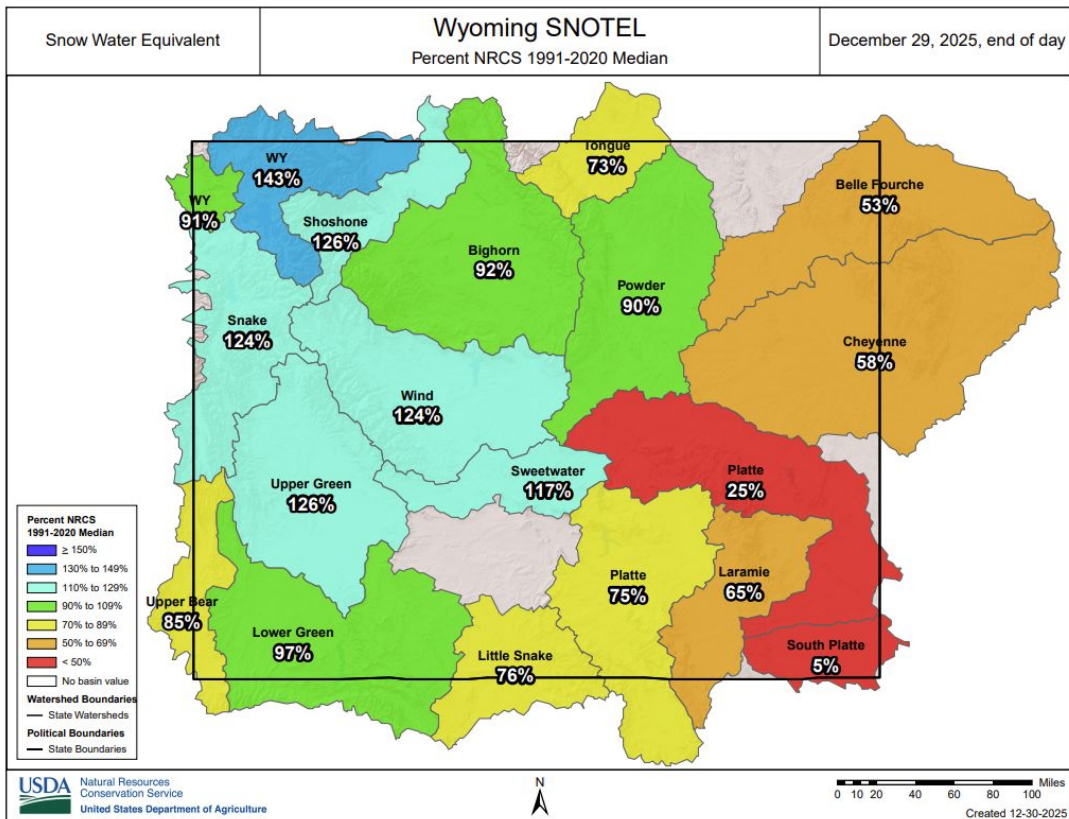
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Snowpack is very low in drainage basins in northern Colorado and southern Wyoming, which contributes water supply to the North Platte, South Platte, and Little Snake Rivers.
- Snow water equivalent (SWE) is at or below the 10th percentile in the Little Snake, Upper North Platte, and Laramie basins.
- SWE is at record low values in the lower North Platte and South Platte drainages.



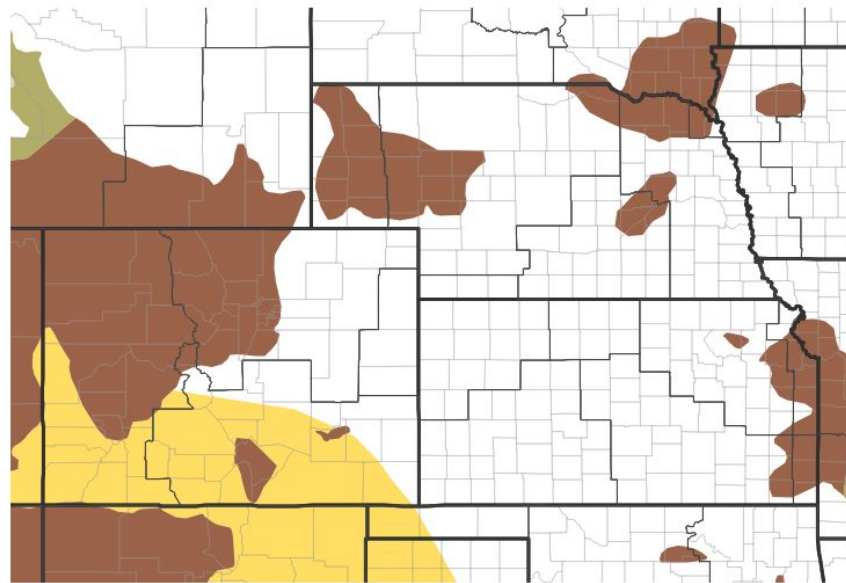


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are expected to be generally unchanged across southeast Wyoming and western Nebraska through March 2026 based on the latest drought outlook from the Climate Prediction Center.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for December 18, 2025–March 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 12/18/25

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
Cheyenne, WY