



Drought Information Statement for NE Minnesota & NW Wisconsin

Valid March 20, 2025

Issued By: NWS Duluth, MN

Contact Information:

- Next Update: Friday, April 11, 2025
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/DLH/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.

- **Drought conditions improved slightly in the Brainerd Lakes to east-central parts of Minnesota**
- **Severe drought conditions persist in the Leech Lake and western Iron Range region**



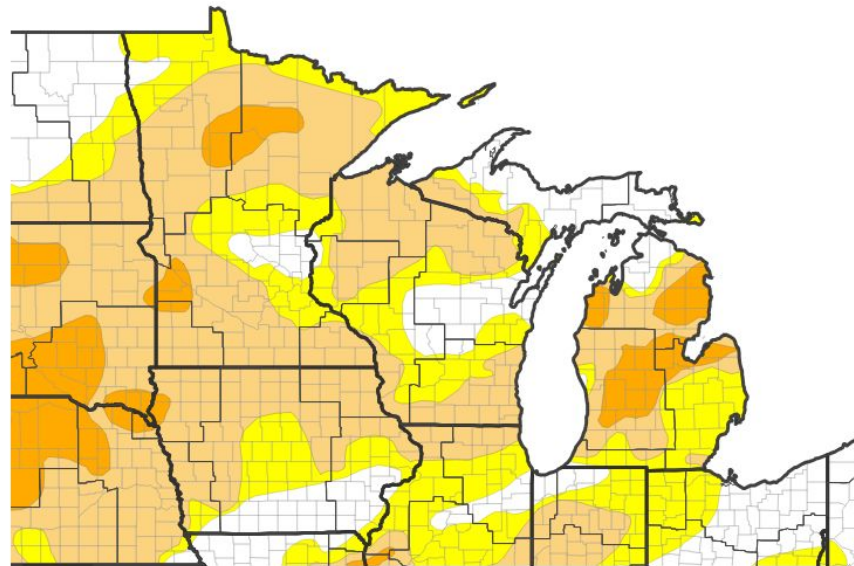


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Western Iron Range and Leech Lake area.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Nearly all of the rest of the Northland.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Along the International Border, in the St. Croix River Valley, Brainerd Lakes, and Cook County.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 03/18/25



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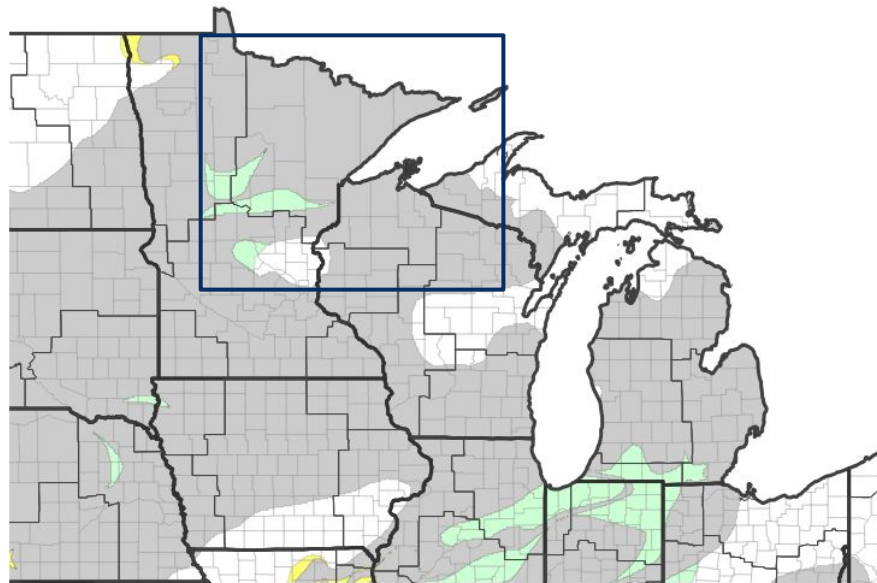


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

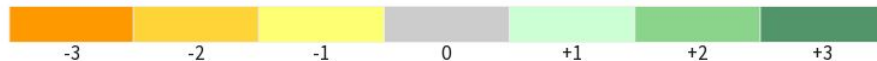
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for NE Minnesota and NW Wisconsin

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Not Applicable.
 - No Change: All of the Northland.
 - Drought Improved: Parts of Cass, Crow Wing, Aitkin, Pine and Burnett Counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



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

Data Valid: 03/18/25



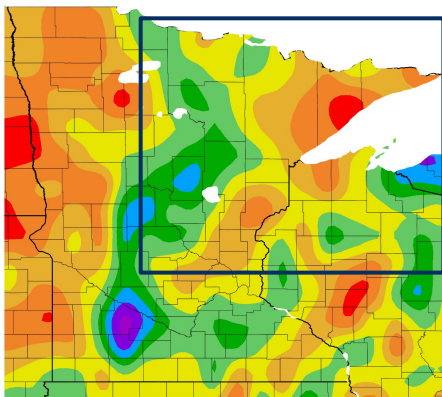


Precipitation

Precipitation (sum of liquid and melted frozen) that was observed in the Northland over the last month

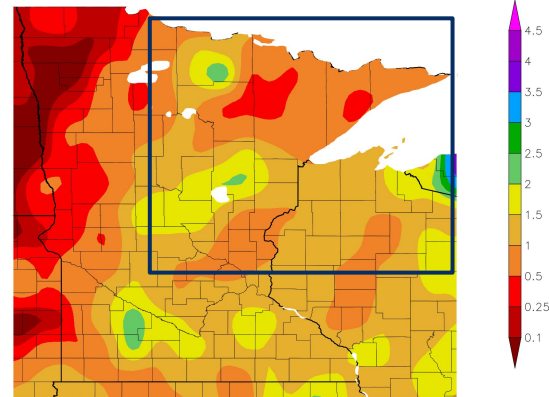
- Regional precipitation in the past month ranges from 1 inch below to 1 inch above normal for northeast Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
2/18/2025 – 3/19/2025



Generated 3/20/2025 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Precipitation (in)
2/18/2025 – 3/19/2025



NOAA Regional Climate Centers Generated 3/20/2025 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center



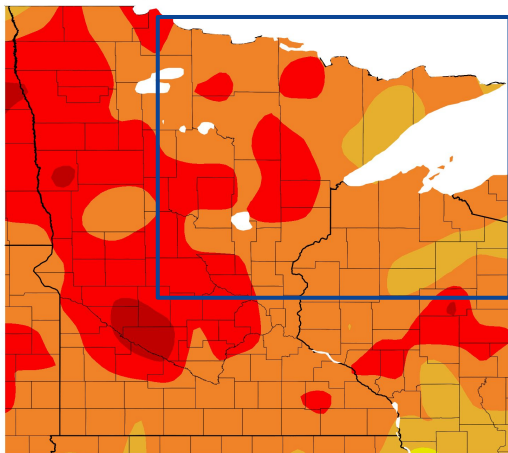


Temperature

Temperatures that were observed in the Northland over the last month

- Temperatures on average have been 2 to 6 degrees F above normal over the past month.

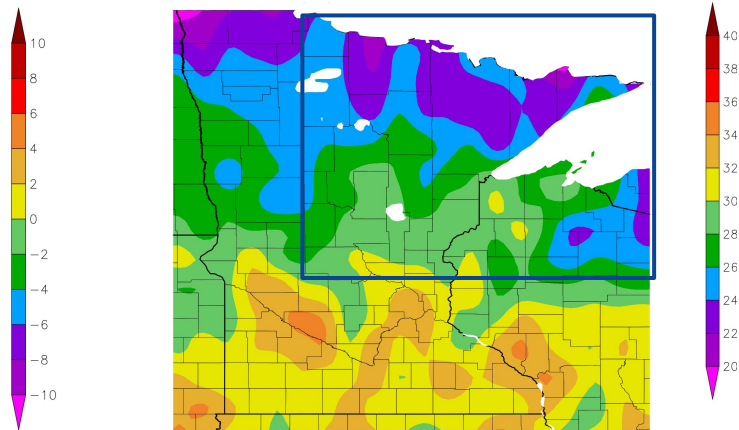
Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
2/18/2025 – 3/19/2025



Generated 3/20/2025 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Temperature (F)
2/18/2025 – 3/19/2025



rated 3/20/2025 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

- Streamflows are running near normal for northeast Minnesota and near to above normal for northwest Wisconsin ([USGS Streamflow](#)). With ice cover, several gauges are still affected by ice this time of year.

Agricultural Impacts

- Below normal to near normal soil moisture in most of northeast Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin ([Soil Moisture](#)).

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire danger is Low for northeast Minnesota and Moderate in east-central Minnesota ([MN Fire Danger](#)). Fire danger is Moderate to High in northwest Wisconsin ([WI Fire Danger](#)).

Other Impacts

- Unknown at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- Burn Restrictions - No burn restrictions for most counties. There is a burning restriction (agency approved permits only) for Pine County in Minnesota.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- **Northeast Minnesota -**
Streams are running near normal in northeast Minnesota.
- **Northwest Wisconsin -**
Streams are running around normal to above normal in northwest Wisconsin

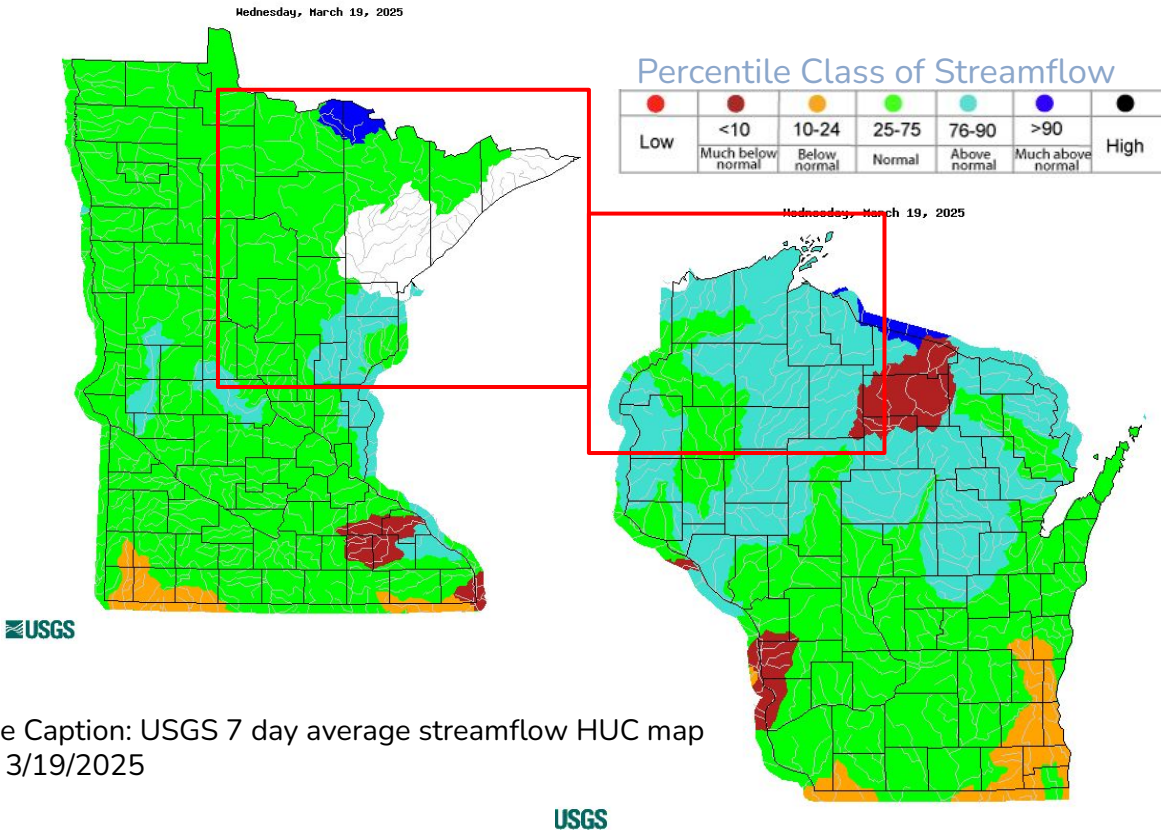


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 3/19/2025

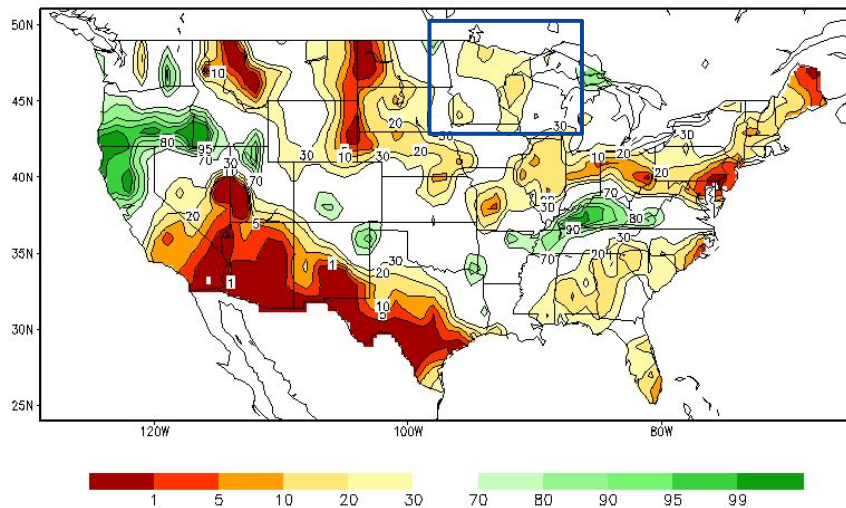




Agricultural Impacts

- Below normal to near normal soil moisture in most of northeast Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
MAR 19, 2025

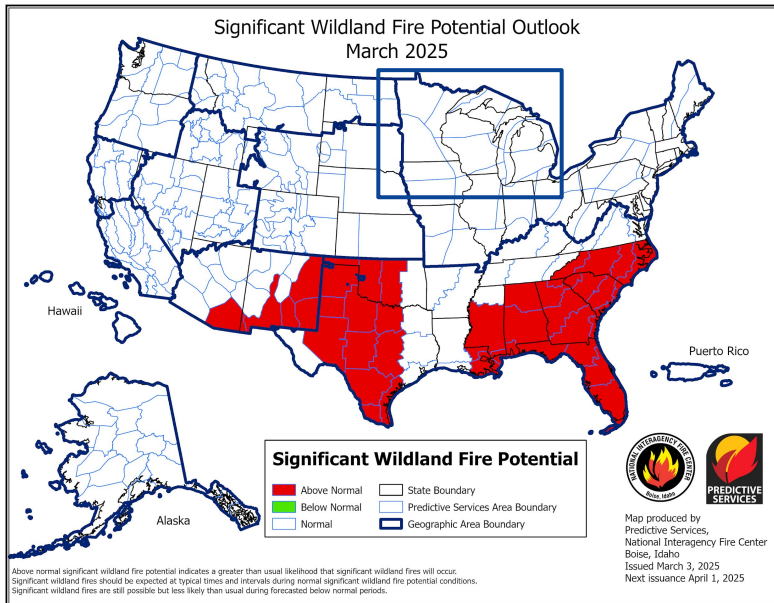




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- **Significant Wildland Fire Potential**
conditions are normal for March.



Latest MN burn ban and fire danger information available [here](#).

Latest WI burn ban and fire danger information available [here](#).



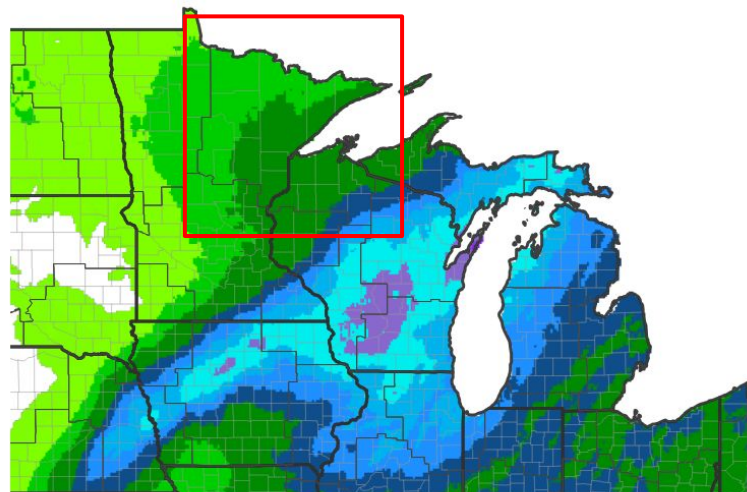


Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

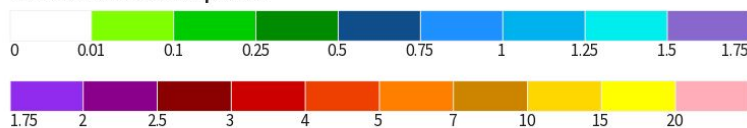
Amount of liquid equivalent precipitation forecast over the next seven days

- A weak cold front moves through the region tonight into Friday, with very light rain and snow. Little to no accumulations.
- A slow-moving clipper system is forecast for Saturday night through Monday morning, and could bring around 0.4-0.8 inches of liquid equivalent precipitation to most of the region in snow or a rain/snow mix. The highest accumulations will be near Lake Superior.
- South Shore snowbelt locations then see additional light snow chances Tuesday December 10th to Thursday December 12th.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for March 18, 2025–March 25, 2025



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 03/19/25



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Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

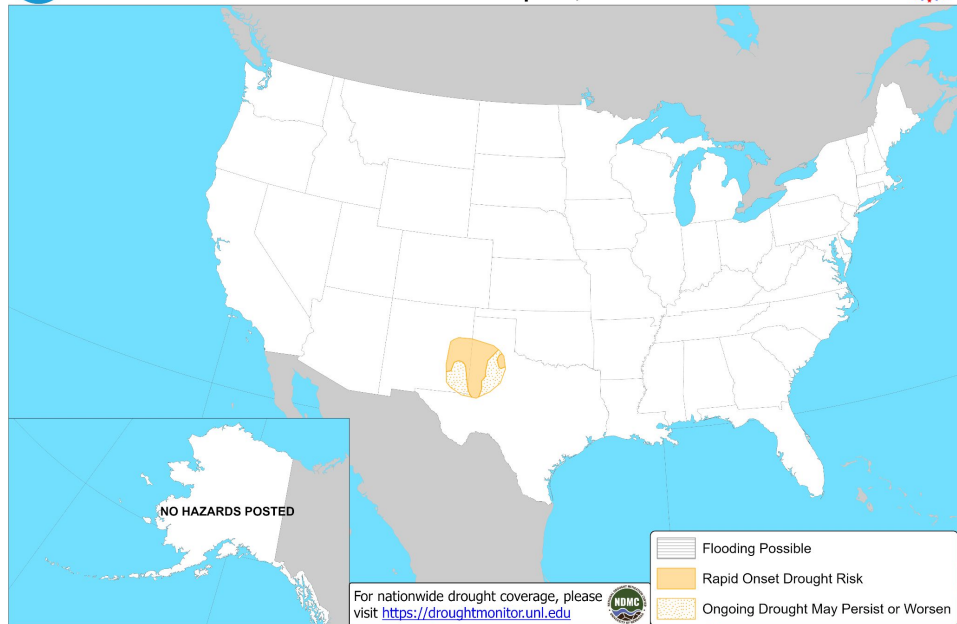
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- No rapid onset drought expected.



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: March 27 - April 2, 2025



Climate Prediction Center

Released: March 19, 2025 3:00 PM EDT

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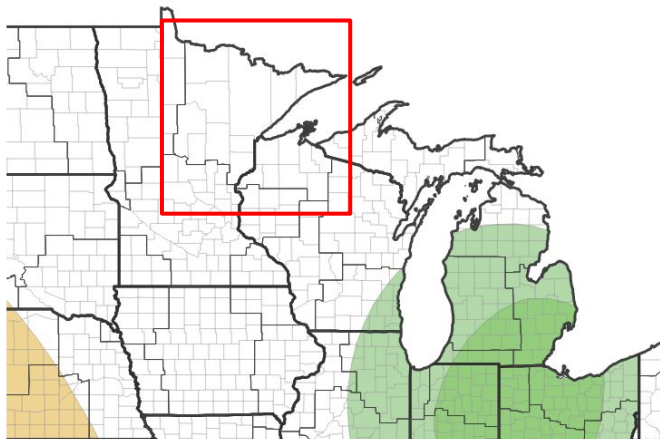


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Longer-term forecasts show equal chances for above, below, or near normal temperatures through June.
- Longer-term forecasts show equal chances for above, below, or near normal precipitation through June.

Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for April 1, 2025–June 30, 2025



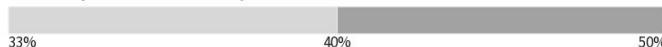
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 03/20/25

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for April 1, 2025–June 30, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

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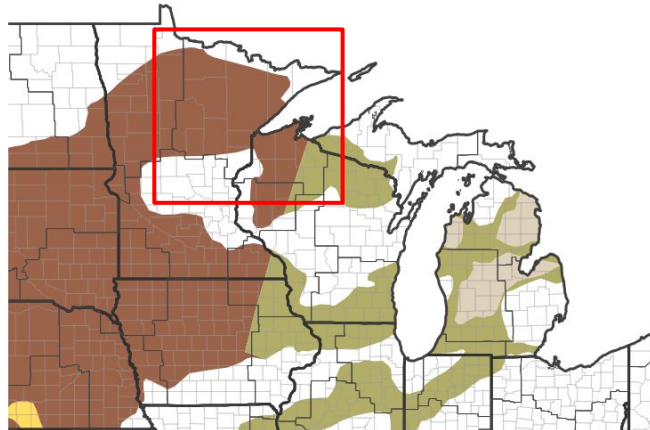


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought is expected to end in north-central Wisconsin, but persist in the rest of northwest Wisconsin and northeast Minnesota through May.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for February 28, 2025–May 31, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 02/28/25

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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