



# Drought Information Statement for NE Minnesota & NW Wisconsin

Valid July 31, 2026

Issued By: NWS Duluth, MN

Contact Information: [nws.duluth@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.duluth@noaa.gov)

- Next Update: Friday, August 14, 2026
- 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.

- **Moderate (D1) to Severe (D2) Drought conditions for nearly the entire Northland.**
- **Abnormally dry conditions (D0) in a pocket of Burnett and Washburn Counties.**



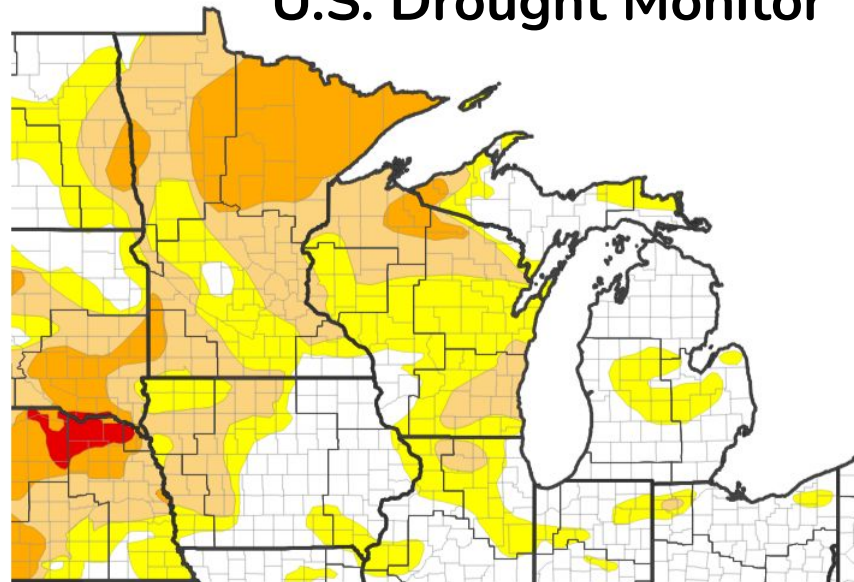
# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Most of northeast Minnesota and parts of north-central WI.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Central MN to the MN/WI stateline and across most of northwest Wisconsin.
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Sliver of Burnett and Washburn Counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor

## U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Date Valid: 07/28/26



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Duluth, MN

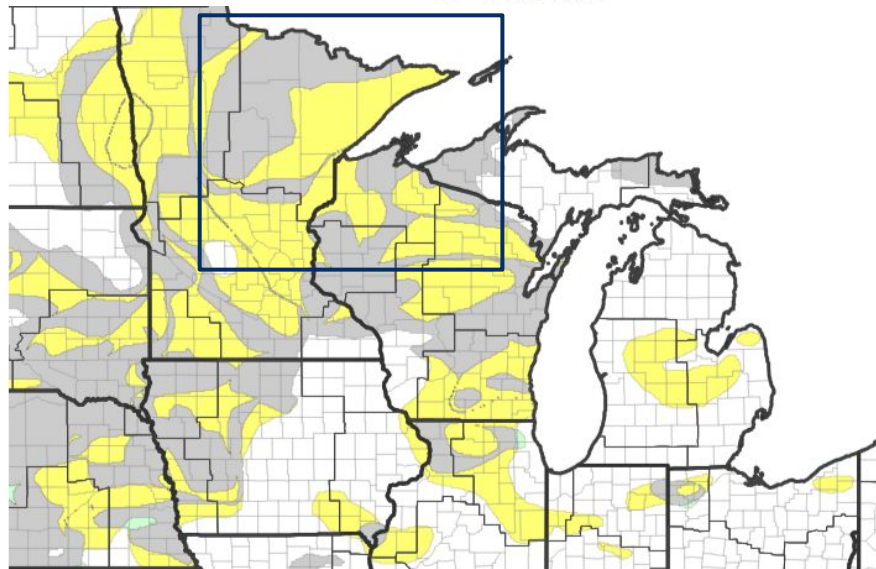


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

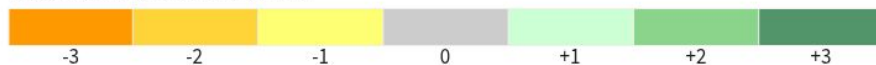
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for NE Minnesota and NW Wisconsin

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Arrowhead to Twin Ports to MN/WI Stateline to north-central Wisconsin and sliver of north-central MN.
  - Drought Improved: No drought improvement areas.
  - No Change: Remainder of the area.

## U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change 1 Week



Drought Change Since Last Week



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

Data Valid: 07/28/26



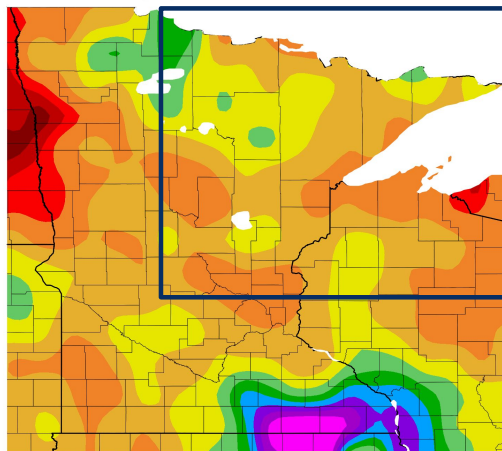


# Precipitation

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

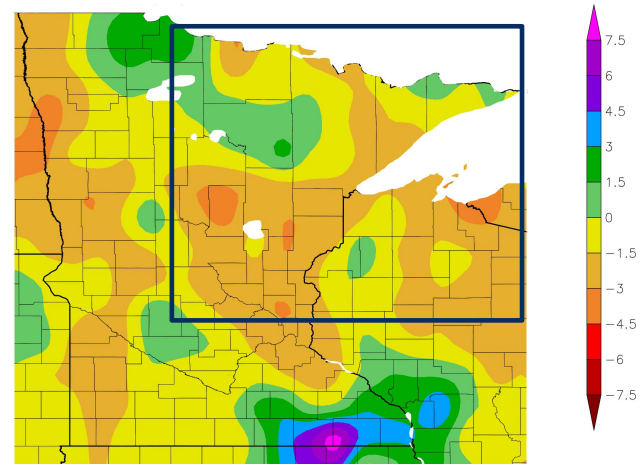
- Rainfall has ranged from 1-4 inches in the Northland in the month of July, not accounting for the rainfall July 31.
- This rainfall is near to slightly below normal for the most of the month of July. A few areas of the region that saw slightly above normal rainfall.

Precipitation (in)  
7/1/2026 - 7/30/2026



Generated 7/31/2026 using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
7/1/2026 - 7/30/2026



ACIS Web Service generated 7/31/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Service



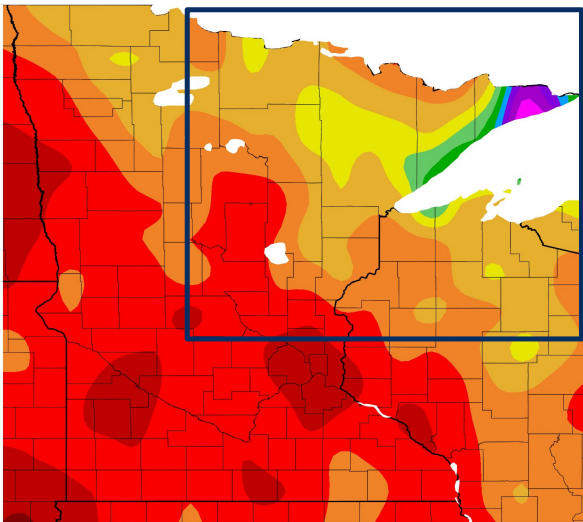


# Temperature

Temperatures that were observed in the Northland over the last month

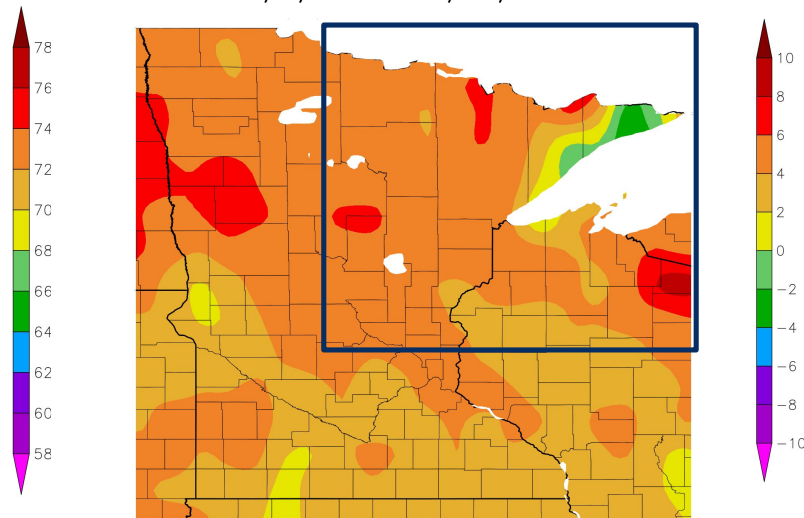
- Average temperatures where 2-6 degrees above normal.
- The North Shore was the only location that saw below normal average temperatures, which were in the upper-50s to upper-60s.

Temperature (F)  
7/1/2026 - 7/30/2026



dated 7/31/2026 using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
7/1/2026 - 7/30/2026



dated 7/31/2026 using provisional data.  
ACIS Web Ser

ACIS Web Services





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Streams are running below to much below normal for nearly the entire region ([USGS Streamflow](#)).

## Agricultural Impacts

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

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire danger is Low to Moderate in Minnesota. ([MN Fire Danger](#)). Fire danger is also Low to Moderate in northwest Wisconsin ([WI Fire Danger](#)).

## Other Impacts

- Unknown at this time.

## Mitigation Actions

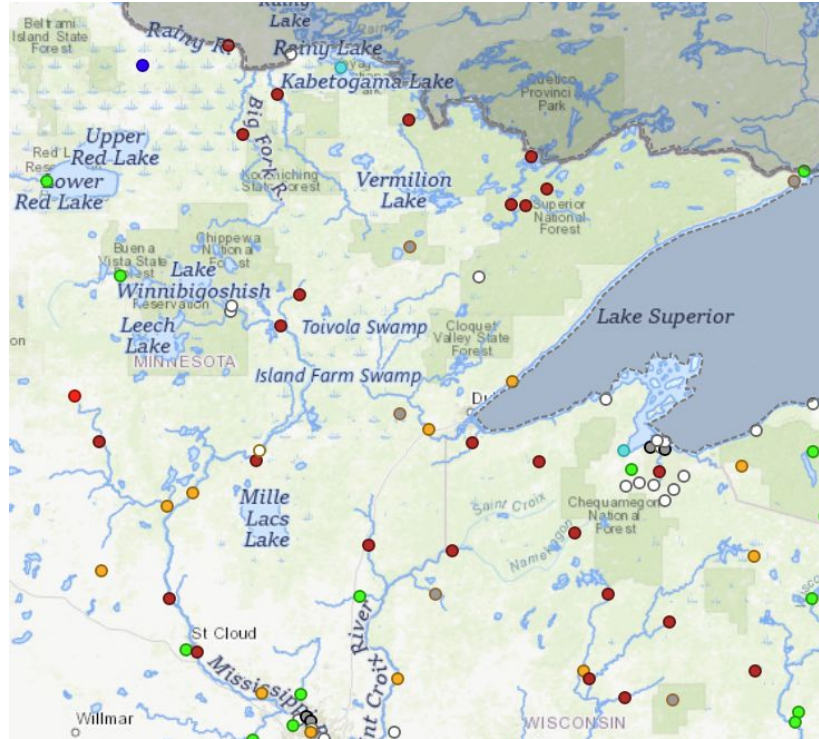
- Burn Restrictions - Elevated burning restrictions are in effect in Cook, Lake, and northern St. Louis counties. No burning permits will be issued or activated; campfires are not allowed for dispersed, remote, or backcountry camping. Fireworks are restricted outside of city limits.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streams are running below to much below normal for most of the region.
- A few streams that saw moderate to heavy rainfall the day of July 31 and over the last week are running near normal though.



## Streamflow: Status

|                                  |                                                |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| ● Above flood stage              |                                                |
| ● All-time high for this day     | 100 <sup>th</sup> percentile (maximum)         |
| ● Much above normal              | >90 <sup>th</sup> percentile                   |
| ● Above normal                   | 76 <sup>th</sup> – 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile |
| ● Normal                         | 25 <sup>th</sup> – 75 <sup>th</sup> percentile |
| ● Below normal                   | 10 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> percentile |
| ● Much below normal              | <10 <sup>th</sup> percentile                   |
| ● All-time low for this day      | 0 <sup>th</sup> percentile (minimum)           |
| ● Not flowing                    |                                                |
| ● Not ranked                     |                                                |
| ● Measurement flag               |                                                |
| ● Recent measurement unavailable |                                                |

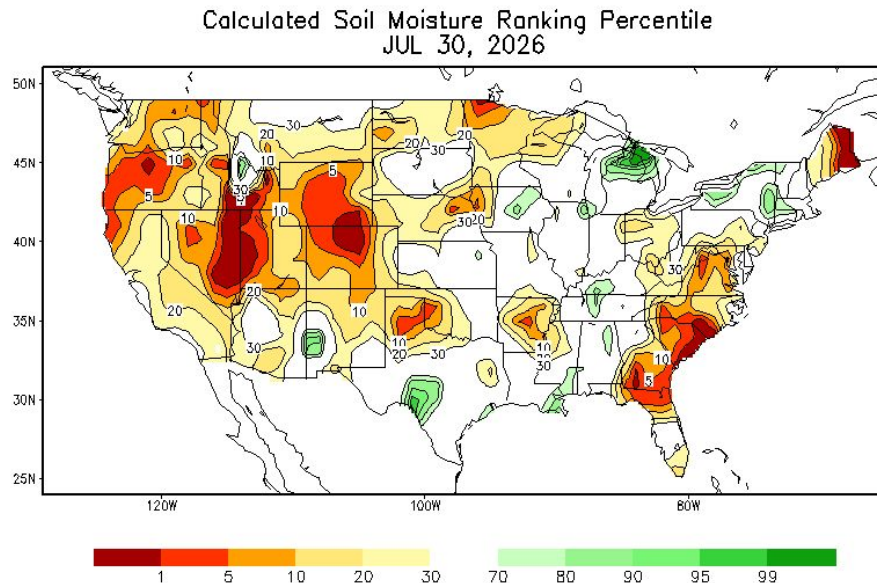
Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow map valid 7/31/2026



# Agricultural Impacts

See more Soil Moisture plots [here](#).

- Below normal soil moisture across all of northeast Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin.

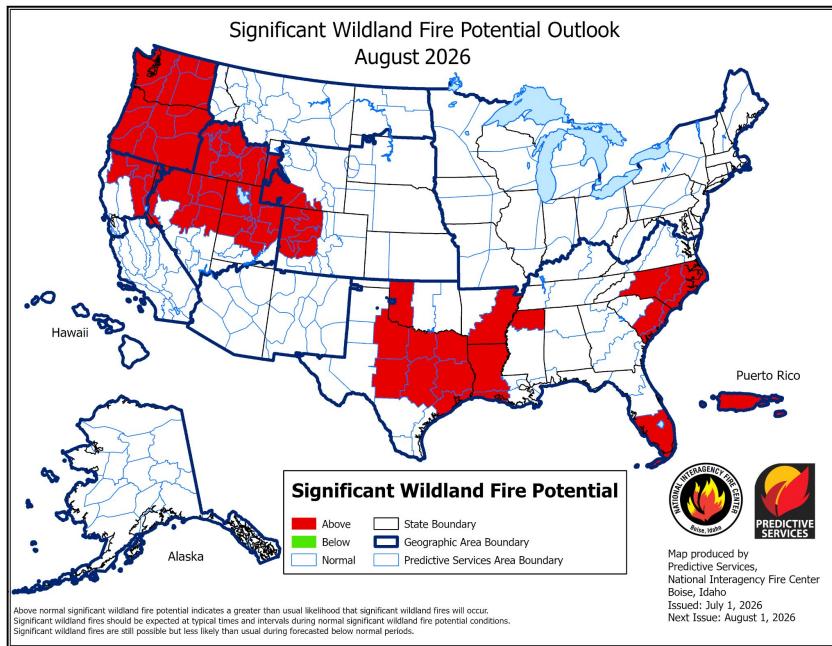




# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

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



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

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





# Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

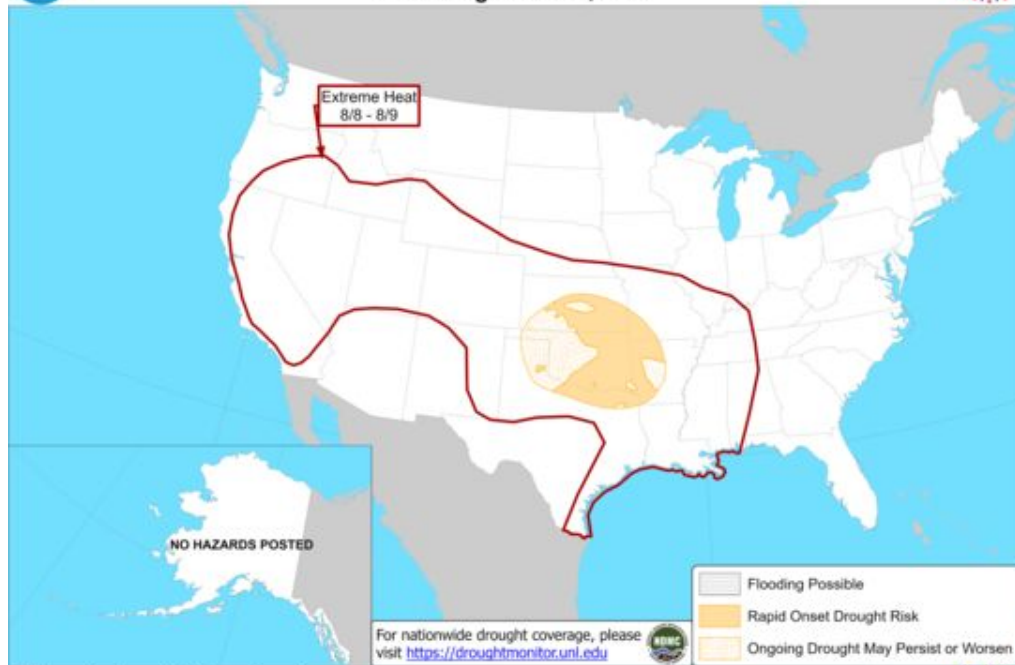
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- No rapid onset drought expected.



## Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: August 8 - 14, 2026



Climate Prediction Center

Released: July 31, 2026 3:00 PM EDT

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[www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)



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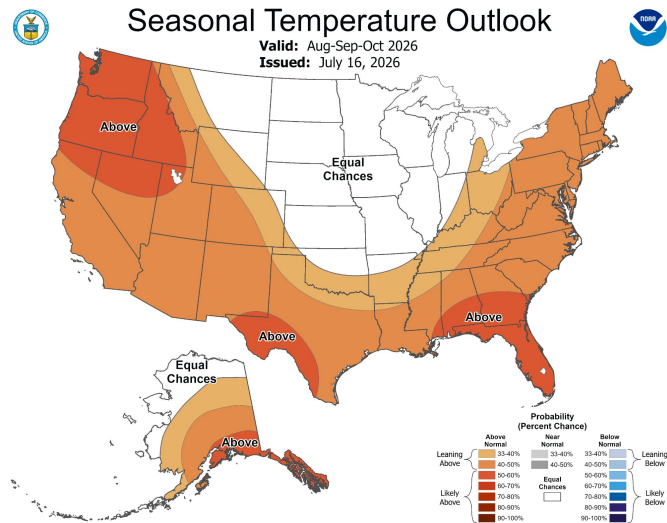
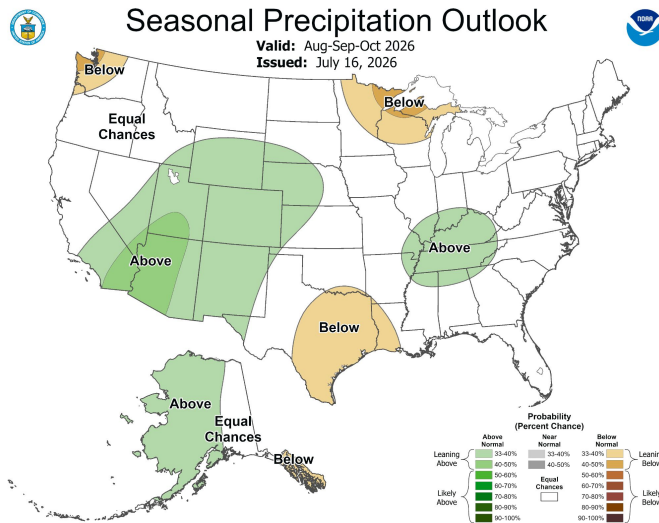
National Weather Service  
Duluth, MN



# 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 October.
- Longer-term forecasts lean slightly towards below normal precipitation through October.



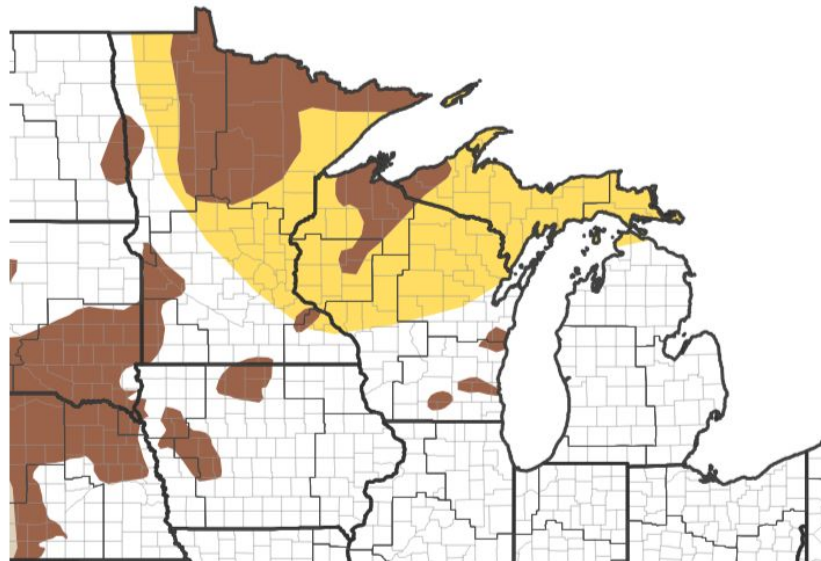


# Drought Outlook

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

- As has been observed over the last few weeks of late July, Drought is expected to Persist or Develop over all of the Northland through October.

**Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for July 16, 2026–October 31, 2026**



**Drought Is Predicted To...**



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

Last Updated: 07/16/26

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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