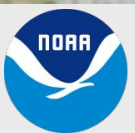


2025 Spring Flood Outlook #3

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

NWS Hastings Hydrologic Forecast Area: Central/South Central Nebraska and North Central KS



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Hastings, NE



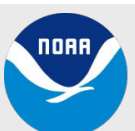
Spring Flood Outlook - Overview

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

Spring Flood Risk Across Central/South Central NE and North Central KS is considered:

*** Below Normal ***

- Local area snowpack is currently non-existent
(although some snow cover could return during the next week)
- Soil moisture is overall drier than normal and should be capable of absorbing plenty of moisture...especially now that the ground has thawed.
- Mountain snowpack in the North/South Platte River Basins is mainly near-normal with plenty of storage space in upstream reservoirs such as Lake McConaughy
- Current streamflow on most local rivers is averaging near-to-below normal
- The CPC longer range precipitation outlook (March-May) indicates a slight lean toward below normal precipitation
- ***PLEASE NOTE:*** *Isolated/localized flooding is still possible even in dry years and when the overall flood risk is low (usually driven by localized thunderstorms with heavy rain)*





Spring Flood Outlook - Risk Factors

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

Central/South Central Nebraska and North Central Kansas

Overall Spring Flooding Risk

**** Below Normal ****

Contributing Factors	Very Short Term: Mid-March	Longer Term: Late March - May
Local Area Snowpack	Low/Normal	Low/Normal
Mountain Snowpack	Low/Normal	Low/Normal
River Ice/Frozen Ground	Low (ZERO river ice)	Low (ZERO river ice)
Soil Moisture	Low/Normal	Low/Normal
Streamflow	Low/Normal	Low/Normal
Precipitation Outlook	Low/Normal	Low/Normal

Bottom Line Up Front

- **Below Normal OVERALL Spring Flood Risk:** Biggest factors are ongoing drought/drier soil and seasonal precipitation not forecast to be above normal.
- **Streamflow:** Our main rivers are running mostly near-to-below normal
- **Precipitation Outlooks:** Climate Prediction Center (CPC) indicates a slight lean toward below normal precip March-May across our entire area

Impact Level

Low/Normal

Elevated

Significant





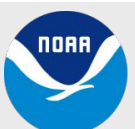
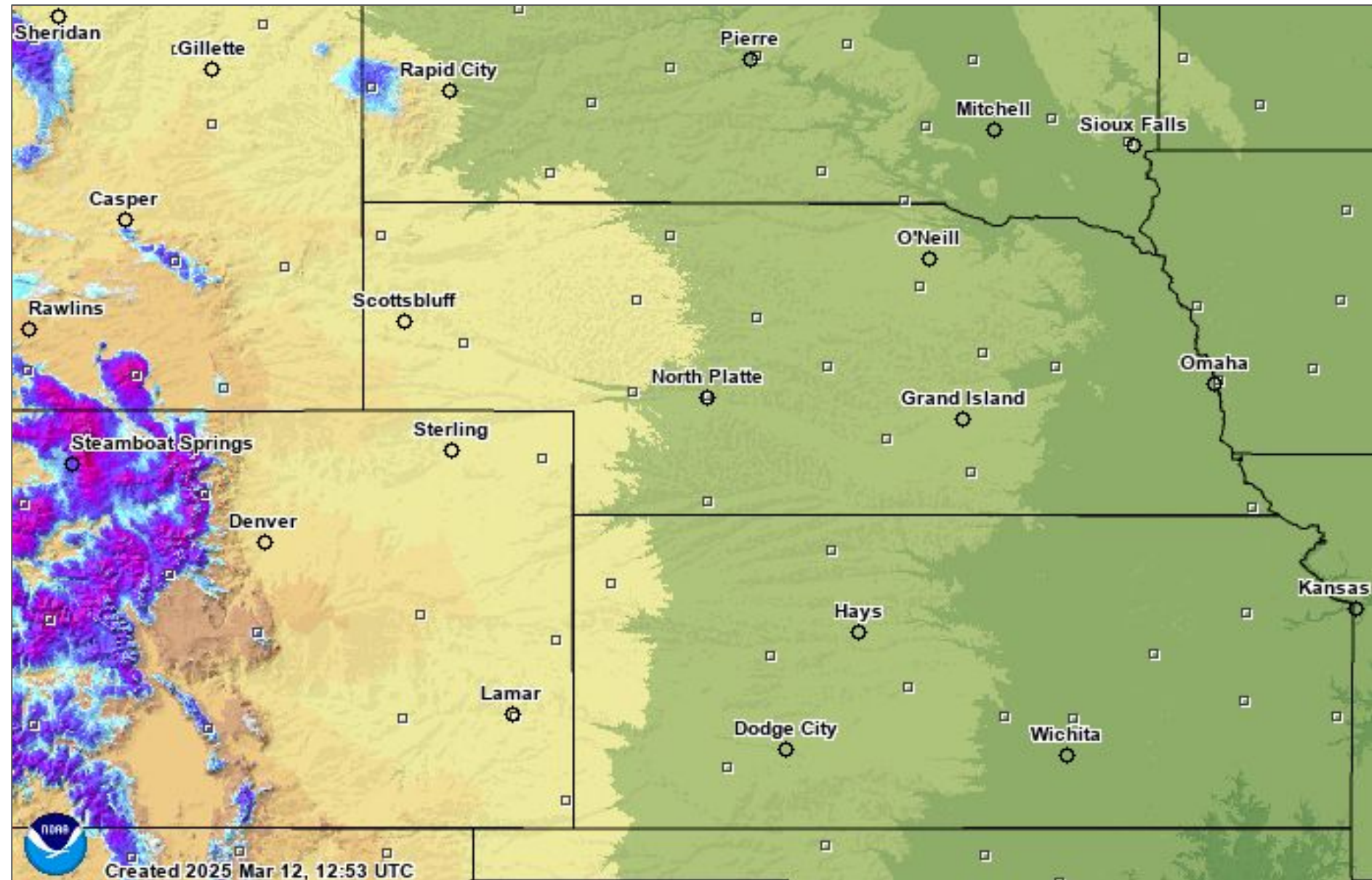
Regional Snowpack (March 12)

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

There is currently **ZERO** snow cover anywhere near our local area

Key Messages

- Recent warmth has long-since melted away any remaining snow cover in/near our area
- All snow cover in greater region currently confined to Rockies/Black Hills





2024-25 Seasonal Snowfall-To-Date

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

Despite a “mid-Feb. rally”, much of our forecast area is still 6-12” below normal for the season

As of March 12, 2025:

Grand Island

Seasonal Snow (since fall 2024):

Current 16.5”
Normal 24.3”
Departure -7.8”

Grand Island

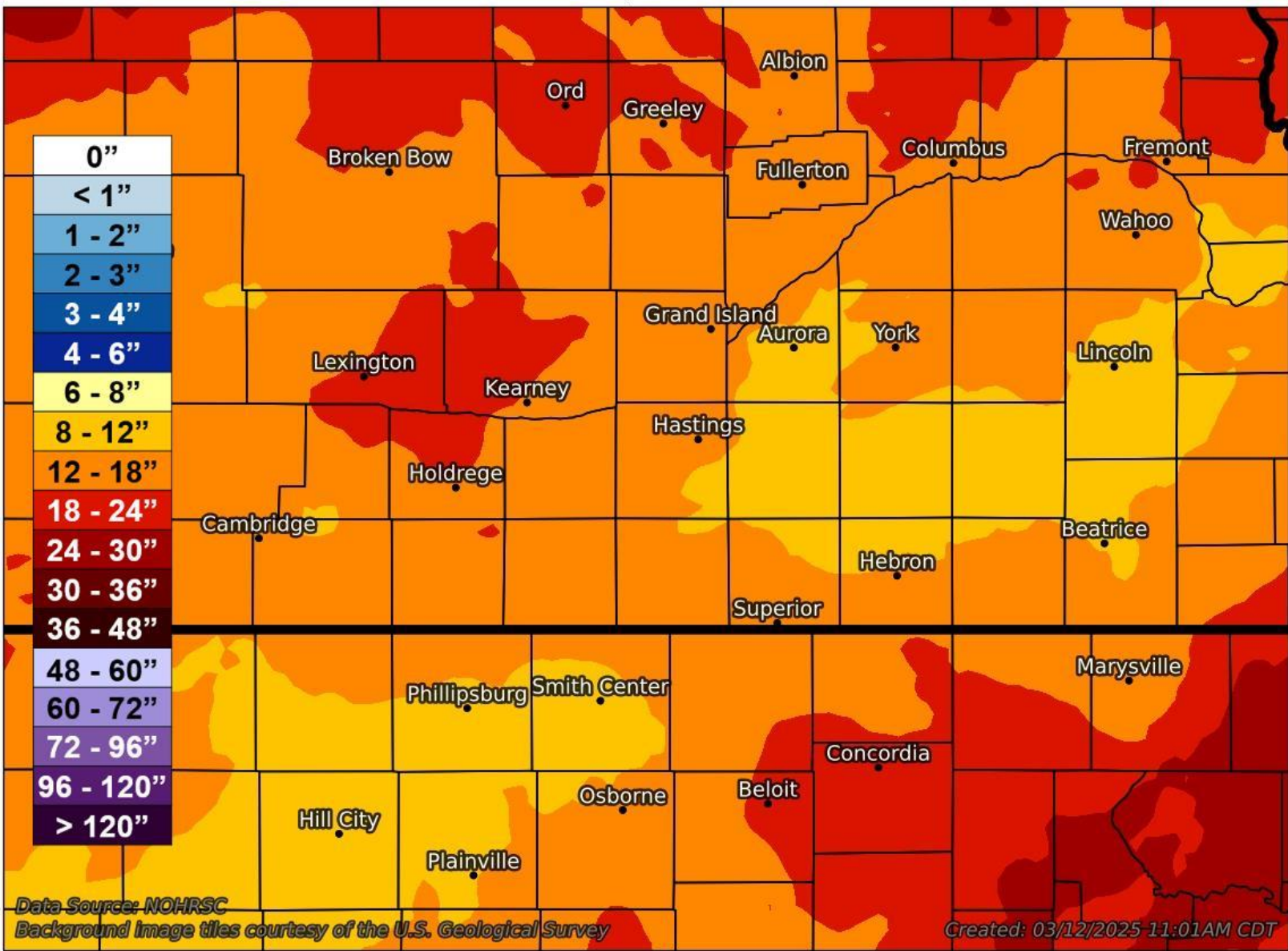
Liquid Equivalent Precipitation:

Dec. 1 - March 12
(since start of meteorological winter)
Liquid 1.53”
Normal 2.56”
Departure -1.03” /60% of normal\



Season Total Snow

As of: March 12, 2025 - 7AM CDT





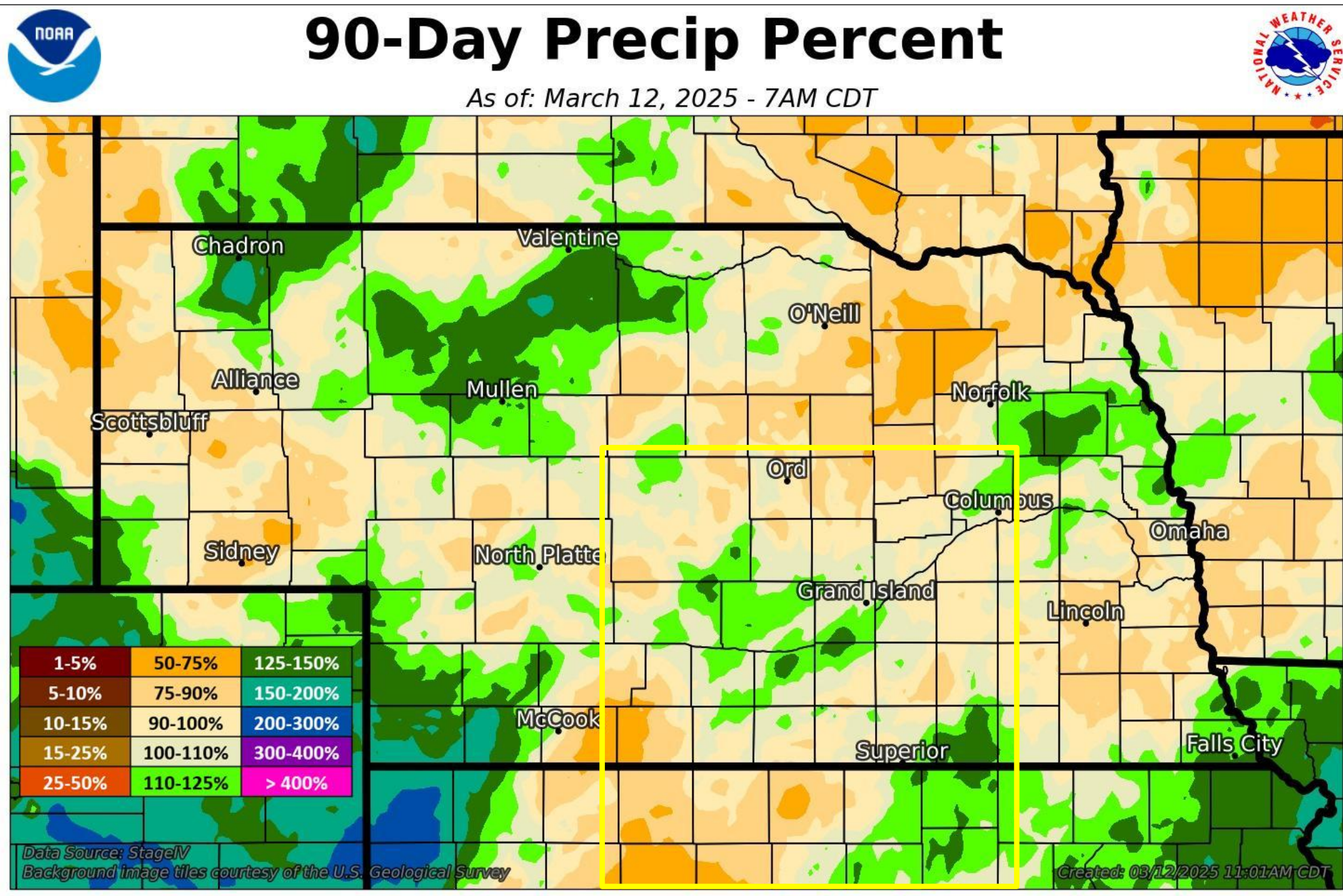
Precipitation Trends Last 90 Days

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

MOST of our forecast area only received 40-70% of normal precip Dec-Feb

Key Messages

- Over the last 90 days (mainly Dec-Feb), MOST of our forecast area only received 40-70% of normal
- Overall-driest north and west
- Overall-wettest far southeast

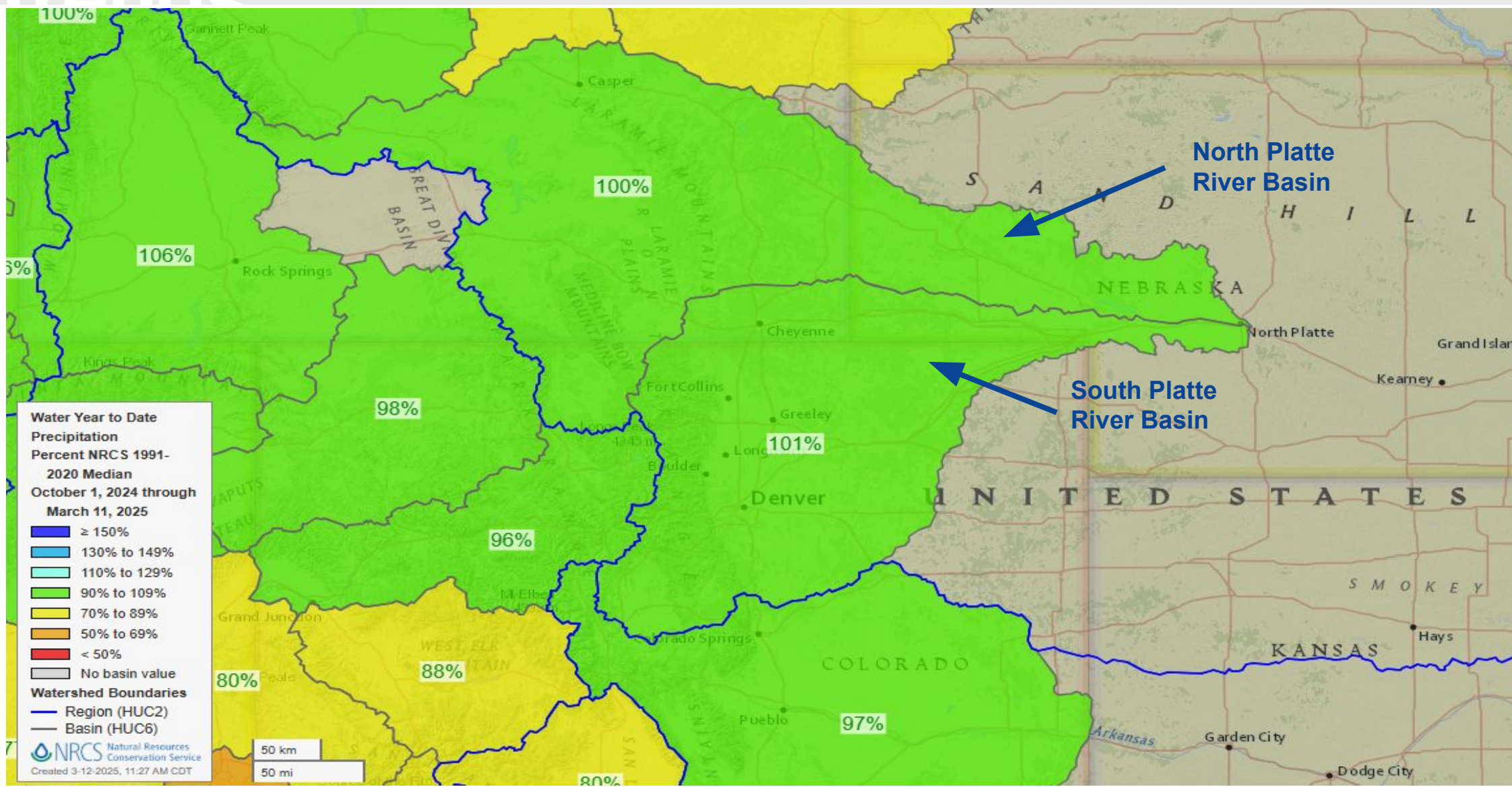




Western/Mountain Precipitation

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

Near-Normal Water-Year-To-Date Precipitation in Basins That “Feed” The Platte River



Location	Today (Feet above Sea Level)	1 Week Ago	1 Month Ago	1 Year Ago
Lake McConaughy	3,237.9 = 1,040,800ac-ft (59.7% capacity)	3,237.5	3,236.6	N/A



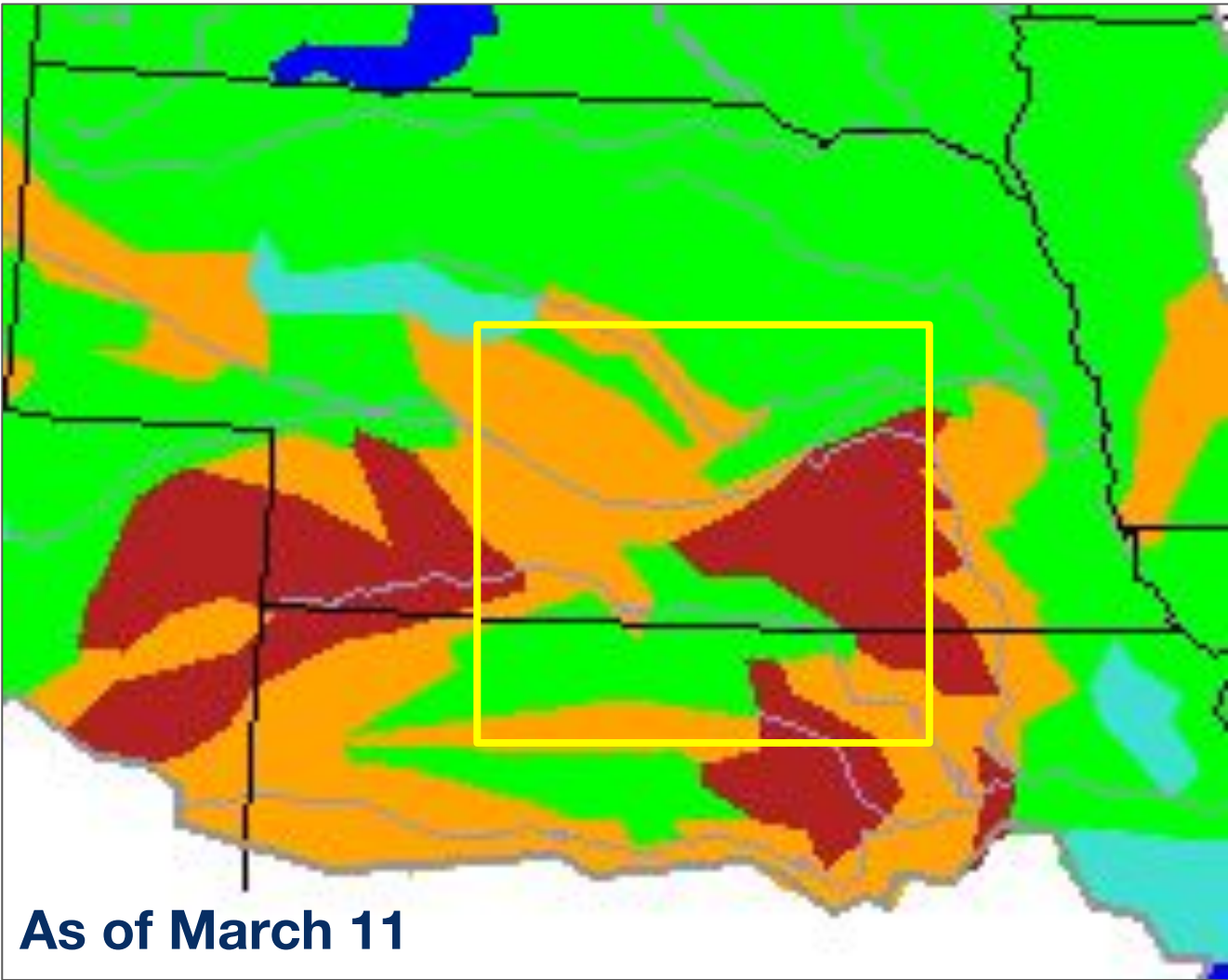
7-Day Average Streamflow

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

As of March 11

Key Messages

→ Most rivers within our forecast area are currently running at near-to-below normal streamflow



As of March 11

Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High	Not-ranked





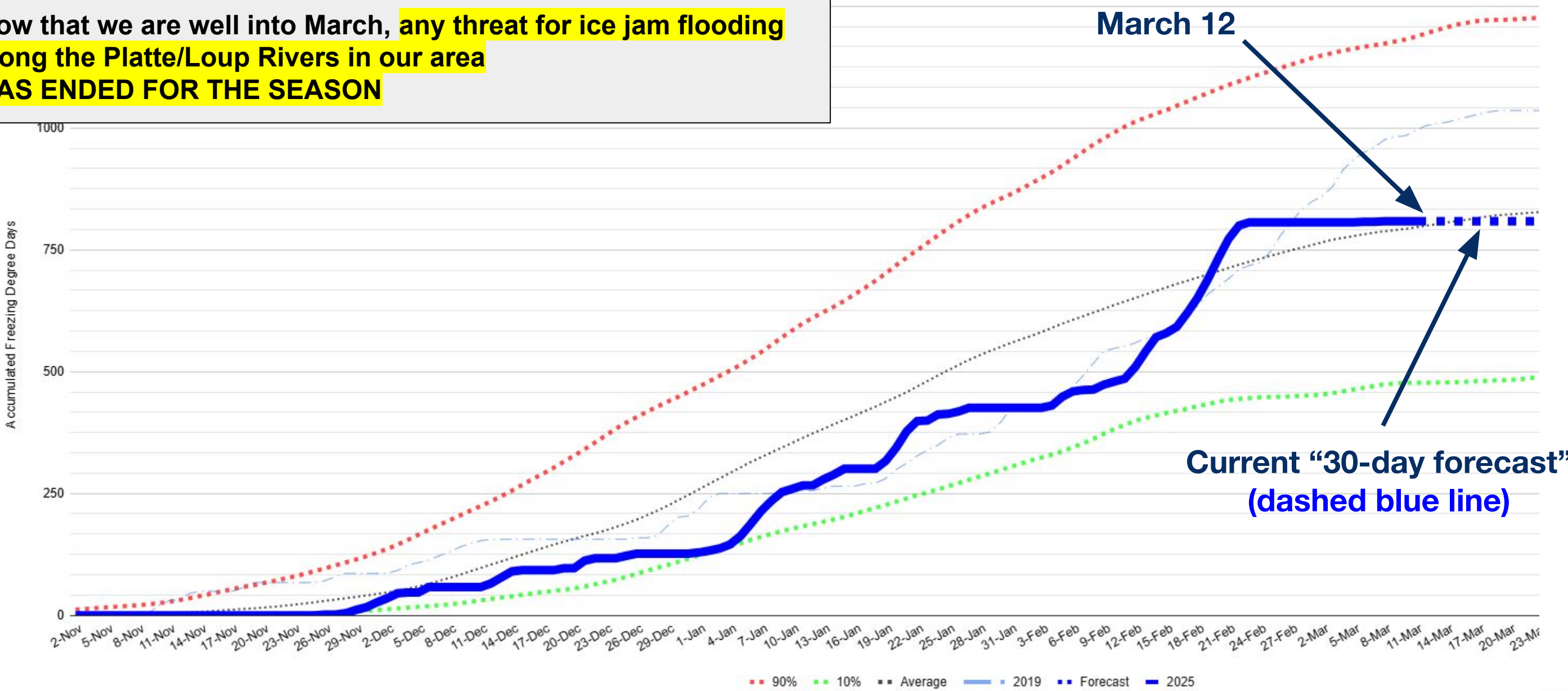
Freezing Degree Days (FDD) at Grand Island

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

FDD indicates observed trends and future potential for ice growth on area rivers

→ Now that we are well into March, any threat for ice jam flooding along the Platte/Loup Rivers in our area HAS ENDED FOR THE SEASON

Accumulated Freezing Degree Days for Grand Island, NE





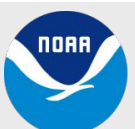
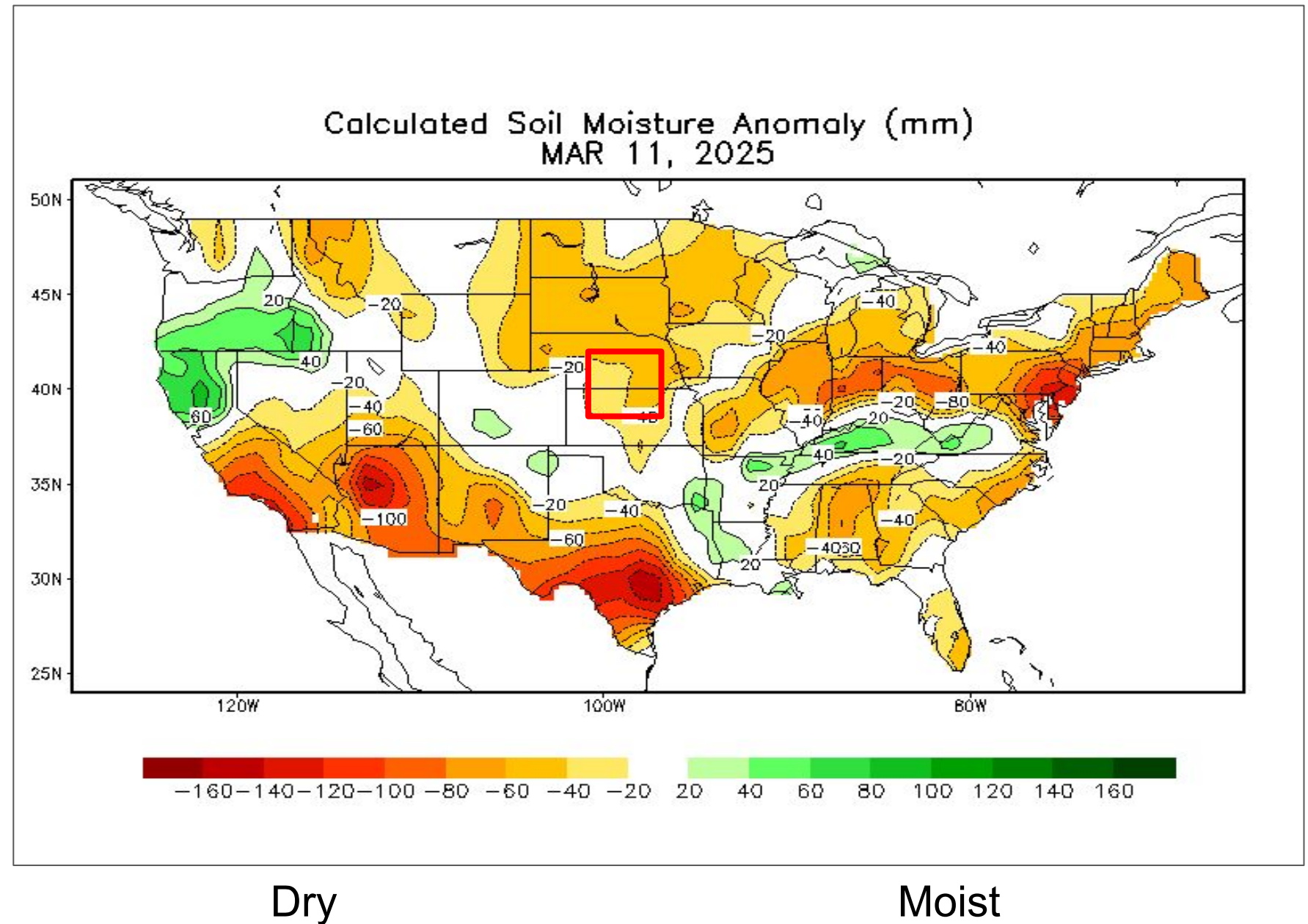
Soil Moisture Versus Normal

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

At least slightly drier than normal prevailing over our area

Key Messages

- At least slightly drier than normal prevailing over our area
- Soil should be able to absorb spring moisture rather efficiently





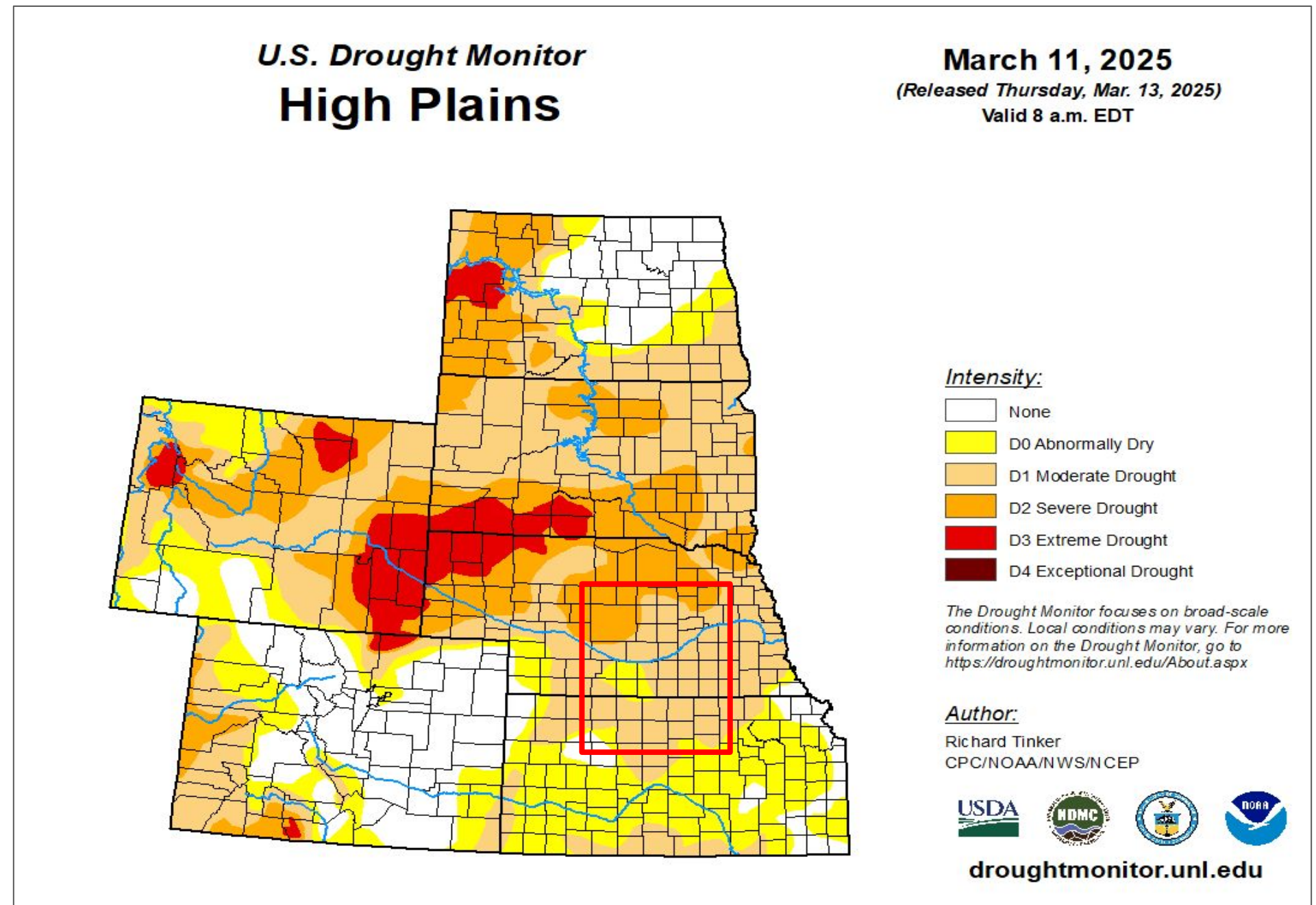
Latest U.S. Drought Monitor (March 11)

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

Mostly Moderate Drought (D1) Across Our Forecast Area

Key Messages

- Mostly Moderate Drought (D1) across our forecast area
- VERY LITTLE change over the last several months
- Soil should be able to absorb spring moisture rather efficiently



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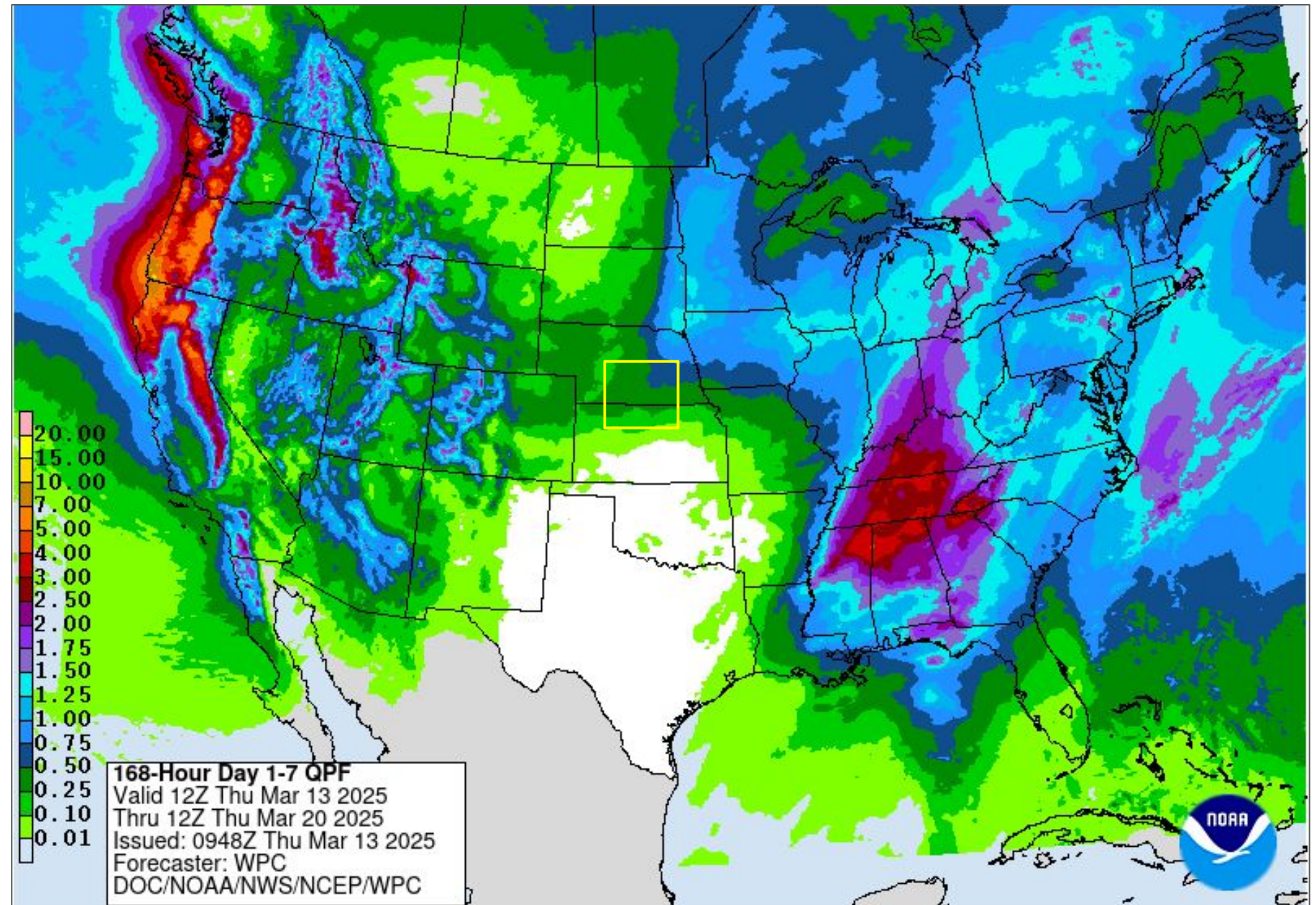
Next 7 Days Total Precip (MARCH 13-20)

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

A fairly active weather pattern with two primary low pressure systems

Key Messages

- MOST of our forecast area is expected to receive 0.10-0.50"
(some rain/some snow)
- The majority of this precipitation will fall as part of TWO SEPARATE SYSTEMS:
 - ◆ 1) mainly Friday March 14
 - ◆ 2) mainly Wed. March 19
- Currently not expecting enough precipitation to cause flooding





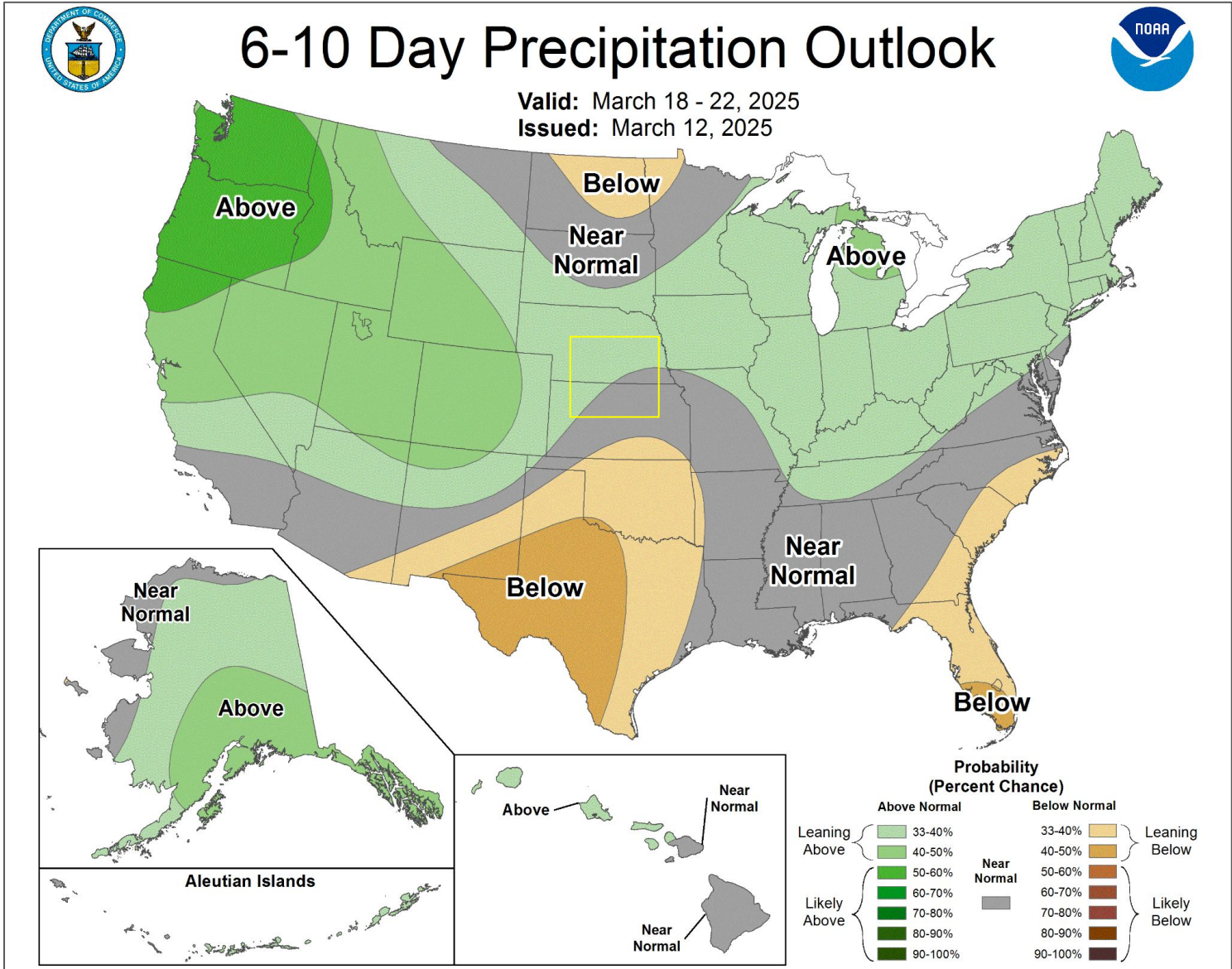
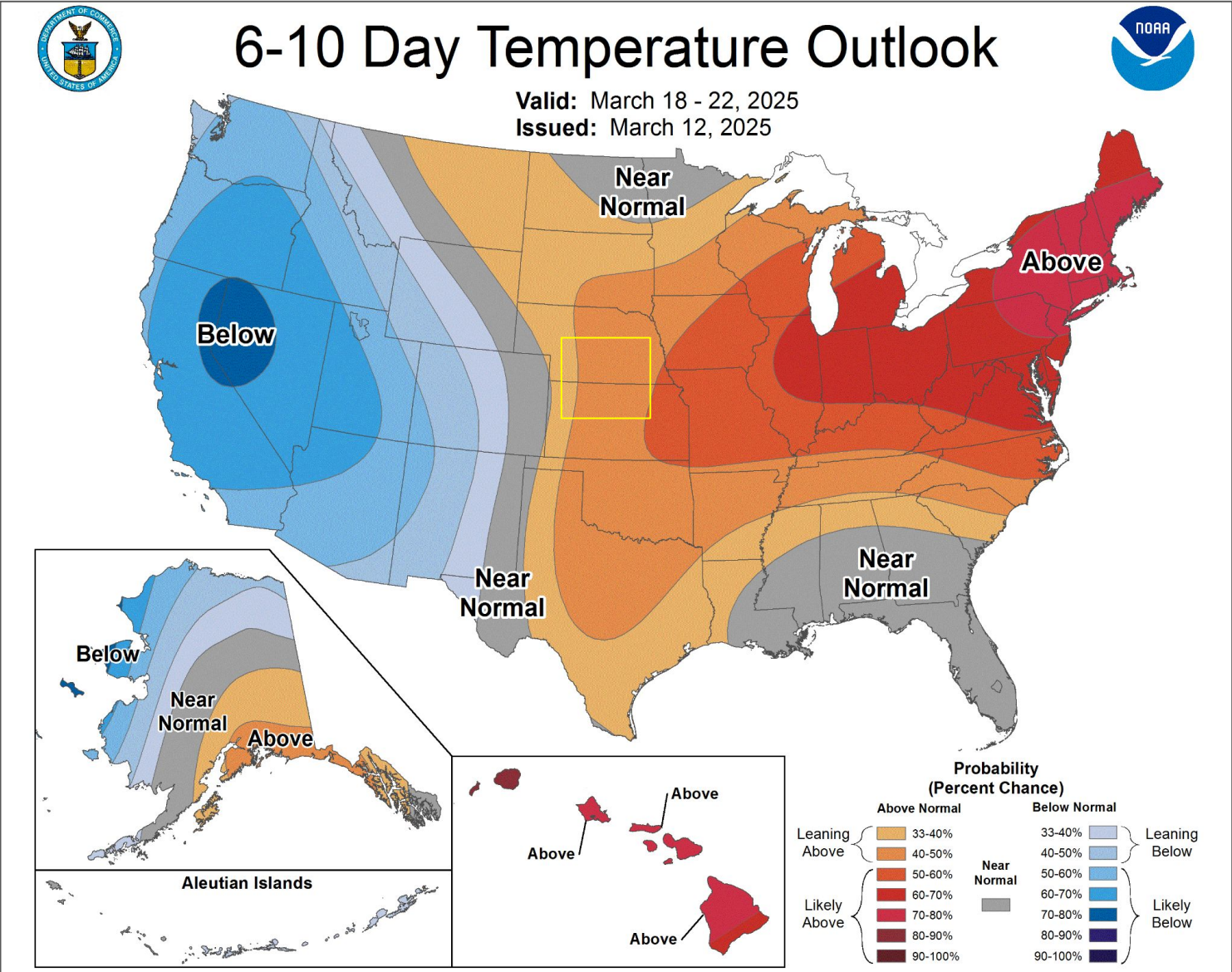
6-10 Day Outlook (MARCH 18-22)

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

Above normal temps favored...slight lean toward above normal precipitation (mostly snow?)

March 18-22

March 18-22





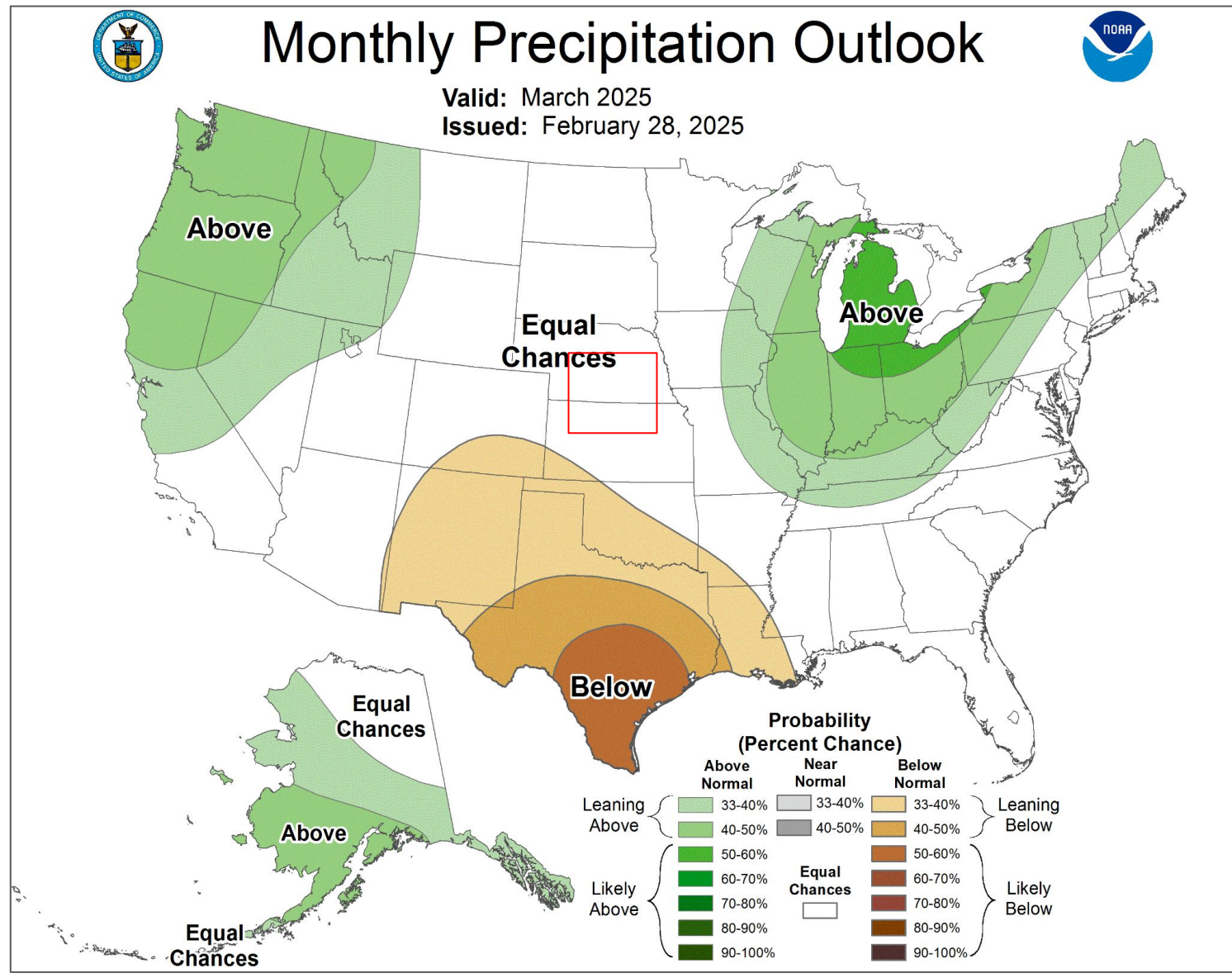
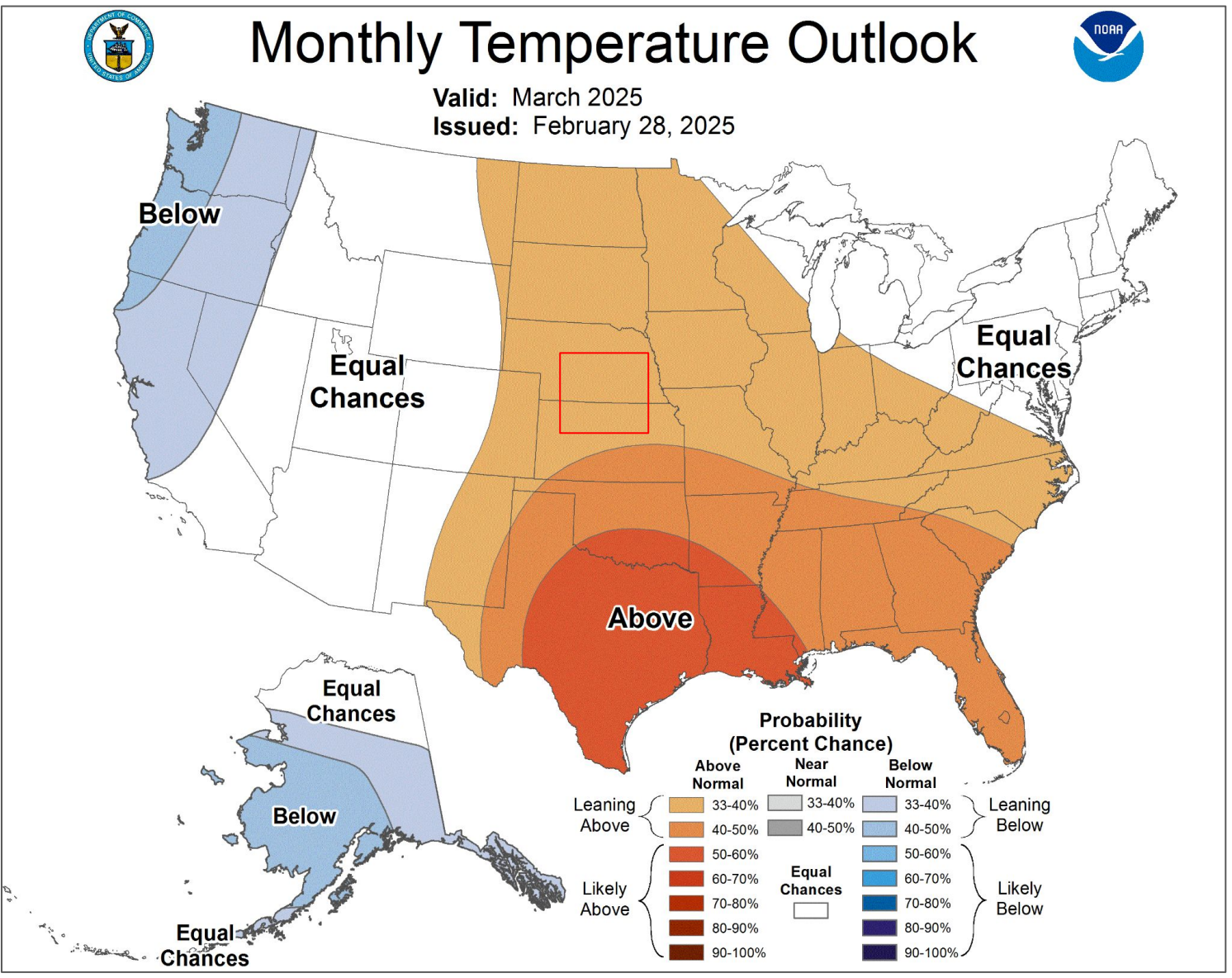
One-Month Outlook (MARCH)

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

Slight lean toward above normal temps...no clear signal regarding precip (so far this is “on track” almost halfway through March)

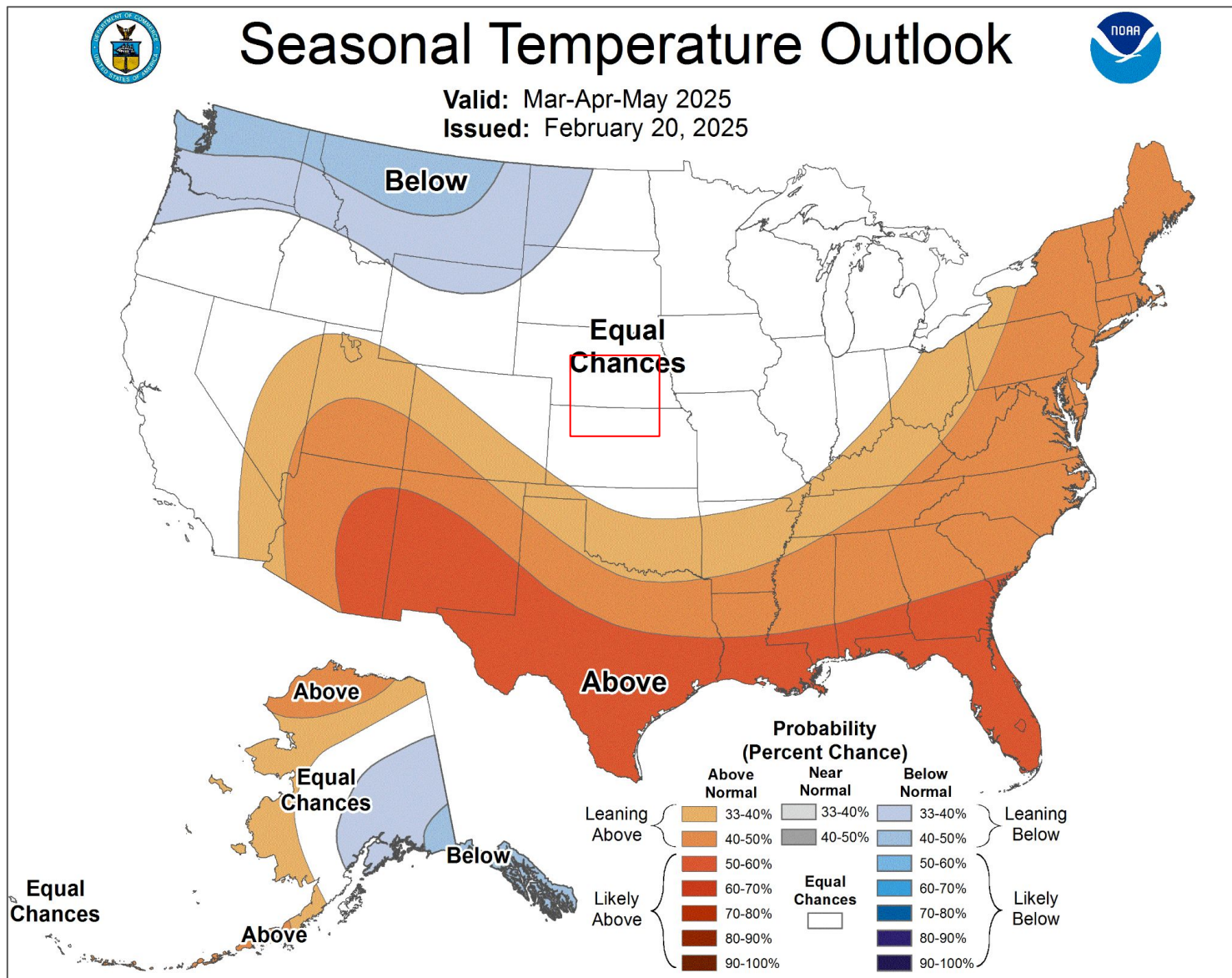
March

March

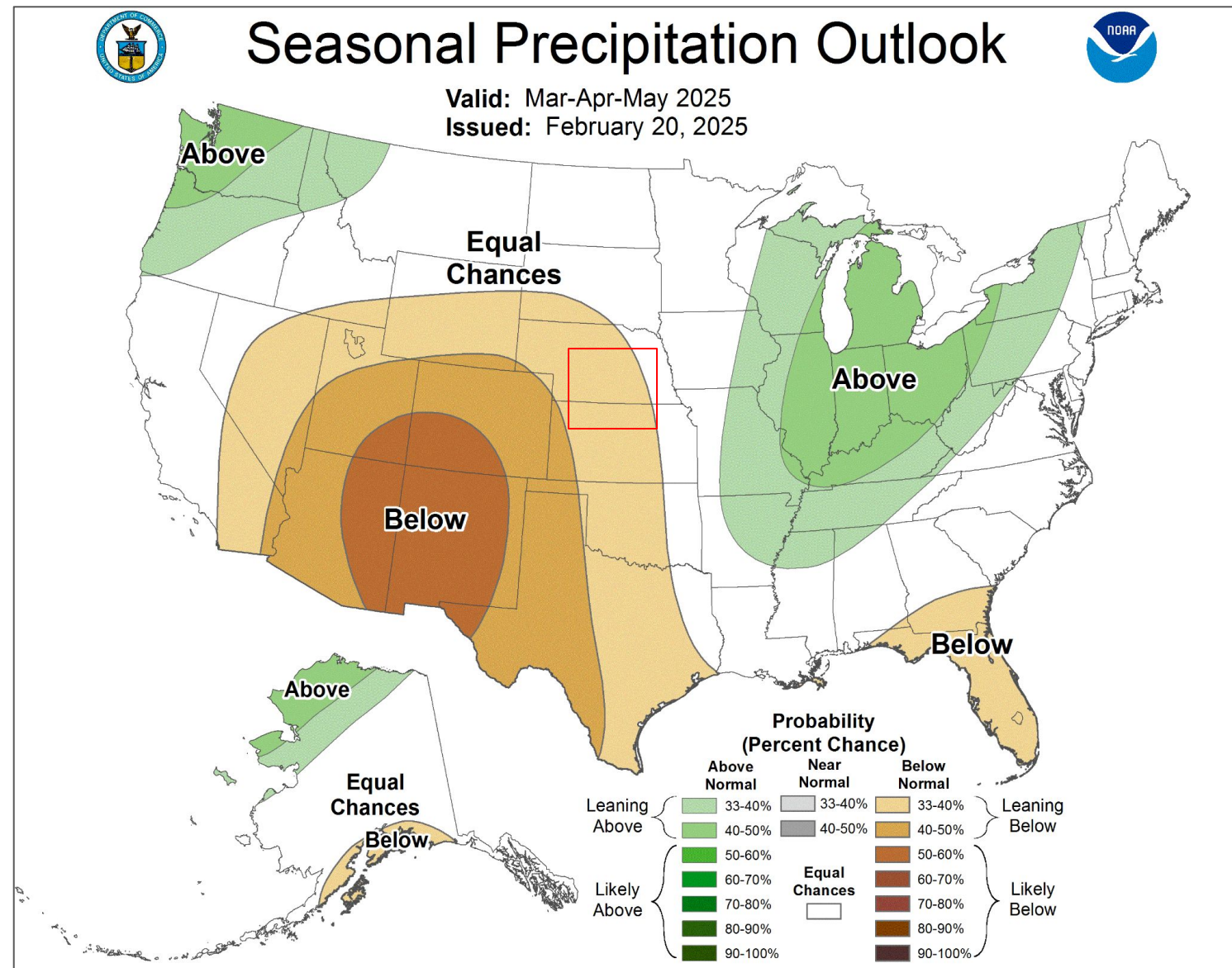


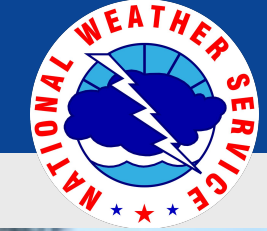
Slight lean toward below normal precip...no clear signal regarding temperatures

March - May



March - May

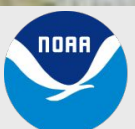




This Concludes 2025 Spring Flood Outlook #3

March 13, 2025
9:41 AM

THIS IS THE FINAL SCHEDULED ISSUANCE FOR 2025



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

**National Weather Service
Hastings, NE**