

NWS GRAND JUNCTION COLORADO



A L O O K
BACK AT

FEBRUARY 2026

WEATHER ACROSS E UTAH / W COLORADO

The month of February began dry and mild, with high temperatures running 10-15 degrees above normals for the time of year. A few light mountain rain and snow showers did occur, but accumulations remained minimal, and pleasant, almost spring-like, weather continued. These conditions prevailed through the middle of the month before the first proper winter storm of the month set its sights on the Western Slope. This system favored the southern mountains, with advisory level snow occurring. Warm and dry conditions quickly returned, however. Starting the week of the 16th, the weather became increasingly unsettled. A strong winter storm was taking shape, with strong, gusty winds and substantial snow accumulations at the higher elevations. Above roughly 9000 feet, storm totals came out to be 1-2 feet, while lower elevations saw much warmer temperatures and lesser accumulations. That said, even the lowest desert valleys saw a trace to a couple inches. Winds were also very strong, gusting into the 50s down low, and into the 70s up high. The associated cold front brought snow squall conditions as well. However, by the final week of the month, anomalously warm and dry conditions had returned, although some minor mountain snow continued to the north. Despite that one substantial storm at the midpoint of the month, snowpack remained well below normal, with the month ending with all basins 40-70% of median for the time of year.



FEBRUARY 2026

MONTHLY SUMMARY



TABLE OF **C O N T E N T S**

NOTE: all data mentioned is collected from our automated observing stations from 10 airports across the area. Some observers in more remote areas may have measured warmer or colder temperatures, or more or less precipitation than mentioned in this summary.

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STORY OF THE MONTH

FINALLY, A STRONG WINTER STORM

For the first time in what feels like ages, the Western Slope finally saw a strong winter storm. Most mountain ranges were due to see around a foot of snow, with close to 2 feet possible at the highest elevations. Blowing snow was also a concern, with winds expected to gust 50-70 mph. Snow squalls were also possible along the cold front, with whiteout conditions leading to difficult travel conditions. For a few days in the middle of February, it actually felt like winter.



Snow and Strong Winds

February 16, 2026
1:11 PM

Monday Night through Wednesday Night

Key Messages

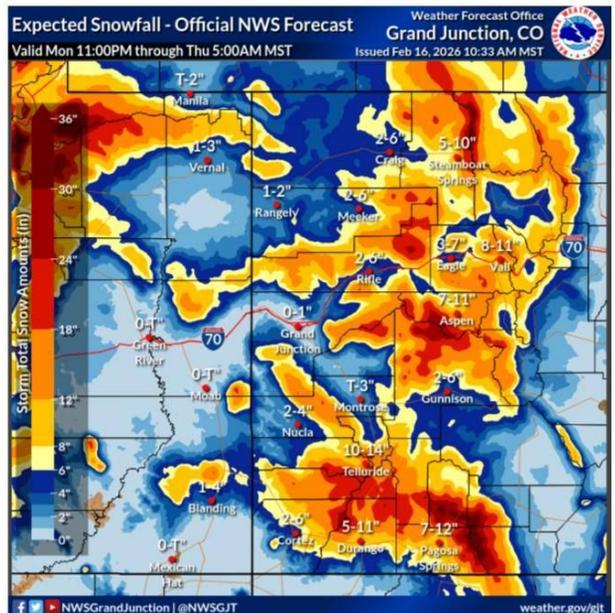
- Several rounds of snow are expected Monday night through Wednesday night.
- Snowfall totals of 8-16 inches are expected for most mountain ranges. Localized amounts upwards of 24 inches possible.
- Tuesday and Wednesday wind gusts of 30-50 mph, upwards of 50-70 mph in the mountains.
- Blowing and drifting snow could result in near zero visibility at times. Snow squalls are possible between 2AM and 9AM Tuesday morning.
- Shower coverage and intensity decreases on Thursday, but another round of snow is possible on Friday.

NEW What Has Changed

- Updated graphics and some valleys added to the wind advisory

Next Scheduled Update

- As needed



National Weather Service
Grand Junction, CO

F E B R U A R Y
2 0 2 6

TEMPERATURES



Location	AVG Temp (°F) (VS Normal)	Warmest Temp (° F)	Coldest Temp (°F)
Aspen, CO	31.6 (+6.4)	55 on 2/28	1 on 2/21
Cortez, CO	37.3 (+4.5)	65 on 2/27	-5 on 2/21
Craig, CO	34.2 (+12.0)	59 on 2/6, 28	5 on 2/21
Durango, CO	36.3 (+6.6)	66 on 2/27	-8 on 2/21
Grand Junction, CO	41.4 (+6.1)	66 on 2/25	16 on 2/21
Meeker, CO	34.9 (+8.5)	61 on 2/6	-2 on 2/19
Montrose, CO	39.8 (+6.1)	64 on 2/25	12 on 2/21
Rifle, CO	37.8 (+6.2)	61 on 2/25	7 on 2/22
Canyonlands Airport, UT	41.0 (+5.2)	69 on 2/25	17 on 2/21
Vernal, UT	36.9 (+9.6)	65 on 2/25	12 on 2/21



F E B R U A R Y
2 0 2 6

PRECIPITATION



Location	Total Precipitation (in.)	Departure from Normal (in.)
Aspen, CO	0.77	-0.13
Cortez, CO	0.84	-0.17
Craig, CO	0.80	-0.09
Durango, CO	0.77	-0.34
Grand Junction, CO	0.25	-0.28
Meeker, CO	0.81	+0.05
Montrose, CO	0.51	+0.09
Rifle, CO	0.52	-0.08
Canyonlands Airport, UT	0.44	+0.03
Vernal, UT	0.23	-0.33

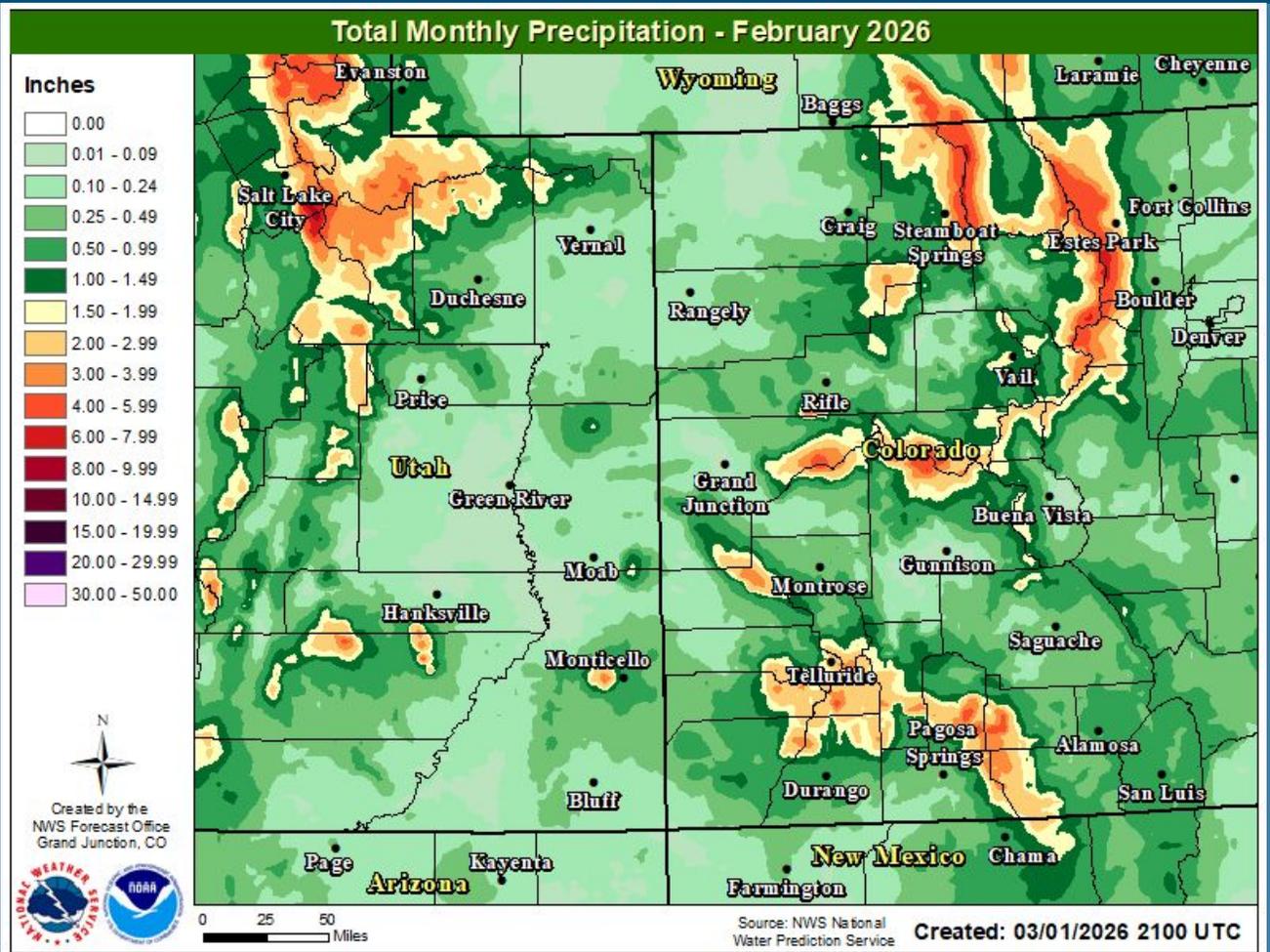


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MONTHLY SUMMARY



TOTAL MONTHLY PRECIPITATION



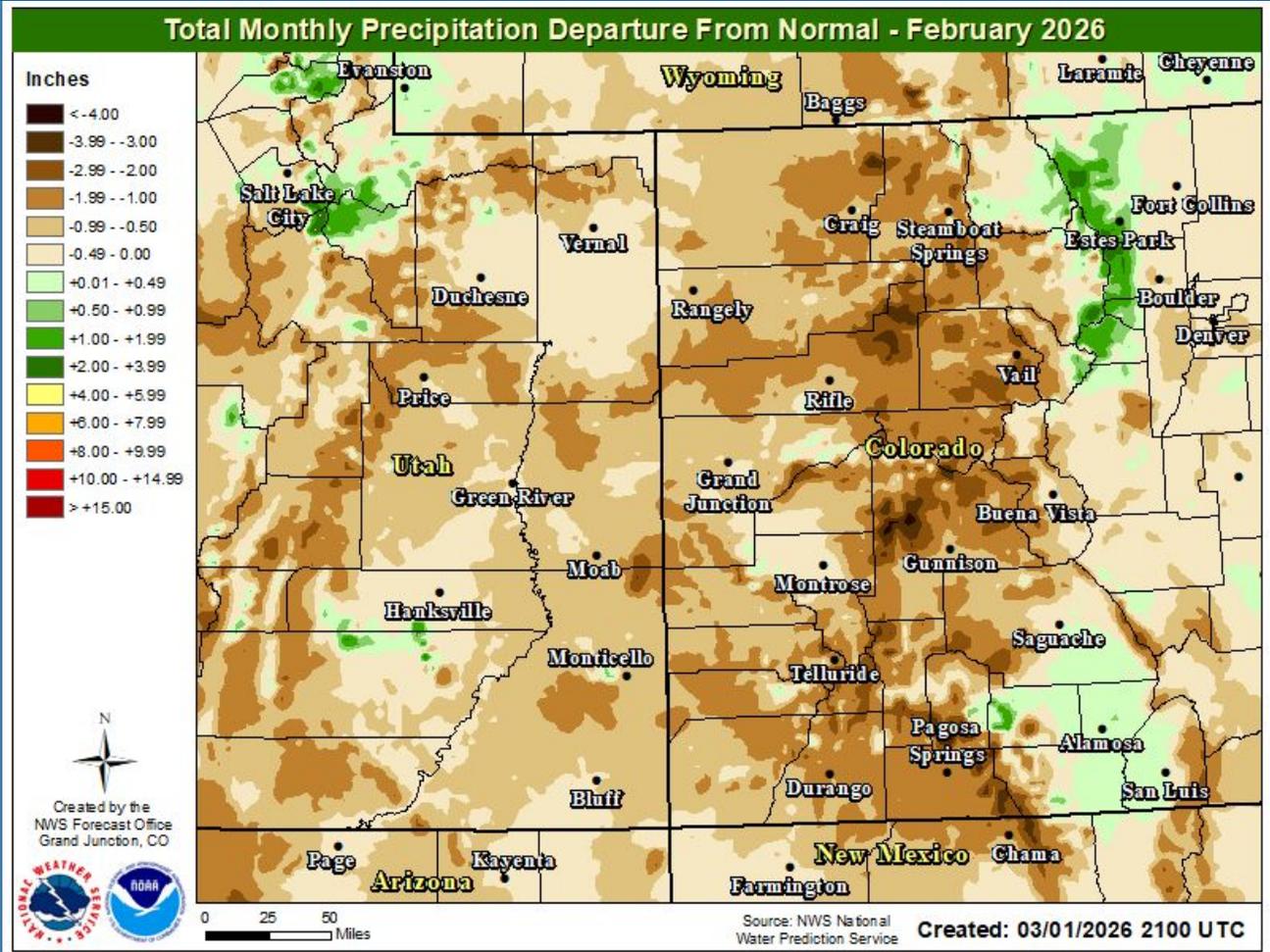
FEBRUARY 2026

MONTHLY SUMMARY



TOTAL MONTHLY PRECIPITATION

DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL



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MONTHLY SUMMARY



DAILY
RECORDS

REPORT

A total of 1 daily record was set across the primary climate sites

Site	Date	Record Type	New Record	Previous Record
Grand Junction, CO	February 20th	High Snowfall	3.1 inches	2.8 inches in 1913

High Max

Low Max

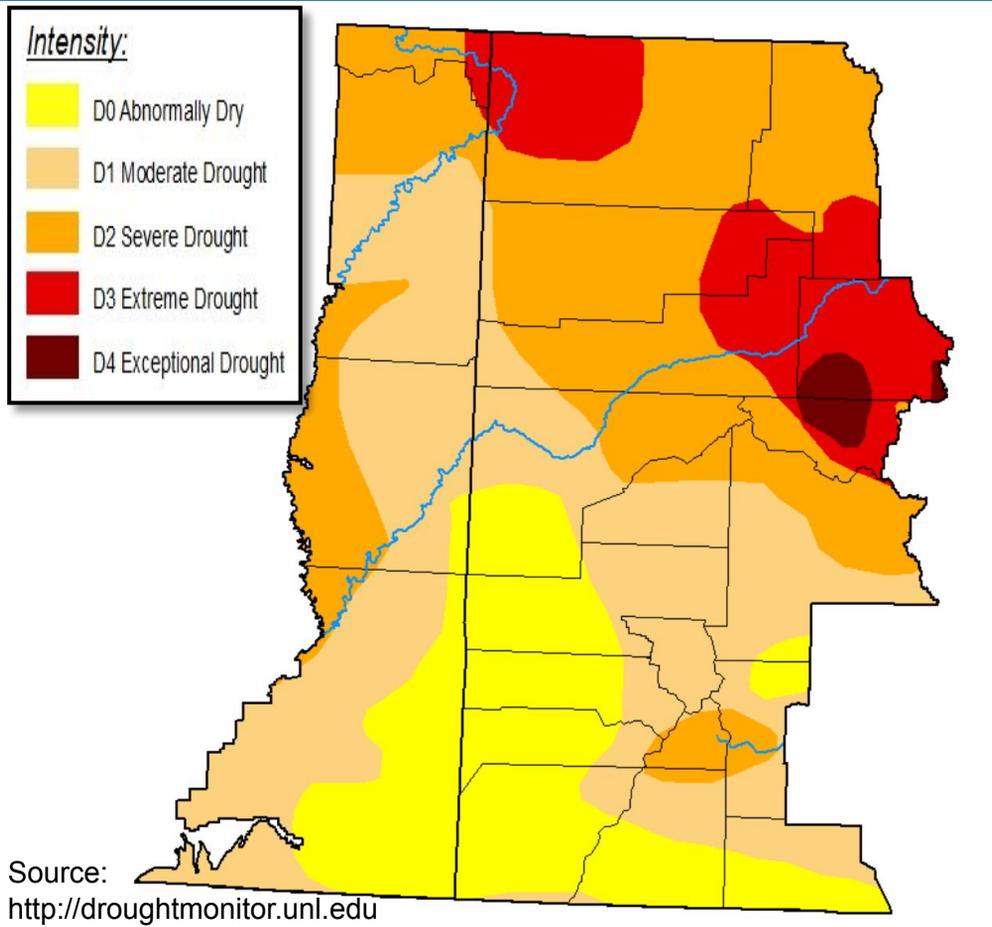
Precip

High Min

Low Min

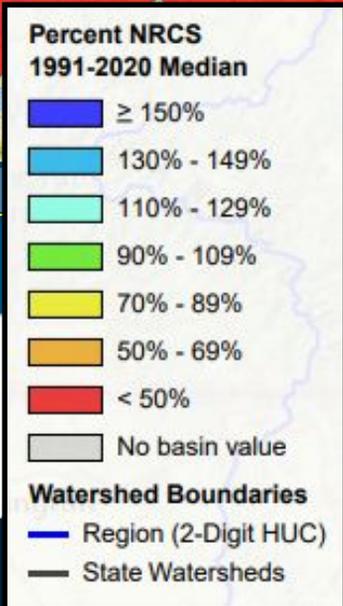
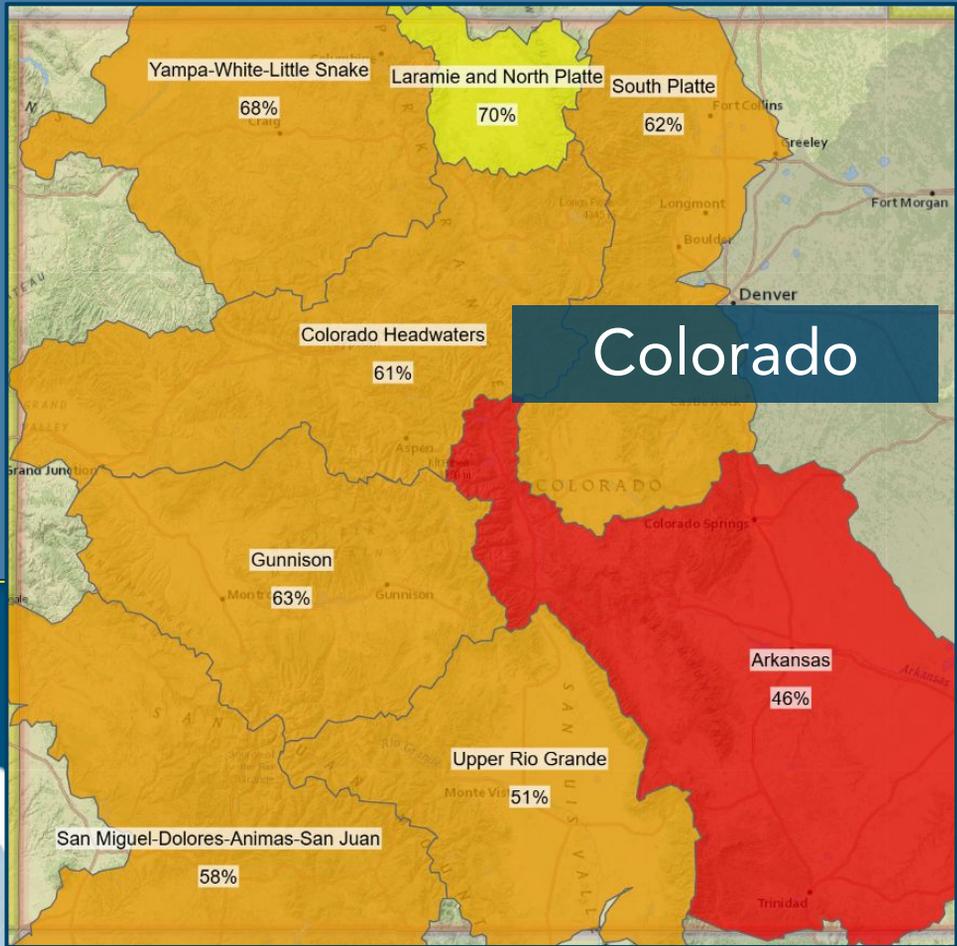
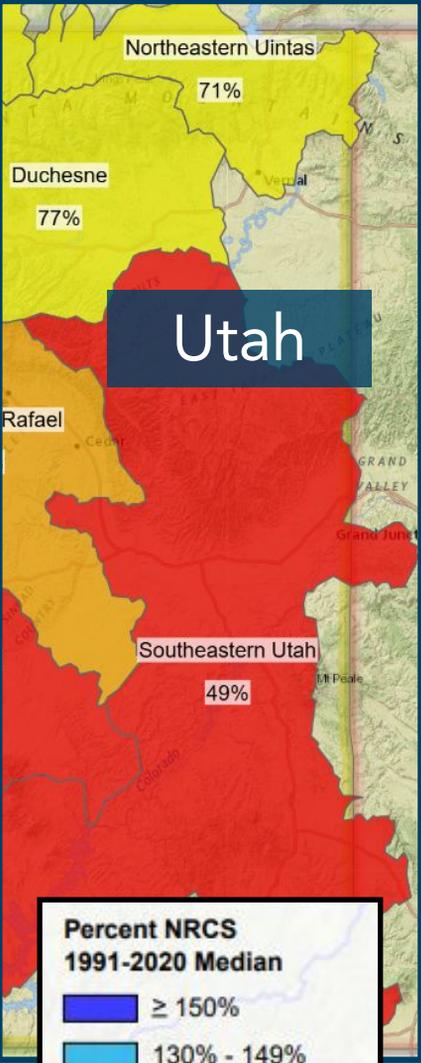


Drought across southeast Utah and southwest Colorado has stayed fairly consistent, with pockets of minor improvement and minor degradation. Extreme (D3) Drought has redeveloped across far northeast Utah into northwestern Colorado, along with some very slight expansion of the Extreme (D3) Drought in the central mountains. Severe (D2) Drought has expanded deeper into the central mountains, and developed across the central San Juans.





A few good storms in February did help the snowpack a bit, but overall we remain below median snowpack for this time of the year. The Northeastern Uintas and Duchesne basins are doing best, at 70-80% of normal, followed by the Yampa-White-Little Snake, Colorado Headwaters, and Gunnison basins, which sit at 60-70% of normal. The San Miguel- Dolores-Animas-San Juan basin is sitting at 58% of normal, and the Southeastern Utah basin is at 49% of normal.



M A R C H
2 0 2 6

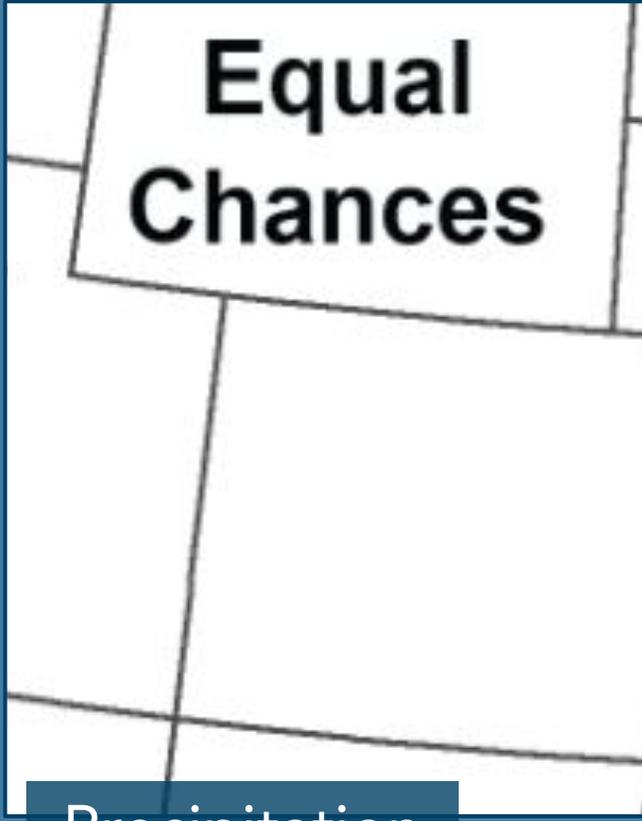
OUTLOOK

TEMPERATURES & PRECIPITATION



The latest guidance from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is leaning toward above normal temperatures for all of eastern Utah and western Colorado, with a 40-50% likelihood across the majority of the region, and a 33-40% likelihood across northeast Utah and northwest Colorado. For precipitation, CPC is favoring equal chances of above or below normal precipitation for the entirety of eastern Utah and western Colorado.

Temperatures



Precipitation

