



Drought Information Statement for Tri-State Area

Valid May 6, 2026

Issued By: NWS Goodland, Kansas

Contact Information: nws.goodland@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated by the 5th of each month 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/GLD/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
-
- Drought continues to worsen across the entire Tri State area.
 - Rain and snow to start the month makes a dent.





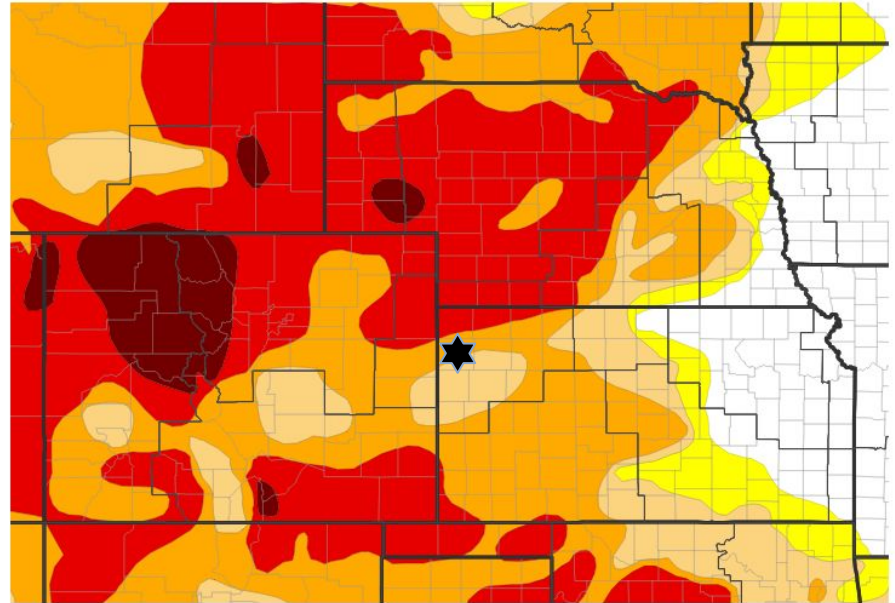
U.S. Drought Monitor

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

Drought intensity and Extent by County

- **Extreme Drought:** Yuma, Dundy, Hitchcock, Red Willow, Kit Carson, Cheyenne KS, Rawlins, Decatur.
- **Severe Drought:** Cheyenne CO, Sherman, Thomas, Norton, Graham, Greeley, Wichita, Gove, Sheridan.
- **Moderate Drought:** Wallace, Logan.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

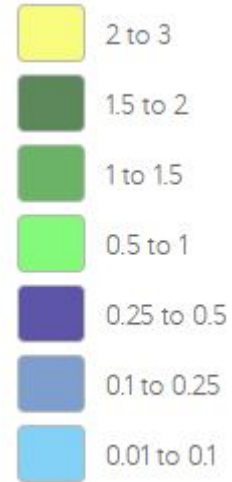
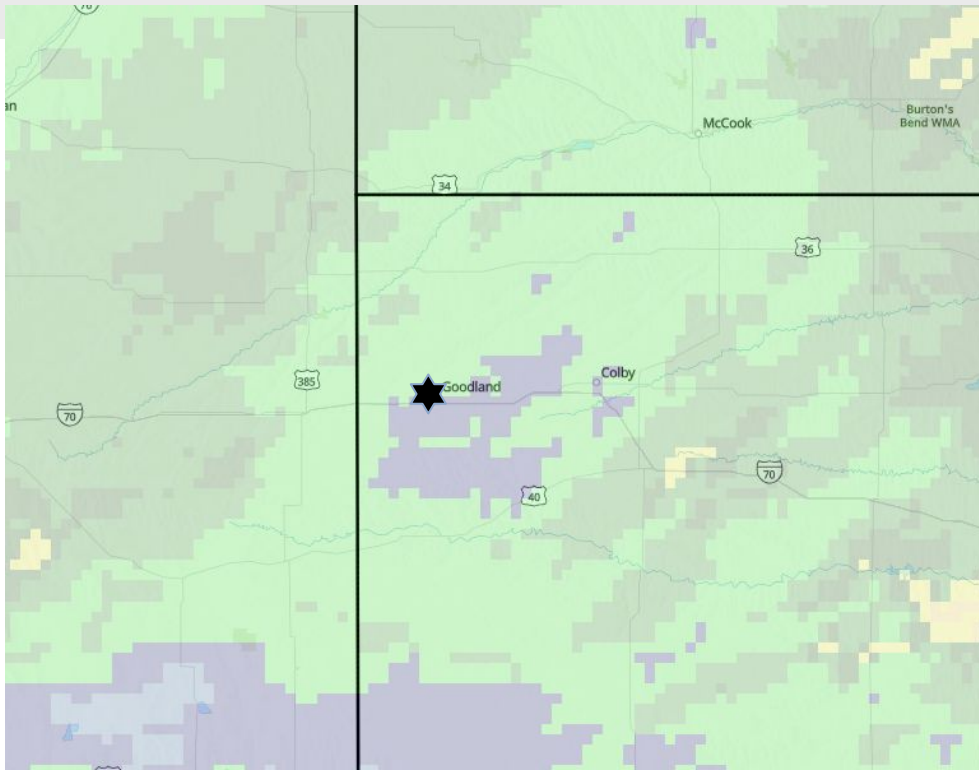
Data Valid: 04/28/26

★ Star is centered on Goodland in all following maps.





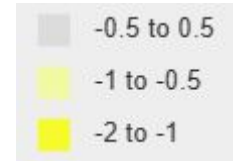
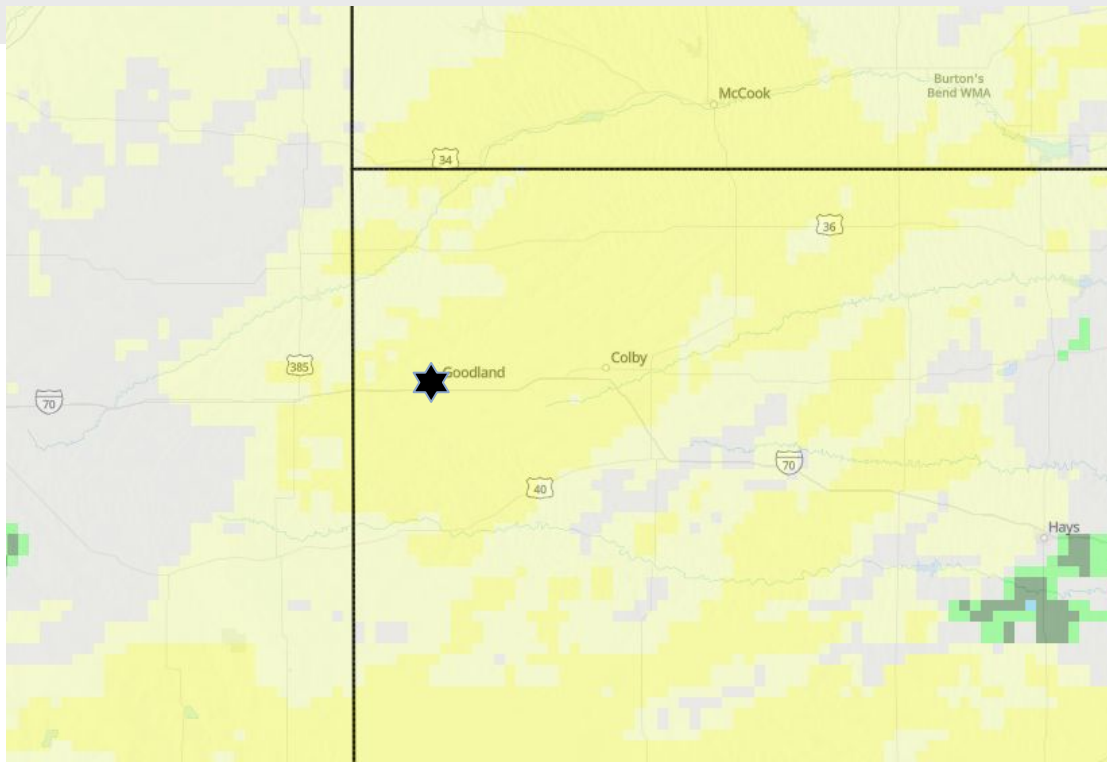
April Precipitation - Observed



Actual precipitation amounts in April (liquid equivalent for snow) were generally between 0.25" and 1.00" (blue to light green shading). Higher amounts were observed in Colorado (up to 2", darker green) as well as Gove and Graham counties in northwest Kansas (locally greater than 2", green to yellow shading).



April Precipitation - Departure from Normal



April precipitation amounts compared to normal were much below normal (yellow shading) in all areas except portions of northeast Colorado and parts of Gove County, which were near normal (gray shading).

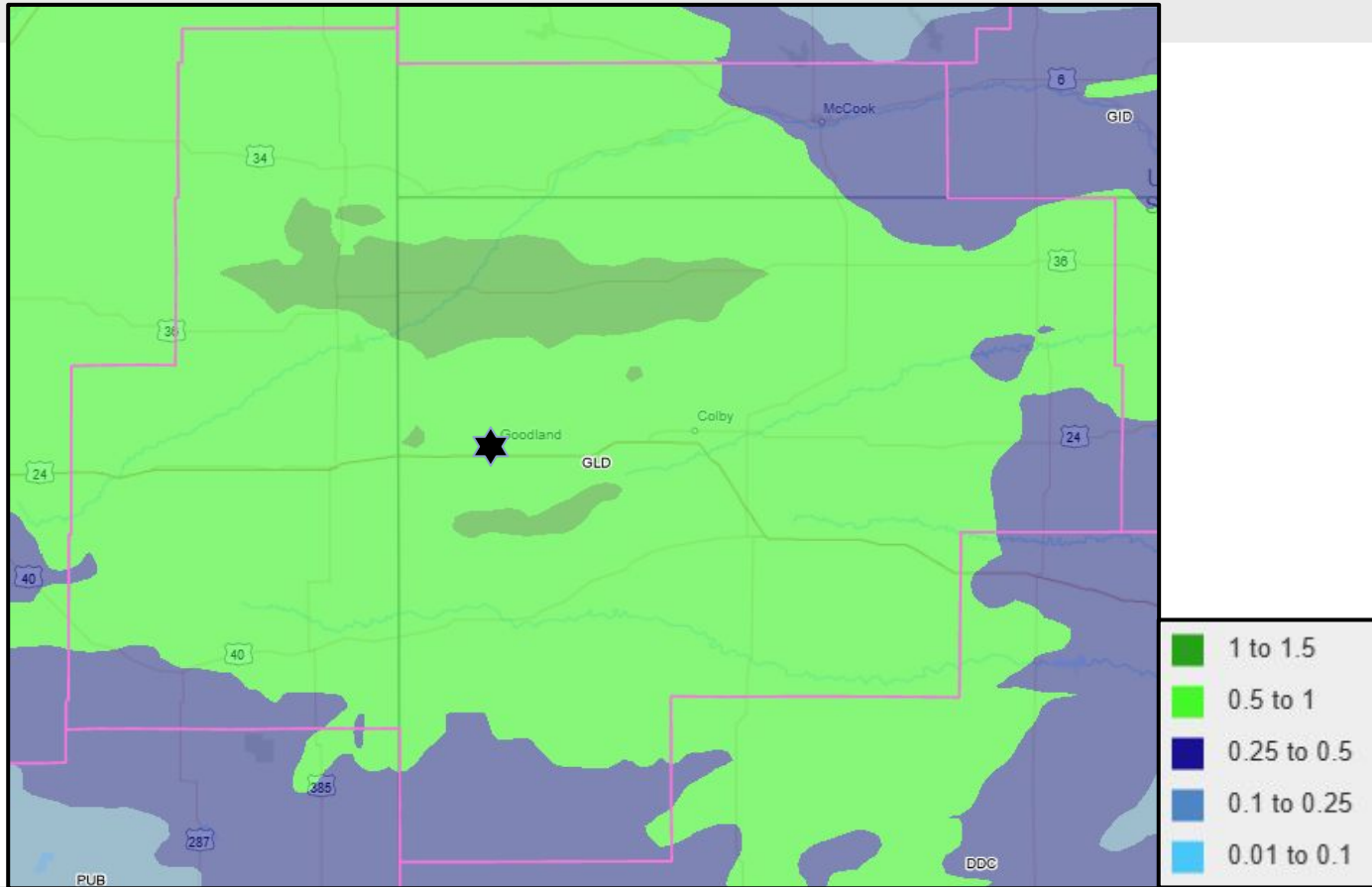




Estimated Precipitation May 5-6

Rain and Snow to Start the Month:

Much needed precipitation fell over a 2-day period to start the month. Radar estimates show widespread 0.5" to 1" amounts (light green) and some heavier amounts of up to 1.5" (dark green). However, unless the trend continues for the rest of the month, it will not likely change the long term drought status. The forecast for May is for equal chances of above, near or below normal precipitation.



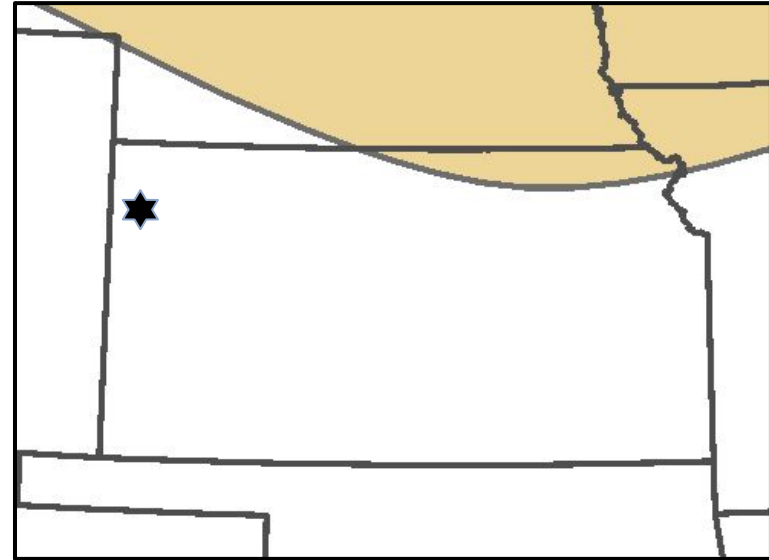


Monthly Precipitation Outlook: May 2026

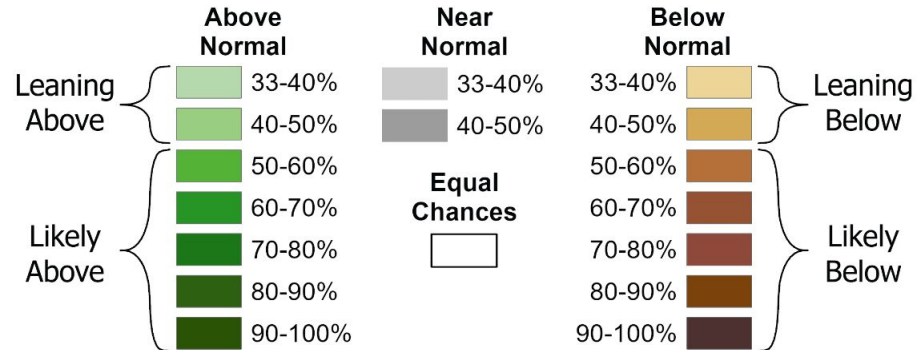
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

Comments:

- Equal chances for above, near or below normal for the entire the Tri State area.



Probability (Percent Chance)



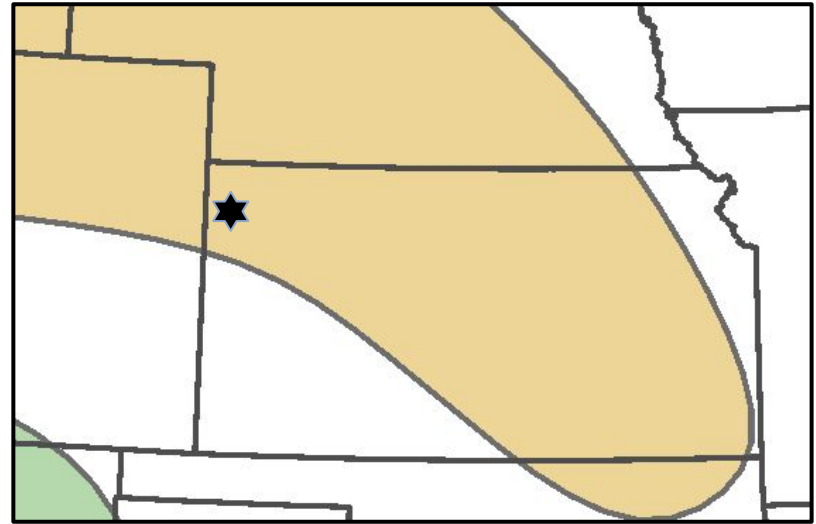


Seasonal Precipitation Outlook: May-July 2026

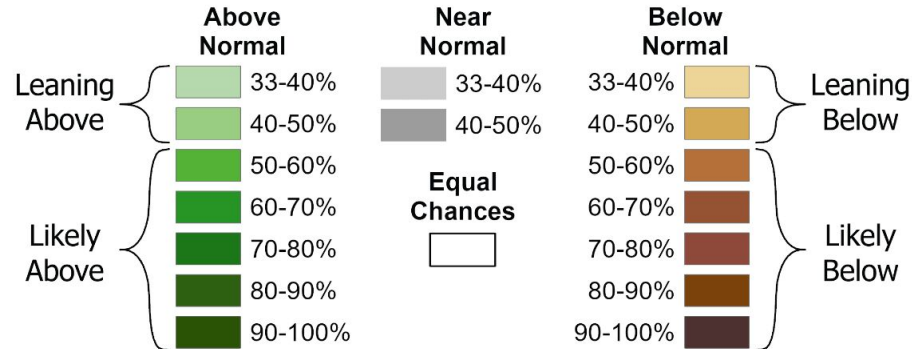
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

Comments

- Below normal slightly favored for the entire area (33% to 40% chance).



Probability (Percent Chance)



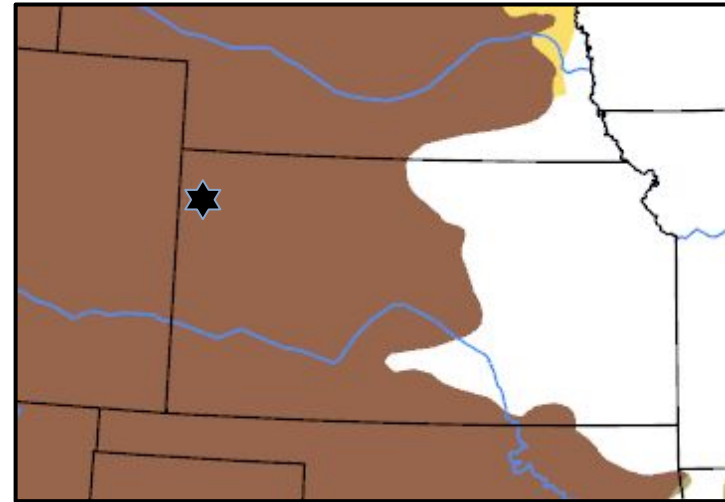
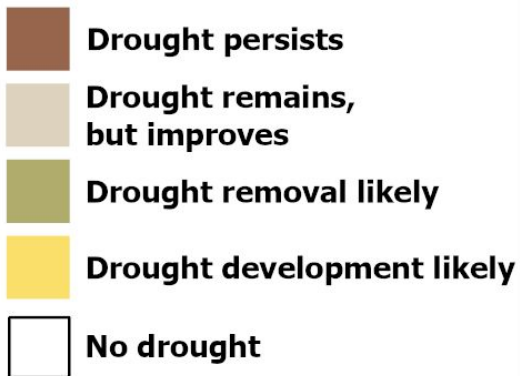


Seasonal Drought Outlook: Through July 2026

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

Comments

- Drought persists across the entire Tri State area.





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Agricultural Impacts

- USDA Nebraska Crop Progress and Condition Reports can be found [here](#)
- USDA Kansas Crop Progress and Condition Reports can be found [here](#)

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fuels are dry across the entire area. Windy days with low humidity will have a risk for wildfires.
- **Other Impacts** : There are no known impacts at this time

Mitigation Actions

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





Contact Information

For feedback, comments, questions specific to the Drought Information Statement please reach out to:

nws.goodland@noaa.gov

