



Drought Information Statement for Central and Northeast Wisconsin

Valid March 21, 2024

Issued By: WFO Green Bay, WI

Contact Information: nws.greenbay@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated by April 8, 2024 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/grb/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



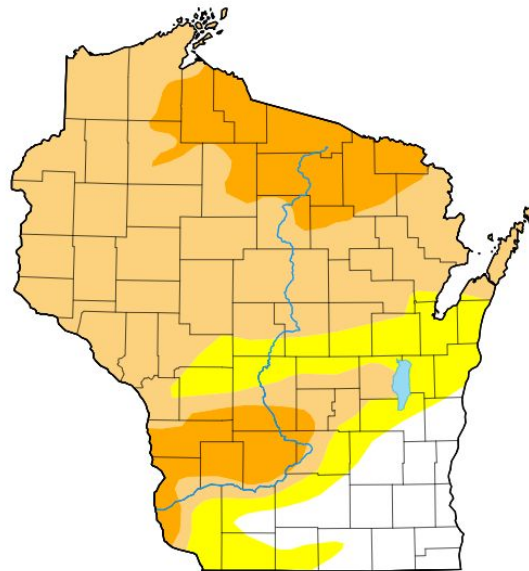


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

Drought Intensity and Extent

- **D2 (Severe Drought):**
 - Continues generally north of a Tomahawk to Antigo to Iron Mountain line.
- **D1 (Moderate Drought) & D0 (Abnormally Dry)**
 - Continues generally south of a Tomahawk to Antigo to Iron Mountain line.



Map released: Thurs. March 21, 2024

Data valid: March 19, 2024 at 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Authors

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Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8 am EDT March 21, 2024.



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Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Midwest

- **Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change**

- Some worsening of the drought was noted in areas extending from Marshfield and Stevens Point through Shawano northeast into Oconto and much of the southern two-thirds of Marinette County
- Little change was noted across the rest of the area.

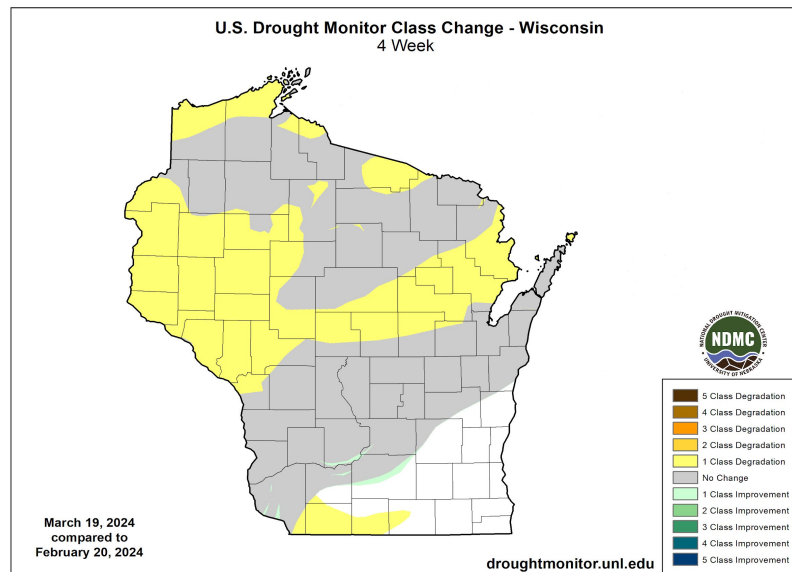


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 7 am EST March 19, 2024.





Precipitation

- Much of north-central and northeast Wisconsin has received less than 70% of the normal precipitation over the last month.
- The driest conditions were noted across Vilas County, and from portions of central Wisconsin northeast into Marinette and Oconto counties.

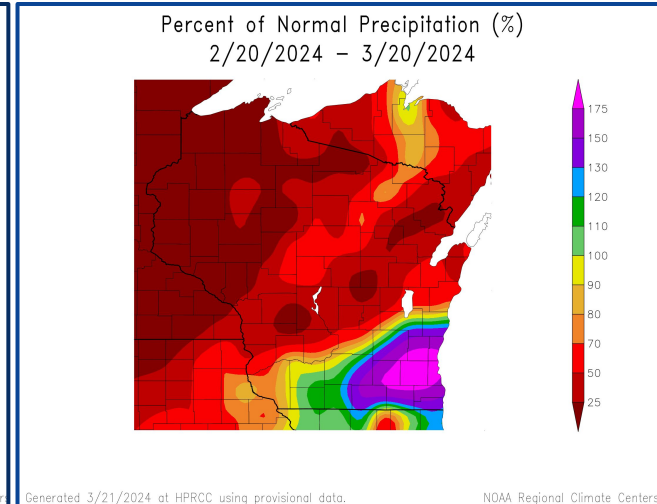
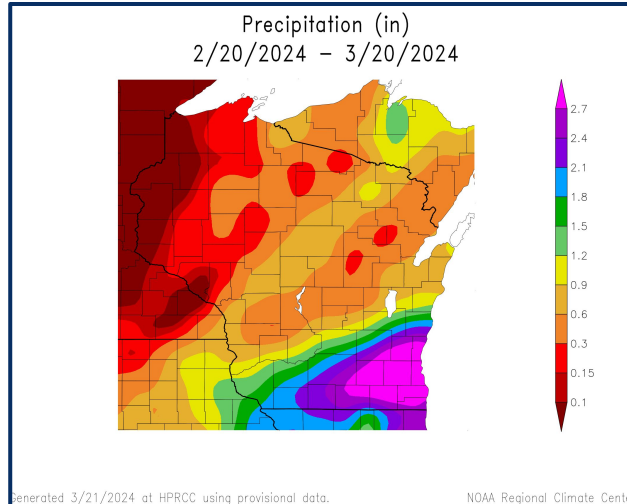


Image Captions:

Left - Precipitation Amount for Wisconsin
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Wisconsin
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending March 19, 2024





Temperature

- Over the last month, temperatures have been averaging 8 to 12 degrees above normal. As of March 21, a pattern shift has occurred which will result in below normal temperatures are expected over the next week or two into early April.

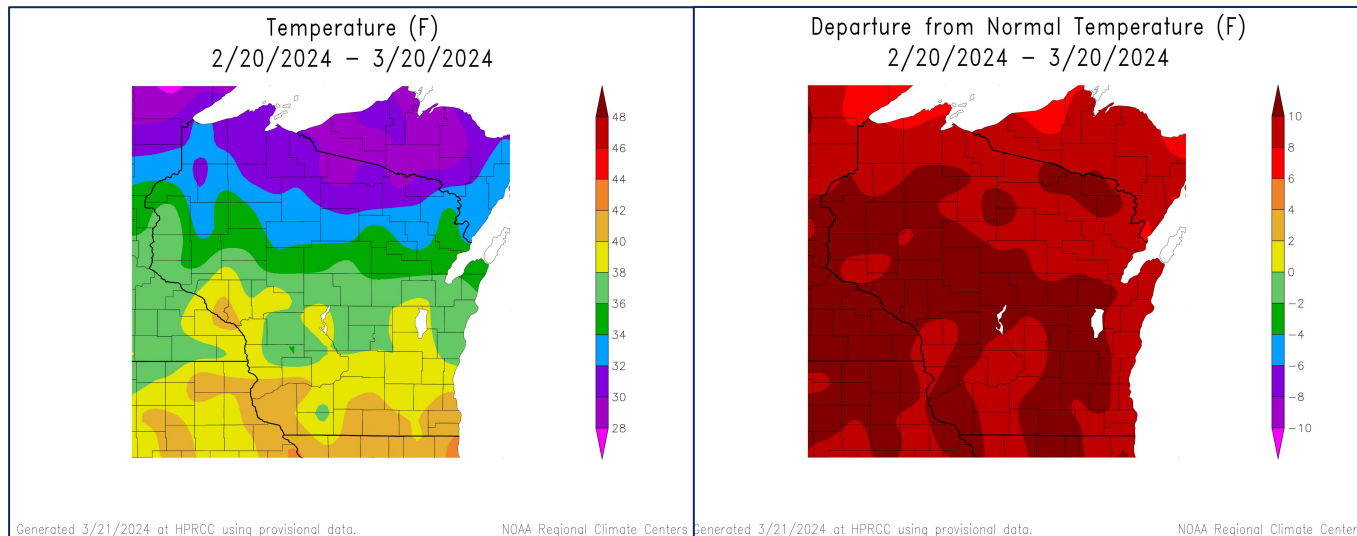


Image Captions:
Left - Average Temperature for Wisconsin
Right - Departure from Normal Temperature for Wisconsin
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending March 19, 2024





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Rivers are running well below normal which could impact generation of electricity at the dams along the Menominee and Wisconsin Rivers. Low water levels on other rivers could be a hazard to boaters.

Agricultural Impacts

- Top soil moisture is running below normal due to the mild and dry weather, along with several bouts of desert like humidity readings.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- It has been an active spring with the number of fires across the area/state due to the lack of snow and the early snow melt. The fire danger across much of the area (except for Vilas and Oneida counties) was in the high category. These conditions should improve over the next week due to the expected rain and snow at times.

Other Impacts

- The lack of snow this winter has impacted winter tourism across northern Wisconsin which depends on the seasonal snowfall.

Mitigation Actions

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





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Rivers are running well below normal across north-central and northeast Wisconsin. River levels elsewhere are running below the normal March spring melt.

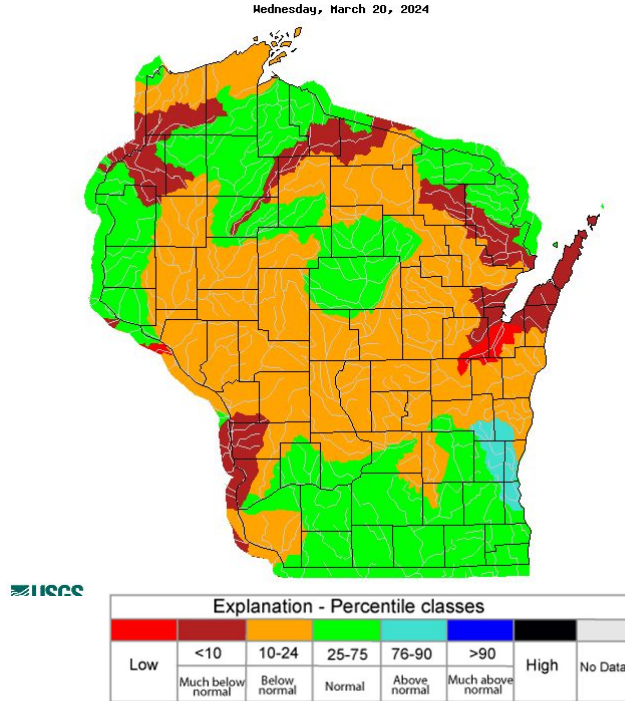


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid March 6, 2024

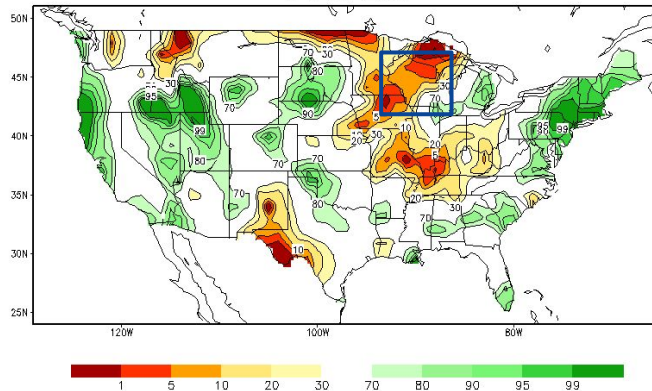




Agricultural Impacts

- The calculated soil moisture ranking percentile continues to show drier than normal conditions across much of the area, with the worst conditions along the Upper Michigan border.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
MAR 20, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending MAR 16, 2024
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

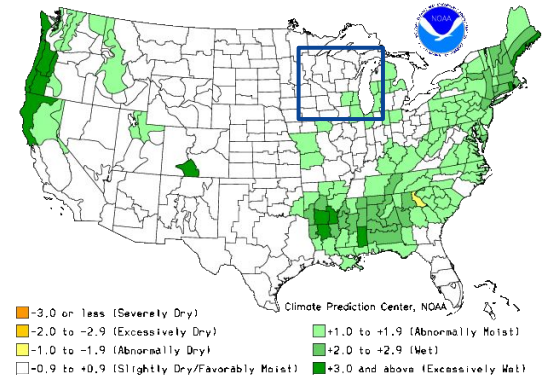


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid March 20, 2024

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending March 16, 2024





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- The potential for wildfires is expected to remain above normal in April due to the drought conditions.

[Wisconsin Fire Danger Map](#)

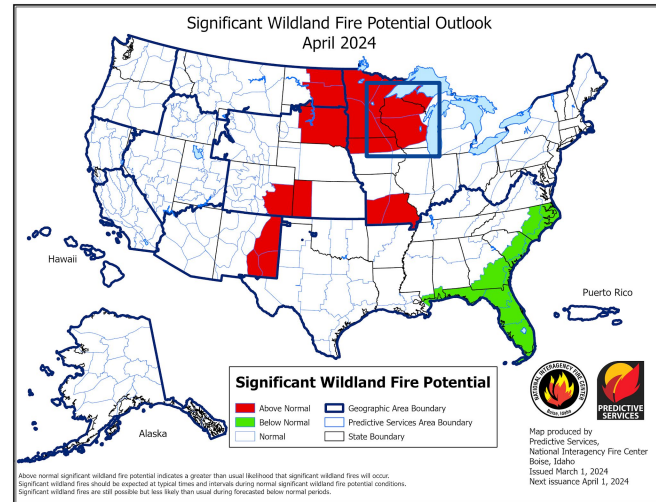


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for April 2024



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Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Round 1: Snow is expected on the 22nd, with totals ranging from 1 to 3 inches across the north and 3 to 6 inches south of Highway 29.
- Round 2: Snow is expected to arrive during the afternoon and evening of March 24 and then rain or snow continues at times into Tuesday. The heaviest precipitation totals are expected across central and north-central Wisconsin.

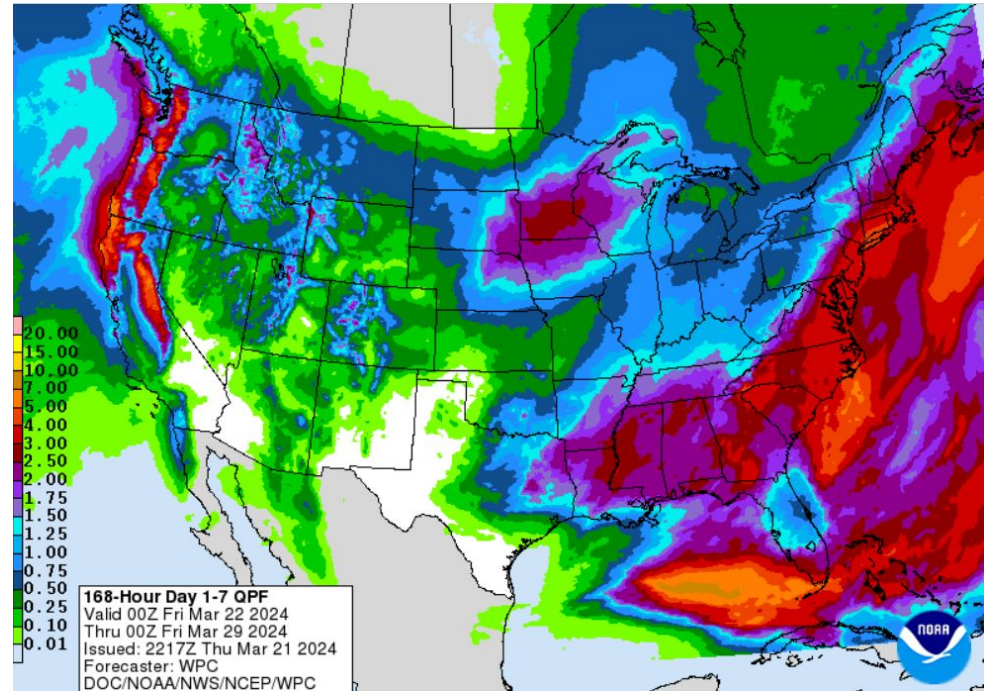


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Friday Mar 22 through Friday Mar 29





Long-Range Outlooks

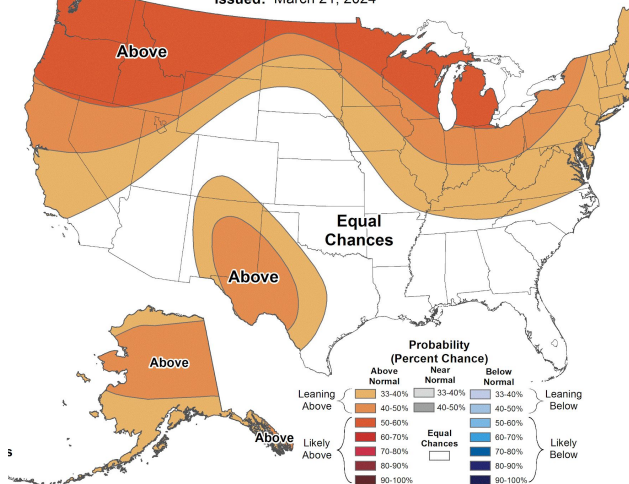
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The climate models are indicating a greater chance for above normal temperatures to continue in April and through the spring/early summer period (April - June).



Monthly Temperature Outlook

Valid: April 2024
Issued: March 21, 2024



Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: Apr-May-Jun 2024
Issued: March 21, 2024

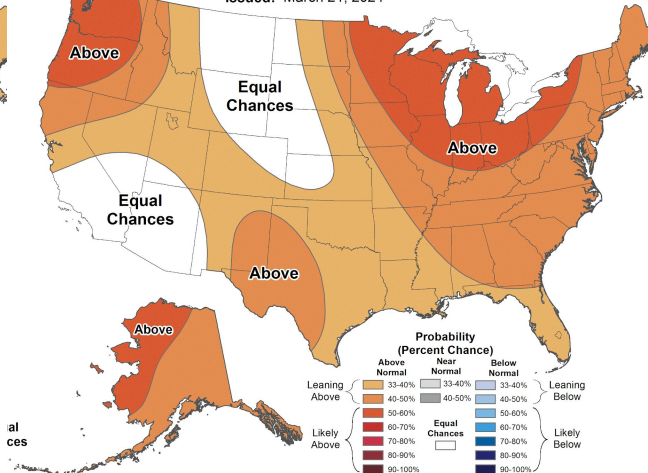


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook.](#)

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook.](#)

Valid MM YYYY



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Long-Range Outlooks

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- The climate models are indicating a greater chance for below normal precipitation in April. The climate models were not favoring any one category for the spring (April - June).

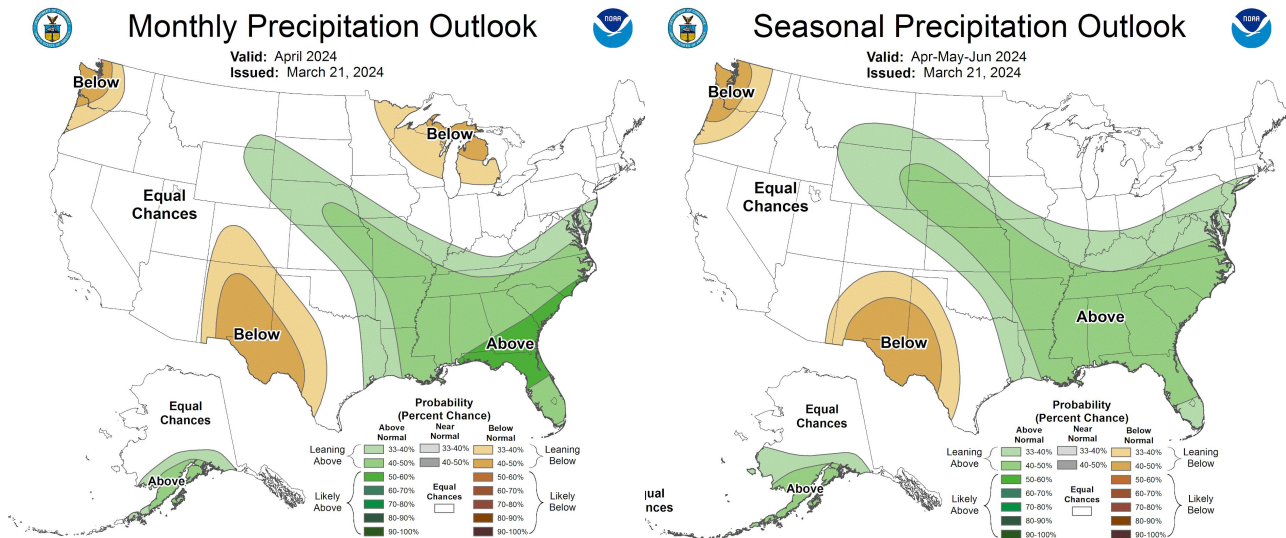


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook.](#)

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook.](#)

Valid MM YYYY



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Drought Outlook

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

- Drought is expected to persist across much of the area this spring into early summer.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for March 21 - June 30, 2024
Released March 21, 2024

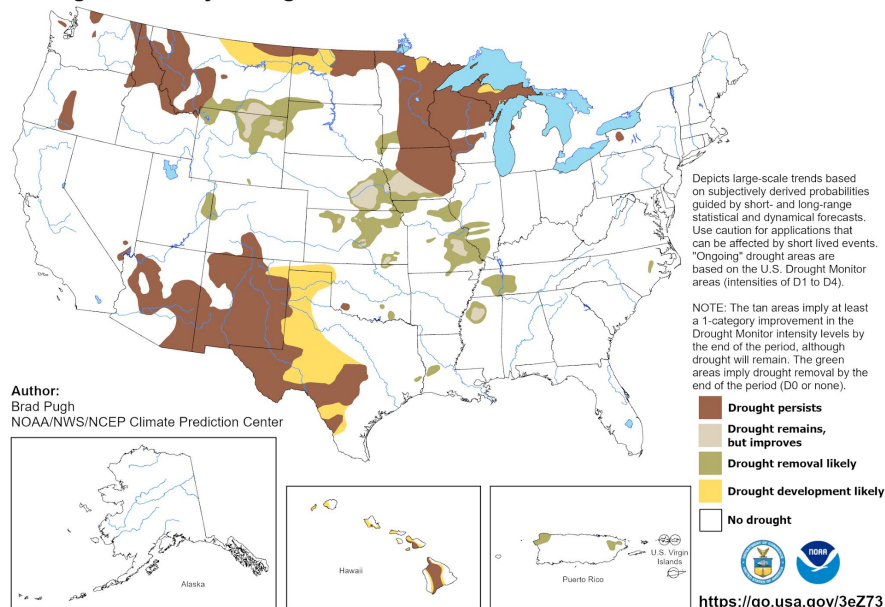


Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released on March 21, 2024 valid for March 21 to June 30, 2024

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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