



Drought Information Statement for Western and North Central Nebraska

Valid March, 20, 2025

Issued By: NWS-North Platte, NE

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated April, 17, 2025 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/LBF/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
-
- Drought conditions have improved some over the northern Sandhills in the past month.



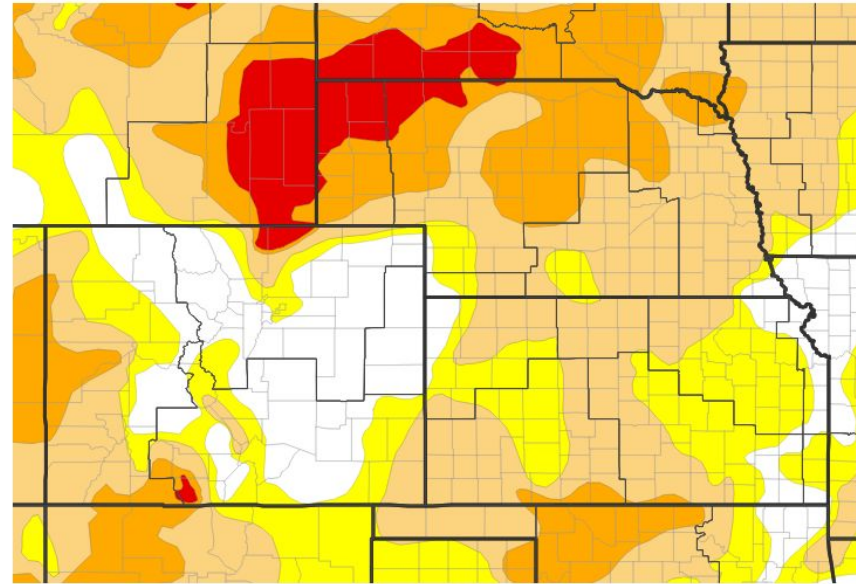


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: No counties in western and north central Nebraska.
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Northern portions of Sheridan and northwestern Cherry County.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Sheridan, Cherry, Brown, Rock, Keya Paha, Holt, Boyd, Wheeler, Garfield, Loup, Blaine Thomas, Hooker, Grant, Arthur, Garden, Mcpherson, Lincoln, Logan and Custer.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Garden, Arthur, Grant, Cherry, Hooker, Deuel, Keith, McPherson, Lincoln, Custer, Frontier and Hayes
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Keith, Hayes, Perkins, Chase and Lincoln.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 03/18/25

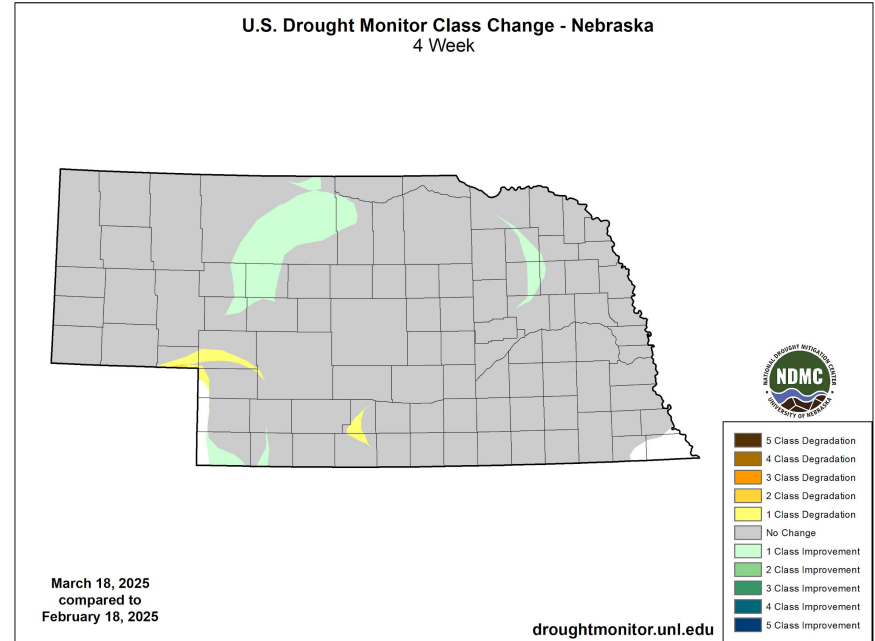




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for The High Plains

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Deuel and Keith Counties.
 - No Change: Sheridan, Cherry, Brown, Rock, Keya Paha, Boyd, Holt, Wheeler, Garfield, Loup, Blaine, Thomas, Hooker, Grant, Garden, Arthur, McPherson, Logan, Custer, Deuel, Keith, Lincoln, Frontier, Hayes, Chase and Perkins Counties.
 - Drought Improved: Cherry, Brown, Hooker, Grant and Arthur Counties.

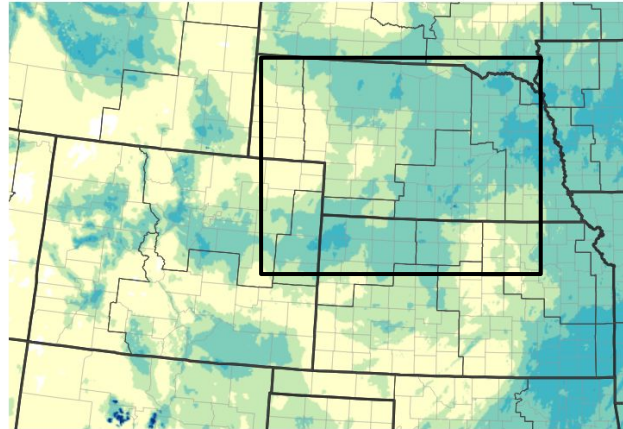




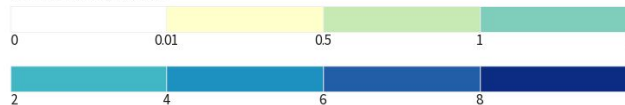
Precipitation

- Precipitation amounts for the past 30 days were an inch or better over north central Nebraska into eastern Custer County. Locations over the western Sandhills and SW Nebraska had precipitation amounts between a tenth and half an inch.
- Below normal precipitation occurred in the western Sandhills and SW Nebraska. Above normal elsewhere.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

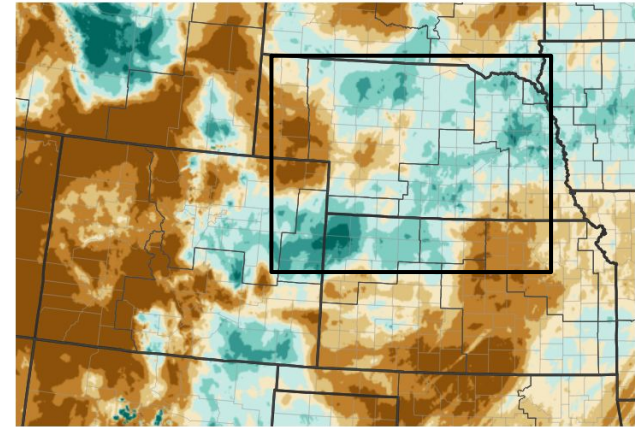


Inches of Precipitation

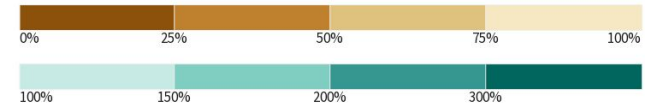


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 03/20/25

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov; Last Updated: 03/20/25

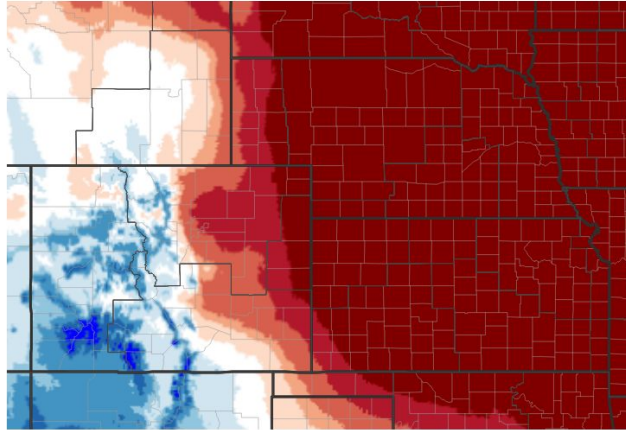




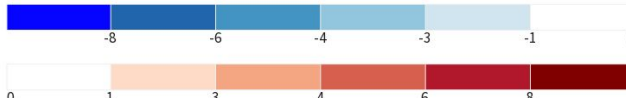
Temperature

- Over the past week, temperatures have been well below normal across all of western and north central Nebraska. Numerous record low temperatures occurred on the 19th and 20th of February.
- Over the past 30 days, below normal temperatures were present over all western and north central Nebraska.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



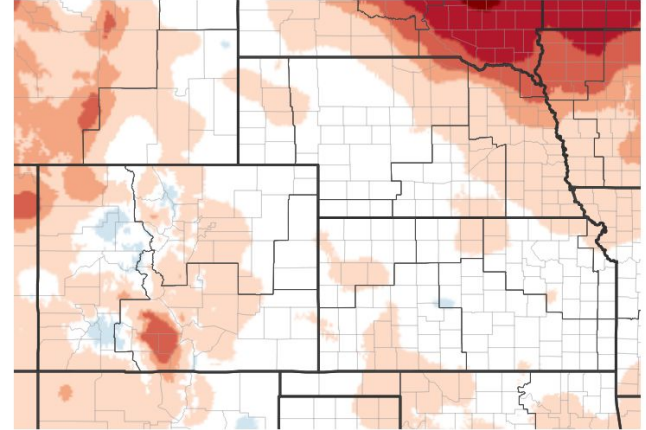
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



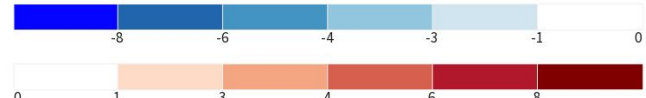
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 03/16/25

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 03/16/25





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

- “There are no known impacts at this time”

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Local fire partners have indicated that fine fuels (grasses) remain cured in western and southwestern Nebraska and will burn given the right wind and humidity conditions. Little to no spring greenup has been noted across the area.

Other Impacts

- “There are no known impacts at this time”

Mitigation Actions

- “None reported”

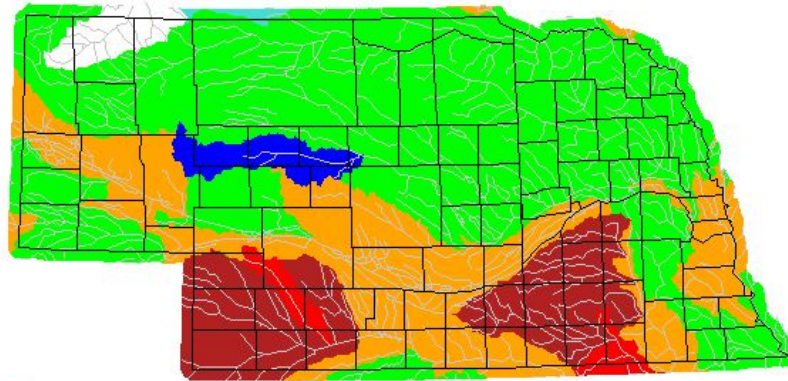




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow across the northern half of the area was normal to above normal for this time of year.
- Flows in the southern Loup and Platte river system are below normal for this time of year.
- Flows in the Medicine Creek, Frenchman, and Stinking Water Creeks' are much below normal for this time of year.

Wednesday, March 19, 2025



Explanation - Percentile classes							
	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
Low	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 3 19 2025

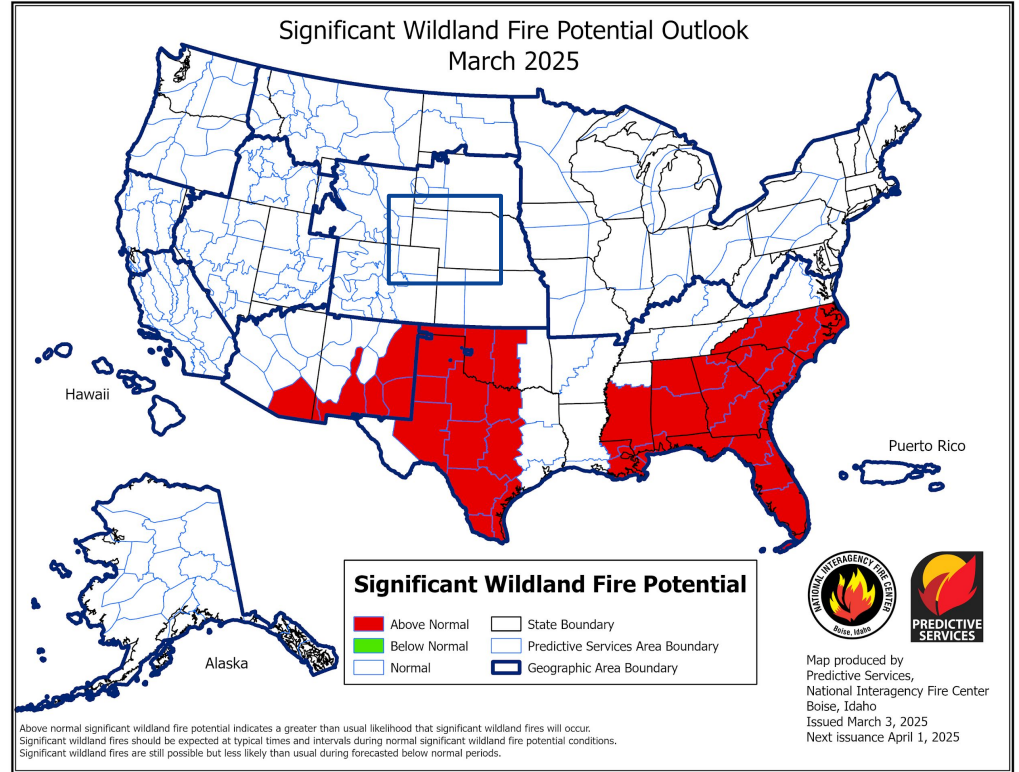




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Significant wildland fire potential is near normal for this time of year.
- However, fire partners have indicated that one hour fuels are cured in western and southwestern Nebraska and will burn given favorable wind and humidity conditions. Little to no spring greenup of grasses has occurred yet.

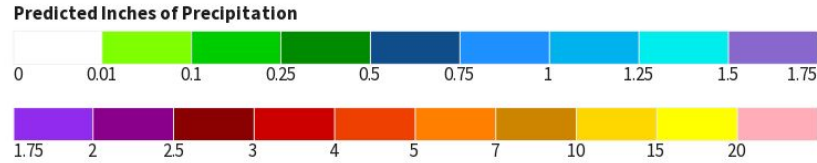
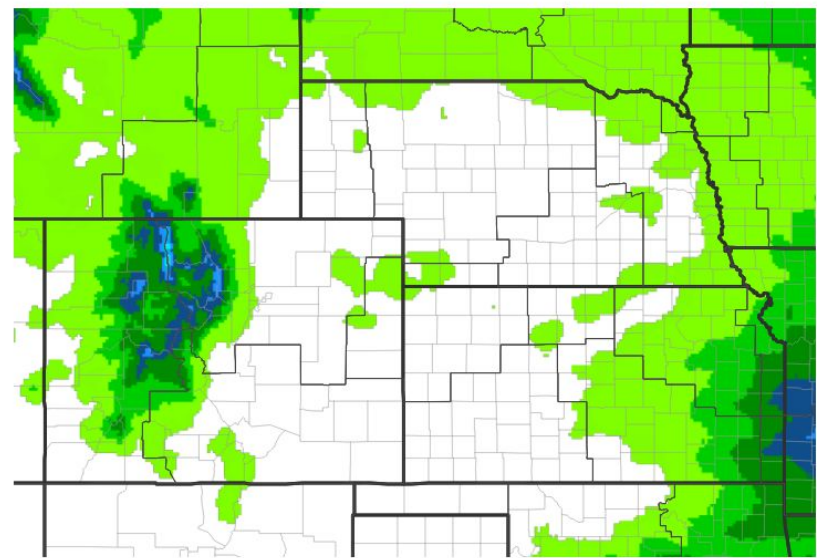




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- The precipitation forecast over the next 7 days calls for near zero precipitation across most of western and north central Nebraska.
- For locations in far SW Nebraska and along the South Dakota/Nebraska border, could see up to a tenth of an inch of precipitation over the next week.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for March 20, 2025–March 27, 2025



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/20/25



Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

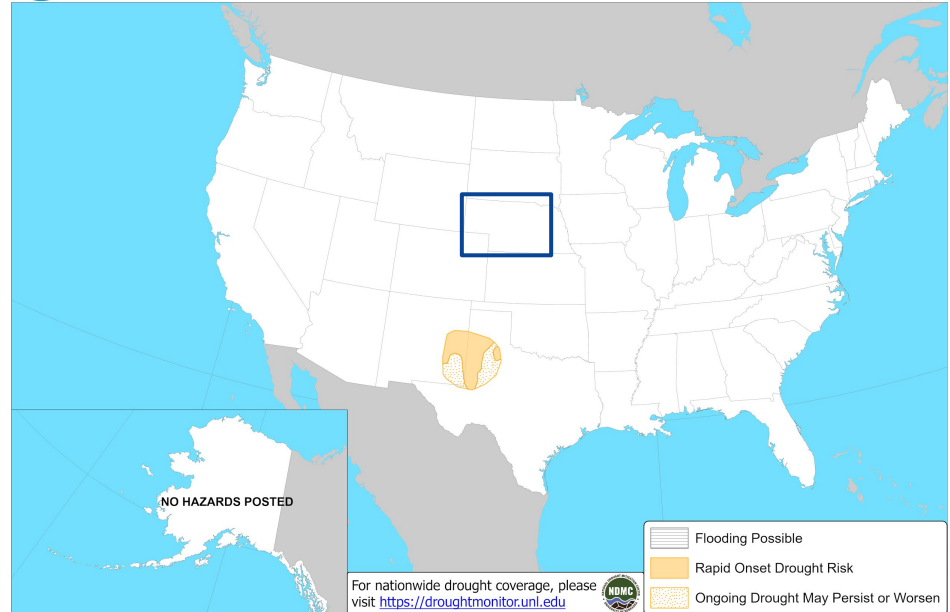
Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- Rapid onset of drought is not anticipated across western and north central Nebraska over the next couple of weeks.



Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook

Valid: March 27 - April 2, 2025



Climate Prediction Center

Released: March 19, 2025 3:00 PM EDT

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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National Weather Service
North Platte, NE

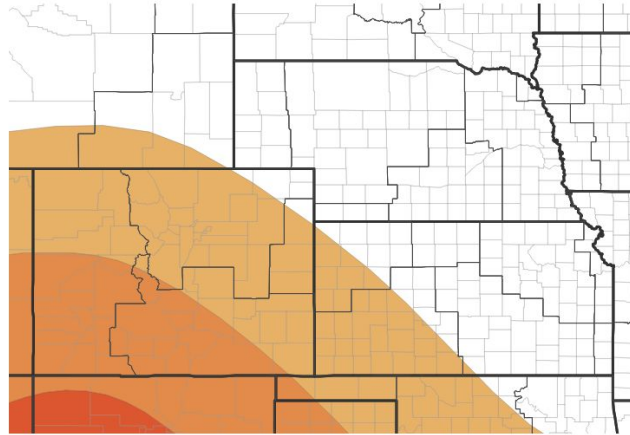


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The outlook for April calls for equal chances for above, below or near normal temperatures.
- The precipitation outlook for April calls for equal chances for above, below or near normal precipitation north of a line from Oshkosh to Maywood. South of this line, below normal precipitation is forecast.

Monthly Temperature Outlook for April 1, 2025–April 30, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



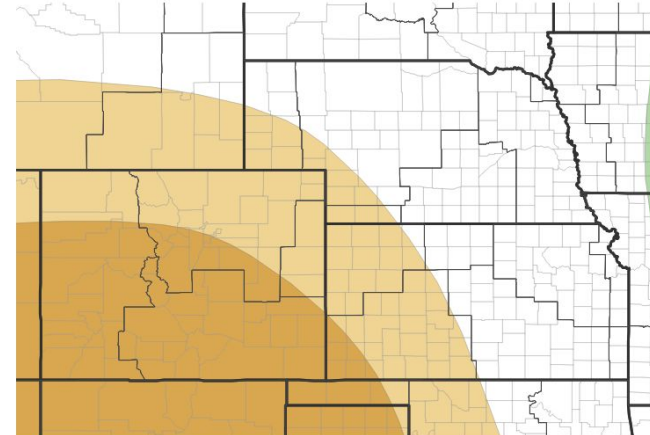
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 03/20/25

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for April 1, 2025–April 30, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation

