



February 12, 2026  
12:22 PM EST

# 2026 Spring Flood and Water Resources Outlook

National Weather Service  
Louisville, KY

February 12, 2026



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

National Weather Service  
Louisville, KY





# Spring Flood & Water Resources Outlook

February 12, 2026

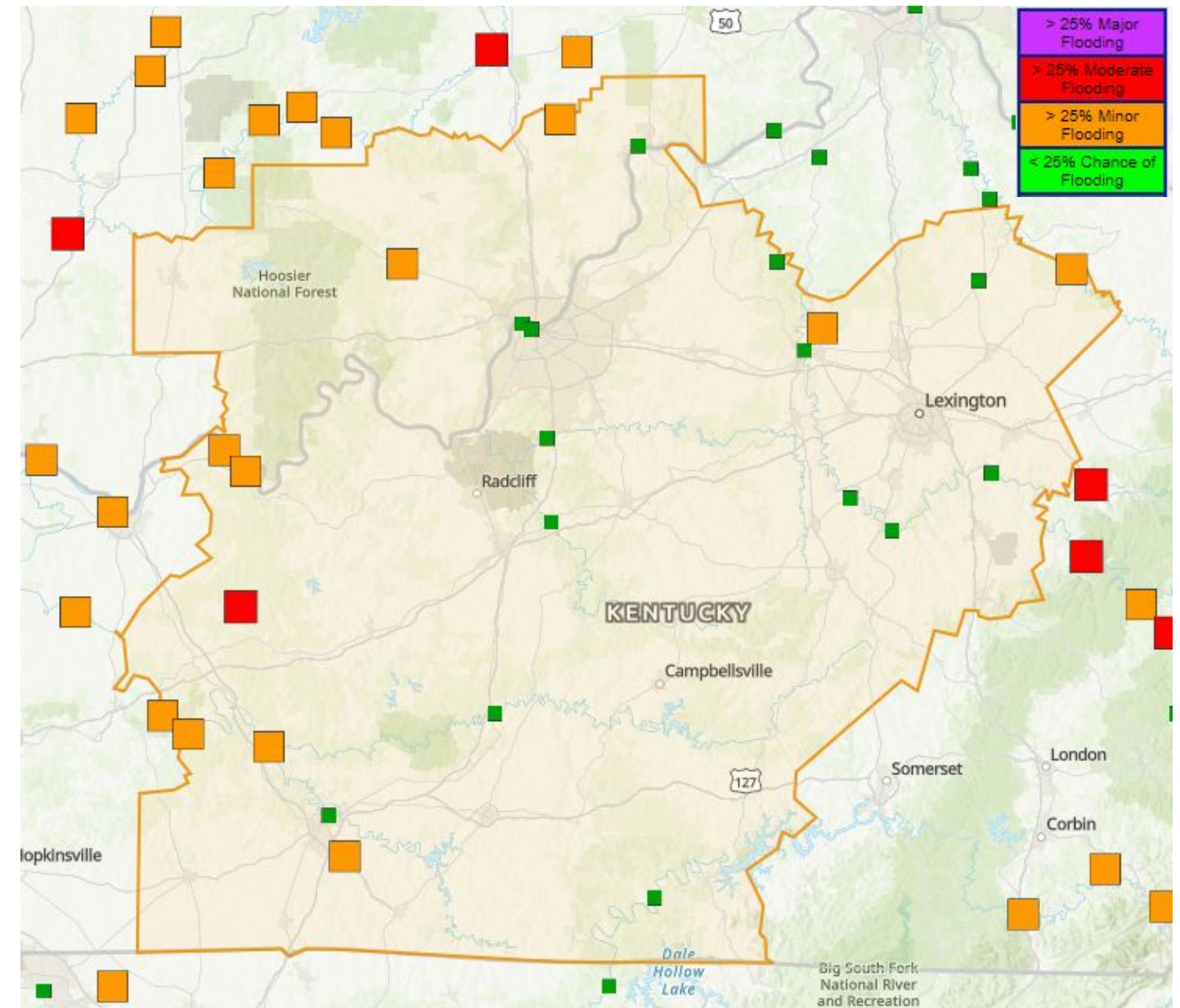
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Mid February 2026 Update

## Key Messages

- Normal flood potential this spring
- Minor-Moderate flooding is expected (25% chance or greater)
- Isolated Major flooding possible (<10% chance or greater)–Licking River Basin, Kentucky River Basin
- CPC outlooks favor a wetter than normal and warmer than normal pattern through April.
- Rainfall and thunderstorms will be the primary drivers of flooding.
- Snow/ice melt will be a potential minor contributor to flooding until it diminishes.

>25% Chance of Exceedance through May



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# Spring Flood Outlook

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Key Ingredients	Antecedent Conditions	Impact to Spring Flooding
Winter Precipitation /Temperatures	Below Normal	Normal Risk
River Levels	Below Normal -Normal	Normal Risk
River Ice Conditions	Slightly Above Normal	Normal Risk
Soil Moisture	Below Normal	Lesser Risk
Frost Depth	Normal	Normal Risk
Snow Conditions / Water Equivalent	Slightly Above Normal	Normal Risk
Reservoir Levels	Normal	Normal Risk
Spring Weather Outlook	Above Normal	Greater Risk

## Overall Risk of Spring Flooding:

Normal Risk

Key ingredients for river flooding in southern Indiana and central Kentucky point to a Normal Flood Risk for Spring 2026. Above normal precipitation will be the primary driver for Minor to Moderate flooding.





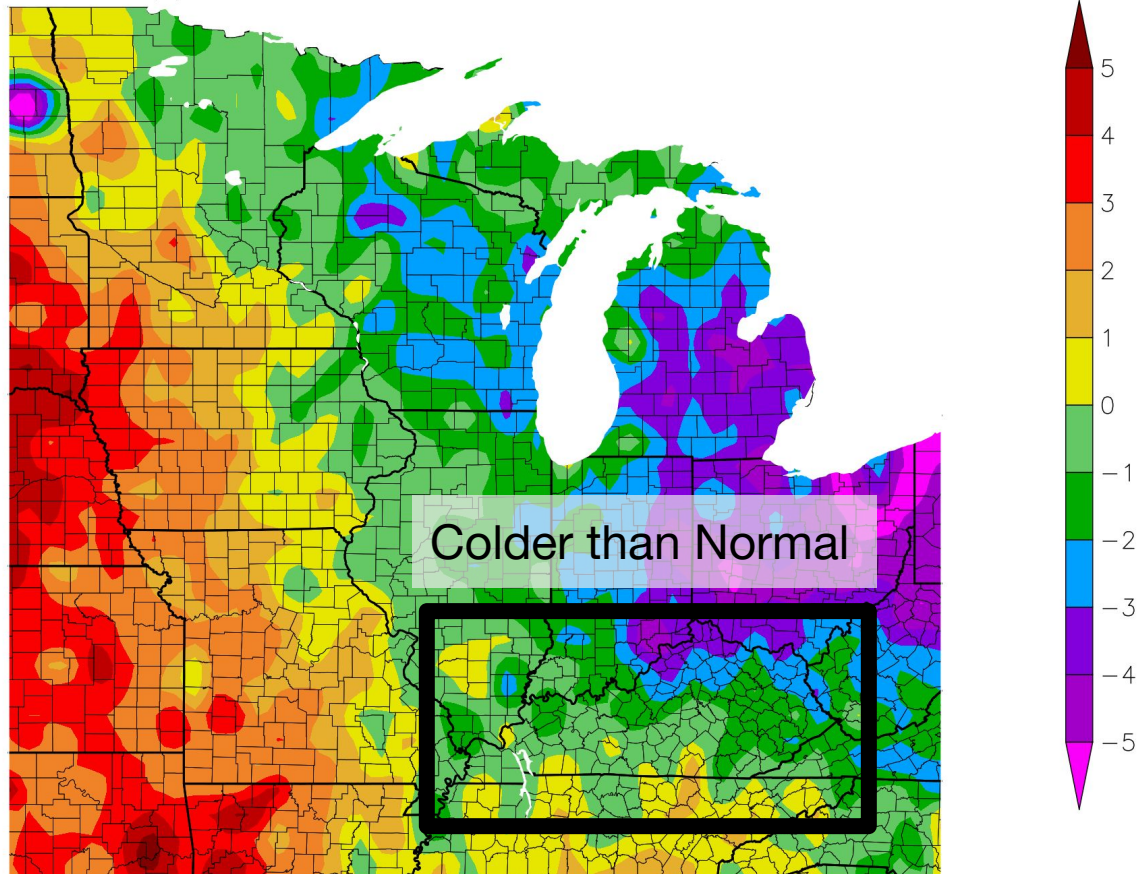


# Winter Precipitation and Temperature

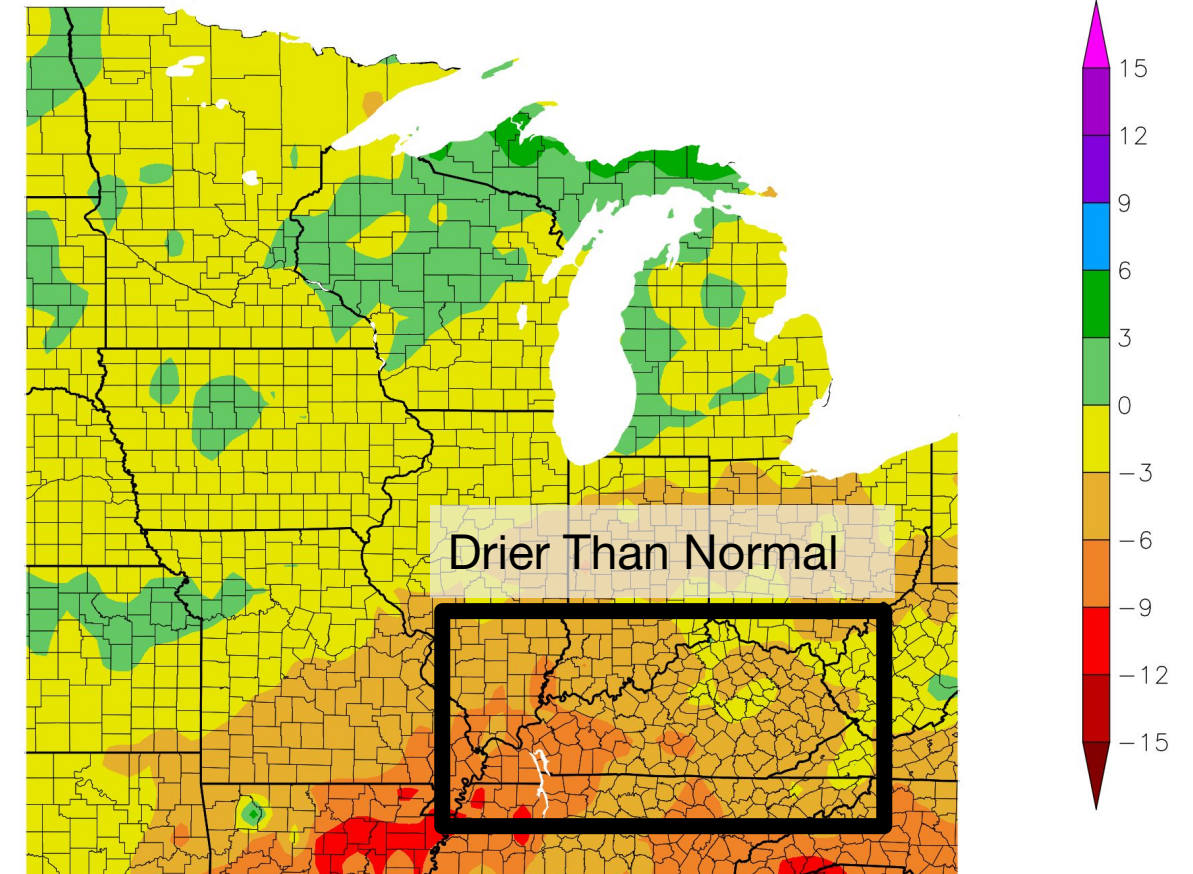
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90 Day Departures from Normal

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
11/14/2025 – 2/11/2026



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
11/14/2025 – 2/11/2026

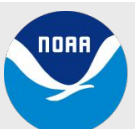


Generated 2/12/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

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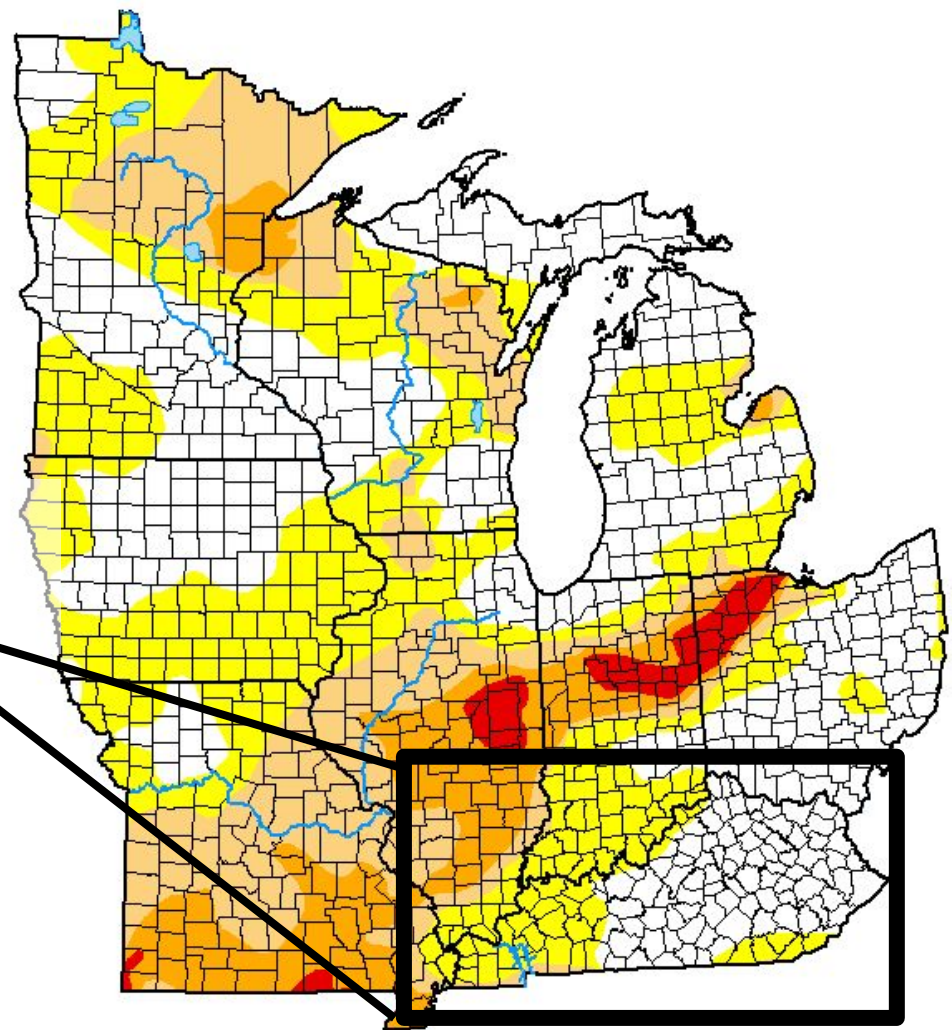
# Latest Drought Conditions

February 12, 2026  
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## U.S. Drought Monitor Midwest

February 10, 2026  
(Released Thursday, Feb. 12, 2026)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Some D0 Drought  
(Abnormally Dry)



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	37.66	62.34	31.21	12.29	2.15	0.00
Last Week 02-03-2026	40.02	59.98	28.10	9.48	2.13	0.00
3 Months Ago 11-11-2025	36.37	63.63	35.18	10.83	1.43	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-06-2026	28.39	71.61	36.73	8.95	1.94	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-30-2025	34.12	65.88	34.69	10.17	0.37	0.00
One Year Ago 02-11-2025	34.55	65.45	31.62	2.46	0.00	0.00

**Intensity:**

None

D0 Abnormally Dry

D1 Moderate Drought

D2 Severe Drought

D3 Extreme Drought

D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

**Author:**  
Lindsay Johnson  
National Drought Mitigation Center

droughtmonitor.unl.edu





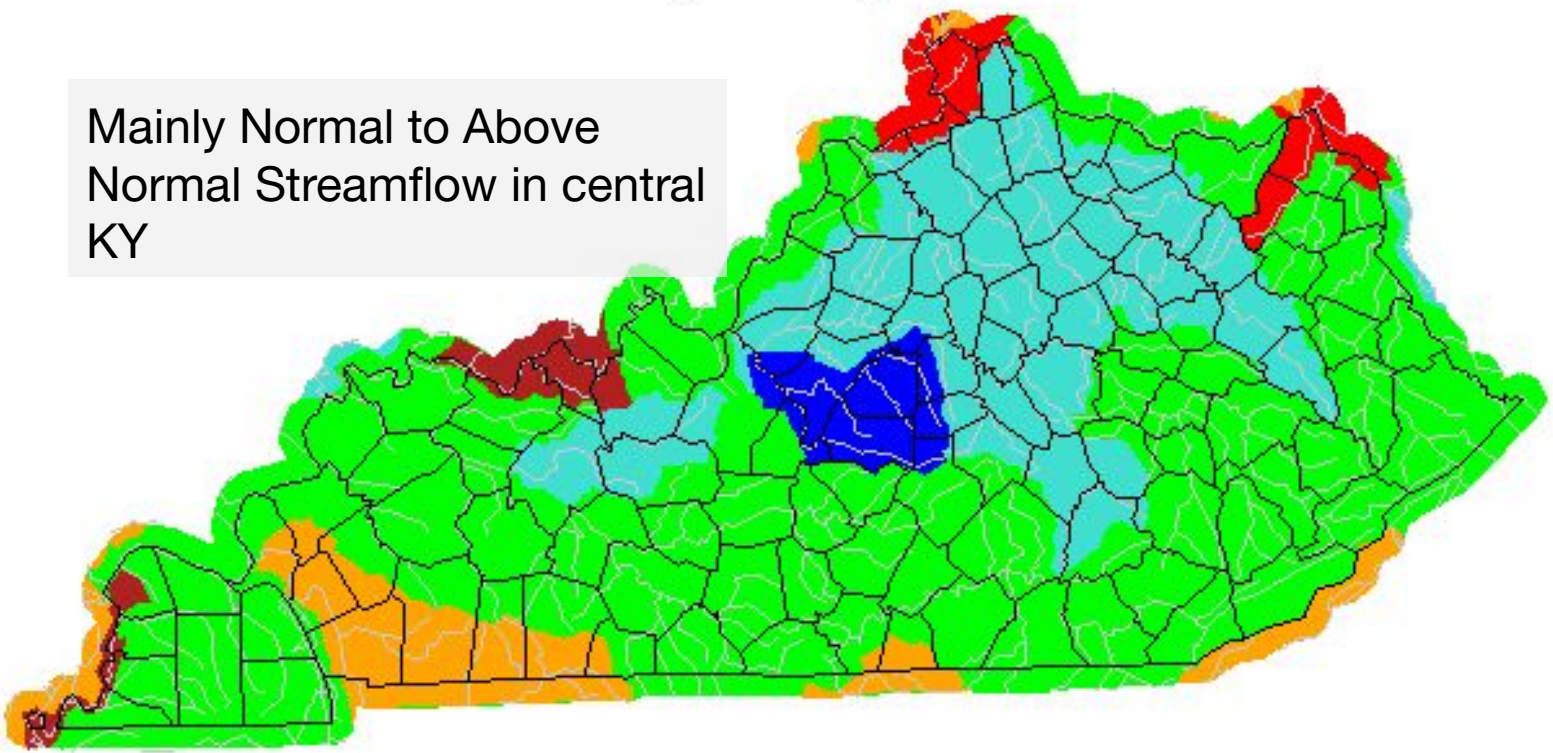
# River Levels

## Streamflow

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Wednesday, February 11, 2026

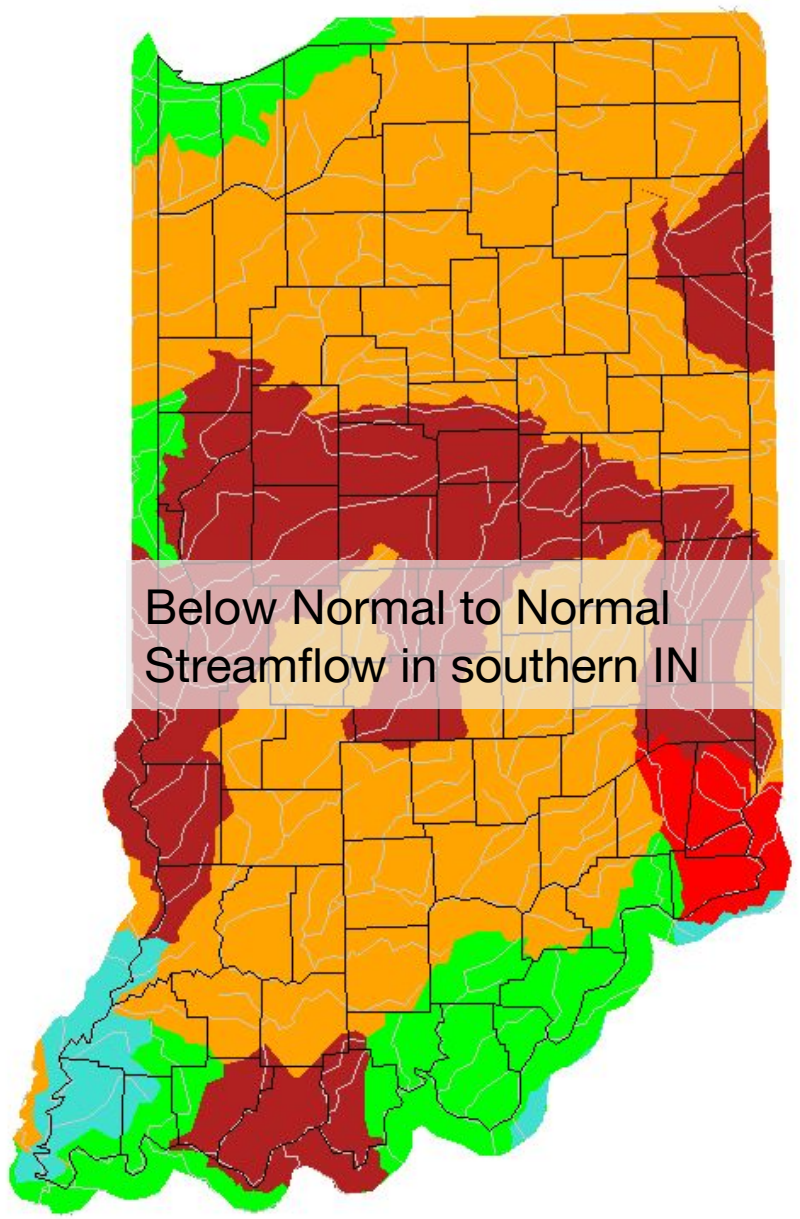
Mainly Normal to Above Normal Streamflow in central KY



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

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

Below Normal to Normal Streamflow in southern IN

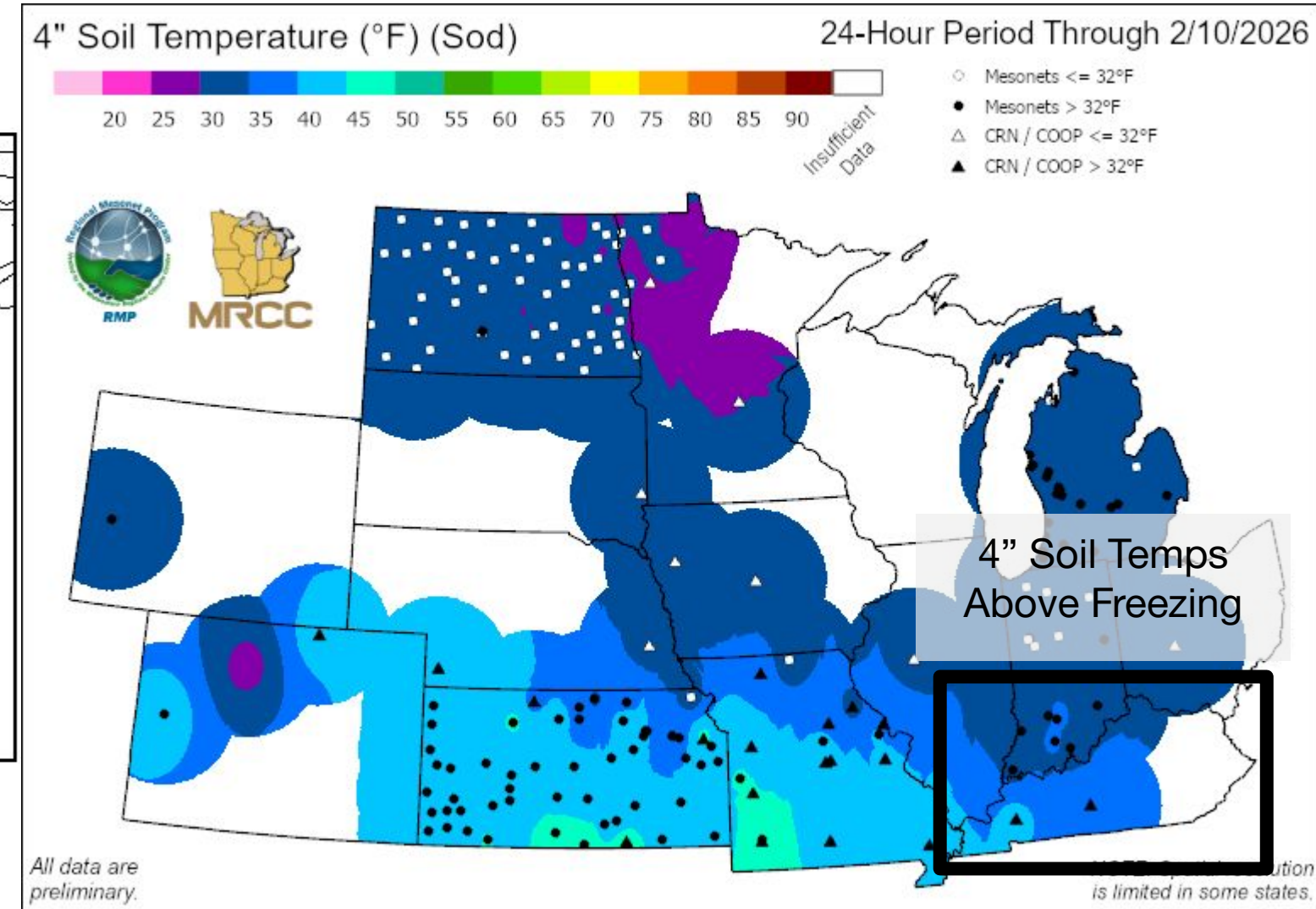






**February 12, 2026**  
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A map of the United States showing soil moisture anomalies. The map uses a color scale from 1 (dark red) to 99 (dark green). A black box highlights the central US, and a grey box in the upper central US is labeled "Drier than Normal Soil".



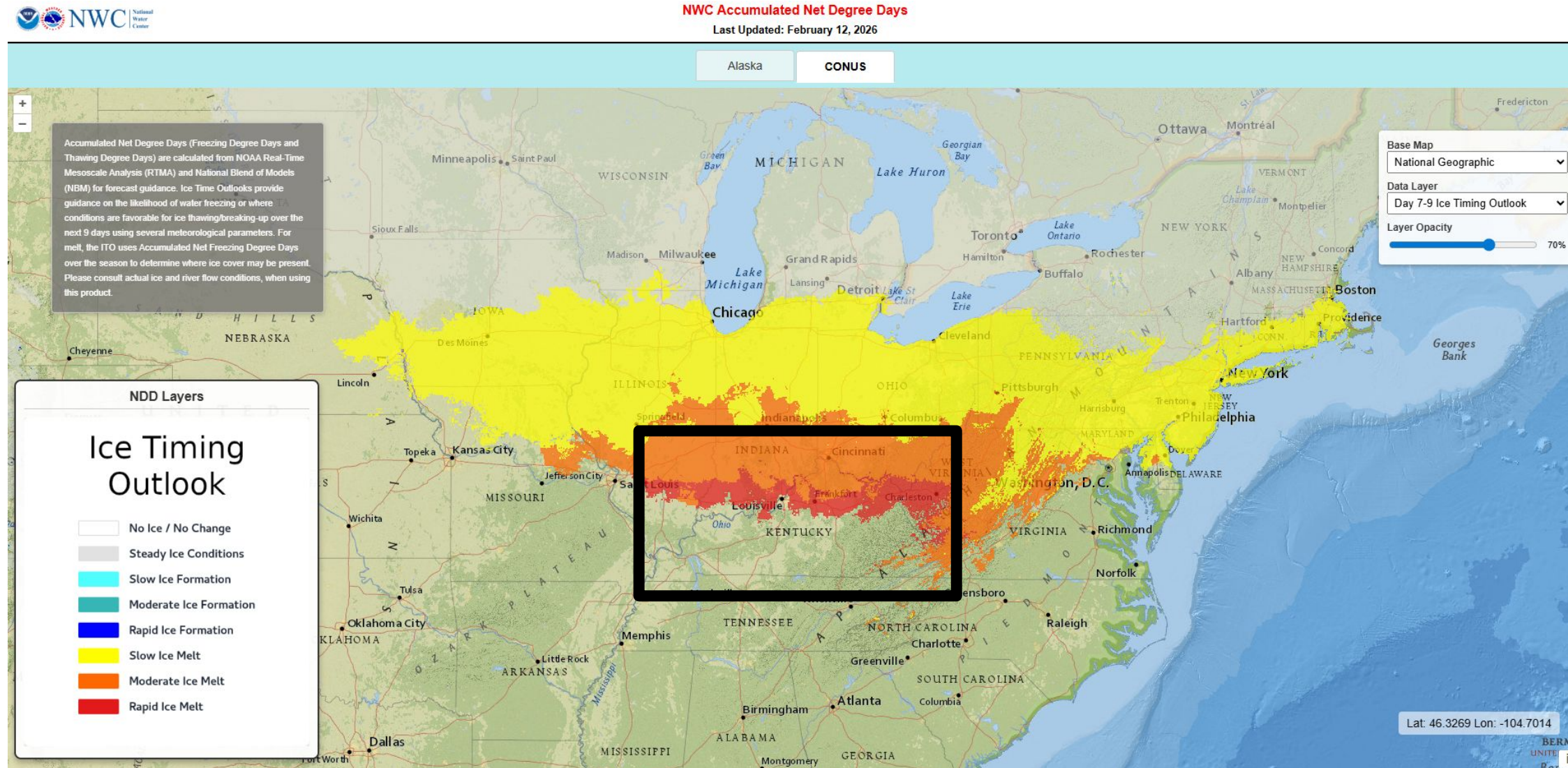




# River Ice Conditions

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## Ice Melt Timing Days 7-9



- Any ice left on rivers and streams across the Ohio River Basin should melt over the next week.
- Ice jam risk over southern Indiana and central Kentucky: Low-None.







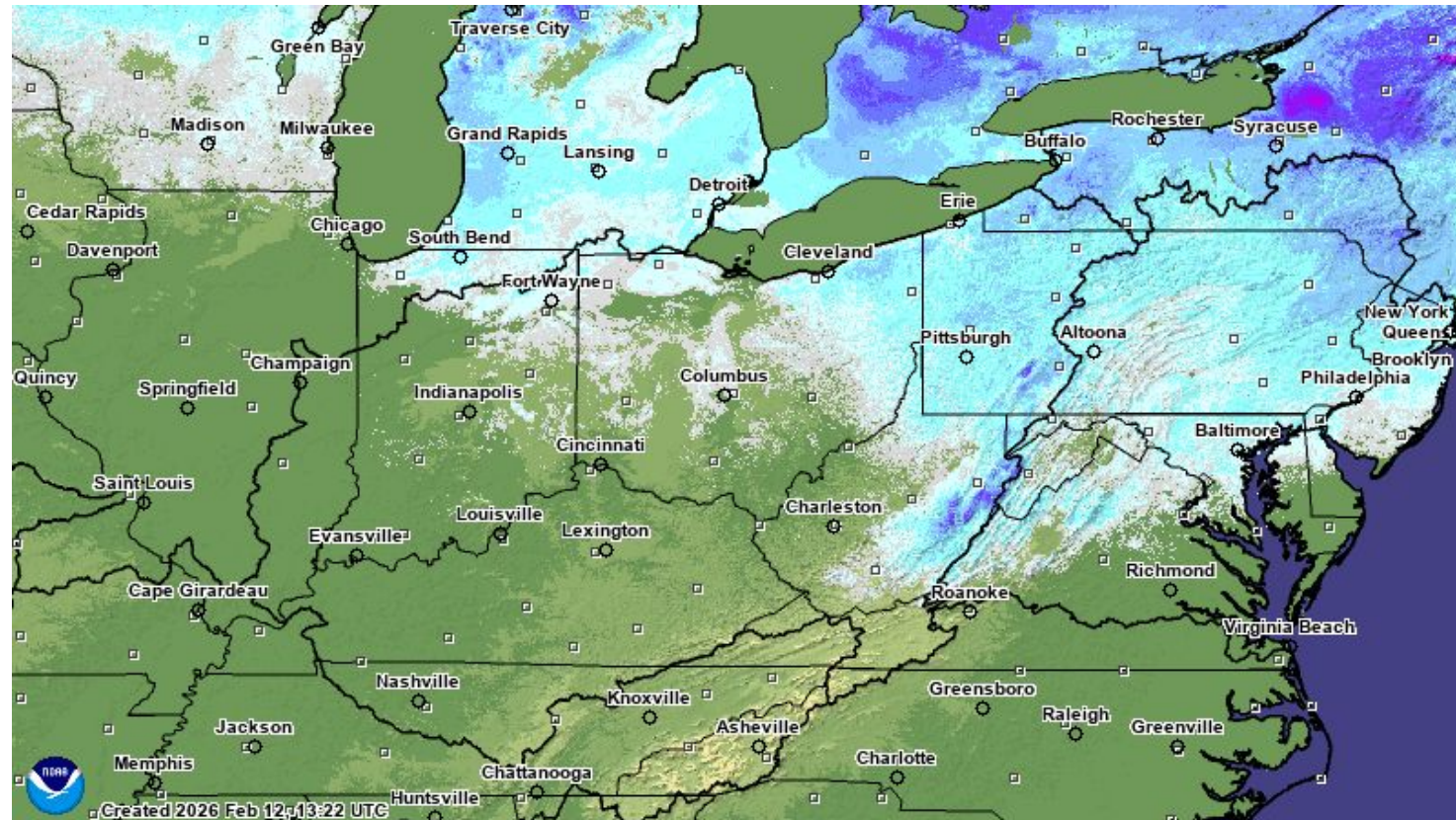
# Snow Conditions

Snow Depth/Snow Water Equivalent

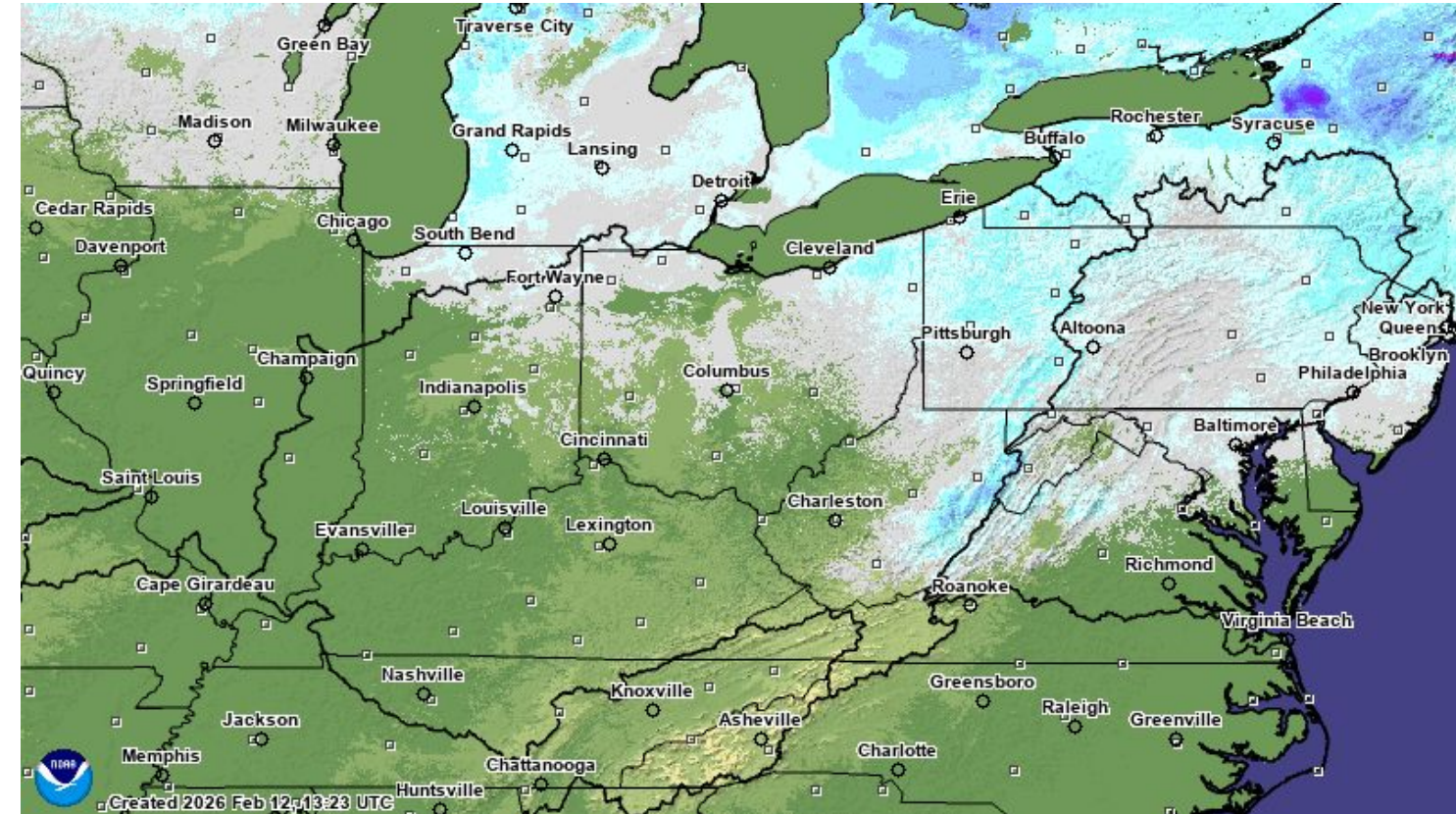
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Snow Depth



Snow Water Equivalent



- Melting snow/ice in the upper Ohio River Basin may contribute to increased flow on the lower Ohio River over the next week until melting is complete.



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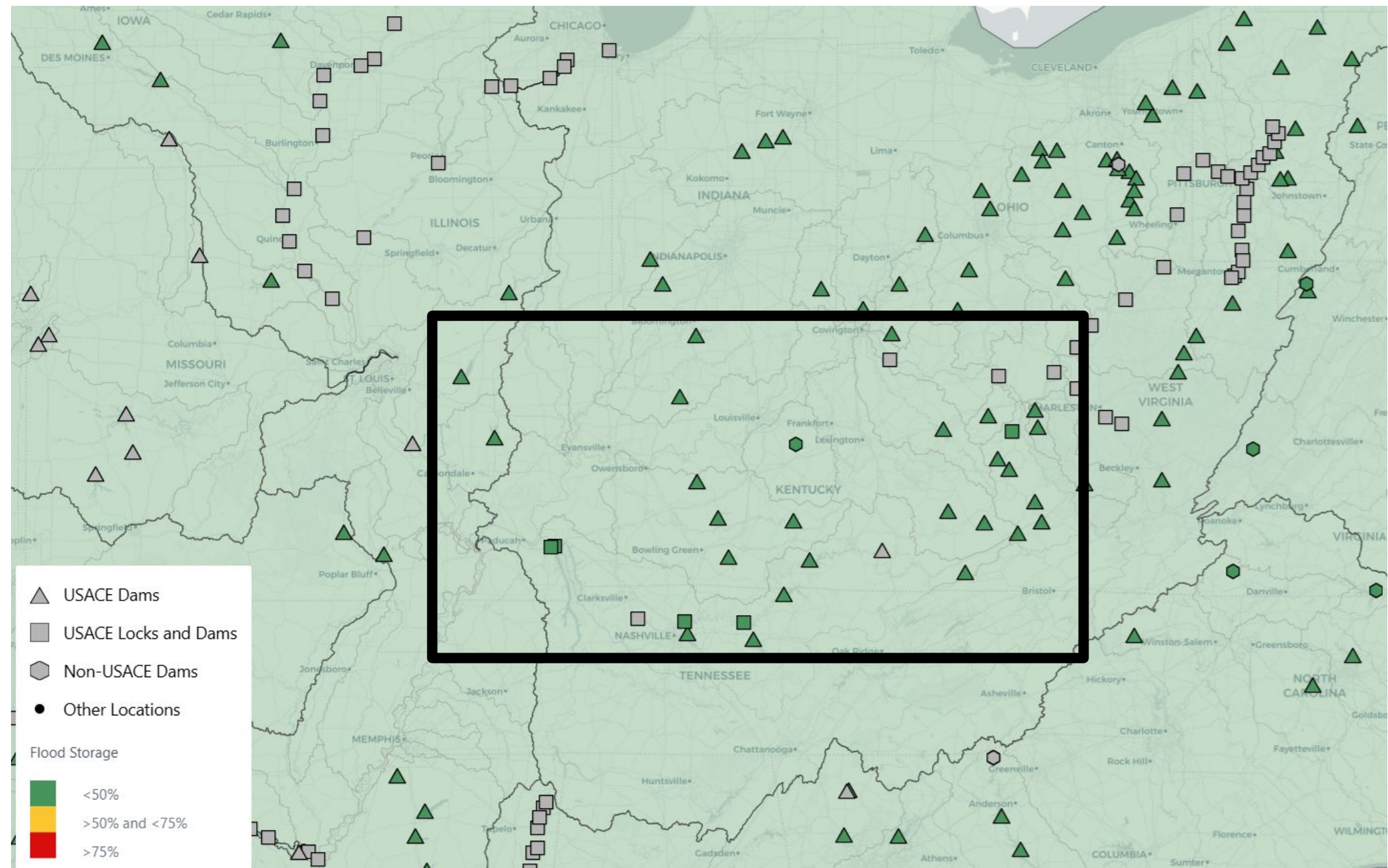


# Reservoir Levels

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## Flood Storage

- Reservoirs levels across southern Indiana and central Kentucky are at <50% of their Flood Storage



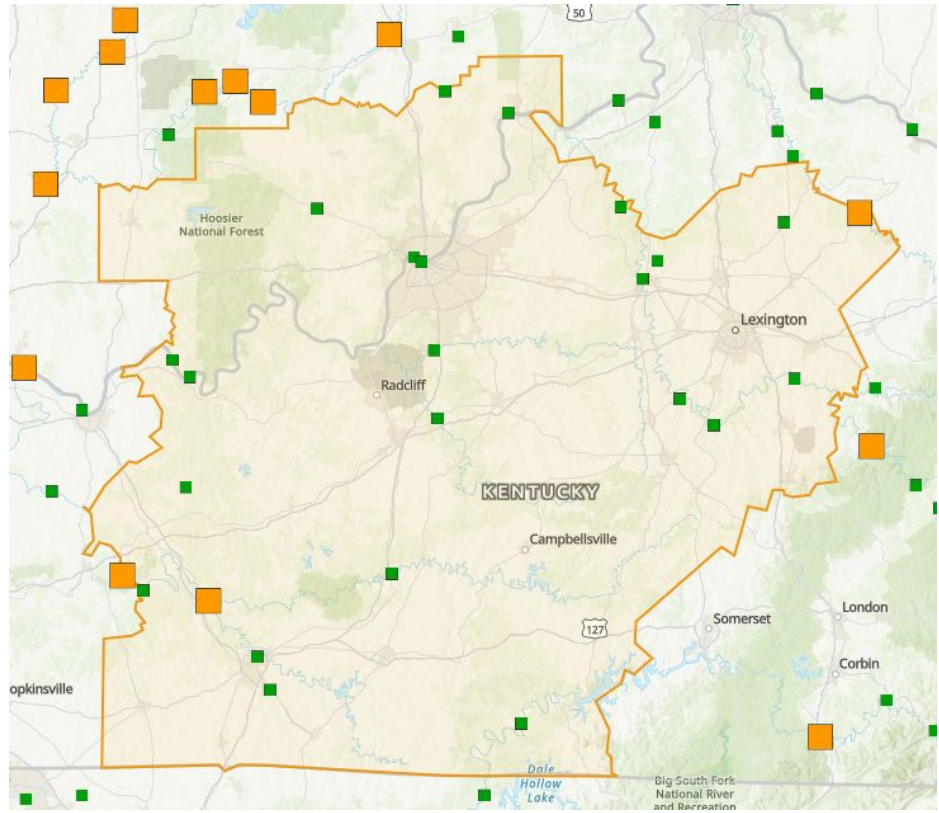




# Long Range Flood Outlook

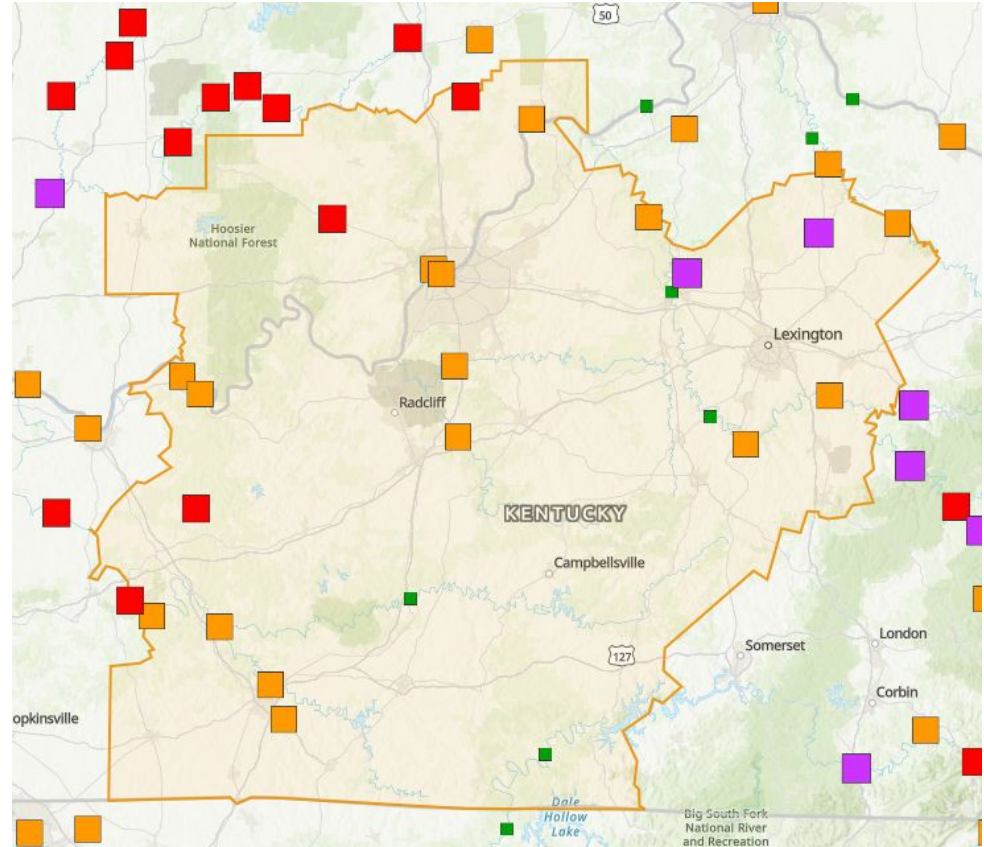
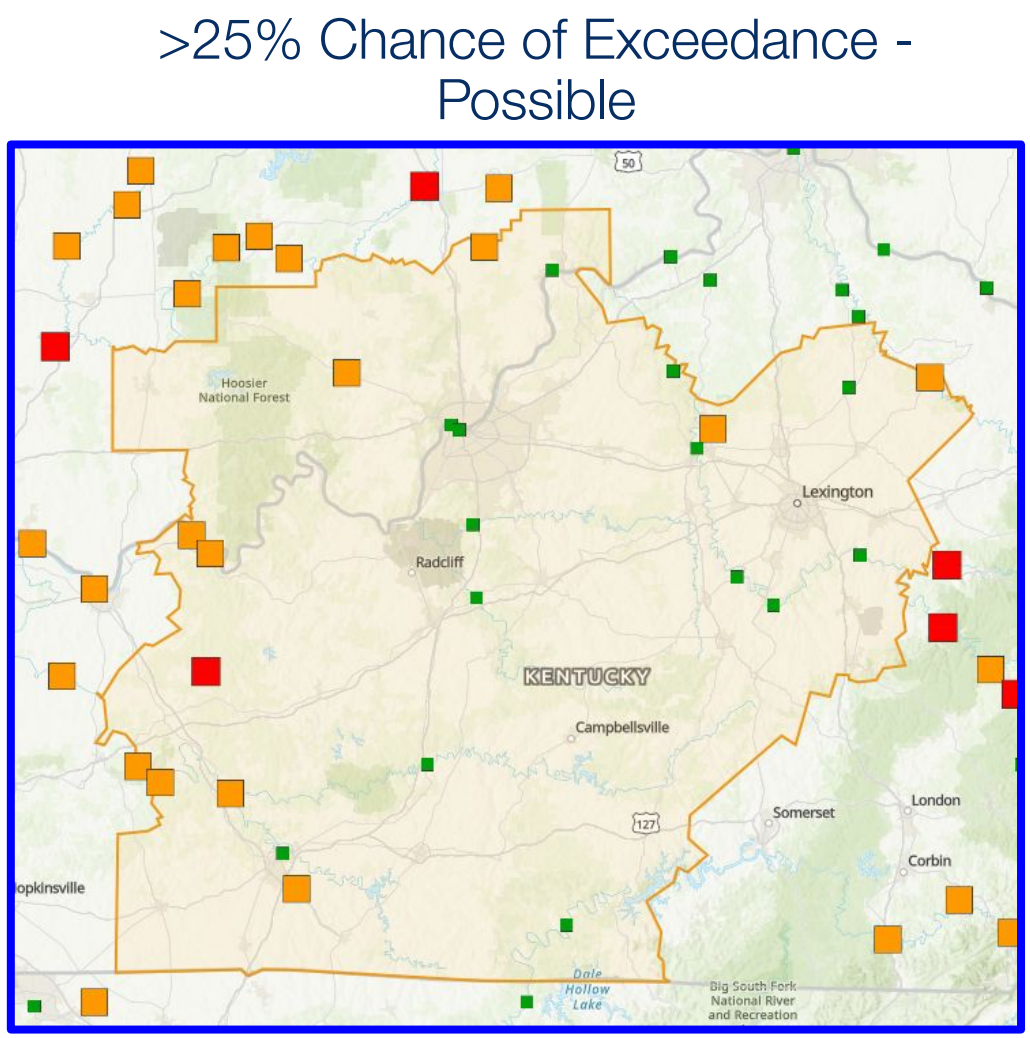
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## Probability Range of Flood Outcomes



>50% Chance of Exceedance -  
Expected

Major Flooding
Moderate Flooding
Minor Flooding
Near Flood Stage
No Flooding



>10% Chance of Exceedance -  
Near Worst Case



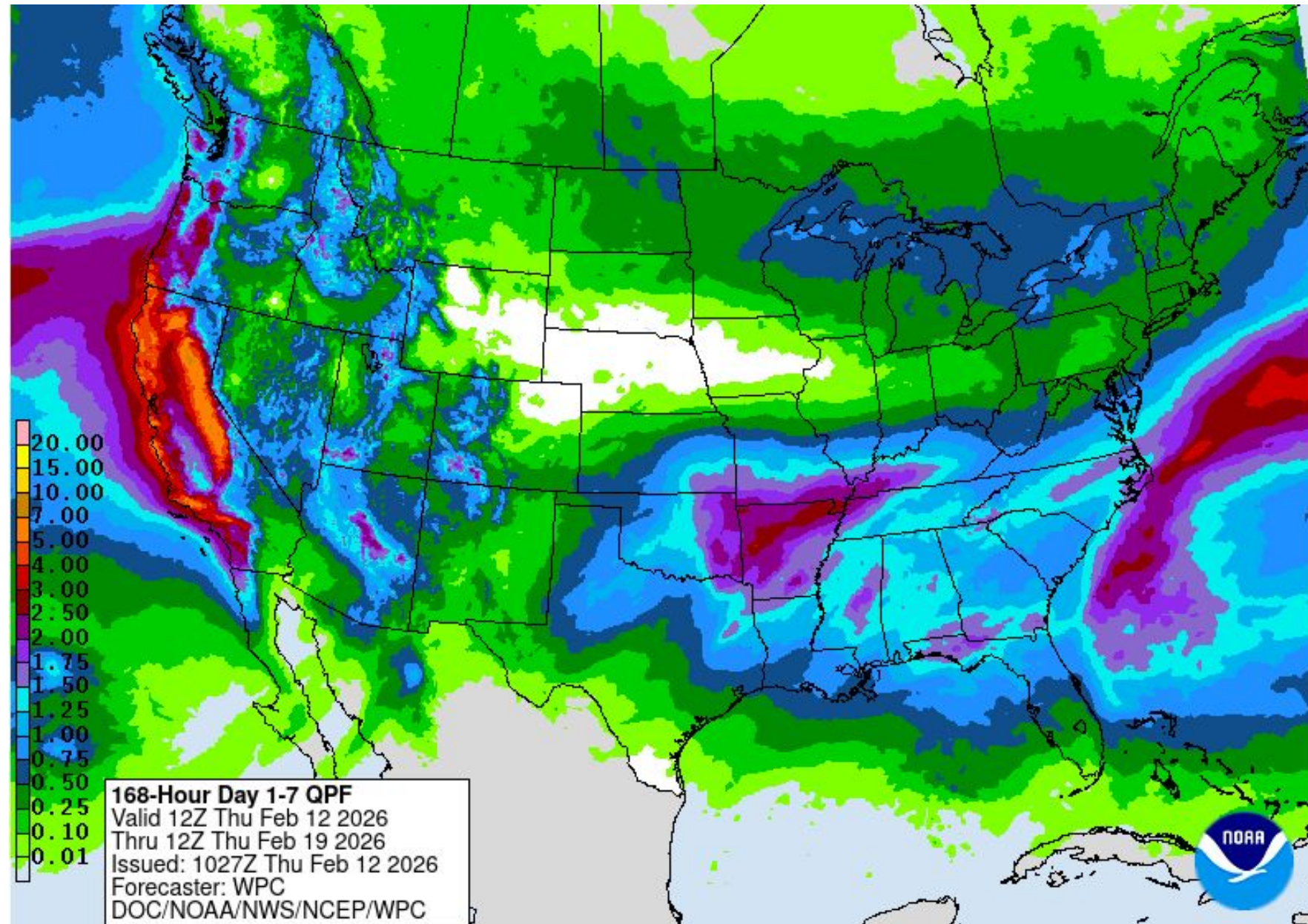




# 7 Day Precipitation Forecast

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February 12-19, 2026



Find a detailed forecast for any location at [weather.gov/forecastpoints](https://weather.gov/forecastpoints)



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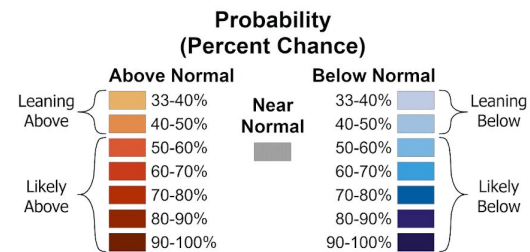
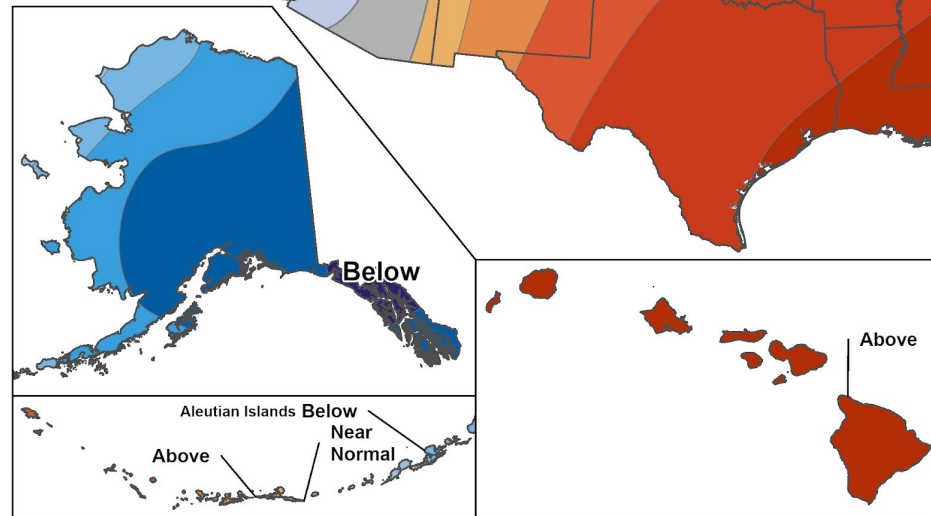
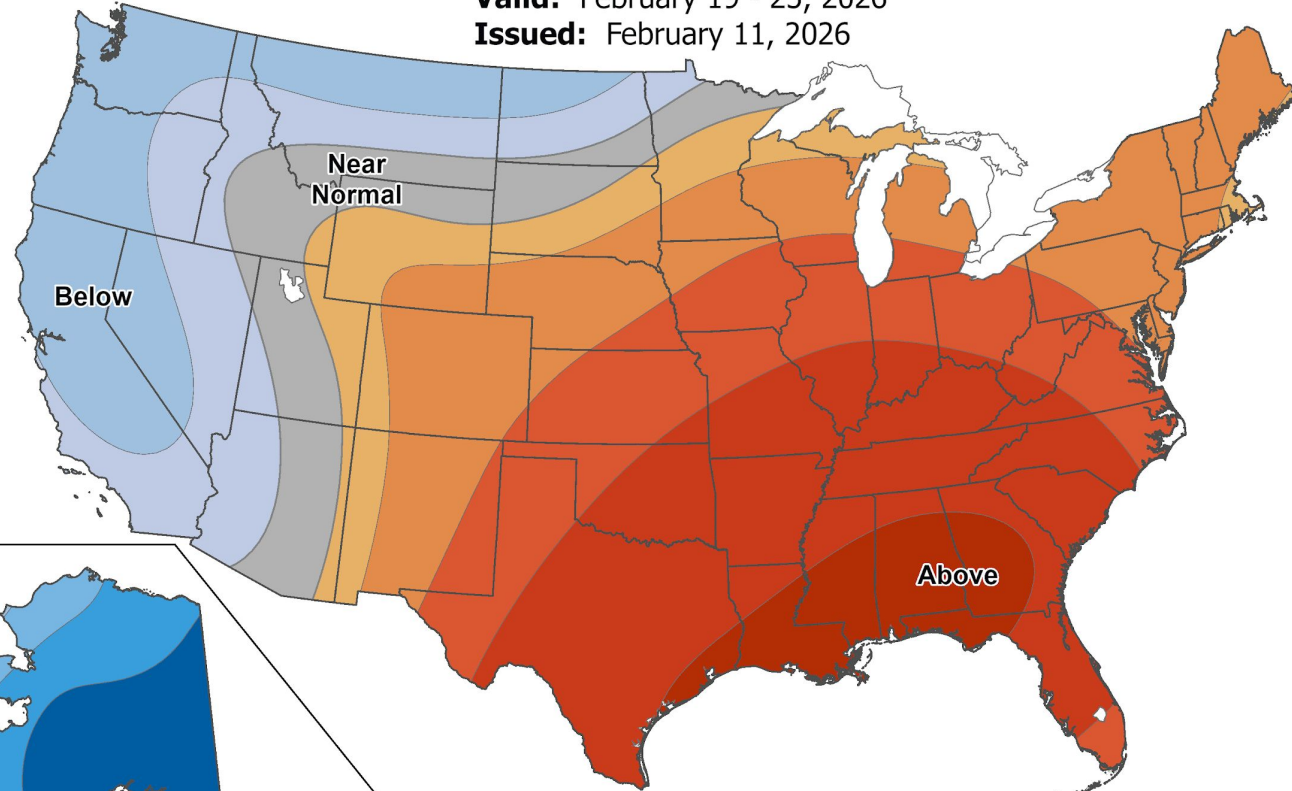
# 8 to 14 Day Outlook

February 19-25, 2026

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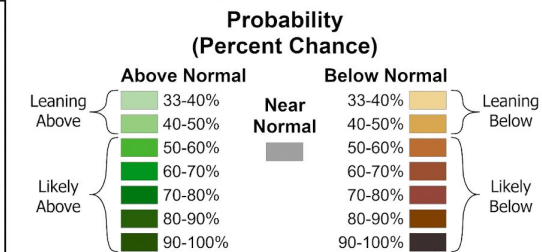
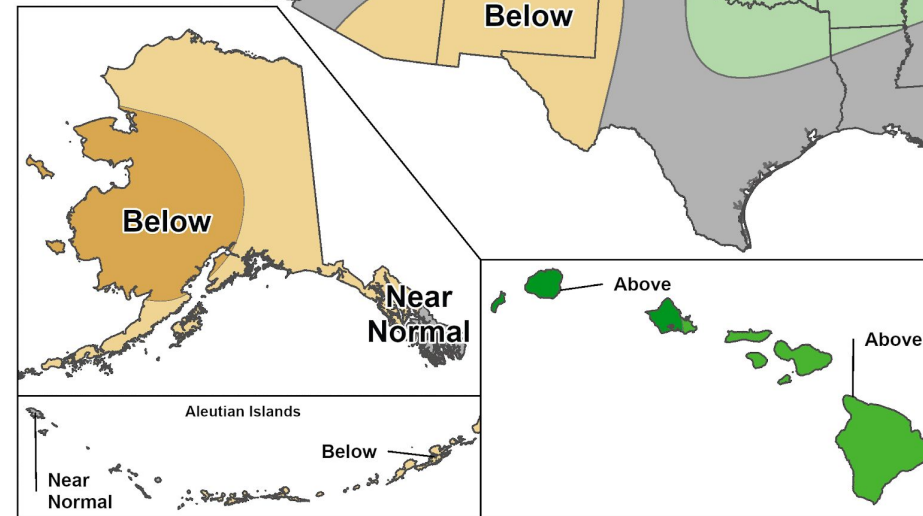
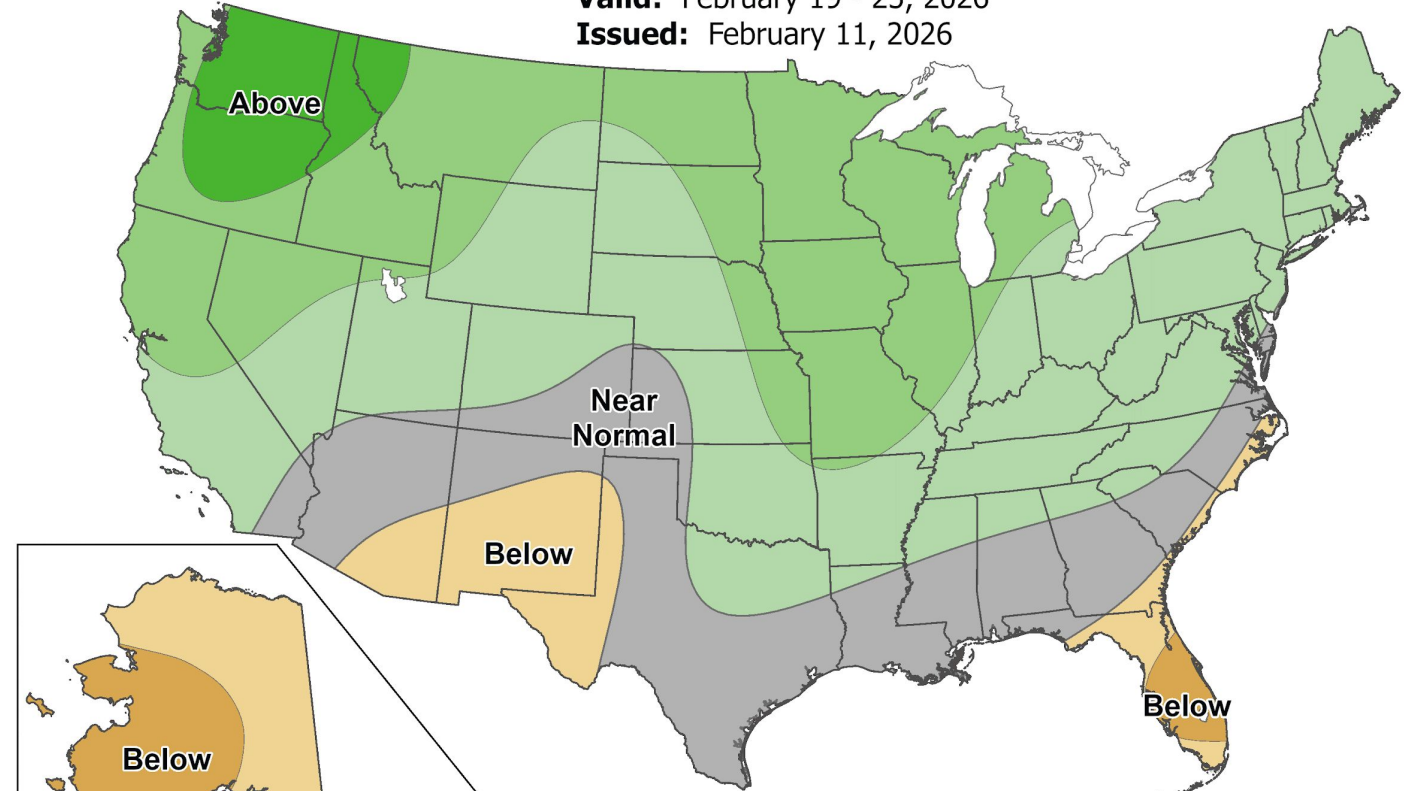
## 8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

**Valid:** February 19 - 25, 2026  
**Issued:** February 11, 2026



## 8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

**Valid:** February 19 - 25, 2026  
**Issued:** February 11, 2026



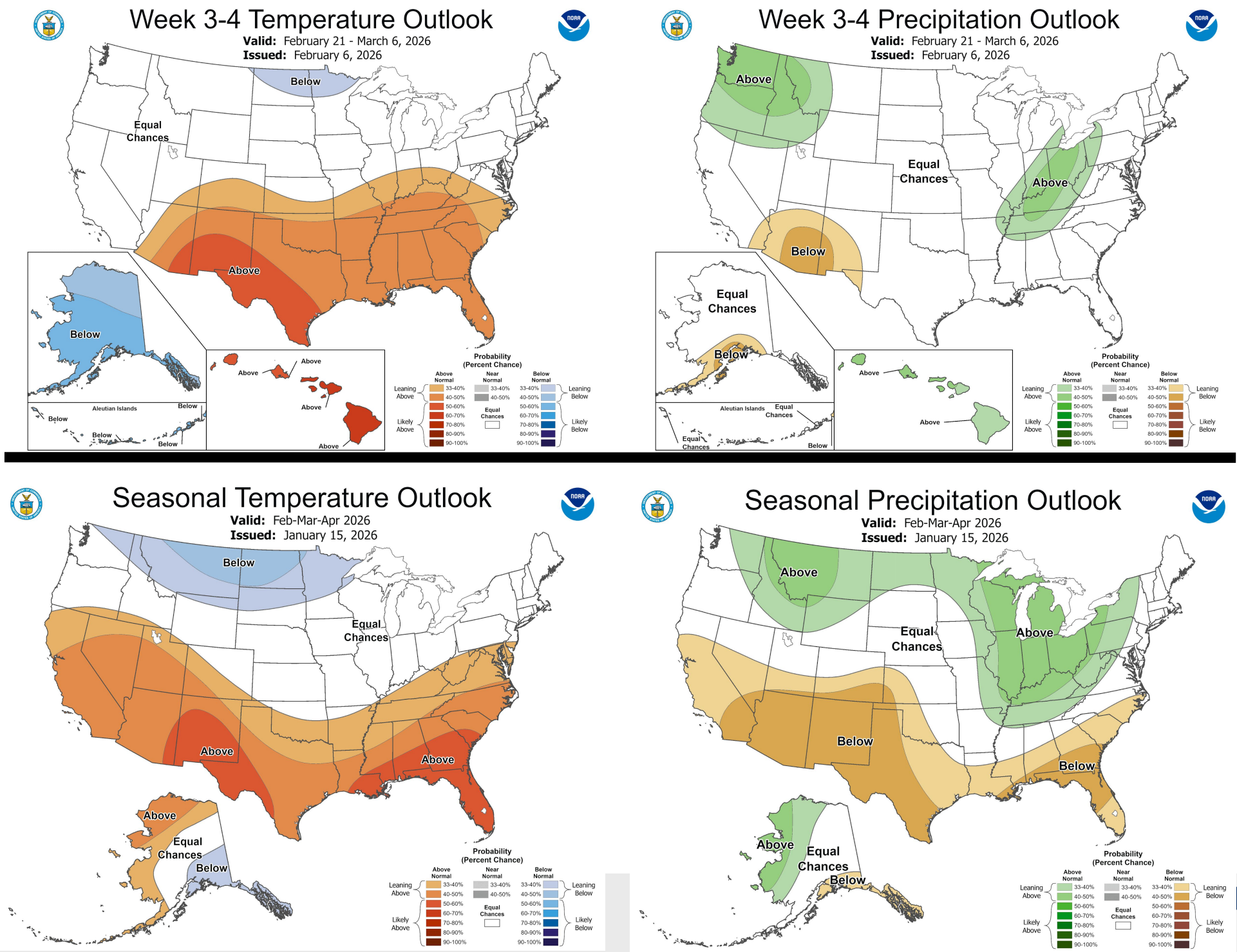




# Spring Weather Outlook

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These are general outlooks that depict broad trends for the weeks and months ahead







# Spring Flood Outlook Summary

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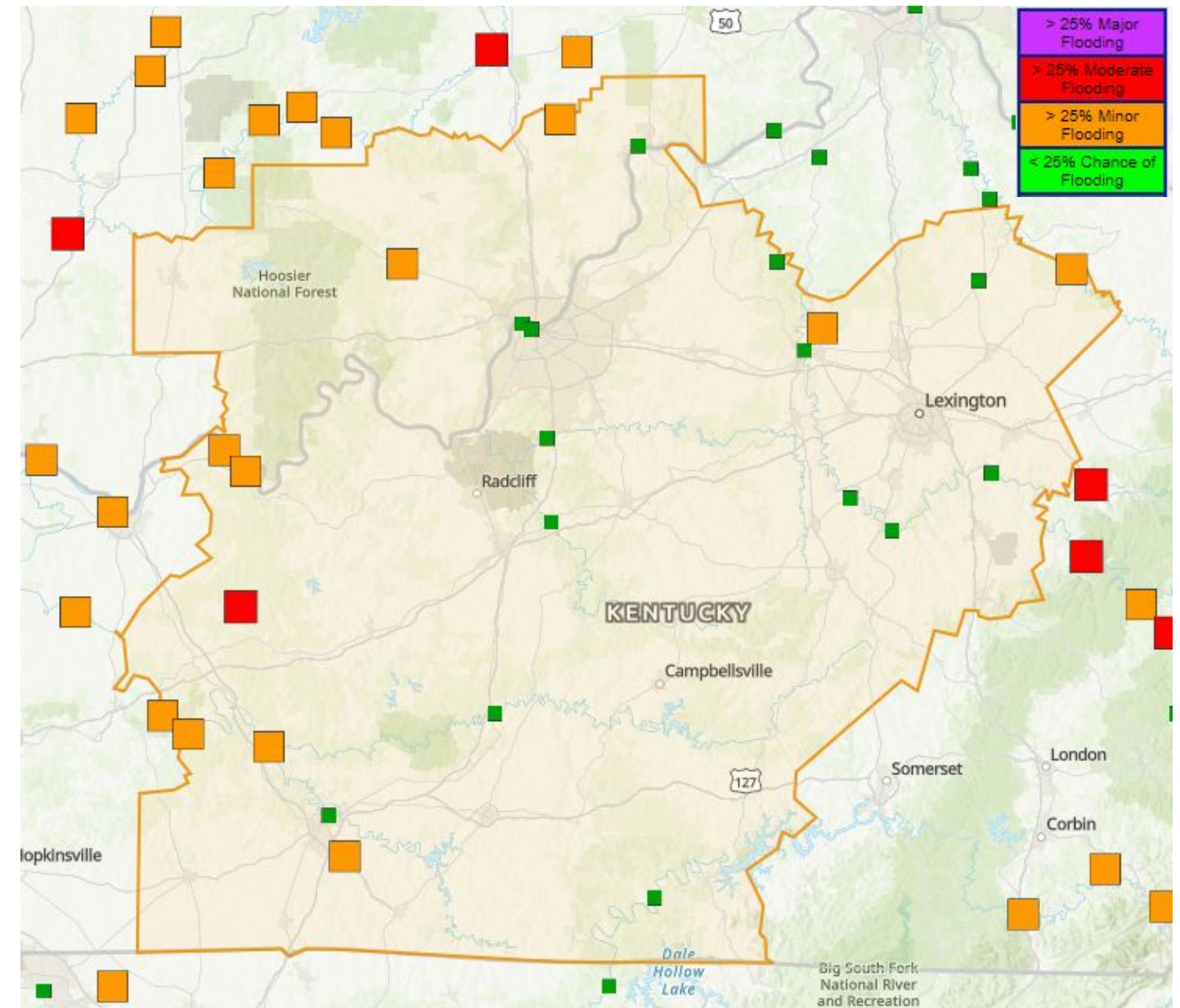
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- CPC outlooks favor a wetter than normal and warmer than normal pattern through April.
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## Next Scheduled Update

- February 26, 2026

>25% Chance of Exceedance through May







# Spring Flood Outlook Summary

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## Additional Resources

[NWS Louisville Website](#)

[Ohio River Forecast Center](#)

[River Observations and Forecasts](#)

[NWS Louisville on Facebook](#)

[NWS Louisville on Twitter](#)

[Forecast Points \(Hourly Details\)](#)

[NWS Louisville Spring Flood Page](#)

[Flood Safety Information](#)

[USGS National Water Dashboard](#)

