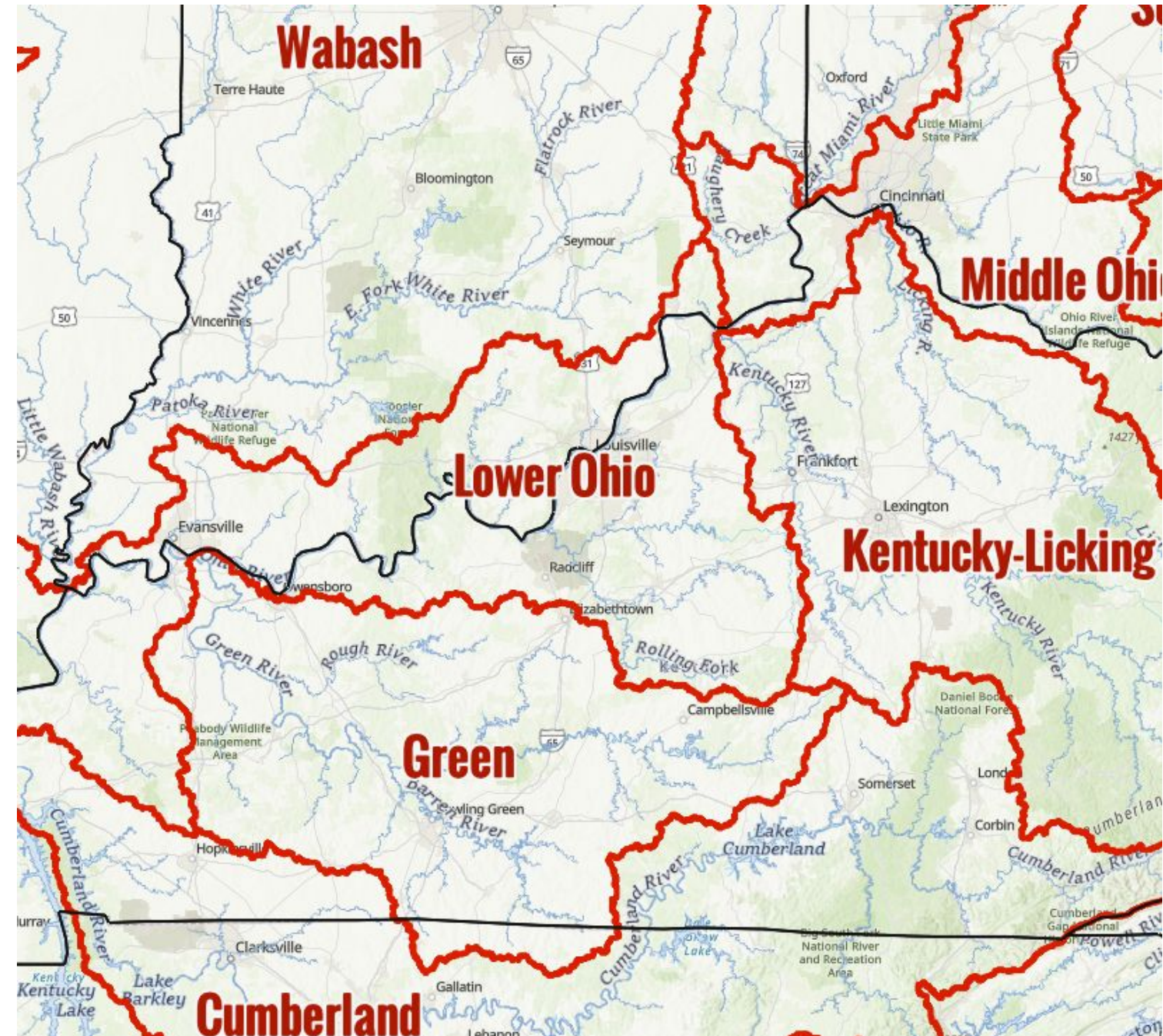
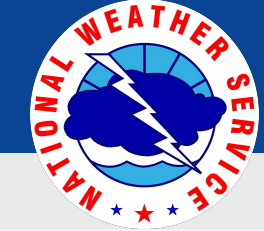


2026 Spring Flood and Water Resources Outlook

National Weather Service
Louisville, KY

February 26, 2026



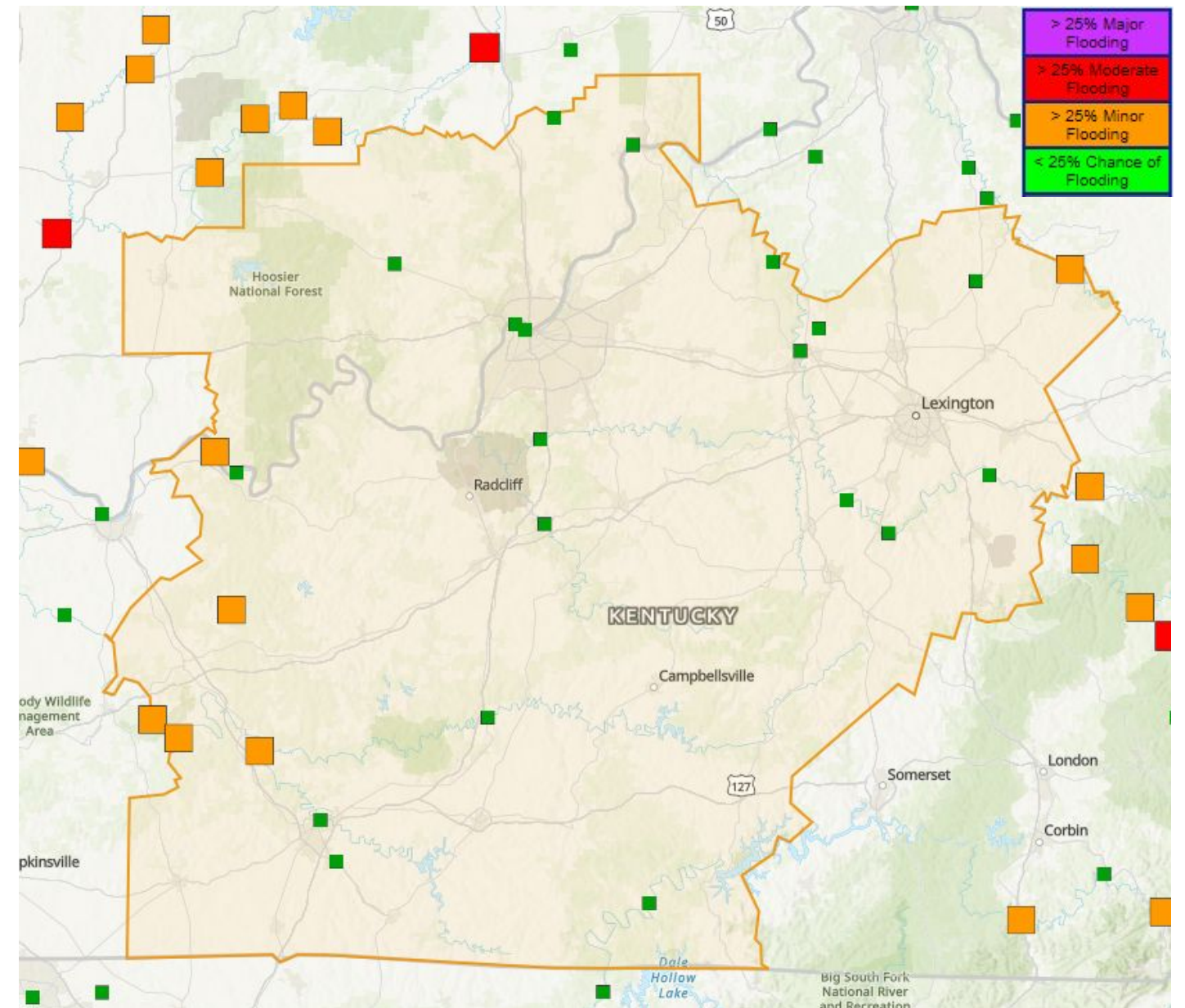


Spring Flood & Water Resources Outlook

February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

Late February 2026 Update

>25% Chance of Exceedance through May



Key Messages

- Normal flood potential this Spring
- Minor-Moderate flooding is expected (25% chance or greater)
- Flood Risk will Increase with an Active Weather Pattern the second week of March.
- CPC outlooks favor a wetter than normal and warmer than normal pattern through May.
- Rainfall and thunderstorms will be the primary drivers of flooding.





Spring Flood Outlook

February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

Key Ingredients	Antecedent Conditions	Impact to Spring Flooding
Winter Precipitation /Temperatures	Below Normal	Normal Risk
River Levels	Below Normal -Normal	Normal Risk
Soil Moisture	Below Normal	Lesser Risk
Frost Depth	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. Flood Risk will Increase with an Active Weather Pattern the second week of March.

Risk Potential: Lesser Risk Normal Risk Greater Risk To Be Determined

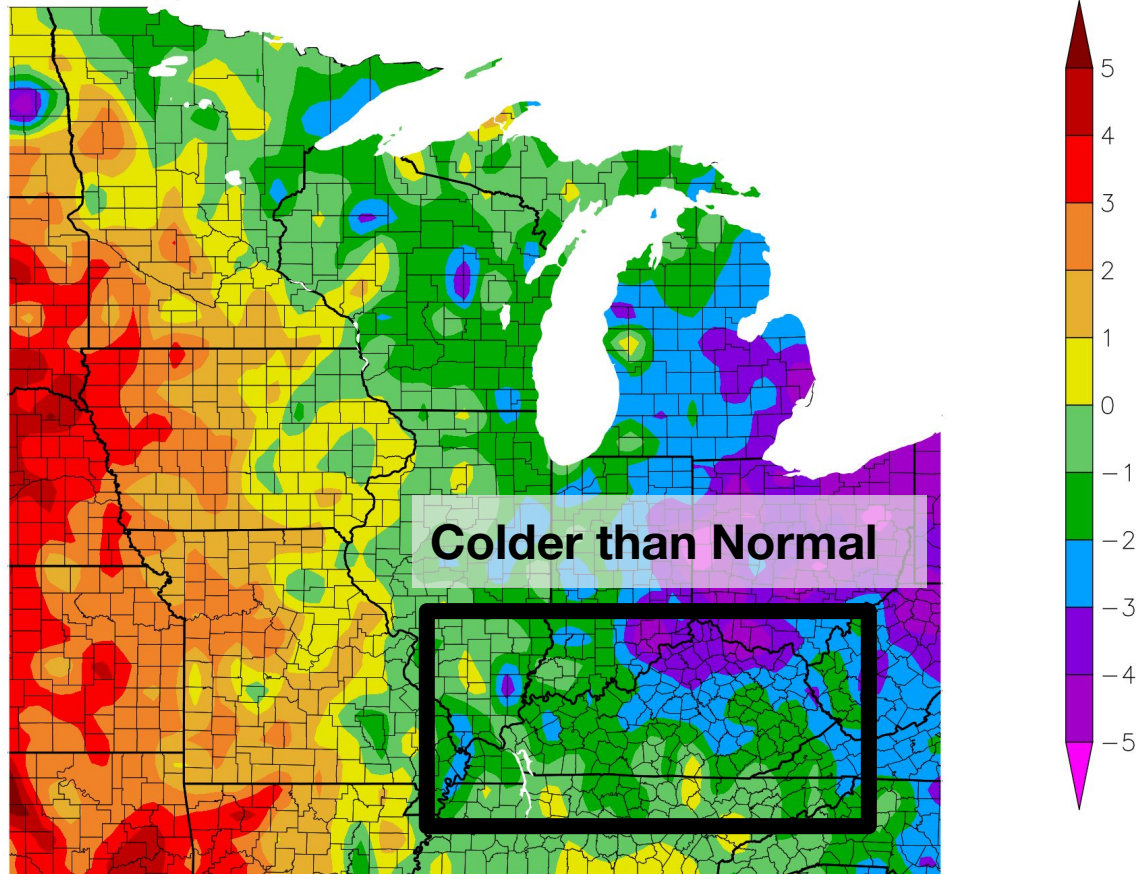


Winter Precipitation and Temperature

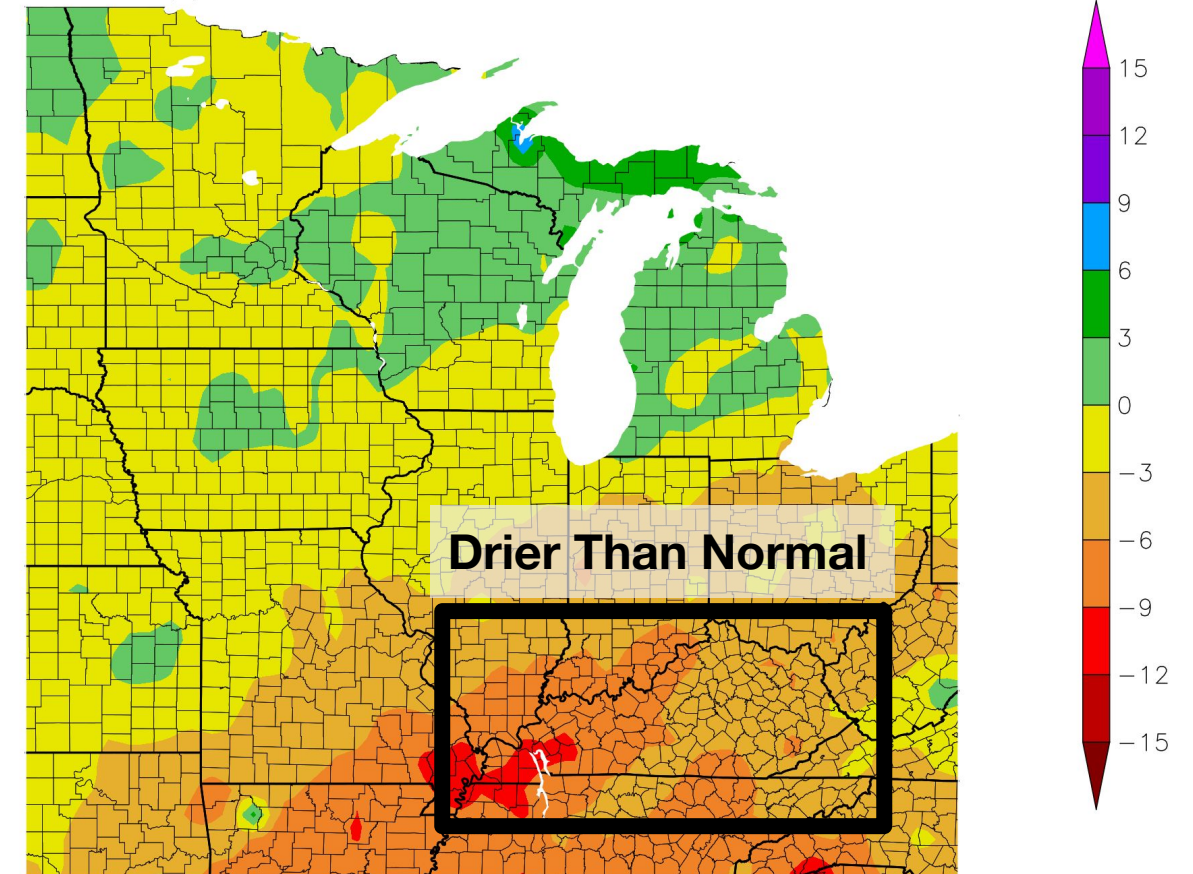
February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

90 Day Departures from Normal

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
11/28/2025 - 2/25/2026



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
11/28/2025 - 2/25/2026

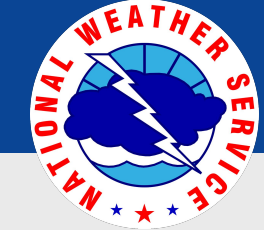


Generated 2/26/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services

Generated 2/26/2026 using provisional data.

ACIS Web Services



Latest Drought Conditions

February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

U.S. Drought Monitor Midwest

February 24, 2026
(Released Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	37.61	62.39	33.70	11.97	3.19	0.00
Last Week <small>02-17-2026</small>	38.42	61.58	29.87	11.94	3.15	0.00
3 Months Ago <small>11-25-2025</small>	34.32	65.68	35.11	9.85	1.64	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <small>01-06-2026</small>	28.39	71.61	36.73	8.95	1.94	0.00
Start of Water Year <small>09-30-2025</small>	34.12	65.88	34.69	10.17	0.37	0.00
One Year Ago <small>02-25-2025</small>	33.68	66.32	39.70	3.92	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

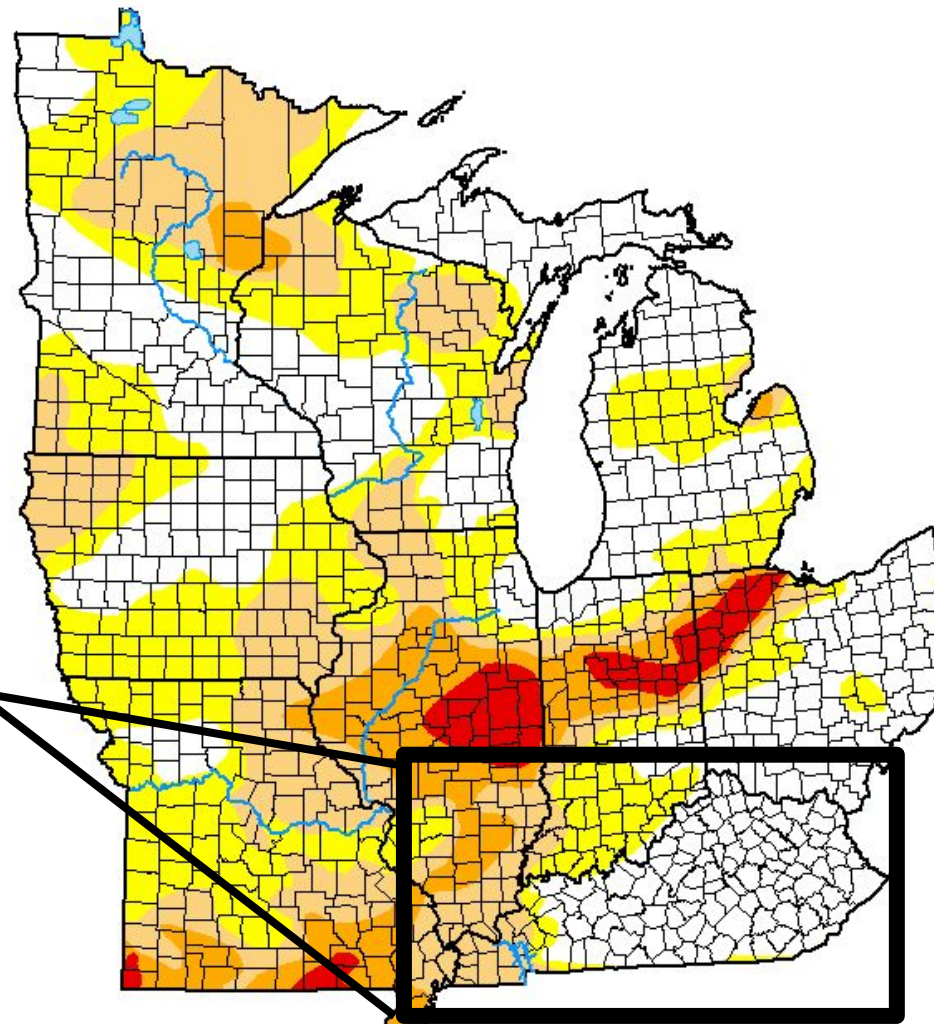
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

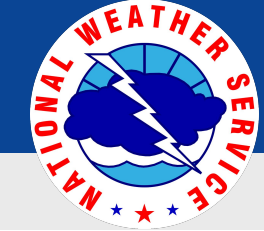


Some D0/D1
Drought in western
KY/ southern
Indiana



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

National Weather Service
Louisville, KY

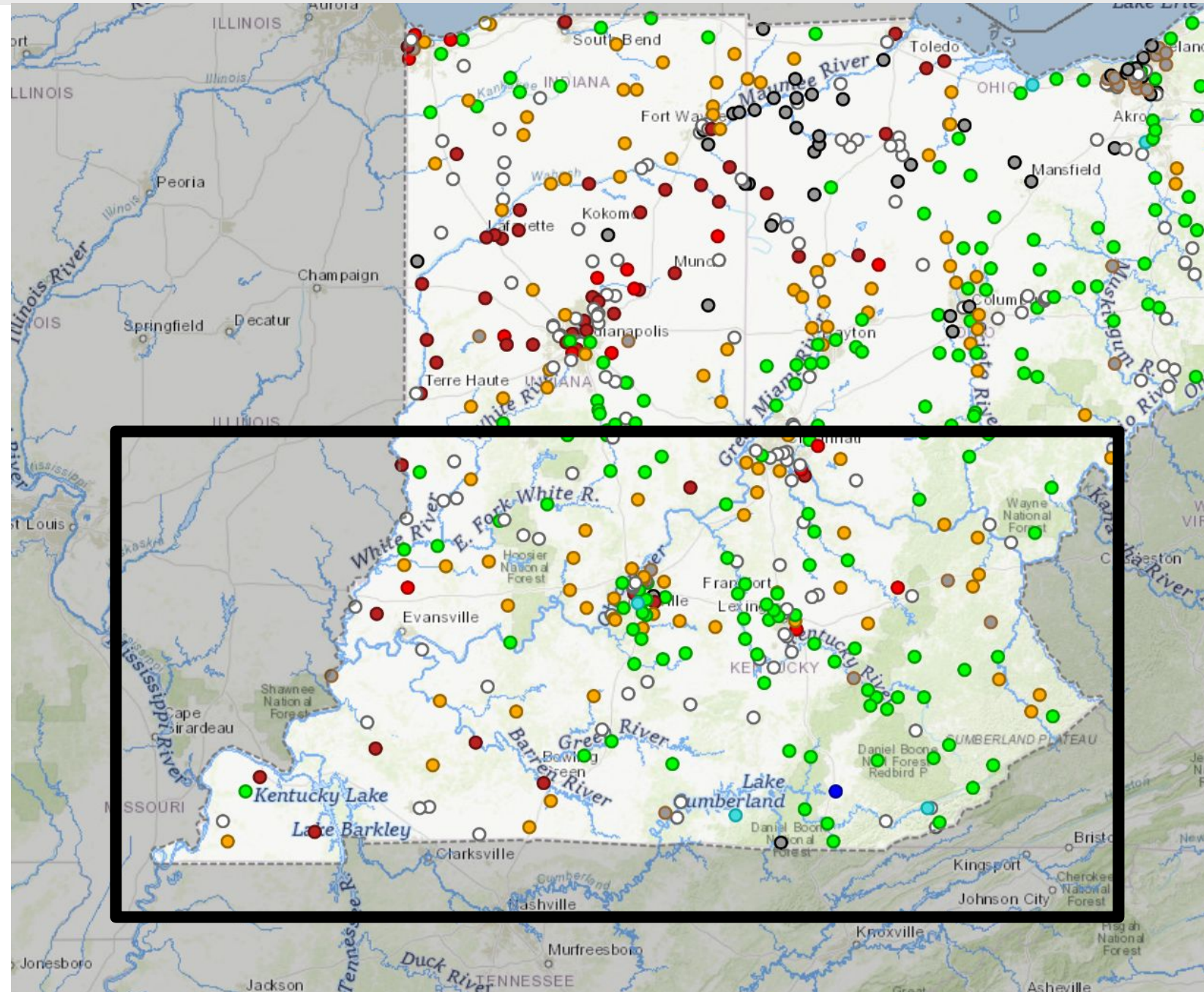


River Levels

February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

Streamflow

- Mainly Normal to Below Normal Streamflow in central KY and southern Indiana



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		

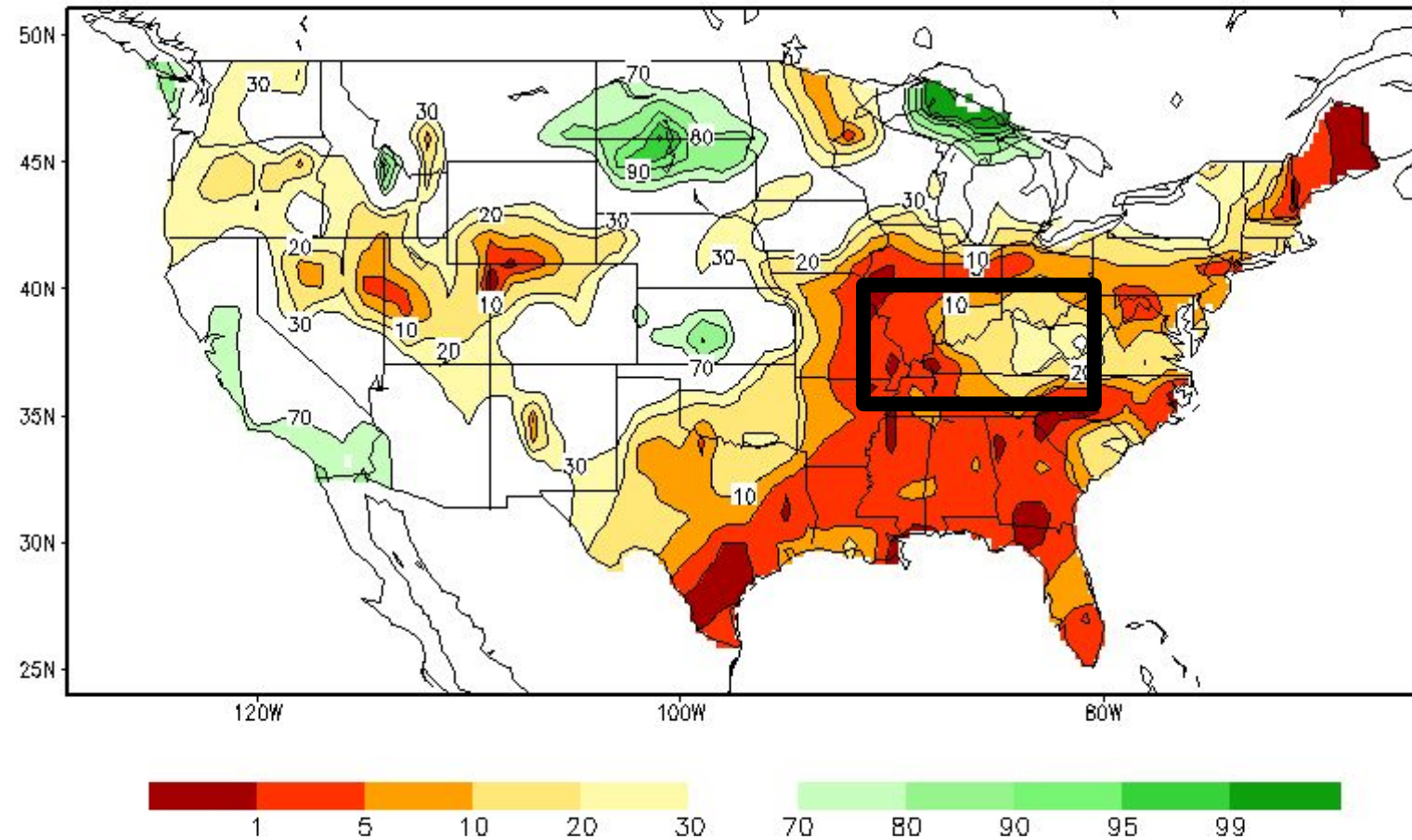




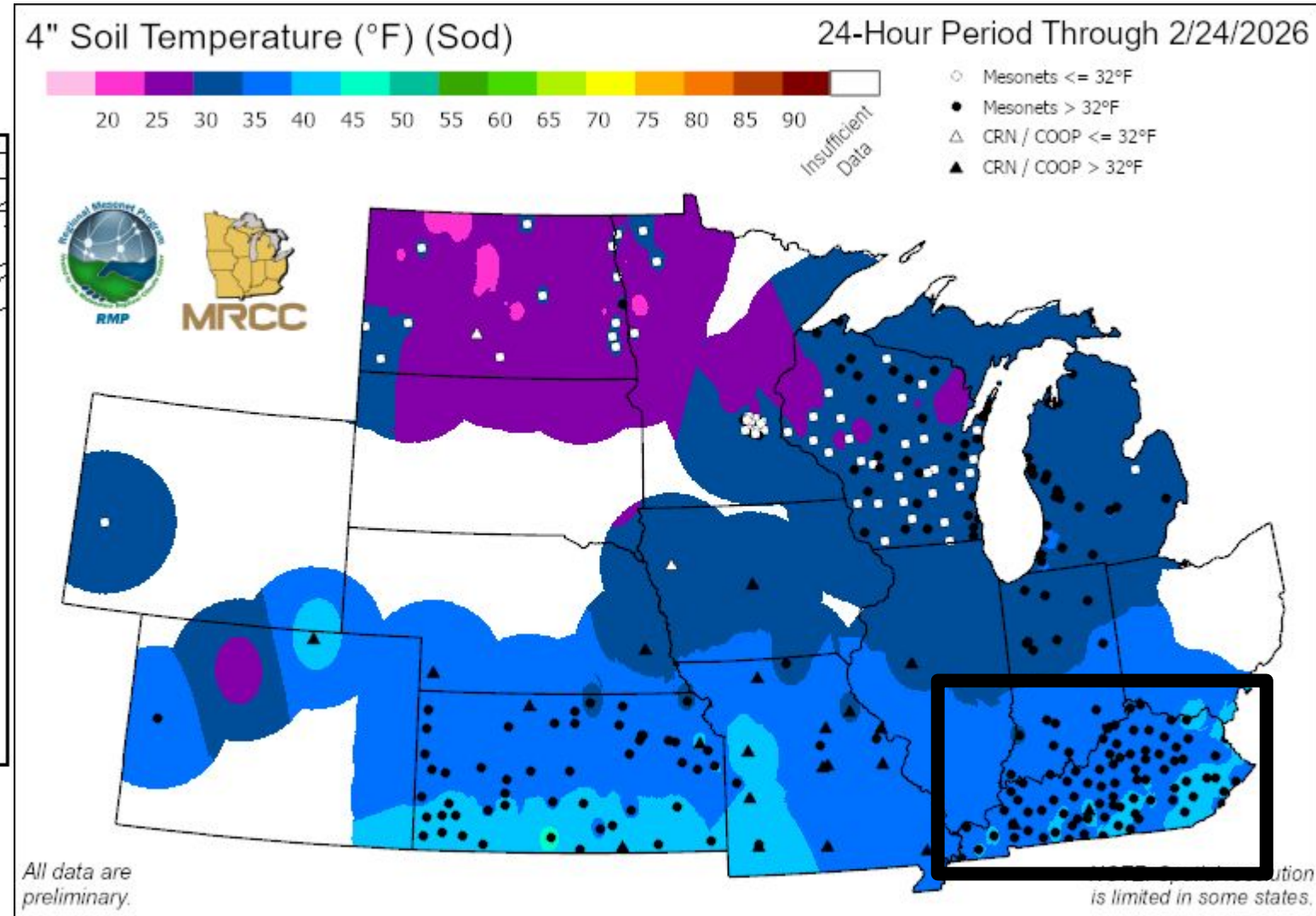
Soil Moisture and Frost Depth

February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile FEB 24, 2026



- Drier than Normal soil



- 4" Soil Temps Above Freezing



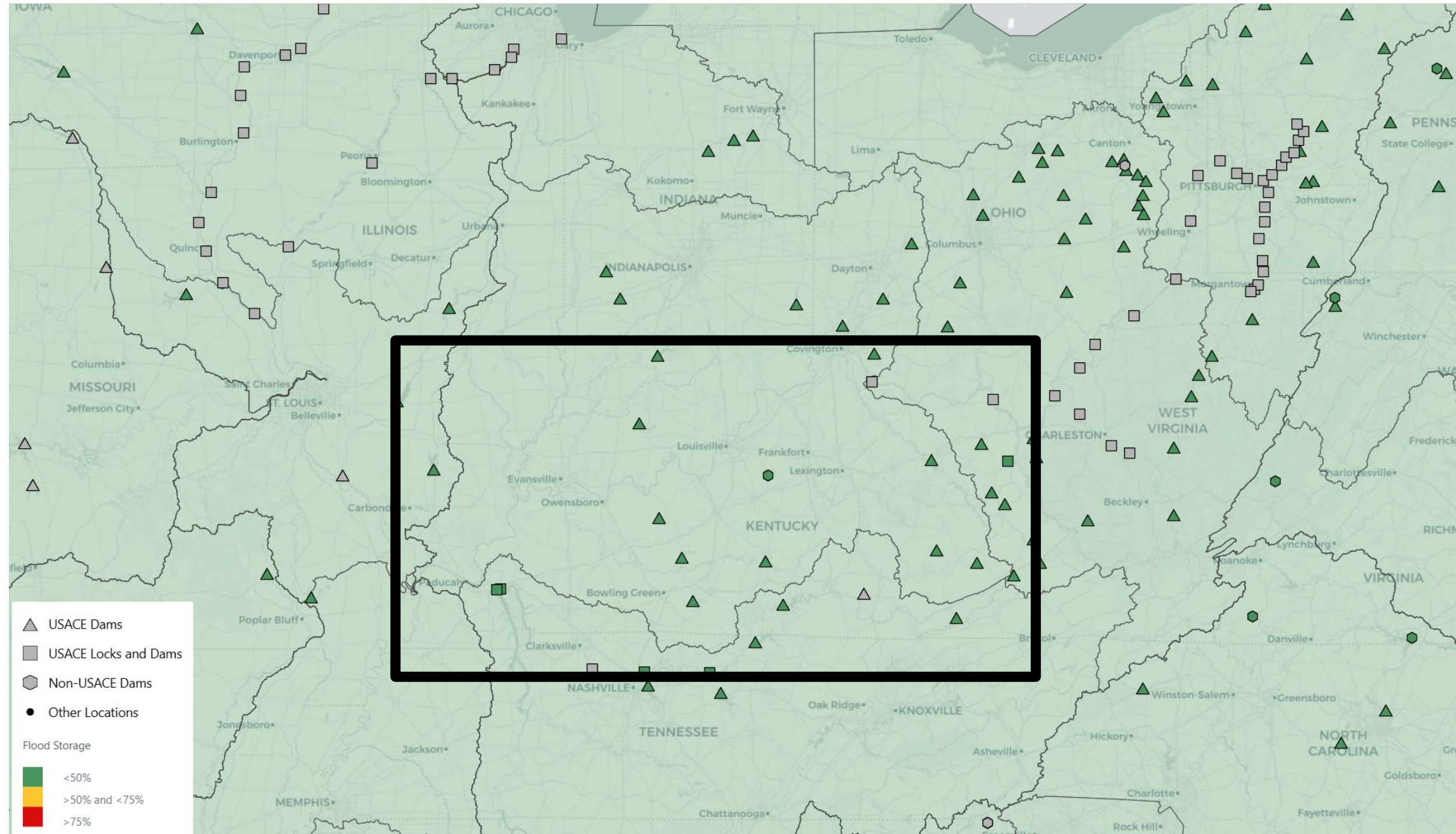


Reservoir Levels

February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

Flood Storage

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

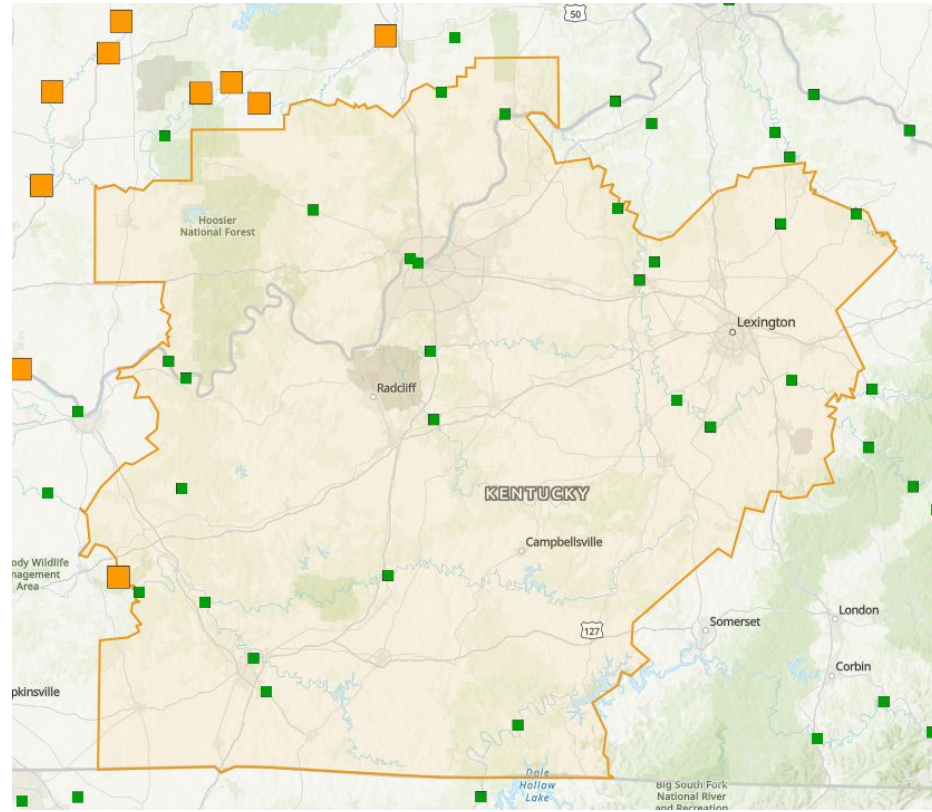




Long Range Flood Outlook

February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

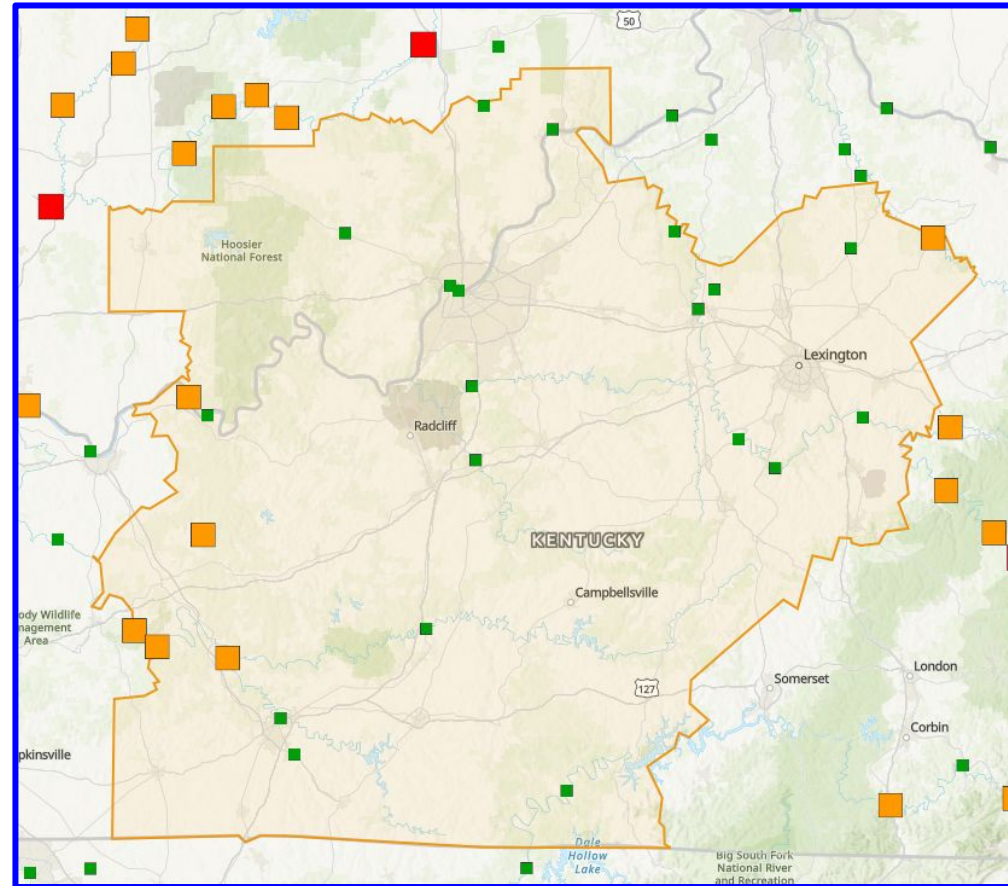
Probability Range of Flood Outcomes



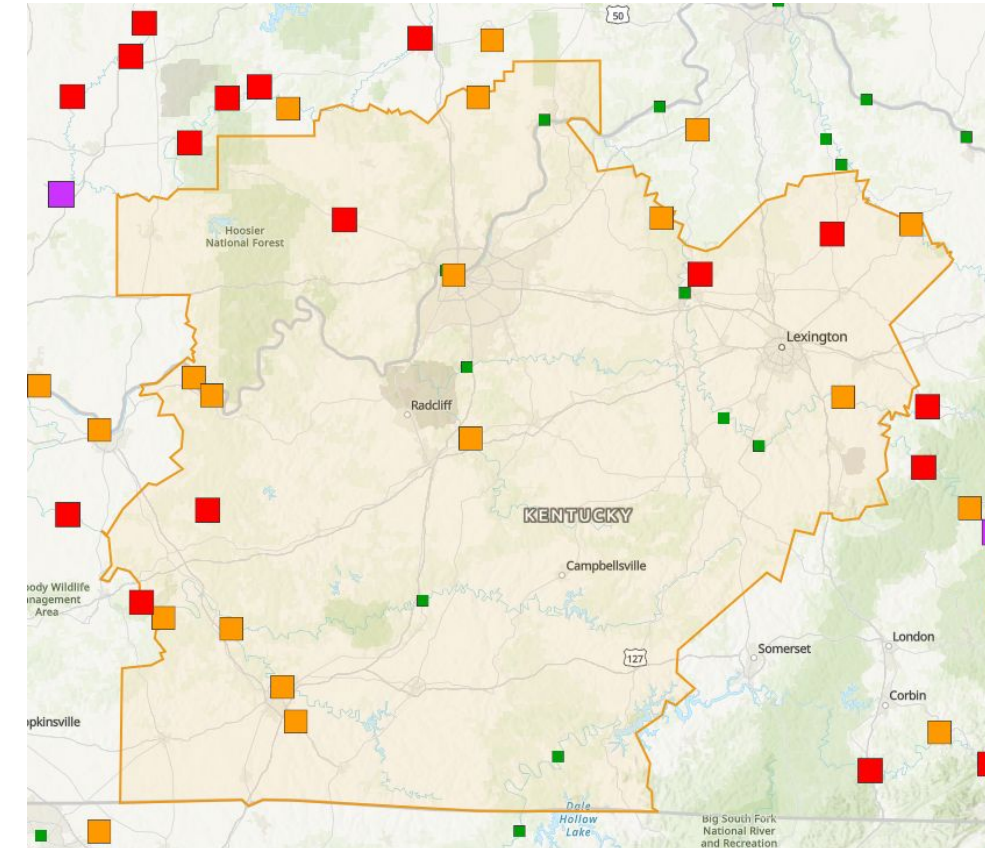
>50% Chance of Exceedance - Expected

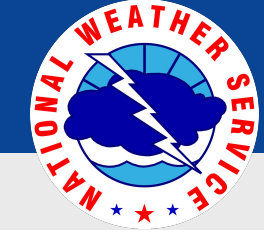
Major Flooding
Moderate Flooding
Minor Flooding
Near Flood Stage
No Flooding

>25% Chance of Exceedance - Possible



>10% Chance of Exceedance - Near Worst Case

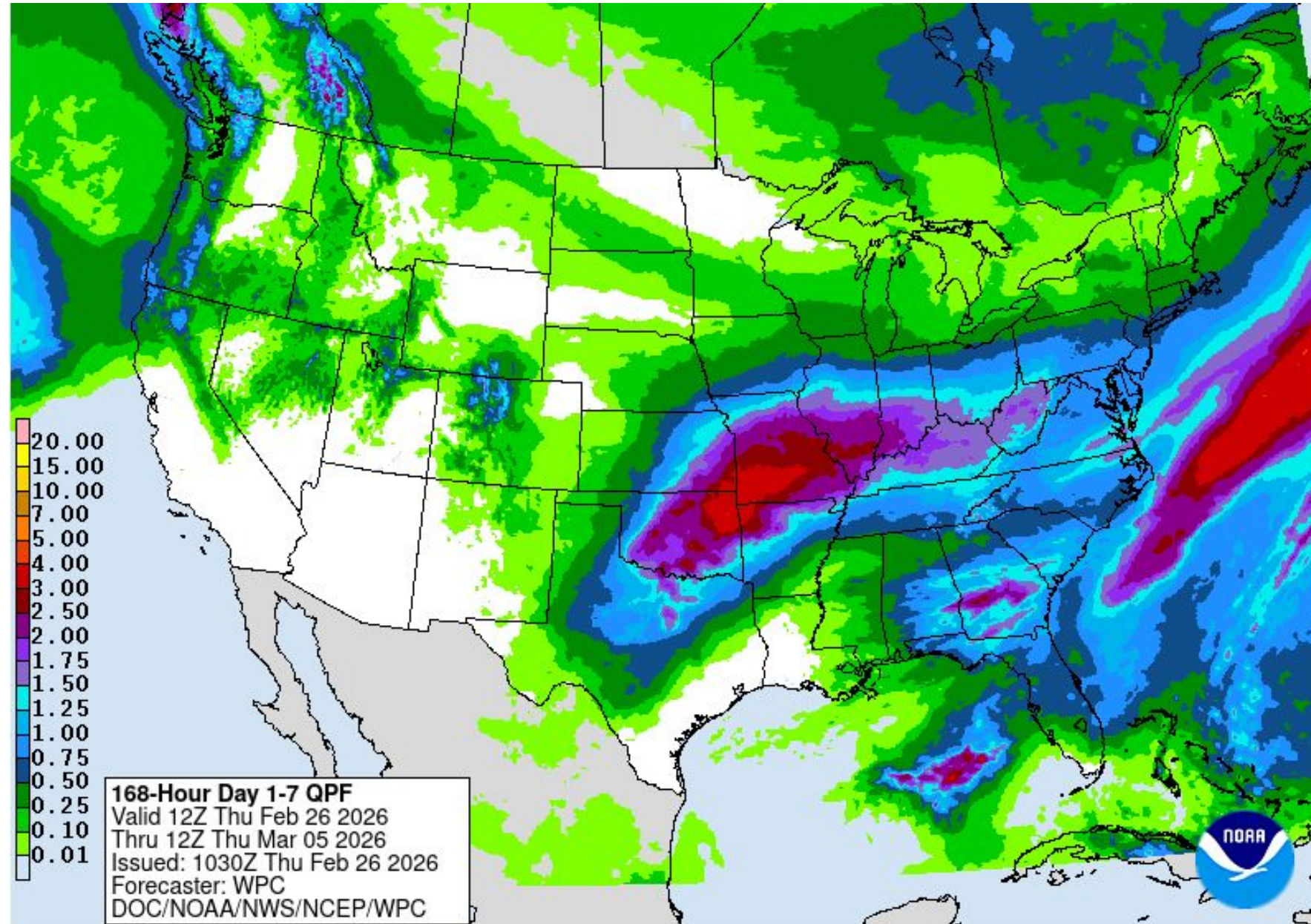




7 Day Precipitation Forecast

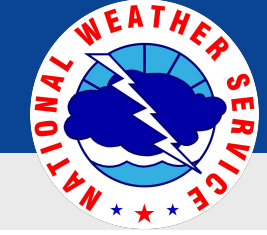
February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

February 26 - March 5, 2026



Find a detailed forecast for any location at weather.gov/forecastpoints





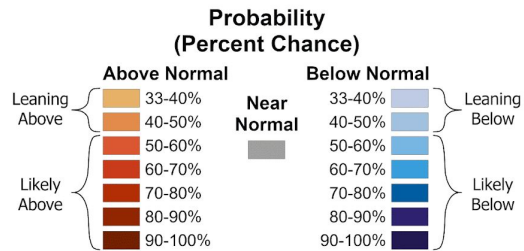
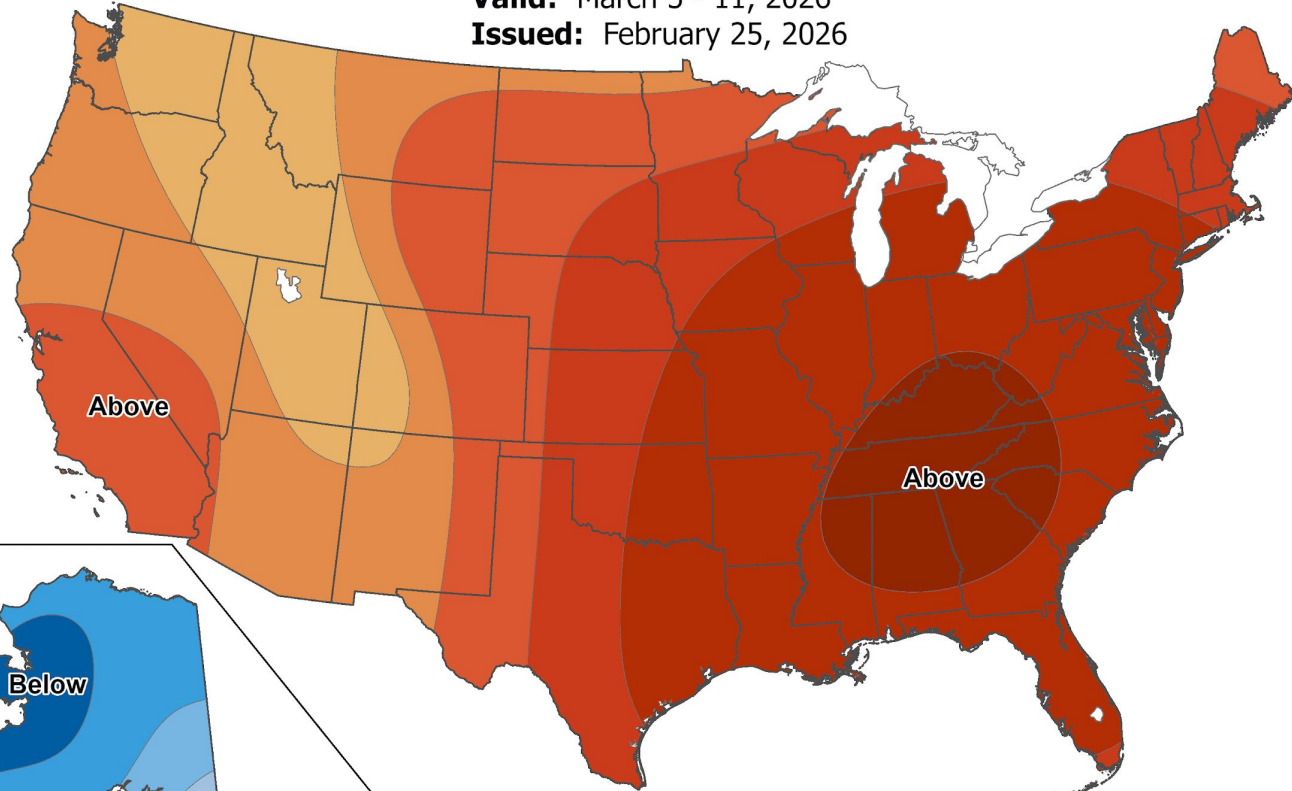
8 to 14 Day Outlook

February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

March 5-11, 2026

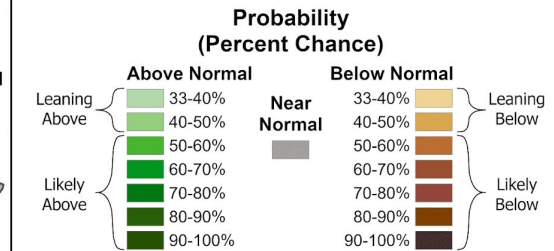
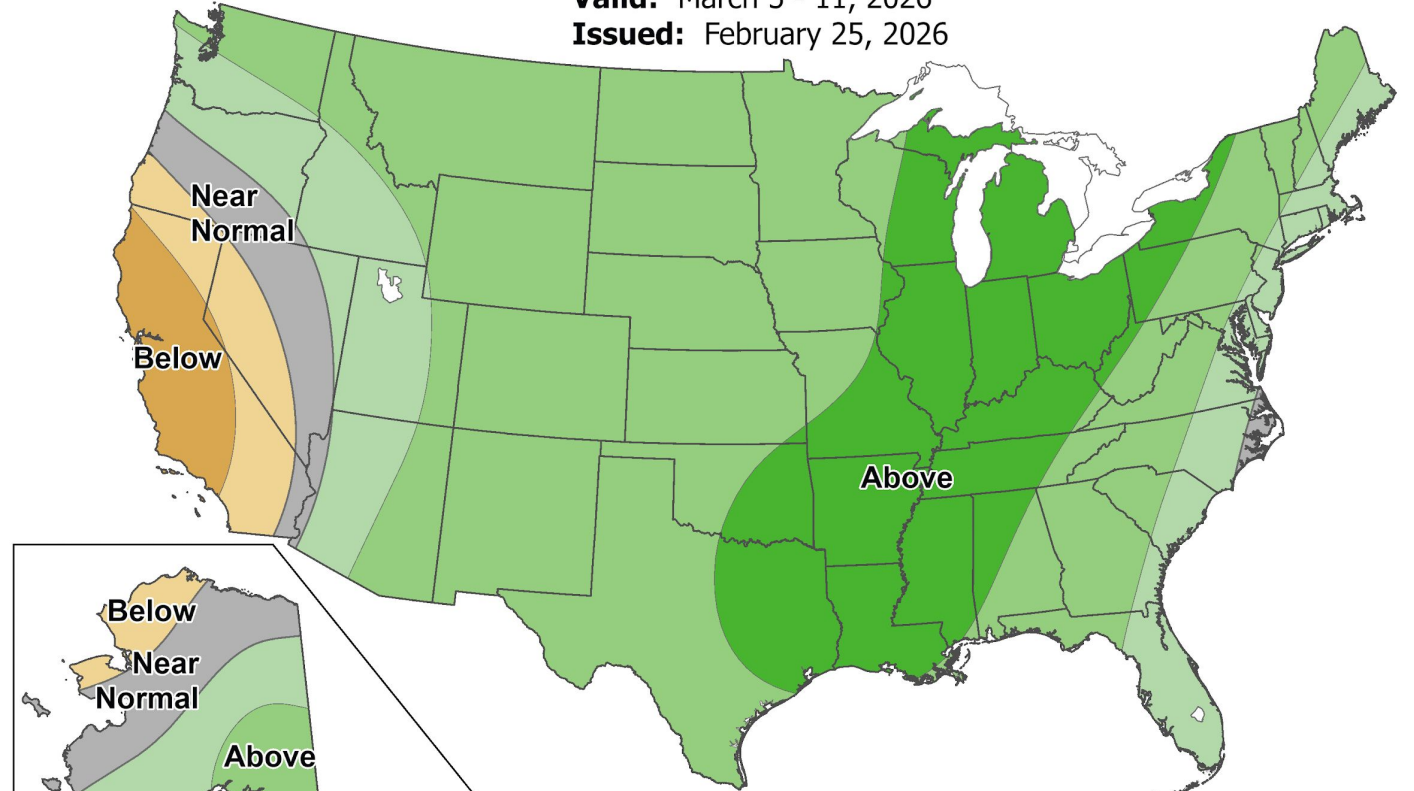
8-14 Day Temperature Outlook

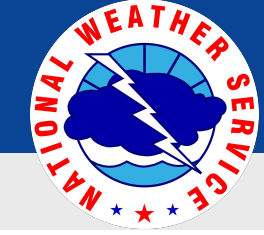
Valid: March 5 - 11, 2026
Issued: February 25, 2026



8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: March 5 - 11, 2026
Issued: February 25, 2026

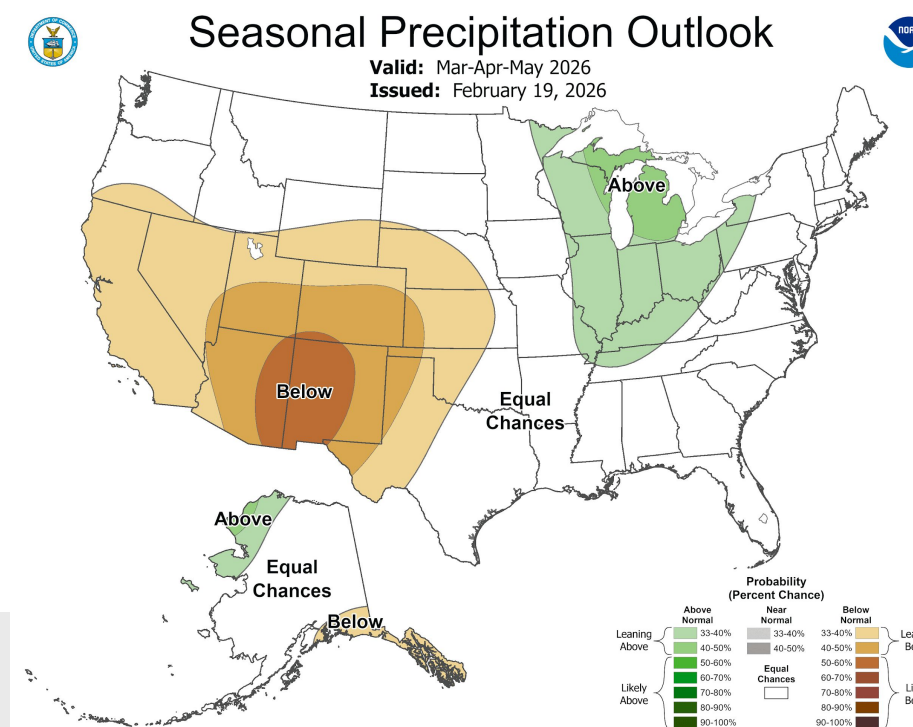
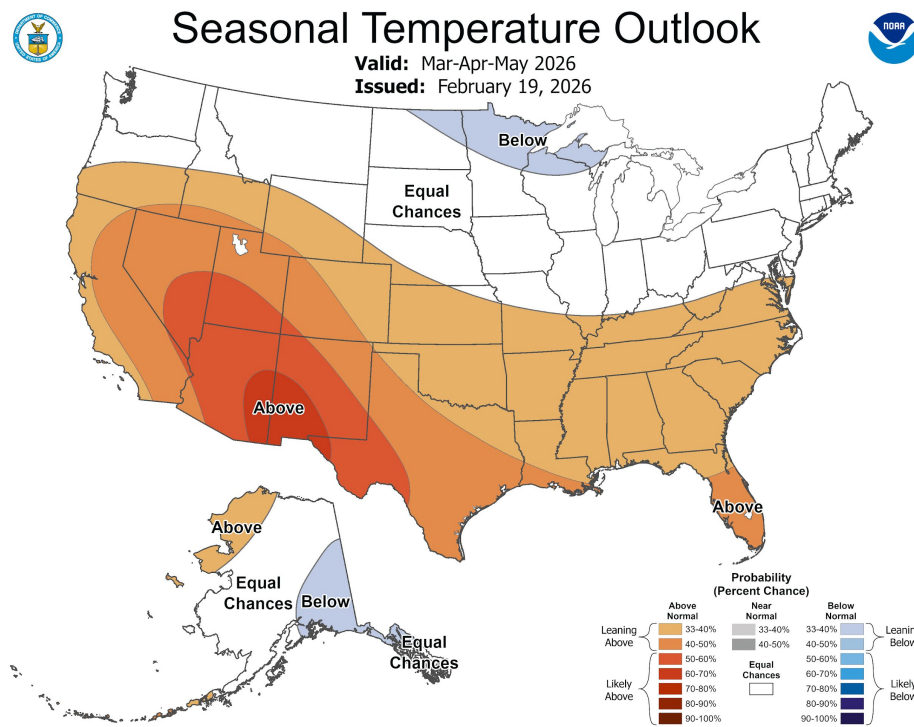
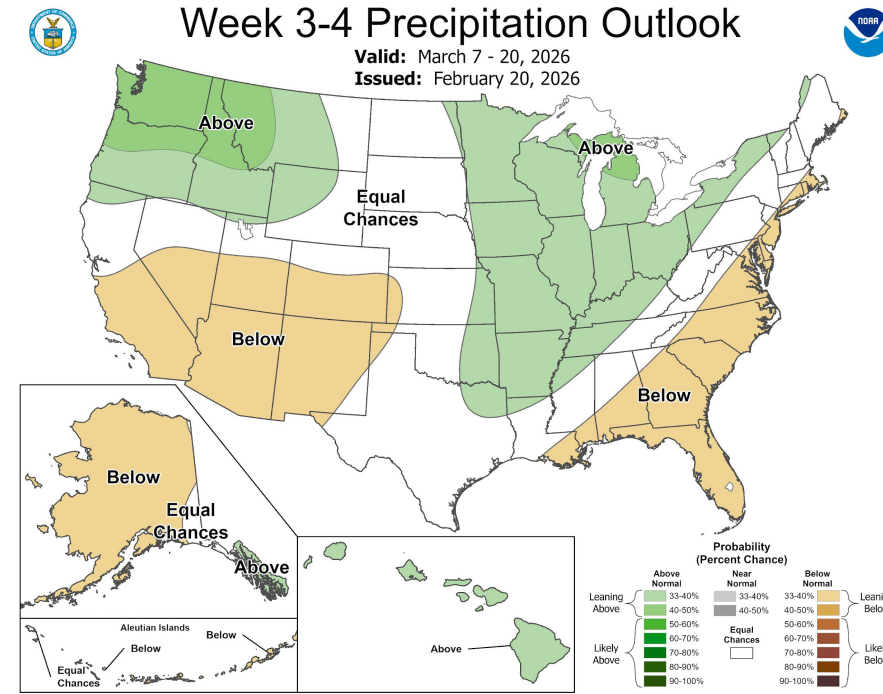
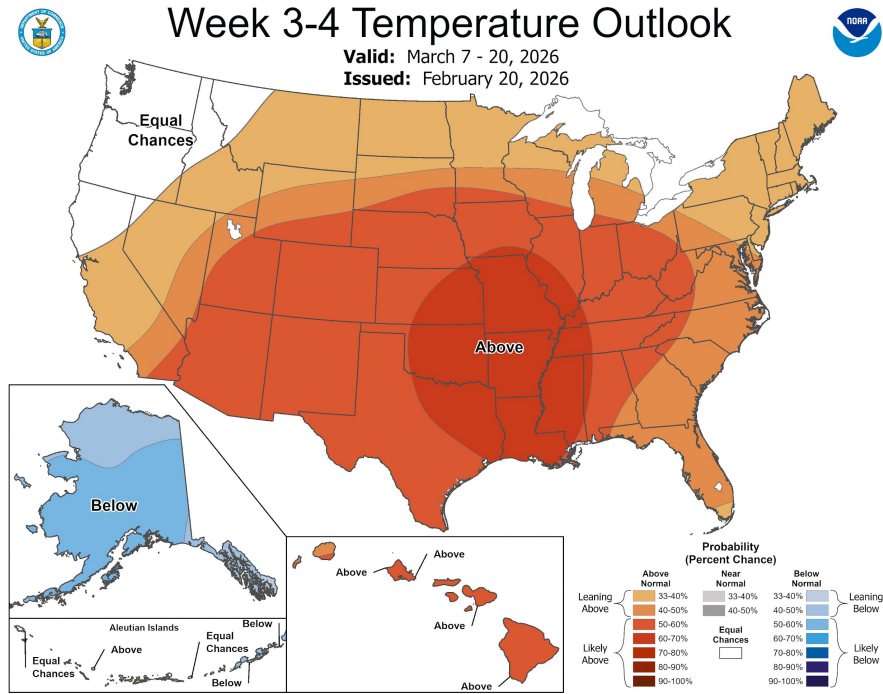


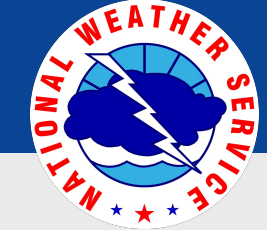


Spring Weather Outlook

February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

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





Spring Flood Outlook Summary

February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

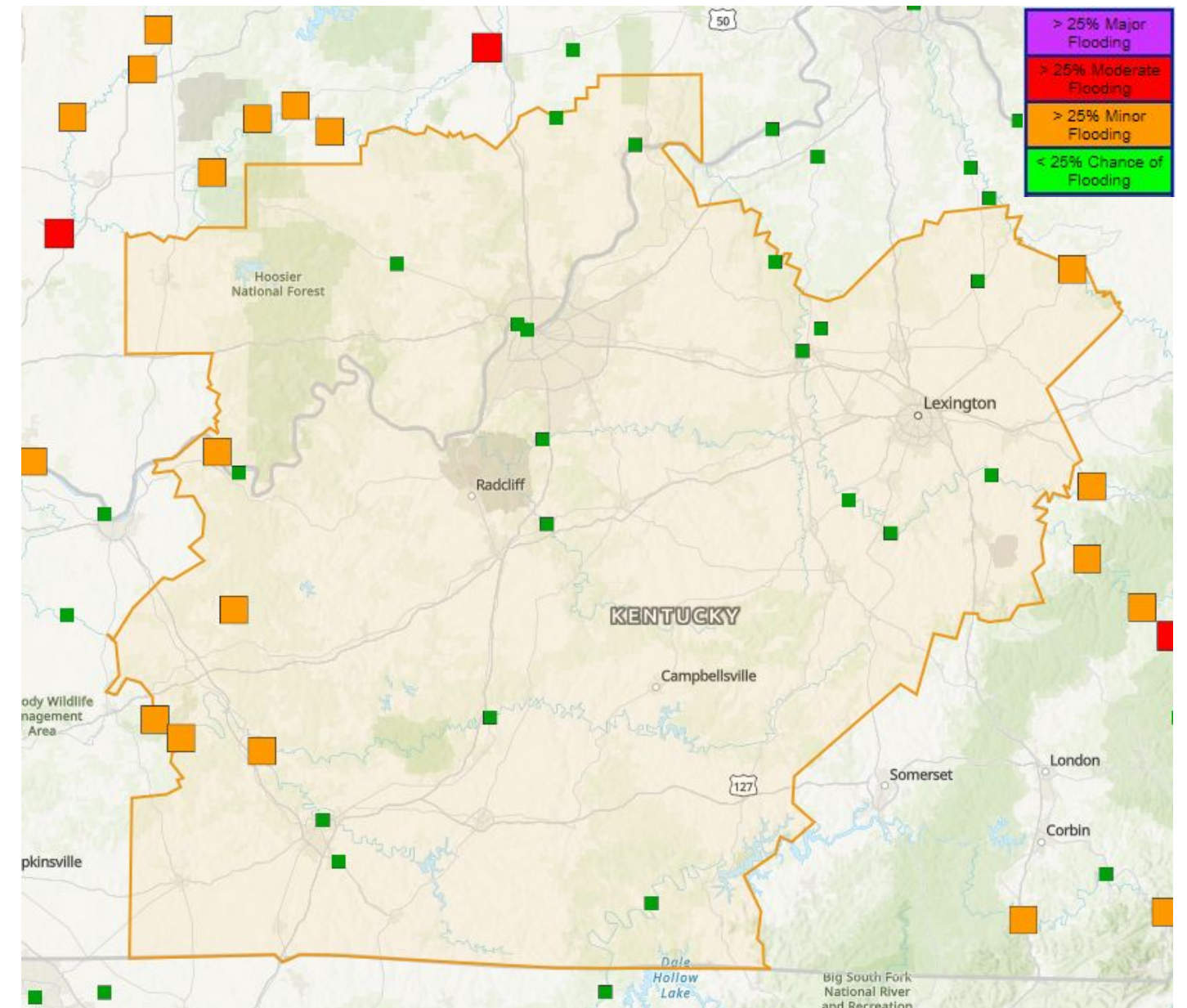
Key Messages

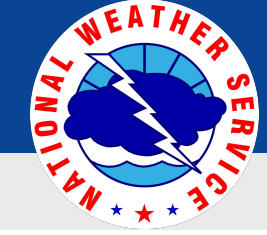
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Next Scheduled Update

- March 12, 2026

>25% Chance of Exceedance through May





Spring Flood Outlook Summary

February 26, 2026
11:34 AM EST

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](#)

