

Water Resources Coordinating Council

Tuesday, October 1, 2024
1:30 PM- 3:30 PM

Meeting Notes

Call to Order and Virtual Meeting Logistics

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 PM. There a total of 15 participants in the virtual meeting. Logistics were briefly discussed. The Lakes Restoration Program Update will be tabled until the next meeting and instead Iowa HSEMD will provide an update on the Levee Safety Program later in the meeting.

National Water Prediction Service Overview and Demonstration

Jeff Zogg, NWS/NOAA, provided a demonstration of the National Water Prediction Service, which has replaced the AHPS for water forecasting. The website address for the service can be accessed at <https://water.noaa.gov/>. Tutorial information can be found at https://www.weather.gov/dmx/NWPS_Info.

WRCC Agency Updates (All)

DNR (Hall): September has been very dry, media contacts have picked up asking about drought conditions following one of driest Septembers on record. WW optimization tour happening in mid-October. EO10 work continues on regulation review with notices of proposed action coming in December. Cedar Rapids and Ames are working on major WW projects which include nutrient removal.

Iowa HHS (Wickam): Private Well Grants program has granted approvals to 13 counties to test for PFAS in partnership with DNR. Hoping to expand usage of that program.

HSEMD (Noble): Awarded project scoping grant from FMA to study levee setback as a project type to see about using hazard mitigation funds to do levee setbacks to incorporate riparian areas on wet side of levees. Long-term impacts unclear but could result in expanded funding opportunities.

IDOT (Solberg): Recovery activity/emergency relief underway following flooding in NW Iowa. 2-3 structures are total loss and will be rebuilt.

EPA Region 7 (Reed): Conducted visit to Iowa with EPA headquarters leadership to discuss water quality efforts and to tour water infrastructure projects.

ISU Extension (Stefanik): ISU Extension is gearing up for winter meetings with goals to add NRS topics. NRS Measures coordinator (Davis) left in July, in process of refilling. Newly funded projects are available on INRC website.

USGS (Nania): Last quarter was very busy with stream gauge repair, flood response/recovery, and high water mark report to reflect record events on Rock, Floyd, and Big Sioux Rivers. Report on those events is forthcoming.

NWS (Zogg): A current weather and forecast briefing was provided. The presentation is included with these meeting notes.

IDALS (Hansen): The Abandoned Mine Land reclamation program is starting 7 new projects in southeast Iowa, including a project on state-owned Dutch Hollow near Pella that is the largest in the program's 41-year history. These projects will add to 5 others under construction and all will be completed by 2025. 120 reclamation projects have been completed through the program with total federal investment of over \$120 million.

The WQI statewide cover crop initiative is on track for a record year. Interest was so high that the department stopped accepting applications in early September with more than \$9 million obligated for new and repeat adopters. Cost-share programs experienced a third consecutive record year of funds obligated and we are experiencing high volumes of water quality infrastructure work this year. IDALS staff is also working with EPA Region 7 and USACE staff to review wetland permits in advance of their expiration in 2027.

Levee Safety Program Update

Jeff Jackson, Iowa HSEMD, gave the Council an update on the status of the Levee Safety Program. The office was established in June 2023 and charged with surveying and rating over 900 miles of levees in the state to better determine needs for the Levee Improvement Fund. The fund has a total of \$10 million in appropriations and a levee rating system is now in place which will allow a subjective system for determining funding through the program and for future needs. So far 117 of 177 levee systems have been rated and the others are in progress. It is anticipated that the Flood Mitigation Board will start awarding funds for design and construction of levee rehab/repair projects in the very near future.

Public Comments

There were no requests by the public to address the Council.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM. The next meeting will likely be held in December following the same hybrid format.

	WRCC Representative	Position	Organization
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 Mike Naig	Secretary (WRCC Chair)	Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Kim Reynolds <i>Lillie Brady</i>	Governor <i>Designee</i>	Governor's Office Governor's Office
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 Kayla Lyon (Tim Hall) <i>Adam Schneiders</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Department of Natural Resources Iowa Department of Natural Resources
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 Susan Kozak <i>Jake Hansen</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	IDALS - Division of Soil Conservation & Water Quality IDALS - Division of Soil Conservation & Water Quality
<input type="checkbox"/>	5 Kelly Garcia <i>Tim Wickam</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	IA Department of Public Health IA Department of Public Health
<input type="checkbox"/>	6 John Benson <i>Larry Giofreddi (Jeff Jackson)</i>	Acting Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7 Dan Robison <i>Jamie Benning (Kay Stefanik)</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, ISU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, ISU
<input type="checkbox"/>	8 Edith Parker <i>Tom Peters</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Public Health, University of Iowa College of Public Health, University of Iowa
<input type="checkbox"/>	9 John Fritsch <i>Maureen Clayton</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, UNI College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences, UNI
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10 Scott Marler <i>Marc Solberg</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Department of Transportation Iowa Department of Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/>	11 Debi Durham <i>Jeff Geerts</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Economic Development Authority Iowa Economic Development Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	12 Debi Durham <i>Tony Toigo</i>	Executive Director <i>Designee</i>	Iowa Finance Authority Iowa Finance Authority
<input type="checkbox"/>	13 Alec Scranton <i>Larry Weber</i>	Dean <i>Designee</i>	College of Engineering, University of Iowa College of Engineering, University of Iowa
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	14 Jon Nania <i>Steve Kalkhoff</i>	Director <i>Designee</i>	USGS, Iowa-Illinois Water Science Center USGS, Iowa-Illinois Water Science Center
<input type="checkbox"/>	15 Jon Hubbert <i>Scott Cagle</i>	State Conservationist <i>Designee</i>	USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
<input type="checkbox"/>	16 Matt Russell (Curt Goettsch)	State Executive Director	USDA, Farm Service Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	17 Theresa Greenfield <i>Kate Sand</i>	State Director <i>Designee</i>	USDA, Rural Development USDA, Rural Development
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	18 Meg McCollister <i>Amanda Reed</i>	Regional Administrator <i>Designee</i>	EPA-Region 7 EPA-Region 7
<input type="checkbox"/>	19 Colonel Jesse Curry <i>Heather Bishop</i> <i>Philip Brown</i>	Rock Island District Commander <i>Designee</i> <i>Designee</i>	US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District US Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District US Army Corps of Engineers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Jeff Zogg</i>	<i>Designee</i>	National Weather Service



Iowa River and Weather Briefing

September 30, 2024
3:00 PM



National Weather Service

Des Moines, IA

October 1, 2024



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

National Weather Service
Iowa

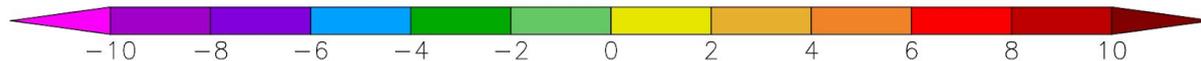
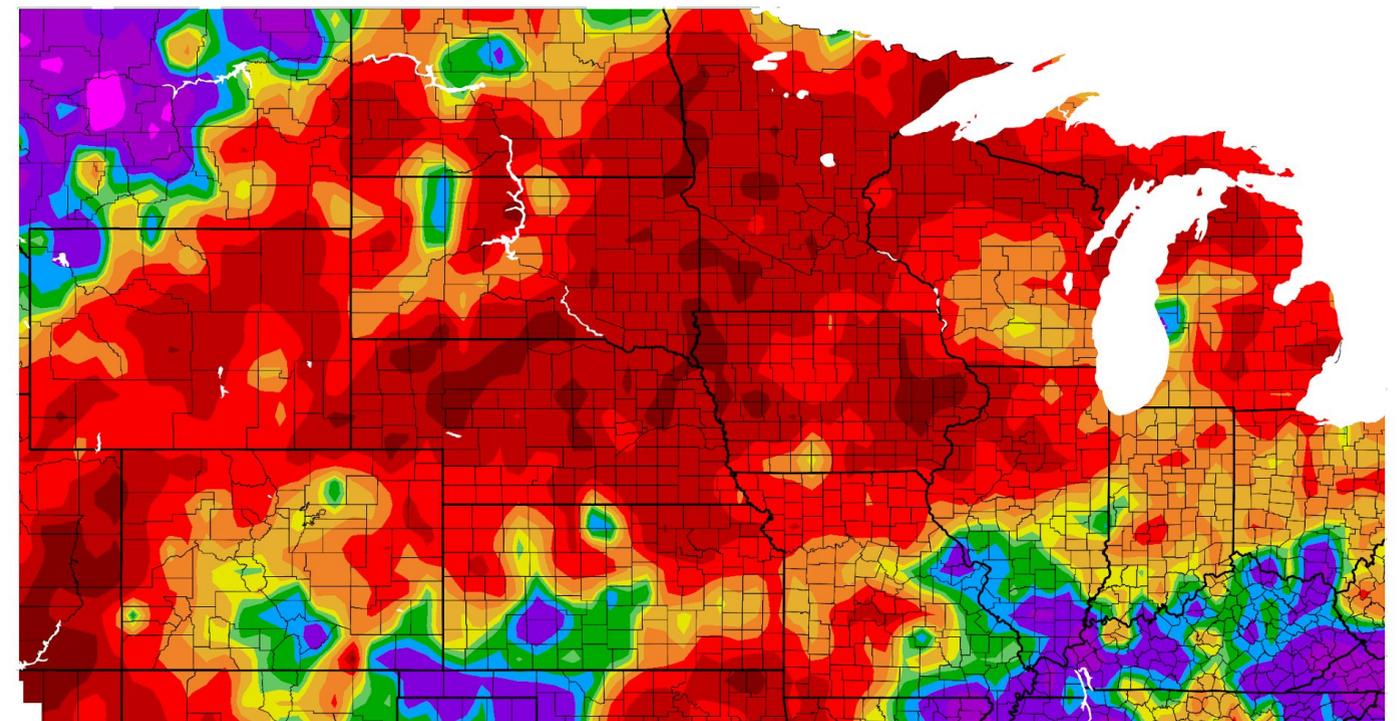
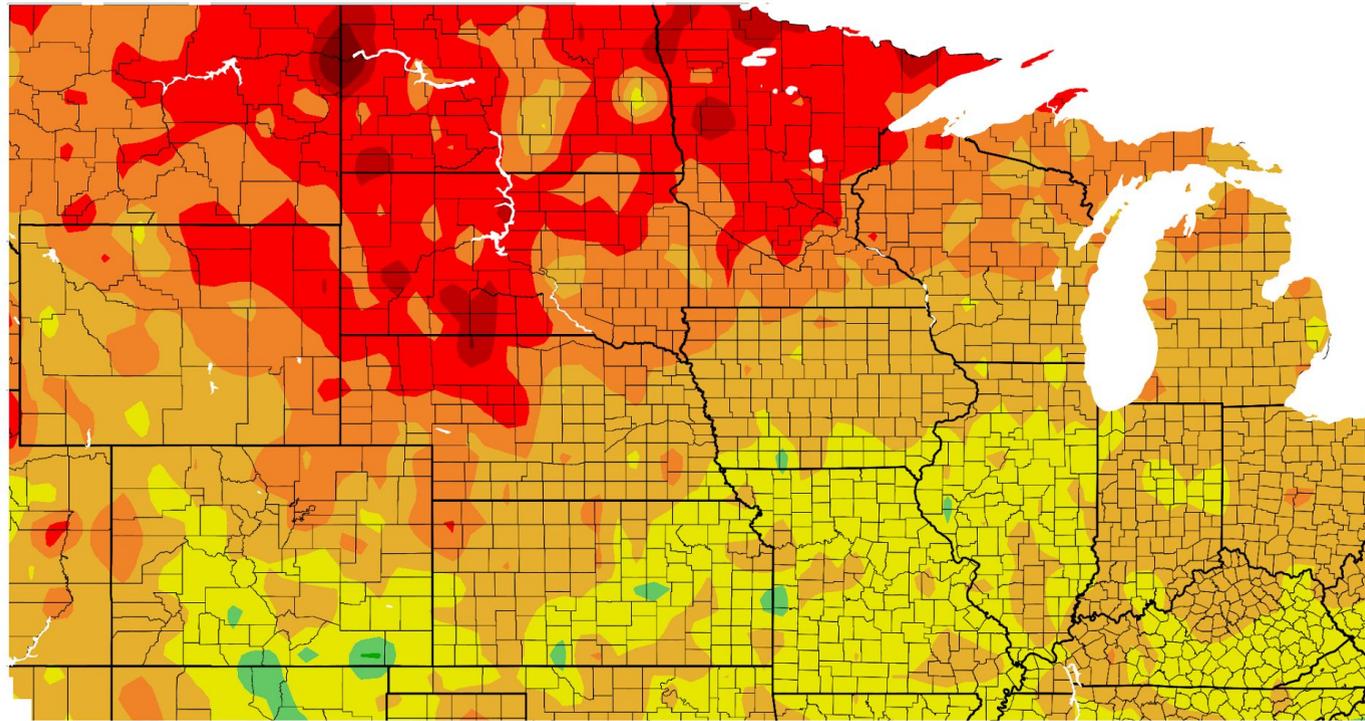


Observed Temp & Precip Departure

Departure from normal

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
8/31/2024 - 9/29/2024

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
8/31/2024 - 9/29/2024



Generated 9/30/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers



Generated 9/30/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

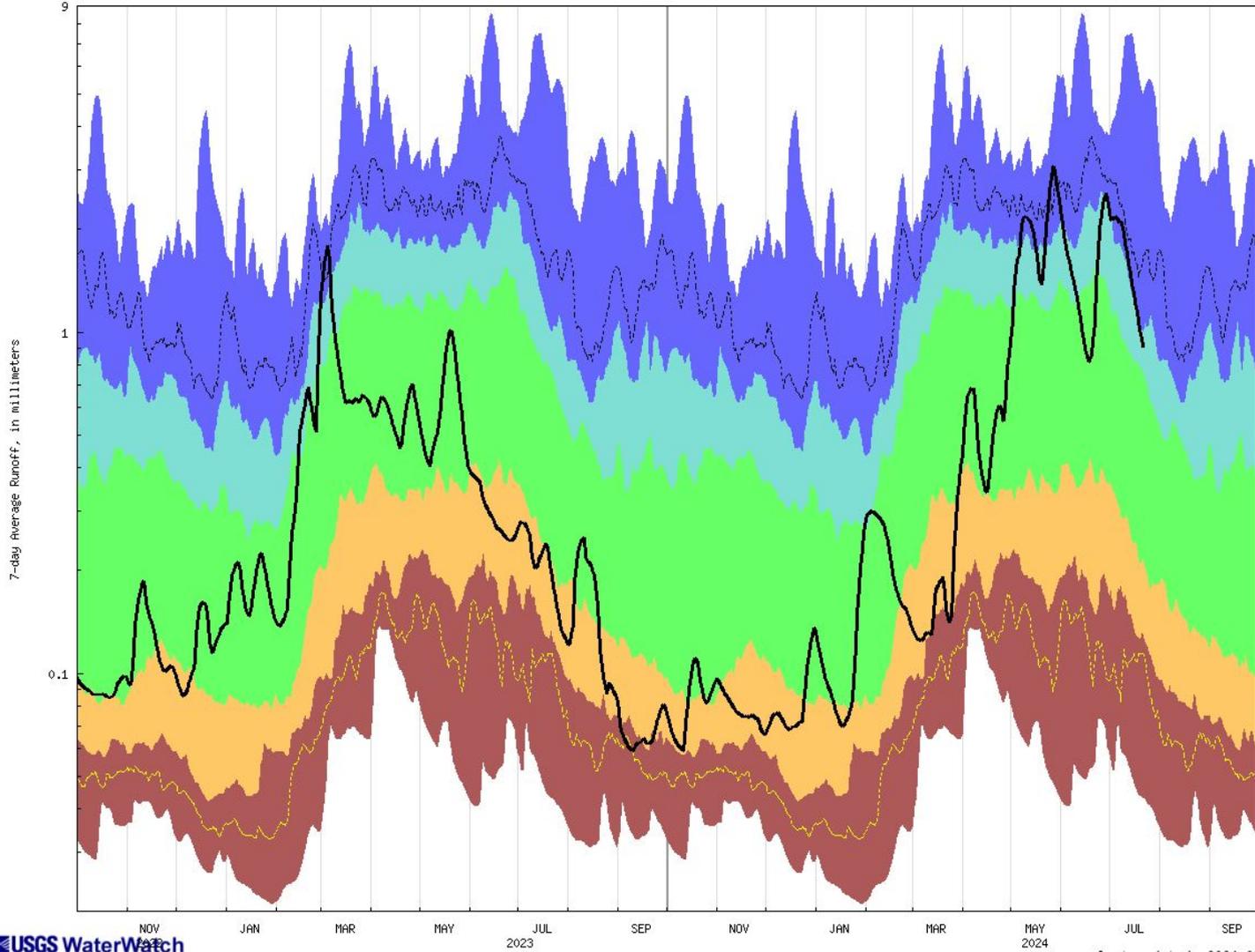
NOAA Regional Climate Centers



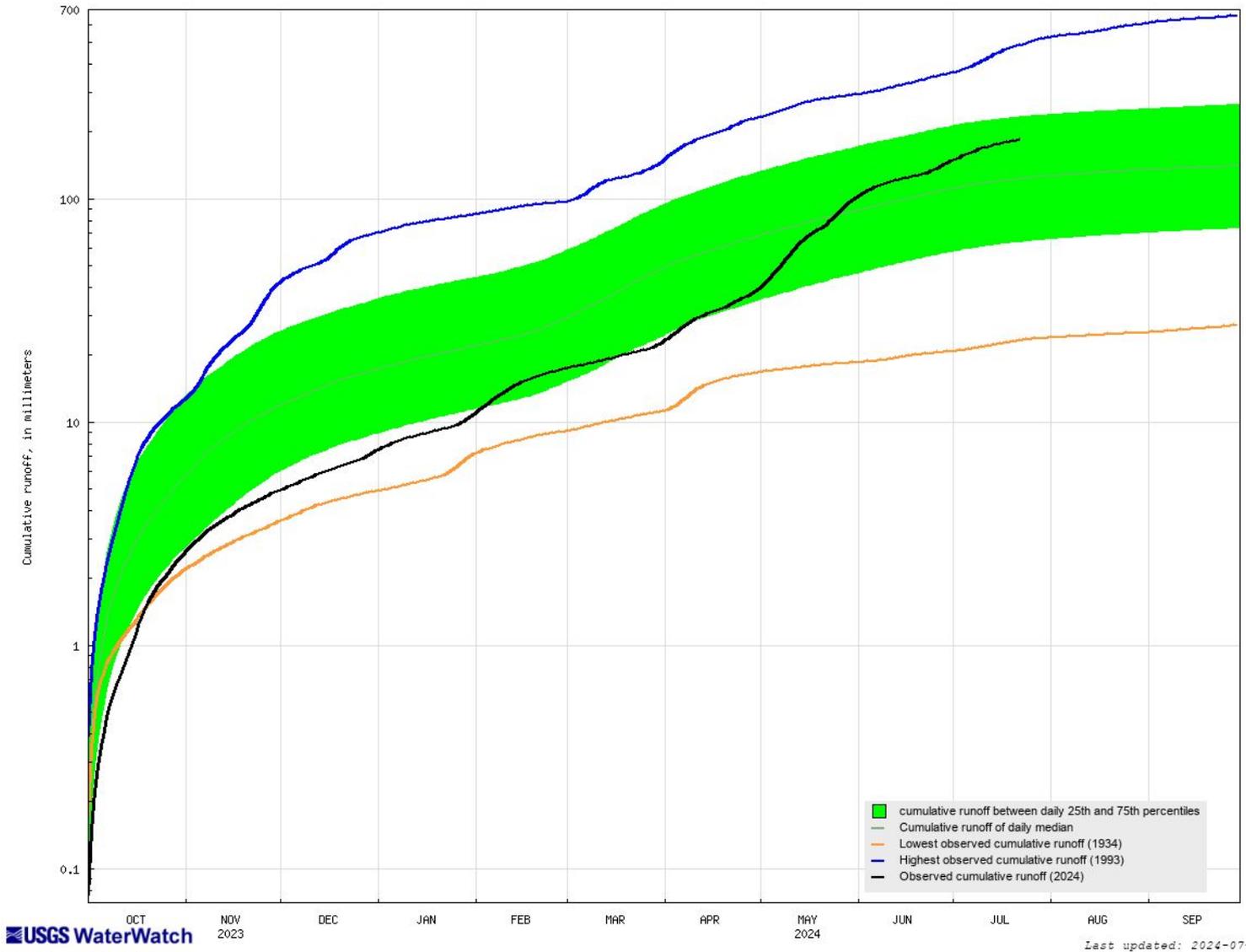
Current & Past Statewide Runoff

Compared to climatology–percentiles

Duration hydrograph of 7-day average runoff for Iowa



Hydrograph of cumulative 7-day average runoff for Iowa



Explanation - Percentile classes						
lowest-10th percentile	5	10-24	25-75	76-90	95	90th percentile-highest
Much below Normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		Runoff

USGS WaterWatch

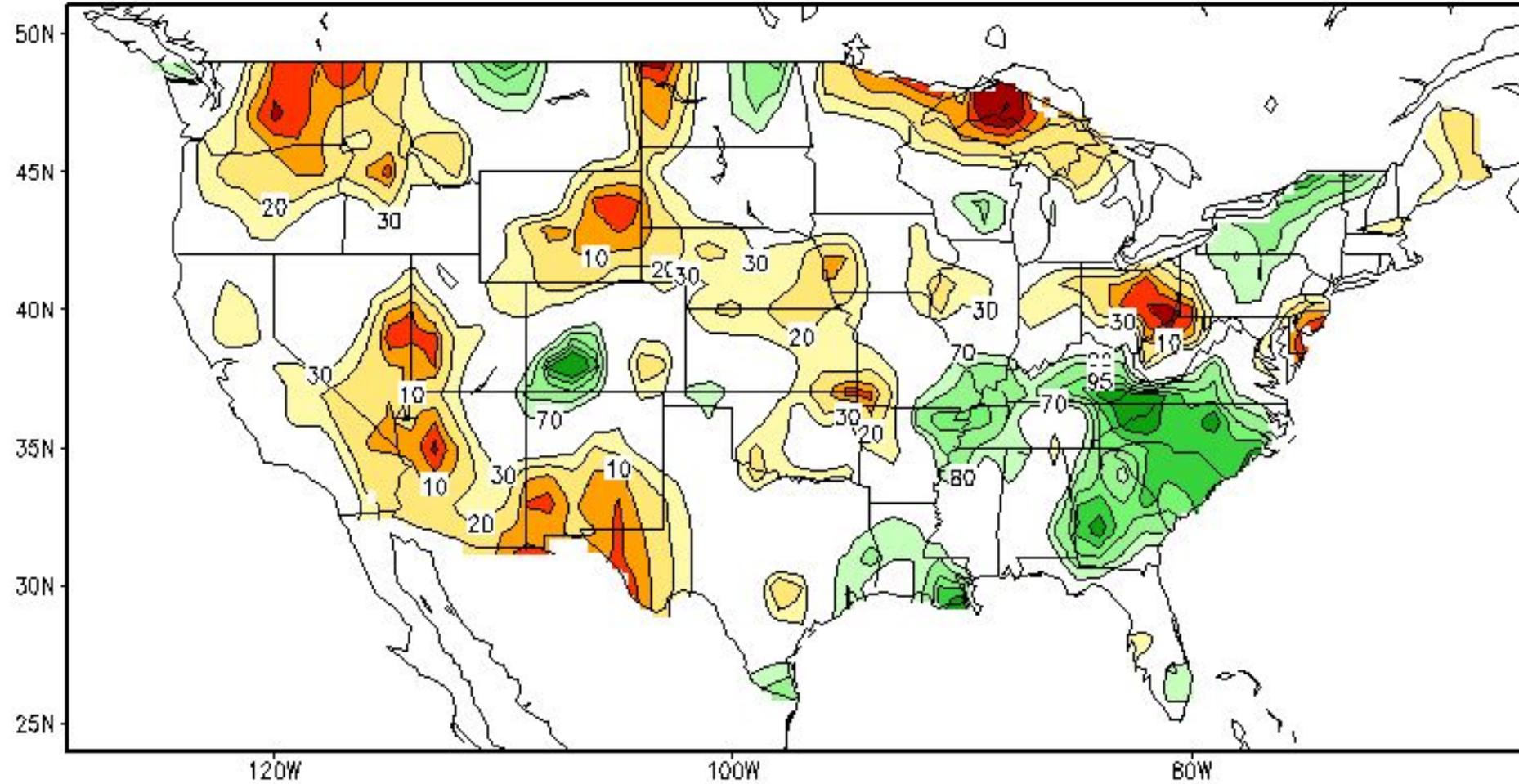
USGS WaterWatch



Current Soil Moisture

Wetness percentiles

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
SEP 29, 2024



Near to below normal across Iowa





Current Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor Iowa

September 24, 2024

(Released Thursday, Sep. 26, 2024)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	6.02	93.98	10.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week <small>09-17-2024</small>	0.00	100.00	4.42	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <small>06-25-2024</small>	80.22	19.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <small>01-02-2024</small>	2.77	97.23	83.41	65.09	35.18	0.00
Start of Water Year <small>09-26-2023</small>	0.01	99.99	95.65	67.41	25.00	1.17
One Year Ago <small>09-26-2023</small>	0.01	99.99	95.65	67.41	25.00	1.17

Intensity:

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

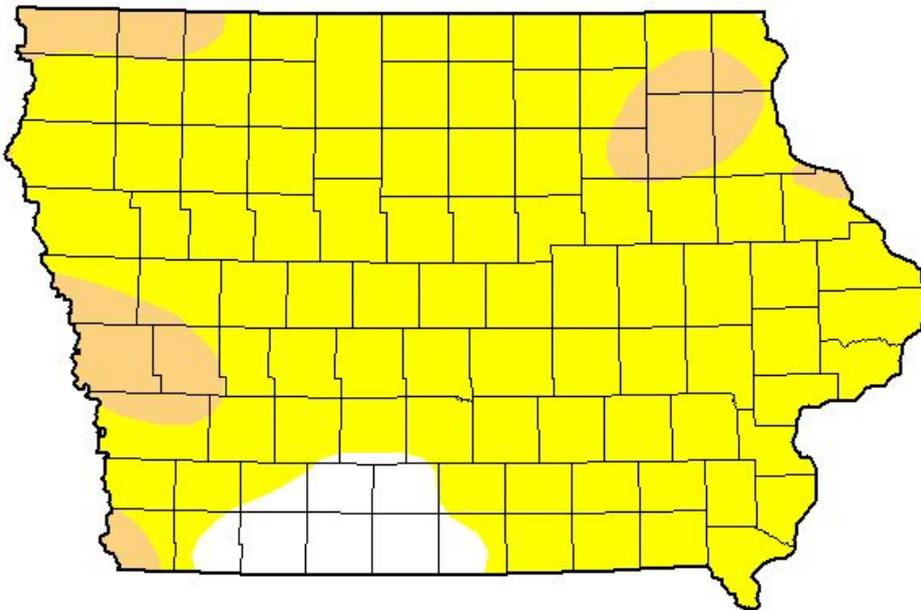
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



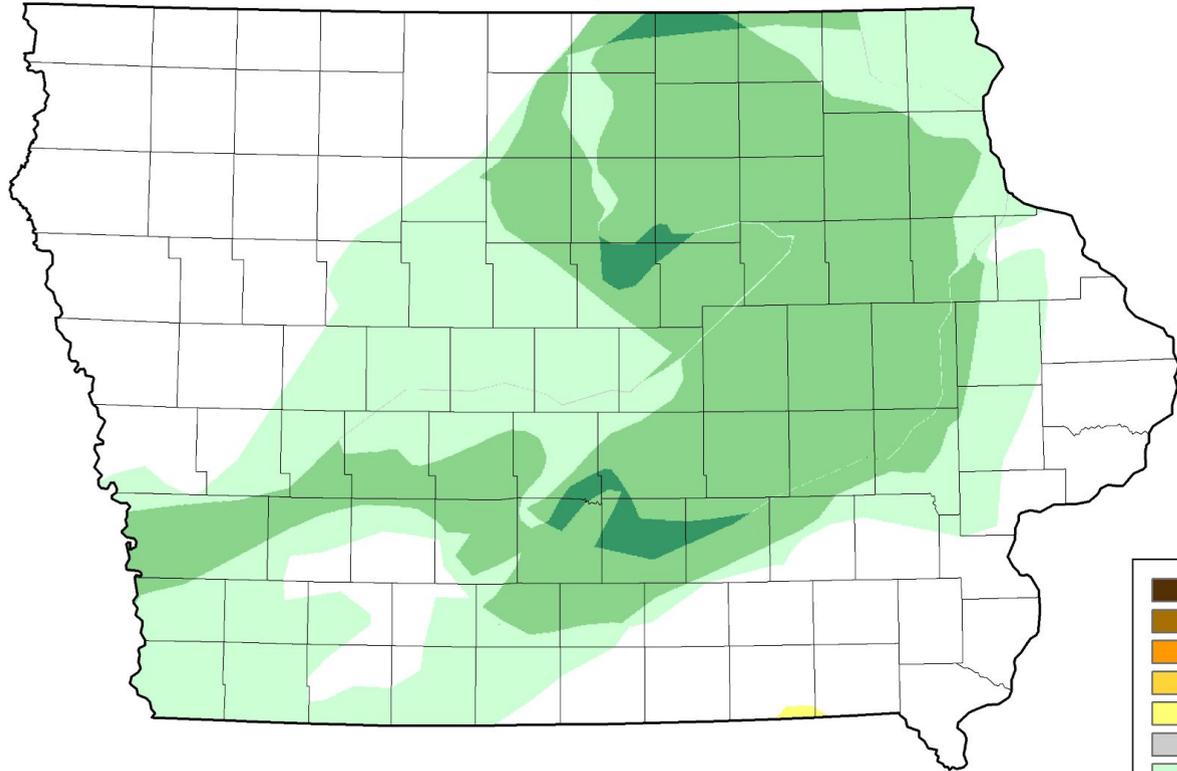
Category	Historically observed impacts
D0	Corn shows drought stress; soil is dry
D1	Soybeans abort pods; corn test weights are struggling
	Grasses are brown; more grass fires occur; burn bans are issued Pond levels decline
D2	Dryland corn has extremely low yields; commodity shortages are noted; livestock is stressed
	Fire danger is high Fewer mosquitoes are observed Surface water levels are low; algae blooms increase; voluntary water conservation is requested
D3	Pastures are dry; producers sell cattle; crops are tested for toxins; crops have pest infestation
	Seasonal allergies are worse; farmers are stressed about high feed prices Trees drop leaves; acorns are underdeveloped Warm water leads to fish kills; streambeds are low to dry
D4	Row crop yields and forage production have significant impacts
	Extreme measures are taken to conserve water Aquatic invertebrates in waterways increase



Drought Monitor Class Change

1-month and 6-month

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Iowa 4 Week

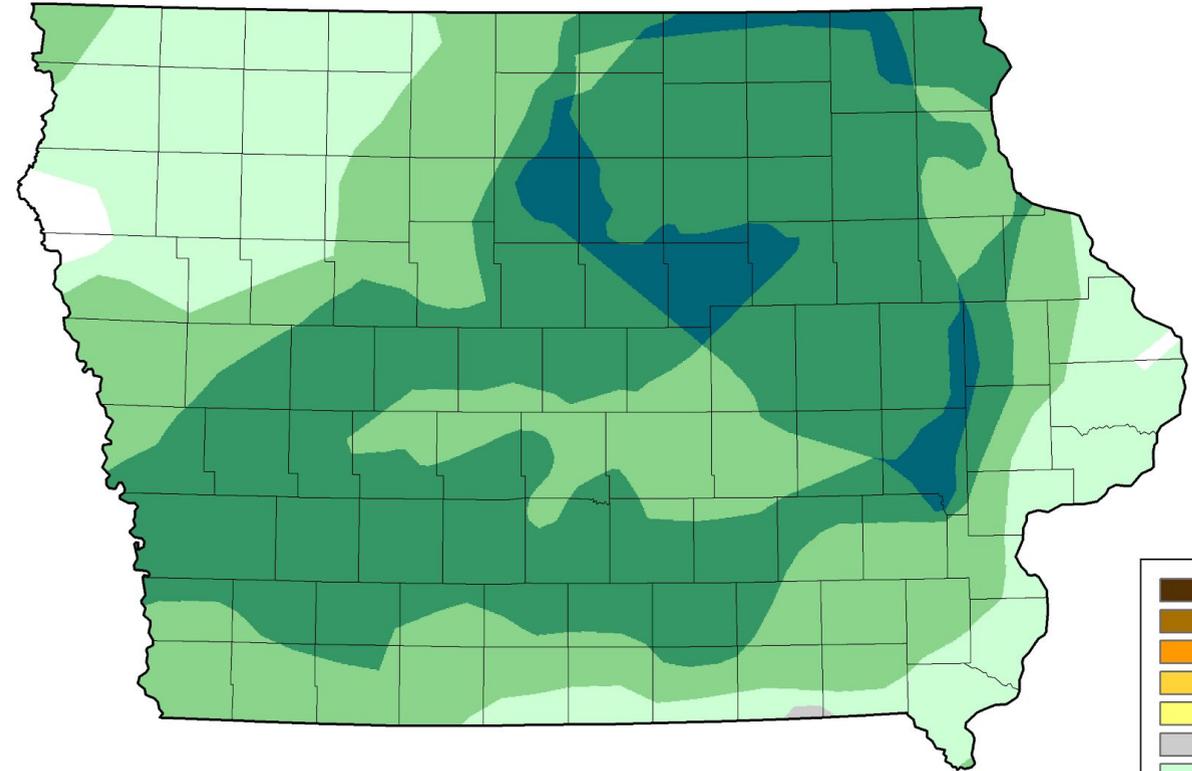


- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement

June 4, 2024
compared to
May 7, 2024

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Drought Monitor Class Change - Iowa 13 Week



- 5 Class Degradation
- 4 Class Degradation
- 3 Class Degradation
- 2 Class Degradation
- 1 Class Degradation
- No Change
- 1 Class Improvement
- 2 Class Improvement
- 3 Class Improvement
- 4 Class Improvement
- 5 Class Improvement

June 4, 2024
compared to
March 5, 2024

droughtmonitor.unl.edu





6-10 Day Temp & Precip Outlooks



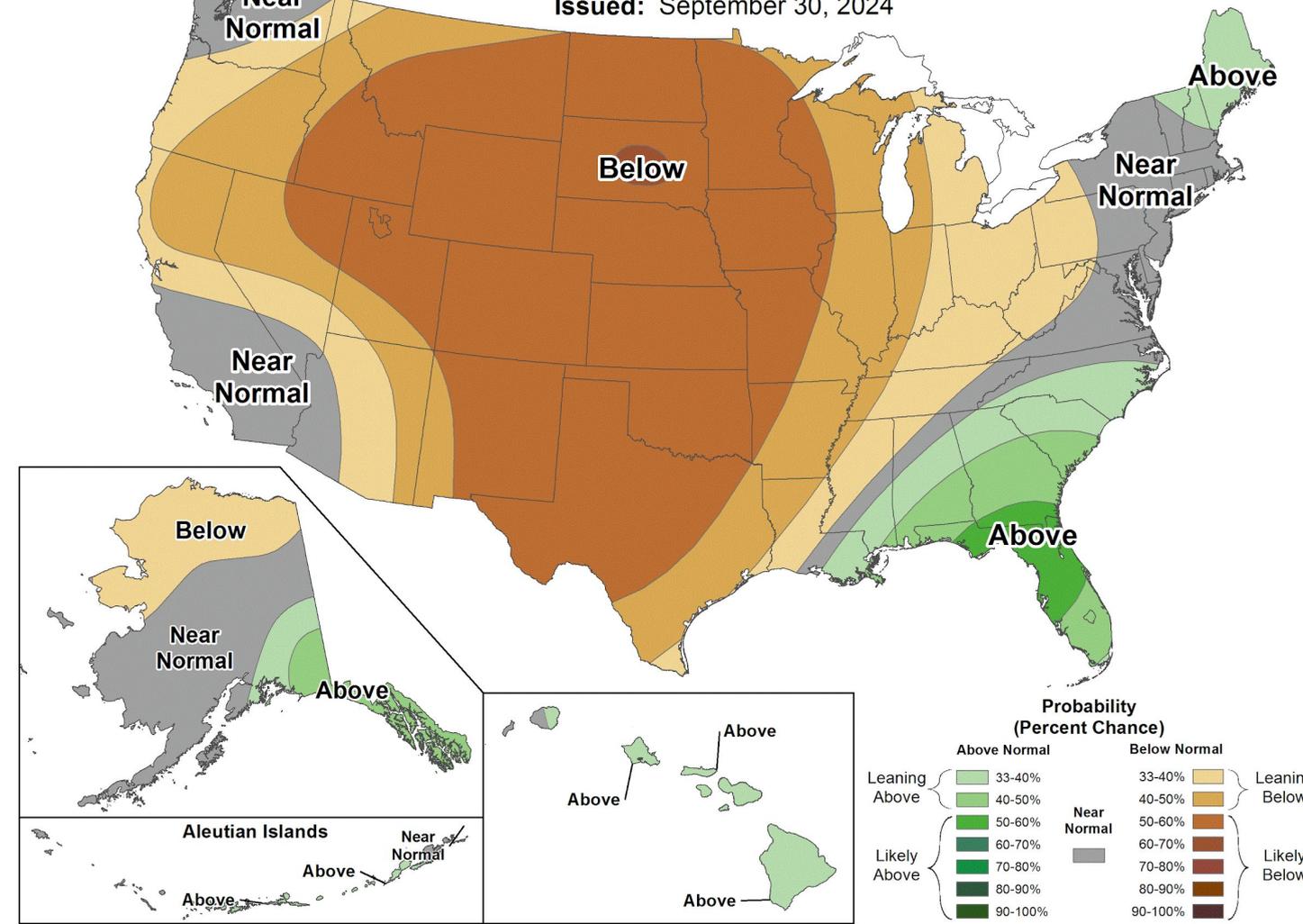
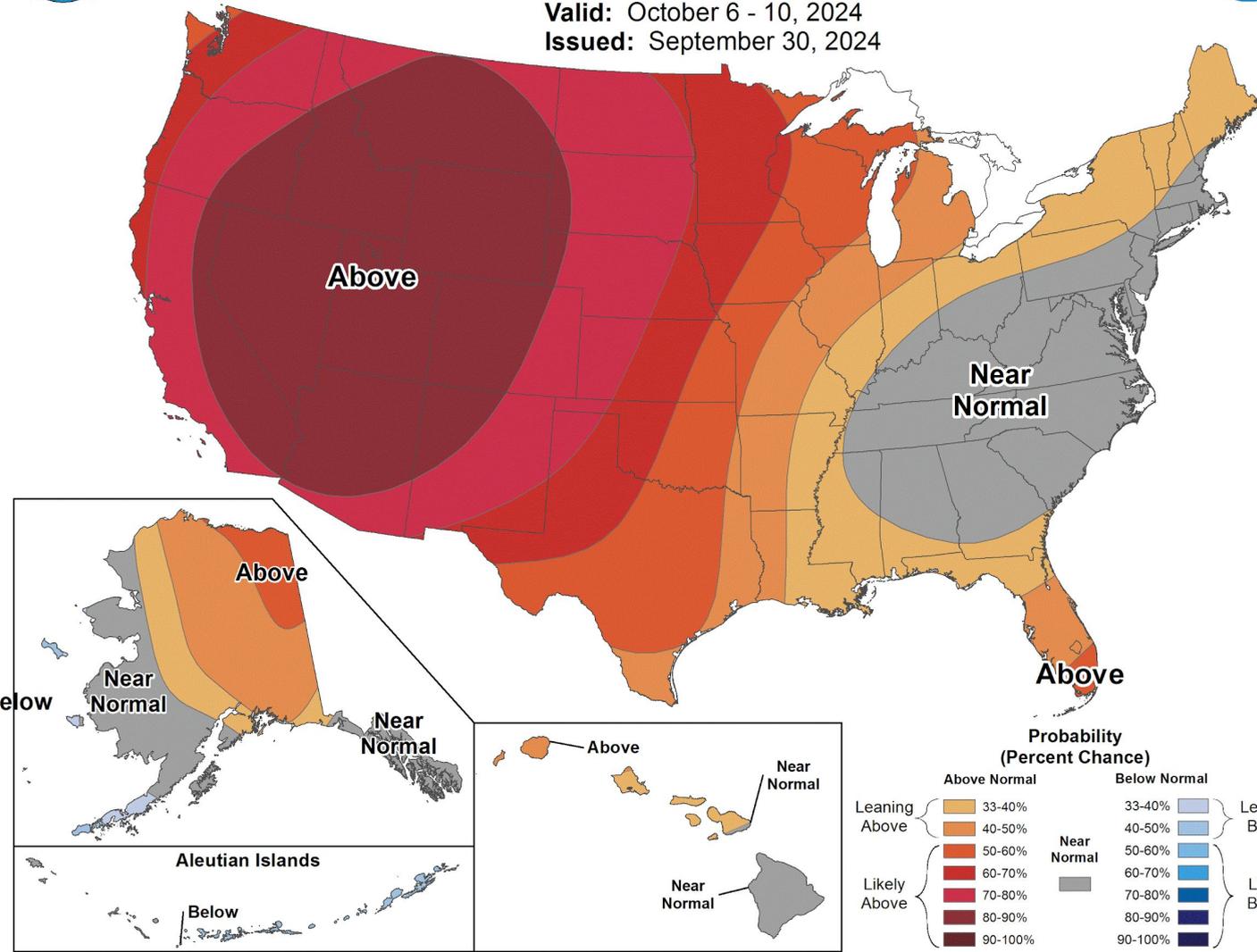
6-10 Day Temperature Outlook

Valid: October 6 - 10, 2024
Issued: September 30, 2024



6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: October 6 - 10, 2024
Issued: September 30, 2024





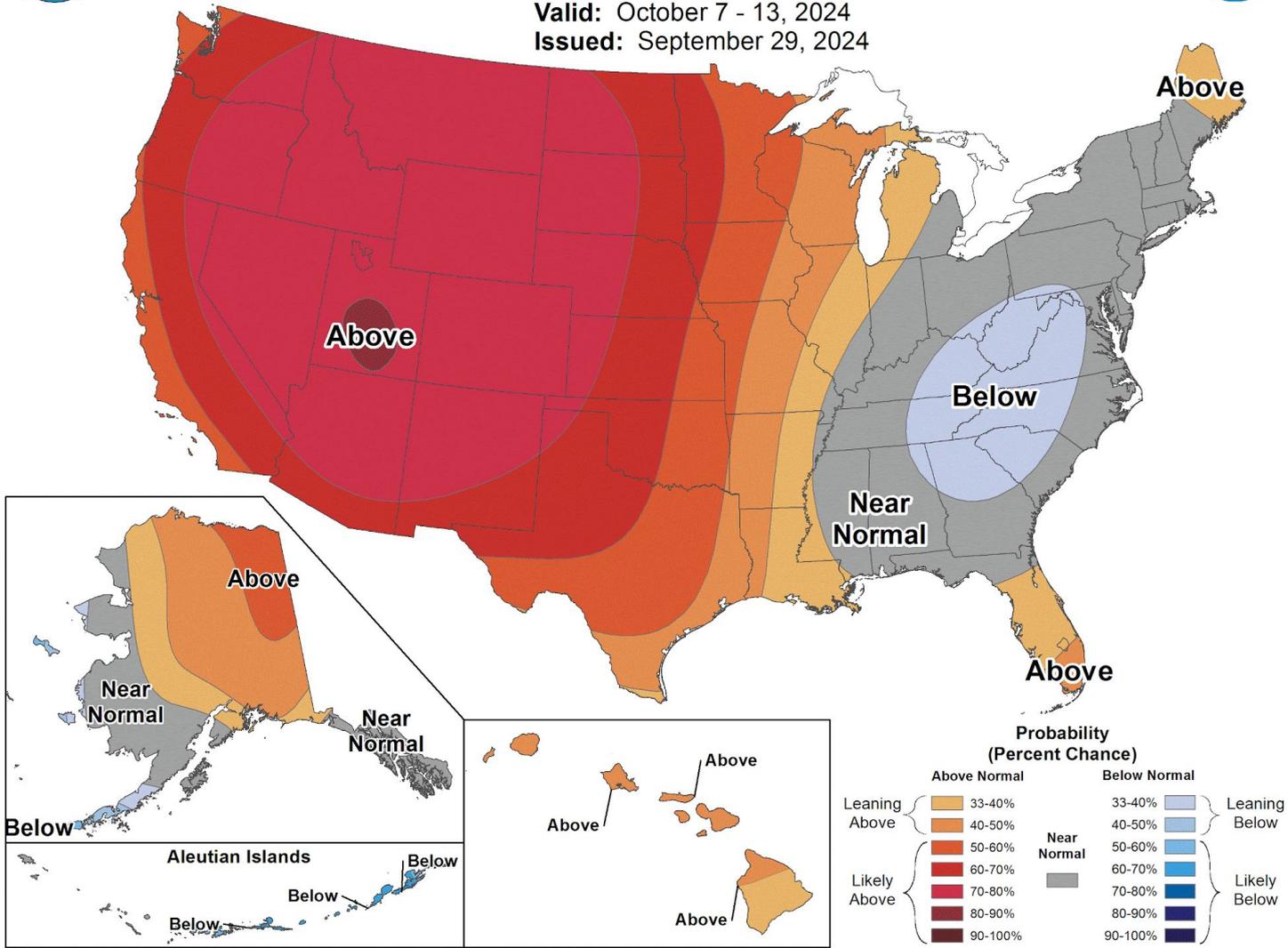
8-14 Day Temp & Precip Outlooks



8-14 Day Temperature Outlook



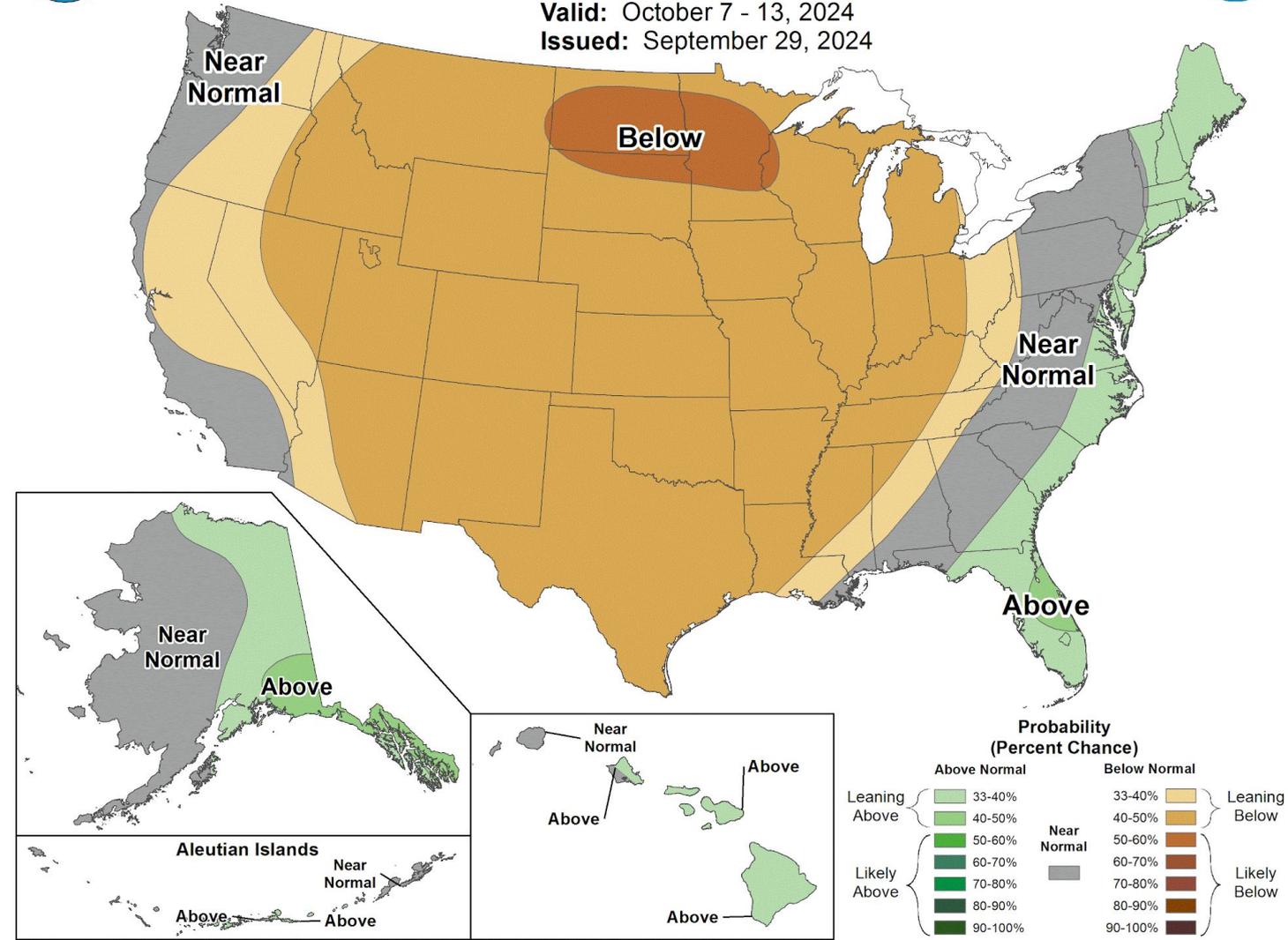
Valid: October 7 - 13, 2024
Issued: September 29, 2024



8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook



Valid: October 7 - 13, 2024
Issued: September 29, 2024





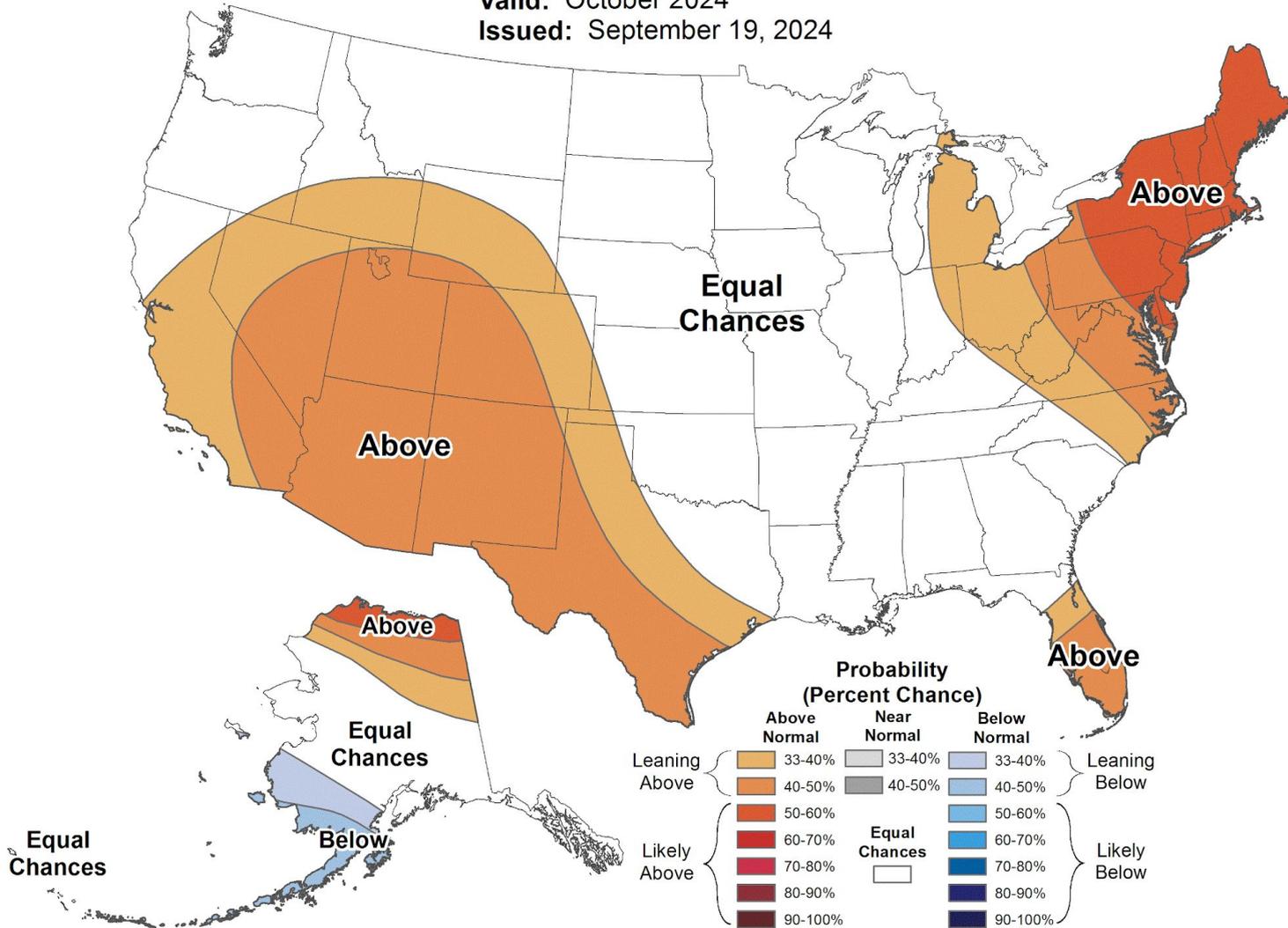
Monthly Temp & Precip Outlooks



Monthly Temperature Outlook



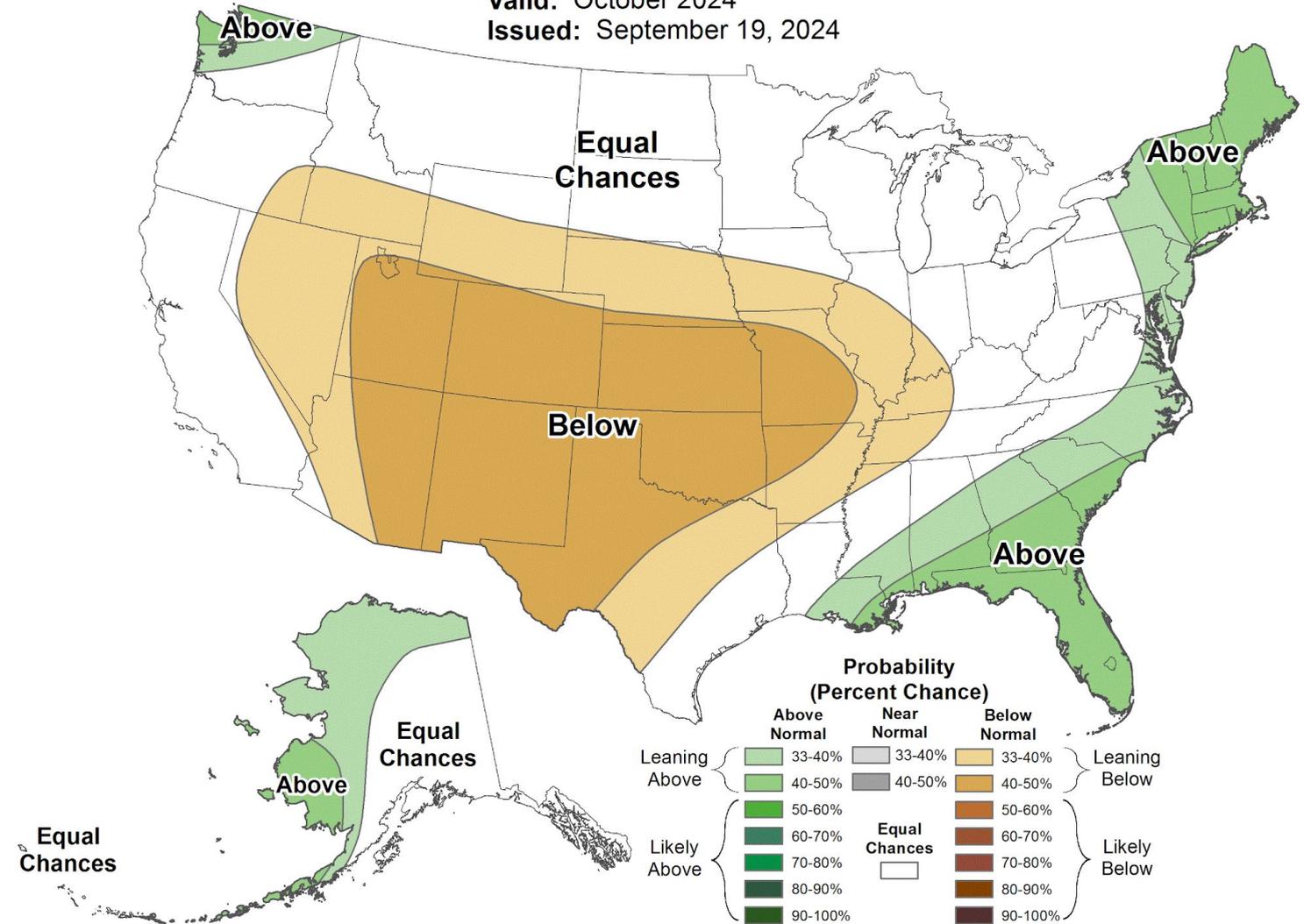
Valid: October 2024
Issued: September 19, 2024



Monthly Precipitation Outlook



Valid: October 2024
Issued: September 19, 2024





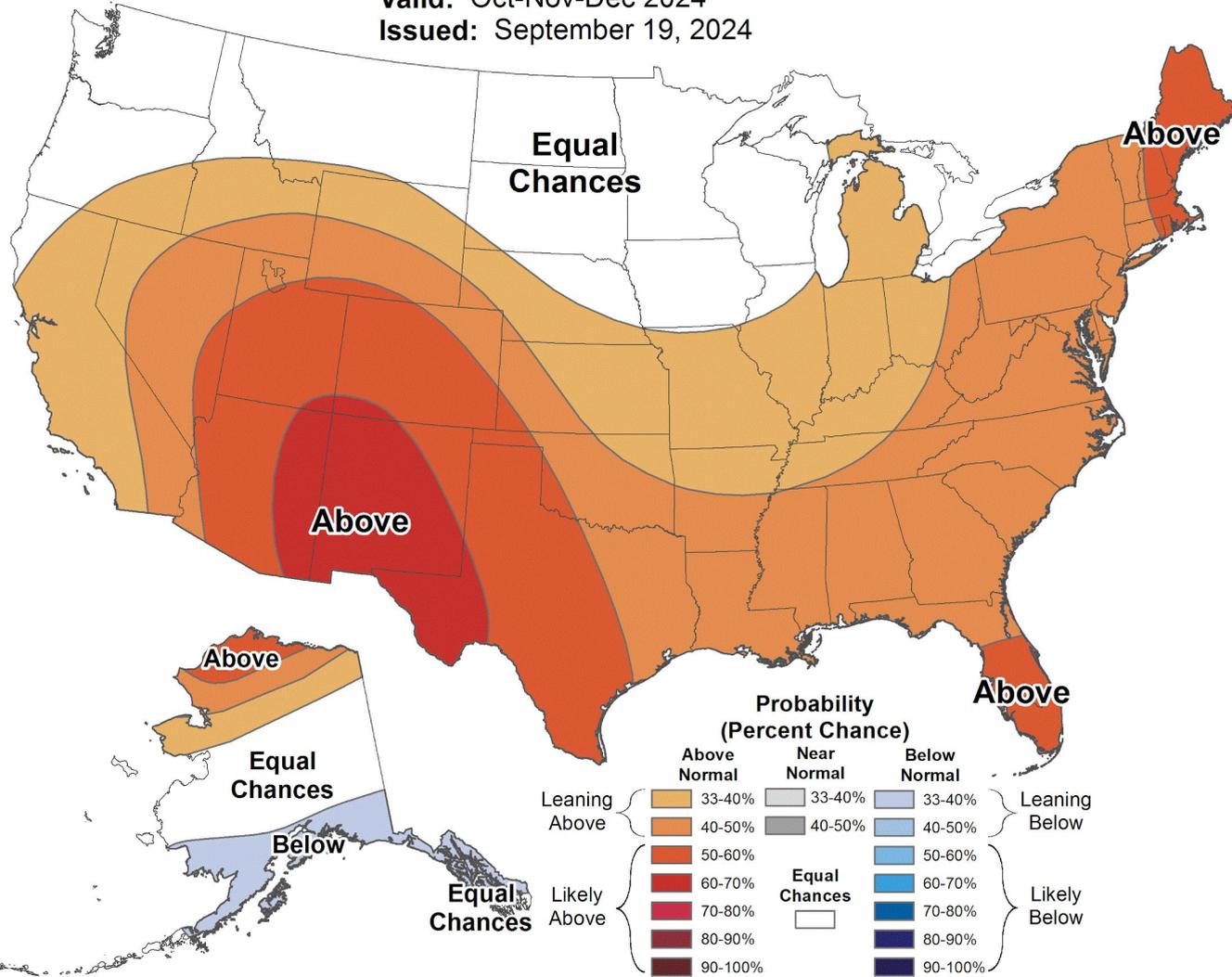
Seasonal Temp & Precip Outlooks



Seasonal Temperature Outlook



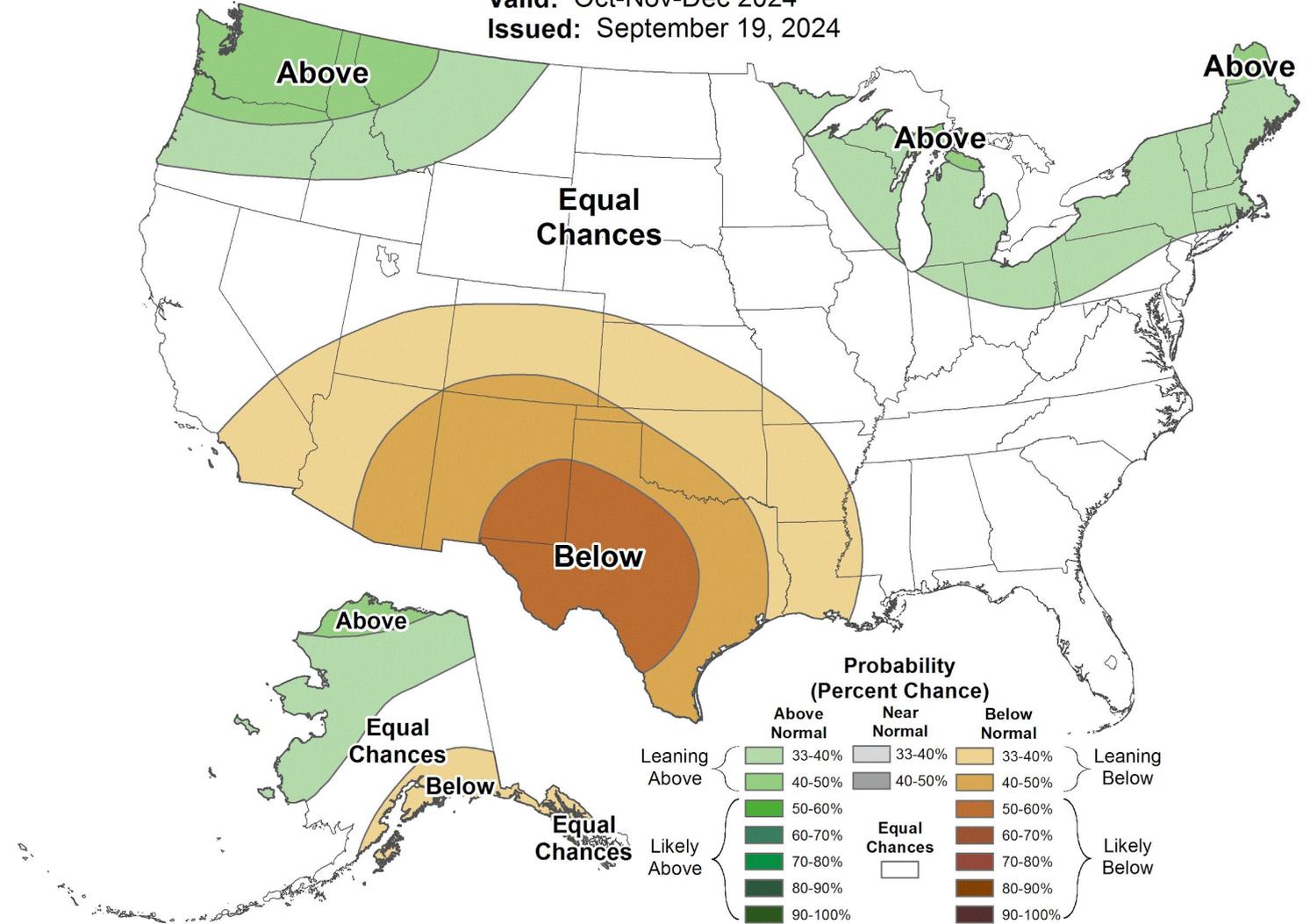
Valid: Oct-Nov-Dec 2024
Issued: September 19, 2024



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Oct-Nov-Dec 2024
Issued: September 19, 2024

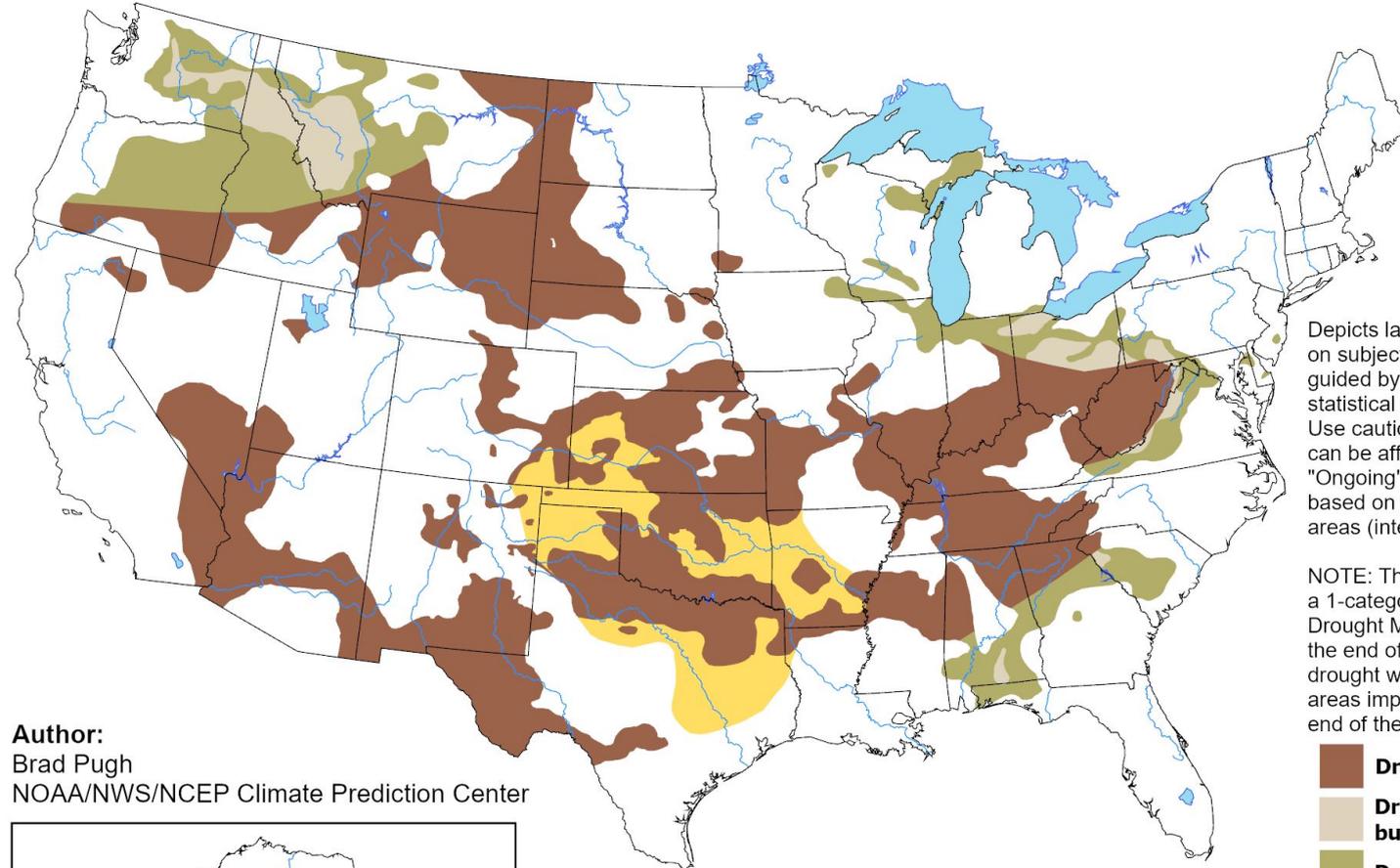




Seasonal Drought Outlook

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

Valid for September 19 - December 31, 2024
Released September 19, 2024

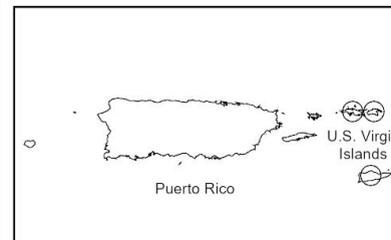
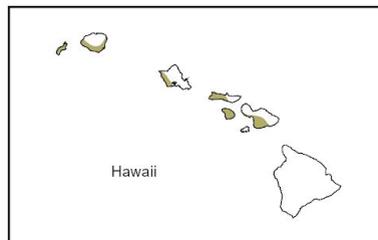


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought

Author:
Brad Pugh
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

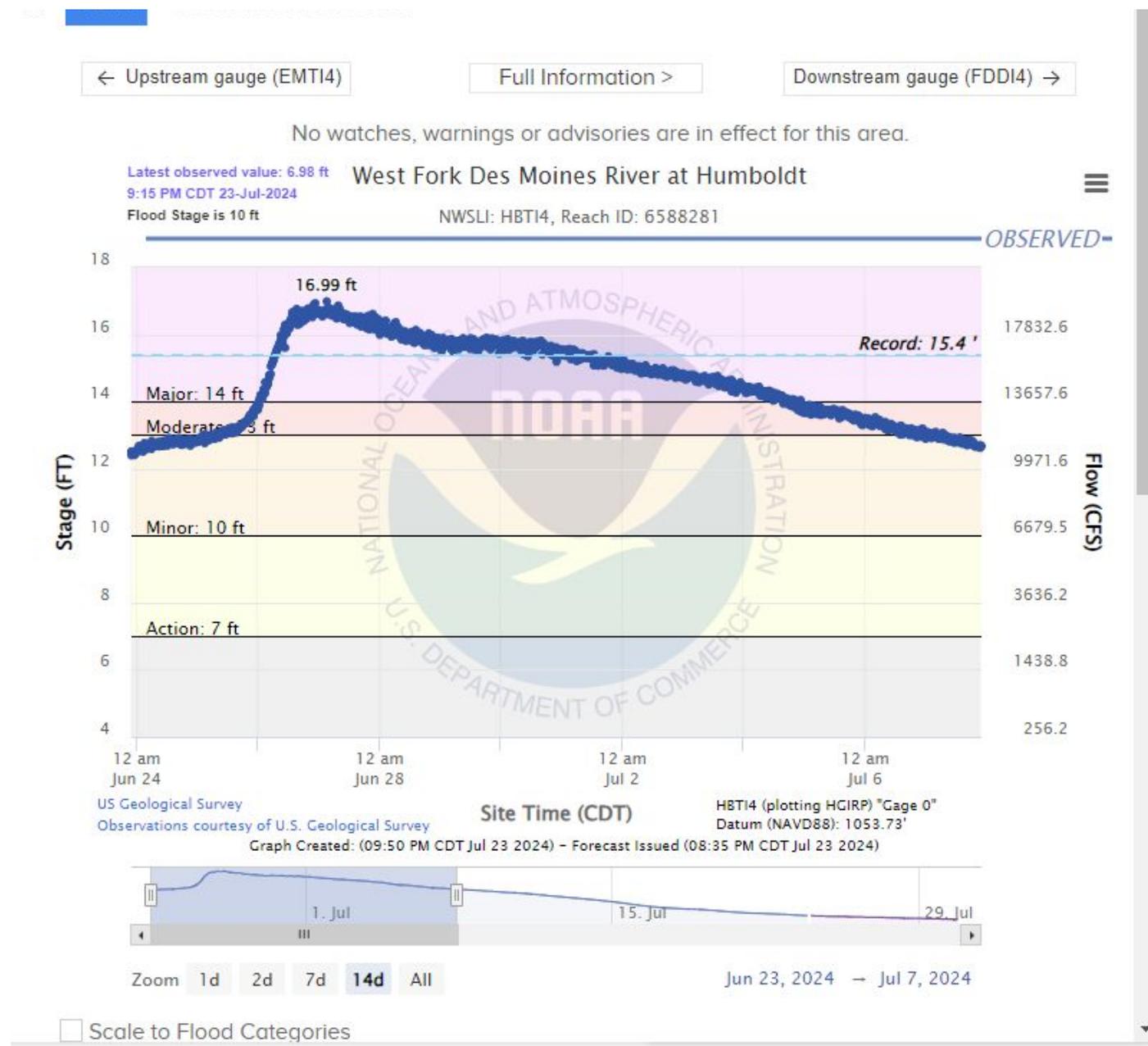
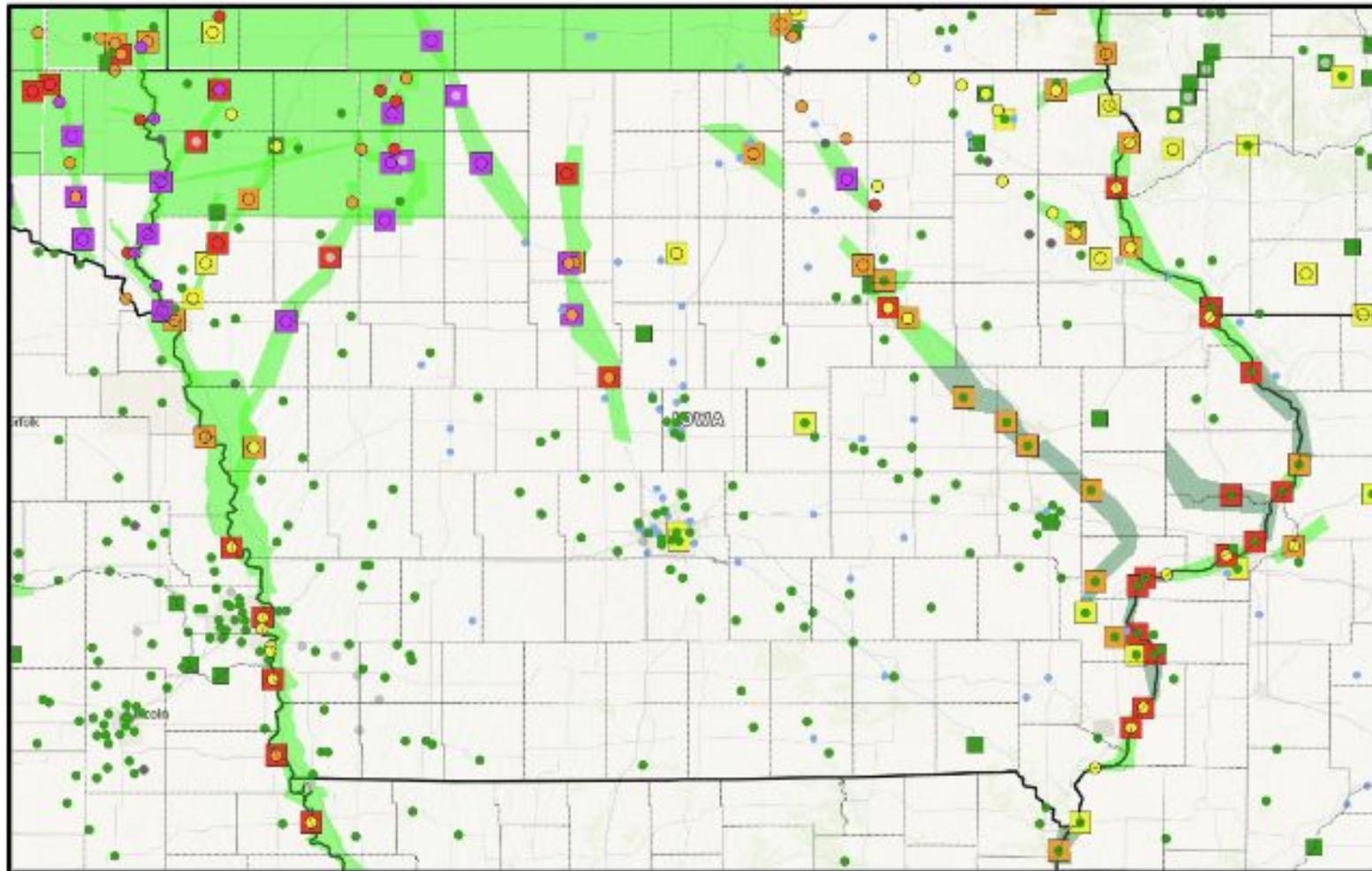
Little to no change in drought conditions expected across the state



Latest Waterway Observations & Forecasts

National Water Prediction Service (NWPS)

- Visit weather.gov/desmoines/water.
- More information at weather.gov/desmoines/nwps info.





For the Most Recent Forecast

- For the most recent information for your area please visit <http://weather.gov/desmoines> and enter your location.

Bookmark this page and/or resultant URL for further updates. This will always be the latest information.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

HOME FORECAST PAST WEATHER SAFETY INFORMATION EDUCATION NEWS SEARCH ABOUT

Go

News Headlines

- Stay Safe This Winter
- Get the NWS on Your Mobile Phone
- Become a Weather-Ready Nation Ambassador

Hazardous Weather Conditions

- Wind Advisory until December 29, 05:00 PM CST
- Hazardous Weather Outlook

Current conditions at
Ames, Ames Municipal Airport (KAMW)
Lat: 41.99°N, Lon: 93.82°W, Elev: 948ft.

Fair and Breezy
34°F
1°C

Humidity 64%
Wind Speed NW 23 G 36 mph
Barometer 30.11 in (1020.3 mb)
Dewpoint 22°F (-5°C)
Visibility 10.00 mi
Wind Chill 22°F (-6°C)
Last update: 29 Dec 9:53 am CST

More information:
[Local Forecast Office](#)
[More Local Wx](#)
[3 Day History](#)
[Mobile Weather](#)
[Hourly Weather Forecast](#)

Extended Forecast for Ames IA

Click here for hazard details and duration

Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	New Year's Day	Sunday Night
Mostly Sunny and Windy	Mostly Clear and Windy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy then Chance Snow
High: 36 °F	Low: 21 °F	High: 35 °F	Low: 26 °F	High: 31 °F	Low: 18 °F	High: 35 °F	Low: 27 °F

Detailed Forecast

Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	New Year's Day	Sunday Night
Mostly sunny, with a high near 36. Windy, with a west northwest wind 23 to 26 mph, with gusts as high as 39 mph.	Mostly clear, with a low around 21. Windy, with a west northwest wind 18 to 23 mph decreasing to 9 to 14 mph after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 32 mph.	Mostly sunny with a high near 35. West wind 8 to 13 mph becoming south in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 24 mph.	Mostly cloudy with a low around 26. South wind around 10 mph becoming west northwest after midnight.	Mostly sunny, with a high near 31. Northwest wind 8 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.	Mostly clear, with a low around 18.	Mostly sunny, with a high near 35.	A 30 percent chance of snow after 1am. Mostly cloudy with a low around 27.

Topographic
Click Map For Forecast



Additional NWS Information



Web: weather.gov/desmoines



Facebook: facebook.com/NWSDesMoines



Twitter/X: [@NWSDesMoines](https://twitter.com/NWSDesMoines)

Latest waterway observations & forecasts: weather.gov/desmoines/water

Past precipitation information/estimates: weather.gov/desmoines/pastprecip

Decision support information: weather.gov/dmx/dsscurren





Thank You



For questions & additional information:

NWS Des Moines, IA

[weather.gov/desmoines](https://www.weather.gov/desmoines)

Phone: 515-270-4501

