

Water Availability Task Force

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention & Control



April 16, 2014
Rocco Snart
Acting Section Chief-
Division of Fire Prevention and Control

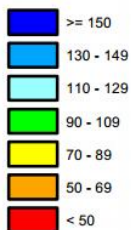
COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



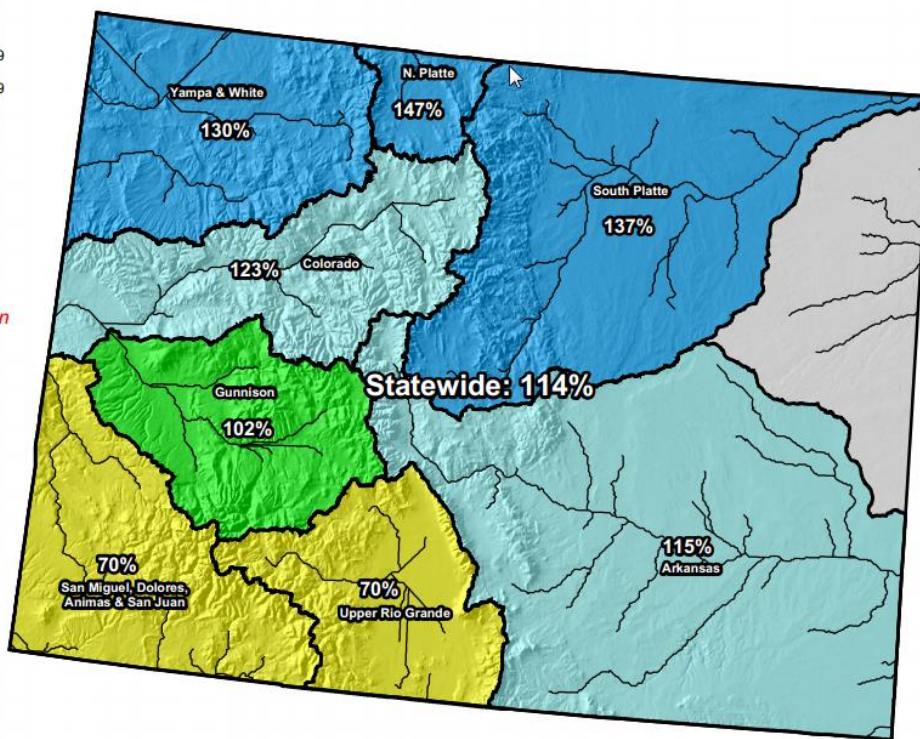
Current Snowpack

Colorado SNOTEL Snowpack Update Map

Percent of Median



*Provisional Data
Subject to Revision*



Current as of 04/15/2014

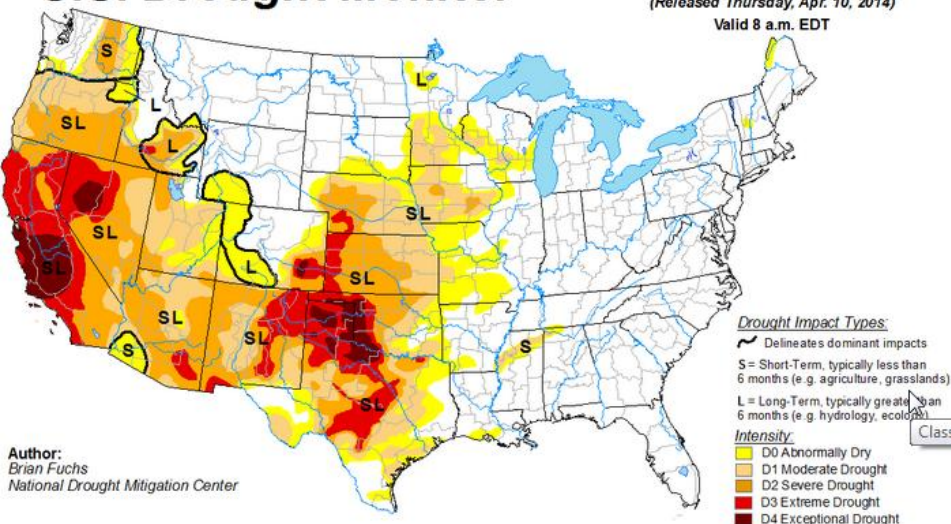
*Data may not provide a valid measure of conditions



Drought Outlooks

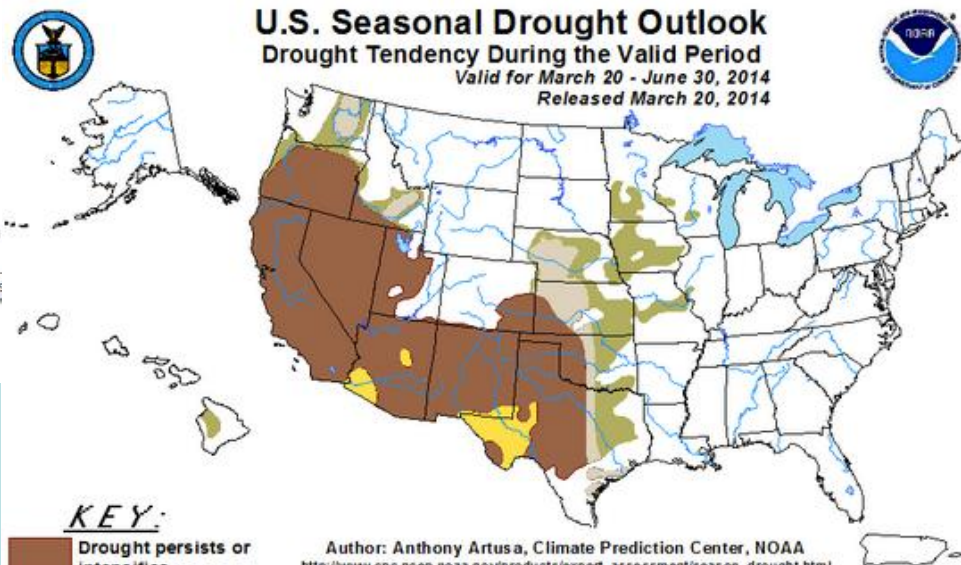
U.S. Drought Monitor

April 8, 2014
(Released Thursday, Apr. 10, 2014)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Author:
Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period Valid for March 20 - June 30, 2014 Released March 20, 2014

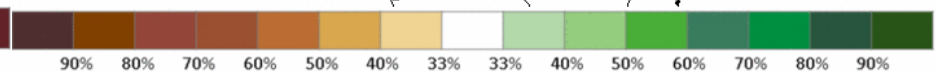
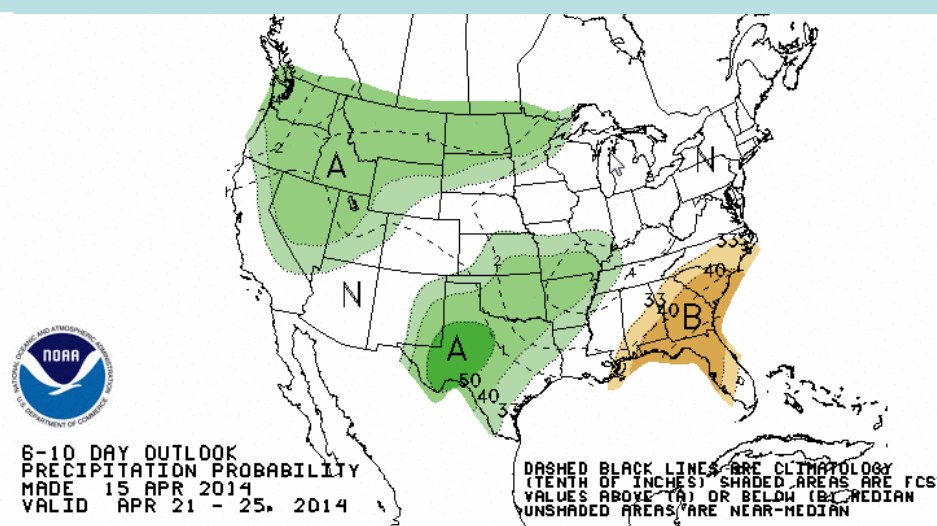
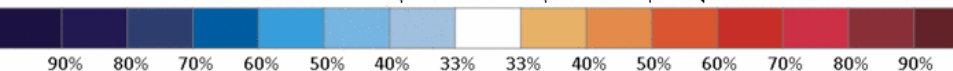
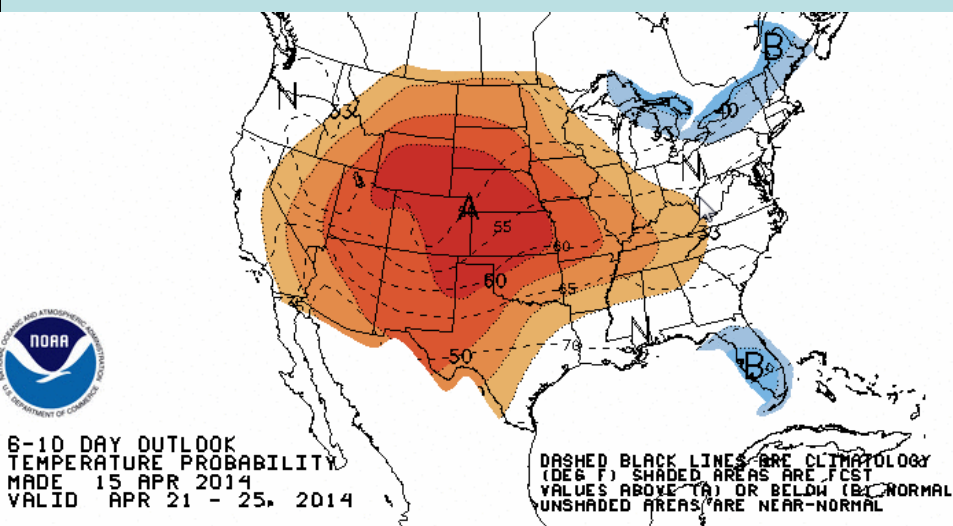


Author: Anthony Artusa, Climate Prediction Center, NOAA
http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/season_drought.html

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity).
 For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor.
 NOTE: The tan area 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)

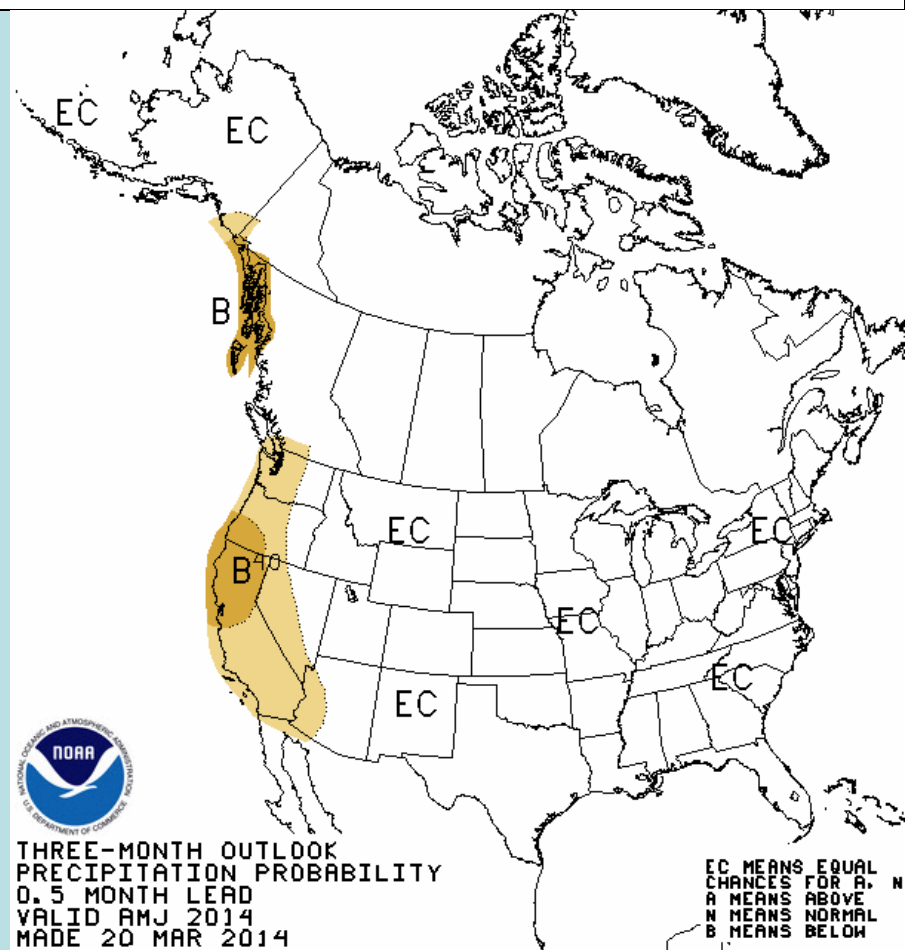
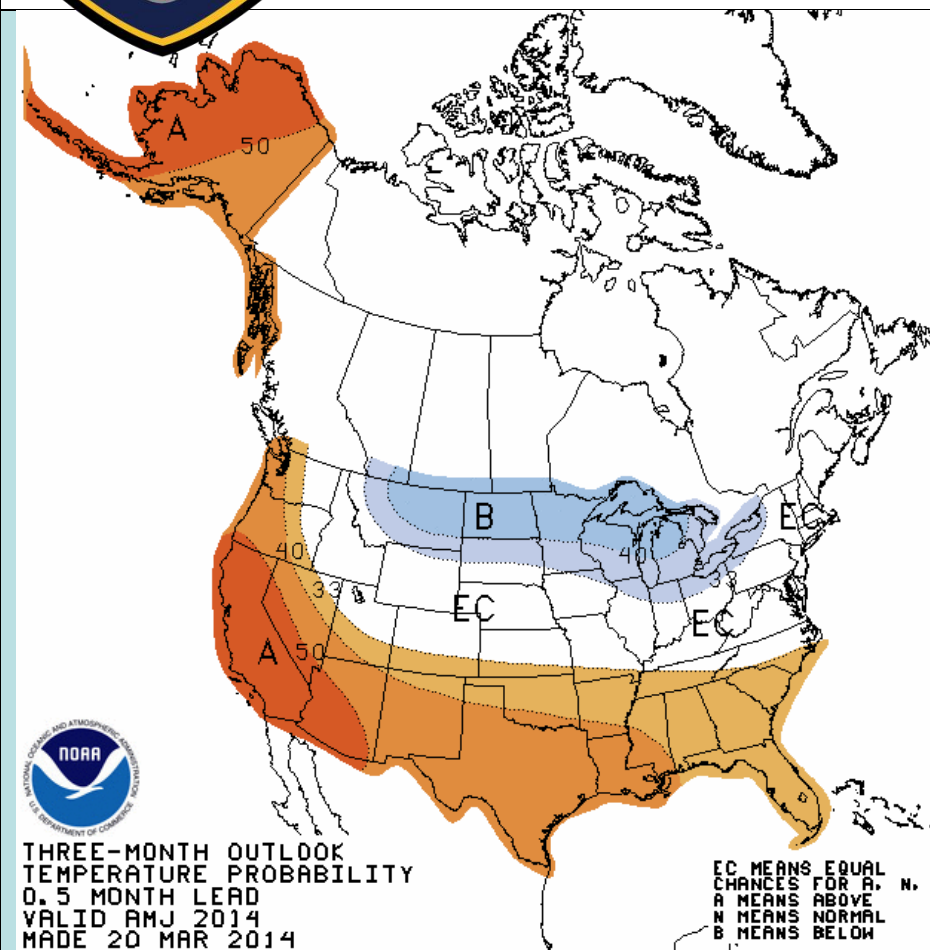


Temp and Precip Outlooks



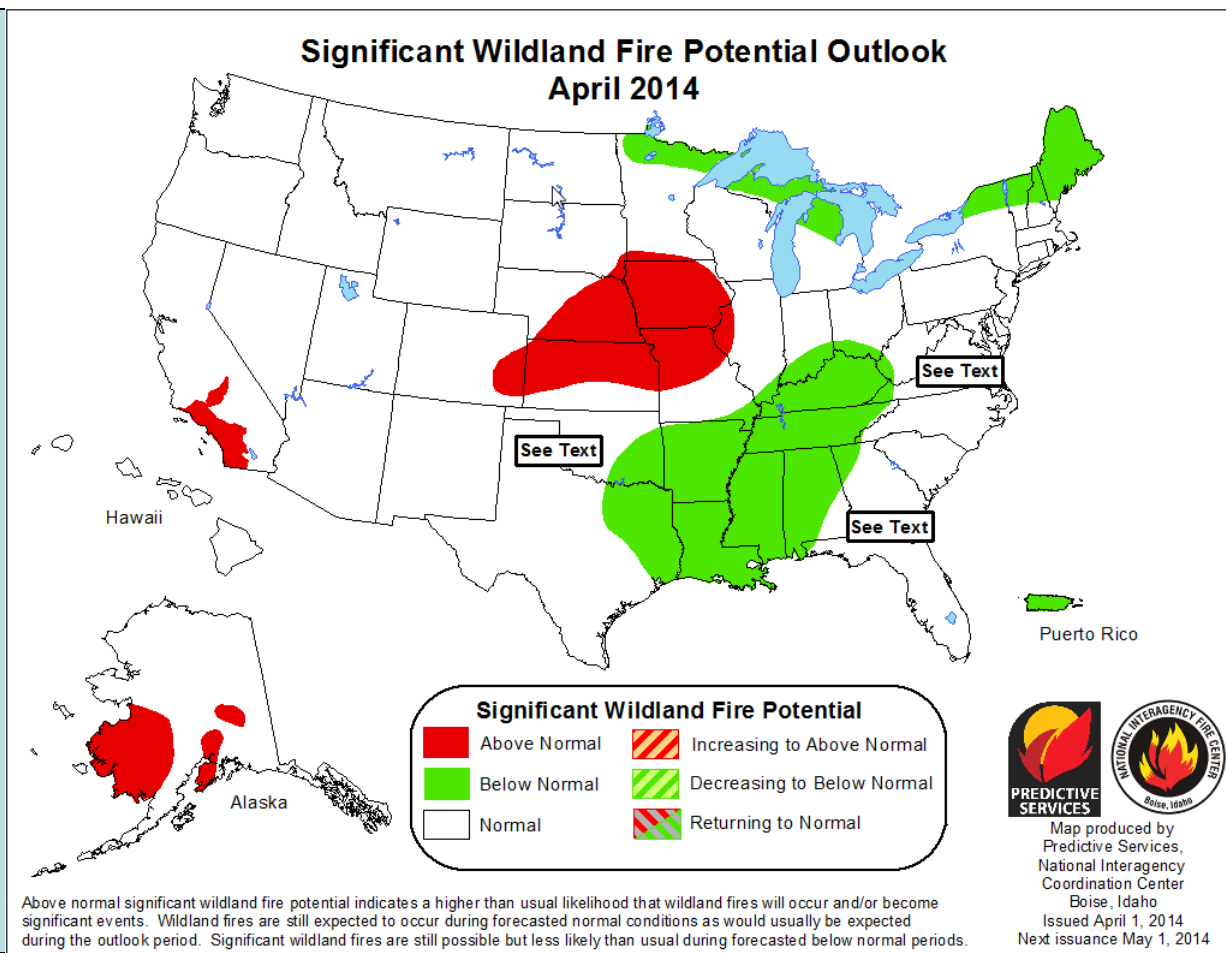


Temp and Precip Outlooks



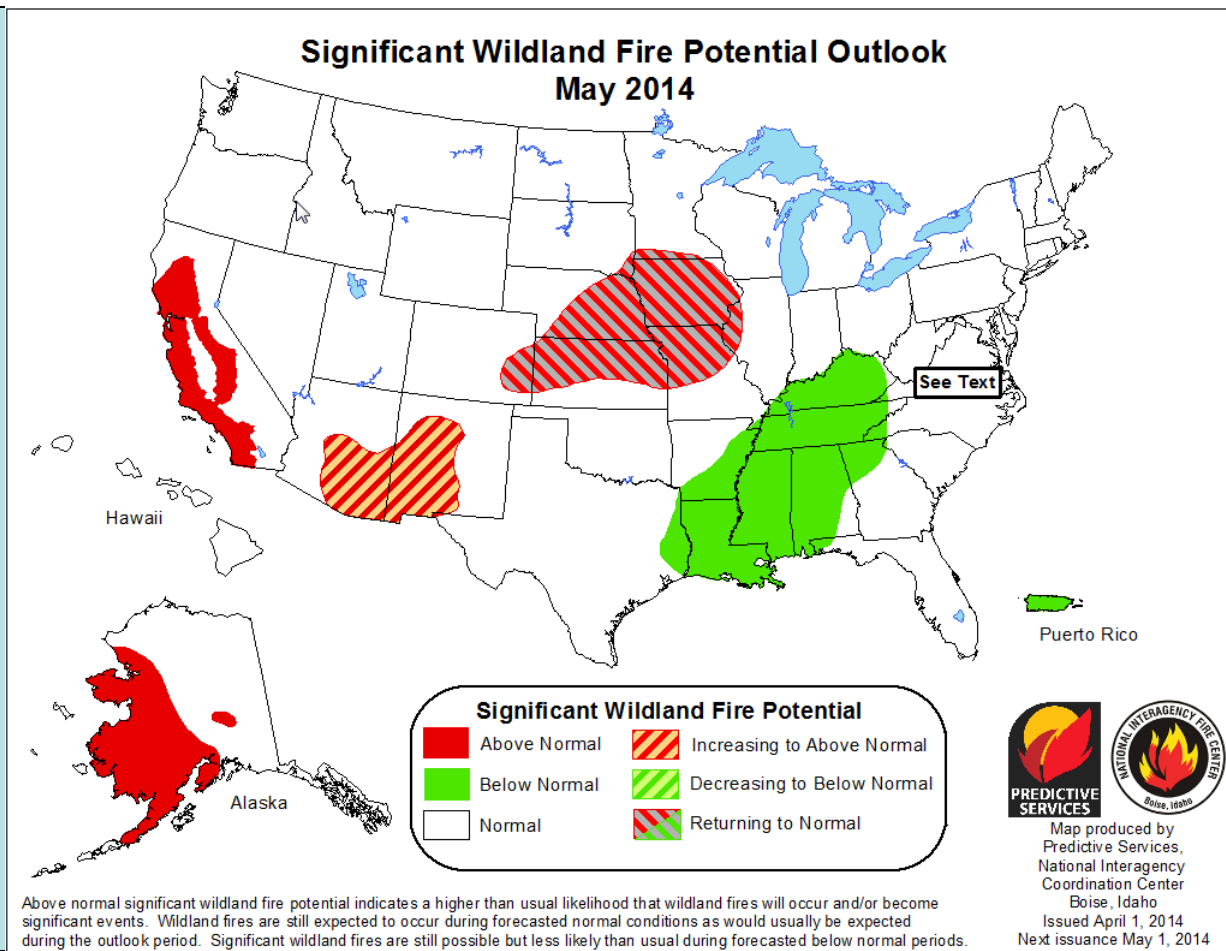


Fire Potential Outlooks



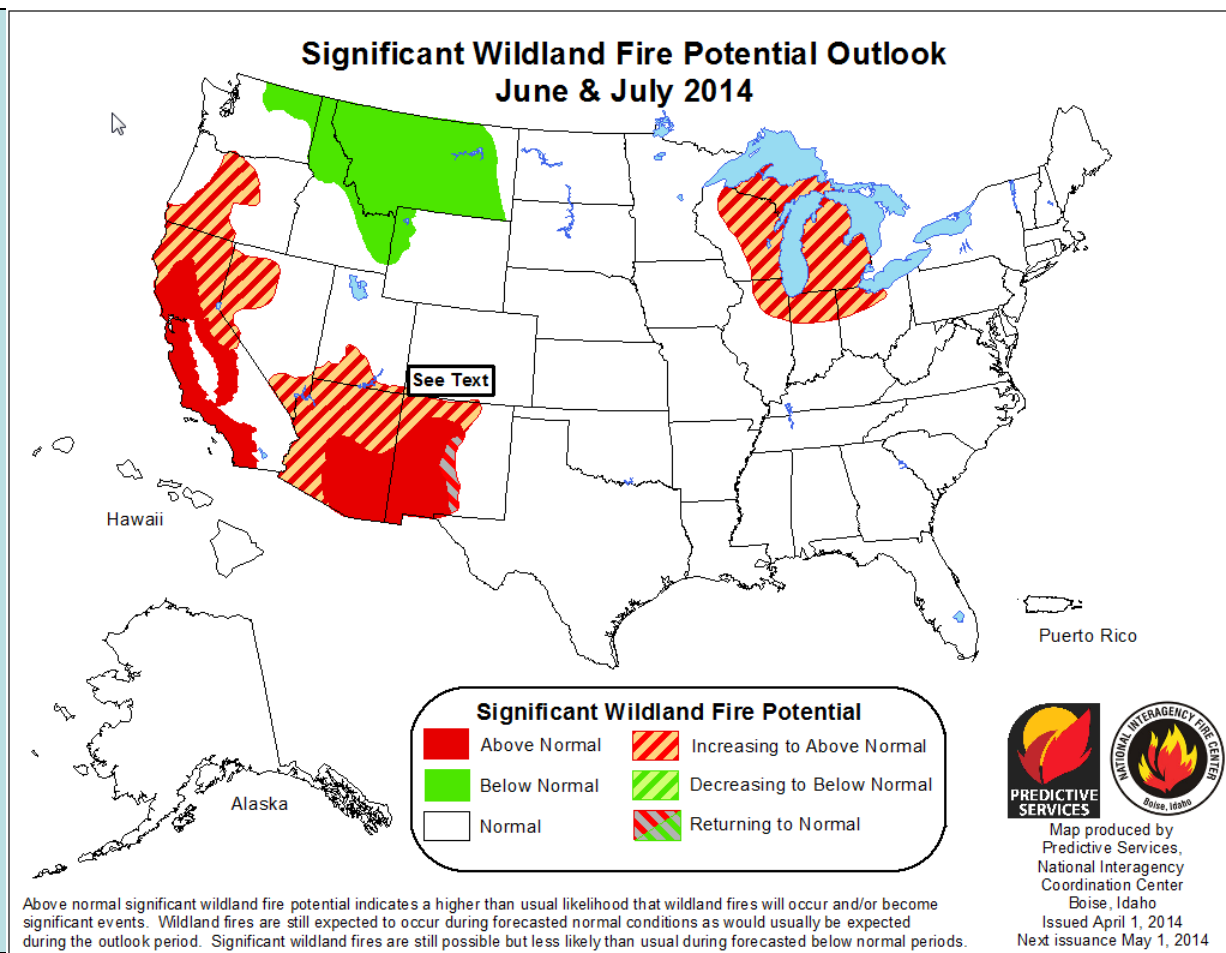


Fire Potential Outlooks





Fire Potential Outlooks





Outlooks

Rocky Mountain: Above normal significant wildland fire potential is expected for April from eastern Colorado through portions of Kansas and Nebraska, with a return to normal expected in May. Above normal significant wildland fire potential conditions could develop for June and July across southwestern Colorado if warm and dry conditions persist.

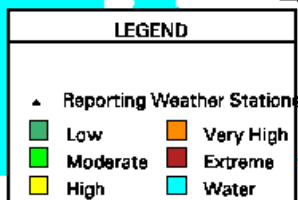
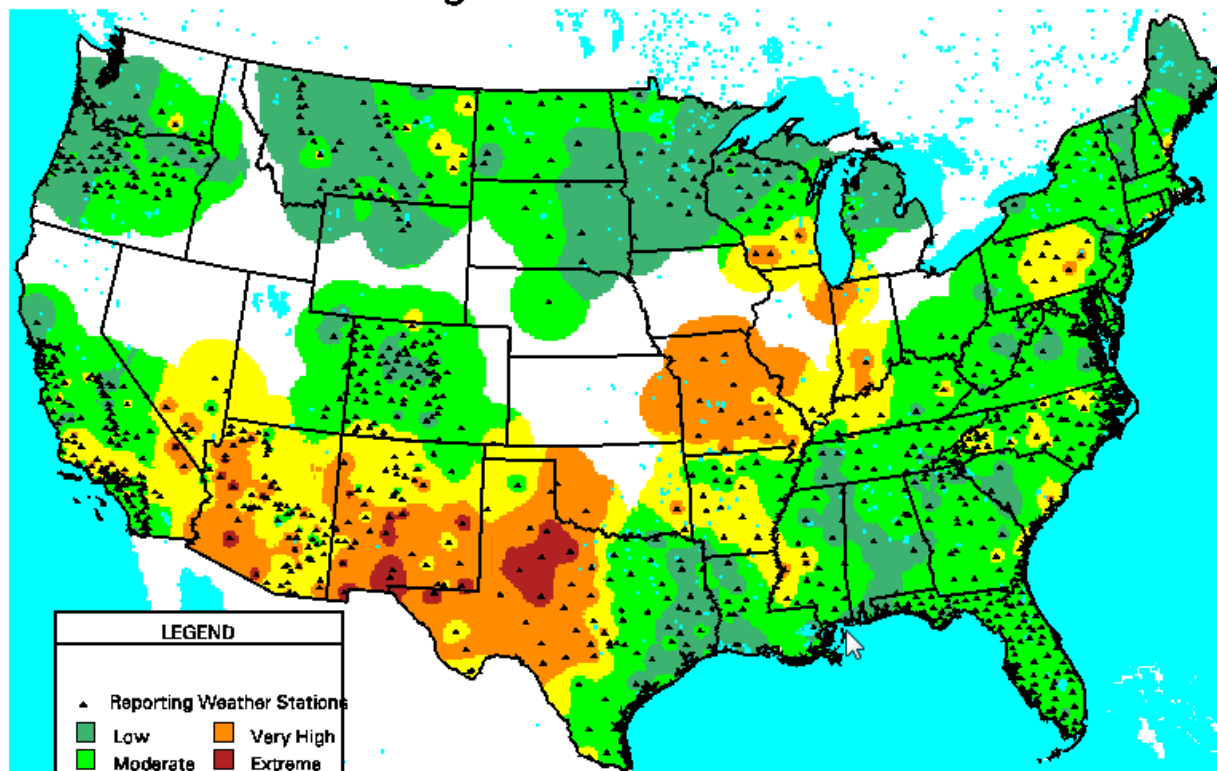
Long term severe to extreme drought is evident across a large portion of the Rocky Mountain Area, especially from southeastern Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska. The lower elevations of Colorado are also lacking moisture. Over the higher elevations snowpack is above average in most major drainages, with slightly below average measurements over far southern Colorado.

A more active weather pattern is shaping up for April and May across the Rocky Mountain Area. Warm, dry and windy conditions are a concern ahead of troughs across the Plains prior to green-up, especially where moisture deficits are significant.



Fire Danger Rating

Forecast Fire Danger Class: 16-APR-14



{Inv. Dist.² Interp.}

WFAS-MAPS Graphics FIRE BEHAVIOR RESEARCH MISSOULA, MT



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Questions?



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