



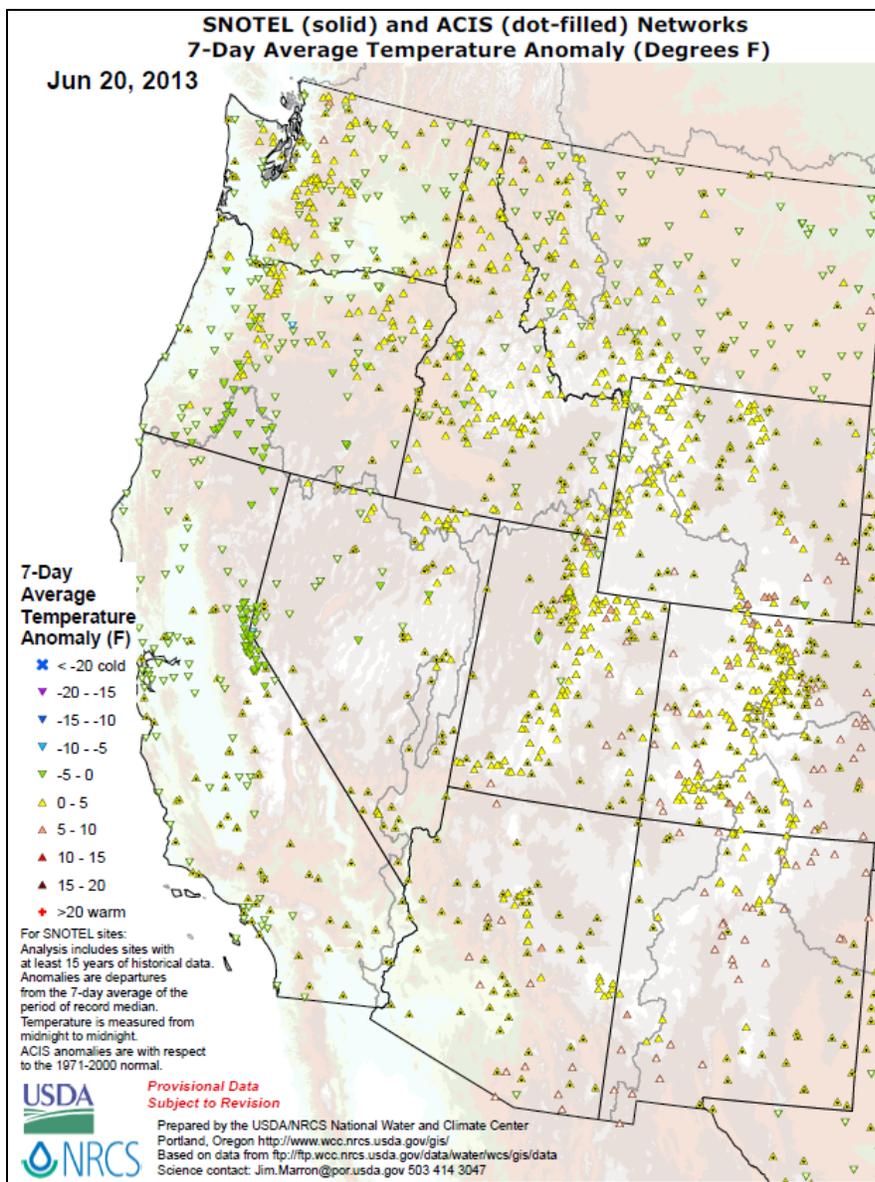
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
P.O. Box 2890  
Washington, D.C. 20013

## Weekly Snowpack / Drought Monitor Update

20 June 2013

Most figures are clickable to enlarge and update

### Temperature



SNOTEL and ACIS 7-day temperature anomaly ending this morning reveals temperatures were within  $\pm 5^{\circ}\text{F}$  of the long-term average for this time of year across the West.

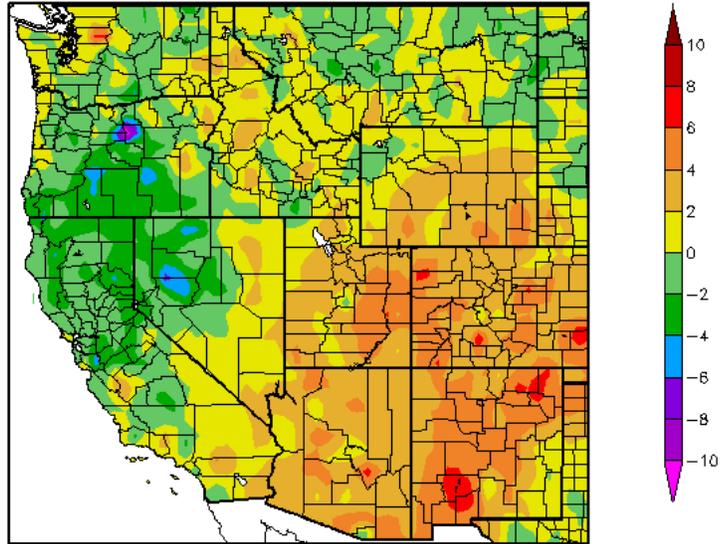
## Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

[ACIS 7-day](#) average temperature anomalies, ending yesterday, show the greatest positive temperature departures scattered across New Mexico and Colorado (>+6°F). The greatest negative departures occur over parts of the northern Great Basin and central Oregon (<-4°F).

*This map currently does not use SNOTEL data, but is expected to later this summer.*

For more figures, see the Western Water Assessment's Intermountain West Climate [Dashboard](#). See the [Westwide Drought Tracker](#) for more maps.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
6/13/2013 – 6/19/2013



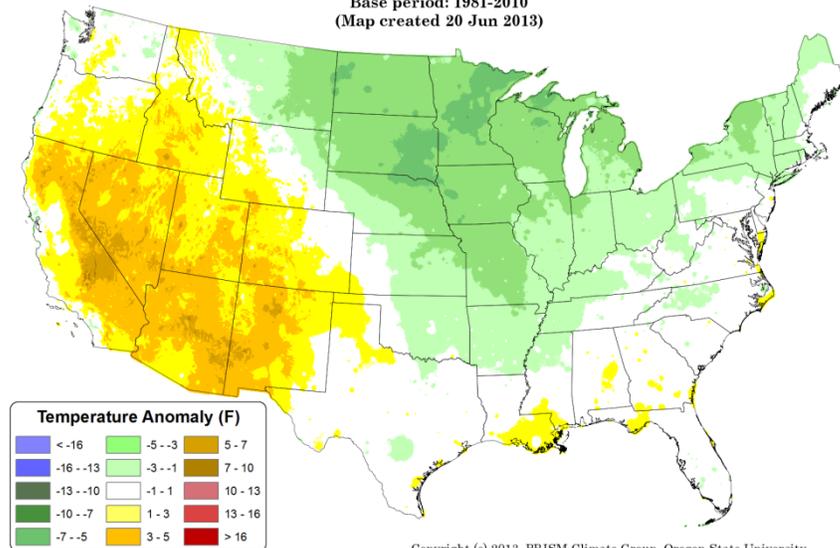
Generated 6/20/2013 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

This preliminary [PRISM](#) temperature map, updated daily, will be readily available to the public by early fall.

The map contains all available network data, including SNOTEL data, and will be updated periodically as additional data become available and are quality controlled.

Daily Mean Temperature Anomaly: 01 June 2013 - 19 June 2013  
Period ending 7 AM EST 19 Jun 2013  
Base period: 1981-2010  
(Map created 20 Jun 2013)



Copyright (c) 2013, PRISM Climate Group, Oregon State University

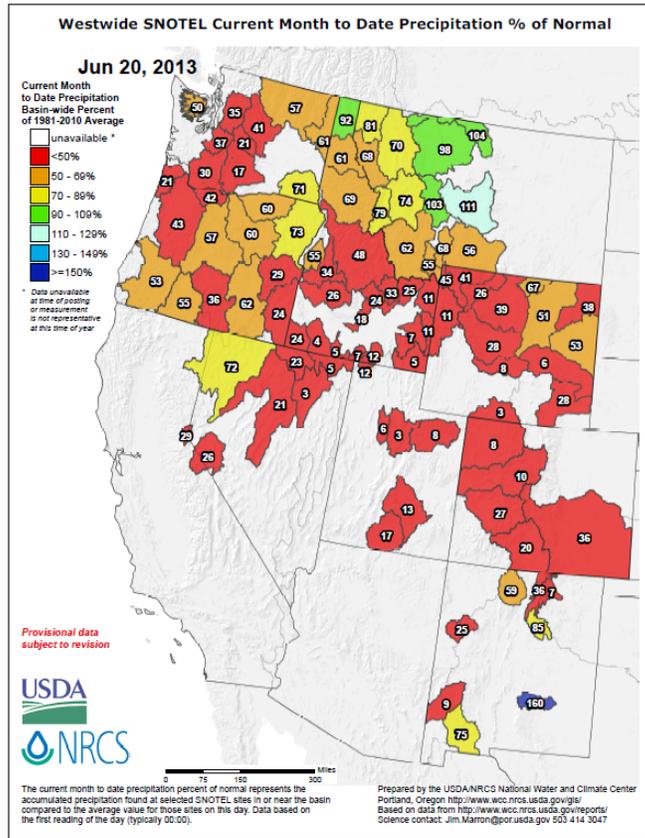
In this current map, June is trending with warmer than normal temperatures across California and the Interior West and cooler than normal temperatures east of the Continental Divide. Much of the East Coast (excluding New England) and the Southeast are experiencing near normal conditions.

# Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

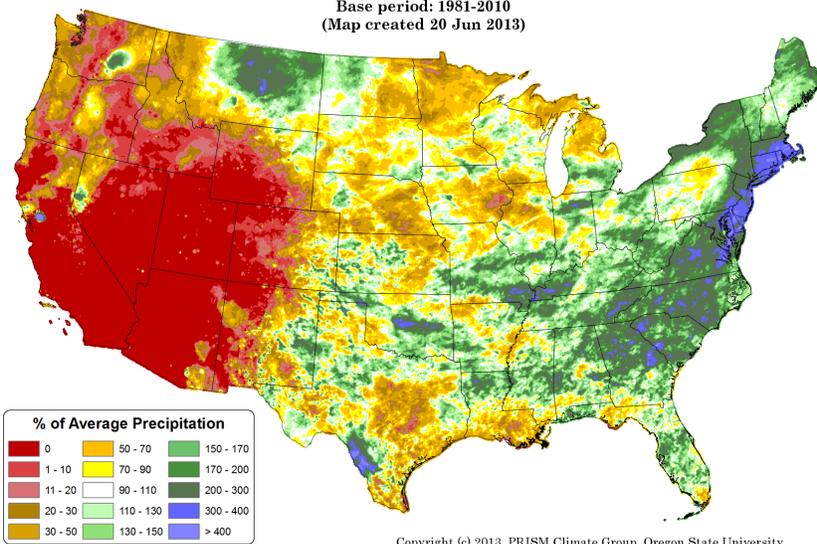
## Precipitation

SNOTEL [month to date](#) precipitation percent of normal pattern shows drier conditions over much of the West.

With the exception of near normal or above normal values over the Sierra Nevada near Lake Tahoe, central Montana and isolated basins over north-central and southwest New Mexico, the West has been exceptionally dry.



**Total Precipitation Anomaly: 01 June 2013 - 19 June 2013**  
 Period ending 7 AM EST 19 Jun 2013  
 Base period: 1981-2010  
 (Map created 20 Jun 2013)



This preliminary [PRISM](#) precipitation map, updated daily, will be available to the public by early fall. It contains all available network data, including SNOTEL data, and will be updated periodically as additional data become available and are quality controlled.

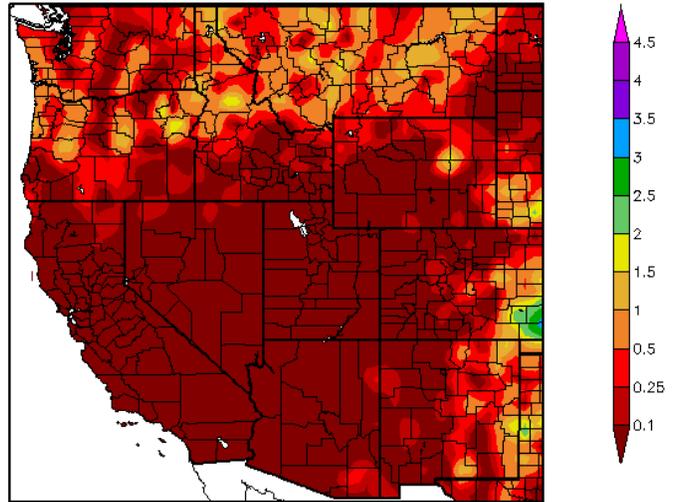
In the West, June's precipitation pattern has been one that has favored much of Montana and the eastern third of the country with surplus moisture. The northern High Plains and parts of Texas have been drier.

## Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

[ACIS](#) 7-day average precipitation amounts for the period ending June 19 shows precipitation across the upper Missouri River in Montana and over northern Oregon. Elsewhere, rainfall was negligible except over the high plains of Colorado and New Mexico.

*This map currently does not use SNOTEL data, but is expected to later this summer.*

Precipitation (in)  
6/13/2013 - 6/19/2013



Generated 6/20/2013 at HPRCC using provisional data.

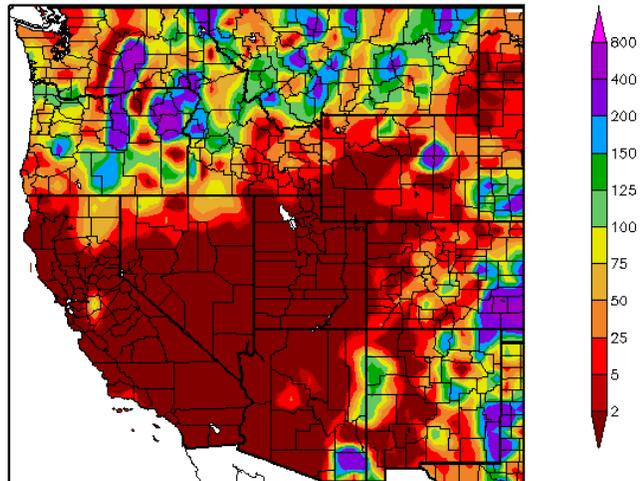
Regional Climate Centers

In this [map](#), high amounts of precipitation are reflected in terms of very high percent of normal values over most areas that received any rain. This is particularly true over higher terrain where thunderstorm development is enhanced this time of year.

Note large tracks of land with little, if any, precipitation across the southern half of the West.

*This map currently does not use SNOTEL data, but is expected to later this summer.*

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
6/13/2013 - 6/19/2013



Generated 6/20/2013 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers

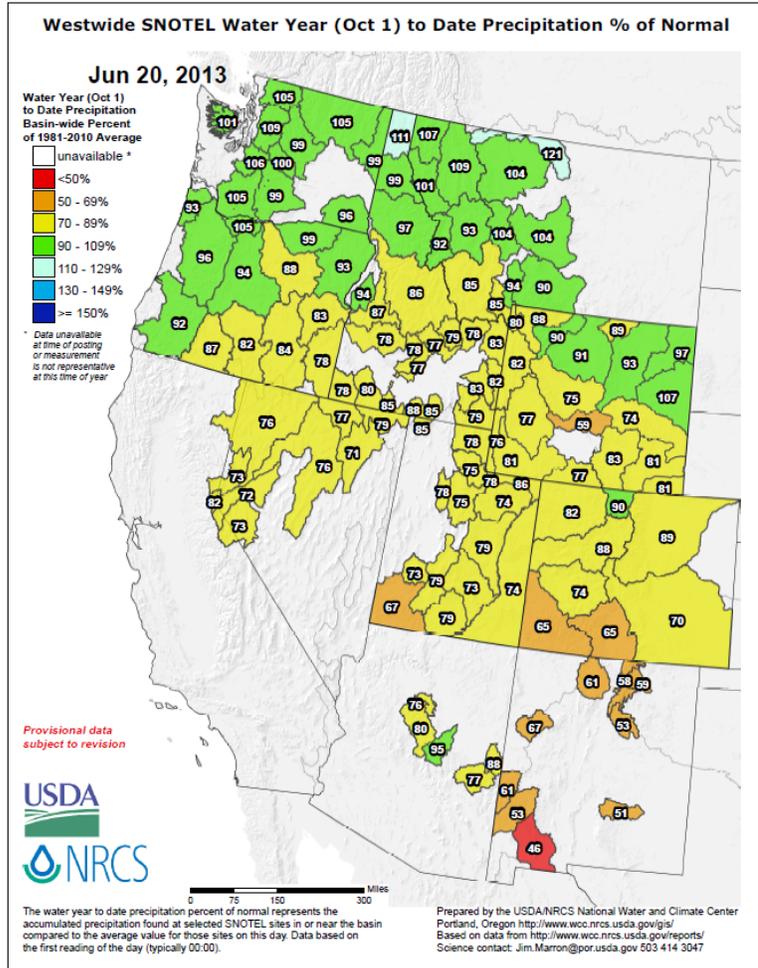
# Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

For the [2013 Water Year](#) that began on 1 October 2012, the pattern continues to resemble La Niña (i.e., wetter northern tier).

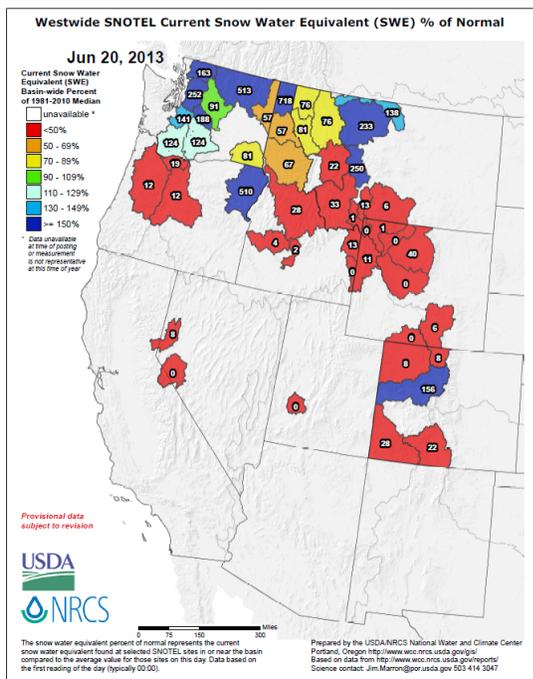
Southeastern Oregon, southern Idaho, and northern Nevada have bucked this tendency over the northern tier states with less precipitation. Southwestern Utah and Colorado along with all of New Mexico are experiencing considerable deficits.

In New Mexico, the past [two years](#) are the driest on record (i.e., since 1895).

For additional information, daily reports by SNOTEL sites are available [here](#).



## Snow



[Snow-Water Equivalent](#) (SWE): Today's map shows high values\* holding on in parts of Washington and the northern Rockies.

A useful basin-by-basin assessment of SWE to date can be viewed by state [here](#) and [here](#).

\* Exercise caution when using SWE values this late into the season. Actual small values of snow can mislead statistics when there is usually no measurable snow cover.

## Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

### WEATHER AND DROUGHT SUMMARY

The following **Weather and Drought Summary** is provided by this week's NDMC Author: [Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center](#).

**The West:** "Changes are noted for many areas on this week's map, starting with Colorado and Wyoming, where D0 has been degraded to D1 across north central Colorado and extreme southeastern Wyoming. Other changes in Colorado include an advance of D2 and D3 in the eastern half of the state, coupled with an expansion of D2 and D3 in south central and southwestern counties that extends into southeastern Utah.

After an underwhelming winter overall, temperatures have really increased across the Four Corners region, escalating fire and range condition concerns as we move into summer. This region is quickly becoming home to the new epicenter of the 2013 drought. D3 has also pushed into more of northwest New Mexico, putting virtually all of the state in extreme (D3) or exceptional (D4) drought, the two worst drought severity classifications. Little change is expected in this severity level across the state until we see what benefits the monsoon season may bring them later this month or early in July. These same concerns are being felt farther west as well with D2 expanding in southwestern Idaho. Eastern Nevada sees an introduction of a much larger area of D2/D3 this week as summer heat and dryness settle in and strengthen their influence on the drought in the Intermountain West after a disappointing winter.

A push of D0 is depicted this week across more of western and northern Oregon and into western Washington State as well. Year-to-date dryness and low streamflows are indicative of conditions across more and more of the Pacific Northwest. A slight expansion of D0/D1 also comes to the Idaho Panhandle given low streamflow levels and lack of rains during the past few weeks coupled with well below normal precipitation on the year (50-70% of normal). Severe drought (D2) has also expanded to cover a larger portion of southeastern Oregon into the Klamath region, along with a push westward of D1 in southern Oregon over to the coast.

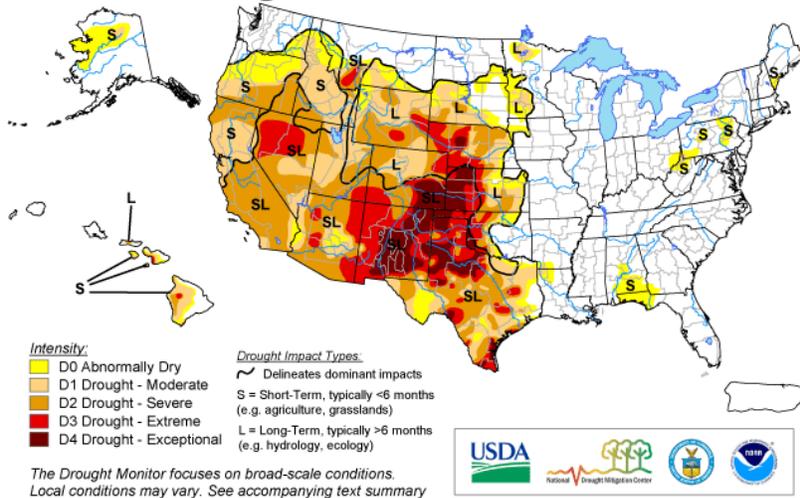
California also saw an increase in D2 this week across the northern tier of the state. Extremely low streamflow levels and record, or near-record, dryness on the year have elevated short- and long-term concerns with regard to soil moisture, fire potential and distressed native ecosystems not privy to irrigation. Statewide water supply conditions are in pretty good shape for most of California, which should provide a sufficient buffer for irrigators and municipalities this year, but as those supplies are drawn down, there will be little to fill in behind because of the disappointing winter and woeful year-to-date precipitation. The exception to this is the San Joaquin Valley, where irrigation allocations to farmers will be cut significantly."

*A comprehensive narrative describing drought conditions for the nation can be found toward the end of this document. For drought impacts definitions for the figures below, click [here](#).*

# Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

## U.S. Drought Monitor

June 18, 2013  
Valid 7 a.m. EDT



**Intensity:**  
 D0 Abnormally Dry  
 D1 Drought - Moderate  
 D2 Drought - Severe  
 D3 Drought - Extreme  
 D4 Drought - Exceptional

**Drought Impact Types:**  
 ~ Delineates dominant impacts  
 S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)  
 L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



Released Thursday, June 20, 2013

Author: Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center

Current [Drought Monitor](#) weekly summary. The exceptional D4 levels of drought are scattered across the western Corn Belt of the Plains into southeastern Colorado and much of New Mexico. For more drought news, see [Drought Impact Reporter](#).

The latest [drought indicator blend and component percentiles](#) spreadsheet is a great resource for climate division drought statistics. This link is for the latest [Drought Outlook](#) (forecast).

- [Weather disasters cost U.S. \\$110 billion in 2012](#)
- [How fracking is straining water supplies in drought-stricken parts of the U.S.](#)

### [NDMC launching a new monthly Drought Summary Service](#)

See:

Drought Monitor for the [Western States](#)  
 Drought Impact Reporter for [New Mexico](#)  
[California Data Exchange Center](#) & [Flood Management](#)

News Stories:

- [Southeastern Colorado wheat crop a disaster from drought, freezes](#)
- [1 person killed in apocalyptic Nevada sandstorm pileup](#)
- [Massive dust storms hit southeast Colorado, evoking "Dirty Thirties"](#)
- [Dwindling reservoirs show drought's stress on state \(NM\)](#)
- [First Klamath irrigation shutoffs begin in Oregon](#)
- [California News](#)

## U.S. Drought Monitor

June 18, 2013  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

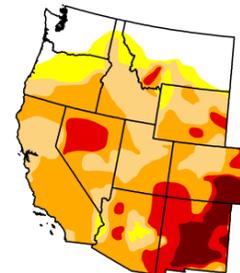
West

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D1	D1-D2	D2-D3	D3-D4	D4
Current	13.62	86.38	77.50	51.90	18.47	6.06
Last Week (06/11/2013 map)	15.01	84.99	75.25	47.03	14.65	5.98
3 Months Ago (03/19/2013 map)	22.56	77.44	83.05	41.15	15.72	3.13
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2013 map)	24.39	75.61	69.31	45.04	18.01	2.15
Start of Water Year (09/25/2012 map)	15.12	84.88	77.15	43.65	16.85	1.77
One Year Ago (06/12/2012 map)	30.80	69.20	64.39	33.06	5.92	0.00

**Intensity:**  
 D0 Abnormally Dry  
 D1 Drought - Moderate  
 D2 Drought - Severe  
 D3 Drought - Extreme  
 D4 Drought - Exceptional

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>



Released Thursday, June 20, 2013  
National Drought Mitigation Center.

**Conditions in the West deteriorated somewhat from last week.**

See:

NIDIS [Upper Colorado River Regional Drought Earlier Warning System](#)

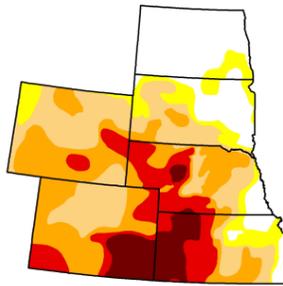
# Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

## U.S. Drought Monitor

June 18, 2013  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

### High Plains

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	20.55	79.45	69.76	45.46	21.27	8.03
Last Week (06/11/2013 msa)	20.30	79.70	68.45	45.80	19.43	7.73
3 Months Ago (03/19/2013 msa)	4.65	95.35	91.29	81.46	55.52	24.37
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2013 msa)	1.54	98.46	93.01	86.20	60.25	26.99
Start of Water Year (09/25/2012 msa)	0.00	100.00	98.91	83.80	61.28	24.35
One Year Ago (06/12/2012 msa)	26.91	73.09	42.14	14.59	4.19	0.00



**Intensity:**  
 D0 Abnormally Dry  
 D1 Drought - Moderate  
 D2 Drought - Severe  
 D3 Drought - Extreme  
 D4 Drought - Exceptional

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>



Released Thursday, June 20, 2013  
National Drought Mitigation Center.

Conditions worsened in D3 and D4 this past week.

### Region with D-4 Exceptional Drought

See [Kansas Drought Update](#).

- [In Kansas, drought, freeze paralyze wheat crop](#)
- [Drought blamed for sag in farm sector causing drag on state's GDP](#)
- [Nebraska, Iowa trailed nation's growth in 2012](#)
- See [North Dakota Climate Bulletin](#) (Spring Summary)

### Region with D-4 Exceptional Drought

Check out the Texas Drought [Website](#). See [Texas Reservoirs](#).

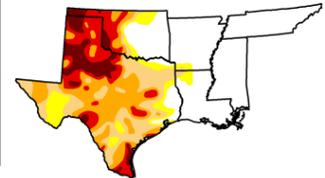
- [Supreme Court sides with Oklahoma in water fight](#)
- [Texas Gov. Rick Perry extends drought emergency in dozens of counties](#)

## U.S. Drought Monitor

June 18, 2013  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

### South

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	43.55	56.45	48.74	34.43	18.37	7.10
Last Week (06/11/2013 msa)	43.19	56.81	49.58	35.15	19.85	9.00
3 Months Ago (03/19/2013 msa)	30.52	69.48	58.96	41.68	21.37	6.28
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2013 msa)	21.18	78.82	63.69	50.50	32.80	10.98
Start of Water Year (09/25/2012 msa)	24.13	75.87	66.61	51.50	29.86	9.11
One Year Ago (06/12/2012 msa)	25.76	74.24	48.27	14.82	4.33	0.07



**Intensity:**  
 D0 Abnormally Dry  
 D1 Drought - Moderate  
 D2 Drought - Severe  
 D3 Drought - Extreme  
 D4 Drought - Exceptional

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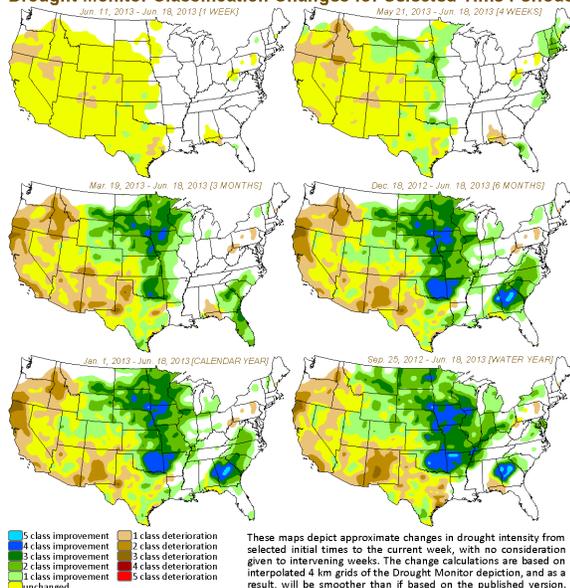
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>



Released Thursday, June 20, 2013  
National Drought Mitigation Center.

Conditions improved some in D3 and D-4 this past week

### Drought Monitor Classification Changes for Selected Time Periods



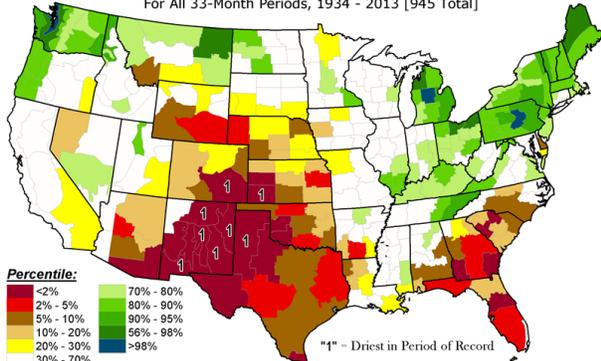
Changes in D-Categories over various time periods as of 18 June show some deterioration over parts of the Pacific Northwest and Four Corners, and some improvement over the Southern Plains (upper left panel) this past week.

Over the longer term, conditions have improved over the central region of the nation.

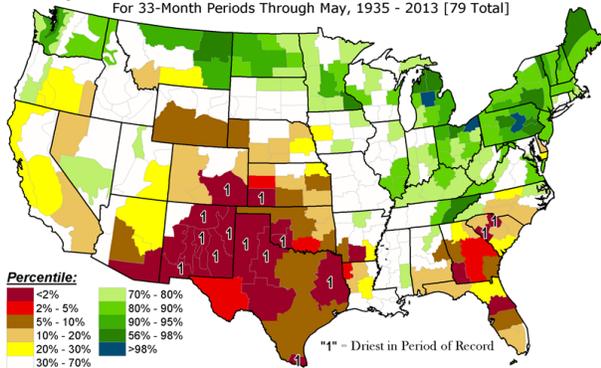
# Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

## Driest 33 months on record (since 1932)

**Precipitation Percentiles: September 2010 - May 2013 [33 Months]**  
For All 33-Month Periods, 1934 - 2013 [945 Total]



**Precipitation Percentiles: September 2010 - May 2013 [33 Months]**  
For 33-Month Periods Through May, 1935 - 2013 [79 Total]



Courtesy of Rich Tinker, NOAA:

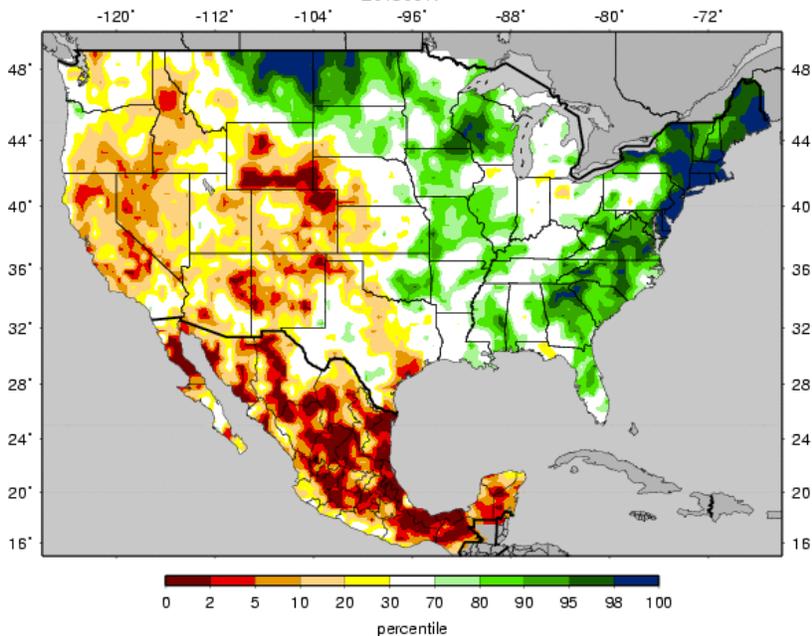
"I've made graphics depicting the percentile (ranking) for the Sep10-May13 period by climate division for data since 1932 - both for all periods ending in May (79) and all overlapping periods regardless of month (946; this of course would introduce seasonality issues since it is not a discrete X-full-year period, but given the situation, it didn't come into play much in the areas of concern).

8 climate divisions had the driest 33-months on record of the 946 overlapping periods - 1 each TX/KS/CO, and 5 in NM. A table with some stats for those divisions is also linked below, including comparisons with those divisions' second-lowest total on record."

- [Table](#) with statistics for record dryness by climate divisions

## Soil Moisture

MULTIMODEL Soil Moisture Percentiles (wrt/ 1916-2004)  
20130617



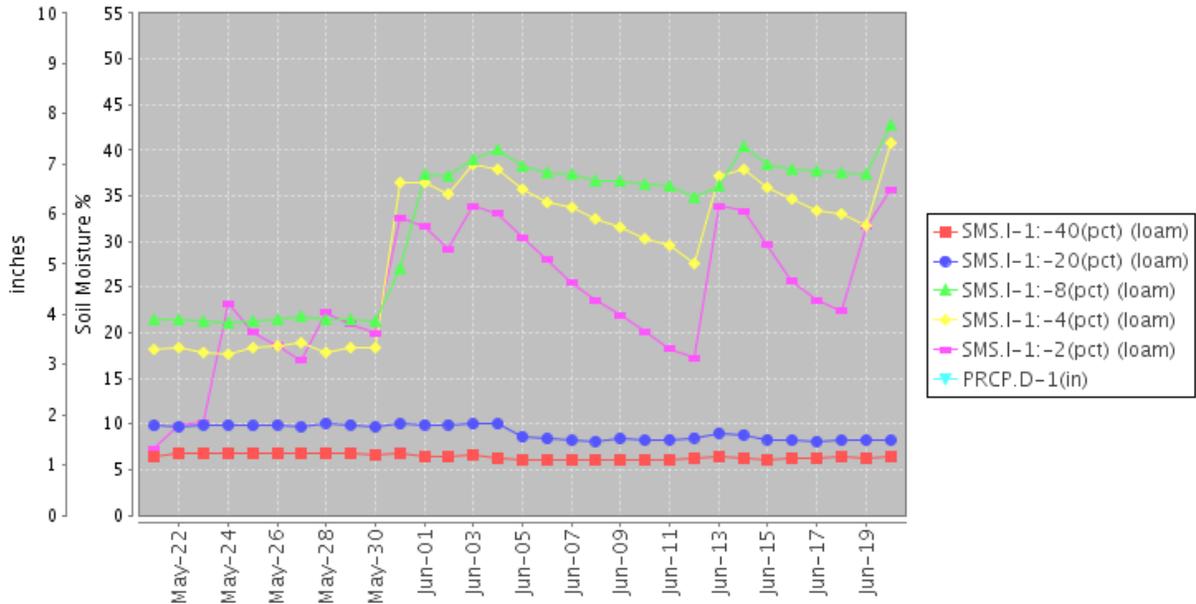
Soil moisture ranking in [percentile](#) as of June 17 shows significant dryness over the southwestern and southern high plains (including southern Wyoming), and dryness over California. Excess moisture is noted over the northern High Plains, and New England to coastal Maryland.

Useful Hydrological Links: [Crop Moisture Index](#); [Palmer Drought Severity Index](#); [Standardized Precipitation Index](#); [Surface Water Supply Index](#); [Weekly supplemental maps](#); [Minnesota Climate Working Group](#).

## Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

### Soil Climate Analysis Network (SCAN)

Station (2118) MONTH=2013-05-21 (Daily) NRCS National Water and Climate Center - Provisional Data - subject to revision as of Thu Jun 20 09:23:04 PDT 2013



This NRCS resource shows a site in north central Montana. Note the upper levels responding to recent rains.

Useful Agriculture Links: [Vegetation Drought Response Index](#); [Evaporative Stress Index](#); [Vegetation Health Index](#); [NDVI Greenness Map](#); [GRACE-Based Surface Soil Moisture](#); [North American Soil Moisture Network](#). [Monthly Wild Fire Forecast Report](#).

### U.S. Historical Streamflow

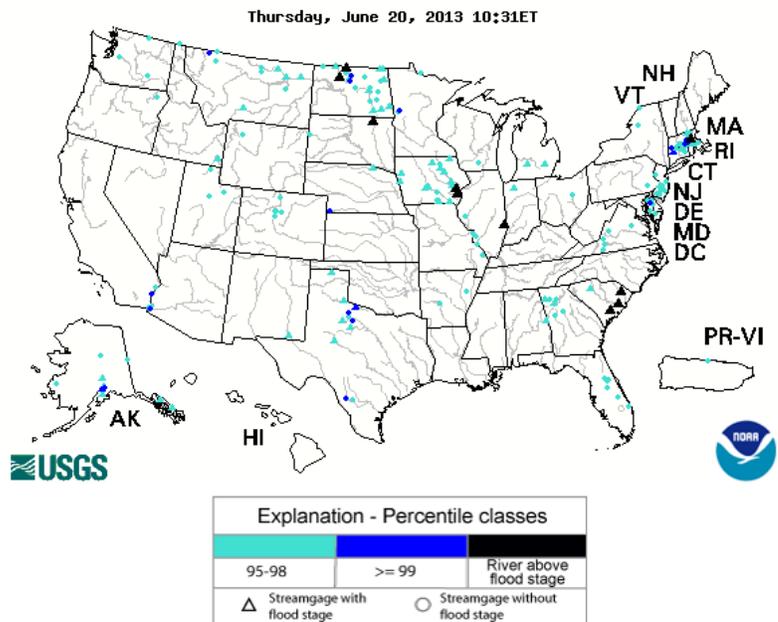
Flooding has subsided significantly over the mid-section and over the Northeast this week.

See the USGS [National Water Information System Mapper](#).

Related news story:

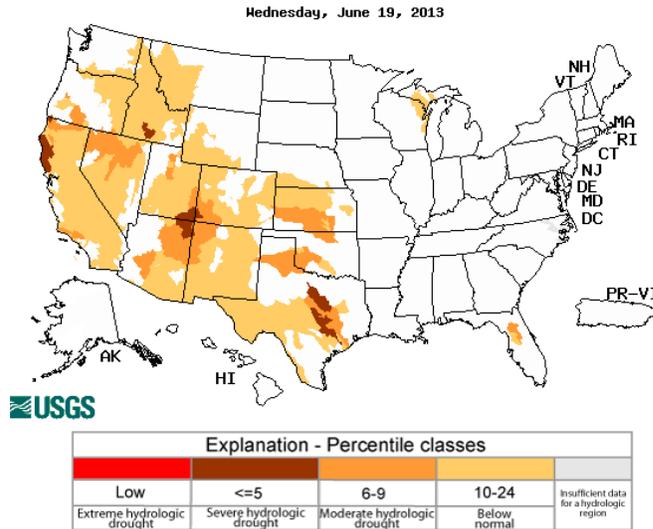
- [Corps: Drought Still Issue](#) (Upper Missouri River)

### Map of flood and high flow condition (United States)



## Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

### Map of below normal 7-day average streamflow compared to historical streamflow for the day of year (United States)



Severe conditions exist over central Texas, the Four Corners, south-central Idaho, and northwestern California.

The following complete **Weather and Drought Summary** is provided by this week's NDMC Author: [Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center](#).

### National Drought Summary -- June 18, 2013

*The discussion in the Looking Ahead section is simply a description of what the official national guidance from the National Weather Service (NWS) National Centers for Environmental Prediction is depicting for current areas of dryness and drought. The NWS forecast products utilized include the HPC 5-day QPF and 5-day Mean Temperature progs, the 6-10 Day Outlooks of Temperature and Precipitation Probability, and the 8-14 Day Outlooks of Temperature and Precipitation Probability, valid as of late Wednesday afternoon of the USDM release week. The NWS forecast web page used for this section is: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/forecasts/>.*

**The Northeast:** “Cooler temperatures prevailed and spotty beneficial rains continued to fall last week across the region, except for portions of Pennsylvania. On the heels of improvement in the region last week, some minor changes are noted this week with the removal of D0 in northeastern New York State and some minor western expansion of D0 in northeastern Pennsylvania into south central New York (although this same region saw some trimming of D0 on the eastern flank).

**Mid-Atlantic:** Good rains bring reduction of D0 in West Virginia this week along the southern and eastern fronts as soil moisture and streamflows continue to rebound as a result of above-normal rainfall the past 30-90 days. Cooler temperatures also prevailed across West Virginia, although most of Virginia and the Carolinas were relatively dry. Temperatures were mostly cooler than normal to seasonal for the entire region, helping offset demand so far as we head into summer.

**The Southeast:** Above-normal temperatures pervaded southern Alabama, southern Georgia and the Florida Panhandle last week. Coupled with the recent dryness, seasonal departures over the past 90 days (50-75% of normal) leads to some slight expansion of D0 across extreme southern Alabama, the Florida Panhandle and extreme southwest Georgia. These same regions have been generally seeing a nice recovery this year from a long multi-year drought, so the recent dryness shows that recovery isn't complete and all aspects of the hydrological cycle haven't been fully recharged, leaving the area more vulnerable to a relapse should tropical rains avoid the region.

## Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

**Midwest:** The improvement trend continues this week in both Minnesota and northwestern Iowa where recent rains have led to a general 1-category improvement in both states, including the removal of D2 from south central Minnesota.

**The Plains:** All but western Texas saw well above normal temperatures last week after a cooler start to the growing season (when compared to the very hot start that plagued the region in 2012). In fact, readings farther north were 5-8 degrees above normal across western Kansas and parts of both the Oklahoma and Texas panhandles, with more heat and dry conditions expected to be coming to the region over the next couple of weeks. Rains were scattered and very good for some while not so good for others across the southern Plains. Oklahoma, in particular, continues to see a slow retreat of drought in those counties located along the eastern edge of drought in central and northern portions of the state, including some slight improvement from D4 to D3 across a small portion of the central Panhandle. However, a very tight gradient remains between eastern (no drought) and western (D0-D4) Oklahoma counties as summer appears on their doorstep.

As for changes in Texas, there were many this week, both for the better and worse. In general, counties in central, south central and southeastern Texas saw degradation after the drying trend of the past several weeks and a ramping up of above-normal temperatures for the better part of the past month. An advancement of D0-D3 is seen toward the southeastern coast as a result. Heavy rains brought 1- to 2-category improvements, drastically reducing D3/D4 along the Big Bend region and points south along the Rio Grande corridor. Western Texas and the Panhandle also got a taste of good rains, leading to some scattered improvement and 1-category improvements there, and the same pattern brought changes for the better across central/north central Texas up into the Red River corridor with Oklahoma.

Farther north, the continuation of cooler and wetter conditions brings some improvement to the D0-D2 areas along the Missouri River corridor between northeast Nebraska and southeastern South Dakota. Good rains also came to a good portion of western and central Kansas last week, bringing a reduction of D2 drought there. The rains, however, weren't significant enough to bring improvement to the long-lived D3/D4 core that is embedded in the western half of Kansas.

**The West:** Changes are noted for many areas on this week's map, starting with Colorado and Wyoming, where D0 has been degraded to D1 across north central Colorado and extreme southeastern Wyoming. Other changes in Colorado include an advance of D2 and D3 in the eastern half of the state, coupled with an expansion of D2 and D3 in south central and southwestern counties that extends into southeastern Utah.

After an underwhelming winter overall, temperatures have really increased across the Four Corners region, escalating fire and range condition concerns as we move into summer. This region is quickly becoming home to the new epicenter of the 2013 drought. D3 has also pushed into more of northwest New Mexico, putting virtually all of the state in extreme (D3) or exceptional (D4) drought, the two worst drought severity classifications. Little change is expected in this severity level across the state until we see what benefits the monsoon season may bring them later this month or early in July. These same concerns are being felt farther west as well with D2 expanding in southwestern Idaho. Eastern Nevada sees an introduction of a much larger area of D2/D3 this week as summer heat and dryness settle in and strengthen their influence on the drought in the Intermountain West after a disappointing winter.

A push of D0 is depicted this week across more of western and northern Oregon and into western Washington State as well. Year-to-date dryness and low streamflows are indicative of conditions across more and more of the Pacific Northwest. A slight expansion of D0/D1 also comes to the Idaho Panhandle given low streamflow levels and lack of rains during the past few weeks coupled with well below normal precipitation on the year (50-70% of normal). Severe drought (D2) has also expanded to cover a larger portion of southeastern Oregon into the Klamath region, along with a push westward of D1 in southern Oregon over to the coast.

California also saw an increase in D2 this week across the northern tier of the state. Extremely low streamflow levels and record, or near-record, dryness on the year have elevated short- and long-term concerns with regard to soil moisture, fire potential and distressed native ecosystems not privy to irrigation. Statewide water supply conditions are in pretty good shape for most of California, which should

## Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

provide a sufficient buffer for irrigators and municipalities this year, but as those supplies are drawn down, there will be little to fill in behind because of the disappointing winter and woeful year-to-date precipitation. The exception to this is the San Joaquin Valley, where irrigation allocations to farmers will be cut significantly.

**Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico:** The Big Island sees a slip backward in conditions for some areas as the dry season sets in. The leeward side along the North Kohala District lacked the necessary April and May rains, so they slide back into severe (D2) drought. In addition, a pocket of D3 has reemerged in the Pohakuloa area, which was left vulnerable after being in D3 up until just a few weeks ago. The dry weather, coupled with strong winds, has led to a relapse of conditions in these areas, noted by deterioration of soil moisture and vegetation conditions. The rest of the Big Island and the state remain unchanged from last week.

Alaska and Puerto Rico remained unchanged this week as well.

**Looking Ahead:** The NWS WPC 5-Day (June 19-24) Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) is showing good prospects for a nice shot of unseasonably cooler weather across the Pacific Northwest, California and Nevada. The opposite holds true, though, for the southern Rockies region, central Plains, Midwest and Northeast, where readings could soar well above normal. The precipitation outlook during this period shows the best bet for significant totals to fall in the Pacific Northwest, northern Plains, upper Midwest, Gulf Coast and up along the southern Atlantic coast into South Carolina.

The 6-10 day (June 25-29) outlooks are calling for a real summertime pattern to emerge, with the odds well tilted toward above-normal temperatures across southern California, the Intermountain West, northern Rockies, central and northern Plains, the Midwest and the Northeast. Alaska looks likely to continue with its recent spate of above-normal temperatures as well. The only areas seeing a greater likelihood of cooler weather are the Pacific Northwest coastal ranges and the western Gulf Coast region. Prospects for rain seem to be best in the Pacific Northwest, upper Midwest, Mid-Atlantic and Northeast. Below-normal precipitation is most likely in the Intermountain West, Wyoming and the central Plains. Alaska also looks likely to couple the heat with dryness during this same period as well.”

### State Activities

State government drought activities can be tracked at the following URL: <http://drought.unl.edu/mitigate/mitigate.htm>. NRCS Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting (SSWSF) Program State Office personnel are participating in state drought committee meetings and providing the committees and media with appropriate SSWSF information - <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/cgibin/bor.pl>. Additional information describing the products available from the Drought Monitor can be found at the following URLs: <http://drought.unl.edu/dm/> and <http://www.drought.gov>.

### For More Information

The National Water and Climate Center (NWCC) Homepage provides the latest available snowpack and water supply information. Please visit us at <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov>. This document is available from the following location on the NWCC homepage - <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/water/drought/wdr.pl>. Reports from 2007 are available online. Reports from 2001-2006 are available on request.

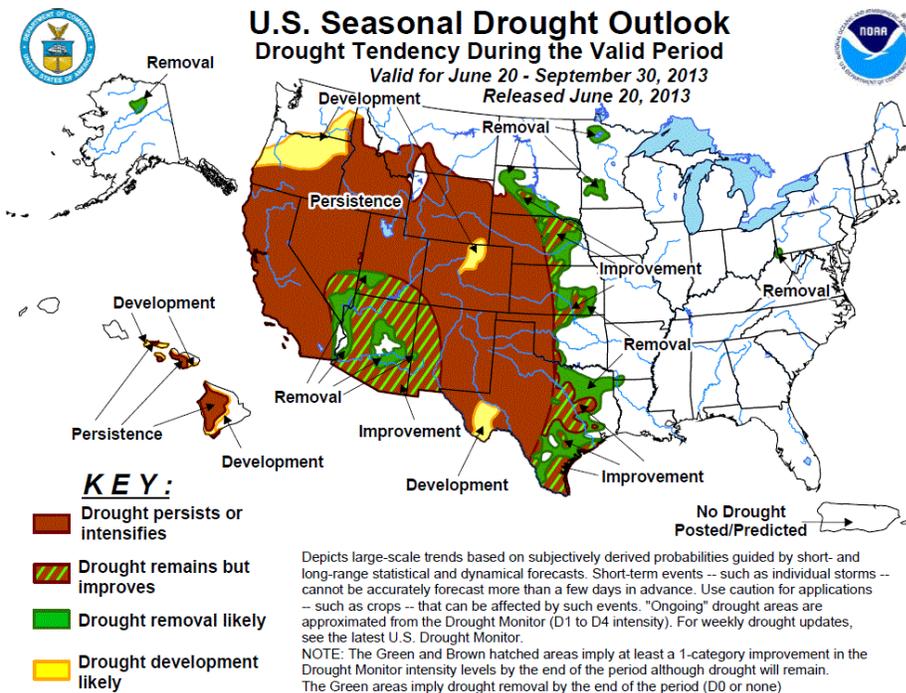
This report uses data and products provided by the Interagency Drought Monitor Consortium members and the National Interagency Fire Center.

/s/

Micheal L. Golden  
Deputy Chief, Soil Science and Resource Assessment

# Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

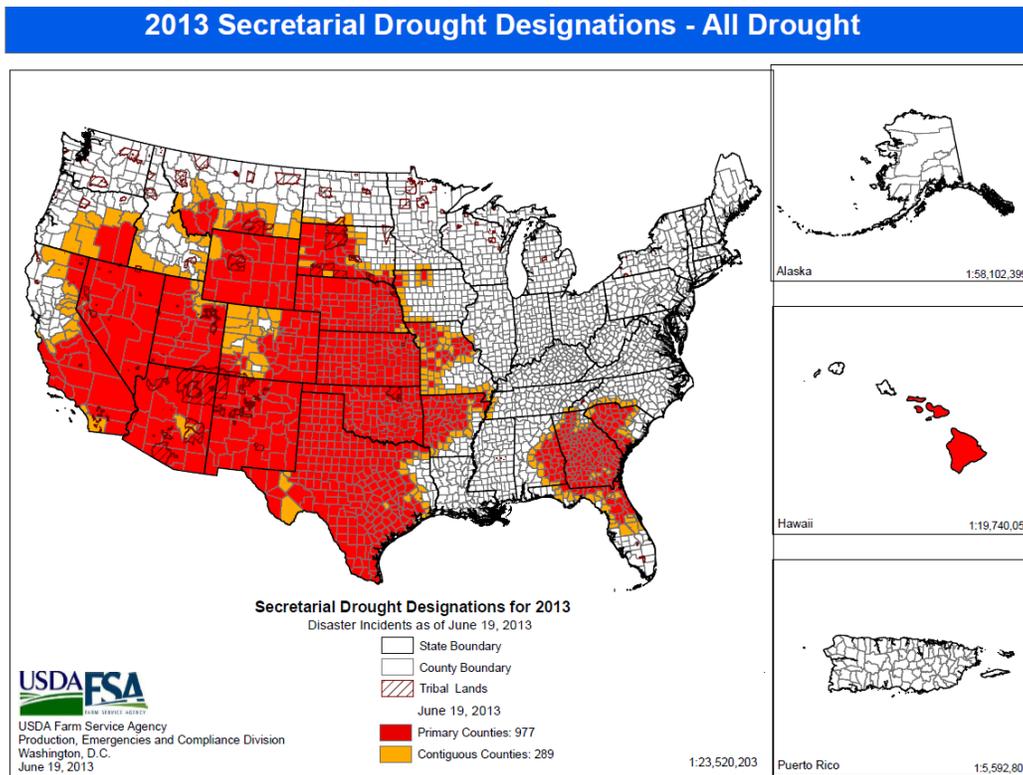
## Drought Outlook (Forecast)



U.S. Seasonal [Drought Outlook](#) as of today.

Note that there are no significant changes since the last update two weeks ago. Also note the new [format change](#).

Additionally, the NOAA CPC released their [latest seasonal forecasts](#) this morning.



Refer to USDA Drought Assistance [website](#) and [National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service](#). Read about the new [USDA Regional Climate Hubs](#).

## Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report

### Drought Impacts

This is a collection of drought-related news stories from the past seven days or so. Impact information from these articles is entered into the [Drought Impact Reporter](#). A number of these articles will also be posted on the [Drought Headlines](#) page at the NDMC website. – Courtesy of Denice Gutzmer Drought Impact Specialist, National Drought Mitigation Center

#### Noteworthy topics in the news this week:

**Wildfires** have charred many square miles and hundreds of homes in drought-afflicted parts of the West. The Black Forest Fire northeast of Colorado Springs has destroyed 379 homes, charred 25 square miles and taken two lives. The Royal Gorge Fire in south central Colorado destroyed the tram and most of the structures in the park, but left the bridge intact, despite a few burned planks.

Officials and residents in the Colorado/New Mexico area were rightfully jittery about the fire danger with the governor of New Mexico urging all counties to move quickly to restrict fireworks. Residents in the Taos area in northern New Mexico were calling forest officials, requesting that they close more of the forest to reduce the likelihood of wildfires like that seen in Colorado.

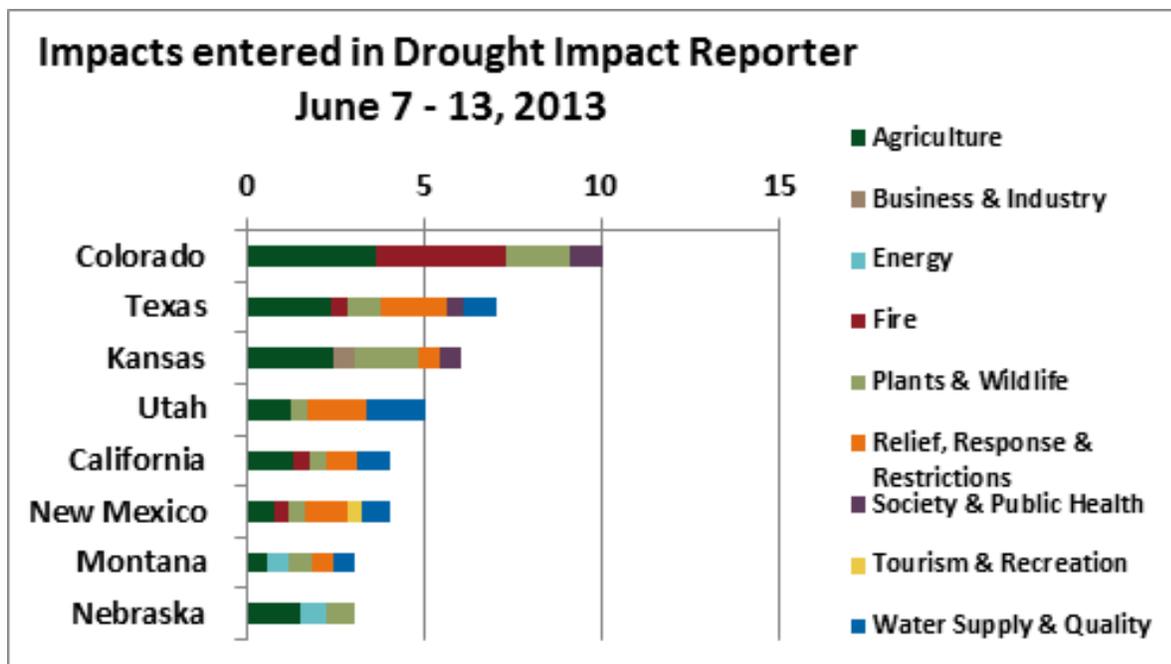
For a map of large fires in the U.S., see the [Active Fire Mapping Program](#) at <http://activefiremaps.fs.fed.us/>

**Irrigation shutoffs** in the Klamath Reclamation Project in southern Oregon and northern California are being contested by ranchers who have asked a judge to intervene and stop state officials from enforcing the Klamath Tribes' newly granted water rights.

#### Winter wheat crop

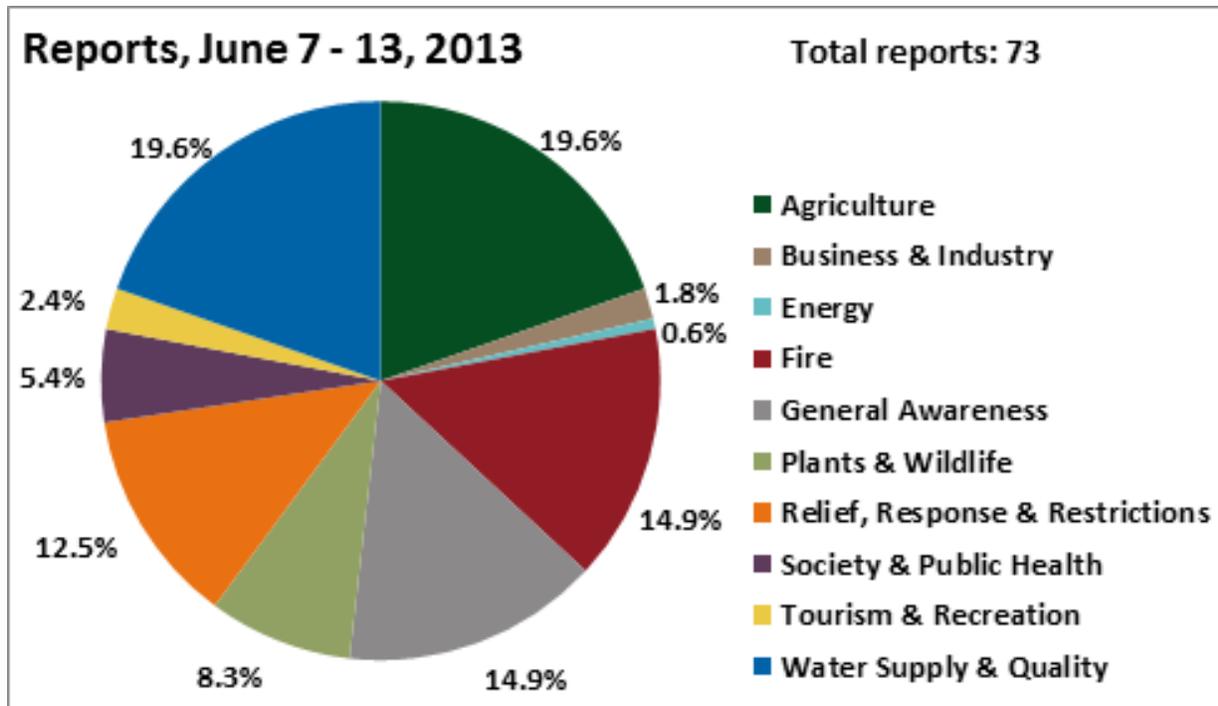
- Twenty percent of wheat in Colorado is a total loss. By next month, the figure may be 30 percent.
- Indemnity claims in Kansas have reached \$33.5 million for the first half of 2013. A little over \$31 million of the total is for the damaged wheat crop.

Drought slowed **economic growth** in Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota in 2012 to just 1.5 percent, 2.4 percent and 1.9 percent, respectively.



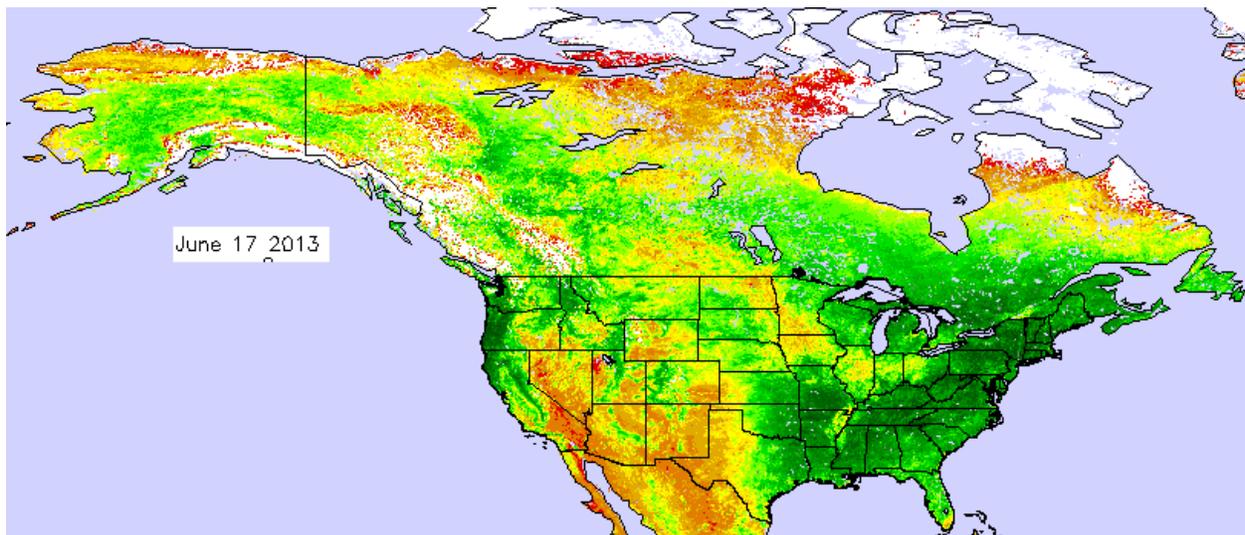
Because impacts may have more than one category, the category color is shown in proportion to the total number of categories selected overall for all of the impacts.

## Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report



Since the volume of news is overwhelming some weeks, we regularly review news articles from a number of media sources that we refer to as our “sample.” It isn’t possible to keep up with *all* of the news articles related to drought, so most of the articles come from the sample only, with other articles from “non-sample” sources thrown in, time permitting, when they contain valuable information.

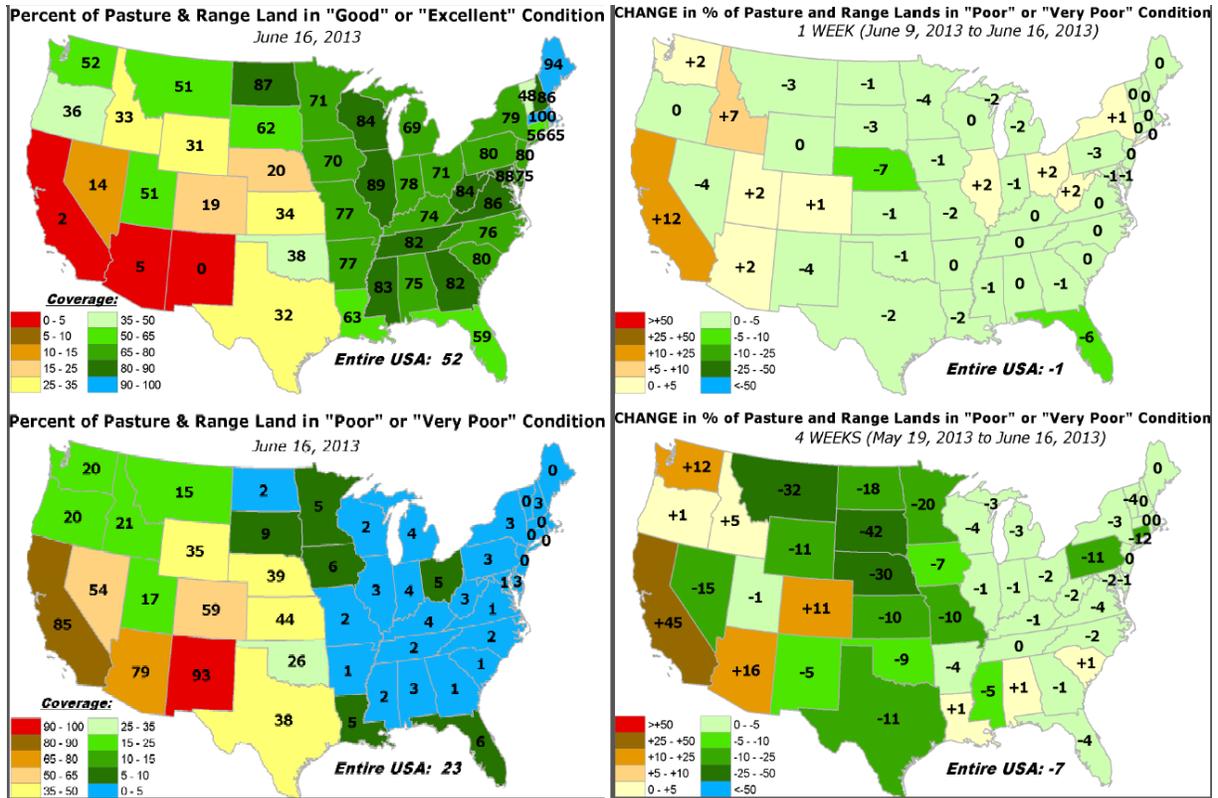
### Supplemental Data



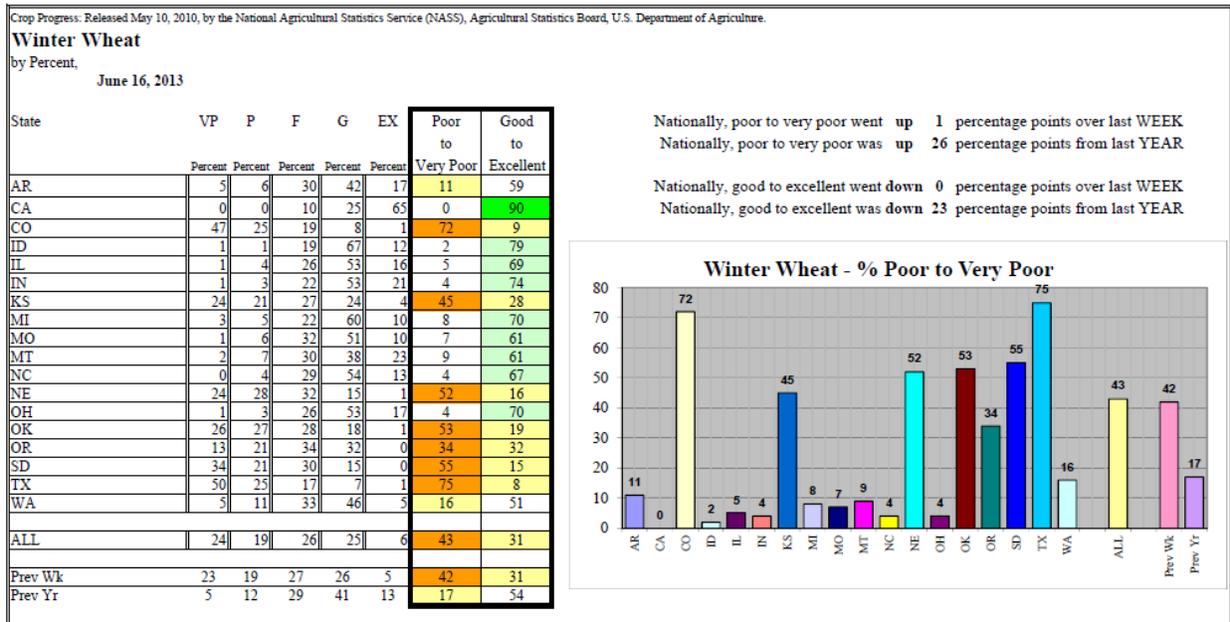
**Vegetation Health** is poor over parts of the Southwest, southern California, and Great Basin. However, vegetation health is excellent over much of the eastern half of the country.

For more data on plant health: [VegDRI](#), [Evaporative Stress Index](#), [Vegetation Health Indices](#), [NVDI Greenness Maps](#), [NWS Precipitation Analysis](#), [GRACE Groundwater and Soil Moisture](#).

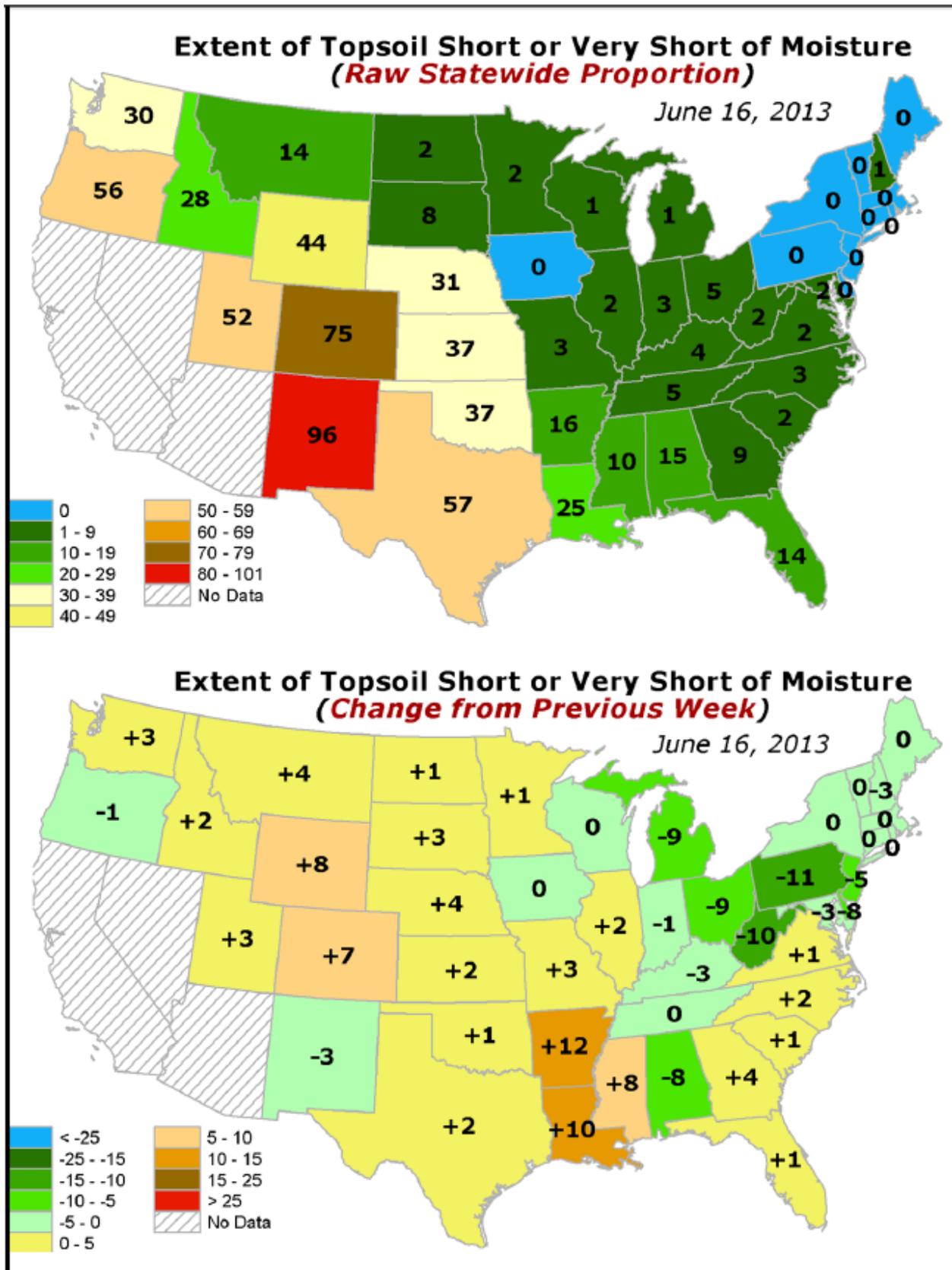
# Weekly Snowpack and Drought Monitor Update Report



[Pasture and Rangelands](#) maps shows that the eastern half of the nation has abundant healthy conditions, whereas the opposite holds for the Western States; especially over New Mexico, Arizona, and California.



Status of Winter Wheat as of June 16, 2013. – Courtesy of Eric D. Luebehusen, Meteorologist, USDA - Office of the Chief Economist



[Topsoil conditions](#) reveal New Mexico's extremely low moisture content. Also note that Arkansas and Louisiana are experiencing the greatest decrease in moisture from the previous week.