



**COLORADO**

**Colorado Water  
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

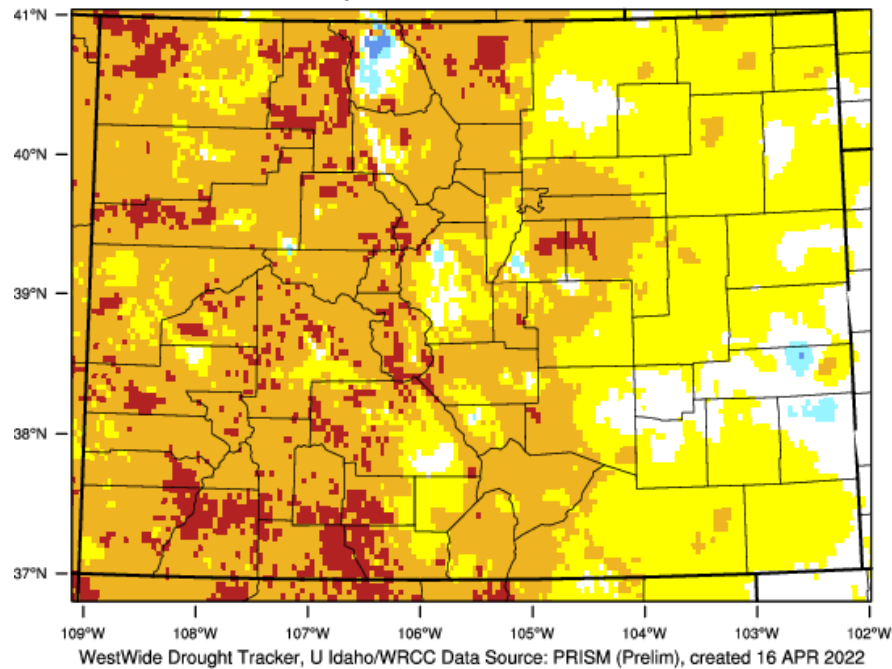
# South Platte Basin - Water Supply Update

Kara Scheel, P.E.

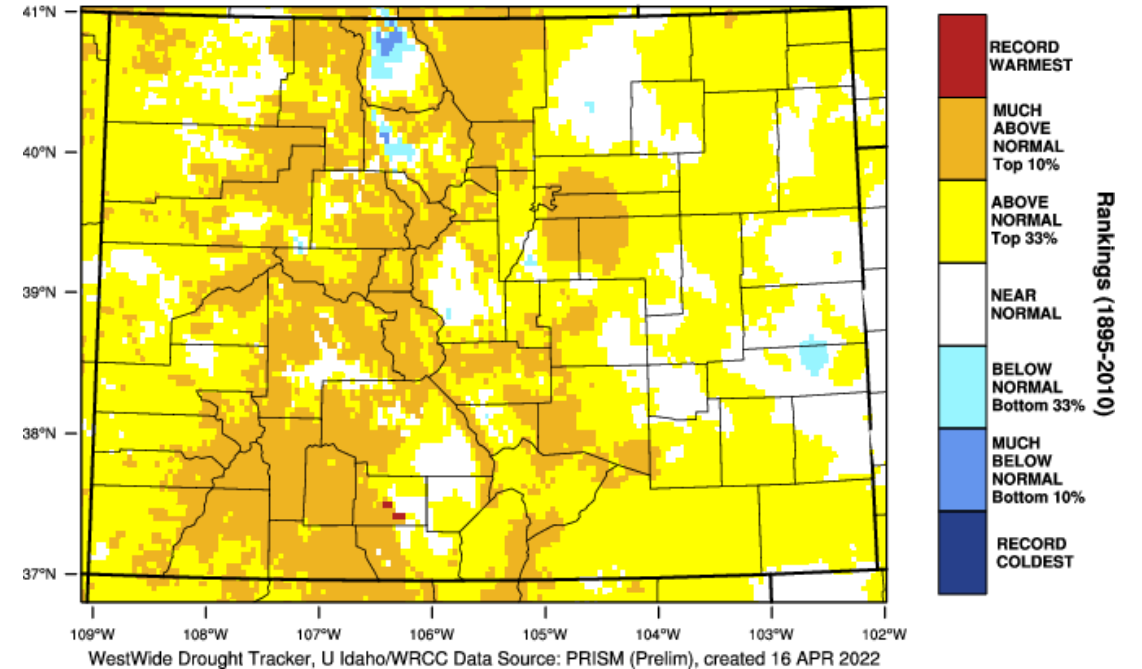
CWCB Endangered Species Recovery Program Manager

# Temperature

Colorado - Mean Temperature  
April-March 2022 Percentile



Colorado - Mean Temperature  
October-March 2022 Percentile



# Hot and dry Nov - Dec

Denver's Latest First Measurable Snow Dates & Consecutive Days of Non-Measurable Snowfall

Denver's Latest First Snowfall Dates (at least 0.1")				
Rank	Date	Snow	Total Seasonal Snow	ENSO Phase
1	12/10/2021	0.3	???	Extended Moderate La Nina
2	11/21/1934	1.0	48.3	Unknown
3	11/19/1931	1.0	55.4	Unknown
4	11/17/2016	1.7	21.8	Moderate La Nina
5	11/16/1894	2.6	37.0	Unknown
6	11/15/2010	1.5	22.8	Strong La Nina
-	11/15/1988	2.5	50.1	Strong La Nina
-	11/15/1987	6.1	62.3	End Strong El Nino
-	11/15/1902	4.0	45.6	Unknown
10	11/14/2008	0.1	38.1	Extended Moderate La Nina
-	11/14/1964	4.2	55.9	Moderate La Nina
-	11/14/1944	0.1	51.6	Unknown
Period of record: 1874-02-01 to 2021-12-08				

Consecutive Days of Non Measurable Snowfall (<0.1") in Denver				
Rank	# of Days	Time Period	Total Seasonal Snow	ENSO Phase
1	232	4/22/2021 to 12/09/2021	???	Extended Moderate La Nina
-	232	3/5/1887 to 10/22/1887	25.5	Unknown
3	225	3/27/1888 to 11/6/1888	20.8	Unknown
4	220	3/23/1889 to 10/28/1889	38.5	Unknown
5	219	4/5/1886 to 11/9/1886	28.2	Unknown
6	212	3/19/1925 to 10/16/1925	64.7	Unknown
7	211	4/1/1992 to 10/28/1992	60.3	Neutral
-	211	4/3/1977 to 10/30/1977	46.5	Extended Moderate El Nino
-	211	4/13/1940 to 11/9/1940	42.2	Unknown
10	210	4/20/1894 to 11/15/1894	37.0	Unknown
Period of record: 1874-02-01 to 2021-12-08				



8:44 p.m. ET, December 30, 2021

## **Marshall Fire destroys hundreds of structures in Boulder County**

From CNN's Carol Alvarado and Kay Jones

## **Amid strong winds in Boulder County, fast-moving grass fires force evacuations, destroy homes**

Marshall Fire grows to 1,600 acres; hundreds of structures lost

## **Colorado wildfires: Tens of thousands evacuated as blazes spread**

🕒 31 December 2021



Finally some relief...



By Joel Gratz, Founding Meteorologist

Posted 4 months ago

December 22, 2021 6:13am MST

**Five storms between now and 2022**

Favorited ★

Subscribe by Email 🔔



By Joel Gratz, Founding Meteorologist

Posted 4 months ago

December 26, 2021 6:18am MST

**More Snow, More Snow, More Snow**

Favorited ★

Subscribe by Email 🔔



By Joel Gratz, Founding Meteorologist

Posted 3 months ago

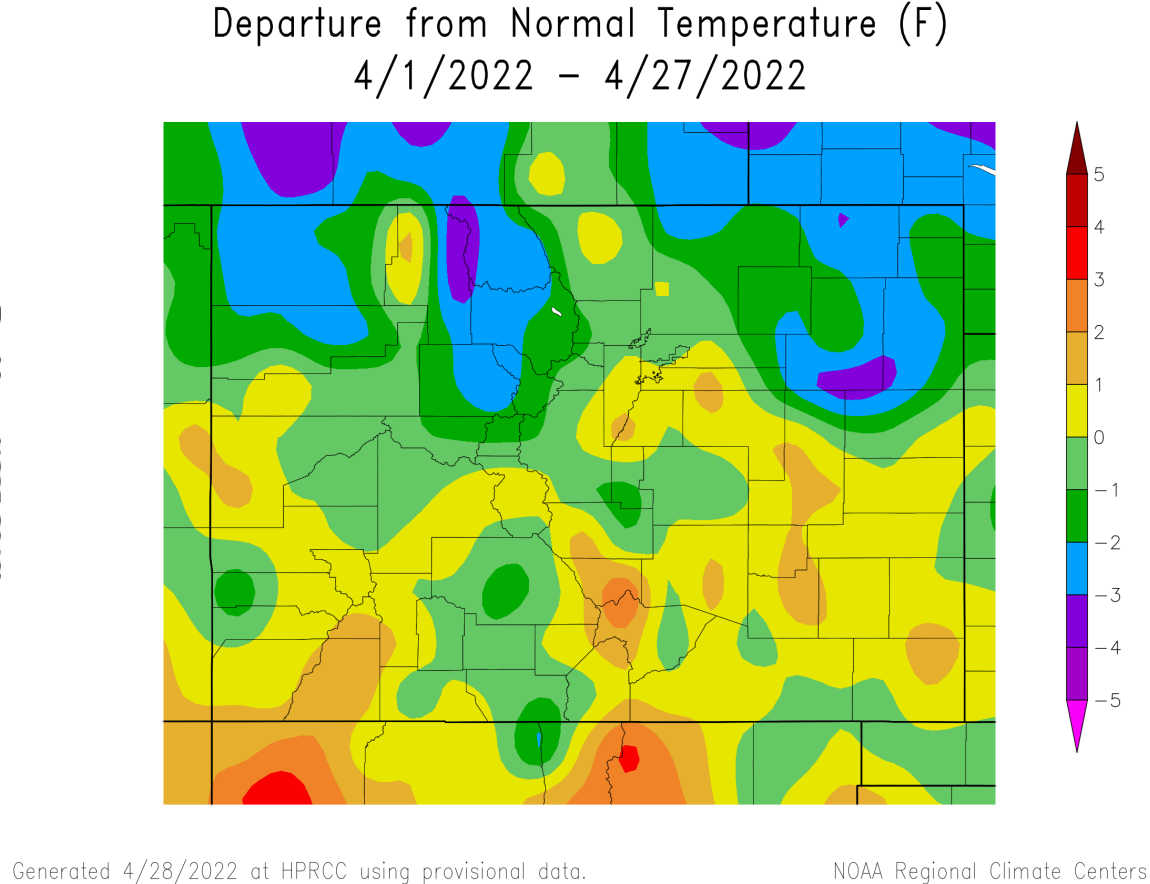
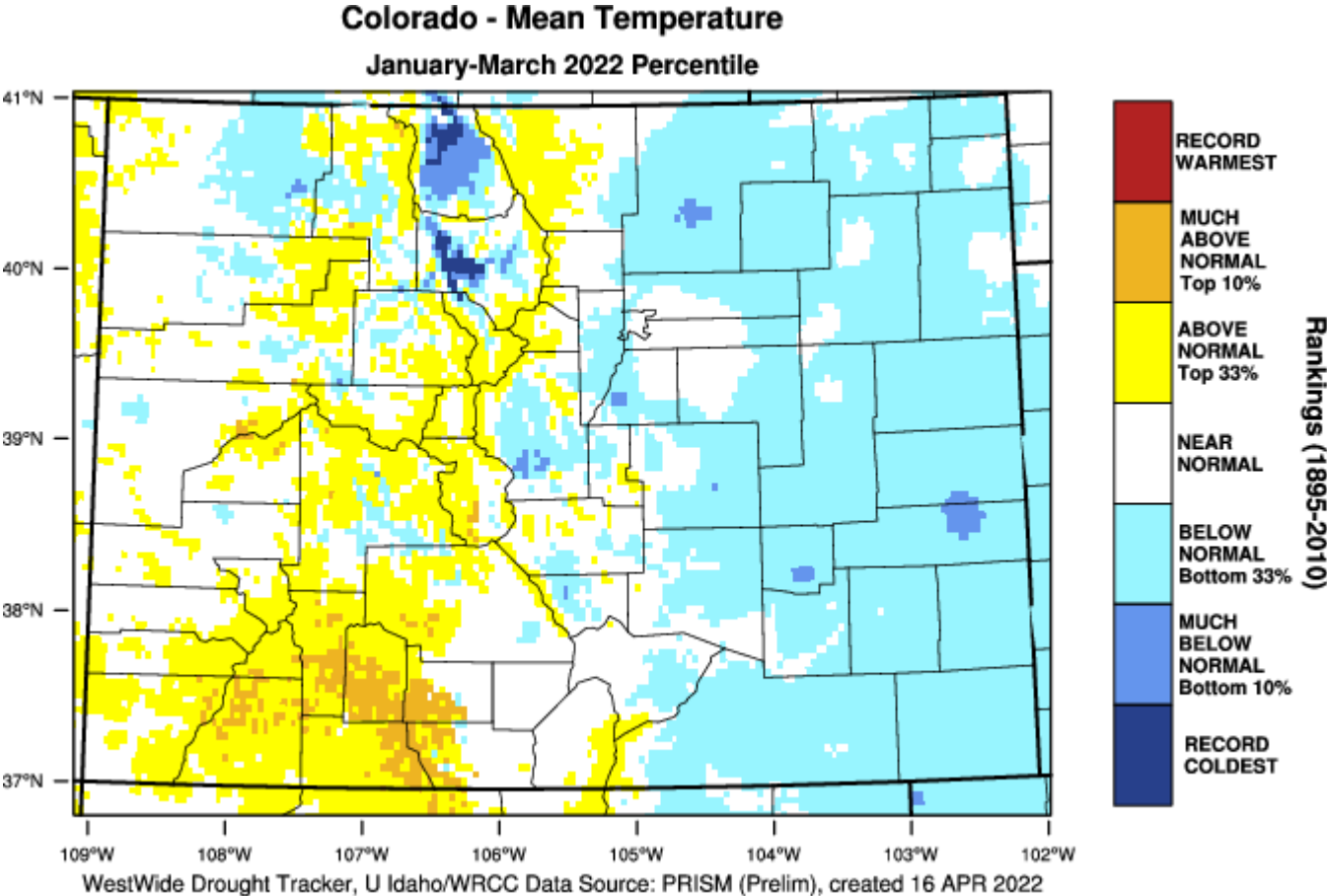
December 29, 2021 5:20am MST

**More snow through Saturday morning**

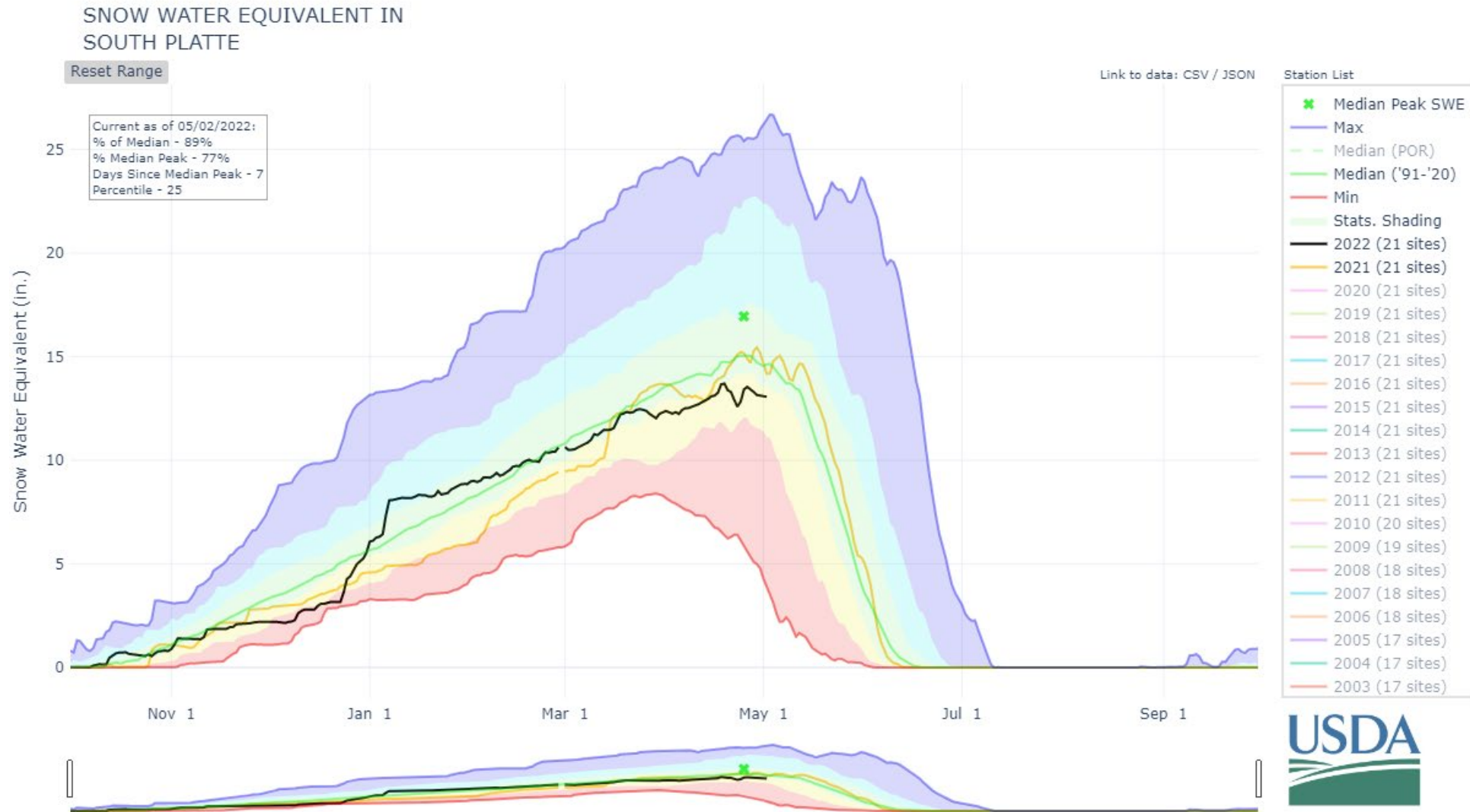
Favorited ★

Subscribe by Email 🔔

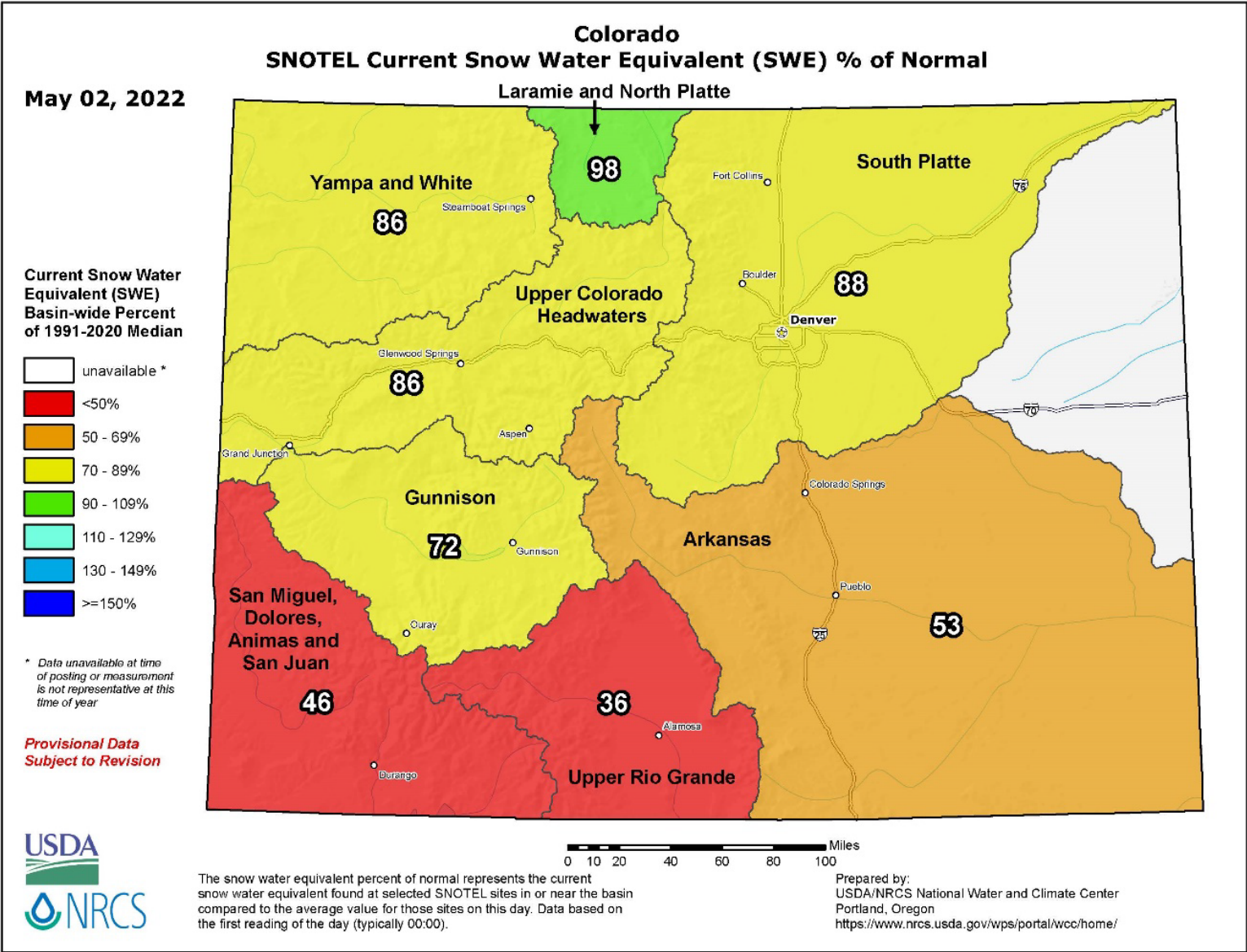
# Temperature – January - April



# SWE – South Platte Basin

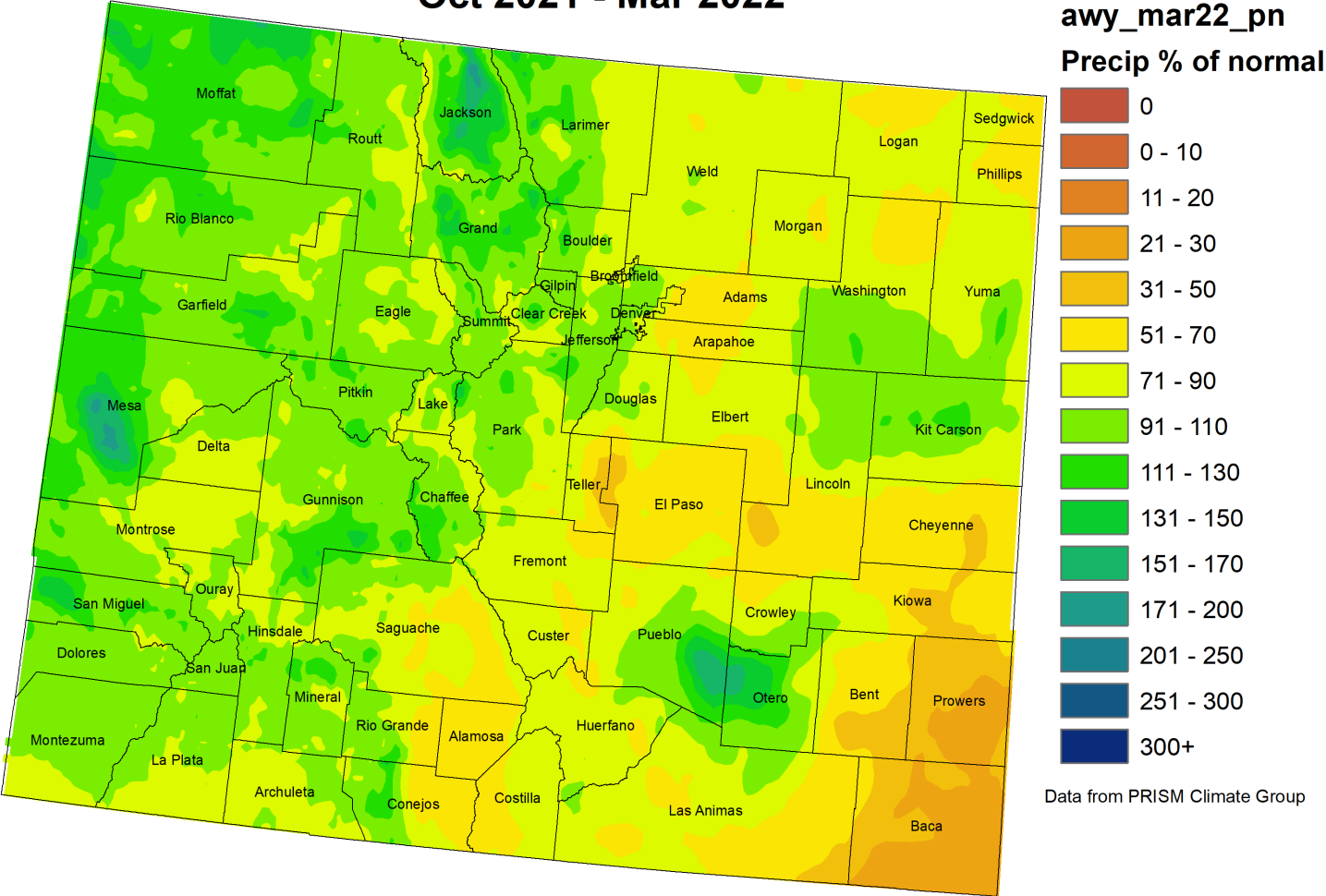


# SWE - Statewide



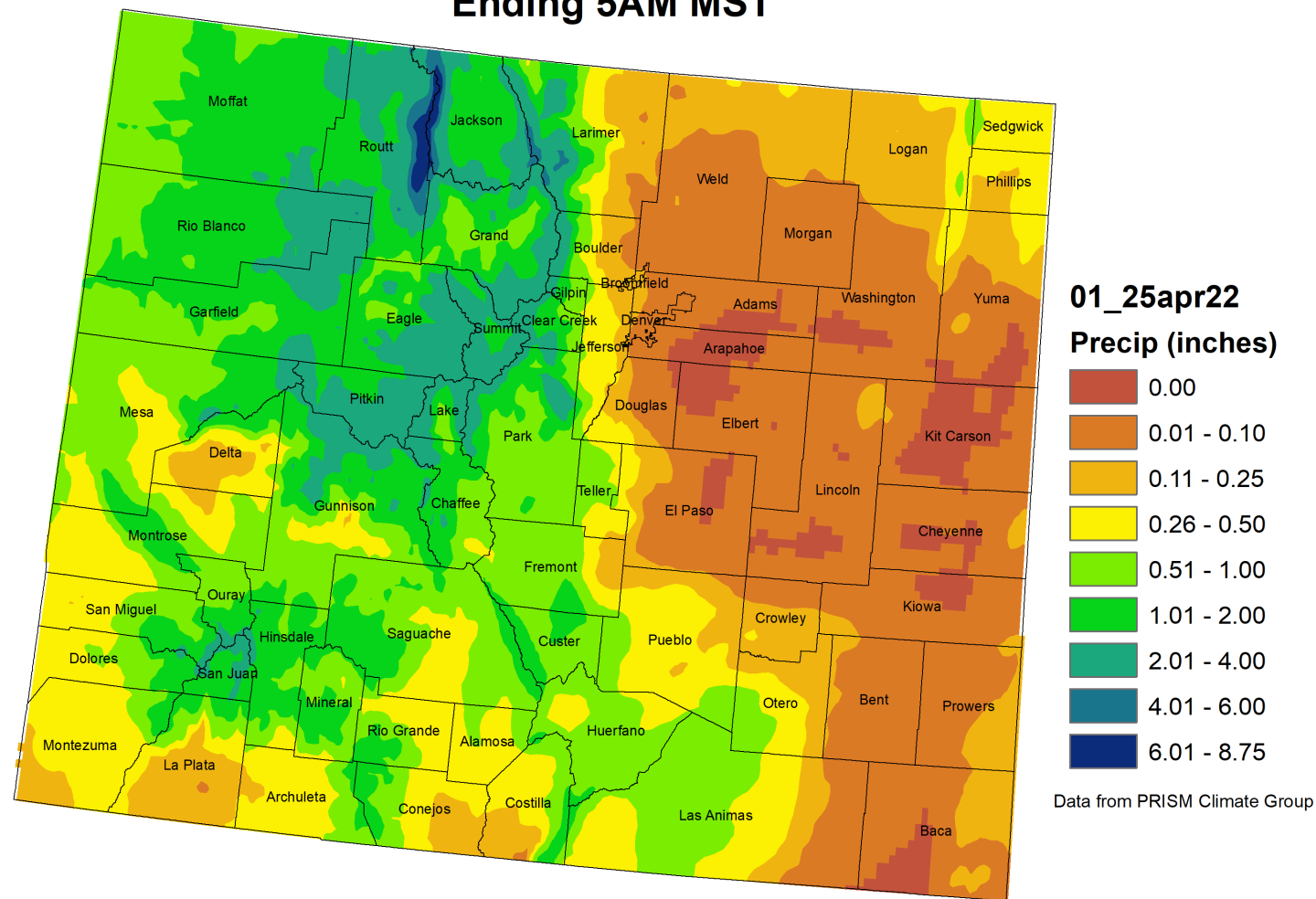
# Precipitation - % of normal

Colorado Water Year 2022 Precipitation  
as a Percentage of Normal  
Oct 2021 - Mar 2022



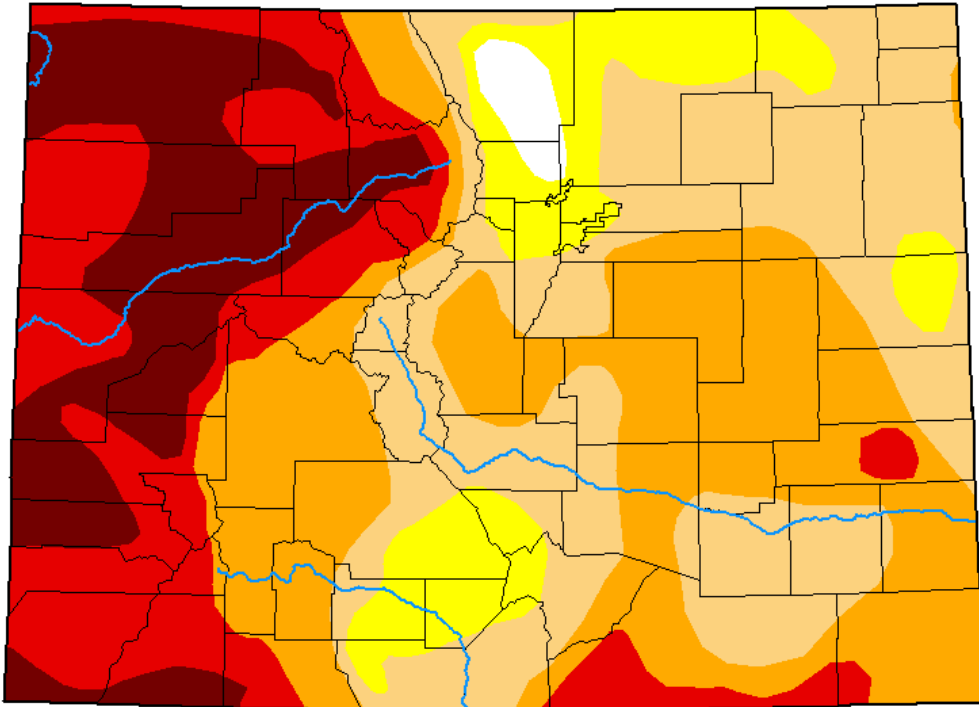
# Precipitation - April

Colorado Month to Date Precipitation  
1 - 25 April 2022  
Ending 5AM MST

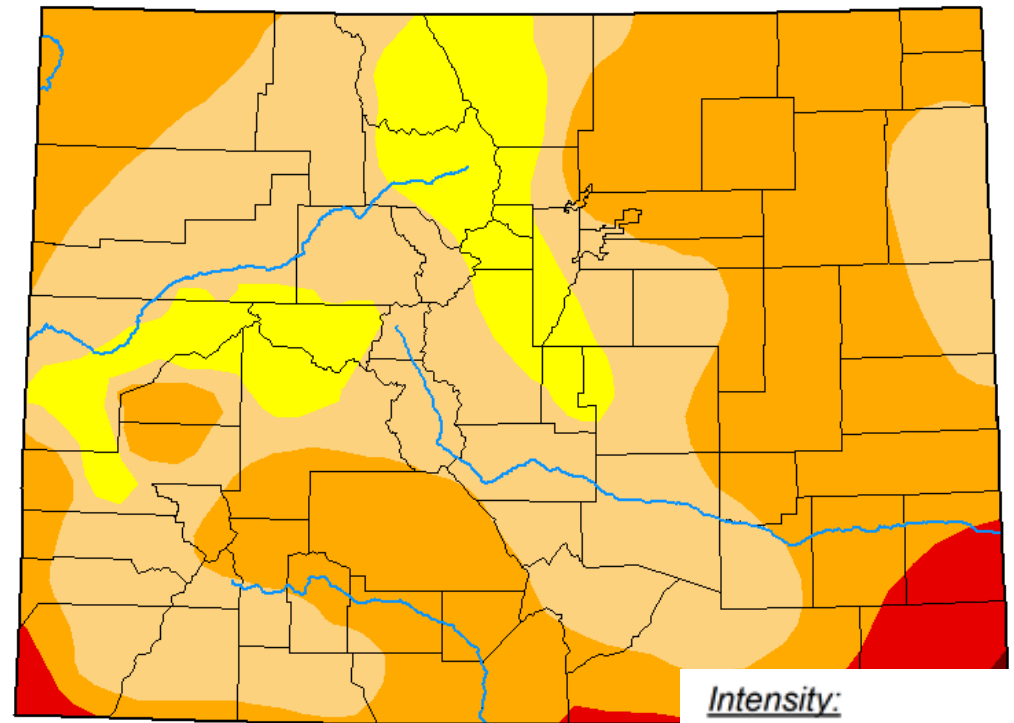


# Drought







April 2021



April 2022



Intensity:

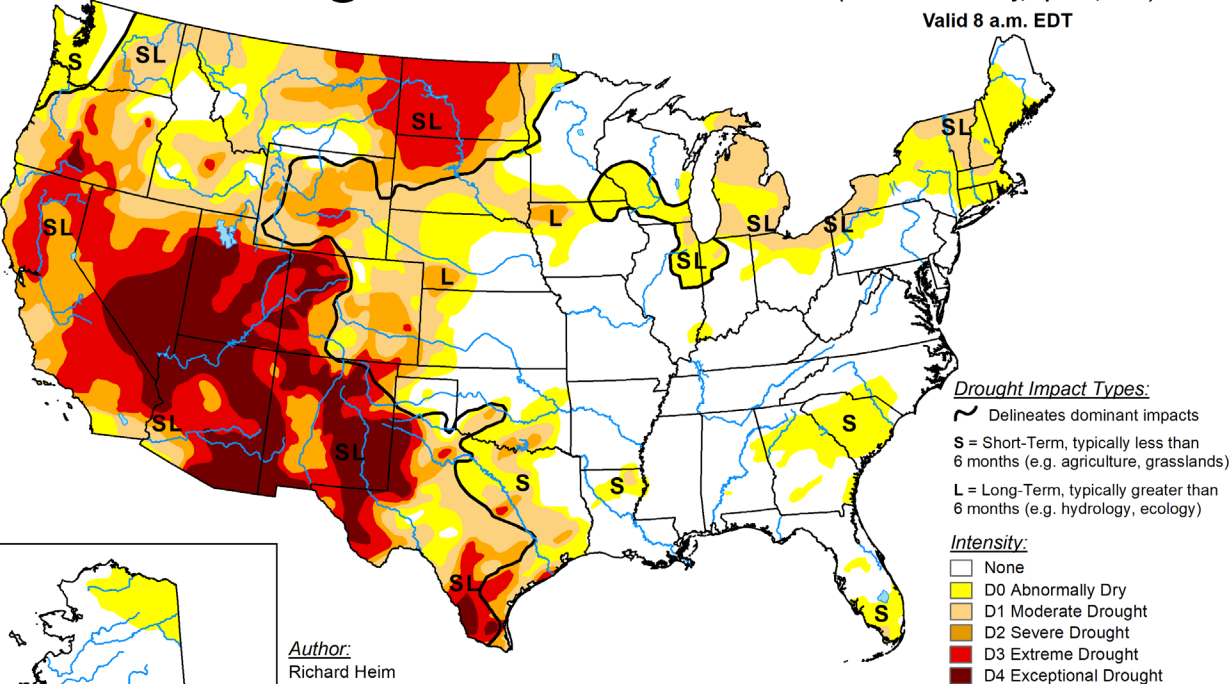
-  None
-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Moderate Drought
-  D2 Severe Drought
-  D3 Extreme Drought
-  D4 Exceptional Drought

# Drought

April 2021

## U.S. Drought Monitor

April 20, 2021  
(Released Thursday, Apr. 22, 2021)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Author:  
Richard Heim  
NCEI/NOAA

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>

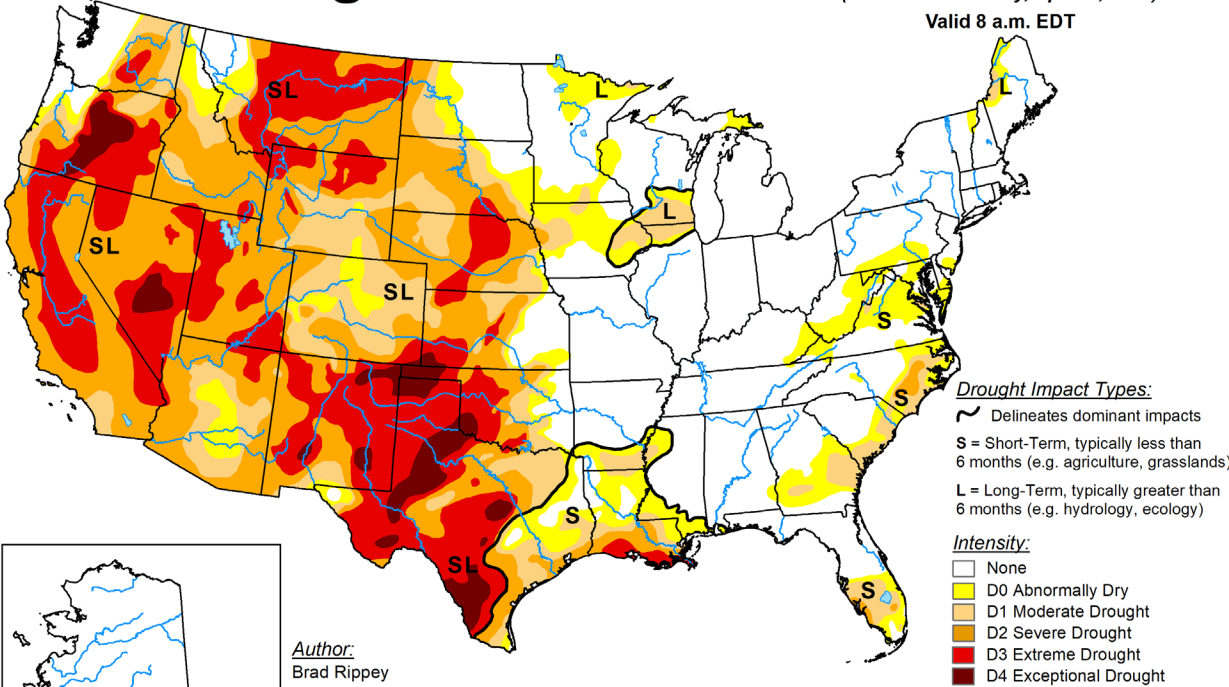


[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

April 2022

## U.S. Drought Monitor

April 19, 2022  
(Released Thursday, Apr. 21, 2022)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



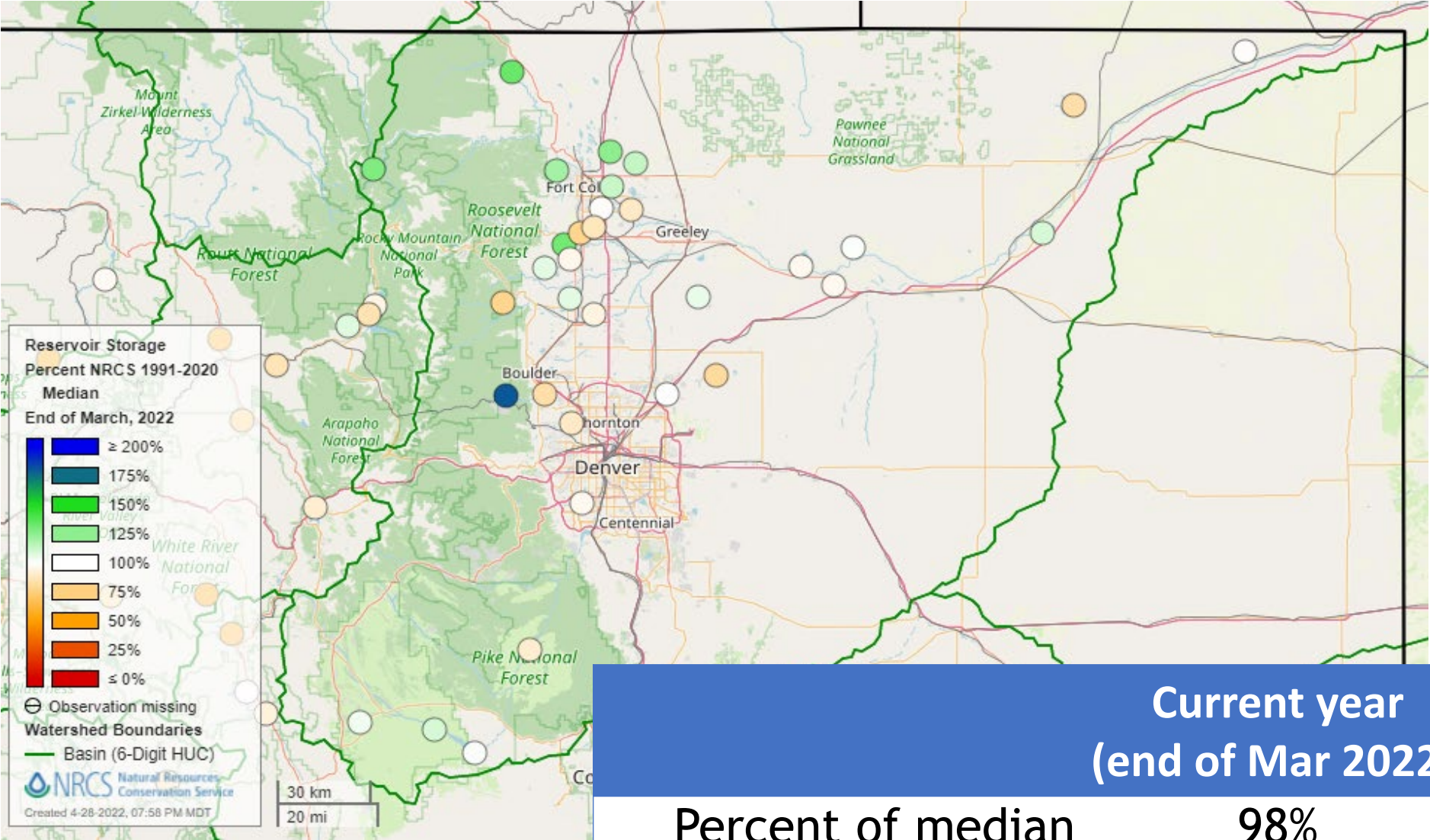
Author:  
Brad Rippey  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.  
Local conditions may vary. For more information on the  
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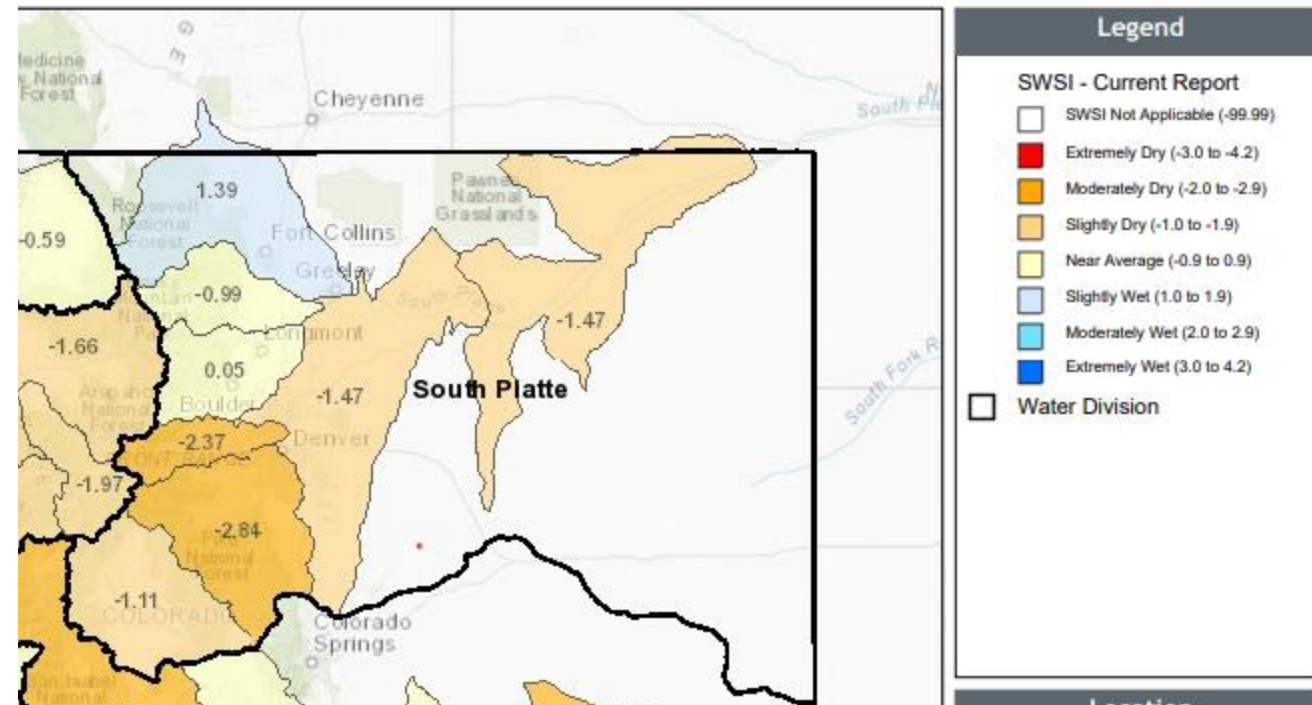
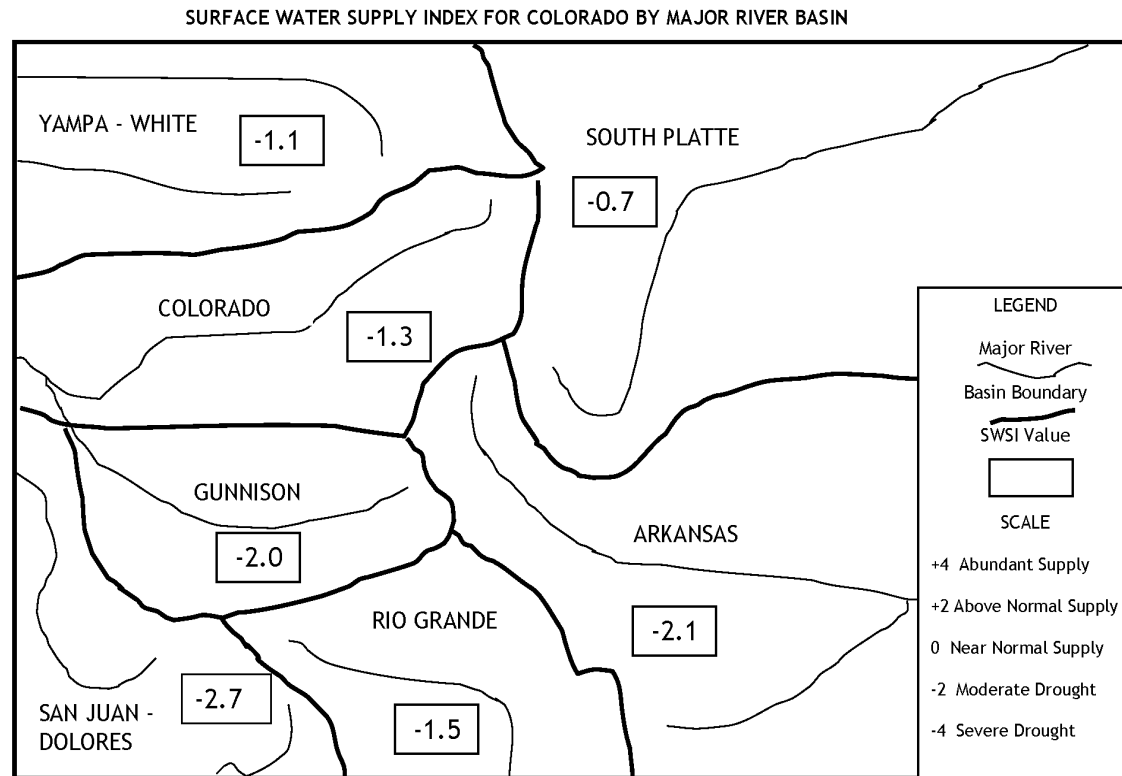
[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

# Reservoir Storage



	Current year (end of Mar 2022)	Previous year (end of Mar 2021)
Percent of median storage levels	98%	86%

# Surface Water Supply Index



April 1, 2022

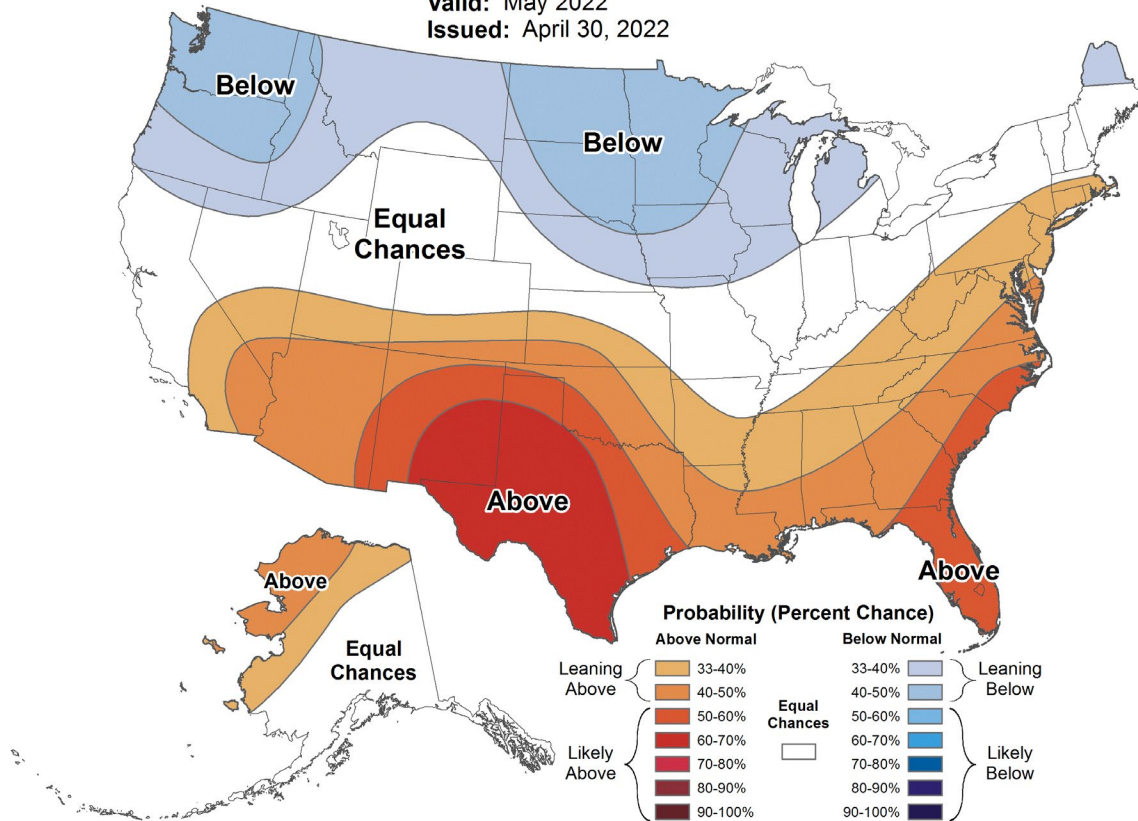
# Outlook



## Monthly Temperature Outlook



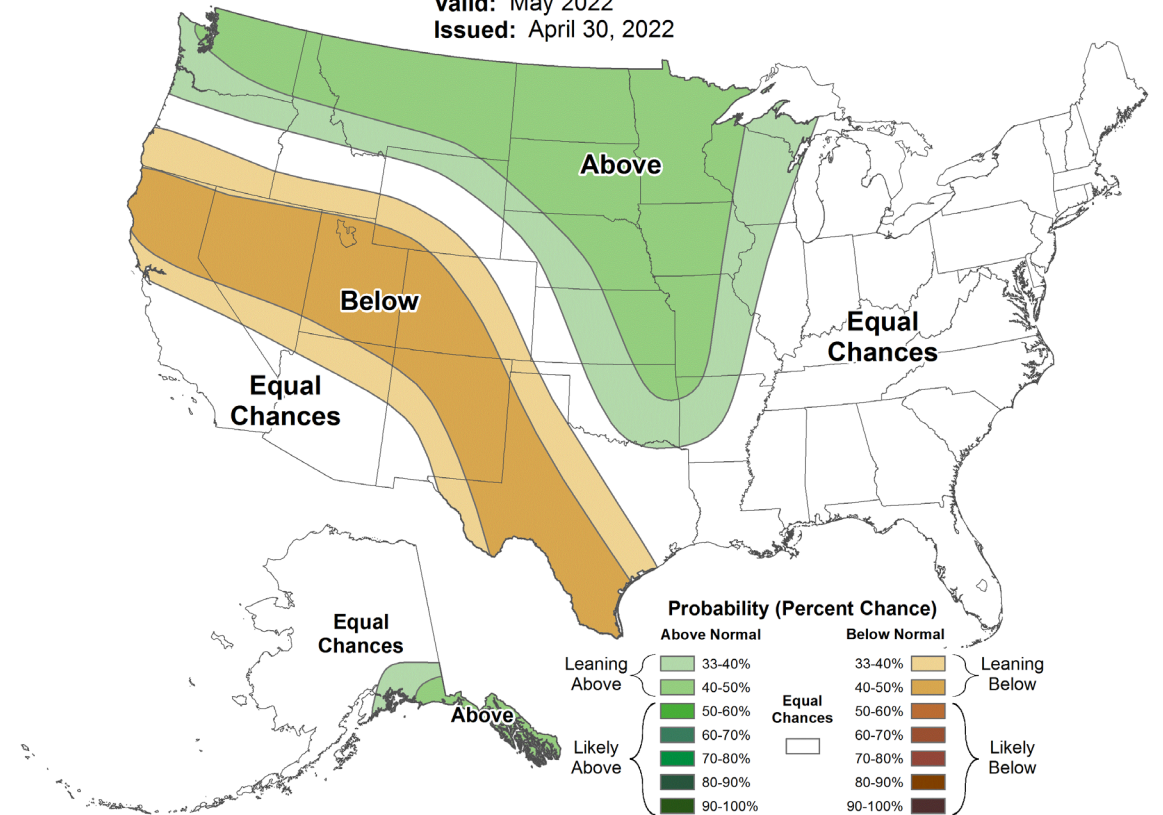
Valid: May 2022  
Issued: April 30, 2022



## Monthly Precipitation Outlook



Valid: May 2022  
Issued: April 30, 2022



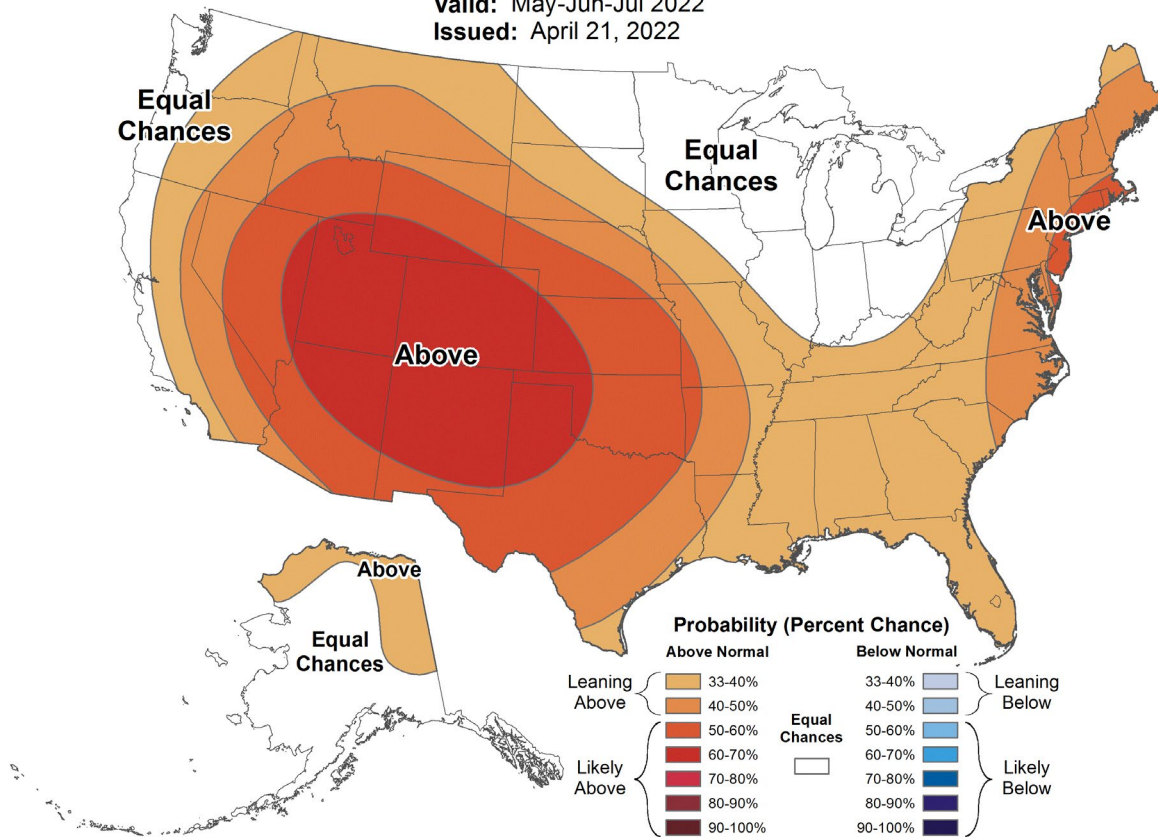
# Outlook



## Seasonal Temperature Outlook



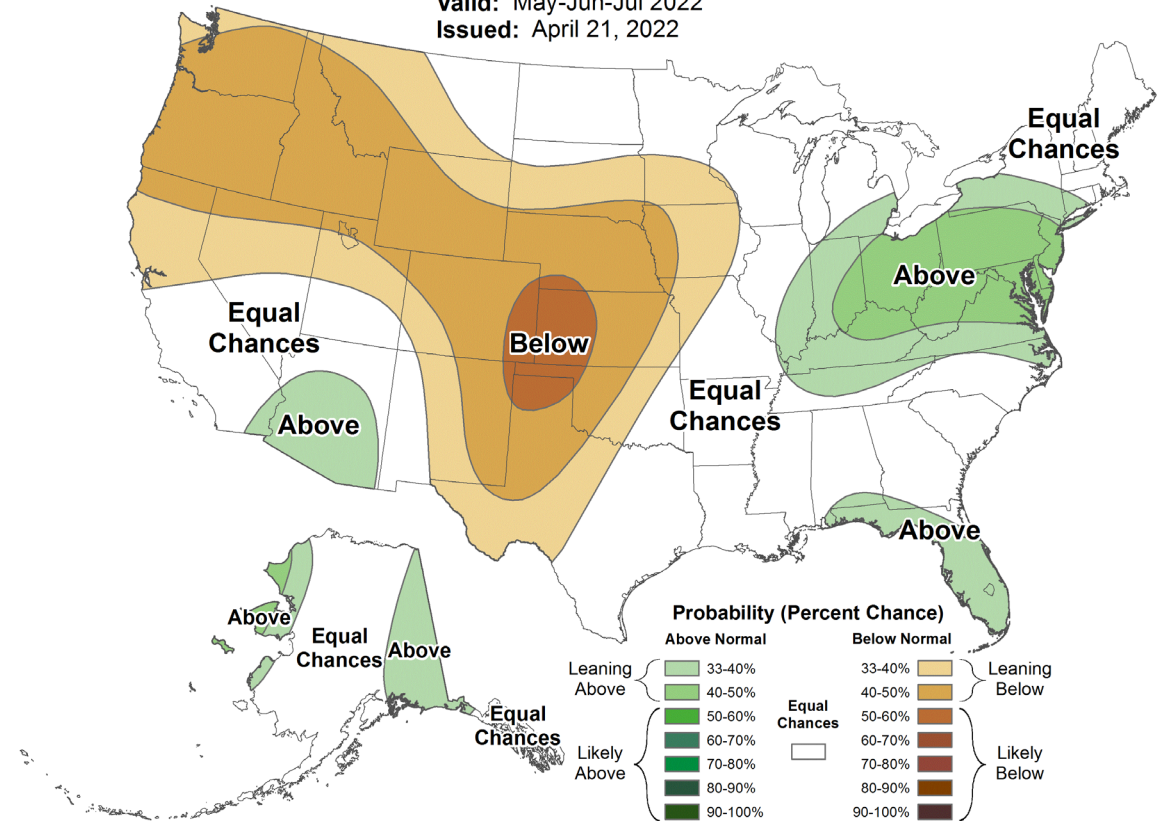
Valid: May-Jun-Jul 2022  
Issued: April 21, 2022



## Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: May-Jun-Jul 2022  
Issued: April 21, 2022



# Take homes...

- Below median SWE, but not historically bad
- What happens in next 4 weeks will be crucial to water supply
- Models predict dry and hot going forward



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Department of Natural Resources

Kara Scheel  
[kara.scheel@state.co.us](mailto:kara.scheel@state.co.us)