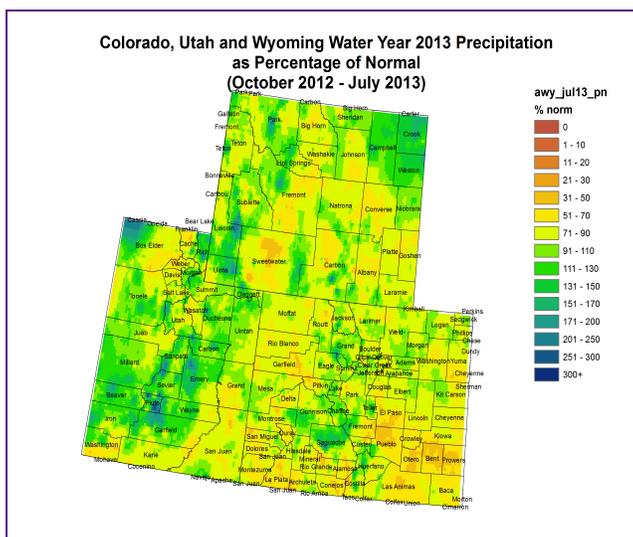
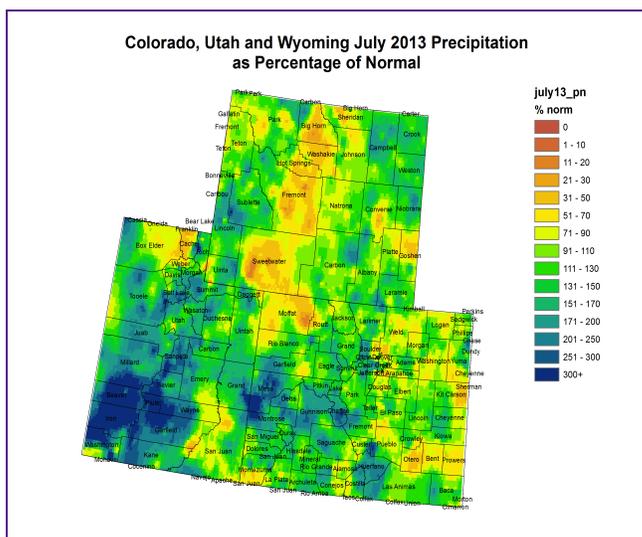
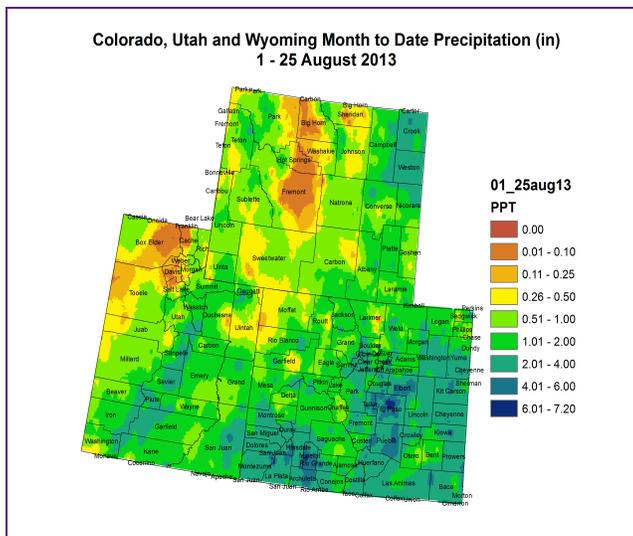
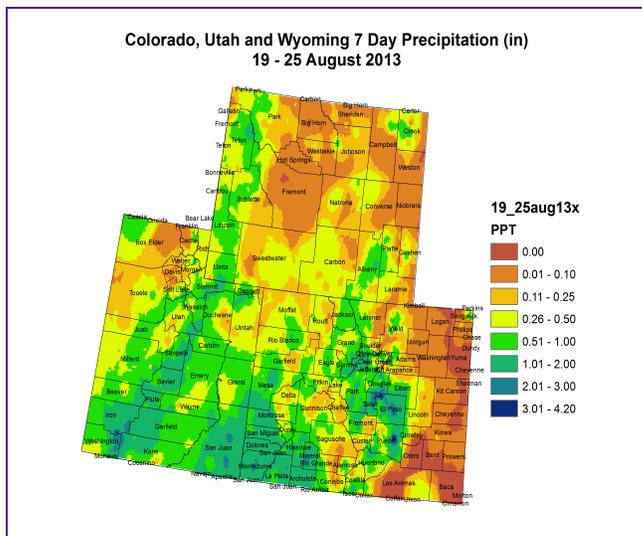


PRECIPITATION



The images above use daily precipitation statistics from NWS COOP, CoCoRaHS, and CoAgMet stations. From top to bottom, and left to right: most recent 7-days of accumulated precipitation in inches; current month-to-date accumulated precipitation in inches; last month's precipitation as a percent of average; water-year-to-date precipitation as a percent of average.

WYTD Precipitation:

- Much of northeastern UT and western WY have seen near average precipitation for the water year with some drier areas in the Wasatch mountains and in Sweetwater County, WY
- Eastern UT and western CO have received between 70% and 110% of average precipitation for the water year, with slightly drier conditions in southwest CO
- The northern and central CO mountains are near average
- Northeast CO is near to slightly below average with some drier patches around Washington and Yuma counties

- Southeast CO is below 70% of average with many areas lower than 50% of average, though a few isolated areas have seen improvement

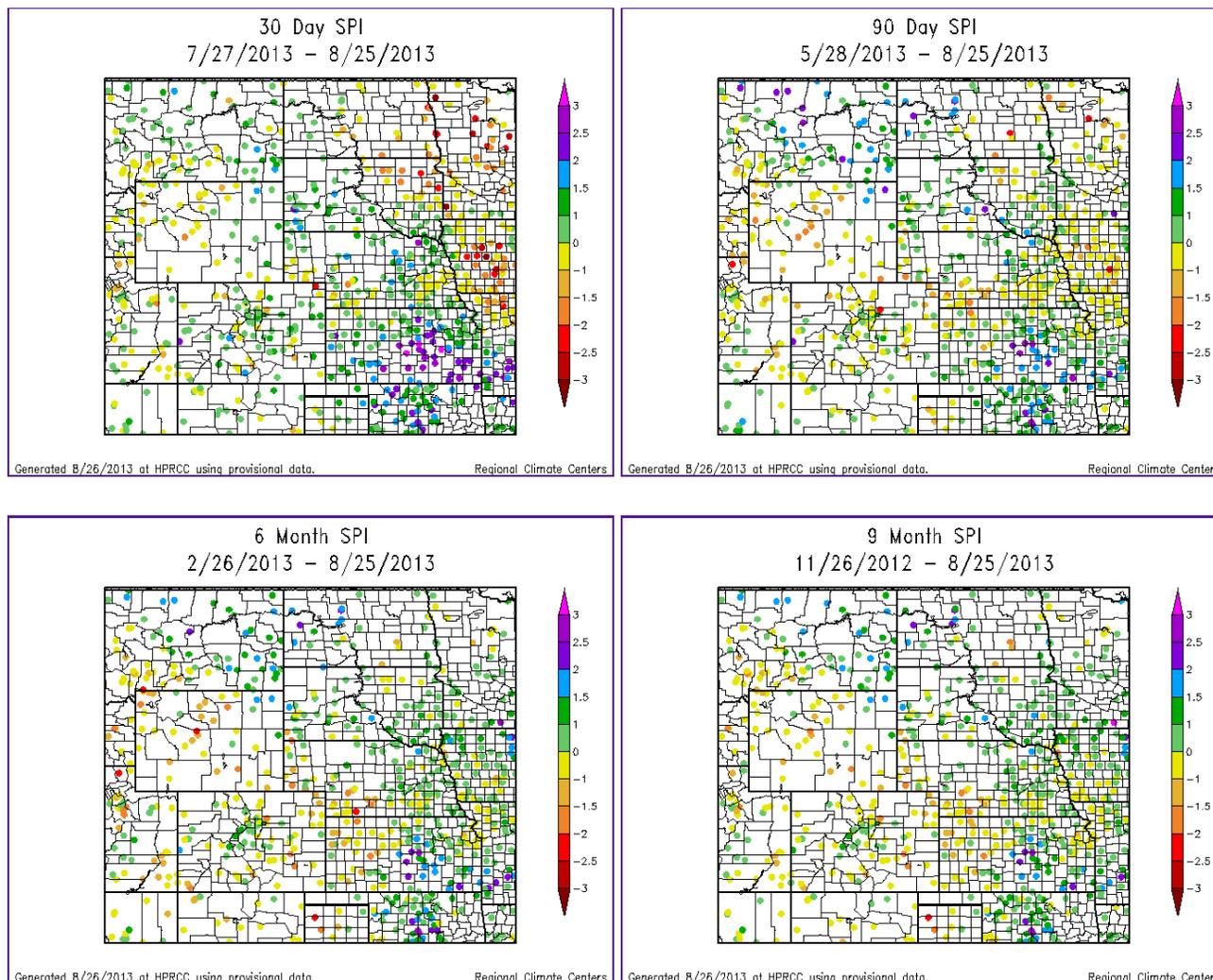
July Precipitation:

- Most of the UCRB received near to above average precipitation for the month
- Sweetwater County, WY and Moffat County, CO were drier for the month, with many areas there receiving less than 50% of average precipitation
- Parts of western CO and central UT received over 150% of average precipitation
- The Four Corners region and the San Juans received near average precipitation
- Isolated areas in eastern CO received near average precipitation, while some scattered areas received less than average

Last Week Precipitation:

- Much of the Upper Colorado River Basin saw beneficial moisture over the past week
- The Uintas in northeast UT, central UT, the Four Corners region, and the San Juans all received between .50 to 2 inches of precipitation last week, with a couple of isolated spots receiving more
- The northern and central CO mountains received between .25 and 1 inch of precipitation
- Southwest WY and northwest CO were a little bit drier, receiving between .10 and .50 inches in most areas, with some isolated areas receiving up to an inch
- East of the basin, the Front Range foothills and areas around Colorado Springs and Pueblo received between .50 inches to over 2 inches in some areas
- Eastern CO was much drier, with most areas receiving less than .10 inches and some spots seeing no precipitation at all for the week

STANDARDIZED PRECIPITATION INDEX



Standardized Precipitation Index standardizes precipitation accumulations for a specified time period into percentile rankings. -1.0 to -1.5 is equivalent to a D1 to D2. -1.5 to -2.0 is equivalent to a D2 to D3. -2.0 and worse is equivalent to a D3 to D4. 30- and 60-day SPIs focus on short-term conditions while 6- and 9-month SPIs focus on long-term conditions. SPI data provided by High Plains Regional Climate Center.

Short Term (30-day):

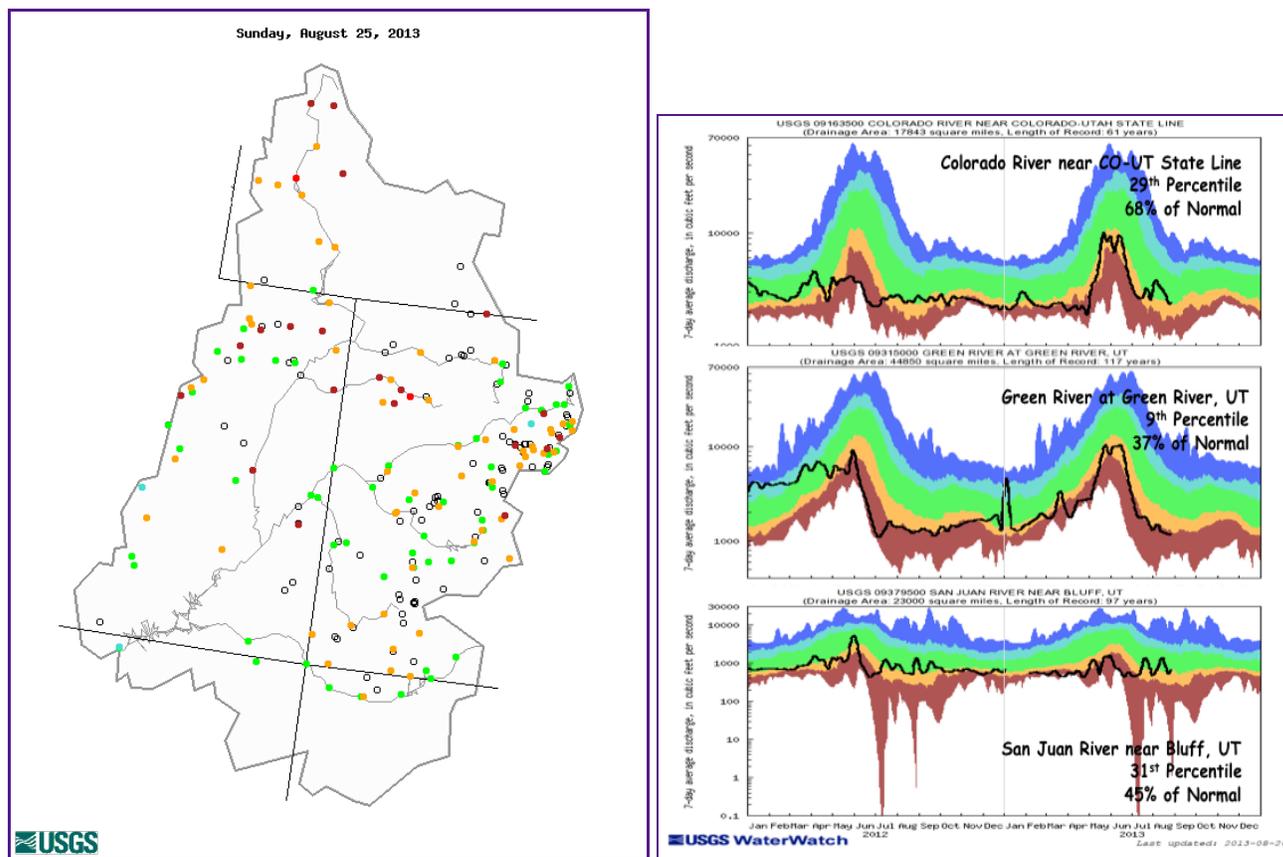
- Most of the basin shows near average conditions with most SPIs between -1 and +1
- More of the drier SPIs are in eastern UT or in western WY
- East of the basin, most of eastern WY and eastern CO showing wet SPIs with a few isolated spots of negative SPIs

Long Term (6-month):

- SPIs in the northern part of the basin between 0 and -1.5
- SPIs between -1 and -2 along the Wasatch range in northern UT with wetter SPIs to the south
- The Four Corners region showing SPIs between 0 and -2

- Wetter SPIs along the northern and central CO mountains
- Mixed wet/dry SPIs along the Front Range
- Eastern CO mostly seeing drier SPIs between 0 and -2

STREAMFLOW



Explanation - Percentile classes

Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	Not-ranked
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

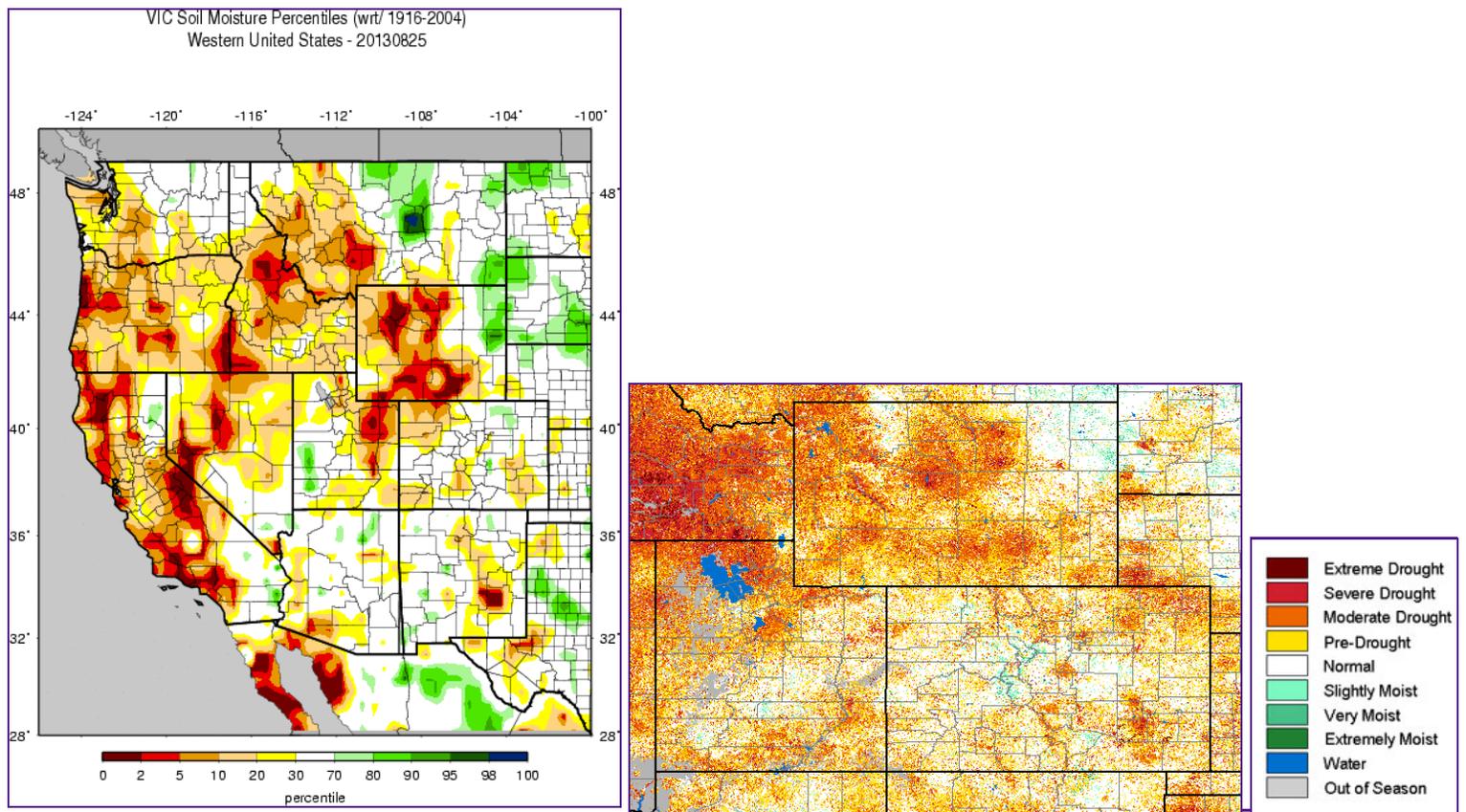
The top left image shows 7-day averaged streamflows as a percentile ranking across the UCRB. The top right image shows 7-day averaged discharge over time at three key sites around the UCRB: The Colorado River at the CO-UT state line; the Green River at Green River, UT; and the San Juan River near Bluff, UT. All streamflow data provided by United States Geological Survey.

Streamflow Statistics:

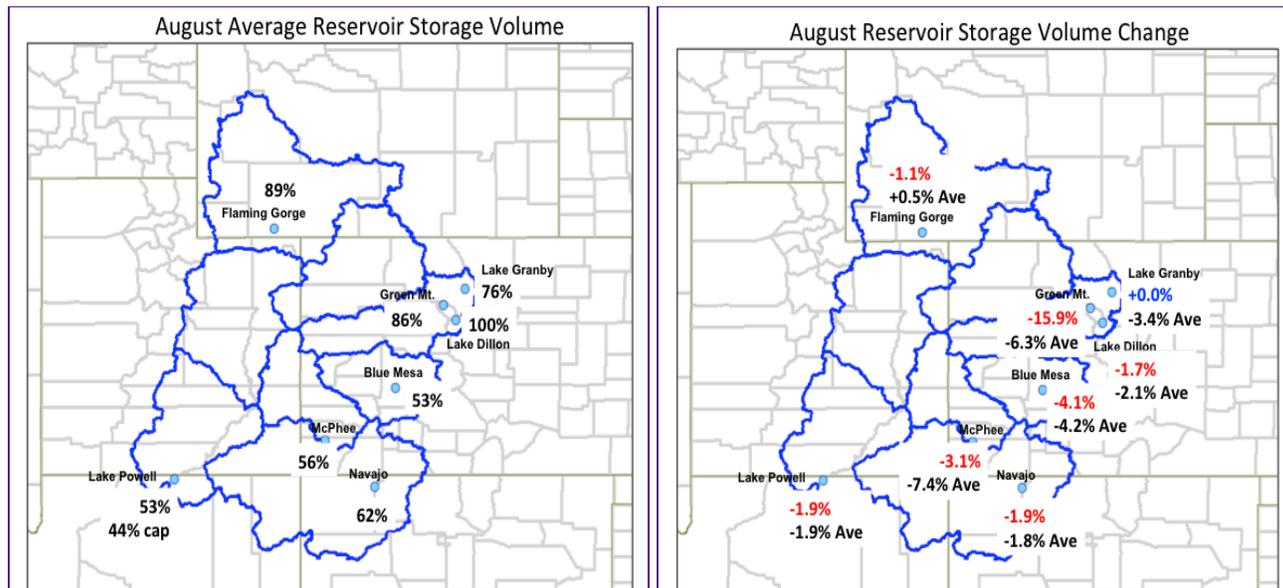
- 44% of gages recording normal to above normal 7-day average streamflows

- 16% of gages recording much below normal or low 7-day average streamflows
- Overall decrease in flows across the basin in the past couple of weeks
- Green, White, and Yampa rivers showing the lowest flows with near normal to below normal flows along the Colorado, Gunnison, Dolores, and San Juan rivers
- The Colorado River at the CO-UT state line has decreased over the past couple of weeks and is currently recording in the near normal range at the 29th percentile
- The Green River at Green River, UT is still recording flows in the much below normal range at the 9th percentile
- Flows on the San Juan River near Bluff, UT have decreased over the past week and are in the near normal range at the 31st percentile

SURFACE WATER



The top left image shows VIC modeled soil moisture as a percentile ranking. The top right image shows satellite-derived vegetation from the VegDRI product (which updates on Mondays).



The above left image shows the percent of average volumes of the major reservoirs in the UCRB. The above right image shows the percent change in volume over a specific time period for the reservoirs.

VIC:

- Dry soil moisture conditions widespread throughout central and western WY, with large areas of soil moisture below the 5th percentile in southern WY
- Soil moisture below the 5th percentile for much of northeast UT
- Dry soil moisture in northwest CO, mostly below the 20th percentile
- The Four Corners also showing soil moisture conditions below the 20th percentile
- Near normal soil moisture conditions along the east side of the basin
- Near normal soil moisture conditions for northeast CO
- Southeast CO showing drier soil moisture, with areas around the Arkansas valley below the 20th percentile

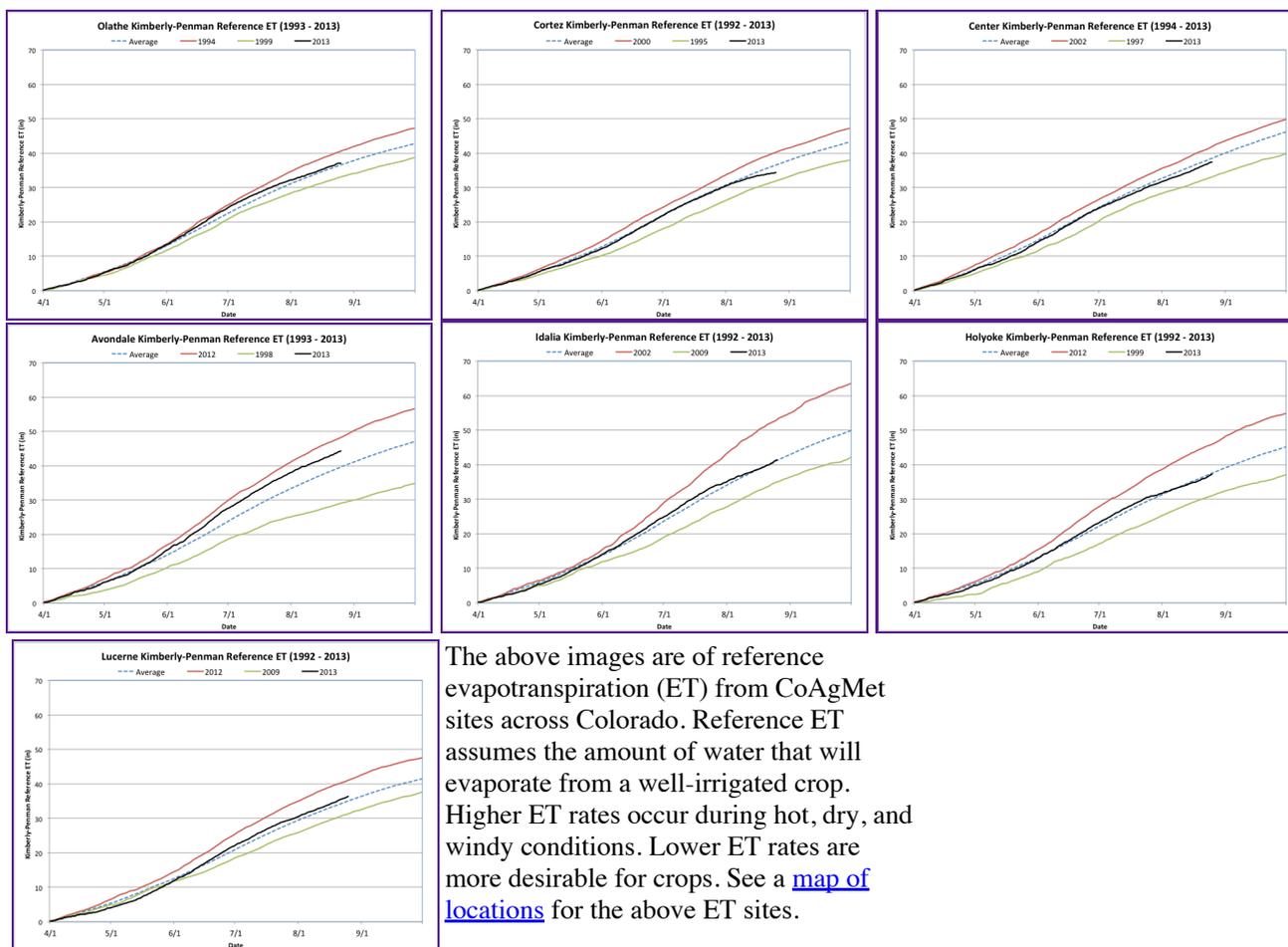
VegDRI:

- Most of the UCRB showing dry vegetation conditions
- The northern fringes of the basin in southwest WY are showing very dry vegetation conditions
- Very dry vegetation is also showing up over northern UT and the Uintahs in northeast UT
- The northern and central CO mountains are showing near normal to slightly moist vegetation with slightly drier vegetation in western CO.
- The Colorado River valley in southeast UT and the Four Corners are showing moderately dry vegetation
- Drier vegetation is showing up over northeast CO and along the Arkansas valley in southeast CO

Reservoirs:

- Most of the reservoirs are decreasing in volume, which is normal for this time of year. Most of the volume decreases are close to average
- Green Mountain has seen much greater decreases than what is expected for this time of year
- Lake Granby has stayed near steady (with a very slight increase) since the beginning of the month
- Dillon is near its August average while Flaming Gorge and Green Mountain are slightly below average
- The remaining reservoirs range between 53% of average (Lake Powell and Blue Mesa) and 76% of average (Lake Granby) for August

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION



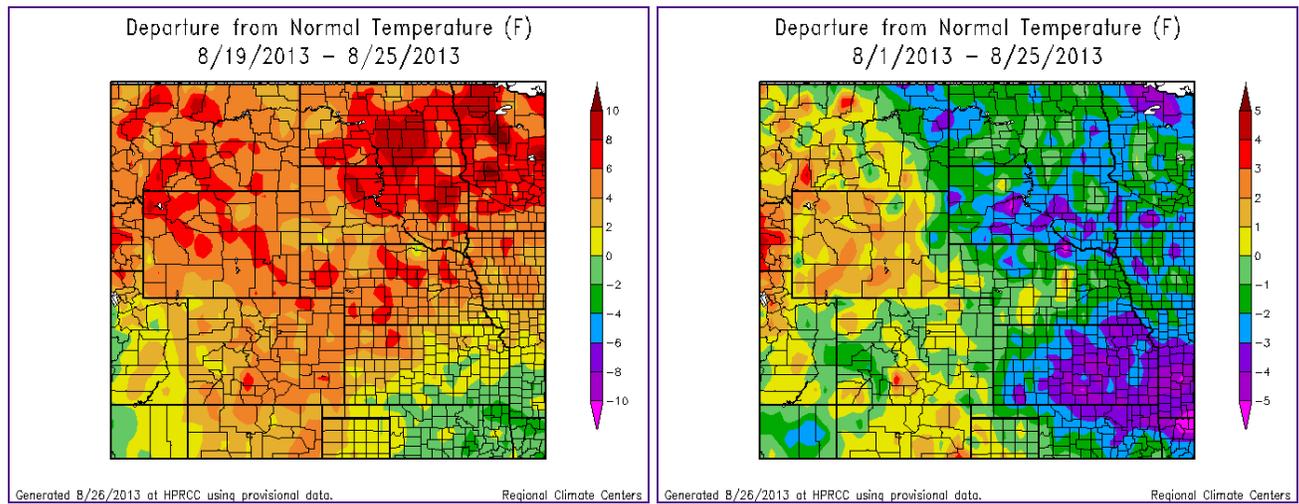
The above images are of reference evapotranspiration (ET) from CoAgMet sites across Colorado. Reference ET assumes the amount of water that will evaporate from a well-irrigated crop. Higher ET rates occur during hot, dry, and windy conditions. Lower ET rates are more desirable for crops. See a [map of locations](#) for the above ET sites.

Reference ET:

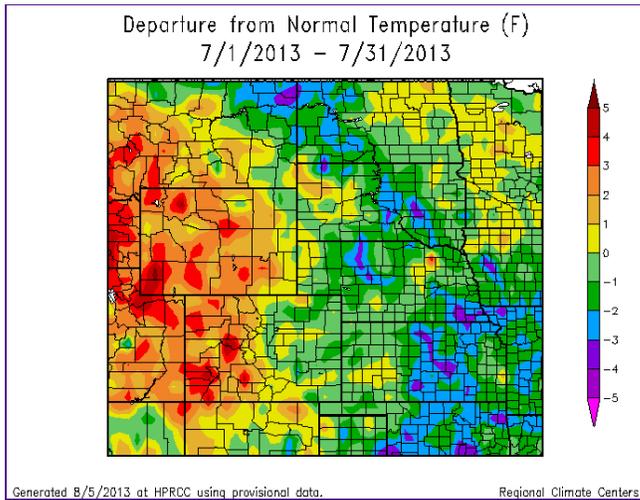
- Olathe: ET was above average for most of July. Near the end of July, ET rates slowed and ET is now slightly above average
- Cortez: ET was near average for July. Slower ET rates have helped

- lower than to below average for most of August
- Center: ET has been below average since the beginning of July
- Avondale: ET rates have been well above average for most of the growing season, though still below the record ET year of 2012. ET rates have slowed somewhat since late July
- Idalia: ET was above average for July. ET rates have slowed and ET has been close to average for the past couple weeks
- Holyoke: ET rates dropped to slightly below average after being slightly above average for July. Over the last week, ET rates have increased a little again
- Lucerne: ET has been slightly above average since late June
- Along eastern CO, daily ET rates have increased over the past week as a result of lower humidities and hotter temperatures. Daily rates ranged between .25 and .30 inches

TEMPERATURE



All images show temperature departures from average over different time periods (last 7 days on top left; month-to-date on top right; last full month on bottom). Temperature departure maps provided by HPRCC ACIS.



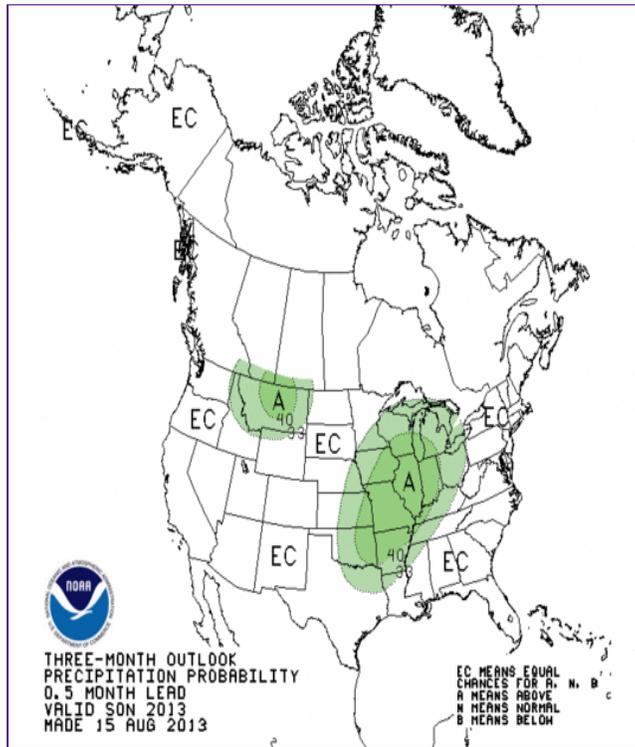
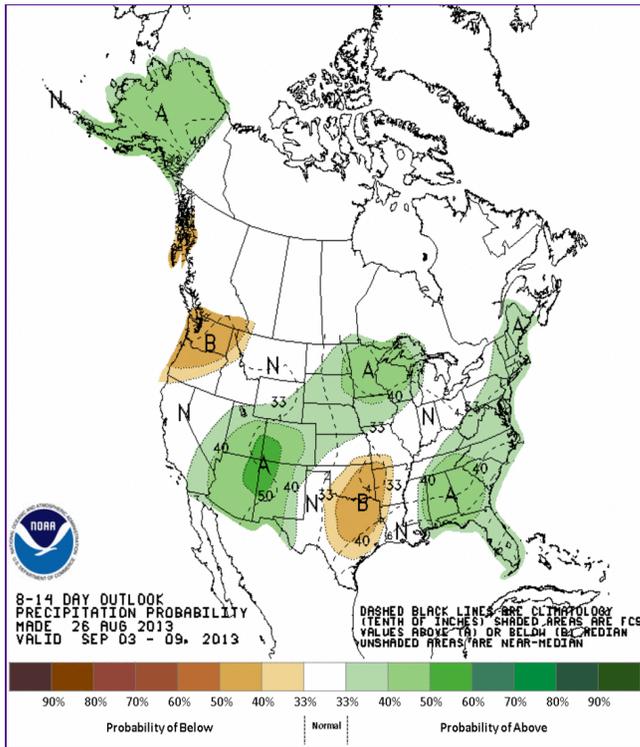
Last Week Temperatures:

- Most of the UCRB saw warmer than average temperatures
- Closer to average temperatures occurred over the western edge of the basin with temperatures 2 to 6 degrees above average along the eastern and northern sides of the basin
- Temperatures were mostly 2 to 6 degrees warmer than average along eastern CO

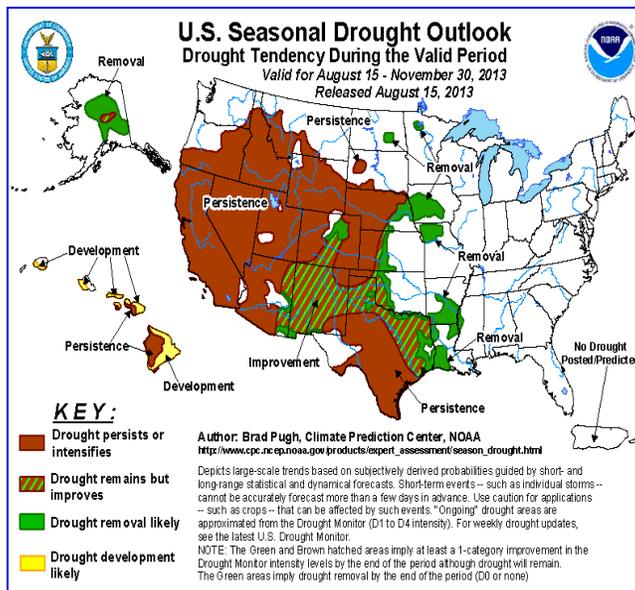
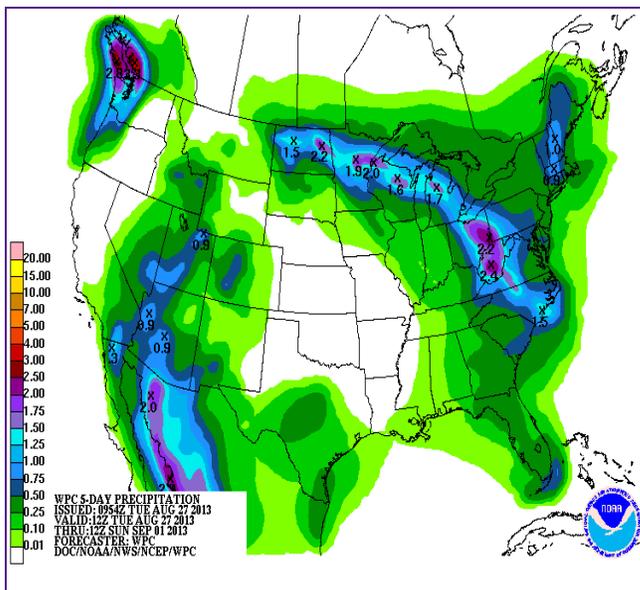
Last Month Temperatures:

- Most of the basin saw warmer than average temperatures for the month of July
- For most areas, temperatures ranged between 2 and 5 degrees above average
- Temperatures east of the basin in eastern CO were very close to average

FORECAST AND OUTLOOK



The top two images show Climate Prediction Center's Precipitation outlooks for 8 - 14 days (top left) and 3 months (top right). The bottom left image shows the Hydrologic Prediction Center's Quantitative Precipitation Forecast accumulation for the five days between Tuesday 12Z and ending Sunday 12Z. The bottom right image shows the Climate Prediction Center's most recent release of the U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook.



This Week:

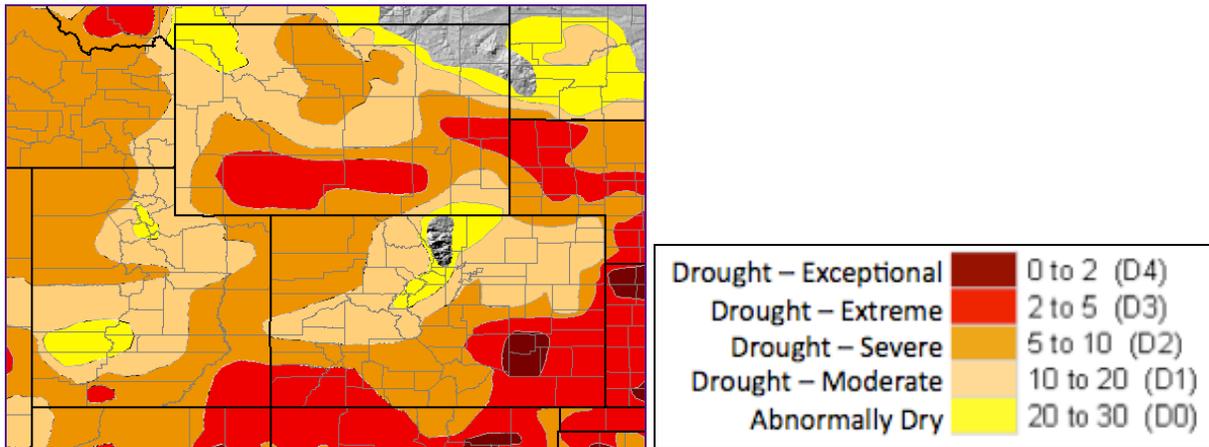
- Monsoonal moisture from the Desert Southwest will continue to stream into the UCRB over the next several days bringing more accumulations to the Four Corners region and eastern UT

- East of the basin will continue to be a bit drier, with isolated showers a possibility over the higher elevations and lower chances across the plains
- Temperatures will likely remain warmer than average this week

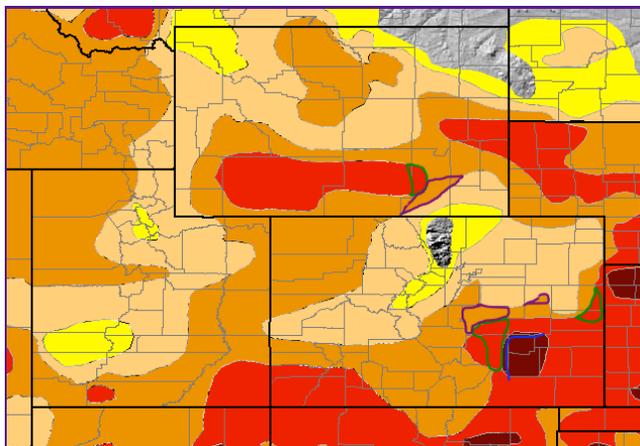
Longer Term:

- The 8-14 day outlook shows a good chance of warmer than average temperatures across the region and above average moisture over most of the basin
- The three month outlook shows equal chances for wet, dry, or normal conditions for the region
- The drought outlook shows the possibility for some drought improvement in southern CO with drought persistence throughout the rest of the region

U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR



Above is the most recent release of the U.S. Drought Monitor map for the UCRB region. Below shows the proposed changes for this week, with supporting text.



Summary: August 27, 2013

The monsoon continues to bring a strong surge of moisture into the southern part of the UCRB. The Four Corners region has benefited from larger precipitation amounts. Unfortunately, it is only providing short-term relief.

However, this area could continue to see more moisture over the next couple of weeks, which could help aide in drought relief. Warmer and drier conditions have returned to eastern CO and will persist into next week.

However, thanks to consistent rains over the past few weeks, the area has seen widespread drought relief and a reduction of impacts on croplands.

Recommendations**

UCRB: Status quo is recommended for the UCRB. Though northwest CO has been drier than the rest of the basin, reported impacts and sparse data in the area tend to show that D2 is still representative for the area, so no degradation is warranted at this time. In the Four Corners region, 1 to 2 inches of precipitation fell in the past week and more large accumulations are forecast over the next week. However, there has only been a short-term hydrologic response. Longer term impacts are still evident and long-term cumulative streamflow is still extremely low, so no improvements are recommended at this time.

Eastern CO: Some slight improvements are recommended in east-central and southeast CO. A slight trimming of the D4 (blue line) is recommended based on large accumulations (over 4 inches last week in eastern Pueblo County) and improved crop and grazing conditions in far northern Crowley County. Further removal of D3 is recommended (green shape) where greening is occurring, heavy accumulations have fallen, and VegDRI shows near normal conditions (El Paso and central Pueblo counties). A further trimming of the D2 out of El Paso County is also recommended (purple shape). The improvements in Lincoln County (D2 to D1) and Kit Carson and Cheyenne counties (D3 to D2) are not based on last week's precipitation, but more on reports from the ground of greener conditions and smoothing the lines from improvements made last week.

Southeast WY: Some slight improvements are recommended for where 1 to 2 inches of precipitation have fallen since the beginning of August following a near average July. A slight trimming of the D3 out of Albany County is recommended (green shape) and a subsequent trimming of the D2 is recommended (purple shape).