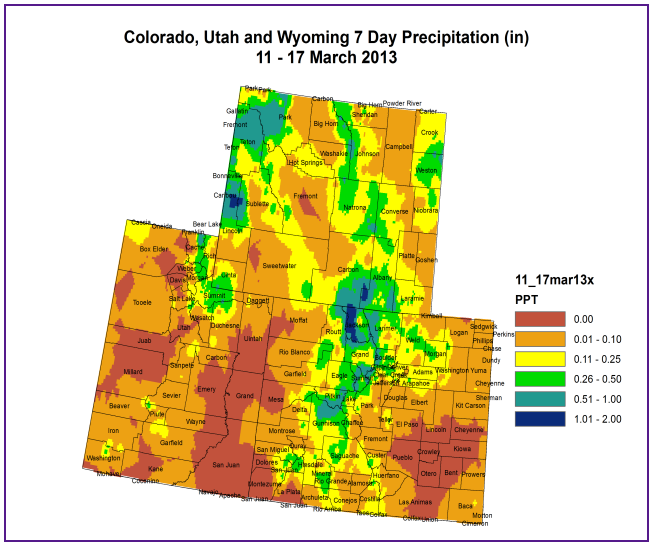
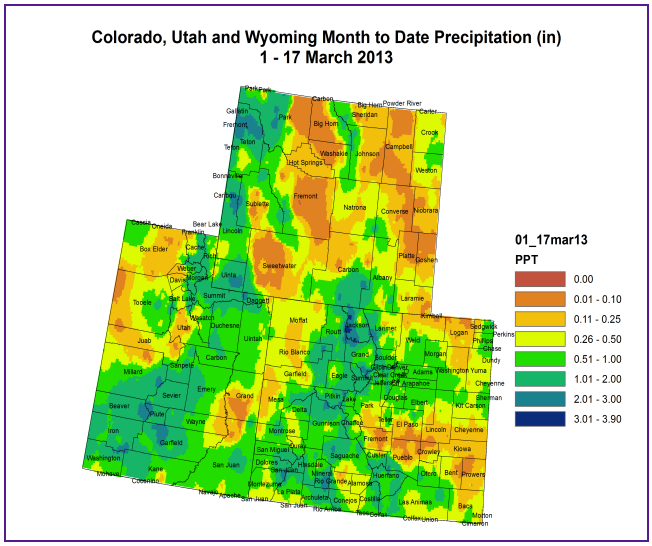
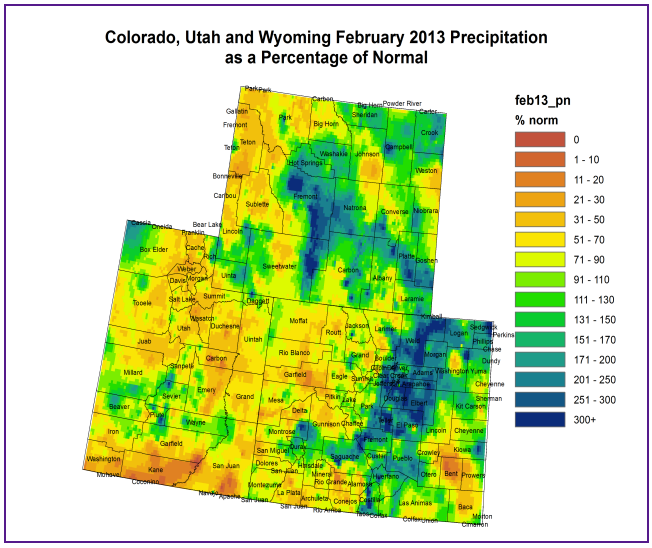
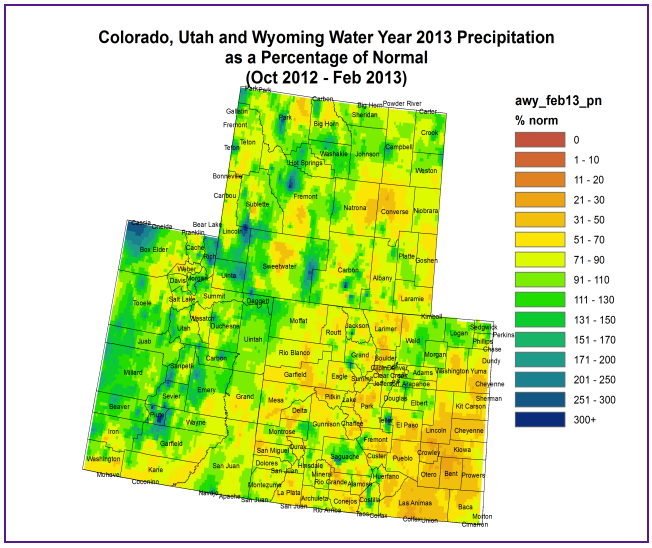
PRECIPITATION



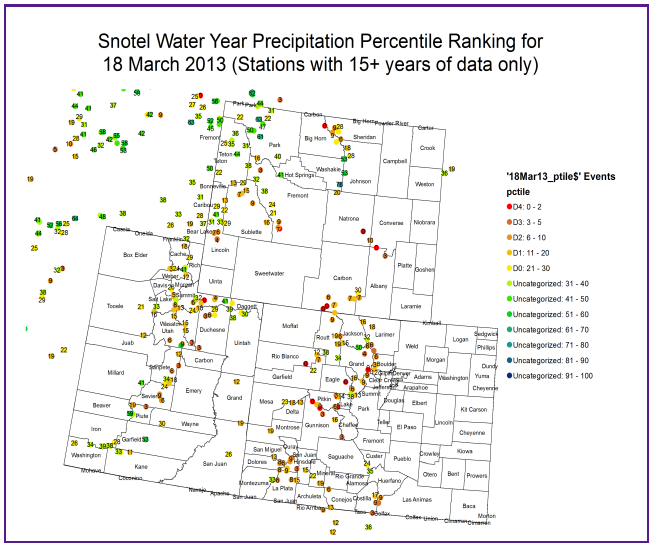


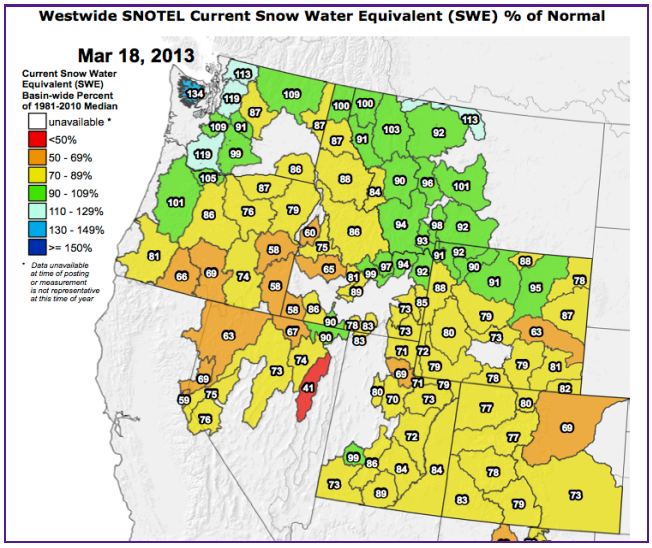




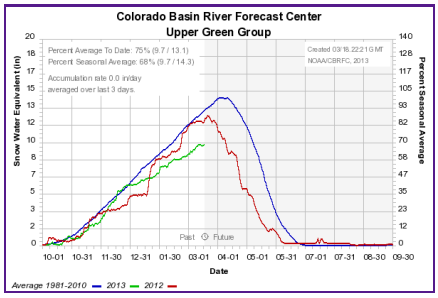
The images above use daily precipitation statistics from NWS COOP, CoCoRaHS, and CoAgMet stations. From top to bottom, and left to right: most recent 7-days of accumulated precipitation in inches; current month-to-date accumulated precipitation in inches; last month's precipitation as a percent of average;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

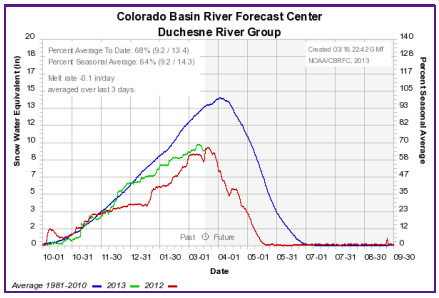
SNOTEL AND SNOWPACK

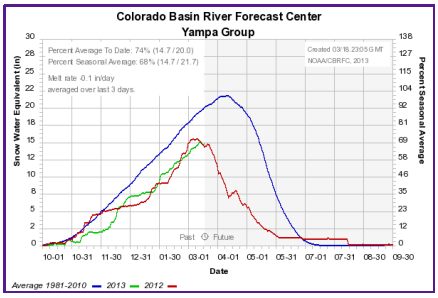


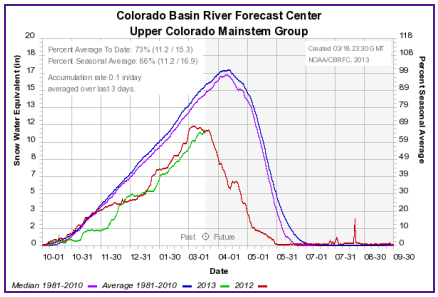


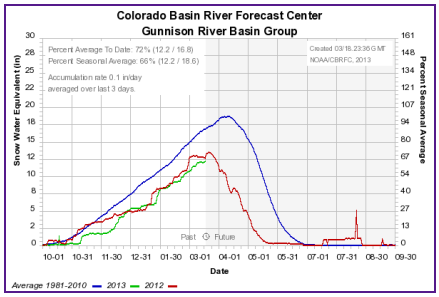
The top left image shows the Natural Resources Conservation Service's SNOTEL water-year-to-date precipitation percentile rankings. The top right image shows sub-basin averaged snow water equivalent accumulations as a percent of average. The images below show accumulated snow water equivalent in inches (green) compared to average (blue) and last year (red) for several different sub-basins across the UCRB (and were created by the Colorado Basin River Forecast Center).

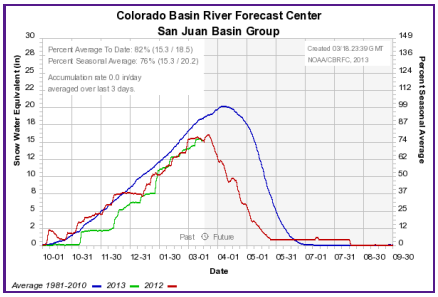




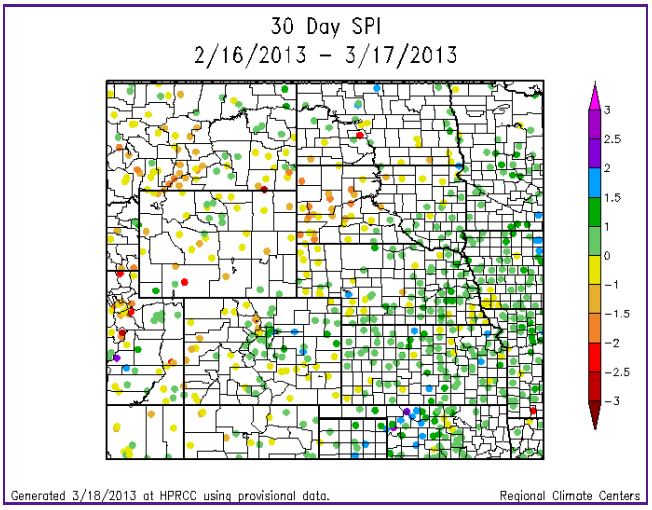


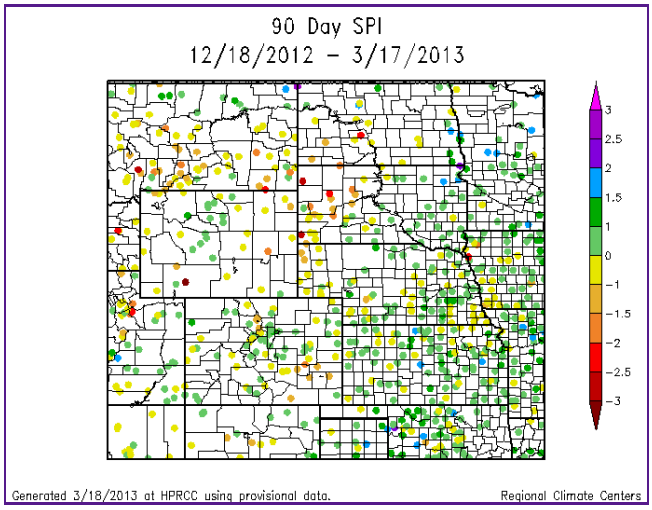


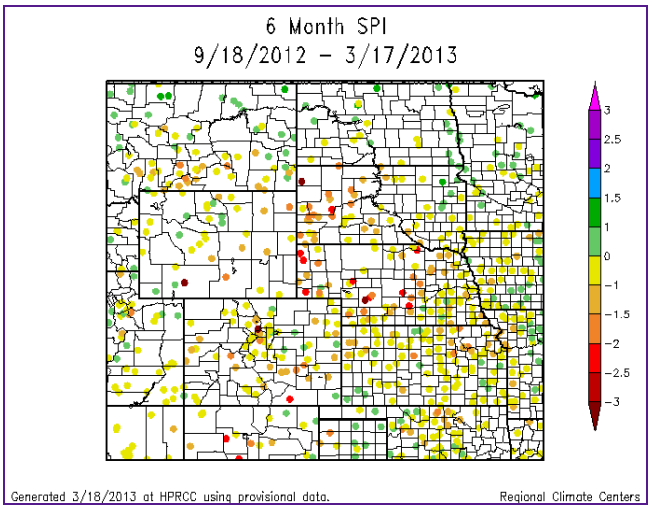


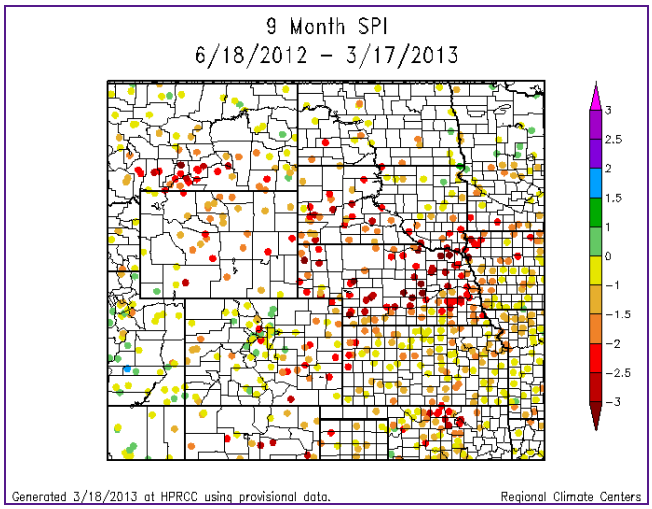


STANDARDIZED PRECIPITATION INDEX



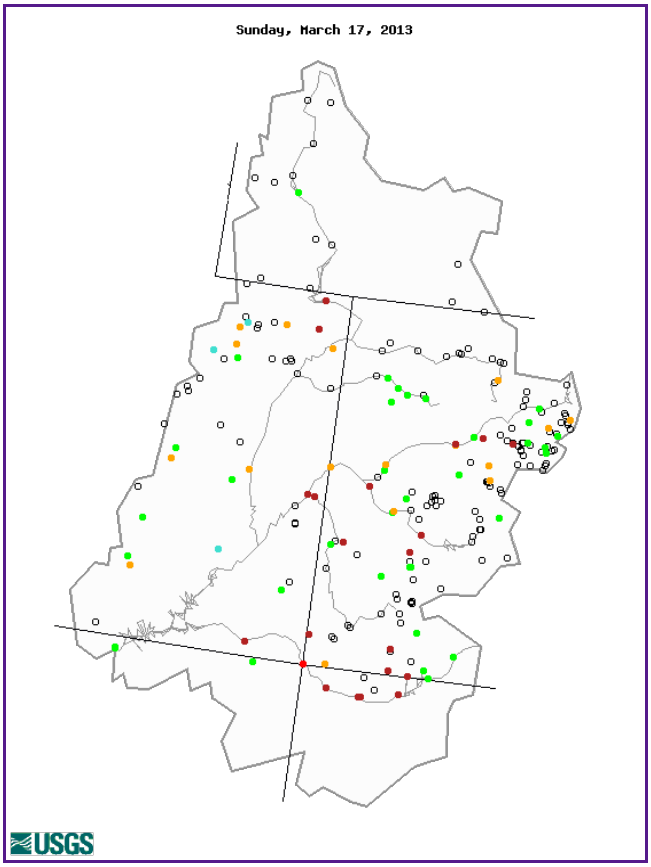


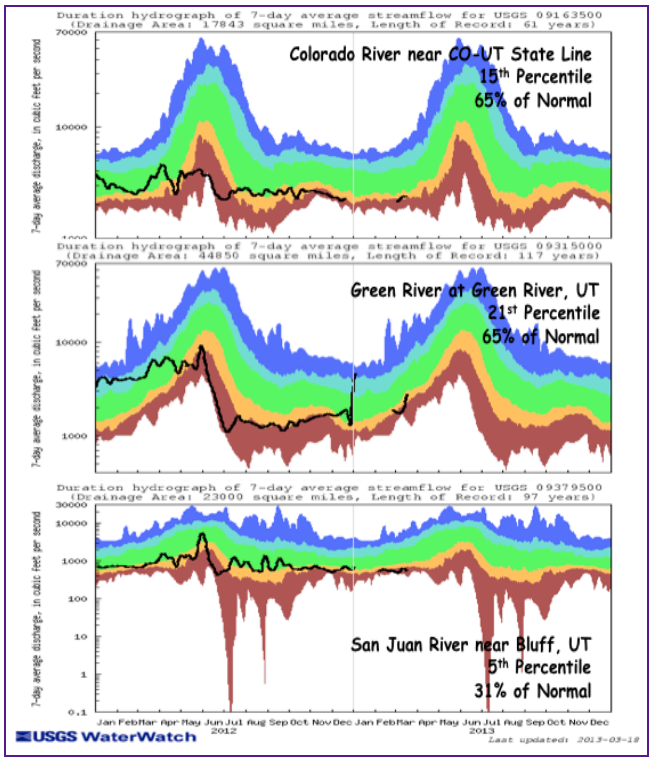




Standardized Precipitation Index standardizes precipitation accumulations for a specified time period into percentile rankings. -1.0 to -1.5 is equivalent to a D1 to D2. -1.5 to -2.0 is equivalent to a D2 to D3. -2.0 and worse is equivalent to a D3 to D4. 30- and 60-day SPIs focus on short-term conditions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

STREAMFLOW

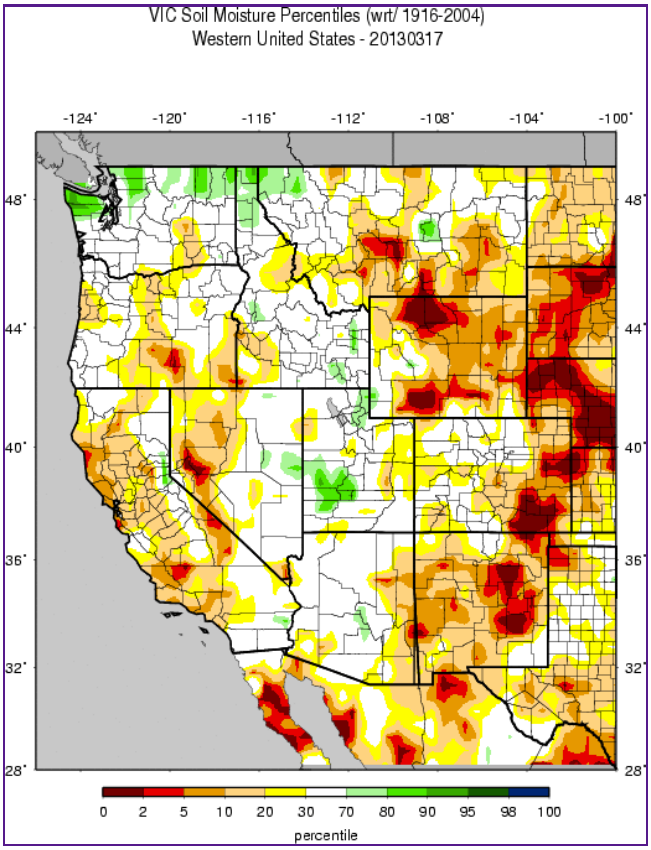


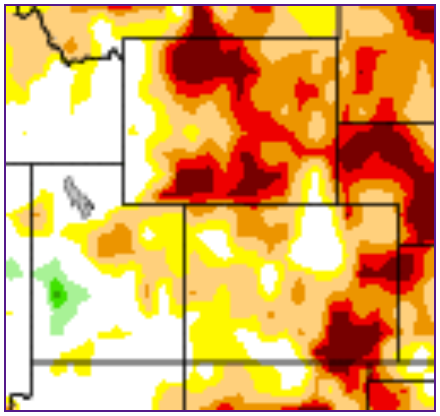


Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	Not-ranked
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

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.

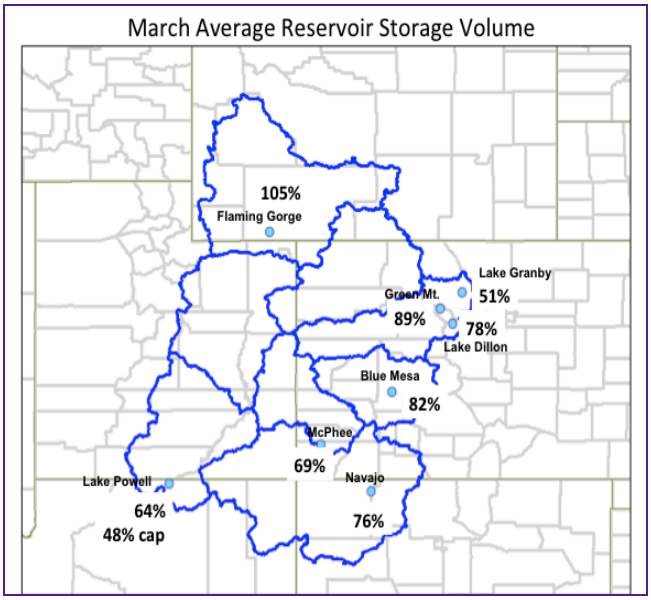
SURFACE WATER

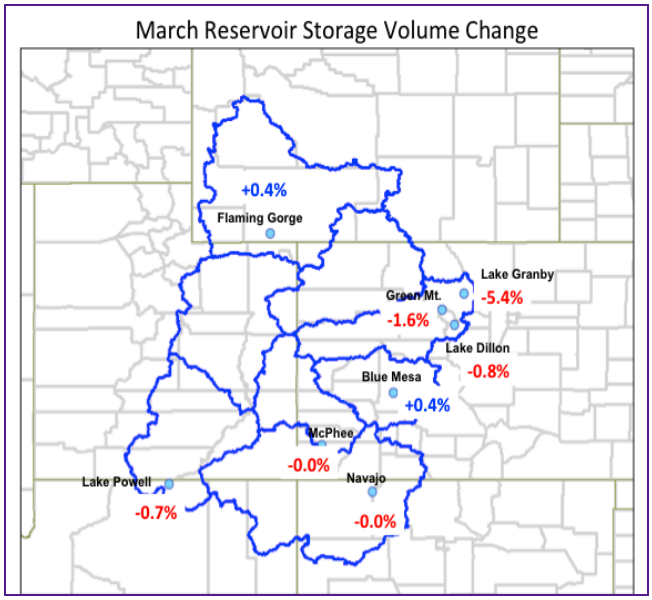




The top left image shows VIC modeled soil moisture as a percentile ranking. The top right image shows modeled VIC soil moisture plus snow water equivalent as a percentile ranking.

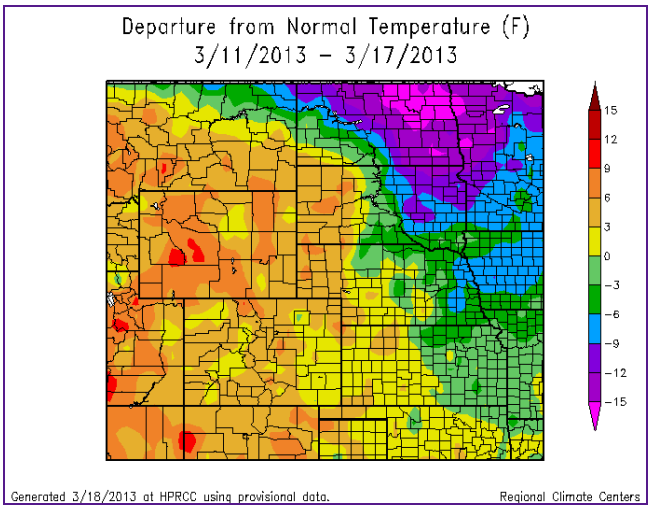
VegDRI and ReferenceET graphs are currently out of season.

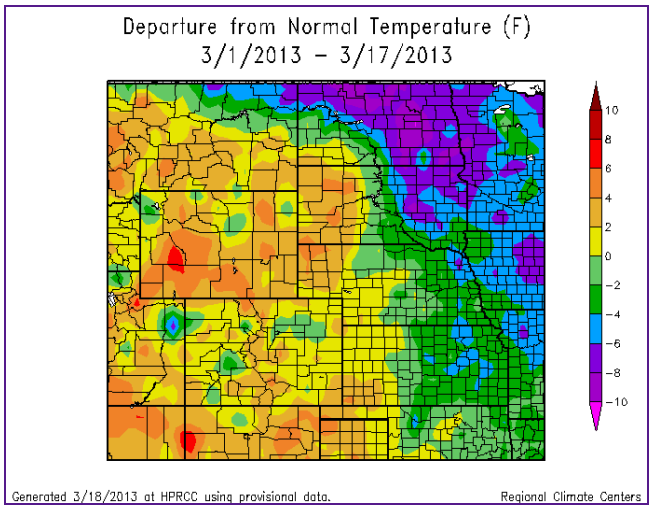




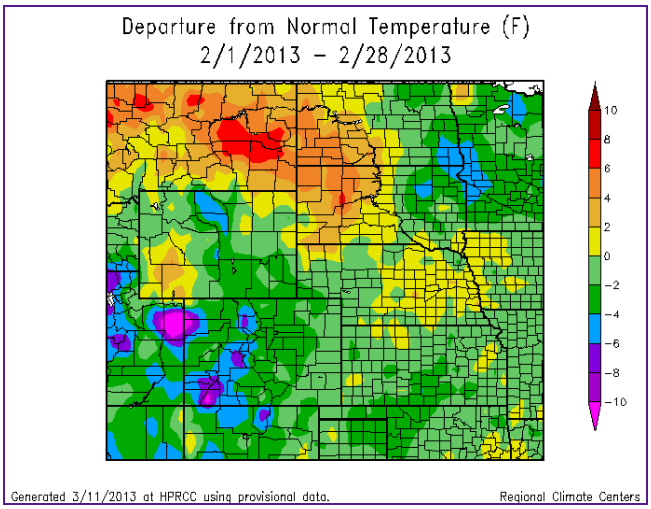
The above left image shows the percent of average volumes of the major reservoirs in the UCRB. The above right image shows the percent change in volume over a specific time period for the reservoirs.

TEMPERATURE

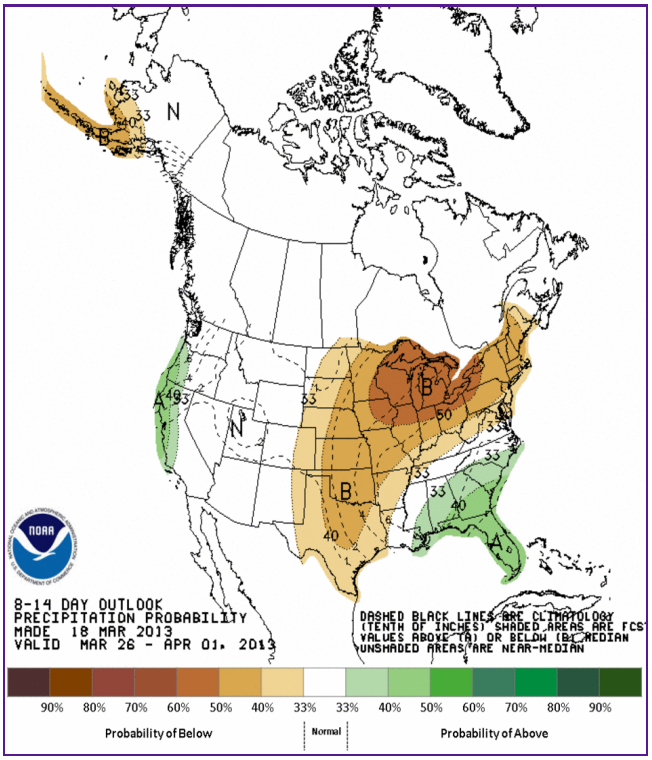


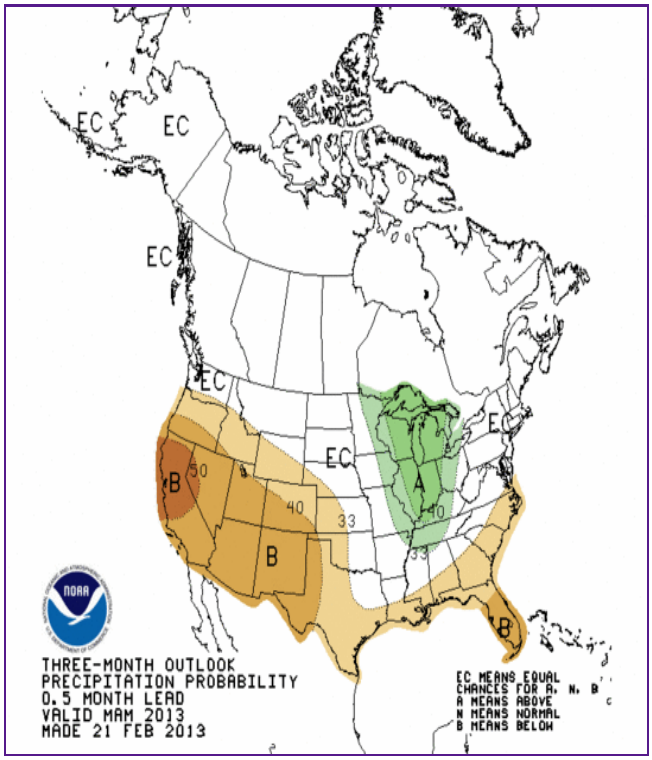


All images show temperature departures from average over different time periods (last 7 days on top left; month-to-date on top right; last full month on bottom). Temperature departure maps provided by HPRCC ACIS.

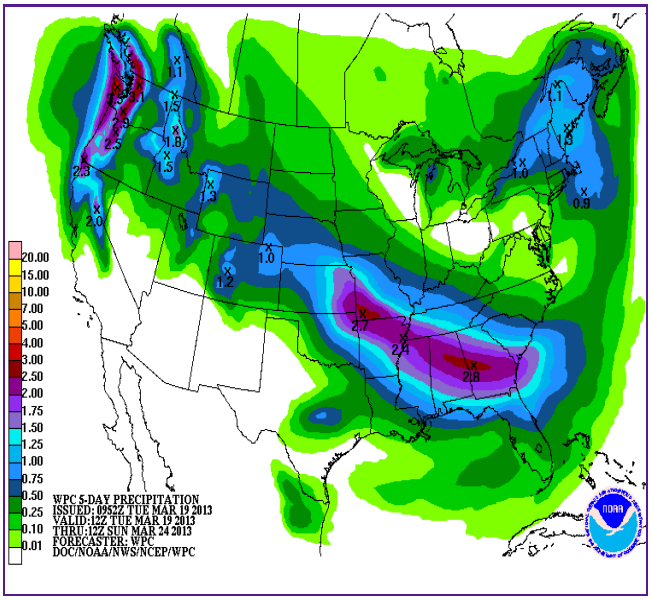


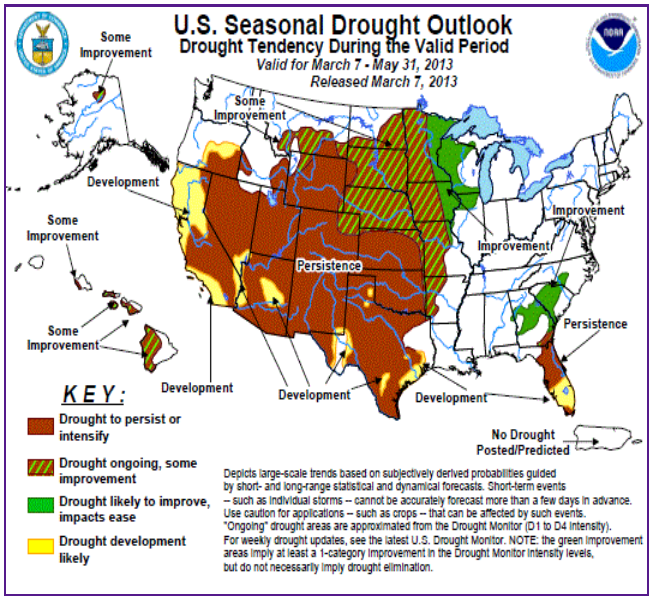
FORECAST AND OUTLOOK



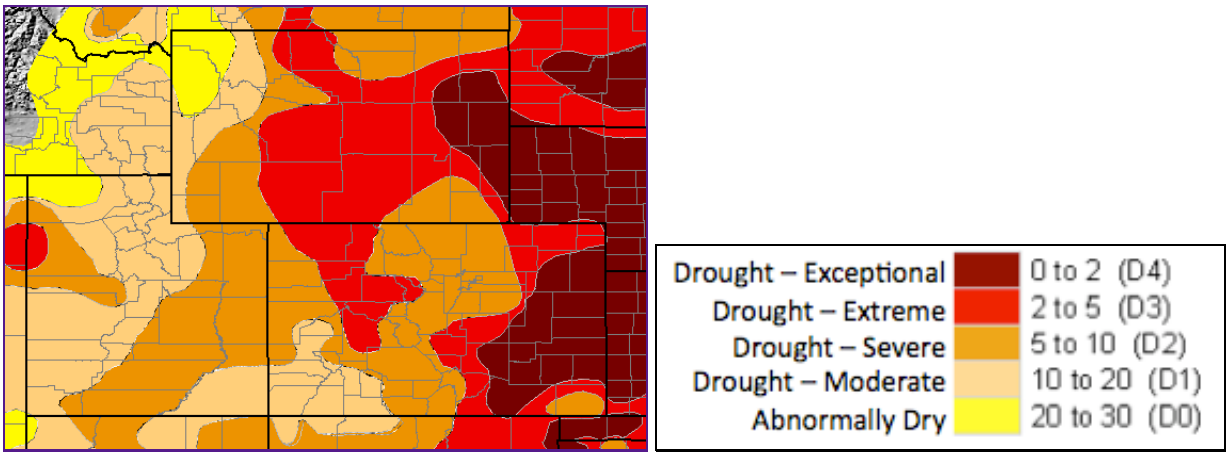


The top two images show Climate Prediction Center's Precipitation outlooks for 8 - 14 days (top left) and 3 months (top right). The bottom left image shows the Hydrologic Prediction Center's Quantitative Precipitation Forecast accumulation for the five days between Tuesday 12Z and ending Sunday 12Z.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

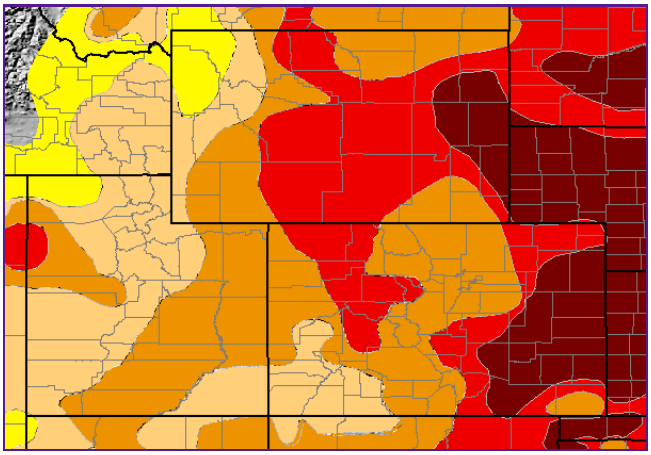




U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR



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.



Discussion: Some spotty precipitation fell in the higher elevations of the UCRB last week, but overall accumulations around the basin were low and accompanied by warmer than average temperatures. Several SNOTEL sites saw a decline in snowpack while many USGS streamgages showed increases in streamflow last week. A couple of passing troughs are expected to bring some more moisture and cooler temperatures to the basin later this week and through the weekend. There is the possibility of ridging next week (with warmer and drier conditions) though the CPC is forecasting near normal temperatures and precipitation for the basin.

UCRB: Status quo is recommended for the UCRB in the current depiction of the U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) map (Fig. 9). Much of the basin will be closely monitored over the next couple of weeks, as this is a critical time for snowpack—low accumulations and warm temperatures could lead to quickly deteriorating drought conditions, but colder temperatures and continued accumulations could help minimize the impacts. Status quo will be recommended until the timing of peak snowpack and melting is more clear.

Eastern CO: Status quo is also recommended for the rest of CO. There will likely be no winter wheat south of Kit Carson County, with fair to poor conditions (though the winter wheat is greening) to the north. Snow has been localized along the eastern plains, and the region is dealing with strong winds, warm temperatures, and blowing dust.