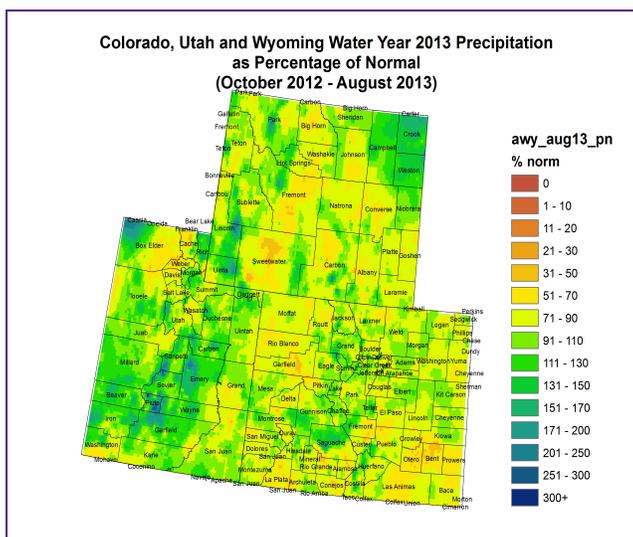
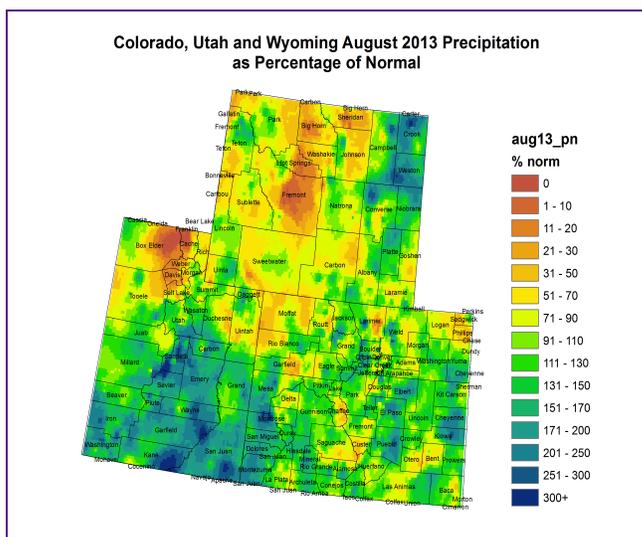
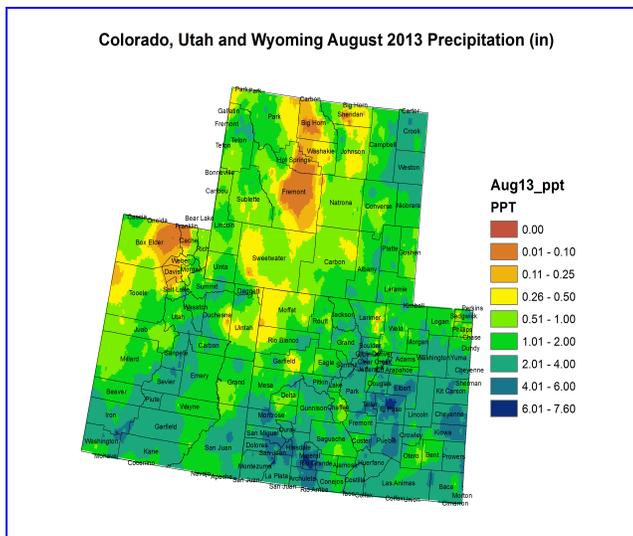
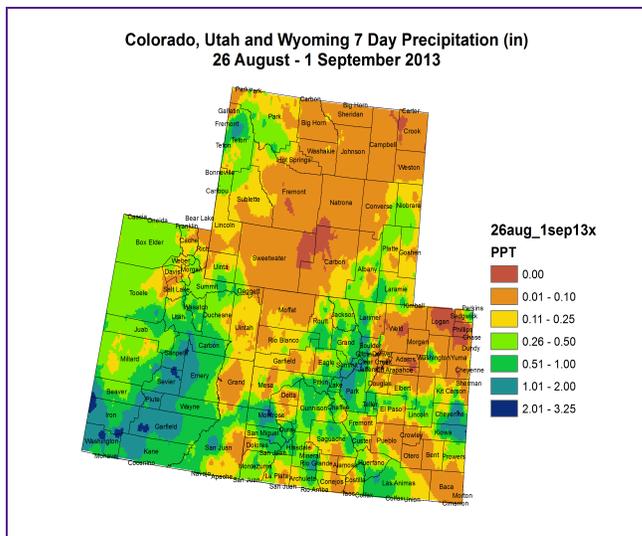


PRECIPITATION



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
- Most areas of eastern UT and western CO have received between 70% and 110% of average precipitation for the water year, with some spotty areas less than 70% of average
- The Four Corners region ranges from 50% to 110% of average
- The northern and central CO mountains are near average for the water year

- Most of northeast CO is 70% to 110% of average
- Most areas of southeast CO are below average, with some regions around the Arkansas River valley between 30% and 50% of average

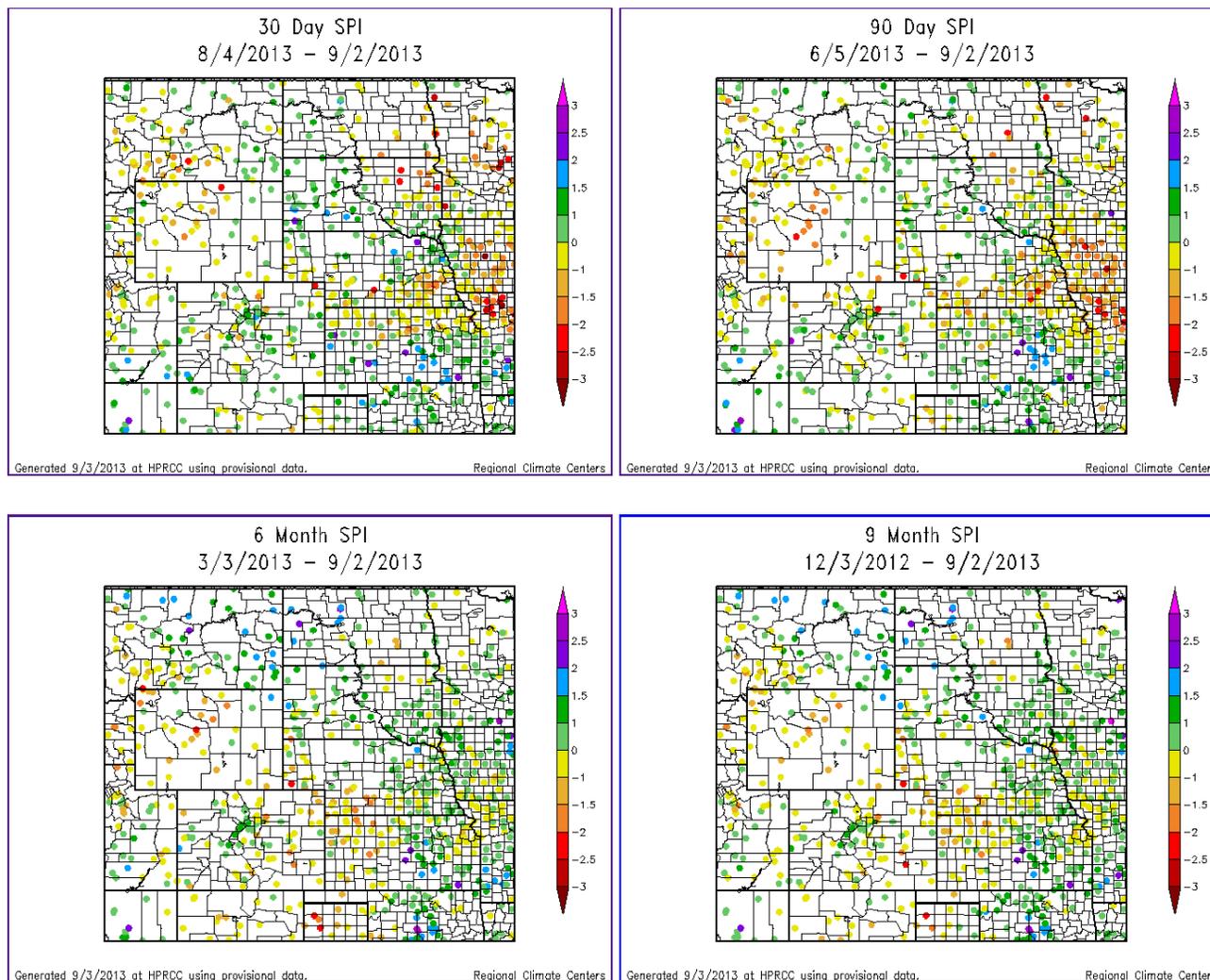
August Precipitation:

- The southern half of the UCRB saw near to above average precipitation for the month, while the northern part of the basin received below average precipitation
- Spotty areas in the northern part of the basin received near to above average precipitation. However, much of the northern region received between 30% and 70% of average precipitation
- In the southern half, the central and western sides of the basin received over 150% of average precipitation in most areas
- All along the east side of the basin, precipitation mostly ranged between 90% and 130% of average
- Most areas of eastern CO and eastern WY received near to above average precipitation for the month, with a few spotty areas drier than average

Last Week Precipitation:

- The western side of the basin (in central UT) received between .50 and 2 inches of precipitation
- The eastern side higher elevations (in CO) received between .25 and 1 inch of precipitation
- Most parts of the center of the basin (eastern UT/western CO) and the northern portion of the basin (in southwest WY) were slightly drier, seeing less than .25 inches of moisture for the week
- East of the Continental Divide, the Front Range higher elevations mostly saw between .25 and 1 inch of precipitation
- Most of northeast and southeast CO were drier (less than .10 inches) with the exception of a localized area around Cheyenne/Kiowa counties which received over .50 inches last week
- Most of WY was very dry, though southeast WY received between .10 and .50 inches

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):

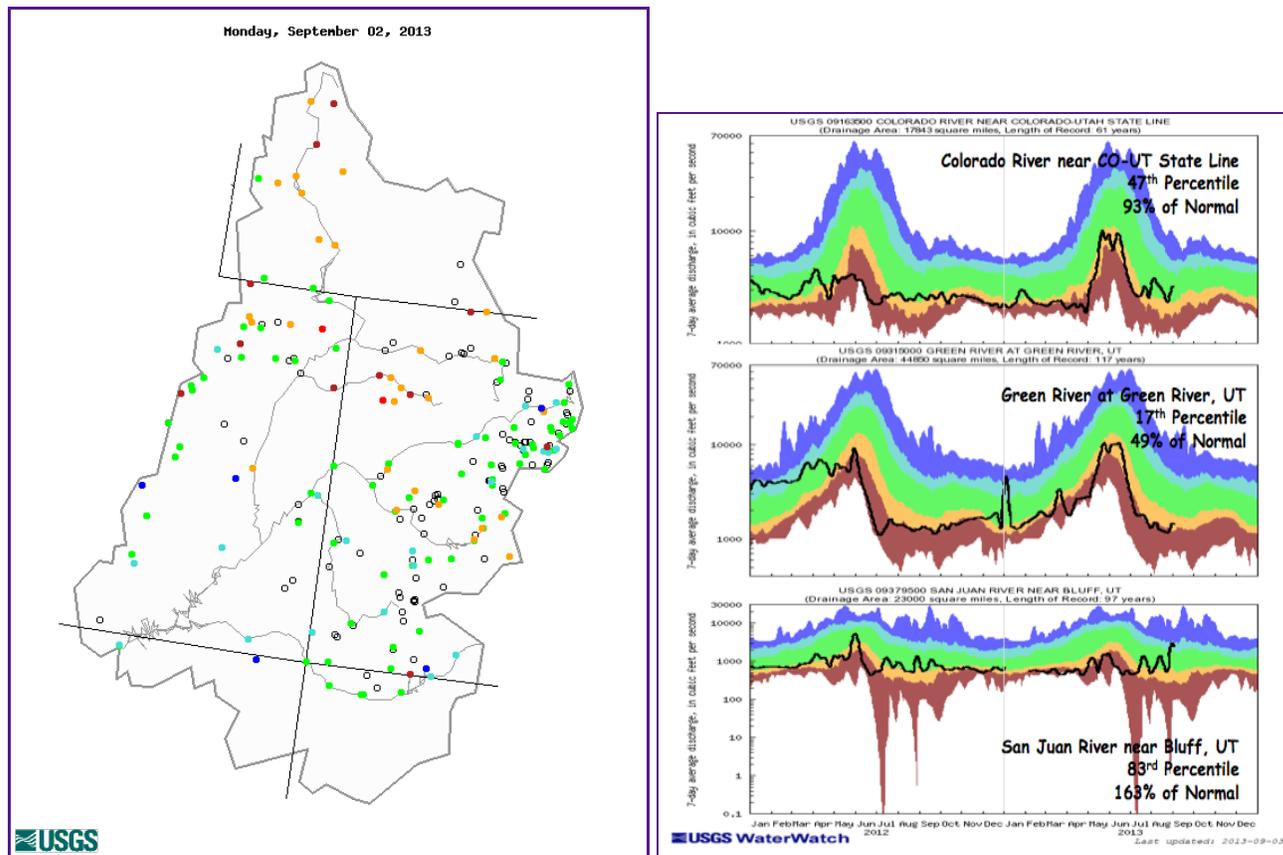
- Most of the basin shows near average conditions with most SPIs between -1 and +1
- The Four Corners region shows some wetter SPIs
- East of the basin, most of eastern WY and eastern CO show SPIs between -1 and +1, with a few isolated spots of more negative SPIs

Long Term (6-month):

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

- 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		

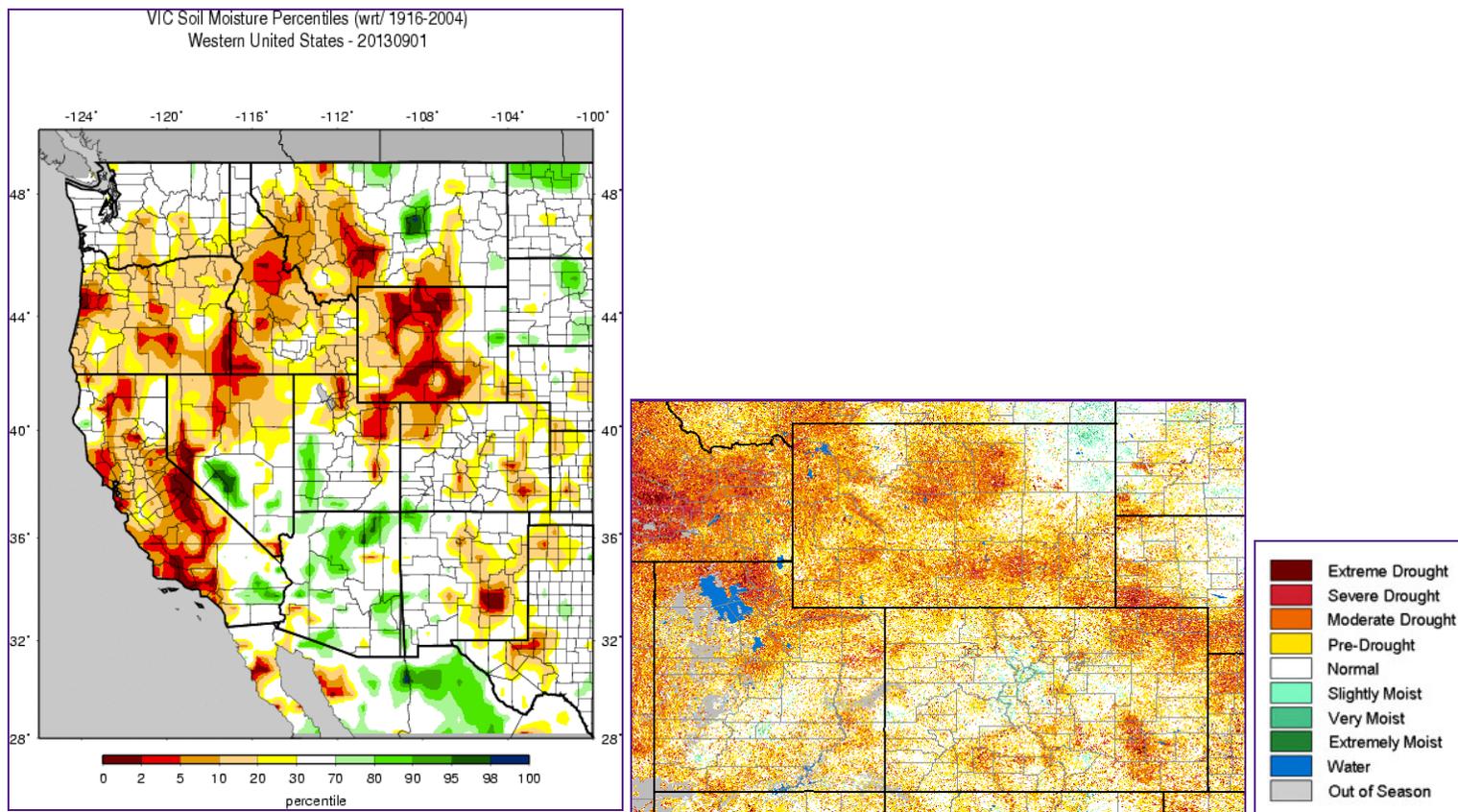
The top left image shows 7-day averaged streamflows as a percentile ranking across the UCRB. The top right image shows 7-day averaged discharge over time at three key sites around the UCRB: The Colorado River at the CO-UT state line; the Green River at Green River, UT; and the San Juan River near Bluff,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

Streamflow Statistics:

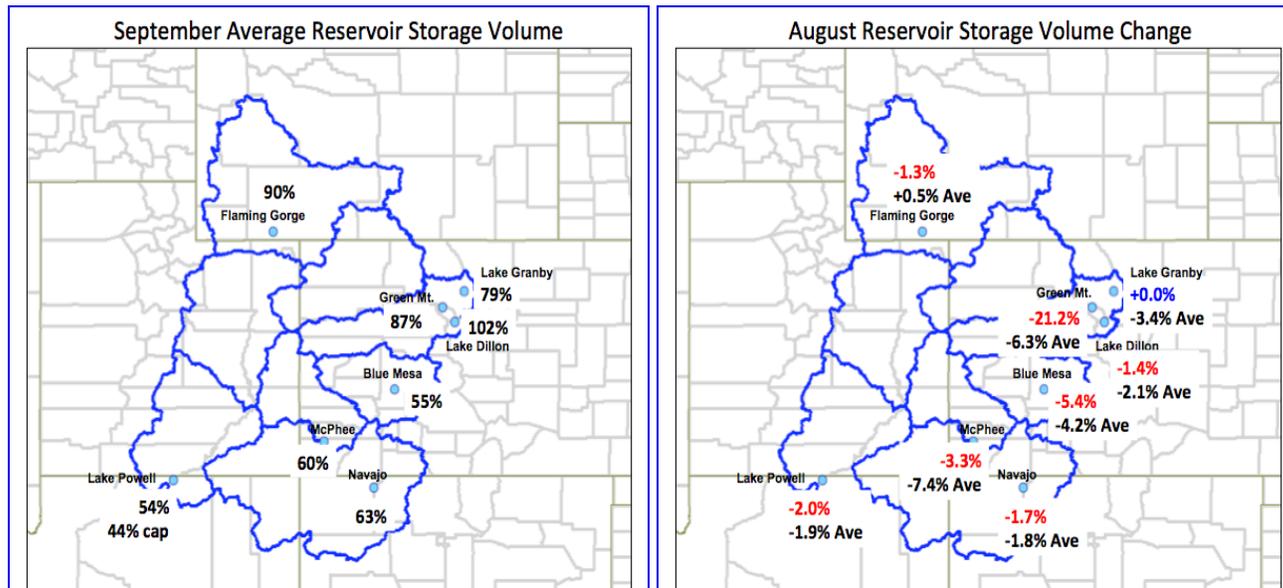
- 72% of gages recording normal to above normal 7-day average streamflows

- 11% of gages recording much below normal 7-day average streamflows
- Overall increase in flows across the basin in the past couple of weeks (from only 44% of the gages recording basin normal or greater flows to a majority of the gages)
- Green, White, and Yampa rivers showing the lowest flows with near normal flows along the Colorado, Dolores, and San Juan rivers, and along the headwater regions in northern CO
- The Colorado River at the CO-UT state line saw an increase in flows last week and is currently recording in the near normal range at the 47th percentile
- The Green River at Green River, UT saw a slight improvement in flows to the below normal range (the 17th percentile)
- Flows on the San Juan River near Bluff, UT saw a very large increase from last week (from the 31st percentile to the 82nd percentile) and is currently in the above normal range

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 10th percentile for much of northeast UT
- Dry soil moisture in northwest CO, mostly below the 20th percentile
- The Four Corners showing near normal to wet soil moisture conditions
- A portion of the the Rio Grande basin is drier, with soil moisture below the 20th percentile
- Near normal soil moisture conditions for most of northeast CO with some slightly dry soils in the far northeast
- Southeast CO showing drier soil moisture, with areas around the Arkansas valley below the 20th percentile

VegDRI:

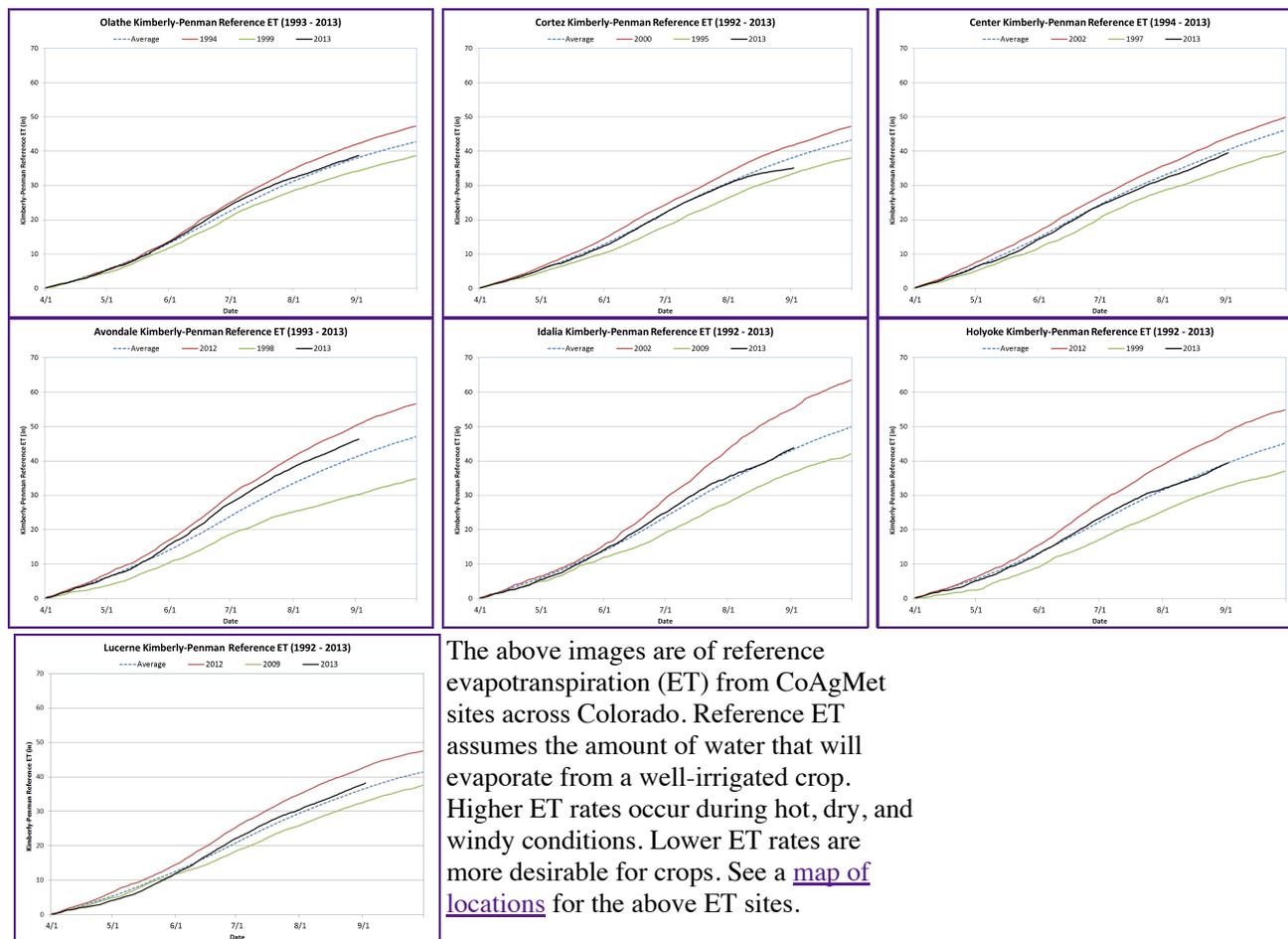
- Most of the UCRB showing dry vegetation conditions
- The northern fringes of the basin in southwest WY are showing very dry vegetation conditions
- Very dry vegetation is also showing up over northern UT and the Uintahs in northeast UT
- The northern and central CO mountains are showing near normal 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 saw a near normal decrease in volume for the month of August
- Lake Granby stayed near steady last month, while Green Mountain saw very large volume decreases
- Lake Dillon showing near average volume for September
- Flaming Gorge, Green Mountain, and Lake Granby slightly below their September averages
- Remaining reservoirs showing volumes between 50% and 70% of average
- Lake Powell currently at 44% of capacity

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION

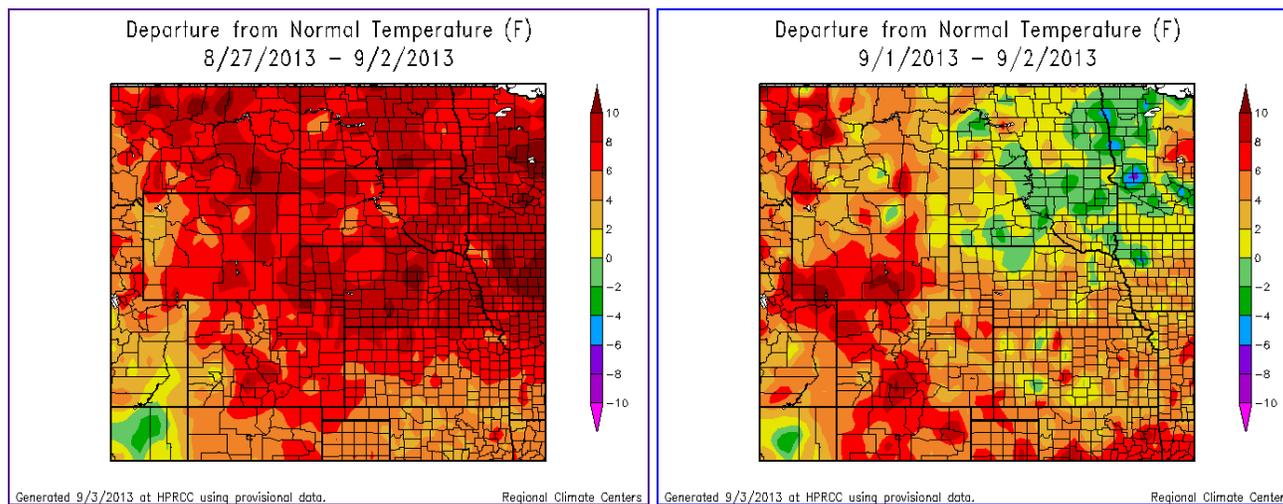


Reference ET:

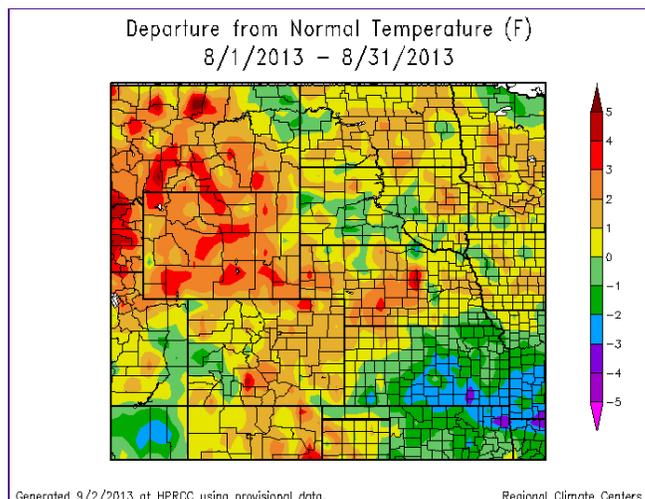
- Olathe: ET was above average for most of July. Near the end of July, ET rates slowed and ET is now slightly above average

- Cortez: ET was near average for July. Slower ET rates have helped lower that to below average for most of August, currently much lower than average
- 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 but are still much above average
- Idalia: ET was above average for July. ET rates have slowed and ET has been close to average for the past few weeks
- Holyoke: ET rates dropped to slightly below average after being slightly above average for July. ET has been near average for the past couple of weeks
- Lucerne: ET has been slightly above average since late June
- Along eastern CO, daily ET rates have increased over the past couple weeks as a result of lower humidities and hotter temperatures. Daily rates ranged between .25 and .35 inches, with lower rates in southwest CO

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.



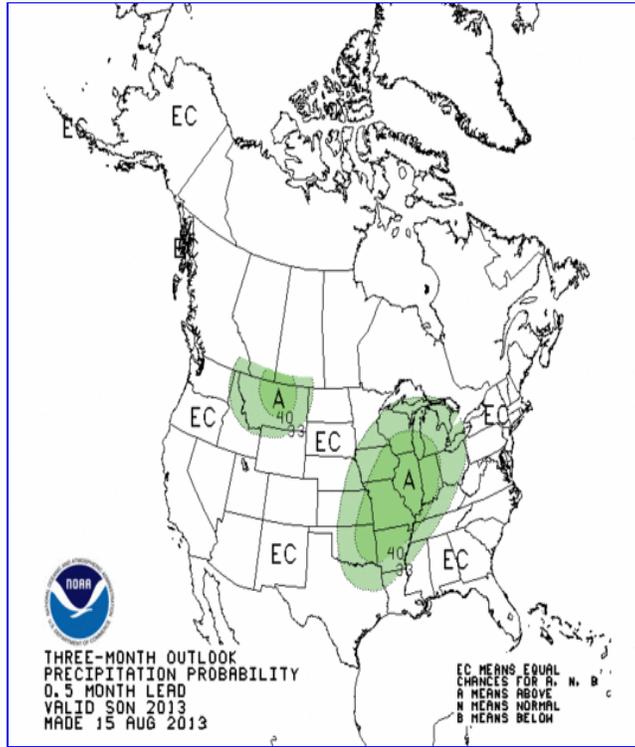
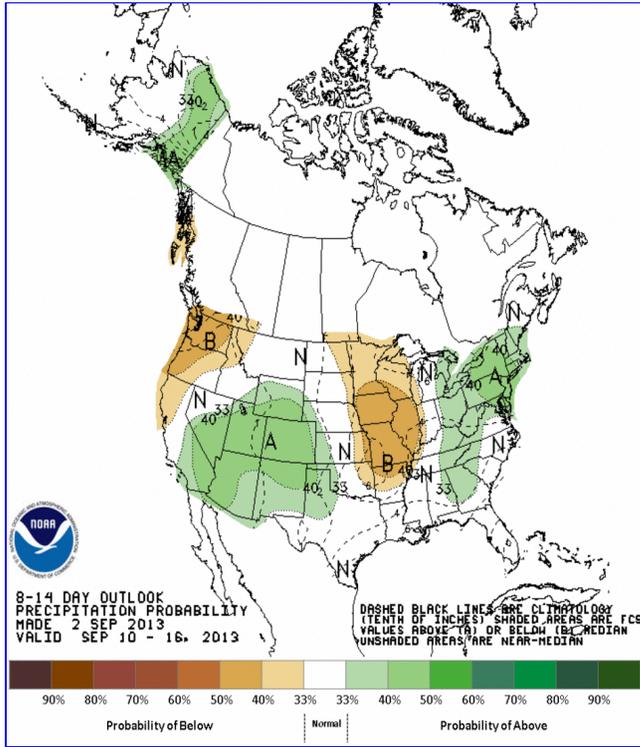
Last Week Temperatures:

- Most of the UCRB saw much warmer than average temperatures
- Temperatures ranged between 2 and 8 degrees above average
- All of WY and eastern CO were also much warmer than average, ranging between 6 and 10 degrees above average

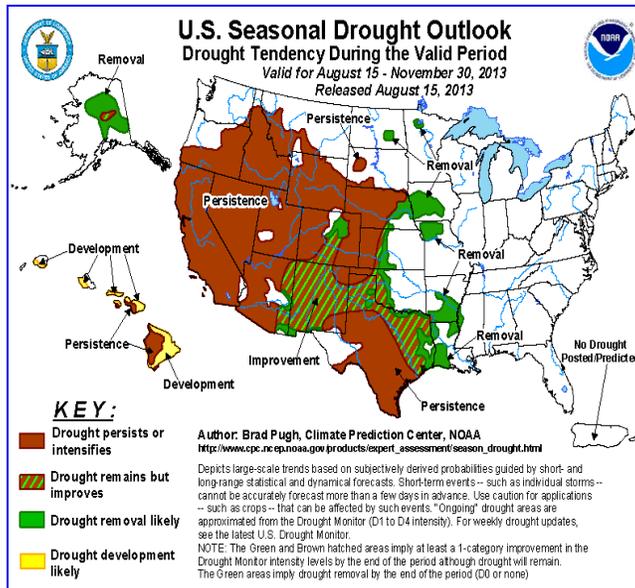
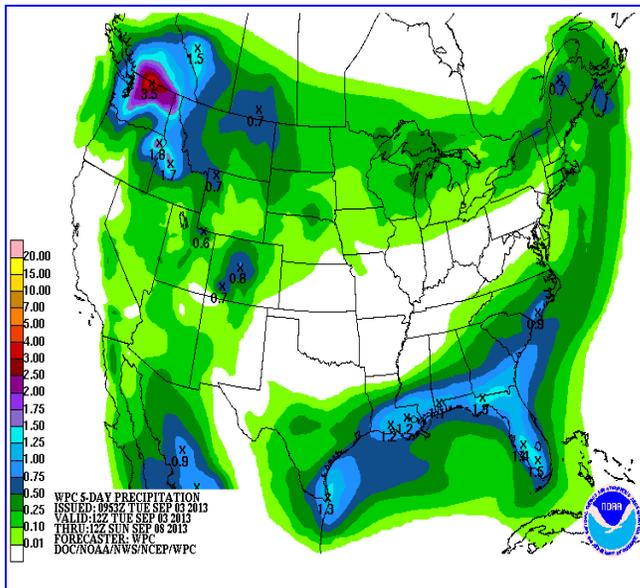
Last Month Temperatures:

- The northern portion of the basin saw warmer than average temperatures, ranging between 0 and 4 degrees above average
- The southern portion of the basin was closer to average, with temperatures -1 below average to +1 above average
- Most of WY was much warmer than average
- Eastern CO was mostly 1 to 2 degrees warmer than 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:

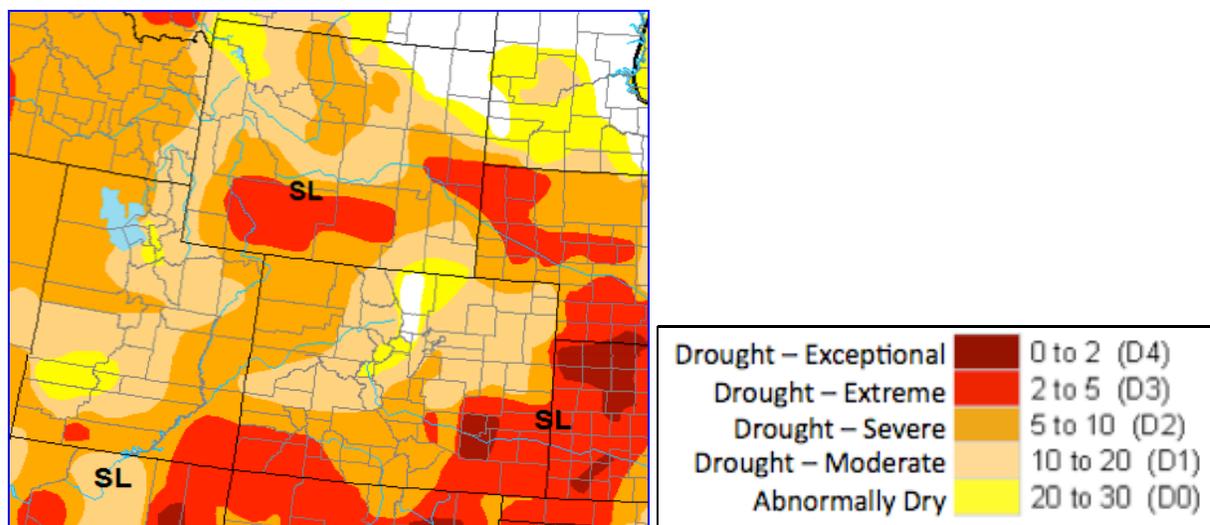
- A high pressure system will remain over the region for the rest of this week and into the weekend
- Much warmer than average temperatures will continue

- Isolated showers are expected over the higher elevations with lower chances forecast over the eastern plains
- Isolated storms in the basin could result in some flash flooding this week
- Next week, temperatures could cool and chances of precipitation could increase

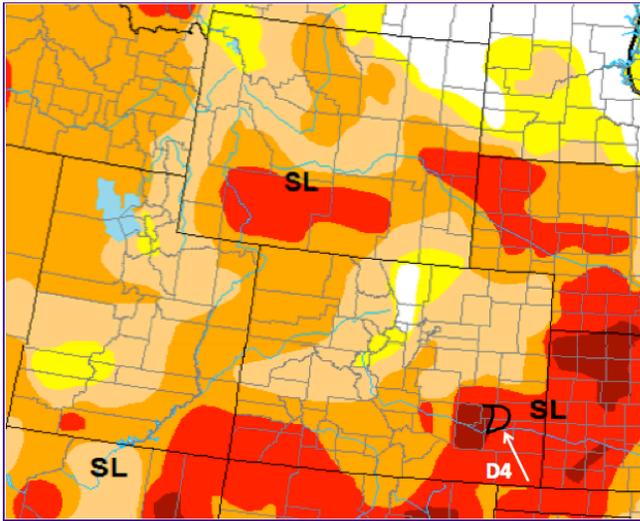
Longer Term:

- The 8-14 day outlook shows a good chance of warmer than average temperatures across the region and above average moisture over all of the basin and the rest of CO and WY
- 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: September 3, 2013

Warm temperatures and isolated storms in the higher elevations dominated the pattern last week, as the eastern plains of Colorado began to dry out again. These higher elevation showers led to large increases in streamflow across the basin. The low elevation dryness has led to an increase in ET and a drying of soils throughout the eastern plains. This pattern should continue for this week, but a possible shift in the pattern could be in store for next week.

Recommendations**

UCRB: Status quo is recommended for the Upper Colorado River Basin. Although the Four Corners region received above average moisture for the month of August, and streamflows have responded well to recent precipitation, long-term impacts are still evident, and cumulative streamflow for the calendar year on the San Juan River is still at a near-record low; therefore no improvements are recommended for that region at this time.

Eastern CO: Status quo is recommended for northeast CO at this time. Though the area has experienced some drying over the past week, impacts are still minimal as a result of moisture that has accumulated over July and much of August. One slight adjustment to the D4 is recommended for Kiowa County in southeast CO. This adjustment is based on on-the-ground reports that western Kiowa is still in much worse condition than the eastern half of the county. Aside from this one change, status quo is recommended for the rest of southeast CO.