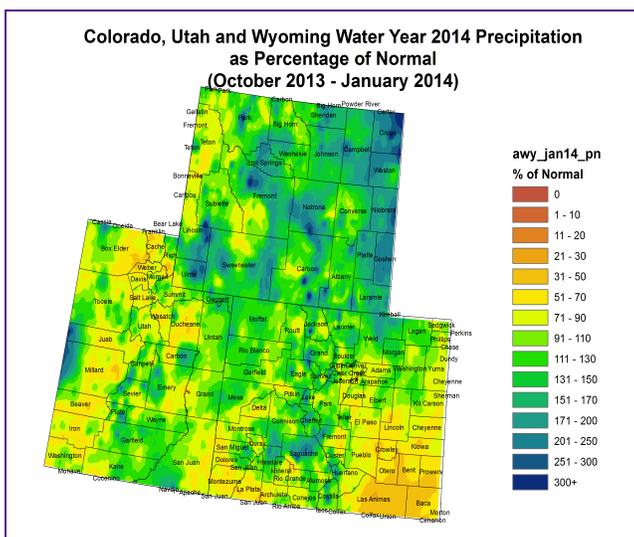
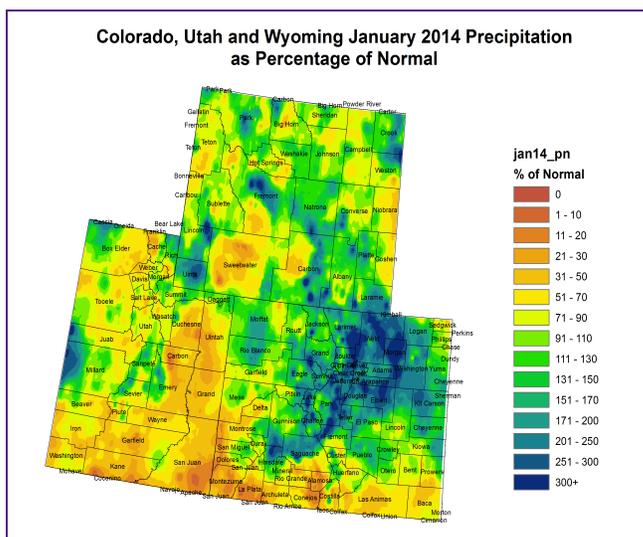
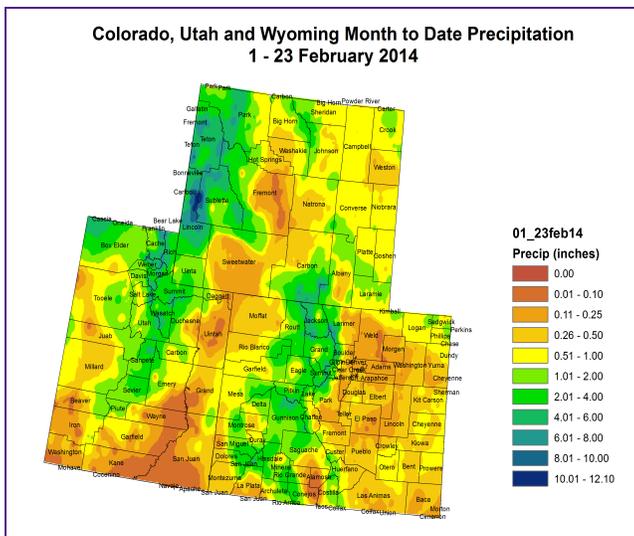
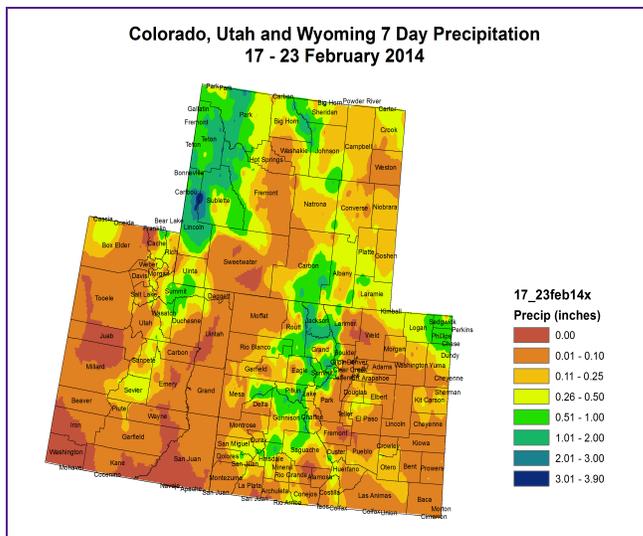


PRECIPITATION



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.

Last Week Precipitation:

- Larger precipitation accumulations were mainly confined to the higher elevations in the UCRB last week
- The Wind River range in WY received between .50 and 3 inches of moisture, while the Wyoming range to the east received between .25 and 1 inch
- In UT, the Uintahs also received between .25 and 1 inch of

- precipitation, while the Wasatch range was a bit drier
- The northern and central CO mountains received between .50 and 2 inches of precipitation, while further south, the San Juans were a bit drier
- The lower elevations of southwest WY and moving south to the Four Corners were fairly drier for the week, receiving less than .10 inches of moisture
- East of the basin, most of eastern WY received between .10 and .50 inches of precipitation
- In eastern CO, the heaviest accumulations fell in northeast CO, where some areas saw more than their entire February average in just one week

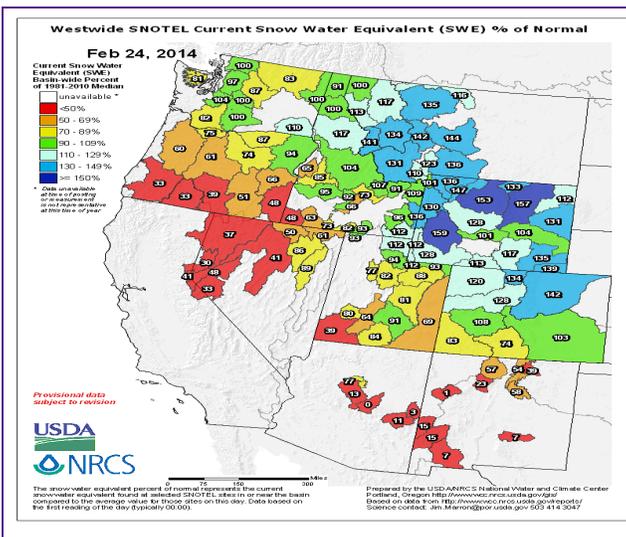
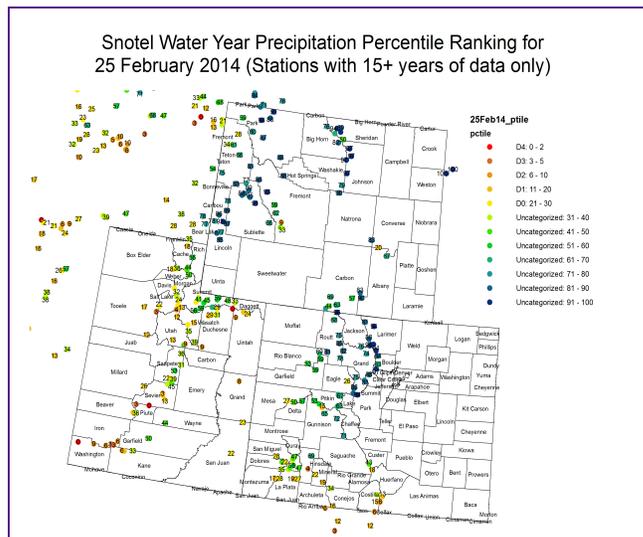
January Precipitation:

- Many locations around the UCRB were drier than average for the month of January
- Most of eastern UT and the Four Corners region received between 10% and 50% of average precipitation
- Sweetwater County in WY also received less than 50% of average precipitation
- The Wasatch range in UT was mixed, with the northern region receiving between 70% and 110% of average and the southern region seeing close to average moisture
- The higher elevations in the northern part of the UCRB received near to above average precipitation
- Most of northwest CO and the northern and central CO mountains received near average up to 200% of average precipitation for the month
- East of the basin, most of eastern WY received near average moisture, and northeast CO received above average moisture
- Southeast CO ranged from near average precipitation to below 70% of average in the far southeast and San Luis Valley

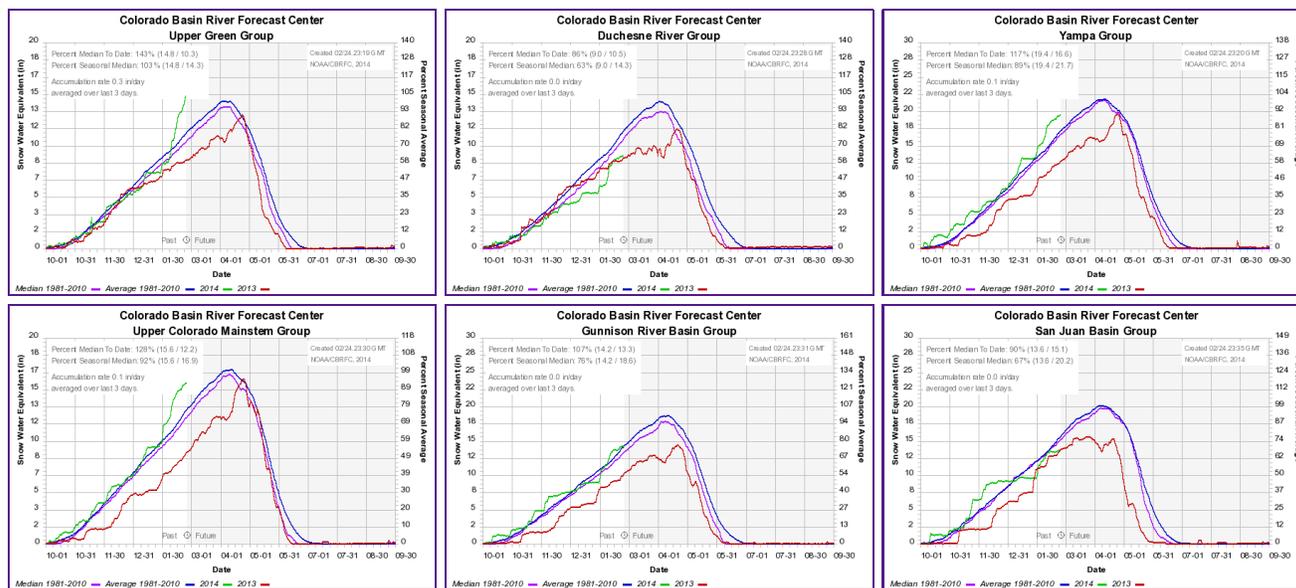
Water Year Precipitation:

- Most of the UCRB has received near to above average precipitation since the beginning of the water year through January
- The Wasatch range in UT has been a bit drier, receiving between 70% and 110% of average precipitation
- The Four Corners region has also been drier, with WYTD precipitation between 50% and 90% of average
- Most of WY received near average up to 300% of average moisture
- Northeast CO WYTD precipitation ranges between 70% and 150% of average
- Southeast CO has received 30% and 90% of average precipitation since the beginning of the water year, with drier values to the south

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).



SNOTEL Precipitation Percentiles:

- SNOTEL precipitation is at or above the median for the northern and eastern part of the UCRB with drier percentiles along the western and southern portions
- Percentiles in the Upper Green region, and in the northern and central CO mountains, are at or above the

median percentile

- The Wasatch and Uintah ranges are showing mixed precipitation percentiles ranging from the teens and 20s to near the median
- Most of the percentiles in the San Juan mountains are between the teens and the 30s, with a few percentiles in the 40s

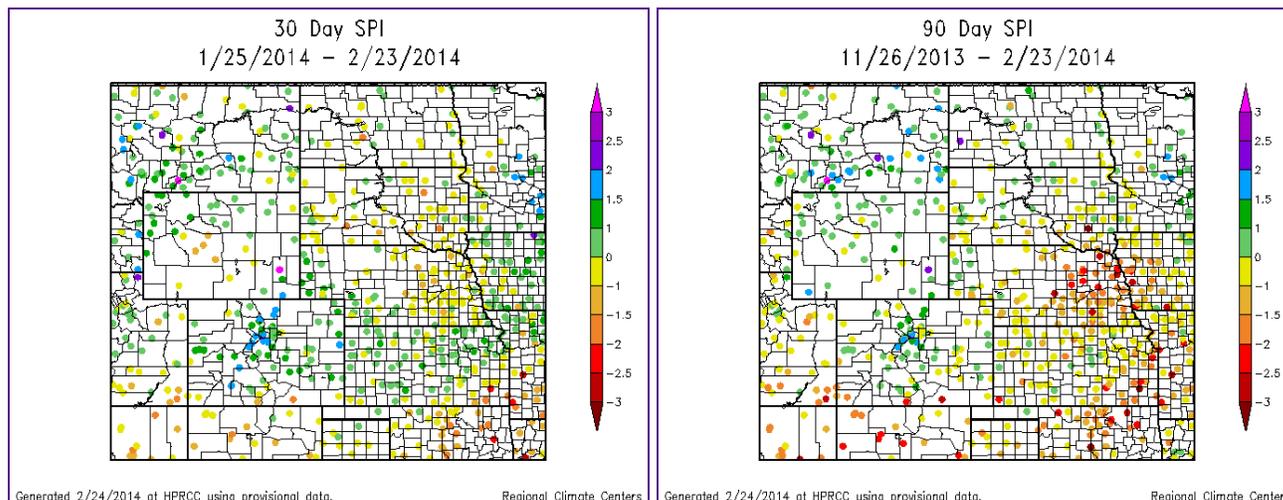
Basin-wide Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) Percent of Normal:

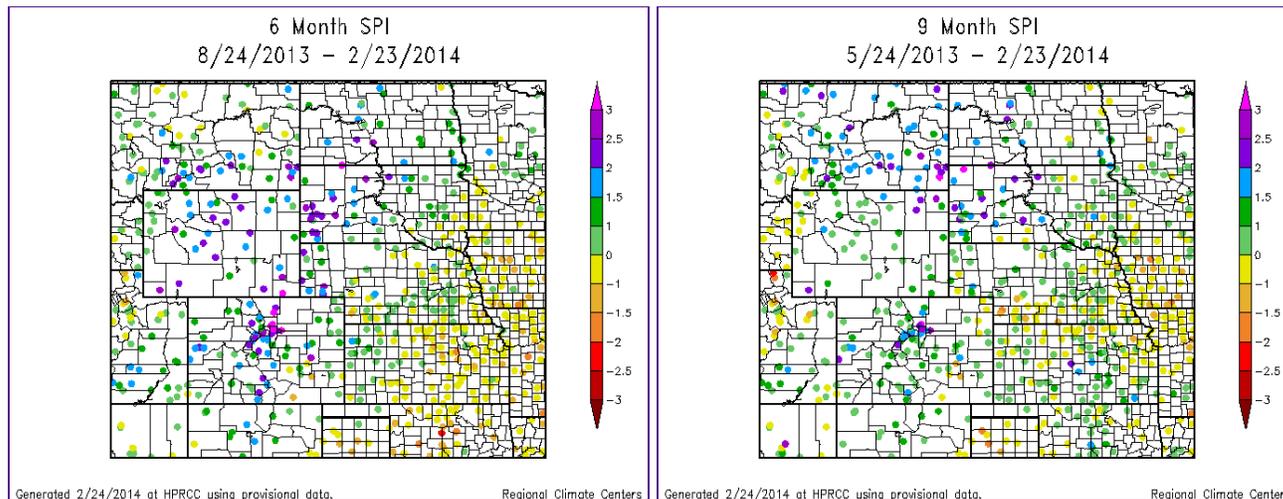
- The eastern and northern sub-basins in the UCRB currently have near to above normal snowpack, with the highest values in northwest CO and southern WY
- Snowpack in eastern UT is between 69% and 91% of normal
- Snowpack in southwest CO is also slightly below normal at 83%
- East of the basin, snowpack is above normal, with the exception of the Rio Grande Basin at 74%

SWE Timeseries Graphs:

- The northern and eastern regions of the UCRB continued to see increases in snowpack last week
- The Upper Green, Yampa, and Upper Colorado basins are all well above average for this time of year, and are actually near or above their seasonal peak averages as well
- The Duchesne, Gunnison, and San Juan basins did not see increases in snowpack this past week
- Although it didn't see an increase in snowpack, the Gunnison basin is near average for this time of year
- Both the Duchesne and San Juan basins are below average and tracking near last year's lower snowpack accumulations

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.

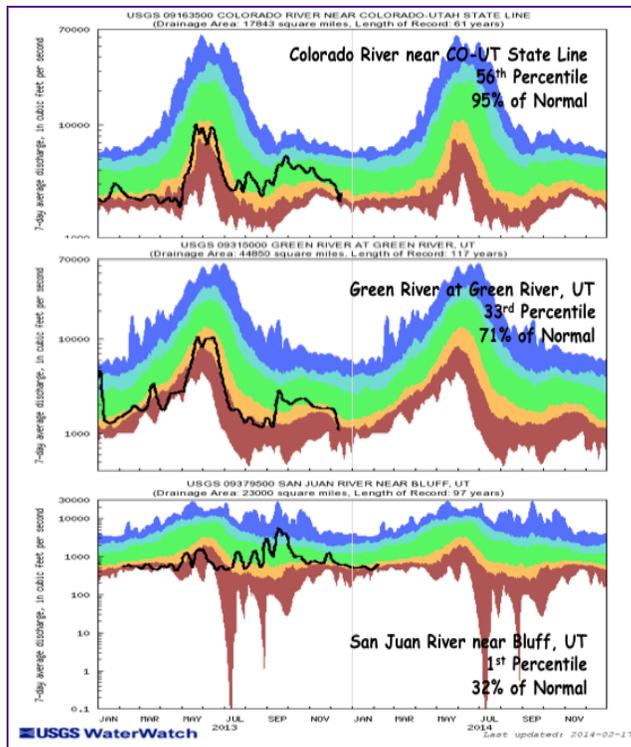
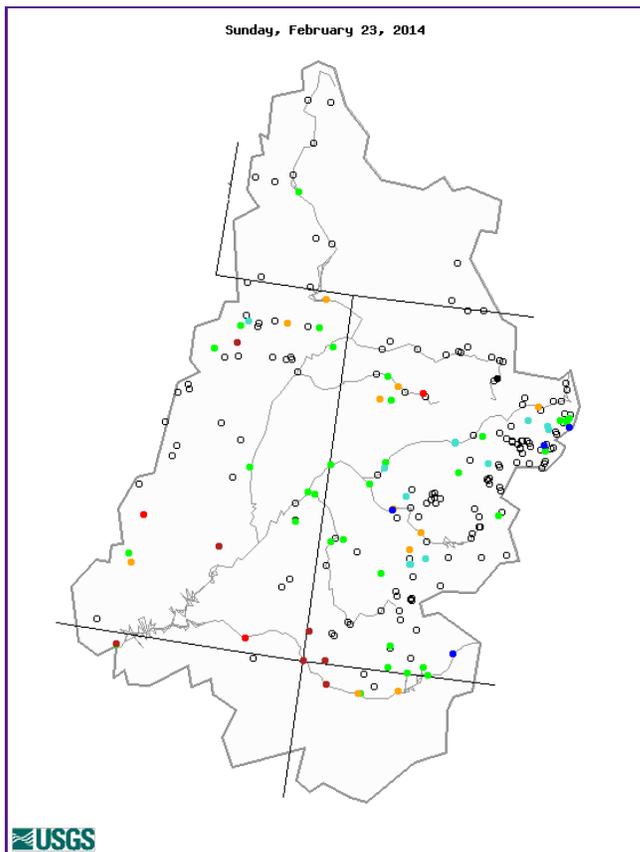
Short Term (30-day):

- SPIs across most of the higher elevations of the UCRB are showing wet indicators
- The Wasatch range in central UT is showing SPIs between 0 and +1
- Western WY SPIs are mostly between 0 and +1.5 with drier SPIs (between 0 and -1.5) to the east along the Wind River range
- Most of northern, central, and eastern CO are showing wet indicators, with SPIs between -1 and +2
- The Four Corners region and southern CO are a bit drier with SPIs between 0 and -2

Long Term (6-month):

- Most of the UCRB shows wetter long-term SPIs
- The driest area of the UCRB on the longer term is northern Utah near the Wasatch range where SPIs range from -1.5 to +1
- The rest of the UCRB indicates wet conditions, with SPIs ranging from 0 to +3
- East of the basin, the foothills indicate wet conditions but dry out further on the plains. The driest areas on the plains remain in the lower Arkansas valley

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		

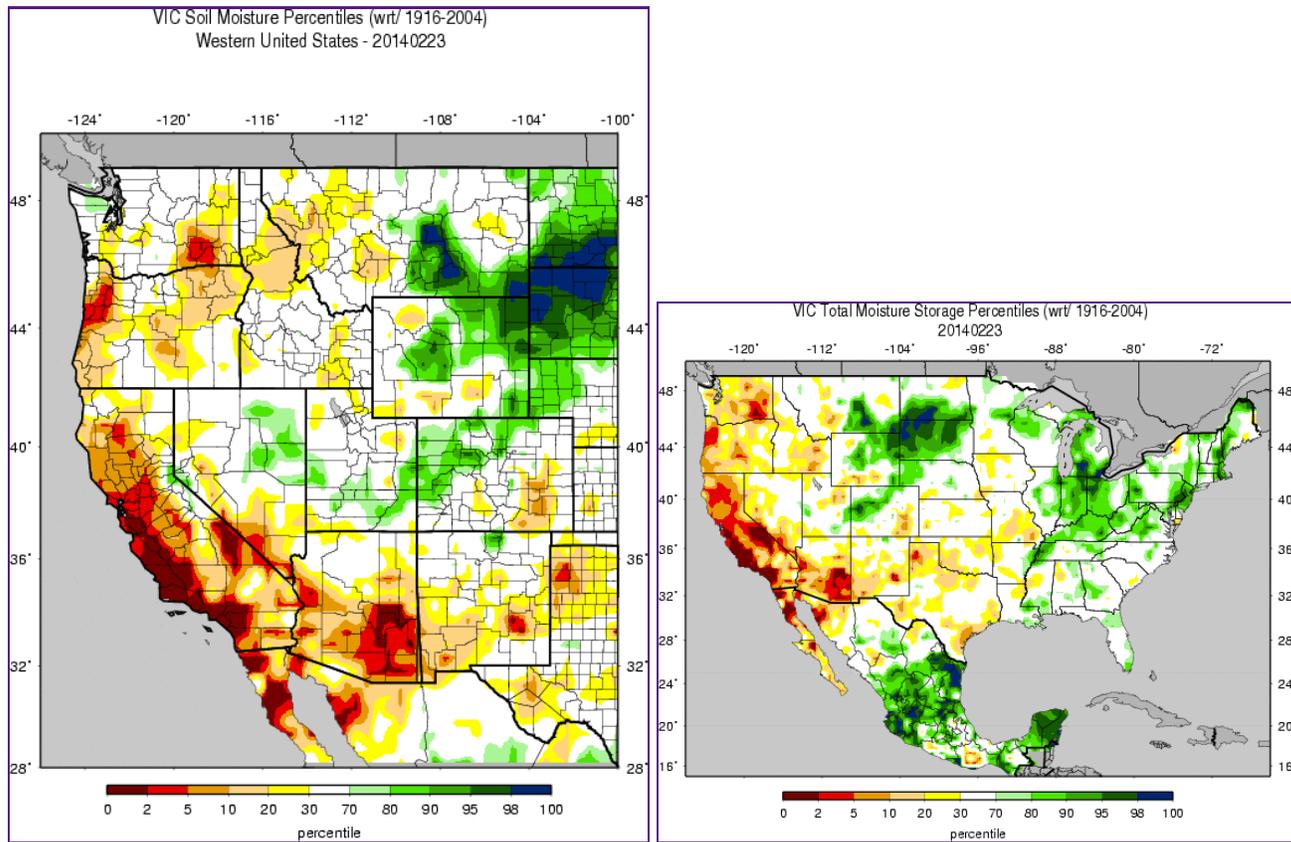
The top left image shows 7-day averaged streamflows as a percentile ranking across the UCRB. The top right image shows 7-day averaged discharge over time at three key sites around the UCRB: The Colorado River at the CO-UT state line; the Green River at Green River, UT; and the San Juan River near Bluff,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

Streamflow Statistics:

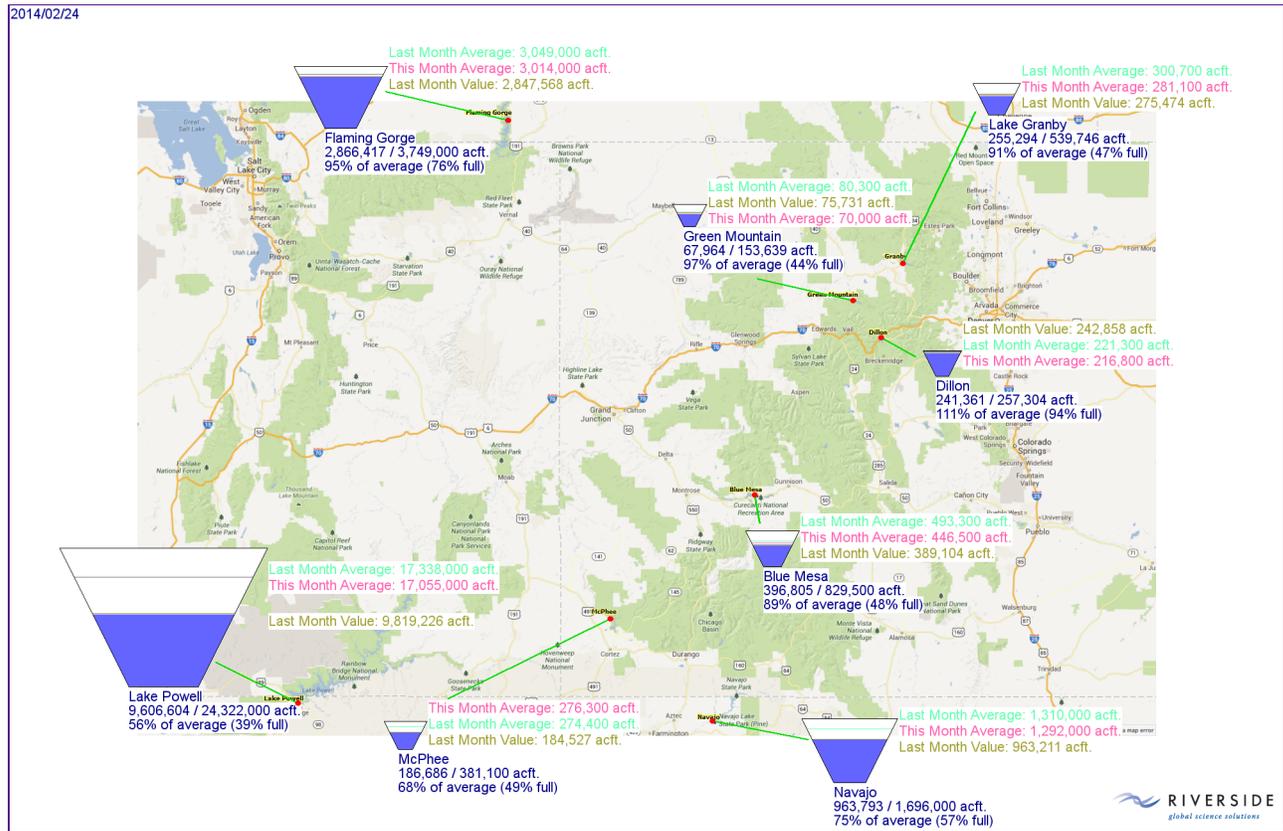
- The number of reporting gages (not ice affected) has increased from 38 at the beginning of the month to 71
- 69% of the gages in the UCRB are reporting normal (25th to 75th percentile) or above 7-day average streamflows
- 10% of the gages are recording much below normal (below the 10th percentile) 7-day average streamflows and 3 gages have recorded record low flows
- All three key gages around the basin are now reporting again and not affected by ice (although their hydrographs are not being updated)

- Flows on the Colorado River near the CO-UT state line and the Green River at Green River, UT are near normal, currently at the 56th and 33rd percentiles, respectively
- The San Juan River near Bluff, UT is reporting record low flows, currently at the 1st percentile and 32% of normal

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 image shows last month's and this month's current volumes of the major reservoirs in the UCRB, with percent of average and percent of capacity.

VIC:

- Most of the UCRB is showing near average to wet soil moisture conditions
- Soil moisture across most of western CO and parts of eastern UT are between the 70th and 90th percentiles
- Some spots of southern WY and northern UT are slightly drier, with soil moisture percentiles between the 10th and 30th percentiles
- Most of eastern WY is showing wet soil moisture
- Northeast CO has near normal soil moisture that dries out to the south, with southeast CO soil moisture conditions between the 5th and 30th percentiles
- Adding in SWE for total moisture storage, conditions are even wetter for western CO and even drier for northern UT

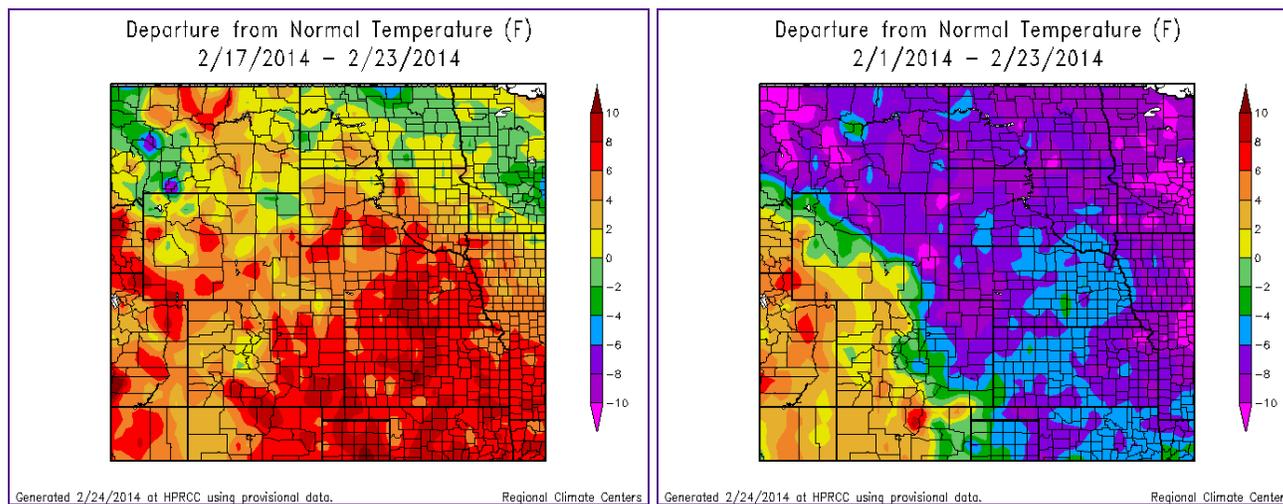
Reservoirs:

- All of the major northern reservoirs in the UCRB are near to above their February averages, ranging between 91% (Lake Granby) and 111% (Dillon) of average
- The southern reservoirs are below average, ranging between 57%

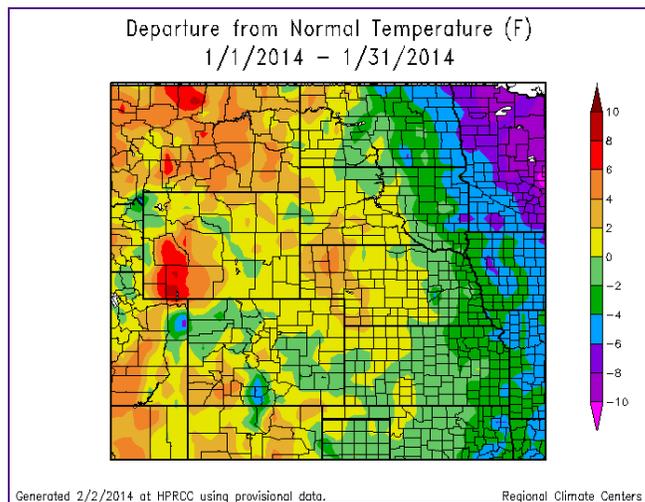
(Powell) and 75% (Navajo) of average

- Blue Mesa has shown large enough increases in volume over the past couple of months (likely combined with limited releases) to improve to 88% of average
- McPhee, Flaming Gorge, and Blue Mesa have all continued to see increases in volume during February
- Navajo has stayed near steady since the beginning of the month
- Volume decreases at the remaining reservoirs are normal for this time of year

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.



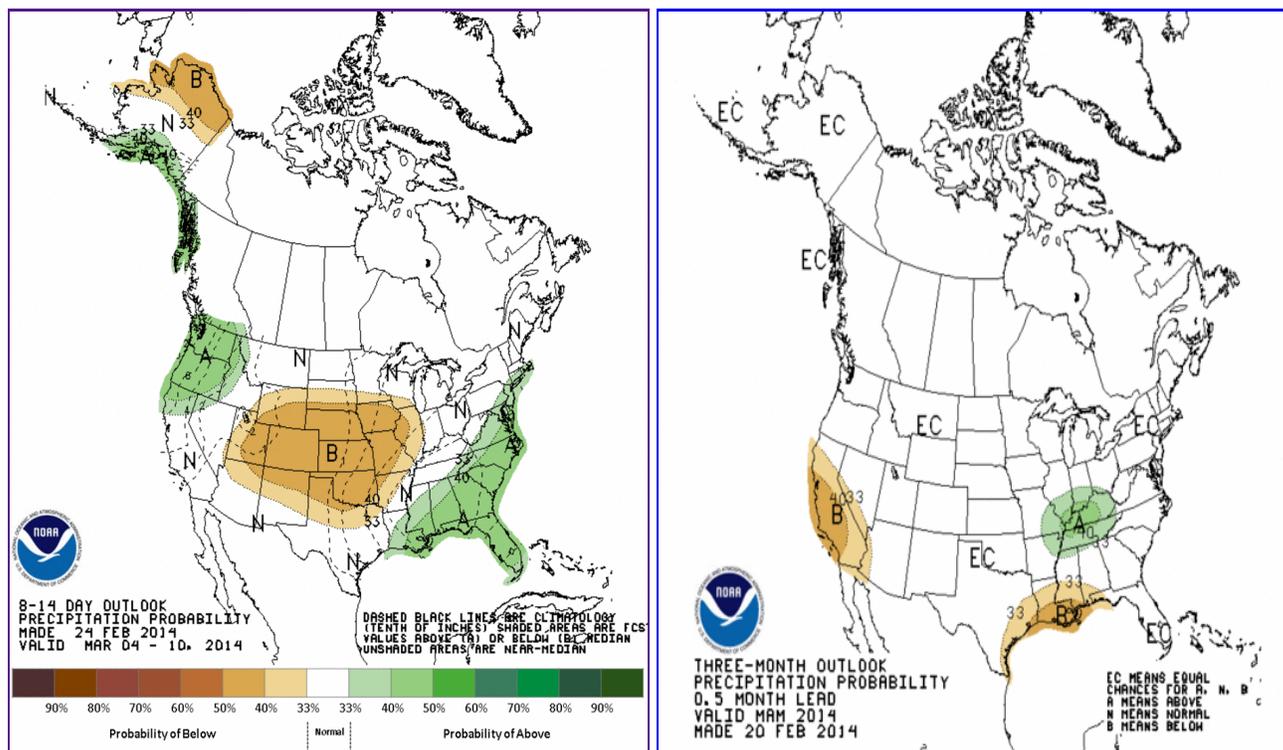
Last Week Temperatures:

- The entire basin saw warmer than average temperatures, ranging between 2 and 8 degrees above average for most of the basin
- East of the basin, eastern WY and eastern CO also saw warmer than average temperatures. Temperatures in eastern WY were 0 to 6 degrees above average. Eastern CO was even warmer, with temperatures ranging between 2 and 10 degrees above average

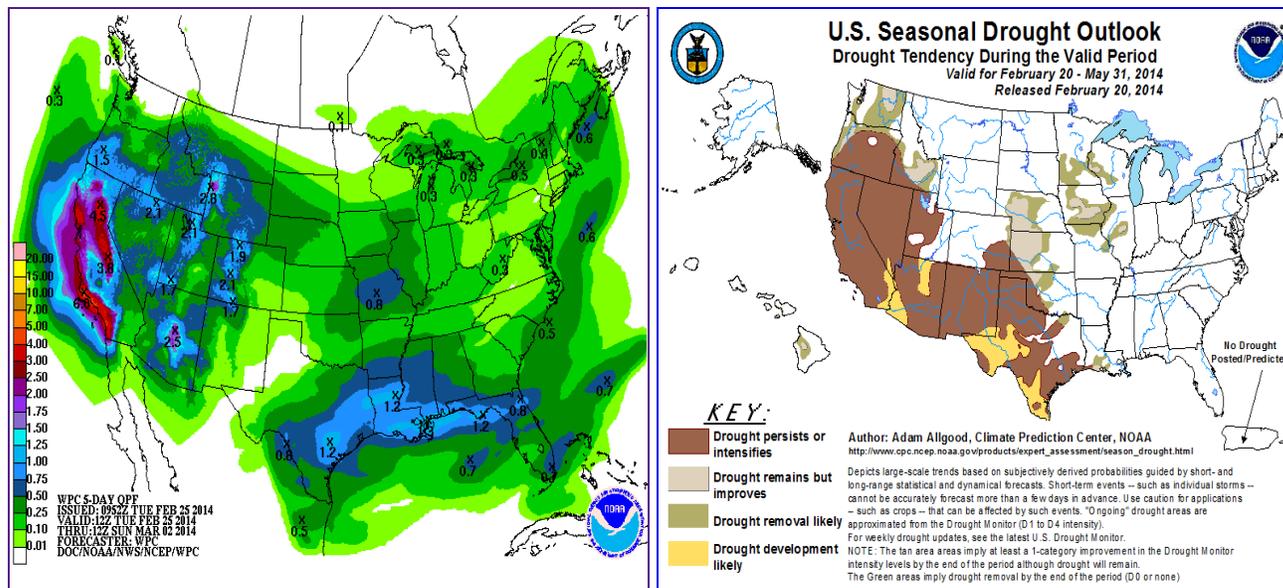
Last Month Temperatures:

- Temperature departures across the UCRB were mixed for the month of January
- Southwest WY was much warmer than average, with temperatures 2 to 8 degrees above average
- Far northeast and central UT were warmer than average, with an isolated region of eastern UT showing up as cooler than average
- The Four Corners and southwest CO region were slightly warmer than average
- Northwest CO was slightly cooler than average for the month
- East of the basin, temperatures across most of eastern WY and eastern CO were near 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.



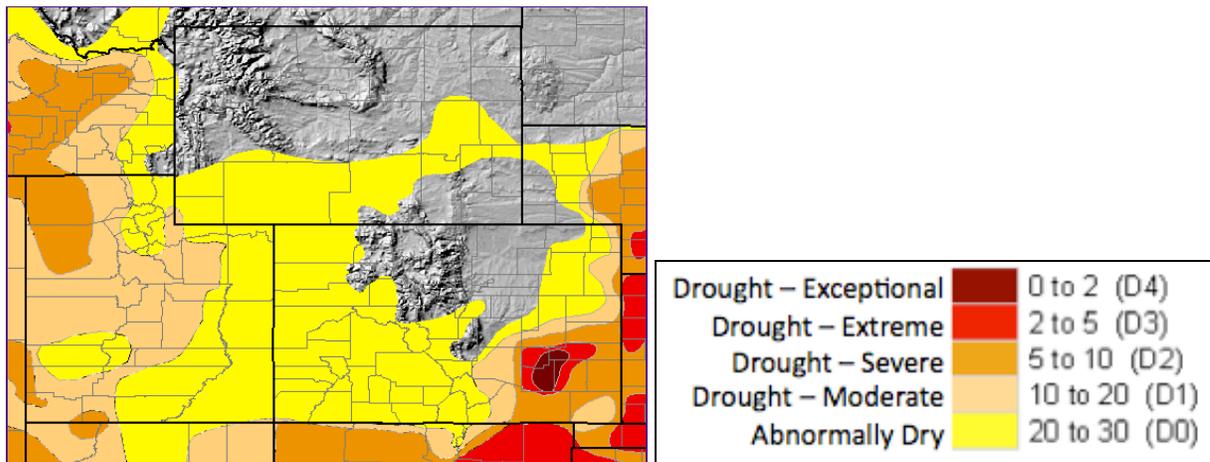
Short Term:

- With the passage of another cold front on Tuesday afternoon, colder temperatures and snow are expected for the higher elevations of CO and out across the eastern CO plains
- Another disturbance is forecast to bring more moisture to the higher elevations throughout the region, later in the week

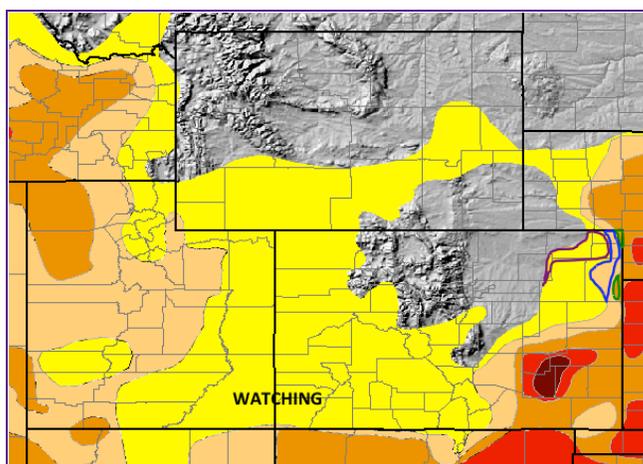
Longer Term:

- The 8-14 day precipitation outlook shows probable drier than average conditions across the basin.
- The CPC 3-month outlook shows equal chances for wet, dry, or near normal conditions across the entire basin for March-April-May
- The seasonal drought outlook shows a probability of drought persisting across the western portion of the basin and across southeast CO and northern UT

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: February 25, 2014

While the northern higher elevations have shown some excellent winter accumulations, the southern portion of the basin continues to struggle. The southern part of the UCRB not only shows below average snowpack, but streamflow and reservoirs levels are also lower. That could change over the next week, as an active pattern is expected to bring moisture to the entire region.

Recommendations**

UCRB: Areas of the Four Corners region (currently in D0) could see some degradation. SPIs, low snowpack, and low streamflow all suggest that D1 could be expanded northward from the AZ/NM area into southeast UT and southwest CO. Degradations have been held off due to the fact that this is normally a very dry time of year for the region, dust on snow has not been an issue thus far, and impacts are very minimal. Status quo will also be

recommended for this week. However, if the next passing systems do not vastly improve the region over the next week, degradations will be imminent.

Eastern Colorado: In northeast CO, more than one month's worth of precipitation fell across Phillips, Sedgwick, and parts of Yuma county. SPIs on all timescales throughout the region are positive or, at worst, down to -1.

Month-to-date and Water-Year-to-date is near or above average (according to AHPS) for Phillips, Sedgwick, Yuma, Washington, and Logan counties.

A one-category improvement is recommended (D2 to D1: green; D1 to D0: blue; D0 to D-nada: purple). It is also recommended that the USDM author investigate the nearby D3 in neighboring Nebraska for possible improvement. We defer to the USDM author and other states' experts on how to draw the lines across the border into NE and KS.

Status quo is recommended for southeast CO.