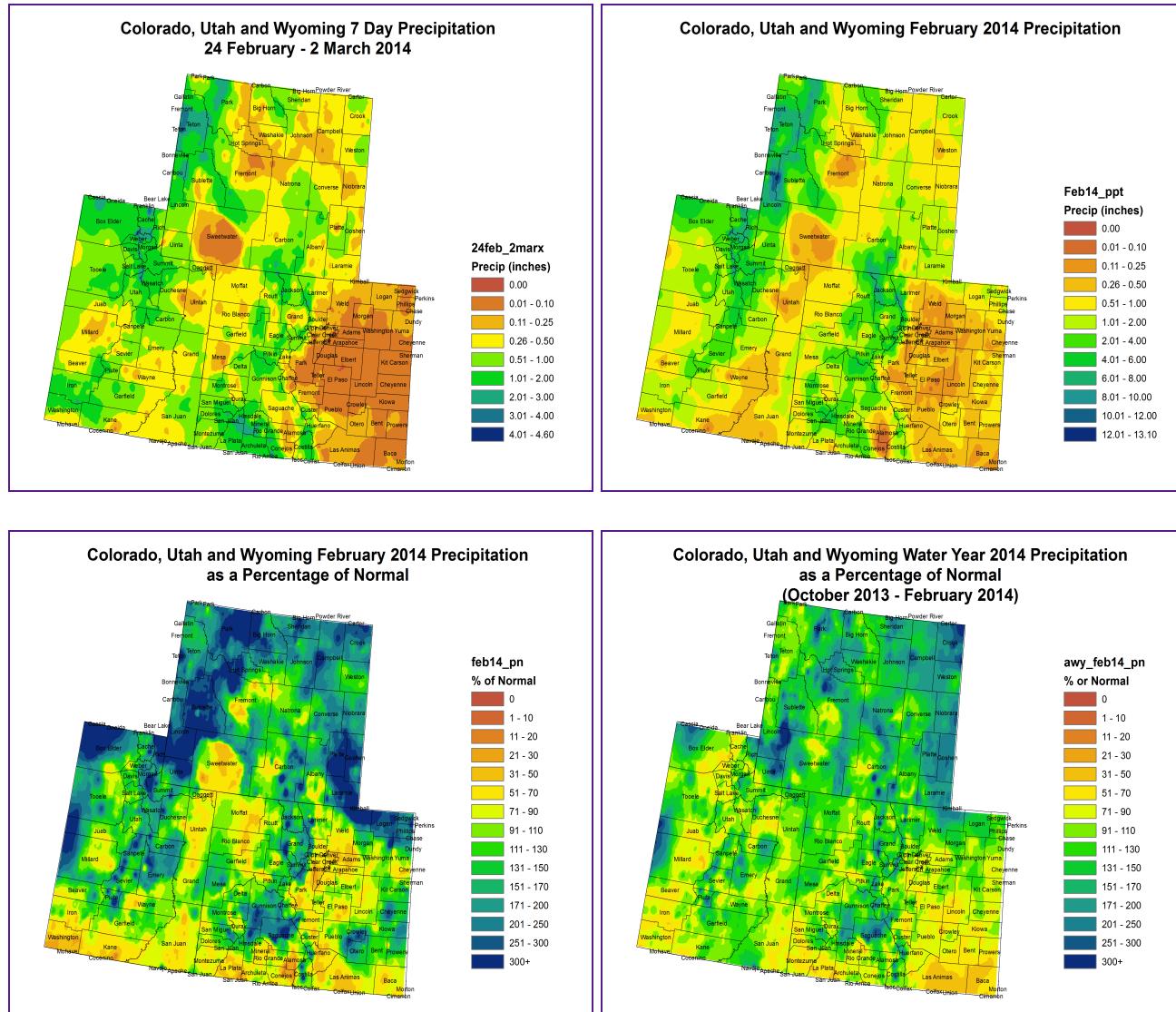


PRECIPITATION



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 majority of the mountainous areas of the basin saw 0.51- 2.00" with isolated areas in the Upper Green, Wasatch, and San Juan's seeing 2 - 4" over the past week.
- The western valleys saw small amounts of precipitation ranging from

0.26"-0.50". Sweetwater county in Wyoming was dry with less than 0.10" over the week.

- The four corners area picked up much needed moisture in the range of 0.26" up to 2" in isolated areas.
- East of the divide in Colorado was dry with most areas of the plains seeing less than 0.25" over the week. SE Wyoming saw more moisture which also made it into Larimer county in Co. Those amounts totalled 0.26" up to 2" in some locations.

February Precipitation:

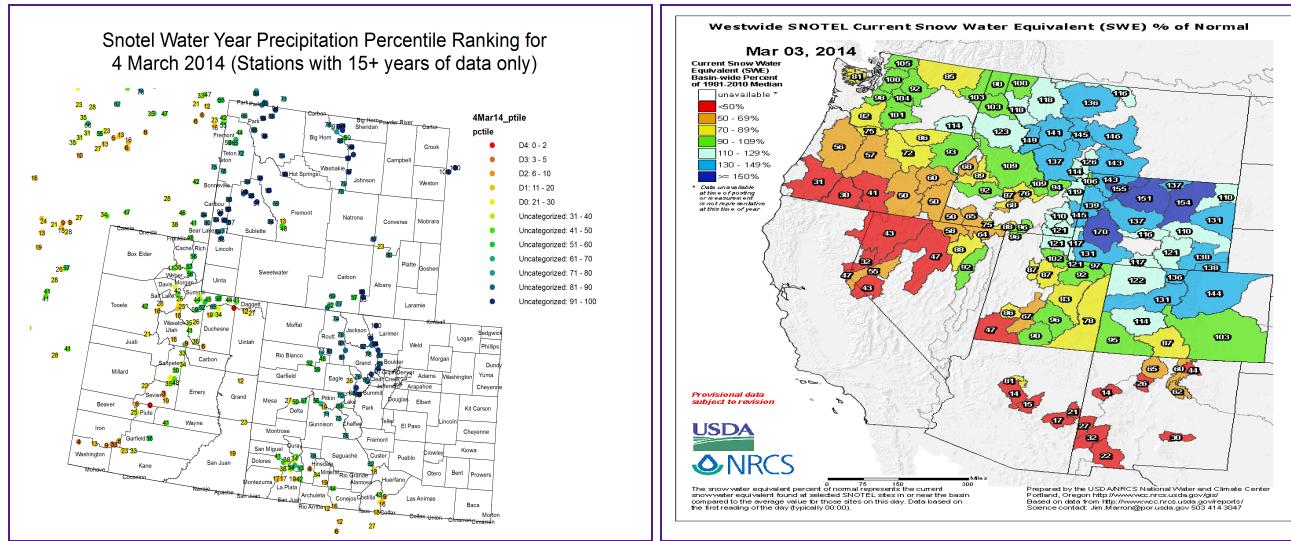
- The Upper Green River basin and Wasatch mountains saw much above normal precipitation in February. Large areas of 300% or more are present in Western Wyoming and NE Utah.
- The lower Yampa basin and eastern Utah saw below normal precipitation in February.
- The northern, central and southern mountains in Colorado saw near normal to above normal precipitation in February.
- The four corners area was dry in February receiving less than 70% of normal precipitation for the month.
- East of the divide saw above normal precipitation for February farther east (SE Wyoming and NE Colorado were >300% of normal) on the plains while areas closer to the Front Range saw below average moisture in February.
- The Crowley/Otero area saw near normal to above normal moisture in February, which was very much needed. That moisture also made it farther east into Cheyenne, Kiowa, Bent and Powers counties bringing normal to above conditions in February.
- The I-25 corridor was dry for February, but February is normally dry along the Front Range.
- The San Luis Valley saw below normal moisture through much of the valley bottom in February.

Water Year Precipitation (Oct-Feb):

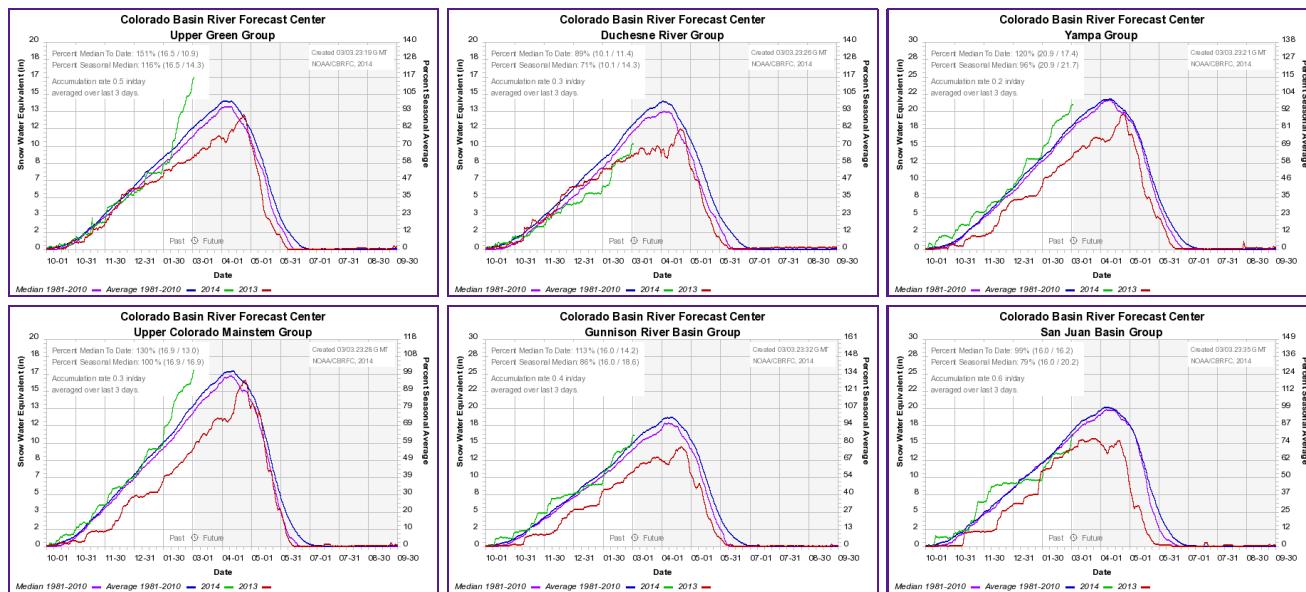
- Much of the UCRB is showing normal to above conditions for the water year through February.
- The driest areas are present in eastern Utah and the four corners area. Those areas saw less than 90% of normal.
- Much of the mountainous areas of the UCRB are reporting above normal conditions, particularly in the Green River basin.
- Much of the state of Wyoming has seen normal to above normal precipitation since the start of the water year.
- East of the divide in CO, conditions for the water year are above normal over the NE plains and deteriorate to the South, particularly south of I-70 and east of I-25.
- Las Animas and Baca counties saw less than 50% of their normal water year precipitation through February. Below normal water year

precipitation predominates much of the lower Arkansas valley.

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 above the median.
- Percentiles in the San Juan's have improved with recent moisture over the past week. They range from teens in the lower elevations to near to above the median.

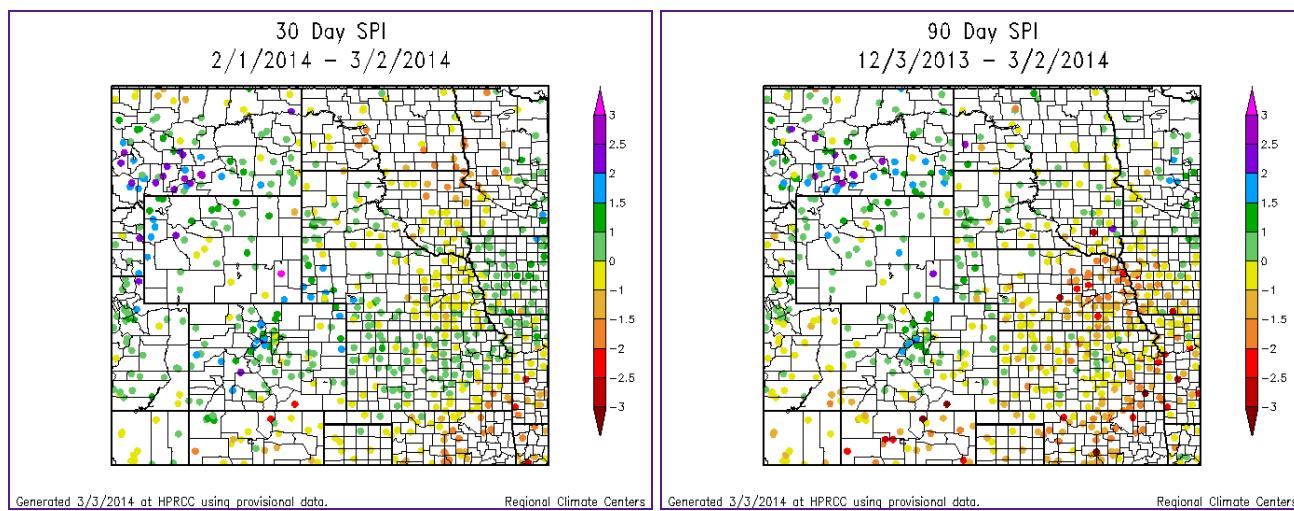
Basin-wide Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) Percent of Normal:

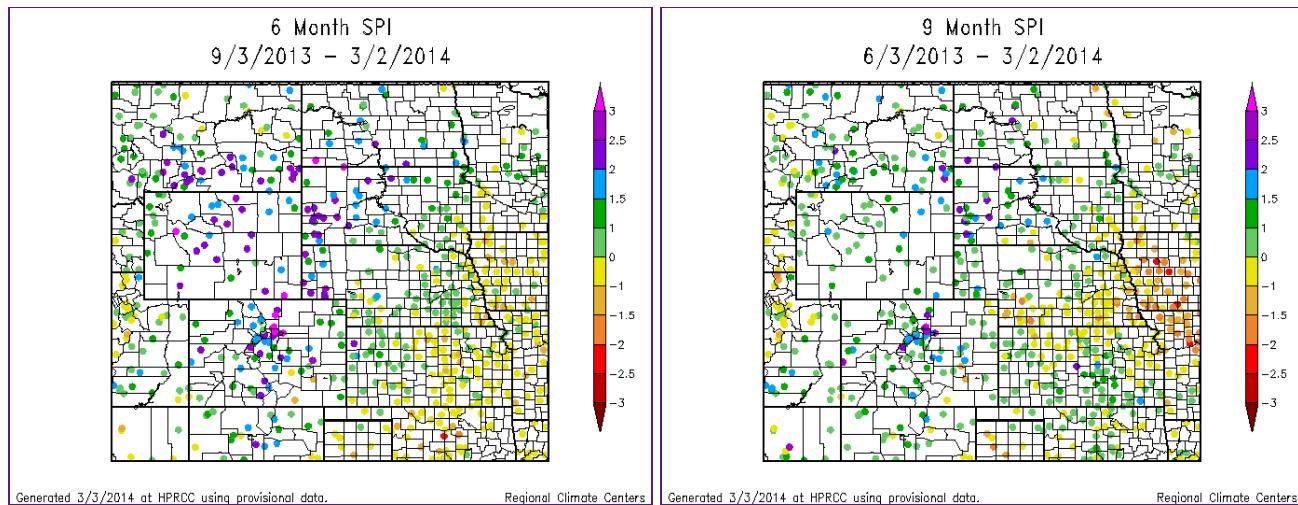
- The eastern and northern sub-basins in the UCRB currently have near to above normal snowpack, with the highest values in northwest CO and southern WY
- Snowpack in eastern UT is between 78% and 121% of normal
- Snowpack in southwest CO is also slightly below normal at 95%
- East of the basin, snowpack is above normal, with the exception of the Rio Grande Basin at 87%

SWE Timeseries Graphs:

- The Upper Green river basin in Wyoming has seen steady increases in SWE since early January. The basin is reporting at 151% of normal and has already surpassed the normal seasonal peak SWE.
- The Duchesne basin saw a good increase in SWE over the past week and is reporting at 89% of normal to date.
- The Yampa basin continues to report above normal as it has for much of the snow accumulation season. The basin is currently reporting 120% of normal to date.
- The Upper Colorado basin is also continuing to track above normal at 130%. The basin is also at 100% of the normal seasonal peak SWE.
- The Gunnison basin is reporting at 113% of normal after receiving good moisture over the past week.
- The San Juan basin also picked up good moisture over the past week. The basin is now reporting 99% of normal to date.

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.

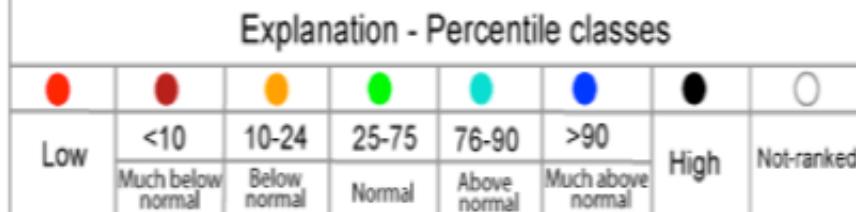
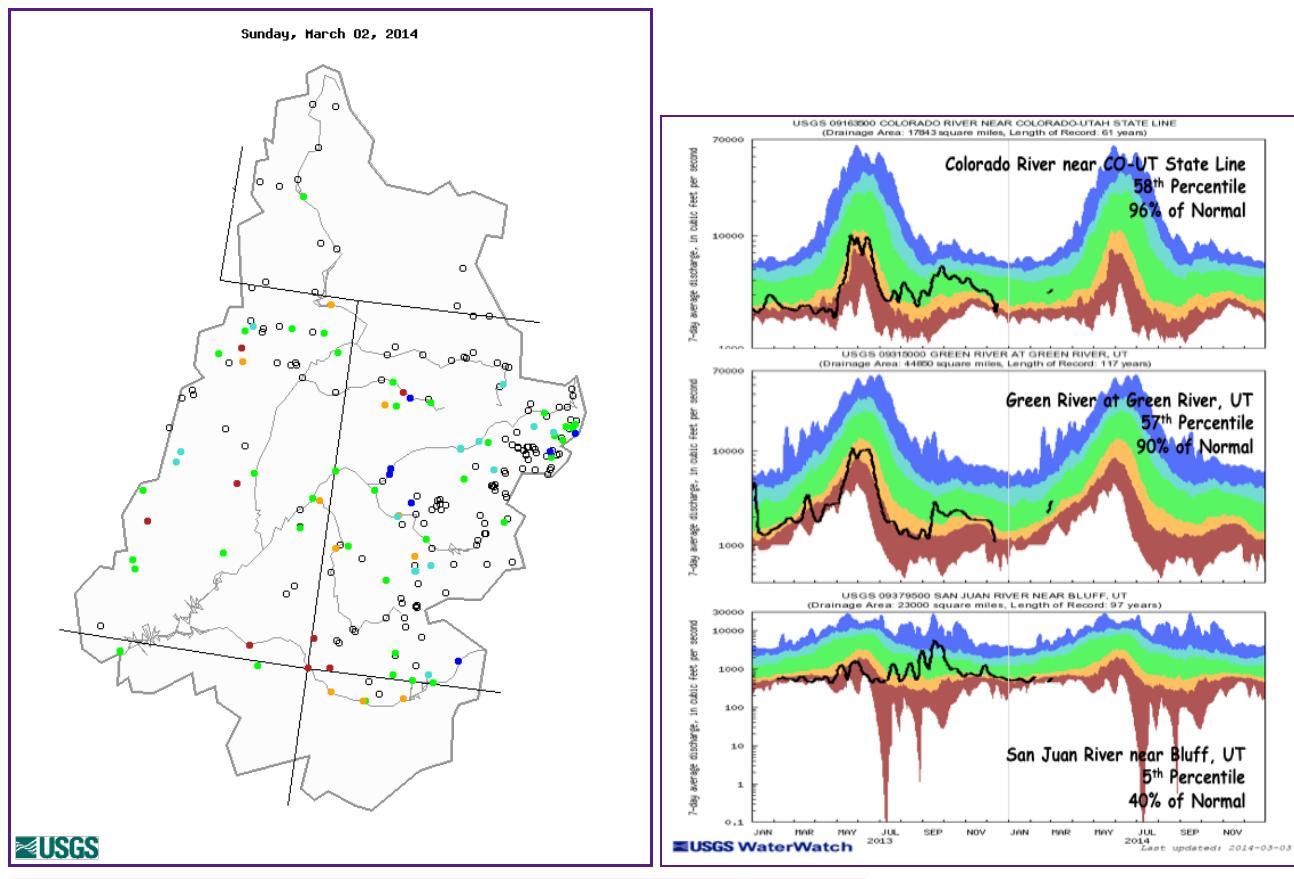
Short Term (30-day):

- 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 +2.5
- Western WY SPIs are mostly between 0 and +2.5 with slightly drier SPIs (between -1 and +2.5) to the east along the Wind River range
- Most of northern, central, and eastern CO are showing wet indicators, with SPIs between -2.5 and +2. The lowest SPI is in Las Animas county near Trinidad.
- The Four Corners region improved on the short term with recent moisture. Those SPI's are now in the -1 to +1 range.

Long Term (6-month):

- Most of the UCRB shows wetter long-term SPIs with the exception of the Wasatch and Four Corners areas.
- The driest area of the UCRB on the longer term is northern Utah near the Wasatch range where SPIs range from -1 to +2.
- The Four Corners area is still slightly dry on the longer term with SPI's from -1 to +1.5.
- The rest of the UCRB indicates wet conditions, with SPIs ranging from 0 to +3
- The driest areas on the plains remain in the lower Arkansas valley from Pueblo to Otero county.

STREAMFLOW



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.

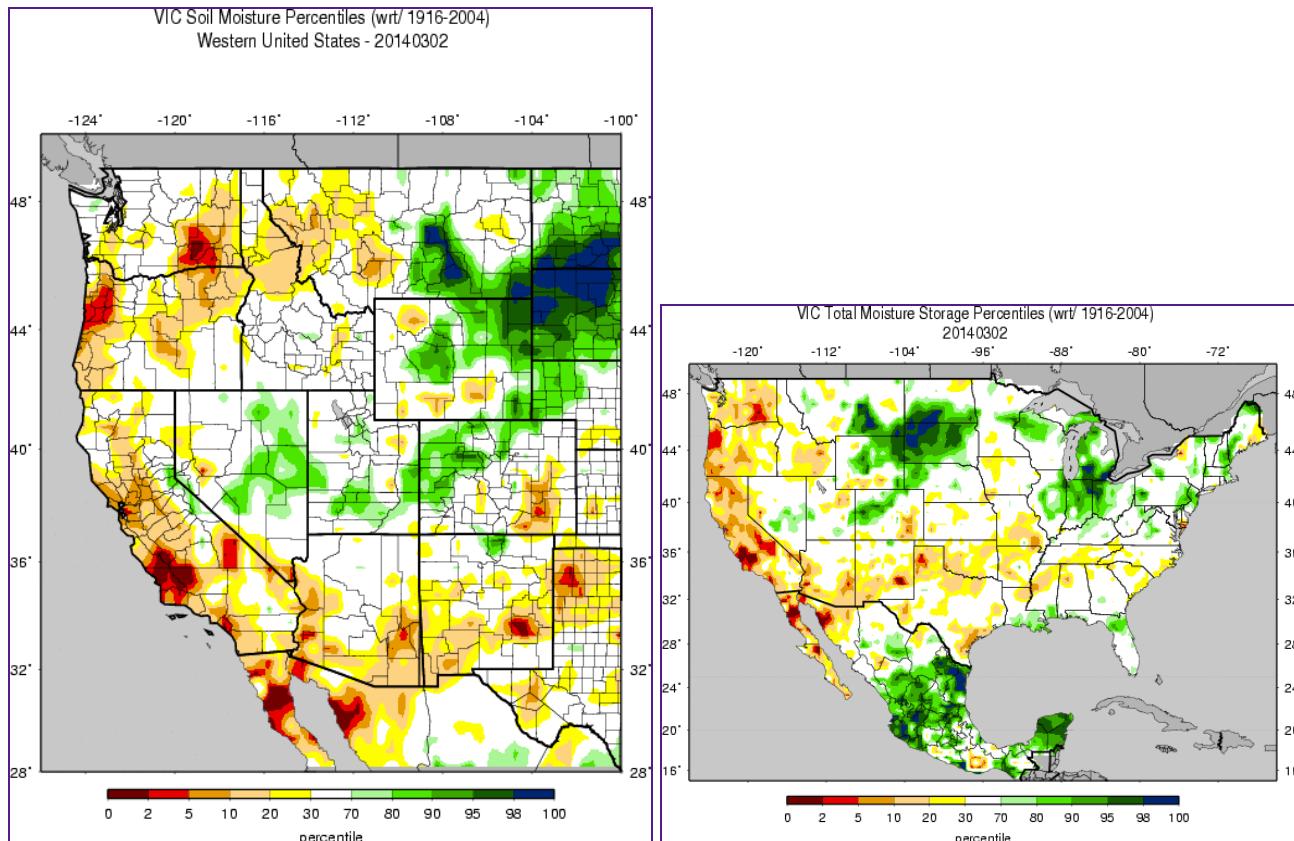
Streamflow Statistics:

- The number of reporting gages (not ice affected) has increased to 80.
- 50% 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.
- The driest stream reach is the San Juan river in SW Colorado.
- Flows on the Colorado River near the CO-UT state line and the Green

River at Green River, UT are above the median, currently at the 58th and 57th percentiles, respectively

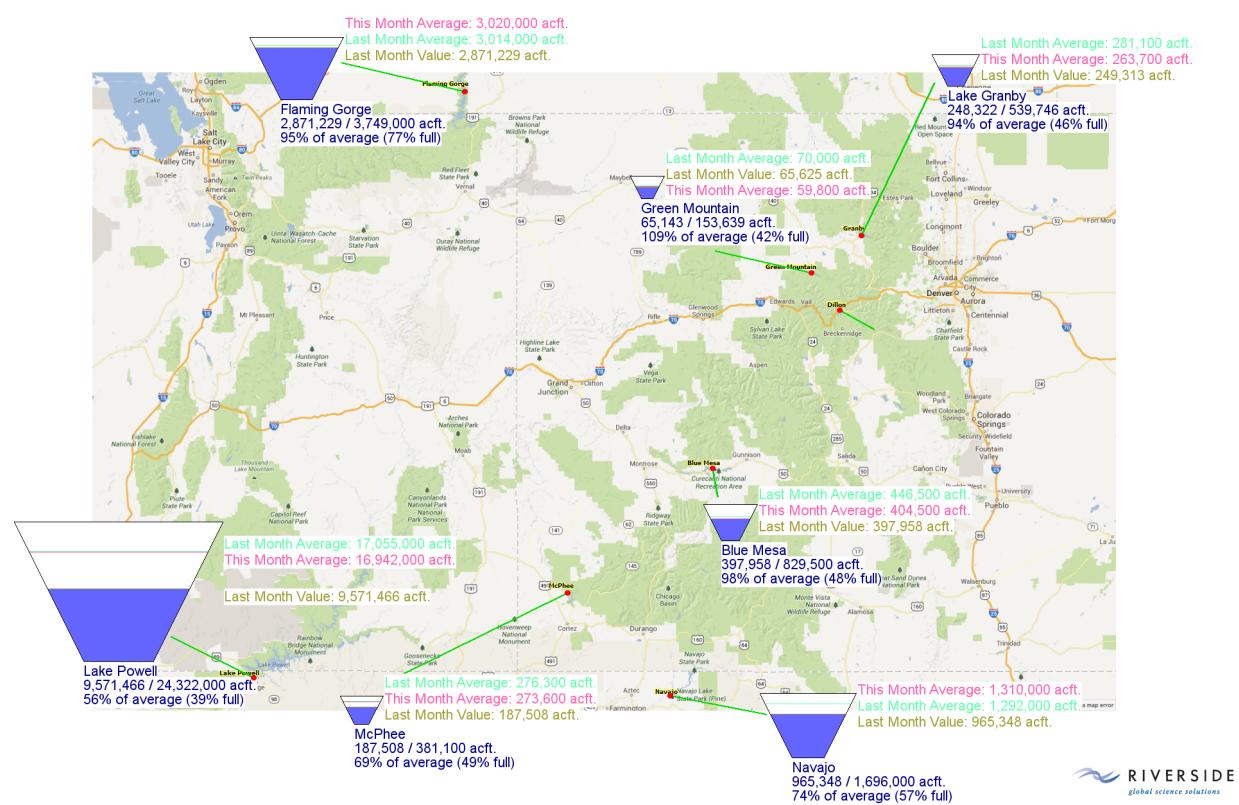
- The San Juan River near Bluff, UT is reporting at the 5th percentile and 40% of normal which has improved slightly since last week.

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).

2014/03/03



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:

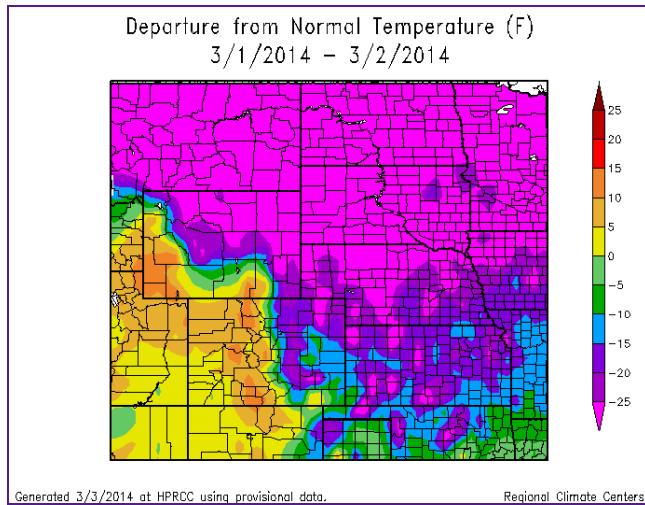
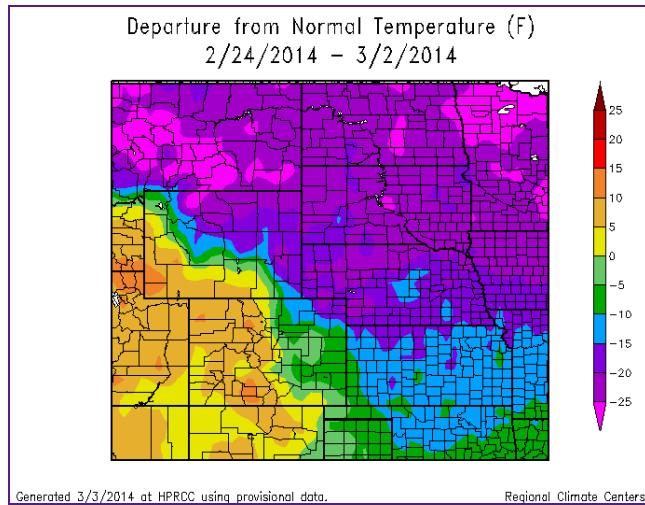
- Most of the UCRB is showing near average to wet soil moisture conditions.
- Soil moisture across most of western CO and parts of eastern UT are between the 70th and 95th percentiles.
- Some spots of southern WY and northern UT are slightly drier, with soil moisture percentiles between the 5th and 30th percentiles.
- Most of eastern WY is showing wet soil moisture.
- The lower Arkansas valley, east of the divide, is reporting dry soil moisture conditions with percentiles in the 2nd to 30th percentile range. The driest area is centered over Otero county.
- Adding in SWE for total moisture storage, conditions are even wetter for western CO and even drier for northern UT with the below normal snowpack conditions.

Reservoirs:

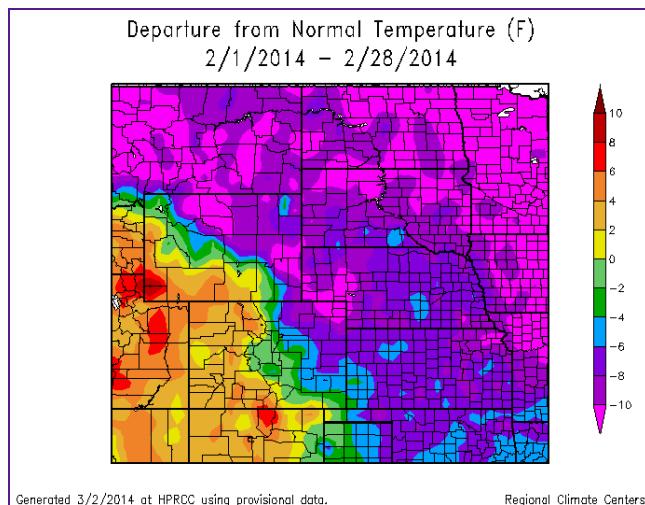
- All of the major northern reservoirs in the UCRB are near to above their March averages, ranging between 94% (Lake Granby) and 109% (Green Mountain) of average

- The southern reservoirs are below average, ranging between 56% (Powell) and 98% (Blue Mesa) of average
- Green Mtn and Granby have seen slight decreases since the end of last month while the remaining reservoirs have remained at the same level.

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:

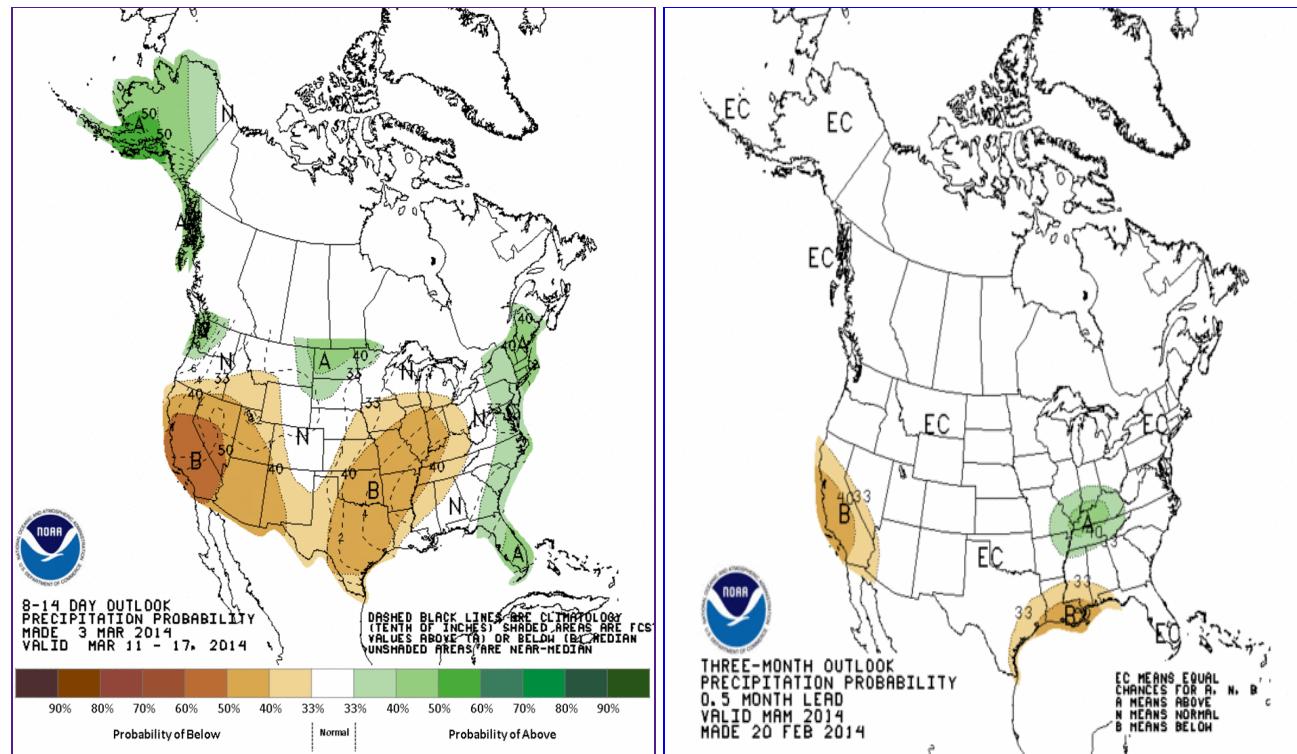
- The UCRB saw near normal to above normal temperatures over the past week between 0 to 15 degrees above normal.
- The Wasatch range was the warmest area of the UCRB with temperatures 10-15 degrees above normal.

- East of the divide was much colder with temperatures ranging 0 to 20 degrees below normal with the coldest areas in eastern Wyoming and the NE corner of Colorado.

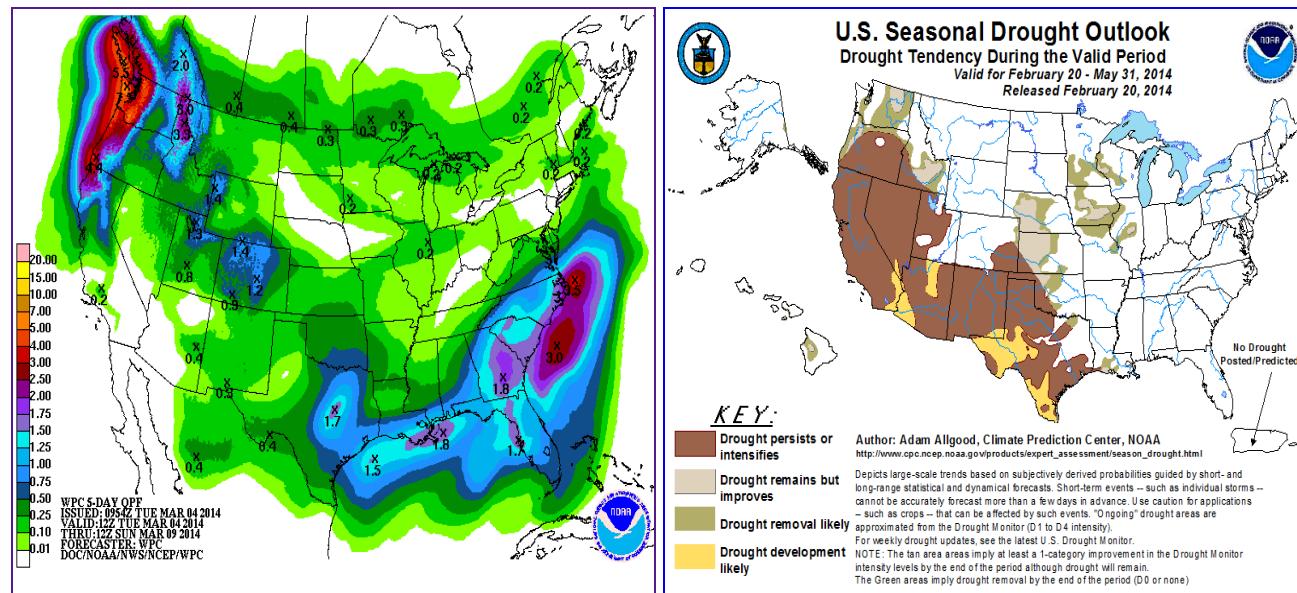
Last Month Temperatures:

- The UCRB mainly saw above normal temperatures in February ranging from near normal along the divide to 10 degrees above normal.
 - The warmest areas were in Utah and SW Wyoming with temperatures near normal to 10 degrees above normal for the month.
 - Western Colorado was mainly in the 2-4 degrees above normal range for February.
 - The Rio Grande basin was also warm with temperatures 2-8 degrees above normal.
 - East of the divide was a completely opposite situation with temperatures ranging from near normal at the divide to more than ten degrees below normal farther to the east. The effects of these cold temperatures on the plains winter wheat crop can only be assessed once it emerges from dormancy.
 - The coldest areas were in north central and eastern Wyoming as well as the NE corner of Colorado. Temperature departures moderated slightly on the SE plains of Colorado but remained 2 to 8 degrees below the February normal.
-

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:

- A fast moving system will bring an additional 4-10 inches of snowfall to eastern Utah and Western Colorado mountains through tonight. The

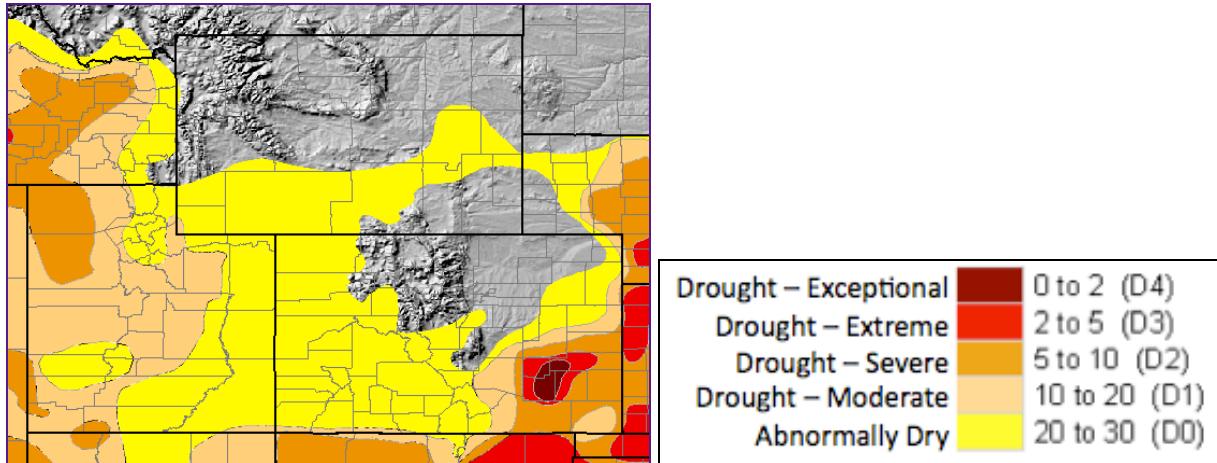
best chance for precipitation will be above 8,000 feet from the Wyoming border to Rabbit Ears Pass and Vail Pass.

- Valley areas could see 2-5 inches as mixed precipitation and potential for isolated thunderstorms.
- This system has potential to spill over to the eastern plains and bring rain this afternoon transitioning to snow overnight. Snow amounts are forecast to be a Trace up to 5" on the plains with the heaviest amounts over NE Colorado.
- Conditions will improve from NW to SE overnight with dryer and warmer conditions Wed-Thurs.
- Another system is forecast to pass through the area Fri-Sat with potential for significant snowfall over portions of Colorado.

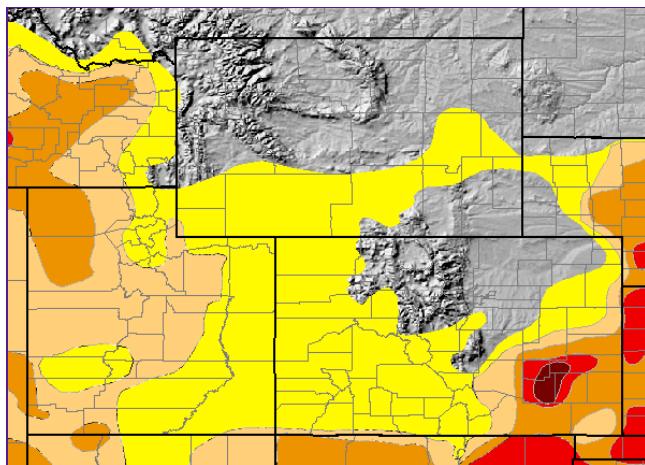
Longer Term:

- The 8-14 day precipitation outlook shows higher probability of below normal precipitation across the UCRB with more normal conditions east of the divide.
- 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: March 4, 2014

The Four Corners and San Juan mountains picked up very beneficial moisture over the past week. That area is still being closely monitored as it was very dry previous to this recent storm. The area is forecast to continue to pick up moisture over the next week as is much of the UCRB and eastern plains of Colorado.

In light of the current conditions and forecast precipitation over the region, status quo is recommended this week. There is potential for some improvements next week, particularly in parts of western Colorado and Wyoming if the forecast verifies.

Recommendations**

UCRB: Status quo is recommended this week.

Eastern Colorado: Status quo is recommended this week.