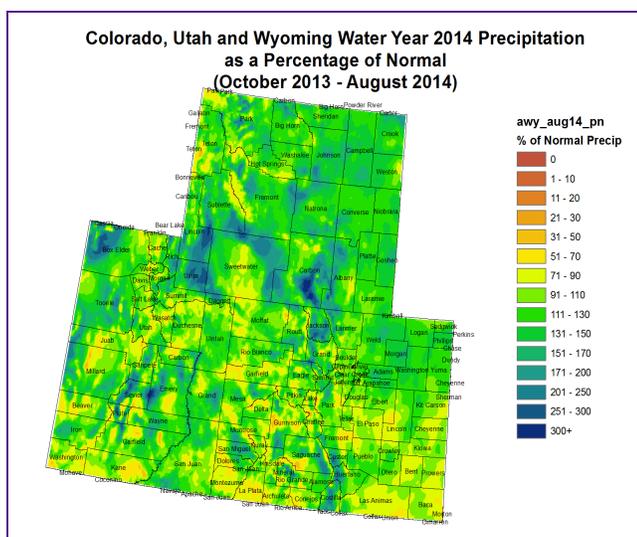
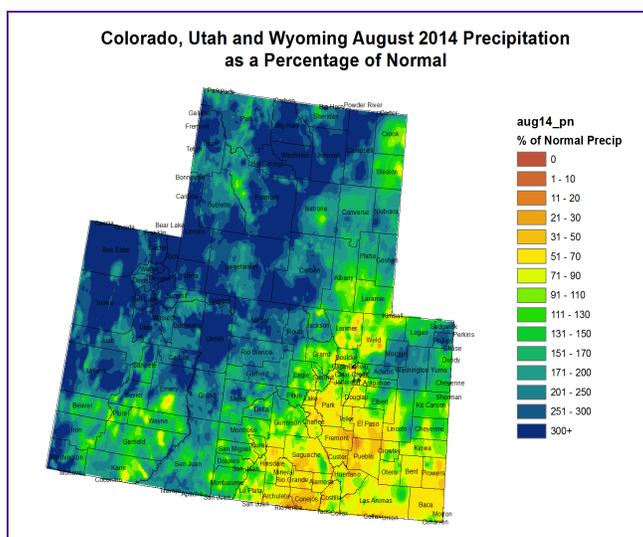
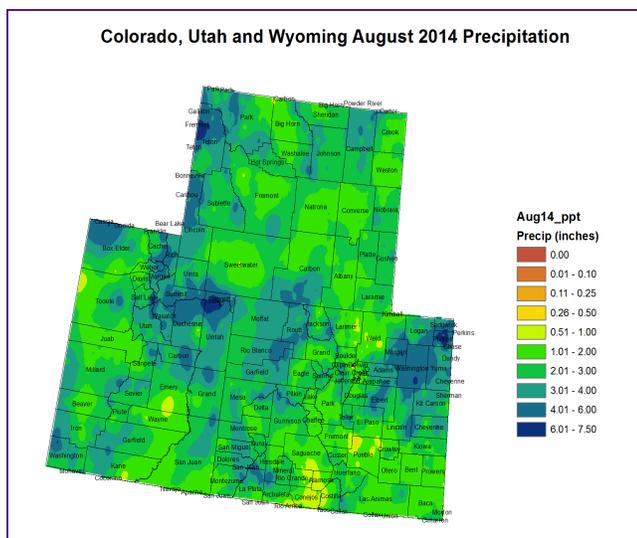
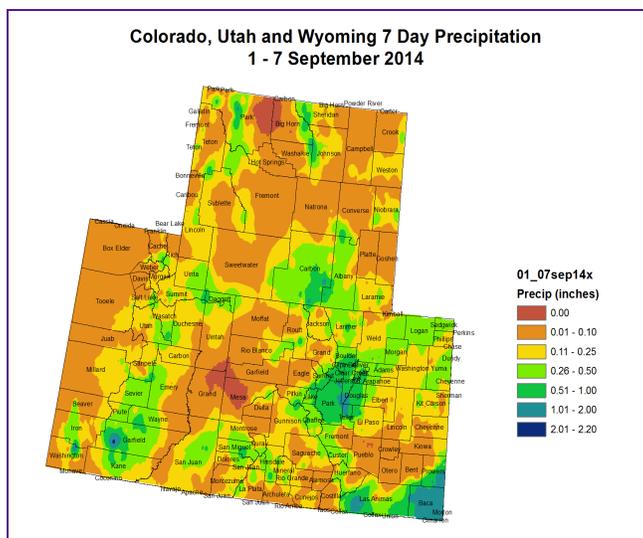


PRECIPITATION



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:

- A fairly quiet week over the UCRB with rains really falling yesterday and today (Sept 9th). Through the 7th, Daggett county Utah saw between 0.26-1.00" along the Uintah mountains. Areas of SE Utah and SW Colorado saw 0.26-1.00" in San Juan county Utah and in the San Juan mountains of Colorado. Other areas received much less precipitation on the order of 0-0.25" along the Utah/CO state line.
- The San Luis valley was dry this week with less than 0.25" of precipitation falling.

- East of the divide was more variable. Portions of the NE plains from Park county to Sedgwick saw widespread moisture totalling 0.26-2.00" for the week. The wettest areas were in Jefferson, Douglas and Teller counties where over 1" of rain fell.
- The central plains were drier with less than 0.25" falling over the week.
- Farther on the SE plains, Las Animas and Baca counties picked up good moisture in the range of 0.26-2.00". Baca had widespread precipitation from 1-2" over the past week which has helped things green up and prospects for winter wheat planting are looking much better.

August Precipitation :

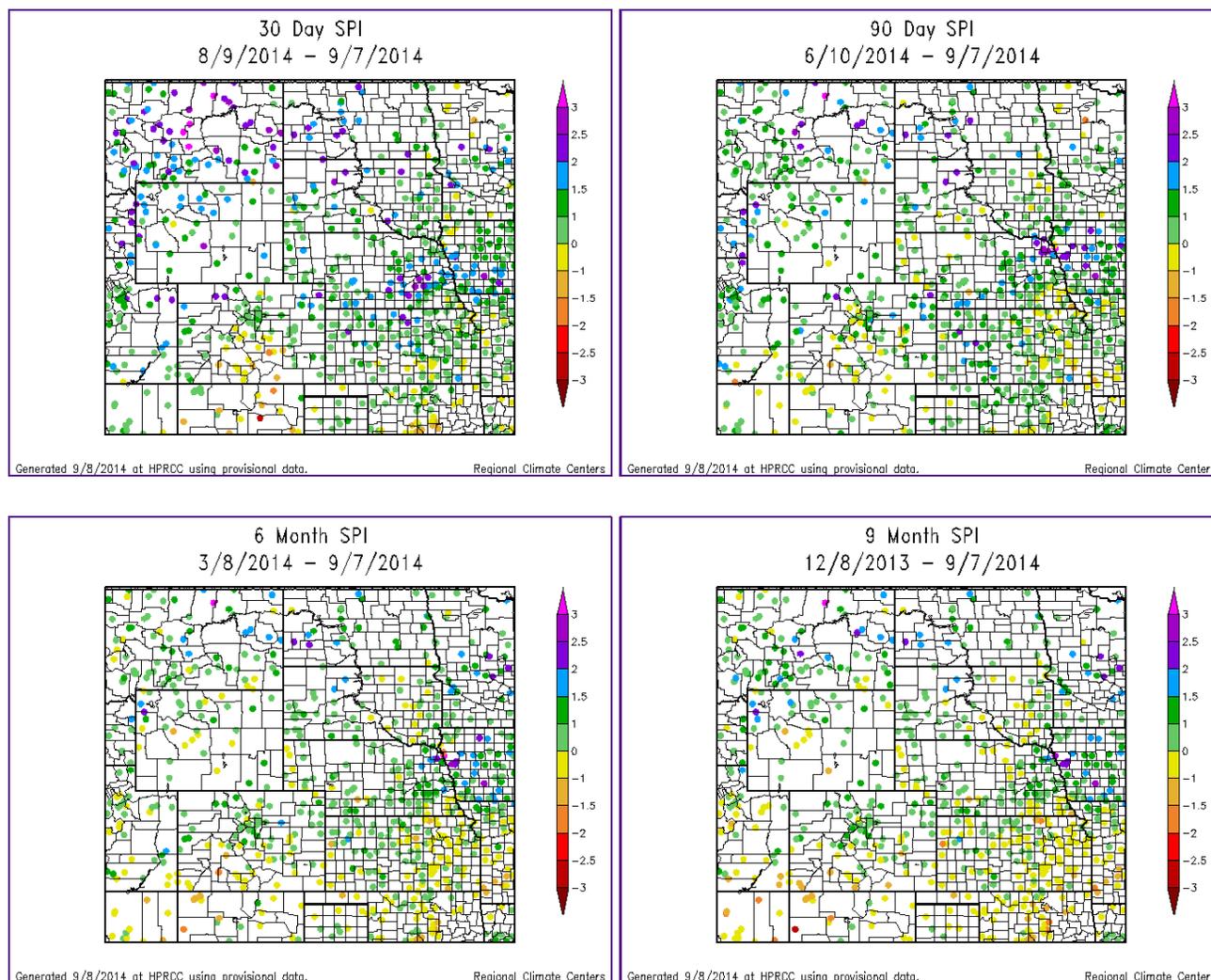
- In the UCRB most of Western Wyoming Eastern Utah received above average precipitation for the month of August with areas of 300+ percent of average in southwest Wyoming, the Wasatch Range in UT and Uintah County, UT.
- The rest of eastern UT down into the Four Corners area saw above average precipitation, mostly in the 150% to 250% of average range.
- Most of western Colorado also received above average precipitation for August, ranging from 100% of average in the Four Corners area to 300% of average in Moffat County in northwestern CO.
- Along the Divide in central and southern CO, precipitation was less for August, with Lake Chaffee, Saguache, Hinsdale and the eastern San Juan Mountains receiving between 50% to 90% of average, the lower amounts in the valleys.
- East of the divide saw spottier precipitation for August. Much of the northern Front Range saw near average precipitation, with the southern Front Range from Park County south, seeing below average precipitation in the range of 50% to 90% of average with spotty areas seeing less than 50% of average.
- The northeastern CO counties saw much above average precipitation, mainly 150% to 100% of average precipitation for August.
- Southeastern CO once again saw below average precipitation, in the range of 50% to 90% of average with spotty areas in Crowley, Otero and Las Animas counties seeing near average precipitation.
- Most of the Rio Grande basin also saw lower than average precipitation for the month, with the eastern part of the basin seeing near to slightly above average precipitation.

Water Year Precipitation (Oct-Aug):

- Much of the UCRB is now near or above average for the Water Year through August, with spotty areas below average.
- Most of the northern portion of the basin in Wyoming is above average, with portions of Lincoln, Uinta and southern Sublette counties 200% to 300% of average. Central Sweetwater and eastern Sublette counties are 70% to 90% of average.

- Much of eastern UT is now near average, with some areas in the Duchesne River basin a little drier than average of the Water Year (70%-90%).
- Western Colorado is a bit spottier with precipitation, however much of the area is near average for the Water Year. Parts of Moffat, Rio Blanco, Garfield, Delta and Gunnison counties, along with the southern San Juan Mountains in CO are 50%-90% of average.
- The Colorado River headwaters area is still much above average, mainly greater than 150% of average.
- East of the Divide in eastern WY and northeastern CO is mostly above average with percent of average precipitation in the 100-200% range.
- Southeastern CO has improved, seeing near average for the Water Year through August, however large areas in Bent Prowers, Baca and Las Animas counties are still in the 70%-90% of average range.
- The Rio Grande Basin in southern CO has seen above average precipitation in the western and eastern parts of the basin, and below average precipitation in the valley for the Water Year.

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.

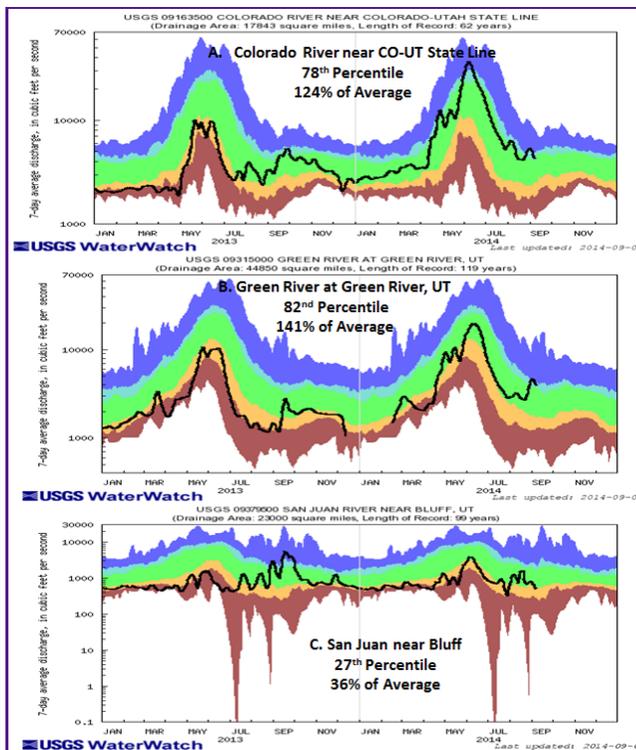
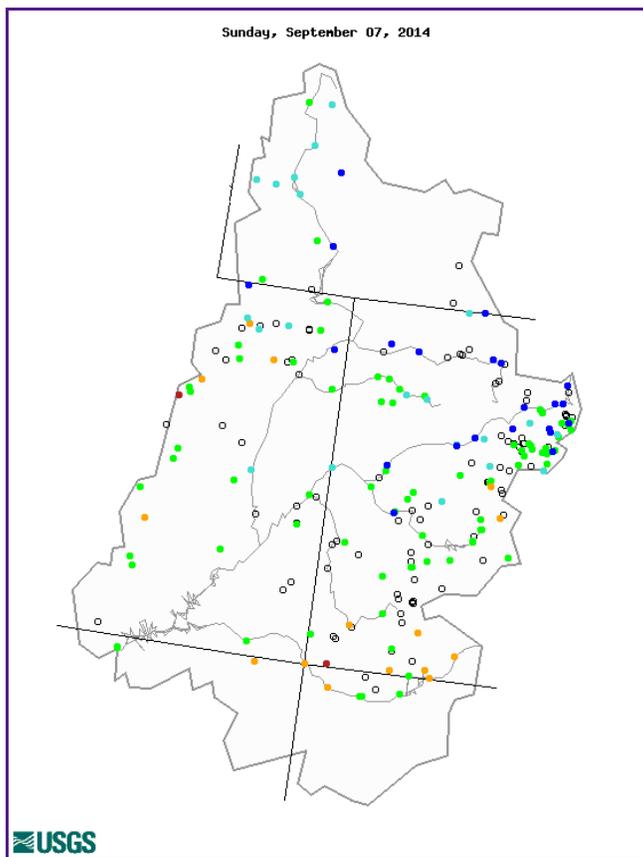
Short Term (30-day):

- Much of the UCRB has wet SPI's on the short time scale as monsoonal flow continues to bring moisture to the region. SPI's in the Green river basin range from -1 to +2.5.
- Eastern Utah and western Colorado are reporting SPI's between 0 and +2.5 with the wettest areas in NE Utah and NW Colorado.
- The Four Corners SPI's range from 0 to +2.
- The San Luis valley is notably drier on the short time scale with SPI's between 0 and -1.5.
- East of the Divide in Colorado, the NE plains are wet on the 30 day time scale with SPI's between -1 and +2.
- Farther to the south, the headwaters of the Arkansas are reporting dry SPI's from Lake county down through Crowley and Las Animas counties with SPI's between 0 and -2. Farther to the east in the Arkansas is wetter with SPI's between 0 and +1.5.

Long Term (6-month):

- The UCRB is showing a mixed bag of wet and dry SPI's. The Upper Green and Duchesne ranges from -1.5 to +1.
- The Four Corners is mainly dry with SPI's between 0 and -1 but reporting wetter conditions (0 to +2) in the Colorado river valley along the western San Juan county border in Utah.
- The headwaters of the Yampa and Colorado are wet with SPI's between 0 and +1.5.
- The Gunnison basin is slightly drier with SPI's between -1.5 to +1.5 with drier areas to the south.
- The San Luis valley is also dry with SPI's between 0 and -2.
- East of the divide, the NE plains are showing wet conditions with SPI's between 0 and +2.
- The SE plains are more variable with SPI's between -1 and +1.

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		

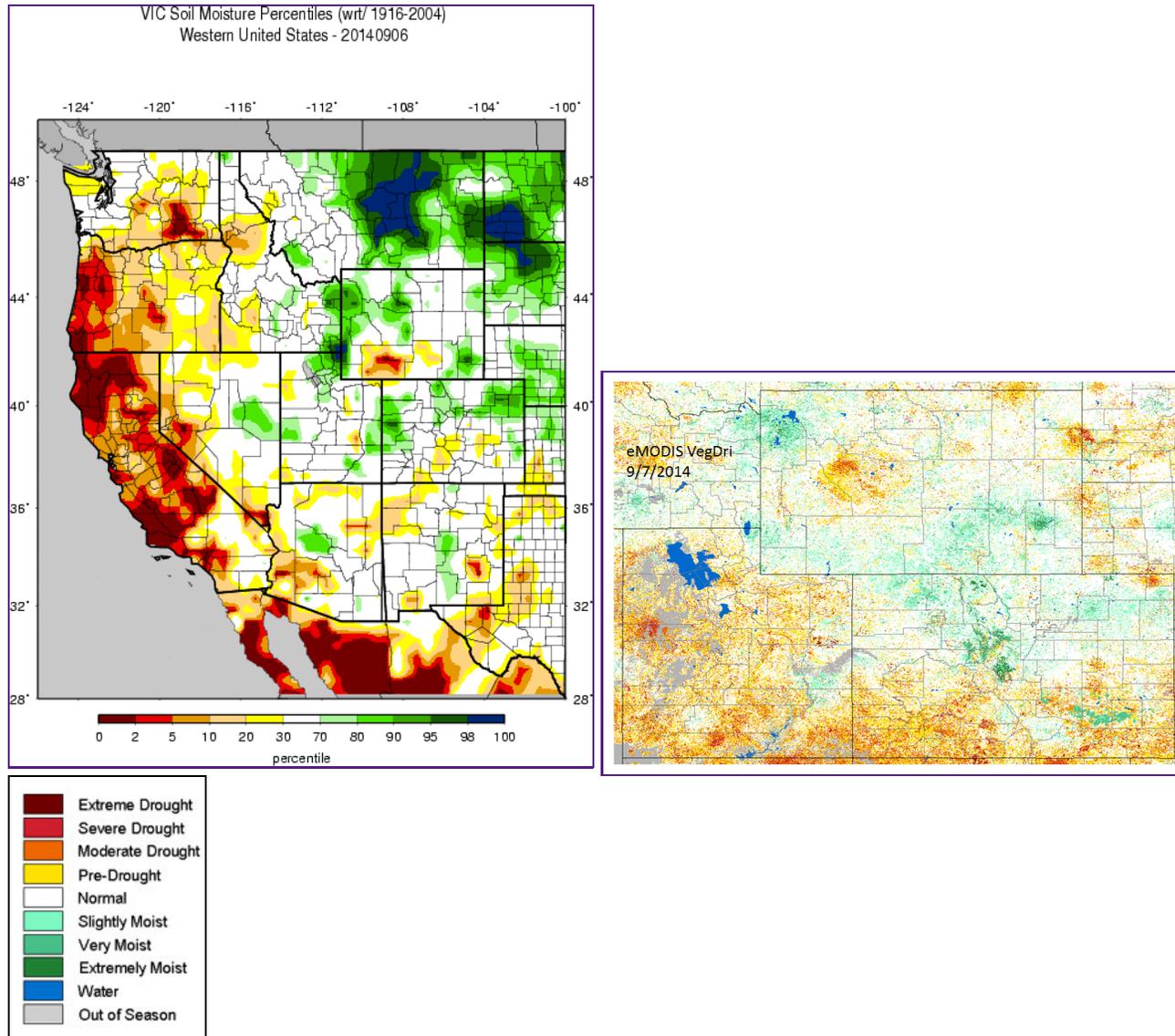
The top left image shows 7-day averaged streamflows as a percentile ranking across the UCRB. The top right image shows 7-day averaged discharge over time at three key sites around the UCRB: The Colorado River at the CO-UT state line; the Green River at Green River, UT; and the San Juan River near Bluff,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

Streamflow Statistics:

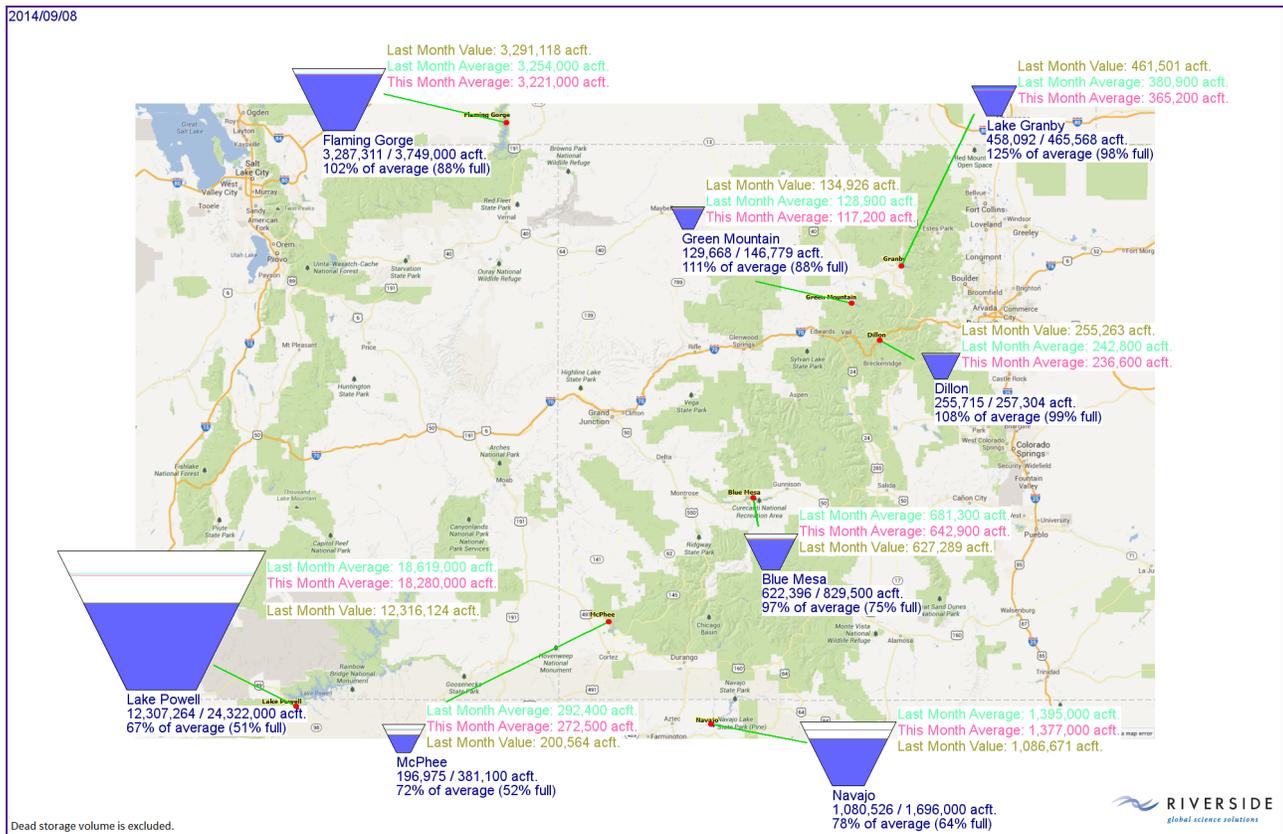
- 72% of the gages in the UCRB are reporting normal and above normal 7-day average streamflow.
- 16% of the gages are reporting much above normal (90th and greater percentile).
- 12% of the gages are reporting in the below normal (10th-24th percentile) range.
- The highest streamflows are in the Upper Green River Basin, Yampa River Basin, and the Colorado River Headwaters.
- Streamflow on the Colorado River near the CO-UT state line is in the above average range, reporting in the 78th percentile (124% of average).
- The Green River at Green River, UT is reporting in the 82nd percentile (141% of average).

- The San Juan River near Bluff, UT has dropped off again after having rebounded just recently. Flows are now in the 27th percentile at 36% of average.

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:

- The VIC soil moisture is wet in the Upper Green river basin with the exception of Sweetwater county which is showing dry soils between the 1st and 30th percentile.
- NE Utah has shown improvements in soil moisture with recent rains and are now in normal to wet conditions with the Wasatch range reporting soil moisture above the 70th percentile.
- The Four Corners has also shown improvements recently and now reporting normal soil moisture conditions.
- The San Luis valley is indicating drying soils in the 10th - 30th percentile range.
- East of the divide on the plains, the NE plains are wet with soil moisture above the 70th percentile while farther south is indicating normal to slightly dry conditions. Percentiles near the intersection of El Paso, Pueblo and Lincoln counties are between the 10th and 30th.

VegDRI:

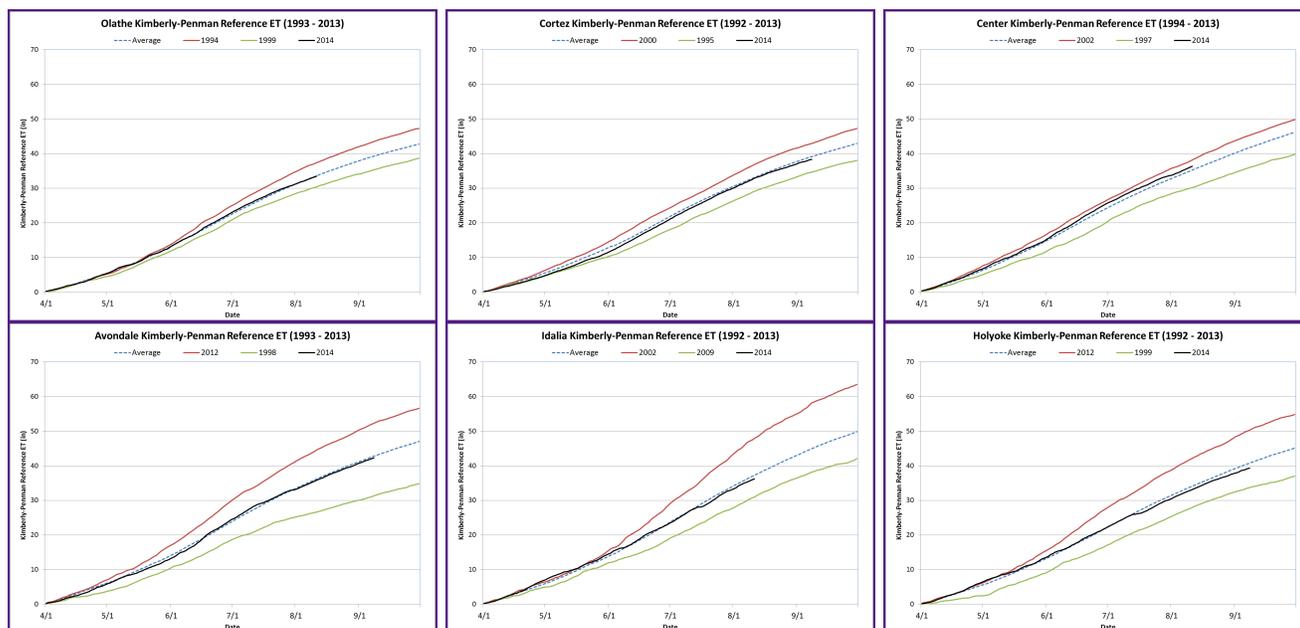
- The VegDRI has shown improvements over southern Wyoming, Eastern Utah and NW Colorado over the past few weeks.
- The Upper Green basin is indicating wet vegetation health across much of the area but dries out as you enter Sublette and Fremont counties.

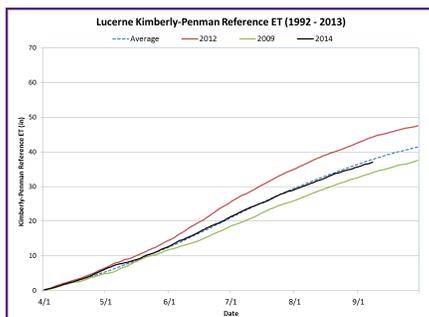
- Eastern Utah is still mainly indicating dry vegetation health in the pre- to moderate drought categories.
- Western Colorado is showing wet conditions in the Yampa and Colorado basins, but dries out farther to the south in the Gunnison and San Juan basins.
- The Four Corners depiction is still dry in the pre- to severe drought categories.
- The San Luis valley is also dry in the pre- to severe drought categories.
- East of the divide is showing wet vegetation on the NE plains, with the exception of Sedgwick county. Farther to the SE is more variable with wet vegetation along the irrigated Arkansas river valley, but surrounding areas are much drier in the pre- to severe drought categories. The driest areas are in Las Animas and Baca counties.

Reservoirs:

- Most of the reservoirs are seeing volume decreases with the exception of Dillon which continues to see volume increases.
- Flaming Gorge is 102% of the September average.
- Green Mtn is 111% of September average.
- Lake Granby is 125% of September average.
- Lake Dillon is at 108% of the September average and continues to see volume increases.
- Blue Mesa is 97% of the September average.
- Navajo is 78% of the September average.
- McPhee is 72% of the September average.
- Lake Powell is 67% of average and 51% full.

EVAPOTRANSPIRATION



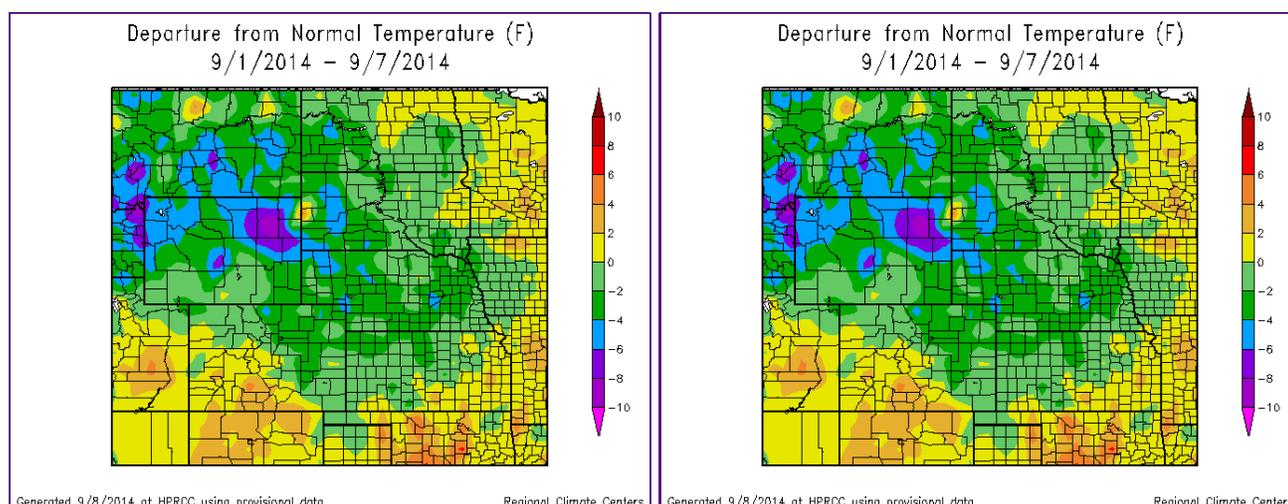


The above images are of reference evapotranspiration (ET) from CoAgMet sites across Colorado. Reference ET assumes the amount of water that will evaporate from a well-irrigated crop. Higher ET rates occur during hot, dry, and windy conditions. Lower ET rates are more desirable for crops. See a [map of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

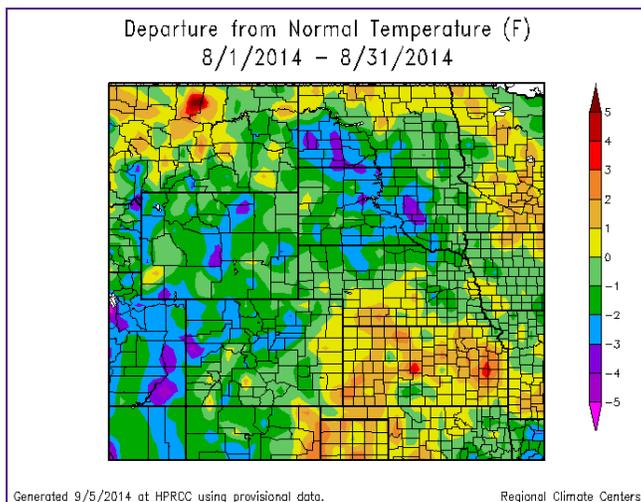
Reference Evapotranspiration:

- Olathe: ET is tracking along the normal for the growing season to date.
- Cortez: ET is tracking slightly below normal for the growing season.
- Center: ET has continued to track above normal since early June, but is still much lower than the highest year of 2002.
- Avondale: ET is tracking just slightly below the growing season average.
- Idalia: ET dropped in mid-July with monsoonal moisture coming into the area. ET has tracked slightly below the normal since then.
- Holyoke: ET dropped off in mid-July and continues to track below average for the growing season.
- Lucerne: ET rates are tracking slightly below average for the growing season since the end of July.

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.



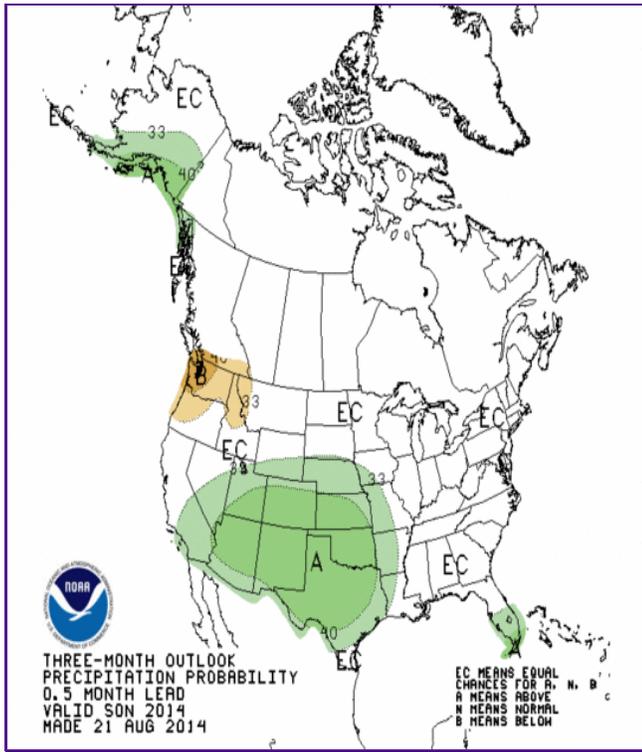
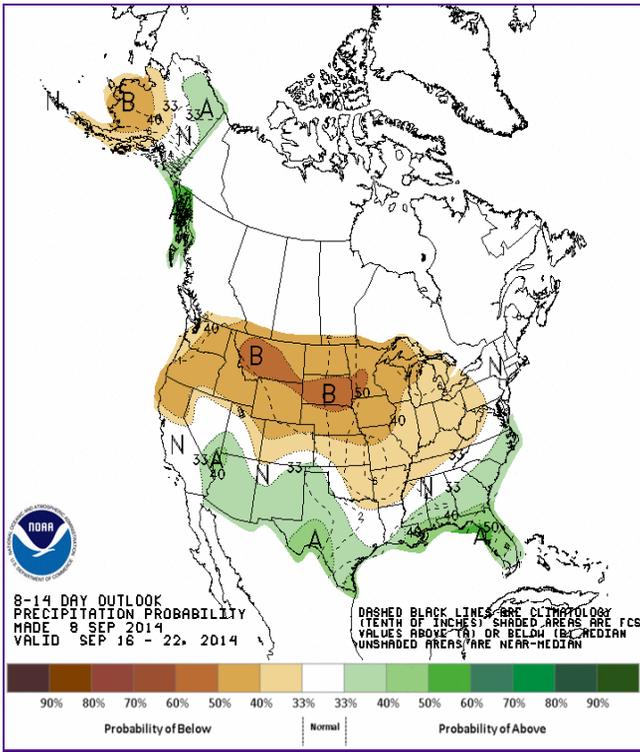
Last Week Temperatures:

- The northern portion of the UCRB saw below normal temperatures in the range of 0 to 8 degrees below normal.
- The southern portion of the UCRB saw more seasonal to above temperatures in the range of 0 to 6 degrees above normal.
- The San Luis valley was 2-6 degrees above normal for the week.
- East of the divide saw mainly below normal temperatures over the past week. Temperatures ranged 0 to 6 degrees below normal. The southern portion of the Arkansas in Las Animas county was warmer with temperatures 0-4 degrees above normal.

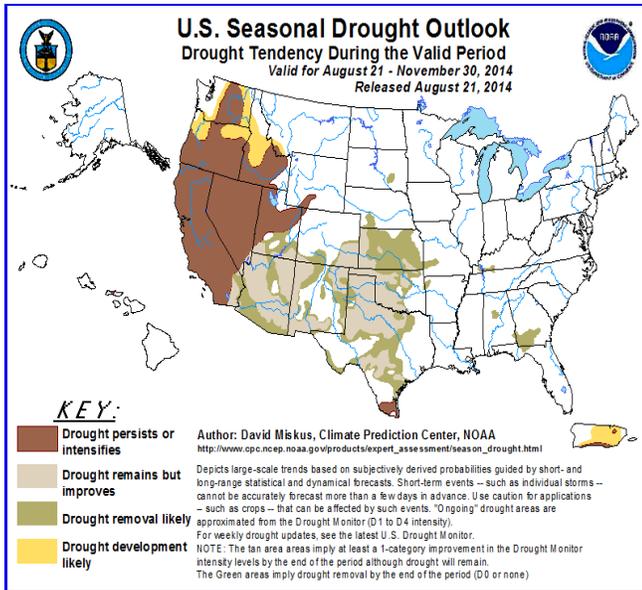
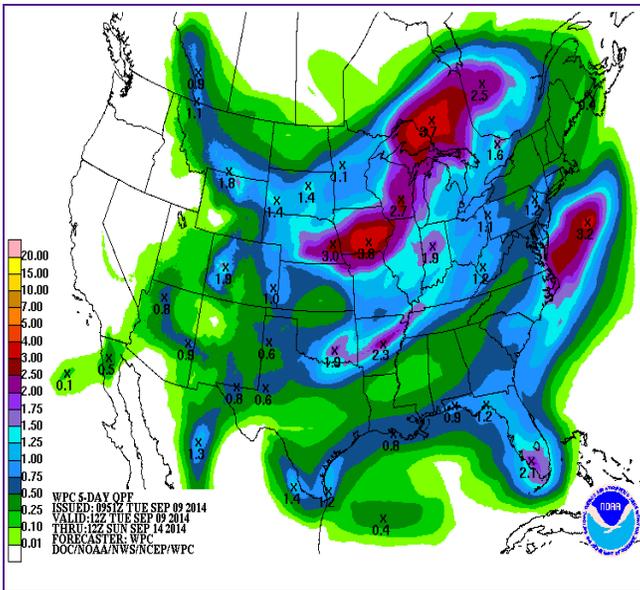
Last Month Temperatures:

- August temperatures in the UCRB, Wyoming and much of Colorado were mostly below average.
- The Upper Green River basin in WY were mostly 0 to 2 degrees below average.
- Eastern and northern UT saw temperatures mainly 3 degrees below average with a few areas 4 degrees cooler than average.
- Western CO also saw temperatures below average. The far western counties saw temperatures 3 degrees below average, while the rest of the Colorado River Basin area in CO saw 2 degrees below average for August.
- East of the divide most of the Front Range was between 0 and 2 degrees below average for August with a few areas 3 degrees below average.
- The eastern plains were a mix of near normal temperatures. Most of the counties along the CO/KS border were 0 to 1 degree above average for the month, while counties further west were slightly cooler than average.
- Crowley and Otero Counties saw temperatures down to 3 degrees below 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:

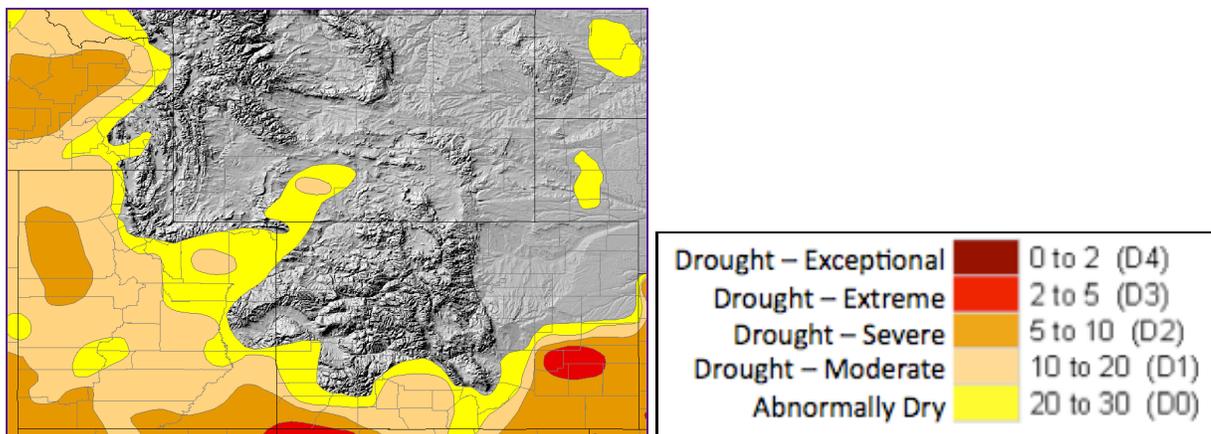
- Flash flood watches remain in effect for much of the UCRB in Utah and Colorado through Wednesday with subtropical moisture continuing to stream into the region. Precipitation could amount to 1-2" by the end of today. Drier conditions will return Wednesday and stick around through the weekend.
- The plains will see a cold front move in on Thursday bringing

upslope flow and chances for rain or snow Thursday into Friday. Saturday through Monday will see a warming and drying trend as high pressure builds over the region.

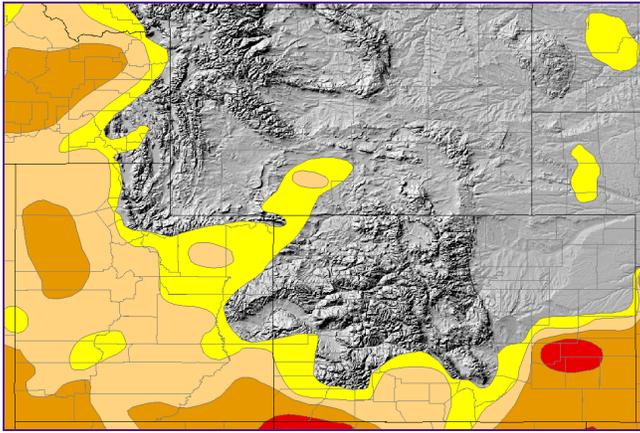
Longer Term:

- The 8-14 day precipitation outlook shows increased chances for below normal precipitation over much of the UCRB, particularly in Wyoming and Northern Colorado. Average precipitation is expected for SE Colorado.
- The 8-14 day temperature outlook (not pictured) shows increased chances of above normal temperatures for the UCRB, Wyoming and much of Colorado. Southeastern CO has chances of near normal temperatures.
- The CPC 3-month outlook shows higher chances for wetter than normal conditions over the UCRB in Utah, Colorado, and Wyoming for the late August-mid November time period.
- The seasonal drought outlook indicates that drought is expected to persist or intensify across northeast Utah and southwest Wyoming.
- Drought in the Four Corners region is anticipated to continue, but improve with some removal likely.
- Drought in the southeast CO is anticipated to continue, but improve. Little to no removal is likely.

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 for September 9, 2014:

A fairly quiet week over much of the UCRB. Some areas continued to pick up moisture, but the majority of the region was dry. East of the divide was more active with widespread precipitation reported over the NE and SE plains. Baca and Las Animas counties received much needed moisture on the order of 1-2". The South Platte headwaters, down through the Denver-metro area and out onto the NE plains also picked up good moisture on the order of 0.26-2" with the highest amounts around the metro area. Other areas of the plains received little moisture over the week.

Recommendations:

UCRB: Status quo. We are watching the Four corners area closely for improvements but with little moisture falling this past week and monsoonal moisture in the forecast for today and tomorrow, we will revisit this area next week to see how much moisture actually falls in the area. WFO-GJT is on board with this recommendation as well.

Eastern Plains: Status quo, for now. We are watching SE Colorado (Baca and Las Animas) for improvements, however we are trying to balance long-term impacts with short-term recovery. Local reports are still suggesting deep soil moisture deficits, but recent moisture is causing some green-up and better prospects for planting winter wheat this fall. With more moisture in the forecast over the next week, we will hold off until next week to see if more widespread improvements are warranted at that time.