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.

**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.

Snotel and Snowpack
The above image shows SNOTEL snowpack percentiles for each SNOTEL site in the Intermountain West. 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).
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 satellite-derived vegetation from the VegDRI product (which updates on Mondays).

The graphs shown below are plots of reservoir volumes over the past full year and current year to date (black). The dashed line at the top of each graphic indicates the reservoir's capacity, and the background color-coded shading provides context for the range of reservoir

http://climate.colostate.edu/~drought/current_assessment.php
levels observed over the past 30 years. The data are obtained from the Bureau of Reclamation. Some of the reservoir percentiles don't line up at the new year due to differences in reservoir levels at the beginning of 1985 and the end of 2014. Dead storage has been subtracted. Note: Lake Granby data are obtained from the Colorado Division of Water Resources, and only goes back to the year 2000.

Evaporative Demand
The above images are available courtesy of NOAA's Evaporative Demand Drought Index (EDDI). Drought classification listed is a function of the depth of reference evapotranspiration accumulated over a given period of record with respect to a climatology of 1981-2010. The drought categories displayed are in line with the US Drought Monitor's Percentile Ranking Scheme. Data used to generate these maps come from the North American Land Data Assimilation System Phase-2 (NLDAS-2) project, which assimilates observations of temperature, wind speed, radiation, and vapor pressure deficit. The date indicates the last day of the period of record, and the week number indicates the window size for the period of record.

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.
Map of current condition monitoring reports submitted to CoCoRaHS in the last week overlaid on the current U.S. Drought Monitor depiction. Specific impacts reports from local experts listed below.
Outlook

The top two images show Climate Prediction Center's Precipitation and Temperature outlooks for 8 - 14 days. The middle image shows the Weather Prediction Center's Quantitative Precipitation Forecast accumulation for seven days. The bottom left image shows the 3-month precipitation outlook from Climate Prediction Center, and the bottom right image shows the Climate Prediction Center's most recent release of the U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook.
Summary and Recommendations

http://climate.colostate.edu/~drought/current_assessment.php
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: November 27, 2018

This week temperatures were above average for much of eastern Colorado with temperatures reaching 4-6 degrees above average in Yuma/Washington counties. However, most of the Intermountain West followed the 2018 November temperature trend and temperatures were cooler than average in much of western Colorado, the Four Corners region, and into Utah. Month-to-date, temperatures for the IMW are 2-6 degrees colder than average.

There were some good precipitation accumulations for the higher elevations over the past 7 days. Precipitation was mostly concentrated along the northern portion of the Continental Divide in Colorado through southern Wyoming with totals reaching 2.00-3.60 inches in northern Colorado along the border of Routt and Jackson counties. Northern Utah also saw significant precipitation this week with 1.00-3.60 over Utah/Wasatch/Summit counties. Most of eastern Colorado and eastern Utah, including the four corners region, saw little to no precipitation in the last week. Arizona and
New Mexico were also dry, which is typical for this time of year.

Snowpack totals are above average for the northern Colorado mountains and the Sangre de Cristos. However, to the south, the Upper Rio Grande, Animas, and San Juan River Basin, snowpack is below average. In Wyoming, Wyoming Range and Wind River Range, snowpack did not show a significant improvement, not bad but could be better. Central Utah saw snowpack percentiles improving from the teens to the mid 30’s in the last week which could indicate a step in the right direction.

Month-to-date shows most of the Intermountain West drier than average with the higher elevations slightly better. The cooler than average November temperatures does help to offset this in terms of impacts.

The next week appears to be an active one looking at the 7-day forecast. Decent precipitation is expected in most of the region, including over D4 drought areas which could help with improving drought conditions. Colder temperatures are also in the forecast for the next 2 weeks.

Recommendations:

Recommended changes this week will be minimal, as we "wait and see" how the 7-day forecast plays out. If decent precipitation falls within the next week, more widespread improvements may be recommended.

UCRB: We recommend improving the D3 area over northern Colorado in Routt County to D2. This area saw significant precipitation this last week, and month-to-date has accumulated between 2 and 4 inches. This area also saw improved snowpack for the last week, Lost Dog improved from the 70th percentile to the 90th percentile. SPIs on all timescales support the improvement.

Despite decent precipitation and a slightly improved snowpack we are holding off on improving drought depiction over central Utah based on long term SPI data still showing values of less than -2 in this region.

Eastern CO: Status quo