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. Colors match the different drought categories with the U.S. Drought Monitor. 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).

Streamflow

https://climate.colostate.edu/~drought/current_assessment.php
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
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.
Condition Monitoring and Impacts

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.
Uintah/Duchesne counties FSA, UT

Recent moisture has been a big benefit and lower elevations are starting to see a green up. These northeastern counties typically trend toward the drier side, but things have felt more average this winter, with no impacts to report. Outlook on irrigation this summer is looking good. And no reported issues with the grazing/rangeland.

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
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 24, 2020

Much of the Intermountain West experienced an active storm pattern last week, with widespread areas receiving between half an inch and inch of moisture. Month-to-date, the majority of the region has received at least an inch of moisture, with some higher elevations seeing over 2 inches. Some areas of Wyoming, southeast CO, and spots in western Utah have been a bit drier for the month. For most of the Intermountain West, temperatures have been above average since the beginning of March.

Snowpack throughout the Upper Colorado River Basin is in good condition. The northern basins have reached their seasonal average peaks. Typical snowpack peak time is the first to second week of April, so these basins could be well above peak by the time melting starts. While the Gunnison and San Juan basins were struggling, last week they both received a healthy boost in snowpack and are now near their current average, with a better chance of
an average peak.

The outlook calls for more moisture in the next 7 days over the northern mountains of Utah and Colorado and into Wyoming. Arizona and New Mexico will not receive much in the next week. Other areas of concern, such as southeast CO and the Four Corners will also not see much action. With warm, dry, and windy conditions expected over the plains of eastern CO and NM, expect red flag warning days and fire danger to be higher.

**Recommendations:**

**UCRB:** An improvement of D1 to D0 is recommended for parts of eastern UT and slightly into western CO (see blue line). This area received around an inch of moisture over the past week. SPIs for most of eastern UT are not showing dry conditions until extended out to 9-month timescales. There have been no agricultural impacts from long-term dryness. Snowpack for the Duchesne basin in northeast UT is above seasonal peak average a couple of weeks ahead of schedule with more expected to come. In western Colorado, although the higher elevations are doing well with snowpack, some areas and the lower elevations are still struggling a bit, so we recommend holding off on any improvements into the Yampa and Colorado Mainstem basins.

We currently recommend holding off on improvements near the Four Corners. The San Juan mountains in southwest CO did see a healthy boost in snowpack over the past week, but SPIs are still trending toward very negative on several different timescales. Water supply forecasts for the area are still below normal. It would be ideal to wait on possible improvements until we see consistent relief over the remainder of spring.

**Eastern Colorado:** Status quo is recommended for Colorado east of the Continental Divide. Some precipitation has fallen over northeast CO the past week, but the bulk of moisture really missed the D0 and D1 areas. Southeast CO mostly missed out on moisture last week. Additionally, warm and dry conditions will be dominating over the next week, with concerns of fire dangers and more stress to vegetation.