



COLORADO

Department of Natural Resources

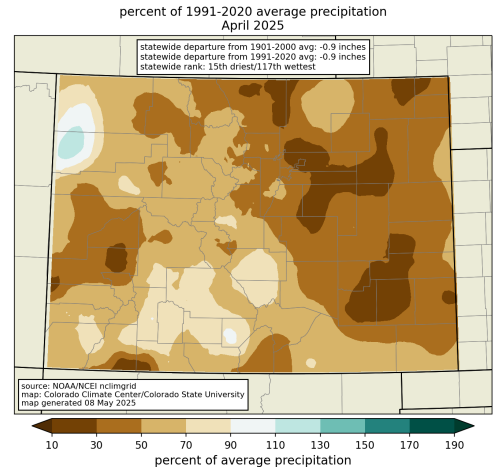
May 20, 2025
Water Conditions
Summary - WY 2025

Observed temperature

- Temperatures in the first six months of Water Year 2025 (Oct 2024 - April 2025) have been well above normal, ranking **10th warmest** in the 130 year record.
- **April 2025** was the state's **33rd warmest** April on the 130 year record.
- So far, average temperatures in **May 2025** have been warmer than average over the northern half of the state, especially in the northeast, and cooler than average in southern Colorado.

Observed precipitation

- WY 25 has been drier than normal throughout the entire state, however, western Colorado has been much drier than normal with some areas experiencing record low precipitation accumulations.
- **April 2025** was very dry across the state, especially throughout the Eastern Plains and across northern Colorado.
- So far, **May 2025** precipitation accumulation has been well above normal in southern Colorado across the Arkansas, Rio Grande, and parts of the Southwest basins. Much of the Gunnison, Colorado, and Yampa-White-Green basins have accumulated below normal precipitation this month.



Snowpack & Reservoir Storage

- Average statewide snowpack (or snow water equivalent, SWE) is **58% of the median**. This is a 10% decrease since the last WCMC meeting.
- Snowpack peaked on average 11 days early in Colorado.
- Snow accumulation has degraded quickly across the whole state, especially in the Rio Grande basin (13% of the median SWE) and the Southwest basin (22% of the median SWE).
- Average statewide reservoir storage is currently at 92% of the median.

Streamflows & Soil Moisture

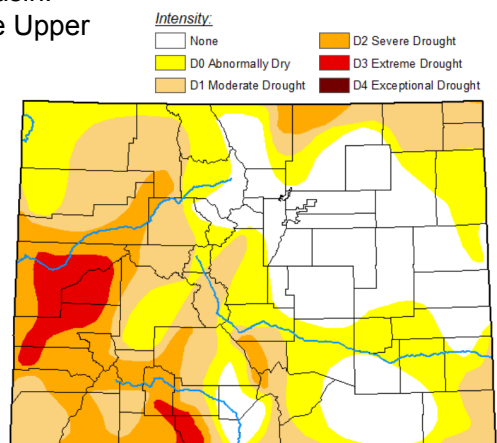
- Statewide streamflow forecasts as of May 1st project below normal streamflows for every basin across the state, from 79% of normal in the Colorado Headwaters to 49% in the Southwest basin.
- Soil moisture at both 10cm and 1 meter depths are wetter than normal in the Upper Rio Grande basin and in the high elevation mountains. Soil moisture is drier than normal in western, specifically northwestern, Colorado.

Drought conditions

- Since the last WCMC meeting in April 2025, drought conditions have improved across a large swath of the Arkansas basin. However, drought has worsened across northeastern Colorado and the West Slope. D3 conditions have expanded across the Gunnison and Southwest basins.

Seasonal outlook

- NOAA's monthly outlook indicates relatively strong confidence for a hotter and drier than normal June across the whole state. The seasonal outlook (June-July-August) indicates a higher probability that the Eastern Plains and northern Colorado will experience a drier than normal summer. There is strong confidence that summer will be hotter than normal.
- Wildfire potential is higher than normal in southwestern Colorado in June.
- La Niña has officially ended, and neutral conditions are likely to remain for the next few months.



The next Water Conditions Monitoring Committee Meeting will be on June 17, 2025.

Co-Chairs: Emily Adrid, CWCB and Sarah Brucker, DWR

Additional info at <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/Water-Conditions-Monitoring-Committee>

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