

MONTHLY/SEASONAL OUTLOOK

Eastern Area



Updated: April 17, 2025

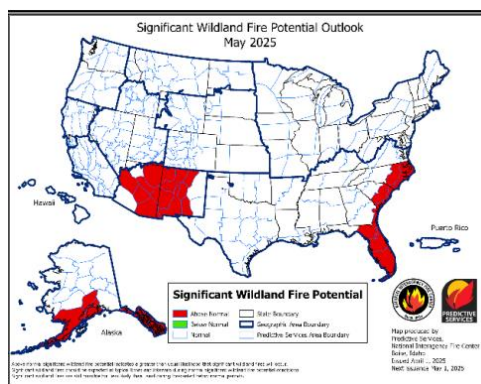
Valid: April 2025 - June 2025

Fire Potential Outlooks

April 2025



May 2025

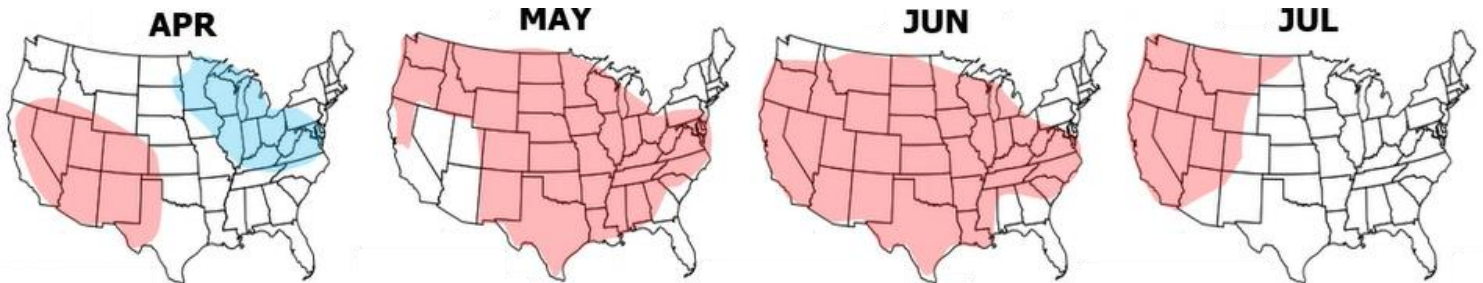


June 2025



Predictive Services Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks

Temperature



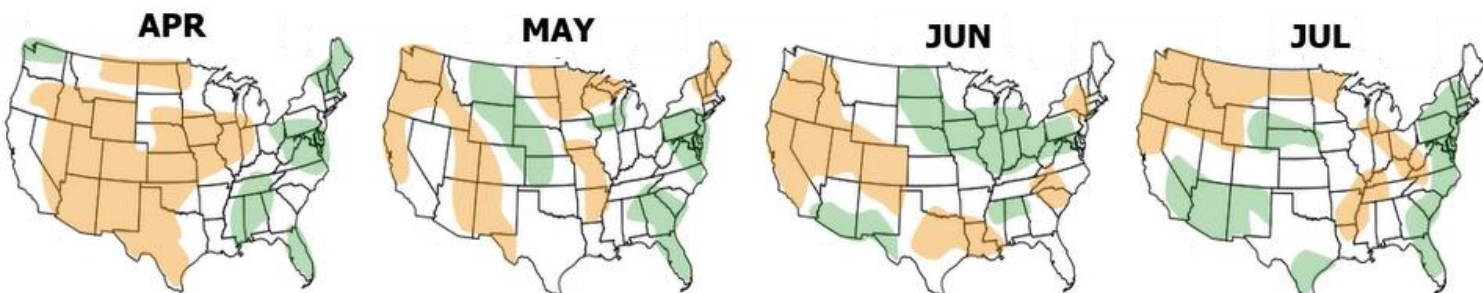
Below Normal =



Above Normal =



Precipitation

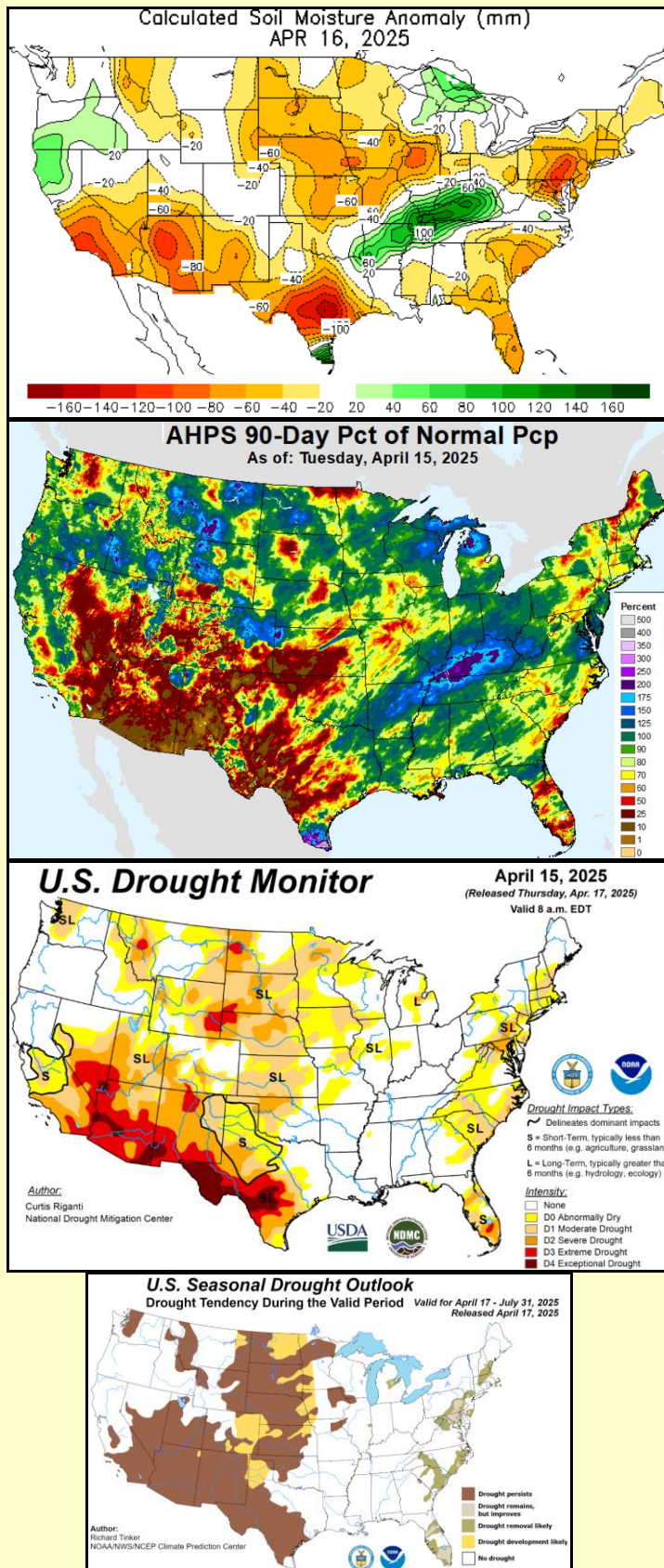


Below Normal =



Above Normal =





Discussion

Normal fire potential is forecast across the majority of the Eastern Area through July 2025. Longer term drought and 30 to 60 day negative precipitation anomalies persisted over portions of western Minnesota, southern Missouri, far southern Illinois, the south central Mid-Atlantic States, and the northwestern tier of the Northeast towards the end of March 2025. Shorter term negative precipitation anomalies developed over parts of the western Mid-Mississippi Valley, west central Wisconsin, parts of central New York, and the south central Mid-Atlantic States. **Below normal snow depths occurred across much of the northern tier of the Eastern Area through the 2024-25 winter season.**

Weather/Climate Trend Outlook Discussion:

The El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) remained in a weak La Nina regime over the central Pacific through March 2025 and will likely trend towards a more neutral regime through the spring of 2025. Other sea surface temperature regimes also contribute to global weather patterns adding to some uncertainty in long term weather forecasts.

Fuels:

Well below normal snowpack was in place across much of the northern tier of the Eastern Area this winter having effects on available surface fuels as we continue with an outlook period that covers the pre-green up fire season. Three fuels drivers are of concern: lack of snowpack means that grass and leaf litter may not be compacted and more available to ignition sources and drying out especially with dry, windy events; lack of snowpack and precipitation in general in 2024 and now early in 2025 has not recharged lakes, ponds and marshes making lowland grasses and shore vegetation available to burn; and lastly these conditions could be combined with the "spring dip" in pine needle live fuel moistures that will occur during the outlook period. An earlier than normal start to the spring fire season is possible in the northern tier with warmer temperatures and most of the area snow free. The southern tier is experiencing green up, which will soon reduce fire potential with full green up. It is a concern that in areas of drought that even though green up will occur, then it may not be long before curing begins and live fuel moistures drop to levels that cause increased fire behavior after fires start. Periods of above normal fire potential are expected during any warm, dry, windy events in the Eastern Area and the duration determined by the frequency of surface wetting precipitation events that reach fine dead fuels until green up is fully in place during the outlook period.



Eastern Area Predictive Services

Steve Marien: Fire Weather Program Manager –

Email: Stephen_Marien@nps.gov

Cheryl Bright: Fire Analyst – Email: Cheryl.Bright@bia.gov