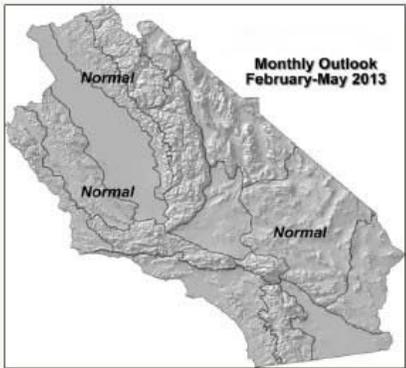


Monthly/Seasonal Outlook

This product combines all available meteorological, climate, fuels, and fire danger information to produce an outlook of large fire potential for the next 4 months. For South Ops, only one product is issued and forecast periods are separated by month for the first two months, while the last two months are combined. For North Ops, two Outlooks are issued. The first represents the immediate upcoming month and the second represents months 2-4. Current and future trends of weather, fuel, and drought conditions are discussed to give context to the large fire potential outlook. When appropriate, areas of large fire potential and resource utilization, relative to normal will be overlaid on maps showing the Geographical Area. This product is issued year round, prepared a few days prior to start of the new month and posted on the website by the first of each month.

MONTHLY/SEASONAL OUTLOOK

VALID: FEBRUARY THROUGH MAY 2013



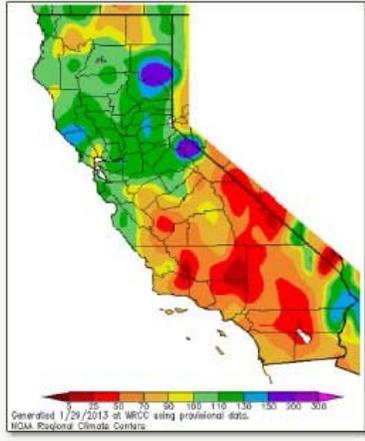
Summary

- Temperatures Near Normal
- Precipitation Near Normal Over Central California, Slightly Below Normal Over Southern California.
- Near Normal Large Fire Activity
- General Fire Activity Will Increase Over The Lower Elevations By May

WEATHER DISCUSSION

So far, this winter has been somewhat warmer and drier than usual over most of the district (See Figure on right). But storm frequency and intensity has been less than usual over the southern part of the state, particularly areas south of Fresno County. The northern part of the state has fared better, largely due to a series of very wet troughs which moved through the state in December. The precipitation deficit is more pronounced across the inland regions where moist low-level southerly flow has been impeded by terrain.

Much of Southern California has yet to experience a strong-cold core storm system this winter. Often, some of the strongest wintertime storms of the season occur closer to the "shoulder seasons" of November and December and March into April. These storms were notably absent in December (most of the precipitation across the northern half of the state during that time was the result of a series of storms as opposed to one strong storm)



Contact: Riverside.FWX@fire.ca.gov Webpage: <http://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/predictive/weather/index.htm>