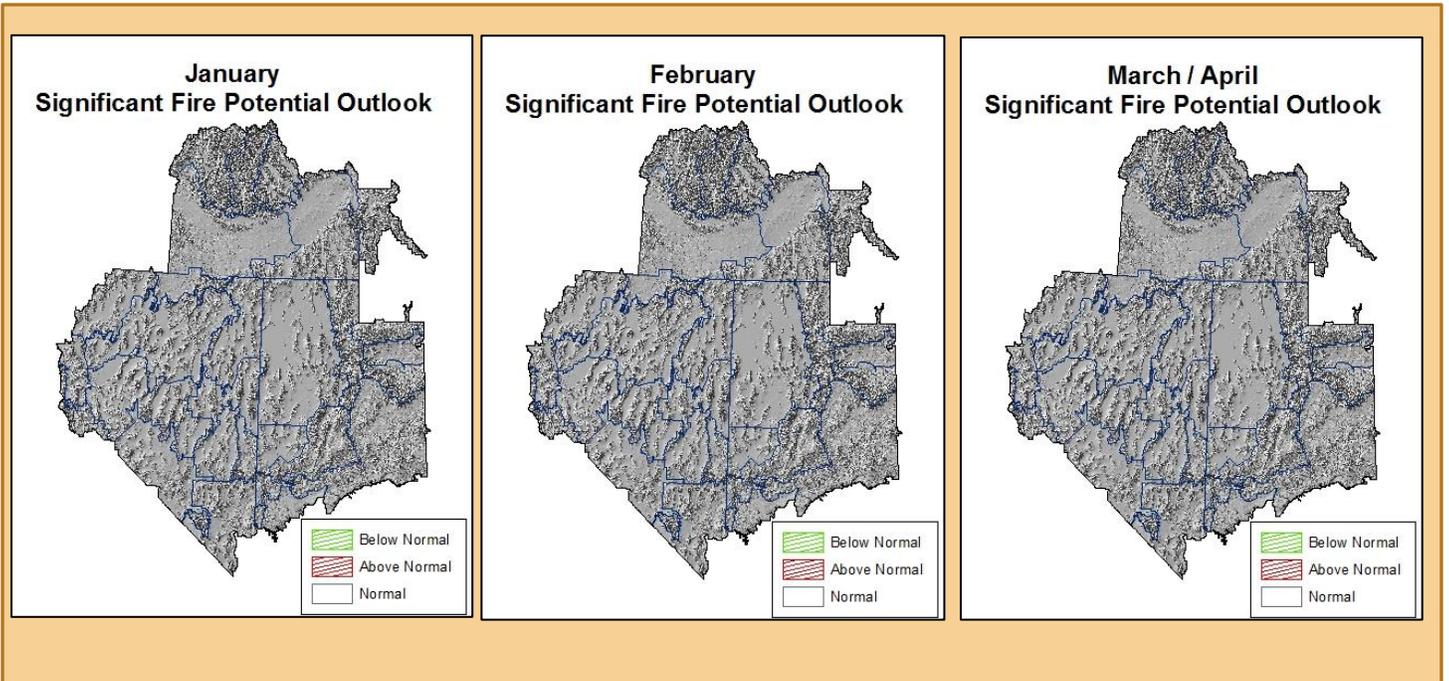


Great Basin Monthly/Seasonal Outlook

Issued: January 5, 2014

Valid: January - April

OUTLOOK MAPS:

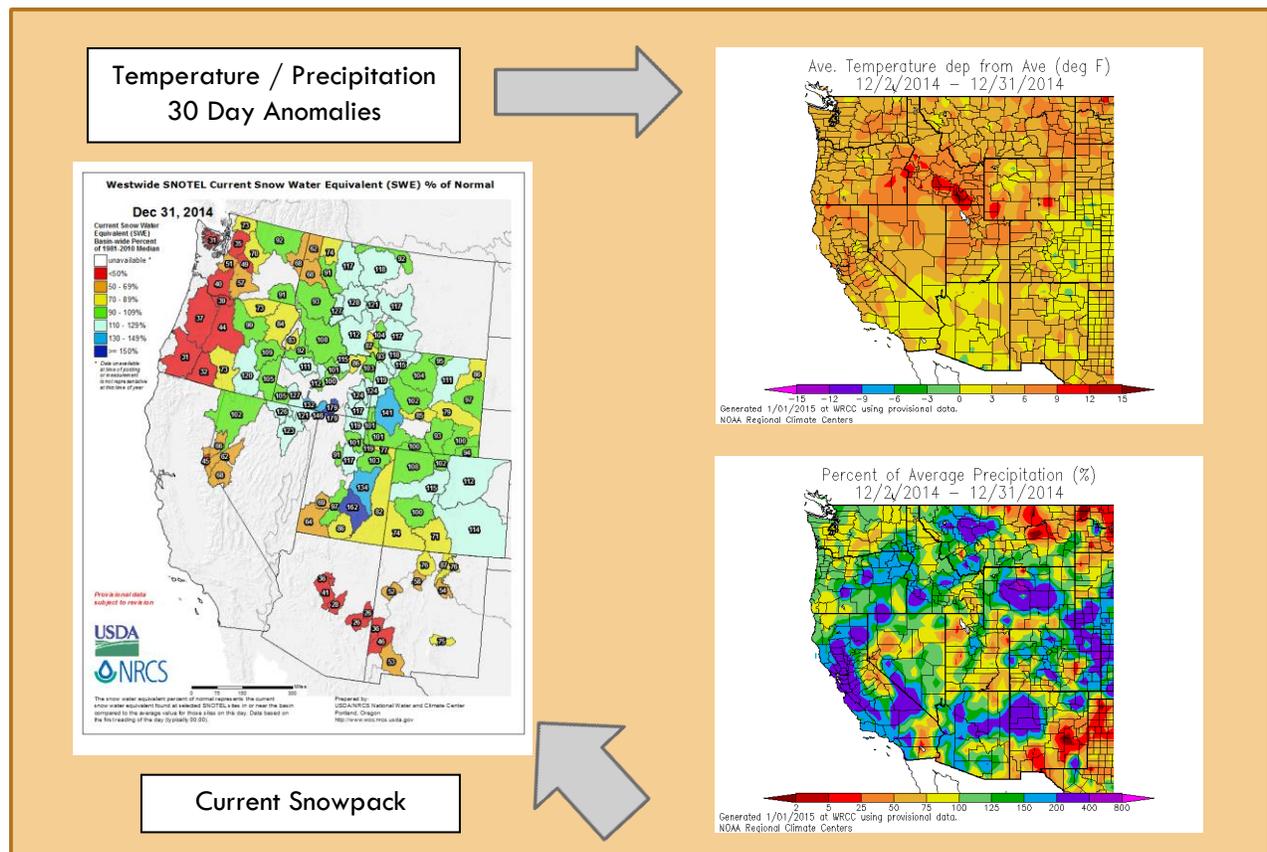


RECENT WEATHER / DROUGHT / FUELS DISCUSSION:

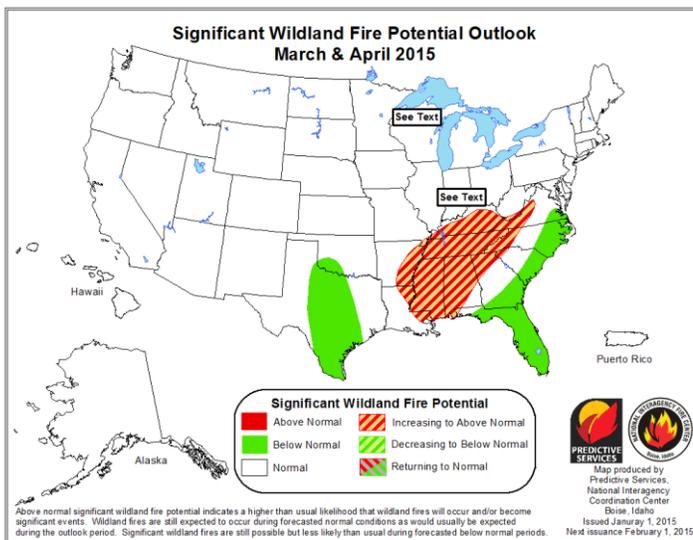
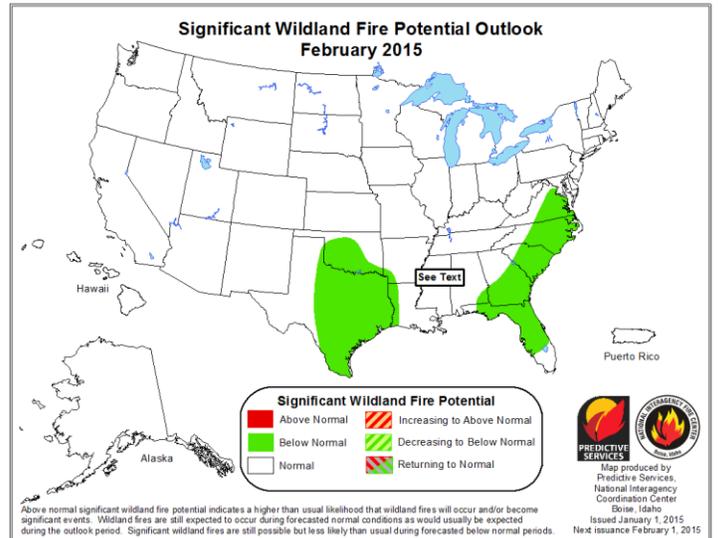
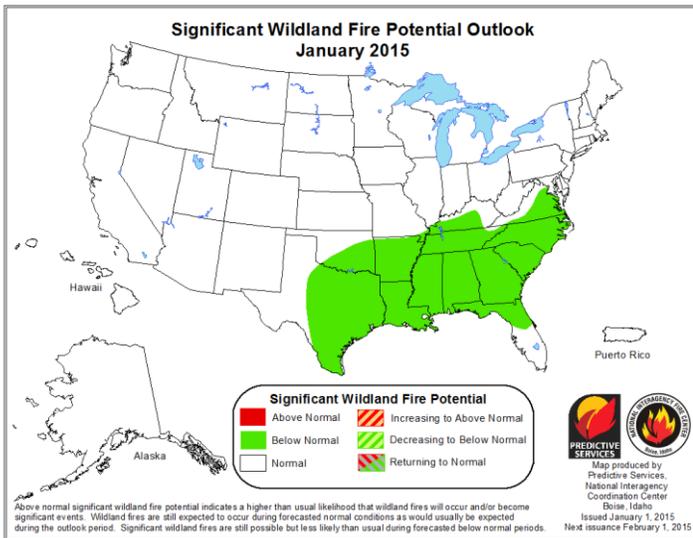
Average temperatures over the last 30 days were 6-12+ degrees above normal over the northern 2/3 of the Great Basin (GB) and 3-6 degrees above normal over far southern areas. Precipitation remained well below normal across much of Utah and southern Idaho, but increased to well above normal over southern and northwest Nevada, and over the central Idaho mountains due to storm systems approaching the area and splitting, pushing precipitation to the south and to the north mainly affecting the northern/northwest and southern portion of the Great Basin. Extreme to exceptional drought continues over the western half of the GB, with abnormally dry conditions or moderate drought over the rest of the GB. The drought conditions are expected to persist through the end of March 2015 across most of the GB. However the drought may now improve over parts of far southern Nevada if rain increases as forecast through the winter/spring.

WEATHER OUTLOOK / FIRE POTENTIAL DISCUSSION:

The weather pattern has shifted to a more typical winter pattern, with low pressure systems periodically bringing windy/colder periods to the GB and some wet weather, especially over the northern and western 1/2 of the GB. Temperatures may drop to near to below normal through mid-January due to a more active weather pattern bringing wetter and cooler weather systems south into the area. Precipitation may return to above normal over parts of the southern and western portion of the GB especially later in winter into spring as a weak version of El Nino still may develop. The ENSO is currently in a neutral state; however sea surface temperatures have been warming, with a shift toward some variation of a weak El Nino still possible through the winter/spring. Drier than average weather may occur this winter in the north; however a period of wet weather is possible January.



NATIONAL OUTLOOKS:



Additional Information:

- National Outlook text:

http://www.predictiveservices.nifc.gov/outlooks/monthly_seasonal_outlook.pdf

- Live Fuel Moisture website:

http://www.wfas.net/nfmd/public/gacc_map.php?gacc=EGBC

- Energy Release Component(ERC) Charts

http://gacc.nifc.gov/egbc/predictive/ffp_charts/ffp-erc.html