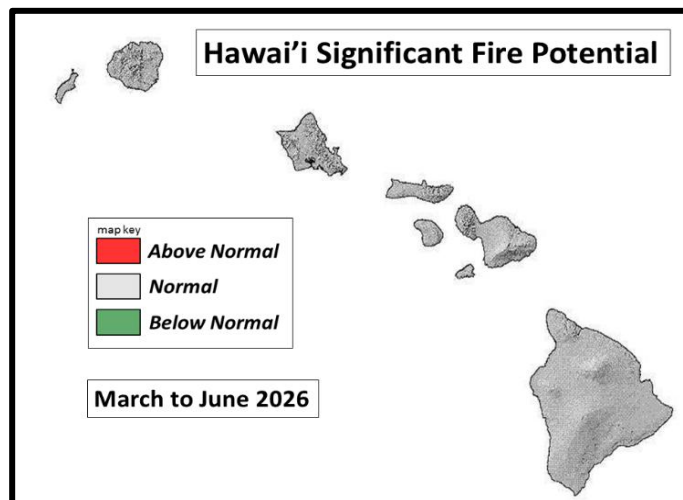


SIGNIFICANT FIRE POTENTIAL

March - June 2026 HIGHLIGHTS

- *Precipitation is likely to be near to above normal during the outlook period and promote additional herbaceous growth although the Dry Season looms late in the period.*
- *Drought has lessened and should continue to lessen during the next few months thus reducing live fuel stress.*
- *Normal Significant Fire Potential is projected for March through June.*



Discussion: Sea surface temperature (SSTs) anomalies (**Fig 1**) surrounding the Hawai'ian Islands were generally above average during February. Average temperature anomalies (**Fig 2**) were mixed but generally near to above normal with a below normal tilt across portions of Molokai and Maui. Substantial storm activity increased during February with precipitation anomalies (**Fig 3**) generally near to above normal across most of the island chain. The most significant precipitation event occurred between the 7th and 9th due to a slow-moving front. Strong wind periods also occurred throughout the month, but they were accompanied with higher humidity. The drought (**Fig 4**) intensity and coverage improved compared to late January although moderate to extreme ratings remained over portions of Molokai, Maui and the Big Island. Herbaceous green-up remained mixed across the leeward sides although several locations responded to the additional precipitation. No Red Flag Warnings were issued by the National Weather Service. Notable fire activity in mostly cured grass occurred between the 4th and 6th south of highway 200 in north central portions of the Big Island.

The El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is expected to transition quickly from a weak La Nina (**Fig 6**) to a neutral state during the next month and likely remain neutral during the rest of the outlook period. Near to above normal temperature anomalies are expected. Precipitation anomalies should be near to above normal. Drought stress is likely to lessen or improve even further while herbaceous green-up across most leeward locations serves as a fire spread inhibitor. Normal significant fire potential is projected for the 4-month outlook period.

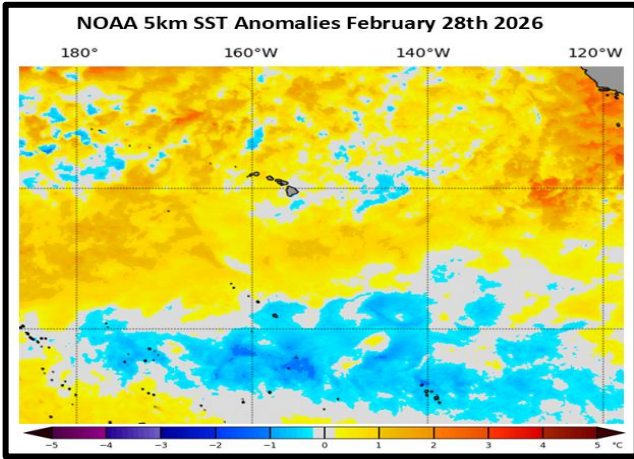


Figure 1: SST anomaly - February 28th

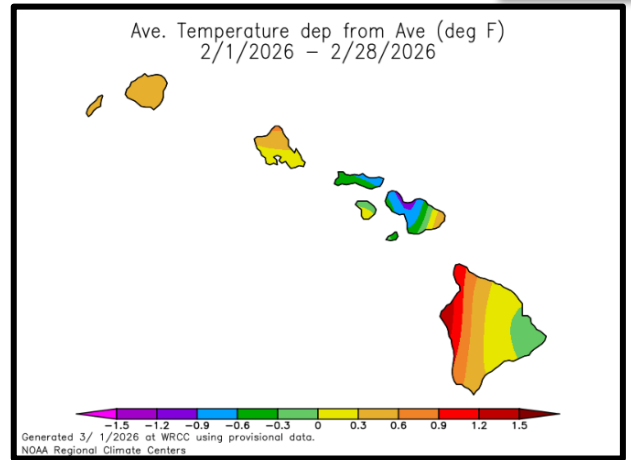


Figure 2: Avg. February Temps (Dep from avg.)

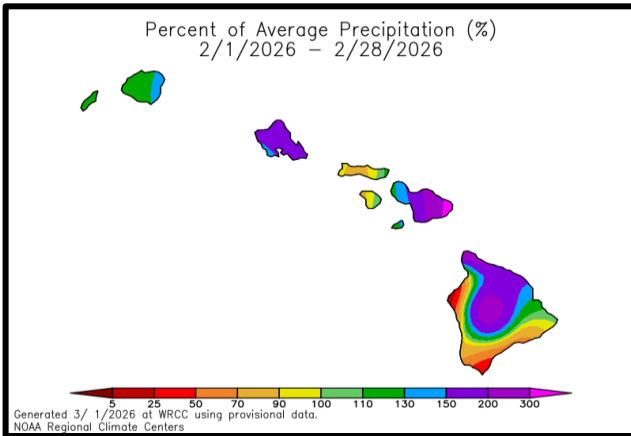


Figure 3: Rainfall during February (% of avg.)

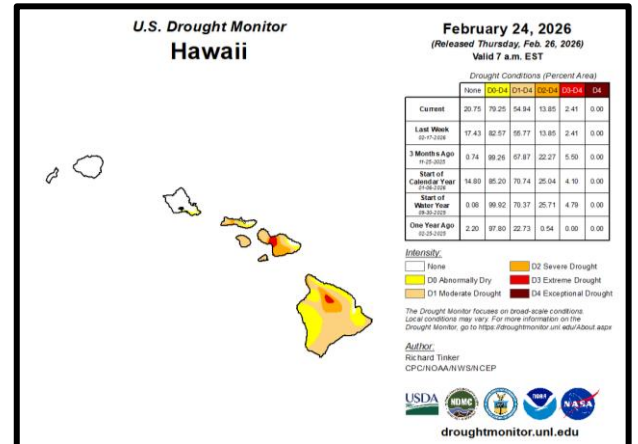


Figure 4: Drought Monitor January 27th

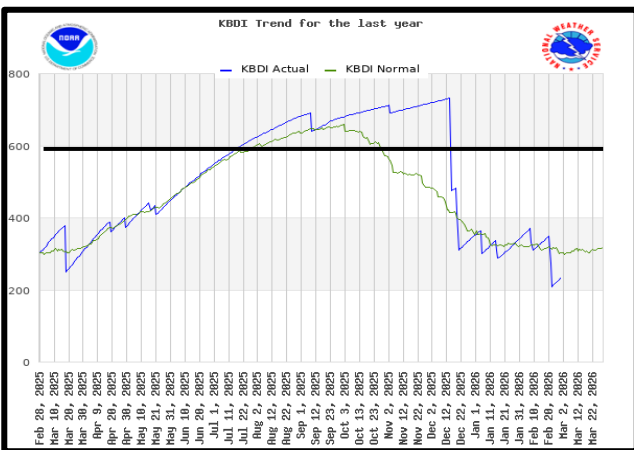


Figure 5: Honolulu KBBDI February 28th

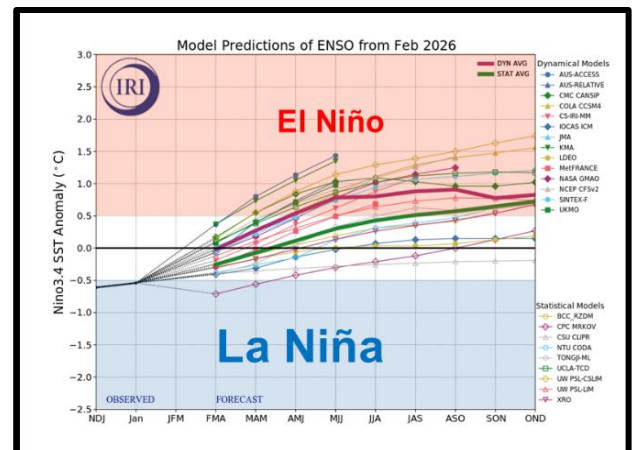


Figure 6: ENSO status and projection

This product made possible by important scientific contributions from personnel from:
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