

***Significant Fire Potential per Predictive Service Area (PSA)**

****Click on the graphics to expand the view**

July - October 2025 North Ops Highlights

- July through September is expected to be warmer than normal and seasonably dry with more Heat and Wind concerns versus Lightning events although impactful lightning periods will trend higher compared to what occurred during 2024.
- Flash drought conditions likely during the next 3 months with extended periods of critically dry dead fuels plus increasing stresses on live fuels.
- Marine influences should take the edge off the heat/dryness closer to the Coast during next couple of months.
- Less confidence for the forecast during October with mixed signals.
- **Significant Fire Potential is projected to be normal for near Coastal Areas while above normal for inland areas thru Aug then above normal areawide in Sep before lessening footprint for Oct.**

Weather Discussion

The atmospheric flow during June was highly variable with a mix of lighting, wind and heat events plus a little bit of snow across the high terrain. Precipitation was generally below to well below normal despite some high end lightning count days. Average temperature anomalies were mixed with near to below normal within the main Coastal influenced areas while near to above normal further inland. Heat wave events were short in duration. Nearly 16,300 lightning strikes were recorded and was more than double the 2012-2024 June average of a little over 6300 strikes. In fact, the June average was exceeded on the 9th when a little over 6700 strikes were reported. There were a couple sets of dry northerly and 4 sets of dry gusty onshore wind events producing elevated NFDRS burn index values during the month. Each one of the events prompted Red Flag Warnings from the National Weather Service for some portion of the area. Lightning based Red Flag Warnings were issued for the 30th as well as the first Predictive Service High Risk of the year.

A warm and seasonably dry signal remains in the forecast for July through September with less confidence for October. Expecting more of a thunderstorm influence this summer compared to last summer across Northern California although the more significant wetting impacts are likely to be shunted to the east and south. The number of impactful wind and heat events are likely to outnumber impactful lightning events. There are mixed signals in the modeling and analog years for the early fall period with some suggesting more active-moist Jet periods while other outputs suggest a warm-dry signal. Confidence is a lot less for the early fall period.

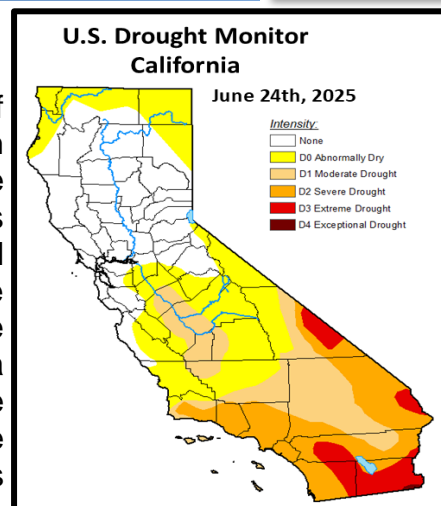


Fig 3 – Drought Monitor

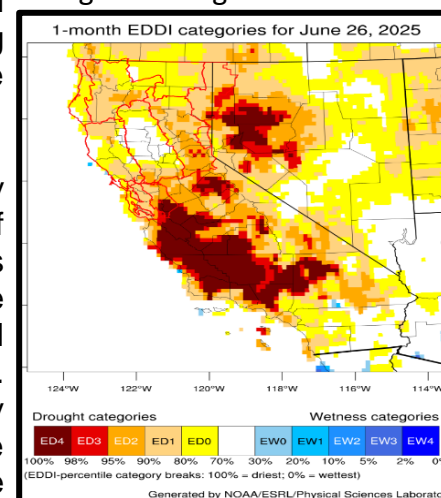


Fig 4 1-month EDDI June 26th

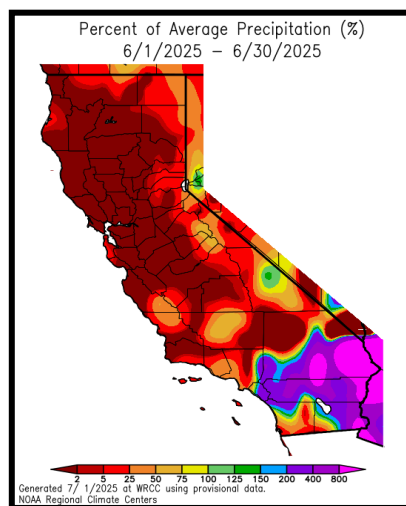


Fig 1 – Precip in June
(% of avg.)

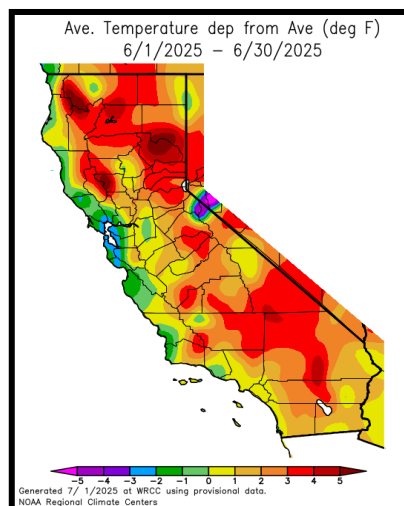


Fig 2 – Temp in June
(dep of avg.)

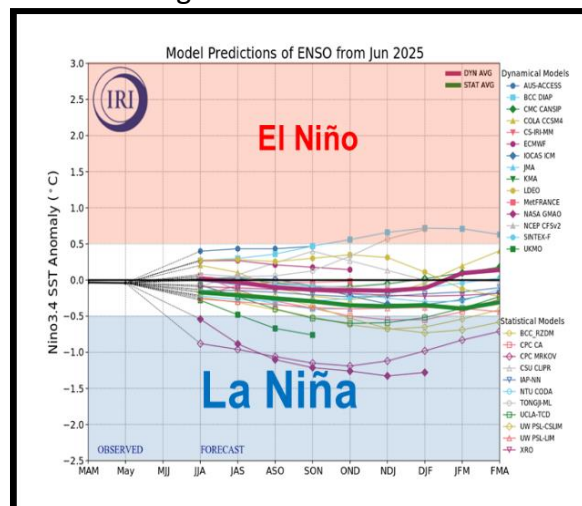


Fig 5 – Current ENSO state and outlook

Fuels Discussion

Dead fuel dryness was unseasonably flammable across most areas during most of June although the frequency of marine layer influences kept the North Coast and Bay Marine PSAs at near seasonal levels for 2-3 weeks. Critically dry NFDRS energy release component values or readings greater than the 85th percentile were briefly observed across several PSAs. Shrub and herbaceous curing continued across the lowlands while also impacting some mid elevation areas, especially later in the month.

The blue line found on the North Ops 1000-hour dead fuel moisture chart (**Fig 6**) shows regional values around 12% most of the month and is considered on the edge of critically dry. The grey line is the historical average based on 23 years of data. The dashed lines represent various flammable percentile thresholds from the 40th to the 3rd.

Mosaic of flammability existed across the area with drying/curing most pronounced across the lowlands while upper elevations either experienced snow-off or more intense green-up. Middle elevations were in a mixed state with unusually flammable dead fuels but a mix of curing and peak green-up in the live fuels, depending on species.

Fig 7 shows live fuel moisture trends for 2 species. **Fig 8** shows curing shrubs between late May to late June. Meaningful snow cover was generally found across sheltered aspects during latter half of month. **Fig 9** shows a similar snow melt period, compared to 2024, at a high elevation site near Lassen N.P. Long term Drought (**Fig 3**) remained absent although the abnormally dry category increased compared to late May. The 1-month evaporative demand drought index (EDDI) value (**Fig 4**) on the 26th showed a developing short term drought or stress signal across southern and eastern portions of the area.

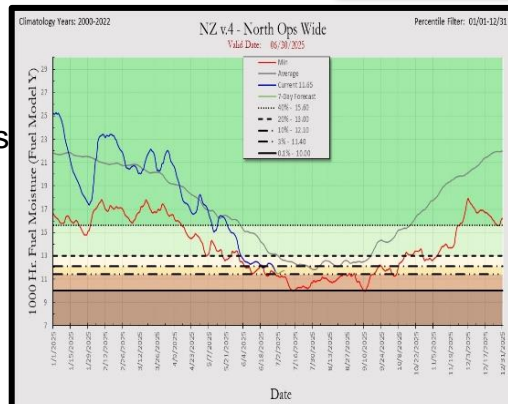


Fig 6 – North Ops 1000-hr Fuel Moisture - June 30th

Current and Average Monthly Values						
	Chamise			Manzanita		
Month	2024/25	2023/24	Ave	2024/25	2023/24	Ave
Oct	60	65	63	76	94	84
Nov	69	68	69	98	96	95
Dec	71	73	75	107	109	105
Jan	69	75	77	107	100	99
Feb	78	79	84	104	10	100
Mar	99	89	98	101	96	98
Apr	120	112	113	103	99	99
May	109	126	119	119	124	124
Jun	97	106	99	117	130	132
Jul		81	78		112	108
Aug		66	66		88	91
Sep		62	62		80	83
Oct		60	60		76	81

Courtesy of PG&E

Fig 7 PG&E Live Fuel samples

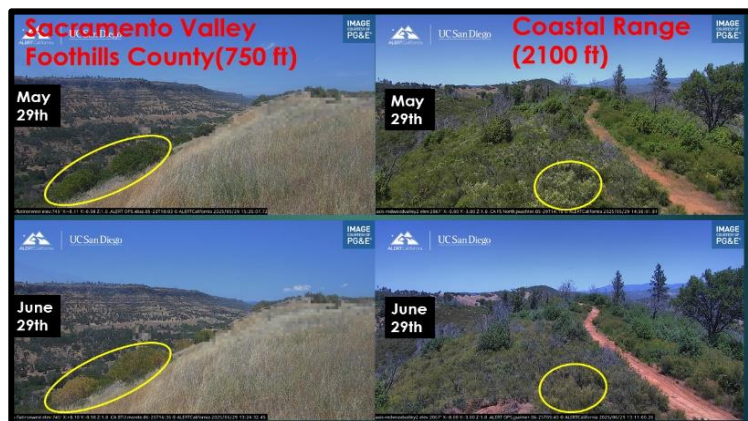


Fig 8 Herbaceous curing trends at 2 locations



Fig 9 Snow off comparable to last year at 1 location

NORTH OPS FIRE BUSINESS & TRENDS

Wildfire business increased noticeably during June compared to May. The daily wildfire ignition average rose to 21 compared to 13 observed during May. The June 2008-2024 daily ignition average is a little under 22. Individual fire growth also increased with numerous fires exceeding the 50 acre threshold. The multi-day storm event from the 5th to 10th yielded nearly 60 lightning ignitions. A total of 7 fires met the individual PSA large fire definition. They were mostly found across lowland grass and oak woodland fuel regimes although the Bonanza fire located in the Sierra Foothills burned nearly 200 acres in a shrub dominated landscape. Prescribed burning was minimal across the heavier forested landscapes due to fuels being out of prescription although many projects continued across the grass and oak woodland areas when suitable weather conditions were present.

Based on the current fuel state and future weather predictions, near to above normal large fire potential is projected for July through October. Flash drought conditions remain likely across a broad portion of the area this summer and could extend into early fall. This means an alignment of critically dry dead and live fuels for a longer than normal period. Live fuels will initially be a fire spread inhibitor across some mid and most upper elevations, but the summer warmth and dryness should create stresses. The most flammable months are likely to be August and September. The one caveat will be marine layer influences during July and August which are likely to take the edge off the dry heat impacts near the Coast, especially along and west of Highway 101 including portions of the Bay Area and most of the North Coast PSA. Large fire growth is likely to be initiated the most during heat wave events and their subsequent breakdowns although lightning periods are likely to be more impactful compared to last year. Near to above normal herbaceous fuel loading will also challenge suppression efforts although that fuel state has been in play for the past several years.

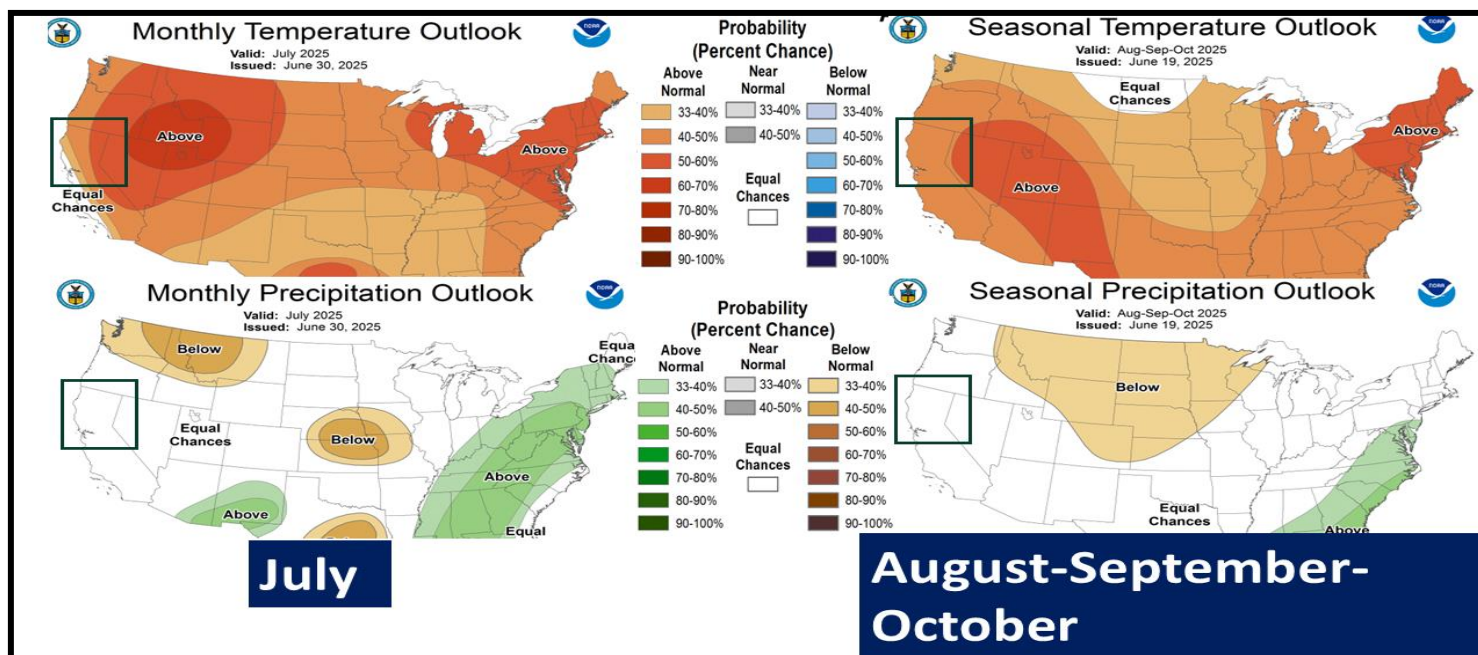
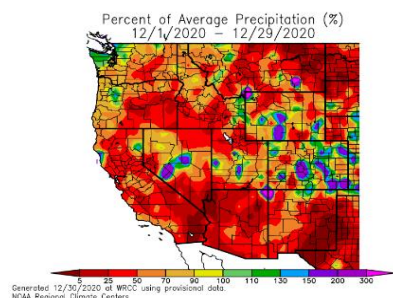
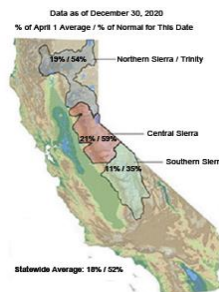


Fig 10 – CPC Monthly and Multi-Month Outlooks

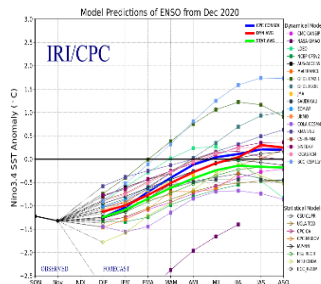
Select Links Used in this Outlook



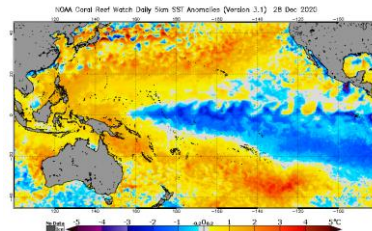
Western Region Climate Center Temperature and Precipitation Anomalies



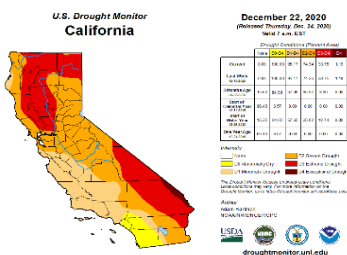
California Daily Snowpack Map



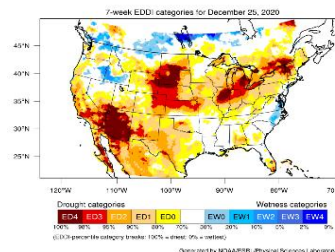
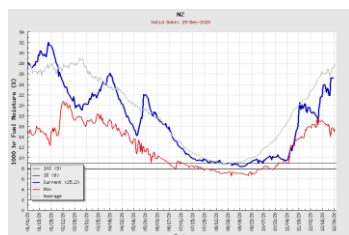
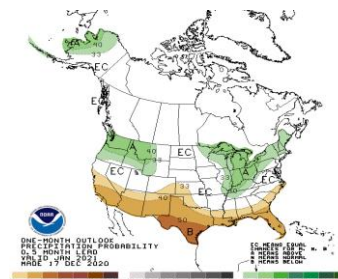
Monthly El Niño Southern Oscillation Analysis and Outlook



Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly Maps



Drought Monitor Product for California

Evaporative
Demand
Drought IndexDaily
Fuels
Indices
Charts

NOAA/NWS
Climate
Prediction Center