



## COLORADO

Colorado Water  
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

## Hydrology Summary: South Platte River Basin

October 13, 2025

EAC/RCC Fall 2025 Meeting

### Temperature and Drought Conditions:

Temperatures during the first eleven months of the Water Year 2025 (Oct 2024 - August 2025) were well above normal, ranking the 9<sup>th</sup> warmest in the 130 year record. The eastern plains of Colorado are almost entirely without drought conditions, but the mountain regions of the South Platte basin remain in moderate to severe drought. Generally, drought conditions have improved for most of the basin over the last 6 months.

**Precipitation:** The eastern half of the state received near average or above average precipitation in Water Year 2025. However, the western half of the state experienced very dry conditions much of the year, especially in August. Lee Fire near Meeker, CO became the 5<sup>th</sup> largest fire on record in Colorado. Following a dry summer, the rains came the last week of August and through September, changing conditions from very dry to flooding in some locations. Much of the eastern plains received as much as 190% of normal precipitation in September.

**Seasonal Outlook:** Climate outlook for the next three months shows above average temperatures and below average precipitation.

### CWCB Water Conditions

#### Monitoring Committee

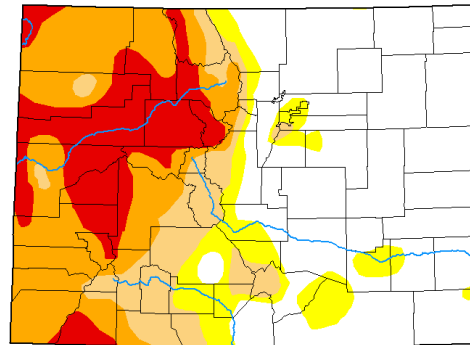
**(WCMC):** The CWCB convenes monthly WCMC meetings to monitor and report statewide conditions that affect Colorado's water supply, including snowpack, reservoir storage, streamflow, etc. The next meeting will be held on November 18, 2025.

### U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

October 7, 2025

(Released Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



#### Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

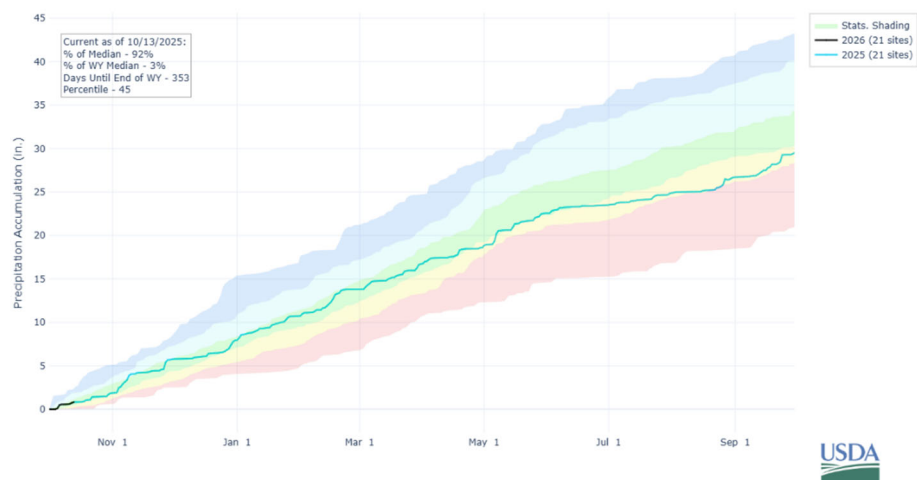
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[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

PRECIPITATION ACCUMULATION PROJECTION IN SOUTH PLATTE



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Jared Polis, Governor | Dan Gibbs, DNR Executive Director | Lauren Ris, CWCB Director



## References

30-day forecast: <https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>

Colorado Climate Center: <https://climate.colostate.edu/>

Colorado DWR, Division 1 office: <https://dwr.colorado.gov/division-offices/division-1-office>

Colorado DWR, Drought & Surface Water Supply Index: <https://dwr.colorado.gov/services/water-administration/drought-and-swsi>

Colorado's Water Availability Task Force: <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/water-availability-flood-task-forces>

Drought Monitor: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Maps/MapArchive.aspx>

Drought Monitor Class Change: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Maps/ChangeMaps.aspx>

High Plains Regional Climate Center: <https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps>

National Weather Service: [https://www.weather.gov/bou/co\\_precipitationtemperature](https://www.weather.gov/bou/co_precipitationtemperature)

NRCS, Water Supply and Data Products:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/wcc/home/quicklinks/states/colorado/products/watersupply>

Snow Water Equivalent:

[https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/co/snow/products/?cid=nrcs144p2\\_063323](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/co/snow/products/?cid=nrcs144p2_063323)

Three Month Precipitation and Temperature Outlooks:

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long\\_range/seasonal.php?lead=1](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=1)