



COLORADO

Colorado Water
Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

Hydrology Summary: South Platte River Basin October 15, 2024 EAC/RCC Fall 2024 Meeting

U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

October 1, 2024
(Released Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Temperature and Drought Conditions:

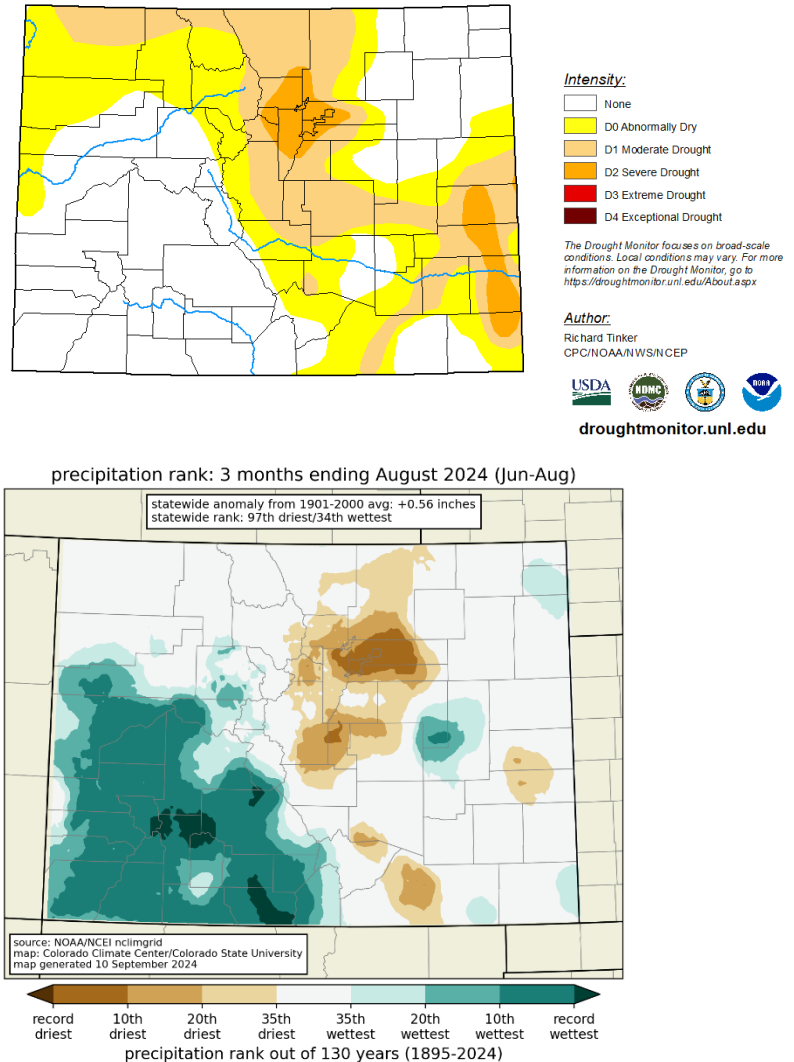
Temperatures during WY2024 were very warm. The Sept 2023 - Aug 2024 was ranked the 7th warmest statewide in recorded history. The majority of the state was 4-8 degrees (F) above normal temperatures in WY 2024. In the South Platte basin, drought conditions as of October 1 ranged from none to severe drought.

Precipitation and Reservoir Storage: The 2024 water year concluded with near-normal to above normal precipitation across much of Colorado. Statewide precipitation was 102% of median. In the South Platte, precipitation was 96% of median for the year. Unfortunately, however, this summer was very dry across the front range cities. As of the end of August, reservoir storage in the lower South Platte basin was 98% of median. Streamflow in the South Platte basin performed particularly well in WY2024, with streamflow being 115% of median. There is not much to report on SWE at this time, but we anxiously await the snow to start falling.

Seasonal outlook: The monthly outlook indicates above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. The three-month outlook indicates equal chances or leaning below normal chance of precipitation. The three-month temperature outlook indicates likely above normal temperatures to continue.

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 Tuesday, November 19, 2024.



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

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

Three Month Precipitation and Temperature Outlooks:
http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/seasonal.php?lead=1