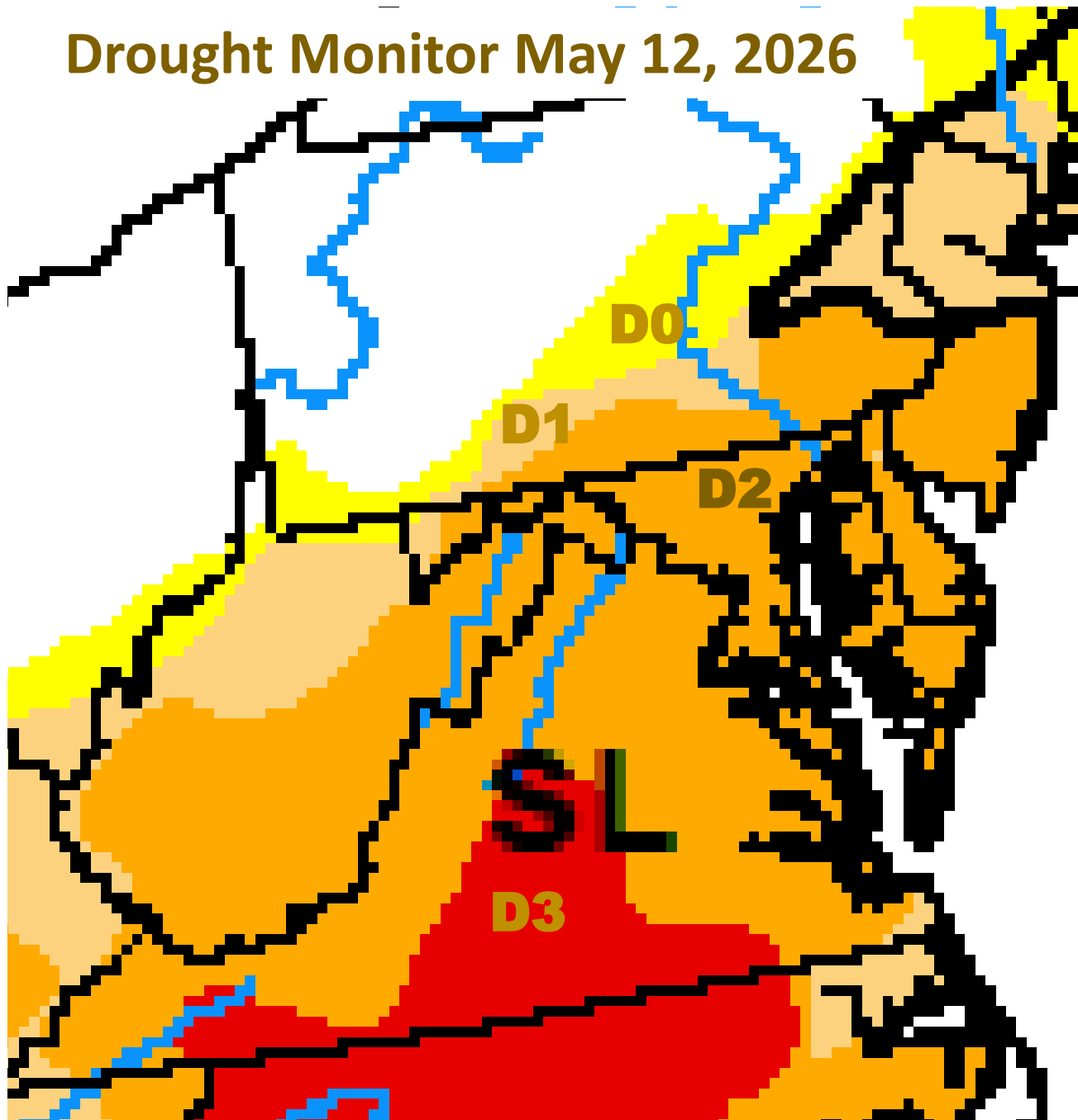


Potomac Basin Drought Status and Outlook

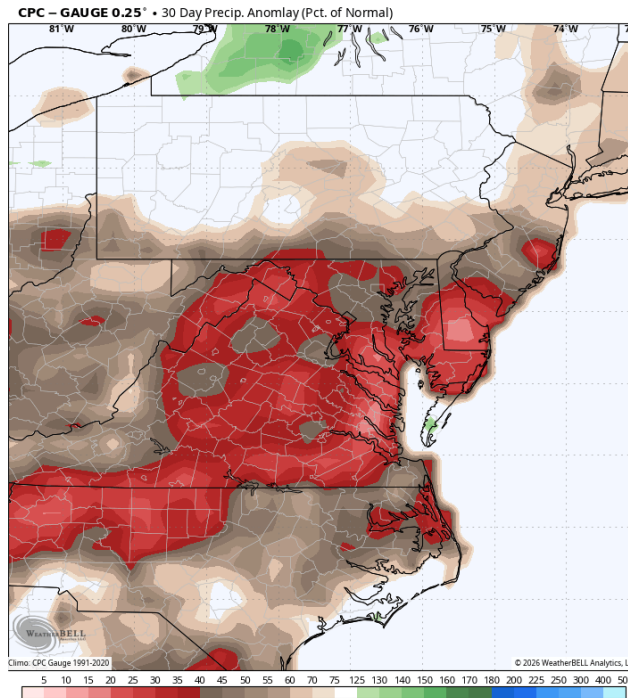
May 20, 2026

Rich Tinker, Climate Prediction Center

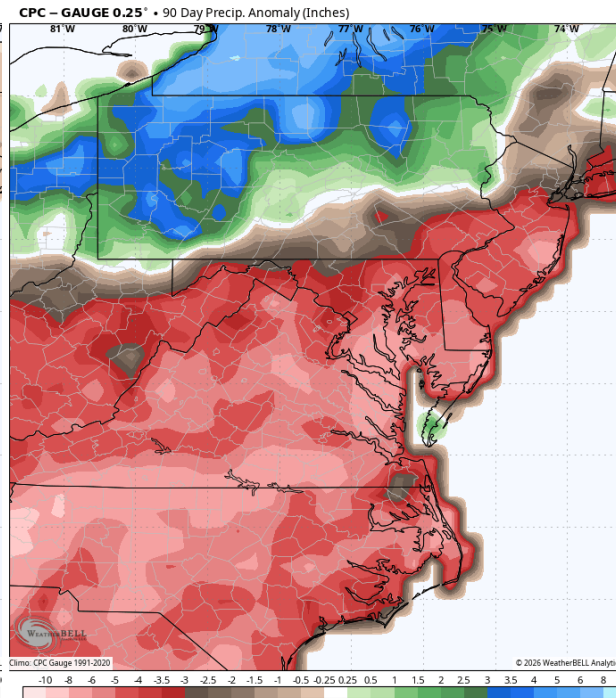
Drought Monitor May 12, 2026



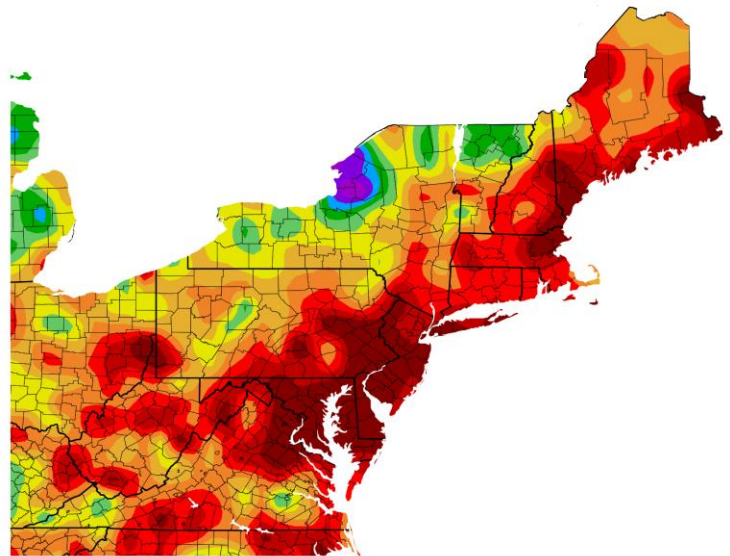
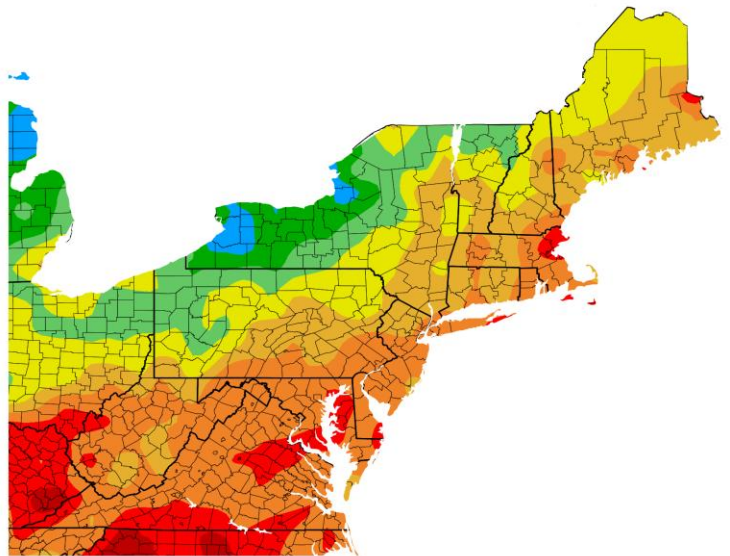
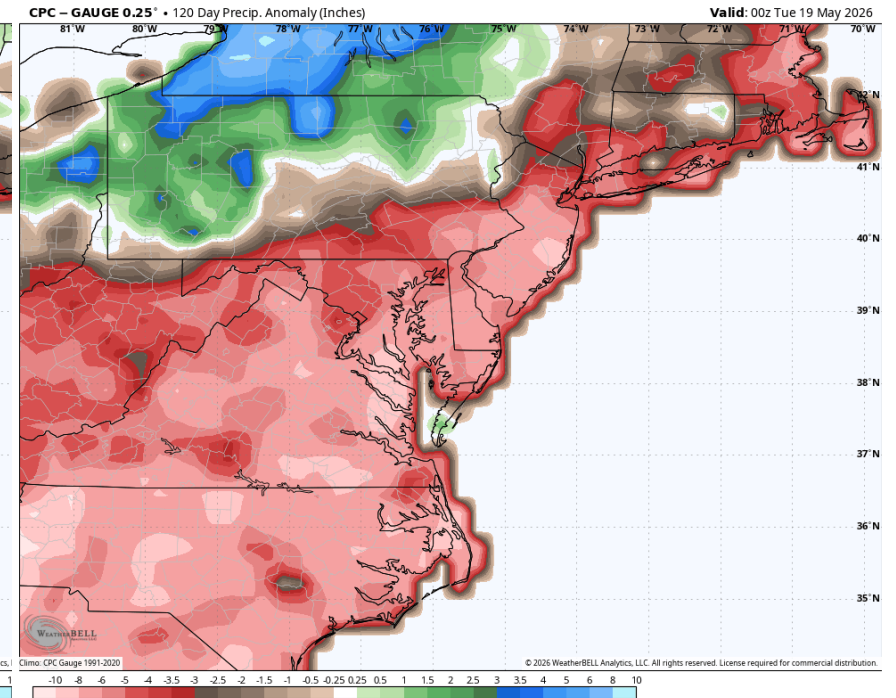
Basin drought coverage (D1+):	99.69%
January 6 – 20, 2026:	100%
Last date w/100% covg:	Sep 24, 2002
Severe+ drought coverage (D2+):	96.89%
Last date with more covg:	Apr 9, 2002
Record (100%):	Feb 19 – Mar 6, '02
Extreme+ drought coverage (D3+):	1.27%
Last dates with more covg:	3.72%-4.09% Sep 23-Oct 28, 2025
Record (74.92%):	Mar 12, 2002
Record D4 drought coverage:	9.26% Aug 20, 2002
only one other weeks with any D4 (8.02% Aug 27, 2002)	



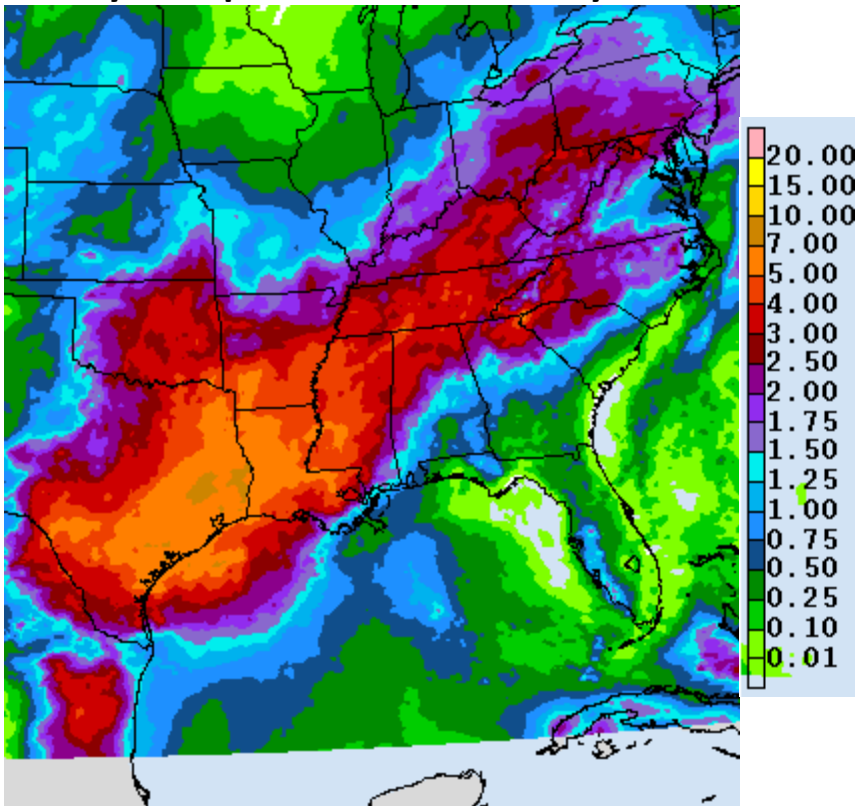
Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
11/20/2025 - 5/19/2026



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
5/20/2024 - 5/19/2026

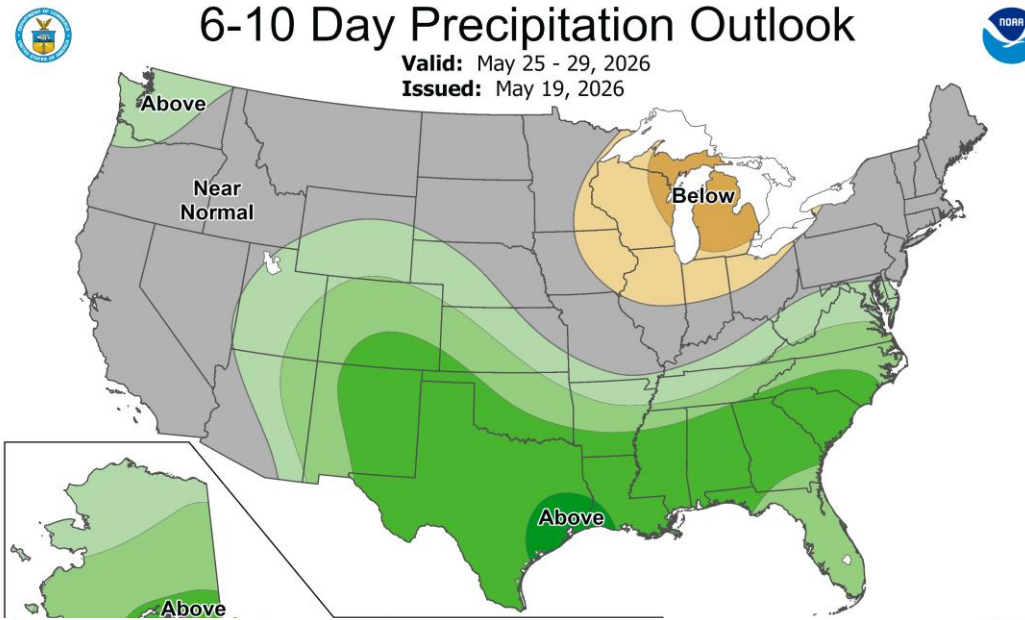


7-Day Precipitation Forecast May 20-26, 2026



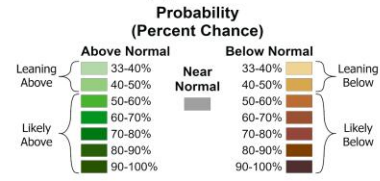
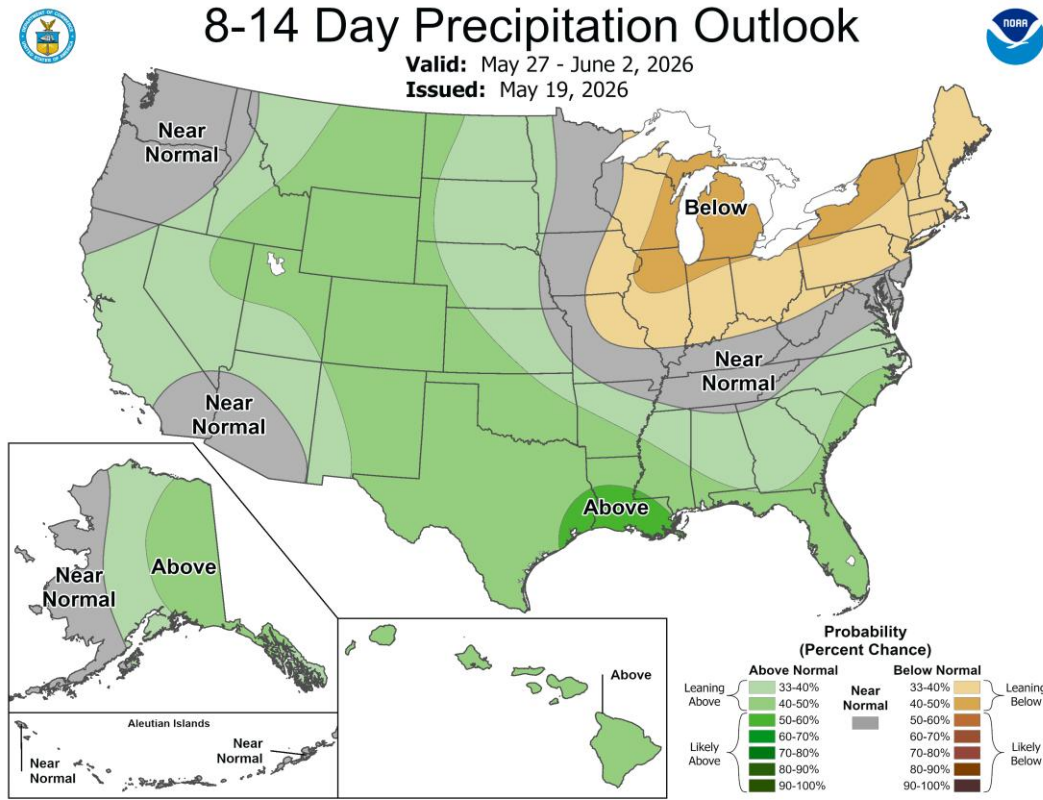
6-10 Day Precipitation Outlook

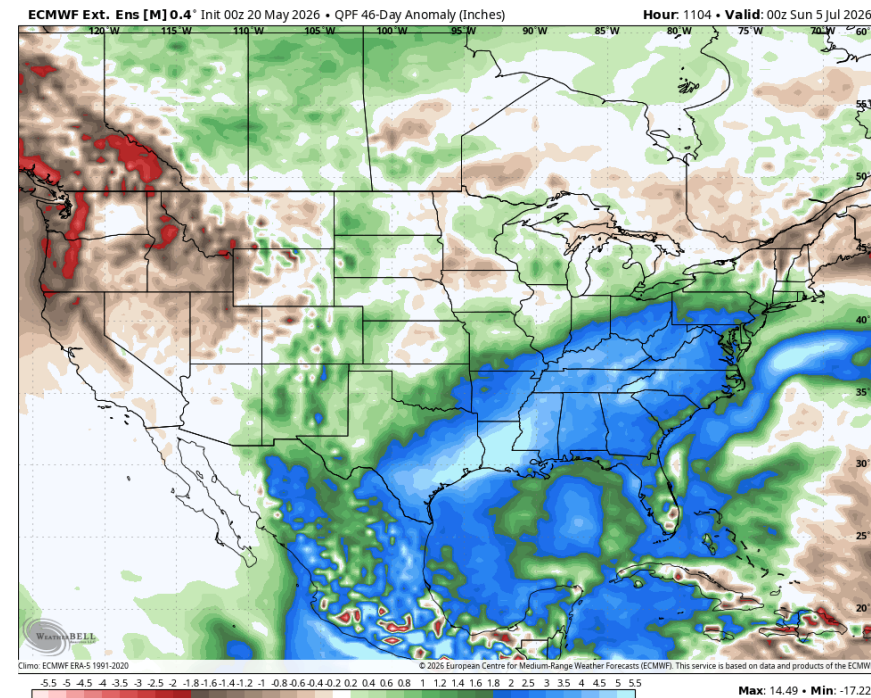
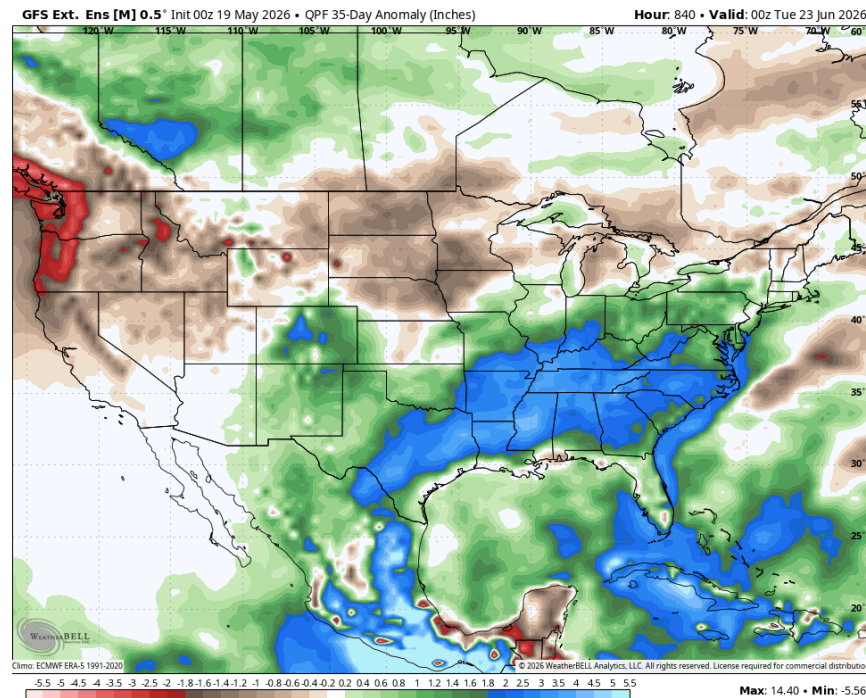
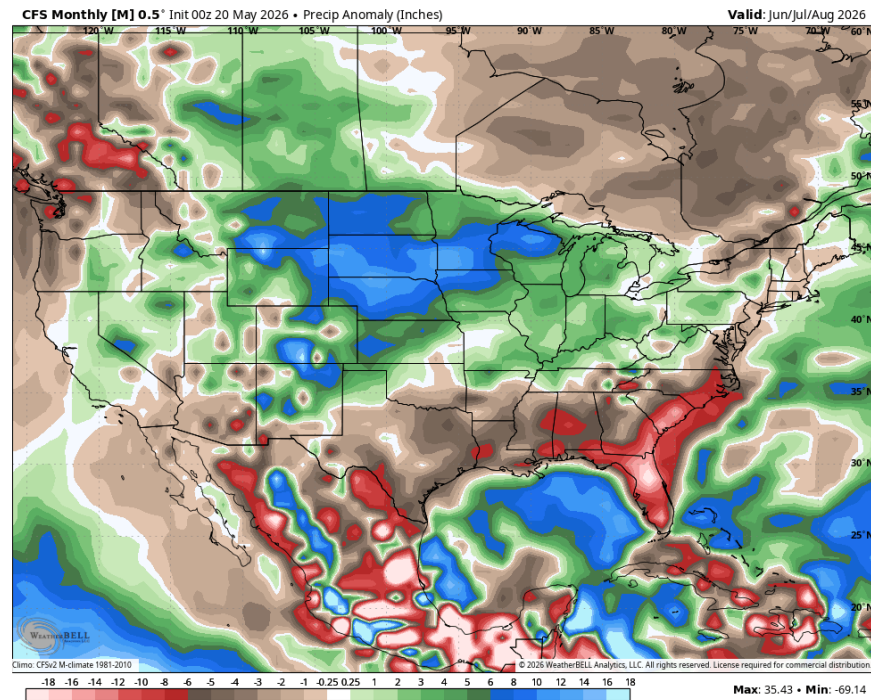
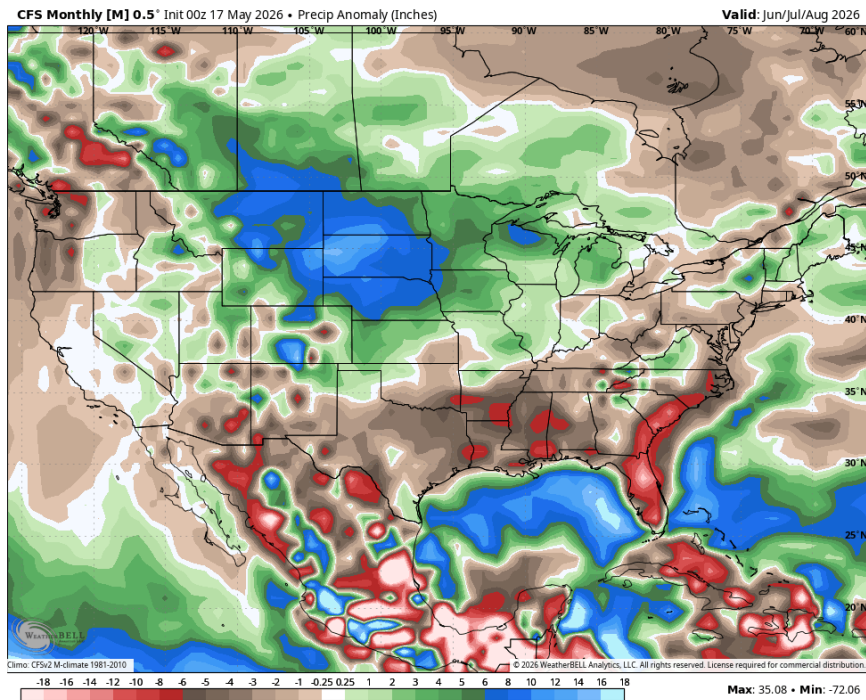
Valid: May 25 - 29, 2026
Issued: May 19, 2026



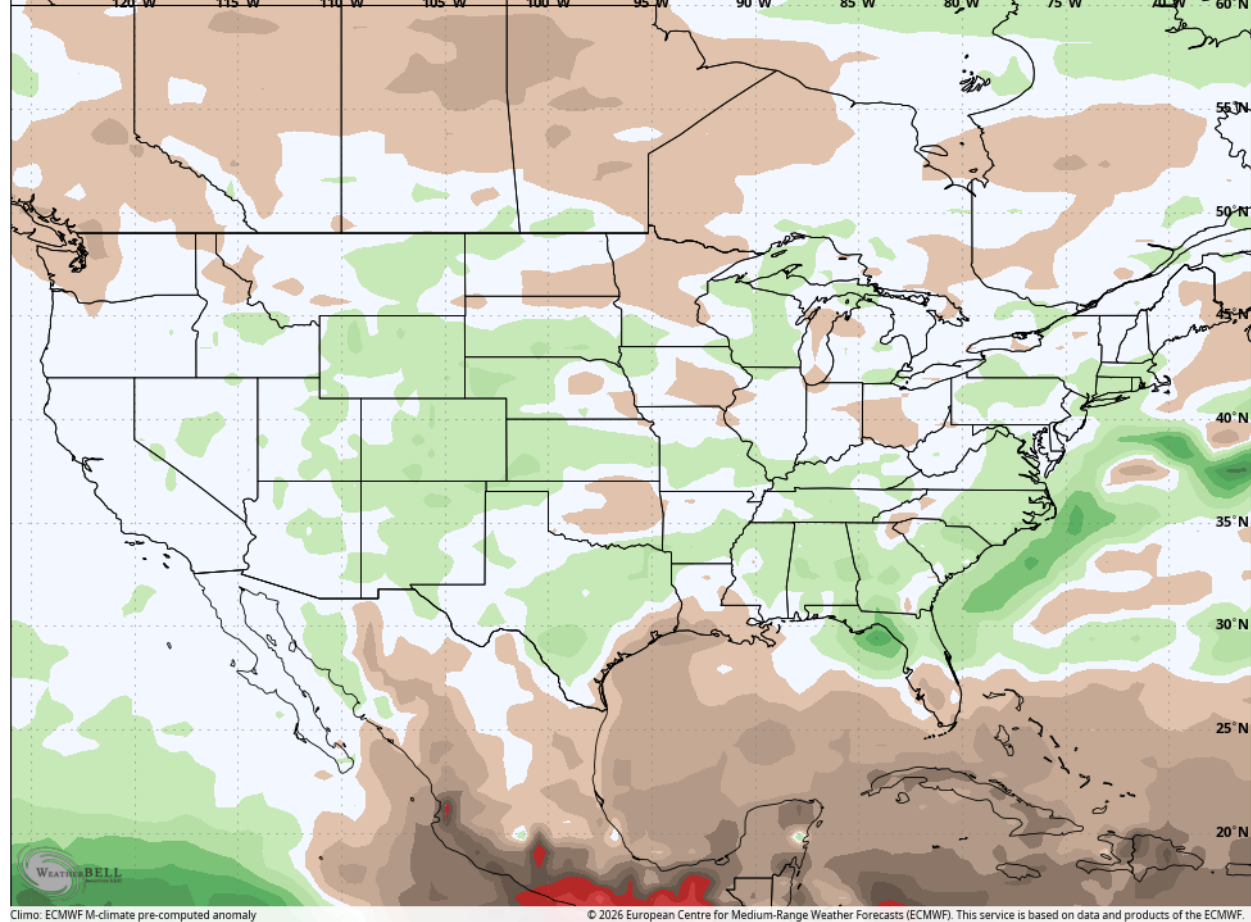
8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook

Valid: May 27 - June 2, 2026
Issued: May 19, 2026



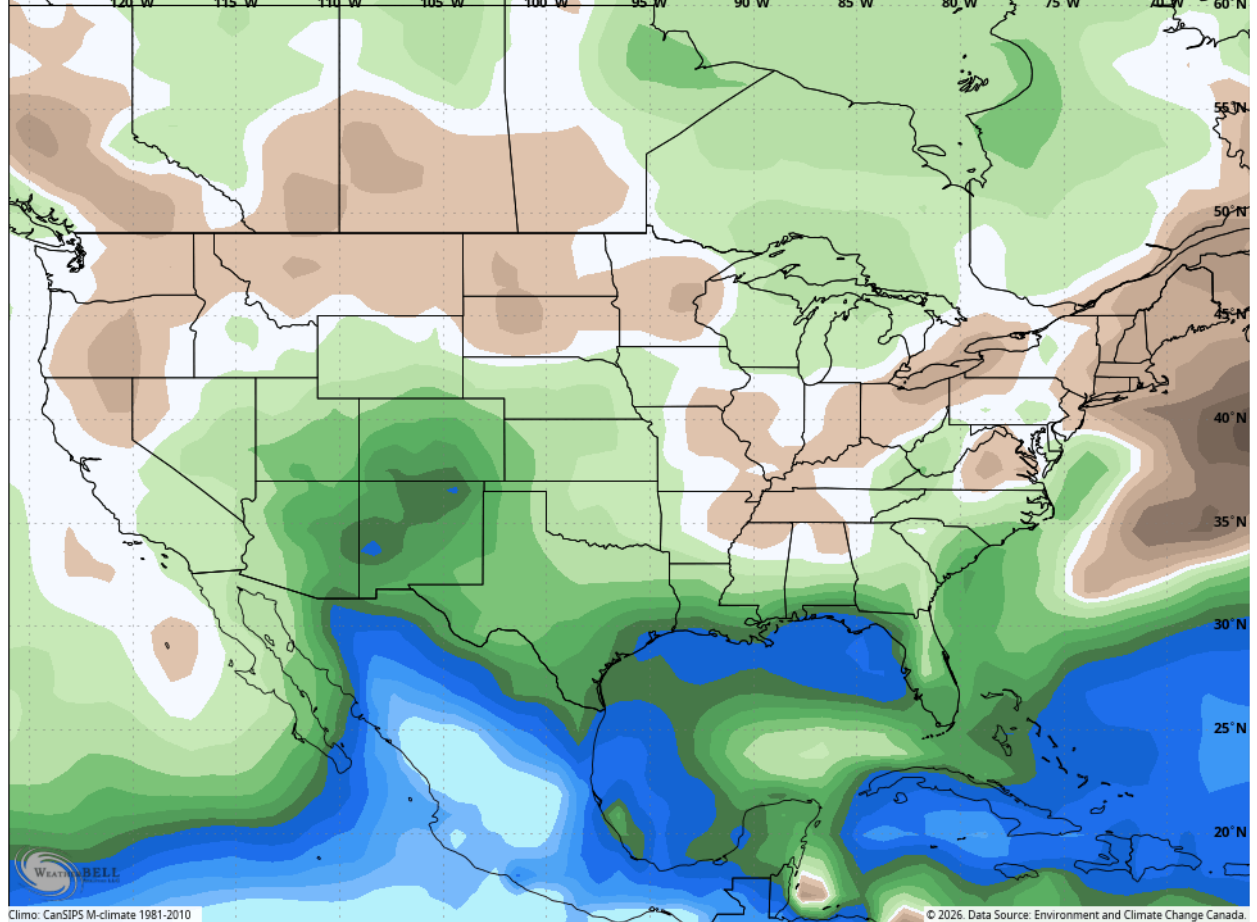


ECMWF Seasonal [M] 0.75° Init 00z 1 May 2026 • Precip Anomaly (Inches) Valid: Jun/Jul/Aug 2026



-18 -16 -14 -12 -10 -8 -6 -5 -4 -3 -2 -1 -0.25 0.25 1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 Max: 5.44 • Min: -12.26

CANSIPS [M] 1.0° Init 00z 1 May 2026 • Precip Anomaly (Inches) Valid: Jun/Jul/Aug 2026



-18 -16 -14 -12 -10 -8 -6 -5 -4 -3 -2 -1 -0.25 0.25 1 2 3 4 5 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 Max: 23.50 • Min: -5.23