Idaho Weather, Climate and Water Supply Outlook

IDWR Briefing, March 11th 2010

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National Snow Pack

Temperature and Precipitation Anomalies

Forecast for next 10 days

El-Nino Status

Three Month Climate Outlook

Water Supply Numbers and Drought Summary

Spring Flood Outlook – Below Average
National Snow Water Content
Snow Water Equivalent
Feb 8th, 2010
Snow Water Equivalent
March 8th, 2010
Temperature and Precipitation at Boise

KBOI - Oct 2009 Through Sep 2010

- Temperature (Deg F)
- Precipitation (Inches)

Legend:
- Record Min
- Record Max
- Normal
- Below Normal
- Above Normal
Spring Melt Starts Early
Thursday - Mar 11th
IR Satellite Imagery / 500 mb heights
Thursday - Mar 11th
500 mb heights / model precipitation
Friday, Mar 12th
500 mb heights / model precipitation
Saturday, Mar 13th
Sunday, Mar 14th
Tuesday, Mar 16th
Wednesday, Mar 17th
Thursday, Mar 18th
Equatorial Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies

Week centered on 16 DEC 2009

SST Anomalies (°C)
Warm sub-surface anomaly along equator

Equatorial Temperature Anomaly (°C)
Pentad centered on 03 JAN 2010
SST Outlook: NCEP CFS Forecast
Issued 31 January 2010

The CFS ensemble mean (heavy blue line) predicts El Niño will last through the Northern Hemisphere summer 2010.
Three Month Outlook (Mar-May) Temperatures

THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK TEMPERATURE PROBABILITY
0.5 MONTH LEAD
VALID MAM 2010
MADE 18 FEB 2010
Three Month Outlook (Mar-May) Precipitation

Three-Month Outlook Precipitation Probability
0.5 Month Lead
Valid MAM 2010
Made 18 Feb 2010

EC means equal chances for A, N, B
A means above normal
B means below normal
Drought Situation

U.S. Drought Monitor

March 2, 2010
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Intensity:
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:
- Delineates dominant impacts
  - A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
  - H = Hydrological (water)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://drought.unl.edu/dm

Released Thursday, March 4, 2010
Author: Rich Tinker, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC
U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period
Valid March 4, 2010 - May 2010
Released March 4, 2010

KEY:
- Drought: to persist or intensify
- Drought ongoing, some improvement
- Drought likely to improve, impacts ease
- Drought development likely

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity).

For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.
Below Normal 2010 Water Supply

Legend

Water Supply Forecast (% Avg)

- No Average, No data
- < 25
- 25 - 25
- 50 - 50
- 50 - 75
- 75 - 90
- 90 - 110
- 110 - 125
- 125 - 150
- 150 - 175
- > 175
Idaho Spring Flood Outlook

- The probability of spring flooding related to snowmelt is below average.
- Lack of low elevation snow pack also suggest a “well behaved” melt.
- Peak flows significantly reduced and early.
National Hydrologic Assessment

Flood Risk
(as of 3/5/2010)

[Map indicating flood risk levels across the United States]
Current Information on Web

www.weather.gov/boise

www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/westernwater