

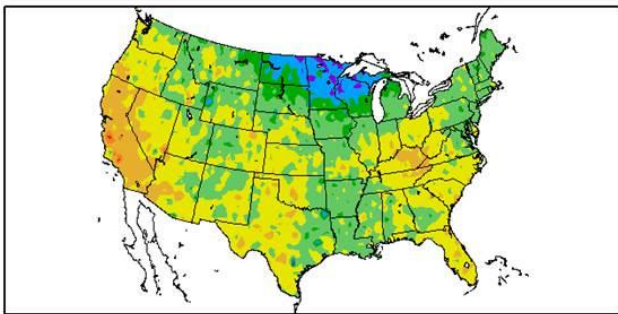
# Weather and Climate Summary and Forecast Spring 2014

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During April temperatures across the western US were warmer than normal (1 to 6 degrees) everywhere except northern Washington, Idaho and across much of the Rockies (see figure below or attached). The upper Midwest and New England remained cooler than normal during April, while the Ohio Valley and parts of the south were warmer than normal. Precipitation over the western US in April was scattered with greater than normal conditions interspersed with areas of much drier than normal conditions (see figure below or attached). Areas of very wet conditions in the Midwest and especially the Gulf Coast states were seen in April.

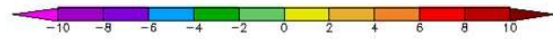
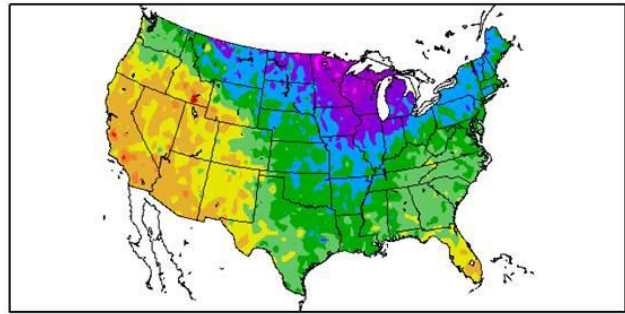
The February through April period continued the late winter pattern, with a warmer than normal region from northern Oregon south and southeast across the western Rockies and down into the panhandle of Texas (see figure below or attached). Overall spring precipitation was greater than normal across northern California into Oregon, Washington, and across the northern Rockies, while remaining dry in southern California across the southwest to Texas and much of the southern half of the Great Plains.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
4/1/2014 - 4/30/2014

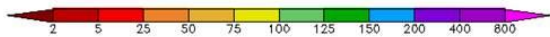
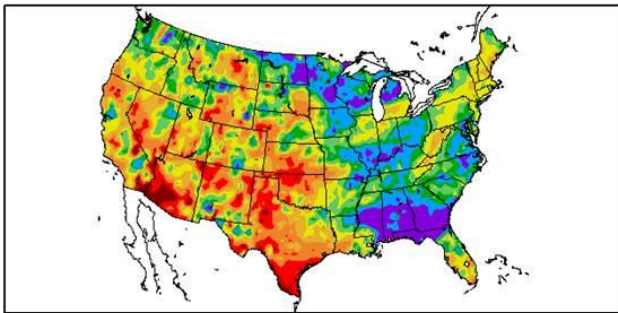


Generated 5/5/2014 at HPRDC using provisional data. Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
2/1/2014 - 4/30/2014

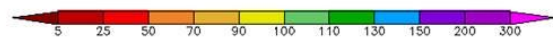
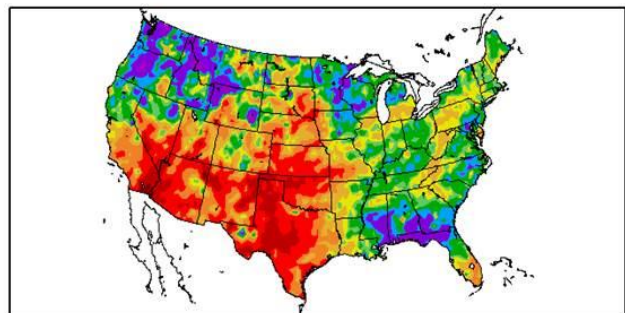


Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
4/1/2014 - 4/30/2014



Generated 5/5/2014 at HPRDC using provisional data. Regional Climate Centers

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
2/1/2014 - 4/30/2014



Generated 5/5/2014 at HPRDC using provisional data. Regional Climate Centers

For those in Oregon, our first month of growing degree-day numbers (April) started mixed with values above 2013 in Southern Oregon and lower than 2013 in Northern and Eastern Oregon (see attached). Compared to the 2004-2013 period, April started off near normal in McMinnville to 50-75% of normal in Roseburg and Medford. Compared to the 1981-2010 climate normal growing degree-day numbers all four locations are above normal, with Medford seeing nearly twice as much as normal. Station precipitation in Oregon showed that winter (November through March) was 20-50% down, with some recovery in the second half of the winter resulting in just below normal (Roseburg -6% and Milton-Freewater -10) to above normal conditions (McMinnville +6% and Medford +18%).

Final winter season snowpack measurements across the western US showed some continued improvement in the northern Cascades, but remain very low south into Oregon and California. Drought conditions posted by the US Drought Monitor continue to show that the majority of California remains in an extreme to exceptional drought. Oregon conditions show moderate to severe drought in the south and abnormally dry conditions in the north. Washington continued to see the most improvement in drought conditions, but is still abnormally dry on the east side of the Cascades.

While spring conditions - cool and unsettled conditions with off and on rain - continue across much of the northern half of the west coast, the 6-10 and 8-14 day outlooks tilt the odds to being warmer and drier than normal over the vast majority of the western US. Extended out to the rest of May and to the 90 day forecast window (May-Jun-Jul), the Climate Prediction Center forecast is tilting the odds to moderately warm and continued seasonally dry conditions over the western US.

The longer term forecasts continued to be bolstered by the fact that North Pacific sea surface temperatures (from the coast to the central North Pacific) remain warmer than they have been for few years now. The tropical Pacific continues its transition from La Nada toward El Niño, but there remains uncertainty as to exactly when El Niño will develop and an even greater uncertainty as to how strong it may become. If the El Niño conditions do materialize later this year the western US would typically see a transition to a wetter and warmer California and a drier/warmer PNW. The timing of the onset is important for the western US, with any impact likely being pushed into the post-harvest period.

Again, as we transition into summer, all evidence continues to point to a warmer and drier than average season across the west.

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