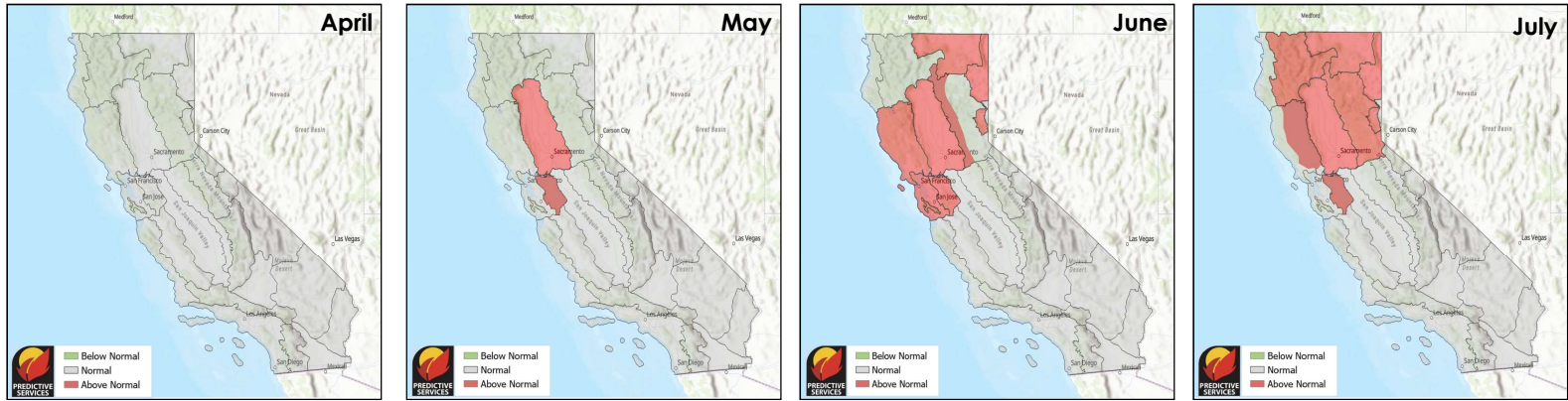


# WFTIIC Four Month Outlook

Visit WFTIIC Hub @ <https://wftiic.ca.gov> for more information | Created: April 2, 2026



## Significant Fire Potential | April - July 2026



### Northern Operations | Source Link: NOPS Predictive Services

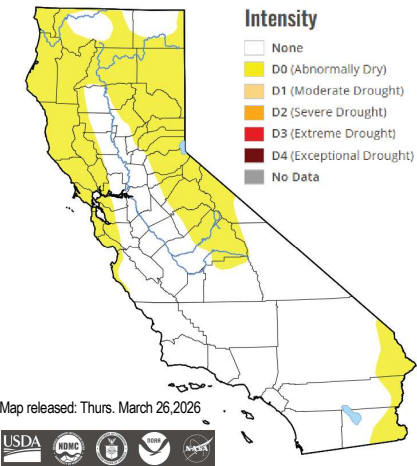
- Expected warmer and drier conditions over the next three months, with July lightning activity as a wildcard.
- Dry fuels will become more prominent over time, though melting snow and spring growth will initially slow fire spread.
- Abundant herbaceous fuels will noticeably cure across the lower elevations during April-May therefore creating an increase in spread potential and fire business.
- Significant Fire Potential is projected to be normal during April which means minimal activity then the above normal area increases from May through July as the fuel bed becomes more flammable and aligns with critical weather patterns.

### Southern Operations | Source Link: SOPS Predictive Services

- Precipitation will likely be below normal through June.
- Temperatures will likely be above normal through July.
- The marine layer will likely be more shallow and not penetrate as far inland as normal through July.
- The monsoon will likely start mid or late July which is a few weeks later than usual, but once it starts expect near normal shower and thunderstorm activity.
- Typically, April to July in Southern California sees a transition from mild, occasionally showery spring weather to the "June Gloom" coastal fog, followed by the start of the hot, dry summer.

## Drought Monitor

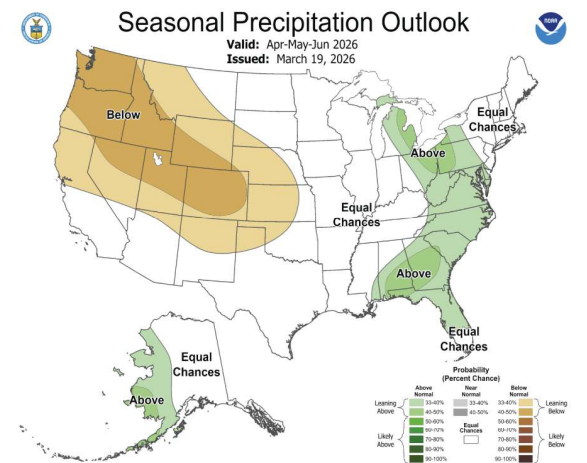
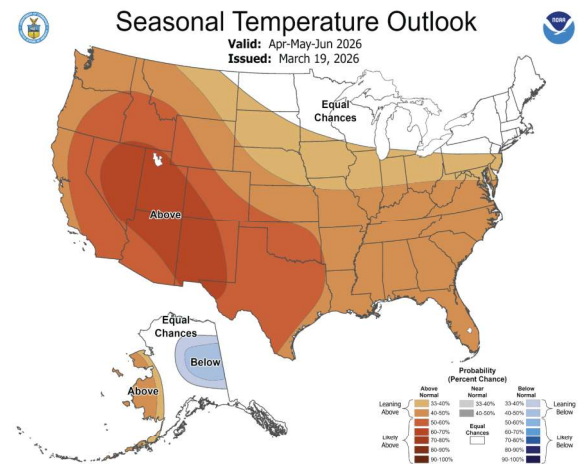
California | U.S. Drought Monitor (unl.edu)



Abnormally dry conditions have developed across Northern and Eastern Sierra regions and near the Colorado River, while Central and Southern California remain free of drought. However, dry conditions are expected to persist across much of the Southwest, including parts of Southern California. In Northern California, drought is likely to emerge in portions of the region over the next four months. Several potentially impactful wildcards could influence conditions during this period. These include the possibility of freeze-killed fuels in April due to cold spells following an unusually early start to the growing season; the rearrangement of shrub-canopy fuels across the Sierra foothills caused by "snow crush" during the mid-February storm; and increased herbaceous fuel loading, including the potential for a second round of germination in some lower-elevation areas.

## Temperature & Precipitation

Climate Prediction Center



## Percent of Average Precipitation (%)

wrcrc.dri.edu

A persistent area of strong high pressure off the California coast brought above-normal temperatures across the entire region for much of March. From March 12-29, both Northern and Southern California experienced record-breaking heat. During this period the state also received limited precipitation, resulting in little to no rainfall statewide. As a result, the Sierra Nevada snowpack melted rapidly leaving the statewide snow at 20% of normal (April 2). Despite poor snowpack conditions, California's reservoirs remain at or above historical averages for the date (March 31).

