

## Key Points:

- Drought conditions not currently a major concern for the Northeast.
- Much of the southwestern US is currently experiencing drought conditions.
- Drought conditions are expected to persist in the Southwest
- New forecasts for the Northeast will be available after the 8<sup>th</sup> of each month here: <http://bit.ly/pdsi-x>.

## Northeast Region

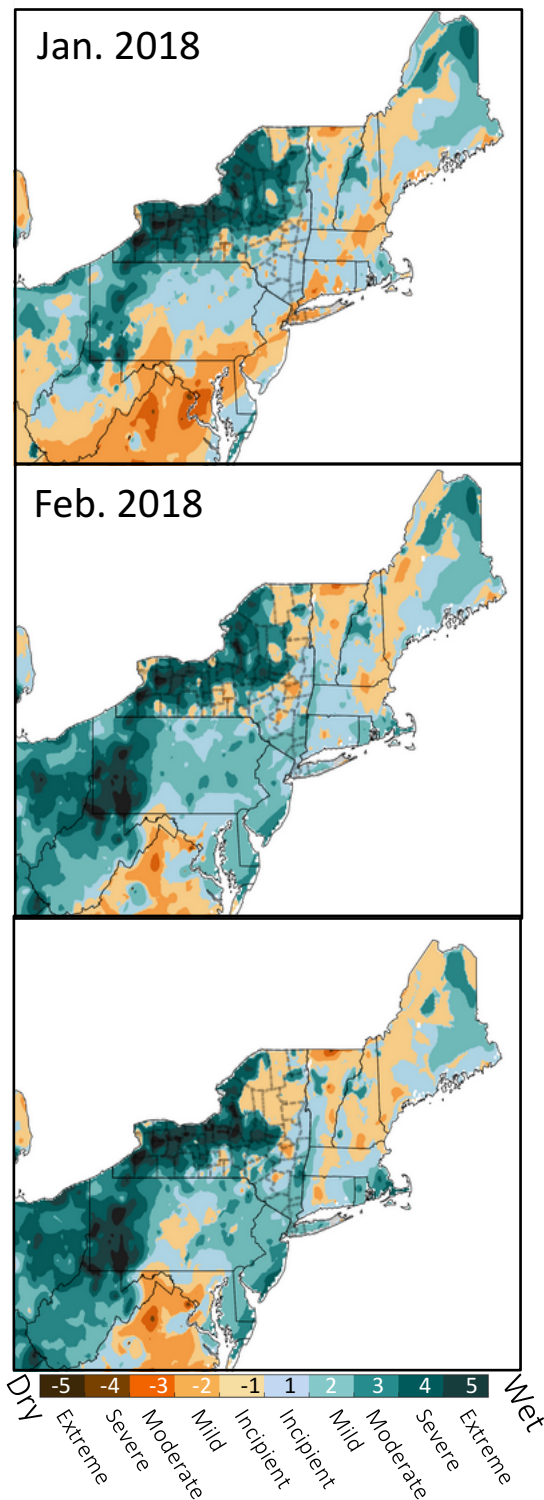
Drought conditions are generally not present in the Northeast (Fig. 1 and Fig. 2). However, there are a few regions where moisture deficits have emerged in the budget we use in our drought atlas (e.g., parts of VT, NH, and ME). These deficits have lead to somewhat negative drought index values (orange colors). We do not anticipate drought conditions during the coming early three months growing season (April, May, June), judging from both the National Weather Service seasonal drought outlook or our drought atlas seasonal forecasts (<http://bit.ly/pdsi-x>).

## Continental US

Outside of the Northeast, much of the western US and parts of the Central Plains are already experiencing drought, despite it still being relatively early in the warm season (Fig. 2). Those conditions are expected to persist during the coming months (Fig. 3).

## References cited

- [1] <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>  
[2] [http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert\\_assessment/sdo\\_summary.php](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/sdo_summary.php)



**Figure 1.** NYS/NE Drought atlas maps from the first three months of 2017.

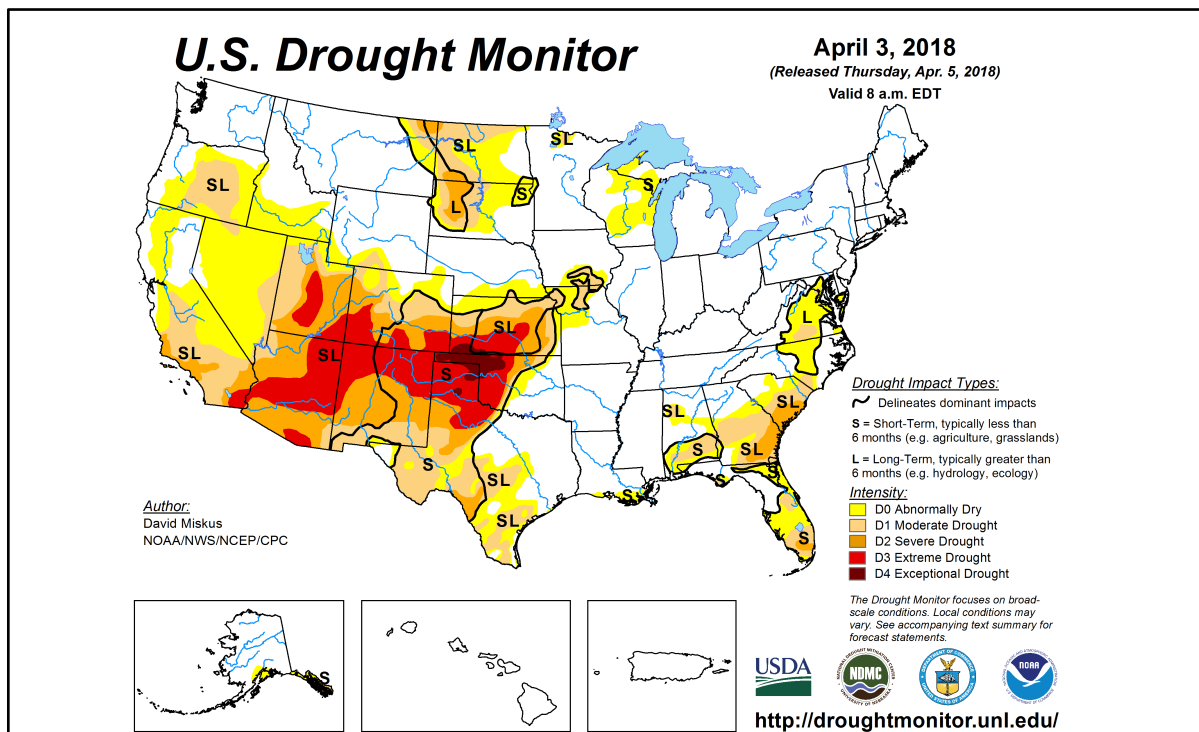


Figure 2. US Drought monitor map for the entire US [1].

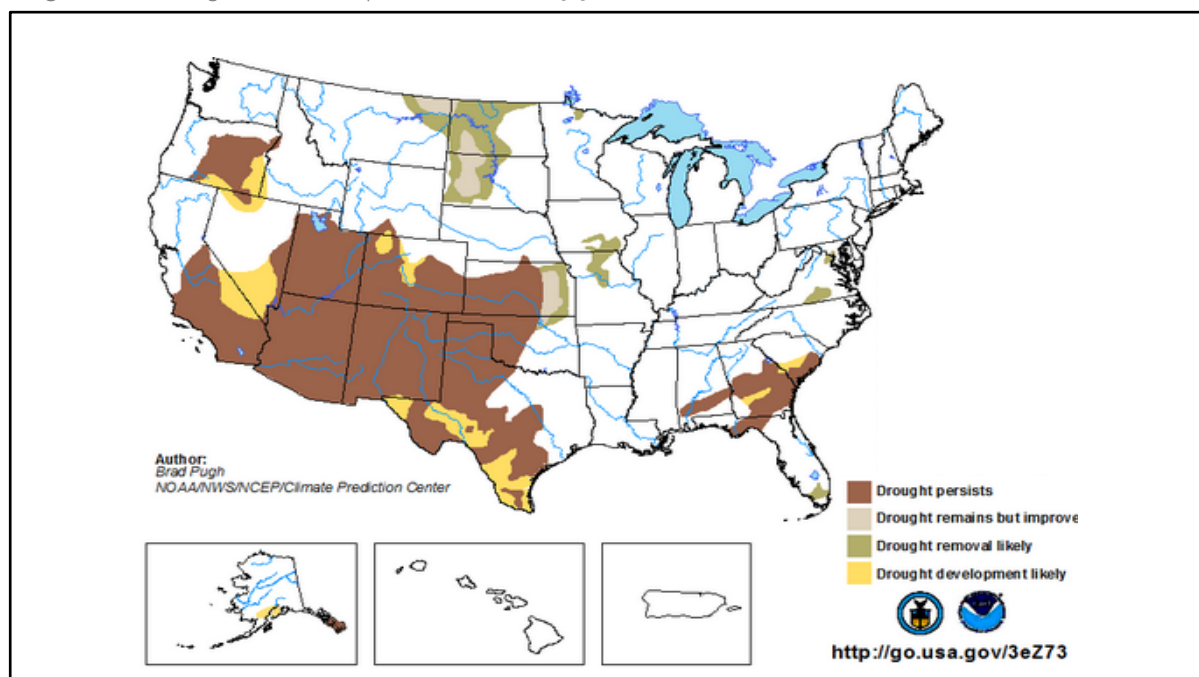


Figure 3. Seasonal drought outlook from the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center [2].