

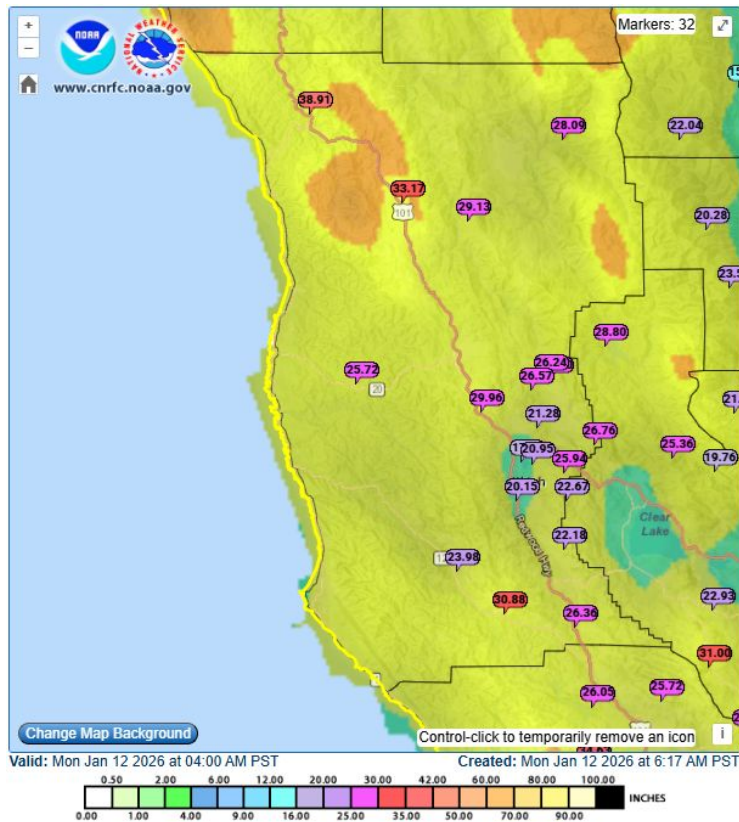
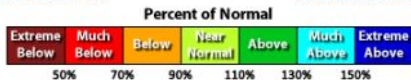
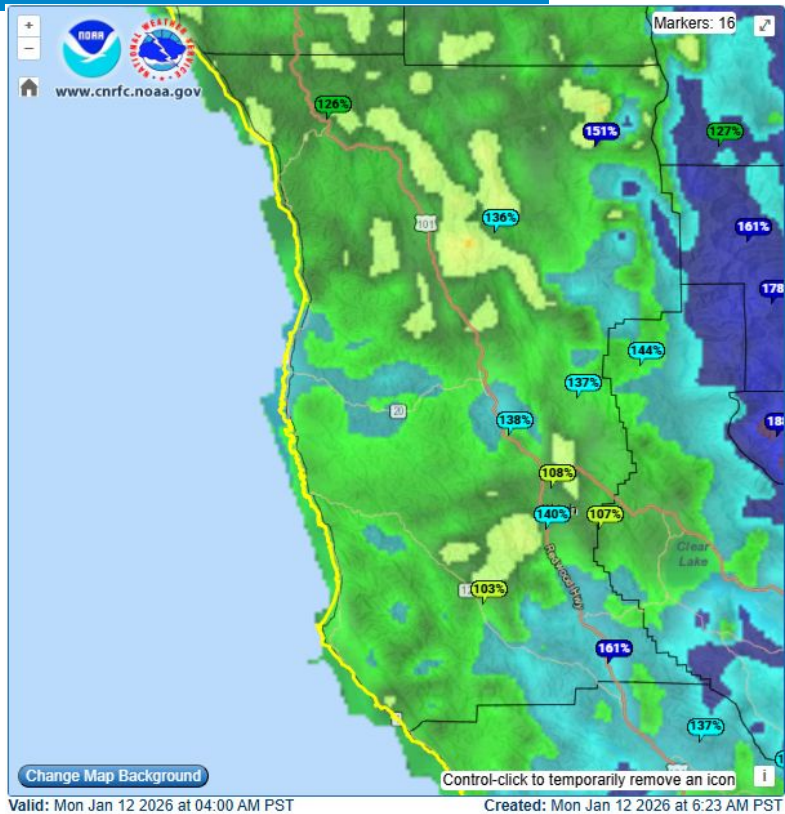
Winter/Spring 2026

Mendocino County

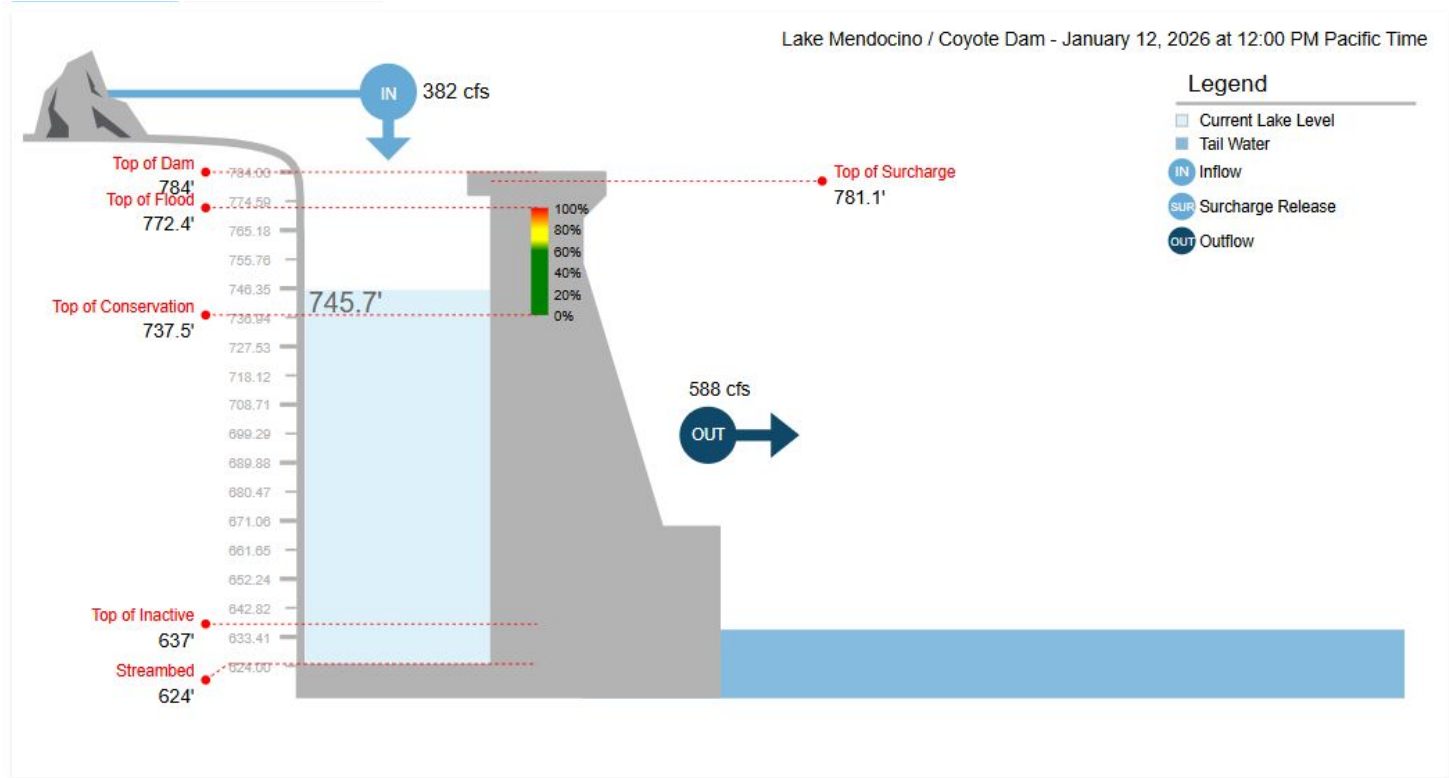
Ryan Aylward - Warning Coordination Meteorologist

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Eureka National Weather Service

Rainfall Since October 1st



Lake Mendocino - from the Army Corp

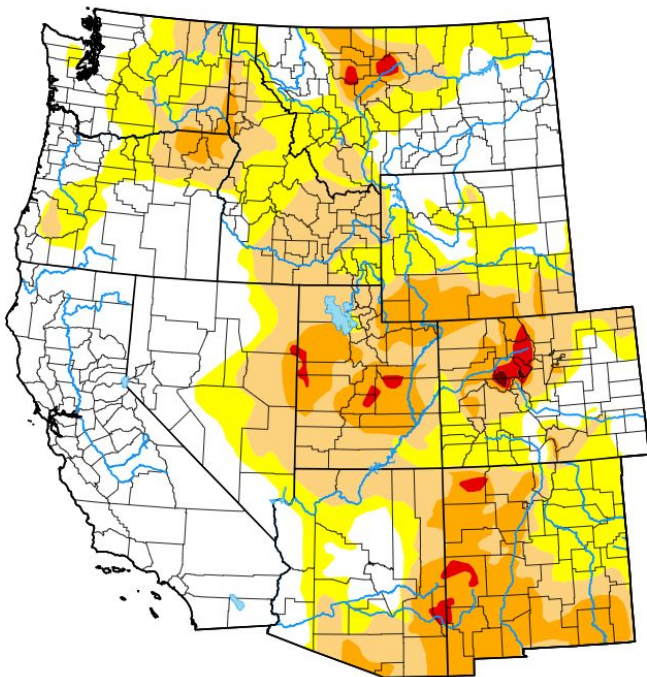


<https://water.usace.army.mil/overview/spn/locations/lake%20mendocino>

Drought Monitor

West

[Home](#) / [West](#)



Map released: Thurs. January 8, 2026

Data valid: January 6, 2026 at 7 a.m. EST

Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):

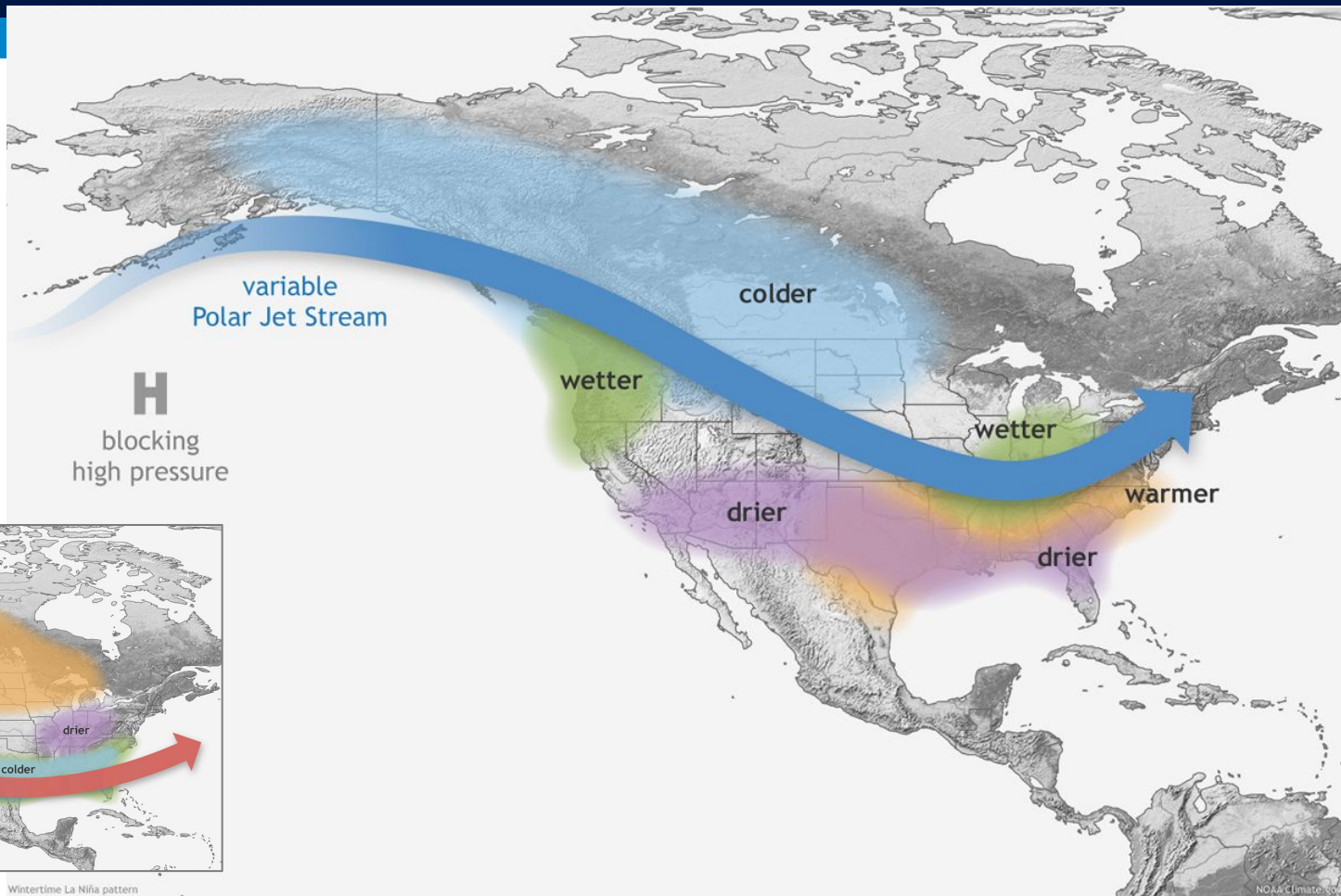
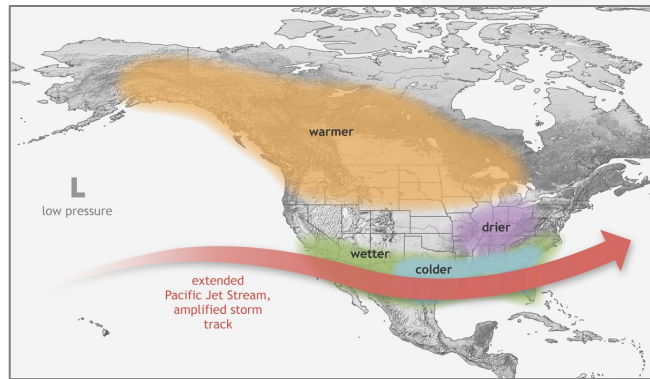
[Brian Fuchs](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

[Tsegaye Tadesse](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

La Niña is favored for Winter 2025-2026

Typical Wintertime La Niña Impacts

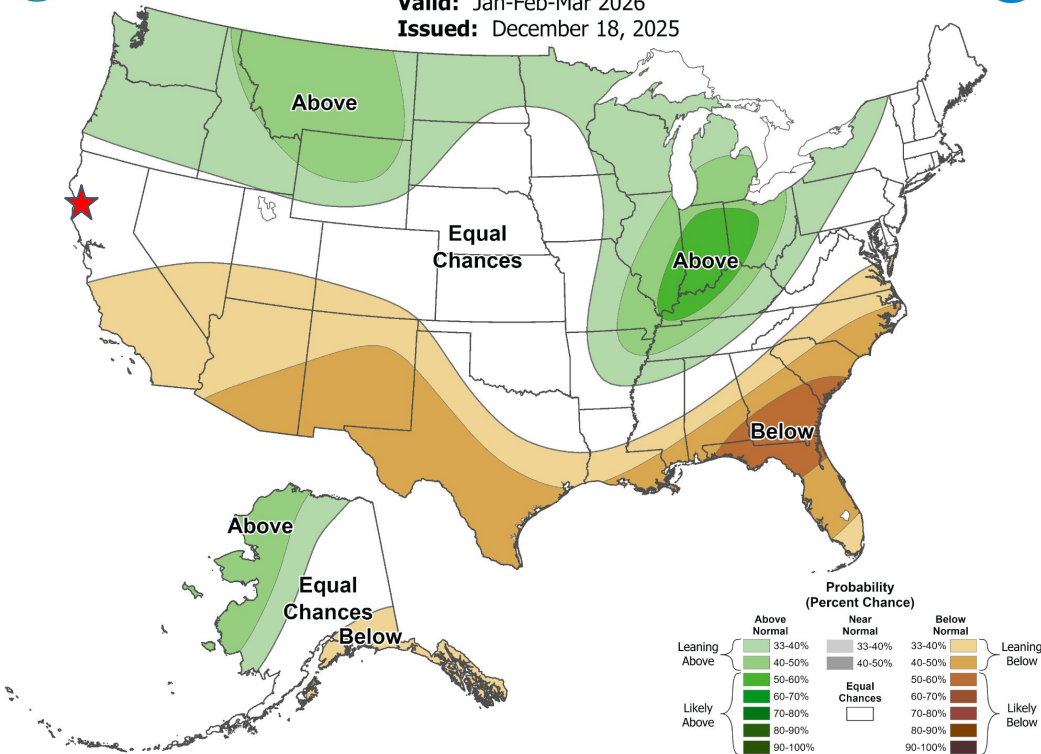


January Through March Outlook



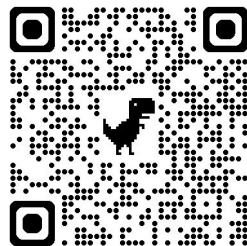
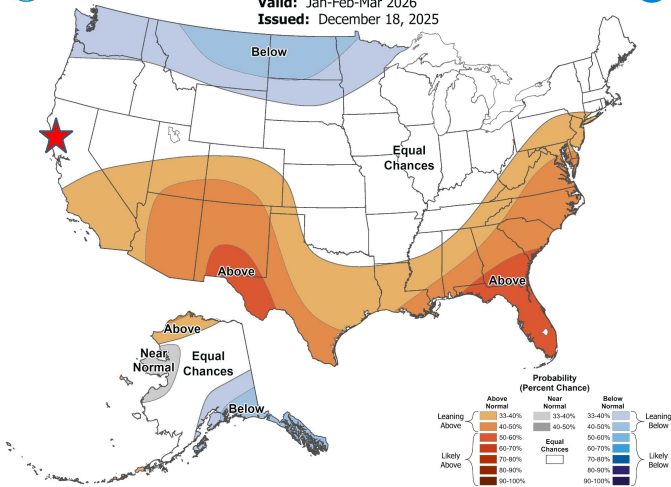
Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

Valid: Jan-Feb-Mar 2026
Issued: December 18, 2025



Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: Jan-Feb-Mar 2026
Issued: December 18, 2025

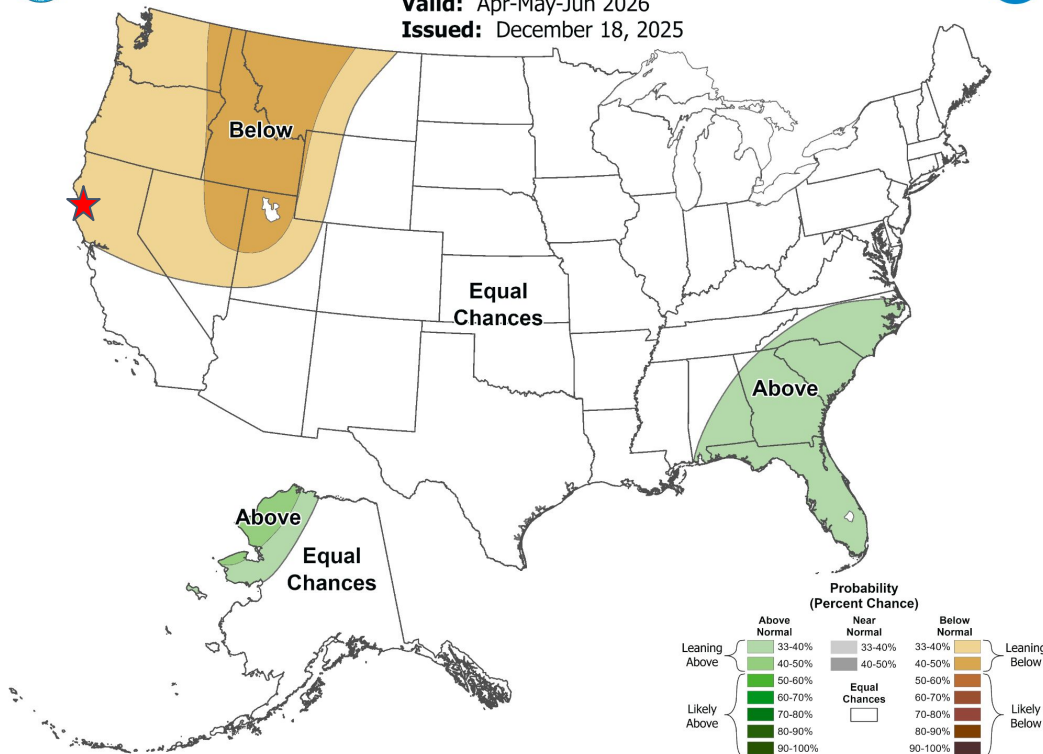


April Through June Outlook



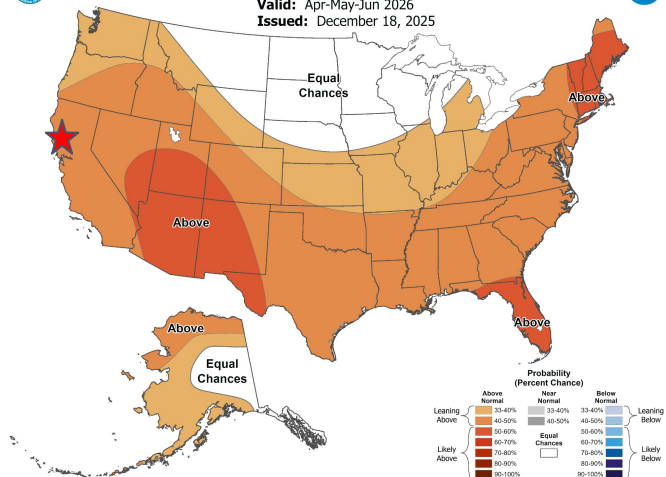
Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

Valid: Apr-May-Jun 2026
Issued: December 18, 2025

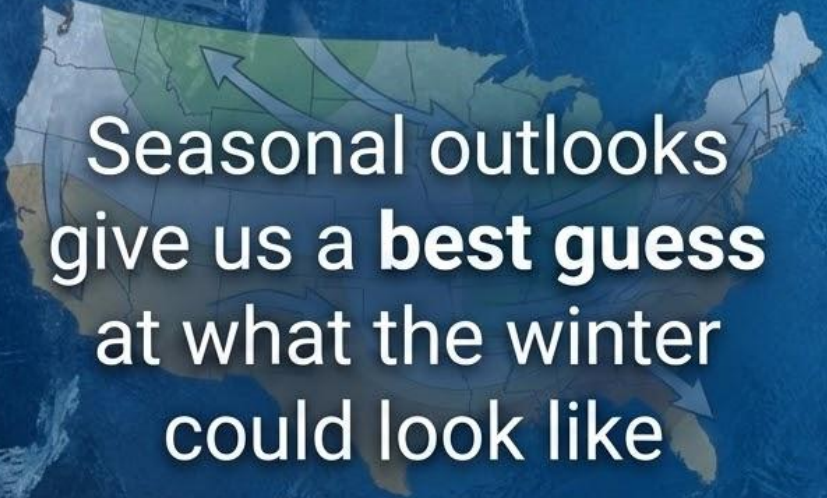


Seasonal Temperature Outlook


Valid: Apr-May-Jun 2026
Issued: December 18, 2025



Seasonal Outlooks - Caution



Seasonal outlooks
give us a **best guess**
at what the winter
could look like



Wintertime impacts
are defined by
individual storms
that occur throughout
the season



National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center

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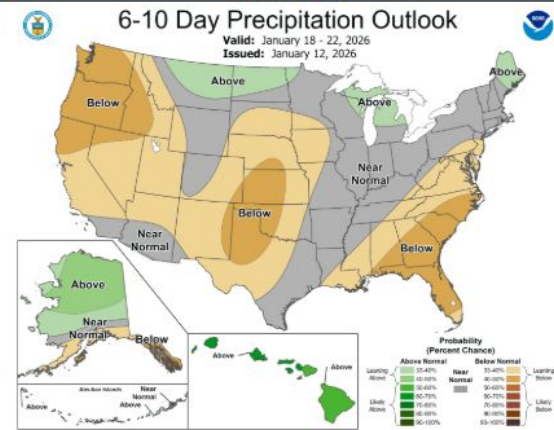
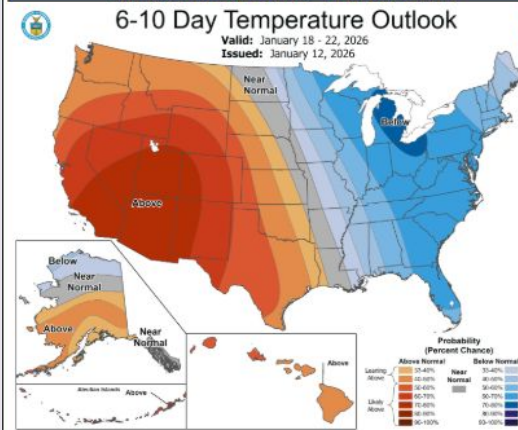
Outreach
Educational
Climate Glossary

Climate News

- **La Niña persists, followed by a 75% chance of a transition to ENSO-neutral during January-March 2026. ENSO-neutral is likely through at least Northern Hemisphere late spring 2026 (8 Jan 2026)**
- **Updated NOAA 2025 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook (7 Aug 2025)**

Click on product title to go to product page. Move cursor over product parameter name to display the graphic -- click to enlarge. Links to these same products are also available below.

6-10 Day Outlook (Interactive) Temperature Precipitation	One Month Outlook (Interactive) Temperature Precipitation
8-14 Day Outlook (Interactive) Temperature Precipitation	Three Month Outlook (Interactive) Temperature Precipitation
Week 3-4 Outlooks Temperature Precipitation	8-14 Day U.S. Hazards Outlook Composite Probabilistic: Temp Precip Snow Wind
U.S. Drought Information Monitor Monthly Outlook Seasonal Outlook	Global Tropics Hazards Outlook Weeks 2 and 3



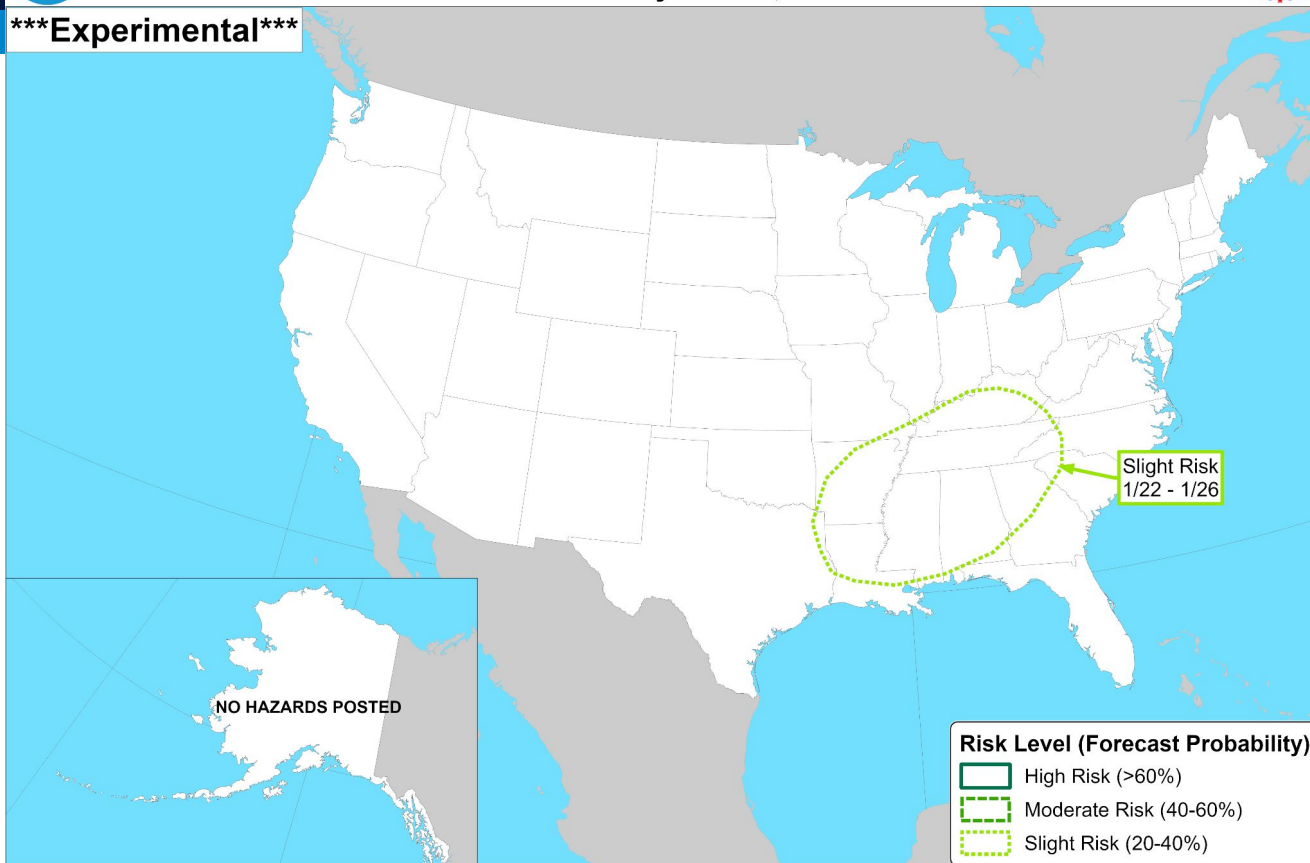


Risk of Heavy Precipitation

Valid: January 20 - 26, 2026



Experimental



Climate Prediction Center

Released: January 12, 2026 3:00 PM EST

Follow us:

www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov

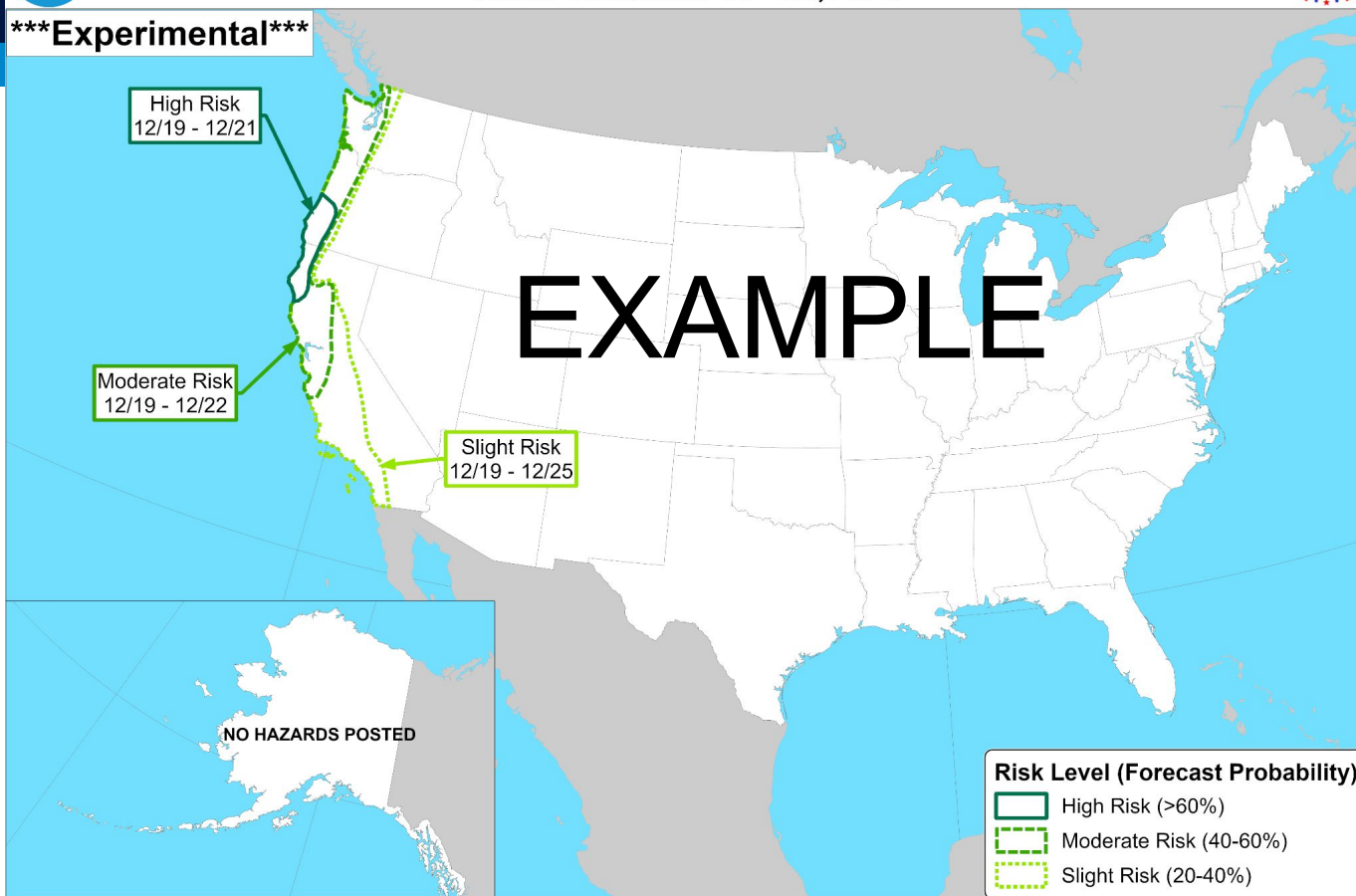


Risk of Heavy Precipitation

Valid: December 19 - 25, 2025



Experimental



Climate Prediction Center

Released: December 11, 2025 3:00 PM EST

Follow us:

www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov

Small Hail - Slow Down!



**Watch
for Hail**



SLOW DOWN!
Hail covered roads
can be very icy

Courtesy of Del Norte Triplicate

**DRIVING ON A HAIL
COVERED ROAD:**

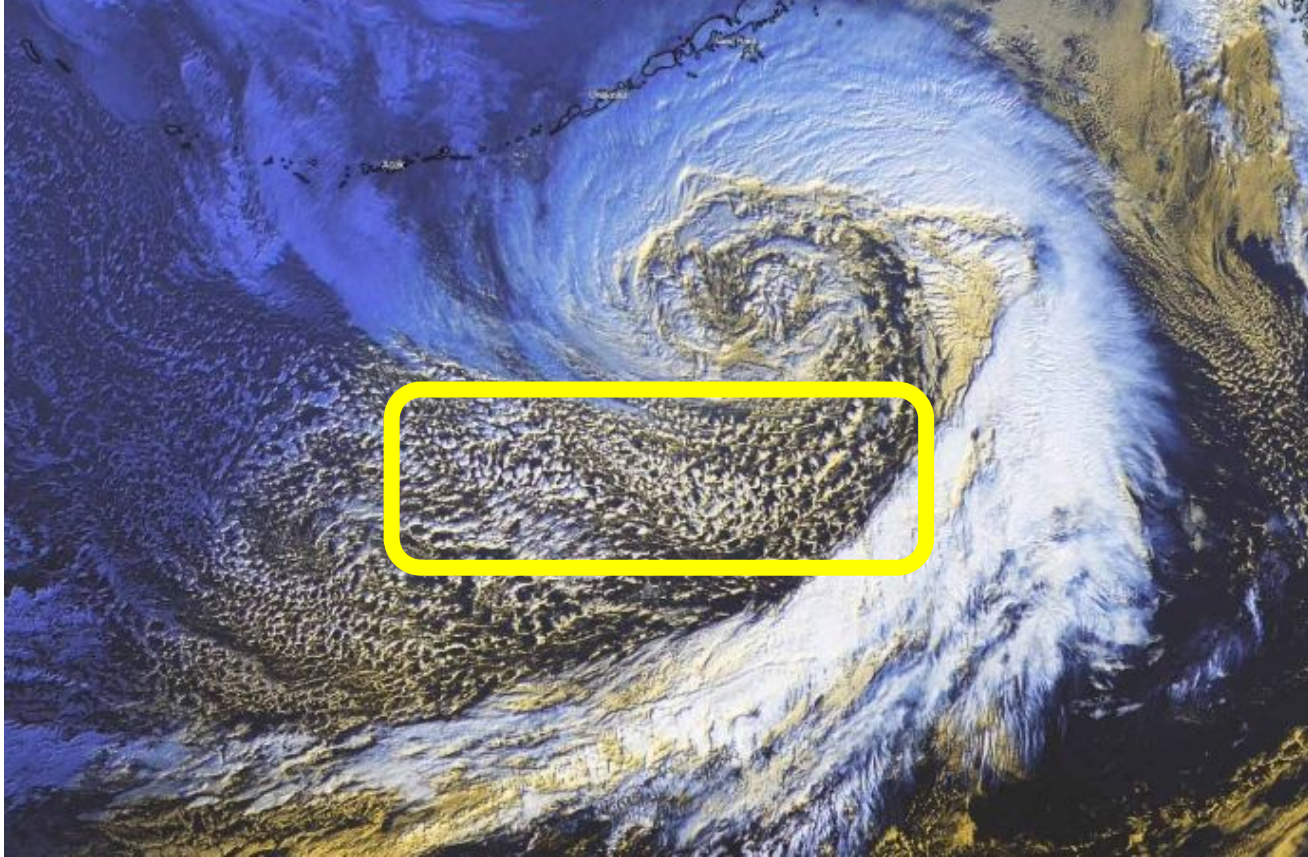
- ▶ Ease off the gas pedal
- ▶ Do not slam on the brakes
- ▶ Avoid overcorrecting



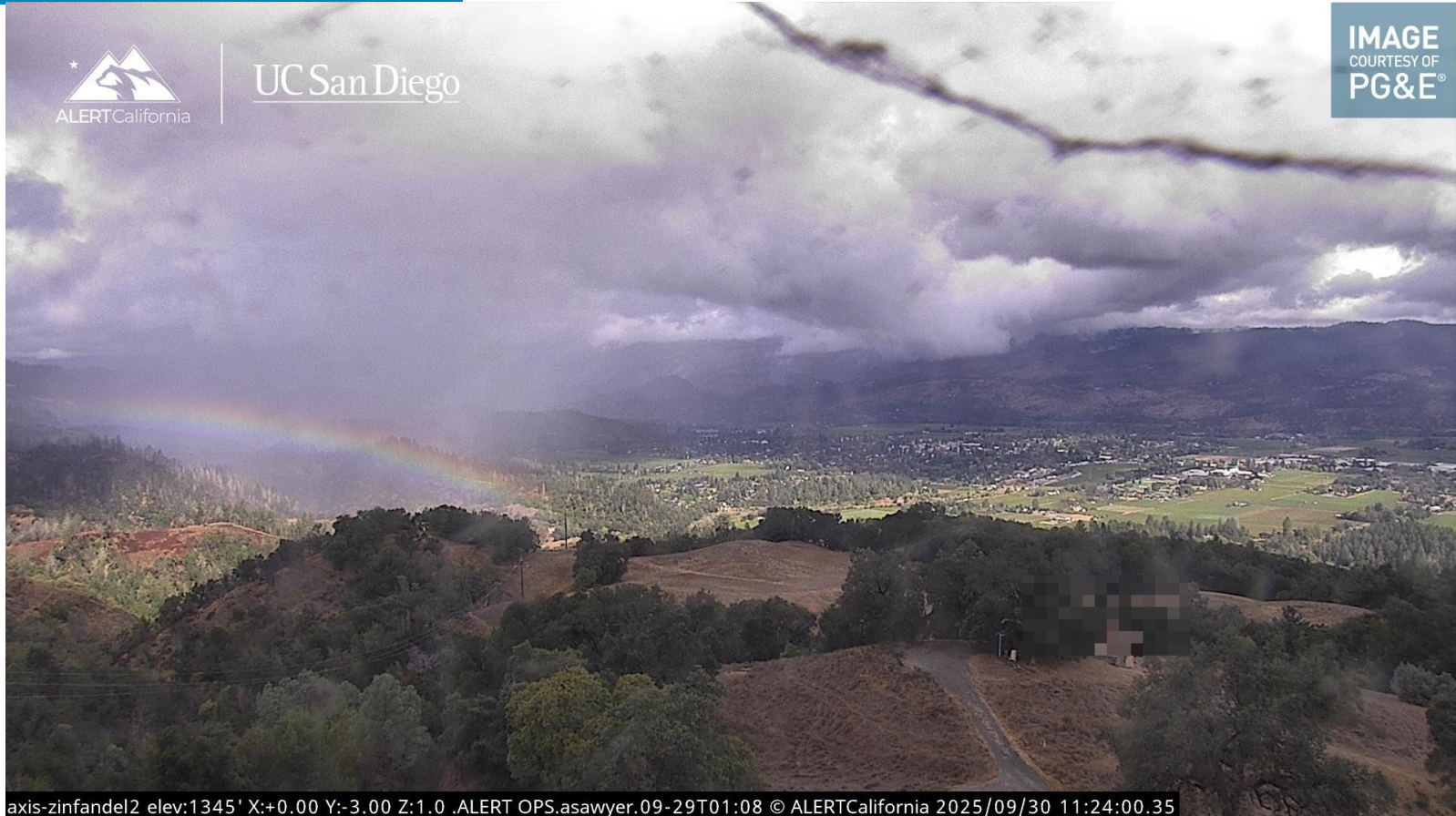
VISIT US ON THE WEB: [WEATHER.GOV](https://www.weather.gov) • [DOT.CA.GOV](https://www.dot.ca.gov) • [CHP.CA.GOV](https://www.chp.ca.gov)

For the most current road information on all California State highways, please call 1-800-427-7623 (1-800-GAS-ROAD)

Small Hail Producing Storm



What a Small Hail Shower May Look Like:



UC San Diego

IMAGE
COURTESY OF
PG&E®

Warning Vs Advisory Vs Watch

READY

Outlook or Partner Email

Risk of weather hazard in the next 7 days

Could pose a threat to life and property

Prepare a Plan of Action

SET

Watch

Risk of weather hazard in the next 2-5 days

Timing and details still uncertain

Could pose a threat to life and property

Have a Plan of Action



GO

Advisory

Weather hazard is imminent or occurring

Could cause significant inconvenience

Use Caution



Warning

Weather hazard is imminent or occurring

Weather hazard poses a threat to life/property

Take Protective Action



Winter Weather Product Criteria

Winter Storm Warning (WSWEKA) WS.W GHG/Hazard Services

Issued when the following conditions, or any combination of these conditions are forecast within 36 hours or occurring:

- For heavy snow

- **Below 1,500 feet ASL:** ≥ 2 inches of snow
- **Above 1,500 feet to 3,000 ASL:** ≥ 5 inches of snow
- **Above 3000 feet ASL in Trinity County only:** ≥ 8 inches of snow

NOTE: *Issuance of warnings for heavy snow should be based on the midpoint value of the forecast accumulation range. E.g., if 4 to 6 inches is forecast, the mid-range value is 5 inches.*

- For sleet

Sleet accumulations $\geq 1/2$ inch.

Winter Weather Product Criteria

Winter Weather Advisory
(WSWEKA) WW.Y
GHG/Hazard Services

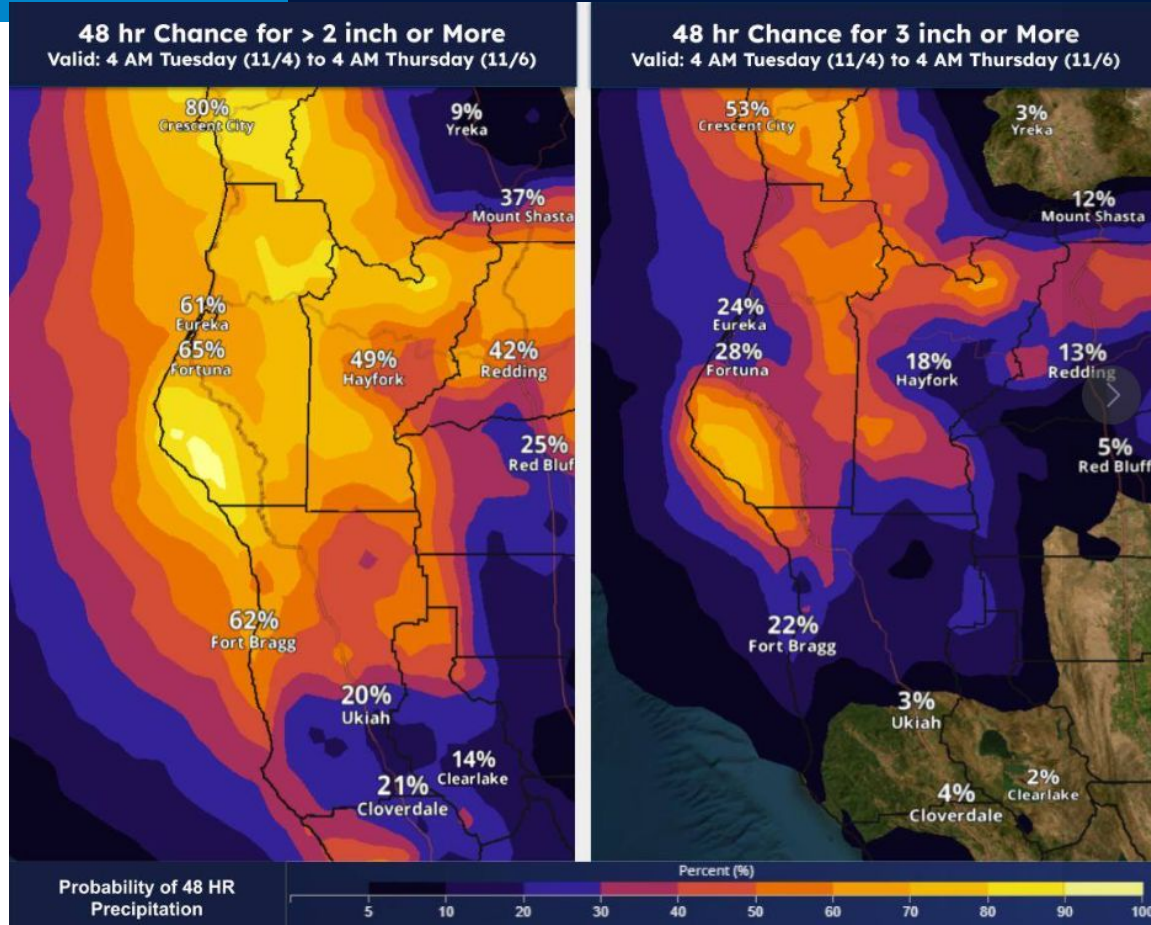
Issued when the following conditions, or any combination of these conditions are forecast within 36 hours or occurring:

- **For snow**
 - **Below 1,500 feet ASL:** Trace to 1.5 inches of snow
 - **Above 1,500 feet to 3,000 ASL:** 2 to 4.5 inches of snow
 - **Above 3000 feet ASL in Trinity County only:** 4 to 7.5 inches of snow
- **Expected or ongoing impacts** caused by continued precipitation on the travel corridors, such as chain requirements.

NOTE: Issuance of advisories for snow should be based on the midpoint value of the forecast accumulation range. E.g., if 3 to 5 inches is forecast, the mid-range value is 4 inches.

- **For snow and blowing snow**
 - Sustained winds or frequent gusts of 25 to 34 mph (22 to 30 kt), accompanied by falling and blowing snow that is occasionally reducing visibilities to $\leq 1/4$ mile for 3 hours or more.
- **For blowing snow**
 - When widespread or localized blowing snow reduces visibilities to $\leq 1/4$ mile -
- **For sleet**
 - Sleet accumulations $< 1/2$ inch.
- **For small hail showers**
 - Scattered to numerous hail showers, resulting in accumulation, forecast in populated areas not already under an advisory for snow.
 - Forecasting emphasis will be placed on events with sufficiently low snow levels to allow for accumulation (< 1500 feet), as well as echo training or slow storm motion.

Reminder About Probability Forecasts



A high-resolution image of Earth from space, showing the Americas and the Atlantic Ocean. The Earth's surface is detailed with landmasses, oceans, and cloud cover. The background is a deep blue space filled with numerous stars of varying brightness. The word "Questions?" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font in the upper right quadrant of the image.

Questions?