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July Precipitation so Far

Ever since the 5th of July daily strong to severe thunderstorms have been the norm in the afternoon and evening hours. Some areas have experienced a great deal of rainfall with many locations reporting well above normal monthly averages so far and some areas have experienced upwards of 6" or more! Let's take a look at some of the precipitation totals so far this month up to the 14th:

Denver (DIA) - 3.20" Normal for July – 2.16", 1.4" Above Normal So Far

Colorado Springs - 4.23" Normal for July – 2.85", 1.38" Above Normal So Far

Parker (Sulphur Gulch) – 4.57"

Castle Rock – 2.60"

Highlands Ranch West – 2.95"

Sedalia – 1.65"

Boulder (Justice Center) – 2.52"

Louisville Lake – 3.15"

Broomfield – 3.86"

Denver (Stapleton) – 6.02"

Lakewood Country Club – 4.33"

Arvada (Carr St.) – 3.90"

Evergreen (Hiwan Golf Club) – 3.11”

Brighton North – 5.98”

Commerce City 3.70”

Aurora (East Tollgate at Buckley) – 4.29”

Downtown Denver (Denver Zoo) – 5.75”

Golden – 2.51”

Fort Collins SE – 1.65”

Westminster WNW – 3.36”

Loveland North – 2.01”

Thornton North – 3.66”

Greeley ENE – 1.89”

Manitou Springs ESE – 2.57”

Gleneagle – 1.81”

Colorado Springs NW – 2.09”

Black Forest NE – 3.00”

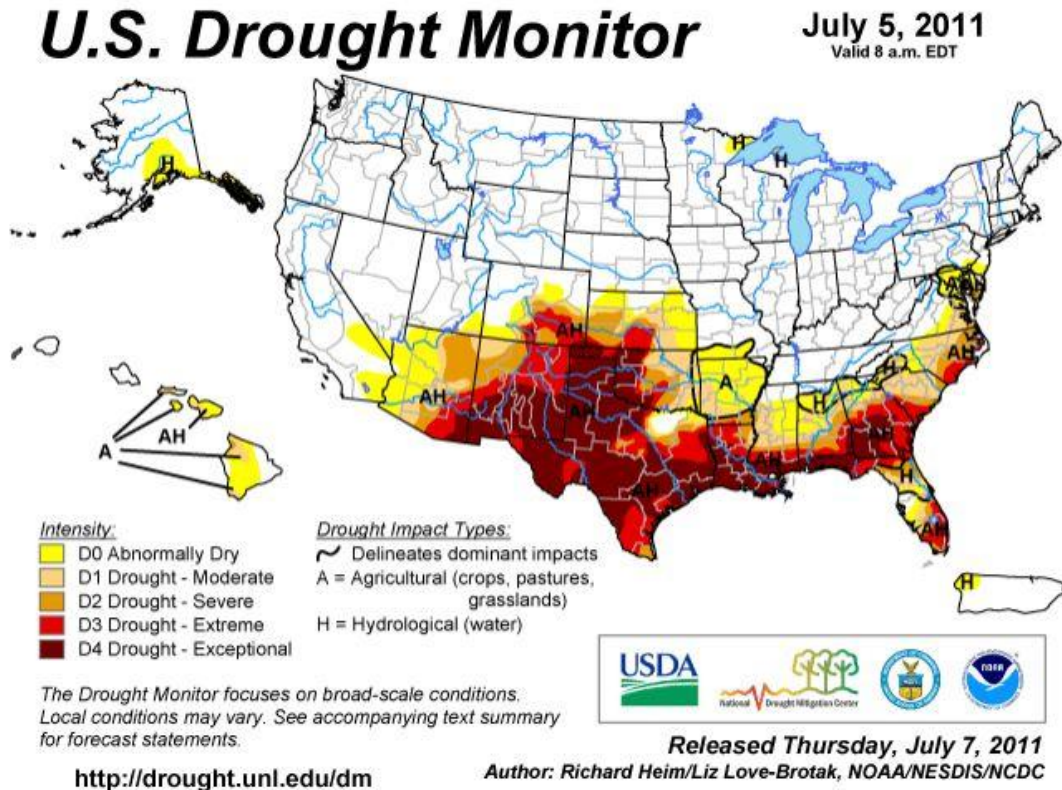
Ken Caryl – 2.34”

Conifer SW – 2.55”

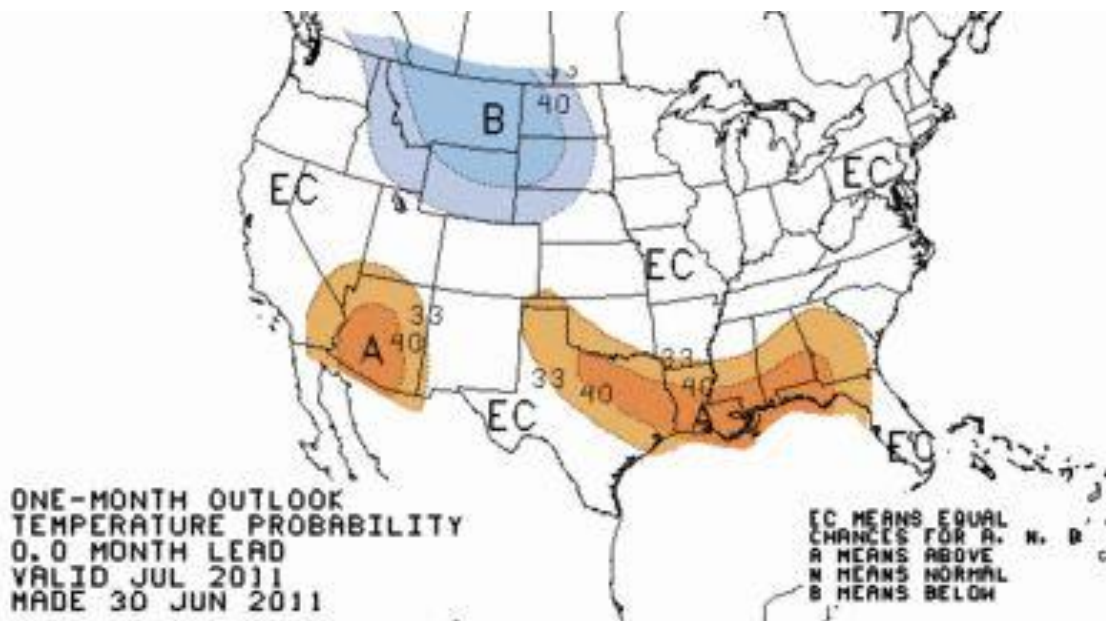
Many Denver area locations have reported more rain than DIA has observed this month. In fact if the records were still taken at Stapleton we would be near the wettest July on record! Stapleton has observed 6.02” and the all time record precipitation for July is 6.41” only 0.39” away. It is a shame that DIA is now the official location for Denver climate because it is certainly not as representative of the Denver Metro area compared to Stapleton. When we look at Denver climate history we need to look at it with a cautious eye as Denver (DIA) will likely always report warmer temperatures and less snow and in this case much less rainfall as well.

Drought Update

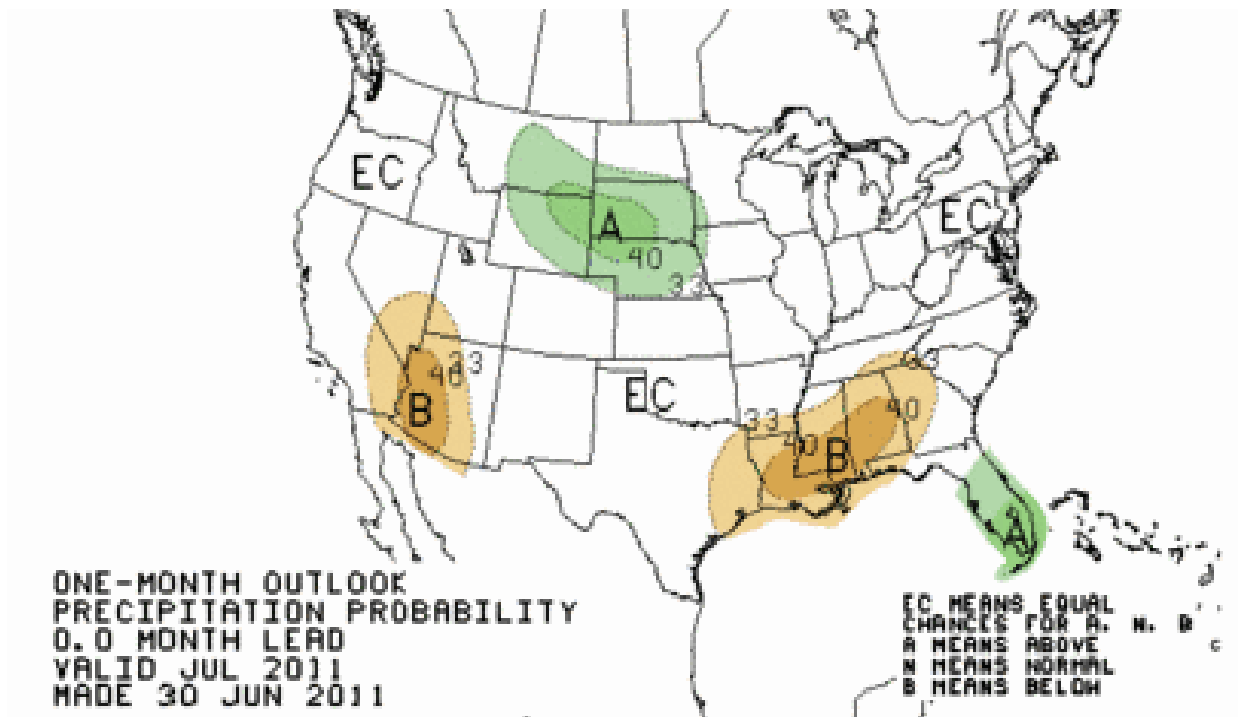
Conditions since mid August of 2010 have brought severe drought conditions to parts of southeastern Colorado while northern and northeastern parts of the state have seen improvement.



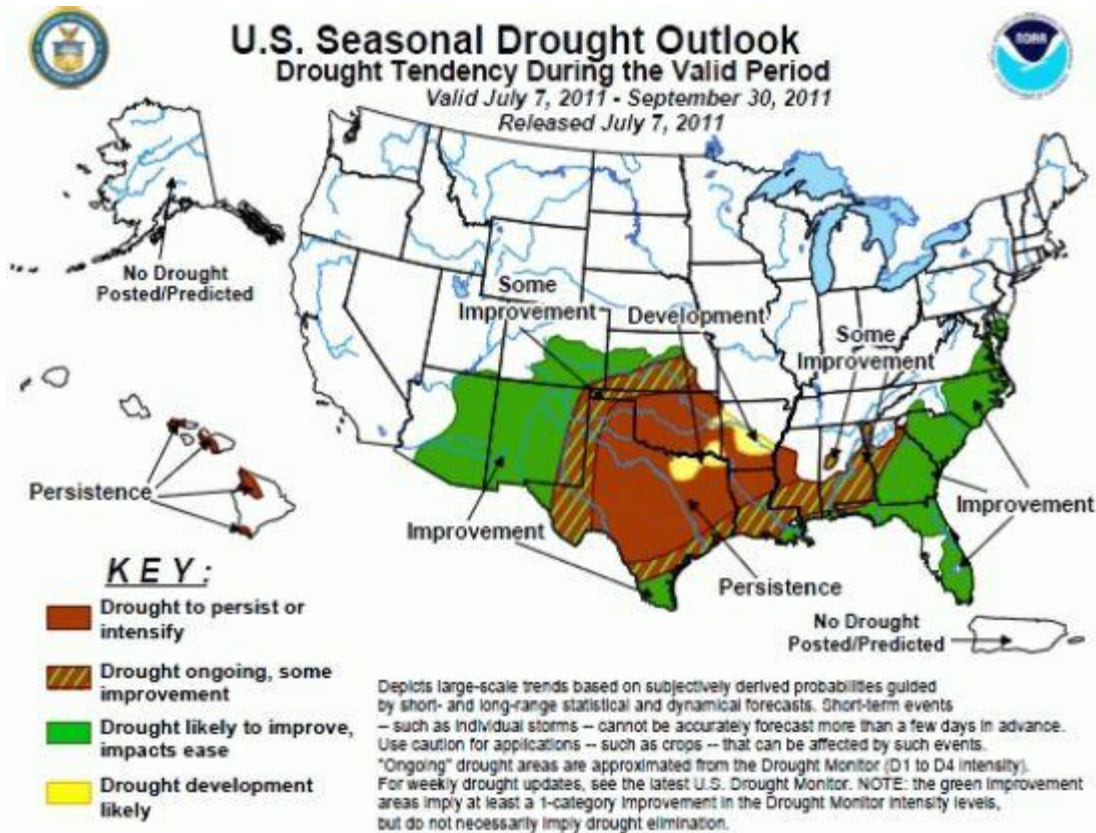
The map below shows forecasted temperature deviances for July 2011. As can be seen, normal temperatures are expected over the entire state of Colorado.



The map below shows forecasted precipitation deviances for June 2011. Near normal precipitation amounts are expected across most of Colorado but as we already know many locations of NE Colorado are already at or above normal monthly precipitation currently.



Drought conditions are expected to see improvement over eastern and southeastern Colorado. Let's hope that the drought improvement in southeastern Colorado comes to fruition.



June Summary

June of 2011 was the second month in a row with above normal precipitation which is starting to make up for the lack of moisture during the winter months. At DIA there was a monthly total of 2.43" compared to 1.56" on average which resulted in a surplus of 0.87". For the year there has already been 9.54" compared to 8.09" normally, 1.45" above normal. There were 10 thunderstorm days during the month which is typical for June. Temperatures were just slightly above normal with average highs of 83.3 degrees and an average minimum of 53.0 degrees. There were 7 days with temperatures over 90 degrees but no temperature records were tied or broken. It is not like we were expecting any snow during June as it officially only averages a trace of snow but we have now officially finished the snow season and only measured 22.8" of snow at DIA. This was the 2nd least snowiest winter since 1888-89 and ended up 38.7" below the normal of 61.5"!

June Stats

TEMPERATURE (IN DEGREES F)

AVERAGE MAX	83.3 NORMAL 82.1	DEPARTURE 1.2
AVERAGE MIN	53.0 NORMAL 53.0	DEPARTURE 0.0
MONTHLY MEAN	68.2 NORMAL 67.6	DEPARTURE 0.6
HIGHEST	96 on the 28 th and 29 th	
LOWEST	45 on the 10 th	

DAYS WITH MAX 90 OR ABOVE	7	NORMAL	6.3
DAYS WITH MAX 32 OR BELOW	0	NORMAL	0.0
DAYS WITH MIN 32 OR BELOW	0	NORMAL	0.0
DAYS WITH MIN ZERO OR BELOW	0	NORMAL	0.0

TEMPERATURE RECORDS

No temperature records tied or broken.

HEATING DEGREE DAYS

MONTHLY TOTAL	26	NORMAL 60	DEPARTURE -34
SEASONAL TOTAL	5707	NORMAL 6128	DEPARTURE -421

COOLING DEGREE DAYS

MONTHLY TOTAL	126	NORMAL 136	DEPARTURE -10
YEARLY TOTAL	135	NORMAL 161	DEPARTURE -26

PRECIPITATION (IN INCHES)

MONTHLY TOTAL	2.43	NORMAL 1.56	DEPARTURE 0.87
YEARLY TOTAL	9.54	NORMAL 8.09	DEPARTURE 1.45
GREATEST IN 24 HOURS	1.55" on the 19 th to 20 th		
DAYS WITH MEASURABLE PRECIP.	8		

SNOWFALL (IN INCHES)

MONTHLY TOTAL	0.0	NORMAL TR	DEPARTURE 0.0
SEASONAL TOTAL	22.8	NORMAL 61.5	DEPARTURE -38.7
GREATEST IN 24 HOURS	0.0"		
GREATEST DEPTH	0.0"		

WIND (IN MILES PER HOUR)

AVERAGE SPEED	10.4mph
PEAK WIND GUST	72mph from the SSW

MISCELLANEOUS WEATHER

NUMBER OF DAYS WITH THUNDERSTORM	10	NORMAL	10
NUMBER OF DAYS WITH HEAVY FOG	0	NORMAL	<1
NUMBER OF DAYS WITH HAIL	1		
NUMBER OF SUNNY DAYS	7		
NUMBER OF PARTLY CLOUDY DAYS	21		
NUNMER OF CLOUDY DAYS	2		
AVERAGE RELATIVE HUMIDITY	45%		

July Preview

The monsoon season typically kicks off during the first or second week of July along the Front Range. This year it started on the 5th of the month and there has been copious amounts of rain for many locations through the second week of July. Many Front Range locations from the Denver area northward have already received more than an entire months worth of rain with 2-5" or more common and some locally higher amounts. Typical July precipitation is 2.16" and as of the 13th DIA has already reported exactly 2.16"! With half of the month to go it is safe to say then precipitation will be above normal for the month of July which will help make up for the lack of precipitation last year and help to alleviate the drought conditions that were developing earlier this spring. There are on average 15 days during the month with highs in the 90s. The highest temperature ever recorded happened in July with a reading of 105. Average wind speeds decrease to 8.3mph with the strongest wind gusts caused by thunderstorms. There are 11 days on average with thunderstorm activity and severe weather is less likely than the month of June.

ENVER'S NOVEMBER CLIMATOLOGICALLY NORMAL (NORMAL PERIOD 1971-2000)

TEMPERATURE

AVERAGE HIGH	88.0
AVERAGE LOW	58.7
MONTHLY MEAN	73.4
DAYS WITH HIGH 90 OR ABOVE	15
DAYS WITH HIGH 32 OR BELOW	0
DAYS WITH LOW 32 OR BELOW	0
DAYS WITH LOWS ZERO OR BELOW	0

PRECIPITATION

MONTHLY MEAN	2.16"
DAYS WITH MEASURABLE PRECIPITATION	9
AVERAGE SNOWFALL IN INCHES	0.0"
DAYS WITH 1.0 INCH OF SNOW OR MORE	0

MISCELLANEOUS AVERAGES

HEATING DEGREE DAYS	1
COOLING DEGREE DAYS	261
WIND SPEED (MPH)	8.3mph
WIND DIRECTION	South
DAYS WITH THUNDERSTORMS	11
DAYS WITH DENSE FOG	Less than 1
PERCENT OF SUNSHINE POSSIBLE	71%

EXTREMES

RECORD HIGH	105 on 7/20/2005
RECORD LOW	42 on 7/4/1903 and 7/31/1873
WARMEST	77.8 in 1934
COLDEST	67.4 in 1895
WETTEST	6.41" in 1965
DRIEST	0.01" in 1901
SNOWIEST	0.0"
LEAST SNOWIEST	0.0"

Sunrise/Sunset (July - December Denver area)

	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	
	Sr - Ss	Sr - Ss	Sr - Ss	Sr - Ss	Sr - Ss	Sr - Ss	
01	0535-0831	0558-0814	0627-0732	0655-0644	0728-0558	0701-0436	01
02	0536-0831	0559-0813	0628-0731	0656-0642	0729-0557	0702-0435	02
03	0536-0831	0600-0812	0629-0729	0657-0641	0730-0556	0703-0435	03
04	0537-0831	0601-0811	0630-0728	0658-0639	0731-0554	0704-0435	04
05	0537-0831	0602-0809	0631-0726	0659-0637	0733-0553	0705-0435	05
06	0538-0831	0603-0808	0632-0725	0700-0636	0634-0452	0706-0435	06
07	0538-0830	0604-0807	0633-0723	0701-0634	0635-0451	0707-0435	07
08	0539-0830	0605-0806	0634-0721	0702-0633	0636-0450	0708-0435	08
09	0540-0830	0606-0805	0635-0720	0703-0631	0637-0449	0709-0435	09
10	0540-0829	0607-0804	0636-0718	0704-0630	0638-0448	0709-0435	10
11	0541-0829	0608-0802	0637-0717	0705-0628	0639-0447	0710-0435	11
12	0542-0829	0608-0801	0637-0715	0706-0627	0641-0447	0711-0435	12
13	0542-0828	0609-0800	0638-0713	0707-0625	0642-0446	0712-0436	13
14	0543-0828	0610-0758	0639-0712	0709-0624	0643-0445	0713-0436	14
15	0544-0827	0611-0757	0640-0710	0710-0622	0644-0444	0713-0436	15
16	0545-0827	0612-0756	0641-0708	0711-0621	0645-0443	0714-0436	16
17	0545-0826	0613-0754	0642-0707	0712-0619	0646-0443	0715-0437	17
18	0546-0825	0614-0753	0643-0705	0713-0618	0647-0442	0715-0437	18
19	0547-0825	0615-0752	0644-0703	0714-0616	0648-0441	0716-0437	19
20	0548-0824	0616-0750	0645-0702	0715-0615	0650-0441	0716-0438	20

21 0549-0823 | 0617-0749 | 0646-0700 | 0716-0613 | 0651-0440 | 0717-0438 21
 22 0549-0823 | 0618-0747 | 0647-0659 | 0717-0612 | 0652-0439 | 0717-0439 22
 23 0550-0822 | 0619-0746 | 0648-0657 | 0718-0611 | 0653-0439 | 0718-0439 23
 24 0551-0821 | 0620-0745 | 0649-0655 | 0719-0609 | 0654-0438 | 0718-0440 24

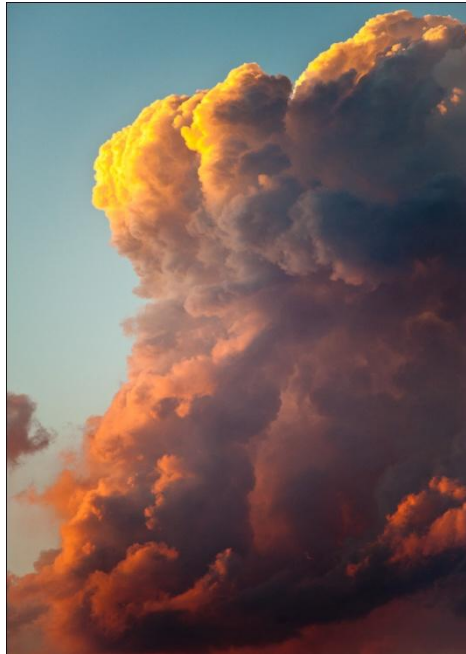
25 0552-0820 | 0621-0743 | 0650-0654 | 0720-0608 | 0655-0438 | 0719-0440 25
 26 0553-0819 | 0622-0742 | 0651-0652 | 0721-0607 | 0656-0437 | 0719-0441 26
 27 0554-0818 | 0623-0740 | 0652-0650 | 0722-0605 | 0657-0437 | 0719-0442 27
 28 0555-0818 | 0624-0739 | 0653-0649 | 0724-0604 | 0658-0437 | 0720-0442 28

29 0556-0817 | 0624-0737 | 0654-0647 | 0725-0603 | 0659-0436 | 0720-0443 29
 30 0556-0816 | 0625-0736 | 0655-0645 | 0726-0601 | 0700-0436 | 0720-0444 30
 31 0557-0815 | 0626-0734 | | 0727-0559 | | 0720-0445 31

Rainfall

June 2011 to Sept 2011

City	June	July	Aug	Sept	Total
Aurora (Central)	2.09				2.09
Brighton	0.79				0.79
Broomfield	1.14				1.14
Castle Rock	1.38				1.38
Colo Sprgs Airport	0.26				0.26
Denver DIA	2.43				2.43
Denver Downtown	1.42				1.42
Golden	2.26				2.26
Fort Collins	2.20				2.20
Highlands Ranch	1.22				1.22
Lakewood	2.36				2.36
Littleton	1.46				1.46
Parker	2.76				2.76
Sedalia - Hwy 67	1.81				1.81
Thornton	0.94				0.94
Westminster	1.29				1.29
Wheatridge	1.42				1.42



Thunderstorms at sunset taken from the Castle Rock area.

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