

***Monthly Images will only be shown when there are changes**

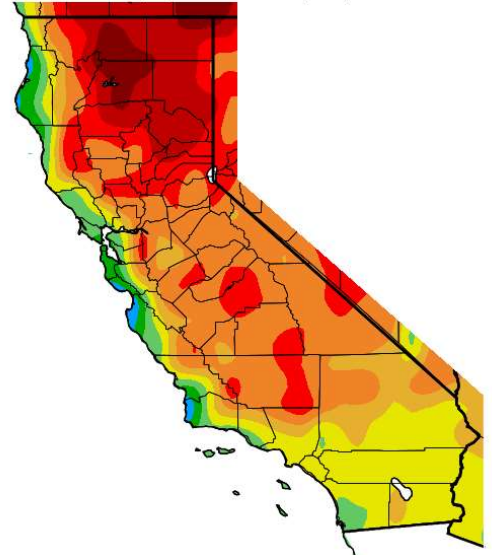
November 2022 - February 2023 South Ops Highlights

- Precipitation will likely be below normal through February.
- Temperatures will likely be above normal through February.
- The amount of Santa Ana wind events will likely be near to below normal through February.

Weather Discussion

A summer type pattern continued for the first three weeks of October with strong high pressure over Northern California and the Pacific Northwest and weak areas of low pressure moving inland from off the Southern California Coast into Northern Baja and then into Northwest Mexico and Southern Arizona. A more fall like pattern occurred during the last week of the month with the dominant high setting up off the California Coast along with troughs moving inland into the Pacific Northwest and then dropping into the Great Basin. Abundant sunshine along with persistent strong high-pressure to the north caused above normal temperatures across inland portions of the region (**Fig 1**). The weak low-pressure areas to the south brought a much deeper marine layer than normal causing temperatures to be below normal over the coastal areas (**Fig 1**). Isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms moved across Southern California most days through the first couple weeks of October. Central California received little or no rainfall during this period with just a couple of days of isolated afternoon showers and thunderstorms over the High Sierra. A brief period of scattered showers with light rainfall totals moved across the Sierra and Southern California as the dominant area of high pressure transitioned from over the Pacific Northwest to off the California Coast. Otherwise, it was dry the last two weeks of the month. Rainfall for the month was well below normal over Central California and near to above normal over Southern California (**Fig 2**). Winds were light most of the month and primarily from the south to west. There was one weak Santa Ana wind event toward the end of the month.

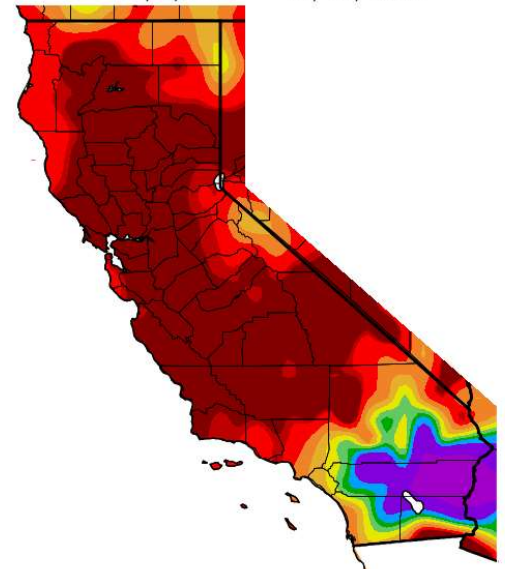
Av. Max. Temperature dep from Ave (deg F)
10/1/2022 – 10/26/2022



Generated 10/27/2022 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Fig 1: October 1st - October 26th Temperature (% of Ave.)

Percent of Average Precipitation (%)
10/1/2022 – 10/26/2022



Generated 10/27/2022 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Fig 2: October 1st - October 26th Precipitation (% of Ave.)



Fuels Discussion

There has been no change to the drought conditions across Central and Southern California (**Fig 3**). Interior areas across Central California away from the deserts remain in extreme to exceptional drought. Severe drought remains over the coastal areas, deserts, and most of Southern California. The only exception is over San Diego and Imperial Counties where moderate drought exists. The 1000-hr and 100-hr dead fuel moisture remained above normal across much of Southern California through October (**Fig 4**), but warm and dry conditions caused the dead fuel moisture to drop across Central California and by the middle of the month a few areas were at record low levels (**Fig 5**). There was little change to the below normal live fuel moisture, and it remains between 50% and 70% across most of the region (**Fig 6**).

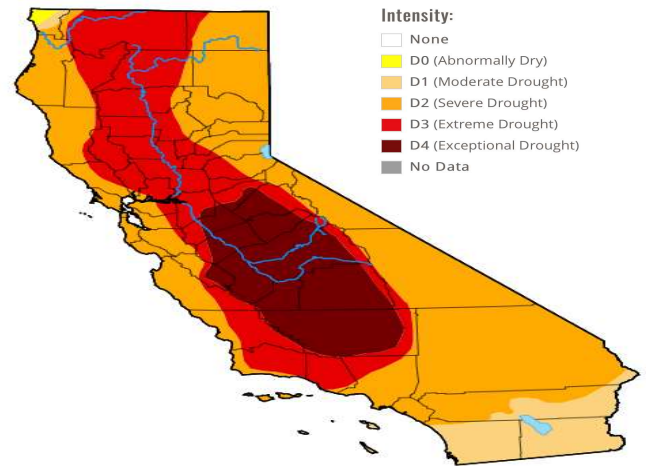


Fig 3: Drought Monitor October 27th, 2022

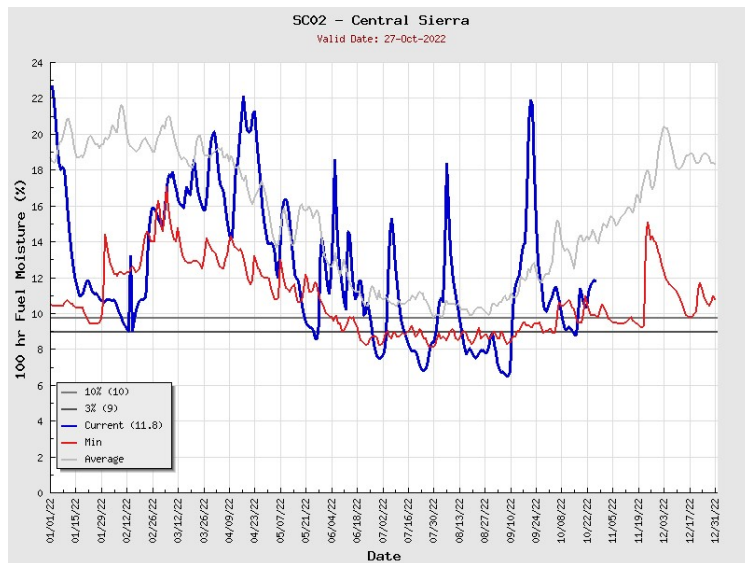


Fig 5: Central Sierra 100 hr Dead fuel moisture October 27th

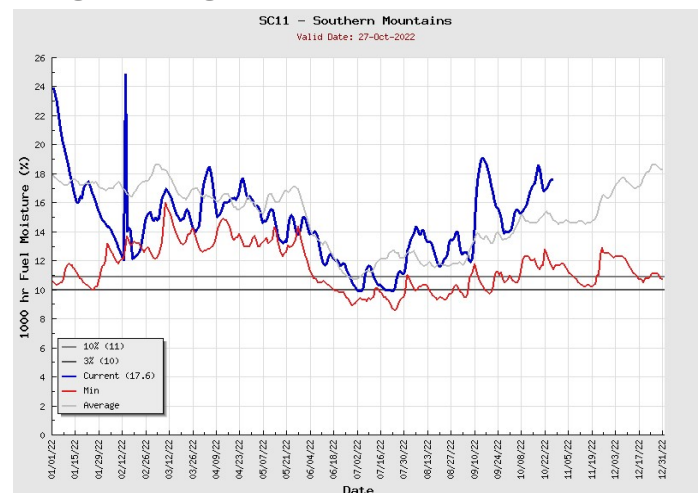


Fig 4: Southern Mountains 1000 hr Dead fuel moisture October 27th

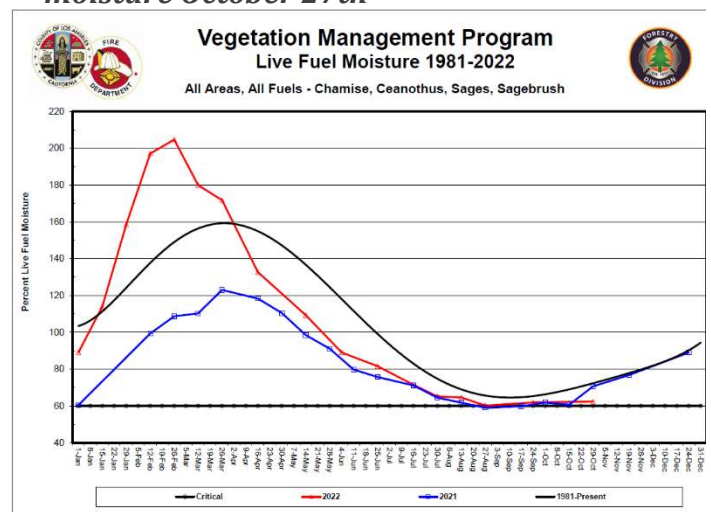


Fig 6: LA County Live Fuel Moisture October 27th

SOUTH OPS OUTLOOK

Sea surface temperatures remain above normal over the Gulf of Alaska and off the West Coast, with below normal sea surface temperatures over most of the Equatorial Pacific (**Fig 7**). Computer models show sea surface temperature anomalies will slowly cool over the Gulf of Alaska and off the West Coast but remain above normal through the winter months (**Fig 8**). Computer models also show sea surface temperatures anomalies will slowly warm over the Equatorial Pacific but remain below normal through the winter. Therefore, expect high pressure just off the California Coast to be the dominant feature November through February. This area of high pressure off the California Coast will most likely bring above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation to the region. There will be brief periods of showers and below normal temperatures as the high pressure moves to the west allowing Pacific troughs to drop down into California, but these periods are expected to be infrequent. Even though temperatures will likely be above normal and precipitation below normal, there will likely be enough precipitation for the potential for large fire to be normal through the winter. The amount of Santa Ana wind events across Southern California will likely be near to below normal.

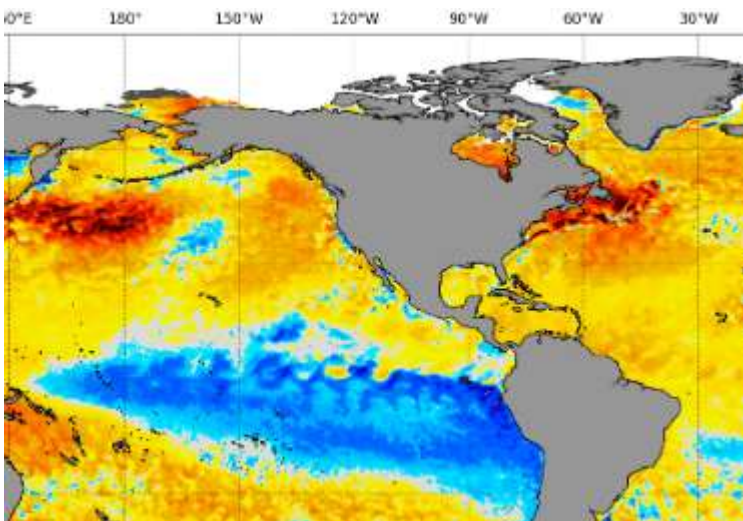


Fig 7: Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly, October 26th, 2022

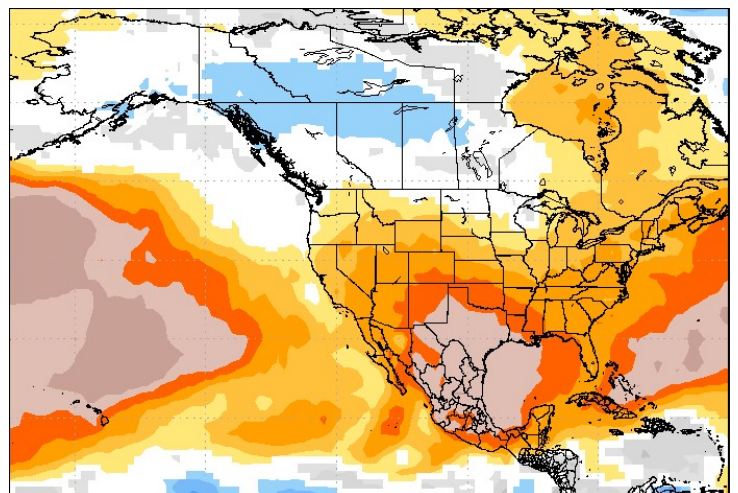
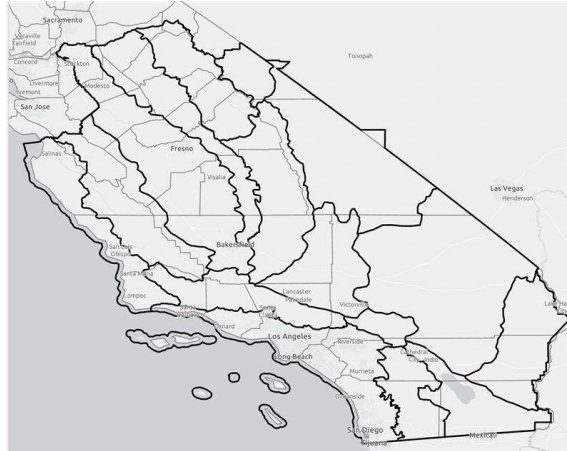


Fig 8: Forecast Temperature Anomalies for November through February, October 26th, 2022

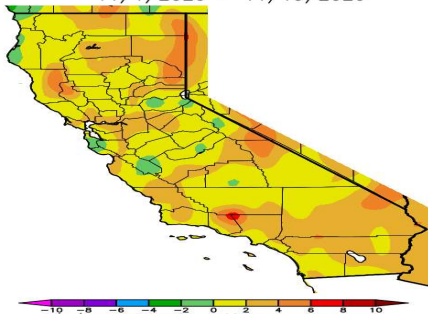


Maps with Counties and Select Intel Links used in the forecast



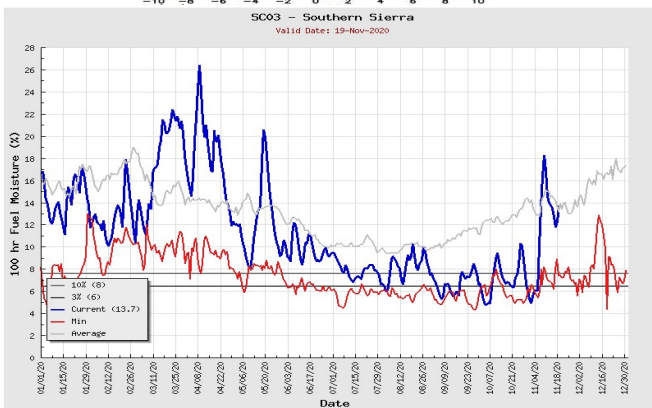
November 2022 – February 2023

Av. Max. Temperature dep from Ave (deg F)
11/1/2020 – 11/19/2020



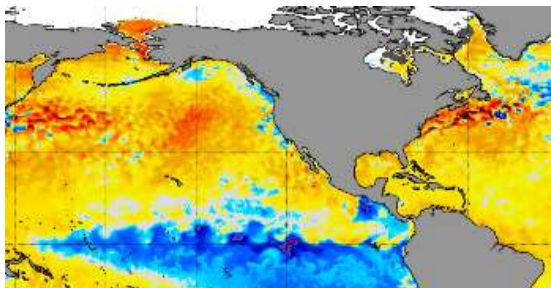
Climate

- <https://calclim.dri.edu/pages/anommaps.html>



100 hr dead fuel moisture

- https://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/fuelsFireDanger_Hundred.php



Current sea surface temperatures

- <https://www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/ocean/sst/anomaly/>