

RIVER AND WEATHER CONDITIONS

Prepared for the Joint Huntington/Pittsburgh Waterways Association Meeting 11/14/2018

National Weather Service Forecast Office, Pittsburgh PA

For the latest river and weather forecasts--<http://www.weather.gov/pittsburgh>

WEATHER RECAP

While precipitation once again ran above normal for the month, no flooding was observed on area rivers. However, stream flows continue to run high since we remain 16 inches above average for precipitation for the year across the upper Ohio River Basin. Temperatures were only slightly above average, with a period of cooler highs and lows through the middle of the month.

OUTLOOK

Rest of this week of the 12th: Temperatures continue to run below average with broad upper troughing across the eastern continental US. Low pressure system will approach tomorrow bringing a wintry mix, changing to rain across the region. Some headlines may be issued for winter conditions. Rainfall will be around an inch over the Cheat and Monongahela. Less as you go north and west. Some rises will be observed on the rivers as a result of precipitation. Current Grays Landing Forecast: 14 feet. Dry but cool weather is then expected for the remainder of the week/weekend under high pressure.

Outlook for week of Nov 19nd: Upper trough weakens but generally expecting cool temperatures to continue. Weak system for the start of the week followed by mainly dry conditions. Some snow showers off the lakes. Precipitation generally less than an a half inch.

Outlook for week of Nov 26th: Amplified low pressure system possible for the start of the 26th. Temperatures run near normal, with precipitation around an inch possible.

Outlook for December: Temperatures near to below normal and near normal precipitation.

Winter Outlook: See forecast below. As a result of El Nino, we generally expect temperatures above normal and precipitation above normal. However, this is a weak El Nino and as a result, there is more uncertainty. In our region, in the past, weak El Nino's have produced near to below normal temperatures with above average snows.

HIGH WATER POTENTIAL

As we transition into the winter season, high water potential remains above normal. Streamflows remain near 300% or higher across much of the Monongahela, Allegheny, and Ohio. 1.50-2.00 of rain is needed in 6-12 hours for rises near bank full.

<i>Location</i>	<i>October 2018 Precipitation</i>	<i>Departure (Inches)</i>
Pittsburgh	3.59	+1.30

<i>Location</i>	<i>October Average Temperature</i>	<i>Departure Degrees</i>	<i>Extreme High</i>	<i>Extreme Low</i>
Pittsburgh	53.4	+0.7	85 on Oct 8	29 on Oct 25

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Average monthly precipitation	2.7	2.39	2.95	3.11	3.95	4.3	3.83	3.48	3.11	2.29	3.23	2.85	38.19
Average High Temperature	35.7	39.3	49.2	61.7	70.8	79.1	82.5	81.4	74.3	62.6	51.2	39.4	60.7
Average Low Temperature	21.1	23	30	40.2	49.3	58.4	62.8	61.5	54	42.9	34.7	25.3	42
Average monthly snowfall	11.8	10.3	7.6	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	2	8.3	41.9

Pittsburgh Forecast:

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
								
Partly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	60% 80% Wintry Mix Likely then Rain	80% 70% Rain/Snow then Snow Likely	30% Chance Rain/Snow then Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
High: 35 °F	Low: 28 °F	High: 37 °F	Low: 32 °F	High: 41 °F	Low: 32 °F	High: 42 °F	Low: 29 °F	High: 39 °F

8-14 Day Outlook... Below normal temperatures and precipitation are forecast.

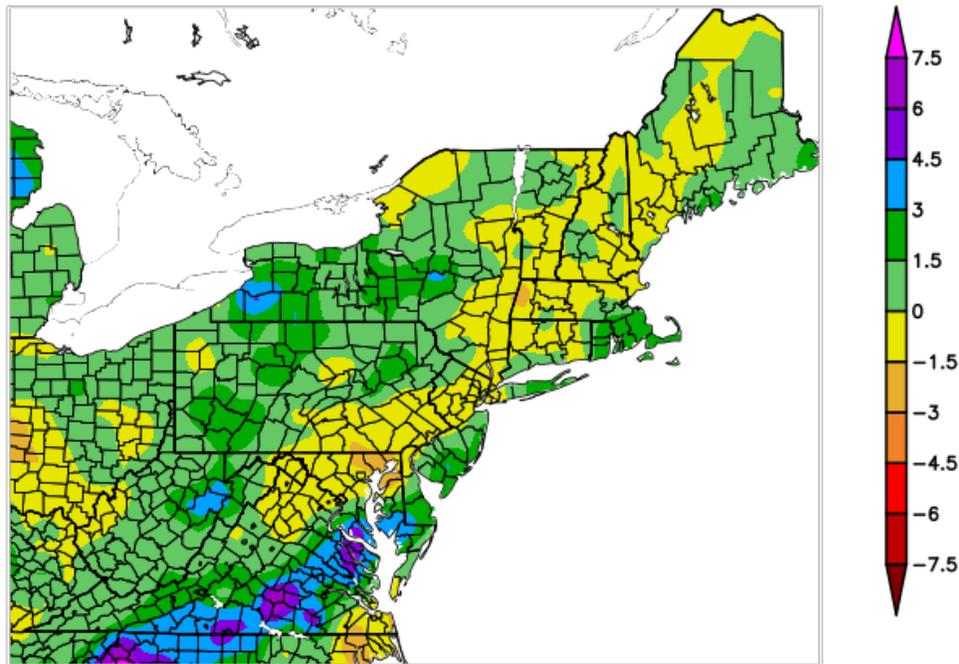
Jan-Feb-March Outlook... Above average precipitation is likely to continue for the three month period. Watch for a possible warmup in late Feb/March.

Average Yearly rainfall Pittsburgh: 38.19 inches **In 2017:** 42.15(+3.96) **So Far in 2018:** 50.12 (+16.69)

Totals for: 2016: 35.01; 2015:40.56 2014: 36.84 2013: 36.65 inches; 2012: 41.74 inches; 2011: 44.24 inches

Average Yearly snowfall Pittsburgh: 41.9 inches. **2017-18:** 59.8(17.9); 2016-17 Season: 32.0(-9.2), 2015-16: 29.6 inches (-12.3) 2014-15: 47.2 in 2013-14: 63.4 in; 2012-13: 57 in; 2011-12: 37 in; 2010-11: 57 in; 2009-10: 77 in

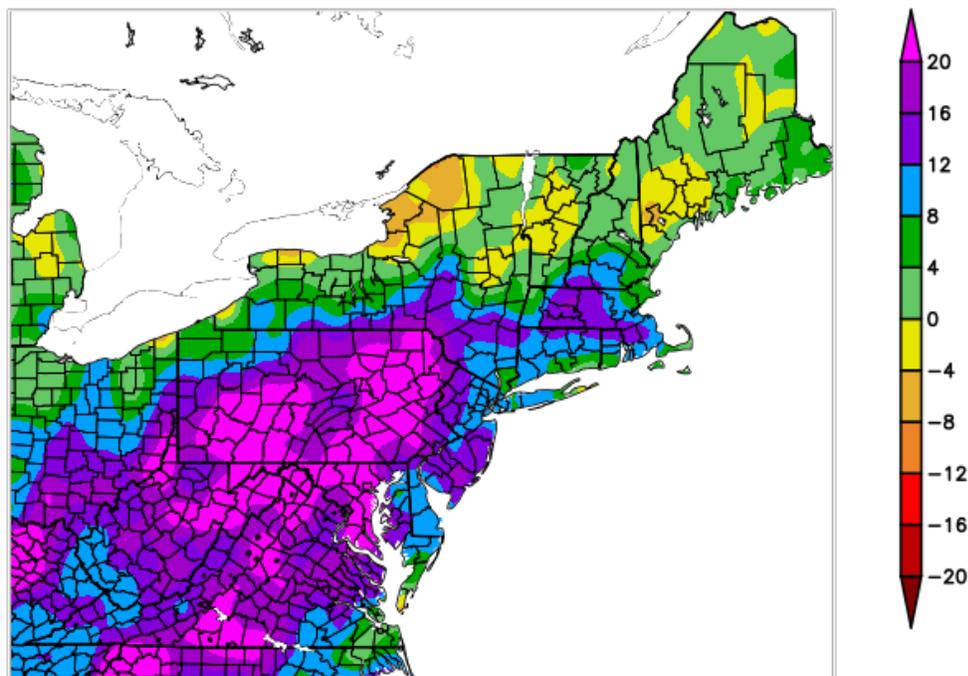
Departure from Normal Precipitation (in) 10/1/2018 – 10/31/2018



Generated 11/10/2018 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

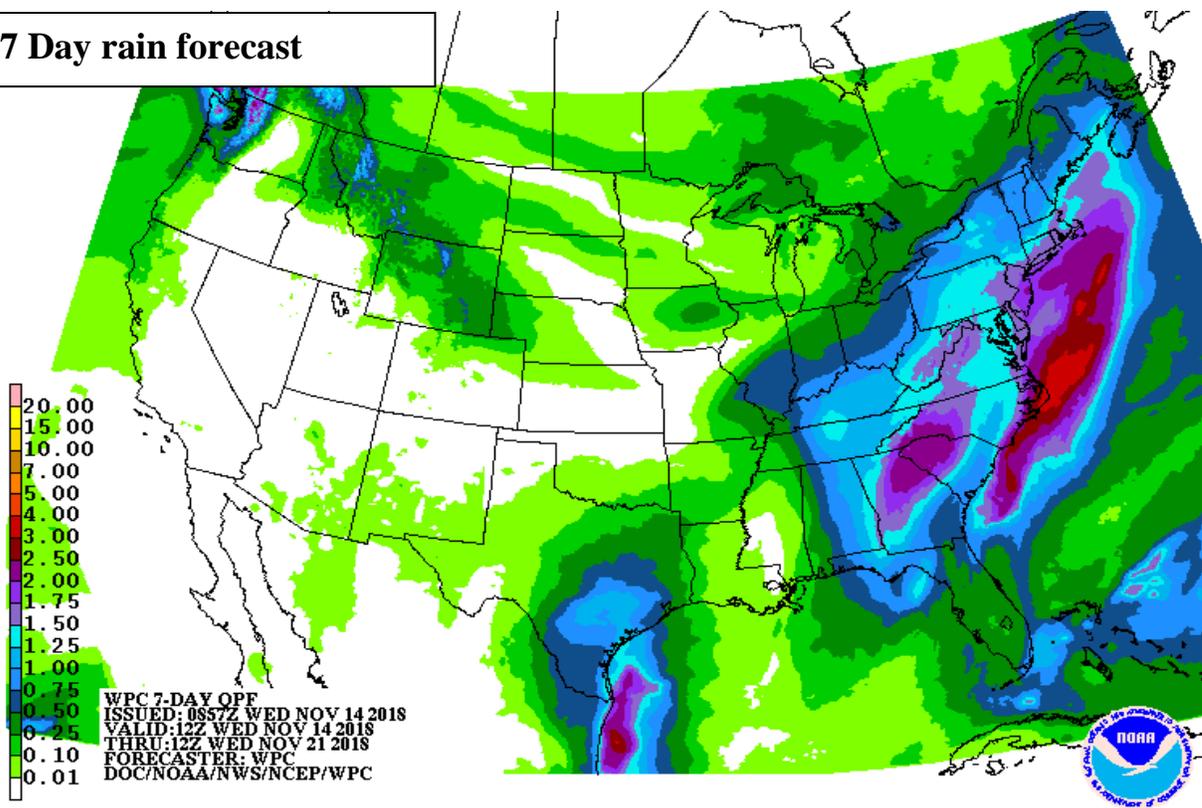
Departure from Normal Precipitation (in) 1/1/2018 – 11/13/2018



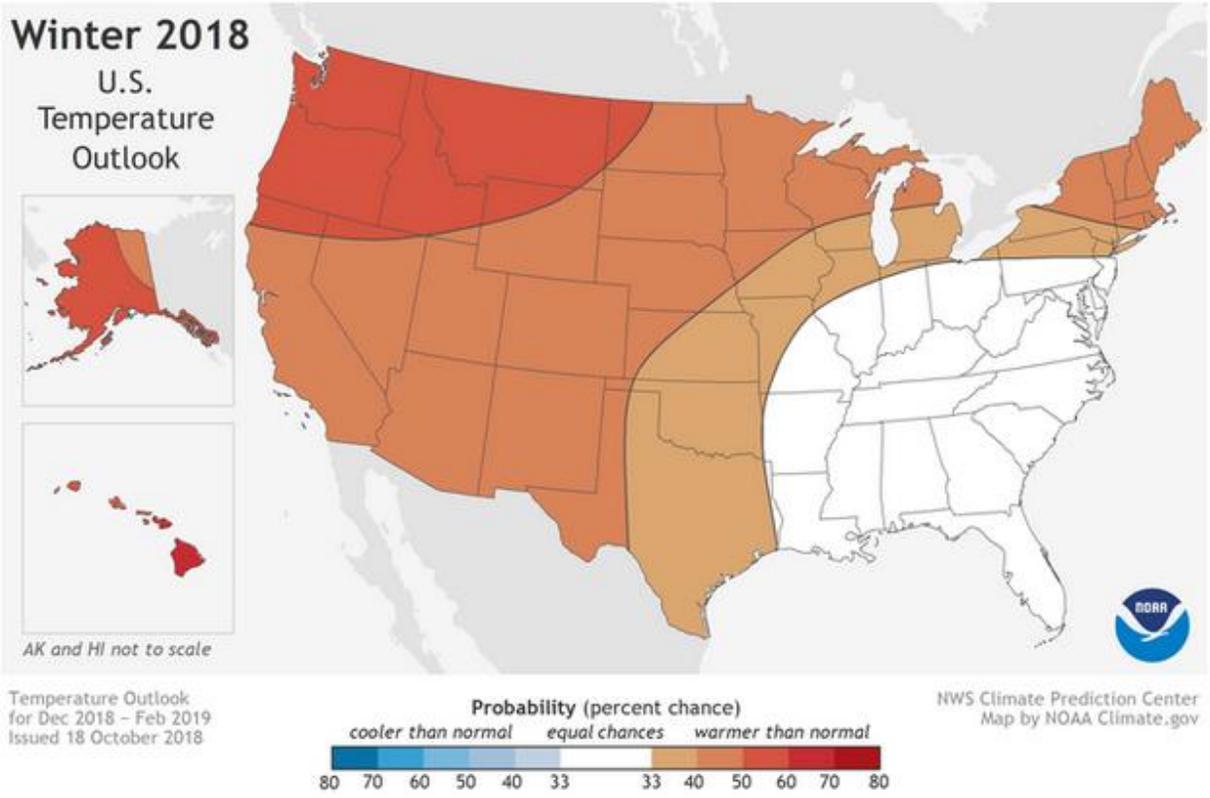
Generated 11/14/2018 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

7 Day rain forecast



Winter Outlook

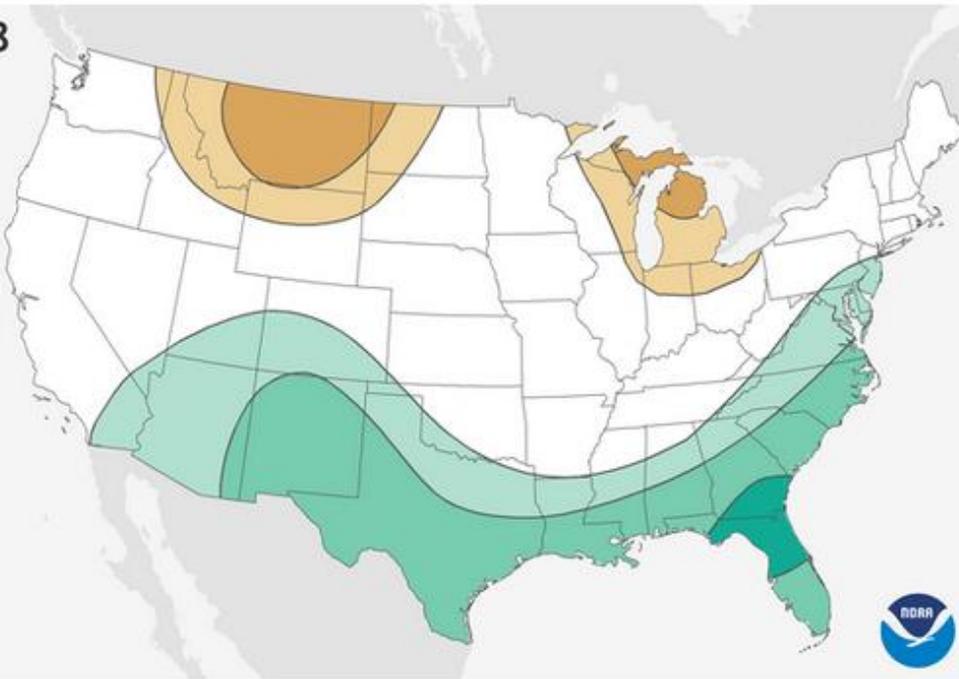


Winter 2018

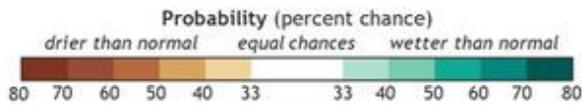
U.S. Precipitation Outlook



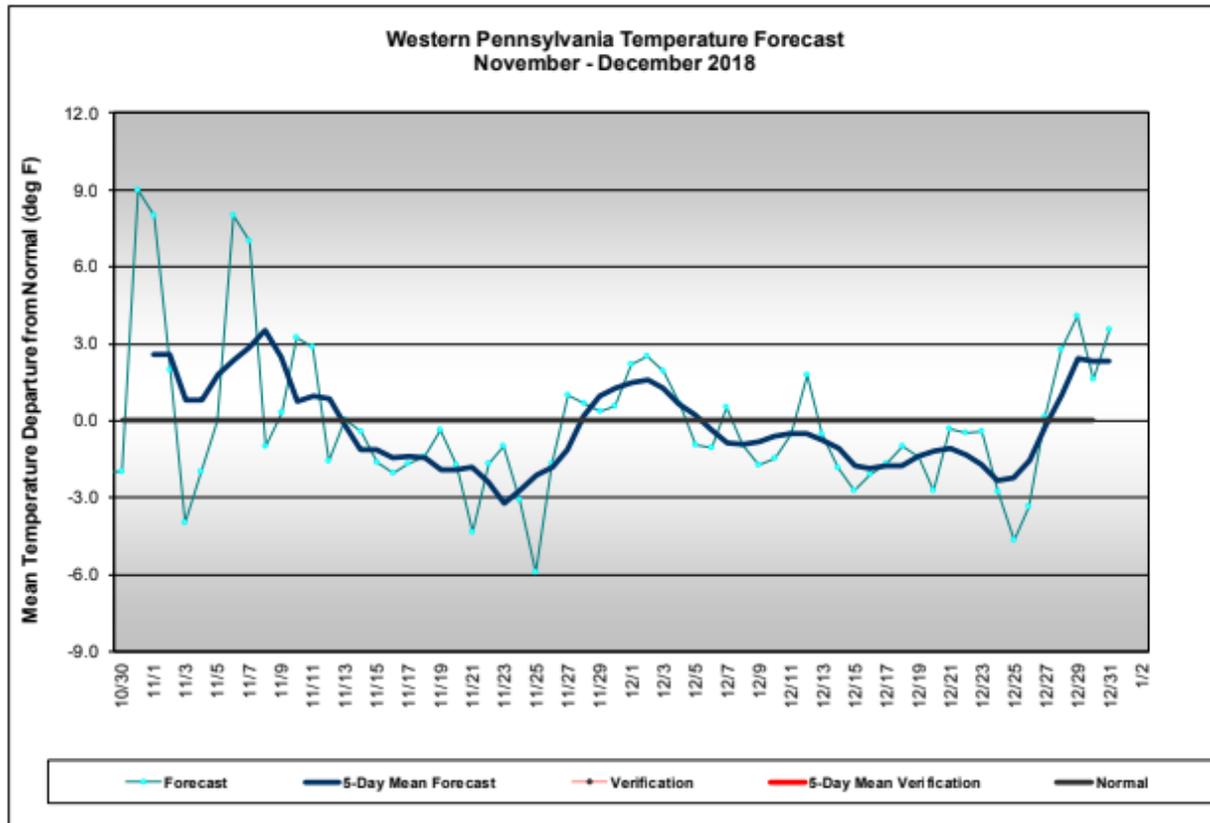
AK and HI not to scale



Precipitation Outlook for Dec 2018 - Feb 2019
Issued 18 October 2018



NWS Climate Prediction Center
Map by NOAA Climate.gov



Probability of a white Christmas – 17%