SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON® | Fire Sciences

Predicting Wildfire Risk

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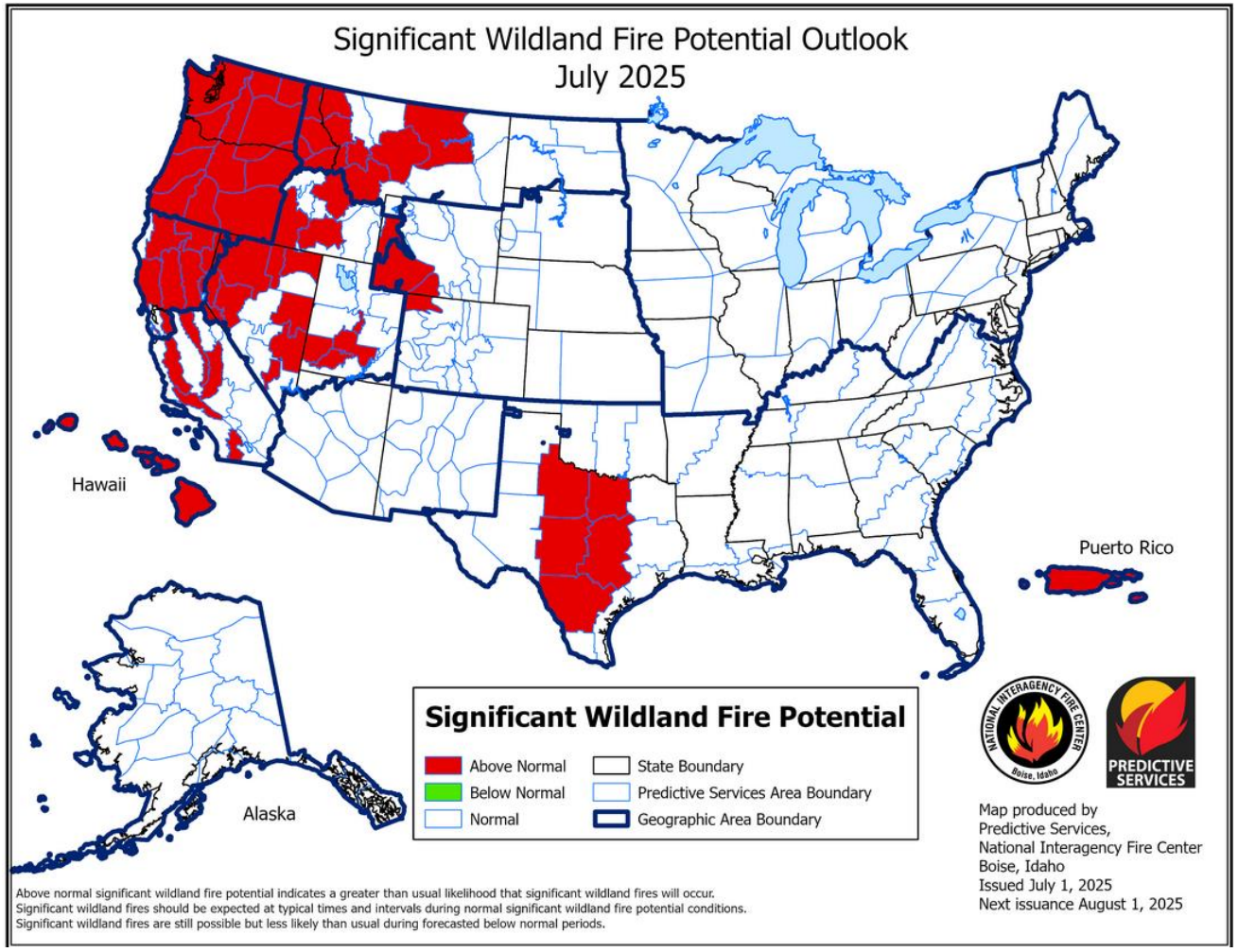
Fire Science Expert

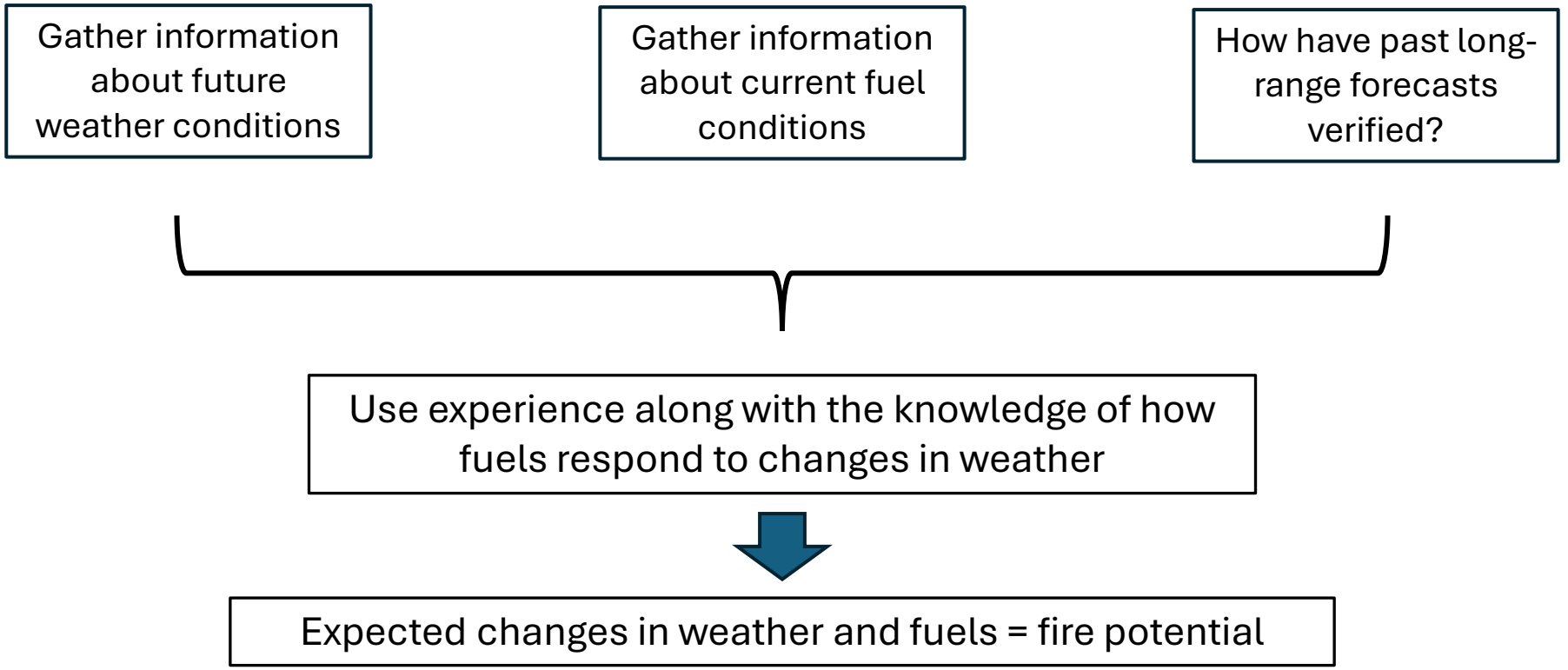
Southern California Edison



Predictive Services Wildfire Season Outlook

- Prepared locally (GACC level)
- Produced each month year round
- Four month look ahead of weather and fuel conditions
- Shows above/below normal wildfire potential

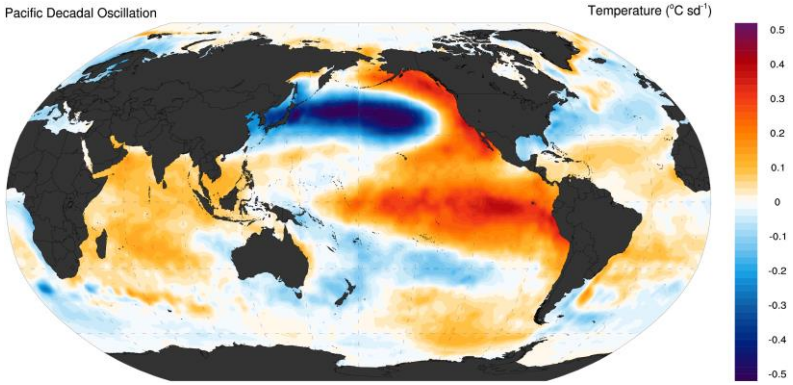
Seasonal Outlook Development Methodology



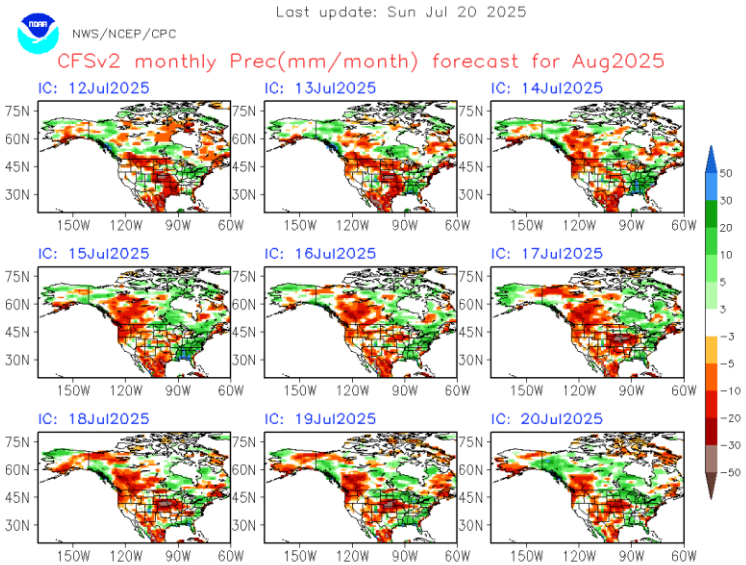
Pacific Decadal Oscillation

Data used to assess long-range wildfire risk:

- Sea surface temperature anomalies
- Long-range models (CFS)
- Climate Prediction Center
- Drought outlooks



CFS Forecasts



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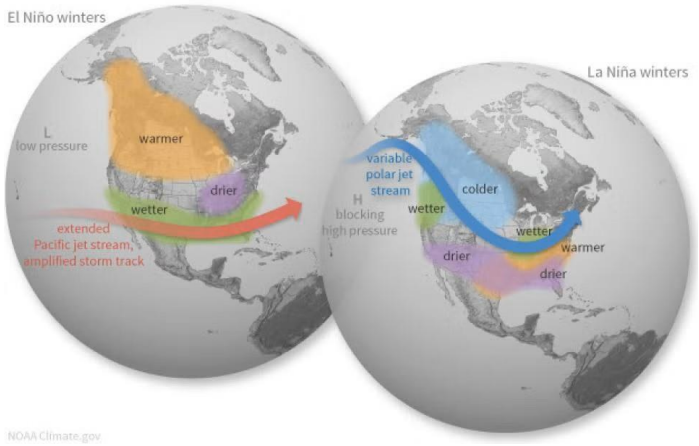
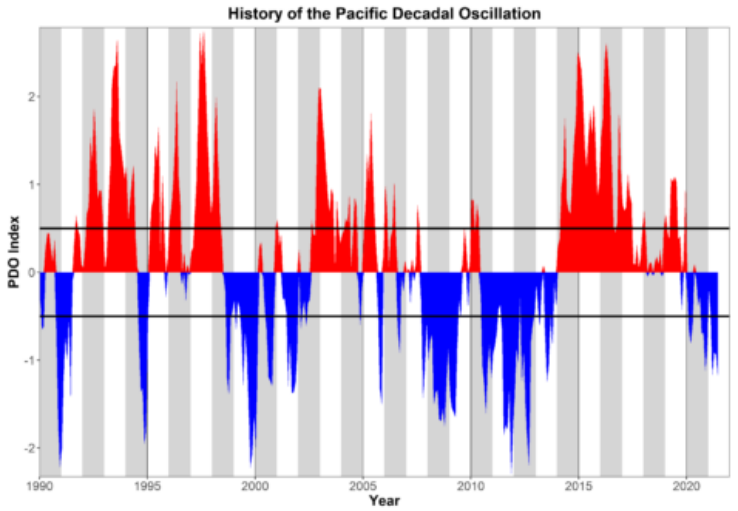
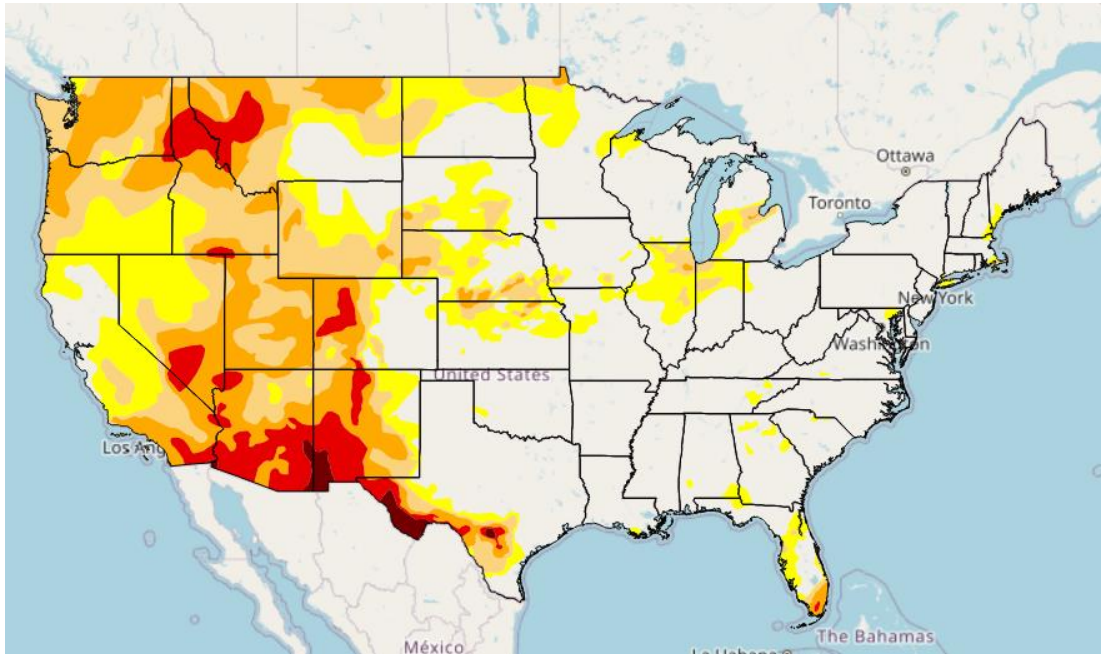
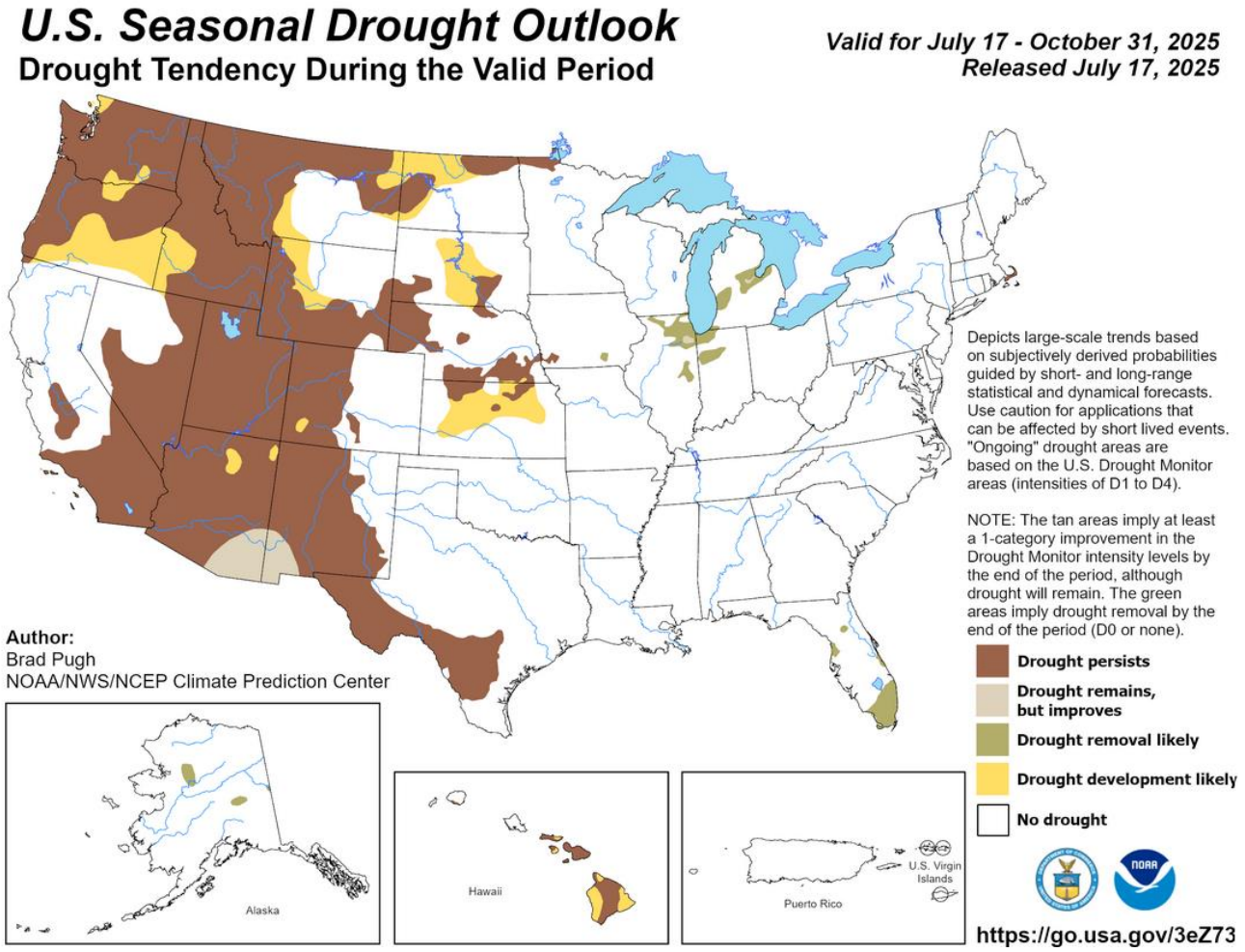




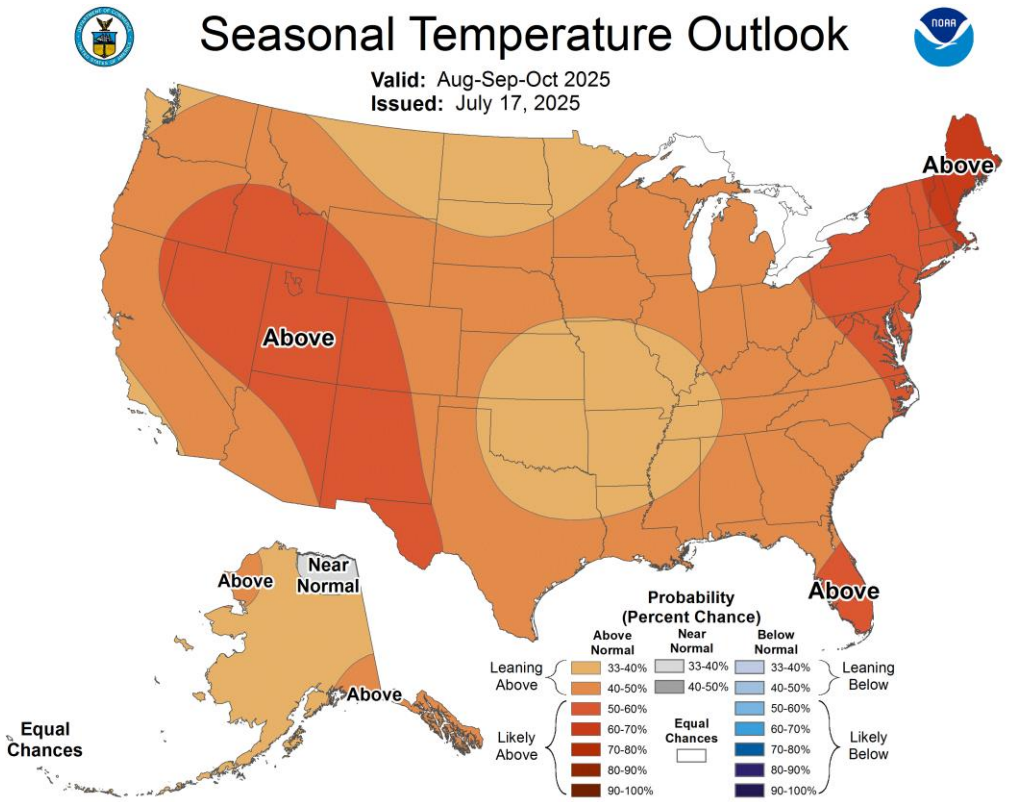
What role does drought play on wildfire activity?

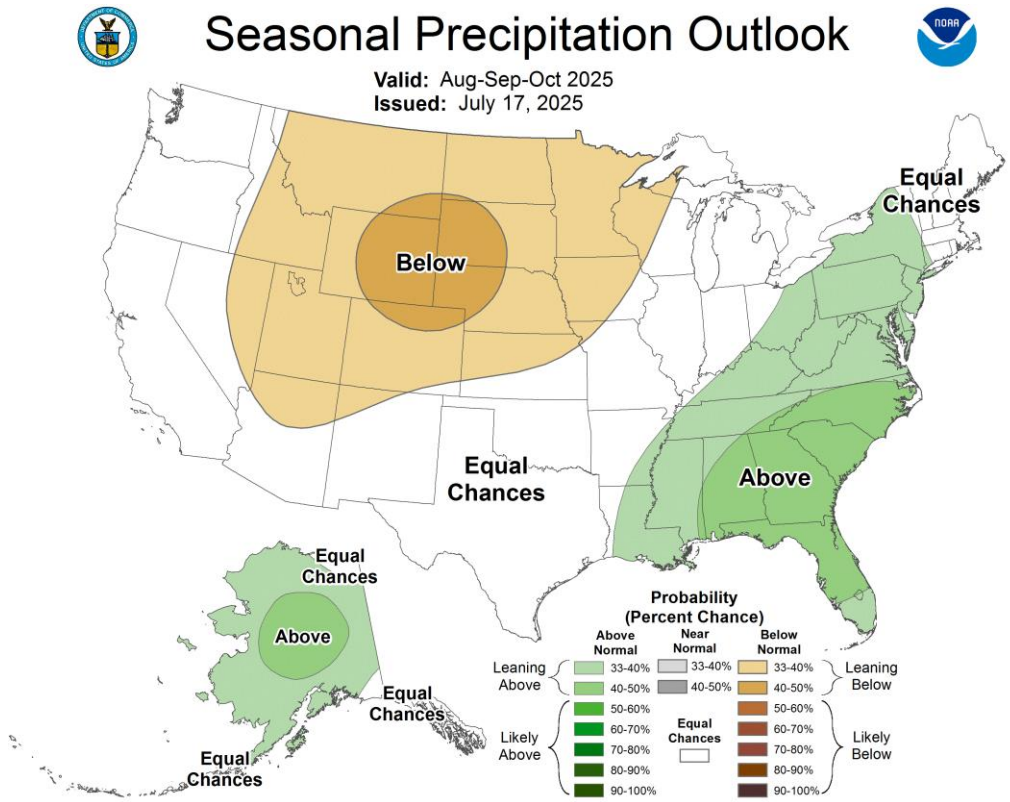
- Long-term vs short-term?





Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Outlooks



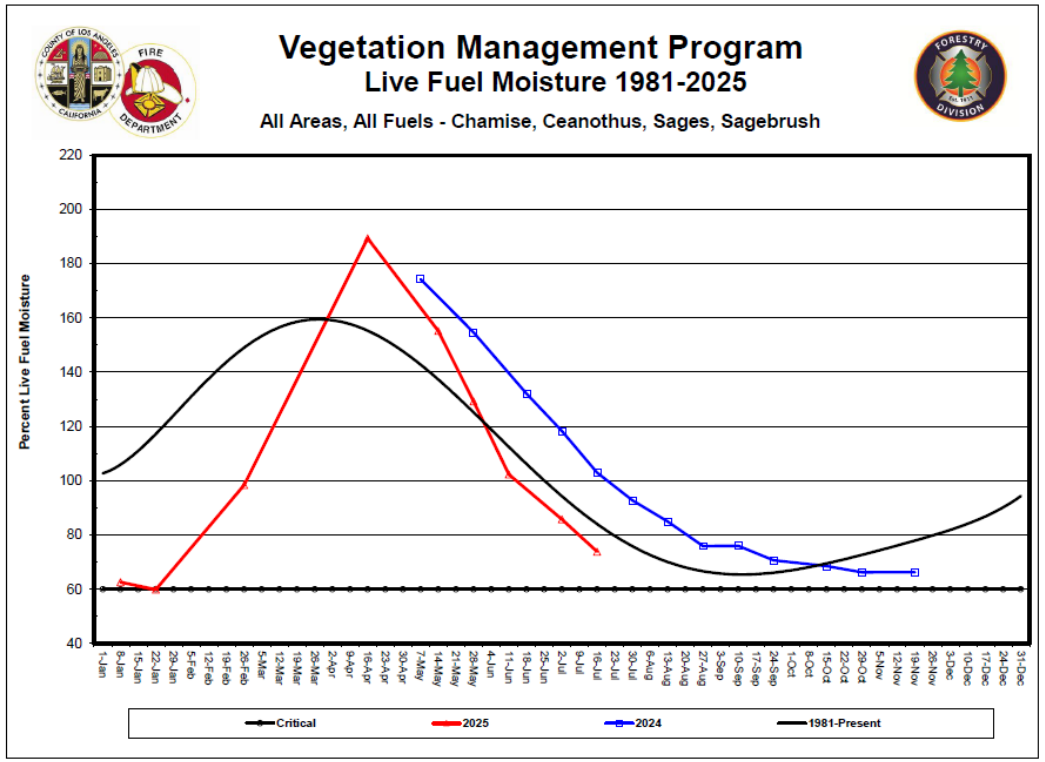


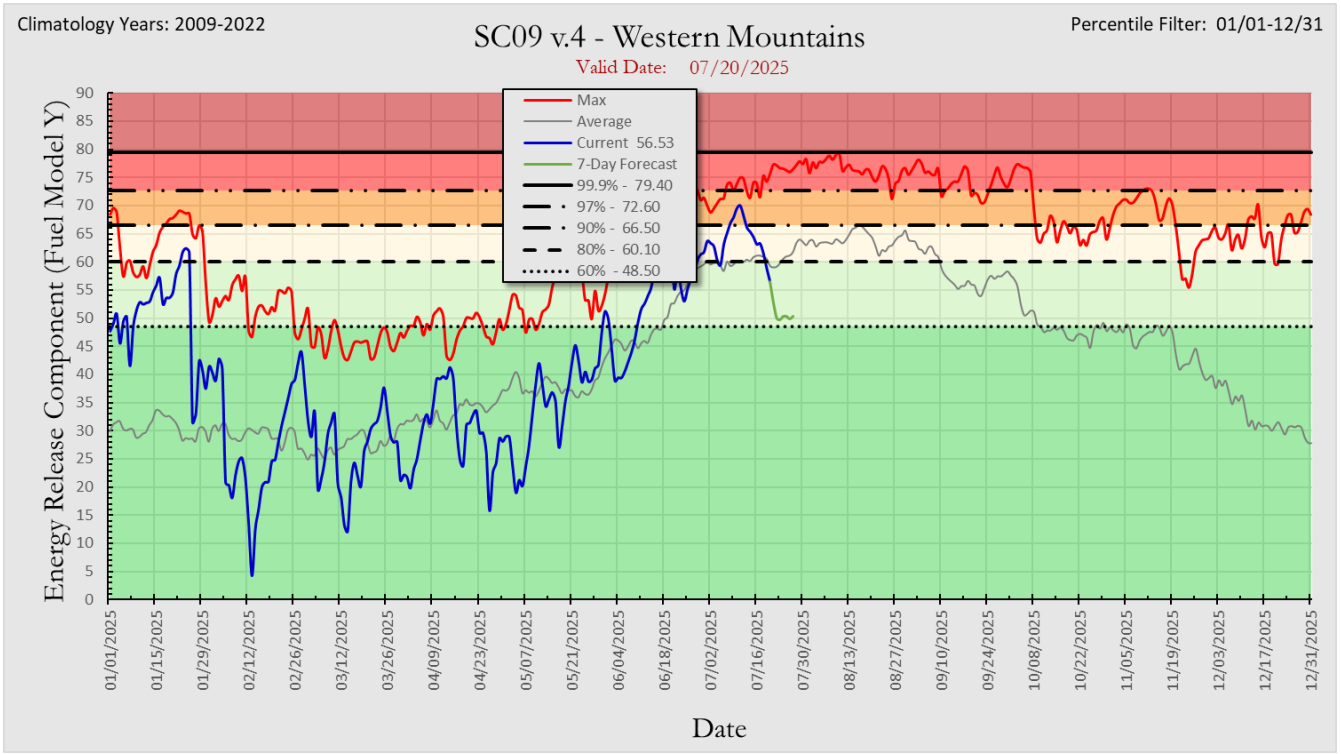
Assessing Current Fuel Conditions

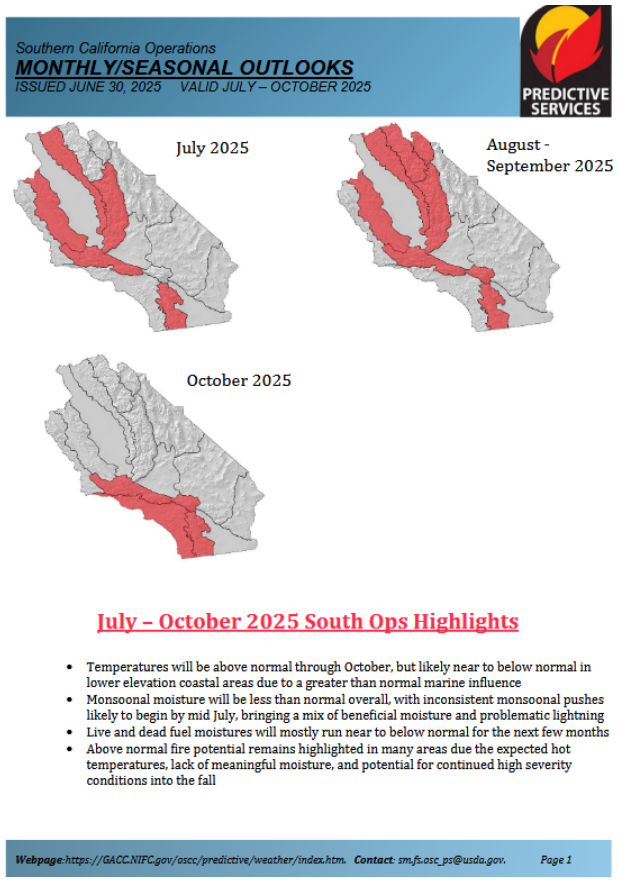
How dry are the fuels?
Are there significant areas of brush die back or tree mortality?
What are fuels like within recent burn scar areas?

How will the expected weather effect fuel conditions?

Using forecasted weather to make assumptions about wildfire activity






Southern California Operations
MONTHLY/SEASONAL OUTLOOKS
ISSUED JUNE 30, 2025 VALID JULY – OCTOBER 2025
PREDICTIVE SERVICES
July 2025
August - September 2025
October 2025
July – October 2025 South Ops Highlights
- Temperatures will be above normal through October, but likely near to below normal in lower elevation coastal areas due to a greater than normal marine influence
- Monsoonal moisture will be less than normal overall, with inconsistent monsoonal pushes likely to begin by mid July, bringing a mix of beneficial moisture and problematic lightning
- Live and dead fuel moistures will mostly run near to below normal for the next few months
- Above normal fire potential remains highlighted in many areas due the expected hot temperatures, lack of meaningful moisture, and potential for continued high severity conditions into the fall
Webpage: https://GACC.NIFC.gov/oscc/predictive/weather/index.htm. Contact: sm.fs.osc_ps@usda.gov. Page 1

Who benefits from Seasonal outlooks?

- Fire agencies
- Emergency managers
- Utilities
- Investors
- Insurers

Seasonal outlooks are designed to help determine:

- Situational Awareness
- Decision support
- Staffing
- Resource Allocation
- Budgets

We produce a one-page fire season outlook at Southern California Edison to show areas of low, moderate, or high fire potential based on anticipated weather and fuels conditions for the next three months.

The outlook is produced every month and looks three months ahead.

This information is used to help determine:

- The frequency and timing of vegetation management work efforts that should occur
- If extra inspections may need to be conducted
- The potential number of pro-active de-energizations that may occur

Thank You!

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