

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA DROUGHT REPORT

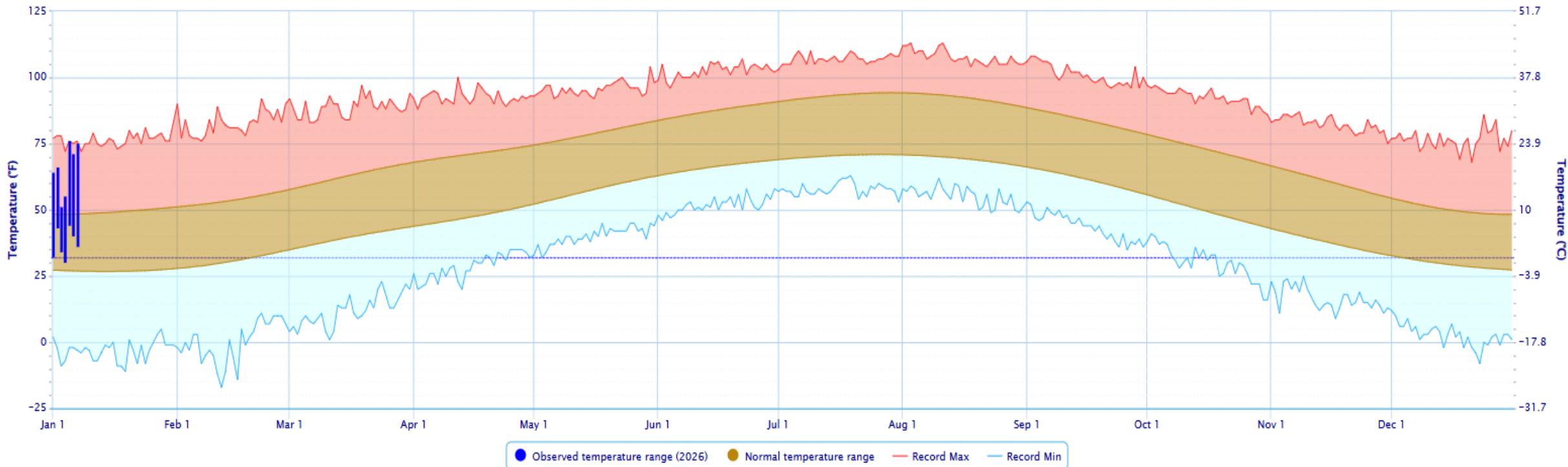
Benjamin Matsumura
Water Resources Manager

O: 405.778.6121
bmatsumura@acogok.org

January 2026



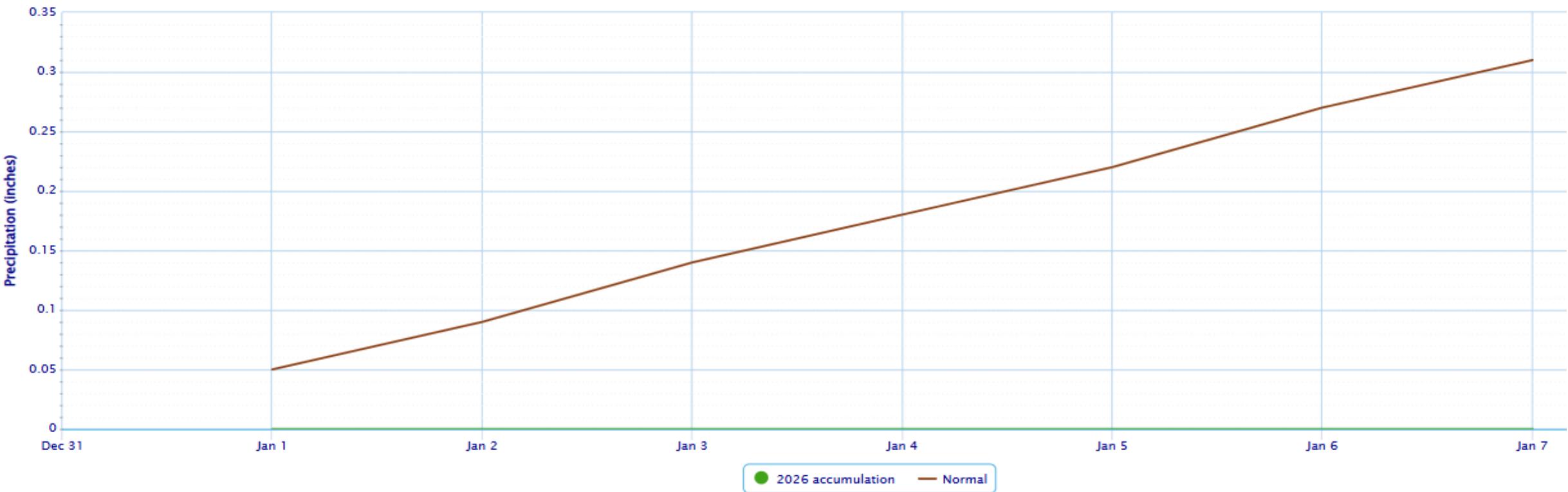
TEMPERATURE PLOT FOR OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA FOR 2026



MONTHLY TEMPERATURE TREND:

Temperatures continue to linger above normal into January; ongoing evaporation from soils and reservoirs.

PRECIPITATION PLOT FOR OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA FOR 2026



MONTHLY PRECIPITATION TREND:

No accumulation yet in 2026, trending below average for early January.

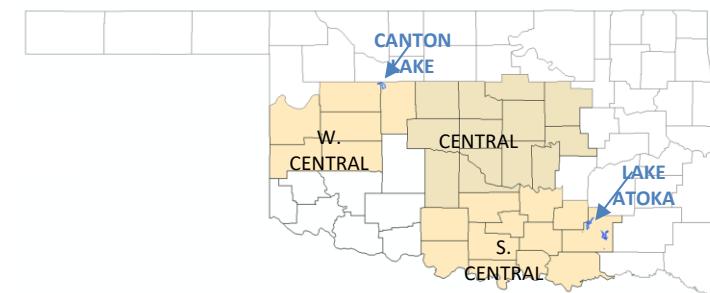
RAINFALL SUMMARIES



Calendar Year	1-Jan-25 through		8-Jan-26			
Climate Division	Total Rainfall	Departure from Normal	Pct of Normal	Rank since 1921	Driest on Record	Wettest on Record
W. Central	29.20"	+0.60"	102%	34th wettest	14.47"	43.73"
Central	40.28"	+2.34"	106%	24th wettest	20.19"	53.96"
E. Central	51.79"	+5.08"	111%	14th wettest	23.39"	74.32"
S. Central	44.06"	+2.88"	107%	27th wettest	20.12"	72.90"
Statewide	39.02"	+2.20"	106%	28th wettest	21.21"	54.29"
Water Year	1-Oct-25 through		8-Jan-26			
Climate Division	Total Rainfall	Departure from Normal	Pct of Normal	Rank since 1921	Driest on Record	Wettest on Record
W. Central	1.70"	-4.04"	30%	8th driest	0.28"	12.05"
Central	4.98"	-3.44"	59%	27th driest	1.10"	16.34"
E. Central	6.73"	-5.20"	56%	23rd driest	2.04"	21.92"
S. Central	4.60"	-5.56"	45%	16th driest	1.27"	22.29"
Statewide	4.55"	-3.88"	54%	20th driest	1.66"	15.52"
Winter	1-Dec-25 through		8-Jan-26			
Climate Division	Total Rainfall	Departure from Normal	Pct of Normal	Rank since 1921	Driest on Record	Wettest on Record
W. Central	0.03"	-1.39"	2%	3rd driest	0.01"	4.45"
Central	0.15"	-2.15"	6%	1st driest	0.16"	8.10"
E. Central	0.22"	-3.47"	6%	1st driest	0.26"	10.51"
S. Central	0.11"	-2.95"	4%	1st driest	0.05"	8.78"
Statewide	0.13"	-2.29"	5%	1st driest	0.26"	6.32"

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA TAKEAWAY:

Average 2026 rainfall totals are above normal due to abnormally wet spring – 4th quarter totals are still below yearly average in major reservoir areas.



NOAA ONE-MONTH TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

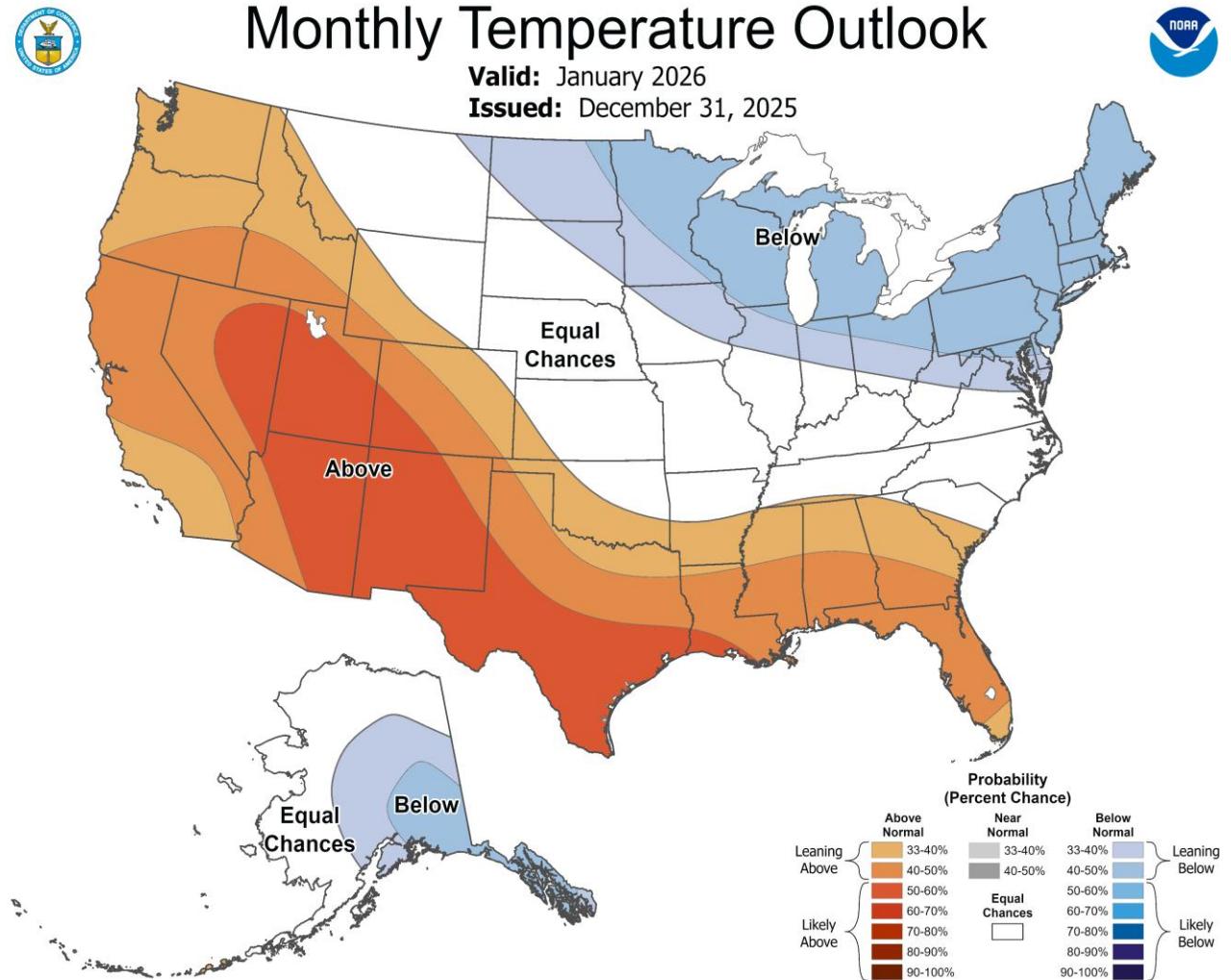


JANUARY TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK:

White areas shown as EC (Equal Chance) on these maps represent areas with no strong climate signals based on current data.

Neither warm or cool conditions are favored for this month, so plan for a range of weather conditions.

[Climate Prediction Center - Updated OFFICIAL 30-Day Forecasts \(noaa.gov\)/](https://www.noaa.gov/climate-prediction-center-updated-official-30-day-forecasts)



NOAA ONE-MONTH PRECIPITATION OUTLOOK

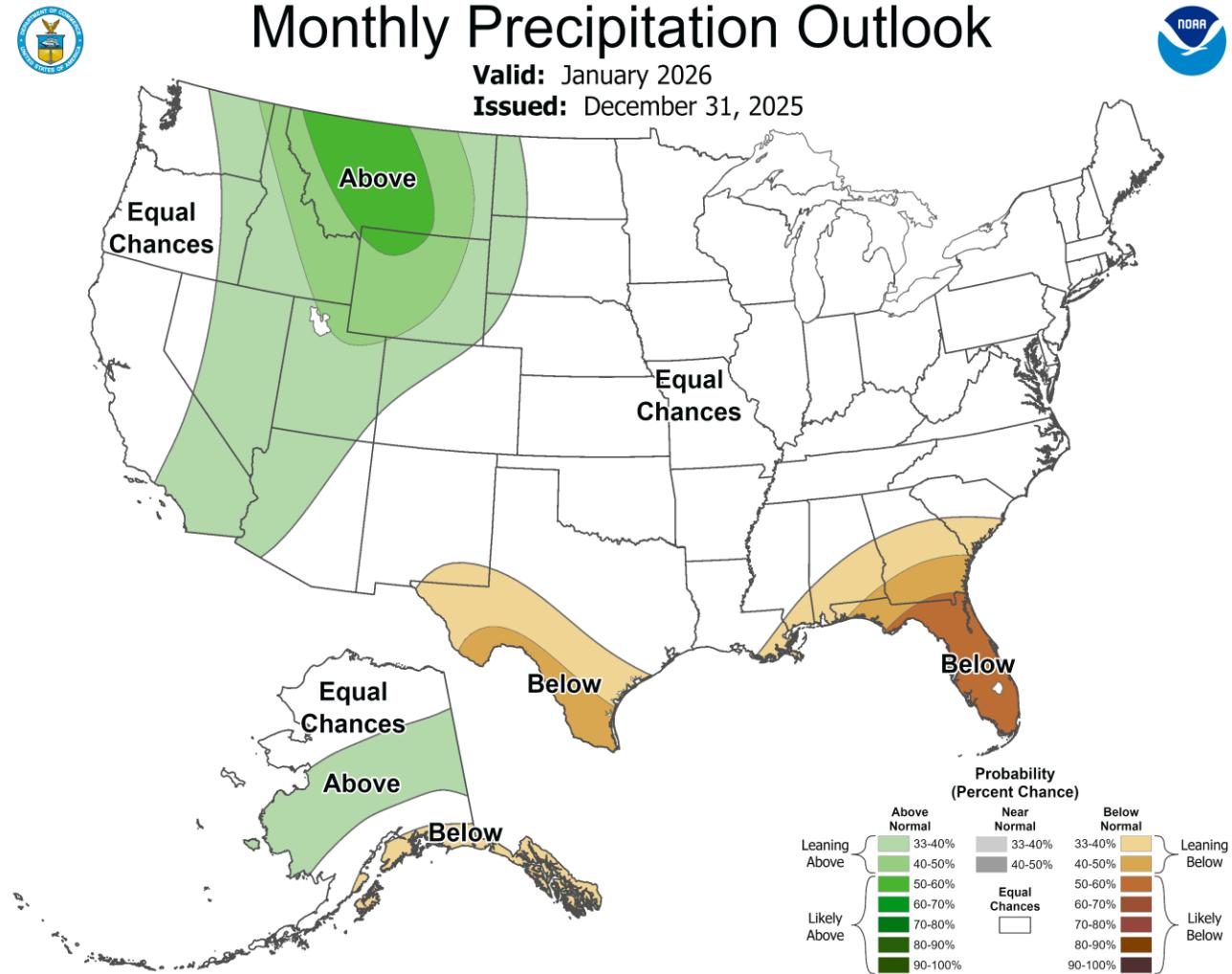


JANUARY PRECIPITATION OUTLOOK:

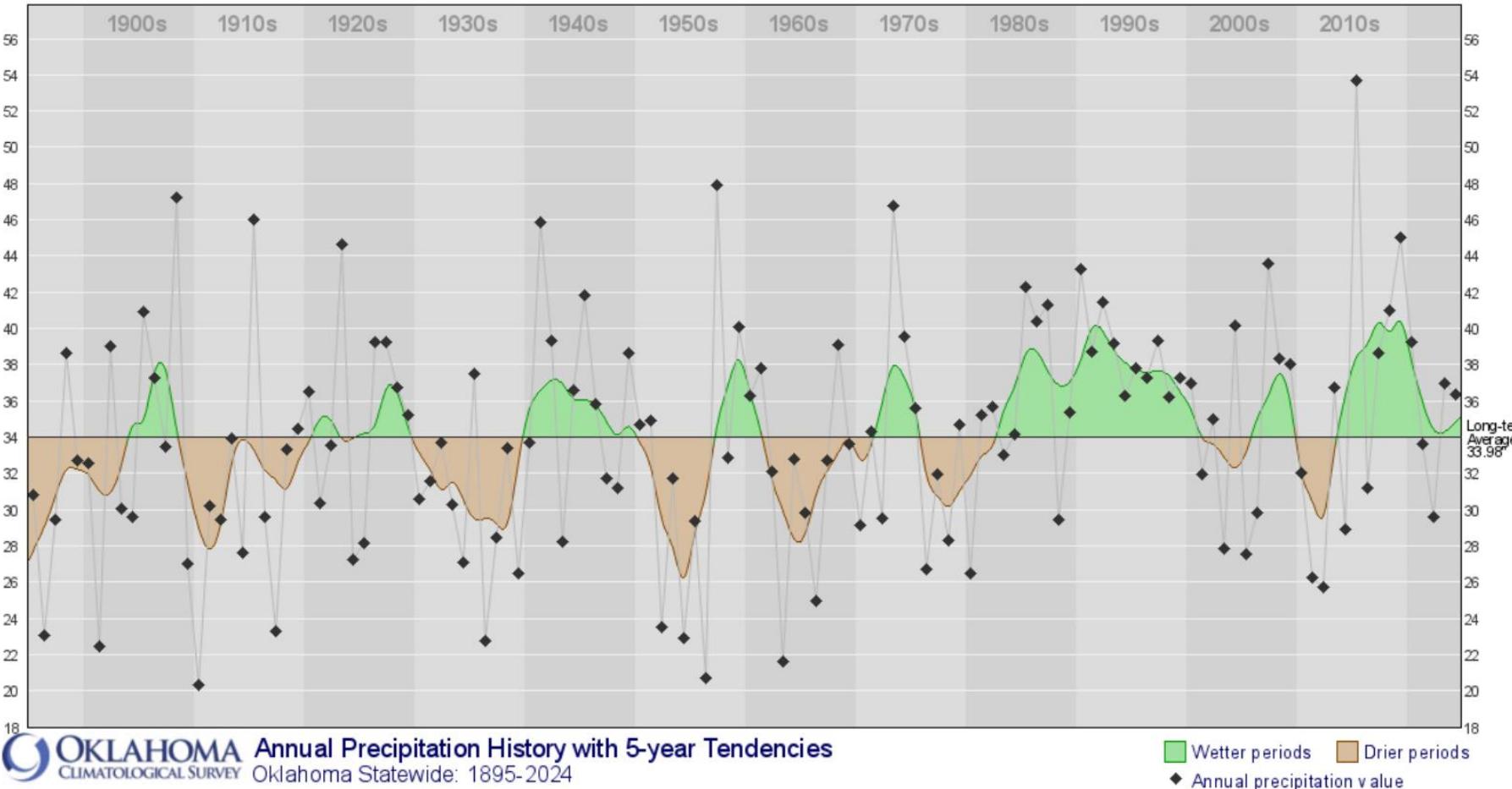
White areas shown as EC (Equal Chance) on these maps represent areas with no strong climate signals based on current data.

No clear indicators of above or below-average rainfall; expect little change in drought conditions for January.

[Climate Prediction Center - Updated OFFICIAL 30-Day Forecasts \(noaa.gov\)/](https://www.noaa.gov/climate-prediction-center)



ANNUAL PRECIPITATION HISTORY WITH 5-YEAR TENDENCIES



OKLAHOMA CLIMATOLOGICAL SURVEY Annual Precipitation History with 5-year Tendencies Oklahoma Statewide: 1895-2024

Wetter periods Drier periods
◆ Annual precipitation value

HISTORICAL RAINFALL TRENDS:

- 2026 still part of a wet cycle overall
- Trending towards a drought cycle based on 5 – 8 year patterns
- We are still following current historic rainfall patterns

U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR - OKLAHOMA

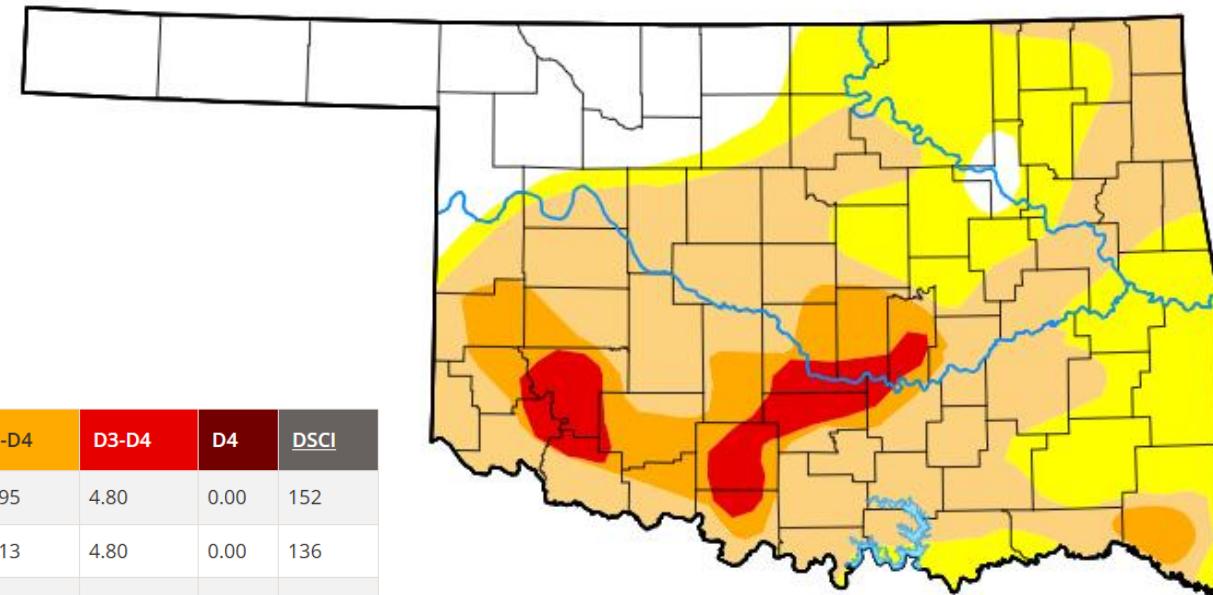


OVER 2 MILLION OKLAHOMANS CURRENTLY AFFECTED BY DROUGHT:

Central Oklahoma remains in moderate to severe drought as of December 31, 2025.

Week	Date	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4	DSCL
Current	2025-12-30	20.87	79.13	53.74	13.95	4.80	0.00	152
Last Week to Current	2025-12-23	26.30	73.70	44.79	13.13	4.80	0.00	136
3 Months Ago to Current	2025-09-30	64.08	35.92	4.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	41
Start of Calendar Year to Current	2024-12-31	70.28	29.72	5.52	0.33	0.00	0.00	36
Start of Water Year to Current	2025-09-30	64.08	35.92	4.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	41
One Year Ago to Current	2024-12-31	70.28	29.72	5.52	0.33	0.00	0.00	36

[Estimated Population](#) in Drought Areas: **2,337,581**



Intensity

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



U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR NATIONWIDE MAP

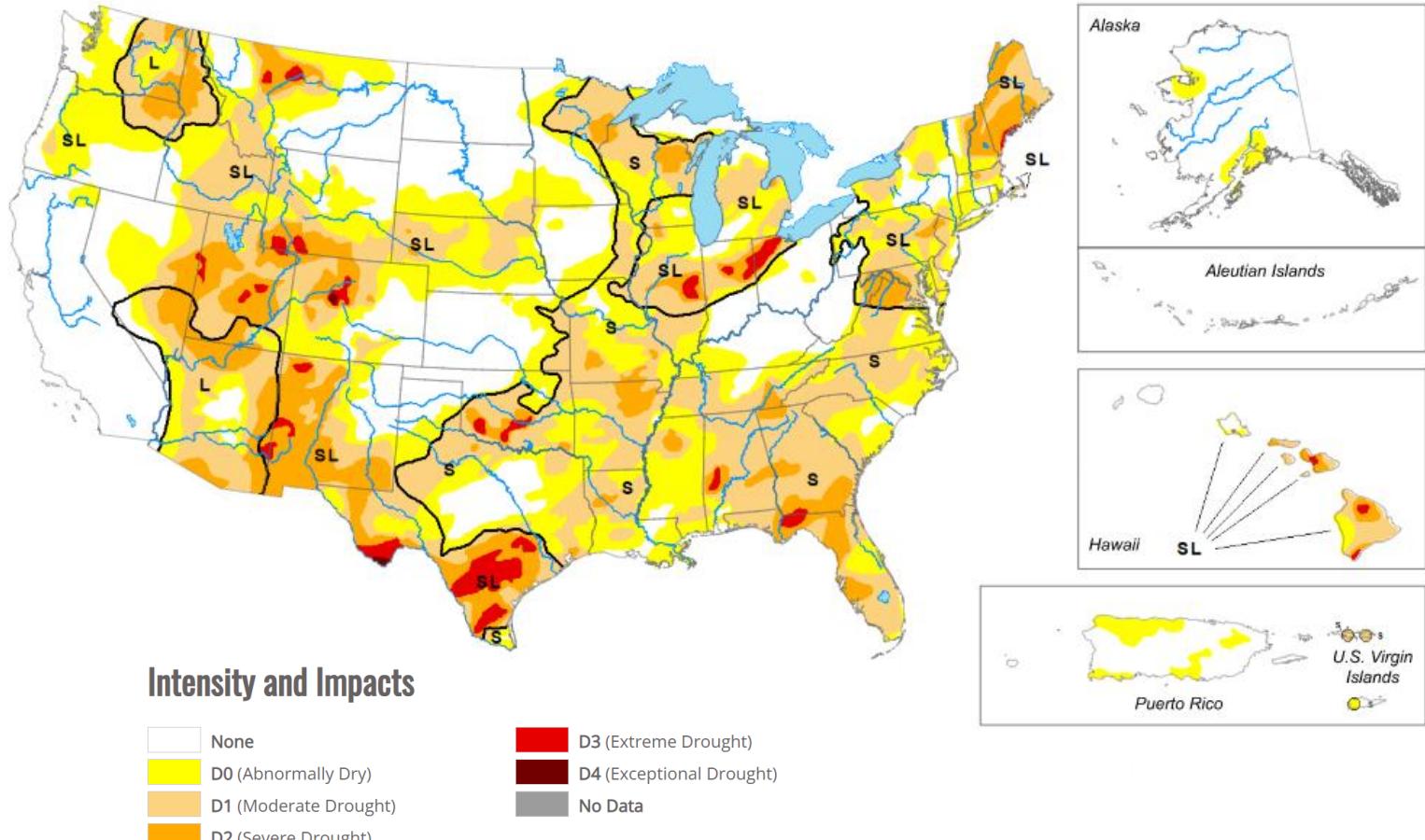


Map released: December 31, 2025

Data valid: December 30, 2025

NATIONAL DROUGHT IMPACTS:

Nationwide droughts continue to impact roughly 70% of the US, with major reservoir levels in the West and South especially stressed.



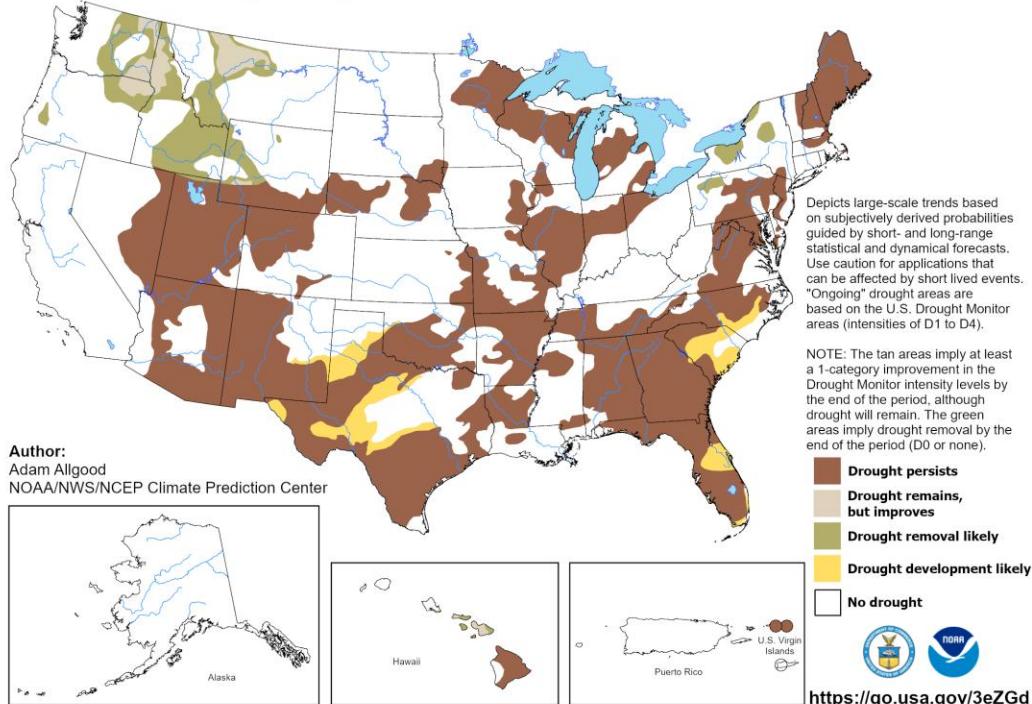
U.S. DROUGHT OUTLOOK MAP



U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for January 2026
Released December 31, 2025

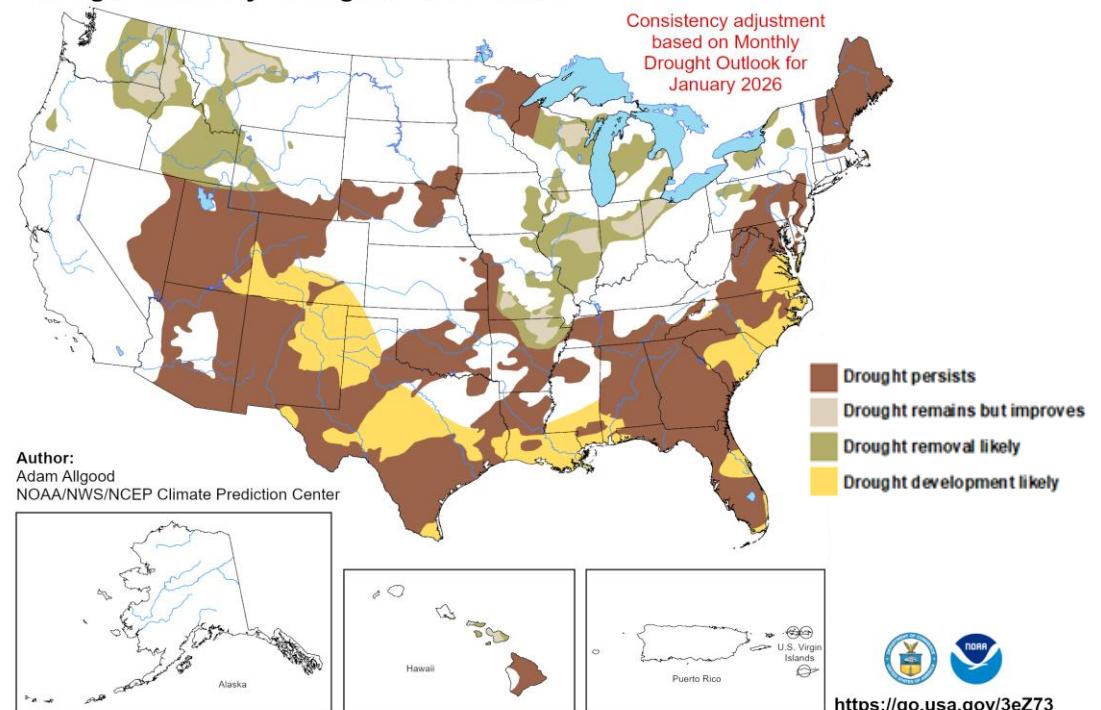


U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for January 1 - March 31, 2026
Released December 31, 2025

Consistency adjustment
based on Monthly
Drought Outlook for
January 2026



US DROUGHT OUTLOOK SUMMARY:

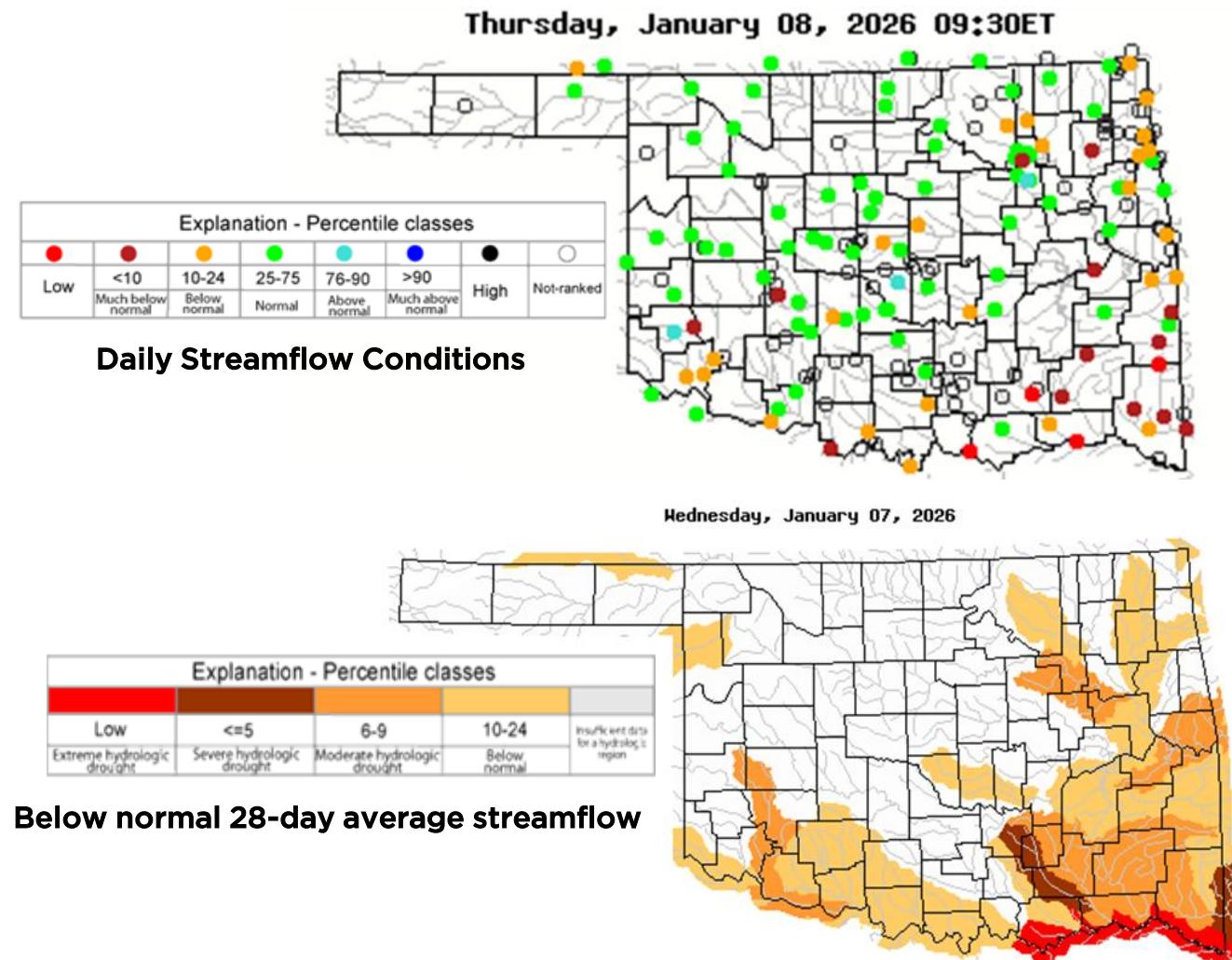
Some drought relief expected this month and through March but matched by developing drought in the South and Southeast regions.

USGS STREAMFLOW DATA

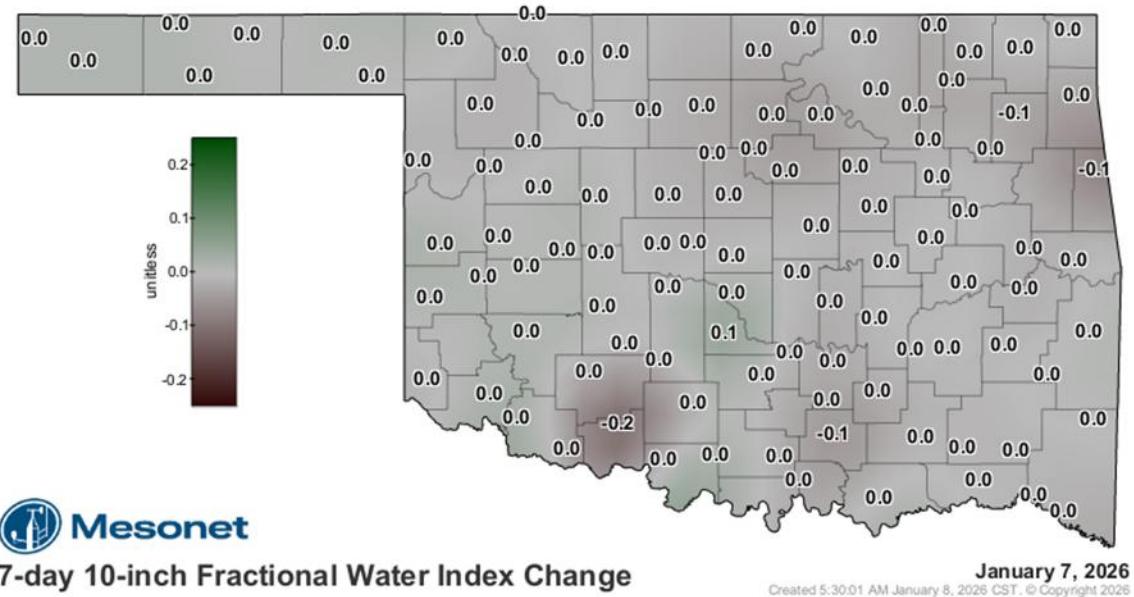
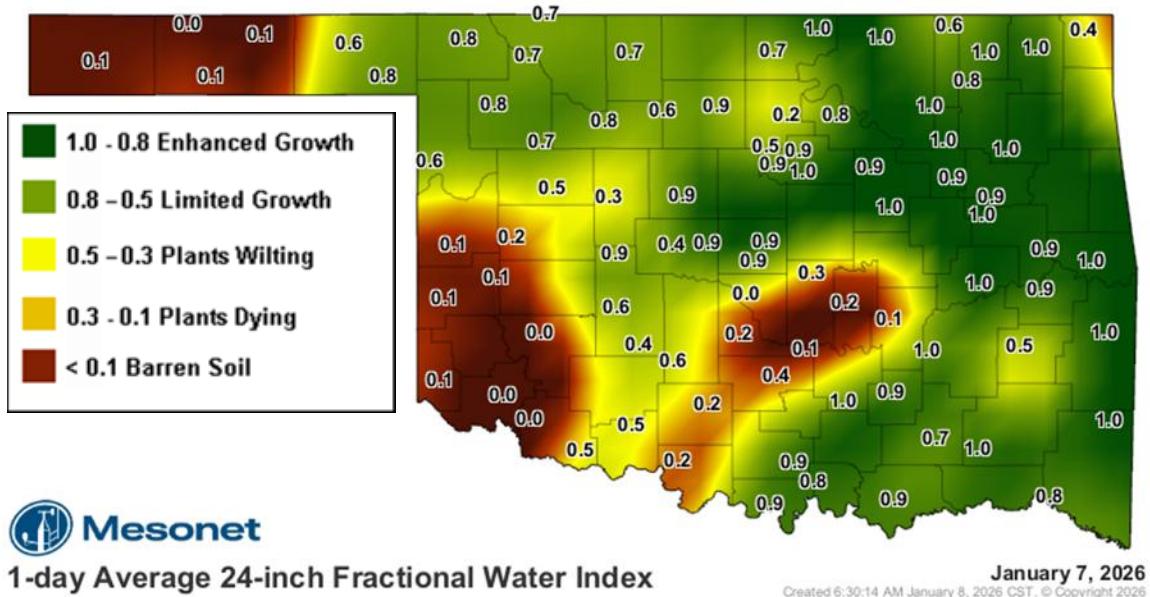


STREAMFLOW CONDITIONS:

Southeastern streams running below average, reaching moderate to extreme drought conditions in roughly 1/3 of Oklahoma.



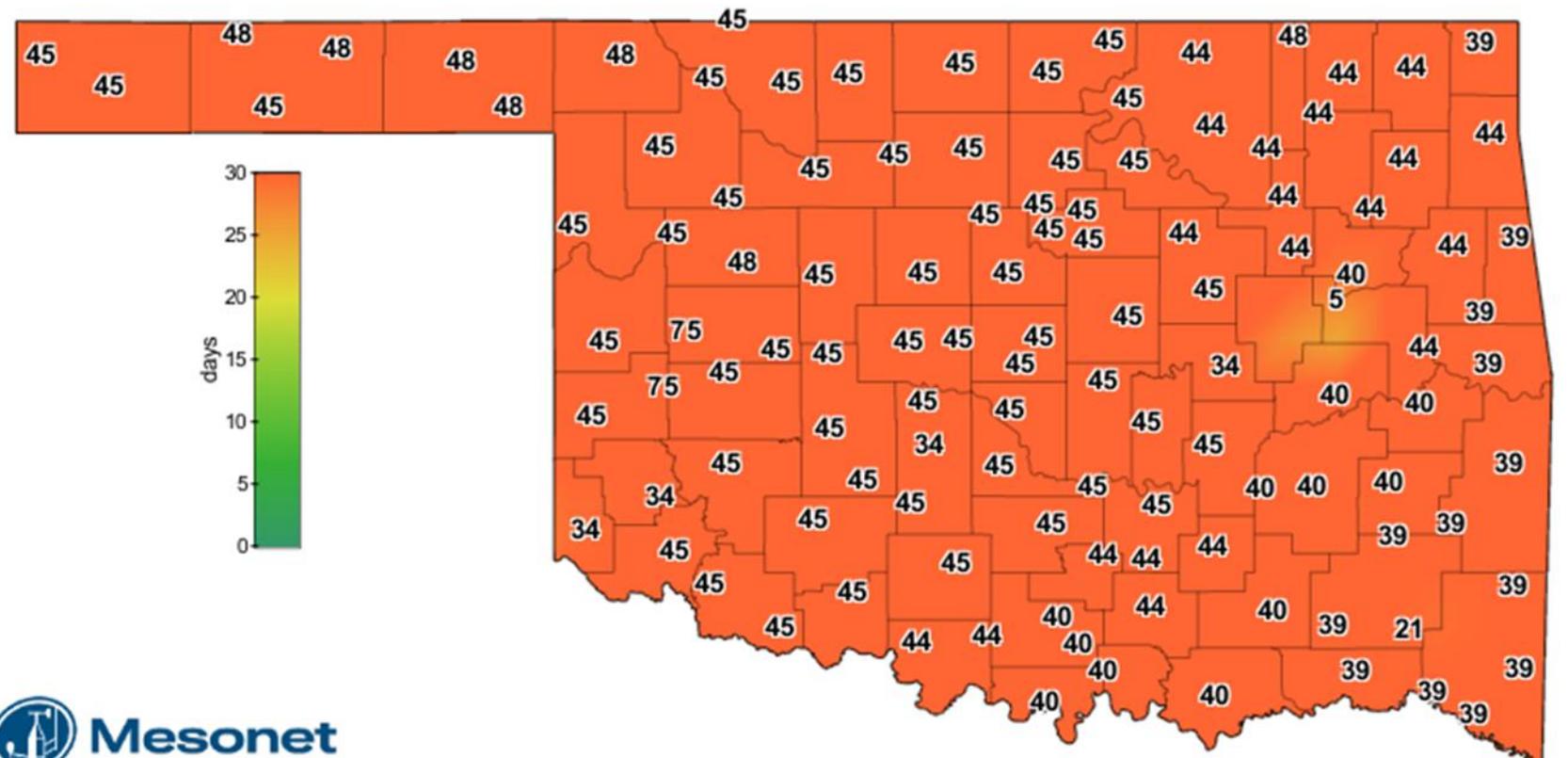
SOIL MOISTURE MAP



SHORT-TERM SOIL MOISTURE STATUS:

Dry soil in Central and Western Oklahoma limiting plant growth, with little-to-no change over the past week.

45 CONSECUTIVE DAYS WITHOUT RAINFALL



HOW LONG IT'S BEEN DRY:

45 days! Shy of the OKC record by only 14 days, forcing cities to dip into reservoir water supplies.

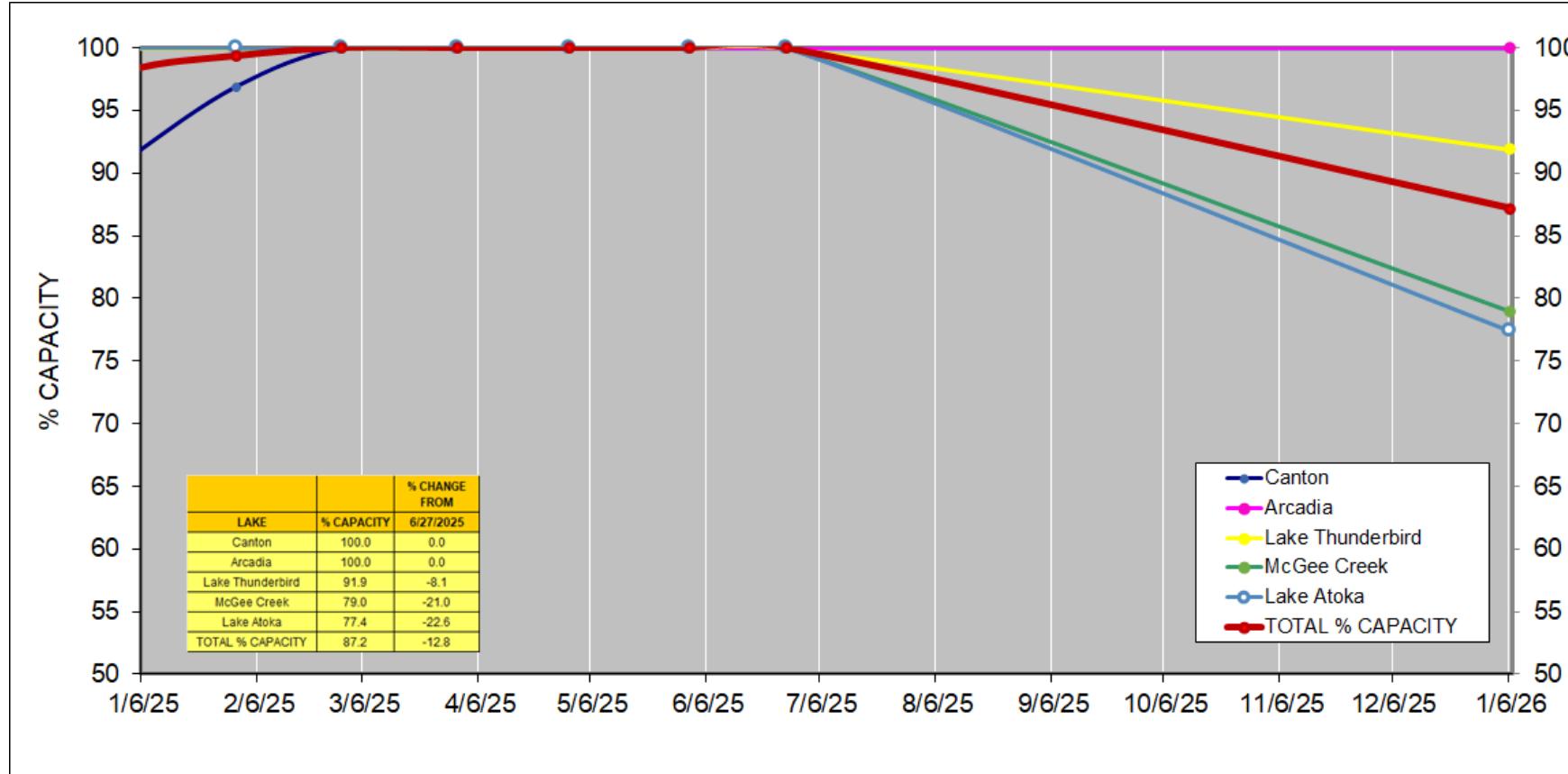


Consecutive Days With Less Than 0.25" Rainfall

January 7, 2026

Created 7:15:02 AM January 8, 2026 CST. © Copyright 2026

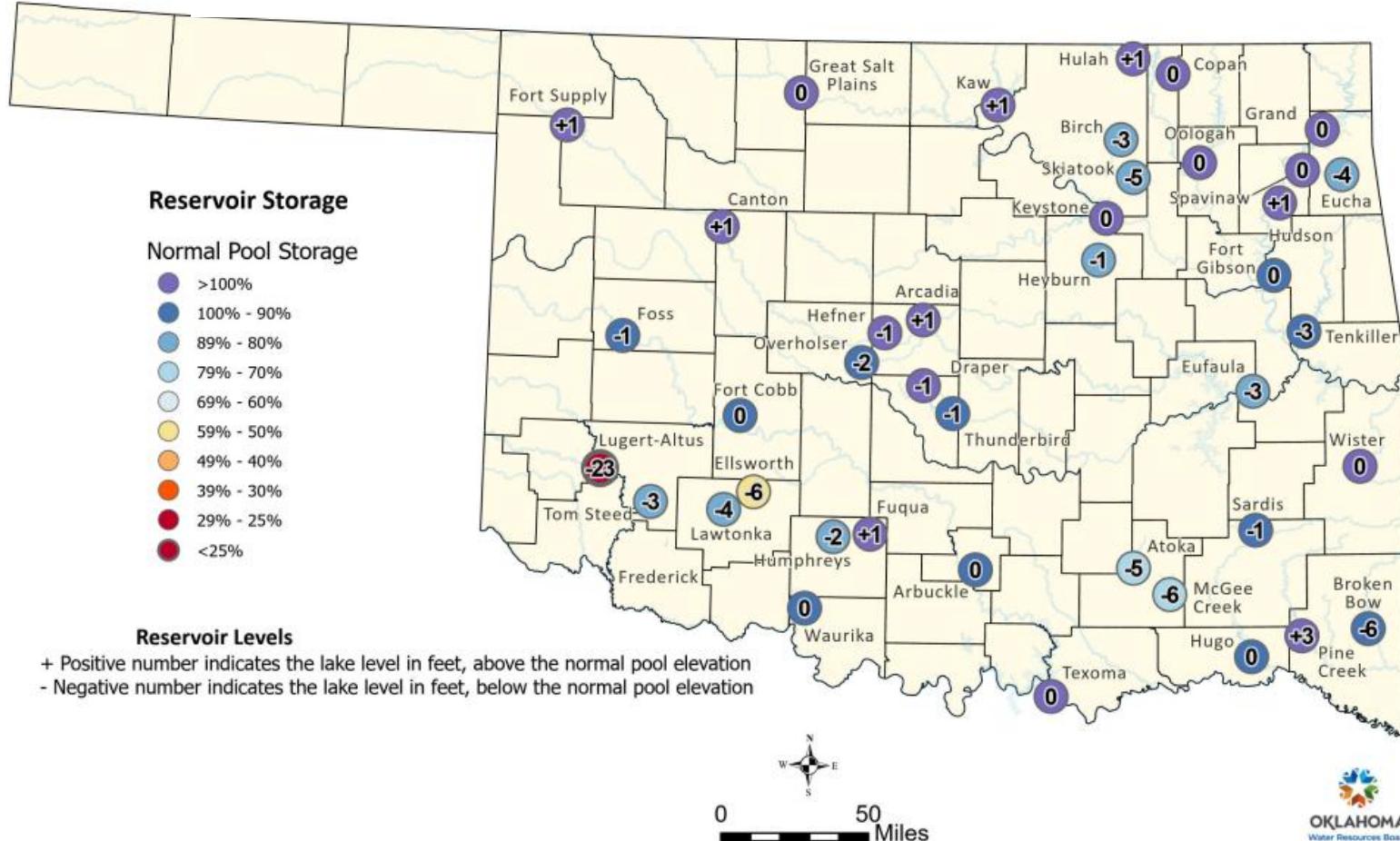
SURFACE WATER CONSERVATION CAPACITY - CENTRAL OK RESERVOIRS



1-YEAR RESERVOIR TRENDS:

While some reservoirs remain near full capacity, continued dry conditions could reduce supplies if drought persists.

OKLAHOMA RESERVOIR LEVELS AND STORAGE



CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS:

Oklahoma lake levels tracked as a percentage of normal storage, showing early signs of stress in Southwestern Oklahoma reservoirs.

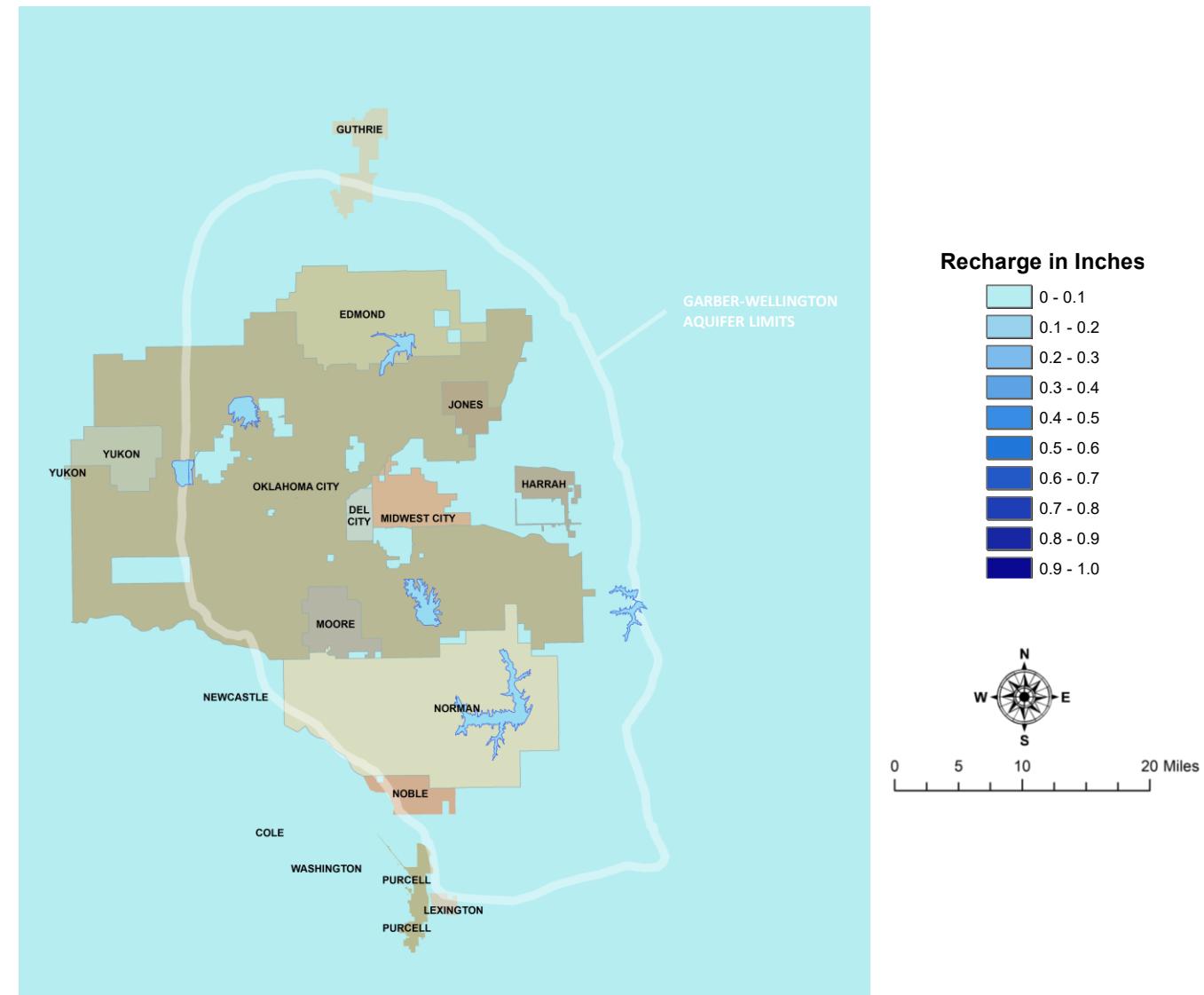
MONTHLY AQUIFER RECHARGE



NO RECHARGE FOR DECEMBER:

Mean aquifer recharge in December was 0.00 inches, falling short of the 0.16 average recharge.

Aquifer levels remain 1.52 inches above normal for 2025.

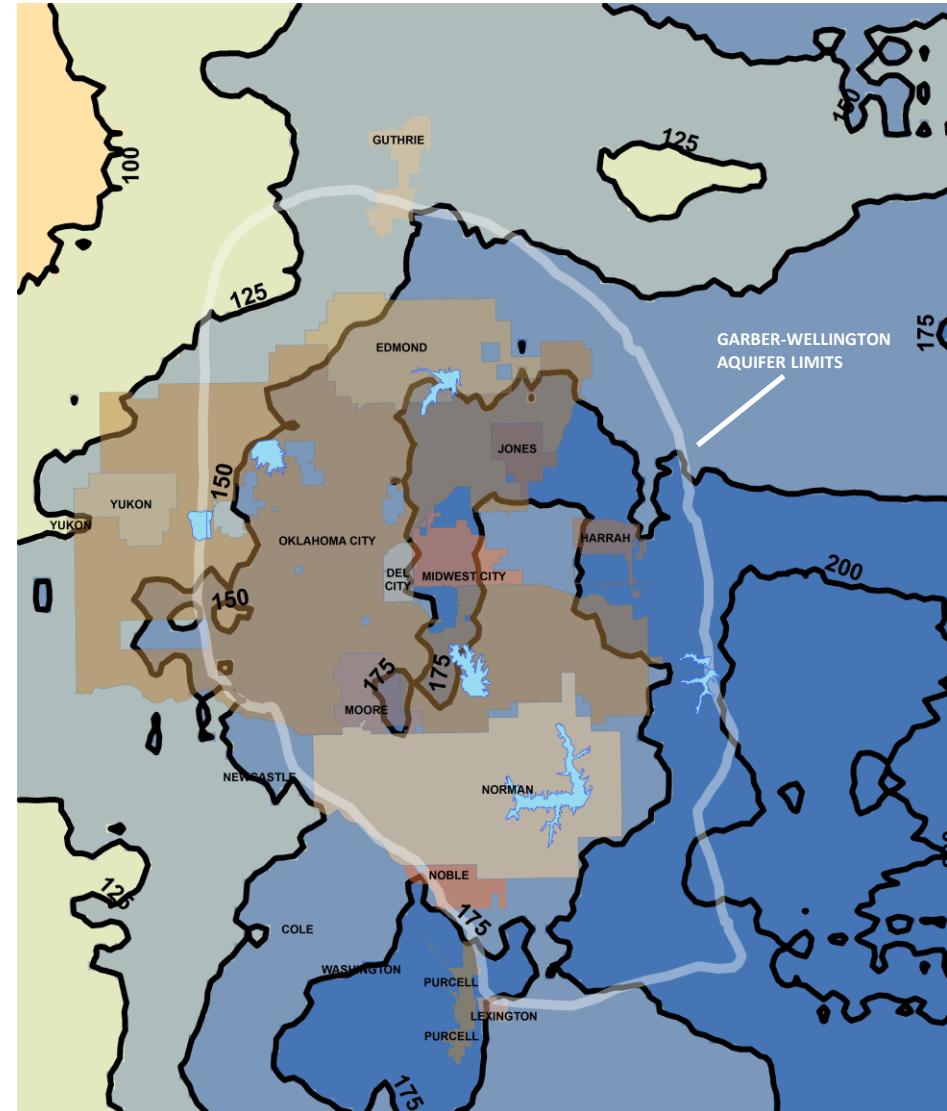


PERCENT CUMULATIVE AQUIFER RECHARGE (12 Month Dataset)



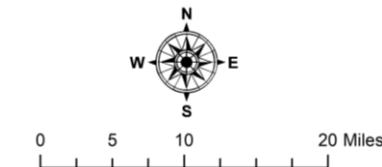
GOOD NEWS:

Over the past 12 months the metropolitan area has received roughly 150% of its annual recharge thanks to our heavy spring rain.



Percent of Cumulative Recharge

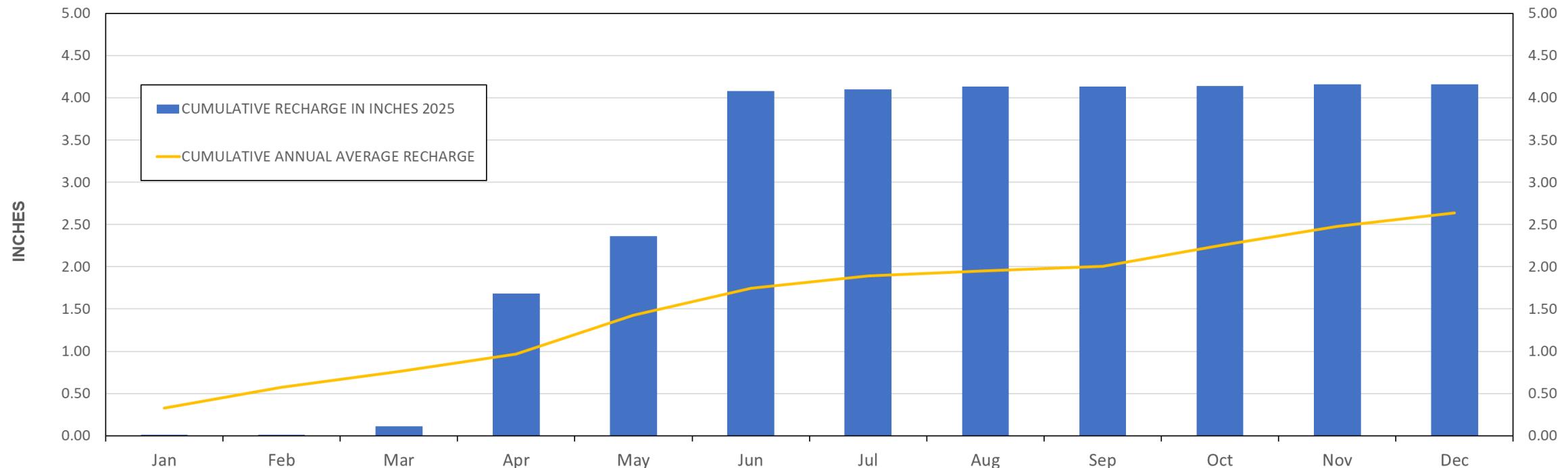
0 - 25
25 - 50
50 - 75
75 - 100
100 - 125
125 - 150
150 - 175
175 - 200



RECHARGE CHARTS CENTRAL OKLAHOMA AQUIFER SYSTEM



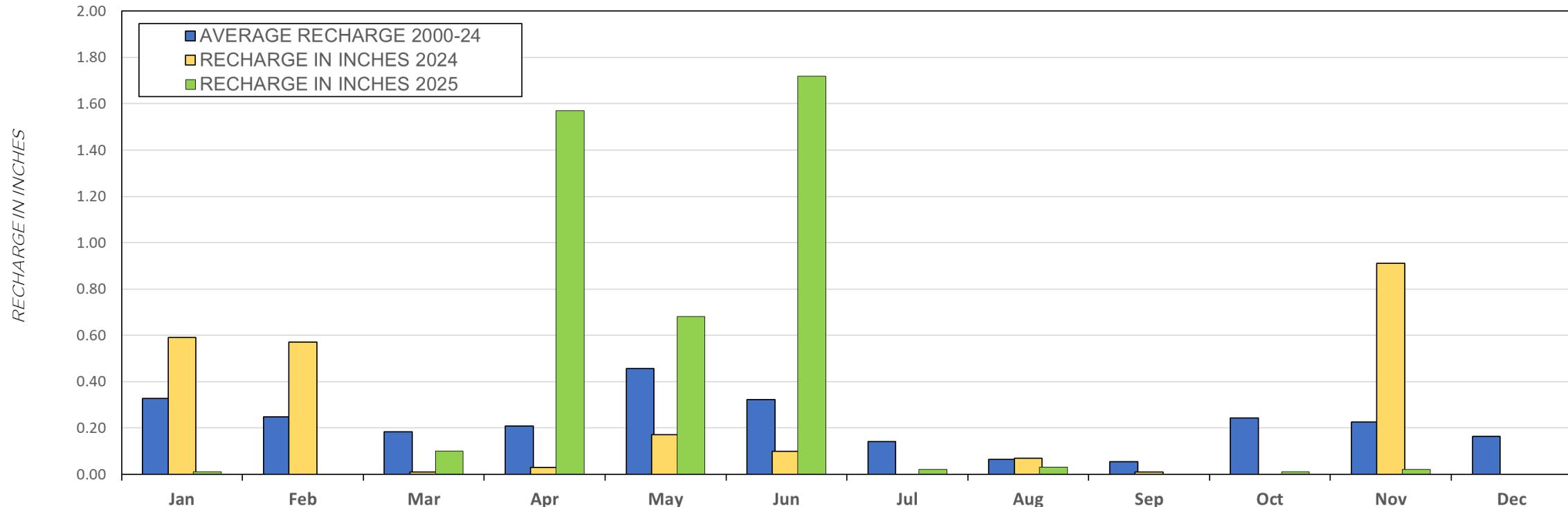
ACCUMULATED CENTRAL OKLAHOMA AQUIFER SYSTEM RECHARGE 2025



RECHARGE CHARTS CENTRAL OKLAHOMA AQUIFER SYSTEM CONTINUED



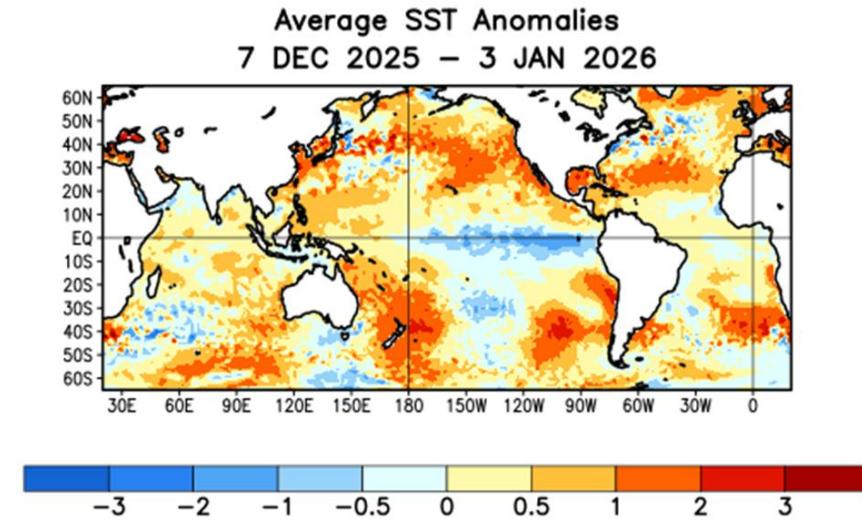
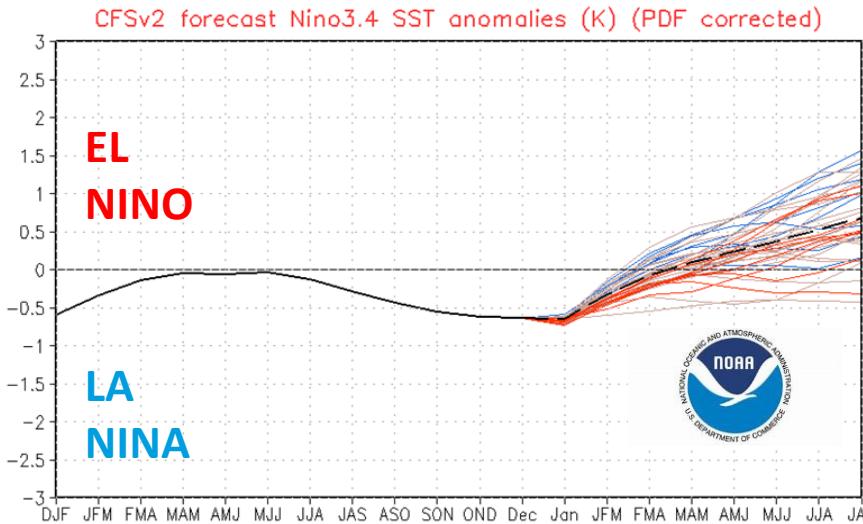
MONTHLY AQUIFER RECHARGE 2025



AQUIFER RECHARGE TRENDS:

Aquifer recharge through 2025 was lower than average in most months but outpaced previous years thanks to astonishing April – June rainfall.

ENSO CYCLE - RECENT EVOLUTION, CURRENT STATUS AND PREDICTIONS



CLIMATE PATTERN UPDATE (ENSO):

La Niña conditions and below average sea surface temperature (SST) anomalies are still present, potentially favoring drought conditions through March.

SUMMARY



- Drought conditions persist across Central Oklahoma and much of the US
- Reservoirs remain adequately full to provide some buffer, but levels are decreasing
- Short-term relief is uncertain, but conditions are expected to shift March-April
- Continue to monitor reports and plan for extended drought until Spring

QUESTIONS? THANK YOU.

Benjamin Matsumura
Water Resources Manager

O: 405.778.6121
bmatsumura@acogok.org
acogok.org

ASSOCIATION OF
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
GOVERNMENTS

