

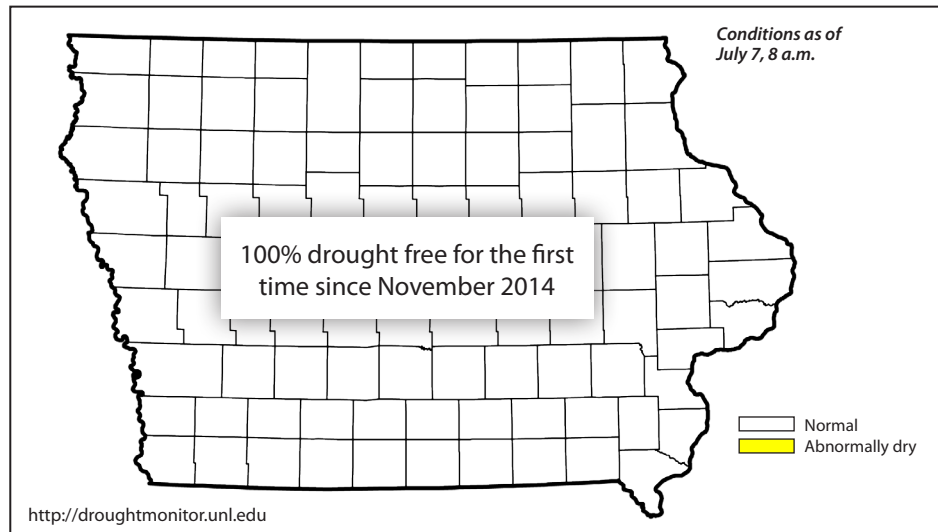
WATER SUMMARY UPDATE

No. 54

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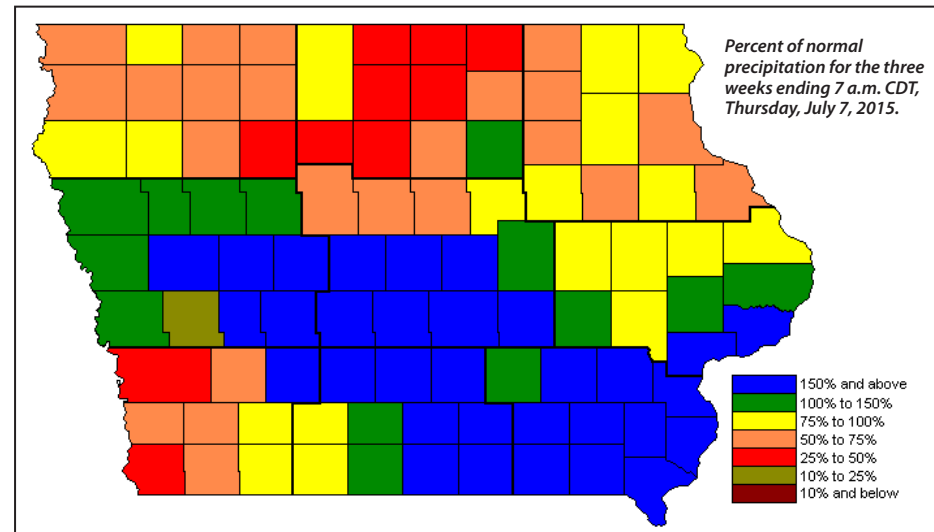
Drought Monitor

National Drought Mitigation Center and partners



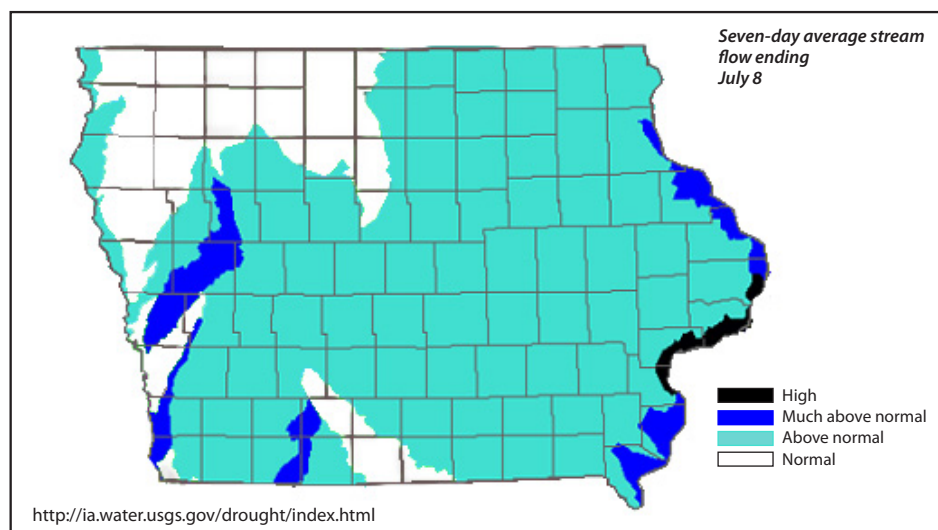
Precipitation

State Climatologist



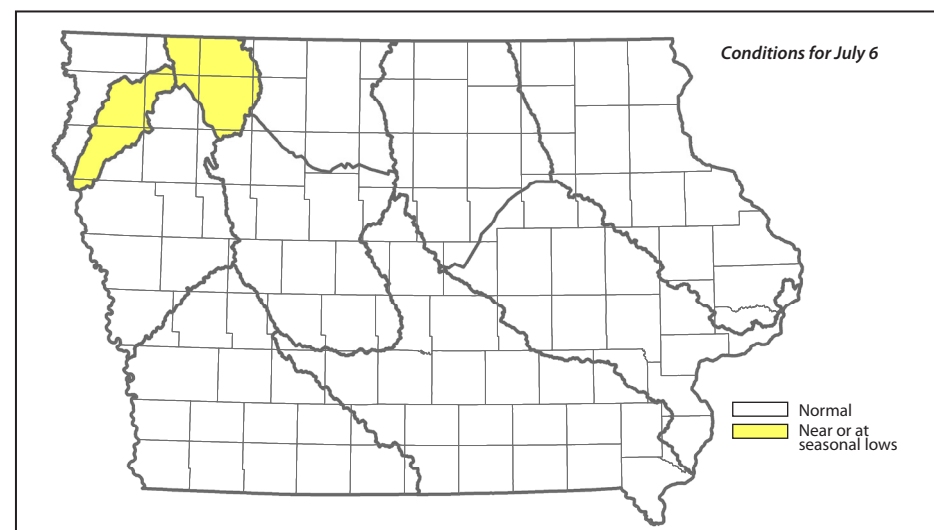
Stream Flow

US Geological Survey



Shallow Groundwater

Iowa DNR and IIHR-Hydroscience and Engineering



Recent Developments and Changes

Overall Conditions

Recent rains have resulted in the state being completely drought free for the first time since November 2014. Streamflow remains normal to above normal for most of the state, while there is only one small area of northwest Iowa where groundwater levels are slightly below normal.

Unless conditions dramatically change, the next WSU is scheduled to be released the first week in August.

Drought Monitor

The rainfall of the last two weeks has finally resulted in the State of Iowa being 100% drought free. The last time the state saw these conditions was November 4, 2014. Conditions continue to improve in the states surrounding Iowa as well. Most of the drought conditions in the United States are west of the Rocky Mountains, where little improvement has been seen in recent weeks.

Stream Flow

Streamflow conditions are above normal for the majority of the state. Since the last water summary update, streamflow conditions across central Iowa have increased in a few basins to above normal flow, and a flow in a few western basins has increased to much above normal. Streamflow conditions in the eastern portion of the state remain above normal. Near-record streamflows were measured in Raccoon and Des Moines River Basins over the last two weeks. The previous peak of record was surpassed at Walnut Creek at Des Moines, English Creek near Knoxville, and White Breast Creek near Dallas.

Precipitation

Precipitation amounts were highly variable across Iowa over the past two weeks. Torrential rains fell on the night of June 24 from Carroll and Greene counties southeastward to Appanoose and Davis counties. Overnight rain totals of three to five inches were common in this area with Columbia in southern Marion County reporting 7.3 inches of rain. Excessive rains also fell across Muscatine and Scott counties on July 6. Two week rain totals were below normal over much of northwest and north central Iowa, as well as the southwest corner of the state, varying from 0.47 inches at Mason City (about one-fourth of normal) to 10.69 inches at Waukee in Dallas County. The statewide average for the period was 2.67 inches, or slightly above the normal of 2.24 inches.

Shallow Groundwater

Substantial precipitation fell across most of Iowa over the last 2 weeks. Northwest Iowa has not received nearly as much rainfall, and the Floyd and Ocheyedan River watersheds are being placed into the slight drought category.

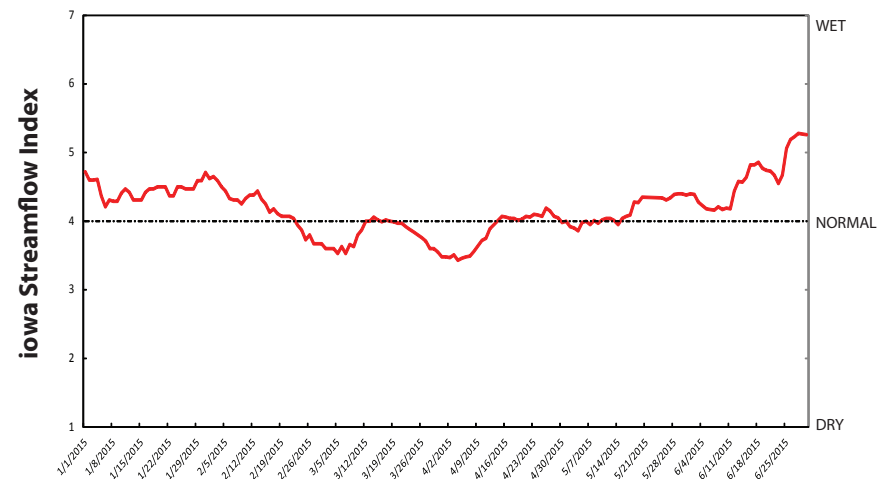
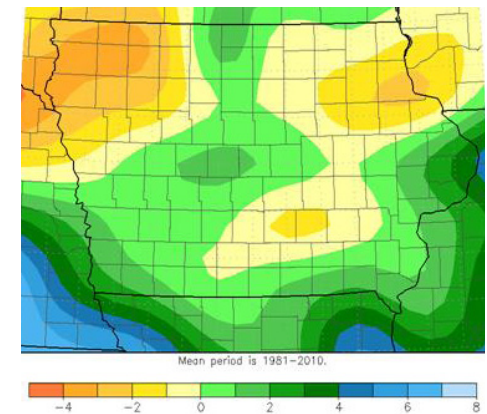
January to July, 2015

Two of the best ways to view the conditions over the last six months are through precipitation and streamflow. Statewide average precipitation through June averaged almost exactly normal, 18.33 inches or only 0.11 inches below normal. 2015 rain totals, with some local exceptions, have generally been above normal over the southern

one-half of the state with amounts furthest below normal in the northwest. Precipitation was uniformly below normal statewide for the first one-quarter of the year, primarily due to a very dry month of March. The second quarter of the year has seen more variability in totals but generally has been on the wet side of normal.

The streamflow index for Iowa shows that streamflow levels were just above normal during the winter, but began moving into below normal conditions in late February, and remained normal to dry until late May, when rainfall began to pick up across the state. While streamflow is currently above normal, it is not significantly high.

Accumulated Precipitation
January 1, 2015 to July 7, 2015



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