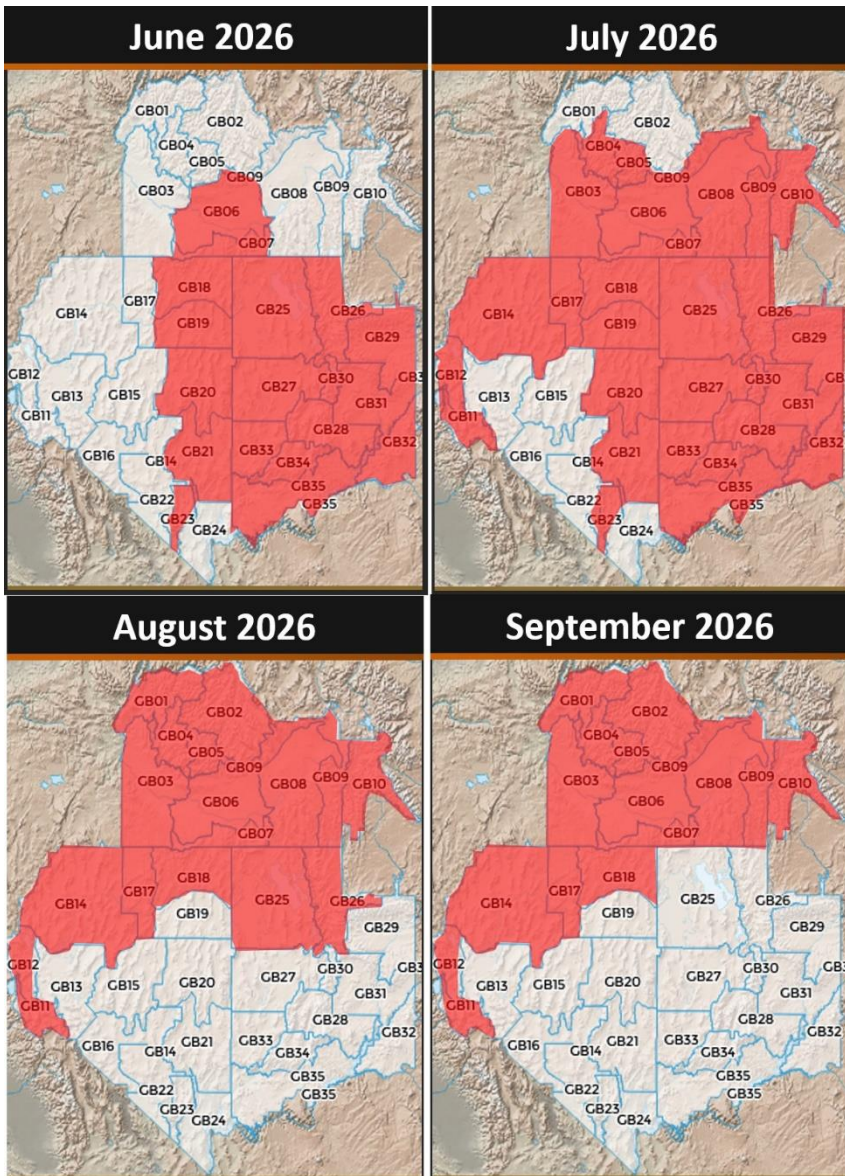


## Great Basin Seasonal Outlook: June - September 2026



### FIRE POTENTIAL AND OUTLOOK:

Fire activity has picked up in recent weeks, including several large fires in southern Idaho and northern Nevada in the 1,000-7,000 acre range. Some of the fires are even burning in the heavier fuels/timber of higher elevations. This is very unusual for late May (**Fig 4**). Fuel conditions in many areas are 3-6 weeks ahead of schedule (**Fig 5**).

A hot/dry start to June is expected (**Fig 6**). Afterwards the warmest/driest conditions will shift to the northern and western areas of the Great Basin from mid-July onwards (**Fig 7**) as a strong El Nino unfolds (**Fig 8**). "Above Normal" fire potential is expected across many southern and central areas in June, mostly in the middle to upper elevations where heavier fuels are dominant, then spreading steadily northward into Idaho and Wyoming by mid-late summer. The Summer Monsoon should begin to take the edge off of large fire potential across southern areas from later in July onwards. See Outlook Maps on following page.

### PAST WEATHER:

Temperatures the last 30 days were 2-4 degrees above normal for most areas, while precipitation was only 10% - 20% of normal across most area (**Fig 1**). Only wetter than normal areas were in the northern Utah mountains, from just 1 storm in mid-May. Snowpack at the late March peak was at record low levels across Utah and much of Nevada, only 10-30% of normal, with locally even lower readings in far southern mountains near the AZ-UT border. Further north across the ID/WY mountains, peak end of March snowpack was higher, 60-75% of normal, which was still significantly below normal, and much of the middle slopes in those areas that are normally snow covered, had been bare for quite some time (**Fig 2**). The shorter term "Evaporative Demand Drought Index" (EDDI) is showing 3-month readings of the most extreme (ED4) levels across many southern and eastern portions of the Geographic Area (**Fig 3**).

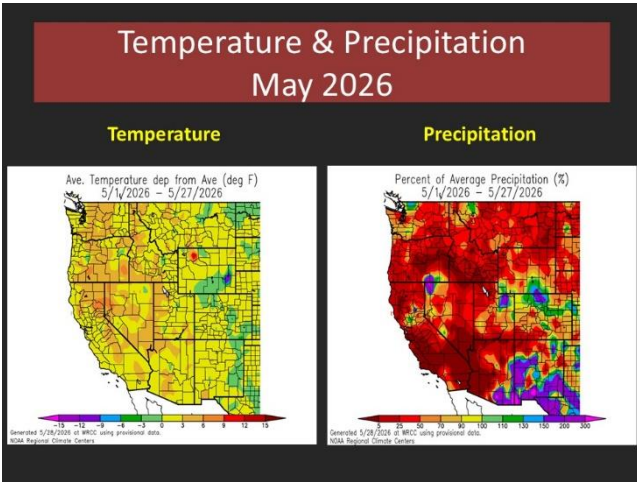


Fig 1. (May Temperature/Precipitation)

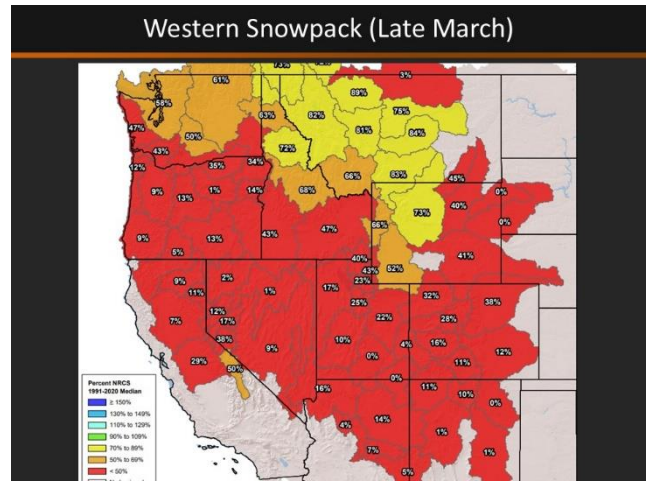


Fig 2. (Late March Peak Snowpack)

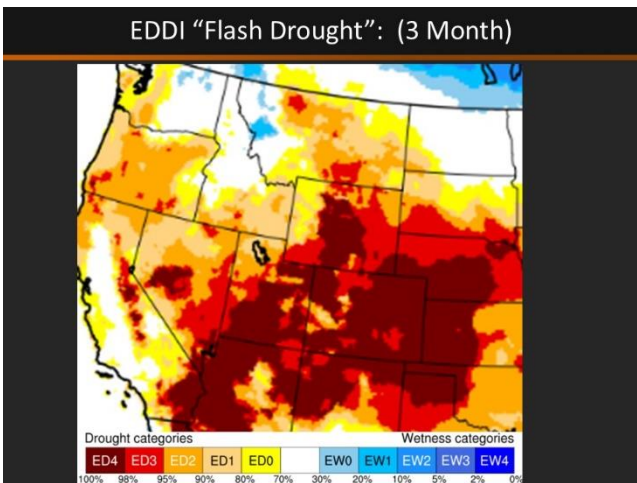


Fig 3. (Evaporative Demand Drought Index)

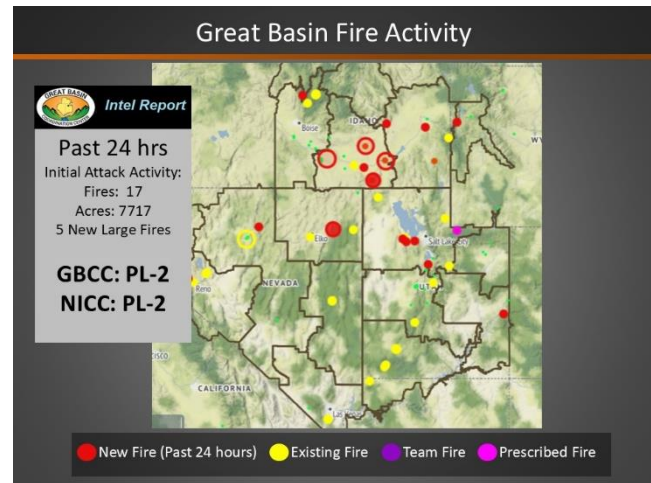


Fig 4. (Late May Fires)

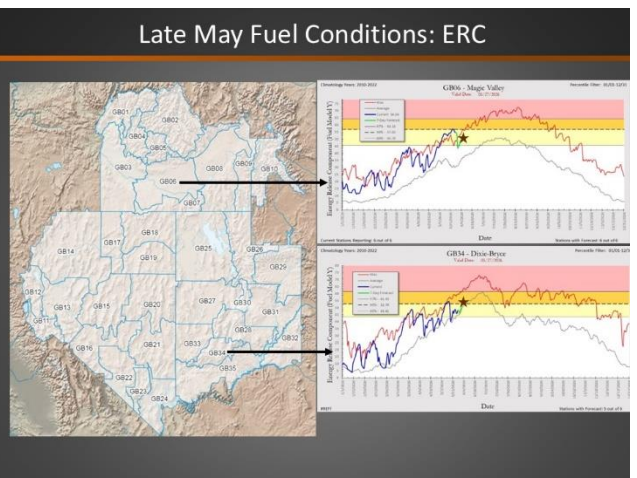


Fig 5. (ERC's Drier Than Normal)

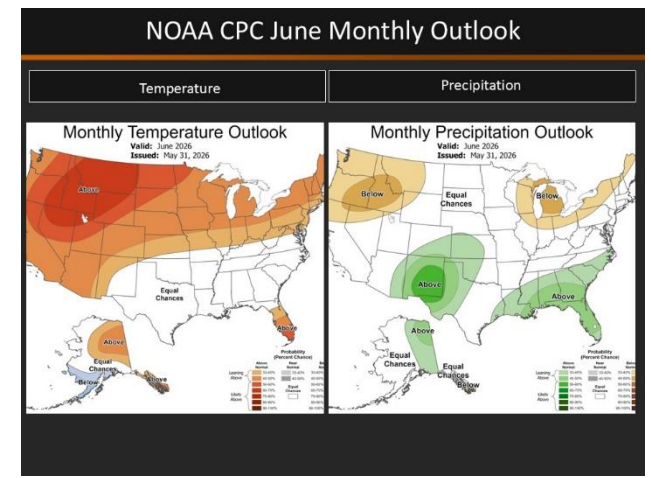


Fig 6. (CPC June Outlook)

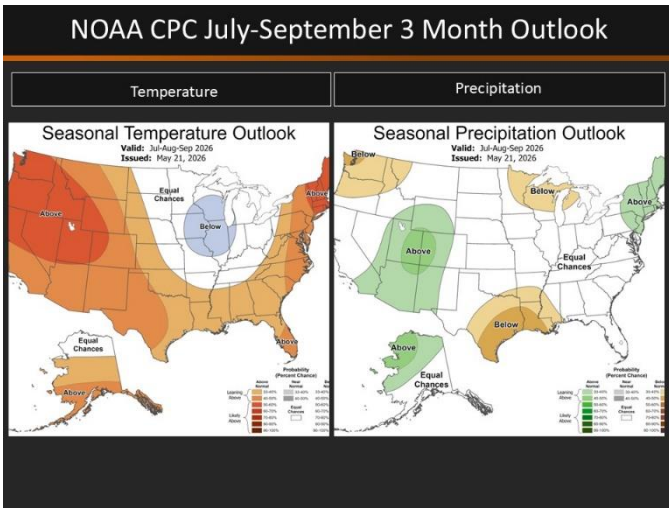


Fig 7. (CPC July-September Outlook)

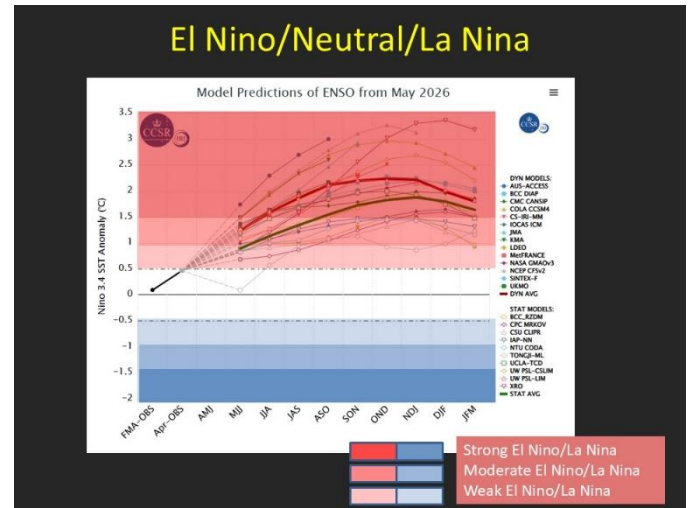


Fig. 8 (El Nino Developing)



Basil Newmerzhycky

Fire Meteorologist - Predictive Services

Great Basin Coordination Center, Salt Lake City UT