



LOWER PLATTE SOUTH  
natural resources district

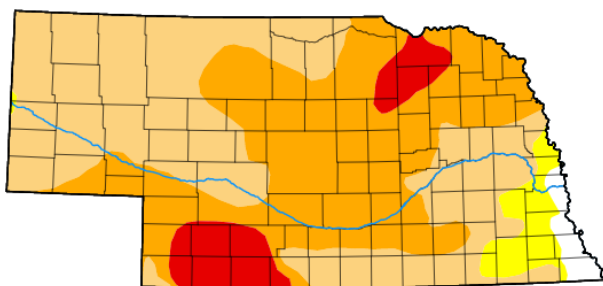
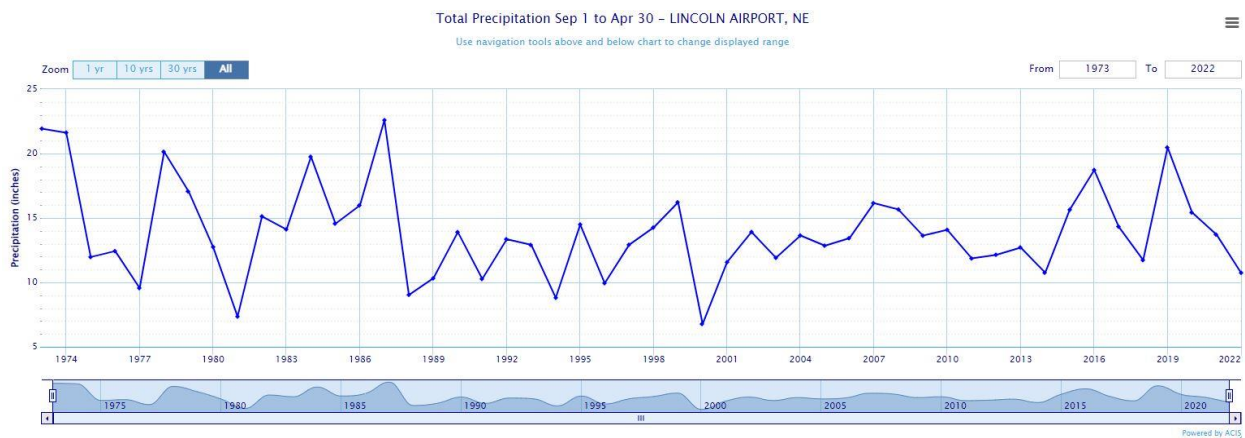
# WEATHER/PRECIPITATION OUTLOOK 2022 GROWING SEASON ISSUE #5—May, 2022

## Background

This is the fifth in an annual series of outlooks for weather/precipitation for the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District and surrounding area. These outlooks will be produced at least annually, usually in May or June, and will be updated throughout the growing season (i.e. May through September) as warranted.

## Current Conditions as of May 2022

The graph below shows precipitation from September through April since 1973 as a general indicator of moisture conditions entering the growing season. From September 2021 through April 2022, Lincoln received 10.74 inches of precipitation, compared to the 1973-2022 average of 13.9 inches for that same time period, and compared to 13.71 inches for 2020-2021. Although recent weeks have seen some welcome precipitation, temperatures have been warm and winds have been above normal, resulting in rapidly drying soil conditions going into the growing season, and these conditions are expected to persist for at least the near future. As a result, the Drought Monitor for May 19, 2022 (see below) shows that portions of LPSNRD are abnormally dry or in moderate drought (D0 to D1), and areas further north and west of the District show increasing drought intensity.



Map released: Thurs. May 19, 2022

Data valid: May 17, 2022 at 8 a.m. EDT

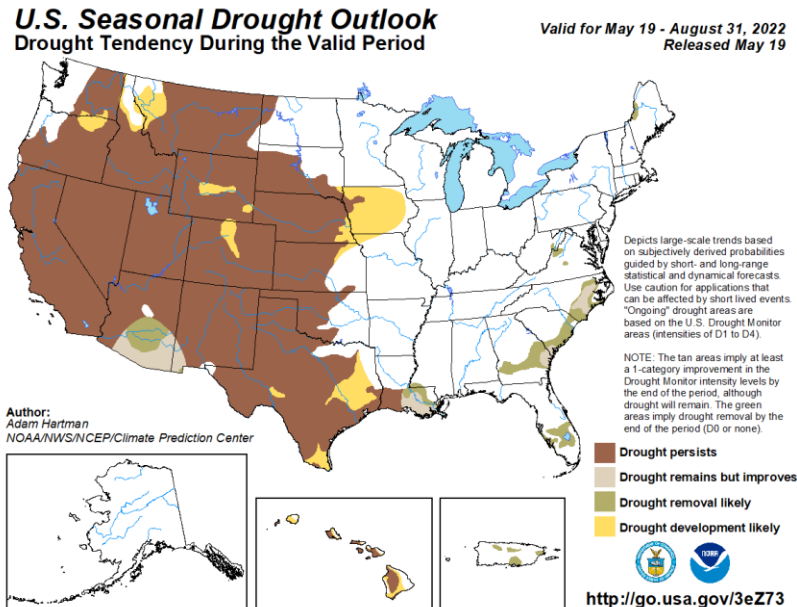
### Intensity

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

## Outlook

Based on the sources cited below, a general precipitation outlook for the LPSNRD and vicinity for the remainder of the growing season of 2022 is **BELOW NORMAL**. Although, as noted above, recent precipitation has helped the situation, much of the District is dry, and the current seasonal drought outlook (see below) is for drought conditions to develop or persist in the LPSNRD area throughout the

summer. As always though, conditions can change rapidly, and should the conditions described above change significantly during the season, LPSNRD will issue an update to this outlook as soon as possible.



#### For Further Information:

- National Weather Service—Climate Prediction Center: <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>
- National Weather Service—Missouri River Basin Water Supply Statement: [https://www.weather.gov/mbrfc/water\\_supply](https://www.weather.gov/mbrfc/water_supply)
- National Weather Service--Missouri Basin River Forecast Center Ensemble Streamflow Outlook: <https://www.weather.gov/mbrfc/ensemble>
- National Drought Mitigation Center: <http://drought.unl.edu/>
- National Integrated Drought Information System: <http://www.drought.gov>
- United States Drought Monitor: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>
- CLIMOD (temperature and precipitation data): <http://climod.unl.edu/>
- High Plains Regional Climate Center: <https://hprcc.unl.edu/>

#### Specific Questions?

- Climate Science, Drought, Research:
  - Natalie Umphlett, Regional Climatologist  
High Plains Regional Climate Center  
402-472-6764; [numphlett2@unl.edu](mailto:numphlett2@unl.edu)
- Lower Platte South NRD Programs; Questions on this Publication:
  - Dick Ehrman, Water Resources Coordinator  
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402-476-2729; [dehrman@lpsnrd.org](mailto:dehrman@lpsnrd.org)
  - Likewise, the Lower Platte South NRD is always interested in personal reports of drought or precipitation effects anywhere in the District, so feel free to call or email if you'd like to check in!

**Additional Information:**

These outlooks will be generated with input from the following entities:

- High Plains Regional Climate Center
- National Drought Mitigation Center
- Nebraska State Climate Office
- University of Nebraska Extension
- University of Nebraska School of Natural Resources

Going forward, additional entities with relevant information for the region will be also be consulted as necessary for these outlooks.

In generating this outlook, the team assembled by LPSNRD utilized the following resources:

- Short- and long-term outlooks from the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (CPC)
- Short- and long-term precipitation analyses
- Palmer Drought Severity Indices
- Soil Moisture Indices
- United States Drought Monitor
- National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS); most relevant information for the LPSNRD area can be found in the Missouri River Basin Quarterly Climate Impacts and Outlook as well as the section on Nebraska.