TFRSAC Spring 2014
CAL FIRE Update

U.S. Drought Monitor
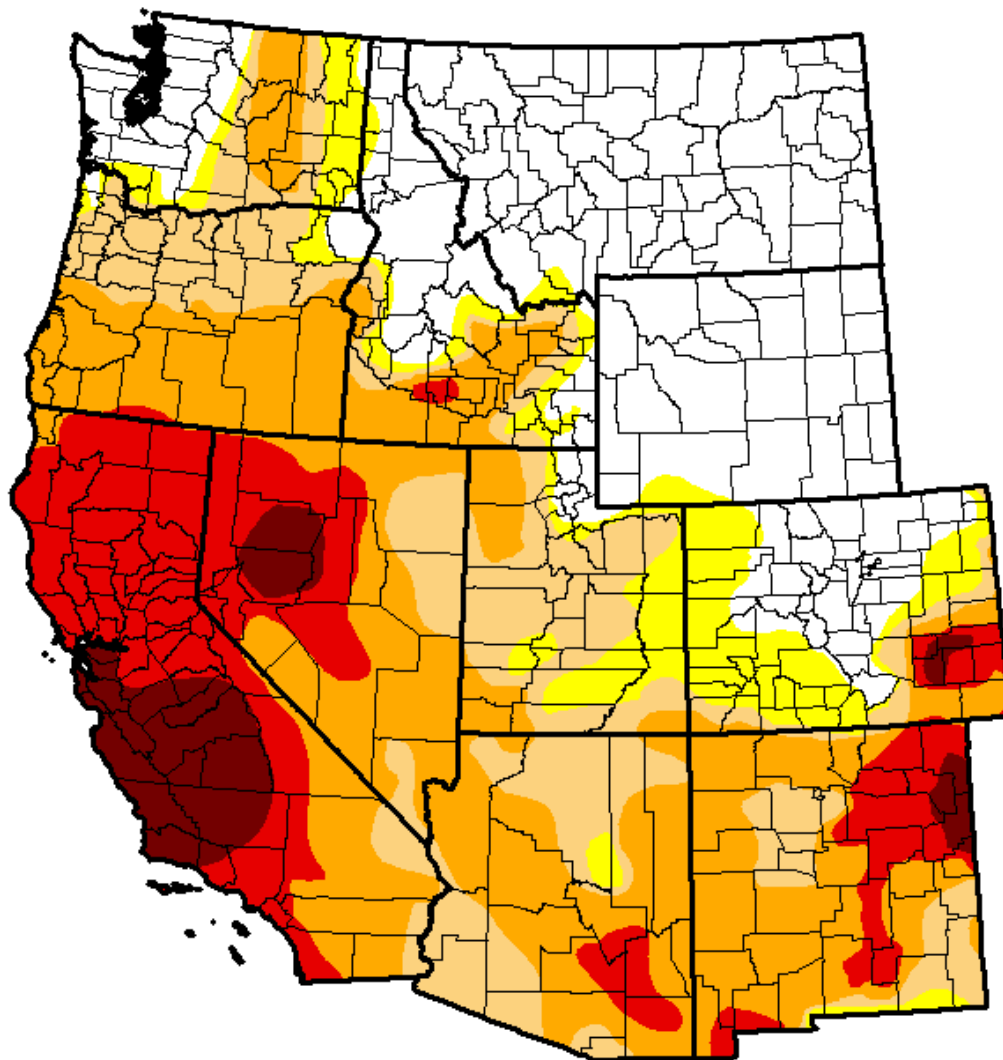## West

April 22, 2014

(Released Thursday, Apr. 24, 2014)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	30.11	69.89	61.61	45.09	17.93	4.61
Last Week 4/15/2014	30.08	69.92	60.68	43.68	16.06	4.05
3 Months Ago 1/21/2014	18.74	81.26	60.81	36.99	13.78	0.63
Start of Calendar Year 12/31/2013	22.20	77.80	51.44	31.11	7.75	0.63
Start of Water Year 10/1/2013	25.25	74.75	58.96	34.18	5.57	0.63
One Year Ago 4/23/2013	20.28	79.72	66.00	43.41	16.10	1.87

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
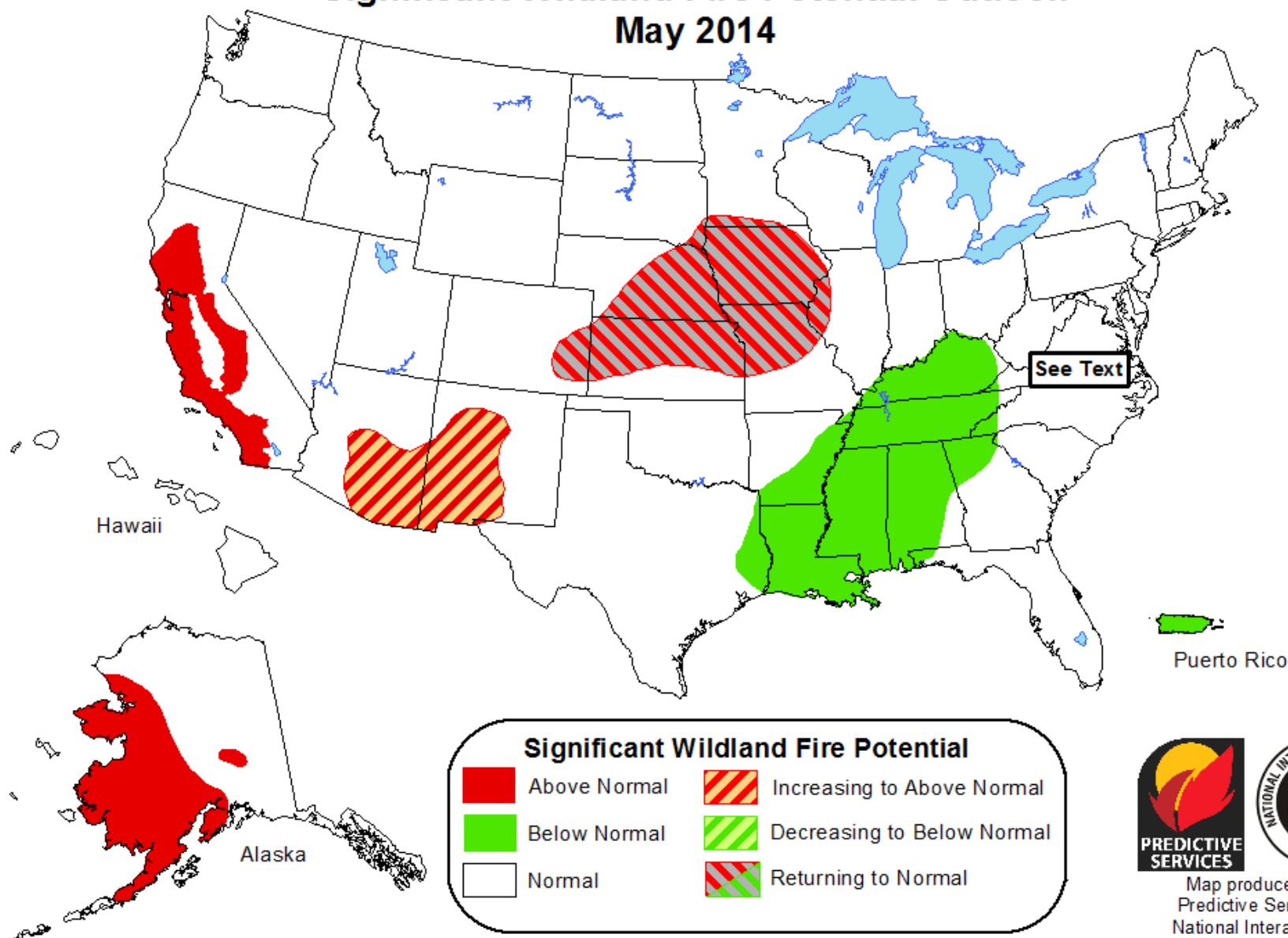- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions.
Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary
for forecast statements.

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USDA National Drought Mitigation Center

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook
May 2014

Hawaii

See Text

Puerto Rico

Alaska

Significant Wildland Fire Potential

- **Above Normal** (red)
- **Below Normal** (green)
- **Normal** (white)
- **Increasing to Above Normal** (red hatched)
- **Decreasing to Below Normal** (green hatched)
- **Returning to Normal** (red/green hatched)

PREDICTIVE SERVICES

NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER · Boise, Idaho

Map produced by
Predictive Services,
National Interagency
Coordination Center
Boise, Idaho
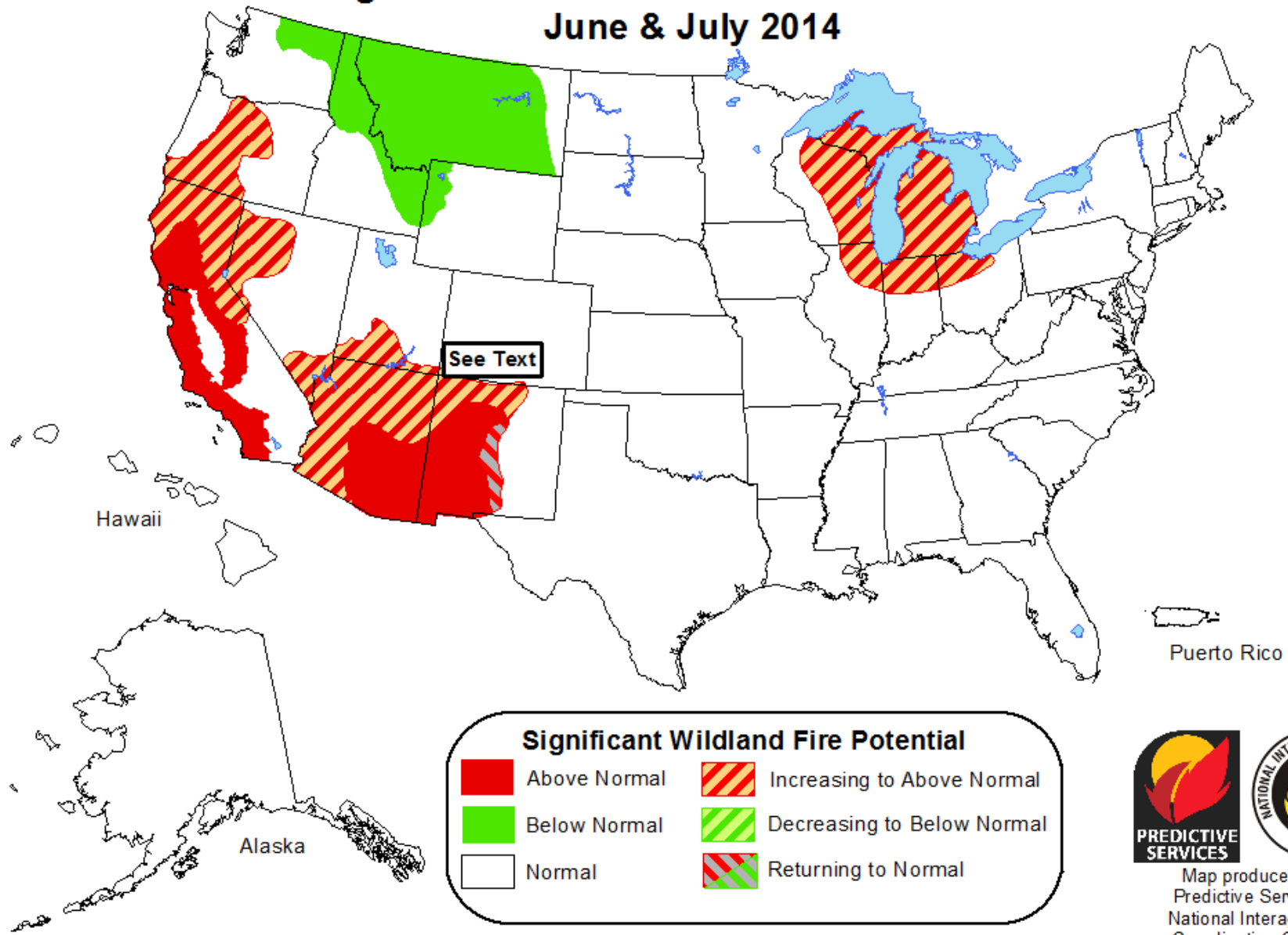Issued April 1, 2014
Next issuance May 1, 2014

Above normal significant wildland fire potential indicates a higher than usual likelihood that wildland fires will occur and/or become significant events. Wildland fires are still expected to occur during forecasted normal conditions as would usually be expected during the outlook period. Significant wildland fires are still possible but less likely than usual during forecasted below normal periods.

Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook
June & July 2014

Hawaii

See Text

Alaska

Puerto Rico

Significant Wildland Fire Potential

⬛ Above Normal	▨ Increasing to Above Normal
🟩 Below Normal	▨ Decreasing to Below Normal
⬜ Normal	▨ Returning to Normal

PREDICTIVE SERVICES

NATIONAL INTERAGENCY FIRE CENTER Boise, Idaho

Map produced by Predictive Services, National Interagency Coordination Center Boise, Idaho
Issued April 1, 2014
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Above Normal Fire Activity in 2014

January 1- April 12 Fire Stats

- 953 fires
  - 5 year average is 377 fires
- 2,372 acres burned
  - 5 year average is 1,135 acres

CAL FIRE Increased Staffing Due to Drought

- Southern California
  - Kept most firefighters on year round
  - Air tankers have been covered since early March
- Northern California
  - Hired over 100 firefighters in January
  - Hired ~100 firefighters in mid April – about 2 months earlier than normal
  - Most Air tankers will go on contract over a month early
- 1/3 of engines will have additional FF

CAL FIRE Use of NIROPS in 2013

- 31 IR orders for CAL FIRE incidents
- 2 of the 31 were UTF
- Majority of CAL FIRE IR orders were interpreted by CAL FIRE IRINs
- Orders occurred during all stages of the fires:
  - First operational period
  - Additional flights on multi-day incidents
  - Heat detection missions on final day(s)

CAL FIRE IRIN Activity for NIROPS in 2013

- CAL FIRE IRINs filled 89 IR orders
  - 66 were California orders
  - 23 were for incidents in other states
- Were ordered on 13 additional incidents that were cancelled or UTF
- One IRIN Trainee became qualified
- Had positive feedback on their work

Multi Spectral Imaging provided by California Air National Guard on Rim Fire

- Provided real-time color, low light and IR full motion video to the ICP
- Flew long duration missions during critical burn periods
- Provided intel of active area of fire through dense smoke column when traditional air platforms were unable to fly
- Intel allowed fire managers to gain valuable situational awareness
- The benefits of future use are currently being evaluated

DigitalGlobe Contract

- CAL OES did not renew the contract with DigitalGlobe
- Should be able to access similar products through other available resources

USGS & Eagle Vision Satellite Imagery Availability

- International Charter (IC) is available this year (USGS)

- California Air National Guard Eagle Vision is available this season

RC-26 & C-130 Availability

- Have not heard if the California Air National Guard RC-26 or C-130 will be available in California this year
  - Are now using AeroComputers Airborne Systems mapping software
  - Allows import/export of GIS data
  - Ordering procedures are in CAL FIRE policy
- A C-130 with similar equipment may also be available.
  - Further research about this resource is currently being conducted

PSW FireMapper Availability

- More than likely, the FireMapper system will be available this year
- Haven't gotten confirmation yet
- Previously was on board a Beech A-100 twin engine pressurized aircraft
- Stationed at Fox Tanker Base in Lancaster with USFS pilot

NICS Project

- Next Generation ICS (NICS), formerly LDDRS
- Cooperative project between MIT/Lincoln Lab and California First Responder Community
- Sponsored and funded by DHS - funding ends soon
- Web-based and technology neutral
- Does not try to do everything
- Easy to learn and use.
- Free for responder organizations
- Used by several CAL FIRE Units and fire departments
- CAL FIRE now has Region Coordinators to support NICS use by IMTs and Units

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NICS App Plug-in Model

- Provides ability to organize and share whiteboard rooms

- Has ability to communicate and document information using "Text Based Chatting" (public and private)

- Multiple base map layers including streets, topographical, satellite, and aeronautical

- Has a well-organized data warehouse

- Capability to import and export GIS data

- Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL)

- Position Location Information (PLI) - satellite based personnel tracking

- Automated Aircraft Flight Following (AFF)

- Robust real-time weather feeds

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Mapping Software for CAL FIRE Aircraft

- Final selection of Mapping software for CAL FIRE aircraft

- Now have both DeLorme xMap and Terrain Navigator Pro installed

- Pilots and ATGS can choose their favorite software