

August 10, 2026

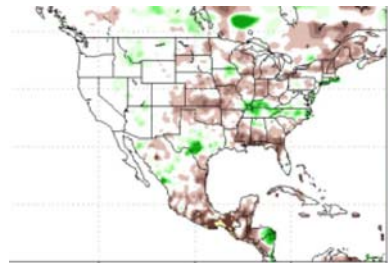
To Our Valued Customers and Friends:

JULY WEATHER SUMMARY

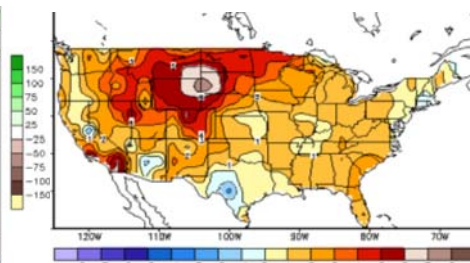
During July areas of the Country that had received substantial amounts of precipitation during June went dry.

July temperatures averaged slightly above normal across most of the Country while the Northern Plains average 5 to 7 degrees above normal. Dryness and above normal temps have caused wildfires to ignite in the Northwest and Northern Plains.

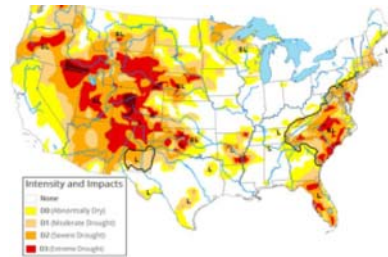
July Precipitation Summary



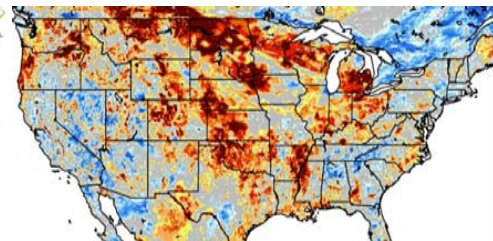
July Temperature Summary



U.S. Drought Monitor as of early August

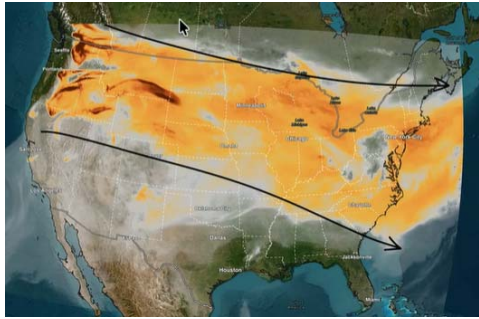


U.S. Soil Moisture Map. Although many areas did go dry during July and substantial soil moisture is now lost.



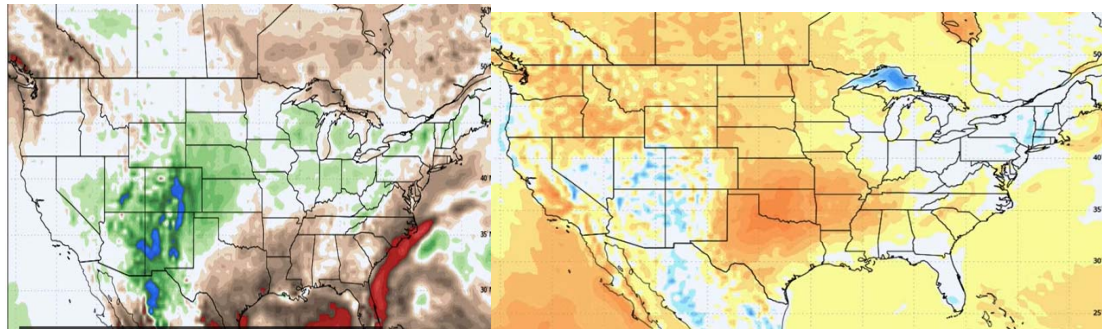
NOTEWORTHY: Below is image of continuous smoke plumes from recent wildfires in the Northwest and Northern Plains.

In areas of thick smoke, it can reduce the amount of sunlight penetration during a critical growth period for crops in those areas. Excess heat and dryness have also stressed crops in those areas.



AUGUST WEATHER FORECAST

Precipitation is expected to return to Southwest and parts of the Midwest, some isolated storms may be severe. Texas and Oklahoma are expected to be very dry along with parts of the Southeast. Temperatures across the Country are forecast to average temps 1 to 2 DF above normal. However, Texas and Central Plains likely to experience temps 3 to 4 DF above normal.



CURRENT RIVER CONDITIONS

Rivers throughout the system have fallen due to the lack of widespread precipitation in the Midwest during July. The Lower Mississippi has seen the most significant fall. The gauge at Memphis has dropped from +17 feet to 0 during July. Navigation becomes concerning if gauge drops to – 8 feet or more.

Currently, all rivers, including the Lower Miss, are operating under a safety advisory but there are no tow restrictions. The situation will require monitoring as some navigation slow downs and perhaps some tow restrictions may have to be implemented until rains occur and provide a bump in water levels.

During August, some precipitation is expected to return to areas of the Midwest which would recharge rivers at least to some degree

during the month.

Longer term, El Nino driven precipitation is forecast to increase precipitation across most of the Country this Fall.

Water level readings at key location of Memphis. Note: Gauge level forecasts only consider precipitation over the next 48 hours. Optimal levels for barge traffic are plus 5 to 10 ft. Levels will remain charged as more rain is expected.

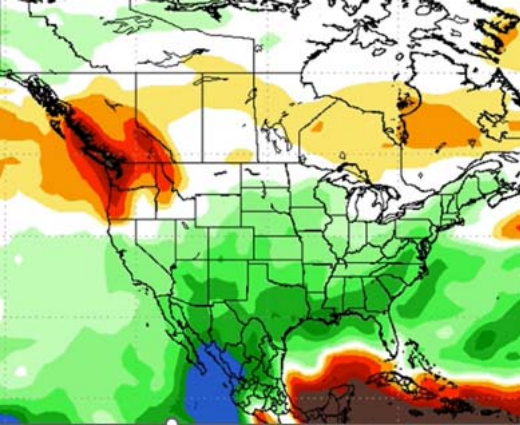
DATE	8/9	8/10	8/11	8/12	8/13	8/14	8/15	8/16	8/17	8/18	8/19	8/20	8/21	8/22	8/23	8/24	8/25	8
MENT1	-0.1	0	0.1	0.7	1.1	1.1	0.6	-0.1	-0.9	-1.7	-2.4	-2.9	-3.3	-3.7	-3.9	-4.1	-4.2	-

LONG RANGE WEATHER FORECAST

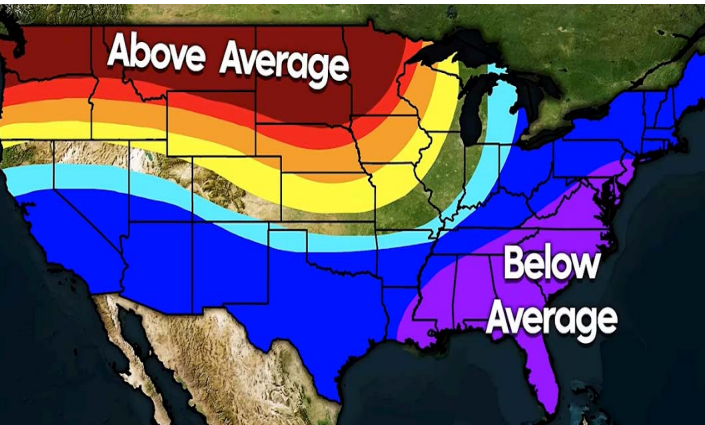
El Nino will have weather impacts in many areas of the World. Trade winds in the Pacific will shift to westerly. Warming Pacific Ocean waters will increase convection and push more moist air and precipitation across the U.S.

Such a forecast will alleviate any low water and river navigation concerns for the Fall/Winter.

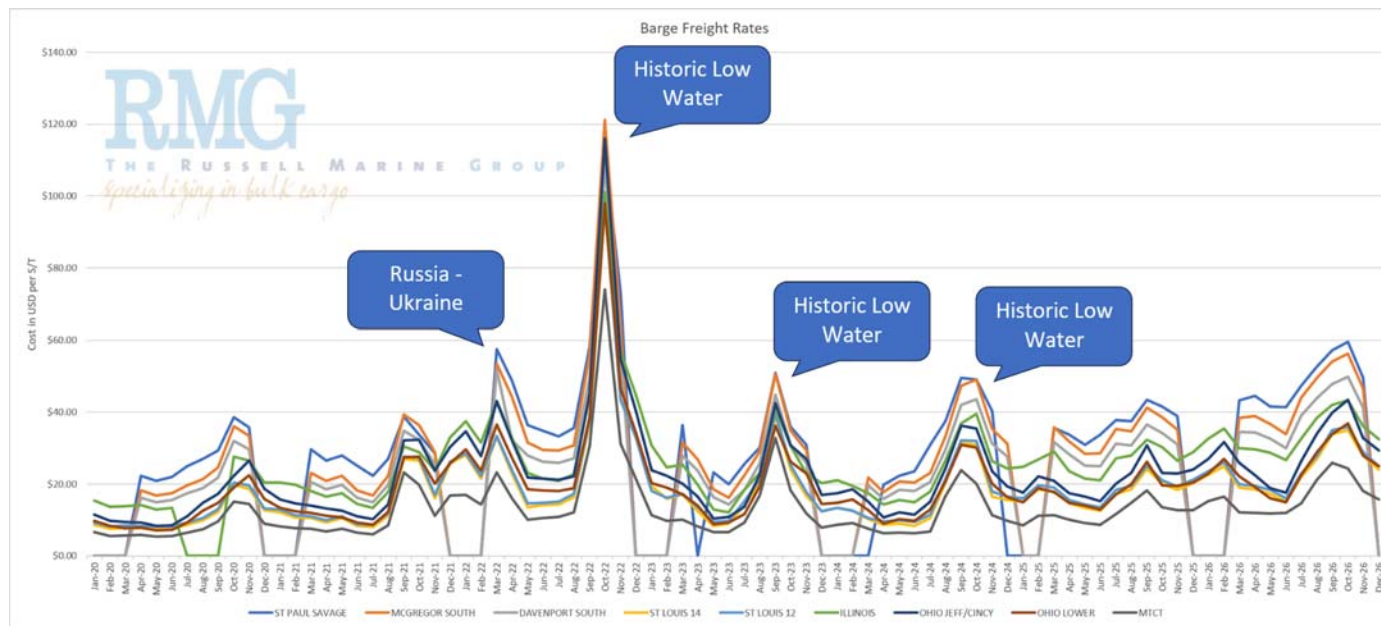
Sept, Oct, Nov Precipitation Forecast



Sept Oct Nov Temperature forecasts



BARGE FREIGHT



NEW ORLEANS and BATON ROUGE HARBOR CONDITIONS

Barge and vessel traffic moving under normal conditions.

Current river stage in Nola is trending low at 3 feet.

Bar Pilots: Recommended maximum loading draft: 50 Feet.

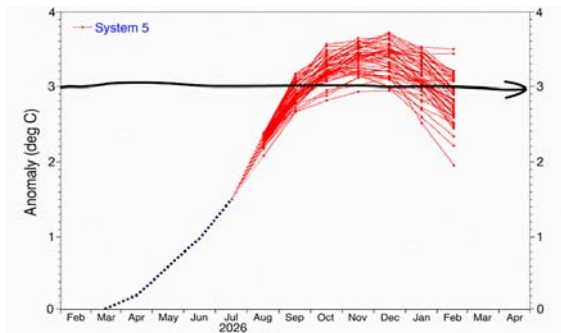
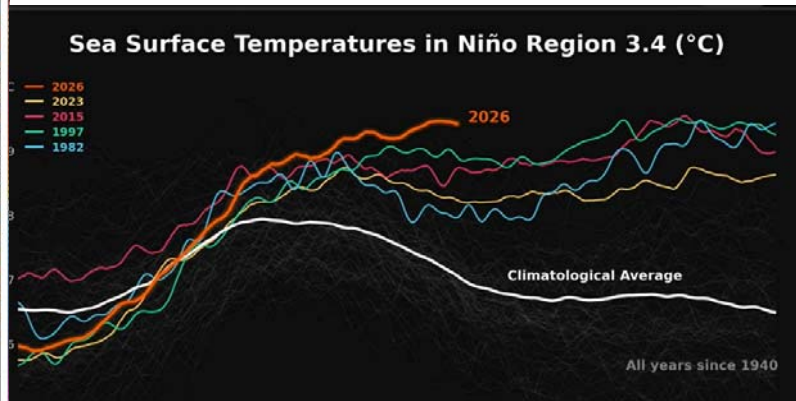
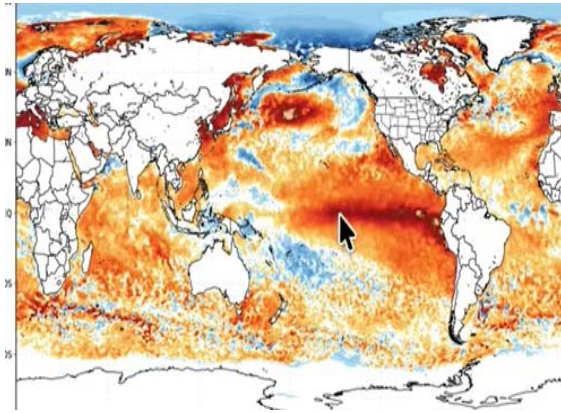
Crescent Pilots: Recommended maximum loading draft: 50 Feet.

NOBRA Pilots: Recommended loading draft is as follows: 50 feet from New Orleans to Mile 175 ; 47 Feet from Mile 175 - Mile 180; 45 feet from Mile 180 to Mile 234.

Vessels with a draft of 41 feet or greater are required to transit the Baton Rouge Harbor (Mile 180 - Mile 234) during daylight hours only.

EL NINO UPDATE

Waters along the Pacific Equator continue to rise. Two graphs below indicate the expected strength of the 2026 El Nino. By Sept water temps are forecast to cross above the +3 DC threshold making it the strongest on record. Some forecasts indicate the water temps could rise as much as 4 to 4.5 DC. at anticipated peak in December. Water temps are expected to remain elevated into Spring of 2027,

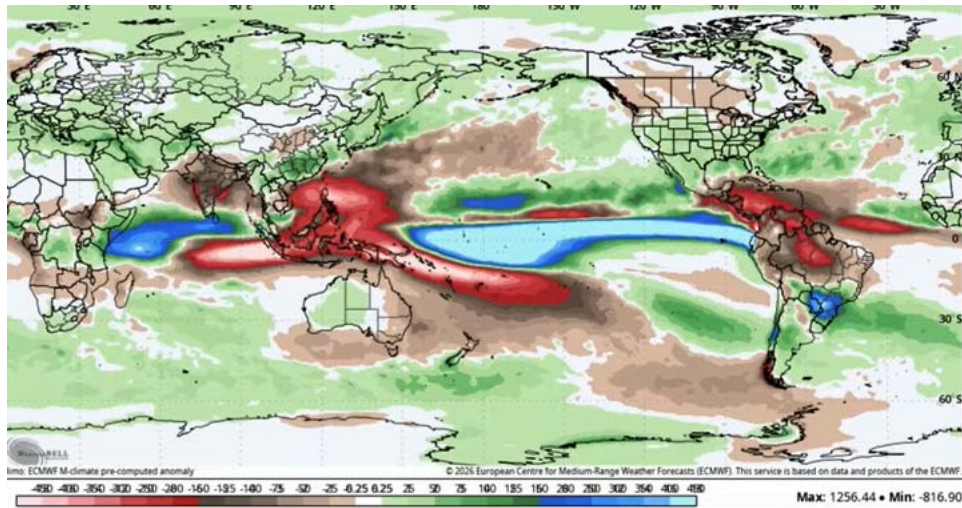


EL NINO PRECIPITATION MAPS

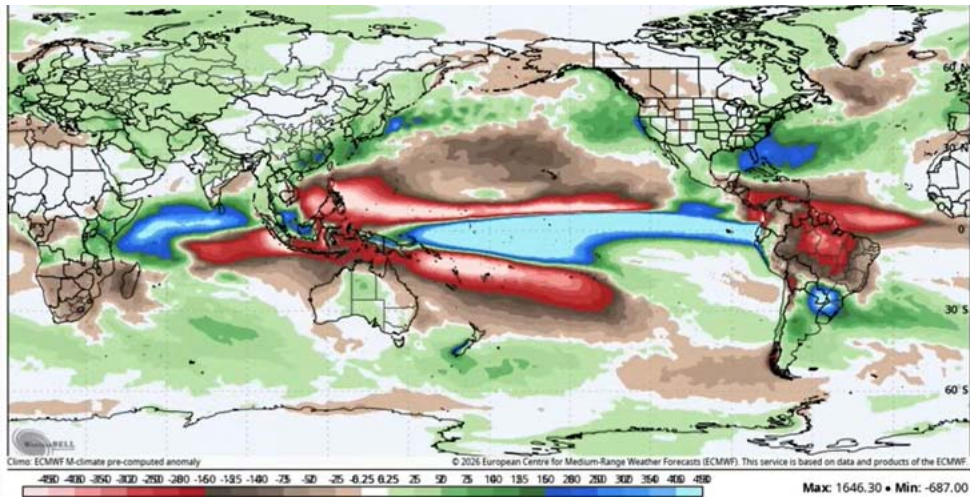
The 2 maps below indicate areas of the World typically impacted by a strong El Nino. Weather extremes from drought to floods can occur. Each El Nino is different and impact areas can evolve and not known until long term global jet streams develop.

ON WATCH - PANAMA CANAL: The Panama Canal and potential dryness in the entire region may affect Canal Operations due to low water.

El Nino Driven Precipitation Forecast Globally for Sept, Oct, Nov – El Nino Peaking in Dec.

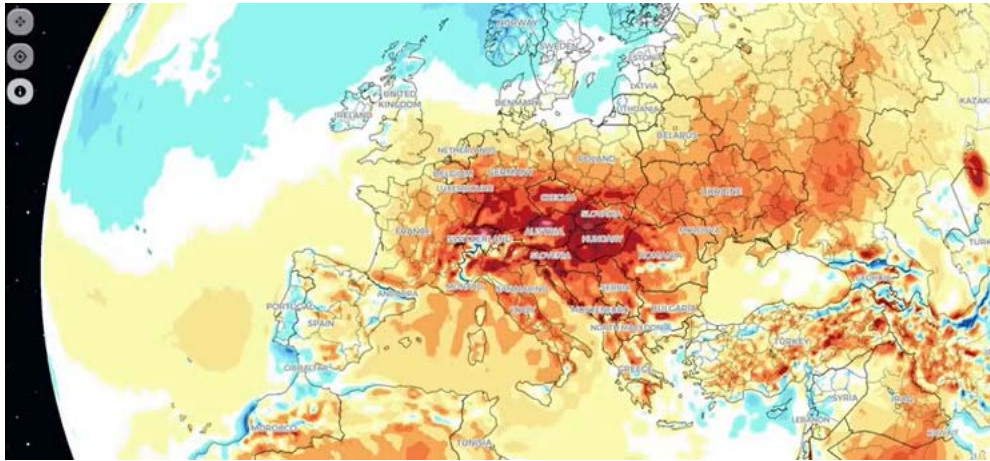


El Nino Driven Precipitation Forecast Globally for Dec, Jan, Feb. – El Nino Waning but still impactful in some areas.

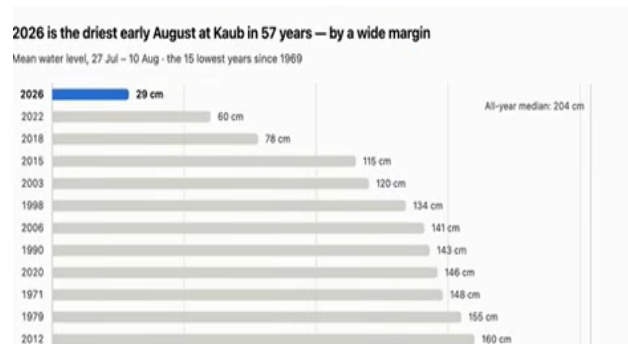


EUROPE IN DROUGHT and HEAT WAVE

Europe has been experiencing a heat wave and drought for going on 4 months now. It is the most severe in decades and certainly, affecting all critical aspects of life including water supplies, power generation, and agriculture.



RHINE River is currently at lowest level in 57 years.



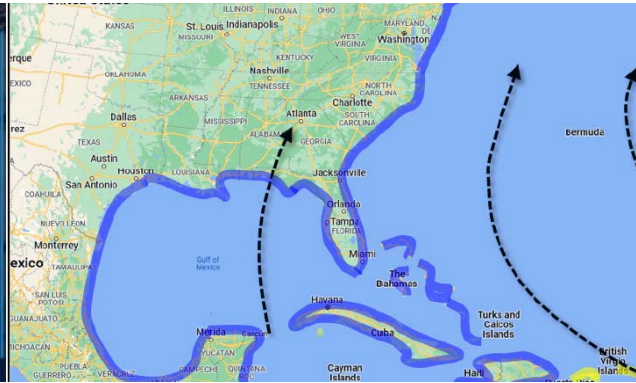
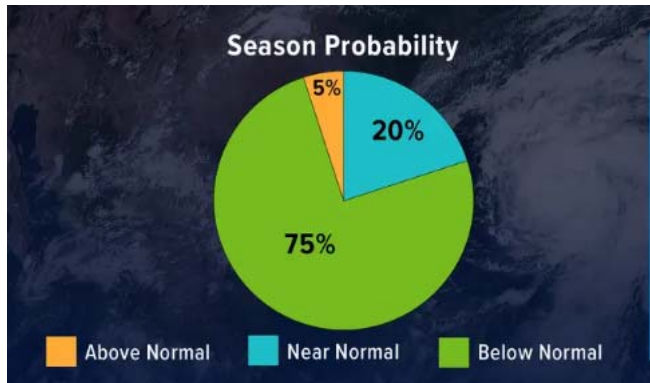
US TROPICS and HURRICANE SEASON

El Nino will substantially increase the amount of Hurricane activity in the Pacific. However, in the Atlantic, the number of storms will be below normal due to wind shear ex the Pacific, an unusually large amount of Saharan Dust ex Africa, and dry atmospheric conditions in the Gulf and Atlantic.

The season is still expected to produce Atlantic storms, especially near shore pop up storms that may impact Eastern areas of the Gulf.

New Forecast calls for less than 10 storm events with only 2 being major.

Likely track of any storms that develop



Satellite Image of Saharan Dust sweeping across the Atlantic

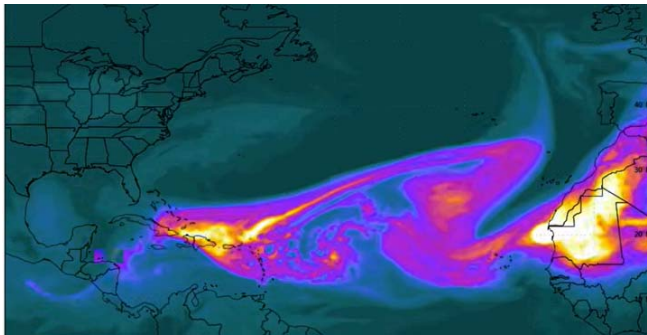
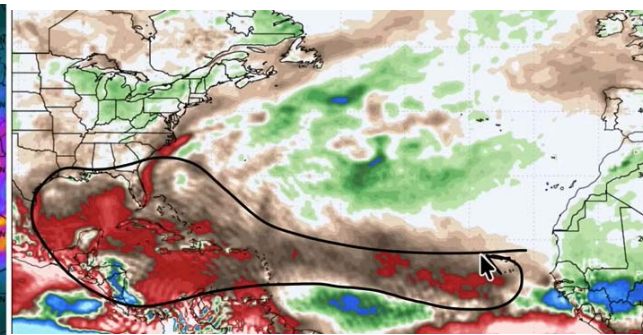


Image of dry air currently in the Gulf and Atlantic



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