Vicksburg District (MVK)

Red River Basin

Seasonal Outlook: June – August 2026

Produced By: MVK Water Management
Produced for: Red River JBJ Navigation Project
Date Produced: 18 June 2026
Area of Interest: Red River Basin

The National Weather Service (NWS) seasonal precipitation outlook shows above average precipitation through the end of June and below average precipitation likely for the Red River Basin from July – September 2026. The seasonal outlook combines the effects of long-term trends, soil moisture, and when appropriate, the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO). The expected impacts to each basin, based on current conditions and the NWS seasonal precipitation outlook, as interpreted by MVK Water Management, are outlined below.

All NWS Climate Prediction Center Outlooks: https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

NWS Seasonal 8 - 14 day Precipitation Outlook:
https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/814prcp.new.gif

NWS Seasonal 3 month Precipitation Outlook:
https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/long_range/lead01/off01_prcp.gif

Figure 1. NWS 8 – 14 Day Precipitation Outlook for Jun 24 – 30, 2026, Issued 16 Jun 2026

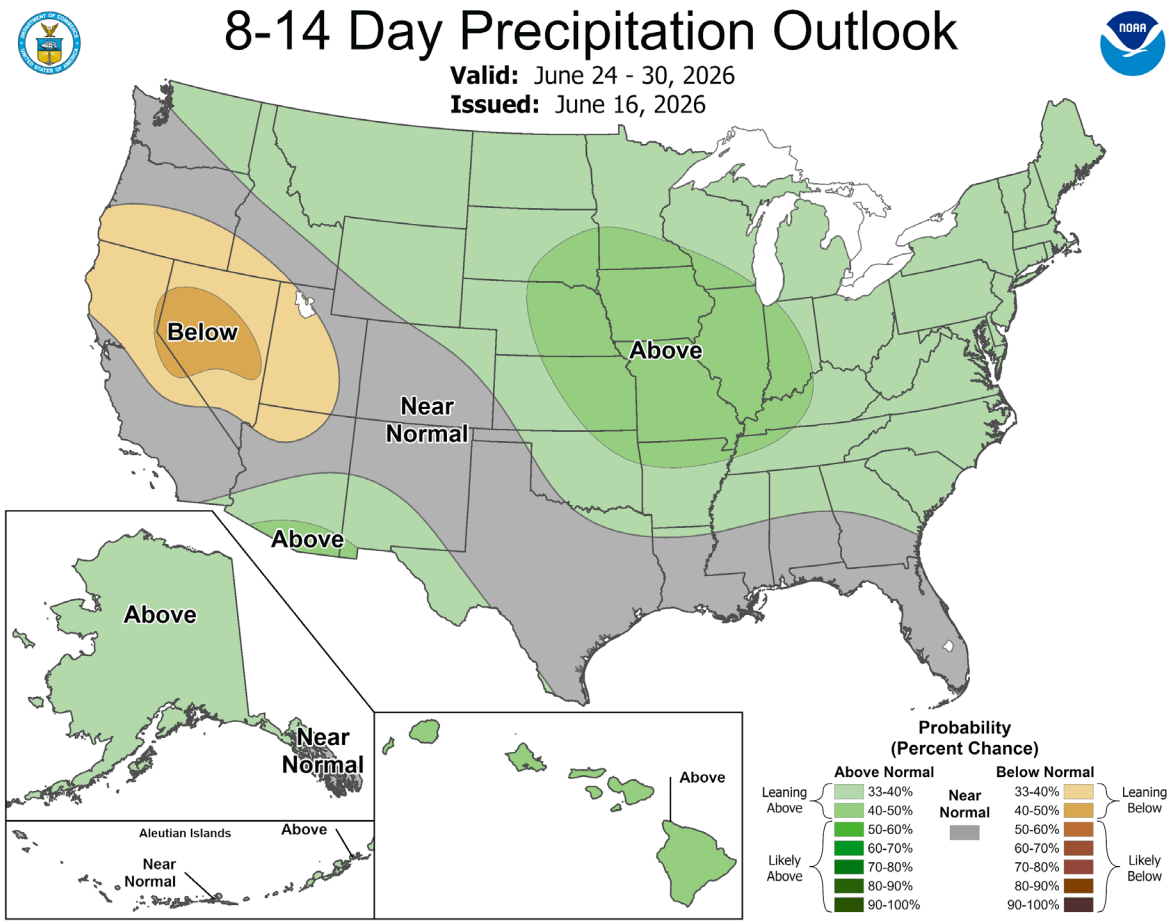
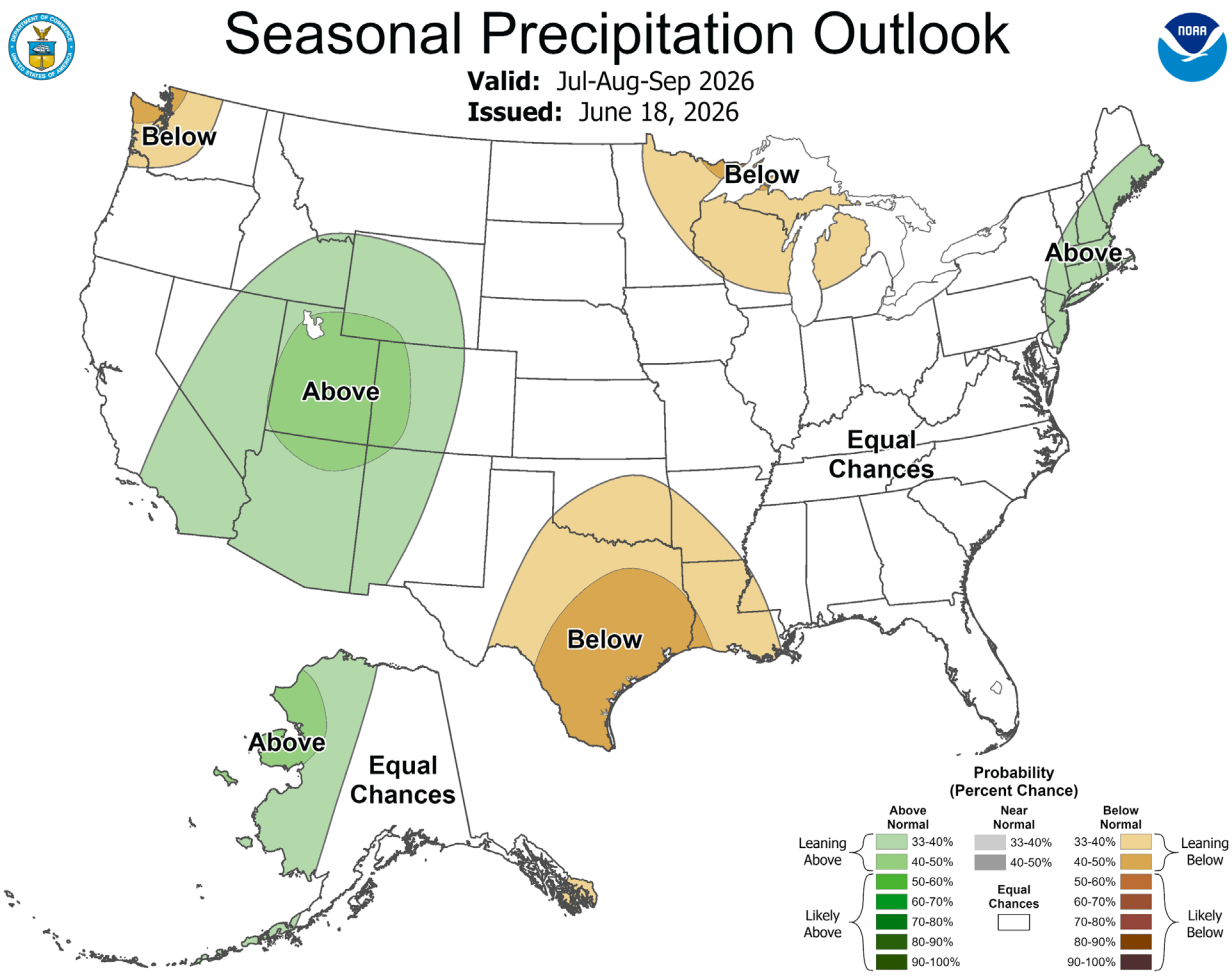


Figure 2. NWS Seasonal Precipitation Outlook for Jul – Sep 2026, Issued 18 June 2026



Red River Basin

Expect to see consistently higher flows on the Red for at least the next month compared to what we have been seeing, likely in the 25,000 – 75,000 cfs range. Increase flow will be from local rain and releases from upstream reservoirs. Upstream reservoirs have all now reached their target pools so they will not be holding back as much as they have been. Even though flows are expected to rise, they are not expected to reach flood stages on the mainstem Red in the next month. The above average precipitation in June followed by below average precipitation July – September could result in deposition and shoaling. This is similar to what happened last year in 2025 in the beginning of July, but with flows not expected to be as high as they were last year prior to the fall, shoaling may not be as severe.

Ouachita River Basin

The Ouachita River, which, along with the Mississippi River, influences the tailwater at Boggs L&D (Acme) will likely experience average to below average flows through the summer with slow rises and falls as localized rainfall events move through the lower end of the basin.

The Mississippi River/Gauntlet

Based on current conditions and the seasonal precipitation outlook, the Mississippi River in the MVK Area of Responsibility (AOR) will likely experience average to above average flows June – July. The Mississippi River at Red River Landing Gage is a good indicator of the trend of the Red River below Boggs L&D and the Gauntlet area and is forecast to remain near or above average for the next month, which should keep the Gauntlet area above low water conditions.

The NWS LMRFC 28-Day Forecast is the best source for long term Mississippi River Forecasts. It includes 16 days of QPF.

NWS LMRFC 28-Day Forecast: https://www.weather.gov/lmrfc/experimental_28day_mississippi_plot

The Vicksburg District Water Management Website also reports these 28-day Mississippi River Forecasts and plots them along with the average stage. These plots can be viewed on the website below.

MVK Water Management – Mississippi River Forecast Plots: https://water.usace.army.mil/office/mvk/tools/mvd-products

Figure 2. LMRFC 28-Day Forecast for Mississippi River at Red River Landing, Issued 17 June 2025

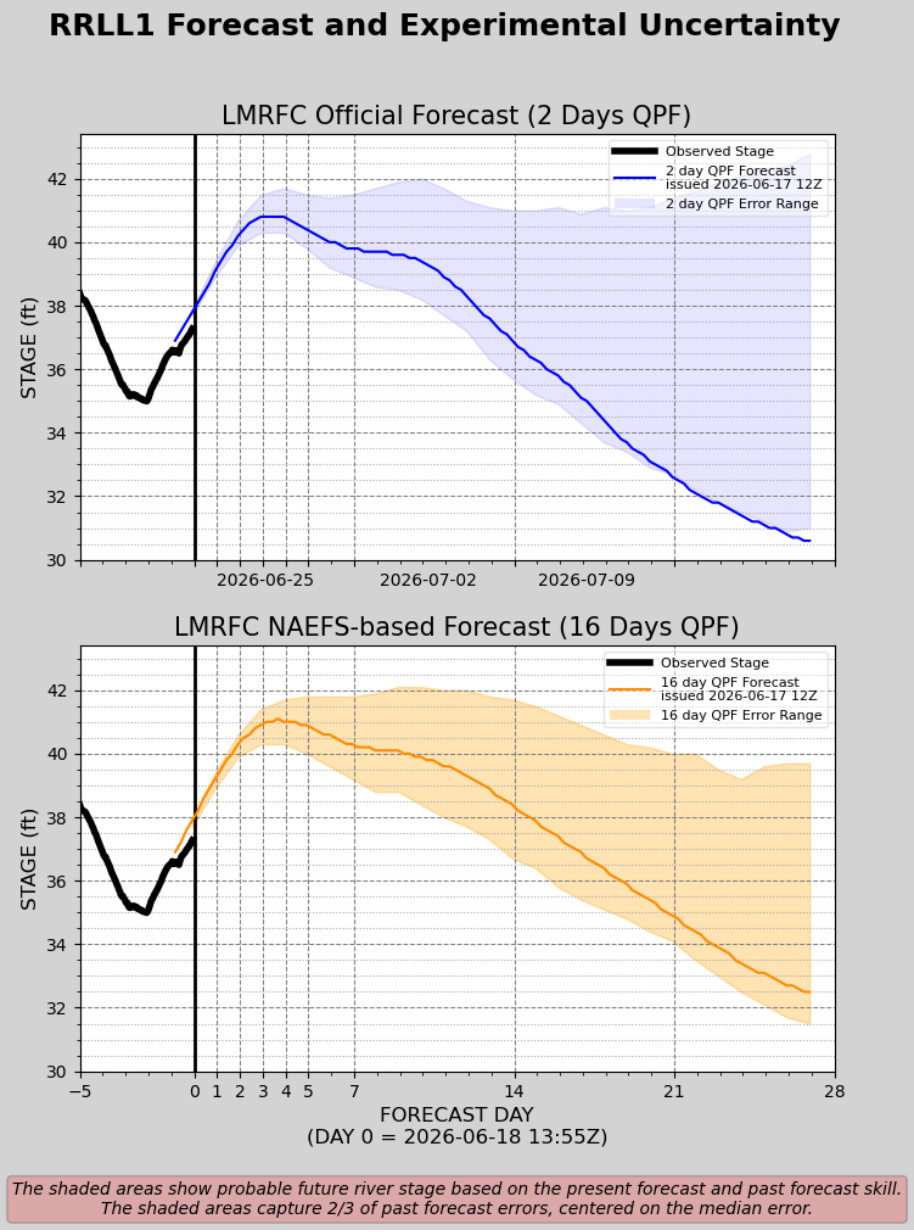
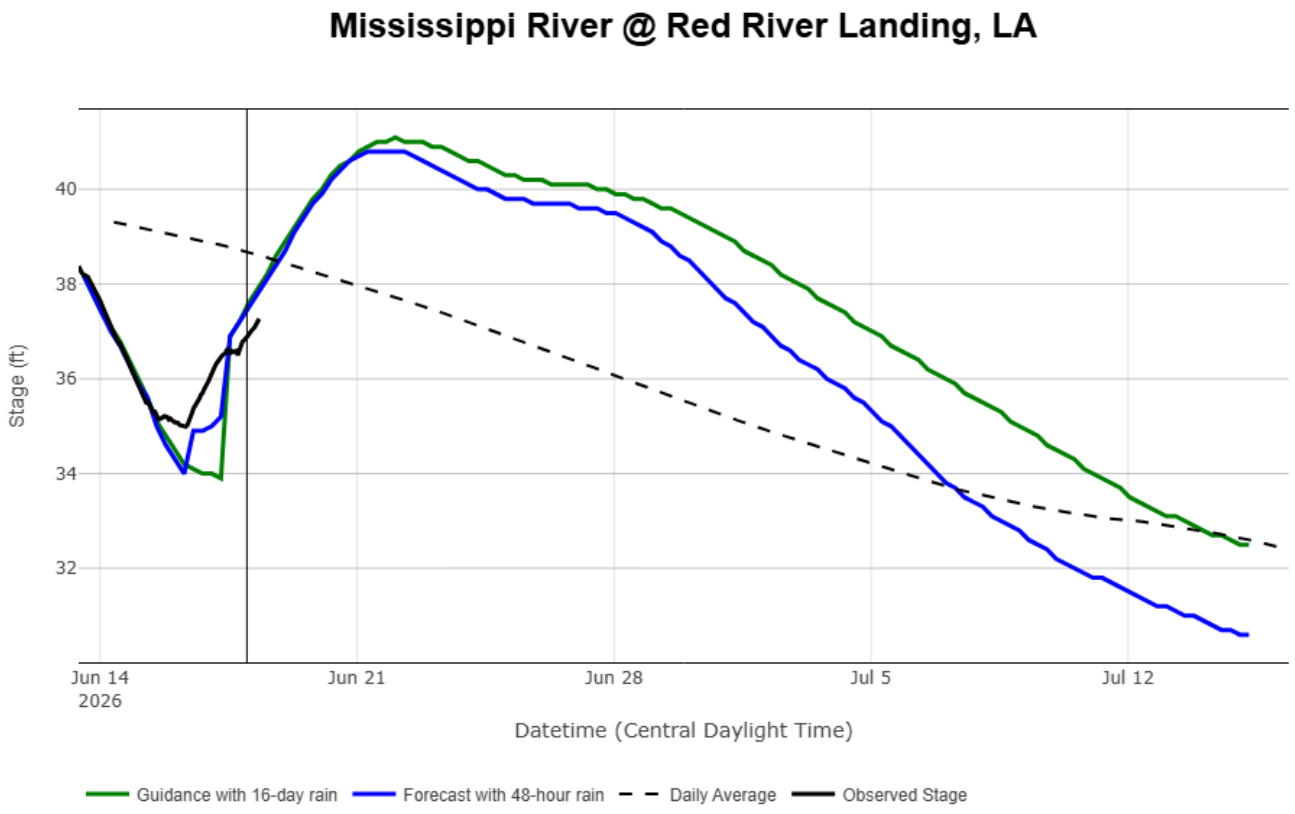



Figure 4. LMRFC 28-Day Forecast for Mississippi River at Arkansas City with Average Flows from MVK Water Management Website