Forecast: Chilling La Nina should be here all winter

By Brian K. Sullivan, Bloomberg

A La Nina that threatens to push cold temperatures across the northern U.S. and extend drought conditions in the south will probably remain in the Pacific deep into the winter, fading away by spring, according to U.S. forecasters.

The weather phenomenon — defined by a cooling of the equatorial Pacific Ocean's surface that touches off a change in atmosphere patterns — will probably bring colder and wetter conditions to the northern stretches of the U.S. and warmer, drier conditions to the south, the U.S. Climate Prediction Center said in a report Thursday.

The consensus from U.S. forecasters "favors the continuation of weak La Nina conditions through" February, the center's report shows.

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