

Federal forecasters don't expect an extreme winter

November 21 2013, by Seth Borenstein

The weather forecast for this winter is mostly a shrug of the shoulders.

For most of the nation, the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration predicts equal chances for unusual warmth, cold, snow, rain and even average weather. That's because certain global weather factors, like El Nino, aren't big and apparent.

NOAA's Mike Halpert said Thursday that the winter isn't likely to be too memorable or unusual, except in the South where drought should deepen in the southwest and develop in the southeast.

Forecasters expect unusual warmth from Arizona to Alabama and also in New England. The extreme U.S. north, around the Dakotas, is likely to be colder than normal.

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Citation: Federal forecasters don't expect an extreme winter (2013, November 21) retrieved 28 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2013-11-federal-dont-extreme-winter.html>

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