



Drought Information Statement for Southern NM/Far West TX

Valid July 5, 2024

Issued By: NWS El Paso (Santa Teresa, NM)

Contact Information: sr-epz.nws@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated August 7, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/EPZ/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/?dews_region=132 for regional drought status updates.

- Severe (D2) to Extreme (D3) drought status affecting southern New Mexico and far west Texas
- Above normal precipitation across southwest New Mexico to start monsoon season, drier than normal conditions later in the season.
- Drought conditions expected to persist through the summer months

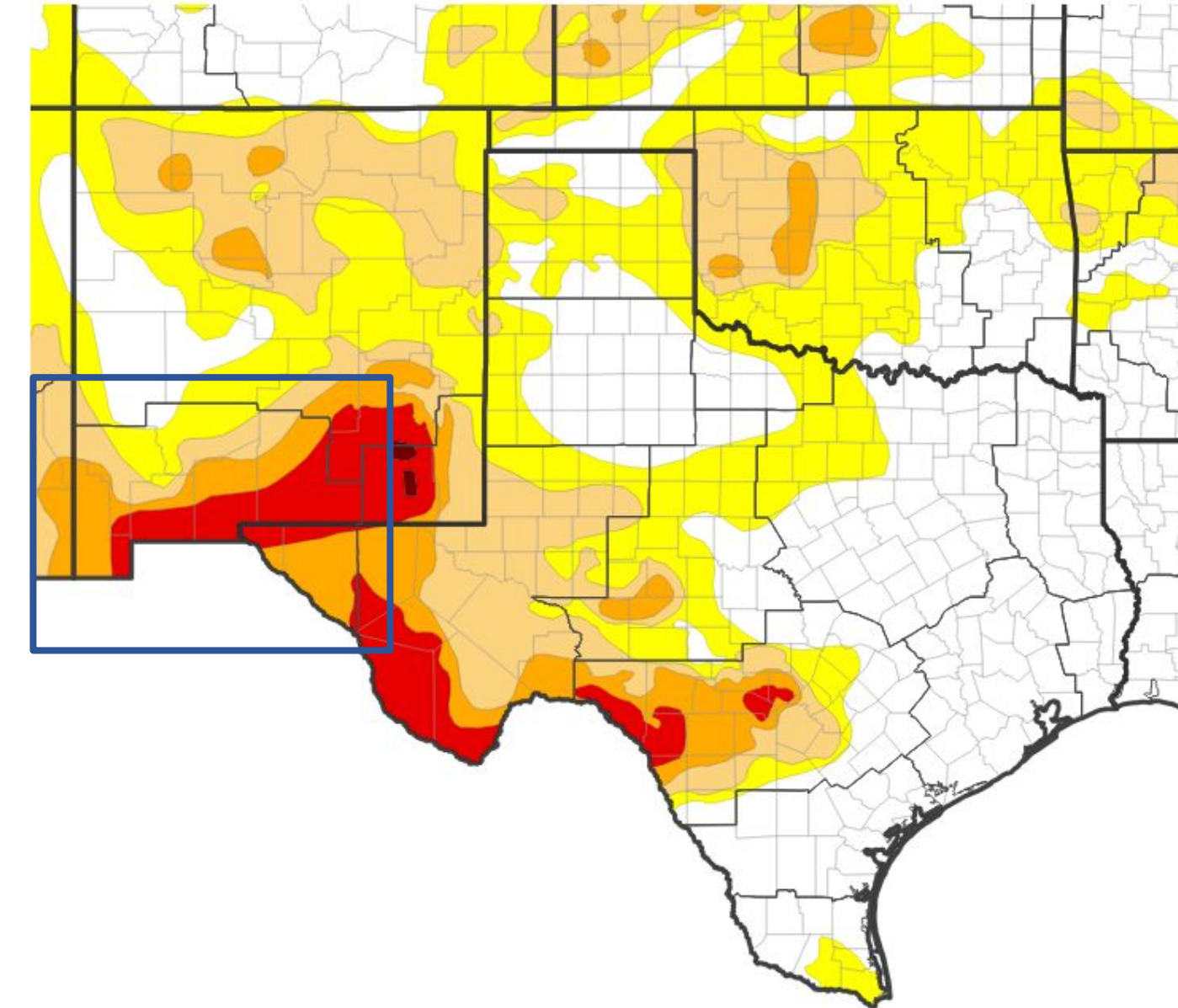


Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for southern New Mexico and far west Texas

Drought Intensity and Extent

- **D3 (Extreme Drought)**
Southern New Mexico lowlands including portions of Dona Ana, Luna, and Otero Counties.
El Paso, TX
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**
Covering majority of south-central New Mexico and Hudspeth County Texas
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**
Central New Mexico (57% of state)
- Drought will persist through the summer months in southern New Mexico and west Texas.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07/02/24





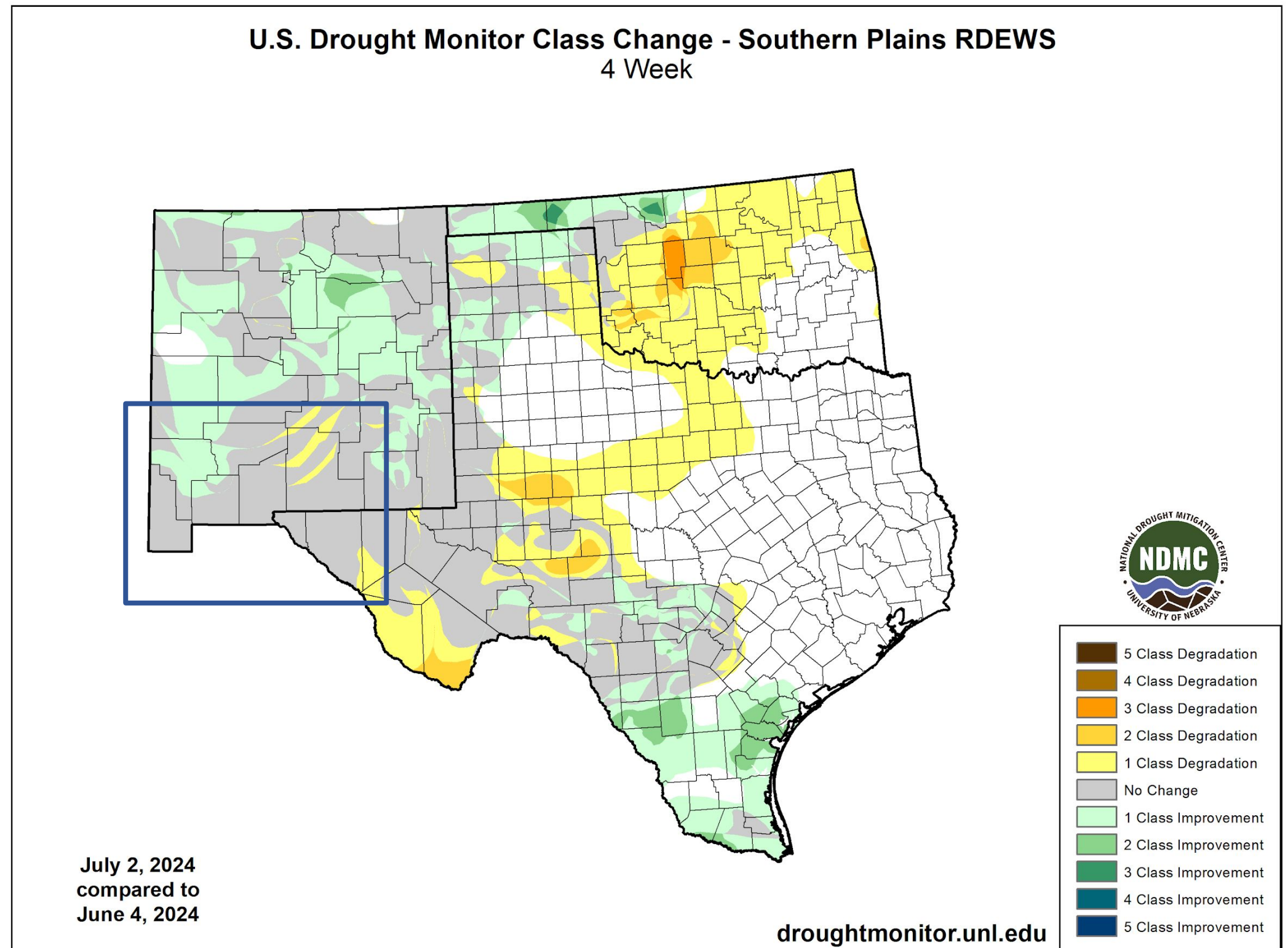
Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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3:19 AM

Link to the latest [1-month change map](#) for southern New Mexico and far west Texas

4-Week Drought Monitor Class Change.

- **Drought Worsened:**
Slight worsening across Lincoln National Forest
- **Drought Improved:**
Slight improvement across Gila National Forest, northern and central New Mexico
- **No Change:**
Most of Far West Texas and southern New Mexico





Precipitation

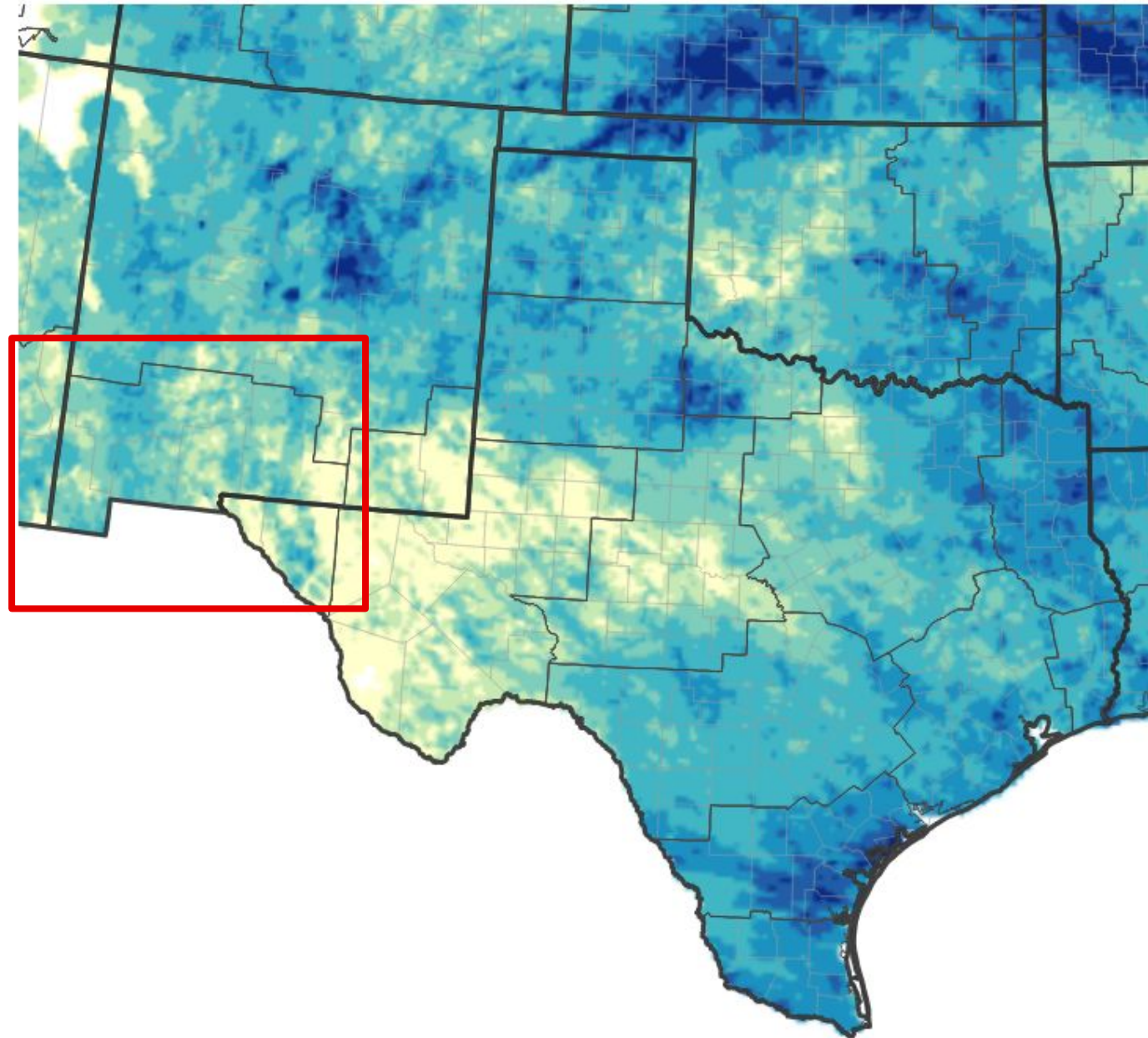
July 5, 2024
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30-day rain totals, 0.25-0.75” along I-10 corridor. 1.00-2.00” over mountain forests

90-day rain totals, 0.50-1.00” along I-10 corridor. 1.50-2.50” over mountain forests

Above normal precipitation across much of southwest New Mexico, central Hudspeth County. El Paso County missed on majority of rain chances.

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



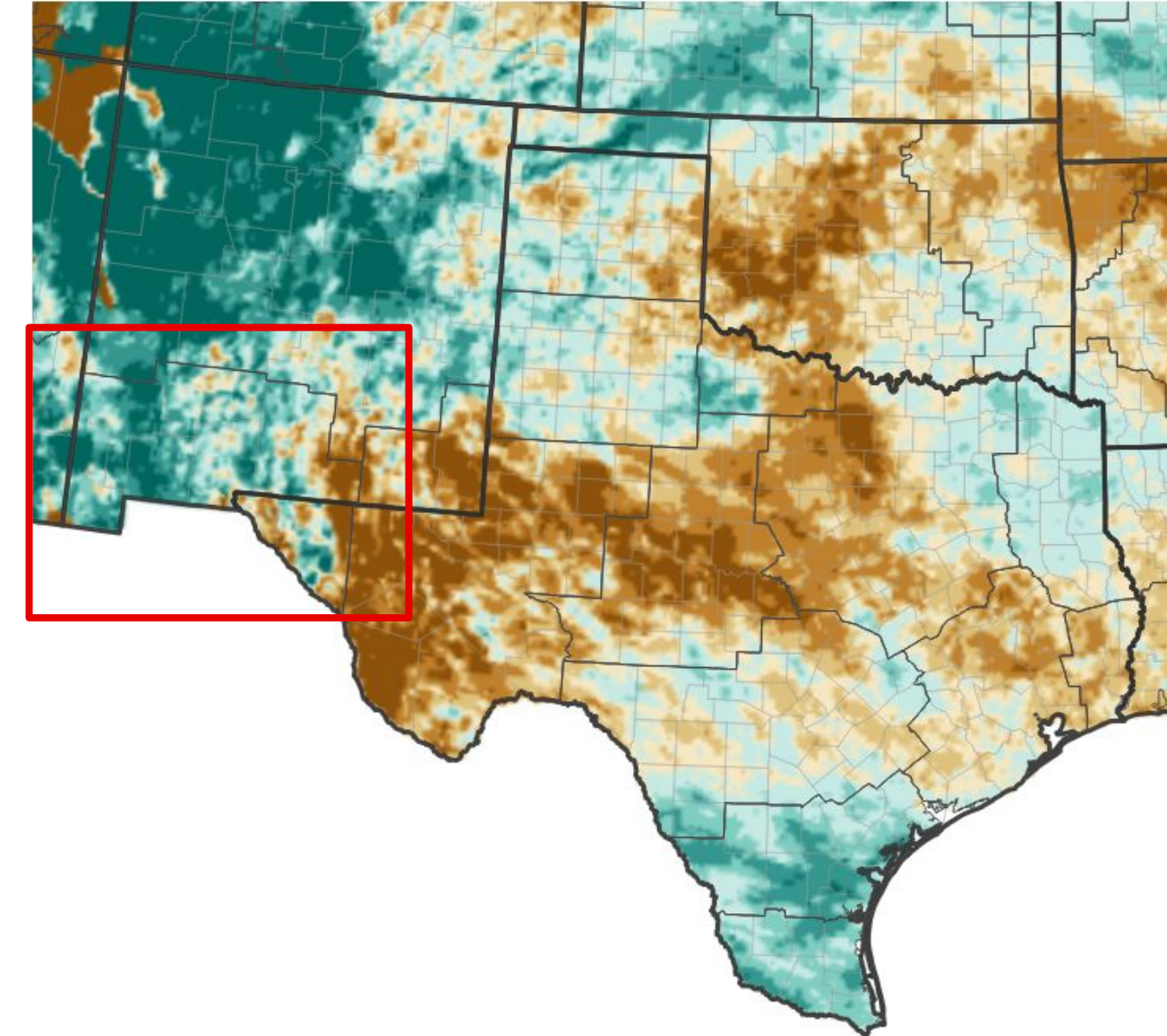
Inches of Precipitation



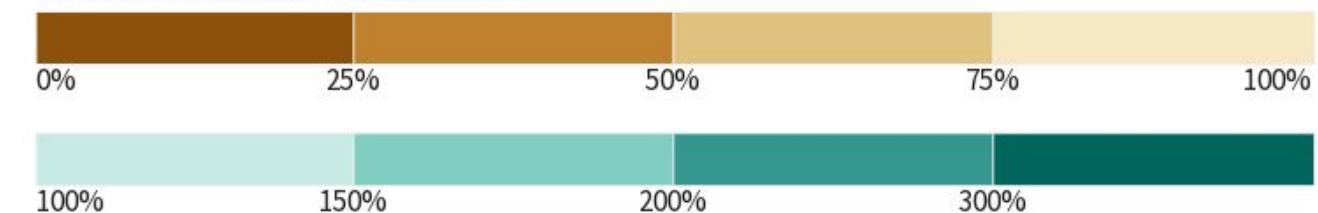
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07/03/24

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07/03/24



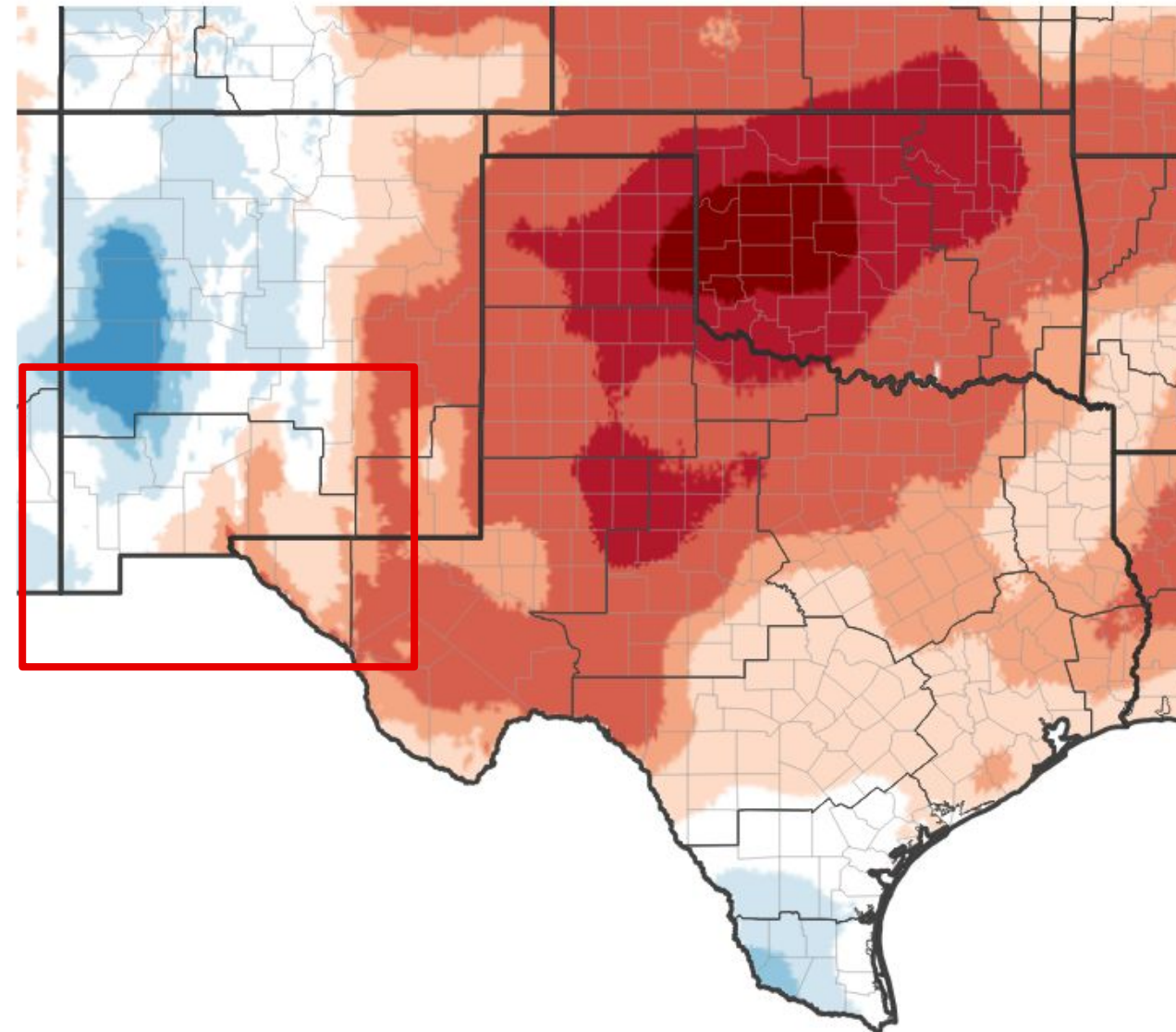


Temperature

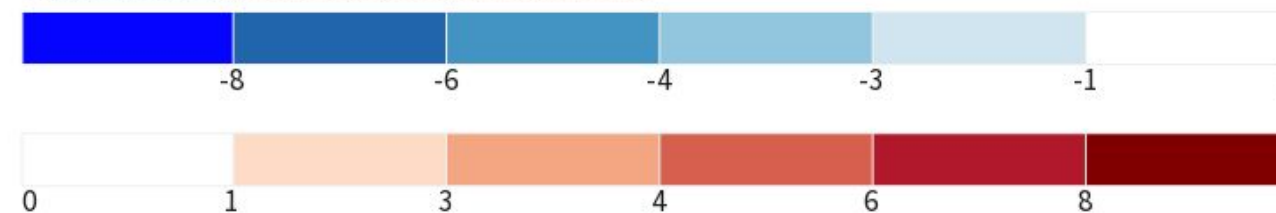
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- Above normal June temperatures, closer to normal across central New Mexico. Typical June heat waves.
- 2024 is 3rd hottest year on record for El Paso (so far). June was hottest on record.
- June temperatures 5.4°C above normal at El Paso International (KELP)

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



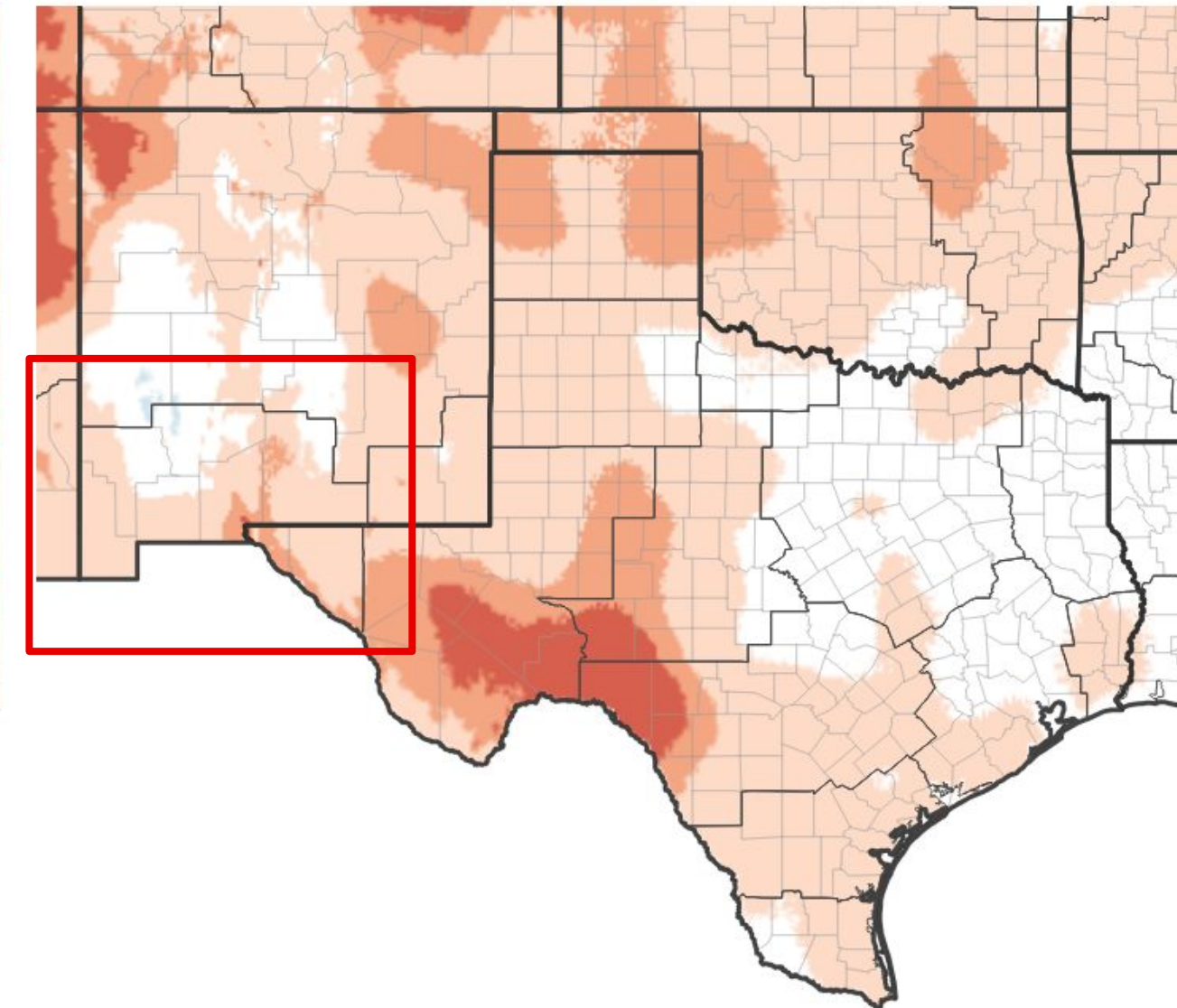
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



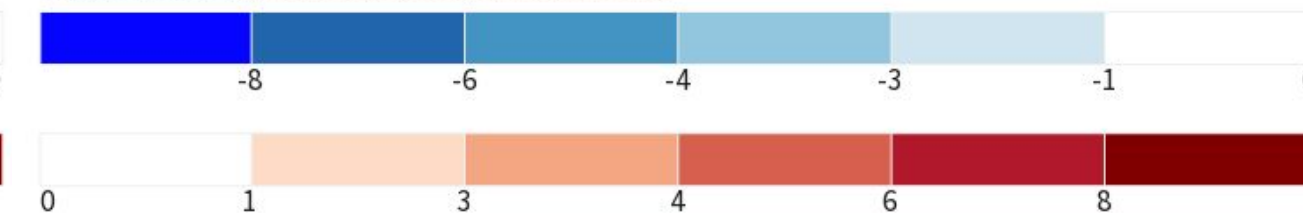
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 06/30/24

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 06/30/24





Summary of Impacts

July 5, 2024

3:19 AM

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows in Gila and Mimbres basins increase this month due to thunderstorms, remaining at or slightly above climate averages as we enter the monsoon season. River levels will rely on thunderstorm output the next few months and sudden rises are possible. Gila River levels have increased to 4-5 feet at Redrock and Virden. Rio Grande water was released below the Caballo Dam in early March with normal streamflow expected through the end of summer. Elephant Butte storage sits at 16.9% capacity (falling further below 30-year median flow) ([Texas Water Development Board](#)). River flooding risk will depend on storm coverage this month.

Agricultural Impacts

- Above normal temperatures will increase heat stress on local agriculture. Drought status will keep demand high. 2023 season allotment was 14 inches and the 2024 season surface water allotment of 12 inches. Please refer to the Elephant Butte Irrigation District ([EBID](#)) website or your local municipality for more information.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Soil moisture remains below normal, however recent rains and higher moisture have decreased wildfire threat. Monsoon onset led to lighter winds, further limiting the risk of rapid fire spread. Four wildfires in New Mexico (South Fork, Indios, Blue 2 and Salt) have exceeded 3000 acres in size. Fire danger decreasing in July, however the risk for new lightning starts will continue.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

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- Gila river basin streamflows running near normal, slight increase this month with thunderstorm activity.
- Mimbres basin slightly below normal due to recent thunderstorms.

Gila River Stages

	Latest	Flood Stage
Gila	1.54 ft	11.00 ft
Redrock	4.39 ft	20.00 ft
Virden	5.19 ft	15.00 ft

Rio Grande Stages

	Latest	Flood Stage
El Paso	4.97 ft	8.50 ft

Gauge stage recorded on 7/5/2024

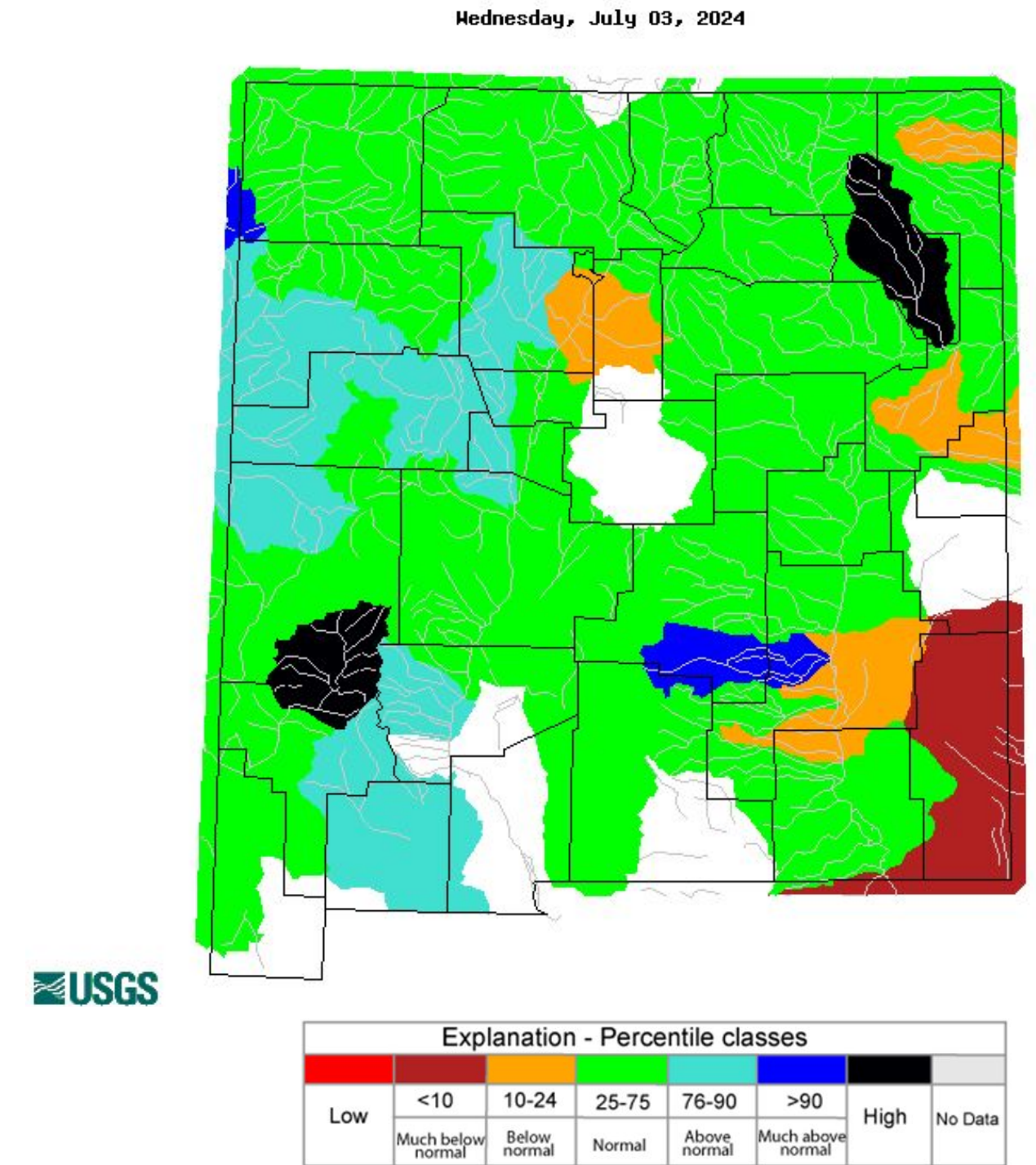


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid June 4, 2024

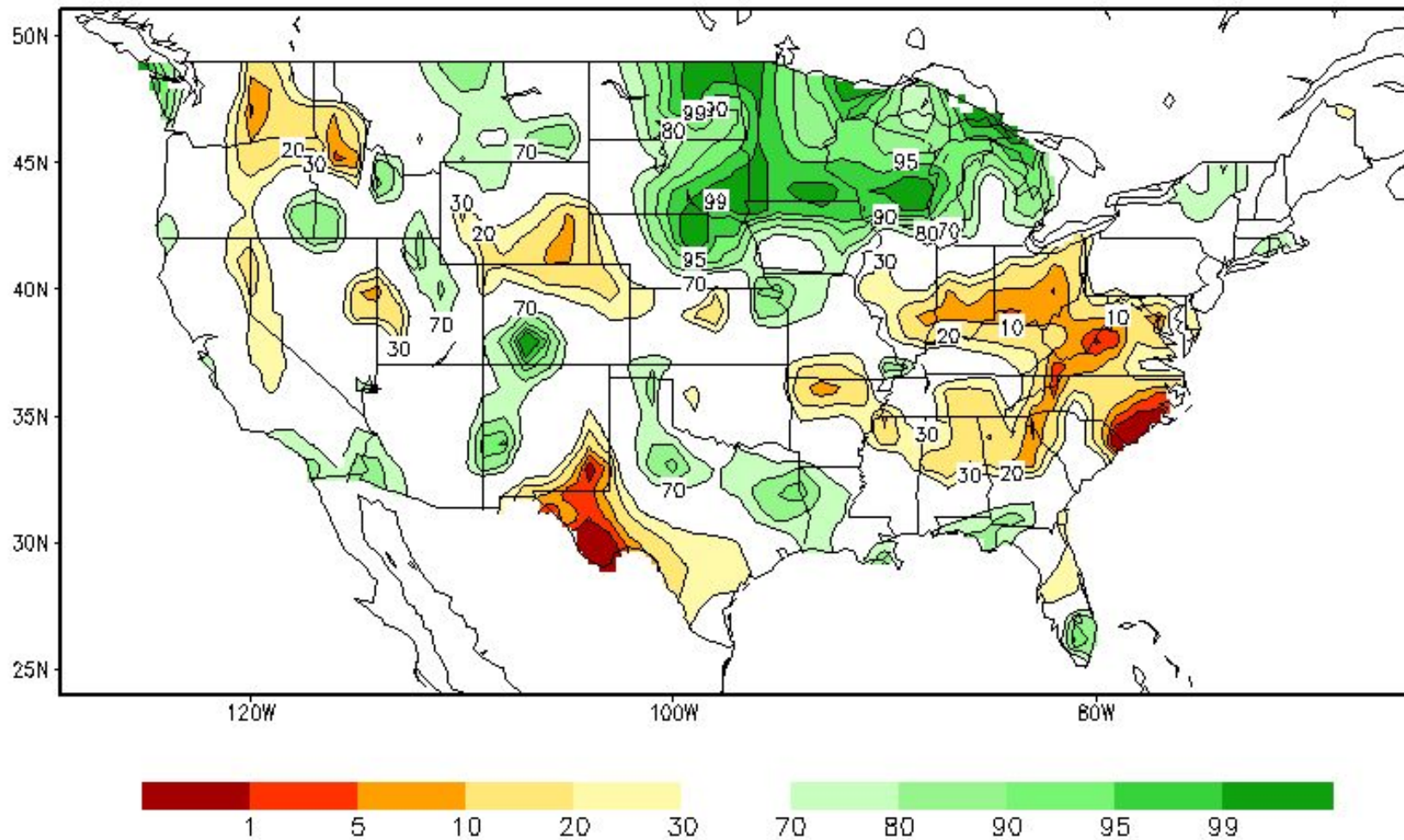




Agricultural Impacts

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Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
JUL 03, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending JUN 29, 2024
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

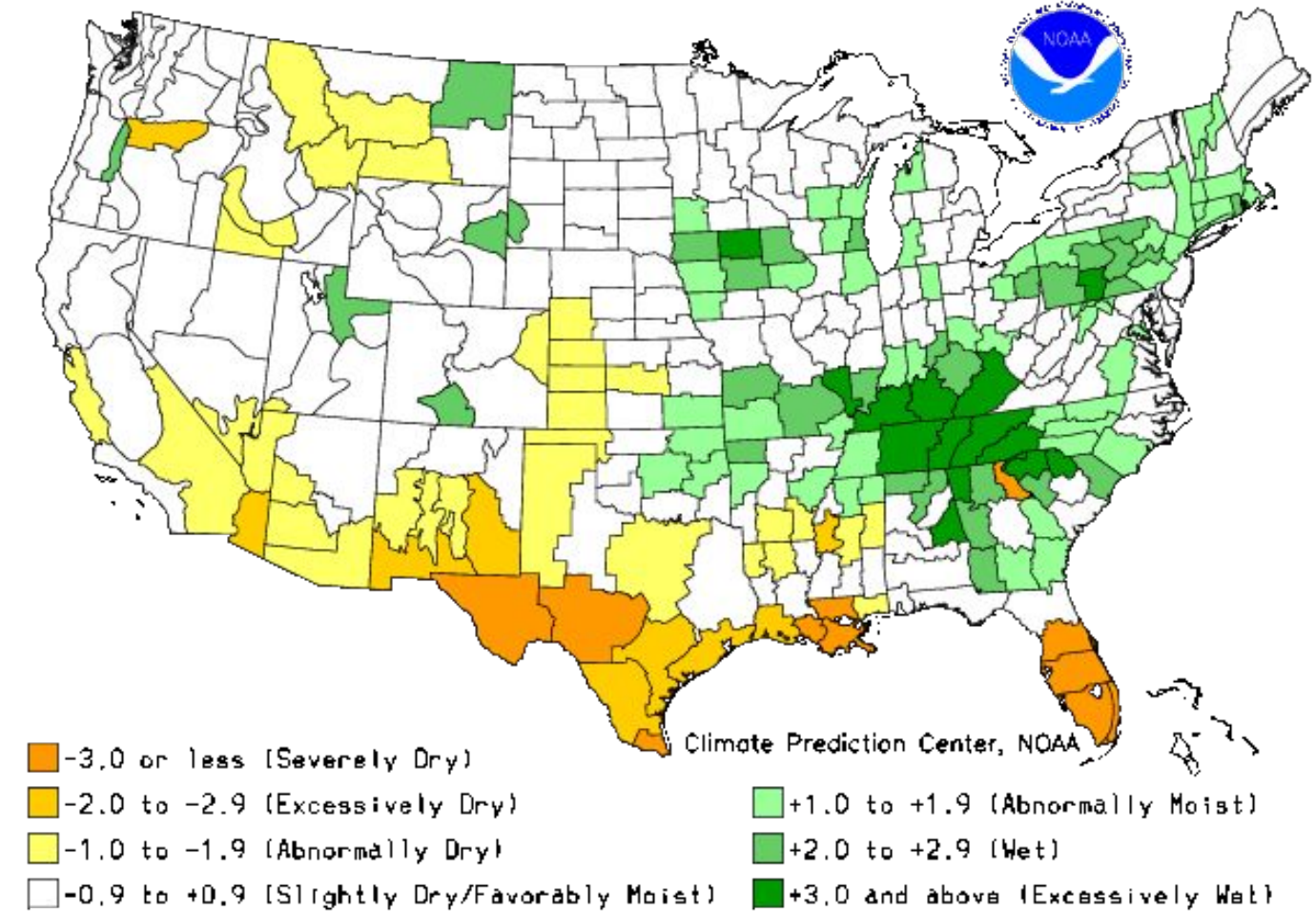


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid July 3, 2024

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending June 29, 2024



Fire Hazard Impacts

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Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

Latest TX Burn Ban map available [here](#)

Latest NM Fire Restrictions available [here](#)

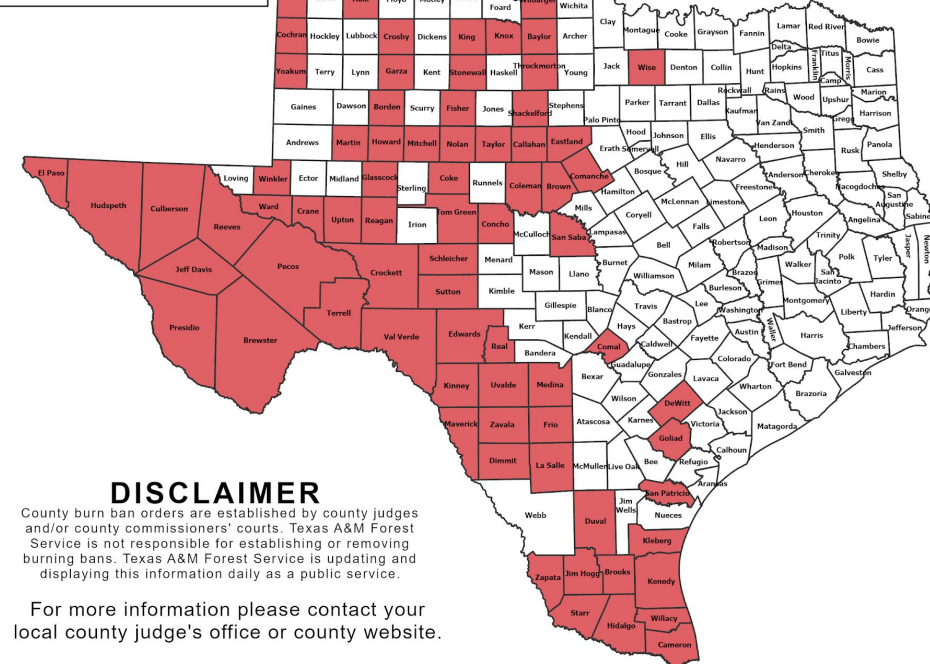
OUTDOOR BURN BANS

July 04, 2024



Counties without Established Burn Bans
Counties with Established Burn Bans

Email updates to: burnban@tfs.tamu.edu



Counties with Burn Bans: 84

- Armstrong
- Bailey
- Baylor
- Borden
- Brewster
- Briscoe
- Brooks
- Brown
- Callahan
- Cameron
- Carson
- Castro
- Cochran
- Coke
- Coleman
- Comal
- Comanche
- Concho
- Crane
- Crockett
- Crosby
- Culberson
- DeWitt
- Dimmit
- Donley
- Duval
- Eastland
- Edwards
- El Paso
- Fisher
- Frio
- Garza
- Glasscock
- Goliad
- Gray
- Hale
- Hidalgo
- Howard
- Hudspeth
- Jeff Davis
- Jim Hogg
- Kenedy
- King
- Kinney
- Kleberg
- Knox
- La Salle
- Martin
- Martín
- Maverick
- Medina
- Mitchell
- Moore
- Nolan
- Oldham
- Pecos
- Potter
- Presidio
- Reagan
- Real
- Reeves
- San Patricio
- San Saba
- Schleicher
- Shackelford
- Sherman
- Starr
- Stonewall
- Sutton
- Taylor
- Terrell
- Throckmorton
- Tom Green
- Upton
- Uvalde
- Val Verde
- Ward
- Wheeler
- Willbarger
- Willacy
- Winkler
- Wise
- Yoakum
- Zapata
- Zavala

DISCLAIMER
County burn ban orders are established by county judges and/or county commissioners' courts. Texas A&M Forest Service is not responsible for establishing or removing burning bans. Texas A&M Forest Service is updating and displaying this information daily as a public service.
For more information please contact your local county judge's office or county website.

RED FLAG WARNINGS: www.weather.gov
Additional map formats available at <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/Burnbans/>

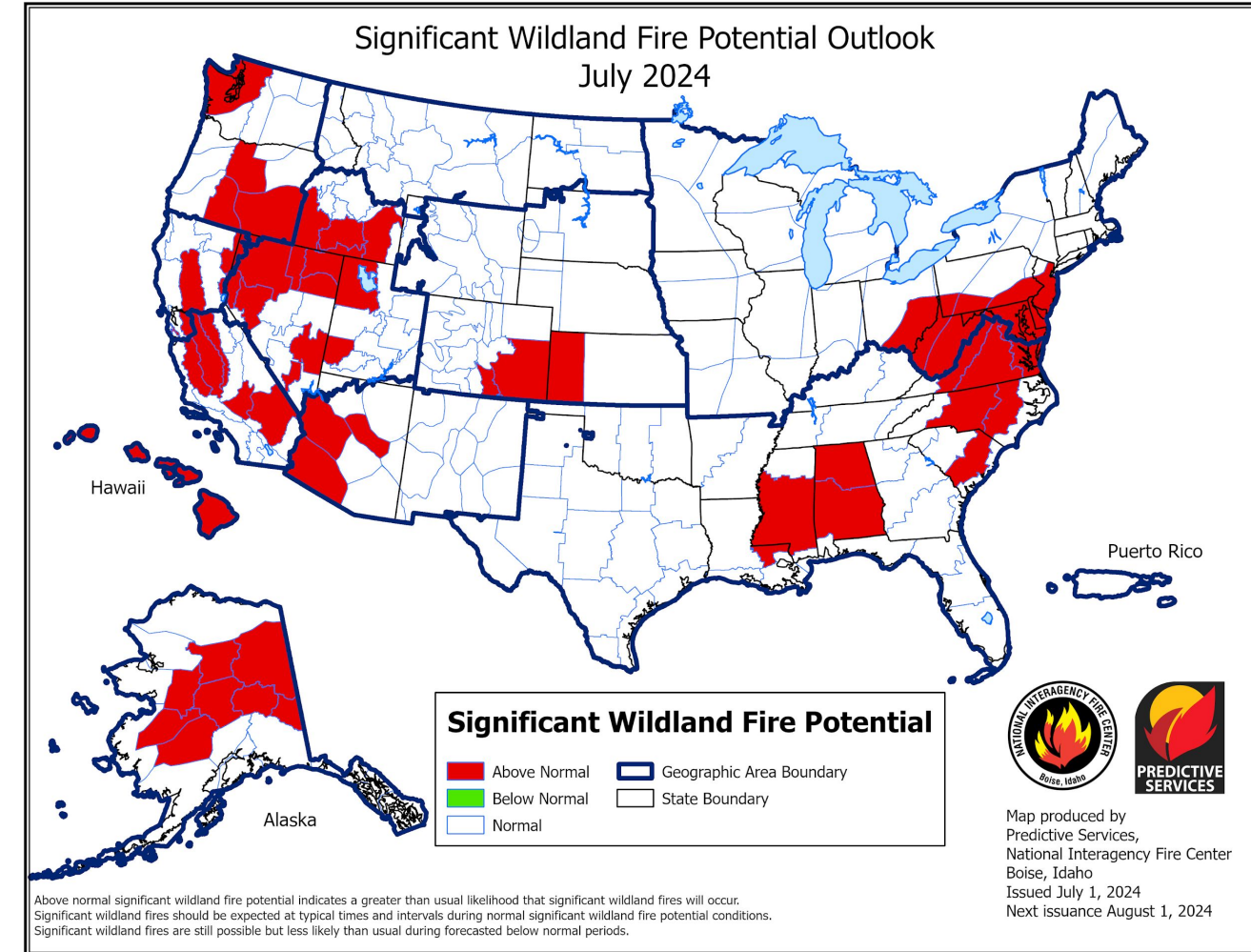


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for July 2024



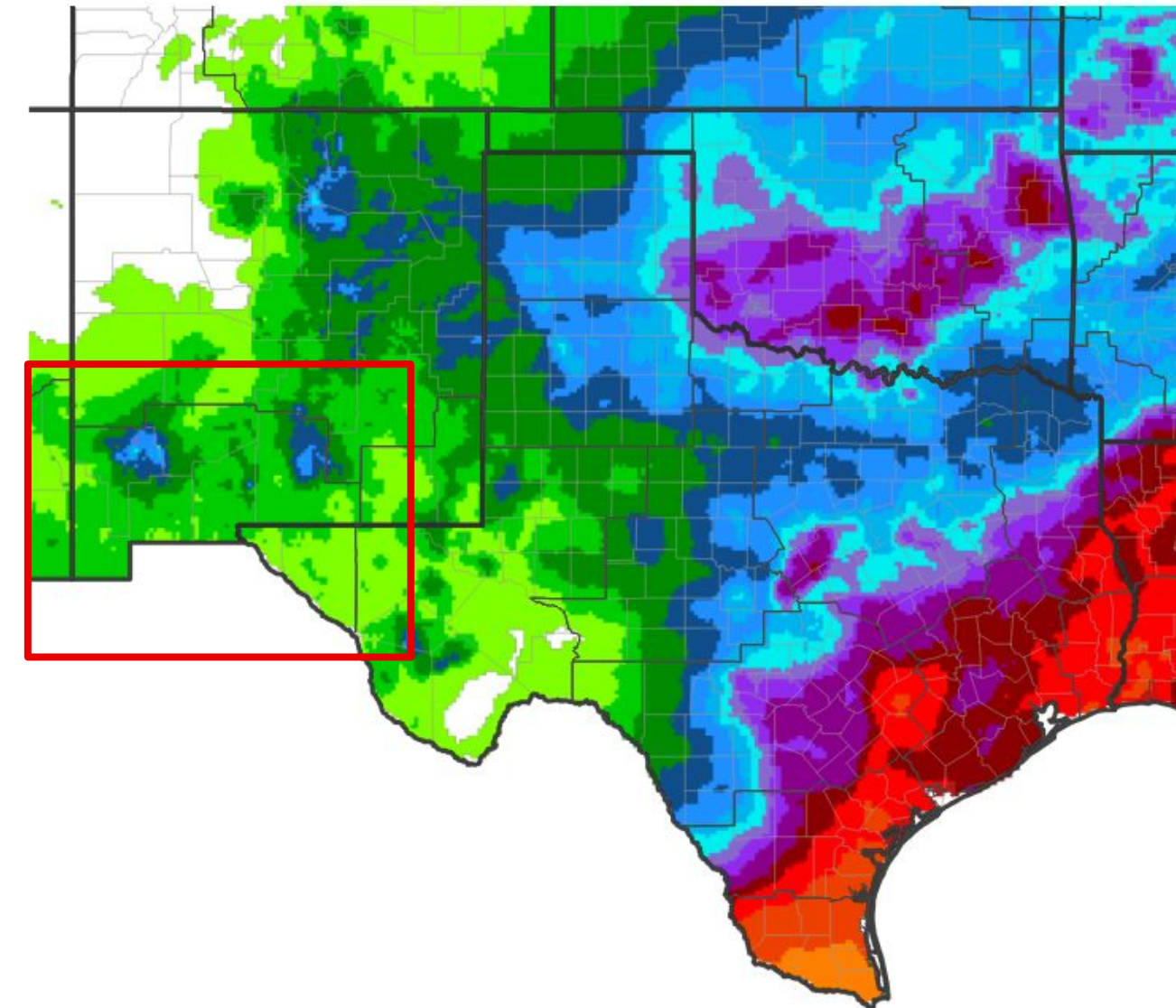


Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

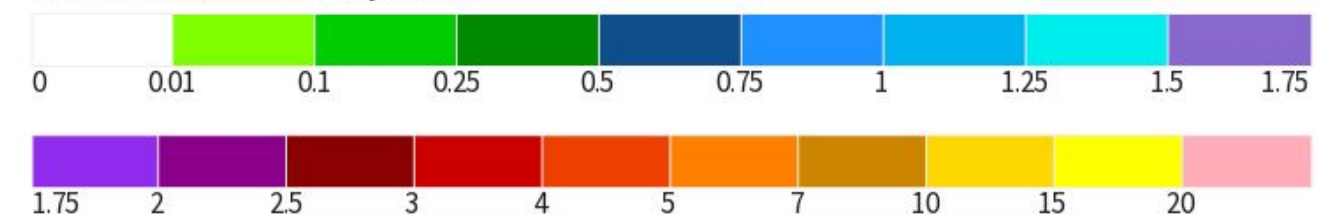
July 5, 2024
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- Scattered showers and thunderstorms through at least next week. Typical monsoon activity focused over high elevations with outflow-driven lowland showers each evening.
- Monsoon onset in mid-June, still forecasting a below-normal season heading into the later half of summer. Drought conditions may rapidly intensify if rain chances subside.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 07/04/24



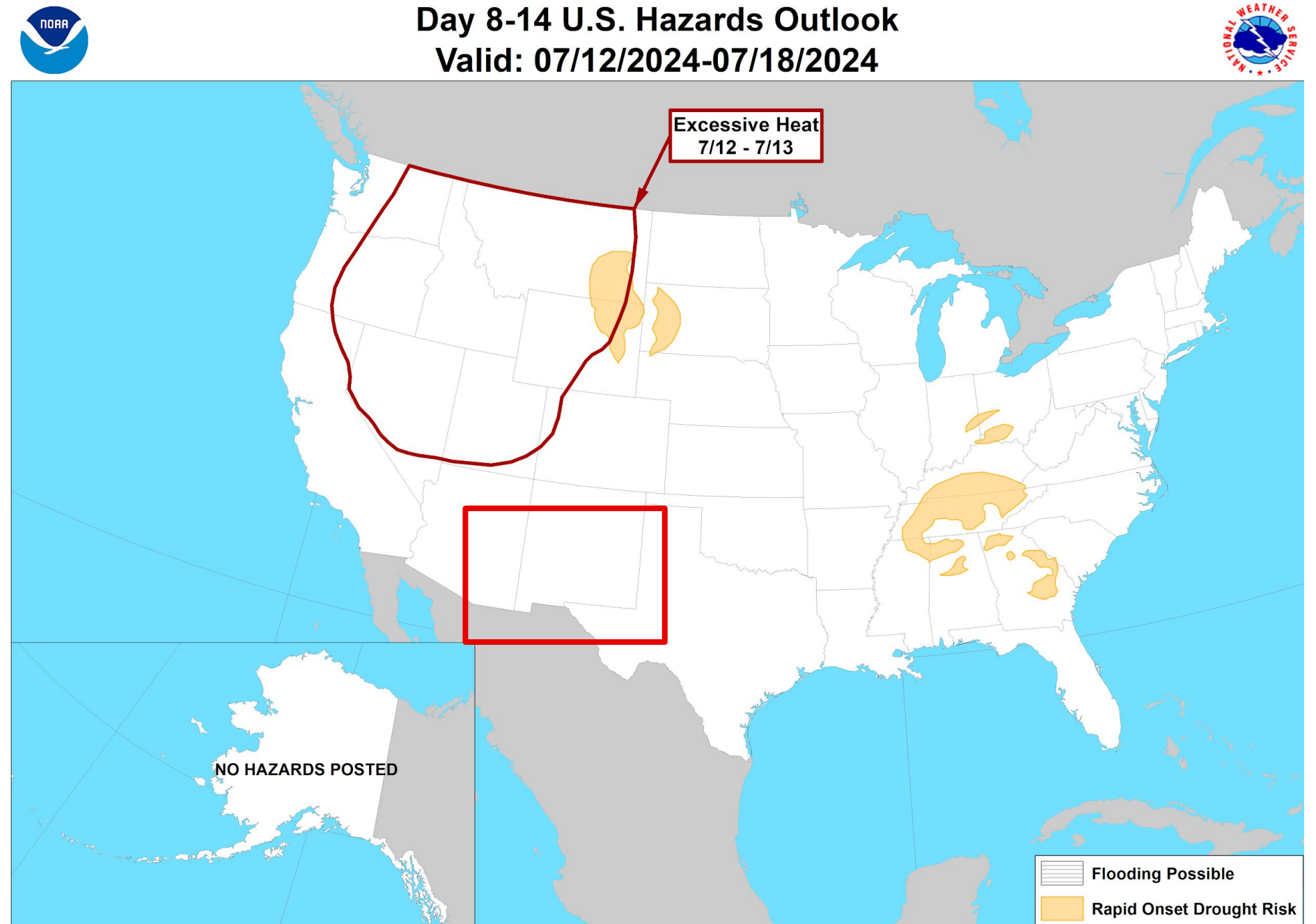


Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

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Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- Monsoon began in mid-June and brought above normal precipitation last few week. While below normal precipitation totals are still expected through July-September, rapid onset drought is not expected. Drought conditions are expected to persist through the summer season and the ongoing monsoon will greatly influence the next few outlooks.



Climate Prediction Center
Made: 07/04/2024 3PM EDT

Follow us:
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Image Caption:
[Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook](#) Valid July 12 to July 18



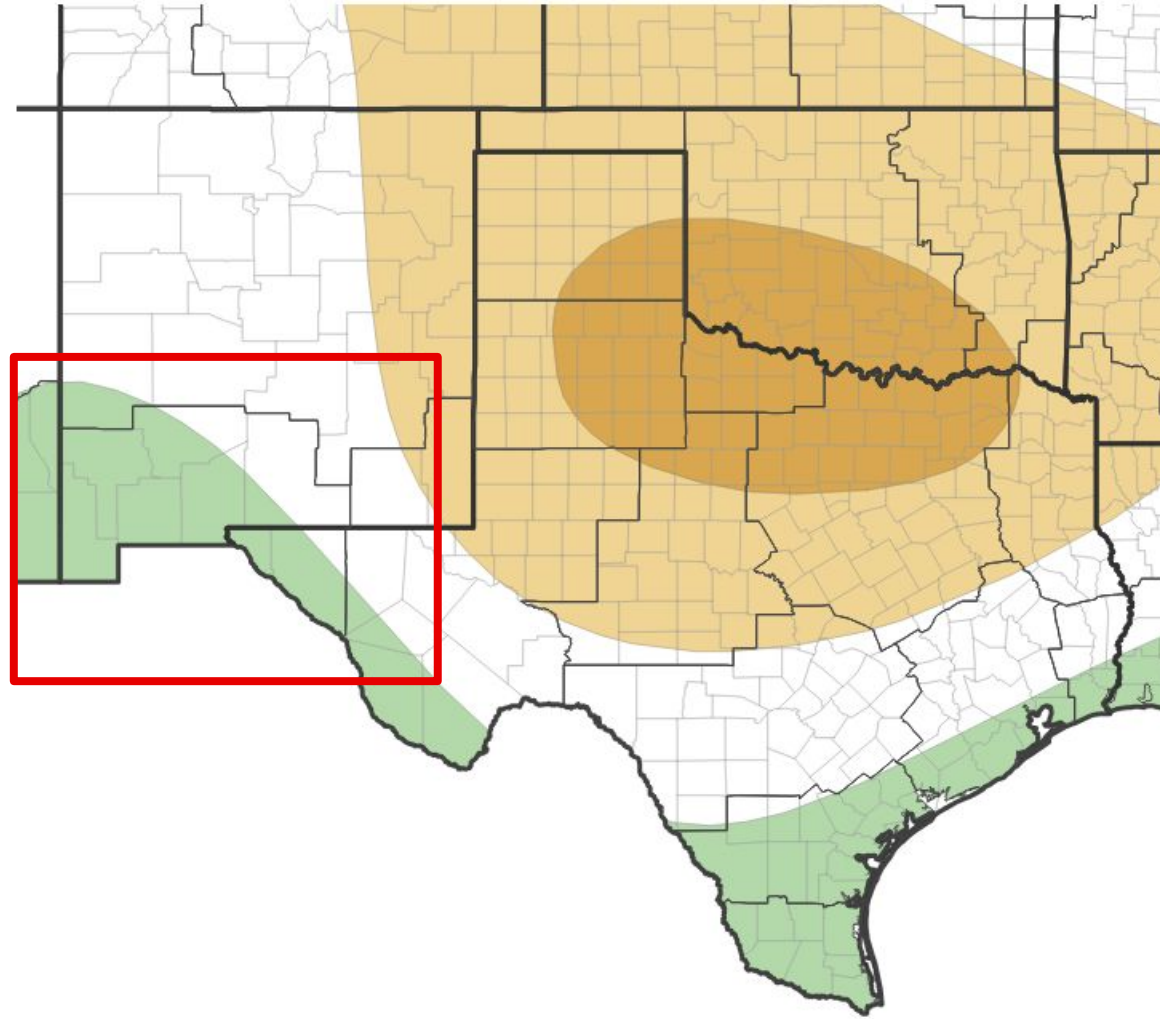
Long-Range Outlooks

July 5, 2024
3:19 AM

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- 33-40% chance of above normal precipitation across southwest New Mexico and far west Texas (monthly average for El Paso: 1.58")
- 50-60% chance for above normal temperatures across south-central New Mexico and far west Texas. Heat waves likely.

Monthly Precipitation Outlook



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



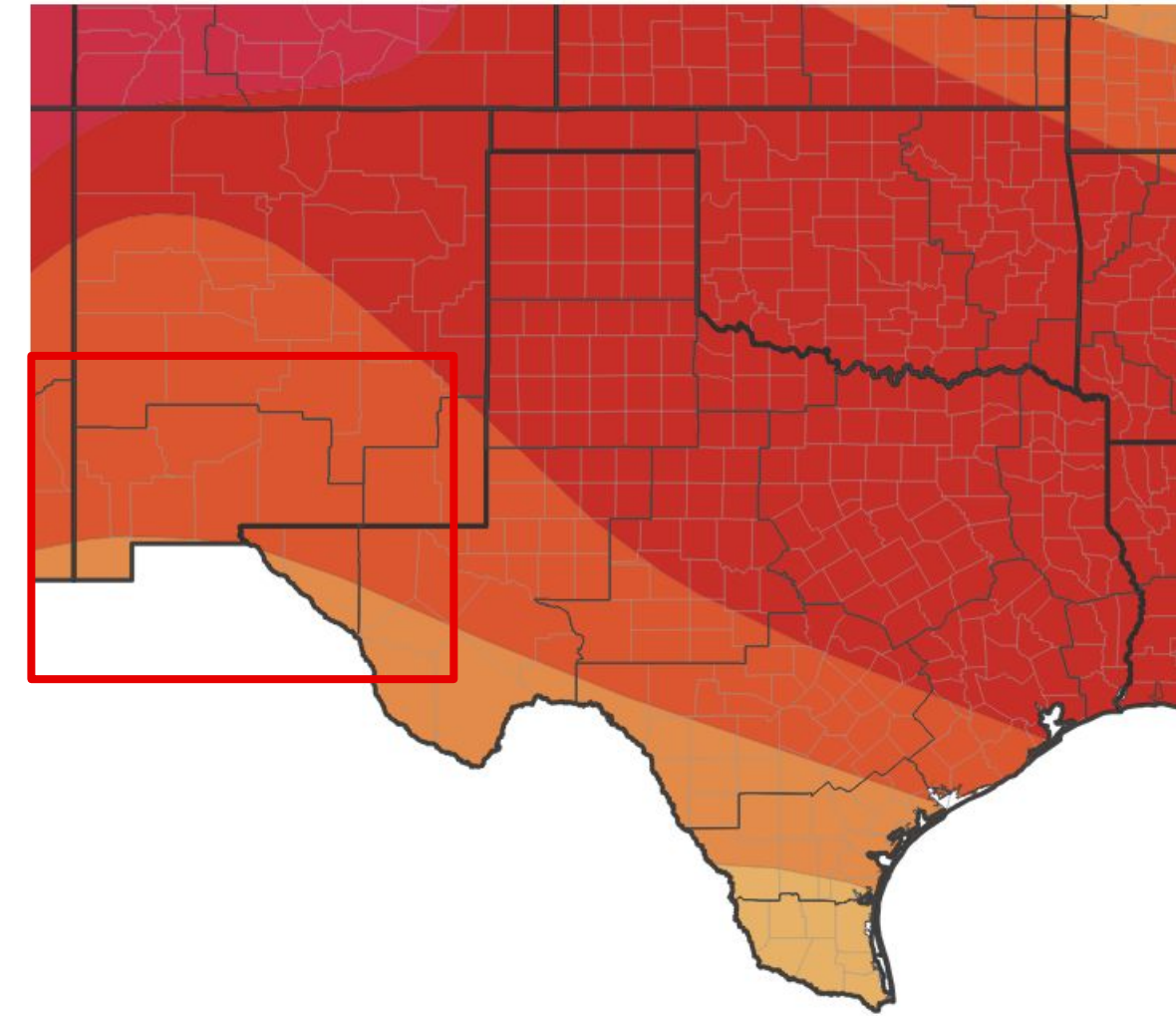
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 06/30/24

Monthly Temperature Outlook



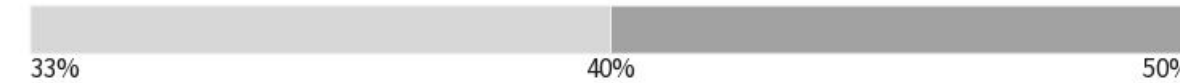
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 06/30/24





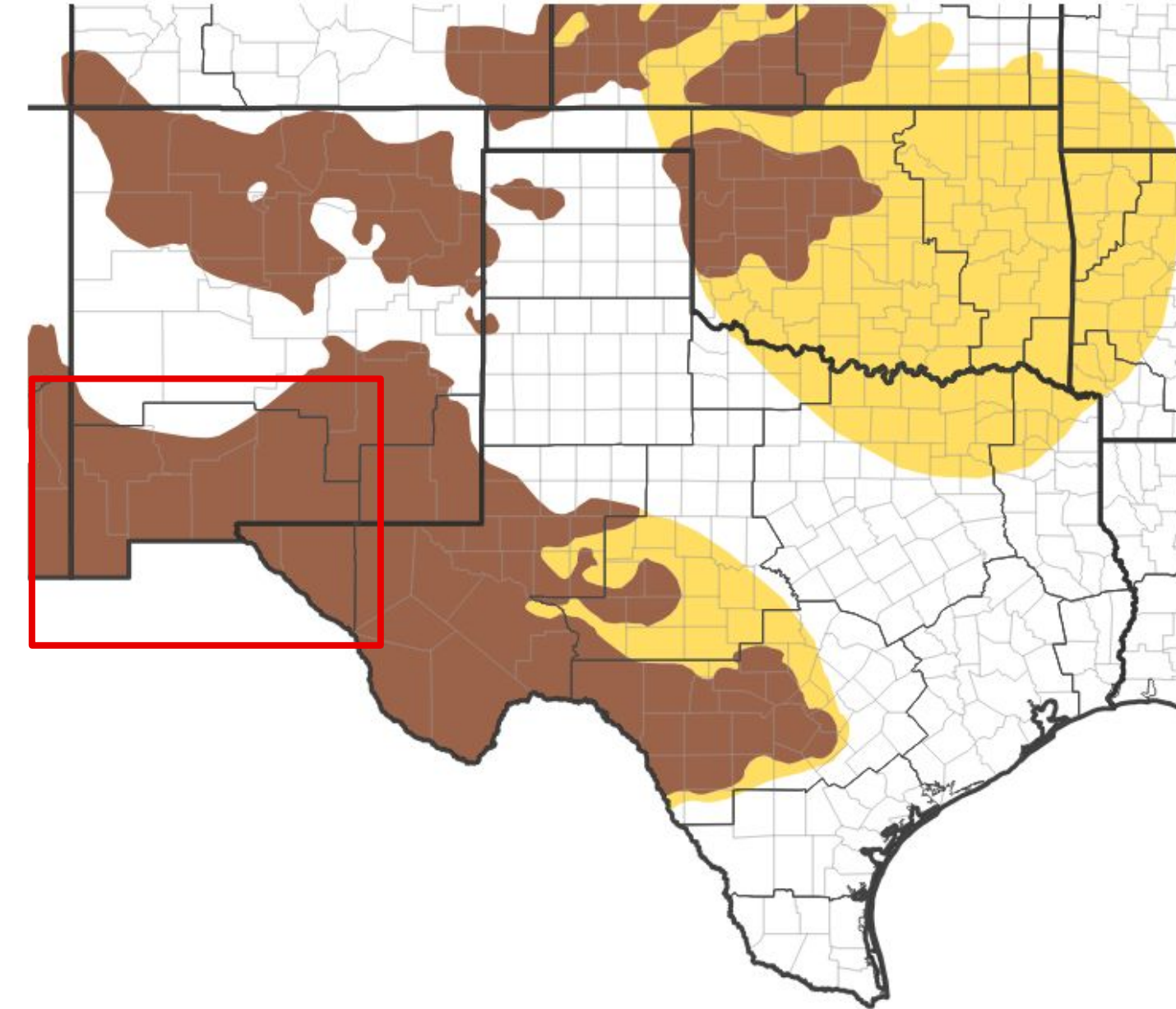
Drought Outlook

July 5, 2024
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The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Drought conditions are expected to persist through July, with few changes. Upcoming monsoon will greatly influence the next few outlooks.

1-Month Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 06/30/24

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
El Paso, TX