



Drought Information Statement for Southeast LA and Southwest MS

Valid December 7, 2023

Issued By: NWS New Orleans/Baton Rouge

Contact Information: sr-lix.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated Dec 14, 2023 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/lix/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



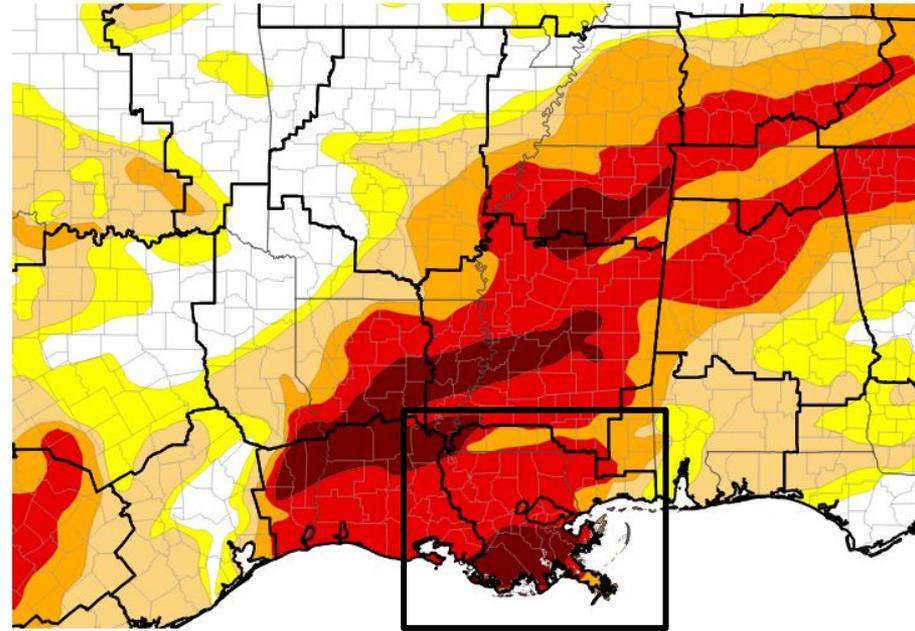


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for SE Louisiana and SW Mississippi

- Recent rains and cooler temperatures have brought significant improvements to drought categories.
- Drought intensity and extent
 - D4 (Exceptional Drought): Mainly across areas south of Lake Pontchartrain
 - D3 (Extreme Drought) to D2 (Severe Drought): Still covers a large portion of SE LA and Southern MS
 - D1 (Moderate Drought) to D0 (Abnormally Dry): Small area in Coastal Mississippi

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor

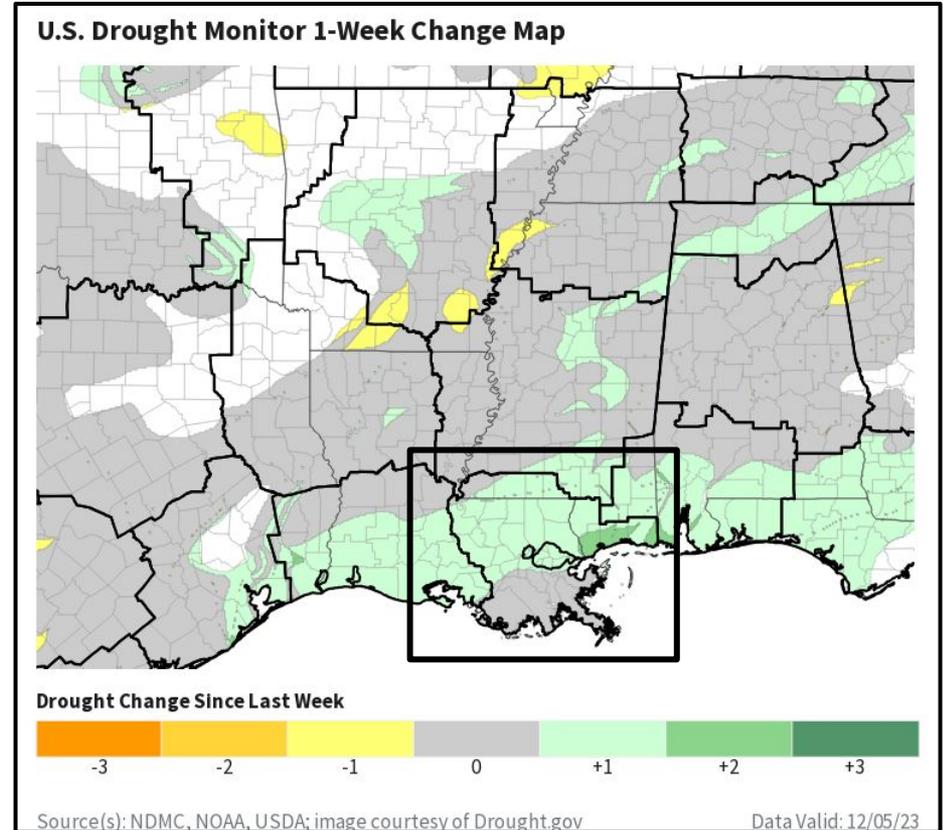




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for SE Louisiana and SW Mississippi

- **One Week Drought Monitor Class Change**
 - **Drought Worsened: No Change (Yellows)**
 - **No Change: Some areas south of Lake Pontchartrain and a small area of Southern MS (Gray)**
 - **Drought Improved: Significant changes across much of SE LA and Southern/Coastal MS (Greens)**

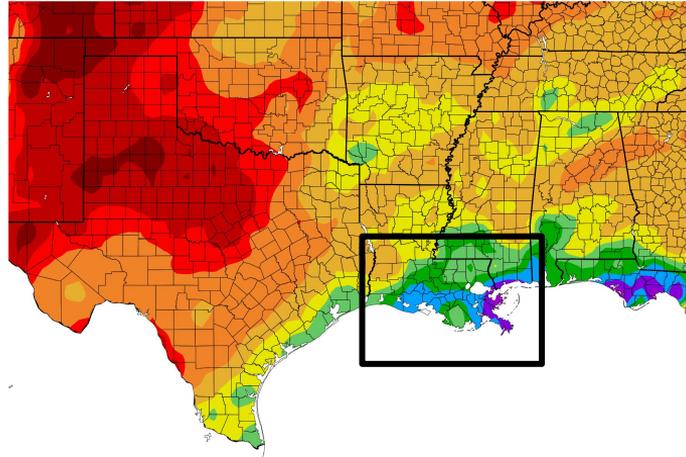




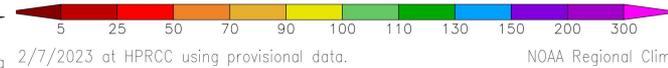
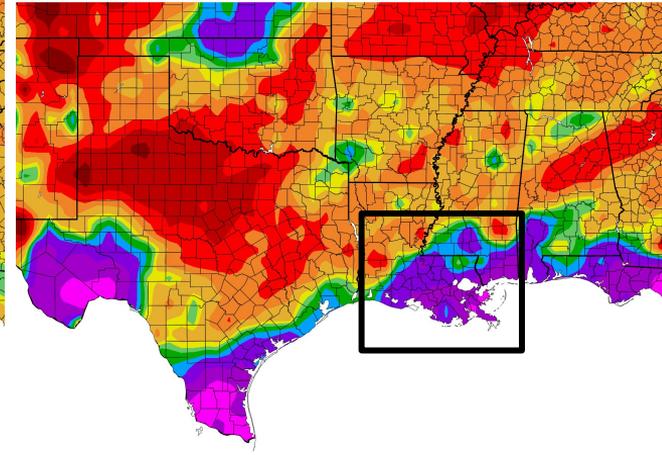
Precipitation

- Over the last 30 days, the local area has received 5" to 8" of rain with some higher amount across the southern portions.
- The departure from normal percentages are currently well above 100% now given the amounts of rain that fell.
- It still should be noted that we are still over 12" to 20" below normal in some areas since the beginning of the year.

Precipitation (in)
11/7/2023 – 12/6/2023



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
11/7/2023 – 12/6/2023



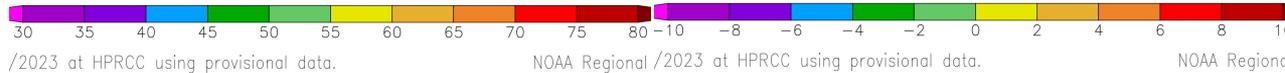
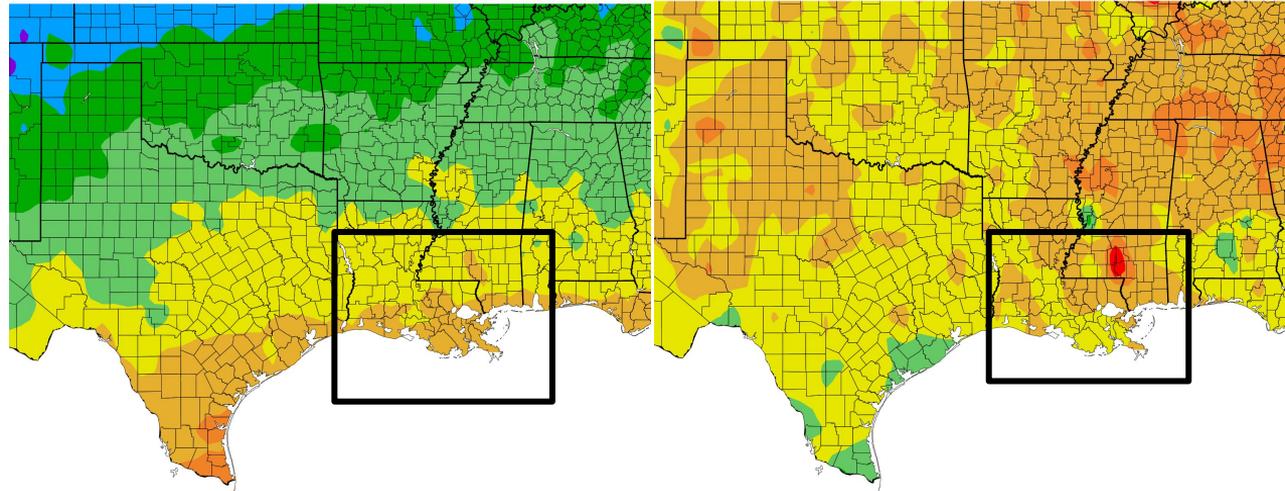


Temperature

- Temperatures over the last 30 days were averaging near normal to a few degrees above average across the area.
- Temperatures are still expected to trend above normal this month.

Temperature (F)
11/7/2023 – 12/6/2023

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
11/7/2023 – 12/6/2023



/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional /2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional

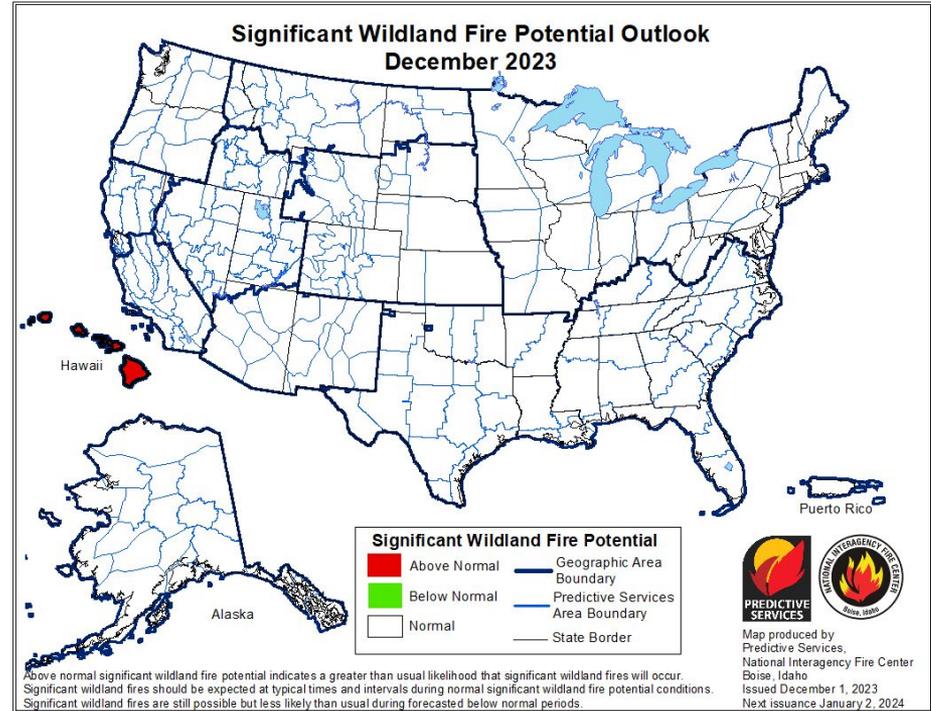




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

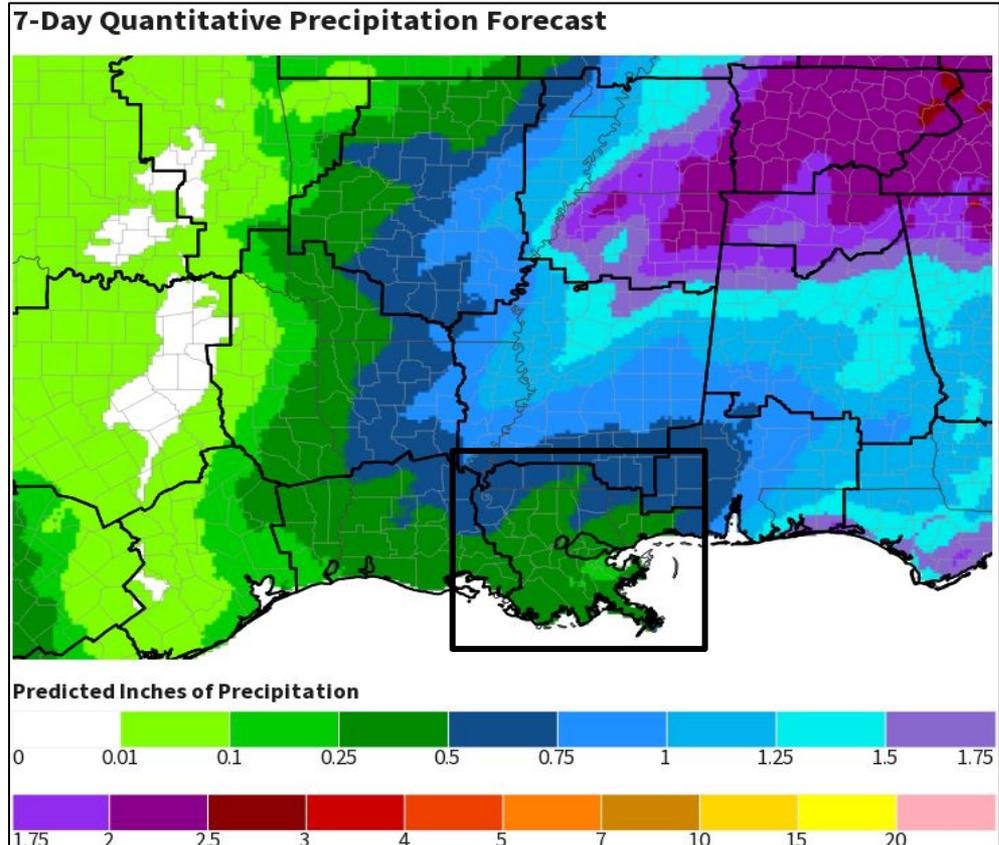
- The outlook for December indicates that chances for wildfire has returned to normal conditions for Southeast Louisiana and Southern/Coastal Mississippi.
- Locally, a more active weather pattern has aided in the reduction of critical burning conditions with statewide burn bans dropped.





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Another weather system will pass through this weekend and bring the area another chance for 0.50" to around 1" of rainfall.
- Once again, the dry weather will return for the beginning of the next work week.

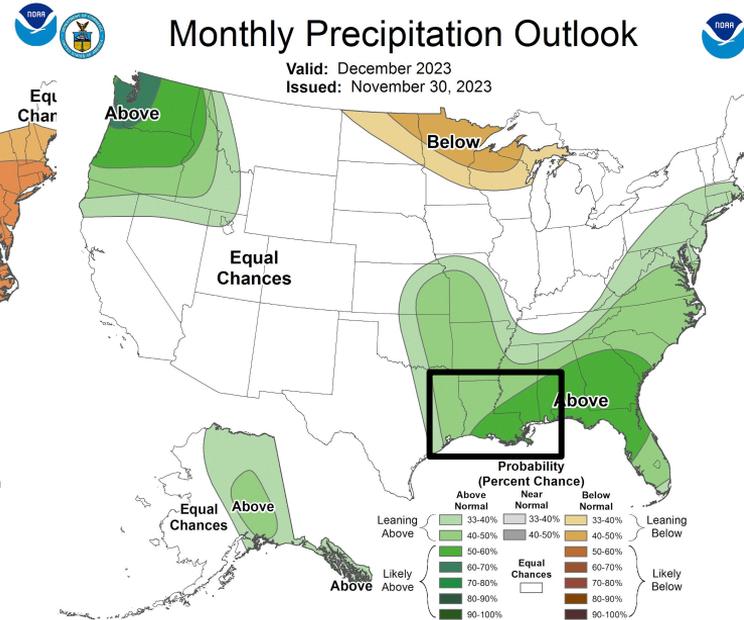
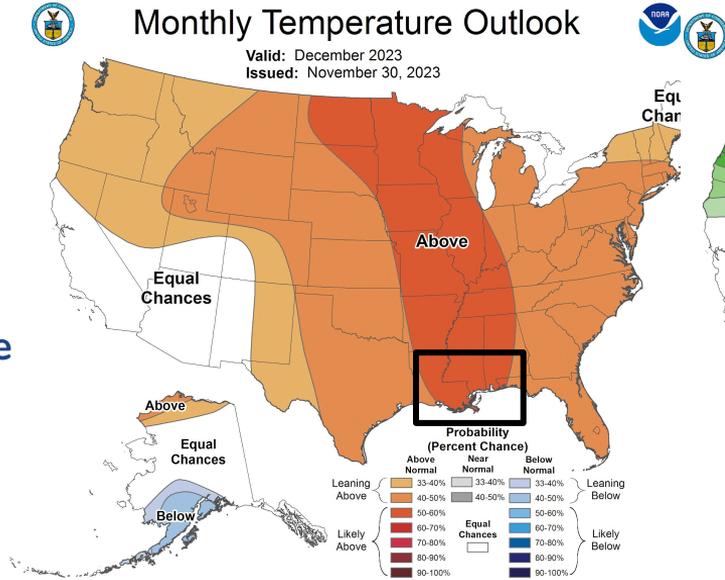




Long-Range Outlooks

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

- December's outlook indicates that above-normal temperatures are expected overall.
- Above normal rainfall is expected as well thru the month of December.





Drought Outlook

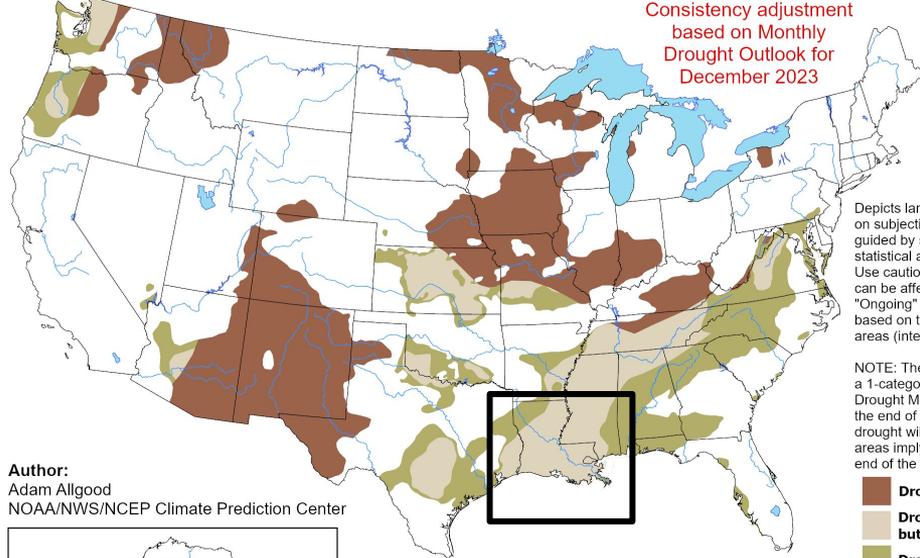
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The seasonal drought outlook thru February indicates the drought will remain, but is expected to improve.
- Categories may improve or worsen at times depending on temperatures and rainfall

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for December 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024
Released November 30, 2023

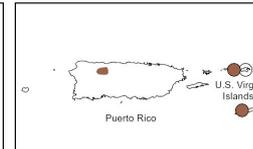
Consistency adjustment
based on Monthly
Drought Outlook for
December 2023



Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
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NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ7>





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Drinking water has been compromised for some communities in Plaquemines Parish due to salt water intrusion
- Recreational boating and commercial industry navigation are impacted by low water levels

Agricultural Impacts

- Reports of poor crop conditions and decreased harvests
- Increased livestock sales due to lack of resources; poor grazing conditions
- Winter planting could be delayed and crops affected

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Per Louisiana State Fire Marshall's office, statewide burn ban was lifted on Tuesday, November 21st.

Mitigation Actions

- Water Conservation is encouraged in drought areas
- Please refer to your municipality, water provider, and local Emergency Management for mitigation information

Other Information

- Please encourage use of the CMOR (link above) to report drought impacts





For Questions or comments please contact:

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