



Drought Information Statement for Southeast LA and Southwest MS

Valid December 21, 2023

Issued By: NWS New Orleans/Baton Rouge

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

- This product will be updated Dec 28, 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.



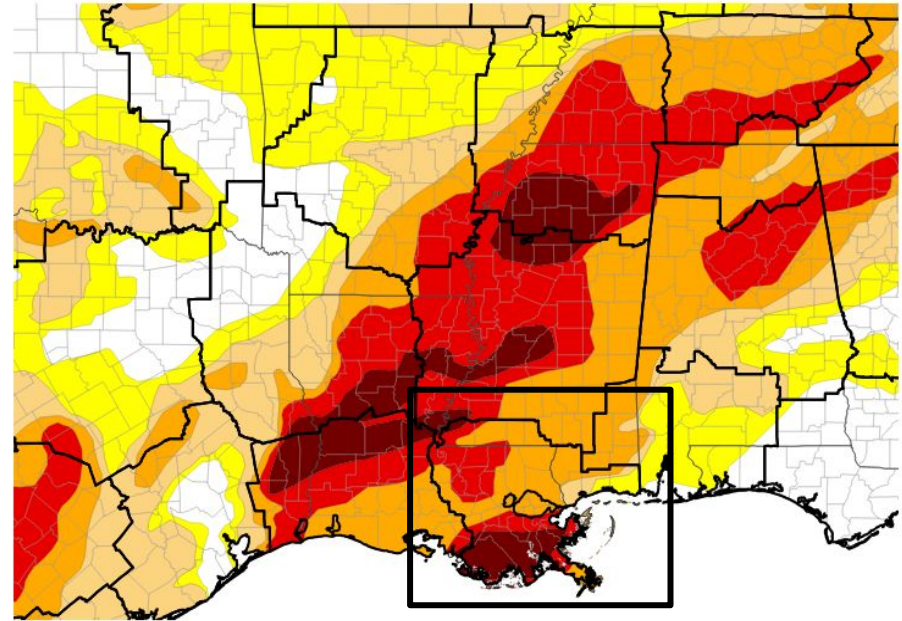


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- **Current drought conditions have remained steady this week.**
- **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):** Coastal Mississippi

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor

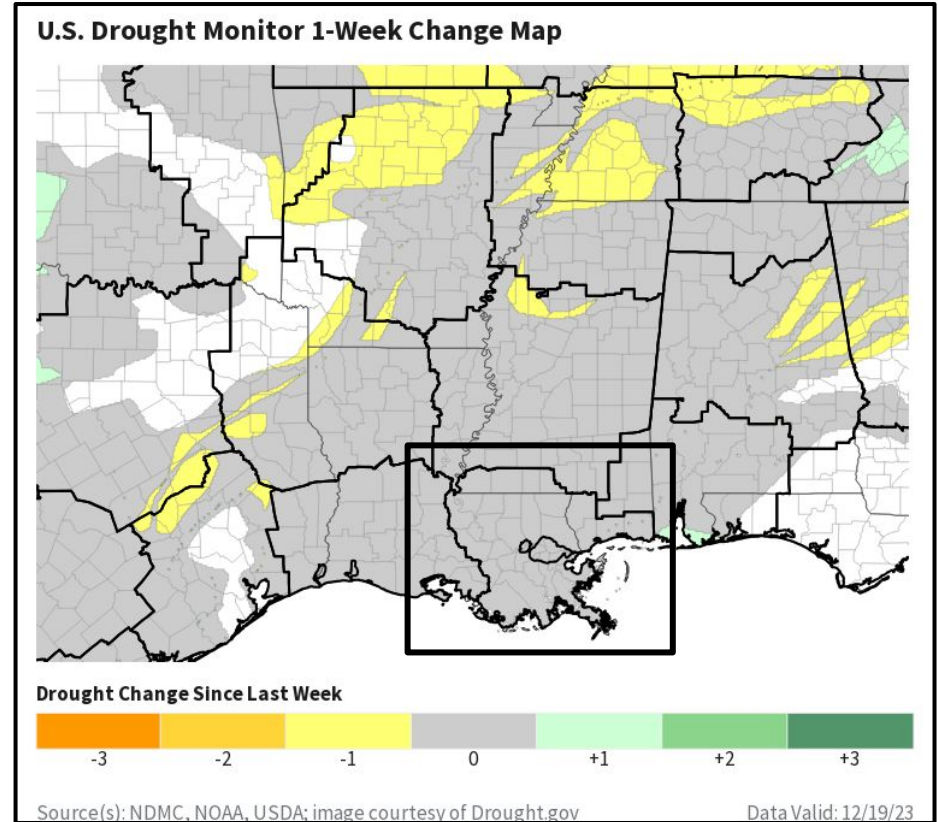




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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: (Gray)**
 - **Drought Improved: No Change (Greens)**

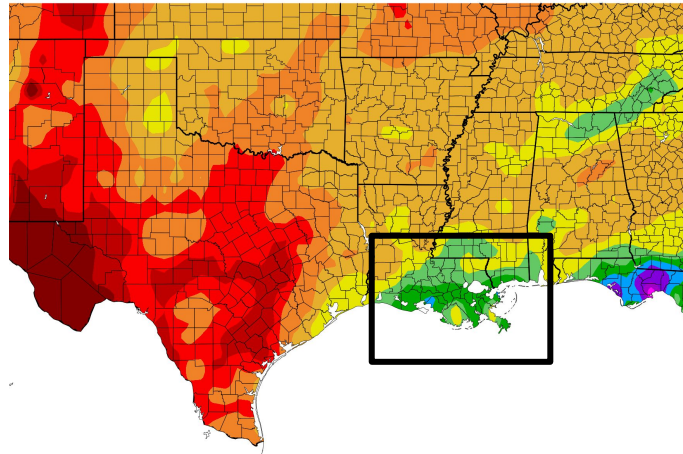




Precipitation

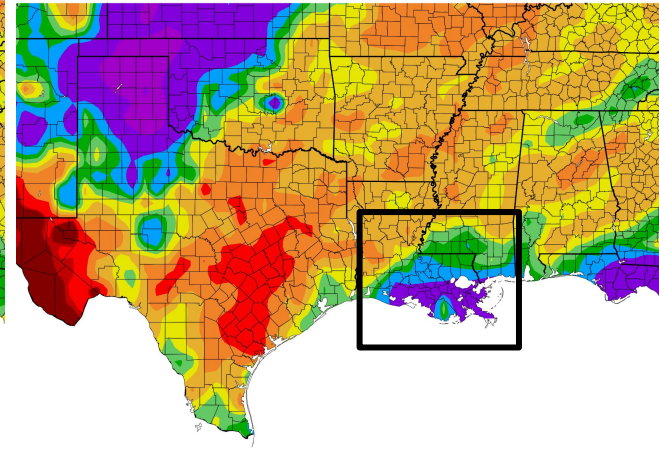
- Increasing rainfall events since mid november have helped improve the drought.
- The departure from normal percentages are currently well above 100% now given the amounts of rain that fell.
- Despite the recent 6 to 10 inches of rain, we are still below normal in some areas since the beginning of the year.

Precipitation (in)
11/20/2023 – 12/19/2023



0.1 0.5 1 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16
12/20/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Clima

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
11/20/2023 – 12/19/2023



2 5 25 50 75 100 125 150 200 400 800
2/20/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Clir

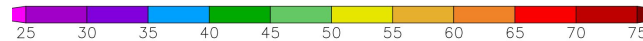
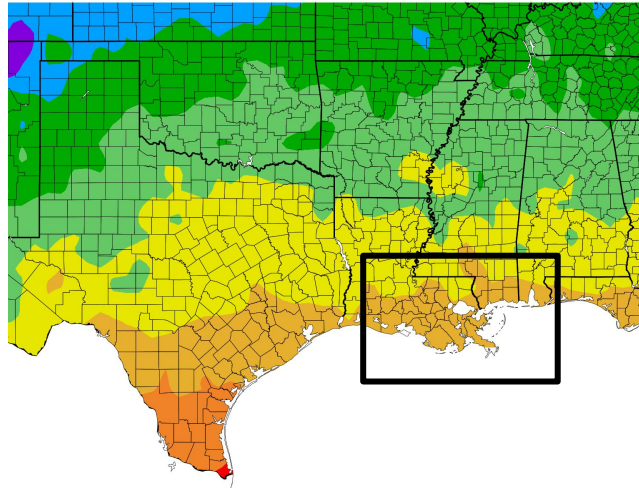




Temperature

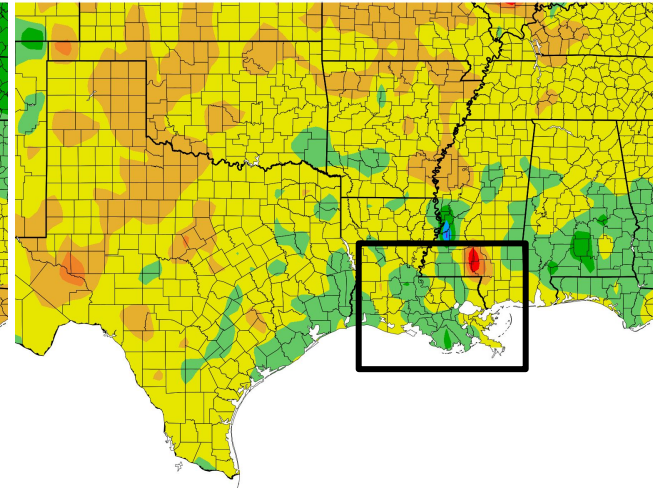
- The recent cold fronts have kept temperatures much more seasonable over the last 30 days
- Temperatures are within a few degrees of normal this time of year.

Temperature (F)
11/20/2023 – 12/19/2023



0/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
11/20/2023 – 12/19/2023



NOAA Regional 0/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional

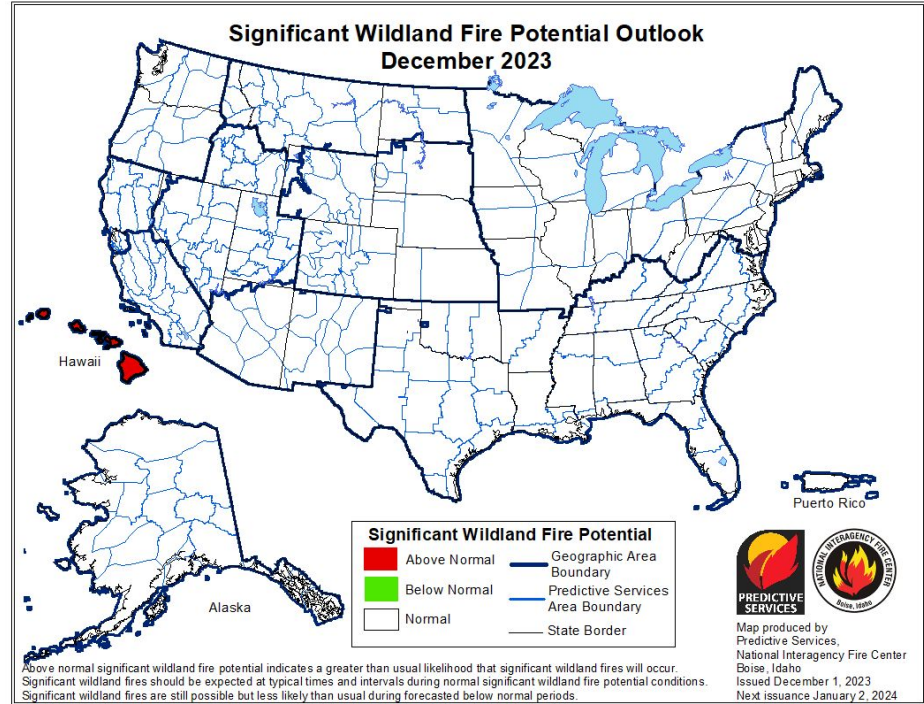




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

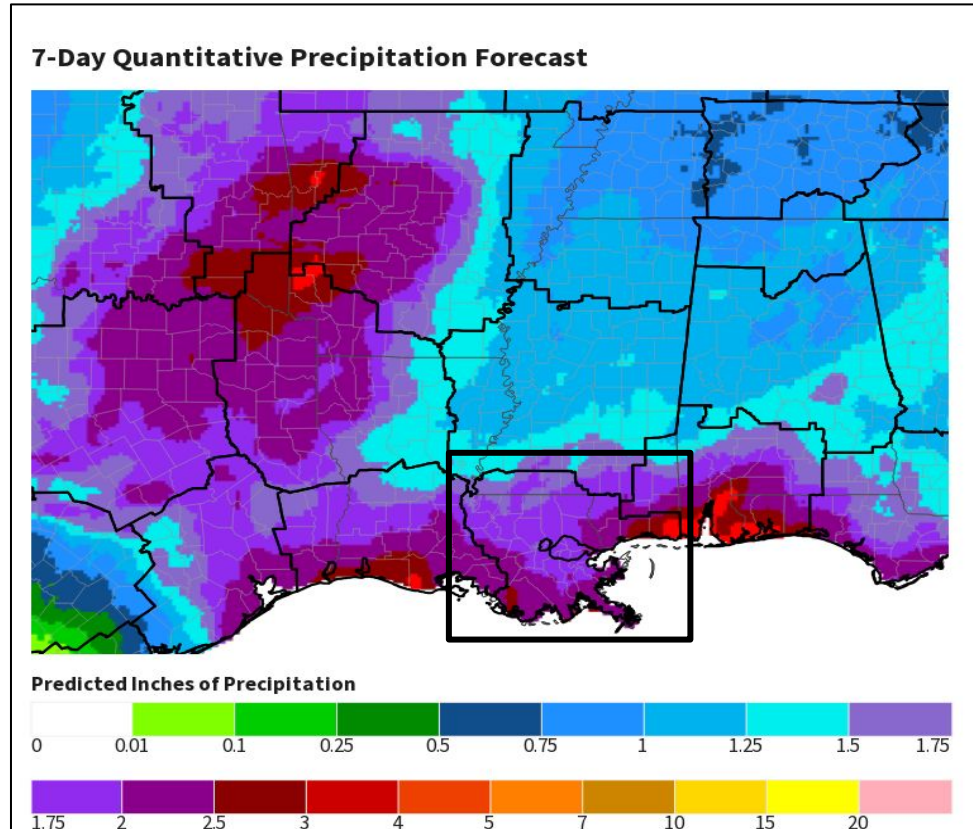
- The outlook for December indicates that chances for wildfire has returned to normal conditions for Southeast Louisiana and Southern/Coastal Mississippi.
- Locally, a more active weather pattern has aided in the reduction of critical burning conditions with statewide burn bans dropped.





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Higher rainfall amounts of 1.5” to 2.5” across the area are possible this weekend and into the Christmas Holiday.
- Dry weather will return for the middle of next week for a few days.

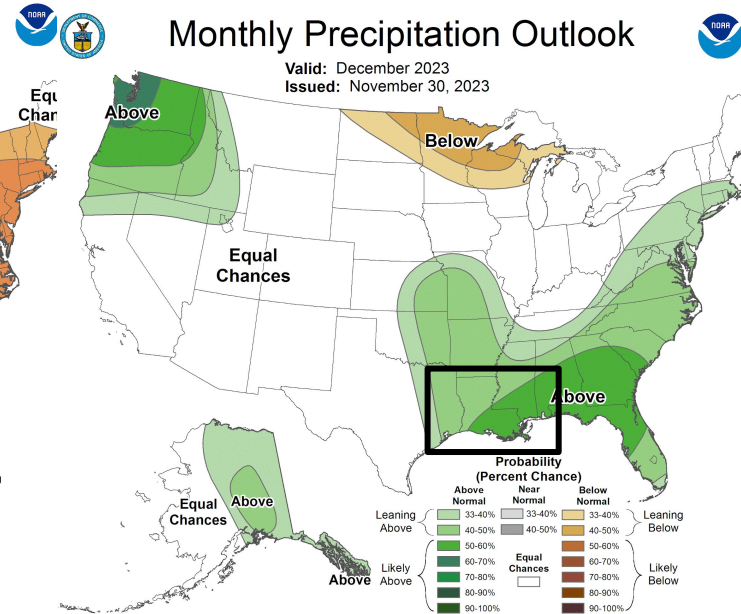
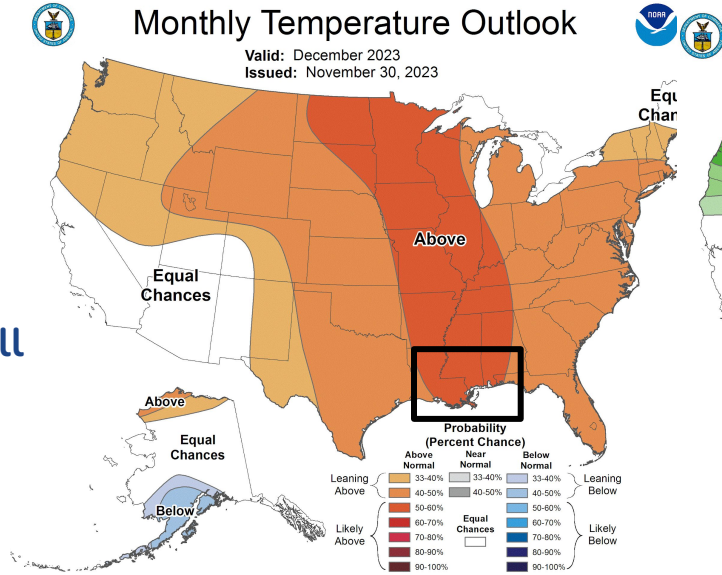




Long-Range Outlooks

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

- December's outlook indicates that above-normal temperatures will continue.
- There is high confidence that above normal rainfall is expected through the remainder of December.





Drought Outlook

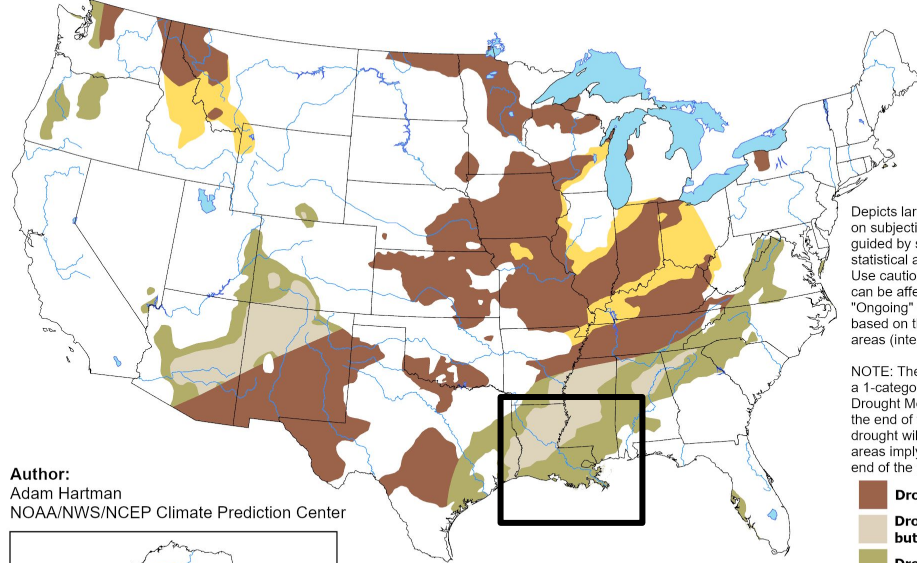
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- The seasonal drought outlook thru March indicates the drought conditions may improve completely.
- Categories may improve or worsen at times depending on temperatures and rainfall

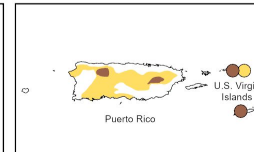
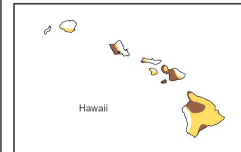
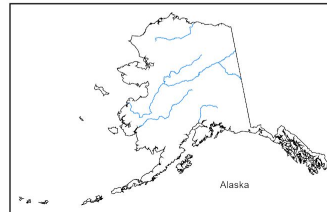
U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for December 21, 2023 - March 31, 2024
Released December 21, 2023



Author:
Adam Hartman
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



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).

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



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>





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

- Winter planting could be delayed and crops affected

Fire Hazard Impacts

- None known at this time.

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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