



Drought Information Statement for Southeast LA and Southwest MS

Valid December 28 , 2023

Issued By: NWS New Orleans/Baton Rouge

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

- This product will be updated Jan 4, 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/lix/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



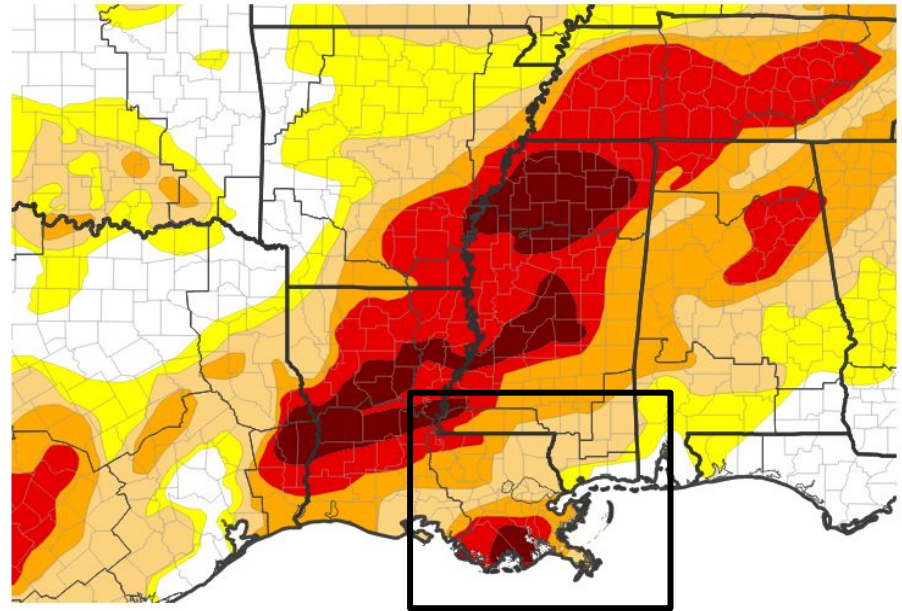


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- **Current drought conditions have improved across much of the region.**
- **Drought intensity and extent**
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** A small portion remains along the SE LA Gulf parishes
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought) to D2 (Severe Drought):** These areas remain is far SE LA and portions of SW MS into the MS/LA border.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought) to D0 (Abnormally Dry) South-Central LA and near Coastal MS**

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 12/26/23





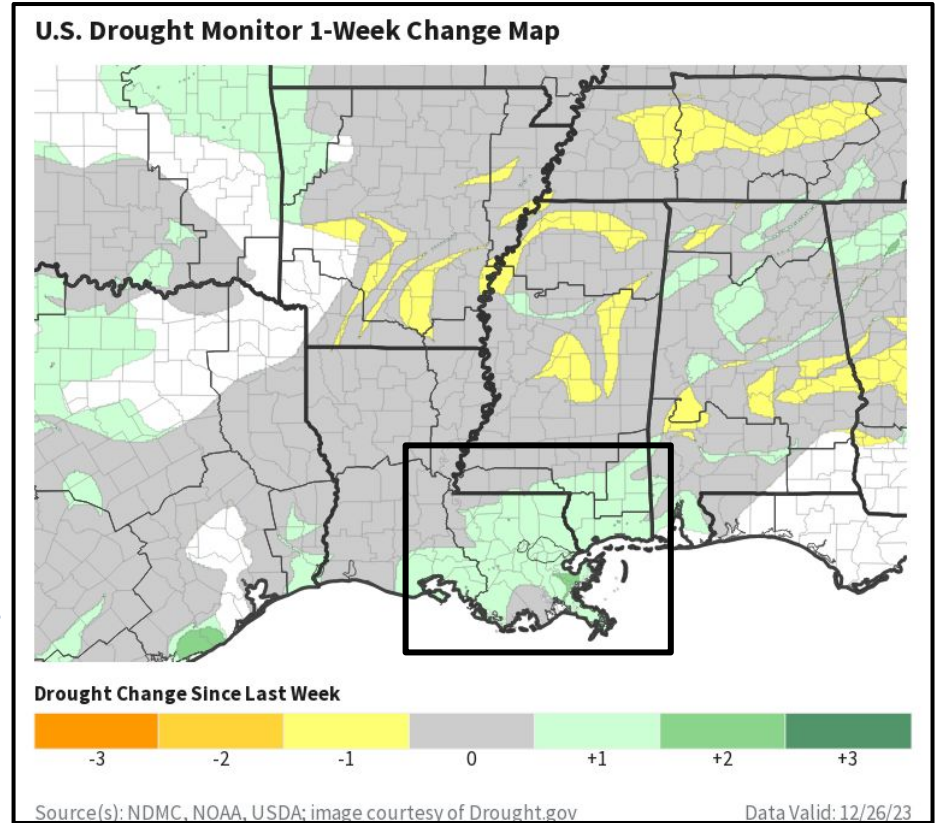
Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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: Southern MS and South-central LA (Gray)**
- **Drought Improved: A one-category improvement occurred along or near the I-10/12 corridor from Coastal MS towards Baton Rouge. More improvements were noted in parishes south of Lake Pontchartrain. (Greens)**

Drought was removed along portions of Harrison and Jackson Co.

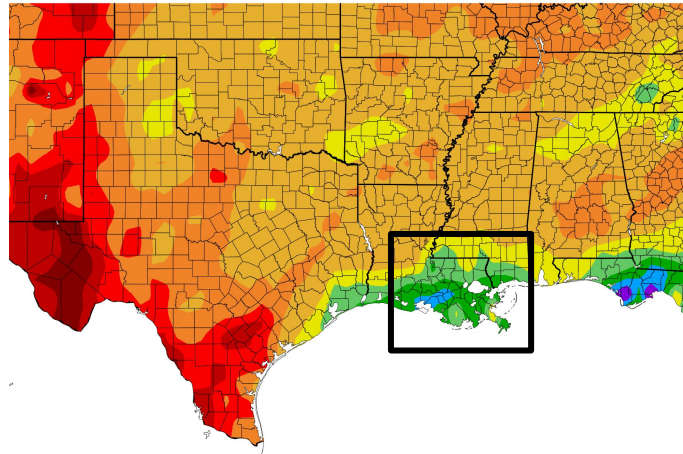




Precipitation

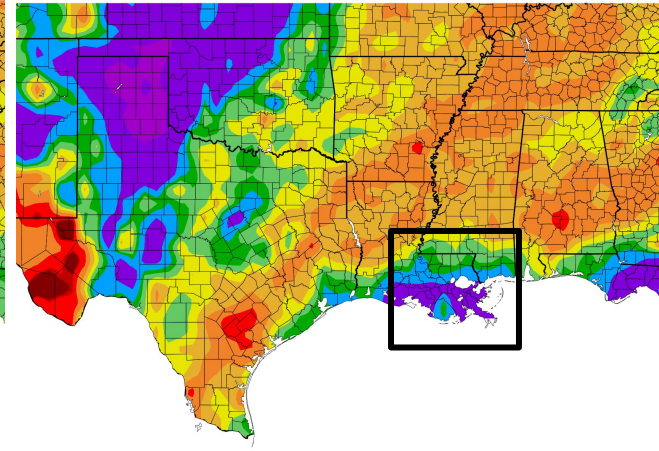
- Rainfall over the last 30 to 60 days continues to help improve the dry soil conditions.
- The departure from normal percentages are currently well above 100% for much of our local area.
- However, many areas still have only received half of their average rainfall amounts since the beginning of 2023.

Precipitation (in)
11/28/2023 – 12/27/2023



0.1 0.5 1 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16
12/28/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Clima

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
11/28/2023 – 12/27/2023



2 5 25 50 75 100 125 150 200 400 800
2/28/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Clir

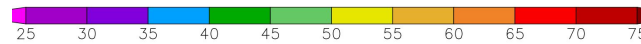
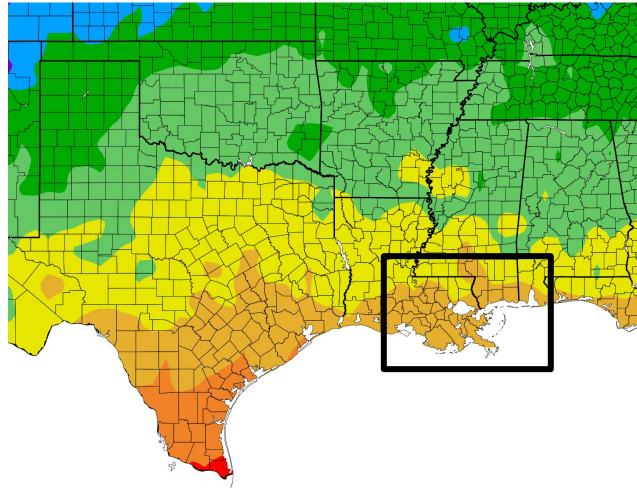




Temperature

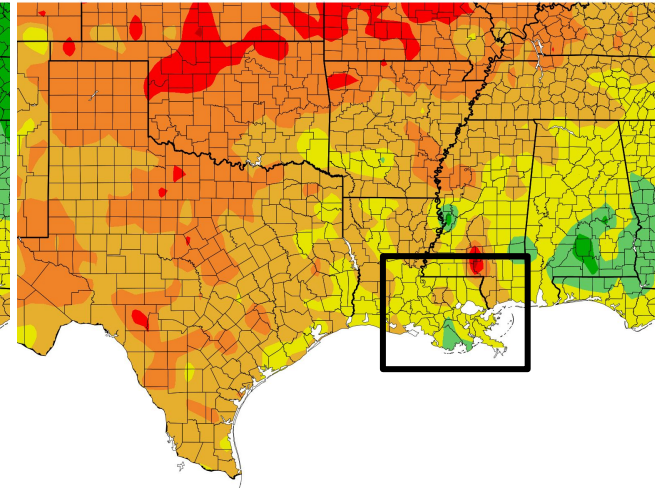
- The recent cold fronts have kept temperatures much more seasonable over the last 30 days
- Temperatures are within a few degrees of normal this time of year.

Temperature (F)
11/28/2023 – 12/27/2023



8/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
11/28/2023 – 12/27/2023



NOAA Regional 8/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional

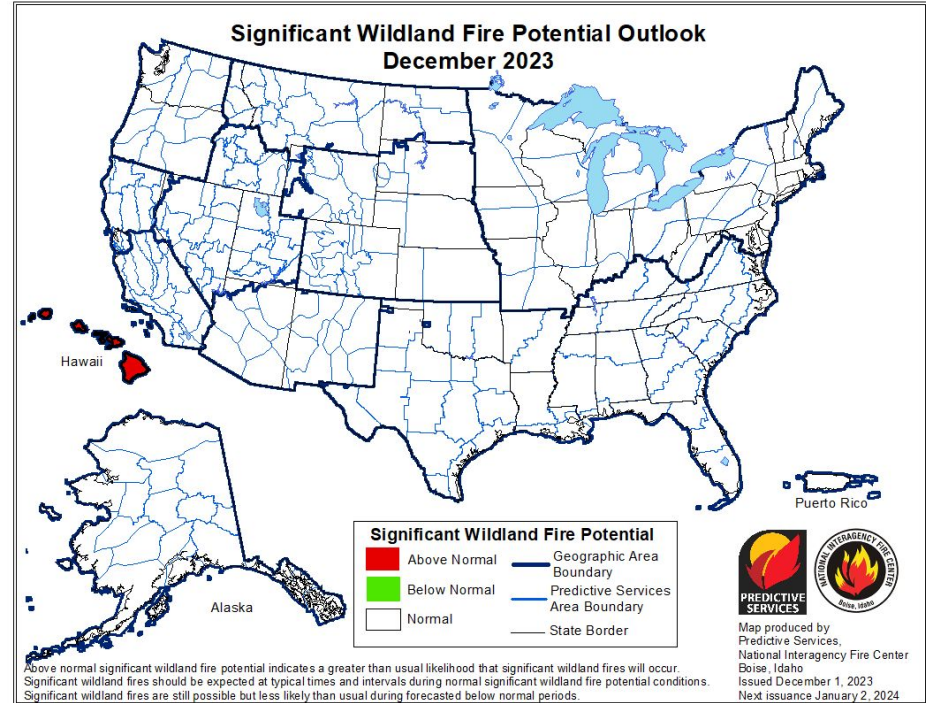




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

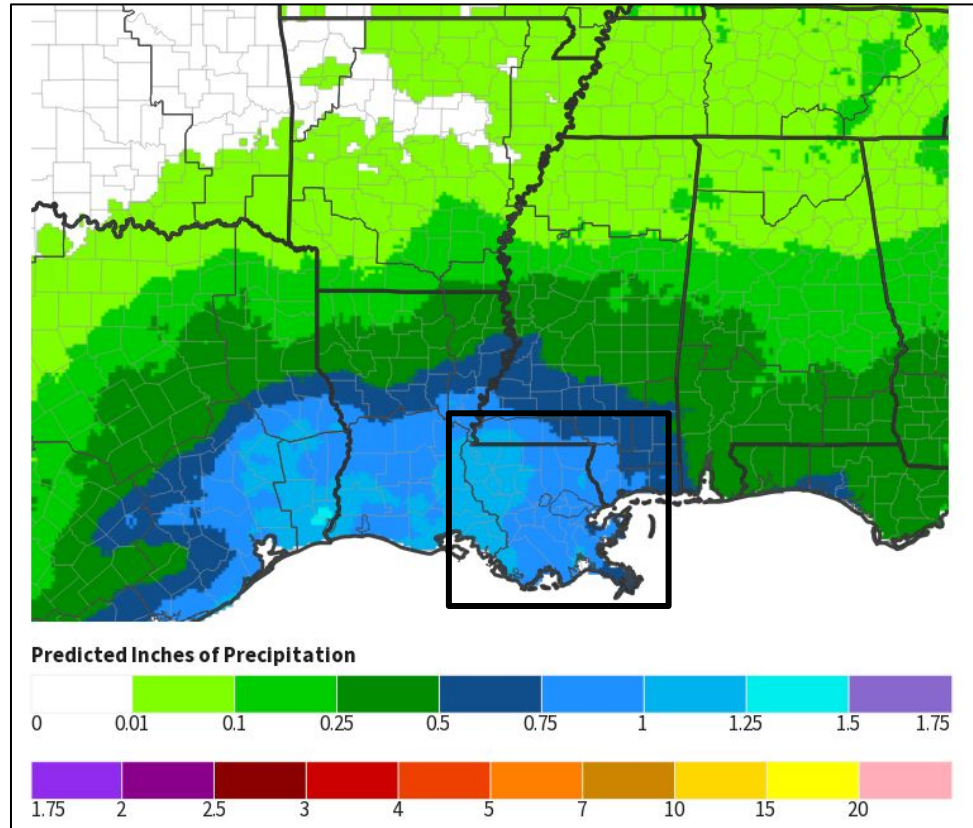
- The outlook for December indicates that chances for wildfire has returned to normal conditions for Southeast Louisiana and Southern/Coastal Mississippi.
- Locally, a more active weather pattern has aided in the reduction of critical burning conditions with statewide burn bans dropped.





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- The local area could receive another 0.75" to near 1.25" during the first few days of New Year 2024.
- Off and on rainfall events every few days helps to allow the groundwater to replenish and rivers to return to normal levels.

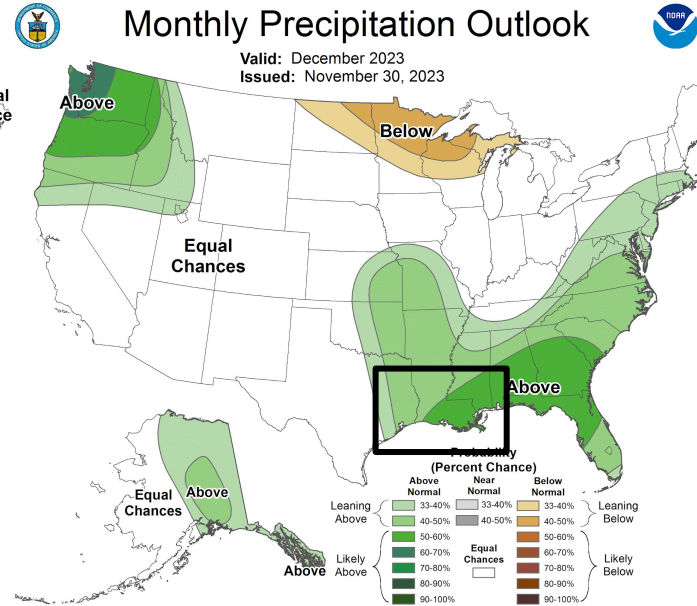
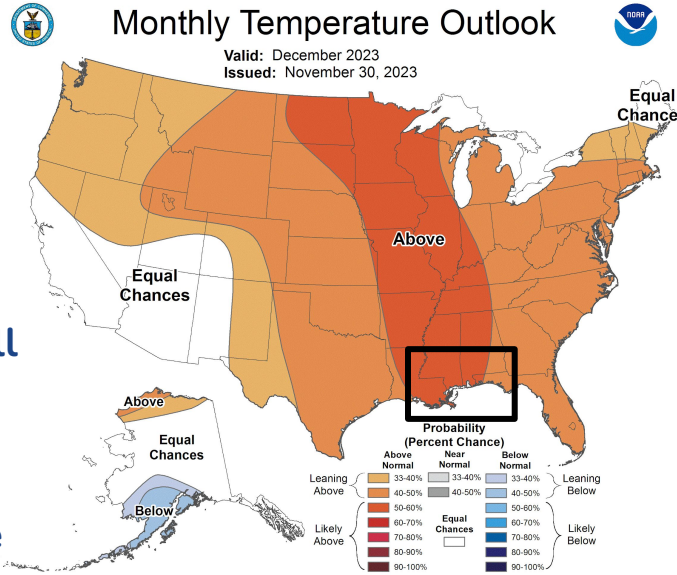




Long-Range Outlooks

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.
- January's Outlook will be available in the next issuance.





Drought Outlook

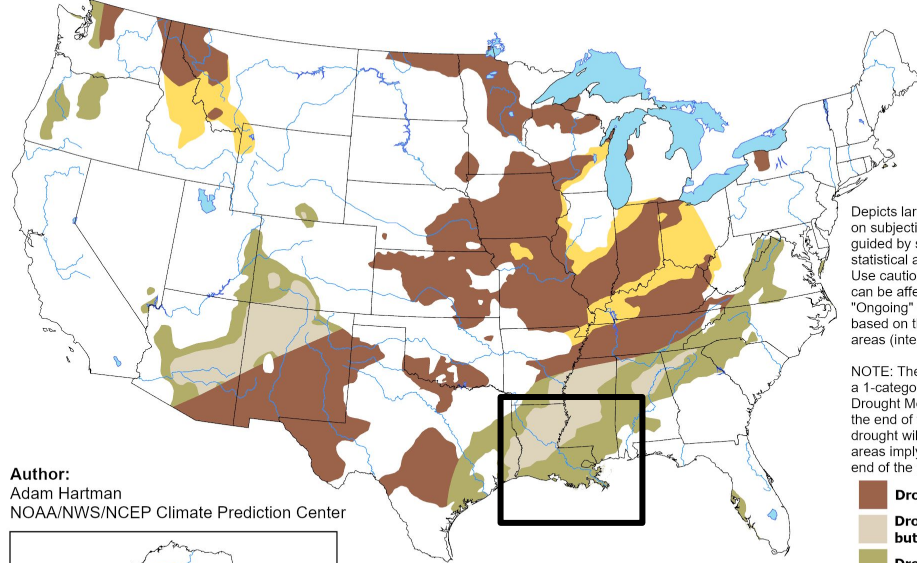
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- The seasonal drought outlook thru March indicates the drought conditions may improve completely.
- Categories may improve or worsen at times depending on temperatures and rainfall.

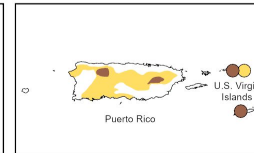
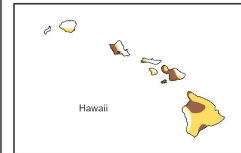
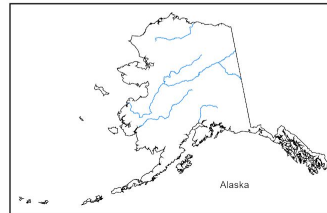
U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

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 use and encourage others to report drought impacts at CMOR (link above). Reports help improve the accuracy of the Drought Monitor.





For Questions or comments please contact:

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