

Drought Information Statement for South Texas

Valid January 1, 2024

Issued By: NWS Corpus Christi, TX

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

- This product will be updated February 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/crp/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





U.S. Drought Monitor

January 1, 2024
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Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for South Texas

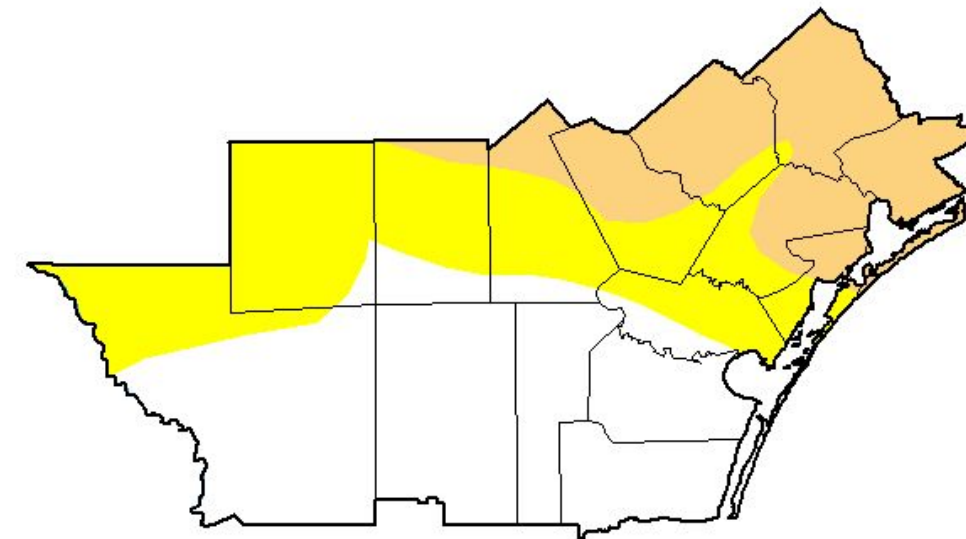
- Drought conditions spread across north-western portions of South Texas
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D4 (Exceptional Drought): None
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): None
 - D2 (Severe Drought): None
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): Portions of the Coastal Plains, Victoria Crossroads and northern Coastal Bend including the northern island
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): Portions of the northwestern Brush Country to the northern Coastal Plains, and northern Coastal Bend

U.S. Drought Monitor Corpus Christi, TX WFO

December 26, 2023
(Released Thursday, Dec. 28, 2023)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	45.93	54.07	21.95	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 12-19-2023	57.03	42.97	21.95	1.43	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 09-26-2023	4.33	95.67	72.50	35.40	23.70	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	59.96	40.04	13.56	2.65	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	4.33	95.67	72.50	35.40	23.70	0.00
One Year Ago 12-27-2022	69.31	30.69	8.53	2.65	0.00	0.00



Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

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NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

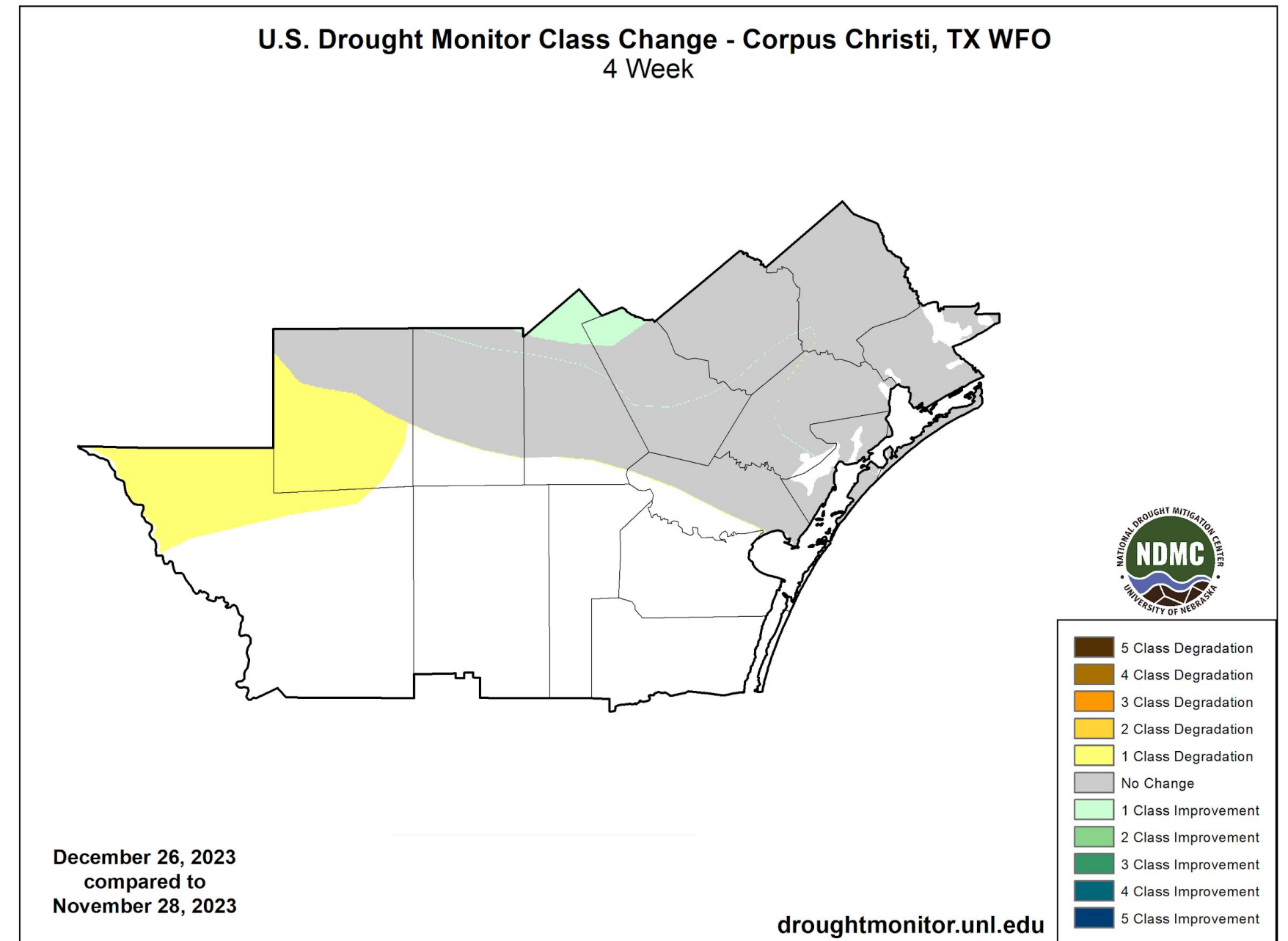


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for South Texas

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Portions of northwest Webb and southern La Salle counties.
 - No Change: Portions of the northern Brush Country, northern Coastal Plains including Victoria Crossroads and northern Coastal Bend.
 - Drought Improved: northern tip of Live Oak and Bee counties.



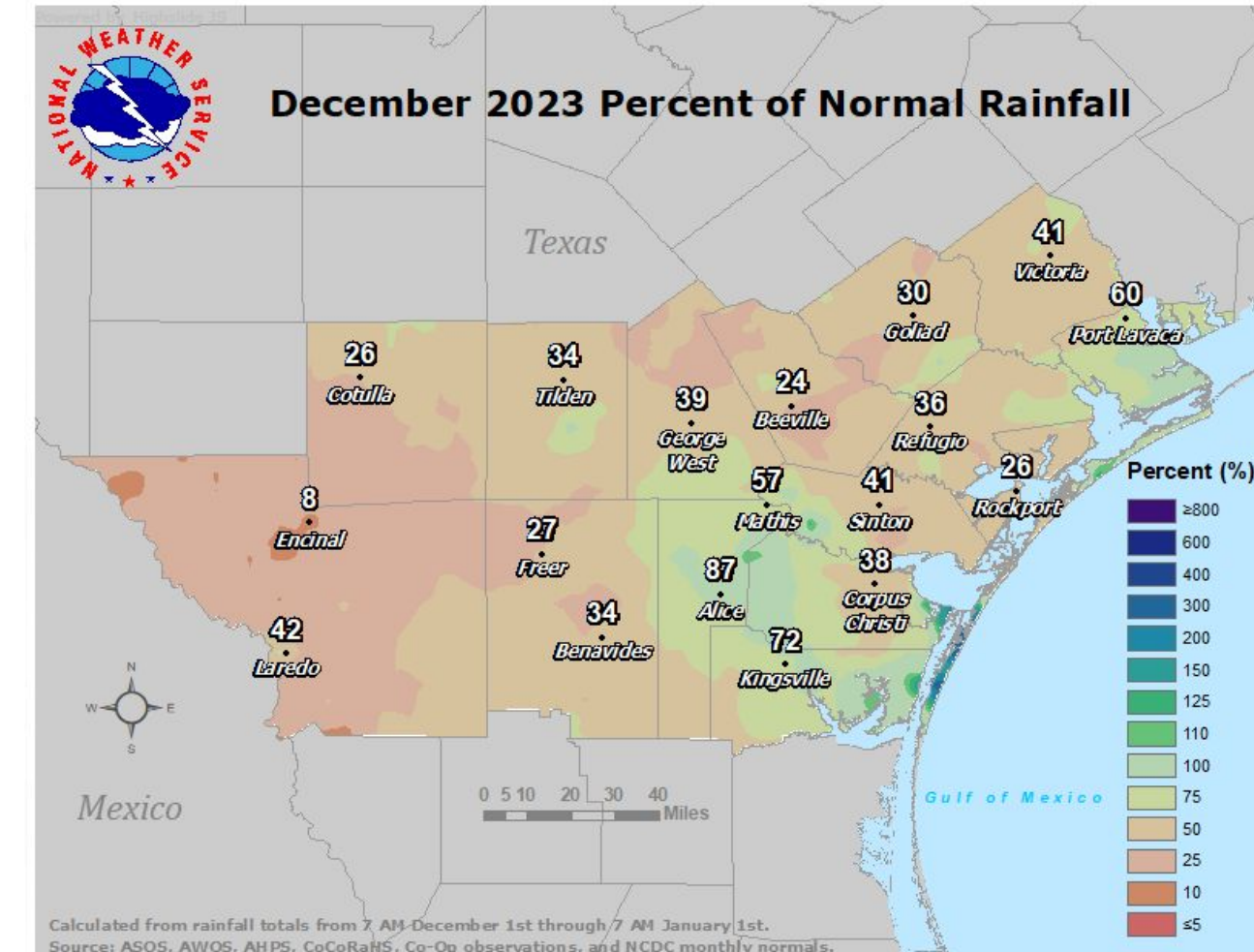
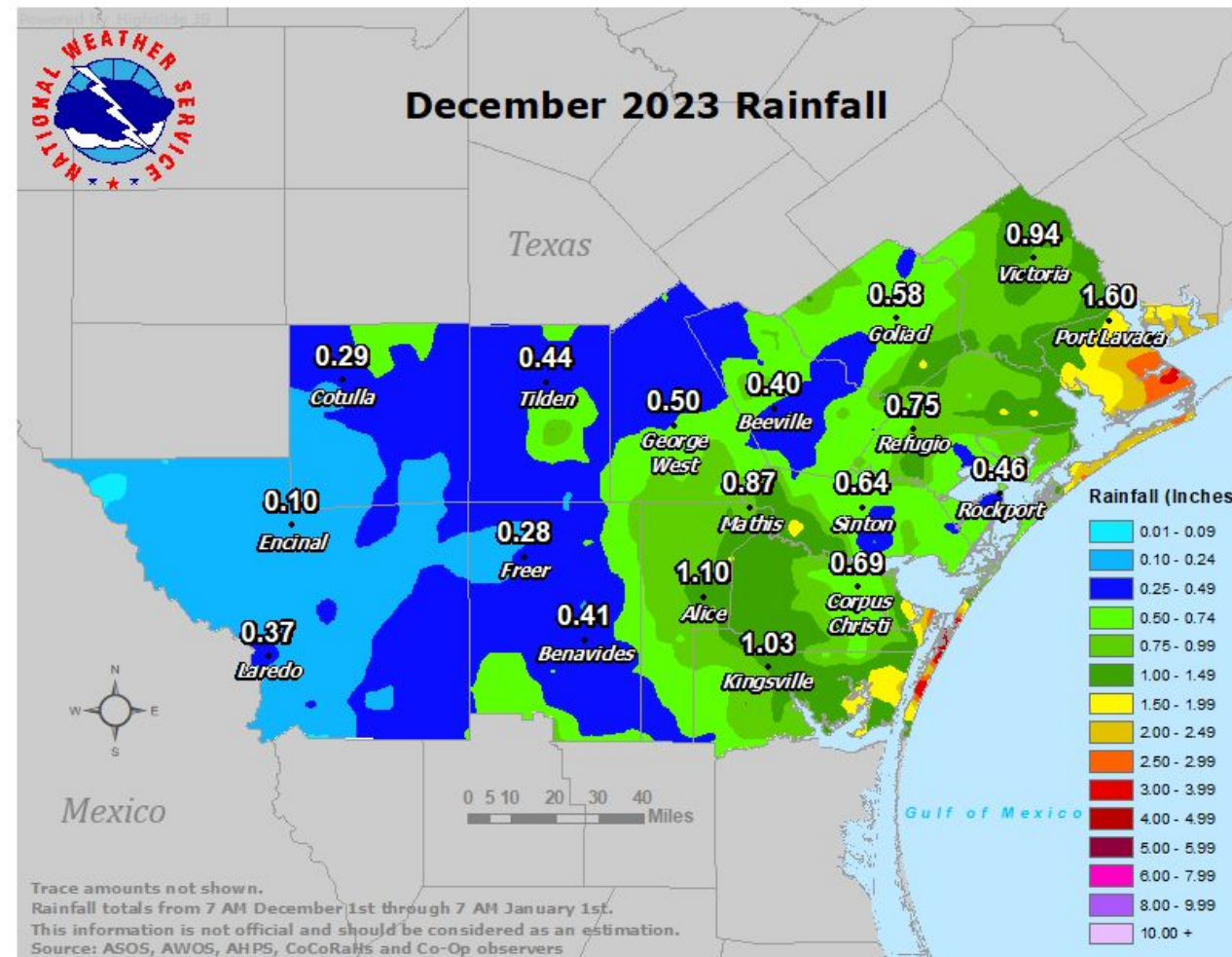


Precipitation

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Latest Monthly Rainfall for South Texas

- Most of South Texas saw 50% or less of normal rainfall throughout the month of December, except portions of the northeast Coastal Bend and southern Plains/Coastal Bend.





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Low reservoir levels contributing to water restrictions

Agricultural Impacts

- Corn, cotton, peanuts, rice, sorghum, cattle, hay and sheep

Fire Hazard Impacts

- No known impacts at this time

Other Impacts

- Corpus Christi under stage 1 water restrictions
- Victoria returns to stage 2 water restrictions
- Laredo under stage 2 water restrictions

Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

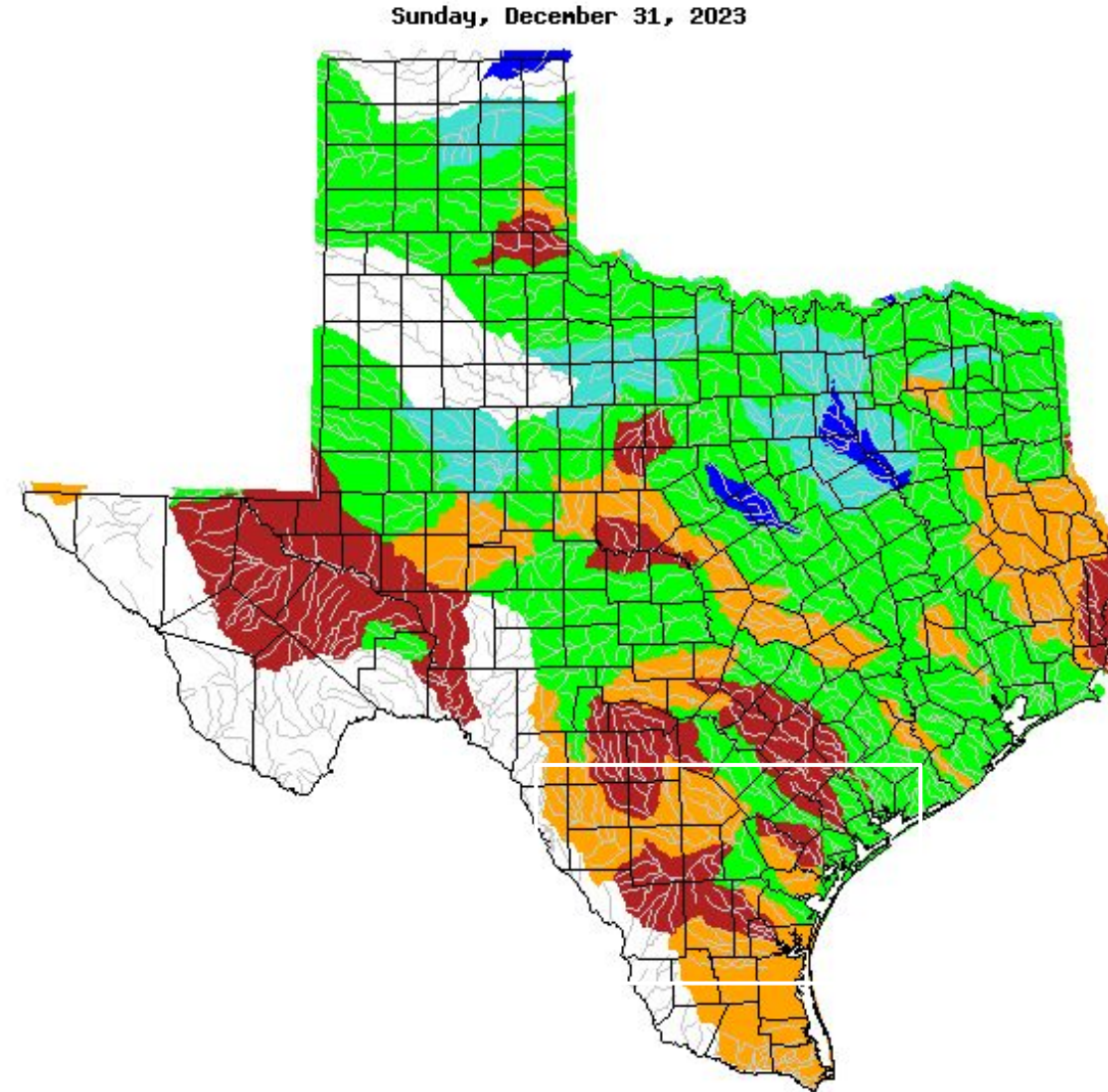




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

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- Below normal streamflow for the majority of South Texas rivers.
- Reservoir levels continue to decline.



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Reservoir	Pool Elevation (ft)	Current Elevation (ft)
Choke Canyon.	220.5	192.6
Lake Corpus Christi	94.0	86.02
Lake Texana	44.0	38.8
Coleta Creek	98.0	94.88
Canyon Lake	909.0	887.69
Lake Amistad	1117.0	1061.79





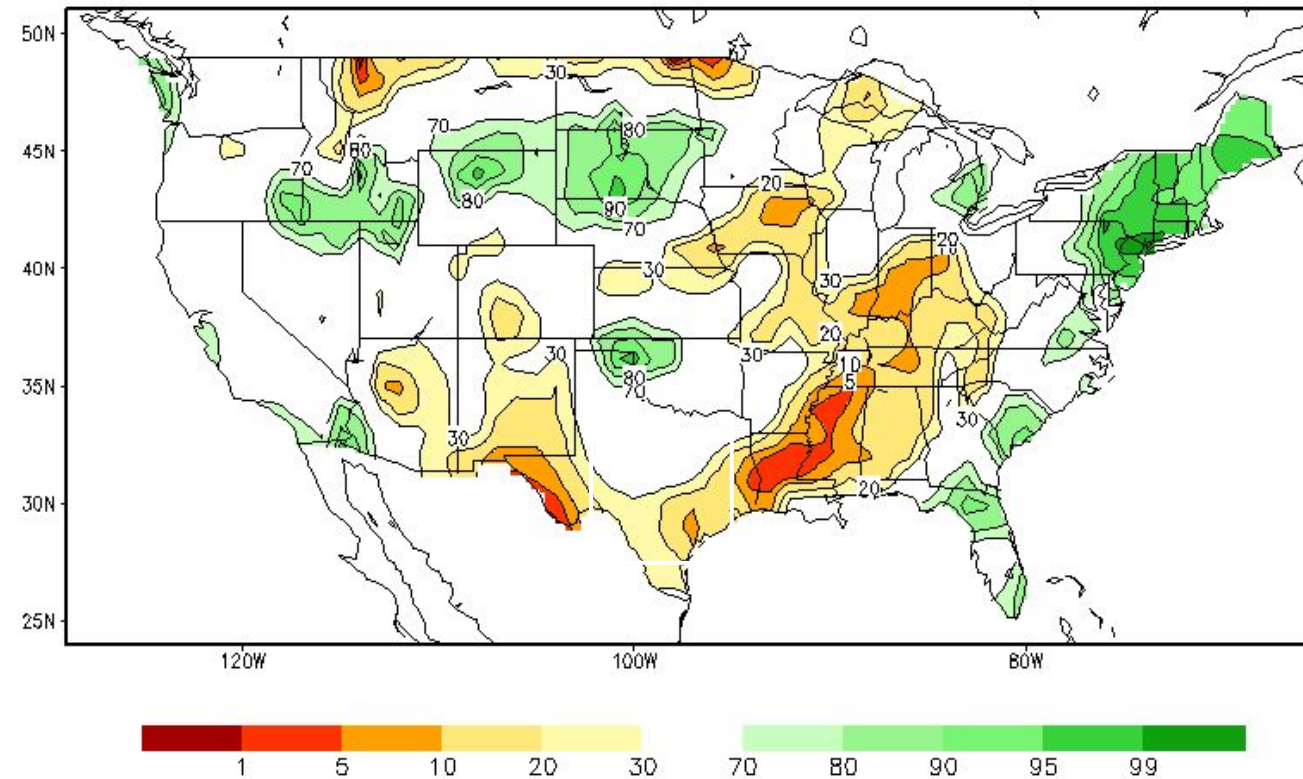
Agricultural Impacts

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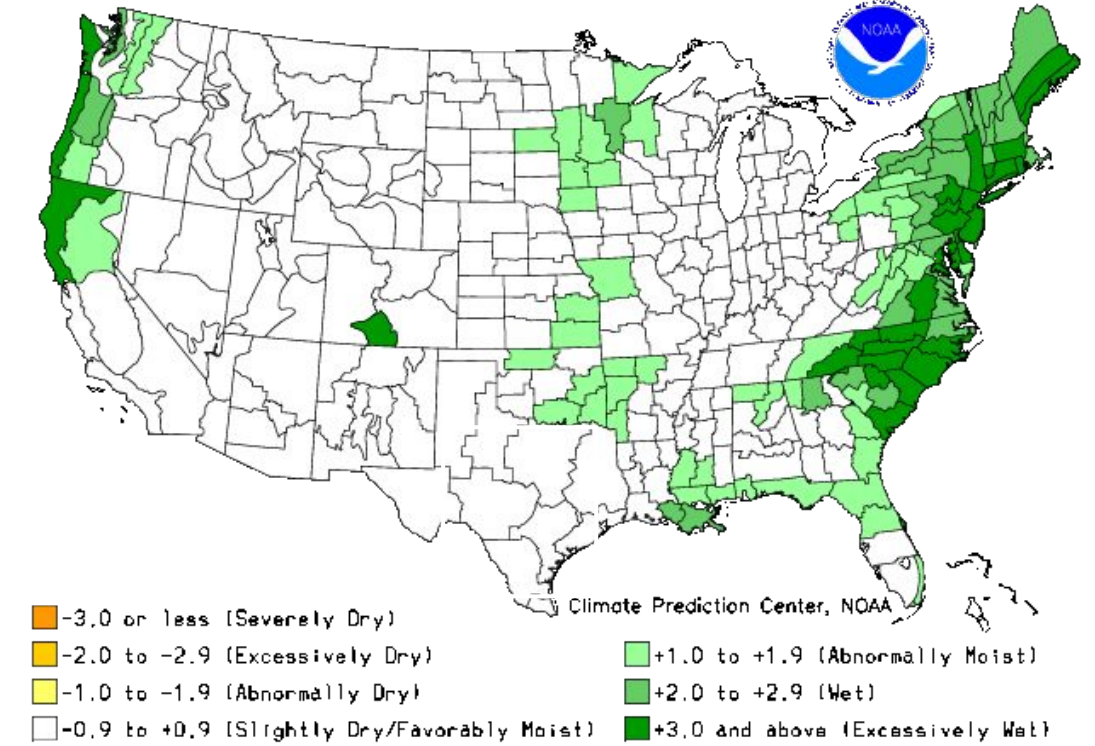
[Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) | [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#)

- Below normal soil moisture conditions are in place across South Texas. The driest can be found in the northern Coastal Bend.
- Slightly dry crop moisture across all of Texas.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
DEC 31, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending DEC 30, 2023
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile



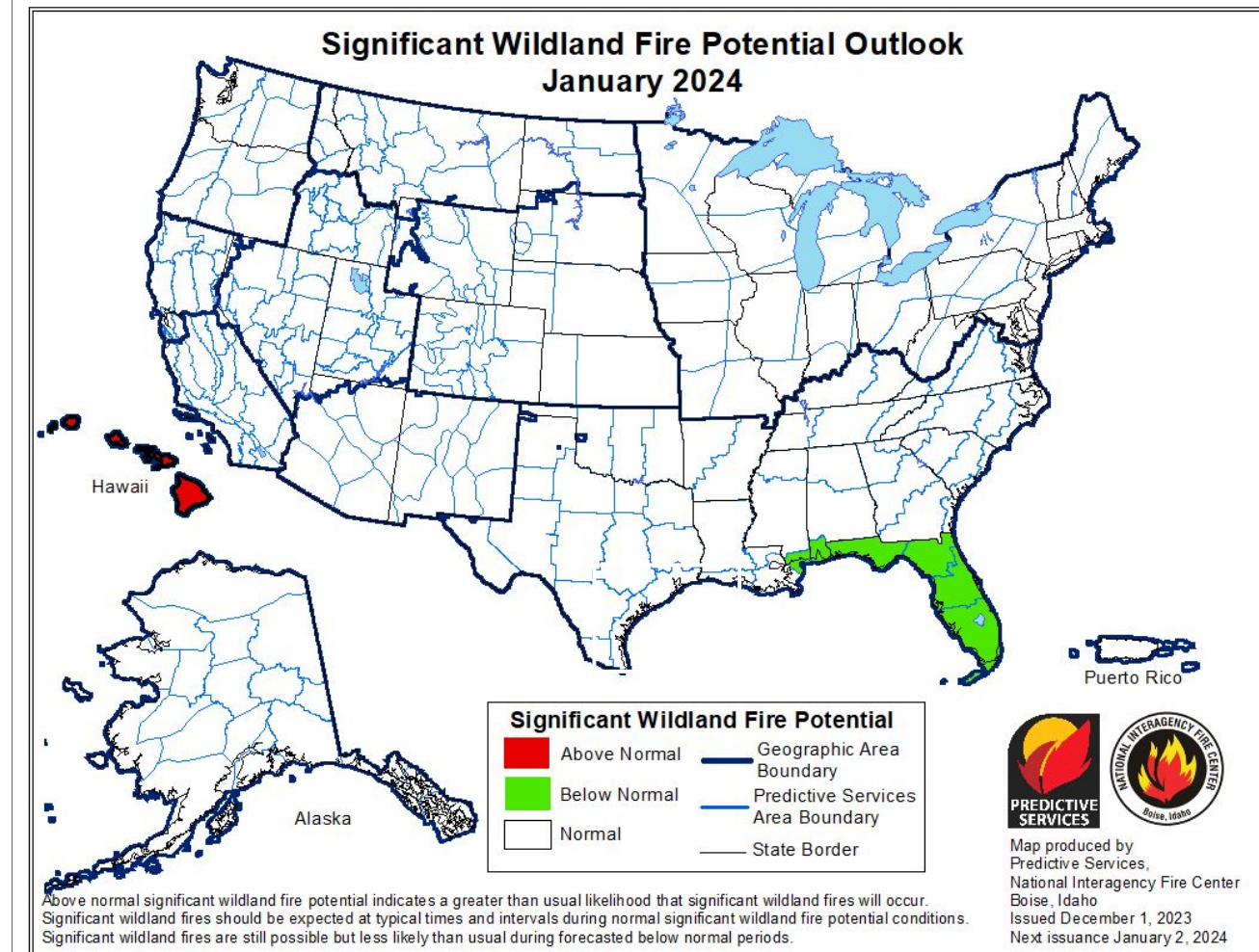
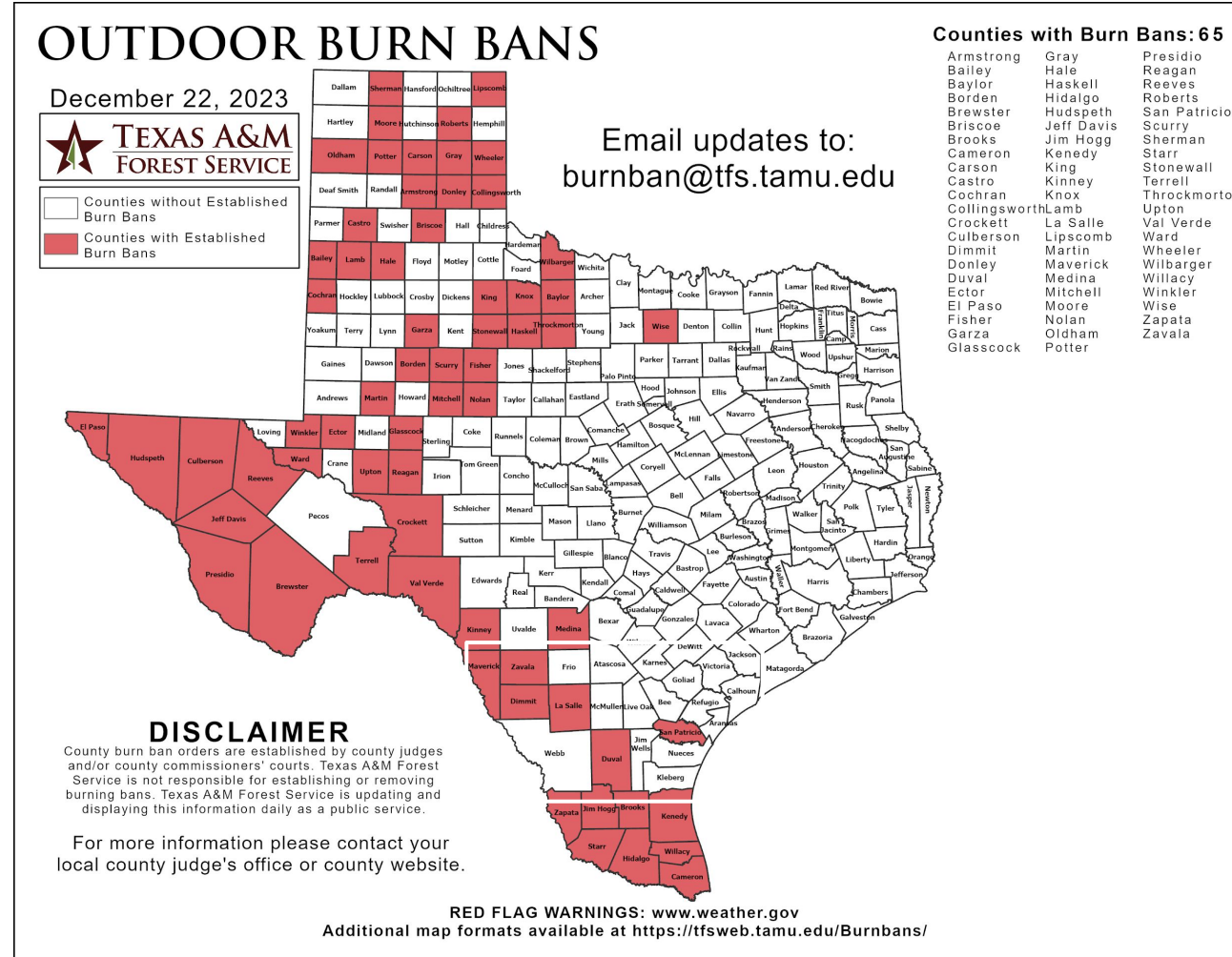


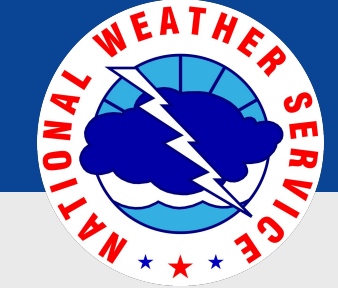
Fire Hazard Impacts

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Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#). | [TX Map Outdoor Burn Ban](#)

- Burn Bans in place for Duval, and San Patricio counties
- Normal significant wildfire potential through January

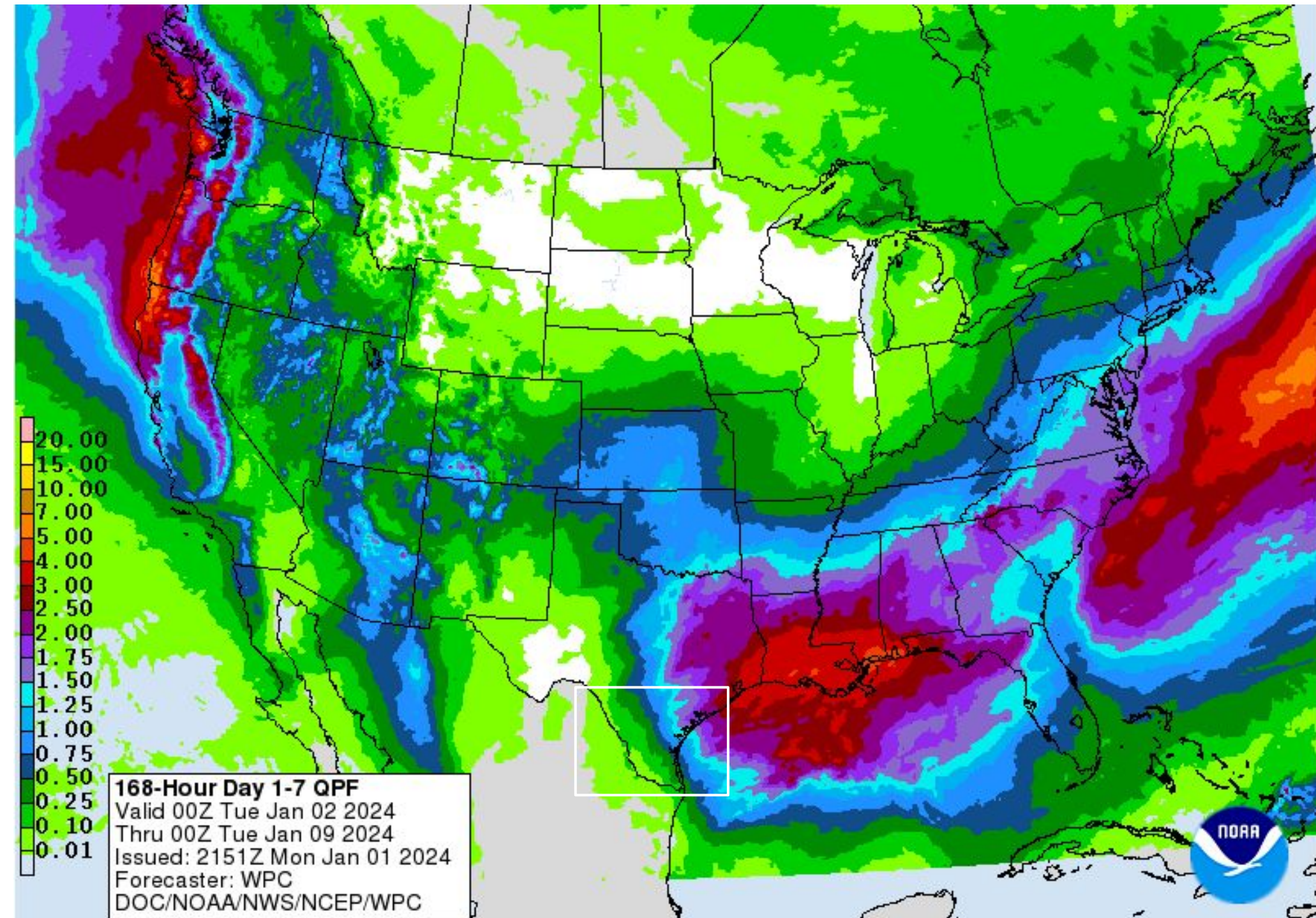




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

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- Up to around 0.50-2.00 inches of rainfall is forecast over the next 7 days to fall across the eastern counties of South Texas





Drought Outlook

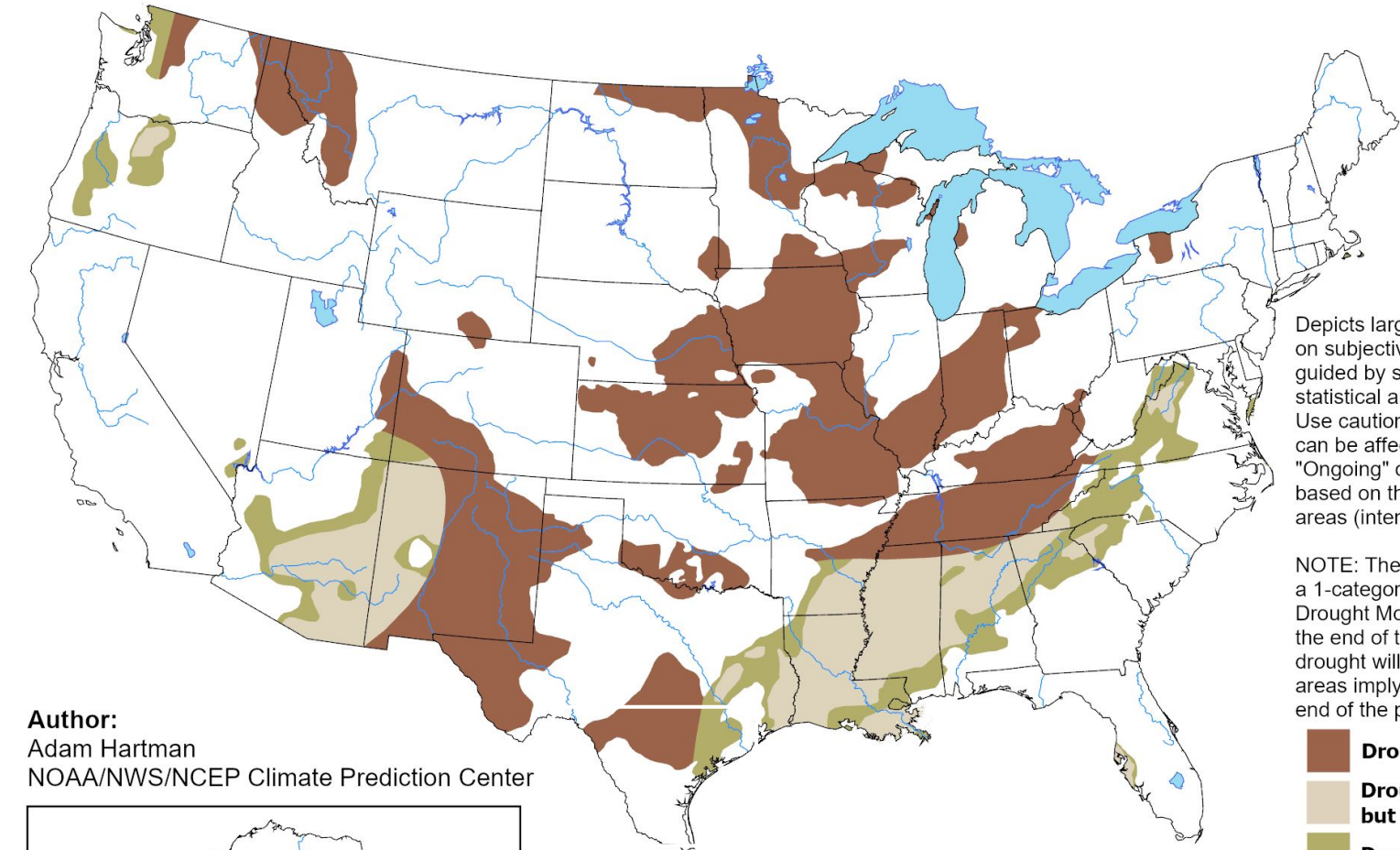
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The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Drought conditions are expected to persist across northern portions of the region.
- Drought removal likely for eastern portions of South Texas.

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

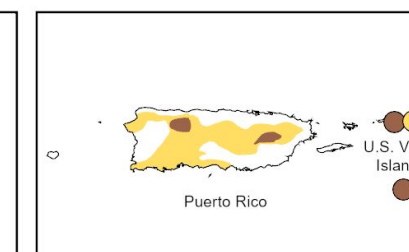
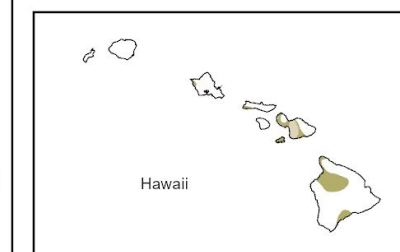
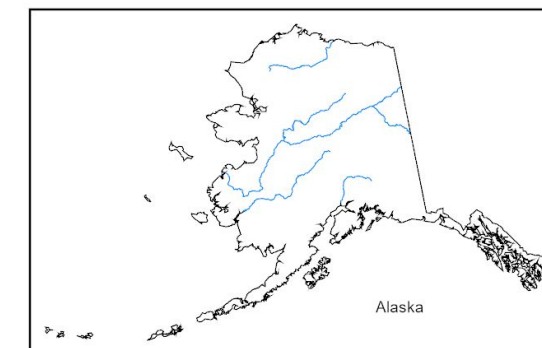
Valid for January 2024
Released December 31, 2023



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).

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



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

