



# Drought Information Statement for Southern NM/Far West TX

Valid June 5, 2024

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

Contact Information: [sr-epz.nws@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-epz.nws@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated July 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](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
- Seasonal dry and warm conditions increasing wildfire risk, monsoon onset expected toward end of month
- Drought conditions expected to persist through the summer months





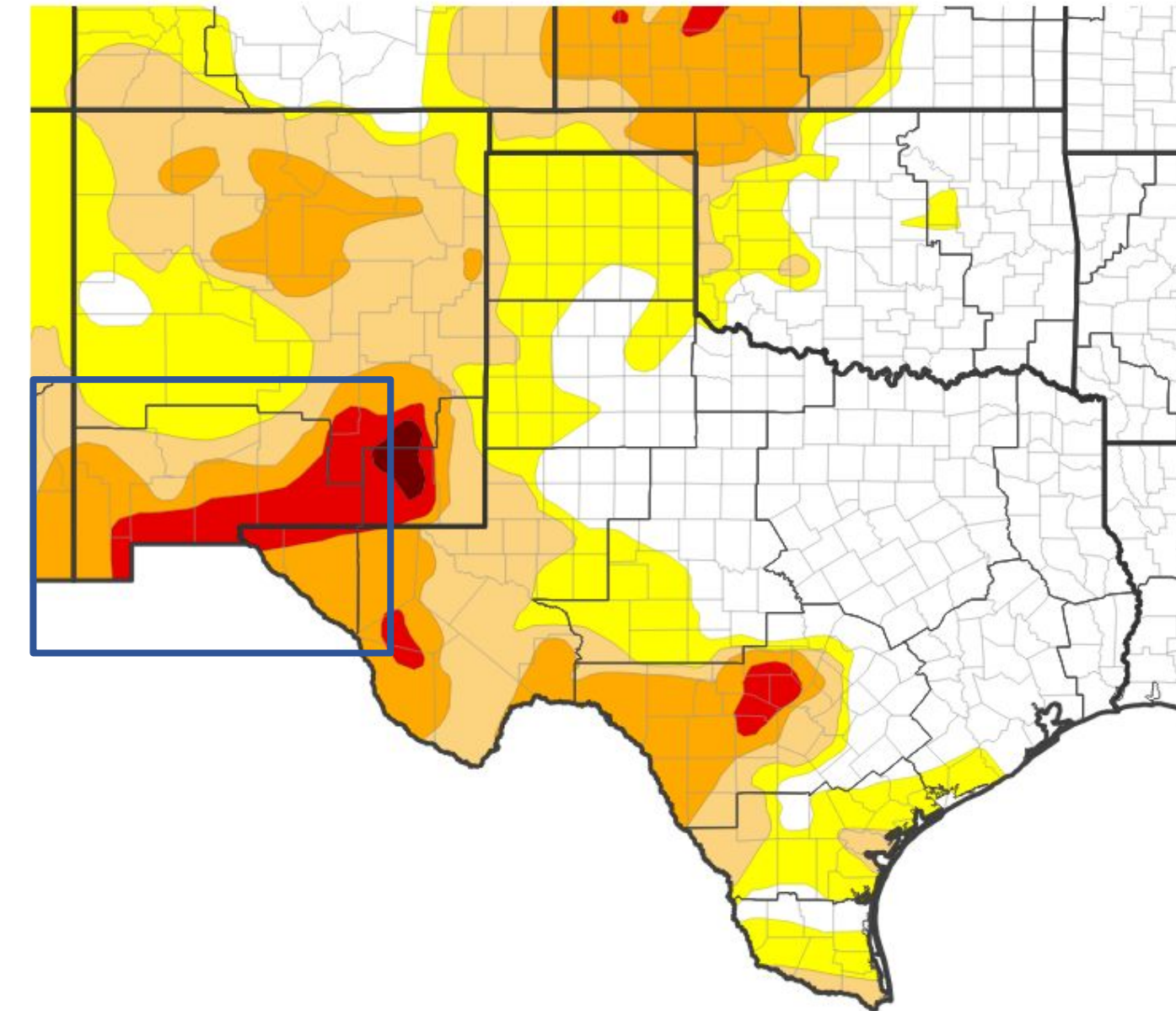


Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for southern New Mexico and far west Texas

## 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 (73% of state)
- Drought will persist into 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: 05/28/24





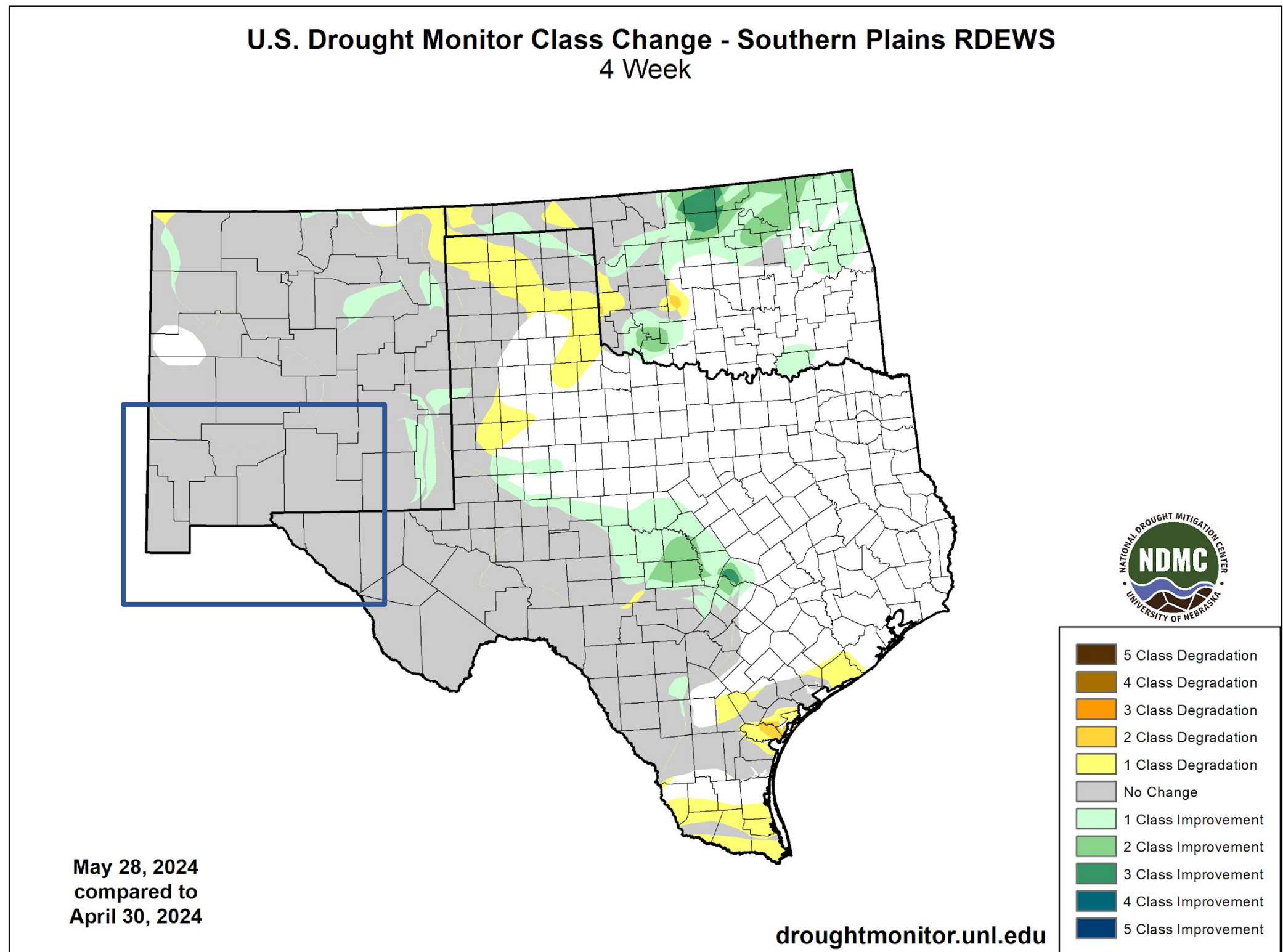
# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

June 5, 2024  
6:41 PM

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

## 4-Week Drought Monitor Class Change.

- **Drought Worsened:**  
No drought worsening was observed
- **Drought Improved:**  
No drought improvement was observed
- **No Change:**  
All of Far West Texas and New Mexico







# Precipitation

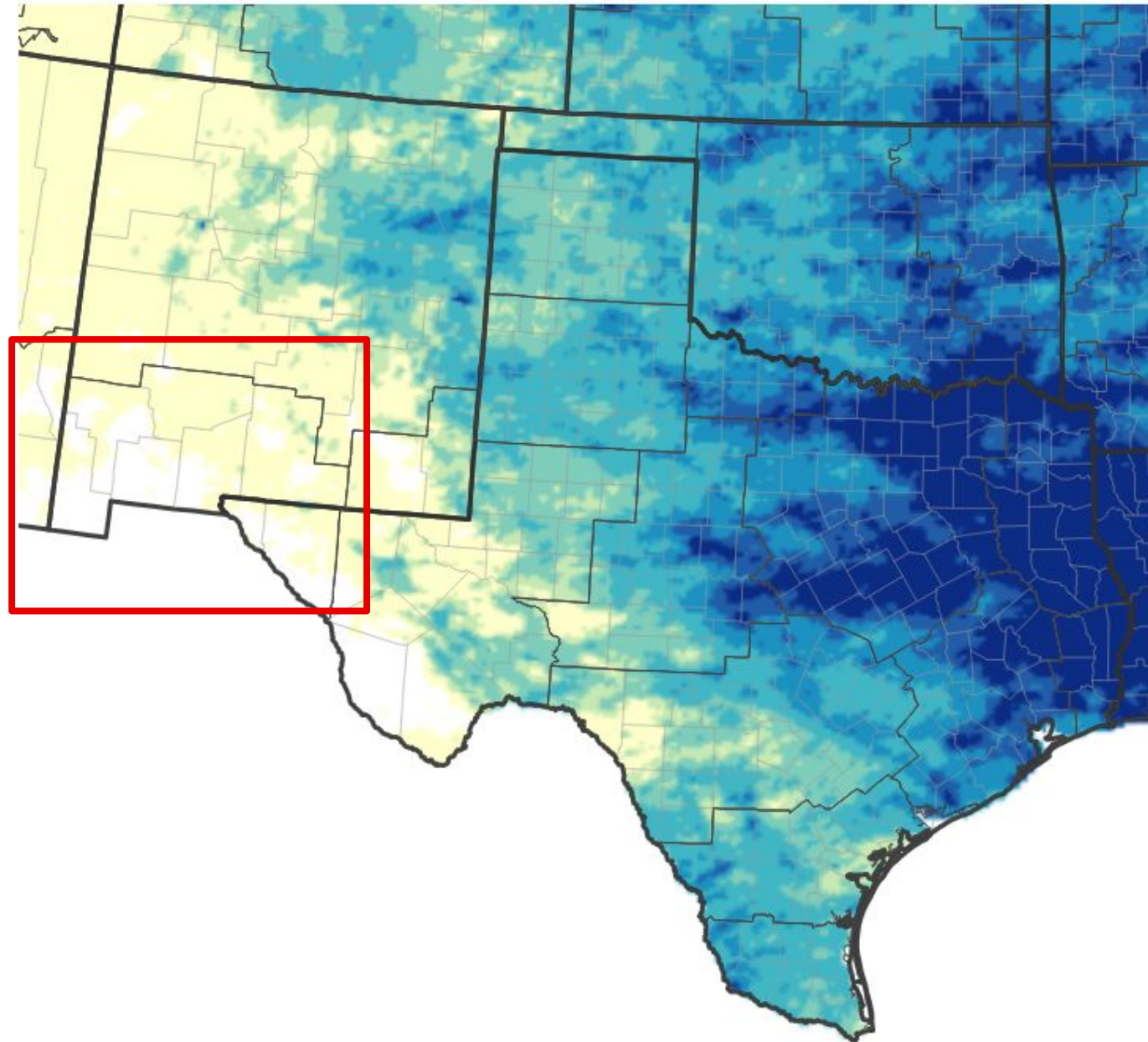
June 5, 2024  
6:41 PM

30-day rain totals, 0.00-0.10” along I-10 corridor. 0.00-0.25” over mountain forests

90-day rain totals, 0.25-0.50” along I-10 corridor. 1.50-2.50” over mountain forests

Virtually no precipitation area wide since early April.

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



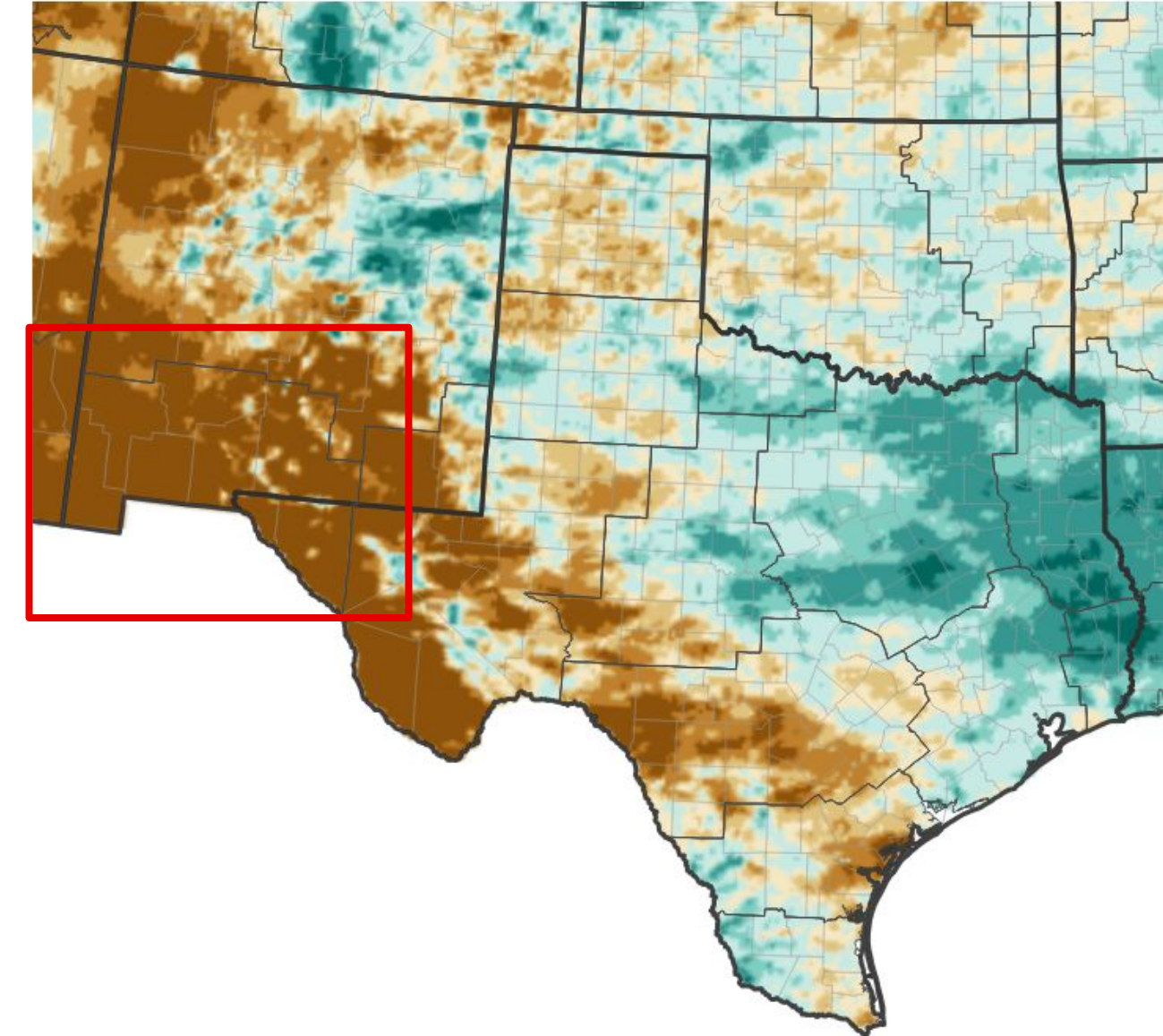
Inches of Precipitation



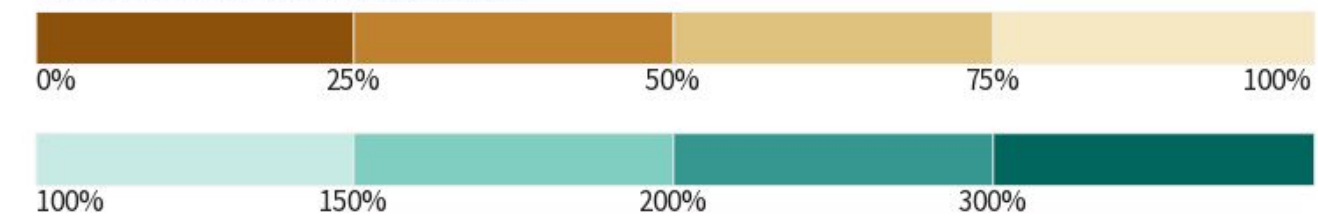
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 06/04/24

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: 06/04/24





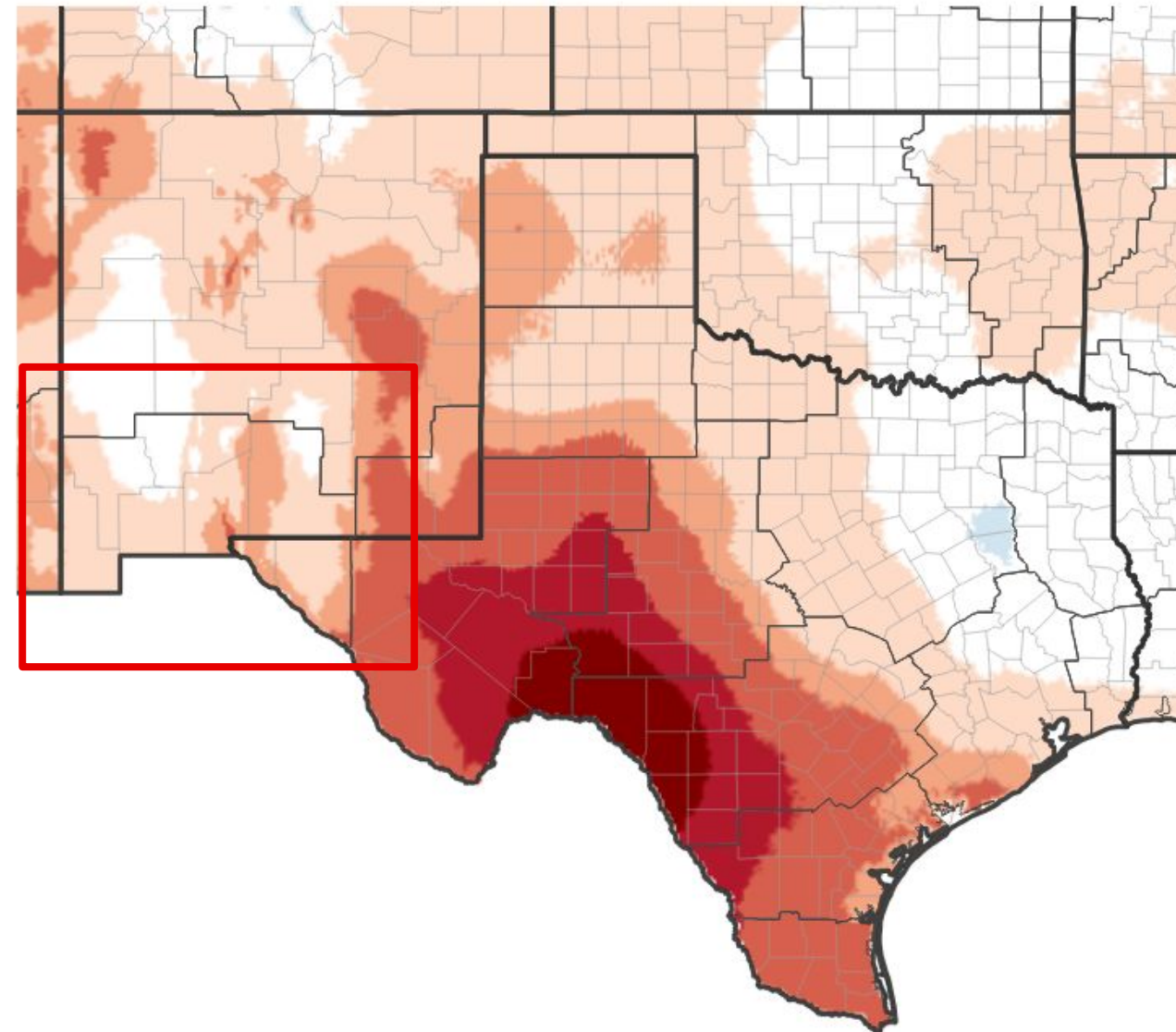


# Temperature

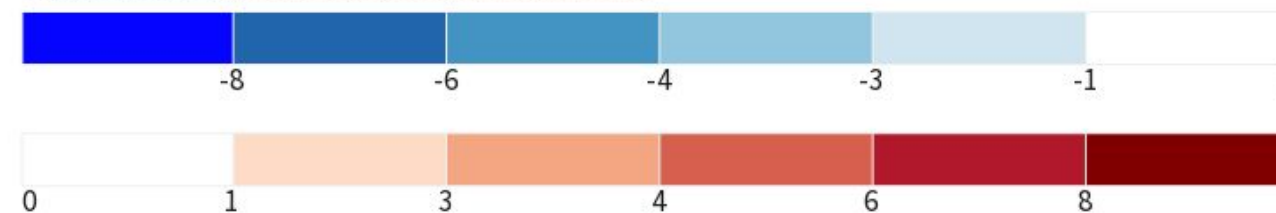
June 5, 2024  
6:41 PM

- Near to slightly above normal May temperatures. Steady warm up.
- 2024 is 3rd hottest year on record for El Paso (so far)
- May temperatures 4.1°C above normal at El Paso International (KELP)

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



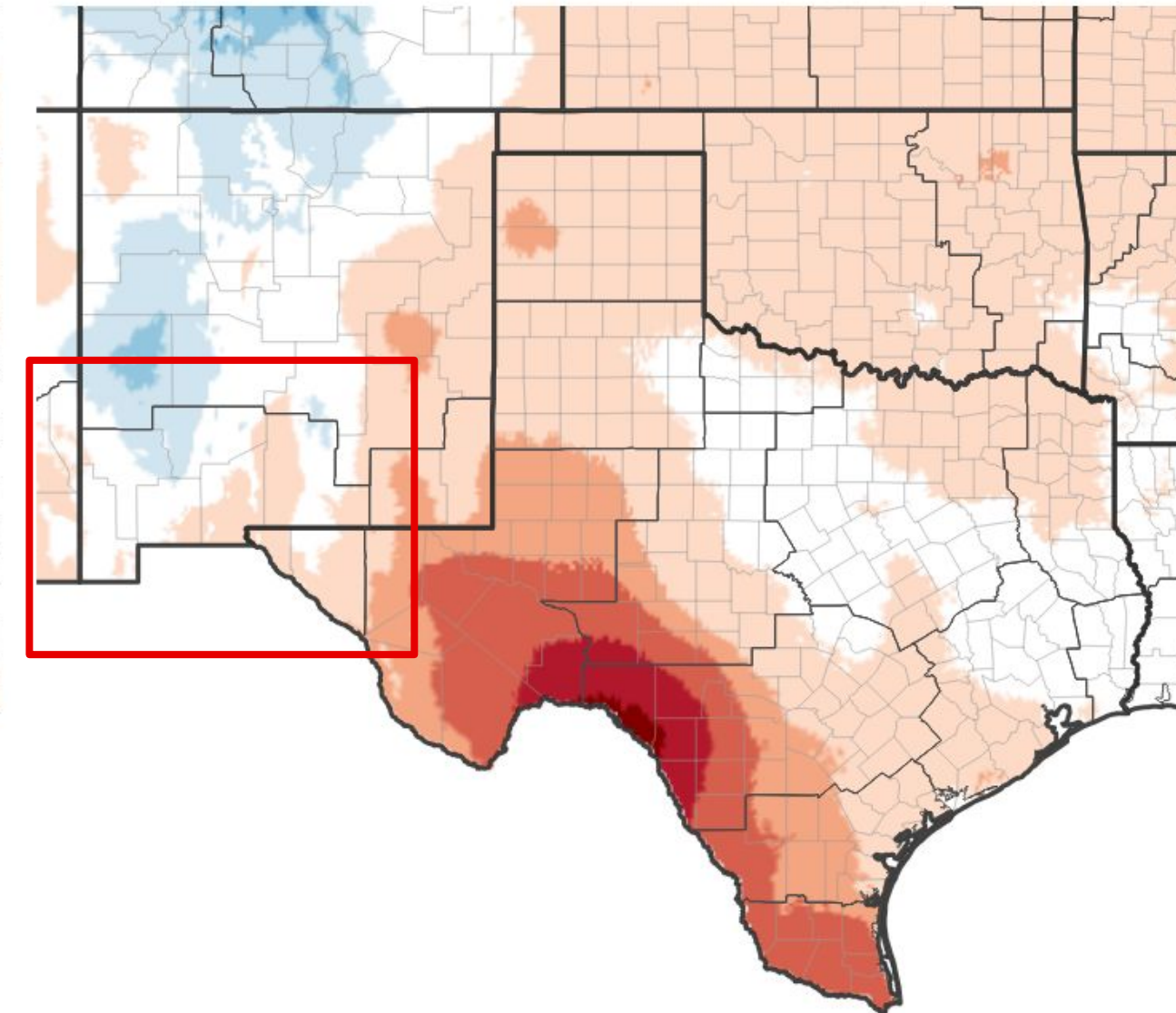
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



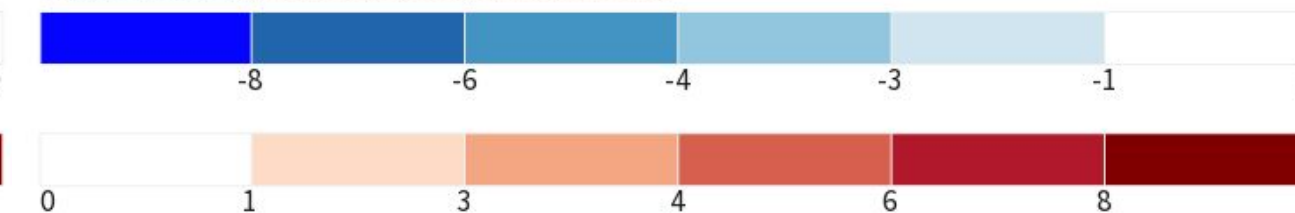
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 06/01/24

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: 06/01/24







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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows in Gila and Mimbres basins have decreased the past two months but remain near climate averages as we exit the driest time of year. River levels will rely on thunderstorm output the next few months and sudden rises are possible. Gila River levels have decreased to 3-4 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 22.9% capacity (slightly below 30-year median flow) ([Texas Water Development Board](#)). River flooding risk will increase once monsoon season thunderstorms begin.

## 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

- Fuel moisture has rapidly decreased in the past few months and fire season is currently at its peak. Two wildfires in New Mexico (Blue 2 and Indios) have exceeded 3000 acres in size. Lighter winds are expected this month, with critically dry and warm conditions. High fire danger expected in June with fuels now primed for fire start. Monsoon onset will bring new lightning starts and will determine the end of the fire season.





- Gila river basin streamflows running near normal, have decreased over past two months.
- Rio Grande/Mimbres basin streamflows slightly below normal

## Gila River Stages

	Latest	Flood Stage
Gila	0.89 ft	11.00 ft
Redrock	4.17 ft	20.00 ft
Virden	4.46 ft	15.00 ft

## Rio Grande Stages

	Latest	Flood Stage
El Paso	4.40 ft	8.50 ft

Gauge stage recorded on 6/3/2024

Tuesday, June 04, 2024

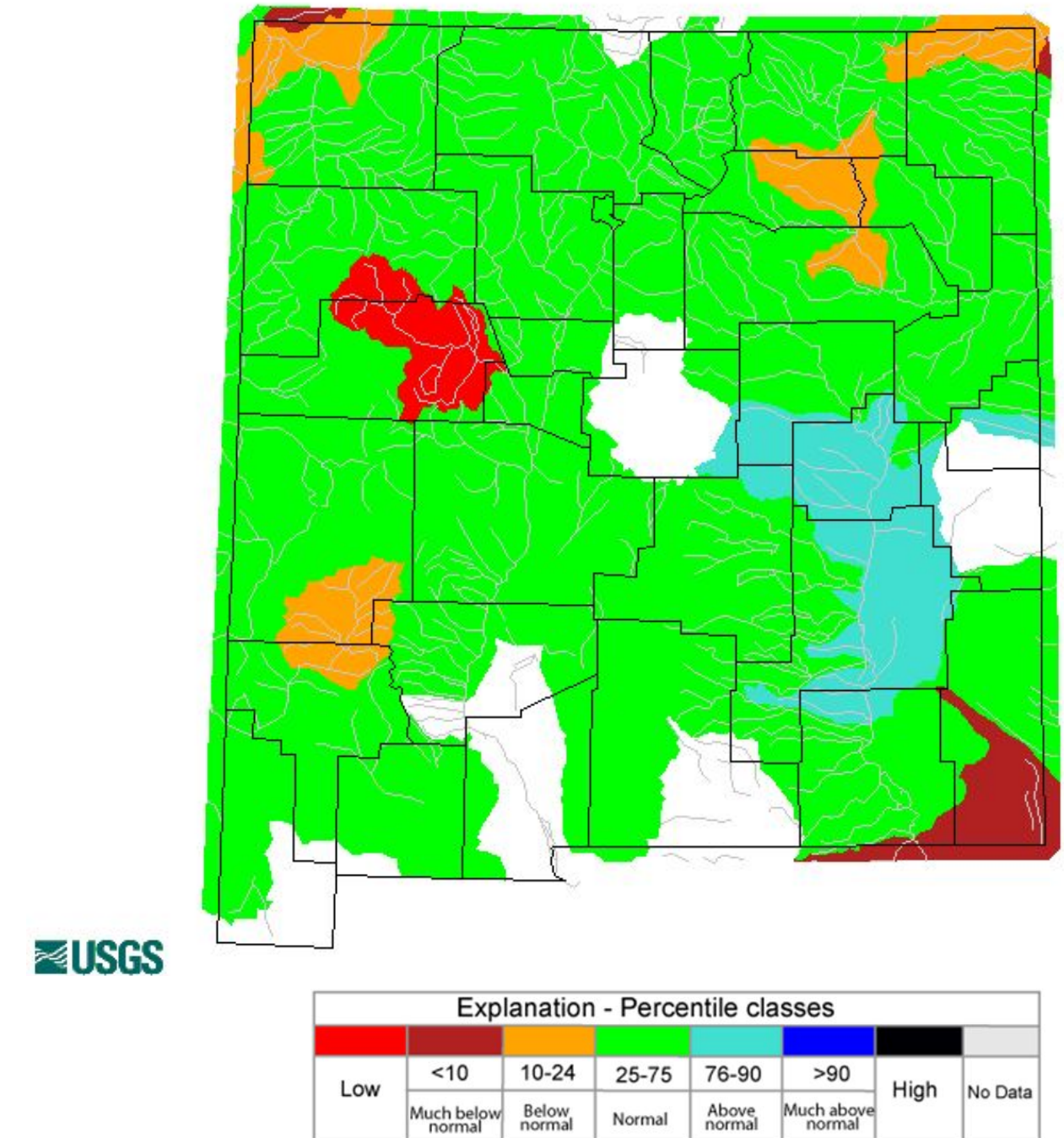


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid June 4, 2024

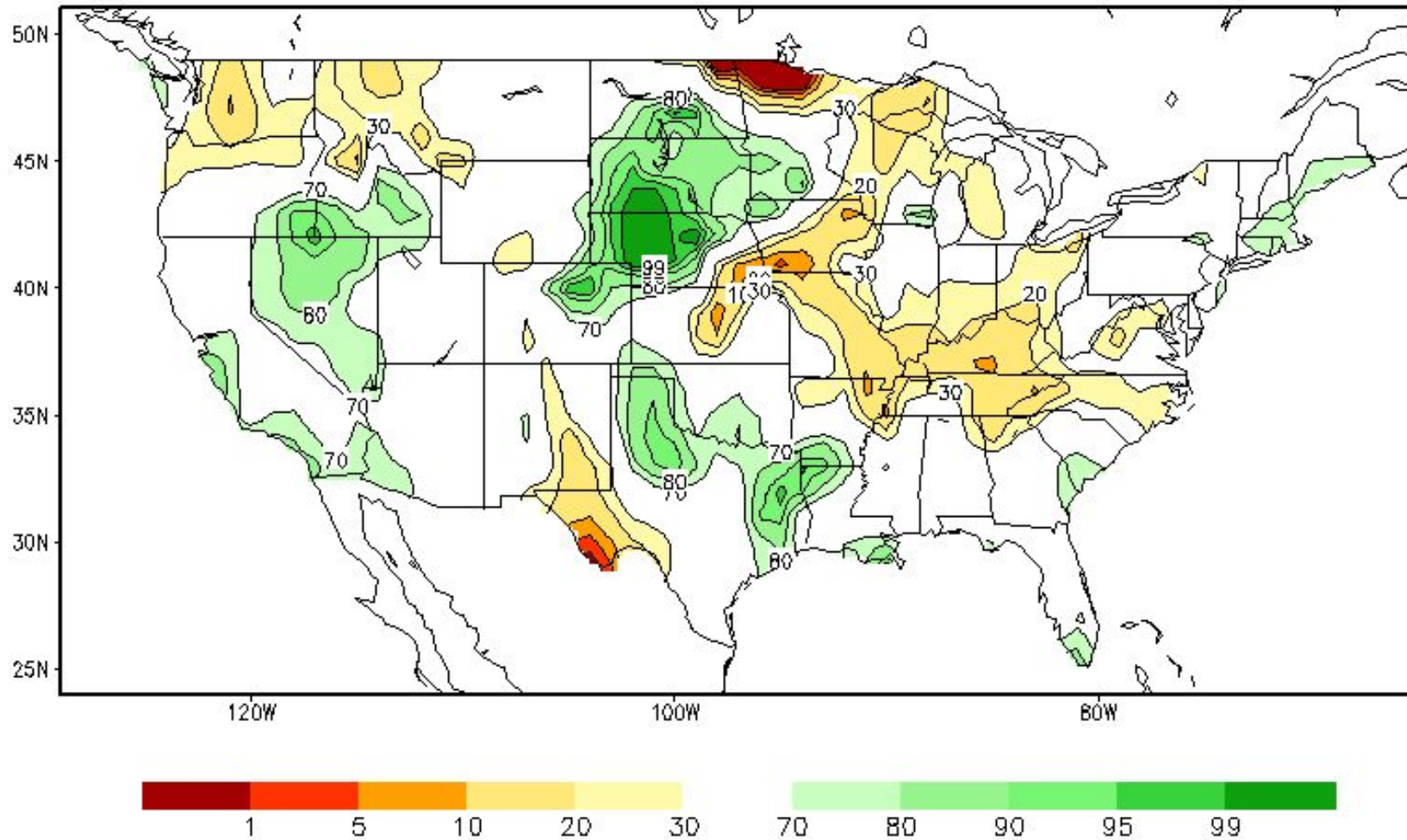




# Agricultural Impacts

June 5, 2024  
6:41 PM

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
JUN 04, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division  
Weekly Value for Period Ending JUN 1, 2024  
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

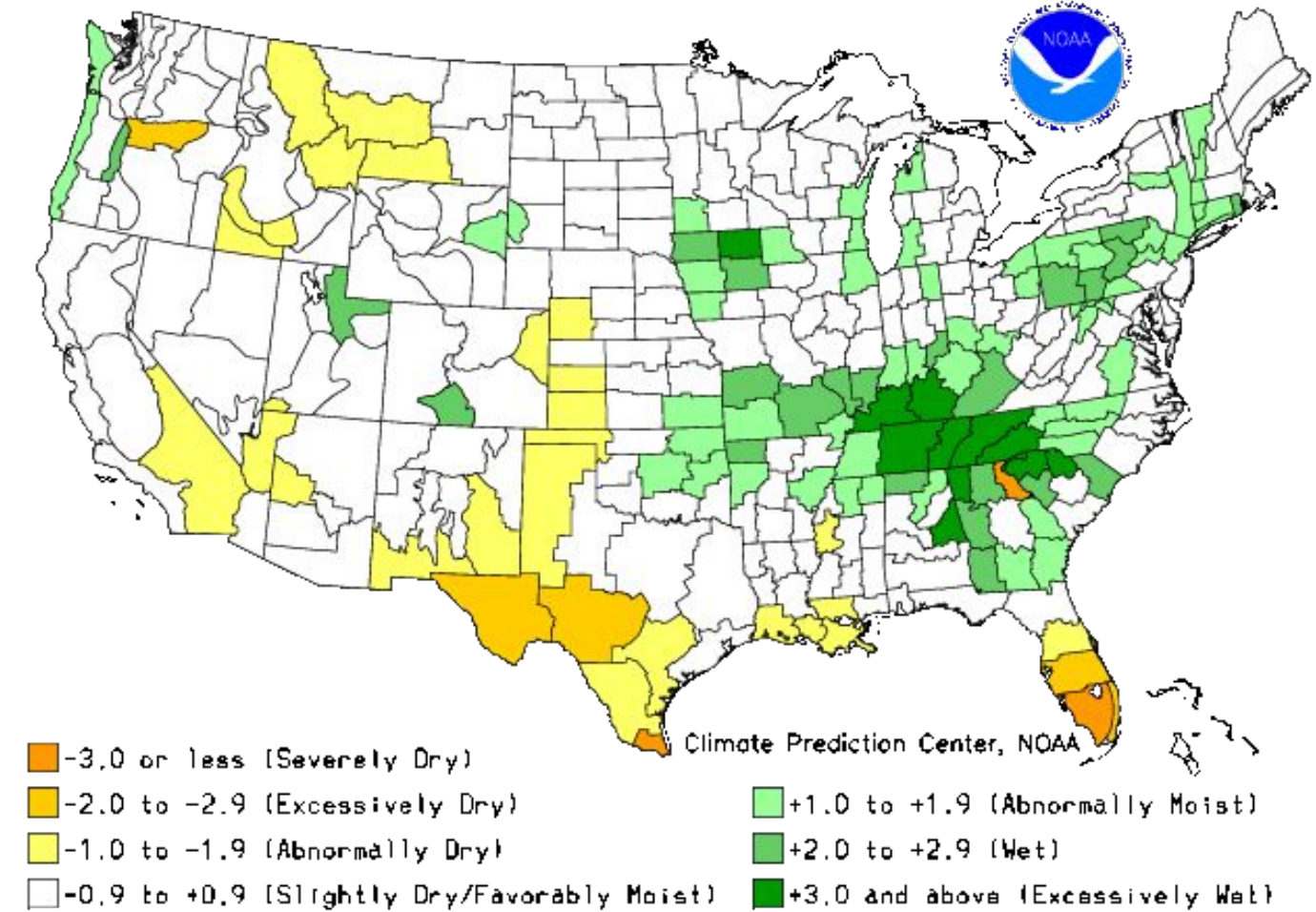


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid June 4, 2024

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending June 1, 2024







# Fire Hazard Impacts

June 5, 2024  
6:41 PM

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

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

Latest NM Fire Restrictions available [here](#)

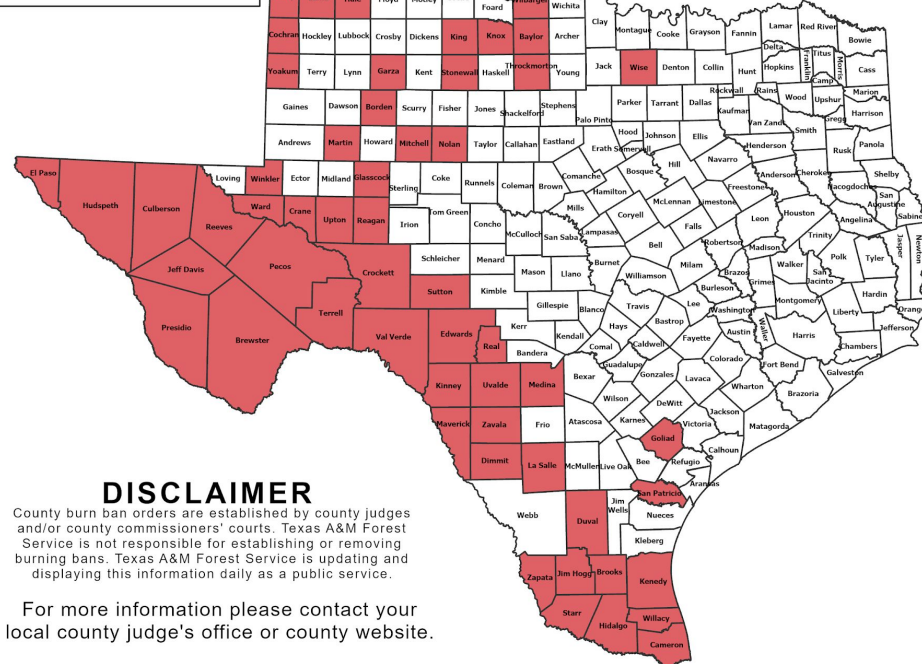
## OUTDOOR BURN BANS

June 05, 2024



Counties without Established Burn Bans  
Counties with Established Burn Bans

Email updates to: [burnban@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:burnban@tfs.tamu.edu)



**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](http://www.weather.gov)  
Additional map formats available at <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/Burnbans/>

### Counties with Burn Bans: 66

- Armstrong
- Bailey
- Baylor
- Borden
- Brewster
- Briscoe
- Brooks
- Cameron
- Carson
- Castro
- Cochran
- Crane
- Crockett
- Culberson
- Dimmit
- Donley
- Duval
- Edwards
- El Paso
- Garza
- Glasscock
- Goliad
- Gray
- Hale
- Hidalgo
- Hudspeth
- Jeff Davis
- Jim Hogg
- Kenedy
- King
- Kinney
- Knox
- Lamb
- La Salle
- Martin
- Maverick
- Medina
- Mitchell
- Moore
- Nolan
- Oldham
- Paos
- Potter
- Presidio
- Reagan
- Real
- Reeves
- San Patricio
- Sherman
- Starr
- Stonewall
- Sutton
- Terrell
- Throckmorton
- Upton
- Uvalde
- Val Verde
- Ward
- Wheeler
- Wilbarger
- Willacy
- Winkler
- Wise
- Yoakum
- Zapala
- Zavala

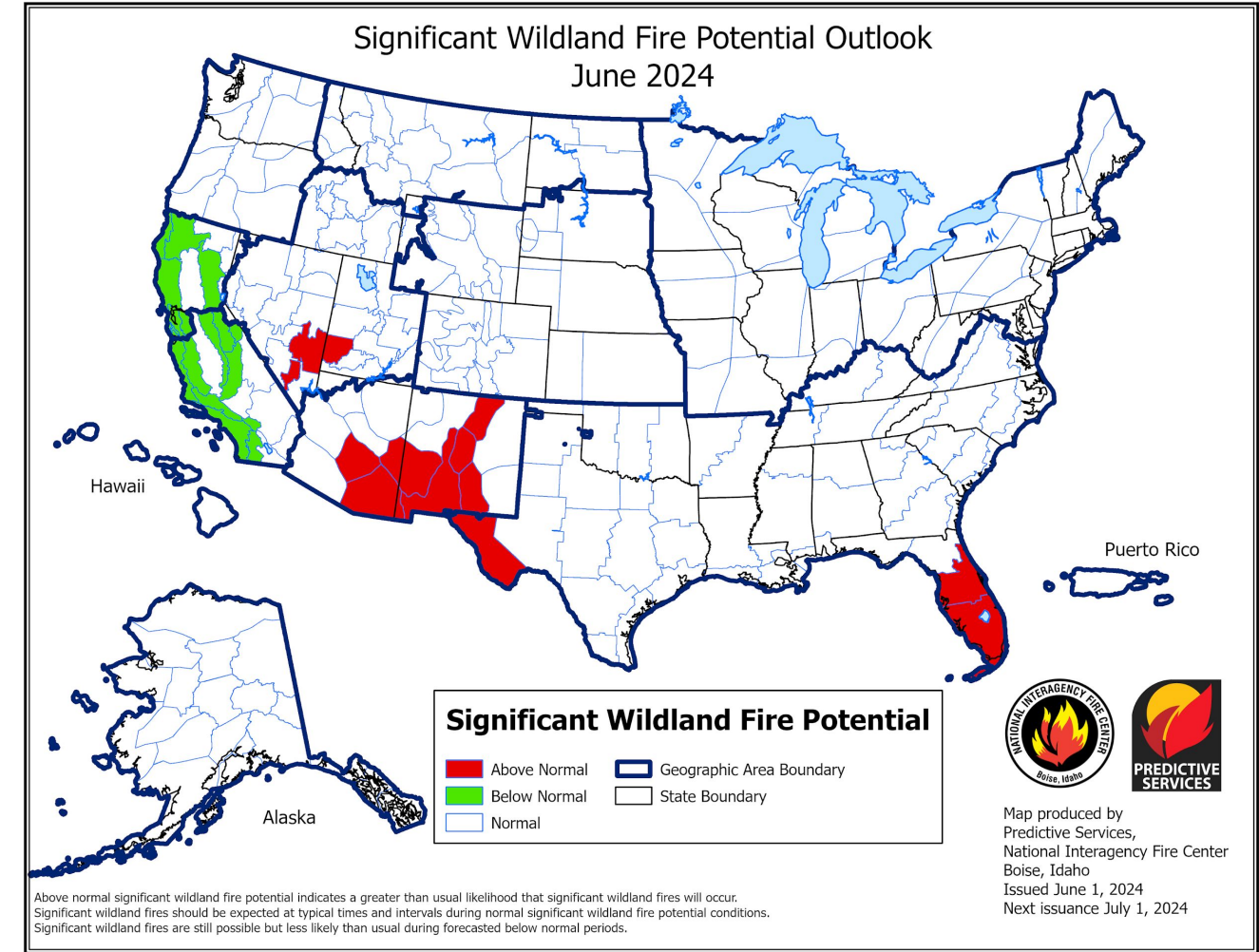


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for June 2024





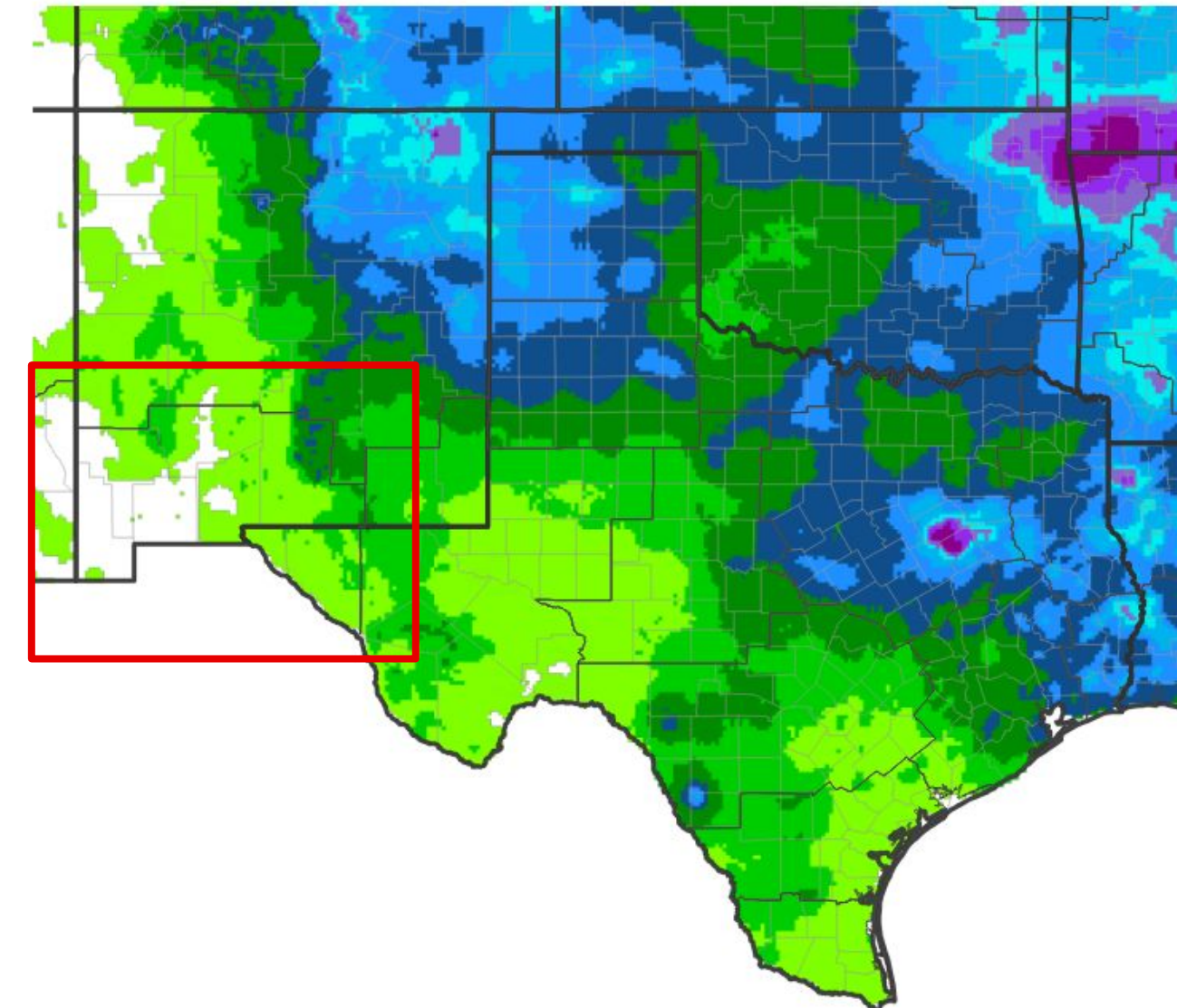


# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

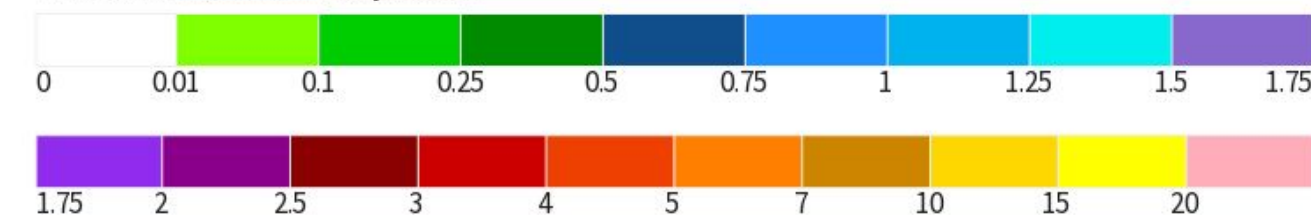
June 5, 2024  
6:41 PM

- Isolated showers and thunderstorms beginning this weekend, especially over the New Mexico forests.
- Monsoon onset by end of month will determine drought status going forward. Drought conditions may rapidly intensify if rains are delayed.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Data Valid: 06/05/24







# Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

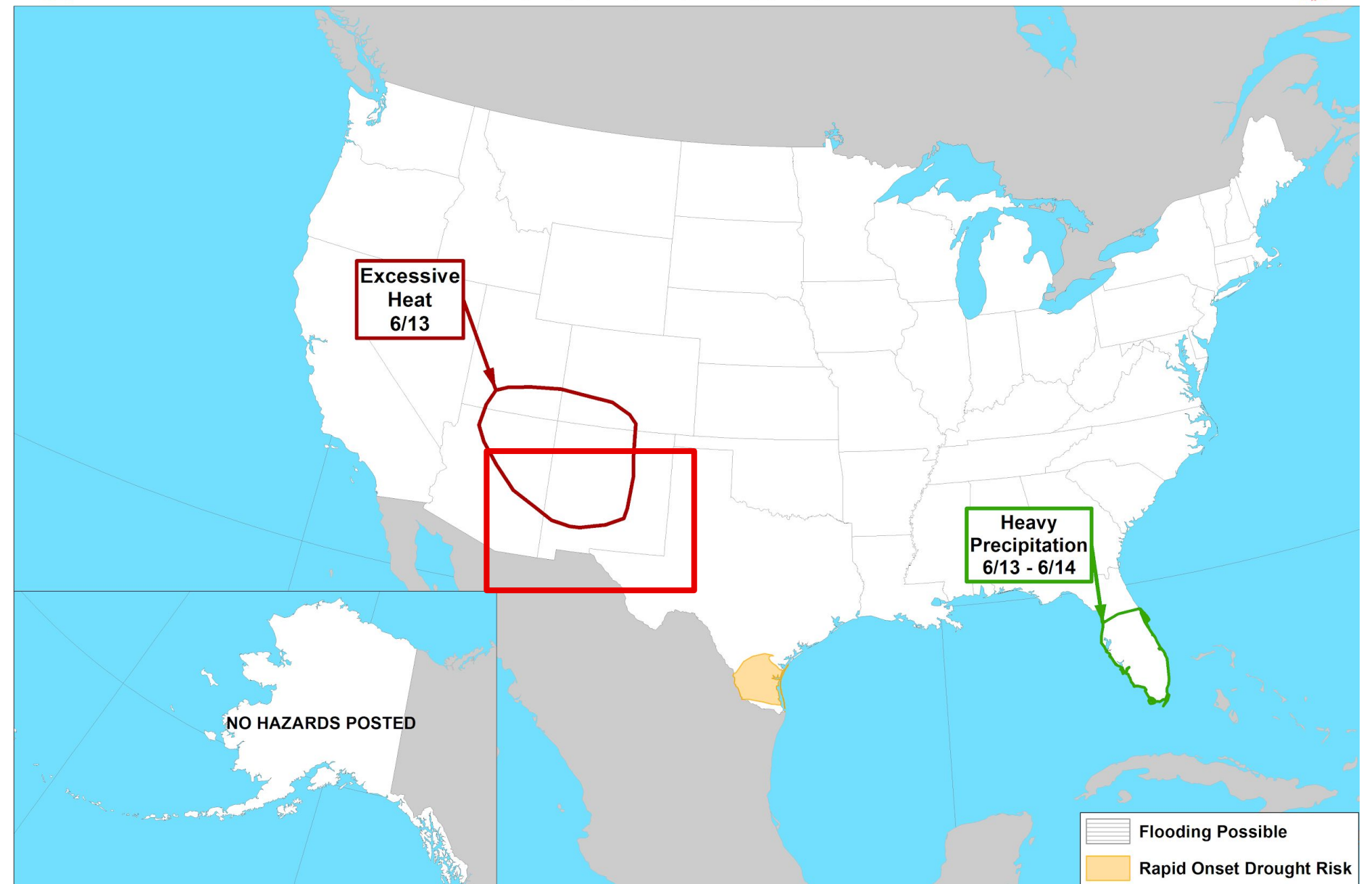
June 5, 2024  
6:41 PM

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

- High pressure over much of the U.S. Southwest next couple weeks. Above normal temperatures and minimal precipitation chances expected. Drought conditions are expected to persist into the summer season and the upcoming monsoon will greatly influence the next few outlooks.



Day 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook  
Valid: 06/13/2024-06/19/2024



Climate Prediction Center  
Made: 06/05/2024 3PM EDT

Follow us:   
[www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

Image Caption:

[Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook](#) Valid June 13 to June 19







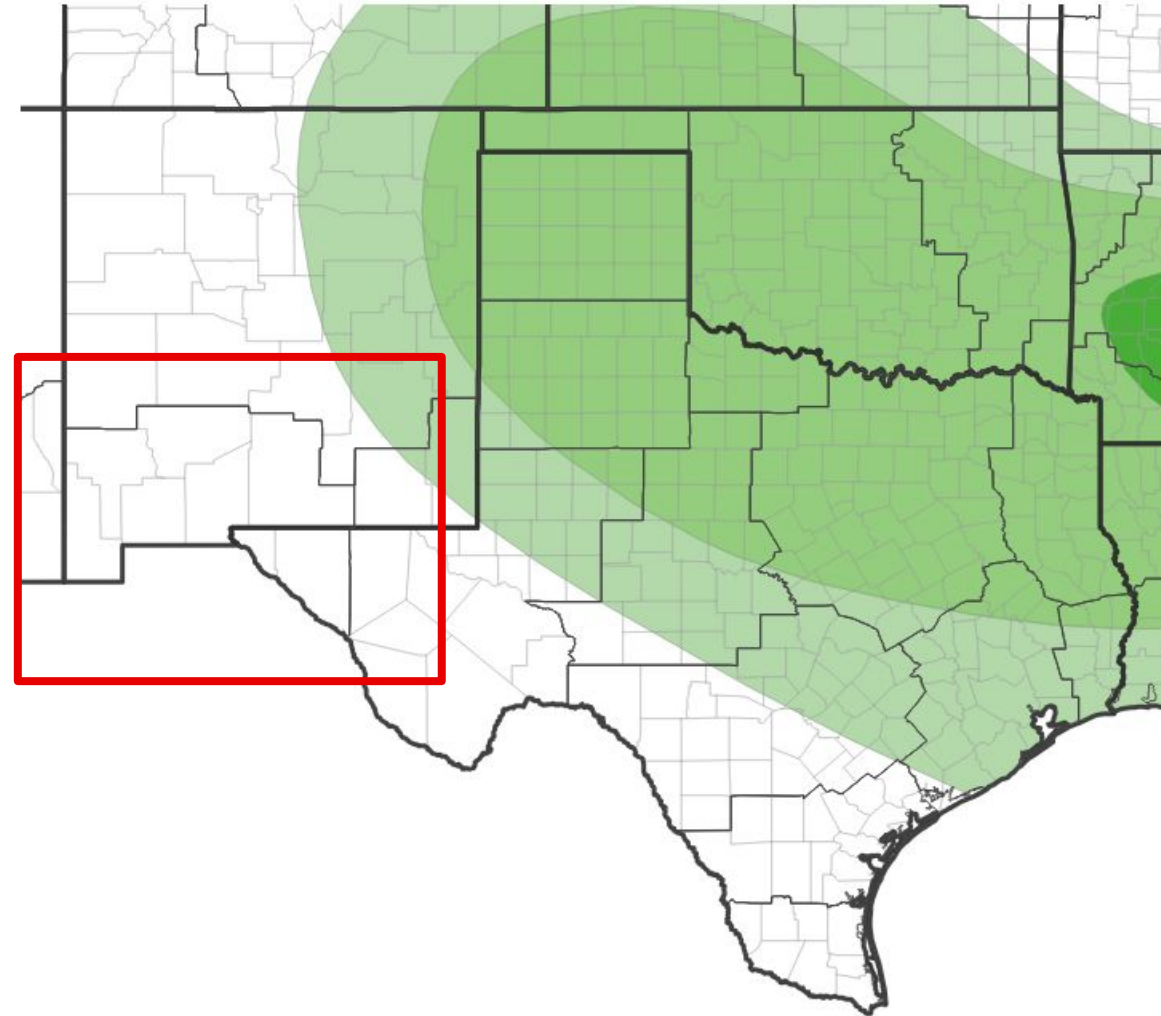
# Long-Range Outlooks

June 5, 2024  
6:41 PM

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

- Equal chances for precipitation across New Mexico and far west Texas (monthly average for El Paso: 0.73")
- 50-60% chance for above normal temperatures across south-central New Mexico and far west Texas. Heat waves likely.

### Monthly Precipitation Outlook



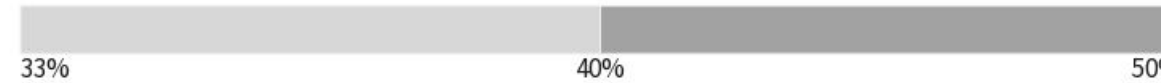
#### Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



#### Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



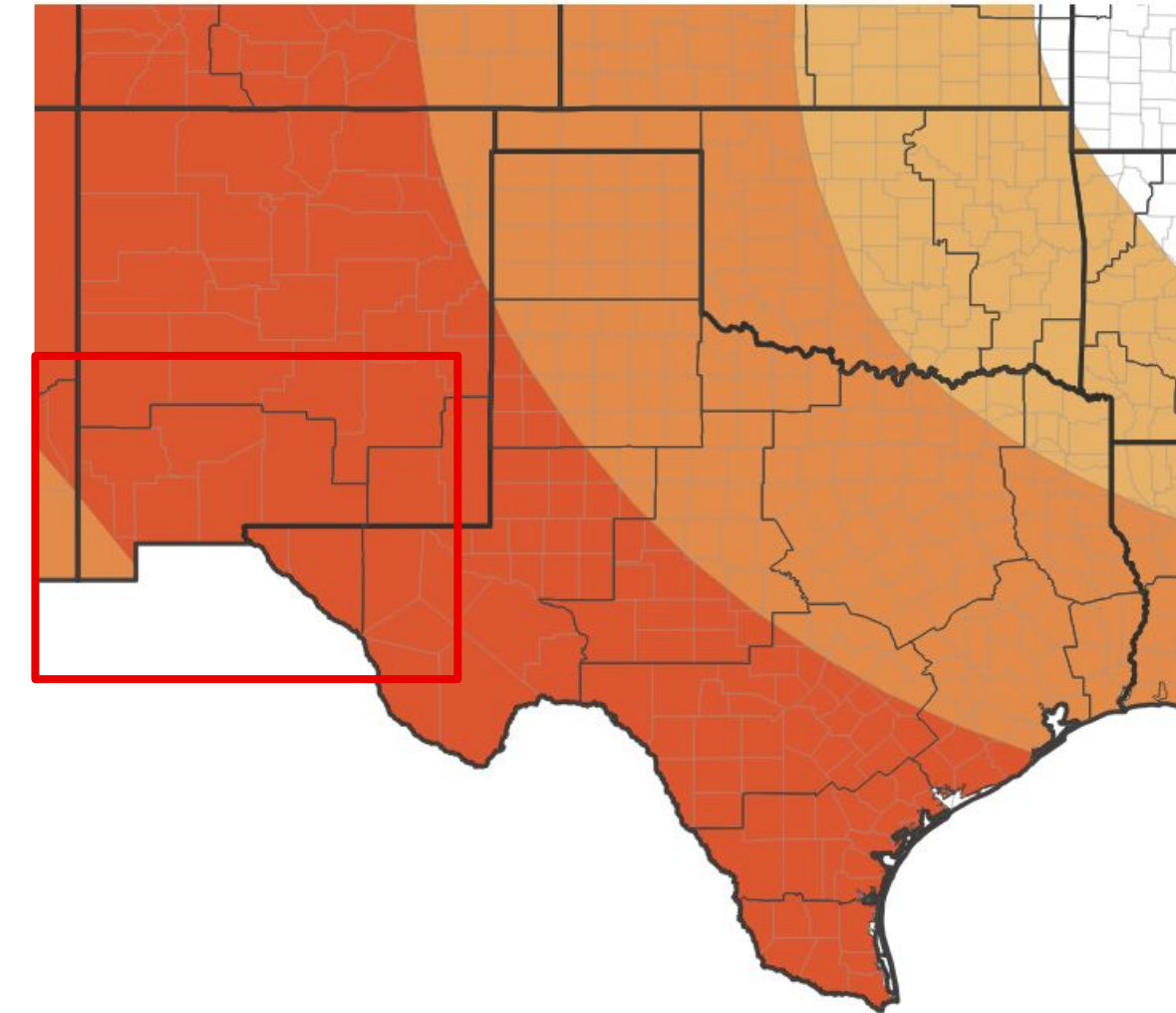
#### Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Data Valid: 05/31/24

### Monthly Temperature Outlook



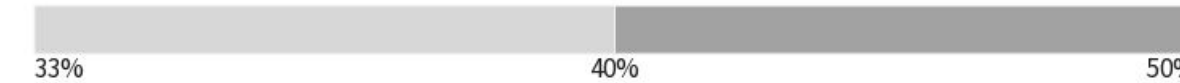
#### Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



#### Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



#### Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Data Valid: 05/31/24







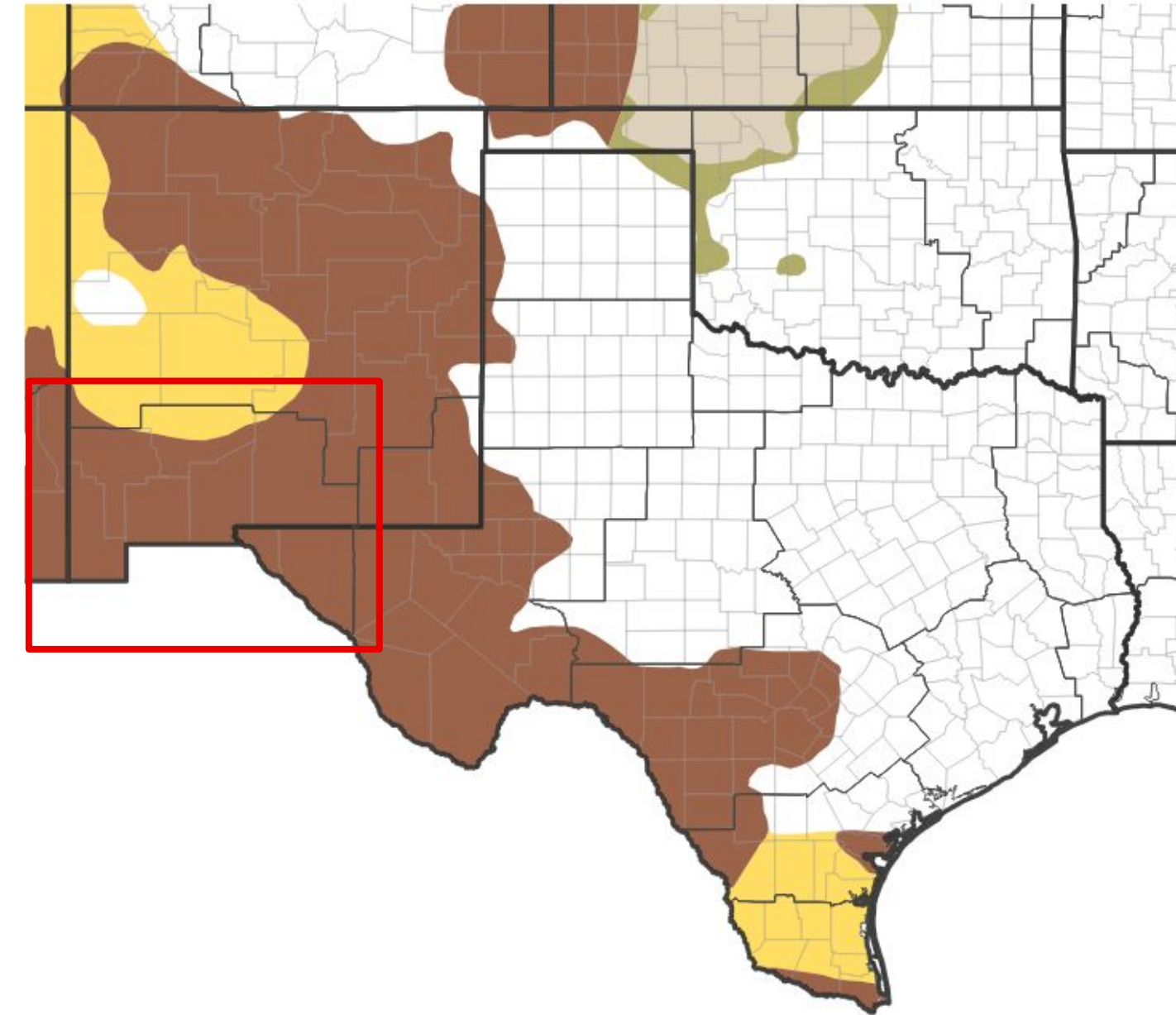
# Drought Outlook

June 5, 2024  
6:41 PM

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

- Drought conditions are expected to persist through June, 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

Data Valid: 05/31/24

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