



Drought Information Statement for North and Central Georgia

Valid October 19, 2023

Issued By: NWS Atlanta / Peachtree City, GA

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

- This product will be updated November 2, 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/ffc/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





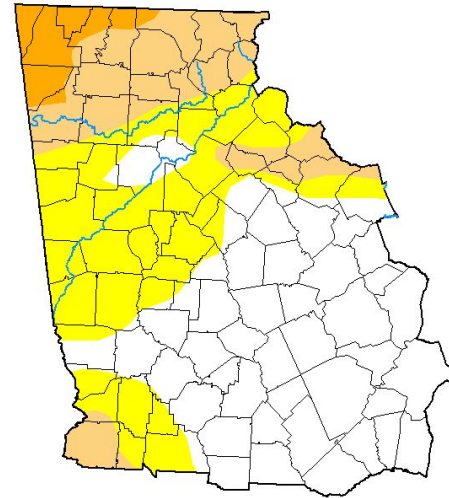
U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Georgia

- Short-Term Severe Drought (D2) has developed over northwest Georgia
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** None.
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** None.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Dade, Walker, Catoosa, Whitfield, Murray, Fannin, Chattooga, Floyd counties
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Walker, Whitfield, Murray, Gilmer, Fannin, Union, Towns, Floyd, Gordon, Pickens, Dawson, Lumpkin, White, Bartow, Cherokee, Polk, Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Clarke, Madison, Oglethorpe, Wilkes, Chattahoochee, Stewart, Webster counties
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Polk, Bartow, Cherokee, Dawson, Forsyth, Hall, White, Haralson, Paulding, Cobb, North Fulton, Gwinnett, Jackson, Banks, Madison, Carroll, Douglas, South Fulton, DeKalb, Rockdale, Walton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Wilkes, Heard, Coweta, Fayette, Clayton, Henry, Newton, Spalding, Butts, Troup, Meriwether, Pike, Lamar, Harris, Muscogee, Chattahoochee, Marion, Schley, Webster, Sumter counties

U.S. Drought Monitor Peachtree City, GA WFO

October 17, 2023
(Released Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



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:
Rocky Bilotta
NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT, October 17, 2023.





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [1-week change map](#) for [region]

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change
 - Drought Worsened: along and north of Interstate-20, large areas of one class degradation, as well as the southeast Atlanta metropolitan area
 - No Change: largely west central Georgia, and pockets of no-change north of Interstate-20 and in the greater Columbus area
 - Drought Improved: over large portions of central Georgia

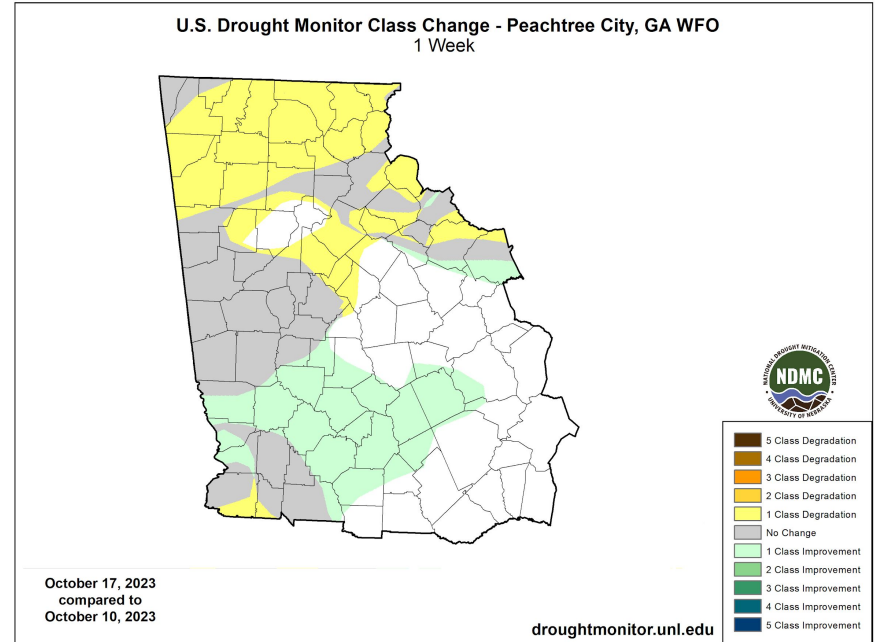


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid 8am EDT October 17, 2023.





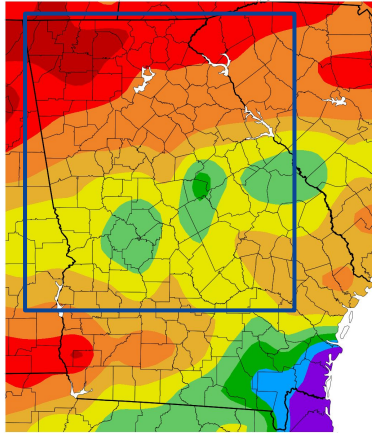
Precipitation - Past 30 Days

- In the last 30 days, over north and central Georgia, precipitation has generally been below normal north of Interstate 20. In this area, rainfall amounts have been 70% of normal or less. Areas north of a line from Cedartown, to Roswell, to Homer have been significantly dry, with less than 25% of normal rainfall, or under 1 inch.
- 30-day rainfall totals (compared to normal) for driest north Georgia locations:

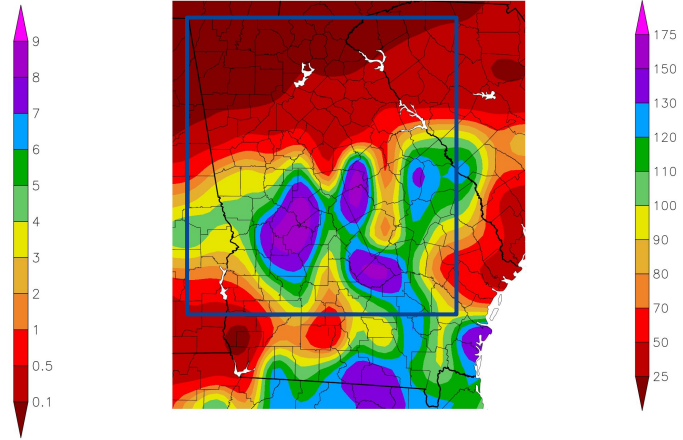
Atlanta (**ATL**): 1.41 inches (39%)
 Athens (**AHN**): 1.14 inches (31%)
 Peachtree-DeKalb (**PDK**): 1.04" (28%)
 Gainesville (**GVL**): 1.24" (30%)
 Rome (**RMG**): 0.46" (13%)

Generated 10/19/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Precipitation (in)
9/19/2023 - 10/18/2023



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
9/19/2023 - 10/18/2023



023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:
 Left - Precipitation Amount for Georgia
 Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Georgia
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
 Data over the past 30 days ending October 18, 2023





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows remain below to much below normal across most basins in the region, and have worsened over the past two weeks. See next slide for more details.

Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Georgia Crop Progress and Condition Report](#).
- Soil Moistures have continued to decrease over the past 14 days with much of the area showing below normal soil moisture. Farmers are [reporting](#) delayed harvesting or planting of seasonal crops and/or heavy degree of loss with crop yield.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Wildfire activity has continued to increase and above normal wildland fire activity is expected to continue into November.
- See slide 8 for more details

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Mitigation Actions

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





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Main Takeaways

- Degradation in streamflows has occurred in recent weeks due to below normal rainfall. Below normal streamflow conditions are occurring in the Coosa, Tennessee and upper Savannah River basins.
- While the Tallapoosa, and upper portions of the Chattahoochee, Flint, Ocmulgee, and Oconee River basins fall into the 'normal' range, recent dry conditions have allowed these to drop into the lower end of 'normal'.
- [Lake and Reservoir](#) levels remain near normal.

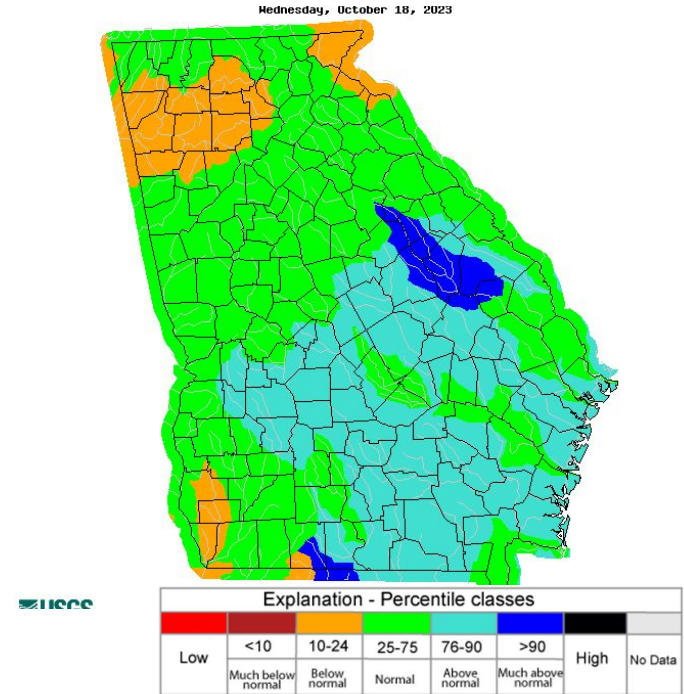


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid October 18, 2023.

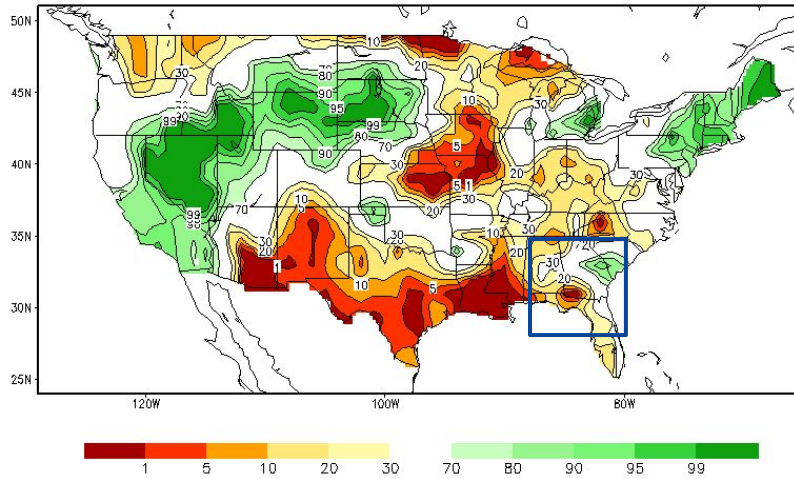




Agricultural Impacts

- The Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile (below) shows dry to near-normal rankings as of October 18, 2023.
- Of the nine crop divisions (right), northeast Georgia Crop Moisture Index is Severely Dry, while the eastern, and southeastern regions are Abnormally Moist to Wet.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
OCT 18, 2023



Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 14, 2023
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

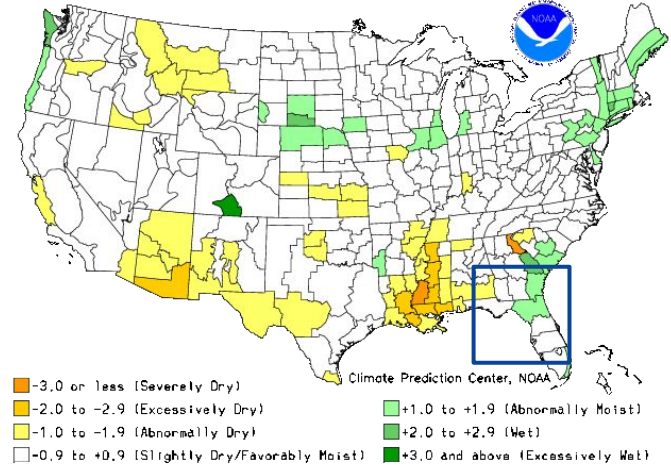


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) (data 1932-2000) valid October 18, 2023

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending October 14, 2023





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- [Keetch Byram Drought Index values](#) have increased above 400 across north and western Georgia, and are as high as 600+ across Dade, Walker, Catoosa and Chattooga counties.
- At this time, normal wildland fire potential is expected for October 2023.

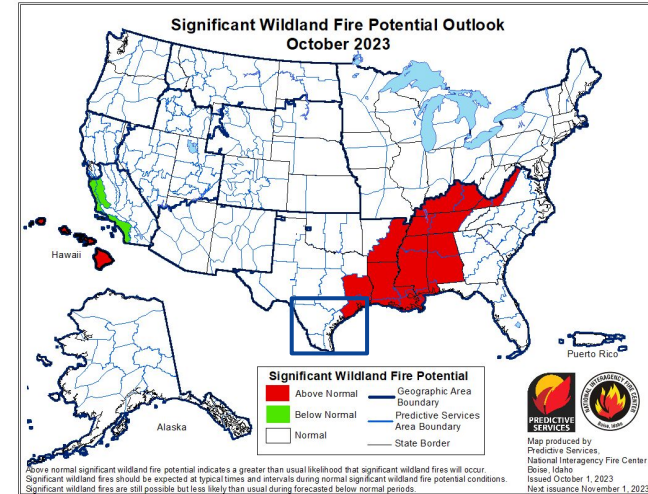
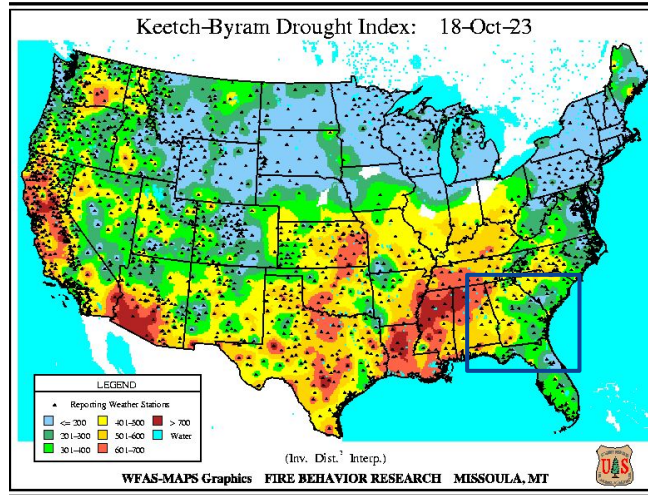


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for October 2023





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- For the next 7 days:
 - Climatologically dry conditions are forecast, with precipitation amounts generally 0.25 inches or less.
 - During this time of year, normal rainfall for a 7-day period would range from 0.50 to 1 inch.

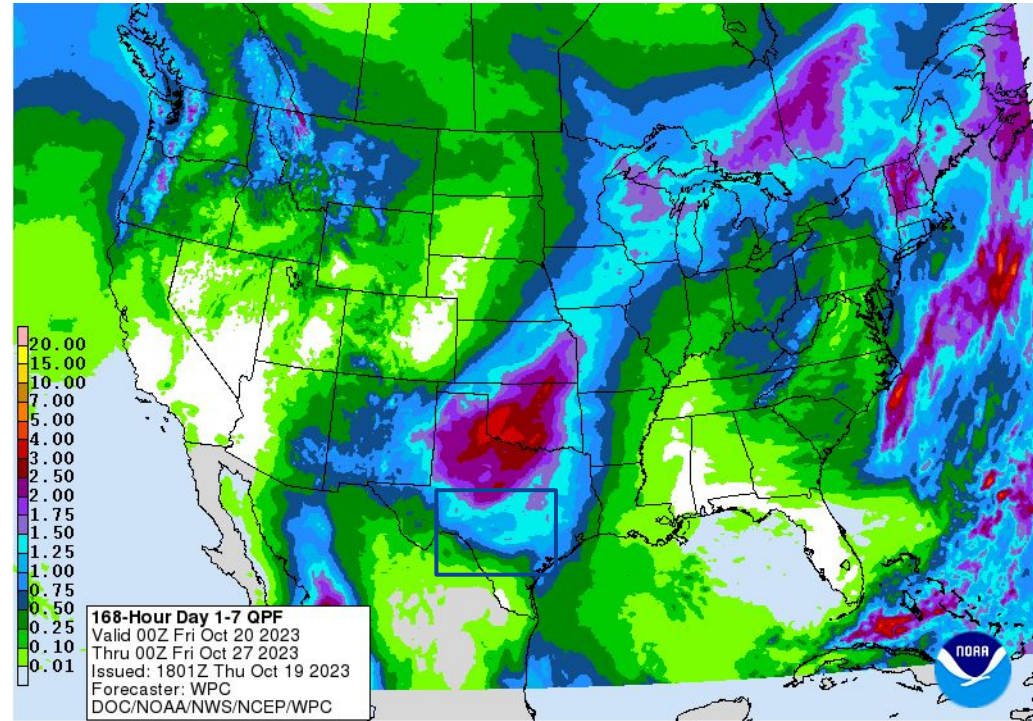


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Friday October 20 to Friday October 27





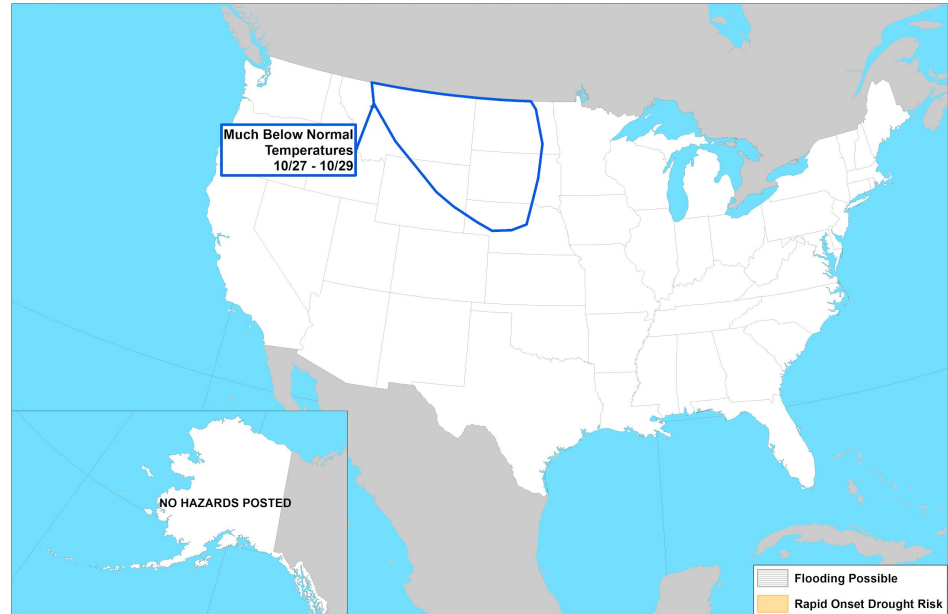
Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

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

- No rapid onset drought is expected for any area in the Southeast U.S.
- For the next 8 to 14 days, above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation are expected for Georgia.



Day 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook
Valid: 10/27/2023-11/02/2023



Climate Prediction Center
Made: 10/19/2023 3PM EDT

Follow us:
www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov

Image Caption:

[Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook](#)
Valid October 27-November 2, 2023





Long-Range Outlooks

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

- For November, above normal temperatures and above normal rainfall are expected.

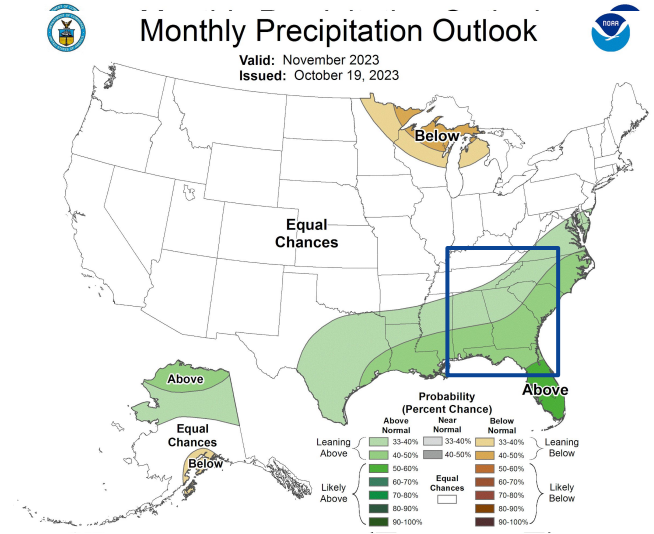
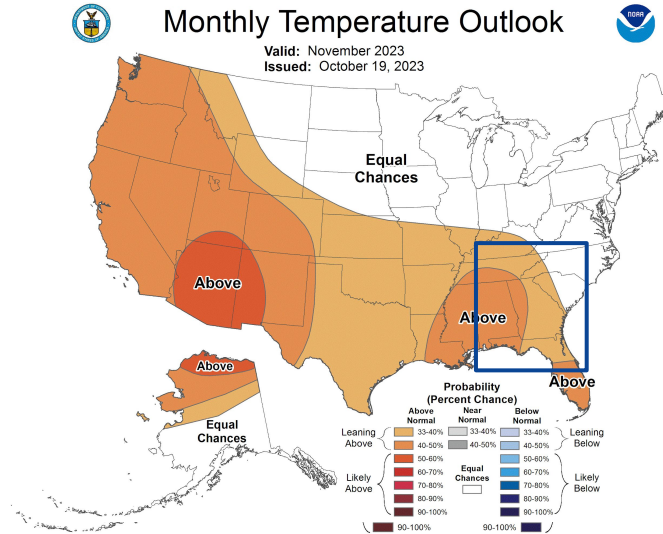


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#),

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid October 2023





Drought Outlook

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

- Drought will continue to develop through October across the western portions of Georgia.
- Longer-term, drought removal is likely for Georgia through January.

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

Valid for October 2023
Released September 30, 2023

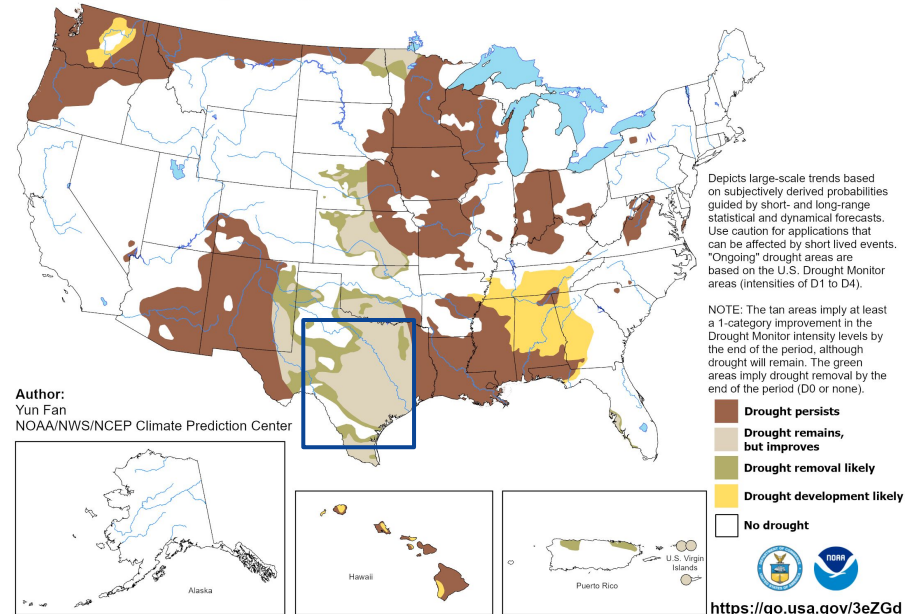


Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released September 30, 2023, Valid for October 2023

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
Atlanta / Peachtree City, GA