



# Drought Information Statement for Southeast Texas

Valid September 7, 2023

Issued By: NWS Houston/Galveston, TX

Contact Information: [sr-hgx.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-hgx.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated 09/15/2023 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/hgx/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Extreme and Exceptional Drought Conditions Persist
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D4 (Exceptional Drought): Portions of Polk, San Jacinto, Liberty, Chambers, Harris, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Jackson, Wharton, and Colorado counties continue. New portions of Colorado, Austin, Waller, Washington, Grimes, Brazos, and Burleson have been added.
  - D3 (Extreme Drought): The remaining portions of southeast Texas including Houston, Trinity, Madison, Walker, and Montgomery counties persist.

## U.S. Drought Monitor Houston/Galveston, TX WFO

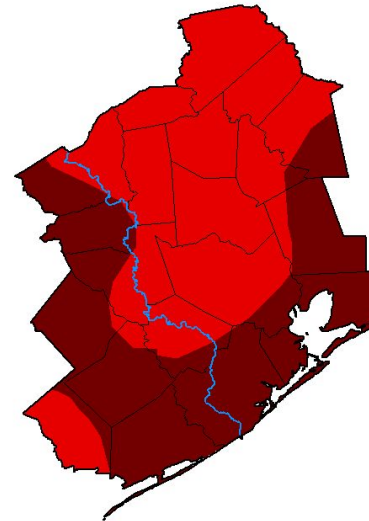
September 5, 2023

(Released Thursday, Sep. 7, 2023)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	45.68
Last Week <small>06-29-2023</small>	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	99.99	35.28
3 Months Ago <small>06-06-2022</small>	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year <small>01-01-2023</small>	84.11	15.89	6.96	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year <small>09-27-2022</small>	32.19	67.81	21.97	4.76	0.83	0.00
One Year Ago <small>09-06-2022</small>	28.95	71.05	35.72	4.76	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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CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT 09/05/2023



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
NWS Houston/Galveston



# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Across all of southeast Texas. The biggest change has been a 3-class degradation over portions of Jackson, Colorado, Wharton, and Fort Bend counties.
  - No Change: None
  - Drought Improved: No drought improvement was observed.

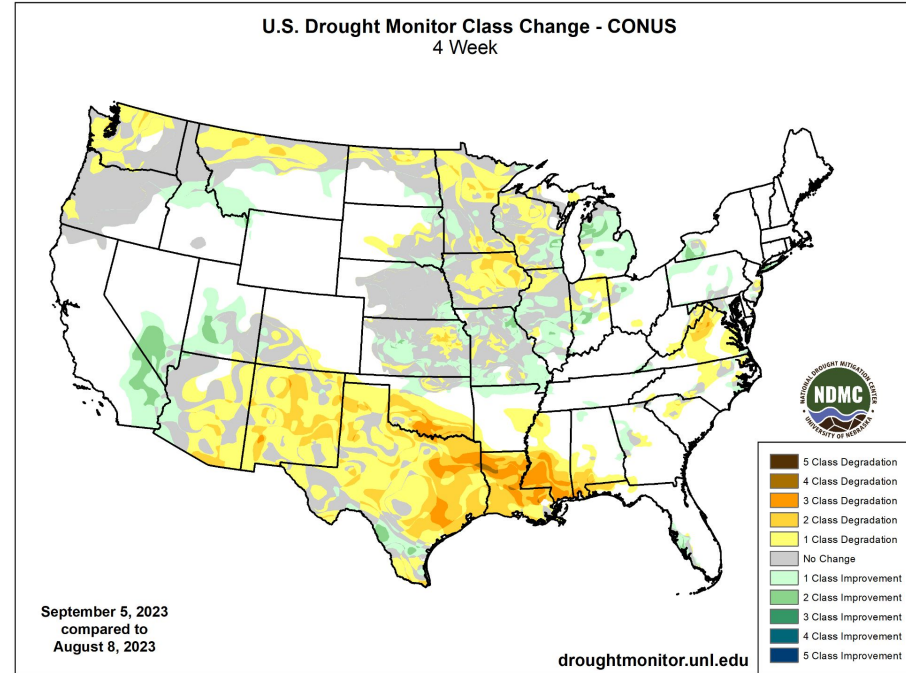


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8am EDT 09/05/2023

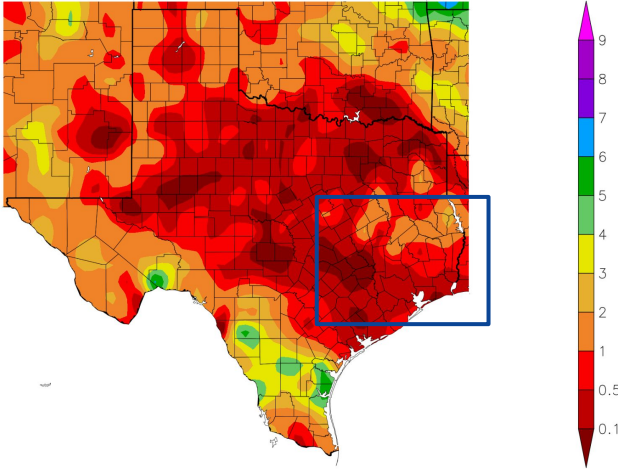




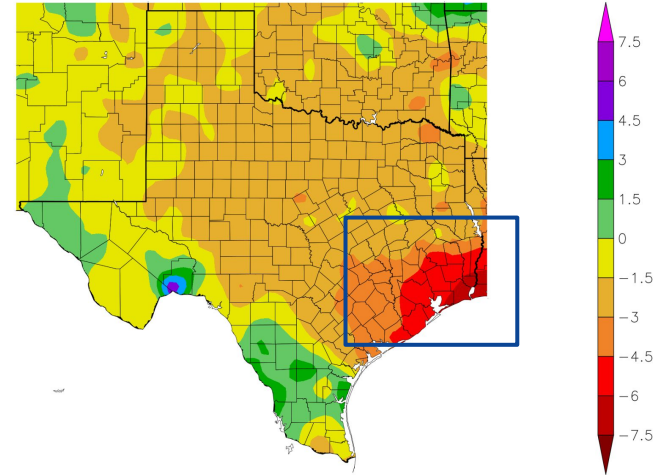
# Precipitation

Link to the latest [regional summaries](#) from SRCC.

Precipitation (in)  
8/8/2023 – 9/6/2023



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
8/8/2023 – 9/6/2023



Generated 9/7/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Generated 9/7/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

- Despite some rain over the past week, the lack of rain, in conjunction with record heat (next slide), over the past month has led to worsening drought conditions in southeast Texas.

Image Captions:  
 Left - Precipitation Amount for Texas  
 Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Texas  
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.  
 Data over the past 30 days ending 09/06/2023

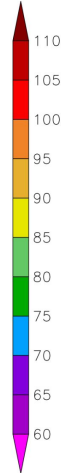
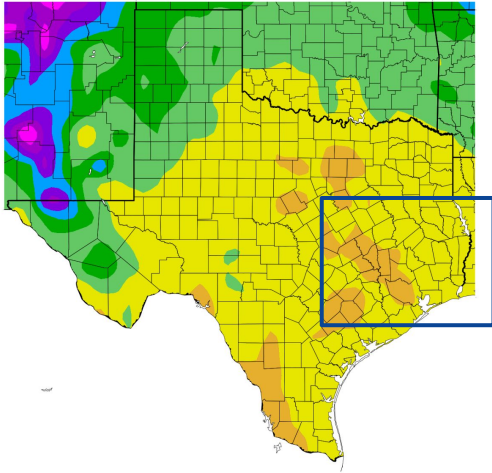




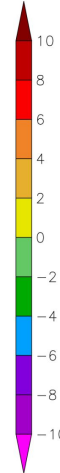
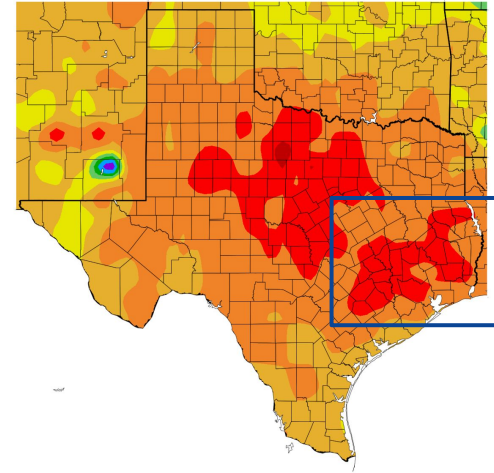
# Temperature

Link to the latest [regional summaries](#) from SRCC.

Temperature (F)  
8/8/2023 - 9/6/2023



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
8/8/2023 - 9/6/2023



Generated 9/7/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Generated 9/7/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

- Abnormal warmth over the past month has exacerbated drought conditions across southeast Texas.

Image Captions:  
 Left - Average Temperature for Texas  
 Right - Departure from Normal Temperature for Texas  
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.  
 Data over the past 30 days ending 09/06/2023





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Link to the latest [USGS map](#) of real-time streamflows compared to historical streamflows.

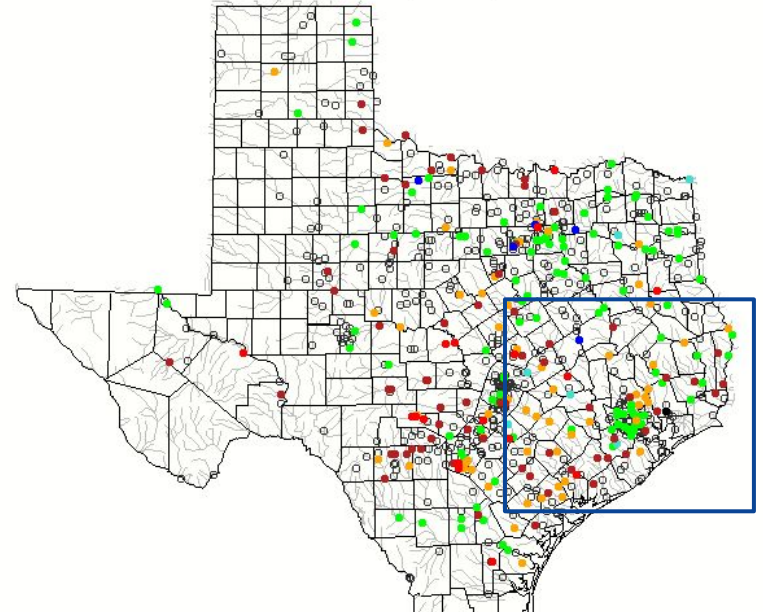
- Many river gauge locations across the area are running below normal to much below normal. The only exceptions are gauge locations within the Harris County Bayou network which are showing near normal conditions.
- Reservoir Status as of 9/7...

○ Lake Name	Level Percent Full (%)
○ Houston County Lake	85.1
○ Lake Livingston	84.9
○ Lake Conroe	90.8
○ Lake Houston	96.1
○ Lake Somerville	69.2
○ Gibbons Ck Res.	75.4
○ Lake Texana	73.2

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 09/07/2023



Thursday, September 07, 2023 11:30ET



Explanation - Percentile classes

●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	Not-ranked
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Agricultural Impacts

- In Jackson County, it has been reported that there is grass and forage loss through the county. Ranchers have begun feeding cattle due to dry pastures. Producers are also reporting disaster loss level cotton yields due to the lack of precipitation and high temperatures in during the growing season.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- A burn ban is in effect for all counties in Southeast Texas.

## Mitigation Impacts

- Various communities across Southeast Texas have imposed Stage 1 to 3 water restrictions. These restrictions have been reported for communities in Waller, Brazos, Harris, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Grimes, Liberty, Montgomery, and Walker counties.

## Other Impacts

- None reported.





# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

Link to the latest [7-day rainfall forecast](#) from the Weather Prediction Center

- Rain chances are expected to increase over the next week across southeast Texas.
- Along with the welcome increase in rain chances will come a welcome decrease in high temperatures

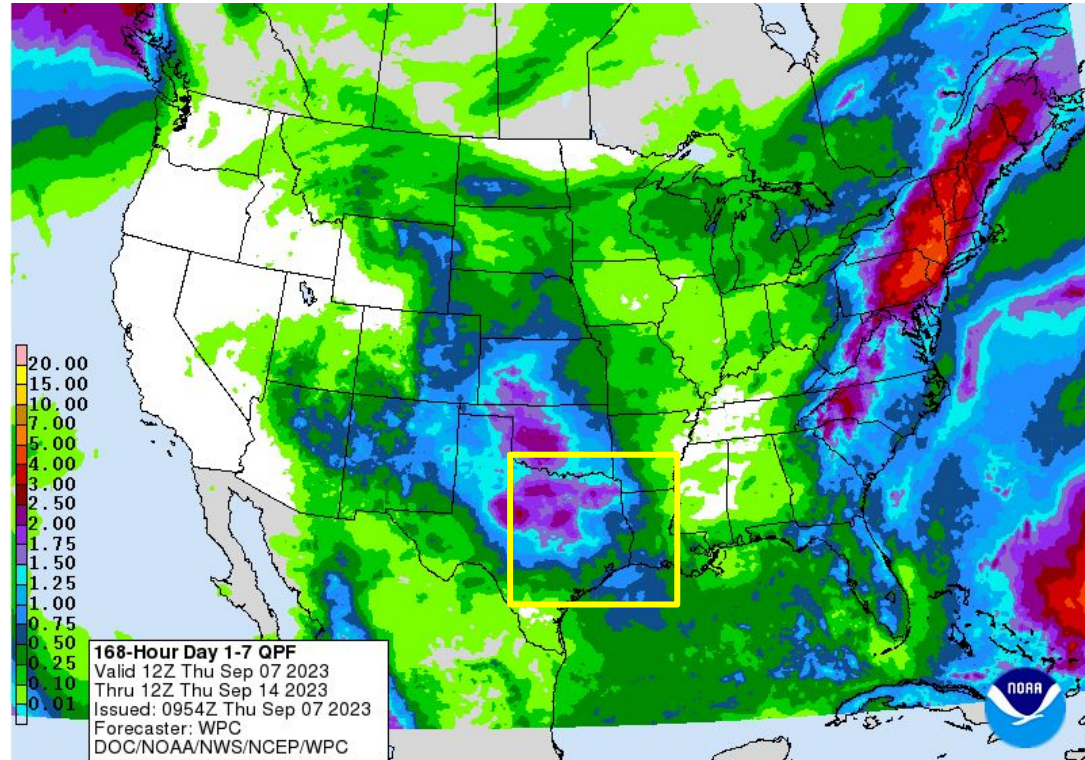


Image Caption: WPC 7-day precipitation forecast valid through 09/14/2023







# Long-Range Outlooks

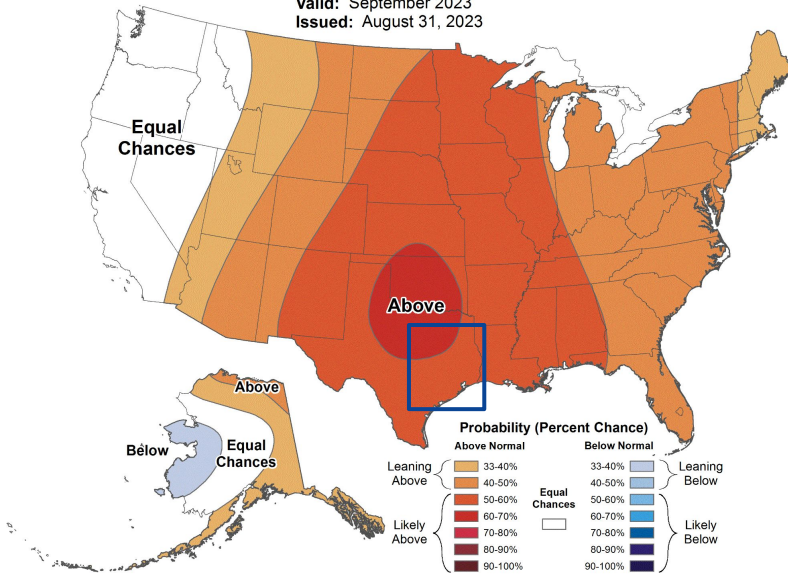
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)



## Monthly Temperature Outlook



Valid: September 2023  
Issued: August 31, 2023



## Monthly Precipitation Outlook



Valid: September 2023  
Issued: August 31, 2023

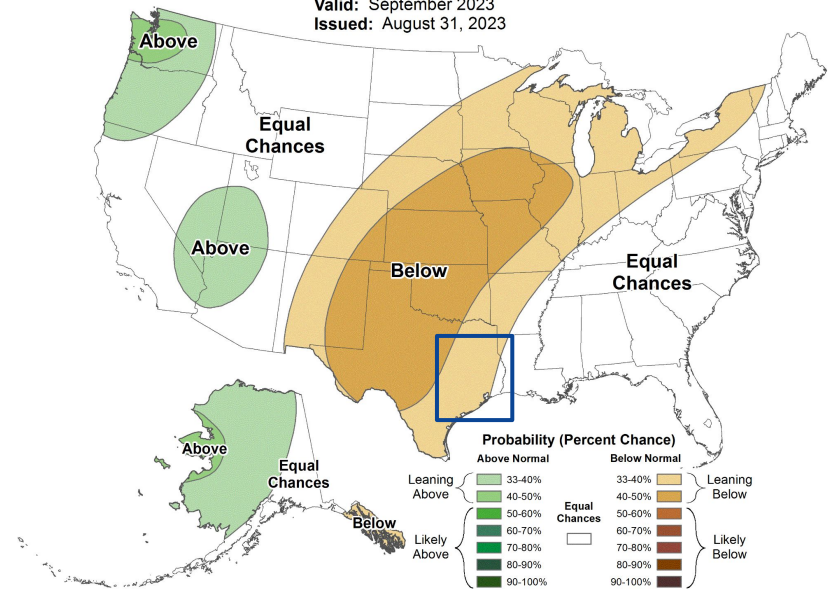


Image Captions:

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

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

Valid September 2023





# Drought Outlook

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

- With above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation projected over the next month, there is little hope of drought improvements in the near future.

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

Valid for September 2023  
Released August 31, 2023

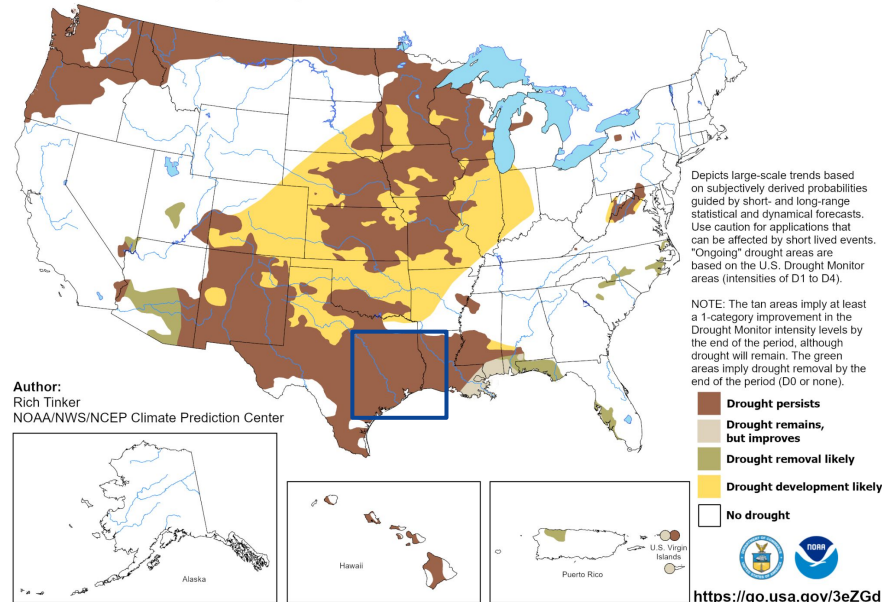


Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released 08/31/2023 valid for September 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  
NWS Houston/Galveston



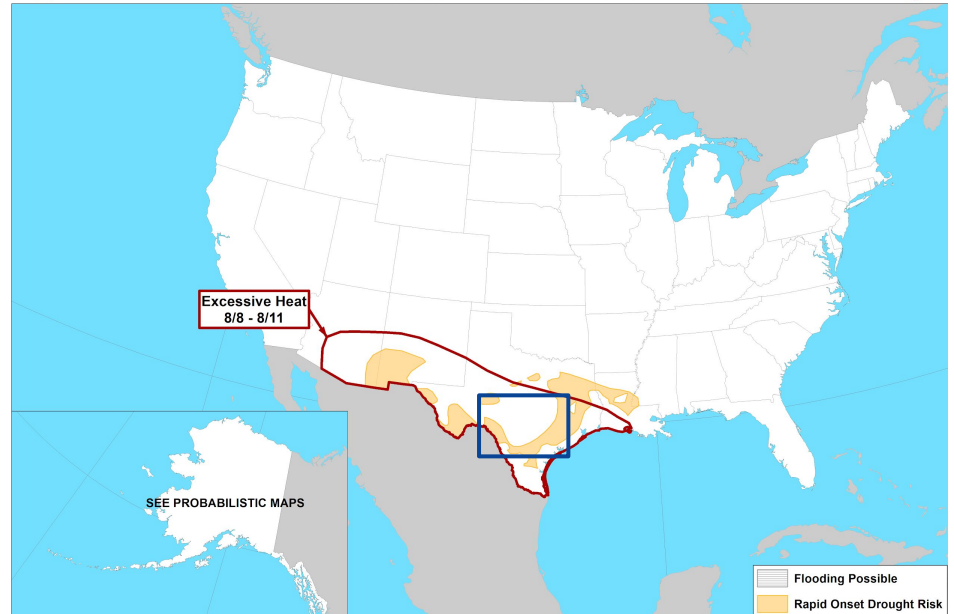
# Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

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

- Summarize conditions and impacts here



Day 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook  
Valid: 08/08/2023-08/14/2023



Climate Prediction Center  
Made: 07/31/2023 3PM EDT

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Image Caption:  
[Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook](#) Valid Month DD to DD.



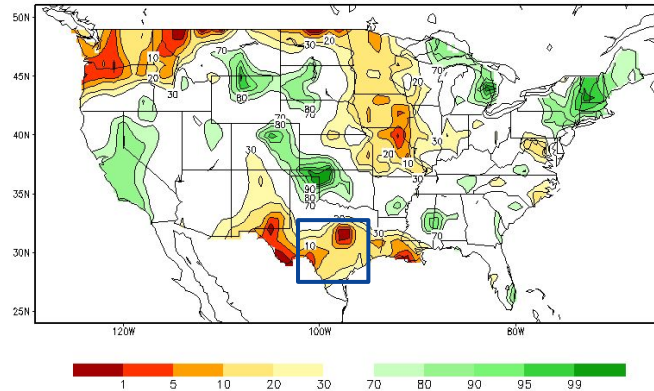


# Agricultural Impacts

Link to

- Summarize conditions/impacts here

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile  
JUL 31, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division  
Weekly Value for Period Ending JUL 29, 2023  
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

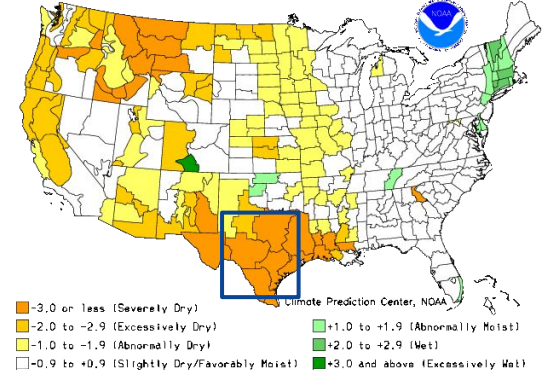


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid April 20, 2023

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending April 15, 2023



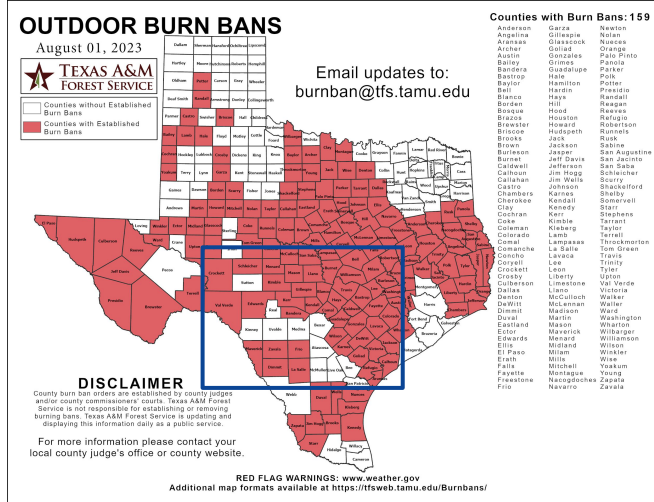


# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Summarize conditions/impacts here

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



#### Counties with Burn Bans: 159

- |           |            |               |
|-----------|------------|---------------|
| Anderson  | Garza      | Newton        |
| Angelina  | Gillespie  | Newton        |
| Archer    | Guadalupe  | Orange        |
| Ashtabula | Harris     | Orange        |
| Bailly    | Grimes     | Palo Pinto    |
| Bandera   | Guadalupe  | Parker        |
| Bastrop   | Hall       | Polk          |
| Baylor    | Harrison   | Reagan        |
| Bell      | Henderson  | Reagan        |
| Brewster  | Howard     | Robertson     |
| Brewster  | Houston    | Robertson     |
| Brown     | Jack       | Rock          |
| Brown     | Jackson    | Sabine        |
| Burnet    | Jeff Davis | San Augustine |
| Cadwell   | Jefferson  | San Diego     |
| Callahan  | Jim Hogg   | Schlesinger   |
| Castro    | Johnson    | Shackelford   |
| Cherokee  | Karnes     | Shelby        |
| Childress | Kaufman    | Smith         |
| Clay      | Kendall    | Starr         |
| Clayton   | Kennedy    | Starr         |
| Coke      | Kent       | Stephens      |
| Coleman   | Kibbie     | Tarrant       |
| Colorado  | Lamb       | Taylor        |
| Comal     | Lampasas   | Tarrant       |
| Comanche  | La Salle   | Throckmorton  |
| Concho    | Lavaca     | Travis        |
| Cook      | Lea        | Trinity       |
| Crocket   | Leon       | Tyler         |
| Crosby    | Liberty    | Upson         |
| Culberson | Limestone  | Val Verde     |
| Dallas    | Llano      | Victoria      |
| Danbury   | McCulloch  | Walker        |
| Dawitt    | McLennan   | Walker        |
| DeWitt    | Madison    | Ward          |
| Dove      | Martin     | Washington    |
| Duval     | Mason      | Washington    |
| Eastland  | Mayerik    | Wilbarger     |
| Edwards   | Mayard     | Wilbarger     |
| El Paso   | Mitchell   | Wilson        |
| El Paso   | Moran      | Winkler       |
| El Paso   | Morgan     | Winkler       |
| Faith     | Mitchell   | Yakum         |
| Fayette   | Montgomery | Yates         |
| Freestone | Nacogoches | Zapata        |
| Frio      | Nevada     | Zapata        |

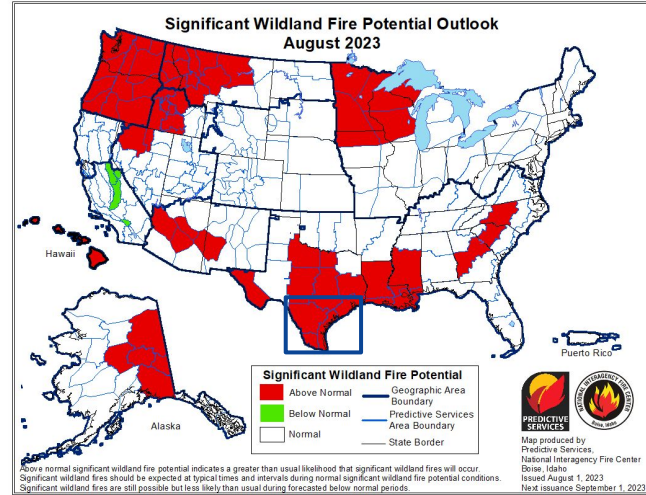


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for August 2023

