



Drought Information Statement for the ArkLaMiss Region

Valid December 28, 2023

Issued By: WFO Jackson, MS

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

- This product will be updated January 11, 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/jan/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



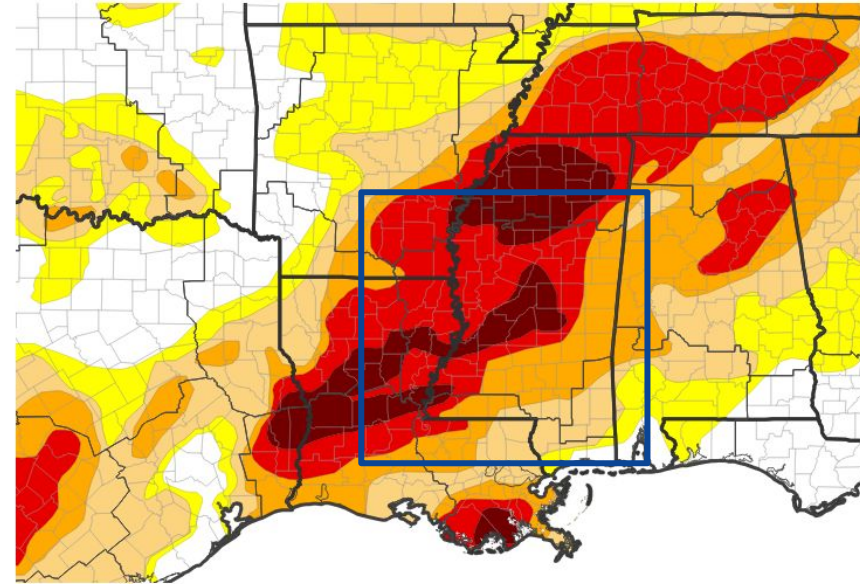


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- SEVERE TO EXCEPTIONAL DROUGHT CONDITIONS CONTINUE
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D4 (Exceptional Drought): Coverage includes large portions of central, western and northern northeast LA
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): Coverage includes most of MS northwest of Natchez Trace, northeast LA and southeast AR
 - D2 (Severe Drought): Coverage portions of southern and eastern MS
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): Coverage includes portions of southeastern MS
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): None in the area of concern

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 the ArkLaMiss Region

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: There has been a general worsening of drought conditions in extreme southeast AR, northeast LA and northwestern MS, with 1- and 2-class degradations across these areas.
 - No Change: Most of central MS and northeast LA have remained unchanged, with continued severe to exceptional drought intensity.
 - Drought Improved: Some portions of area in central MS and southeastern MS have had some 1- to 3-class improvement in drought category over the last month due to recent rains.

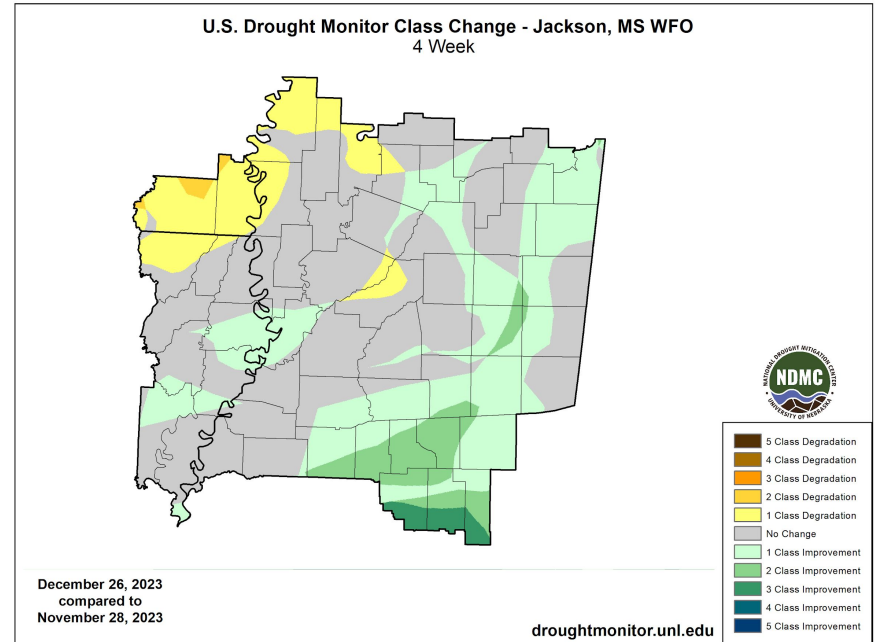


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 6am CST December 26, 2023.

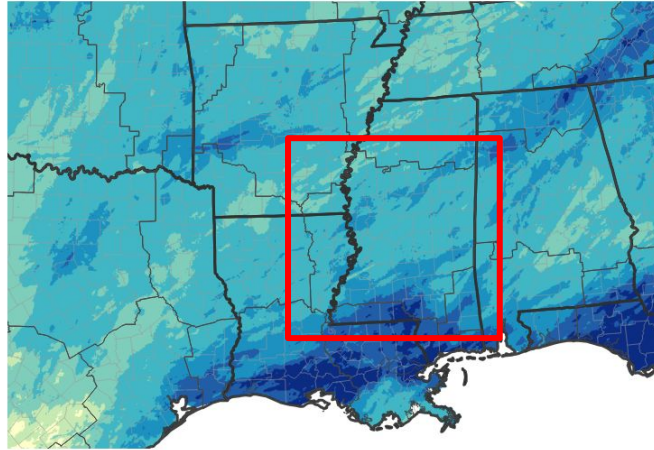




Precipitation

- Over the last 30 days most locations received between 2 to 4 inches of rain, while southeastern MS have received greater than 4 inches to 6 inches.
- For a majority the area, this was still less than near 50% of normal rainfall for this time of year, with drought issues persisting in southeast AR and northeast LA.
- Near normal precipitation has occurred in southeastern MS.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



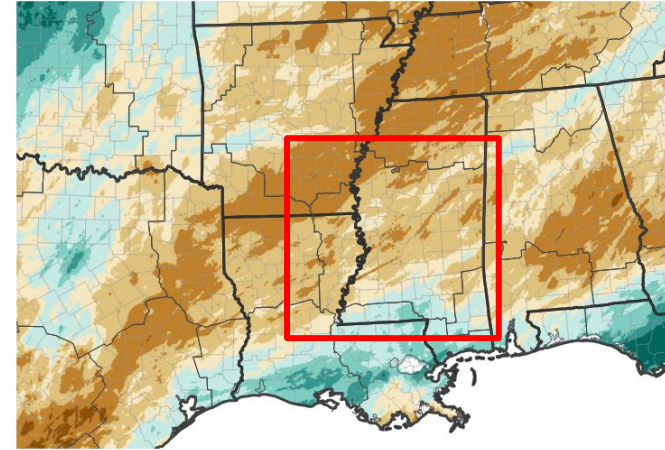
Inches of Precipitation



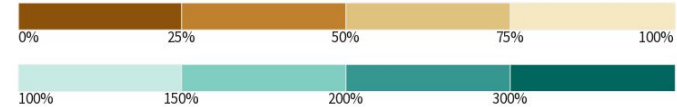
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 12/28/23

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 12/28/23

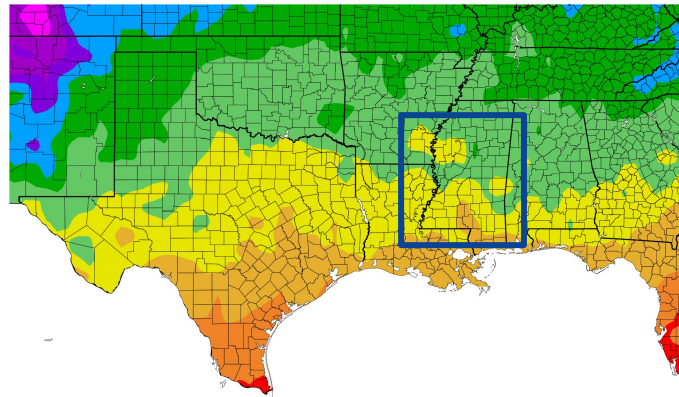




Temperature

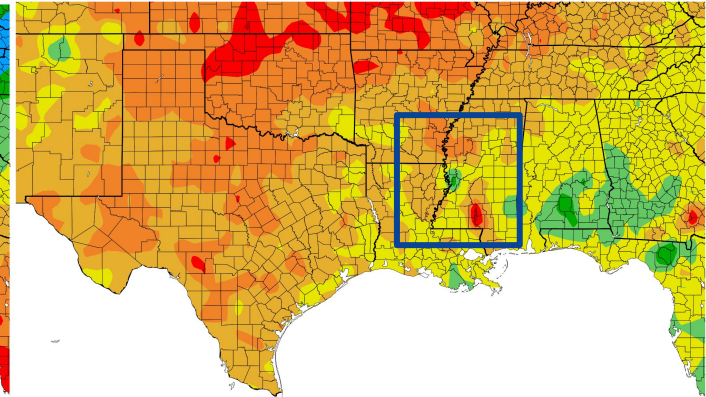
- Over the last 30 days, average temperatures were between 45 to 60 degrees.
- These were mostly about 2 to 4 degrees warmer than normal for this time of year.

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



erated 12/28/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

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



NOAA Regional Climate Center generated 12/28/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center

Image Captions:
Left - Average Temperature
Right - Departure from Normal Temperature
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending 12/27/2023





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Over the past week, area streamflows across a majority of the region were below to much below normal levels, while some in southern areas were near normal levels.
- Area pond storage also continues to suffer, with pond levels lower than normal or dry.

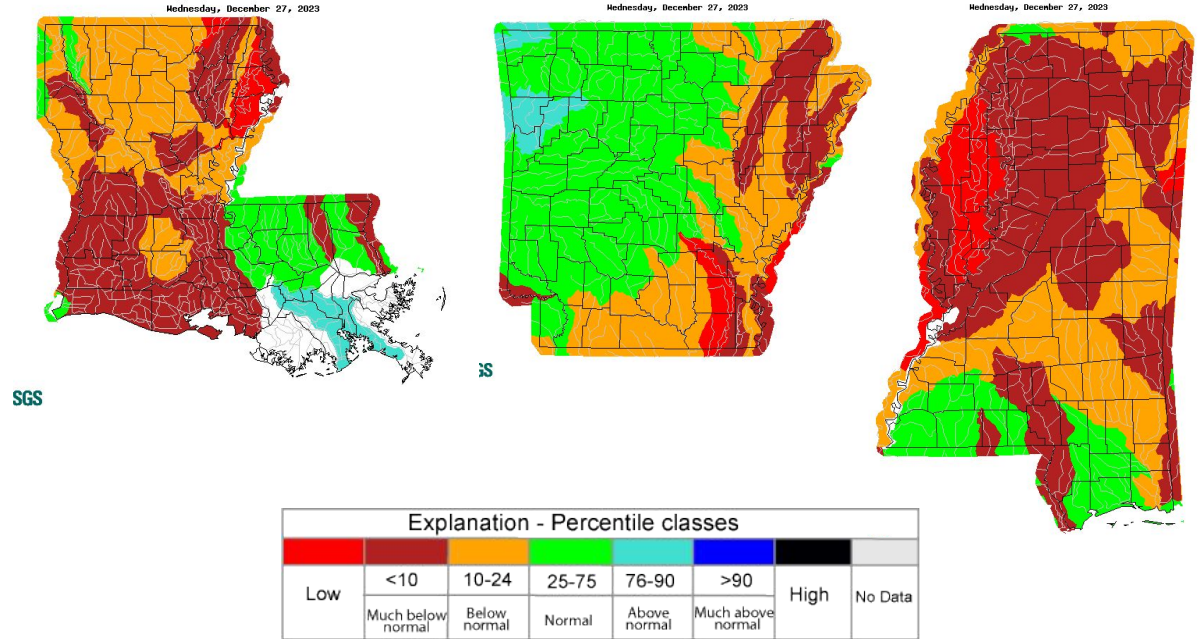


Image Caption: USGS 7-day average streamflow HUC maps valid 12/27/2023.

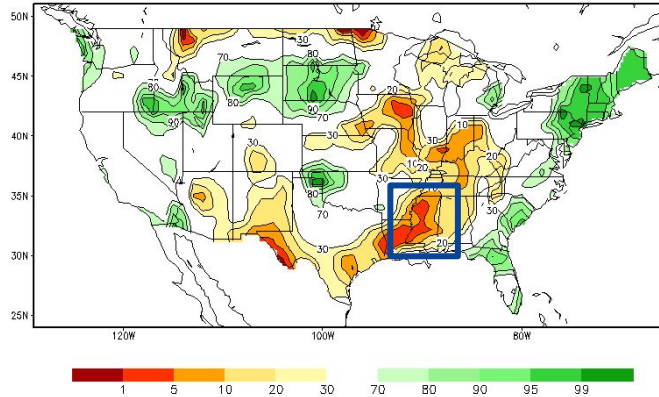




Agricultural Impacts

- Despite some recent rainfall and improvement of topsoil moisture, topsoil and subsoil moisture values remain very low.
- Crop yields continue to be severely affected including loss of up to 90% of cotton and severe loss of pine trees on some pine plantations and tree farms.
- Supplemental feeding for cattle began early across the region.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
DEC 27, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending DEC 23, 2023
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

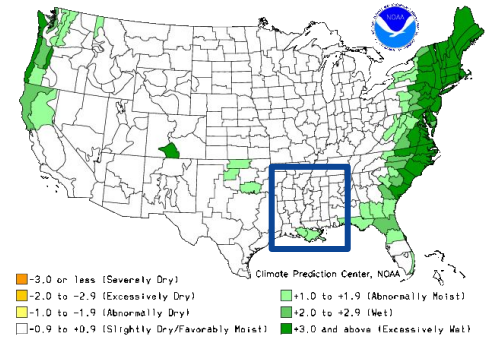


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid December 27, 2023.

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending December 23, 2023.





Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the Southern Area Coordination Center](#)

- Elevated KBDI for areas northwest of the Natchez Trace corridor indicate potential for increased fire intensity in forested areas.
- The outlook for significant wildfire potential through the end of December through January 2024 remains near normal.
- No burn bans are in effect across the region.
Latest maps for burn bans in: [MS](#), [LA](#), [AR](#).

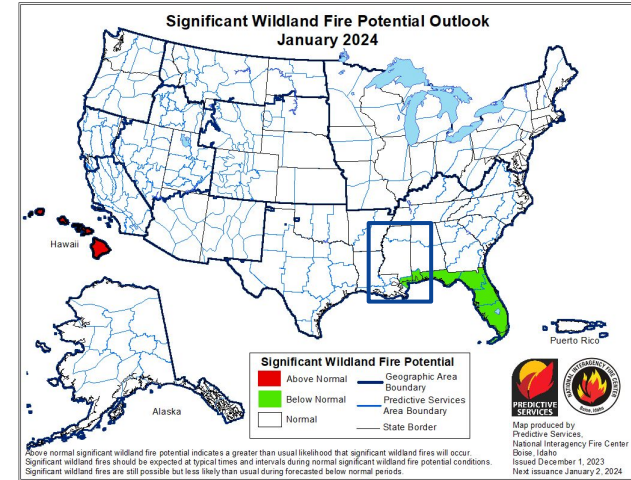
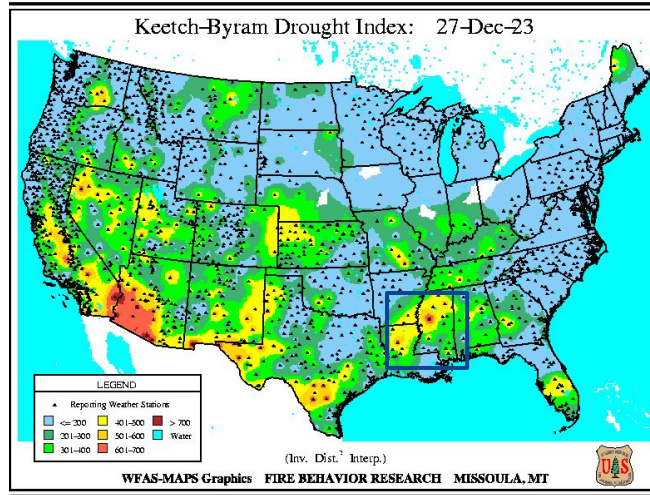


Image Captions:

Left: [Latest Keetch-Byram Drought Index](#) valid for December 27, 2023.

Right: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for January 2024.





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A few rounds of rain are expected, with the first round mostly on New Year's Day, Monday, January 1, 2024 and another next Wednesday, January 3, 2024.
- Total rain amounts are expected to range from 0.25" to 1.00", with heavier totals for southern portions of the region.
- This should continue to provide additional drought relief to portions of the WFO Jackson, MS forecast area.

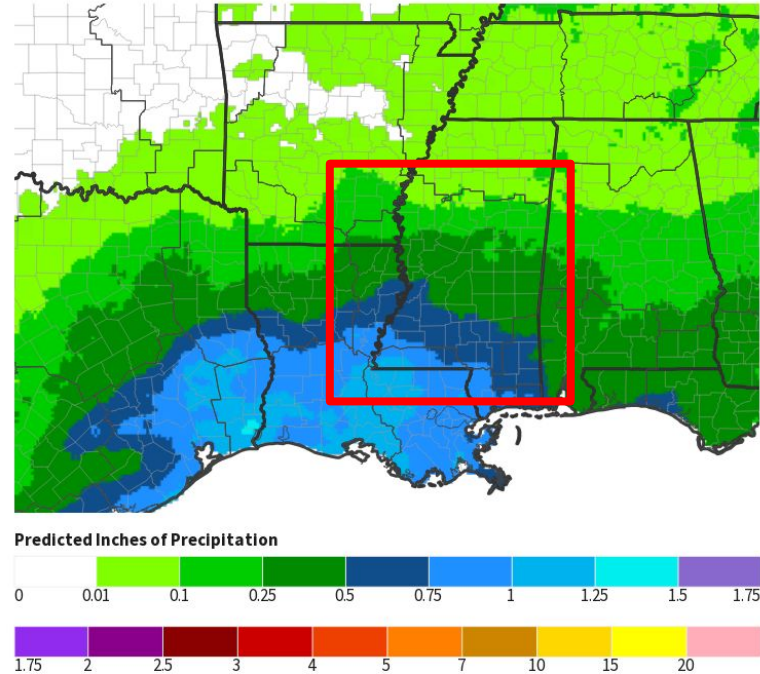


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Thursday, December 28, 2023 to Thursday, January 4, 2024





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Low to much below normal streamflows continue to affect most area rivers, and pond storage levels remain decreased across the region, which are negatively impacting recreational and agricultural activities.

Agricultural Impacts

- Significant impacts continue to be felt by agricultural producers in the region including substantial reductions in crop output, tree death, and supplemental feeding requirements for livestock.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Dead and drought stressed vegetation is contributing to increased wildfire intensity.

Other Impacts

- Please submit observed impacts using the CMOR app. More information available [here](#).

Mitigation Actions

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

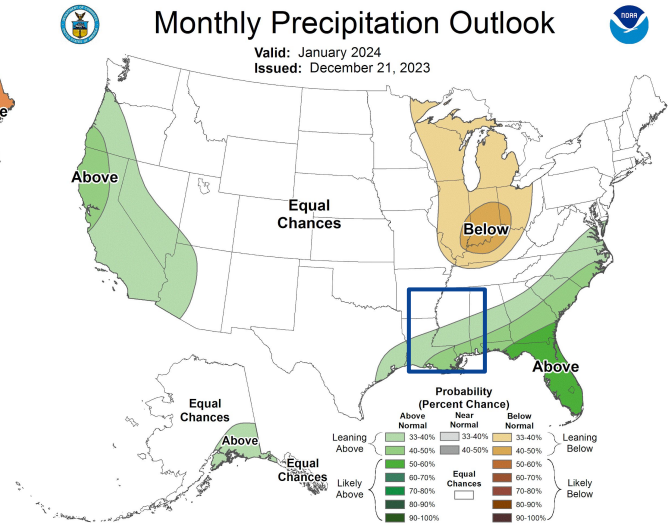
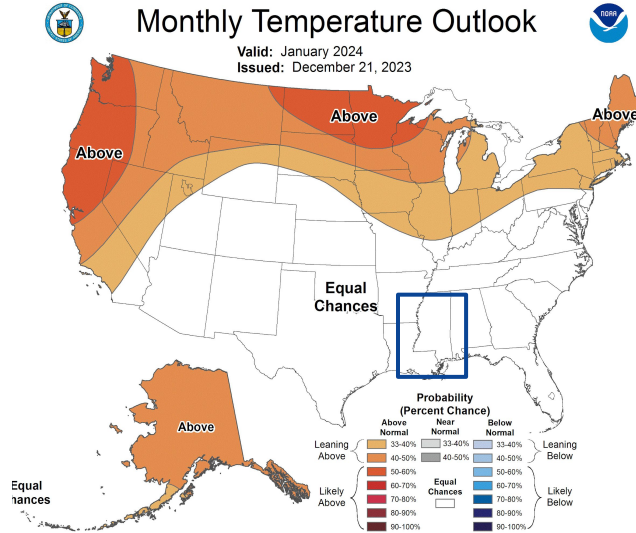




Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The pattern over the next month lean towards near normal conditions.
- Chances lean toward above normal precipitation especially along the Gulf Coast.



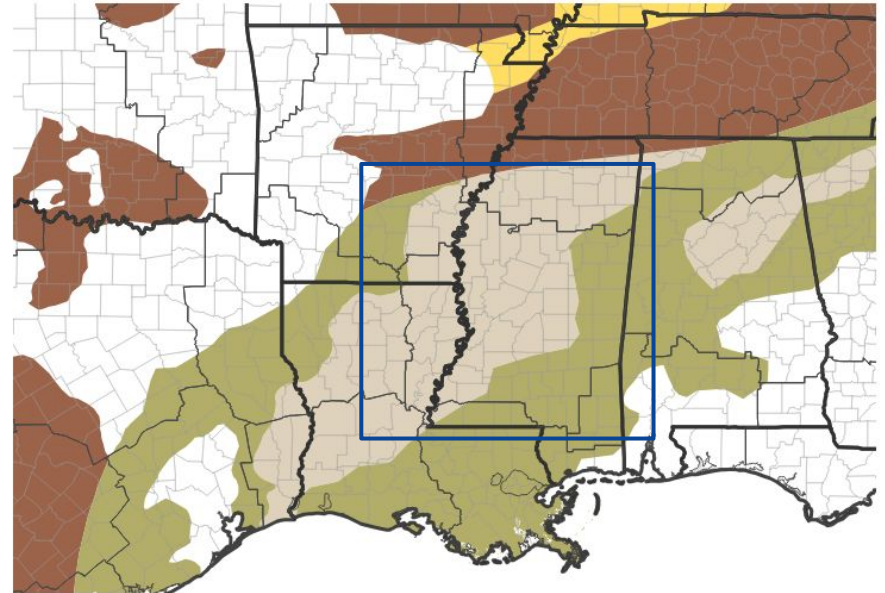


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are expected to improve across the region through the end of December.
- With a climate outlook for this winter (January - March) of likely above normal precipitation, especially for central to southeastern portions of the region, drought conditions are expected to improve or end over the course of the winter to early spring.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Data Valid: 12/21/23

