



# Drought Information Statement for Southeast LA and Southwest MS

Valid January 11, 2024

Issued By: NWS New Orleans/Baton Rouge

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

- This product will be updated Jan 18, 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/lix/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



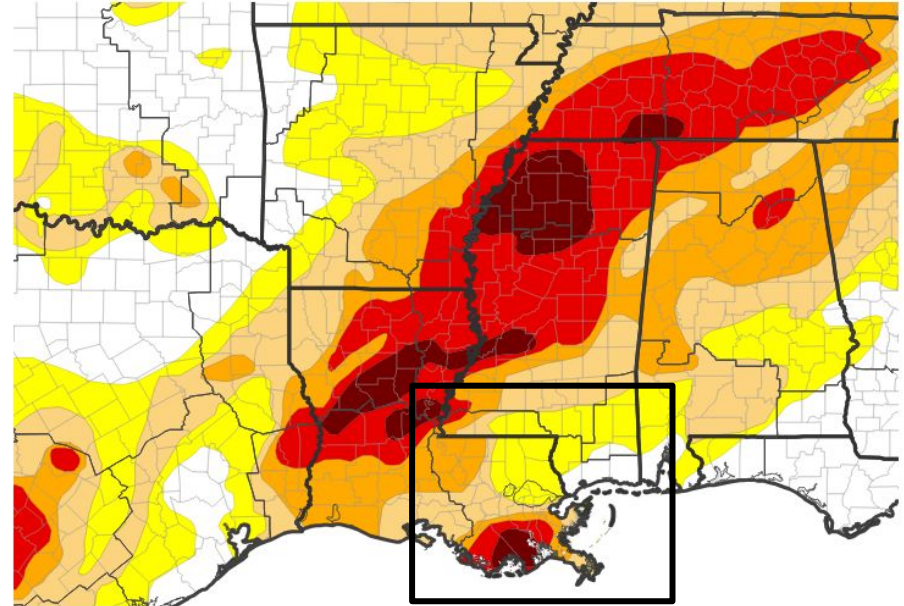


# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for SE Louisiana and SW Mississippi

- **Widespread heavy rainfall from Monday the 8th brought another round of improvement to our drought stricken area.**
- **Drought intensity and extent**
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** A small portion remains along the SE LA Gulf parishes
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought) to D2 (Severe Drought):** These areas remain is far SE LA and a small area of SW MS.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought) to D0 (Abnormally Dry)** South-Central LA and portions of Southern MS.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC. NOAA. USDA: image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 01/09/24

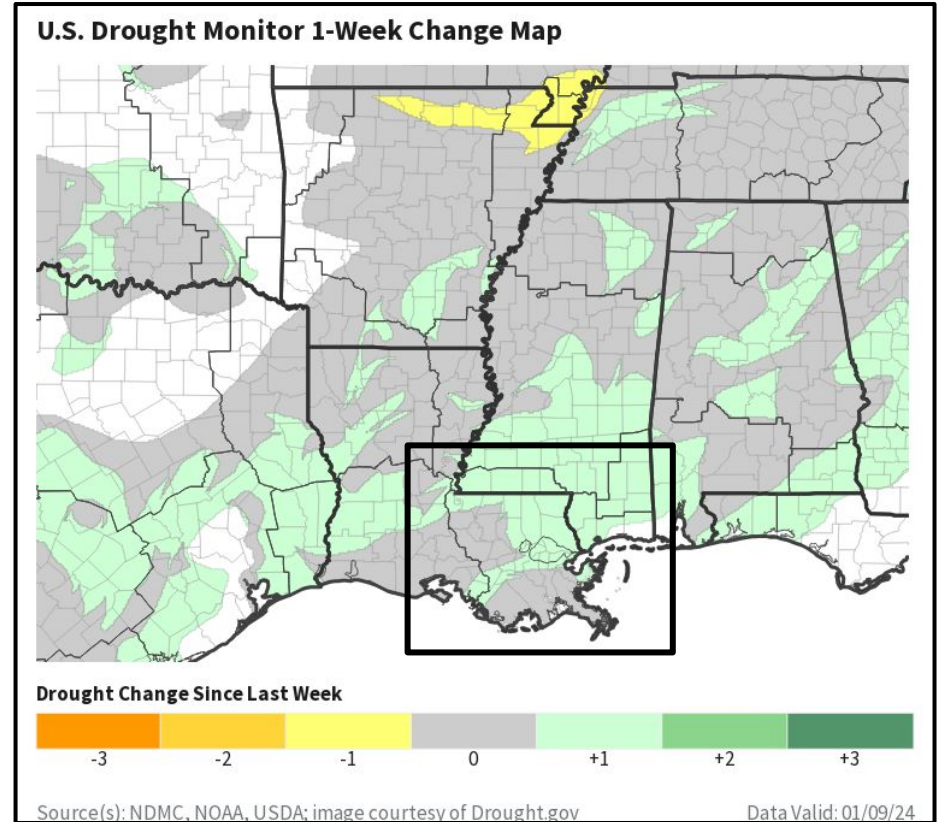




# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for SE Louisiana and SW Mississippi

- **One Week Drought Monitor Class Change**
  - **Drought Worsened: No Change (Yellows)**
  - **No Change: Much of the region noted no change. (Gray)**
  - **Drought Improved: There was a one-category improvement across Southern and Coastal MS. Portions of the Florida Parishes and the South Shore also improved. (Greens)**
  - **Drought was removed entirely along Coastal MS.**



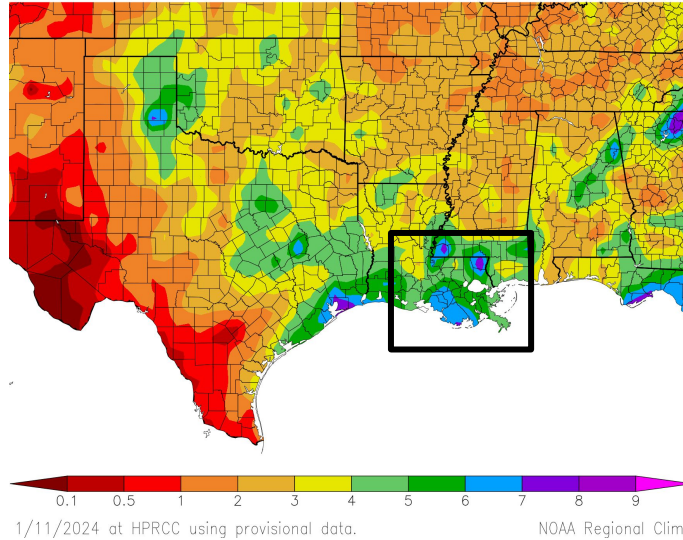




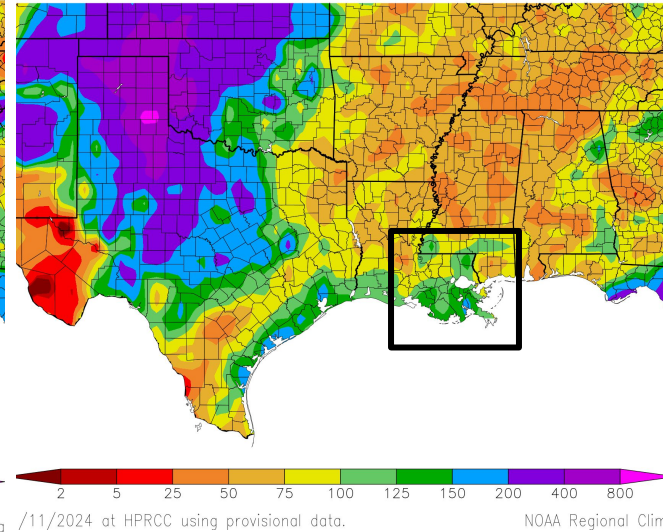
# Precipitation

- Recent heavy rainfall continues to improve drought conditions.
- Many locations have received 4" to 6" with isolated areas getting up to 8".
- The rainfall deficit since the start of 2023 is beginning to rapidly improve.

Precipitation (in)  
12/12/2023 - 1/10/2024



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)  
12/12/2023 - 1/10/2024

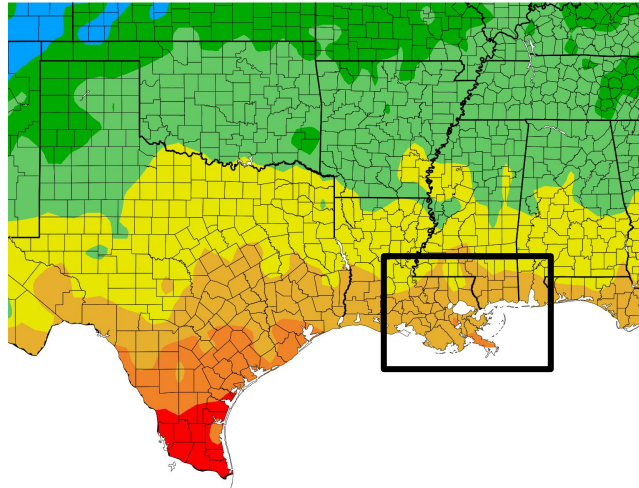




# Temperature

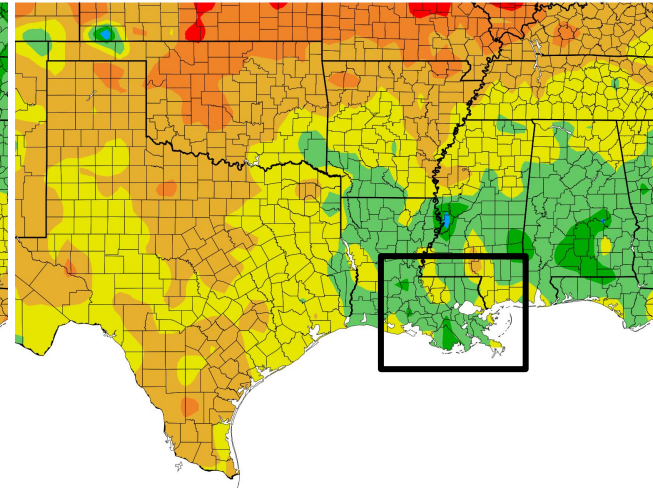
- Frequent cold fronts have kept temperatures much more seasonable to even a little below average over the last 30 days.
- However, temperature late this weekend and through next week will be extremely cold for mid January.
- Temperature across the areas could be as much as 20 degrees below normal.

Temperature (F)  
12/12/2023 – 1/10/2024



20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70  
/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)  
12/12/2023 – 1/10/2024



-10 -8 -6 -4 -2 0 2 4 6 8 10  
NOAA Regional /2024 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional

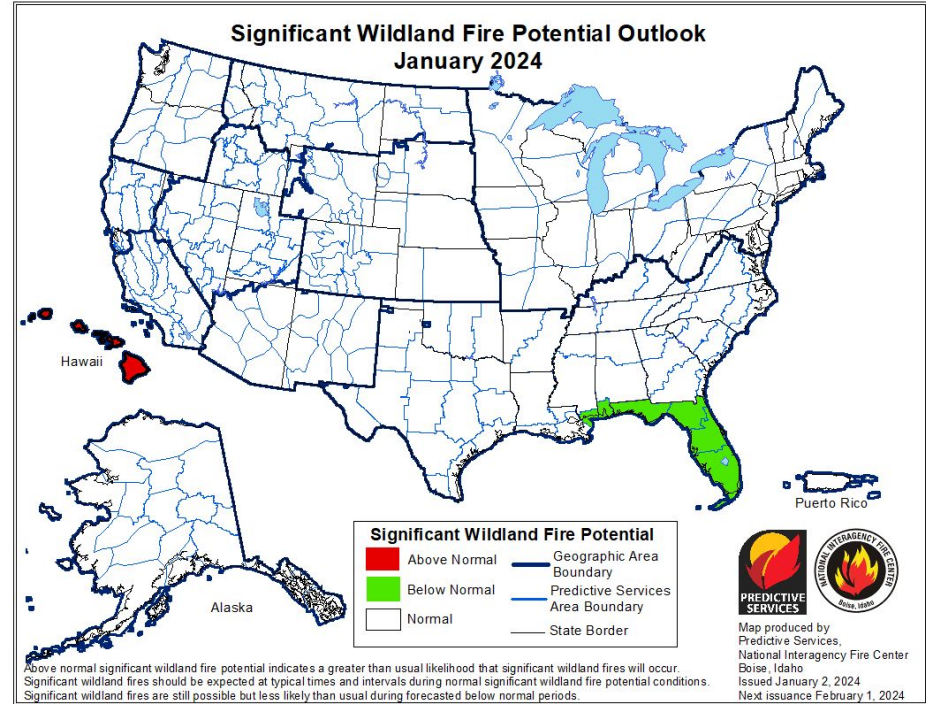




# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

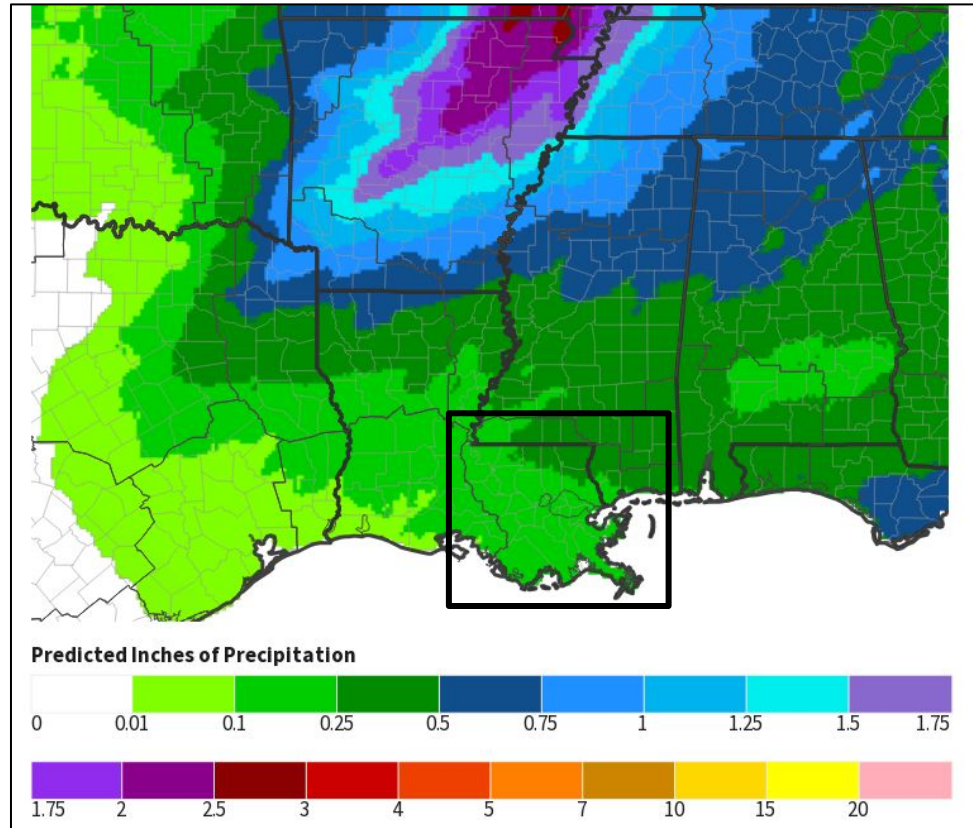
- The outlook for January depicts that chances for wildfires are still around average to even below normal along the MS coast given recent rainfall.
- Predicted rainfall over the next few days will help keep wildfire condition to minimal.





# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Not much rainfall is on tap for the upcoming week.
- Only about a quarter of inch to half an inch of rainfall is likely.



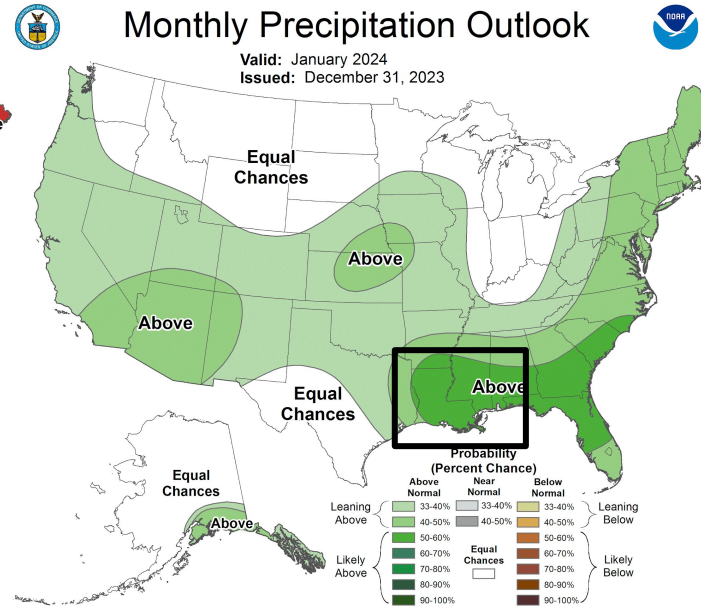
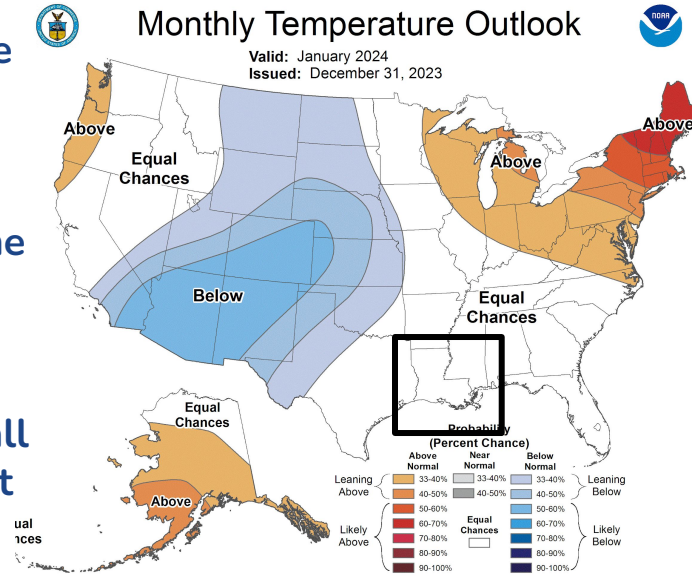




# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- January's temperature outlook shows that there are equal chances for either slightly above or below normal temperatures through the month.
- There is high confidence that above normal rainfall will occur during the first month of 2024.







# Drought Outlook

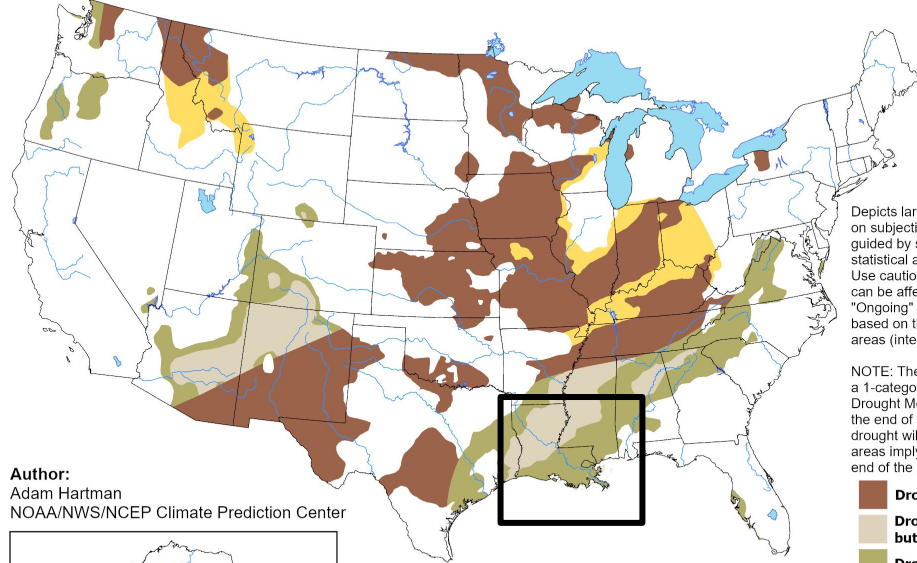
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The seasonal drought outlook thru March indicates the drought conditions may improve completely.
- Categories have been steadily improving over the last few weeks.

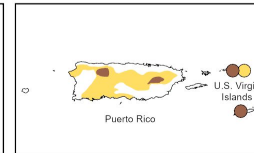
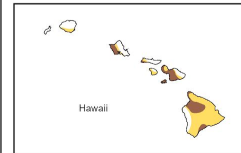
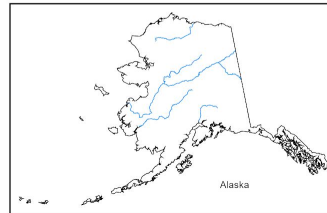
## U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

### Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for December 21, 2023 - March 31, 2024  
Released December 21, 2023



Author:  
Adam Hartman  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



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).

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



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Drinking water has been compromised for some communities in Plaquemines Parish due to salt water intrusion

## Agricultural Impacts

- Winter planting could be delayed and crops affected

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- None known at this time.

## Mitigation Actions

- Water Conservation is encouraged in drought areas
- Please refer to your municipality, water provider, and local Emergency Management for mitigation information

## Other Information

- Please use and encourage others to report drought impacts at CMOR (link above). Reports help improve the accuracy of the Drought Monitor.





For Questions or comments please contact:

[julie.lesko@noaa.gov](mailto:julie.lesko@noaa.gov)

