



Drought Information Statement for Southeast LA and Southwest MS

Valid January 25, 2024

Issued By: NWS New Orleans/Baton Rouge

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

- This product will be updated Feb 1, 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.



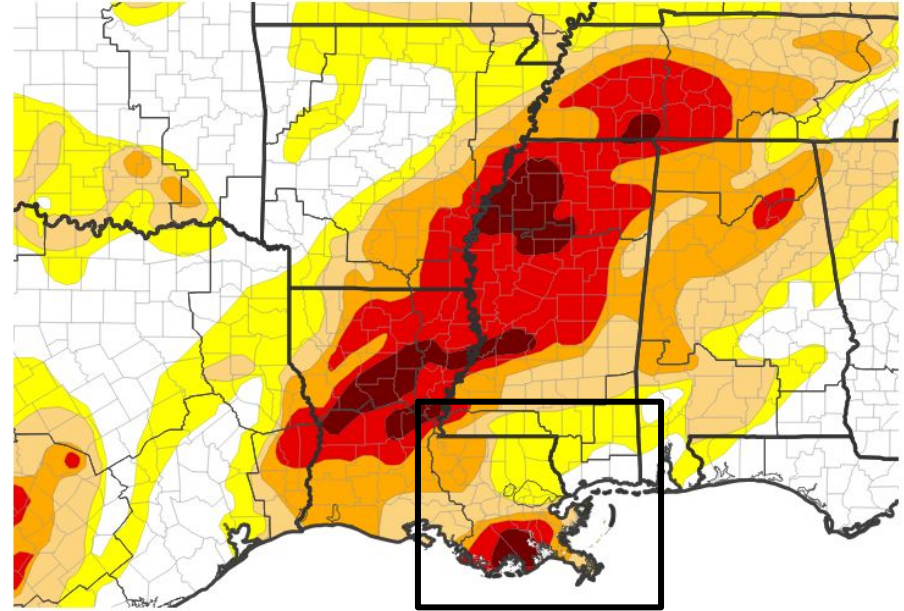


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- No changes were made this week as the heavy rainfall that occurred will be incorporated next Thursday, Feb 1st.
- 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: 01/23/24

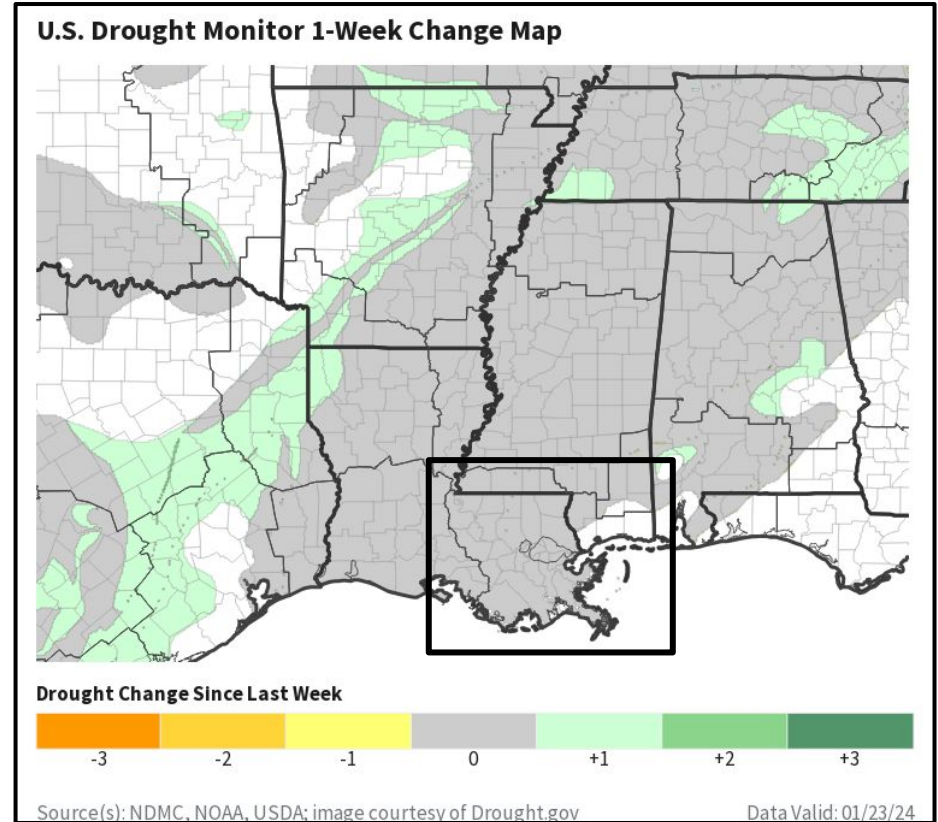




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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: No Change (Gray)**
 - **Drought Improved: No Change (Greens)**

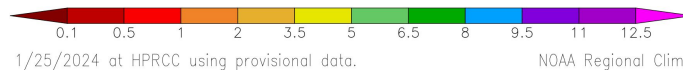
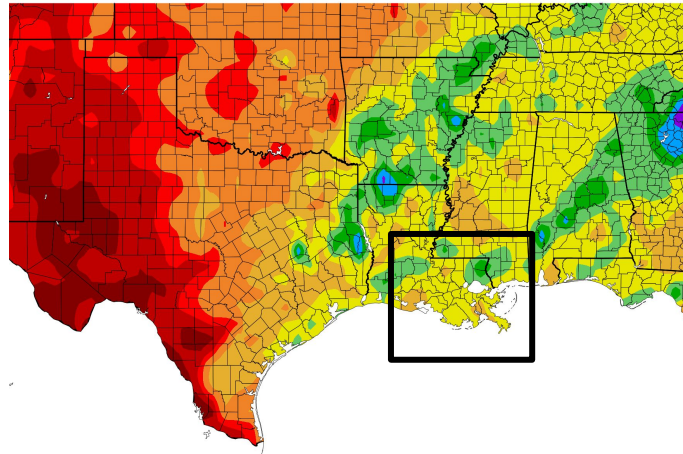




Precipitation

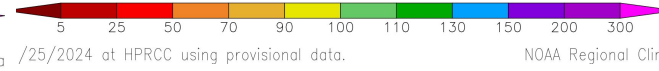
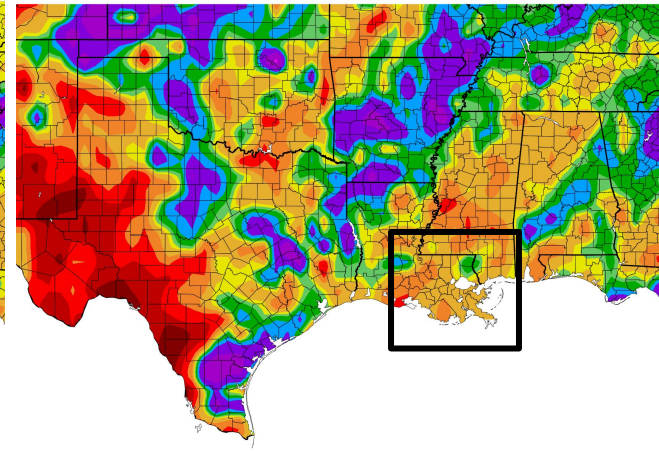
- The rainfall that is incorporated into the Drought Monitor goes Tuesday through Tuesday.
- So the heavy rainfall of this week will not be included until Feb 1st.
- Average rainfall over the last 30 days still indicates we have several areas still below normal.

Precipitation (in)
12/26/2023 - 1/24/2024



1/25/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
12/26/2023 - 1/24/2024



1/25/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate

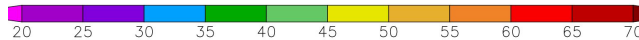
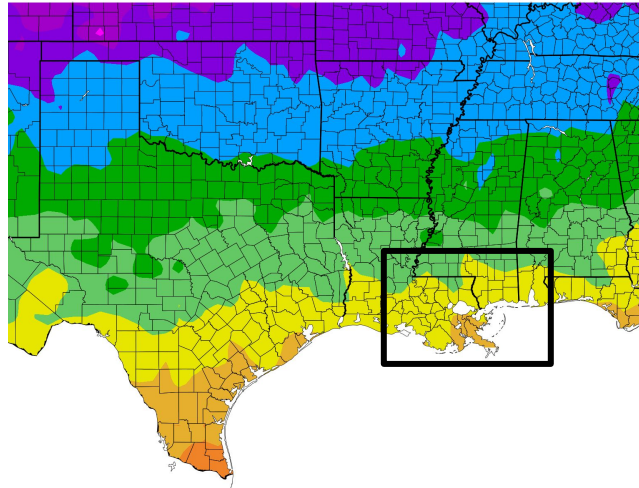




Temperature

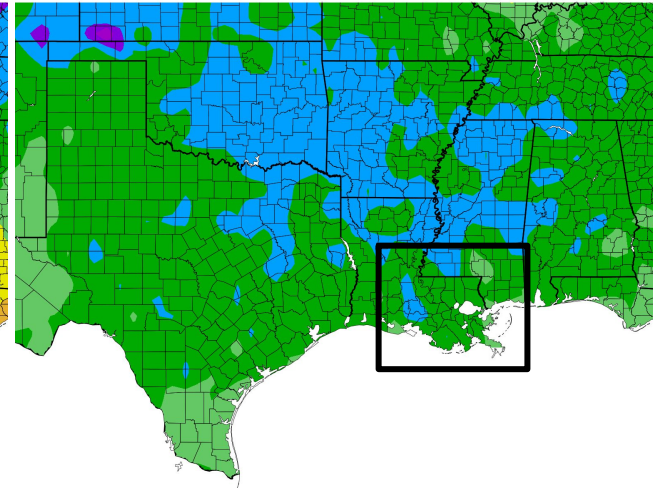
- Average temperatures have ranged from the lower 40s to mid 50s.
- The cold snap during the week of the Jan 15th brought well below normal temperatures.
- This caused the last 30 day average to be 3 to 6 degrees below normal or even colder in some areas.

Temperature (F)
12/26/2023 – 1/24/2024



/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
12/26/2023 – 1/24/2024



NOAA Regional /2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional

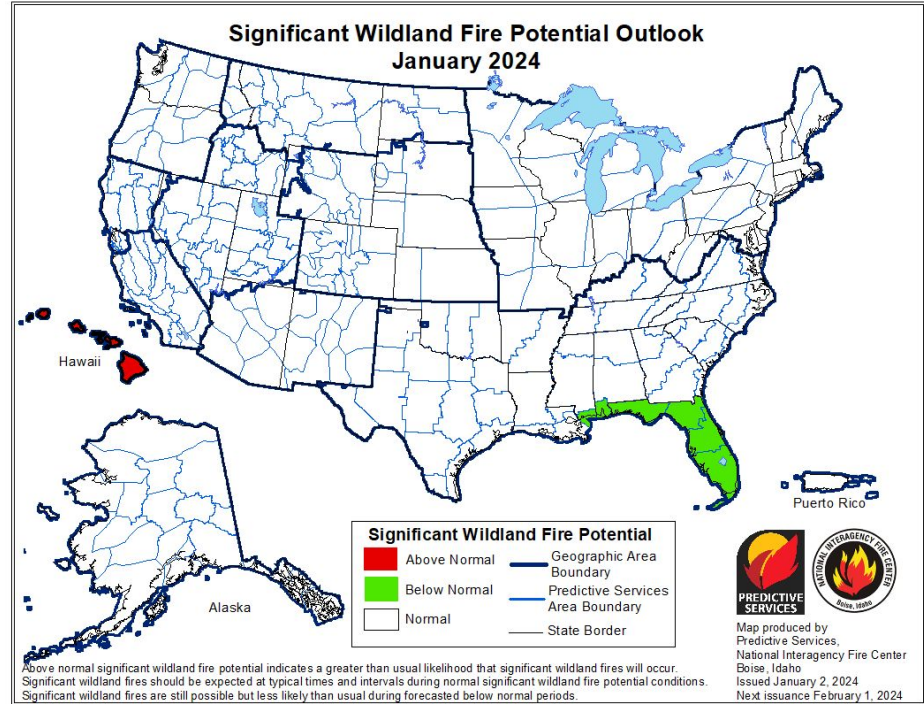




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

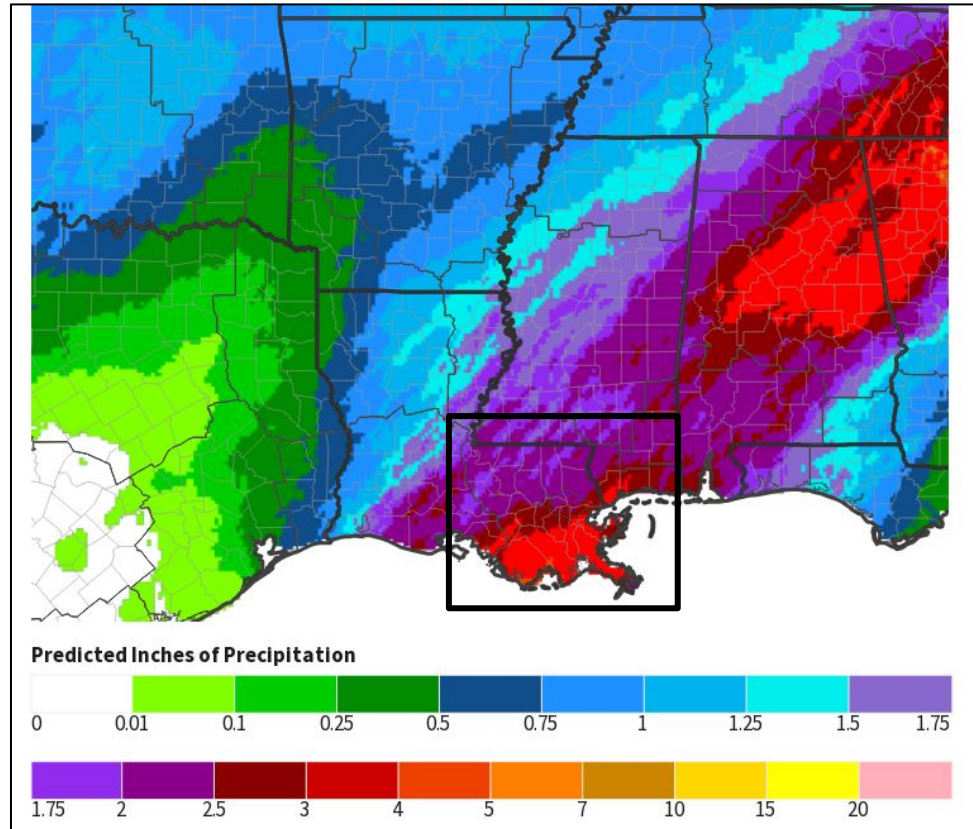
- The outlook for January depicts that chances for wildfires are still around average to even below normal along the MS coast given recent rainfall.
- Predicted rainfall over the next few days will help keep wildfire condition to minimal.





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- The next few days will remain soggy with a few more rounds of rain expected through Saturday.
- The heavier rain axis is expected to be more across far SE LA and Coastal MS where an additional 3 to 4 inches of rain could be picked up.
- Around 2 to 3 inches could fall north and west of Lake Pontchartrain.

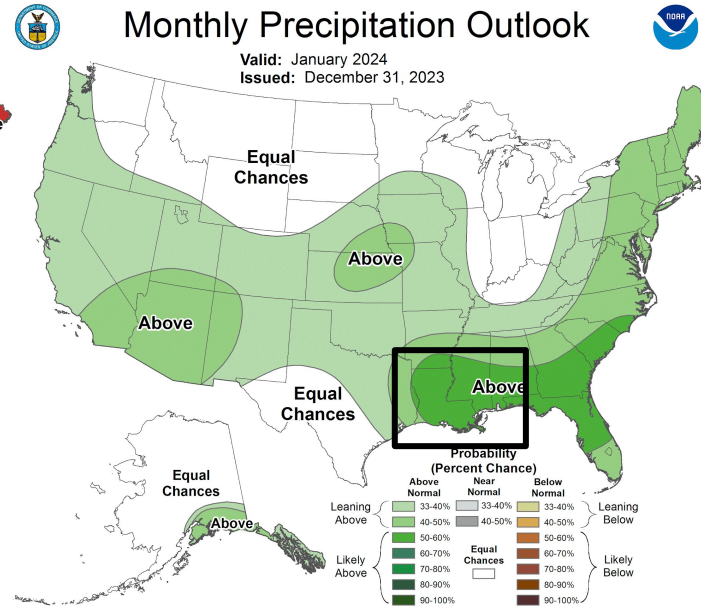
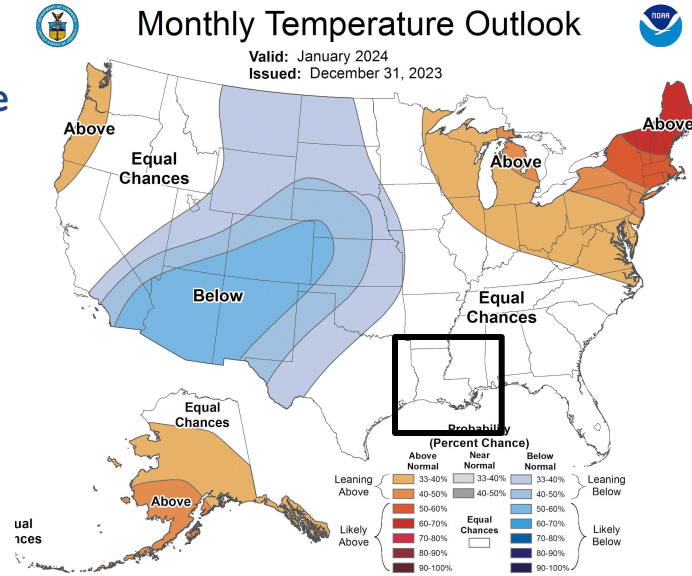




Long-Range Outlooks

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

- With January already halfway through, temperatures so far have been below normal.
- Meanwhile, rainfall is verifying the outlook given the rain that has already fallen this week.

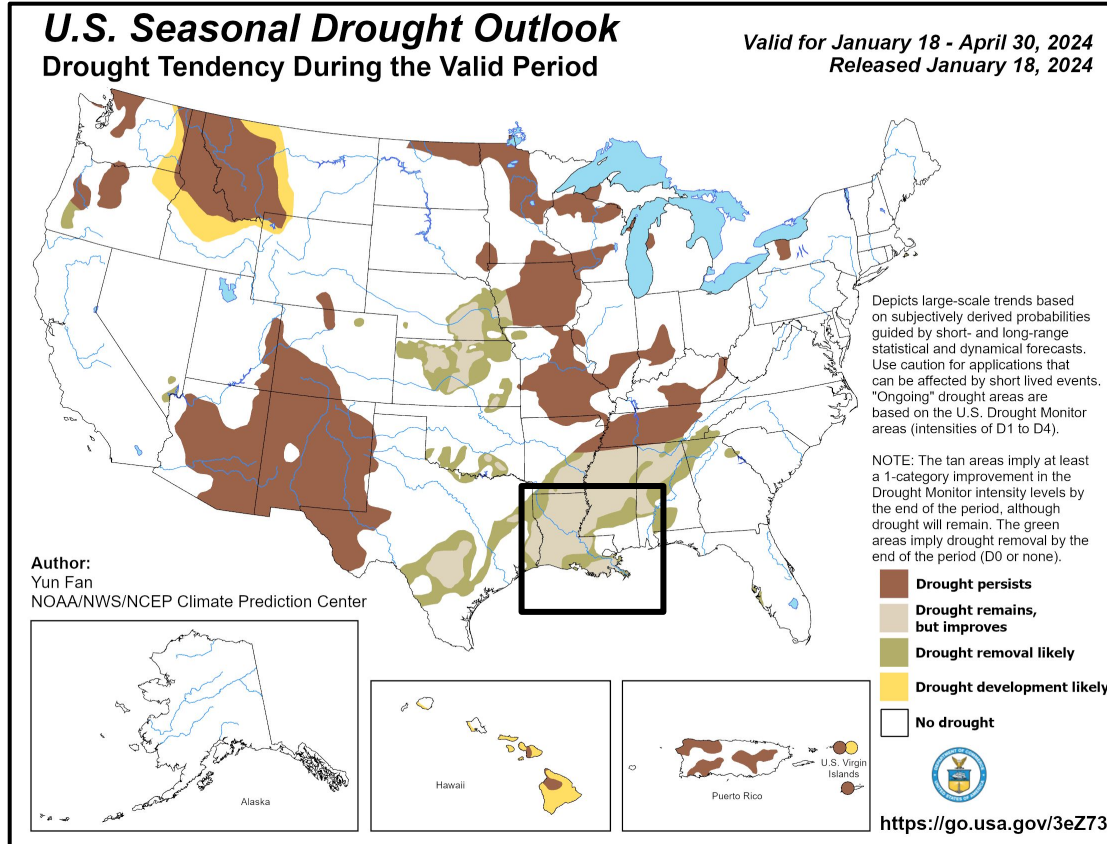




Drought Outlook

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

- The updated seasonal drought outlook now through April continues to show improving drought conditions.
- Categories have been steadily improving over the last few weeks.





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

- 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

