



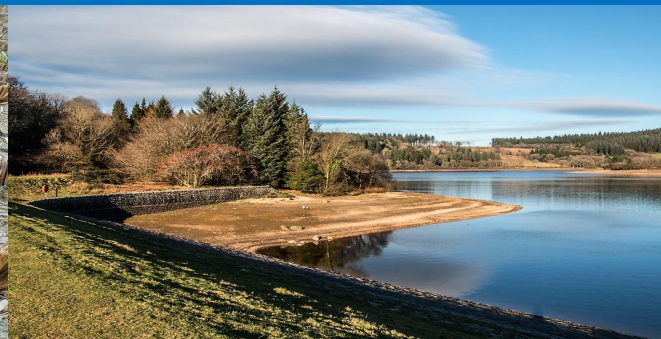
Drought Information Statement for West Texas & Southeast New Mexico

Valid 2/09/2024

Issued By: WFO Midland/Odessa

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

- This product will be updated Mar. 9, 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/maf/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



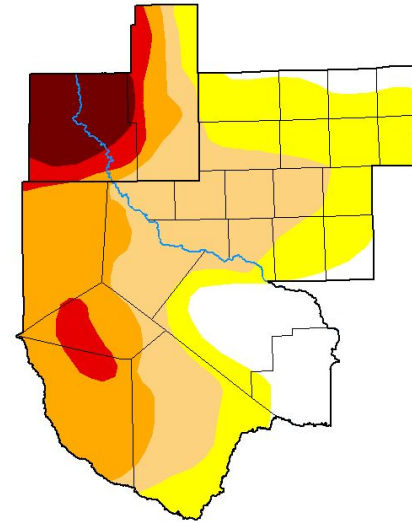


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- DROUGHT CONDITIONS UNCHANGED FOR WEST TEXAS AND SE NM.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D4 (Exceptional Drought): Much of Eddy County and Western Lea County
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): Portions of the Davis Mountains.
 - D2 (Severe Drought): Marfa Plateau, Culberson County and portions of Eddy and Lea counties.
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): Davis Mountain Foothills, portions of the Permian Basin and Central Brewster County.
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): Small portions of the Rio Grande in Terrell and Lower Brewster Counties. Much of the Permian Basin.

U.S. Drought Monitor Midland/Odessa, TX WFO



January 30, 2024
(Released Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current 01-28-2024	13.63	26.01	26.93	21.72	5.48	6.24
Last Week 01-22-2024	13.63	26.01	26.93	21.74	5.45	6.24
3 Months Ago 10-21-2023	1.40	12.97	26.33	40.85	11.33	7.12
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2024	13.72	25.95	26.91	21.74	5.45	6.24
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	0.00	5.05	30.07	32.49	23.81	8.58
One Year Ago 01-31-2023	13.40	37.30	25.08	20.91	3.31	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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:
Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EST January 30th.



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - No changes across West Texas and southeast New Mexico

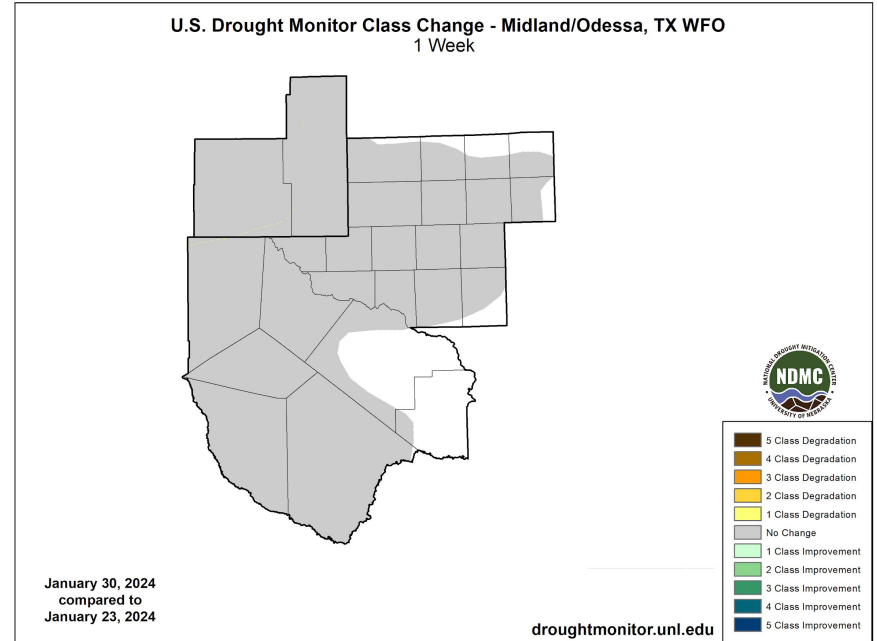


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid 8am EST January 30th.

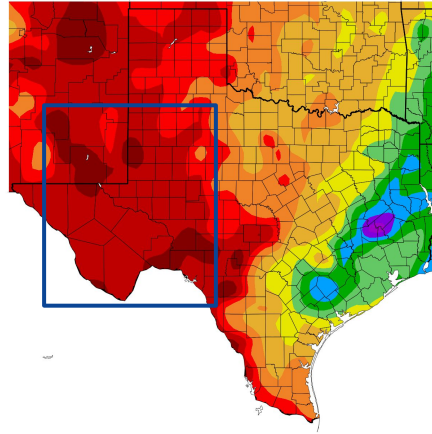




Precipitation

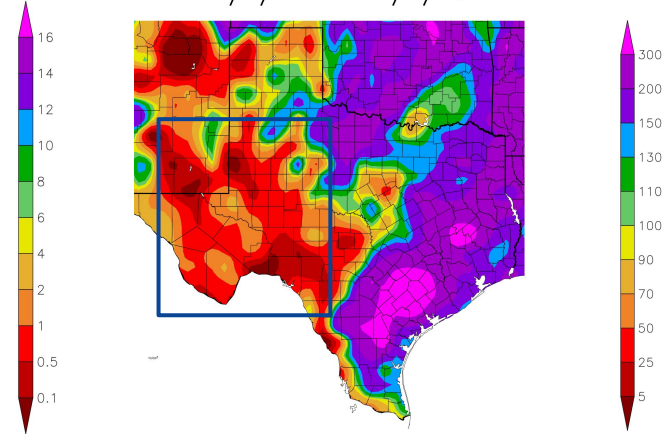
- January is one of the drier months for the area (KMAF averages about 0.60”), but even then precipitation was below normal for the month with many areas seeing less than a half inch of rain for the month.

Precipitation (in)
1/8/2024 – 2/6/2024



Generated 2/7/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
1/8/2024 – 2/6/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:
Left - Precipitation Amount for West Texas and SE NM
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for West Texas and SE NM
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending February 6, 2024

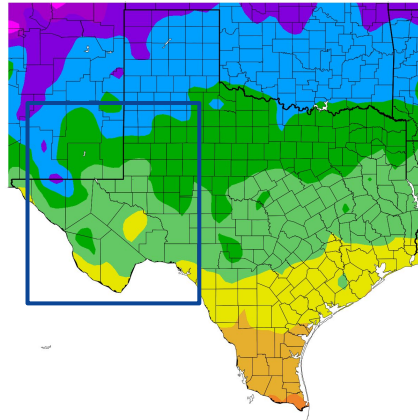




Temperature

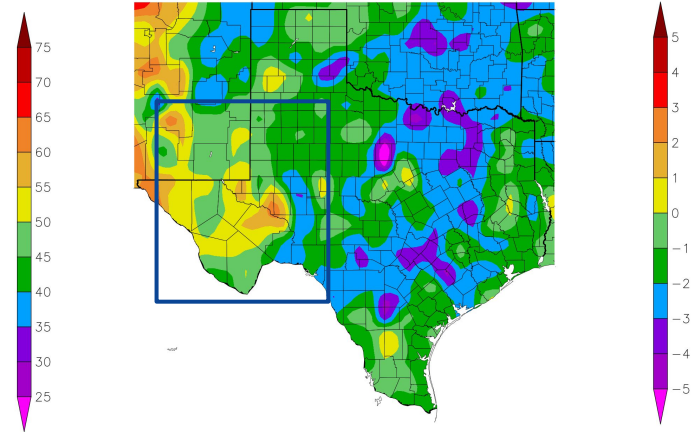
- Outside of a few spots, January was on the colder side for much of the region. January into February sees average temperatures gradually increase heading into late winter.

Temperature (F)
1/8/2024 - 2/6/2024



Generated 2/7/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
1/8/2024 - 2/6/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers ²⁴ at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:
Left - Average Temperature
Right - Departure from Normal Temperature
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending February 9, 2024





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Most area rivers and tributaries remain near baseflow. Area reservoirs are at 48.9% conservation capacity. See next page for more details.

Agricultural Impacts

- Per Agrilife Texas A&M [Crop and Weather Report](#), Cotton and pecan harvest has finished, aside from late pecan harvesting at some orchards. Livestock conditions were fair.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

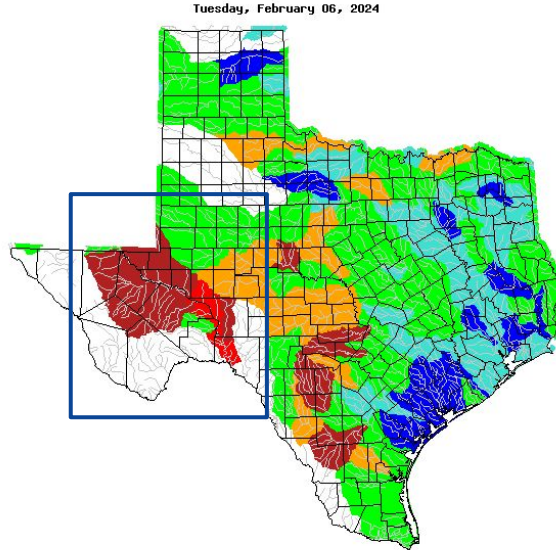
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- The Pecos and Rio Grande Basins are low to much below normal
- The Conchos basin is below normal
- All other basins are normal
- [Midland Monthly Hydrology Report for December](#)
- [January Rainfall](#)



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Reservoir	Pool Elevation	Current Elevation	% Full
JB Thomas	2258.00	2227.08	21.6
Colorado City	2070.20	2057.14	47.5
Champion Creek	2083.00	2069.17	58.0
Natural Dam Salt Lake	2457.00	2447.29	48.4
Moss Creek	2337.00	2332.26	75.0
Brantley	3256.70	3246.99	49.0
Avalon	3177.40	3174.66	50.0
Red Bluff	2827.40	2812.54	41.9

Image Caption: [USGS 7 day streamflows for Texas](#), valid 6 February 2024

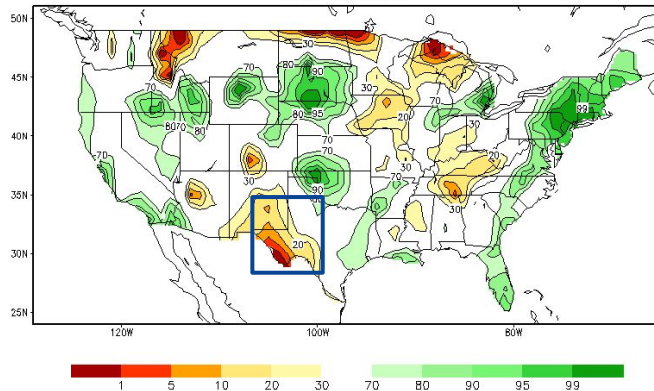




Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture continues to rank below the 10-20th percentiles across much of West Texas and SE NM with the worst conditions over the Marfa Plateau and along the Rio Grande.
- During the past month, crop moisture has remained unchanged and ranges from slightly dry to favorably moist across the region.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
FEB 06, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending FEB 03, 2024
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

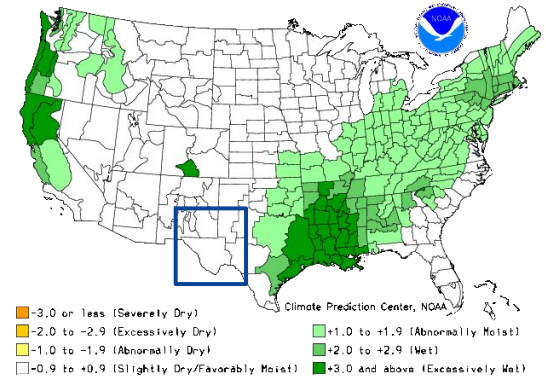


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid February 06, 2023

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending February 03, 2023

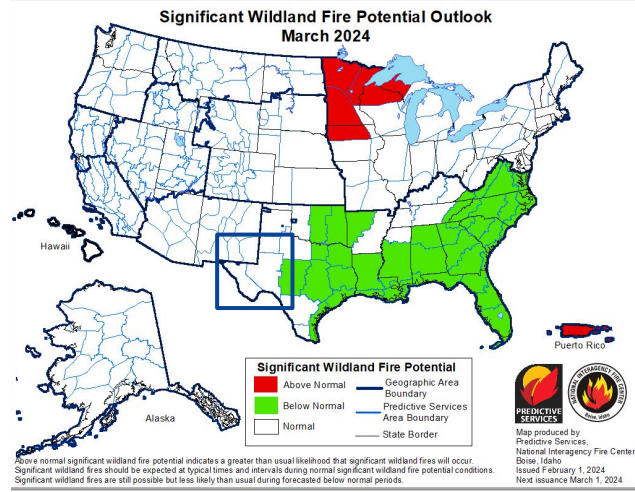
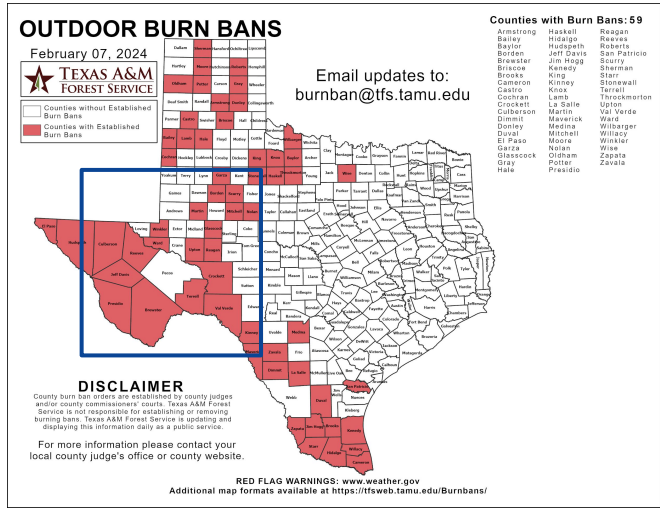




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Significant fire potential outlook continues to remain below normal for February and March for West Texas and SE NM. Temperatures look to remain near or below normal through March. Precipitation looks to be near or above average through February and March.



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

Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for March 2024



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Precipitation chances remain quite low for much of the area with light precipitation amounts possible over the next several days.

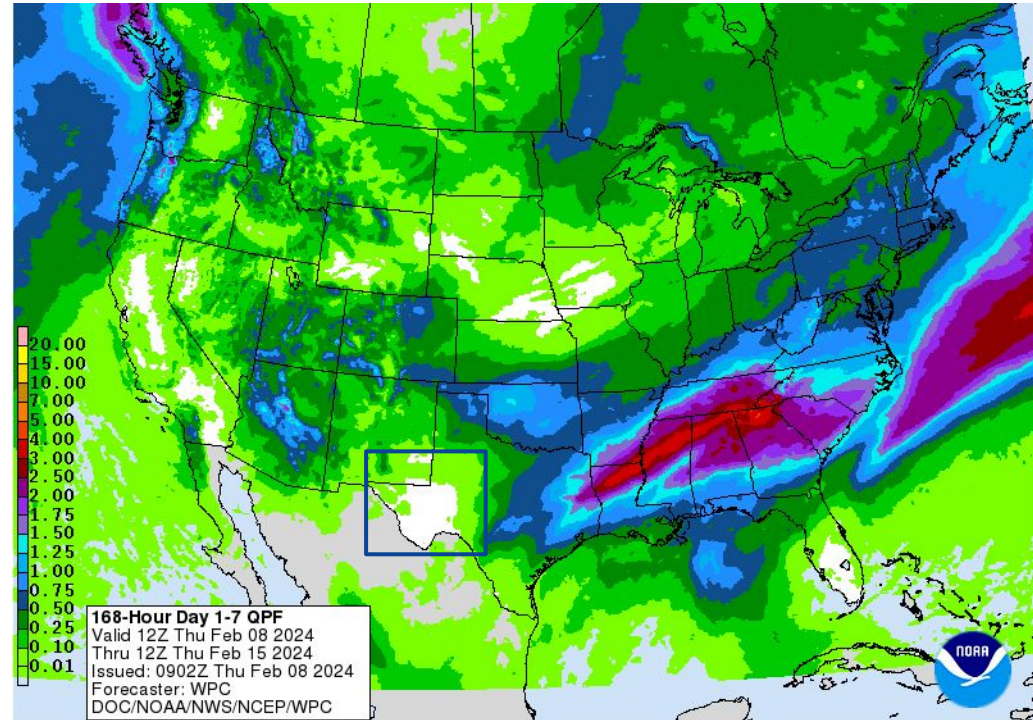


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Thursday February 8 to Thursday February 15





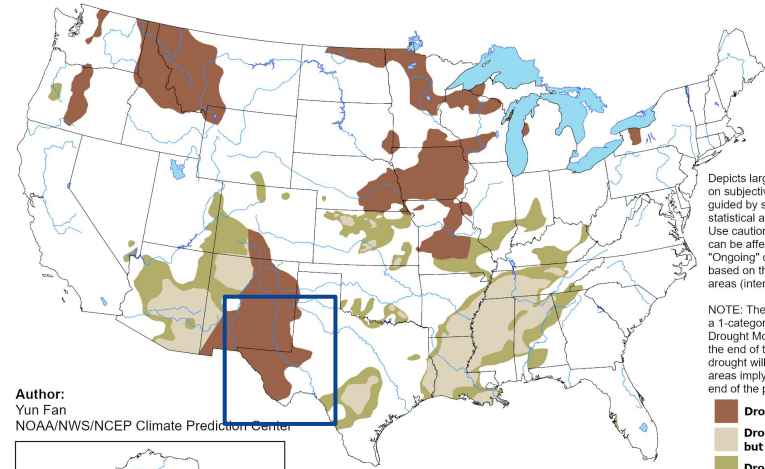
Drought Outlook

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

- February is one of the drier months for West Texas and southeast New Mexico, so drought conditions are not expected to improve over the course of the month.

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

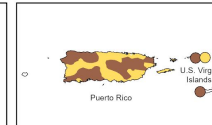
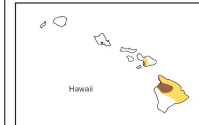
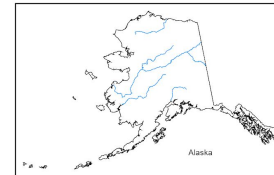
Valid for February 2024
Released January 31, 2024



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).

Author:
Yun Fan
NOAA/NWS/NCEP Climate Prediction Center



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



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

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released 01 31, 2024 valid for 02 2024

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
Midland/Odessa