



Drought Information Statement for West Texas & Southeast New Mexico

Valid 07/12/2024

Issued By: WFO Midland/Odessa

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

- This product will be updated August 12, 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.



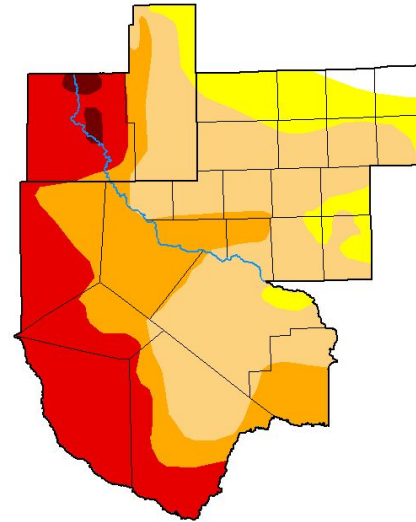


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- DROUGHT CONDITIONS WORSEN FOR WEST TEXAS AND SE NM.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D4 (Exceptional Drought): North central Eddy County, NM.
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): Extending south through Eddy County into Culberson, Jeff Davis, and all of Presidio counties. Portions of the Davis Mountains down into the Big Bend.
 - D2 (Severe Drought): Terrell and Reeves counties as well as areas along the Pecos River Valley.
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): Portions of Lea County, much of the Permian Basin, as well as Pecos and Brewster counties.
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): Portions of the Permian Basin and Lower Trans Pecos

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



July 9, 2024
(Released Thursday, Jul. 11, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	1.72	11.07	39.21	21.54	25.53	0.94
Last Week 07-02-2024	1.71	11.75	45.46	17.59	22.55	0.94
3 Months Ago 04-09-2024	4.17	21.15	41.56	21.57	5.31	6.24
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2024	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 07-11-2023	6.45	27.36	47.57	18.62	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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National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EST July 9th.





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - One class degradation across the Trans Pecos and portions of the Permian Basin.

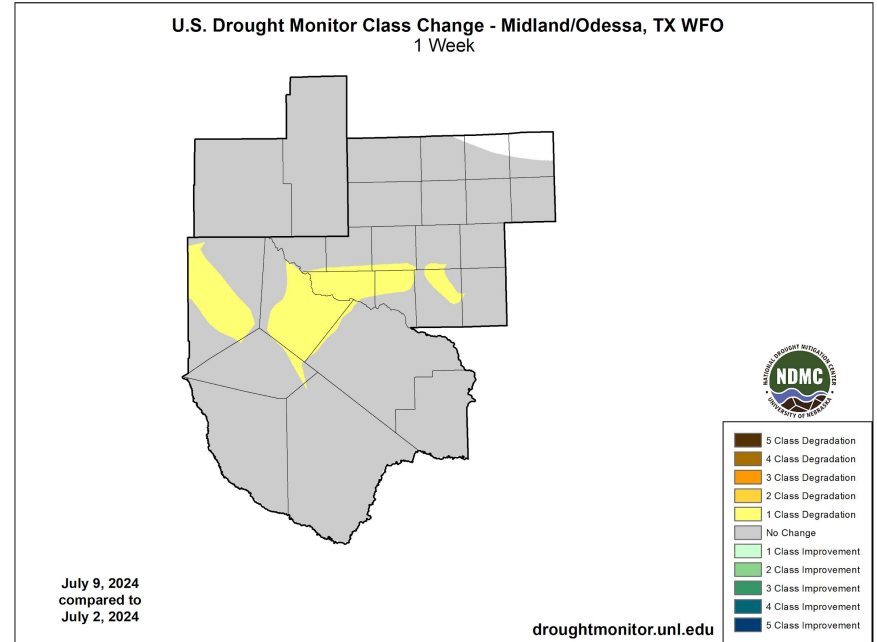


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid 8am EST July 9th.

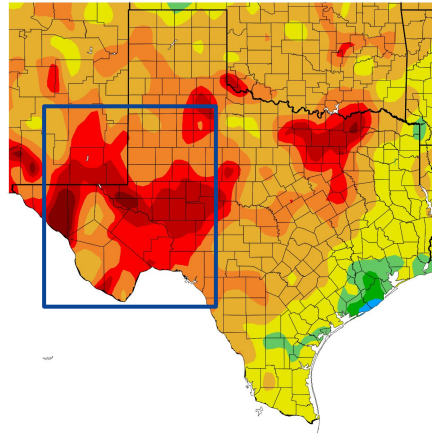




Precipitation

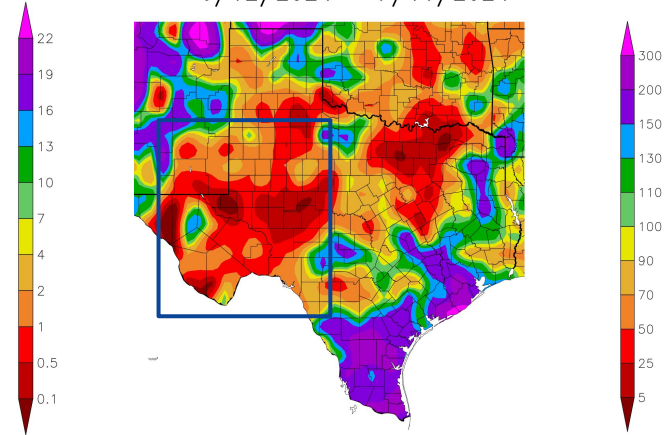
- Monsoon season has started to take shape across the western portions of the region with isolated storms bringing some precipitation to Culberson and Jeff Davis counties. However, much more consistent rain will be needed to alleviate drought conditions. Below normal rainfall has fallen elsewhere.

Precipitation (in)
6/12/2024 – 7/11/2024



Generated 7/12/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
6/12/2024 – 7/11/2024



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 July 11, 2024

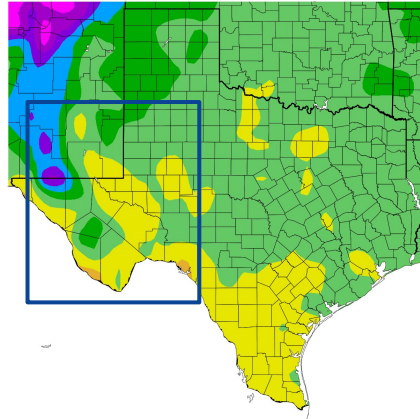




Temperature

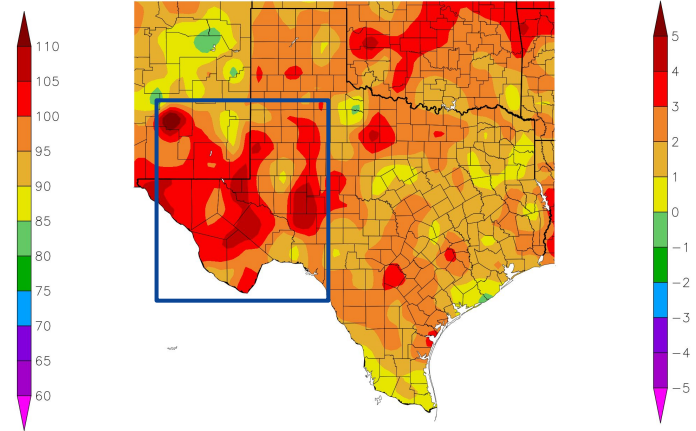
- Temperatures continue to rise as summer settles in with near normal temperatures over the Central Permian Basin, but well above normal temperatures elsewhere. Higher temperatures combined with dry conditions exacerbate drought conditions.

Temperature (F)
6/12/2024 – 7/11/2024



Generated 7/12/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
6/12/2024 – 7/11/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers ⁰²⁴ 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 July 11, 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 46.3% conservation capacity. See next page for more details.

Agricultural Impacts

- Per Agrilife Texas A&M [Crop and Weather Report](#), Livestock in fair condition, but food and water were still supplemented. Pecans are starting to develop. Cotton in most areas deteriorated in the hot and dry conditions.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire weather impacts will be low through the summer given generally lighter winds. Lightning starts may be possible with isolated storms over the mountains.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

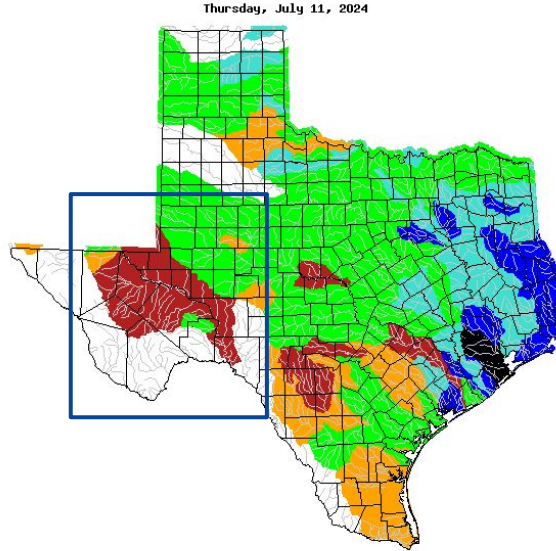
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- The Colorado and Delaware Rivers, as well as Independence Creek, are above to much-above normal.
- All other river and tributary basins are below to much below normal.
- [Midland Monthly Hydrology Report for May](#)
- [June 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	2225.60	19.3
Colorado City	2070.20	2056.11	44.2
Champion Creek	2083.00	2068.07	55.2
Natural Dam Salt Lake	2457.00	2447.29	48.4
Moss Creek	2337.00	2332.26	79.0
Brantley	3256.70	3246.62	48.0
Avalon	3177.40	3173.80	37.0
Red Bluff	2827.40	2811.65	39.3

Image Caption: [USGS 7 day streamflows for Texas](#), valid 11 July 2024

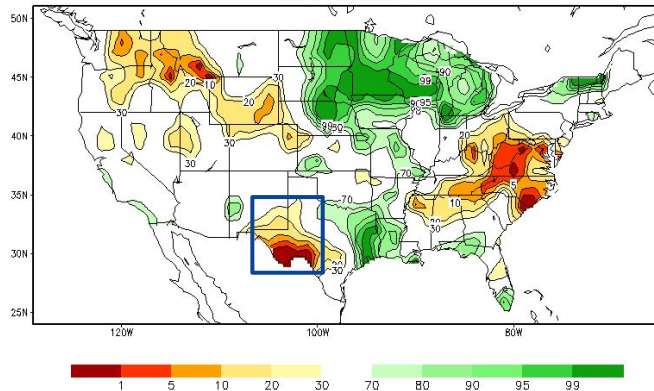




Agricultural Impacts

- 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 become noted as being severely dry as below normal precipitation has occurred.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
JUL 11, 2024



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending JUL 6, 2024
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

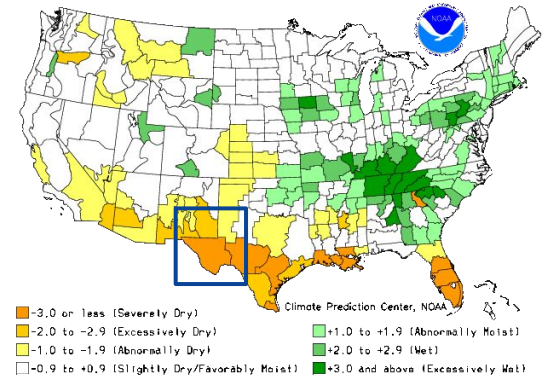


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid July 11, 2024

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending July 06, 2024

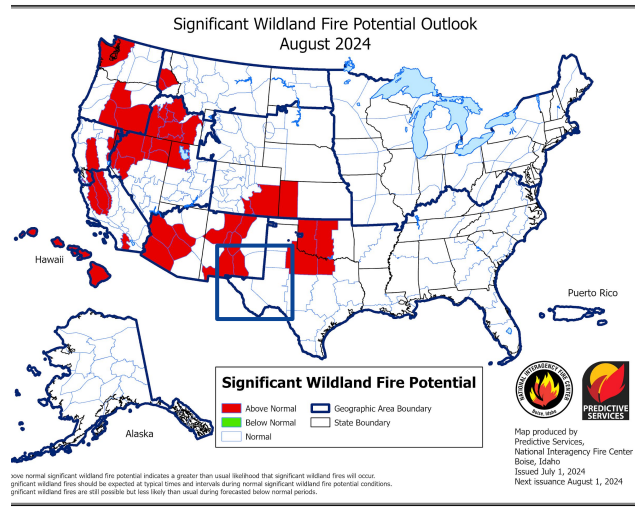
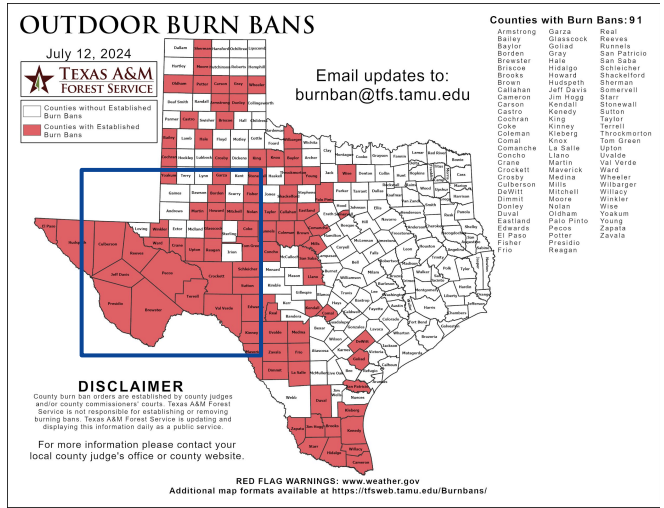




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- The potential for significant fires across the region is near normal as winds generally decrease for the summer months. However, hotter temperatures and lower relative humidity will continue to play a role.
- With monsoon season beginning to pick up, lightning starts may occur across the higher elevations.



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

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



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Measurable precipitation remains possible areawide over the next week with the highest amounts likely seen over the eastern Permian Basin and down across the Lower Trans Pecos.
- Without continued and consistent rainfall, drought conditions will continue.

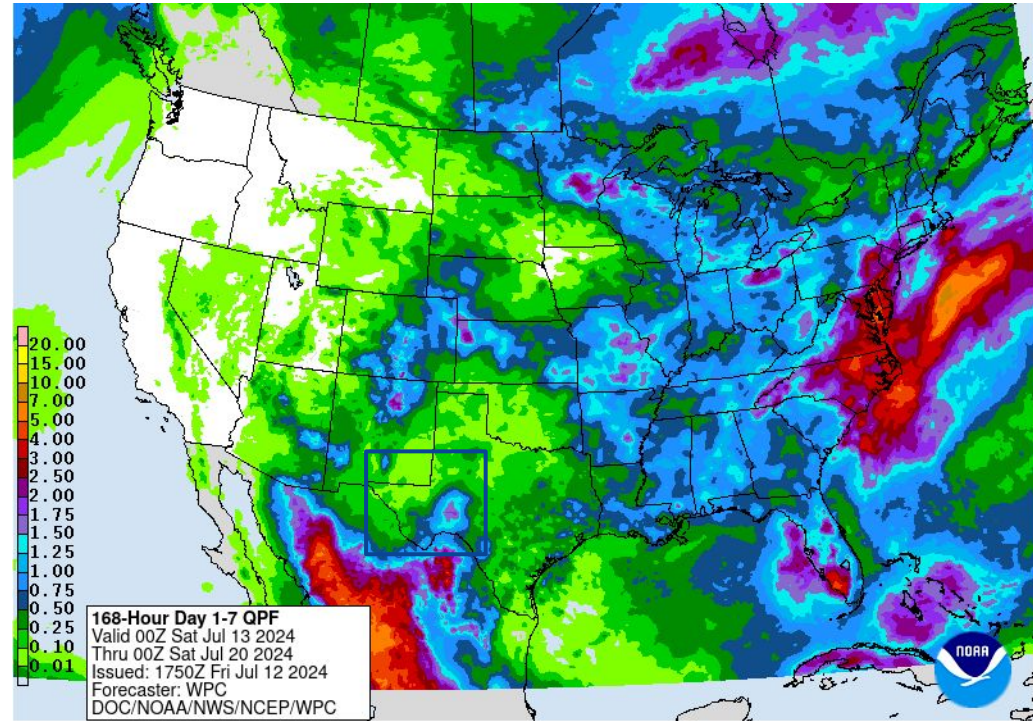


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Saturday July 13 to Saturday July 20





Drought Outlook

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

- July sees the start of the Southwest monsoon season. As mentioned before, inconsistent and isolated storms will not be enough to alleviate drought conditions over SE NM and West Texas.

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

Valid for July 2024
Released June 30, 2024

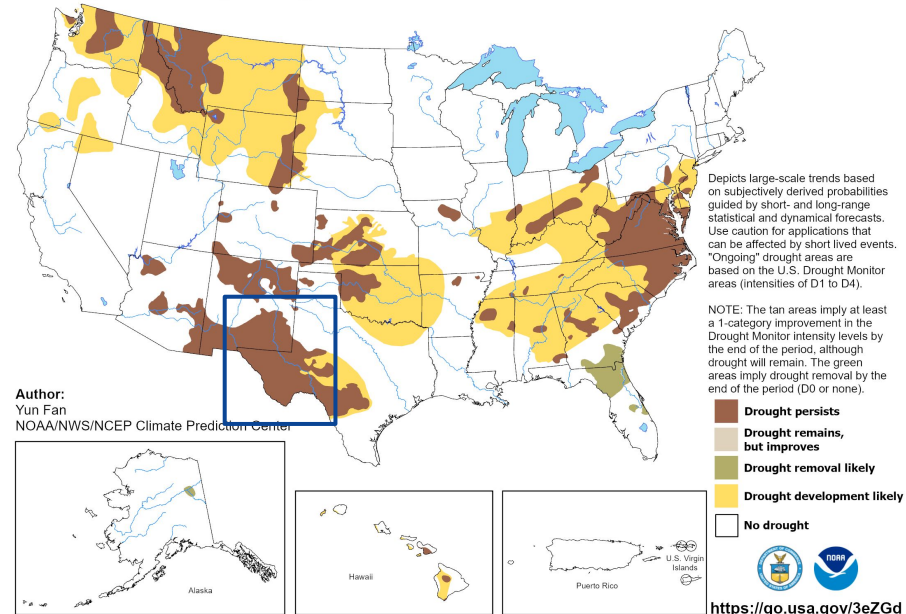


Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released 06 30, 2024 valid for 07 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