



Drought Information Statement for West Texas & Southeast New Mexico

Valid 11/10/2023

Issued By: WFO Midland/Odessa

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

- This product will be updated Dec. 10, 2023 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.



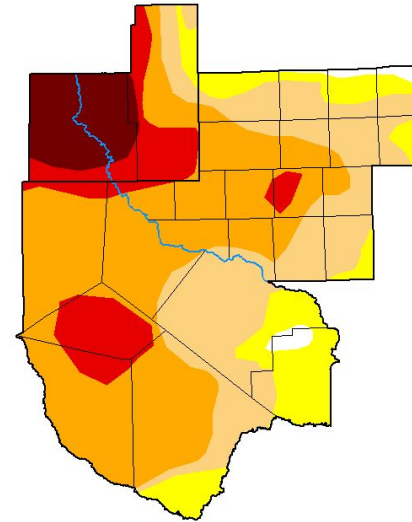


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- DROUGHT CONDITIONS UNCHANGED FOR W TX AND SE NM.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D4 (Exceptional Drought): Much of Eddy County and Western Lea County
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): Portions of Midland and Ector Counties, as well as portions of the Davis Mountains.
 - D2 (Severe Drought): Northern Permian Basin, Marfa Plateau, Davis Mountain Foothills, Western and Central Brewster County.
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): Stockton Plateau and portions of Big Bend as well as the Eastern Permian Basin.
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): Small portions of the Rio Grande in Terrell and Lower Brewster Counties.

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



November 7, 2023
(Released Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	1.44	12.94	26.33	40.85	11.33	7.12
Last Week 10-31-2023	1.40	12.97	26.33	40.85	11.33	7.12
3 Months Ago 08-08-2023	2.28	2.99	33.66	55.70	5.37	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2023	14.94	35.76	25.08	20.91	3.31	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	0.00	5.05	30.07	32.49	23.81	8.58
One Year Ago 11-08-2022	14.96	34.60	20.64	21.68	8.12	0.00

Intensity:



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:

Lindsay Johnson
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

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





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

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

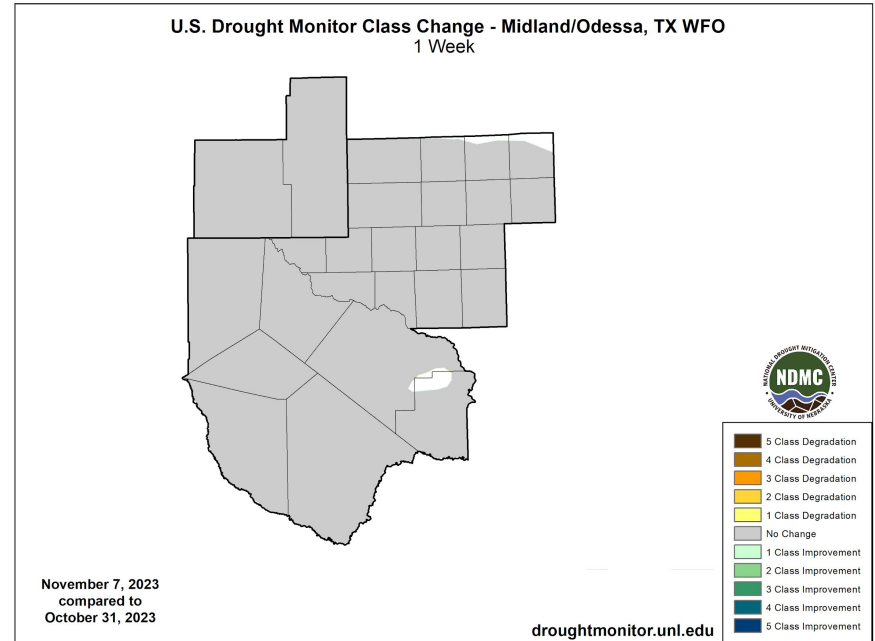


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid 8am EST November 9th.

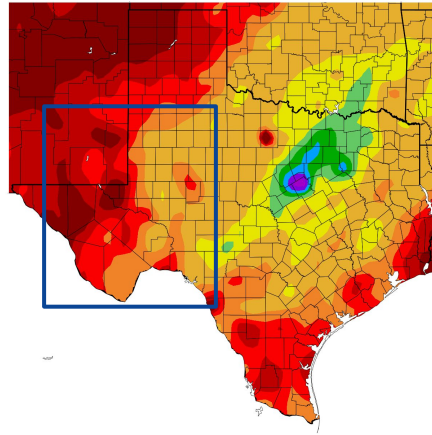




Precipitation

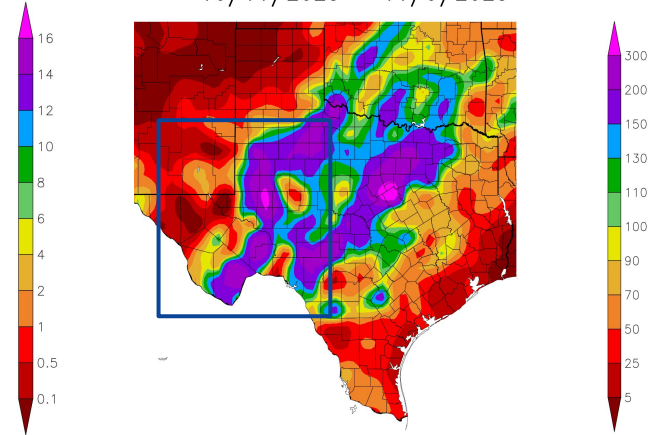
- Tropical moisture moved across portions of West Texas during late October nearly doubling YTD totals from areas across the Big Bend up through the Lower Trans Pecos and into the Permian Basin. However, areas to the west of the Pecos River remain drier than normal seeing much less overall during the same time frame.

Precipitation (in)
10/11/2023 – 11/9/2023



Generated 11/10/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
10/11/2023 – 11/9/2023



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 123 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:
 Left - Precipitation Amount for [area]
 Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for [area]
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
 Data over the past 30 days ending November 9, 2023

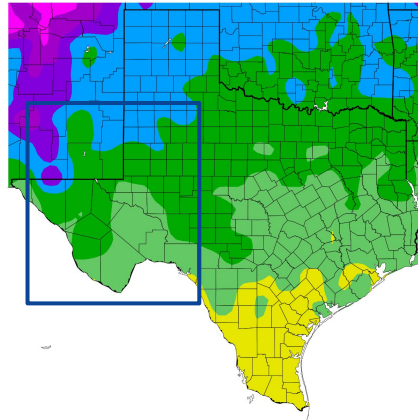




Temperature

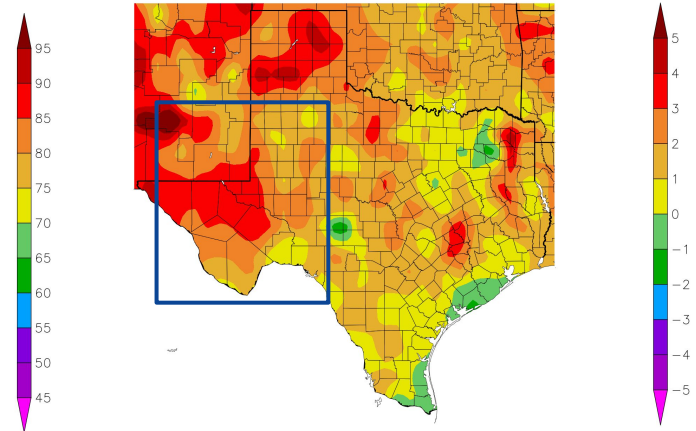
- Moving into later fall, average temperatures are beginning to decrease, as expected, and help to slow evaporation and transpiration of water from the ground and plants.
- Temperatures have continued to remain above normal across the region for the past month despite an uptick in overall precipitation.

Temperature (F)
10/11/2023 – 11/9/2023



Generated 11/10/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
10/11/2023 – 11/9/2023



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 2023 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 November 9, 2023





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 45.4% conservation capacity. See next page for more details.

Agricultural Impacts

- Per Agrilife Texas A&M [Crop and Weather Report](#), Cotton yields have still underperformed and harvests have slowed due to wet fields. However, soil moisture conditions have improved recently with pumpkin production going well and livestock in fair condition.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

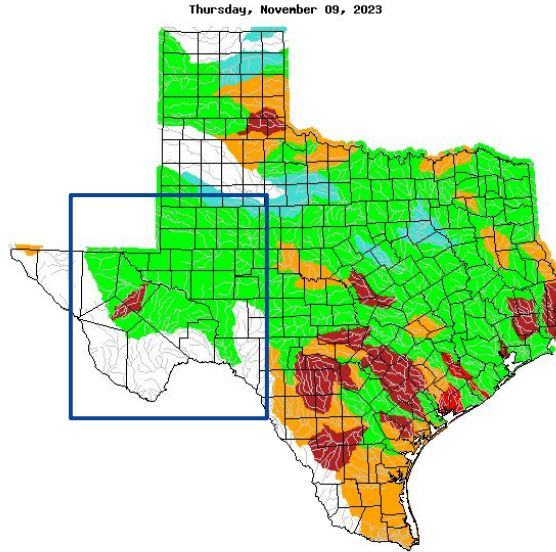
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- The North Fork Brazos River is much above normal
- Toyah & Cheery Creeks are much below normal
- All other rivers and tributaries are at normal or baseflow
- [Midland Monthly Hydrology Report for September](#)
- [October 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		

Image Caption: [USGS 7 day streamflows for Texas](#), valid 9 November 2023

Reservoir	Pool Elevation	Current Elevation	% Full
JB Thomas	2258.00	2227.78	22.7
Colorado City	2070.20	2057.73	49.5
Champion Creek	2083.00	2069.70	59.4
Natural Dam Salt Lake	2457.00	2447.29	48.4
Moss Creek	2337.00	2331.64	77.0
Brantley	3256.70	3245.29	42.0
Avalon	3177.40	3172.99	26.0
Red Bluff	2827.40	2811.28	38.3

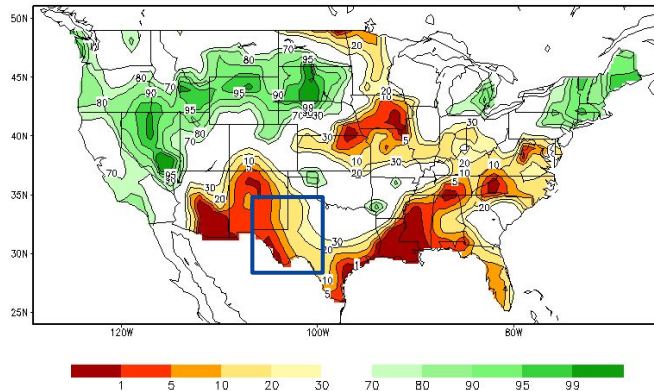




Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture continues to rank below the 10-20th percentiles to the west of the Pecos River, particularly along the US/Mexico border.
- Given recent rains across West Texas during the past month, crop moisture has improved somewhat and ranges from slightly dry to favorably moist.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
NOV 08, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending NOV 4, 2023
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

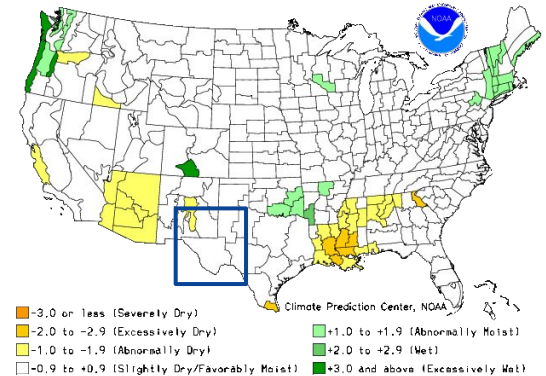


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid November 9, 2023

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending November 4, 2023

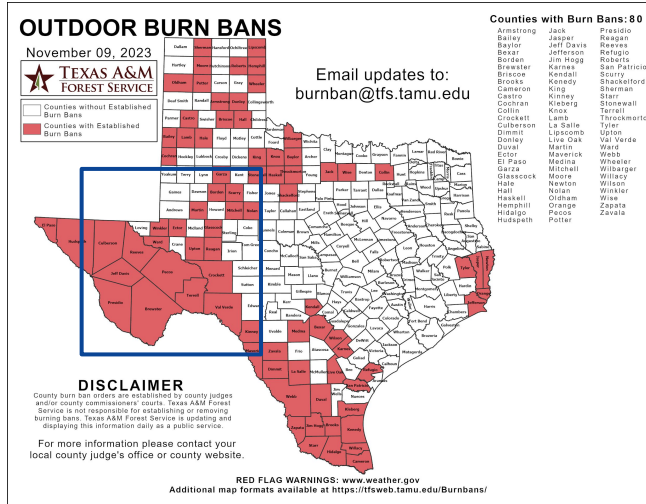




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Fire weather conditions will be low for the coming week as many areas received rain over the past week. Fuel moisture will be temporarily improved before the region slowly dries out this coming week.
- For the rest of November, lower fall temperatures and a more moist outlook keep expected fire weather conditions low.



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

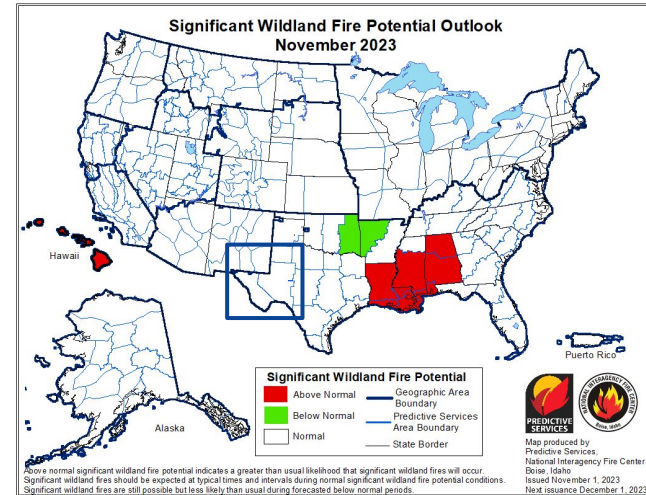


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for November 2023





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Precipitation chances remain in the forecast through this weekend as an upper level trough moves across West Texas. Rain chances begin to diminish heading into next week as upper level ridging builds in to keep the region drier.

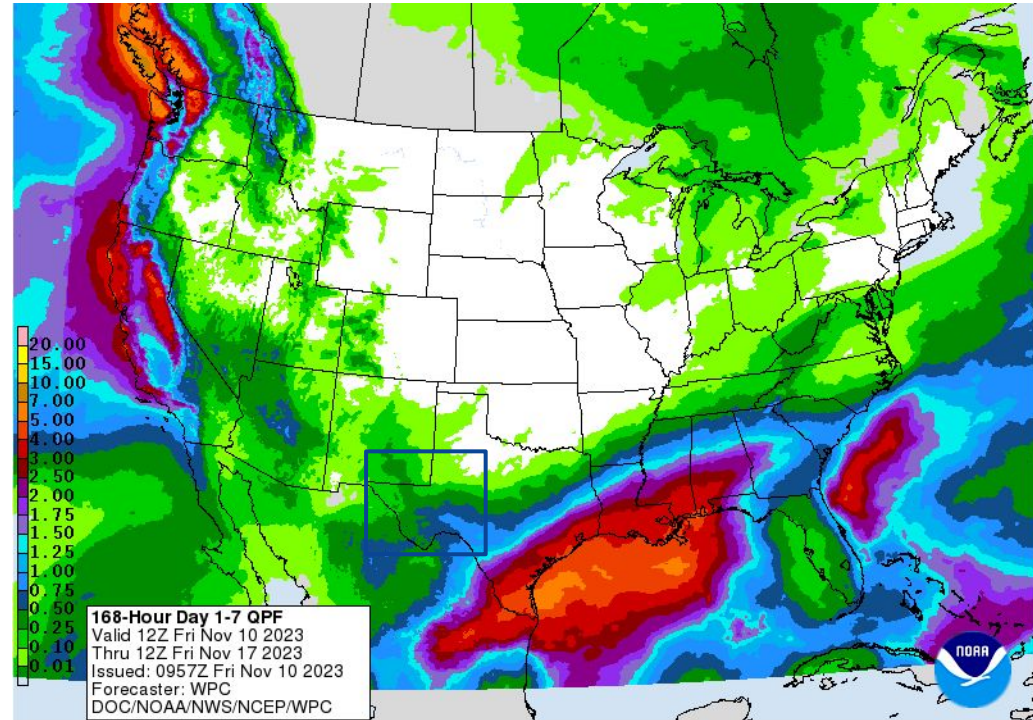


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Friday November 10 to Friday November 17





Drought Outlook

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

- While precipitation is in the forecast and overall monthly outlook for November, drought conditions look to persist for West Texas and southeast New Mexico as expected precipitation amounts will not be consistent or high enough to significantly alleviate drought conditions.

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

Valid for November 2023
Released October 31, 2023

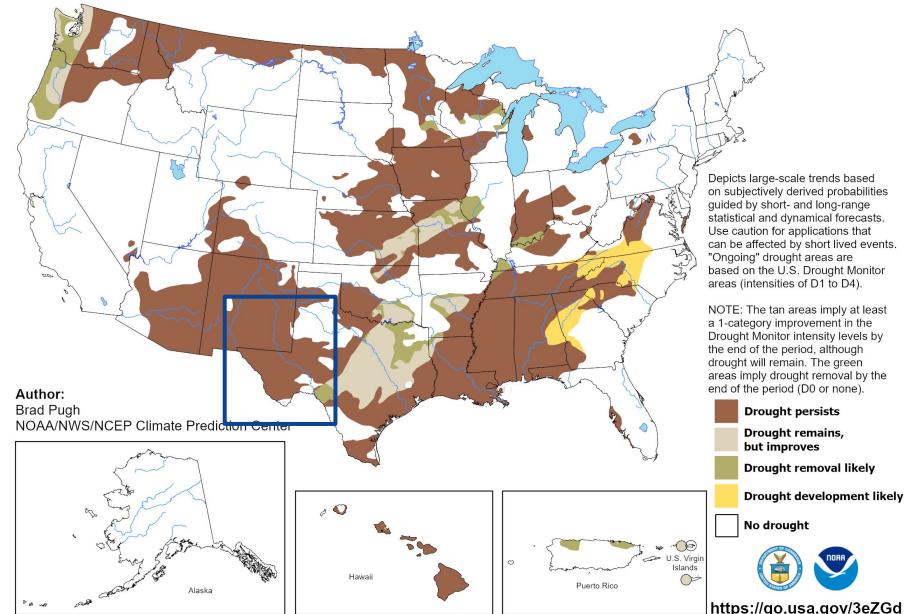


Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released 10 31, 2023 valid for 11 2023

Links to the latest:

- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

