



Drought Information Statement

For East Tennessee, Southwest Virginia, and Southwest North Carolina

Valid October 26, 2023

Issued By: WFO Morristown, TN

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

- This product will be updated in the next week 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/mrx/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





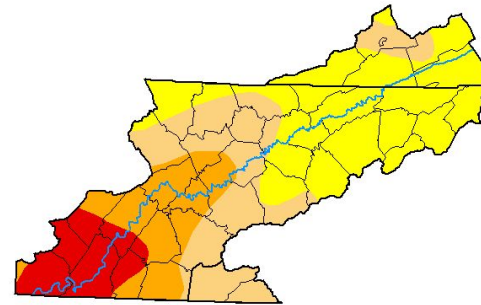
U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the NWS Morristown CWA

- Drought conditions continue to worsen across the Tennessee Valley and Southern Appalachians.
- **Drought intensity and Extent**
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** None.
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** southern Plateau and far southern valley.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought):** rest of southeast Tennessee and parts of the central valley.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought):** Most of the northern Plateau, western section of the Tennessee valley and parts of southwest Virginia.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry):** Northeast Tennessee and rest of southwest Virginia.

U.S. Drought Monitor Morristown, TN WFO

October 24, 2023
(Released Thursday, Oct. 26, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.05	99.95	56.65	29.02	11.93	0.00
Last Week 10-17-2023	0.05	99.95	44.52	17.59	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-25-2023	84.54	15.46	3.72	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2023	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	58.94	41.06	6.95	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-25-2022	19.42	80.58	55.38	13.46	0.00	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:
Rocky Bilotta
NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT October 24th.



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for the NWS Morristown CWA

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - **Drought Worsened:** Most places across southeast and central east Tennessee, Cumberland Plateau, and Cherokee and Clay counties of North Carolina.
 - **No Change:** Portions of SW VA.
 - **Drought Improved:** None.

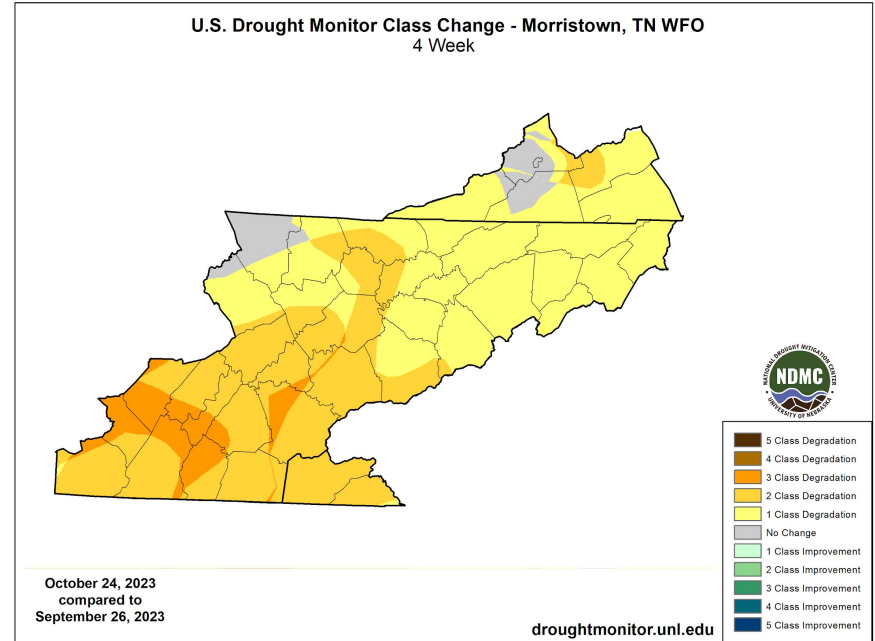


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid October 24th.

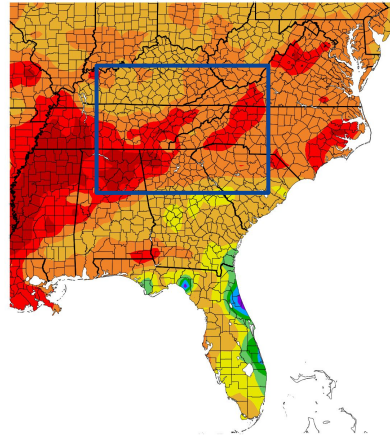




Precipitation

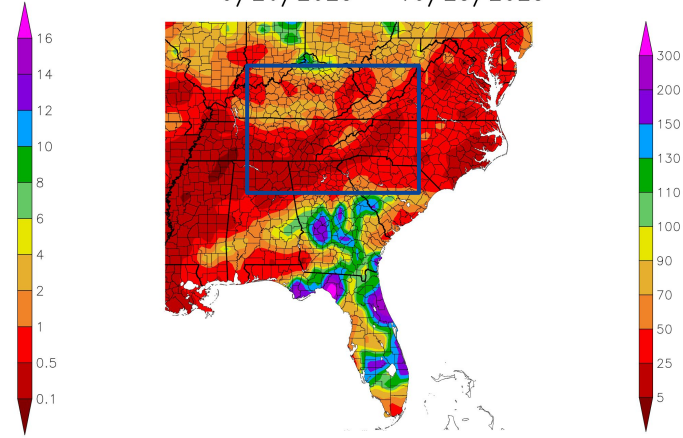
- Notably drier than normal conditions have been occurring across the region.

Precipitation (in)
9/26/2023 - 10/25/2023



Generated 10/26/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
9/26/2023 - 10/25/2023



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center

Image Captions:
 Left - Precipitation Amount
 Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
 Data over the past 30 days ending October 25, 2023

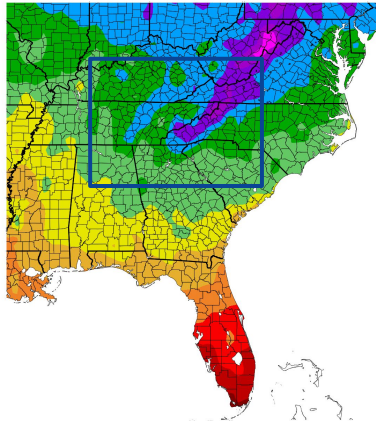




Temperature

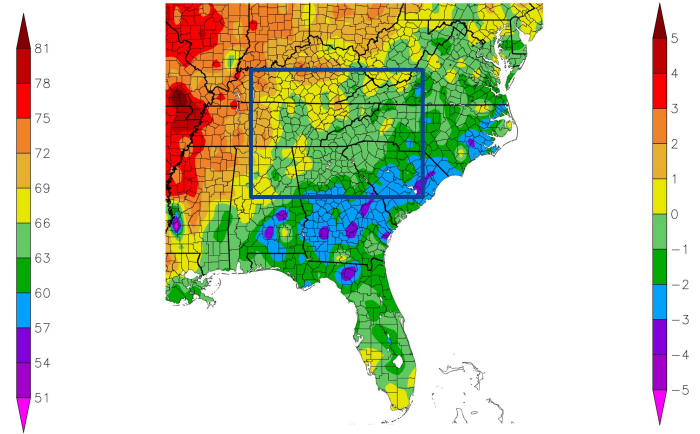
- Temperatures have been near to slightly below normal during the past 4 weeks.

Temperature (F)
9/26/2023 – 10/25/2023



Generated 10/26/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
9/26/2023 – 10/25/2023



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 October 25, 2023





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Stream flows have been low

Agricultural Impacts

- Dry weather has hampered small grain and fall hay seedings. Pasture conditions declined this week. Soil moisture is lower than normal.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Tennessee Forestry reported a small increase in small fires across the area.

Other Impacts

- Stay tuned for future updates as drought is likely to worsen in many areas.

Mitigation Actions

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

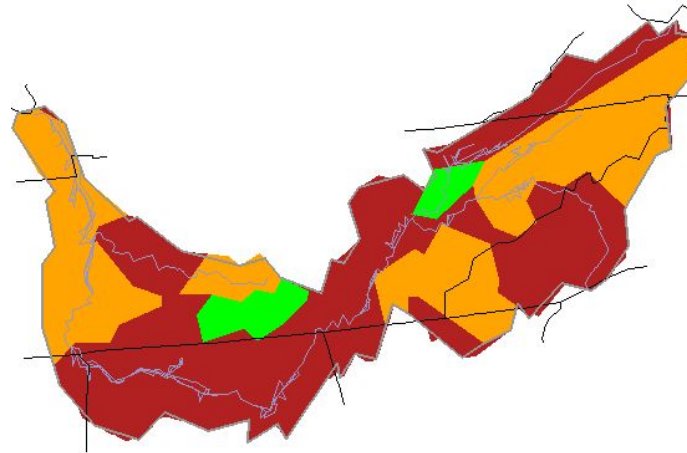




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflows have been below normal to much below normal for most areas.

Wednesday, October 25, 2023



GS

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 average streamflow HUC map valid 10/25/2023

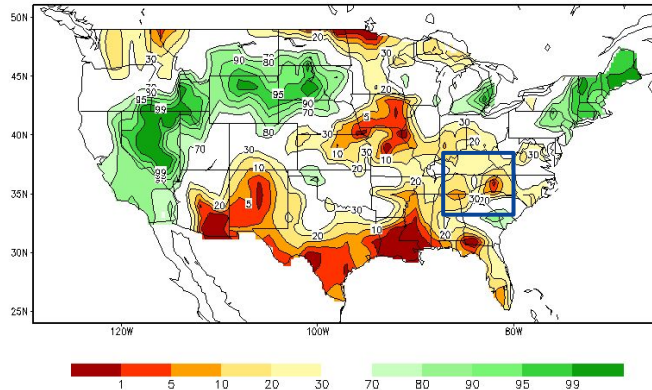




Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is drier than normal.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
OCT 25, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 21, 2023
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

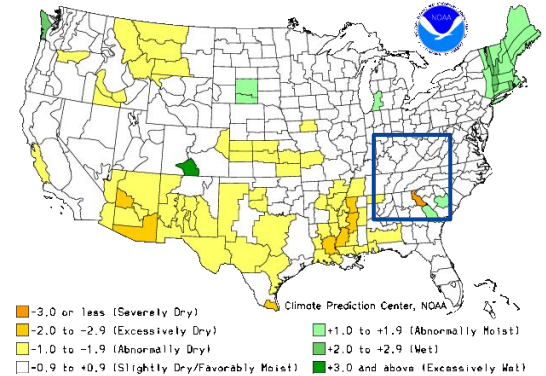


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid Oct 25, 2023

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending Oct 21, 2023





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Fire conditions are slowly deteriorating across the area.

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

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

Latest NC Burn Ban information available [here](#).

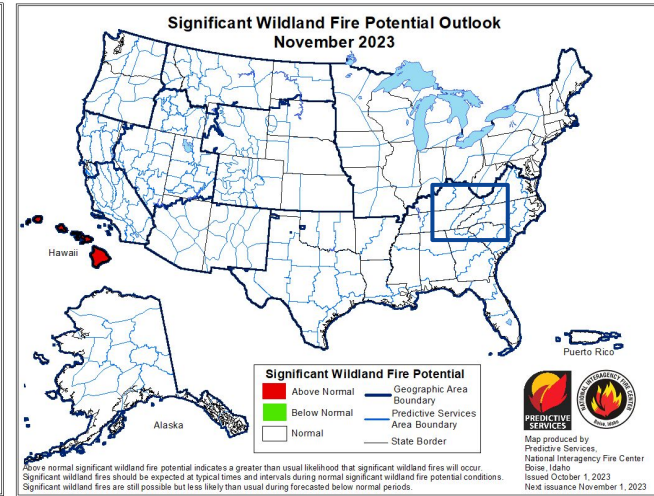
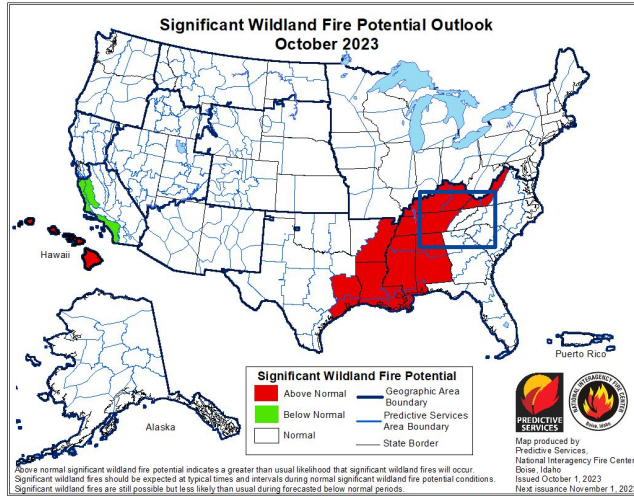


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire](#) for October and November 2023





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Some light precipitation is expected during the next 7 days – mainly on October 30 and November 1.
 - Overall amounts will be low with little impact on drought improvement.
 - Highest precipitation amounts will be across the northern Plateau, northeast Tennessee, southwest Virginia.

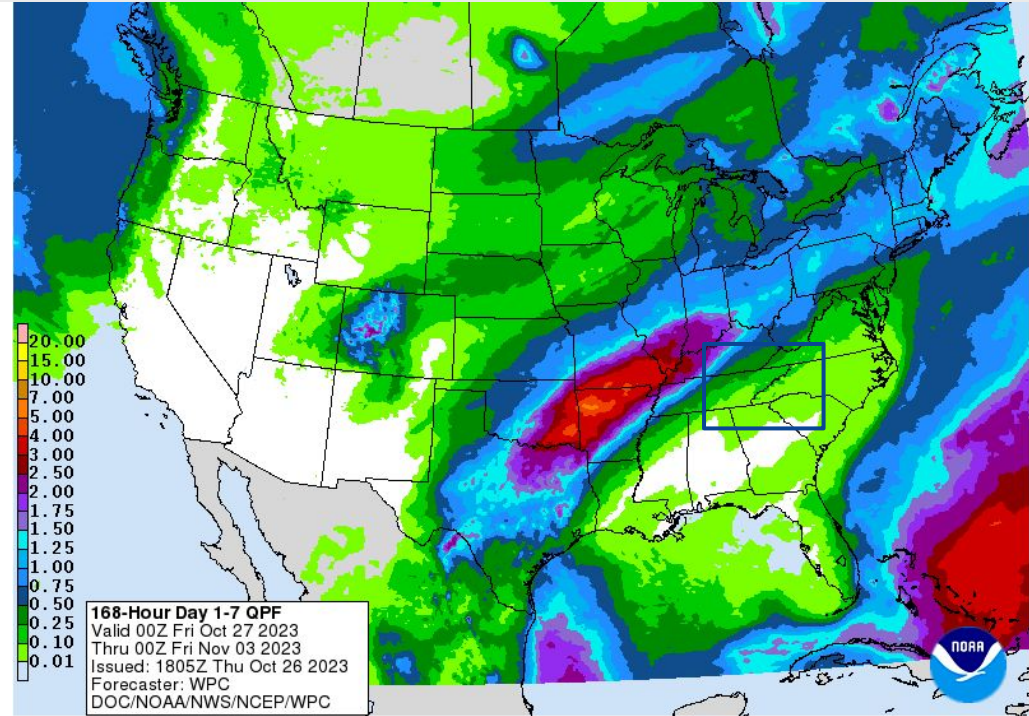


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid October 27 to November 3.





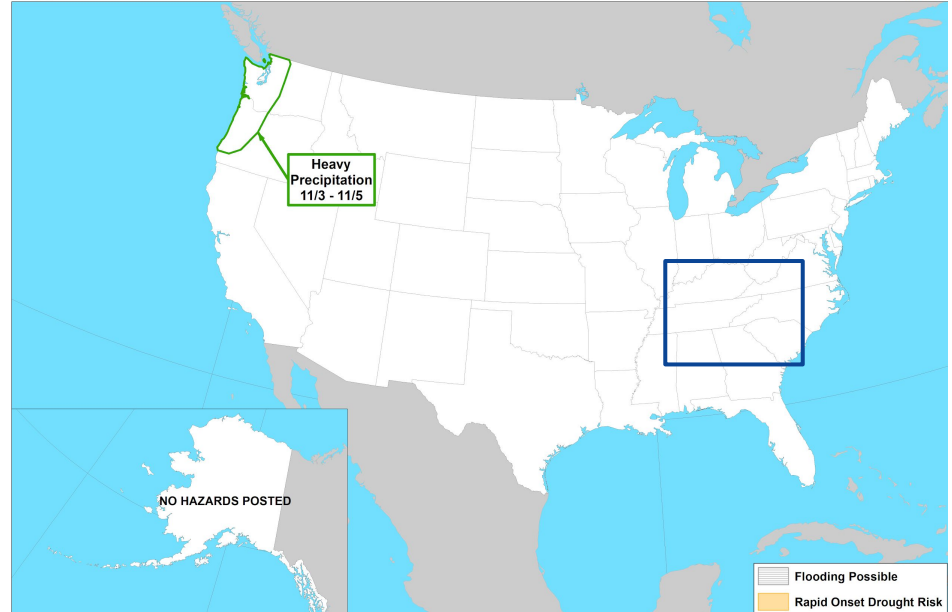
Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- No hazards posted.



Day 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook
Valid: 11/03/2023-11/09/2023



Climate Prediction Center
Made: 10/26/2023 3PM EDT

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www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov

Image Caption:

[Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook](#) Valid October 26th to November 1st





Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation are favored over the next month.

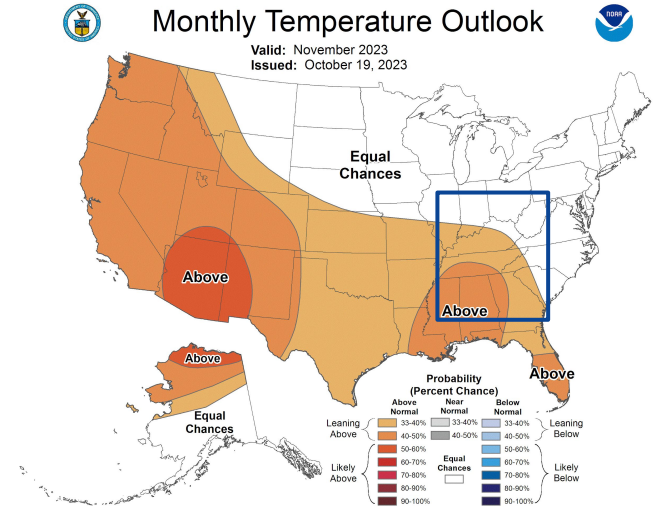
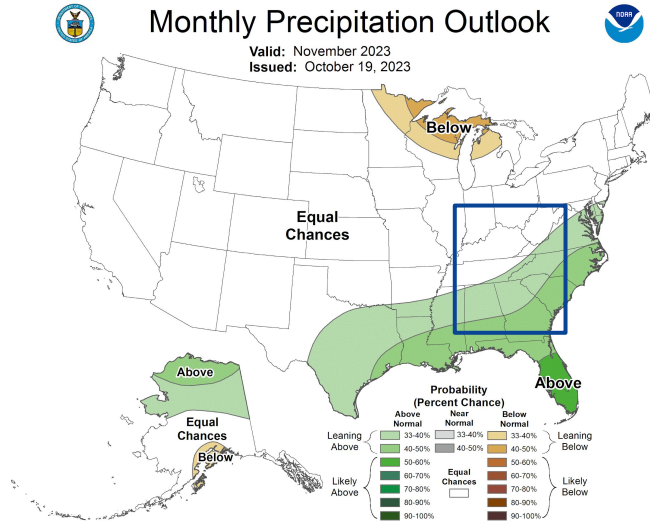


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#)

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#)

Valid November 2023





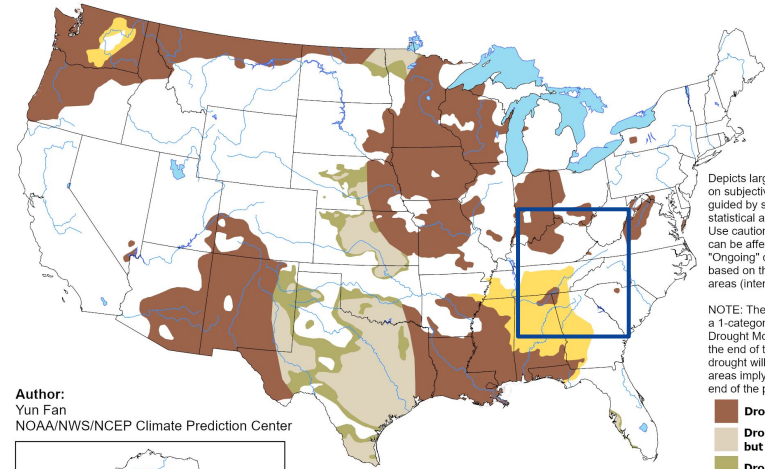
Drought Outlook

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

- Drought development is likely to continue this month.

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

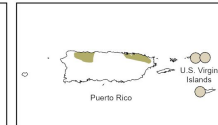
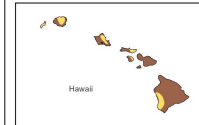
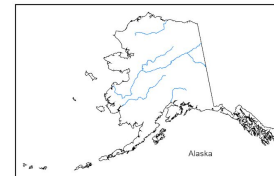
Valid for October 2023
Released September 30, 2023



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 September 30, 2023 valid for October 2023

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
Morristown, TN