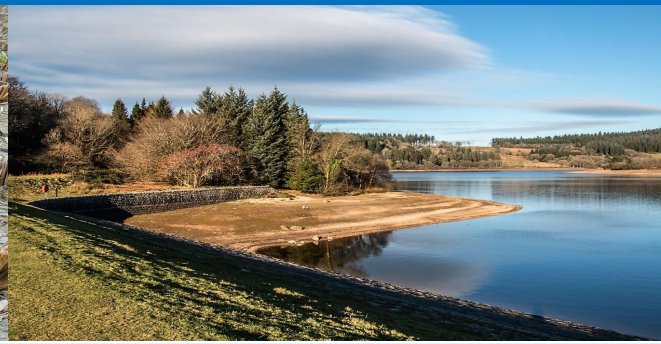
Drought Information Statement for North Louisiana, East Texas, Southwest Arkansas, and Extreme Southeast Oklahoma

Valid March 29th, 2024

Issued By: NWS Shreveport
Contact Information: sr-shv.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This is the final issuance of this product unless extreme drought conditions redevelop.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/shv/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.





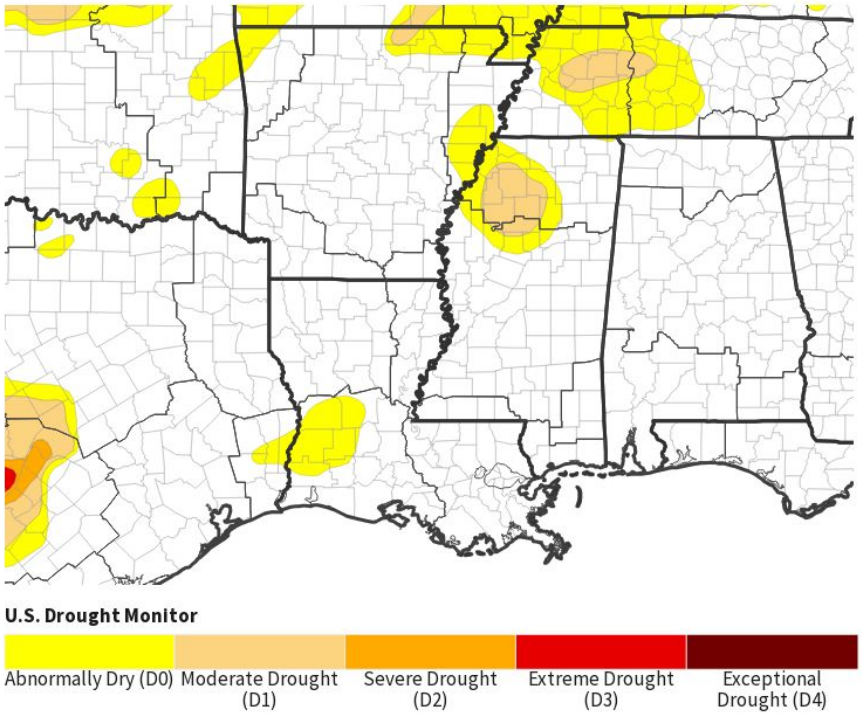
U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for Southeast OK, Southwest AR, East TX, and North LA

- An extended period of rainfall across all of the Four State Region through much of January and the first 11 days of February, as well as above normal rainfall that has fallen during March, has led to the removal of the Moderate Drought (D1) conditions across Central Louisiana, and the Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions across Southeast Oklahoma, adjacent Southwest Arkansas, and portions of Central Louisiana.

- No Drought or Abnormally Dry conditions exist across the Four State Region as of the end of March.

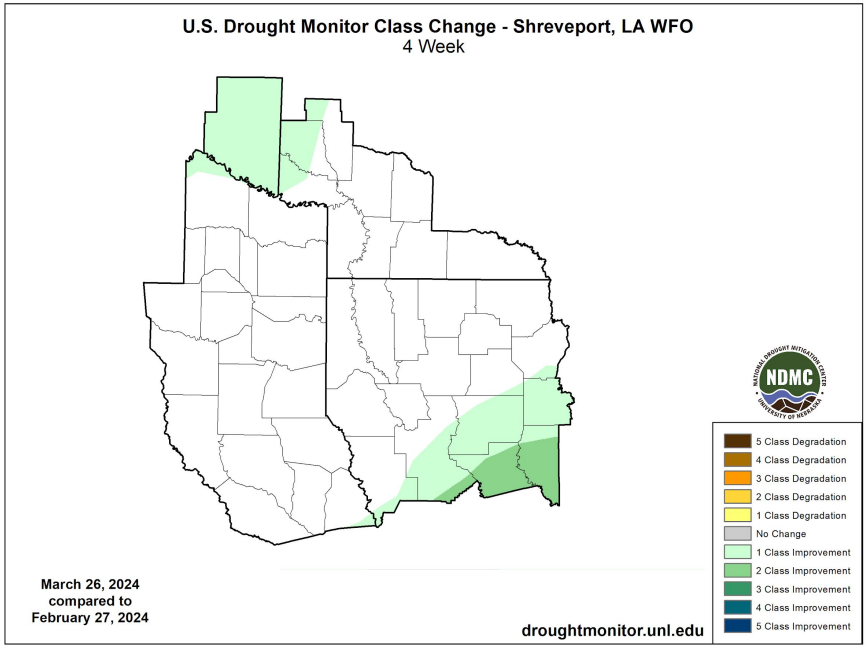
- Drought Intensity and Extent
  - None.



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4-week change map for Southeast OK, East TX, Southwest AR, and North LA

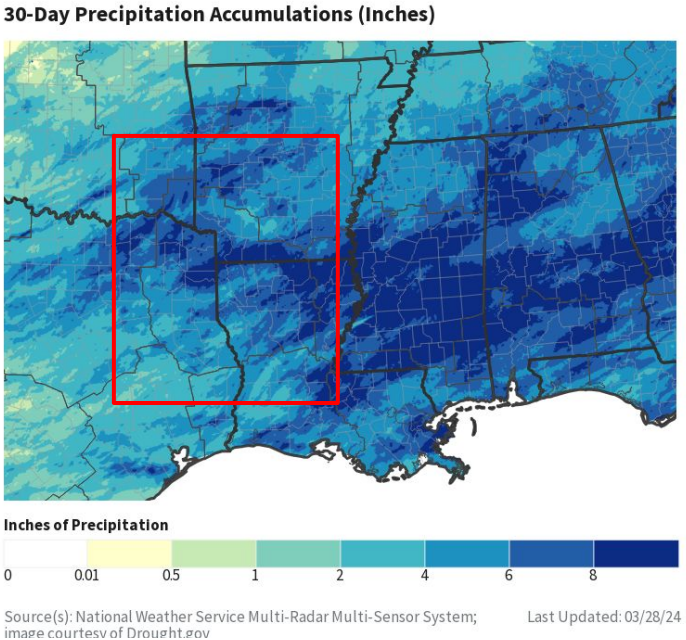
- 4 Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Above normal rainfall over the last month has led to a 1-2 category drought improvement across the southeast sections of Northcentral Louisiana, with a 1 category drought improvement observed across McCurtain County Oklahoma and adjacent sections of Southwest Arkansas.
  - Drought-free conditions remain across East Texas, much of North Louisiana, and Southwest Arkansas.



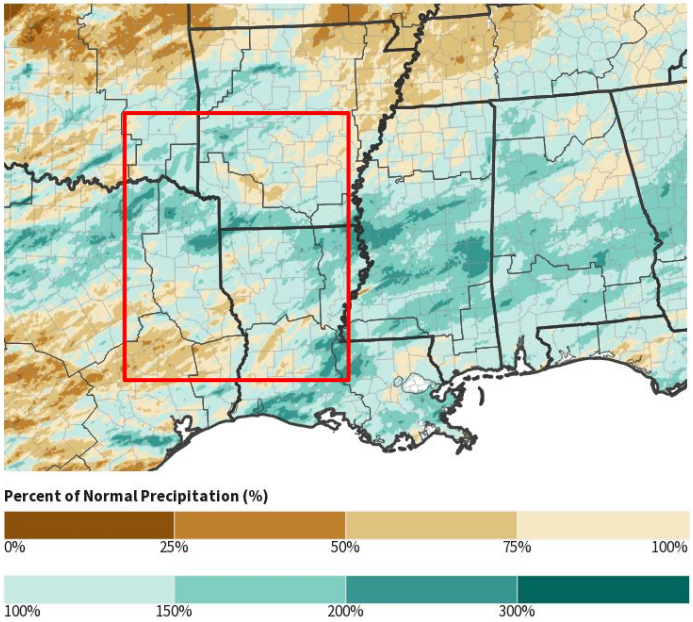
Precipitation

- Widespread rainfall amounts of 4-8+ inches fell areawide during March, with isolated higher amounts observed across portions of extreme Eastern Texas, Southern Arkansas, and Northeast Louisiana. These higher totals were some 1.5-2 times above the monthly norm.

30 Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



30 Day Percent of Normal Precipitation

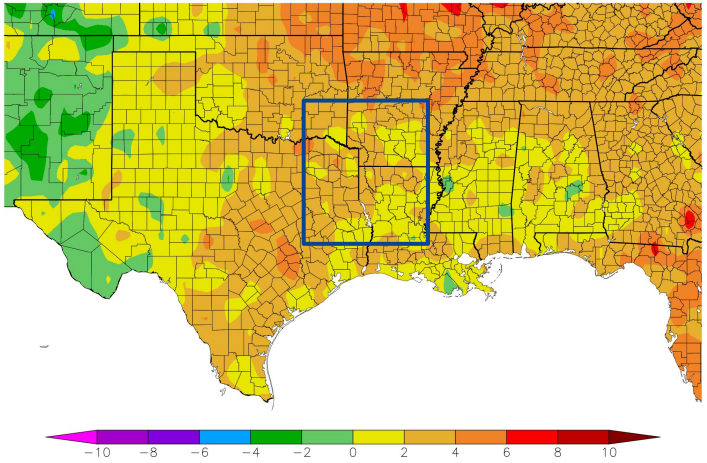


Temperature

Imagery from the High Plains Regional Climate Center

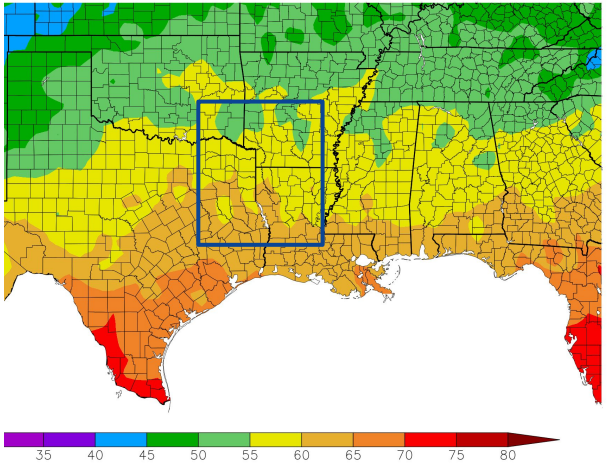
- Despite the above normal rainfall observed during March, above normal temperatures were also recorded, with average temperatures some 2.5-5.0+ degrees above normal areawide.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
3/1/2024 – 3/28/2024



Generated 3/29/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Temperature (F)
3/1/2024 – 3/28/2024



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 24 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Given the above normal rainfall observed during March, near to above normal streamflow continues across much of the area.

Agricultural Impacts

- Area pastures have greened up with the onset of these warmer temperatures throughout March. Supplemental feeding of cattle has lessened across the region with the greenup, with stock ponds across East Texas and North Louisiana having been completely recharged in wake of the wet winter. 10-40 cm and 40-100 cm soil moisture remain near or above normal areawide.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- The recent heavy rainfall has helped reduce the extent of fuel dryness across the region. Thus, a low fire danger exists across much of the area.

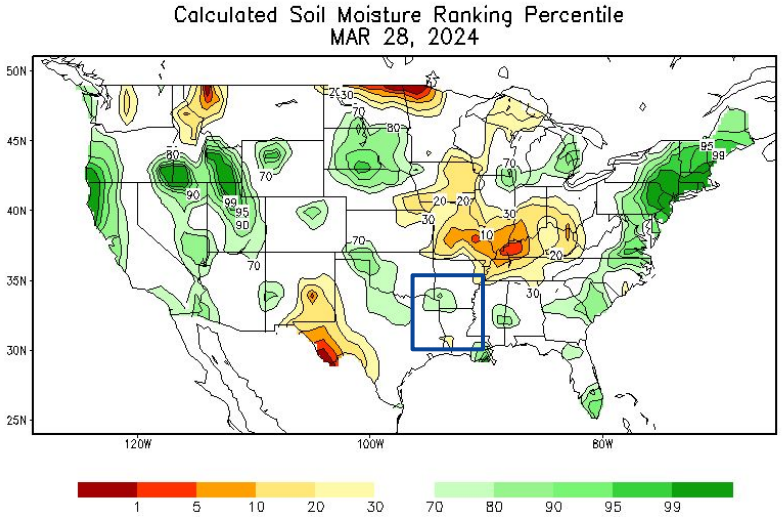
Mitigation Actions

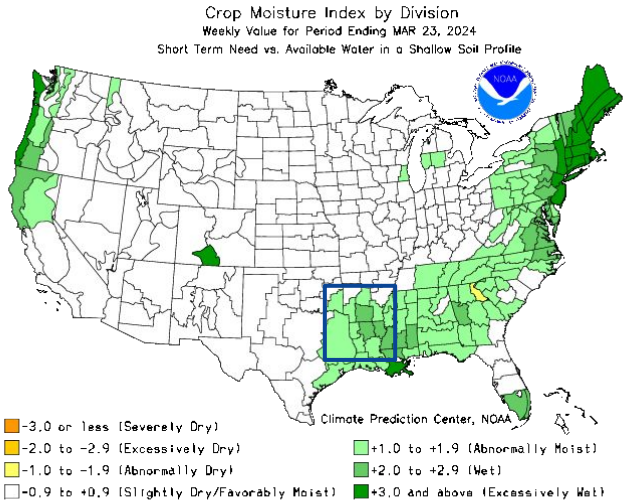
- None. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

Agricultural Impacts

Left Image: Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile for Mar. 28th from CPC; Right Image: Crop Moisture Index Ending Mar. 23rd from CPC.

- Soil moisture has returned to near or above normal over the enter Four State Region.





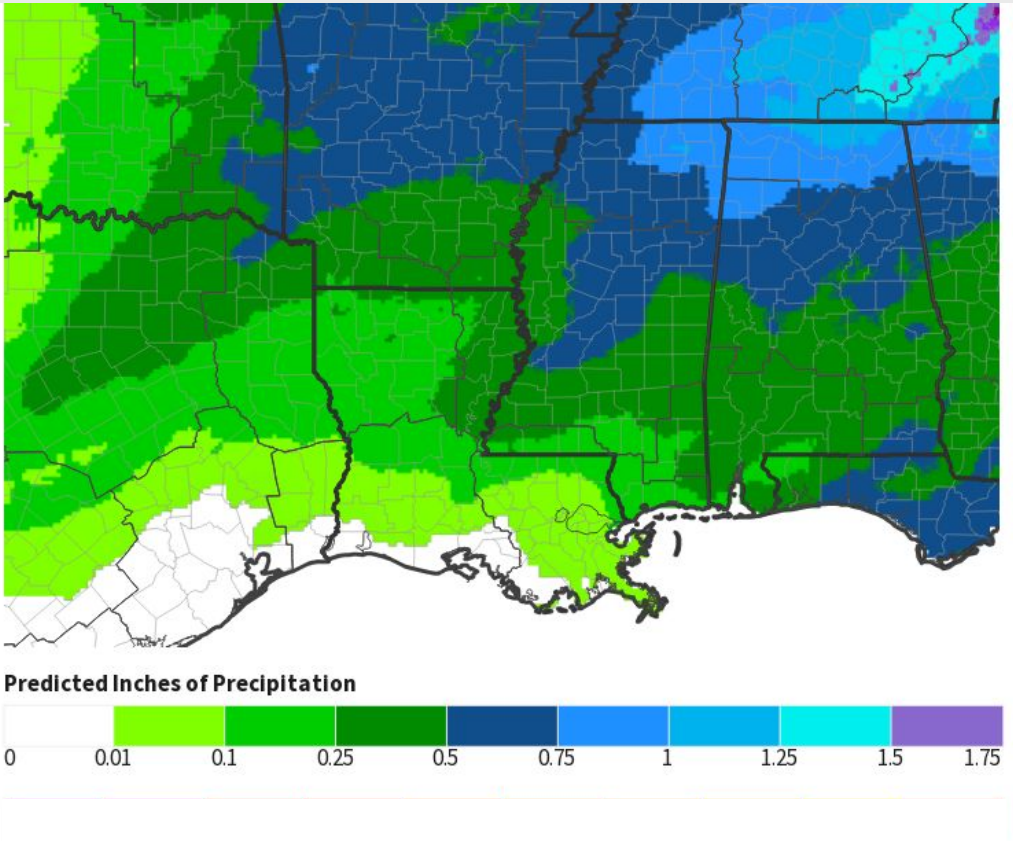
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

Imagery Below: Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast Valid Friday, March 29th to Friday, April 5th

- Scattered showers and thunderstorms are expected to spread into Northeast Texas, extreme Southeast Oklahoma, and Southwest Arkansas Monday evening, before sliding across the remainder of the region Monday night through Tuesday morning (April 1st-2nd) . The rains will diminish by Tuesday afternoon, as a cold front reinforces cooler and drier air back into the region for mid and late week.

- Rainfall amounts of 0.25-0.50 inches, with isolated higher amounts are possible Monday through Monday night (April 1st) across Northeast Texas, extreme Southeast Oklahoma, and Southwest Arkansas, with lower amounts of 0.10-0.25+ inches across the remainder of East Texas and much of North Louisiana.

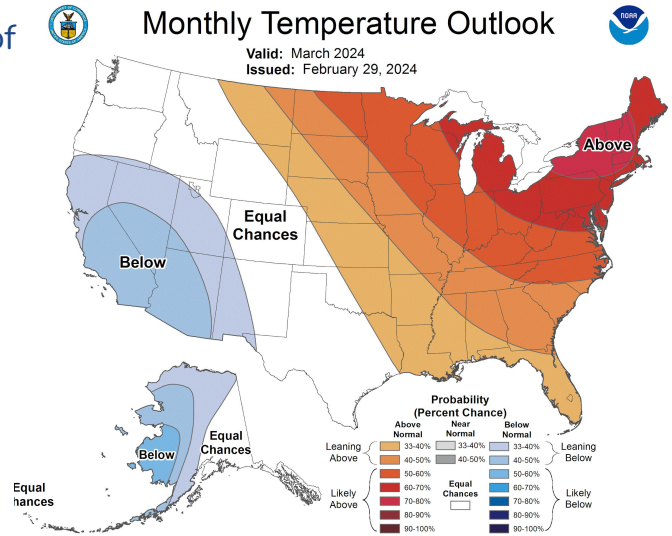
- Drought conditions are not expected to redevelop in the immediate future.

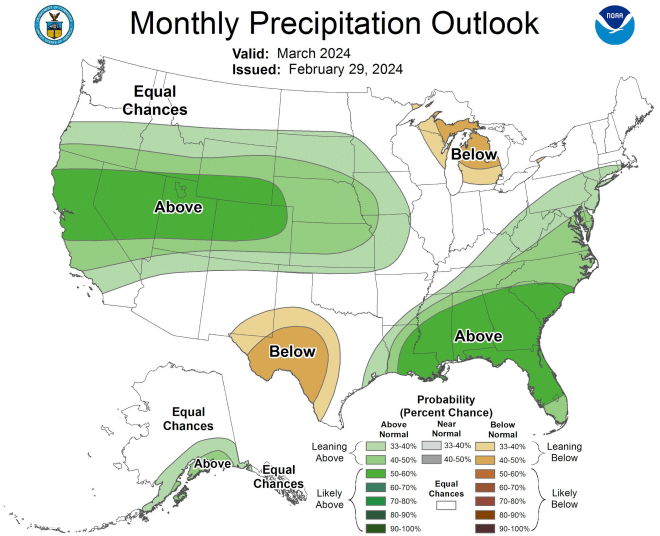


Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- Above normal probabilities exist for above normal temperatures continuing areawide through the end of March.
- March will end with near to above normal rainfall areawide.

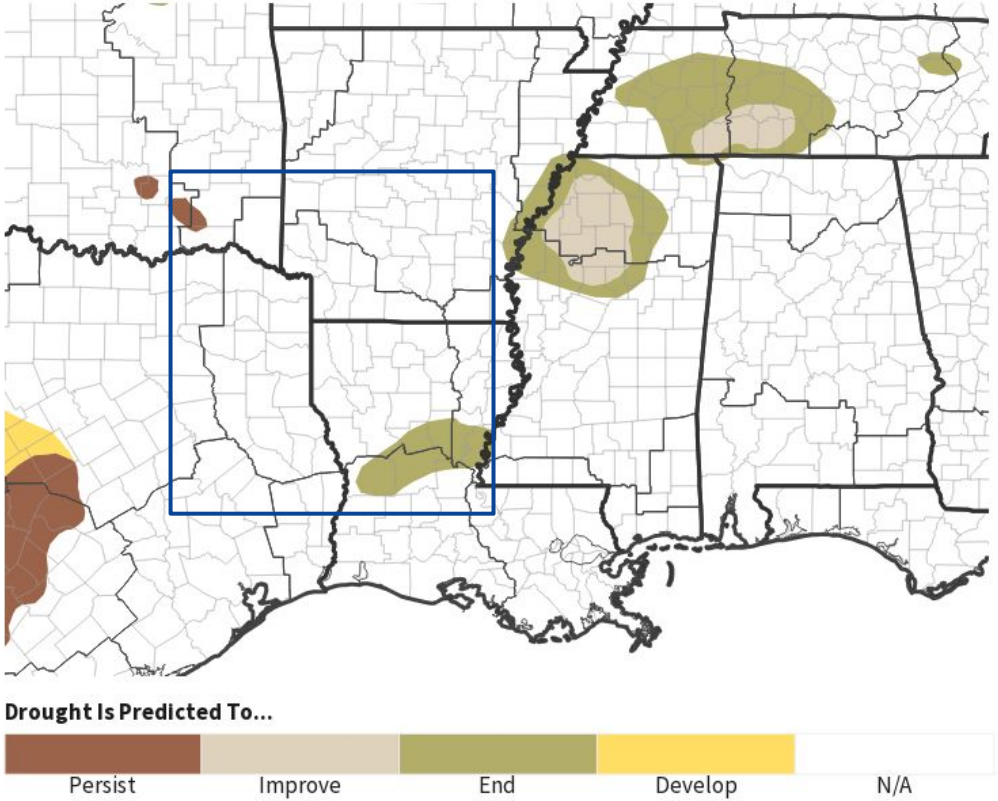




Drought Outlook

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released February 29, 2024 - Valid through March 2024

- Drought conditions have improved/ended across Central Louisiana.
- Since the return of drought conditions are not expected in the immediate future, this will be the final Drought Information Statement issued until extreme (D3) drought conditions redevelop across the area.



Links to the latest:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook