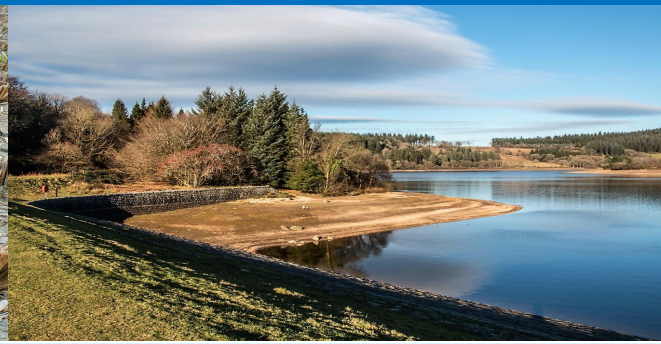
Drought Information Statement for West-Central Texas

Valid September, 28, 2023

Issued By: WFO San Angelo, TX

Contact Information: nws.sanangelo@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated October, 13, 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/SJT/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.



U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for West-Central Texas

- DROUGHT CONDITIONS HEADLINE/KEY MESSAGE
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D4 (Exceptional Drought): Southeast San Saba County
  - D3 (Extreme Drought): Much of the Northwest Hill Country, southeastern Heartland, and portions of eastern Northern Edwards Plateau
  - D2 (Severe Drought): Rest of the Heartland, Northwest Hill Country, and much of the Northern Edwards Plateau
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): Most of the rest of West Central Texas
  - D0: (Abnormally Dry): Portions of Concho Valley and the northern Big Country

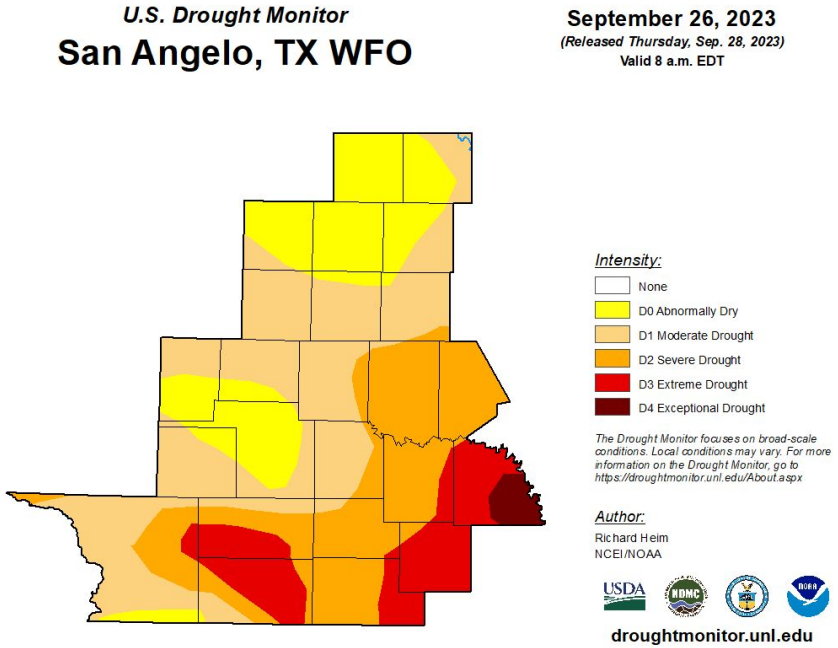


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am CDT September 26th.

Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4-week change map for West-Central Texas

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: Parts of Sutton and Schleicher counties and small parts of the eastern Big Country
  - No Change: Most of the Big Country, and small parts of the rest of West Central Texas
  - Drought Improved: Most of the region south of I-20

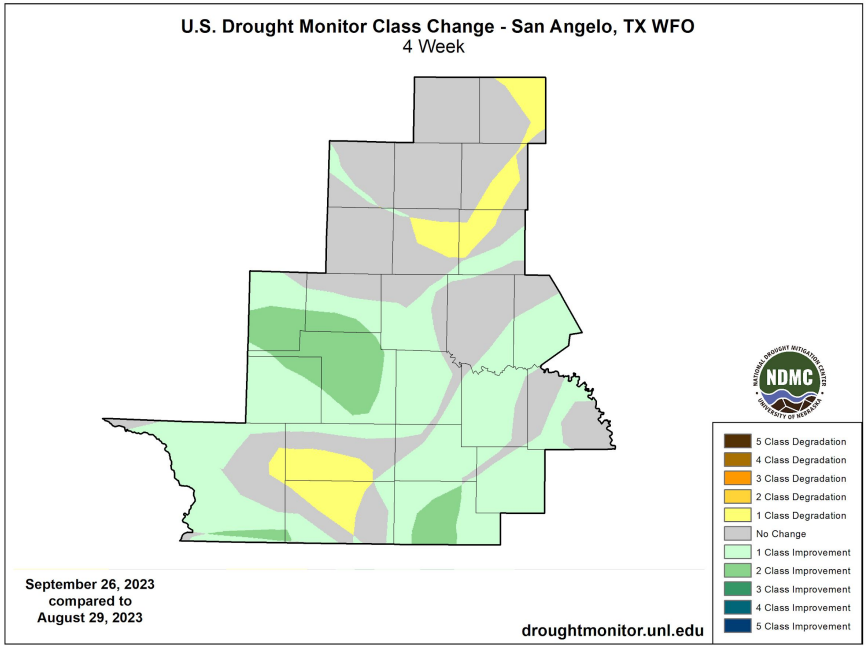
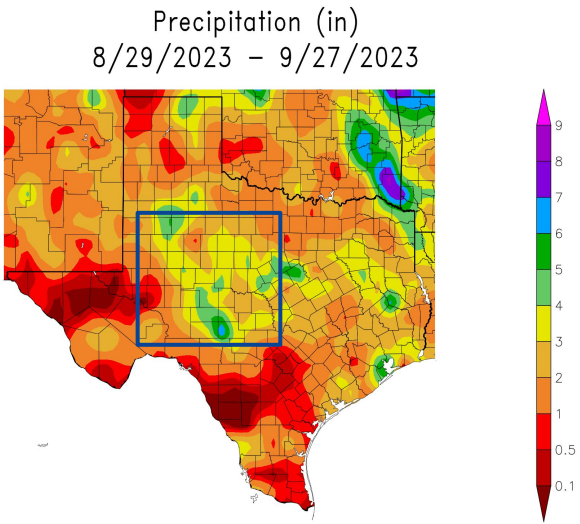


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8am CDT September 26th.

Precipitation

- Most of the region received above normal rainfall over the past month, with the exception being western Crockett County, southern Heartland, and parts of the Big Country where drier than normal conditions occurred.



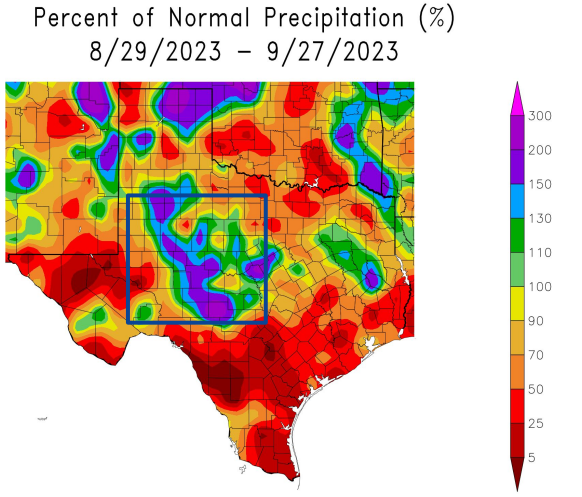
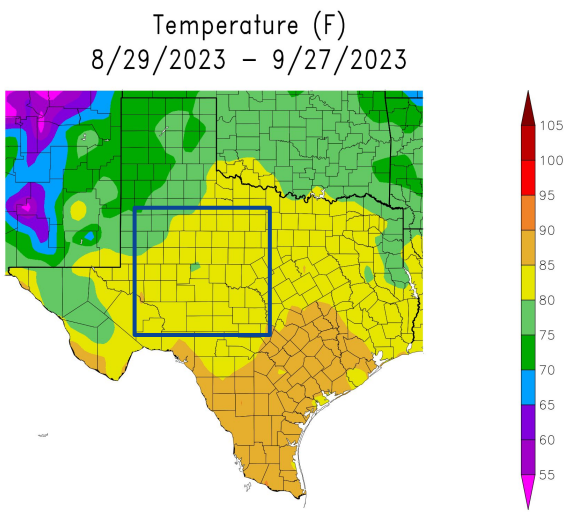


Image Captions:
Left - Precipitation Amount for Texas
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Texas
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending September, 27, 2023

Temperature

- All of the region was 2 to 6 degrees warmer than normal over the past month



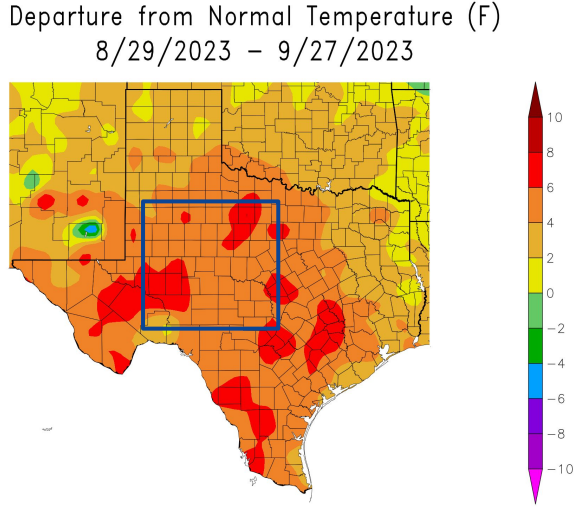


Image Captions:
Left - Average Temperature
Right - Departure from Normal Temperature
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending September, 27, 2023

Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Despite beneficial rainfall over most of the region, little to no improvement in reservoirs occurred.

Agricultural Impacts

- Normal to slightly below normal soil moisture occurred, with no change in crop moisture.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire Weather conditions have improved due to beneficial rainfall.

Other Impacts

- None reported.

Mitigation Actions

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

Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Despite beneficial rainfall over most of the region, little to no improvement in reservoirs occurred.
- Streamflows were near to below normal across most of the area.

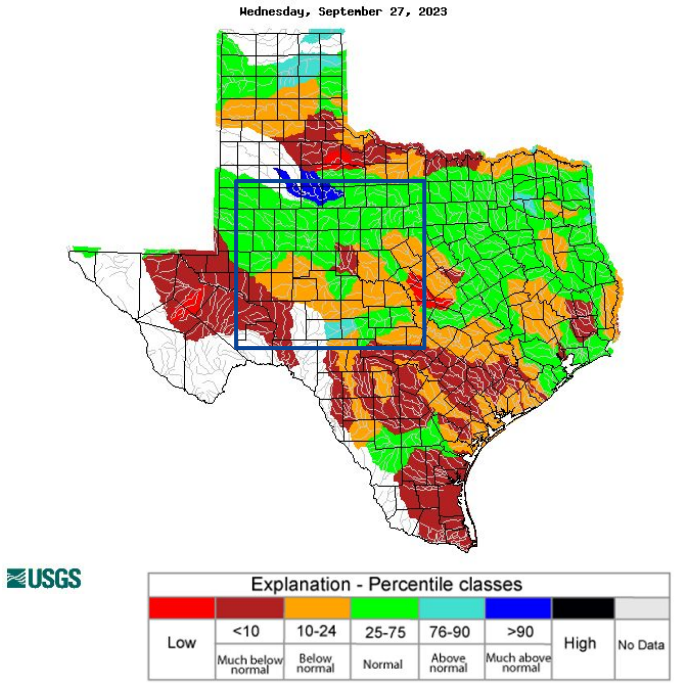
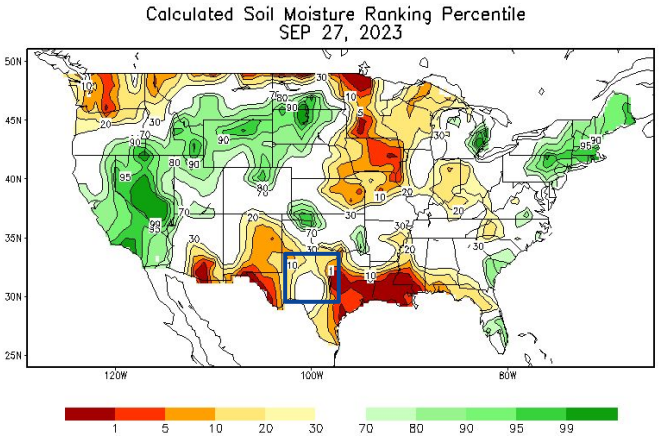


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 09 27 2023

Agricultural Impacts

- Normal to slightly below normal soil moisture occurred, with no change in crop moisture.



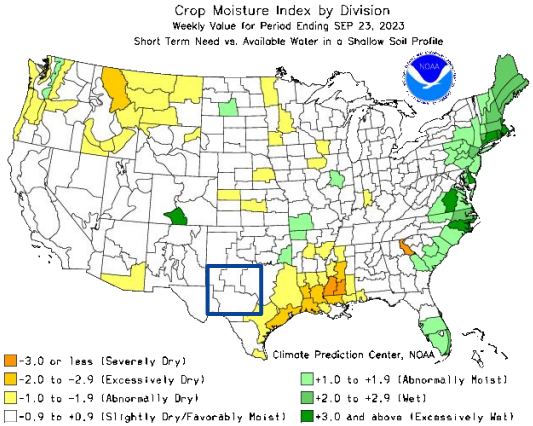


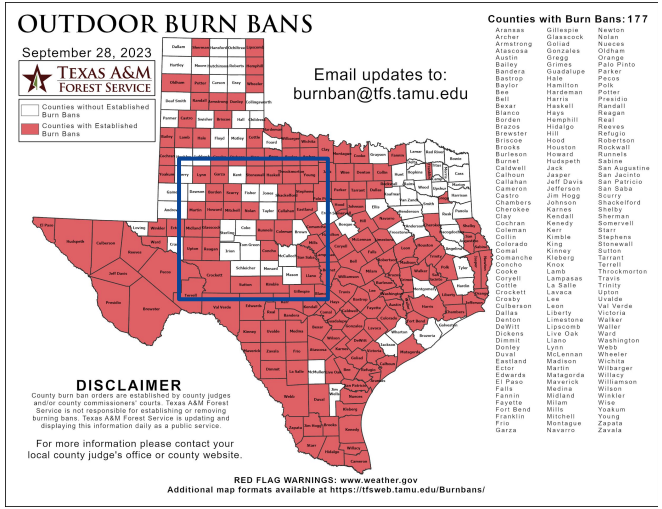
Image Captions:
Left: CPC Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile valid September 27, 2023
Right: Crop Moisture Index by Division. Weekly value for period ending September 23, 2023

Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Fire Weather conditions have improved due to beneficial rainfall.

Latest TX Burn Ban map available [here.]



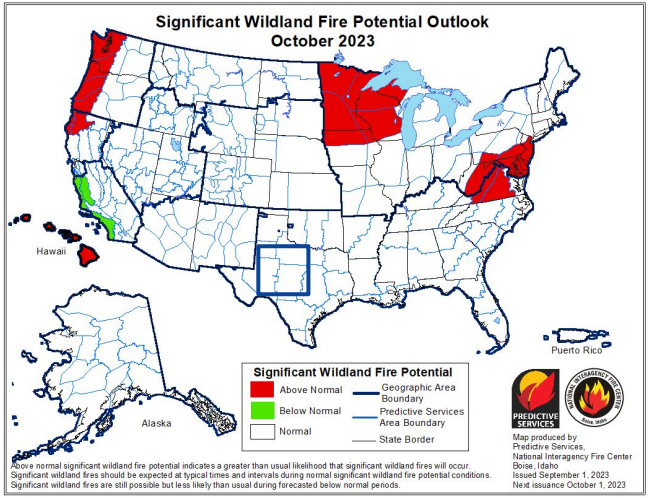


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook] for October 2023

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Over the next 7 days, 0.50 to 1.50 inches of rainfall is possible across West Central Texas

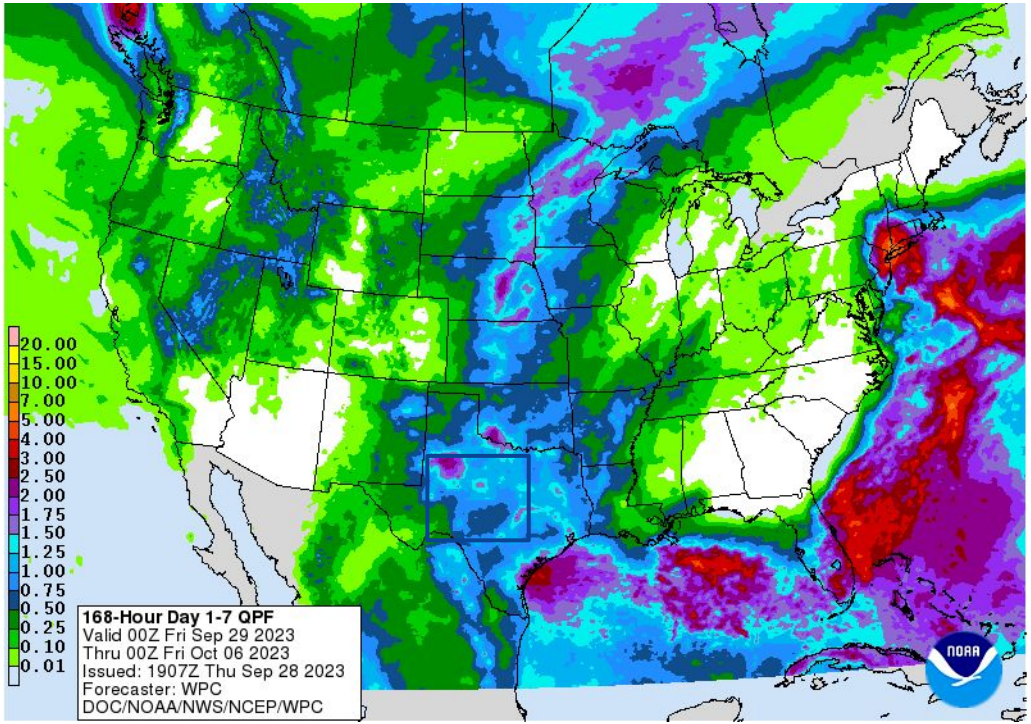
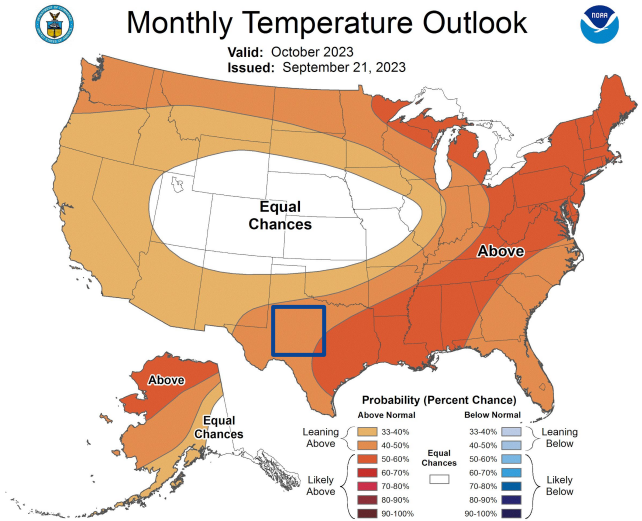


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid Thursday September 28 to Thursday October 6

Long-Range Outlooks

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

- There are better chances of above normal temperatures and above normal rainfall for the month of October.



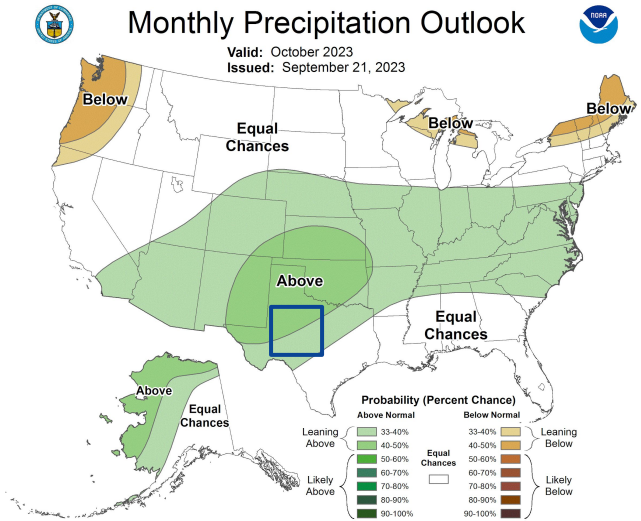
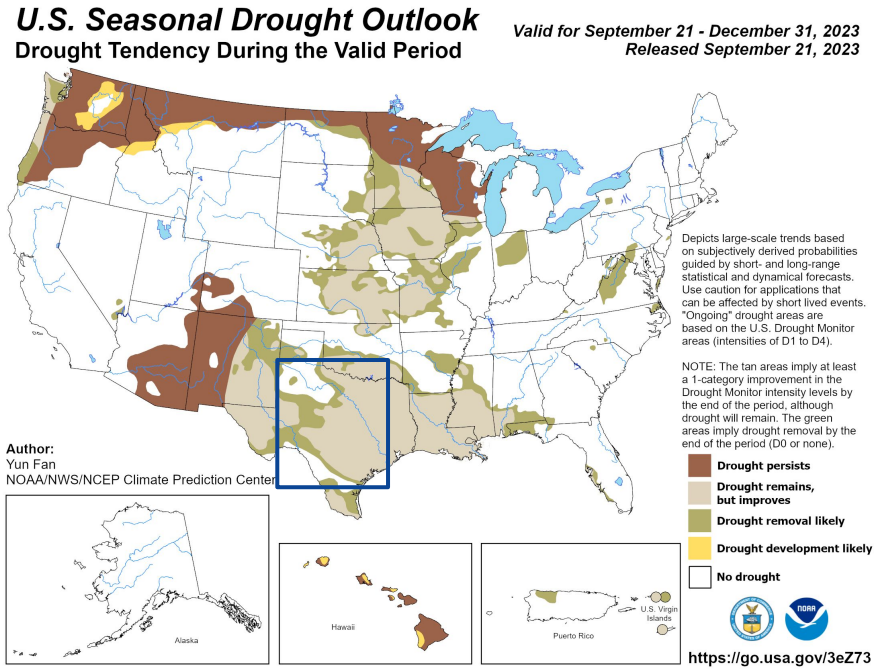


Image Captions:
Left - Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook.
Right - Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook.
Valid 10 2023

Drought Outlook

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

- Drought is expected to remain but improve for most of the region, with drought removal likely for portions of West Central Texas.



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

Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released 09 21, 2023 valid for September 21 2023 to December 31 2023