Drought Information Statement for South Central Texas

Valid October 3, 2024

Issued By: NWS Austin/San Antonio

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

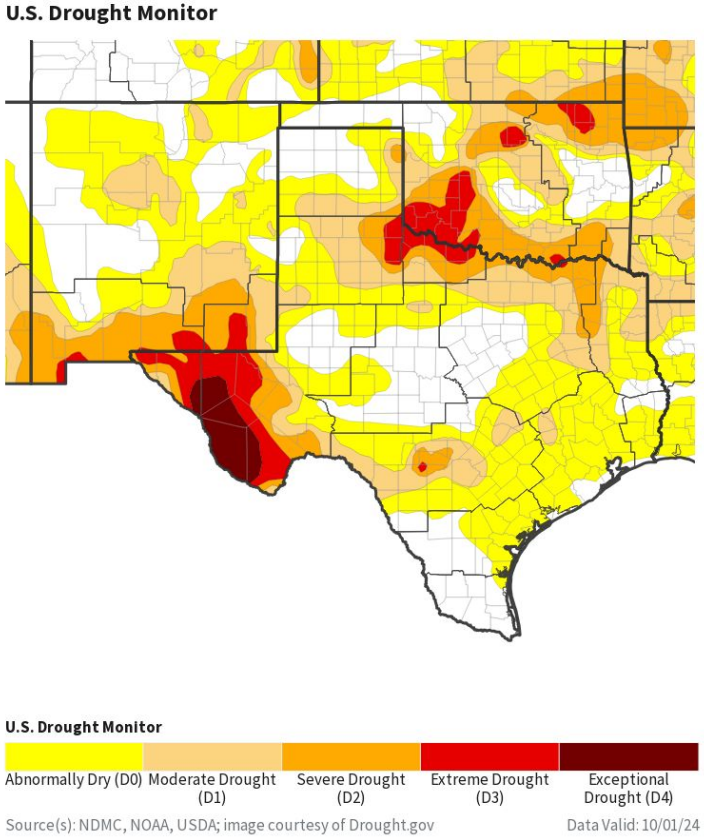
- This product will be updated November 7, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/ewx/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.
- Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/ for regional drought status updates.

- Some much needed rain occurred over the western part of the service area to provide improvement of drought conditions.
- Reservoir levels across the service area saw some improvement while overall water storage remains low.
- Monthly outlook for October leans towards drought worsening and developing over eastern zones.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for south central Texas

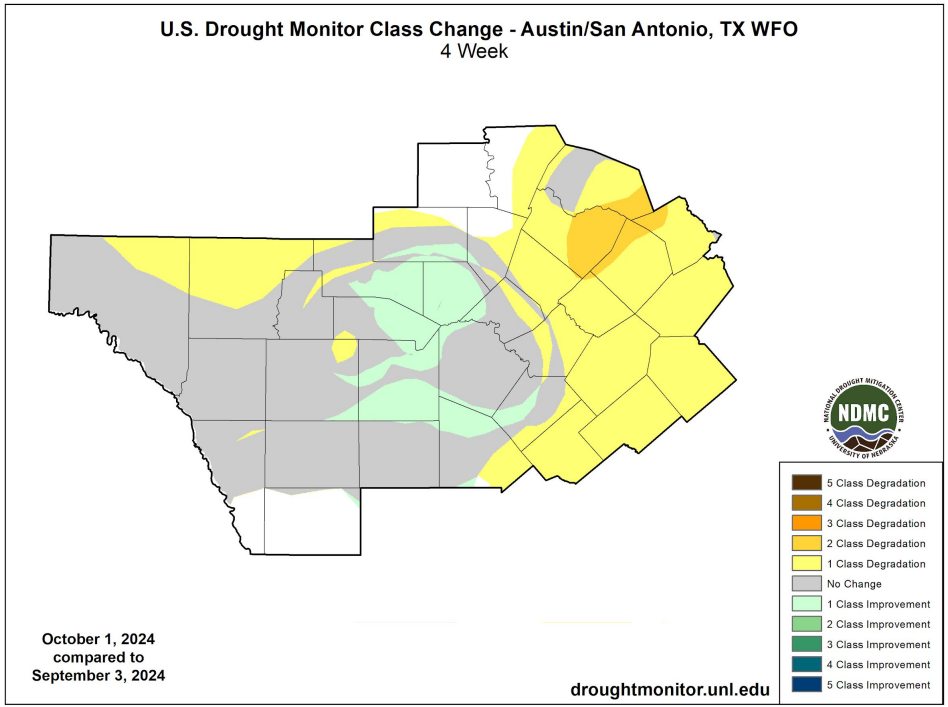
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought):** Covers portions of the Edwards Plateau
    - Percent of Area: 0.33%
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):** Extends across the portions of the Hill Country
    - Percent of Area: 4.42%
  - **No Drought or D0 (Abnormally Dry)**: Encompasses the Coastal Plains, and portions of the Hill Country, Southern Edwards Plateau, I-35 corridor, and Rio Grande Plains
    - Percent of Area: 66.34%



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4-week change map for south central Texas

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: primarily over eastern Travis, Williamson and Coastal Plains
  - No Change: portions of the I-35 corridor, Hill Country, and southern Edwards Plateau, and Rio Grande Plains
  - Drought Improved: Much of the Rio Grande plains, and southern Edwards Plateau saw improvement over the last 30 days.

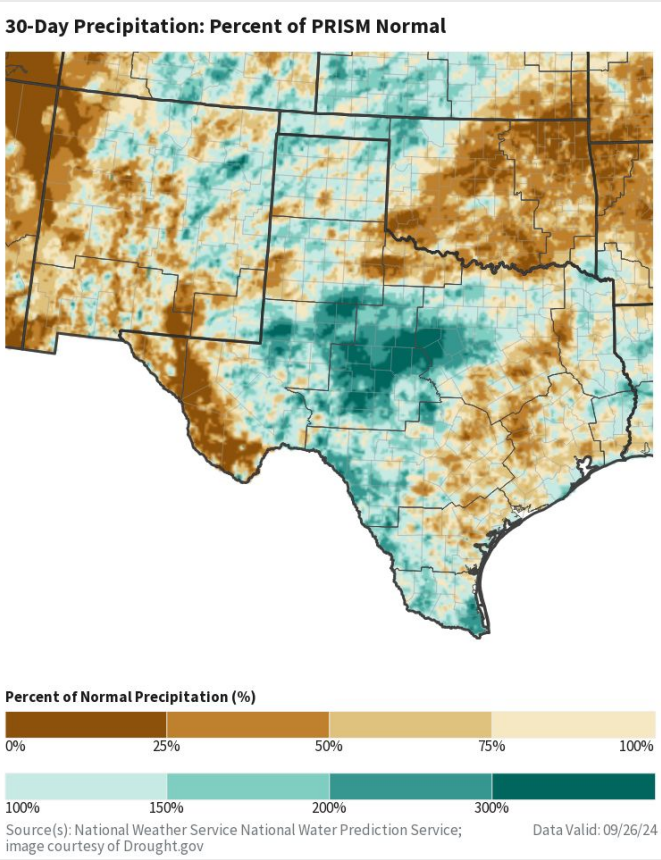


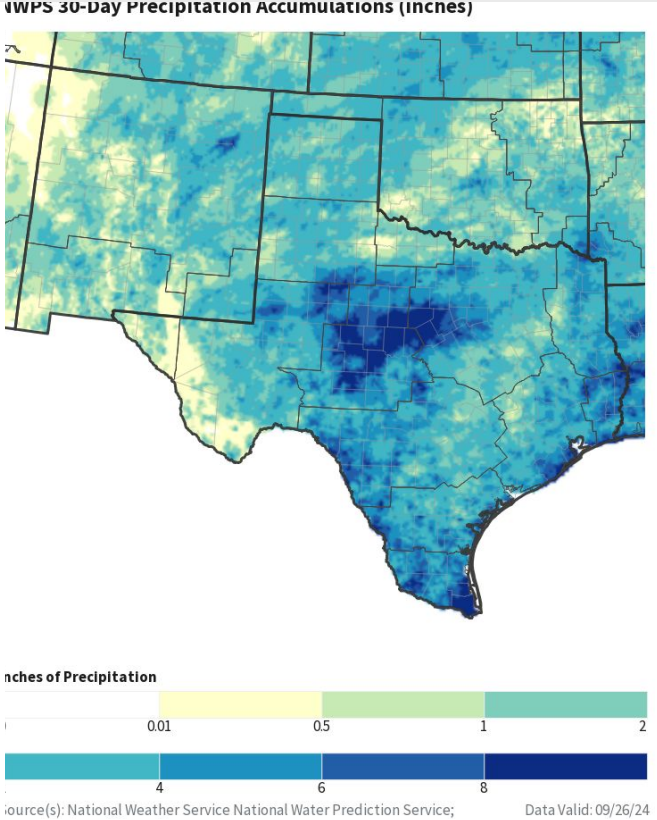
Precipitation

Links to the latest Precipitation Accumulation and Percent of Normal over the past 30 days

The service area divided into roughly three zones of rainfall for the past 30 days.

- Well below normal rainfall was seen over portions of the I-35 corridor and Coastal Plains, with decent swaths of less than 25% of normal
- Portions of the Hill Country, I-35 corridor, and Coastal Plains saw slightly below to near normal rainfall
- An early September deluge brought portions of the Rio Grande Plains, southern Edwards Plateau into near to well above normal percentages





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- The majority of watersheds across the service area fall within either the normal to below normal percentile classification despite early September rains. (USGS)
- The Frio River, and portions of the Guadalupe River and lower Colorado river basins remain in the below to much below percentile classifications.(USGS)
- See next page for more details

Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest Crop & Weather Report from Texas A&M Agrilife
- Soil moistures across the service area are shown in the normal to below normal range.
  (NWS Climate Prediction Center)

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Normal to above normal wildland fire activity is forecast through the month of October (National Interagency Coordination Center)
- See Fire Hazard page for more details

Drought Mitigation Actions

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

- Select Municipality Restrictions (as of 10/3/2024)
  - City of Uvalde: Stage 4
  - City of Fredericksburg: Stage 5
  - City of Kerrville: Stage 3
  - City of San Antonio: Stage 3
  - City of Universal City: Stage 3
  - City of Georgetown: Stage 2
  - City of New Braunfels: Stage 2
  - City of Austin: Stage 2
  - City of Del Rio: Stage 2
  - City of Llano: Stage 4

Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- The majority of watersheds across the service area fall within either the normal to below normal percentile classification despite beneficial rainfall early this month.
- However, the Frio River, and portions of the Guadalupe River and lower Colorado river basins remain in the below to much below percentile classifications.

Additional data:

Edwards Aquifer, Bexar Index Well J-17 as of October 3, 2024:

10 day average: 629.3

Historical Monthly Average: 662.8

Departure from Average: -34.2

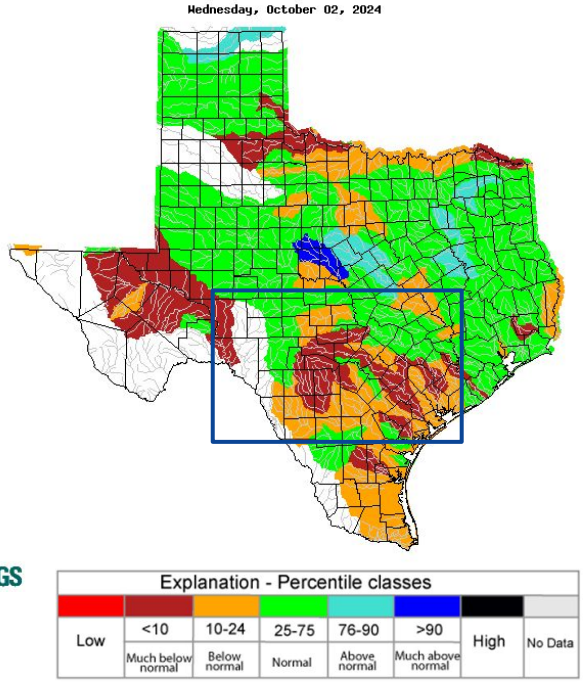


Figure Caption: USGS 7 day streamflows for Texas, valid October 3, 2024

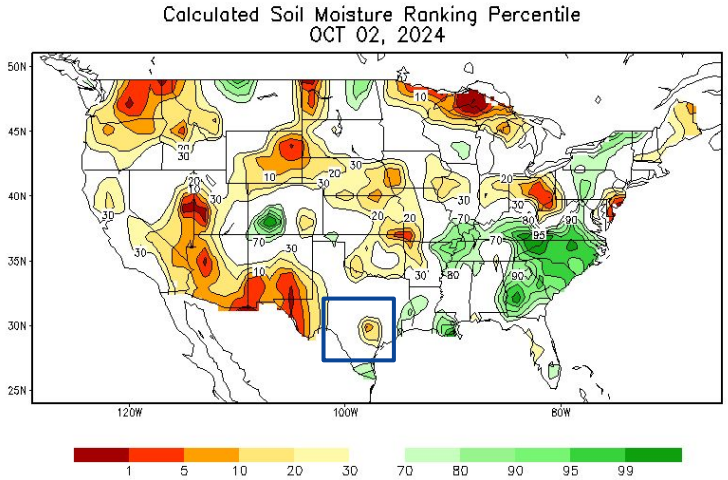
Reservoir	Pool Elevation	Current Elevation	Percent Full
Amistad	1117.00 feet	1051.43 feet	27.0%
Medina Lake	1064.2 feet	973.67 feet	3.0%
Canyon Lake	909.00 feet	883.77 feet	54.5%
Granger Lake	504.00 feet	503.83 feet	98.7%
Georgetown Lake	791.00 feet	781.36 feet	70.2%
Lake Buchanan	1020.00 feet	1005.49 feet	69.1%
Lake LBJ	825.00 feet	824.76 feet	98.7%
Lake Marble Falls	738.00 feet	737.00 feet	94.5%
Lake Travis	681.00 feet	640.22 feet	46.2%
Lake Austin	492.9 feet	492.80 feet	95.3%

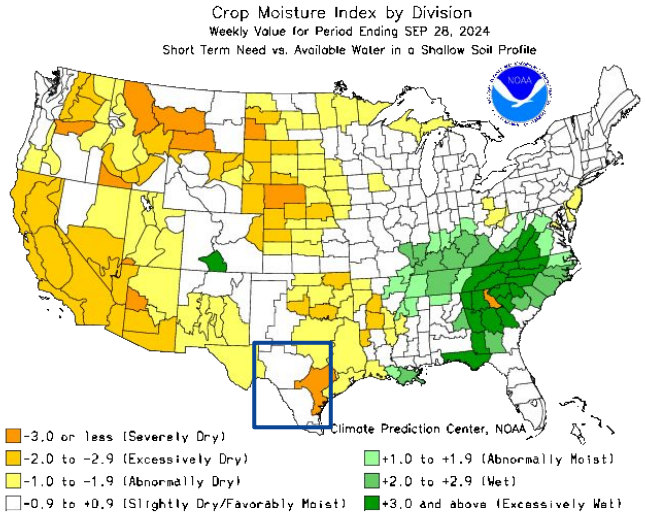
Table caption: TWDB Reservoir conditions as of October 3, 2024

Agricultural Impacts

Links to the latest Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile and Crop Moisture Index by Division.

- Soil moistures across the service area are shown in the normal to slightly below normal range
- Crop moisture index values show severely dry conditions across our eastern climate zone within our service area

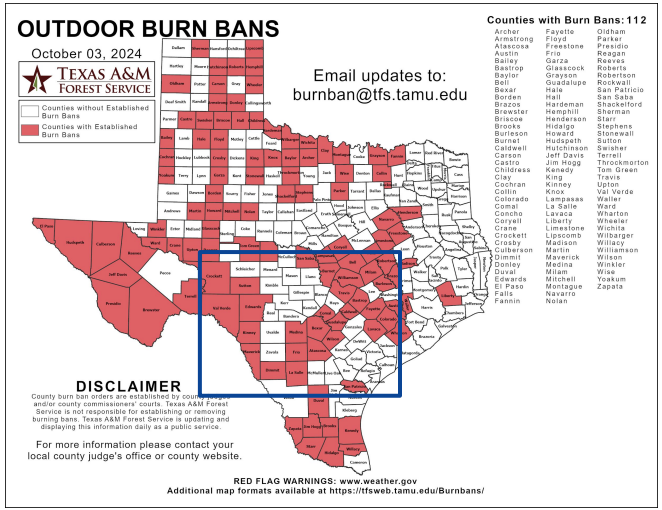


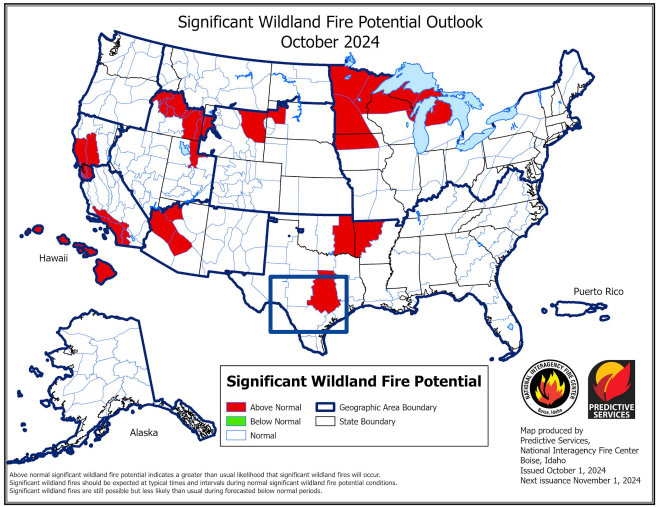


Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- [Keetch Byram Drought Index values] of 200 to 500 range across the southern Edwards Plateau, Rio Grande Plains, and portions of the Hill Country
- Values range between 600 and 800 across the I-35 corridor and Coastal Plains
- Above Normal wildland fire activity is forecast through the month of October for northern areas.





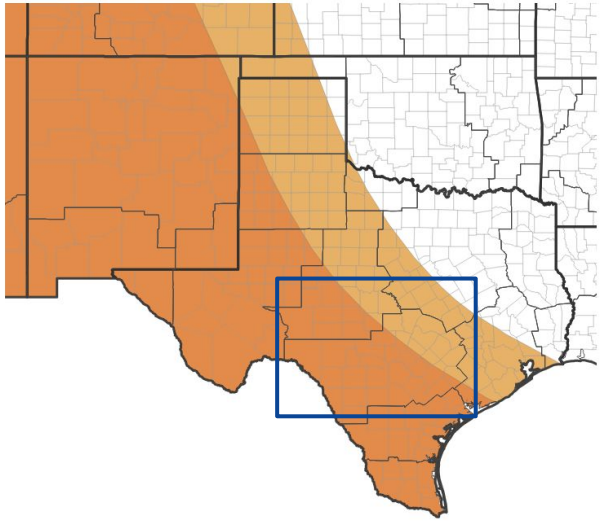
Burn bans remain for 19 of our 33 counties as of October 3, 2024. Latest County Burn Ban map available here.

Long-Range Outlooks

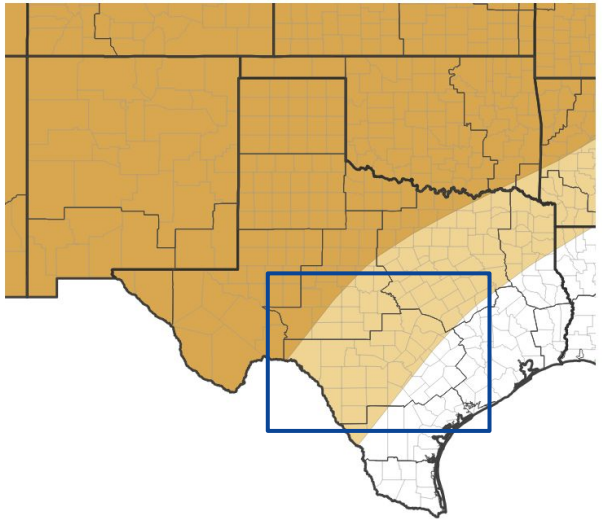
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- The temperature outlook for the month of October leans towards above normal for much of the service area
- The precipitation outlook leans towards below normal rainfall for most of the service area

Monthly Temperature Outlook for October 1, 2024–October 31, 2024



Monthly Precipitation Outlook for October 1, 2024–October 31, 2024



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures

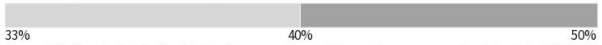
Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures

Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures

Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation

Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation

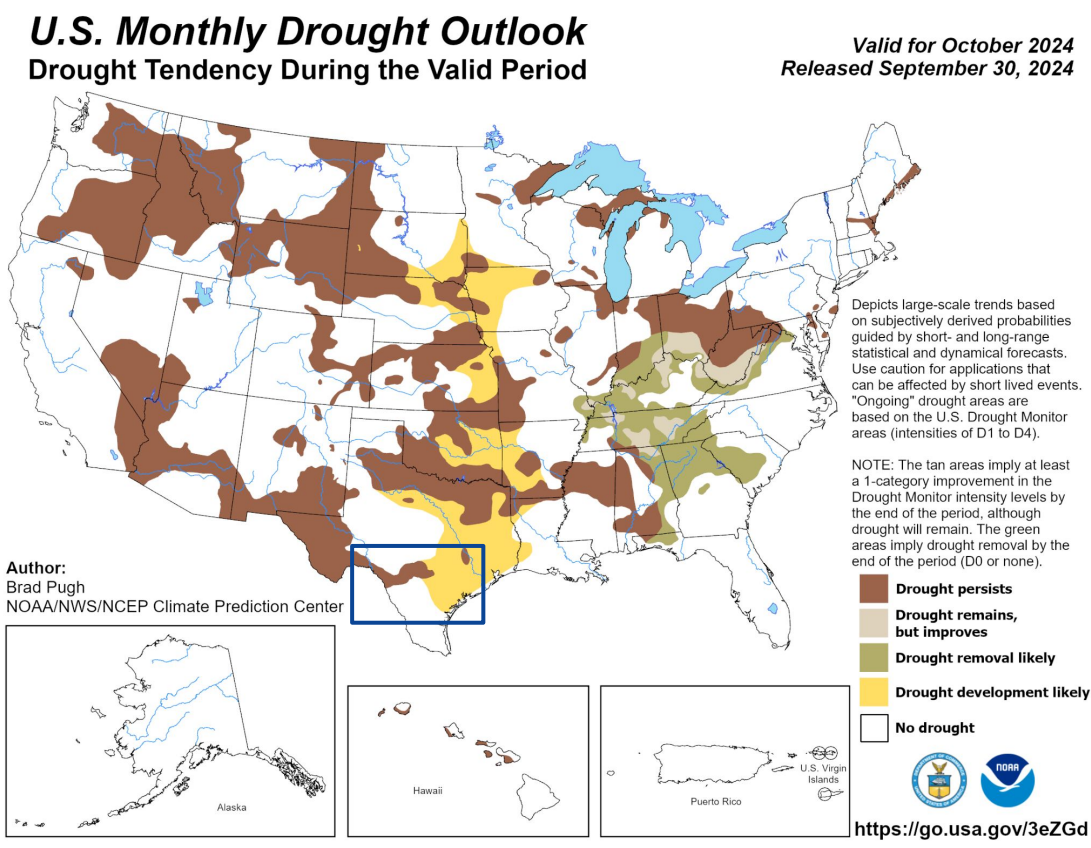


Drought Outlook

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

- The monthly drought outlook for October shows drought persisting for the Rio Grande Plains, Edwards Plateau, and Hill Country. Drought development appears likely for I-35 Corridor and the Coastal Plains

- The three month outlook mirrors the monthly outlook showing drought persisting and expanding through the month of December



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