



Drought Information Statement for South Central Texas

Valid December 7, 2023

Issued By: NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX

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

- This product will be updated Jan 3, 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.



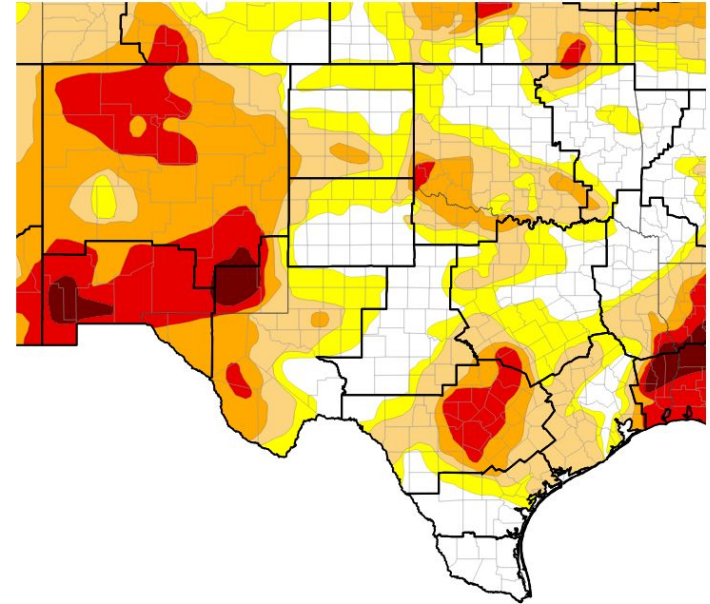


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for south central Texas

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D4 Exceptional Drought: Has been removed from all counties
 - D3 Extreme Drought: Covers portions of the Hill Country, I-35 corridor, and Coastal Plains
 - D2 Severe Drought: Extends across the Hill Country, I-35 corridor, Coastal Plains, and portions of the Rio Grande Plains.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 12/05/23



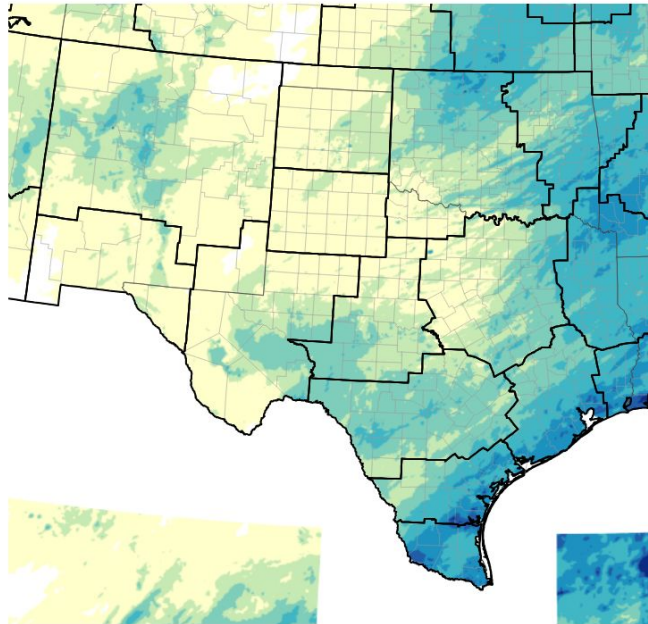


Precipitation

Links to the latest [Precipitation Accumulation](#) and [Percent of Normal](#) over the past 30 days

- The bulk of the rainfall over the past 30 days occurred over a one week period early in the month of November.
- Portions of the Rio Grande Plains and southern Edwards Plateau saw above normal rainfall while the rest of the service area saw below normal rainfall for the past 30 days.
- Portions of Williamson, Llano, and Burnet Counties saw less than 25% of normal rainfall over the past 30 days.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



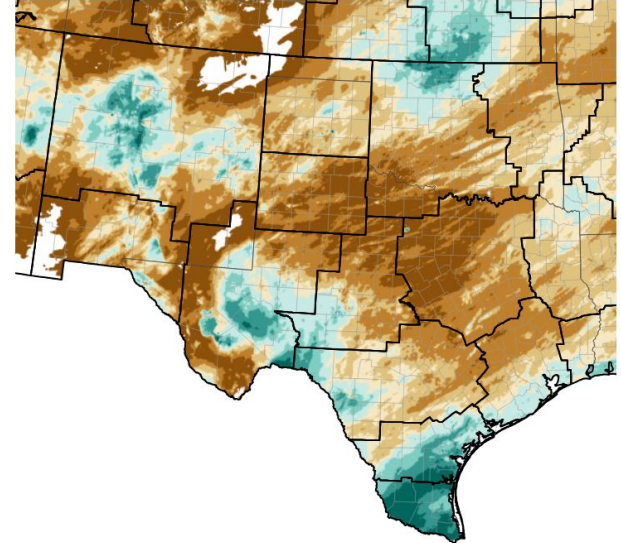
Inches of Precipitation



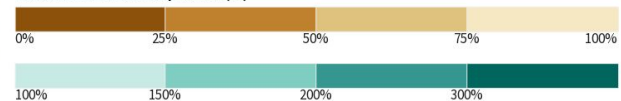
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 12/07/23

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 12/07/23





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- While localized basins have seen some improvement in the short term, many basins remain below normal. See next page for more details.

Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop & Weather Report](#) from Texas A&M Agrilife.
- Near normal crop moistures are shown across the three crop divisions within the service area.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Normal wildland fire activity is expected for the month of December. See Fire Hazard page for more details.

Other Impacts

- Canyon Lake continues to set new record low pool elevations.

Drought Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.
- Select [Municipality Restrictions](#) (as of 12/6)
 - City of Fredericksburg: Stage 4
 - City of Kerrville: Stage 3
 - City of Llano: Stage 3
 - City of Georgetown: Stage 3
 - City of Uvalde: Stage 3
 - City of San Antonio: Stage 2
 - City of Universal City: Stage 2
 - City of New Braunfels: Stage 2
 - City of Austin: Stage 2
 - City of Del Rio: Stage 2





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- While localized basins have seen some improvement in the short term, many basins remain below normal
- The lowest streamflows (much below normal) can be found in portions of the Nueces, Frio, Pedernales, and Guadalupe river basins.
- Canyon Lake remains at its lowest level on record.

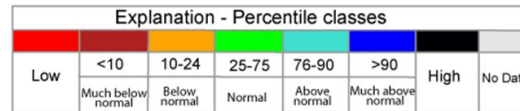
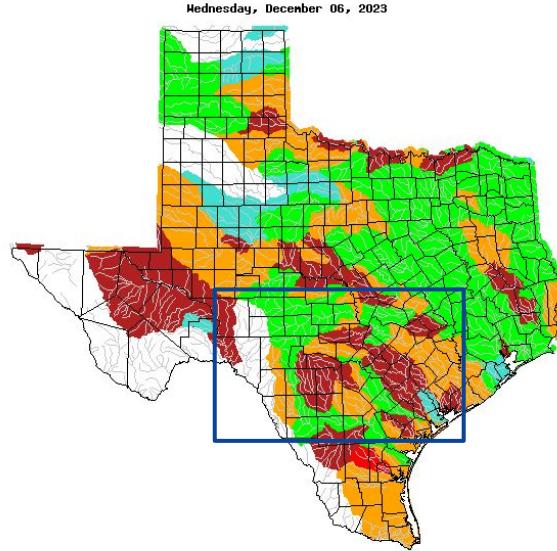


Figure Caption: [USGS 7 day streamflows for Texas](#), valid December 8, 2023

Reservoir	Pool Elevation	Current Elevation	Percent Full
Amistad	1117.00 feet	1061.75 feet	26.8%
Medina Lake	1064.2 feet	975.65 feet	3.5%
Canyon Lake	909.00 feet	888.36 feet	61.5%
Granger Lake	504.00 feet	501.73 feet	83.0%
Georgetown Lake	791.00 feet	771.90 feet	46.6%
Lake Buchanan	1020.00 feet	994.04 feet	44.8%
Lake LBJ	825.00 feet	824.70 feet	98.3%
Lake Marble Falls	738.00 feet	736.25 feet	94.0%
Lake Travis	681.00 feet	631.47feet	38.1%
Lake Austin	492.9 feet	492.13 feet	95.6%

Table caption: [TWDB Reservoir](#) conditions as of December 6, 2023

Additional data:

[Edwards Aquifer, Bexar Index Well J-17](#) as of December 6, 2023:

10 day average: 637.3

Historical November Average: 667.9

Departure from Average: -30.5



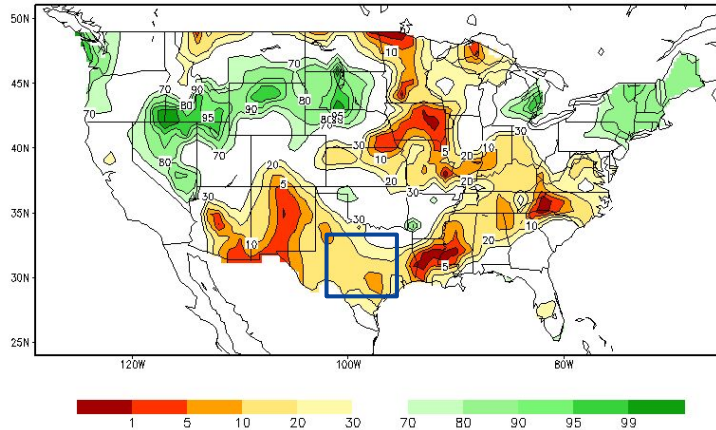


Agricultural Impacts

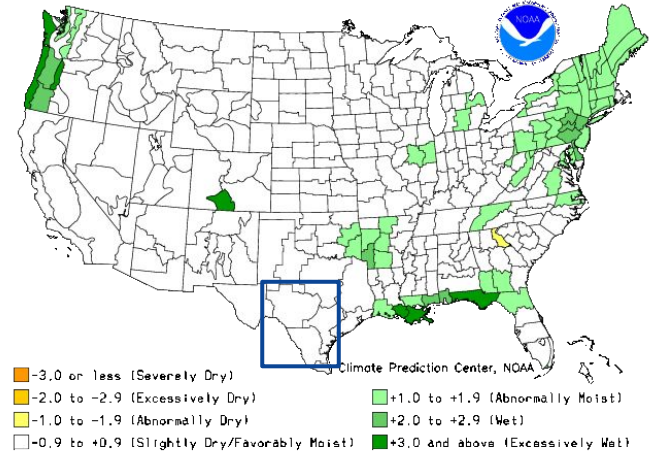
Links to the latest [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) and [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#).

- Soil moistures have declined across much of the service area with values between 5th and 20th percentile.
- Near normal crop moistures are shown across the three crop divisions within the service area.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
DEC 06, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending DEC 2, 2023
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

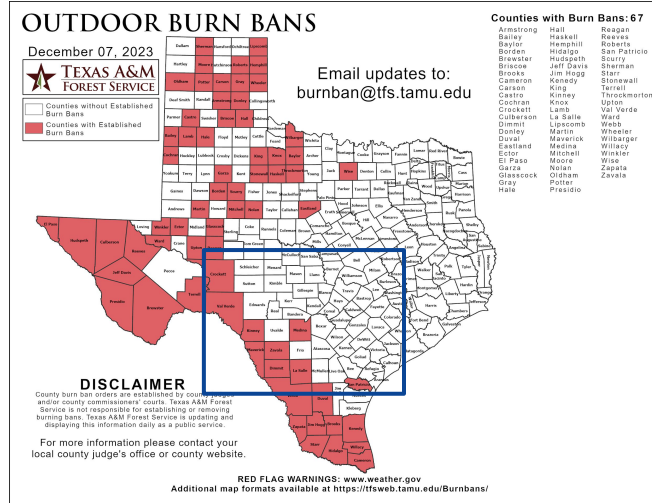




Fire Hazard Impacts

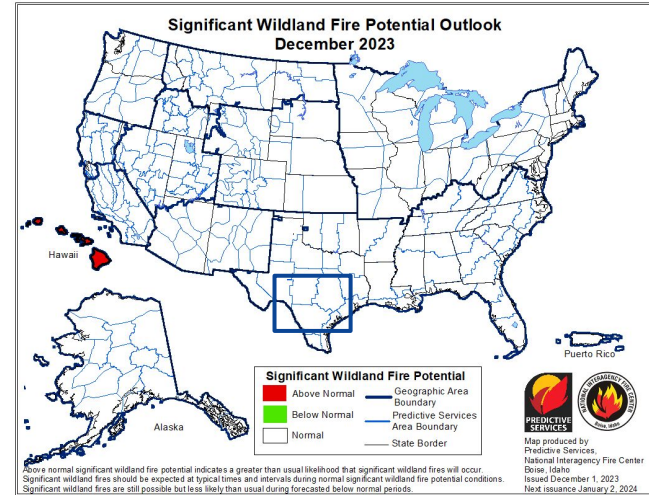
Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- [Keetch Byram Drought Index values](#) have dropped below 200 across much of the Hill Country, I-35 corridor, Coastal Plains, and southern Edwards Plateau. Values up to 500 are still across portions of the Rio Grande Plains



- Normal wildland fire activity is forecast through the month of December.

Burn bans remain for 6 of our 33 counties as of December 7, 2023. Latest County Burn Ban map available [here](#).

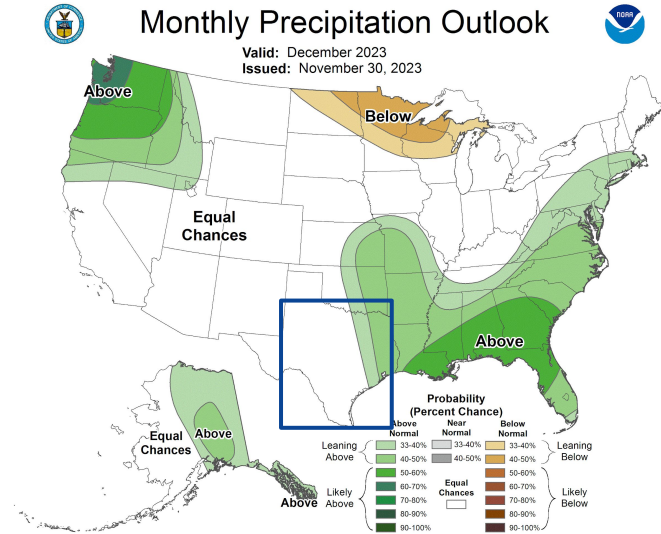
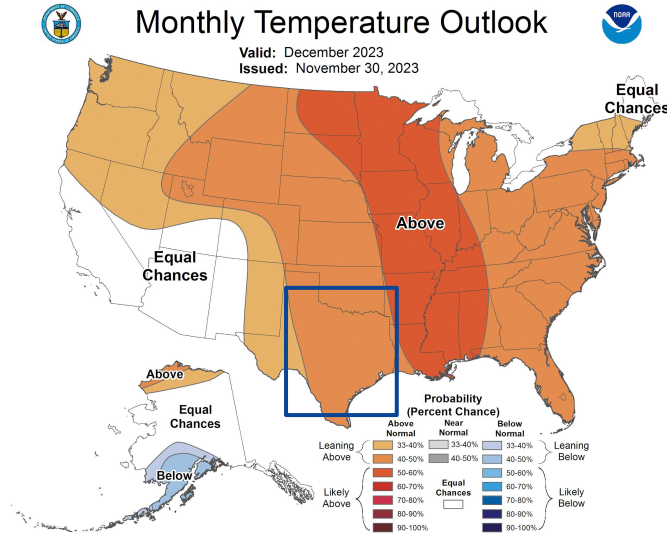




Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Odds lean towards above normal temperatures to continue on average through the month of December.
- Chances are equal for above, below, or near normal precipitation for December.



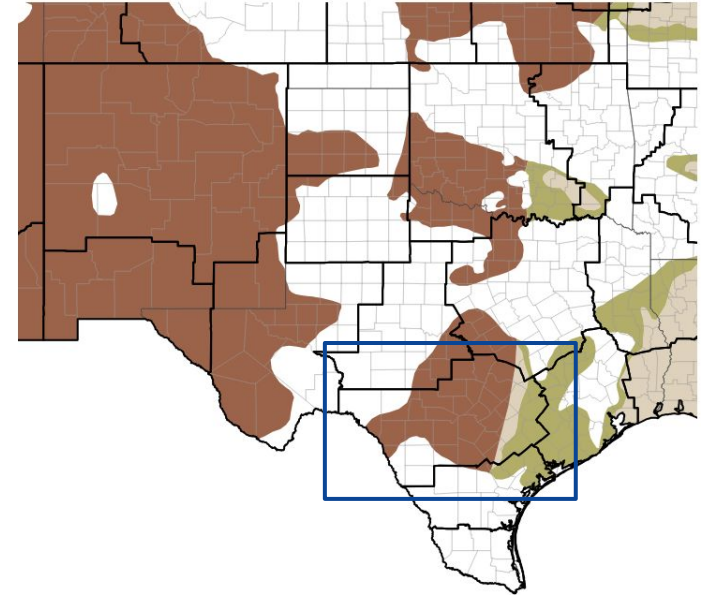


Drought Outlook

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

- The Drought Outlook reflects potential improvement of drought conditions due to ENSO through the month of December across the easternmost portion of the service area.
- Drought conditions are expected to persist across a sizable portion of the I-35 corridor, Hill Country, southern Edwards Plateau and parts of the Coastal Plains through the months of December.

1-Month Drought Outlook



Drought is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 11/30/23

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

