



# Drought Information Statement for Micronesia

Valid May 24, 2024

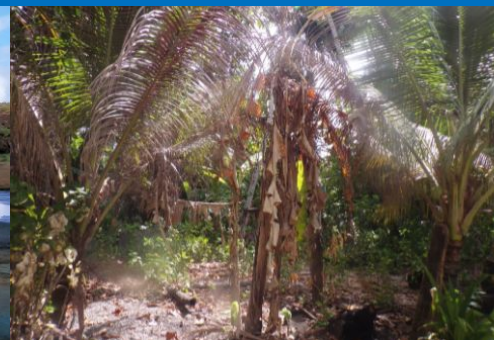
Issued By: WFO Guam

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- This product will be updated June 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/gum/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



Photo courtesy FSM Adaptation Fund

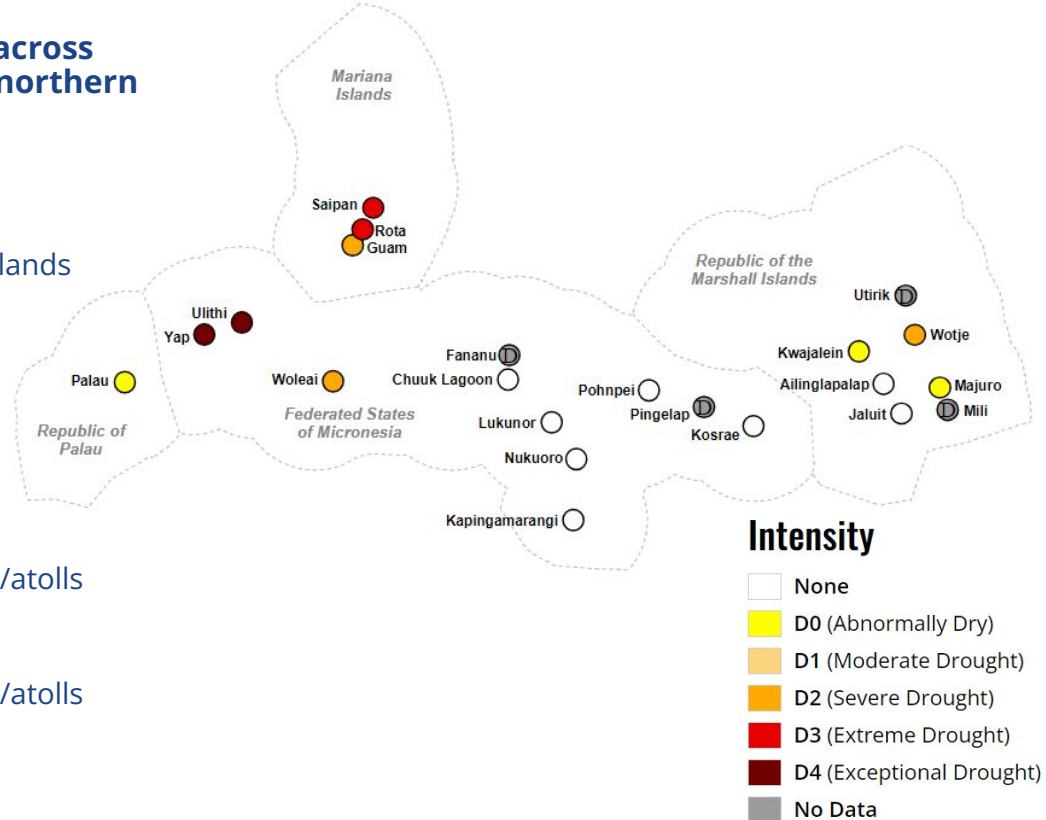




# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Micronesia and the rest of the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands

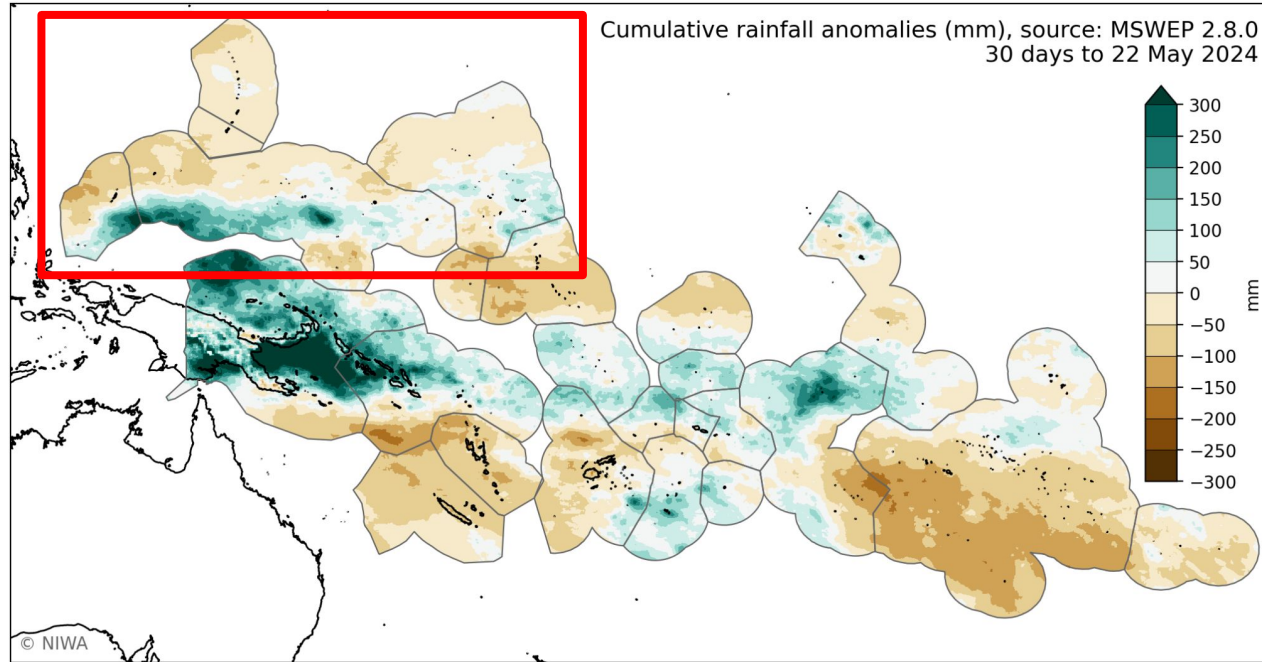
- Drought conditions show some improvement across much of the region, with the exception of the northern islands in Yap State and the northern RMI.
- Drought Intensity:
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought):**
    - Yap State: Yap Proper, Ulithi & nearby islands
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought):**
    - Marianas: Saipan, Tinian, Rota
  - **D2 (Severe Drought):**
    - Yap State: Woleai
    - Marianas: Guam
    - RMI: Wotje & nearby islands/atolls
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought):**
    - RMI: Kwajalein, Majuro & nearby islands/atolls
  - **D0 (Abnormally Dry):**
    - Republic of Palau: Palau
    - RMI: Kwajalein, Majuro & nearby islands/atolls





# Rainfall During the Last 30 Days

- Satellite and rain gauge data, prior to 93W, indicated **drier than normal conditions** persisted for northern islands of Yap State, the northern RMI and the Marianas. Primarily for islands north of 9N.
- Tropical disturbances, such as 93W, brought much needed rain to Yap State, and the ROP.
- Wetter than normal conditions during the last 30 days remain generally south of 9N to near the equator, reflecting a months-long trend of showers slowly edging northward through the FSM and the RMI.



Map courtesy of the [National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research \(NIWA\)](#)





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Heavy showers from Invest 93W over the last 3 days brought much-needed rainfall to **Yap Proper, Ulithi and Fais**, providing some short-term drought relief. At **Yap Proper**, 3 of the 4 water authorities reported water supplies rising since water levels dropped in Feb-Mar. Recent showers across the **northern RMI** also brought some limited relief to the northern islands.
- Despite recent showers across **Yap State** and the **northern RMI**, water shortages may still occur in the coming weeks until showers become more frequent and sustained across the region.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Agricultural strain was reported from assessment teams and residents from islands across **Yap State**: taro patches drying up and coconuts drying out; and many reports of yellowing crops.
- Wildfires have been reported on **Saipan and Guam** with fires also reported in **Palau and Yap** over the last month.

## Mitigation Actions

- **Water conservation measures are highly encouraged to continue for the dry islands of Yap State and the northern RMI.** Locations with extreme to exceptional drought could see at least another month of below-normal rainfall as both dry season and the dry phase of the waning El Niño continues.

## Preparedness Actions

- Residents should continue to report agricultural and hydrologic impacts to local DCOs and WSOs, even after recent showers. Reports from the islands are critical for decision-making and government responses.



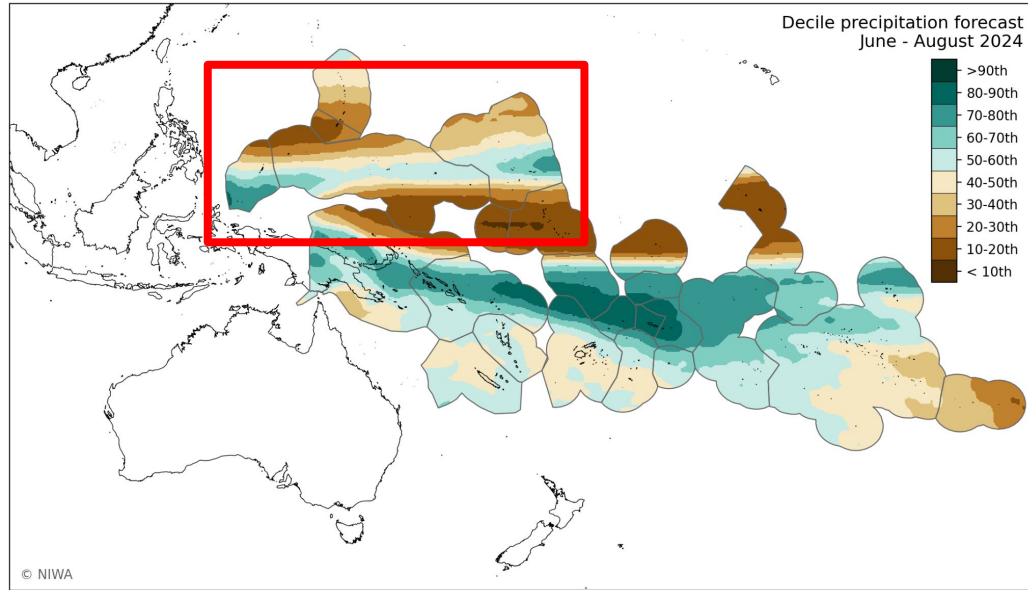




# Drought Outlook

The latest El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) outlook can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- **Extreme to Exceptional drought persists in Yap State and the northern CNMI. Recent showers may lead to improved drought conditions for Yap State next week.** Tropical disturbances will provide additional showers across the region in the coming week.
- **Short-term (1-3 Weeks Outlook)**
  - Weak tropical and trade-wind disturbances will bring periods of showers to many islands near and south of 9N. Drier conditions to persist along and north of 9N, particularly the Marianas. See [CPC - Global Tropics Hazard Outlook](#) for more info.
- **Seasonal (3 Month Outlook)**
  - The rainfall forecast through August remains drier than normal for islands near and north of 9N latitude; and near to wetter than normal to the south.



Map courtesy of the [National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research \(NIWA\)](#)

