



Drought Information Statement for Southeast LA and Southwest MS

Valid January 18, 2024

Issued By: NWS New Orleans/Baton Rouge

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

- This product will be updated Jan 25, 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/lix/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



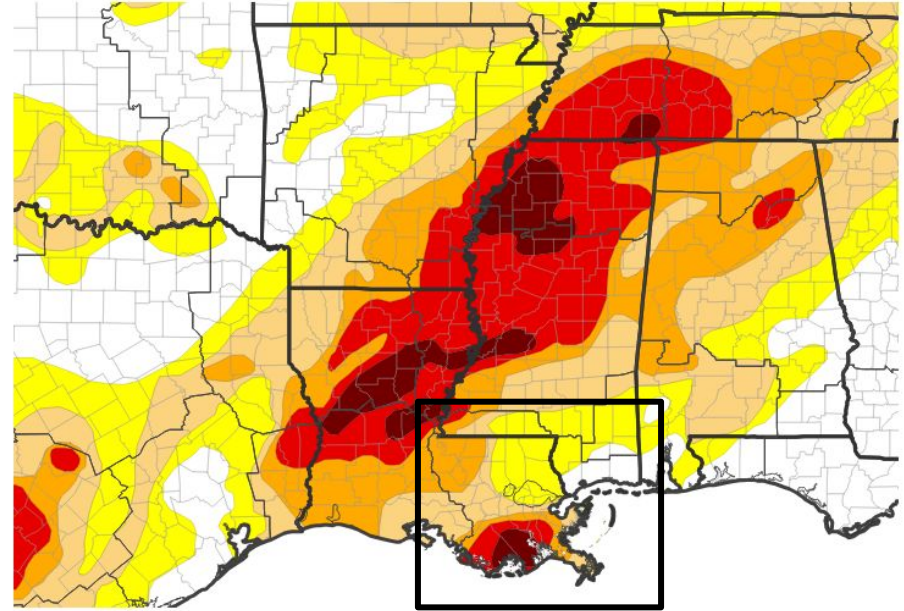


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for SE Louisiana and SW Mississippi

- No changes were made this week as rainfall was negligible.
- Drought intensity and extent
 - D4 (Exceptional Drought): A small portion remains along the SE LA Gulf parishes
 - D3 (Extreme Drought) to D2 (Severe Drought): These areas remain as far SE LA and a small area of SW MS.
 - D1 (Moderate Drought) to D0 (Abnormally Dry) South-Central LA and portions of Southern MS.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 01/16/24

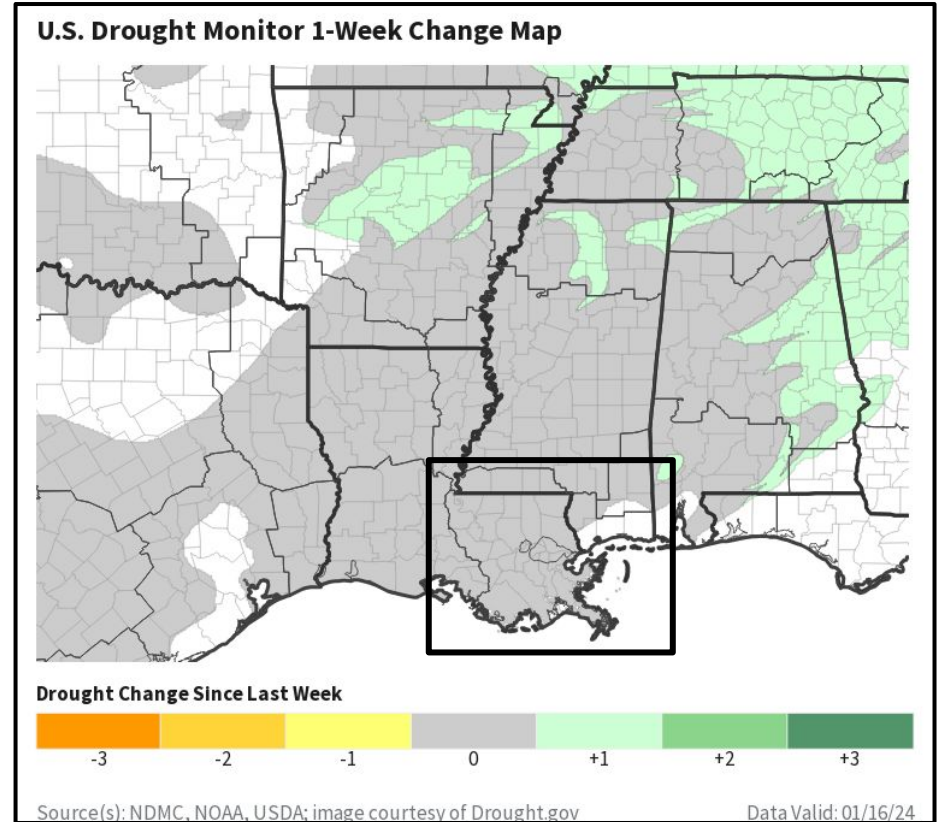




Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for SE Louisiana and SW Mississippi

- **One Week Drought Monitor Class Change**
 - **Drought Worsened: No Change (Yellows)**
 - **No Change: No Change (Gray)**
 - **Drought Improved: No Change (Greens)**

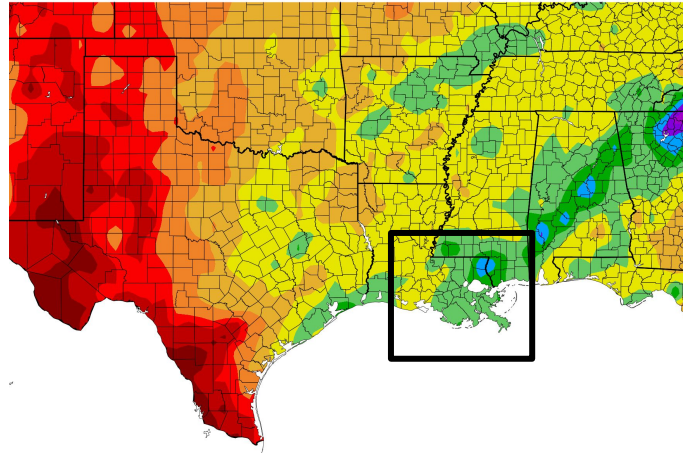




Precipitation

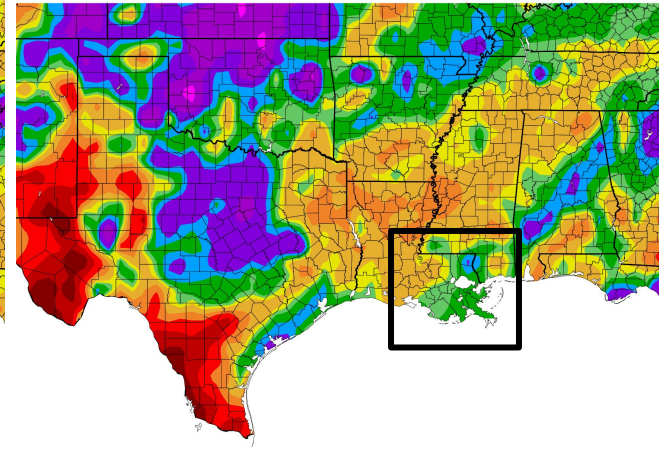
- The last week was fairly dry despite the wintery mix that fell.
- Despite that, several parishes and counties are still trending above normal for the rainfall over the last 30 days.
- However, predicted rainfall for the week of the 21st could see the lingering rainfall deficit improve.

Precipitation (in)
12/19/2023 – 1/17/2024



0.1 0.5 1 2 3.5 5 6.5 8 9.5 11 12.5
1/18/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Climate

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
12/19/2023 – 1/17/2024



5 25 50 70 90 100 110 130 150 200 300
1/18/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data. NOAA Regional Climate

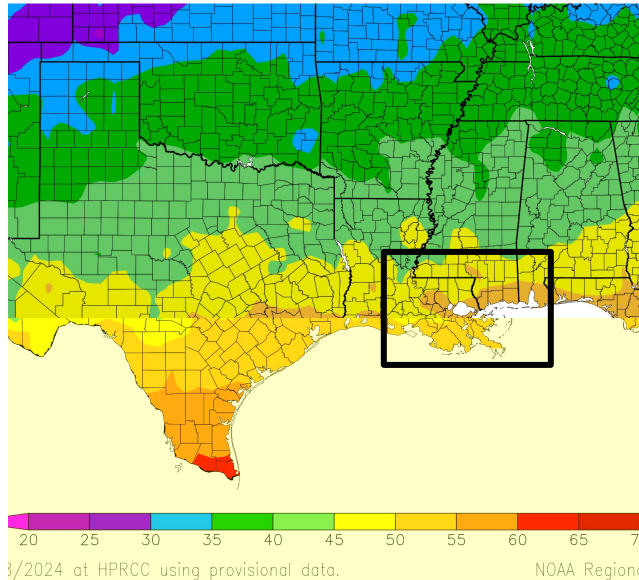




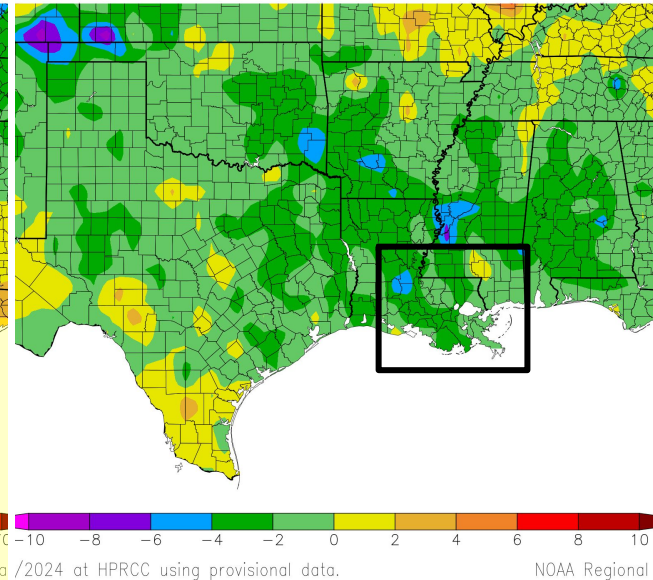
Temperature

- Bitterly cold temperatures this week allowed the 30 day running average to be below normal across most of the area.
- Temperatures from mid-December to mid-January were 2 to 4 degrees below average with even some areas as much as 6 degrees below average.

Temperature (F)
12/19/2023 – 1/17/2024



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
12/19/2023 – 1/17/2024

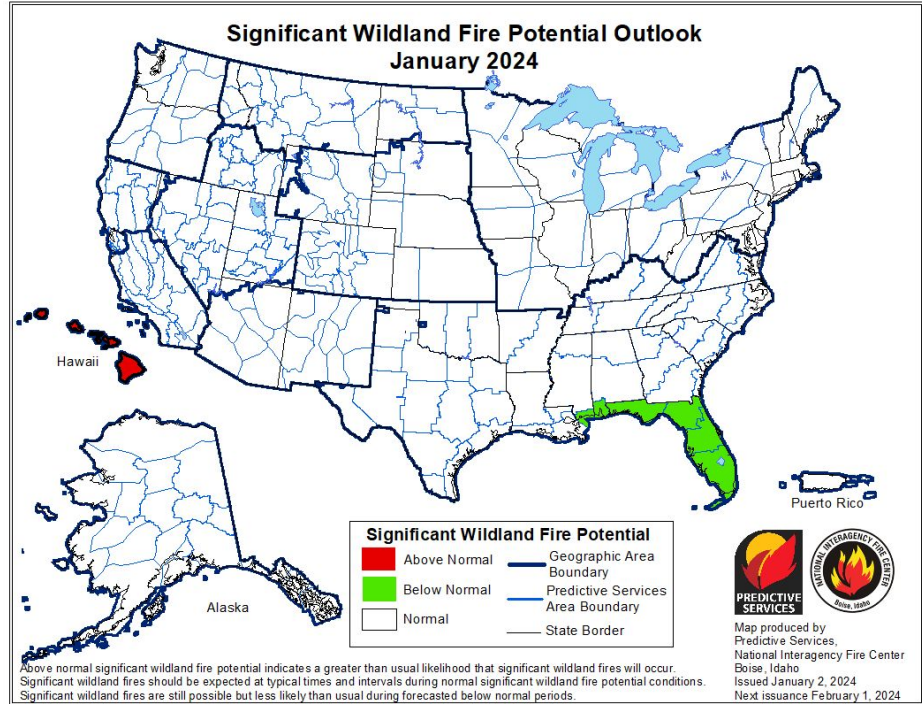




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

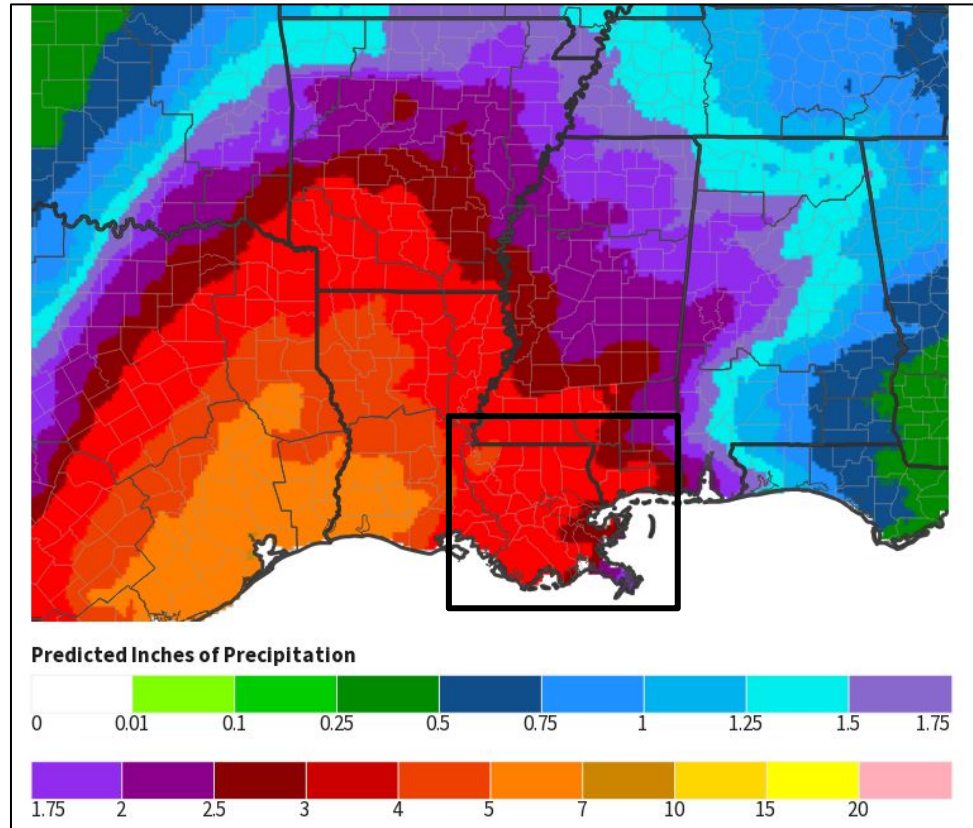
- The outlook for January depicts that chances for wildfires are still around average to even below normal along the MS coast given recent rainfall.
- Predicted rainfall over the next few days will help keep wildfire condition to minimal.





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A slow moving system will travel along the Gulf Coast next week bring a high chance for rainfall.
- Widespread rainfall of 3” to 4” will be possible as the system moves east. Some areas could receive higher totals.

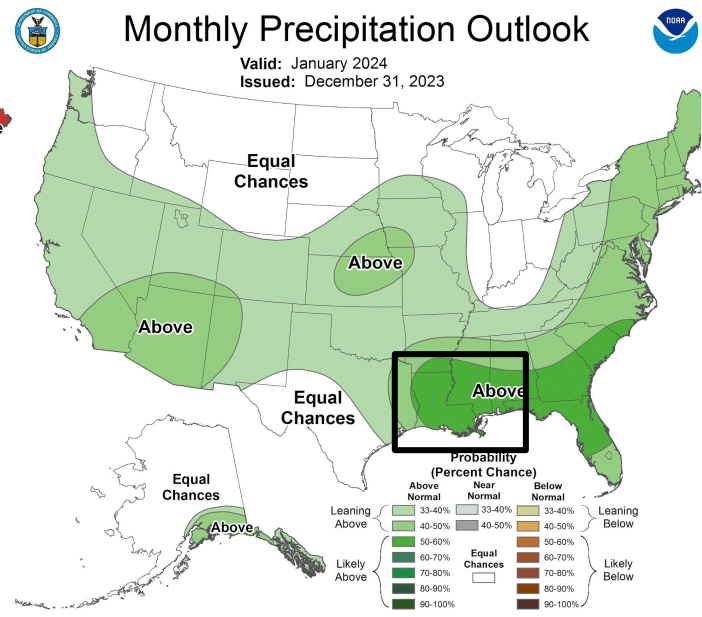
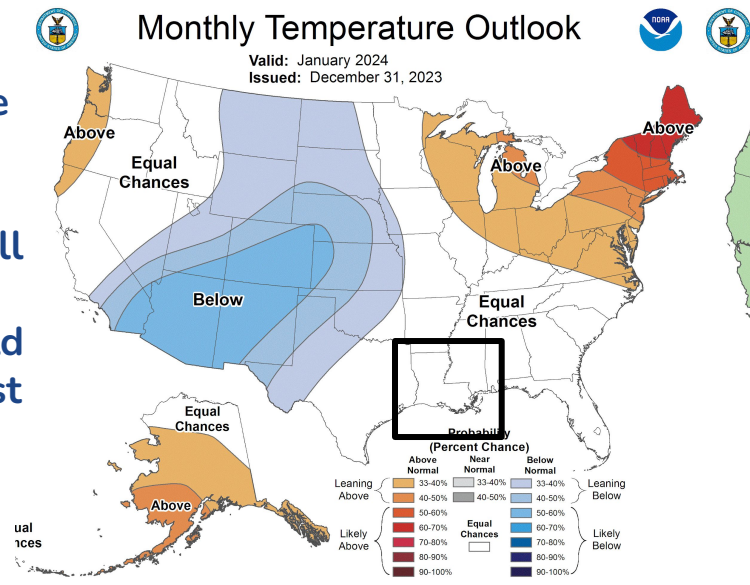




Long-Range Outlooks

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

- With January already halfway through, temperatures so far have been below normal.
- Meanwhile, rainfall is still on track to be above normal this month should the 7 day rainfall forecast pans out.

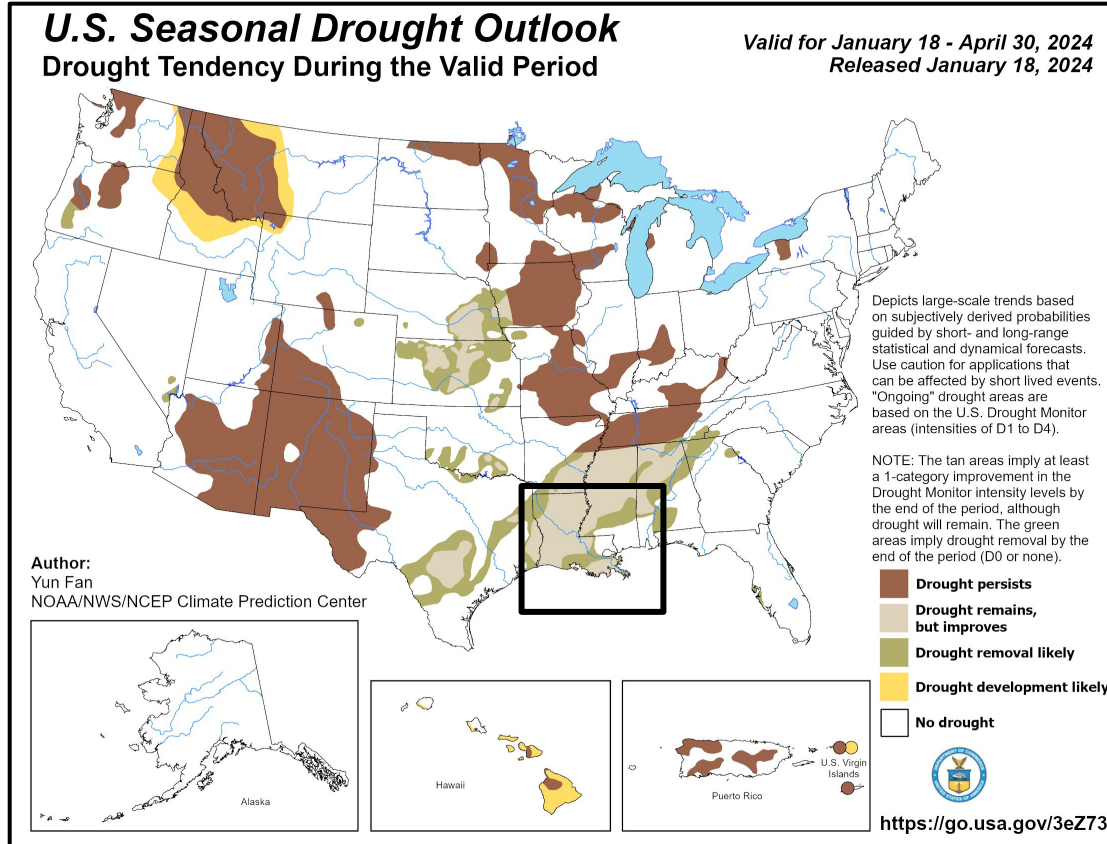




Drought Outlook

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

- The updated seasonal drought outlook now through April continues to show improving drought conditions.
- Categories have been steadily improving over the last few weeks.





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Drinking water has been compromised for some communities in Plaquemines Parish due to salt water intrusion

Agricultural Impacts

- Winter planting could be delayed and crops affected

Fire Hazard Impacts

- None known at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality, water provider, and local Emergency Management for mitigation information

Other Information

- Please use and encourage others to report drought impacts at CMOR (link above). Reports help improve the accuracy of the Drought Monitor.





For Questions or comments please contact:

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