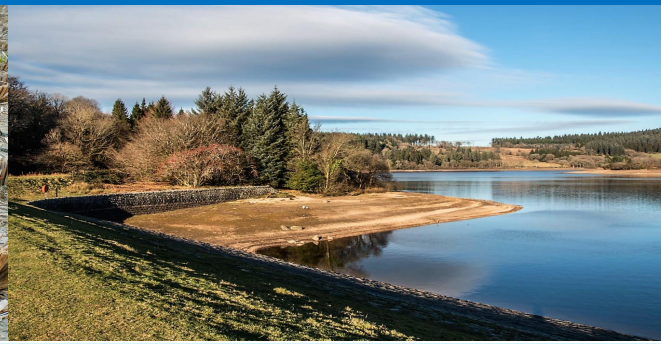
Drought Information Statement for Southwest LA and Southeast TX

November 30, 2023

Issued By: Lake Charles NWS

Contact Information: sr-lch.ops@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated Dec, 20, 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/lch/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.



U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for SW Louisiana and SE Texas

- DROUGHT CONDITIONS CONTINUE ACROSS THE ENTIRE AREA
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D4 (Exceptional Drought): The vast majority of Southwest Louisiana and Southeast Texas.
  - D3 (Extreme): Portions of Tyler, Hardin and Jefferson Counties in Southeast Texas.

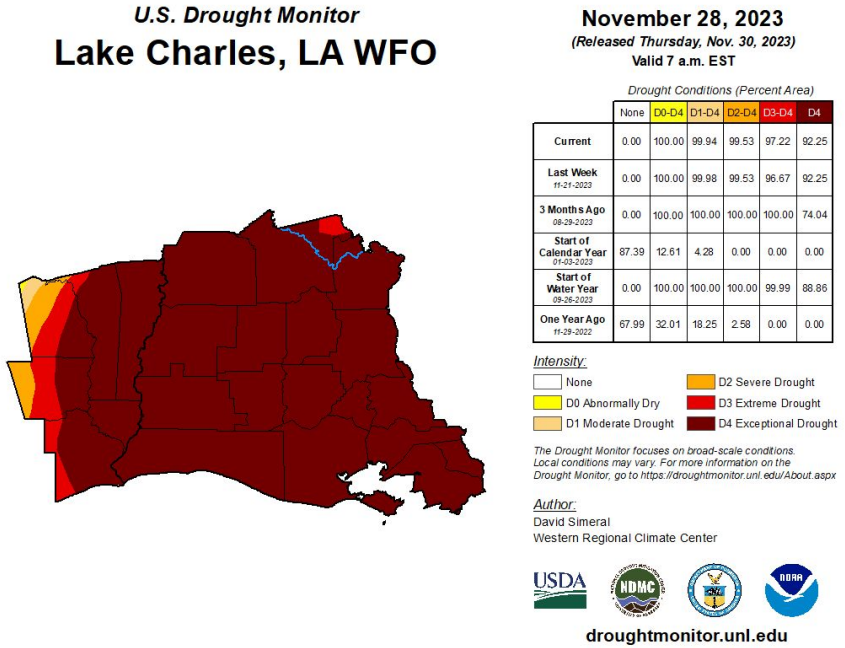


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 7am CDT October 17th.

Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4-week change map for SW Louisiana and SE Texas

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - Drought Worsened: A small portion of Hardin County in Southeast Texas.
  - No Change: The vast majority of Southwest Louisiana and Southeast Texas.
  - Drought Improved: Some of Tyler County, as well as portions of Hardin and Jefferson Counties and a small portion of Rapides Parish.

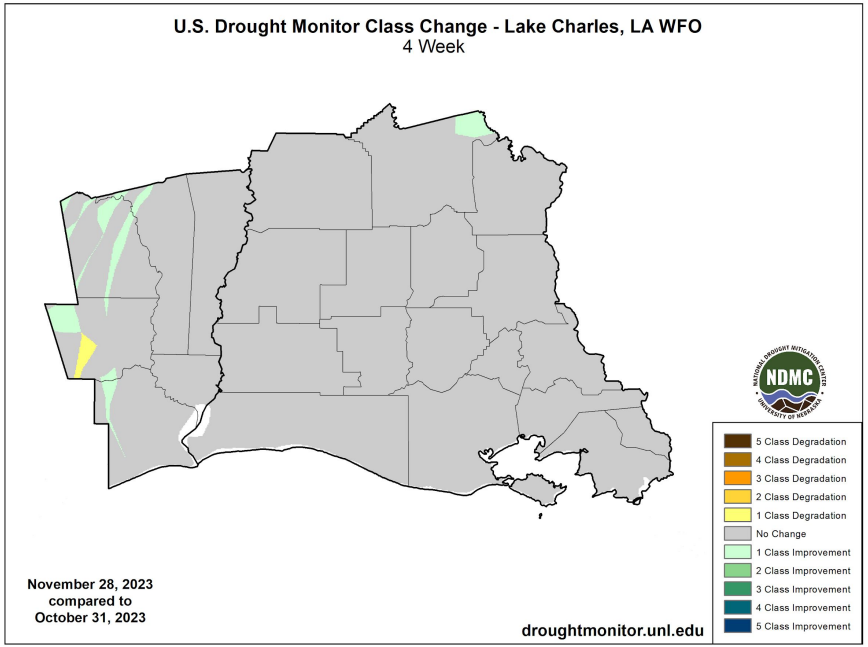
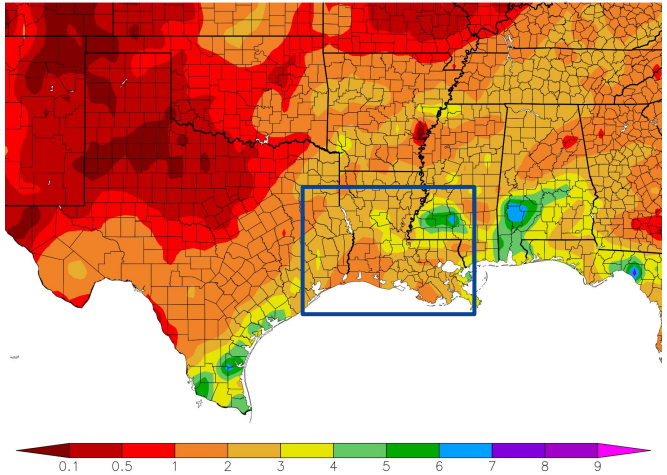


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8am EDT October 17th.

Precipitation

- Precipitation has been below normal over the last 30 days.

Precipitation (in)
10/31/2023 – 11/29/2023



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
10/31/2023 – 11/29/2023

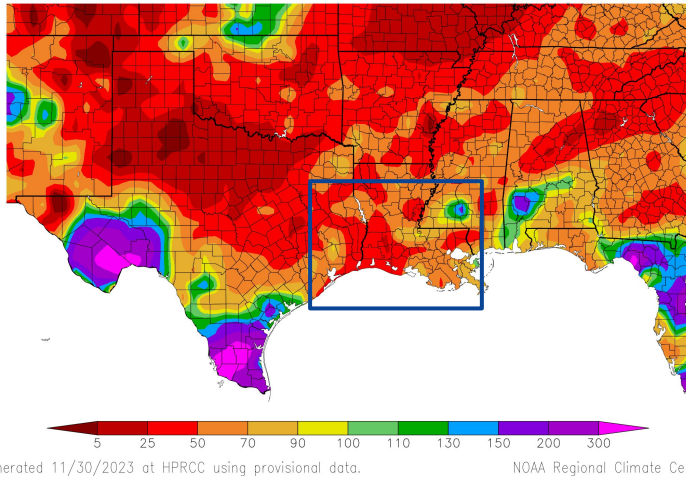
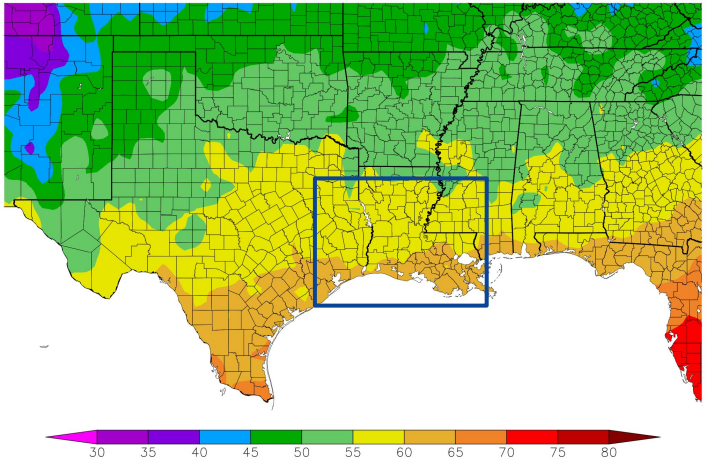


Image Captions:
Left - Precipitation Amount for the area
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for the area
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending Nov 29, 2023

Temperature

- Temperatures have been very close to normal and evaporation rates have decreased substantially across the area.

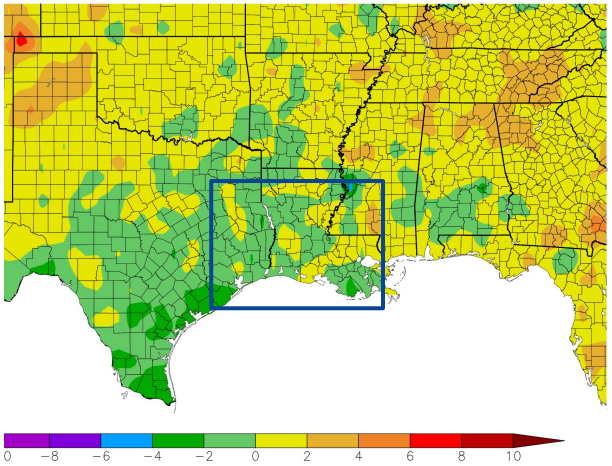
Temperature (F)
10/31/2023 – 11/29/2023



Generated 11/30/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
10/31/2023 – 11/29/2023



2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:
Left - Average Temperature
Right - Departure from Normal Temperature
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending Nov 29, 2023

Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Many streams are running below to much below normal.

Agricultural Impacts

- Hay production across the area will not meet winter demands.
- Water sources for livestock remain very low.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire activity will continue to decrease as more precipitation occurs; however, dry cold frontal passages are the main concern at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- None known

Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Most major stream watersheds are below to well below normal across the area

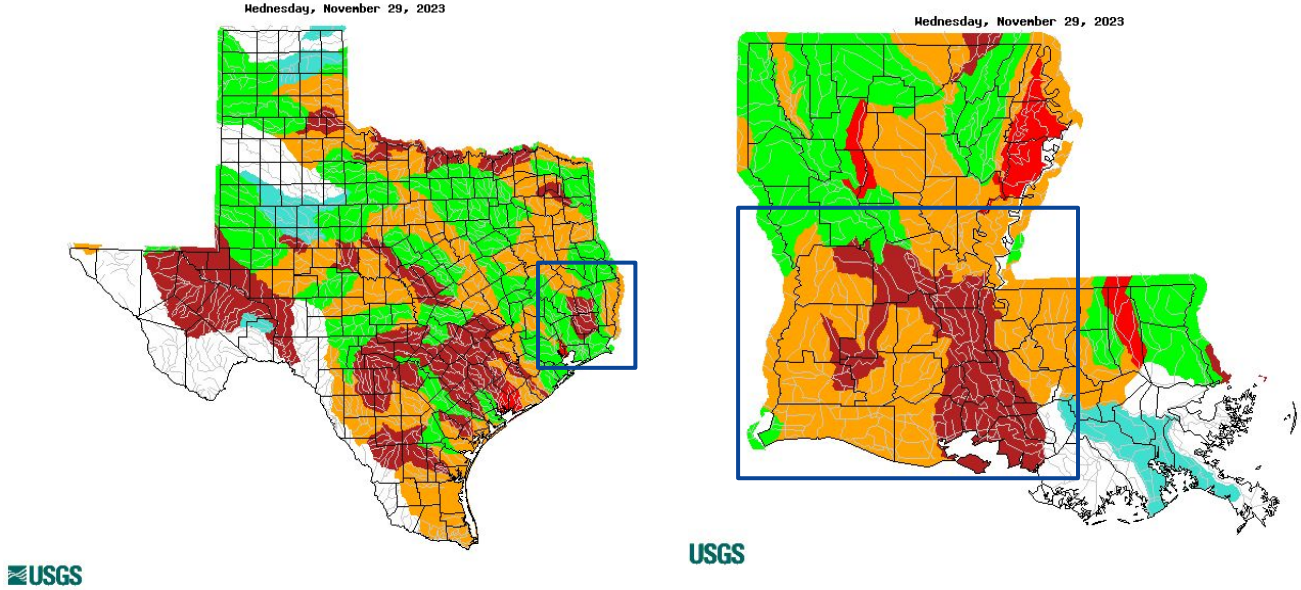
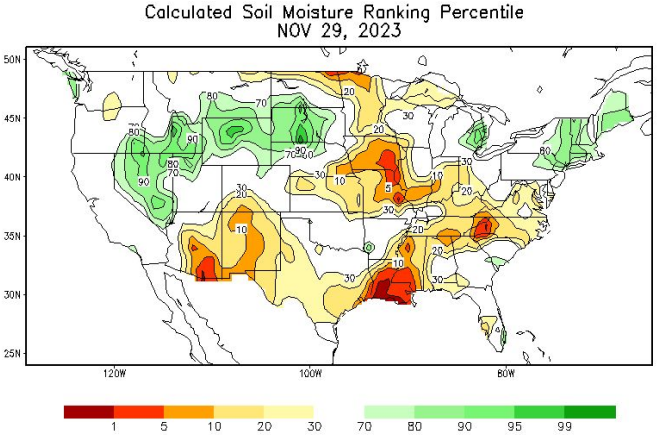


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid Nov 29 2023

Agricultural Impacts

- Agriculture burn bans have been lifted.
- Water sources such as creeks and stock ponds are very low for livestock.



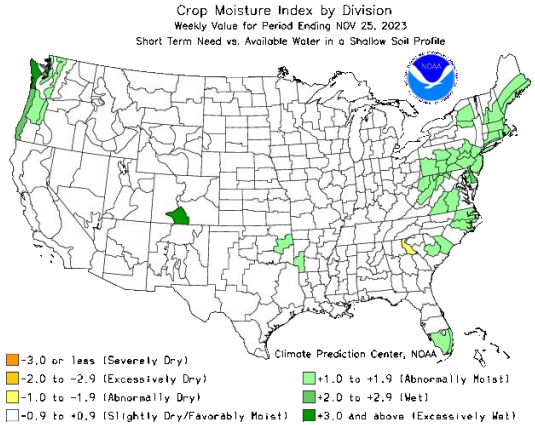


Image Captions:
Left: CPC Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile valid November 29, 2023
Right: Crop Moisture Index by Division. Weekly value for period ending November 25, 2023

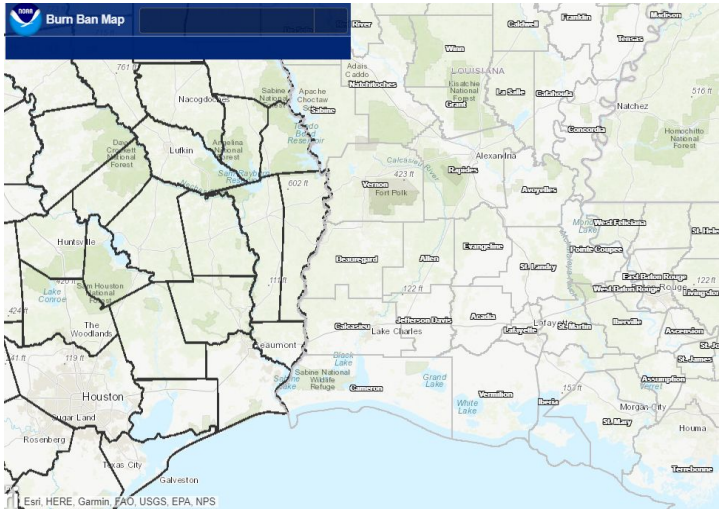
Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- No burn bans are currently in effect across the area.

Latest TX Burn Ban map available [here.]

Latest LA Burn Ban map available [here.]



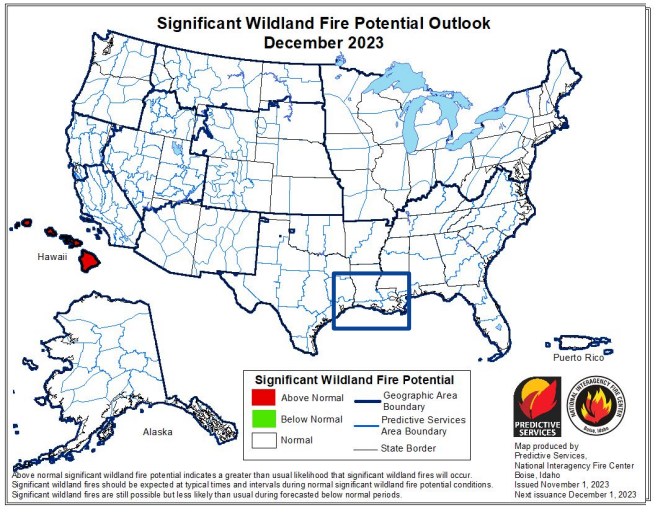


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook] for December 2023

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A significant rainfall event is expected across the area over the next week, especially between November 30th and December 2nd.

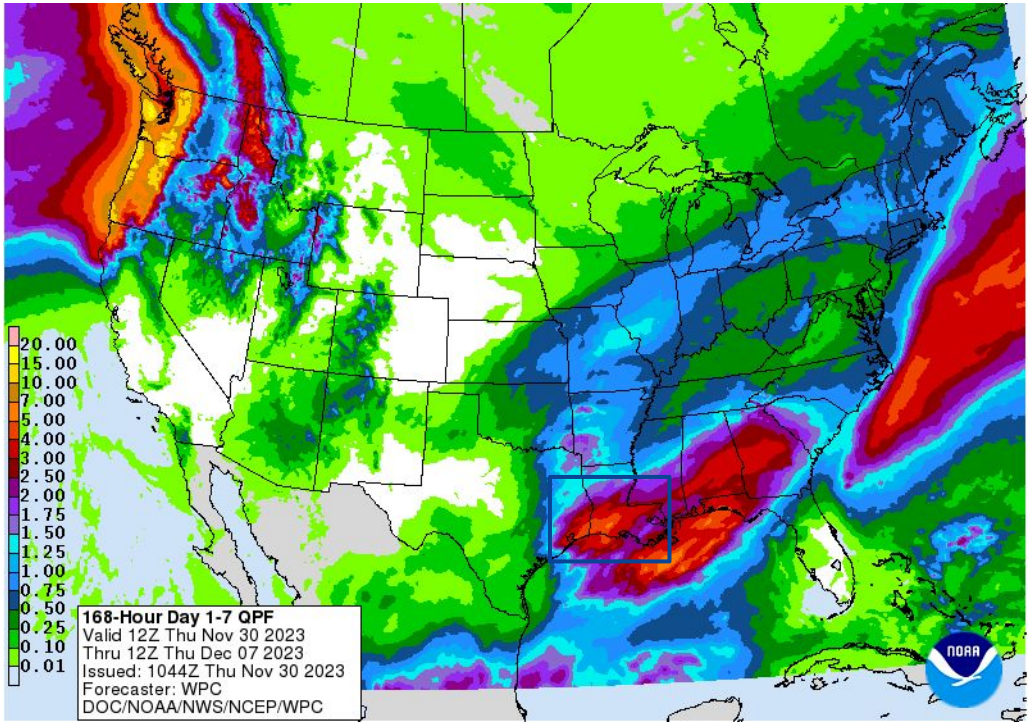
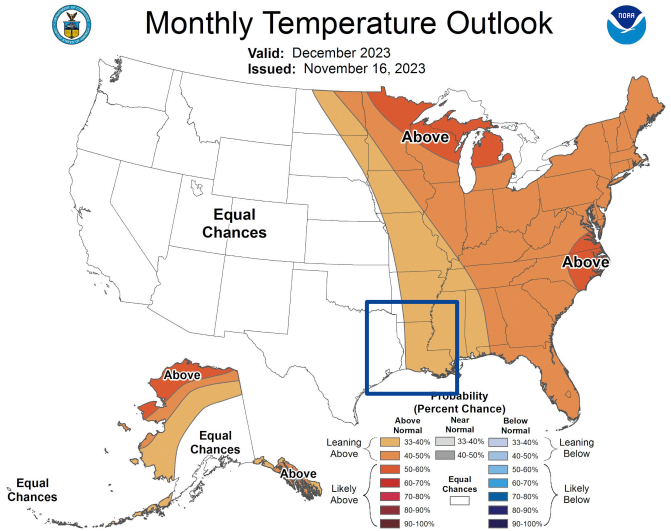


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid Thursday morning November 30 to Thursday morning December 7.

Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Chances favor normal to above normal temperatures, with chances for above normal precipitation, across the entire area during the month of December.



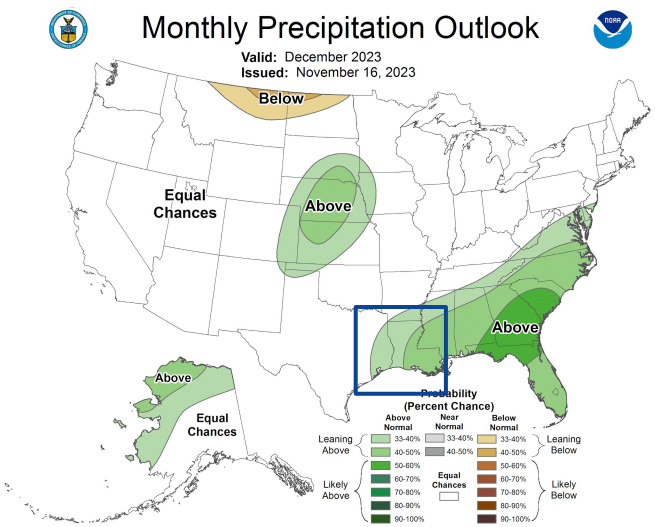
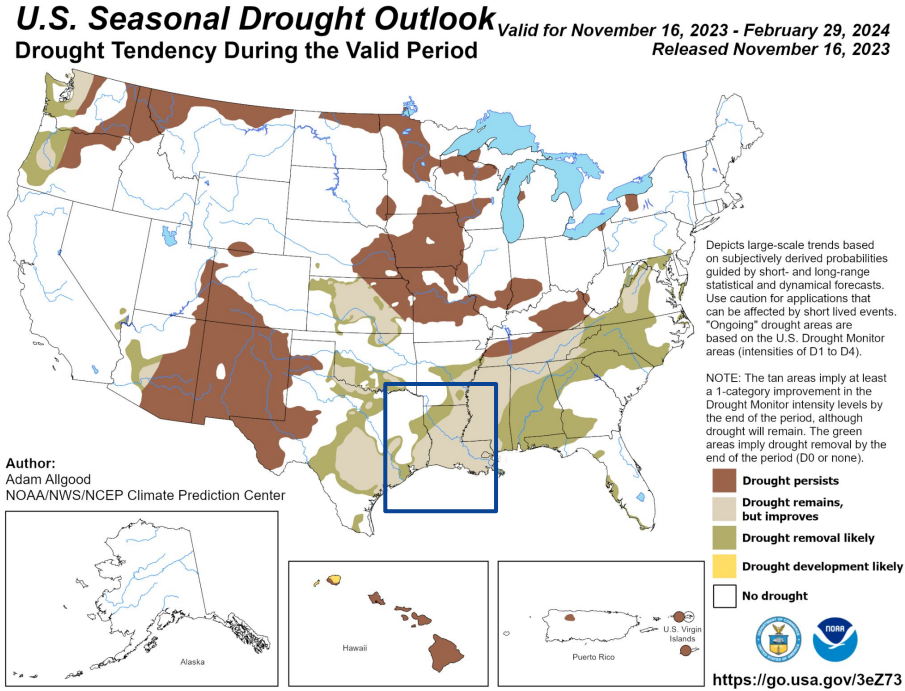


Image Captions:
Left - Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook.
Right - Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook.
Valid December 2023

Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are expected to persist into early next year; however, some improvement is likely.



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

Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released November 16, 2023, valid for November 16-February 29, 2023.