



Drought Information Statement for Central South Carolina and East Central Georgia

Valid July, 18, 2024

Issued By: WFO Columbia, SC

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated July, 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/cae/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.

- Extreme Drought continues across the Pee Dee of South Carolina with severe drought across much of the Midlands.



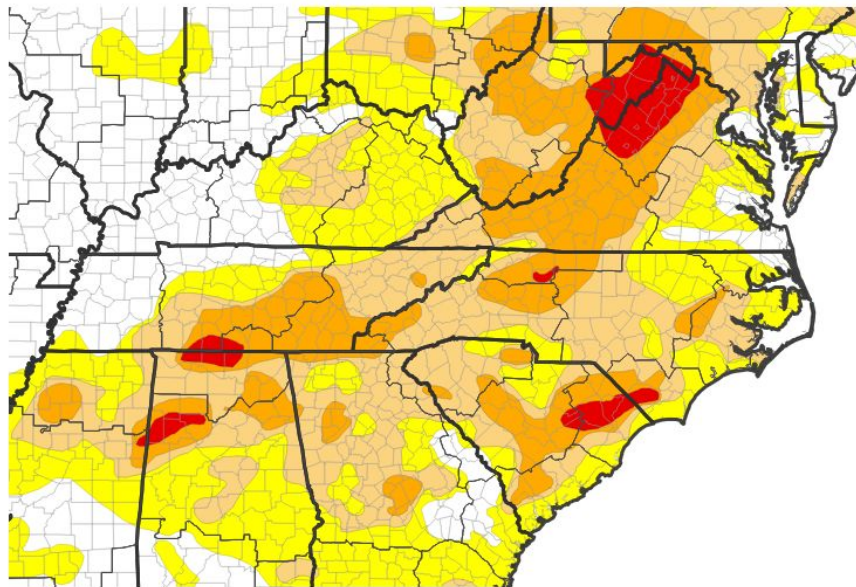


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the Southeast

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: None
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Lee, Sumter and Clarendon counties.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Newberry, Saluda, Richland, Lexington, Calhoun, Orangeburg counties.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: McCormick, Aiken, Edgefield, Bamberg, Chesterfield counties.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Lancaster, Barnwell, Fairfield, Lincoln, Columbia, Burke counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 07/16/24



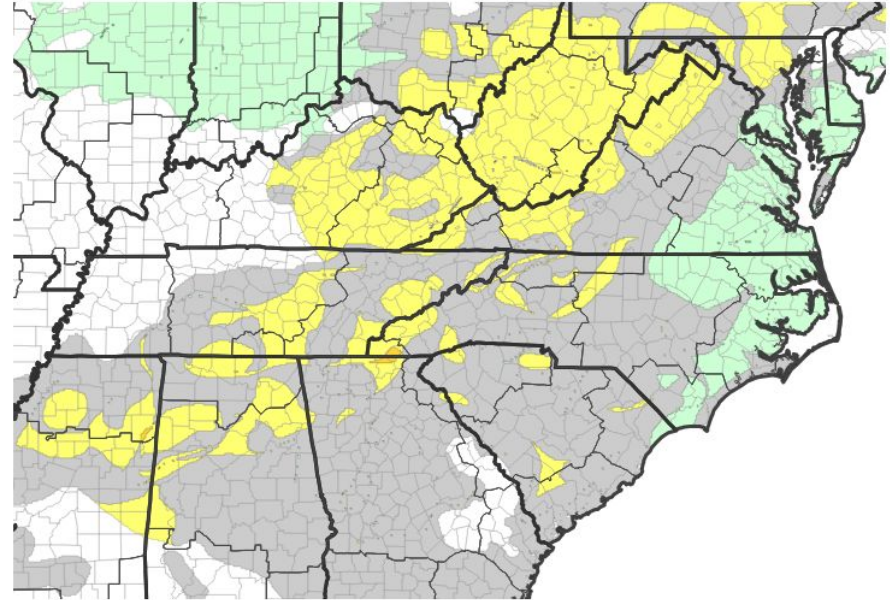


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

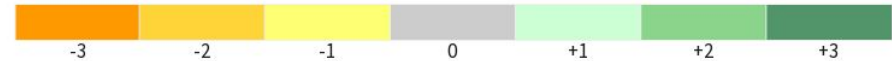
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for the Southeast

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Across portions of the Upstate and Orangeburg and Barnwell counties
 - No Change: Across most of South Carolina.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Drought Change Since Last Week



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

Data Valid: 07/16/24

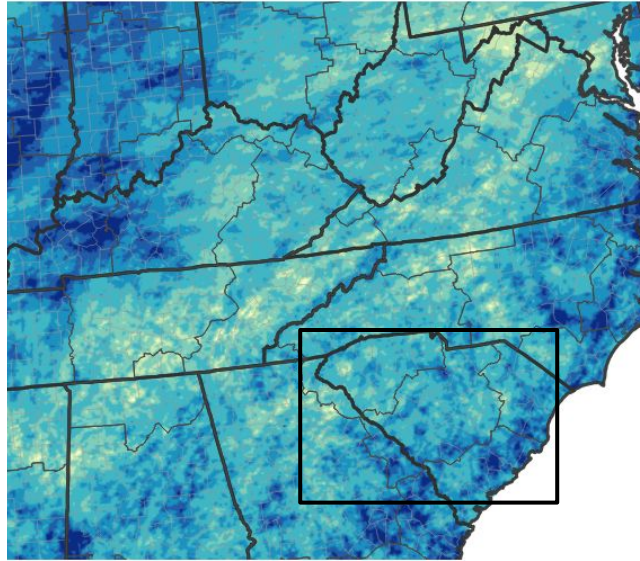




Precipitation

- Widely scattered convection produced beneficial rainfall in some locations with other locations still showing below average precipitation.

Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

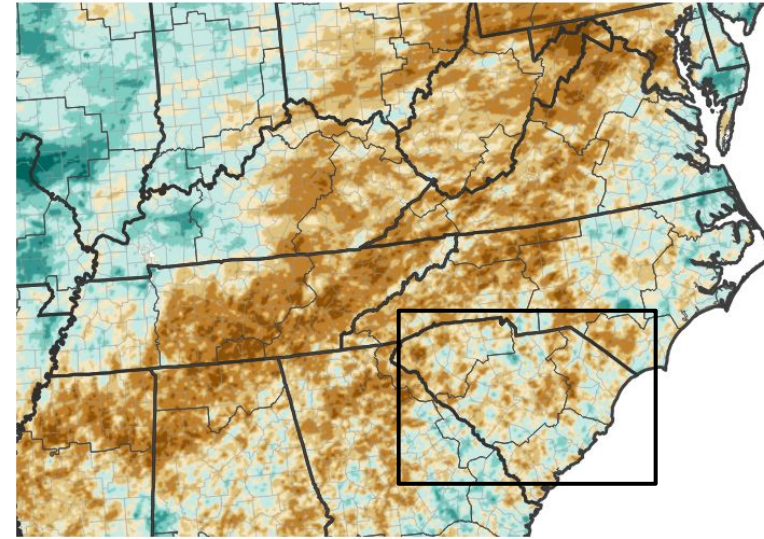


Precipitation

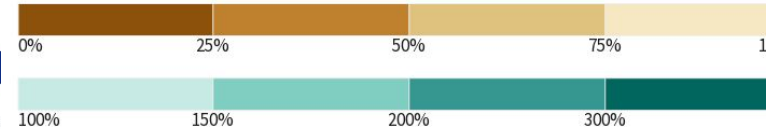


National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 07/11/2023
Data courtesy of Drought.gov

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 07/11/2023
Image courtesy of Drought.gov

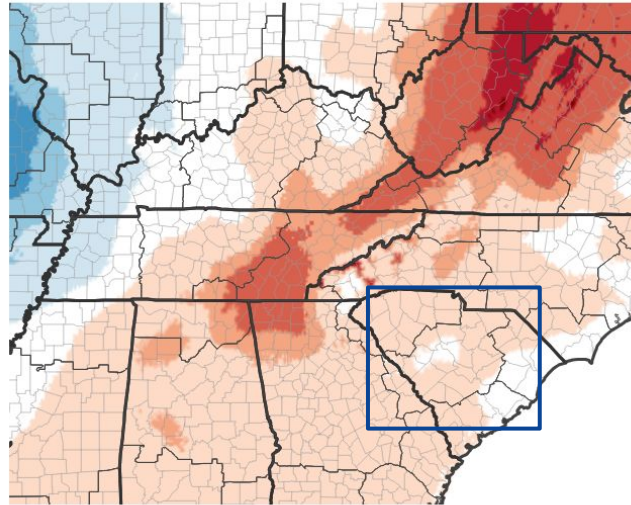




Temperature

- While the seven day temperature anomaly has not been as significant as the 30 day, a prolonged period of higher than normal temperatures and below normal rainfall has allowed the drought to persist.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



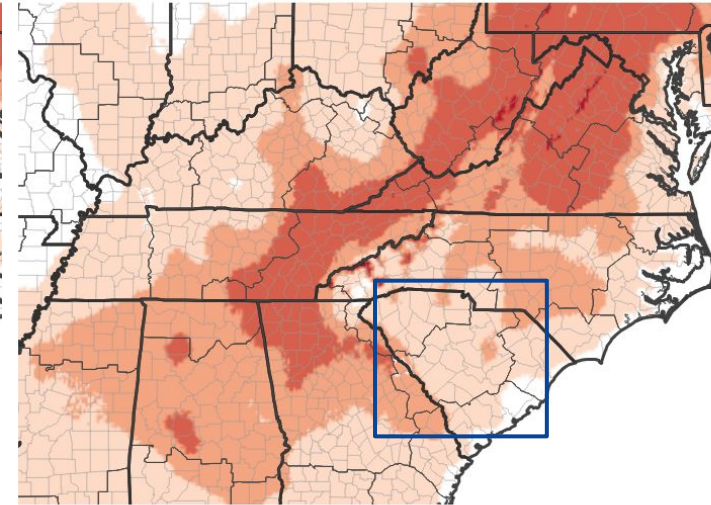
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflows have been rapidly falling along the Lynches, Great Pee Dee, Pocotaligo, Black, and Edisto River Basins.
- The reduced streamflows have had a gradual impact in reservoir pool levels. However, most reservoirs are within the expected levels for mid-summer.

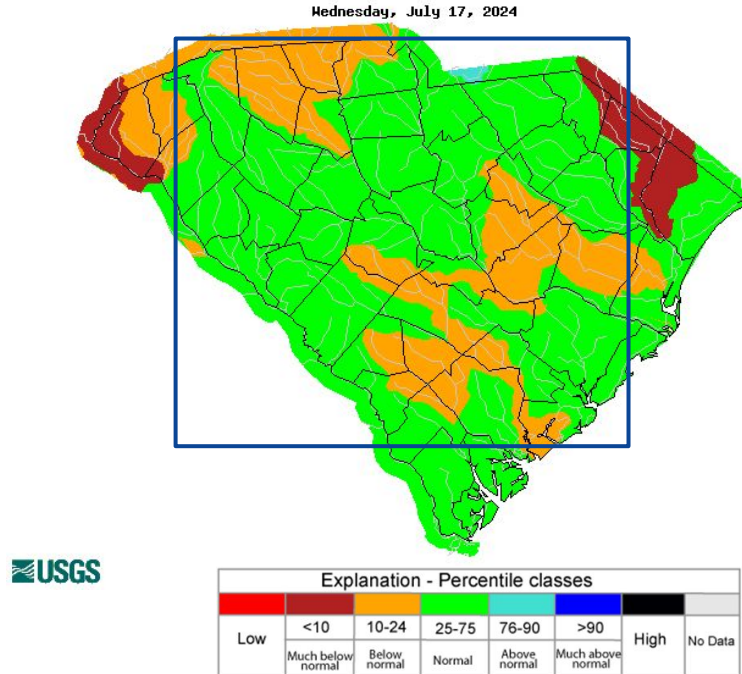


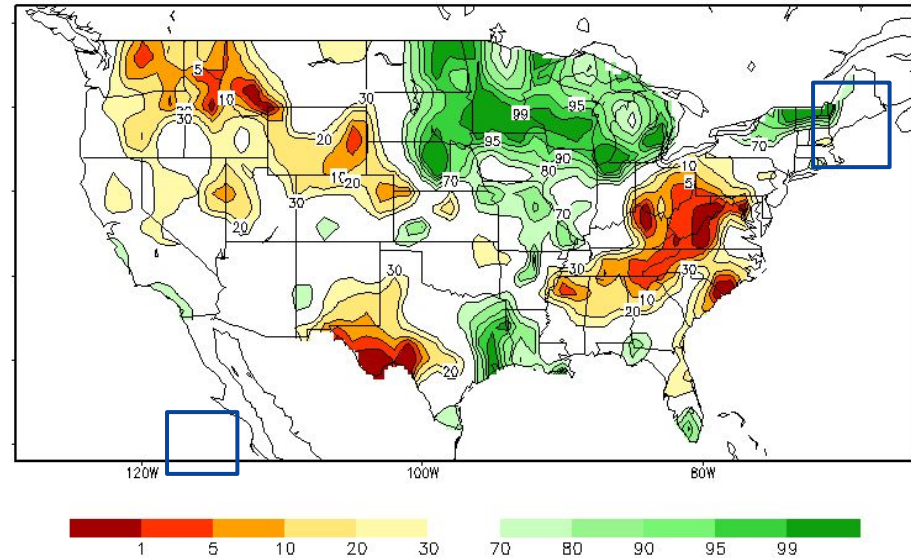
Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 07/17/2024



Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture remains well below normal across much of the state of South Carolina.
- The lack of rainfall combined with the above normal conditions has had a significant impact on the agricultural community across much of the eastern Midlands and Pee Dee region. Especially hard hit, has been the corn crop and pastures.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
JUL 17, 2024

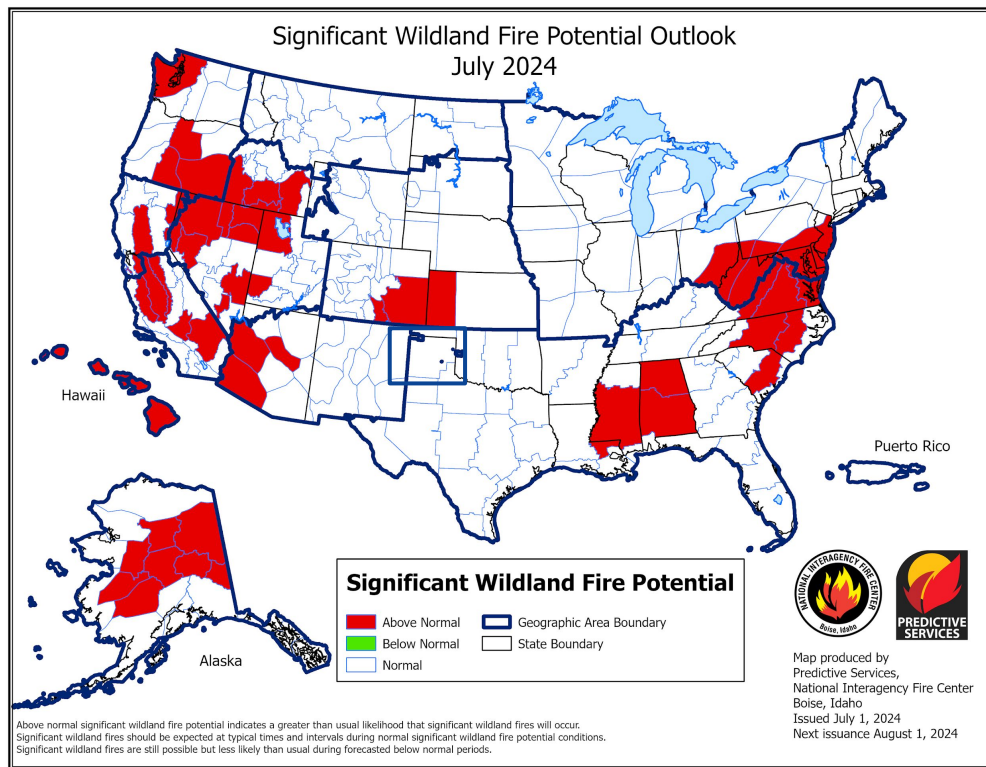




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Due to the lack of rainfall and above normal temperatures, there is an Above Normal potential for Significant Wildland Fire across the eastern portion of South Carolina for July.





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows continue to fall across the Carolinas and Georgia. This is also affecting reservoir pool levels as inflows to those projects continues to fall reducing lake levels.

Agricultural Impacts

- Much of the Agricultural Community continue to report significant impacts. Corn and Pastures are showing the most impacts, with rainfall not enough to improve conditions. The U.S. Farm Service Agency in SC indicated many counties are looking at greater than 50 percent yield loss in corn. Soybean crops also suffering and need rainfall to improve conditions. Operators unable to plant double cropped soybeans due to the dry weather.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- SC Forestry Commission reported 200 wildfires since June 1st burning more than 1,200 acres. This is a 77 percent higher than the state's 10 year average.

Mitigation Actions

- SC Department of Environmental Services reported that some water systems have implemented proactive measures to avoid supply issues.

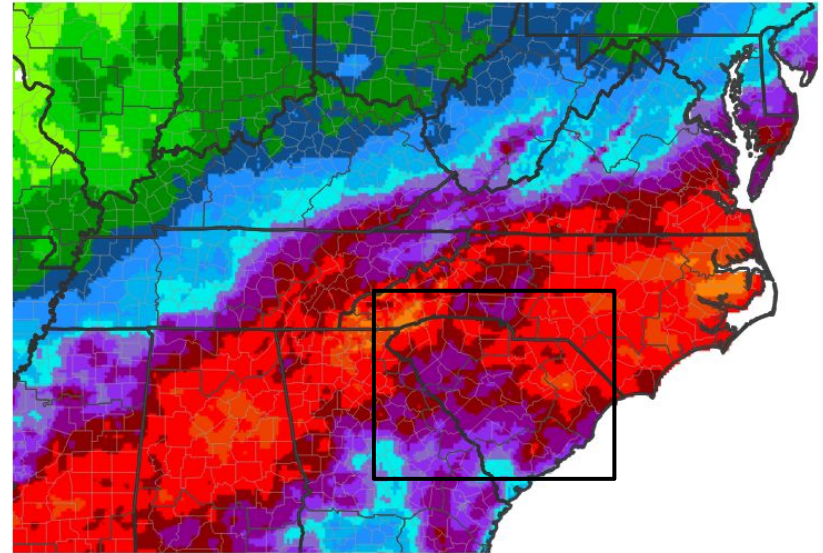




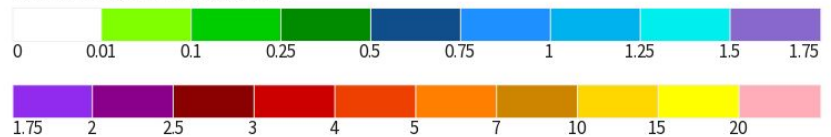
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A more active pattern for precipitation is expected over the next 7 days.
- Widespread precipitation amounts of 2 to 4 inches expected with afternoon and evening showers and thunderstorms each day.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 07/18/24



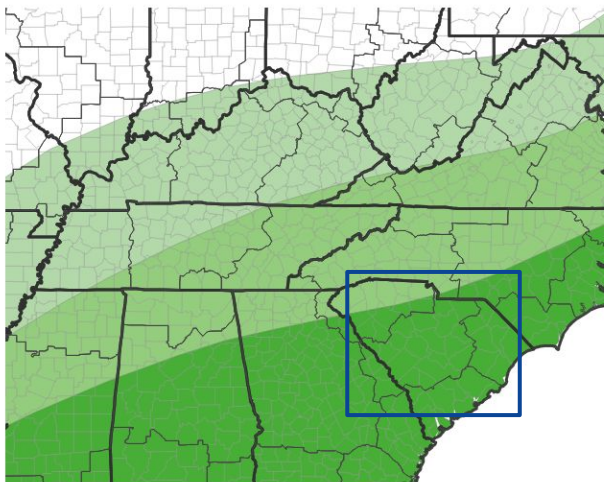


Long-Range Outlooks

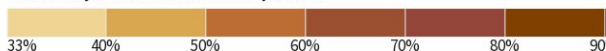
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The Outlook for the remainder of July indicates a continuation of Above Normal Temperatures along with a better chance of Above Normal Precipitation.

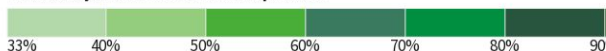
Monthly Precipitation Outlook



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

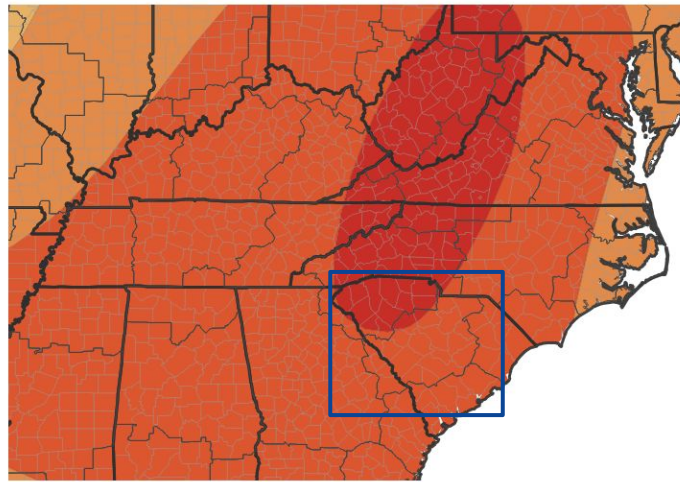


Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

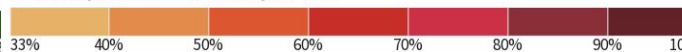
Monthly Temperature Outlook



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 07/1



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Columbia, SC

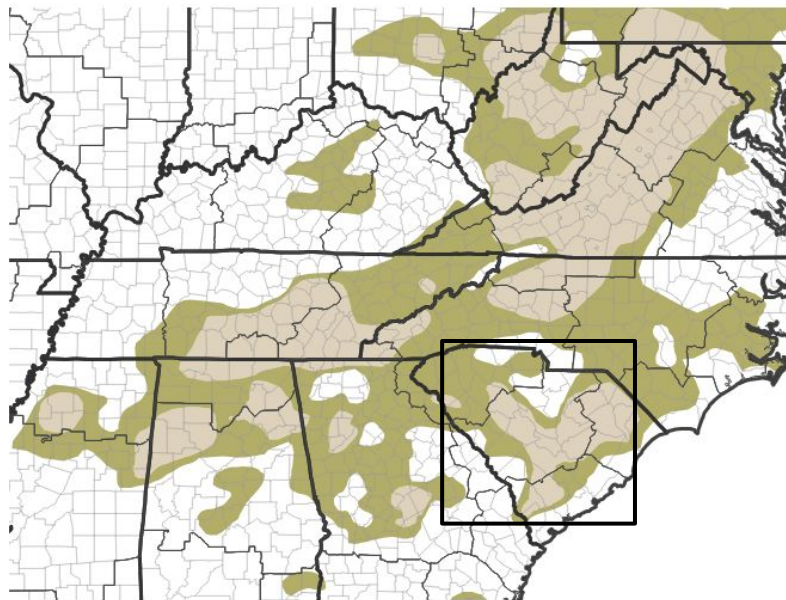


Drought Outlook

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

- The Drought Outlook calls for the drought to improve or end in areas over the next 3 months.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Update:

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Columbia, SC