



Drought Information Statement for NE Minnesota & NW Wisconsin

Valid October 22, 2023

Issued By: NWS Duluth

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated November 2, 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/DLH/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.



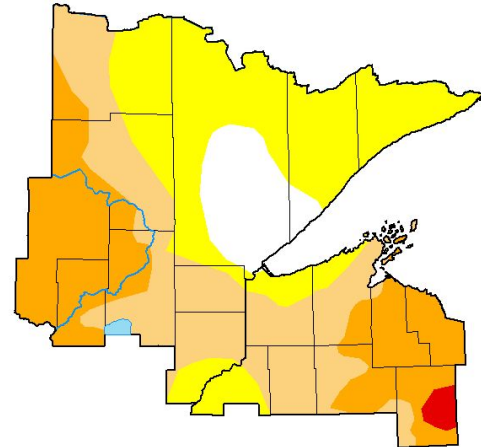


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for NE Minnesota and NW Wisconsin

- Drought conditions continue to improve across Northland.
- Drought intensity and extent
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): Eastern Price County.
 - D2 (Severe Drought): Around the Brainerd Lakes and parts of northwest Wisconsin, including Ashland, Iron, Sawyer, and Price counties.
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): Widespread from north-central Minnesota into northwest Wisconsin
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): A good portion of northeast Minnesota, including the Arrowhead.

U.S. Drought Monitor Duluth, MN WFO



October 17, 2023
(Released Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

| | None | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4 |
|---|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Current | 8.87 | 91.13 | 56.57 | 27.34 | 0.98 | 0.00 |
| Last Week 10-10-2023 | 8.87 | 91.13 | 57.56 | 27.38 | 0.98 | 0.00 |
| 3 Months Ago 07-18-2023 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 87.15 | 23.16 | 2.93 | 0.00 |
| Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2023 | 64.70 | 35.30 | 0.99 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Start of Water Year 09-26-2022 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 78.51 | 46.15 | 4.13 | 0.00 |
| One Year Ago 10-18-2022 | 40.01 | 59.99 | 11.27 | 3.24 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Intensity

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| None | D2 Severe Drought |
| D0 Abnormally Dry | D3 Extreme Drought |
| D1 Moderate Drought | D4 Exceptional Drought |

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author

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NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT October 17th.



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Duluth, MN



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for NE Minnesota and NW Wisconsin

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Nowhere!
 - No Change: Parts of northwest Wisconsin, the Arrowhead, and north-central Minnesota.
 - Drought Improved: 1 to 3 class improvements especially around the Twin Ports, Bayfield Peninsula, and Interstate 35 corridor and vicinity.

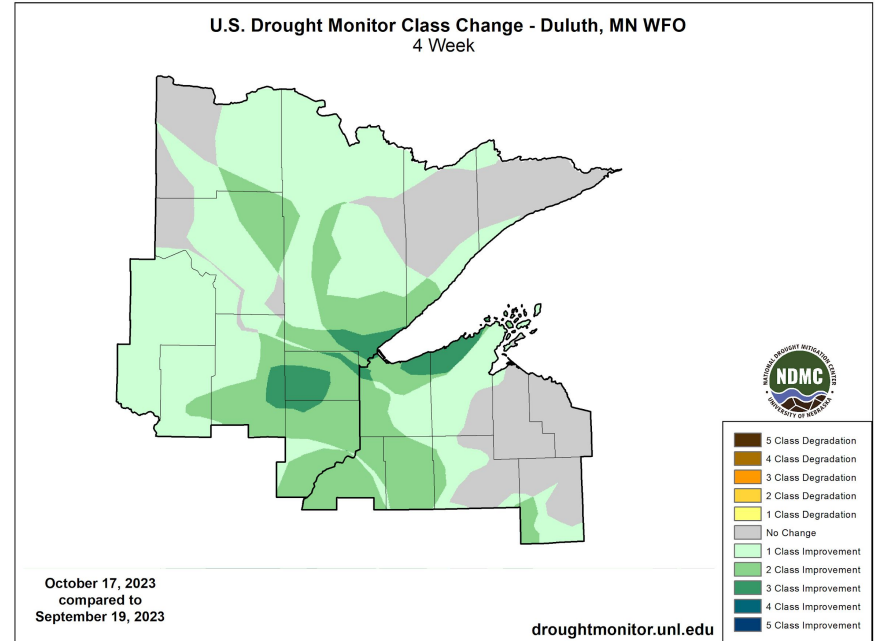


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8am EDT October 17th, 2023.

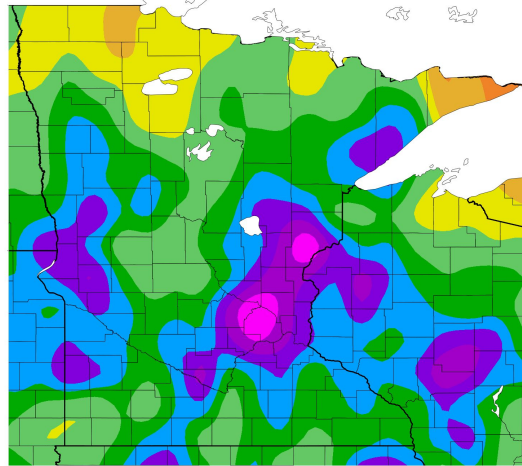




Precipitation

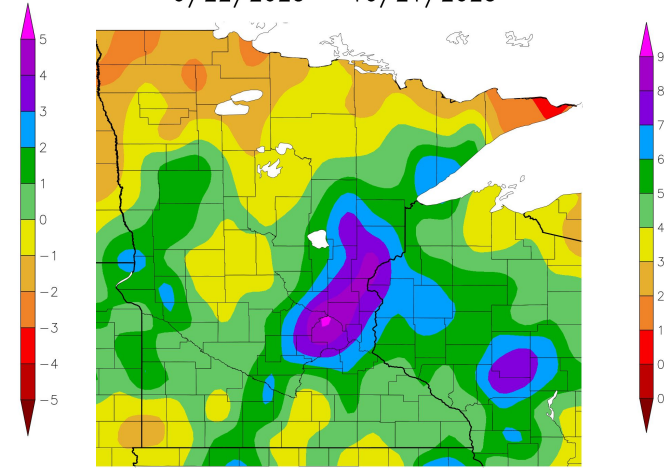
- Most of the region has observed above normal rainfall in the past month, with some areas seeing around 2"-5" above normal.
- There were some smaller pockets of below normal rainfall, notably parts of the South Shore and tip of the Arrowhead.

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
9/22/2023 - 10/21/2023



Generated 10/22/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Precipitation (in)
9/22/2023 - 10/21/2023



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center

Image Captions:
 Left - Precipitation Amount
 Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation
 Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
 Data over the past 30 days ending Oct 21, 2023





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows are around to above average across northwest Wisconsin and around to below average across northeast Minnesota.

Agricultural Impacts

- No recent reports.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire danger is low to moderate across northeast Minnesota and low across northwest Wisconsin.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- None reported.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Rivers are running around normal to slightly above normal across northwest Wisconsin and normal to below normal across northeast Minnesota.
- Several northern Minnesota water trails still rated as “low” or “scarpable” by MN DNR.

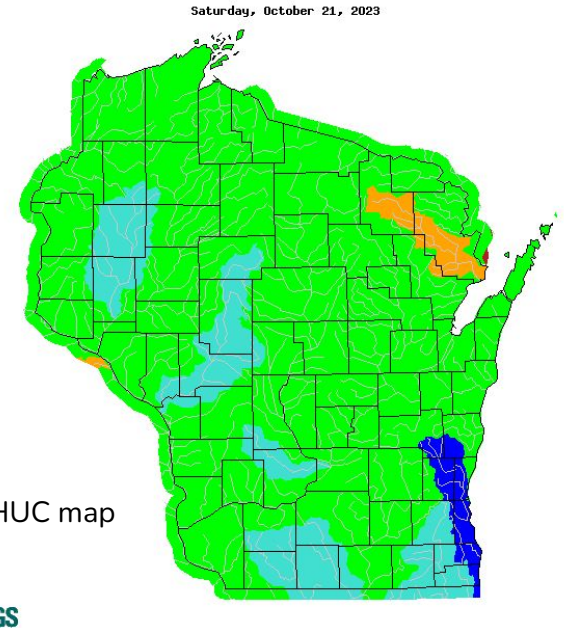
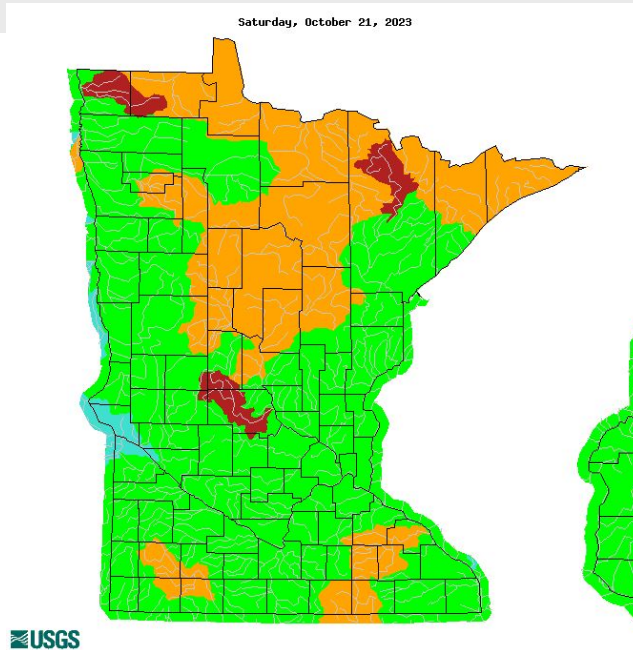


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 10/21/2023





Agricultural Impacts

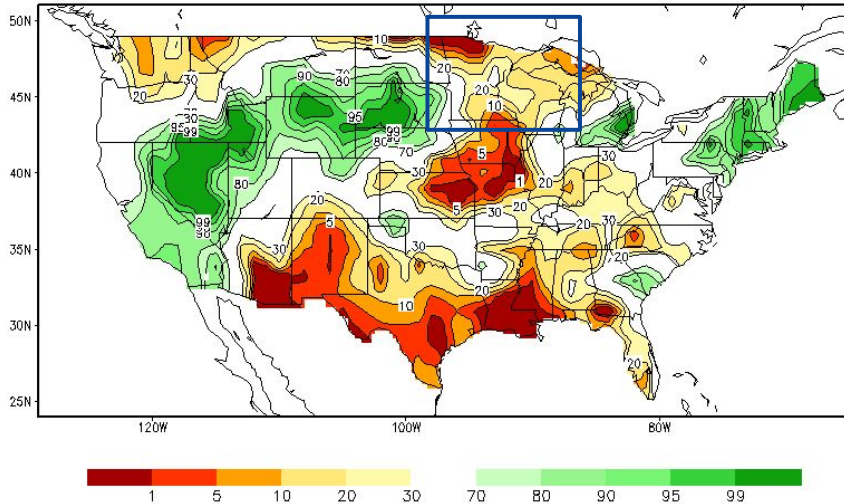
- Soil moisture still low in places, especially in northern Minnesota.

Image Captions:

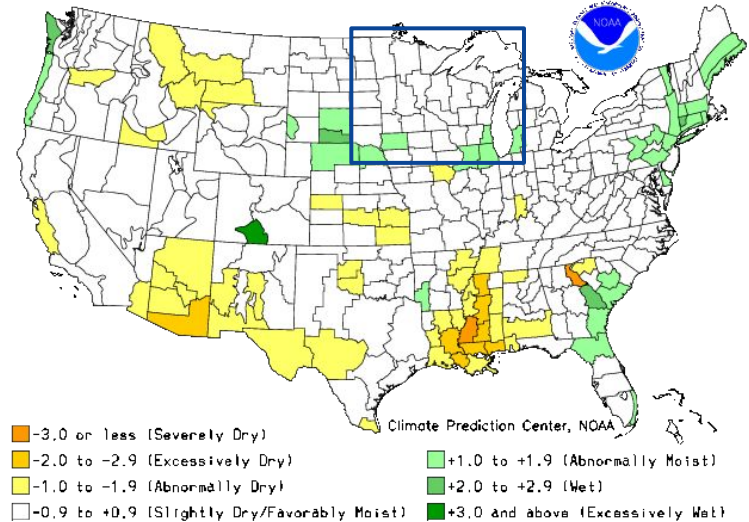
Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid Oct 21, 2023

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending Oct 14, 2023

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
OCT 21, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 14, 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](#).

- Fire danger has decreased with increased rainfall over the past month.

Latest MN burn ban and fire danger information available [here](#).

Latest WI burn ban and fire danger information available [here](#).

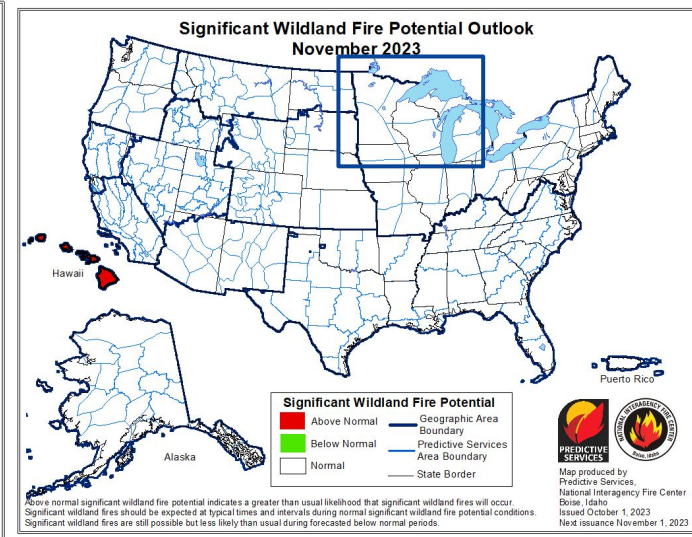
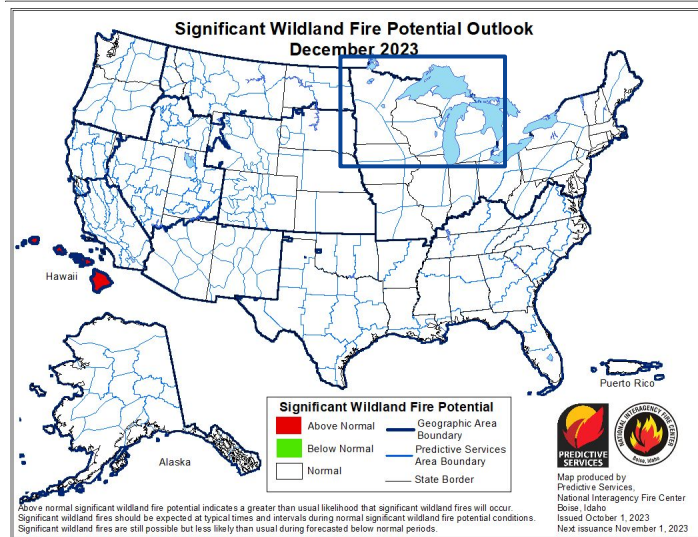


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for November and December 2023





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Around average to above average precipitation possible.
- Some areas of locally heavy rain may be possible, especially in northwest Wisconsin.

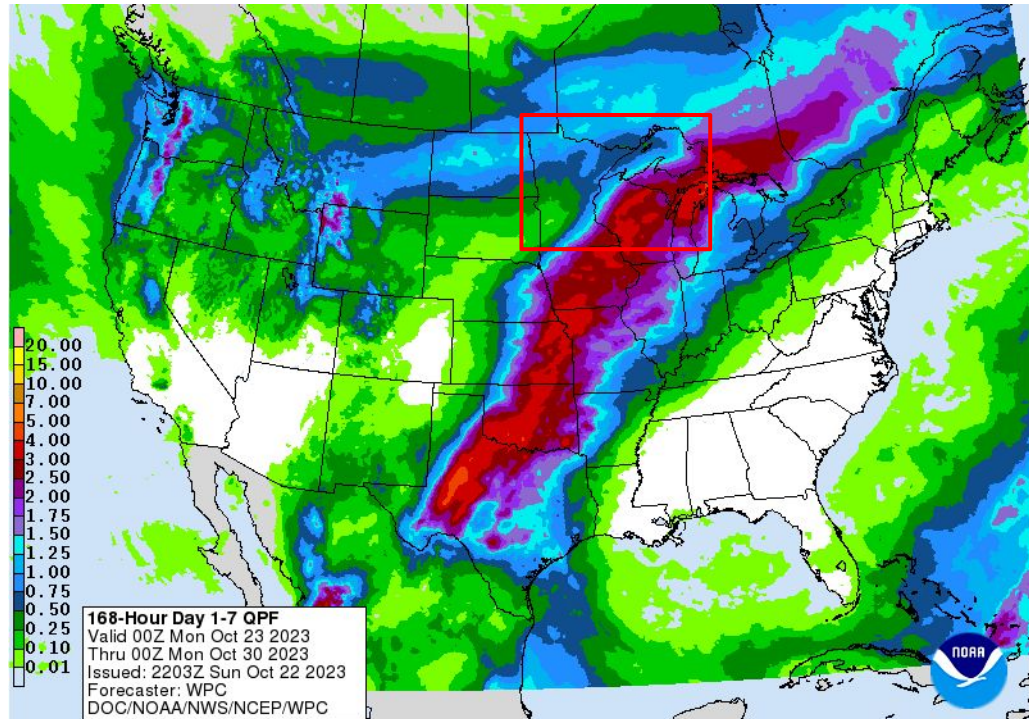


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Monday October 23 through Monday October 30.



Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Generally below normal precipitation is expected going into November.
- Equal chances for above, below, or around normal precipitation in the next 3 months.

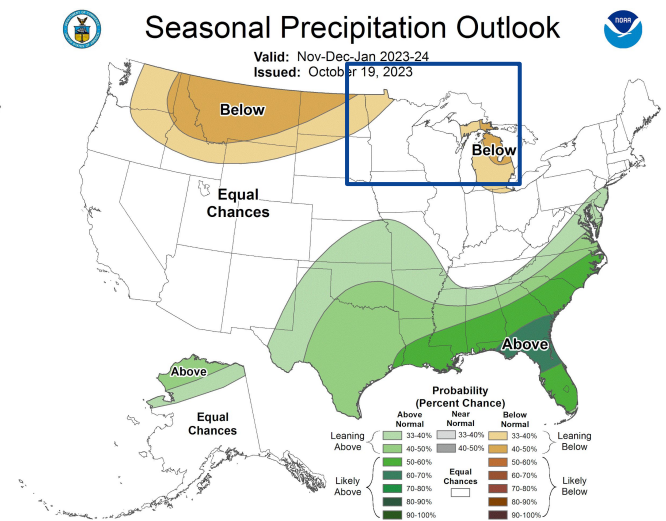
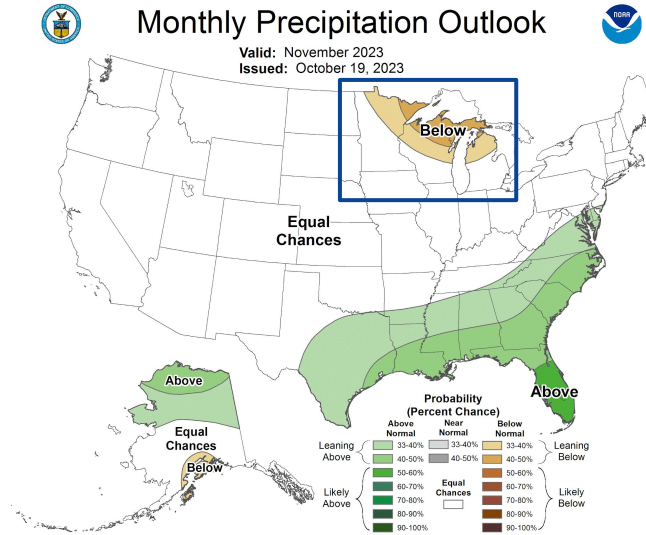


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#),

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid for November 2023 and November-January 2023-24





Drought Outlook

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

- Some drought likely to persist.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for October 19, 2023 - January 31, 2024
Released October 19, 2023

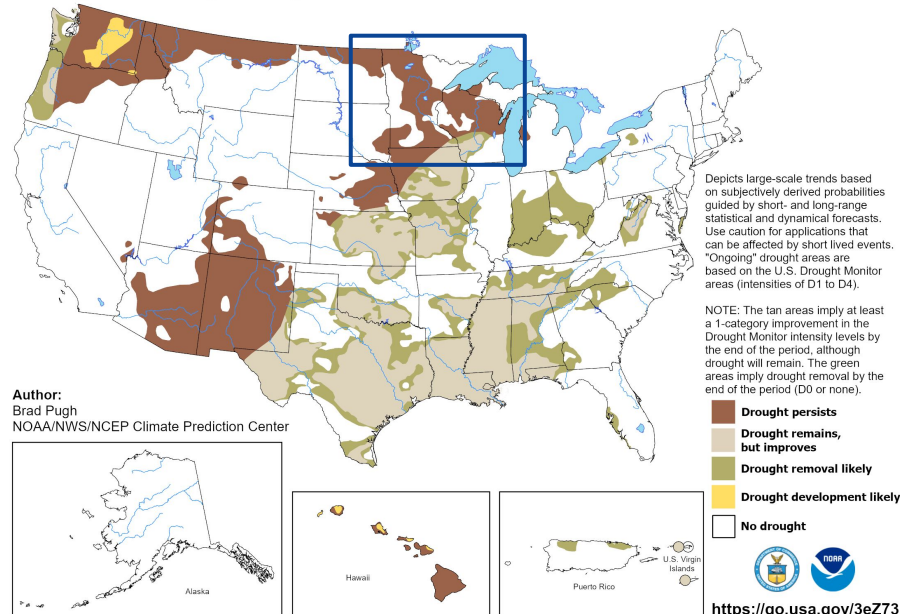


Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released Sep 21, 2023 valid for Sep-Dec 2023

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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