Drought Information Statement for West Texas & Southeast New Mexico

Valid 02/6/2026

Issued By: WFO Midland/Odessa

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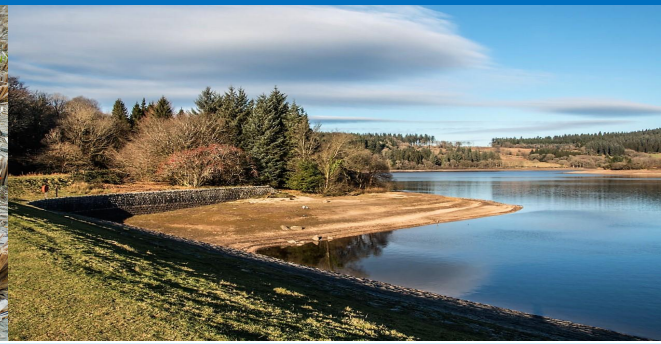
- This product will be updated March 7, 2026 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/maf/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.



U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for [region]

- DROUGHT CONDITIONS IMPROVED FOR PARTS OF WEST TEXAS AND SE NM.

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D4 (Exceptional Drought): Small portions of Brewster and Presidio counties.
  - D3 (Extreme Drought): Portions of Brewster and Presidio counties and into southeast New Mexico.
  - D2 (Severe Drought): Portions of Brewster, Terrell, Jeff Davis, Culberson, Eddy and Presidio counties as well as the Permian Basin.
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): Portions of Lea County into Reeves, Jeff Davis, Pecos, and Brewster counties.
  - D0: (Abnormally Dry): Portions of the eastern Permian Basin, Pecos, Jeff Davis, and northern Terrell counties.

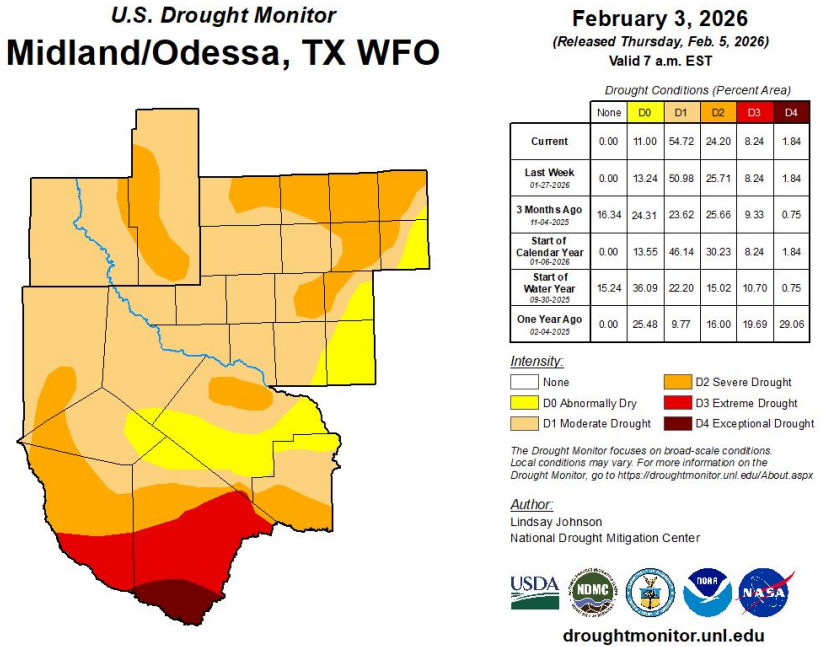


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EST Feb 5th.

Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 1-week change map for [region]

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - A one class degradation was made across the Permian Basin as a result of a dry January.
  - A one class improvement was made across parts of SE New Mexico as two winter storms brought above normal precipitation.

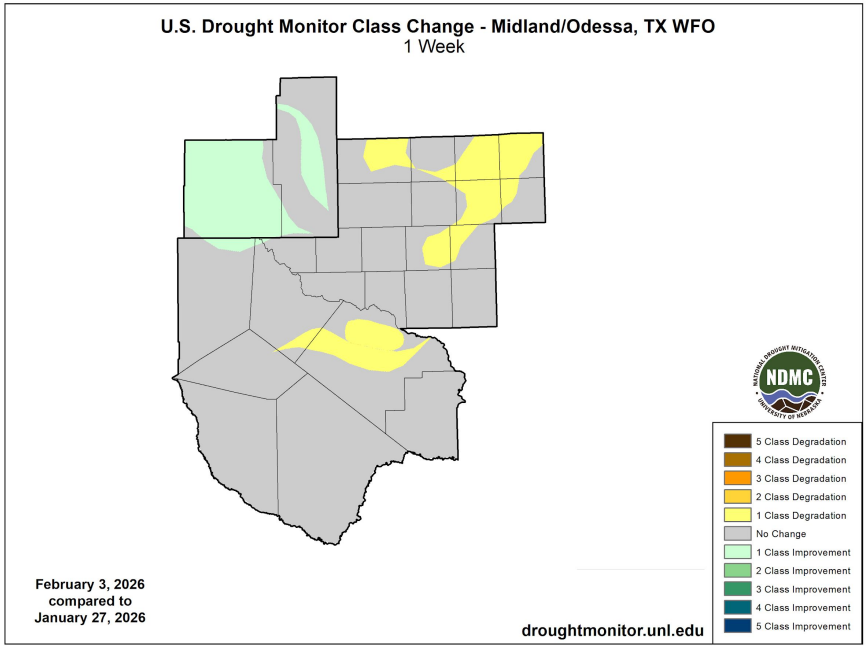
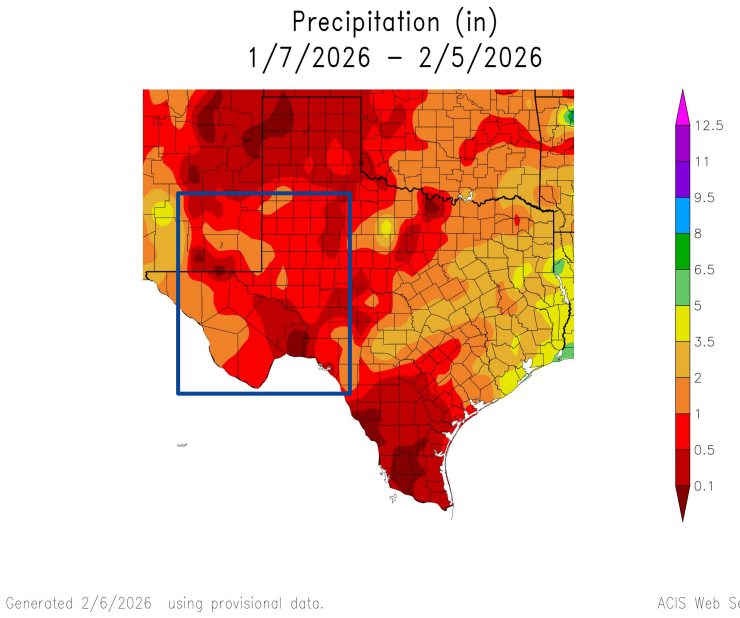


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid 8am EST February 3rd.

Precipitation

- With a winter storm bringing a mix of precipitation during mid to late January, areas from SE New Mexico south into the Davis Mountains and Big Bend saw near to well above normal amounts to begin the year. From Midland/Odessa west, near to below normal precipitation has been seen.



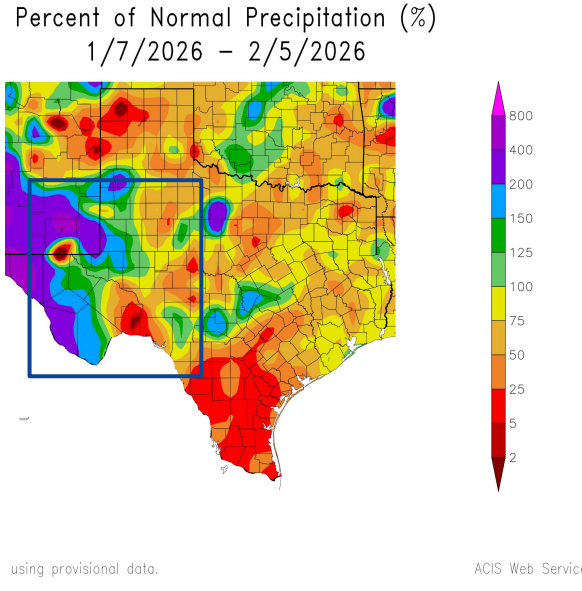
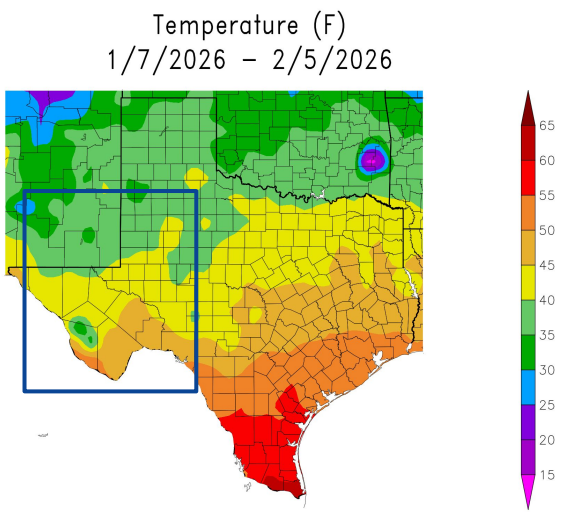


Image Captions:
Left - Precipitation Amount for West Texas and SE NM
Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for West Texas and SE NM
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending February 5, 2025

Temperature

- Average temperatures begin to come up heading into February as the climatological minimum occurs around the beginning of January. Over the last month, an unusually cold stretch from mid to late January kept temperatures well below average to end the month and begin February.



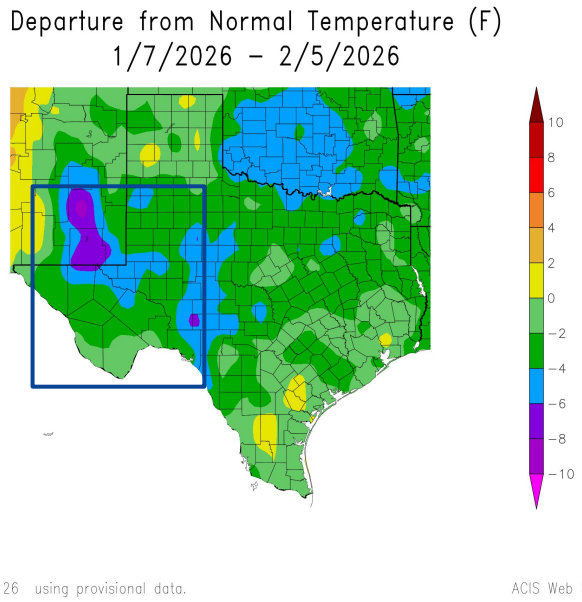


Image Captions:
Left - Average Temperature
Right - Departure from Normal Temperature
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending February 5, 2025

Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Most area rivers and tributaries remain near baseflow. Area reservoirs are at 51.1% conservation capacity. See next page for more details.

Agricultural Impacts

- Freeze damage from the recent cold spell was minimal on crops, but the precipitation that occurred did not significantly improve soil/crop moisture. Further impacts are detailed in the "Texas Crop and Weather Report".

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire weather impacts will be moderate as a mostly dry February is expected to continue. Above normal temperatures in the near term will also allow fuels to continue to cure.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.

Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- The Rio Grande and Pecos River, associated tributaries, and a small portion of Beals Creek are below normal to low.
- All other river and tributary basins are normal.
- Midland Monthly Hydrology Report for December
- January Rainfall

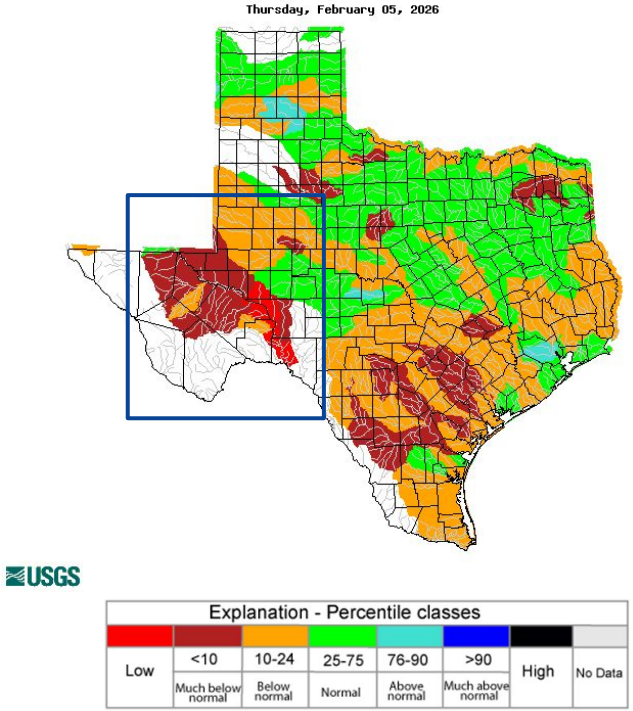
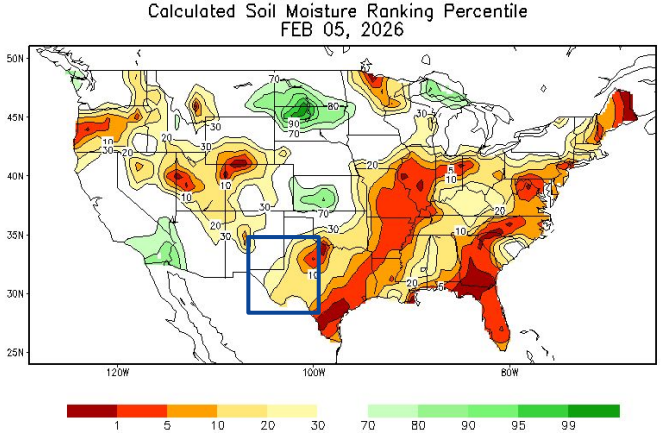


Image Caption: USGS 7 day streamflows for Texas, valid 05 February 2026

Reservoir	Pool Elevation	Current Elevation	% Full
JB Thomas	2258.00	2231.62	29.4
Colorado City	2070.20	2059.40	55.2
Champion Creek	2083.00	2061.96	41.1
Natural Dam Salt Lake	2457.00	M	M
Moss Creek	2337.00	2329.66	68.0
Brantley	3256.70	3245.55	44.0
Avalon	3177.40	3175.52	65.0
Red Bluff	2827.40	2817.62	55.2

Agricultural Impacts

- Recent precipitation has somewhat improved soil moisture in the region, but moisture amounts continue to remain below normal ranking in the bottom 10-30th percentiles.
- Crop moisture is near normal areawide given recent precipitation from the previous winter storm.



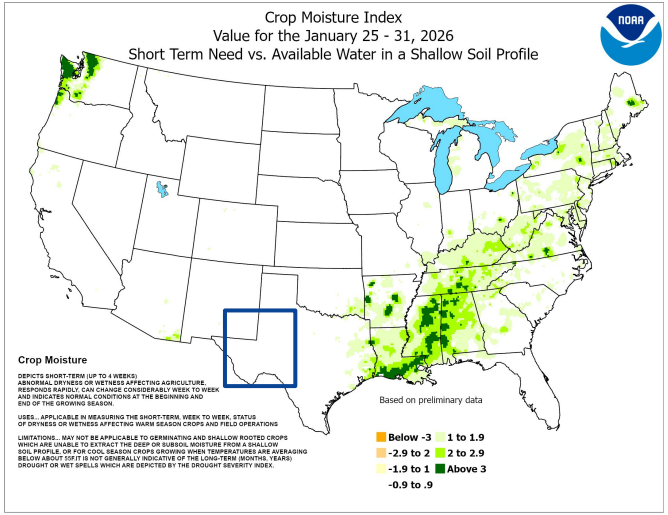
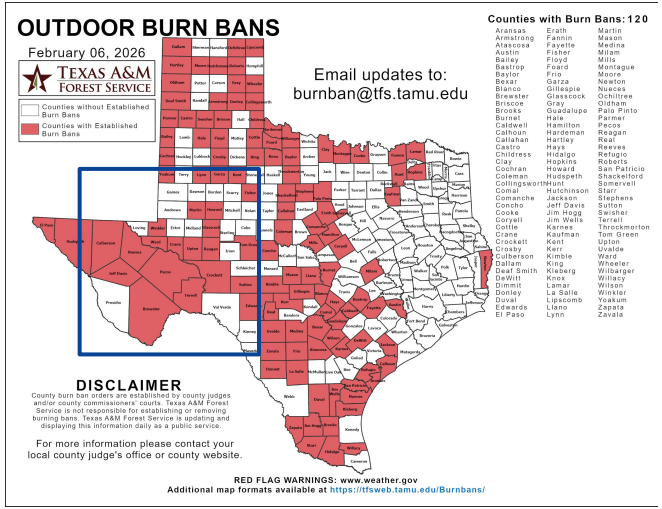


Image Captions:
Left: CPC Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile valid Feb 05, 2026
Right: Crop Moisture Index by Division. Weekly value for period ending Jan 31, 2026

Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Wildfire potential remains normal to above normal across West Texas and southeast New Mexico. Forecasts continue to show below normal precipitation and above normal temperatures for February. This combination would be favorable for wildfire starts and growth as fuels would be more apt to cure.



Latest TX Burn Ban map available [here.]

Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook] for March 2026

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Some precipitation is forecasted for much of the region over the next week. However, precipitation amounts remain meager and would not be enough to significantly change drought or wildfire conditions.

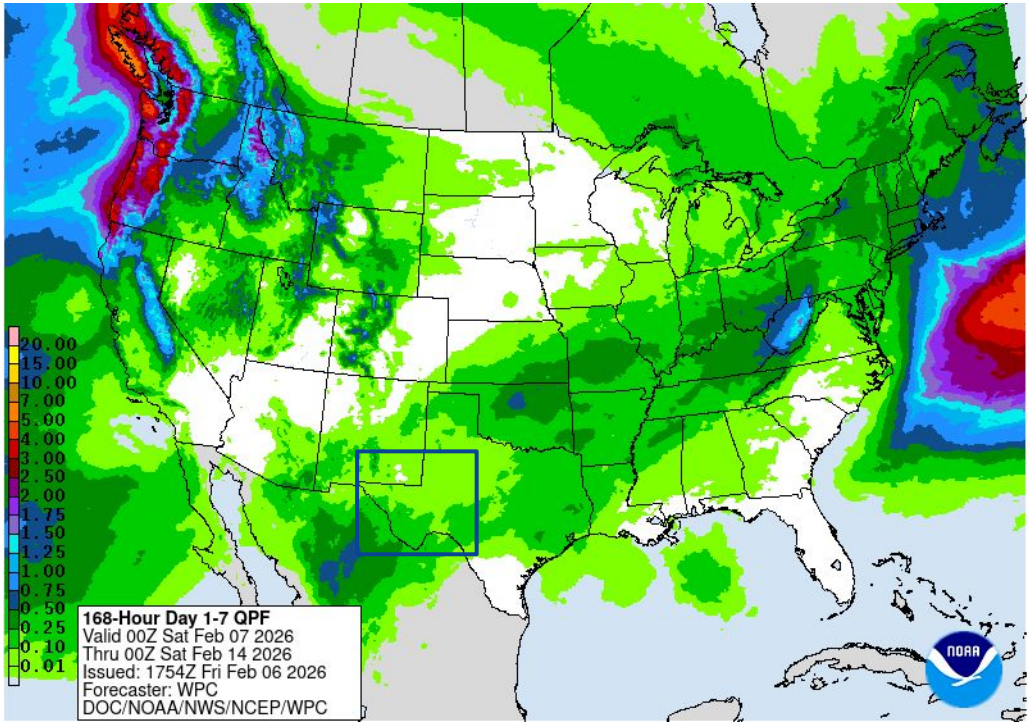
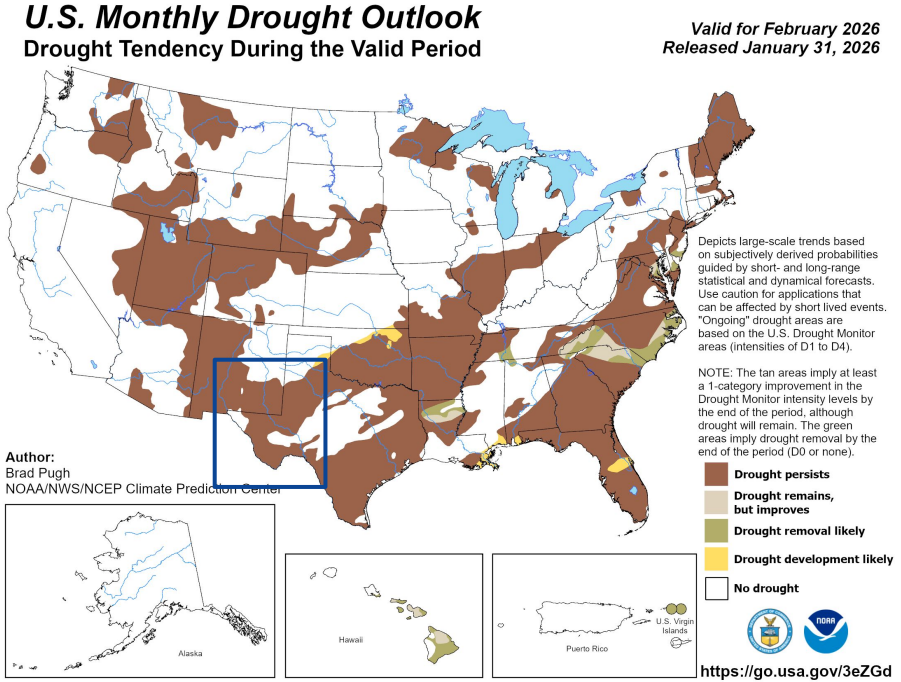


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid Saturday February 07 to Saturday February 14

Drought Outlook

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

- The outlook for the rest of the month shows drought persisting for much of the region as February is expected to see below normal precipitation.



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 01 31, 2026 valid for 02 2025