



Drought Information Statement for West Texas & Southeast New Mexico

Valid 04/02/2025

Issued By: WFO Midland/Odessa

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

- This product will be updated May 02, 2025 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.



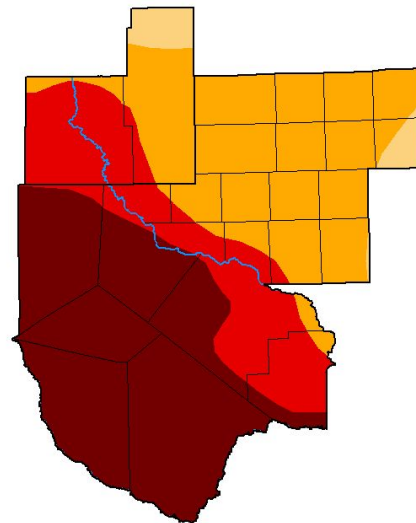


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- DROUGHT CONDITIONS UNCHANGED FOR WEST TEXAS AND SE NM.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D4 (Exceptional Drought): All of Culberson, Jeff Davis, Brewster, and Presidio Counties. Portions of Reeves, Pecos, and Terrell counties.
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): Much of Eddy County and extending southward along the Pecos River Valley.
 - D2 (Severe Drought): Much of the Permian Basin and Lea County.
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): Portions of Lea County and the Permian Basin.
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): None

U.S. Drought Monitor Midland/Odessa, TX WFO



March 25, 2025

(Released Thursday, Mar. 27, 2025)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0	D1	D2	D3	D4
Current	0.00	0.00	3.28	34.87	21.01	40.84
Last Week 03-18-2025	0.00	0.00	21.82	18.76	18.58	40.84
3 Months Ago 12-24-2024	20.86	11.34	7.10	12.73	18.91	29.06
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2025	17.56	13.45	7.90	13.13	18.91	29.06
Start of Water Year 10-01-2024	13.24	20.10	14.55	17.67	18.38	16.06
One Year Ago 03-26-2024	4.17	24.43	38.29	21.57	5.31	6.24

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:

Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EST March 27th.



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

National Weather Service
Midland/Odessa



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 change was made across most of the Permian Basin.
 - No changes were made across the rest of the region.

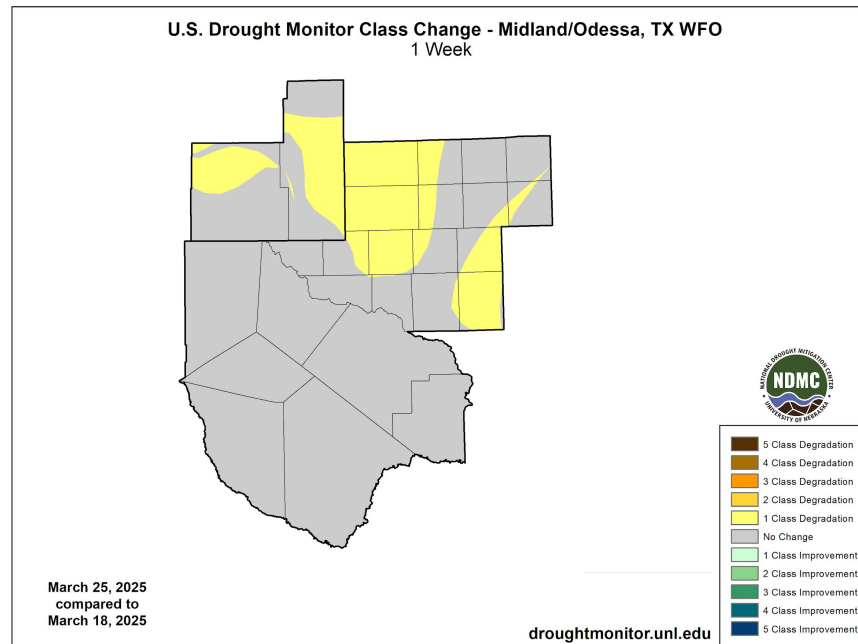
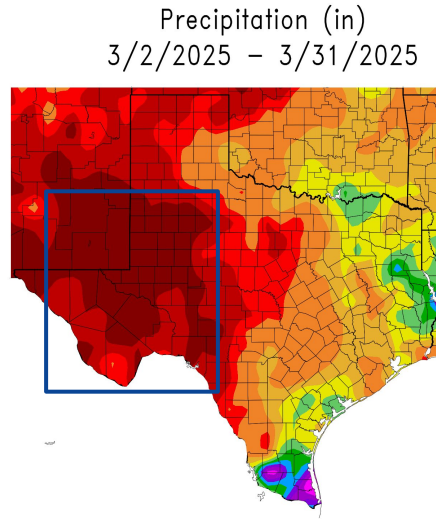


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid 8am EST March 25th.



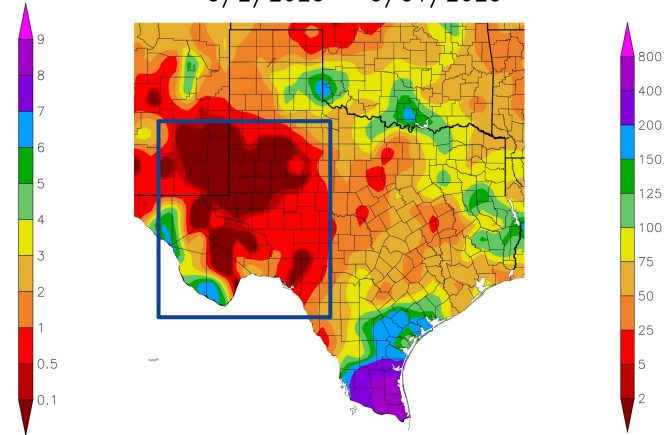
Precipitation

- Well below normal precipitation has been seen over the last month with the small exception of portions along the Rio Grande. However, overall rain amounts are not enough to have changed drought severity.



Generated 4/1/2025 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
3/2/2025 – 3/31/2025



NOAA Regional Climate Centers at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center

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.

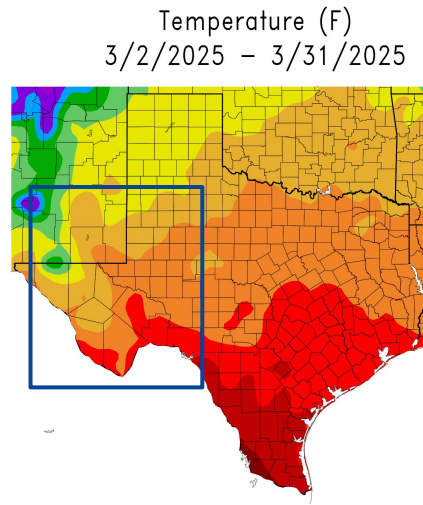
Data over the past 30 days ending March 31, 2024



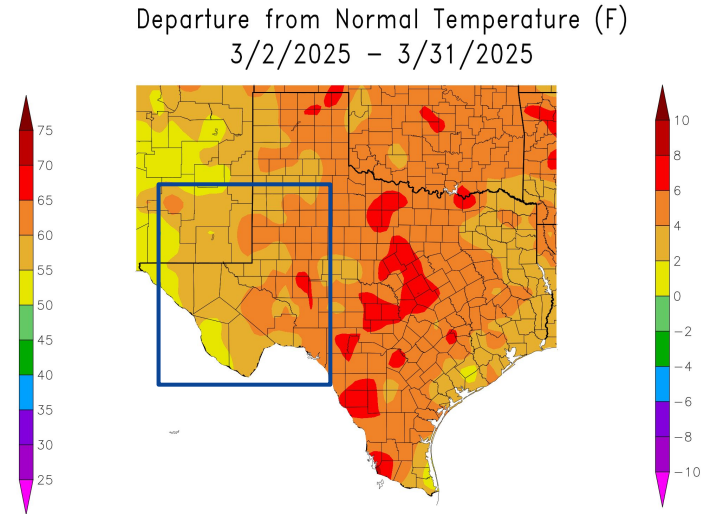


Temperature

- Temperatures have been anywhere from 2 to 6 degrees above normal areawide over the past month. Combine that warming temperatures for Spring and any moisture that does make its way into the area can be wicked away quite quickly.



Generated 4/1/2025 at HPRCC using provisional data.



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 25 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 March 31, 2024





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 57.8% conservation capacity. See next page for more details.

Agricultural Impacts

- Per Agrilife Texas A&M [Crop and Weather Report](#), corn planting began and should be complete soon. Without significant rain, irrigated cotton acres could be reduced again this season. Alfalfa and pecans were watered.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire weather impacts will be low to moderate for February. Fuels remain in good condition thanks to continued low level moisture. However, windy(and continued dry) conditions will cure fuels and lead to elevated to near critical fire weather conditions at times.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

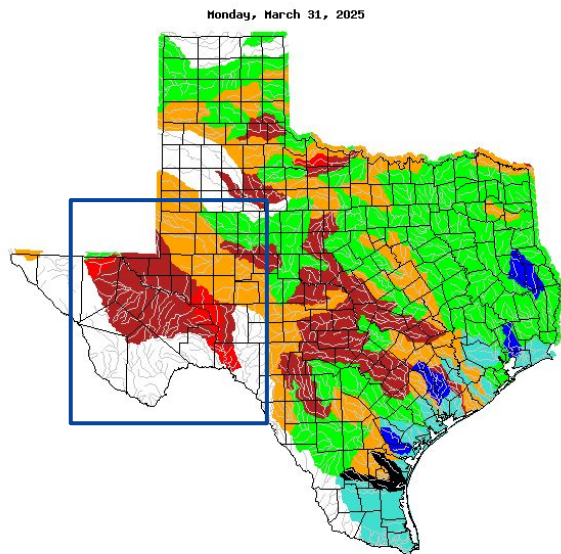
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- The Colorado and Delaware River Basins are normal.
- All other river and tributary basins are below normal to low.
- [Midland Monthly Hydrology Report for February](#)
- [March Rainfall](#)



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10 Much below normal	10-24 Below normal	25-75 Normal	76-90 Above normal	>90 Much above normal	High	No Data

Image Caption: [USGS 7 day streamflows for Texas](#), valid 31 March 2025

Reservoir	Pool Elevation	Current Elevation	% Full
JB Thomas	2258.00	2236.39	38.9
Colorado City	2070.20	2063.20	69.8
Champion Creek	2083.00	2064.56	47.0
Natural Dam Salt Lake	2457.00	2447.28	48.4
Moss Creek	2337.00	2332.30	80.0
Brantley	3256.70	3253.83	88.0
Avalon	3177.40	3174.63	50.0
Red Bluff	2827.40	2812.90	40.2





Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture continues to rank below the 5th-10th percentiles across much of West Texas with a large portion near the 1st or driest percentile.
- Crop moisture remains excessively dry for West Texas.

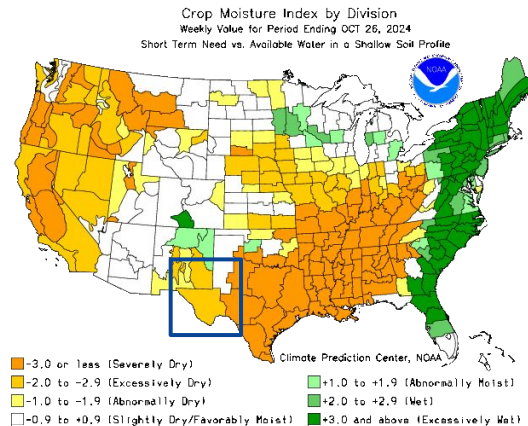
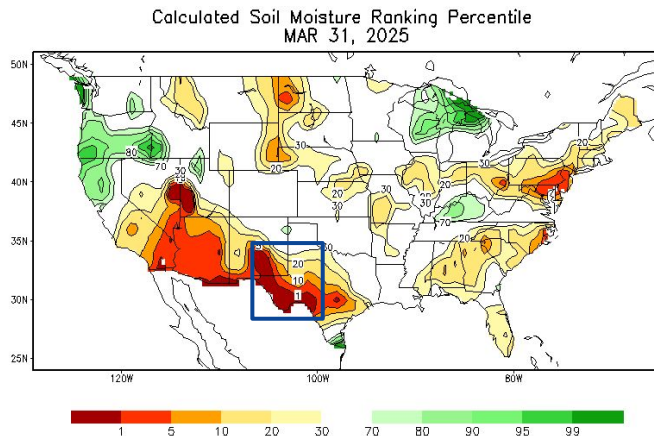


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid Mar 31, 2025

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending Oct 26, 2024

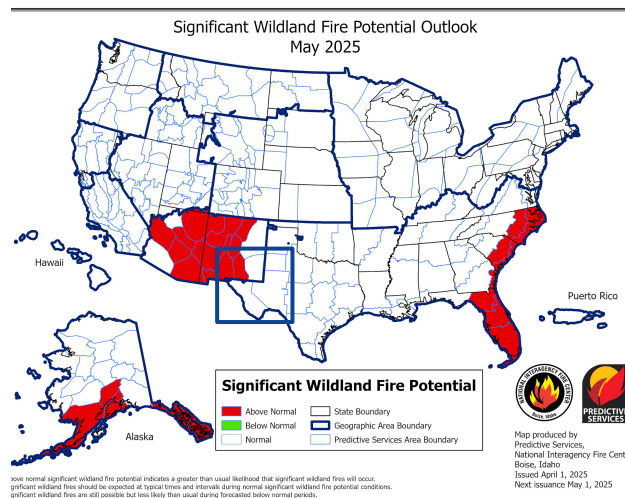


National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Midland/Odessa



- The potential for significant fires across the region is near normal heading into April and May as dry and windy conditions continue.



Latest TX Burn Ban map available [here](#).

Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for May 2025



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Some precipitation will be possible towards the end of the coming week, particularly across southeast New Mexico and the Permian Basin. However, more consistently timed and wetting rains will be needed to truly improve drought conditions.

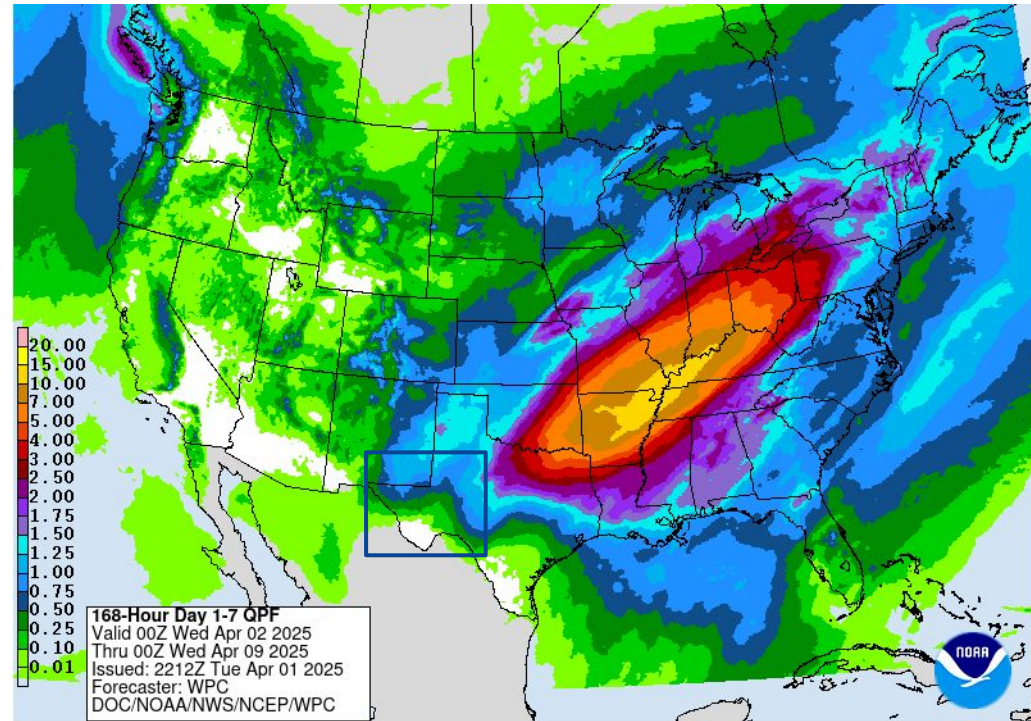


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Wednesday Apr 02 to Wednesday Apr 09





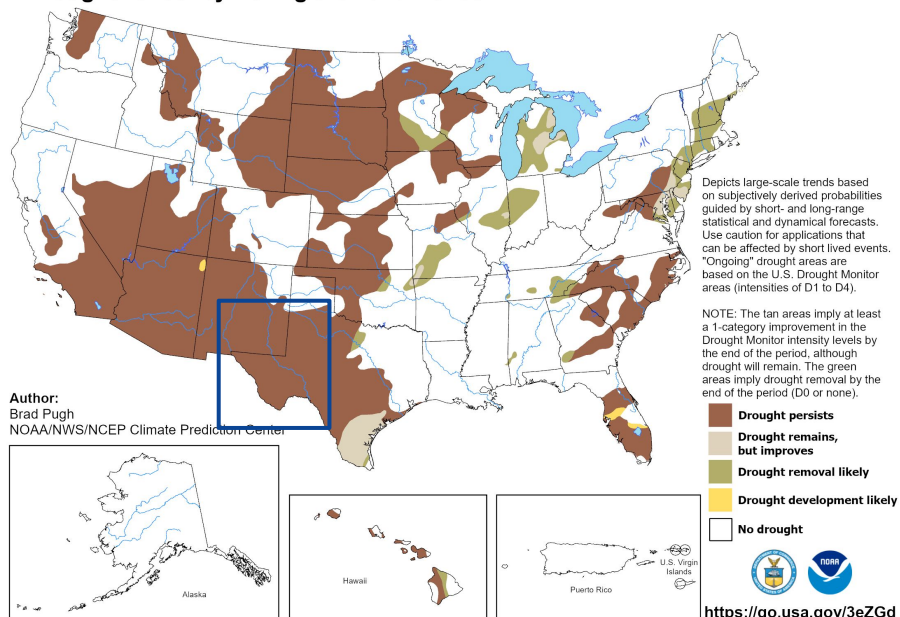
Drought Outlook

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

- The outlook for April shows more of the same. Drought continuing to persist or even expand for parts of the area. This does not mean there will be no precipitation, but that consistent rainfall is not expected in amounts great enough to improve the drought.

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

Valid for April 2025
Released March 31, 2025



<https://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released 03 31, 2025 valid for 04 2025

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
Midland/Odessa