

Drought Information Statement for southeast MS, southwest AL, and the western FL Panhandle Valid 09/07/2023

Issued By: WFO Mobile/Pensacola

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated Sep. 14, 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/mob/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.







U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the <u>latest U.S. Drought Monitor</u> for the SE US and central Gulf Coast

- Extreme Drought Persists across portions of Southern Mississippi.
- Severe Drought Holds across much of the Remainder of the Southern Half of the Local Area.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): Much of Stone Co. MS.
 - D2 (Severe Drought): Extends from Perry County MS, southeast to the Eastern Shore of Baldwin Co. AL. Portions of Escambia and Conecuh Co.'s in AL.
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): Mainly along and south of US Highway 84 to the I-10 Corridor.

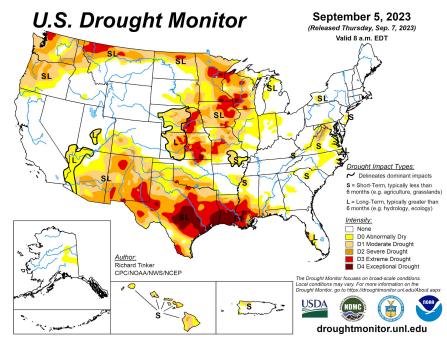


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT September 5th.

Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4-week change map for the SE US and central Gulf Coast

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Expanding northward, to much of the local area mainly along and south of US Highway 84.

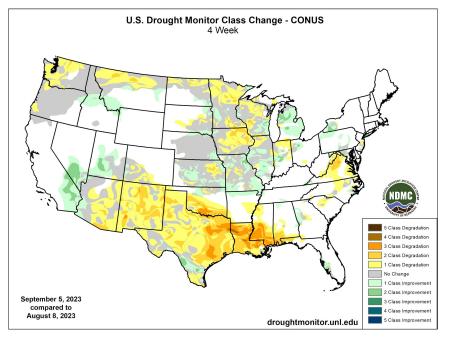


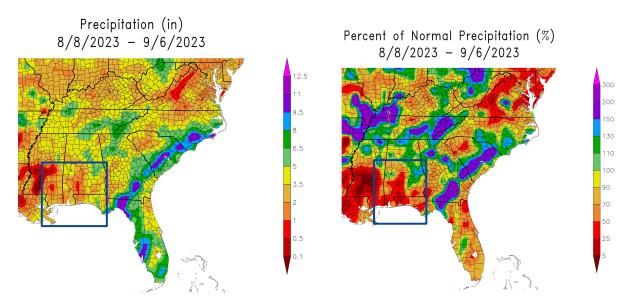
Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8am EDT September 5th.





Table of Accumulated Rainfall (Inches) from Select Locations - August 1st to September 6th, 2023

Station	Observed	Normal	Departur
Brewton AL 3NNE (COOP)	1.16	8.19	-7.03
Beaumont MS (COOP)	0.58	6.56	-5.98
Atmore AL (COOP)	1.18	6.64	-5.46
Dauphin Island AL (COOP)	2.03	7.23	-5.20
Pensacola FL (ASOS)	3.65	8.83	-5.18
Niceville FL (COOP)	5.87	10.57	-4.70
Mobile AL (ASOS)	3.37	7.98	-4.61
Evergreen AL (ASOS)	1.63	6.22	-4.59
Downtown Mobile AL (ASOS)	3.54	8.11	-4.57
Pensacola FL 7NNE (COOP)	3.40	7.95	-4.55
Fairhope AL 2NE (COOP)	4.33	8.58	-4.25
Crestview FL (ASOS)	3.72	7.48	-3.76
Bay Minette AL (COOP)	4.86	8.58	-3.72
Leakesville MS 6WSW (COOP)	2.78	6.24	-3.46
Waynesboro MS 2W (COOP)	2.95	5.38	-2.43



Generated 9/7/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers ³ at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions: Left - Southeast US Precipitation Amount. Box - Central Gulf Coast Mostly 1 to 5 inches. Right - Percent of Normal Precipitation for Southeast US. Box - Central Gulf Coast 5 to 50% of Normal.

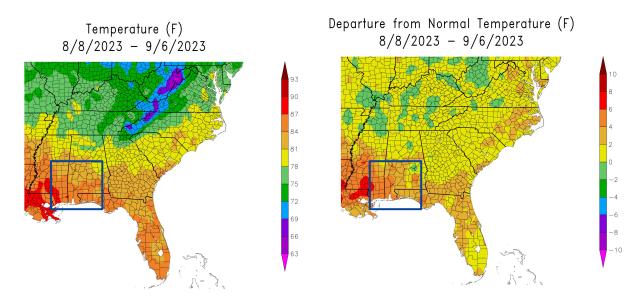
Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.

Data over the past 30 days ending September 6, 2023



Temperature

- With persistent dryness comes above normal heat with past 30 days average temperatures coming in well above normal.
- Of note, some areas mainly along the lower Alabama, and Tombigbee waterways and westward into southeast MS have seen average temperatures 4 to 6° above normal.
- The deep south has seen the warmest temperatures Generated 9/7/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data. on record this period.



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 23 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:

Left - Southeast US Average Temperature. Box- Central Gulf Coast Mostly 84 to 88° Right - Southeast US Departure from Normal Temperature. Box- Central Gulf Coast Mostly 4 to 6° above normal Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center. Data over the past 30 days ending September 6, 2023



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

Hydrologic Impacts

• Many local streams and rivers are experiencing low water and stream flow which will have a negative impact on navigation of recreational boating and commercial waterway needs.

Agricultural Impacts

• Crop condition in the driest of areas is very poor and pasture lands provide little to no livestock feed. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.

Fire Hazard Impacts

• The risk of wildfire is above normal over southeast Mississippi and southwest Alabama.

Societal Impacts

• Increase in air-borne allergens likely to create problems for respiratory sensitive groups.

Mitigation Actions

• Water conservation techniques are strongly encouraged in drought areas. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Local water restriction ordinances may be in place.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Select River/Stream Points at Below Normal Levels - Valid 8AM September 7th, 2023

River/Stream Point	Discharge(cfs)	Stage(ft)	%Class, Rating
Cyprus Creek near Janice MS	8.15	5.67	15, Below Normal
Red Creek at Vestry MS	148	4.26	11, Below Normal
Big Creek at Co. Rd 63 near Wilmer AL	15.9	1.59	14, Below Normal
Chickasaw Creek near Kushla AL	43.4	2.73	5, Much Below Normal
Fish River Near Silver Hill AL	61.4	1.06	19, Below Normal
Styx River near Elsanor AL	128	1.79	8, Below Normal
Blackwater River near Bradley AL	31.2	0.77	6, Much Below Normal
Eleven Mile Creek near West Pensacola FL	24.6	4.76	5, Much Below Normal
Perdido River at Barrineau Park FL	250	1.38	7, Much Below Normal
Big Coldwater Creek near Milton FL	269	2.36	14, Below Normal
Shoal River near Crestview FL	329	2.65	3, Much Below Normal
Yellow River at Milligan FL	325	0.99	18, Below Normal

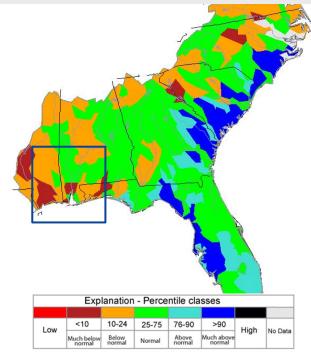


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 09/07/2023. Box- Central Gulf Coast is seeing stream flows below to much below normal.





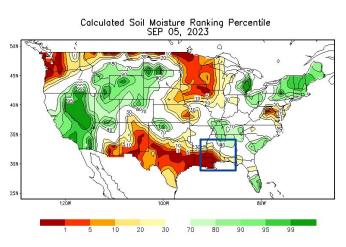
Agricultural Impacts

- Crop condition in the driest of areas is very poor. Crop disease elevated. Pasture lands provide little to no livestock feed. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Statewide Soil Moisture Deficiency % (% Change from Previous Week): Topsoil:

MS- 66 (+2), AL- 50 (0), FL-18 (-15)

Subsoil:

MS- 64 (+3), AL- 39 (0), FL- 24 (-9)



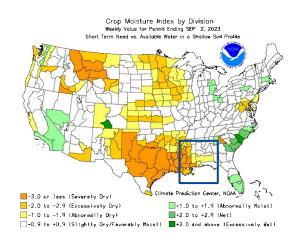


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking

Percentile valid September 5, 2023

Right: Crop Moisture Index by Division. Weekly

value for period ending Sep 2, 2023



Fire Hazard Impacts

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

 Decayed timber and very dry underbrush in area forests along with dry grasslands pose an above normal risk for significant wildfire potential over southeast Mississippi and southwest Alabama.

Latest Burn Bans and/or Advisories:

Mississippi Alabama Florida

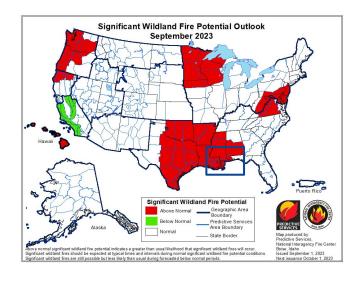


Image Caption: <u>Significant Wildland Fire</u>
<u>Potential Monthly Outlook</u> for September 2023





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

• The latest forecast for the central Gulf coast calls for little in the way of rainfall, at mostly less than a quarter inch through the period.

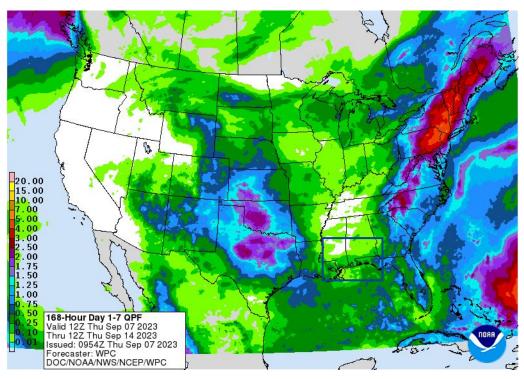


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center <u>7-day precipitation forecast</u> valid Thursday September 7 to Thursday September 14, 2023. Central Gulf Coast mostly less than a guarter inch.





Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day Temperature Outlook and Precipitation Outlook.

 A narrow strip of rapid onset drought is outlooked through the middle of September from the eastern Red River Valley of Texas/Oklahoma, extending east to across central Mississippi and perhaps over the interior of southwest Alabama.

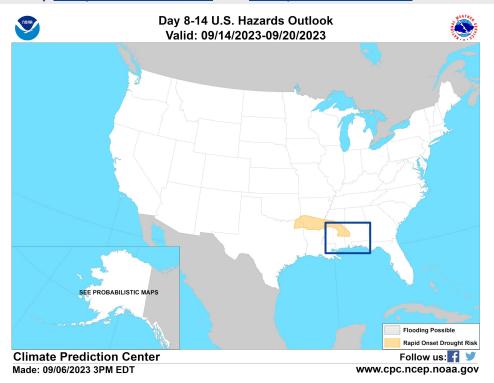


Image Caption:

Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook Valid Sep. 14 to 20, 2023.



Long-Range Outlooks The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks car

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

 Temperatures are favored to be likely above normal going through the month of September, while equal chances of above or below normal precipitation is outlooked for the central Gulf coast.

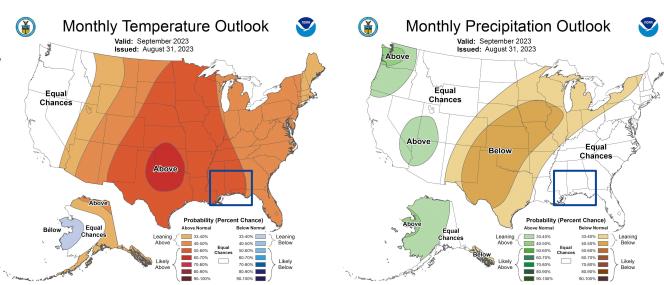


Image Captions:

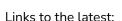
Left - <u>Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook.</u>
Right - <u>Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook.</u>
Valid September 2023



Drought Outlook

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

- Drought remains over extreme southern Mississippi but may show some improvement in the coming weeks. To the east, indications suggest that drought removal will be likely over the western Florida Panhandle.
- Over the interior northwest counties, potential of rapid onset drought suggests persistence of drought or worsening conditions in current, abnormally dry or moderate drought areas.



Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook

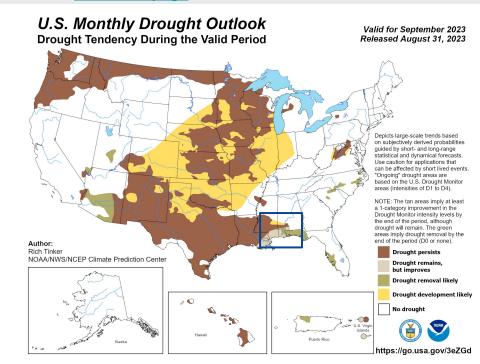


Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released August 31, 2023 valid for September 2023

