



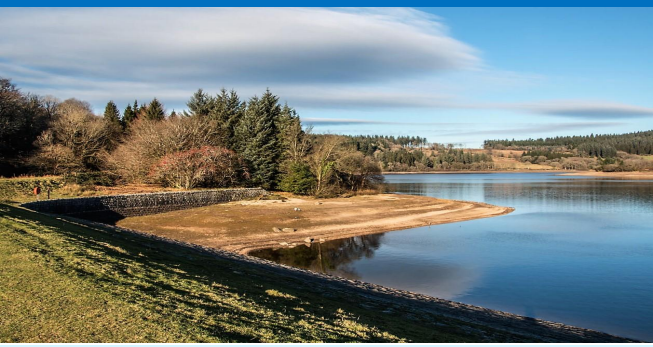
Drought Information Statement for southeast MS, southwest AL, and the western FL Panhandle

Valid 10/12/2023

Issued By: WFO Mobile/Pensacola

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated October 19, 2023 (or sooner) if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit weather.gov/mob/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.



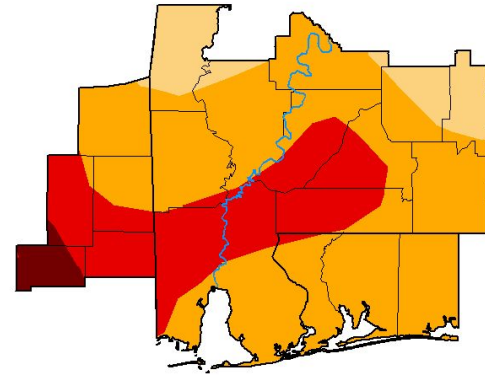


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the SE US and central Gulf Coast

- EXCEPTIONAL drought persists over portions of interior southeast Mississippi, predominantly affecting parts of Stone and Perry Counties.
- Severe to Extreme drought persists across the rest of southeast Mississippi, southwest Alabama (south of the US Highway 84 corridor), and northwest Florida.
- Drought intensity and Extent**
 - D4 (Exceptional Drought):** Stone County, MS and portions of Perry County, MS.
 - D3 (Extreme Drought):** Persists across portions of southeast Mississippi and southwest Alabama.
 - D2 (Severe Drought):** Persists across the remainder of southeast Mississippi. Expands deeper into southwest and south-central Alabama.
 - D1 (Moderate Drought):** Expands to areas north of US Highway 84.

U.S. Drought Monitor Mobile, AL/ Pensacola, FL WFO



October 10, 2023
(Released Thursday, Oct. 12, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	89.56	27.86	2.45
Last Week 10-03-2023	0.00	100.00	99.65	79.67	27.91	1.45
3 Months Ago 07-11-2023	99.96	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	46.95	53.05	17.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2022	0.00	100.00	89.36	74.41	16.63	1.45
One Year Ago 10-11-2022	0.00	100.00	21.25	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme 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>

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CPC/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor for the NWS Mobile/Pensacola Forecast Area valid 8am EDT October 12th.





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [1-week change map](#) for the SE US and central Gulf Coast

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
 - **Drought Worsened:** Areas along and north of US Highway 84 experienced a one class degradation.
 - **No Change:** Much of the local area experienced no change in the drought intensity compared in the past week.
- For reference, the 4 Week Drought Monitor Class Change shows a 2-3 class degradation across portions of south-central Alabama and northwest Florida.

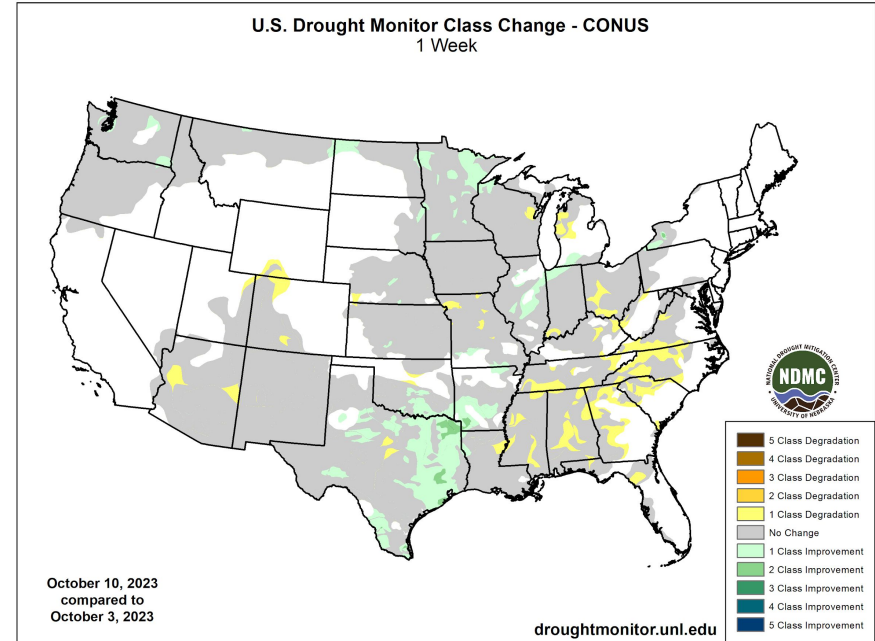


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 1-week change map valid 8am EDT October 10th.





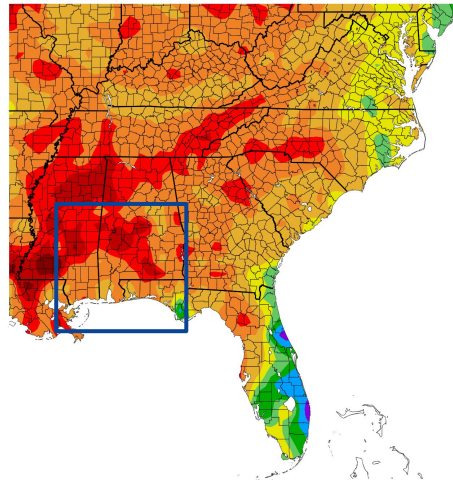
Precipitation

Table of Accumulated Rainfall (Inches) from Select Locations - Period: August 1 to October 11, 2023

Station	Observed	Normal	Departure
Brewton AL 3NNE (COOP) *	2.35	15.18	-12.83
Atmore AL (COOP)	1.93	12.40	-10.47
Fairhope AL 2NE (COOP)	5.89	15.44	-9.55
Bay Minette AL (COOP)	6.45	16.13	-9.68
Niceville FL (COOP)	9.10	17.93	-8.83
Pensacola FL (ASOS)	7.36	15.93	-8.57
Dauphin Island AL (COOP)	4.56	12.56	-8.00
Pensacola FL 7NNE (COOP)	6.64	14.40	-7.76
Crestview FL (ASOS)	5.28	12.90	-7.62
Mobile AL (ASOS)	6.19	13.68	-7.49
Beaumont MS (COOP)	3.98	11.24	-7.26
Evergreen AL (ASOS) *	3.76	10.95	-7.19
Leakesville MS 6WSW (COOP)	4.67	11.12	-6.45
Downtown Mobile AL (ASOS)	7.79	12.96	-5.17
Waynesboro MS 2W (COOP)	4.79	9.64	-4.85

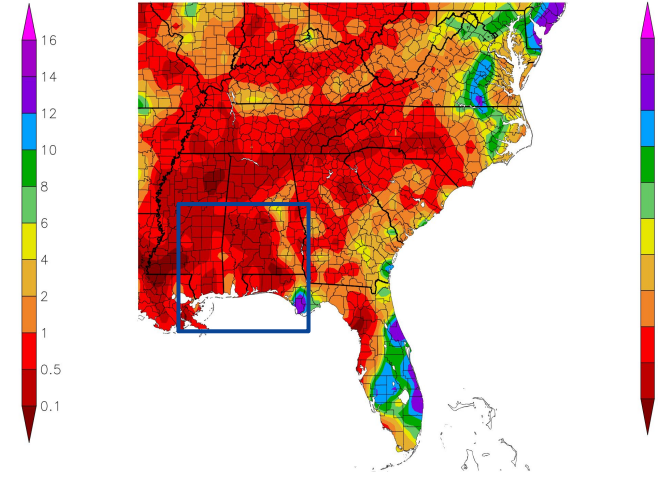
* Indicates Record Lowest Amount Recorded for Period

Precipitation (in)
9/11/2023 – 10/10/2023



ated 10/11/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
9/11/2023 – 10/10/2023



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions: Left - The box inset shows generally 0.1-2 inches with a few pockets of 2-4 inches along the coast for the period. Right - The box inset shows generally 5-25% of normal for the period with an improvement to 50-70% of normal noted across coastal Alabama. Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center. Data over the past 30 days ending October 10, 2023





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Many local streams/rivers remain in low flow and stage at below or much below normal levels. Typically, deeply submerged objects will likely become closer to the surface or exposed. This can lead to damage of watercraft hulls as well as increased difficulty in safe navigation of recreational boating and commercial waterway needs.

Agricultural Impacts

- Crop condition in the driest of areas remains 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 remains 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 October 12, 2023

River/Stream Point	Discharge(cfs)	Stage(ft)	%Class, Rating
Pascagoula River at Merrill, MS	1810	3.07	45, Normal
Red Creek at Vestry MS	157	4.36	17, Below Normal
Big Creek at Co. Rd 63 near Wilmer AL	48	3.05	80, Above Normal
Chickasaw Creek near Kushla AL	102	3.64	56, Normal
Styx River near Elsanor AL	140	1.89	37, Normal
Pine Barren Creek near Snow Hill AL	69	2.80	59, Normal
Alabama River at Claiborne L&D	9910	35.47	58, Normal
Blackwater River near Bradley AL	71	1.07	68, Normal
Eleven Mile Creek near West Pensacola FL	40	5.20	23, Below Normal
Escambia River near Century, FL	1050	3.30	20, Below Normal
Perdido River at Barrineau Park FL	287	1.55	32, Normal
Shoal River near Crestview FL	369	2.91	17, Below Normal

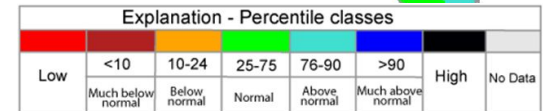
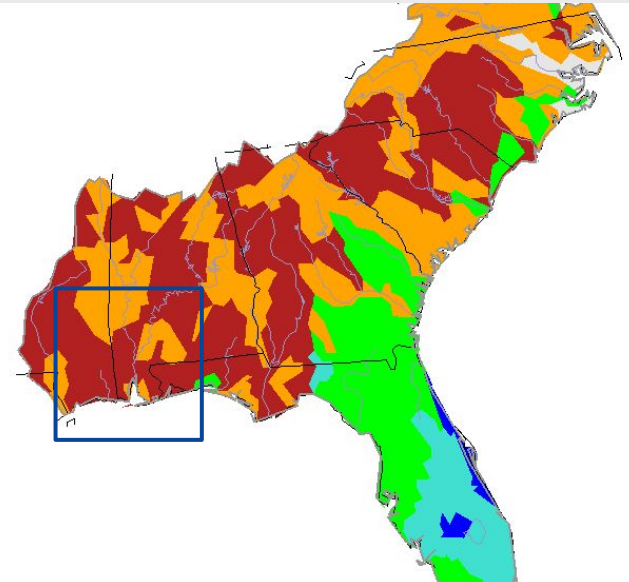


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 10/12/2023. Box Inset - Below to much below normal stream/river flow persists over the central Gulf Coast.





Agricultural Impacts

- Severe to excessively dry crop moisture continues for much of the local area. In these areas, crop condition is very poor. Crop disease and insect damage elevated.
- Pasture lands provide little to no livestock feed. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Parched sub-soil moisture is leading to very poor crop conditions.
- The latest topsoil moisture content short to very short metrics vs 5-year means (Depth 6", courtesy of USDA 10/08/23):
 - MS: 74% Dry (Avg: 39.6%)
 - AL: 77% Dry (Avg: 37.4%)
 - FL: 25% Dry (Avg: 24.4%)

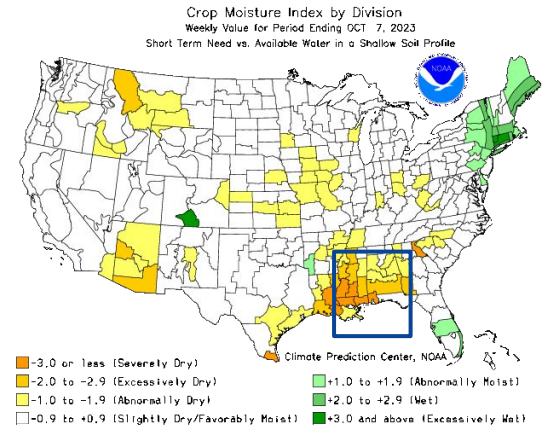
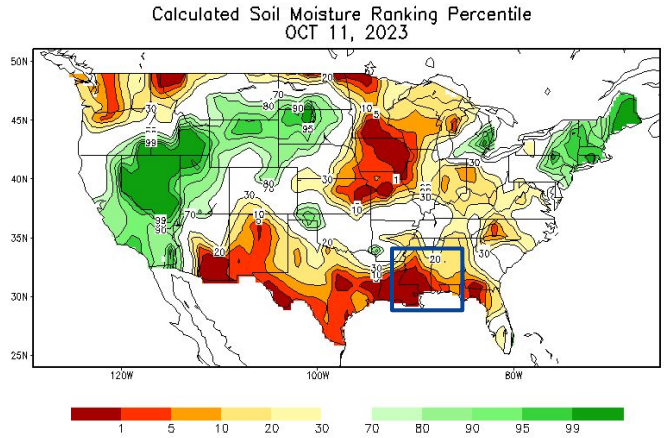


Image Captions: Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid October 11, 2023. Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending October 7, 2023.



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 the entire state of Mississippi and Alabama.
- Local park campers are strongly urged to follow park instructions on campfires. Keep camp fires contained in enclosed screens if available. Ensure fires are put out before going to bed.
- To view the seven day significant fire potential maps, please refer to the link above.

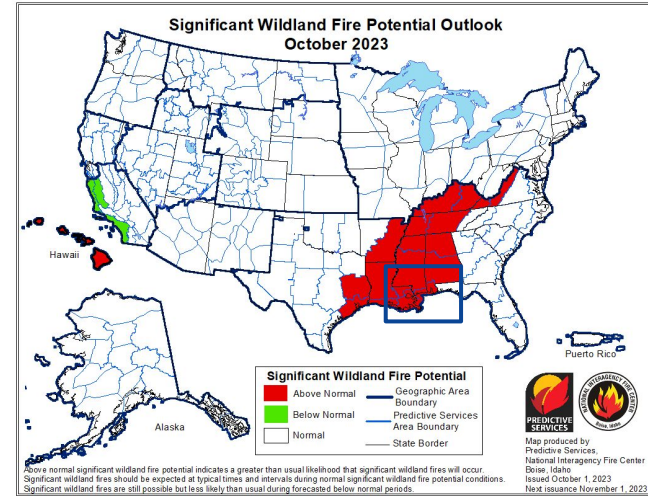


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for October 2023. Image updates are the first of each month or the first work day of each month.

Latest Burn Bans and/or Advisories By State:
[Mississippi](#) and [Alabama](#) and [Florida](#)



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- After this week's meager rainfall amounts along the northern Gulf Coast, the region dries out for the next 7 days.
- Little to no rainfall is forecast for the local area with less than a tenth of an inch forecast just east of the area.

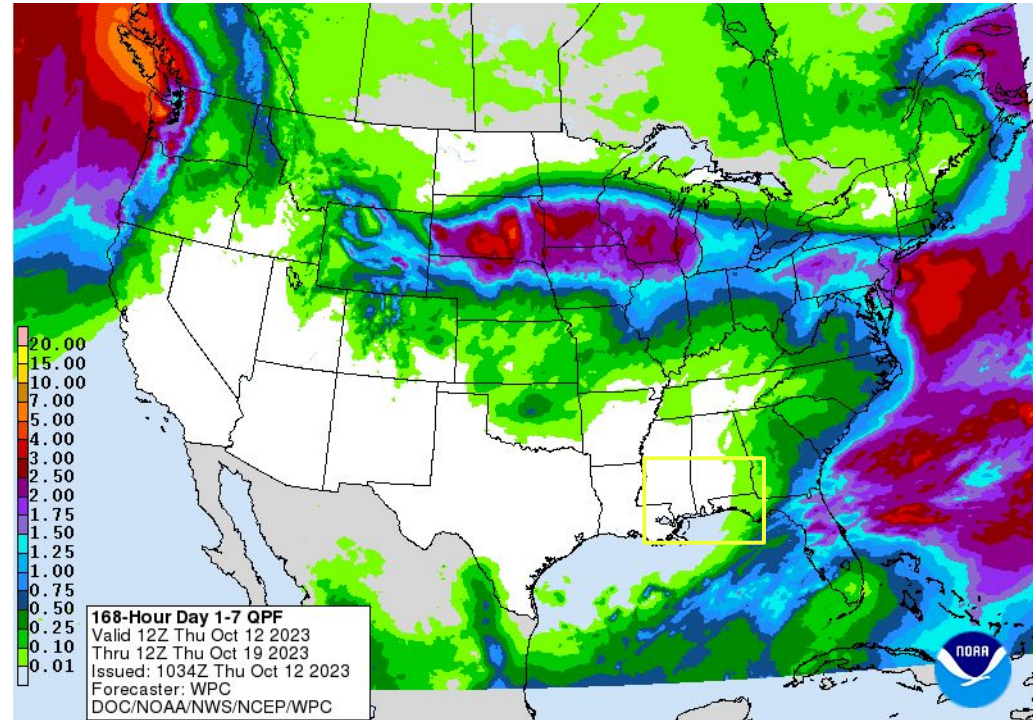


Image Caption: NWS Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Thursday October 12-19, 2023 shows little to no rain for the next 7 days.





Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Temperatures are favored to lean above normal from the Mid-Atlantic Coast down into parts of the Southeast US and across the Gulf Coast through the end of 2023.
- The potential for above normal precipitation is favored from the Mid-Atlantic down into much of the Southeast and Deep South.

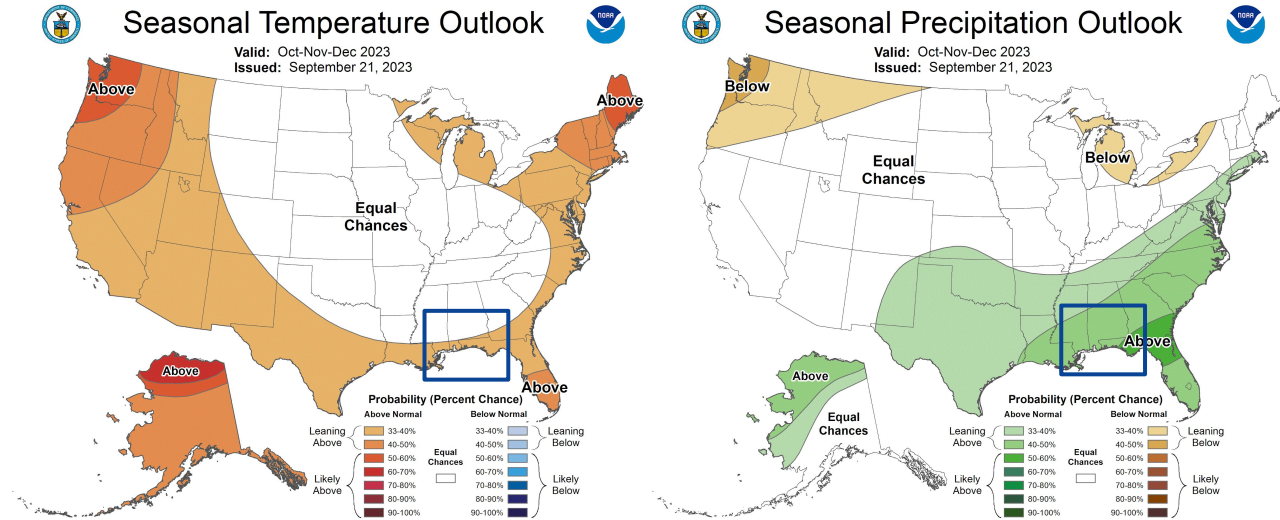


Image Captions: Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#). Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#). Valid October-November-December 2023.





Drought Outlook

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

- Through the month of October, drought is favored to persist over much of the local area with drought development likely further to the north (generally north of the US Highway 84 corridor).
- The drought is favored to remain across the region through the remainder of the season, however, it is favored to improve slightly across much of the region by the end of 2023.

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

Valid for October 2023
Released September 30, 2023

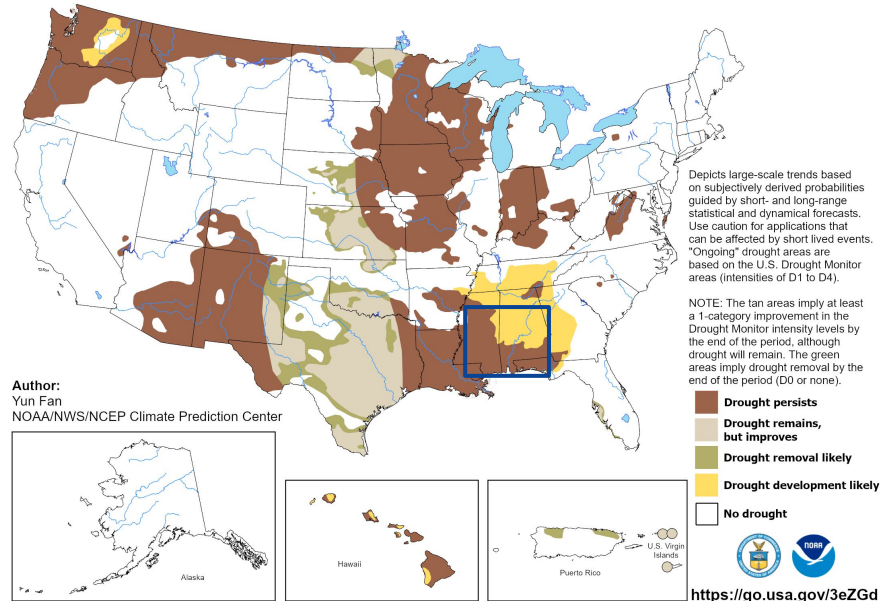


Image Caption: Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Released September 30, 2023 valid for October 2023.

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

