



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

Valid 11/7/2024

Issued By: WFO Mobile/Pensacola

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

- This product will be updated December 5, 2024 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit weather.gov/mob/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.
- Please visit [Drought Status Updates](#) for regional drought status updates.

• DROUGHT INTENSITY CONTINUES TO INCREASE AND EXPAND ACROSS THE CENTRAL GULF COAST

- *Extreme drought has developed along a small portion of the interior southeast MS, southwest AL state borders.*
- *Severe drought lingers along the Alabama River and points west.*
- *Moderate drought has expanded, encompassing much of the remainder of the area.*





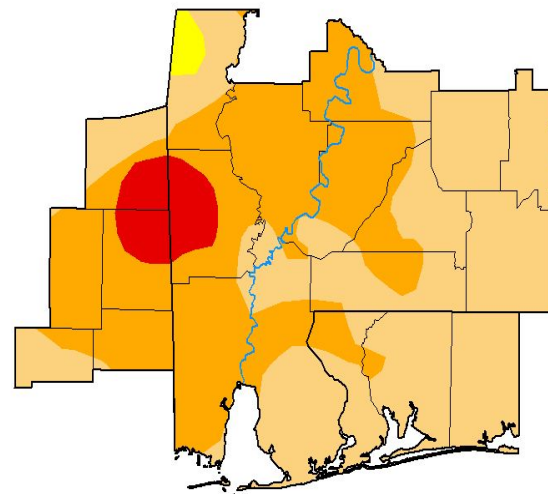
U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: southeast Wayne and northeast Greene Co's in MS and western Washington Co. AL
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Along the AL River, southward to Mobile Co. and points west into much of the remainder of interior southeast MS.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Along and southeast of I-65 over the interior of south central AL. Coastal Baldwin into the western FL Panhandle.

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

November 5, 2024
(Released Thursday, Nov. 7, 2024)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



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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droughtmonitor.unl.edu



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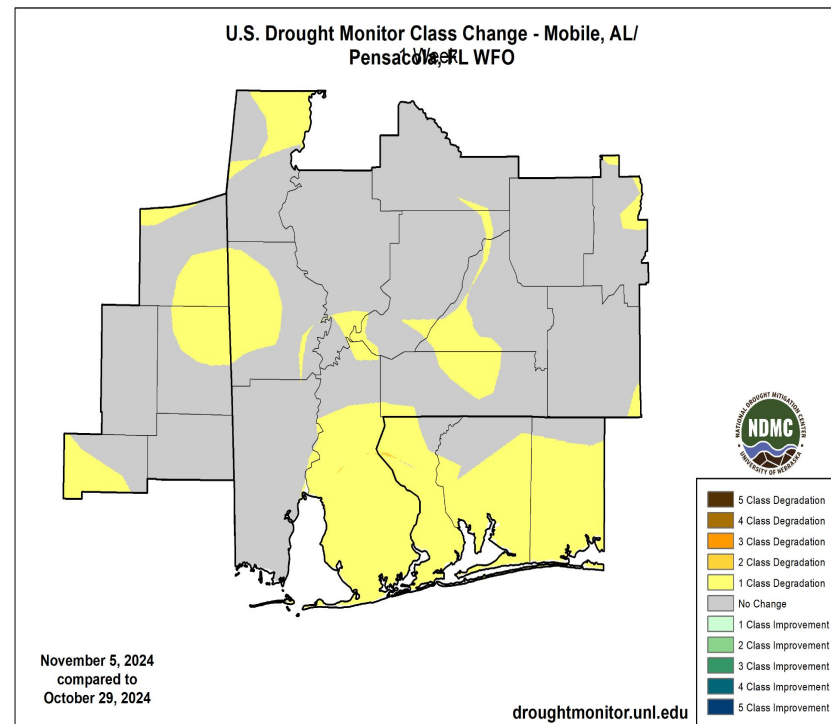


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change:

- Drought Worsened:** Over portions of the interior. Baldwin Co. AL, eastward to the western FL Panhandle sees the largest area of one class degradation.
- No Change:** The remainder of the local area did not see a change in drought intensity over the past week.

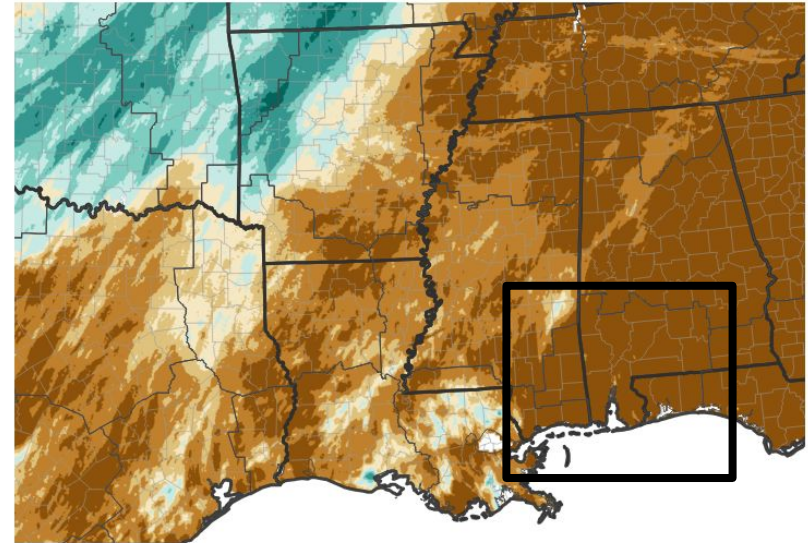




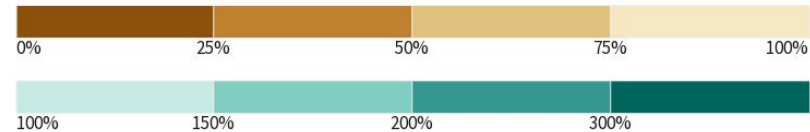
Precipitation

- Over the past 30 days, an almost entirety of the central Gulf coast has experienced less than 25% of normal rainfall, the exception being very isolated spots that received between 25 and 50% of normal rainfall.

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System;
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 11/06/24





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- The US Geological Survey (USGS) indicates that flow and stage on many local area river and stream points remain below to much below normal. Rivers and streams that are experiencing below normal stages, may result in typically deeply submerged objects being likely closer to the water's surface or in some cases exposed, presenting a waterway hazard for safe recreational boating and commercial navigation.

Agricultural Impacts

- The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) indicates that topsoil moisture in the states of MS and AL has degraded to very dry levels against the 5 and 10 year means for this time of year. The longer term drought conditions though have contributed to Alabama's worst pine beetle outbreak since 2001, leading to widespread damage (Source: AL Political Reporter, Montgomery AL). Supplemental feeding initiatives are required to maintain livestock condition.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- The Alabama Forestry Commission has issued a Fire Danger Advisory for ALL counties in AL - October 30th, 2024. This advisory is effective immediately and will remain in place until enough precipitation is received to improve drought impacts. Dead pines in area forests which have been devastated by southern pine beetles over the summer are adding to the increased wildfire potential, as well as challenges to containment efforts. The National Interagency Fire Center in Boise ID calls for November to be at above normal risk for wildfire for MS, AL and the western FL Panhandle. Outdoor burning is strongly discouraged until conditions improve.

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

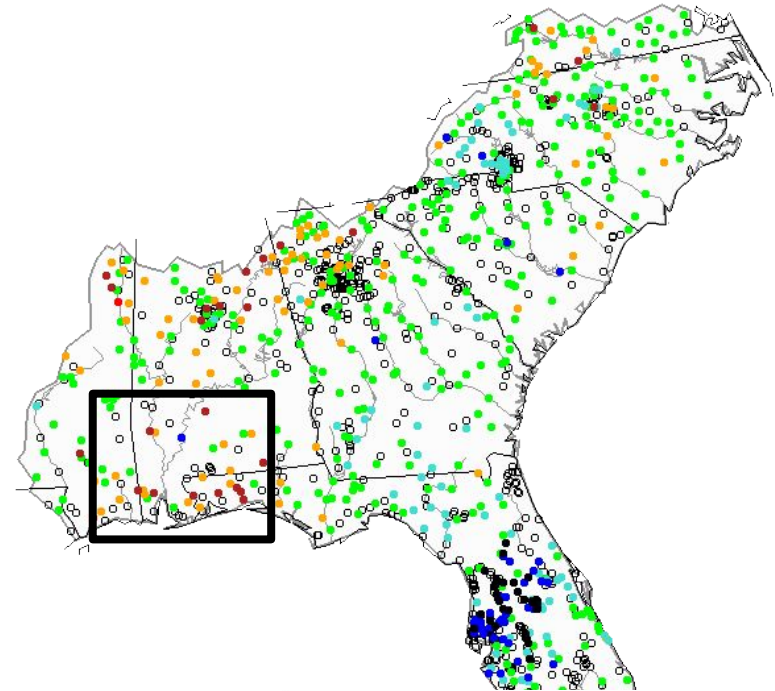
Wednesday, November 06, 2024

- Several local area rivers and streams are running below to much below normal in flow and stage.
- To view the most current stages and flow for each state's, stream and river points, please visit:

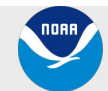
MS: <https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/index.php?r=ms&m=real>

AL: <https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/index.php?r=al&m=real>

FL: <https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/index.php?r=fl&m=real>



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



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Agricultural Impacts

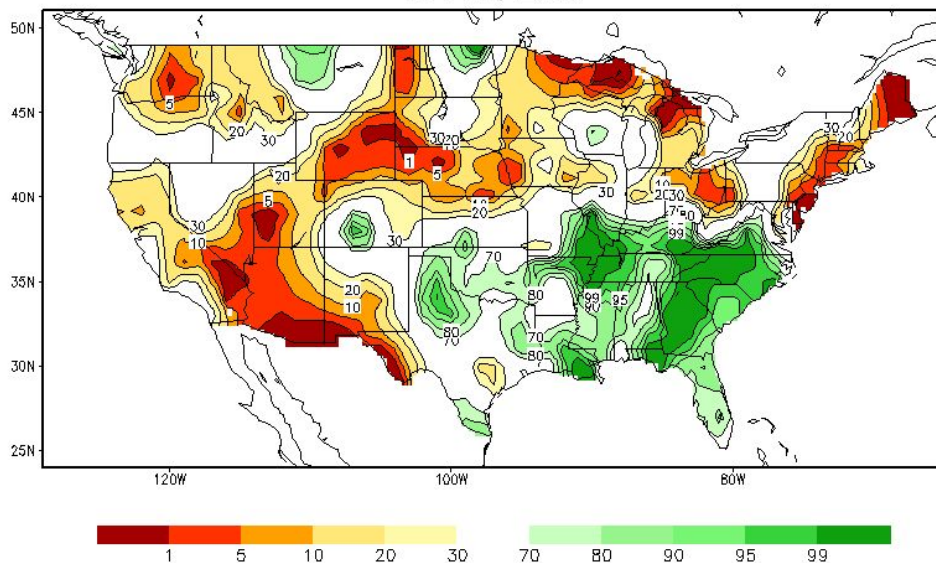
- Crop condition in the driest of areas is very poor. Crop disease and insect damage elevated. Pasture lands provide little to no livestock feed. Supplemental feeding is required to maintain livestock condition.
- Considering the state-wide top soil moisture metrics, the states of MS and AL are very dry versus the 5 year means:

(Upper 6" Moisture Depth, courtesy of USDA 11/3/24).

- MS: 57% Short to Very Short (Avg: 29.8%).
- AL: 68% Short to Very Short (Avg: 39.0%).
- FL: 34% Short to Very Short (Avg: 23.4%).

- It is recommended that farmers reach out to local USDA office for details on available funding assistance.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
NOV 05, 2024



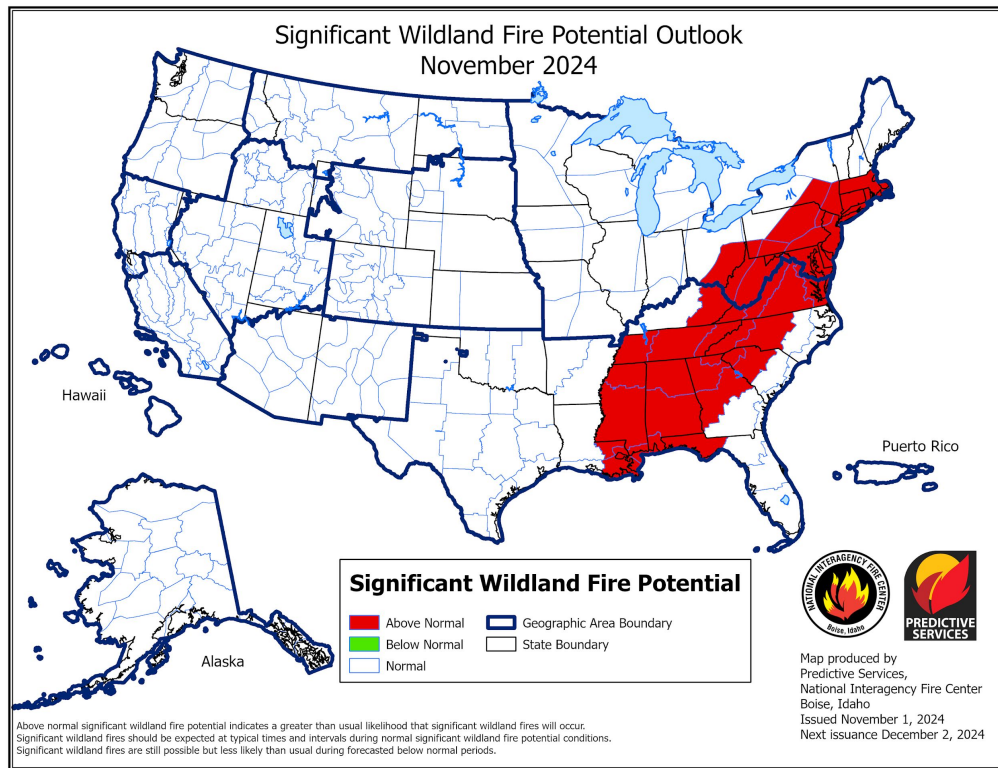


Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- The Alabama Forestry Commission has placed all Alabama counties under a Fire Danger Advisory.
- The National Interagency Fire Center out of Boise, ID has outlooked the month of November for MS, AL and the western FL Panhandle as above normal for wildfire risk.
- Decayed timber and very dry underbrush in area forests along with dry grasslands pose an above normal risk for development and spread of fire.
- It's also important to note that in the event of strong cold frontal passages, periods of critically low daytime humidity in combination with gusty northerly winds will bring periods of increased wildfire potential.
- To view the seven day significant fire potential maps, please refer to the link above.

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



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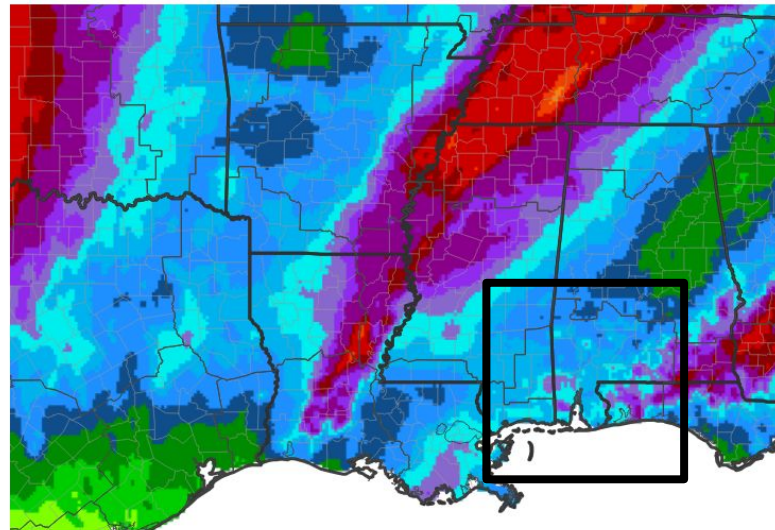
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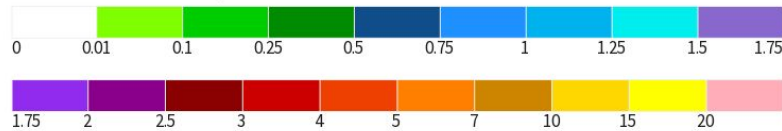
Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Precipitation forecast amounts into the first half of November range from 0.75" to 1.25", with a few pockets of locally higher amounts, favored to be focused over Mobile Co. AL, eastward into the western FL Panhandle.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for November 6, 2024–November 13, 2024



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 11/06/24



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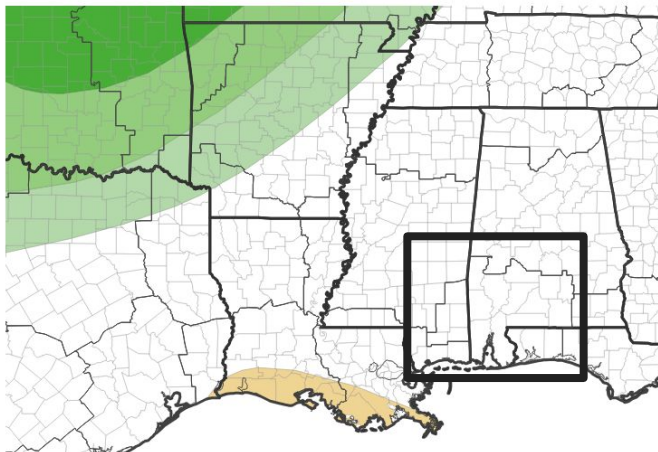


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Above normal temperatures are favored over the deep south for November.
- There are equal chances of above or below normal November precipitation favored for the central Gulf coast.

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for November 1, 2024–November 30, 2024



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



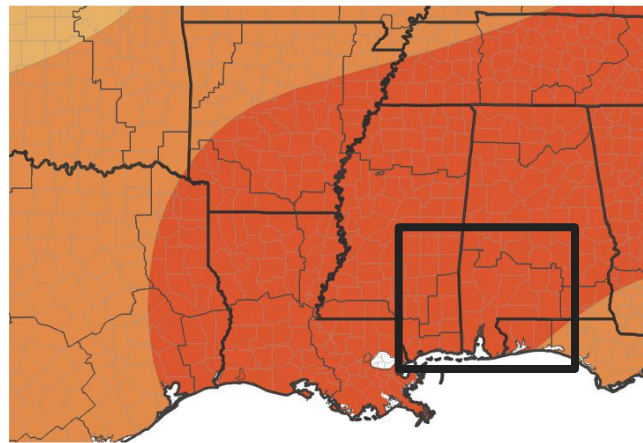
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/31/24

Monthly Temperature Outlook for November 1, 2024–November 30, 2024



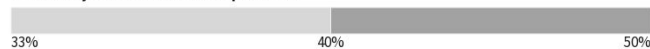
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/31/24



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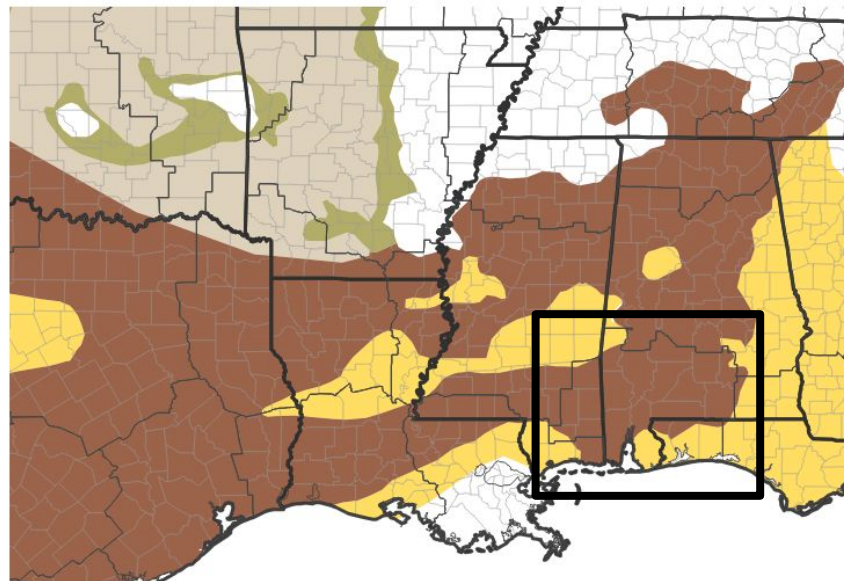


Drought Outlook

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

- The seasonal drought outlook to close out 2024 and opening up the new year 2025 favors drought to persist over a large portion of the central Gulf coast.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for October 31, 2024–January 31, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 10/31/24

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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