



# Drought Information Statement for Southeast Alabama, Southwest Georgia, and the Florida Panhandle & Big Bend

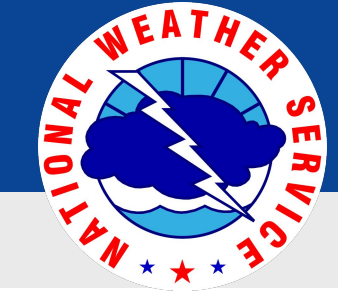
Valid June 11, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Tallahassee, FL

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- This product will be updated by June 18, 2026
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/TAE/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates> for regional drought status updates.
- **Drought improvement continues across the region with localized extreme to exceptional drought in the Florida Big Bend**
- The drought is long term in character with hydrologic impacts persisting even with recent rains. Rivers have improved, along with ponds and lakes, for areas west of the Ochlockonee River Basin.
- The lack of much rainfall over the last week limited drought improvement this week. Low groundwater levels in the extreme to exceptional drought areas will take significant rains to bring improvement in the drought.





# U.S. Drought Monitor

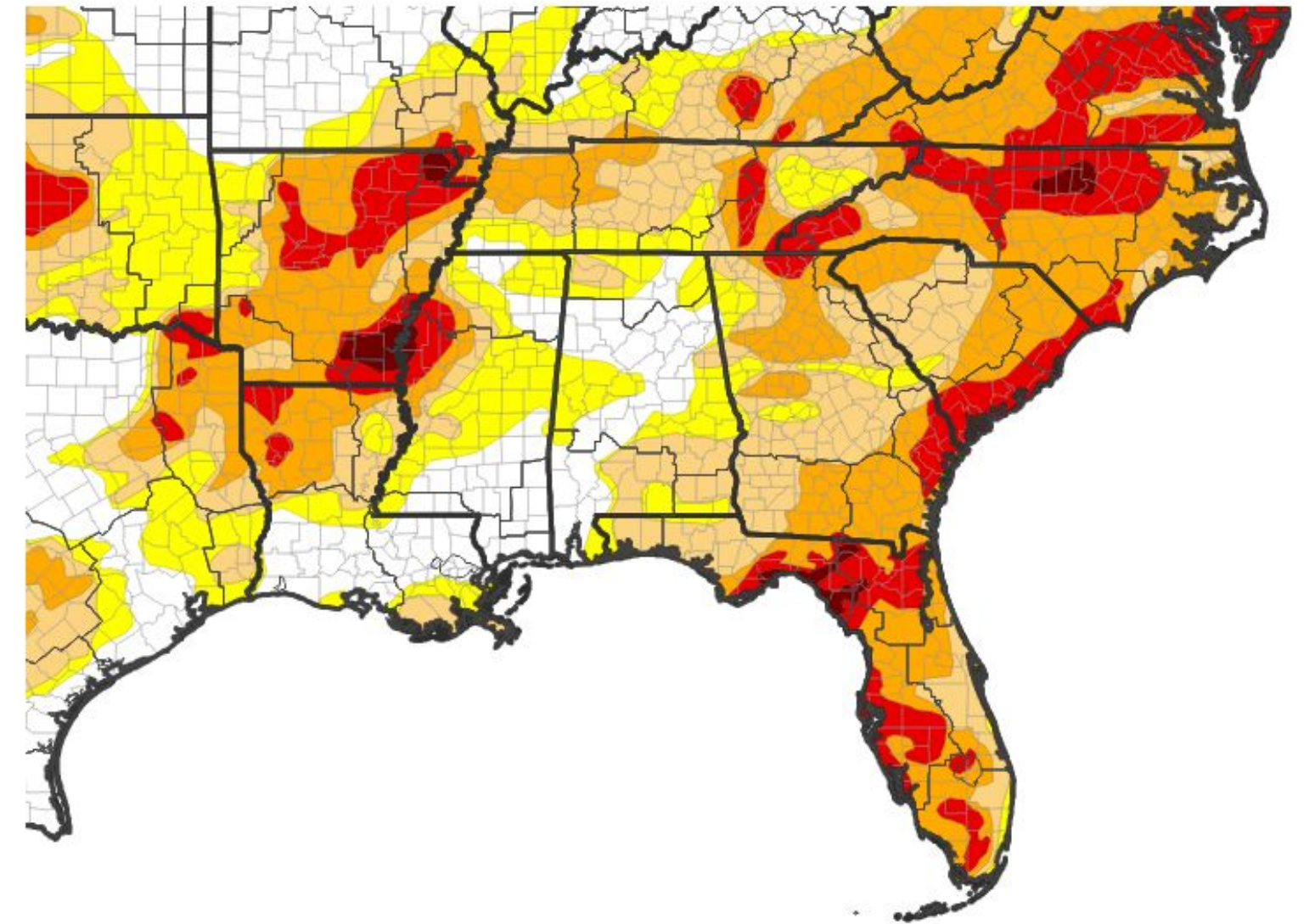
Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Southeast Alabama, Southwest Georgia, and the Florida Panhandle & Big Bend

- While there has not been significant rain over the last week, hydrologic conditions have improved in some areas, which resulted in a change in drought severity.

## Drought intensity and Extent:

- D4 (Exceptional Drought):**
  - Across the coastal and eastern part of the Big Bend
- D3 (Extreme Drought):**
  - In Florida: from Franklin County to Jefferson County eastward
- D2 (Severe Drought):**
  - In Florida: from Gulf County to the Ochlockonee River eastward
  - In Georgia: from Thomas County to Worth County eastward
- D1 (Moderate Drought):**
  - In Florida: West of the Ochlockonee River
  - In Georgia: West of Thomas County to Worth County
  - In Alabama: Coffee, Dale, and Henry Counties.
- D0 (Abnormally Dry):**
  - In Florida, parts of Walton, Holmes and Jackson Counties
  - In Alabama: Geneva and Houston Counties

U.S. Drought Monitor

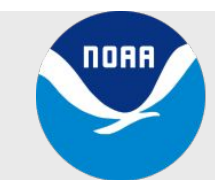


U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA, NASA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 06/09/26



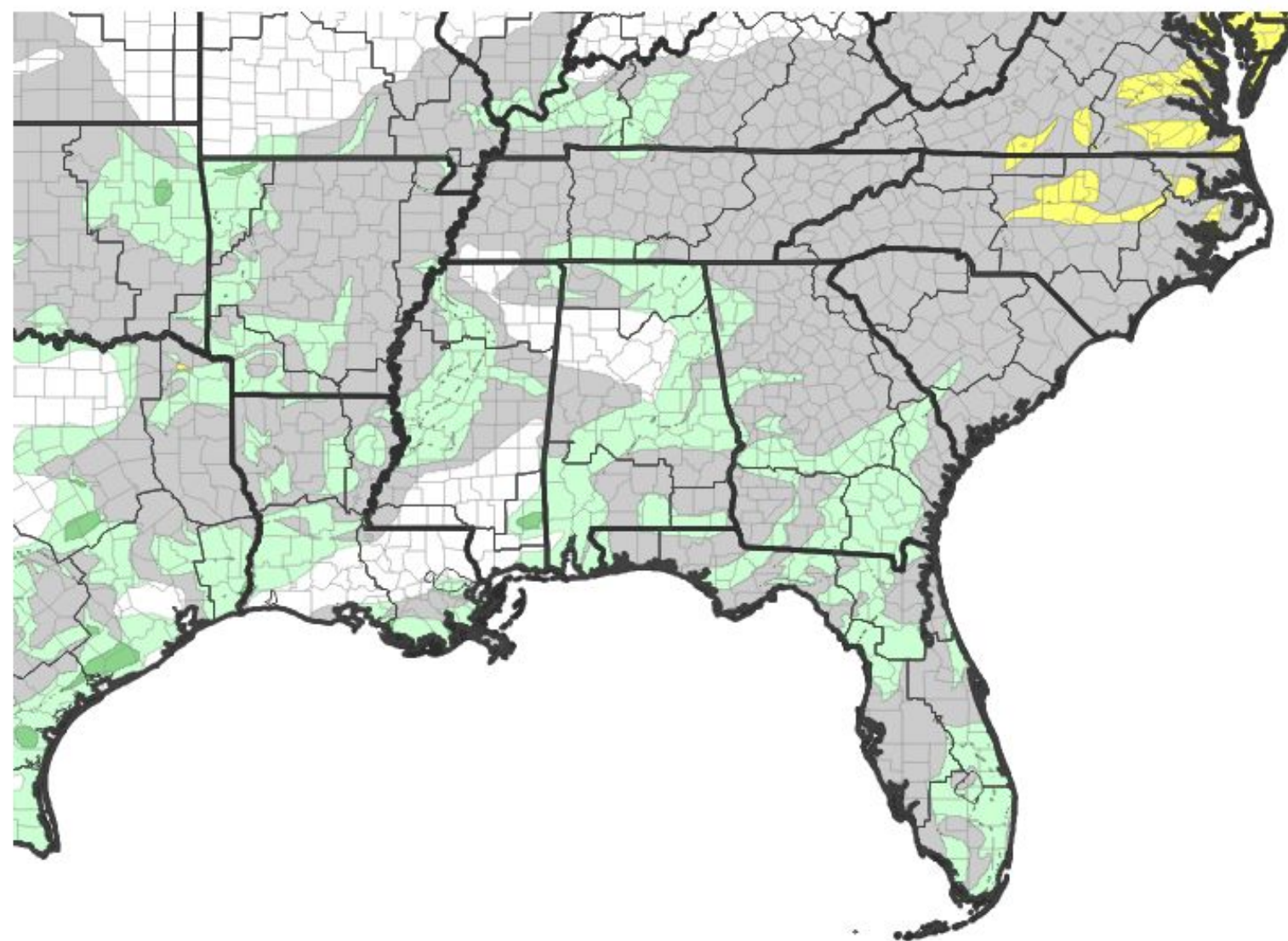


# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

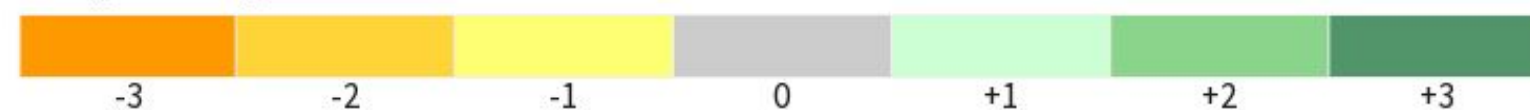
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Southeast Alabama, Southwest Georgia, and the Florida Panhandle & Big Bend

- Continued improvement in some drought parameters resulted in drought improvement this week despite any significant rainfall. With the rainy season underway, further rainfall could lead to additional drought improvement in the weeks ahead.
- One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
  - 1 Category Improvement**
    - Along the Alabama/Florida Border
    - West of the Ochlockonee River to Bay County Florida
    - Portions of the inland Southeast Florida Big Bend.
    - South Central Georgia south of Tifton.
  - No change**
    - Remainder of the area

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map

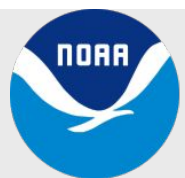


Drought Change Since Last Week



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA, NASA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 06/09/26



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Atmospheric Administration

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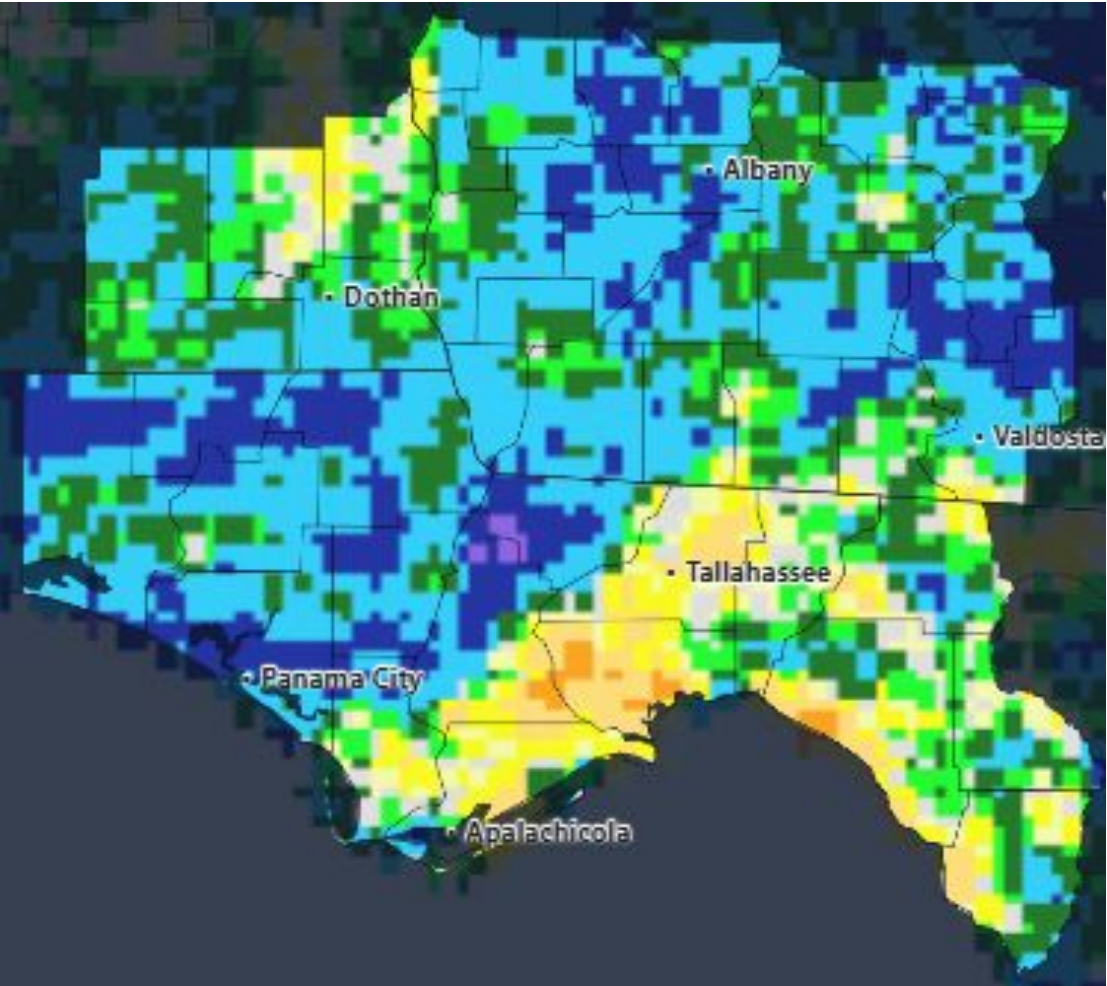
National Weather Service  
Tallahassee, FL



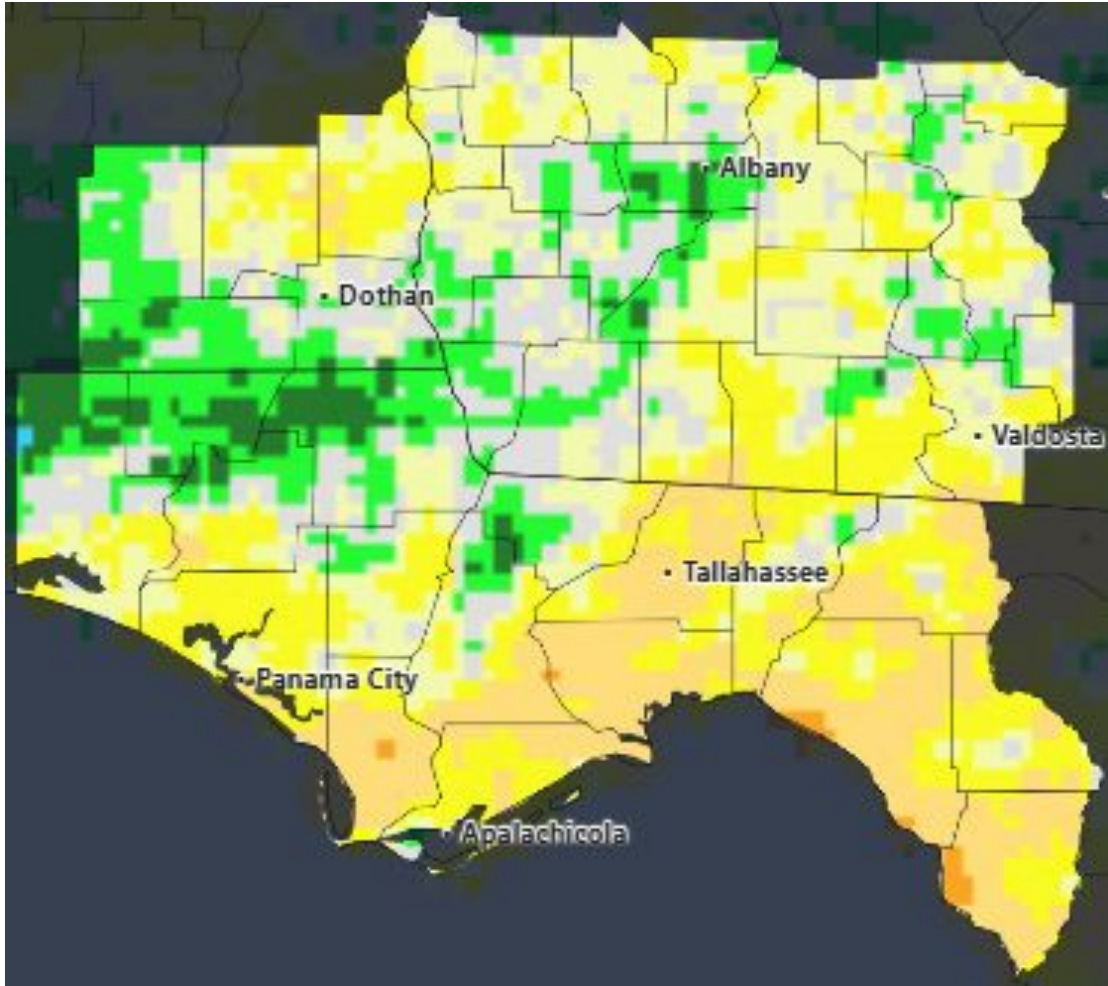
# Precipitation

Note: Precipitation after 8 AM EDT/7 AM CDT Tuesday is incorporated in next week's Drought Monitor

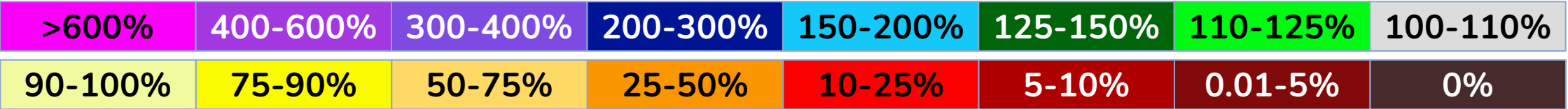
|                        | Last 30 Days |         | Last 120 Days |         |
|------------------------|--------------|---------|---------------|---------|
|                        | Rainfall     | Percent | Rainfall      | Percent |
| DeFuniak Springs*      | 10.67"       | 222.9%  | 26.33"        | 133.0%  |
| Panama City ECP        | 5.47"        | 138.8%  | 11.27"        | 62.0%   |
| Dothan                 | 3.73"        | 102.4%  | 13.37"        | 77.7%   |
| Georgetown**           | 3.35"        | 90.8%   | 15.15"        | 88.9%   |
| Dawson**               | 6.28"        | 171.3%  | 14.14"        | 84.1%   |
| Arlington**            | 8.60"        | 234.4%  | 18.80"        | 111.0%  |
| Albany                 | 6.59"        | 197.3%  | 19.56"        | 132.7%  |
| Cairo**                | 5.63"        | 145.8%  | 14.87"        | 90.5%   |
| Tallahassee            | 2.61"        | 53.2%   | 9.06"         | 51.5%   |
| St. Marks****          | 1.75"        | 41.9%   | 7.20"         | 45.3%   |
| Moultrie**             | 7.22"        | 195.2%  | 15.41"        | 95.4%   |
| Monticello*            | 4.92"        | 110.5%  | 13.88"        | 82.0%   |
| Ty Ty**                | 3.10"        | 85.9%   | 13.46"        | 85.9%   |
| Alapaha**              | 6.37"        | 179.4%  | 13.11"        | 86.6%   |
| Madison Blue Spring*** | 3.95"        | 90.8%   | 10.62"        | 66.7%   |
| Perry***               | 2.18"        | 50.9%   | 7.58"         | 48.2%   |



30 day Percent of Normal Precipitation



120 day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Near term rainfall has been plentiful, especially west of a Tallahassee to Valdosta line, which has led to improvement in drought severity. However, the coastal and eastern Big Bend continues to carry long term deficits that extend even beyond 120 days, thus some of these areas remain in extreme to exceptional drought.

Rainfall totals through June 10, 2026. Non-NWS Data Courtesy:  
\*University of Florida - Florida Automated Weather Network  
\*\*University of Georgia Weather Network  
\*\*\*Suwannee River Water Management District  
\*\*\*\*Northwest Florida Water Management District  
*Climatology for non-NWS stations is estimated using PRISM data.*





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows have improved considerably for areas along and west of the Ochlockonee River basin with some smaller streams almost reaching flood stage in the last week.
- Surface and groundwater levels are improving for many areas west of a Tallahassee to Valdosta line.
- However, some of the larger lakes and ponds and the Suwannee River system still need more rainfall to fully recharge after the extended drought. Numerous lakes and holding ponds remain nearly dry or completely dry.

## Agricultural Impacts

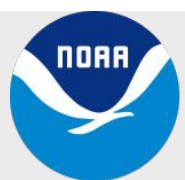
- Pastures and crops continue to improve with plentiful rain as growing and planting season continues.
- More irrigation of crops is needed from Jefferson County eastward, however, recent rainfall has benefited crops considerably.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) values are less than 200 west of the Ochlockonee River, though still ranging from 400-600 across the Florida Big Bend where less rain fell.

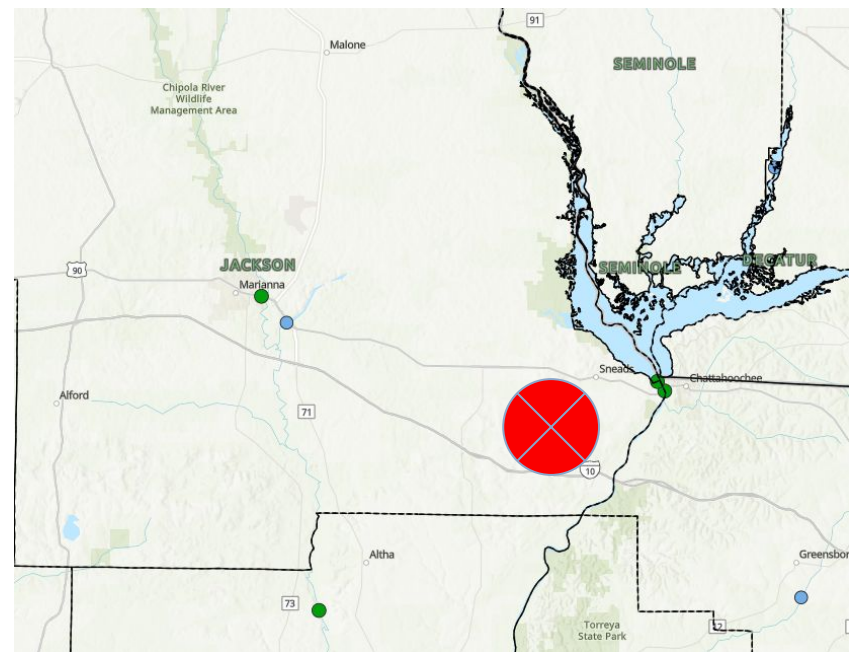
## Mitigation Actions

- Northwest Florida Water Management District has issued a [water shortage warning](#) for their watershed.
- Suwannee River Water Management District has issued a [water shortage advisory](#) for their watershed.



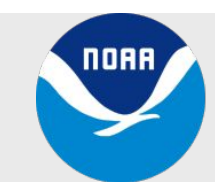


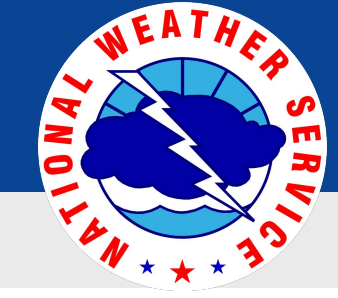
# Why has the drought improved?



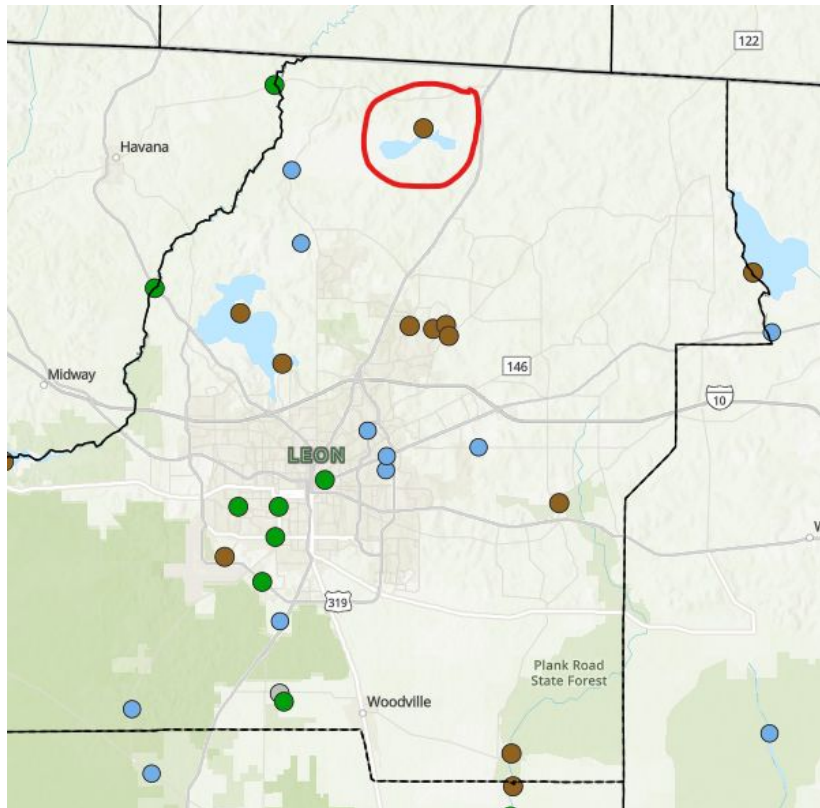
This is Ocheesee Pond in eastern Jackson County, FL (labeled at left). The middle graphic is a photo of the pond in early May 2026 before significant rains returned to the region. The image at right was taken June 10, 2026, showing significant recovery of the lake. Photos courtesy of Northwest Florida Water Management District.

Much of the area west of the Apalachicola River in Florida has seen significant recovery in surface water levels due to the rainfall in May. As a result, drought severity has improved considerably. However, even this location in Jackson County remains in D1-Moderate Drought.



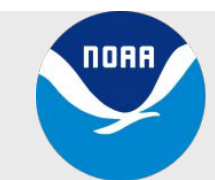


# Why has the drought improved?



This is Lake Iamonia in Northern Leon County, FL (labeled at left). These photos were recently taken by Northwest Florida Water Management District. Northern Leon County has seen some beneficial rainfall, but not as much as areas further to the west. This particular lake is well below normal levels, much like Lake Jackson in Leon County. So why has the drought status improved in the area if these conditions remain?

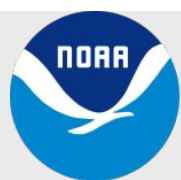
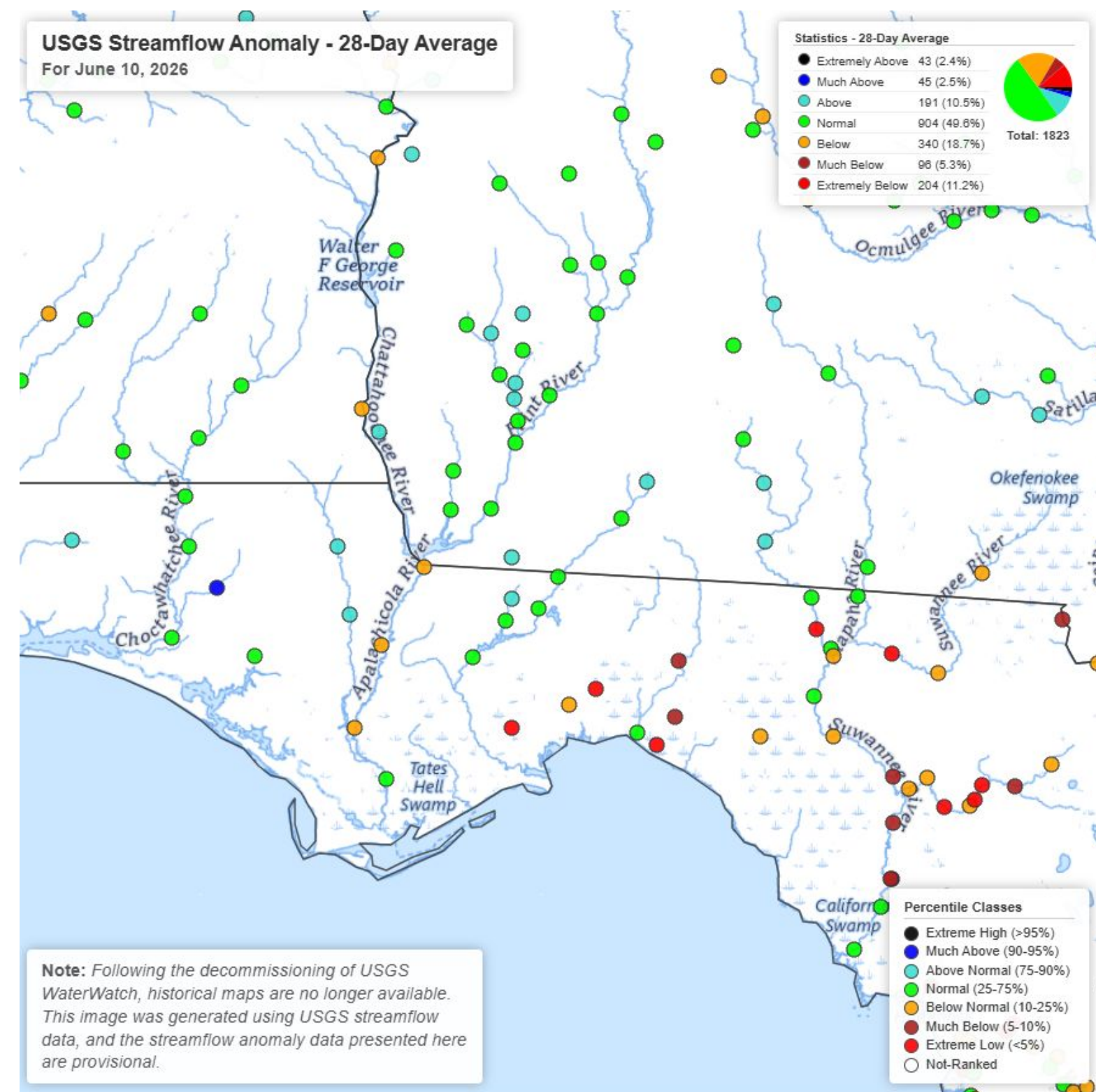
Drought is composite of a variety of impacts. Agricultural and fire impacts have improved considerably from where they were two months ago, however, some of the hydrologic impacts will take much more rain to improve.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow conditions have improved, with many locations in the normal range or better over the last 28 days.
- Recent rains have helped considerably from the Ochlockonee Basin westward, though the Apalachicola basin still remains below normal.
- Farther east, the Big Bend rivers and streams still remain rather low given the lack of rainfall in these areas.
- Despite heavy rainfall in the Withlacoochee, Alapaha, and the headwaters of the Suwannee Rivers, much of the Suwannee basin remains well below average as routed flows have not made it into this basin.
- In response to streamflows and groundwater conditions, Northwest Florida Water Management District has issued a [Water Shortage Warning](#), and Suwannee River Water Management District has issued a [Water Shortage Advisory](#).

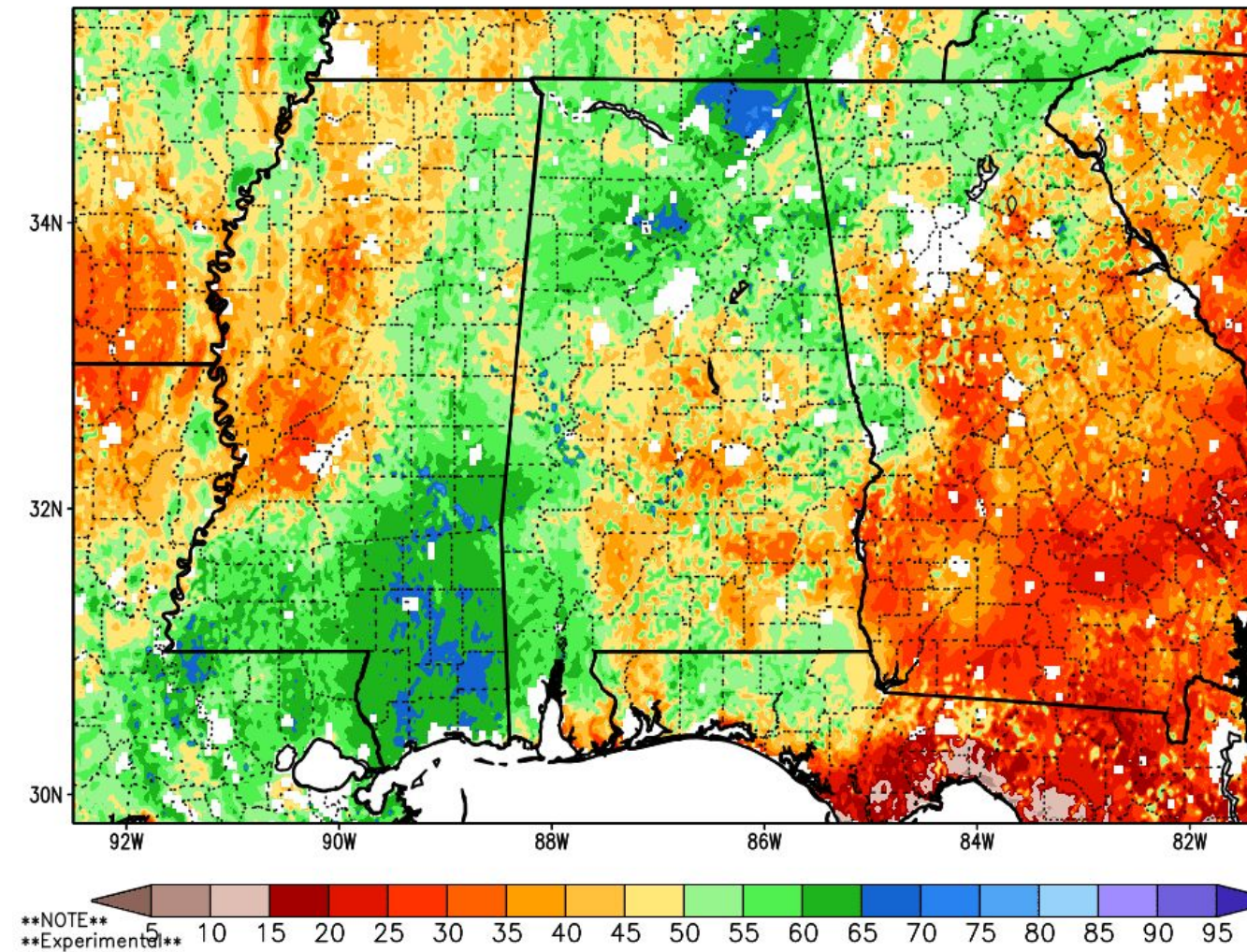




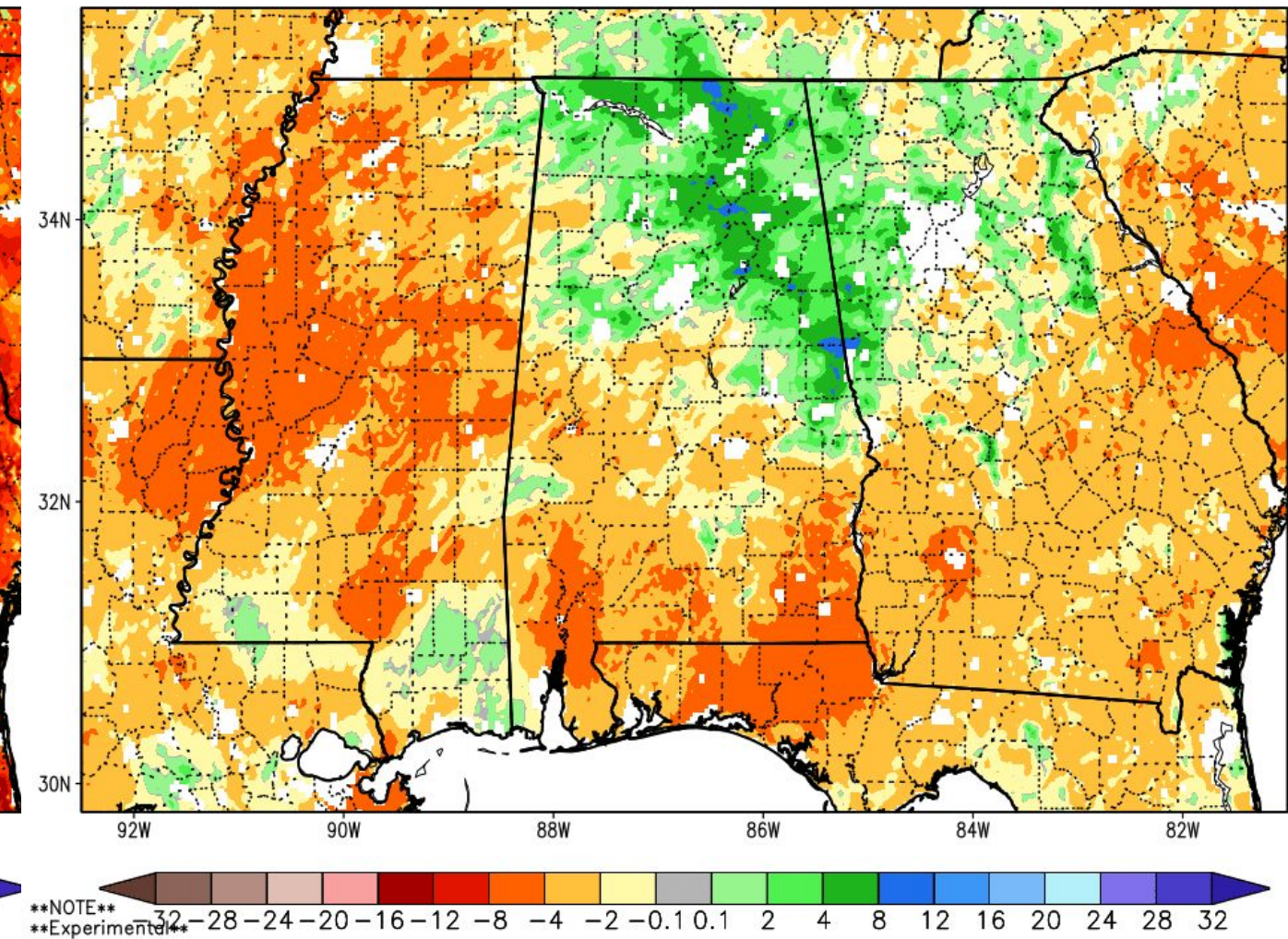
# Agricultural Impacts

- Deep layer soil moisture has improved considerably across the western half of the region with recent rains.
- Even so, soil moisture remains lower than normal across much of Southwest Georgia and into the Florida Big Bend.
- Recent extreme heat led to some localized drying of soils this week, but nonetheless, abundant rains through May kept the western areas sufficiently wet this week.

Column-Integrated Relative Soil Moisture (available water; %) valid 12z 11 Jun 2  
Precipitation in previous hour (1,2,5,10,15,20,25 mm contours)

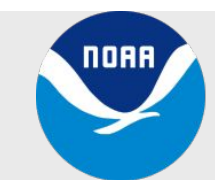


1-Week Difference in Column Relative Soil Moisture (%) valid 12z 11 Jun 2026



0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture & 1-week Change in 0-200 cm Relative Soil Moisture  
Data courtesy of NASA SPoRT

2026 Crop Reports  
[Alabama](#) | [Florida](#) | [Georgia](#)



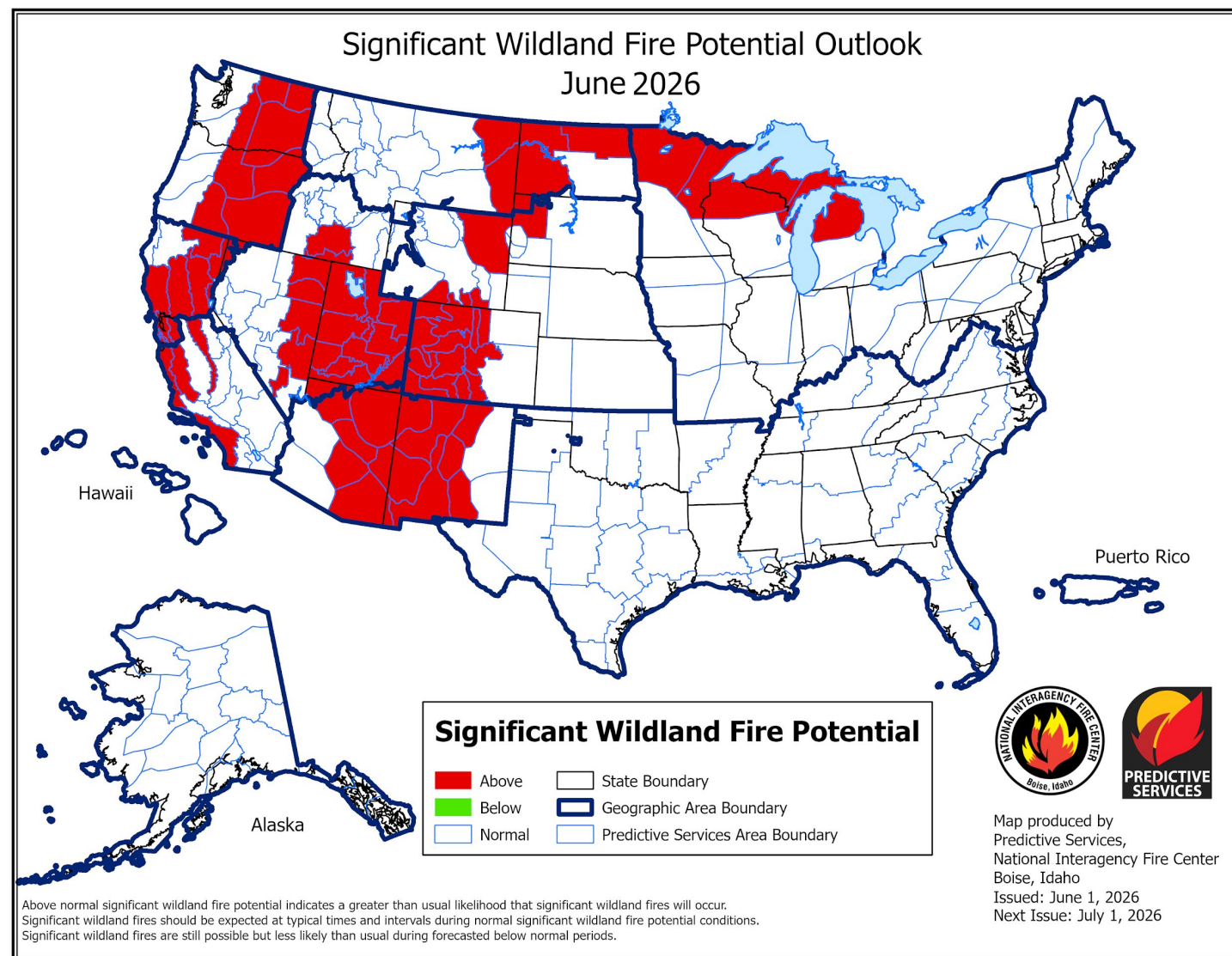
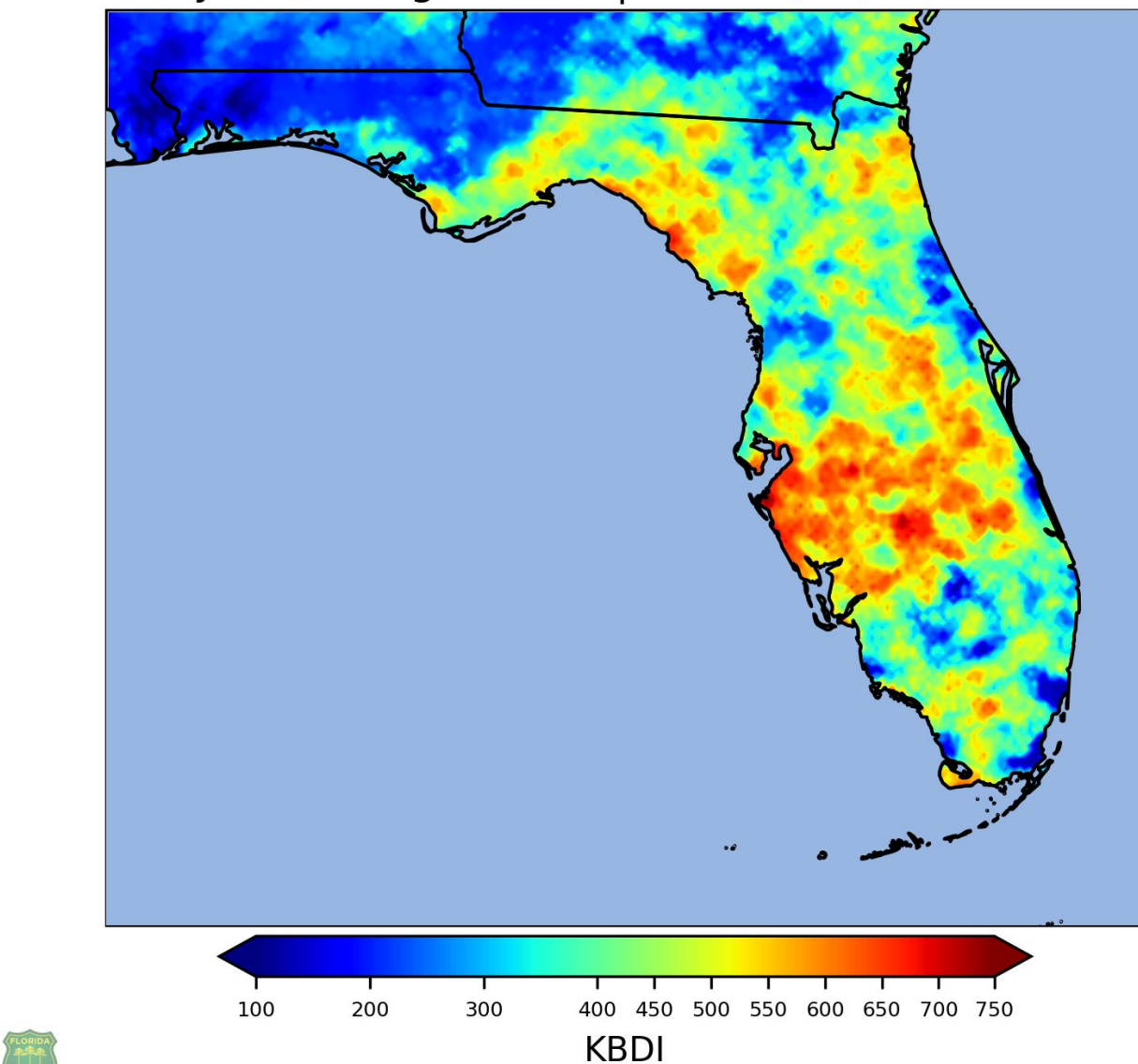


# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Keetch-Byram Drought Indices have dropped significantly given recent rains, though this index is responsive to recent rain.
- There are currently no burn bans in effect.
- The 340 Wildfire in Wakulla County reignited shortly after the recent rains, highlighting the ongoing dryness closer to the coast.
- The Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook for June is for near normal wildfire activity in most of the region.

Keetch-Byram Drought Index | Wed 06/10/26, 02:00 PM EDT

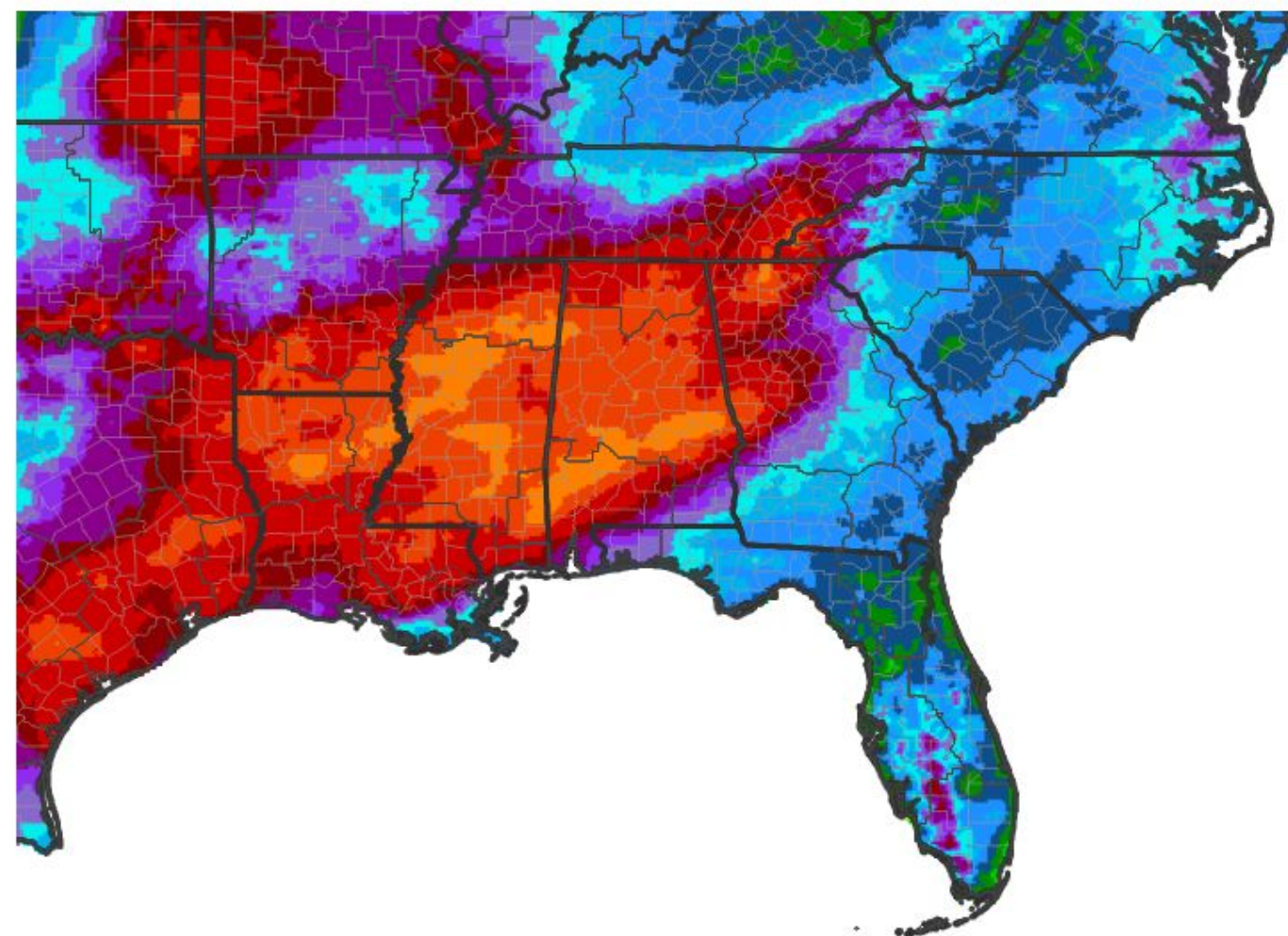




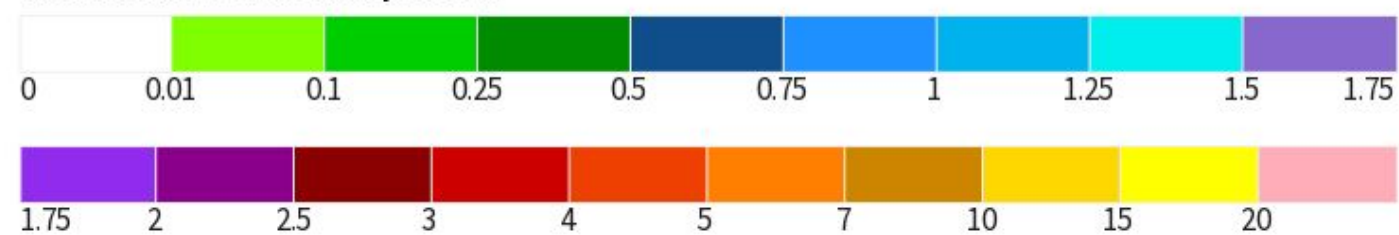
# Precipitation Outlook

- While overall dry conditions are expected through Saturday. Rain chances will increase late in the weekend as a frontal system approaches the region.
- After Tuesday, near normal to slightly below normal precipitation is anticipated in the [8-14 day outlook](#) (6/18 - 6/24).

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for June 11, 2026–June 18, 2026



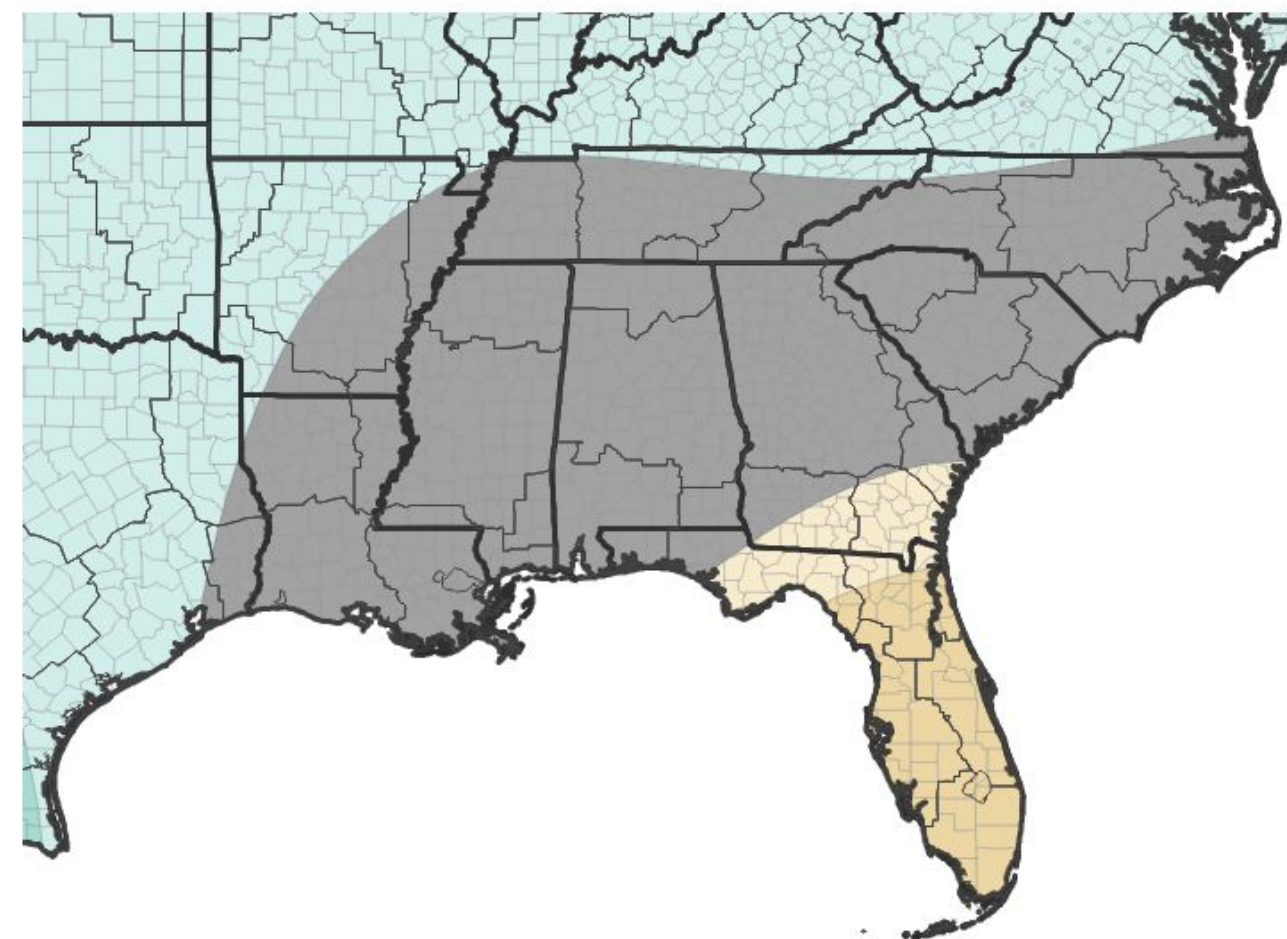
Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 06/11/26

8–14 Day Precipitation Outlook for June 18, 2026–June 24, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



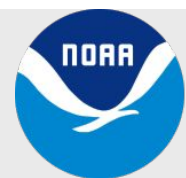
Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



■ Near-Normal Conditions

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

Last Updated: 06/10/26



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Atmospheric Administration

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National Weather Service  
Tallahassee, FL

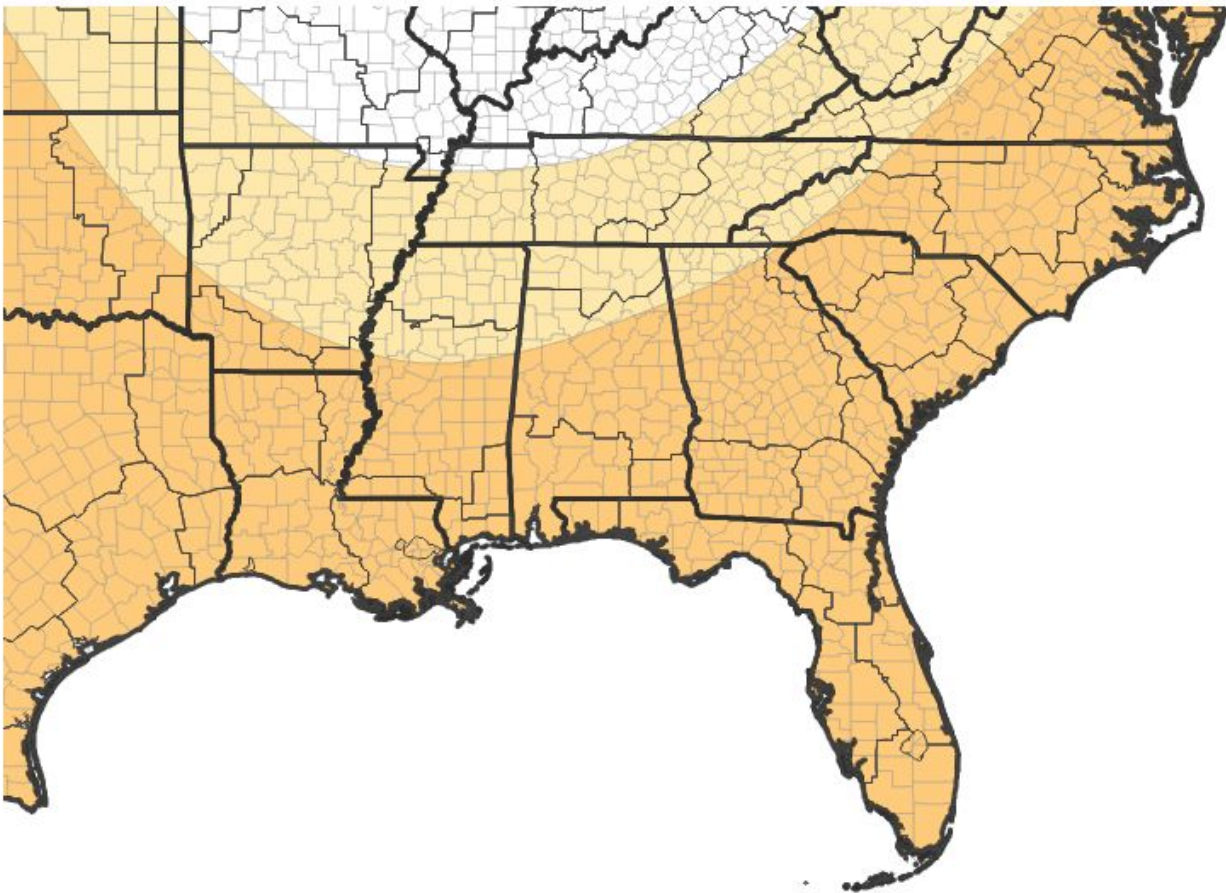


# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The next 3 months favor above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation.
- With sea breeze season underway, increased rain chances could bring improvements to the drought.

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for June 1, 2026–August 31, 2026



Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for June 1, 2026–August 31, 2026



| Average      | June  |       | July  |       | August |       |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
|              | Temp  | Rain  | Temp  | Rain  | Temp   | Rain  |
| Tallahassee  | 80.8° | 7.76" | 82.5° | 7.14" | 82.4°  | 7.60" |
| Apalachicola | 80.7° | 5.86" | 82.2° | 5.74" | 82.2°  | 7.79" |
| Albany       | 80.9° | 5.06" | 83.1° | 5.12" | 82.7°  | 4.83" |
| Valdosta     | 79.0° | 7.08" | 81.1° | 5.33" | 81.2°  | 5.11" |
| Marianna     | 81.1° | 5.07" | 82.7° | 5.10" | 82.1°  | 4.93" |
| Dothan       | 81.1° | 5.08" | 83.0° | 5.95" | 82.0°  | 6.17" |

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: 05/21/26

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: 05/21/26



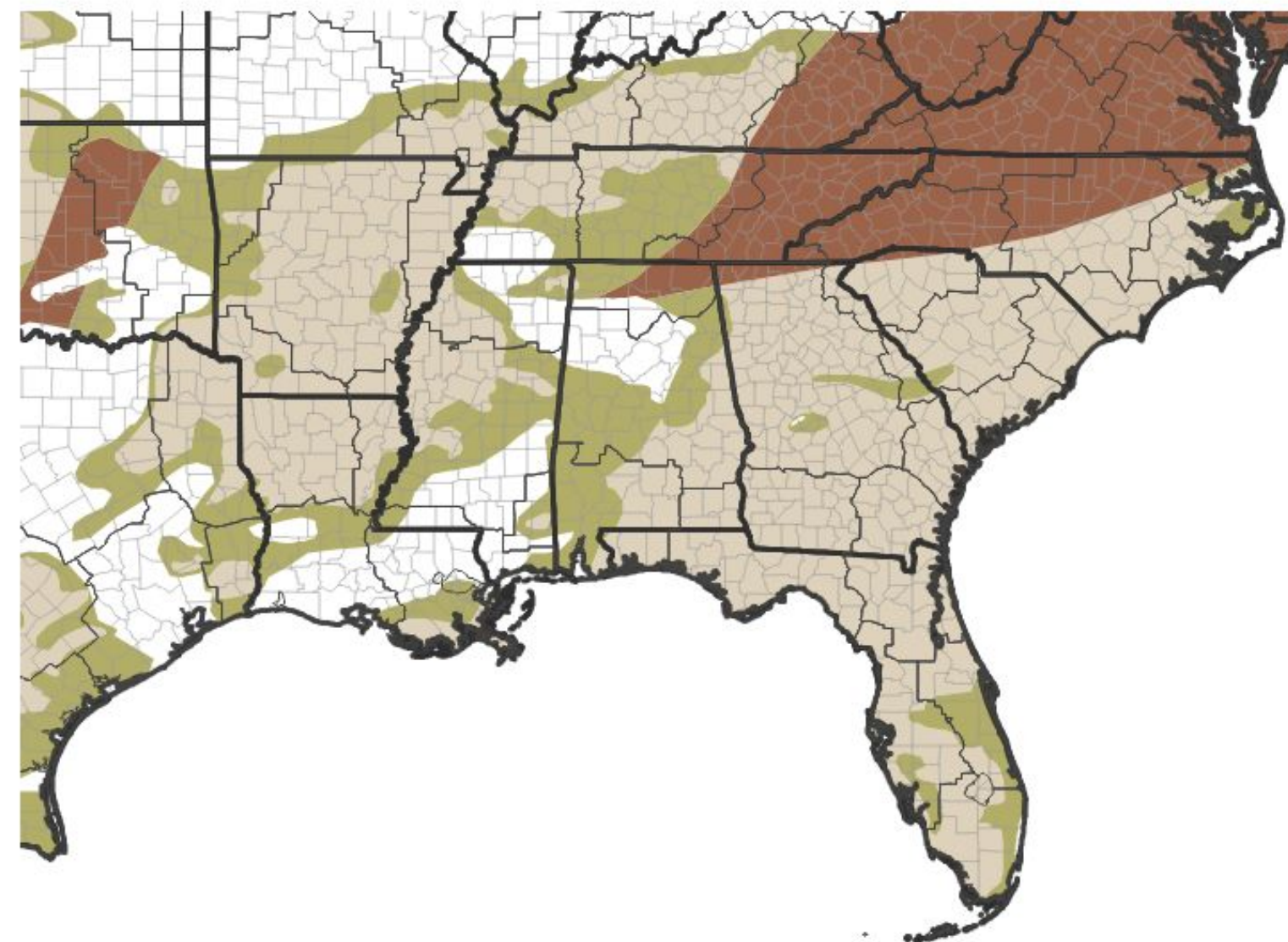


# Drought Outlook

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

- With recent rainfall and expected rainy conditions over the next week, continued drought improvement is expected over the near term.
- This three month outlook is not calling for an end of drought conditions across the region, however. Even with sea breeze season starting, it will take a considerable amount of rain over a widespread area to lead to significant improvement in the drought or even end the drought.

**Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for May 31, 2026–August 31, 2026**



**Drought Is Predicted To...**



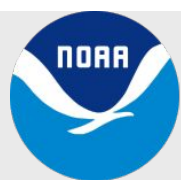
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 05/31/26

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  
Tallahassee, FL**