



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

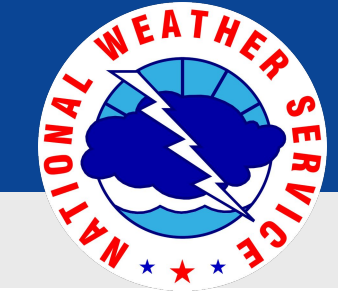
Valid August 6, 2026

Issued By: National Weather Service Tallahassee, FL

Contact Information: kelly.godsey@noaa.gov; cameron.young@noaa.gov

- This is the final issuance of this product unless Extreme Drought (D3) returns.
- 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.
- **Steady Drought Improvement across the Region.**
- **Extreme Drought (D3) no longer present - this is the last drought statement.**
- The Southeast Florida Big Bend still has moderate to severe drought, mainly due to long term rainfall deficits that affect streams, lakes and groundwater levels.
- Further improvement in drought conditions are possible, though significant rains are needed to fully recharge river and lake levels.





U.S. Drought Monitor

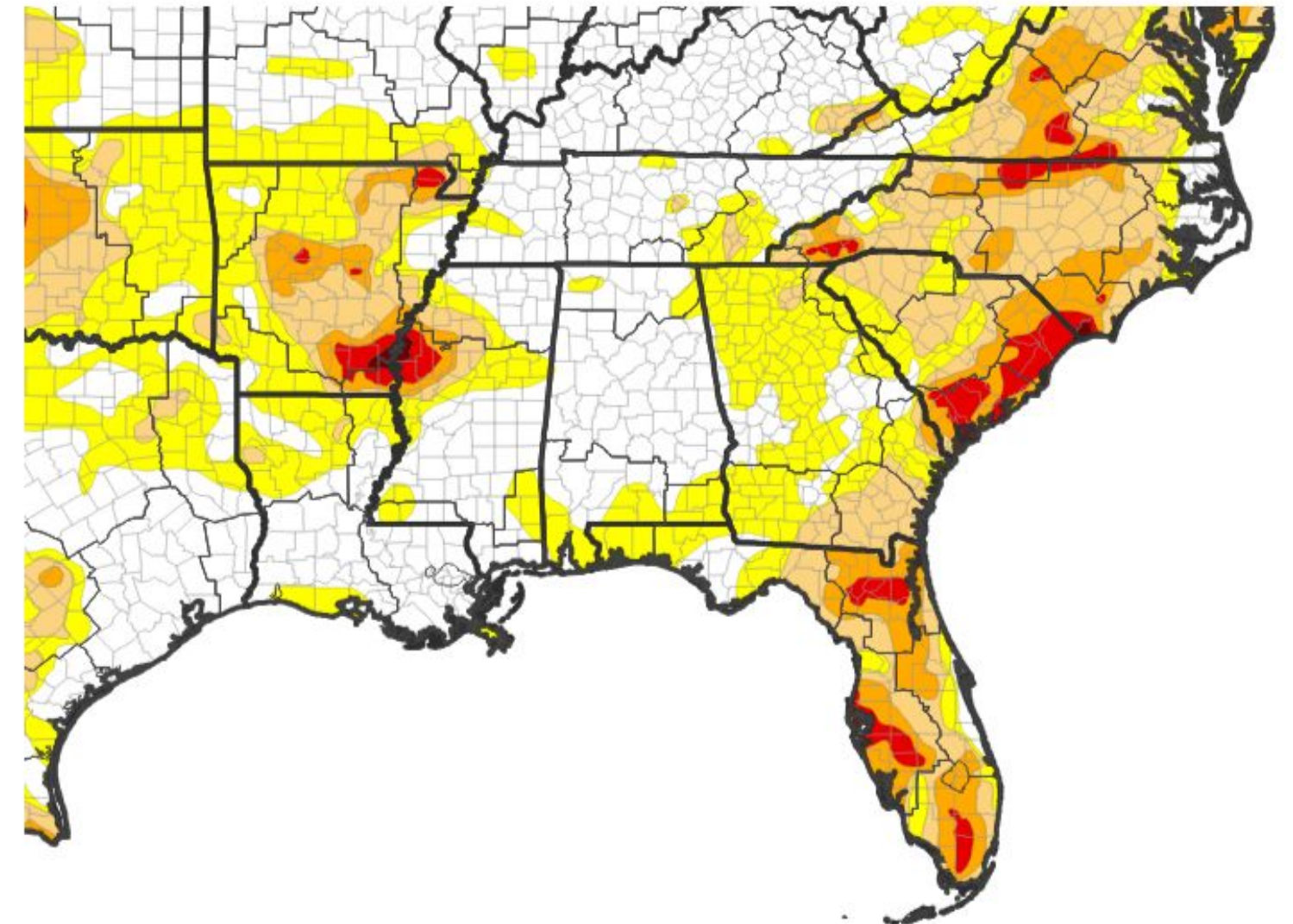
Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Southeast Alabama, Southwest Georgia, and the Florida Panhandle & Big Bend

- An extensive rainy weekend resulted in further improvement to drought categories across the region.

Drought intensity and Extent:

- **D2 (Severe Drought):**
 - In Florida: Portions of Lafayette and Dixie Counties.
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):**
 - In Florida: From Jefferson County eastward to the Suwannee River.
 - In Georgia: Brooks, Cook, Berrien, Lanier, and Lowndes Counties.
- **D0 (Abnormally Dry):**
 - In Florida: Along and east of the Ochlockonee River as well as across the Florida Panhandle, mainly west of a line from Marianna to the Bay/Walton County line.
 - In Georgia/Alabama: Much of Southeast Alabama and Southwest Georgia.

U.S. Drought Monitor

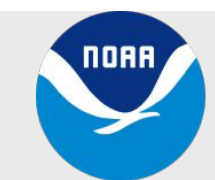


U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 08/04/26



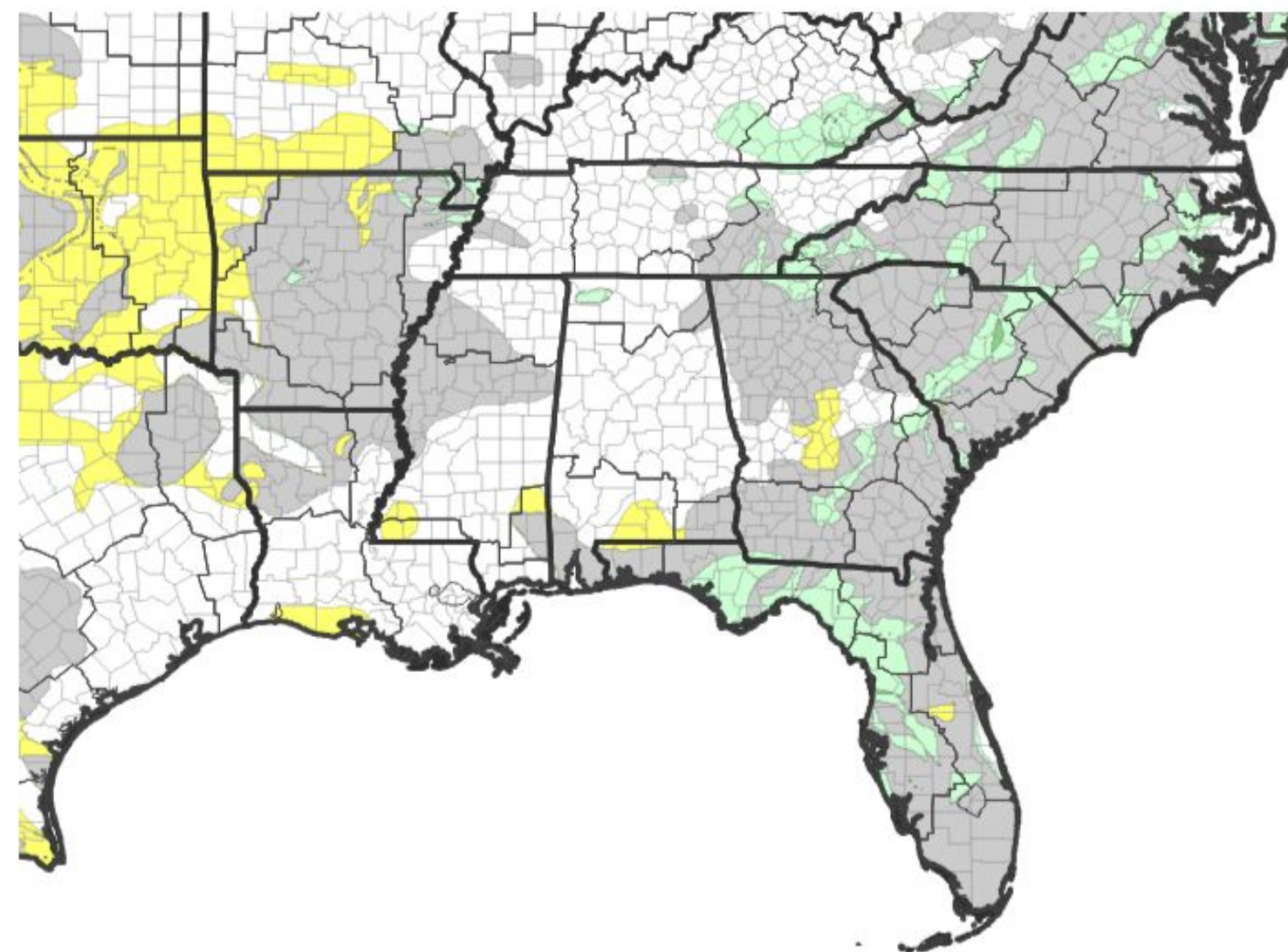


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

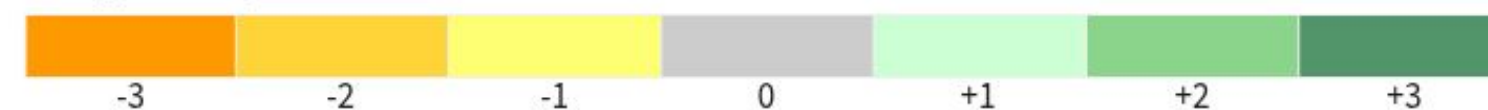
Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Southeast Alabama, Southwest Georgia, and the Florida Panhandle & Big Bend

- Further improvement in drought intensity continued this week with recent rains with much of North Florida receiving a 1 category improvement as well as portions of South Central Georgia.
- One-Week Drought Monitor Class Change:
 - **1 Category Improvement**
 - In Florida: From Bay County eastward to along the Apalachicola River. As well as into the Southeast Florida Big Bend.
 - In South Central Georgia: Around Tift, Turner, Ben Hill, and Irwin Counties.
 - **No change**
 - Remainder of the region.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map

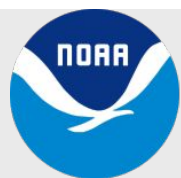


Drought Change Since Last Week



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

Data Valid: 08/04/26



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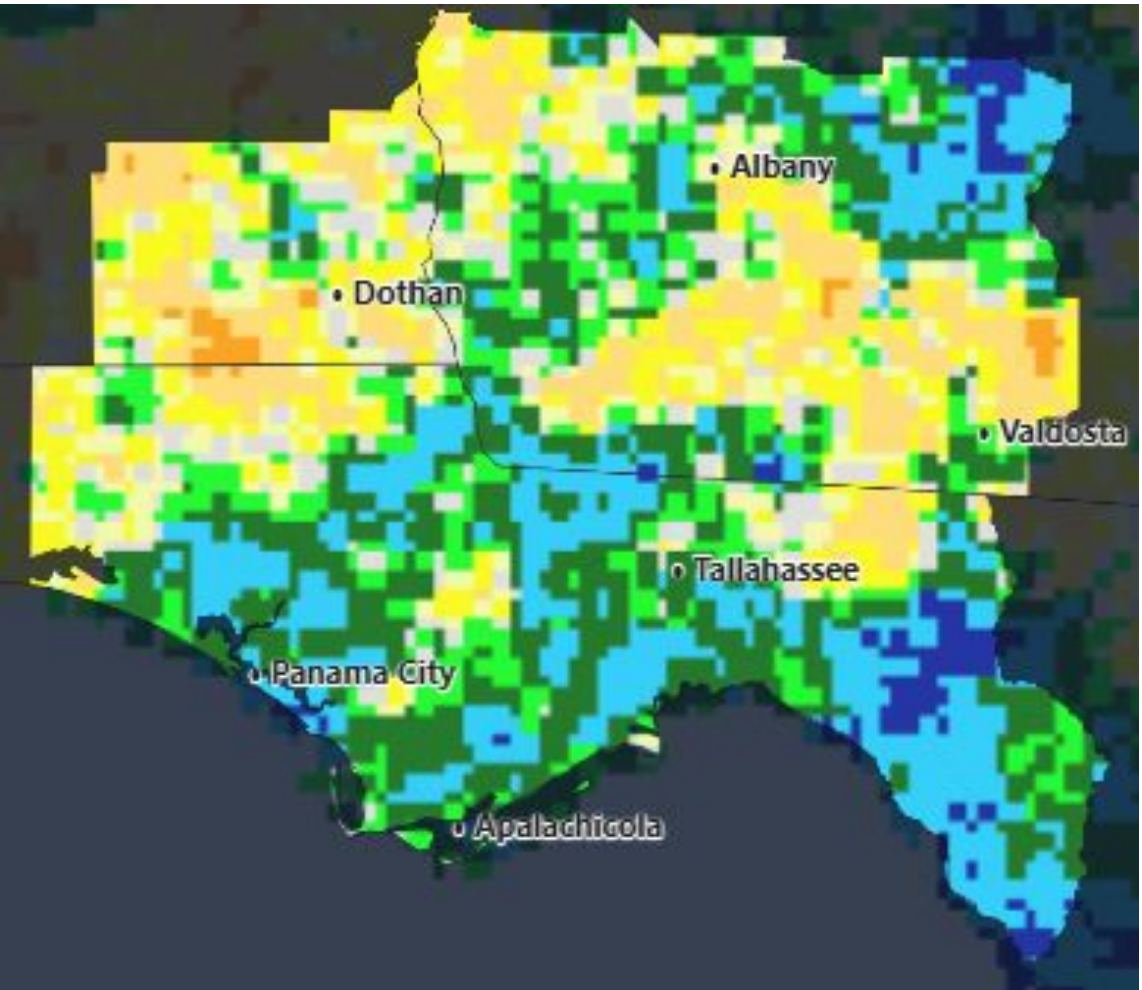
National Weather Service
Tallahassee, FL



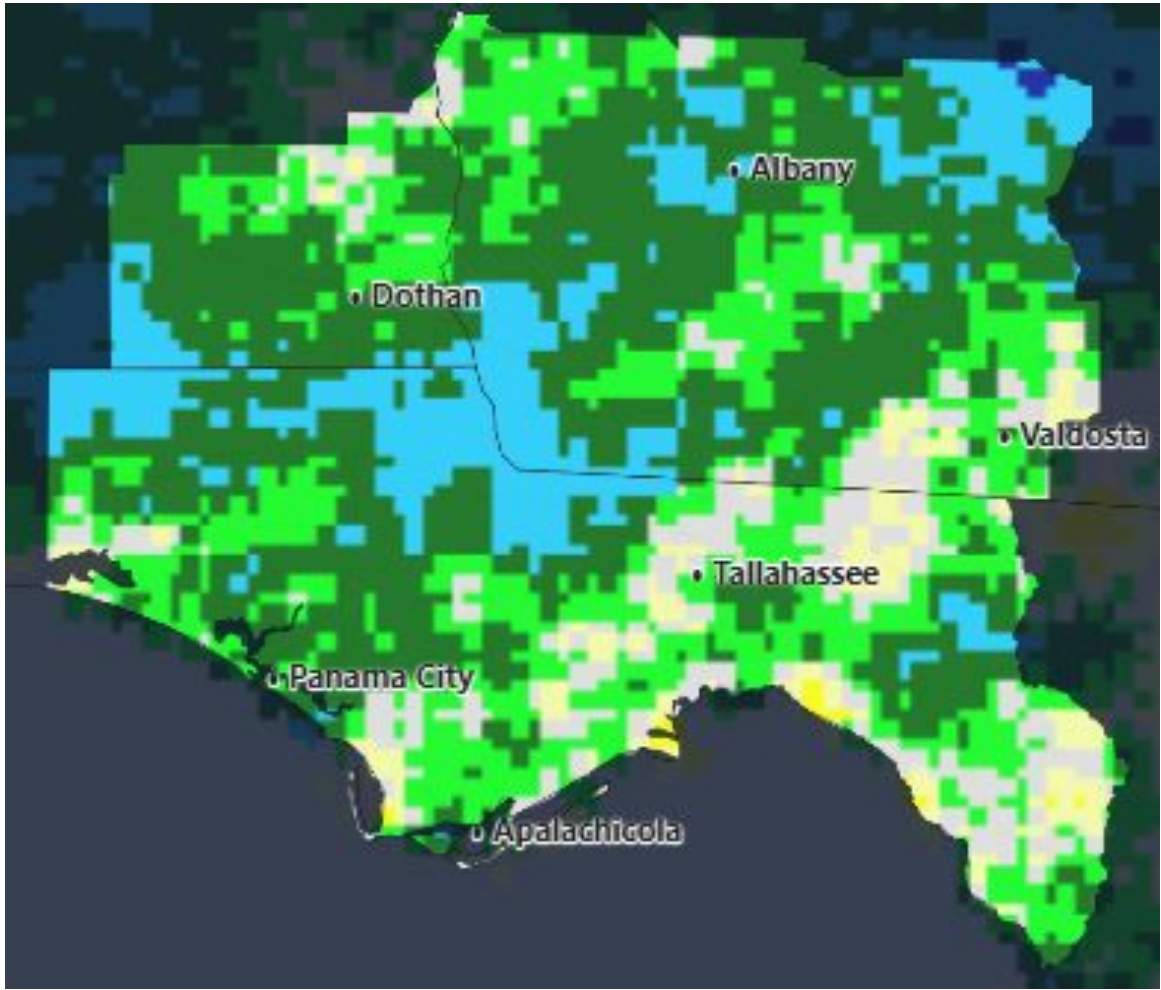
Precipitation

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

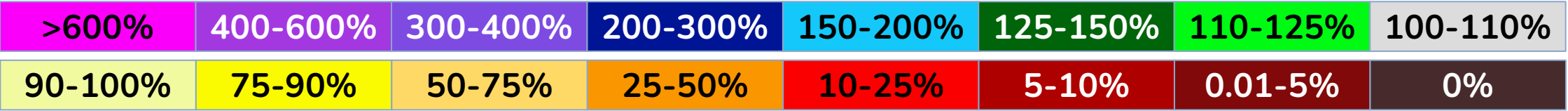
	Last 30 Days		Last 120 Days	
	Rainfall	Percent	Rainfall	Percent
DeFuniak Springs*	7.40"	109.9%	37.40"	168.0%
Panama City ECP	8.69"	131.5%	19.69"	96.0%
Dothan	5.80"	100.0%	18.96"	101.7%
Georgetown**	3.59"	67.9%	16.36"	91.9%
Dawson**	4.06"	77.6%	18.85"	107.3%
Arlington**	5.51"	99.5%	25.57"	142.6%
Albany	3.02"	61.6%	19.33"	119.1%
Cairo**	4.35"	75.3%	24.75"	132.6%
Tallahassee	8.82"	126.2%	21.60"	96.8%
Moultrie**	2.17"	40.6%	19.56"	111.8%
Monticello*	5.84"	86.3%	20.70"	97.8%
Ty Ty**	6.44"	129.6%	23.32"	139.6%
Alapaha**	6.19"	122.1%	22.63"	136.4%
Madison Blue Spring***	8.18"	136.3%	22.24"	112.1%
Perry***	14.54"	215.8%	23.5"	116.5%



30 day Percent of Normal Precipitation



120 day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Recent rains have been more than sufficient to alleviate drought conditions. However, some riverine and lake levels remain below normal for this time of year.

Rainfall totals through August 5, 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 remain below normal across the Southeast Florida Big Bend and are generally within the normal range elsewhere across the region. However, lakes and ponds remain lower than normal for this time of year, especially in areas in the Florida Big Bend.

Agricultural Impacts

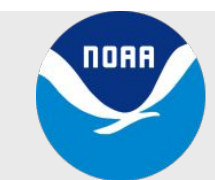
- Rainfall continues to slowly improve drought conditions and this has helped the agricultural community now well into growing season.
- Some irrigation needs remain in the Southeast Florida Big Bend.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) values are are mainly 200 or less throughout North Florida. Portions of Southeast Alabama and Southwest Georgia have values in the 200-400 range.

Mitigation Actions

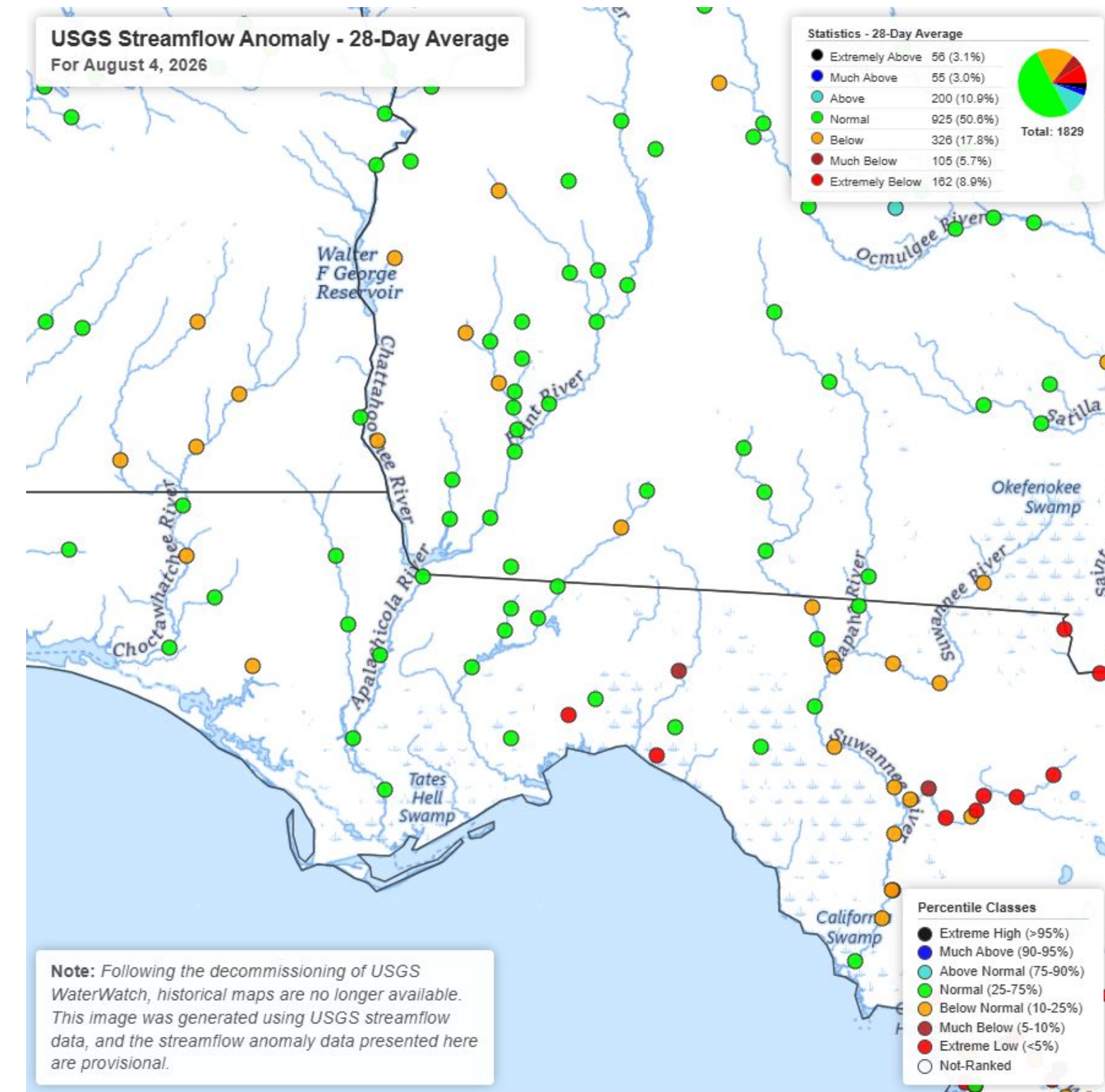
- Northwest Florida Water Management District has issued a [water shortage warning](#) for their watershed.
- Suwannee River Water Management District has issued a modified phase II [water shortage order](#) for their watershed.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow conditions have largely improved with many locations now into the normal range, though still on the lower side of the normal range.
- In the Southeast Big Bend, streamflows remain quite low, especially in the lower Suwannee River.
- In response to streamflows and groundwater conditions, Northwest Florida Water Management District a [water shortage warning](#) for their watershed. The Suwannee River Water Management District has issued a modified phase II [water shortage order](#) for their watershed.

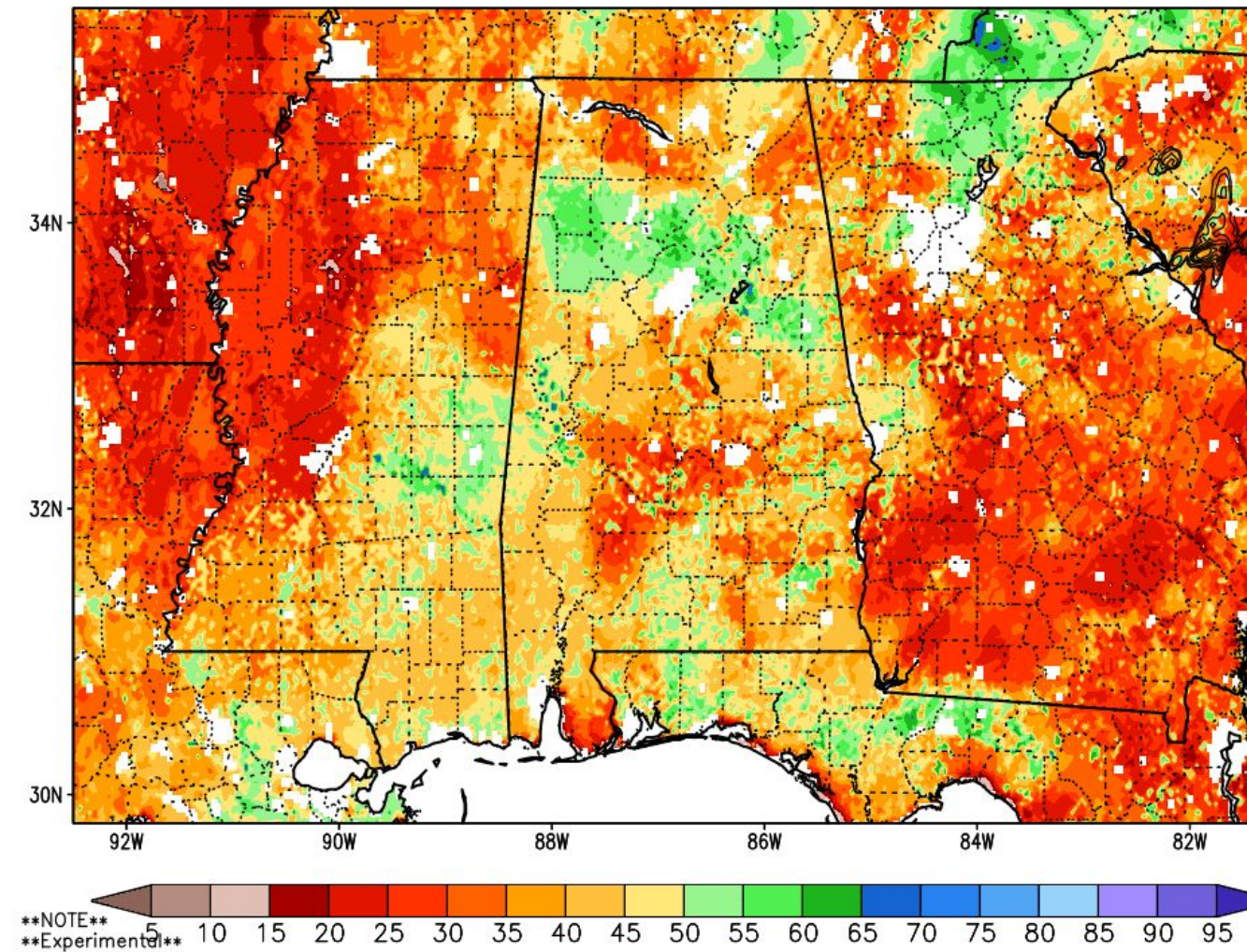




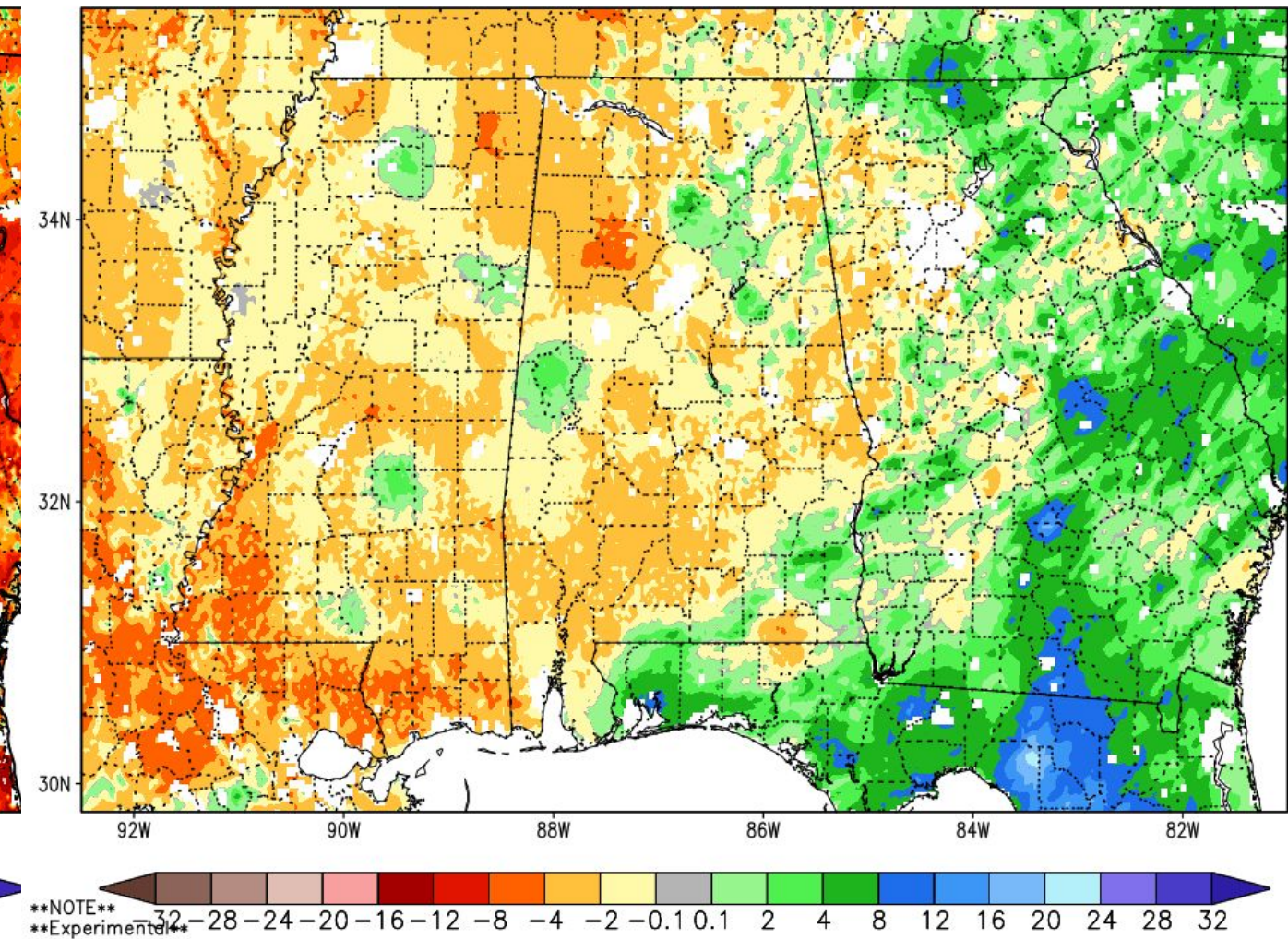
Agricultural Impacts

- Deep layer soil moisture remains dry across South Georgia, but recent rains brought considerable relief along the I-75 corridor and down into North Florida.
- The heaviest rains were in the Florida Big Bend. However, the soils in the Southeast Florida Big Bend tend to dry out very quickly, even after a heavy rain event.

Column-Integrated Relative Soil Moisture (available water; %) valid 08z 06 Aug 2026
Precipitation in previous hour (1,2,5,10,15,20,25 mm contours)

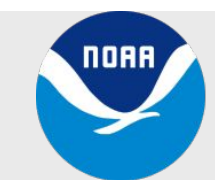


1-Week Difference in Column Relative Soil Moisture (%) valid 08z 06 Aug 2026



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](#)



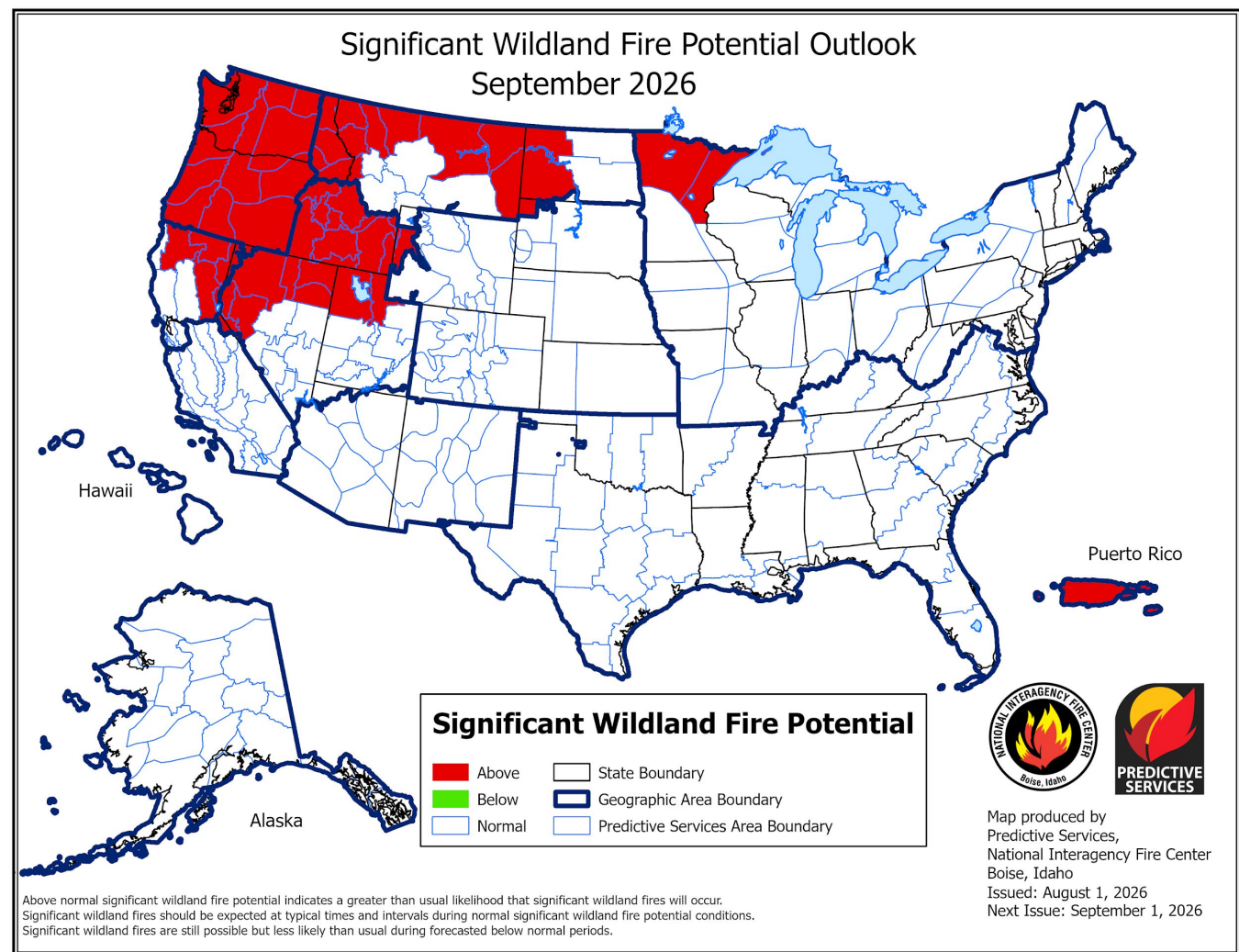
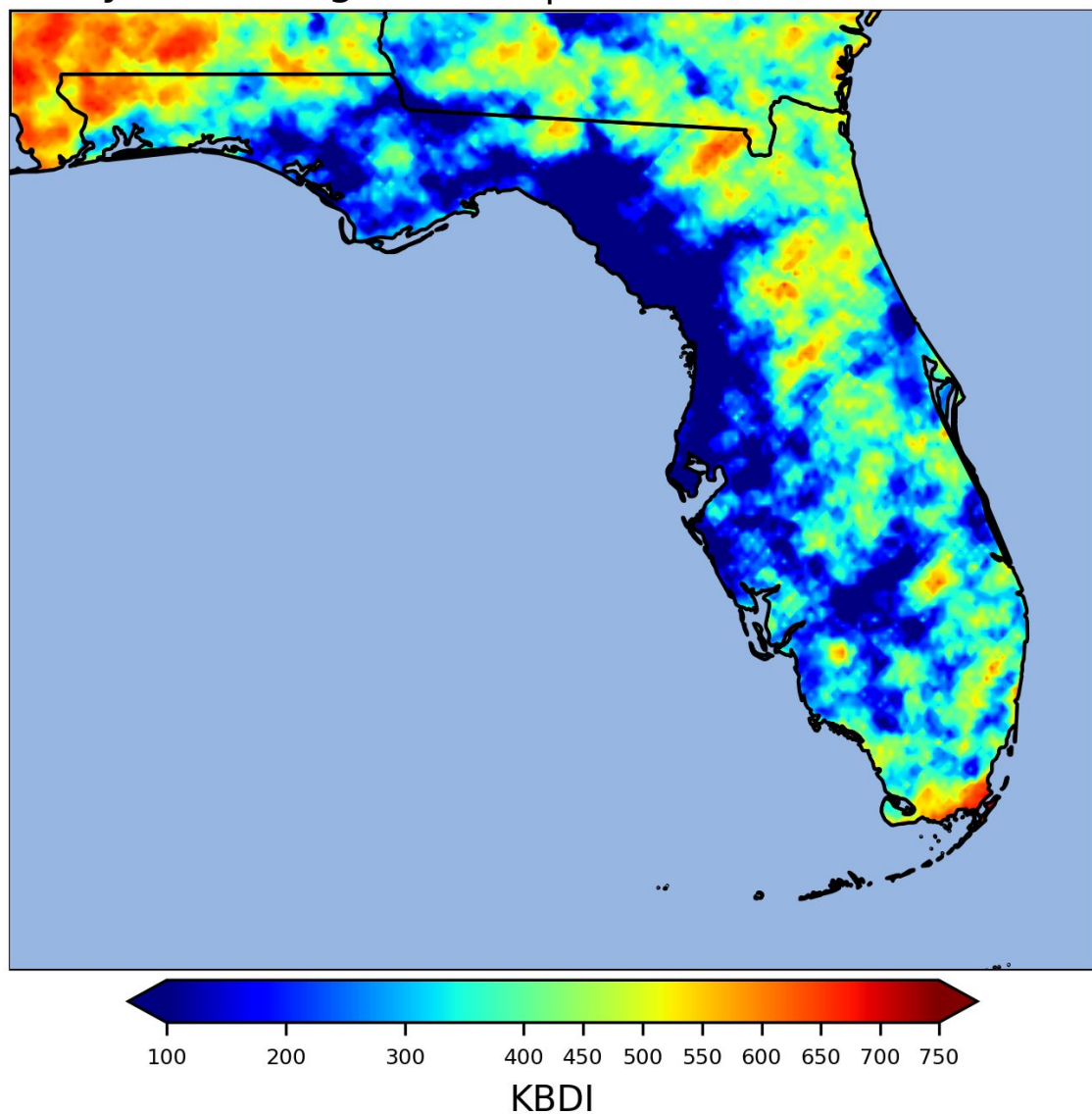


Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Keetch-Byram Drought Indices are below 500.
- There are currently no burn bans in effect.
- The Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook for September is for near normal wildfire activity in most of the region.

Keetch-Byram Drought Index | Wed 08/05/26, 02:00 PM EDT

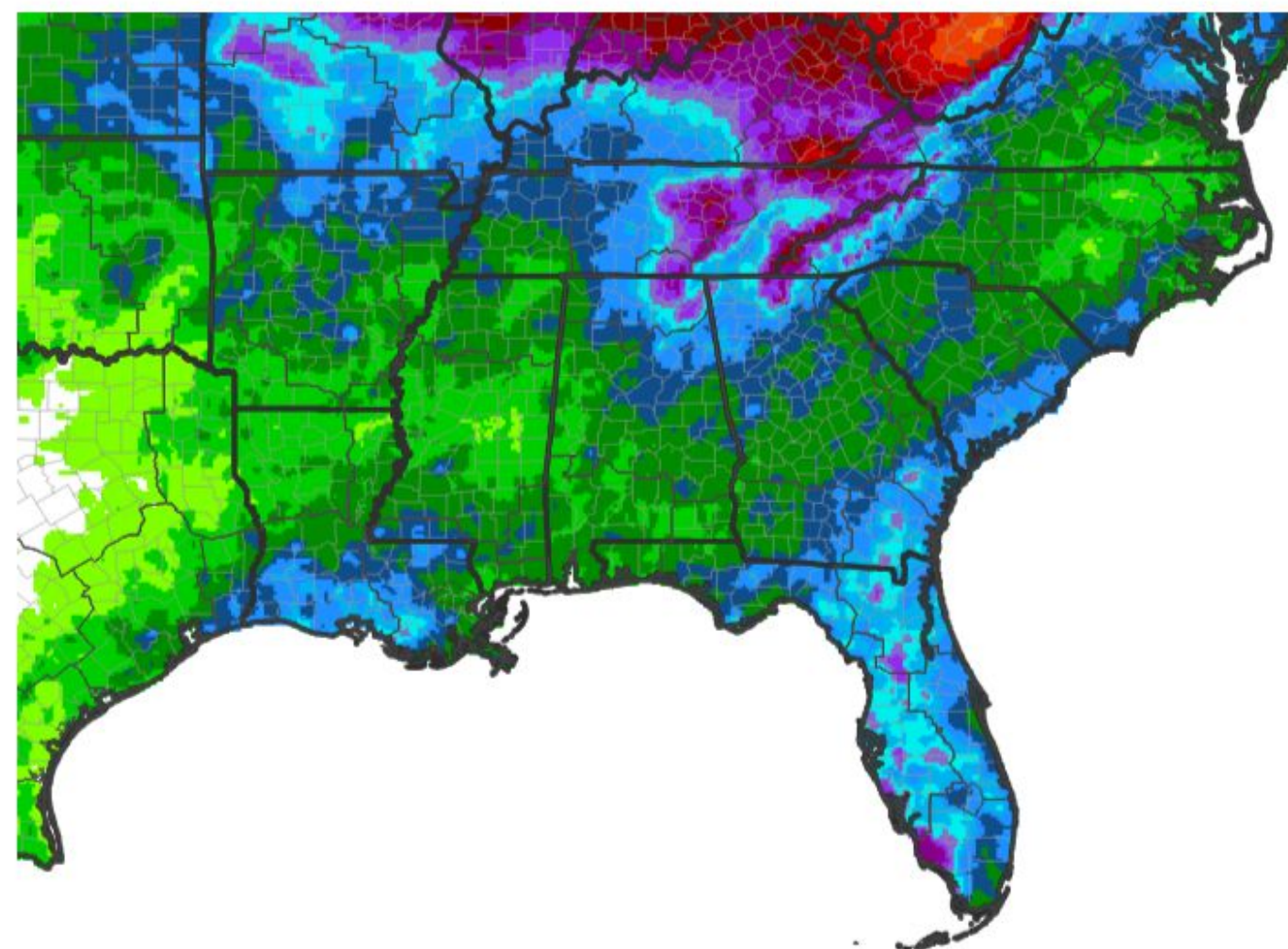




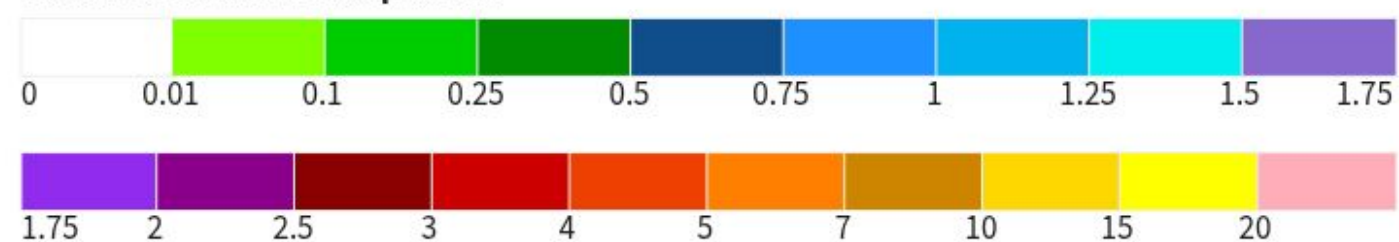
Precipitation Outlook

- Scattered showers and thunderstorms are expected through Saturday, mainly across the eastern half of the region before drier conditions return.
- The longer range pattern is for near to slightly below normal rainfall in the [8-14 day outlook](#) (8/13 - 8/19).

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for August 6, 2026–August 13, 2026



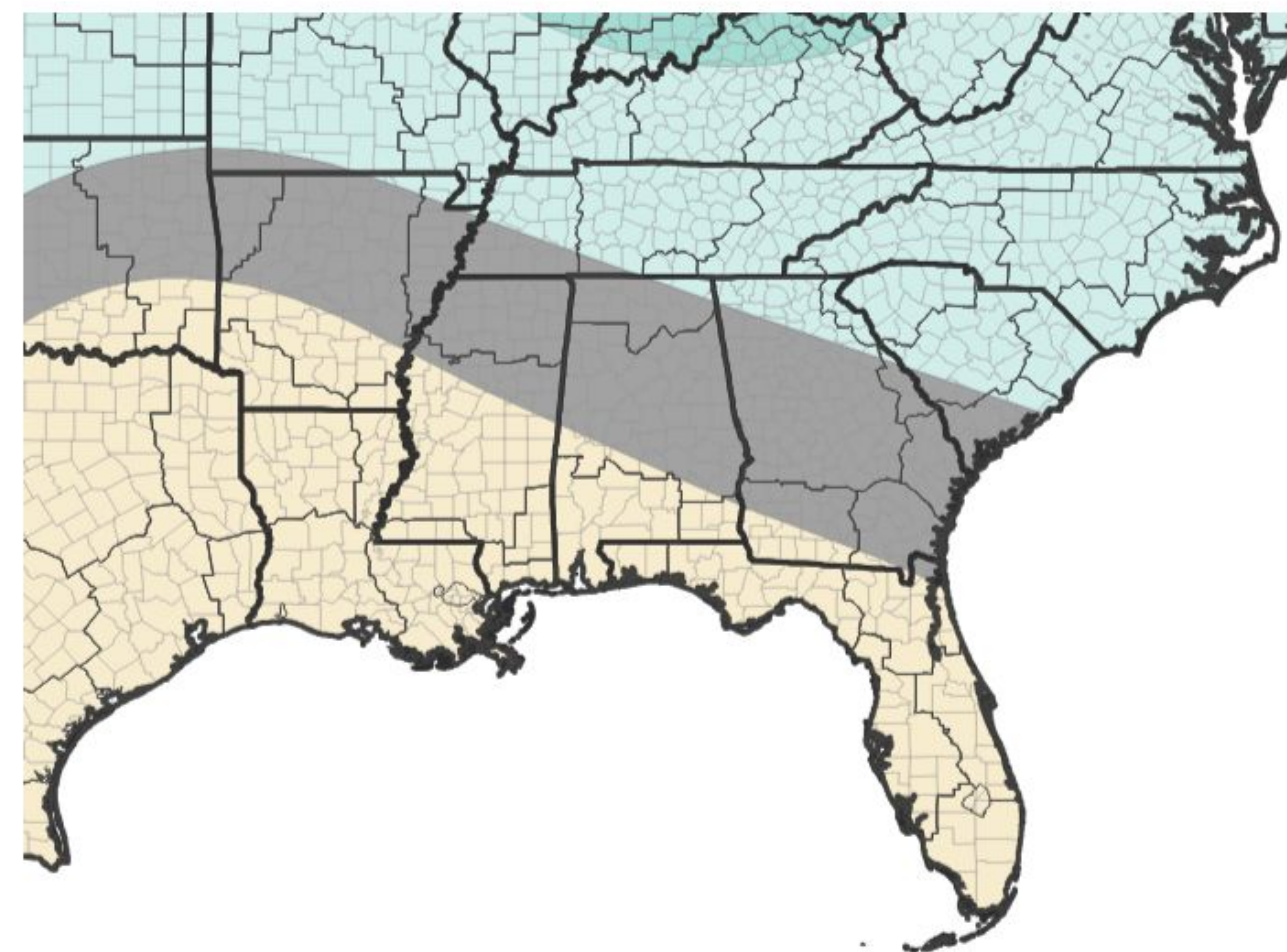
Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 08/06/26

8–14 Day Precipitation Outlook for August 13, 2026–August 19, 2026



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



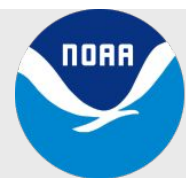
Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



■ Near-Normal Conditions

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

Last Updated: 08/05/26



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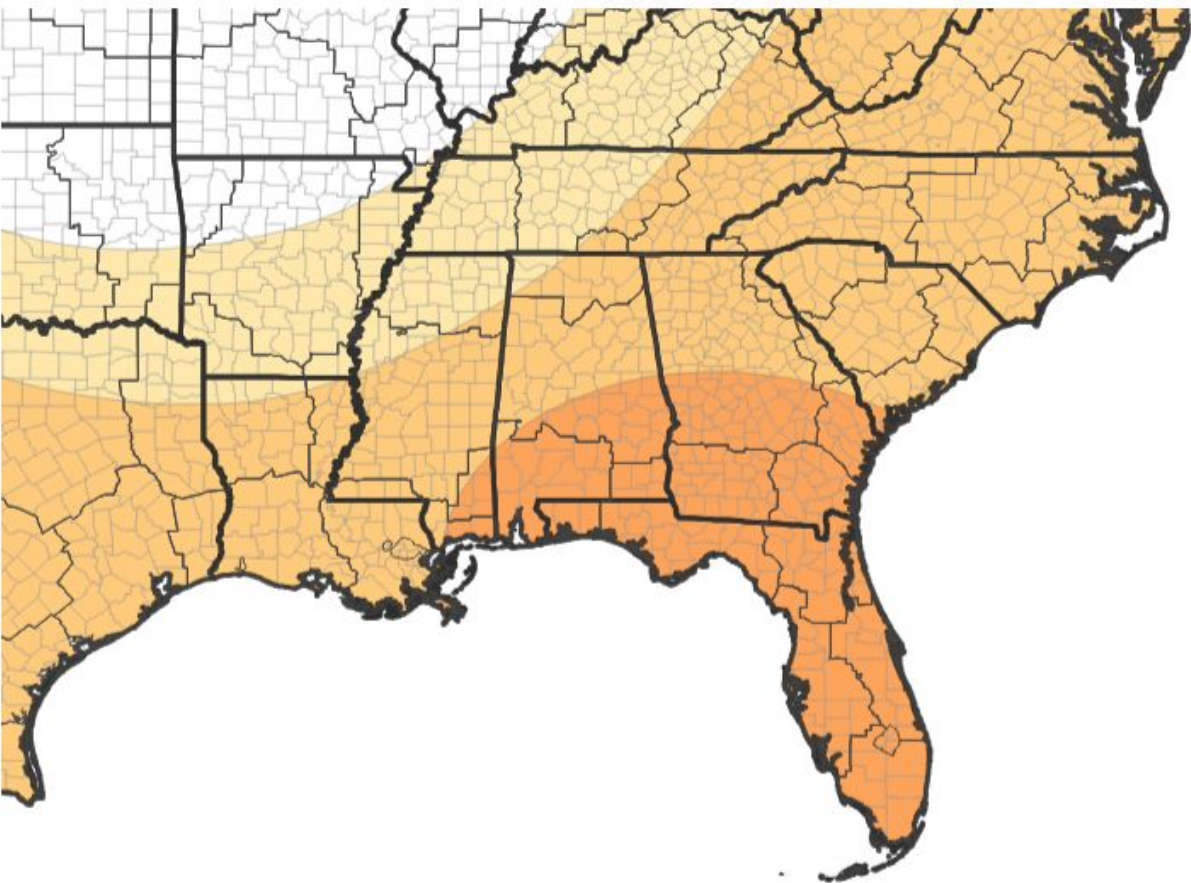


Long-Range Outlooks

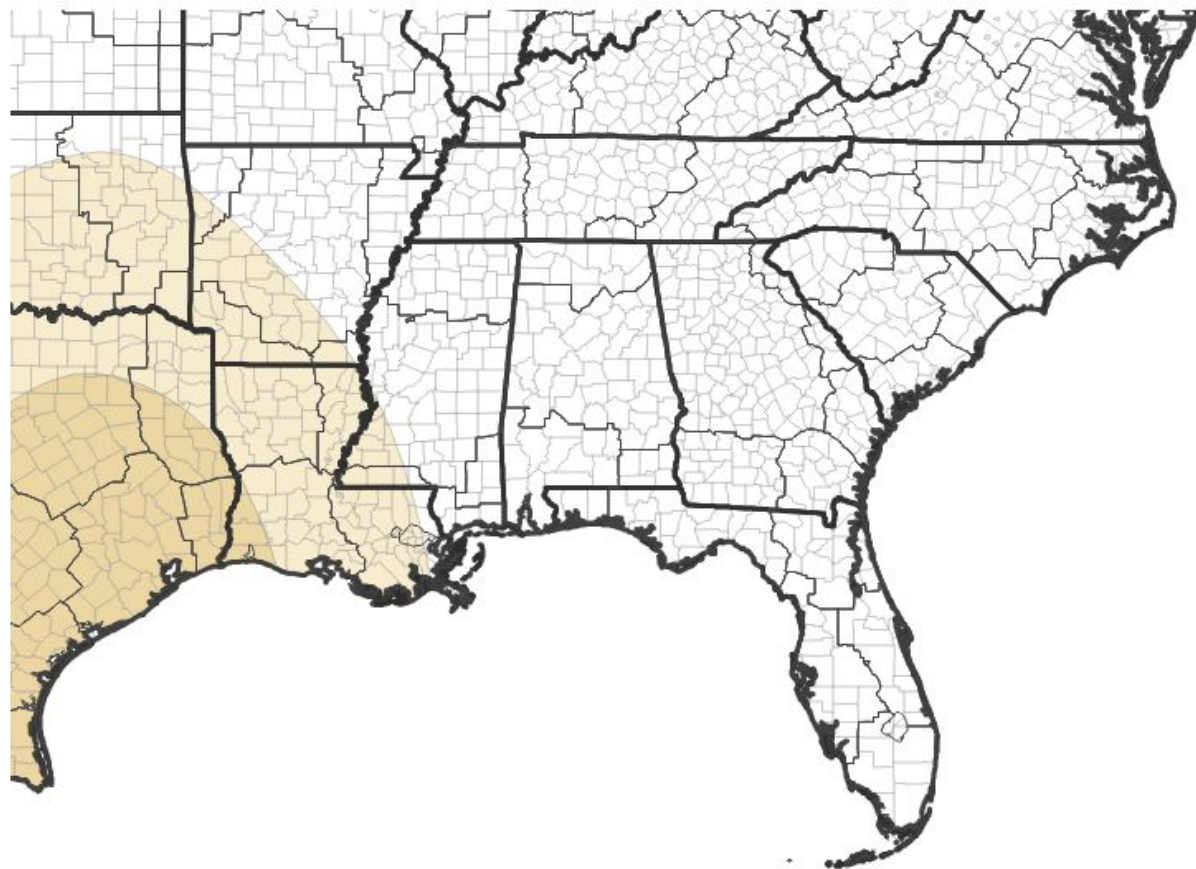
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#).

- The next 3 months favors temperatures much above normal and near normal precipitation.
- With sea breeze season underway drought improvement could continue before reaching September, when drier conditions tend to return.

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



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



Average	August		September		October	
	Temp	Rain	Temp	Rain	Temp	Rain
Tallahassee	82.4°	7.60"	79.1°	4.91"	70.3°	3.24"
Apalachicola	82.2°	7.79"	79.2°	5.38"	71.5°	3.63"
Albany	82.7°	4.83"	78.1°	3.37"	68.9°	2.30"
Valdosta	81.2°	5.11"	77.2°	4.22"	68.6°	3.71"
Marianna	82.1°	4.93"	78.7°	4.06"	69.5°	3.06"
Dothan	82.0°	6.17"	77.9°	3.27"	68.9°	2.70"

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: 07/16/26

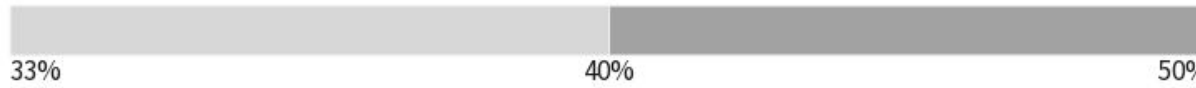
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 06/18/26



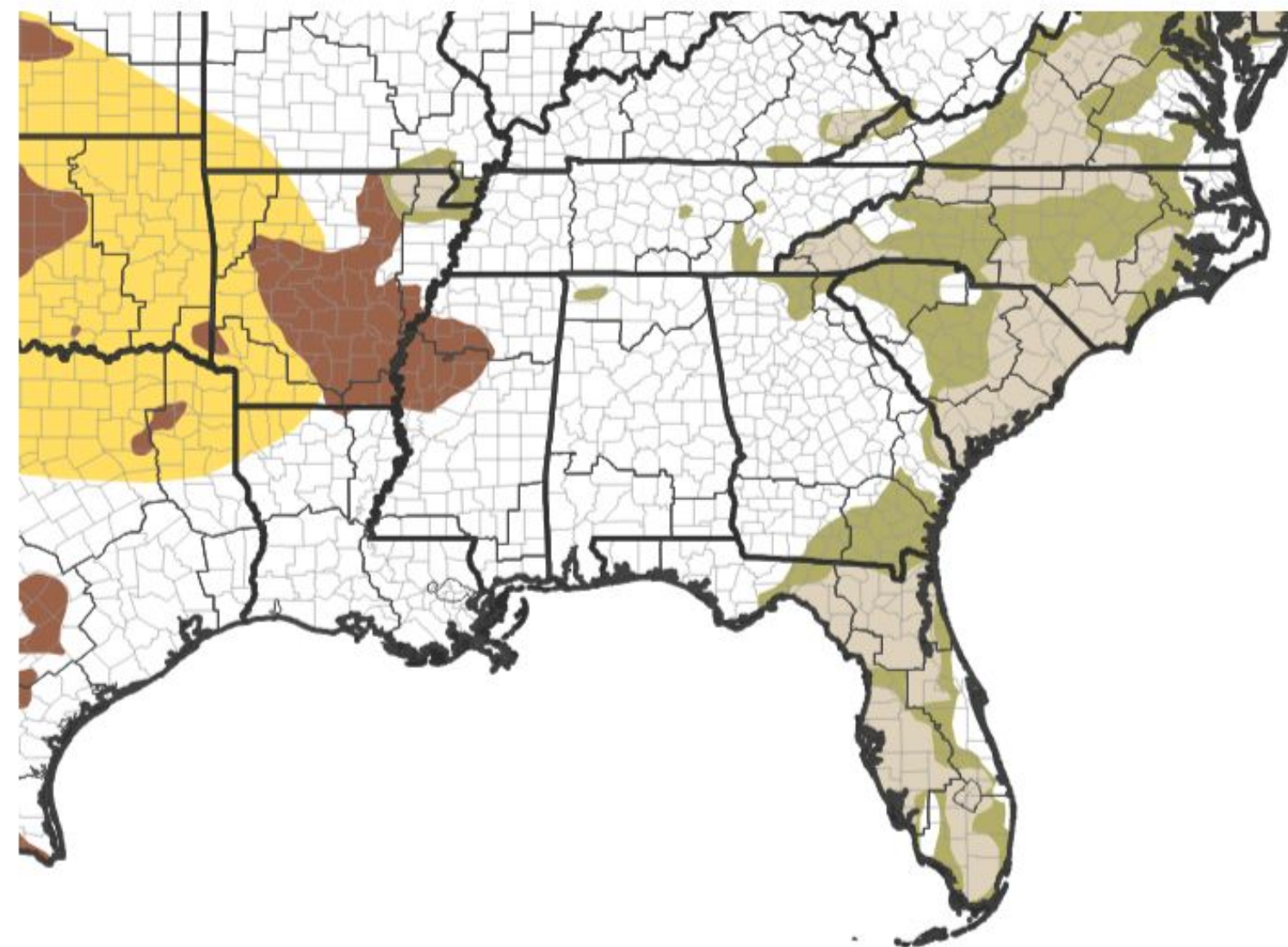


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought has ended for some areas in the region over the last 4 weeks. Additional improvement is expected long term.
- Tropical activity and sea breeze storms will help lead to drought improvement, if the rainfall is sufficiently widespread. To completely end the drought in the Southeast Florida Big Bend, much more rainfall is needed to improve soil, riverine, and surface water conditions.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for July 31, 2026–October 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



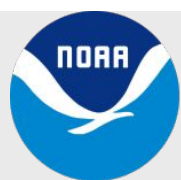
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 07/31/26

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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