



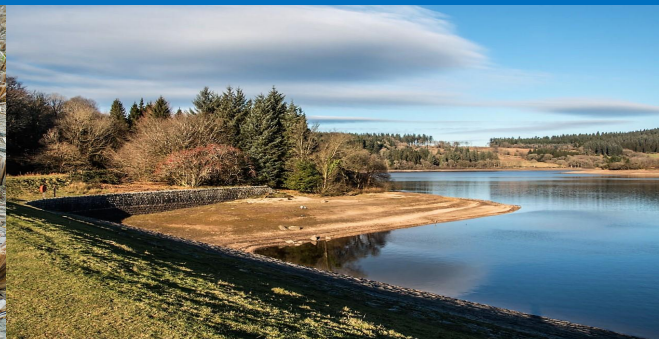
Drought Information Statement for Southeast AL, Southwest GA, and the FL Panhandle & Big Bend

Valid October 27, 2023

Issued By: WFO Tallahassee, FL

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

- This product will be updated November 10, 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/tae/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





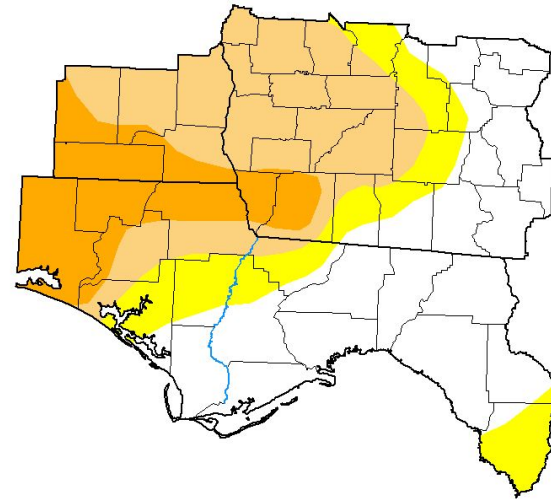
U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for southeast AL, southwest GA, and the FL Panhandle & Big Bend

- Severe drought has expanded into southern Houston and northern Jackson Counties.
- Moderate drought has spread farther east across southwest Georgia.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: From Walton, Geneva, and Coffee Counties eastward along the AL/FL border into far southwest Georgia.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: much of southeast Alabama, far southwest Georgia, and the Florida Panhandle
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: parts of southwest GA into the FL Panhandle and western Big Bend as well as Dixie County

U.S. Drought Monitor Tallahassee, FL WFO

October 24, 2023
(Released Thursday, Oct. 26, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



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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NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT October 24.





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [2-week change map](#) for southeast AL, southwest GA, and the FL Panhandle & Big Bend

- Two Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - **Drought Worsened:** much of southwestern GA and in parts of southeast Alabama and Jackson County, FL
 - **No Change:** The rest of the western Panhandle, southeast Alabama, and southwest Georgia
 - **Drought Improved:** eastern FL Panhandle and Big Bend and near the I-75 corridor of Georgia

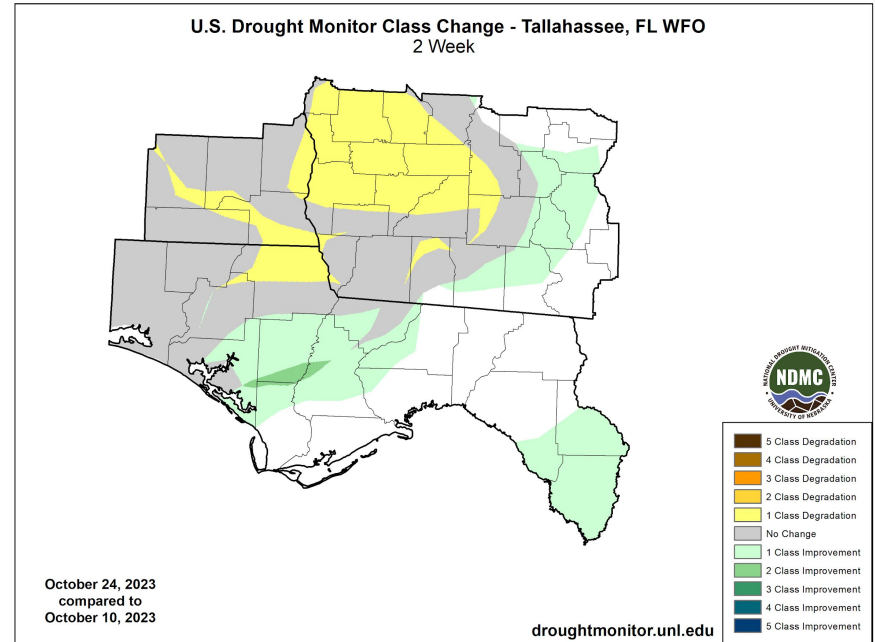


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 2-week change map valid 8am EDT October 24.



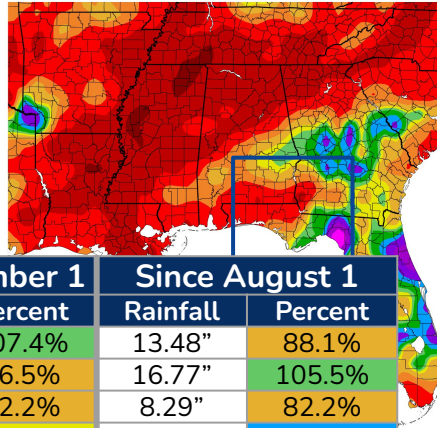


Precipitation

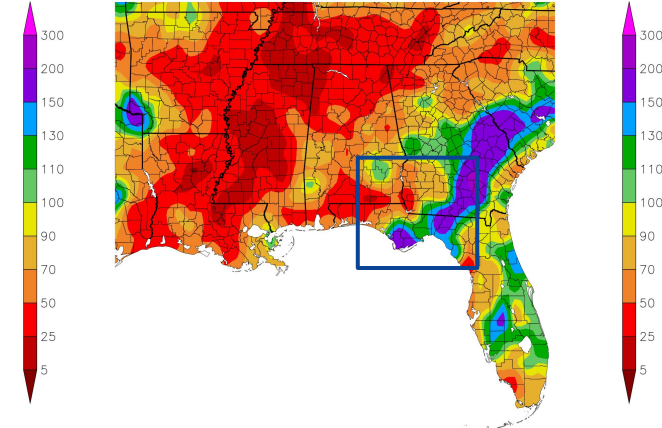
Note: Precipitation after 8 AM EDT/7 AM CDT Tuesday is incorporated in next week's Drought Monitor

- Most areas west of the ACF Basin are running 3-8 inches below normal for the last 3 months, or about 25-60% of normal.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
9/27/2023 - 10/26/2023



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
8/28/2023 - 10/26/2023



	Since October 1		Since September 1		Since August 1	
	Rainfall	Percent	Rainfall	Percent	Rainfall	Percent
Tallahassee	2.99"	106.8%	8.28"	107.4%	13.48"	88.1%
Cross City	2.44"	123.9%	5.96"	76.5%	16.77"	105.5%
Albany	1.26"	67.0%	3.79"	72.2%	8.29"	82.2%
Valdosta	2.71"	85.5%	7.11"	96.2%	18.08"	144.6%
Panama City	1.93"	66.6%	6.36"	79.8%	9.11"	60.3%
Marianna	0.83"	32.4%	5.50"	83.1%	7.64"	66.2%
Dothan	1.13"	49.8%	3.74"	67.5%	6.24"	53.3%
DeFuniak Springs*	1.04"	40.1%	1.77"	23.9%	5.29"	38.9%
Geneva*	1.20"	39.9%	2.14"	26.3%	3.20"	23.6%
Quincy*	2.35"	71.3%	5.06"	53.9%	9.68"	62.7%
Arlington*	1.47"	62.5%	2.21"	36.0%	4.74"	39.6%
Attapulcus*	2.14"	96.8%	3.49"	53.8%	8.71"	66.3%

NOAA Regional Climate Centers J23 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Center.

Image Captions:

Left - 30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Southeast US

Right - 60-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation for the Southeast US

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center and Southeast Regional Climate Center.

Data over the past 30 and 60 days ending October 26, 2023

*UF FAWN or UGA Mesonet Sites



Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Many rivers along and west of the ACF basin are running below to well-below normal streamflows.
- Record low 7- and 28-day streamflows along the Shoal River at Mossy Head.

Agricultural Impacts

- Alabama: not available
- Florida: not available
- Georgia: Farmers are reporting dry range conditions and early hay feeding. Ponds and streams are down. Planting winter crops has been negatively affected by dryness.

Fire Hazard Impacts

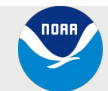
- Keetch-Byram Drought Index values around 500-650 west of the ACF basin. Highest values are in Geneva, northern Walton, and northern Holmes Counties.
- The Alabama Forestry Commission has issued a [Fire Alert](#) for the entire state of Alabama.

Other Impacts

- The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs Office of Water Resources (ADECA OWR) has declared a Drought Warning for Geneva County and a Drought Watch for Coffee, Dale, Henry, and Houston Counties. The declaration can be found [here](#).

Mitigation Actions

- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Most rivers along and west of the ACF basin are below to well-below average streamflows, though some rain last week helped bump streamflows up.
- The 7- and 28-day average streamflows for the Shoal River at Mossy Head are the lowest on record for this time of year.

	7-Day Average Streamflow Percentile	14-Day Average Streamflow Percentile	28-Day Average Streamflow Percentile
Shoal River at Mossy Head	2.0%	3.5%	2.0%
Pea River at Samson	21.0%	36.3%	20.1%
Choctawhatchee River at Newton	18.8%	38.4%	21.0%
Choctawhatchee River at Caryville	17.9%	26.5%	14.8%
Choctawhatchee River at Bruce	17.5%	19.6%	14.0%
Chattahoochee River at Columbia	24.4%	28.1%	23.0%
Flint River at Albany	19.8%	44.2%	18.2%
Ichawaynochaway Creek at Milford	22.9%	39.3%	22.9%
Spring Creek at Iron City	17.4%	18.2%	15.6%
Apalachicola River at Chattahoochee	18.6%	21.4%	17.0%
Apalachicola River at Blountstown	21.9%	22.8%	21.7%
Chipola River at Altha	22.6%	23.0%	19.6%
Little Atappulgus Creek at Atappulgus	6.5%	17.4%	10.1%

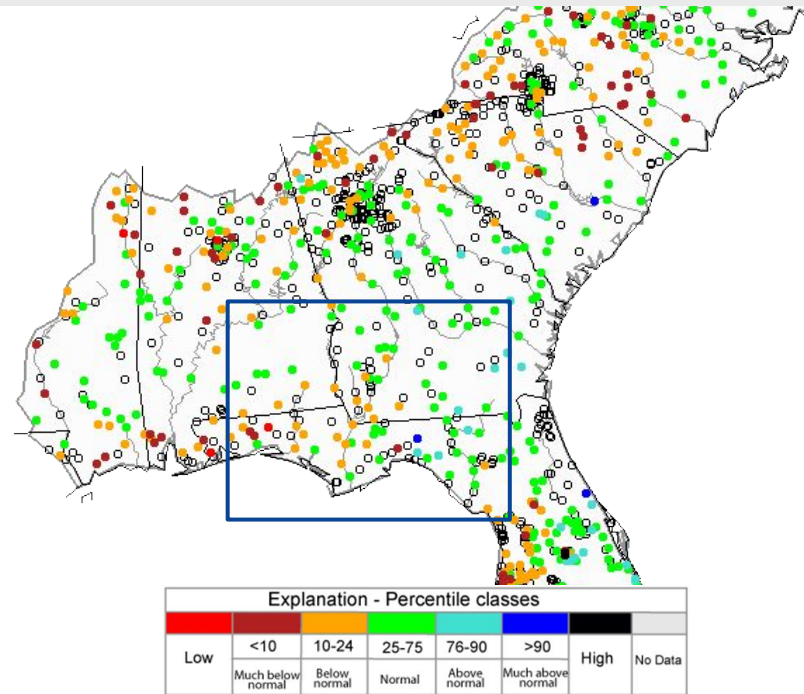


Image Caption: USGS 28 day average streamflow map valid October 27, 2023

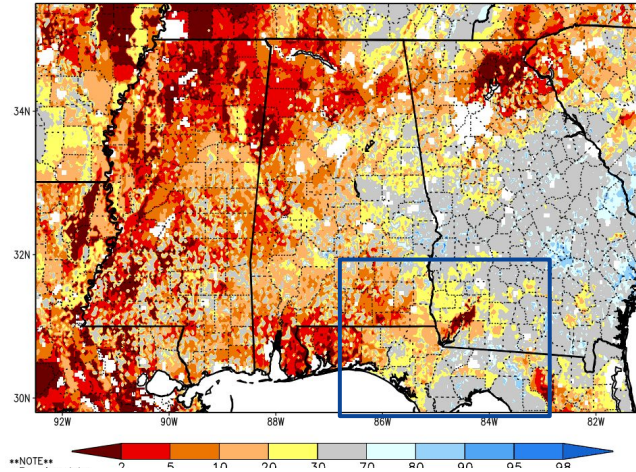




Agricultural Impacts

- Soils remain very dry along and west of the ACF Basin.
- Soil moisture is below to well below normal west of the ACF Basin.
- Soils have been generally drying area-wide, with a greater rate of drying across the Florida counties in the last couple weeks.
- Farmers in southwest Georgia continue to report dry range conditions, leading to early hay feeding for livestock, and difficulty planting winter crops.

SPoRT-LIS 0-2 m RSM percentile valid 27 Oct 2023



2-Week Difference in Column Relative Soil Moisture (%) valid 12z 27 Oct 2023

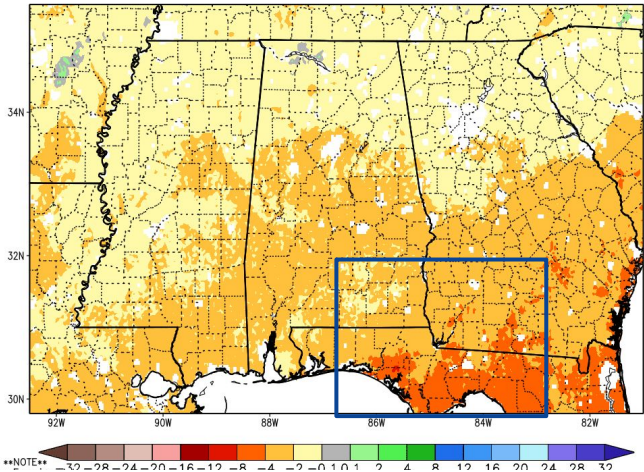


Image Captions:
 Left: 0-2 m Relative Soil Moisture Percentile from NASA SPoRT valid October 27, 2023
 Right: 0-2 m Relative Soil Moisture 2-week Change from NASA SPoRT valid through October 27, 2023

2023 Crop Reports
[Alabama](#) | [Florida](#) | [Georgia](#)





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index values remain around 500-650 along and west of the ACF Basin.
- There's been a recent uptick in the number of wildfires due to drought conditions.
- Dry frontal passages have posed increased fire risk due to lower humidity and gusty winds.
- The outlook for November calls for near normal wildfire potential across the southeast US.

7-Day Significant Fire Potential Outlook from the Southern Area Coordination Center

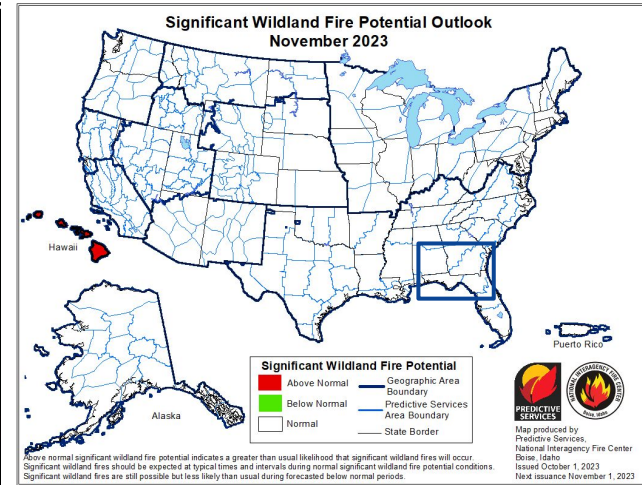
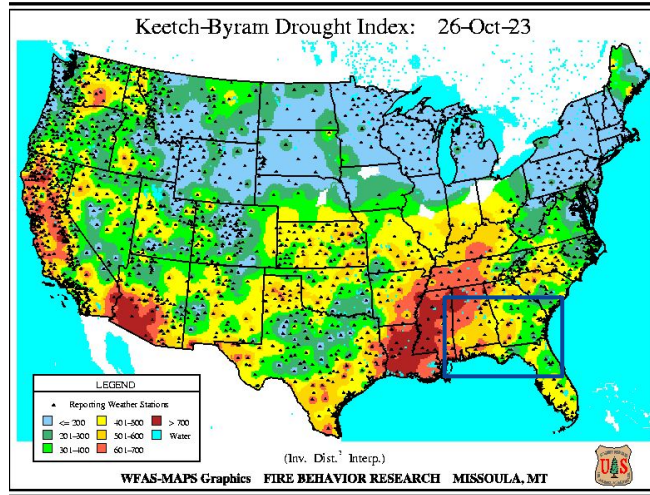


Image Captions:

Left - Keetch-Byram Drought Index valid October 26, 2023 (Wildland Fire Assessment System)
 Right - Significant Wildland Fire Potential for November 2023 (National Interagency Coordination Center)





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Little to no rainfall is forecast during the next 7 days.

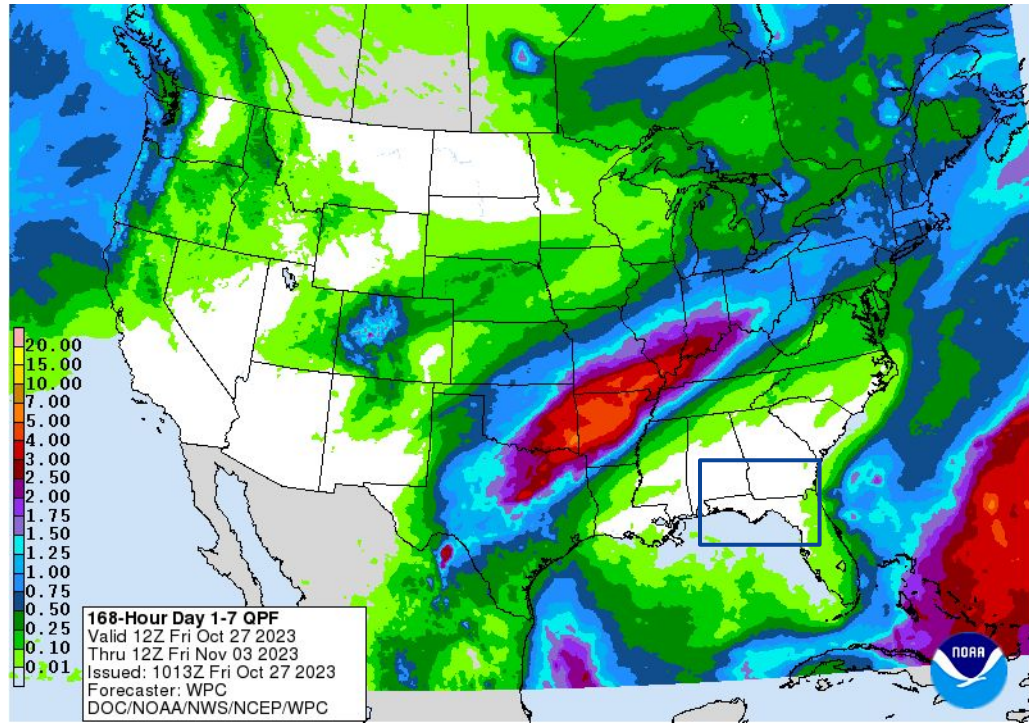


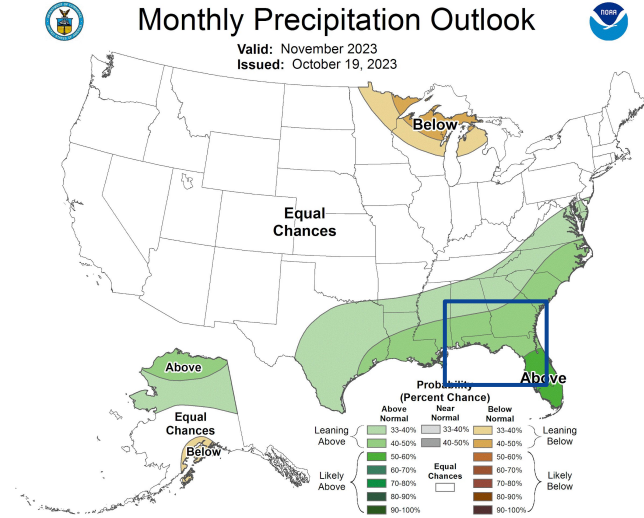
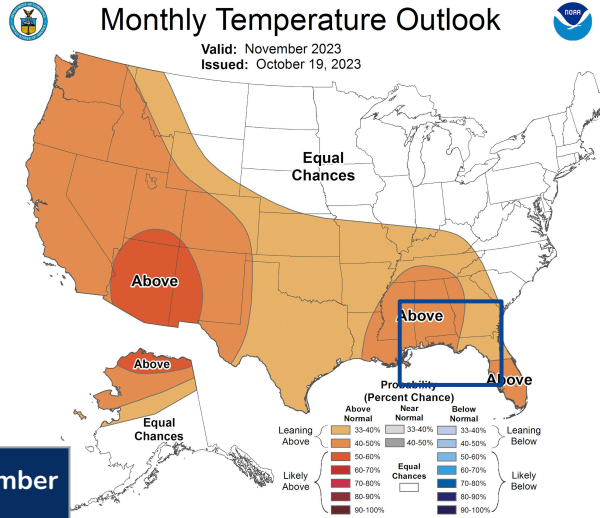
Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Friday, October 27 through Friday, November 3.



Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The November outlook favors above normal temperatures and above normal rainfall.
- Climatologically, November is a relatively dry month across our area.



	Average November Temperature	Average November Rainfall
Tallahassee	60.2°	3.10"
Apalachicola	62.1°	3.74"
Cross City	61.8°	2.10"
Albany	58.7°	2.94"
Valdosta	59.0°	2.47"
Marianna	59.6°	3.67"
Dothan	58.9°	3.91"

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





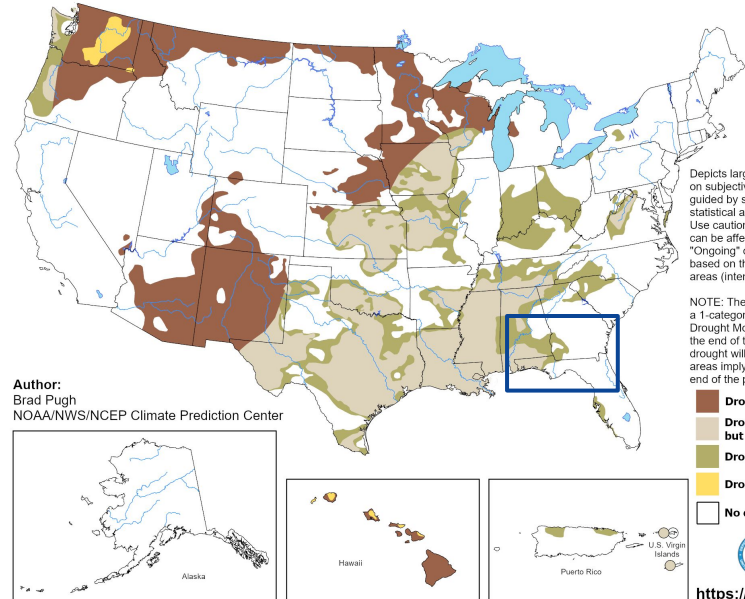
Drought Outlook

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

- The seasonal drought outlook shows that drought should improve and possibly removed altogether in the next 3 months.

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

Valid for October 19, 2023 - January 31, 2024
Released October 19, 2023



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released October 19, 2023 valid for October 19, 2023 through January 31, 2024



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Tallahassee, FL