



Drought Information Statement for Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana

Valid January 11th, 2024

Issued By: National Weather Service Lake Charles, Louisiana

Contact Information: sr-lch.ops@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated 1/18/2024.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/lch/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





U.S. Drought Monitor

January 11, 2024
8:29 AM

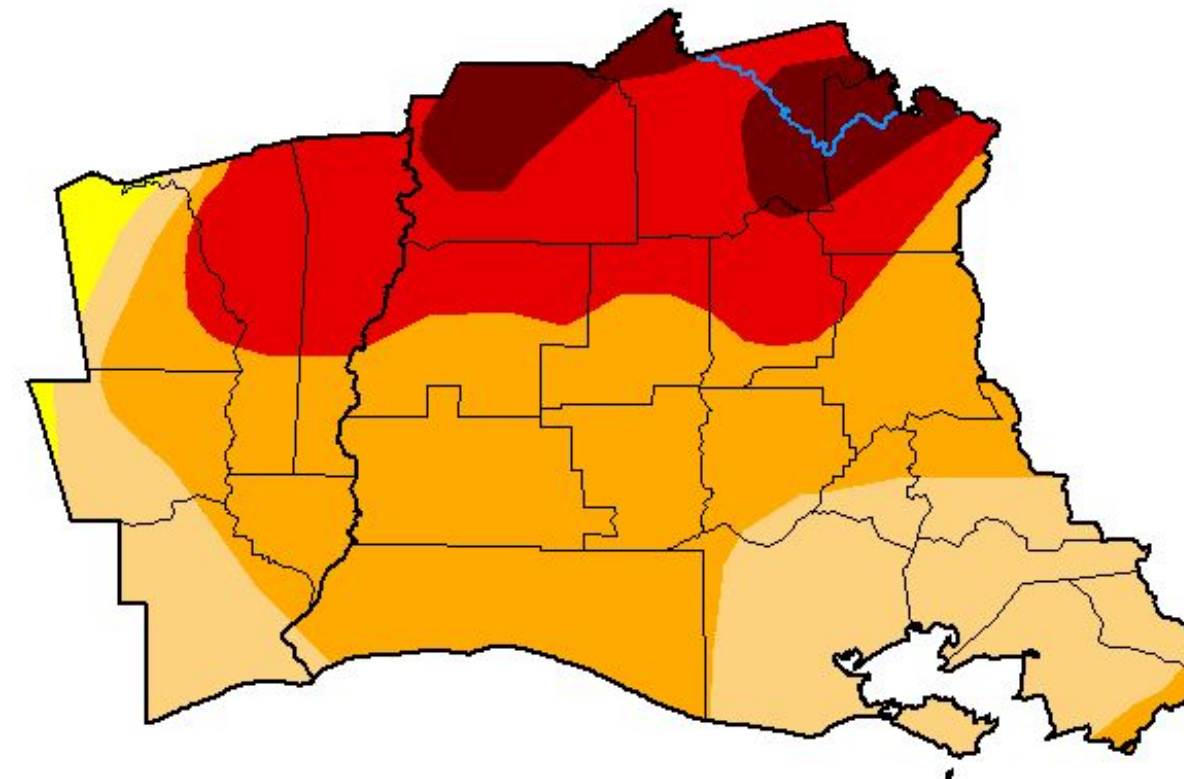
Link to latest [U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Texas and Louisiana

Key Message

• Drought Intensity and Extent

- **D4 (Exceptional Drought):** northern Vernon, northern Avoyelles, and eastern Rapides.
- **D3 (Extreme Drought):** northern Jasper, northern Newton, southern Vernon, western Rapides, northern Beauregard, northern Allen, northern Evangeline, southern Avoyelles.
- **D2 (Severe Drought):** eastern Tyler, eastern Hardin, southern Jasper,, southern Newton, Orange, southern Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, southern Allen, Jefferson-Davis, southern Evangeline, Acadia, St. Landry northern Lafayette, northern Upper St. Martin.
- **D1 (Moderate Drought):** western Hardin, Jefferson, Vermilion, southern Lafayette, southern Upper St. Martin, lower St. Martin, Iberia, St. Mary.

U.S. Drought Monitor Lake Charles, LA WFO



January 9, 2024
(Released Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	98.65	74.83	31.82	7.31
Last Week <i>01-02-2024</i>	0.00	100.00	100.00	84.16	53.02	28.24
3 Months Ago <i>10-10-2023</i>	0.00	100.00	100.00	99.99	97.72	93.54
Start of Calendar Year <i>01-02-2024</i>	0.00	100.00	100.00	84.16	53.02	28.24
Start of Water Year <i>09-26-2023</i>	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	99.99	88.86
One Year Ago <i>01-10-2023</i>	94.86	5.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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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NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



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

National Weather Service
Lake Charles, LA



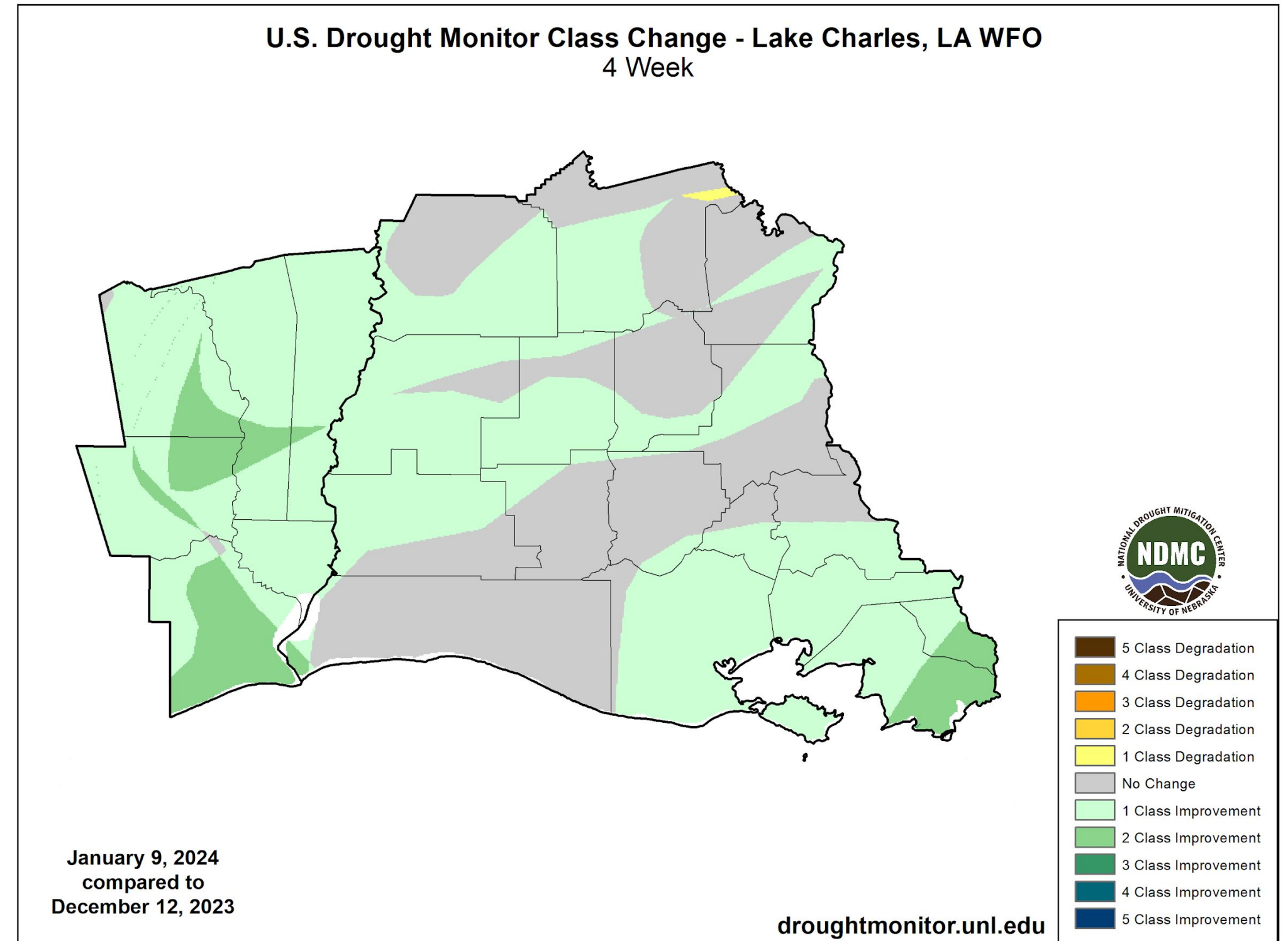
Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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Link to latest 4-week change map for southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana.

4 Week Drought Class Change

- **Drought Worsened:** localized area of northeast Rapides.
- **No Change:** scattered portions of central and southwest Louisiana.
- **Drought Improved:** all of southeast Texas, portions of southwest Louisiana, and much of south central Louisiana.





30 Day Precipitation

January 11, 2024
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30 Day Precipitation Accumulation and Percent of Normal.

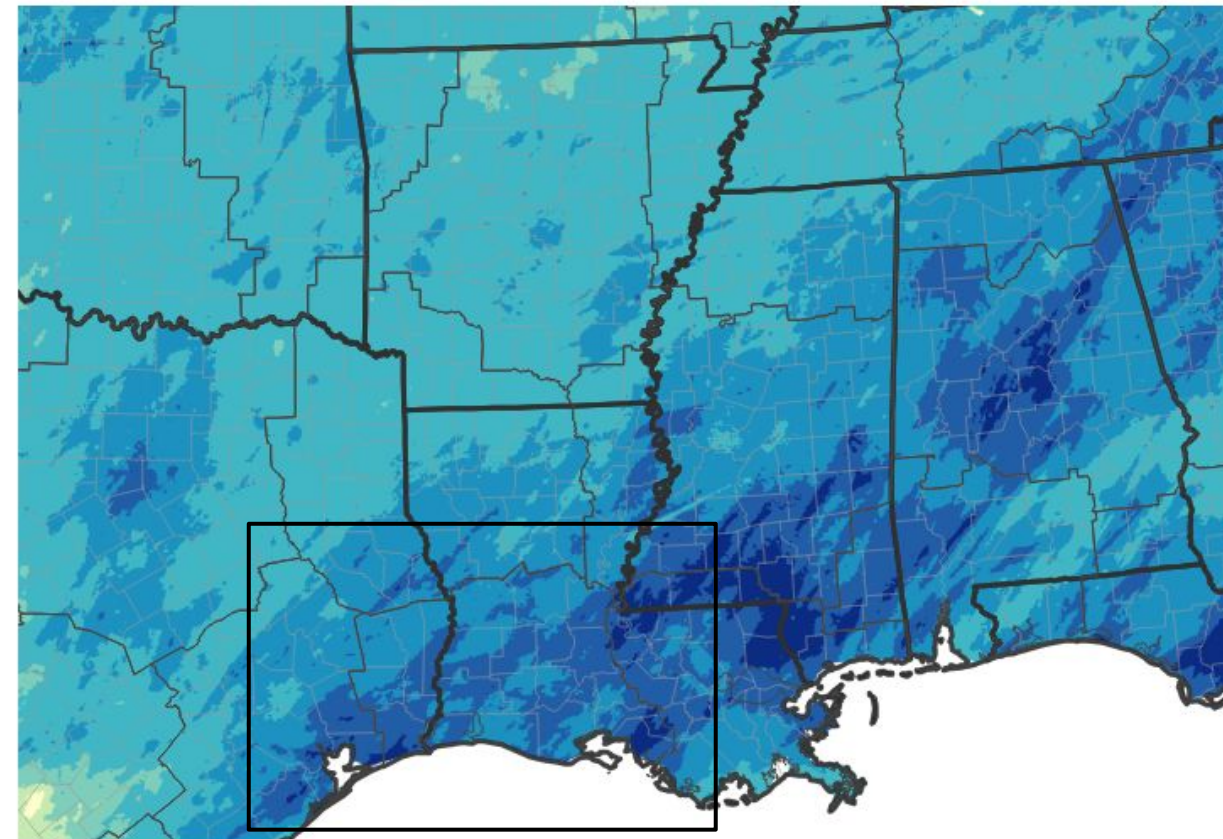
30 Day Rainfall Analysis

4 to 8 inches of rain has fallen over southeast Texas and much of southern Louisiana.

There is an isolated area of St. Mary and lower St. Martin parishes that have received in excess of 8 inches.

These rainfall amounts are generally near normal. The small area of St. Mary and lower St. Martin parishes that have received over 8 inches of rainfall would be considered above normal.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



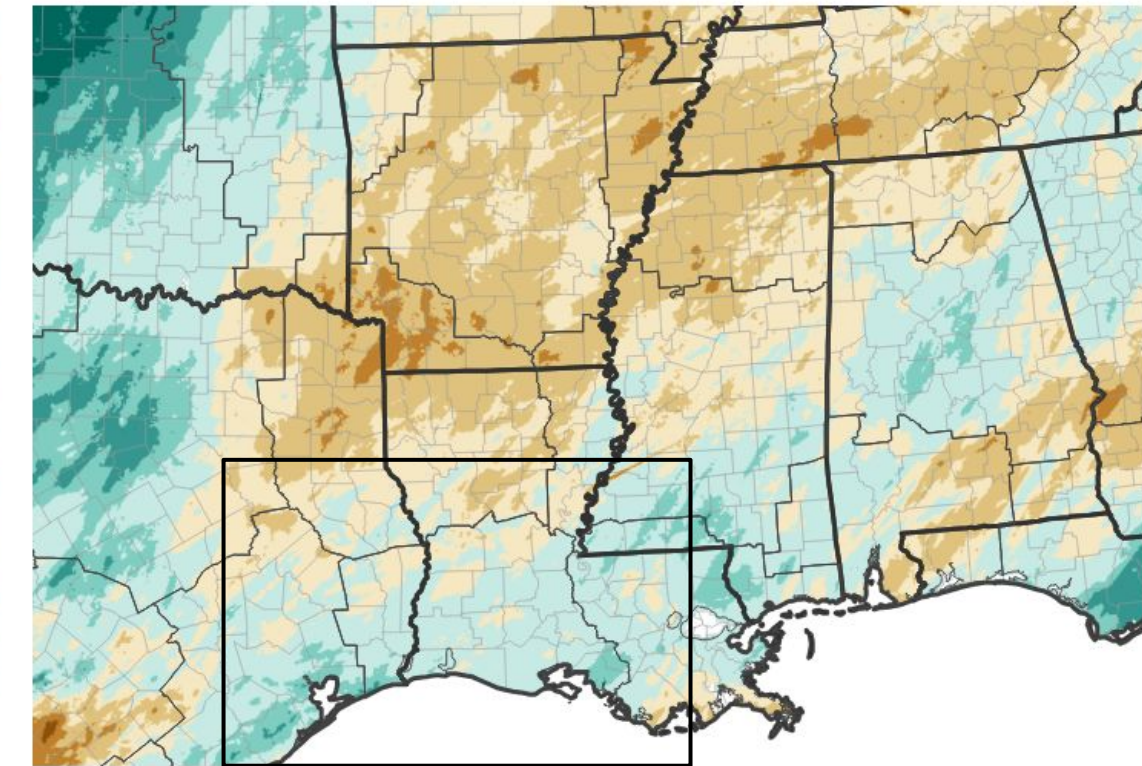
Inches of Precipitation



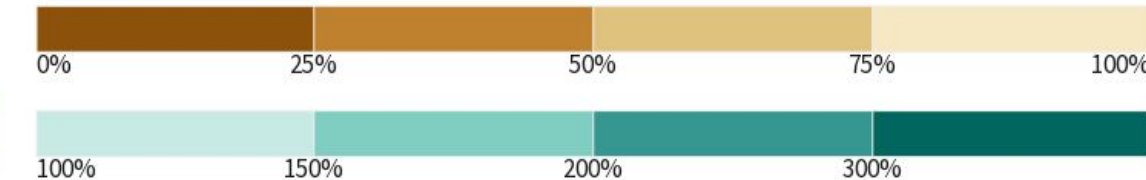
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 01/10/24

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



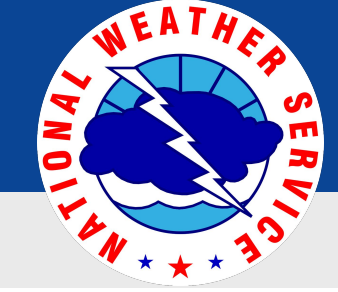
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



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

Last Updated: 01/10/24



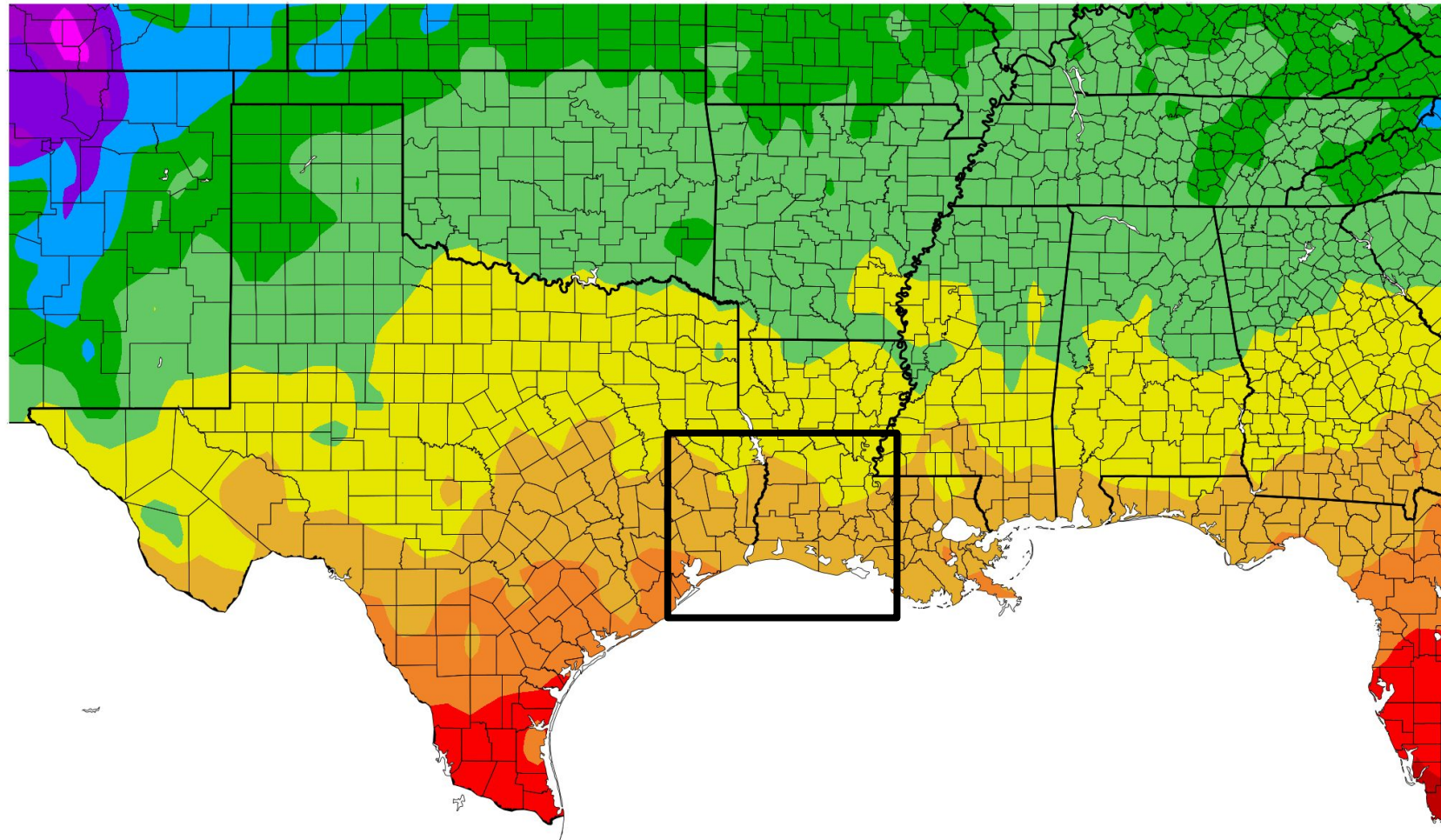


30 Day Average Temperature

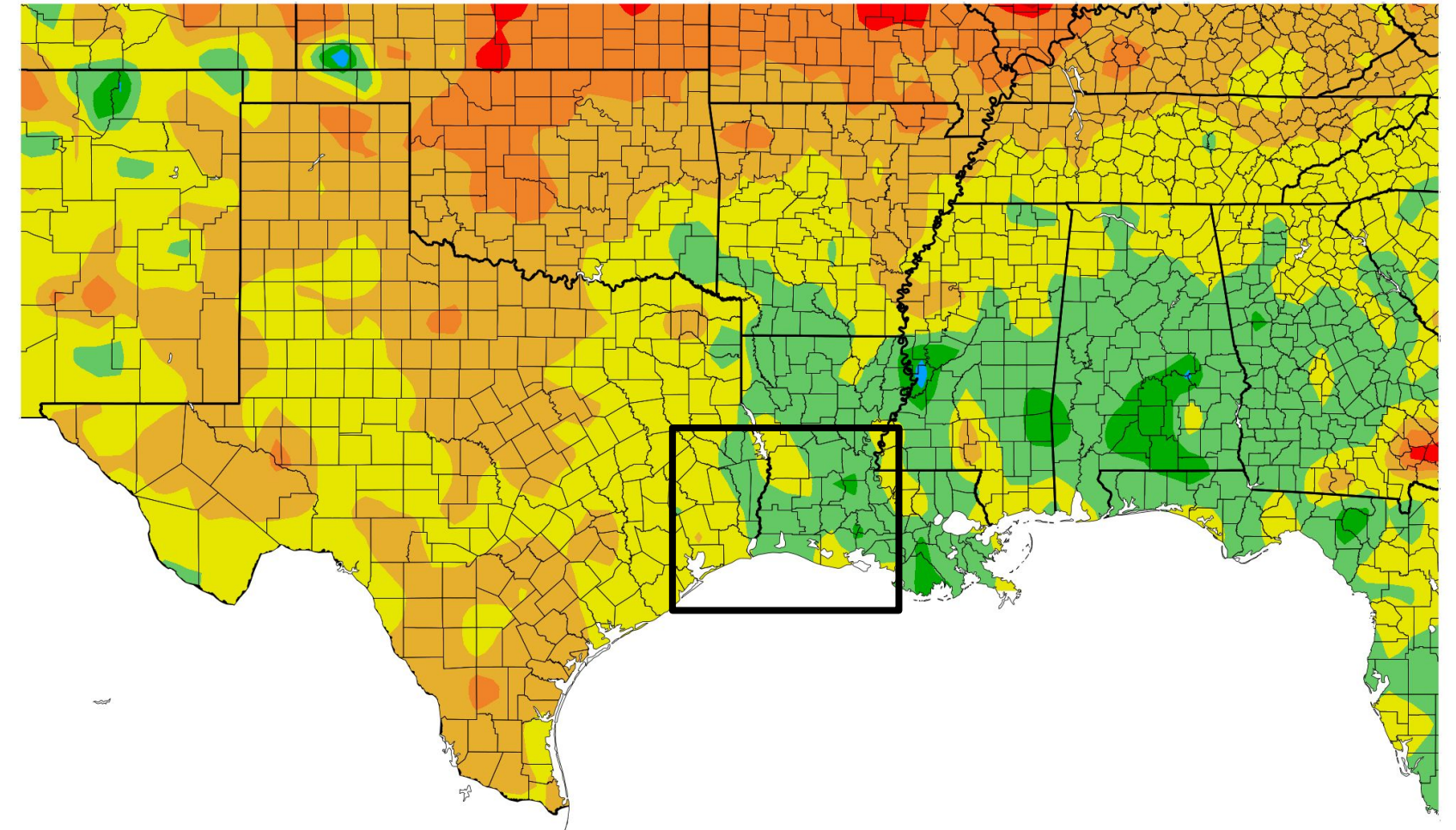
January 11, 2024
8:29 AM

30 Day Average Temperature and Departure from Normal.

Temperature (F)
12/12/2023 – 1/10/2024



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
12/12/2023 – 1/10/2024



Generated 1/11/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Generated 1/11/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Temperatures over the past 30 days have been near normal. An area of slightly below normal temperatures was analyzed over areas near the Atchafalaya River in south central Louisiana.



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Lake Charles, LA



Summary of Impacts

January 11, 2024
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View or Submit Impacts at [Conditions Monitoring Observer Reports](#) or the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Many streams continue running below to much below normal.

Agricultural Impacts

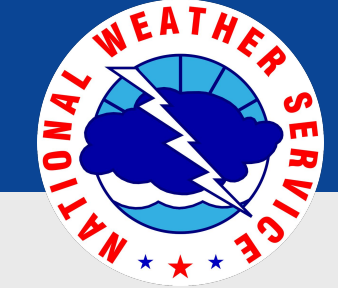
- Hay production across the area will not meet winter demands.
- Water sources for livestock remain low in some areas.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire activity will continue to decrease as more precipitation occurs. A wet weather pattern is potentially setting up over the next several weeks.

Mitigation Actions

- None known

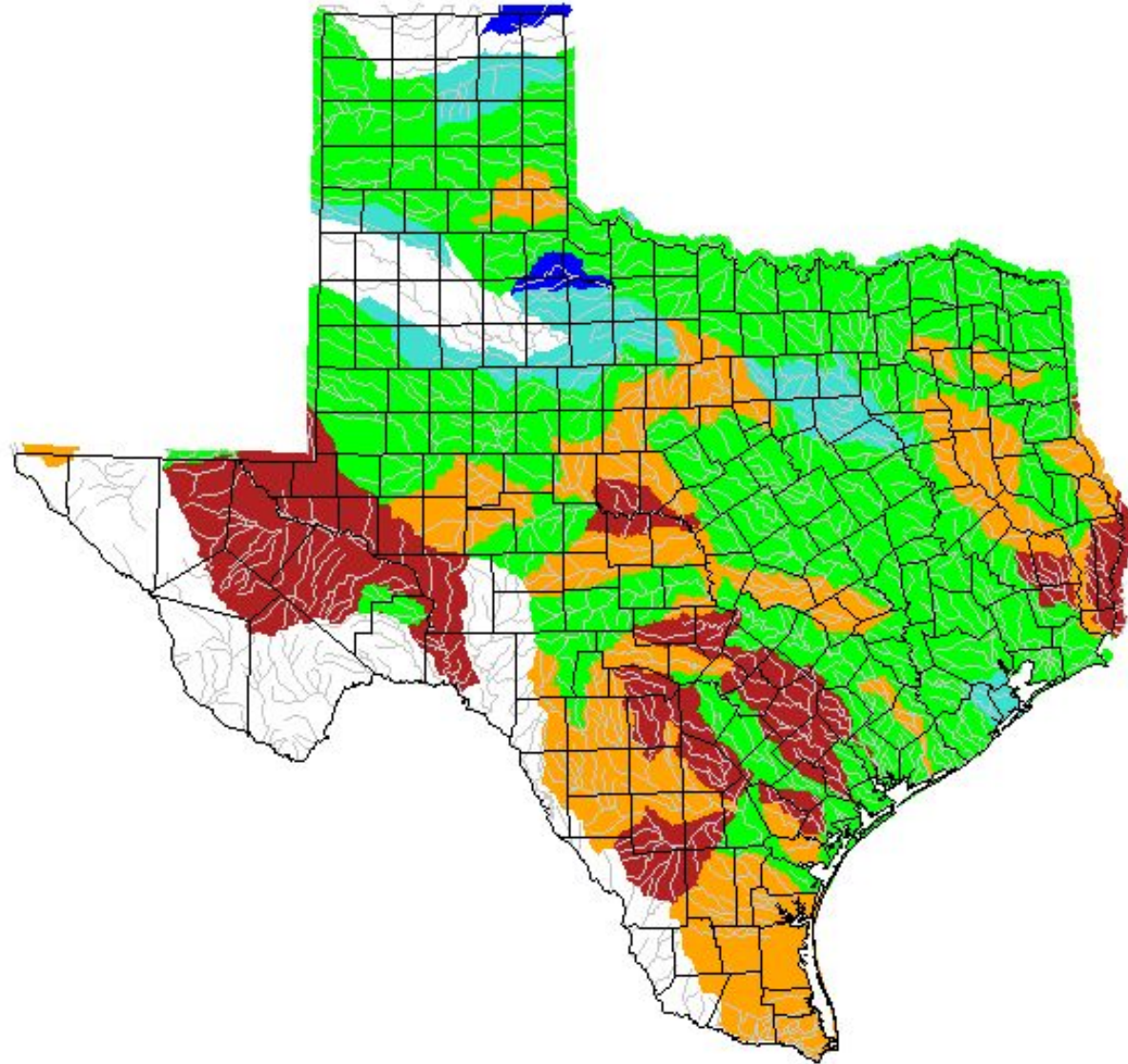


Hydrologic Impacts

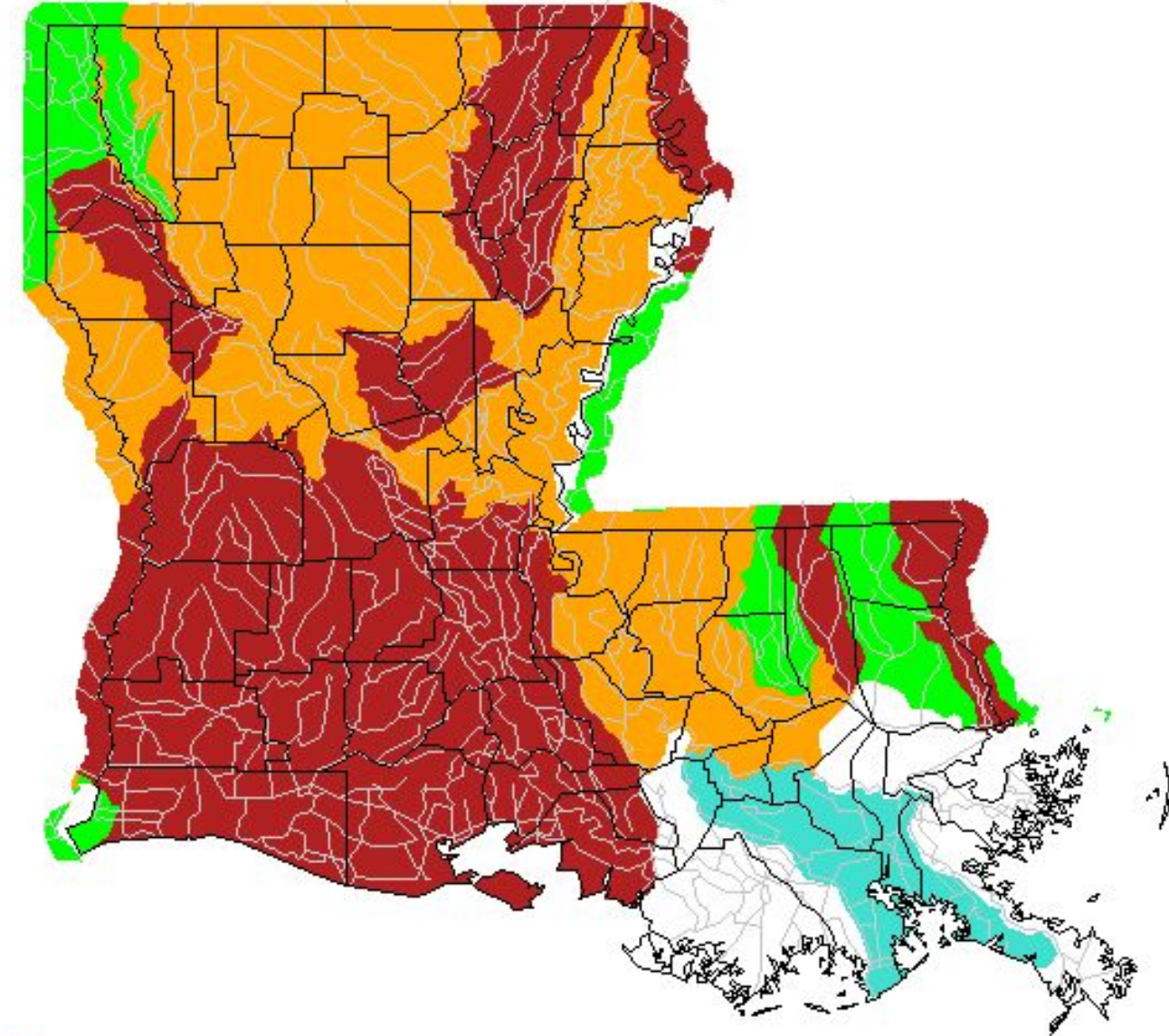
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Streamflows are mostly running below normal in SE Texas and SW Louisiana.

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

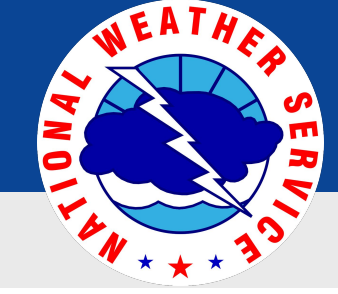


Wednesday, January 10, 2024



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		



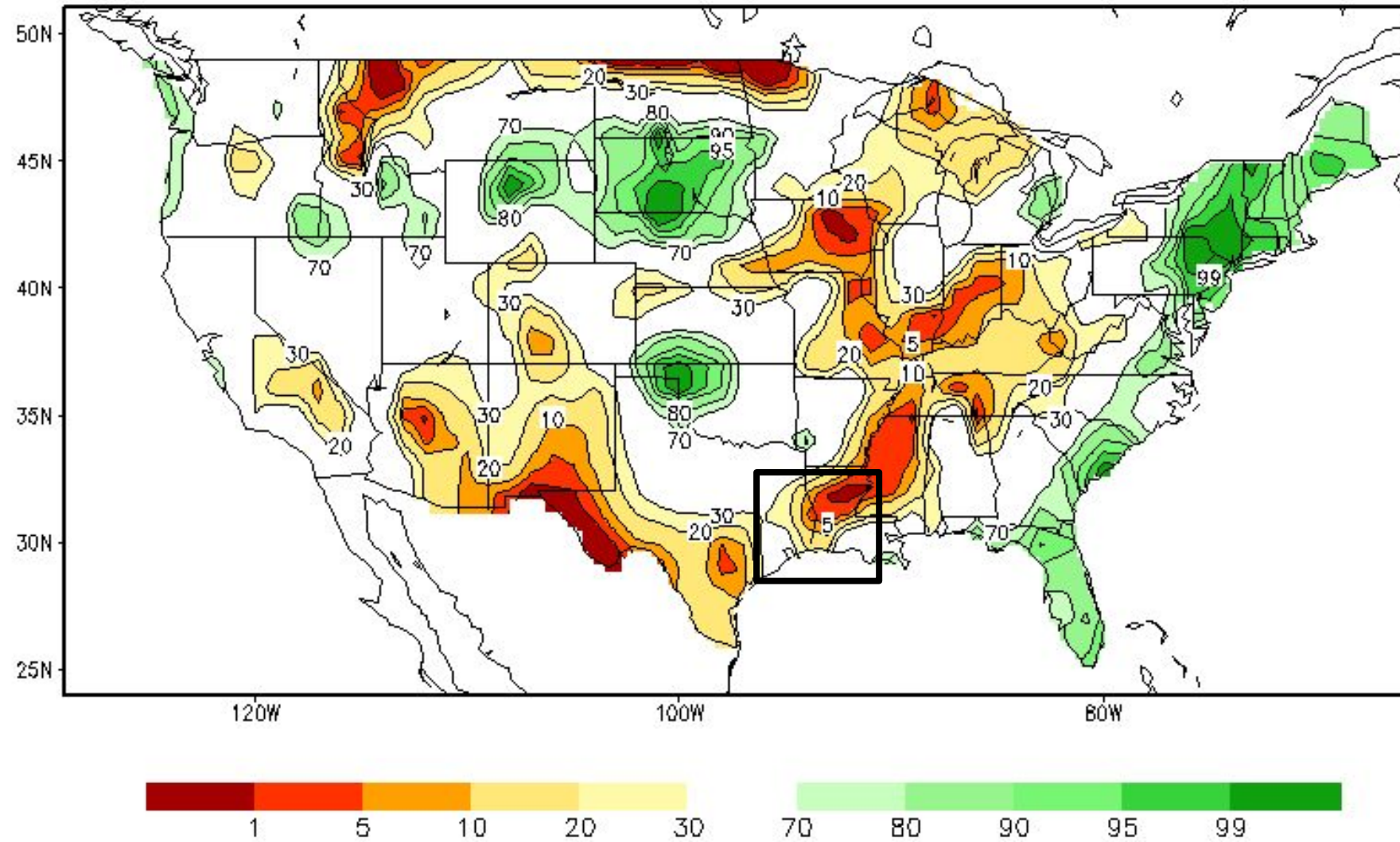


Agricultural Impacts

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Soil Moisture and Drought Severity Index by Ag Division

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
JAN 10, 2024



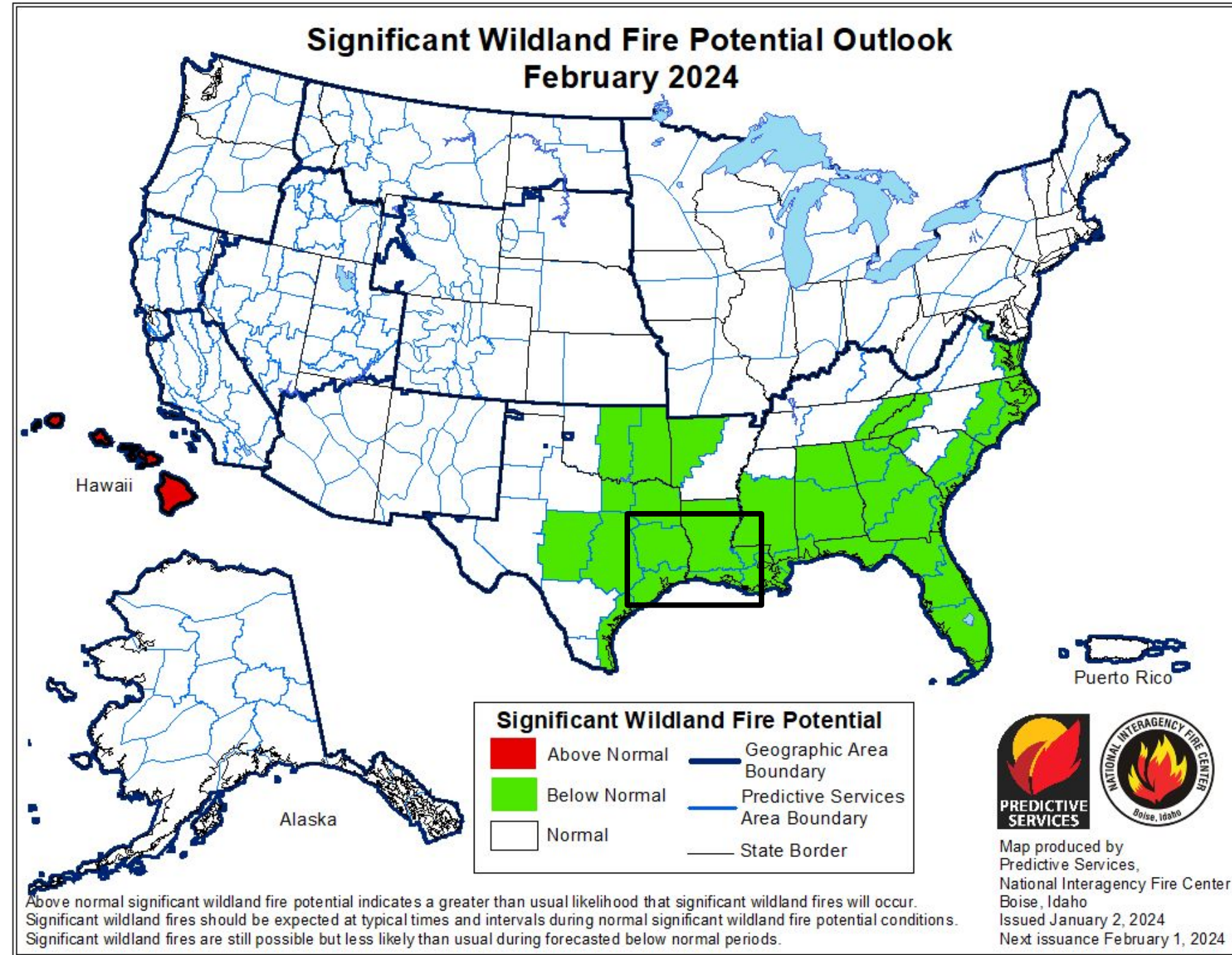
Agricultural burn bans have been lifted, however, livestock ponds, creeks, and other natural water sources remain lower than normal.



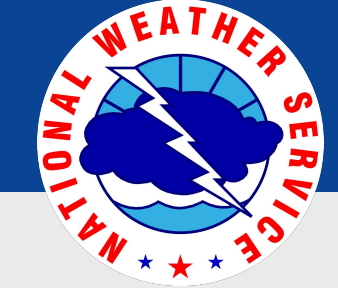
Wildland Fire Potential Outlook

January 11, 2024
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Outlooks for January and February



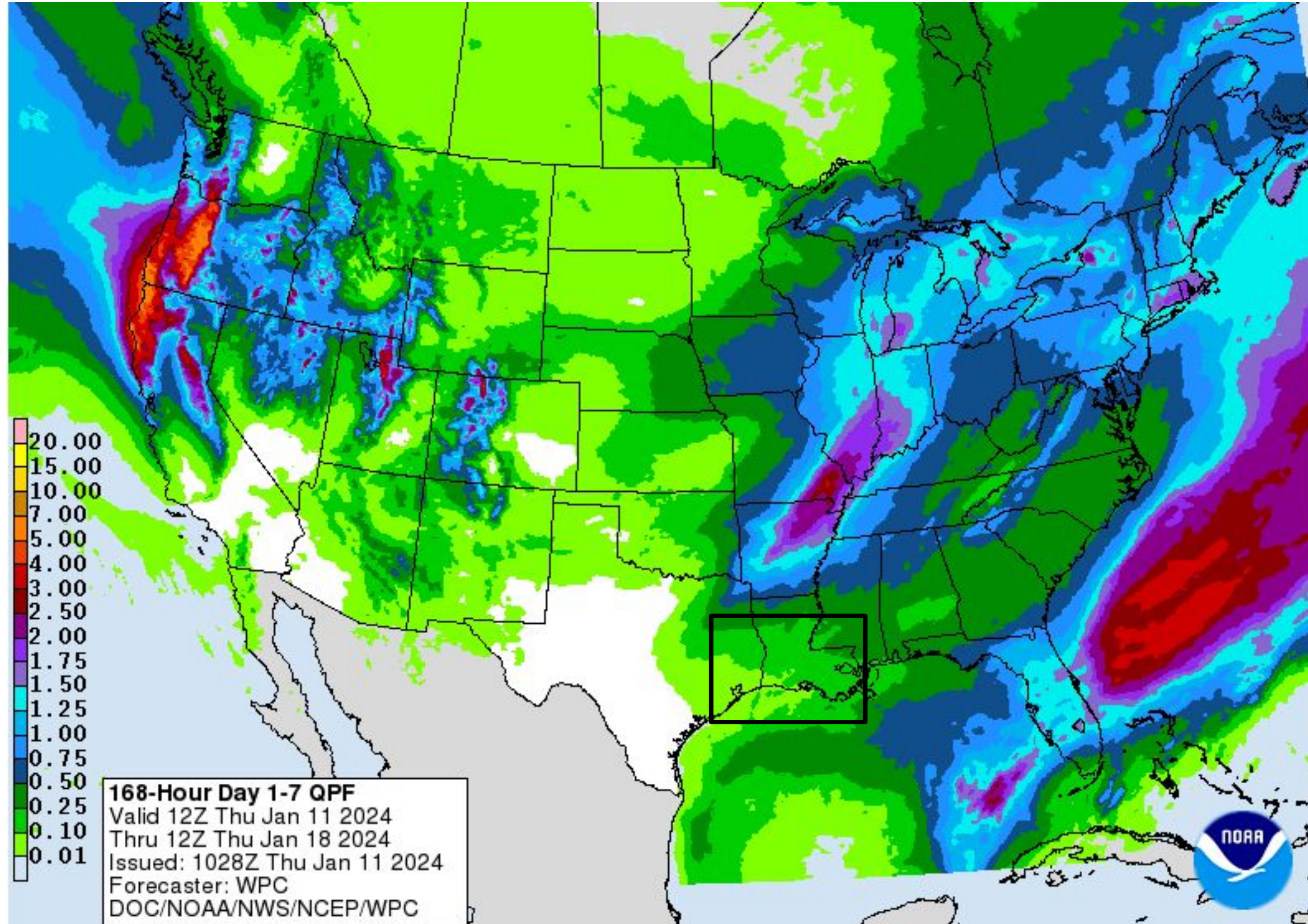
The risk for wildland fires is expected to be below normal as we progress into February and March due to a wet weather pattern setting up over the next several weeks.



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

January 11, 2024
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1.50 to 4 inches of rain is forecast through the next 7 days.





Long Range Outlook through January

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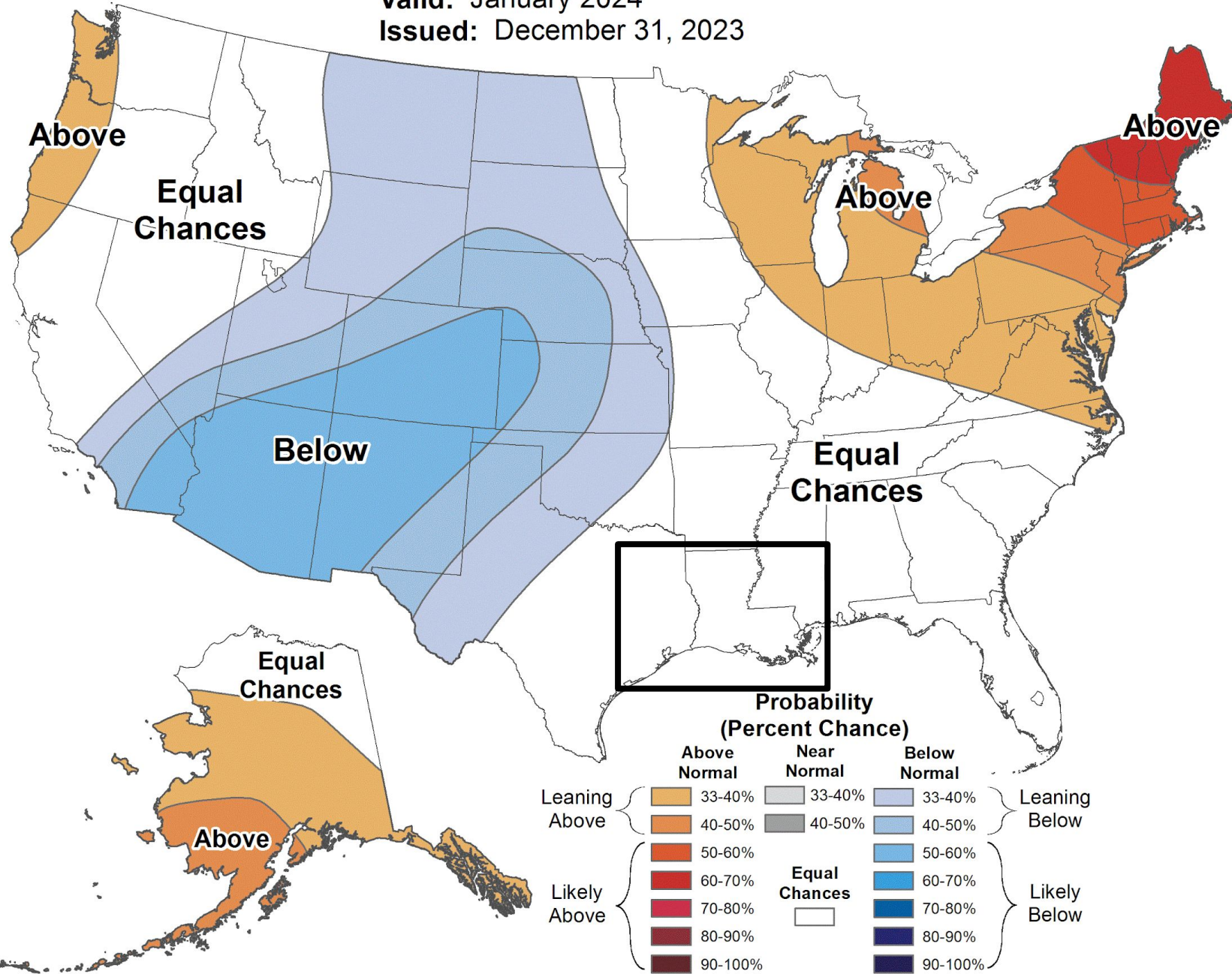
Chances favor near normal temperatures and above normal precipitation.



Monthly Temperature Outlook



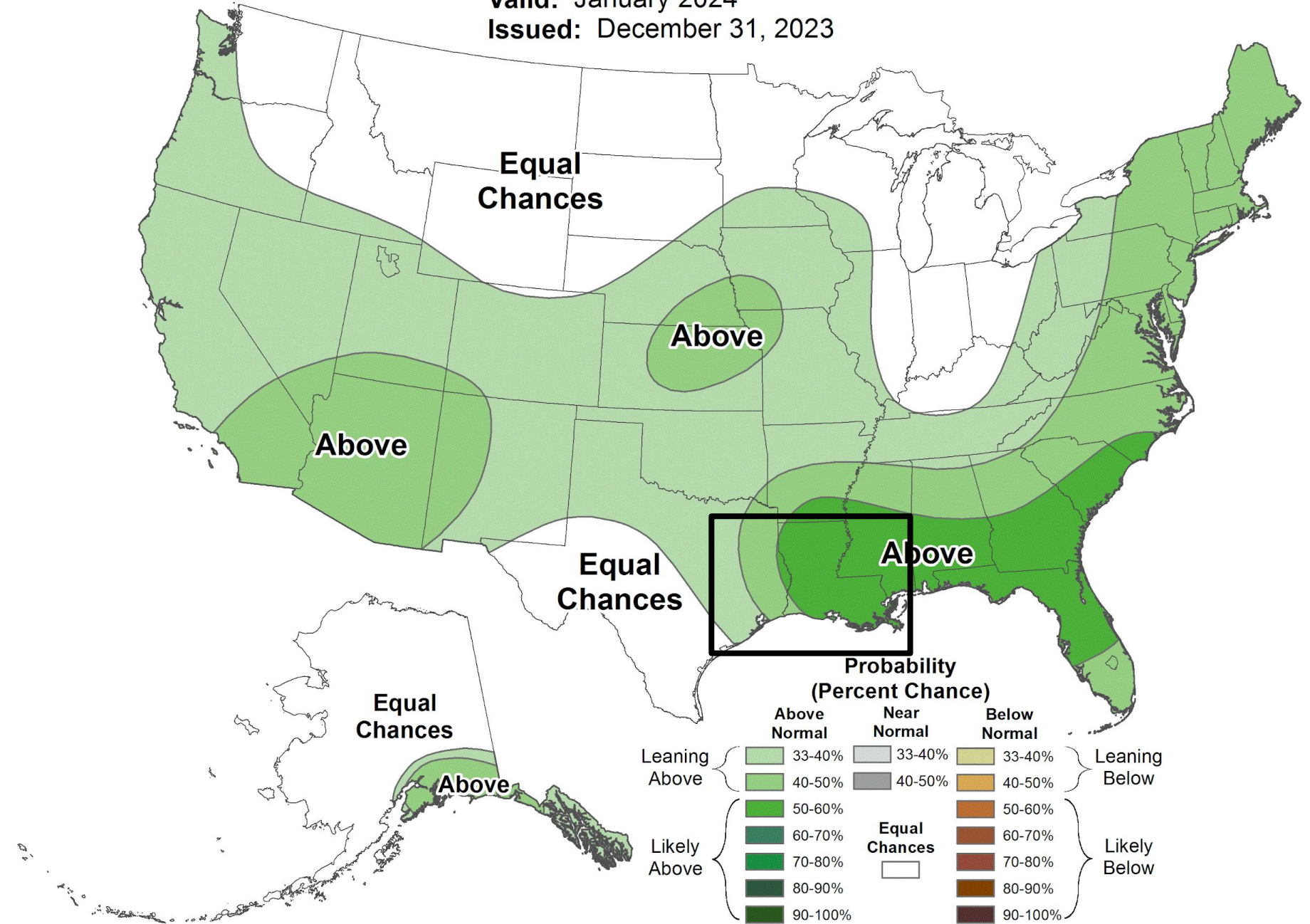
Valid: January 2024
Issued: December 31, 2023



Monthly Precipitation Outlook

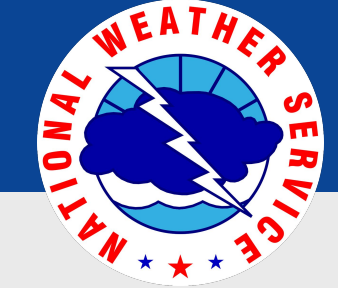


Valid: January 2024
Issued: December 31, 2023



January Outlook





Drought Outlook

January 11, 2024
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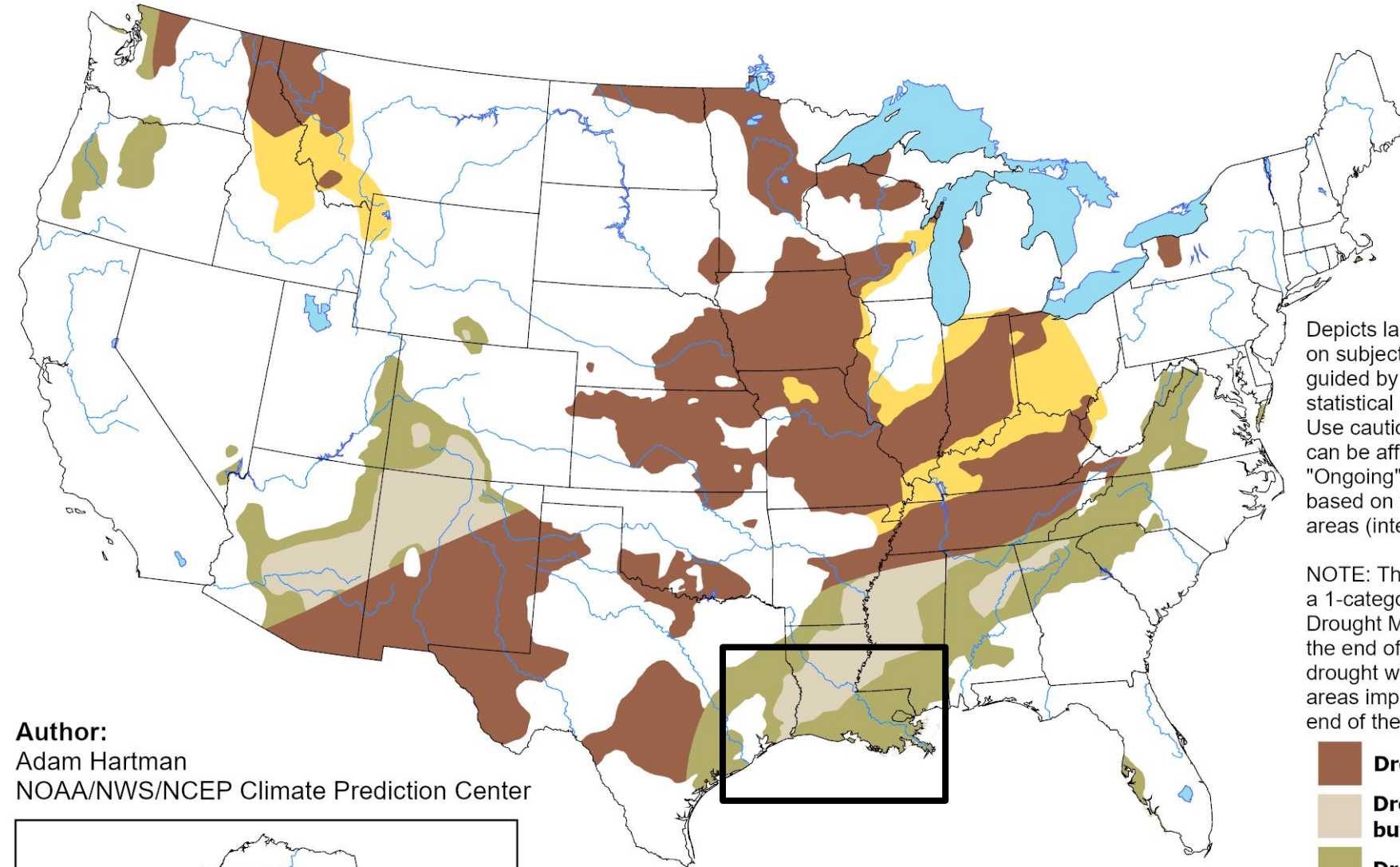
A three month drought tendency forecast.

Key Message

Chances favor improving drought conditions across southeast Texas and much of Louisiana. As a matter of fact, some areas are likely to be removed from the drought monitor within the next 3 months.

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

Valid for December 21, 2023 - March 31, 2024
Released December 21, 2023

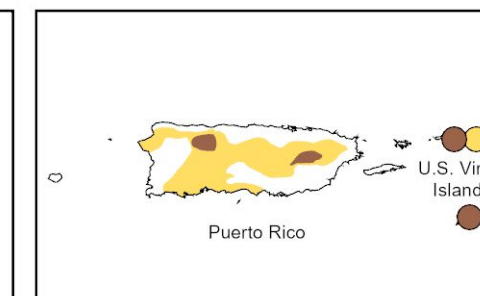
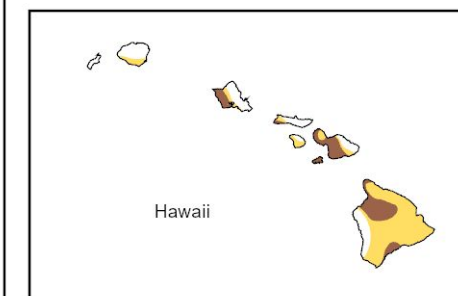
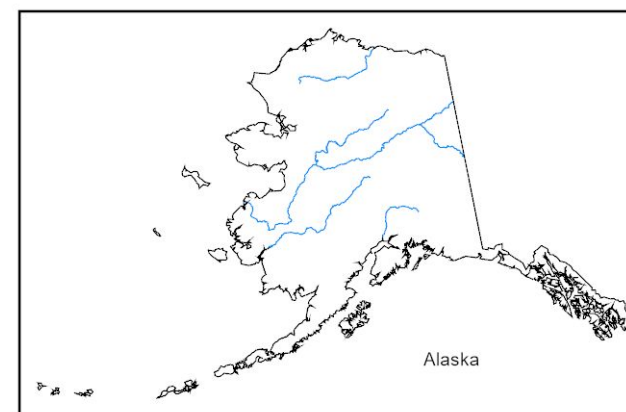


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought

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<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>



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Lake Charles, LA



- U.S. Drought Monitor droughtmonitor.unl.edu
- NWS Lake Charles Phone Number: (337) 477-5285 ext. 1
- NWS Lake Charles Webpage: www.weather.gov/LCH
- Online Severe Weather Reporting: [stormReport](https://stormreport.com)
- NWS Lake Charles Facebook www.facebook.com/NWSLakeCharles
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Next Update: January 18th, 2024