



Drought Information Statement for Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana

Valid February 22nd, 2024

Issued By: National Weather Service Lake Charles, Louisiana

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

- This product will no longer be issued until the area reaches a severe drought (D2).
- 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

February 22, 2024
9:06 AM

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

Key Message

• Drought Intensity and Extent

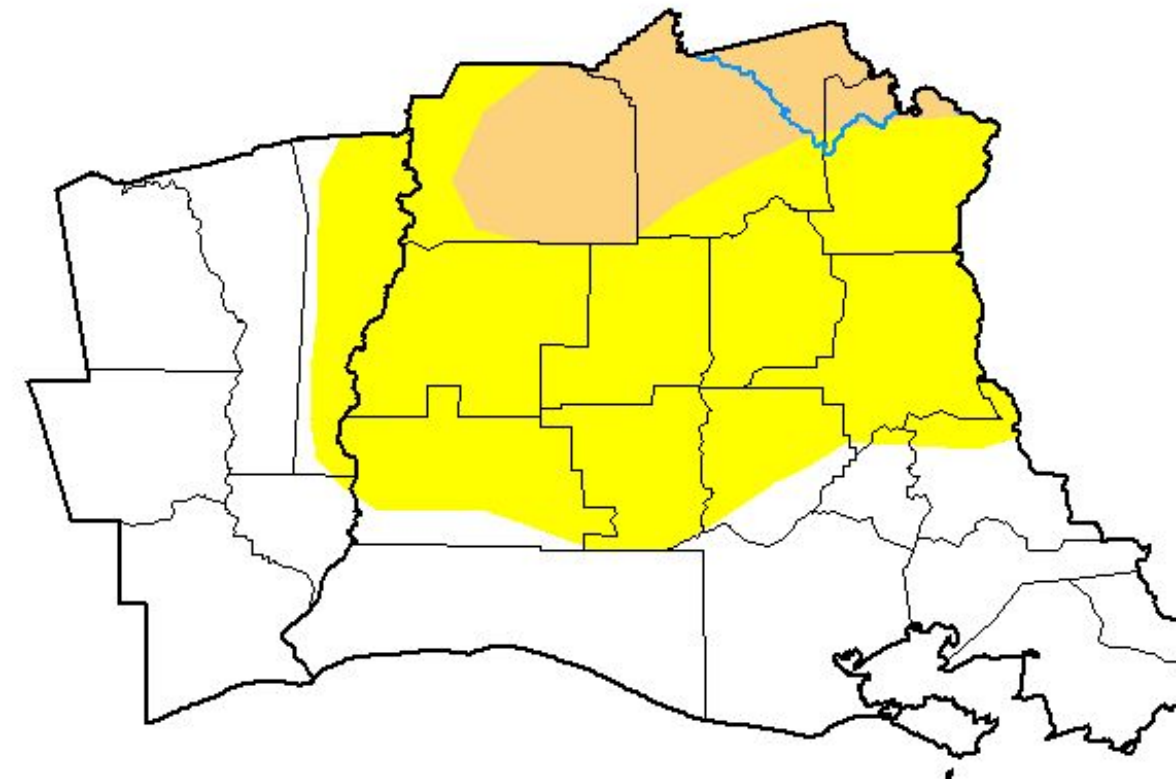
- **D0 (Abnormally Dry)** : Calcasieu, Beauregard, Jefferson Davis, Acadia, St. Landry, Allen, Evangeline, Avoyelles Parishes. Newton County Texas.
- **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Vernon, Rapides Parishes.

U.S. Drought Monitor Lake Charles, LA WFO

February 20, 2024
(Released Thursday, Feb. 22, 2024)
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	49.32	50.68	10.82	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week <small>02-13-2024</small>	49.03	50.97	17.56	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <small>11-21-2023</small>	0.00	100.00	99.98	99.53	96.67	92.25
Start of Calendar Year <small>01-02-2024</small>	0.00	100.00	100.00	84.16	53.02	28.24
Start of Water Year <small>09-26-2023</small>	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	99.99	88.86
One Year Ago <small>02-21-2023</small>	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>

Author:

Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu



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

National Weather Service
Lake Charles, LA



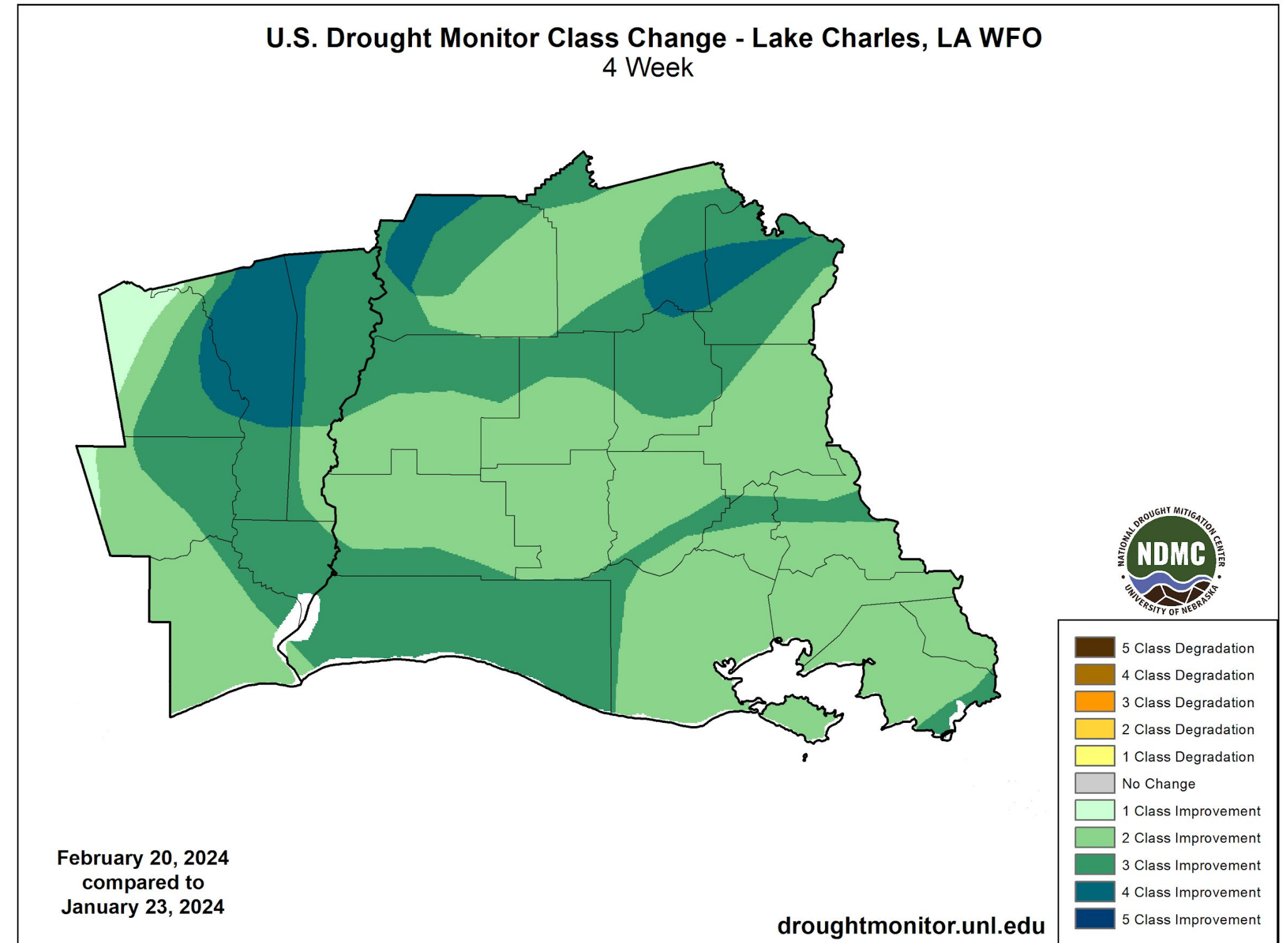
Recent Change in Drought Intensity

February 22, 2024
9:06 AM

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

- **4 Week Drought Class Change**

- Drought improved area wide.





30 Day Precipitation

February 22, 2024
9:06 AM

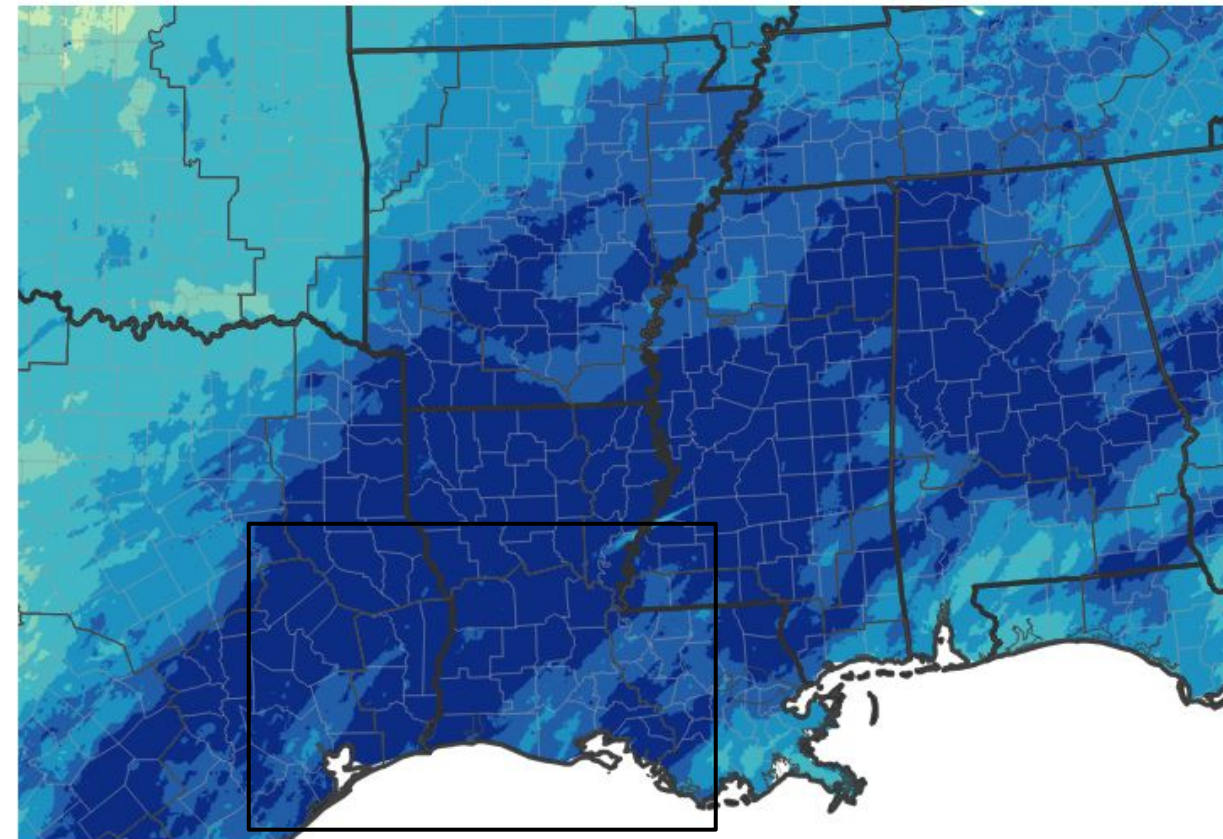
30 Day Precipitation Accumulation and Percent of Normal.

30 Day Rainfall Analysis

Roughly 4 to 8+ inches of rain has fallen over much of southwest Louisiana and southeast Texas over the past 30 days.

These amounts are roughly 100 to 300 percent of normal. Therefore, normal to above normal precipitation has occurred in widespread fashion across the region over the past 30 days.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



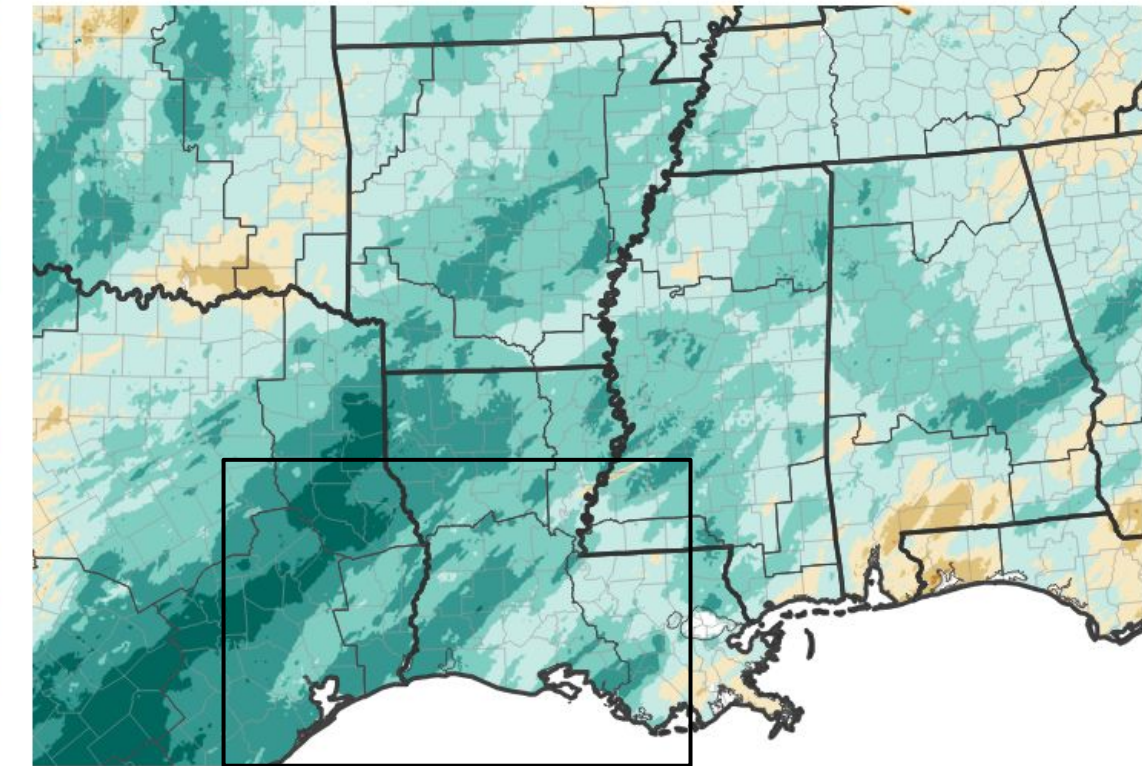
Inches of Precipitation



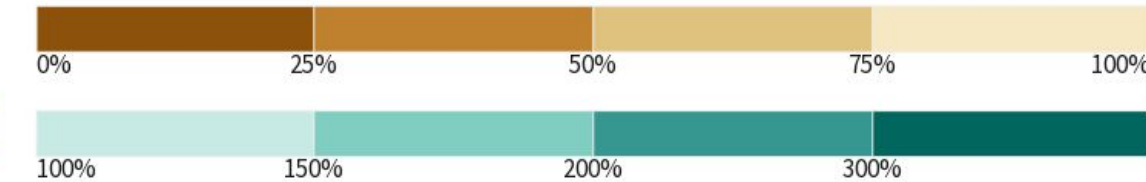
Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 02/21/24

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



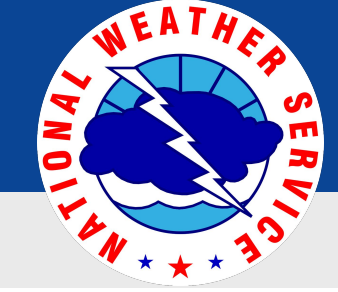
Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



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

Last Updated: 02/21/24



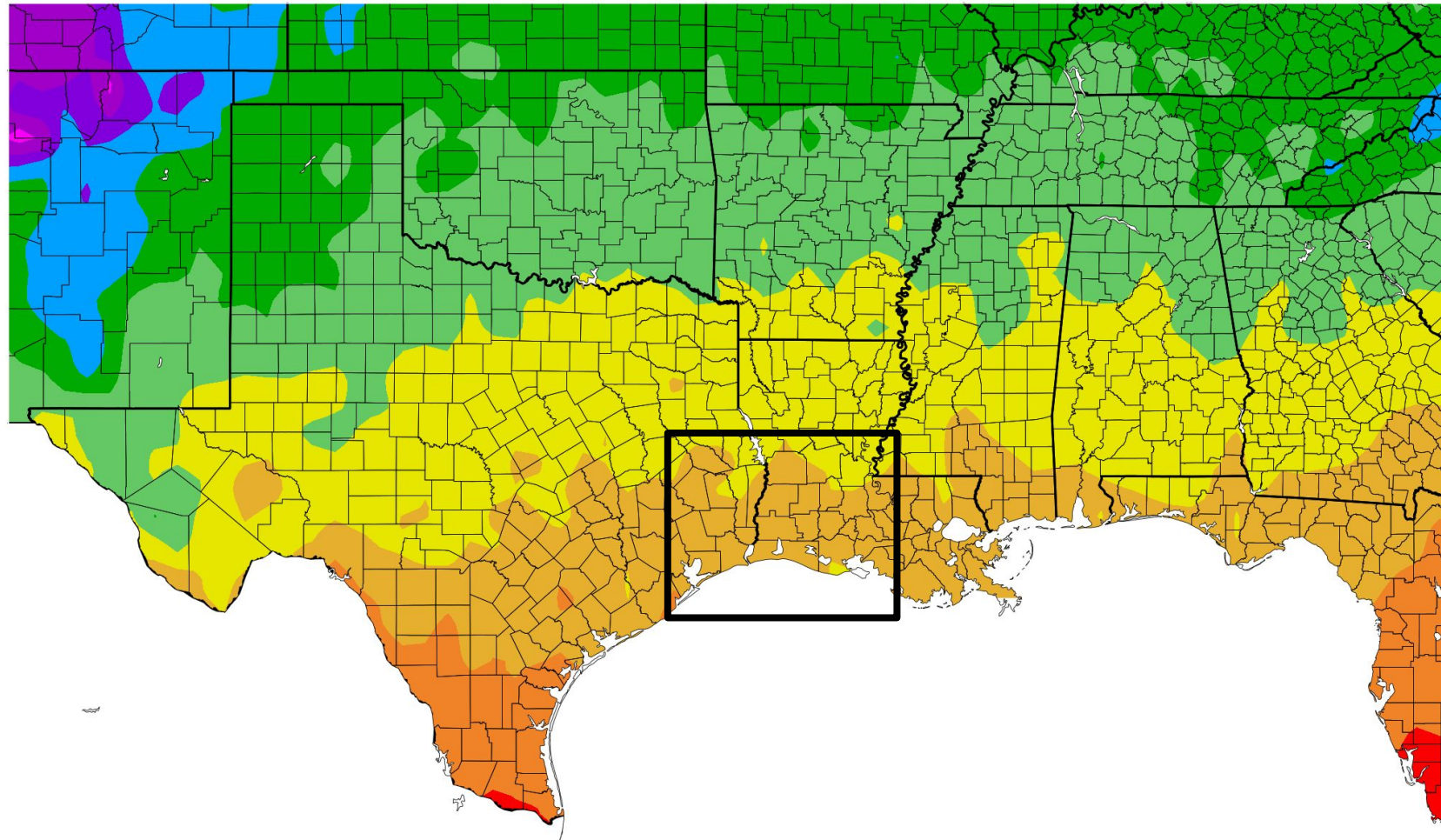


30 Day Average Temperature

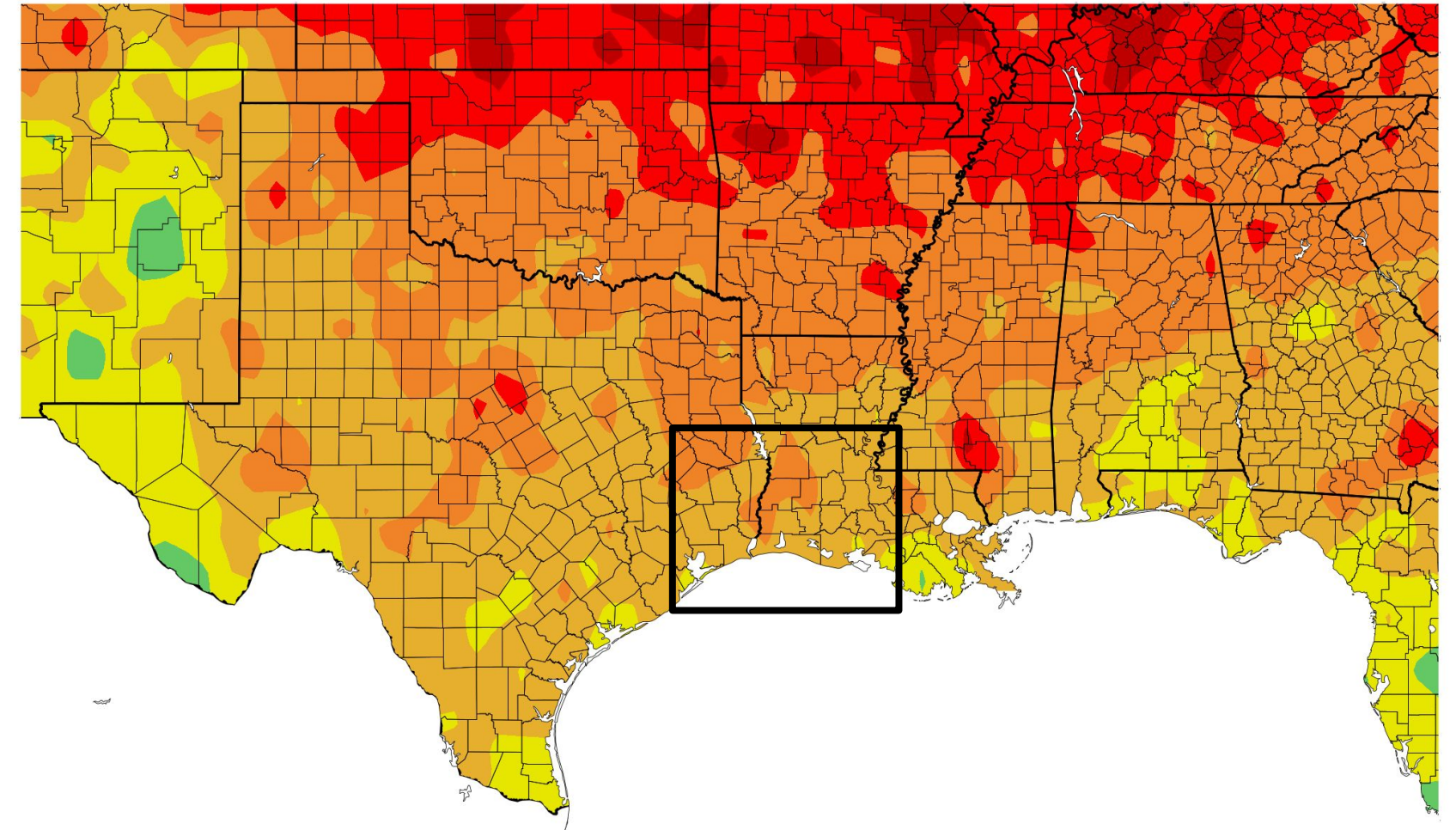
February 22, 2024
9:06 AM

30 Day Average Temperature and Departure from Normal.

Temperature (F)
1/23/2024 – 2/21/2024



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
1/23/2024 – 2/21/2024



Generated 2/22/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Generated 2/22/2024 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Temperatures over the past 30 days have been above normal.



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

National Weather Service
Lake Charles, LA



Summary of Impacts

February 22, 2024
9:06 AM

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- None.

Agricultural Impacts

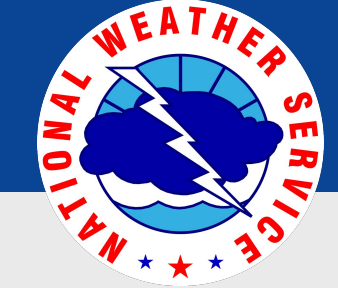
- Hay continues to have to be brought in to meet winter livestock demands.
- Crawfish production has been very low.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- None

Mitigation Actions

- None known

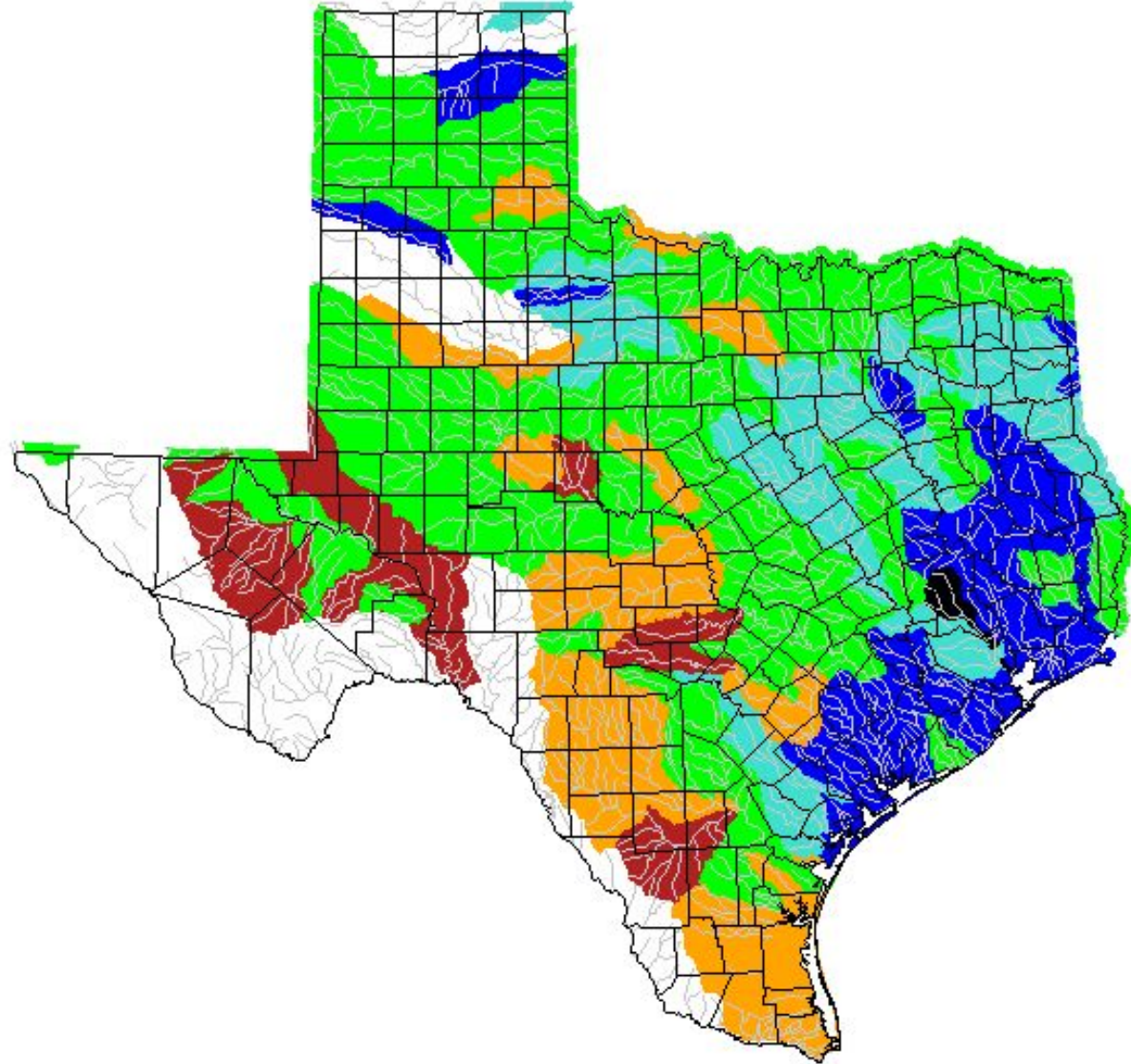


Hydrologic Impacts

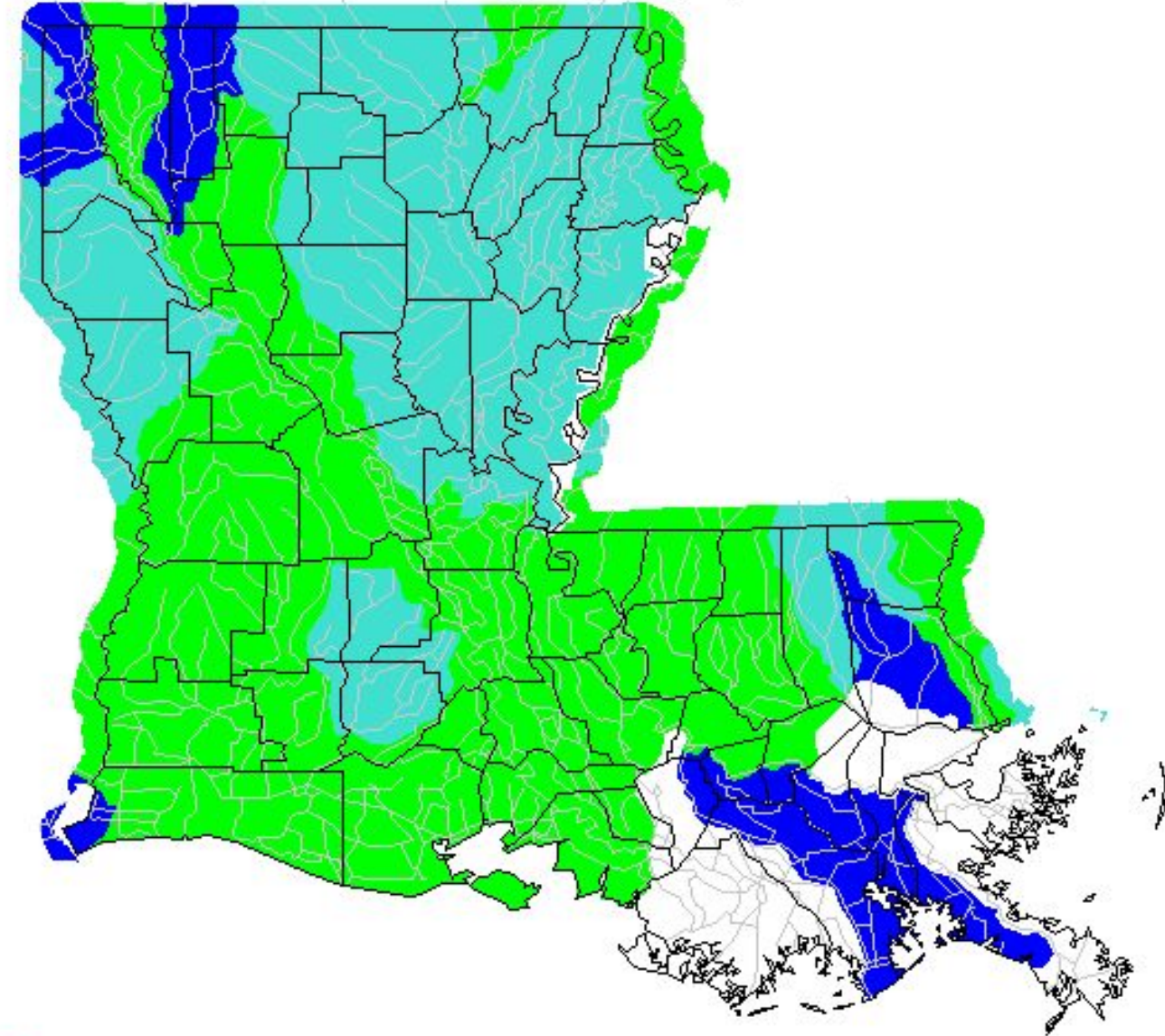
February 22, 2024
9:06 AM

Stream flows are mostly running above to well above normal in SW Louisiana and SE Texas.

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

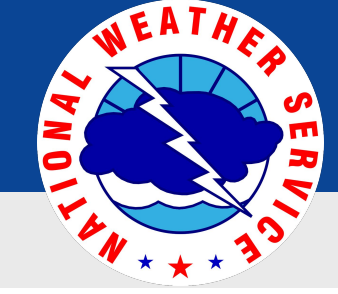


Wednesday, February 21, 2024



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			



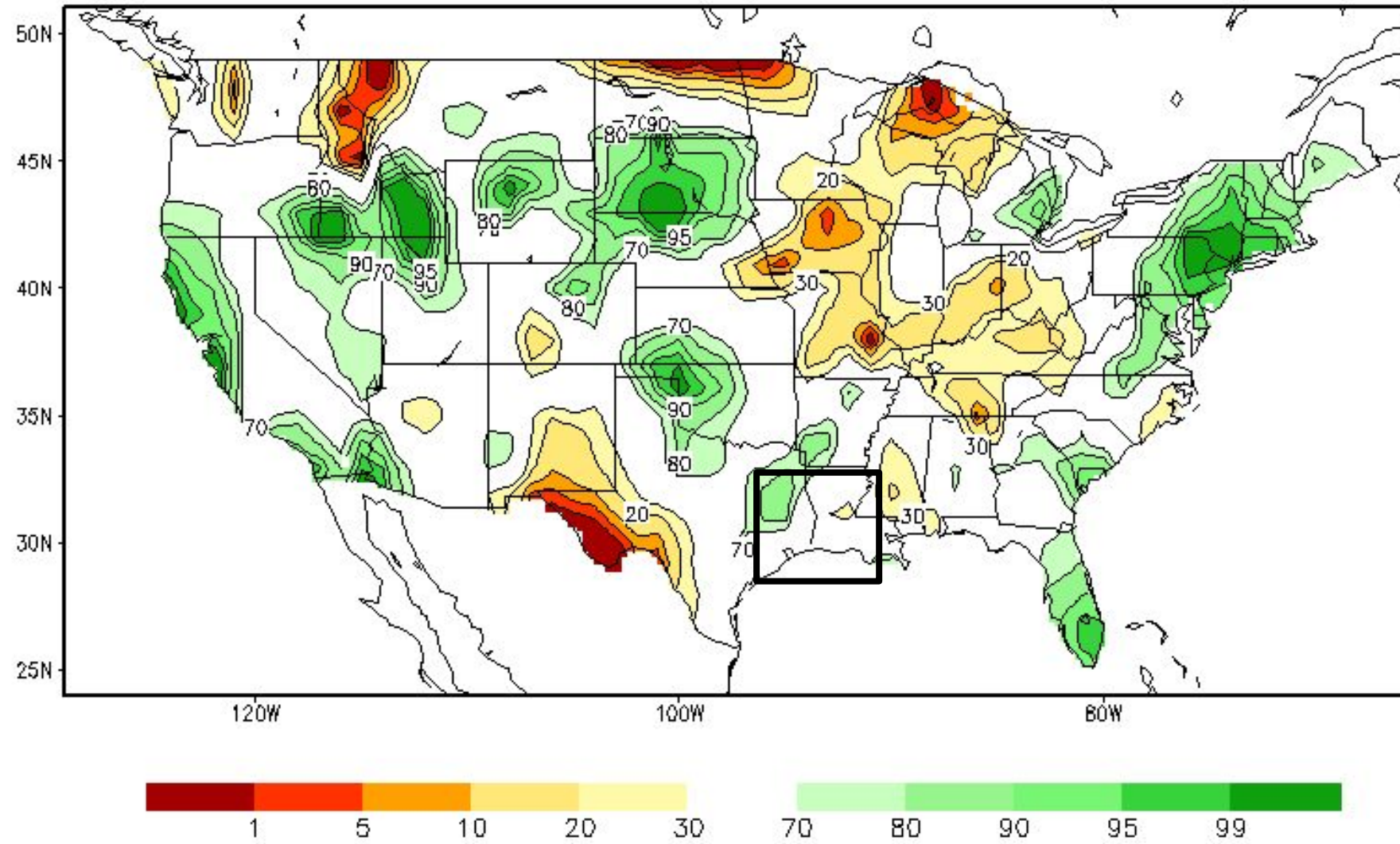


Agricultural Impacts

February 22, 2024
9:06 AM

Soil Moisture and Drought Severity Index by Ag Division

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
FEB 21, 2024

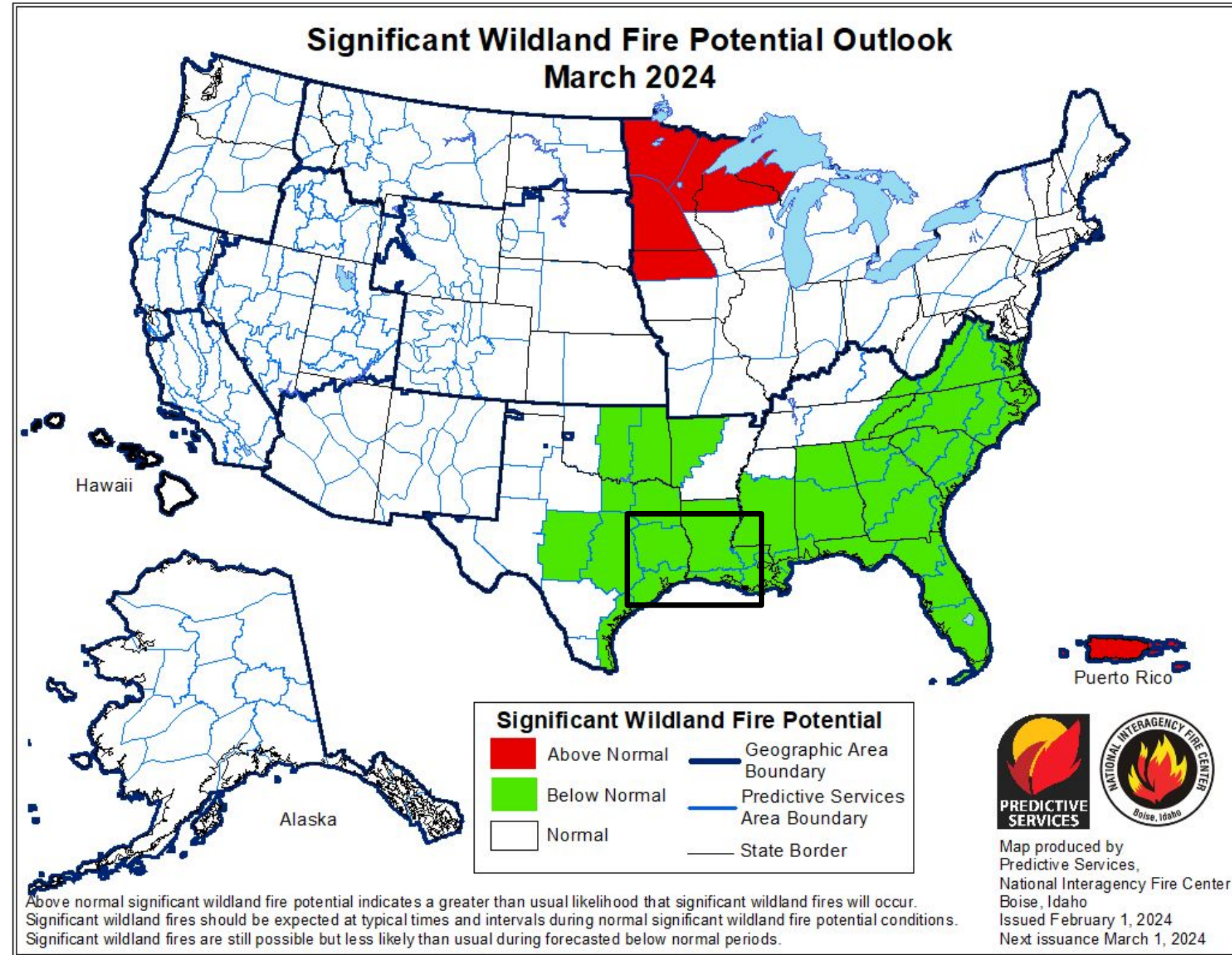




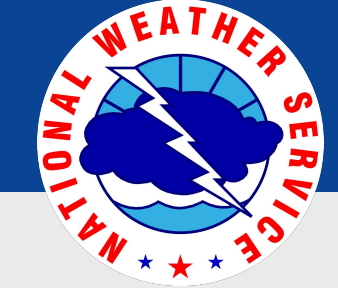
Wildland Fire Potential Outlook

February 22, 2024
9:06 AM

Outlook for March



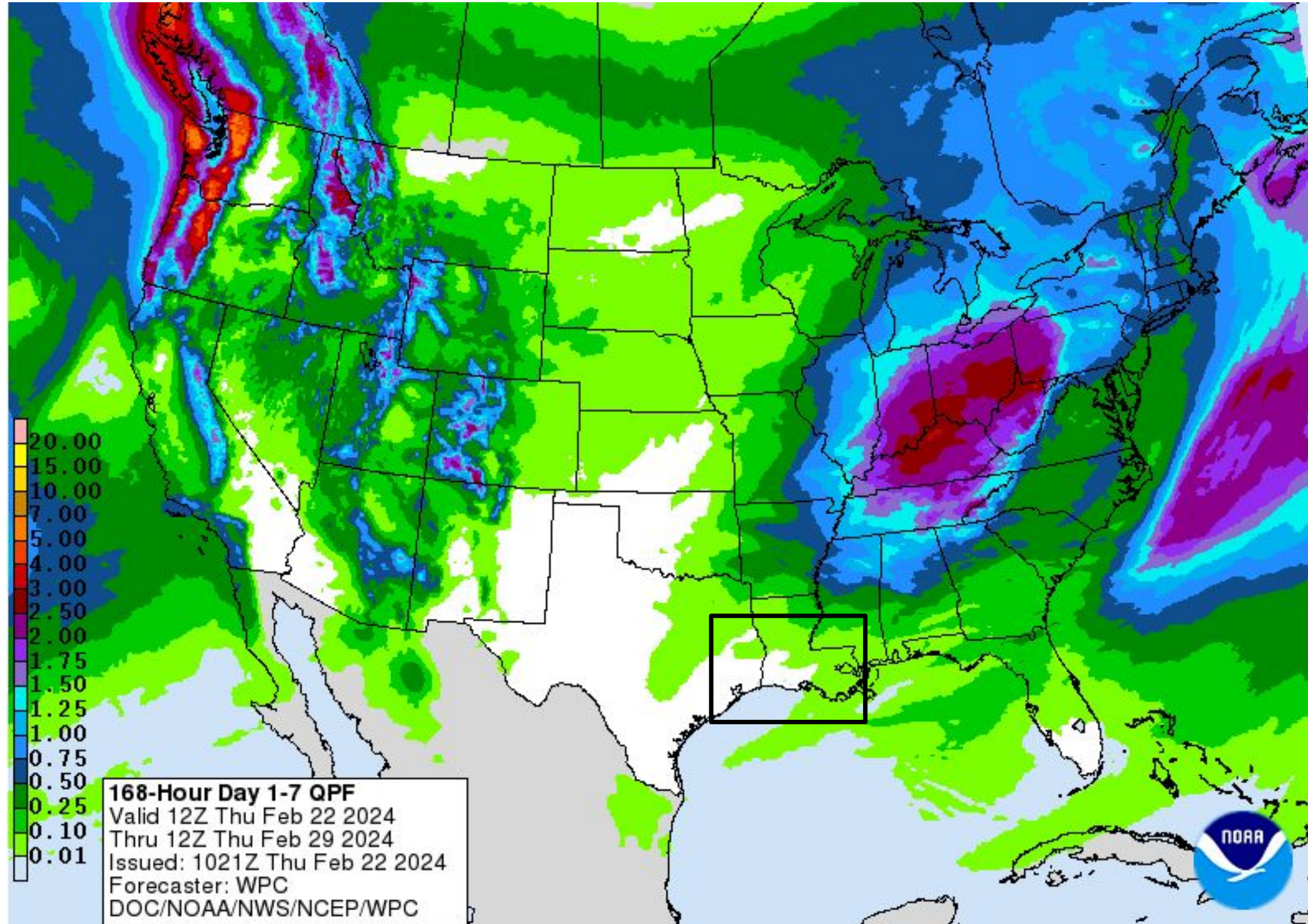
The risk for wildland fires is expected to be below normal as we progress into March due to a wet weather pattern setting up over the next several weeks.

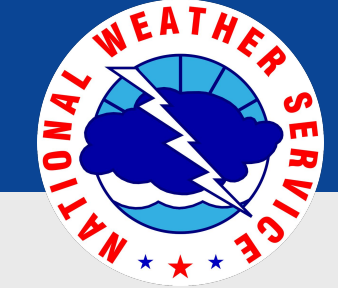


Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

February 22, 2024
9:06 AM

Little rainfall is forecast through the next 7 days.





Long Range Outlook through February

February 22, 2024
9:06 AM

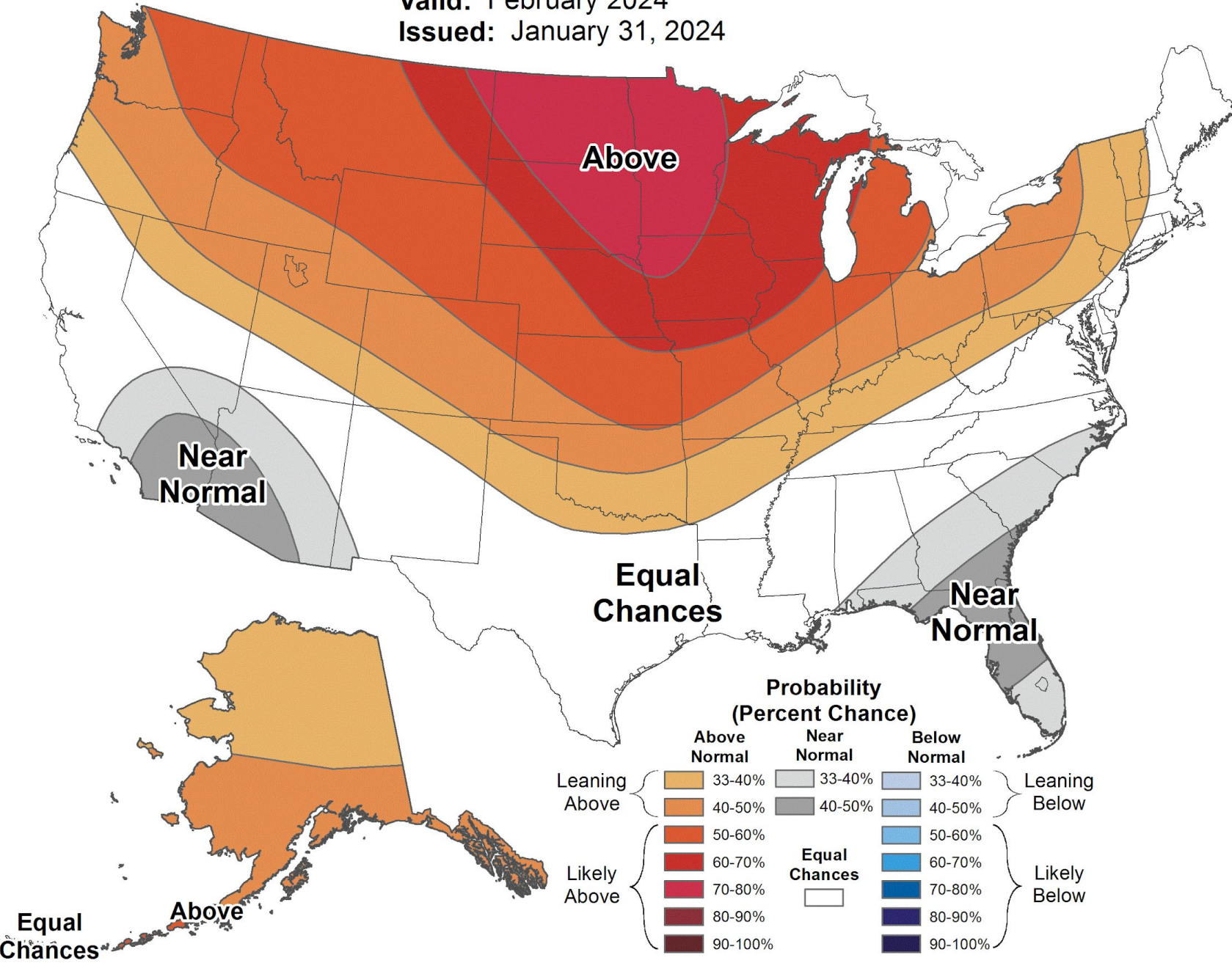
Equal chances for above, below or near normal temperatures and above normal precipitation.



Monthly Temperature Outlook



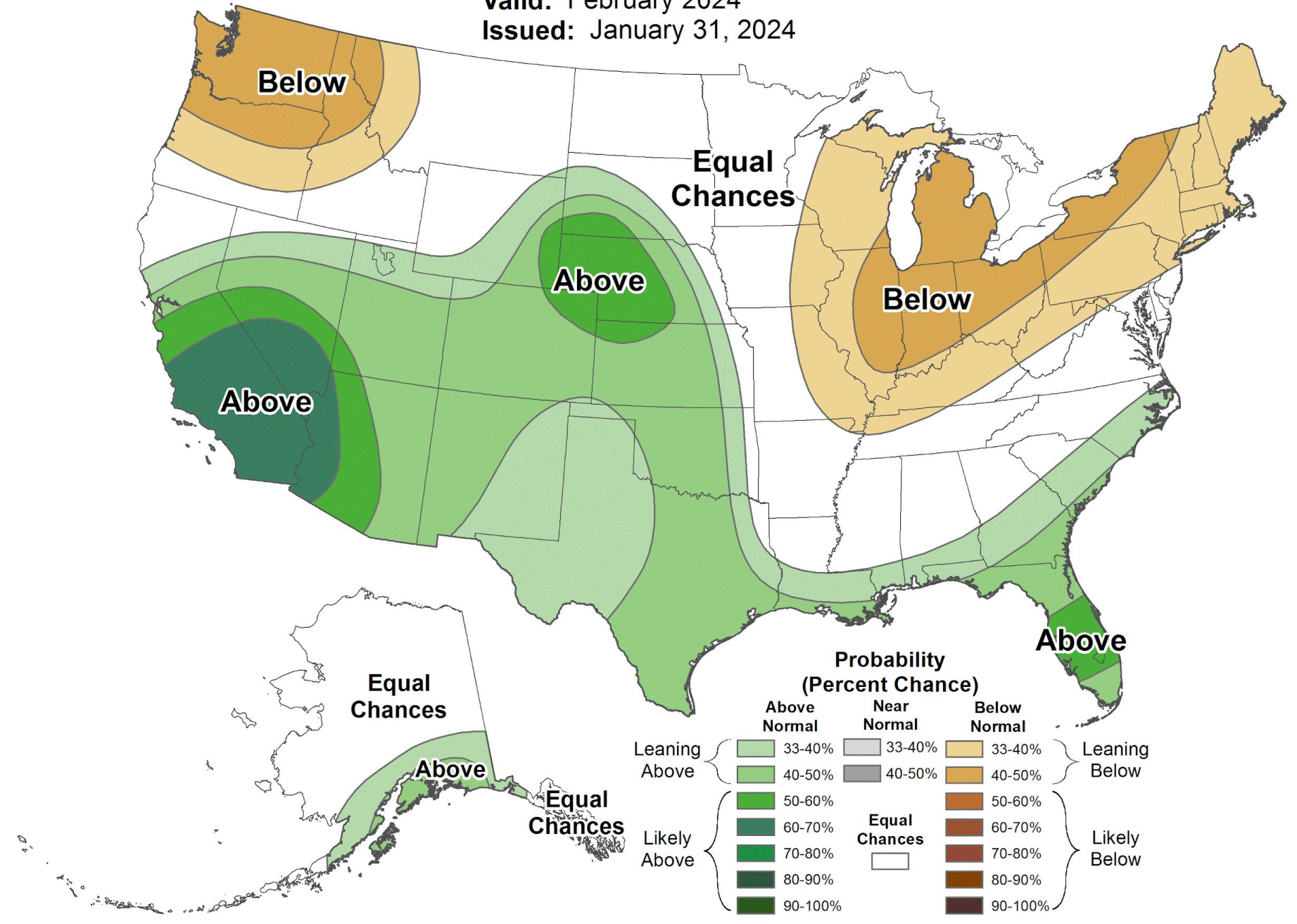
Valid: February 2024
Issued: January 31, 2024



Monthly Precipitation Outlook

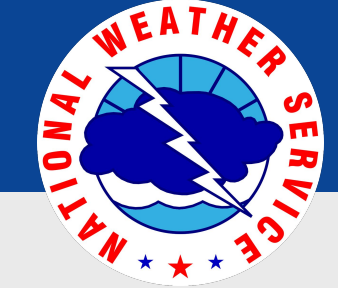


Valid: February 2024
Issued: January 31, 2024



February Outlook





Drought Outlook

February 22, 2024
9:06 AM

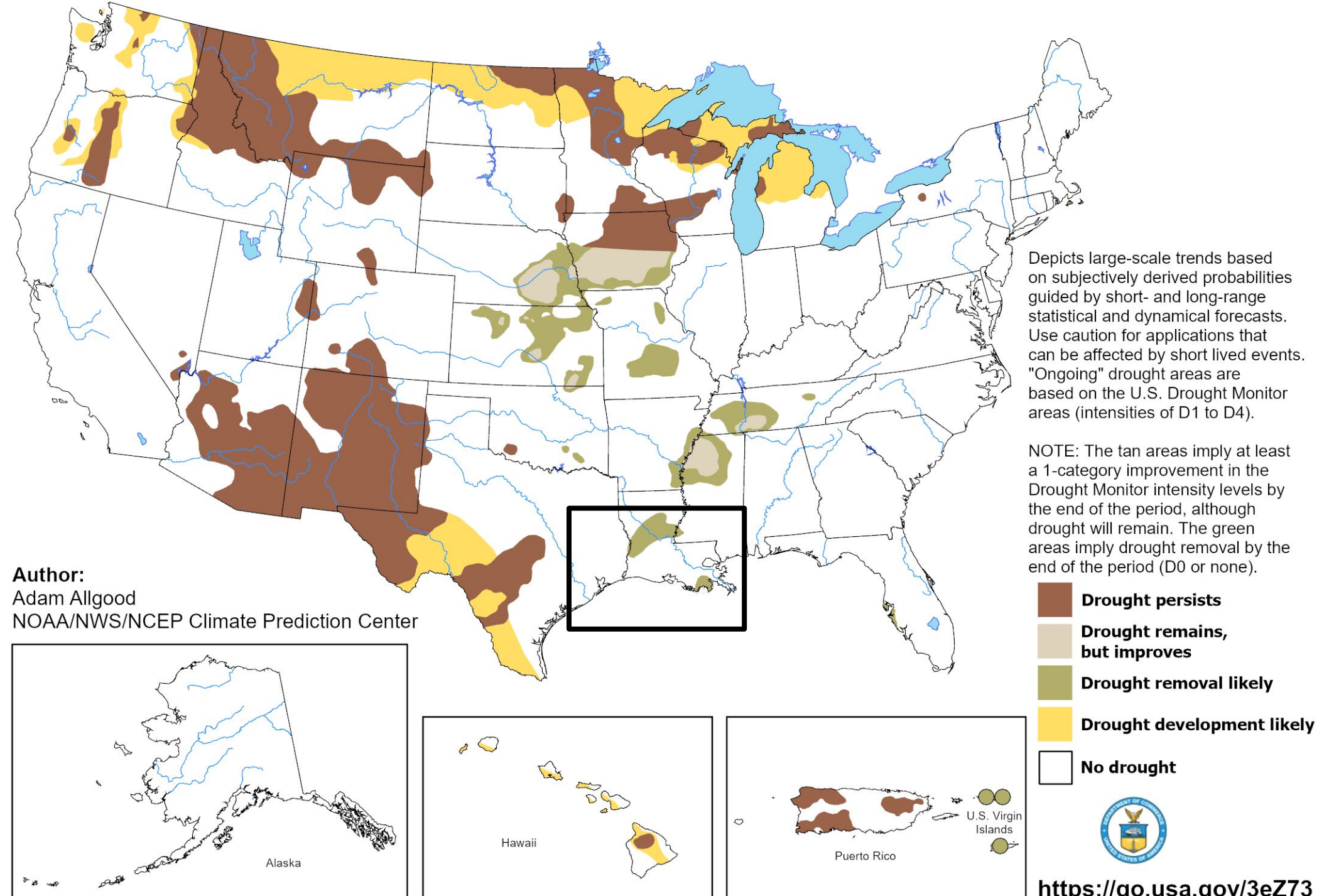
A three month drought tendency forecast.

Key Message

Chances favor drought conditions across Louisiana and southeast Texas to end over the next few months.

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

Valid for February 15 - May 31, 2024
Released February 15, 2024





- 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
- NWS Lake Charles Twitter twitter.com/NWSLakeCharles



Next Update: As needed.