



Drought Information Statement for Southeast TX and Southwest LA

Valid February, 26, 2026

Issued By: WFO Lake Charles, LA

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated March, 13, 2026 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/LCH/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.

- DROUGHT CONDITIONS OVER MOST OF THE AREA CONTINUE TO WORSEN



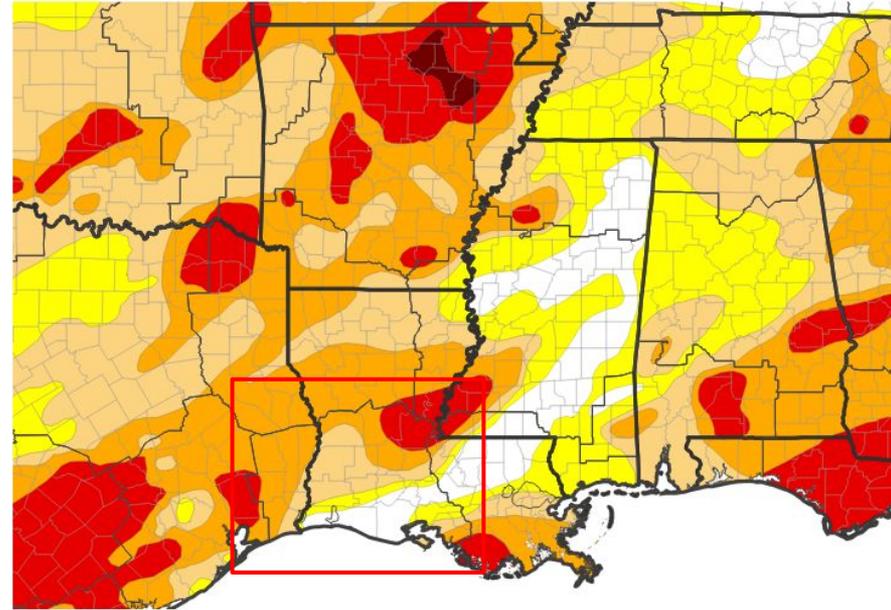


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

- Drought Intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Portions Central and South Central Louisiana.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Most of Southeast Texas and Portions of Central Louisiana.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Much of Central Louisiana north of I-10 and St. Mary Parish
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Much of Southwest Louisiana and extreme south central Louisiana.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 02/24/26





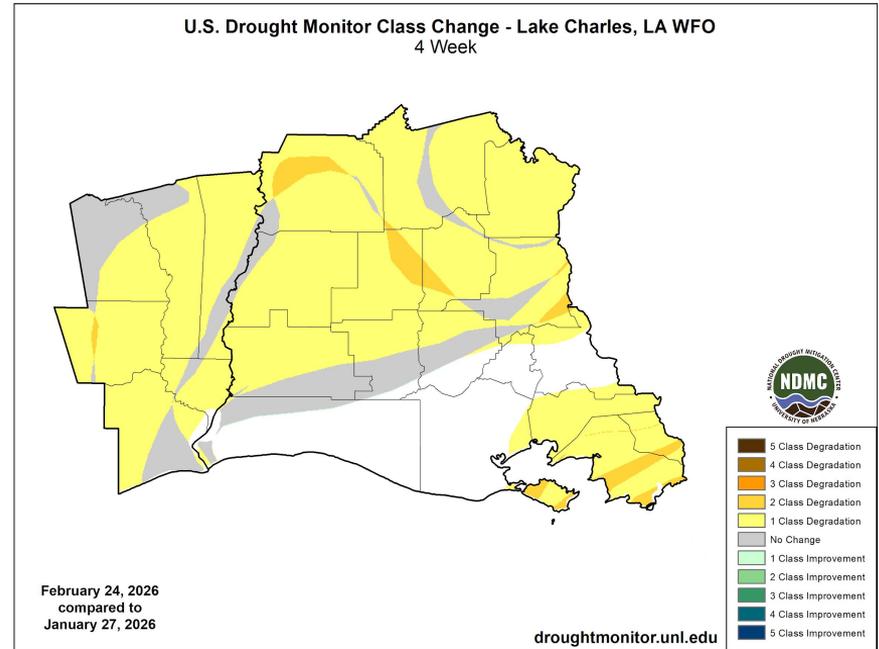
Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#)

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: 1 to 2 category class changes have been noted across much of Southeast Texas and Large sections of Central Louisiana north of Interstate 10.

Also a 1 to 2 category class increase is noted along the highway 90 corridor in South Central Louisiana.

- No areas of improvement were noted.



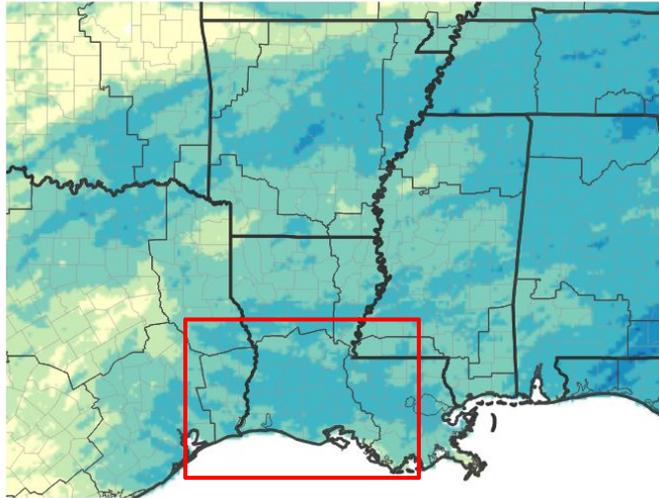


Precipitation

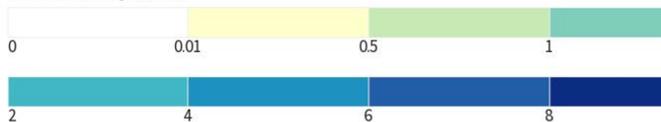
For the past 30 days

- Rainfall over the past 30 days is running 25 to around 50 percent of normal across the entire area.

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)

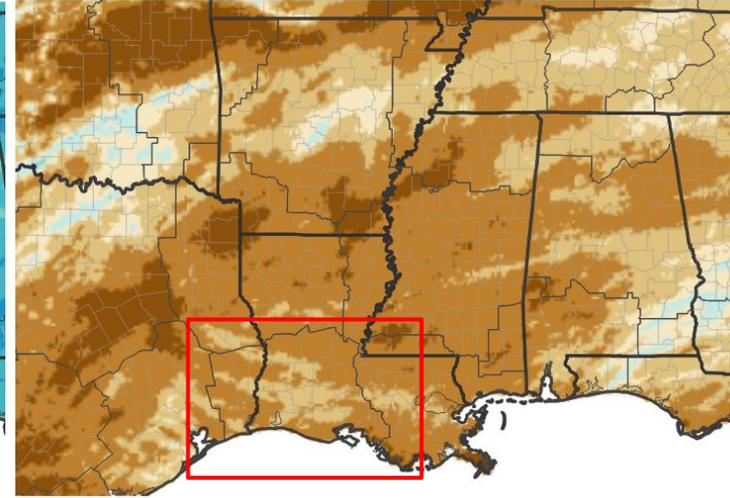


Inches of Precipitation

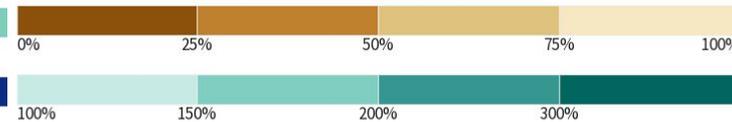


Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



Data Valid: Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service; image courtesy of Drought.gov Data Valid: 02/25/26



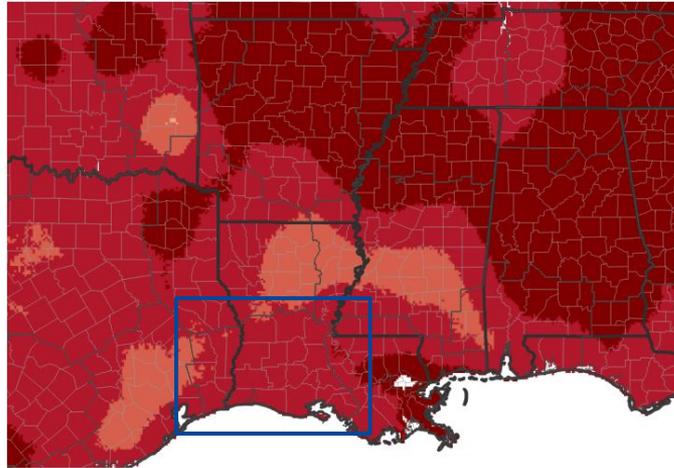


Temperature

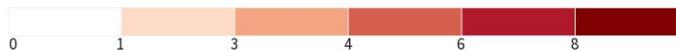
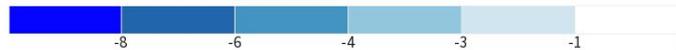
Link to [Southern Regional Climate Center](#)

- Temperatures have been above normal area wide across the region the past week.
- Normal to slightly above normal temperatures have been noted the previous 30 days.

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



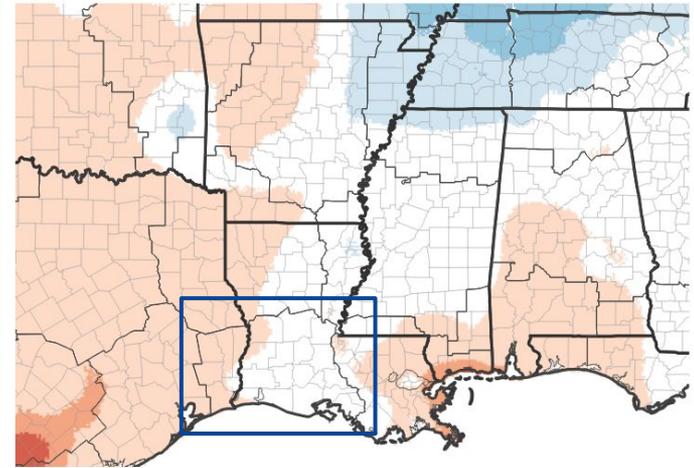
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



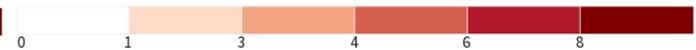
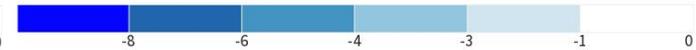
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 02/22/26

30-Day Temperature Anomaly



Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 02/22/26





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Observed river flows are below normal to much below normal on area river basins, especially in Central Louisiana.

Agricultural Impacts

- Field conditions as reported by the LSU Ag Centers are running slightly dry across Central Louisiana.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Increased wildfire risk has been noted when coupled with low humidity and elevated winds.
- Burn bans are currently in place for Tyler County Texas. Vernon, Rapides, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Allen, St. Landry, Calcasieu, Jefferson Davis, Acadia, Vermilion, Iberia and St. Martin Parishes in Louisiana.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

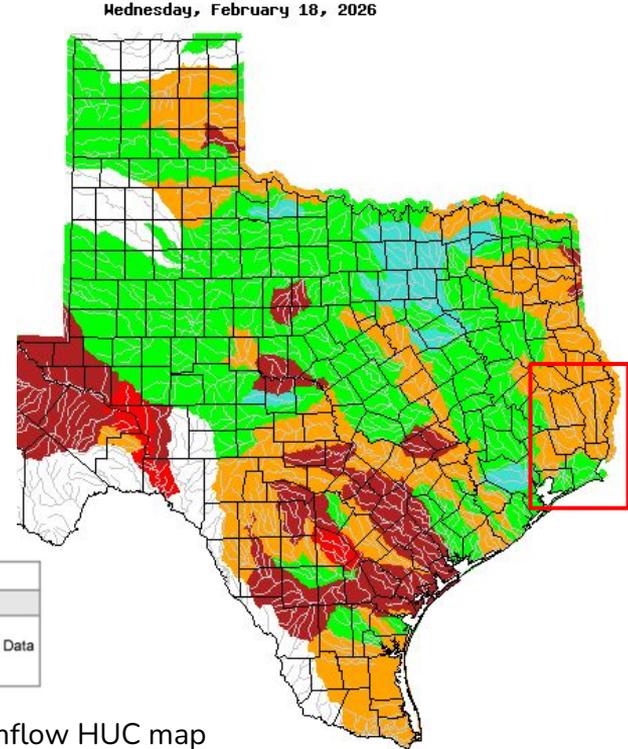
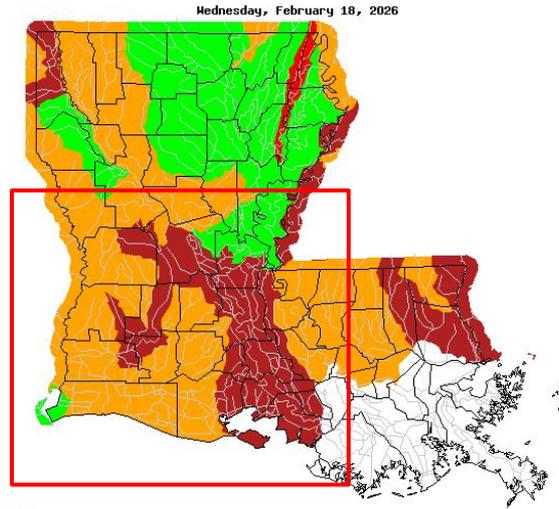
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Below to much below normal flows are observed on most river basins especially in Central Louisiana.



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		

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid 02 18 2026

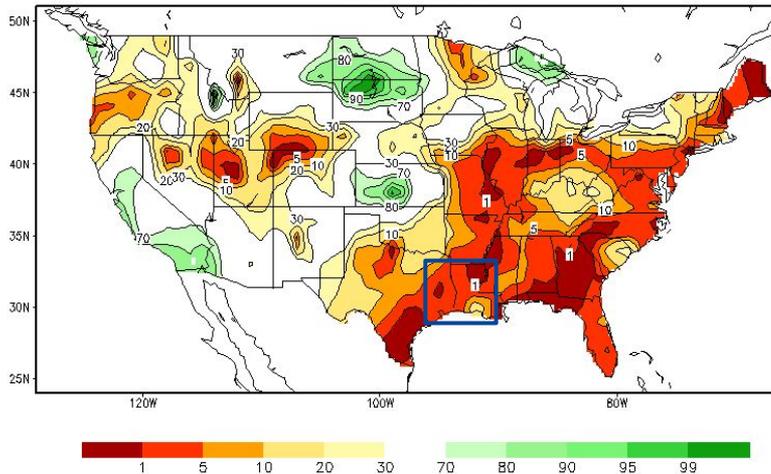




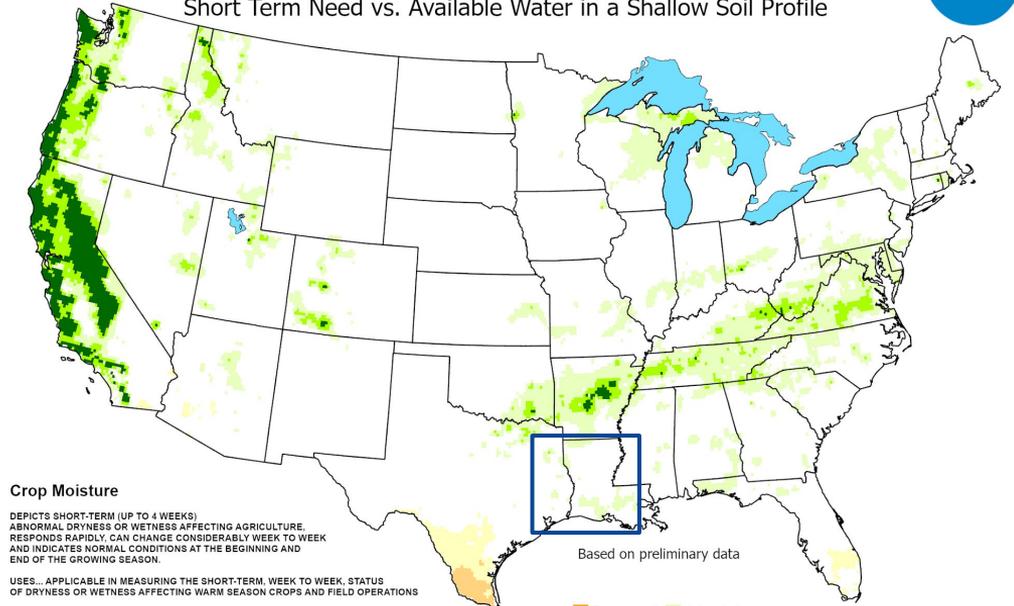
Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is below normal across the area with shallow soil moisture near normal.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
FEB 18, 2026



Crop Moisture Index
Value for the February 15 - 21, 2026
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile



Based on preliminary data

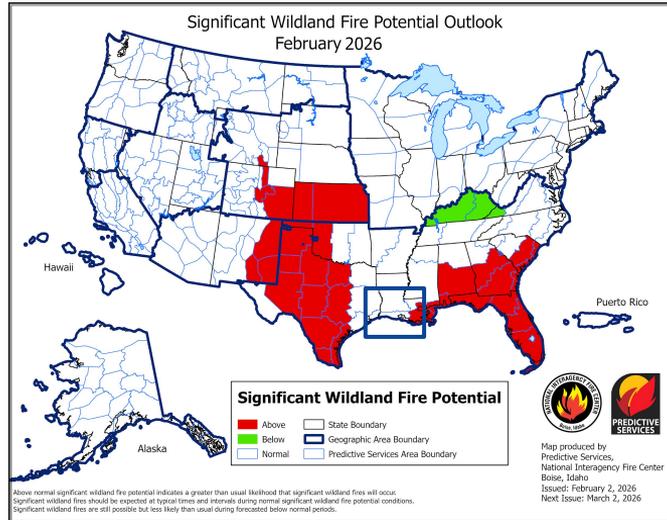




Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Burn Bans are currently in effect for all parishes except Cameron, Evangeline, Lafayette and St. Mary Parishes. In Texas Tyler County has a burn ban.
- Wildfire conditions are expected to go above normal in March for Louisiana.



Latest TX Burn Ban map available [here](#).

Latest LA Burn Ban map available [here](#).

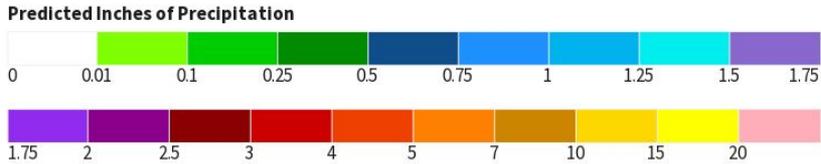
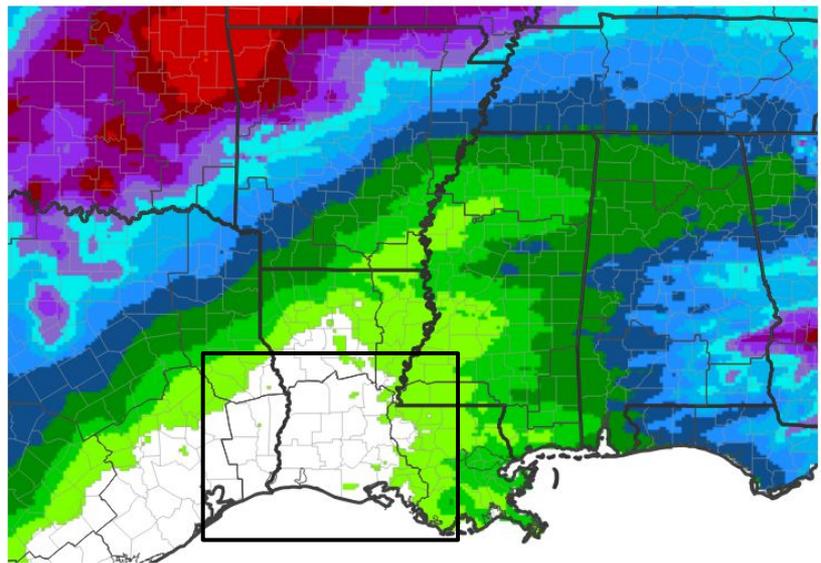




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Rainfall is expected one tenth of an inch or less over the next 7 days.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for February 26, 2026–March 5, 2026



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 02/26/26

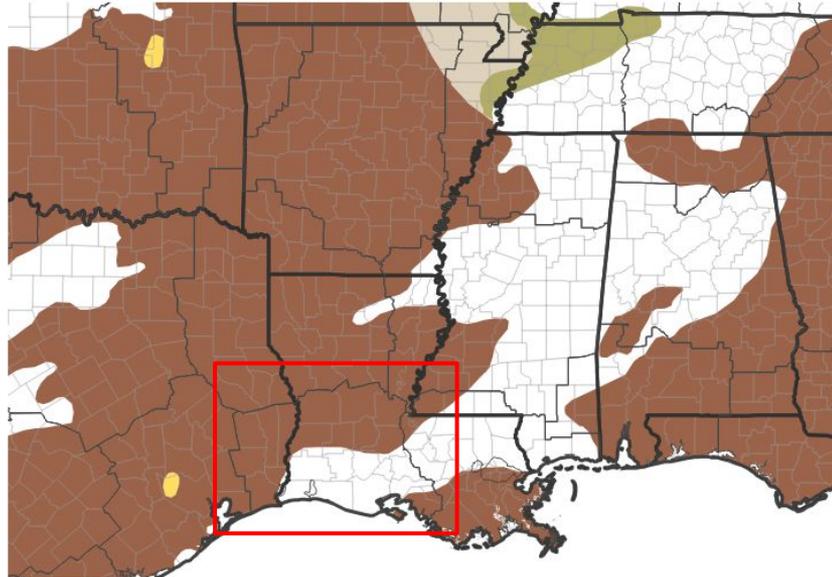


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are expected to persist across East Texas and Central Louisiana into spring.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for February 19, 2026–May 31, 2026



Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Last Updated: 02/19/26

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

