



# Drought Information Statement for Southern NM/Far West TX

Valid July 4, 2025

Issued By: NWS El Paso (Santa Teresa, NM)

Contact Information: [nws.elpaso@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.elpaso@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated August 7, 2025 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/EPZ/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
- Please visit [https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/?dews\\_region=132](https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/?dews_region=132) for regional drought status updates.

- Extreme (D3) to Exceptional (D4) drought status affecting Southwest New Mexico and Far West Texas.
- Improvement in drought status after recent rains, above normal June precipitation. Further improvement expected in July.
- Drought conditions expected to persist through the summer months, near normal precipitation and above normal temperatures this season.







# U.S. Drought Monitor

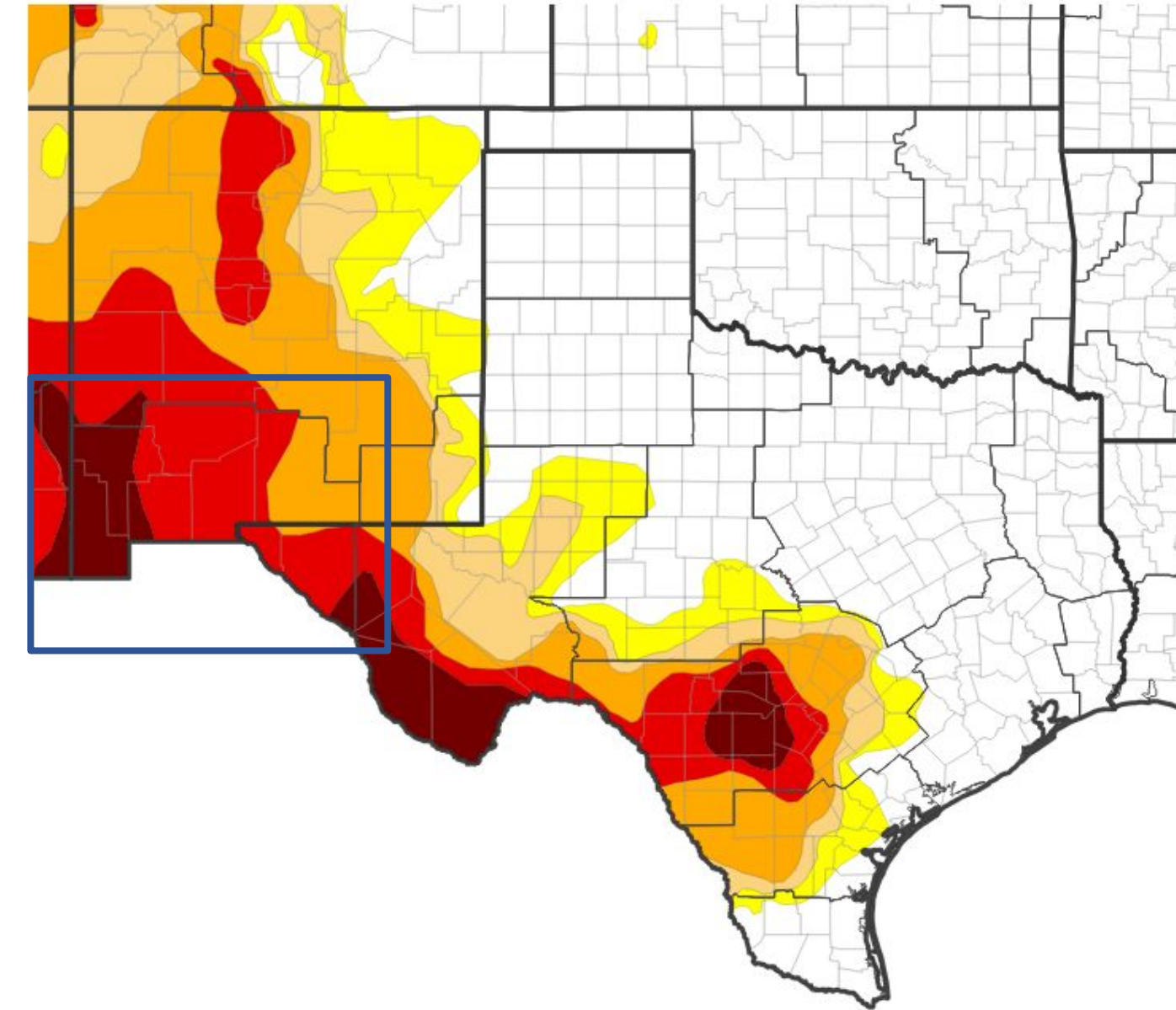
July 4, 2025  
12:14 AM

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for southern New Mexico and far west Texas

## Drought Intensity and Extent

- **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**  
Southwest New Mexico including Grant and Hidalgo Counties
- **D3 (Extreme Drought)**  
Far West Texas including El Paso and Hudspeth Counties  
Most of South-Central New Mexico including Dona Ana, Luna and Sierra Counties. Gila National Forest.
- **D2 (Severe Drought)**  
Portions of South-Central New Mexico including Otero County and Lincoln National Forest.
- **D1 (Moderate Drought)**  
Eastern New Mexico (84% of New Mexico, 39% of Texas)
- **D0 (Abnormally Dry)**  
Northeast New Mexico (94% of New Mexico, 49% of Texas)
- Abnormally wet start to the 2025 monsoon season has improved drought conditions somewhat. Drought is expected to persist through the summer.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 07/01/25



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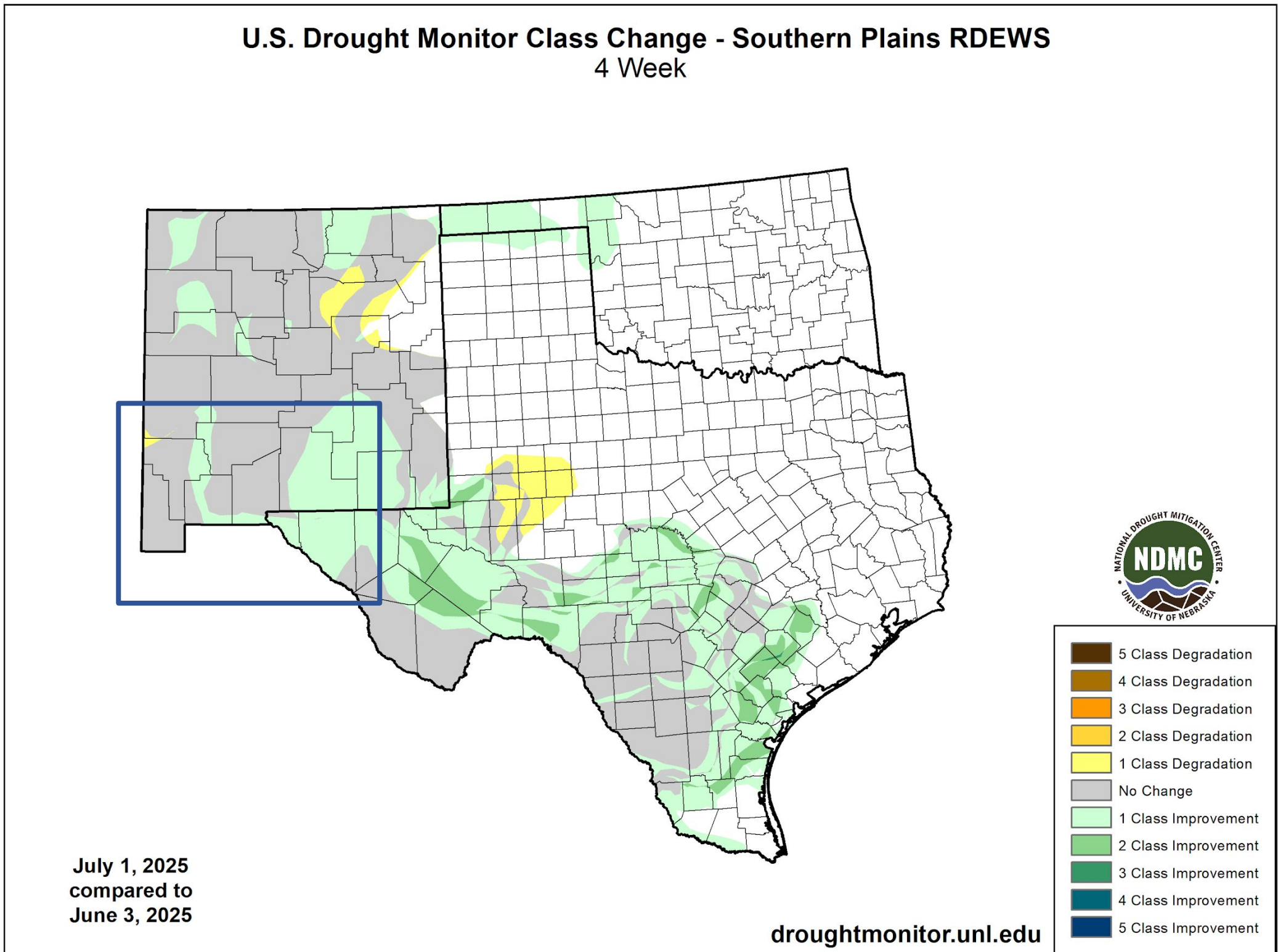
# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

July 4, 2025  
12:14 AM

Link to the latest [1-month change map](#) for southern New Mexico and far west Texas

## 4-Week Drought Monitor Class Change.

- **Drought Worsened:**  
None
- **Drought Improved:**  
Portions of South-Central New Mexico and Far West Texas, including El Paso
- **No Change:**  
Upper Rio Grande Valley, Western New Mexico







# Precipitation

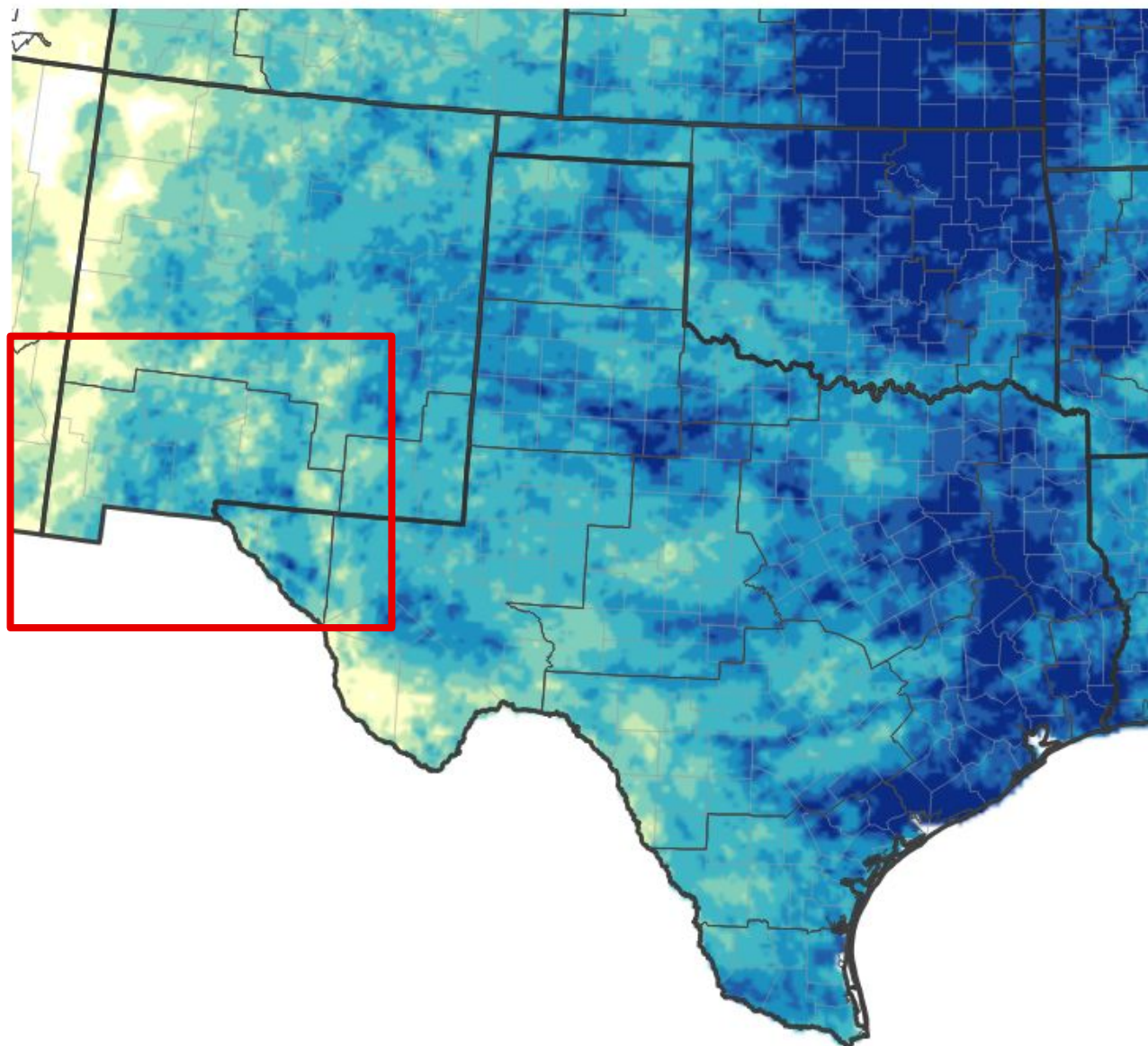
July 4, 2025  
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30-day precip totals,  
1.00-2.00" along I-10 corridor.  
1.50-4.00" over mountain  
forests.

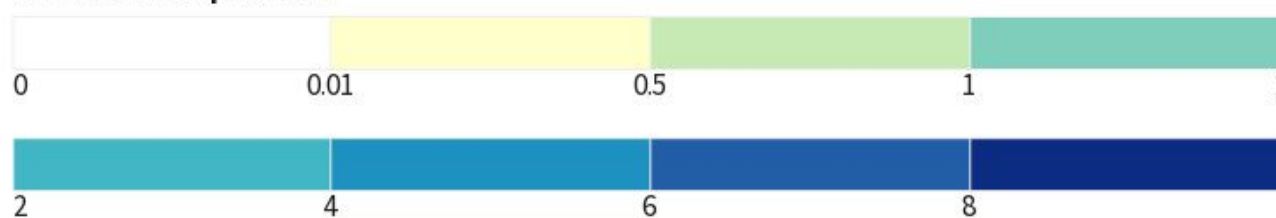
90-day precip totals,  
1.50-2.50" along I-10 corridor.  
2.00-5.00" over mountain  
forests.

Much higher rainfall in June,  
especially across Rio Grande  
Valley. Precipitation totals  
rapidly drop off along AZ/NM  
state line.

NWPS 30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (inches)



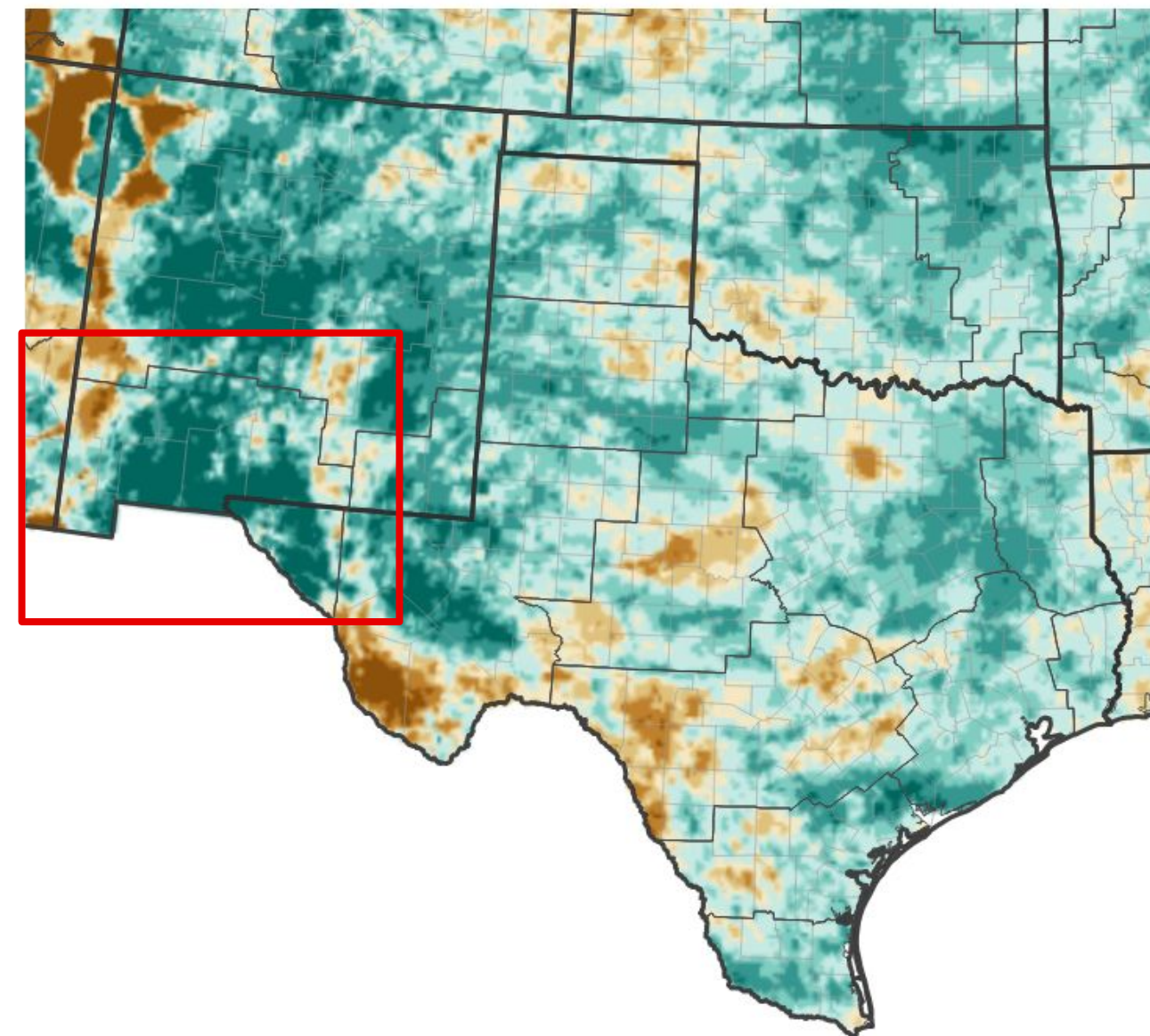
Inches of Precipitation



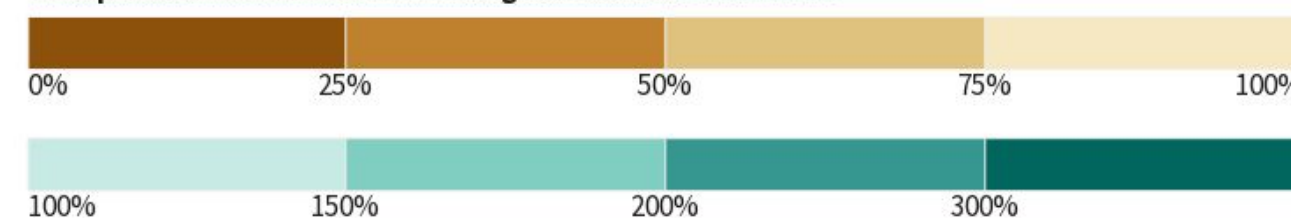
Source(s): National Weather Service National Water Prediction Service;  
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 07/01/25

30-Day Precipitation: Percent of PRISM Normal



Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions



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

Data Valid: 07/02/25



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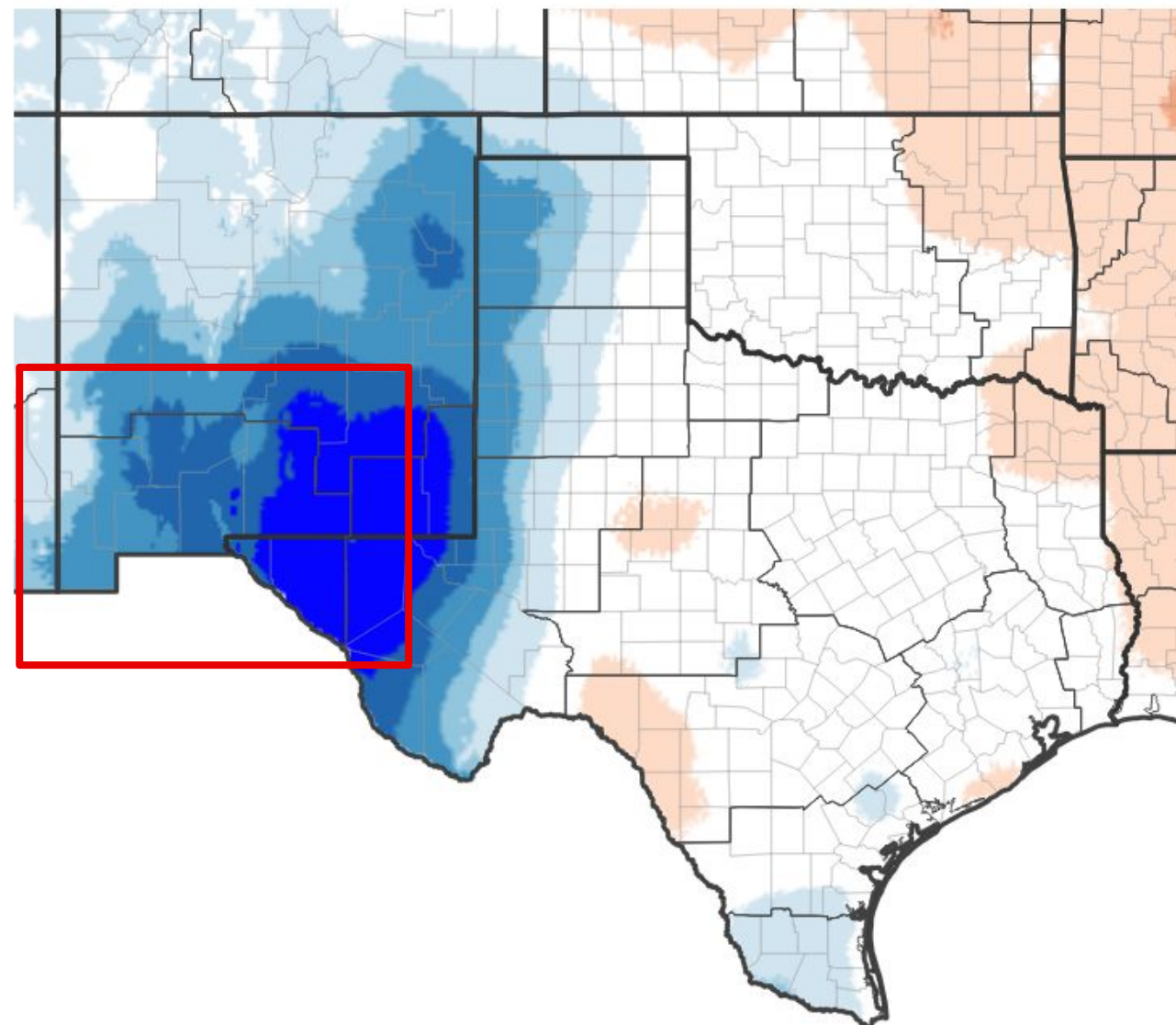


# Temperature

July 4, 2025  
12:14 AM

- Near normal to slightly below normal June for New Mexico and Far West Texas
- 30-day high temperature anomalies near normal
- June mean average temperatures 1.9°F above normal at El Paso International (KELP)

7-Day Temperature Anomaly



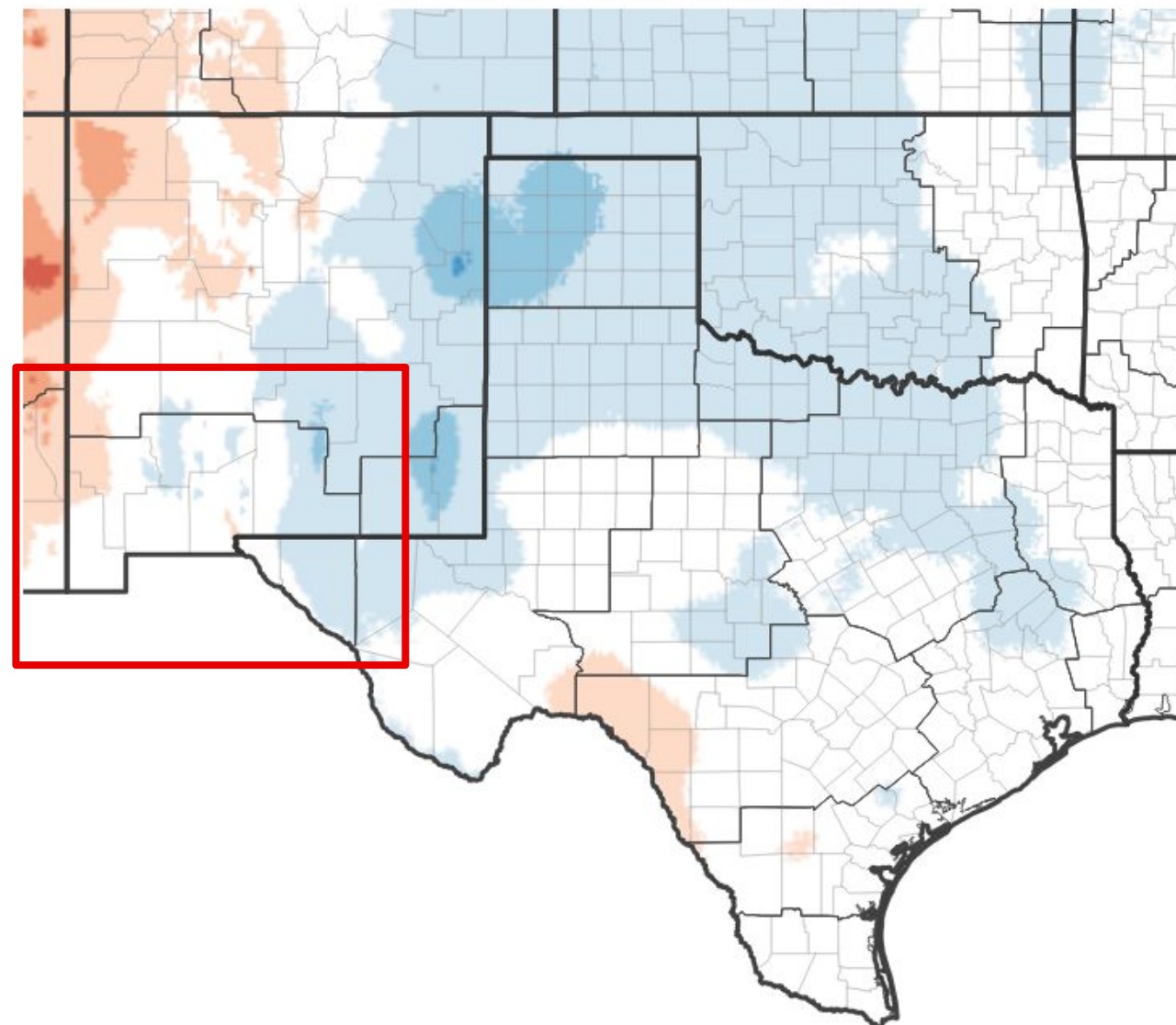
Departure from Normal Max Temperature (°F)



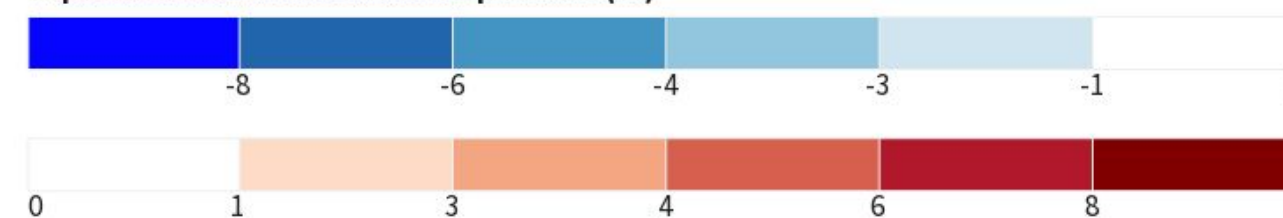
Source(s): NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 06/29/25

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: 06/29/25



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# Summary of Impacts

July 4, 2025  
12:14 AM

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflow in Gila basins are well below normal with no flooding issues expected through the start of summer. Flow is now above normal out of Mimbres and Sacramento Mountain basins. Burn scar flooding caused rapid spikes in streamflow for the Mimbres (June 24 and July 2) and Rio Ruidoso (June 20, 23, 25, 26, 29). River levels will be highly dependent on thunderstorms through September with additional sudden rises possible. Rio Grande water has released south of the Caballo Dam, reaching El Paso on June 3rd. Elephant Butte storage sits at 6.5% capacity, lower than last month due to downstream release and well below 30-year median. ([Texas Water Development Board](#)).

## Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture remains below normal despite recent rains. Current drought will take time to recover. Outlook points to near normal precipitation this summer. Rio Grande irrigation surface water allotment is six inches (6") per acre for the 2025 growing season. Please refer to the Elephant Butte Irrigation District ([EBID](#)) website or your local municipality for more information.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- ERC's have fallen to below normal due to recent rains, effectively ending the peak fire season locally. Lightning starts and erratic outflow winds around thunderstorms will continue to be possible in July. Additional rains and lighter prevailing winds will further reduce the risk of large fire growth this month.







# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

July 4, 2025  
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- Gila River running well below normal, despite slight increase recently. Mimbres River spikes on June 24 and July 2 due to upstream flooding. High flows and rapid rises out of Rio Ruidoso due to upstream burn scars. Rio Grande at El Paso reporting streamflow as of June 3rd. Flood risk increasing this month due to thunderstorms and heavy rain potential.

## Gila River Stages

	Latest	Flood Stage	Discharge
Gila	0.87 ft	11.00 ft	41 ft <sup>3</sup> /s
Redrock	3.74 ft	20.00 ft	12 ft <sup>3</sup> /s
Virden	4.87 ft	15.00 ft	0 ft <sup>3</sup> /s

## Rio Grande Stages

	Latest	Flood Stage	Discharge
El Paso	3.67 ft	8.50 ft	171 ft <sup>3</sup> /s

Gauge data recorded on 7/4/2025

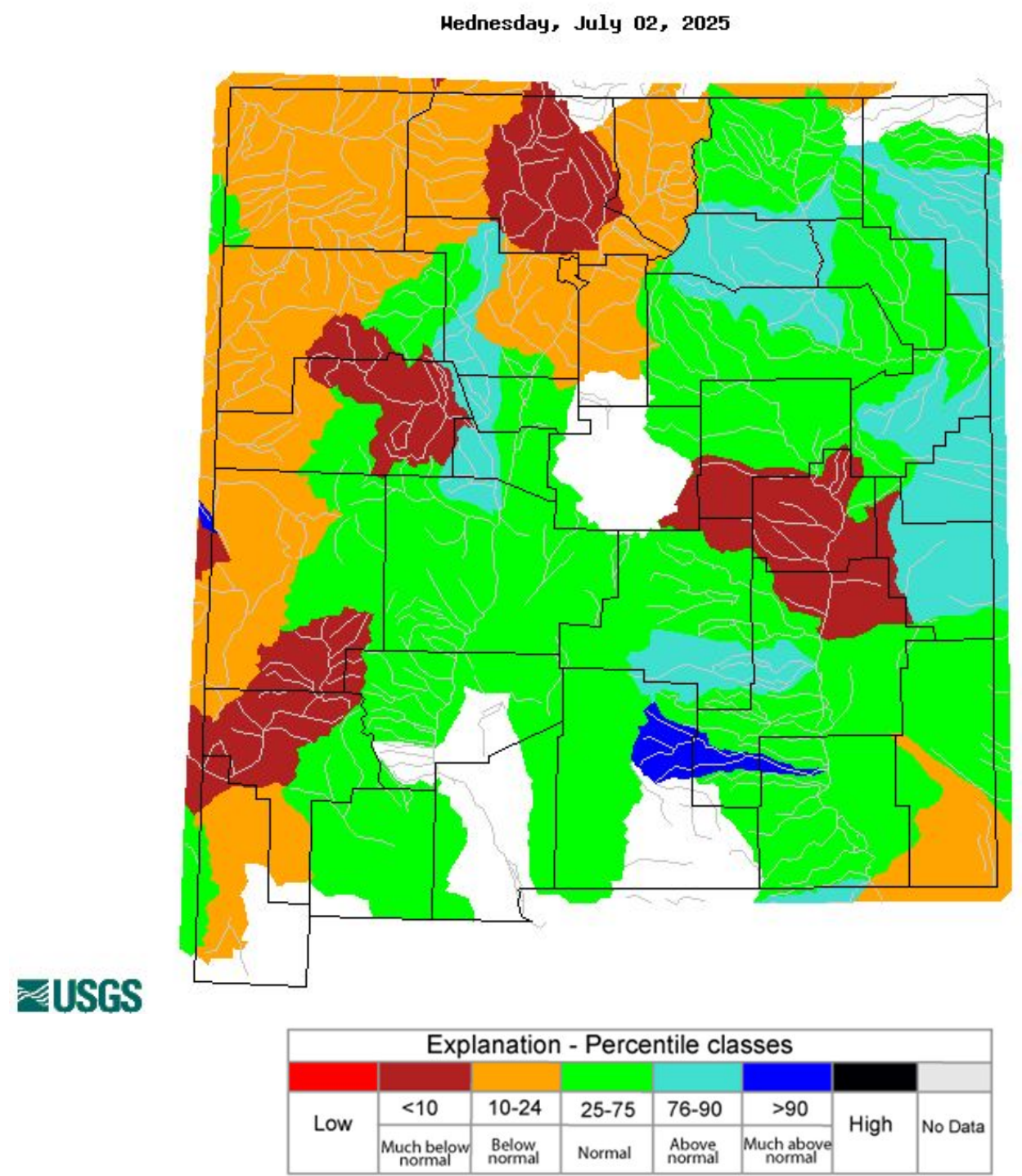


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid July 2, 2025





# Agricultural Impacts

July 4, 2025  
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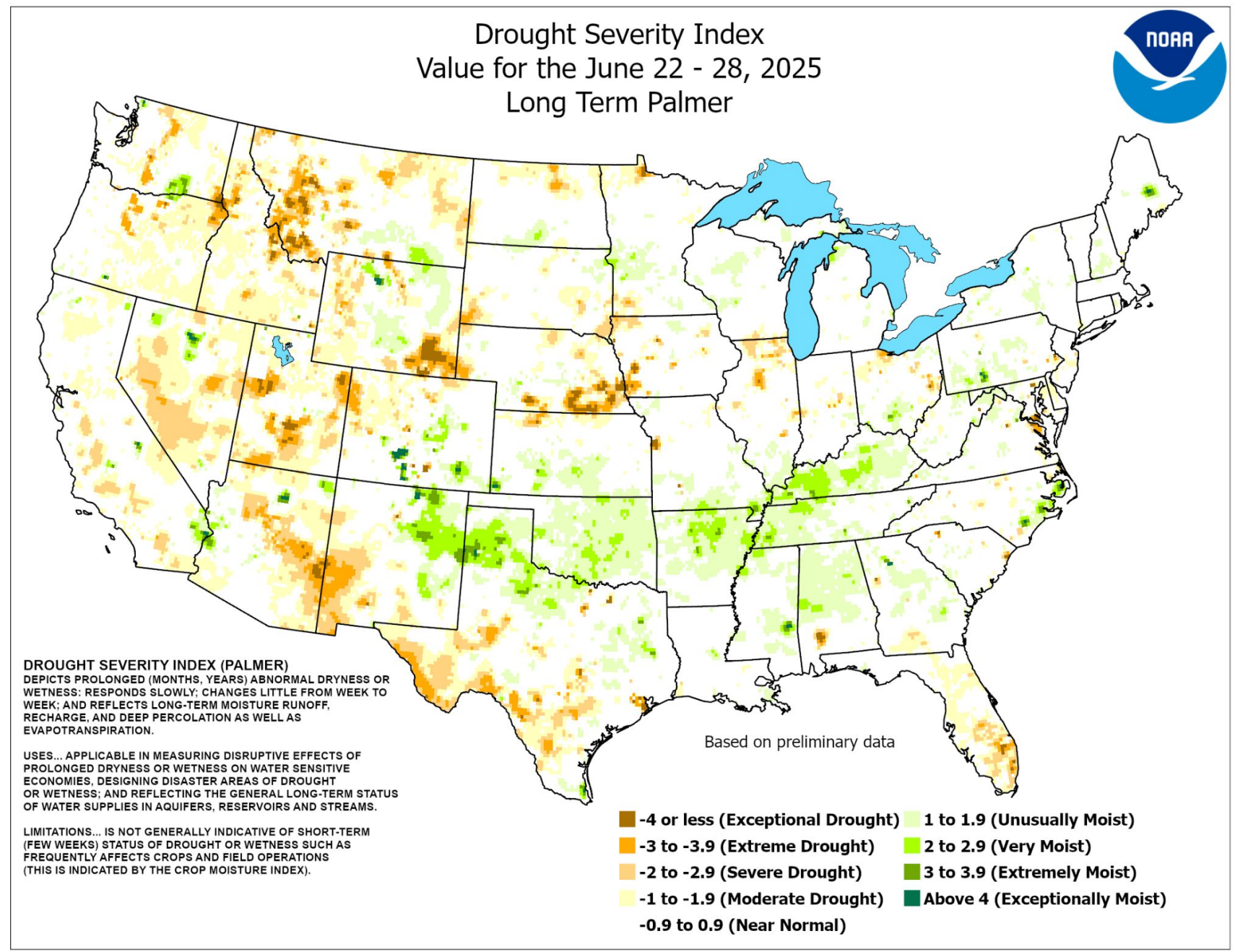
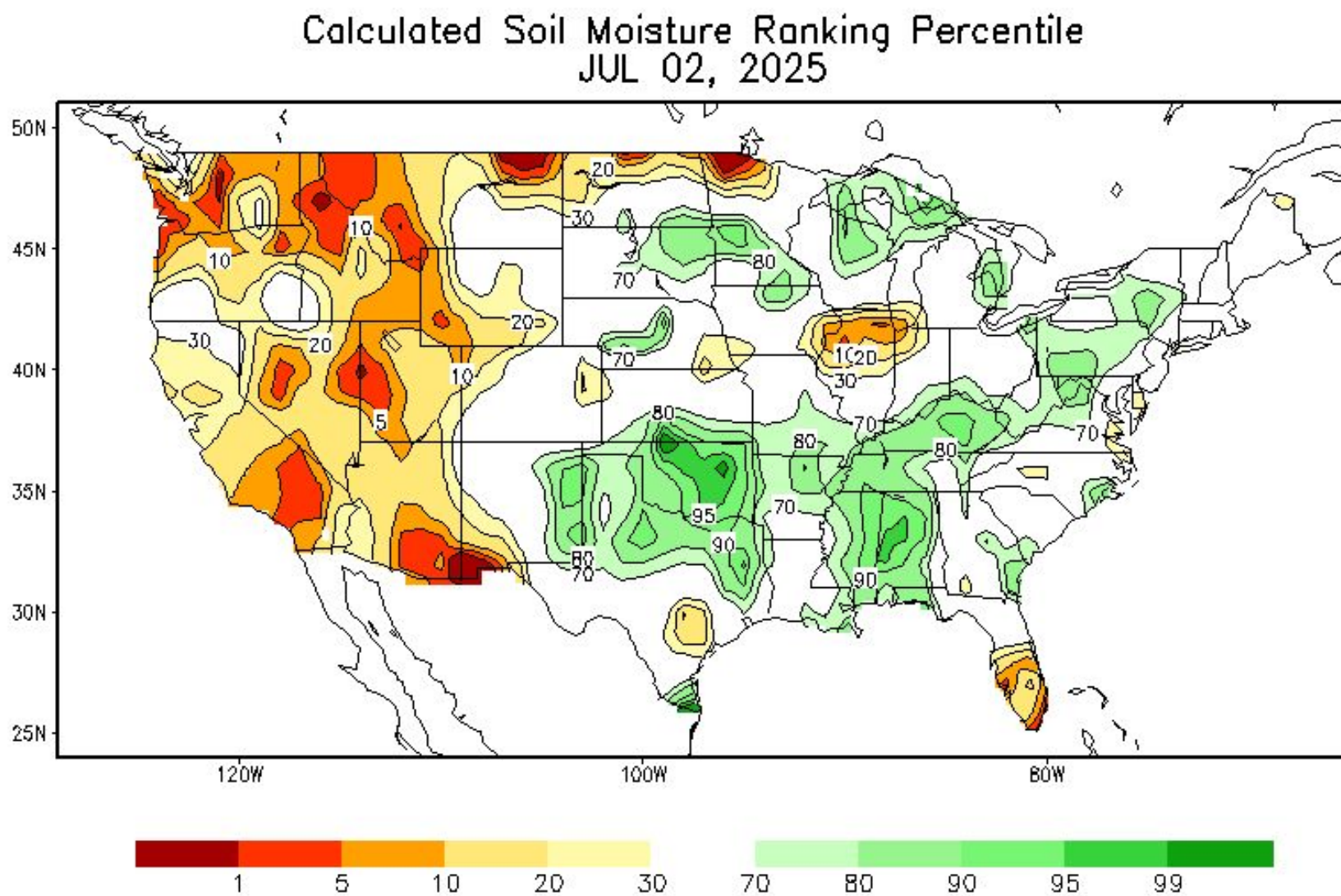


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid July 2, 2025

Right: [Palmer Drought Severity Index](#). Weekly value for period ending June 28, 2025







# Fire Hazard Impacts

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

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

Latest NM Fire Restrictions available [here](#)

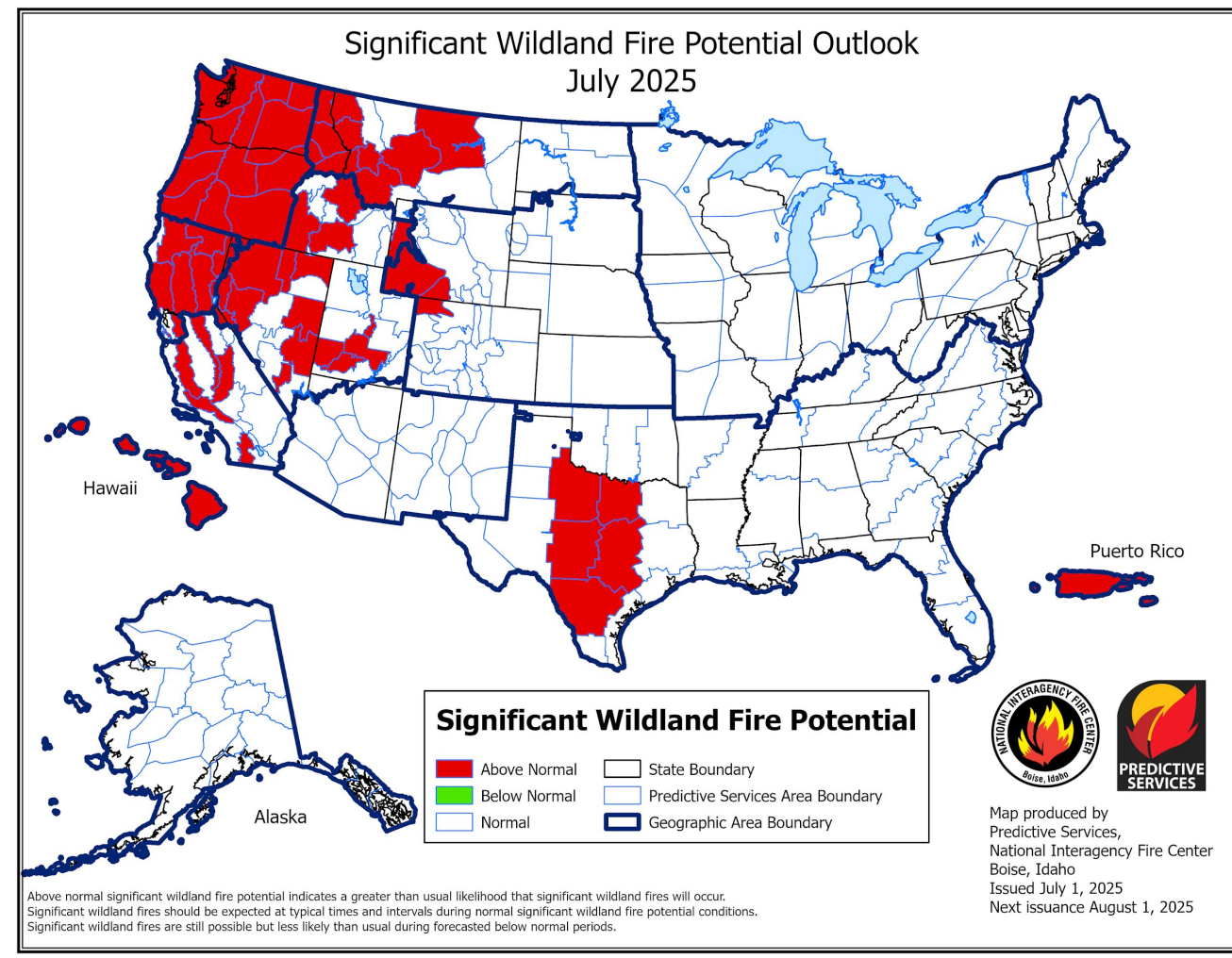
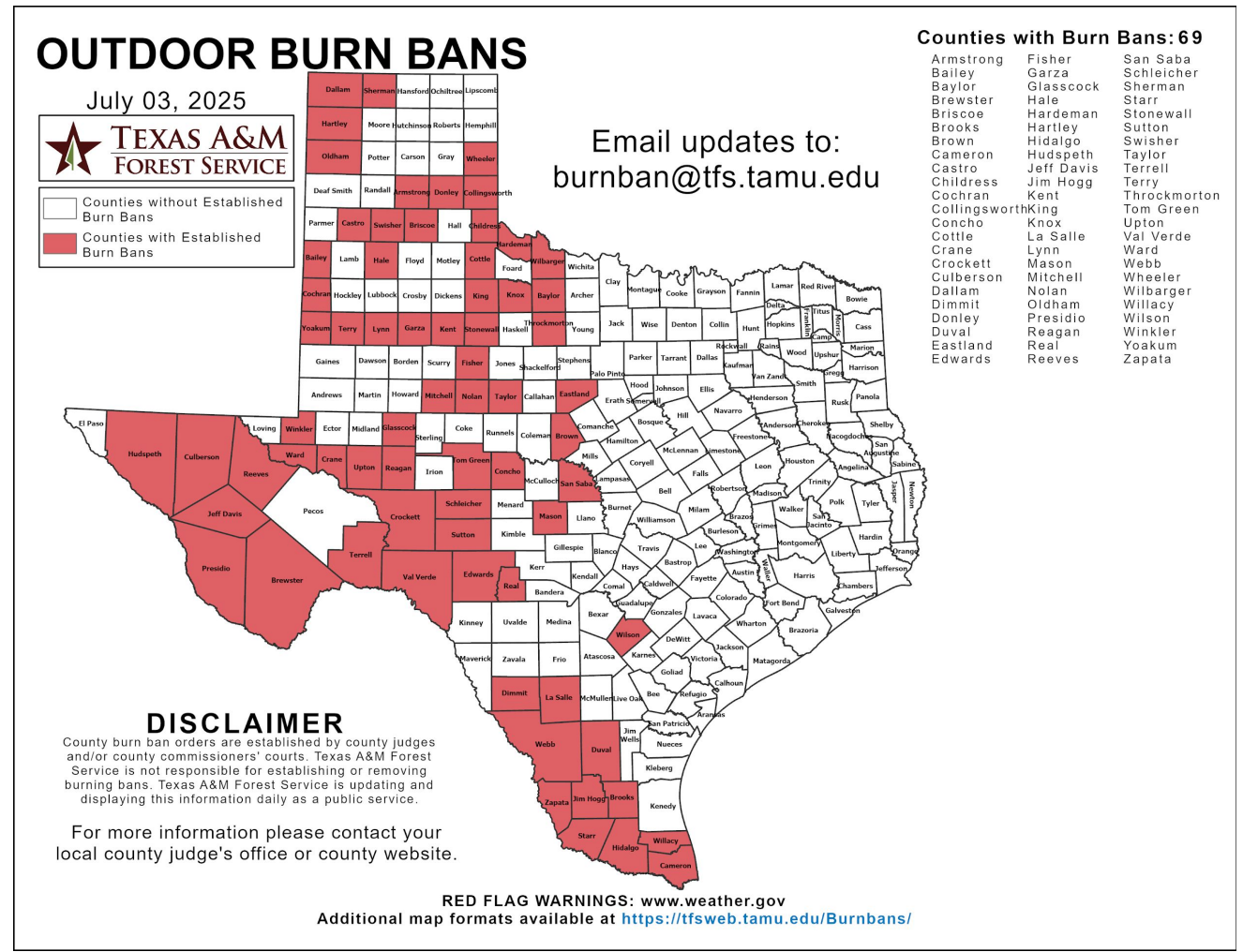


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for July 2025





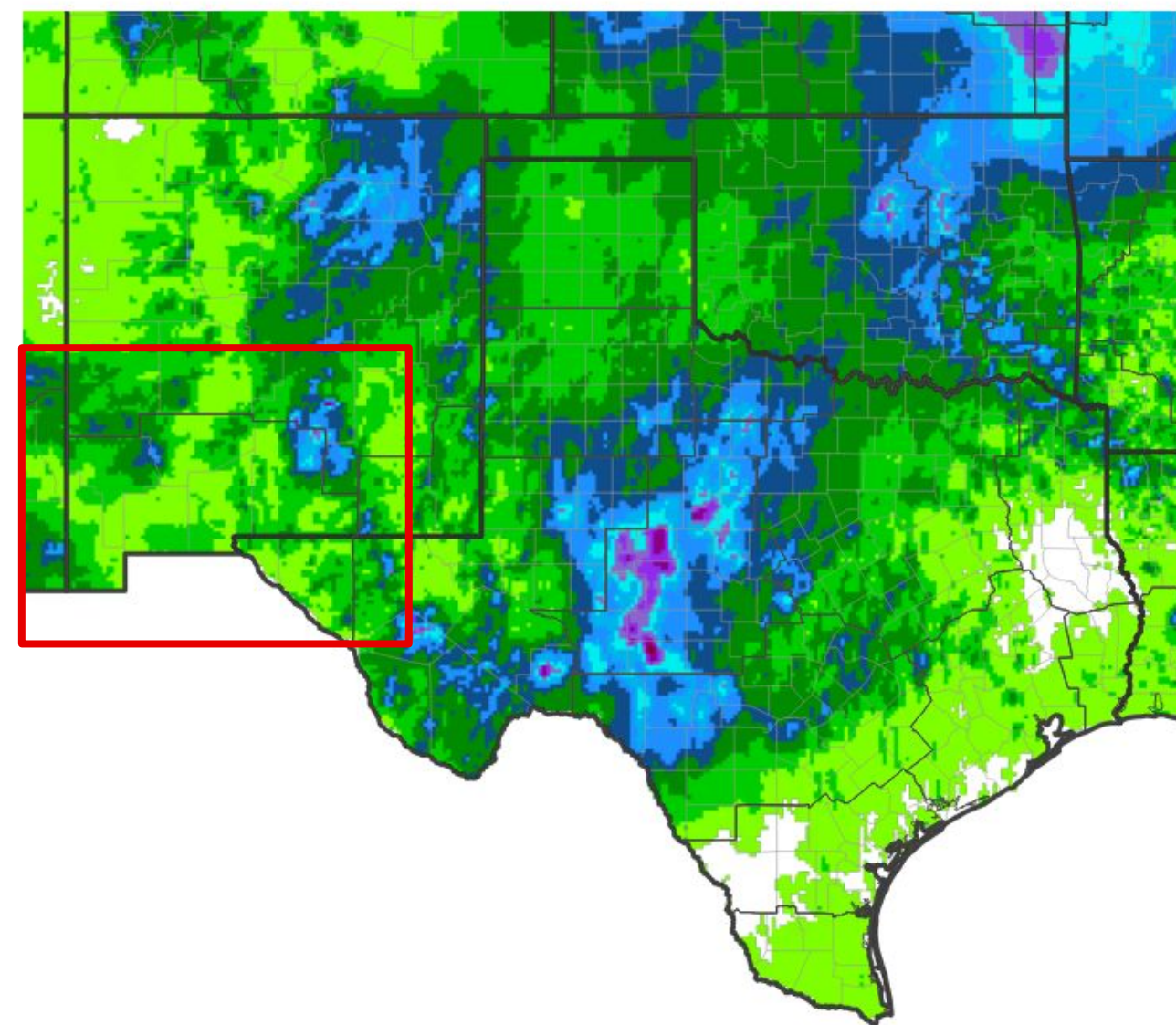


# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

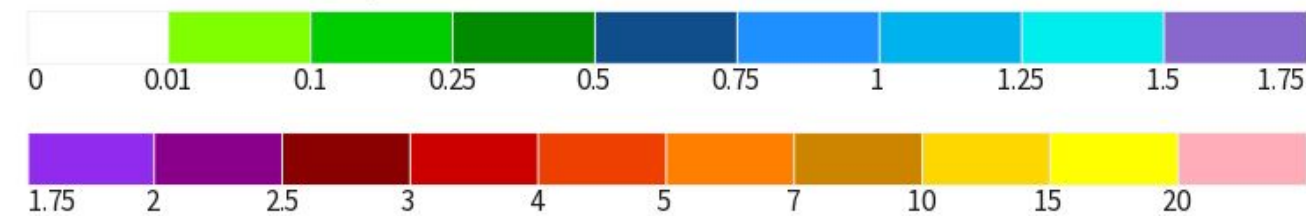
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- Scattered showers and thunderstorms expected again next week (July 6-12). Rain totals will be spotty and highly variable. Best rain chances over area mountains. Climate outlook for July leans above normal for both temperature and precipitation.
- 2023 and 2024 monsoon seasons finished well below normal. Precipitation expected to be closer to normal this summer. Drought conditions are likely to persist through the summer season.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for July 3,  
2025–July 10, 2025



Predicted Inches of Precipitation



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

Last Updated: 07/03/25



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# Rapid Onset Drought Outlook

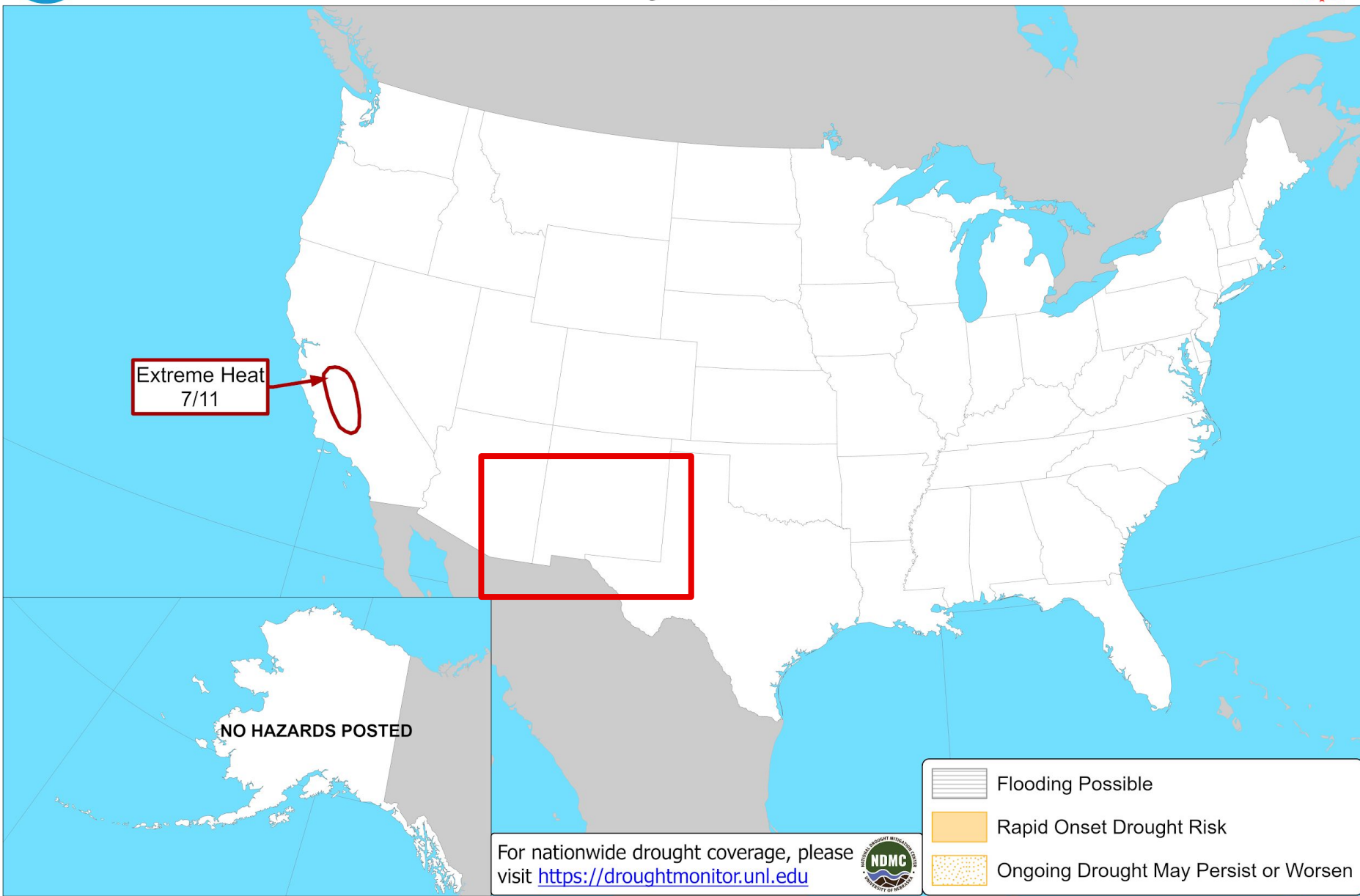
July 4, 2025  
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Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day [Temperature Outlook](#) and [Precipitation Outlook](#).

- Severe to Exceptional Drought is already in place across southern New Mexico and far west Texas. Rapid onset drought is not expected. Drought conditions are expected to persist through the summer season.



## Days 8-14 U.S. Hazards Outlook Valid: July 11 - 17, 2025



Climate Prediction Center  
Released: July 3, 2025 3:00 PM EDT

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Image Caption:  
[Days 8 to 14 U.S. Hazards Outlook](#) Valid July 11 to 17







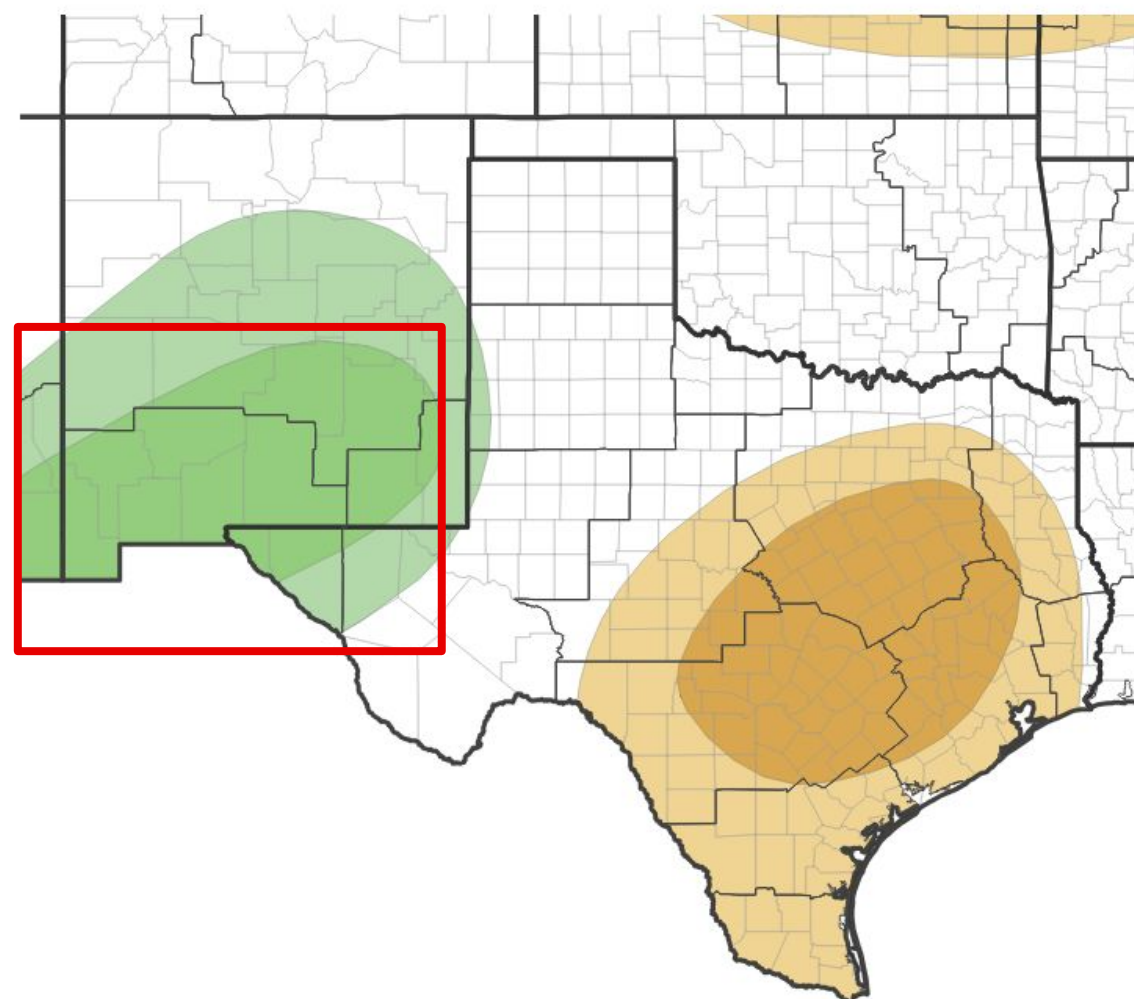
# Long-Range Outlooks

July 4, 2025  
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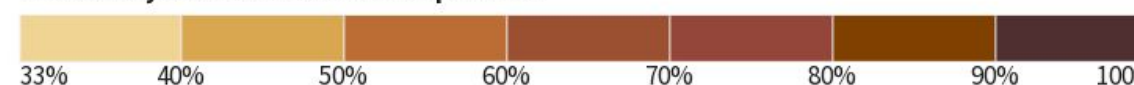
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- 40-50% chance of above normal precipitation for portions of Southern New Mexico, Far West Texas
- Monthly average precipitation for El Paso: 1.58"
- 33-40% chance of above normal temperatures for Southwest New Mexico and Far West Texas
- Monthly average high temperature for El Paso: 95.8°

Monthly Precipitation Outlook for July 1, 2025–July 31, 2025



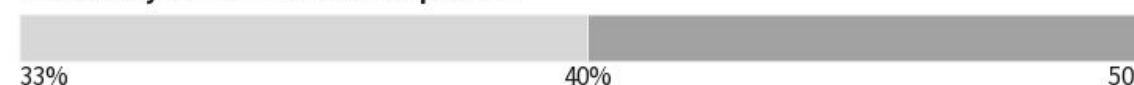
Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



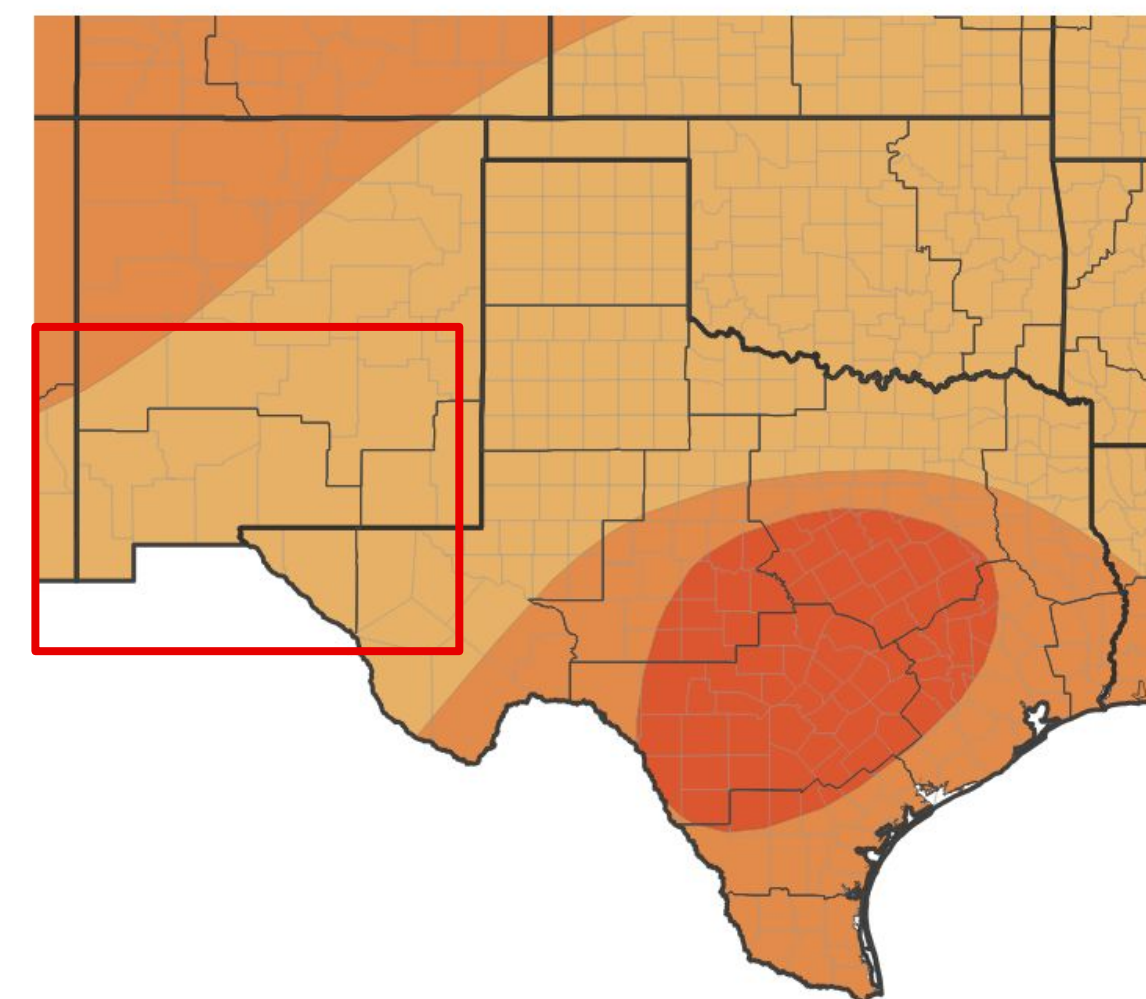
Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



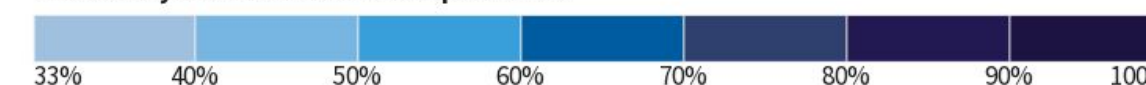
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 06/30/25

Monthly Temperature Outlook for July 1, 2025–July 31, 2025



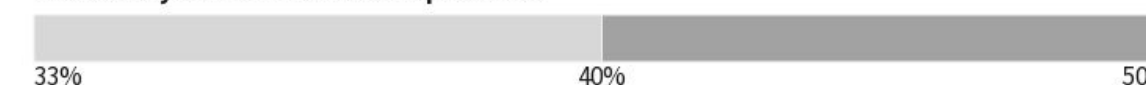
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



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

Last Updated: 06/30/25



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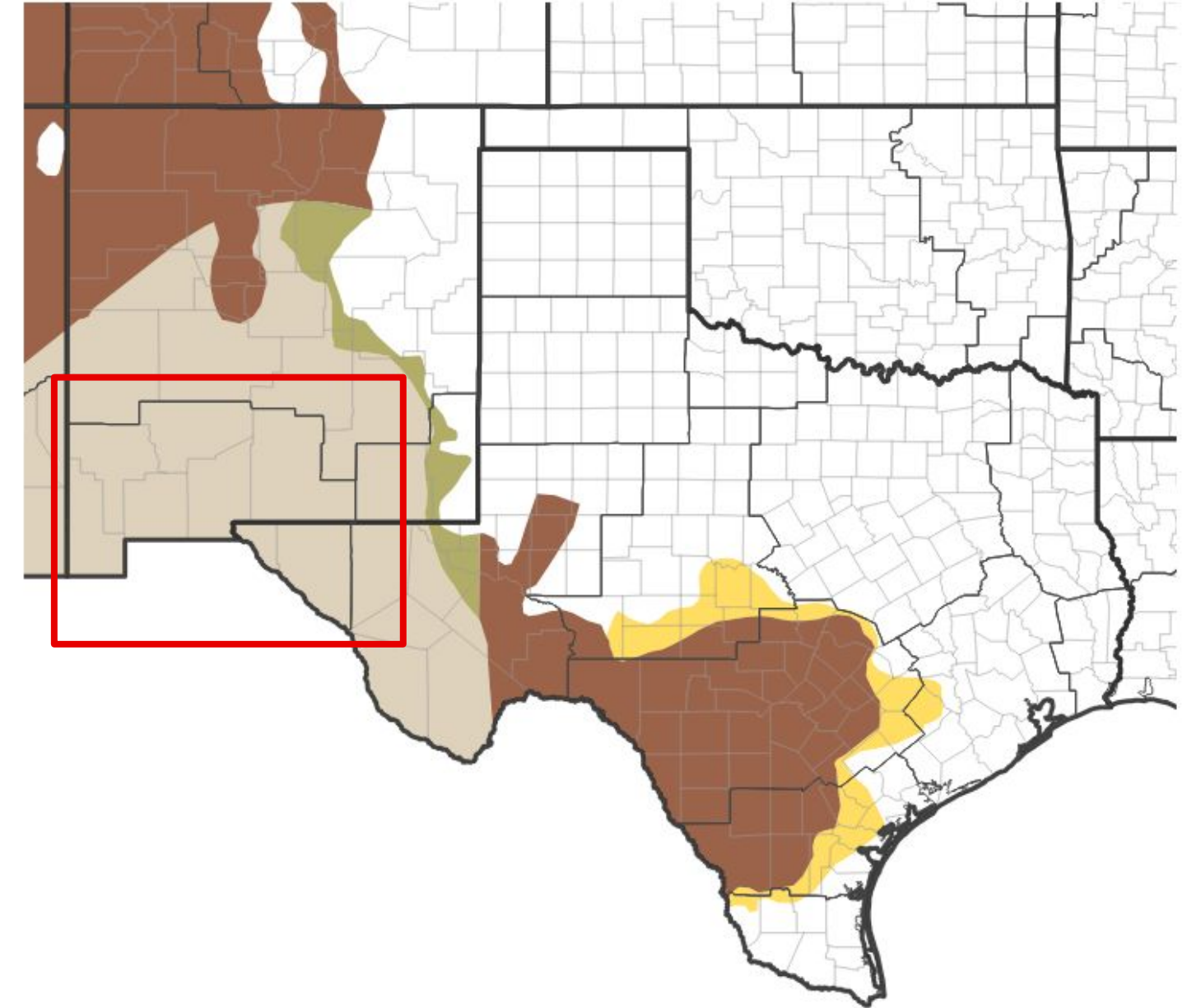
# Drought Outlook

July 4, 2025  
12:14 AM

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

- Drought conditions are expected to improve area wide through July due to favorable thunderstorm chances. Drought status may fall one or two categories this month depending on precipitation coverage, but some drought designation is likely to remain in place through the rest of the summer.

1-Month Drought Outlook for July 1, 2025–July 31, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



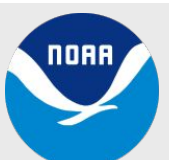
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 06/30/25

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



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