



Drought Information Statement for Central Alabama

Valid November 9, 2023

Issued By: NWS Birmingham, AL

Contact Information: sr-bmx.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated Nov 16th, 2023 or as drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/bmx/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





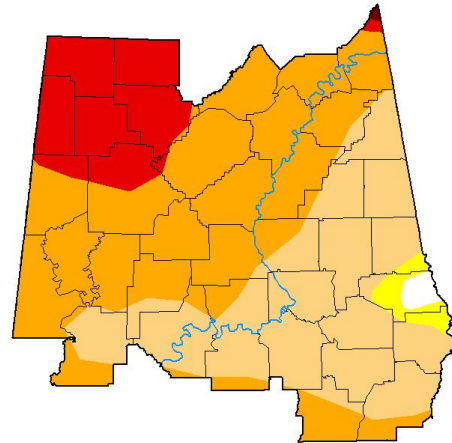
U.S. Drought Monitor

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

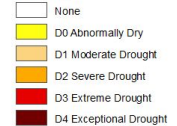
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D4 Exceptional Drought: Covers the extreme northern tip of Cherokee County.
 - D3 Extreme Drought: Now covers the northwestern counties and parts of northern Cherokee County.
 - D2 Severe Drought: Continues to expand across the area and includes Tuscaloosa, Birmingham and Gadsden.
 - D1 continues to expand across the area and now includes Selma, Montgomery and Alex City.
 - D0 is now only limited to areas near eastern Lee county.
- More dry weather is forecast this month
 - Some light to moderate showers will be possible between the 10th and 12th of November but overall dry conditions will continue.

U.S. Drought Monitor Birmingham, AL WFO

November 7, 2023
(Released Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:



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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National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 9 am CDT Nov 7, 2023.





Recent Change in Drought Intensity

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

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought Worsened: Over most of central Alabama and especially over the northern half.
 - No Change: Persistent drought has been more common in the southern locations.
 - Drought Improved: A slight area of improvement was noted in parts of Lee and Russell counties due to a heavy rain event in middle October.

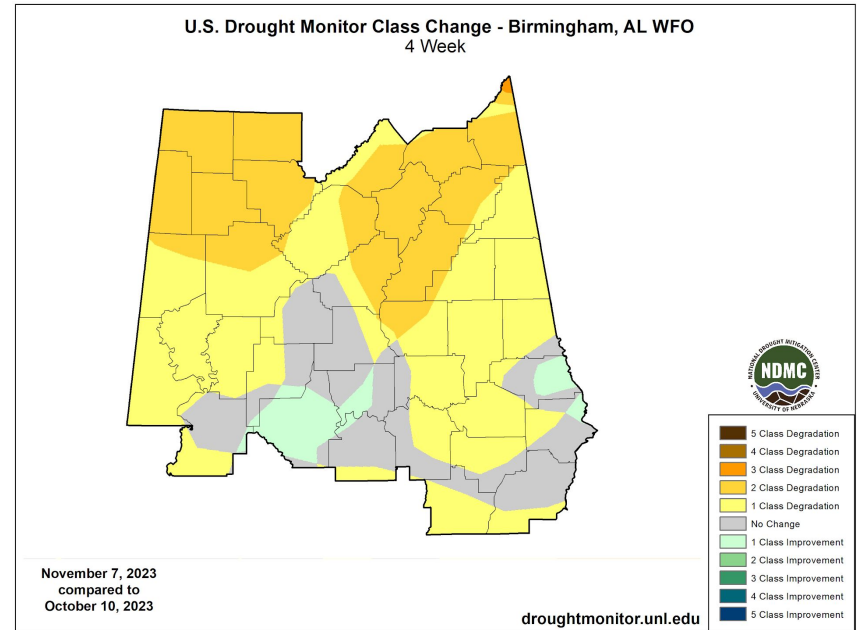


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 9 am CDT Nov 7, 2023





Precipitation

Last 30 days

- Isolated to scattered rains of generally less than 1" have fallen in the last 30 days.
- Much of the area is from 1 to 3 inches below normal over this period. The exception being near the I-85 locations where a heavy rainfall event occurred earlier in October.

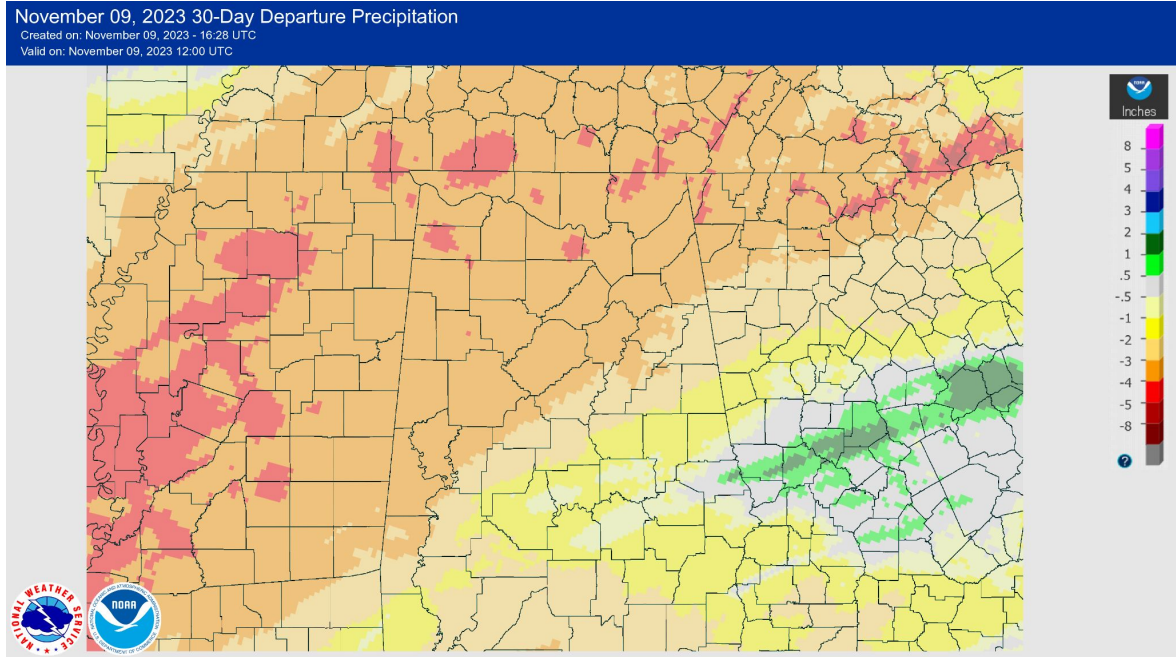


Image Captions:

Map - [Departure from normal map for Alabama](#)

Data Courtesy Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS)

Data over the past 30 days ending November 9, 2023



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Birmingham, AL



Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflows remain below to much below normal across most basins in the region, and have worsened over the past two weeks. See next slide for more details

Agricultural Impacts

- Please see the latest [Crop Report](#) from the USDA.
- Soil Moistures have continued to decrease over the past 14 days with much of the area showing below normal soil moisture. Crop moistures remain significantly dry.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Wildfire activity has continued to increase and above normal wildfire activity is expected to continue through the first half of November.
- See slides 8 and 9 for more details

Other Impacts

- None

Drought Mitigation Actions

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





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Wednesday, November 08, 2023

- Streamflows over the past 7 days show a mix of near normal to much below normal streamflows as waterways have not been replenished from rainfall over the past week.
- Click the link the right for a full map and legend to the image provided.

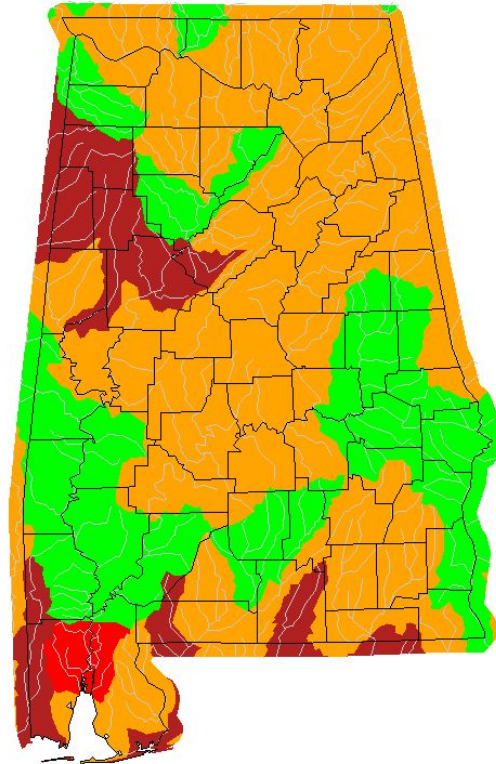


Figure Caption: [USGS 7 day streamflows for Alabama](#), valid Nov 8, 2023



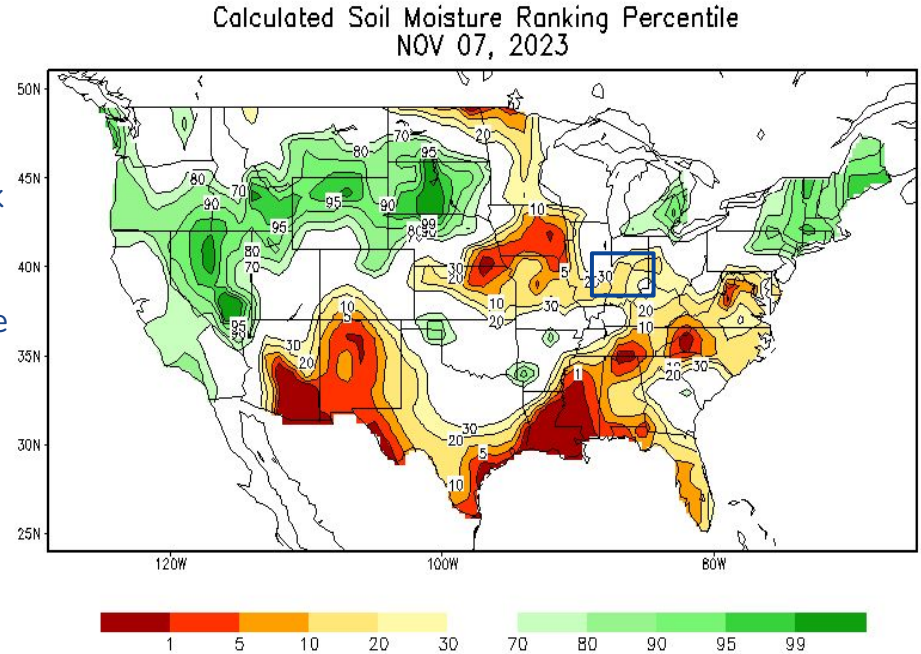


Agricultural Impacts

- Soil Moistures have continued to decrease over the past 14 days with much of the area showing below normal soil moisture. Thus far, the dry weather has prevented planting of winter crops. However, cotton, peanut and soybean harvest are ahead of averages.
- Cattle were reported to be in good to fair condition, while pastures were in poor to fair condition. The lack of rain and recent freezing temperatures have negatively affected the pastures.
- There were some reported fears of hay shortages due to the lack of a third harvest of hay due to the dry weather.

Image Captions:

Right: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid November 7 , 2023





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- [Keetch Byram Drought Index values](#) have increased above 500 across the entire area, and most of the area is greater than 600+ across over much of the area.
- Above normal wildland fire activity has been observed over the past several weeks, and outlooks suggest this will continue into December.

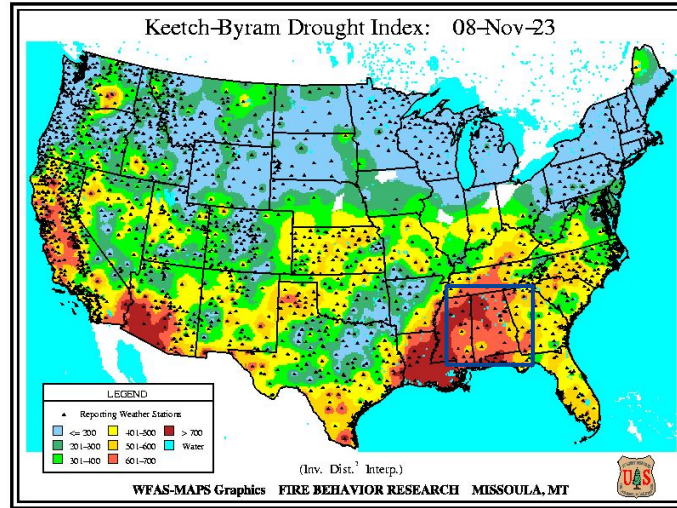


Image caption: National KBDI image

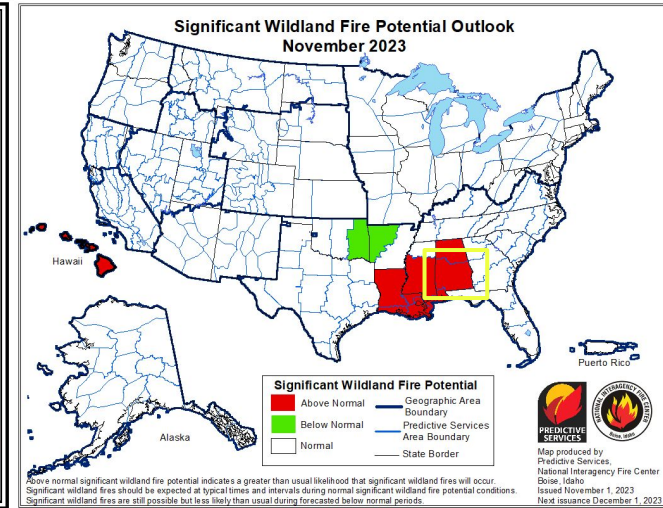


Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook](#) for November 2023





Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Alabama Forestry Commission](#)

- In response to the current drought conditions, Governor Kay Ivey has issued a statewide ‘No burn order’.
- Click the link above for more information.

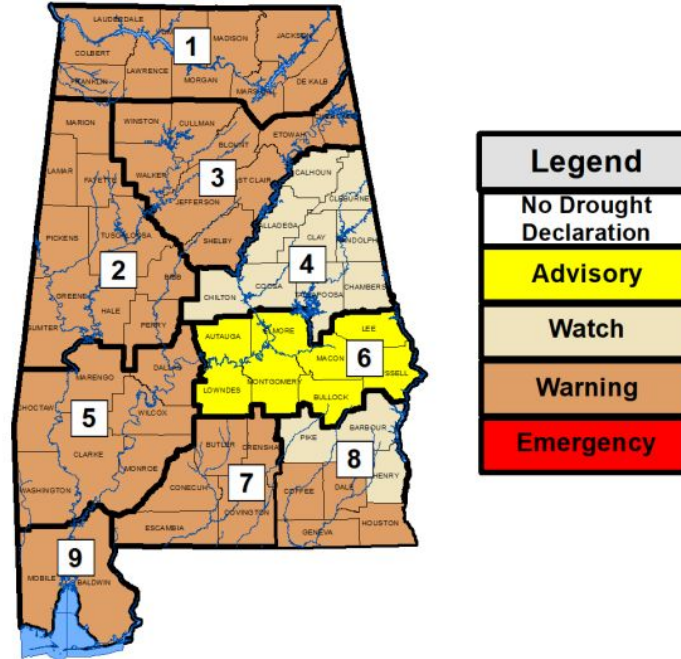


Image caption: [Alabama drought declaration map image](#)





Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Some widespread light to moderate showers will be possible between November 10th through 12th.

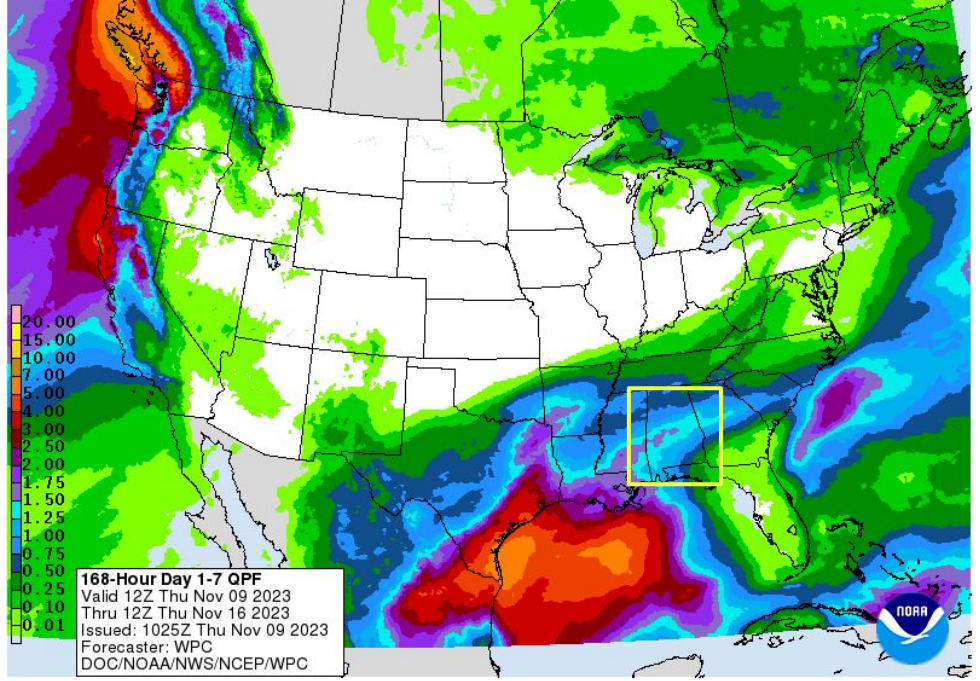


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Thursday Nov 9th to Thursday Nov 18th.



Long-Range Outlooks

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

- Above normal temperatures are likely to continue on average through the month of November.
- A change in the overall weather pattern is expected later this fall. However, the timing of this change is still uncertain. When this happens, it should bring an increased chance of precipitation to the area.

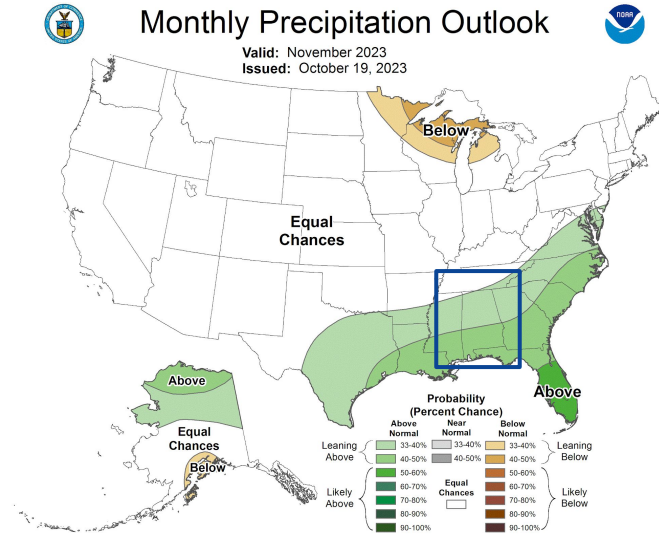
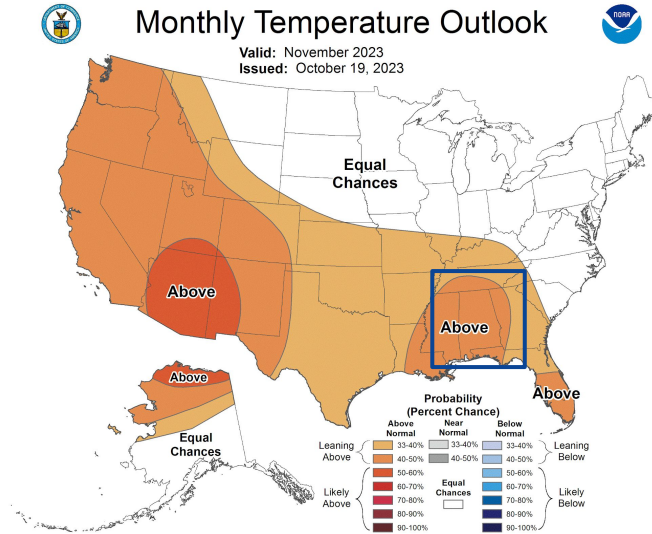


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#),

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#),

Valid November 2023





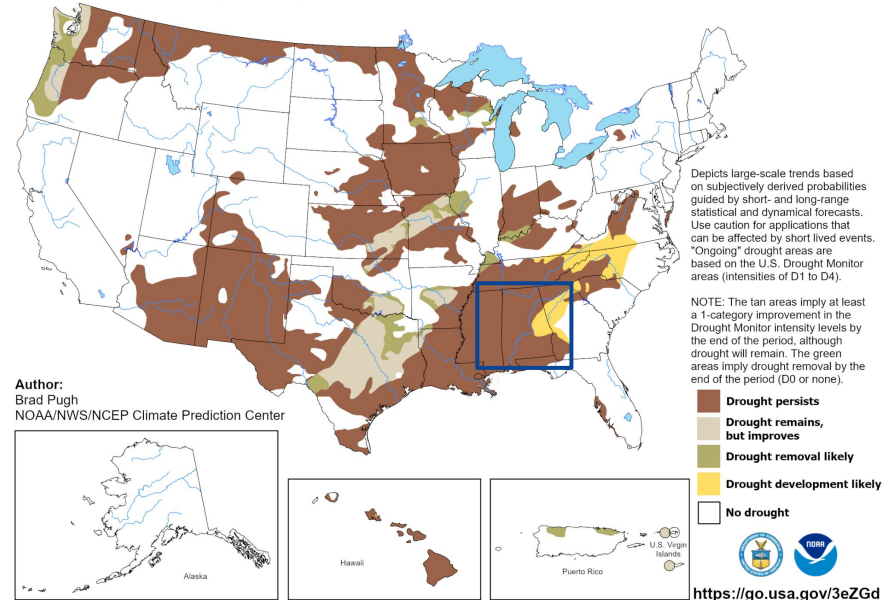
Drought Outlook

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

- Drought will persist throughout all of Alabama for the next several weeks.
- Drought impacts are expected to worsen as long as the current weather pattern holds.

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

Valid for November 2023
Released October 31, 2023



Links to the latest:

- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook Released October 30, 2023 valid for November 2023

