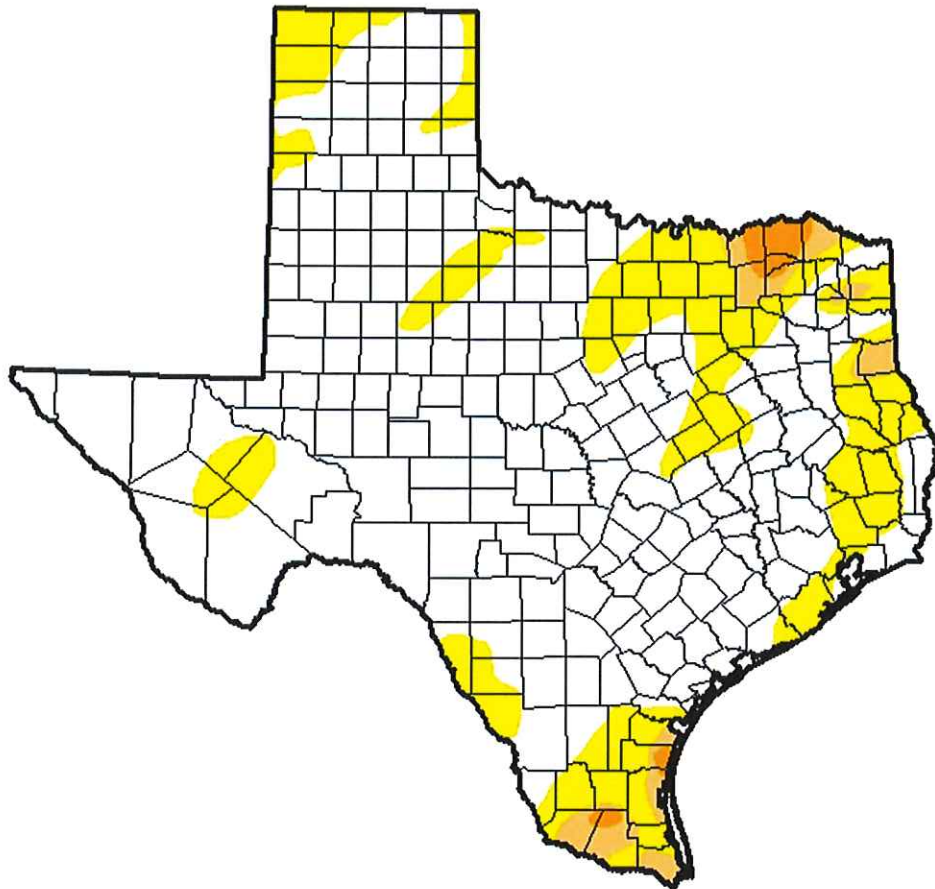


# U.S. Drought Monitor Texas

**February 28, 2017**  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 2, 2017)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	75.50	24.50	3.93	1.01	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 2/21/2017	91.57	8.43	2.07	0.82	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 11/29/2016	66.37	33.63	14.18	3.27	0.08	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 1/3/2017	81.50	18.50	6.29	1.97	0.04	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 9/27/2016	94.83	5.17	0.62	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 3/1/2016	75.35	24.65	1.09	0.00	0.00	0.00

***Intensity:***

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

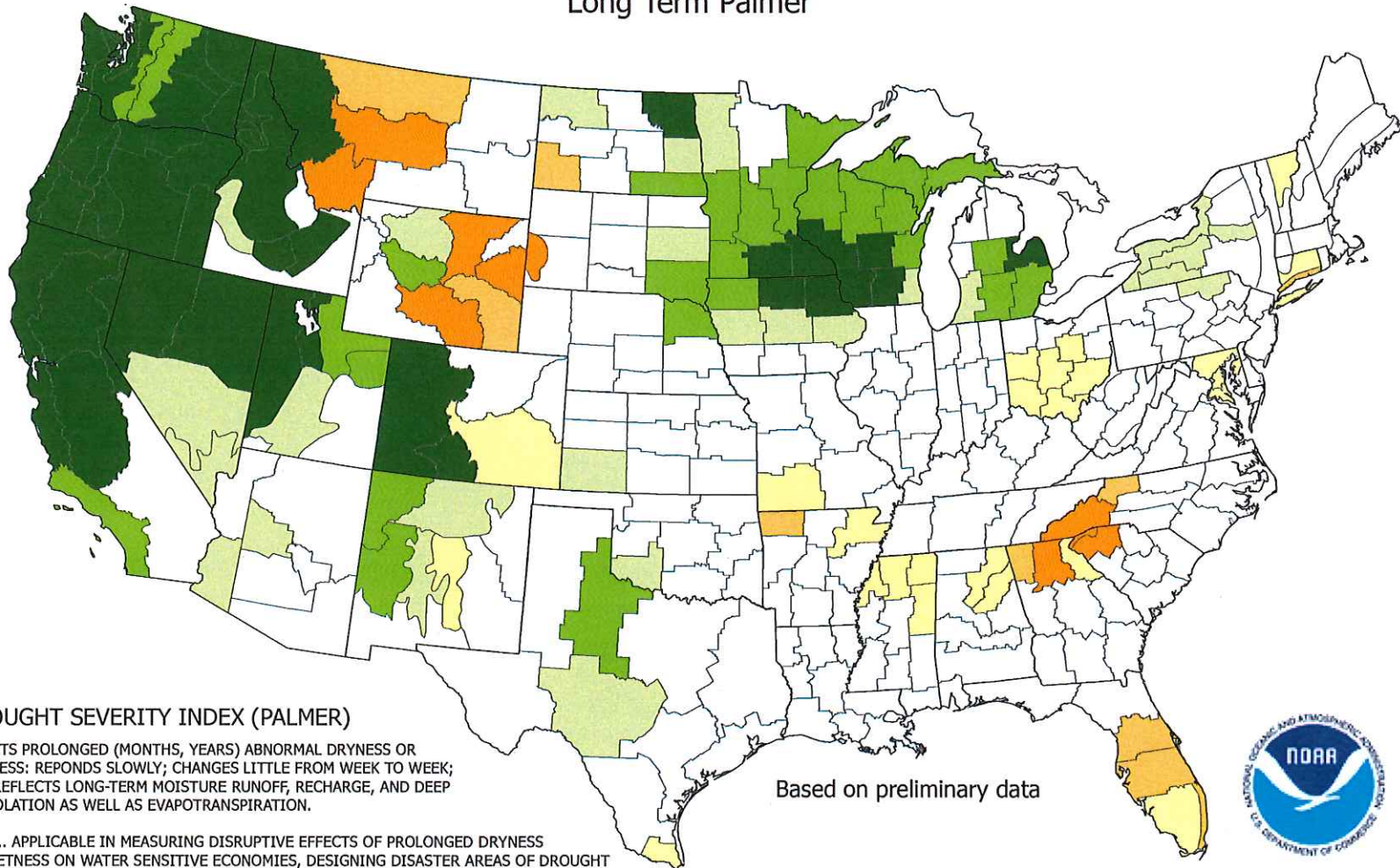
*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.*

**Author:**  
Richard Heim  
NCEI/NOAA



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

Drought Severity Index by Division  
 Weekly Value for Period Ending Feb 25, 2017  
 Long Term Palmer



Based on preliminary data



**DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX (PALMER)**

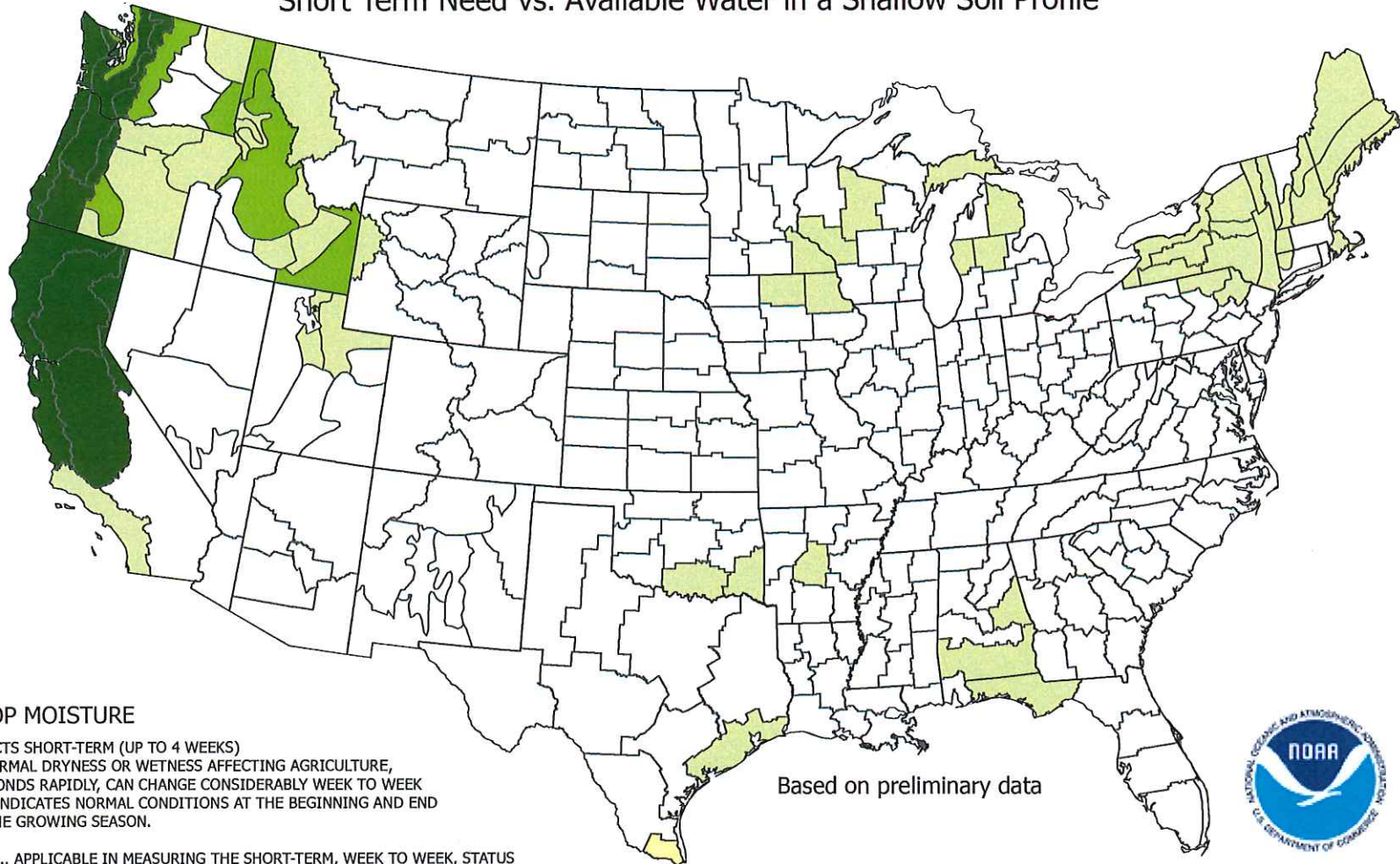
DEPICTS PROLONGED (MONTHS, YEARS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS; REponds SLOWLY; CHANGES LITTLE FROM WEEK TO WEEK; AND REFLECTS LONG-TERM MOISTURE RUNOFF, RECHARGE, AND DEEP PERCOLATION AS WELL AS EVAPOTRANSPIRATION.

USES... APPLICABLE IN MEASURING DISRUPTIVE EFFECTS OF PROLONGED DRYNESS OR WETNESS ON WATER SENSITIVE ECONOMIES, DESIGNING DISASTER AREAS OF DROUGHT OR WETNESS; AND REFLECTING THE GENERAL LONG-TERM STATUS OF WATER SUPPLIES IN AQUIFERS, RESERVOIRS AND STREAMS.

LIMITATIONS... IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OFFSHORT-TERM (FEW WEEKS) STATUS OF DROUGHT OR WETNESS SUCH AS FREQUENTLY AFFECTS CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS (THIS IS INDICATED BY THE CROP MOISTURE INDEX).

- |                                   |                                      |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ■ -4.0 or less (Extreme Drought)  | ■ +2.0 to +2.9 (Unusual Moist Spell) |
| ■ -3.0 to -3.9 (Severe Drought)   | ■ +3.0 to +3.9 (Very Moist Spell)    |
| ■ -2.0 to -2.9 (Moderate Drought) | ■ +4.0 and above (Extremely Moist)   |
| ■ --1.9 to +1.9 (Near Normal)     |                                      |

Crop Moisture Index by Division  
 Weekly Value for Period Ending Feb 25, 2017  
 Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile



**CROP MOISTURE**

DEPICTS SHORT-TERM (UP TO 4 WEEKS) ABNORMAL DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING AGRICULTURE, RESPONDS RAPIDLY, CAN CHANGE CONSIDERABLY WEEK TO WEEK AND INDICATES NORMAL CONDITIONS AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE GROWING SEASON.

USES... APPLICABLE IN MEASURING THE SHORT-TERM, WEEK TO WEEK, STATUS OF DRYNESS OR WETNESS AFFECTING WARM SEASON CROPS AND FIELD OPERATIONS

LIMITATIONS... MAY NOT BE APPLICABLE TO GERMINATING AND SHALLOW ROOTED CROPS WHICH ARE UNABLE TO EXTRACT THE DEEP OR SUBSOIL MOISTURE FROM A SHALLOW SOIL PROFILE, OR FOR COOL SEASON CROPS GROWING WHEN TEMPERATURES ARE AVERAGING BELOW ABOUT 55F. IT IS NOT GENERALLY INDICATIVE OF THE LONG-TERM (MONTHS, YEARS) DROUGHT OR WET SPELLS WHICH ARE DEPICTED BY THE DROUGHT SEVERITY INDEX.

Based on preliminary data

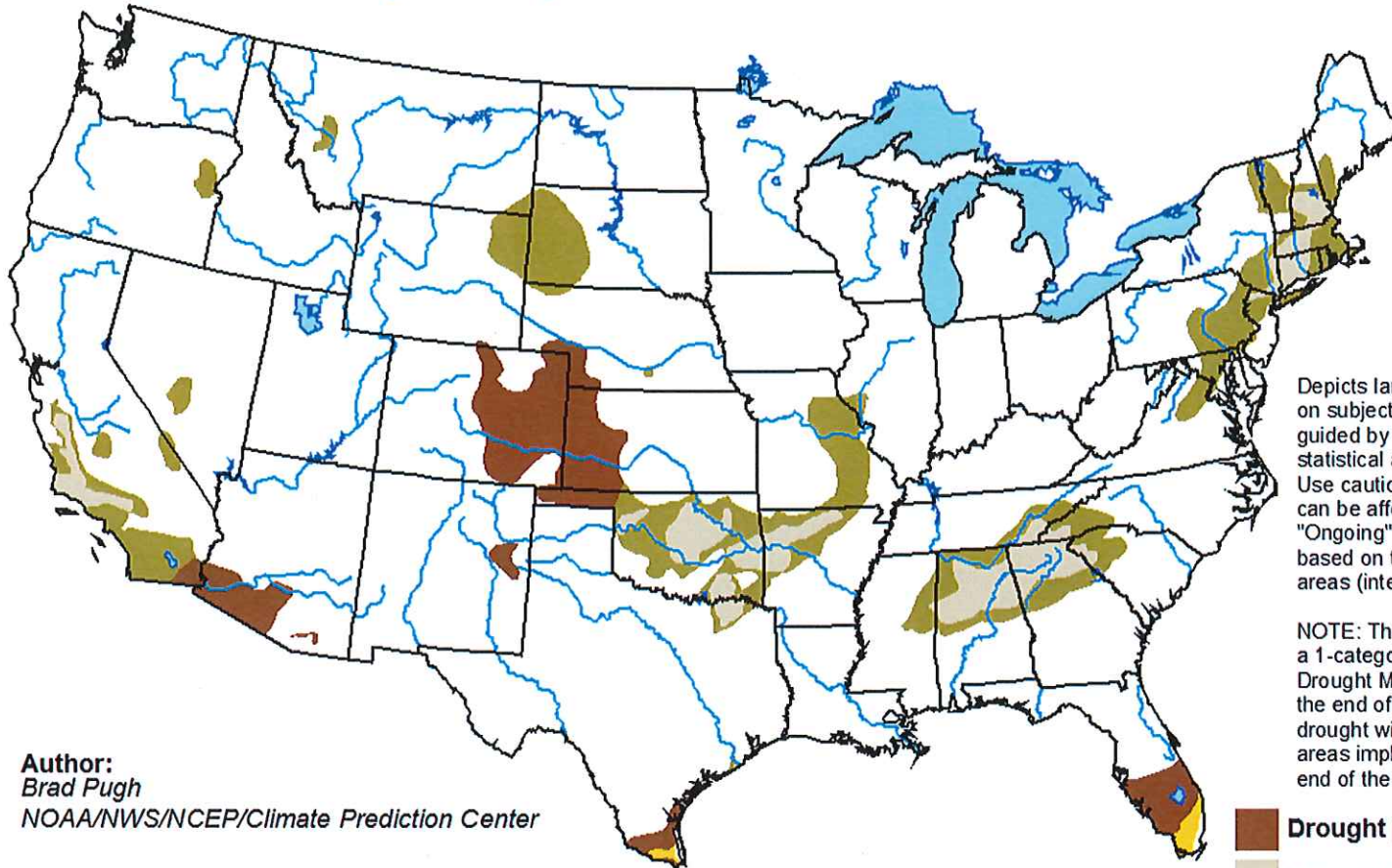


- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #f4a460; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> -3.0 or less (Severely Dry)</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #fde08c; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> -2.0 to -2.9 (Excessively Dry)</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ffffb3; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> -1.0 to -1.9 (Abnormally Dry)</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ffffff; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> -0.9 to +0.9 (Slightly Dry/Favorably Moist)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #c7e9c0; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> +1.0 to +1.9 (Abnormally Moist)</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #41ab5d; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> +2.0 to +3.0 (Wet)</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #006400; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> 3.0 and above (Excessively Wet)</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period





Valid for February 16 - May 31, 2017  
Released February 16, 2017

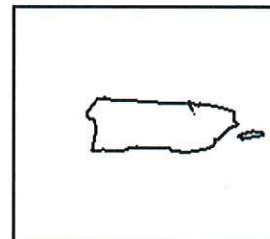
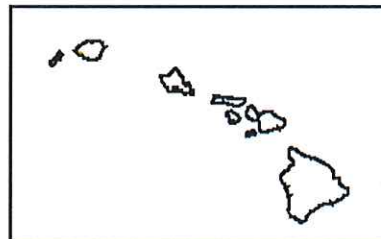


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to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

Author:  
Brad Pugh  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



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