



DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS COUNCIL

RICK PERRY
Governor

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W. NIM KIDD
Council Chairperson

July 18, 2013

TO: The Honorable Rick Perry, Governor, State of Texas
The Honorable David Dewhurst, Lieutenant Governor, State of Texas
Mr. John Steen, Secretary of State, State of Texas
The Honorable Leticia R. Van de Putte, President Pro-Tempore of the Senate, State of Texas
The Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, State of Texas
The Honorable Tommy Williams, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee, State of Texas
The Honorable Troy Fraser, Chairman, Senate Natural Resources Committee, State of Texas
The Honorable Craig Estes, Chairman, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Rural Affairs & Homeland Security, State of Texas
The Honorable Joseph Pickett, Chairman, House Committee on Homeland Security & Public Safety, State of Texas
The Honorable Jim Pitts, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee, State of Texas
The Honorable Allan Ritter, Chairman, House Natural Resources Committee, State of Texas
The Honorable Tracy O. King, Chairman, House Agriculture & Livestock Committee, State of Texas
The Honorable Abel Herrero, Chairman, House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, State of Texas
Mr. Jeff Boyd, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
Mr. Steven McCraw, Director, Texas Department of Public Safety

FROM: Assistant Director Nim Kidd, Texas Division of Emergency Management

SUBJECT: Statewide Drought Situation Report

Nim Kidd, Chairman
Texas Division of Emergency Mgmt

Brenner Brown, Member
Texas Water Development Board

Richard Egg, Member
State Soil & Water Conservation Board

Lance Williams, Member
Texas Department of Agriculture

Dr. Travis Miller, Member
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

David Bradsby, Member
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Gilbert Jordan, Member
Texas Department of Transportation

David A. Van Dresar, Member
Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts

Shannon Smalls, Member
Texas Department of State Health Services

Chris Loft, Member
Texas Commission on Environmental
Quality

Tad Curtis, Member
Office of the Governor
Economic Development & Tourism

Dr. John W. Nielsen-Gammon, Member
Office of the State Climatologist

Michael Dunivan, Member
Texas Forest Service

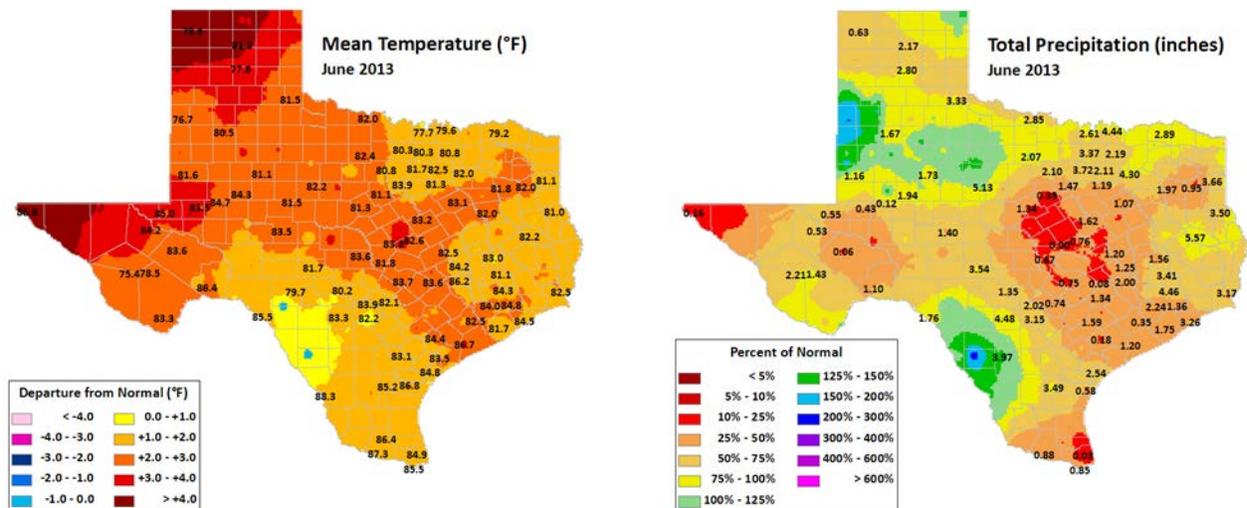
Marisa Callan, Member
Texas Department of Housing and
Community Affairs

1. Next Council Meeting

August 8, 2013 at 2:00pm

2. General Conditions

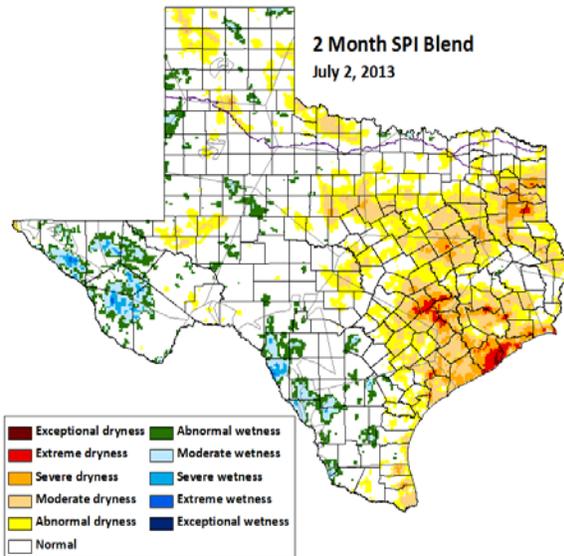
June was warmer than normal across all of Texas and most of the state saw below normal precipitation; only the extreme northeast Panhandle, southern High Plains, and Southwest Texas saw near to above normal precipitation. The preliminary estimate for statewide precipitation is 2.09 inches, almost a full inch below the long-term June average of 2.98 inches. After a couple of frontal boundaries pushed from north to south through the state in early June, most of the remainder of monthly precipitation resulted from typical, summertime convective thunderstorms. A notable exception was an upper-level disturbance during the middle of the month that brought several inches of rain to the Maverick and Dimmit counties, including radar estimates of over 10 inches of near Eagle Pass.



Objective short-term drought indicators show a lack of drought throughout most of the western half of Texas due to some beneficial rainfall events over the past few months. The eastern half of the state had pockets that picked up more than 3 inches of rainfall in June but most areas were drier than normal in both May and June. This is significant since normal rainfall in East Texas drops off and temperatures get warmer in July and August.

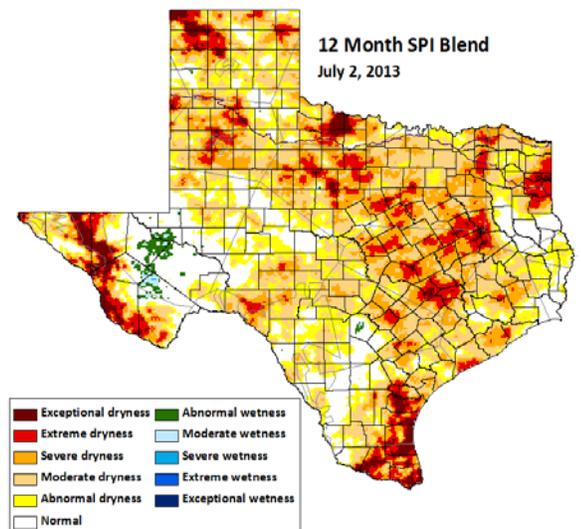
Longer-term drought is more severe and widespread and the generally dry conditions and hot temperatures in June were not good for the health of the state's reservoirs.

The monitored Texas water supply reservoirs are currently only 64.2 percent full, which is a 2.2 percent decrease from just a month earlier, with most of the large-scale evaporation occurring in the second half of the month. The warmth reached a climax on the 28th and 29th, when several cities in the eastern half of the state set all-time records for warmest temperature. This included Fort Worth (106), Houston (107), San Antonio (108), and Victoria (109). To illustrate the dire condition of the state's reservoirs, the current storage is nearly 5% lower than the historical minimum for this time of year and 10% lower than it was two years ago during the historic 2011 drought.



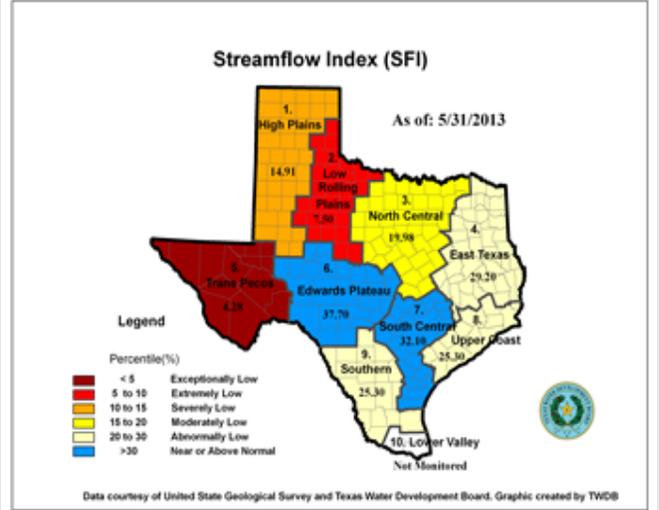
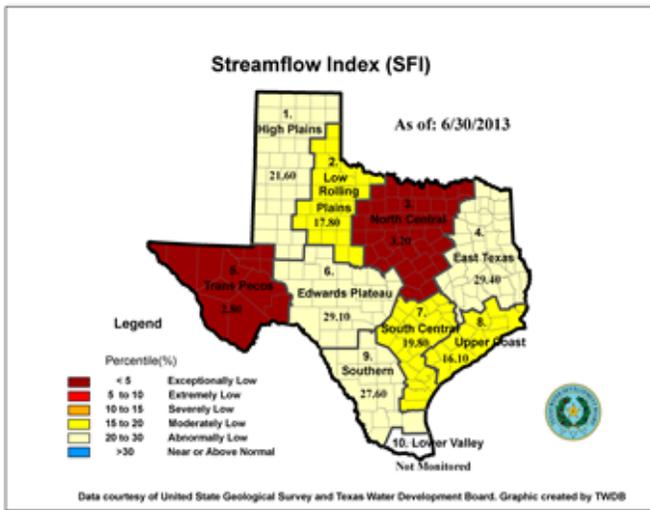
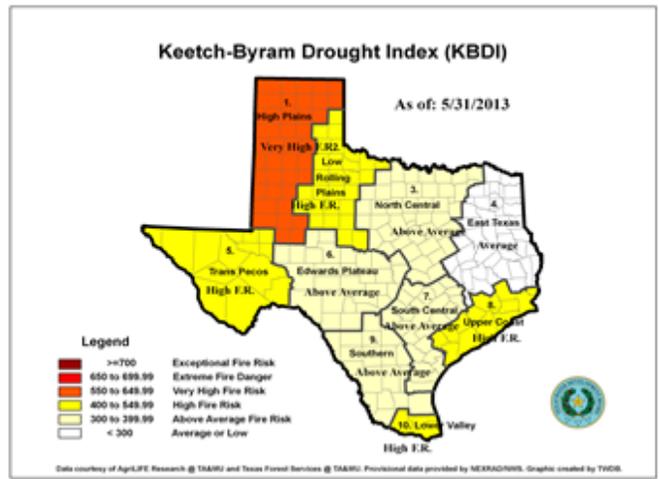
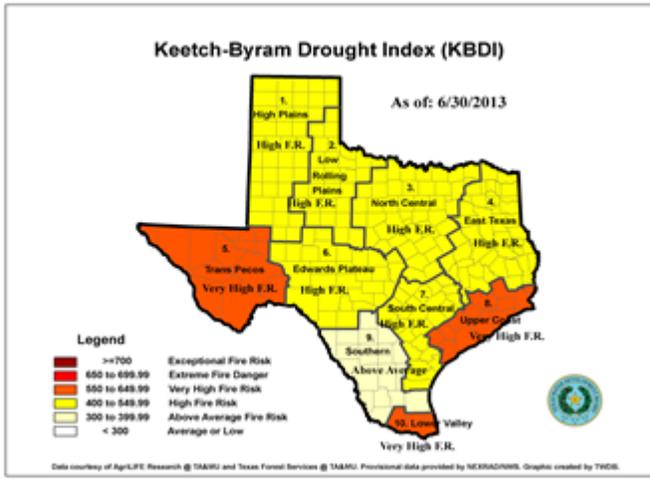
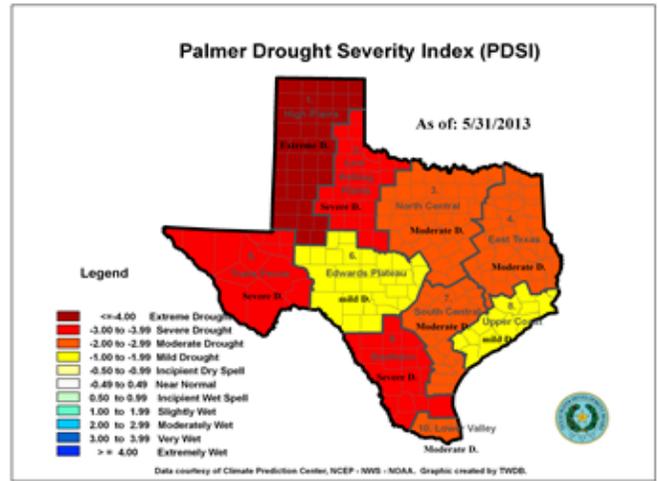
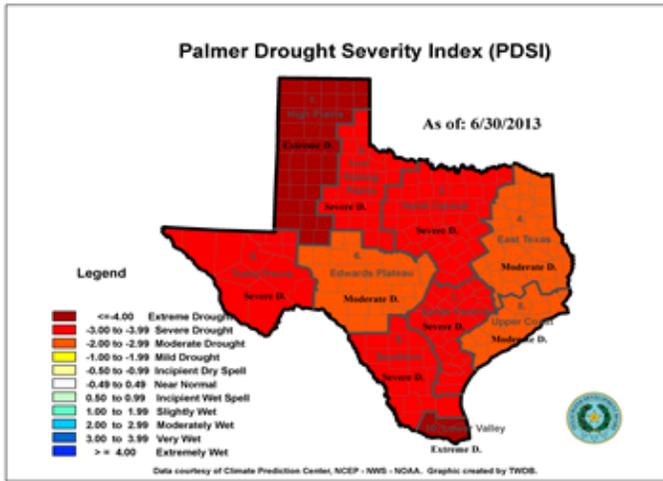
Reservoir storage is particularly poor in the western half of the state, which is discouraging in some regions such as the Edwards Plateau considering precipitation has been generally near to above normal over the past few months. For example, O. H. Ivie Reservoir about 50 miles east of San Angelo has dropped from 22.8 percent capacity 6 months ago to 17.5 percent despite generally above normal precipitation in the region. Soil moisture conditions and the health of vegetation across most of the state is similarly poor, though heavy rainfall did boost soil moisture levels in Southwest Texas.

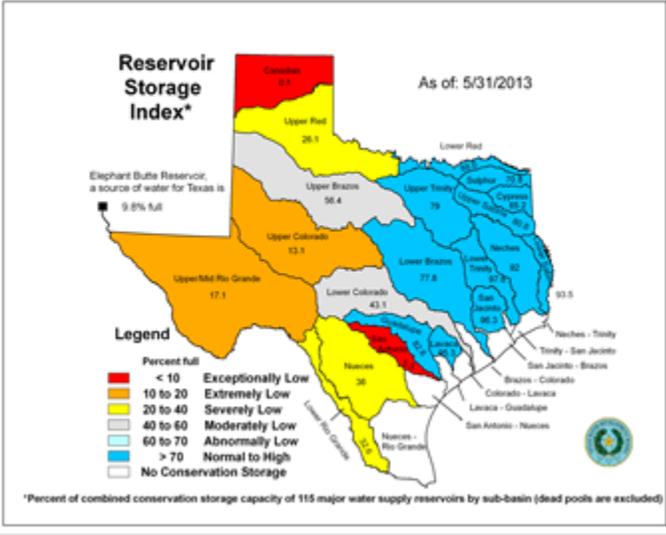
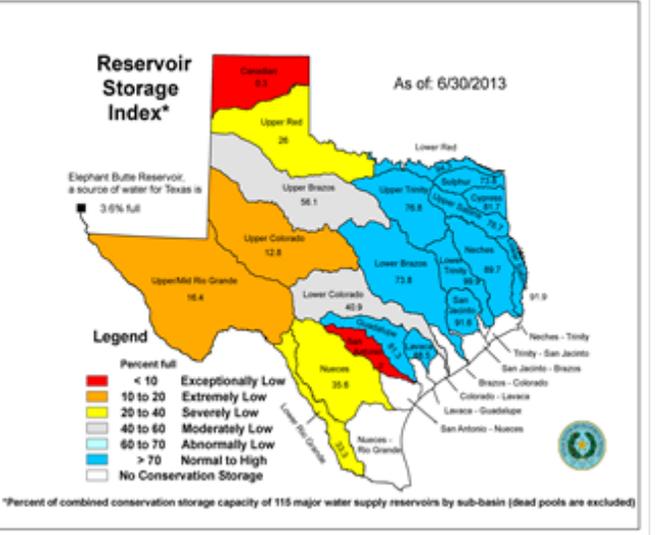
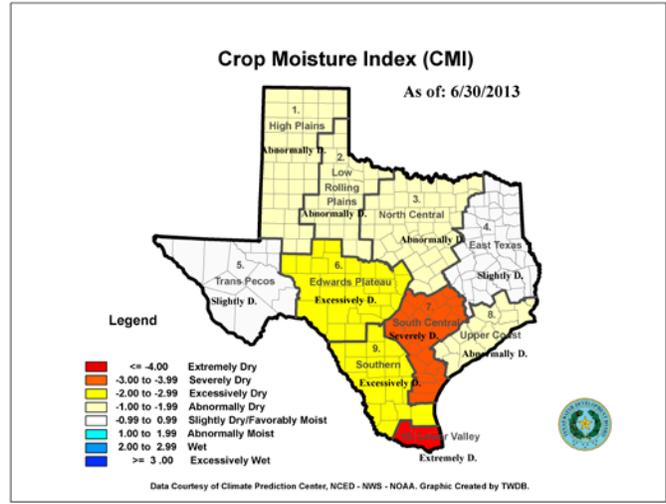
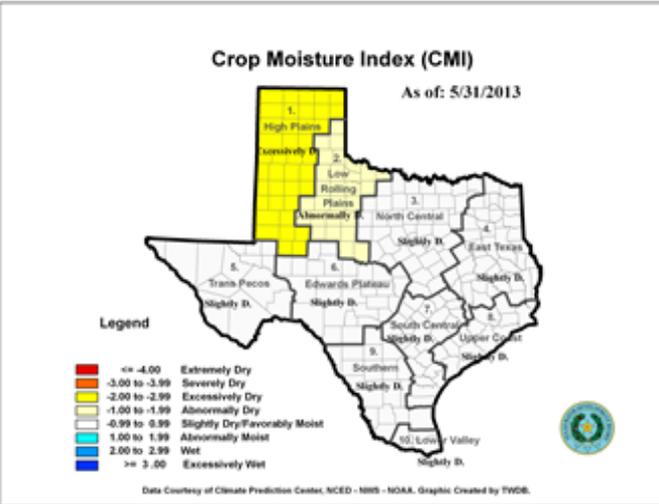
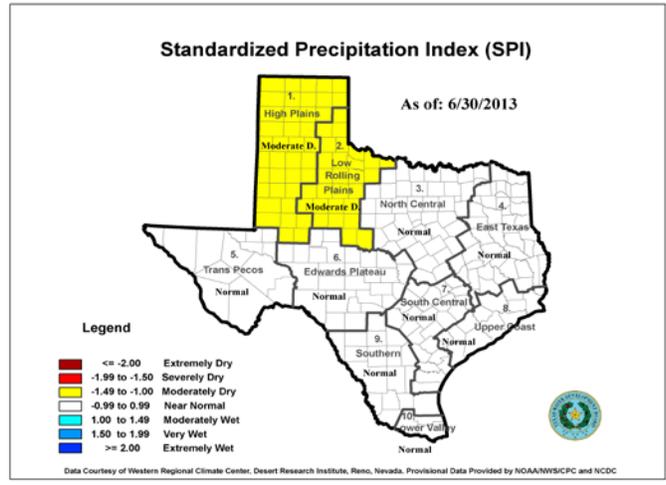
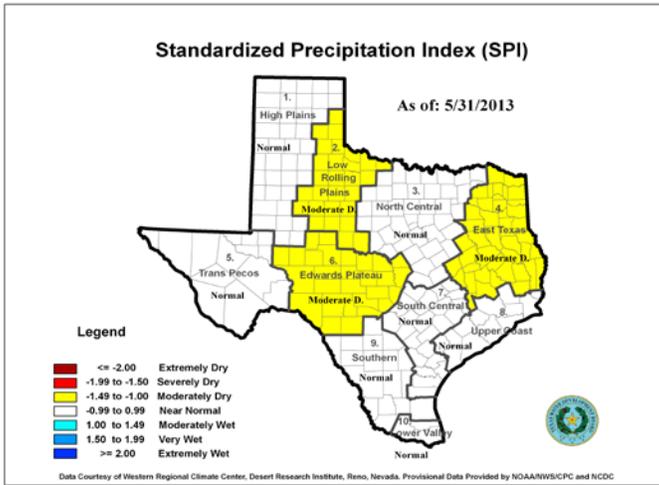
The temperature and precipitation outlooks for the summer of 2013 are pessimistic for the Texas, and in particular the western half of the state. The temperature outlook shows a greater than equal chance for above-normal temperatures for the entire state, part of a larger trend in the western U.S., with the probability greater than 50 percent in western Texas. The precipitation outlook shows that the western half of the state is expected to see below average precipitation through the end of September, with equal chances of above, near, and below normal precipitation in the eastern half of the state. However, a bit of optimism exists in the Trans Pecos and Panhandle, which are forecasted to receive above normal rainfall in July thanks to an expected active monsoon during the month.



Statewide Drought Conditions Update

1. Selected Drought Index Maps





2. Drought Status Summary

Texas is in drought now as indicated by the Palmer Drought Severity Index.

Drought Index	Number of Regions In Drought Category					
	High Drought		Lower Drought			Not in Drought
	Exceptional Dry / Drought ----- Exceptional High Fire Risk	Extreme Dry / Drought Extreme High Fire Risk	Severe Dry / Drought Very High Fire Risk	Moderate or Excessive Dry / Drought High Fire Risk	Abnormal or Mild Dry / Drought Above Average Fire Risk	Near or Above Normal Condition
PDSI (10)	N/A	2	5	3	0	0
SFI (9)	2	0	0	3	4	0
SPI (10)	N/A	0	0	2	0	8
CMI (10)	N/A	1	1	2	4	2
KBDI (10)	0	0	3	6	1	0
Number of River Basins / Sub-Basins In Drought Category						
RSI (21)	2	2	3	2	0	12

3. Drought Index Data

Region ID	Region Name	Crop Moisture Index	Palmer Drought Severity Index	Standardized Precipitation Index	Keetch-Byram Drought Index	Reservoir Storage Index	Streamflow Index
1	High Plains	-2.98	-4.77	-1.37	512.00	0.83	22.89
2	Low Rolling Plains	-2.78	-3.91	-1.43	448.00	24.06	18.34
3	North Central	-2.44	-3.33	-0.63	493.00	74.88	2.84
4	East Texas	-1.31	-2.72	-0.70	491.00	90.76	29.23
5	Trans Pecos	-1.81	-3.54	-0.47	580.00	13.47	3.04
6	Edwards Plateau	-3.49	-2.99	-0.57	439.00	30.3	28.37
7	South Central	-4.60	-3.63	-0.59	459.00	45.11	19.84
8	Upper Coast	-2.63	-2.74	-0.01	589.00	93.94	16.90
9	Southern	-3.77	-4.11	-0.01	327.00	31.27	28.65
10	Lower Valley	-4.95	-4.22	-0.75	614.00	No Res	No Data

The comparison of index values with last month is summarized below:

Drought Index	Index Value Improved in # Regions (Bold in table above)	Index Value Deteriorated in # Regions (Italic in table above)	Index Value Unchanged in # Regions
PDSI (10)	0	10	0
SFI (9)	3	5	1
SPI (10)	4	6	0
CMI (10)	0	10	0
KBDI (10)	3	7	0
RSI (21)	5	16	0

4. Reservoir Storage Condition

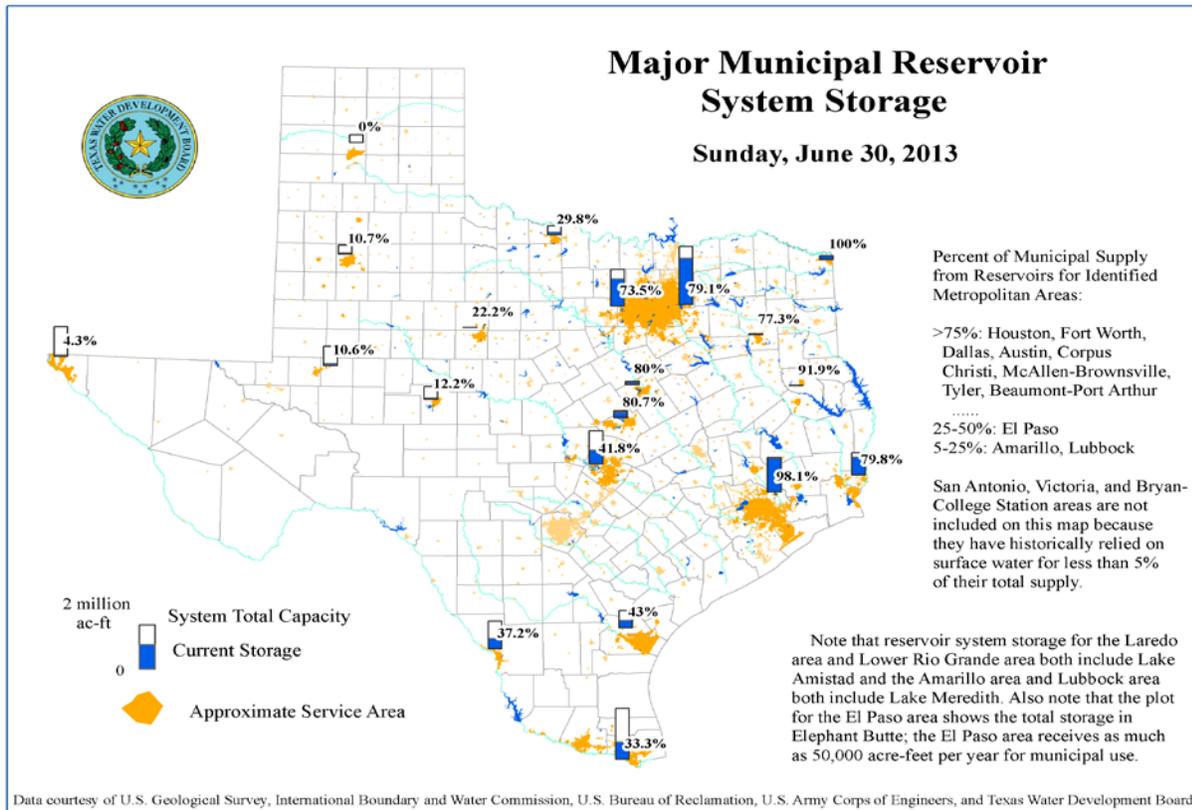
Water storage conditions are summarized below by river basins for the 115 of Texas major reservoirs at the end of the month:

The statewide combined storage was 66% full, 314,788 acre-feet less than a month ago. By river basins, storage was lower than normal in 9 basin or sub-basins but Near or Above Normal in all other 12 basin or sub-basins.

- Exceptionally low in Canadian River basin and San Antonio sub-basins,
- Extremely low in Upper Colorado and Upper-Mid Rio Grande sub-basin basins,
- Severely low in Upper Red River, Lower Rio Grande sub-basins and Nueces river basin,
- Moderately low in Upper Brazos and Lower Colorado sub-basins,
- Near or Above Normal in all other 12 basin or sub-basins.

Elephant Butte Reservoir was 4% full by the month's end, down from 10% last month.

Reservoir Status for Major Metropolitan Centers



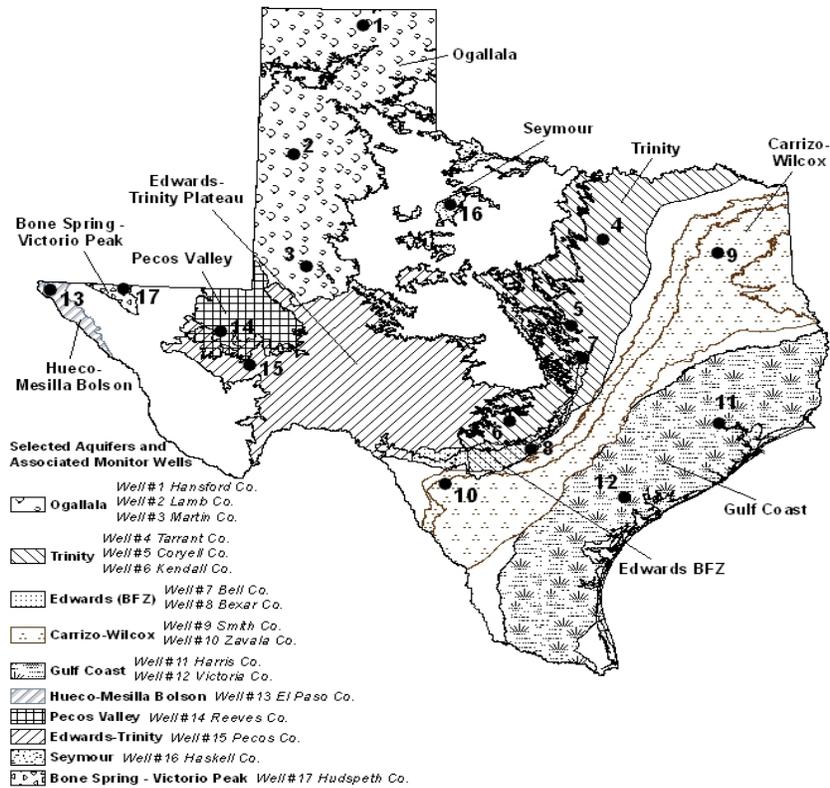
5. Groundwater Conditions

- Water level measurements were available from all 17 key monitoring wells in the state.
- Water levels rose in four of the monitoring wells since the beginning of June, ranging from 0.27 feet in the Haskell County Seymour Aquifer well (well #16) to 0.78 feet in the Dallas County Trinity Aquifer well (well #4).
- Water levels declined in thirteen monitoring wells, ranging from 0.02 feet in the Hansford County Ogallala Aquifer well (well #1) to 15.09 feet in the Kendall County Trinity Aquifer well (well #6).
- The J-17 well in San Antonio recorded a water level of 86.86 feet below land surface or 644.14 feet above mean sea level. This water level is 5.86 feet below the Stage II critical management level in that segment of the Edwards Aquifer. Stage II restrictions were declared by the EAA when the ten-day average fell below the 650-foot elevation, or 81 feet below land surface.

Monitoring Well	June	May	Month change	Year change	Historical change
(1) Hansford 0354301	154	153.98	-0.02	-0.28	-83.88
(2) Lamb 1053602	143.5	143.31	-0.19	-2.33	-115.35
(3) Martin 2739903	141.95	141.73	-0.22	-1.43	-37.06
(4) Dallas 3319101	488.05	488.83	0.78	-2.39	-266.05
(5) Coryell 4035404	503.6	501.42	-2.18	-3.39	-211.6
(6) Kendall 6802609	146.51	131.42	-15.09	-9.61	-86.51
(7) Bell 5804816	129.01	126.67	-2.34	-4.01	-5.88
(8) Bexar 6837203	86.86	74.8	-12.06	0.5	-40.22
(9) Smith 3430907	438.66	437.41	-1.25	-3.03	-72.66
(10) La Salle 7738103	477.1	468.82	-8.28	-66.78	-224.03
(11) Harris 6514409	192.83	193.11	0.28	7.66	-57.33
(12) Victoria 8017502	34.89	34.45	-0.44	1.75	-0.89
(13) El Paso 4913301	293.85	294.25	0.4	-1.61	-61.95

(14) Reeves 4644501	156.79	154.52	-2.27	-4.67	-64.7
(15) Pecos 5216802	227.27	214.02	-13.25	2.59	19.61
(16) Haskell 2135748	47.9	48.17	0.27	-1.08	-6.57
(17) Hudspeth 4807516	147.45	145.04	-2.41	0.37	-43.53

Groundwater Observation Wells Location Map



6. Water Utility Status

Overall, there are 974 water systems that are asking their customers to restrict water use, compared with 956 a month ago. Of these systems, 659 are asking customers to follow a mandatory watering schedule and 315 are asking customers to follow a voluntary watering schedule. There are currently 37 public water systems that have prohibited all outside watering by their customers. A total of 1,328 water systems have reported to the TCEQ regarding their status using the online form on the TCEQ public website. Recent rains in parts of the state have allowed some water systems to relax their water use restrictions. The seasonal forecasts show ongoing drought areas will continue to persist and intensify while improvements are likely in eastern portions of the state.

7. Water Rights – Statewide

New temporary water use permit applications are being reviewed on a site-specific basis and issued if there is sufficient surplus water at the requested source. The number of applications for new water use permits and amendments to existing permits was normal for the month.

The availability of unappropriated water for new water use permits continues to decrease in all river basins in the state, and the search for long-term, dependable alternate sources of water remains a high priority issue.

TCEQ received water rights priority calls from gulf coast water authority on June 21st and from Dow chemical company on June 26th. TCEQ is currently evaluating the appropriate response to these priority calls.

8. Water Rights – Lower Rio Grande / Rio Grande Watermaster (RGWM)

Current Conditions: On June 22, 2013, the U.S. combined ownership at Amistad/Falcon stood at 33.72% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 1,143,912 acre-feet, down from 52.08% (1,766,537 AF) of normal conservation a year ago at this time. Overall the system is holding 25.19% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 1,491,706 acre-feet with Amistad at 25.25% of conservation capacity, impounding 826,924 acre-feet and Falcon at 25.12% of conservation capacity, impounding 664,782 acre-feet. Mexico has 13.74% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 347,795 acre-feet at Amistad/Falcon.

Allocations: As of printing of the June, 2013 ownership report, we have allocated 120,201.4741 acre-feet to Class A & B water rights this year, which include irrigation, mining and recreation.

Storage & Loss Amistad vs. Falcon: The U.S. is currently storing approximately 682 thousand acre-feet at Amistad (37.1%); and approximately 461 thousand acre-feet (29.7%) of normal conservation capacity at Falcon.

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Evaporation and seepage losses at Amistad, as of June 22, 2013, are 83,638 acre-feet. For the same period, the U.S. has lost 85,207 acre-feet at Falcon.

Releases to meet demands In 2013, (through June 22, 2013), Mexico has released 486,070 acre-feet from Amistad and 705,529 acre-feet from Falcon Mexico needs. The U.S. has released 541,663 acre-feet from Falcon and 477,144 acre-feet from Amistad for U.S. needs. Combined with gains between Amistad and Falcon, U.S. inflows to Falcon have totaled 568,634 acre-feet. The U.S. demand in the lower Rio Grande has been met at a rate of 105% by direct Rio Grande inflows and Amistad releases this year.

Upper Rio Grande (New Mexico): Currently, Elephant Butte in New Mexico is currently storing 92,421 (4.57%) acre feet and Caballo Dam in New Mexico, downstream of Elephant Butte is storing 21,078 (9.29%) acre-feet. This water storage in part is used to meet water needs in the El Paso area.

Outlook: 41% of all accounts began 2013 at 0% water available, 17% of all accounts began 2013 with 0-50% of their usable balance and 42% of all accounts began 2013 with 50-100% of their usable balance available. The National Weather Service continues to report that moderate to extreme drought conditions are affecting much of Rio Grande Basin counties.

8. River Basin Reports

Stream flow conditions vary widely across the state. When considering drought conditions, United State Geological Survey (USGS) streamflow data are commonly used as a metric for comparison. This report uses monthly mean river flows in cubic feet per second (cfs) to represent average monthly conditions within each river basin. The historical median flow value for the month (the discharge which is equaled or exceeded 50% of the time) is used to prevent the inclusion of high flow values that would skew the data.

Red River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	June Mean (cfs)	June Historical Median (cfs)
Red River near Burkburnett	281	360
Red River near De Kalb	9,823	5,230

Drought Condition: As of June 25, 88% of the Red River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 11% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Sulphur River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	June mean (cfs)	June Historical median (cfs)
Sulphur River near Talco	254	31

Drought Conditions: As of June 25, 1% of the Sulphur River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Cypress Creek Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	June Mean (cfs)	June Historical Median (cfs)
Little Cypress Creek near Jefferson	20	88

Drought Conditions: As of June 25, 46% of the Cypress Creek Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Sabine River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	June Mean (cfs)	June Historical Median (cfs)
Sabine River near Beckville	134	707
Sabine River near Ruliff	2,237	4,135

Drought Conditions: As of June 25, 42% of the Sabine River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Neches River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	June mean (cfs)	June historical median (cfs)
Angelina River near Alto	88	161
Neches River at Evadale	2,434	3,135

Drought Conditions: As of June 25, 31% of the Neches River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Trinity River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	June mean (cfs)	June historical median (cfs)
Trinity River at Dallas	779	422
Trinity River near Oakwood	1,594	1,610
Trinity River at RoJuneor	2,889	2,830

Drought Conditions: As of June 25, 87% of the Trinity River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Brazos River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	June Mean (cfs)	June Historical Median (cfs)
Double Mountain Fork Brazos River near Aspermont	21	7
Brazos River near Glen Rose	23	438
Little River at Cameron	84	714
Navasota near Easterly	8	20
Brazos near Hempstead	700	3,265
Brazos near Rosharon	282	2,460

Conditions: As of June 25, 99% of the Brazos River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 35% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions

Drought Restrictions: TCEQ received water rights priority calls from Gulf Coast Water Authority on June 21st and from Dow Chemical Company on June 26th. TCEQ is currently evaluating the appropriate response to these priority calls.

Colorado River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	June Mean (cfs)	June Historical Median (cfs)
Colorado River at Ballinger	26	15
San Saba River at San Saba	23	63
Llano River at Llano	50	107
Pedernales River near Johnson City	4	44
Colorado River at Columbus	354	2,200

Drought Conditions: As of June 25, 100% of the Colorado River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 10% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits however, the Concho Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflow conditions and modify diversion requests as needed.

Guadalupe River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	June Mean (cfs)	June Historical Median (cfs)
Guadalupe River near Spring Branch	62	127
San Marcos River at Luling	142	219

Guadalupe River at Cuero	418	1,090
Guadalupe River at Victoria	374	1,070

Drought Conditions: As of June 25, 100% of the Guadalupe River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits however, some water rights in the upper Guadalupe River Basin can only divert on a limited schedule. The South Texas Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflow conditions and modify diversion requests as needed. All temporary permits are being reviewed on a case by case basis.

San Antonio River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	June mean (cfs)	June historical median (cfs)
San Antonio River at Falls City	406	247
Cibolo Creek at Falls City	33	28

Drought Conditions: As of June 25, 70% of the San Antonio River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits however, the South Texas Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflows conditions and modify diversion requests as needed. All temporary permits are being reviewed on a case by case basis.

Nueces River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	June mean (cfs)	June historical median (cfs)
Nueces river at Tilden	360	18
Frio River near Derby	0	1
Atascosa River at Whitsett		

Drought

As of June 25, Nueces River experiencing at drought with 1% of the experiencing drought

Drought

Water rights in eligible to divert according their permits South Texas continues to streamflow modify diversion needed. All temporary permits are being reviewed on a case by case basis.

City/Station	Rainfall Totals (in)
Brazos River Basin	
Lubbock	1.67
Abilene	5.13
Waco	1.62
College Station	1.25

Conditions:

87% of the Basin is least moderate conditions; basin exceptional conditions.

Restrictions:

this area are impound or to the terms of however, the Watermaster monitor the conditions and requests as

**Statewide Rainfall Totals
June 1 - 30, 2013**

Colorado River Basin	
Midland	0.85
San Angelo	1.40
Austin Mabry	0.92
Austin Bergstrom	0.75
Neches River Basin	
Tyler	1.97
Lufkin	7.75
Sabine River Basin	
Longview	0.95
Trinity River Basin	
Dallas/ Fort Worth	2.14

10. Agriculture

Hot, dry summer weather returned to the state following an unusually cool week over the last of June. Most of Texas crops and pastures are being impacted by drought. Texas farmers had essentially completed harvest of a poor wheat crop, which was drastically impacted by a very dry winter and spring as well as multiple late events of freezing weather. The June 12 USDA wheat yield estimate for the state was 60 million bushels, **down 38 percent** from the 2012 harvest. Rolling Plains and High Plains farmers had a very short crop, but yield in the Northern Blacklands were well above average.

Farmers in the Rio Grande Valley and the Coastal Bend have had a very challenging year. Much of the cotton and sorghum crops in these regions have been zeroed out or will have a very minimal yield due to persistent drought. Irrigated crops in these regions have been average or above where water was available for irrigation. The Lower Valley continues to be challenged by low or nonexistent irrigation water supplies due to continued drought and water delivery issues from the Rio Conchos system in Mexico.

While spring weather was cool, but moisture was favorable for Central, North and East Texas, conditions have dried down and crops and pastures are suffering. Scattered rains across the Panhandle have left some growers with favorable moisture for cotton germination and others with nothing. Overall the cotton crop is in bad condition, with 74% rated in fair to very poor condition. Statewide, cotton acreage is off about 13% due to drought and competition with other crops. Much of the crop was planted late due to a cool spring, and a significant amount of the crop was replanted due to poor weather conditions at planting.

Drought related pest problems such as grasshoppers and noxious weeds as well as toxins in plants, such as prussic acid in sorghum and Johnson grass are beginning to be problematic in central and east Texas.

The following are observations by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service district reporters for the week of July 1- through 7, 2013:

Central: The region was starting to dry up, with crops showing visible signs of drought stress. The corn silage harvest began. There were reports of prussic acid poisoning in cattle. Prussic acid is a natural toxin associated with drought damage in Johnson grass and sorghum. Some mornings were unseasonably cool. Grasshopper populations are very high and damage from the pest is excessive. High grasshopper populations are often associated with dry fall and winter weather.

Coastal Bend: Recent rains greened up some areas, but came too late for many crops. Soils were dry again. The grain sorghum harvest was underway with less than average yields reported. Many fields did not make a crop. The corn harvest began. Soybeans made a good pod set but needed rain soon. Grasshopper populations were high in some areas. Ponds were very low or dry in many areas. There were reports of cattle deaths due to toxic pond water conditions. Fish deaths due to low pond levels were also reported. Pecan yields were down from last year.

East: All counties showed signs of drought. High heat dried out soils, sharply reducing plant vigor. Pasture grasses were stressed with very slow regrowth. Grasshoppers were becoming an increasingly persistent problem. **Some pond levels were as low as they were during the 2011 drought**, and many creeks have stopped running. Hay sales were very slow. Cooler temperatures during the week allowed more vegetables to be harvested from gardens and sold at local markets. Cattle remained in good condition. Feral hog damage was reported.

Far West: Showers early in the reporting period yielded from a trace to 1.5 inches of rain. Daytime highs were in the mid to upper 70s the first part of week but later rose into the 90s. Dryland cotton farmers were working with crop-insurance adjusters. Most dryland cotton will be zeroed out this year, but irrigated cotton was doing well. Livestock producers were providing supplemental feed and hoping for rain.

North: Soil moisture was very short to adequate, and some counties were in desperate need of rain. Where there were rains earlier, Bermuda grass pastures were doing well, and some hay meadows were almost ready for a second cutting to be taken. Hay supplies remained very good. Sunflowers were in very good condition. The oat harvest was completed. Peanuts were in poor condition. Most wheat was harvested with reports of above-average yields. Grain sorghum was in good condition with all of the crop headed out and turning color. Corn was developing well, and cotton looked good. Livestock across the region were in good condition, with early spring-born calves heavy and being weaned. Pond levels were falling. Grasshopper pressure continued as the population increased.

Panhandle: Temperatures were below normal with a few scattered showers. Soil moisture continued to be rated mostly short to very short. The wheat harvest wound down. Corn was rapidly growing with the heat, and some fields were tasseling, though many were 10 days away from tasseling. Grain sorghum was behind in development, with plants 10- to 12 inches tall. Cotton was struggling due to dry conditions and late planting, with many fields still not yet squaring.

Rolling Plains: After a week of below-normal temperatures, hot, dry, windy weather returned. All cotton stands were planted and becoming established, but rain was needed for crop development to proceed. Warm-season grasses on native ranges also needed moisture. Earlier rains in some counties replenished pastures and water tanks, but the dry weather reminded everyone that the region was still under drought conditions. Producers were chiseling wheat stubble fields where they could and trying to keep weeds under control. Area ponds and lakes were still in desperate need of runoff. Grasshoppers continued to be a nuisance.

South: There was very little rain received, with only a few counties reporting light showers. Willacy County was the exception with 0.25 to 1 inch received. Highs of 100 degrees and above continued to be recorded throughout the region, causing soil moisture levels to decline. Soil moisture levels were mostly short to adequate throughout the region, except adequate levels in Atascosa, Dimmit, Maverick and Cameron counties. Rangeland and pastures remained in fair shape, but forage quality deteriorated due to drought stress. Livestock producers continued providing supplemental feed to cattle. In Atascosa County, crops were doing well with some hay harvesting being done. In Frio County, peanut planting was completed, corn and sorghum were maturing, and irrigation increased. In Zavala County, cotton, corn, sorghum and guar progressed well with minor insect pressure. Also in that county, the cabbage harvest resumed, while watermelon and cantaloupe harvesting was ongoing. In Cameron County, the harvesting of grain sorghum halted and the corn harvest continued. In Starr County, hay baling continued, and producers were preparing to harvest cotton.

South Plains: A few counties received spotty showers. Lubbock and Garza counties reported from a trace to 0.5 inches. Parmer County had additional crop losses due to hail. Most of the region had considerably cooler temperatures, with highs in the 80s and low 90s. The exceptions were Mitchell and Scurry counties that had highs in the 100s. Most irrigated crops were doing well as long as farmers had enough water to pump. Peanuts were doing well under current conditions. Most were well into the bloom stage and setting pegs. Corn development ranged from emergence to tasseling. Cotton was from the seedling stage to a third-grown square. Early planted sunflowers were blooming. Replanting of failed cotton acres continued where there was enough soil moisture. Dryland crops were beginning to show signs of stress during the midday. Rangeland and pastures were much improved from earlier rains, but more rain was needed to sustain growth. Livestock mostly were in good condition.

Southeast: Soil moisture ranged from very short to short across the region. Extremely high temperatures in some counties stressed all plants, while cooler temperatures prevailed in Burleson County. Walker and Waller counties received a little rain, but pastures remained extremely dry and hay was not being made. Cows were struggling to find anything green in that part of the region. Grasshoppers were still causing problems in many parts of the area. Brazoria County was very dry, with highs in the upper 90s and the lows in the 70s. In Chambers County, crops were progressing well despite dry conditions, and producers were expecting to take a second cutting of hay soon. Liberty County had some scattered showers but no significant rain. Orange County conditions were good thanks to some rain. Adequate soil moisture in that county was supporting good forage growth, but more rainfall was needed. Overall, rice was in good to excellent condition.

Southwest: Hot, dry windy conditions dried out crops and pastures. However, rangeland and pastures remained in fair to good condition. Corn and grain sorghum were stressed from lack of moisture but were still expected to finish. Hayfields needed a rain for a chance of a second cutting. Dryland grain sorghum was doing great in some areas. Most sunflowers were being harvested with good yields reported. Livestock remained in good condition, but horn flies were becoming an increasing problem.

West Central: Days were dry, hot and windy with mild nights. The entire region continued to suffer from extreme drought. Grasshoppers remained a big problem for producers. Cotton and grain sorghum were progressing well but will need rain soon to continue good growth. Some producers were harvesting hay with average yields reported. Rangeland and pastures continued to decline. Livestock remained in fair to good condition. Stock-water tank and pond levels continued to drop. Some water sources dried up.

Top Soil Moisture Condition by District – July 7

District	Percentage of Acreage				District	Percentage of Acreage			
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus		Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
1-N	50	40	10	0	6	52	44	4	0
1-S	41	45	14	0	7	30	48	21	1
2-N	25	52	23	0	8-N	21	54	25	0
2-S	25	65	10	0	8-S	80	17	3	0
3	36	50	14	0	9	34	29	34	3
4	23	55	22	0	10-N	8	67	25	0
5-N	31	40	29	0	10-S	3	58	39	0
5-S	18	45	34	3	State	30	49	21	0

Crop Condition by District- July 7

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2013	2012
Corn	14	47	31	7	1	78	75
Cotton	4	22	36	23	15	52	62
Rice	17	33	47	3	0	90	84
Sorghum	10	33	36	12	9	66	69
Wheat	1	7	17	25	50	26	59
Soybean	5	48	38	7	2	73	71
Oats	1	22	44	22	11	53	79
Range & pasture	2	19	31	29	19	-	-

*The formula for the condition index is $I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 110E) / 100$ where I=crop condition index and VP, P, F, G, E= the percentage of the crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good and excellent.

The Drought Preparedness Council is comprised of state agencies concerned with the effects of drought and fire on the citizens of the State of Texas.

The attached information was compiled and provided by representatives listed below. Points of contact, telephone numbers, and web site addresses are also provided.

Nim Kidd, Texas Division of Emergency Management, (512) 424-2436, fax (512) 424-2444, website: <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem>

Brenner Brown, Texas Water Development Board, (512) 475-1128, fax (512) 475-2053, website: <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us>

Chris Loft, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, (512) 239- 4715, fax (512) 239-4770, website: <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us>

Richard Egg, Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board, (254) 773- 2250, fax (254) 773-3311, website: <http://www.tsswcb.state.tx.us>

Lance Williams, Texas Department of Agriculture, (512) 463-3285, fax (800) 835-2981, website: <http://agr.state.tx.us>

Dr. Travis Miller, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, (979) 845- 4808, fax (979) 845-0456, website: <http://texasextension.tamu.edu>

David Bradsby, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, (512) 912-7015, fax (512) 707-1358, website: <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us>

Gilbert Jordan, Texas Department of Transportation, (512) 416-3270, fax (512) 416-2941, website: <http://www.txdot.state.tx.us>

Michael Dunivan, Texas Forest Service, (830) 997-5426, website: <http://txforestservice.tamu.edu>

Suzanne Burnham, Texas Department of State Health Services, (512) 801-9816, fax (512) 458- 7111, website: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/>

Tad Curtis, Office of the Governor, Economic Development & Tourism, (512) 936-0047, website: <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/ecodev>

David A. Van Dresar, Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts, (979) 968-3135, fax (979) 968-3194, website: <http://www.texasgroundwater.org/>

Dr. John W. Nielsen-Gammon, Office of the State Climatologist, (979) 862-2248, fax (979) 862-4466, website: <http://www.met.tamu.edu/osc/>

Marisa Callan, Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, (512) 475-3964, website: <http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us>

