



DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS COUNCIL

RICK PERRY
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W. NIM KIDD
Council Chairperson

August 23, 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

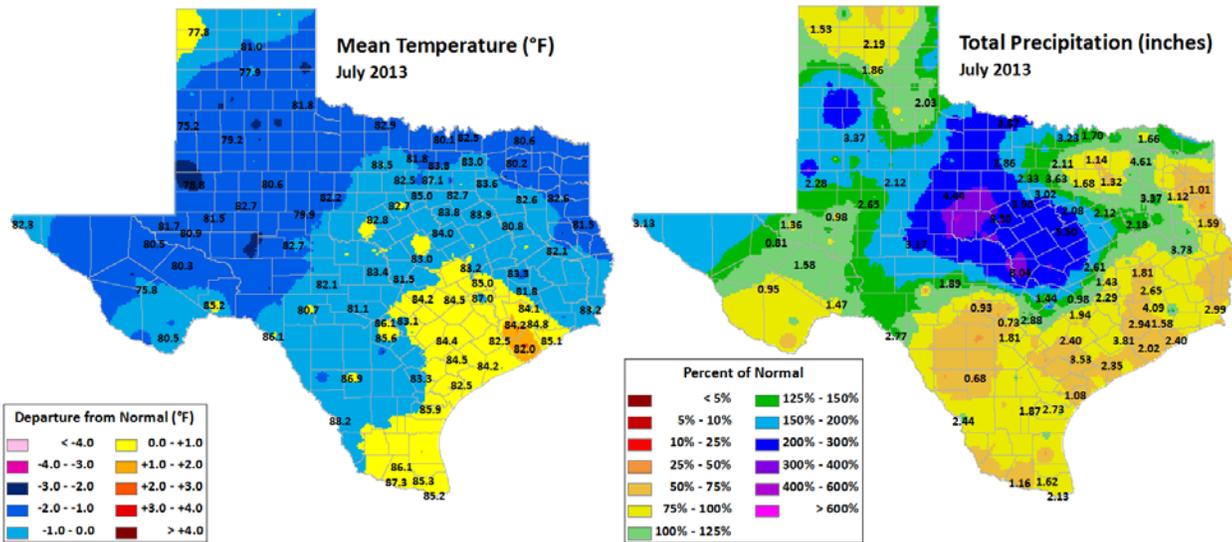
Marisa Callan, Member
Texas Department of Housing and
Community Affairs

1. Next Council Meeting

September 12, 2013 at 2:00pm

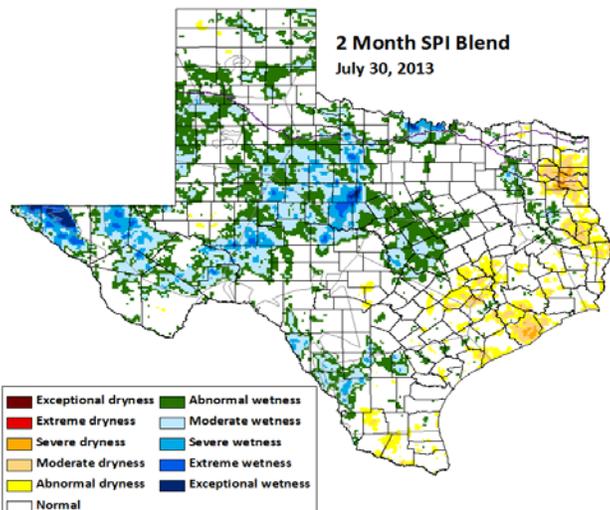
2. General Conditions

July was like May in terms of temperature and precipitation, but for very different reasons. Midway through the month, an unusually upper level low moved over the state, helping drive Gulf thunderstorms and frequent, long-lasting rainfall events for nearly a week. Temperatures remained below average for nearly two weeks as well, which aided all facets of the state's drought impacts. Some portions of the state were bigger winners than others, and the Gulf Coast, from southern Texas through the

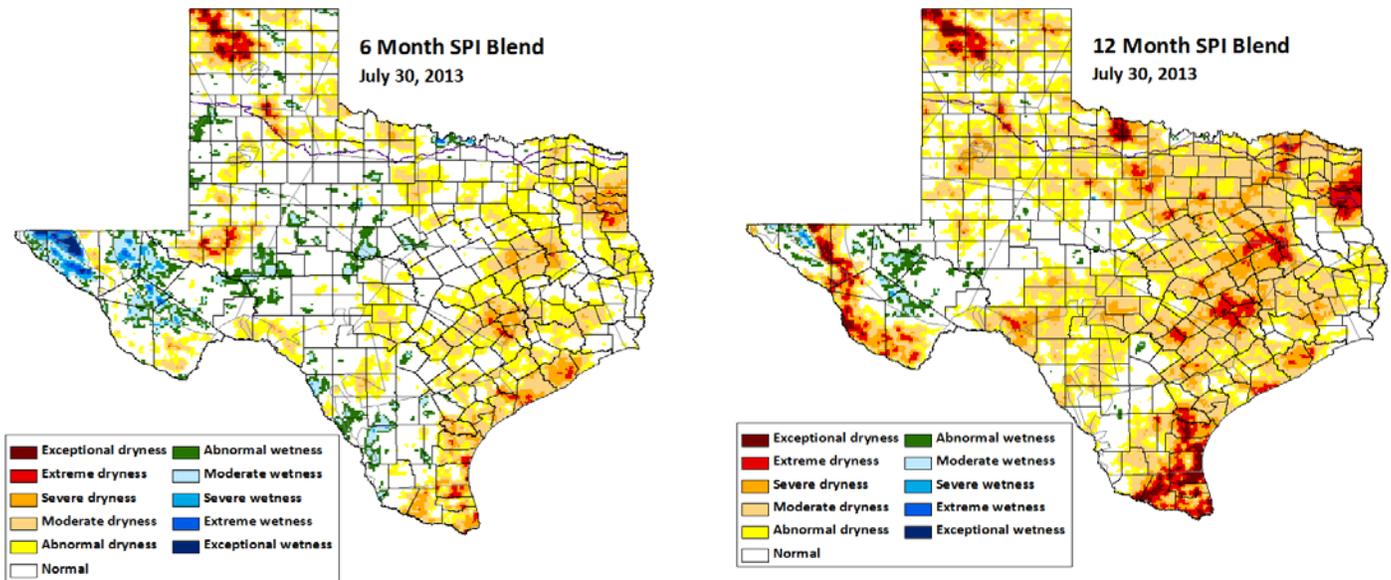


Texas/Louisiana border saw generally lower rainfall and came in below normal for the month. The unusual weather pattern in July increased the difficulty in depicting current drought conditions across the state. In the short term, only the Upper Coast and eastern Texas are seeing any kind of drought conditions, though the SPI Blend can be slightly misleading for north central Texas, where the barely normal rainfall is only

marginally beneficial due to several days of 100+ degree temperatures. Soil moisture has declined rapidly in these regions as a result, as well as in south Texas, which has seen many high temperature days paired with low relative humidity.



However, in spite of the recent rainfall, much of the state is still seeing very large long-term deficits, making hydrological drought the primary impact in much of west central and far west Texas. Streamflows in central Texas benefited greatly from the mid- precipitation, but that was essentially all of the hydrological benefits seen. Reservoirs saw a minor uptick statewide, but continued their decline immediately after

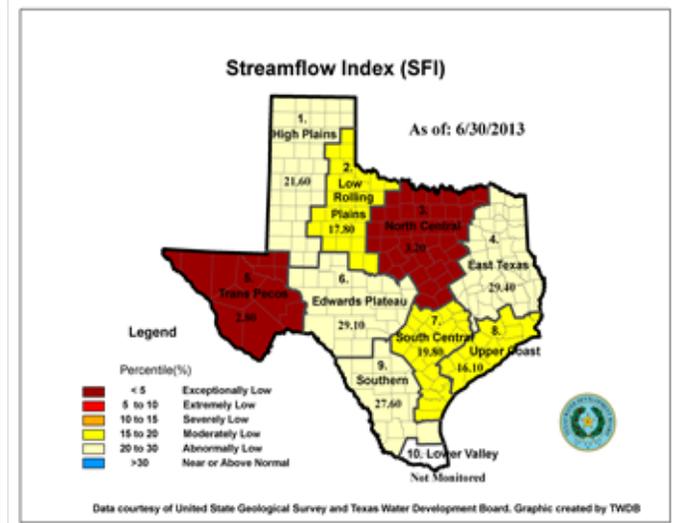
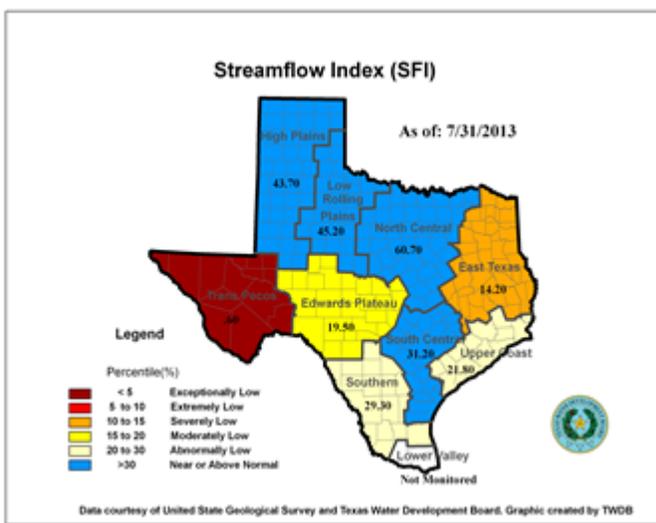
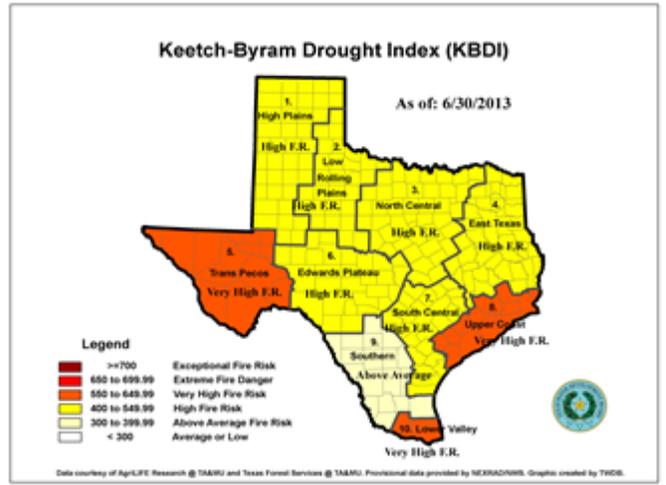
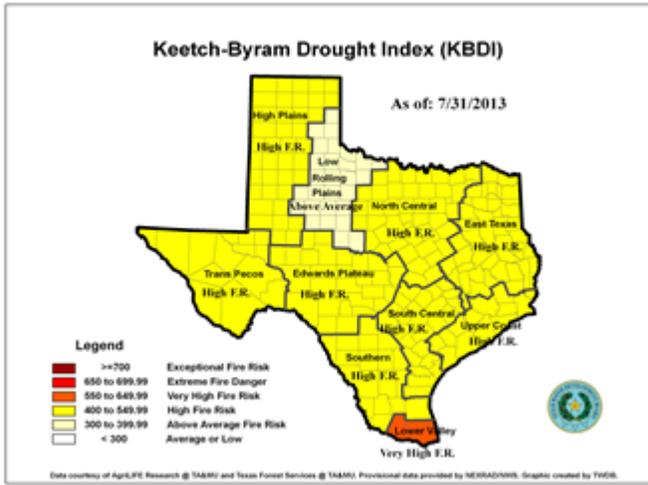


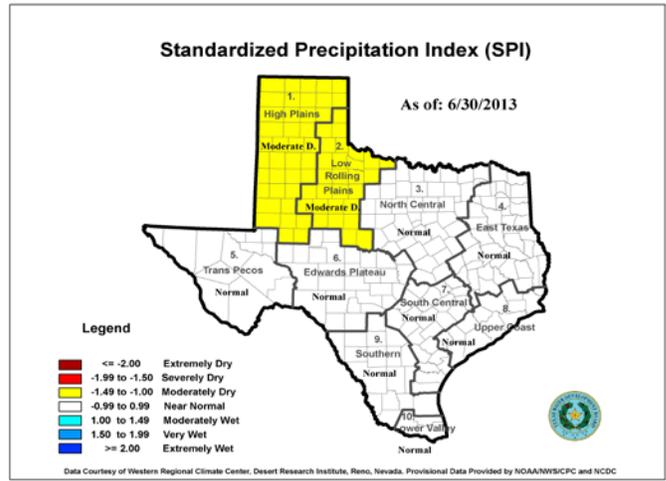
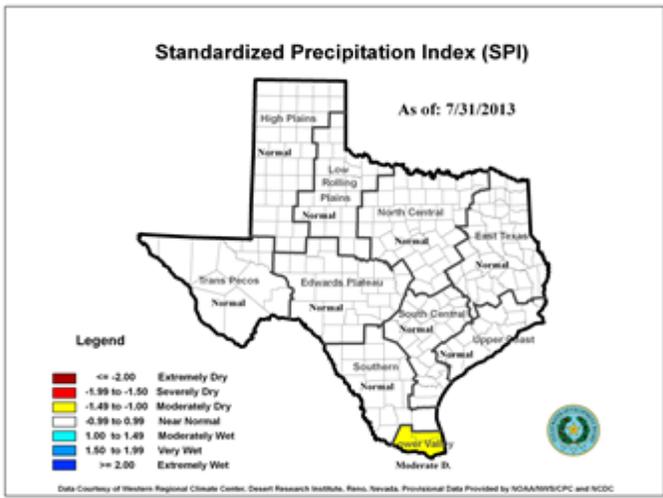
temperatures rose again, ending the month with a net negative change in conservation storage. Water restrictions are becoming increasingly common in the eastern portions of the state as a result.

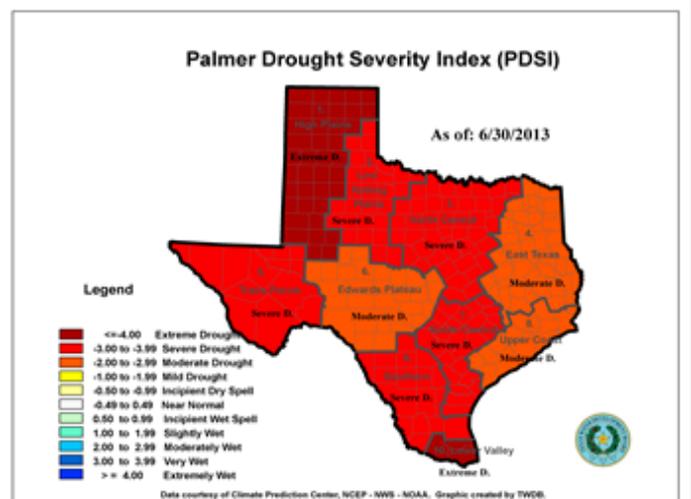
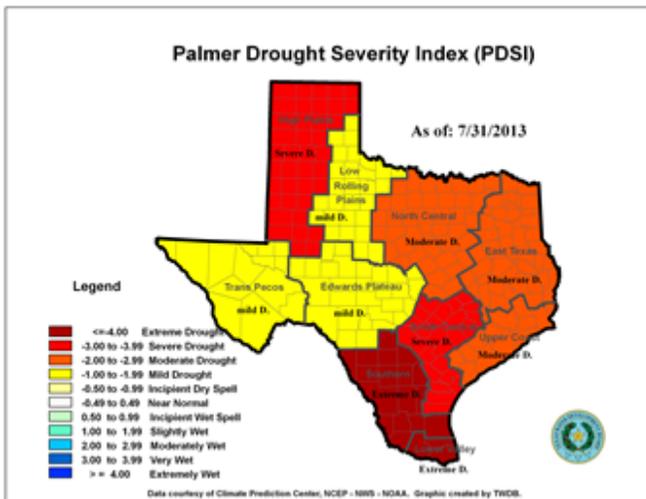
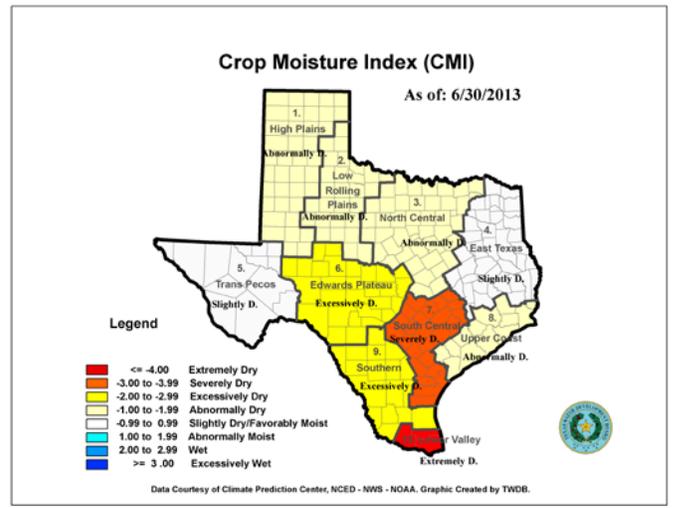
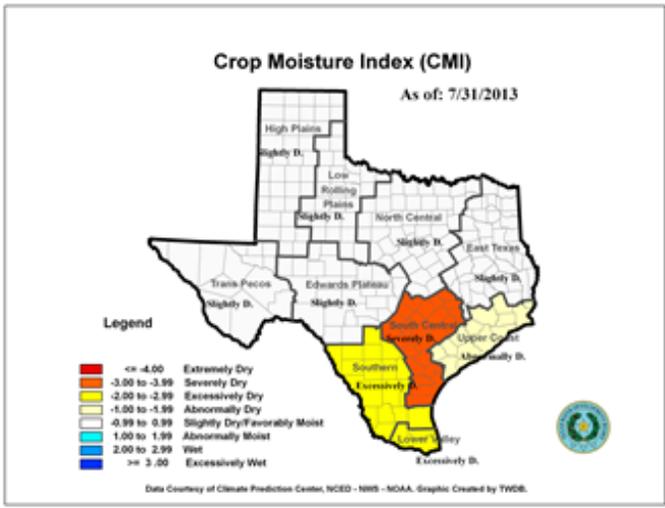
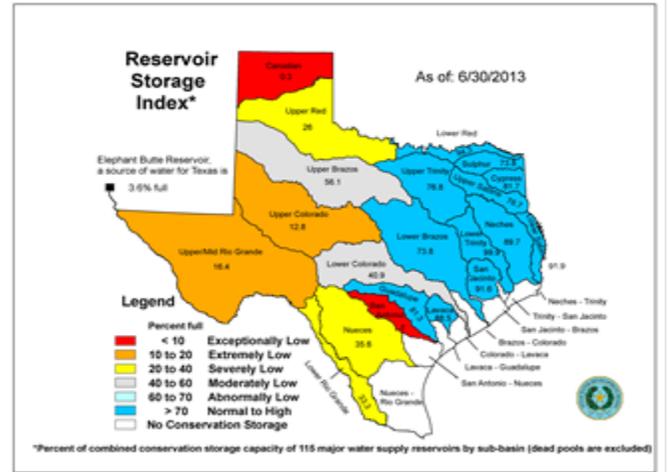
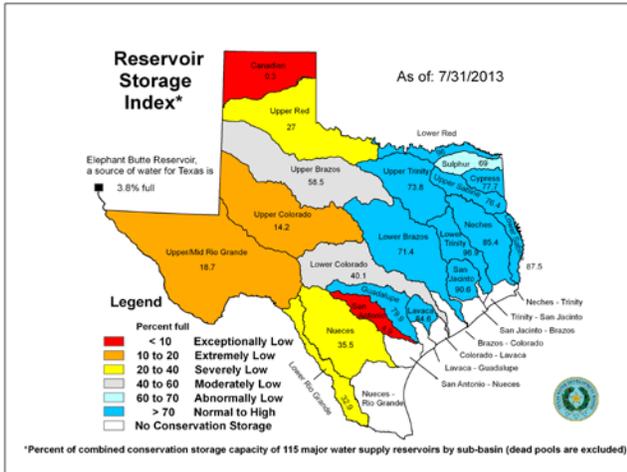
Long term outlooks for August and beyond are not optimistic. A moderately active monsoon season has helped kickstart drought improvement in west Texas, and continued improvements are expected in the Panhandle and along the Texas/New Mexico border. Still, some of these improvements will be modulated by above average temperatures, which are predicted to be more like to occur than normal or below normal temperatures for most of the state (with greater certainty in west Texas). There is no favored trend in precipitation for most of the state, however, so it's equally likely that drought conditions will eventually worsen as improve.

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	2	3	3	0
SFI (9)	1	0	1	1	2	4
SPI (10)	N/A	0	0	1	0	9
CMI (10)	N/A	0	1	2	1	6
KBDI (10)	0	0	1	8	1	0
Number of River Basins / Sub-Basins In Drought Category						
RSI (21)	2	2	3	2	1	11

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	0.07	-3.04	-0.95	421.00	0.73	43.70
2	Low Rolling Plains	0.04	-1.88	-0.60	343.00	25.74	45.20
3	North Central	-0.58	-2.13	-0.59	443.00	73.43	60.70
4	East Texas	-0.93	-2.53	-0.71	528.00	86.85	14.20
5	Trans Pecos	0.03	-1.52	-0.19	514.00	18.75	0.60
6	Edwards Plateau	0.06	-1.61	-0.48	408.00	31.40	19.50
7	South Central	-3.04	-3.81	-0.63	419.00	42.44	31.20
8	Upper Coast	-1.26	-2.70	-0.21	525.00	91.48	21.80
9	Southern	-2.49	-4.15	0.34	412.00	28.84	29.30
10	Lower Valley	-2.58	-4.06	-1.02	642.00	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)	5	5	0
SFI (9)	6	3	0
SPI (10)	6	4	0
CMI (10)	8	2	0
KBDI (10)	7	3	0
RSI (21)	5	15	1

4. Reservoir Storage Condition

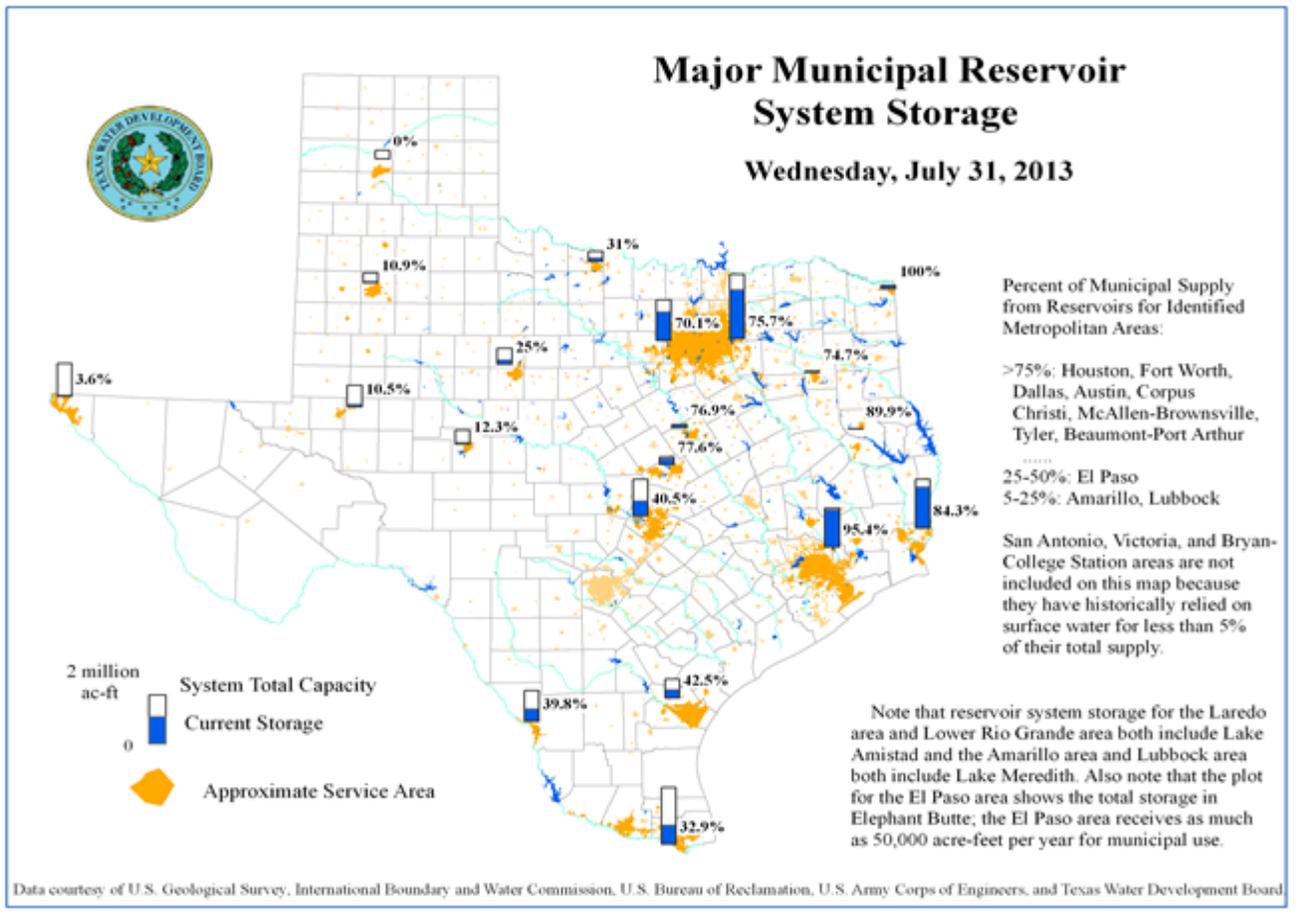
Water storage conditions are summarized below by river basins for the 115 of Texas major reservoirs at the end of the month:

The statewide combined storage was 64% full, at 20 million acre feet in total combined storage, 631,538 acre-feet less than a month ago. By river basins, storage was lower than normal in 10 basin or sub-basins but Near or Above Normal in all other 11 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 approximately 4% full by the month's end.

Reservoir Status for Major Metropolitan Centers



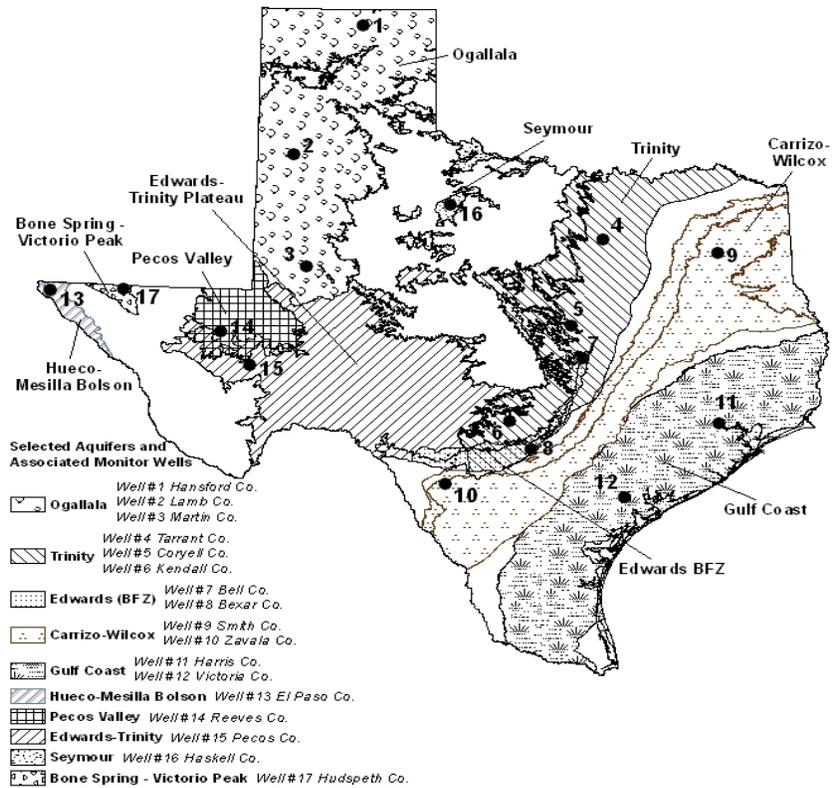
5. Groundwater Conditions

- 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 , ranging from 0.03 feet in the Dallas County Trinity Aquifer well (well #4) to 0.69 feet in the Reeves County Pecos Valley Aquifer well (well #14).
- Water levels declined in thirteen monitoring wells, ranging from 0.12 feet in the El Paso County Hueco-Mesilla Bolson Aquifer well (well #13) to 7.37 feet in the La Salle County Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer well (well #10).
- The J-17 well in San Antonio recorded a water level of 94 feet below land surface or 637 feet above mean sea level. This water level is 3 feet below the Stage III critical management level in that segment of the Edwards Aquifer. Stage III restrictions were declared by the EAA when the ten-day average fell below the 640-foot elevation, or 91 feet below land surface.

Monitoring Well	June	July	Month change	Year change	Historical change
(1) Hansford 0354301	154.2	154	-0.2	-0.39	-84.08
(2) Lamb 1053602	143.72	143.5	-0.22	-2.36	-115.57
(3) Martin 2739903	142.32	141.95	-0.37	-2.07	-37.43
(4) Dallas 3319101	488.02	488.05	0.03	-2.12	-266.02
(5) Coryell 4035404	506.18	503.6	-2.58	-0.15	-214.18
(6) Kendall 6802609	147.97	146.51	-1.46	0.39	-87.97
(7) Bell 5804816	128.53	129.01	0.48	-3.05	-5.4
(8) Bexar 6837203	94	86.86	-7.14	-5.53	-47.36
(9) Smith 3430907	439.62	438.66	-0.96	-5.1	-73.62
(10) La Salle 7738103	484.47	477.1	-7.37	-60.6	-231.4
(11) Harris 6514409	194.63	192.83	-1.8	6.45	-59.13
(12) Victoria 8017502	35.48	34.89	-0.59	1.05	-1.48
(13) El Paso 4913301	293.97	293.85	-0.12	-2.57	-62.07
(14) Reeves 4644501	156.1	156.79	0.69	-4.06	-64.01
(15) Pecos 5216802	231.58	227.27	-4.31	-2.23	15.3

(16) Haskell 2135748	48.05	47.9	-0.15	-0.23	-6.72
(17) Hudspeth 4807516	147.32	147.45	0.13	1.54	-43.4

Groundwater Observation Wells Location Map



6. Water Utility Status

Overall, there are 1,057 water systems that are asking their customers to restrict water use, compared with 974 a month ago. Of these systems, 727 are asking customers to follow a mandatory watering schedule and 330 are asking customers to follow a voluntary watering schedule. There are currently 41 PWSs that have prohibited all outside watering by their customers. A total of 1,397 water systems have reported to the TCEQ regarding their status using the online form on the TCEQ public website. The seasonal forecasts are for the drought to persist or intensify in many areas 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 high 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.

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

Current Conditions:

On July 27, 2013, the U.S. combined ownership at Amistad/Falcon stood at 31.84% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 1,079,866 acre-feet, down from 48.38% (1,640,877 AF) of normal conservation a year ago at this time. Overall the system is holding 24.67% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 1,460,899 acre-feet with Amistad at 26.78% of conservation capacity, impounding 877,188 acre-feet and Falcon at 22.05% of conservation capacity, impounding 583,711 acre-feet. Mexico has 15.06% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 381,034 acre-feet at Amistad/Falcon.

Allocations: As of printing of the , 2013 ownership report, we have allocated 233,792.6776 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 689 thousand acre-feet (37.5%) at Amistad; and

approximately 389 thousand acre-feet (25.1%) of normal conservation capacity at Falcon

Evaporation and seepage losses at Amistad, as of 7/27/13, are 99,772 acre-feet. For the same period, the U.S. has lost 104,673 acre-feet at Falcon.

Releases to meet demands

In 2013, (through 7/27/13), Mexico has released 494,491 acre-feet from Amistad and 727,414 acre-feet from Falcon for Mexico needs. The U.S. has released 649,729 acre-feet from Falcon and 531,586 acre-feet from Amistad for U.S. needs. Combined with gains between Amistad and Falcon, U.S. inflows to Falcon have totaled 626,042 acre-feet. The U.S. demand in the lower Rio Grande has been met at a rate of 96% by direct Rio Grande inflows and Amistad releases this year.

Upper Rio Grande (New Mexico): Currently, Elephant Butte in New Mexico is storing 74,585 acre feet (3.69%) and Caballo Dam in New Mexico, downstream of Elephant Butte is storing 8,918 acre-feet (3.93%). 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	July Mean (cfs)	July Historical Median (cfs)
Red River near Burkburnett	121	232
Red River near De Kalb	740	4,620

Drought Condition: As of August 1, 21% of the Red River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 7% 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	July mean (cfs)	July Historical median (cfs)
Sulphur River near Talco	0.09	17

Drought Conditions: As of July 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	July Mean (cfs)	July Historical Median (cfs)
Little Cypress Creek near Jefferson	0.02	27

Drought Conditions: As of August 1, 92% 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.

Sabine River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July Mean (cfs)	July Historical Median (cfs)
Sabine River near Beckville	69	294
Sabine River near Ruliff	2,501	3,650

Drought Conditions: As of August 1, 11% 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	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Angelina River near Alto	78	114
Neches River at Evadale	1,904	2,500

Drought Conditions: As of August 1, 41% 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	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Trinity River at Dallas	559	370
Trinity River near Oakwood	975	923
Trinity River at RoJulyor	1,321	1,870

Drought Conditions: As of August 1, 15% 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	July Mean (cfs)	July Historical Median (cfs)
Double Mountain Fork Brazos River near Aspermont	67	8
Brazos River near Glen Rose	26	393
Little River at Cameron	281	419
Navasota near Easterly	16	13
Brazos near Hempstead	958	1,910
Brazos near Rosharon	317	1,610

Drought Conditions: As of August 1, 13% of the Brazos River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 13% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water rights below Possum Kingdom with a priority date of February 14, 1942 or later have been suspended or adjusted including some water rights for municipal use, and power generation. Water rights in this area that are senior to February 14, 1942 are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

Colorado River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	July Mean (cfs)	July Historical Median (cfs)
Colorado River at Ballinger	80	11
San Saba River at San Saba	25	49
Llano River at Llano	30	91
Pedernales River near Johnson City	0.27	24
Colorado River at Columbus	419	1,860

Drought Conditions: As of August 1, 35% of the Colorado River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 5% 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	July Mean (cfs)	July Historical Median (cfs)
Guadalupe River near Spring Branch	18	109

San Marcos River at Luling	116	196
Guadalupe River at Cuero	306	937
Guadalupe River at Victoria	289	919

Drought Conditions: As of August 1, 7% 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	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
San Antonio River at Falls City	406	247
Cibolo Creek at Falls City	33	28

Drought Conditions: As of August 1, 55% 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	July mean (cfs)	July historical median (cfs)
Nueces river at Tilden	380	3.5
Frio River near Derby	0	0.75
Atascosa River at Whitsett	2	7

Drought Conditions: As of August 1, 25% of the Nueces 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 however, 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.

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

City/Station	Rainfall Totals (in)
Brazos River Basin	
Lubbock	3.37
Abilene	4.44
Waco	5.50
College Station	1.43
Colorado River Basin	
Midland	0.98
San Angelo	3.17
Austin Mabry	2.91
Austin Bergstrom	1.44
Neches River Basin	
Tyler	3.37
Lufkin	3.73
Sabine River Basin	
Longview	1.12
Trinity River Basin	
Dallas/ Fort Worth	2.05

10. Agriculture

July is normally hot and dry, and beneficial rains, while greatly appreciated, are not expected by many Texas farmers and ranchers. The extensive rains experienced over much of the state during the month of were too late for most of the southern grain producing regions, but, made a real difference over much of the western and northern cotton and grain production regions. Rains temporarily stopped or delayed corn and sorghum harvest through the Gulf Coast, Central and North Texas. Much of the dryland sorghum and corn in south Texas was either zeroed out or made very modest yields, while in the northern Blacklands, conditions have been good for corn, sorghum and soybeans and yields will be above average.

We are seeing many pastures green up, and crop conditions dramatically improve in cotton, sorghum, corn, sunflower and soybean. Rains were not uniform, and as might be expected, amounts were in not sufficient to make a crop, but we saw widespread amounts of 1.5 to 5 inches, often in several events, which greatly relieved the stress imposed by the heat and ongoing drought.

The following are summaries from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension District reporters for the week ending July 27, 2013:

Coastal Bend: The harvesting of corn resumed after last week's rains. Earlier-planted cotton benefited from the recent rains. Cotton was filling bolls. The rain also helped pastures, and some were nearly ready for a second cutting of hay. Rice was heading, with some producers already harvesting. Water quality for livestock was an issue in some areas because of low ponds. Some cases of prussic acid toxicity in cattle due to drought stressed Johnsongrass were reported.

East: Light scattered showers fell across parts of the region, with accumulations ranging from a trace to 2 inches. Pastures were in good condition where there were substantial rains. Producers continued to bale hay and spray for weeds. Many producers were taking their second cutting of hay with fair to good yields. Grasshoppers continued to be a major problem for both producers and homeowners. Corn was drying down. Cotton was in good shape but would benefit from more rain. Growth of warm-season vegetable crops slowed down, though harvesting continued. Field preparation for fall vegetables continued. Cattle remained in good condition. Buyer demand was good.

Far West: Most afternoons, the region received scattered showers, with accumulations from a trace to about 2 inches. Temperatures were in the mid-90s. Area ranchers reported some grass growth returning to pastures and were hoping for more rain. While feeding livestock supplements slowed, producers were skeptical of any long-term relief.

North: Soil-moisture levels continued to range from short to adequate. Most counties got more rain, as much as 3 inches in some areas. Hay and crops were in very good condition for late. There was enough rain during the last of the month to improve pastures and summer forages. Summer hay production increased. Hay producers have taken a second cutting in some counties. Corn, sorghum and soybeans were looking very good. Early planted sunflowers neared harvest. Grasshoppers were still an issue, damaging pastures, crops, gardens and shrubs. Livestock throughout the region were in good condition.

Panhandle: The region received more rain, from a trace to as much as 2.5 inches. Corn was generally in good shape; the extra moisture brought much of the crop to just past the pollination stage. The later-planted corn was catching up but still had a way to go. Grain sorghum was in fair condition, with most in pre-boot to heading stages. Cotton was doing well with the extra moisture and average heat units this week. But it was still behind, with blooming at least two weeks away. Southwestern corn borer numbers were up in some fields, and spider mites were a problem in others. Rangeland and pastures were starting to green up where stands were not earlier killed by overgrazing.

Rolling Plains: Rains over the last week really helped rangeland and pastures. Some counties reported as much as 6 inches during the last two weeks. Hay prospects also greatly improved with many fields having the potential of a producing a second cutting soon. However, weeds were thriving as well. Cotton was looking good. Cattle were in good condition. Area lake levels rose over the past couple of weeks but were very low. Stock tanks still needed runoff water. Grasshopper pressure remained constant. The harvesting of an extremely light peach crop was winding down.

South: The northern part of the region received more rain, from scattered showers to 3 inches and more in some areas. Ranchers in those areas reported an increase in stock-tank water levels, as well as improved rangeland and pastures. The eastern part of the region did not receive much rain, except for Jim Wells County, which got 3.5 inches. The remainder of the region was dry, but with high humidity, and windy with 90 to 100 degrees and above temperatures. Rangeland and pastures were reported to be in fair to good condition in most of the northern region, fair in the eastern and western parts of the region, and mostly poor in the southern parts of the region. Supplemental feeding increased, and cattle body condition scores remained fair. In Atascosa County, peanuts were in good condition, corn was 90 percent mature. Sorghum and cotton crops in that county were in fair condition. In Frio County, the corn harvest slowed, and sorghum was beginning to mature. In Jim Wells County, the few row crops that remained were sesame, sunflowers and guar. Production estimates were difficult to accurately predict, but producers expected moderate yields. In Maverick County, seedless watermelons and onions were in good shape. In Zavala County, corn was drying down rapidly as a result of extremely hot temperatures. Pecans were progressing well with little insect pressure. Also in that county, early planted corn was being harvested, but the harvest of the rest of the crop was a week to 10 days away.

Cotton in Cameron and Hidalgo counties was being defoliated, with picking expected to begin soon. In Starr County, hay and sorghum harvesting wound down.

South Plains: Crop condition improved because of rain. Garza County received from 0.4 inch to 1.2 inches, while Mitchell County reported about 3 inches. In Bailey County, corn maturity ranged from four-leaf to kernel-blister stage and looked good overall. Much of the cotton crop was finally blooming; most fields were progressing rapidly. Sorghum was also rapidly progressing, but later-planted fields will be lucky to mature before the first frost. Producers were dealing with increased weed pressure, but disease pressure was minimal. Rangeland and pastures were improving after the rain.

Cattle condition was improving as well. Rangeland that had been severely damaged by continual drought and/or wildfires was beginning to green up, but the biggest concern was weed pressure where perennial grasses have died.

Southeast: Soil-moisture levels ranged from short to adequate throughout the district. Corn and sorghum were in good condition. Soybeans were fair. Cotton was in fair to good condition, as was rice. Rangeland and pastures were in poor to good condition. Rains greened things up, but heat was still an issue. Hay harvesting slowed where there was frequent rain.

Southwest: Extremely hot and dry conditions continued. Dryland corn and grain sorghum were being harvested. Hay producers reported good yields and quality, with second and third cuttings probable. Overall, rangeland and pastures improved from fair to good condition. Cotton and some sorghum also showed signs of improvement thanks to rain a week ago. Livestock generally remained in good condition thanks to readily available forages.

West Central: Days were hot as expected for this time of year and many areas received substantial, slow rains. Soil-moisture conditions improved. Field preparation for fall planting was underway. The rains jump started dryland row crops and gave irrigated acreages a much-needed boost. Hay fields looked very good, with cutting and baling ongoing. Producers expected to get another hay cutting thanks to the recent rains. Rangeland and pastures continued to improve. Livestock remained in fair to good condition. Most producers were able to cut back on supplemental feeding.

Top Soil Moisture Condition by District – July 28, 2013

District	Percentage of Acreage				District	Percentage of Acreage			
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus		Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
1-N	25	38	57	17	6	26	57	17	0
1-S	10	38	50	2	7	14	43	40	3
2-N	6	41	41	12	8-N	35	38	26	1
2-S	13	53	34	0	8-S	12	48	40	0
3	4	33	62	1	9	11	26	56	7
4	8	42	49	1	10-N	25	29	46	7
5-N	16	29	54	1	10-S	50	40	10	0
5-S	18	40	42	0	State	16	39	43	2

Crop Condition by District- July 28, 2013

Crop	Percent of Acreage					Index	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2013	2012
Corn	11	44	39	5	1	76	71
Cotton	4	28	36	19	13	57	59
Rice	14	31	51	4	0	75	84
Sorghum	11	46	26	8	9	72	70
Soybean	9	37	51	3	0	75	67
Range & pasture	3	19	35	27	16	-	-

*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://txforestservation.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>

Attachment 1 Climatic Regions

