



DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS COUNCIL

RICK PERRY
Governor

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W. NIM KIDD
Council Chairperson

November 18, 2014

TO: The Honorable Rick Perry, Governor, State of Texas
The Honorable David Dewhurst, Lieutenant Governor, State of Texas
Mrs. Nandita Berry, Secretary of State, State of Texas
The Honorable Craig Estes, President Pro-Tempore of the Senate, State of Texas
The Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, State of Texas
The Honorable Jane Nelson, 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
Ms. Kathy Walt, 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

Sam Hermitte, Member
Texas Water Development Board

Steven Bednarz, 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

Cliff Lindell, Member
Texas Department of State Health Services

Chris Loft, Member
Texas Commission on Environmental
Quality

Mark Ellison, Member
Office of the Governor
Economic
Development &
Tourism

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

Michael Dunivan,
Member Texas A&M
Forest Service

Regina Erales,
Member
Public Utility
Commission of Texas

Marisa Callan, Member
Texas Department of Housing and
Community Affairs

Kent Saathoff, Member
Electric Reliability Council
of Texas

Oscar Fogle, Member

William Masterson, Member

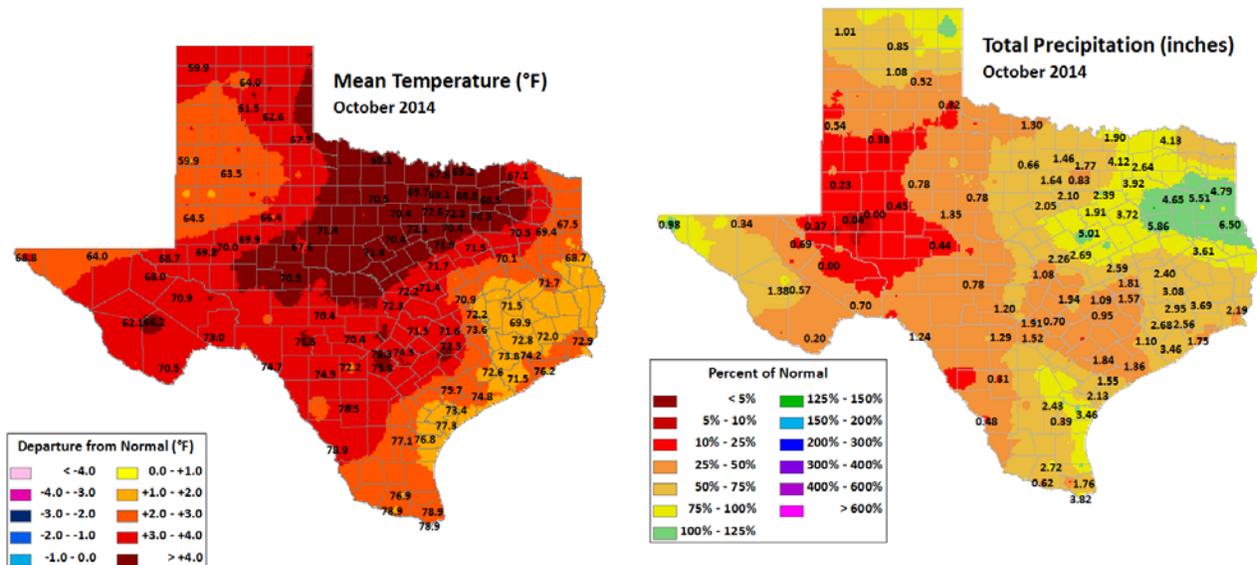
Thomas M. Martine, Member

1. Next Council Meeting

December 16, 2014 at 2:00pm

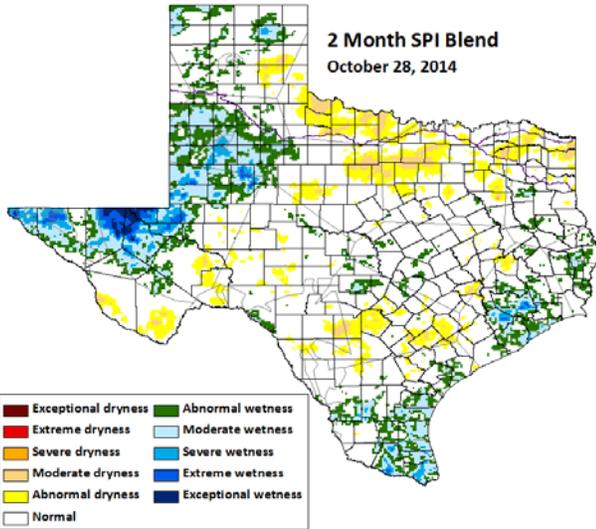
2. General Conditions

For the first time this year, no stations in Texas reports temperatures below average over the past 30-day period; in fact, most of the state sat 2 or more degrees above their normal average for October. Frequent dry conditions didn't help either, with all of the state, with the exception of parts of northeast Texas and the Panhandle, seeing below normal precipitation accumulations. With the start of the 2014-2015 water year beginning in October, this month acts as an inauspicious one for the state.



North central Texas is now firmly entrenched as having the worst combination of drought effects in the state. A lack of rainfall across all time scales is reflected in the SPI blends, and is causing impacts across all time scales. Top layer and deep layer soil moisture is at the lowest percentile of any region across the state. River discharge along the Upper Red River is at record low for this time of year. Reservoir storage for Dallas, Fort Worth, and Wichita Falls are all at record lows, and the region as a whole is the lowest its been since 1990, when the total conservation storage acre-footage was 2,000 acre foot lower than it is today.

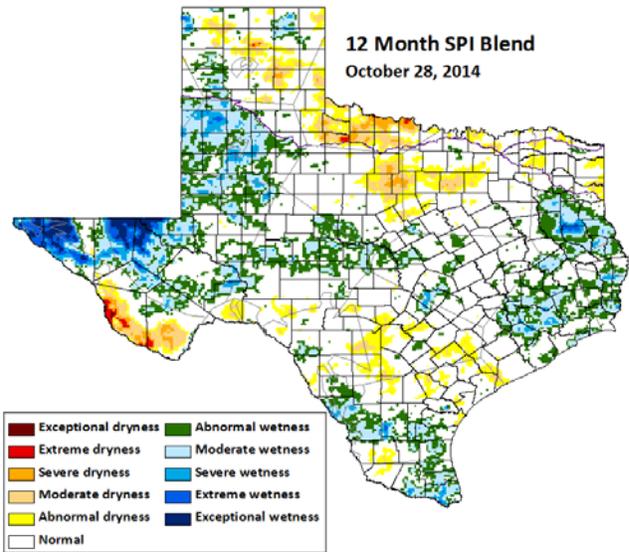
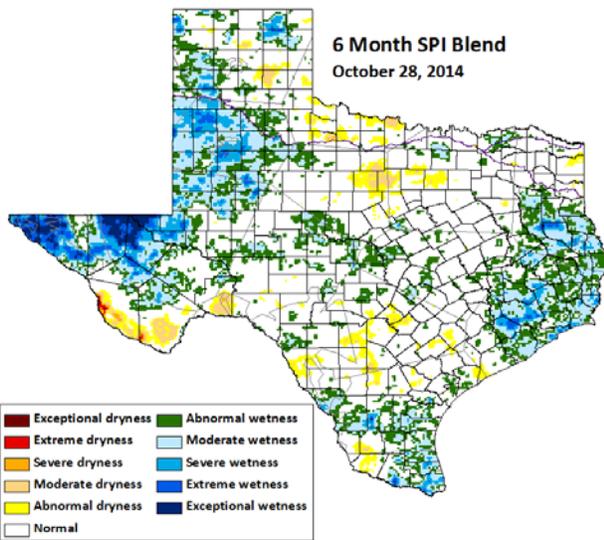
The Edwards Plateau and the Coastal Bend are also regions that are feeling a combination of short and long-term rainfall deficits. Their river discharge are the worst on average across the state, with very few rivers seeing even 25% of their normal streamflow for this time of year and most of them seeing less than 10%. The Edwards Aquifer has not shown any signs of recharge due to the lack of rain,



sitting at 631.7 feet by the end of the month. Local vegetation is in very poor condition and the risk of fire is high—KDPI values for these regions range of from 400 to 700.

For the rest of the state, conditions are managing to hold on in spite of the lack of rain and higher than average temperatures. The Trans-Pecos is now in its dry season having seen most of its drought eliminated by a very productive monsoon season and a timely tropical rain event. The Panhandle’s winter wheat seems to be holding steady despite the lack of rain, with ground reports

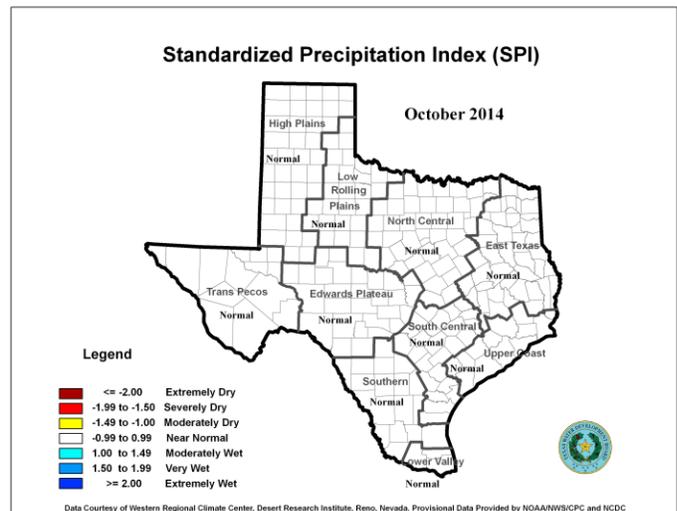
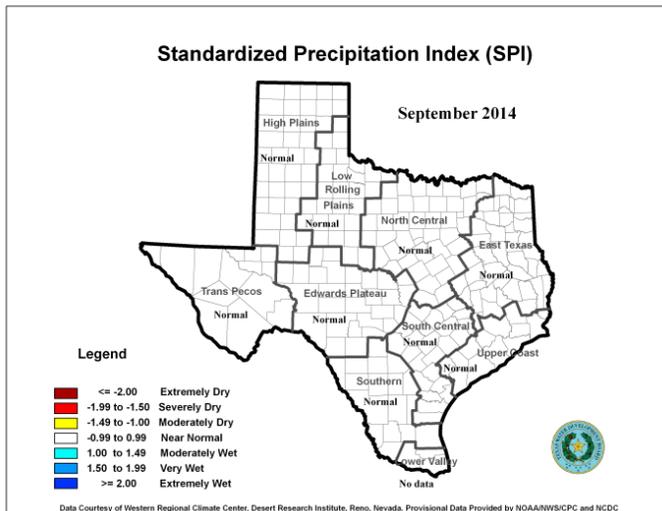
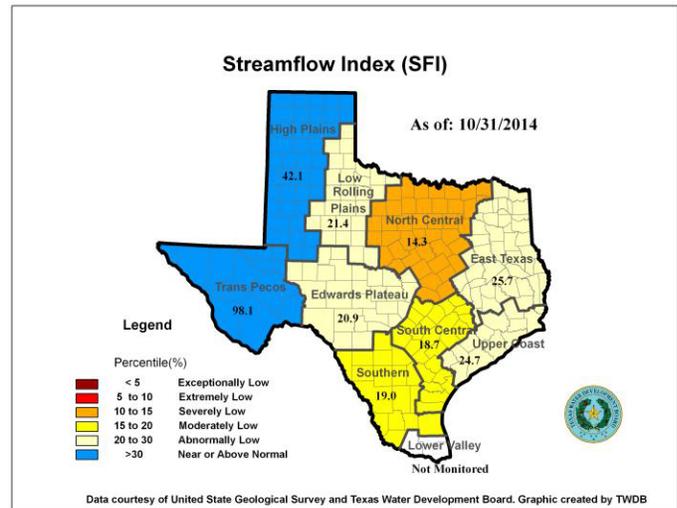
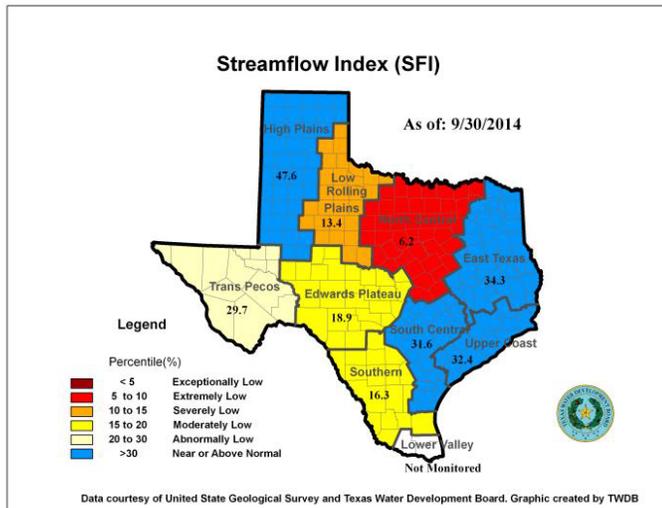
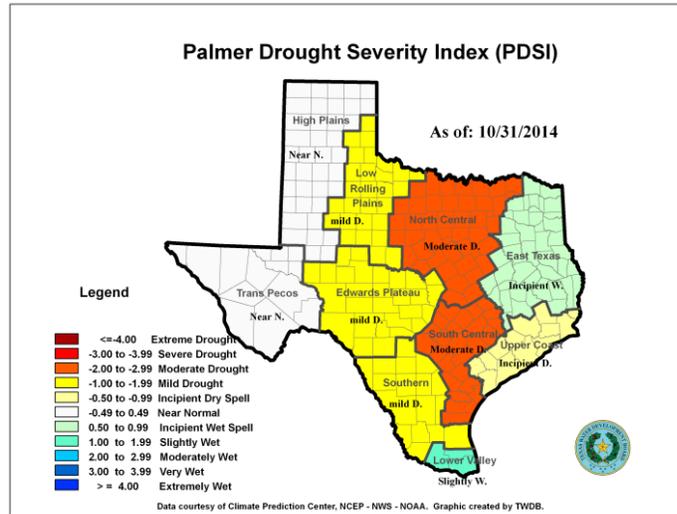
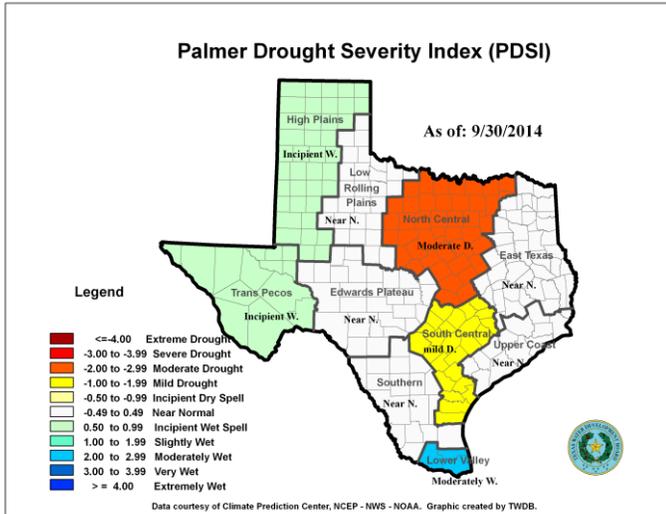
showing that grasses and topsoil moisture are still at decent levels. East Texas is riding its heavy precipitation from the summer and shows no immediate sign of developing drought conditions either.

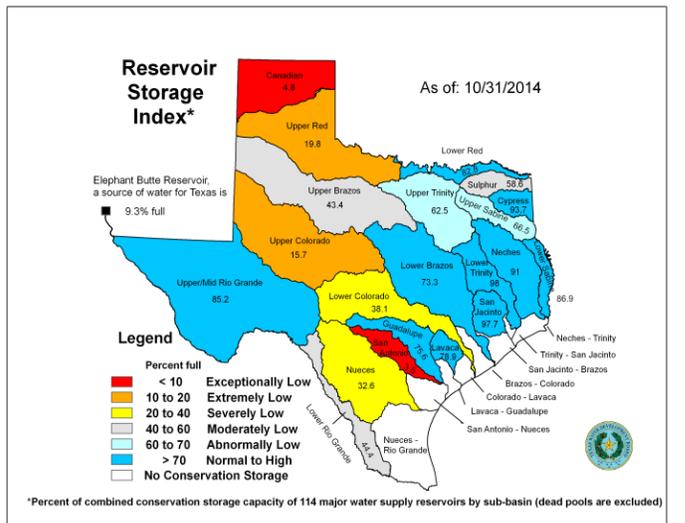
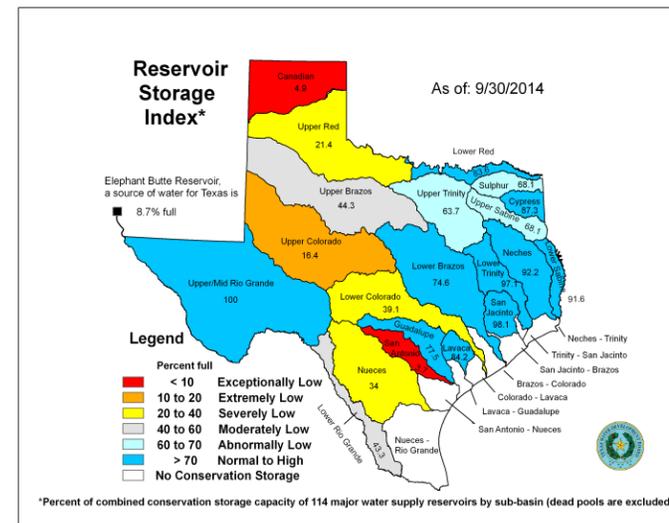
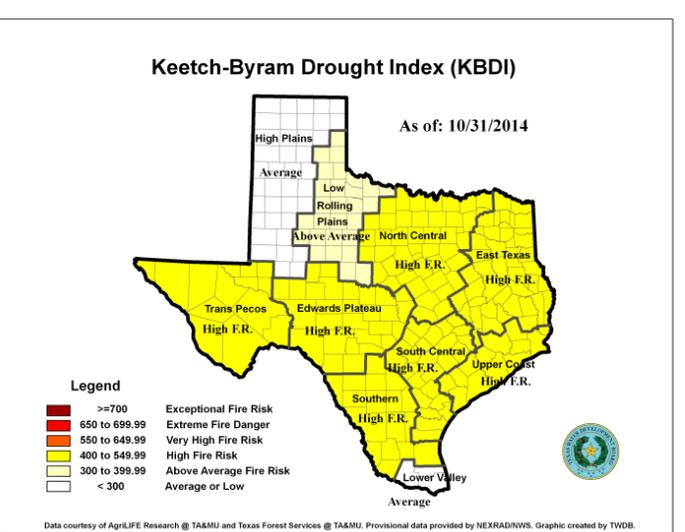
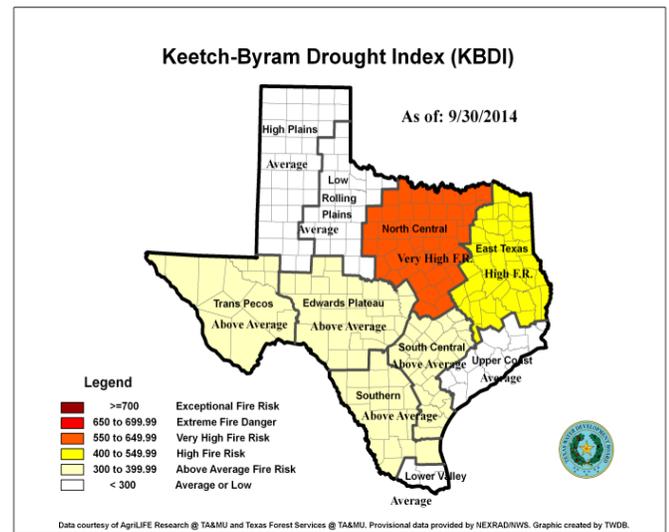
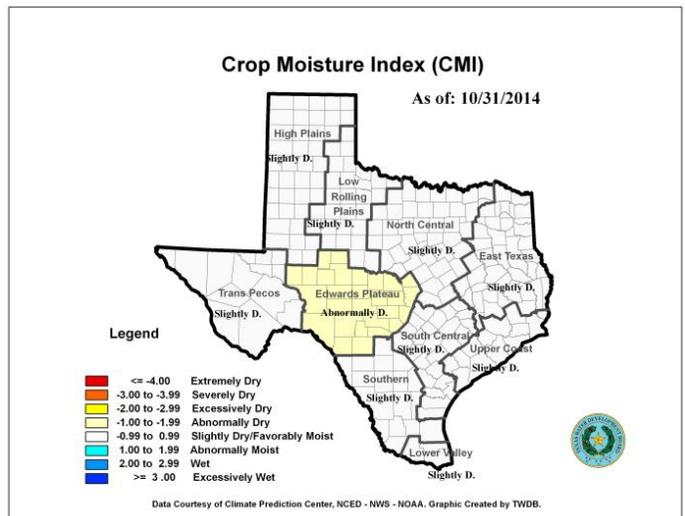
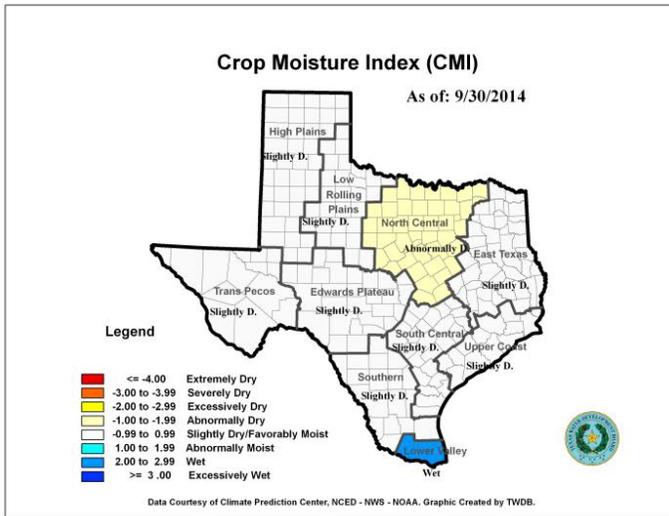


The fall and winter outlooks for Texas are similar to those of the previous few months. Temperatures in the short term have no pronounced trend for above or below normal, though the outlook for winter is predicted to be cooler than normal with larger deviations from normal farther south. Precipitation is expected to be above normal for both the rest of fall and winter due to the expected emergence of El Niño; the one-month outlook has a higher chance of being much wetter than normal, while the three-month outlook has a lower but still wetter than normal expectation.

3. Statewide Drought Conditions Update

Selected Drought Index Maps





Drought Status Summary

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

Number of Regions In Drought Category

Drought Index	High Drought			Lower Drought		Not in Drought
	Exceptional Dry / Drought	Extreme Dry / Drought	Severe Dry / Drought	Moderate or Excessive Dry / Drought	Abnormal or Mild Dry / Drought	Near or Above Normal Condition
PDSI (10)	N/A	0	0	2	3	5
SFI (9)	0	0	1	2	4	2
6 Month SPI (10)	N/A	0	0	0	0	10
CMI (10)	N/A	0	0	0	1	9
KBDI (10)	0	0	0	7	1	2
Number of River Basins / Sub-Basins In Drought Category						
RSI (21)	2	2	2	3	2	10

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	-0.51	-0.23	0.51	252	5.10	42.10
2	Low Rolling Plains	-0.87	-1.23	0.21	348	31.20	21.40
3	North Central	-0.12	-2.07	-0.10	482	63.60	14.30
4	East Texas	0.22	0.65	0.62	412	89.80	25.70
5	Trans Pecos	-0.52	-0.34	0.06	405	85.20	98.10
6	Edwards Plateau	-1.24	-1.49	-0.12	446	39.00	20.90
7	South Central	-0.86	-2.32	-0.17	467	42.70	18.70
8	Upper Coast	-0.67	-0.98	0.14	419	88.00	24.70
9	Southern	-0.18	-1.10	-0.16	441	28.00	19.00
10	Lower Valley	0.29	1.76	0.58	218	No Data	No Data

Drought Index Data

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

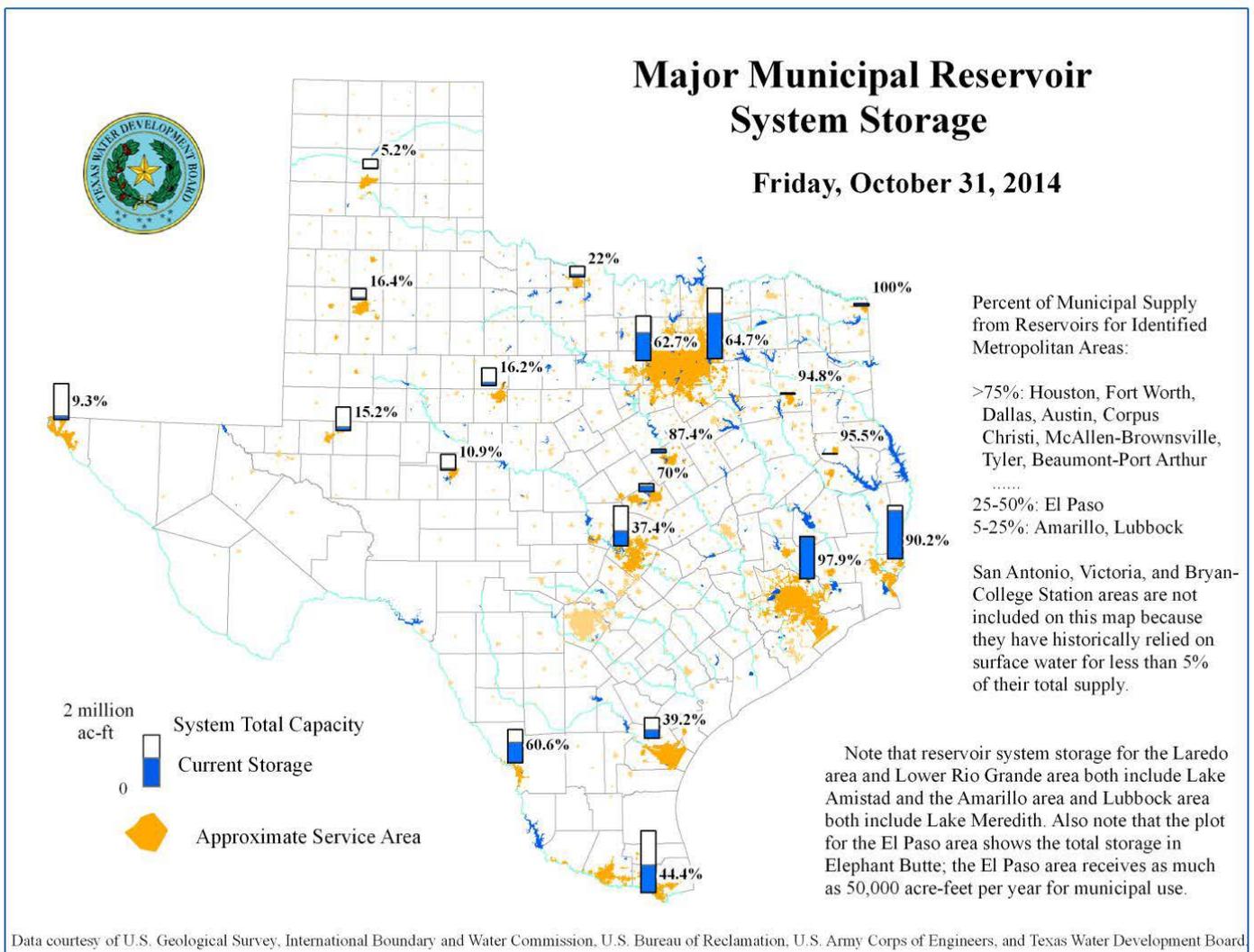
Drought Index	Index Value Improved in # Regions (Bold in table above)	Index Value Deteriorated in # Regions (Italic in table above)	Index Value Unchanged in # Regions
PDSI (10)	2	<i>8</i>	0
SFI (9)	5	<i>4</i>	0
SPI (10)	2	<i>7</i>	0
CMI (10)	2	<i>8</i>	0
KBDI (10)	2	<i>8</i>	0
RSI (21)	3	<i>18</i>	0

Reservoir Storage Condition

Water storage conditions are summarized below by river basins for the 114 of Texas major reservoirs at the end of the month:

- The statewide combined storage was 63% full at 19.64 million acft in total combined storage. This is 418,089 acre-feet less than a month ago.
- By the river basins, storage was lower than normal in 11 basin or sub-basins but Near or Above Normal in all other 10 basin or sub-basins,
- Exceptionally low in Canadian River basin and San Antonio sub-basins,
- Extremely low in Upper Colorado and Upper Red River sub-basins,
- Severely low in Lower Colorado sub basins and Nueces river basin,
- Moderately low in and Upper Brazos and Lower Rio Grande sub-basins and Sulphur basin.
- Abnormally low in Upper Trinity sub-basin and Upper Sabine sub-basins
- Near or above Normal in all other 10 basins or sub-basins.

The elephant Butte Reservoir held 183,422 acft of water, at 9.3% full by the month end. This is 11,463 acre-feet more than a month ago.

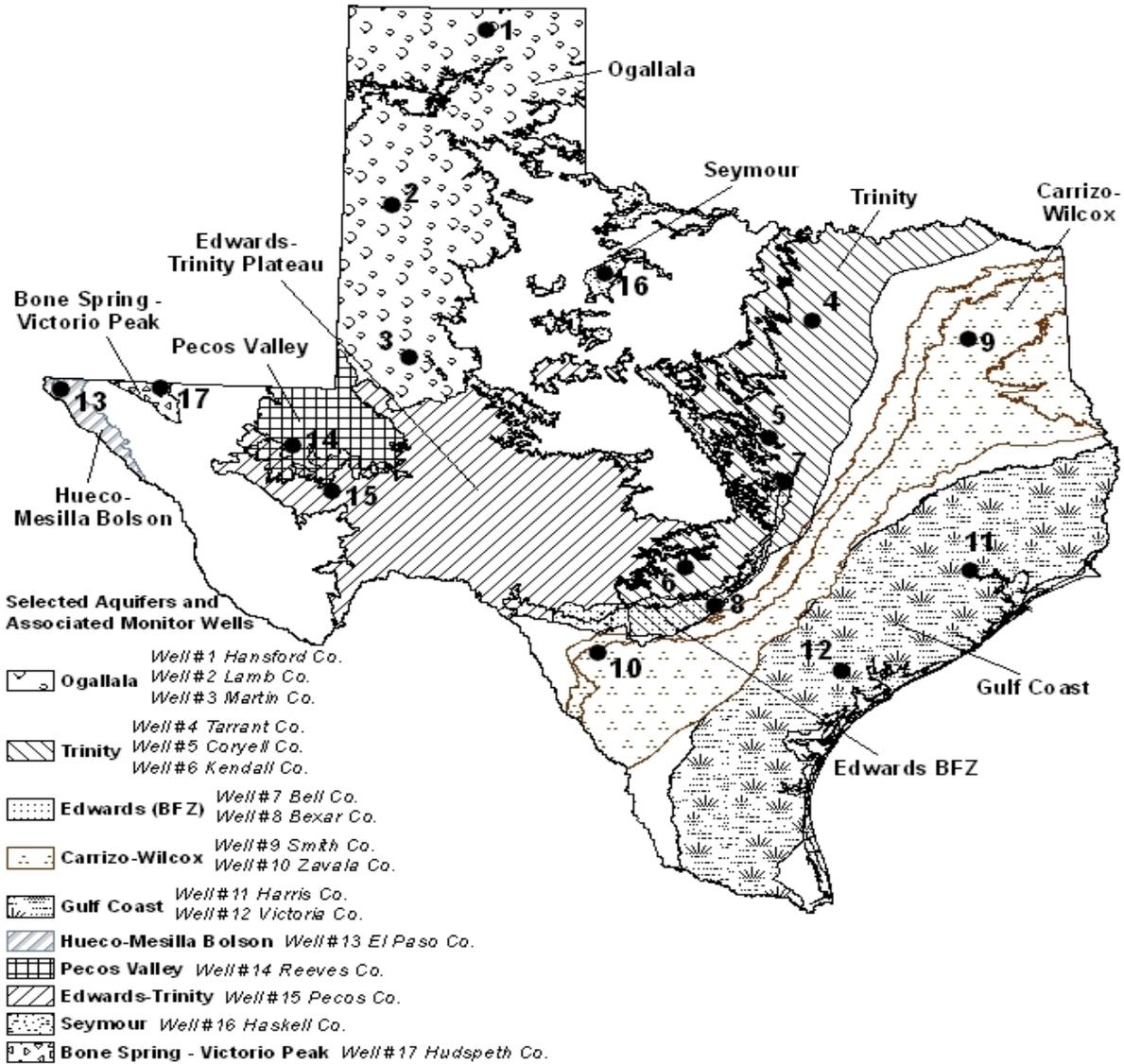


Groundwater Conditions

- Water level measurements were available from all 17 key monitoring wells in the state.
- Water levels rose in eight of the monitoring wells since the beginning of October, ranging from 0.09 feet in the Haskell County Seymour Aquifer well (well #16) to 4.17 feet in the Kendall County Trinity Aquifer well (well #6).
- Water levels declined in nine monitoring wells, ranging from 0.11 feet in the Lamb County Ogallala Aquifer well (well #2) to 2.53 feet in the Reeves County Pecos Valley Aquifer well (well #14).
- The J-17 well in San Antonio recorded a water level of 101.3 feet below land surface or 629.7 feet above mean sea level. This water level is 10.3 feet below the Stage III critical management level in that segment of the Edwards Aquifer.

Monitoring Well	October	September	Month change	Year change	Historical change
(1) Hansford 0354301	155.69	155.21	-0.45	-1.49	-85.57
(2) Lamb 1053602	144.96	144.85	-0.11	-0.91	-116.81
(3) Martin 2739903	142.34	143.06	0.72	1.34	-37.45
(4) Dallas 3319101	489.57	488.96	-0.61	0.12	-267.57
(5) Coryell 4035404	508.39	507.88	-0.51	-3.71	-216.39
(6) Kendall 6802609	155.78	159.95	4.17	-19.47	-95.78
(7) Bell 5804816	127.21	128.73	1.52	-1.47	-4.08
(8) Bexar 6837203	101.3	100.4	-0.9	-12.7	-54.66
(9) Smith 3430907	440.06	440.65	0.59	1.84	-74.06
(10) La Salle 7738103	510.8	510.46	-0.34	-21.25	-257.73
(11) Harris 6514409	194.05	194.55	0.5	4.33	-58.55
(12) Victoria 8017502	39.32	37.84	-1.48	-0.05	-5.32
(13) El Paso 4913301	296.32	295.18	-1.14	-1.6	-64.42
(14) Reeves 4644501	159.64	157.11	-2.53	-5.01	-67.55
(15) Pecos 5216802	227.08	227.82	0.74	1.23	19.8
(16) Haskell 2135748	49.14	49.23	0.09	-0.67	-7.81
(17) Hudspeth 4807516	144.27	148.17	3.9	-0.61	-40.35

Groundwater Observation Wells Location Map



6. Water Utility Status

Overall, there are **1,185** water systems that are asking their customers to restrict water use (up 12 from a month ago). Of these systems, **793** are asking customers to follow a mandatory watering schedule and **392** are asking customers to follow a voluntary watering schedule. There are currently **69** PWSs that have prohibited all outside watering by their customers. A total of **1,617** water systems have reported to the TCEQ regarding their status using the online form on the TCEQ public website. Seasonal forecasts extending into late January 2015 indicate drought conditions will likely improve in the panhandle region and northern portions of the state and some drought removal is likely in the central area 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 be limited 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 October 25, 2014, the U.S. combined ownership at Amistad/Falcon stood at 44.12% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 1,496,571 acre-feet, up from 41.23% (1,398,475 acre-feet) of normal conservation a year ago at this time. Overall the system is holding 40.25% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 2,383,487 acre-feet with Amistad at 49.35% of conservation capacity, impounding 1,616,556 acre-feet and Falcon at 28.98% of conservation capacity, impounding 766,932 acre-feet. Mexico has 35.05% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 886,917 acre-feet at Amistad/Falcon.

Allocations: As of printing of the September 2014 ownership report, we have allocated 509,530.1277 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 1,104,187 acre-feet at Amistad (60.0%); and approximately 392,384 acre-feet (25.3%) of normal conservation capacity at Falcon. Evaporation and seepage losses at Amistad, as of October 25, 2014, are

160,931 acre-feet. For the same period, the U.S. has lost 123,180 acre-feet at Falcon.

Releases to meet demands: In 2014, (through October 25, 2014), Mexico has released 438,960 acre-feet from Amistad and 614,982 acre-feet from Falcon for Mexico needs. The U.S. has released 623,492 acre-feet from Falcon and 485,987 acre-feet from Amistad for U.S. needs. Combined with gains between Amistad and Falcon, U.S. inflows to Falcon have totaled 577,671 acre-feet. The U.S. demand in the lower Rio Grande has been met at a rate of 118.9% by direct Rio Grande inflows and Amistad releases this year.

Upper Rio Grande (New Mexico): Currently, Elephant Butte in New Mexico is storing 184,842 acre-feet (9.13%) and Caballo Dam in New Mexico, downstream of Elephant Butte, is storing 31,618 acre-feet (13.93%). This water storage in part is used to meet water needs in the El Paso area.

Outlook: 44% of all accounts began 2014 at 0% water available, 27% of all accounts began 2014 with 0-50% of their usable balance and only 29% of all accounts began 2014 with 50-100% of their usable balance available. The National Weather Service continues to report that moderate to abnormally dry conditions with a few areas still under severe drought conditions are affecting parts of Rio Grande Basin counties.

9. 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	October mean (cfs)	October historical median (cfs)
Red River near Burkburnett	10	198
Red River near De Kalb	1359	3540

Drought Condition: As of October 28, 84% of the Red River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 19% 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	October mean (cfs)	October historical median (cfs)
Sulphur River near Talco	245	18

Drought Conditions: As of October 28, 47% 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	October mean (cfs)	October historical median (cfs)
Little Cypress Creek near Jefferson	41	16

Drought Conditions: As of October 28, 91% of the Cypress Creek Basin is experiencing 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	October mean (cfs)	October historical median (cfs)
Sabine River near Beckville	403	205
Sabine River near Ruliff	5414	1280

Drought Conditions: As of October 28, 28% 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	October mean (cfs)	October historical median (cfs)
Angelina River near Alto	220	91
Neches River at Evadale	1874	1380

Drought Conditions: As of October 28, 0% of the Neches River Basin is experiencing at least moderate 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	October mean (cfs)	October historical median (cfs)
Trinity River at Dallas	686	347
Trinity River near Oakwood	1461	873
Trinity River at Romayor	1085	1070

Drought Conditions: As of October 28, 62% of the Trinity 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.

Brazos River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	October mean (cfs)	October historical median (cfs)
Double Mountain Fork Brazos River near Aspermont	88	10
Brazos River near Glen Rose	11	216
Little River at Cameron	133	207
Navasota near Easterly	14	10
Brazos near Hempstead	480*	1550
Brazos near Rosharon	877	1840

* Data not available for 10/31/14. Mean was calculated using data from 10/1/14 – 10/30/14.

Drought Conditions: As of October 28, 65% of the Brazos River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 8% 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.

Colorado River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	October mean (cfs)	October historical median (cfs)
Colorado River at Ballinger	2	17
San Saba River at San Saba	27	82
Llano River at Llano	69	147
Pedernales River near Johnson City	69	147
Colorado River at Columbus	259*	1010

* Data not available for 10/28/14 – 10/31/14. Mean was calculated using data from 10/1/14 – 10/27/14.

Drought Conditions: As of October 28, 51% of the Colorado 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, in the Concho Watermaster Area, the Concho Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflow conditions and modify diversion requests as needed.

Guadalupe River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	October mean (cfs)	October historical median (cfs)
Guadalupe River near Spring Branch	15	131
San Marcos River at Luling	110	180
Guadalupe River at Cuero	181	863
Guadalupe River at Victoria	176	871

Drought Conditions: As of October 28, 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	October mean (cfs)	October historical median (cfs)
San Antonio River at Falls City	136	239
Cibolo Creek at Falls City	14	25

Drought Conditions: As of October 28, 100% 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 streamflow 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	October mean (cfs)	October historical median (cfs)
Nueces river at Tilden	22	37
Frio River near Derby	0	7
Atascosa River at Whitsett	3	8

Drought Conditions: As of October 28, 50% 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

October 1- 31, 2014

City/Station	Rainfall Totals (in)
Brazos River Basin	
Lubbock	0.8
Abilene	0.78
Waco	5.01
College Station	1.81
Colorado River Basin	
Midland	Trace Amount
San Angelo	0.44
Austin Mabry	1.85
Austin Bergstrom	1.94
Neches River Basin	
Tyler	4.65
Lufkin	3.61
Sabine River Basin	
Longview	5.51
Trinity River Basin	
Dallas/ Fort Worth	2.09

10. Agriculture



AgriLife Extension district reporters compiled the following summaries for the twelve Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Districts for the week ending November 9, 2014.

Central: Most counties reported soil moisture, rangeland and pastures and crop conditions as good. Overall, livestock were also in good condition. The region received good rains, and small grains were looking good. Bermuda grass pastures were recovering, but a predicted frost will likely bring an end to growth. Wheat and oats emerged. Rangeland was in fair to good condition. The pecan crop looked promising. Livestock were in good condition. Stock-tank water levels were good, and creeks and rivers were up, all of which provided ample drinking water for livestock. The rains also provided excellent forage production. Livestock numbers were strong.

Coastal Bend: The counties received steady, soaking rains as a front moved slowly through the area. Most counties received from 1.5 to 3.5 inches of rain. Winter pastures got a boost from the rains, as did wheat and oats. The pecan harvest was delayed by the rains. Most field activities were on hold due to sloppy conditions.

East: Subsoil moisture varied widely throughout the counties, from 90 percent surplus in Henderson County to 75 percent short in Angelina County. In many counties, a common report was a fairly even split between adequate and short moisture levels. Pasture and rangeland ratings varied widely as well, from 100 percent poor to mostly good, with good being the most common rating. From 1 inch to 4 inches of rain fell in some areas, which when coupled with cooler weather gave cool-season forages a boost. Producers were beginning to supply supplemental feed for the winter. Fall vegetables were doing well. Lake and pond levels improved. Calf weaning and cow culling neared completion. Livestock were in good condition due to great summer conditions that supplied sufficient summer grazing. Producers finished harvesting warm-season forages, and the majority of cool season forages were planted and emerging. Fall calving was in progress. Feral hogs damaged pastures.

Far West: Warm days and cool nights were the norm, with much of the area

receiving from 0.3 inch to 1.5 inches of rain. Glasscock, Upton, and Presidio counties received from 2 to 4 inches of rain. Subsoil moisture ranged from fair to very poor. Topsoil moisture was from adequate to short. Upland cotton was in fair to poor condition, with the harvest in various stages of progress from county to county. Most corn and grain sorghum were harvested. The sunflower harvest was completed. Most winter wheat had emerged and was in fair to poor condition. The El Paso County cotton harvest was on hold because of wet conditions. Pecan shuck separation was in progress, with some pecan nuts falling. Alfalfa was slowly growing after recent rains. Another light cutting might be possible when fields dry out.

North: Topsoil moisture was mostly adequate, with a few counties reporting surplus. About 2 inches of rain fell across the region. The rains came very slowly, which greatly benefited newly planted wheat and winter annual pastures. Warm-season forage growth was minimal as temperatures cooled. Winter pastures were starting to grow in most areas. Acorns, persimmons and pecans were bountiful. Livestock were in good condition. The feral hog population was on the rise, and the invasive species continued to cause damage.

Panhandle: Temperatures were up and down for the week — cool at first, then warming to slightly above average by the weekend. Soil moisture varied from very short to adequate, with most counties reporting short to adequate. From a trace to 2 inches of rain fell in isolated areas. Most of the region experienced the first freeze of the season about midweek. The Collingsworth County cotton harvest was stalled by wet conditions until late in the week. However, the rain significantly improved the wheat crop. Deaf Smith County producers had a good week with most corn harvested before the forecast arctic blast that came Nov. 11. Grain sorghum was doing well with many acres getting harvested, and about average yields so far. Earlier plantings of winter wheat were progressing well, though many acres had yet to be planted. Producers were turning stockers into graze on the earliest plantings of wheat — if they could procure the cattle. Hansford County remained very dry and cool. The cotton harvest there was in full swing, except for a couple of days when it was too windy to strip. In Dallam and Hartley counties, the corn harvest wound down as the sorghum and cotton harvests got started in earnest. Most cow/calf producers had already weaned spring calves. Most cattle were in good condition, but livestock producers were still doctoring calves for respiratory and shipping fever, which was typical for this time of year as temperatures fluctuated widely. Rangeland and pastures were rated mostly fair to good.

Rolling Plains: Parts of the region got up to 1.25 inches of rain, while others remained dry. Winter wheat used for grazing that received rain was responding well. Some wheat looked especially good, but other fields had bit knocked back by infestations of armyworms and grubs. With the much colder temperatures, native and improved warm-season pastures showed little to no growth. Producers continued to over-seed small grains onto summer pastures. Cotton gins were running consistently in some counties. Yields from irrigated cotton acres were good. Livestock remained in good to fair condition. A large portion of the spring

calf crop was sold during the past few weeks with excellent prices received. Stock-water tanks and lakes remained in great need of runoff water. The pecan harvest continued with good yields reported.

South: A cold front brought moderate to heavy rainfall and cooler temperatures, halting field activities but benefiting rangeland and pastures. In the northern part of the region, from 2 to 4.5 inches of rain boosted soil moisture to 60 to 100 percent adequate in all counties. The rain slowed peanut harvesting in Atascosa and Frio counties. McMullen County rangeland and pastures showed great response to the rain, but the cooler weather slowed growth. Livestock producers were able to reduce supplemental feeding. Cattle body conditions scores continued to improve as most cowherds completed calf weaning. In the eastern part of the region, 2 to 3 inches of rain was common, with some areas getting 5 inches. The rain came slowly, with minimal runoff. Soil moisture was 50 to 100 percent adequate through the area. Producers were making plans to start planting wheat as a result of the added moisture. Livestock remained in good condition with prices remaining high for both feeder and replacement cattle. The western part of the region, also received quite a lot of rain, which supplied moisture to recently planted wheat. Where field conditions were dry enough, producers were preparing fields for crops such as winter oats. In Zavala County, the rains delayed cabbage harvesting, but otherwise benefited the crop, as well as spinach and onions. Native forages on local ranches were improved by the rain. Stock-tank water levels were improved by runoff in areas that received harder and faster rains. Soil moisture was 40 to 100 percent adequate throughout the area. In the southern part of the region, the rains halted harvesting, though all fall vegetable crops were progressing well. Soil moisture was 100 percent adequate in Cameron and Hidalgo counties, 80 percent short in Starr County and 45 percent adequate in Willacy County. Rangeland and pasture conditions were fair to good.

South Plains: Parts of the region received from 1 inch to nearly 3 inches of rain, which brought the cotton harvest to a standstill in some counties. But strippers were expected to be back out in fields in full force soon. Where bolls were open, the rains may have caused a slight discoloration in cotton lint. Many producers were applying defoliant and desiccants. So far, cotton yields were mostly good but were expected to vary widely before the harvest is completed. Rangeland and pastures were in good to excellent condition, as were livestock. Area wheat fields were in very good condition. Hockley County grain sorghum producers had all but completed this year's harvest. In Mitchell County, the cotton harvest was in full swing, but many of acres had to be shredded. Total ginned bales were expected to be down from last year.

Southeast: Soil-moisture was mostly in the adequate to surplus range, with Hardin County reporting 100 percent adequate. Rangeland and pasture ratings varied widely, but were mostly fair to poor, with fair ratings being the most common. Rain was greatly welcomed by hay producers who fertilized pastures in recent weeks. However, the forecasted additional rain and cool weather would slow grass growth. Livestock were in good condition. Cool-season forages were doing well, and clover emerged.

Southwest: From 1 inch to 4 inches of rain fell, benefiting rangeland, oats and wheat. However, there was not much runoff, and stock tanks remained low. The pecan harvest continued with decent yields so far. Livestock and wildlife were in extremely good condition. The hunting season was much more active than previous years, and the rut was still in full swing. Kinney County reported a 250-pound white-tailed buck having been taken, which would make it a ranch-weight record.

West Central: The region had mild days with cool nights. Most areas reported a good soaking rain from 1 inch to 3 inches. The rain helped replenish soil moisture and allowed fall planting to continue. Producers continued to plant small grains as fields dried out. A forecast cold front was expected to drop temperatures to freezing and below for several days. Wheat was responding well to rain and warm temperatures, but the wet weather halted cotton harvesting and wheat planting. Rangeland and pastures were in good condition going into the winter. The recent moisture also promoted cool-season grass growth and green-up. Fall cattle work continued. Livestock remained in fair to good condition. The pecan harvest was well underway with good yields so far. Hunting season began, and deer were in good condition.

Texas Crop Progress and Conditions
 USDA NASS, Texas Field Office Report: Issue TX-CW4414
 Weekly summary for November 3-9, 2014:

Crop	Crop Condition					Index ¹	
	Percent of Acreage					2014	2013
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor		
Corn	18	49	27	5	1	81	75
Cotton	7	27	40	17	9	61	58
Peanuts	8	41	27	12	6	71	73
Wheat	12	39	35	4	4	72	66
Sorghum	12	46	31	9	2	76	76
Soybeans	8	44	43	10	1	75	68
Range and Pasture	4	29	39	19	9	--	--

¹ The formula for the condition index is $I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 90G + 110E)/100$ where I = crop condition index and V, P, F, G, E = percentage of crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good, excellent.

Top Soil Moisture Condition by District

District	Topsoil Moisture Condition by District				Subsoil Moisture Condition by District				Days Suitable for Fieldwork
	Percentage of Acreage				Percentage of Acreage				
	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus	
11	22	50	28	0	22	52	26	0	6.4
12	12	37	45	6	13	42	43	2	3.5
21	11	32	57	0	8	37	55	0	4.8
22	18	34	43	5	21	30	45	4	3.9
30	11	43	44	2	24	45	31	0	4.0
40	12	20	59	9	6	26	61	7	4.1
51	6	15	65	14	6	23	60	11	5.3
52	6	28	55	11	8	27	52	13	5.0
60	18	39	42	1	17	38	44	1	6.7
70	13	24	52	11	11	38	40	11	3.5
81	5	36	55	4	9	49	40	2	4.4
82	2	1	80	17	10	33	50	7	4.0
90	0	15	67	18	0	17	70	13	3.1
96	8	15	55	22	3	31	63	3	2.3
97	0	25	65	10	7	25	59	9	4.7
State	12	30	51	7	12	37	47	4	4.7

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>

Sam Hermitte, Texas Water Development Board, (512) 463-5617, fax (512) 475-2053, website: <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/>

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

Steven Bednarz, 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. Mark McFarland, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, (979) 845- 4008, 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 A&M Forest Service, (830) 997-5426, website: <http://txforests.tamu.edu>

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

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

Regina Chapline Eroles, Public Utility Commission of Texas, (512) 936-7392, Website: www.puc.texas.gov/

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