Drought Update

August 2015

Mark Wentzel

Surface Water Resources Division

Water Science and Conservation

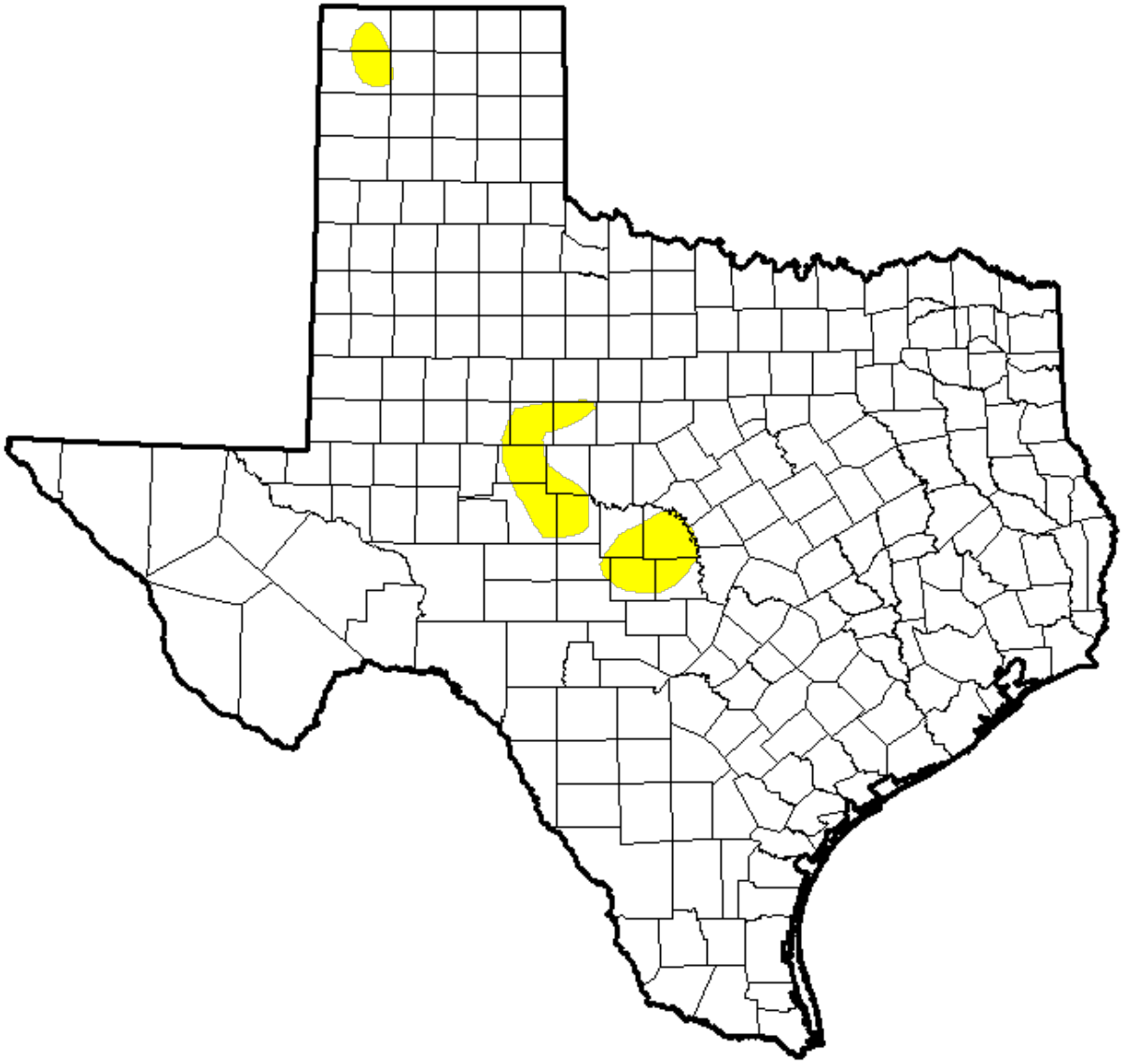
U.S. Drought Monitor

Texas

July 14, 2015

(Released Thursday, Jul. 16, 2015)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

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

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

Author:

David Simeral

Western Regional Climate Center

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

U.S. Drought Monitor

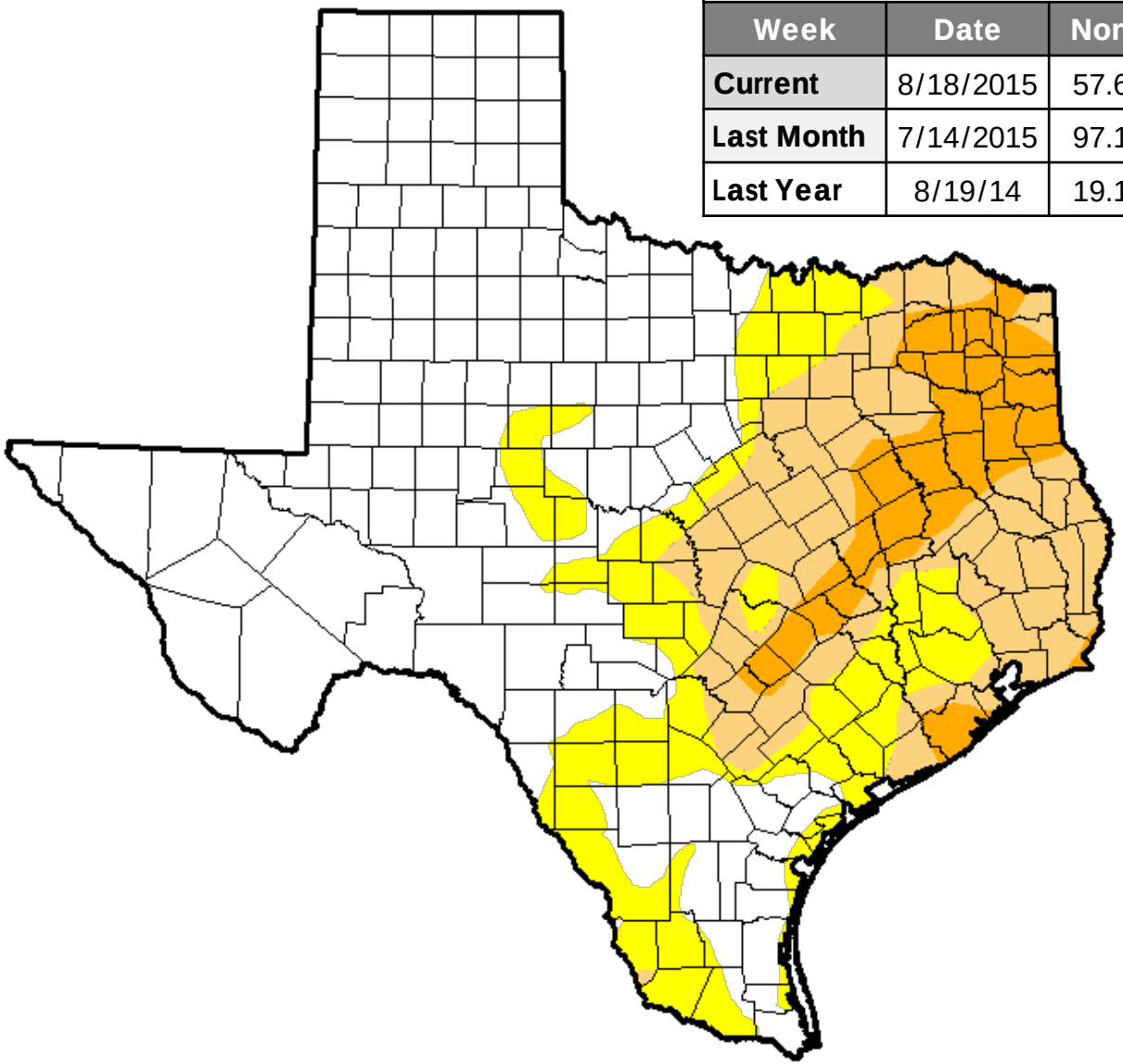
Texas

August 18, 2015

(Released Thursday, Aug. 20, 2015)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)							
Week	**Date**	**None**	**D0**	**D1**	**D2**	**D3**	**D4**
Current	8/18/2015	57.66	17.05	16.91	8.37	0.00	0.00
Last Month	7/14/2015	97.16	2.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Year	8/19/14	19.17	21.54	25.05	19.08	12.40	2.76



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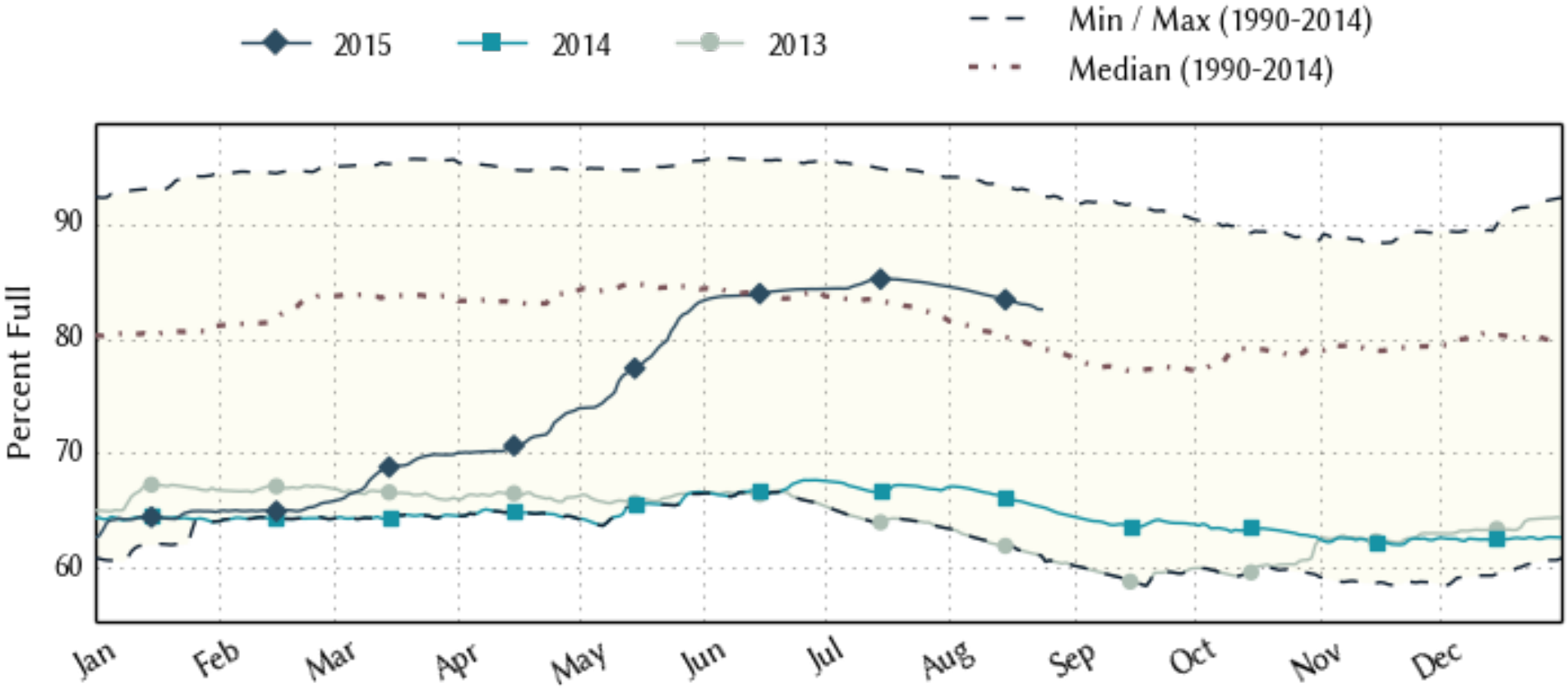
Author:
Chris Fenimore
NCEI/NESDIS/NOAA

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

RESERVOIR CONSERVATION STORAGE DATA

Storage for August 24, 2015: 25.9 Million acre-ft (82.5%)
Conservation capacity: 31.4 Million acre-ft

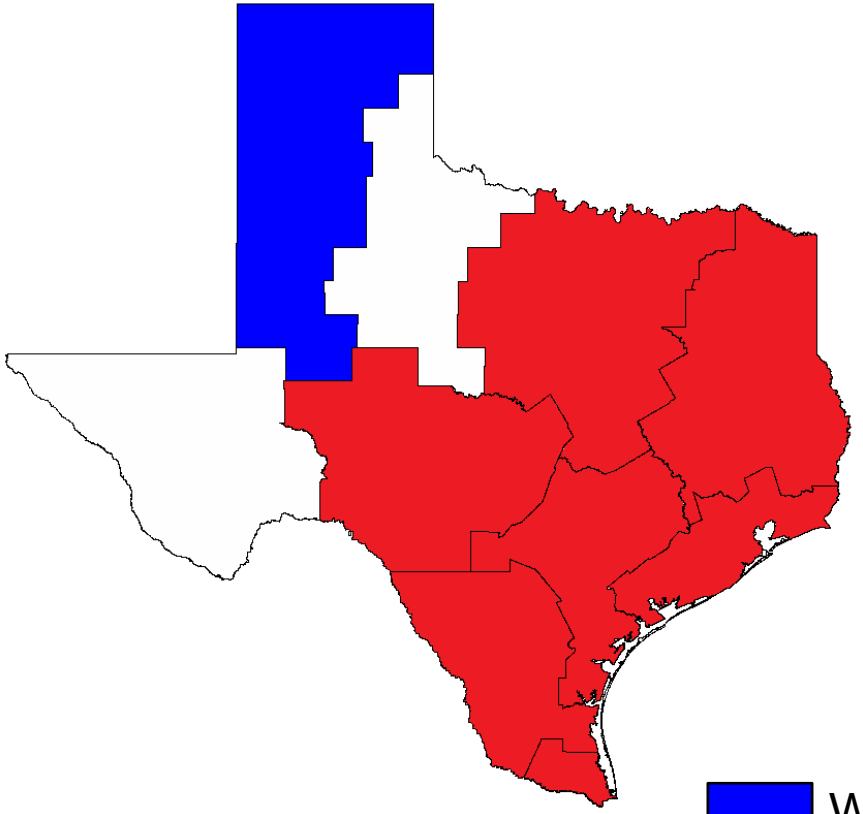


Water Data for Texas

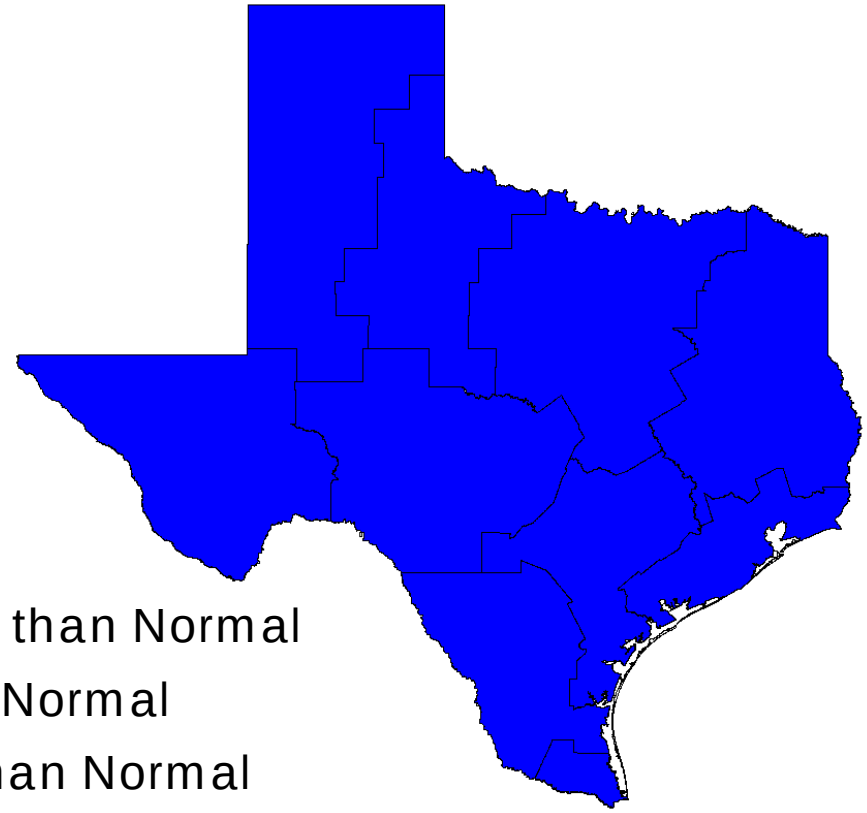
Texas Water Development Board

EL NIÑO AND SEASONAL PRECIPITATION TRENDS

July-August-September

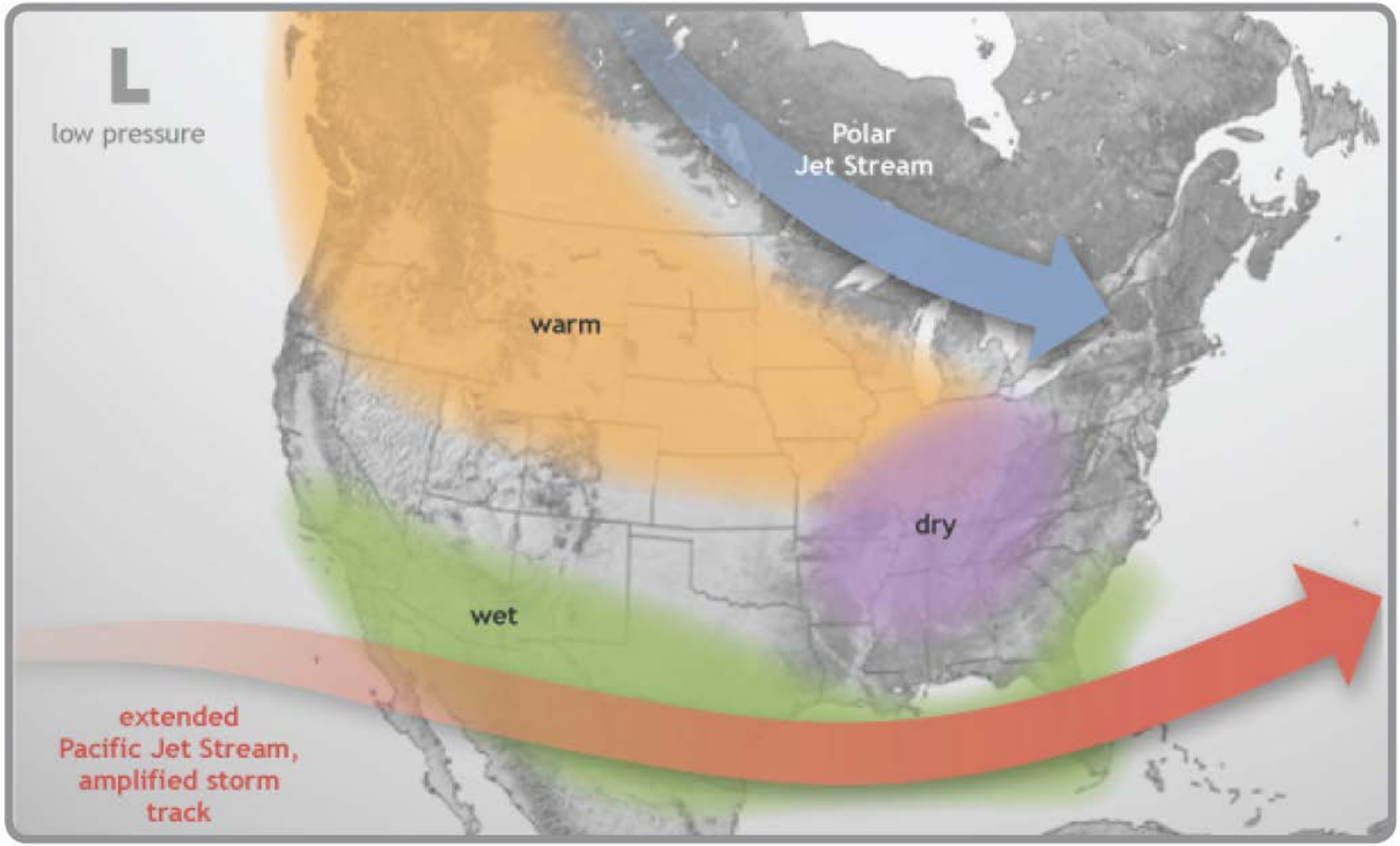


October-November-December



Wetter than Normal
About Normal
Drier than Normal

EL NIÑO IN WINTER

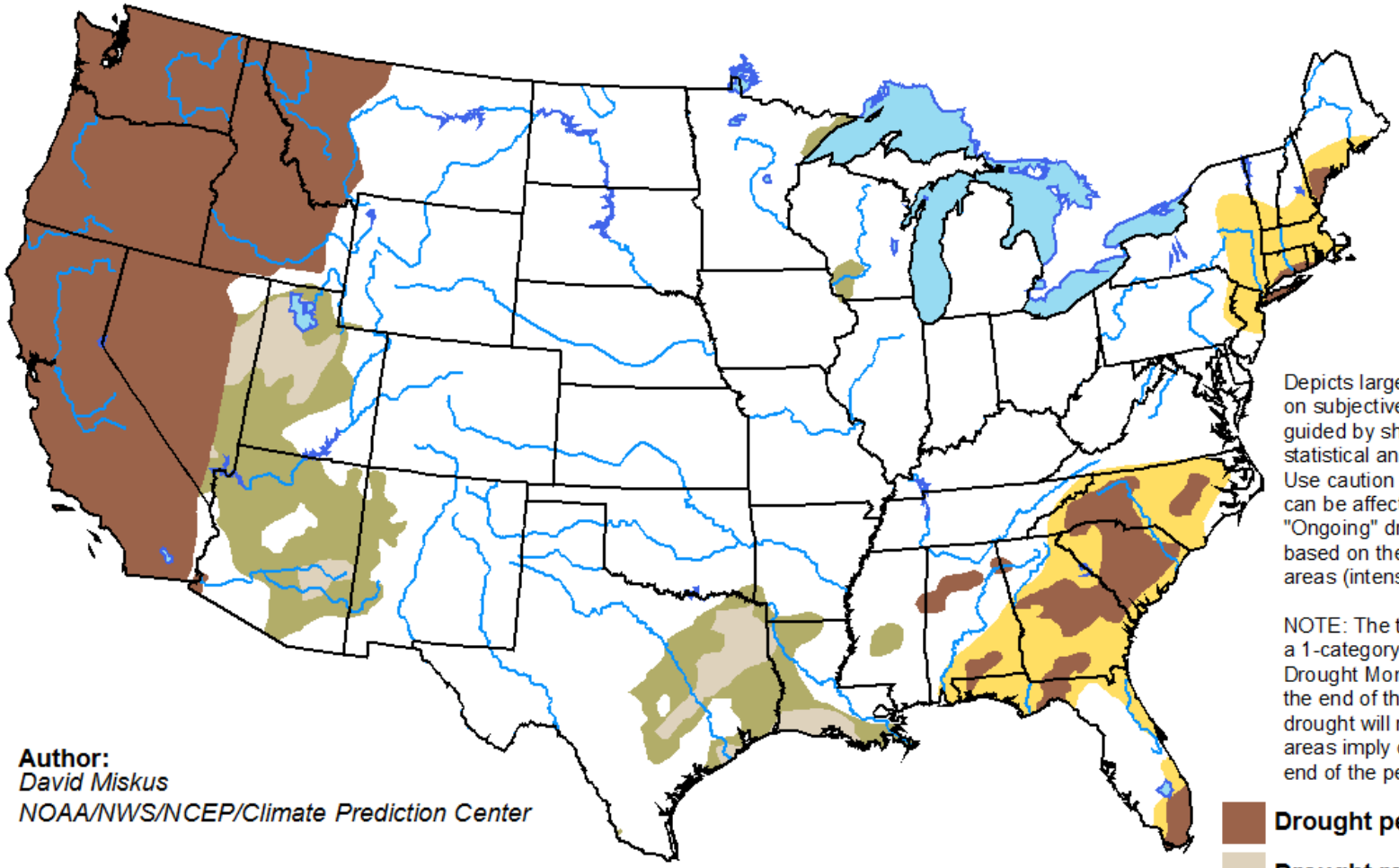


NOAA NATIONAL CENTERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for August 20 - November 30, 2015
Released August 20, 2015

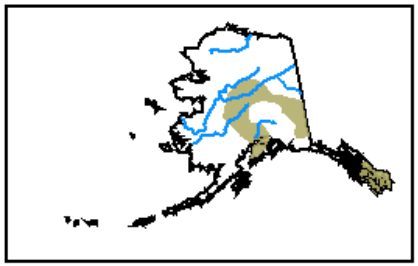


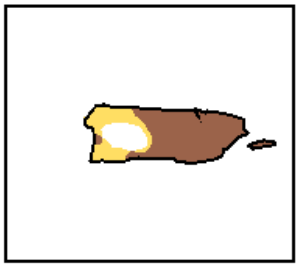
Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

- **Drought persists/intensifies**
- **Drought remains but improves**
- **Drought removal likely**
- **Drought development likely**





http://go.usa.gov/hHTe