

The Drawn Hunts Catalog interactive map shows all drawn hunt opportunities by category or by area. All applications, fee payments and permit issuance are handled electronically. To participate, applicants will need internet access, an email address and a credit or debit card. The customer ID number from the applicant's hunting or fishing license is the most effective way to access the system.

Application fees range from free to \$3 or \$10, depending on the hunt category. Adult hunters who are selected may need to pay a special permit fee of \$80 for regular hunts and \$130 for extended hunts. Some categories, such as the youth-only hunts, require no application fees or permit fees. Permits are open to resident and non-resident hunters alike.

Application deadlines are the 1st and 15th of each month between Aug. 1 and Nov. 1. Aug. 1 is the deadline for all alligator hunt categories and private lands dove hunts. Aug. 15 is the deadline for archery deer, archery mule deer, pronghorn, private land pronghorn and javelina.

A full list of category deadlines can be found on the Drawn Hunts Deadlines webpage. Hunters can apply until 11:59 p.m. CST on the application deadline. Applicants can check their drawing status online at any time.

For questions, contact hunt@tpwd.texas.gov or call (512) 389-4505 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday- Friday.

Drought conditions persist in Far West Texas

By Emmy Powell

Drought conditions haven't yet released their grip on Far West Texas.

The abundant rain that much of the state has received hasn't made it to Pecos County where Sarah McKenzie raises cattle and grows irrigated alfalfa.

Only a few rain showers have sprinkled across the area.

"We continue to struggle with a persistent drought. We're in maybe year three of less than four inches of rain cumulative," she told the Texas Farm Bureau Radio Network. "It is extremely challenging for us. We're a marginal ranching country in general. This just provides another challenge. We're a little bit different or unique in that we're seed stock operators, so we have much invested in our genetics and our strategies have been to just feed more."

The summer heat brings additional challenges for farmers and ranchers in the area, but McKenzie noted their irrigated alfalfa has helped them get through the dry conditions.

"The farm really is our salvation in some ways. It has a persistent, consistent crop. We have no difficulty marketing high quality alfalfa," she said. "We sell small bales—three by four bales and then four by four bales. So, we have a source of

feed for our own cattle and produce enough to sell, which helps offset some feed costs."

The most recent USDA Crop Progress and Condition report shows some parts of the state has steady moisture while other parts are in need of rain. About 52% of the current pasture and range conditions are rated at fair to good.

The forage situation is different for Jeff Caspar, a cow-calf producer in McCullough County.

"The spring was very good to us, especially in April and May," he said. "In the month of May, we just received an abnormal amount of rain up to 12 inches in the county and with the sunshine and the warm weather, it has really grown the grass."

Caspar's hay crop is looking exceptional this year.

His main challenge has been working around rain showers and damage from storms.

"Coastal hay has been growing well. Hay grazer has been growing well," he said. "The one challenge in a few spots has been some of these severe thunderstorms that have come through. A few of them have had hail and that damaged the hay grazer crops. But overall, hay will to be ample this year."

Caspar said his stock tanks are full and in great shape for the first time since 2018.

He's outlook is positive, but he knows farming and ranching is at the mercy of the weather.

"There's always challenges,"

Caspar said. "It's really good right now, but you know how Mother Nature can turn on you quickly, and we're just hoping that this green grass will carry us deep into the summer and get us into the fall."

On This Day in Texas History

July 12, 1870

On this day in 1870, at the battle of the Little Wichita River, Capt. Curwin B. McClellan and a force of fifty-five troopers of the Sixth Cavalry attacked a camp of Kiowa Indians under Chief Kicking Bird. The Indians had crossed the Red River into Texas and terrorized white settlers across Wichita, Archer, Young, and Jack counties. McClellan

caught up with them on the Little Wichita River in what is now Archer County. He soon realized that he was outnumbered by two to one, and that the Indians were equipped with Spencer rifles, superior to his equipment. His men were attacked from all sides, and three died during a retreat. After cowboys from the Terrell Ranch and twenty troopers reinforced McClellan, Kicking Bird broke off the engagement. In his report McClellan praised Kicking Bird's generalship and called for larger forces to protect the frontier. This was the last time Kicking Bird was ever involved in hostilities. He dedicated the rest of his life to establishing better relations between the Kiowas and the whites.

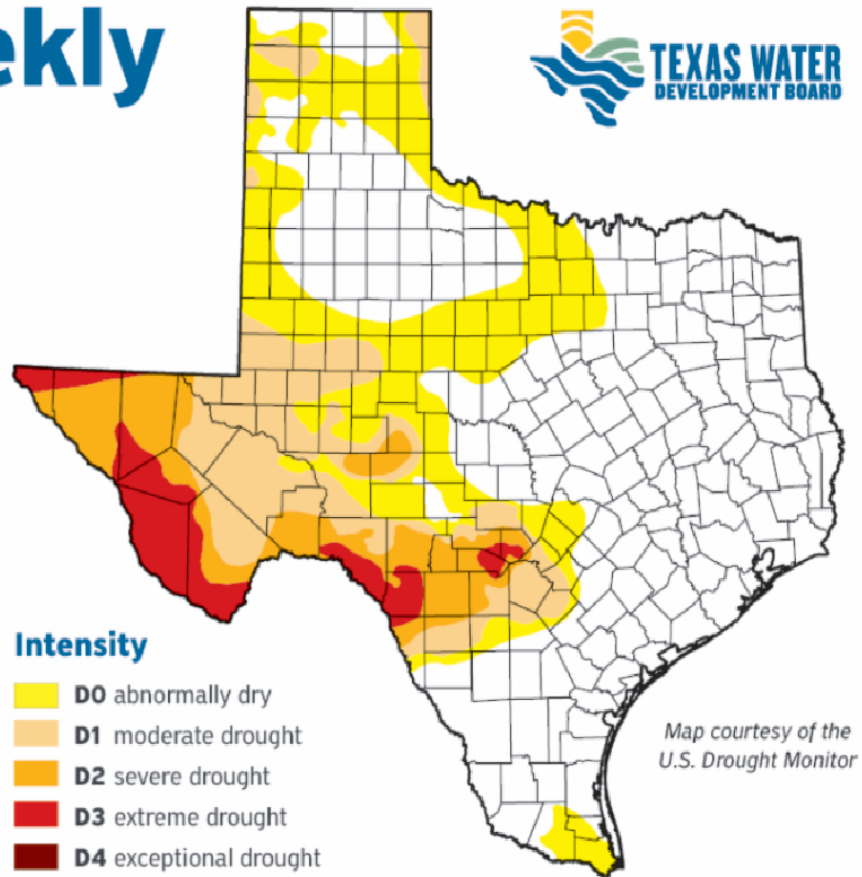
Water Weekly

For the week of 07/08/24



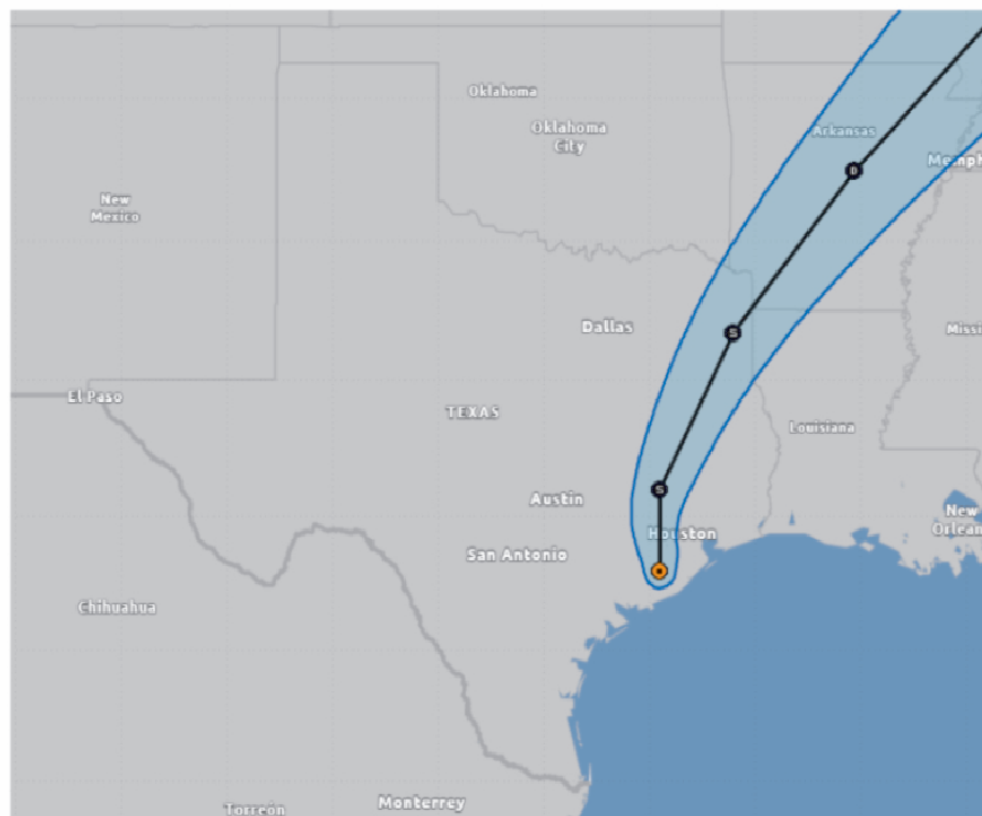
Water conditions

The latest drought map for conditions as of July 2 shows a small increase in the area of the state impacted by drought. In the last week, drought expanded and intensified in West Texas but was relatively unchanged in the rest of the state.



Drought conditions

- 26%** now
- 25%** a week ago
- 25%** three months ago
- 27%** a year ago



Hurricane Beryl

Hurricane Beryl made landfall on the Texas coast the morning of July 8. Rainfall from this system is not expected to improve drought conditions in the state, as the storm track is well to the east of areas impacted by drought.

	Current Center Location
Forecast Center Locations:	
	Tropical/Subtropical Cyclone
	Potential/Post-tropical Cyclone
Forecast Sustained Winds:	
	M > 110 mph H 74 - 110 mph
	S 39 - 73 mph D < 39 mph
	Potential track area

Map courtesy of the NOAA/NWS

By Dr. Mark Wentzel, Hydrologist, Office of Water Science and Conservation

Kellen McMurry, Government Relations | Kellen.McMurry@twdb.texas.gov | 512-475-1589
Media Relations | MediaRelations@twdb.texas.gov | 512-463-5129

www.twdb.texas.gov

