

# BLUEBONNET BULLETIN

## BLUEBONNET GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



*Jaxson Green (Brazos Co.) pictured with General Manager Zach Holland, recognizes the District's continued support of the 4-H Water Ambassadors Program.*

### UP NEXT:

*Upcoming Events  
Seasonal Drought Outlook  
Regional Water Planning*

## District News

### *highlights & takeaways*

#### **4-H WATER AMBASSADORS PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP**

The District is proud to support and sponsor these future leaders another year! Every spring, up to 30 high school youth are selected to participate in a summer 4-H2O Leadership Academy (tour). Students travel throughout Texas to learn how water is collected, conveyed, treated, conserved, and managed to meet the need of our economy and citizenry. The mission of the program is to "provide high school youth an opportunity to gain advanced knowledge and develop leadership skills related to the science, technology, engineering, and management of water in Texas" and is funded entirely by donations and sponsorships. The application period begins **April 1, 2022**, and closes **May 15, 2022**. Learn more about how to apply & read more about their statewide impact in the recently published Annual Review:

<https://bit.ly/bgcd-4H2O>.

#### **OTHER DISTRICT UPDATES**

- 2022 Director appointees sworn in at the January meeting.
- FY 2021 Audit completed.
- District fee schedule amendments discussions continue.

**More info is available on our website:** <https://bit.ly/bluebonnet-gcd>

# Save the Date

## upcoming events & programs

### BGCD + AGRILIFE PROGRAMS

- **EarthKind Landscapes.** March 16, TBD.
- **Rainwater Harvesting 101.** April 8, TBD.
  - Sign-up for program updates:



### DISTRICT MEETINGS

- **GMA 14 Joint Planning Meeting.** February 23, 10:00 AM, HGSD.
- **BGCD Regular Board Meeting.** April 14, 6:00 PM, Navasota.

### OTHER GROUNDWATER EVENTS

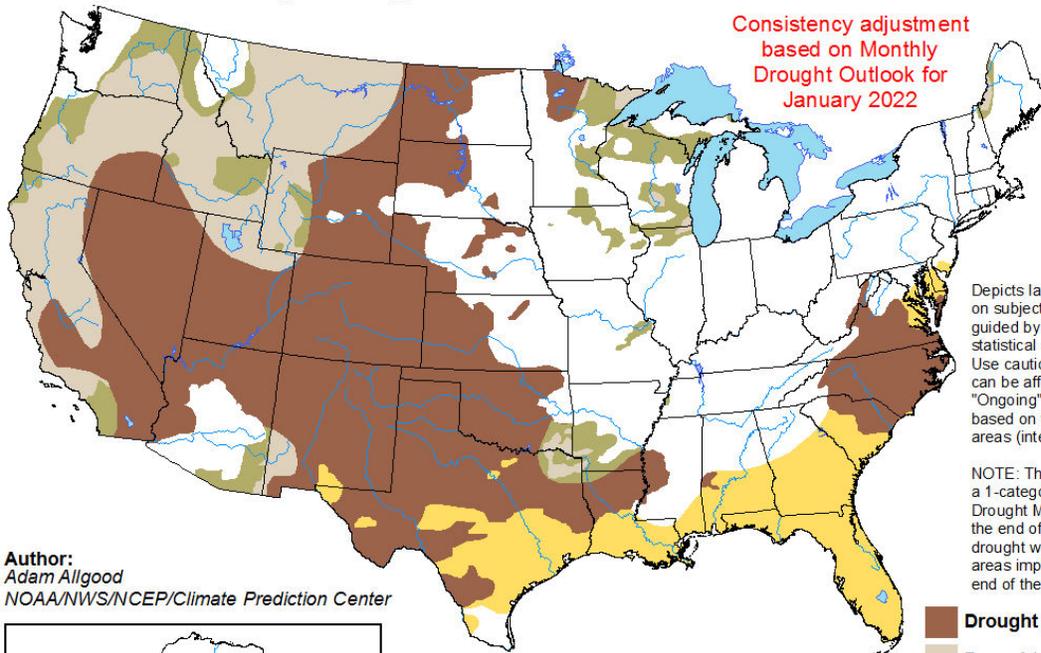
- **TAGD GCD Boot Camp.** February 8, Sonesta Bee Cave Austin Hotel.
- **TGWA Annual Convention.** January 25-28, Frisco.
- **Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts.** February 8-9, Sonesta Bee Cave, Austin.
- **Texas Land Conservation Conference.** March 2-4, Austin.
- **Texas Groundwater Summit.** August 30 - September 1, San Antonio.



## U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for January 1 - March 31, 2022  
Released December 31, 2021

Consistency adjustment  
based on Monthly  
Drought Outlook for  
January 2022



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).

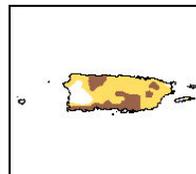
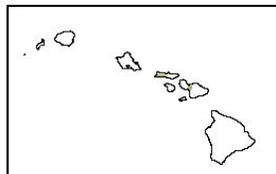
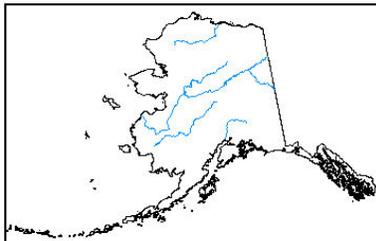
NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Author:  
Adam Allgood  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center



# Drought Outlook Takeaways

## *drought tendencies & predictions for January - March 2022*

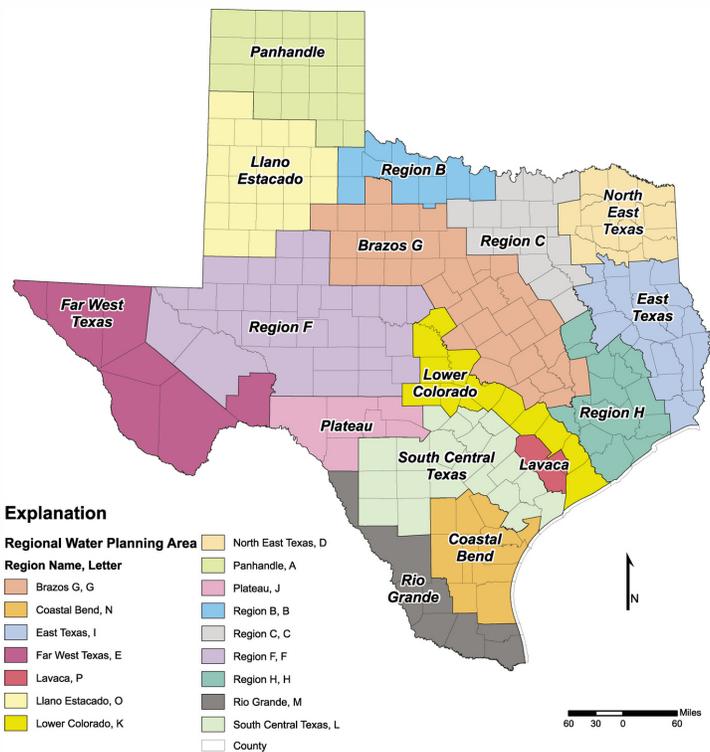
Drought and abnormal dryness expanded considerably across the south-central U.S. and the Southeast, as persistent ridging promoted dry conditions and above-average temperatures. During the first three months of 2022, the pattern across North America is likely to be strongly influenced by ongoing La Niña conditions, which typically favor an active pattern and below-normal temperatures across the Northwest and north-central United States, and abnormally dry, warm conditions across the southern tier of states. Across the southern tier, additional drought expansion is favored for the interior Southwest and much of Texas, while short-term wetness may spark some improvements across the lower Mississippi Valley. (National Weather Service, Climate Prediction Center)

Full climate report available here: <http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>.

## State Water Planning

### *the regional planning process*

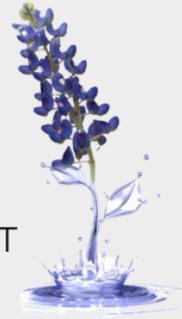
The State Water Plan is designed to address the needs of all water user groups that we represent as a District including municipal, agricultural irrigation, manufacturing, livestock, mining, and steam-electric power. There are 16 regional water planning groups made up of about 20 members that represent each of these interests, with members from river authorities, water districts, municipalities or council governments, etc. During the five-year planning cycle, the planning groups hold public meetings to develop their scopes of work that are eventually submitted to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for approval and adopted into the State Water Plan.



The group uses the data from the best available science to quantify the current water supplies and current and projected water demands over a 50-year planning horizon to identify surpluses and needs. As they develop water management strategies to address these needs, they simultaneously evaluate the impacts of these strategies on water quality, agricultural and natural resources, as well as the overall water resources of the state. Bluebonnet GCD is a member of Region G (or Brazos G) that covers the Brazos River Basin and Region H, which includes portions of the Brazos, San Jacinto, and Trinity river basin. Region G and H have begun work to develop the water plan for 2027 and are in their 6th planning cycle. Read more about regional water planning here: <https://bit.ly/bgcd-rwpgs>. Check out the NEW interactive State Water Plan --> <https://www.texasstatewaterplan.org/statewide>.

# BLUEBONNET

GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. Jared Patout, President  
Milton Beckendorff, Vice President  
David Minze, Vice President  
James Morrison, Secretary  
Michael Blezinger, Director  
Philip Fairchild, Director  
Glenn Huebner, Director  
Kyle Eppler, Director  
Rodney Floyd, Director  
Matthew Julian, Director  
Phillip Burnett, Director  
Chris deMilliano, Director  
Kimberly Kembro, Director  
Charles Muse, Director  
Richard Stoker, Director  
Jim Vaughn, Director

## STAFF

Zach Holland, General Manager  
zholland@bluebonnetgroundwater.org

Natalie Robinson, Office Manager  
njensen@bluebonnetgroundwater.org

Special thanks to:  
Jaclyn Wise Robertson, Extension  
Associate, Texas Water Resources  
Institute

*Sign-up for email updates with  
your camera phone*



*Follow us on social media*



@bluebonnetgcd

www.bluebonnetgroundwater.org