



Heartbeat of the Hickory Summer 2015

Quarterly Newsletter of the
Hickory Underground Water Conservation District No. 1

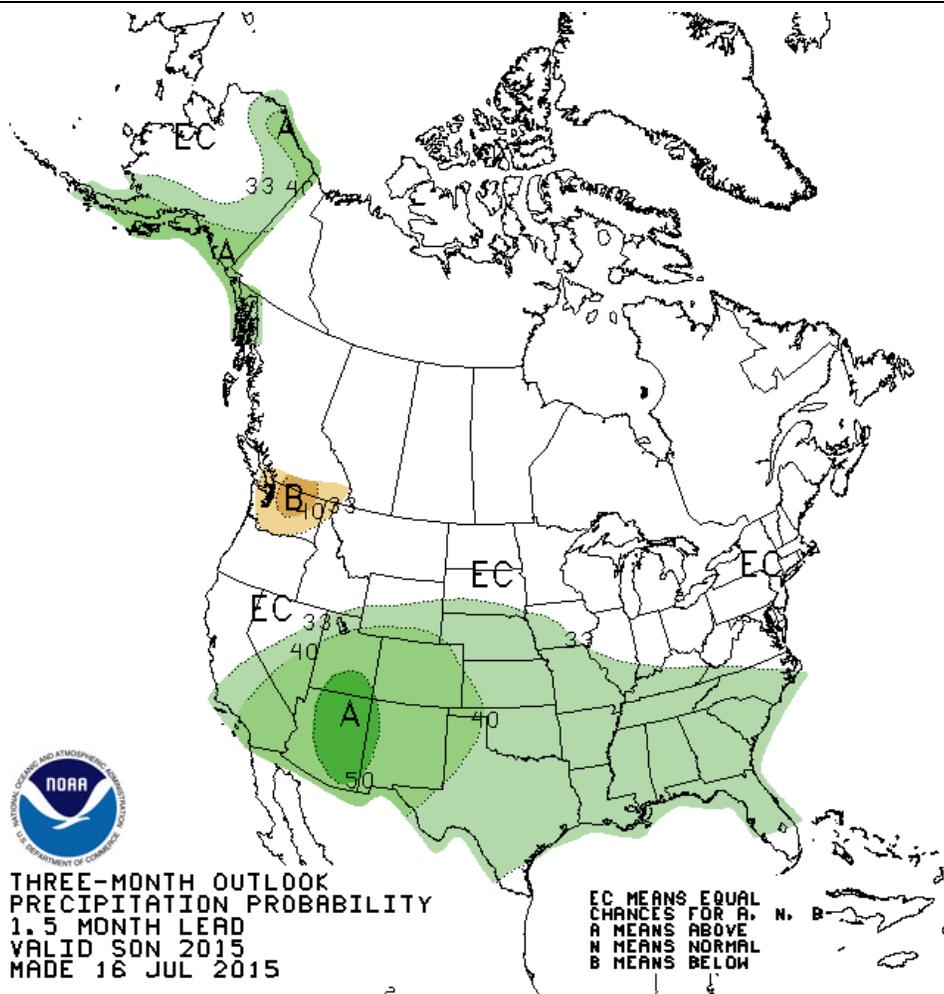
Staff		Board	
David G. Huie	Manager	Owen Parks, President	Precinct 1
Caroline Runge	Consulting Manager	Bill Sloan, Vice-President	Precinct 2
Angelina Deans	Assistant Manager	Bert Striegler, Secretary	Precinct 5
Ronnie Moore	Lab/Field Tech	Wendell Moody, Director	Precinct 4
		Gay Nesloney, Director	Precinct 3

¿Quienes Son Los Niños?

We hear a lot of talk about El Niño and La Niña. So what exactly are they? They are opposite phases of the fluctuations in temperature between the ocean and atmosphere in the east-central Equatorial Pacific also known as *El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO)* cycle. The cold phase is La Niña; the warm phase is El Niño. El Niño and La Niña episodes typically last nine to 12 months, but sometimes as long as several years. The events occur every two to seven years lasting 9 to 12 months.

So what does El Niño mean for us?

El Niño started to form at the very tail end of 2014 and continued to develop right through this past spring in 2015, leading to the record setting rainfall parts of Texas experienced earlier this year. According to weather.com's summary of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) report, "El Niño has an 80 percent chance of lasting into early spring 2016..." "NOAA also reported that there is a greater than 90 percent chance of El Niño lasting through the upcoming winter." "There's also an increasing chance El Niño may become strong, perhaps the strongest since the 1997-1998 episode and, thus, may play a stronger role in your weather."



Sept-Oct-Nov 2015

From the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/multi_season/13_seasonal_outlooks/color/churchill.php

U.S. Drought Monitor

Texas

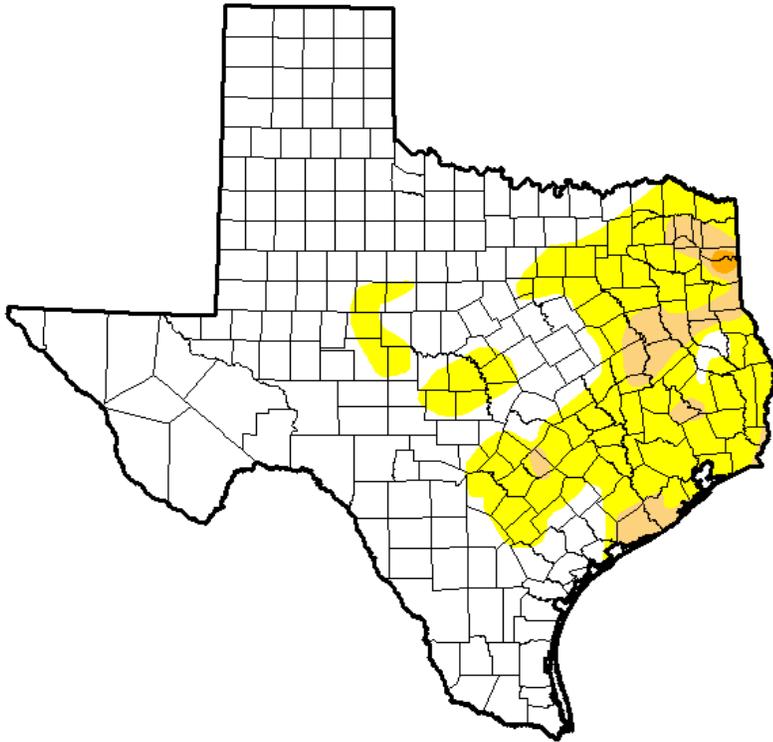
August 4, 2015

(Released Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	72.33	27.67	4.61	0.18	0.00	0.00
Last Week <i>7/28/2015</i>	86.45	13.55	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago <i>5/5/2015</i>	59.68	40.32	29.55	15.50	5.48	1.86
Start of Calendar Year <i>12/31/2014</i>	34.37	65.63	44.68	25.73	11.70	3.17
Start of Water Year <i>9/30/2014</i>	28.92	71.08	48.95	29.54	11.26	2.69
One Year Ago <i>8/5/2014</i>	17.20	82.80	56.88	35.52	13.67	2.95



Intensity:

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

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

Author:

Mark Svoboda

National Drought Mitigation Center



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

How about a little Q and A?

Coming up with material for a quarterly newsletter is often quite the challenge. We want to keep it interesting, informative and new...but most importantly, we want the information we provide to be useful to you, the reader. So what would YOU like to see? What questions do you have for the District? What issues would you like to see addressed? Please, send us an email hickoryuwcd@yahoo.com, call us at 325-597-2785, or visit us at the District Office at 111 East Main Street in Brady.

Water Testing

One of the services offered by the District is free quality sampling to anybody in the District FREE OF CHARGE. We are NOT a certified laboratory but the results are quite accurate. Currently Ronnie Moore, our lab/field tech, tests for Total Coliform, E. Coli, TDS, Conductivity, Hardness, pH, Chlorides, Iron, Sulfates, and Nitrates. We run samples Monday through Thursday. We don't run bacteria tests on Friday because the test takes 24 hours.

If you're interested in having your water tested, call or come by. We'll provide you with the appropriate containers. This is particularly important for the bacteria tests (Coliform/E. Coli). If you are not comfortable drawing the sample yourself, someone from the District can draw it for you.



Conserve Water!

You never miss the water 'til the well runs dry.