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**Depot Museum  
Preserves  
Railroad History**

**PAGE 8**

**Fort Concho  
Holidays** **PAGE 28**

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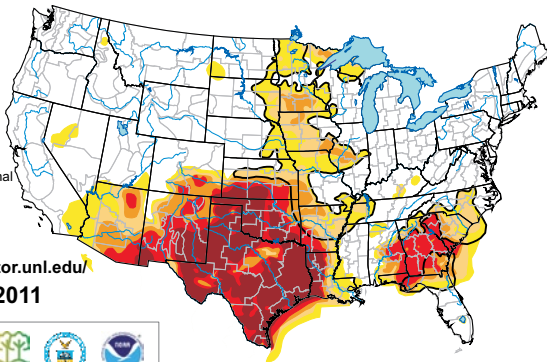
# water

## Drought Effects on Our Rivers and Lakes

LACK OF RAIN, the heat wave and millions of acres of wildfires have consumed Texan's concerns and interests for over a year now. In fact, if you look at all of the past decade, we have had a number of bad drought years – especially 2008, 2009 and 2011. NOAA and our state meteorologists have joined local weather people in saying that our present La Nina year will most likely spill over into 2012 with more dry conditions. Not what we wanted to hear, was it?

### U.S. Drought Monitor

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



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

October 18, 2011  
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT



**Major lake data, starting in Panhandle and West TX to South Texas.**

Lake	Cap. (Acre-Ft.)	Percent Full
Lake Meredith	779,556	0 %
Red Bluff	130,170	2.71% (share w/New Mex.)
Proctor Lake	55,457	48%
Spence	517,222	0.46%
Mountain Creek	22,840	82.42%
Amistad	3,274,057	86.79% (share w/Mexico)
Falcon	2,645,646	45.01% (share w/Mexico)
O.C. Fischer	79,483	0%
Twin Buttes	177,850	0.48%
O.H. Ivie	554,340	20.4%
Buchanan	831,889	41.7%
L.B. Johnson	113,323	99.29% (constant level lake)
Lake Travis	1,113,255	36.31%
Canyon Lake	378,781	81.74%
Medina Lake	254,823	27.1%
Choke Canyon	695,262	64.14%
Corpus Christi	256,961	41.08%

Many regions have had aquifers dropping and wells going dry. But Texas' creeks and rivers are not immune to drought either, nor are our lakes that so many towns and cities depend upon for drinking and household water. This has also affected irrigators who maybe bumped down the priority list for water when up against a city nearby.

I thought this month I would do a little overview of some of our primary lakes in central, southwestern and western Texas. Plus, some river flow info—really serious in my Hill Country region! The readings are all from the Texas Water Development Board website:

<http://wiid.twdb.state.tx.us/ims/resinfo/BushButton/lakeStatus.asp>

Overall, the drought does not paint a pretty picture from Panhandle to Gulf. But, conditions are slightly better than in August due to some fairly general rains across much of Texas—but not all! And, these rains were surely not any drought-breakers by a long shot. So, keep on praying for rains! ◇

**Key river data—points West of I-35.**

River	Depth (Ft.)	Flow (Cu. Ft./Sec.)	Median Flow (CFS)
Red River @ Childress	7.27	0.9	8.2
Canadian @ Canadian	1.7	12	19
Rio Grande @ BBNP	4	92	415
Pecos @ Orla	0.43	0	15
Pecos @ Pandale	5.1	56	108
Colorado @ Robt.Lee	0.78	0	2
Colorado @ San Saba	2.06	47	181
Llano @ Junction	6.67	0.02	24
Llano @ Llano	0.85	98	145
Pedernales@Fredericksburg	5.01	1.3	17
Pedernales@JohnsonCty	9.01	0	35
Colorado@ Austin	2.03	155	478
Guadalupe@Kerrville	1.58	27	90
Guadalupe@SpringBrch	1.52	6	134
Blanco @ Wimberley	3.33	13	51
Guadalupe@Victoria	5.13	272	854
Medina @ Bandera	2.97	0	46
Medina @ San Antonio	3.45	72	94
San Antonio@S.Loop	4.78	0	48
San Antonio@Falls Cty	1.16	216	238
Nueces @ Barksdale	13.37	9.5	30
Nueces @ Uvalde	2.01	0.23	37
Nueces @ Mathis	1.96	92	138