

Drought Status Chart

Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District

NO DROUGHT

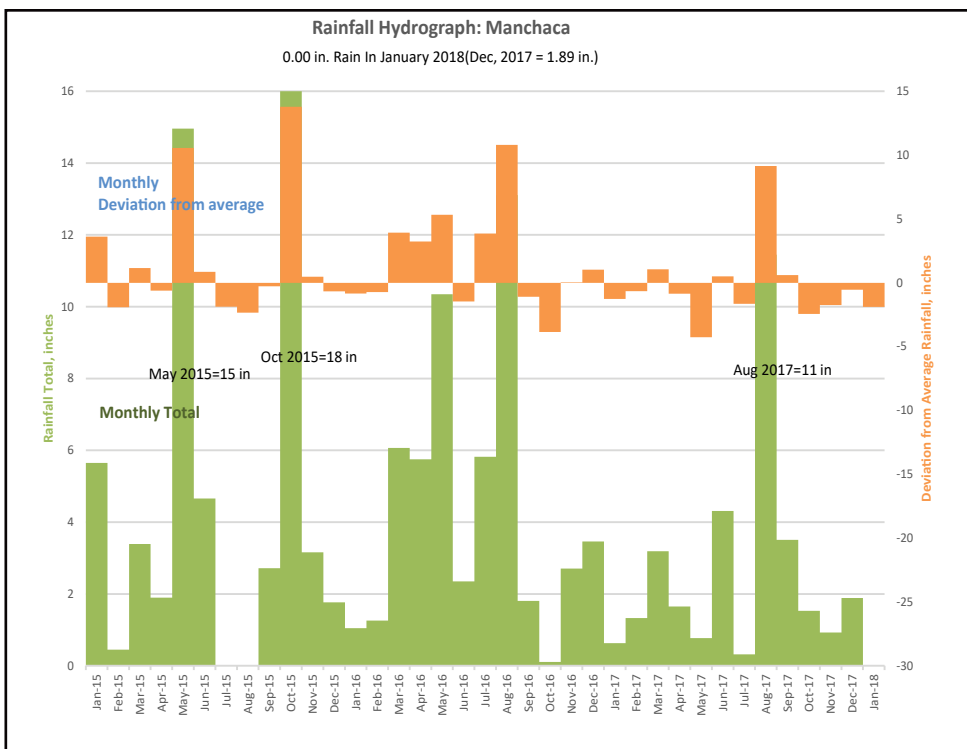
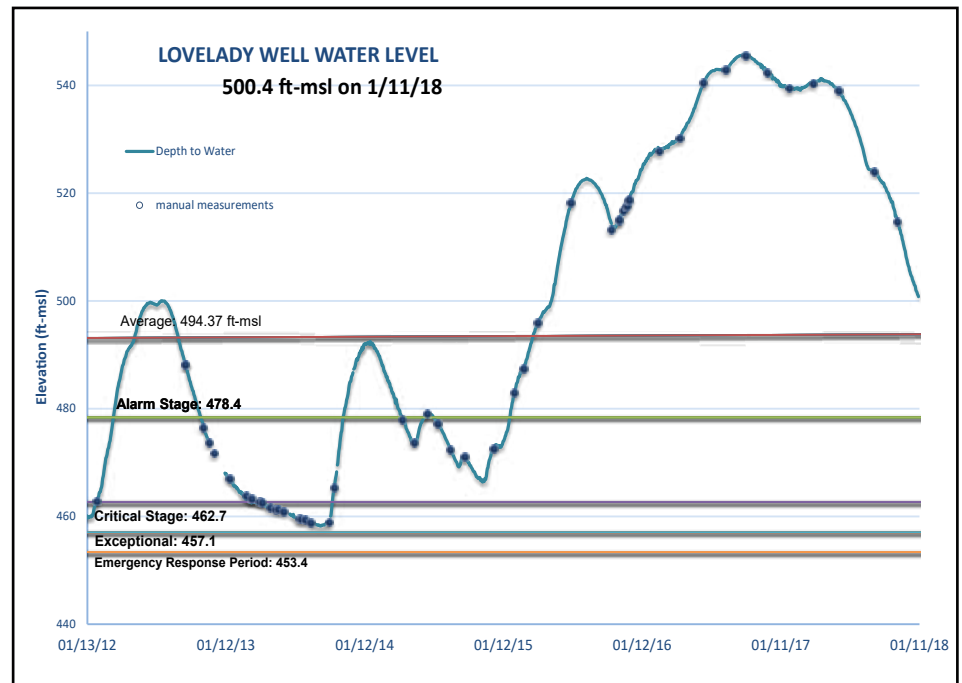
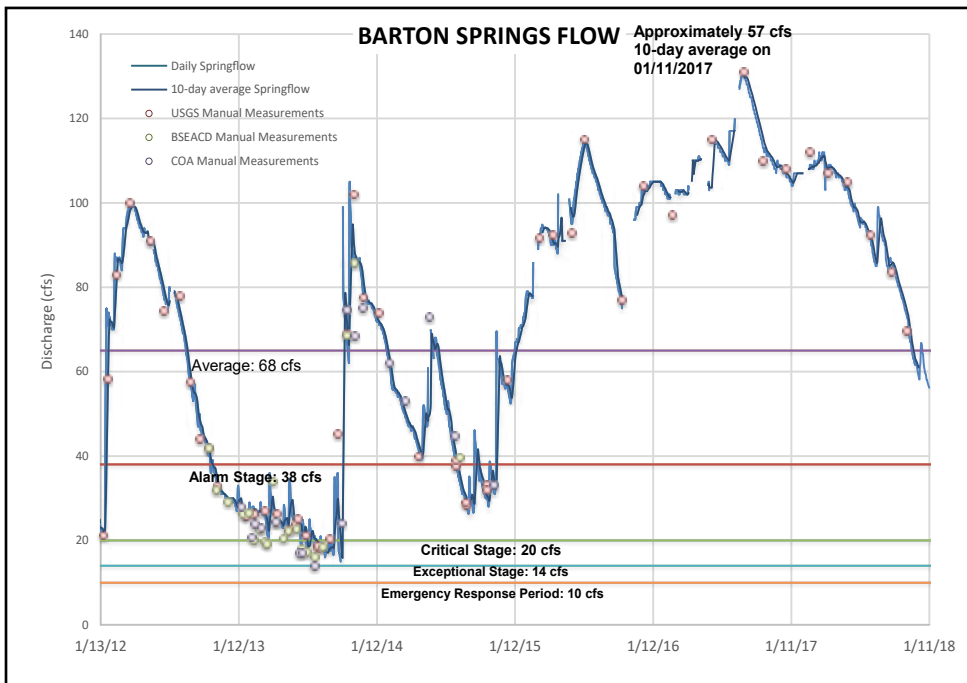
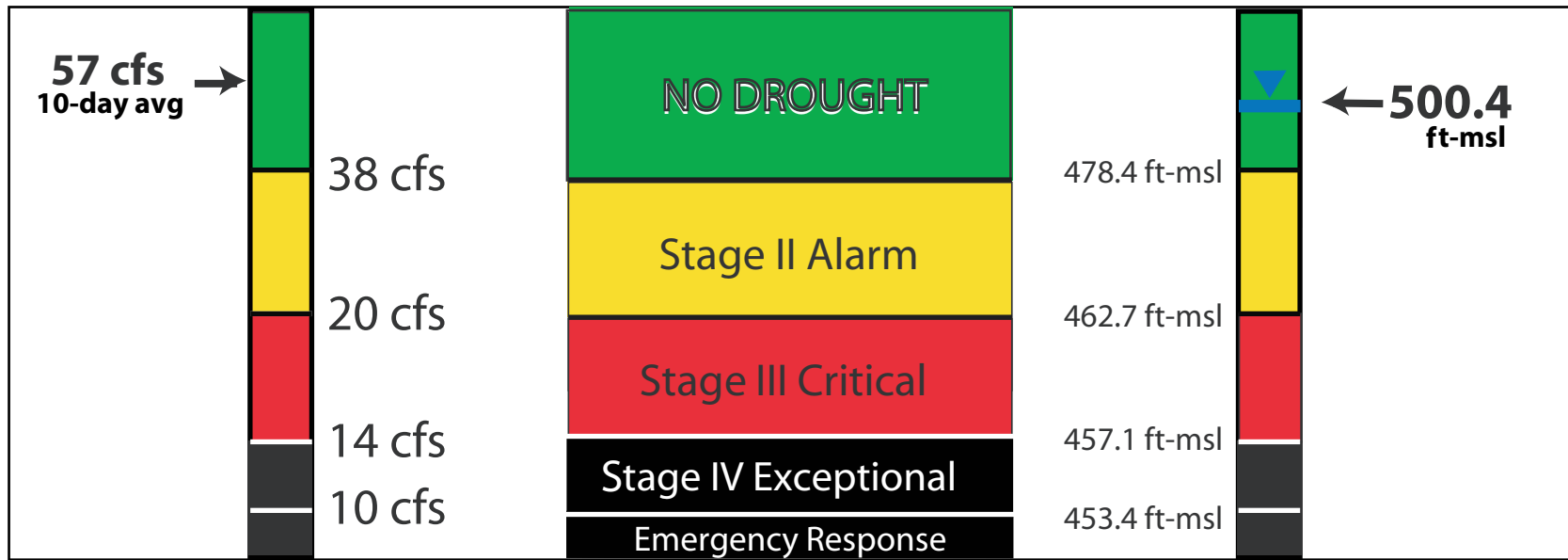


January 11, 2018



Barton Springs Discharge
(cubic feet per second)
Previous value: 61 cfs on 12/14/17

Lovelady Well Water Level Elevation
(feet above mean sea level)
Previous value: 506.3 ft-msl on 12/14/17



U.S. Drought Monitor Texas
January 9, 2018
(Revised Drought Map, Jan. 11, 2018)
10:47 A.M. CST

Legend:
 DROUGHT: 04 Exceptional (D4)
 03 Severe Drought (D3)
 02 Extreme Drought (D2)
 01 Exceptional Drought (D1)

NOAA

The BSEACD drought outlook valid from December 2017, to January 11, 2018 remains in "NO DROUGHT" as aquifer levels at the Lovelady well remain above average levels and Barton Springs flow is at 57 cubic feet per second, though declining fast.

Lovelady water levels too continue to decline with little under 3 inches of rain in the last 3 months. Currently at 500.3 ft-msl and following a trend mimicking the drought of 2009, BSEACD predicts Lovelady water levels dipping into Alarm Stage Drought (levels < 478.4) by late April to early June.

Barton Springs flow has also been declining since April 2017. Hurricane Harvey rains (11 in.) did little to slow down the downward trend of BS flow. BS flow is currently 57 cfs. If trends at Barton Springs continue, which resemble trends seen during the drought of 2011, BSEACD predicts flow to drop below Alarm Stage (<38cfs) by early April.

During the past month, widespread below-normal precipitation promoted expansion of drought and abnormal dryness across a considerable portion of the contiguous U.S. The steepest degradations occurred in three distinct regions: the Southwest, the south-central U.S., and the Eastern Seaboard. Areas of improvement were few and small, occurring over the Northwest, western Texas, parts of the Corn Belt and northern New England, and northern Florida. Recently, a slow moving frontal system has brought widespread rainfall from eastern Texas and the middle Mississippi Valley to the Deep South.

-NOAA

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