

CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of September 2016

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Participating territories

Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barth's, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago and the US Virgin Islands



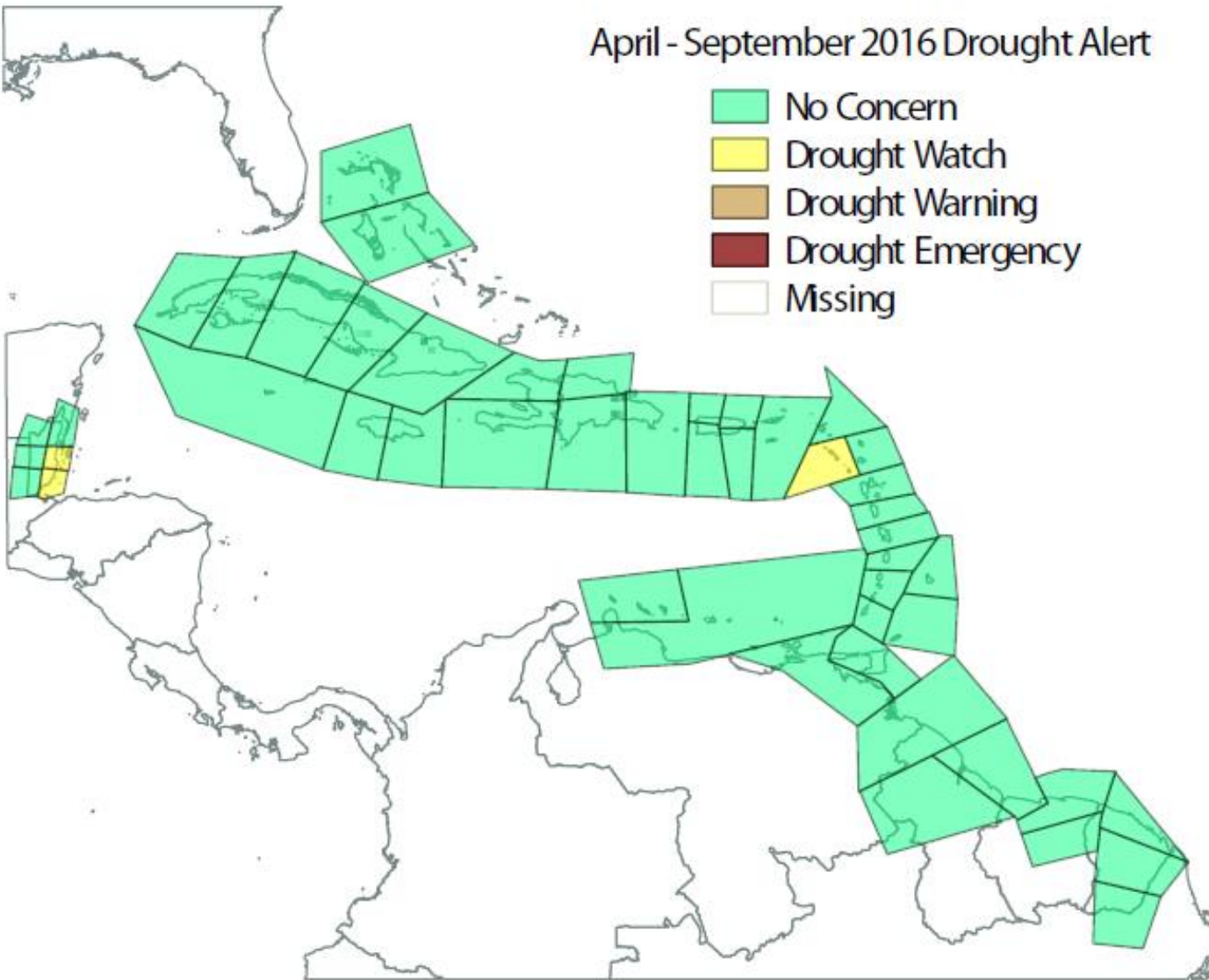
Drought Outlook March to August

Areas under immediate drought concern?

Current Outlook

April - September 2016 Drought Alert

- No Concern
- Drought Watch
- Drought Warning
- Drought Emergency
- Missing



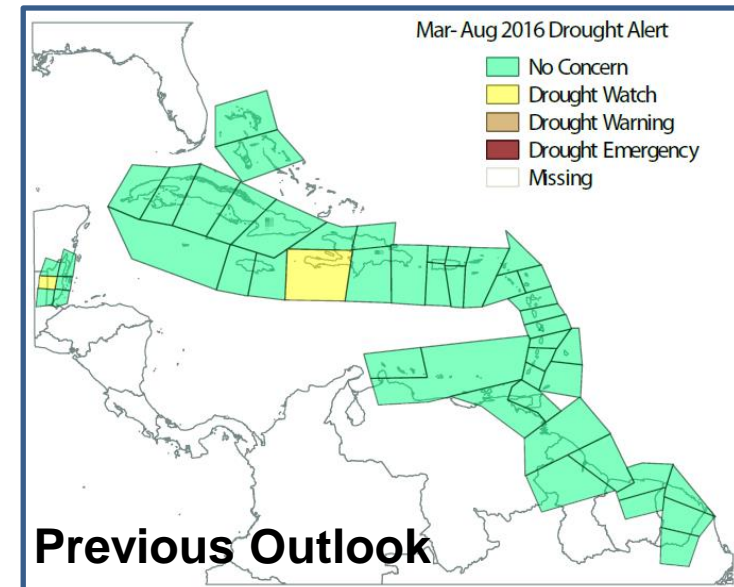
Current update (June 2016):

Drought concern has lifted for the region.

A **drought watch** is issued for east-central & south Belize, as well as for St. Kitts.

Mar- Aug 2016 Drought Alert

- No Concern
- Drought Watch
- Drought Warning
- Drought Emergency
- Missing

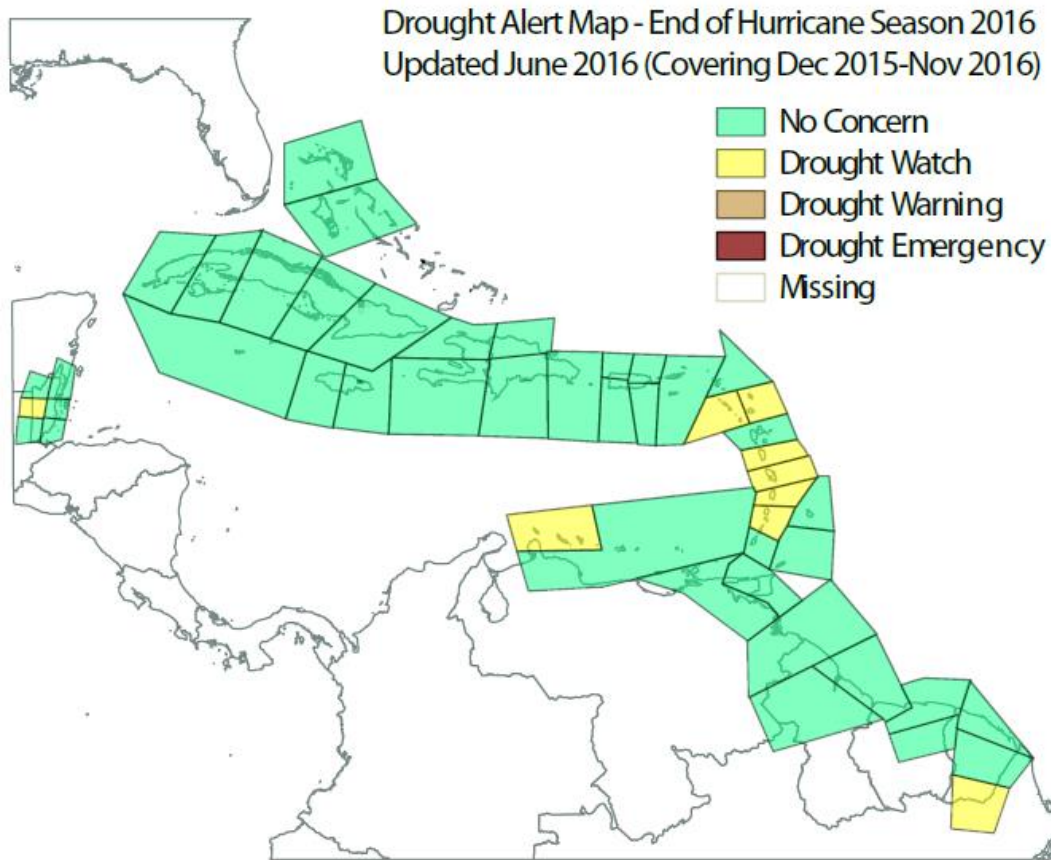


Previous Outlook

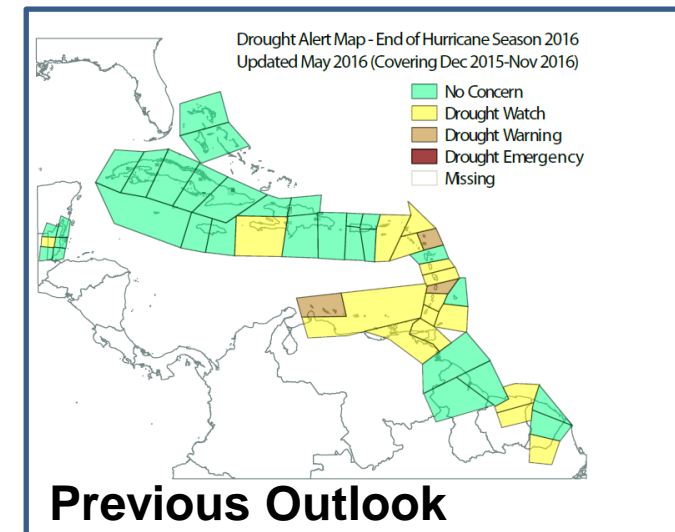
Long-term drought outlook

Concerns by the end of the Caribbean hurricane/wet season (Nov 30th, 2016)?

Current Outlook



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through May 2016, with potential impacts on large surface water reserves and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is ≤ -1.3 (*very dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought watch** is issued for the ABC Islands, Antigua, west-central Belize, Dominica, S French Guiana, Martinique, St. Kitts, St. Lucia and St. Vincent.



Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of May 2016): *(more information [here](#))*
 - Average to above average rainfall during May has helped to improve adverse drought conditions in many of the island territories.
- Shorter-term drought situation (till September 2016):
 - We expect that a shorter-term drought situation may develop for St. Kitts and portions of Belize.
- Longer-term drought situation (until November 2016):
 - Long drought is expected to persist in parts of the Leewards and Windwards due to the probability of below normal rainfall at that location.
 - A weak to moderate La Niña is expected in the later part of the year which tends to suppress chances of drought towards the end of the year – thus bringing drought relief for those areas where drought persists – as well as longer-term drought during the upcoming 2016-7 dry season. However, this evolution may tilt the odds towards increased flood potential.

MONITOR WATER USAGE!!

| ALERT LEVEL | MEANING | ACTION LEVEL |
|-------------------|------------------------------|--|
| NO CONCERN | No drought concern | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ monitor resources ✓ update and ratify management plans ✓ public awareness campaigns ✓ upgrade infrastructure |
| DROUGHT WATCH | Drought possible | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ keep updated ✓ protect resources and conserve water ✓ implement management plans ✓ response training ✓ monitor and repair infrastructure |
| DROUGHT WARNING | Drought evolving | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ protect resources ✓ conserve and recycle water ✓ implement management plans ✓ release public service announcements ✓ last minute infrastructural repairs and upgrades ✓ report impacts |
| DROUGHT EMERGENCY | Drought of immediate concern | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ release public service announcements ✓ implement management and response plans ✓ enforce water restrictions and recycling ✓ enforce resource protection ✓ repair infrastructure ✓ report impacts |



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