

CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of April 2017

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Participating territories

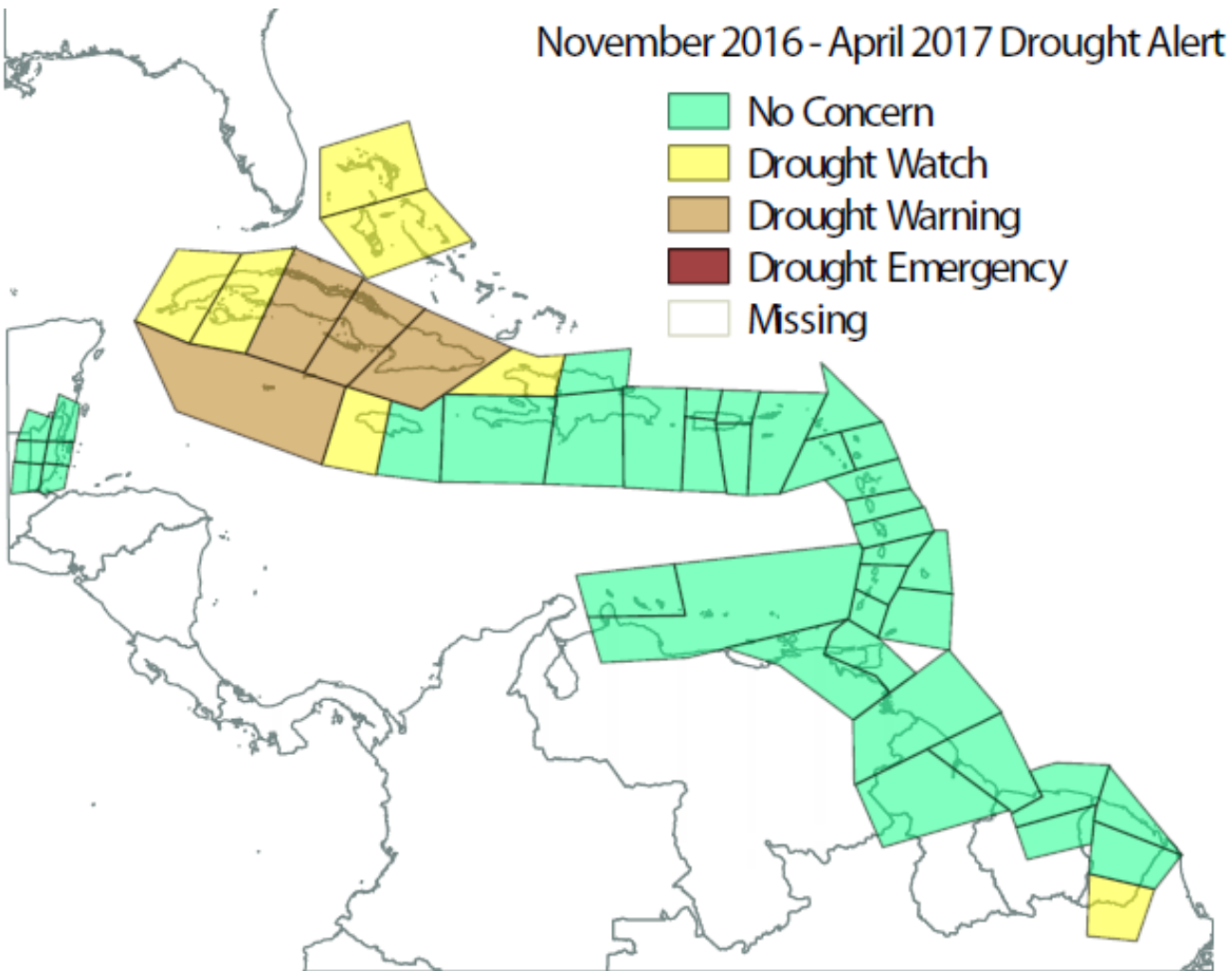
Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barth's, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname,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



Drought Outlook November 2016 to April 2017

Areas under immediate drought concern?

Current Outlook

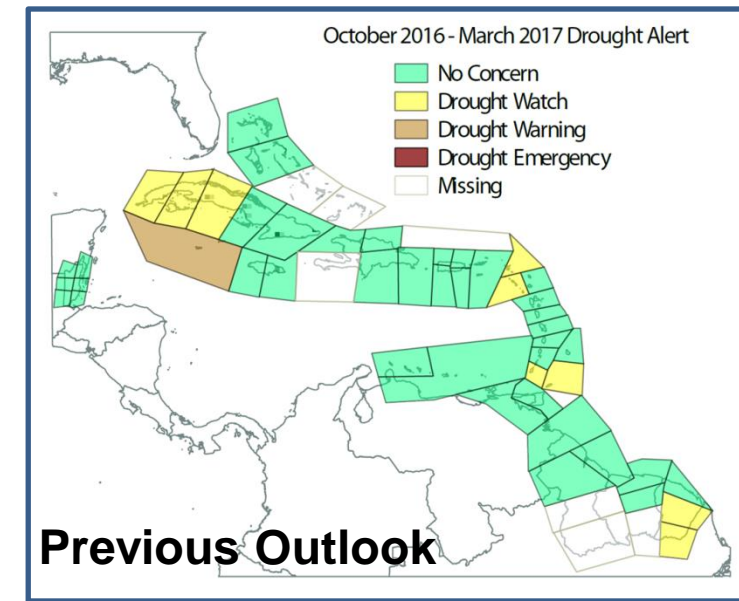


Current update (January 2016):

We continue to see no drought concern developing throughout the region.

A **drought warning** is issued for Cayman and central and east Cuba.

A **drought watch** is issued for Bahamas, west Cuba, south French Guiana, west Jamaica and north Haiti.

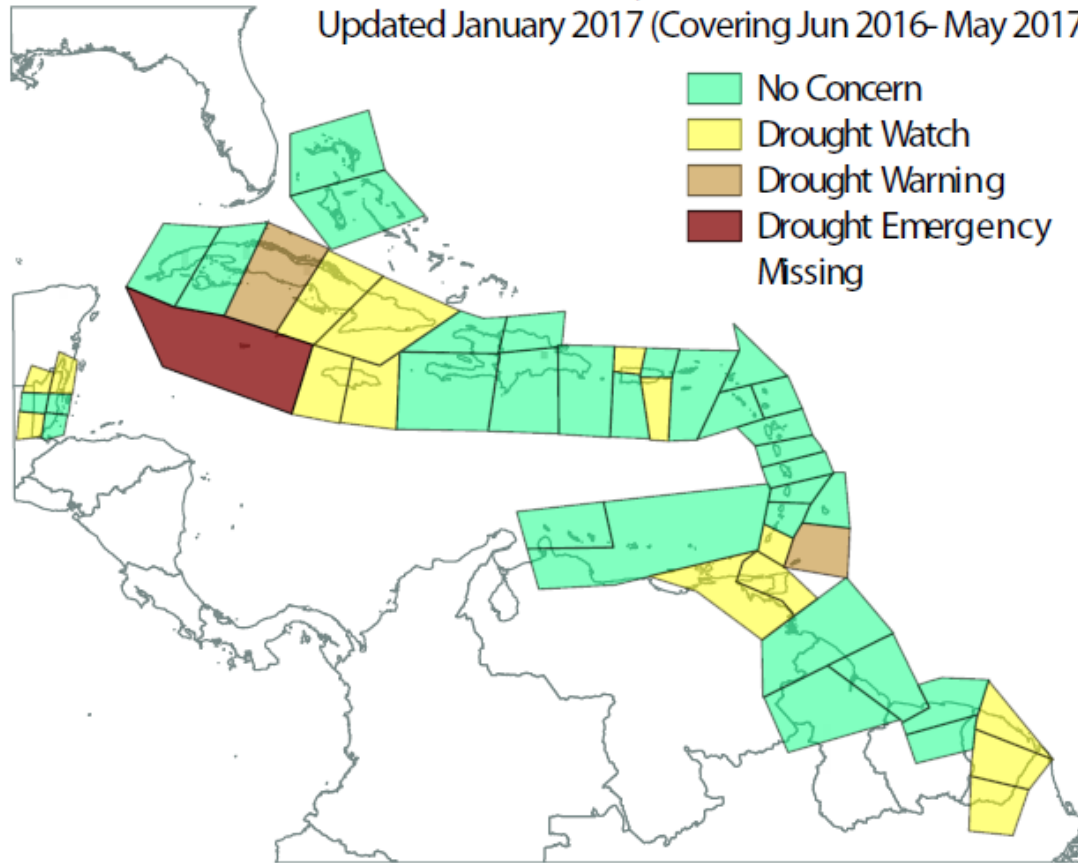


Long-term drought outlook

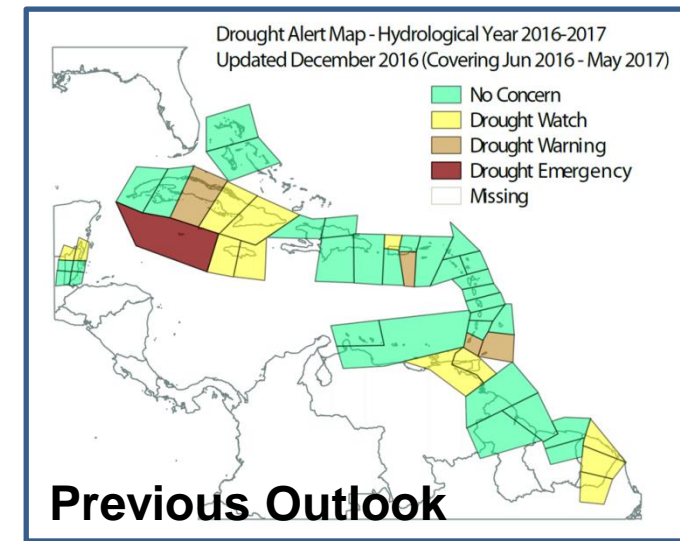
Concerns by the end of the Hydrological year (May 30th, 2017)?

Current Outlook

Drought Alert Map - Hydrological Year 2016-2017
Updated January 2017 (Covering Jun 2016- May 2017)



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through December 2016, with potential impacts on large surface water reserves and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is ≤ -0.8 (*very dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought emergency** is in effect for Cayman Islands
- A **drought warning** is in effect for central Cuba and Tobago.
- A **drought watch** is in effect for parts of Belize, E Cuba, Grenada, French Guiana, Jamaica, NW & SE Puerto Rico and Trinidad.



Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- **Current drought situation** (up to the end of December 2016): *(more information [here](#))*
 - Grand Cayman has experienced its driest year on record with an observed wet season rainfall sum of only 50% of average. As a result, the island is in both short- and long-term drought. N Belize, central Cuba and Tobago are also in long-term drought.
- **Shorter-term drought situation** (until April 2017):
 - We expect a shorter-term drought situation to continue in Cayman, Cuba and south French Guiana and, to possibly develop in Bahamas, Jamaica and north Haiti.
- **Longer-term drought situation** (until May 2017):
 - Longer-term drought is likely to persist in Cayman and potentially become more impactful as the dry (tourism) season progresses. It is evolving in central Cuba and Tobago, and is possible in portions of Belize, east Cuba, Grenada, French Guiana, Jamaica, NW & SE Puerto Rico and Trinidad.
 - Though dry season impacts may be quite similar to the usual, longer-term drought will not likely be a major concern by the end of the dry season in other areas.
 - ENSO neutral conditions expected beyond February. ENSO neutral conditions are not expecting to worsen or improve drought during the dry season.

**CONTINUE TO MONITOR &
CONSERVE WATER !!**

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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