

CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of February 2018

Coordination – CIMH – Dr. Cédric J. Van Meerbeeck
caricof@cimh.edu.bb

Participating territories

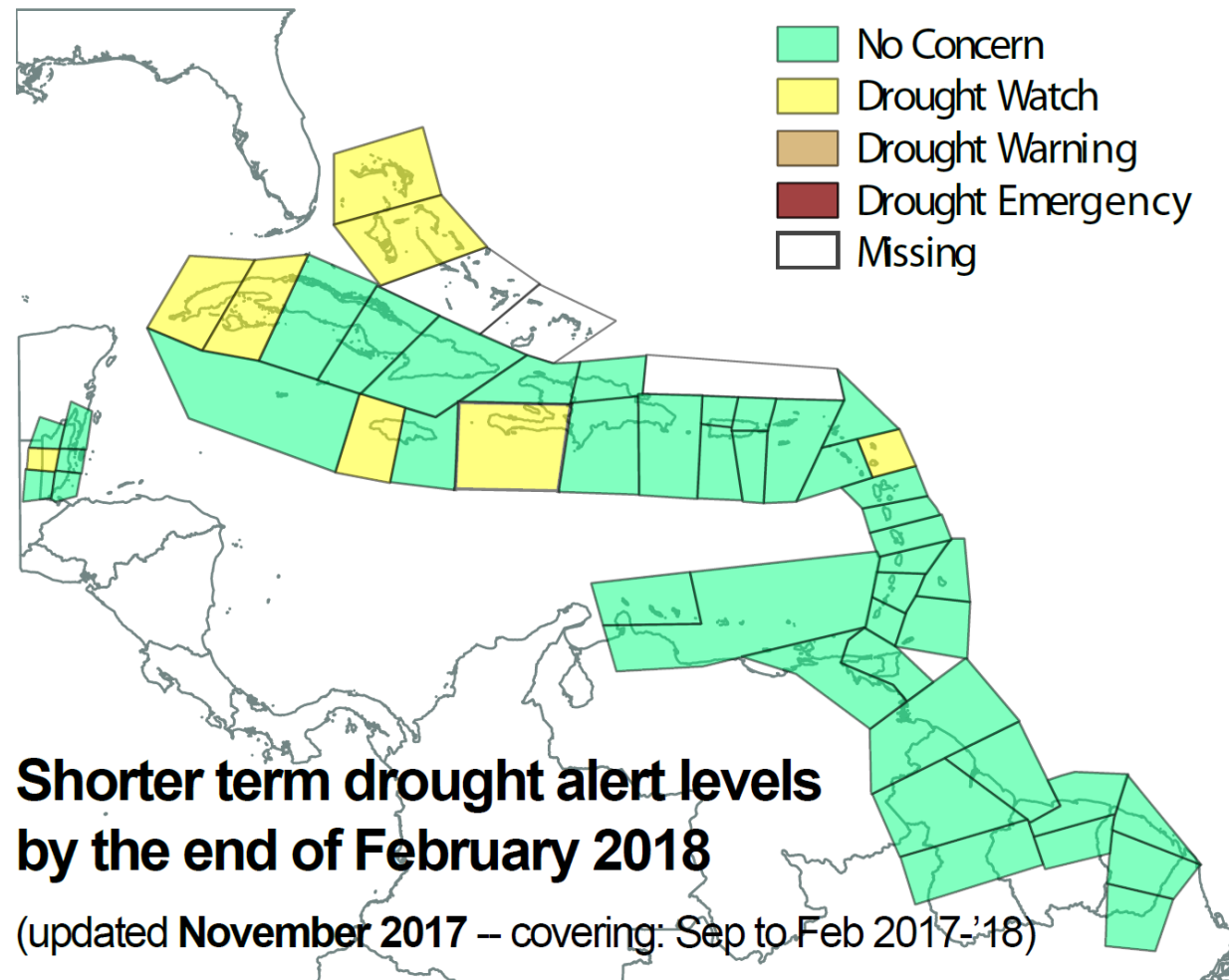
Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barth's, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname,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



Shorter term Drought Outlook (September to February 2017-'18)

Areas under immediate drought concern?

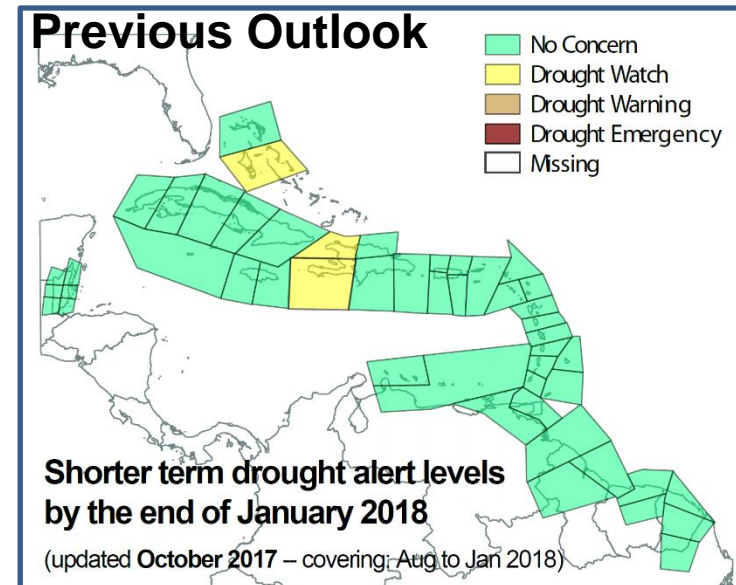
Current Outlook



Current update (November 2017):

We continue to see no drought concern developing throughout most of the region. Exceptions are:

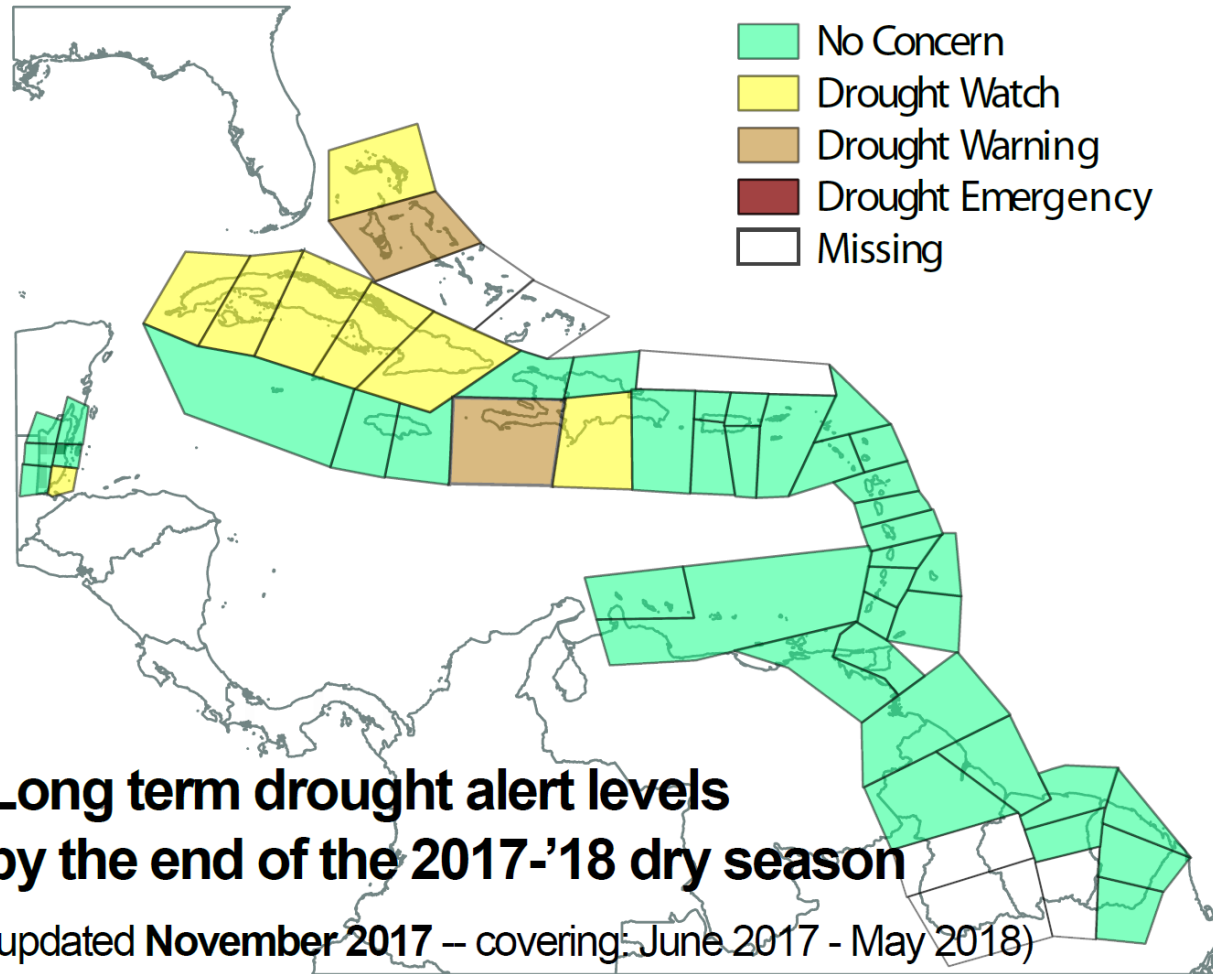
A **drought watch** is issued for Antigua, The Bahamas, central-west Belize, W Cuba, W Jamaica and southern Haïti.



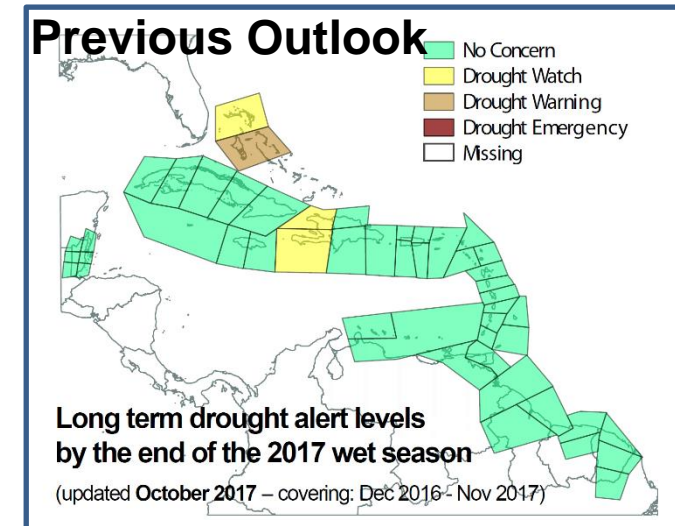
Long-term drought outlook

Concerns by the end of the dry season (May 31st, 2018)?

Current Outlook



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through November 2017, with potential impacts on large surface water reserves and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is ≤ -0.8 (*moderately dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought warning** remains in effect for central parts of The Bahamas and is now in effect for southern Haïti.
- A **drought watch** remains in effect for northern parts of The Bahamas, and is now in effect for Cuba, SE Belize and S Dominican Republic.



Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of October 2017): *(more information [here](#))*
 - The Bahamas, Cayman Islands and Turks & Caicos are under long term drought.
 - Short term drought is seen in portions of western Cuba and western-most portions of Jamaica.
 - Short and long term drought have also been developing in southern portions of southern Haïti.
 - Much of the Caribbean has received ample rainfall during its 2017 wet season.
- Shorter term drought situation (by the end of February 2018):
 - Shorter term drought might possibly remain in central parts of The Bahamas, western Cuba, southern Haïti and western-most portions of Jamaica to possibly remain.
 - Shorter term drought might possibly develop in Antigua and west-central Belize.
- Long term drought situation (by the end of May 2018):
 - Long term drought is evolving in central parts of the Bahamas and in southern Haïti and possibly develop in N Bahamas, Cuba, south-eastern Belize and southern Dominican Republic.
 - The long term drought situation in Cayman is expected to improve.
 - The potential long term drought concerns are very few region-wide at this time thanks to the ample wet season rainfall in 2017. However, we advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring drought and look for our monthly updates.

**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

