

CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of May 2018

Coordination: Caribbean Institute for Meteorology & Hydrology

Dr. Cédric J. Van Meerbeeck - Climatologist

Wazita B. Scott – Asst. Climatologist

caricof@cimh.edu.bb

Participating territories

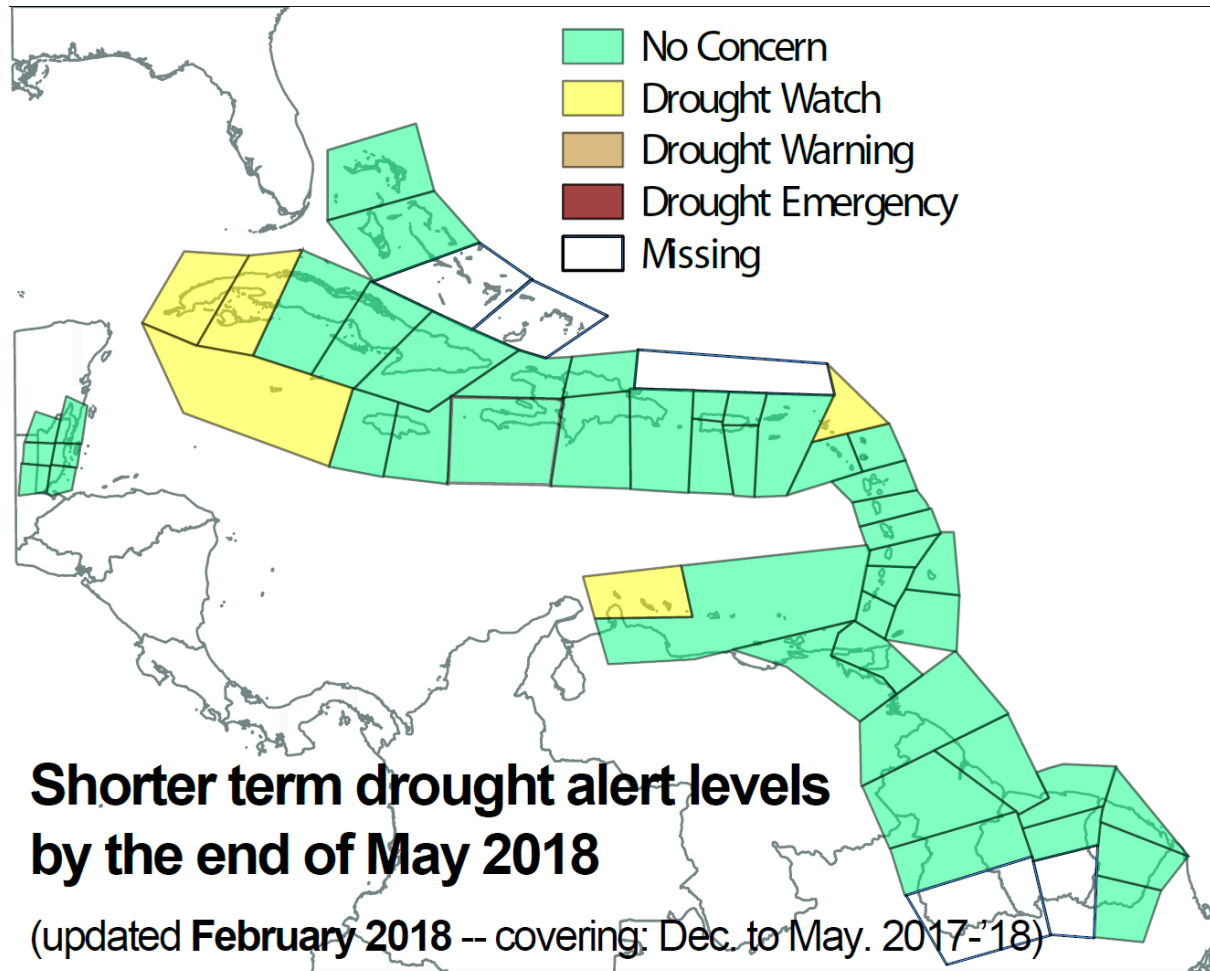
Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barth's, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname,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



Shorter term Drought Outlook (December to May 2017-'18)

Areas under immediate drought concern?

Current Outlook

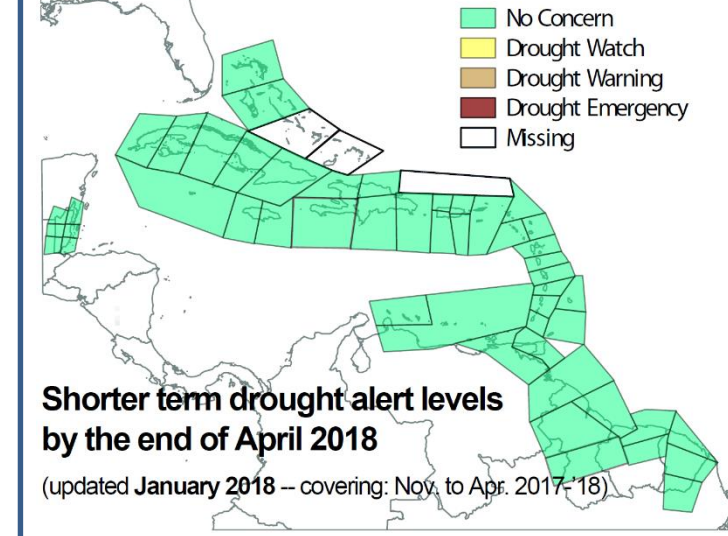


Current update (February 2018):

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

A **drought watch** is issued for ABC Is., Cayman Is. and W Cuba.

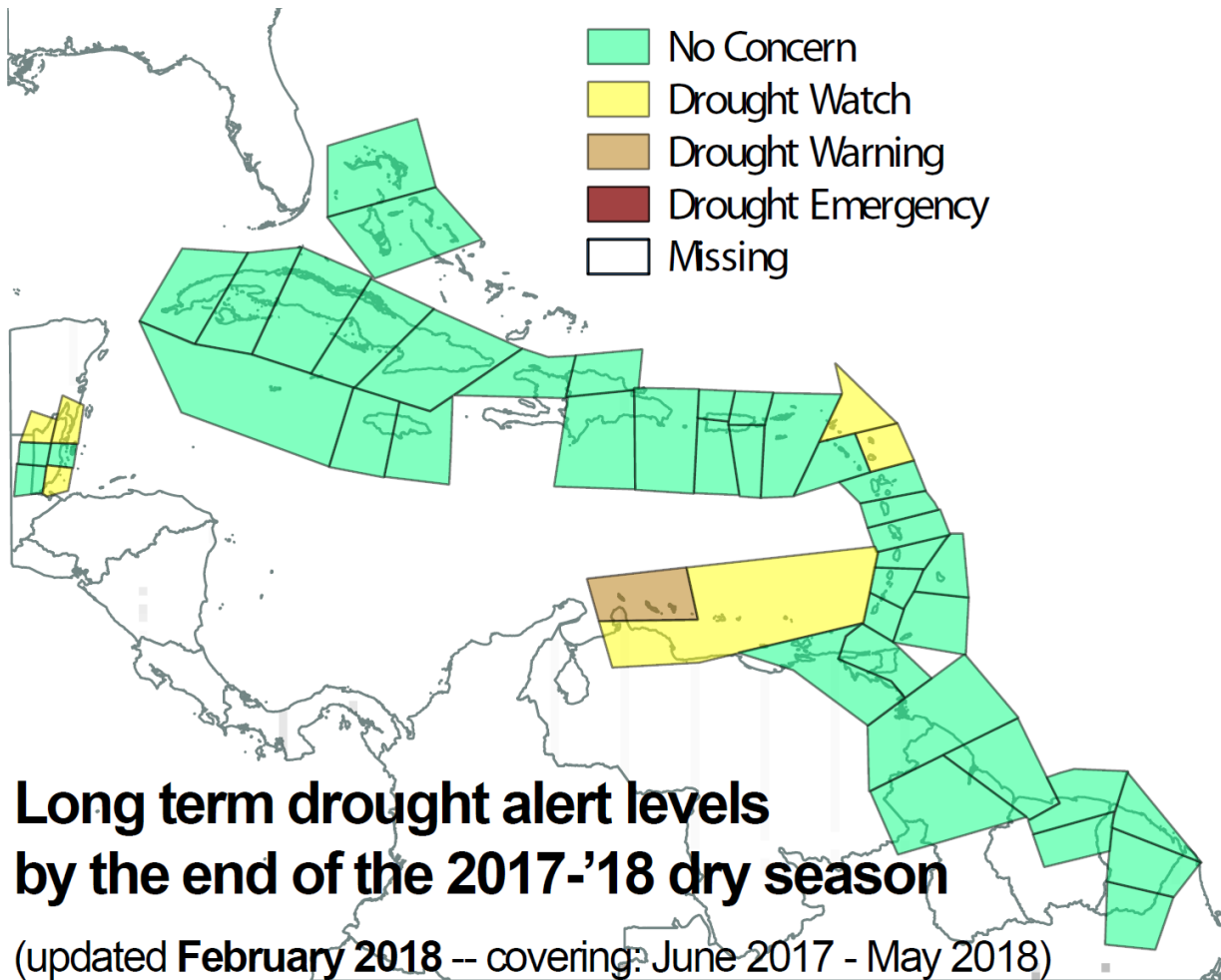
Previous Outlook



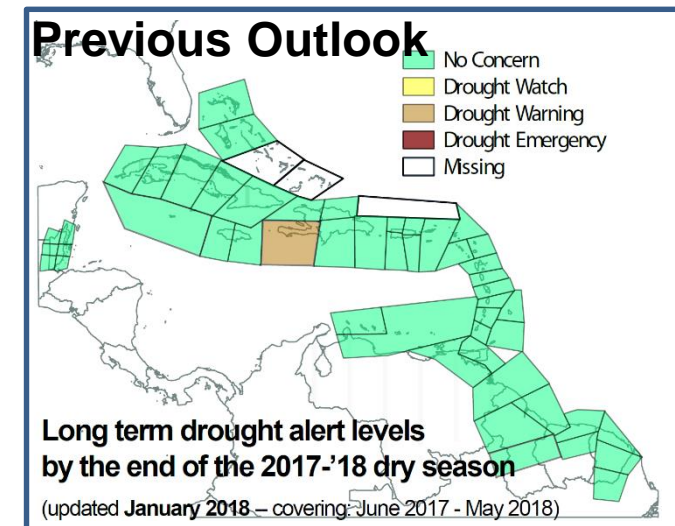
Long term drought outlook

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

Current Outlook



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through February 2018, 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** is in effect for the ABC Islands and S Haiti.
- A **drought watch** is in effect for Antigua, N and SE Belize and St. Maarten.



Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of November 2017): *(more information [here](#))*
 - Western parts of Puerto Rico and southern Haiti are under long term drought.
 - Short term drought is seen NW Guyana.
 - Much of the Caribbean has received ample rainfall in 2017 and no large deficits have built up since.
- Shorter term drought situation (by the end of May 2018):
 - Shorter term drought might possibly develop in ABC Is., Cayman, W Cuba and St. Maarten.
- Long term drought situation (by the end of May 2018):
 - Long term drought is evolving in ABC Is. and southern Haiti, and might possibly develop in Antigua, northern and south-eastern Belize, and St. Maarten.
 - 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



CARICOF
CARIBBEAN CLIMATE OUTLOOK FORUM

caricof@cimh.edu.bb

rcc.cimh.edu.bb

Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology

TEL: (246) 425-1362/3 | FAX: (246) 424-4733