

CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of November 2016

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Participating territories

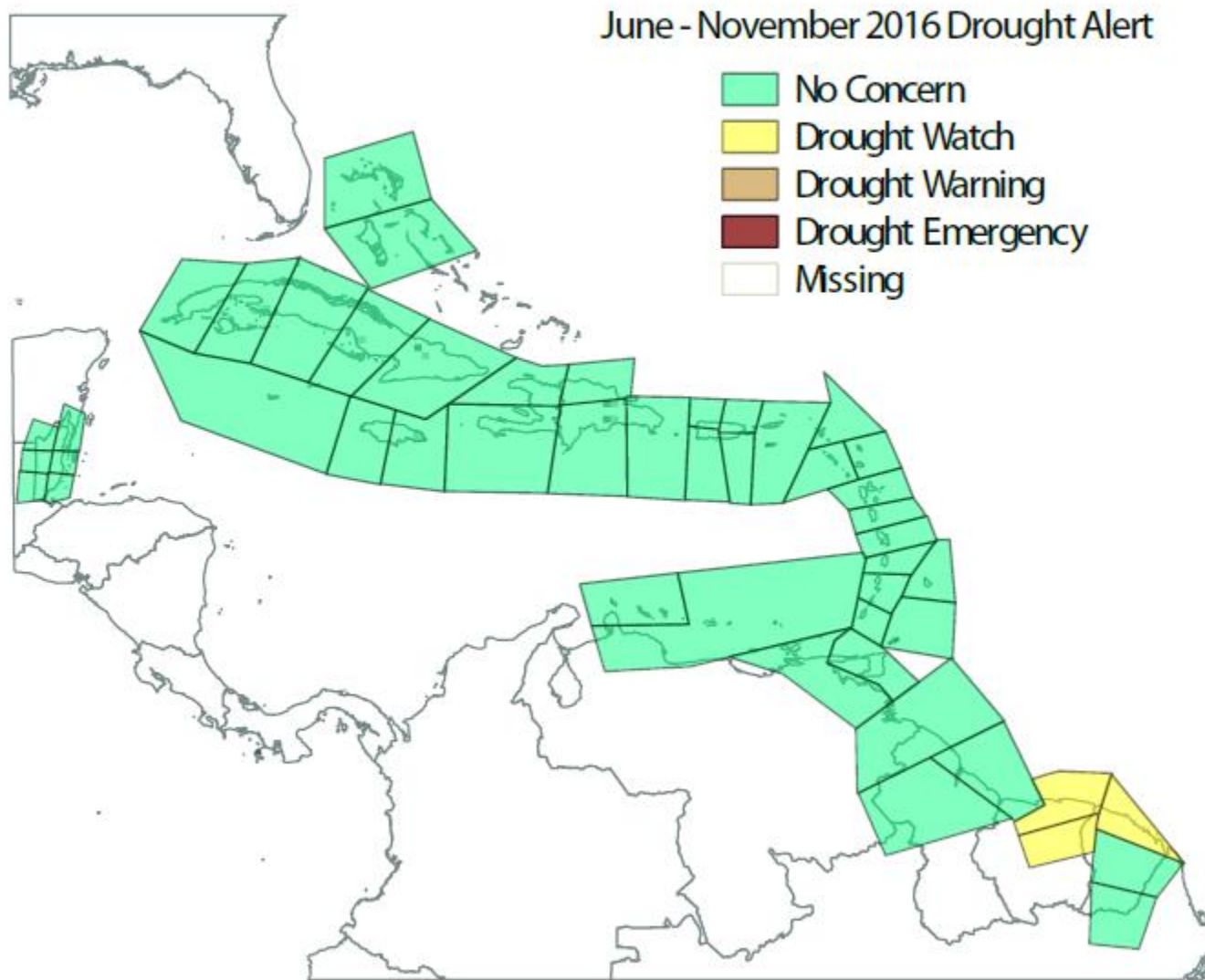
Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barth's, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname,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



Drought Outlook June to November

Areas under immediate drought concern?

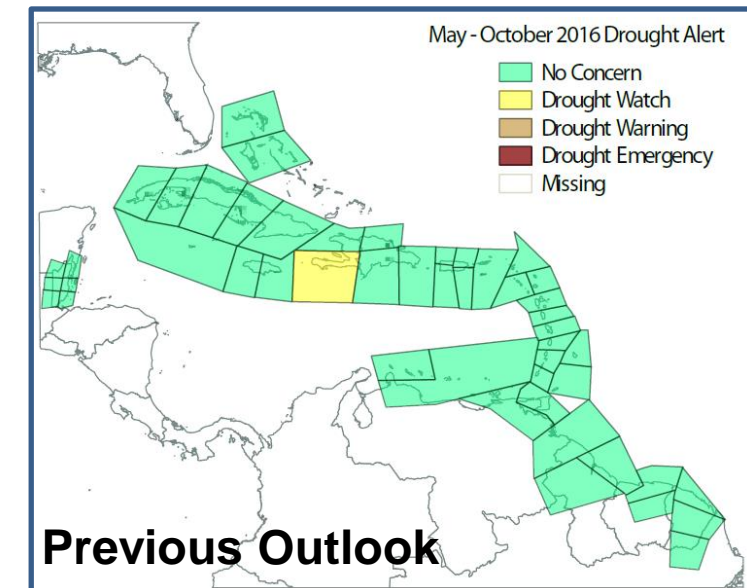
Current Outlook



Current update (August 2016):

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

A **drought watch** is issued for northern portions of French Guiana and Suriname.

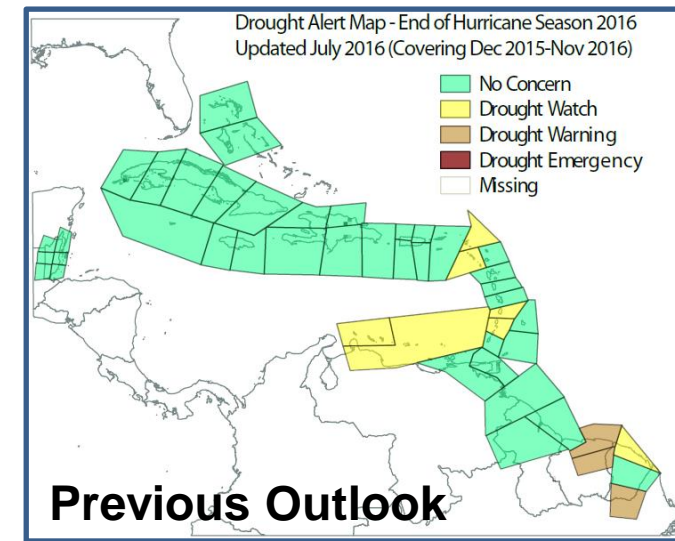
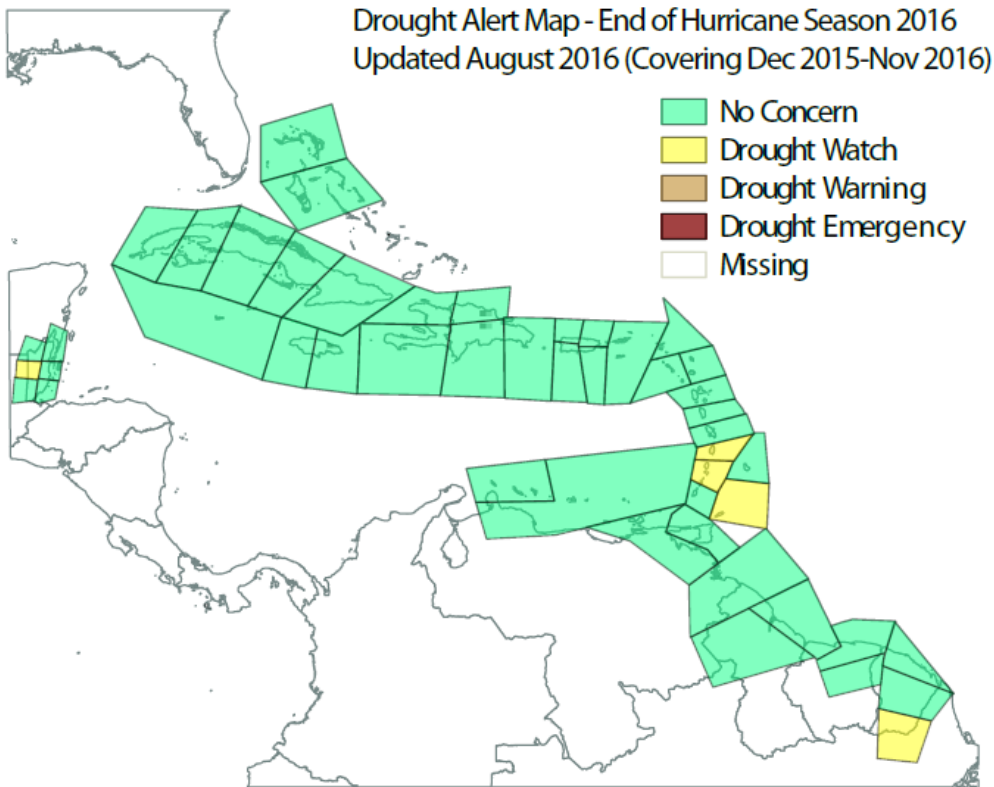


Long-term drought outlook

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 July 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** remains in effect for St. Lucia and St. Vincent and is also issued for southern French Guiana and Tobago.



Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- **Current drought situation (up to the end of July 2016):** *(more information [here](#))*
 - With the exception of Haïti, Martinique, N St. Lucia and parts of Trinidad and Tobago, July rainfall was normal to above-normal, which has continued to alleviate adverse drought conditions from earlier in 2016.
- **Shorter-term drought situation (until November 2016):**
 - We expect that a shorter-term drought situation may develop in northern portions of French Guiana and Suriname.
- **Longer-term drought situation (until November 2016):**
 - Longer-term drought remains possible in St. Lucia and St. Vincent, and is evolving in the S French Guiana and Tobago.
 - It is more likely than not that a weak La Niña will appear in September. La Niña tends to suppress chances of drought towards the end of the year in much of the Caribbean – thus bringing drought relief for those areas where drought persists – as well as suppress chances of longer-term drought during the upcoming 2016-7 dry season. However, this evolution may tilt the odds towards increased flash flood and long-term flooding potential until the end of 2016. The exception is the northwestern most part of the Caribbean (Bahamas and Cuba), where drought chances tend to increase between towards February with La Niña.

CONTINUE TO 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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