

# CariCOF Drought Outlook

## By the end of October 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, Haiti, 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



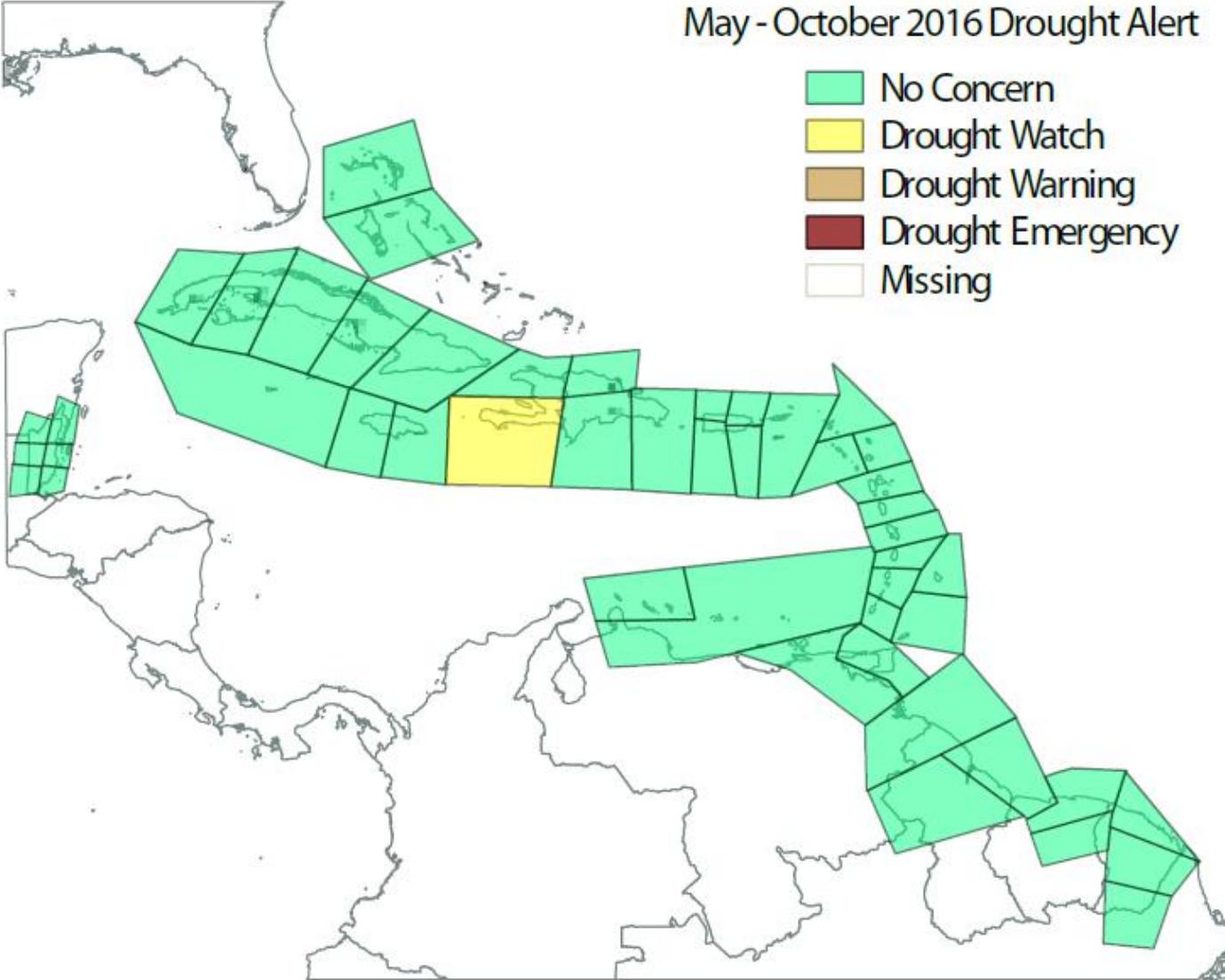
# Drought Outlook May to October

## Areas under immediate drought concern?

### Current Outlook

May - October 2016 Drought Alert

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



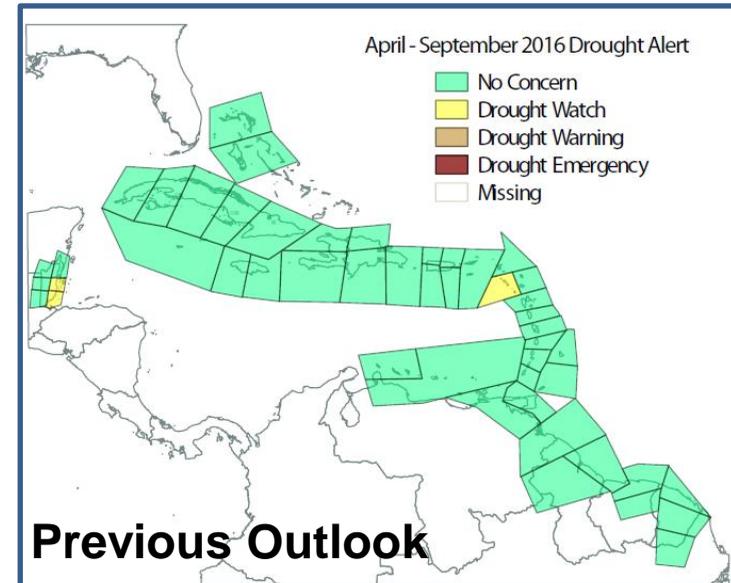
### Current update (July 2016):

No drought concern continues for the region.

A **drought watch** is issued for southern Haiti.

April - September 2016 Drought Alert

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



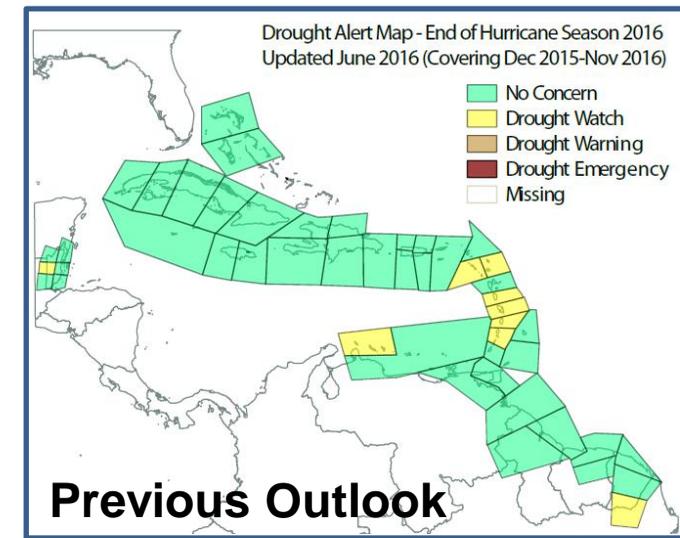
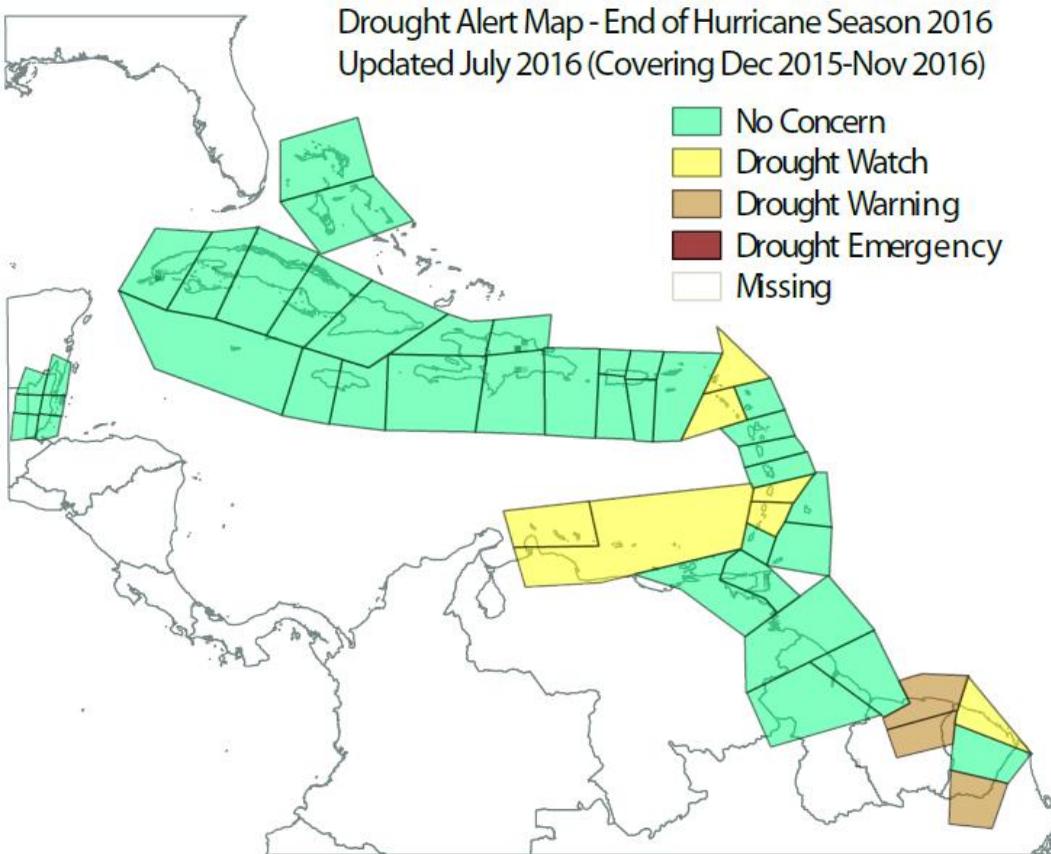
Previous Outlook

# Long-term drought outlook

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

### Current Outlook

- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through June 2016, with potential impacts on large surface water reserves and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is  $\leq -1.3$  (*very dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought watch** remains in effect for the ABC Islands, St. Kitts, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and is now also issued for N French Guiana and St. Maarten.
- A **drought warning** is issued for Suriname and S French Guiana.



# Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of June 2016): *(more information [here](#))*
  - Normal to above average rainfall in many of the island territories during June has continued to alleviate adverse drought conditions from earlier in 2016.
- Shorter-term drought situation (till October 2016):
  - We expect that a shorter-term drought situation may develop in Haiti.
- Longer-term drought situation (until November 2016):
  - Longer-term drought is evolving in the E Guianas, and is possible in parts of the Leeward and Windward Is. due to the probability of below normal rainfall in those locations.
  - A weak La Niña will probably appear in August or 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 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. The exception is the northwestern most part of the Caribbean (Bahamas and Cuba), where drought chances tend to increase with La Niña.

**CONTINUE TO MONITOR WATER USAGE!!**

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



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