

CariCOF Drought Outlook by the end of December 2015

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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, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago and the US Virgin Islands

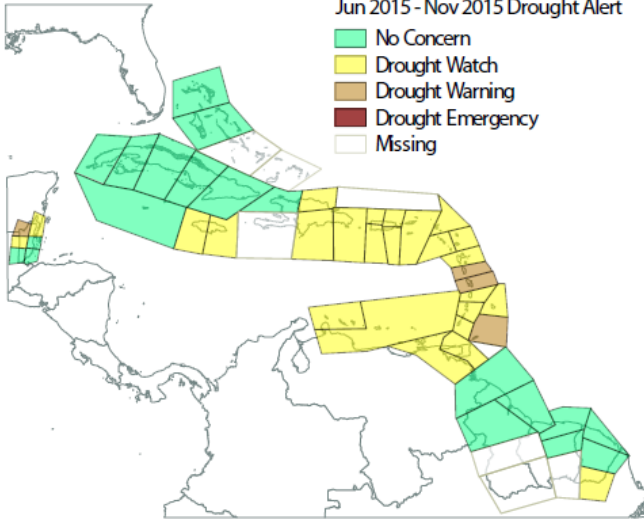


SPI outlook May to Oct – areas under immediate drought concern?

Aug 2015 update

Jun 2015 - Nov 2015 Drought Alert

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



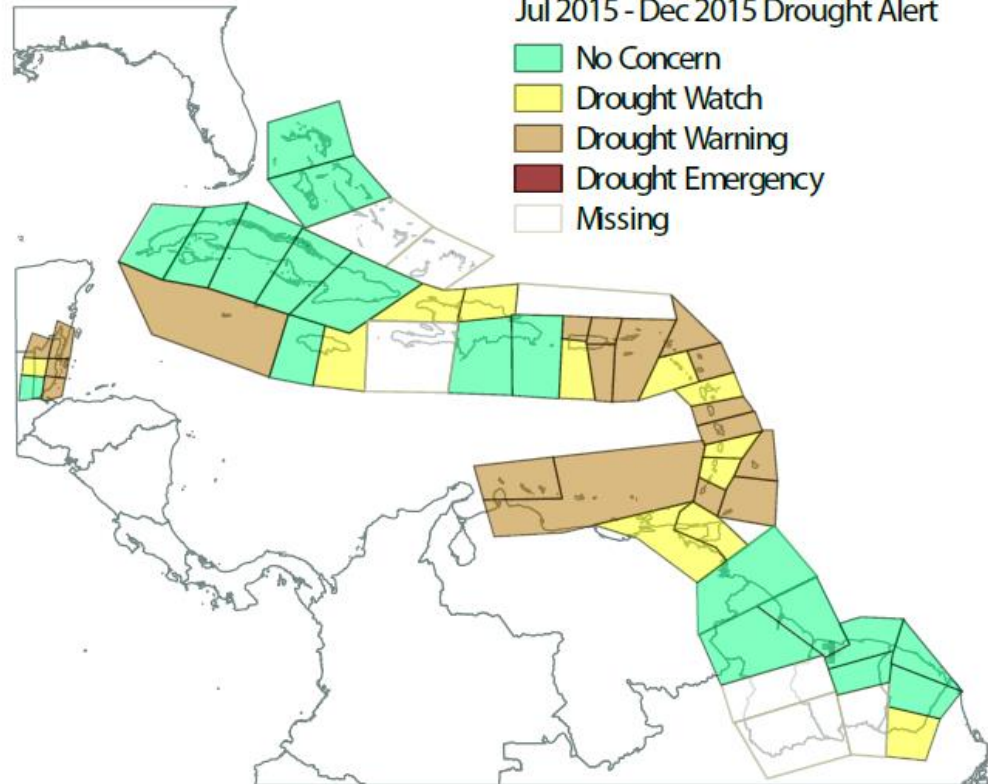
September 2015's update:

Drought concern is noted in ABC Islands, Barbados, Belize, Cayman, Grenada, N Leewards, Martinique, St. Lucia, Tobago & US C'bean Terr. where we issue a drought warning.

Some drought concern is further noted in other areas of the Caribbean Islands and S. French Guiana (except Bahamas, Cuba & SE Hispaniola).

Jul 2015 - Dec 2015 Drought Alert

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



Drought outlook till Dec 2015 – shorter- / longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of August): (*more information [here](#)*)
 - Because of below-normal rainfall during the previous wet and dry seasons, water shortages occur in many portions of the Antilles.
 - Nearly all island nations are in longer-term drought (except Bahamas, Cuba, W Jamaica and W Puerto Rico). After a record dry JJA period in 30 out of 180 odd stations (notably in Barbados, Jamaica, Leewards, Martinique and US C'bean Terr.), many Antilles islands are currently facing severe shorter-term drought.
- Shorter-term (till December):
 - We expect that a shorter-term drought situation may persist in the Antilles east- and southward of Hispaniola and in Belize and Cayman.
- Longer-term (November and beyond):
 - Strong El Niño in place. El Niño often results in a late start and early end of the wet season (except for the NW Caribbean), and particularly so in the SE Caribbean. This may lead to drought concerns towards the next dry season
 - Areas with existing water shortages may not see full recovery in the wet season, in particular Barbados, Belize, central Hispaniola, E Jamaica, Leewards, Trinidad & Tobago, US C'bean Terr. and Windwards.

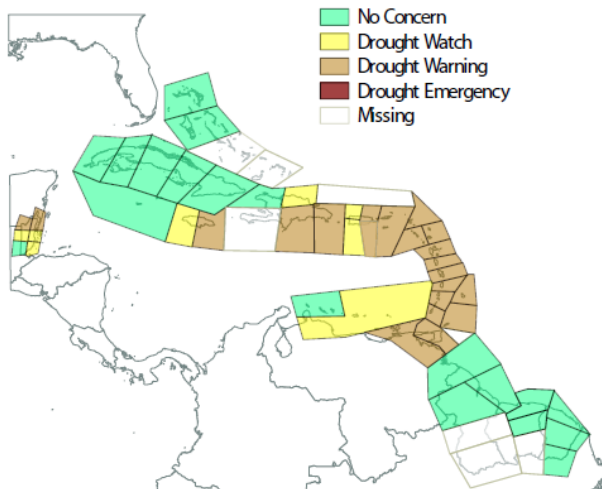
RAISE AWARENESS & CONSERVE WATER!!

Long-term drought outlook – drought concerns until end of the 2015 Caribbean hurricane/wet season (Nov 30th, 2015)?

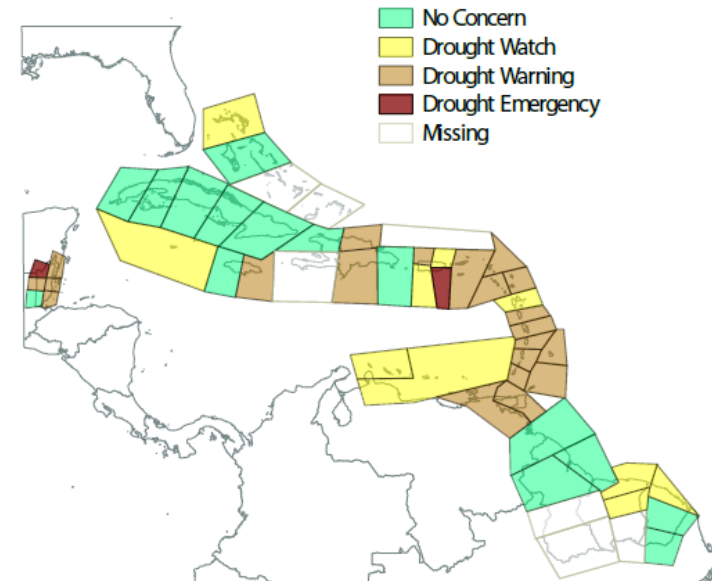
- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations until August 2015, with potential impacts on large surface water reserves and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is ≤ -1.3 (*very dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- Impactful hydrological drought by the end of the wet season is a concern across all the Antilles (except Cuba) and in Belize.
- A **drought emergency** is issued for NW Belize and SE Puerto Rico. A **drought warning** is issued for Barbados, Belize, central Hispaniola, E Jamaica, Leewards, NW Puerto Rico, Trinidad & Tobago and Windwards.

Last update

Drought alert outlook -concerns by the end of 2015 Hurricane Season
Updated August 2015



Drought alert outlook -concerns by the end of 2015 Hurricane Season
Updated September 2015



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