CariCOF Drought Outlook By the end of December 2018

Coordination: Caribbean Institute for Meteorology & Hydrology Dr. Cédric J. Van Meerbeeck - Climatologist Wazita B. Scott – Assistant 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

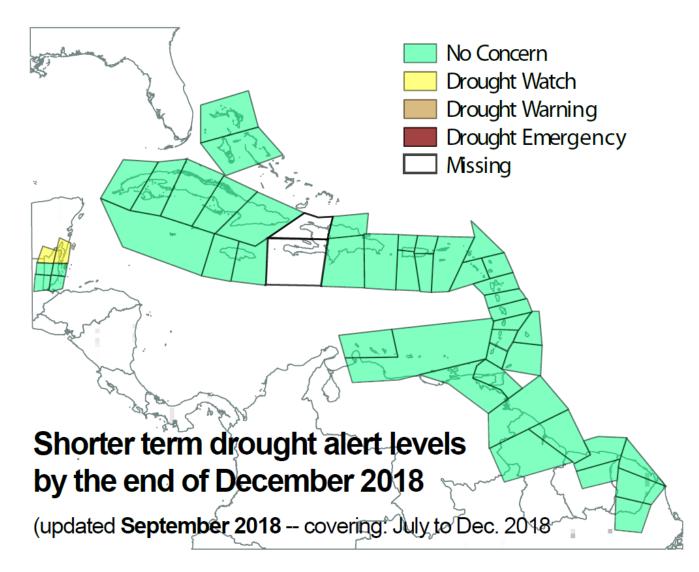






Shorter term Drought Outlook (July to December 2018) Areas under immediate drought concern?

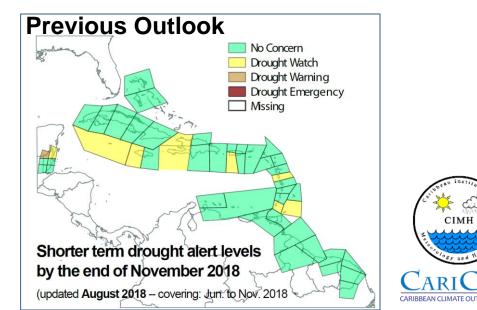
Current Outlook



Current update (September 2018):

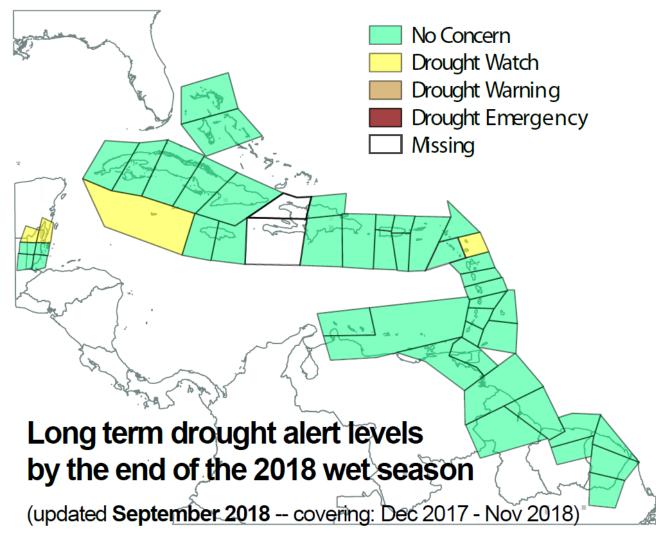
As we transition from the dry season into the wet season, we are currently not seeing any shorter term drought concern developing throughout the region. Exceptions are:

A **drought watch** is issued for northern Belize.

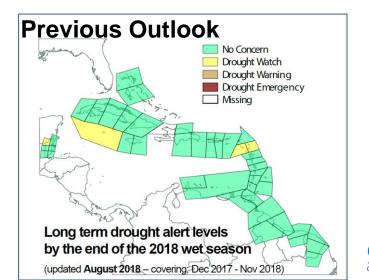


Long term drought outlook Concerns by the end of the wet season (November 30th, 2018)?

Current Outlook



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through August 2018, 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 is issued for Antigua, northern Belize and Cayman Is.



CIMH

Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of August 2018): (more information here)
 - Grand Cayman, southernmost Belize and southernmost Hispaniola have seen long term drought developing.
 - Shorter term drought is seen in Antigua, parts of Barbados, northern Belize, southernmost Cuba, southern Hispaniola, eastern Jamaica, northern Leewards, St. Lucia and Tobago.
- Shorter term drought situation (by the end of December 2018):
 - Shorter term drought will possibly remain in northern Belize by the end of the year.
- Long term drought situation (by the end of November 2018):
 - Long term drought might possibly develop in Antigua, northern Belize, Cayman Is.

* We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring drought and look for our monthly updates.*

CONSERVE WATER !!



ALERT LEVEL	MEANING	ACTION LEVEL
NO CONCERN	No drought concern	 ✓ monitor resources ✓ update and ratify management plans ✓ public awareness campaigns ✓ upgrade infrastructure
	Drought possible	 ✓ keep updated ✓ protect resources and conserve water ✓ implement management plans ✓ response training ✓ monitor and repair infrastructure
DROUGHT WARNING	Drought evolving	 ✓ protect resources ✓ conserve and recycle water ✓ implement management plans ✓ release public service announcements ✓ last minute infrastructural repairs and upgrades ✓ report impacts
DROUGHT EMERGENCY caricof@cimh.edu.bb	Drought of immediate concern	 ✓ release public service announcements ✓ implement management and response plans ✓ enforce water restrictions and recycling ✓ enforce resource protection ✓ repair infrastructure ✓ report impacts