

CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of February 2019

*Coordination: Caribbean Institute for Meteorology & Hydrology
Dr. Cédric J. Van Meerbeeck - Climatologist
Dr. Teddy Allen – Assistant Climatologist
caricof@cimh.edu.bb*

Participating territories

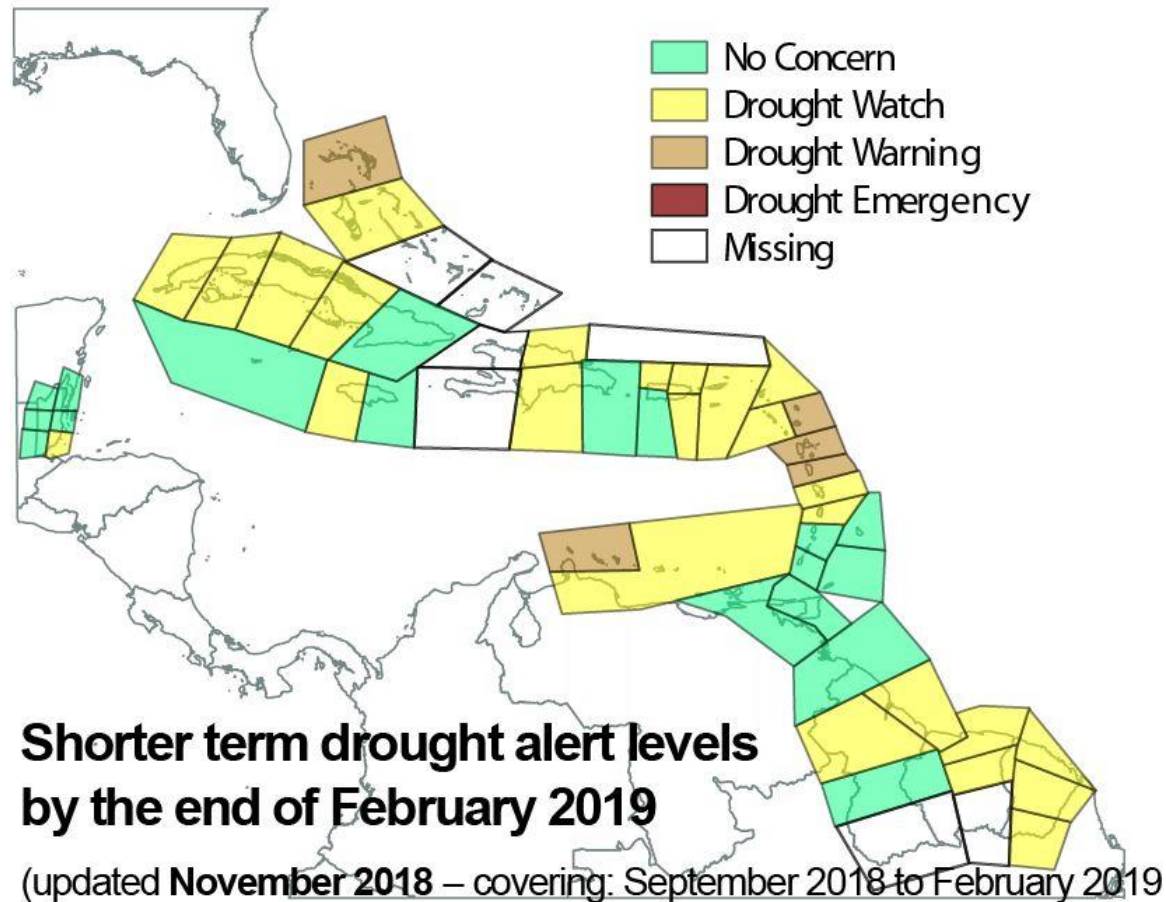
Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barth's, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname,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



Shorter term Drought Outlook (September 2018 to February 2019)

Areas under immediate drought concern?

Current Outlook



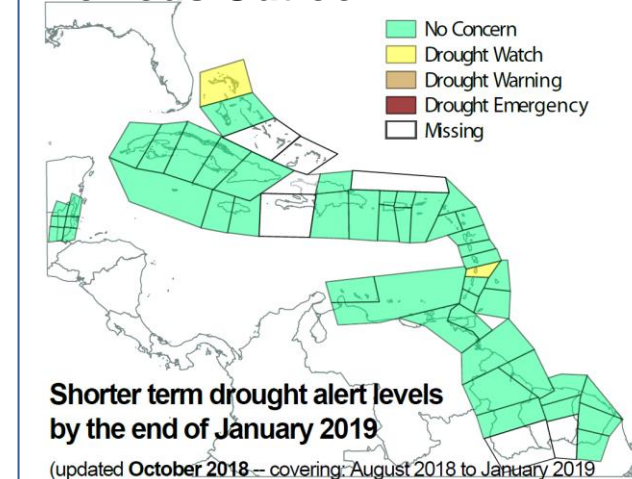
Current update (November 2018):

We are currently entering the dry season. Currently, drought concern is developing throughout much of the region.

A **drought warning** is issued for ABC Islands, Antigua, northern Bahamas, Dominica, Guadeloupe.

A **drought watch** is issued for central Bahamas, much of Cuba, Dom. Republic, much of the Guianas, western Jamaica, Martinique, northern Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, USVI.

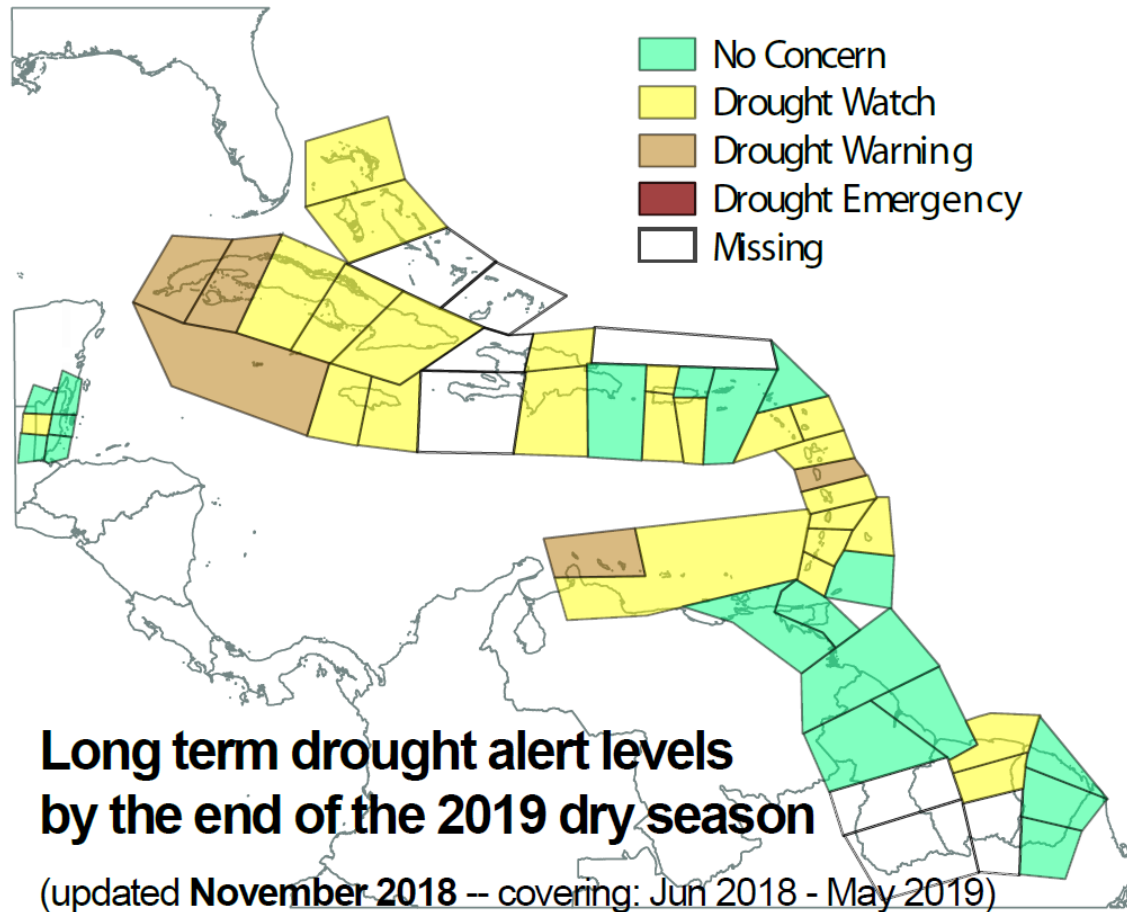
Previous Outlook



Long term drought outlook

Concerns by the end of the dry season (May 31st, 2019)?

Current Outlook



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through October 2018, with potential impacts on large surface water reservoirs 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 issued for ABC Islands, western Cuba, Cayman, and Dominica.
- A **drought watch** is issued for northern Bahamas, eastern Cuba, Jamaica, ABC Islands, windward islands, most of Dom. Rep., western Puerto Rico, and Suriname.

Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of October 2018): *(more information [here](#))*
 - Shorter term drought is ongoing in parts of The Bahamas, Cuba, Dominica, Hispaniola and Martinique.
 - Continued long term drought is currently occurring in Antigua, N Belize and S Hispaniola.
- Shorter term drought situation (by the end of February 2019):
 - Shorter term drought is evolving in ABC Islands, Antigua, northern Bahamas, Dominica, Guadeloupe.
 - Shorter term drought might possibly develop in the central Bahamas, much of Cuba, Dom. Republic, much of the Guianas, western Jamaica, Martinique, northern Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, USVI.
- Long term drought situation (by the end of May 2019):
 - An El Nino is expected to develop and contribute to reduced rainfall in the coming months.
 - Long term drought is evolving in ABC Islands, western Cuba, Cayman, and Dominica.
 - Shorter term drought might possibly develop in northern Bahamas, eastern Cuba, Jamaica, ABC Islands, windward islands, most of Dom. Rep., western Puerto Rico, and Suriname.

** 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