

CariCOF Drought Outlooks

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Short term drought concerns by the end of February 2021
Long term drought concerns by the end of May 2021

*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, 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

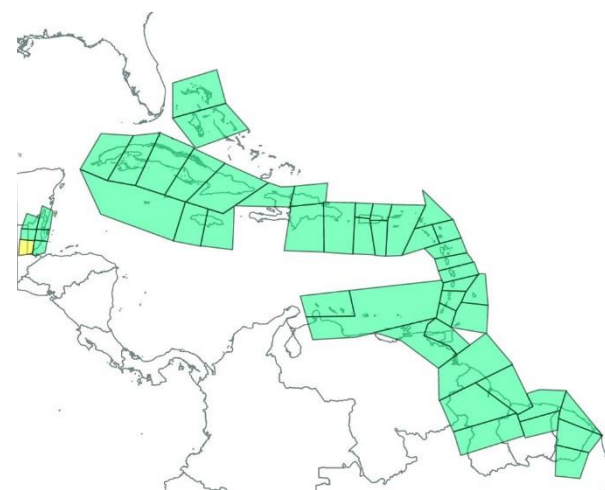
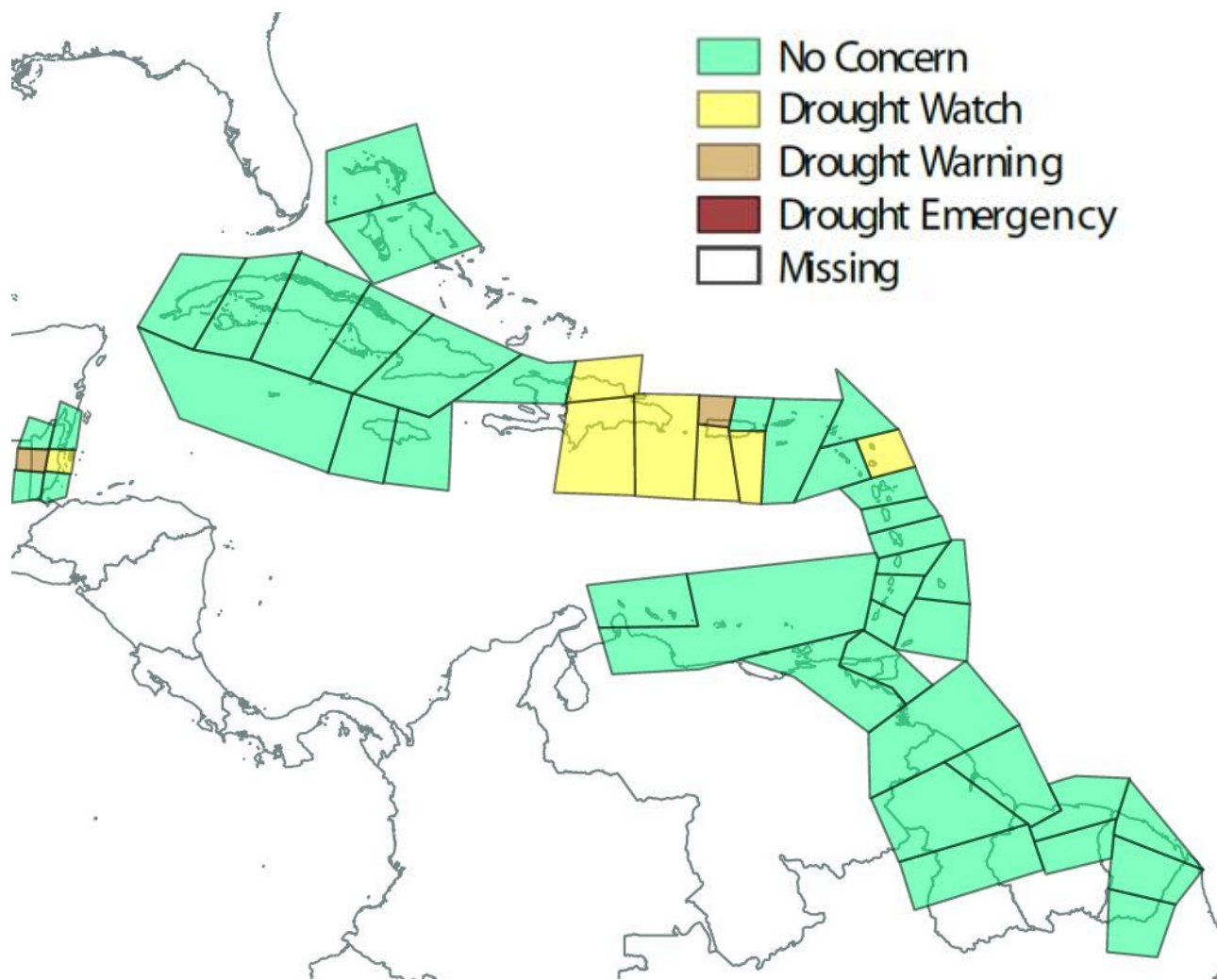


What is the predicted short term drought concern by the end of February 2021?

Current update (November 2020):

We are currently entering the dry season.

- A **drought warning** should be considered for northwest Puerto Rico and parts of western Belize.
- A **drought watch** should be considered for Antigua, parts of eastern Belize, the Dominican Republic, and southern Puerto Rico.



Previous short term drought alert levels by the end of January 2020

Suggested alert levels for short term drought at the end of February 2021

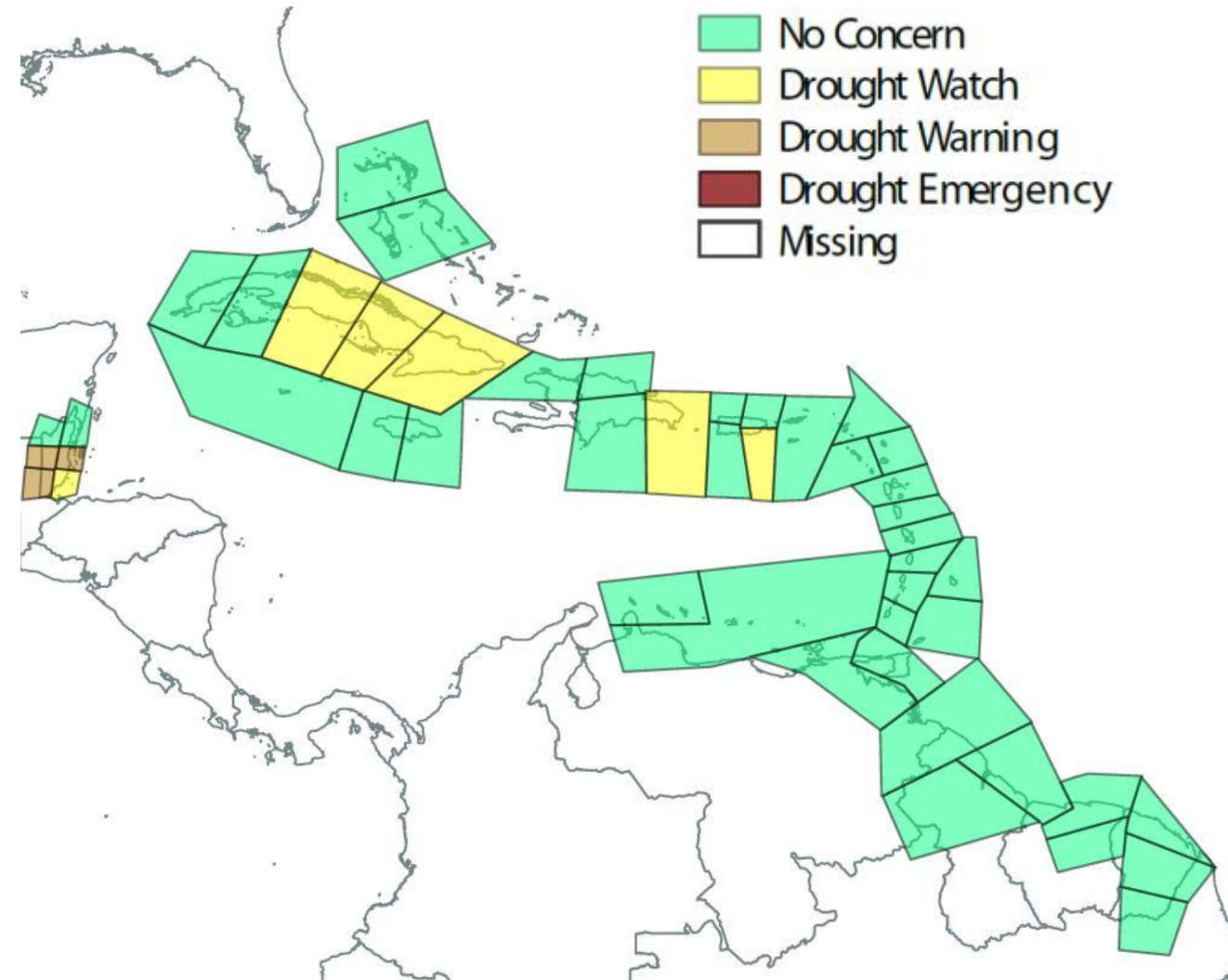
(updated November 2020 – covering September 2020 to February 2021)

caricof@cimh.edu.bb

For climate information specific to your country, please consult with your national meteorological service. *CariCOF* outlooks speak to recent and expected climate trends across the Caribbean in general.



What is the predicted long term drought concern by the end of May 2021?



Current update (November 2020):

- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through October 2020, with potential impacts on large surface water reservoirs and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is ≤ -0.8 (*very dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought warning** should be considered for most of central and southern Belize
- A **drought watch** should be considered for eastern Cuba, western Dominican Republic, and southeast Puerto Rico.

Suggested alert levels for long term drought at the end of May 2021

(updated November 2020 – covering June 2020 to May 2021)

caricof@cimh.edu.bb

For climate information specific to your country, please consult with your national meteorological service. CariCOF outlooks speak to recent and expected climate trends across the Caribbean in general.



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Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (at the end of October 2020): (*more information [here](#)*)
 - Severe (or worse) shorter term drought has developed in western Puerto Rico.
 - Severe (or worse) long term drought has developed in southern and easternmost Belize, central parts of the Dominican Republic, easternmost Guadeloupe, western and northern French Guiana, northernmost Guyana, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, and parts of eastern Suriname.
 - Shorter term drought situation (by the end of February 2021):
 - Short term drought is evolving in parts of western Belize and northwest Puerto Rico.
 - Short term drought might possibly develop or continue in Antigua, parts of eastern Belize, the Dominican Republic, and southern Puerto Rico.
 - Long term drought situation (by the end of May 2021):
 - Long term drought is evolving in southern parts of Belize and northwest Puerto Rico.
 - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in eastern Cuba, eastern Dominican Republic, and southeast Puerto Rico.
 - Areas ending up in long term drought may experience **water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater that are lower than usual, which then may be a concern as the 2020-21 dry season comes to a close.**
- * 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



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caricof@cimh.edu.bb

rcc.cimh.edu.bb

Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology

TEL: (246) 425-1362/3 | FAX: (246) 424-4733