

CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of March 2018

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Participating territories

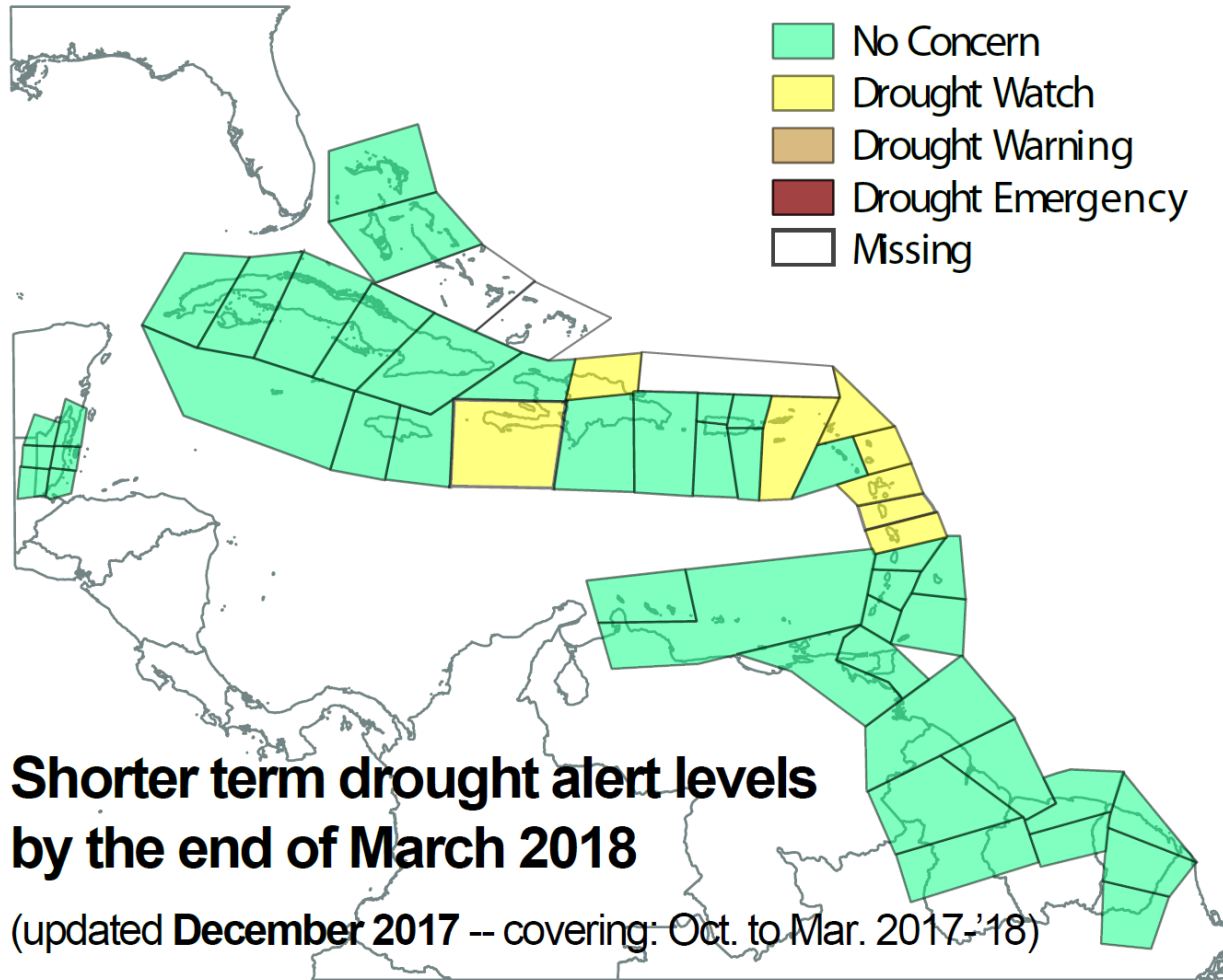
Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barth's, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname,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



Shorter term Drought Outlook (October to March 2017-'18)

Areas under immediate drought concern?

Current Outlook

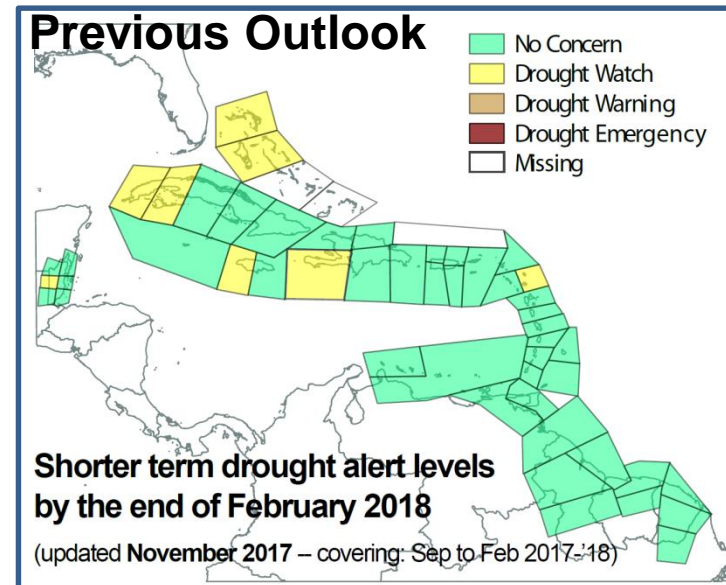


Current update (December 2017):

We continue to see no drought concern developing throughout most of the region. Exceptions are:

A **drought watch** is issued for northern portions of the Dominican Republic, southern Haiti, the Leewards (except St. Kitts), Martinique and the US Virgin Islands.

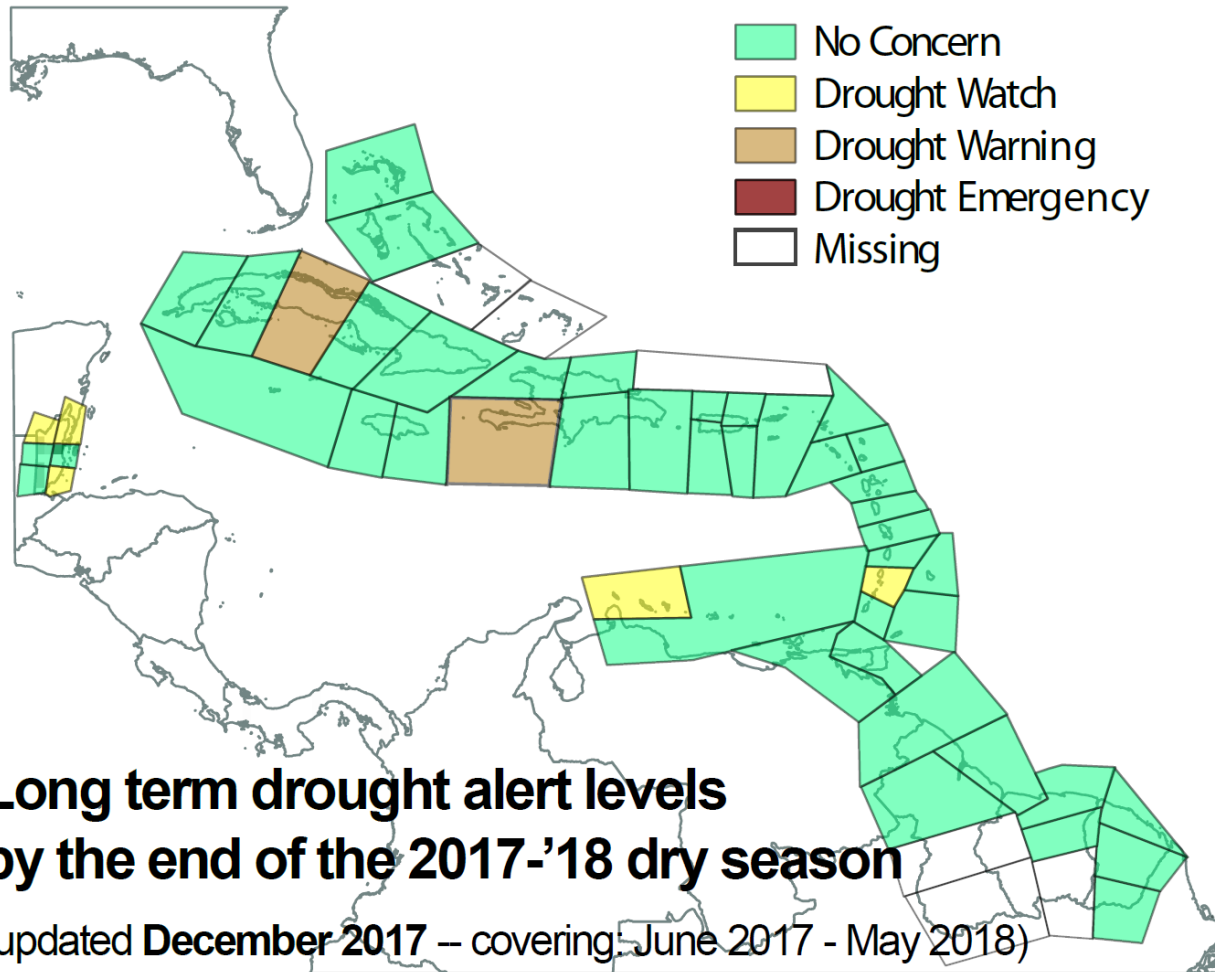
Previous Outlook



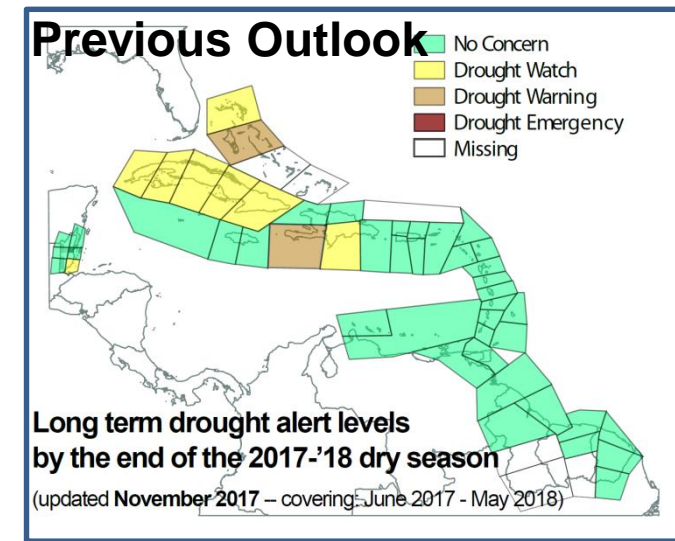
Long term drought outlook

Concerns by the end of the dry season (May 31st, 2018)?

Current Outlook



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through December 2017, with potential impacts on large surface water reserves and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is ≤ -0.8 (*moderately dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought warning** remains in effect for southern Haiti and is now in effect for central Cuba.
- A **drought watch** remains is now in effect for the ABC Islands, northern and southwestern Belize and St. Vincent.



Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of November 2017): *(more information [here](#))*
 - Central parts of The Bahamas and southern Haïti are under long term drought.
 - Short term drought is seen in southern Haïti, as well as in western-most portions of Jamaica and Martinique.
 - Much of the Caribbean has received ample rainfall during its 2017 wet season, with long term drought no longer present in Grand Cayman and The Bahamas.
- Shorter term drought situation (by the end of March 2018):
 - Shorter term drought might possibly remain southern Haïti.
 - Shorter term drought might possibly develop in northern portions of the Dominican Republic, the Leewards (except St. Kitts), Martinique and the US Virgin Islands.
- Long term drought situation (by the end of May 2018):
 - Long term drought is evolving in central parts of Cuba and in southern Haïti and might possibly develop in northern and southeastern Belize, as well as in St. Vincent.
 - The potential long term drought concerns are few region-wide at this time thanks to the ample wet season rainfall in 2017. However, 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

THRESHOLDS

Drought	
Alert Levels	Probabilities
No Concern	< 33.3333
Drought Watch	33.3334 – 50
Drought Warning	50 – 83.3333
Drought Emergency	≥ 83.3334

ROC	
Discrimination	Thresholds
No	< 0.5
Poor	0.5 - 0.6
Moderate	0.6 – 0.7
Fair	0.7 -0.8
Good	0.8 – 0.95
Very Good	> 0.95

Goodness Index	
Skill	Thresholds
Negative Skill	< 0
Very Limited	0 – 0.1
Limited	0.1 – 0.2
Moderate	0.2 – 0.25
Fair	0.25 -0.3
Good	> 0.3



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