

# CariCOF Drought Outlook

## By the end of December 2019

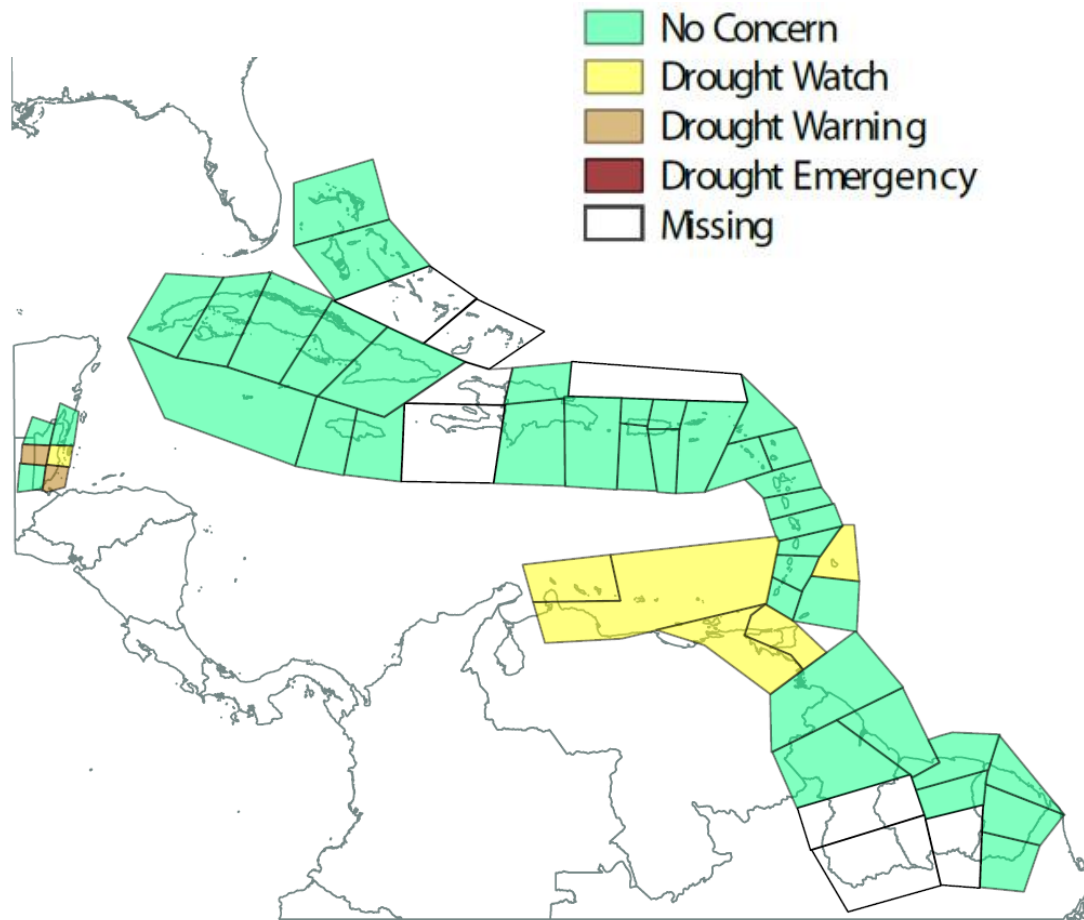
*Coordination: Caribbean Institute for Meteorology & Hydrology  
Dr. Cédric J. Van Meerbeeck - Climatologist  
Dr. Teddy Allen – Assistant Climatologist  
[caricof@cimh.edu.bb](mailto:caricof@cimh.edu.bb)*

### 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



# What is the predicted short term drought concern by the end of December 2019?

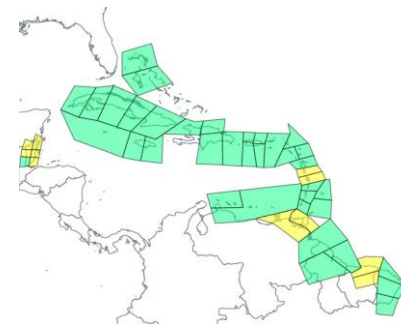


## Current update (September 2019):

We are currently in the wet season. This time around, drought concern develops throughout parts of the region.

A **drought warning** should be considered for west-central and southeastern Belize.

A **drought watch** should be considered for the ABC islands, Barbados, east-central Belize, and Trinidad.



Previous short term drought alert levels by the end of November 2019

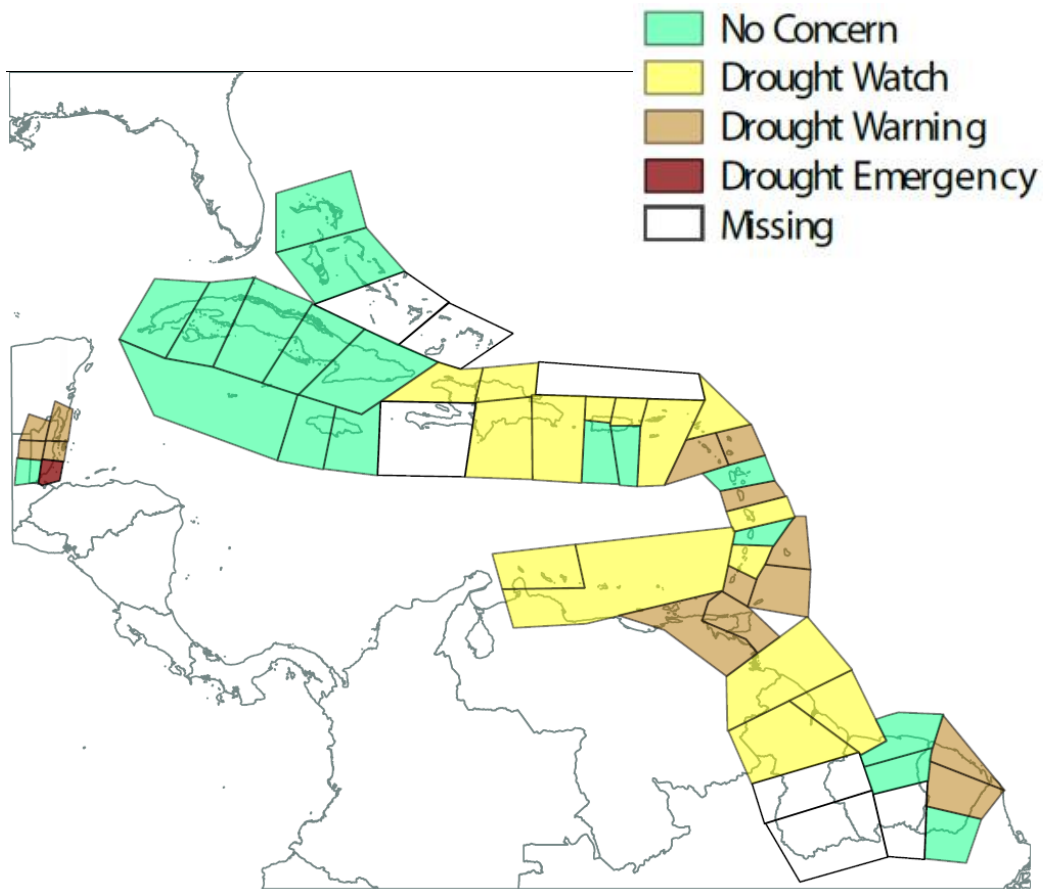
## Short term drought alert levels by the end of December 2019

(updated September 2019 – covering July to December 2019)

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.*

[cari cof@cimh.edu.bb](mailto:cari cof@cimh.edu.bb)

# What is the predicted long term drought concern by the end of November 2019?

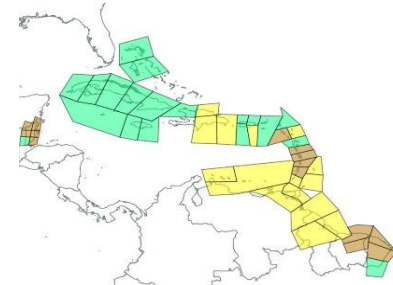


## Long term drought alert levels by the end of November 2019

(updated September 2019 – covering December 2018 to November 2019)

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.*

- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through August 2019, with potential impacts on large surface water reservoirs and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is  $\leq -1.3$  (*severely dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought emergency** should be considered for south-eastern Belize
- A **drought warning** should be considered for Antigua, Barbados, northern and central Belize, Dominica, French Guiana, Grenada, St. Kitts, Trinidad and Tobago.
- A **drought watch** should be considered for ABC Islands, Dom. Repub., Guyana, Martinique, northern Puerto Rico, St. Martin, Trinidad & Tobago and USVI.



Previous August update)  
long term drought alert  
levels by the end of  
November 2019

# Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (up to the end of August 2019): *(more information [here](#))*
  - Severe (or worse) shorter term drought has developed in Aruba, much of Belize, north-western French Guiana, eastern-most & southernmost Hispaniola, southern-most Jamaica, parts of Martinique, northern Saint Lucia, parts of Trinidad & Tobago, Turks & Caicos.
  - Severe (or worse) long term drought has developed in Aruba, Barbados, eastern & northern Belize, eastern Cuba, southwestern Dominica, southern & eastern Dom. Repub., northwestern & northeastern French Guiana, Haiti, Martinique, much of Puerto Rico, northern Saint Lucia, Trinidad.
- Shorter term drought situation (by the end of December 2019):
  - Shorter term drought is evolving in west-central and south-eastern Belize.
  - Shorter term drought might possibly continue in Aruba, Barbados, other parts of Belize and Trinidad, and might develop in Curaçao.
- Long term drought situation (by the end of November 2019):
  - Long term drought is of immediate concern in south-eastern Belize
  - Long term drought is evolving in Antigua, Barbados, northern and central Belize, Dominica, French Guiana, Grenada, St. Kitts and Trinidad & Tobago.
  - Long term drought might possibly continue in Hispaniola and Martinique, and might develop in northern Puerto Rico, St. Martin, St. Vincent, USVI.
  - Areas ending up in long term drought may experience significantly reduced water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater during the upcoming dry season.

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

**CONTINUE TO MONITOR &  
CONSERVE WATER !!**

ALERT LEVEL	MEANING	ACTION LEVEL
<b>NO CONCERN</b>	No drought concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>monitor resources</b></li> <li>✓ update and ratify management plans</li> <li>✓ public awareness campaigns</li> <li>✓ upgrade infrastructure</li> </ul>
<b>DROUGHT WATCH</b>	Drought possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>keep updated</b></li> <li>✓ protect resources and conserve water</li> <li>✓ implement management plans</li> <li>✓ response training</li> <li>✓ monitor and repair infrastructure</li> </ul>
<b>DROUGHT WARNING</b>	Drought evolving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>protect resources</b></li> <li>✓ conserve and recycle water</li> <li>✓ implement management plans</li> <li>✓ release public service announcements</li> <li>✓ last minute infrastructural repairs and upgrades</li> <li>✓ report impacts</li> </ul>
<b>DROUGHT EMERGENCY</b>	Drought of immediate concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>release public service announcements</b></li> <li>✓ implement management and response plans</li> <li>✓ enforce water restrictions and recycling</li> <li>✓ enforce resource protection</li> <li>✓ repair infrastructure</li> <li>✓ report impacts</li> </ul>

[caricof@cimh.edu.bb](mailto:caricof@cimh.edu.bb)





**CARICOF**  
CARIBBEAN CLIMATE OUTLOOK FORUM

*caricof@cimh.edu.bb*

*rcc.cimh.edu.bb*

Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology

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