

CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of November 2023

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

Participating territories

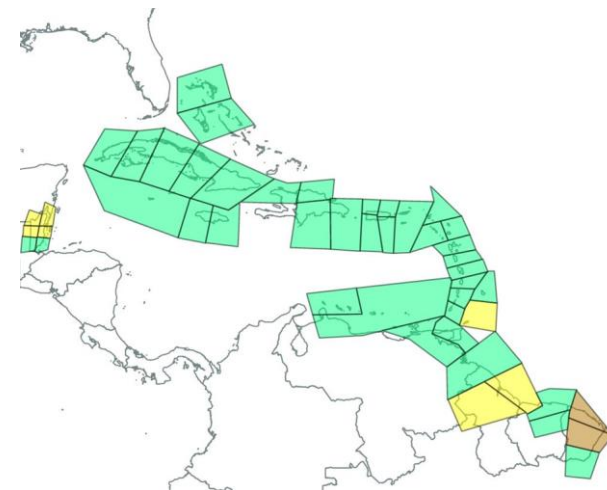
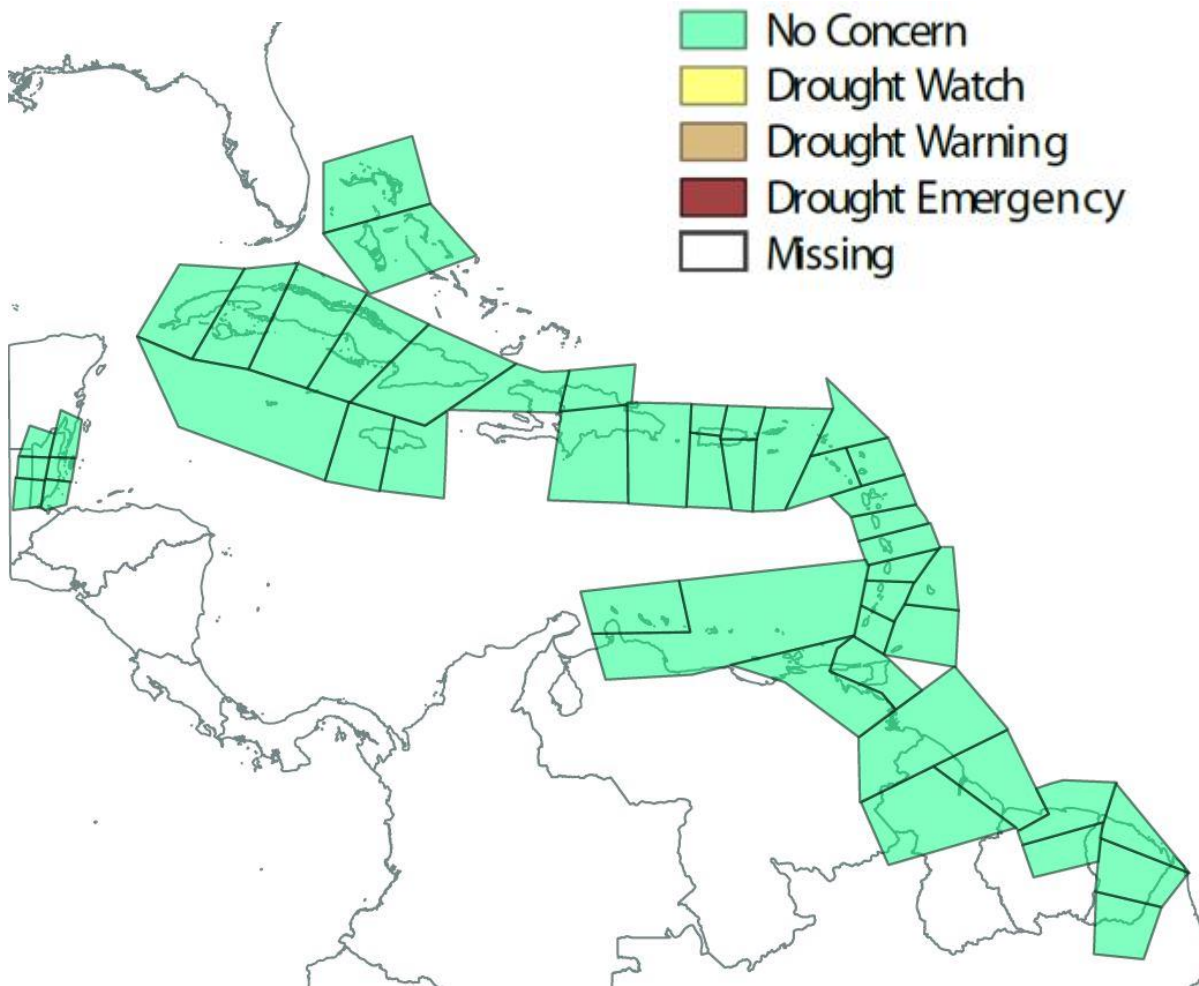
Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barts, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname,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



What is the predicted short term drought concern by the end of November 2023?

Current update (August 2023):

- We are now entering the second half of the Caribbean wet season.
- Short-term drought by the end of November is not a significant concern at this time.



Short term drought alert levels at the end of November 2023

(updated August 2023 – based on a 6-month SPI for June to November 2023)

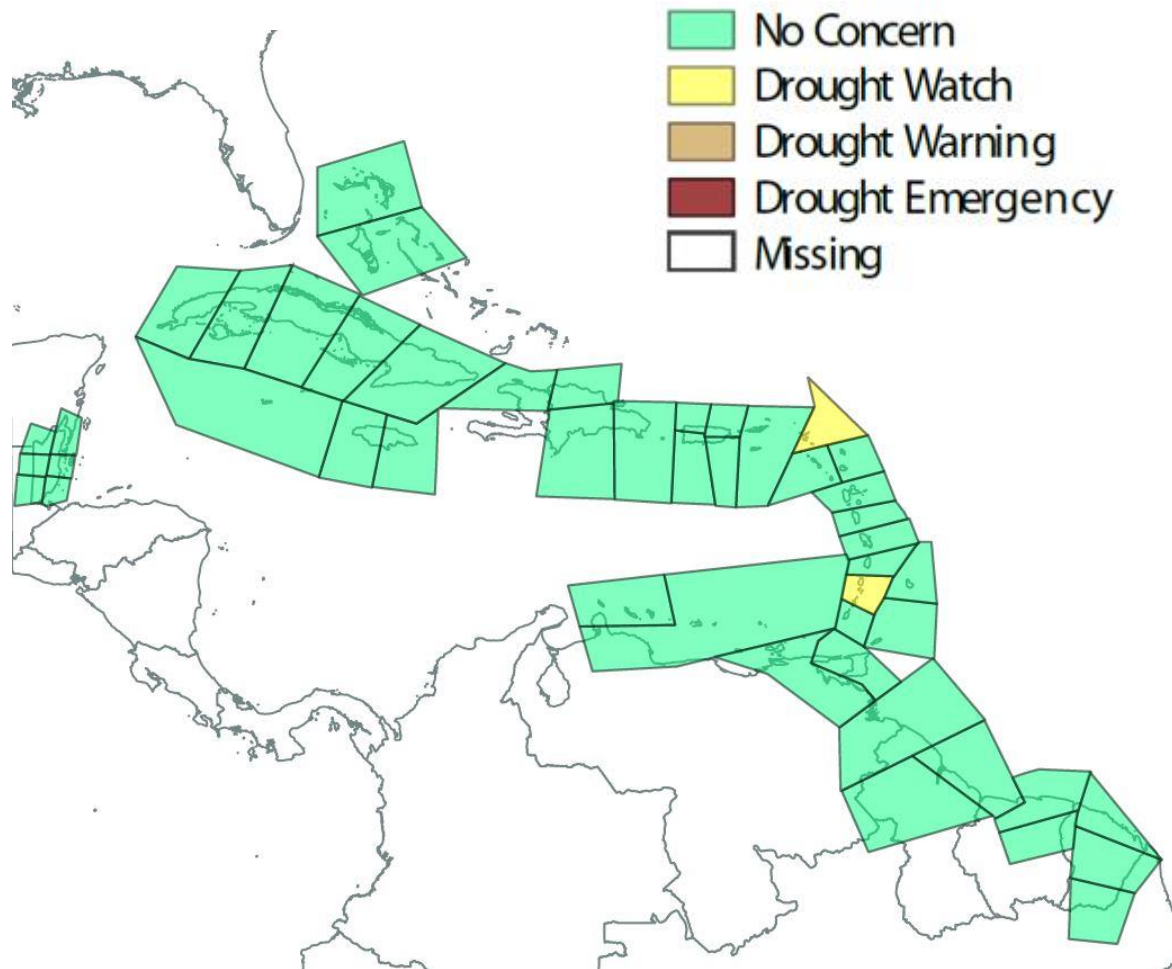
caricof@cimh.edu.bb

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.*

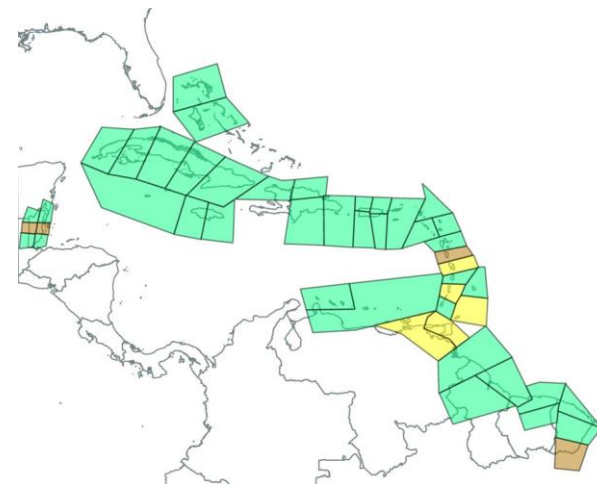


CARICOF
CARIBBEAN CLIMATE OUTLOOK FORUM

What is the predicted long term drought concern at the end of November 2023?



- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through June 2023, with potential impacts on large surface water reservoirs and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is ≤ -1.3 (*severely dry or worse* – ref.: CDPMN).
- A **drought watch** should be considered for St. Barts, Sint Maarten/St-Martin and St. Vincent.



Previous update (July): long term drought alert levels at the end of November 2023

Long term drought alert levels at the end of November 2023

(updated August 2023 – based on a 12-month SPI for December 2022 to November 2023)

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.*

Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

- Current drought situation (*– provisional overview by 23 August 2023 based on CMORPH data provided by RCC-Washington –*): (*more information [here](#)*)
 - Short-term drought has developed in parts of Belize, Cuba, Haiti and most of the Guianas.
 - Long-term drought has developed in St. Vincent.
- Short-term drought situation (by the end of November 2023):
 - No concern.
- Long-term drought situation (by the end of November 2023):
 - Long-term drought is possible in St. Barts, Sint Maarten/St-Martin and St. Vincent.
 - Areas ending up in long-term drought by the end of November are likely to experience lower than usual water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater.

** 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



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