

CariCOF Drought Outlook by the end of April 2015

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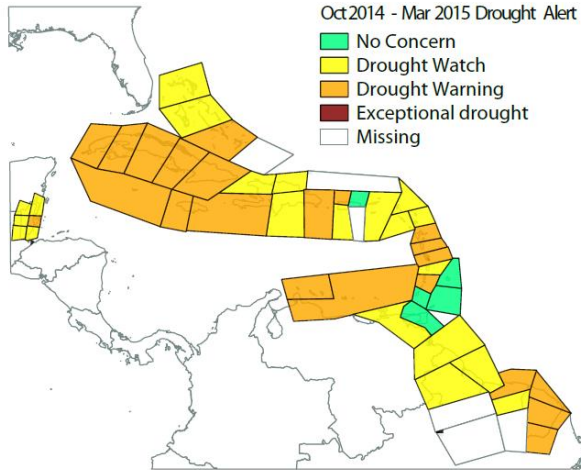
Participating territories

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



SPI outlook Nov to Apr – areas under immediate drought concern?

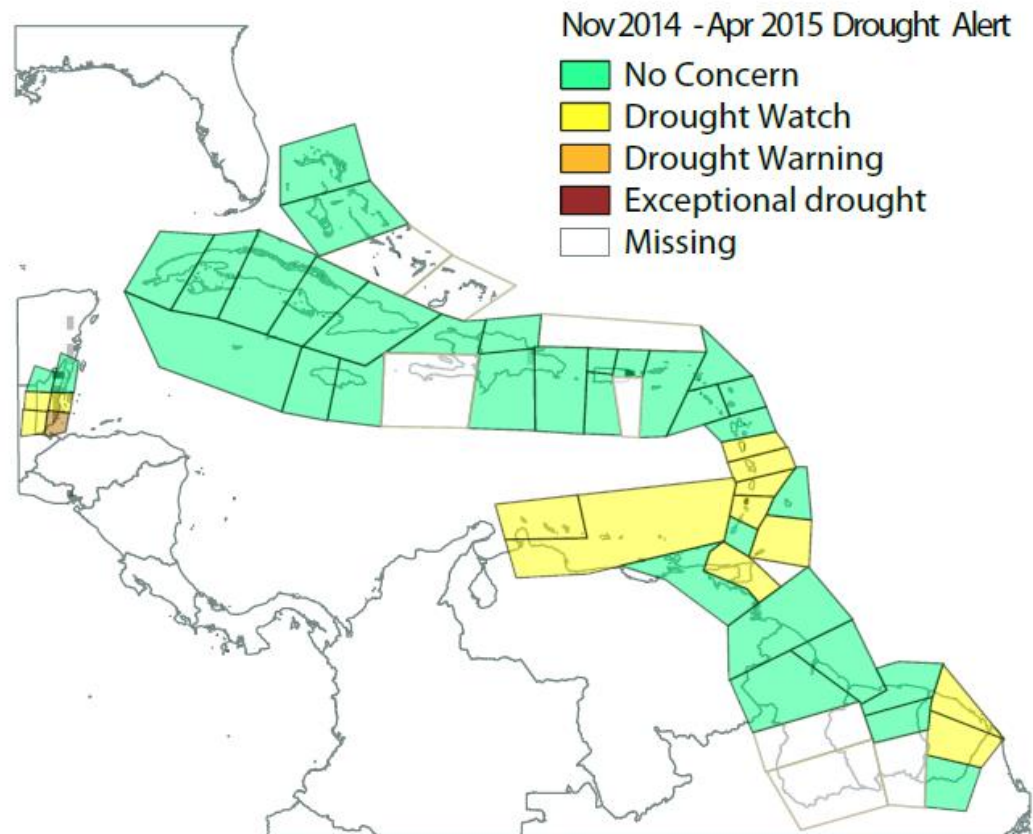
December 2014's update



January 2015's update:

Drought concerns have subsided throughout the Caribbean, except SE Belize as well as in portions of the Guianas.

Some concern exists in the ABC Islands, Belize, Trinidad & Tobago and in portions of French Guiana and the Windward Islands.



Drought outlook till May 2015 – **shorter- / longer-term concern?**

- **Current drought situation:**
 - Cayman, Eastern Jamaica, Haïti and to a lesser extent part of the Windward Islands are in drought and have suffered water shortages.
- **Shorter-term:**
 - We expect that the drought situation to possibly appear in some of the other islands and improve over others.
- **Longer-term:**
 - Because of below normal rainfall during the wet season, water shortages may occur in portions of the Antilles during the dry season, which is our tourist season.
 - Chances are that an El Niño may evolve. El Niño often results in a drier dry season (except for the NW Caribbean), and particularly in the SE Caribbean later in the dry season. However, above-average temperatures in the Atlantic suggest a wetter dry season. Regardless, areas with existing water shortages may not see any improvement until late in the dry season.

CONSERVE WATER!!

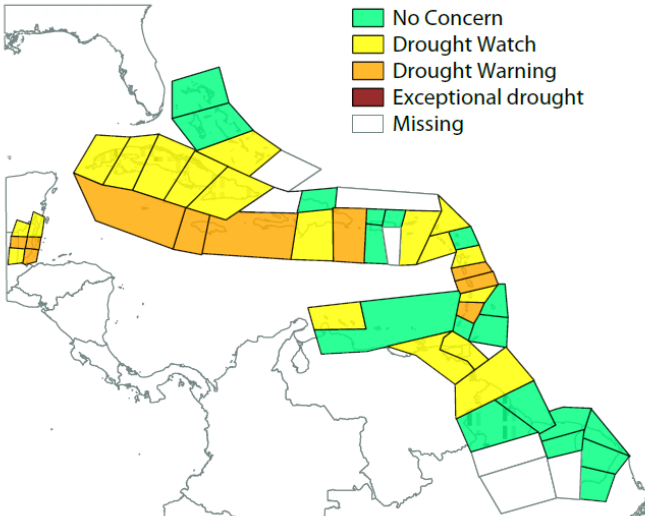
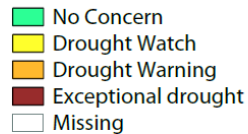
Especially in Cayman, Haïti and Jamaica.

SPI outlook Hydrological Year 2014-2015 – drought concern by the end of the Caribbean dry season (May 30th, 2015)?

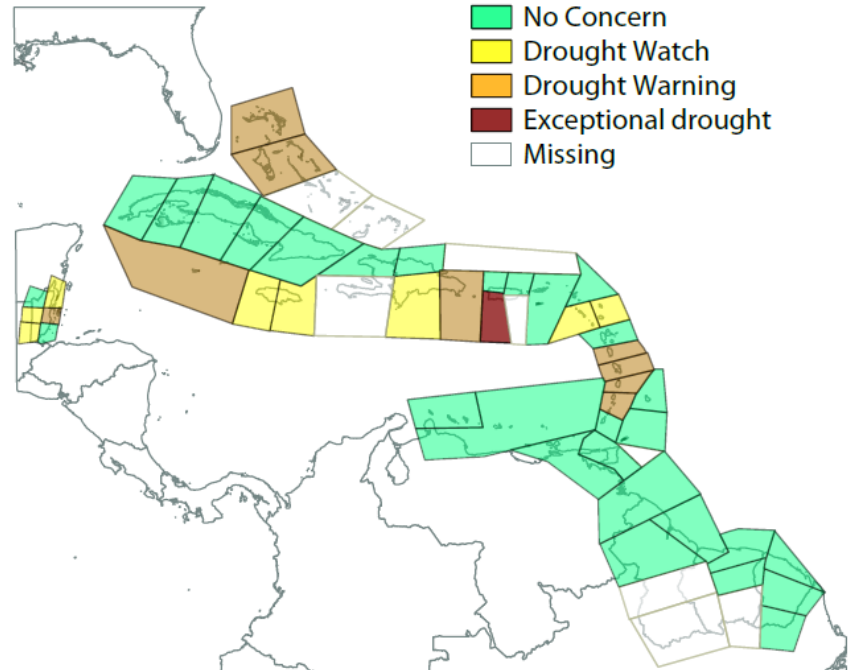
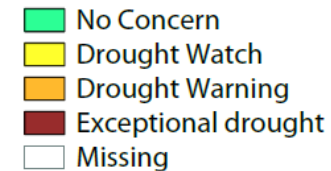
- This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations until December 2014, with potential impacts on large surface water reserves and groundwater.
- Impactful hydrological drought is a concern in the Greater Antilles (except Cuba and N Hispaniola), as well as in portions of the Bahamas, Belize, Dominica southward to St. Vincent.
- Drought is possible in the Leeward Islands.

Previous update

Jun 2014 - May 2015 Drought Alert



Hydrological Year 2014-2015 Drought Alert
Updated January 2015



Key to interpreting drought alert levels – operational
(to be upgraded)

Colour	Alert level	Meaning	Suggested action level
GREEN	No Concern	No drought concern	Business as usual
YELLOW	Drought Watch	Drought possible	Keep updated, conserve water
ORANGE	Drought Warning	Drought evolving	Be prepared, conserve water. protect
RED	Exceptional Drought	Drought of immediate concern	Take action, ration water, protect

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