

CariCOF Drought Outlook by the end of March 2015

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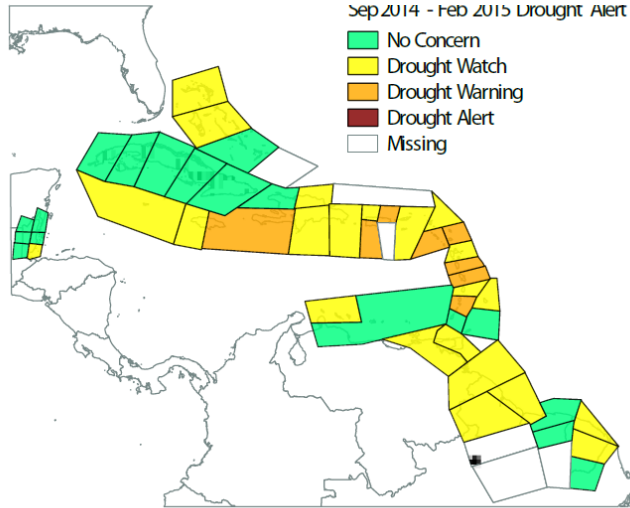
Participating territories

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 Oct to Mar – areas under immediate drought concern?

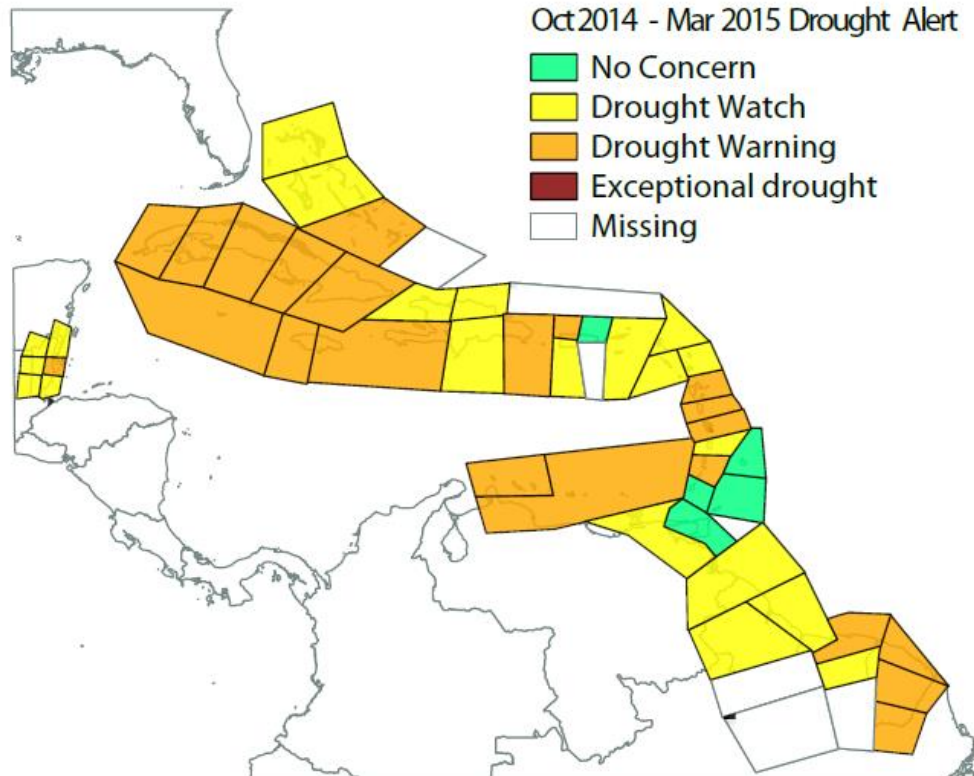
November 2014's update



December 2014's update:

Drought concerns have continued in the western Caribbean, in particular in the vicinity of Cayman Islands, Cuba, Haïti and in Jamaica (where drought concerns have elevated since last update), as well as in portions of the Guianas.

Greater concern since last update exists in the ABC Islands, Puerto Rico and parts of the eastern Caribbean.



SPI outlook Oct 2014 to Jun 2015 – **shorter- / longer-term concern?**

- **Current drought situation:**
 - Cayman, 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.
 - It appears that an El Niño is evolving. 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.

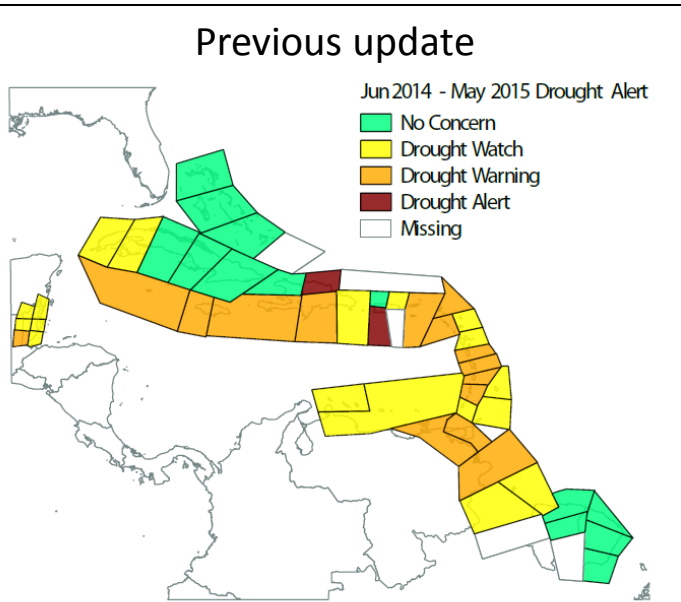
CONSERVE WATER!!

Especially in Cayman, Haïti and Jamaica.

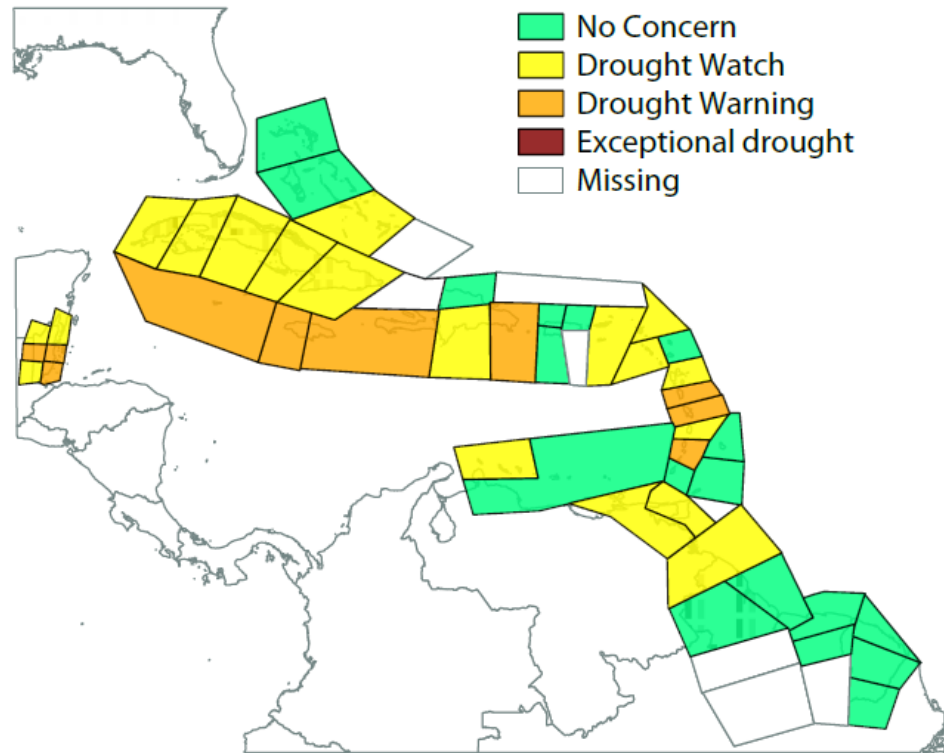
SPI outlook Hydrological Year 2014-2015 – drought concern by the end of the Caribbean dry season (May 30th, 2015)?

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

Previous update



Jun 2014 - May 2015 Drought Alert



Interpreting the drought alert levels

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