Climate Overview

Since July 2022

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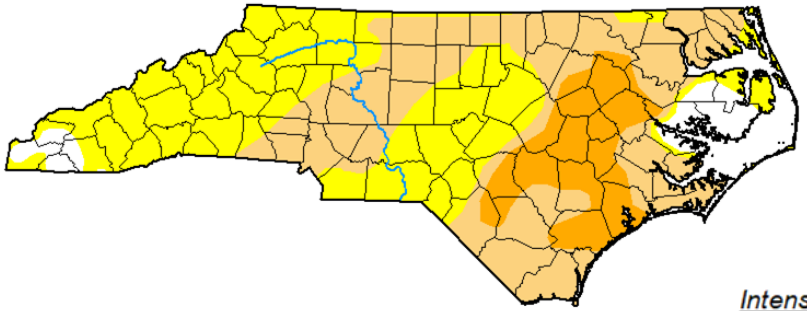
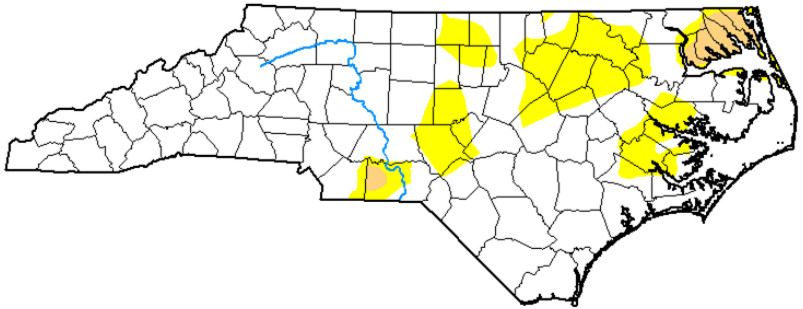
State Climate Office

Our Drought Status, Then and Now

July 5, 2022



September 12, 2023

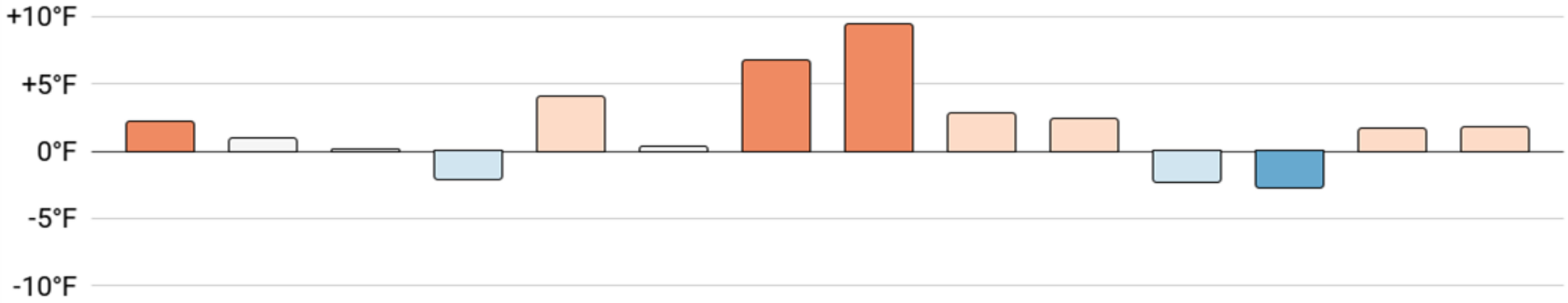


Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

Monthly Statewide Temperatures

Jul 2022	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan 2023	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
12th WARMEST	47th WARMEST	59th WARMEST	21st COOLEST	14th WARMEST	62nd COOLEST	8th WARMEST	2nd WARMEST	34th WARMEST	26th WARMEST	22nd COOLEST	12th COOLEST	24th WARMEST	20th WARMEST

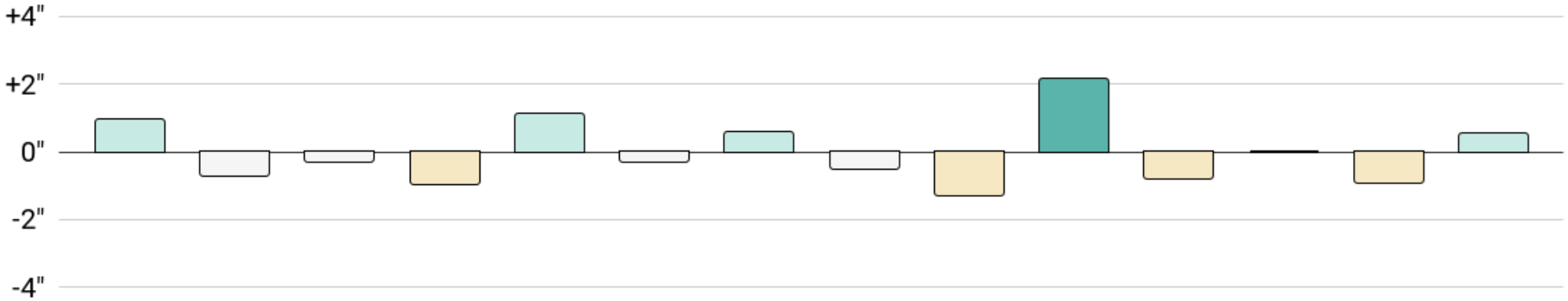


Departures compared to 1901 to 2000

Rankings based on data since 1895

Monthly Statewide Precipitation

Jul 2022	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan 2023	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
33rd WETTEST	54th DRIEST	63rd DRIEST	43rd DRIEST	29th WETTEST	58th DRIEST	39th WETTEST	47th DRIEST	27th DRIEST	8th WETTEST	39th DRIEST	58th WETTEST	42nd DRIEST	43rd WETTEST



Departures compared to 1901 to 2000

Rankings based on data since 1895

Summer (JJA) 2022

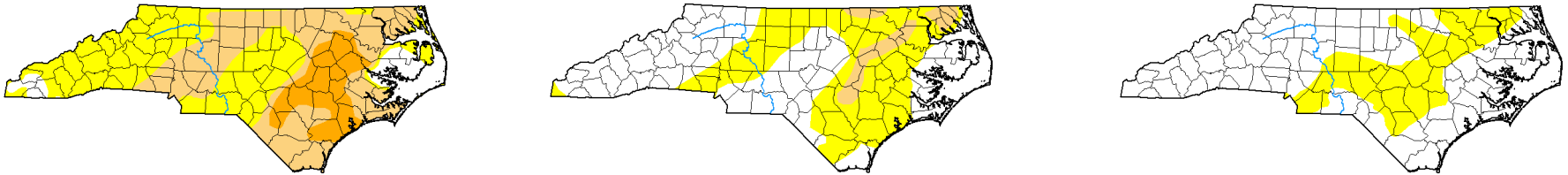
13th	35th
WARMEST	DRIEST

Wilson on August 21

Photo by Marjorie Van Duyne

Summer Drought Improvement

July 5 → **July 26** → **August 23**



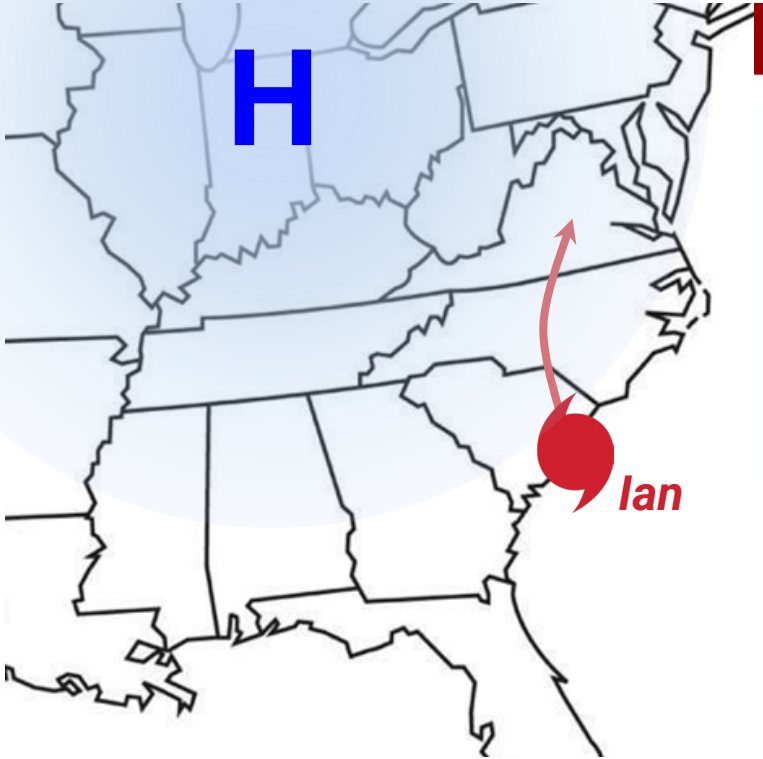
No Drought | Abnormally Dry | Moderate Drought | Severe Drought | Extreme Drought | Exceptional Drought

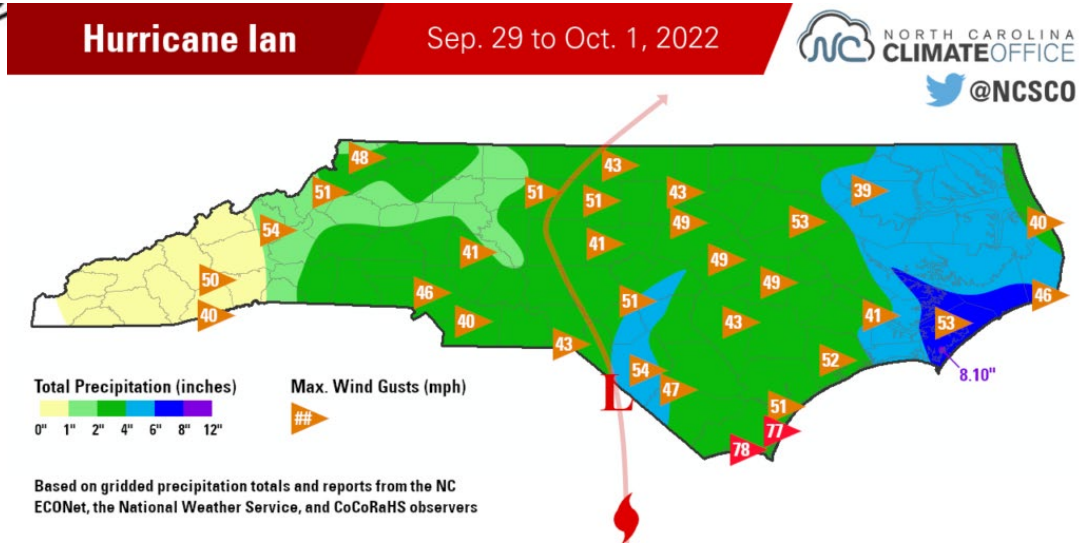
U.S. Drought Monitor

Fall (SON) 2022

48th WARMEST

60th DRIEST





Fall (SON) 2022

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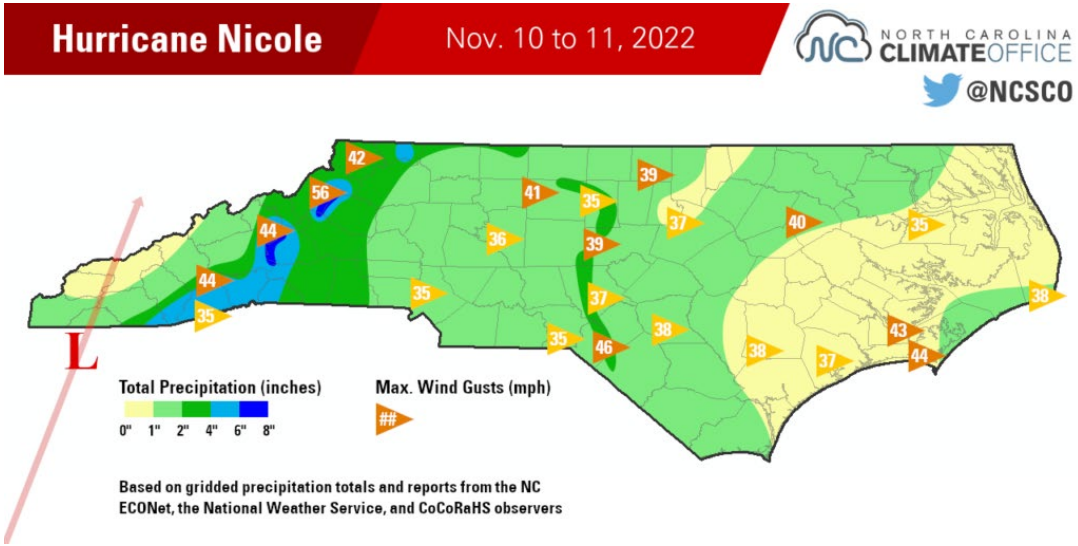
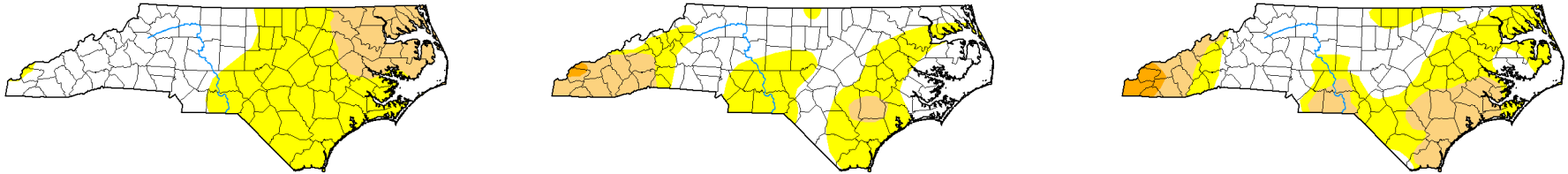


Drought During the Fall

September 27 → **October 25** → **November 29**

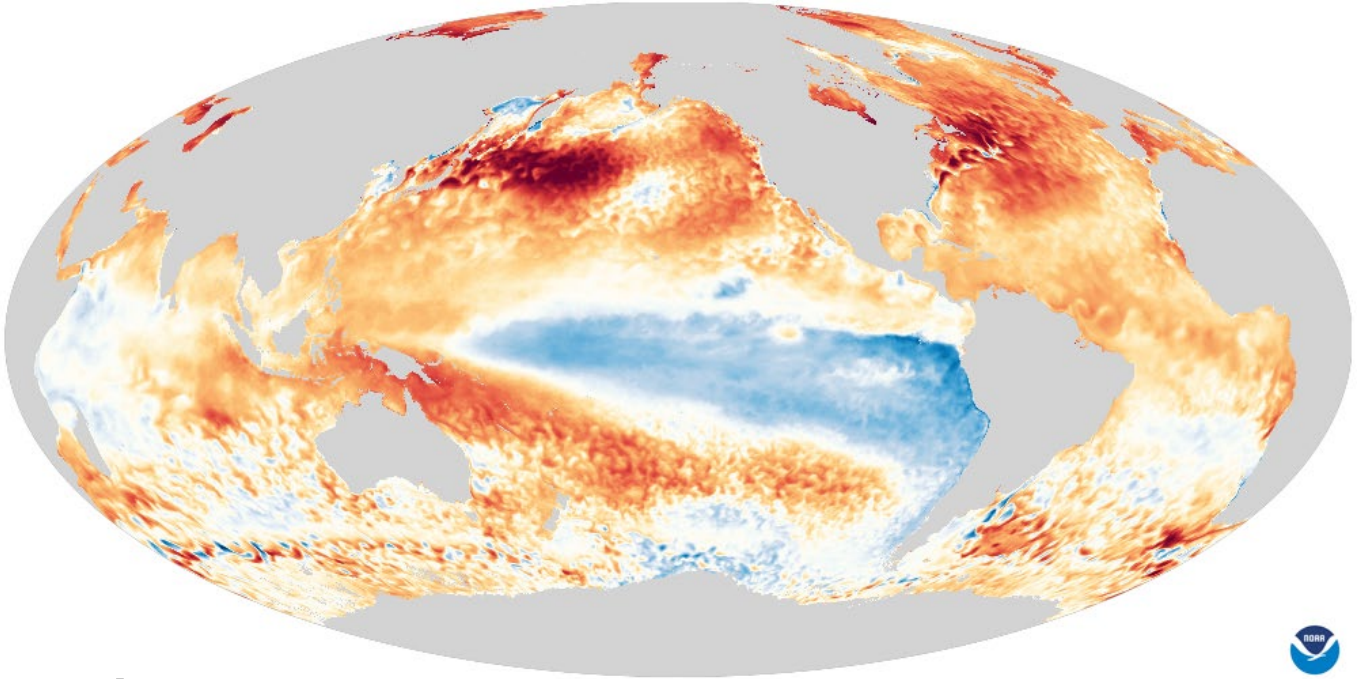


No Drought | Abnormally Dry | Moderate Drought | Severe Drought | Extreme Drought | Exceptional Drought

U.S. Drought Monitor

Winter (DJF) 2022-23

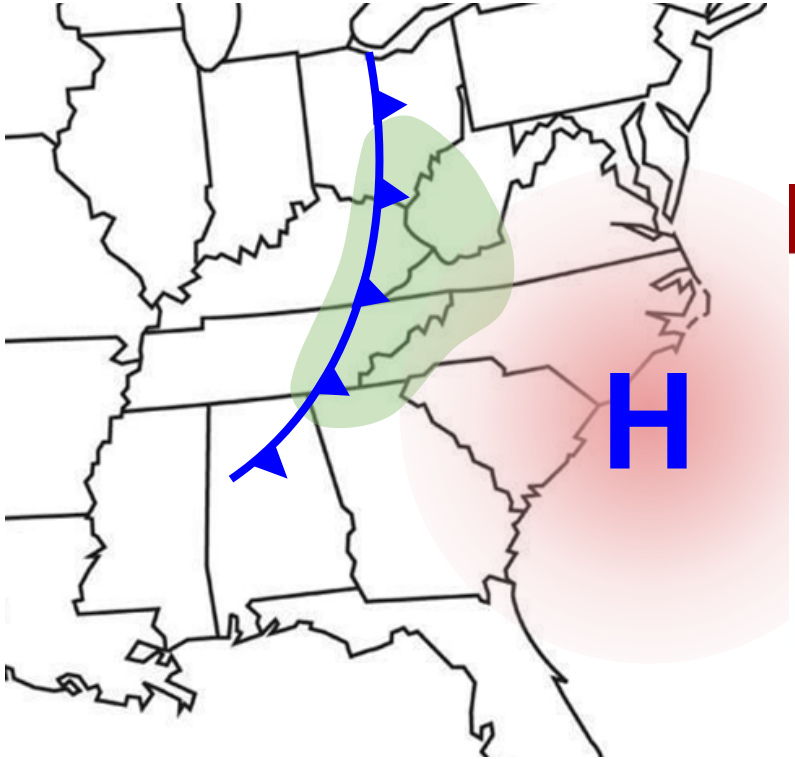
5th	63rd
WARMEST	WETTEST

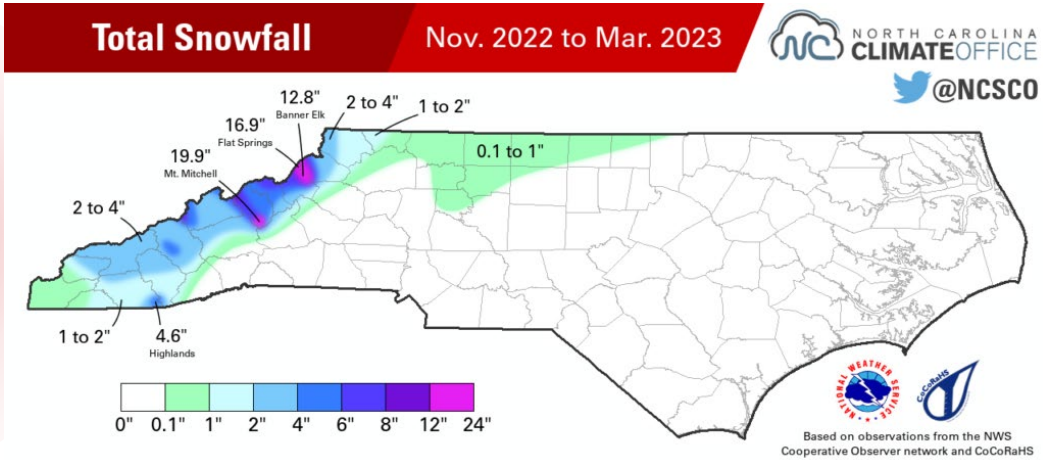


October 2022

Winter (DJF) 2022-23

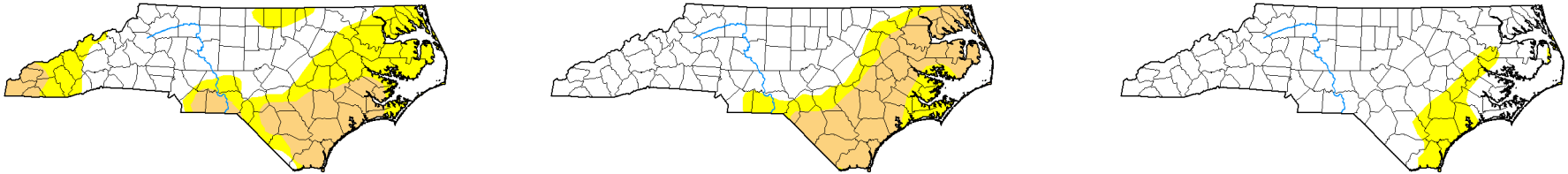
5th	63rd
WARMEST	WETTEST





Winter Drought Dormancy

December 6 → **January 17** → **February 28**



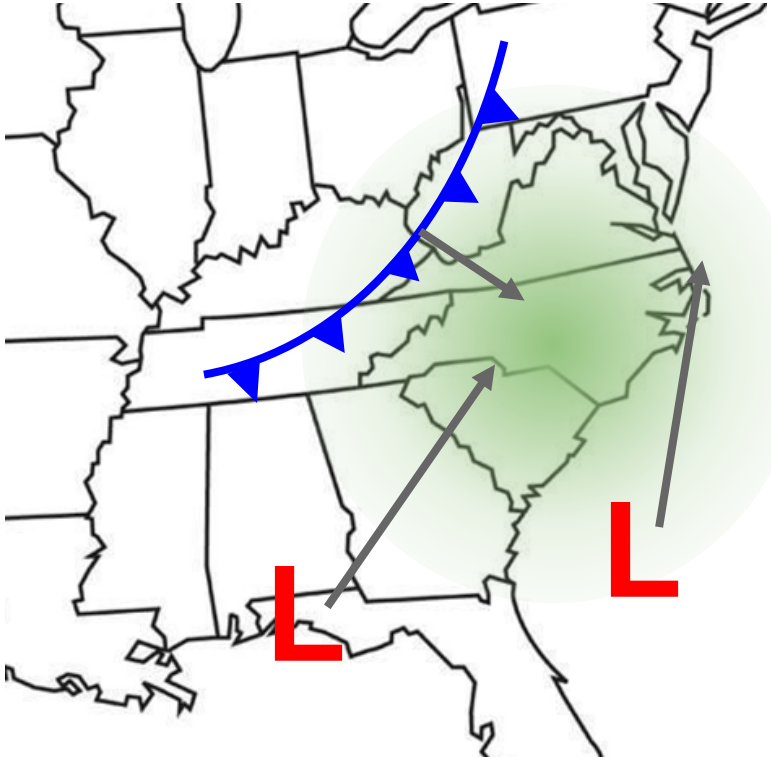
No Drought | Abnormally Dry | Moderate Drought | Severe Drought | Extreme Drought | Exceptional Drought

U.S. Drought Monitor

Spring (MAM) 2023

43rd WARMEST

60th WETTEST



Weekend Precipitation Totals Jan. to Apr. 2023

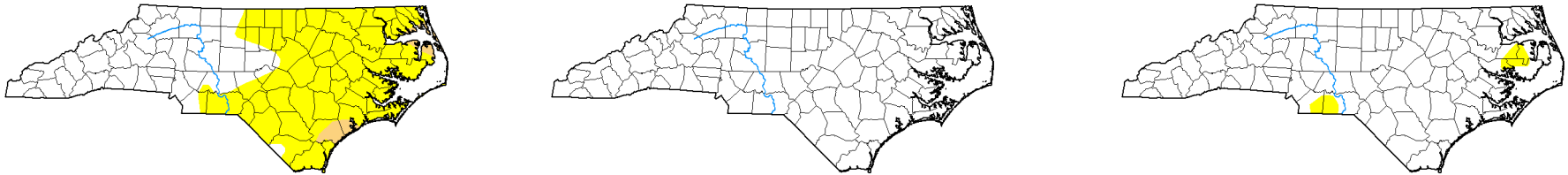
NORTH CAROLINA CLIMATE OFFICE
@NCSCO

Location	Jan. 7-8	Jan. 14-15	Jan. 21-22	Jan. 28-29	Feb. 4-5	Feb. 11-12	Feb. 18-19	Feb. 25-26	Mar. 4-5	Mar. 11-12	Mar. 18-19	Mar. 25-26	Apr. 1-2	Apr. 8-9	Apr. 15-16	Apr. 22-23	Apr. 29-30
Asheville	0.33	Trace	0.40	0.07	0	0.89	0	0.09	0	0.51	0	0.24	0.29	1.05	0.03	0.59	0.31
Charlotte	0.26	0	1.11	0.19	0	1.76	0	0.05	0	0.46	0.06	0.25	0.13	1.35	0.01	0.33	0.21
Greensboro	0.18	Trace	0.78	0.12	0	1.29	0	0.02	0	0.30	0.03	0.28	0.25	0.59	Trace	0.20	0.57
Raleigh	0.12	0.01	0.71	0.04	Trace	1.34	0.01	0.12	0	0.57	0.20	0.28	0.02	1.44	Trace	0.66	1.36
Wilmington	0	0	1.79	0.02	0.23	2.19	0	0.08	Trace	0.42	0.20	0.59	0	2.14	Trace	0.82	0.82
Hatteras	0.16	0.02	1.17	0	0.08	2.33	0.02	0.14	0	0.11	0.22	0.59	Trace	1.77	0.49	0.45	2.83

No Precipitation	Trace	0.01 to 0.25"	0.25 to 1.00"	1.00"+

April Shower Improvements

March 28 → **May 2** → **May 30**



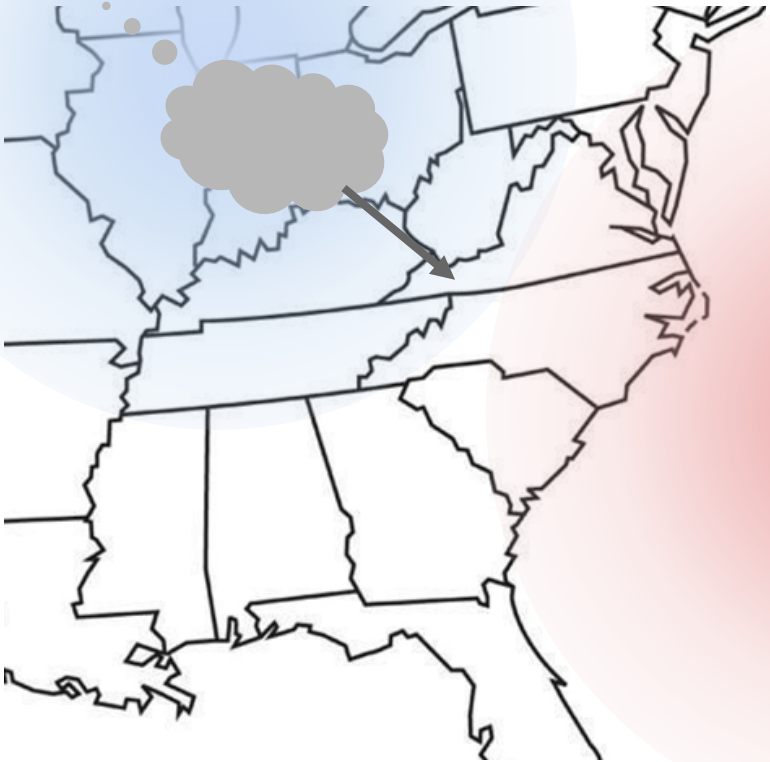
No Drought | Abnormally Dry | Moderate Drought | Severe Drought | Extreme Drought | Exceptional Drought

U.S. Drought Monitor

Summer (JJA) 2023

61st COOLEST

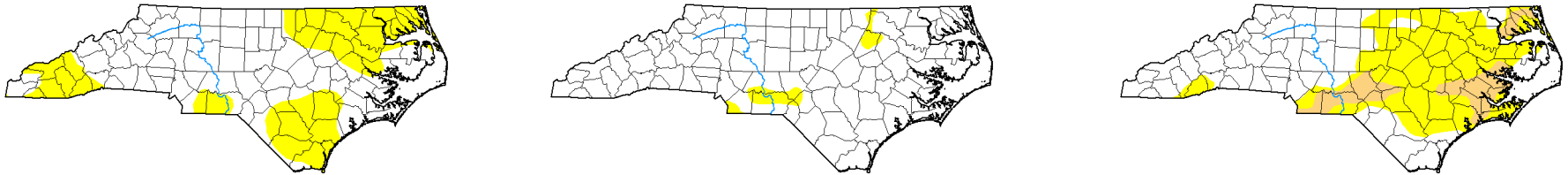
59th DRIEST



Nash/Edgecombe tornado, July 19

Spotty Summer Dryness

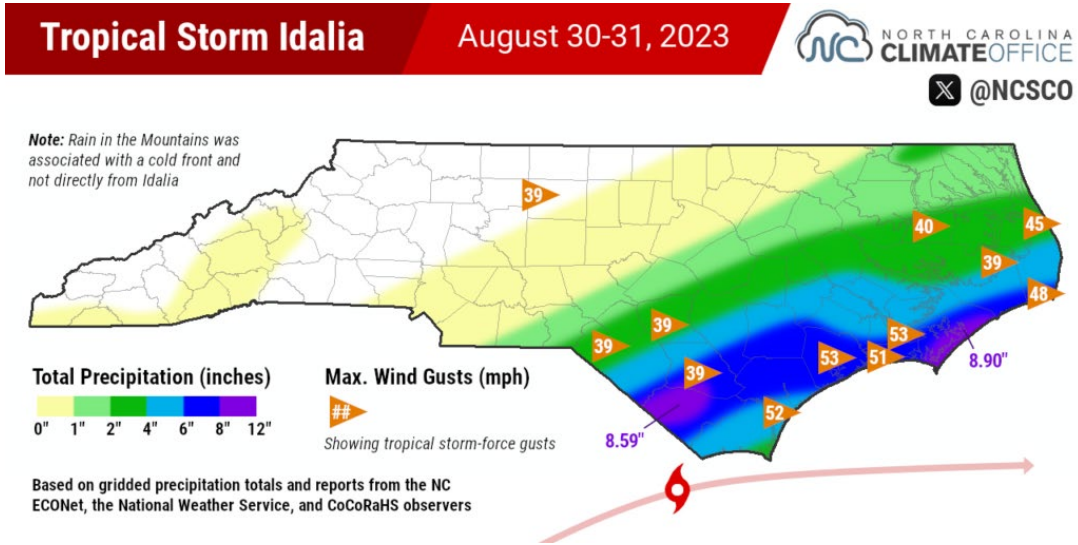
June 20 → July 25 → August 29



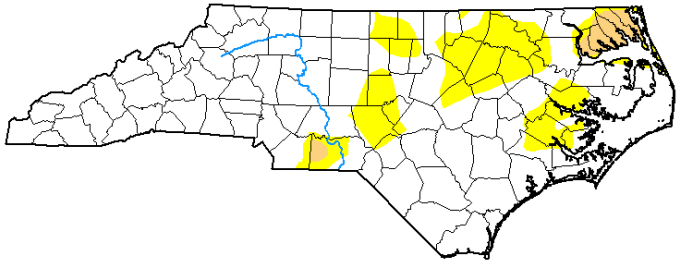
No Drought | Abnormally Dry | Moderate Drought | Severe Drought | Extreme Drought | Exceptional Drought

U.S. Drought Monitor

Recent Improvements



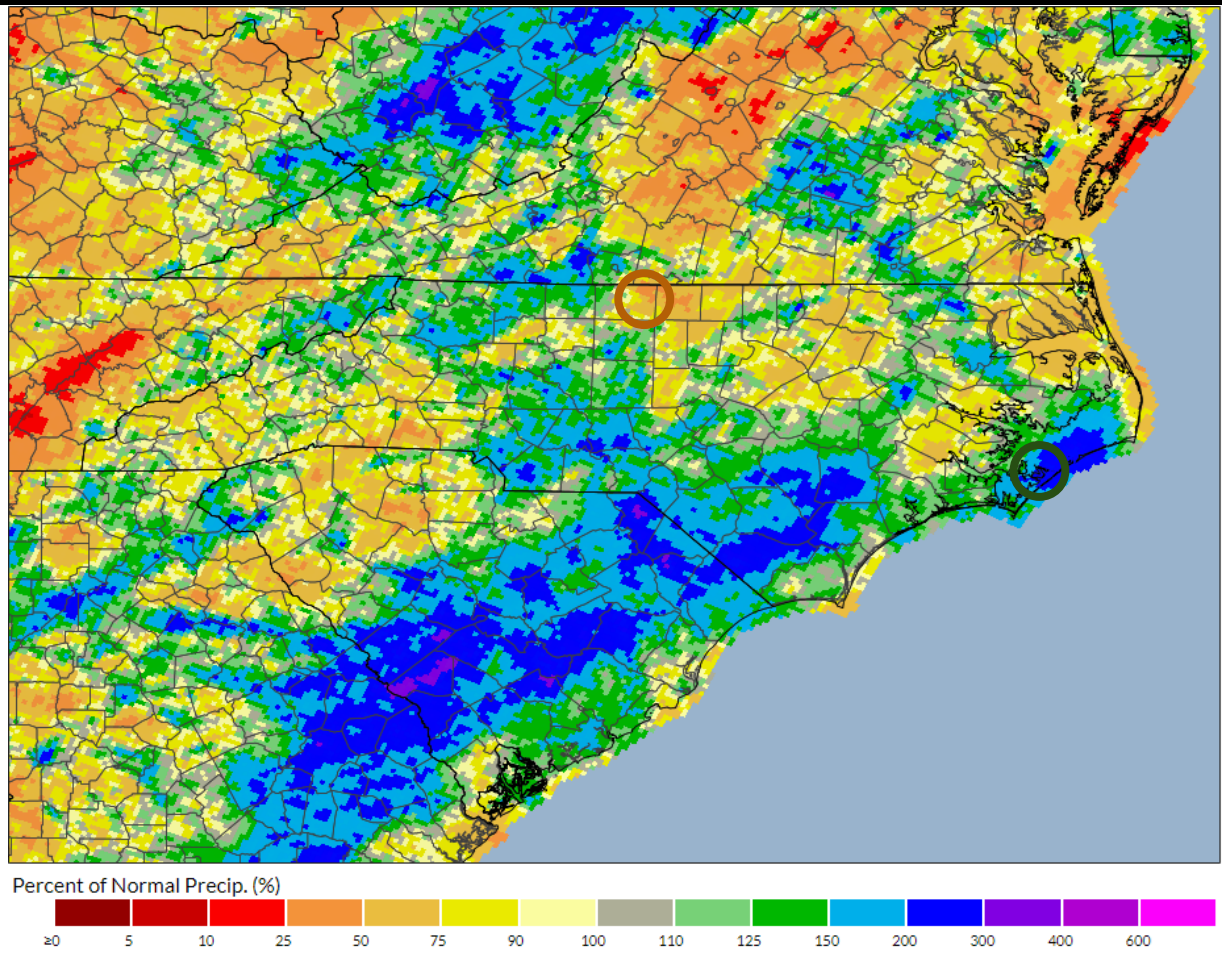
September 12



Past 30 Days
(Aug. 21 to Sep. 19)

Wettest Spot:
Cedar Island: 14.84”
(217% of normal)

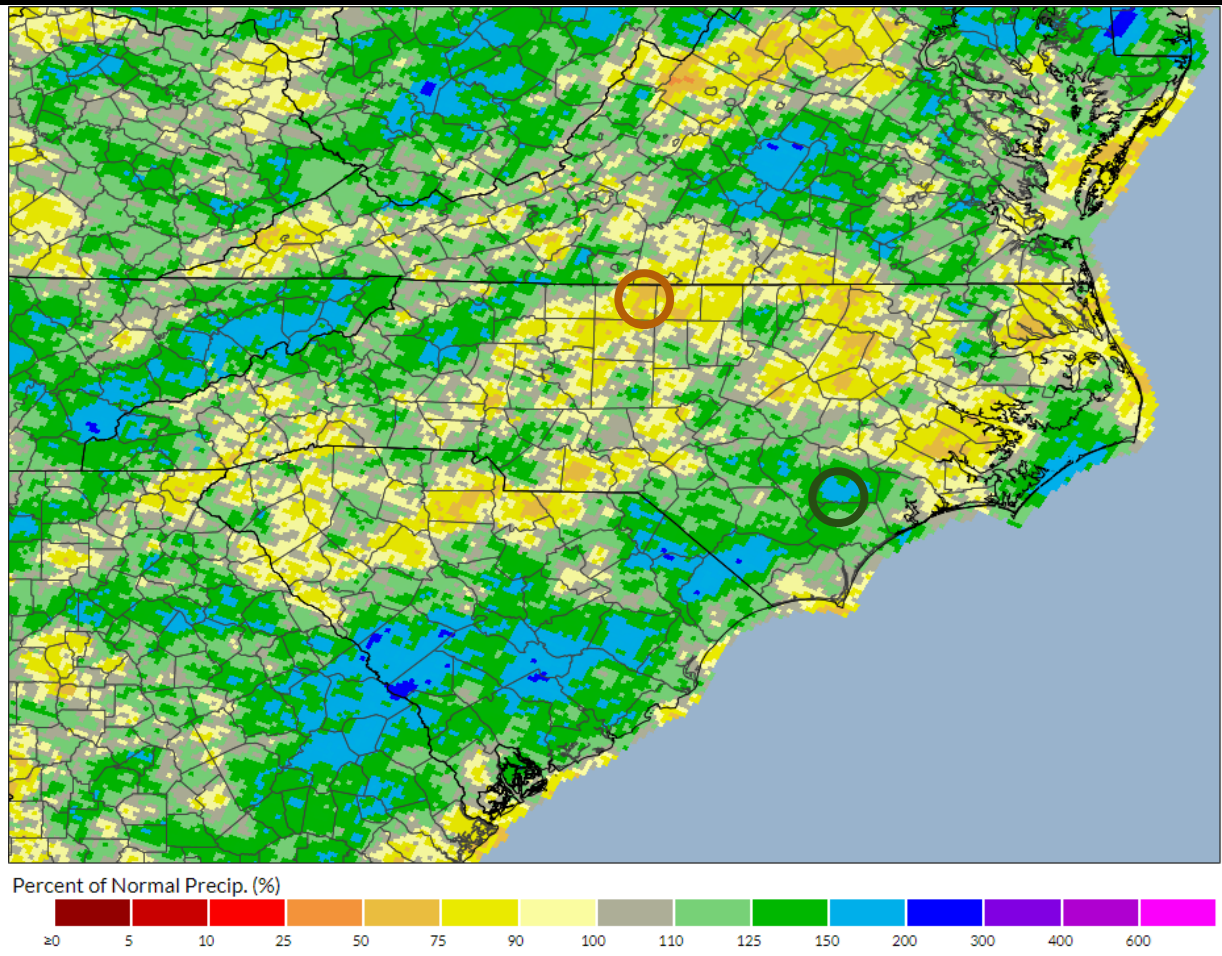
Driest Spot:
Reidsville: 1.96”
(53% of normal)



Past 90 Days
(Jun. 22 to Sep. 19)

Wettest Spot:
Wallace: 25.58”
(145% of normal)

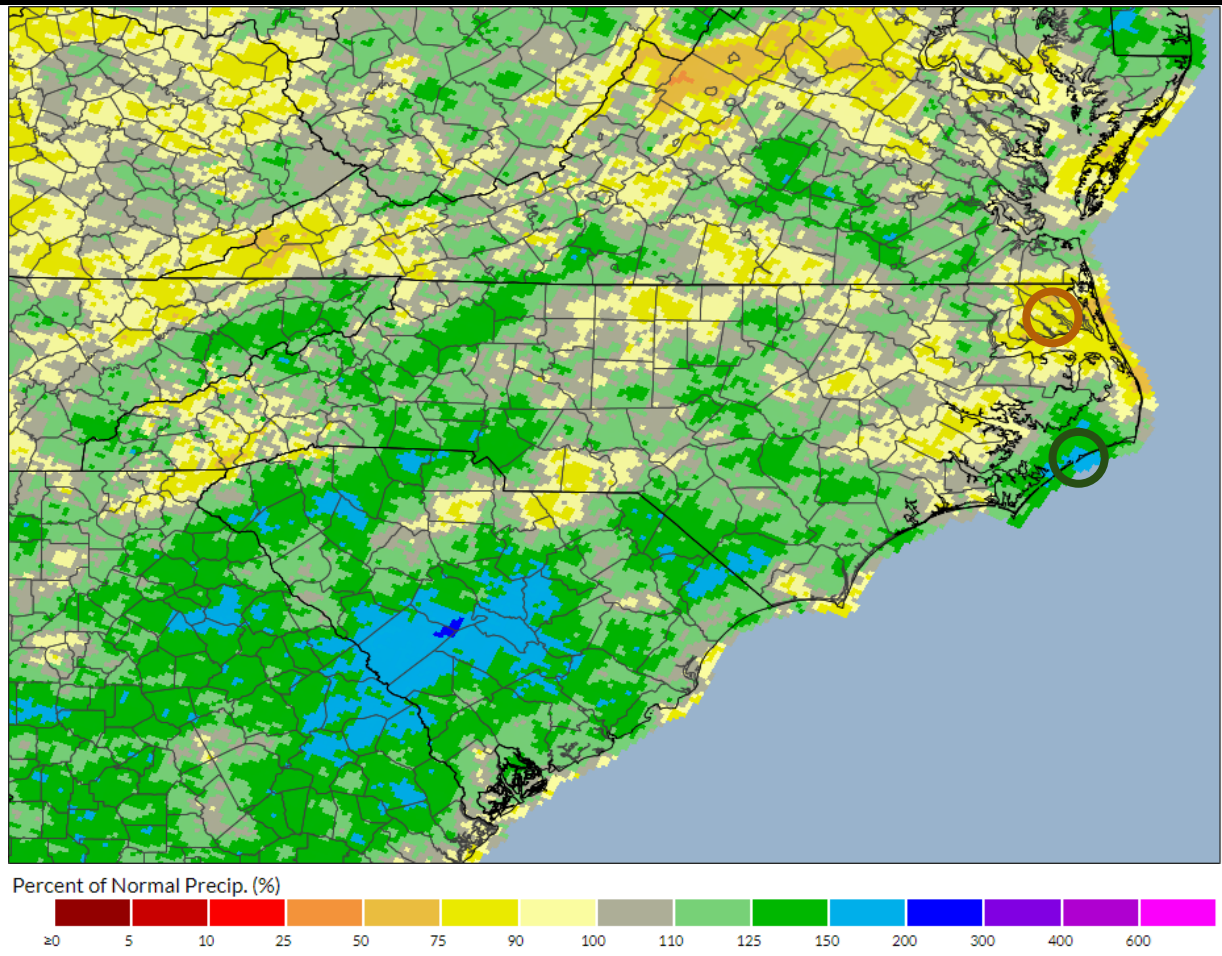
Driest Spot:
Reidsville: 7.71”
(77% of normal)



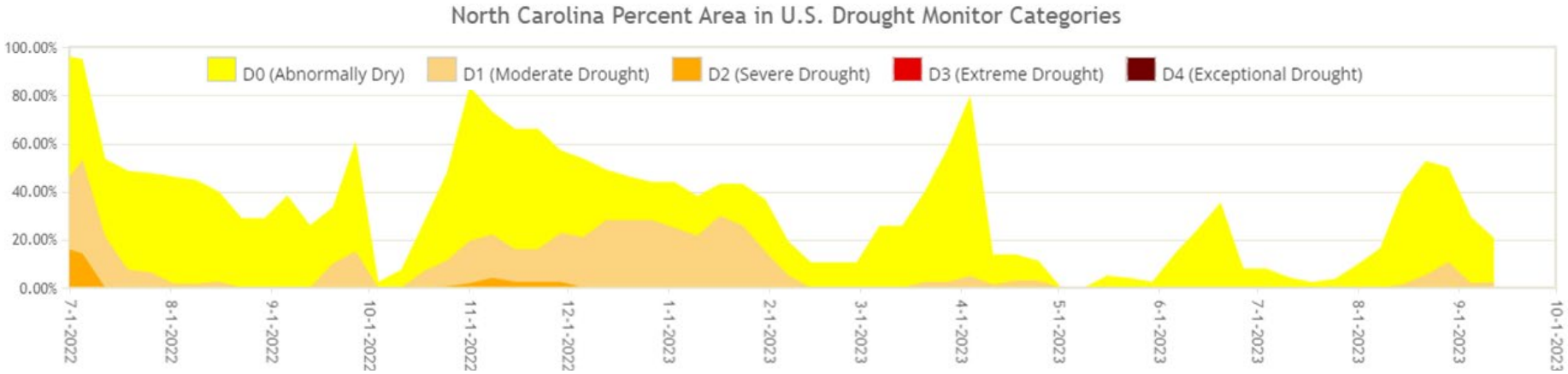
Past 6 Months
(Mar. 24 to Sep. 19)

Wettest Spot:
Ocracoke: 43.97”
(151% of normal)

Driest Spot:
Elizabeth City: 16.77”
(62% of normal)



In Summary



- Statewide, few prolonged wet or dry periods
- Timely rainfall (especially tropical systems) helped
- Limited drought even in La Niña winter and hot summer

Weekly Drought Updates

North Carolina Drought Update

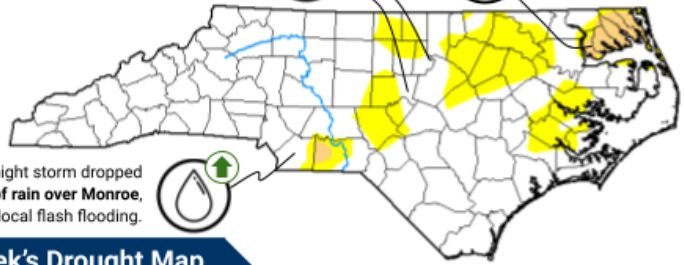
For the assessment period ending September 12, 2023

This Week's Drought Monitor of North Carolina Map

From the US Drought Monitor, authored by Brad Pugh (*NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC*) with input from the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council (ncdrought.org)

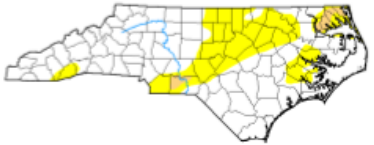
More than 2 inches of rain fell just downstream of Falls and Jordan Lake last weekend, but **both remain slightly below their target levels.**

A lightning-caused wildfire burned 147 acres on a timber plantation in Chowan County and is 48% contained.



A Saturday night storm dropped **4.68 inches of rain over Monroe**, which caused local flash flooding.

Last Week's Drought Map



Crop progress is generally on pace with the five-year average, including for tobacco, of which **72% was rated in good condition** on this week's USDA/NASS report.

This infographic was created by NORTH CAROLINA CLIMATE OFFICE

Statewide Condition Summary

What's Changed? Locally heavy rainfall improved some Abnormally Dry (D0) areas, including the Triangle, but Moderate Drought (D1) expanded in the northeast.

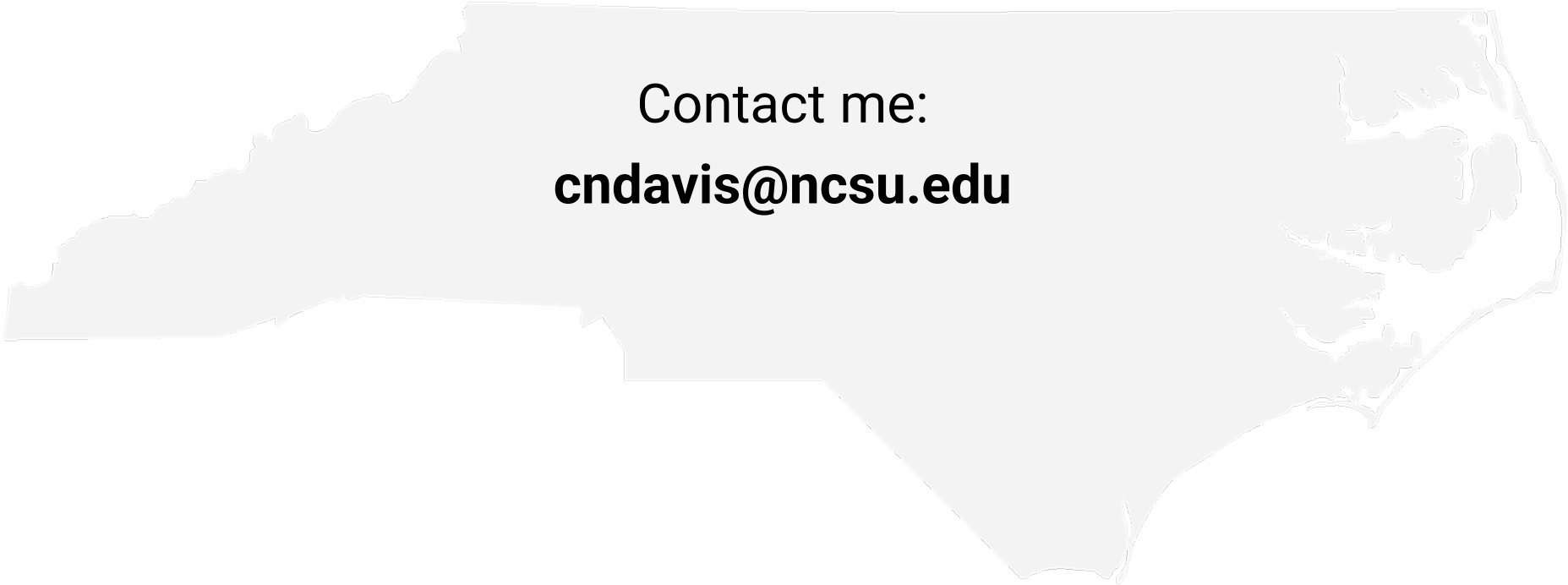
What's New? Last weekend's showers brought an inch of rain or more to many Piedmont and Mountain locations, with some areas seeing up to 5 inches. In the east, it was a drier week in the wake of Tropical Storm Idalia, which was good for farmers to get in the fields but not so great for the dry soils and groundwater wells in the northeast.

What's Next? High pressure to our north will bring cooler and less humid weather this weekend, but rainfall over the next week will be limited to light showers on Sunday.

Statewide Coverage By Category

Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	18.39%	-9.04%
D1: Moderate Drought	2.31%	+0.34%
D2: Severe Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D3: Extreme Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D4: Exceptional Drought	0.00%	0.00%

Questions?



Contact me:

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