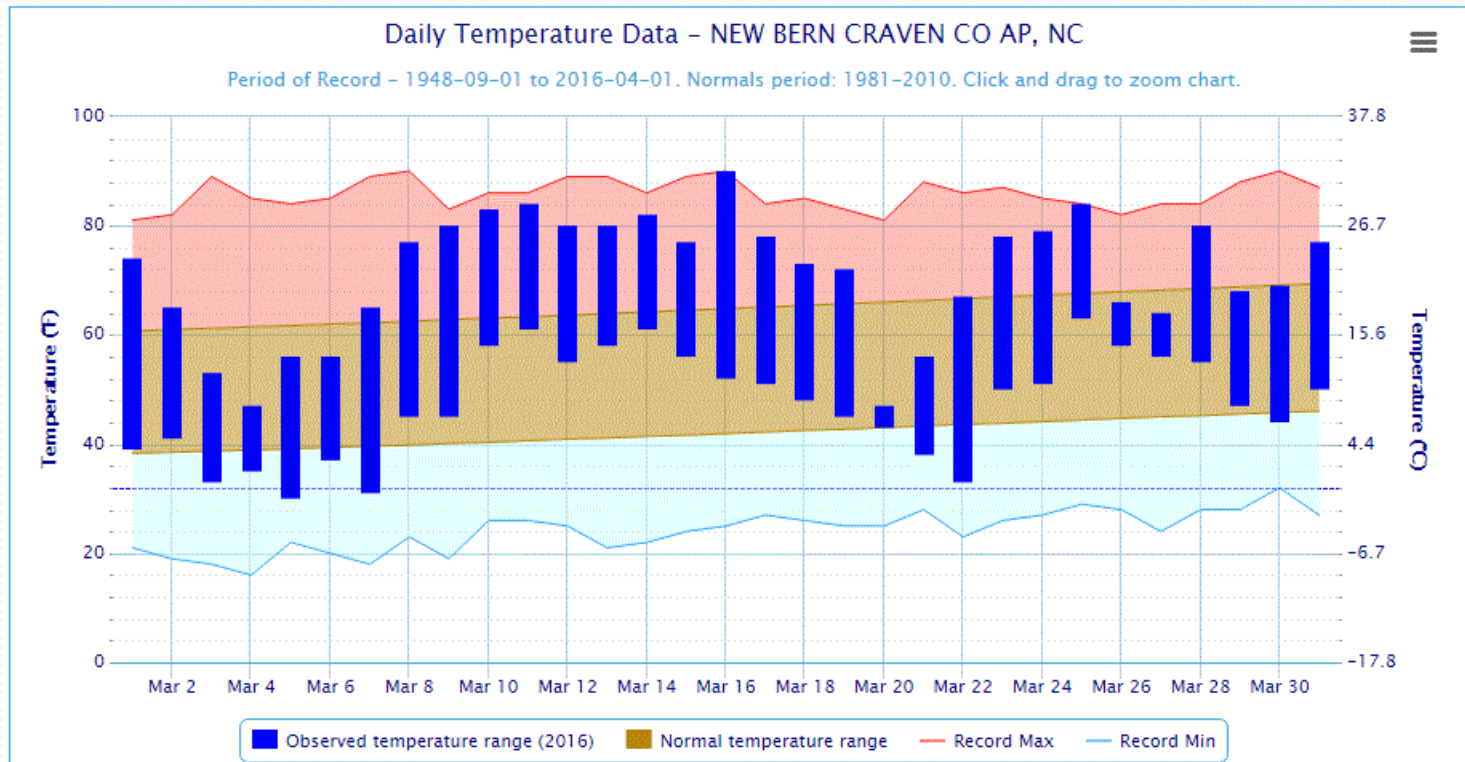


Climate Review for the month March 2016

Presented by:
National Weather Service
Newport/Morehead City

Summary

March 2016 was warmer than normal over much of the region. With the exception of the Outer Banks and eastern portions of Beaufort and Pamlico counties, the region was also drier than normal. No severe weather occurred across the region in March. A persistent ridge along the eastern seaboard led to warm and relatively dry conditions. Cape Hatteras along with NWS Newport/Morehead City recorded the second warmest March on record. New Bern reached an incredible 90 degrees on March 16.



DISCLAIMER : The climate data provided are preliminary and have not undergone final quality control by NCDC. Therefore...this data is subject to revision.

Average Temperatures within our CWA in March 2016

	Avg_ Max	Avg_Max Normal	Avg_ Min	Avg_Min Normal
Beaufort	66.1	61.9	50.1	44.4
Cape Hatteras	65.5	58.6	52.9	44.6
New Bern	71.2	64.9	47.4	42.0
Greenville	70.4	64.1	48.1	40.8
Williamston	68.5	62.4	47.2	39.6
Plymouth	70.6	64.5	46.2	40.6
Bayboro	69.3	64.9	45.4	40.7

March 2016 was one of the warmest in recent history with temperatures some 4 to 7 degrees above normal over most of our area.

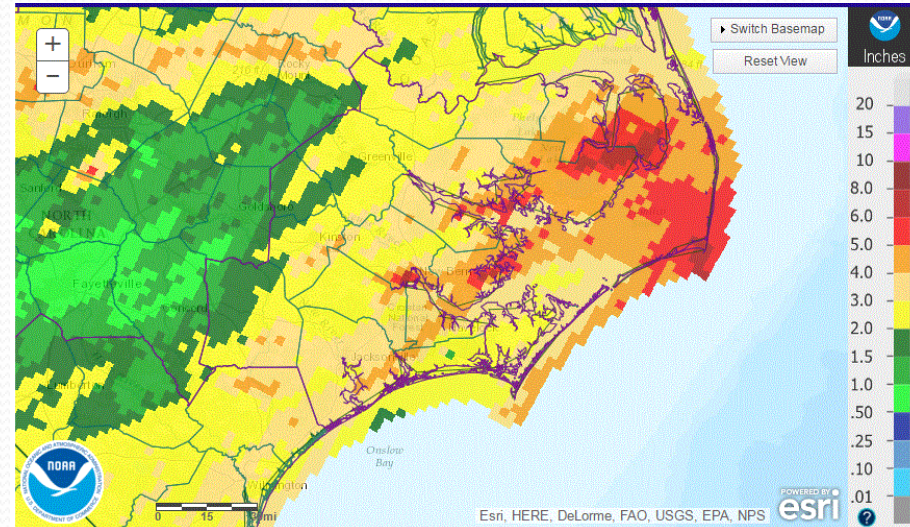
Max and Min Temperature within our CWA in March 2016.

	MAX	MIN
Beaufort	77	30
Cape Hatteras	75	37
New Bern	90	30
Greenville	87	29
Williamston	88	31
Plymouth	89	26
Bayboro	86	32

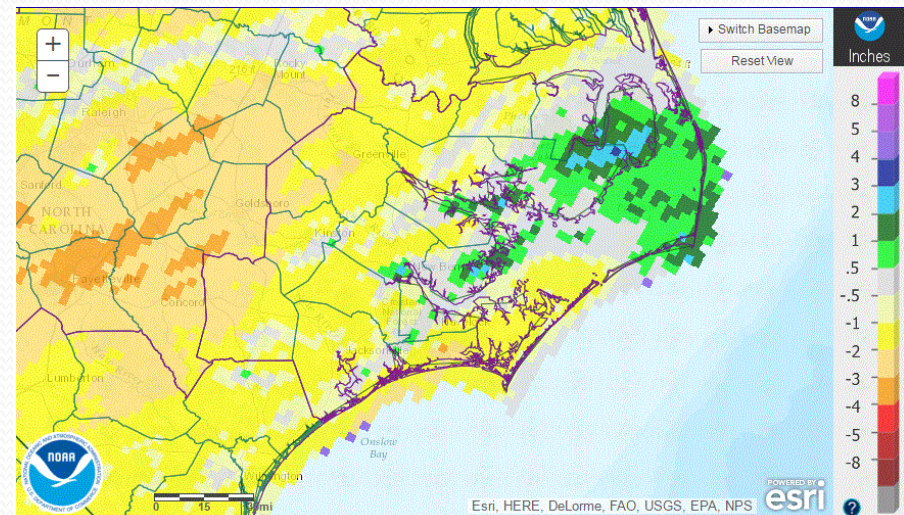
March 2016 Rain Versus Climate Normal

	Precipitation (inches)	Normal	Difference
Beaufort	2.62	4.20	-1.58
Cape Hatteras	5.97	4.77	1.20
New Bern	3.33	4.39	-1.06
Greenville	1.97	4.04	-2.07
Williamston	2.49	4.12	-1.63
Plymouth	2.71	4.37	-1.66
Bayboro	4.48	4.00	0.48

Rainfall in March 2016 was generally 1 to 2 inches below normal with the exception of the Outer Banks and eastern portions of Beaufort and Pamlico County.



Observed Precipitation



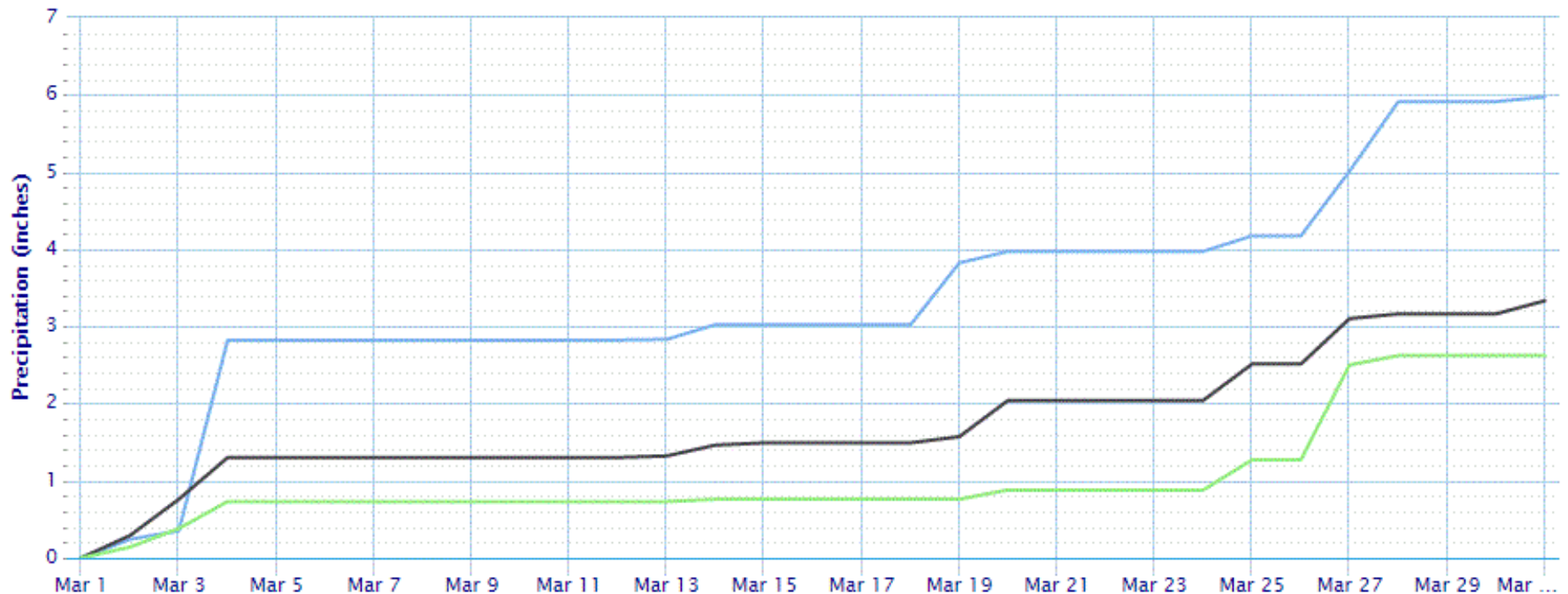
Percentage of Normal

March 2016 Total Precipitation

Accumulated Precipitation



Green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



(Click to hide/show lines)

— CAPE HATTERAS AP, NC:Precip

— NEW BERN CRAVEN CO AP, NC:Precip

— BEAUFORT MICHAEL J SMITH FLD, NC:Precip

Latest Drought Monitor for North Carolina






US Drought Monitor of
NORTH CAROLINA



March 22, 2016

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Classifications

-  D0 - Abnormally Dry
-  D1 - Moderate Drought
-  D2 - Severe Drought
-  D3 - Extreme Drought
-  D4 - Exceptional Drought

 County Boundaries  Major River Basins ([View Map](#))

S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)

L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

The U.S. Drought Monitor focuses on broad scale conditions. Information provided for North Carolina is relative to the information provided from all other states and the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council. Local conditions may vary.

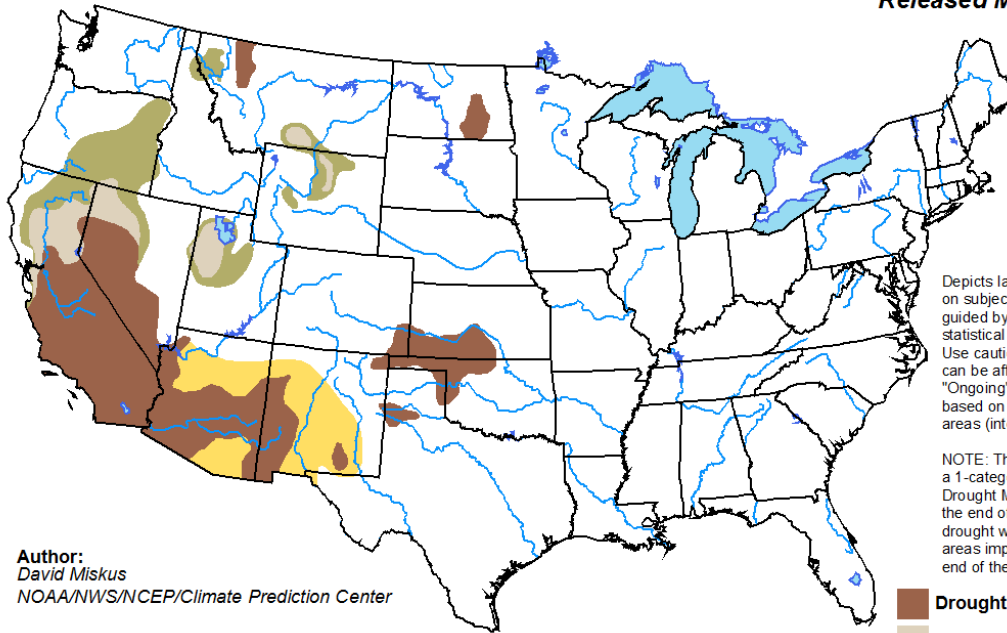
No Drought Conditions observed in North Carolina as of March 22, 2016.

Monthly Drought Outlook

For April

U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period





Valid for April 2016
Released March 31, 2016

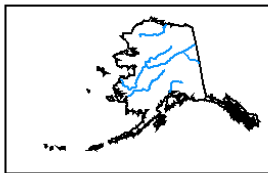


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:
David Miskus
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/3eZGd>