Climate Review for the month of September 2012

Presented by:

National Weather Service

Newport/Morehead City

Summary

The month of September was a typical transition period for Eastern NC. The atmosphere was fluctuating between both upper level ridging and upper level troughing. Overall, Eastern NC had seasonal temperatures while precipitation was below to near normal for the month. During the month there were several cold fronts, associated with an upper level trough, while two cold fronts became stationary across the area. A good amount of precipitation fell across the area, but remained shy of September's average precipitation (5 - 6 inches). Average temperatures were near normal with a few spots within Eastern NC being below normal.

September's ENSO recap: Ocean temperatures within the Niño 3.4 region over the Equatorial Pacific Ocean have been averaging about +0.5º C indicating a neutral to weak El Niño. So far, atmospheric circulation continues to be in ENSO neutral conditions, so our weather patterns have not been influenced with El Niño conditions.

Average Temperatures within our CWA

	Avg_ Max	Avg_Max Normal	Avg_ Min	Avg_Min Normal
Beaufort	81.0	na	66.4	na
Cape Hatteras	81.3	79.9	68.6	69.0
New Bern	82.7	82.9	64.0	64.9
Greenville	82.0	82.9	62.2	62.9
Kinston AG	83.2	84.4	63.3	63.6
Williamston	81.6	81.8	61.1	61.1
Plymouth	81.9	82.7	61.4	62.9
Bayboro	81.9	83.2	60.5	63.9

Average temperatures were near normal.

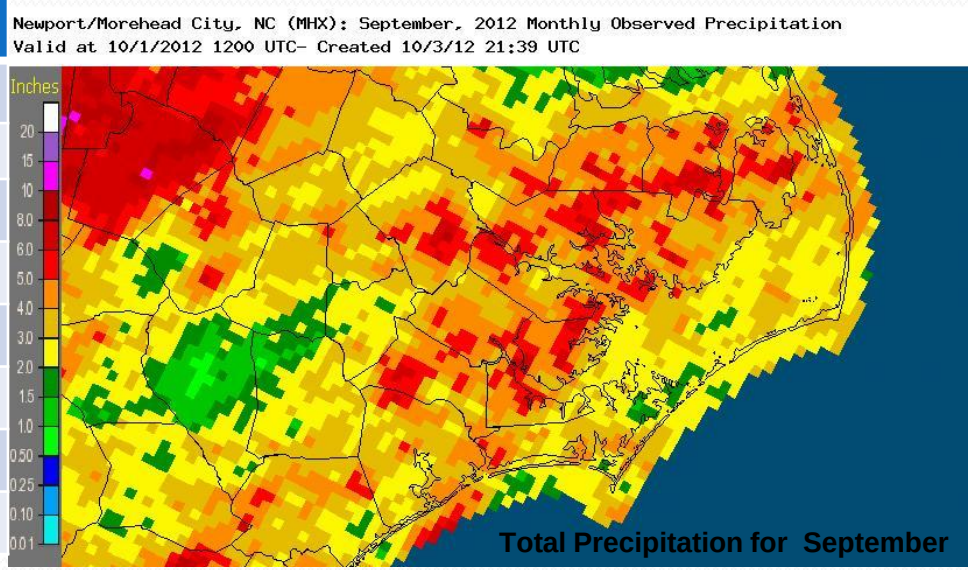
Max and Min Temperature within our CWA

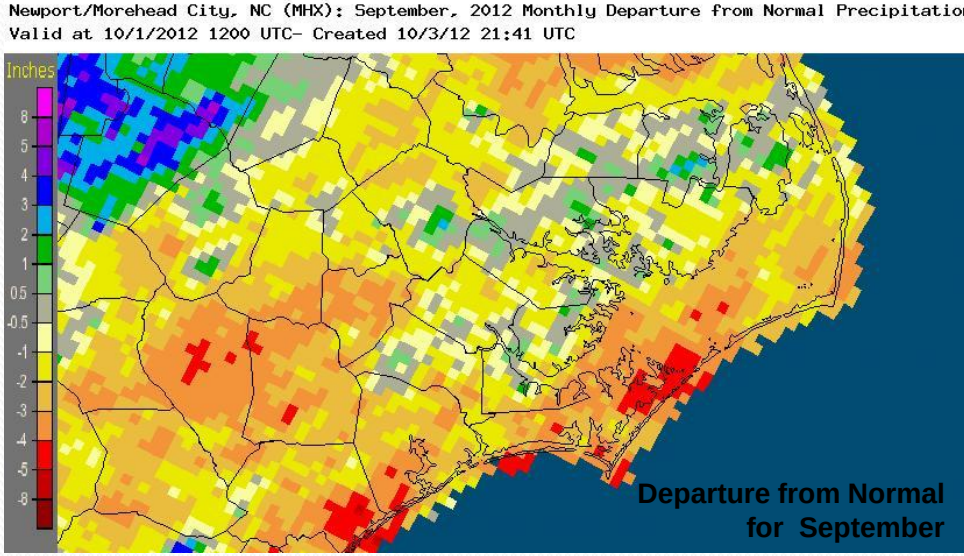
	MAX	MIN
Beaufort	88	55
Cape Hatteras	89	57
New Bern	95	50
Greenville	93	48
Kinston AG	92	48
Williamston	93	47
Plymouth	94	46
Bayboro	93	47

The warmest temperatures were within the first couple of days of September. The lowest temps were in the last week of September.

September's Rain versus Normal

	Precipitation (inches)	Normal	Differences
Beaufort	4.23	na	na
Cape Hatteras	4.48	6.25	**-1.77**
New Bern	4.34	5.89	**-1.55**
Greenville	4.32	5.83	**-1.51**
Kinston AG	1.65	5.71	**-4.06**
Williamston	4.97	6.07	**-1.1**
Plymouth	5.07	5.39	**-0.32**
Bayboro	7.37	5.88	**1.49**

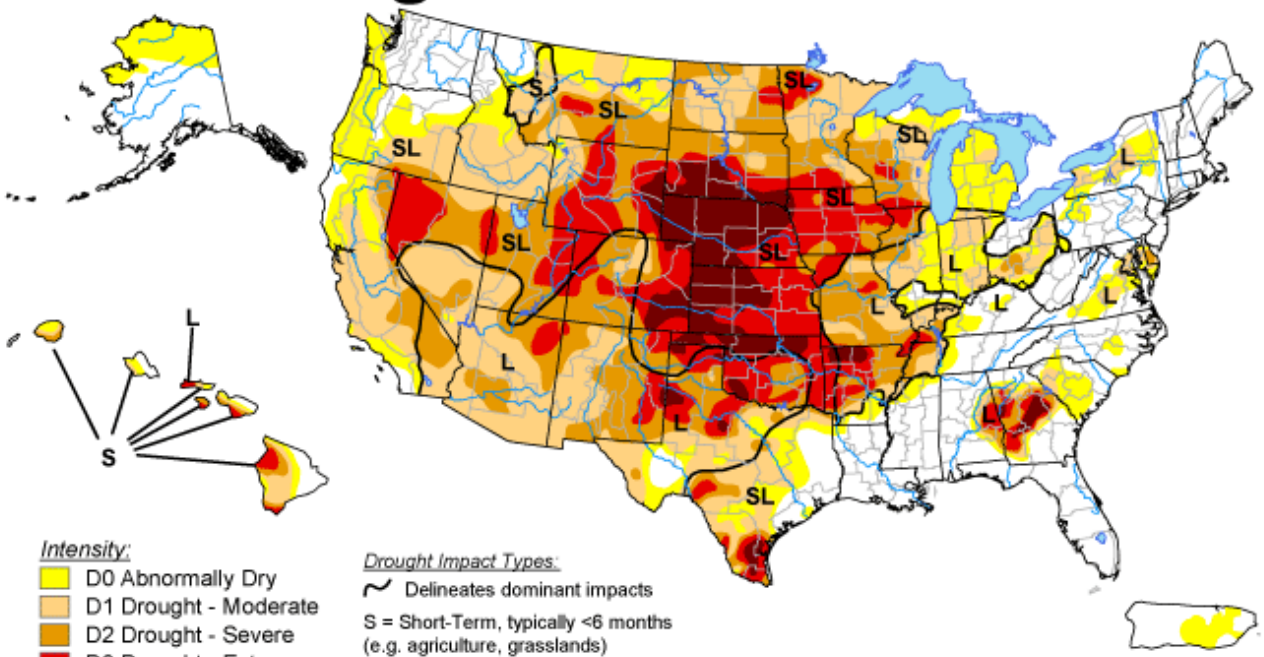




A good amount of rain fell during along Hwy 17 and Hwy 64, but compare it to September's climatology, rainfall amounts were below to near normal. According to the departure from normal map the coastal counties did not receive that much rain.

U.S. Drought Monitor

October 9, 2012
Valid 7 a.m. EDT



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

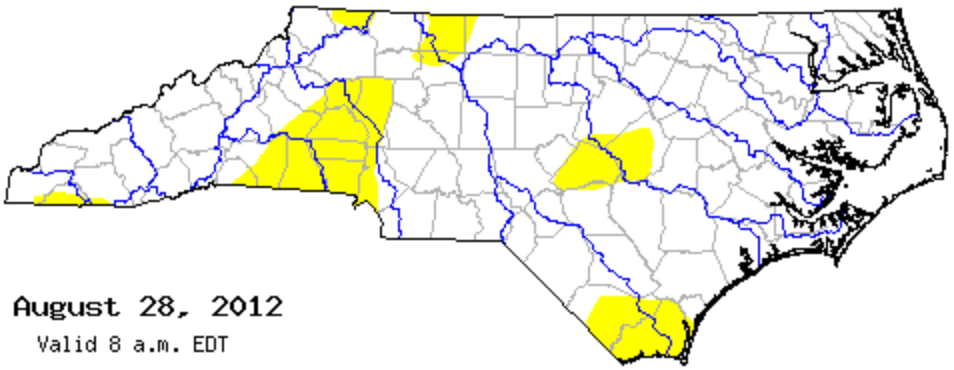
Drought Impact Types:
- Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

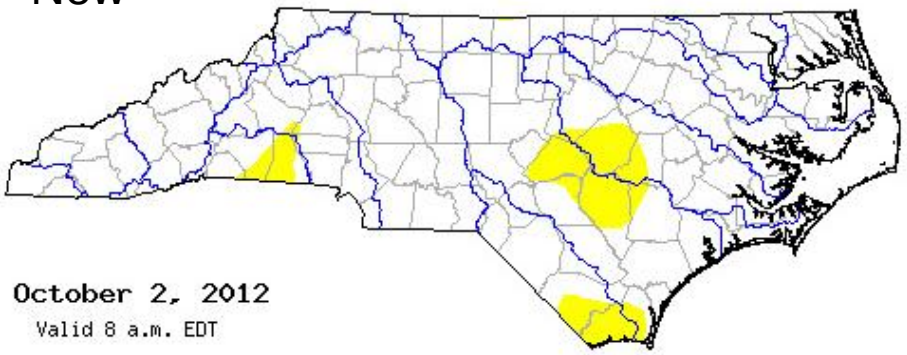
http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

Released Thursday, October 11, 2012
Author: Matthew Rosencrans, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

Before



Now

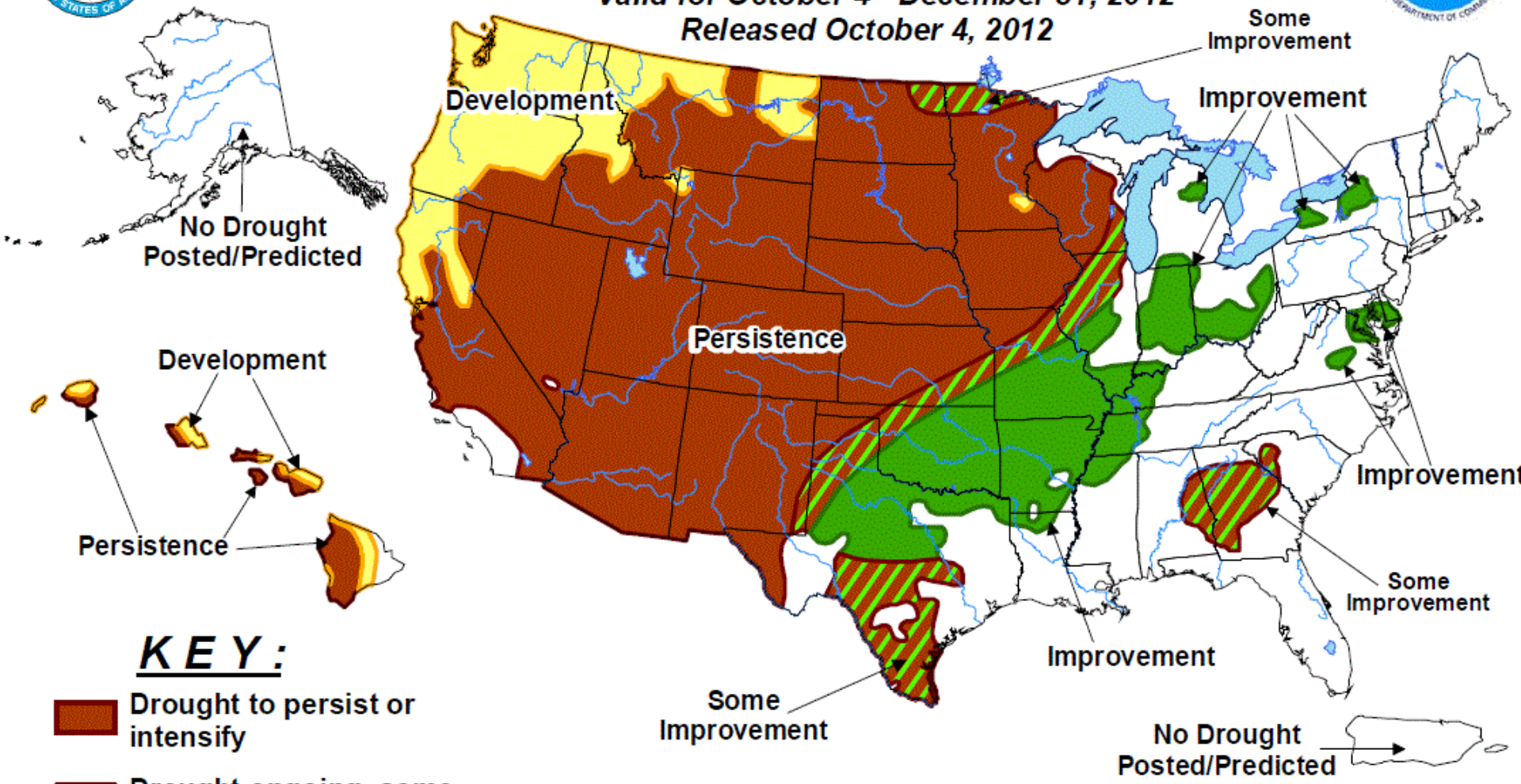


U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for October 4 - December 31, 2012

Released October 4, 2012



K E Y :

- Drought to persist or intensify
- Drought ongoing, some improvement
- Drought likely to improve, impacts ease
- Drought development likely

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity). For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.