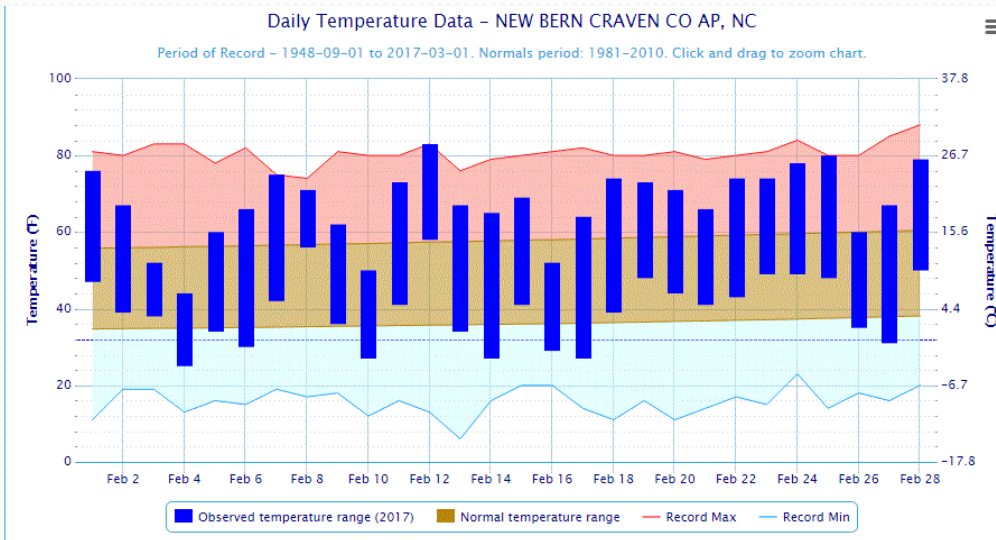


Climate Review for the month February 2017

Presented by:
National Weather Service
Newport/Morehead City

February 2017 Summary

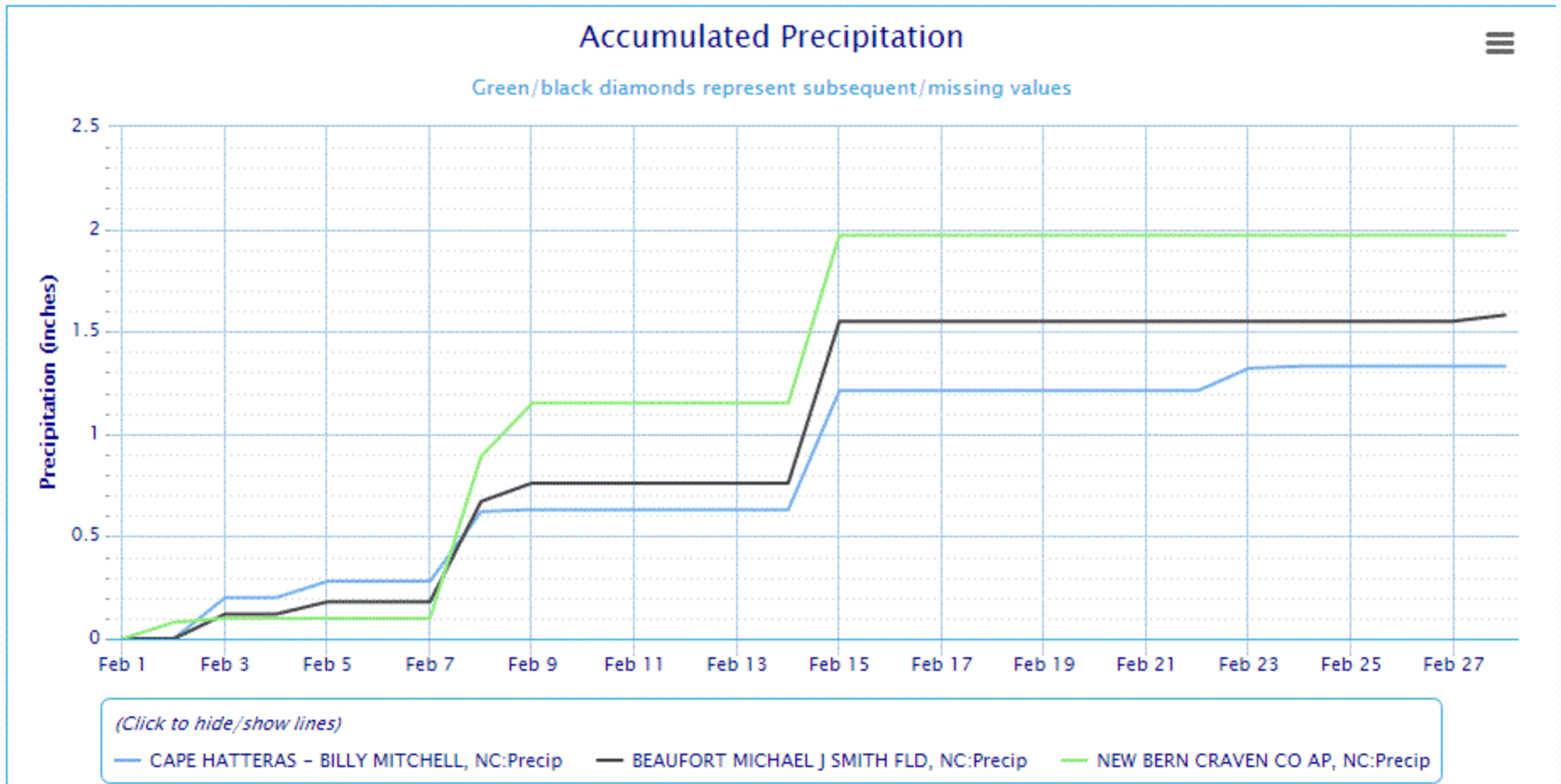
The main story in February was abnormally warm temperatures, coupled with below normal rainfall. As the jet stream remained over the northern tier of the United States, a persistent offshore ridge kept eastern North Carolina in a more southerly to southwesterly flow through most of February. This resulted in most portions of eastern North Carolina being some 7 to 10 degrees above the normal mean temperature for February. Cape Hatteras recorded its warmest February on record with a mean temperature of 55.6 degrees, 8.8 degrees above normal. New Bern recorded its second warmest February on record, and despite a shorter period-of-record, Beaufort also recorded its warmest February on record.



New Bern recorded only 5 days during February 2017 that were below normal for temperature, while the other 23 days were above to well above normal values for temperatures.

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

February 2017 Rainfall



Here's a look at the February precipitation for New Bern, Hatteras and Beaufort, all less than 2 inches for the month.

Average Temperatures within our CWA in February 2017

	Avg_ Max	Avg_Max Normal	Avg_ Min	Avg_Min Normal
Beaufort	64.0	55.4	44.7	38.7
Cape Hatteras	63.6	53.5	47.5	40.0
New Bern	67.6	57.9	39.6	36.1
Greenville	67.8	56.3	40.2	34.3
Kinston	65.7	56.1	37.0	32.9
Williamston	64.3	54.8	39.7	32.9
Plymouth	66.4	57.2	39.6	35.0
Bayboro	65.8	58.0	38.8	34.6

Temperatures were anywhere from 7 to 10 degrees above normal at all locations in February. It was the warmest February on record for Cape Hatteras and the second warmest at New Bern.

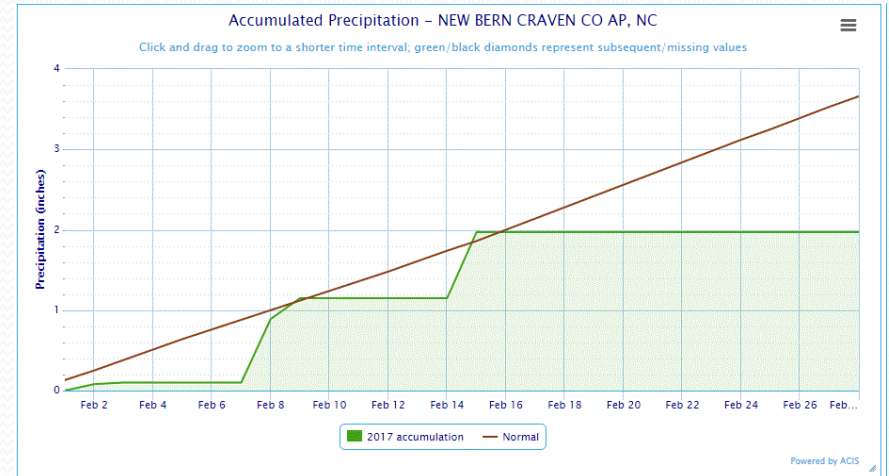
Max and Min Temperature within our CWA in February 2017.

	MAX	MIN
Beaufort	77	30
Cape Hatteras	76	33
New Bern	83	25
Greenville	82	26
Kinston	82	25
Williamston	82	28
Plymouth	82	25
Bayboro	81	30

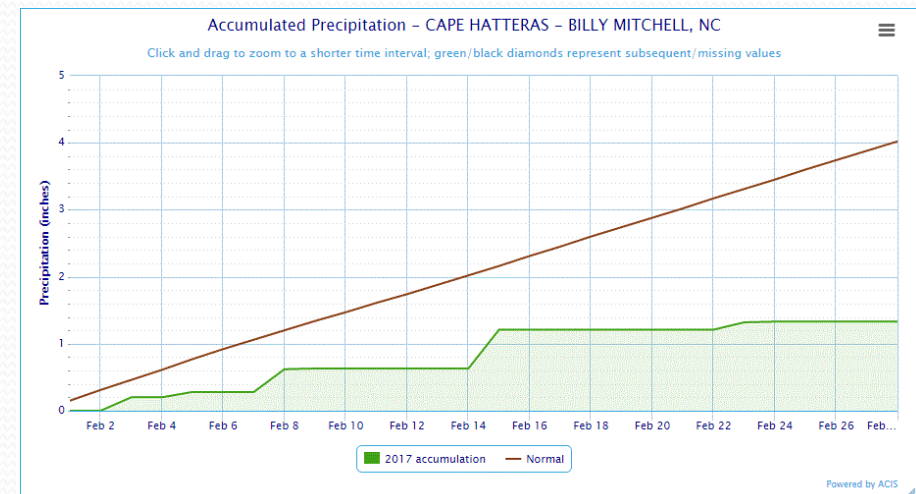
February 2017 Rain Versus Climate Normal

	Precipitation (inches)	Normal	Difference
Beaufort	1.58	3.20	-1.62
Cape Hatteras	1.33	4.02	-2.69
New Bern	1.97	3.06	-1.09
Greenville	1.01	3.35	-2.24
Kinston	1.08	3.19	-2.11
Williamston	1.24	3.15	-1.91
Plymouth	1.35	3.30	-1.95
Bayboro	1.87	3.21	-1.34

All areas of eastern North Carolina were 1 to 3 inches below normal in rainfall in the month of February.



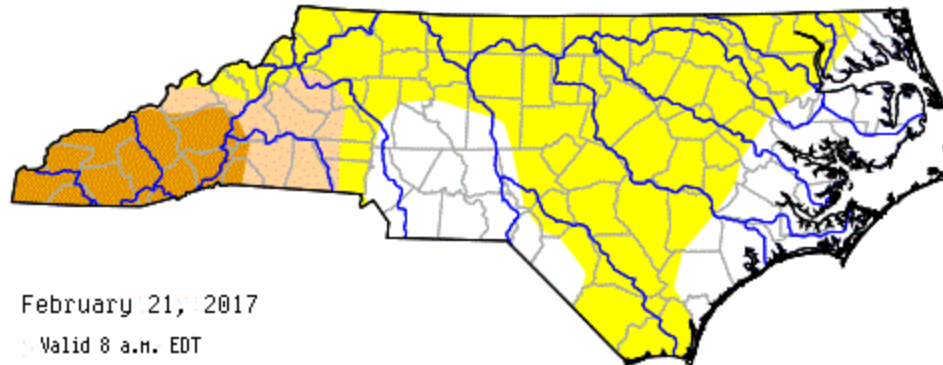
New Bern Precipitation and Departure from Normal



Cape Hatteras Precipitation and Departure from Normal

Latest Drought Monitor for North Carolina

US Drought Monitor of
NORTH CAROLINA



February 21, 2017

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.

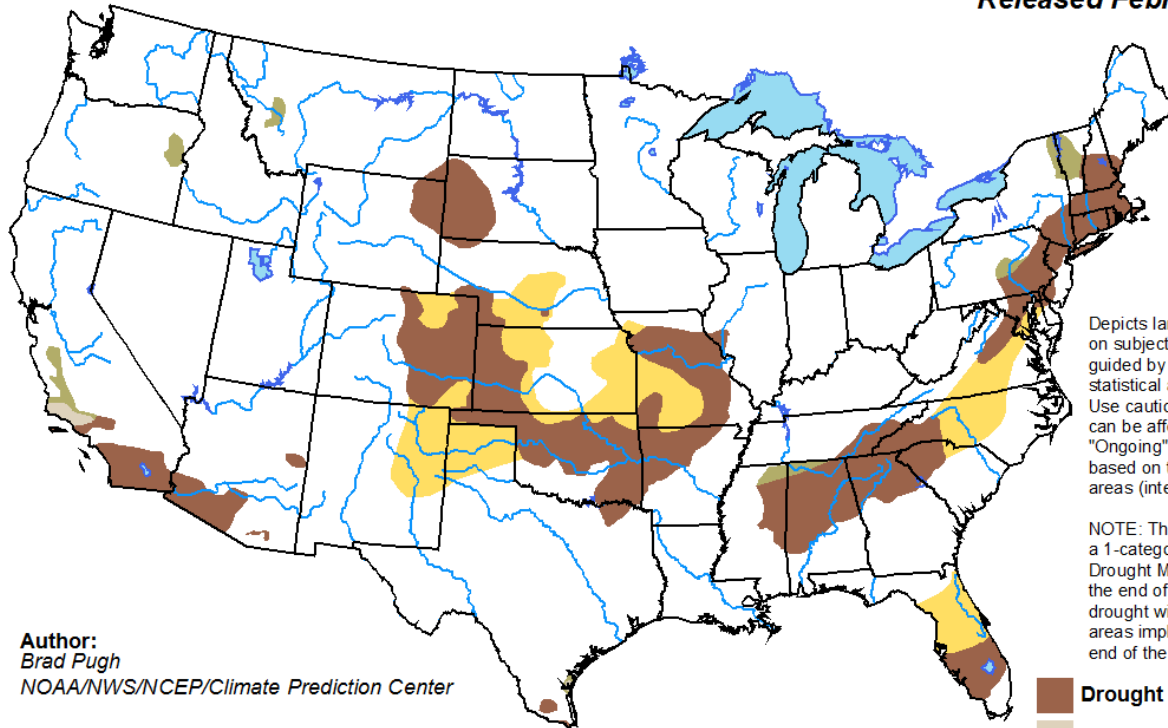
More of the state of North Carolina is now in a Drought status with much of the central portion of the state now Abnormally Dry with Moderate to Severe Drought over the western counties of North Carolina.

Monthly Drought Outlook

For March

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





Valid for March 2017
Released February 28, 2017

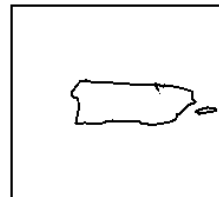
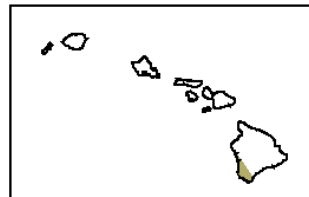
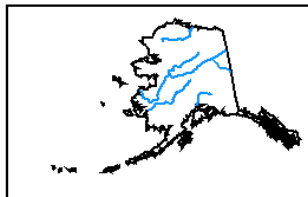


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to 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:
Brad Pugh
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

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



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