

**MONTHLY REPORT OF HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS**

REPORT FOR:  
MONTH YEAR  
March 2016

TO: Hydrologic Information Center, W/OS31  
NOAA's National Weather Service  
1325 East West Highway  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

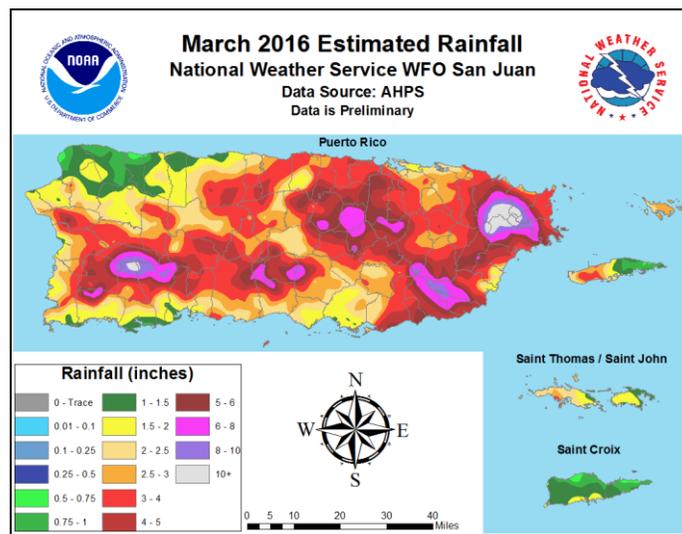
SIGNATURE  
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DATE  
04/15/2016

*When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions below the small box, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (NWS Instruction 10-924).*

An X inside this box indicates that no flooding occurred within this hydrologic service area.

**Summary:** The weather pattern was somewhat on the wetter spectrum, although mostly stable, across the local islands during the month of March. Showers were mostly transported by the trade winds and occasionally enhanced by local and diurnal effects. This month's increase of moderate to locally heavy rainfall however, did not led to a significant improvement in drought intensity and coverage across the southern central portions of Puerto Rico, compared to February 2016. Based on the Cooperative Observer Network Data (COOP), 112% of the normal rainfall was observed across PR. Preliminarily, an average rainfall total of 3.21 inches was measured, which is 0.35 inches above normal. Islandwide, across St. Thomas/St. John and St. Croix, an average rainfall total of 0.82 and 2.47 inches was observed respectively. This is 0.65 inches below normal at St. Thomas/St. John and 0.94 inches above normal at St. Croix

At the primary climate data sites, the ASOS at the San Juan Airport in Puerto Rico reported 2.22 inches of rain, which is 0.27 inches above normal. The ASOS rainfall report from Cyril E. King Airport in St. Thomas and Henry E. Rohlsen Airport in St. Croix was 2.39 and 2.43 inches, respectively. This is above normal at both sites.

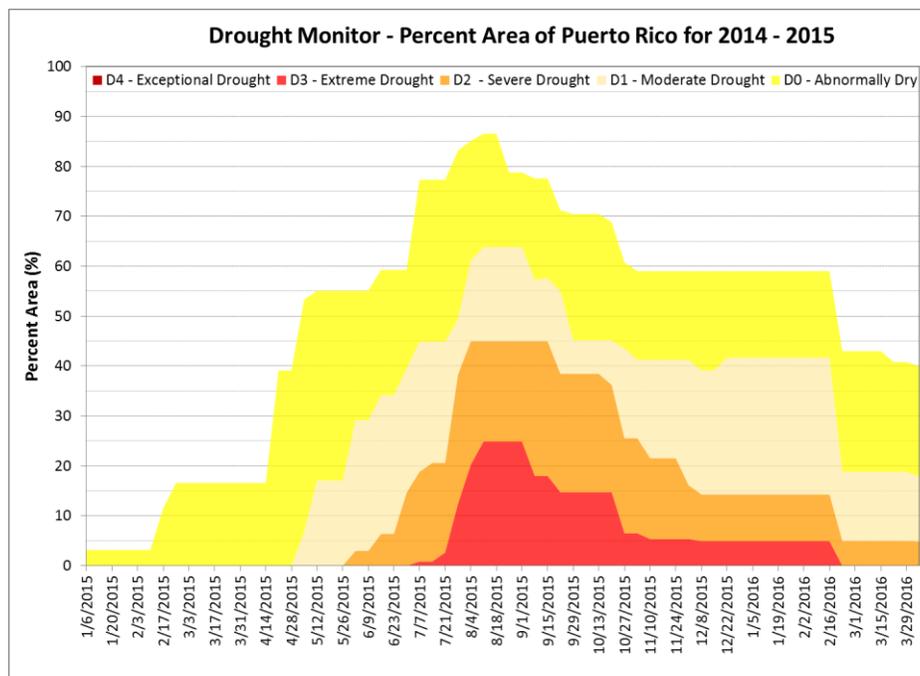


**March 2016 rainfall totals based on AHPS data. (Click on the image to enlarge)**

Please also see March's Climate Report:

([http://www.srh.noaa.gov/images/sju/climo/monthly\\_reports/2016/Mar2016.pdf](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/images/sju/climo/monthly_reports/2016/Mar2016.pdf)).

**River and Drought Conditions:** Based on the 28-day average streamflow from the USGS, the majority of streamflows continue running between the 25th and the 90th percentile, which is in the normal to above normal range. Across Southeast Puerto Rico, streamflows are now running above the 90th percentile, which is much above normal. A few locations across Central and Eastern Interior of Puerto Rico, however, are still running below the 24th percentile. Moderate to locally heavy rain in Eastern Puerto Rico led to small reductions in the eastward extent of D0 to D2 conditions.



**Water Supply:** Lake levels at water supply reservoirs continue at optimum levels. However aquifer and ground water levels are still struggling in the Salinas area along the south coast of the island, where groundwater levels remain low to well below normal. Climatologically, March is the last month of the dry season, while a transition to the wet season is expected during April and May.

**Flood Conditions:** No flooding was reported through the period. However, some hydrology products were issued due to minor urban flooding and rises in small streams.

The approximate amounts of Hydrologic Products issued during the month of March are as follows:

Non-Routine Hydrologic Products Issued:	Approximate number of Products for the month
Hydrologic Outlooks (SJUESFSJU)	0
Flood Watches (SJUFFASJU)	0
Flood Warnings (SJUFLWSJU)	0
Flash Flood Warnings (SJUFFWSJU)	0
Flash Flood Statements (SJUFFSSJU)	0
Urban/Small Stream Flood Advisories (SJUFLSSJU)	2

**General Hydrology Information:** A transition to ENSO-neutral is likely during late Northern Hemisphere spring or early summer 2016, with close to a 50 percent chance for La Niña conditions to develop by the fall. Warm sea surface temperatures north and east of the islands may lead to above average air moisture across the islands for April-May-June. Due to the cooling in the Atlantic around the equator and west of Africa during July-August-September, however, a pattern of drier air may be observed to reach the Eastern Caribbean. Most global models are suggesting a shift to above-normal rainfall for much of the region during April-May-June. By contrast, a shift to below-normal rainfall is expected during July-August-September.