Climate Review for the month of January 2014

Presented by:

National Weather Service

Newport/Morehead City

Summary

January was a cold and somewhat dry month. During the month, an upper level trough dominated the eastern half of the country bring several short waves and strong cold fronts across the region. With ENSO being neutral, other teleconnections played a major role in the month of January.

Well known oscillation that effect the Southeast such as the Arctic Oscillation was negative (brings cooler temps), North American Oscillation was slightly positive (brings milder temperature), and Pacific North American Oscillation being slightly positive (brings cooler temps). But there was one other teleconnection that played a role in January known as a positive EP-NP (East Pacific-North Pacific Oscillation). According to CPC, a positive EP-NP is typically associated with cooler-than-normal temperatures across the U.S. east of the Rockies, warmer-than-normal temperatures along the immediate West Coast and in Alaska. Therefore NCDC stated, "This suggests that the EP-NP and AO modes were in phase to reinforce cold weather east of the Rockies, but that the drivers behind the EP-NP were strongest." This explains why the southeast was so cold.

Overall, the average max temperature ranged in the upper 40s to low 50s while average min temps were in the mid/upper 20s to lower 30s. This month several locations (ASOS and COOP Stations) broke low temperature records for the 7th, 8th and 30th.

Generally, the area received 2 to 5 inches of precipitation in January. Precipitation was evenly distributed throughout the CWA with the most along the coastal areas. The area did received its first major winter storm, bring snow and sleet across the area on the 28th and a minor snow event on the 21th of January. Due to the several locations not receiving a good amount of precipitation, a D0 (Abnormally Dry) was continued for Onslow, Carteret and Jones county.

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

	Avg_ Max	Avg_Max Normal	Avg_ Min	Avg_Min Normal
Beaufort	52.4	na	31.9	na
Cape Hatteras	52.9	53.6	35.2	38.6
New Bern	53.4	54.4	29.2	33.9
Greenville	51.0	51.6	26.9	31.3
Kinston AG	54.4	55.9	30.1	33.2
Williamston	49.0	52.0	27.0	31.9
Plymouth	51.7	54.0	28.1	33.1
Bayboro	52.8	55.6	32.0	33.8

Average temperatures were up to 4 degrees below normal.

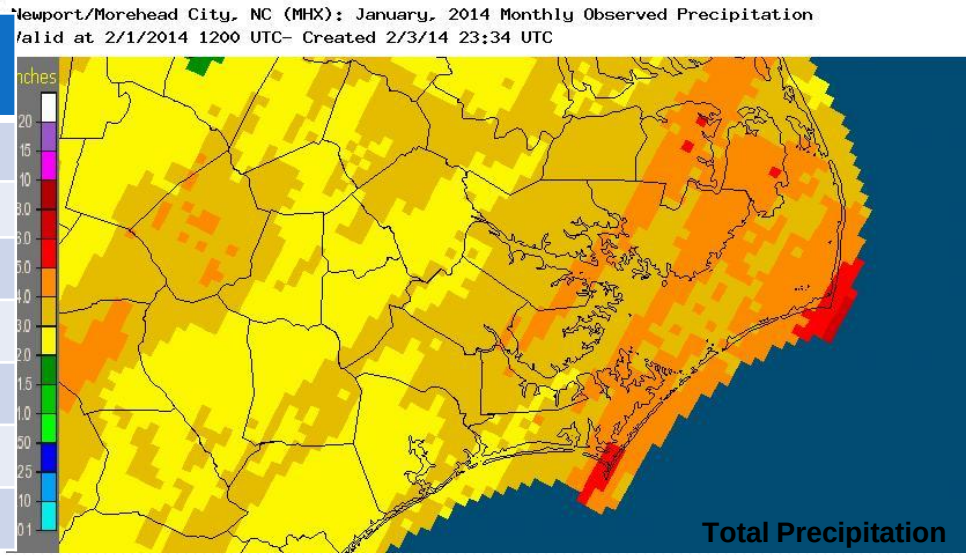
Max and Min Temperature within our CWA

	MAX	MIN
Beaufort	70	16
Cape Hatteras	70	13
New Bern	73	12
Greenville	75	7
Kinston AG	74	7
Williamston	74	13
Plymouth	71	8
Bayboro	72	20

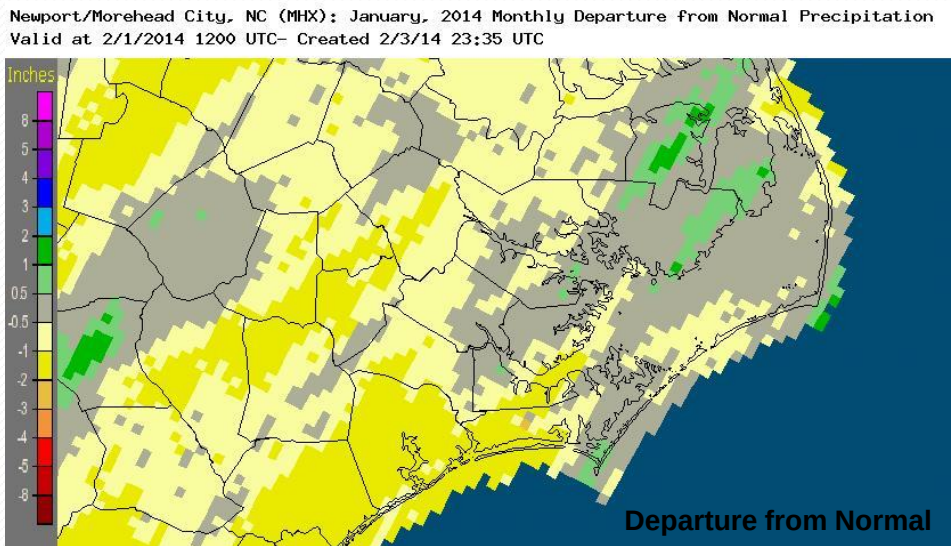
Minimum temperature were the lowest of the season!

January's Rain versus Normal

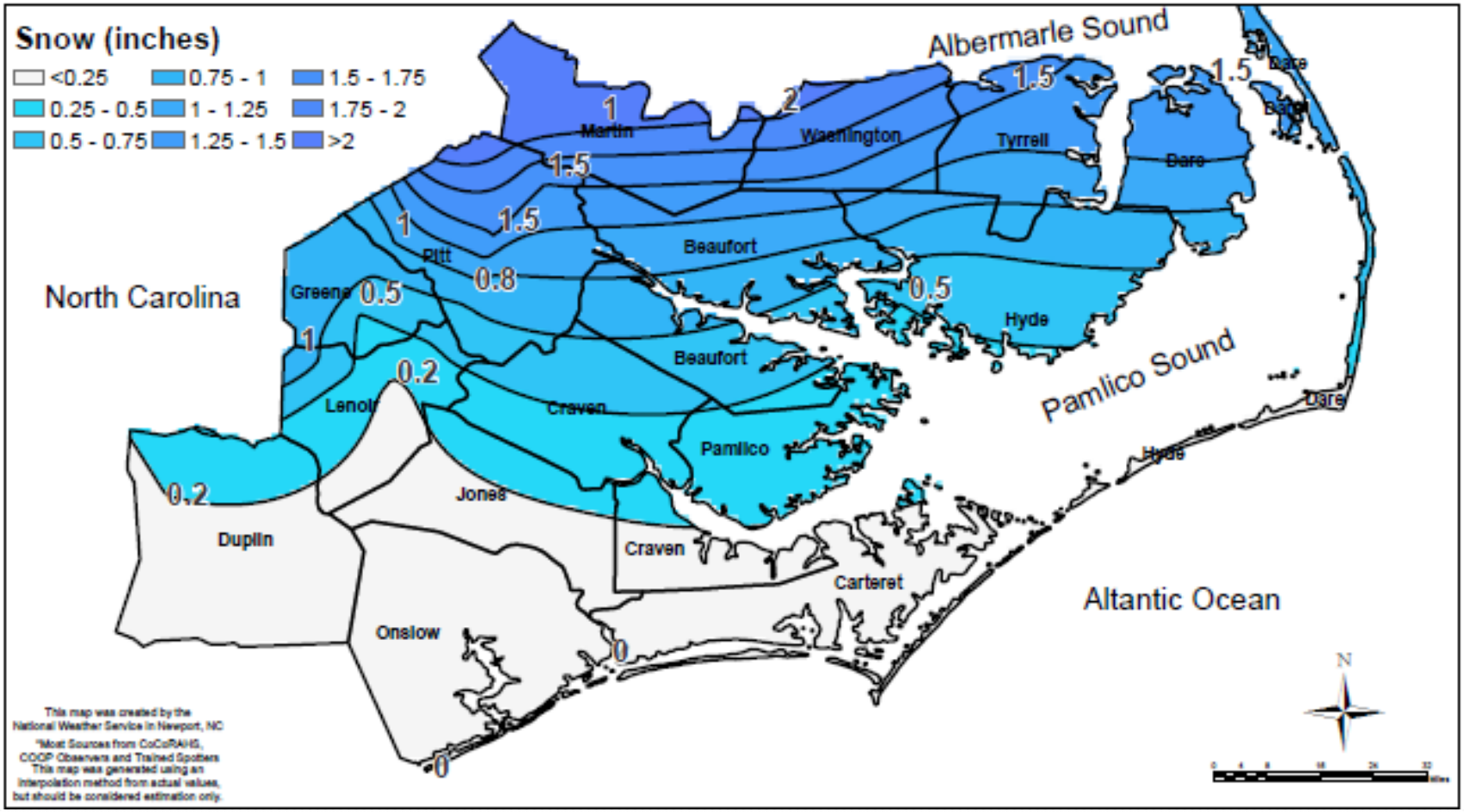
	Precipitation (inches)	Normal	Differences
Beaufort	4.01	na	**na**
Cape Hatteras	5.34	5.84	**-0.5**
New Bern	3.97	4.77	**-0.8**
Greenville	3.15	4.43	**-1.28**
Williamston	2.74	4.36	**-1.62**
Plymouth	3.18	4.54	**-1.36**
Bayboro	4.15	4.52	**-0.37**



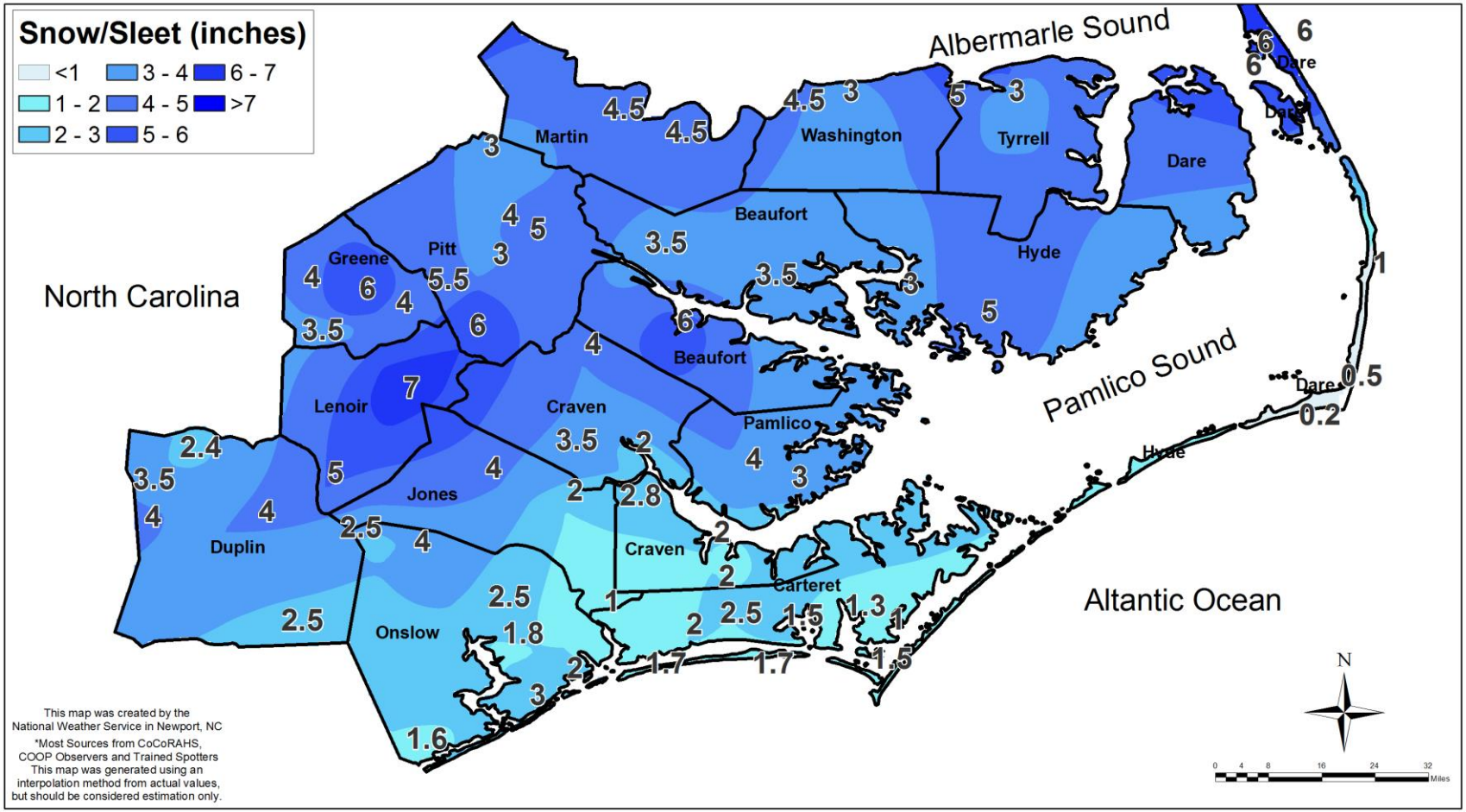
Precipitation fell evenly throughout the coverage area with the largest amount along the coastal counties.

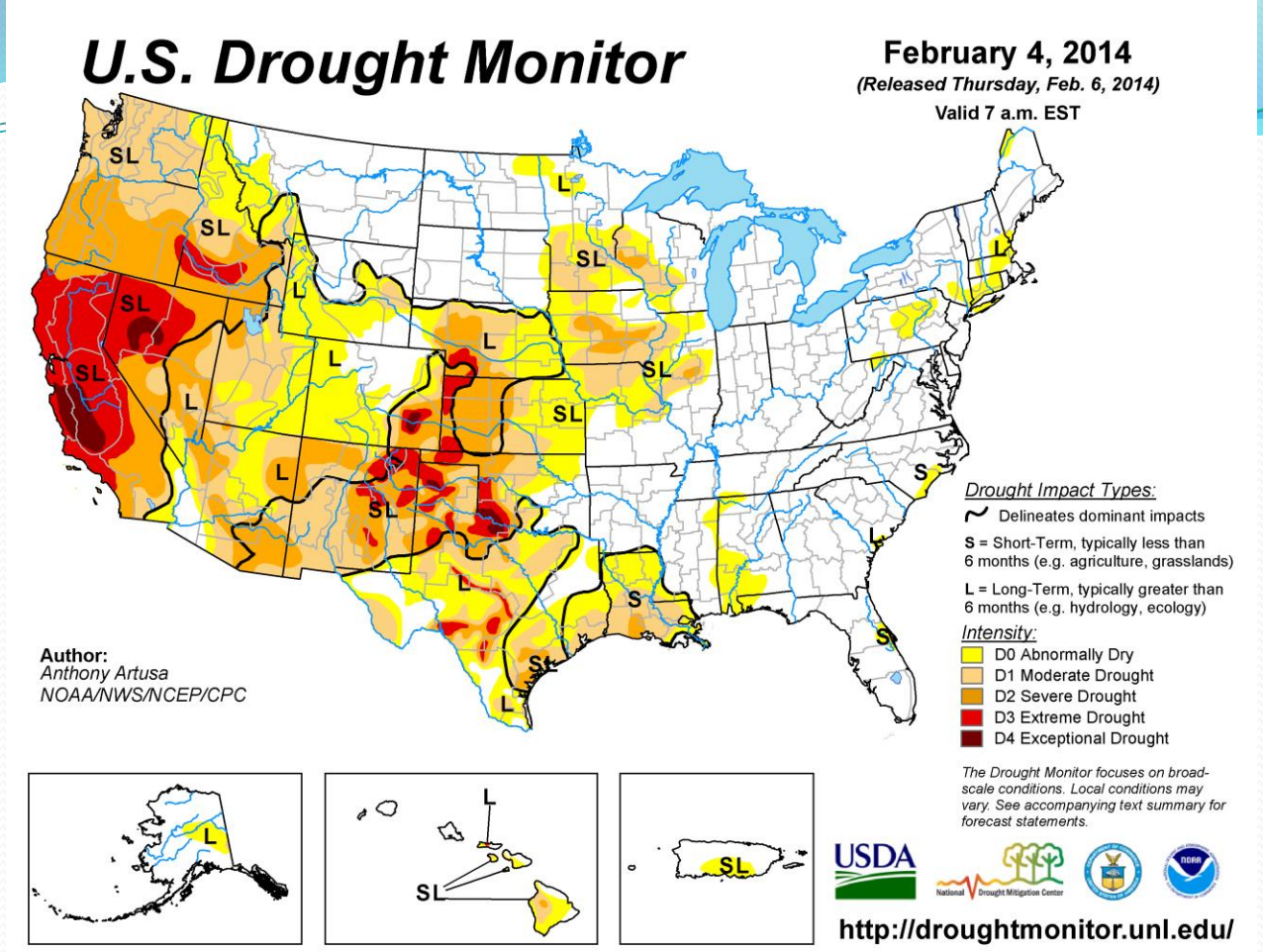


January 21: Snow

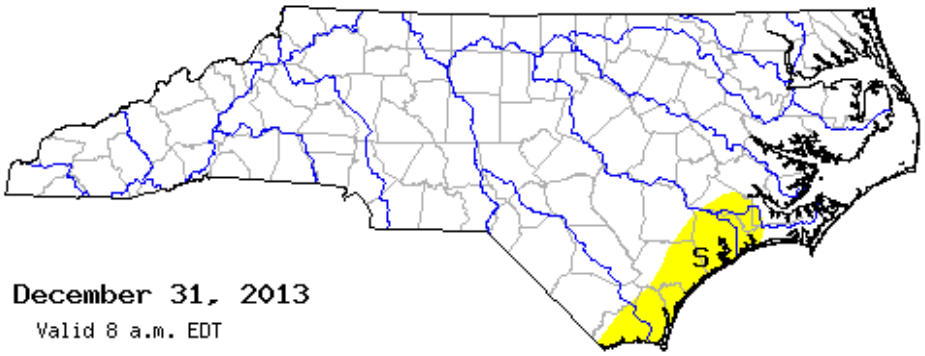


January 28th: Snow/Sleet

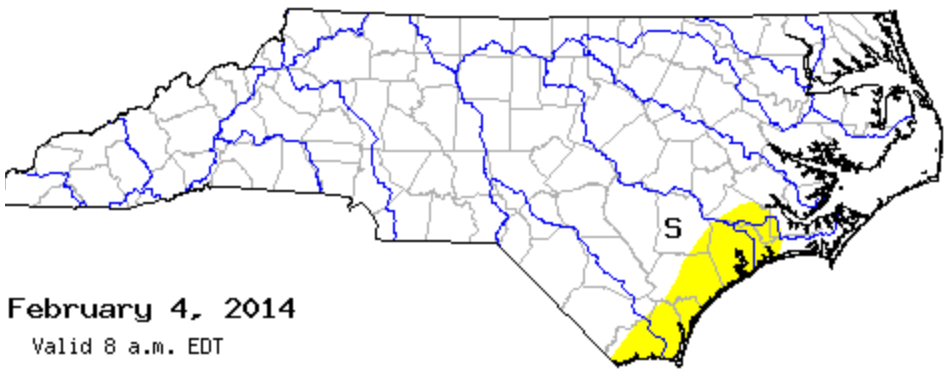



U.S. Drought Monitor
February 4, 2014
(Released Thursday, Feb. 6, 2014)
Valid 7 a.m. EST
Author:
Anthony Artusa
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC
Drought Impact Types:
Delineates dominant impacts
S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)
Intensity:
D0 Abnormally Dry
D1 Moderate Drought
D2 Severe Drought
D3 Extreme Drought
D4 Exceptional Drought
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.
USDA
National Drought Mitigation Center
http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

Before


December 31, 2013
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Now


February 4, 2014
Valid 8 a.m. EDT