

Climate Review for the month of March 2011

Presented by:
BelMel Publishing

Summary

Overall, March was near normal month for our CWA. Temperatures continue to reach into 80s while the OBX where still in the 70s.

With the start of severe weather and the stationary front we had in March. These events helped to improve our precip amounts across our area. With the wide range of precipitation (2-5.5 inches) this month. The northern part of our CWA had the highest amount while the New Bern area was the lowest. Overall, near normal with a few isolated areas of above normal month with precipitation amounts. All our counties are under a D0 Abnormally Dry.

DISCLAIMER from Bel: 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	63.1	na	46.3	na
Cape Hatteras	61.1	60.2	48.3	44.5
New Bern	64.5	64.3	41.8	42.1
Greenville	62.9	63.3	40.2	40.3
Kinston AG	68.4	67.8	44.2	40.6
Williamston	63.5	63.0	39.3	41.0
Plymouth	64.2	65.4	41.1	40.6
Aurora	62.7	63.2	42.9	40.8
Bayboro	65.2	66.0	41.5	41.2

Overall, Average Max & Min Temperature were near –normal this month. Both HSE and Kinston were 4 degrees above normal for their min temperature.

Max and Min Temperature within our CWA

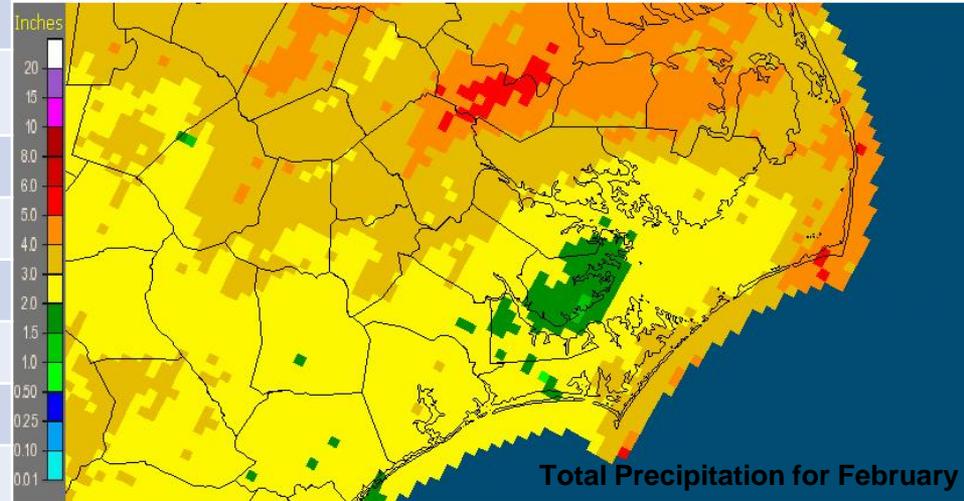
	MAX	MIN
Beaufort	83	35
Cape Hatteras	75	38
New Bern	87	30
Greenville	84	28
Kinston AG	85	30
Williamston	81	29
Plymouth	82	27
Aurora	83	33
Bayboro	85	33

All but the OBX reached to the 80s. We still did have a few cold nights, this month.

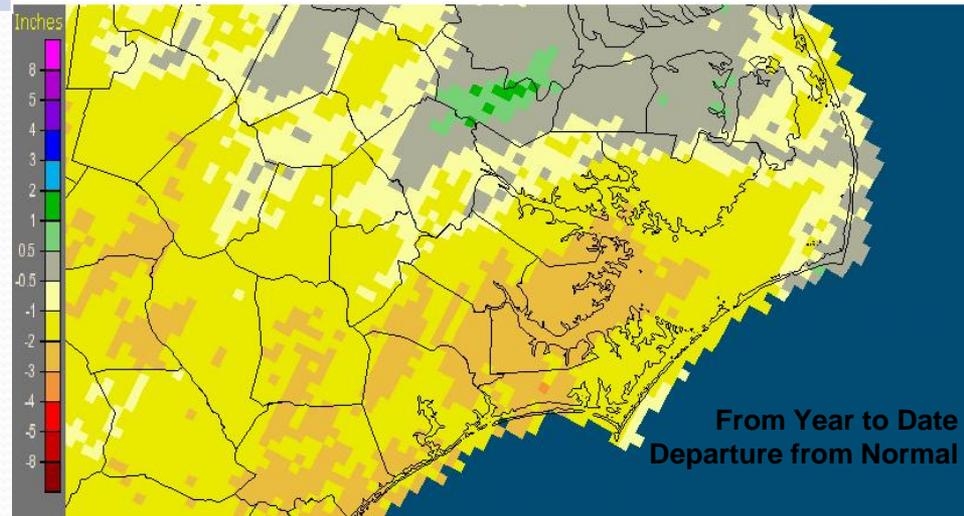
March's Rain versus Normal

	Precipitation (inches)	Normal	Differences
Beaufort	3.52	na	na
Cape Hatteras	5.44	4.95	0.49
New Bern	2.41	4.49	-2.08
Greenville	5.05	4.07	0.98
Kinston AG	4	4.4	-0.4
Williamston	5.05	4.33	0.72
Plymouth	3.81	4.72	-0.91
Aurora	3.43	4.09	-0.66
Bayboro	3.22	4.08	-0.86

Newport/Morehead City, NC (MHX): March, 2011 Monthly Observed Precipitation
Valid at 4/1/2011 1200 UTC- Created 4/3/11 21:43 UTC



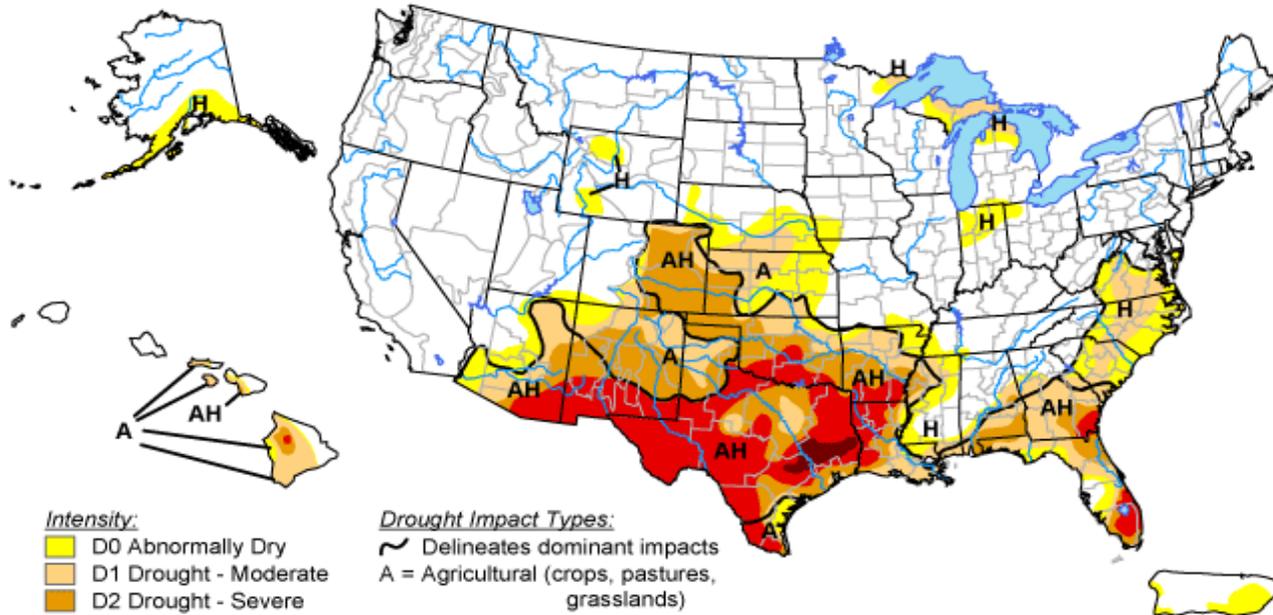
Newport/Morehead City, NC (MHX): March, 2011 Monthly Departure from Normal Precipitation
Valid at 4/1/2011 1200 UTC- Created 4/3/11 21:46 UTC



We were near-normal with precipitation across over our CWA expect for New Bern. Precipitation totals generally ranged from 2 to 5.5 inches over the area with the higher precipitation totals were to the northern parts of our CWA. Cape Hatteras continues to be **ABOVE NORMAL** for the second month in a row.

U.S. Drought Monitor

April 5, 2011
Valid 8 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
- A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
- H = Hydrological (water)



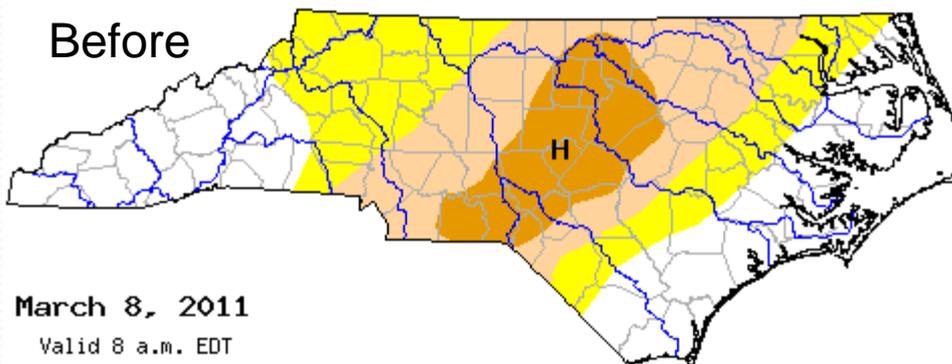
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>

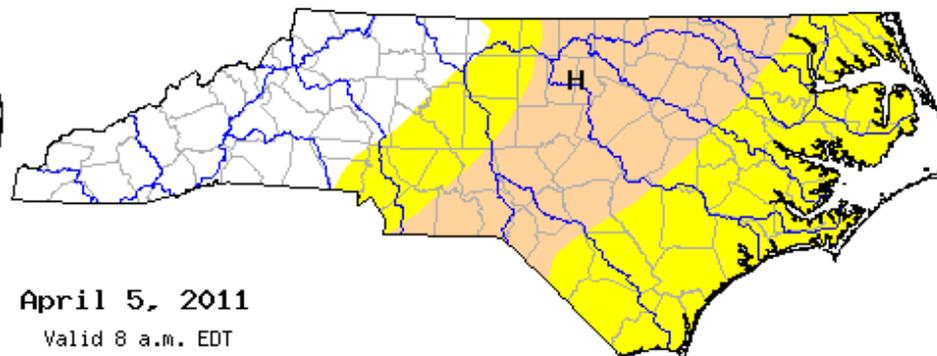
Released Thursday, April 7, 2011

Author: Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center

Before



March 8, 2011
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



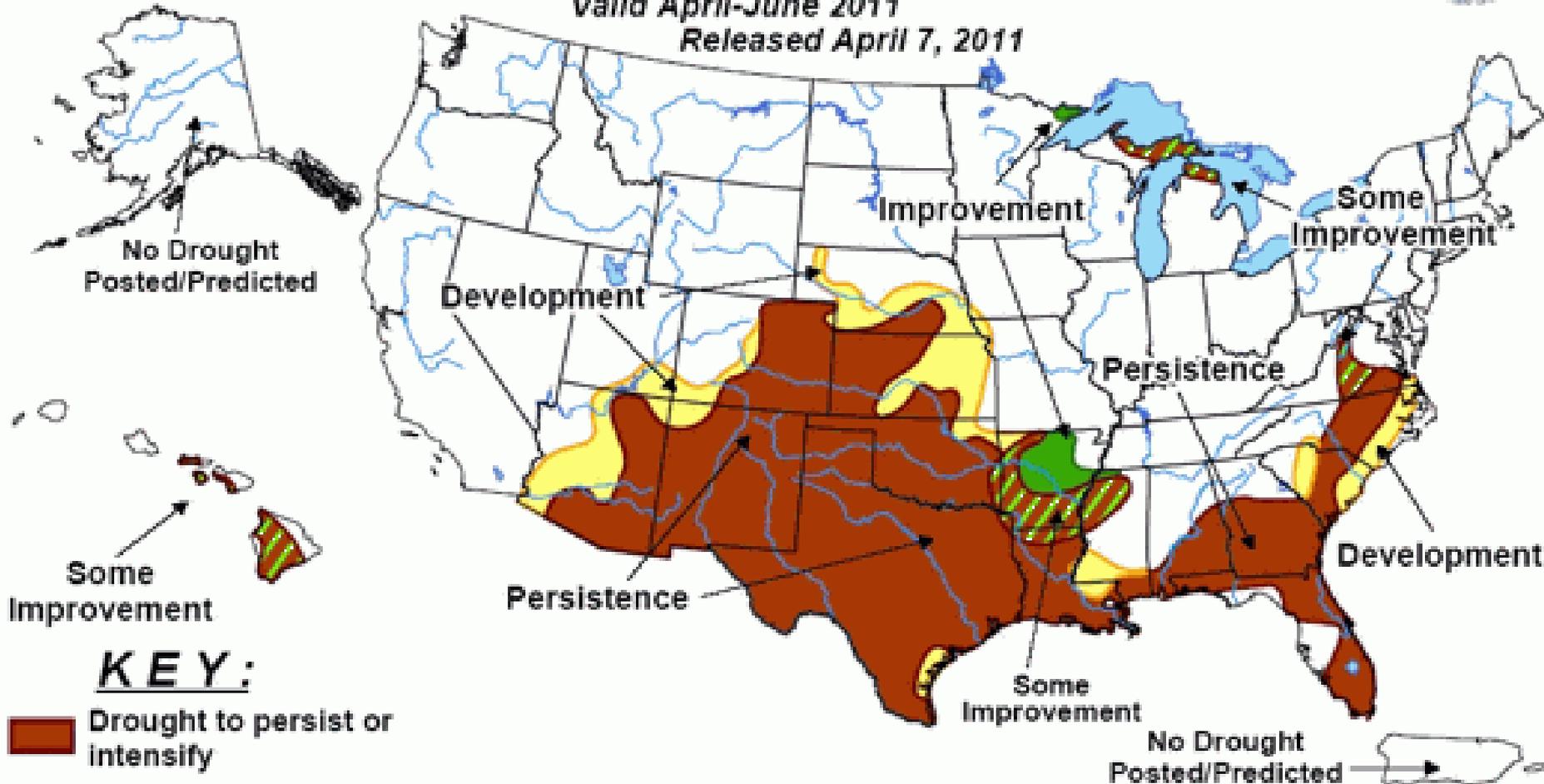
April 5, 2011
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid April-June 2011
Released April 7, 2011



KEY:

-  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.