Climate Review for the month May 2016

Presented by:
National Weather Service
Newport/Morehead City
The main highlight in May’s weather across the eastern North Carolina was above to well above normal rainfall. A slow-moving coastal low produced heavy rainfall on the 3rd of May, while a stalled frontal boundary led to another round of heavy rainfall on the 17th. The heaviest rainfall occurred at the end of the month as the remnants of Tropical Storm Bonnie moved slowly up the North Carolina coast. This heavy rainfall included a single day record of 7.09 inches at Cape Hatteras on May 31, shattering the previous record of 3.44 inches set in 1940. A monthly record of 12.67 inches was recorded at Cape Hatteras. All of the Newport/Morehead City County Warning Area received above normal rainfall in May, with the heaviest rainfall near the coast.

Satellite image of the remnants of Tropical Storm Bonnie off the southern Outer Banks of North Carolina.
Maximum Temperatures were generally a degree or two below normal during May 2016, while the minimum temperatures tended to be slightly above normal.
Max and Min Temperature within our CWA in May 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>MAX</th>
<th>MIN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beaufort</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Hatteras</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Bern</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenville</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williamston</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plymouth</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayboro</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### May 2016 Rain Versus Climate Normal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Precipitation (inches)</th>
<th>Normal</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beaufort</td>
<td>7.90</td>
<td>3.93</td>
<td>3.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Hatteras</td>
<td>12.67</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>9.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Bern</td>
<td>6.68</td>
<td>4.15</td>
<td>2.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greenville</td>
<td>6.62</td>
<td>3.85</td>
<td>2.77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Williamston</td>
<td>5.30</td>
<td>3.74</td>
<td>1.56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plymouth</td>
<td>4.58</td>
<td>4.19</td>
<td>0.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayboro</td>
<td>9.66</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td>5.54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The entire region received above normal rainfall for the month of May 2016. The highest rainfall departures were near the coast.
May 2016 Total Precipitation

Accumulated Precipitation

Green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values

Precipitation (inches)

May 2
May 4
May 6
May 8
May 10
May 12
May 14
May 16
May 18
May 20
May 22
May 24
May 26
May 28
May 30

(Click to hide/show lines)

- CAPE HATTERAS AP, NC:Precip
- BEAUFORT MICHAEL J SMITH FLD, NC:Precip
- NEW BERN CRAVEN CO AP, NC:Precip

Powered by ACIS
Big change from April when much of the state was in D0 (abnormally dry). Now only the mountains are in drought status.
Monthly Drought Outlook

For June

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

Valid for June 2016
Released May 31, 2016

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).

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