October 2020 Climate Review

Presented By:

National Weather Service

Newport/Morehead City, NC

October 2020 Highlights

With above normal temperatures and drier than normal weather, October provided many nice sunsets, like this one in Washington (courtesy WITN).

Coastal Flooding Continues: Abnormally high astronomical tides, coupled with strong Hurricane Epsilon in the central Atlantic produced another round of coastal flooding during October, especially along the Outer Banks.

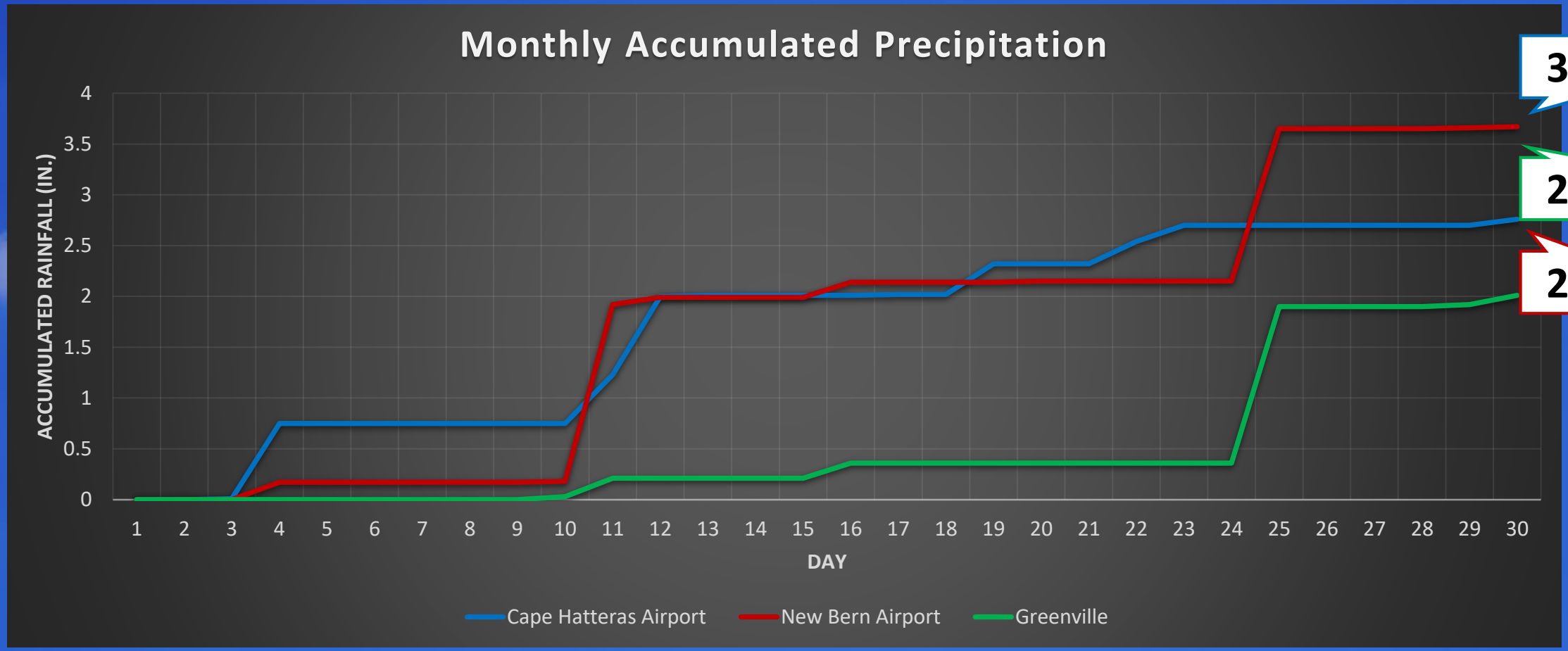
Unseasonably Warm: Upper level ridging for much of the month kept most of the chilly air to our north, resulting in abnormally warm days across eastern NC with numerous days in the 70s and lower 80s.

Monthly Rankings

	Average Temp	Total Rainfall
Hatteras	9th Warmest	19th Wettest
New Bern	9th Warmest	16th Driest

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

October 2020 Rainfall

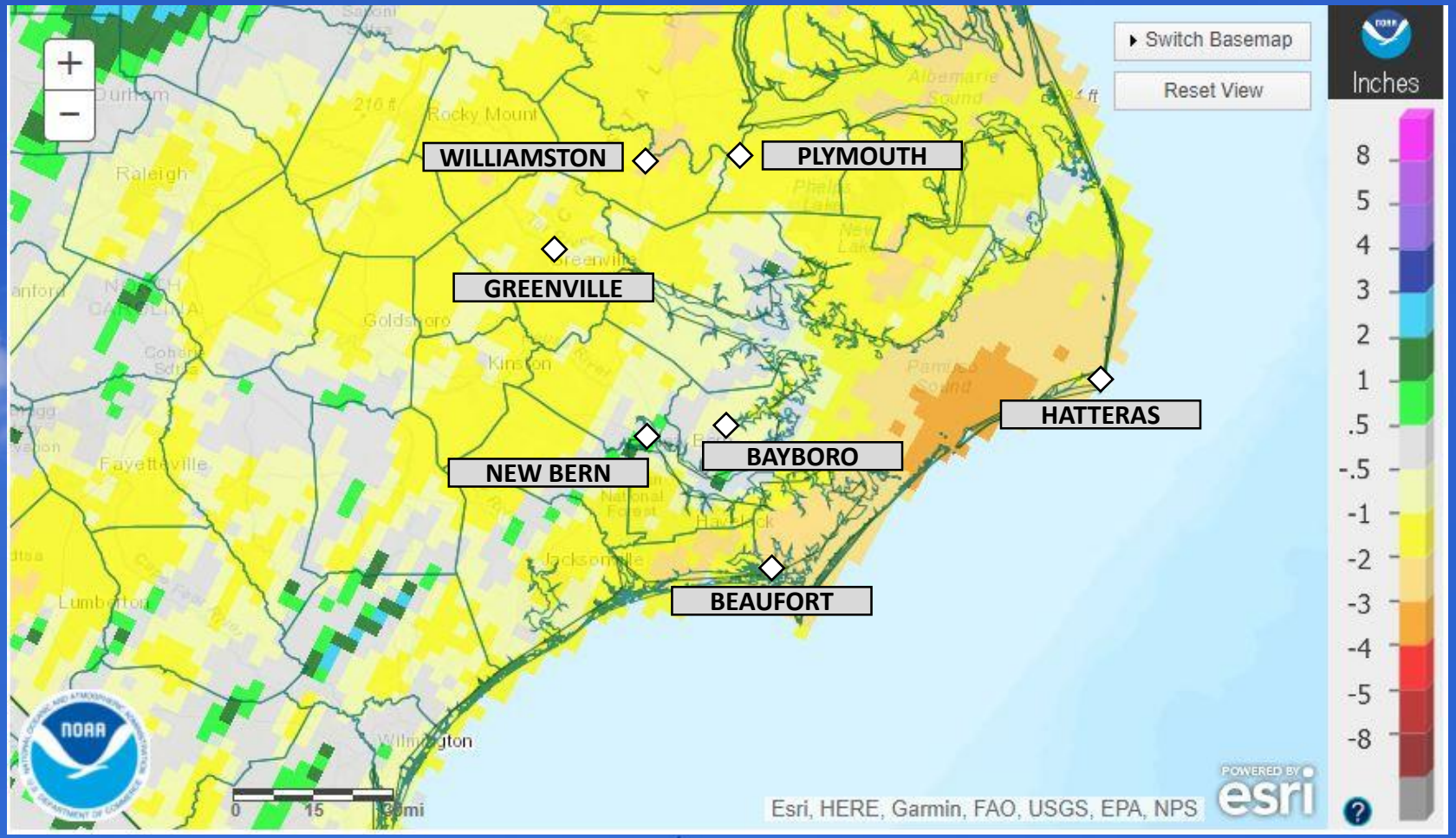


White diamonds denote missing 24-hour precipitation report. Asterisk denotes total with missing data.

October 2020 Rainfall vs. Climate Normal

	Observed (In.)	Normal	Difference
Beaufort	2.33	3.88	▼ 1.55
Hatteras	2.76	5.38	▼ 2.62
New Bern	3.67	3.26	▲ 0.41
Greenville	2.01	3.25	▼ 1.24
Williamston	1.93	3.90	▼ 1.97
Plymouth	2.34	3.75	▼ 1.41
Bayboro	2.68	3.98	▼ 1.30

Red sites have missing data



October 2020 Precipitation: Departure from Normal

Analysis from the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service

Wettest and Driest Octobers

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
Wettest	15.05”	1985	13.64”	1954
2nd Wettest	13.11”	2005	13.41”	2005
3rd Wettest	11.54”	1993	9.81”	1971
4th Wettest	11.24”	1971	7.77”	1999
5th Wettest	9.58”	1968	7.77”	1958

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
5th Driest	1.41”	1969	0.69”	1961
4th Driest	1.34”	1973	0.51”	1984
3rd Driest	1.19”	1987	0.44”	1953
2nd Driest	1.00”	1998	0.20”	1998
Driest	0.53”	1984	0.13”	2000

Average Temperatures: October 2020

	Average High	Normal High	Difference	Average Low	Normal Low	Difference
Beaufort	76.5	73.8	▲ 2.7	61.3	57.0	▲ 4.3
Hatteras	75.5	72.0	▲ 3.5	63.4	59.7	▲ 3.7
New Bern	76.7	74.7	▲ 2.0	58.0	53.5	▲ 4.5
Greenville	77.0	73.8	▲ 3.2	56.5	50.6	▲ 5.9
Kinston	77.1	76.6	▲ 0.5	55.8	52.8	▲ 3.0
Williamston	75.7	73.3	▲ 2.4	55.5	49.4	▲ 6.1
Plymouth	76.9	74.3	▲ 2.6	56.3	51.9	▲ 4.4
Bayboro	76.3	75.1	▲ 1.2	56.5	52.3	▲ 4.2

Red sites have missing data

Warmest and Coolest October By Avg. Temp

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
Warmest	72.9°	2007	69.9°	1985
2nd Warmest	71.4°	1985	69.7°	2007
3rd Warmest	70.8°	1971	69.7°	1971
4th Warmest	70.5°	2017	69.6°	1984
5th Warmest	70.5°	2019	68.0°	1949

	Cape Hatteras	Year Observed	New Bern	Year Observed
5th Coolest	62.2°	1988	59.7°	1988
4th Coolest	62.2°	1976	59.6°	1964
3rd Coolest	61.6°	1987	59.4°	1952
2nd Coolest	61.5°	1974	59.3°	1976
Coolest	61.5°	1988	58.7°	1948

Temperature Extremes: October 2020

	Max High	Date Obs.	Min Low	Date Obs.
Beaufort	83	21st	51	31st
Hatteras	83	16th	55	14th
New Bern	84	16th	48	31st
Greenville	85	29th	45	19th
Kinston	84	25th	45	18th
Williamston	83	25th	46	31st
Plymouth	82	29th	43	18th
Bayboro	83	25th	47	31st

Red sites have missing data

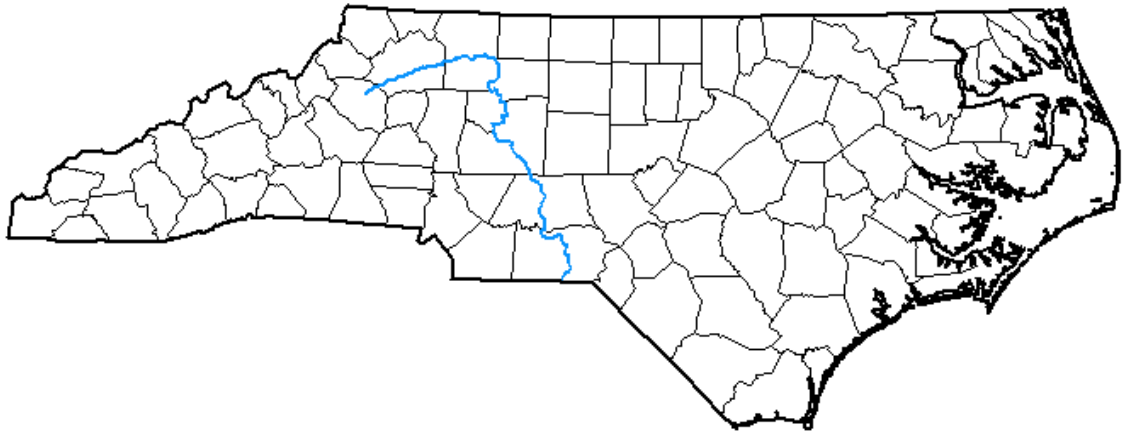
U.S. Drought Monitor

North Carolina

October 27, 2020

(Released Thursday, Oct. 29, 2020)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

- None
- 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. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

Author:

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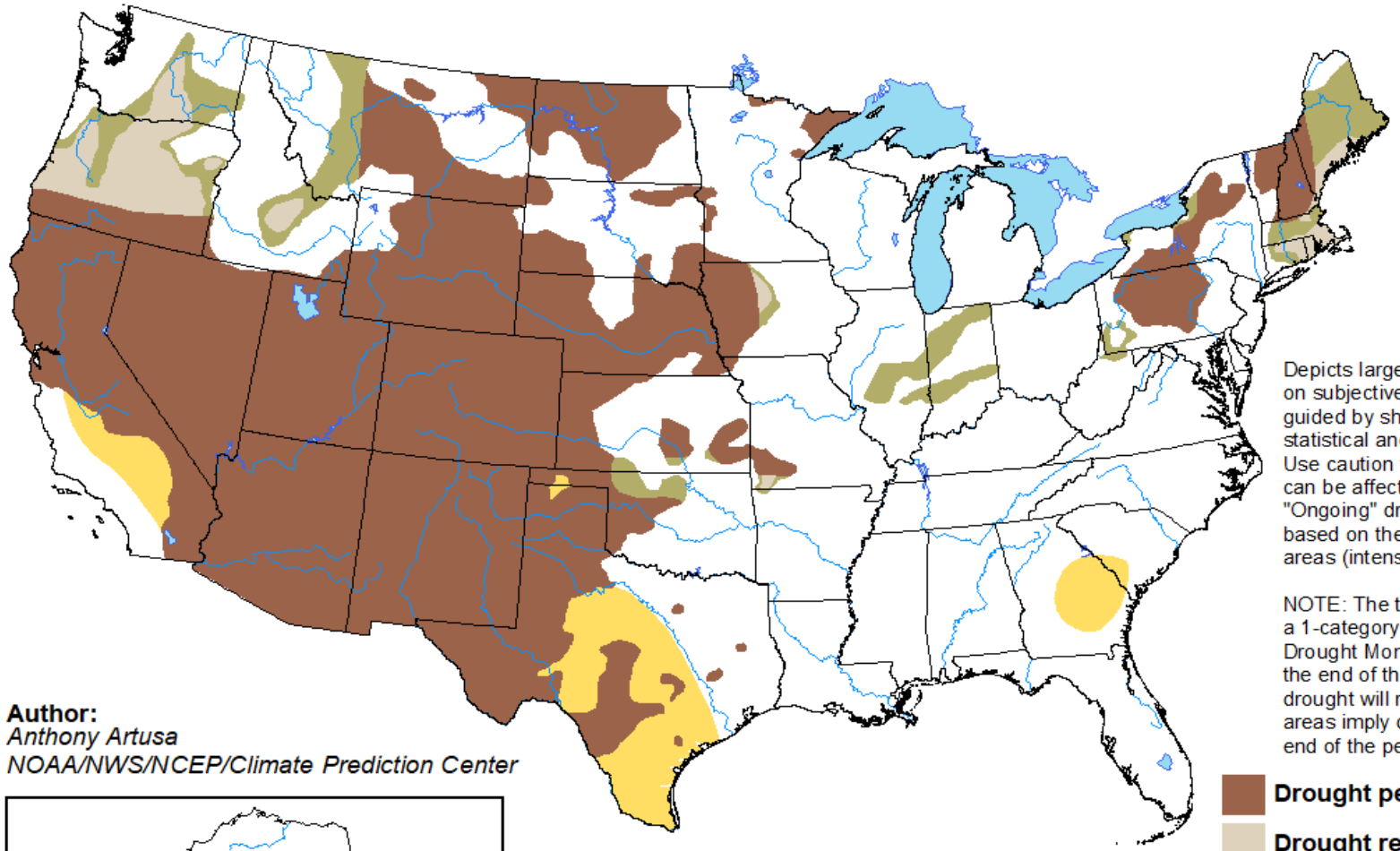
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for November 2020
Released October 31, 2020



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).

Drought persists

Drought remains but improves

Drought removal likely

Drought development likely

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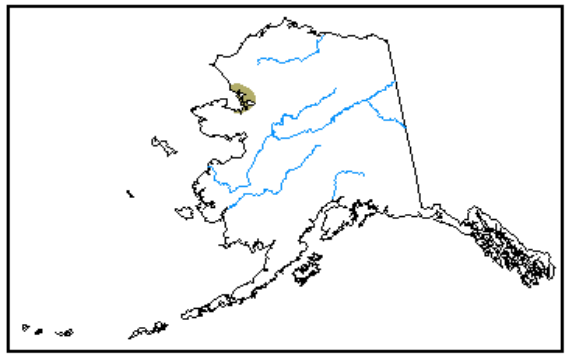

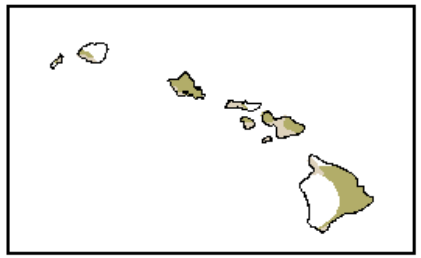

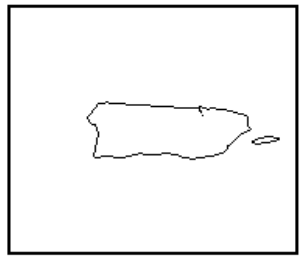

http://go.usa.gov/3eZGd