

Climate Review for the month of September 2011

Presented by:
BelMel Publishing

Summary

September was a warm and wet month with temperatures averaging in the lower 80s across our CWA. Our LCD sites had two record breaking maximum temperatures for Cape Hatteras and record breaking 24-hour precipitation for both Cape Hatteras and New Bern on September 24. According to CPC, La Niña conditions strengthened during the month of September as sea surface temperature anomalies were below -0.5°C across much of the eastern and central equatorial Pacific Ocean. We will continue to have an increase of La Niña impacts across the US.

September started out with High Pressure over the region bringing warm and dry conditions. With the Fall season on its way, a strong upper low trough started to dominate the region with its associated cold fronts by mid month with high temperatures dropping into the upper 60s to lower 70s. Temperatures increased due to brief ridging occurring between low pressure systems. Towards the end of the month there was a vertically stack low pressure over the upper Midwest and High Pressure offshore bringing an increase of tropical moisture across the area. This synoptic setup resulted with majority of our precipitation totals for the month.

Overall, rainfall amounts were enough for the month of September and year to date, except for New Bern. Drought conditions improved greatly after Hurricane Irene but abnormally dry conditions (D0) remained over Duplin county.

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	82.5	na	69.3	na
Cape Hatteras	83.4	79.9	71.9	69.0
New Bern	83.2	82.9	66.3	64.9
Greenville	83.0	82.9	65.3	62.9
Kinston AG	84.1	84.4	65.5	63.6
Williamston	82.8	81.8	65.2	61.1
Plymouth	83.4	82.7	64.5	62.9
Aurora	83.1	82.3	68.6	65.9
Bayboro	82.1	83.2	63.2	63.9

Overall, the average temperatures were 1 to 3 degrees above normal, except for Bayboro.

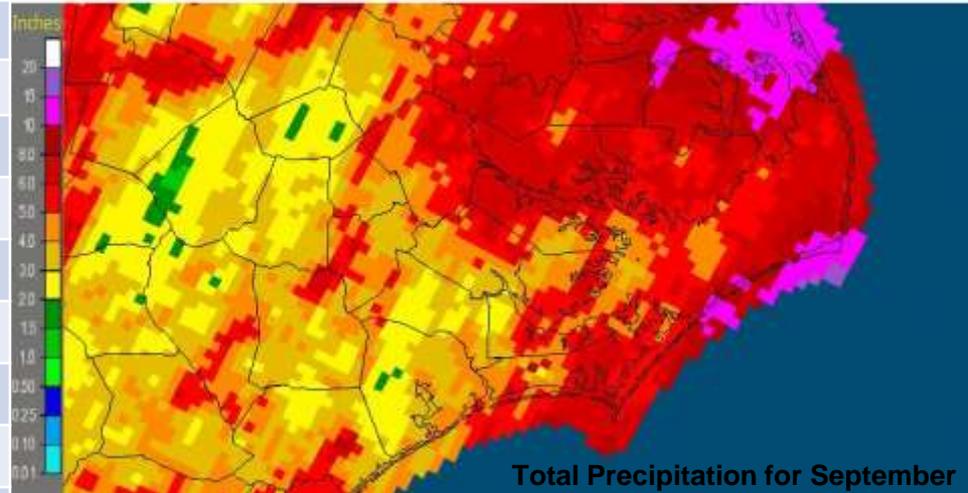
Max and Min Temperature within our CWA

	MAX	MIN
Beaufort	87	63
Cape Hatteras	92	66
New Bern	90	60
Greenville	92	57
Kinston AG	90	54
Williamston	91	57
Plymouth	91	57
Aurora	92	60
Bayboro	88	57

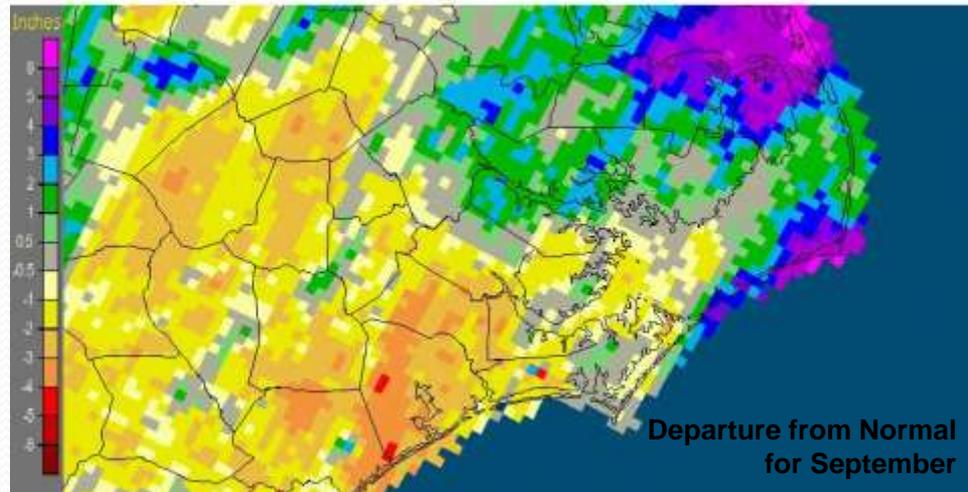
September's Rain versus Normal

	Precipitation (inches)	Normal	Differences
Beaufort	3.61	na	
Cape Hatteras	14.23	6.25	7.98
New Bern	3.54	5.89	-2.35
Greenville	7.83	5.83	2
Kinston AG	2.38	5.71	-3.33
Williamston	7.95	6.07	1.88
Plymouth	7.56	5.39	2.17
Aurora	6.16	5.18	0.98
Bayboro	7.75	5.88	1.87

Newport/Morehead City, NC (MHC): September, 2011 Monthly Observed Precipitation
Valid at 10/1/2011 1200 UTC- Created 10/3/11 21:39 UTC



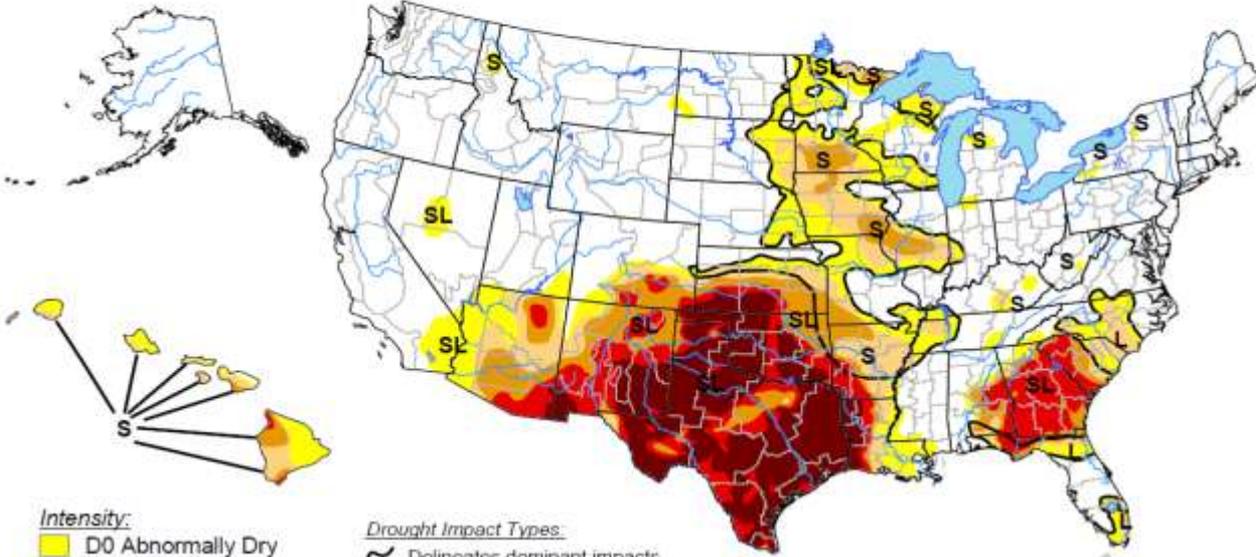
Newport/Morehead City, NC (MHC): September, 2011 Monthly Departure from Normal Precipitation
Valid at 10/1/2011 1200 UTC- Created 10/3/11 21:41 UTC



Majority of September's rainfall occurred around HWY 64 corridor and the OBX. Eastern parts of the CWA ranged between 6-12 inches of precipitation. While the rest of the CWA had 1.5 to 5 inches of rainfall.

U.S. Drought Monitor

October 11, 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
 - S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
 - L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

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



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<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

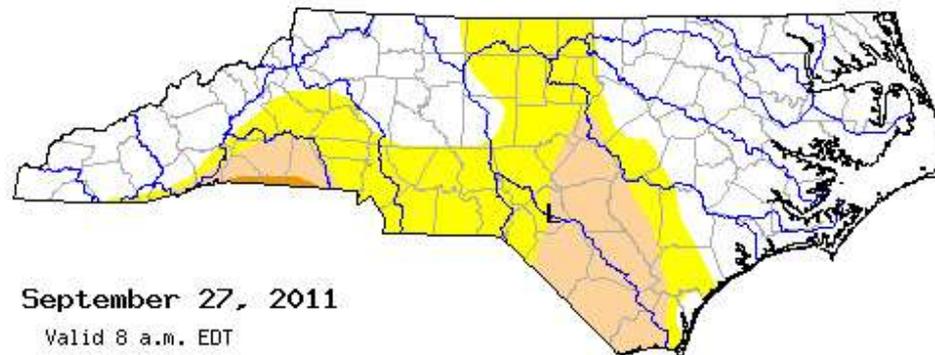
Before



August 30, 2011

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Now



September 27, 2011

Valid 8 a.m. EDT