

North Carolina Drought Update

For the assessment period ending January 17, 2023

Statewide Condition Summary

This Week's Drought Monitor of North Carolina Map

From the US Drought Monitor, authored by Deborah Bathke (*National Drought Mitigation Center*) with input from the *North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council* (ncdrought.org)

What's Changed? Abnormally Dry (D0) and Moderate Drought (D1) expanded slightly northward to cover most of the Coastal Plain, where the start of 2023 remains dry.

What's New? We've reached the midway point of climatological winter, which means drought impacts are limited across the landscape. However, some streamflow and groundwater levels remain low across eastern North Carolina, and concern is increasing about a potential early-starting and active spring fire season at the coast.

What's Next? A storm system this weekend will bring widespread rainfall, with 0.5 to 1.5 inches statewide. Areas farther south can expect to see the highest totals.

Statewide Coverage By Category

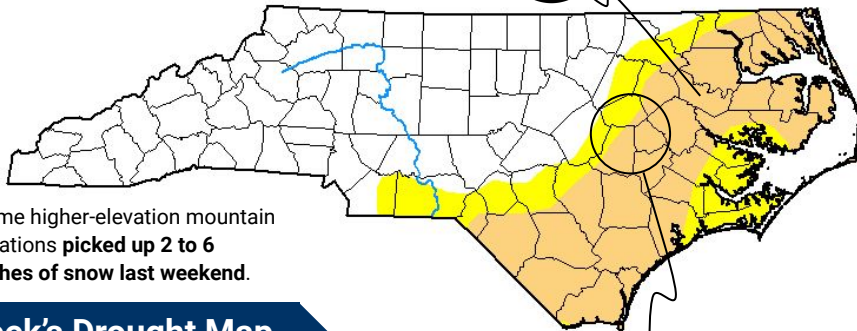
Category	Coverage This Week	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	13.25%	-3.20%
D1: Moderate Drought	29.91%	+8.32%
D2: Severe Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D3: Extreme Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D4: Exceptional Drought	0.00%	0.00%



Statewide, **major reservoirs remain at or above seasonal targets** with no water supply concerns.



Williamston has had just **0.94 inches of rain in the past 30 days**, and no daily totals of more than half an inch since Dec. 15.

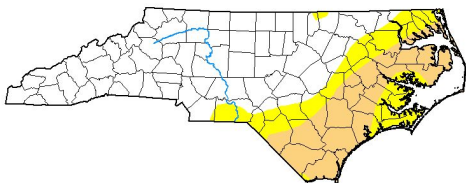


Some higher-elevation mountain locations **picked up 2 to 6 inches of snow last weekend**.



Streamflows are falling below normal levels in tributaries of the Neuse River, including Contentnea Creek.

Last Week's Drought Map



This infographic was created by



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