

North Carolina Drought Update

Created By:

North Carolina
Drought Management Advisory Council
www.ncdrought.org

NORTH CAROLINA
CLIMATE OFFICE
climate.ncsu.edu

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For the assessment period ending **Jan. 28, 2025**
From the US Drought Monitor, with input from the NC DMAC

The Main Takeaway

Another week with limited precipitation led to more expansion of Moderate Drought (D1) in western North Carolina, including along the Tennessee border.

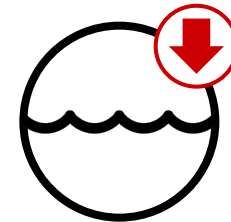
This Week's Summary

The recent snow has mostly melted, but our streams and soils aren't in much better shape than before those flakes, with widespread dry conditions now apparent across the entire state. Despite the frozen precipitation, it's on track to be one of the top ten driest Januarys on record for much of western North Carolina, where drought continued to develop over the past week.

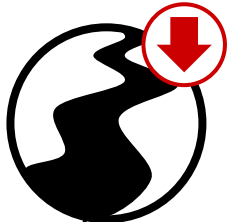
Next Week's Outlook

A cold front moving in on Friday night will bring rain showers totaling a quarter to half inch statewide. It will also drop our temperatures slightly for the weekend.

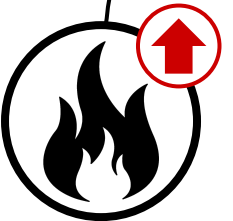
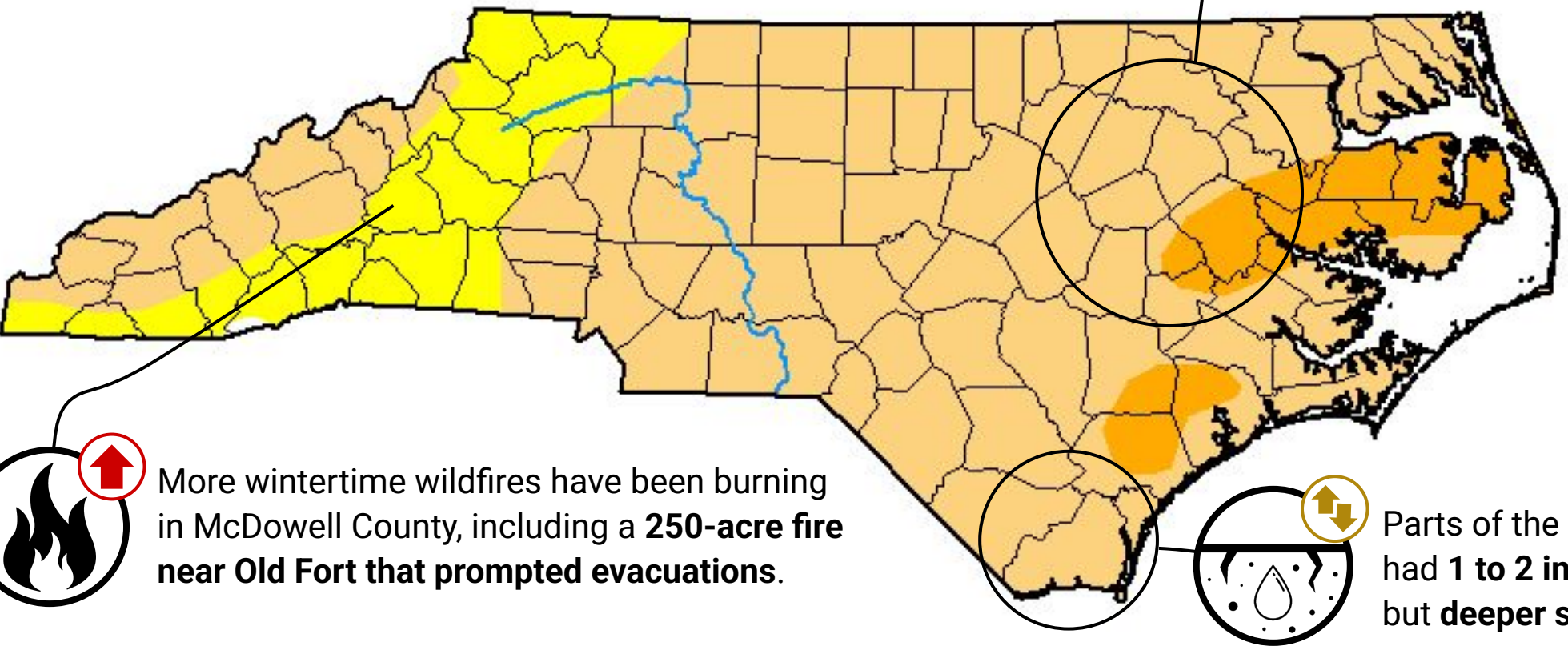
For your local drought status, visit www.ncdrought.org



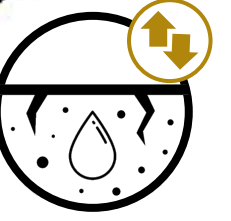
Monthly inflows into the US Army Corps of Engineers' reservoirs across the Piedmont are **below the historical median for January**.



Streamflows throughout the Tar and Neuse basins are running **below the 10th percentile for this time of year**.

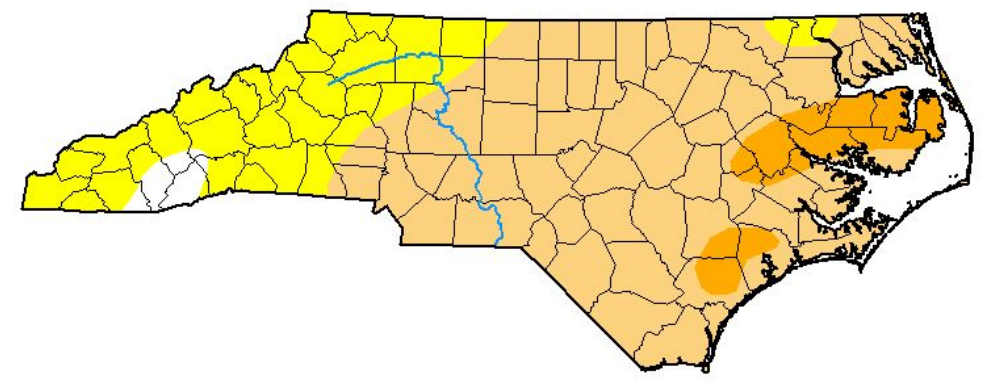


More wintertime wildfires have been burning in McDowell County, including a **250-acre fire near Old Fort that prompted evacuations**.



Parts of the southern Coastal Plain had **1 to 2 inches of rain on Monday**, but **deeper soils remain dry there**.

Last Week's Drought Status



Statewide Coverage by Category

| Category | Current Coverage | Change Since Last Week |
|-------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| D0: Abnormally Dry | 13.68% | -11.02% |
| D1: Moderate Drought | 77.84% | +12.87% |
| D2: Severe Drought | 8.38% | 0.00% |
| D3: Extreme Drought | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| D4: Exceptional Drought | 0.00% | 0.00% |