

North Carolina Drought Update

Created By:

North Carolina
Drought Management Advisory Council
www.ncdrought.org

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For the assessment period ending **Jan. 27, 2026**

From the US Drought Monitor, with input from the NC DMAC

The Main Takeaway

Despite some snow, sleet, and ice last weekend, Severe Drought (D2) expanded along the Tennessee border and remains across most of central and eastern NC.

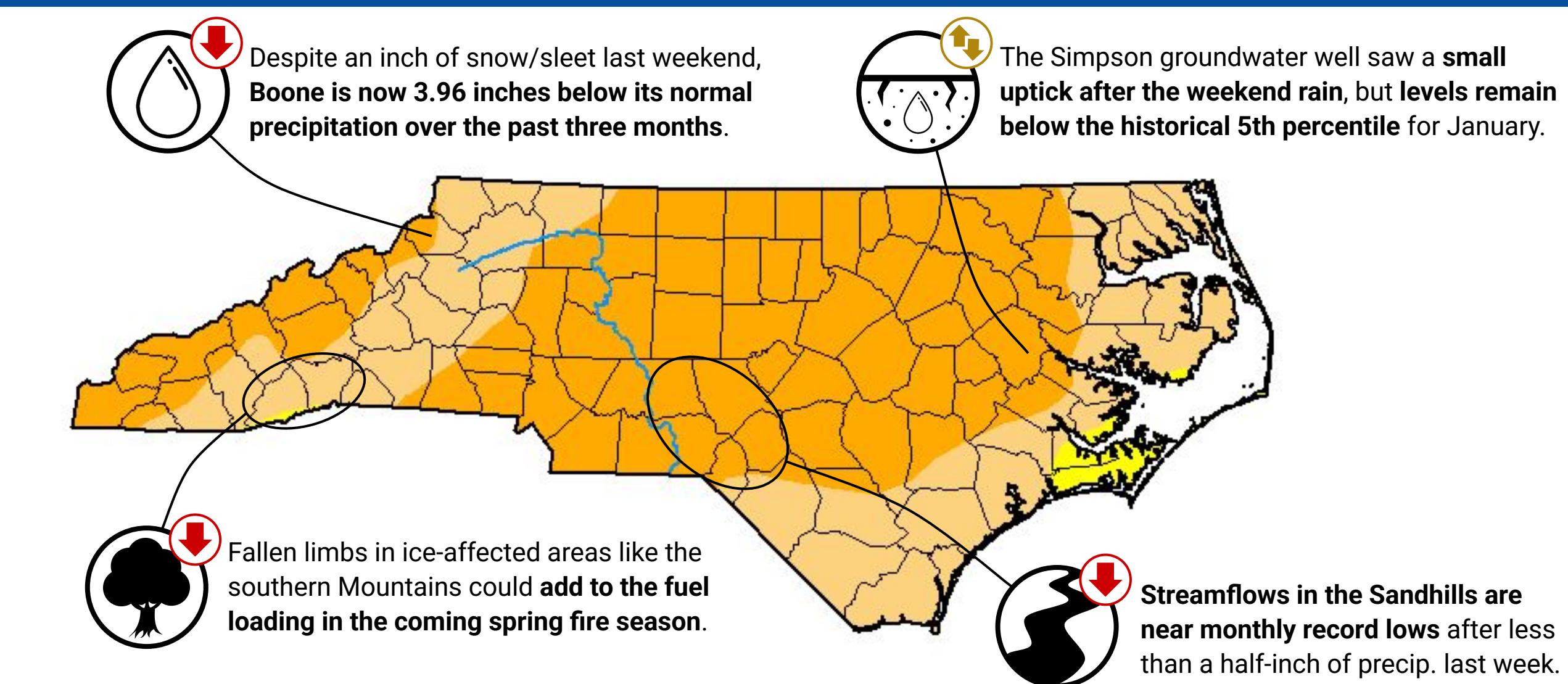
This Week's Summary

While we dodged the worst of the weekend ice storm, we also missed out on most of the moisture from that system, making it another drier-than-normal week for much of the state. The ongoing Severe Drought (D2) designation is driven largely by precipitation deficits dating back to the fall and very low streamflows for this time of year, when we usually expect more recharge.

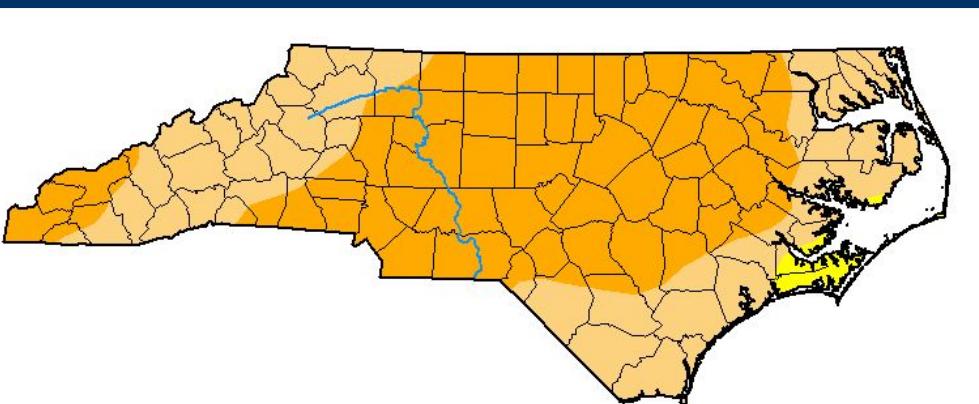
Next Week's Outlook

With cold air locked in place, offshore low pressure will produce snow this weekend, generally ranging from 4 to 12 inches across the Piedmont and Coastal Plain.

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



Last Week's Drought Status



Statewide Coverage by Category

Category	Current Coverage	Change Since Last Week
D0: Abnormally Dry	2.04%	+0.17%
D1: Moderate Drought	35.71%	-3.69%
D2: Severe Drought	62.25%	+3.52%
D3: Extreme Drought	0.00%	0.00%
D4: Exceptional Drought	0.00%	0.00%