

North Carolina Drought Update

Created By:

North Carolina
Drought Management Advisory Council
www.ncdrought.org

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For the assessment period ending **Feb. 10, 2026**

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

The Main Takeaway

As an historically dry winter drags on, Extreme Drought (D3) has emerged in parts of the Piedmont – the first wintertime D3 in North Carolina since December 2023.

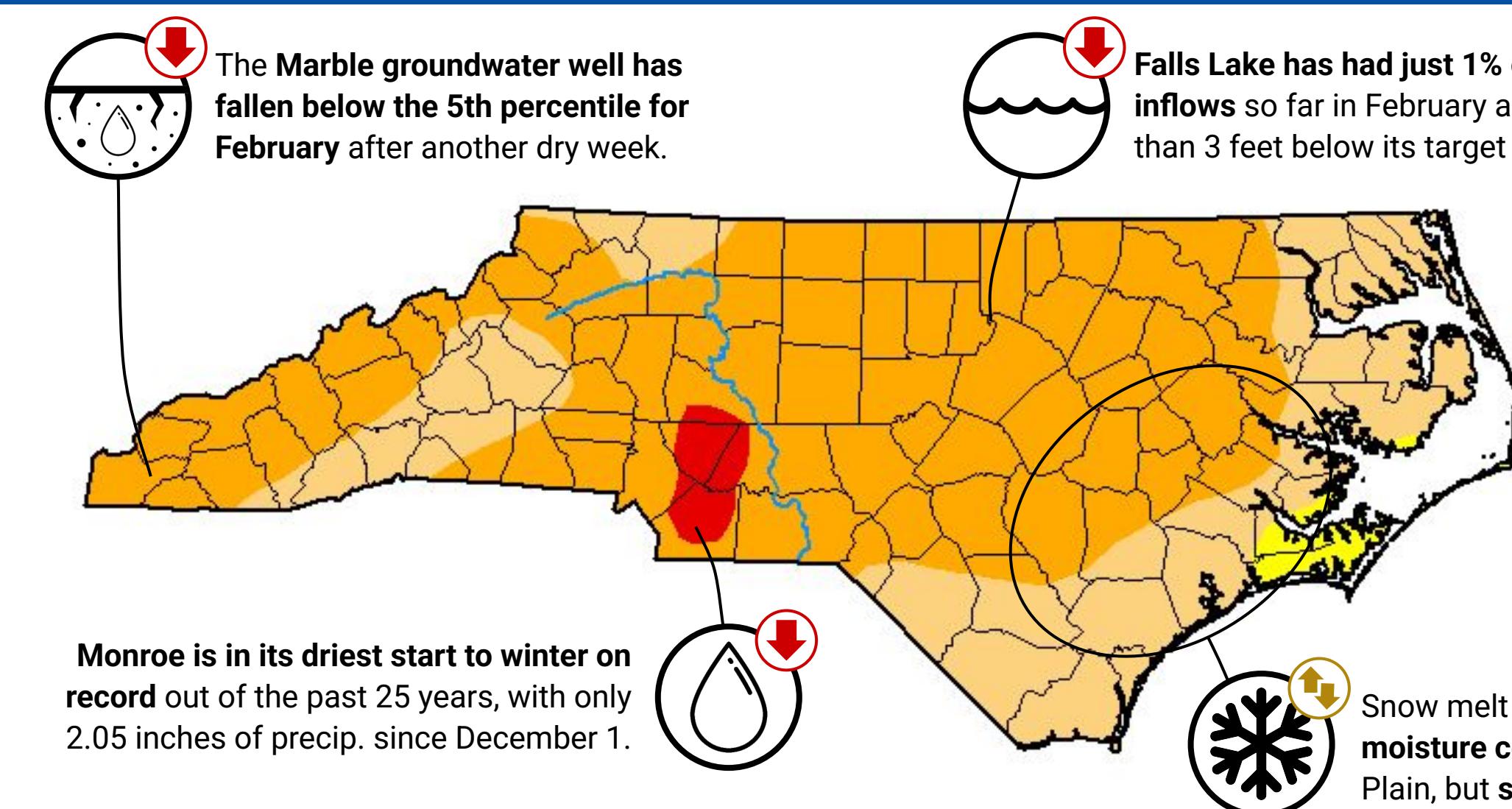
This Week's Summary

At any time of year, an Extreme Drought designation is a sign that drought has been long-lasting with limited improvement. That's the case now, six months into this dry spell. While drought impacts tend to be reduced in the winter, the past three months have not seen the expected recharge in soils, streams, and lakes, and some conservation measures are being implemented.

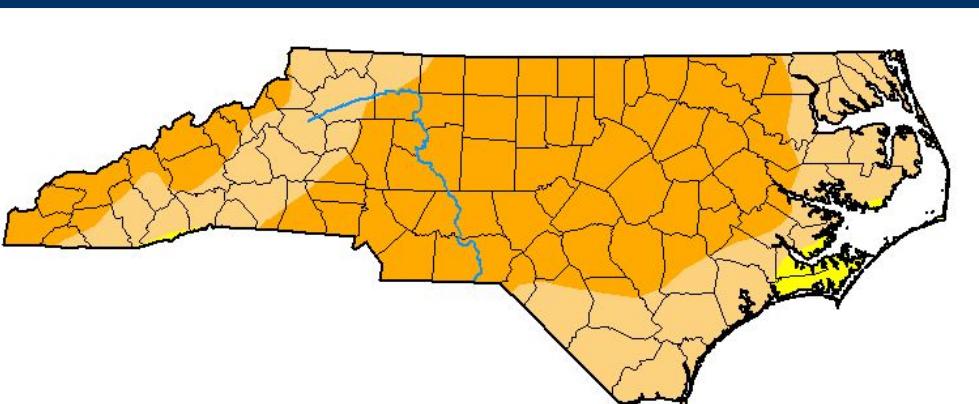
Next Week's Outlook

A low pressure system tracking to our south over the weekend is expected to bring widespread rainfall totals ranging from 0.75 inches to 1.5 inches statewide.

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	1.88%	-0.16%
D1: Moderate Drought	30.00%	-5.71%
D2: Severe Drought	65.99%	+3.74%
D3: Extreme Drought	2.13%	+2.13%
D4: Exceptional Drought	0.00%	0.00%