



CISA

A NOAA RISA TEAM

August 2018

CISA & CoCoRaHS Condition Monitoring Newsletter

This month's newsletter articles:

- **Back to School with CoCoRaHS**
- A Southeast Regional Climate Update

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at cisa@sc.edu if you have any other questions or comments.

Back to School with CoCoRaHS

Are you a K-12 teacher? Or perhaps you know of a teacher whose class would love to participate in CoCoRaHS? There are also opportunities to Sponsor or Mentor a school. We have the resources to bring CoCoRaHS to a classroom near you with [CoCoraHS for Schools!](#)

Students can learn valuable skills from participating in CoCoRaHS. They learn to be aware of their surrounding environment, how to use and measure a rain gauge, and even computer skills such as data entry and analysis.

The State Climate Office of North Carolina can loan out rain gauges for schools to start collecting rainfall measurements ([just fill out this Google Form](#)). Alternatively, rain gauges can be [purchased for \\$35](#) and mounted according to [CoCoRaHS instructions](#). After you have your gauge set up, sign up to become a [new reporting station](#).

Once all of those logistics are handled, the fun part begins! CoCoRaHS has [lesson plans](#) already created to teach students about precipitation, water resources, and climate observations.

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There are also educational and enjoyable animations on the CoCoRaHS YouTube Channel ([Intro for Schools video](#))!

Now, it can be difficult to report precipitation daily and submit weekly condition monitoring reports and we understand that. Just participate as much as possible and you can always submit a multi-day report for precipitation. If reporting gets to be too much and you have received a loaned gauge from the State Climate Office of NC, you can simply return it to them.

CoCoRaHS for Schools can help raise awareness, create a rich weather and climate database, and of course, foster the next generation of CoCoRaHS Reporters!

Southeast Regional Climate Update

The Southeast Regional Climate Center ([SERCC](#)) released its July 2018 Climate Report for the Southeast Region.

Report Highlights:

Temperature: Temperatures during July were near average (i.e. within 2 degree F (1.1 degrees C)) across most of the Southeast region, including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Temperatures, were extraordinarily warm in South Florida as several long-term stations observed monthly mean temperatures that were ranked within their five warmest values on record.

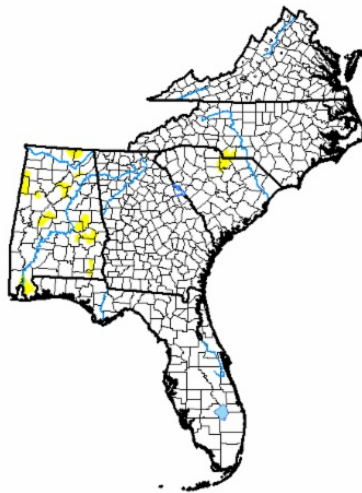
Precipitation: Precipitation was highly variable across the Southeast region during the month, which is common during the summer. Monthly precipitation totals were 50 to 25 percent of normal across local areas of Alabama, portions of Georgia, and the central and western portions of Virginia and the Carolinas.

Drought: Drought conditions (D1 and greater) were not observed across the Southeast region for the second consecutive month, though small pockets of abnormal dryness (D0) persisted across the interior Carolinas. I

The [National Drought Monitor](#) was updated on August 16, 2018. Overall in the Southeast, 2.41% of the area was Abnormally Dry (D0).

**U.S. Drought Monitor
Southeast**

August 14, 2018
(Released Thursday, Aug. 16, 2018)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

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

Author:

Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA



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

The [North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council](#) updated their drought status as of August 14, 2018. There is currently 1 county with abnormally dry (D0) conditions.

**US Drought Monitor of
NORTH CAROLINA**



August 14, 2018

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Classifications

- D0 - Abnormally Dry
- D1 - Moderate Drought
- D2 - Severe Drought
- D3 - Extreme Drought
- D4 - Exceptional Drought



County Boundaries



Major River Basins ([View Map](#))

S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)

L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

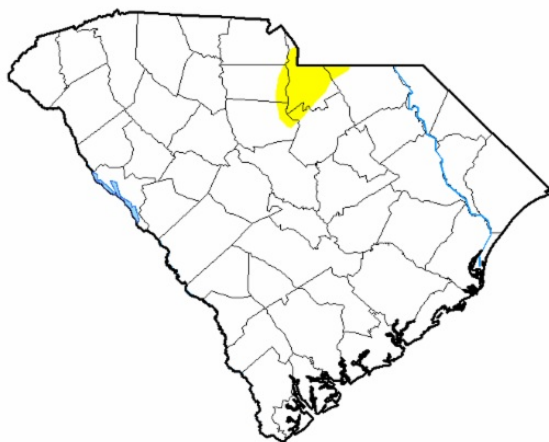
[Hi-Resolution Image](#) | [Print Version](#) |

Released: August 16, 2018

The August 16, 2018 [National Drought Monitor](#) map shows 2.33% of South Carolina as abnormally dry (D0).

U.S. Drought Monitor
South Carolina

August 14, 2018
(Released Thursday, Aug. 16, 2018)
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The [South Carolina Drought Response Committee](#) last met on May 29, 2018.

Remember, condition monitoring reports provide crucial data regardless of drought status! Consistency is key when it comes to being a great CoCoRaHS observer. CoCoRaHS condition monitoring reports help detect the early signs of drought, so remember to keep reporting!

Feel free to contact us with any questions.

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