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Weather & Climate

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February 2022

Summary

- January 2022 was the driest January since 2011. Rainfall total was 55% below average.
- Temperatures were above normal in January, expected to remain comfortable through April.
- Drought is not a concern in the short term, however by the end of May 2022 drought is possible.

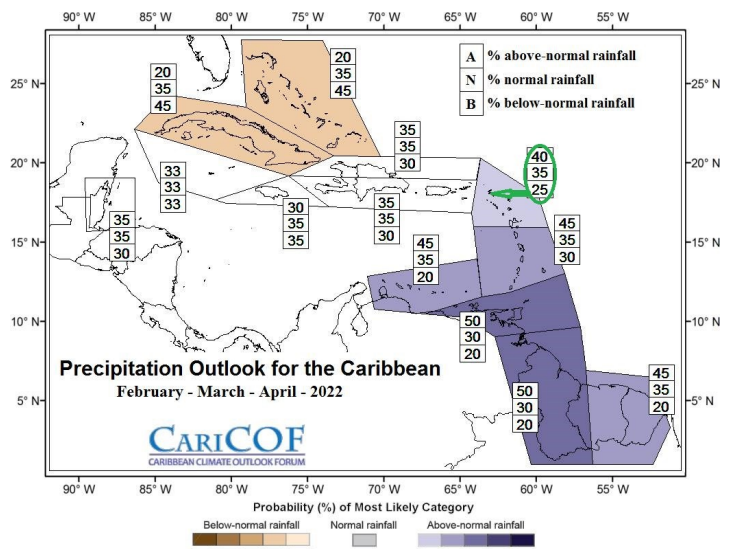
Seasonal Outlook for February to April (FMA) 2022

Rainfall Forecast

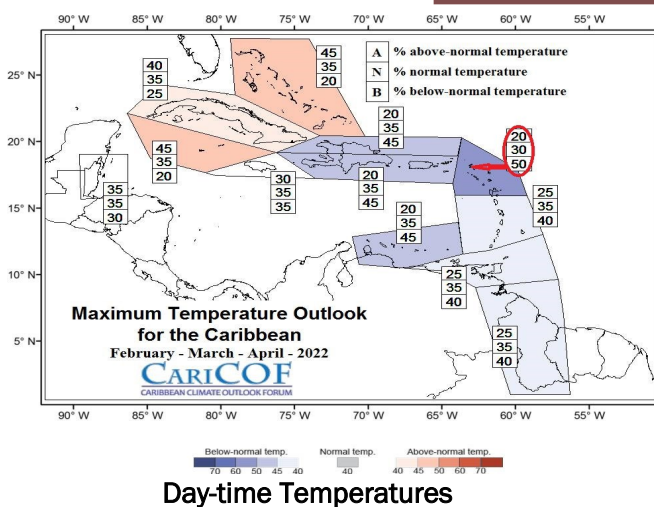
Models are indicating that rainfall totals for the season Feb-Mar-Apr. 2022 are likely to be the usual or higher in St. Maarten and across the eastern Caribbean.

Normal rainfall on St. Maarten during the Feb-Mar-Apr season ranges 132mm–168mm/5-7 in, with 22 to 32 wet days. There are usually sunny days throughout the Feb-Mar-Apr. season with showers on some days.

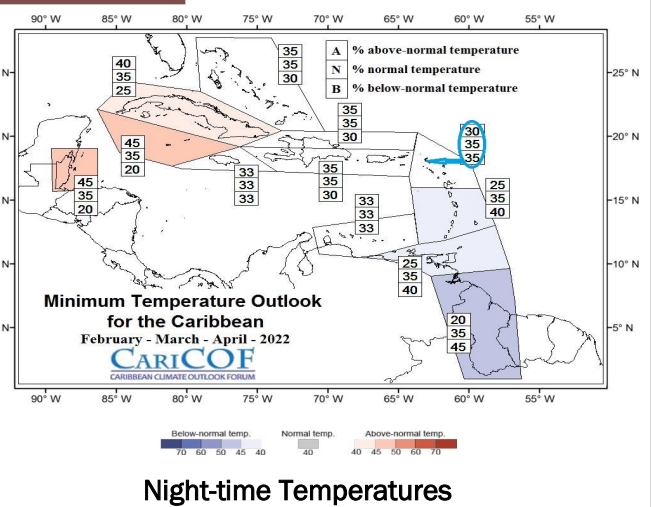
The forecast is for 2 to 6 (7-day) wet spells and up to 6 (7-day) dry spells on St. Maarten during the season.



Temperature Forecast



Day-time Temperatures



Night-time Temperatures

Day-time and night-time temperatures will progressively warm into April but will remain comfortably cooler than usual throughout much of the Lesser Antilles.

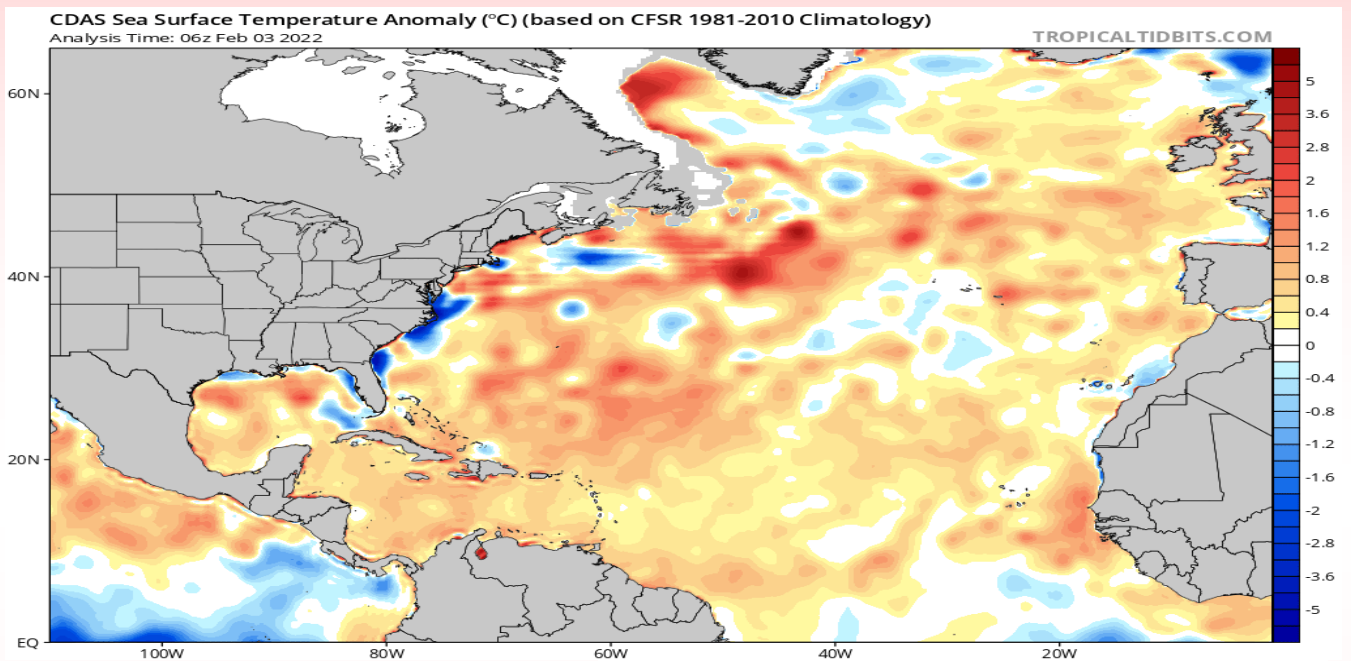
For more information on other Caribbean Outlooks go to <http://rcc.cimh.edu.bb/long-range-forecasts/caricof-climate-outlooks/>

WHAT INFLUENCES THIS SEASON'S CLIMATE?

In mid January, sea surface temperature (SST) in the east-central Pacific remained below normal (-0.8°C). The key atmospheric variables were consistent with weak La Nina conditions and therefore a La Nina Advisory remained in place.

Majority of the forecast models predict SSTs will remain below normal and near La Nina levels through the Mar-Apr-May season and return to ENSO-neutral levels thereafter.

Warm SSTs have persisted to above 1°C above average around most of the Caribbean Sea and up to 2°C in portions of the Tropical North Atlantic. Models are forecasting observed SST to remain around average to above average across the Caribbean Sea and in the sub-tropical North Atlantic. Warm SSTs in and around the Caribbean tend to contribute to higher air temperature, above-average humidity, seasonal rainfall totals and an increase in the frequency of extreme rainfall.

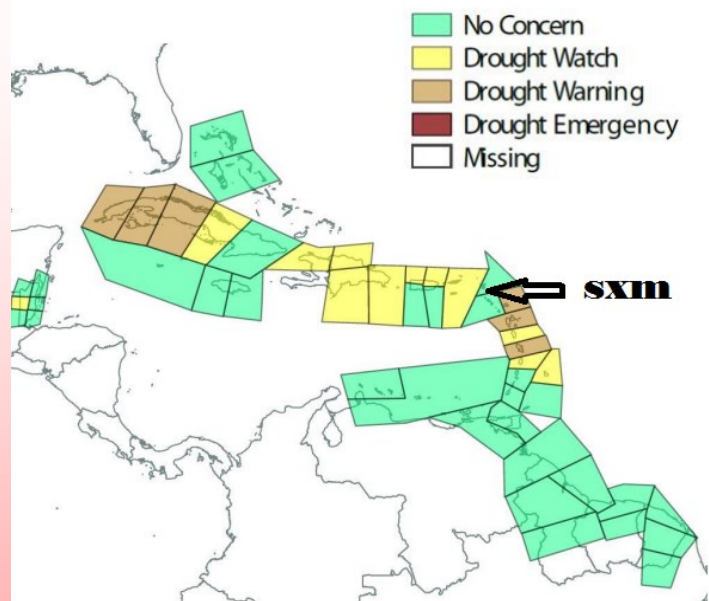


Alert Level: No Concern

In the short term: By the end of April 2022 there is no drought concern in St. Maarten however in portions of W. Cuba, Antigua, Guadeloupe and Martinique drought is evolving.

In the long term: By the end of May 2022 drought conditions are possible in St. Maarten.

Keep monitoring monthly updates.



**Short-term drought alert levels
at the end of April 2022**

JANUARY 2022 IN REVIEW

Total Rainfall	30.3mm	1.2in.
2022 Cumulative Rainfall	30.3mm	1.2in.
Max. 24-Hr. Rainfall	12 th Jan.	12.6mm/ 0.5in.
No. Rain Days (≥1.0 mm)	10 days	
No. Heavy Rain Days (≥10.0 mm)	1 day	
No. Thunderstorm Days	NONE	
Avg. Wind Speed	8kts.	9mph
Max. Wind Gust	22kts.	25mph
Avg. Temperature	26.1°C	79°F
Max. Temperature	23 rd Jan.	30.8°C / 87°F
Min. Temperature	23 rd Jan.	22.1°C / 72°F

Long /Short Term Seasonal Review

Year in Review (February 2021— January 2022)

Total rainfall over the past twelve (12) months was below the normal range (973-1110mm). A total of 768.5mm/30in. of rainfall was recorded at the Princess Juliana International Airport.

Seasonal Review (Nov-Dec-Jan. 2021/22)

Total rainfall for the last three (3) months was 212mm/8in, this amount was below the normal range (272-321mm). There were five (5) days with heavy rainfall (>10mm) during that period.

January 2022 was the driest January since 2011, rainfall was 55% below normal. Temperatures were generally above the normal range for the month.

The average daily temperature for January was 26.1°C/79°F.

The warmest day was the 31st with an average temperature of 26.9°C/80°F. The coolest day was the 12th with an average temperature of 24.9°C/77°F.

The day with the most sunshine hours was the 14th. (10hrs:54min).

The day with the least sunshine hours was the 2nd (5hrs:12min).

The windiest day was the 9th, with a daily average wind speed of 13kt./ 15mph.

The day with the highest wind gust was the 22nd with a gust of 22kt/25mph.

Skies were mostly fair during the month of January.

There were ten (10) days with rainfall in January, one day recorded more than 10mm of rainfall.

NORMAL FEBRUARY CONDITIONS

Rainfall Total	31 – 57mm	1– 2in.
Avg. No. of Rain days	11 days	
Daily Average Temperature	25.6°C	78°F
Avg. Max. Temperature	28.7°C	84°F
Avg. Min. Temperature	23.3°C	74°F
Avg. Daily Hours of Sunshine	9 hrs	

