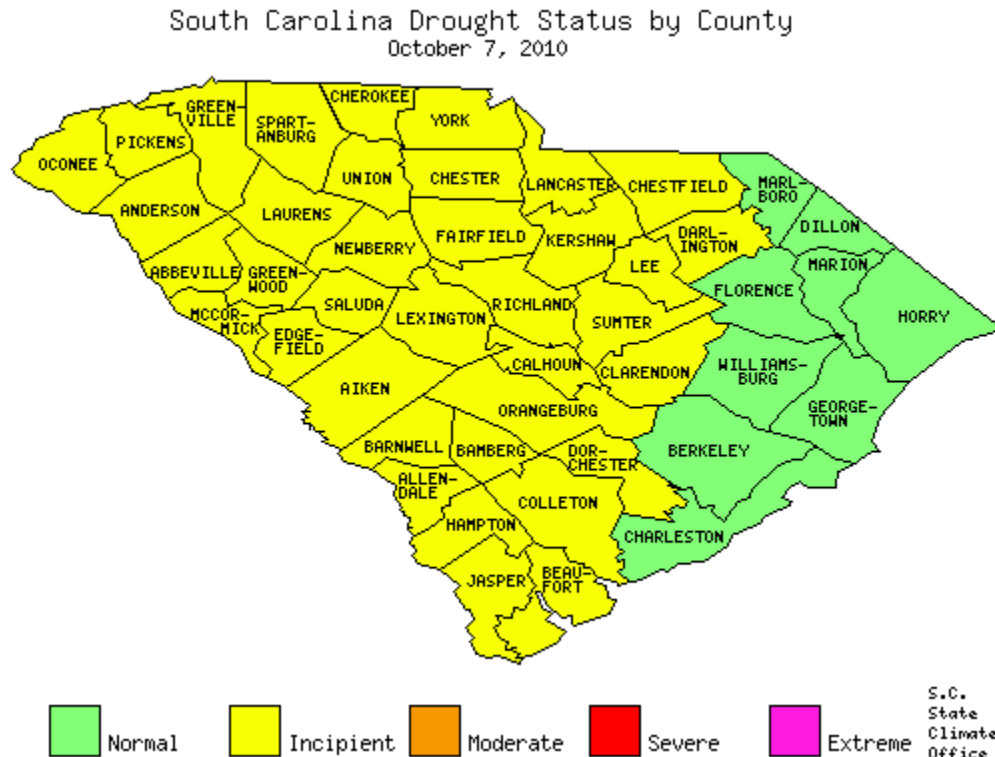


South Carolina Current Drought Status

State Climate Office 803-734-9100
SPECIAL NEWS RELEASE #10-226 DNR News 803-667-0696
October 7, 2010

HEAVY RAINFALL LAST WEEK RELIEVES DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN NINE COUNTIES



Discussion:

Heavy rainfall last week has alleviated drought conditions in nine counties; Charleston, Berkeley, Georgetown, Williamsburg, Horry Marlboro, Dillon, Marion, and Florence (see table below). According to Mark Malsick, South Carolina State Climatology Office Severe Weather Liaison, "Last week's heavy rain was due to several distinct, inter-related weather features. A passing cold front brought the first rain across the state on Sunday and Monday. This front stalled offshore and became a conduit that tapped into tropical Gulf of Mexico moist air. Midweek, as the remnants of Tropical Storm Nicole streamed north, a compact low pressure center formed on the stalled front triggering more thunderstorms and heavy rain for the coast and Pee Dee region."

Hope Mizzell, S.C. State Climatologist, "September was on tap to be one of the driest on record until last week's rain. For some locations, like Andrews, it went from being the second driest September (0.38") to the fifth wettest (10.18") in 50 years. The very dry conditions preceding

the rain helped minimize the flooding impacts. All locations received welcome rain last week, but 37 counties will remain in drought because the rainfall amounts were not sufficient to improve all drought indicators."

25-30 September, 2010 Rainfall Summary: (*Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network (COCORAHNS) Stations)

Station	Rainfall Totals
Myrtle Beach 5.3 W*	14.15"
Murrells Inlet 0.3 SSW*	12.28"
Hemingway 11.6 SE*	11.54"
Bennettsville 1.2 SE*	10.34"
North Inlet	10.43"
Conway	10.20"
McClellanville	9.96"
Andrews	9.80"
Georgetown	9.44"
Quinby	8.85"
Mullins	8.81"
Loris	8.75"
Kingstree	8.73"
Gallivants Ferry	8.60"
Bennettsville	8.49"
Cades	8.38"
North Myrtle Beach	8.27"
Florence	8.13"
Mount Pleasant 7.9 NNE*	4.40"
Jamestown	8.04"
Charleston Air Force Base	6.74"

Drought Status: 10-07-2010

County	Status
Abbeville	Incipient
Aiken	Incipient
Allendale	Incipient
Anderson	Incipient
Bamberg	Incipient
Barnwell	Incipient
Beaufort	Incipient
Berkeley	Normal
Calhoun	Incipient
Charleston	Normal
Cherokee	Incipient
Chester	Incipient
Chesterfield	Incipient
Clarendon	Incipient
Colleton	Incipient
Darlington	Incipient
Dillon	Normal
Dorchester	Incipient
Edgefield	Incipient
Fairfield	Incipient
Florence	Normal
Georgetown	Normal
Greenville	Incipient
Greenwood	Incipient
Hampton	Incipient
Horry	Normal
Jasper	Incipient
Kershaw	Incipient
Lancaster	Incipient
Laurens	Incipient
Lee	Incipient

County	Status
Lexington	Incipient
Marion	Normal
Marlboro	Normal
McCormick	Incipient
Newberry	Incipient
Oconee	Incipient
Orangeburg	Incipient
Pickens	Incipient
Richland	Incipient
Saluda	Incipient
Spartanburg	Incipient
Sumter	Incipient
Union	Incipient
Williamsburg	Normal
York	Incipient