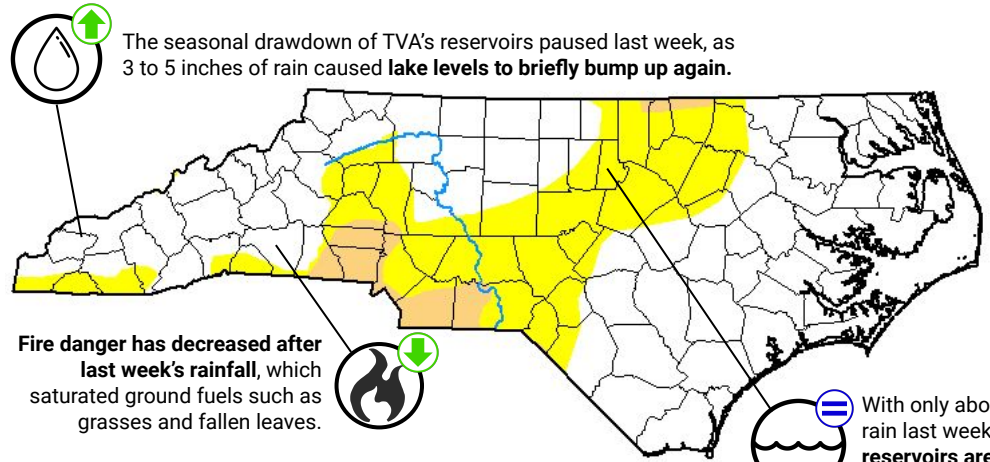


# North Carolina Drought Update

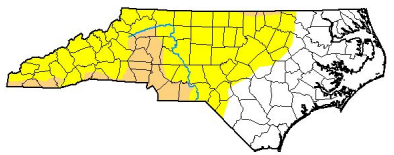
For the assessment period ending November 5, 2019

## This Week's Drought Monitor of North Carolina Map

From the US Drought Monitor, authored by David Simeral (Western Regional Climate Center) with input from the North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council ([ncdrought.org](http://ncdrought.org))



## Last Week's Drought Map



A PRODUCT OF **PROJECT NIGHTHAWK**  
<https://climate.ncsu.edu/nighthawk>

# Statewide Condition Summary

Last week's rain brought more drought improvements, especially where 2 or more inches fell in western North Carolina. The Coastal Plain hasn't seen as much rain recently, but cooler weather has slowed degradation.

**Reservoir levels** are one of our best indicators of drought impacts this time of year, but **even healthy lakes might not be full**. Why not?

Leaving lake levels a few feet below full pond offers **some extra room in case of heavy rain events** such as hurricanes.

Each fall, some reservoir operators **steadily decrease target levels** to wintertime elevations, which meet the water supply demand but don't need to be as high for uses like recreation.

Some reservoirs rely on releases from other lakes farther up the river basin to determine their levels, and **dry conditions upstream can have a literal trickle-down effect**.

## Statewide Coverage By Category

	Abnormally Dry (D0)	Moderate (D1)	Severe (D2)	Extreme (D3)	Exceptional (D4)
Coverage This Week	27.37%	4.69%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
(Change Since Last Week)	(-22.84%)	(-7.11%)			