



Drought Planning & Local Area Impact Assessment Groups

July 2006



"It was dry, it is dry and it will be dry"

"SRP urges valley to conserve"

"Bone-dry winter is bad news"

"Down 'n drought"

"Drought crisis deepens locally and across state"

"High country lacks snowpack for first time since 1930s"

"Drought means bad year for butterflies"

"Experts say dry conditions could last decades"

"Drought proves deadly to trout in Lake Powell"

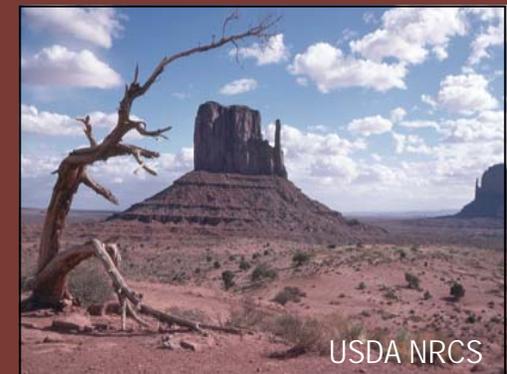
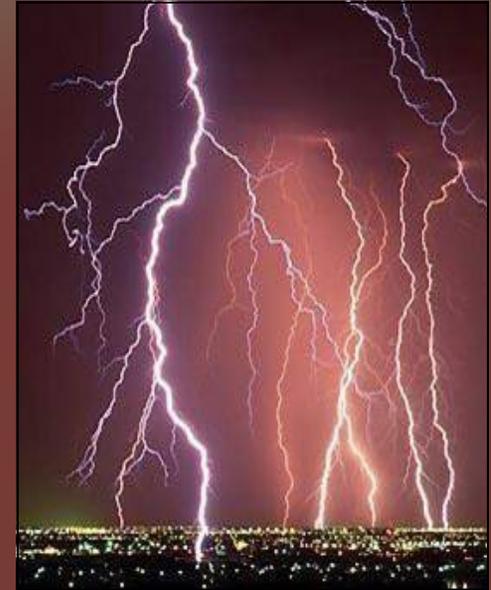


Photo courtesy of PDPhoto.org

Arizona's Drought

Drought is a prolonged period of below-average precipitation severe enough to negatively impact the environment and human activities

- Current drought began in the late 1990s
- Drought Emergency Proclamation in effect since June 1999
- Disaster Designation



Arizona Drought Preparedness Plan

Governor's Drought Task Force
(March 2003)

- Address drought issues

Principal intent:

- Refine monitoring processes
- Understand drought impacts
- Limit future vulnerability

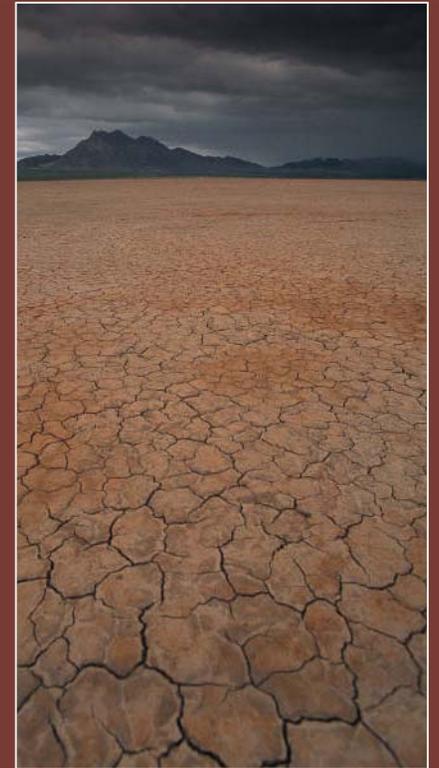


Economic and environmental impacts of drought continue to increase as the population of the state increases

Arizona Drought Preparedness Plan

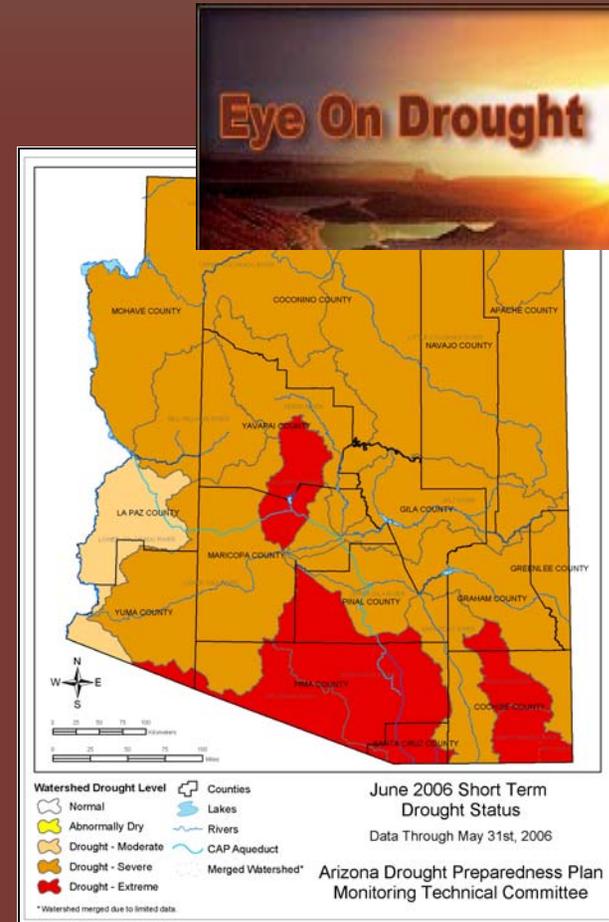
Implementation

- Statewide Drought Program
- Statewide Conservation Office
- Monitoring Technical Committee
- Local Area Impact Assessment Groups
- Interagency Coordinating Group



Monitoring Technical Committee

- Tracks changes in climate and physical conditions
- Forecasts likely future conditions
- Provides early warning and detection
- Facilitates preparedness
- Determines drought status based on data



On-going technical data gathering and information dissemination group

Local Area Impact Assessment Groups

- Identify local drought-related impacts
- Define and assess
 - societal impacts
 - severity
 - loss and costs associated
- Identify response options
- Identify unmet needs or needs for response
- Identify and facilitate efforts to mitigate impacts
- Provide data to Monitoring Technical Committee



Interagency Coordinating Group

- Directs state agency action to:
 - Assess
 - Implement
 - Develop response options
- Identifies pre-drought mitigation options
- Identifies needs for additional resources
- Advises Governor of changes in drought status
- Reviews Arizona Drought Preparedness Plan
 - Recommendations for:
 - Improving monitoring
 - Implementation
 - Response



Provides an integral mechanism to coordinate and integrate drought planning and management on all lands within Arizona

Organization

Governor's Office & Cabinet

Arizona Department of Water Resources

Monitoring Committee *Monitoring & Preparedness*

**Interagency
Coordinating Group**

Mitigation & Response

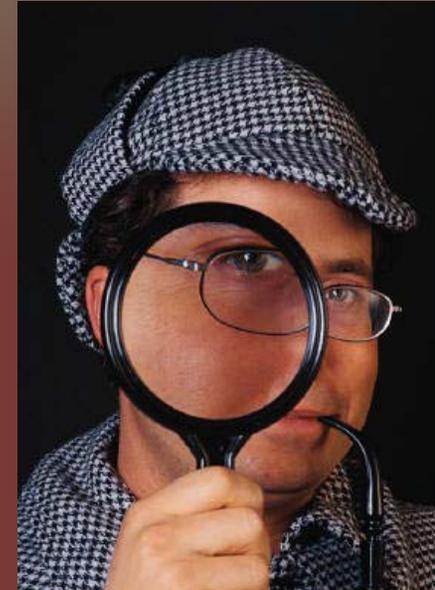
**Local Area Impact
Assessment Group(s)**

Assessment & Adaptation

ADWR serves as the facilitator of the MTC and ICG, provides staff support and web services, assists with report development and public outreach

A Closer Look At LAIAGs

- Local coordinators
 - AZ Cooperative Extension County Agent
 - County Emergency Manager
 - Natural Resource Conservation District
- Cochise County example & participation
 - Large Local Area Impact Assessment Group
 - Steering committee (9 member group)
 - 3 workgroups
 - Monitoring
 - Outreach & Education
 - Mitigation & Response



Coordinate Drought Public Awareness

- Meetings
- Media
- Correspondence to local authorities
- Public education
- Public outreach



Current drought conditions, why mitigation and response measures are necessary and/or beneficial

Assess Local Area Drought Impacts

*** Goal *** Help the community, local and state government define societal and economical impacts of drought for better planning and response

Drought Impacts:

- Economic (costs & losses)
 - Agricultural producers
 - Livestock producers
- Environmental
 - Damage to plant & animal species
 - Hydrological effects



For use in determining local drought conditions – the Monitoring Technical Committee uses this information, along with scientific data, to determine drought conditions in each watershed

Develop & Implement Local Drought Mitigation & Response

Goal Develop mitigation and response strategies to reduce the impact of drought to water users



Drought Mitigation & Response:

- Action items
- Preparedness
- Reducing drought vulnerabilities

Identify unmet needs or needs for response – legislation and/or funding

Proposed Statewide Schedule

2006

June – August

Santa Cruz, Pima, Pinal, Yavapai

September – November

Graham, Greenlee

2007

January – March

Apache, Navajo, Coconino

April – June

Mohave, Maricopa, LaPaz, Yuma

To Be Announced
Gila County

Pinal County LAIAG Schedule

July	1st LAIAG meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Overview
August	2nd LAIAG meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Steering committee & workgroup participants▪ Conservation & drought planning▪ Workgroup breakout
September	Steering committee & workgroups meet
October	3rd LAIAG meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Steering committee & workgroup reports
2007 – 1 st quarter	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Impacts monitored & reported▪ Draft Drought Mitigation & Response Plan developed & begin implementing▪ Widespread outreach & education

What's In It For Me?

- Provide local input
- More accurate drought conditions
- Response options that work for local area
- Potential to influence policy
- Better prepared for dealing w/ drought
- Reduce costs associated with impacts
- Regional planning
- Cooperative agreements
- Right thing to do



We Need Your Support



Get Involved

Conserve

Educate Others

**Local Drought
Planning**

**Review Drought
Monitor Report**

Mitigate & Respond

**Provide Impact
Data**

Pinal County LAIAG Contact Information

Rick Gibson
Pinal County Extension Director
(520) 836-5211, Ext. 227
gibsonrd@ag.arizona.edu

Pete Weaver
Emergency Manager/LEPC Coordinator
(520) 866-6415
pete.weaver@co.pinal.az.us

Randy Edmond
Pinal Cty Active Management Area Director
(520) 836-4857
rledmond@azwater.gov

Susan Craig
State Drought Coordinator
(602) 771-8533
smcraig@azwater.gov

www.azwater.gov

cals.arizona.edu/extension