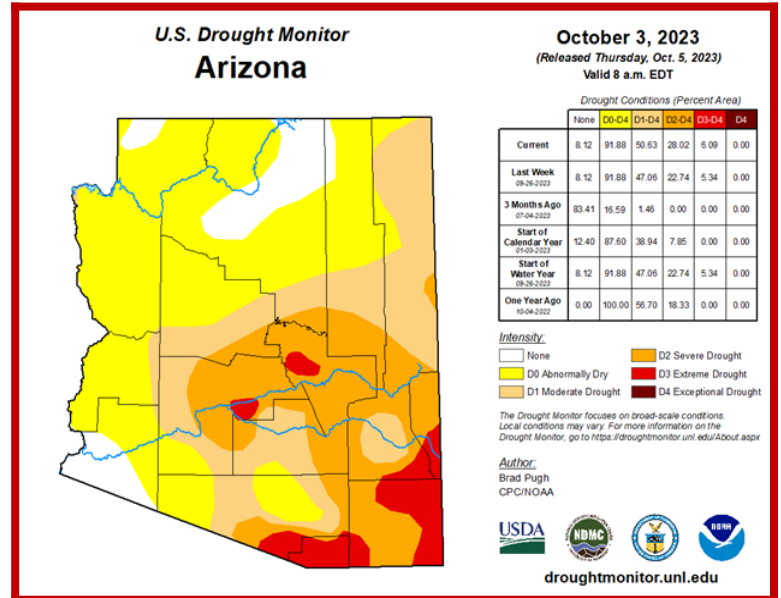


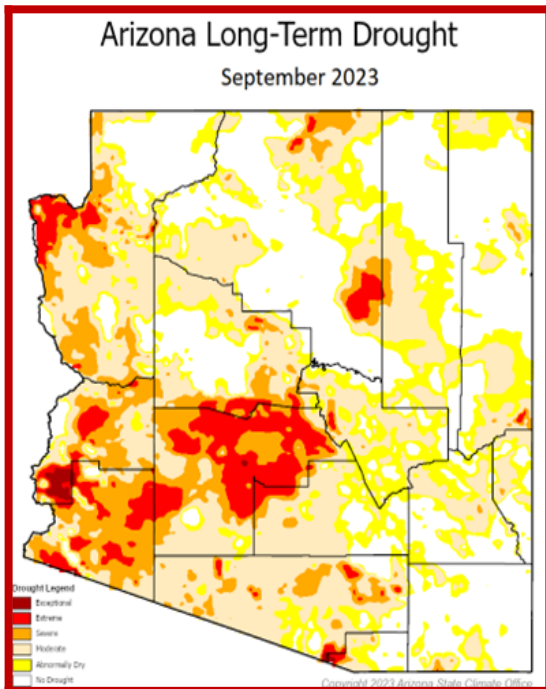
DROUGHT STATUS REPORT

September 2023 Short-Term Drought Status

Yuma, La Paz, Mohave, and northern Coconino counties continued to receive above average precipitation at the end of the monsoon season, while areas along the Mogollon Rim to the White Mountains, northern Apache, eastern Pima, western Cochise, and Santa Cruz counties received below average precipitation. Mohave and Coconino were the only counties with near normal temperatures. Maricopa and most southeastern counties had temperatures much above average, while Santa Cruz and portions of Cochise, Graham, Greenlee counties had record warm temperatures.



After a year, Extreme (D3) drought returned to the state in Santa Cruz County and portions of Maricopa, Gila, Pima, Cochise, Graham, and Greenlee counties (6% of state). Moderate (D1) and Severe (D2) drought advanced in central, southern, and eastern counties (45% of state). Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions (41% of state) largely remained in western and northern counties, with areas of no drought (8% of state) in portions of central Coconino, northwestern Mohave, and southern Yuma counties.



July-September 2023 Long-Term Drought Status

A record-breaking July and late-starting monsoon season expanded Arizona's long-term drought. Exceptional (D4) drought persisted in southern La Paz County but also started developing in central Maricopa and southwestern Santa Cruz counties. Extreme (D3) drought advanced in Maricopa and parts of Yuma, La Paz and southeastern Coconino counties. Southern Mohave, central La Paz, Yuma, and Maricopa counties expanded Severe (D2) drought. Pima and Pinal counties and areas along the Mogollon Rim to the White Mountains developed Moderate (D1) drought. Portions of northern Mohave, northern to central Coconino, northern Navajo and Apache, and Cochise counties contained smaller areas of Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions or areas without long-term drought.

El Niño conditions persist across the tropical Pacific with better than a 95% chance of a moderate to strong episode lasting into spring 2024. There is a slight tilt in odds that winter 2023-24 will end up wetter than normal across the southern half of Arizona.