

Arizona Short-term Drought Status Report

October 2019

A storm at the end of September improved conditions in western Maricopa and Pima counties and eastern Yuma and La Paz counties. However, October was very dry across the state and isolated rainfall from three storms during this month was not enough to improve drought conditions in other areas.

The dryness led to a Severe Drought (D2) expansion from 26% to 40% during the month across northern Arizona and into Greenlee, southern Apache and Navajo counties. Meanwhile, the area of the state in No Drought expanded from 5% to 8% across southwestern Arizona due to the September tropical storm moisture.

With no current signs of El Niño or La Niña developing in the Pacific, neutral conditions are favored through the winter. However, climate models suggest some tendency for drier than normal conditions later in the winter.

