

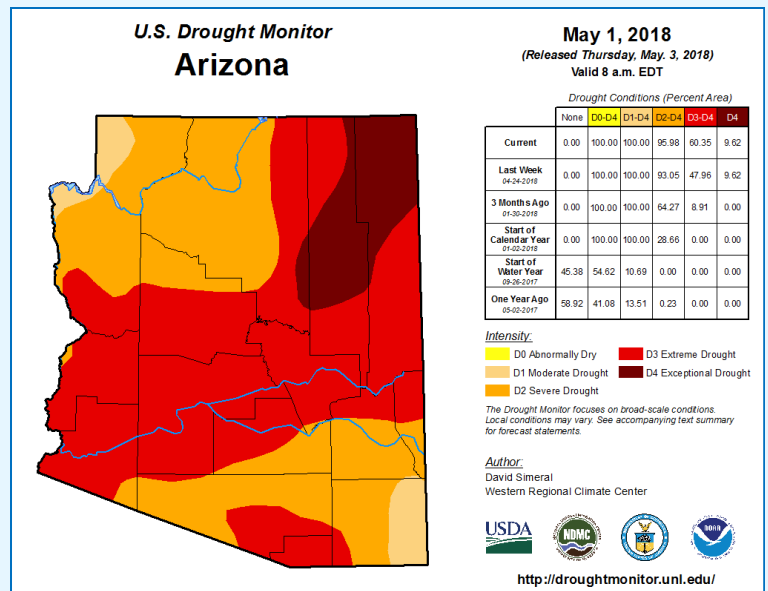
# Drought Status Report

## April 2018 Short-term Drought Status

Dry winter patterns have continued through central and southern Arizona in April, and only two weak storm systems crossed northern Arizona, bringing very little precipitation.

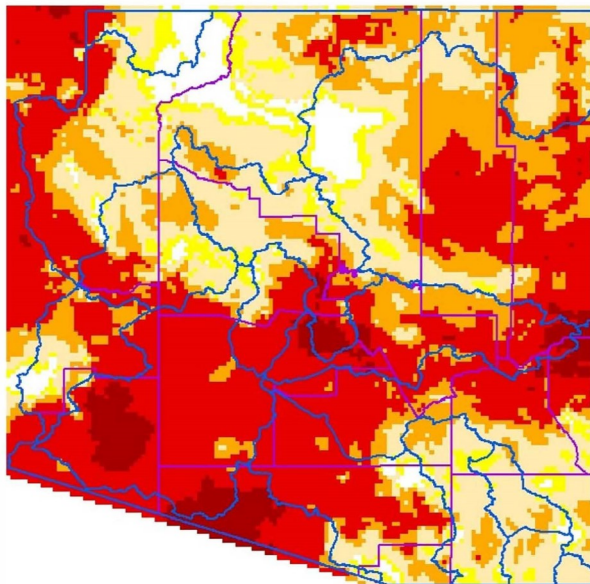
The exceptionally dry winter has extended the wildfire season, decimated forage, and led to many wells going dry. Even native desert vegetation, such as creosotes, appear to be dying in some locations. Over the past month, there has been an increase in water hauling, supplementing feed for livestock, and culling of herds.

50.7% of the state is now in Extreme Drought (D3) compared with 47.5% a month ago. In addition, Exceptional Drought (D4) has been introduced this month, covering 9.6% of the state.



## April 2018 Long-term Drought Status

Long-Term Drought-April 2018



**Long-term Drought**

- Exceptional Drought (D4)
- Extreme Drought (D3)
- Severe Drought (D2)
- Moderate Drought (D1)
- Abnormally Dry (D0)
- No Drought



Extremely dry conditions over the past seven months in southwestern Arizona have led to an expansion of Extreme Drought in that region.

Current forecasts by SRP and the Colorado River Basin Forecast Center anticipate record low runoff into the Salt-Verde reservoir system and only 57% of the average runoff into Lake Powell from the upper Colorado watershed as of April 30, 2018. The low inflow into Lake Powell will not affect releases into Lake Mead this year but will likely affect dam operations in future years.

Northern Mohave as well as western and central Coconino counties experienced virtually no snow or rain this winter. The long-term map, however, does not depict this dryness due to lack of monitoring stations at lower elevations.

Spring is typically a dry season for Arizona and current drought conditions will likely persist or worsen heading into the monsoon season.