

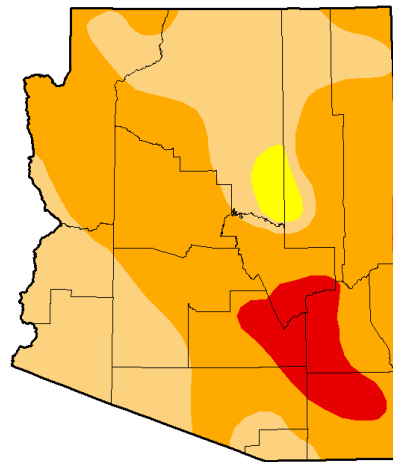
# Drought Status Report

## Short-term Drought Status April 2014

April was dry across the state, which is not unusual, but it was also extremely hot, so the little soil moisture that had been left from the meager snowpack and early March precipitation is gone. The grasses and vegetation that emerged during the warm periods of February and March have dried out in April, creating a significant early wildfire hazard. Little moisture is expected until the monsoon becomes active in late June or early July. Fire restrictions are already in place in many of the state and national forests.

## U.S. Drought Monitor Arizona

April 29, 2014  
(Released Thursday, May 1, 2014)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D1	D1-D2	D2-D3	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	98.17	81.20	7.69	0.00
Last Week 4/22/2014	0.00	100.00	98.17	61.20	7.31	0.00
3 Months Ago 1/26/2014	8.29	91.71	68.43	36.10	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 1/1/2014	20.72	79.28	53.58	14.73	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 10/1/2013	14.83	85.17	61.91	25.28	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 4/30/2013	0.00	100.00	86.66	66.28	16.22	0.00

**Intensity**  
 D0 Abnormally Dry      D3 Extreme Drought  
 D1 Moderate Drought    D4 Exceptional Drought  
 D2 Severe Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

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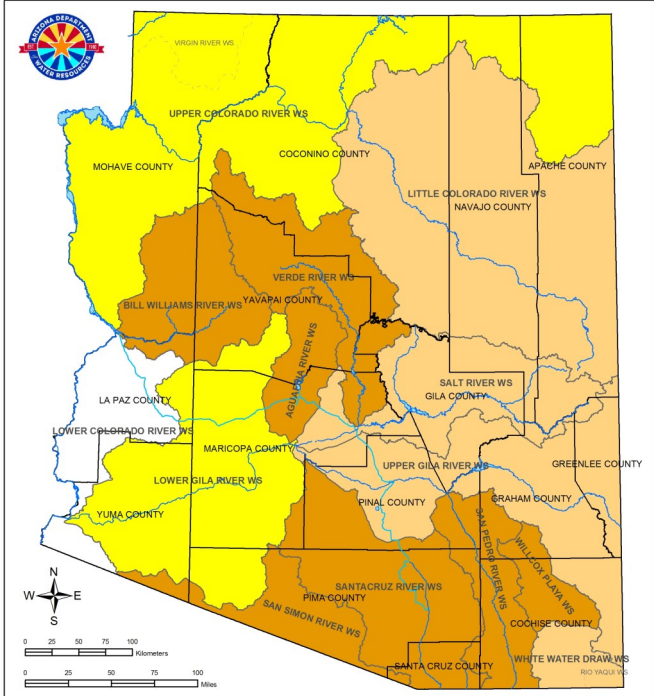
USDA      GSP      NWS      NOAA  
 Great Plains Water Center  
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

## Long-term Drought Status January — March 2014

The late fall and early winter storms in November and December are responsible for most of the precipitation thus far in the water year (October 1 — September 30). That moisture led to some improvements to the long term drought conditions in January. However, the last three months have been extremely dry statewide, and that has resulted in downgrading the watersheds in northern, central and eastern Arizona.

The Lower Colorado, Lower Gila, San Simon, San Pedro, and Willcox Playa watersheds in southern Arizona had no change, mostly due to the fact that they receive very little of their annual precipitation in the winter. The only area with no drought is Yuma and southern La Paz counties, and the lower Gila is borderline at abnormally dry.

The next update in July will reflect the spring conditions, and is not expected to show much improvement, as April through June are our driest months of the year.



**Watershed Drought Level\*\***  
 No Drought      Counties  
 D0 Abnormally Dry      Lakes  
 D1 Drought - Moderate      Rivers  
 D2 Drought - Severe      CAP Aqueduct  
 D3 Drought - Extreme      Merged Watershed\*  
 D4 Drought - Exceptional      \* Watershed merged due to limited data  
 \*\* As of January 2011, drought categories have been adjusted to be consistent with the U.S. Drought Monitor.

April 2014 Long Term Drought Status  
 Data Through March 31st, 2014  
 Arizona Drought Preparedness Plan  
 Monitoring Technical Committee