

Arizona Short-term Drought Status Report

December 2018

December was drier than average for most of the state, except south central and southeastern Arizona. Half a dozen storm systems moved through the state, but rain and snowfall totals were low.

Severe Drought (D2) eased in Western La Paz County while some areas within Pima, southern Maricopa and southern Pinal counties improved from Abnormally Dry (D0) to No Drought.

The Four Corners area remains in Exceptional Drought (D4) and Extreme Drought (D3). Further relief in drought conditions are anticipated next week as another winter storm is moving toward the state.

The weak to moderate El Niño is expected to continue through March, which should bring slightly wetter than average conditions this winter. The seasonal outlook also calls for warmer than normal temperatures, which may affect the snow levels.

