

Short-term Drought Status Report

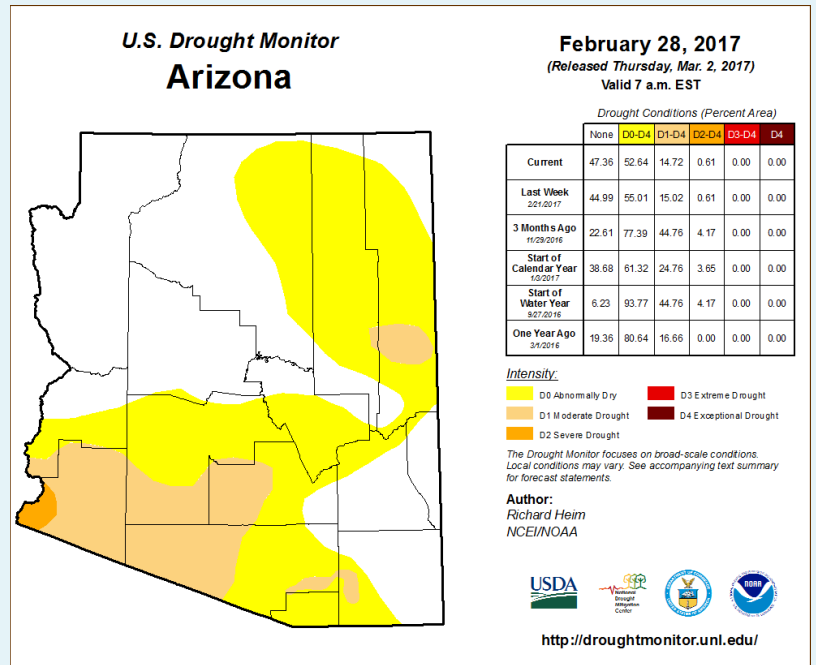
February 2017

February was a relatively dry month across parts of the state bringing less than 50% of normal precipitation over the eastern third of Arizona and a few spots in north-west Arizona.

Much wetter than normal conditions were observed from southwest through central Arizona including Yuma, La Paz, Maricopa, Yavapai, and Coconino counties. This led to an improvement from Abnormally Dry (D0) to No Drought conditions in northern La Paz County.

January's rain and snow led to a significant improvement in Arizona short-term drought conditions, but the warm temperatures and locally dry conditions through much of February have stalled that recovery. This month, a small area of moderate drought (D1) was brought back to southern Apache County where snowpack has lagged the rest of the state.

Though the precipitation at the end of February was welcomed, the forecasted warming trend at the beginning of March may quickly melt the snow and dry out the soil.



Summary produced by the State Drought Monitoring Technical Committee — March 2, 2017