

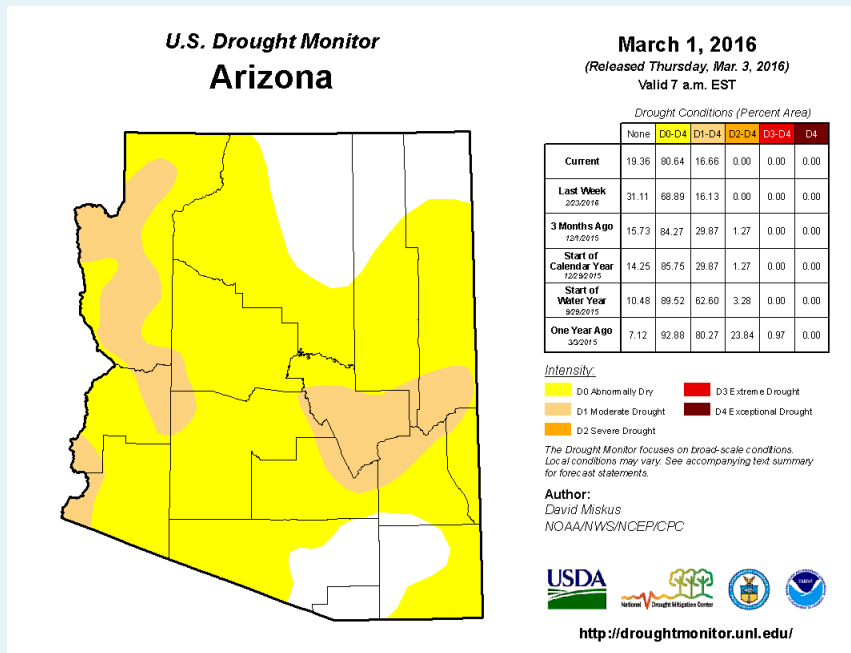
Short-term Drought Status Report

February 2016

Although the El Niño circulation pattern brought some early winter rain and snow in January, the state has become quite dry in February. The last precipitation fell February 2nd, and temperatures have climbed into record territory around the state.

The warm dry conditions have melted much of the early winter snowpack and dried out the soils. A number of areas that had moved to no drought are now abnormally dry for this time of year, including southern Navajo, southeastern Coconino, Cochise and Graham, and northern Gila counties.

While there is a potential for a cold front to cross into Arizona early next week, conditions will continue to be warmer and drier than normal until then. So far, the strong El Niño has not resulted in a wet winter across Arizona.



*Summary produced by the State Drought Monitoring
Technical Committee — March 3, 2016*