

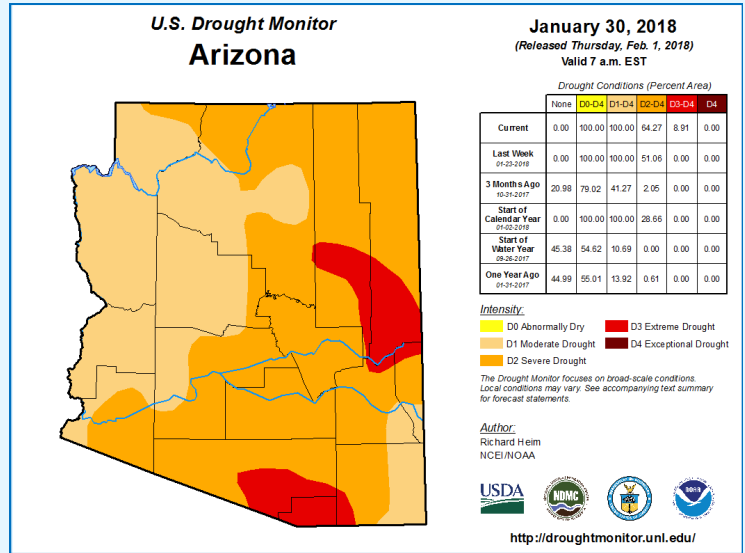
Drought Status Report

January 2018 Short-term Drought Status

Extremely dry conditions were present across the state during January, resulting in insufficient snowpack levels. Severe Drought (D2) has been expanded through most of central and southern Arizona as well as across the northern border. In addition, extreme Drought (D3) has been introduced into Santa Cruz, southern Navajo, Apache and Pima counties.

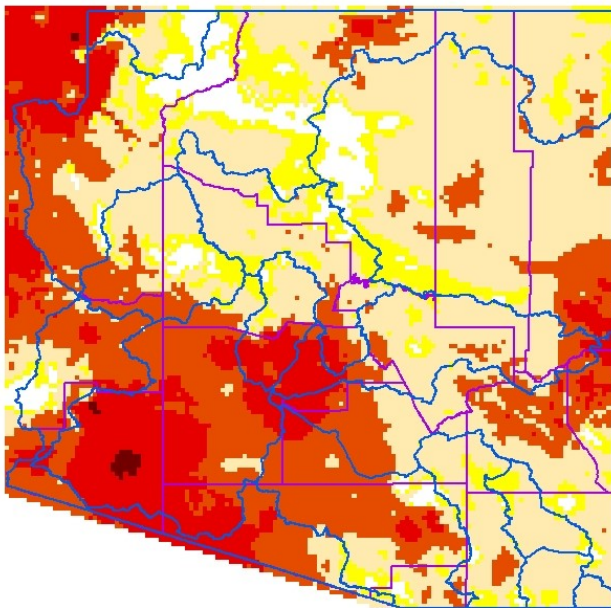
January temperatures were warmer than normal across most of the state leading to substantial evaporation from stock ponds and rangeland.

Odds point towards a continuation of warmer and drier than average weather this February, especially during the first half of the month.



October – December 2017 Long-term Drought Status

Long-Term Drought-January 2018



Long-term Drought

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



*The long-term drought map used this term is an improved version of the State's long-term drought map, which will be used by the MTC going forward (see attached for details).

The previous long-term drought map (for Jul.-Sep., 2017) showed the Upper Colorado, Lower Colorado and the Salt River watersheds in no drought. The San Pedro was in Moderate Drought (D1) and the rest of the watersheds were Abnormally Dry (D0).

The dry winter caused expansion of drought conditions across the state. East central White Mountains, central and southwestern Arizona, and along the lower Colorado River experience the worst long-term drought conditions, as can be seen in the map. Lack of winter storms has caused the water equivalent from the meager snowpack to rank with Arizona's driest years, including 2000 and 2006.

La Niña conditions will be waning through the spring, hopefully signaling some change in the pattern. However, precipitation totals across the state lessen significantly heading later into the spring months.