

Arizona Short-term Drought Status Report

July 2019

July's short-term drought map shows Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions in northern Apache and Navajo Counties, while the rest of the state is drought free. The wet winter improved short-term drought impacts, however dry conditions are returning as evidenced by the numerous wildfires in the state.

The monsoon activity has been lagging with only a few localized monsoon storms. As a result, most of Arizona received less than 70% of normal precipitation in July. Southern Arizona specifically, where the summer is usually the wettest season, received less than 50% of normal precipitation during the past three months.

The moist air has been lingering in northern Mexico but has not yet crossed into Arizona. If the monsoon activity does not significantly increase within the next week, it is likely that short-term drought will be reintroduced to the state.

The persistent weak El Niño is transitioning into a neutral state, and the slow start to the monsoon season is becoming more typical across the state. The normal monsoon activity of occasional hit-and-miss thunderstorms will be present for the remainder of the summer.

