

Short-term Drought Status Report

March 2017

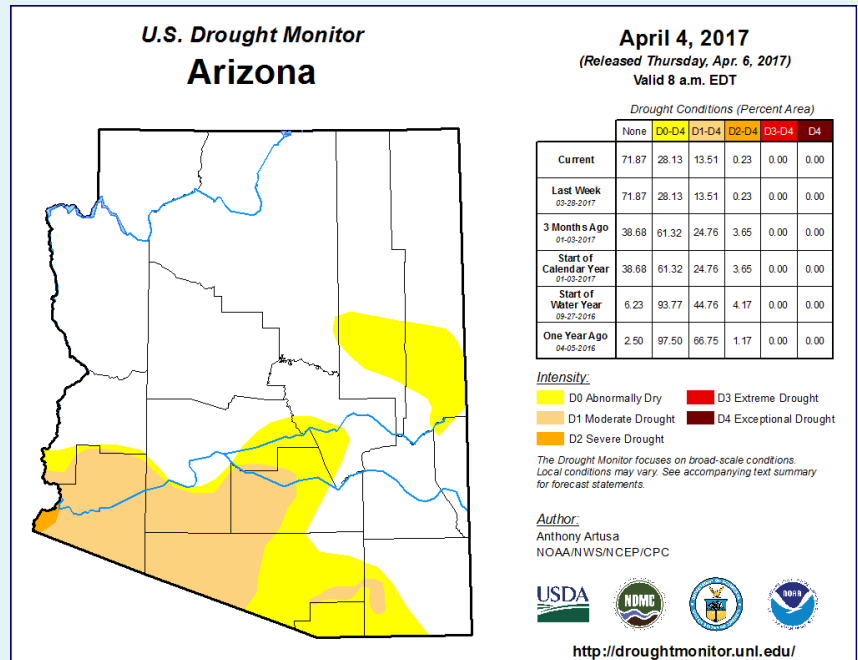
March was a very dry month across the state, though the storms on the last day of February brought significant relief to northern and central Arizona. Currently, most of northern and central Arizona are drought free for the short-term.

South central and southwestern Arizona are still abnormally dry (D0) or experiencing moderate drought conditions (D1). If the dry pattern continues through April, as it typically does,

statewide drought conditions will likely degrade with the worst conditions showing up in southwestern Arizona.

The grasses and vegetation that benefitted from the wet conditions of January and February are now drying out and will contribute to the wildfire hazard later in spring.

Long-term drought continues to exist as this winter only partially replenished Arizona's reservoirs and aquifers. The Colorado River Basin, however, did enjoy a very wet winter that has improved water supply forecast for most reservoirs along the Colorado River.



Summary produced by the State Drought Monitoring Technical Committee — April 7, 2017