

Drought Status Report

May 2013

Arizona has had no appreciable rain in May except in the White Mountains (0.75" maximum) and near Flagstaff (0.22" maximum). Since May is typically our driest month statewide, there has been little improvement in drought conditions.

Over the past few weeks, the area of extreme drought (D3) in western Maricopa County has expanded into southwestern Yavapai County, and a new area of extreme drought has appeared in western Coconino and northwestern Yavapai Counties.

Fire restrictions went into effect statewide before the Memorial Day weekend, and will continue to be in force until the monsoon brings enough rainfall to reduce the fire hazard. The onset of monsoon activity in southern Arizona typically begins in late June. There is no strong signal to indicate whether our summer precipitation will be above, below or near normal, though temperatures are expected to be warmer than normal.

Summary produced by the State Drought Monitoring Technical Committee - June 4, 2013.

