Long-term Drought Status
July — September 2013

The current long-term drought status map reflects the monsoon precipitation received July through September. This year, the monsoon brought drought relief to the northern watersheds, where it was quite wet over the summer. However, the southern watersheds, that depend on summer rainfall, had an average monsoon. Although this was good for the rangeland, it was not enough to make up for the deficits of the last two years for long-term drought relief. The exception was the Santa Cruz watershed which improved from severe to moderate drought due to some spring and early summer rainfall that fell in the northern portion of that basin. The southern part of the Santa Cruz is still quite dry.

The long-term drought status is adjusted seasonally. The next update will reflect the fall, which is currently drier than average in the central and southeastern Arizona, and wetter than average in the western counties.