

# ARIZONA DROUGHT REPORT

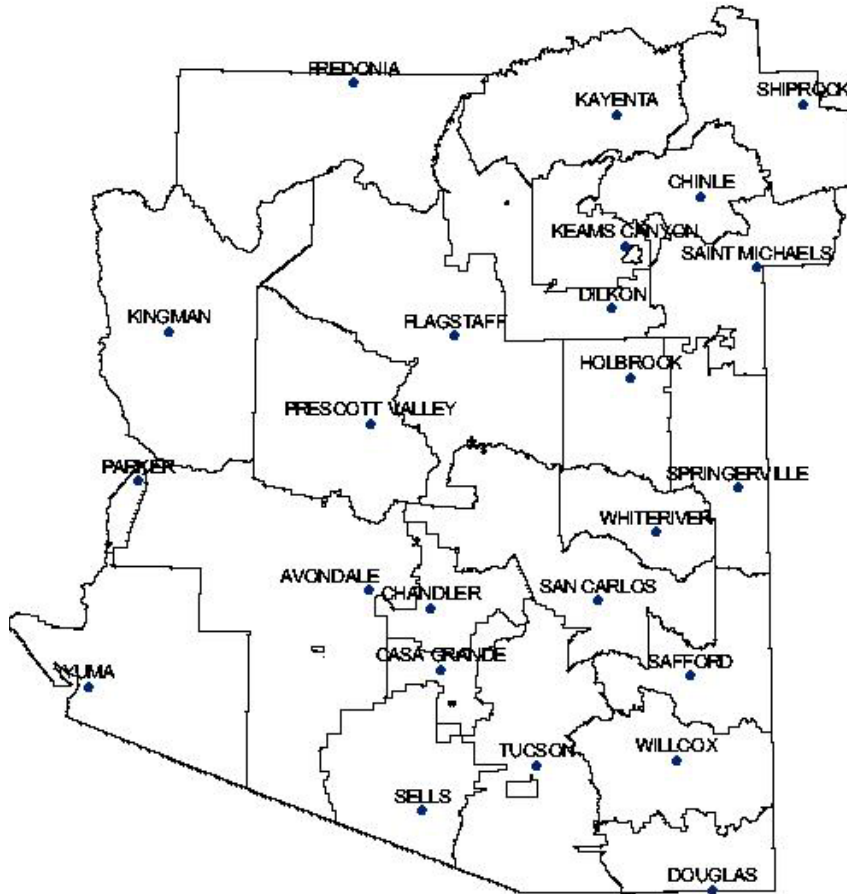
An Update - October 2007

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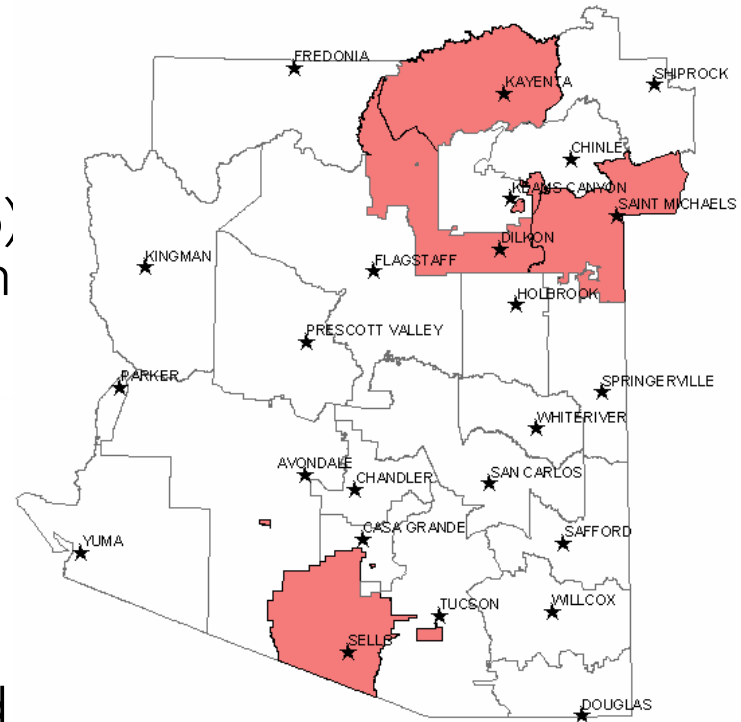
# NRCS Field Offices



- NRCS has 24 Field Offices located throughout the state.
- These District Conservationists and staff provide the on-the-ground knowledge and data collection.
- A survey was sent to all Field Offices in September 2007 to assess the impacts of the summer monsoon season on the drought conditions of 2006-2007.

# Drought Impacted Dryland Cropland

- A 48%, ranging from 30% to 60% (down from 65% reported in October 2006); average crop production loss was reported on the approximately 9,000 acres of dryland cropland.
- Crops affected include corn, melons, squash and beans.

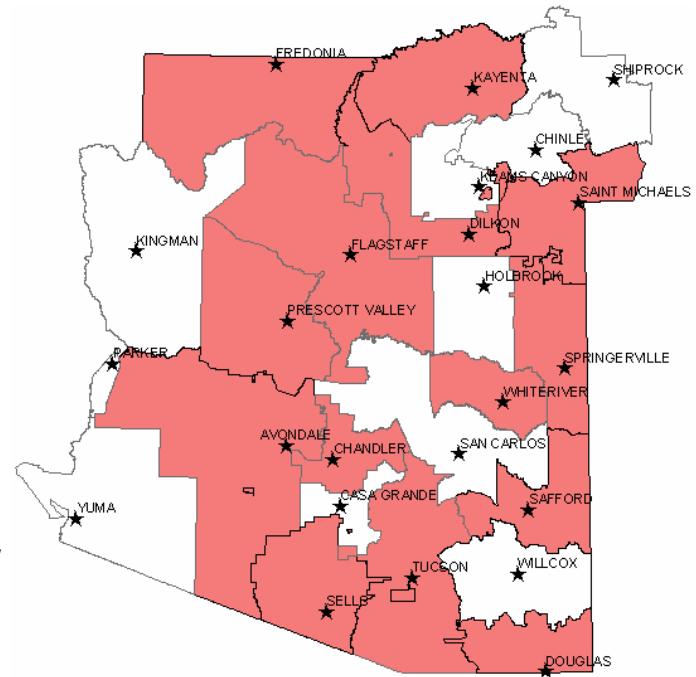




# Livestock Water

- NRCS Field Offices report an average of 35%, ranging from 10% to 75%, (up from 28%) of their rangeland currently has no livestock water.
- 47% (up from 30%) of dirt ponds are currently dry.
- About 45% (down from 60%) of the dirt pond storage capacity is available state wide.
- 30% (up from 18%) of springs are currently dry.
- 15% (unchanged) of livestock wells are dry.

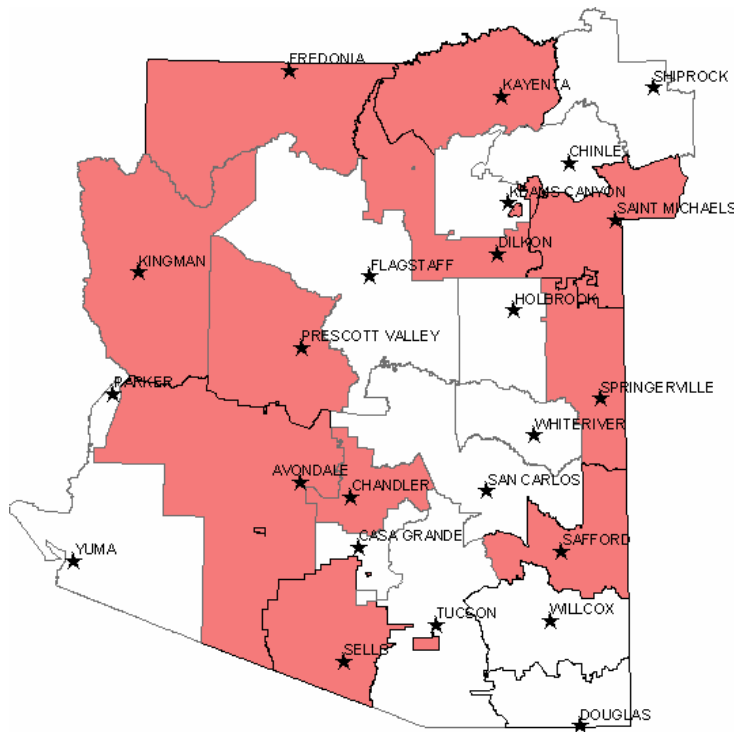
## Areas Hauling Water



About one fifth (unchanged) of Arizona's ranchers are currently hauling water

# Rangeland Forage Production

## Areas reporting Ranchers Providing Supplemental Forage



- About 65% (down from 72%) of normal forage is currently available statewide (ranging from 30% to over 100%)
- Livestock numbers are down 35% (down from 25%) from normal years.

Based on NRCS Field Office Reports, October 2007

# Observations:



- Again winter and spring precipitation was well below average over Arizona's rangelands. The summer monsoons started about when expected in July, but became very spotty after July. Spotty describes the summer monsoons very well with above average precipitation in one area compared to well below average precipitation reported within the same field office work area and even within the same ranch.
- Many offices report substantial loss of perennial grasses and shrubs, especially those relying on winter and spring moisture.
- Below average winter and spring moisture is resulting in reduced spring runoff, reduced spring forage, reduced water production from wells and springs and reduced water availability in reservoirs.