

Arizona Short-term Drought Status Report

September 2018

The monsoon season brought much needed rainfall to many parts of Arizona, but majority of the drought improvements this month came with the rainfall from Hurricane Rosa. The storm traveled from southwestern through western and central Arizona, leaving northeastern and southeastern Arizona with little improvements.

The percentage area of the state with Extreme Drought (D3) and Severe Drought (D2) conditions decreased this month by 14% and 13%, respectively. Significant improvements in drought conditions were recorded in Yuma, Yavapai, Coconino, western Maricopa, southern Navajo, and northern Gila counties.

The rainfall continued into the first week of October and more storm activity is expected, so there may be further improvements in the coming weeks.

El Niño conditions will begin to materialize during the late fall and winter seasons, reaching a weak or briefly moderate category. These conditions result in a slight tilt in the odds for a wetter than average winter over Arizona.

