



Drought Information Statement for Northern Arizona

Valid October 5, 2023

Issued By: WFO Flagstaff, AZ

Contact Information: nws.flagstaff@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated October 19, 2023 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/fgz/Drought> for previous statements.



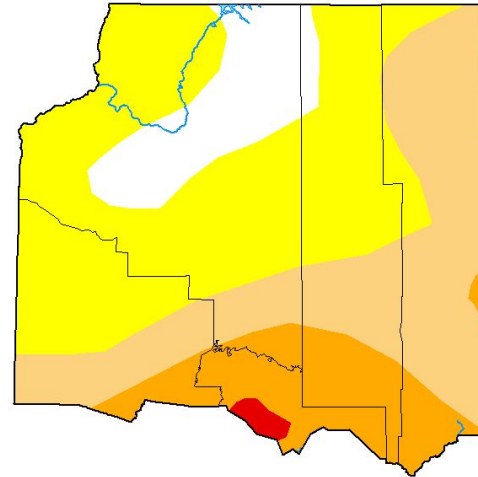


U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Arizona

- EXTREME DROUGHT HAS DEVELOPED IN PARTS OF GILA COUNTY
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): West central Gila County
 - D2 (Severe Drought): Southeast Yavapai, most of Gila, extreme southern Coconino, southern Navajo, southern Apache counties.
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): Central Yavapai, south central Coconino, south central Navajo, most of Apache County.
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): northern Yavapai, most of Coconino, northern Navajo counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor Flagstaff, AZ WFO



October 3, 2023
(Released Thursday, Oct. 5, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	11.50	88.50	44.09	14.71	0.73	0.00
Last Week 09-26-2023	11.50	88.50	36.90	8.95	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-04-2023	99.46	0.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2023	0.00	100.00	38.85	9.30	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	11.50	88.50	36.90	8.95	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-04-2022	0.00	100.00	53.16	18.70	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:
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CPC/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

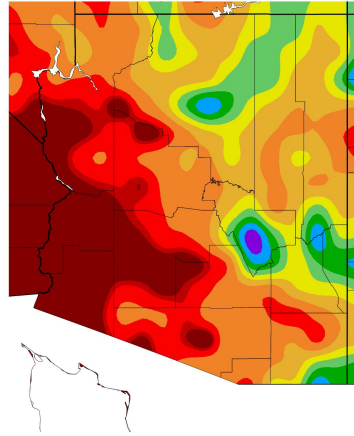
Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT October 3rd.



Precipitation

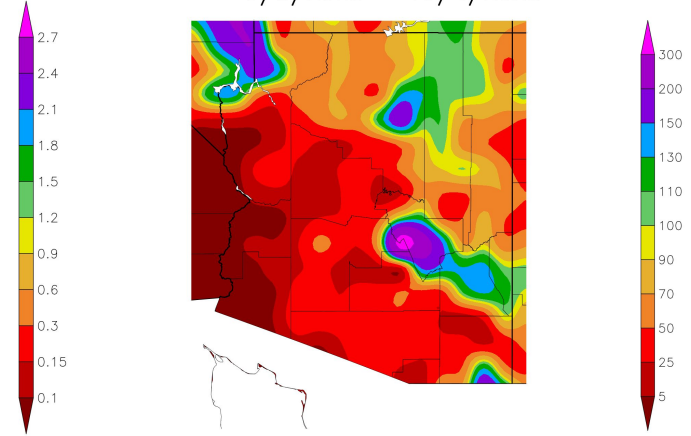
- 30-day rainfall has been less than 50% of normal for Yavapai, southern Coconino, and northwest Gila counties.
- Nearly all of northern Arizona received less rain than normal during the monsoon season.

Precipitation (in)
9/5/2023 - 10/4/2023



Generated 10/5/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
9/5/2023 - 10/4/2023



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 23 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:

Left - [Precipitation Amount for Arizona](#)

Right - [Percent of Normal Precipitation for Arizona](#)

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending October 4, 2023

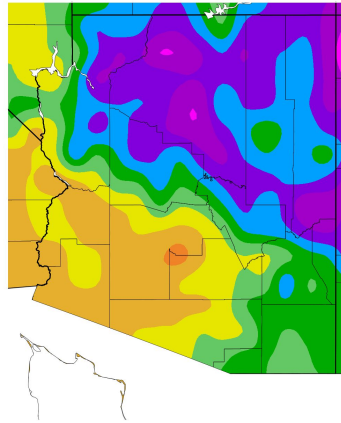




Temperature

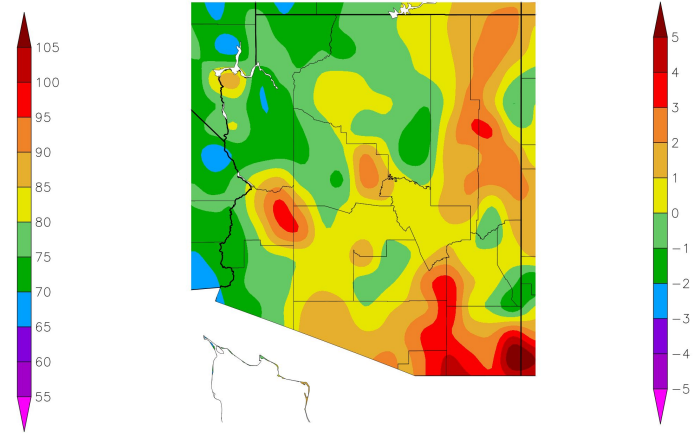
- Much of northeast Arizona was 1-3 degrees warmer than normal over the past 30 days. Most other parts of northern Arizona were near normal.

Temperature (F)
9/5/2023 – 10/4/2023



Generated 10/5/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
9/5/2023 – 10/4/2023



NOAA Regional Climate Centers ⁰²³ at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:

Left - [Average Temperature](#)

Right - [Departure from Normal Temperature](#)

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending October 4, 2023





Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Streamflow across northern Gila County and the White Mountains is below the the 10th percentile for this time of year.

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is below the 30th percentile in Yavapai County and below the 10th percentile in Gila County.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- A drier than normal monsoon season has left fuels drier than usual for this time of year. Several managed wildfires continue to burn across the region.

Mitigation Actions

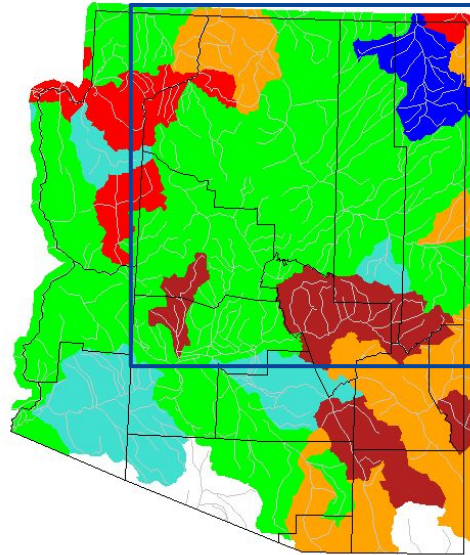
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow is much below normal for this time of year in Gila County and much of the White Mountains.



Explanation - Percentile classes							
	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
Low	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Caption: [USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map](#) valid October 4, 2023

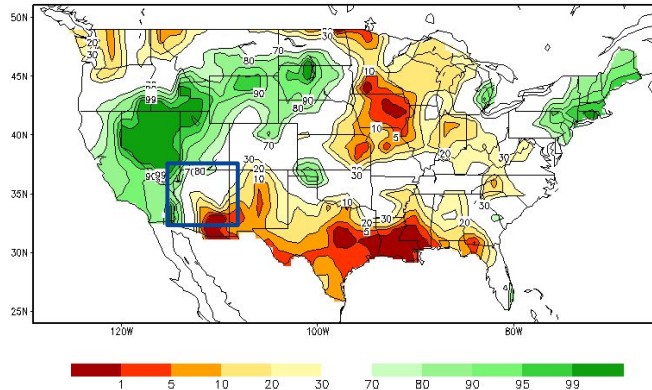




Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture is below the 30th percentile in Yavapai County and below the 10th percentile in portions of Gila County.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
OCT 04, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending SEP 30, 2023
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

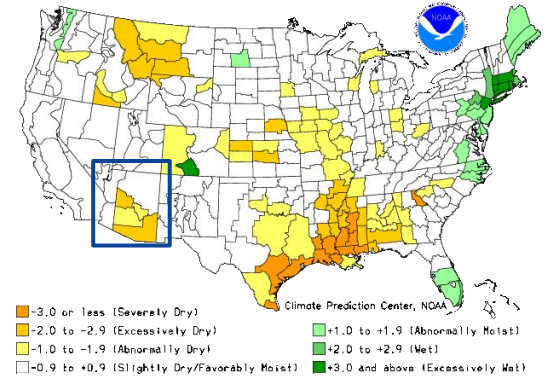


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid October 4, 2023

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending September 30, 2023

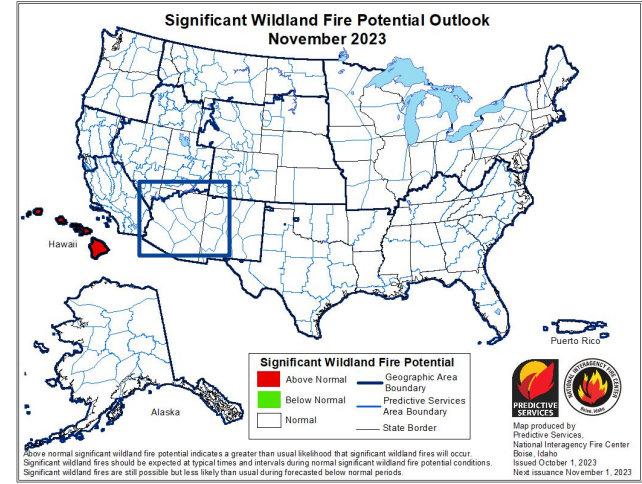
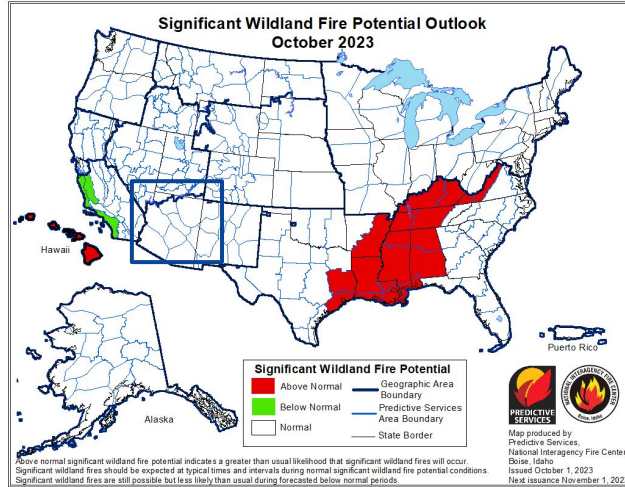




Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center.](#)

- A drier than normal monsoon season has left fuels drier than usual for this time of year, and this will persist until significant precipitation occurs. Several managed wildfires continue to burn across the region.



Latest fire restrictions map for Arizona available [here](#).

Image Caption: [Significant Wildland Fire Potential Monthly Outlook for October](#) and [November](#) 2023





Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- The latest outlooks for October from the Climate Prediction Center indicate a slight lean in the probability toward above normal temperatures and above normal precipitation.

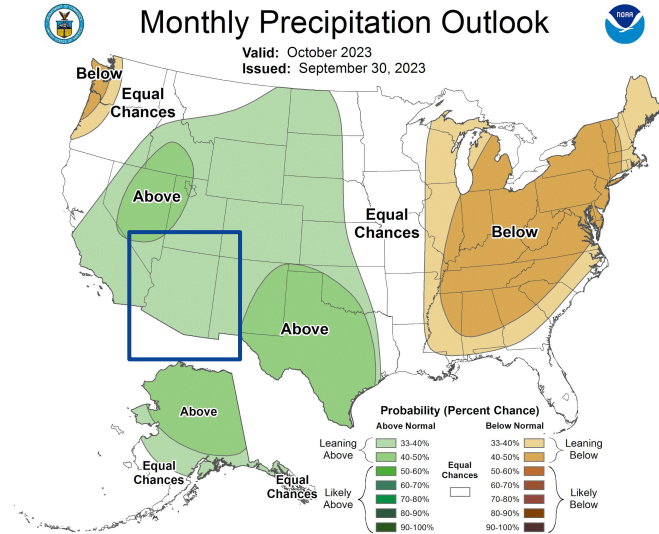
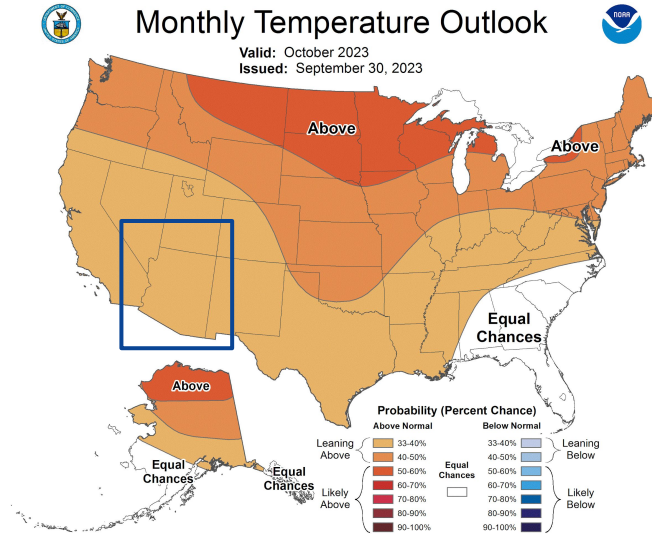


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#),

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#),

Valid October, 2023





Drought Outlook

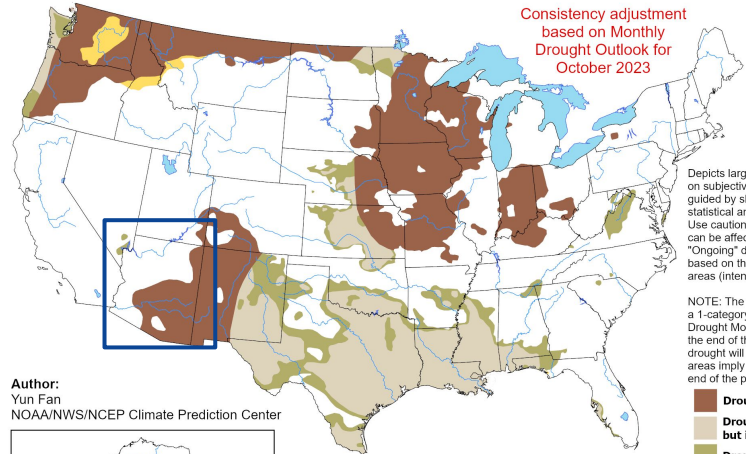
The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Drought conditions are forecast to persist over the southeast half of Arizona through the end of the year.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for October 1 - December 31, 2023
Released September 30, 2023

Consistency adjustment
based on Monthly
Drought Outlook for
October 2023

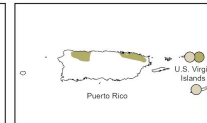
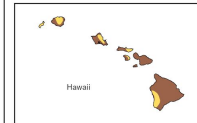


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists
- Drought remains, but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely
- No drought

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<https://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released
September 30, 2023 valid for Oct-Dec 2023

Links to the latest:
[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)