



Drought Information Statement for Northern Arizona

Valid October 19, 2023

Issued By: WFO Flagstaff, AZ

Contact Information: nws.flagstaff@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated November 16, 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.



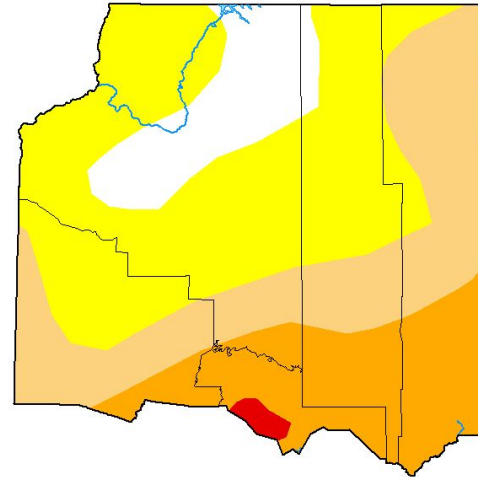


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- EXTREME DROUGHT CONTINUES 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, central and northern Apache County.
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): northern Yavapai, most of Coconino, northern Navajo counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor Flagstaff, AZ WFO



October 17, 2023
(Released Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

| | Drought Conditions (Percent Area) | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| | None | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4 |
| Current | 11.52 | 88.48 | 46.13 | 20.00 | 0.73 | 0.00 |
| Last Week 10-10-2023 | 11.52 | 88.48 | 46.13 | 20.00 | 0.73 | 0.00 |
| 3 Months Ago 07-18-2023 | 94.53 | 5.47 | 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 10-18-2022 | 0.00 | 100.00 | 43.24 | 9.30 | 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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NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

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

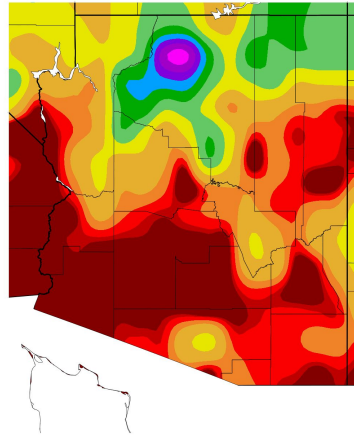




Precipitation

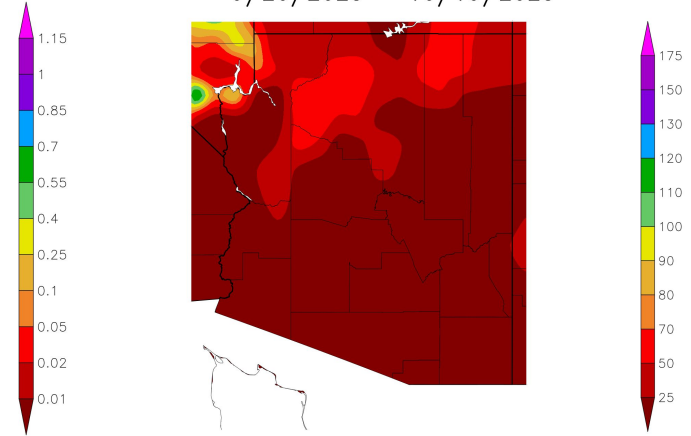
- 30-day rainfall has been less than 25% of normal for Yavapai, Gila, southern Coconino, southern and central Navajo and Apache counties.
- Nearly all of northern Arizona received less rain than normal during the monsoon season.

Precipitation (in)
9/20/2023 - 10/19/2023



Generated 10/20/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
9/20/2023 - 10/19/2023



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

NOAA Regional Climate Centers 023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

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 19, 2023

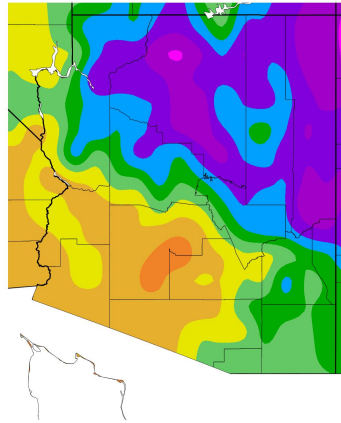




Temperature

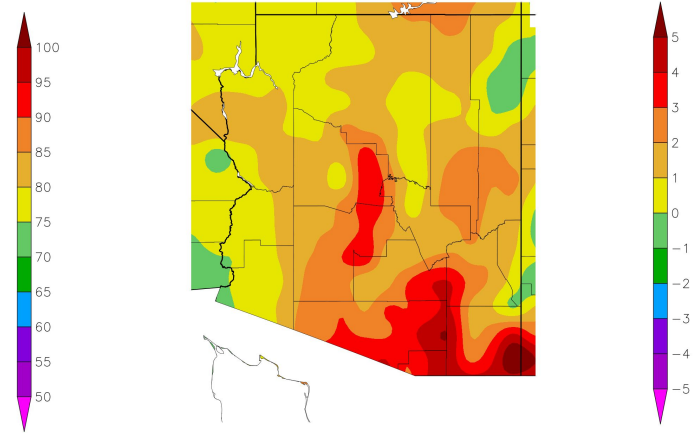
- Most of Arizona was 1-3 degrees warmer than normal over the past 30 days. Portions of eastern Yavapai County were 3-4 degrees warmer than normal.

Temperature (F)
9/20/2023 – 10/19/2023



Generated 10/20/2023 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
9/20/2023 – 10/19/2023



NOAA Regional Climate Centers 2023 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 19, 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. This is allowing prescribed fire season to continue across northern Arizona.

Mitigation Actions

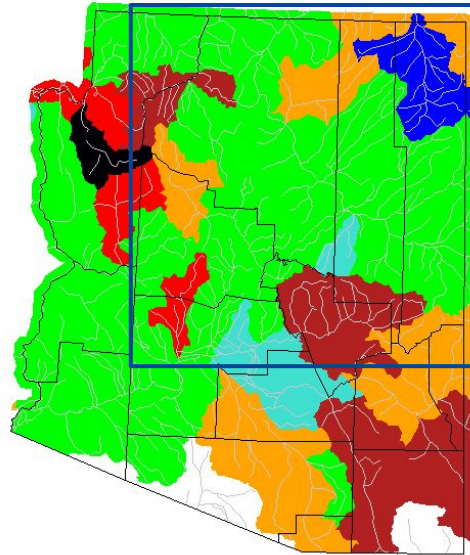
- Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information.





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 19, 2023

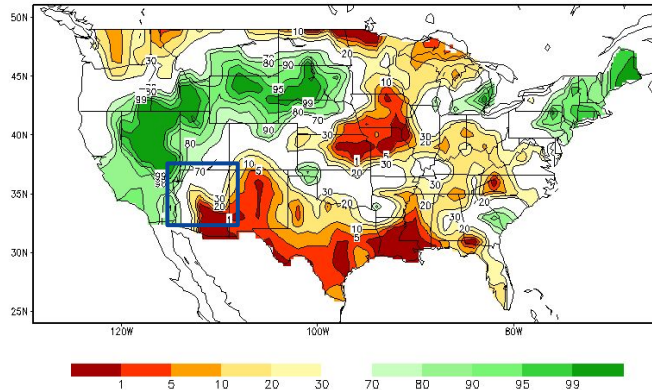




Agricultural Impacts

- 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 19, 2023



Crop Moisture Index by Division
Weekly Value for Period Ending OCT 14, 2023
Short Term Need vs. Available Water in a Shallow Soil Profile

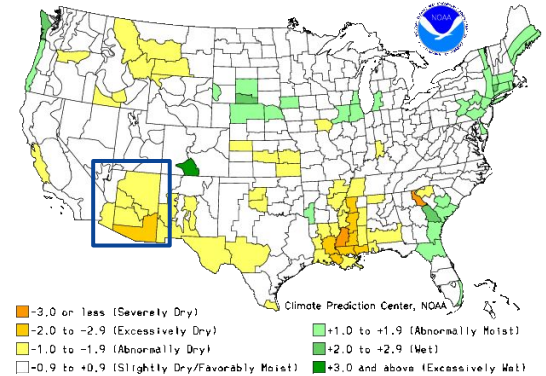


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid October 19, 2023

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending October 14, 2023

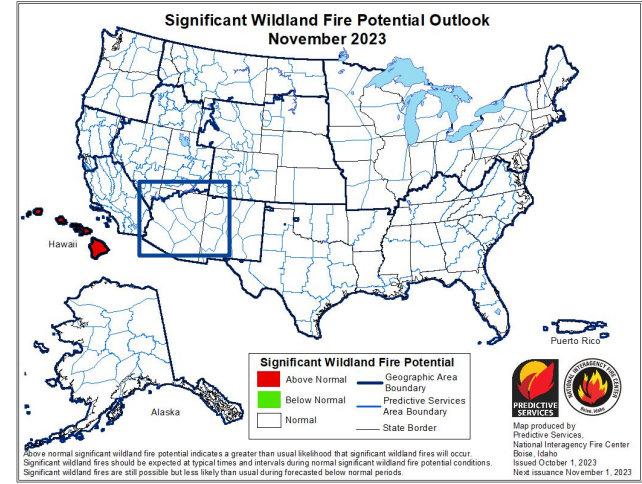
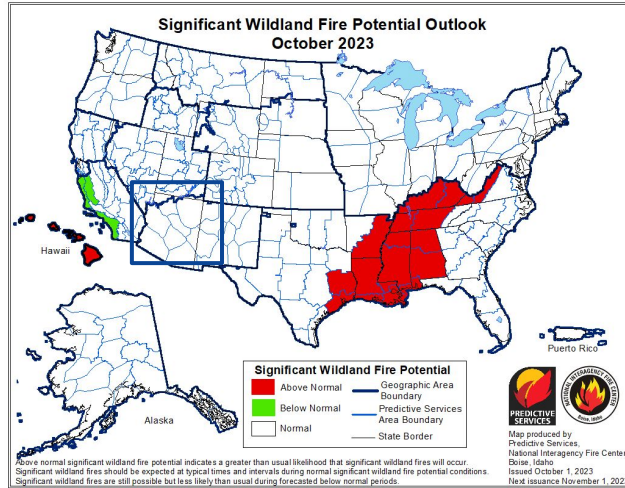




Fire Hazard Impacts

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. Prescribed fire season continues in northern Arizona.



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 November 2023 through January 2024 from the Climate Prediction Center indicate equal chances for below, near, and above normal temperatures and precipitation. There is no clear indication toward wetter or drier than normal conditions.

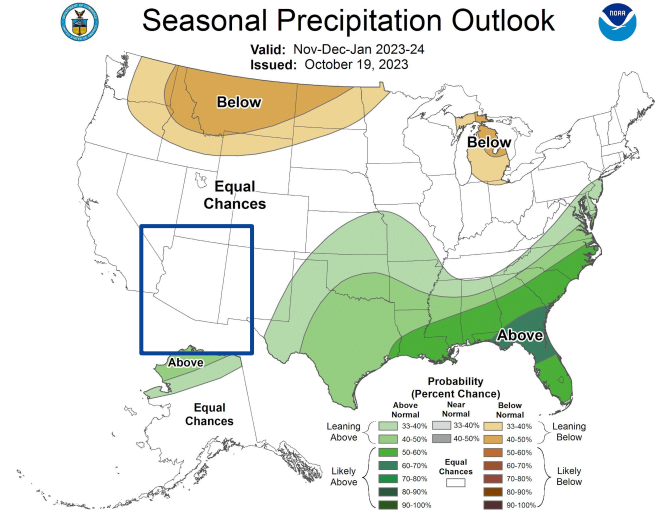
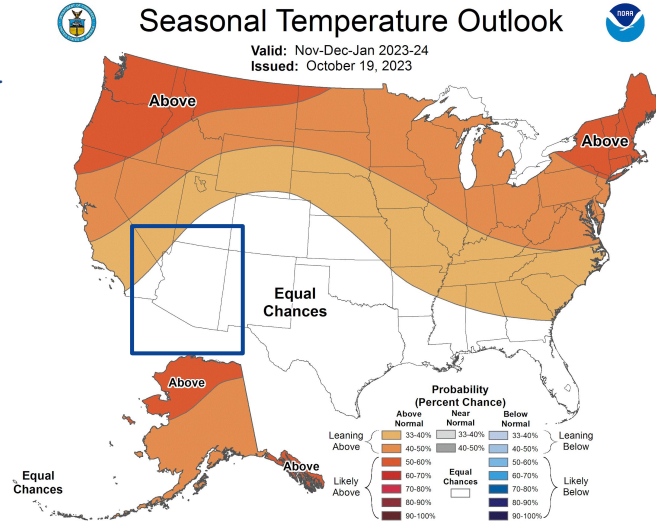


Image Captions:

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

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid November 2023 to January 2024





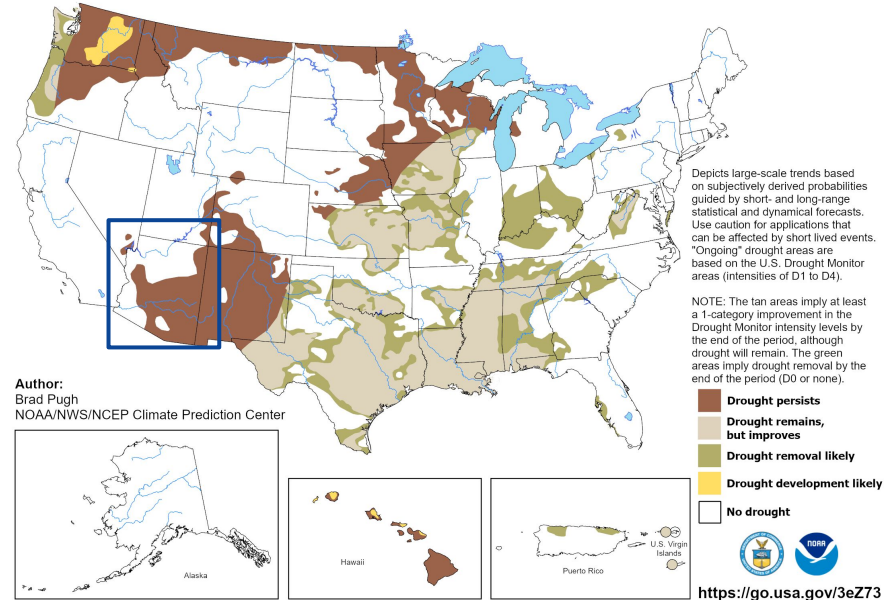
Drought Outlook

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 at least January 2024.

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

Valid for October 19, 2023 - January 31, 2024
Released October 19, 2023



Links to the latest:

- [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released October 19, 2023 valid through January 2024

