



Drought Information Statement for Southeast Arizona

Valid March 20, 2025

Issued By: National Weather Service Tucson, AZ

Contact Information: w-twc.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated by April 18, 2025 or sooner if drought conditions worsen significantly.
 - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/twc/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
 - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
-
- Extreme (D3) drought conditions in Greenlee county; parts of Graham, Cochise, Santa Cruz, Pima and Pinal counties.
 - Severe (D2) drought conditions across the rest of southeast Arizona.



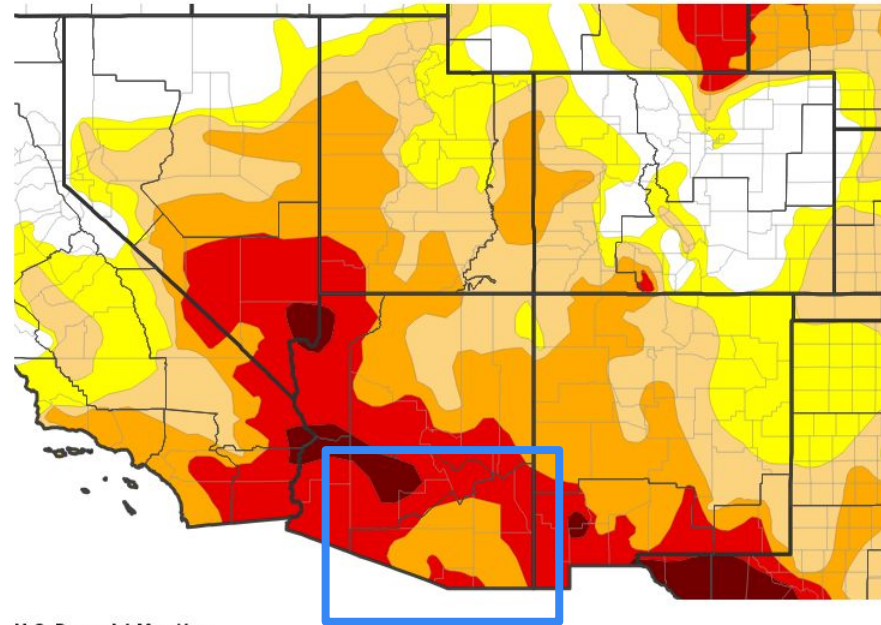


U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
 - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Greenlee county; Graham county from Safford north and east; eastern portions of Cochise county east of a Willcox to Douglas line; majority of Santa Cruz county; far northern & western portions of southeast Pinal county; western Pima county.
 - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: The remainder of Graham, Cochise, Santa Cruz, Pima and Pinal counties.
 - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: No areas.
 - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: No areas.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 03/18/25



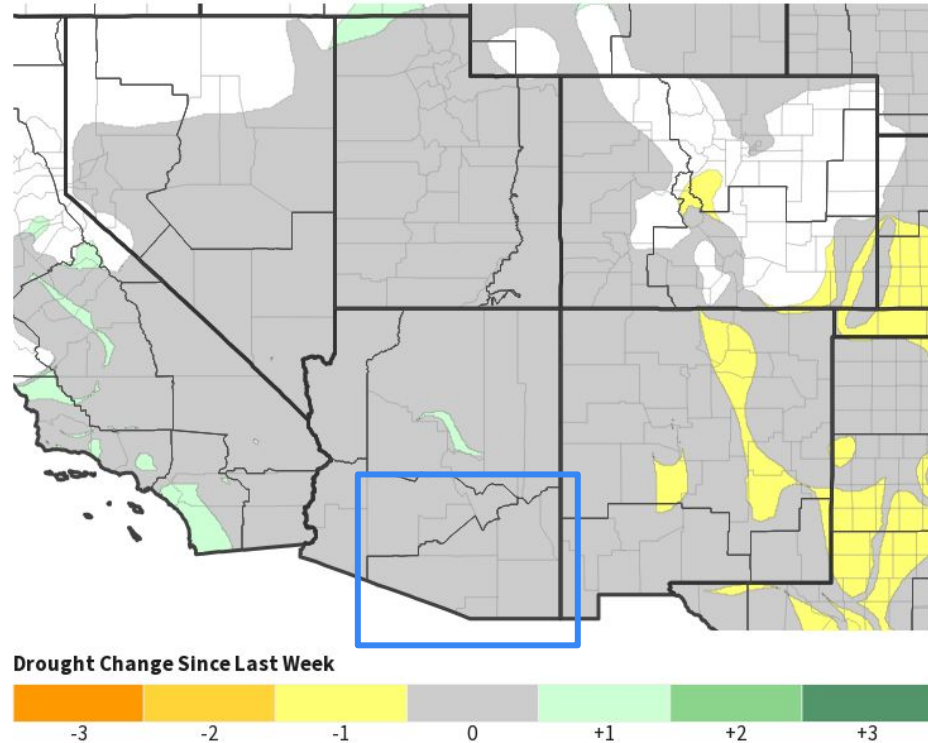


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for southeast Arizona

- One Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - **Drought Worsened:** No degradation was observed
 - **No Change:** All of southeast Arizona
 - **Drought Improved:** No improvement was observed.

U.S. Drought Monitor 1-Week Change Map



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 03/18/25

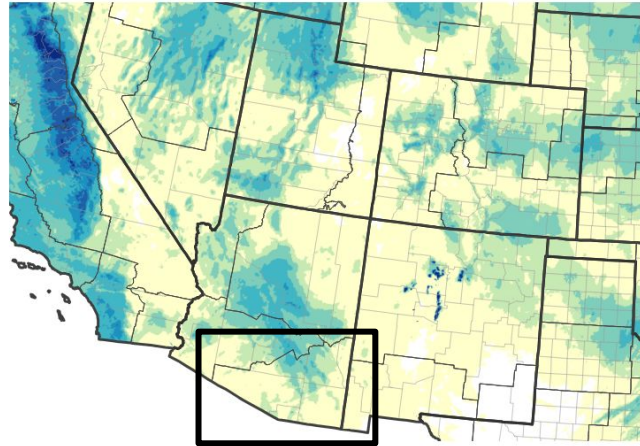




Precipitation

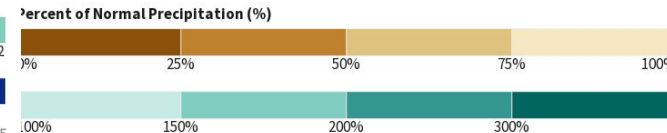
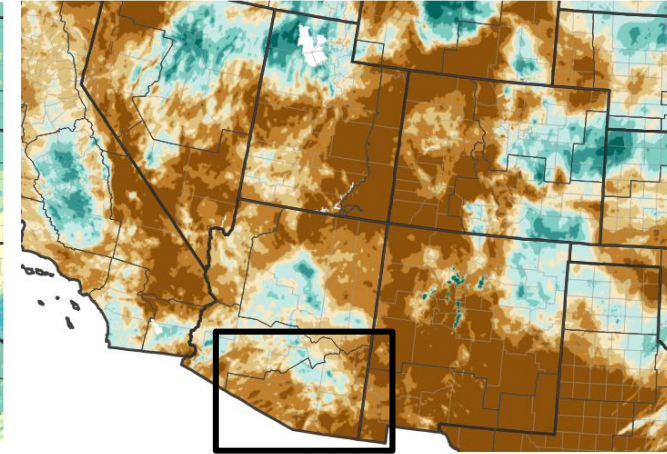
- There were a couple of weather systems that brought rain and mountain snow in the past month.
- Rainfall amounts in the valleys were mostly below 0.50" with localized areas up to 1".
- Mountain liquid amounts below 7000' were generally in the 0.50" to 1.50" with localized totals near 2".

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 03/20/25

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; Last Updated: 03/20/25
image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data over the past 30 days ending March 20, 2025

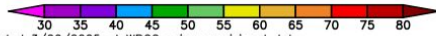
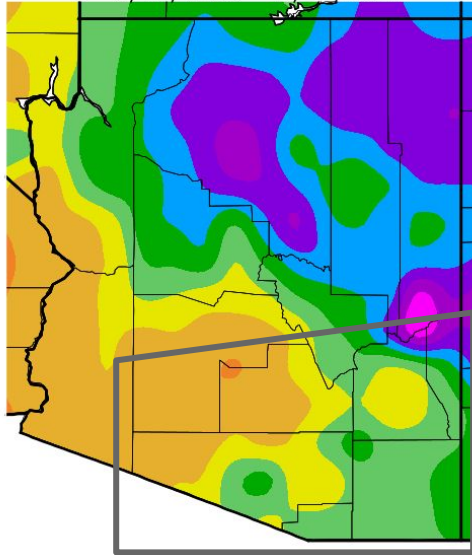




Temperature

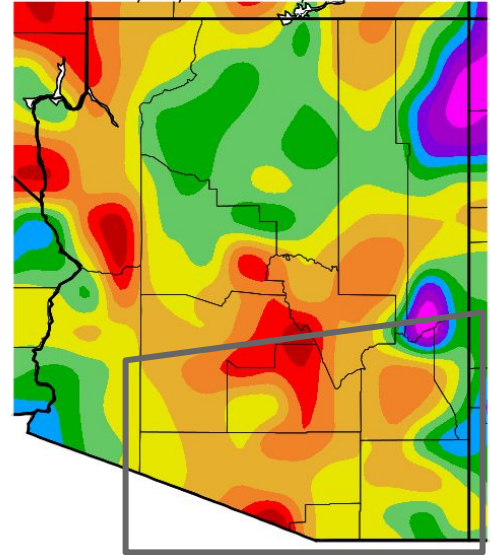
- Although a couple of weather systems brought precipitation and briefly cooler than normal temperatures, most of southeast Arizona was above normal for the past 30 days.
- The exception were areas along the Arizona/New Mexico border that were below normal.

Ave. Temperature (deg. F)
2/18/2025 – 3/19/2025



Generated 3/20/2025 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Ave. Temperature dep from Ave (deg F)
2/18/2025 – 3/19/2025



Generated 3/20/2025 at WRCC using provisional data.
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Image Captions:

Left - [Average Temperature for Arizona w/southeast Arizona in highlighted gray box](#)

Right - [Departure from Normal Temperature for Arizona w/southeast Arizona in highlighted gray box](#)

Data Courtesy Western Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending March 19, 2025





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Some river basins in Southeastern Arizona continue to have below to much below normal streamflow conditions. While some rivers basins are at normal to above normal due to recent rainfall. ([USGS Streamflow](#))

Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture values continue to be below normal due as dry conditions continue across the area. ([Soil Moisture Observations](#))

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire Danger has been generally High to Very High across the region in March. Both live and dead fuel moistures are below than normal despite the several late winter weather systems bringing mountain snow and light valley rain. There has been periods of warming with breezes between winter weather systems that aided fuels to dry out quickly. Above normal fire potential expected to continue through April and into May.

Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

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

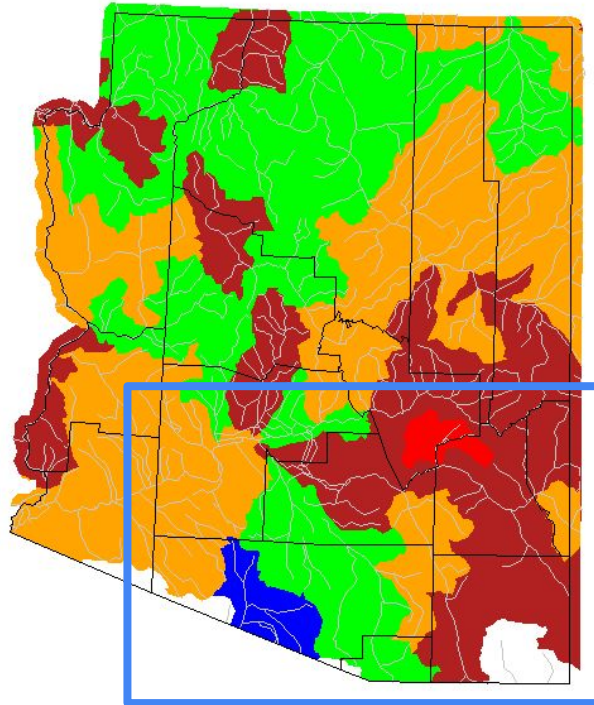




Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

- Conditions in the Upper San Pedro River and Upper Gila River continue to be at below to much below normal streamflow. There are short term improvements in the Santa Cruz River and San Simon River watersheds due to recent rainfall causing minimal streamflow in normally dry rivers.



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

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid March 19, 2025





Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture values continue to be well below normal for this time of the year in southeast Arizona.

Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile
MAR 19, 2025

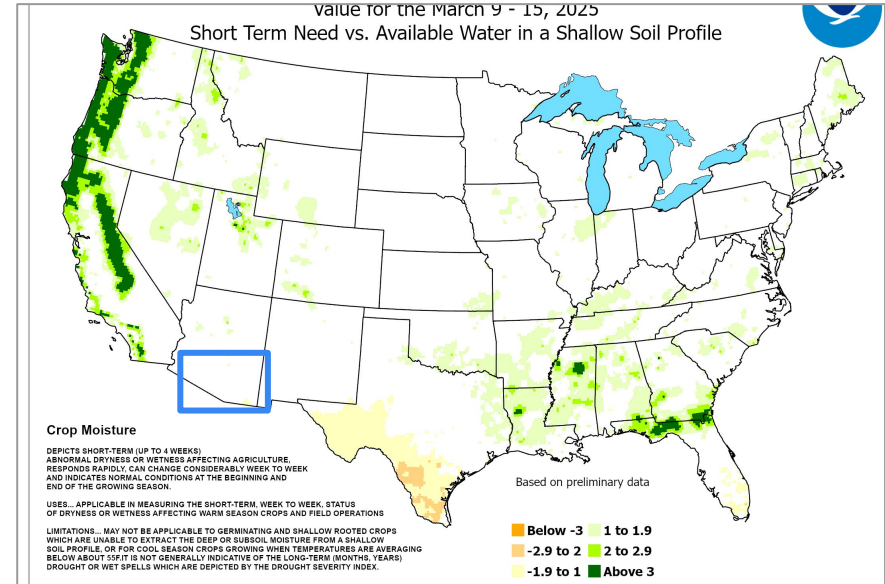
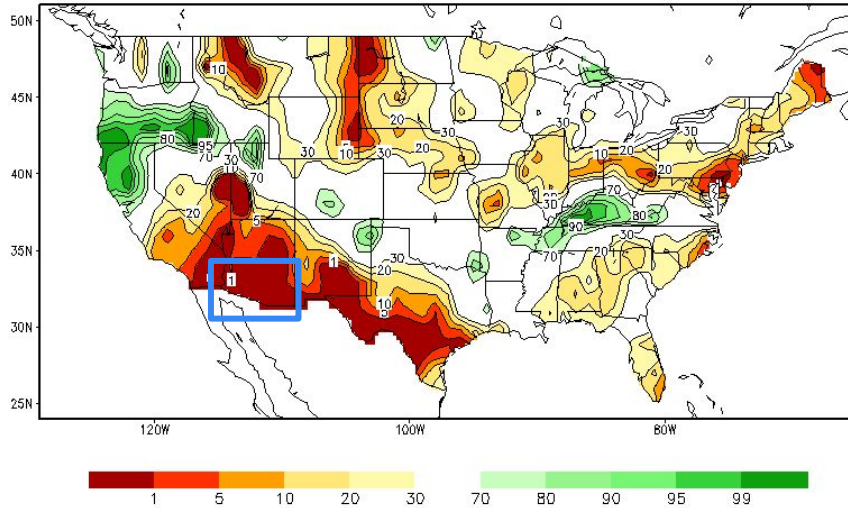


Image Captions:

Right: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid March 16, 2025
Left: [Crop Moisture Index](#). Weekly value for period ending March 19, 2025





Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Areas of above normal fire potential will be evident across east Arizona, including the Mogollon Rim, in April (left map).
- Above normal fire potential will persist across Southeast Arizona and expanding in most of the state (right map).

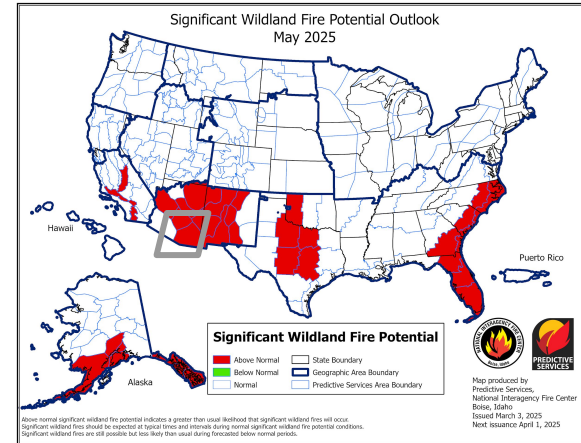
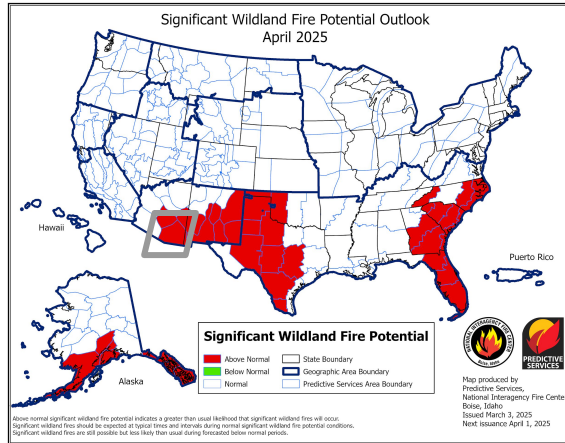


Image Captions:

The two images are for Significant Wildland Fire Monthly for the following month: Left: [April](#); Right: [May](#)

[National Wildland Significant Fire Potential Outlook text](#) issued March 3, 2025

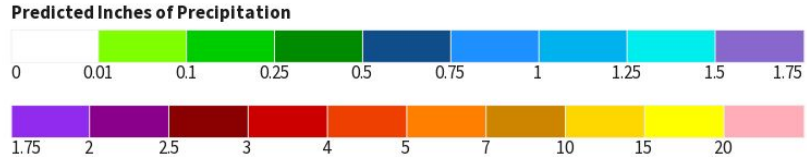
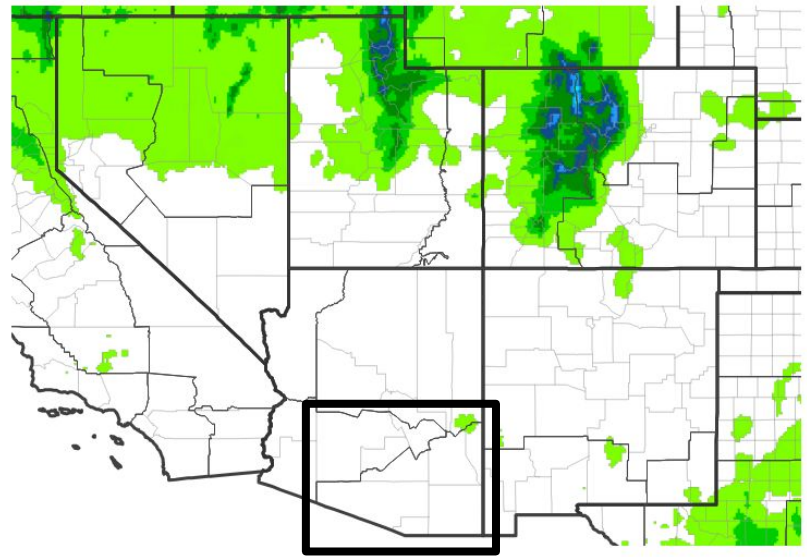




Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Dry conditions to close out the month of March for most of southeast Arizona. The exception is a low probability (10%) for a few thunderstorms over the White mountains on March 27.

7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast for March 20, 2025–March 27, 2025



Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/20/25

Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Monday March 20, 2025 to Monday March 27, 2025

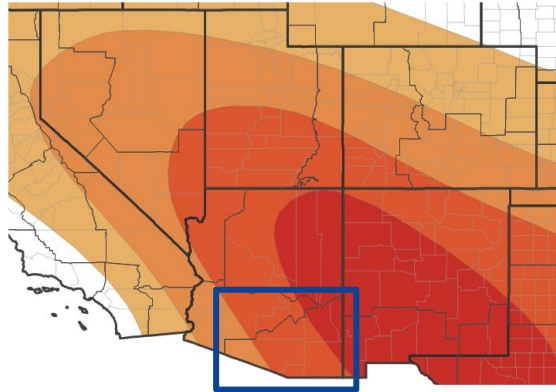


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The temperature outlook for **April 1 to June 30** leans toward **above normal**, 50% to 70% chance across the entire area.
- The precipitation outlook for **April 1 to June 30** favors **below normal** precipitation, 40% to 50% chance across the entire area.

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for April 1, 2025–June 30, 2025



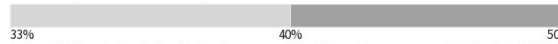
Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures



Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures



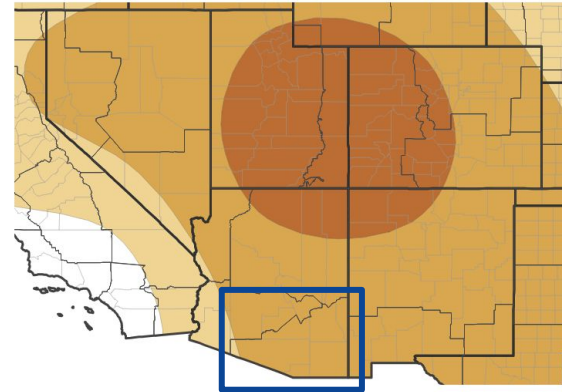
Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures



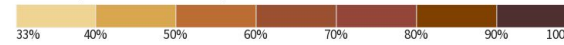
Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 03/20/25

Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for April 1, 2025–June 30, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation



Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 03/20/25

Image Captions:

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

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

Valid April 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025



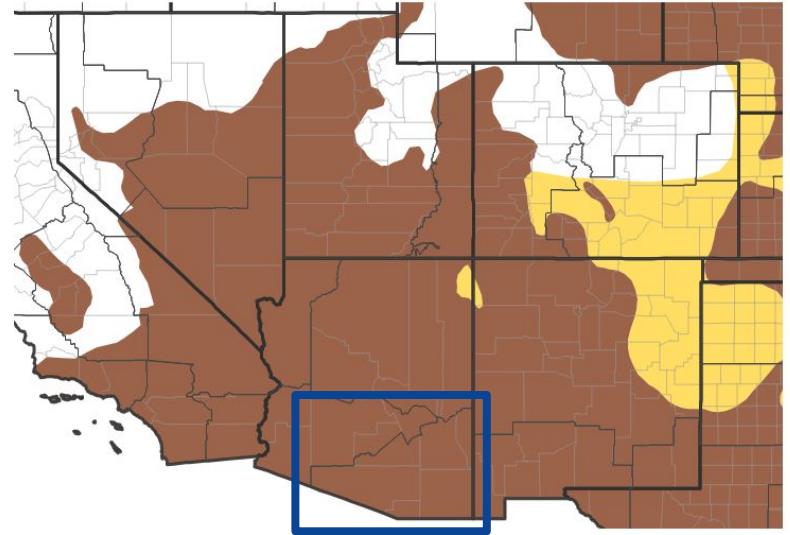


Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions will persist across southeast Arizona through the end of June.

Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook for March 20, 2025–June 30, 2025



Drought Is Predicted To...



Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Last Updated: 03/20/25

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released February 28, 2025 valid for March 20, 2025 to June 30, 2025

Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Tucson, AZ