



# Drought Status Report

Navajo Nation Water Management Branch  
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May/June 2008

## Climate Summary by CLIMAS

**Drought** – Short-term drought conditions remain normal for much of Arizona. However, in the southeast, conditions remain abnormally dry and conditions in the central section of Cochise County have degraded to moderate drought levels. Most of New Mexico continues to experience elevated drought conditions.

**Temperature** – this month Arizona and New Mexico temperatures generally hovered within 2 degree F of average. In Arizona, the southeast region has experienced temperatures slightly above average, while the northeastern section has seen below-average temperatures. In New Mexico, the higher elevations in the Northwest have experienced lower temperatures; the eastern half has seen slightly higher temperatures.

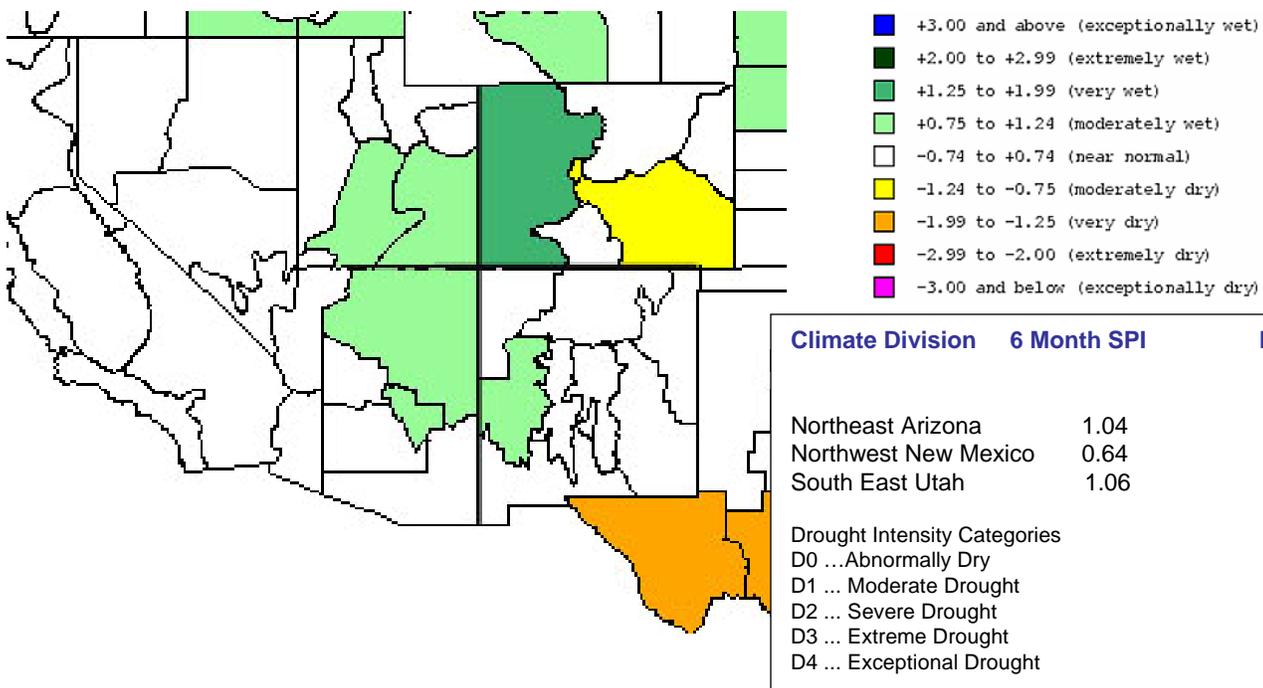
**Precipitation** – For the past thirty days, virtually all of Arizona and New Mexico have received below-average precipitation. Precipitation for large swaths of area in Arizona and western New Mexico has been less than 5 percent of average. The San Francisco Peaks area in Arizona is one of only a few locations that received more than the average precipitation. The low precipitation during the last thirty days does little to change the drought status due to abundant winter precipitation in parts of the state.

**Climate forecasts** – Seasonal climate forecasts suggest an enhanced probability that Arizona and New Mexico will experience above-average temperatures through the summer and fall. The forecast for precipitation is more ambiguous, with equal chances that the Southwest will experience above- or below-average precipitation.

**The Bottom Line** – Typical La Niña conditions were reflected in Arizona and New Mexico last month when the region saw far below-average precipitation. Although forecasts call for an equal chance of above-, near-, or below-average precipitation for the ensuing months in the Southwest, models suggest temperatures will be above average. With hotter temperatures and abundant dry fuels, expect a higher potential for fires.

## 6-Month SPI by Western Regional Climate Center

6-month Standardized Precipitation Index through the end of May 2008



# May/June 2008 National Drought Summary

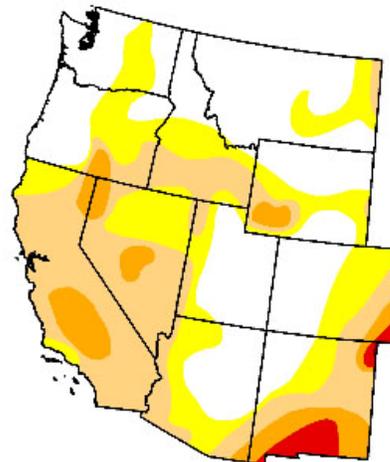
by Nation Drought Mitigation Center

## U.S. Drought Monitor West

June 24, 2008  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

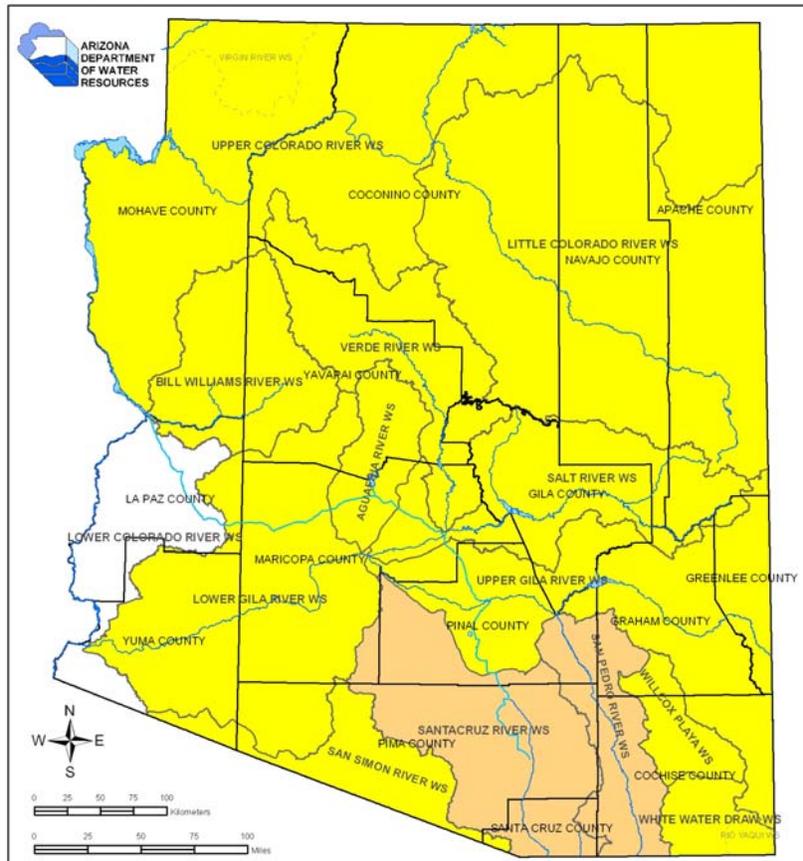
Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	40.2	59.8	36.4	9.4	1.8	0.0
Last Week (06/17/2008 map)	40.1	59.9	35.9	9.4	1.8	0.1
3 Months Ago (04/01/2008 map)	40.6	59.4	36.3	7.5	0.0	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2008 map)	26.3	73.7	54.7	33.1	2.7	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/02/2007 map)	22.0	78.0	62.3	44.7	12.4	0.0
One Year Ago (06/26/2007 map)	33.5	66.5	48.7	28.3	7.9	0.0



**Intensity:**

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional



**Arizona Drought Preparedness Plan  
Monitoring Technical Committee**

June 2008 Short Term  
Drought Status  
Data Through May 31st, 2008

**Watershed Drought Level**

- Abnormally Dry
- Drought - Moderate
- Drought - Severe
- Drought - Extreme

**Counties**

- Counties
- Lakes
- Rivers
- CAP Aqueduct
- Merged Watershed\*

\* Watershed merged due to limited data.