



# Drought Information Statement for Southeast Arizona

Valid March 28, 2024

Issued By: National Weather Service Tucson, AZ

Contact Information: [w-twc.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:w-twc.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated April 23, 2024 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/twc/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.
  - Please visit <https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/> for regional drought status updates.
- 
- Extreme drought conditions remain in far eastern Cochise county near the New Mexico border
  - Elsewhere across southeast Arizona drought conditions are slowly improving from the west to east.



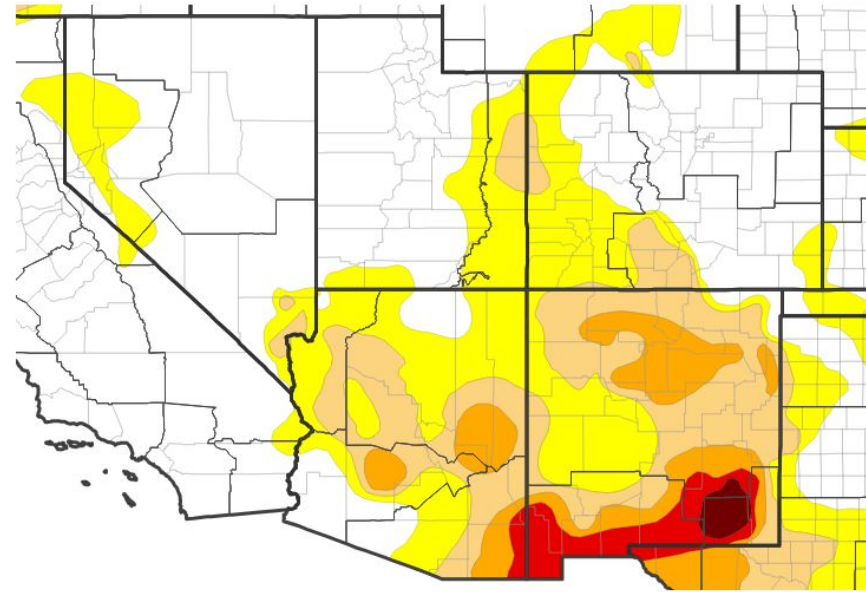


# U.S. Drought Monitor

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

- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Eastern Cochise County, far southeast Graham County and far southern Greenlee County.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Adjacent sections of Greenlee, Graham & Cochise counties or the western extent extends from Clifton in Greenlee county to Sierra Vista in Cochise county
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: The remainder of Greenlee, Graham & Cochise counties plus most of Santa Cruz county & far southeast Pima county
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: Most of southeast Pinal county and eastern half of Pima county.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



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

Data Valid: 03/26/24

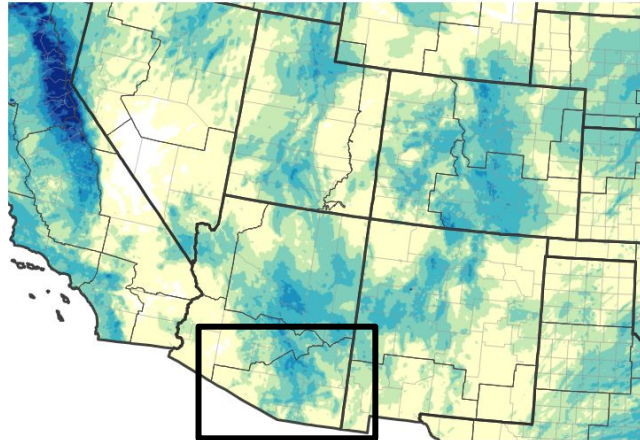




# Precipitation

- The area has seen several precipitation events over the past 30 days.
- However there are portions of southeast Arizona, like western Pima county, parts of Santa Cruz, Cochise & Graham counties that have recorded below normal precipitation over the past 30 days.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

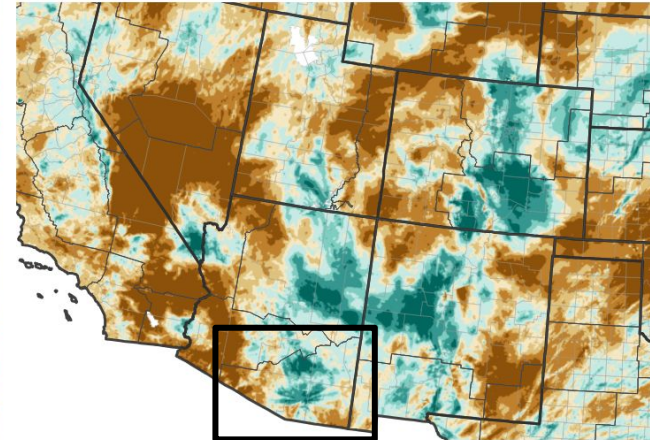


Inches of Precipitation

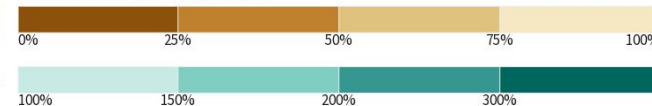


Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/28/24

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)



Source(s): National Weather Service Multi-Radar Multi-Sensor System; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 03/28/24

Data over the past 30 days ending March 27, 2024

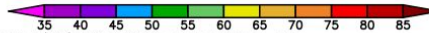
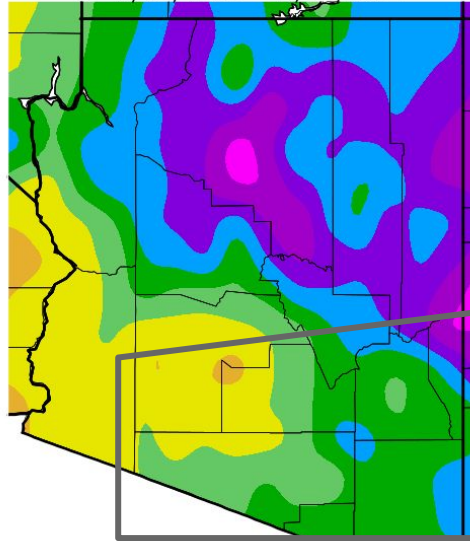




# Temperature

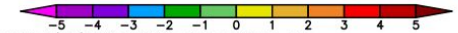
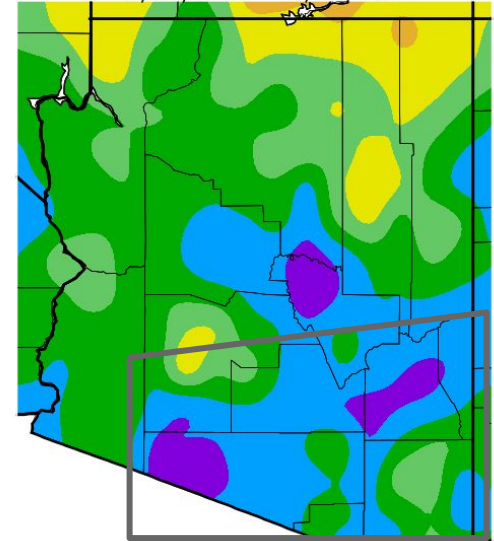
- Average temperatures over the past 30 days have been **below normal** for southeast Arizona.

Ave. Temperature (deg. F)  
2/27/2024 – 3/27/2024



Generated 3/28/2024 at WRCC using provisional data.  
NOAA Regional Climate Centers

Ave. Temperature dep from Ave (deg F)  
2/27/2024 – 3/27/2024



Generated 3/28/2024 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 27, 2024





# Summary of Impacts

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

## Hydrologic Impacts

- Majority of the river basins in Southeastern Arizona have normal streamflow conditions. With the exception of the Upper San Pedro River Basin remaining at much below normal.

## Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture values have improved thanks to the widespread rain but are still on the dry side across the area.

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- Abundant winter precipitation and cooler temperatures have pushed fuel moisture levels for all classes to near period of record highs. Thus the threat for wildfires is very low and reduced to just a threat of a few smaller grass fires on the windiest and driest days. Potential impending greenup over the next month will continue to moderate the fire threat as well as any additional precipitation.

## Other Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

## Mitigation Actions

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

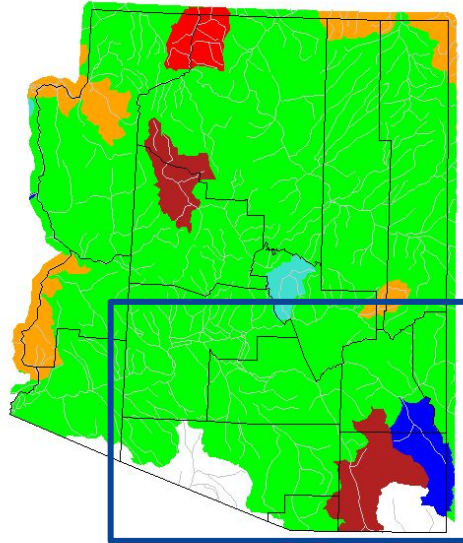




# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

- Majority of the river basins in Southeastern Arizona have normal streamflow conditions. With the exception of the Upper San Pedro River Basin remaining at much below normal.



GS

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 27, 2024





# Agricultural Impacts

- Soil moisture values are near normal for this time of the year across southeast Arizona.

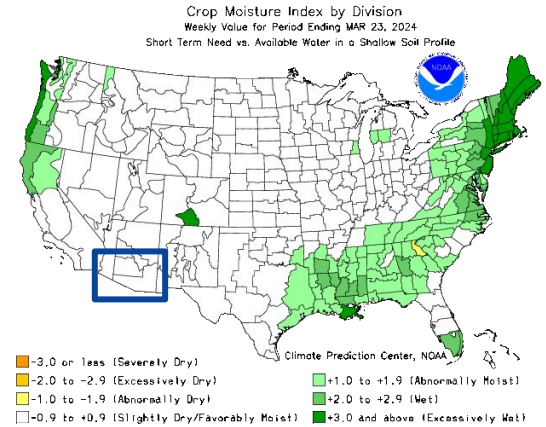
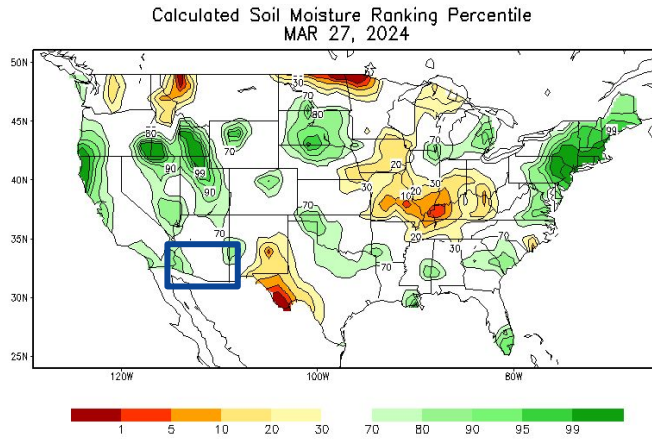


Image Captions:

Left: CPC Calculated [Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile](#) valid March 27, 2024

Right: [Crop Moisture Index by Division](#). Weekly value for period ending March 23, 2024

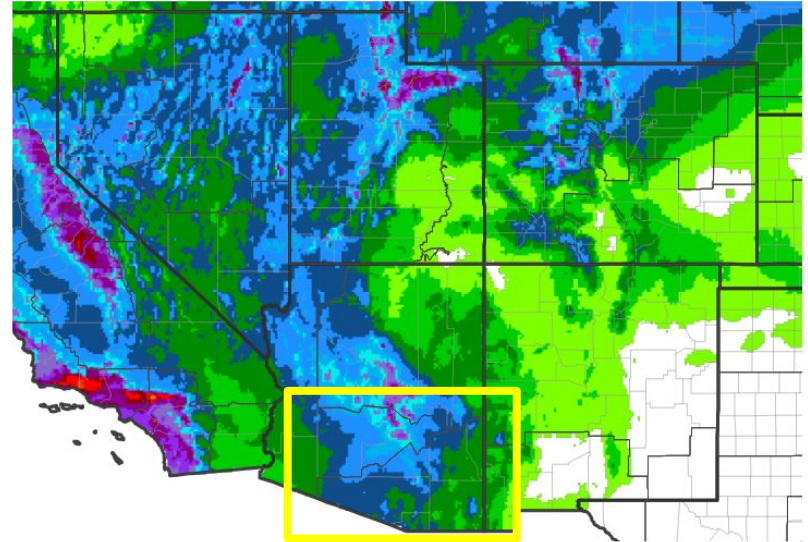




# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- A late season winter storm will bring widespread valley rain and mountain snow to southeast Arizona on Easter Sunday (May 31st) and on April 1st.
- A quarter (0.25") to three-quarters (0.75") of an inch with locally higher amounts are possible over these two days.

## 7-Day Quantitative Precipitation Forecast



### Predicted Inches of Precipitation

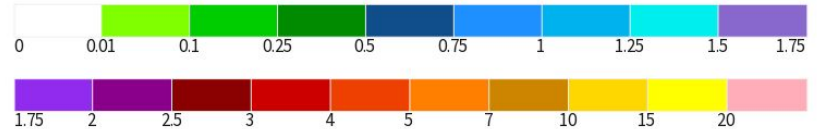


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid Thursday March 28 to Thursday April 3

Source(s): National Weather Service Weather Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 03/28/24







# Long-Range Outlooks

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

- The Climate Prediction center outlook for **April through June** for southeast Arizona shows equal odds for either above, near or below normal seasonal mean temperatures & seasonal total precipitation.

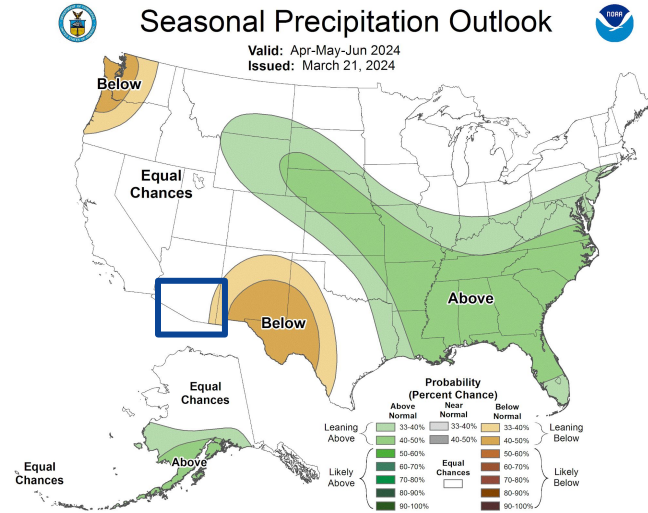
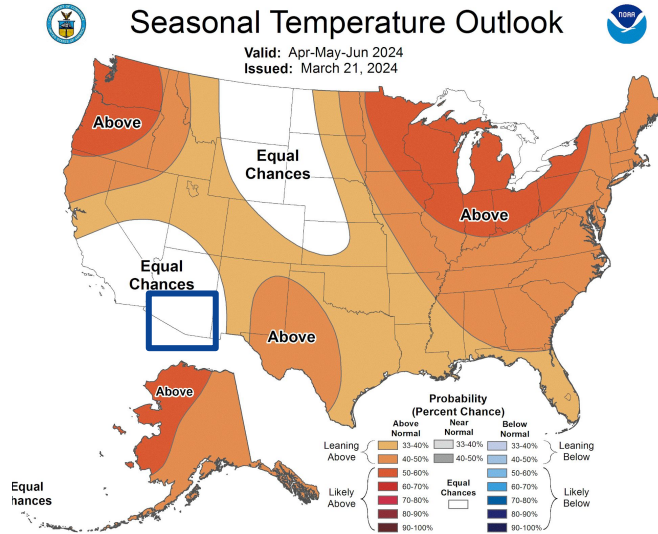


Image Captions:

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

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

Valid April to June 2024



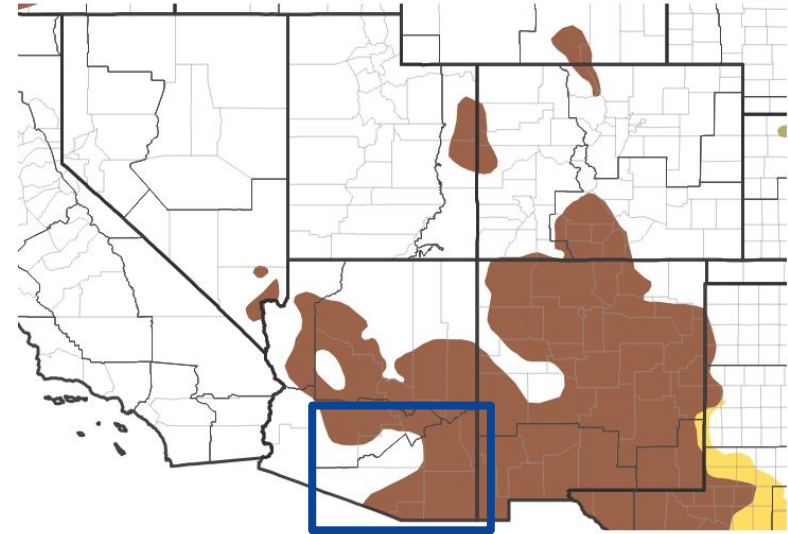


# Drought Outlook

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

- Drought conditions are likely to persist into early Summer across most of southeast Arizona.

## Seasonal (3-Month) Drought Outlook



### Drought Is Predicted To...



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

Data Valid: 03/07/24

### Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released March 21, 2024 valid for March 21 to June 30, 2024

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