Drought Information Statement for Southeast Arizona

Valid April 27, 2025

Issued By: National Weather Service Tucson, AZ

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

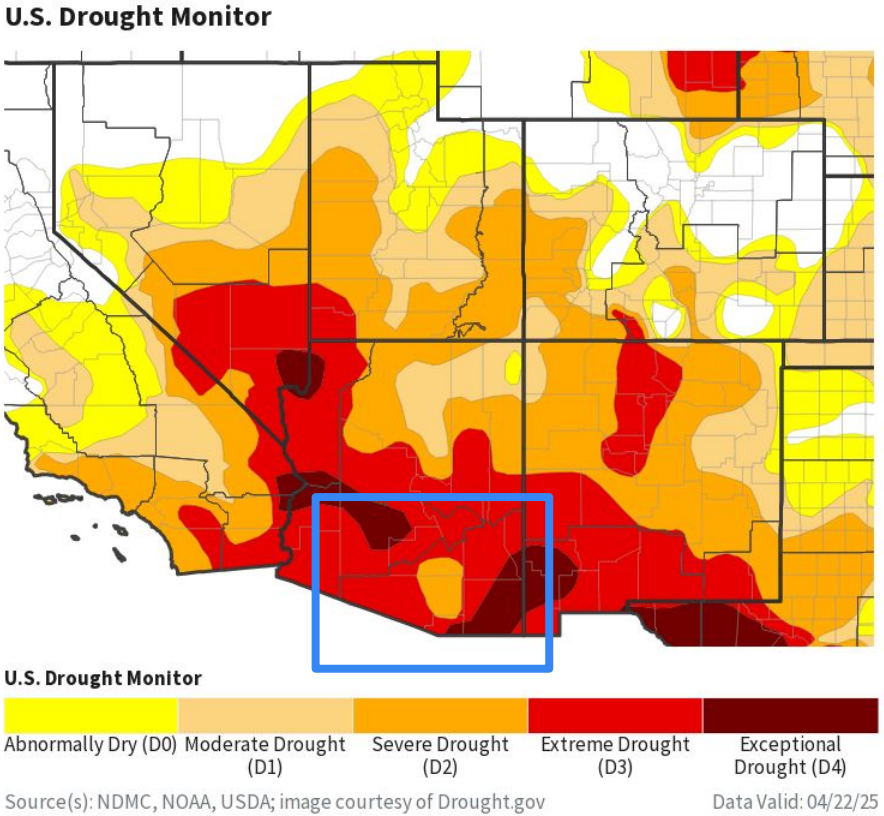
- This product will be updated by May 20, 2025 or sooner if drought conditions worsen significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements.
- Please visit https://www.weather.gov/twc/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.
- Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/ for regional drought status updates.

- Exceptional (D4) drought conditions across most of Cochise county; the southern parts of Greenlee county; the southeast parts of Graham county; and eastern portions of Santa Cruz county.
- The last time parts of southeast Arizona was in Exceptional drought (D4) was Fall of 2020 (October) to Summer of 2021 (August).
- The remainder of southeast Arizona under either Extreme (D3) or Severe (D2) drought conditions

U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for southeast Arizona

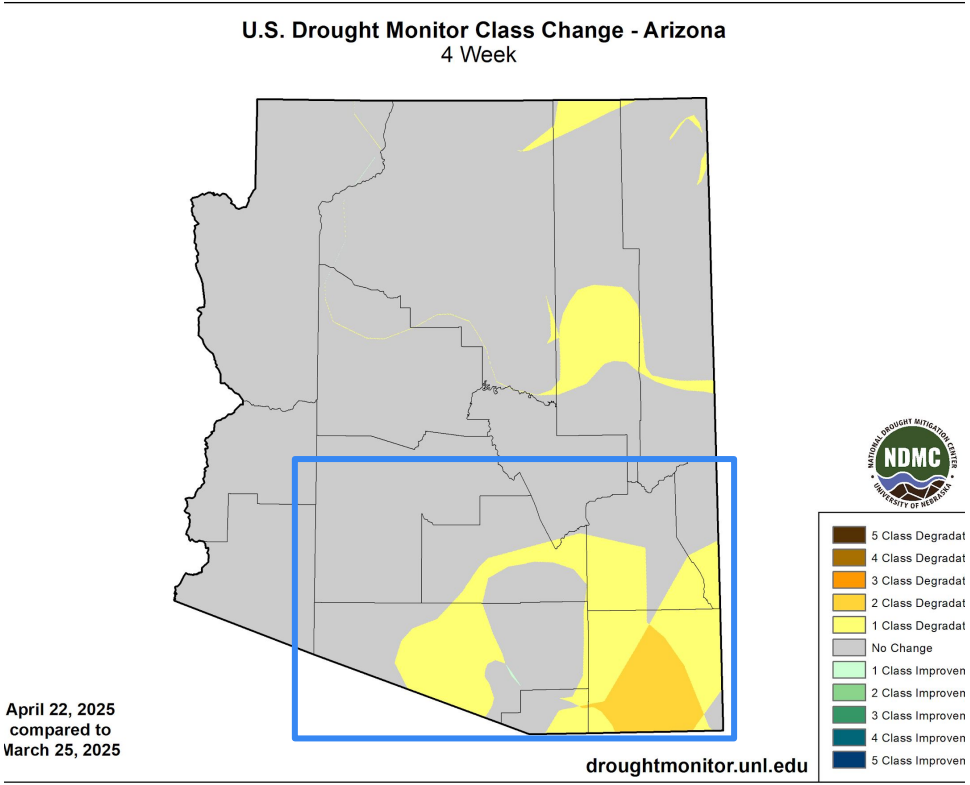
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: Most of Cochise county; the southern parts of Greenlee county; the southeast parts of Graham county; and eastern portions of Santa Cruz county.
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: The remainder of Greenlee, Graham, Cochise and Santa Cruz counties; far northern & western portions of southeast Pinal county; western and central Pima county.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: The remainder of Pima and Pinal counties.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: No areas.
  - **D0: (Abnormally Dry)**: No areas.



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

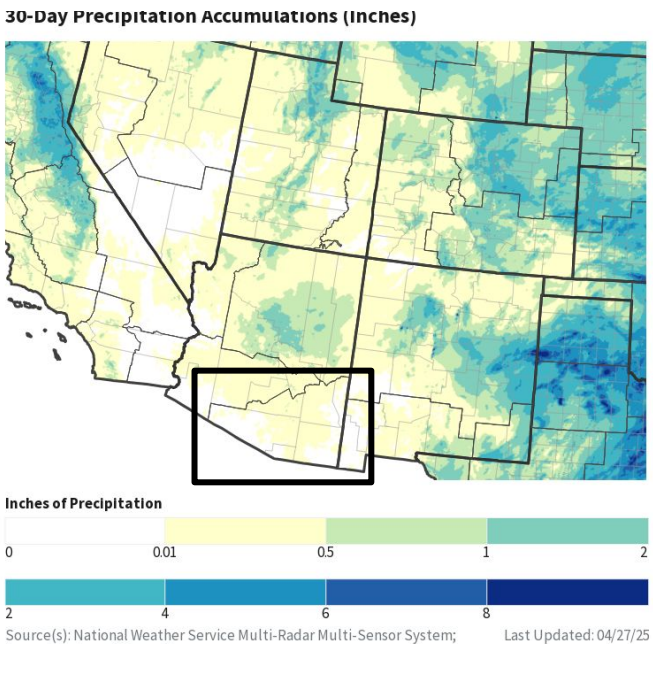
Link to the latest 1-week change map for southeast Arizona

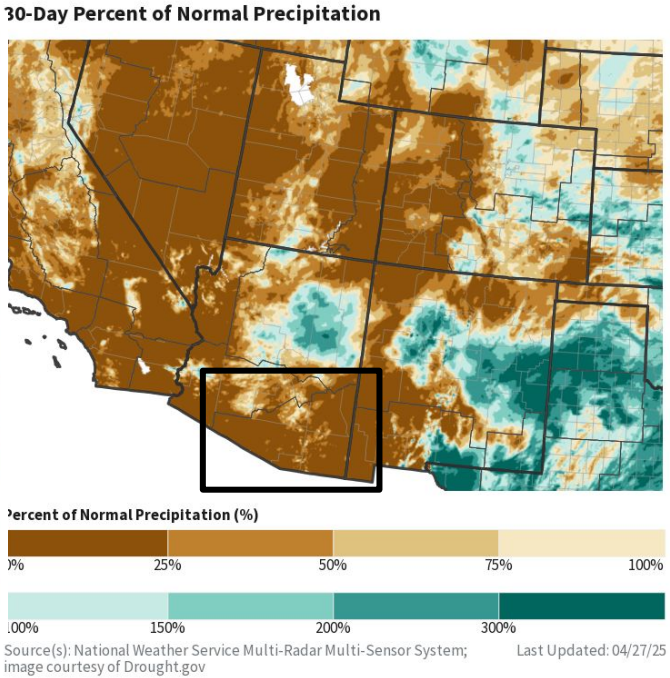
- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - **Drought Worsened:**
    - **Two class degradation** occurred across the central and southern portions of Cochise county.
    - **One class degradation** across the remainder of Cochise county; southern portions of Graham & Greenlee counties; central Pima county and parts of southeast Pinal county.
  - **No Change:** The remainder of southeast Arizona
  - **Drought Improved:** No improvement was observed.



Precipitation

- An early April weather system brought very light precipitation to the area, otherwise it has been very dry over the past 30 days.

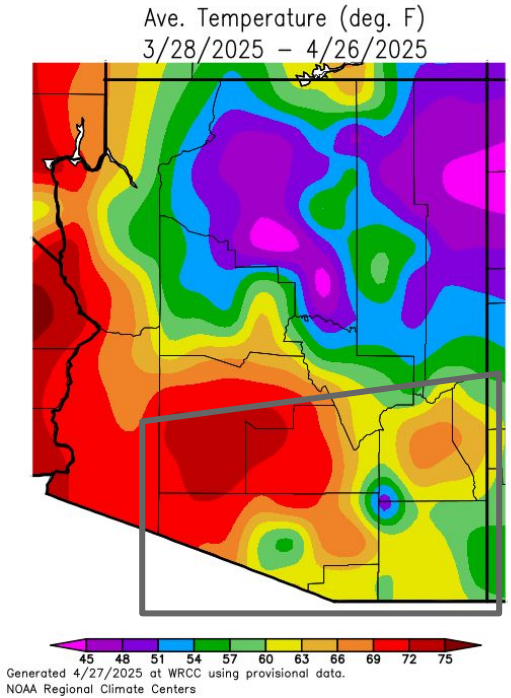




Data over the past 30 days ending April 27, 2025

Temperature

- Above normal temperatures for most of southeast Arizona since late March. The exception is cooler than normal temperatures (circle) across northeast Cochise county, far southern Greenlee county & far southeast Graham county.



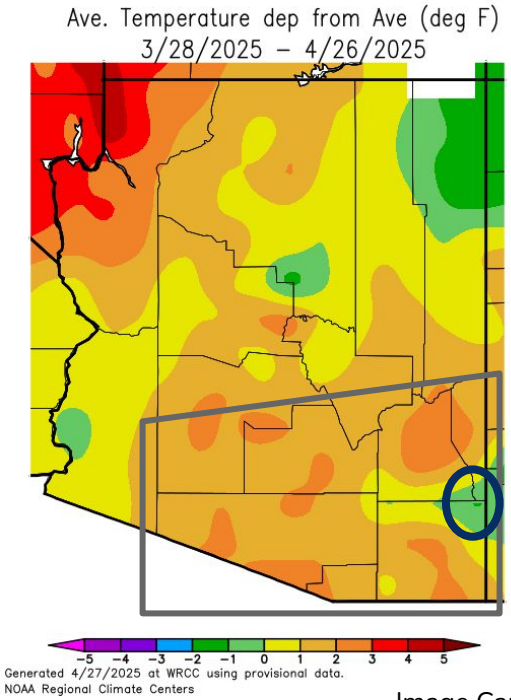


Image Captions:
Left - Average Temperature for Arizona w/southeast Arizona in highlighted gray box
Right - Departure from Normal Temperature for Arizona w/southeast Arizona in highlighted gray box
Data Courtesy Western Regional Climate Center.
Data over the past 30 days ending April 26, 2025

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. (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 Very High due to the live fuel moistures at record lows and dead fuel moistures running below than normal. The rapid warming of temperatures and breezy periods has increased fuels drying more than usual and increasing the overall fire danger. Above normal fire potential expected to continue through June.

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

- Conditions in the Upper San Pedro River and Upper Gila River continue to be at below to much below normal streamflow. The Santa Cruz River conditions remain near normal.

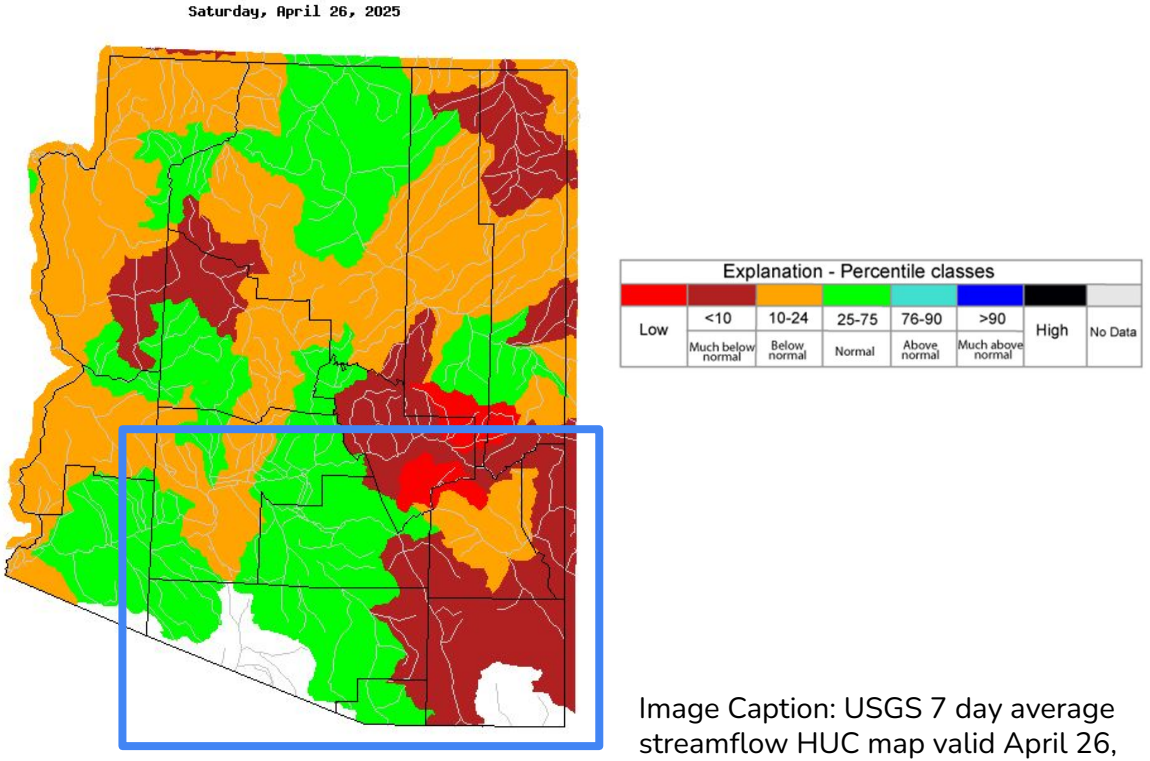
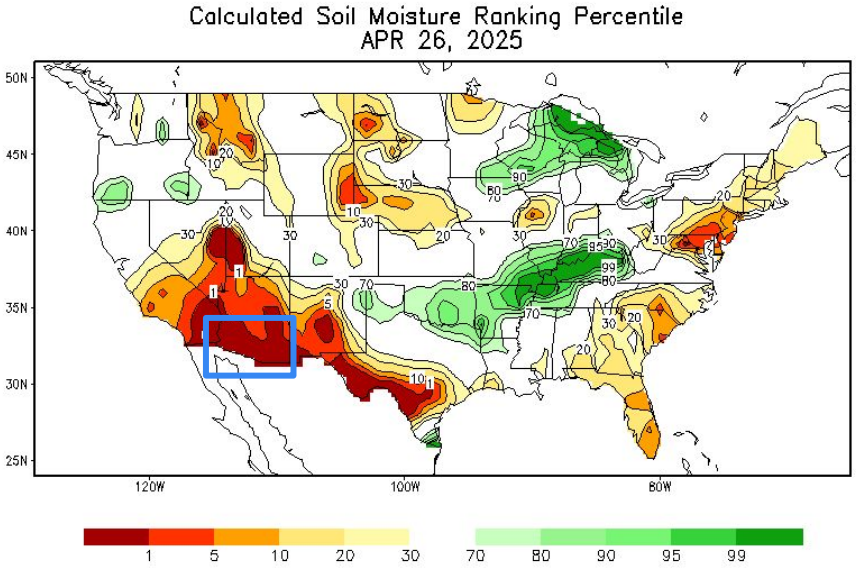


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid April 26, 2025

Agricultural Impacts

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



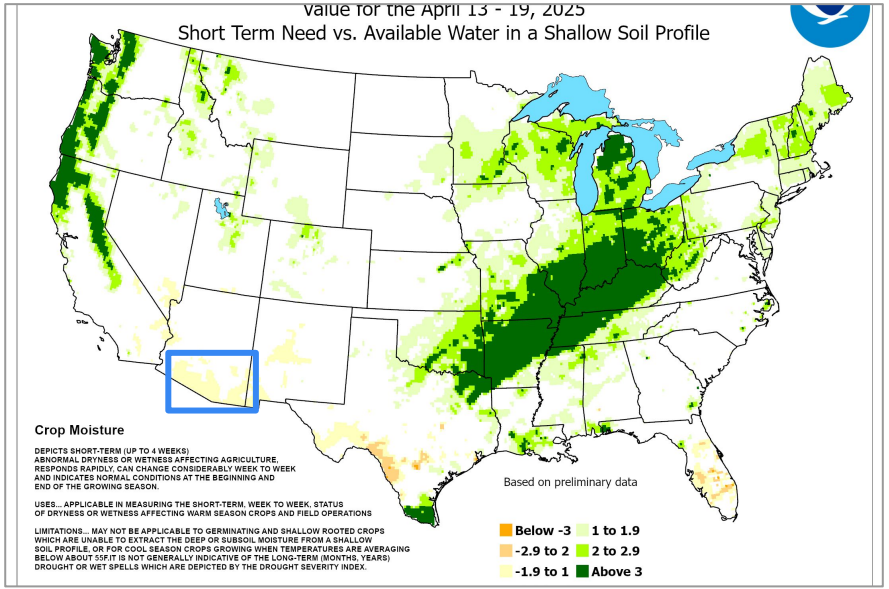


Image Captions:
Left: CPC Calculated Soil Moisture Ranking Percentile valid April 26, 2025
Right: Crop Moisture Index. Weekly value for period ending April 12, 2025

Fire Hazard Impacts

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

- Areas of above normal fire potential will be evident across Arizona in May (left map).
- Above normal fire potential will persist across Southeast Arizona and expanding into the Four Corners Region (right map).

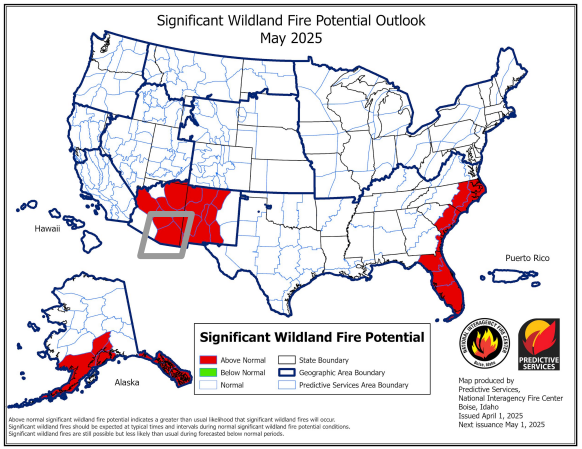


Image Captions:
The two images are for Significant Wildland Fire Monthly for the following months: Left: May; Right: June

National Wildland Significant Fire Potential Outlook text issued April 1, 2025

Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- No precipitation is expected for the next 7 days.

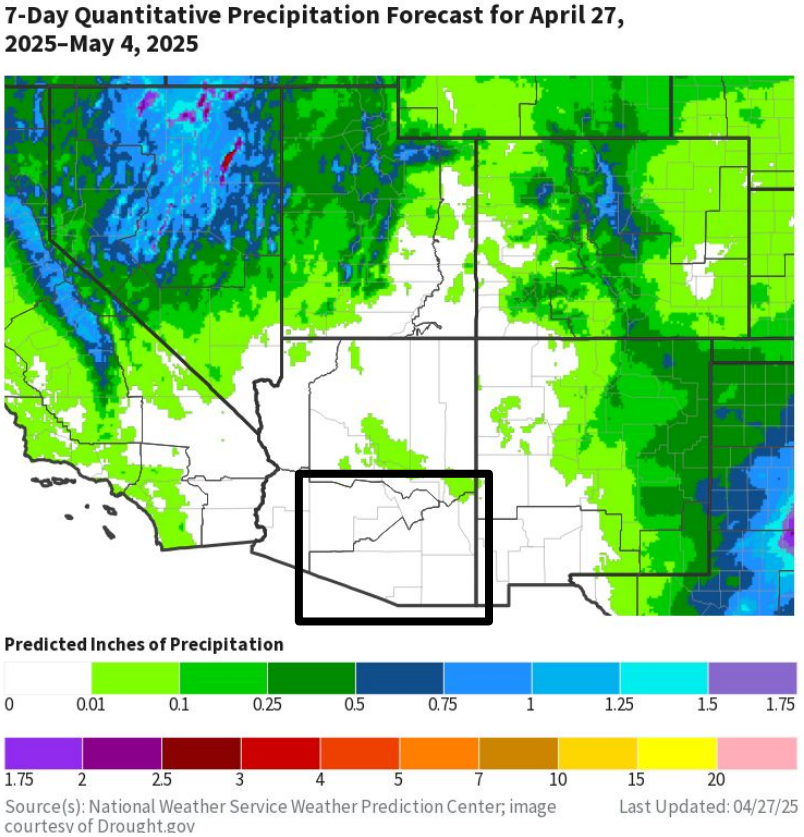
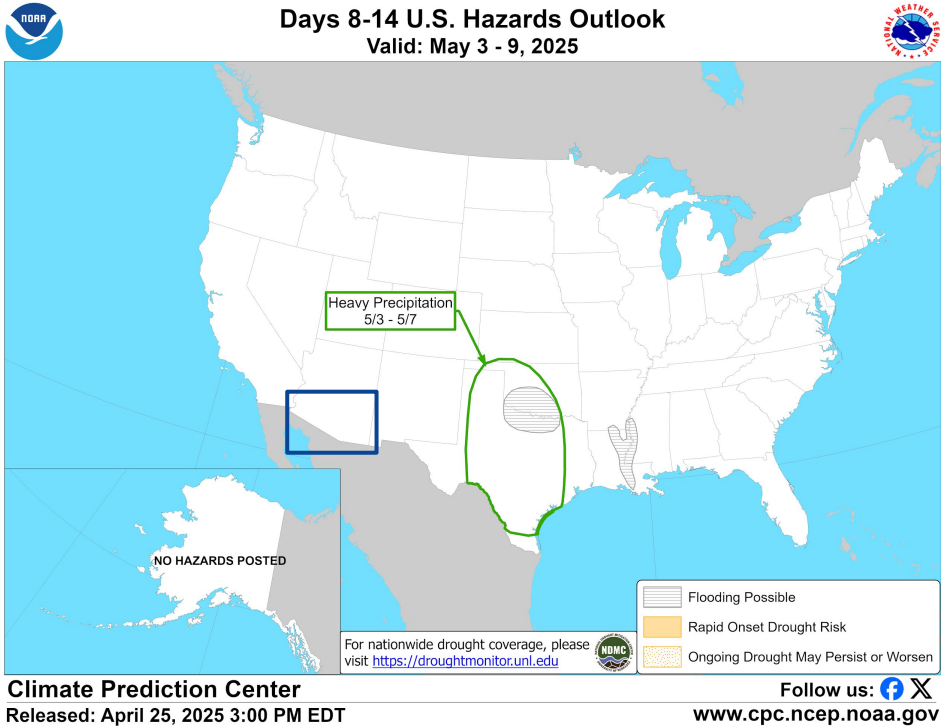


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center 7-day precipitation forecast valid Sunday April 27, 2025 to Sunday May 4, 2025

Rapid Onset Drought Outlook ??

Links to the latest Climate Prediction Center 8 to 14 day Temperature Outlook and Precipitation Outlook.

- Summarize conditions and impacts here

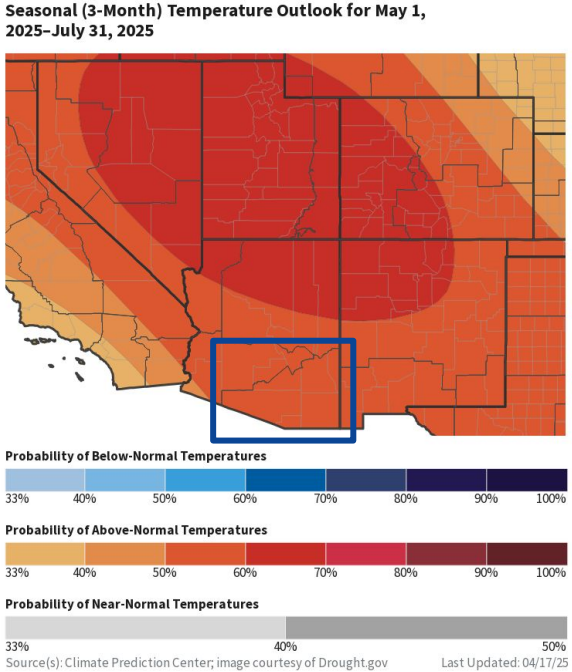


Long-Range Outlooks

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the CPC homepage

- The temperature outlook for **May 1 to July 31** leans toward **above normal**, 50% to 60% chance across the entire area.

- The precipitation outlook for **May 1 to July 31** favors **above normal** precipitation, 30% to 40% chance across most of the area. The exception is equal chances (EC) across western Pima county.



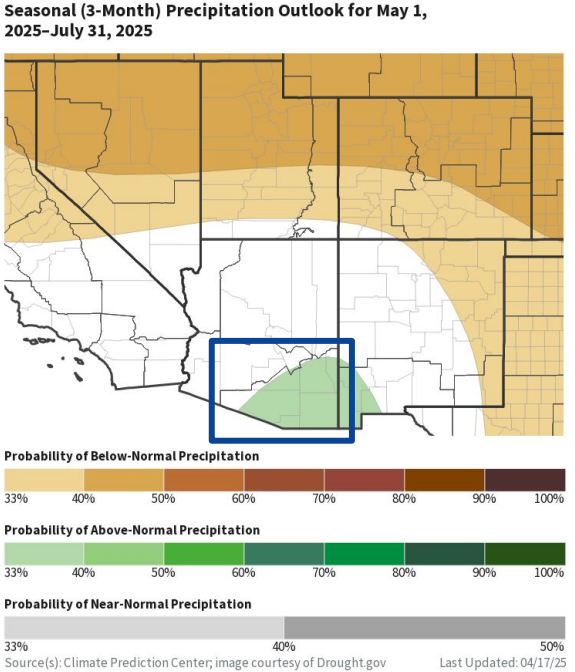


Image Captions:
Left - Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook.
Right - Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook.
Valid May 1, 2025 to July 31, 2025

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 July.

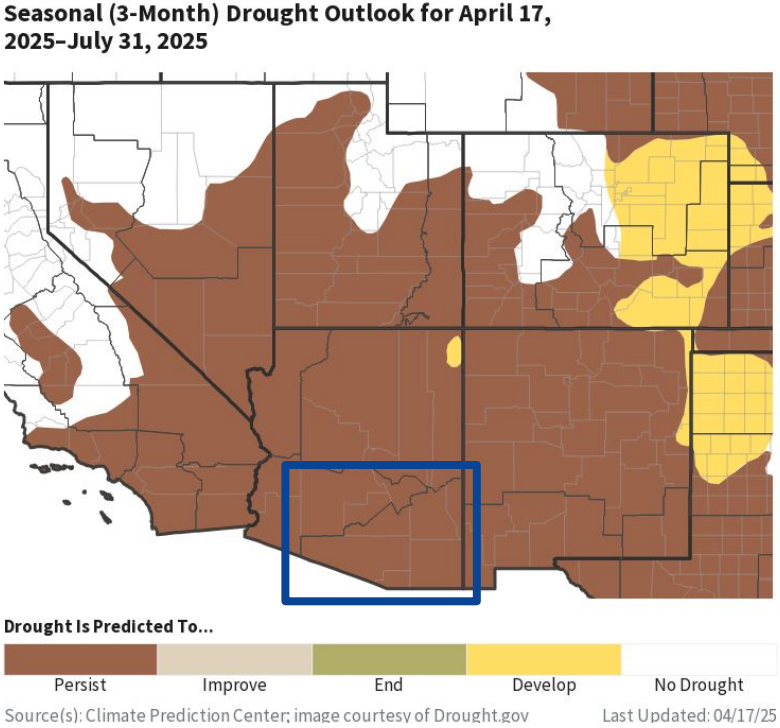


Image Caption:
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook Released April 17, 2025 valid for April 17, 2025 to July 31, 2025

Links to the latest:
Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook