Drought Information Statement for the Mojave Desert and Eastern Sierra

Valid August 28, 2025

Issued By: WFO Las Vegas, NV

Contact Information: nws.lasvegas@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated around Sept. 18, 2025 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/VEF/DroughtInformationStatement for previous statements.
- Please visit https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/ for regional drought status updates.

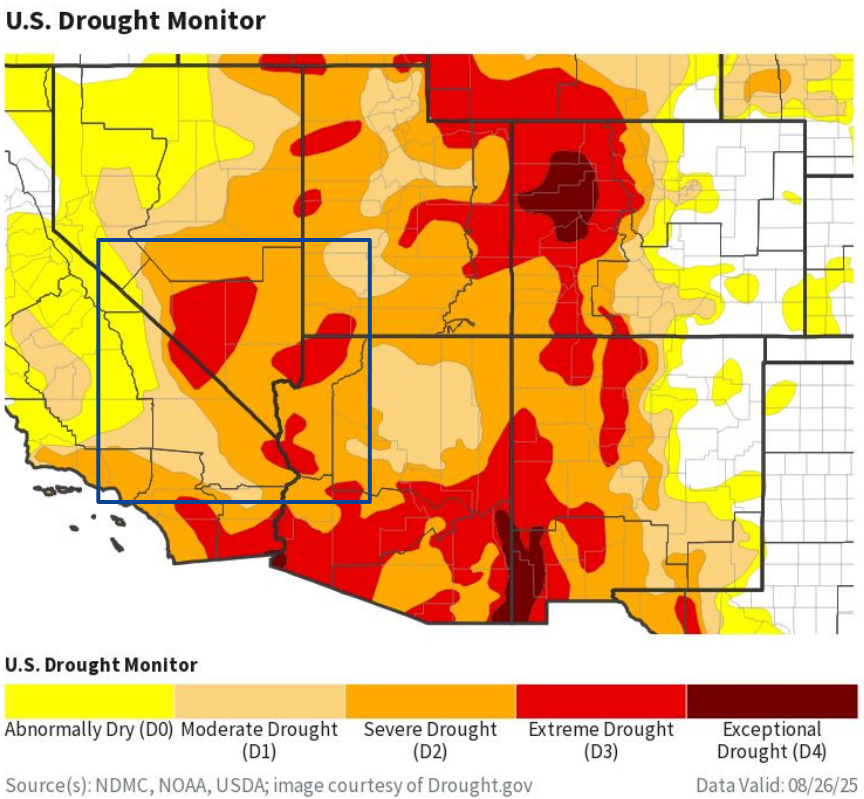
- Precipitation this monsoon season has been near to below average across southern Nevada, southeastern California, and northwestern Arizona.

- Temperatures have been cooler than average for most of the area, helping to mitigate drought impacts.

U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the latest U.S. Drought Monitor for the Southwestern United States

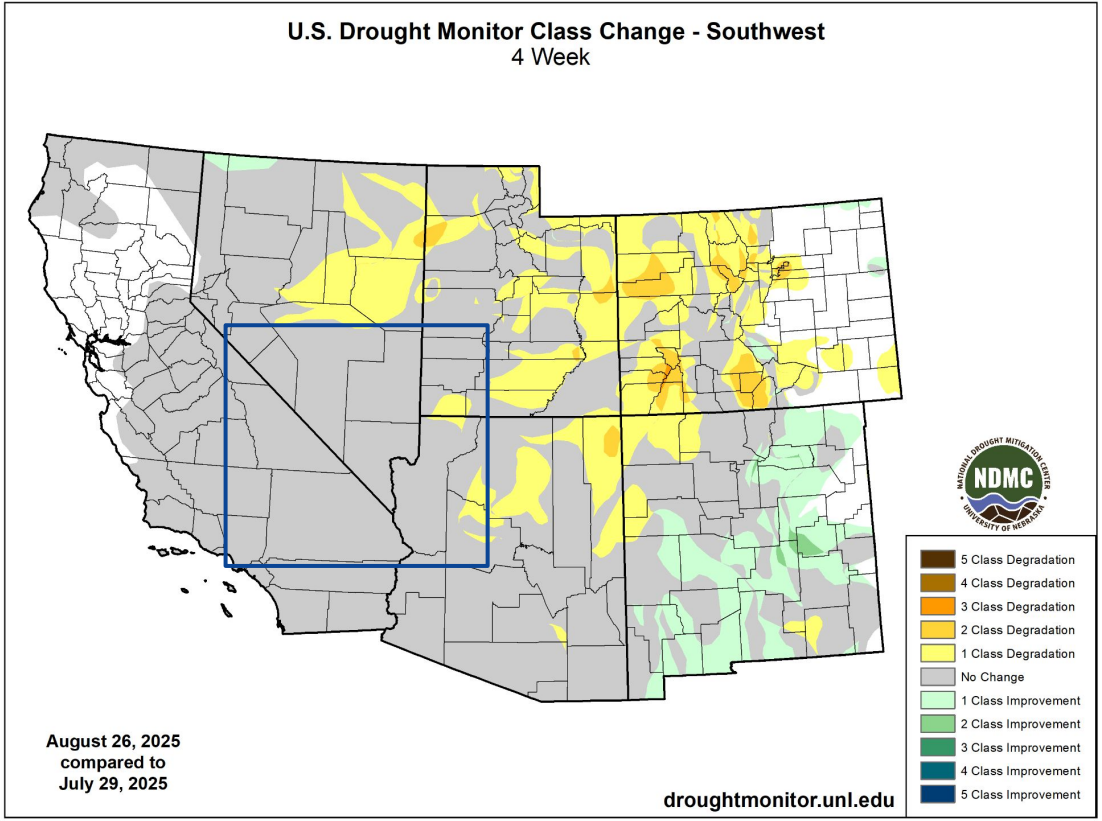
- Drought Intensity and Extent
  - **D4 (Exceptional Drought)**: None.
  - **D3 (Extreme Drought)**: Central Nye County, western Lincoln County, eastern Clark County, sections of Mohave County, and Death Valley in Inyo County.
  - **D2 (Severe Drought)**: Remaining areas of Lincoln, Clark, and Mohave counties, eastern San Bernardino, Inyo, and Esmeralda counties.
  - **D1 (Moderate Drought)**: Western San Bernardino County, sections of central Inyo County, central Esmeralda County.
  - **D0 (Abnormally Dry)**: The Eastern Sierra, Owens Valley, and White Mountains in Inyo County, far western Esmeralda County.



Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest 4-week change map for Southwestern United States

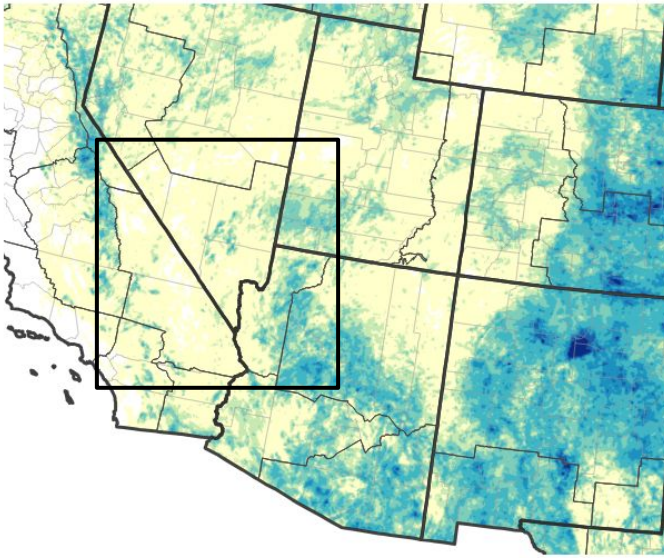
- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - **Drought Worsened:** A section of far northern Mohave County.
  - **No Change:** Most of southern Nevada, southeastern California, and northwestern Arizona.
  - **Drought Improved:** No widespread improvement was observed.



Precipitation

- Below average precipitation has been observed across most of the area over the last 30 days.
- Monsoon activity picked up in late August. The strongest storms produced damaging winds, dust storms, and roadway flooding.
- The greatest precipitation amounts were in northwestern Arizona and localized sections of southeastern California.

30-Day Precipitation Accumulations (Inches)

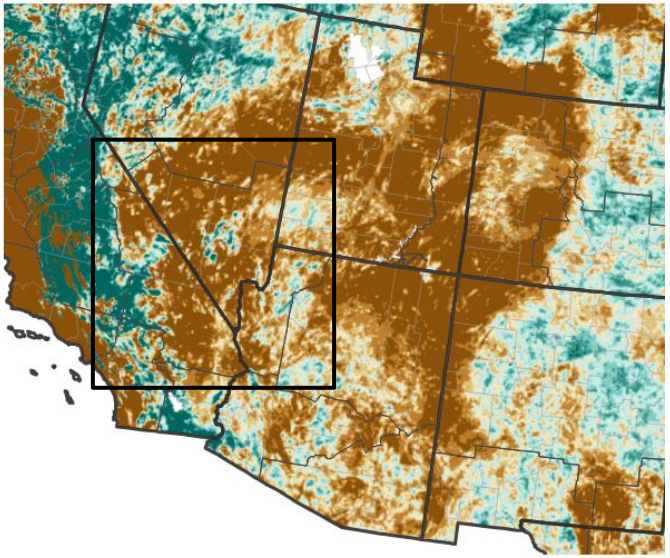


Inches of Precipitation

0 | 0.01 | 0.5 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8

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

30-Day Percent of Normal Precipitation



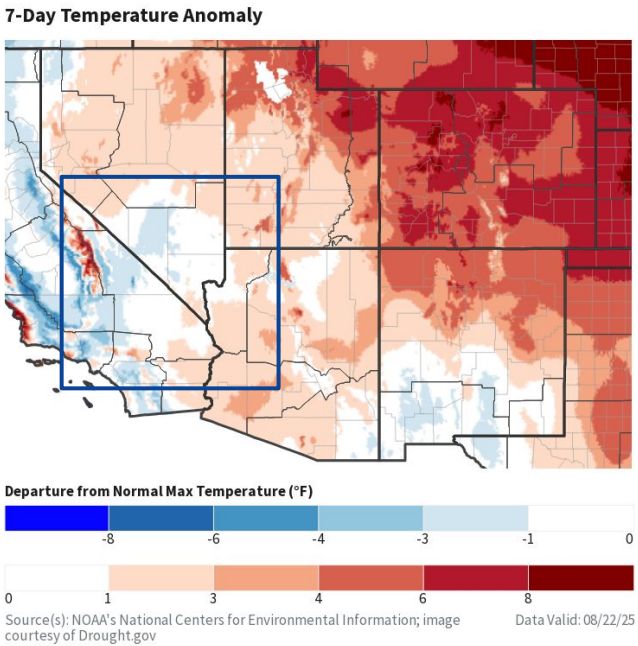
Precipitation Shown as a Percentage of Normal Conditions

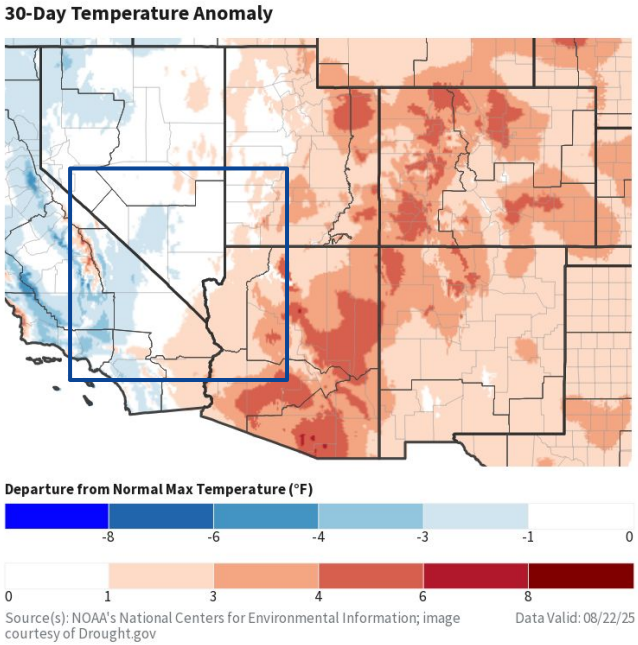
0% | 25% | 50% | 75% | 100% | 150% | 200% | 300%

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

Temperature

- Average maximum temperatures have been near normal over the last 30 days.





Summary of Impacts

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

Hydrologic Impacts

- Lake Mead is at 1,055.23 feet in elevation, or 31 percent full.

Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Other Impacts

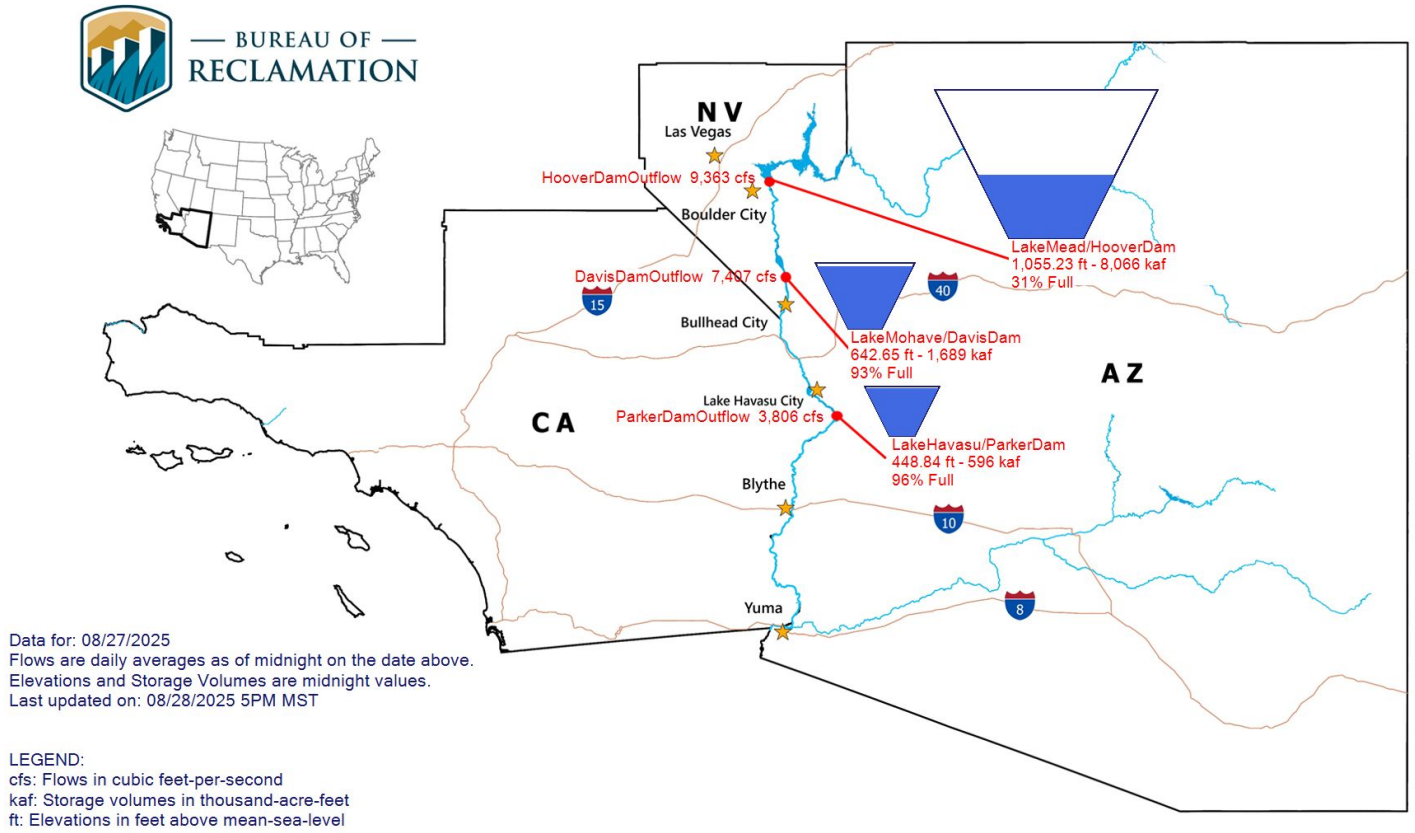
- There are no known impacts at this time.

Mitigation Actions

- Southern Nevada Water Authority switched to the summer landscape watering schedule.

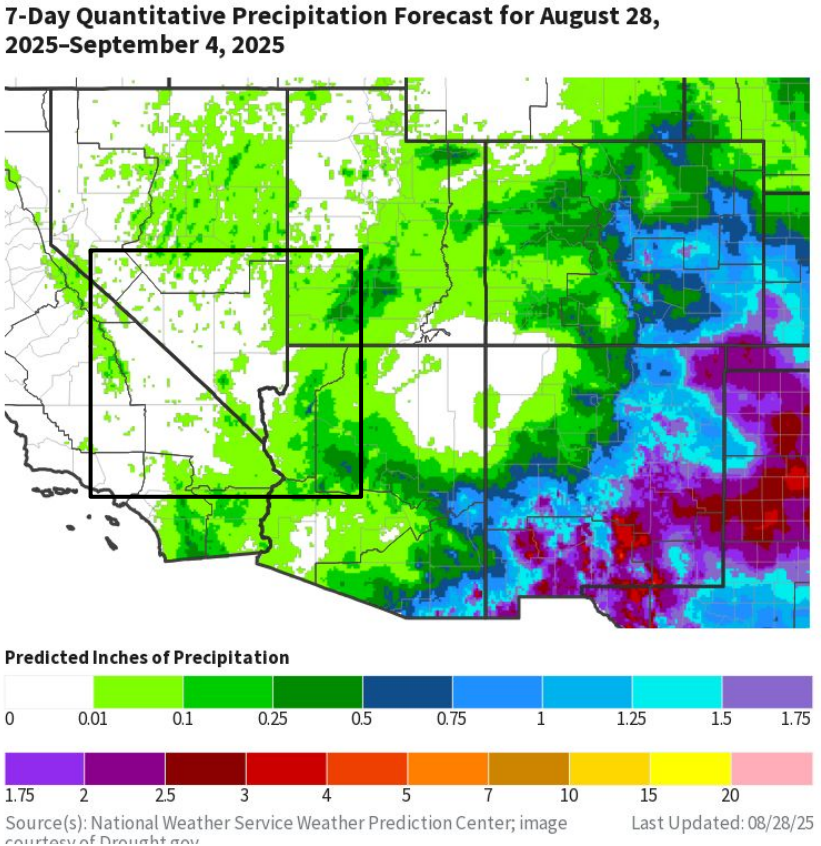
Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Lake Mead is at 1,055.23 feet in elevation, or 31% full.
- Lake Mohave is at 642.65 feet in elevation, or 93% full.
- Lake Havasu is at 448.84 feet in elevation, or 96% full.
- The Bureau of Reclamation 24-month study indicates that Lake Mead increase, Lake Mohave will decrease, and Lake Havasu will remain steady through the end of WY 2025.



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Isolated thunderstorms are possible on Friday, followed by dry conditions over the weekend.
- Monsoonal moisture may return during the first half of next week.

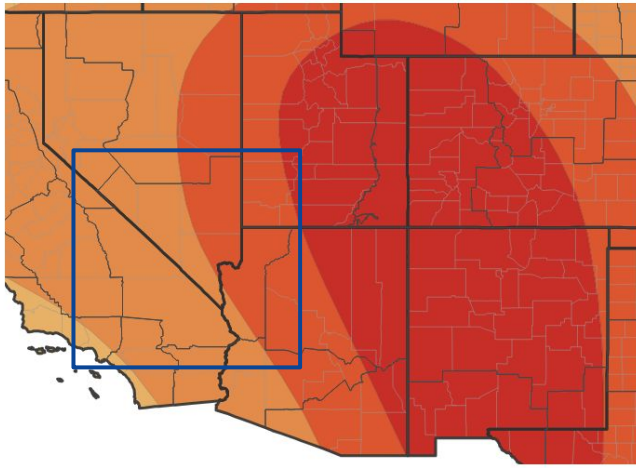


Long-Range Outlooks

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

- There is a 40 to 60% probability of above normal temperatures across the area through November 30.
- There are equal chances for above or below normal precipitation in southeastern California through November 30.
- There is a 33 to 50% probability of below normal precipitation in parts of southern Nevada and northwestern Arizona through November 30.

Seasonal (3-Month) Temperature Outlook for September 1, 2025–November 30, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Temperatures

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90%

Probability of Above-Normal Temperatures

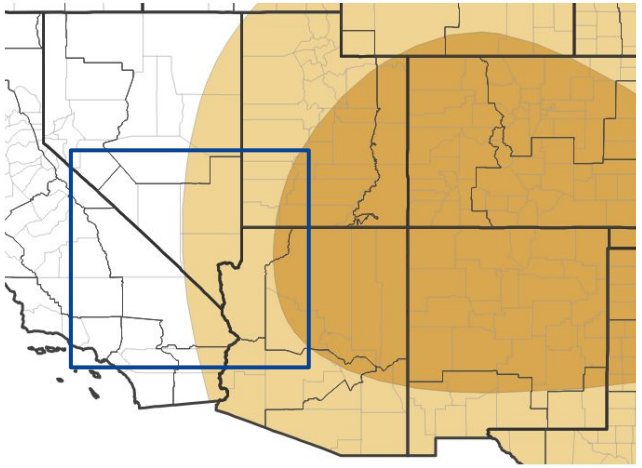
33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90%

Probability of Near-Normal Temperatures

33% 40%

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 0

Seasonal (3-Month) Precipitation Outlook for September 1, 2025–November 30, 2025



Probability of Below-Normal Precipitation

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90%

Probability of Above-Normal Precipitation

33% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90%

Probability of Near-Normal Precipitation

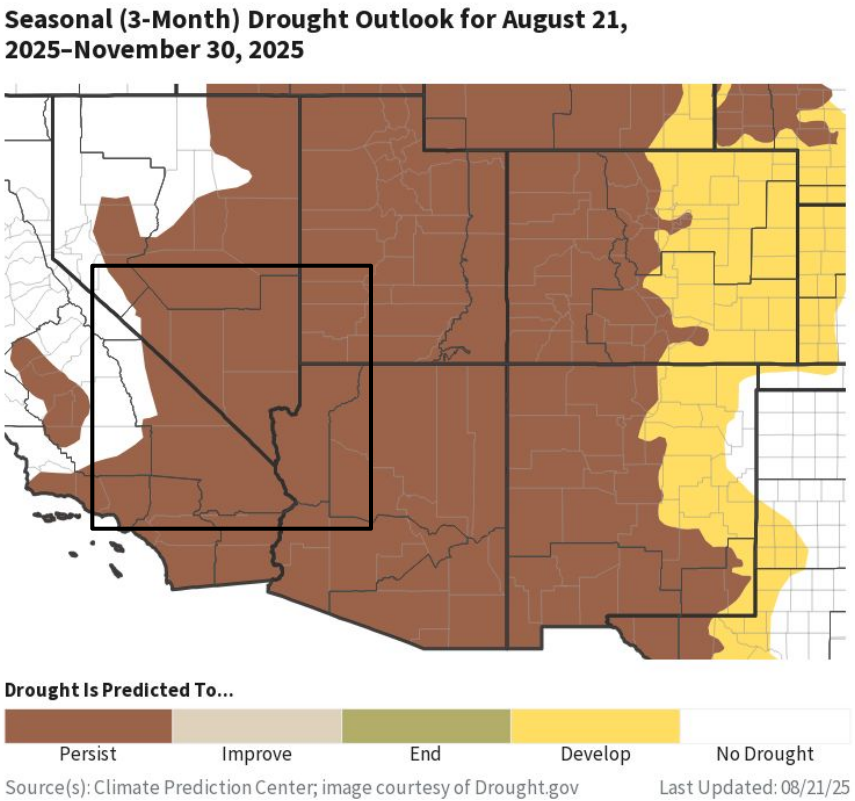
33% 40%

Source(s): Climate Prediction Center; image courtesy of Drought.gov Last Updated: 0

Drought Outlook

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

- Drought is expected to persist through at least November 30 for most of southern Nevada, northwestern Arizona, and southeastern California.



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