

'Extreme Drought' Expands In California



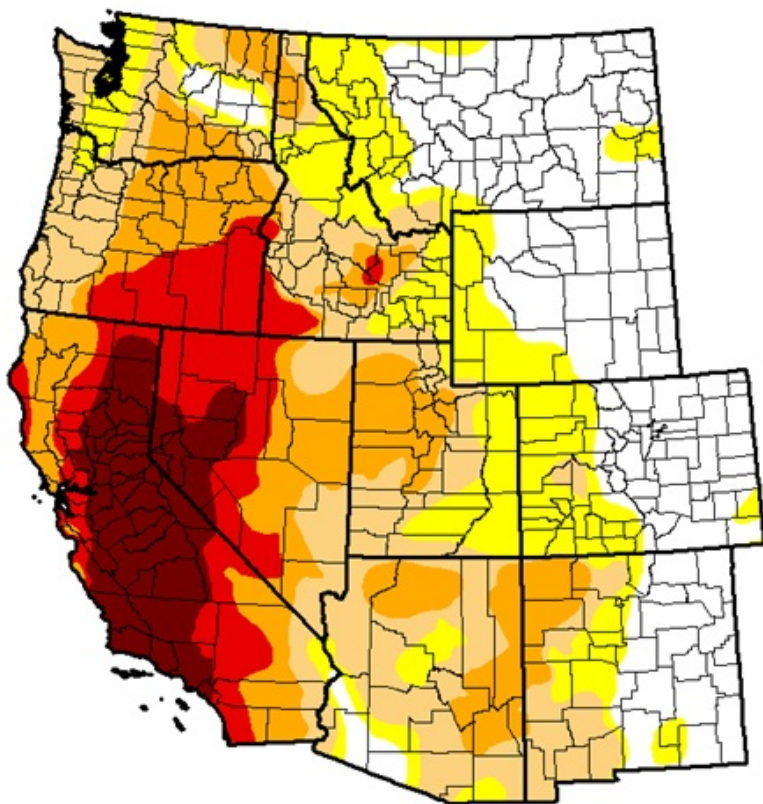
The latest [U.S. Drought Monitor](#) report shows that conditions worsened in two California counties in the midst of a fourth year of drought.

The report released Thursday, June 11, shows the moisture from the remnants of Pacific Hurricane Andres "triggered showers and thunderstorms in the Four Corners region ... and with much of the region experiencing an unseasonably cool May and wet spring, some impacts have been observed."

Those "visible impacts" meant a decrease in drought for "northeastern Arizona, southeastern Utah, southwestern Colorado, northwestern Utah, northeastern Nevada and south-central Idaho, and a small area of west-central Nevada."

U.S. Drought Monitor West

June 9, 2015
(Released Thursday, Jun. 11, 2015)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	26.12	73.88	55.26	34.69	17.52	7.78
Last Week 6/2/2015	25.23	74.77	56.98	35.92	17.99	7.94
3 Months Ago 3/10/2015	29.72	70.28	59.80	29.93	16.62	7.04
Start of Calendar Year 12/01/2014	34.76	65.24	54.48	33.50	18.68	5.40
Start of Water Year 9/01/2014	31.48	68.52	55.57	35.65	19.95	8.90
One Year Ago 6/10/2014	30.93	69.07	60.11	47.10	20.35	4.28

Intensity:

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

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:
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<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

The report said the recent rains and cool weather have improved "pastures and range ratings into good to excellent categories on June 7," which included California (35 percent) and Nevada (50 percent), according to the [USDA](#).

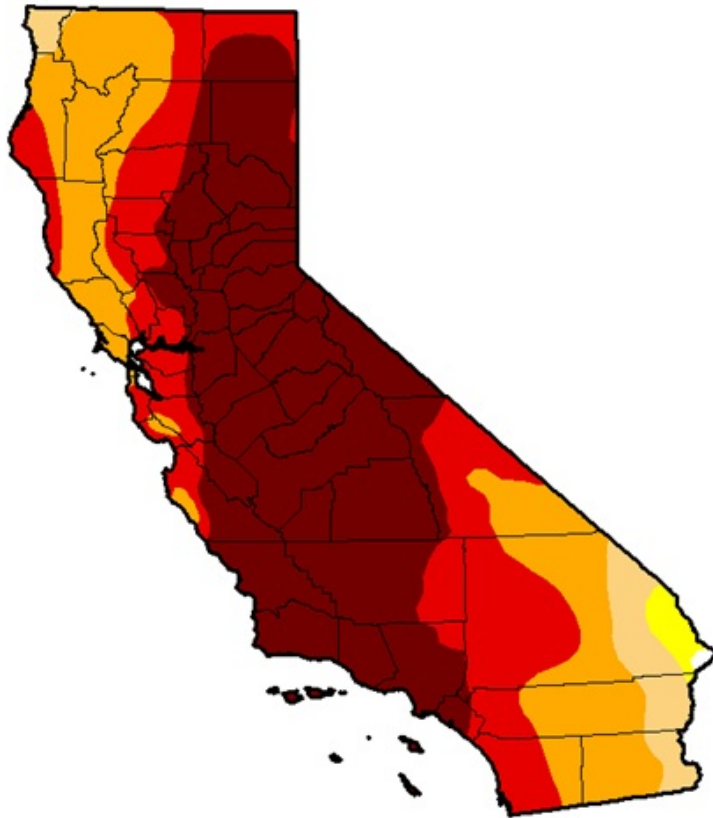
But, while many other western states saw improvement in the drought over the past week, California did not, due to another week of unseasonably warm and dry weather.

The warm, dry weather, "in addition to a dry spring (and dry and warm winter), has lowered [USGS](#) monitored 28-day averaged coastal streams to near- and record lows in California's Humboldt and Mendocino Counties - that count on spring rains for flow - from D2 [Severe Drought] to D3 [Extreme Drought]."

The Drought Monitor categories range from Abnormally Dry to Exceptional Drought. Extreme and Exceptional are the highest levels on the Monitor's intensity scale.

U.S. Drought Monitor California

June 9, 2015
(Released Thursday, Jun. 11, 2015)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.14	99.86	98.71	93.91	71.08	46.73
Last Week 6/2/2015	0.14	99.86	98.71	93.91	69.61	46.73
3 Months Ago 3/10/2015	0.16	99.84	98.11	93.44	67.46	39.92
Start of Calendar Year 12/01/2014	0.00	100.00	98.12	94.34	77.94	32.21
Start of Water Year 9/01/2014	0.00	100.00	100.00	95.04	81.92	58.41
One Year Ago 6/10/2014	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	76.68	24.77

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
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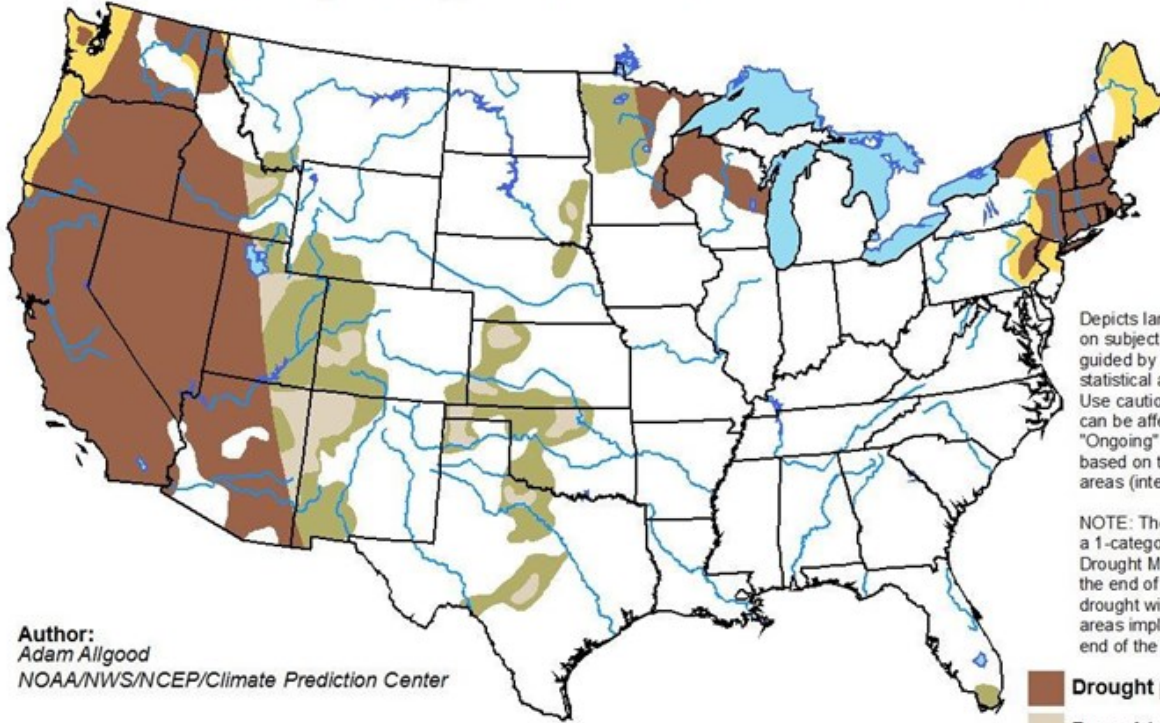
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

The report is a look back at the previous week and does not include potential impacts to the drought that any moisture from former Pacific Hurricane Blanca might have brought to California on June 9 and June 10.

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period





Valid for May 21 - August 31, 2015
Released May 21, 2015

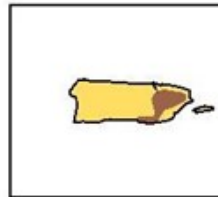
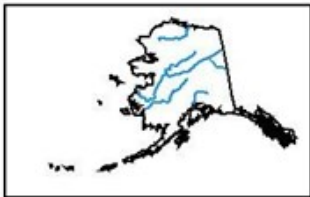


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

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-  Drought persists/intensifies
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/hHTe>