**Drought and Southeast Arizona: Where are we now and where are we headed?**

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Tracking and characterizing drought conditions across southeast Arizona is a challenging task. The Southwest’s seasonal-transitional climate coupled with steep topo-climatic gradients and high levels of inter-annual variability in precipitation conspire to create a complex pattern of potential drought impacts across the region. Temperatures have also been steadily increasing, but their role in driving changes in drought frequency and intensity also appear to be complex. In this presentation, I will highlight the evolution of drought conditions over the past several years and compare them to historic patterns across the region using several readily available drought monitoring resources on the internet. I will also share findings from a recent study pertaining to the performance of several drought indices and recommendations on optimal indices for different drought types.

Key companion web resources:

* Westwide Drought Tracker: <https://wrcc.dri.edu/wwdt/>
* Arizona Summer Monsoon Season Precipitation Mapping: <https://cals.arizona.edu/climate/misc/monsoon/az_monsoon.html>
* Southwest U.S. Monsoon Season Technical Summaries: <https://cals.arizona.edu/climate/misc/monsoon/monsoon_summaries.html>
* Southwest U.S. Cool Season Climate Summaries: <https://cals.arizona.edu/climate/misc/CoolSeason/CoolSeason_summaries.html>
* University of Arizona Drought and Grazing Resource Page: <https://cals.arizona.edu/droughtandgrazing/>