



# July 2016 Drought Update

## Water Availability Task Force Co- Chairs

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June 2016, was the 3<sup>rd</sup> warmest June on record, with only 2012 and 2002 logging hotter temperatures. Much of the state experienced average monthly temperatures four to six degrees above normal. July has seen cooler temperatures, thus far, with temperatures near normal across most of the state. The forecast for the next two weeks shows continued warm temperatures and better chances for precipitation as we move into monsoon season.

- Statewide water year-to-date mountain precipitation as reported from NRCS is at 99 percent of normal as of July 19th.
- July is the second consecutive month with below average statewide precipitation (June was 71 percent of average, while July to-date is 64 percent), this time of year precipitation tends to be spotty due to storms, but the WATF will continue to monitor the situation closely.
- Reservoir storage statewide remains unchanged from last month at 108 percent. The Arkansas basin has the highest storage levels in the state at 116 percent of average; the Upper Rio Grande has the lowest storage levels at 79 percent. All other basins are near or above normal.
- Water providers all reported storage levels above 90 percent and are not anticipating any mandatory watering restrictions this season, however continued warm and dry conditions have resulted in increased demands.
- The Statewide Water Supply Index (SWSI) is near normal across the majority of the state.

## U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

July 19, 2016

(Released Thursday, Jul. 21, 2016)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	81.13	18.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 7/12/2016	92.96	7.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 4/19/2016	74.62	25.38	2.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12/8/2015	90.02	9.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 9/29/2015	71.49	28.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 7/21/2015	97.96	2.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

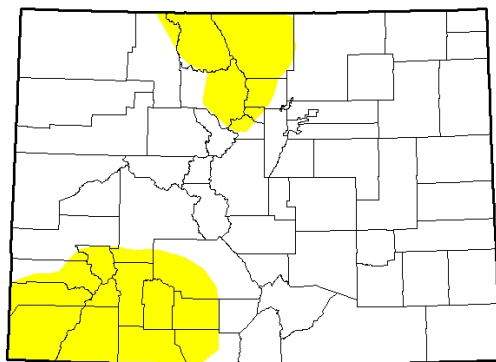
### Intensity

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

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

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19 percent of the state is experiencing D0 or abnormally dry conditions, an increase from previous weeks; however monsoon season is just beginning and may help to alleviate dryness. Conditions will continue to be monitored closely.



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

**NOTE: The next Water Availability Task Force Meeting will be held on August 17, 2016 at Colorado Parks and Wildlife Broadway Office; Additional information can be found at [www.cwcb.state.co.us](http://www.cwcb.state.co.us) or by contacting Ben Wade at [Ben.Wade@state.co.us](mailto:Ben.Wade@state.co.us)**