

Southwest Area Monthly Outlook

JULY 2024



WEATHER FACTORS AND OUTLOOK:

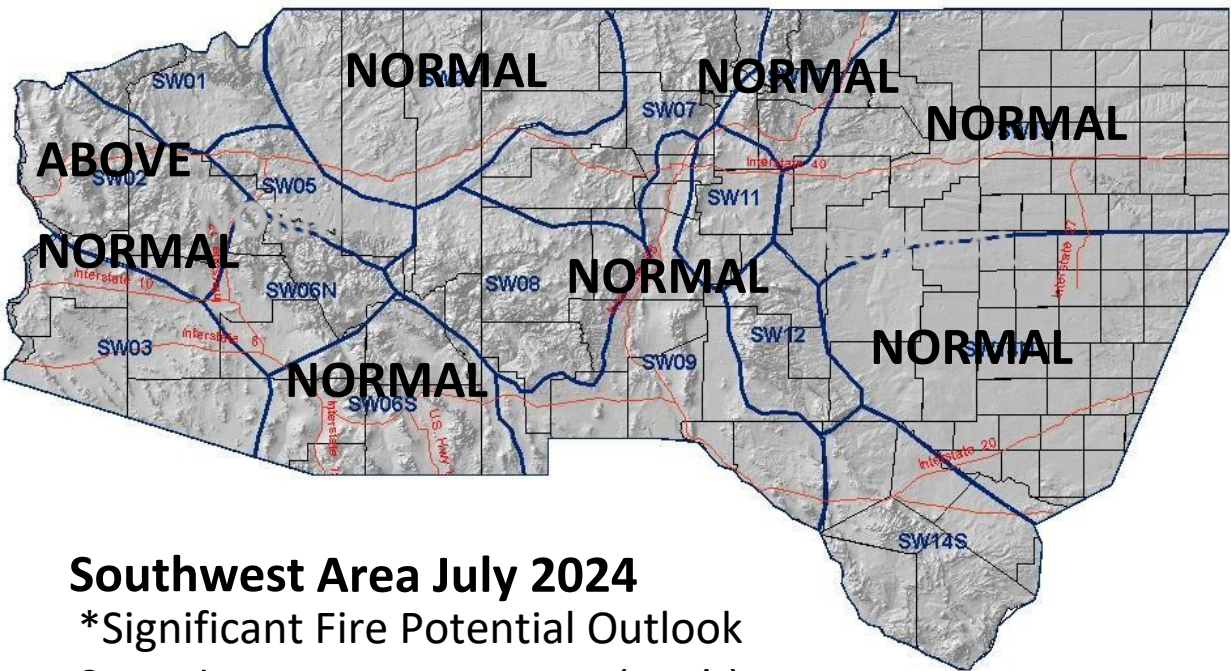
Drought Conditions: As of June 27th, the U.S. Drought Monitor indicated extreme drought from the eastern bootheel of New Mexico eastward into the southeastern plains with severe drought both surrounding this area as well as across a few small sections of north-central New Mexico. Moderate drought exists across much of southern, eastern, and northern New Mexico and across southeastern into central Arizona. The most recent U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook predicts that drought will persist across the areas where drought presently exists but no further development is expected during July.

Precipitation Anomalies and Outlook: Precipitation in June was poor to non-existent across areas of far western and northwestern Arizona and some sections of southern into southeastern New Mexico. A large swath of above to well above normal precipitation occurred from southern Arizona north-northeastward into central Arizona, the Four Corners, and much of the northwestern half or so of New Mexico. The latest CPC outlook for July forecasts equal chances for both above and below precipitation for much of the region with a small area of above normal chances across southeastern Arizona into southwestern New Mexico and below normal chances across the far eastern plains. Southwest Area Predictive Services agrees overall with this forecast.

Temperature Anomalies and Outlook: High temperatures during June were above normal for many portions of the region, esp. across Arizona. The latest CPC climate outlook forecasts above normal temperatures areawide for July. Predictive Services agrees with this forecast overall.

Significant Fire Potential	Normal many areas but Above Normal for far western/northwestern Arizona. Incidents of significant large fire activity typically peak in late June into the first half or so of July due to the high sun angle, frequent hot temperatures, long burn periods, areas of lingering dry air, and increasing thunderstorm activity. An early start to the summer monsoon luckily arrived between the 15 th to 20 th of June and has moistened up most of the region with precipitation, but even moreso elevated humidity. This is expected to begin to waver in early July until around mid-month, but then increase thereafter back into at least a low-mid grade monsoon for a while. Drier areas with be across far western Arizona and far southeastern New Mexico with the western third to half or so of Arizona having the highest likelihood of large fire activity overall.
Prescribed Fire Implications	July normally coincides with a slight uptick in burning as personnel ascertain what they can achieve during the summer monsoonal period. This July, burners should contemplate taking advantage of some burn windows revolving around the expected up/down monsoonal pattern but need to be cognizant of areas of above normal fine fuel amounts and also consider the impact of periods of dry and hot weather. As

	usual, a close eye should be on kept on the weather as changeable conditions will occur.
Miscellaneous	



Southwest Area July 2024

*Significant Fire Potential Outlook
& Predictive Services Areas (PSA's)

*Significant Fire Potential: The likelihood a fire situation will require mobilization of additional resources from outside the area in which the fire situation originates.