Humboldt County Drought Task Force Report November 2021

On October 19, 2021, Governor Newsom expanded the drought emergency to all 58 counties in California, triggering the authorization of the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) for counties to use on temporary emergency supplies, drinking water, or water for sanitation purposes. This expansion of the state's drought emergency signals that ongoing, and potentially multi-year action is needed to increase local resiliency to drought, regardless of single winter precipitation totals.

Drought conditions persist across Humboldt County and the larger coastal region, but have improved slightly due to the wet month of October. It is likely that Humboldt County will continue to see improvements in local drought conditions moving into the winter months if the levels of precipitation that we've recently experienced continue. The U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook, published on October 21, 2021, predicts that coastal areas in Humboldt County will see enough improvement in conditions to remove the drought designation by January 31, 2022, with interior areas of the county continuing to experience some drought conditions, but with improvement from previous months.

With noticeable improvements in Humboldt County's drought conditions, the Humboldt County Drought Task Force recommends that the Local Emergency Proclamation for Drought remain in effect until such a time that the U.S. Drought Monitor downgrades Humboldt County's drought intensity rating to a D1 (Moderate Drought) or lower along the coast, and D2 (Severe Drought) or lower in the interior areas of the County. Once the local emergency proclamation for drought is rescinded, it is this group's recommendation that drought and climate resilience continues to be a priority for the County of Humboldt. This will enable a faster recovery from the current drought, and will assist in mitigating some of the negative impacts of future drought years.

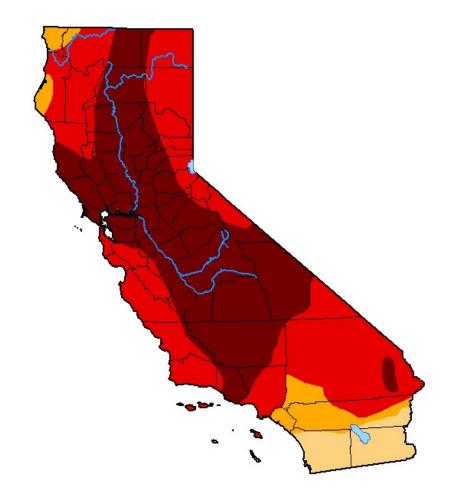
As indicated in the US Drought Monitor images below, Humboldt County has seen fairly widespread improvement in drought conditions in the past month (October 5th through November 2nd), particularly in the northwest portion of the county. The eastern interior of the county is still being shown as experiencing Extreme Drought conditions, largely due to less rainfall and higher temperatures than the coast.

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U.S. Drought Monitor California

October 5, 2021 (Released Thursday, Oct. 7, 2021)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT





The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx

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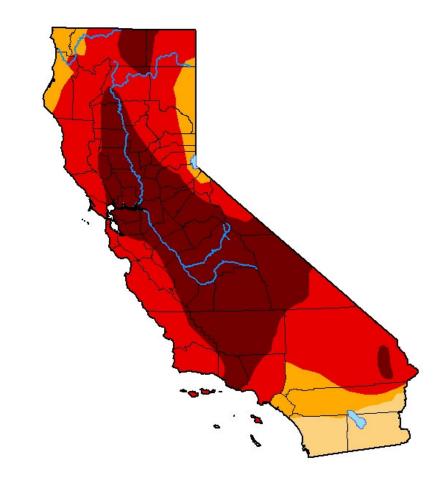
droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Humboldt County Drought Task Force Report November 2021

U.S. Drought Monitor California

November 2, 2021

(Released Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021) Valid 8 a.m. EDT





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