

Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians

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Cham Tema

“Our Land”

Soboba Tribal Environmental Department

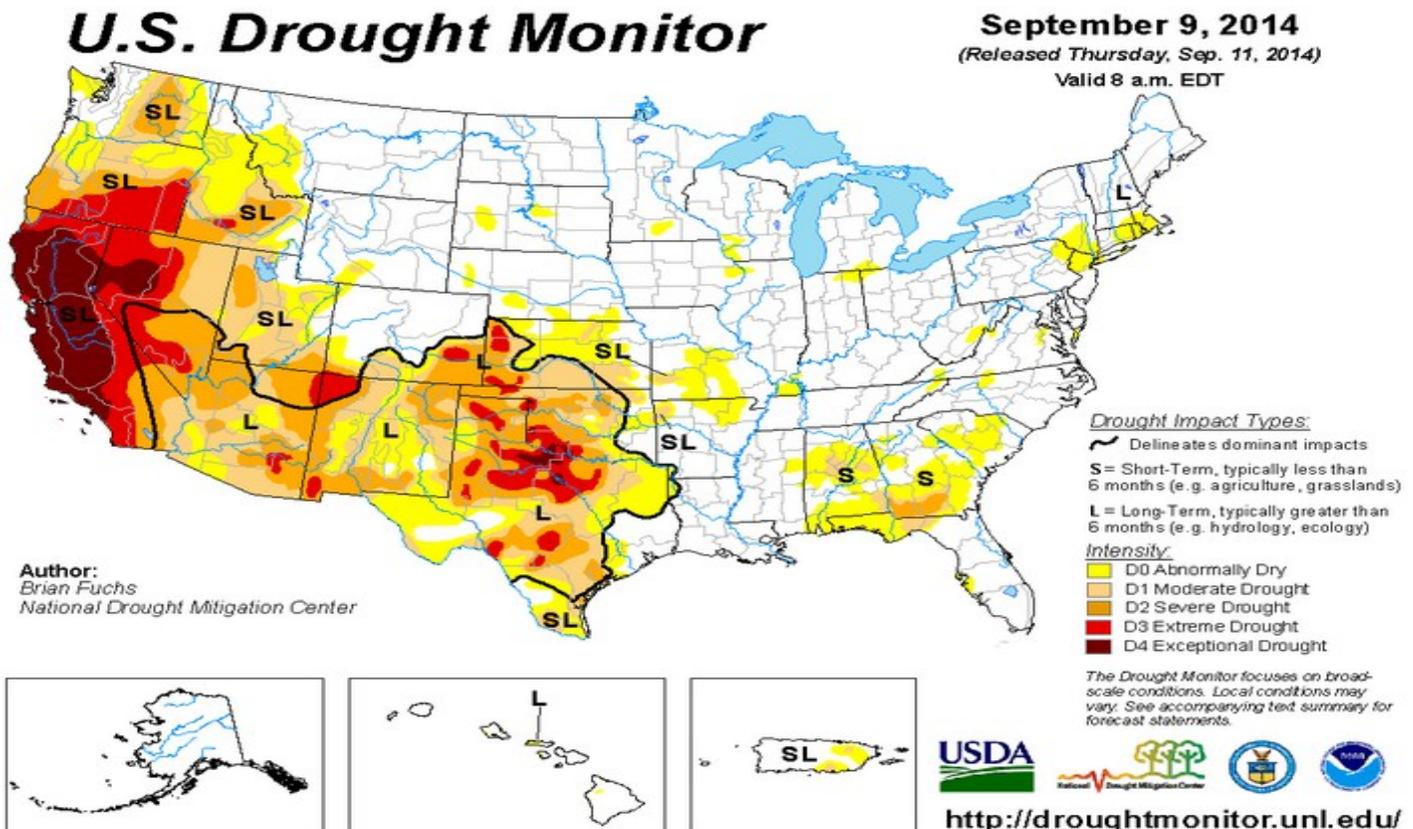
The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians' Tribal Environmental Department is committed to protecting, restoring, and enhancing natural resources on the Soboba Reservation for all Tribal Members: past, present, and future.



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Water Conservation

Several states have been experiencing a devastating drought longer than expected, and California is the most impacted. A drought is a deficiency in precipitation over an extended period. Although it is a normal, recurrent feature of Earth's climate that occurs in virtually all climate zones, this drought has not only threatened the existence of many species, but it also continues to worsen due to human activity. Water Restriction laws have been placed in many California counties where watering and washing vehicles is illegal on certain days of the week, and certain time periods of the day. Although those restrictions do not directly apply to residents of the Soboba Reservation, they do directly impact the residents. The water restrictions are put in place to preserve life on Earth, and if ignored, every species including humans, will be pushed to their limits of survival.



Impacts of a Drought

Droughts negatively effect the economy, environment, and people's health and safety. Although separated into different categories, everything on Earth is connected in one way or another. Environmentally speaking, if this drought causes a collapse of one species, it is almost certain that the collapse of that one species will cause the collapse of another, and so on. Although the human species may not be one of the first to experience a downfall, depending on the duration of the drought, that downfall could very well happen.

⇒ **Follow the link on the map to stay up-to-date with current drought conditions**

Economic, Environmental, and Social Impacts of a Drought

Economic

- Farmers may lose money if their crops are destroyed, and they may have to spend more money on irrigation or drilling new wells if water supplies are too low
- Ranchers may have to spend more money on feed and water for their animals
- Any business that depends on farming may lose their business
- People who work in the timber industry may be affected when wildfires destroy stands of timber
- Businesses that sell boats, fishing/boating equipment, etc. may go out of business as lakes dry up
- Power companies that rely on hydroelectric power may have to spend more money on other fuel sources if drought dries up too much of the water supply, thus causing prices to rise for customers
- Water companies may have to spend money on new or additional water supplies
- Barges and ships may have difficulty navigating rivers and canals due to low water levels, which would also affect businesses dependent on water transportation for receiving or sending goods and materials
- People might have to pay more for food

Environmental

- Losses or destruction of fish and wildlife habitat
- Lack of food and drinking water for wild animals
- Increase in disease of wild animals, because of reduced food and water supplies
- Migration of wildlife
- Increased stress on endangered species or even extinction
- Lower water levels in reservoirs, lakes, and ponds
- Loss of wetlands
- More wildfires
- Wind and water erosion of soils
- Poor soil quality

Social

- Anxiety or depression about economic losses caused by drought
- Health problems related to low water flows and poor water quality
- Health problems related to dust
- Loss of human life
- Threat to public safety from an increased number of forest and range fires
- Reduced incomes
- People may have to move from farms to cities, or from one city to another
- Fewer recreational activities

Information found on

<http://drought.unl.edu/droughtforkids/howdoesdroughtaffectourlives/typesofdroughtimpacts.aspx>



EST. JUNE 19, 1883

If you have any questions on information in the newsletter or any other environmental concerns contact:

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Water Friendly Car Washing Techniques

- Make sure your hose has a flow restrictor nozzle
- Park your vehicle on the grass while washing it
- Use a second bucket to ring out dirty sponge in before re-dipping the sponge back into the bucket of soapy water, this will lessen the amount of water changes needed
- Take vehicle to a commercial carwash, according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that is a more eco-friendly method of washing your vehicle than using your own hose, sponge, and soapy water bucket



Smart Sprinkler System

- The Rachiro Iro Sprinkler Controller detects weather patterns to determine the amount of water needed for lawns and plants
- It sends signals to your smartphone so sprinklers can be controlled on-the-go, anywhere, which allows for an immediate response to your sprinkler system
- Follow this link to order your smart sprinkler system —> <https://www.rach.io/store>



Green Your Lunch

- Pack lunch in a reusable lunch box rather than a disposable paper or plastic bag
- Use reusable Tupper-ware containers for food rather than Ziploc bags, etc.
- Rather than conventional water bottles, use reusable thermoses and water bottles (metal or BPA free plastic are the healthier choices) —> CamelBak and Nalgene are two respected BPA free water bottle companies
- Metal silverware rather than plastic is also a better choice for human and environmental health

All of these methods of “greening” your lunch are not only better for the environment but are also better for your health. Your health will improve when your food’s exposure to BPA is lessened, and the exposure comes directly from plastic packaging.

