

Cienega Creek: After 3 Consecutive Years of Record Breaking Drought Conditions

A Glimpse at June 2014

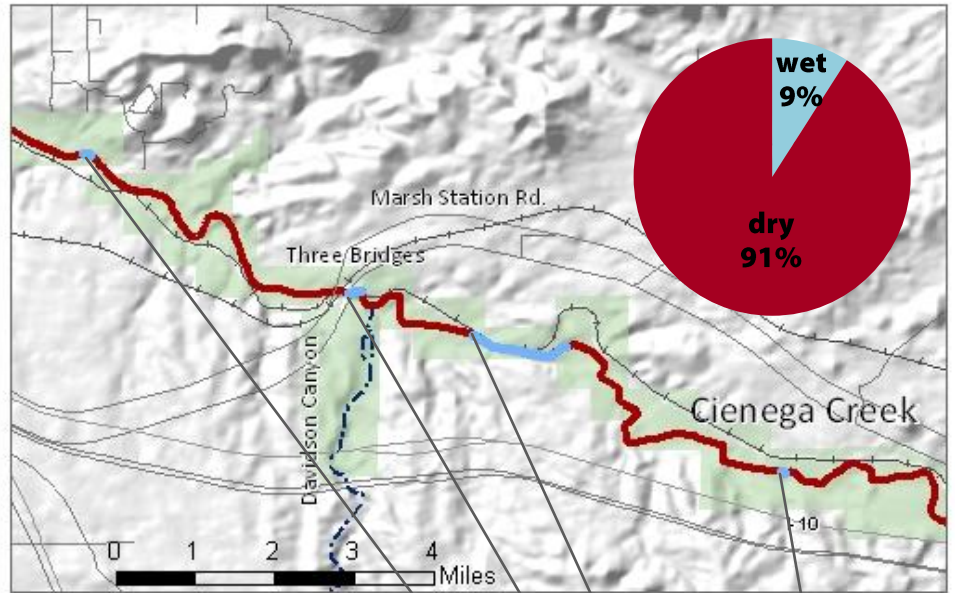


Once perennial – now dry streambed



Leaf loss in dying cottonwoods

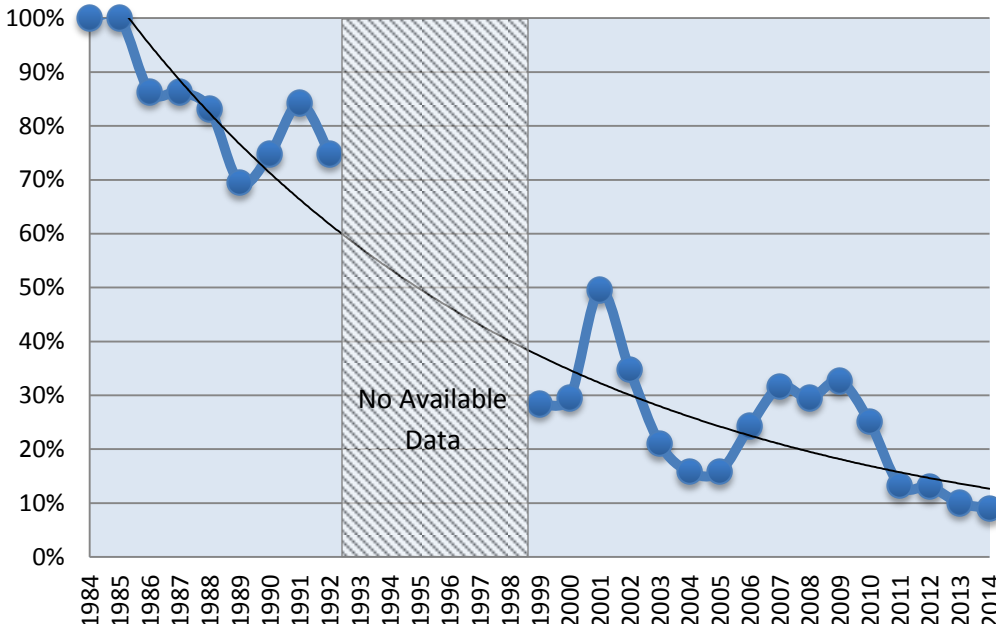
Driest Year on Record - June 2014



- Flowing Stream Reach
- Dry Stream Bed
- Cienega Creek Preserve
- Major Roads
- +— Railroad



Percent Flowing (wet) from June 1984-2014



The perennial flow extent of Cienega Creek was reduced to 0.86 miles in June 2014, the lowest flow extent on record. This is only 9% of the flow extent compared to the wet years in the mid-1980s when the full 9.5 miles flowed in the Preserve during the dry season. The impacts of prolonged drought include decreasing flow volume and extents, with negative prospects for the long term health of the aquatic and riparian system.

**The flow extent is measured on a quarterly basis during the PAG walk-through of the Pima County Natural Preserve, from the I-10 overpass to the dam. May-July is the driest season in Arizona, making it the best time to estimate the minimum perennial streamflow.*