

Drought back on the map for Northern California

By Amy Graff, San Francisco Chronicle

Drought has crept back into Northern California.

Despite a flurry of late storms in spring, precipitation for the winter season was below normal and the region is facing moderate drought and abnormally dry conditions once again, according to the federal government's U.S. Drought Monitor. What's more, temperatures were above normal throughout winter.

The Drought Monitor's weekly map, released Thursday, shows a large swath extending north of San Francisco through the Sacramento Valley to the Oregon border in moderate drought. The Bay Area and the North Coast went from normal to abnormally dry; parts of the northern Sierra remain normal. It's a dramatic change from just last week when the figure didn't depict any drought conditions in Northern California.

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