

FACT SHEET

By the Numbers: Drought's Impact on Western States September 8, 2015

- **93 million** – The number of people in the U.S. (nearly 30% of the population) in areas affected by drought conditions.
- **\$4.9 billion** – The economic losses from the 2014–2015 drought to California's agricultural economy alone. Billions more losses will result from the 2015 drought across the West.
- **1.1 million** – Acres of farmland fallowed in California since 2012 due to drought
- **9 million** – The number of acres burned by wildfires nationwide in 2015 fire season; 6,800 wildfires burned 545,000 acres in California this year.
- **11 of the past 14 years** – Drought impacting much of the American West from California to Texas and Oklahoma.
- **13 years** – Consecutive extreme drought years across the West, 4 years in California.
- **37%** - The percentage of water in Lake Mead, where water levels have dropped to the lowest point since the 1930s, when the lake was first filled.
- **75%** of the total amount of groundwater lost water lost within the Colorado River Basin between 2004 and 2013.
- **121 years** – The warmest statewide average temperature recorded was 2015 in seven states (Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming),
- **38 of 39**– Number of counties for which Washington has declared drought emergencies; 19 of 36 in Oregon; 10 of 44 in Idaho
- **14,000** – Number of sockeye salmon that died in Washington due to drought; 103,000 coho