



**\*\* MEDIA ALERT \*\***

**New Maps Issued Today Show More Than 93% of Giant Sequoia and 55% of Coast Redwood Ranges in Extreme-to-Exceptional Drought Conditions**

**WHAT:** Save the Redwoods League released new drought severity maps that show most of the coast redwood and giant sequoia forests—the world’s tallest and largest trees—are experiencing extreme to exceptional drought conditions. These are potentially dangerous, dry conditions for these iconic forests.

- More than 93% of the giant sequoia in the Sierra Nevada are in Exceptional Drought, the most severe category.
- More than 55% of the coast redwood range is in either Extreme or Exceptional drought.

The biggest threat to these forests is the unnatural overgrowth of vegetation due to decades of fire suppression. This overgrowth coupled with extremely dry conditions means a high risk of intense wildfires in both the coast redwood and giant sequoia ranges.

The National Park Service estimates that 10-14.5% of the world’s giant sequoia died because of the 2020 SQF Complex fire in the Sierra Nevada.

**WHAT TO DO:**

Immediate action must be taken. These forests need state and federal support to help us build resilience back into California’s iconic forests.

- Readers may [send an email](#) to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which oversees the U.S. Forest Service, to call for immediate action to protect giant sequoia.
- People are also invited to donate to the Save the Redwoods League [Wildfire Fund](#), which will fund important measures to protect our coast redwood and giant sequoia forests and make them more resilient in a time of future wildfires.

**WHERE:** The coast redwood range extends from Big Sur up the coast to the Oregon border. The giant sequoia range occupies just 73 groves along the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada.

**ASSETS:** Photos and videos of the 2020 wildfire aftermath [are available on the League's website](#).

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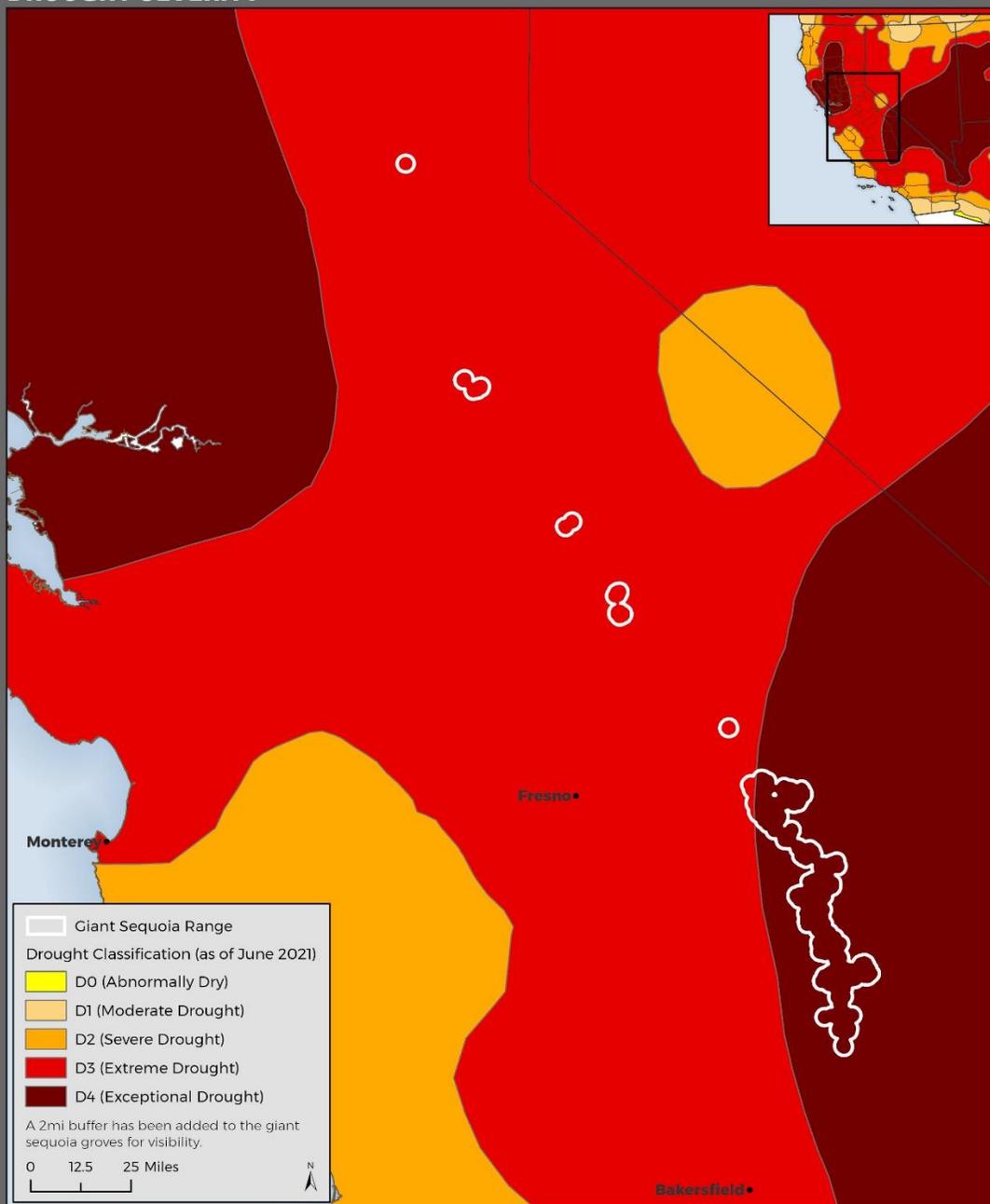
### **New Maps:**

By overlaying drought maps provided by the U.S. Drought Monitor with maps of the coast redwood and giant sequoia ranges, the League illustrates that huge swaths of these natural treasures are in potentially dangerous dry conditions. [Read more here](#).

# GIANT SEQUOIA RANGE DROUGHT SEVERITY

Save The Redwoods

L E A G U E



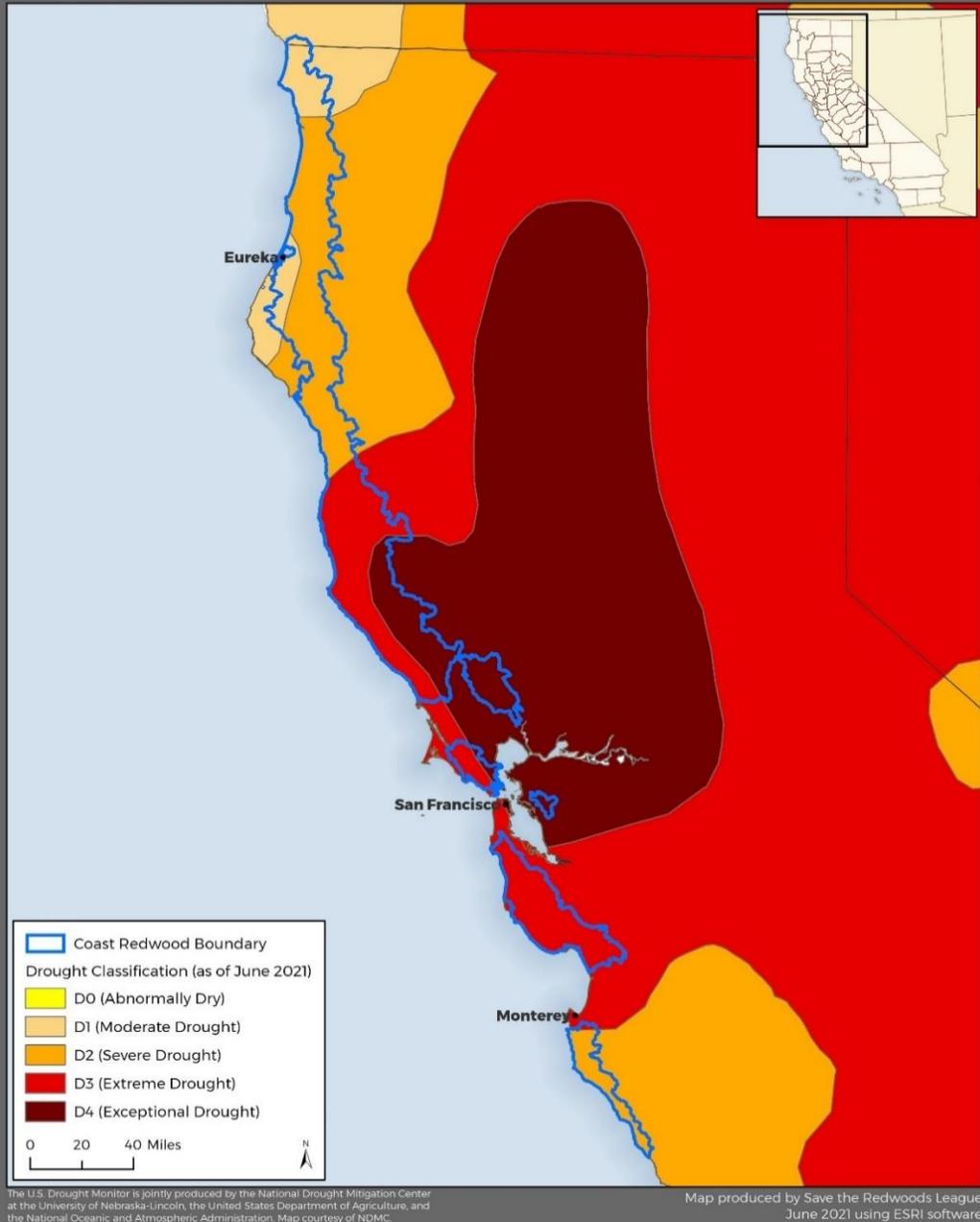
The U.S. Drought Monitor is jointly produced by the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Map courtesy of NDMC.

Map produced by Save the Redwoods League June 2021 using ESRI software

Drought Status	Acres of Giant Sequoia	% of Giant Sequoia Range in Drought
D3 (Extreme Drought)	3,093.28	6.46%
D4 (Exceptional Drought)	44,799.93	93.54%

# COAST REDWOOD RANGE DROUGHT SEVERITY

Save The Redwoods  
LEAGUE



Drought Status	Acres of Coast Redwoods	% of Coast Redwood Range in Drought
D0 (Abnormally Dry)	0	0%
D1 (Moderate Drought)	386,923.56	9.05%
D2 (Severe Drought)	1,511,522.23	35.37%
D3 (Extreme Drought)	1,632,934.02	38.21%
D4 (Exceptional Drought)	741,677.14	17.36%



**About Save the Redwoods League:**

One of the nation's longest-running conservation organizations, Save the Redwoods League has been protecting and restoring redwood forests since 1918. The League has connected generations of visitors with the beauty and serenity of the redwood forest. The nonprofit's 29,000 members have enabled the organization to protect more than 216,000 acres of irreplaceable forest in 66 state, national and local parks and reserves. For information, visit [SaveTheRedwoods.org](http://SaveTheRedwoods.org).

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