The map was part of a collaborative project between USGS, US EPA National Health and Environmental Research, and other federal, state, tribal, and nongovernmental partners. The map was compiled at a scale of 1:250,000.

Ecoregions located areas of unique ecological characteristics and are defined as contiguous areas that share a set of common characteristics. Ecoregions are defined based on a set of criteria that consider the following: ecological processes, vegetation types, climate, soils, and geology. The ecoregions are divided into four levels: Level I, Level II, Level III, and Level IV. Level I ecoregions are the broadest level and are defined by major physiographic provinces. Level II ecoregions are more specific and are defined by unique combinations of ecological processes and vegetation types. Level III ecoregions are defined by more specific combinations of ecological processes and vegetation types, and Level IV ecoregions are defined by the most specific combinations of ecological processes and vegetation types.

The map shows the Level III and IV ecoregions of Arizona. The Level III ecoregions are shown in different colors, and the Level IV ecoregions are shown in different shades of the same color. The map also shows the Level II ecoregions, which are shown in white lines. The map includes the following Level II ecoregions: 14 Mojave Basin and Range, 15 Colorado Plateau, 16 Arid Canyonlands, 17 Warm Desert, 18 Salt Desert, 19 Arid Valley and Colorado Plateau, 20 Arid Valley and Colorado Plateau, 21 Arid Valley and Colorado Plateau, 22 Arizona/New Mexico Plateau, 23 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 24 Chihuahuan Deserts, 25 Madrean Archipelago, 26 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 27 Madrean Archipelago, 28 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 29 Madrean Archipelago, 30 Madrean Archipelago, 31 Madrean Archipelago, 32 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 33 Madrean Archipelago, 34 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains.

The map also includes the following Level III ecoregions: 14 Mojave Basin and Range, 15 Colorado Plateau, 16 Arid Canyonlands, 17 Warm Desert, 18 Salt Desert, 19 Arid Valley and Colorado Plateau, 20 Arid Valley and Colorado Plateau, 21 Arid Valley and Colorado Plateau, 22 Arizona/New Mexico Plateau, 23 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 24 Chihuahuan Deserts, 25 Madrean Archipelago, 26 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 27 Madrean Archipelago, 28 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 29 Madrean Archipelago, 30 Madrean Archipelago, 31 Madrean Archipelago, 32 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 33 Madrean Archipelago, 34 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains.

The map also includes the following Level IV ecoregions: 14 Mojave Basin and Range, 15 Colorado Plateau, 16 Arid Canyonlands, 17 Warm Desert, 18 Salt Desert, 19 Arid Valley and Colorado Plateau, 20 Arid Valley and Colorado Plateau, 21 Arid Valley and Colorado Plateau, 22 Arizona/New Mexico Plateau, 23 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 24 Chihuahuan Deserts, 25 Madrean Archipelago, 26 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 27 Madrean Archipelago, 28 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 29 Madrean Archipelago, 30 Madrean Archipelago, 31 Madrean Archipelago, 32 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains, 33 Madrean Archipelago, 34 Arizona/New Mexico Mountains.