

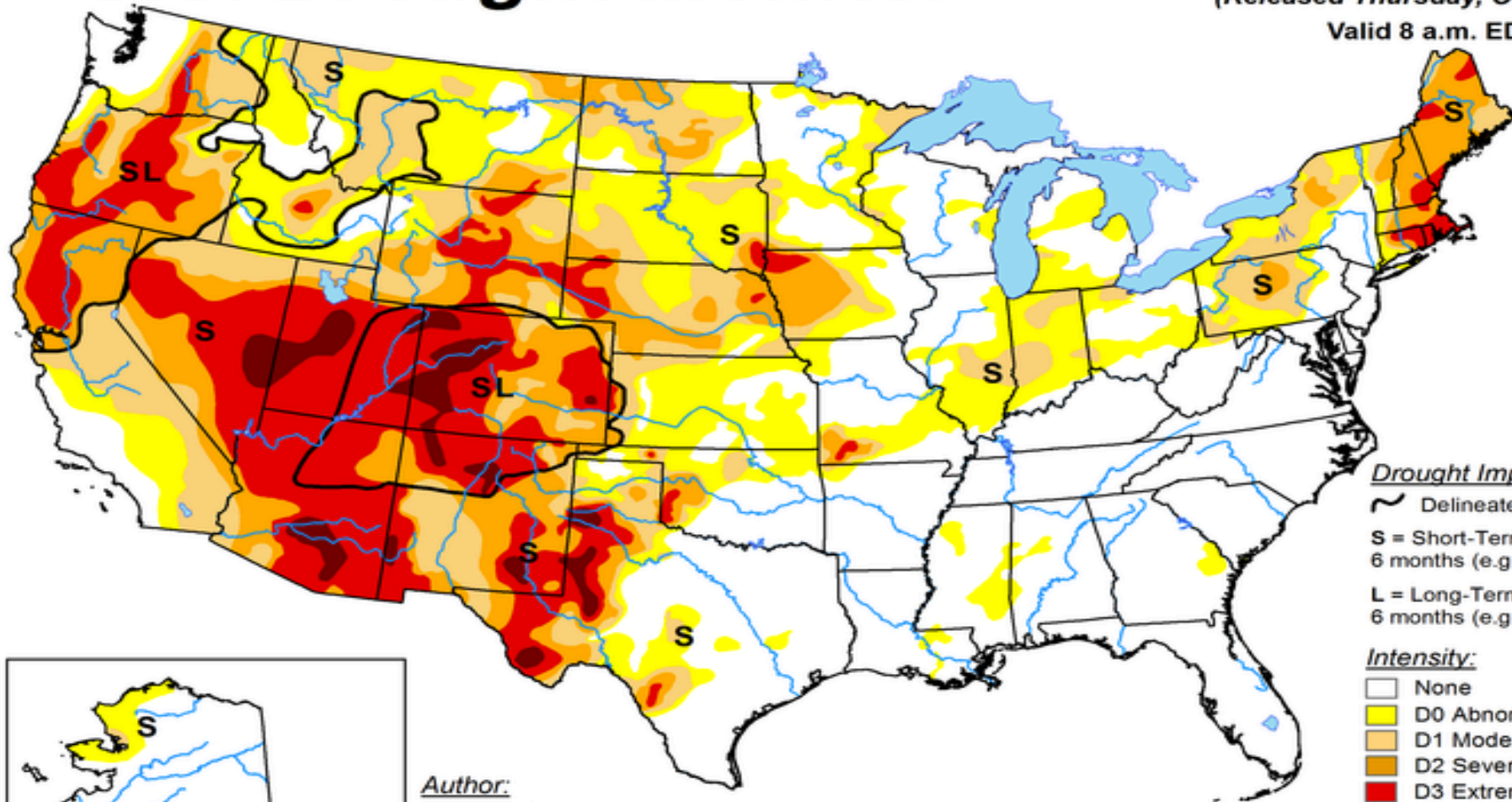
The National Integrated Drought Information System

Advancing Drought Science and Preparedness Across the Nation

Interstate Council on Water Policy 61st Annual Meeting
October 8, 2020

U.S. Drought Monitor

October 6, 2020
(Released Thursday, Oct. 8, 2020)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Impact Types:

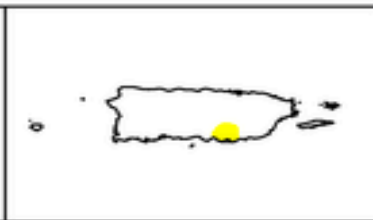
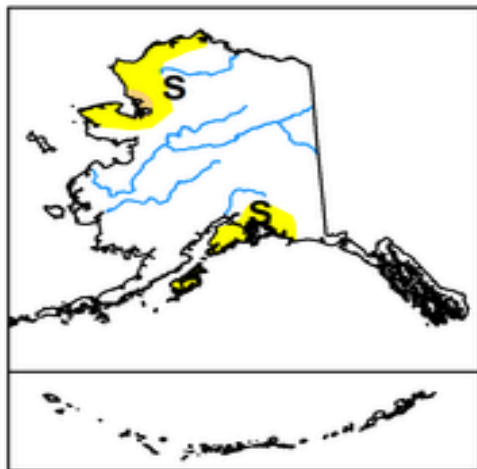
- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

Author:
Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

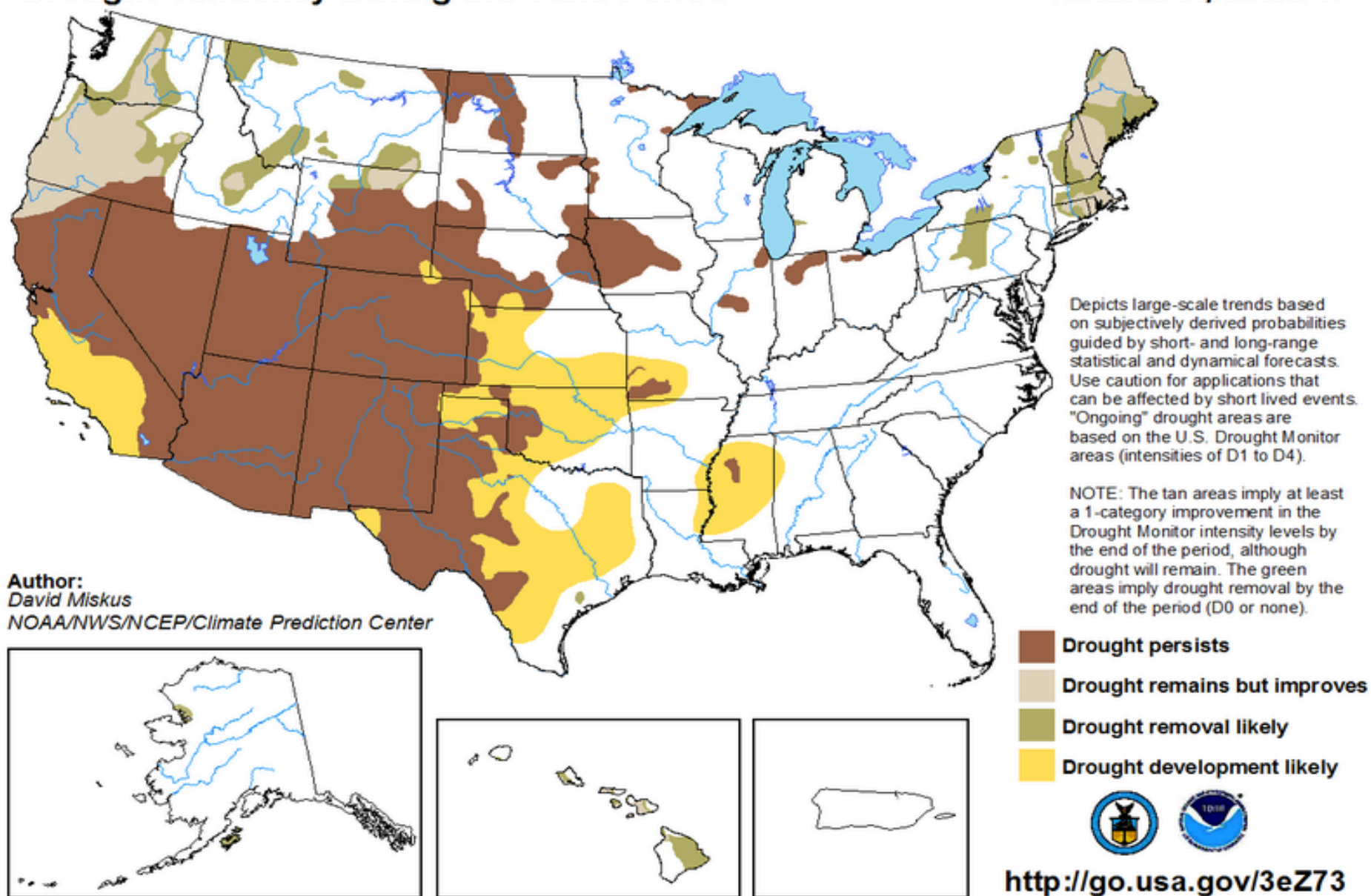


droughtmonitor.unl.edu

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for September 17 - December 31, 2020
Released September 17



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@DroughtGov





Reauthorization

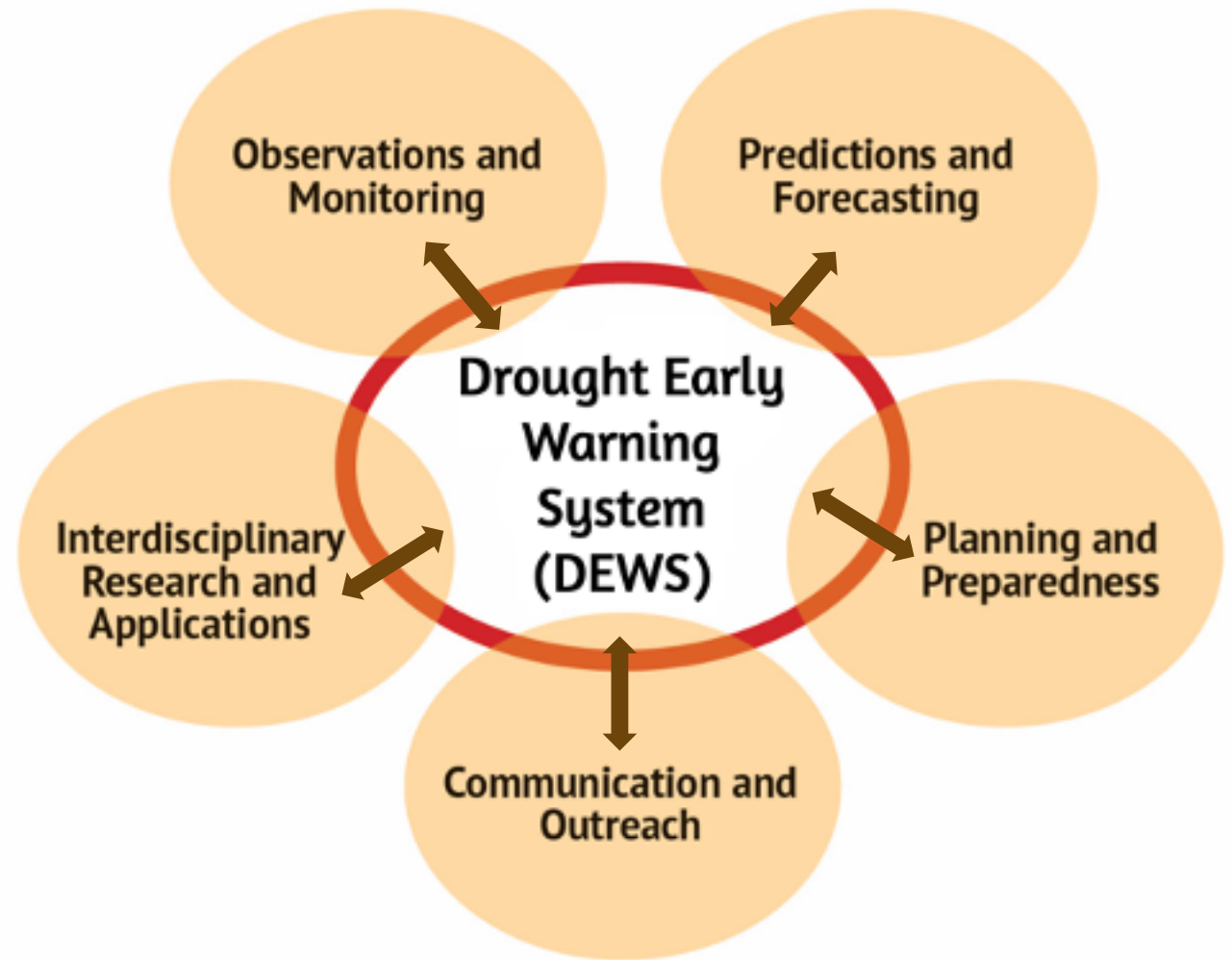
On January 7, 2019, the President signed S.2200 into law, the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) Reauthorization Act (Pub. L. 115-423):

- Authorizes funding for NIDIS to increase from \$13.5 million in fiscal year 2019 to \$14.5 million in fiscal year 2023
- Authorizes NIDIS to engage in partnerships with the private sector, academic institutions, and citizen scientists
- NIDIS will provide timely data, information, and products that reflect watershed differences in drought conditions
- Calls for NIDIS to support improvements in seasonal, subseasonal, and low flow water prediction
- Directs NOAA to develop a strategy for a national soil moisture monitoring network.

APPROACH

Drought Early Warning

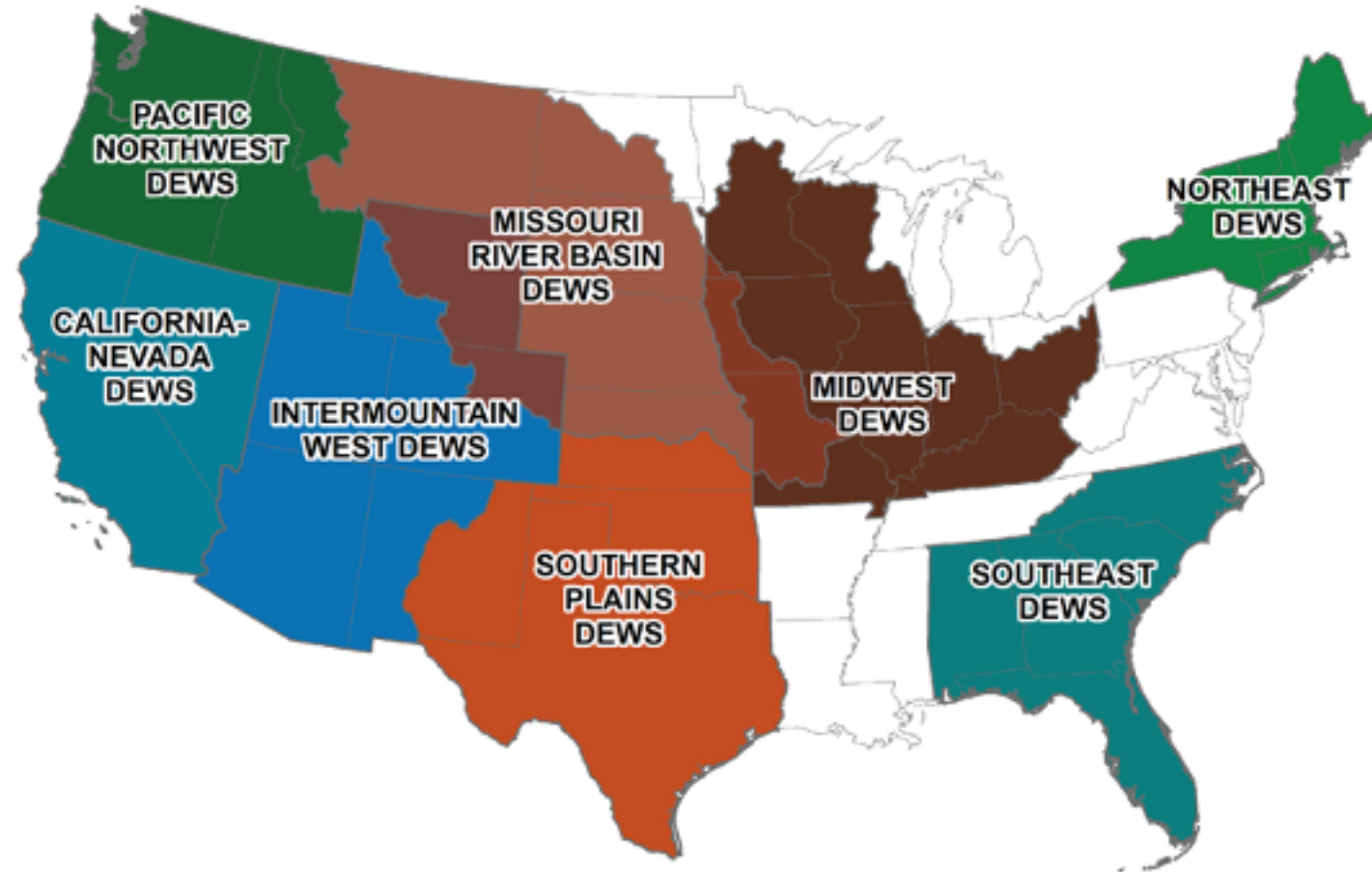
“Provision of timely and effective information that allows individuals exposed to a hazard to take action to avoid or reduce their risk and prepare for effective response.”



REGIONS

Drought Early Warning

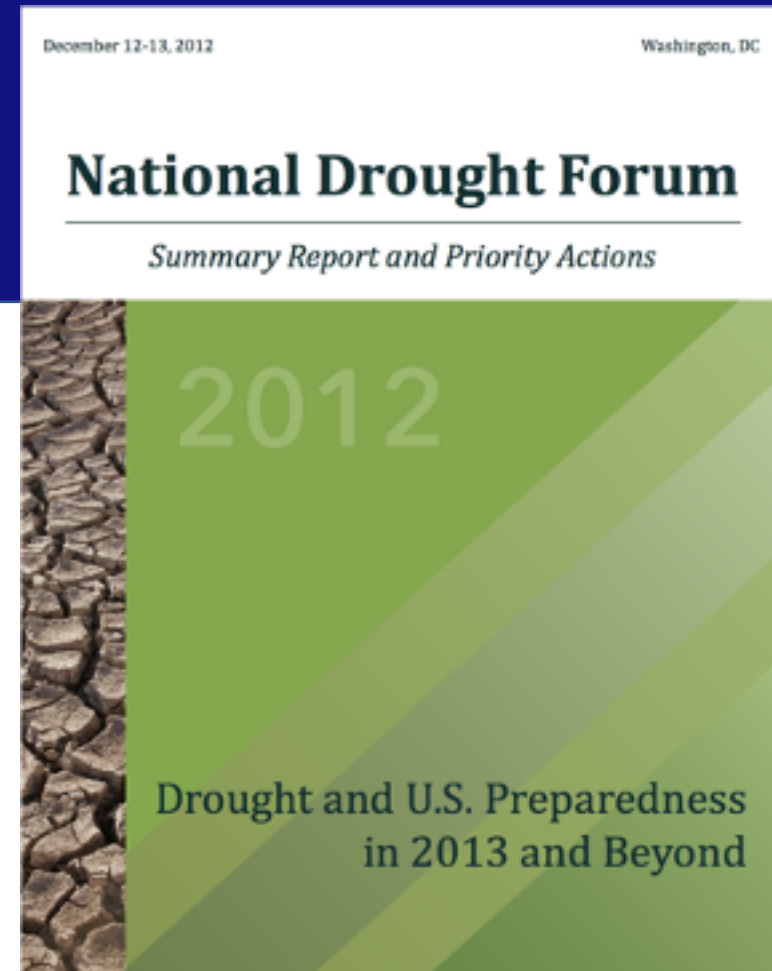
A Drought Early Warning System (DEWS) utilizes new and existing networks of federal, tribal, state, local and academic partners to make climate and drought science accessible and useful for decision makers.



2019 National Drought Forum

July 30-31, 2019 • Washington, D.C.

To assess the status of national drought readiness, to take stock of progress since the 2012 National Drought Forum, and to help provide new information and guidance for coordination to improve the nation's preparedness to drought.



Regional Drought Early Warning System Priorities

Drought Communication

Increase coordination on communication during drought (including local Weather Forecast Offices).
Joint Drought Status Updates?

Seasonal-to-Subseasonal Forecasting

Supporting improved prediction for drought early warning and more effective decision-making (e.g., CPC, National Water Model). Can be conduit to audiences “on the ground”.

Drought Indicators

Regional DEWS include a network of partners from across the region. Each region also has a stakeholder-driven strategic plan.

NIDIS Regional Partnerships

Regional DEWS include a network of partners from across the region. Each region also has a stakeholder-driven strategic plan.

NATIONAL INTEGRATED DROUGHT INFORMATION SYSTEM (NIDIS)

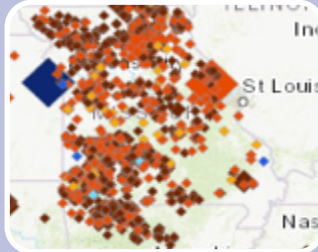
NIDIS in Action Across Regions



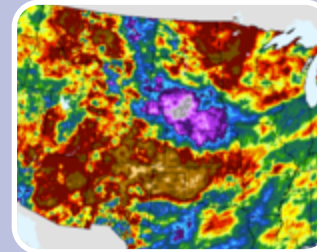
Drought &
Public
Health



Drought
and
Wildfire



Drought
Impact
Reporting
and
Analysis



Drought
Indicators
and
Triggers



National
Soil
Moisture
Network

NATIONAL INTEGRATED DROUGHT INFORMATION SYSTEM (NIDIS)

Drought & Public Health Linkages

2018-2020 Activities:

- ▼ Form a National Drought & Public Health Working Group
- ▼ Host a series of Regional Drought & Public Health Workshops
- ▼ Hold a 2019 Public Health Summit (**completed**)
- ▼ Support research & communication of linkages
- ▼ Create a public health sector space on the U.S. drought portal
- **2020 NIDIS Drought & Public Health Strategy**



+Growing List of Partners

National Soil Moisture Monitoring Network

- **National, multi-platform soil moisture gridded products** from existing soil moisture data sources across federal and state in-situ monitoring networks, satellite remote sensing missions, and numerical modeling capabilities
- **Consistent methodology** for data collection and installation of in-situ probes including metadata standards
- Improve **collaboration and identify funding** opportunities to build the national network



NATIONAL INTEGRATED DROUGHT INFORMATION SYSTEM (NIDIS)

Coping with Drought FY20 Grant Program

Research to improve our understanding and use of drought indicators, thresholds, and triggers, and drought impacts.

- \$1.2 million per year
- 2-year cooperative agreements of up to \$650,000 total



Improved Drought.gov: Launching Dec 2020!

- Improved site navigation and accessibility
- Updated content
 - New sector topic pages
 - New data/tools interface
 - Drought “Interactions” (e.g., ecosystems)
 - “Research and Learn” section

