National Integrated Drought Information System

NATIONAL DROUGHT & PUBLIC HEALTH SUMMIT
VEVA DEHEZA | JUNE 2019
MISSION + ACTIVITIES

Regional Drought Early Warning Systems
Prediction and Forecasting
Integrated Research and Monitoring
Drought Planning and Preparedness
Collaboration with Existing Programs and Partners
The U.S. Drought Portal (www.drought.gov)
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.
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.
Drought & Public Health Linkages: Improving Drought Early Warning

2018-2020 Activities:

• Form a National Drought & Public Health Working Group
• Create a public health sector space on the U.S. drought portal
• Pilot Workshop for a State/Regl Dept of Public Health
• Support research & communication of linkages between drought & public health impacts
• Host 2019 Public Health Summit & Regional Workshops
• Develop Drought & Public Strategy: multiyear, joint, collaborative, multi agency strategy with a set of coordinated activities
To improve the utilization of drought information in wildland fire management for ecological health, public health, and firefighter safety.
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.
Southwest Regional Drought Economic Impact Assessment

This regional study compares the scope and severity of the 2017-2018 drought to previous droughts to understand if conditions influenced economic, health, and crime outcomes. It estimates impacts of the 2017-2018 drought in each state and the region as a whole in relation to sectors directly affected (agriculture, tourism) and indirectly affected (government).

Drought Classification:
- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
Drought Trade Footprint Study of the Mississippi River

- Understand the sensitivity of the Mississippi River corridor to drought.
- Assess impacts and opportunities for reducing risks to small communities.

Focus Areas
- Agricultural production
- Commercial navigation & transportation
- Manufacturing
- Recreation and tourism
Drought.gov Redesign

Anticipated Launch: Fall 2019

Improved site navigation
Enhanced mobile experience
New sector pages

New up-to-date drought statistics
Updated content
U.S. Web Design Standards