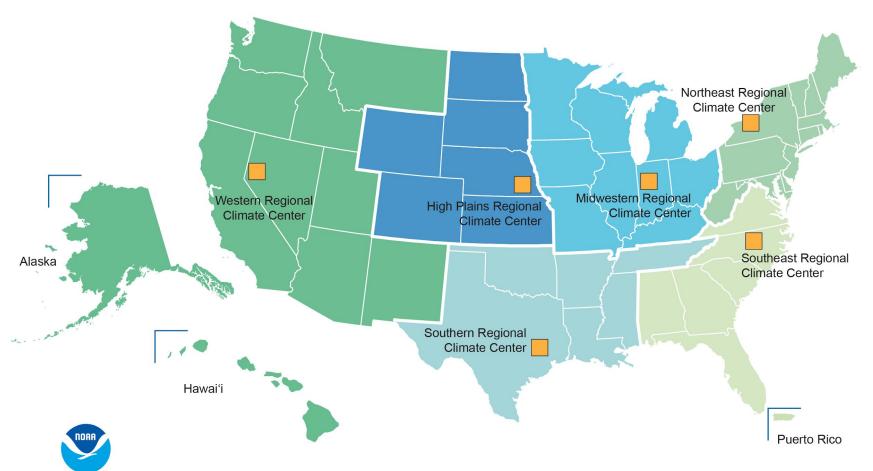
Midwestern Regional Climate Center ~ Update ~



May 2021



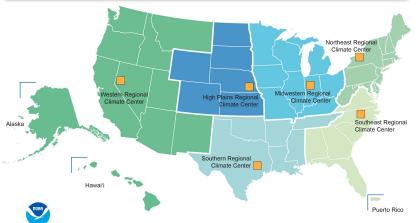
Dr. Beth Hall
Director, MRCC
October 2022



RCCs – What makes them different?

RCCs

- Work directly with climate data
 - Observational data
- Accesses, organizes, stewards of historical climate data
- Develop decision-support tools
- Develop value-added climate tools and monitoring resources
- Any sector, stakeholder



Other Climate Programs

- Identifying sector-specific climate impacts
- Establishing adaptation plans for impacts
- Social science analysis of incorporating plans, policies
- More agency focused
- More future planning

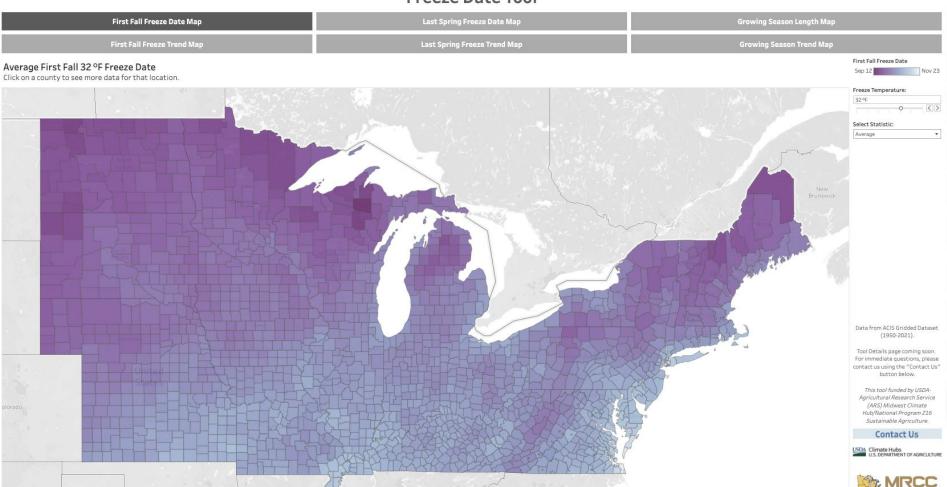




© 2022 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Freeze Date Climatologies

Freeze Date Tool

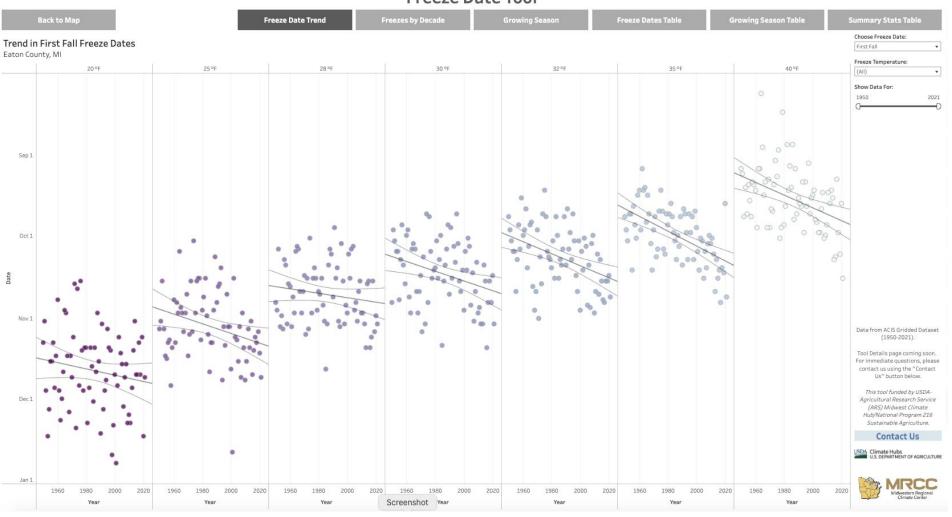


Screenshot



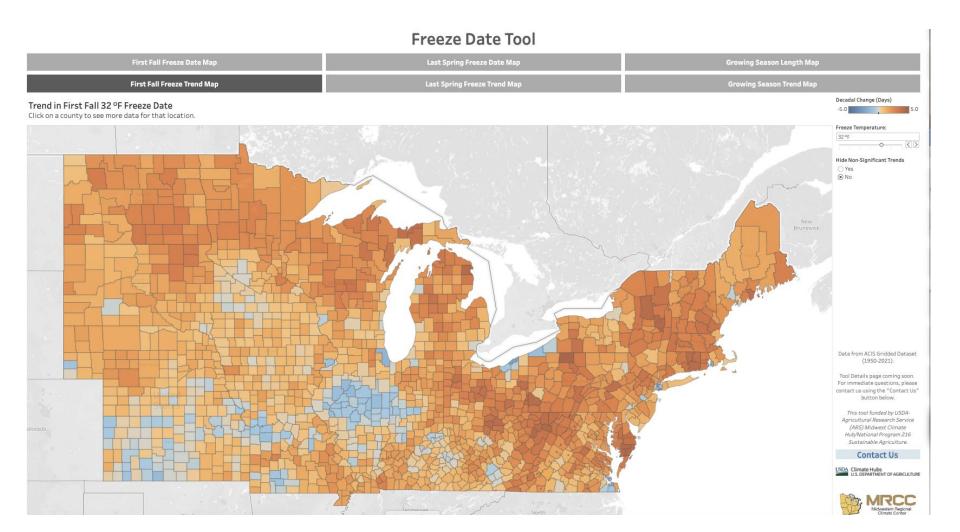
Freeze Date Climatologies

Freeze Date Tool



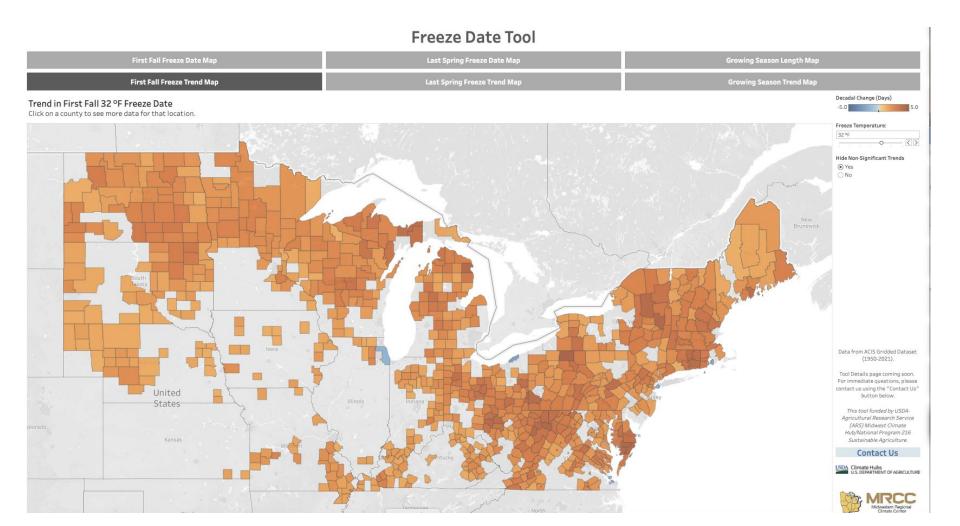


Freeze Date Climatologies





Freeze Date Climatologies





Goals

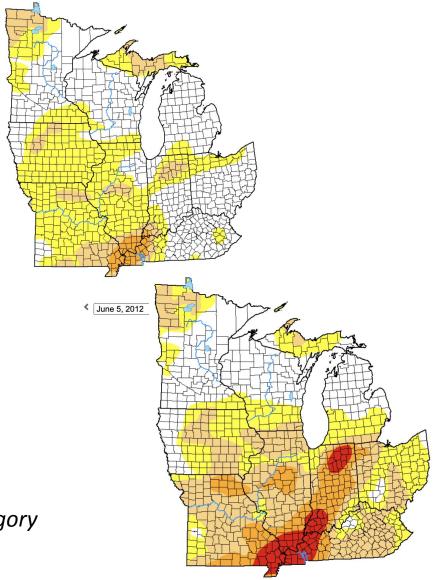
- Use AI to predict risk of rapid drought intensification
- April October
- Eastern U.S.

Pros

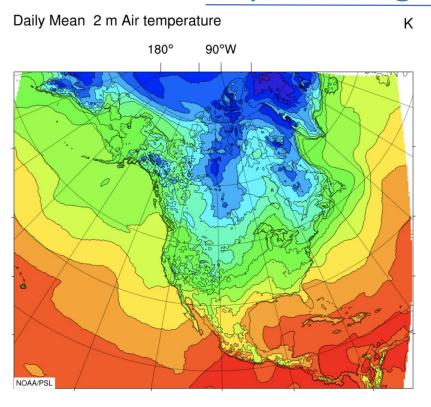
- Provides "early warning"
- Objectively driven by past patterns

Cons

- Only shows future risk, not current conditions
- Difficult to identify historical cases
 - Used US Drought Monitor, 2-category change sustained for 2 weeks
- Is 2 weeks enough early warning?







Predictors Used

- Latitude
- Longitude
- Day of the year
- •Temperature
- Precipitation
- Dew point
- Relative humidity
- •Mean Sea Level Pressure
- Air pressure
- Wind speed and direction

Building the Model

- Used North American Regional Reanalysis (NARR) data for environmental conditions.
- Gave the model millions of datapoints to learn from.
- Model trained on these data and "learned" what conditions were required for a flash drought to occur.

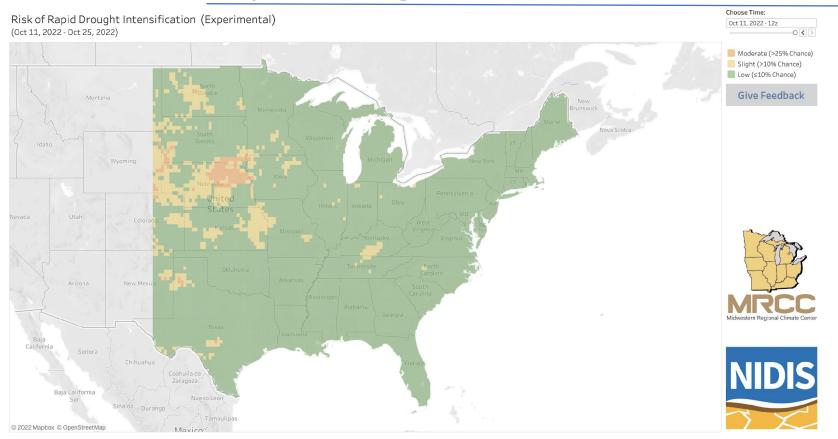


What forecast data to use?

- GFS
 - Updated regularly
 - Includes all the variables we trained with
 - Forecast goes out at least 14 days
- Updates every 6 hours







https://mrcc.purdue.edu/MWDEWS/flashdroughttool.html

Next Steps:

- Assess success of 2022 season
- Provide validation, comparison tool of current conditions with predicted
- Publish findings
- Explore other forecast models



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