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National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)

Executive Council Meeting

Hall of States, Room 333, 400-444 North Capitol St NW, Washington, DC 20001

Thursday, October 24, 2024

8:30am - 3:30pm EST

Purpose of the NIDIS Executive Council: NOAA's National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) Executive Council provides the NIDIS Program Office with an opportunity to engage in individual consultation with senior resource officials from NIDIS's Federal partners, as well as leaders from state and local government, academia, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector.

Goals of the Meeting:

- To hear from Federal agency leadership on their drought-related priorities and how meeting participants can stay engaged and involved
- To address the unique drought-related challenges of regions without a regional drought early warning system, and to discuss how the build out of a National DEWS can support these communities and how non-Federal partners can get engaged
- To discuss the Drought Risk and Resilience Planning (DRRP) platform and the role for Federal and non-Federal partners to shepherd the platform
- To showcase recent advances in drought and water prediction and discuss how these advances can best be informed, co-produced, communicated, and incorporated into decision-making

Read-Ahead Materials (for reference and skimming purposes)

- Rethinking Resilience: Toward Holistic Approaches to Drought Management on Tribal Lands in the Upper Columbia and Missouri River Basin - [Workshop Synthesis](#)
- NASEM Drought in a Changing Climate: [Overview of the Study, Process, and Budget](#)
- Drought Risk and Resilience Planning (DRRP) Platform: [Overview](#)

AGENDA

8:30 - 8:45am **Welcome, Goals, Introductions**

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- 8:45 - 9:20am** **Drought Conditions, Outlooks, and Impacts in 2024, and Communications** (Mark Brusberg, USDA; Dave Dewitt, NOAA/NWS/CPC; Adam Lang, NOAA/NIDIS)
- 9:20 - 9:50am** **Discussion with National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM): Drought in a Changing Climate** (Britt Parker, NOAA/NIDIS; Elizabeth Ossowski, NOAA/NIDIS; Deborah Glickson, NASEM)
- Drought Assessment in a Changing Climate
 - High-Level Meeting on National Drought Policy +10
 - NASEM Study on Drought in a Changing Climate
- 9:50am - 10:50am** **Building Out the National Drought Early Warning System** (Veva Deheza, NOAA/NIDIS)
- Sector-Specific Drought Early Warning Prototype for Southern California
 - Risk Communication: Cascading Hazards in Drought Information Delivery
 - Strengthening and Focusing the Regional DEWS and Transferability across Systems
 - Drought Early Warning Investments in the Mid-Atlantic and Gulf States: Mississippi River Drought and Water Dashboard
 - Discussion: Where are there opportunities to work with you to establish these systems or further develop them? What new approaches to a regional DEWS should we be considering? How can we strengthen collaboration with non-Federal partners?
- 10:50 - 11:00am** **Break**
- 11:00 - 11:30am** **Discussion and Q&A with NOAA OAR Deputy Assistant Administrator Nancy Wallace**
- 11:30 - 12:00pm** **Drought Risk and Resilience Planning (DRRP) Platform: Federal Working Group Meeting Recap and Updates, Discussion** (Gretel Follingstad, NOAA/NIDIS)
- 12:00 - 1:00pm** **Working Lunch**
- 1:00 - 1:30pm** **Partner Spotlight: National Rural Water Association (NRWA)**

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(Charles Stephens, Bill Stephens, NRWA)

- 1:30 - 2:30pm** **Advances in Drought and Low Flow Water Prediction across the Federal Government**
- Streamflow Drought Prediction (Erik Smith, USGS)
 - Next Generation Water Resources Modeling framework, National Water Prediction Service (Ed Clark, NOAA/National Water Center)
 - Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations (Cary Talbot, USACE)
 - NASA (Erin Urquhart, NASA Water Resource Program)
 - Discussion
- 2:30 - 3:00pm** **Round Robin Updates relevant to Drought, Water, Fire, Heat, and Climate** (Kelly Mahoney, NOAA/OAR/PSL, and other meeting attendees)
- 3:00 - 3:30pm** **Setting the Stage for Spring 2025 Meeting, Public Comments**