

AGENDA

Dealing with Drought – Adapting to Climate Change

Durango Public Library

Durango, CO

Thursday, October 22, 2009

9:00 - Welcome and Workshop Introduction

Pre-workshop survey – summary of results

9:20 - Fundamentals of global and Colorado climate

- *Introduction to the basics of climate, with an emphasis on Colorado's climate, including the distribution of temperature and precipitation in the state*

10:05 - Colorado climate variability and trends

- *Variability is a fact of life in Colorado; where does the year-to-year variation come from? What trends are seen in observed climate in Colorado?*

10:40 – Break

10:50 - Drought in Colorado – from observed and paleo records

- *Discussion of the observed record of droughts and the evidence from tree rings for extended dry and wet periods in the state's past.*

11:30 – Breakout/discussion sessions on drought

- *Using information presented in the morning sessions, discuss past impacts of drought (e.g., 2000s drought); information and strategies used to monitor/adapt/mitigate; information that would have been useful*

12:15 - LUNCH

Reporting from drought breakout groups

Overview of the revision of State Drought Plan

Taryn Hutchins-Cabibi, Colorado Water Conservation Board

1:00 - Scenarios of climate change in Colorado

- *Based on the Climate Change in Colorado report, we present scenarios of how Colorado's climate might be different by mid-century, and the global and local reasons this may happen.*

1:50 – Climate change impacts on the water cycle

Using information from the Climate Change in Colorado report and recent research articles, we will describe the projections for climate-driven changes to the water cycle

2:10 - Breakout/discussion session on climate change impacts and vulnerability

- *Using information presented during the day, participants identify potential impacts of climate change and vulnerabilities for their sectors and activities, and try to prioritize the most important impacts.*

2:40 – Group discussion session on climate change impacts

- *Compile the breakout lists of potential climate change impacts. Are there ones that were missed? Would you change the priorities, given what you heard from other groups?*

3:00 – Break

3:15 - Web resources for climate and drought information

- *Introduction to resources at the Colorado Climate Center, the NIDIS drought.gov portal, and others. What resources have participants found to be useful?*

3:50 – Wrap-up discussion session on future climate change/drought and information needs

- *How can what was learned and discussed today best be reflected in planning for and adapting to the future? What additional information and resources are needed?*

Post-workshop survey

4:30 - End