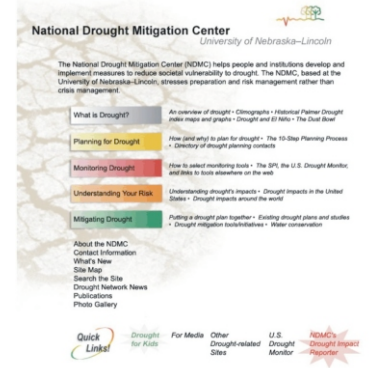


Products of the National Drought Mitigation Center

NDMC Website

The NDMC has an extensive and growing website — <http://drought.unl.edu/> — that promotes public awareness of drought and the need to plan for it. The site includes in-depth sections on monitoring, science, climatological analyses, historic analyses of impacts, planning methodologies, and mitigation strategies. It also includes an up-to-date collection of related links, access to NDMC publications, state drought plans and supporting documents, basic information for those new to the topic of drought, and a list of drought planners nationwide. The website typically receives about 25,000–30,000 visitors each month, about 10% of whom are from other countries.

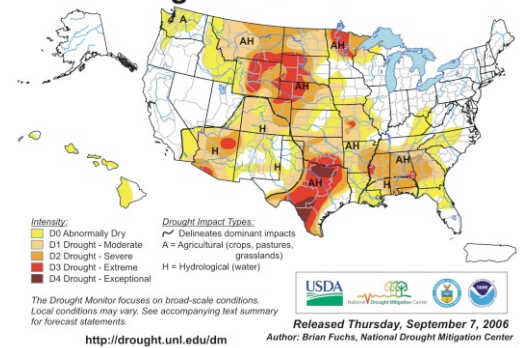


U.S. Drought Monitor

The U.S. Drought Monitor is a joint endeavor with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The Drought Monitor map summarizes information from numerous drought indices and indicators to provide a weekly overview of drought in the United States—where it is emerging, lingering, subsiding, or forecast. The map uses a new classification system to show drought intensity and type, similar to the schemes in use for hurricanes and tornadoes. It is produced and published weekly on the U.S. Drought Monitor website.

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>

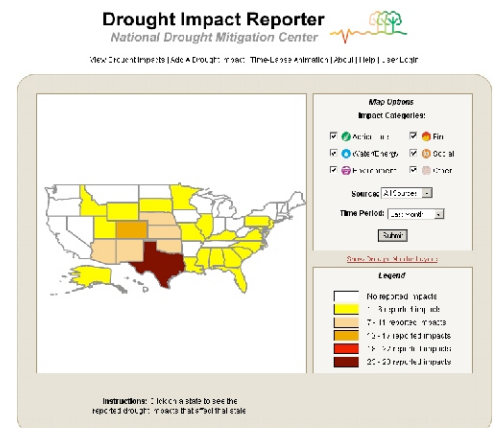
U.S. Drought Monitor September 5, 2006



Drought Impact Reporter

The Drought Impact Reporter is an interactive tool developed by the NDMC to collect, quantify, and map reported drought impacts for the United States. It was created in response to the need for a national drought impact database. Information for the impact report database comes from a variety of sources, including on-line drought-related news stories and scientific publications, reviewed by NDMC staff; members of the public who visit the website and submit a drought-related impact; members of the media; and members of government agencies such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

<http://droughtreporter.unl.edu/>

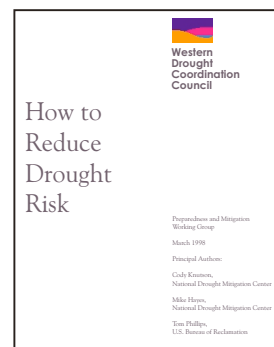


Drought Risk Guide

The NDMC helped produce How to Reduce Drought Risk as part of our work with the Western Drought Coordination Council.

<http://drought.unl.edu/plan/handbook/risk.pdf>

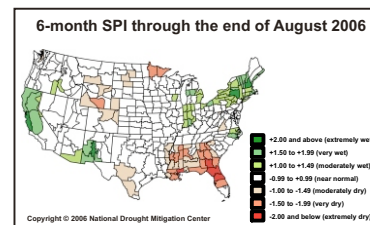
We've also incorporated the ideas in the risk reduction guide into "Drought Preparedness Planning: Building Institutional Capacity," featuring a 10-step drought-planning methodology developed by Dr. Donald Wilhite that has been adapted to fit the needs of governments at many levels in the United States and elsewhere.



Standardized Precipitation Index

Each month we produce a suite of Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) maps comparing the past 1, 3, 6, 9, and 12 months, and the year to date, of precipitation with the historic record. The NDMC's research has helped establish the SPI as a valuable tool for recognizing drought and triggering response and mitigation measures. The NDMC also advises a growing number of SPI users in the United States and in more than 20 countries around the world.

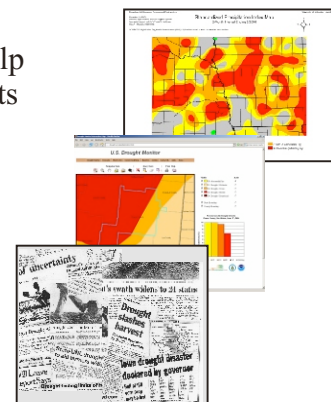
<http://drought.unl.edu/monitor/spi.htm>



NDMC-RMA Partnership Agreement Projects

The NDMC, through a partnership agreement with the Risk Management Agency (RMA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is developing six new products to help agricultural producers and advisors make better management decisions. The products are sub-projects of the Drought Risk, Impact, and Mitigation Information System:

1. Drought Risk Atlas
2. Vegetation Outlook (VegOUT)
3. Ranch Drought Planning
4. Drought Impact Reporter
5. Drought Portal Decision Support System
6. Economic Impacts of Drought



VegDRI Project

The NDMC, in collaboration with the U.S. Geological Survey's National Center for Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS), recently developed a drought monitoring tool, the Vegetation Drought Response Index (VegDRI) for the seven states in the central United States. Combining satellite-derived vegetation data with climate and geophysical data, the VegDRI provides modeled output with sub-county scale information on drought-affected vegetation. Plans are underway to expand the tool to the contiguous United States and to tailor its use for producers to assess and manage risks associated with rangeland and forage failure caused by drought.

<http://gisdata.usgs.net/website/Drought%5FMonitoring/>

