

Snowpack, Drought and Water Supply in a Warming Mountain West
August 4-5, 2020
Meeting Agenda



Workshop goals:

This virtual workshop will connect water professionals in the Mountain West with the latest usable scientific information and tools about snowpack, drought, and water supply, and support learning across water providers. Sponsored by the NOAA Climate Program Office, the workshop will feature talks from scientists and water professionals on the current water year, and on recent trends and future projections in snowpack, drought and water supply. In addition, we will provide demonstrations of several tools and data sources on this topic. There will be several opportunities to engage in discussions with scientists, water managers, and other experts, including a panel discussion with several water utilities.

Tuesday, August 4th: 1:00pm - 4:15pm MT

1:00pm - Welcome and meeting overview

1:10pm - Round-robin introductions

1:30pm - Presentation. *The water-year in review, current drought outlook, and forecasts*
(Paul Miller, CBRFC)

1:50pm - Breakout session #1. *Preparing for the 2020 runoff season*. What information (snow data, streamflow forecasts, etc.) did you use to prepare for the runoff season? Were you surprised by the way things played out?

2:10pm - Tools demonstration. *How do we get the data that goes into the water year in review presentation?*
(Seth Arens and Lineke Woelders, Western Water Assessment)

2:35pm - BREAK

2:50pm - Presentation. *Recent trends in snowpack, drought and water supply in the Mountain West*
(Becky Bolinger, Colorado Climate Center, CSU)

3:15pm - Breakout session #2. *Local changes to snowpack and water supply*. Have you observed these regional changes in your own watersheds and systems? What have been the impacts of these changes?

3:35pm - Presentation. *Future projections in regional water supply, snowpack and drought*
(Seth Arens, Western Water Assessment)

4:00pm - Final discussions

4:15pm - Adjourn for the day



Wednesday, August 5th: 9:00am-12:00pm MT

9:00am - Welcome back

9:10am - Presentation and tools demonstration. *The new Snowpack Information User Guide: Introduction and demonstration of snowpack information tools*
(Jeff Lukas and Lineke Woelders, Western Water Assessment)

9:45am - Presentation. *Making Drought Information More Useful: More than a field of dreams*
(Seth Arens, Western Water Assessment)

10:00am - Panel Discussion. *How do small-medium water utilities use climate information? A discussion with Mountain West water managers.*
(Dena Egenhoff - City of Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities; Jarrod Biggs - City of Durango; Jon Parry - Weber Basin Water Conservancy District; Meagan Smith - City of Fort Collins)

10:40am - Break

10:55am - Presentation. *The Water Utility Climate Alliance: Recent work with small-medium utilities*
(Laura Kaatz, Denver Water)

11:15am - Breakout session #3. *Water provider decision-making and climate information.* Have your experiences been similar to the panelists? How have they differed? How would you like to use climate information in the future? Are there any barriers that make this difficult?

11:45am - Wrap-up

12:00pm - Adjourn workshop