

U.S. Geological Survey
Data Sources, Uses, and
Priorities

The NIDIS and Climate Services

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USGS Data Sources, Uses, and Priorities

Data Sources, Uses, and Priorities

- ✦ What is the impact of drought on the agency mission, management decisions and “customers”?
- ✦ What drought, climate, and hydrologic information does the agency collect and use to prepare for drought?
- ✦ How does the agency work with other agencies and end-users to respond to drought and climate issues?
- ✦ What does the agency need to better serve their customers and respond to the drought?

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USGS Priorities

- ✦ Two of six science themes in the USGS Science Strategy
 - ◆ Climate Change
 - ◆ Hazards
 - ◆ http://www.usgs.gov/science_strategy/
- ✦ Secretarial Order No. 3289
 - ◆ Prioritizes and directs DOI efforts related to water availability and climate
 - ◆ <http://www.doi.gov/climatechange/SecOrder3289.pdf>

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USGS WRD Mission


- ✦ To provide reliable, impartial, timely information that is needed to understand the Nation's water resources. WRD actively promotes the use of this information by decision makers to
 - ◆ Minimize the loss of life and property as a result of water-related natural hazards, such as floods, droughts, and land movement.
 - ◆ Effectively manage ground-water and surface-water resources for domestic, agricultural, commercial, industrial, recreational, and ecological uses.
 - ◆ Protect and enhance water resources for human health, aquatic health, and environmental quality.
 - ◆ Contribute to wise physical and economic development of the Nation's resources for the benefit of present and future generations.



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Drought Impact on USGS mission, management decisions and "customers"


- ✦ Drought is an integral part of the USGS WRD mission
- ✦ No management decisions, but we provide support for DOI bureaus, other federal agencies, and local entities that are responsible for management decisions
- ✦ Cooperative Water Program provides the ability of the USGS to work flexibly with state and local agencies



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USGS Drought, Climate, and Hydrologic Information


- ✦ National Water Information System (NWIS) and NWISWeb
 - ◆ <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis>
- ✦ WaterWatch
 - ◆ DroughtWatch
 - <http://waterwatch.usgs.gov/?m=dryw/drought.html>
 - ◆ GroundwaterWatch
 - Climate Response Network
 - <http://groundwaterwatch.usgs.gov/>
- ✦ Cooperative Water Program



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USGS Drought, Climate, and Hydrologic Information


- ✘ StreamStats
- ✘ USGS Climate Program
 - ◆ Climate Effects Network
- ✘ National Groundwater Availability and Sustainability Studies
 - ◆ High Plains Study is currently underway
- ✘ Extensive streamgaging, groundwater level, and meteorological networks



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USGS work with other agencies and end-users to respond to drought and climate issues


- ✘ Long-term commitment to communication with agencies at national level
 - ◆ USGS liaison position with NIDIS
 - ◆ Regular contact with NOAA and USACE
- ✘ Coordinated effort for climate study within the DOI
 - ◆ Groundwater networks interaction between USGS and University of Nebraska at Lincoln



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USGS needs to better serve their customers and respond to the drought

- ✘ Funding for Federal Programs
 - ◆ National Streamflow Information Program
 - ◆ Climate Response Network
 - ◆ National Hydrology Dataset
 - ◆ LandSat operations
 - ◆ Cooperative Water Program
- ✘ Continued customer communication to identify required tools and studies
- ✘ Tools to leverage the hydrologic data networks
 - ◆ Expand and merge




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Questions?



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