

Western Governors' Association, Western States Water Council  
Western States Federal Agency Support Team

**The National Integrated Drought Information System and  
Climate Services Workshop for the Western United States**

**Doubletree San Francisco Airport  
March 31-April 1, 2010**

**Purpose**

The workshop's purpose is to bring together a diverse group of federal, state, tribal, and local partners and stakeholders, from the water and land-management communities, to discuss and understand decision-makers' needs for climate, weather, and water-related information and improving our capacity to meet those needs.

**Desired Outcomes**

- (1) Increased knowledge and awareness of present decision-support tools and processes, including the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS);
- (2) Identification of gaps in our knowledge and information and communication resources; and
- (3) Recommendations for better coordination in integrating, displaying, and distributing climate, weather, and water data and information;
- (4) Recommendations for future actions, collaborative research, and decision-support, including how drought is incorporated into climate services.

**Format**

This is a participatory workshop. Following panel presentations, participants will break into small table groups to discuss specific issues. One person at each table will be designated leader/recorder. Periodically, table groups will be shuffled to foster new exchange and ideas. Results will be recorded and reported.

**Wednesday, March 31**

1:30p	<b>Convene Meeting</b>
1:30p	<b>Welcome and Workshop Purpose</b> Tom Iseman, Water Program Manager, Western Governors' Association Jeanine Jones, Member, Western States Water Council Tony Willardson, Executive Director, Western States Water Council Group Introductions – Around the Room.
2:00p	<b>The National Integrated Drought Information System and Climate Services</b> Roger Pulwarty, NOAA
2:30p	<b>Drought &amp; Climate in the West</b> Phil Mote, Director, Oregon Climate Change Research Institute Presentation and Facilitated Discussion
3:30p	<b>BREAK</b>

3:45p	<b>NIDIS and the U.S. Drought Portal</b> Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center
4:15p	<b>How do you do it? Decisions, Data, and Information</b> <u>Small Group Discussion Questions</u> 1a. What types of drought- and climate-related decisions are you making? 1b. What information do you now use for making those decisions?
5:00p	<b>ADJOURN</b>
5:00p	Optional: Interactive Drought Portal Tutorial with Mark Svoboda
5:30p	Social Hour

### Thursday, April 1

7:30a	<b>CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST</b>
8:00a	<b>Panel I: Drought Risk and Impacts: It's all about the water.</b> Agriculture Rep. – Conservation Rep. – Multi-Purpose Program Rep. – Energy Rep. –
9:15a	<b>Panel II: Drought Risk and Impacts: It's about more than water supply.</b> Public Lands Rep. – Fire Rep. – Tribal Rep. – Ranch Management Rep. –
10:30a	<b>BREAK</b>
11:00a	<b>Drought Impacts and Assessment</b> <u>Small Group Discussion Questions</u> 2a. How are you vulnerable to drought? 2b. What are the impacts that you experience from drought? 2c. Do you have the right information to assess vulnerability and impacts?
11:45a	<b>Recap/Review</b> – Small Group Leader Reports and Group Discussion
12:00	<b>LUNCH</b> <b>San Francisco/Water Utility Climate Alliance.</b> <b>Drought and Climate Preparedness and Response.</b>

1:00p	<b>State Planning for Drought and Climate:</b>
1:30p	<b>Panel: Drought and Climate Preparedness and Adaptation</b> Hydropower Rep. – Water Markets Rep. – Water Supply Rep. – COE Rep. –
2:30p	<b>Planning and Adaptation: Challenges and Opportunities</b> <u>Small Group Discussion Questions</u> 3a. How are you planning for drought and climate variability? 3b. What are the barriers to obtaining and using the data and information? 3c. What ideas do you have for eliminating those barriers? What do you need to improve your drought planning? Impacts Assessments? Decision-Support? 3d. What should be the top two or three priorities to address these issues?
3:15p	<b>B R E A K</b>
3:30p	<b>Recap/Review</b> – Small Group Leader Reports and Group Discussion
3:45p	<b>Climate Services: Partnerships and Implementation</b> <u>Presentation:</u> NOAA’s climate service activities. (10 minutes) <u>Full Group Discussion:</u> How do we ensure that climate services build from NIDIS and other efforts and reflect your drought information needs and services? We will focus on the top 2-3 recommendations.
4:45p	<b>Workshop Outcomes and Next Steps</b> Tom Iseman/Tony Willardson/Roger Pulwarty
5:00p	<b>Adjourn</b>