



**Do Floods Terminate a Drought? A Workshop on Drought Recovery Tools,
Perspectives, and Situational Awareness**
June 2, 2017
Sierra Nevada College, Incline Village, NV

Objectives:

- Identify current usage of the recently updated and modified National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) drought amelioration tool including users, application, and decisions supported.
- Brief on the NIDIS and NCEI project to improve drought amelioration tool.
- Facilitate open discussion on improvements to NCEI's drought amelioration web page.
- Discuss the impact of extreme rain falling during a long-term drought and evaluate whether existing tools/products sufficiently capture the amount of drought amelioration.

Outcomes:

- Identification of drought amelioration tool usage in a timely and regionally-relevant context.
- A user community that is better informed about drought amelioration tools and as a result able to make better decisions as they set priorities and allocate resources.
- Guidelines and suggestions for improvements to NCEI's drought amelioration web page.

Audience: Current and potential users of the drought amelioration tool including elected officeholders, members of the media, water managers, and interested general public.

8:00am – Coffee and Networking

8:30am – Welcome and Introduction to the Workshop

8:45am - Session 1: Evaluating NCEI's New Drought Amelioration Web Tool (beta)

In the first session, participants will be shown a beta-version of the updated drought amelioration web page. Participants will be asked to complete an assessment of the website to identify key features and their understanding of the content on the page. Thereafter, participants will answer website specific questions in breakout groups.

10:30am – Break

10:45am – Report out in plenary. Participants will be facilitated to identify the top five changes they would like to see implemented on the site. They will also identify features or tools that they find of little value and would prefer to see removed from the site.

12:00pm – Working Lunch (provided)

1:30pm – Session 2: Review Potential New Drought Amelioration Climate Products

This session is focused on diagnosing the types of drought amelioration tools that can be used to enhance situational awareness and support decision-making. Participants will examine what works and what needs to be changed using additional input from select presentations outlining new drought amelioration products and services. Each speaker will have 20-minutes and questions from the audience are encouraged throughout the session.

- Mike Kruk, NOAA/NCEI/ERT - Drought Termination Outlooks
- Dan McEvoy, WRCC - The Evaporative Demand Drought Index
- Amanda Sheffield, NIDIS - CNAP update and CA/NV Drought Early Warning update

2:30pm – Break

2:45pm - Session 3: Heavy Rains and Drought Recovery

The final session of the workshop will focus the discussion on the impacts of the very wet 2016-2017 water year on drought recovery and termination. This session provides a glimpse into the proactive aspect of drought preparation and will address the question “Do Floods Terminate a Drought?”. Each speaker will have 20-minutes and questions from the audience are encouraged throughout the session.

- Mike Anderson, CA DWR - Perspectives from the California State Climate Office and managing water in California relative to drought
- Richard Heim, NOAA/NCEI - Overview of drought recovery metrics during a heavy rain event
- Alan Haynes, NOAA/NWS/CNRF - The 2016-2017 water year and river stage perspectives
- Jeff Anderson, NRCS Snow Survey - The 2016-2017 Snow Season and Historical Perspective

4:15pm – Review next steps and actions

4:20pm – “Fist to Five” workshop assessment

4:30pm – Workshop concludes