



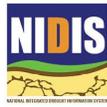
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Midwestern Regional Climate Center



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI  
Extension

## Midwest Climate Outlook and Drought Early Warning System (DEWS) Kickoff Meeting

February 9 – 11, 2016

Embassy Suites Downtown, St. Louis, Missouri  
Laurel Ballroom

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### Day One – Tuesday, February 9

#### Theme: Laying the Foundation for a Midwest DEWS

Participants will hear from a variety of speakers on the foundation and planning for a Midwest DEWS. Panel discussions and presentations will focus on available federal, state, and local resources and provide an opportunity to identify the tools and capabilities upon which the Midwest DEWS will be established and developed.

11:00 am Registration begins

12:30 pm Welcome and Update on NIDIS and its Priorities

*Roger Pulwarty, Director, National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)*

12:50 pm Missouri's Challenges in Both Drought and Flooding

*Todd Sampsell, Deputy Director, Missouri Department of Natural Resources*

1:15 pm The Midwest DEWS Planning Process, Launch, and Next Steps

*Courtney Black, Regional Drought Information Coordinator, NIDIS*

1:30 pm Participant Feedback Session

1:45 pm Panel Discussion: Decision Support in Context of Drought Early Warning: Now What?

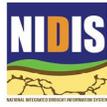
*Moderator: Mark Svoboda, Climatologist and Monitoring Program Area Leader, National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC)*

*Panelists:*

- *Beth Hall, Director, Midwest Regional Climate Center*
- *Jim Angel, Illinois State Climatologist*
- *Pat Guinan, Missouri State Climatologist*
- *Brian Fuchs, Climatologist, National Drought Mitigation Center*
- *Mark Fuchs, Senior Service Hydrologist, St. Louis Weather Forecast Office, National Weather Service*
- *Amy Beussink, Director, Missouri Water Science Center, USGS*



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3:30 pm Break

3:45 pm Panel Discussion: Federal Drought Perspective

*Moderator: Doug Kluck, Regional Climate Services Director, NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information*

*Panelists:*

- *Steve Buan, Service Coordination Hydrologist, National Weather Service River Forecast Center, Minneapolis, MN*
- *Dave Baker, Principal Consultant, University of Missouri Extension*
- *Tom Maier, Biologist, Pittsburgh District, Planning & Environmental Branch, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*
- *Beth Freeman, Region VII Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency*
- *Mike Wilson, National Leader for Climate Change, Natural Resources Conservation Service*
- *Amy Shields, Environmental Scientist, Environmental Protection Agency*

4:30 pm Panel Discussion: State and Local Drought Plans and Policies

*Moderator: Mark Svoboda, Climatologist and Monitoring Program Area Leader, NDMC*

*Panelists:*

- *Chip Zimmer, Environmental Scientist and Bill Caldwell, Drought Coordinator, Kentucky Division of Water*
- *Charlie DuCharme, Senior Hydrologist, Missouri Department of Natural Resources*
- *Tim Hall, Chief of the Geological & Water Survey Bureau / Hydrology Coordinator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources*

5:25 pm Synthesis of Day 1

5:30 pm Adjourn

6:00 pm Networking Opportunity

*Location: Laurel Ballroom Foyer*

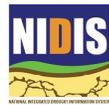
## Day Two - Wednesday, February 10

### **Theme: Current Climate Outlook and Forecasting, Drought Impacts & Vulnerabilities and Drought Preparedness Resource Needs**

This day will provide a current climate outlook, presentation on the state of the science around climate predictions and forecasting, and a background on drought in the Midwest. In addition, a panel discussion will focus on drought impacts and vulnerabilities followed by small group discussions to identify drought early warning and preparedness resource needs and priorities for the region. This information will inform the development of the Midwest DEWS.



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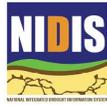
- 9:00 am Current Climate Outlook  
*Ray Wolf, Science and Operations Officer, Quad Cities, IA Weather Forecast Office, National Weather Service*
- 9:30 am Predictions and Forecasting: Current State of the Science  
*Pat Spoden, Science and Operations Officer, Paducah, KY Weather Forecast Office, National Weather Service*
- 10:00 am Break
- 10:30 am Background on Drought in the Midwest  
*Brian Fuchs, Climatologist, NDMC and Jim Angel, Illinois State Climatologist*
- 11:15 am Drought Impacts on Human Health  
*Jesse Bell, Research Associate, Cooperative Institute for Climate and Satellites, North Carolina State University, NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information*
- 11:45 am Participant Feedback Session
- 12:00 pm Working Lunch – Federal Drought Recovery Coordination and Approaches for Interagency Collaboration – National Disaster Recovery Framework  
*Colleen Callahan, USDA Rural Development Illinois Director*
- 1:15 pm Panel Discussion: Drought and High Precipitation Impacts and Vulnerabilities within Sectors  
*Moderator: Brian Fuchs, Climatologist, NDMC*
- Agriculture - *John Dobberstein, Senior Editor, No-Till Farmer*
  - Navigation - *Paul Rohde, Vice President, Midwest Area, Waterways Council*
  - Municipalities - *Frank Genovese, Water Production Engineer, St. Louis Water Division*
  - Rural Water – *Eric Fuchs, Source Water Technician, MO Rural Water Association*
  - Natural Resources Management - *Gwen White, Science Coordinator, Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers Landscape Conservation Cooperative, USFWS*
  - Energy – *Vince Tidwell, Principle Member of the Technical Staff, Sandia Energy Lab*
- 2:30 pm Break
- 2:45 pm Small Group Facilitated Discussion:  
Participants will identify and discuss data, information and resources needed to inform future actions and priorities for the DEWS. Topics will include:
- Monitoring, observation and impact data collection
  - Planning and preparedness research
  - Communication, education and outreach
- 4:45 pm Synthesis of Day 2
- 5:00 Adjourn



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## Day Three – Thursday, February 11

### Theme: Drought Early Warning and Preparedness Priorities and Actions

Participants will build upon the needs and priorities identified throughout the meeting, and discuss priority actions to implement as the Midwest DEWS is established.

- 8:30 am Welcome Back and Participant Feedback Session
- 8:45 am Facilitated Discussion:  
Participants will review findings from Day 2 discussions on needs and identify priorities to inform future actions for the Midwest DEWS.
- 9:15 am Competitive Drought Simulations: An Innovative Approach for Stakeholder Engagement Informing Water Resource and Multi-Hazard Planning  
*Harvey Hill, AAAS Policy Fellow, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*
- 9:30 am Mississippi River Cities Town Initiative  
*Mayor Francis G. Slay, City of St. Louis*
- 10:00 am Soil Moisture Monitoring
  - Building a Coordinated National Soil Moisture Monitoring Network  
*Jessica Lucido, Soil Moisture Project Manager, USGS*
  - Evaporative Stress and Soil Moisture as Early Warning Drought Indicators  
*Christopher Hain, Assistant Research Scientist, Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center, University of Maryland*
- 10:25 am Break
- 10:40 am Small Group Facilitated Discussion:  
Participants will develop short and long term priority actions to implement in the Midwest DEWS over the next two years. Topics will include:
  - Monitoring, observation and impact data collection
  - Planning and preparedness research
  - Communication, education and outreach
- 11:55 am Synthesis of Meeting
- 12:00 pm Adjourn