

*Products and Data available from the
National Drought Mitigation Center*



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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Midwest Climate Outlook and Drought Early Warning System (DEWS)
Kickoff Meeting
St. Louis, Missouri February 9-11, 2016

What is Available from the National Drought Mitigation Center?



National Drought Mitigation Center

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Welcome to the National Drought Mitigation Center

Quick Links

- [U.S. Department of Agriculture Disaster and Drought Assistance page](#)
- [Current info via the Drought Impact Reporter RSS feed](#)
- [Drought Headlines](#)
- [Recently updated state drought pages](#)
- [Comprehensive list of resources, by state, via a drill-down map](#)

NDMC News

Sept. 2015 Drought & Impact Summary: Southeast improves, South dries out and West stays dry

Oct 13, 2015

September brought improvements to the Southeast, but the South got drier. The long-term drought in the West continued unabated, but with a glimmer of hope based on the forecast for a mega-El Nino this winter. Western wildfires were particularly destructive and intense in September. Californians exceeded state-set conservation targets in September and the state unveiled a new system for tracking dry domestic wells. [Read the full report.](#)

Pause Slideshow

« »

[Overview](#)

Drought is a normal part of climate...it will happen again. Fortunately, there are things you can do before, during, and after drought to reduce your risk. Ranchers are increasingly implementing new ways to better prepare for and respond to drought.

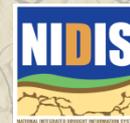
The information, strategies and resources on this site are designed to provide livestock producers in the **Great Plains region** with information on how to incorporate management strategies to reduce the threat drought poses to livestock and forage operations.

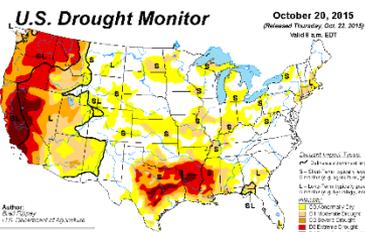
Managing Drought Risk on the Ranch: Great Plains Examples

 <p>South Dakota Daybreak Ranch (Central)</p>	 <p>Nebraska Tippetts-Myers Ranch (Western Sandhills) Reed Hamilton Ranch (Sandhills) Shanrock Ranch (Southwestern)</p>	 <p>Kansas Alexander Ranch (South Central) Adams Ranch (North Central)</p>	 <p>Colorado Welch Ranch (Southern)</p> <p>Texas Johnson Ranch (West Central)</p>
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Managing Drought Risk on the Ranch

Managing Drought Risk on the Ranch offers a comprehensive set of options for reducing risk before, during and after drought. In 2012 for at least 40 and in some cases more than 100 years.





Monitoring Tools

Managing Drought Risk on the Ranch

Overview | Drought Basics | Inventory & Monitor | Before Drought | During Drought | After Drought | Write a Plan

Most of droughts will happen again. Fortunately, there are things you can do before, right to reduce your risk. Ranchers are increasingly implementing new ways to better deal with drought.

Tools and resources on this site are designed to provide livestock producers in the Great Plains with the information and management strategies to reduce the threat of drought to their operations.

Drought Risk on the Ranch: Great Plains

Nebraska | Kansas | Colorado
 Wash. Ranch (Southern) | Wash. Ranch (Northern) | Wash. Ranch (Central) | Wash. Ranch (South Central) | Texas | Johnson Ranch (West Central)

Where to Start
 Start here if you are in a drought
 Start here if you are recovering from a drought
 Start here if you are assessing for a drought
 Write a Drought Plan
 How to use this site

Drought Conditions
 U.S. Drought Monitor
 Water Year Precipitation (Oct. 1st to present)
 Evapotranspiration, April 20 to date
 Weather forecast

Planning Tools

National Drought Mitigation Center

Home | News & Outreach | Drought Basics | Monitoring Tools | Planning | Drought for Kids | International | NDMC Photo Gallery

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 • Comprehensive information on drought, including links to other resources

Pause Slideshow

NDMC News
 Sept. 2015 Drought
 South dries out
 Oct 13, 2015
 September brought drought. The long-to-glimmer of hope in Western wildfires "allomans escape state unveils report."

Managing Drought Risk on the Ranch: Great Plains

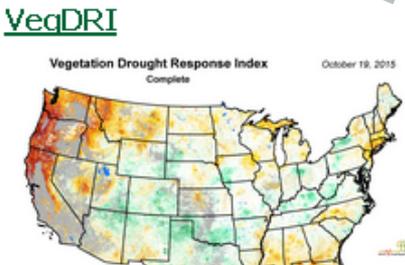
Colorado
 Wash. Ranch (Southern) | Wash. Ranch (Northern) | Wash. Ranch (Central) | Wash. Ranch (South Central) | Texas | Johnson Ranch (West Central)

National Drought Mitigation Center

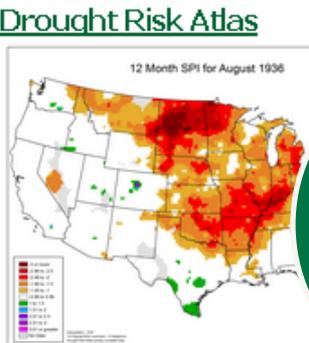
Outreach



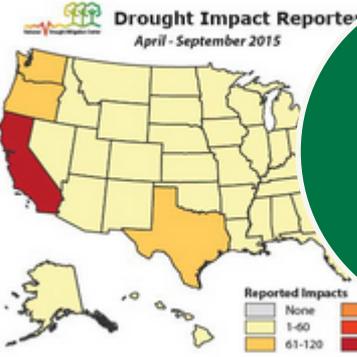
Remote Sensing



Historical Drought Data



Drought Impact Archive



Drought-Ready Communities

A Guide to Community Drought Preparedness



Managing Risk on the Ranch

Introduction | Before a Drought | During a Drought | After a Drought | Write a Drought Plan | Contact Us

Drought Basics

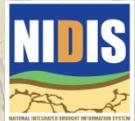
What is drought? Drought is a natural phenomenon that occurs when there is a significant deficit of precipitation over a period of time. Drought can have a significant impact on the environment, agriculture, and human health. Understanding drought and its impacts is the first step in developing effective management strategies to reduce the threat of drought to your operations.

Why Drought is a Problem

Drought is a natural phenomenon that occurs when there is a significant deficit of precipitation over a period of time. Drought can have a significant impact on the environment, agriculture, and human health. Understanding drought and its impacts is the first step in developing effective management strategies to reduce the threat of drought to your operations.

How to Prepare for Drought

Drought is a natural phenomenon that occurs when there is a significant deficit of precipitation over a period of time. Drought can have a significant impact on the environment, agriculture, and human health. Understanding drought and its impacts is the first step in developing effective management strategies to reduce the threat of drought to your operations.



US Drought Monitor

droughtmonitor.unl.edu

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Maps And Data

Supplemental Info

About USDM

USDM News

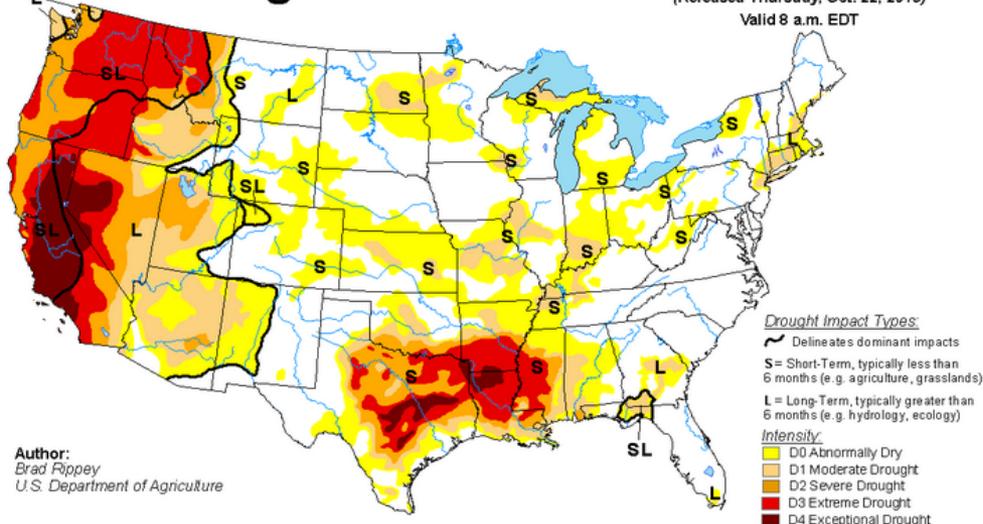
United States Drought Monitor

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U.S. Drought Monitor

October 20, 2015
(Released Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Author:
Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Drought Impact Types:

- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

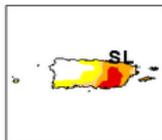
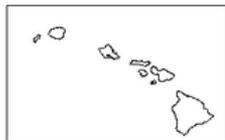
Intensity:

- Yellow: D0 Abnormally Dry
- Orange: D1 Moderate Drought
- Red: D2 Severe Drought
- Dark Red: D3 Extreme Drought
- Black: D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



Current National Drought Summary

Summary

Dry weather dominated much of the country, favoring summer crop harvesting and winter wheat planting. However, topsoil moisture shortages hampered wheat emergence and establishment in a variety of regions, including portions of the Plains, lower Midwest, and interior Northwest. Meanwhile, significant short-term drought continued to grip the South, primarily from the southeastern Great Plains to the Mississippi Delta. In addition to concerns about recently planted winter wheat, Southern drought issues included stress on pastures and late-maturing summer crops: an elevated risk

Great Plains

Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico

Mid-South and Environs

Midwestern and Great Lakes States

Southeast

The Northeast

West

Looking Ahead

Author(s):

Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture

[View a printable narrative here.](#)

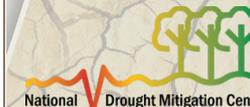
Download PDF

View last week's map

Statistics Comparison

Statistics Table

Change Maps



NOTE: To view regional drought conditions, click on map above. State maps can be accessed from regional maps.

The data cutoff for Drought Monitor maps is each Tuesday at 8 a.m. EDT. The maps, which are based on analysis of the data, are released each Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Eastern Time.

Drought Risk Atlas

droughtatlas.unl.edu



Drought Risk Atlas

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Welcome to the Drought Risk Atlas

Introduction

The idea of updating and expanding a national drought atlas was developed from the original Drought Atlas that was done in conjunction with the United States Army Corps of Engineers by Hoskings, Wallis and Guttman in the early 1990s. The original Drought Atlas consisted of those stations in the Historical Climate Network (HCN), numbering approximately 1,000 stations. The period of record at the time was limited, as many stations only had records from the 1940s to present, and these data points were put into their respective climate divisions. A monthly time step was used to calculate the Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI). The new Drought Risk Atlas brings precise climatological data down to spatial scales that would allow decision makers to use this tool to better understand drought in their respective region and to make better decisions.

For the new national Drought Risk Atlas, the idea was to expand the data both in the number of stations analyzed and the period of record to include the most complete long-term stations, some of which are not part of the HCN. Using a weekly time-step to calculate multiple drought indices at each station location, not on a climate division scale, allows for a more precise representation of drought histories. The Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI), Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI), Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI), Deciles, United States Drought Monitor and other climatological data are included in the new Drought Risk Atlas. Along with the climatological data, gridded maps created on a weekly time-step are available for the entire United States.

Map Viewer

View gridded datasets for the continental United States.

Data

Select a station and view data for a number of drought indices. Frequency statistics of drought thresholds, drought period information and index comparisons are also available.

Methodology

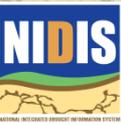
Learn about the criteria used to select the stations, the drought indices chosen, and more.

About

An overview of why the Drought Risk Atlas was created and who was involved.

Help

Instructions on how to use the various features and tools of the Drought Risk Atlas.



Documenting Drought Impacts is Important

droughtreporter.unl.edu

NDMC Drought Impact Reporter

Map Advanced Search Submit a Report About the DIR Help

Refresh

Impacts & Reports Overlays

Impacts

Opacity 80%

Legend

- 0
- 1 - 7
- 8 - 14
- 15 - 21
- 22 - 28
- 29 - 35

Reports

Time Period

Location

Categories

Report Types

All States | 04-15-2012 - 05-15-2012

Impact Counts Impact List Report Counts Report List

Total Impacts | All States 133

Category			
	Agriculture	53	
	Energy	2	
	Plants & Wildlife	40	
	Society & Public Health	9	
	Water Supply & Quality	49	
	Business & Industry	5	
	Fire	33	
	Relief, Response & Restrictions	48	
	Tourism & Recreation	12	

Report Source

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NATIONAL DROUGHT MITIGATION CENTER

Vegetation Drought Response Index

<http://veg dri.unl.edu/>

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Vegetation Drought Response Index

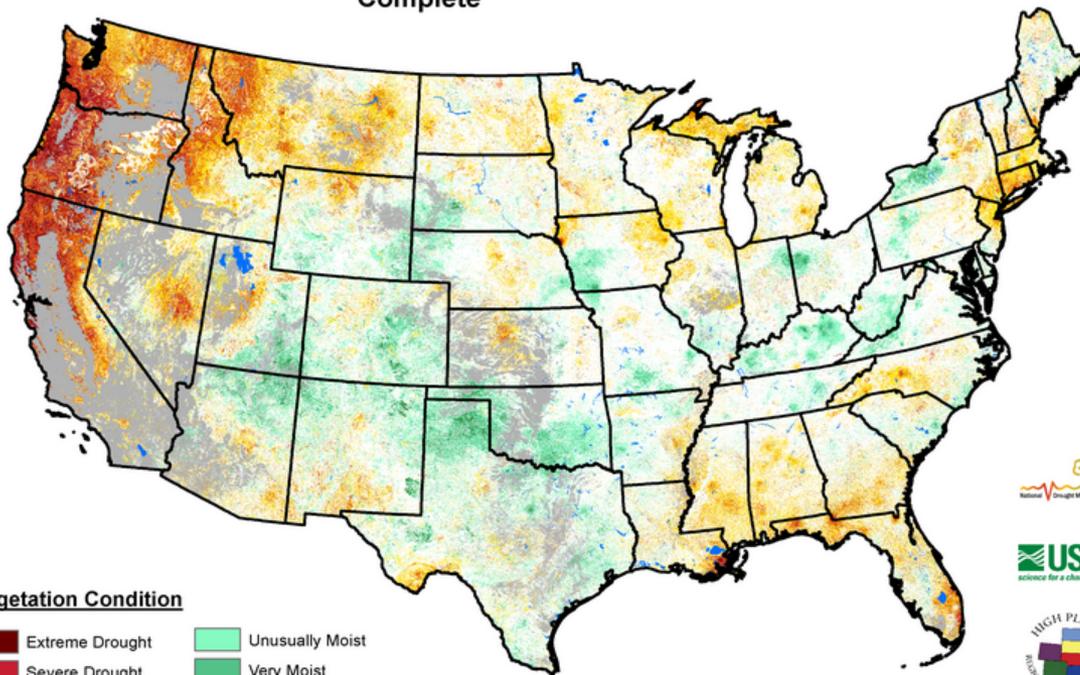
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Select map type: Complete

Vegetation Drought Response Index Complete

October 19, 2015



Vegetation Condition



VegDRI Highlights for 10/19/2015

Western States

Vegetation conditions in the Cascade Range and coastal regions of Washington and northern Oregon have worsened one category to severe drought according to the VegDRI map. Vegetation conditions in southwestern Oregon have degraded from drier than usual to moderate and severe drought in a short

Great Plains

Midwest

Northeast

Southeast

What's New

VegDRI [Time Series Maps](#) for 1989 through present.

Description

Read the VegDRI Description [here](#).

