



# Intermountain West Drought Early Warning System Drought & Climate Outlook

October 25, 2016

The Alliance Center

1536 Wynkoop St Denver, CO

In 2016 the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) is expanding the original Upper Colorado River Basin Drought Early Warning System to include the states of Arizona, Colorado, western New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. NIDIS and its partners are working with stakeholders throughout the region to identify priorities and needs of this drought early warning system.

The Intermountain West Drought Early Warning System (IMW DEWS) Drought & Climate Outlook is a one-day event that will bring together federal, tribal, state, academic, and local partners and stakeholders for an in-depth discussion on drought in the Intermountain West, with attention to water, climate, land and emergency management. Discussions will center on improving the information needs of decision makers in the region.

Desired outcomes of the IMW DEWS Drought & Climate Outlook are to:

1. Provide an update on current drought status and a preview of developing climatic events (i.e. El Niño & La Niña) for the region.
2. Showcase current resources, research and tools available to stakeholders to support drought early warning in the Intermountain West.
3. Gather feedback from stakeholders on current needs, to inform the development of the IMW DEWS Strategic Plan.
4. Develop recommendations for future actions, collaborative research, and decision support tools.

8:30-9:00am	<b>Registration</b>	
9:00-9:20am	<b>Welcome/Goals &amp; Objectives</b>	Alicia Marrs (NOAA/NIDIS)
9:20-10:00am	<b>Drought Update</b> <i>Live broadcast of the Colorado Climate Center's Upper Colorado River Basin Drought Assessment</i>	Becky Bolinger (CCC) Peter Goble (CCC) Bob Kimbrough (USGS)
10:00-10:30am	<b>Climate Outlook</b>	Klaus Wolter (NOAA/ESRL/PSD)

10:30-10:45am	<b>BREAK</b>	
10:45-11:15am	<b>What do “drought” and “early warning” mean in the Intermountain West/Upper Colorado River Basin states?</b> <i>Facilitated discussion</i>	Bets McNie (CU/WWA)
11:15-12:15pm	<b>Overview current drought monitoring and early warning activities in the Intermountain West</b> Moderator: Alicia Marrs (NOAA/NIDIS)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colorado Climate Center</li> <li>• Colorado Water Availability Task Force</li> <li>• Western Water Assessment Drought Portfolio</li> <li>• Southwest Climate Outlook &amp; Assessments</li> <li>• Colorado River Basin Forecast Center</li> </ul>	Becky Bolinger (CCC) Taryn Finnessey (CWCB) Jeff Lukas (WWA) Ben McMahan (UA/CLIMAS) Paul Miller (NOAA/CBRFC)
12:15 – 1:15pm	<b>WORKING LUNCH</b>	
1:15 -2:15pm	<b>New resources to enhance drought monitoring</b> Moderator: Jeff Lukas (CU/WWA)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaporative Demand Drought Index (EDDI)</li> <li>• Water Resources Monitor &amp; Outlook (WRMO)</li> <li>• Colorado Agricultural Meteorological Network (CoAgMet)</li> </ul>	Mike Hobbins (NOAA/ESRL/PSD) Andrea Ray (NOAA/ESRL/PSD) Zach Schwalbe (CCC)
2:15 – 2:30pm	<b>Identifying essential tools and resources for the IMW Drought Early Warning System</b> <i>Facilitated discussion</i>	Bets McNie (CU/WWA)
2:30 – 2:45pm	<b>BREAK</b>	
2:45 – 4:00pm	<b>Water Management &amp; Planning in a Drought-Prone Region</b> Moderator: Taryn Finnessey (CWCB)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bureau of Reclamation</li> <li>• Central Arizona Project</li> <li>• Denver Water</li> <li>• Walton Family Foundation Colorado River Initiative</li> <li>• Integrating paleo-drought information in water supply management on the Wasatch Front</li> </ul>	Darion Mayhorn (US BOR) Mohammed Mahmoud (CAP) Jeremy Allen (Denver Water) Ted Kowalski (WFF) Seth Arens (CU/WWA)
4:00 - 5:00pm	<b>Designing an effective drought early warning system for the Intermountain West</b> <i>Facilitated discussion</i>	Bets McNie (CU/WWA)
5:00pm	<b>Adjourn</b>	

