New Mexico Drought Task Force

Dr. Dave DuBois

State Climatologist

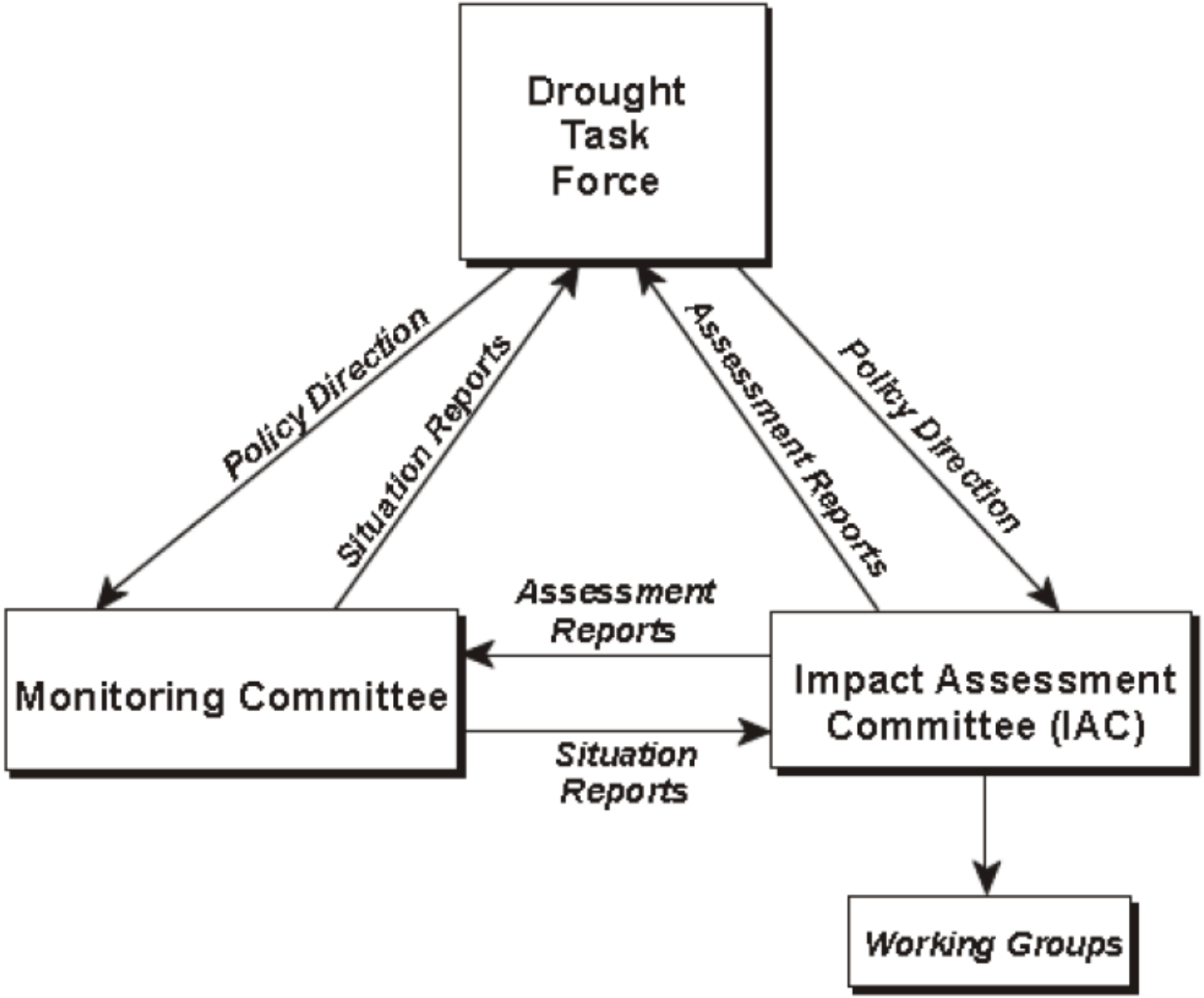
Presented at the IMW DEWS meeting, Sept. 20, 2016

Drought Task Force Focus

- Mitigation and Response
- Policy
- Budget
- Inventory forms of assistance
- Communication to local communities and tribes, counties, legislature, and Governor

NM DTF Members

- Natural Resources Agencies
- Governor Representative
- Tourism
- Indian Affairs
- Budget Agencies


Drought Task Force
Policy Direction
Situation Reports
Assessment Reports
Policy Direction
Assessment Reports
Monitoring Committee
Impact Assessment Committee (IAC)
Situation Reports
Working Groups

Drought Monitoring Workgroup Activities

- Formed in late 1990s to support DTF
- Chaired by State Climatologist
- Provides to the DTF a synthesis of climate, hydrology data, and drought impacts
- Hosted at Albuquerque NWS forecast office
- Monthly workgroup meetings online & Monthly DMWG meetings; end of month at 10 am mountain time

Workgroup Agencies Represented

- NOAA National Weather Service
- US Bureau of Reclamation
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- US Geological Survey
- Office of the State Engineer
- NM Department of Agriculture
- EMNRD Forestry Division
- Bureau of Land Management
- USDA Farm Service Agency
- NM State Climate Office/NMSU
- US Drought Monitor

Continue to recruit for land managers, rangeland, and tribal representatives

Information Presented at WG meetings

- Existing conditions of temp/precip amounts
- Soil moisture conditions
- Snow pack conditions
- Runoff outlooks
- Current stream flow conditions
- Reservoir storage
- Temp and precipitation outlooks
- Agricultural impacts

Communication

- DM author often present on the meeting
- Send out recommendations to DM author after meeting
- Office State Engineer hosts website & reports
- Meetings archived on YouTube (youtube.com/nmclimate)
- State Climatologist propagates information