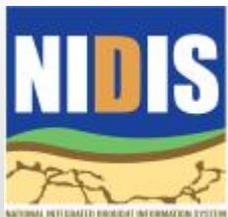


# Overview of Drought Information Act of 2013 (S.376): Reauthorization of NIDIS

Summer 2013 National Drought Outlook

May 16, 2013

Washington, DC



# National Integrated Drought Information System

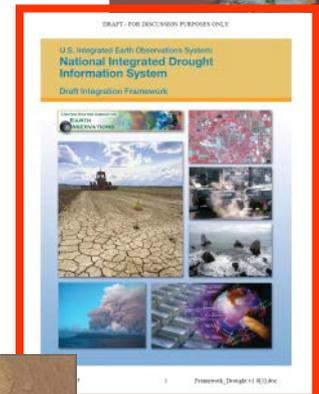
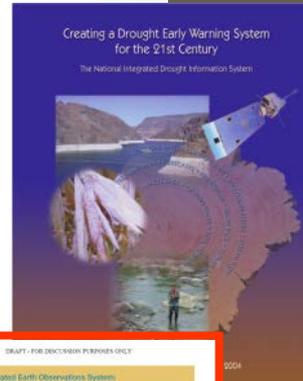
“Drought is the most obstinate and pernicious of the dramatic events that Nature conjures up. It can last longer and extend across larger areas than hurricanes, tornadoes, floods and earthquakes...causing hundreds of millions of dollars in losses, and dashing hopes and dreams.”

US National Drought Policy Commission Report, May 2000

Public Law 109-430 (The NIDIS Act 2006)

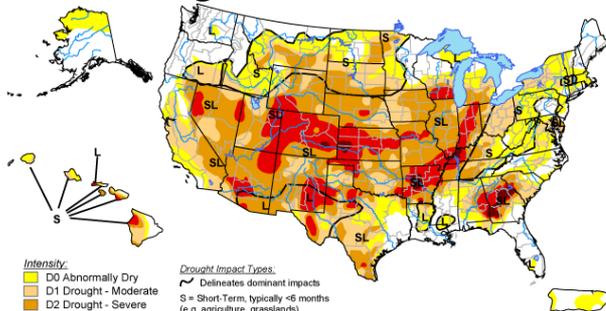
**“Enable the Nation to move from a reactive to a more proactive approach to managing drought risks and impacts”**

**“...better informed and more timely drought-related decisions leading to reduced impacts and costs...”**



## U.S. Drought Monitor

July 17, 2012  
Valid 7 a.m. EDT



[www.drought.gov](http://www.drought.gov)

**Intensity:**  
 D0 Abnormally Dry  
 D1 Drought - Moderate  
 D2 Drought - Severe  
 D3 Drought - Extreme  
 D4 Drought - Exceptional

**Drought Impact Types:**  
 ~ Delineates dominant impacts  
 S = Short-Term, typically <6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)  
 L = Long-Term, typically >6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

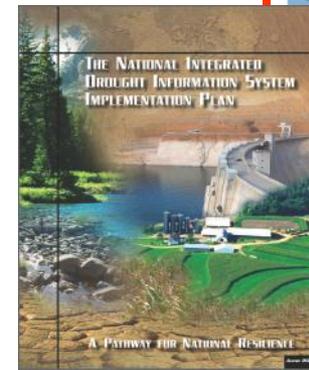
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

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



Released Thursday, July 19, 2012

Author: Richard Heim/Liz Love-Brotak, NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC



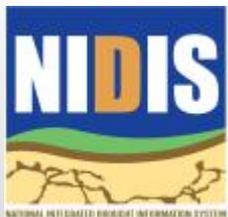
# National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)

An interagency and interstate effort to establish a **national drought early warning information system**

Provides better coordination of monitoring, forecasting, and impact assessment efforts at national, watershed, state, and local levels

Provides a better understanding of how and why droughts affect society, the economy, and the environments

Improves accessibility, dissemination, and use of early warning information for drought risk management



# Water Resources: Federal Partnerships (States, Tribes, Urban, other)

## Monitoring & Forecasting



## Drought and Flood Impacts Assessments and Scenarios



## Information Systems in support of Adaptation

## Communication and Outreach

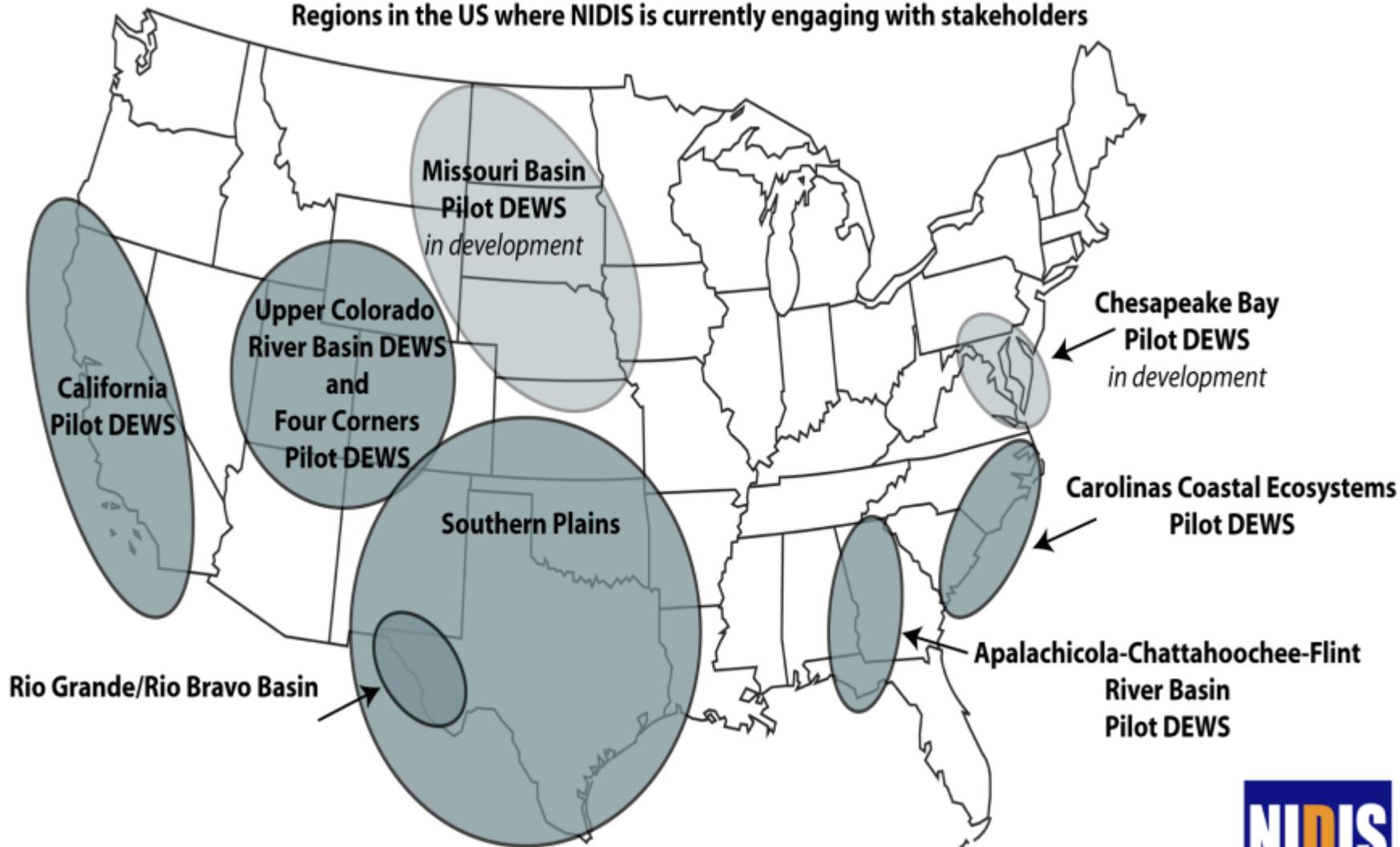


## Engaging Preparedness & Adaptation



# National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)

Regions in the US where NIDIS is currently engaging with stakeholders



# S. 376: Reauthorize NIDIS

Introduced by:

Sen. Pryor (D-AR)

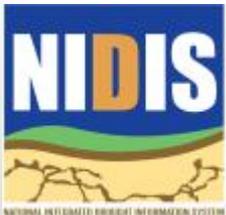
Sen. Moran (R-KS)

Sen. Thune (R-S.D.)

Sen. Udall (D-N.M.)

Sen. Udall (D-CO)

Referred to Committee on Commerce,  
Science, and Transportation



# S. 376: Reauthorize NIDIS

NIDIS shall provide an effective drought early warning system that—

- *collects and integrates information* on the key indicators of drought in order *to make usable, reliable, and timely forecasts* of drought;
- provides such information, forecasts, and assessments on both national and regional levels;
- *communicates* drought forecasts, drought conditions, and drought impacts *on an ongoing basis to decision-makers*;

# S. 376: Reauthorize NIDIS

- *provides timely data, information, and products that reflect local, regional, and State differences in drought conditions;*
- *coordinates, and integrates as practicable, Federal research in support of a drought early warning system;*
- *builds upon existing forecasting and assessment programs and partnerships; and*
- *continues ongoing research activities related to drought, including research activities relating to length, severity, and impacts of drought and the role of extreme weather events and climate variability in drought*

# Status of the Reauthorization of NIDIS

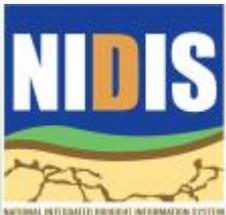
# National Drought Forum

## **Goal:**

To understand the extent of the 2012 drought impacts and response, and help provide new information and guidance for coordination to improve the nation's preparedness for drought and more specifically, enhance its drought readiness for 2013 and beyond.

## **Participants:**

High-level drought program experts and stakeholders from all levels of govt, including federal, state, tribal, and local; and research institutions and the private sector.

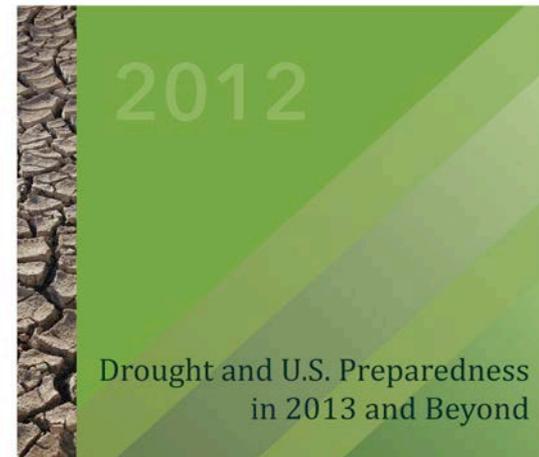


# Priority Actions – 5 Key Themes

- Drought & Water Supply Monitoring and Prediction
- Communications
- Preparedness Planning
- Reducing the Risk, Mitigating the Impacts & Adapting to the Future
- National Investments & Opportunities

## **National Drought Forum**

*Summary Report and Priority Actions*



# Questions

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