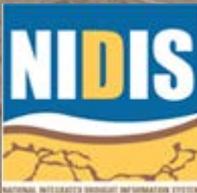


The 2011 & 2012 Drought Assessments: What are they and what have we learned?

Brian Fuchs
Climatologist

National Drought Mitigation Center
School of Natural Resources
University of Nebraska-Lincoln



**NIDIS Missouri River Basin Kickoff
Meeting**

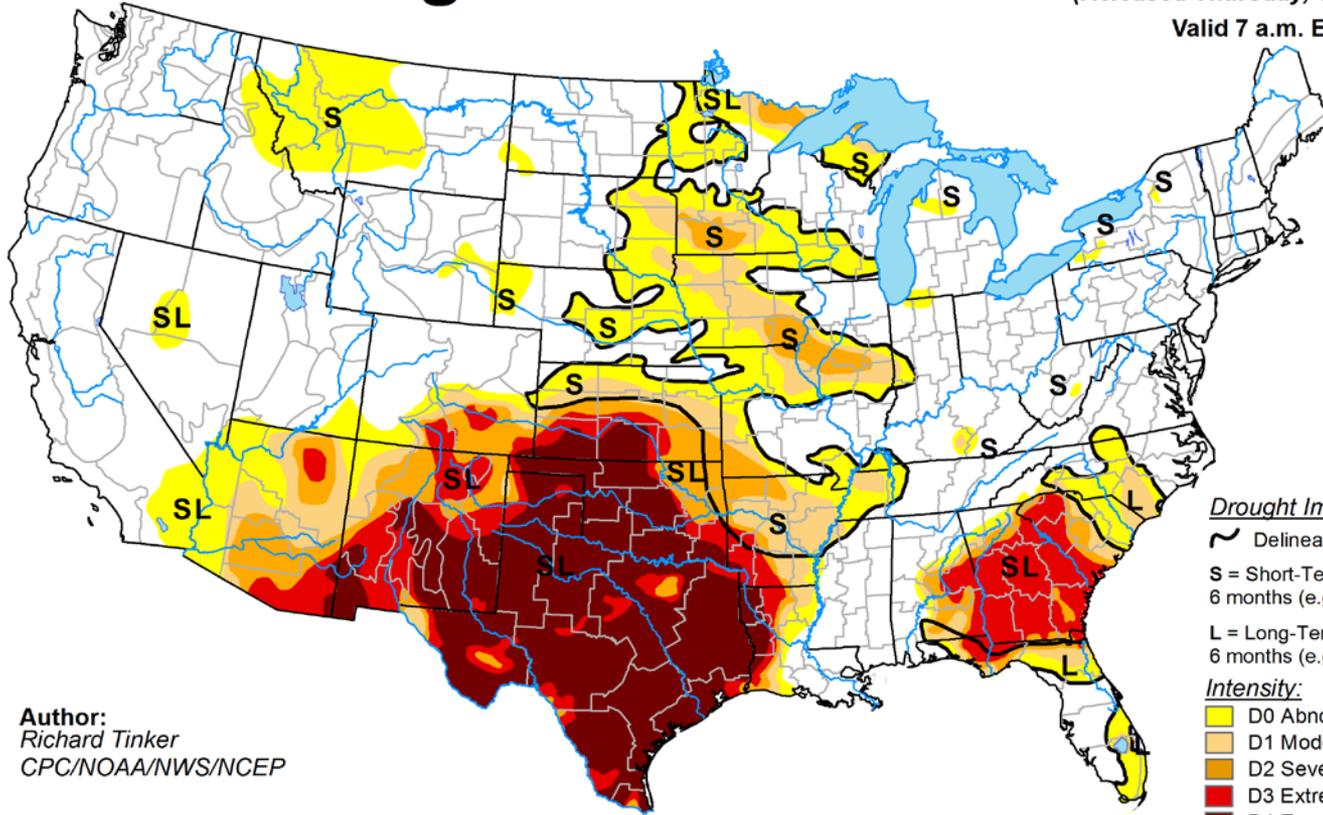
**February 26-27, 2014
Nebraska City, NE**



2011 Southern Plains Drought

U.S. Drought Monitor

October 4, 2011
 (Released Thursday, Oct. 6, 2011)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:
 Richard Tinker
 CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP

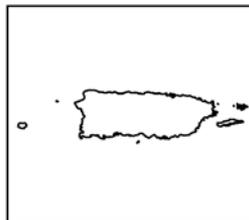
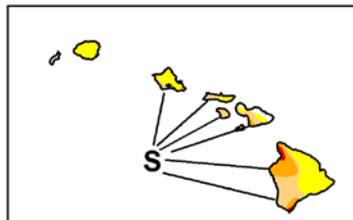
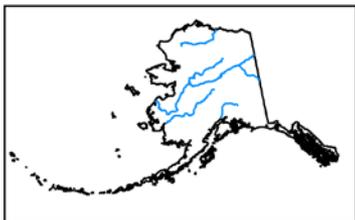
Drought Impact Types:

- ~ 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)

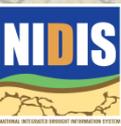
Intensity:

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

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



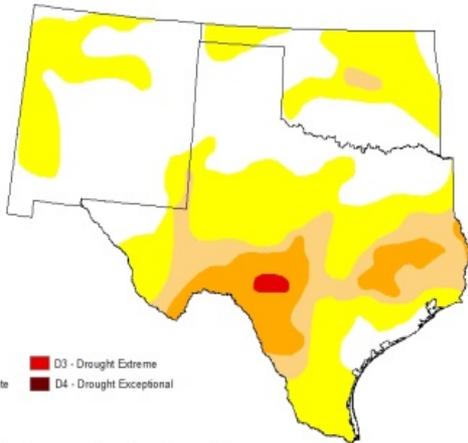
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>



Why A Drought Assessment?

- ▶ Focused on 3 states:
 - Texas
 - Oklahoma
 - New Mexico

U.S. Drought Monitor November 30, 2010
Valid 7 a.m. EST
Southern Plains Drought Assessment



Intensity:

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

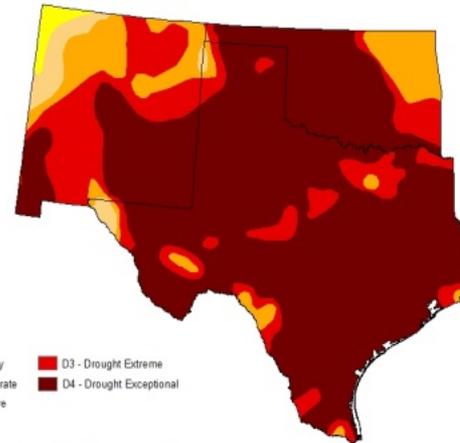
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>



Released December 2, 2010

U.S. Drought Monitor September 27, 2011
Valid 7 a.m. EST
Southern Plains Drought Assessment



Intensity:

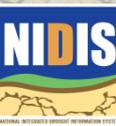
Yellow - D0 - Abnormally Dry
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Dark Orange - D2 - Drought Severe
Red - D3 - Drought Extreme
Dark Red - D4 - Drought Exceptional

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<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>



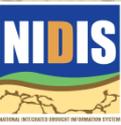
Released September 29, 2011



Report Outline

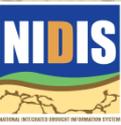
- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ Climatological Overview
 - How the drought developed and progressed
- ▶ Drought Impacts Summary
 - What impacts were observed and when did they develop
- ▶ Services Provided
 - What information was delivered to the public and by which agencies
- ▶ Conclusions
 - What did we learn
 - Best practices
 - Other outcomes

Developed and written as a 3 state “regional” summary



Who was involved?

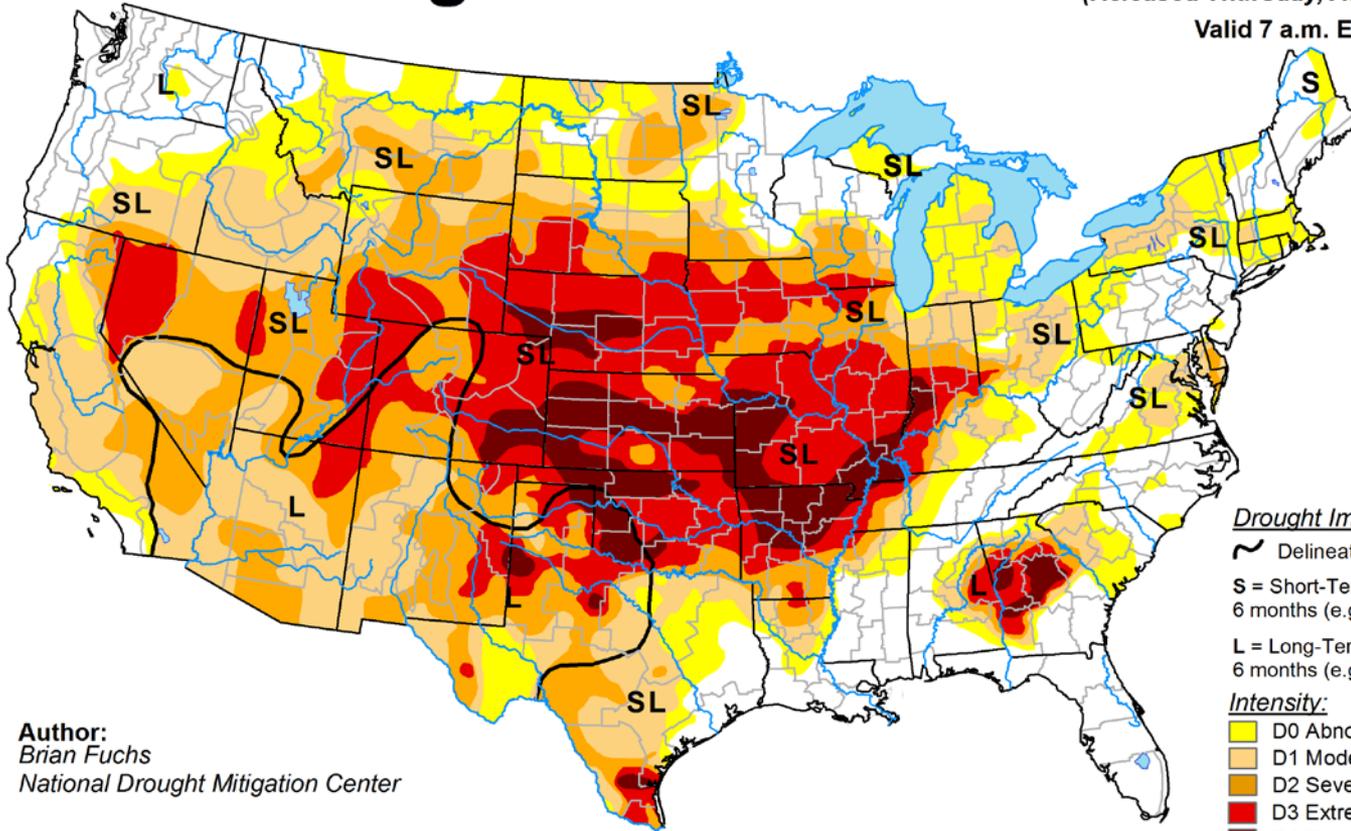
- ▶ NIDIS Program Office
- ▶ National Drought Mitigation Center
- ▶ NOAA
- ▶ NWS Southern Region
- ▶ OK State Climate Office/OCS
- ▶ NM State Climate Office
- ▶ TX State Climate Office
- ▶ Others.....



2012 Central Region Drought

U.S. Drought Monitor

August 28, 2012
 (Released Thursday, Aug. 30, 2012)
 Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:
 Brian Fuchs
 National Drought Mitigation Center

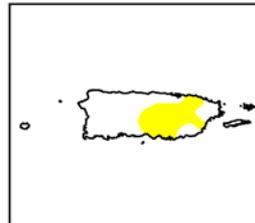
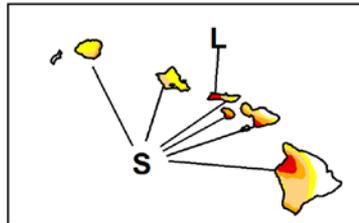
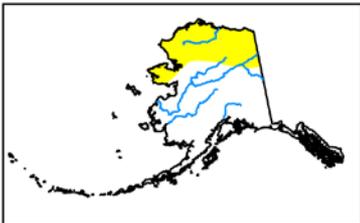
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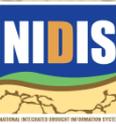
Intensity:

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

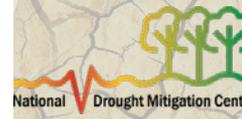
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



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



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Nebraska
 Lincoln

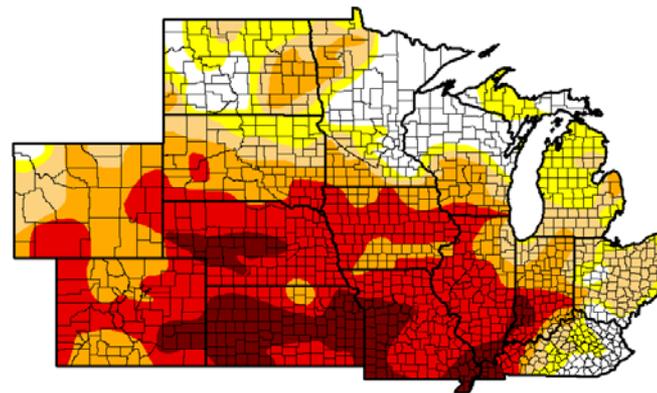


Why A Drought Assessment?

- ▶ Focused on 15 States
 - Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Wyoming, Colorado

U.S. Drought Monitor Central Plains Drought Assessment

August 21, 2012
(Released Thursday, Aug. 23, 2012)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity

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

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

Author:
Michael Brewer
NCDC/NOAA



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



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Nebraska
Lincoln

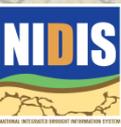


National Drought Mitigation Center

Report Outline

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ Climatological Overview
 - How the drought developed and progressed
- ▶ Drought Impacts Summary
 - What impacts were observed and when did they develop
- ▶ Services Provided
 - What information was delivered to the public and by which agencies
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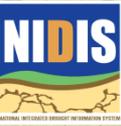
Developed and written as 15 individual state reports along with a regional climatic and drought summary



Who was involved?

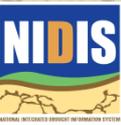
- ▶ NIDIS Program Office
- ▶ National Drought Mitigation Center
- ▶ NOAA
- ▶ *NWS Central Region*
- ▶ *AASC*
- ▶ *HPRCC & MRCC*
- ▶ *KY State Climate Office*
- ▶ *OH State Climate Office*
- ▶ *IN State Climate Office*
- ▶ *MI State Climate Office*
- ▶ *IL State Climate Office*
- ▶ *MO State Climate Office*
- ▶ *IA State Climate Office*
- ▶ *MN State Climate Office*
- ▶ *ND State Climate Office*
- ▶ *SD State Climate Office*
- ▶ *WY State Climate Office*
- ▶ *CO State Climate Office*
- ▶ *KS State Climate Office*
- ▶ *Others.....*

SCEP (State Climatologist Exchange Program) Funds from NCDC were secured by some of the State Climatologist with the help of AASC to help support this project



Progress on the reports

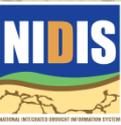
- ▶ The Central Region report is ready for final review and will go to layout in the next week
- ▶ The Southern Plains report is in the final editing stage and will be ready for final review afterwards
- ▶ Both reports will be available in a PDF format via the NIDIS portal at drought.gov
- ▶ 2 page summaries will accompany both reports



Any Questions ?



Lena Frassin 06



Contact Information:

Brian Fuchs

bfuchs2@unl.edu

402-472-6775

**National Drought Mitigation Center
School of Natural Resources
University of Nebraska-Lincoln**

