

Pacific Northwest DEWS Drought & Climate Outlook

July 26, 2016



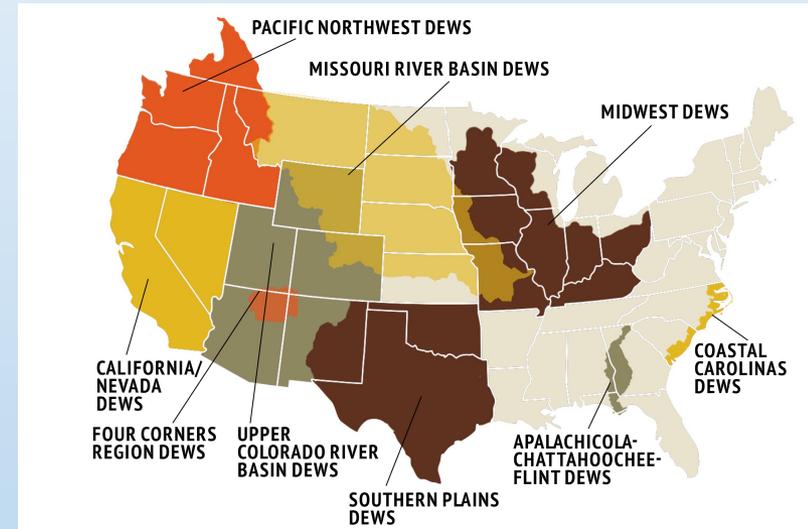
Agenda

- **Introduction to NIDIS and PNW DEWS**
 - Alicia Marrs, NOAA/NIDIS
- **Overview of current conditions in the region**
 - Kathie Dello, Climate Impacts Research Consortium (CIRC)
- **Observed impacts & associated mitigation actions**
 - Ada Montague, Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation
 - Ken Stahr, Oregon Water Resources Department
- **Climate Outlook - What can we expect from a potential La Niña?**
 - Andrea Bair, National Weather Service Western Region
- **Upcoming Events**



What is the National Integrated Drought Information System?

- Provide a better understanding of how and why droughts affect society, the economy and the environment.
- Improve accessibility, dissemination and use of early warning information for drought risk management.
- Build off of a network of regional Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS) to create a National Drought Early Warning System.



What is a Drought Early Warning System?

A DEWS utilizes **new and existing partner networks** to optimize the expertise of a wide range of federal, tribal, state, local and academic partners in order to **make climate and drought science and impact data readily available, easily understandable and usable for decision makers; and to improve the capacity of stakeholders and economic sectors to better monitor, forecast, plan for and cope with the impacts of drought at all spatial and time scales.**



Pacific Northwest DEWS

- Officially launched in February 2016
 - Key takeaways:
 - Drought of 2015 is the new drought of record
 - Additional research and monitoring is needed for decision making
 - Groundwater
 - Soil moisture
 - Snowpack
 - Water temperature
 - Stream flows
 - Better information is needed to identify specific triggers to inform operational decisions
 - Increased communication and outreach
 - Leverage and enhance existing information and collaborative networks
 - Strategic plan is under development

