Drought Risk Management:

Now What?

Mark Svoboda, Climatologist
Monitoring Program Area Leader
National Drought Mitigation Center

Drought Risk Management Research Center
University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA

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Some up front thoughts….

- Crisis management ***discourages self reliance*** and promotes dependence on government and donors
- Risk Management ***increases self reliance*** and ***reduces the likelihood*** of people and the environment being affected by drought
  - ***A good investment…***
- ***Monitoring is the foundation*** of risk management planning
  - ***One can not manage what is not monitored!***
- Drought needs to be ***placed into the broader context of the issues*** surrounding us: climate variability, water and food security, sustainability, and all natural hazards

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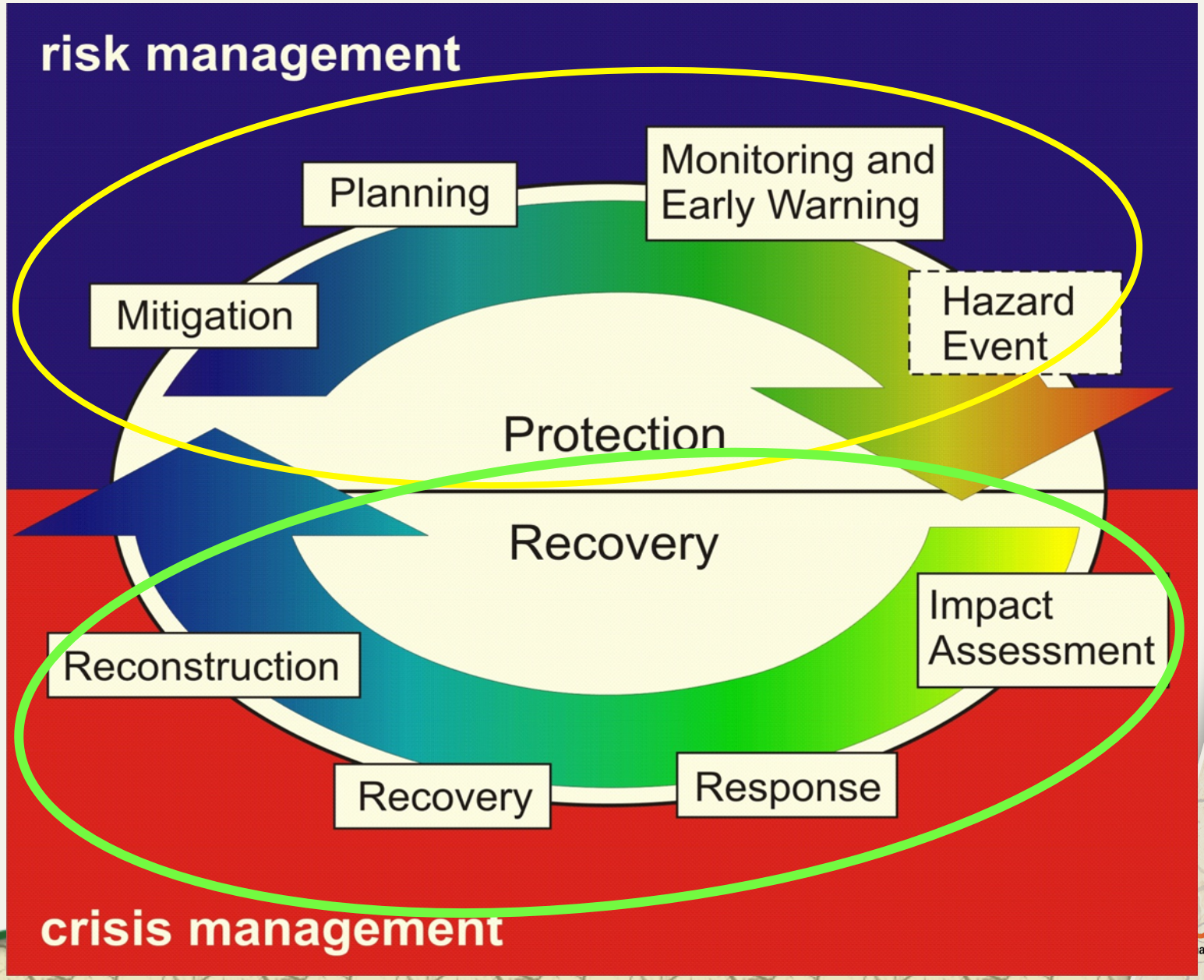
The Cycle of Disaster Management



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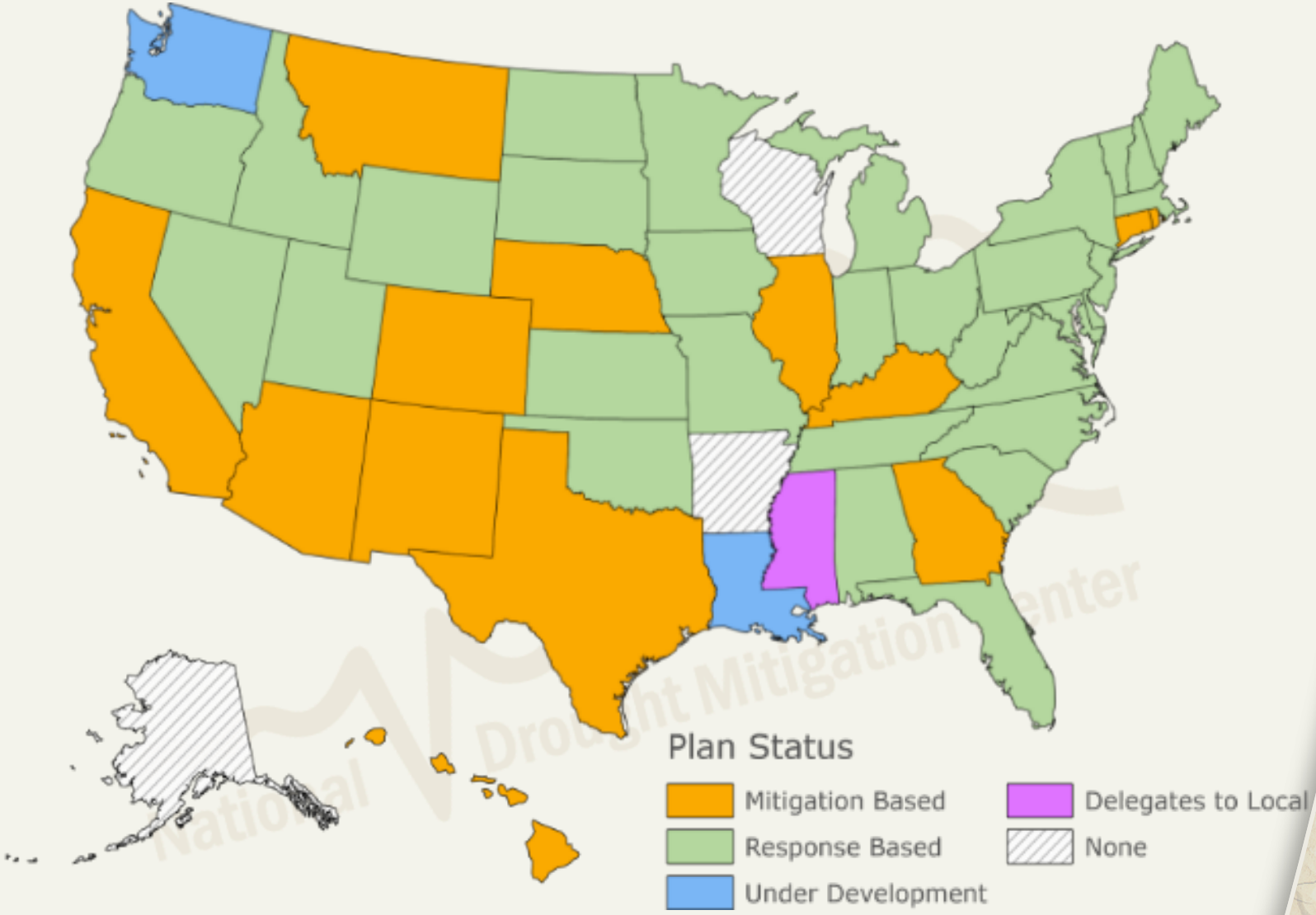

Mitigation Based Drought Planning is defined as the identification of actions taken by individual citizens, industry, government, and others before drought occurs to mitigate impacts arising from drought.

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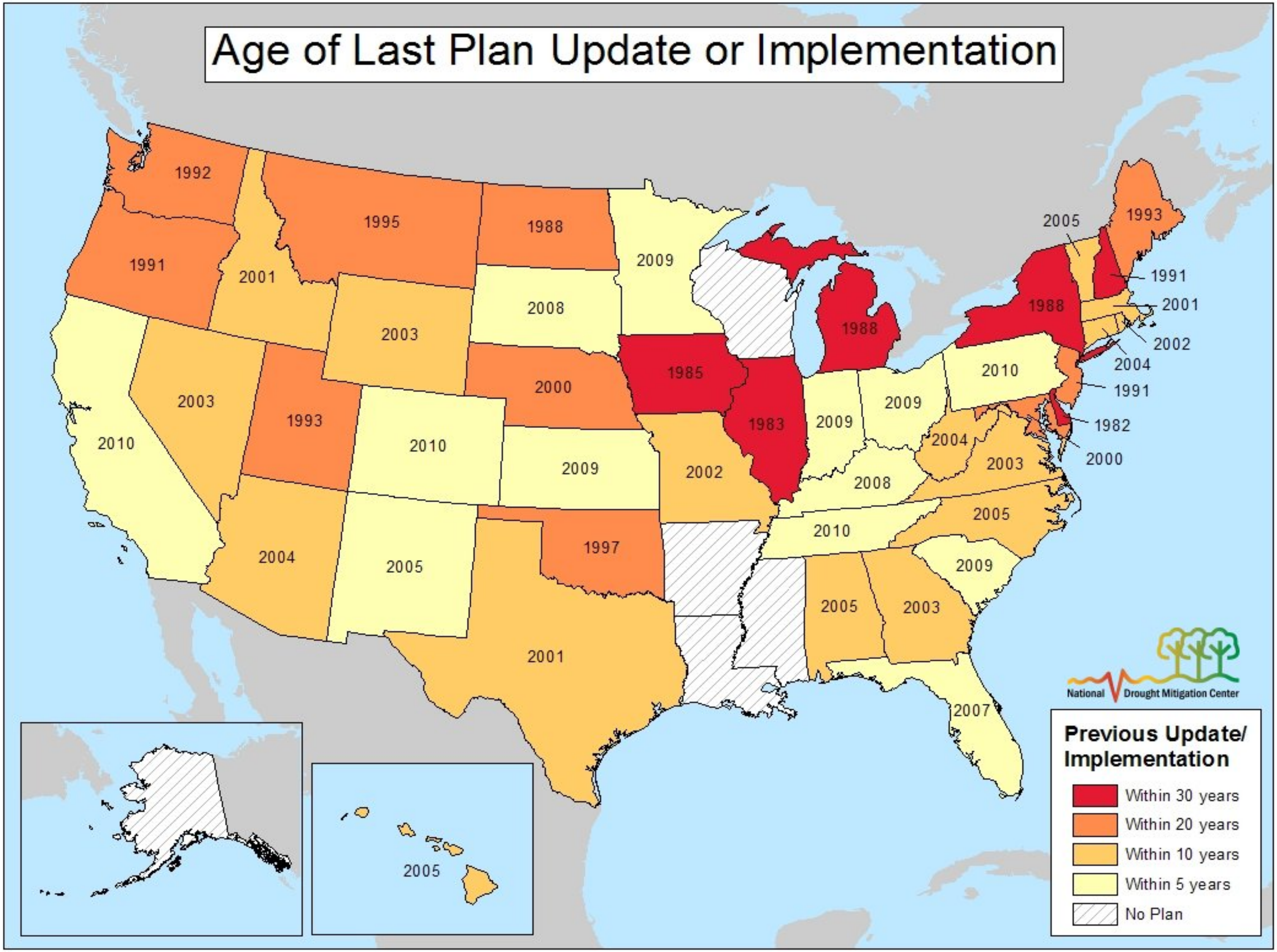
Age of Last Plan Update or Implementation
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Previous Update/ Implementation
Within 30 years
Within 20 years
Within 10 years
Within 5 years
No Plan

Drought Plan Components

- ***Monitoring and early warning***
  - Integrate, distill and ***translate*** information
  - Assess, communicate, and ***trigger*** action
  - ***Foundation*** of a drought mitigation plan
- **Vulnerability assessment**
  - Who and what is at ***risk*** and why?
- **Mitigation and response actions**
  - Actions/programs that ***reduce risk and impacts*** and enhance recovery

Most processes and plans in the past have primarily focused on monitoring and response...

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Drought Planning is a Process

- *It begins with a **framework***
- *Develops into a **strategy***
- *Yields a **plan of action***
- *Which, when implemented, results in **benefits***
- *Process **isn't prescribed**, rather it is organic. No two plans are exactly the same…*

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Drought Planning Continuum

Response Plans → Mitigation Plans

Increasing need for timely and reliable climate/water supply assessments

Increasing need for higher resolution analysis for policy decision support

Increasing need for organizational structure and communication

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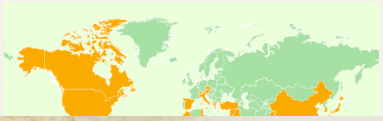
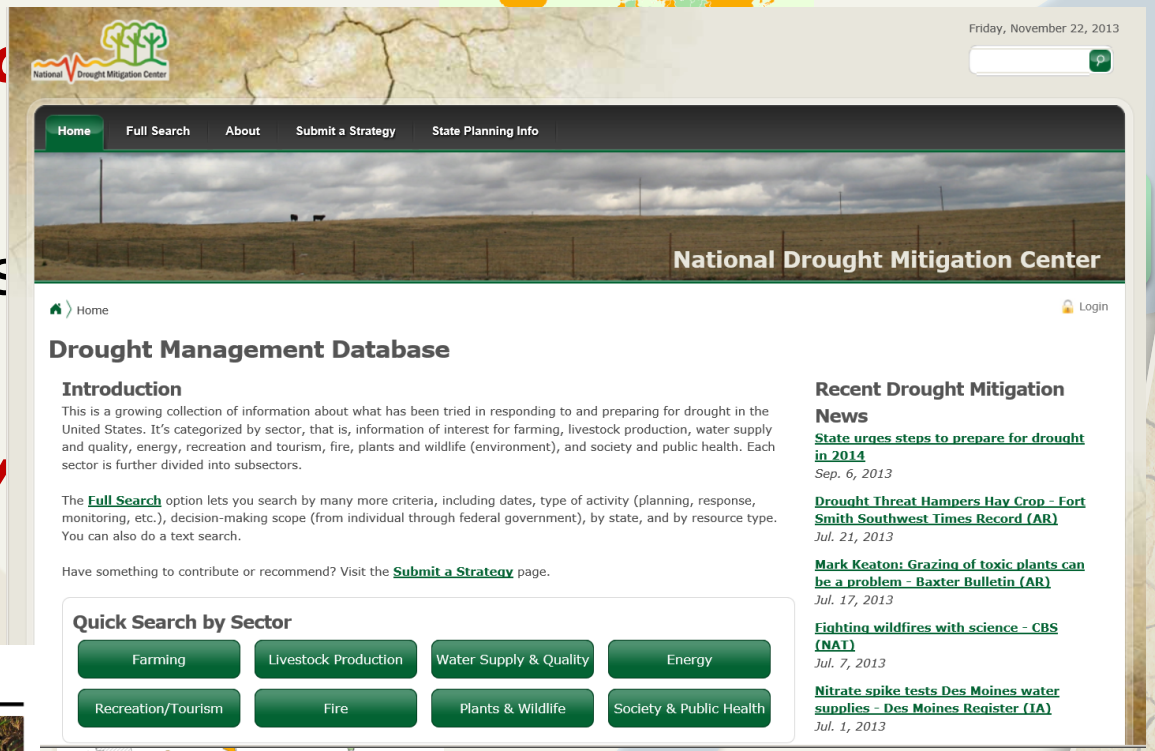
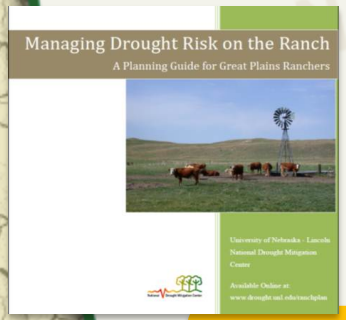
Planning Tools







State

Community

Individual

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Takeaway Thoughts on Drought Risk Management

- All droughts are ***LOCAL***
  - Optimal to ***monitor at all scales*** (local/regional/national/global) (bottom-up or top-down or a combination of both)
  - Need to ***plan at all levels*** (local/basin/regional/national) rely on this operational/real-time monitoring information system and delivery
- ***Collaboration is key***
  - Leverage resources
  - Leverage skills/products
  - Data sharing—real time (derivative and/or joint products)

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Contact Information:

Mark Svoboda
msvoboda2@unl.edu
402-472-8238

http:/drought.unl.edu

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

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