



Midwest Drought Early Warning System (DEWS) Partners Meeting

August 20-22, 2024 | Indianapolis, Indiana

Meeting Location

Embassy Suites by Hilton Indianapolis Downtown (110 West Washington Street)

Meeting Goals

- Provide partners in the Midwest region an opportunity to network and learn from one another around the topic of drought.
- Share success stories and challenges related to advancing drought early warning (which includes drought monitoring, prediction, response, planning/preparedness, and communication).
- Learn about new and innovative drought research and resources applicable to the Midwest.
- Explore emerging drought issues in the region and potential opportunities to address these issues as a regional network.
- Identify collaborative paths forward that advance drought early warning and preparedness across the Midwest.

Agenda: Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker
8:00 AM	Registration Table Open	
8:30 AM	Meeting Welcome & Logistics	Molly Woloszyn <i>NOAA/NIDIS and the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES)</i> Beth Hall <i>Midwestern Regional Climate Center (MRCC)/Purdue University</i>
8:35 AM	Welcome to Indy!	National Weather Service Indianapolis Weather Forecast Office
Plenary Session (Joint Session) <i>Moderated by: Molly Woloszyn, NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>		
8:45 AM	Fifth National Climate Assessment (NCA5): Midwest Chapter Overview	Aaron Wilson <i>Ohio State University/State Climate Office of Ohio</i>
9:15 AM	NCA5 Authors Panel & Discussion	Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aaron Wilson <i>Ohio State University</i>• Jim Noel <i>NOAA Ohio River Forecast Center</i>• Dennis Todey <i>USDA Midwest Climate Hub (Virtual)</i>• Barb Mayes Boustead <i>NOAA Climate Program Office</i>

2024 Midwest DEWS Partners Meeting

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker
10:15 AM	Morning Break (Refreshments/Snacks Provided)	
Plenary Session Cont'd (Joint Session)		
10:45 AM	Regional Climate Services in the Midwest	Doug Kluck NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information
11:05 AM	Building Knowledge to Support Equitable Climate Resilience in the Upper Mississippi River Basin	Emily Kreiter University of Minnesota
11:25 AM	Precipitation Effectiveness and Drought	Trent Ford Illinois State Water Survey/University of Illinois
11:45 AM	Q & A/Discussion	
12:00 PM	Hot Lunch Buffet (Provided)	
Session 1: NIDIS + Partner Updates Moderator: Molly Woloszyn, NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES		
1:00 PM	NIDIS and Midwest DEWS Updates	Molly Woloszyn NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES
1:15 PM	Drought Plan Development During a Drought: Lessons Quickly Learned	Tim Hall Iowa Department of Natural Resources
1:35 PM	Emergent Trends Complicate the Interpretation of the United States Drought Monitor (USDM)	Zhiying Li Indiana University
1:55 PM	NOAA Climate Ready Nation	Barb Mayes Boustead NOAA Climate-Ready Nation Coordinator
2:15 PM	Co-Produced Drought Science for Management: A Relationship-Based Approach	Will Farmer Acting USGS Drought Science Coordinator (Virtual)
2:30 PM	Afternoon Break (Refreshments/Snacks Provided)	
Session 2: Drought and the Mississippi River Moderator: Doug Kluck, NOAA/NCEI		
3:00 PM	Drought, Low Water, and Precipitation Trends in the Mississippi River Basin	Anna Wolverton U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/NOAA National Weather Service
3:20 PM	Ensemble River Forecasts as a Drought Early Warning Tool	Abram DaSilva NOAA Ohio River Forecast Center

2024 Midwest DEWS Partners Meeting

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker
3:40 PM	Mississippi River Watershed Partnership Efforts	Liz Crow <i>The Nature Conservancy (Virtual)</i>
4:00 PM	Development of a Water Dashboard for the Mississippi River Watershed	Kelsey Satalino Eigsti <i>NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>
4:20 PM	Group Discussion	
4:40 PM	Day 1 Wrap-Up	Molly Woloszyn <i>NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>
4:45 PM	Meeting Adjourns for the Day	
6:00 PM	Indianapolis Motor Speedway Visit and Tour + Dinner near Speedway 4790 West 16th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana	

Agenda: Wednesday, August 21, 2024

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker
8:30 AM	Welcome to Day 2!	Molly Woloszyn <i>NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i> & Beth Hall <i>MRCC/Purdue University</i>
Session 3: Addressing Drought Monitoring and Communication in the Midwest Under Complex Conditions (Joint Session) <i>Moderator: Molly Woloszyn, NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES and Sam Lashley, NWS Indianapolis</i>		
8:40 AM	Setting the Stage: Recent Complex Conditions in the Midwest	Molly Woloszyn <i>NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>
9:00 AM	Missouri Drought Reporting and Engagement	Elizabeth Kerby <i>Missouri DNR</i>
9:15 AM	National Weather Service (NWS) Perspective	Sam Lashley, Crystal Pettet, & Mike Ryan <i>Indianapolis NWS Weather Forecast Office</i>
9:30 AM	Group Discussion	
10:15 AM	Morning Break (<i>Refreshments/Snacks Provided</i>)	

2024 Midwest DEWS Partners Meeting

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker
Session 4: State Networking (Joint Session) <i>Moderator: Melissa Widhalm, Midwestern Regional Climate Center</i>		
10:45 AM	State Climate Office Highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Illinois (Trent Ford <i>Illinois State Climatologist - University of Illinois</i>)● Indiana (Beth Hall <i>Indiana State Climatologist - Purdue University</i>)● Ohio (Aaron Wilson <i>Ohio State Climatologist - Ohio State University</i>)● Wisconsin (Bridgette Mason <i>Assistant State Climatologist - University of Wisconsin</i>)● Kentucky (Shane Holinde <i>Outreach Manager - Kentucky Climate Center/Western Kentucky University</i>)	
11:45 AM	State Lunches (<i>Hot Lunch Provided</i>). We will sit by state at lunch - this is an opportunity to network with your other state partners.	
Session 5: Drought Monitoring (Joint Session) <i>Moderator: Trent Ford, Illinois State Water Survey/University of Illinois</i>		
1:00 PM	National Drought Mitigation Center Monitoring Tools and Resources & the U.S. Drought Monitor	Brian Fuchs <i>National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln</i>
1:30 PM	Exploring Drought.gov Resources	Kelsey Satalino Eigsti <i>NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>
1:50 PM	Drought Monitoring in the Midwest: Assessment of Data Needs and Gaps Tabletop Discussions: <i>Discussing needs and gaps, and identifying priorities for improvements to drought monitoring data for the region</i>	
2:45 PM	Afternoon Break (<i>Refreshments/Snacks Provided</i>)	
Session 6: Ecological Drought in the Midwest <i>Moderator: Jonathan Sleeman, USGS Midcontinent Region</i>		
3:15 PM	Ecological Drought - Framing the Issue	USGS & NIDIS
3:20 PM	Decision-Support for Ecological Flow Alterations in the Great Lakes	Jim McKenna <i>USGS Great Lakes Science Center (Virtual)</i>
3:40 PM	Building a More Drought-Resilient Urban Forest Ecosystem	M. Ross Alexander <i>Argonne National Laboratory</i> and Lindsay Darling <i>Chicago Region Trees Initiative and Morton Arboretum</i>
4:00 PM	Evaluation of Drought Indices and Indicators for Ecological Drought Monitoring in Ohio	Jackie Beck <i>Ohio State University</i>

2024 Midwest DEWS Partners Meeting

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker
4:20 PM	The Key Role of Timing of Weather Events in the Survival of the Karner Blue Butterfly	Ralph Grundel <i>USGS Great Lakes Science Center (Virtual)</i>
4:40 PM	Day 2 Wrap-Up	Molly Woloszyn <i>NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>
4:45 PM	Meeting Adjourns for the Day	
6:30 PM	Informal Dinner Gathering at Bottleworks District Garage Food Hall	

Agenda: Thursday, August 22, 2024

Time (ET)	Topic	Speaker
8:30 AM	Welcome to the Final Day!	Molly Woloszyn <i>NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>
Session 6: Ecological Drought Cont'd <i>Moderators: Jonathan Sleeman, USGS and Molly Woloszyn, NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>		
8:45 AM	Ecological drought facilitated discussion/table-top discussions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the challenges around incorporating ecosystem impacts into routine drought monitoring?• What do we not understand about ecological drought in the Midwest?• What ecosystems do we need to know more about related to drought?• How does flash drought impact ecosystems in the region? Or the rapid transition between too much/too little water?	
10:15 AM	Morning Break (<i>Refreshments/Snacks Provided</i>)	
Session 7: Meeting Reflection + Next Steps		
10:45 AM	Reflections on the meeting: Tabletop discussions and sharing to inform strategic plan for the Midwest region	
11:55 AM	Meeting Wrap-Up and Next Steps	Molly Woloszyn <i>NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>
12:00 PM	Meeting Adjourns	