The North American Drought Monitor: A Continental Approach

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History of the North American Drought Monitor (NADM)

- The concept for the NADM was developed and discussed in 2002.
- The first NADM map was released in March 2003.
- The first NADM map in all three languages (English, Spanish, and French) was released in October 2003.
History of the NADM

- The United States started off as the only country to author and organize the map
- Canada began authoring in January 2006
- Mexico began authoring in October 2008
North American Drought Monitor Partners

- **Canada**
  - Agriculture and Agrifood Canada
  - Environment Canada
  - Meteorological Service of Canada

- **Mexico**
  - National Meteorological Service of Mexico (SMN-Servicio Meteorologico Nacional)
  - CONAGUA (Comision Nacional del Agua)

- **United States**
  - National Drought Mitigation Center
  - National Climatic Data Center
  - Climate Prediction Center
  - United States Department of Agriculture
How do we get there ???

Drought Impact Types:
- D4 Drought - Exceptional
- Delineates dominant impacts
- A = Agriculture
- H = Hydrological (Water)

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

Regions in northern Canada may not be as accurate as other regions due to limited information.
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://drought.unl.edu/dm

Released Thursday, October 1, 2009
Author: David Miskus, JAWF/CPC/NOAA
All 3 Countries merged together using ArcGIS shapefiles
The North America Drought Monitor (NADM) is a cooperative effort between drought experts in Canada, Mexico and the United States to monitor drought across the continent on an ongoing basis. The program was initiated at a three-day workshop in late April 2002 and is part of a larger effort to improve the monitoring of climate extremes on the continent. The NADM (Lawrimore et al. 2002) is based on the highly successful U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM), and as such, is being developed to provide an ongoing comprehensive and integrated assessment of drought throughout all three countries.
3-Month Standardized Precipitation Index
January – March 2013

9-Month Standardized Precipitation Index
July 2012 – March 2013

* Based on Preliminary Data
** Base Period for Averages 1951–2001

Map showing precipitation index values across the United States and Mexico, with colors indicating dry, near normal, and wet conditions.
Any Questions?

Thank you!

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