Help us “CMOR drought”

The National Drought Mitigation Center, the National Integrated Drought Information System and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Climate Hubs are working with states, tribes and others across the country to collect Condition Monitoring Observer Reports on Drought (CMOR-Drought). We want to know how drought is affecting you.

How does this benefit you?

Your reports help us understand how drought is affecting local conditions. They appear on a map. The U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) author may consult the CMOR map to help identify areas that need more attention. The USDM triggers drought responses, including the Livestock Forage Disaster Program and Internal Revenue Service tax provisions. State agencies may also make use of maps to know where to direct assistance.

Where do you find CMOR-drought reporting?

Landing page for CMOR-drought:
go.unl.edu/cmor_drought
Includes current and archived maps of reports

Direct link to 2020 CMOR-drought form:
go.unl.edu/cmor_drought_2020
Works on mobile, tablet or computer

How do you submit a report?

• Use the compass icon on the map widget to pinpoint your location, or type in the search box if you’d rather only share the nearest city or the county. Be sure not to scroll after you have selected a location. Otherwise, it will move your marker.
• Please use the drop-down boxes to tell us your state and local jurisdiction. This is a quality-control measure, allowing us to see whether your marker is accurately positioned. It doesn’t actually position the marker. Only the map widget can do that.
• Provide the date.
• How dry or wet is it? Pick from seven levels, ranging from severely dry to severely wet. Your answer to this question will be the first way that people see your report on a map.

• The questions related to your years of experience help us frame your observations as “1 in 10” or “1 in 20,” which is how the U.S. Drought Monitor categorizes extremes.
• What impacts of drought are you experiencing? Click on categories to see a list of potential impacts, and check any that you have experienced.
• Upload one or more photos (optional), and provide any additional description or caption information.

How often should you report?

We recommend that you submit a photo each month or each season, to provide an ongoing comparison of wet, dry and normal conditions. Of course, we also welcome more frequent submissions.

Questions?

Please email DIRinfo@unl.edu.

Use the compass icon on the map widget to pinpoint your location, or type in the search box if you’d rather only share the nearest city or the county.
Categories (Sectors) and Impacts
Click on a triangle to see impacts within relevant sectors.

Report crop production impact ▼
- Less water for irrigation
- Reduced yield
- Insect infestation
- Crop disease
- Plant stress
- Added well, dam, pipe, etc.
- Increased irrigation
- Erosion
- Other: ____________

Report livestock production impact ▼
- Reduced pasture, forage
- More invasive species (plants)
- Decreased stock weights
- Animal stress
- Mortality
- Reduced grazing on public lands
- Hauled water
- Sold livestock
- Erosion
- Other: ____________

Report municipal water supply impact ►

Report community hydropower impact ►

Report public health impact ▼
- Air quality, dust, pollen
- More vector-borne disease
- Special meetings or activities held
- Ceremonies or festivals cancelled
- Less food for subsistence
- Garden needs more water or yields less
- People relocating
- Stress
- Increased algal blooms
- Other: ____________

Report household impact ►
- Reduced outdoor water use
- Reduced indoor water use
- Increased lawn, landscape watering
- Dry lawn
- Cracked foundation
- Increased power bill
- Increased use of cistern, rainwater
- Low or dry well
- Install graywater system
- Change landscaping
- Other: ____________

Report recreation & tourism impact ►

Report other business & industry impact ►

Report fire impact ►

Report forestry impact ►

Report wildlife habitat impact ▼
- Less food
- Less water
- Invasive plant or animal species
- Wildlife disease or mortality
- Change in animal migration
- Wildlife foraging near people
- Water quality reduced
- Change in wetland, bog, swamp
- Other: ____________

Report freshwater fish impact ►

Report spawning fish impact ►

go.unl.edu/cmor_drought