

Kelly Helm Smith

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EDUCATION

Master's in Community & Regional Planning, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, December 2005
M.S.J., Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University, December 1985, print concentration

B.A., Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, 1984, History major, French minor

PRESENT POSITION

2016-present Assistant Director & Communication Coordinator, National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

2006-present Communications Specialist, National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Working on how to collect and represent drought impacts in various sectors, including public health; drought planning; reducing vulnerability to drought

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2007-2012 School of Natural Resources, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Communication Specialist and PR Manager

2006 Lincoln Literacy Council, Consultant & Interim Program Coordinator

2004-2005 African Community Center, Program Facilitator

2002-2004 First Presbyterian Church, Director of Community Outreach

1995-2000 National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC), University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Communications Specialist

1994-1995 Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Conference Organizer, November 1994-May 1995

1989-1994 Quad/Graphics, Inc., Corporate Communications Writer/Editor

1987-1989 Reporter, Waukesha County Freeman

1985-1987 Reporter, Belleville News-Democrat

PUBLICATIONS

Lackstrom, K., A. Farris, D. Eckhardt, N. Doesken, H. Reges, J. Turner, **K. Smith**, and R. Ward, 2017: CoCoRaHS Observers Contribute to "Condition Monitoring" in the Carolinas: A New Initiative Addresses Needs for Drought Impacts Information. Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. doi:10.1175/BAMS-D-16-0306.1, January 2018

Zipper, S. C., **K. Helm Smith**, B. Breyer, J. Qiu, A. Kung, and D. Herrmann. 2017. Socio-environmental drought response in a mixed urban-agricultural setting: synthesizing biophysical

and governance responses in the Platte River Watershed, Nebraska, USA. *Ecology and Society* 22(4):39. <https://doi.org/10.5751/ES-09549-220439>

Bachmair, S., Stahl, K., Collins, K., Hannaford, J., Acreman, M., Svoboda, M., Knutson, C., **Smith, K. H.**, Wall, N., Fuchs, B., Crossman, N. D. and Overton, I. C. (2016), Drought indicators revisited: the need for a wider consideration of environment and society. *WIREs Water*. doi:10.1002/wat2.1154

Smith, K.H., C.J. Stiles, M.J. Hayes, and C.J. Carparelli, 2015: Support for Drought Response and Community Preparedness: Filling the Gaps between Plans and Action. In *Western Water Policy and Planning in a Variable and Changing Climate*, K. Miller, A. Hamlet, D. Kenney, and K. Redmond, eds., CRC Press – Taylor and Francis.

Smith, K.H. April 2015. Review of Water Diplomacy: A Negotiated Approach to Managing Complex Water Networks, by Shafiqul Islam and Lawrence E. Susskind (2012). *Journal of the American Planning Association*, Winter 2015, Vol 81, No. 1, 81-82. DOI:10.1080/01944363.2015.1030941

Smith, K.H., M. Svoboda, M. Hayes, H. Reges, N. Doesken, K. Lackstrom, K. Dow and A. Brennan, 2014. “Local observers fill in the details on drought impact reporter maps.” *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, Vol. 95, 11, 1659-1662.

Lackstrom, K., A. Brennan, D. Ferguson, M. Crimmins, L. Darby, K. Dow, K. Ingram, A. Meadow, H. Reges, M. Shafer, and **K. Smith**. 2013. The Missing Piece: Drought Impacts Monitoring. Workshop report produced by the Carolinas Integrated Sciences & Assessments program and the Climate Assessment for the Southwest.

Smith, K.H. “New Guide Makes Community Drought Planning Easier.” *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, February 2011, pp. 120-121.

Svoboda, M., **K.H. Smith**, M. Widhalm, D. Woudenberg, C. Knutson, M. Sittler, J. Angel, M. Spinar, M. Shafer, R. McPherson, H. Lazrus (2011) *Drought-Ready Communities: A Guide to Community Drought Preparedness*, National Drought Mitigation Center.

Bathke, D.J, J. Nothwehr, **K. Smith**, M. Widhalm, E. Hunt, and M.J. Hayes. 2009. Status of Drought Early Warning in the United States: National Integrated Drought Information System Workshop Summary. Submitted to the National Integrated Drought Information System program office.

Wardlow, B.D., M.J. Hayes, M.D. Svoboda, T. Tadesse, and **K.H. Smith**. “Sharpening the Focus on Drought – New Monitoring and Assessment Tools at the National Drought Mitigation Center,” *Earthzine*, March 30, 2009.

Ding, Y., and **K.H. Smith**. “2007 drought economic impacts,” *Crop Insurance Today*, Vol. 41, No. 1, February 2008, pp. 7-9, National Crop Insurance Services, Overland Park, KS.

POSTERS & PRESENTATIONS

Smith, Kelly Helm, Andrew J. Tyre, Jeff Hamik, Michael J. Hayes (presenting author). Anticipating years with weather-related increased risk of West Nile Virus to humans in Nebraska, poster, American Geophysical Union fall meeting, Washington, D.C., 2018.

Smith, Kelly Helm, Andrew J. Tyre, Jeff Hamik, Contribution of weather and climate to human case of West Nile Virus in Nebraska, presentation for Statistical Modeling on Climate and Mobile Health panel, American Public Health Association annual meeting, Nov. 8, 2017, Atlanta, Georgia.

Smith, K.H., E. Tjiedeman (presenting author), S. Bachmair, C.L. Knutson, L. Barker, N. Wall, T. Bernadt, K. Stahl. Reconstructing Droughts Beyond the Hydro-Meteorological Indicators: A Qualitative Analysis to Show What We Can Learn from Impacts in the US Drought Impact Reporter, at AGU 2016. <https://agu.confex.com/agu/fm16/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/158712>

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & MEMBERSHIPS

National Integrated Drought Information System Portal Development Co-Chair, 2015-2016

National Integrated Drought Information System Drought Portal Content Development Team, June 2007-November 2008

National Integrated Drought Information System Engaging Preparedness Communities working group, 2008-present

Western Drought Coordination Council (WDCC), web site development and Communications Working Group member, 1997-1998

Western Climate and Water Status, editor, October 1997-April 1999

National Drought Policy Commission, Local Government & Community working group member, 1999

The Mediation Center, Lincoln, Nebraska, mediator and facilitator, 200-2002

Mediation Center of Waukesha County, mediator, 1989-1993