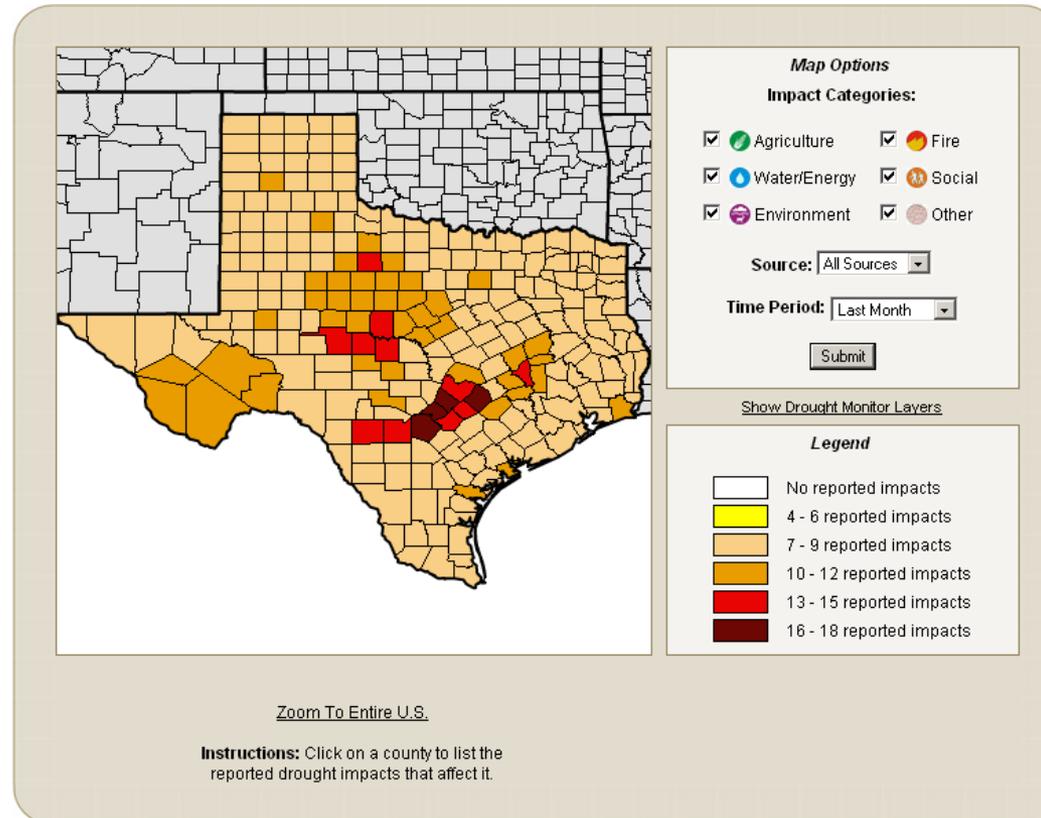


The Drought Impact Reporter

<http://droughtreporter.unl.edu>



Why Record Drought's Impacts?

NDMC mission:

To reduce **vulnerability** to drought
before the next one happens

- Impacts point to vulnerability
- Mitigation and response

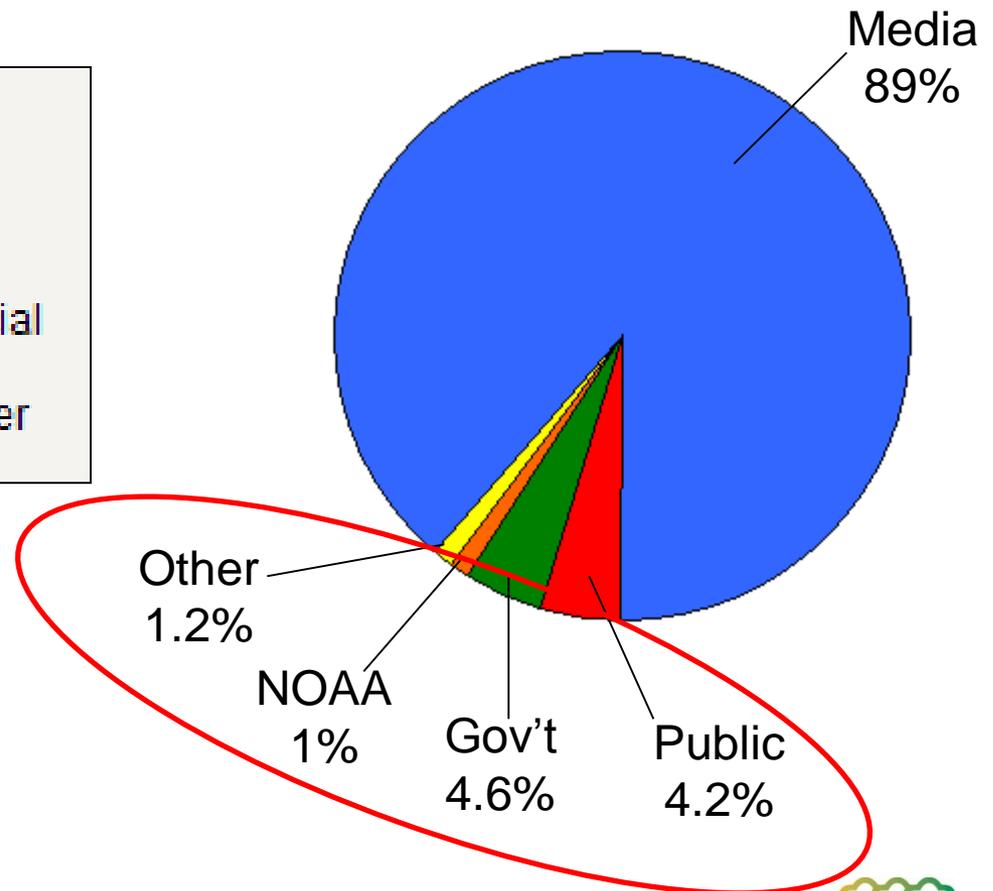
Drought Impact Reporter (DIR)

- On-line since July 2005
- “DIR 2.0” to be released in 2009
- 7,517 impacts, 2006-2008
- 90% culled from media reports

What's in the Current DIR?

Impact Categories:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Agriculture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Fire |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Water/Energy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Social |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Environment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Other |



What's in the Current DIR?

1. Impacts extracted from the Media

Drought Impact Event

The owner of a livestock auction in Bastrop stated that greater numbers of livestock than usual are being sold each week as pastures go dry and keeping the cattle is no longer lucrative.

Categories:  Agriculture  Environment

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2009-01-21 to 2009-01-21

External URL:

<http://www.statesman.com/news/content/news/storie...>

([See Affected Areas](#))

Drought Impact Event

A rancher who tends cattle in Bastrop, Fayette, Hays, and Travis counties provides protein cubes to make sure his cattle get adequate nutrition. He reported that his cattle prefer ponds to the water troughs that he puts out for them and sometimes get stuck in the mud, which causes enormous problems. The dire drought conditions in the region are spurring producers to provide supplemental feed or sell their animals.

Categories:  Agriculture  Environment  Water/Energy

Source: Media

Dates of Impact: 2009-01-16 to 2009-01-16

External URL:

<http://www.latimes.com/business/nationworld/wire/...>

([See Affected Areas](#))

What's in the Current DIR?

2. Impacts submitted by the public, government officials, and others

Drought Impact Event

The following report was submitted. Tarrant is hot and dry with a lot of wind, Freestone County could use some rain and is cutting a lot of hay, Mills is hot and dry and has a burn ban on, San Saba is hot and dry, and the Colorado river has quit running.

Categories:  Agriculture  Fire  Water/Energy

Source: Public

Dates of Impact: 2008-06-13 to 2008-06-13

([See Affected Areas](#))

Texas: Freestone, Mills, San Saba, Tarrant Counties

Drought Impact Event

Worst pasture conditions in 15 years. Cattle now on 100% supplemental feed.

Categories:  Agriculture

Source: Public

Dates of Impact: 2008-08-01 to 2009-01-26

External URL:

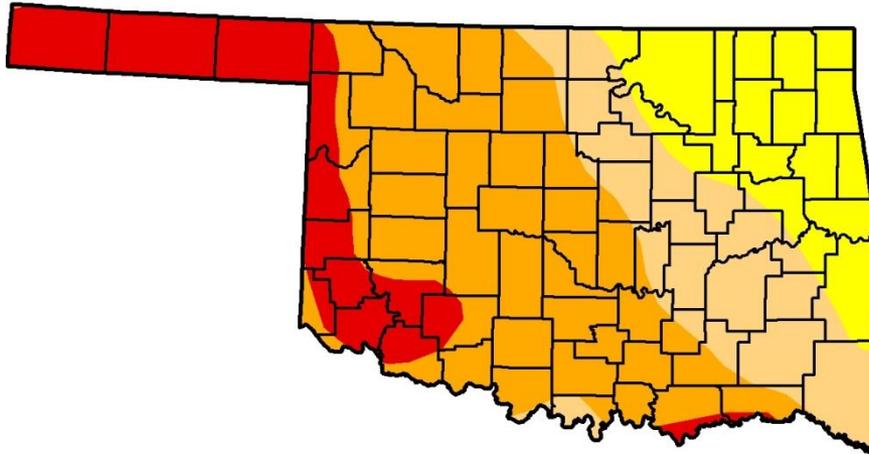
([See Affected Areas](#))

Texas: Concho County

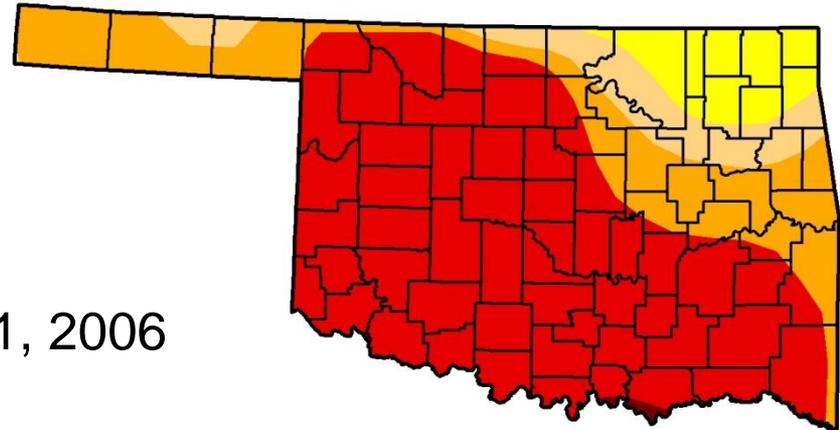
Who Uses This Information?

- Public
 - A voice in the policy process
- Decision makers / resource managers
- Drought Monitor
 - Early indicator of drought conditions??
 - “Ground truth” scientific indices

User Report Regarding Drought Monitor



July 4, 2006



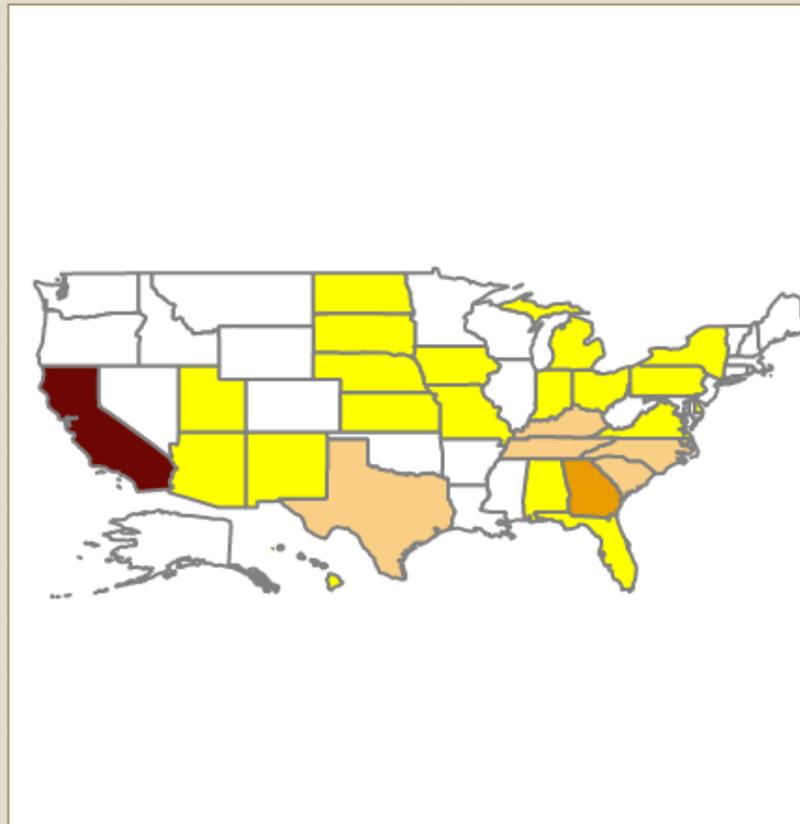
August 1, 2006

Drought Impact Reporter

National Drought Mitigation Center



[View Drought Impacts](#) | [Add A Drought Impact](#) | [Time-Lapse Animation](#) | [About](#) | [Help](#) | [User Login](#)



Map Options

Impact Categories:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fire |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water/Energy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other |

Source:

Time Period:

[Show Drought Monitor Layers](#)

Legend

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| | No reported impacts |
| | 1 - 7 reported impacts |
| | 8 - 13 reported impacts |
| | 14 - 20 reported impacts |
| | 21 - 26 reported impacts |
| | 27 - 33 reported impacts |

Instructions: Click on a state to see the reported drought impacts that affect that state.

DIR 2.0 Enhancements

- More user-friendly design
 - More efficient use of screen space
 - Improved searching and mapping



Raw Count

Impacts

1-5 of 5

Ski race cancelled due to drought
 02-07-2005 to 02-07-2005
 Langlauf annual cross-country ski race at Mount Spokane has been cancelled because of a lack of snow. This is the first time in the race's 27 year history that it has been cancelled. One official said that there are bare spots on the mountain side up to 45 feet in length.

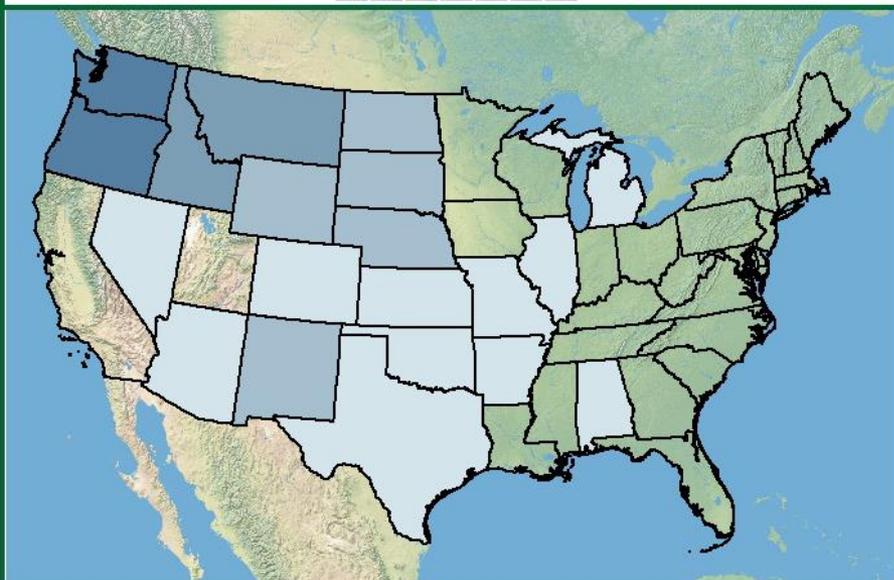
Governor declares drought emergency for Washington
 03-10-2005 to
 The governor of Washington has declared the state in a drought emergency in response to the lack of precipitation across the state and low snowpack totals. The declaration has given authorization to the state's Department of Ecology to issue water restrictions and temporary transfers of water rights. To help combat the conditions, an additional \$8.2 million drought appropriations has been requested from the Legislature.

Water use restricted for a portion of Spokane County
 03-10-2005 to
 The Dept. of Ecology has issued water use restrictions for 136 water users in the Little Spokane River drainage. To prevent the river from running too low, water users will not be allowed to water lawns and gardens.

Grape harvest above average due to drought
 01-01-2005 to 12-31-2005
 Wine grape growers in Washington state experienced a record harvest this year because grapes are one of few crops that can do well during a drought. The Washington Association of Wine Grape Growers estimates this year's harvest at 116,760 tons; the old record was 115,000 tons in 2002. Lack of moisture stresses the grapes, which concentrates the juice and makes better wine. In addition, a warm summer followed by steady, cool fall temperatures and a frost-free harvest allowed the fruit to stay on the vine longer.

Duck production reduced

Reports



Contiguous U.S. Alaska Hawaii Pacific Islands Puerto Rico

Displaying Impact and Report information for May 1, 2005 to July 1, 2005
 Displaying Drought Monitor for May 3, 2005

Legend

- Impacts
 - Number of Categories
 - None
 - 1 Category
 - 2 Categories
 - 3 Categories
 - 4 Categories
 - 5+ Categories
 - Categories
 - Reports
 - Drought Monitor
 - Reference Layers
 - Political
 - States
 - Counties
 - Congressional Districts
 - Federal Lands
 - Tribal Lands
 - Cities
 - Hydrological
 - Other

Selection

Search

Tasks



Raw Count

Impacts

1-5 of 5

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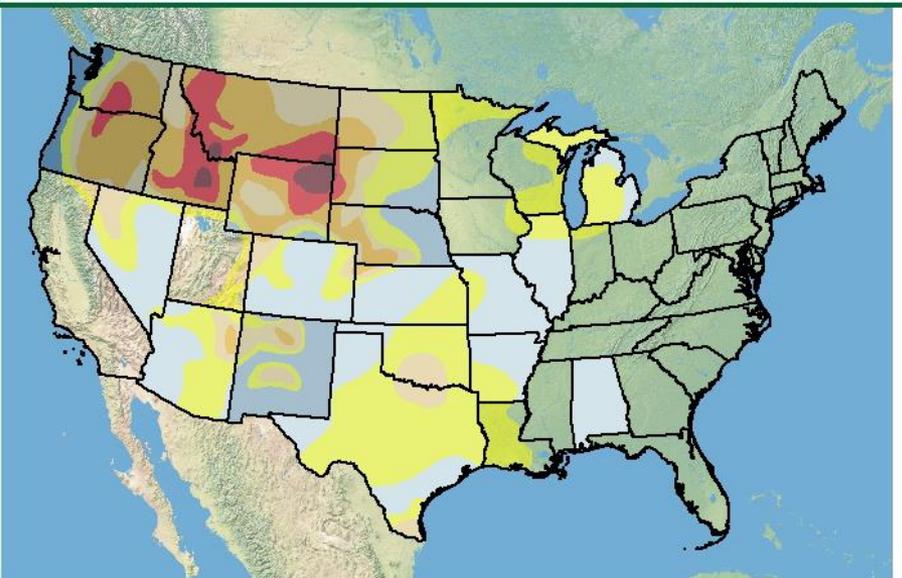
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Reports



Contiguous U.S. Alaska Hawaii Pacific Islands Puerto Rico

Displaying Impact and Report information for May 1, 2005 to July 1, 2005
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Legend

- Impacts
 - Number of Categories
 - None
 - 1 Category
 - 2 Categories
 - 3 Categories
 - 4 Categories
 - 5+ Categories
 - Categories
- Reports
- Drought Monitor
 - D0 Abnormally Dry
 - D1 Drought - Moderate
 - D2 Drought - Severe
 - D3 Drought - Extreme
 - D4 Drought - Exceptional
- Reference Layers
 - Political
 - States
 - Counties
 - Congressional Districts
 - Federal Lands
 - Tribal Lands
 - Cities
 - Hydrological
 - Other

Selection

Search

Tasks

DIR 2.0 Enhancements

- More user-friendly design
 - More efficient use of screen space
 - Improved searching and mapping
- Change in category names

Impact Categories

Current

Impact Categories:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Agriculture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Fire |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Water/Energy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Social |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Environment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Other |

Planned

Report Categories

-  Agriculture
-  Business & Industry
-  Energy
-  Fire
-  Plants & Wildlife
-  Relief, Response, & Restrictions
-  Society & Public Health
-  Tourism & Recreation
-  Water Supply & Quality

DIR 2.0 Enhancements

- More user-friendly design
 - More efficient use of screen space
 - Improved searching and mapping
- Change in category names
- Distinguishes between reports and impacts

Reports vs. Impacts

Report: Contains a wider range of information – baseline info, speculative/vague reports, impacts

- an early indicator!

Impact: Contains a narrow range of information – only impacts

- quantifiable, observable, location- and time-specific



Raw Count

Impacts

Reports

1-5 of 5

Summer heat brings out wildfire danger

Spokesman-Review
Spokane, Spokane County, Washington
07-28-2005
<http://www.spokesmanreview.com/local/ID2255624>

[View full report](#)

Growers already hit hard by Pacific Northwest drought

Albany Democrat Herald
Albany, Linn County, Oregon
04-22-2005
<http://www.democratherald.com/articles/>

[View full report](#)

Nurseries fear profits will wither

The Seattle Times
Seattle, King County, Washington
03-15-2005
<http://seattletimes.nwsource.com/html/>

[View full report](#)

Langlauf ski race cancelled

Spokesman-Review
Spokane, Spokane County, Washington
02-07-2005
<http://www.spokesmanreview.com/local/ID22556739576>

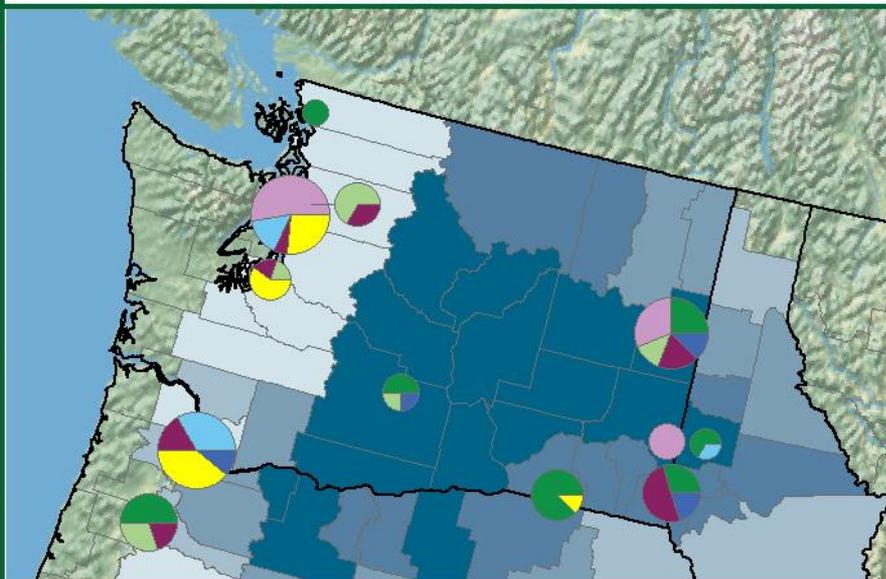
[View full report](#)

Fire crews working to reduce fire risk

Yakima Herald
Yakima, Yakima County, Washington
05-06-2005
<http://www.yakima-herald.com/?storid=283548211444872>

[View full report](#)

1-5 of 5



Contiguous U.S. Alaska Hawaii Pacific Islands Puerto Rico

Displaying Impact and Report information for May 1, 2005 to July 1, 2005
Displaying Drought Monitor for May 3, 2005

Legend

- Impacts
 - Number of Categories
 - None
 - 1 Category
 - 2 Categories
 - 3 Categories
 - 4 Categories
 - 5+ Categories
 - Categories
- Reports
 - Categories
 - General Awareness
 - Agriculture
 - Business & Industry
 - Energy
 - Fire
 - Plants & Wildlife
 - Relief, Response & Restrictions
 - Society & Public Health
 - Tourism & Recreation
 - Water Supply & Quality
 - Types
 - Media
 - User
 - NWS Drought Statements
- Drought Monitor
- Reference Layers
 - Political
 - States
 - Counties
 - Congressional Districts

Selection

Search

Tasks

DIR 2.0 Enhancements

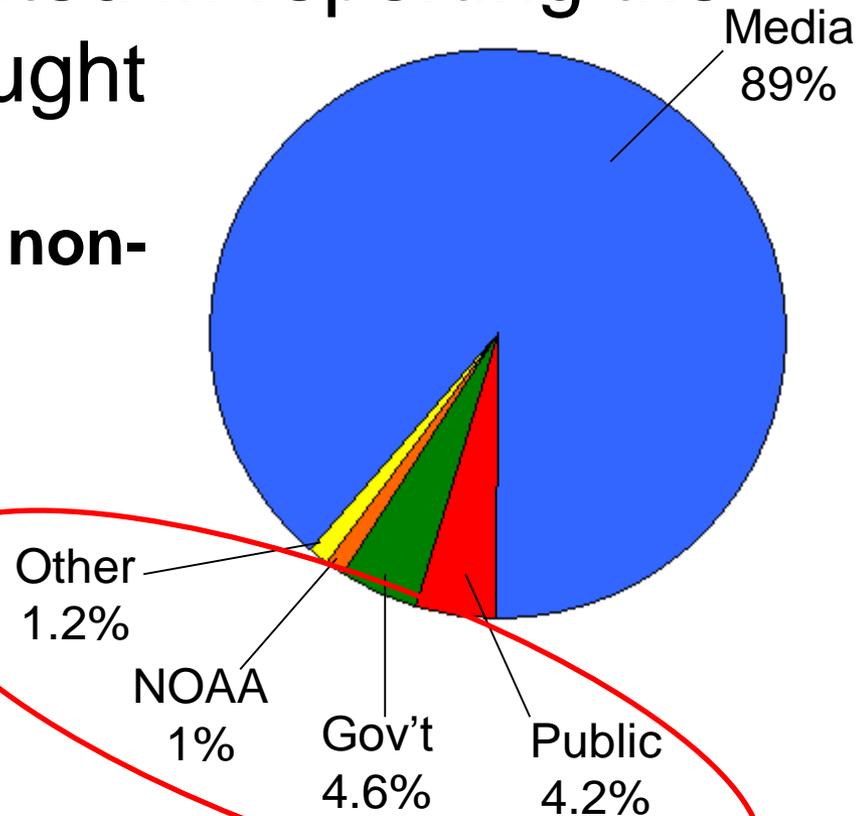
- More user-friendly design
 - More efficient use of screen space
 - Improved searching and mapping
- Change in category names
- Distinguishes between reports and impacts
- **New “submit a report” form**
 - Ability to add photos

Who Can Submit a Report?

- Anyone interested in reporting the impacts of drought

We need to increase non-media reporting!

You can become a “drought spotter”



Submit a Report

<http://torka.unl.edu/DIR2/SubmitReport.aspx>

** indicates required field*

Description

What effects of drought are you experiencing?*

Related Link

<http://>

Submit a Report

Report Categories

Please check any and all categories that apply to the report you are submitting. For more information on categories of drought impacts and reports, please click on the blue help icon.

Submit baseline reports when you're not experiencing drought so we can compare your drought reports with them. Please select at least one category along with baseline report.

If an amount of money is associated with the impact, please consider providing that information in the box to the right of the category. Including a dollar amount means you agree to allow it to be used as a summary statistic.

- Baseline Report
-  Agriculture \$
-  Business & Industry \$
-  Energy \$
-  Fire \$
-  Plants & Wildlife \$
-  Relief, Response & Restrictions \$
-  Society & Public Health \$
-  Tourism & Recreation \$
-  Water Supply & Quality \$

If you included a dollar amount, may we publish it along with the rest of your report?

Yes No

Submit a Report

Affected Places

Choose the affected places

State

County

Clear Selection

City

Clear Selection

Add Location

Places Chosen

Clear selected locations

Clear all locations

Submit a Report

Duration

Drought is a gradual, slow-moving phenomenon. The start date is an approximation. End dates are not required.

Start Date*

 MM/dd/yyyy

End Date

 MM/dd/yyyy

Images

Attach image/photo(s) for the report

Images

Attach image/photo(s) for the report

Attach up to 5 gif/jpg/jpeg/png image files.

Browse to attach photo.*

1) Who took the photo?* (Enter "Anonymous" if the photographer does not wish to be identified.)

2) When was the photo taken?*

  MM/dd/yyyy

3) Where was the photo taken?*

4) What effect of drought does it show?*

5) What else should we know about why this is important? For example, how would this scene look different in a non-drought year?

6) Additional caption information?

By submitting this image, you agree that we may publish it in the Drought Impact Reporter, and that it will be displayed along with other information pertinent to drought impacts. We'll be sure to give you credit unless you prefer to remain anonymous.

In addition, may we use the photo elsewhere on the website of the National Drought Mitigation Center, such as the photo gallery? Please note that drought.gov links to our photo gallery.

Yes No

Add Drought Impact Photos

- Photographer
- Date
- Place
- What does it show? How would it look in a non-drought year?
- Permission to use?
- Allows up to 5 photos per submission



October 2006



October 2007

Photos of Morgan Creek, North Carolina, from Jody Seim Timmins

Contact Information

Full Name*

What type of observer are you?*

Organization

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Town/City* (select a state below to get Town/City list)

State*

Zip Code

Phone

Email Address*

Along with your report, may we publish your name?

Yes No

Along with your report, may we publish your organization?

Yes No

The NDMC will not release your contact information to any third party without first getting in touch with you for permission. If you answer yes to both of the questions above, your name, organization, city and state will appear. If you answer no, your report will be identified only by city and state.



Enter the code shown:

Clear

Save

Networks to Add

- NWS Drought Reports
- CoCoRaHS
- State reports: water systems, wildfire, burn bans
- Cropwatchers
- Extension Agents
- State agencies, organizations, researchers

Thank you!

We welcome your participation and input as we improve the Drought Impact Reporter. Please contact:

Kelly Smith
ksmith2@unl.edu
402-472-3373