NWS Drought & Climate Services

Royce Fontenot
Service Hydrologist
National Weather Service
Spokane, WA
Outline

• US Drought Monitor Input
• Drought Statements
• Climate Data and Services
US Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor
November 4, 2008
Valid 8 a.m. EST

Intensity:
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:
- ~ Delineates dominant impacts
- A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
- H = Hydrological (water)

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, November 6, 2008
Author: Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center

NOAA National Weather Service
### Regional Level

#### U.S. Drought Monitor

**West**

**November 4, 2008**

Valid 7 a.m. EST

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**Drought Conditions (Percent Area)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>None</th>
<th>D0-D4</th>
<th>D1-D4</th>
<th>D2-D4</th>
<th>D3-D4</th>
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<tr>
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<td>39.9</td>
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<td>29.6</td>
<td>8.5</td>
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<td>0.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Week (10/28/2008 map)</td>
<td>39.9</td>
<td>60.1</td>
<td>30.0</td>
<td>10.4</td>
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<td>3 Months Ago (08/12/2008 map)</td>
<td>32.7</td>
<td>67.3</td>
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<td>Start of Calendar Year (01/01/2008 map)</td>
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<td>73.7</td>
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<td>Start of Water Year (10/07/2008 map)</td>
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<td>One Year Ago (11/06/2007 map)</td>
<td>27.3</td>
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<td>41.5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**Intensity:**

- Yellow: D0 Abnormally Dry
- Light Brown: D1 Drought - Moderate
- Orange: D2 Drought - Severe
- Red: D3 Drought - Extreme
- Dark Red: D4 Drought - Exceptional

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http://drought.unl.edu/dm

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**Released Thursday, November 6, 2008**

Author: Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center
State Level

U.S. Drought Monitor

Washington

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>None</th>
<th>D0-D4</th>
<th>D1-D4</th>
<th>D2-D4</th>
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<td>49.2</td>
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<td>(10/28/2008 map)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Months Ago</td>
<td>66.9</td>
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<td>Start of</td>
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<tr>
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</table>

Intensity:
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

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, November 6, 2008
Author: Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center
Local Input

• NWS Forecast Offices act as local ‘experts’ into the USDM along with other experts (State Climatologists, USDA, etc).

• Decisions on expanding or reducing drought status are often made based upon local input.

• More local input needed! (FSA, County Agents, producers!)
Local Input

- Multiple data sources used (NWS weather data, PAWS, RAWS)
- USDA NASS reports
- Local media
- CoCoRAHS
Drought Services

- Drought Monitoring
- Drought Statements (DGT’s)
- Local, regional, and national coordination
- The NWS does not declare the beginning or end of drought

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook
Drought Tendency During the Valid Period
Valid November 6, 2008 - January 2009
Released November 6, 2008

KEY:
- Drought to persist or intensify
- Drought ongoing, some improvement
- Drought likely to improve, impacts ease
- Drought development likely

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events.

"Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity).
For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor. NOTE: the green improvement areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels, but do not necessarily imply drought elimination.
Local Drought Statements

• Issued by the local NWS Forecast Office when ‘D2’ drought is depicted on the US Drought Monitor in the office’s County Warning Area

• May also be issued at other stages of drought through local agreement

• Issued at least once per month while drought persists
Drought Statement

AXUS73 KARK 280921
DGTARX
IAC005-037-043-065-067-089-131-191-MNC039-046-055-099-109-157-169-WIC001-011-
019-023-043-053-057-063-081-103-119-121-123-280900-

DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LA CROSSE WI
421 AM CDT FRI OCT 28 2005

DROUGHT STILL EXISTS IN PARTS OF THE AREA...

SYNOPSIS...

PRECIPITATION DEFICITS HAVE INCREASED ACROSS THE AREA. ACCORDING TO
THE OCTOBER 25TH RELEASE OF THE U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR...MODERATE /D1/
DROUGHT STILL EXISTS ACROSS PARTS OF GRANT COUNTY IN SOUTHWEST
WISCONSIN AND CLAYTON COUNTY IN NORTHEAST IOWA. ABNORMALLY DRY
CONDITIONS /D0/ STILL EXISTS ACROSS NORTH CENTRAL...CENTRAL...AND
SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN...AND NORTHEAST IOWA. ABNORMALLY DRY /D0/
CONDITIONS EXIST ACROSS CLARK AND TAYLOR COUNTIES IN NORTH CENTRAL
WISCONSIN...ADAMS AND JUENEAU COUNTIES IN CENTRAL WISCONSIN...
CRAWFORD...RICHLAND...AND VERNON COUNTIES IN SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN...
AND ALLAMAKEE...CHICKASAW...FAYETTE...FLOYD...AND WINNESHEIK COUNTIES
IN NORTHEAST IOWA.

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS...

STATE AND LOCAL ACTIONS.
NO KNOWN STATE OR LOCAL ACTIONS ARE CURRENTLY TAKING PLACE.

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS.
AS OF OCTOBER 25TH...THE MIDWESTERN REGIONAL CLIMATE CENTER /MRCC/
INDICATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICITS UP TO TWO AND HALF INCHES ACROSS
PORTIONS OF THE SOUTHERN WISCONSIN...NORTHERN ILLINOIS...AND
NORHEAST AND SOUTHERN IOWA.

GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS.
THE CURRENT WELL WATER LEVEL IS 6.97 FEET BELOW GROUND LEVEL AS OF
7 AM ON OCTOBER 25TH JUST WEST OF TOMAH WISCONSIN IN MONROE COUNTY.
THIS LEVEL IS SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN THE 6.72 FEET BELOW GROUND LEVEL AS
OF 7 AM ON OCTOBER 11TH. NORMALLY THE WATER LEVEL SHOULD 4.95 FEET
BELOW GROUND LEVEL. THE LOWEST LEVEL ON RECORD IN OCTOBER WAS 6.62
FEET BELOW THE GROUND LEVEL IN OCTOBER 1987. THE HIGHEST LEVEL ON
RECORD WAS 1.94 FEET BELOW GROUND LEVEL IN OCTOBER 1972. THE PERIOD
OF RECORD EXTENDS FROM OCTOBER 1949 THROUGH THE PRESENT.
NWS Climate Services
NWS Climate Services

- ‘Weather, Water, and Climate’
- Climate Prediction Center
- Local, initial contact for climate data and services
Local Climate Services

- Daily & Monthly Climate Summaries
- NOWdata
- Outreach & Resources
As part of its ongoing efforts to improve service to the public, the National Weather Service has released a local high temperature outlook. Access the product for your area here. Please click here to complete the feedback survey.

Observed Weather Reports

1. **Product**
   - Daily Climate Report (CLM)
   - Preliminary Climatology Data (CFD)
   - Record Event Report (RER)
   - Monthly Weather Summary (CLM)
   - Regional Summary (RRT)
   - State Summary (Temps/Precip)

2. **Location**
   - Spokane
   - Lewiston
   - Wenatchee
   - Spokane (NWS Office)
   - Pella Field
   - Omak
   - Moses Lake

3. **Timeframe**
   - **Most Recent**
   - Archived Data:
     - October 2006
     - September 2006
     - August 2006
     - July 2006
     - June 2006
     - May 2006

4. **View**
   - [Go]

**Product Description:**

MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY - issued once per month:

Monthly weather statistics, including temperature, precipitation, degree days, pressure, wind, and sky cover. Normal values and departures from normal are also included. *NOTE* more in-depth record data may also be available under the tab “Local Data/Records.” This product is available for up to 1 year.

Additional CF6 Data
Daily & Monthly Climate Summaries

Daily Summary

CLIMATE REPORT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SPOKANE, WA
927 AM PST TUE NOV 11 2008

CLIMATE NORMAL PERIOD 1971 TO 2000
CLIMATE RECORD PERIOD 1881 TO 2008

WEATHER ITEM

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<td>VALUE</td>
<td>VALUE</td>
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<td>FROM</td>
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<td>2000</td>
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PRECIPITATION (IN)

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<th>VALUE</th>
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<td>VALUE</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------</td>
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</table>
| SNOWFALL (IN)
| TODAY | 0.0 | 3.6 | 1992 | 0.2 | -0.2 | 0.0 |
| MONTH TO DATE | T | 1.6 | -1.6 | 0.0 |
| SINCE SNF 1 | T | 2.1 | -2.1 | 1.1 |
| SINCE JUL 1 | T | 2.1 | -2.1 | 1.1 |
| SNOW DEPTH | 0 | |

Monthly Summary

CLIMATE REPORT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SPOKANE, WA
936 AM POT SAT NOV 1 2008

CLIMATE NORMAL PERIOD 1971 TO 2000
CLIMATE RECORD PERIOD 1881 TO 2008

WEATHER

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VALUE</td>
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PRECIPITATION (INCHES)

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<td>-------</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| SNOWFALL (IN)
| TODAY | 0.0 | 3.6 | 1992 | 0.2 | -0.2 | 0.0 |
| MONTH TO DATE | T | 1.6 | -1.6 | 0.0 |
| SINCE SNF 1 | T | 2.1 | -2.1 | 1.1 |
| SINCE JUL 1 | T | 2.1 | -2.1 | 1.1 |
| SNOW DEPTH | 0 | |

US FG SERVICE

### NOWData - NOAA Online Weather Data

#### 1. Product
- Daily data for a month
- Daily almanac
- Monthly average data
- Monthly occurrences
- Monthly extremes
- Daily extremes
- Daily/monthly normals
- Record extremes
- First/last dates

#### 2. Location
- Lewiston Area
- Spokane Area
- Boundary Dam, WA
- Chelan, WA
- Chief Joseph Dam, WA
- Coulee Dam 1 Sw, WA
- Davenport, WA
- Ephrata, WA
- Horsethief Dam, WA
- Lacrosse, WA
- Lind 3 Ne, WA

#### 3. Variable
- Max Temperature
- Min Temperature
- Avg Temperature
- Precipitation
- Snowfall
- Snow Depth
- Heating Degree Days
- Cooling Degree Days
- Growing Degree Days

#### 4. Year
- Current year
- Last year
- 1971-2000

#### 5. View
- NCDC Map Services
- Common questions
- Submit a question/comment

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**Product Description:**

MONTHLY AVERAGES/TOTALS - calculates averages or totals, as appropriate, for the selected variable for each month of the year. This product is available for the current year, the previous year, or an average of the years 1971 through 2000. Additional stations and years of data are available from the Regional Climate Centers and the National Climatic Data Center.

The Applied Climate Information System (ACIS) is a joint project of the Regional Climate Centers, the National Climatic Data Center and the National Weather Service. Official data and data for additional locations and years are available from the Regional Climate Centers and the National Climatic Data Center.
### Lewiston Area (ThreadEx Station)
**Observed Daily Data**
**Month: Nov 2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>MaxT</th>
<th>MinT</th>
<th>AvgT</th>
<th>HDD</th>
<th>CDD</th>
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Data Services

• Limited to short data requests of local data

• More extensive requests must be referred to State Climatologists, Regional Climate Centers, or National Climate Data Center

• NWS does not and cannot certify data (Only NCDC and some RCC’s can)
Outreach & Resources

• NWS Staff are available for questions about:
  - Climate Outlooks
  - Climate Data
  - Climate Change

• Staff are also available for on-site presentations

• Referrals
Questions?

Royce Fontenot

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509-244-0110 x228

NWS Spokane Website

http://www.weather.gov/spokane