National Drought Mitigation Center

Founded in 1995 by Dr. Don Wilhite at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**Mission:** To lessen societal vulnerability to drought by promoting planning and the adoption of appropriate risk management techniques.
Primary focus of the NDMC.

risk management

Planning

Monitoring and Prediction

Mitigation

Drought

Protection

Recovery

Reconstruction

Impact Assessment

Response

crisis management
NDMC Program Objectives

- Improve the science of drought monitoring, planning, and mitigation.
- Build awareness of drought and its impacts on society and the environment, and how human actions affect our vulnerability to drought.
- Focus the attention of policy makers on the importance of drought policy and planning in the wise stewardship of natural resources.

RESEARCH, OUTREACH, AND TRAINING
NDMC Overview

NDMC Director
(Mike Hayes)

Monitoring Program Area
(Mark Svoboda)

Planning and Social Science Program Area
(Cody Knutson)

GIScience Program Area
(Brian Wardlow)

23 faculty & staff
4 graduate students
3 visiting international scientists

Staff backgrounds:
Climatology
Meteorology
Hydrology
Water Resources

Staff backgrounds:
Planning
Economics
Public Participation
Rural Sociology
Anthropology
Journalism

Staff backgrounds:
GIS
Remote Sensing
Geography
Ecology
Operational Drought Tools at the NDMC

U.S. Drought Monitor

Drought Impact Reporter (DIR)

VegDRI

U.S. Drought Monitor
Decision Support System

Drought Atlas

Vegetation Outlook (VegOut)

Standardized Seasonal Greenness
- Extreme stress
- Severe stress
- Moderate Stress
- Fair (Year normal)
- Good Vegetation
- Very good Vegetation
- Water
- Out of Season
Workshop Objectives

1. Introduce new drought tools developed in partnership with USDA RMA.

2. Obtain feedback on the utility of these tools in North Carolina and surrounding region.

3. Learn about local drought information needs and issues.