

# Tenth Biennial U.S. Drought Monitor Forum

K Bar S Lodge

Keystone, South Dakota

April 3 – 5, 2017



Organized and Sponsored by South Dakota  
State University Extension and  
U.S. Department of Agriculture's Office of the  
Chief Economist



Hosted by South Dakota State University  
Extension

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## Side Meetings (by invitation), Monday, April 3, 2017

Morning            i) U.S. Drought Monitor – authors-only meeting  
                         ii) Cooperative Extension

## Forum Agenda, Day 1, Monday, April 3, 2017

11:00 am – Noon    Registration  
                         Sponsored Lunch

Noon – 12:10 pm    Welcome, Announcements, and Forum Objectives  
                         o **Brad Rippey**, USDA/OCE  
                         o **Laura Edwards**, SDSU

12:10 – 12:30 pm    Opening Remarks:  
                         o **South Dakota Senator John Thune** (video)  
                         o **Karla Trautman**, SDSU Extension Interim Director  
                         o **Matt Bunkers**, NWS Rapid City Science Operations Officer

12:30 - 1:00 pm     Welcome Keynote:  
                         Drought and Wildfire in the Northern Great Plains, **Jim Strain**, Division of  
                         Wildland Fire

## Session 1 – USDM Overview

Moderator: **Chris Fenimore**, NCEI

1:00 – 1:20 pm     Quick History of the U.S. Drought Monitor, **Mark Svoboda**, NDMC Director

- 1:20 – 1:40 pm Overview and Making of the U.S. Drought Monitor, **Brian Fuchs**, NDMC
- 1:40 – 2:00 pm Application of GIS Products in the U.S. Drought Monitor, **Deb Bathke**, NDMC
- 2:00 – 2:20 pm The U.S. Drought Monitor and Agricultural Drought Assistance, **Brad Rippey**, USDA
- 2:20 – 2:40 pm Conundrums in the Creation of the USDM, Drought Outlooks, and Long-Lead Forecasts (and Some Possible Cures), **David Miskus**, CPC
- 2:40 – 3:00 pm Refreshment Break

Session 2 – Impact Reporting and Drought Outreach

Moderator: **Richard Heim**, NCEI

- 3:00 – 3:20 pm Land Grant University Extension and Drought Monitoring and Impact Reporting, **Hans Schmitz**, Purdue Extension
- 3:20 – 3:40 pm Great Lakes Drought Monitoring, Impacts and Sea Grant, **Molly Woloszyn**, Midwestern Regional Climate Center and Illinois/Indiana Sea Grant
- 3:40—3:50 pm The National Drought Mitigation Center’s Drought Impact Reporter  
Brian Fuchs, NDMC
- 3:50 – 4:30 pm Panel Discussion:
- o **Hans Schmitz**, Purdue Extension
  - o **Molly Woloszyn**, Midwestern Regional Climate Center and IL/IN Sea Grant
  - o **Laura Edwards**, South Dakota State University Extension
  - o **Mary Knapp**, Kansas State University

Group Dinner at K Bar S Lodge

Forum Agenda, Day 2, Tuesday, April 4, 2017

- 8:00 – 8:30 am Registration
- 8:30 – 8:40 am Welcome and Announcements

Session 3 – Open Discussion: Ask the Author (Q & A)

Moderator: **Mark Svoboda**, NDMC Director

- 8:45 to 10:00 am All Authors Onstage

10:00 to 10:20 am Refreshment Break

Session 4 – State/Regional Drought Responses and USDM Contributions / Potential Contributions

Moderator: **David Miskus, CPC**

- 10:20 – 10:40 am Drought Monitoring Efforts as Part of the NIDIS Intermountain West DEWS, **Becky Bolinger**, Colorado Climate Center
- 10:40 – 11:00 am Impact Reporting: CoCoRaHS and the Drought Impact Reporter, **Peter Goble**, Colorado Climate Center and CoCoRaHS
- 11:00 – 11:20 am Monitoring Drought in Kentucky, **Chip Zimmer**, Kentucky Division of Water
- 11:20 – 11:40 am USDA Climate Hubs: Regional Partners for Drought-Related Outreach,” **Dannele Peck**, Director, Northern Plains Climate Hub
- 11:40 – Noon Wildland Fire Risk on the Reservations, **Dave Martin**, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Noon – 1:00 pm Sponsored Lunch

Session 5 – Drought in 2016: Lessons Learned

Moderator: **Brian Fuchs, NDMC**

- 1:00 – 1:10 pm Introductory Remarks from **Brian Fuchs**, NDMC
- 1:10 – 1:30 pm 2016 Drought in Western South Dakota, **Laura Edwards**, SDSU
- 1:30 – 1:50 pm California and Environs: Drought Relief, Finally, **Amanda Sheffield**, NOAA/NIDIS
- 1:50 – 2:10 pm Perspective on Canadian Drought, **Trevor Hadwen**, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- 2:10 – 2:30 pm Great New England Drought of 2016, **Brad Rippey**, USDA
- 2:30 – 2:50 pm Refreshment Break

Session 6 – New Tools for Tracking Drought

Moderator: **Mark Svoboda**, NDMC Director

2:50 – 3:10 pm      Evaporative Demand Drought Index (EDDI), **Dan McEvoy**, Desert Research Institute

3:10 – 3:30 pm      Evaporative Stress Index (ESI), **Christopher Hain**, NASA

Panel Session: New Tools for Tracking Drought

Moderator: **Mark Svoboda**, NDMC Director

3:30 – 4:10 pm      **Brian Wardlow, Mike Hobbins, Stephanie Granger, and Martha Anderson**

4:10 – 4:30 pm      Open discussion

Dinner on your own

**Forum Agenda, Day 3, Wednesday, April 5, 2017**

8:30 – 8:40 am      Welcome and Announcements

Session 7 – Future of the U.S. Drought Monitor

Moderator: **Jessica Blunden**, NCEI

8:40 – 9:00 am      NCEI Expansion of the USDM to the U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPI), **Richard Heim**, NCEI, and Expansion of the USDM to the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI), **Brad Rippey**, USDA

9:20 – 9:40 am      Staying Unbiased in the Face of Political and Programmatic Pressure, **Brad Rippey**, USDA

9:40 – 10:00 am      Composite Drought Index and Blends—To Satisfy Appetite for Automation, Reproduction, **Mark Svoboda and Brian Fuchs**, NDMC

10:00 – 10:20      Refreshment Break

10:20 – 11:00      Open Discussion of USDM Issues

11:00 AM            Adjourn

**List of Acronyms**

AASC	American Association of State Climatologists
CPC	NOAA's Climate Prediction Center
DOC	U.S. Department of Commerce
DOI	U.S. Department of the Interior

DRI	Desert Research Institute
FSA	USDA's Farm Service Agency
GRACE	Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment
JAWF	USDA/NOAA Joint Agricultural Weather Facility
NADM	North American Drought Monitor
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NCEI	National Centers for Environmental Information
NCEP	National Centers for Environmental Prediction
NDMC	National Drought Mitigation Center
NESDIS	National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service
NIDIS	National Integrated Drought Information Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NRCS	USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service
NWS	National Weather Service
OCE	USDA's Office of the Chief Economist
RCC	Regional Climate Center
RFC	River Forecast Center
SDSU	South Dakota State University
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USDM	U.S. Drought Monitor

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## U.S. Drought Monitor Forum List

	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Organizer(s)</u>
1)	Lincoln, Nebraska	Nov. 16-17, 2000	NDMC
2)	Asheville, North Carolina	Apr. 25-27, 2002	NCEI
3)	Cedar City, Utah	Oct. 1-3, 2003	NCEI
4)	Washington, D.C.	Oct. 20-21, 2005	USDA/OCE and NOAA/CPC
5)	Portland, Oregon	Oct. 10-12, 2007	USDA/NRCS
6)	Austin, Texas	Oct. 7-8, 2009	NDMC
7)	Fairfax, Virginia	Apr. 13-14, 2011	USDA/OCE and NOAA/CPC
8)	West Palm Beach, Florida	Apr. 16-18, 2013	NDMC
9)	Reno, Nevada	Apr. 14-16, 2015	DRI
10)	Keystone, South Dakota	Apr. 3-5, 2017	SDSU and USDA/OCE