

ACWI/SSWD: Drought Use Case Work Group

Colorado River Drought Visualization Brainstorming Teleconference - 2/25/2015

Conf line: 855-547-8255. After the voice prompt, please enter the Security Code 64505998 followed by the # key.

To access webex: <https://usgs.webex.com/join/eread>

Action: Contact Jeremy Dodds about participating on the team/activity.

Information about the Initiative: create a stronger identity online

Nate: CIDA set up a new webpage on OWDI: <http://acwi.gov/spatial/owdi/>

Data Needed/Desired to assess drought/impacts:

- Western States Water Council - Sara Larsen - [position statements](#), products allow for early prediction; (soil moisture, streamflow predictions); NIDIS - platform is valuable to states for predicting/characterizing current status of drought; Teacup diagrams, beaker diagrams show relative picture of contents over time & how changing ; relative average - icing on the cake; CA drought vizzy - reservoir storage changing over time is valuable - compelling; Icing on the cake: trigger points - % of Avon g; teacup diagram showing CR and when shortage guidelines kick-in & ability to visualize different scenarios.
- (Trigger points - well defined but complex - initially seems okay to communicate; complexity - could be misunderstood; initiative could help clarify trigger points? complexity of 24-month study & releases based on study projections.)
- Drought question framed by deliveries from upper basin, conditions in upper basin; (minor inflows from lower basin tributaries).
- How does drought affect demand? Drought does not affect releases until shortage;
- Does ET change diversion from the mainstem? No - contract holders get their allocation.
- Socioeconomic effects need to be understood (not just hydrologic circumstances)
- Short term deliverable -
 - possible priorities: snowpack; trigger points; drought impacts on snowpack impacts Lake Powell impacts deliveries to LB
 - Potentially use drivers/inputs of 24 month model as part of information to share w public about drought and impacts on surface waters
 - ET info from USGS Henderson research; CMIP3 scenarios run w 24 month (or longer term?) modeling; ET modeled data not synthesized but is available.