The NADM: Where Have We Been Where Are We Going



North American Drought
Monitor Workshop
Mexico City, Mexico
October 18, 2006

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Overview

- NADM Milestones
- Going forward
 - Questions to be considered



- November 2001: Trilateral meeting on extremes at NCDC
 - Identification of need
- April 2002: US Drought Monitor Workshop
 - Initial discussions and objective setting
- August 2002 Issue of BAMS
 - Described need for and intent of the NADM to provide an integrated and operational drought monitoring effort with cross-border consistency





Objectives and Benefits

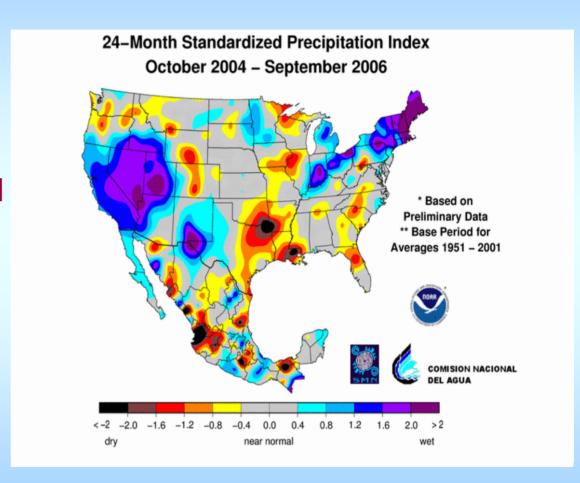
- August 2002 Issue of BAMS
 - Improve cooperation and coordination among the countries' drought experts
 - Develop shared resources for monitoring drought among the 3 countries (data availability and quality)
 - Advance the scientific understanding of drought through collaboration
 - Deliver drought information to aid decisionmakers at all levels of the public and private sector





December 2002

- First experimental
 North America
 Drought Monitor
 Map completed and placed online
- Along with continental drought indicators
 - SPI
 - Precipitation



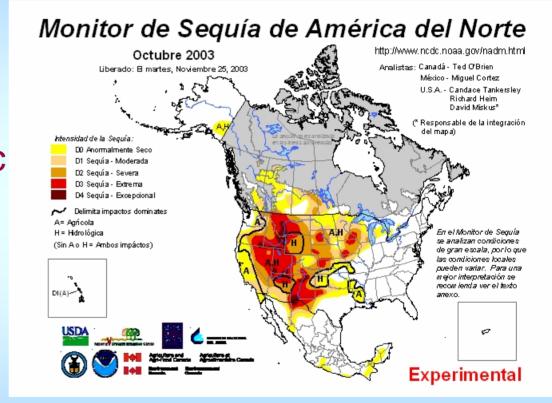


March 2003

FirstexperimentalNADM mapreleased to public

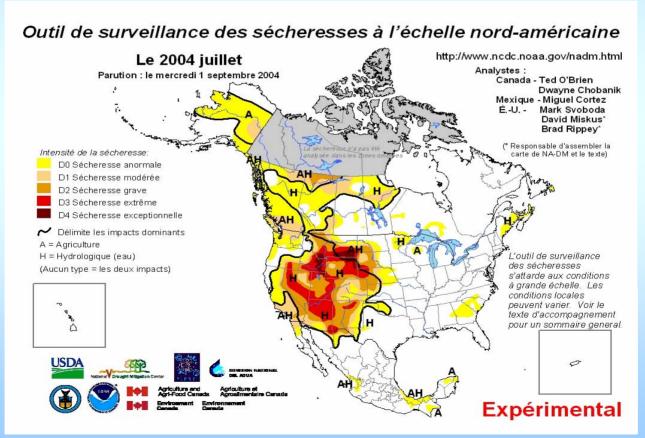
October 2003

Addition of French and Spanish translations of Map





- March 2004 July 2004
 - Canadian analysis expanded beyond Agricultural Prairies





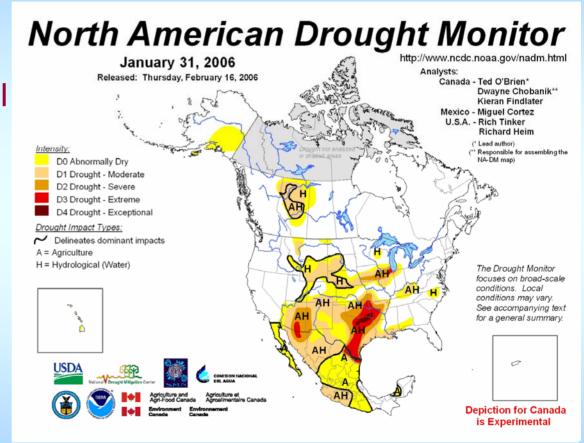


May 2005

Removal of
 experimental label
 from US and
 Mexico portion of
 NADM map and
 initiation of New
 Timeline

January 2006

 Canadian author leads NADM for first time



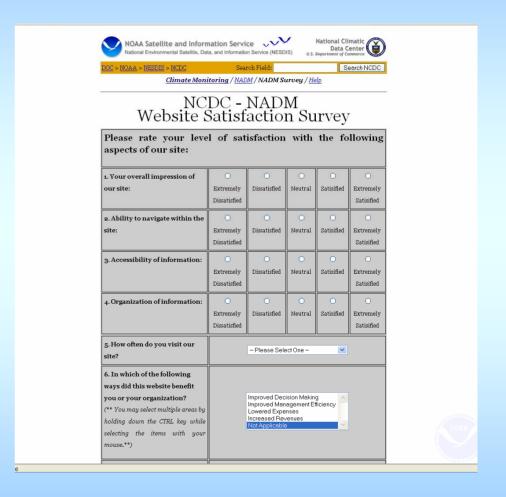




July 2006

Addition of Website
 Satisfaction Survey
 to NADM Website







Where do we go from here?

- Let's answer this question over the next two days
 - By looking at a number of individual questions that can be answered
 - through the presentations and discussions that follow

Basic Questions

- Is the NADM product useful in its present form?
- Is there a continued commitment to it in each of the three countries?

What can be done to improve the NADM?

- Presentation: Are there changes in the way we are presenting the NADM product that should be updated?
- Providing other indicators: Are there others in addition to SPI and Precip departures that can be provided on the NADM website? (Can we make Palmer index maps available externally now?)
- Spatial resolution: What type of progress has been made to improving the spatial resolution of the indicators?
 - Station level Palmer in the U.S.
 - Contouring of indicators in Canada if higher station density
- Timeliness: Can the timeliness be improved? What resources would be required from the 3 countries in order to produce the NADM on a weekly basis. (This may be proposed at the 2007 world Earth Observation Summit.)



Authoring Issues

- Are there other indicators authors could be using to establish drought severity levels?
- What national indicators are relied upon in Canada and Mexico for monitoring drought?
- Is there a way to obtain more information on drought impacts in Mexico and Canada?
- Are authors happy with the definitions of drought (drought severity classifications) in their 3 countries?
- When can the experimental label for Canada be removed?
- Are the authors happy with the current operational routine?



NADM Workshop

 I would like to return to these questions in our final discussion tomorrow afternoon when we develop steps for moving forward