



CCSP Synthesis and Assessment Product 5.3

Decision-Support Experiments and Evaluations using Seasonal to Interannual Forecasts and Observational Data

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Background

Initial committee

- NOAA
- NASA
- EPA
- USGS
- NSF

Decision on focused water resource management topic



Audience

This product will inform:

- (1) **Decision makers** about the experiences of others;
- (2) **climatologists and social scientists** on how to advance the delivery of decision-support resources; and
- (3) **science managers** as they plan for future investments.



This product will:

- describe and evaluate current forecasts,
- assess how forecasts are being used in decision settings, and
- evaluate decision makers' level of confidence in these capabilities.



Approach

Section I. A Description and Evaluation of the Forecast/Data Products

- What are the seasonal to interannual forecast/data products currently available and how does a product evolve from a scientific prototype to an operational product?
- What steps are taken to ensure that this product is needed and will be used in decision support?
- What is the level of confidence of the product within the science community and within the decision making community?
- Who establishes these confidence levels and how are they determined?



Section II: Decision-Support Experiments within the Water Resource Management Sector

1. The Range of Water-Related Decisions and Decision-Support Needs
2. Climate Information Needed by Resource Managers and how Information is Conveyed
3. Translating Climate Forecasts and Hydrology Information for Integrated Resource Management
4. Decision Support Development



Section III: Analysis of Present and Past Decision-Support Experiments and a Look Towards the Future

Identify successful utilization of climate information by water managers.

Discuss how findings can be transferred.

Discuss options for improving the use of existing forecasts/data products.

Identify other user needs and challenges in order to prioritize research for improving forecasts and products.



Proposed Timeline

- 1 CCSP Principal Review **11/05**
- 2 Rewrite, prospectus posted on CCSP web site for **public comment** **12/05**
- 3 Authors for sections 1 and 2 of product meet and write draft product **1/06 - 4/06**
- 4 Authors for section 3 meet, hold workshop(s) and write draft product **4/06 - 10/06**
- 5 Lead authors complete first draft **1/07**



- 6 **NAS** reviews draft **3/07**
- 7 Revise draft based on review; product made available for **public comment** **4/07-6/07**
- 8 Draft product revised **7/07**
- 10 CCSP Principals review product **8/07**
- 11 Product submitted to NSTC for final review and approval **9/07**
- 12 Production of final report **10/07 - 12/07**