

The National Water Program: A National Partnership

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USDA-CSREES
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Leader



Applying knowledge to improve water quality

National
Water Program

*A Partnership of USDA CSREES
& Land Grant Colleges and Universities*

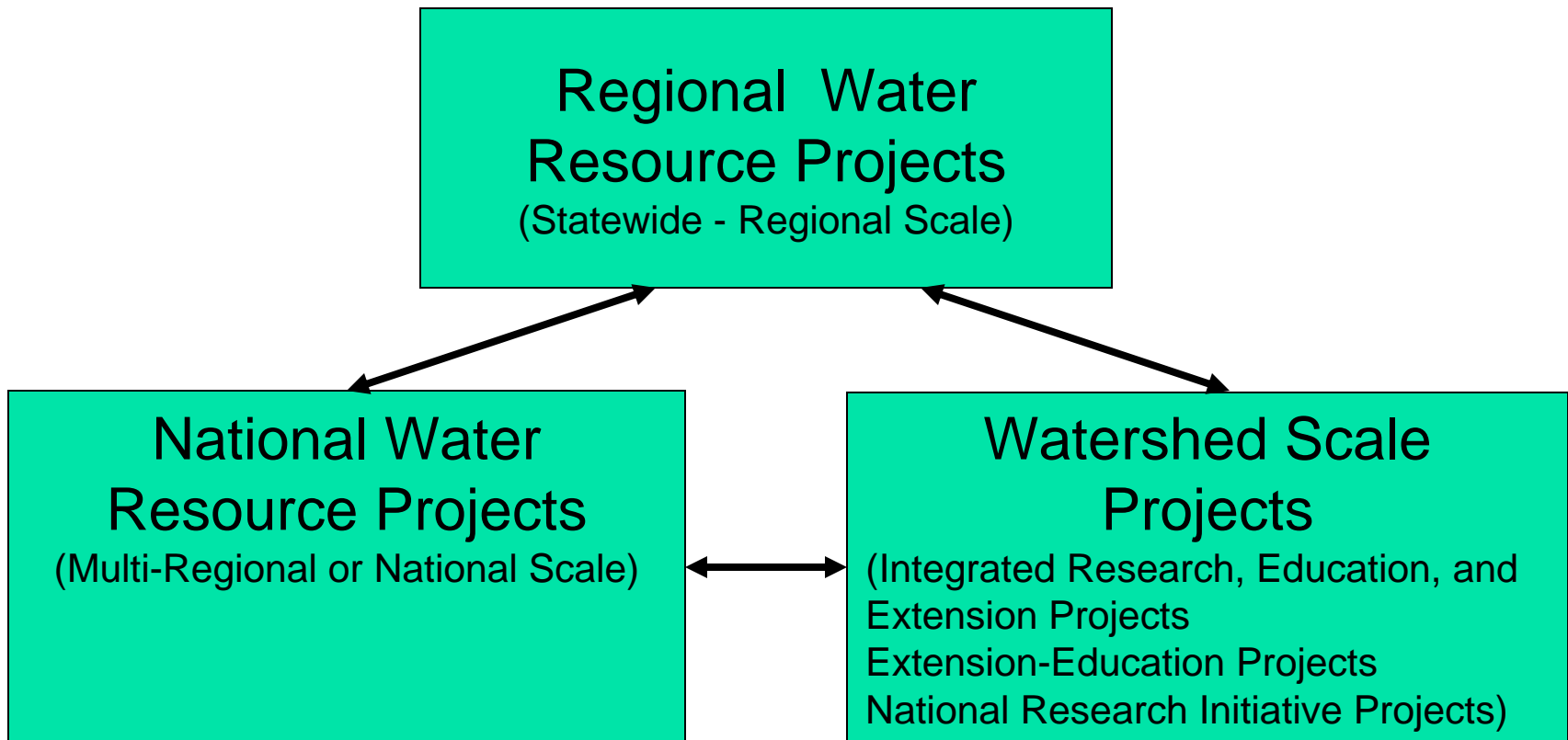
Changes in 2008

Bruce Mertz,
Program Specialist
Water Resources, CSREES

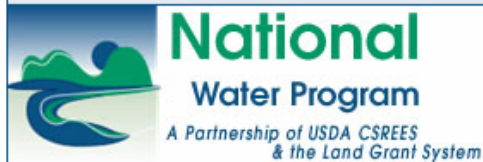




CSREES National Water Program



Regional Projects: "The Backbone"



Applying knowledge to improve water quality



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News & Highlights [\(more...\)](#)

FY2008 CSREES National Integrated Water Quality Program [Request for Applications](#) is available. **Deadline: April 29th**

[NRCS-CSREES awards two Synthesis project grants](#) to assess the 13 Watershed studies funded in the [Conservation Effects Assessment Project](#). Learn more in their [CRIS records](#).

National Research Council's report on the Water Implications of Biofuels Production was released in Oct. View the [report in brief](#) (pdf).

Upcoming Events [\(more...\)](#)

February 3-7: Sparks, NV
[CSREES National Water Conference](#)

February 10-13: Reno, NV
[AWWA: Sustainable Water Sources](#)

February 15: LPELC webcast
[Ethanol co-products and their effects on manure management](#)

February 27-28: Auburn, AL
[Vegetation for stream restoration workshop](#)

www.usawaterquality.org



Focus on Regional Outcomes

- Continued performance
- High quality programs
- Meeting the needs of regional stakeholders/audiences
 - Customers – who pays (CSREES and other partners)
 - Consumers – who uses regional products
 - Constituents – who cares about regional programs



National Water Resource Projects

- Two areas of emphasis
 - Effects of biofuels on water
 - Use of recycled water in agriculture



USDA Biobased Products and Bioenergy Coordination Council



[USDA ANNOUNCES \\$38 MILLION IN LOANS AND GRANTS TO SPARK DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AND GROWTH OF VALUE-ADDED AG VENTURES AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT \(FY 2006\)](#)

[Federal Biobased Products Preferred Procurement Program](#)

The Biobased Products and Bioenergy Coordination Council (BBCC) was established by the Secretary of Agriculture to provide a forum through which USDA agencies will coordinate, facilitate and promote research, development, transfer of technology, commercialization, and marketing of biobased products and Bioenergy using renewable domestic agricultural and forestry materials. This includes promoting information sharing, strategic planning and providing policy advice to the Secretary.

[Authority for BBCC](#)

[BBCC Vision Statement](#)





Watershed Scale Projects

- Three project types
 - Integrated REE, Extension, Education (new)
- Two priorities
 - Conserving water in agricultural, rural, and urbanizing watersheds
 - Increasing effectiveness of conservation





Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP)

- Partnership with NRCS
- 13 Watershed projects
- 2 CEAP Synthesis projects
 - Symposium on Thursday



Looking Ahead



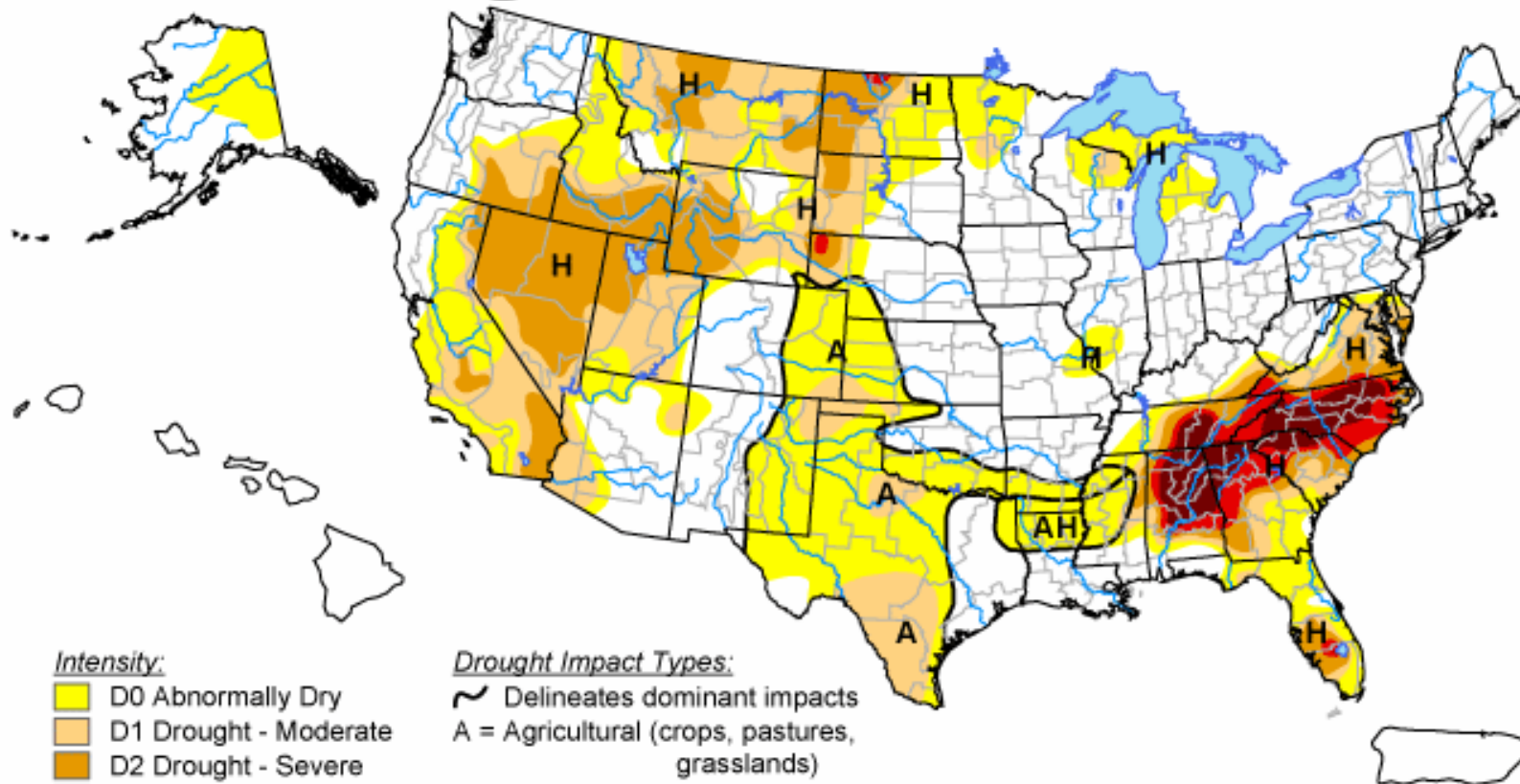
- What are the critical challenges we face?

NOTE: To view regional drought conditions, click on map below. State maps can be accessed from regional maps.






U.S. Drought Monitor

January 29, 2008


Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:

-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Drought - Moderate
-  D2 Drought - Severe
-  D3 Drought - Extreme
-  D4 Drought - Exceptional

Drought Impact Types:

-  Delineates dominant impacts
- A = Agricultural (crops, pastures, grasslands)
- H = Hydrological (water)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>



Released Thursday, January 31, 2008

Author: David Miskus, JAWF/CPC/NOAA



Response to Drought

- Initiate a Southern Region Multi-State Committee on Drought (Hatch)
- Accelerate use of recycled water in agriculture

13 CEAP Watershed Projects

(shown in Major Land Resource Areas)

2004 ●
2005 ●
2006 ●



Grazing Lands CEAP Watersheds



- FY 2008 CEAP Grazing Lands Watersheds
- Fund three watershed scale projects in major grazing area region (for each of the next 2-3 years)
 - Focus on NRCS grazing conservation practices (e.g., prescribed burning, grazing management, invasive species management)
 - Follow the template from the previous 13 watersheds:
 - Include social and economic analyses
 - Research and outreach focus



Grazing Lands Watersheds: Key Questions

- What do we know about the impact on the hydrologic cycle from conservation practices on grazing lands?
- What do we know about the impact of grazing practices on watershed health?
 - soil quality,
 - plant communities and dynamics,
 - impacts on ecosystem services at the landscape scale



Thank You

