

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE INSTRUCTION 10-1201

March 3, 2011

**Operations and Services
Drought Services, NWSPD 10-12**

WFO DROUGHT PRODUCTS SPECIFICATION

NOTICE: This publication is available at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/>

OPR: W/OS4 (M. Hawkins)

Certified by: W/OS4 (F. Horsfall)

Type of Issuance: Routine

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This directive supersedes NWSI 10-1201, “WFO Drought Products Specification” dated June 10, 2008. The following changes are implemented with this instruction:

- 1) Discontinues using the hydrologic outlook (ESF) for the product formerly known as the drought outlook and establishes a separate AWIPS identifier (DGT) to be used for the new drought information statement.
- 2) Provides instructions on the content and format for drought information statements.
- 3) Adds National Integrated Drought Information System as a related website in the Issuance Guidelines for content.

(signed)

2/17/2011

David B. Caldwell
Director, Office of Climate,
Water, and Weather Services

Date

WFO Drought Products Specification

<u>Table of Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. Introduction	2
2. Drought Information Statement (DGT)	2
2.1 Mission Connection.....	2
2.2 Issuance Guidelines.....	2
2.2.1 Creation Software.....	2
2.2.2 Issuance Criteria.....	2
2.2.3 Issuance Time.....	3
2.2.4 Valid Time.....	3
2.2.5 Product Expiration Time	3
2.3 Technical Description.....	3
2.3.1 UGC Type	3
2.3.2 MND Broadcast Instruction Line	3
2.3.3 MND Product Type Line.....	3
2.3.4 Content	3
2.3.5 Format.....	5
2.4 Updates, Amendments, and Corrections	5

Appendices

- A. Recommended Best Practices
- B. Sample Drought Information Statements

1. Introduction. This directive describes issuance criteria, content, and format of drought products provided by weather forecast offices (WFO) in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS). All WFO drought products issued through NWS-supported dissemination systems follow certain identification and dissemination standards. Basic standards for text products, including those for World Meteorological Organization (WMO) headers, Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) identifiers, universal geographic codes (UGC), mass news dissemination (MND) header blocks, and product content are contained in *NWSI 10-1701, Text Product Formats and Codes*. Specific standards for UGCs are contained in *NWSI 10-1702, Universal Geographic Code (UGC)*.

2. Drought Information Statement (DGT). Drought information statements provide up-to-date reports on current drought situations in a WFO county warning and forecast area.

2.1 Mission Connection. Drought information statements help the NWS meet its mission by:

- a. Providing a unified summary of current drought severity, indices, data, impacts, forecasts, and products, and
- b. Providing other pertinent information to partners and other users and enhancing their ability to focus drought mitigation efforts on areas of the greatest need.

As a result, drought information statements help protect property and enhance the national economy.

2.2 Issuance Guidelines.

2.2.1 Creation Software. The drought information statement is generated using a text editor or other applications as appropriate (e.g., RiverPro, GFE, AWIPS text workstation).

2.2.2 Issuance Criteria. Drought intensity, as indicated in the U.S. Drought Monitor (<http://drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>), is the primary, but not necessarily the only, criteria used in determining when an initial drought information statement is issued. An initial drought information statement will be issued when:

- a. The Drought Monitor indicates a drought intensity at the level of D2 or worse in any portion of the WFO county warning and forecast area, or
- b. A less severe criterion is reached, if this is more appropriate for local partners and other users.

Alternate criteria for issuance of initial drought information statements may be specified in regional supplements. WFOs should routinely check the weekly U.S. Drought Monitor to assess drought conditions in any part of the county warning and forecast area. The Drought Monitor depiction of the drought intensity levels represents an objective summary of the consensus of drought indicators (e.g., streamflows, groundwater, soil moisture) as defined by the prescribed percentile ranges (D4 = 0-2 percentile, etc.). WFOs are also encouraged to provide input to the Drought Monitor and will ensure that this input is consistent with these objective criteria to the extent possible.

Once an initial drought information statement has been issued, follow-up drought information statements will be issued at least once a month. More frequent issuances of the drought information statement will be issued under the following circumstances:

- a. When drought conditions change.
- b. When a local or regional criterion has been met requiring an update.

2.2.3 Issuance Time. Drought information statements are non-scheduled, event-driven products. Consideration should be given to the operational schedules and related needs of NWS partners and other users in determining the issuance time for a particular product.

2.2.4 Valid Time. A drought information statement will be valid until the time/date specified in the product UGC. If the product is not the last one in a sequence for a drought, the date/time for when the next update is scheduled will be provided at the end of the product.

2.2.5 Product Expiration Time. The product expiration time (at the end of the UGC) may be as long as 31 days after product issuance.

2.3 Technical Description.

2.3.1 UGC Type. County codes should be used (Zone for Alaska and parts of Pacific Region).

2.3.2 MND Broadcast Instruction Line.

2.3.3 MND Product Type Line. "DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT."

2.3.4 Content. Drought information statements will be consistent with the Drought Monitor. The drought information statement uses a free-form, paragraph format. Supporting tables may be provided where needed. The drought information statement will include the following in the product header blocks as shown in Figure 1:

- a. WMO heading, AWIPS identifier, and UGC line, and
- b. MND product type line, issuing office line, and issuance date/type line as shown in Figure 1.

The main body of a drought information statement includes the following:

- a. **Headline (mandatory)** - a single sentence worded to attract the reader's attention and accurately summarize the current drought situation. The headline will start and end with three dots (elipses).
- b. **Synopsis (mandatory)** – a concise paragraph describing the current drought situation in the county warning and forecast area, the current Drought Monitor level(s) that have been reached, and the severity of the situation. The section starts with "SYNOPSIS..."
- c. **Summary of Impacts (mandatory)** – One or more paragraphs describing the impacts of the drought in the county warning and forecast area. The section starts

with “SUMMARY OF IMPACTS...” The drought impacts may be described in one or more of the following ways:

- (1) State and local actions taken to mitigate impacts
- (2) Soil moisture and/or ground water impacts
- (3) Agricultural impacts
- (4) Fire impacts
- (5) Current water restrictions
- (6) Other impacts (navigation, environmental, etc.)

d. Climate Summary (mandatory) - A description of the current state of the drought from a climate perspective, including recent precipitation and temperature, comparisons of precipitation to long-term averages, and comparisons to all-time records. Any other hydrometeorological facts of interest (e.g., evaporation, winds, dew points) may be included. The section starts with “CLIMATE SUMMARY...”

e. Precipitation/Temperature Outlook (mandatory) – a discussion of weather forecasts and climate outlooks for the CWFA spanning the near-term to more extended forecast horizons. The section starts with “PRECIPITATION/ TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK...” This section will include the following:

- (1) Summary of expected weather for the next 7 days, including the chances for precipitation and expected temperatures, highlighting current/future events involving significant departures from average (e.g., heat waves).
- (2) The outlook for longer time scales, including information of interest contained in Climate Prediction Center (CPC) outlooks.

f. Hydrologic Summary and Outlook (mandatory) – A discussion of the current hydrologic situation with regards to reservoir storage, streamflow, lake levels (if relevant), groundwater (if known), and soil moisture (if known). The hydrologic forecast trends for the next 3 to 7 days and the outlook for more extended time horizons should be described. The section starts with “HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK...”

g. Next Issuance Date (mandatory) – The anticipated date for issuance of the next drought information statement will be listed here. Given the schedule flexibility provided in Section 2.2.2, the next issuance could occur in a month or at some earlier time. If the drought has ended and no further statements are planned at the current time, this should be stated here. The section starts with “NEXT ISSUANCE DATE...”

- h. Related Web Sites (mandatory) – A section providing links to Web sites where drought-related information from other sources can be found. These Web sites may include one or more of the following: the Drought Monitor, partner agency web pages at the state or federal government level (e.g., U.S. Dept. of Agriculture [USDA], U.S. Bureau of Reclamation [USBR], U.S. Army Corps of Engineers [USACE]), the NWS hydrology Web presence (a.k.a. Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service [AHPS] Web page), National Integrated Drought Information System, and the NWS’s weather.gov Web page. A link may also be provided to a drought web site developed by the local WFO, if such a site exists. The section starts with “RELATED WEB SITES...”
- i. Acknowledgements (mandatory) – the titles of all local, state, and Federal agencies that provided information used in the drought information statement will be provided. The section starts with “ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS...”
- j. Questions or comments (mandatory) – the WFO name, WFO address, telephone, and email address. This section starts with “QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...”

2.3.5 Format. The generic format for the drought information statement is shown in Figure 1.

2.4 Updates, Amendments, and Corrections. Provide updates by issuing a new product. Amendments are not applicable to this product. Follow standard NWS practices for corrections.

```
AXA1A27i cccc ddhhmm (BBB)
DGTxxx
stC001-003-ddhhmm-

DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE <city, state>
hhmm am/pm time__zone day mon dd yyyy

...Headline...

SYNOPSIS...

<text>

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS...

<text>

CLIMATE SUMMARY...

<text>

PRECIPITATION/TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK...

<text>

HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK...

<text>

NEXT ISSUANCE DATE...

<text>

&&

RELATED WEB SITES...

<text>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS...

<text>

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...

<text>

$$

<Name/Initials/Forecaster ID> (optional)
```

Figure 1. Generic format for a drought information statement (DGT).

Appendix A

Recommended Best Practices

WFOs are encouraged to issue the Drought Information Statement in a timely manner coincident with, or shortly after, the weekly U.S. Drought Monitor.

Develop a drought plan for the office and make it part of the station duty manual.

Create a local drought team and/or appoint a focal point for drought.

When conditions warrant, write a press release addressing the impacts in the local area and/or hold a multi-agency press conference when interest warrants.

Identify and work closely with local, state and federal agencies concerned with drought impacts by delivering timely information and forecasts.

Attend or hold meetings with local, state and federal drought task forces and offer help in the form of information regarding drought impacts and forecasts.

Develop a drought Web page for the WFO area with pertinent information.

Work closely with surrounding WFOs on common drought issues and language to use in products.

Prepare hard copy or web-based newsletter with graphics.

Get on the drought monitor list. It is a great tool to understand what others across the nation are doing to depict drought in your local area. It is also very useful to provide input to the authors of the Drought Monitor. Listserv email address: <http://www.ianr.unl.edu/email/listservmgt.html>

Appendix B

Sample Drought Products

Example 1 – Drought Information Statement from Central Region

AXUS73 KARX 280921
DGTARX
IAC005-037-043-065-067-089-131-191-MNC039-045-055-099-109-157-169-WIC001-011-
019-023-043-053-057-063-081-103-119-121-123-280900-

DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LA CROSSE WI
421 AM CDT FRI OCT 28 2005

...DROUGHT STILL EXISTS IN PARTS OF THE AREA...

SYNOPSIS...

PRECIPITATION DEFICITS HAVE INCREASED ACROSS THE AREA. ACCORDING TO THE OCTOBER 25TH RELEASE OF THE U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR...MODERATE /D1/ DROUGHT STILL EXISTS ACROSS PARTS OF GRANT COUNTY IN SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN AND CLAYTON COUNTY IN NORTHEAST IOWA. ABNORMALLY DRY CONDITIONS /D0/ STILL EXISTS ACROSS NORTH CENTRAL...CENTRAL...AND SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN...AND NORTHEAST IOWA. ABNORMALLY DRY /D0/ CONDITIONS EXIST ACROSS CLARK AND TAYLOR COUNTIES IN NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN...ADAMS AND JUNEAU COUNTIES IN CENTRAL WISCONSIN... CRAWFORD...RICHLAND...AND VERNON COUNTIES IN SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN... AND ALLAMAKEE...CHICKASAW...FAYETTE...FLOYD...AND WINNESHIEK COUNTIES IN NORTHEAST IOWA.

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS...

STATE AND LOCAL ACTIONS.
NO KNOWN STATE OR LOCAL ACTIONS ARE CURRENTLY TAKING PLACE.

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS.
AS OF OCTOBER 25TH...THE MIDWESTERN REGIONAL CLIMATE CENTER /MRCC/ INDICATED SOIL MOISTURE DEFICITS UP TO TWO AND HALF INCHES ACROSS PORTIONS OF THE SOUTHERN WISCONSIN...NORTHERN ILLINOIS...AND NORTHEAST AND SOUTHERN IOWA.

GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS.
THE CURRENT WELL WATER LEVEL IS 6.97 FEET BELOW GROUND LEVEL AS OF 7 AM ON OCTOBER 25TH JUST WEST OF TOMAH WISCONSIN IN MONROE COUNTY. THIS LEVEL IS SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN THE 6.72 FEET BELOW GROUND LEVEL AS OF 7 AM ON OCTOBER 11TH. NORMALLY THE WATER LEVEL SHOULD 4.95 FEET BELOW GROUND LEVEL. THE LOWEST LEVEL ON RECORD IN OCTOBER WAS 8.62 FEET BELOW THE GROUND LEVEL IN OCTOBER 1987. THE HIGHEST LEVEL ON RECORD WAS 1.94 FEET BELOW GROUND LEVEL IN OCTOBER 1972. THE PERIOD OF RECORD EXTENDS FROM OCTOBER 1949 THROUGH THE PRESENT.

RIVER AND STREAM FLOW CONDITIONS.
WITH PRECIPITATION DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS BEING BELOW NORMAL... RIVER FLOWS HAVE DECREASED ACROSS THE REGION. WHEN COMPARED TO CLIMATOLOGY...THE LOWEST FLOWS ARE REPORTED ALONG THE BLACK AND WISCONSIN RIVERS IN WESTERN WISCONSIN...AND BLOODY RUN CREEK AND LITTLE CEDAR RIVER IN NORTHEAST IOWA.

AGRICULTURE IMPACTS.

RECENT DRY WEATHER HAS CAUSED SOME DETERIORATION IN THE TOP AND SUB SOIL MOISTURE CONDITIONS. THE FOLLOWING EXCERPT IS FROM USDA/S WISCONSIN CROP WEATHER ON OCTOBER 24 2005...

IN GRANT COUNTY...THE CORN HAS VERY GOOD QUANTITY AND QUALITY. COMBINES ARE RUNNING REALLY SLOW...BECAUSE VERY LARGE YIELDS IN OUR AREA. SOYBEANS ARE ALSO A LARGER CROP THEN WAS EXPECTED. A LITTLE WINTER WHEAT HAS BEEN PLANTED AND EMERGED...BUT NOT A LOT HAS BEEN PLANTED. TOP SOIL IS VERY DRY.

FIRE DANGER HAZARDS.

AS OF THE MORNING OF OCTOBER 25TH...THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES REPORTED MODERATE FIRE DANGER ACROSS SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN...AND LOW FIRE DANGER ACROSS CENTRAL...WEST CENTRAL...AND NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN AND SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA.

CITIZENS SHOULD ALWAYS CHECK WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS IN THEIR AREA BEFORE UNDERTAKING ANY OUTSIDE BURNING. CITIZENS ARE LIABLE FOR DAMAGES AND SUPPRESSION COSTS OF ANY WILDFIRE THEY MAY START.

CLIMATE SUMMARY...

FROM OCTOBER 11TH THROUGH OCTOBER 25TH...LESS THAN A QUARTER INCH OF PRECIPITATION FELL ACROSS MUCH OF THE AREA. THE GREATEST PRECIPITATION AMOUNT WAS THREE TENTHS OF AN INCH AT THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OFFICE IN LA CROSSE WISCONSIN. NORMALLY NINE TENTHS OF INCH OF PRECIPITATION FALLS DURING THIS PERIOD.

SINCE MARCH 1 2005...PRECIPITATION DEFICITS RANGED FROM TWO TO FOUR INCHES ACROSS PORTIONS OF NORTHEAST IOWA...AND WESTERN AND NORTHERN WISCONSIN...AND FROM FOUR TO AS MUCH AS TWELVE INCHES ACROSS SOUTHERN AND EASTERN WISCONSIN.

PRECIPITATION/TEMPERATURE OUTLOOKS...

FROM OCTOBER 25TH THROUGH NOVEMBER 1ST...TEMPERATURES WILL AVERAGE AT OR ABOVE NORMAL AND PRECIPITATION WILL BE BELOW NORMAL. DURING THIS TIME FRAME...THE DAILY AVERAGE TEMPERATURE IS AROUND 45 DEGREES AND THE NORMAL PRECIPITATION IS JUST UNDER A HALF INCH.

BEYOND THIS TIME FRAME THE 8 TO 14 DAY FORECAST FROM THE CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER /CPC/ FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 2ND TO NOVEMBER 8TH CALLS FOR ABOVE NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND BELOW NORMAL PRECIPITATION. DURING THIS TIME FRAME...THE DAILY AVERAGE TEMPERATURE IS AROUND 40 DEGREES AND THE NORMAL PRECIPITATION IS JUST OVER A HALF INCH.

BOTH THE 30 AND 90 DAY OUTLOOKS CALL FOR EQUAL CHANCES FOR BELOW...ABOVE...AND NEAR NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION.

HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK...

WITH PRECIPITATION DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS BEING BELOW NORMAL... RIVER FLOWS HAVE DECREASED ACROSS THE REGION. WHEN COMPARED TO CLIMATOLOGY...THE LOWEST FLOWS ARE REPORTED ALONG THE BLACK AND WISCONSIN RIVERS IN WESTERN WISCONSIN...AND BLOODY RUN CREEK AND LITTLE CEDAR RIVER IN NORTHEAST IOWA.

NEXT ISSUANCE DATE...

THIS PRODUCT WILL BE UPDATED ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 28TH OR SOONER IF NECESSARY IN RESPONSE TO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN CONDITIONS.

&&

RELATED WEB SITES...

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON CURRENT DROUGHT CONDITIONS MAY BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING WEB ADDRESSES /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR...[HTTP://WWW.DROUGHT.UNL.EDU/DM/MONITOR.HTML](http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html)
NOAA DROUGHT PAGE...[HTTP://WWW.DROUGHT.NOAA.GOV/](http://www.drought.noaa.gov/)
MIDWESTERN REGIONAL CLIMATE CENTER...
[HTTP://MCC.SWS.UIUC.EDU/INDEX.JSP](http://mcc.sws.uiuc.edu/index.jsp)
WISCONSIN STATE CLIMATOLOGY OFFICE...[HTTP://WWW.AOS.WISC.EDU/~SCO/](http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~SCO/)
MINNESOTA CLIMATOLOGY WORKING GROUP...[HTTP://CLIMATE.UMN.EDU/](http://climate.umn.edu/)
IOWA CLIMATOLOGY BUREAU...
[HTTP://WWW.AGRICULTURE.STATE.IA.US/CLIMATOLOGY.HTM](http://www.agriculture.state.ia.us/climatology.htm)
ADDITIONAL RIVER INFORMATION...
NWS...[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/AHPS/](http://www.weather.gov/ahps/)
USGS...[HTTP://WATER.USGS.GOV/](http://water.usgs.gov/)
USACE...[HTTP://WWW.MVR.USACE.ARMY.MIL/](http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/)
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER /CPC/...[HTTP://WWW.CPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS...

THE DROUGHT MONITOR IS A MULTI-AGENCY EFFORT INVOLVING NOAA/S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE AND NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER...THE USDA...STATE AND REGIONAL CENTER CLIMATOLOGISTS AND THE NATIONAL DROUGHT MITIGATION CENTER. INFORMATION FOR THIS STATEMENT HAS BEEN GATHERED FROM NWS AND FAA OBSERVATION SITES...STATE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICES...THE USDA...USACE AND USGS.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT...PLEASE CONTACT...

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
N2788 COUNTY ROAD FA
LACROSSE WI 54601
PHONE: 608-784-7294
W-ARX.WEBMASTER@NOAA.GOV

\$\$

Example 2 – Drought Information Statement from Southern Region

AXUS74 KSJT 291918
DGTSJT
TXC049-059-081-083-095-105-151-207-235-253-267-307-319-327-353-
399-411-413-417-431-435-441-447-451-291900-

DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SAN ANGELO TX
218 PM CDT THU MAR 29 2007

...RAINS BRING IMPROVEMENTS TO WEST CENTRAL TEXAS...

SYNOPSIS...

THE U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR (USDM)...ISSUED THROUGH THE NATIONAL DROUGHT MITIGATION CENTER ON MARCH 27...REFLECTS IMPROVEMENTS BROUGHT BY THE RECENT RAINS. WHILE THE LONG TERM HYDROLOGICAL IMPACTS WILL STILL BE NOTICEABLE...ENOUGH MOISTURE WAS DELIVERED TO THE REGION TO INITIATE SHORT TERM RELIEF. THE WESTERN HALF OF THE BIG COUNTRY AND NORTHWESTERN CONCHO VALLEY ARE EXPERIENCING ABNORMALLY DRY HYDROLOGIC CONDITIONS. ALTHOUGH CONDITIONS HAVE IMPROVED...THE REMAINING SOUTHEASTERN TWO THIRDS OF THE REGION IS EXPERIENCING MODERATE TO SEVERE HYDROLOGIC DROUGHT CONDITIONS.

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS...

FIRE DANGER IMPACTS.

AS OF MARCH 29...AT LEAST FOUR COUNTIES ACROSS WEST CENTRAL TEXAS SUPPORT A COUNTY WIDE OUTDOOR BURN BAN. THESE COUNTIES INCLUDE IRION...COKE...STERLING AND SHACKELFORD COUNTIES. THE TEXAS FOREST SERVICE USES THE KEETCH-BYRAM DROUGHT INDEX (KBDI) AS A SYSTEM FOR RELATING CURRENT AND RECENT WEATHER CONDITIONS TO POTENTIAL OR EXPECTED FIRE BEHAVIOR. IT IS A NUMERICAL INDEX CALCULATED DAILY FOR EACH COUNTY. EACH NUMBER IS AN ESTIMATE OF THE AMOUNT OF PRECIPITATION...IN HUNDREDTHS OF AN INCH...NEEDED TO BRING THE SOIL BACK TO SATURATION. THE INDEX RANGES FROM 0 TO 800...WITH 0 REPRESENTING A SATURATED SOIL AND 800 A COMPLETELY DRY SOIL. WITH THE RECENT RAINS...MANY AREAS HAVE EXPERIENCED IMPROVED CONDITIONS. AS OF MARCH 28...A FEW BIG COUNTRY COUNTIES HAVE KBDI VALUES NEAR OR GREATER THAN 400...INDICATING AN INCREASED FIRE RISK POTENTIAL. NOTE THAT FIRE DANGER CAN CHANGE QUICKLY FROM DAY TO DAY AS WINDS AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY VARY. THE TEXAS FOREST SERVICE ADVISES TO WATCH OUT FOR KEY WEATHER THRESHOLDS OF WINDS ABOVE 15 MPH AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY BELOW 25 PERCENT. WHEN THESE THRESHOLDS ARE EXCEEDED... EXPECT THE FIRE DANGER TO BE ELEVATED.

AGRICULTURAL IMPACTS.

THE CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER ANALYZES THE PERCENT OF AVAILABLE SOIL MOISTURE AS COMPARED TO NORMAL. AS OF MARCH 28...THE AVAILABLE SOIL MOISTURE RANGES FROM 30 TO 70 PERCENT OF NORMAL ACROSS MUCH OF THE REGION.

ACCORDING TO THE TEXAS CROP WEATHER REPORT ISSUED MARCH 28 BY THE TEXAS A&M AGRICULTURE PROGRAM...THE FOLLOWING AGRICULTURAL IMPACTS WERE NOTED ACROSS WEST CENTRAL TEXAS...WARMER TEMPERATURES AND VERY WINDY CONDITIONS WERE REPORTED...RAIN WAS REPORTED IN MANY AREAS AND SOIL MOISTURE HAS IMPROVED...BURN BANS HAVE BEEN LIFTED...WHEAT PASTURES HAVE IMPROVED...SOME SPRING PLOWING AND FERTILIZER APPLICATIONS BEGAN...MOST HAY FIELDS ARE BEING PREPARED FOR PLANTING...PRODUCERS ARE BAILING SMALL GRAIN FIELDS OR GRAZING LIVESTOCK...RANGE AND PASTURE CONDITIONS CONTINUE TO IMPROVE...NATIVE AND IMPROVED PASTURES HAVE BEGUN TO GREEN UP...LIVESTOCK ARE IN FAIR CONDITION...SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING CONTINUES...STOCK TANKS REMAIN DRY...TREES ARE LEAFING OUT AND SOME WARM SEASON GRASSES ARE BEGINNING TO EMERGE FROM DORMANCY...FRUIT TREES ARE IN FULL BLOOM.

CLIMATE SUMMARY...

WIDESPREAD RAINFALL AT THE END OF MARCH WAS BRINGING MUCH NEEDED RELIEF TO WEST CENTRAL TEXAS. WHILE A FEW LIGHT SCATTERED SHOWERS OCCURRED FROM MARCH 22ND THROUGH 24TH...THE WIDESPREAD HEAVIER RAINFALL BEGAN ON THE 25TH AND CONTINUED THROUGH MUCH OF THE 26TH. THIS EVENT BROUGHT TWO TO THREE INCHES OF WIDESPREAD RAINFALL OVER

MUCH OF THE SOUTHERN HALF OF THE AREA. PARTS OF CROCKETT COUNT RECEIVED OVER FIVE INCHES OF RAIN. PORTIONS OF THE NORTHWEST HILL COUNTRY AND UP THROUGH THE HEARTLAND RECEIVED THREE TO FOUR INCHES OF RAIN...WITH SOME ISOLATED AREAS RECEIVING OVER FOUR INCHES. ACROSS THE BIG COUNTRY...RAINFALL AMOUNTS RANGED FROM ONE HALF OF AN INCH TO OVER TWO INCHES. THE LIGHTER AMOUNTS OF RAIN FELL ACROSS THE EXTREME NORTHERN PORTIONS OF THE REGION WHERE PARTS OF HASKELL AND THROCKMORTON COUNTIES RECEIVED LESS THAN 0.25 OF AN INCH.

THESE RAINS WERE ENOUGH TO PRODUCE SOME RUNOFF ACROSS THE AREA. THE SOUTH LLANO RIVER ROSE SIGNIFICANTLY FROM HEAVY RAINS IN NORTHERN EDWARDS AND SOUTHERN KIMBLE COUNTIES WHERE THE TERRAIN IS ROCKY AND STEEP. THE SOUTH LLANO RIVER FLOODED PARTS OF U.S. HIGHWAY 377 SOUTH OF JUNCTION AND THE ACCESS BRIDGE TO THE SOUTH LLANO RIVER STATE PARK. THESE HIGH FLOWS SPILLED INTO THE MAIN LLANO RIVER CAUSING SOME OUT OF BANK FLOODING THROUGH KIMBLE AND MASON COUNTIES.

RAIN CONTINUES TO MOVE ACROSS THE REGION. EARLY ON MARCH 29TH...PARTS OF SAN ANGELO RECEIVED OVER ONE INCH OF RAIN AND ABILENE RECEIVED ABOUT 0.25 OF AN INCH OF RAIN. MORE PRECIPITATION IS FORECAST FOR THE AREA THROUGH MARCH 30.

FROM MARCH 1 THROUGH 28...THE SAN ANGELO REGIONAL AIRPORT RECEIVED 2.51 INCHES OF RAIN. EARLY ON MARCH 29...SAN ANGELO RECEIVED AN ADDITIONAL 0.48 OF AN INCH OF RAIN. THE NORMAL MONTHLY PRECIPITATION IN MARCH IS 0.99 OF AN INCH.

FROM MARCH 1 THROUGH 28...THE ABILENE REGIONAL AIRPORT RECEIVED 2.57 INCHES OF RAIN. EARLY ON MARCH 29...ABILENE RECEIVED AN ADDITIONAL 0.22 OF AN INCH OF RAIN. THE NORMAL MONTHLY PRECIPITATION IN MARCH IS 1.41 INCHES.

FROM MARCH 1 THROUGH 28...JUNCTION RECEIVED 4.87 INCHES OF RAIN. EARLY ON MARCH 29...JUNCTION RECEIVED AN ADDITIONAL 0.09 OF AN INCH OF RAIN. THE ESTIMATED NORMAL MONTHLY RAINFALL FOR JUNCTION IN MARCH IS ABOUT 1.4 INCHES.

PRECIPITATION/TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK...

THE CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER (CPC) INDICATES THAT EL NINO CONDITIONS CAME TO A QUICK END AND NEAR NEUTRAL CONDITIONS ARE IN PLACE. THE CPC OUTLOOK FOR APRIL THROUGH JUNE INDICATES THAT TEXAS WILL EXPERIENCE WARMER THAN NORMAL TEMPERATURES. THE OUTLOOK INDICATES THAT THERE ARE EQUAL CHANCES FOR ABOVE...BELOW OR NEAR NORMAL PRECIPITATION OVER WEST CENTRAL TEXAS DURING THE APRIL THROUGH JUNE PERIOD.

THE LATEST U.S. SEASONAL DROUGHT OUTLOOK THROUGH JUNE 2007 SHOWS THAT WEST CENTRAL TEXAS SHOULD CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE SOME IMPROVEMENTS DUE TO THE LATE MARCH RAINS. HOWEVER...LOOKING AT THE APRIL THROUGH JUNE TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION OUTLOOKS...THE IMPROVEMENTS MAY BE SHORT LIVED. AS THE SPRING SEASON APPROACHES...THE AREA IS DEPENDENT ON CONVECTIVE STORM SYSTEMS TO PRODUCE SCATTERED SHOWERS AND ISOLATED HEAVY RAINFALL. AS THESE EVENTS DEVELOP...SOME AREAS MAY EXPERIENCE IMPROVEMENTS. THE REGION HAS BEEN DRY FOR AN EXTENDED AMOUNT OF TIME SO IT COULD TAKE A LOT OF PRECIPITATION TO END THE DROUGHT COMPLETELY.

HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK...

THE RAINFALL WAS WIDESPREAD AND HEAVY ENOUGH TO GENERATE SOME RUNOFF INTO LOCAL STREAMS AND RIVERS. SOME LOCALIZED FLOODING OCCURRED...BUT NOT ENOUGH RUNOFF WAS EXPERIENCED TO BRING WIDESPREAD RELIEF. WITH

THE MOIST GROUND CONDITIONS...THE AREA SHOULD EXPERIENCE INCREASED RUNOFF WITH ADDITIONAL RAINFALL EVENTS. AREA WATER RESOURCE RESERVOIRS AND LIVESTOCK TANKS REMAIN CONSIDERABLY LOW.

RESERVOIR CONDITIONS AS OF MARCH 28...

RESERVOIR	CURRENT ELEVATION (FT)	CONSERVATION CAPACITY (AC-FT)	CURRENT CAPACITY (AC-FT)	PERCENT OF CONSERVATION CAPACITY
FORT PHANTOM HILL	1625.23	70036	36110	52
LAKE STAMFORD	1412.46	51570	32630	63
HUBBARD CREEK	1168.30	318070	148010	47
HORDS CREEK LAKE	1891.00	8112	4460	55
LAKE BROWNWOOD	1418.06	131428	92890	71
E.V. SPENCE	1847.75	517272	68870	13
O.C. FISHER	1867.13	119200	7980	7
O.H. IVIE	1528.18	554340	217900	39
TWIN BUTTES (N+S)	1911.78	186200	45760	25
LAKE NASWORTHY	1871.38	10108	8930	88

NEXT ISSUANCE DATE...

THIS PRODUCT WILL BE UPDATED ON MONDAY APRIL 30 2007 OR SOONER IF NECESSARY IN RESPONSE TO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN CONDITIONS.

&&

RELATED WEB SITES...

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON CURRENT DROUGHT CONDITIONS MAY BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING WEB ADDRESSES /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

OUR LOCAL DROUGHT WEB PAGE...

- <http://WWW.SRH.WEATHER.GOV/SJT/HTML/CLIMATE/DROUGHT.HTML>
- U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR...<HTTP://WWW.DROUGHT.UNL.EDU/DM/MONITOR.HTML>
- NOAA DROUGHT PAGE...<HTTP://WWW.DROUGHT.NOAA.GOV/>
- OFFICE OF THE TEXAS STATE CLIMATOLOGIST...
<HTTP://WWW.MET.TAMU.EDU/OSC/>
- NWS...<HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/AHPS/>
- USGS...<HTTP://WATER.USGS.GOV/>
- USACE...<HTTP://WWW.MVR.USACE.ARMY.MIL/>
- CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER /CPC/...<HTTP://WWW.CPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS...

THE DROUGHT MONITOR IS A MULTI-AGENCY EFFORT INVOLVING NOAA/S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE AND NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER...THE USDA...STATE AND REGIONAL CENTER CLIMATOLOGISTS AND THE NATIONAL DROUGHT MITIGATION CENTER. INFORMATION FOR THIS STATEMENT HAS BEEN GATHERED FROM NWS AND FAA OBSERVATION SITES...STATE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICES...THE USDA...USACE AND USGS.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT...PLEASE CONTACT...

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
7654 KNICKERBOCKER ROAD
SAN ANGELO TEXAS 76904
PHONE: 325-944-9445
NWS.SANANGELO@NOAA.GOV

\$\$

Example 3 – Drought Information from Pacific Region.

AXHW70 PHFO 152045
DGTHFO
HIC001-003-007-009-152000-

DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HONOLULU HI
1115 AM HST THU MAR 15 2007

...SEVERE DROUGHT EXPANDS ACROSS PORTIONS OF THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS...

SYNOPSIS...

THE ONGOING DROUGHT ACROSS LEEWARD AREAS OF THE STATE CONTINUES TO WORSEN WITH D2...SEVERE DROUGHT...EXPANDING INTO UPCOUNTRY MAUI AND THE LEEWARD KOHALA SECTION OF THE BIG ISLAND. AN EXISTING SEVERE DROUGHT AREA IN NORTH KONA AND MODERATE DROUGHT...D1...AREAS ON OAHU...SOUTHWEST KAUAI...WEST MAUI AND WEST MOLOKAI REMAIN UNCHANGED.

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS...

STATE AND LOCAL ACTIONS.

THE COUNTY OF HAWAII HAS ISSUED A DROUGHT PROCLAMATION FOR THE LEEWARD NORTH AND SOUTH KOHALA DISTRICTS. ON THE ISLAND OF MAUI...THE BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY HAS ISSUED A MANDATORY 10 PERCENT CONSERVATION NOTICE FOR UPCOUNTRY RESIDENTS IN KULA...KEOKEA AND ULUPALAKUA. VOLUNTARY 10 PERCENT CONSERVATION NOTICES REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU AND AGRICULTURE OPERATIONS USING IRRIGATION WATER FROM THE KUALAPUU RESERVOIR ON WEST MOLOKAI.

GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS.

GROUND WATER LEVELS HAVE BEEN DROPPING ON OAHU DUE TO HIGHER THAN NORMAL DEMAND BUT REMAIN AT THE CAUTION STAGE. GROUND WATER SUPPLIES FOR OTHER AREAS OF THE STATE REMAIN AT SATISFACTORY LEVELS FOR NOW.

AGRICULTURE.

IMPACTS ON AGRICULTURE HAVE BEEN INCREASING. CATTLE RANCHERS ON THE BIG ISLAND AND MAUI HAVE BEEN REPORTING DETERIORATING PASTURE CONDITIONS DURING THE PAST TWO MONTHS. LACK OF RAINFALL HAS ALSO FORCED SOME RANCHERS TO HAUL WATER FOR LIVESTOCK CONSUMPTION. COFFEE GROWERS ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE BIG ISLAND AND ON MOLOKAI ARE ANTICIPATING REDUCED YIELDS THIS SUMMER.

CLIMATE SUMMARY...

EL NINO INDUCED DRYNESS CONTINUES WITH FEBRUARY TOTALS AT LESS THAN 50 PERCENT OF NORMAL IN MOST AREAS AND LESS THAN 20 PERCENT OF NORMAL IN ALL LEEWARD SECTIONS. THE ONGOING PRECIPITATION DEFICITS HAVE DECEMBER THROUGH FEBRUARY TOTALS AT LESS THAN 30 PERCENT OF NORMAL FOR MORE THAN HALF OF THE GAGES STATEWIDE.

PRECIPITATION/TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK...

SIGNIFICANT RAIN IS NOT EXPECTED OVER THE NEXT WEEK. CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER FORECASTS CALL FOR THE RETURN TO NORMAL CONDITIONS DURING THE LATE SPRING TO EARLY SUMMER. HOWEVER...CONSIDERING SUMMER IS THE DRY SEASON FOR MOST OF THE LEEWARD AREAS OF THE STATE LITTLE IF ANY DROUGHT RELIEF IS EXPECTED.

HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK...

THE US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORTED BELOW NORMAL STREAMFLOW AT MOST LOCATIONS STATEWIDE AND RECORD LOW DAILY MEAN FLOW AT THE ALAKAHI STREAM ON THE BIG ISLAND. MEAN DAILY FLOWS ARE EXPECTED TO REMAIN BELOW NORMAL THROUGH THE SUMMER MONTHS.

NEXT ISSUANCE DATE...

THE NEXT DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT WILL BE ISSUED ON APRIL 15 2007 OR SOONER IF NECESSARY IN RESPONSE TO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN CONDITIONS.

&&

RELATED WEB SITES...

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON CURRENT DROUGHT CONDITIONS MAY BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING WEB ADDRESSES /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR...WWW.DROUGHT.UNL.EDU/DM/MONITOR.HTML
USGS HAWAII - RECENT CONDITIONS...
WWW.HI.WATER.USGS.GOV/RECENT/INDEX.HTML
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER LONG-LEAD HAWAII OUTLOOK...
WWW.CPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV/PRODUCTS/PREDICTIONS/90DAY/FXHW40.HTML

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS...

INFORMATION FOR THIS PRODUCT WAS COMPILED FROM A NUMBER OF SOURCES INCLUDING THE COUNTY BOARDS OF WATER SUPPLY...COUNTY CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCIES...US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE...STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT...PLEASE CONTACT...

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
2525 CORREA RD STE 250
HONOLULU HI 96822
PHONE: 808-973-5286
W-HFO.WEBMASTER@NOAA.GOV

\$\$

Example 4 – Drought Information Statement from Pacific Region.

AXGM70 PGUM 152045
DGTGUM
FMC002-005-040-060-GUC010-MHC010-090-120-190-320-400-410-430-MPC085-100-110-120-PWC100-150-370-UMC450-152000-

DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TIYAN GU

645 AM LST MON APR 16 2007

...DRY WEATHER NO LONGER ATTRIBUTED TO EL NINO...

SYNOPSIS...

THE WEAK TO MODERATE EL NINO-SOUTHERN OSCILLATION (ENSO) CYCLE THAT DOMINATED THE LATTER HALF OF 2006 HAS NOW BECOME ENSO-NEUTRAL. THE EL NINO-INDUCED DROUGHT THAT OCCURRED FOR THE LAST FEW MONTHS IS CONSIDERED OVER FOR MICRONESIA...BUT SOME AREAS WILL CONTINUE TO SEE DRIER THAN NORMAL CONDITIONS FOR ANOTHER MONTH OR SO. THESE AREAS INCLUDE THE MARIANA ISLANDS AND EASTERN PARTS OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS.

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS...

FOR SAIPAN...MORE STRINGENT WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES WERE IMPLEMENTED
FOR GUAM...GRASS FIRES HAVE BEEN ABUNDANT DUE TO THE EXTREMELY DRY CONDITIONS

CLIMATE SUMMARY...

TYPHOON KONG-REY AFFECTED THE MARIANA ISLANDS FROM 1 TO 3 APRIL. THE TYPHOON MOVED EAST OF GUAM...ROTA...TINIAN AND SAIPAN...FARTHEST FROM GUAM AND CLOSEST TO SAIPAN. THE WALL CLOUD (CORE) OF KONG-REY MISSED NORTHEAST SAIPAN BY ONLY 15 TO 20 MILES. GUAM RECEIVED AROUND 0.50 INCH OF RAIN...ROTA RECEIVED AROUND 0.75 INCH OF RAIN AND SAIPAN RECEIVED 2.50 TO 3.00 INCHES OF RAIN. SLIGHTLY LESS RAIN LIKELY FELL ON TINIAN THAN ON SAIPAN.

PRECIPITATION/TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK...

WE HAVE SHORTENED THE EXPECTED DURATION OF THE EXTENDED DRY PERIOD FOR THE MARIANAS. FOR GUAM AND ROTA...DRIER THAN NORMAL CONDITIONS COULD LAST THROUGH MAY. FOR TINIAN...SAIPAN AND THE NORTHERN ISLANDS...THESE CONDITIONS COULD LAST THROUGH JUNE. PARTLY CLOUDY SKIES WILL DOMINATE THE REGION AND THE SUN WILL BE NEARLY OVERHEAD FOR THE NEXT MONTH OR SO. THUS...HIGH TEMPERATURES FOR GUAM WILL BE IN THE HIGH 80S...87 TO 89. THOSE FOR THE SMALLER ISLANDS OF SAIPAN...ROTA AND TINIAN WILL BE 1 TO 2 DEGREES COOLER. DRIER THAN NORMAL CONDITIONS ALONG WITH BREEZY TRADE WINDS WILL GREATLY INCREASE THE POTENTIAL FOR WILDFIRES IN THE WEEKS TO COME. AS ALWAYS RESIDENTS OF THE MARIANAS SHOULD TAKE EXTREME CAUTION WHEN BURNING TRASH AND SMOKERS SHOULD ALWAYS USE ASHTRAYS TO DISCARD CIGARETTE BUTTS.

HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK...

TYPHOON KONG-REY ADDED SOME GROUND WATER TO WATER LENS ON SAIPAN AND TINIAN. HOWEVER...UNLESS ANOTHER TROPICAL SYSTEM AFFECTS THE ISLANDS IN THE NEXT 2 MONTHS...LITTLE ADDITIONAL RELIEF CAN BE EXPECTED. DESPITE THE DRY CONDITIONS...GUAM'S VAST GROUND WATER RESOURCES ARE IN GOOD SHAPE. SURFACE WATER RESOURCES ON GUAM WILL CONTINUE TO SLOWLY DIMINISH FOR THE NEXT MONTH OR TWO. WE STILL ENCOURAGE CONTINUED VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES IN THE MARIANA ISLANDS FOR THE NEXT MONTH OR TWO.

NEXT ISSUANCE DATE...

THE NEXT OUTLOOK WILL BE ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ON WEDNESDAY MAY 16...GUAM LOCAL TIME /TUESDAY MAY 15 UTC TIME/. STAY TUNED TO NOAA WEATHER RADIO OR LOCAL MEDIA OUTLETS FOR THE

LATEST WEATHER INFORMATION. DIAL 211 ON GUAM FOR THE SAME INFORMATION.

&&

RELATED WEB SITES...

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON CURRENT DROUGHT CONDITIONS MAY BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING WEB ADDRESSES /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

NWS WFO GUAM...[HTTP://WWW.WWW.WEATHER.GOV/GUAM/](http://WWW.WWW.WEATHER.GOV/GUAM/) /UNDER THE MENU ITEM CLIMATE...MORE/

PACIFIC ENSO APPLICATIONS CENTER...

<http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/MET/Enso/index2.html>

GUAM HOMELAND SECURITY...OFFICE OF CIVIL DEFENSE...

[HTTP://WWW.GUAMHS.ORG/MAIN/](http://WWW.GUAMHS.ORG/MAIN/)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE...OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR...

[HTTP://WWW.CNMIEMO.GOV.MP/](http://WWW.CNMIEMO.GOV.MP/)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS...

WE WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE OUR PARTNERS AT THE CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER...THE PACIFIC ENSO APPLICATIONS CENTER...THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM...THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII...THE HONOLULU FORECAST OFFICE...THE GUAM HOMELAND SECURITY/OFFICE OF CIVIL DEFENSE AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...

WFO TIYAN GUAM
3232 HUENEME RD
BARRIGADA GU 96913
PHONE: 671-672-0900
W-GUM.WEBMASTER@NOAA.GOV

\$\$

GUARD

Example 5 – Drought Information Statement from Western Region

AXUS75 KPSR 171500
DGTPSR
AZC007-012-013-021-027-CAC025-065-071-141430-

DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PHOENIX AZ
800 AM MST THU MAY 17 2007

...SIGNIFICANT DROUGHT CONDITIONS CONTINUE ACROSS THE REGION...

SYNOPSIS...

WHAT IS TYPICALLY THE WET SEASON FOR SOUTH-CENTRAL AND SOUTHWEST ARIZONA AND SOUTHEAST CALIFORNIA HAS BEEN EXTREMELY DRY THIS YEAR. THE LATEST U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR...RELEASED THIS MORNING...DEPICTS THE INTENSITY OF DROUGHT ACROSS SOUTH-CENTRAL ARIZONA AS SEVERE...WHILE THE INTENSITY LEVEL ACROSS SOUTHWEST ARIZONA AND SOUTHEAST CALIFORNIA HAS REACHED EXTREME. WE ARE NOW APPROACHING THE DRIEST PERIOD OF THE YEAR. THEREFORE...THE PROBABILITY FOR IMPROVEMENT WILL REMAIN EXTREMELY LOW UNTIL THE CONVECTIVE SEASON BEGINS IN JULY.

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS...

THIS FIRE SEASON /MAY THROUGH AUGUST/ WILL LIKELY BE ACTIVE DUE TO THE DRY WINTER. ACCORDING TO THE SOUTHWEST COORDINATION CENTER...THE POTENTIAL FOR SIGNIFICANT WILDLAND FIRE ACTIVITY FOR THE 2007 SOUTHWEST AREA FIRE SEASON IS ABOVE NORMAL FOR SOUTH-CENTRAL AND SOUTHWEST ARIZONA.

ACCORDING TO THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COORDINATION CENTER...SOUTHEAST CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE SEASON WILL BE ABOVE NORMAL /MEANING ADDITIONAL EXTERNAL RESOURCE MOBILIZATION IS LIKELY/.

RESERVOIR LEVELS ACROSS THE REGION REMAIN BELOW NORMAL DUE TO THE DRY WINTER...BUT REMAIN SOMEWHAT FULL DUE TO THE WET WINTER OF 2005-2006. PLEASE SEE THE HYDROLOGIC SECTION BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION.

CLIMATE SUMMARY...

ANALYSIS OF FEBRUARY-MARCH-APRIL RAINFALL DATA...WHICH IS TYPICALLY ONE OF THE WETTER PERIODS OF THE YEAR...REVEALS MUCH OF THE REGION HAS RECIEVED RAINFALL AMOUNTS THAT ARE WELL BELOW NORMAL. PERCENT OF NORMAL VALUES RANGE FROM 50 TO 75 PERCENT IN SOUTH-CENTRAL ARIZONA TO LESS THAN 10 PERCENT IN PARTS OF SOUTHEAST CALIFORNIA.

THE TABLE BELOW PROVIDES OBSERVED RAINFALL DATA FOR SELECT LOCATIONS ACROSS THE PHOENIX COUNTY WARNING AREA SINCE THE START OF THE WATER YEAR...WHICH WAS 1 OCTOBER 2006.

STATION	OCT-DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	TOT	DEP	PER
PHOENIX	0.56	0.49	0.40	0.83	0.21	2.49	-2.87	46
YUMA	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.26	-1.58	14
BLYTHE	0.04	0.16	0.07	0.53	0.00	0.80	-1.70	32
IMPERIAL	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.09	N/A	N/A

DEP - DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL
 PER - PERCENT OF NORMAL

PRECIPITATION/TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK...

MAY AND JUNE ARE TYPICALLY THE DRIEST AND WARMEST MONTHS OF THE YEAR ACROSS THE REGION. THEREFORE...THE PROBABILITY FOR IMPROVEMENT TO CURRENT DROUGHT LEVELS IS EXTREMELY LOW THROUGH THE END OF JUNE. THE PROBABILITY FOR IMPROVEMENT WILL INCREASE DURING JULY AND AUGUST AS THE SUMMER CONVECTIVE SEASON GETS UNDERWAY.

THE LATEST TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK FROM THE NOAA CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER FOR THE MAY-JUNE-JULY TIME PERIOD INDICATES THERE IS A HIGH PROBABILITY FOR ABOVE NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND EQUAL CHANCES FOR NEAR/ABOVE/BELOW NORMAL PRECIPITATION.

THE LATEST TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK FROM THE NOAA CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER FOR THE JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER TIME PERIOD INDICATES THERE IS AN INCREASED CHANCE FOR ABOVE NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND EQUAL CHANCES FOR NEAR/ABOVE/BELOW NORMAL PRECIPITATION.

HYDROLOGIC SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK...

THE TABLE BELOW DEPICTS DATA FOR SEVERAL RESERVOIRS AND LAKES ACROSS THE REGION.

LAKE/	PERCENT	LAKE/	PERCENT
RESERVOIR	FULL	RESERVOIR	FULL
ALAMO RESERVOIR	13	LAKE MOHAVE	95
APACHE LAKE	88	LAKE PLEASANT	90
BARTLETT LAKE	40	LAKE POWELL	48
CANYON LAKE	94	ROOSEVELT LAKE	63
LAKE HAVASU	91	SAGUARO LAKE	95
HORSESHOE LAKE	15	SAN CARLOS	23
LAKE MEAD	50		

NEXT ISSUANCE DATE...

DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENTS ARE ISSUED ON THE THURSDAY NEAREST THE MIDDLE OF EACH MONTH WHEN DROUGHT CONDITIONS ARE PRESENT ACROSS THE REGION. THE NEXT SCHEDULED ISSUANCE IS THURSDAY JUNE 14 2007.

&&

RELATED WEBSITES...

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON CURRENT DROUGHT CONDITIONS MAY BE FOUND AT THE FOLLOWING WEB ADDRESSES /USE LOWER CASE LETTERS/:

NWS WFO PHOENIX...[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/PHOENIX](http://www.weather.gov/phoenix)
NOAA DROUGHT PAGE...[HTTP://WWW.DROUGHT.NOAA.GOV](http://www.drought.noaa.gov)
U.S. DROUGHT MONITOR...[HTTP://WWW.DROUGHT.UNL.EDU](http://www.drought.unl.edu)
CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER...[HTTP://WWW.CPC.NCEP.NOAA.GOV](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)
OFFICE OF THE ARIZONA STATE CLIMATOLOGIST...
[HTTP://WWW.PUBLIC.ASU.EDU/~AUNJS/INDEX.HTML](http://www.public.asu.edu/~aunjns/index.html)
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES...
[HTTP://WWW.WATER.AZ.GOV/DWR/DROUGHT/](http://www.water.az.gov/dwr/drought/)
WESTERN REGIONAL CLIMATE CENTER...[HTTP://WWW.WRCC.DRI.EDU](http://www.wrcc.dri.edu)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS...

DATA FOR THIS STATEMENT WAS COMPILED FROM A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT FEDERAL...STATE...AND LOCAL AGENCIES. THE DROUGHT MONITOR IS A MULTI-AGENCY EFFORT INVOLVING NOAA/S NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE AND NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER...THE USDA...STATE AND REGIONAL CENTER CLIMATOLOGISTS AND THE NATIONAL DROUGHT MITIGATION CENTER.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS...

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS DROUGHT INFORMATION STATEMENT...PLEASE CONTACT...

WFO PHOENIX
P.O. BOX 52025
PHOENIX, AZ 85072
PHONE: 602-275-0073
W-PSR.WEBMASTER@NOAA.GOV

\$\$