



Midwest Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS) Partners Meeting

August 20-22, 2024 | Indianapolis, Indiana

Meeting Location

Embassy Suites by Hilton Indianapolis Downtown (110 West Washington Street)

Meeting Goals

- Provide partners in the Midwest region an opportunity to network and learn from one another around the topic of drought.
- Share success stories and challenges related to advancing drought early warning (which includes drought monitoring, prediction, response, planning/preparedness, and communication).
- Learn about new and innovative drought research and resources applicable to the Midwest.
- Explore emerging drought issues in the region and potential opportunities to address these issues as a regional network.
- Identify collaborative paths forward that advance drought early warning and preparedness across the Midwest.

Agenda: Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Time (ET)	Topic	Who
8:00 AM	Registration is now Open	
8:30 AM	Meeting Welcome & Logistics	Molly Woloszyn NOAA/NIDIS and the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES) Beth Hall Midwestern Regional Climate Center (MRCC)/Purdue University
8:35 AM	Welcome to Indy!	NOAA NWS Indianapolis Office
Plenary Session		<i>Moderated by: Molly Woloszyn, NOAA/NIDIS/CIRES</i>
8:45 AM	Fifth National Climate Assessment (NCA5): Midwest Chapter Overview	Aaron Wilson Ohio State University/State Climate Office of Ohio
9:15 AM	NCA5 Authors Panel & Discussion	Aaron Wilson Ohio State University Jim Noel NOAA Ohio River Forecast Center Dennis Todey USDA Midwest Climate Hub Barb Mayes Boustead NOAA Climate Program Office

2024 Midwest DEWS Partners Meeting

Time (ET)	Topic	Who
10:15 AM	Morning Break (<i>Refreshments/Snacks Provided</i>)	
Plenary Session Cont'd		
10:45 AM	Regional Climate Services in the Midwest	Doug Kluck <i>NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information</i>
11:05 AM	Building Knowledge to Support Equitable Climate Resilience in the Upper Mississippi River Basin	Emily Kreiter <i>University of Minnesota</i>
11:25 AM	Precipitation Effectiveness and Drought	Trent Ford <i>Illinois State Water Survey/University of Illinois</i>
11:45 AM	Q & A/Discussion	
12:00 PM	Hot Lunch Buffet (<i>Provided</i>)	
Session 1: NIDIS + Partner Updates		
1:00 PM	Midwest DEWS Updates	Molly Woloszyn <i>NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>
1:20 PM	Drought Plan Development during a Drought: Lessons Quickly Learned	Tim Hall <i>Iowa Department of Natural Resources</i>
1:40 PM	Emergent Trends Communicate the Importance of the United States Drought Monitor (USDM)	Shiying Li <i>Indiana University</i>
2:00 PM	NOAA Climate Resilience Nation	Barb Mayes Boustead <i>NOAA Climate Program Office</i>
2:20 PM	General Q & A for Speakers	
2:30 PM	Afternoon Break (<i>Refreshments/Snacks Provided</i>)	
Session 2: Drought and the Mississippi River <i>Moderator: Doug Kluck, NOAA/NCEI</i>		
3:00 PM	Drought and Low Water Issues on the Mississippi River	Anna Wolverton <i>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/NOAA National Weather Service</i>
3:20 PM	Ensemble River Forecasts as a Drought Early Warning Tool	Abram DaSilva <i>NOAA Ohio River Forecast Center</i>

2024 Midwest DEWS Partners Meeting

Time (ET)	Topic	Who
3:40 PM	Development of a Water Dashboard for the Mississippi River Watershed	Kelsey Satalino NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES
4:20 PM	Group Discussion	<i>Moderator: Doug Kluck, NOAA</i>
4:40 PM	Day 1 Wrap-Up	Molly Woloszyn NOAA/NIDIS
4:45 PM	Meeting Adjourns for the Day	
6:00 PM	Indianapolis Motor Speedway Visit and Tour + Dinner near Speedway 4790 West 16th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana	

Agenda: Wednesday, August 21, 2024

Time (ET)	Topic	Who
8:30 AM	Welcome to Day 2!	Molly Woloszyn NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES Beth Hall MRCC/Purdue University
Session 3: Drought Monitoring and Communication During Complex Conditions <i>Moderator: TBD</i>		
8:40 AM	This session will present and discuss issues with drought monitoring and communication when conditions are complex, which has been an issue recently in the Midwest. For example, a wet spring pattern quickly transitions to flash drought, short-term wetness vs. long-term rainfall deficits, high-flows coming down the Mississippi River with drought in surrounding areas.	
9:45 AM	Increasing Engagement for On-the-Ground Condition/Drought Reporting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missouri Drought Reporting and Engagement Elizabeth Kerby, Missouri DNR 	
10:15 AM	Morning Break (<i>Refreshments/Snacks Provided</i>)	
Session 4: State Networking <i>Moderator: Melissa Widhalm, Midwestern Regional Climate Center</i>		
10:45 AM	State Climate Office Highlights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illinois (Trent Ford <i>Illinois State Climatologist - University of Illinois</i>) Indiana (Beth Hall <i>Indiana State Climatologist - Purdue University</i>) Ohio (Aaron Wilson <i>Ohio State Climatologist - Ohio State University</i>) Wisconsin (Bridgette Mason <i>Assistant State Climatologist - University of Wisconsin</i>) 	

2024 Midwest DEWS Partners Meeting

Time (ET)	Topic	Who
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kentucky (Shane Holinde <i>Outreach Manager - Kentucky Climate Center/Western Kentucky University</i>) 	
11:45 AM	State Lunches (<i>Hot Lunch Provided</i>): we will sit by state at lunch - this is an opportunity to network with your other state partners).	
Session 5: Drought Monitoring		
1:00 PM	National Drought Mitigation Center Monitoring Tools and Resources & the U.S. Drought Monitor	Brian Fuchs <i>National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln</i>
1:30 PM	Exploring Drought.gov	Casey Satalin <i>NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>
2:00 PM	Drought Monitoring in the Midwest: Assessment of Data Needs and Gaps Group Discussion: <i>discussing needs and gaps, and identifying priorities for improvements to drought monitoring data for the region</i>	Modena Brent Ford <i>Illinois State Water Survey, University of Illinois</i>
2:45 PM	Afternoon Break (<i>Refreshments/Snacks Provided</i>)	
Session 6: Ecological Drought in the Midwest		
3:15 PM	Ecological Drought - Framing the Issue	USGS & NIDIS
3:35 PM	Building a More Drought-Resilient Urban Forest Ecosystem	M. Ross Alexander <i>Argonne National Laboratory</i>
4:00 PM	Evaluation of Drought Indices and Indicators for Ecological Drought Monitoring in Ohio	Jackie Beck <i>Ohio State University</i> <i>20 mins</i>
4:25 PM	Day 2 Wrap-Up	Molly Woloszyn <i>NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES</i>
4:30 PM	Meeting Adjourns for the Day	
6:30 PM	Informal Dinner Gathering at Bottleworks District Garage Food Hall	

2024 Midwest DEWS Partners Meeting

Agenda: Thursday, August 22, 2024

Time (ET)	Topic	Who
8:30 AM	Welcome to the final day!	Molly Woloszyn NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES
Session 6: Drought Monitoring Data		
<i>Moderator: Trent Ford, Illinois State Water Survey/University of Illinois</i>		
8:40 AM	Ecological drought facilitated discussion/table-top discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do we not understand about ecological drought in the Midwest? • What are the challenges around incorporating ecosystem impacts into routine drought monitoring? • How does flash drought impact ecosystems in the region? Or the rapid transition between too much/too little water? 	
10:15 AM	Morning Break (<i>Refreshments/Snacks Provided</i>)	
Session 7: Meeting Reflection + Next Steps		
10:45 AM	Reflections on the meeting: tabletop discussions and reporting to inform strategic plan for the Midwest region	
11:55 AM	Meeting wrap-up and next steps	Molly Woloszyn NOAA/NIDIS and CIRES
12:00 PM	Meeting Adjourns	