

PIMA COUNTY LOCAL DROUGHT IMPACT GROUP

Wednesday, November 8, 2017

Recap

Attendance: Kathy Chavez (OSC), Colby Bowser (OSC), Arturo Gabaldón (CWC-GV), Richard Cox (CWC-GV), Michael Atherton (CWC-GV), Asia Philbin (Marana), Einav Henenson (ADWR)

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Review September 13 LDIG meeting
3. ADWR Activities and Updates
 - a. Review Short-Term and Long Term Drought Status
 - i. Short term, County is in Moderate drought with some Severe. Long term, Abnormally Dry conditions persist. ADWR is considering changing map indices, see item 4.
 - b. ADWR Drought Preparedness Annual Report 2017 and Pima County LDIG section
 - i. ADWR will distribute the final draft of report this week
 - c. Monitoring Technical Group October 27 Summary
 - d. Interagency Coordinating Group meets Nov 16
 - i. Upcoming ICG decision on drought declaration, emergency declaration opens up federal funding opportunity.
4. Feedback to MTC on SPI-SPEI indices
 - a. The MTC is changing indices from a watershed map, which doesn't reflect conditions within and across watersheds accurately, to a gridded map that uses and combines to varying degrees the SPI and SPEI indices. MTC needs subjective data to confirm conditions on the ground reflect map as NWS works with objective data only, not with subjective impacts.
 - b. ADWR reported USGS is favoring Map D as representative. Strictly SPEI map is likely inaccurate given degree of evapotranspiration in state.
 - c. Reply; A Gabaldón – Green Valley areas seem to be receiving more precipitation than Tucson area, which has more severe drought on some of the maps, no sense of extreme drought impacts.
 - d. Input on maps requested from stakeholder groups. LDIG will forward to appropriate contacts.
5. Drought and Climate Change Implications Report
 - a. Review of outline and request for comment. Discussion on temperature and drought.
6. Updates
 - a. Pima County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan 2017
 - i. Approved by the Board, OEM is responsible department. Gauges risks in Pima County and the six other participating jurisdictions. Review of hazards, includes drought and extreme heat as major disasters, assesses vulnerability and risks and how jurisdictions cooperate. Discussion of inter-state cooperating agreements.
 - b. Others
 - i. For new members present, discussion of LDIG's role in drought preparedness and water resource planning.
7. Adjournment and next meeting – January 10, 2018