

Thank you to those that attended the Drought Monitoring Committee meeting yesterday. Below is a summary of the key points made at the meeting:

- ADWR staff will be added to the monitoring committee list
- Dennis Douglas provided an update on the task force activities including establishing a sub group to review the consistencies of the various drought plans throughout the region.
- Gregg Garfin provided an update on the regional drought status and forecasts for temperature and precipitation (see attached presentation). He also explained the differences between the CLIMAS Drought Monitor Report and ADWR's Arizona Drought Monitor Report which typically has a one-month lag.
- There were questions on number of consecutive days over 100°F typically experienced in the Tucson area.
- Tom Evans and Gregg Garfin offered to provide 30-year data on the number of consecutive days greater than 100°F and the number of total days greater than 100°F.
- The temperature trigger may be changed depending on the data.
- Mitch Basefsky asked what factors would be considered to move between stages and stressed we don't want to slip in and out of stages frequently. The group agreed.
- Mitch also asked about one of the monitoring committee objectives - how the direct social, economic and environmental consequences of the drought would be determined (objective #6). Participation of an economist was suggested. After discussion it was agreed to revise the objective to assess the direct and indirect consequences of the drought response actions, including fire emergencies.
- Val Little recommended ADWR's Arizona Drought Monitor be used instead of the CLIMAS drought monitor as it is more conservative and doesn't shift as frequently. She also recommended a 90-day ramp-up drought declaration period to give time for planning, public notification and implementation of the drought response measures.
- Two optimal time periods for drought pronouncements were suggested; one in the spring, prior to the fire season and one in the fall after the monsoon season which coincides with the water year. They could be incorporated into the education program.
- Coordination and communication with the Tohono O'odham Nation was also discussed.
- The next meeting will be in mid-February. Staff will make arrangements and notify the monitoring committee.

Please feel free to let me know if I missed anything.



Garfin Pima County      Monitoring  
Drought Sta...      ommittee Objective.