

North American Climate Services Partnership

2016 Accomplishment Report



The North American Climate Services Partnership (NACSP) is an innovative trilateral initiative between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. This partnership was established in response to an increasing demand for accessible and timely scientific data and information in order to make informed decisions and enhance resilience in our communities.

NACSP provides a platform to further facilitate the exchange of information, technology and management practices related to the development of climate information and the delivery of integrated climate services for North America.

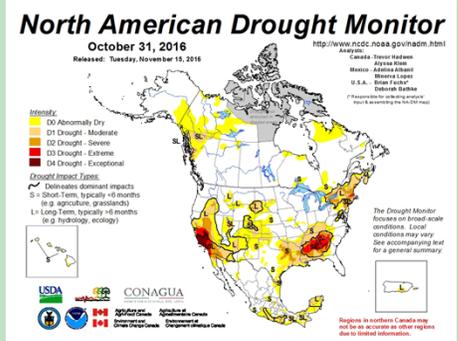
This Partnership builds on a strong foundation of existing continental-scale collaboration that includes the North American Ensemble Forecast Systems (NAEFS), the North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME), North American Drought Monitor (NADM), and the North American Seasonal Fire Assessment and Outlook (NASFAO).

Fostered the development of key partnerships with users and stakeholders

Convened a 2016 North American Drought, Wildfire and Climate Services Forum that brought together producers and users of climate information for drought and wildfire management.

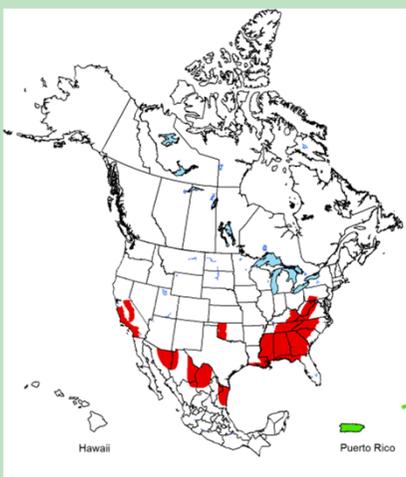
Convened the first regional National Integrated Heat Health Information System (NIHHIS) workshop to exchange knowledge with regional stakeholders about the heat-health needs and unique adaptive approaches of the Rio Grande/Bravo region.

Increased awareness of transboundary collaboration on extreme heat and wildfires through the Mexico National Climate Outlook Forum.



North American Drought Monitor from October 31, 2016

Empowered decision-making with state-of-the-art science



North American Seasonal Fire Assessment, November 2016. Red and green shading indicates conditions favoring increased or decreased fire activity, respectively.

Expanded the North American Wildfire Assessment and Outlook to three months from two months.

Expanded the delivery of Rio Grande/Bravo Climate Impact and Outlook reports to every month.

Enhanced research efforts to improve short and long term drought prediction through sharing of practices.

Developed an operational Vegetation Drought Response Index model for Canada to improve drought monitoring.

Expanded precipitation frequency calculations from the Eastern U.S. to Atlantic Canada.

Renewed North American Ensemble Forecast System (NAEFS) action plan, at the 8th workshop held in USA in June 2016.

Identified gaps in service delivery and end-user input

Organized work groups in Rio Grande/Bravo region to improve information flows between researchers, forecasters, and public health practitioners, identify and address the needs of at-risk populations, and increase preparedness for extreme heat episodes.

Identified and advanced improvements in wildland fire and drought products in North America.



Regional National First Heat Health Information System regional workshop, in El Paso, Texas.

2017 Key goals

Enhance the **consistency of forecast information** across North America at different time scales

Assess **current trans-boundary products** to improve the usefulness of information shared

Develop **heat and human health assessments** in the Rio Grande/Bravo and Gulf of Maine transboundary pilots

Expand contributors and reach of **Climate Outlook and Impact reports**

Increase resolution of the **North American Ensemble Forecast System (NAEFS) data exchange**

Improve region-specific information on **short- and long-term drought** in Canada

Share transboundary services experiences via **scientific presentations and publications**

Strengthen binational **coordination on climate science in the Great Lakes**

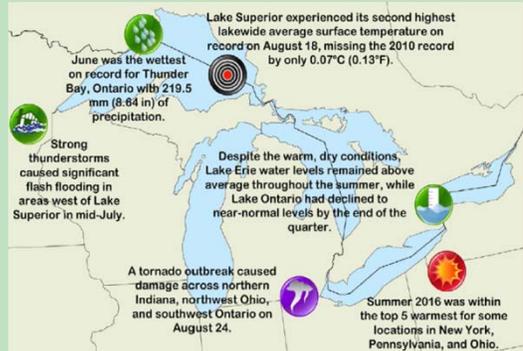
Expand transboundary engagement in regional **Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS)**

Explore options for **translating products** such as the NASFAO into Spanish and French

Explore expanding Canadian objective **fire forecast** approach to U.S. and Mexico

Develop high resolution **precipitation analysis for the Great Lakes region**

Implemented a place-based approach



Significant events identified in the Quarterly Climate Impacts Outlook for the Great Lakes region for June-August, 2016.

Produced bilateral climate impact and outlook reports for the Rio Grande/Bravo, Great Lakes, and Gulf of Maine regional pilot areas.

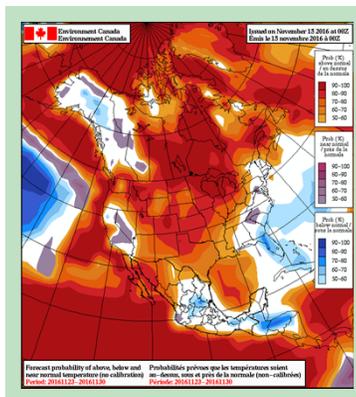
Strengthened web presence and climate information dashboard for Gulf of Maine pilot area.

Shared best practices and lessons

Compared methodologies related to precipitation estimates, paving the way for a unified precipitation analysis.

Accelerated the implementation of a North American Seasonal Forecast System through trilateral knowledge exchange.

Shared the experiences of forecast model development and product generation through monthly conversations.



U.S.: U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Interagency Fire Center, University of Arizona
Canada: Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Natural Resources Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Mexico: Servicio Meteorológico Nacional (SMN), Comisión Nacional del Agua (Conagua), Instituto Mexicano de Tecnología del Agua (IMTA), Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático (INECC)



For more information:
<http://cpo.noaa.gov/Partnerships/International>