Introduction to the NIDIS Predictions and Forecasts Working Group

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NIDIS Working Groups Overview

- National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS)

- One component of the overall NIDIS infrastructure was the establishment of 6 working groups to help address issues from the NIDIS Program Office (NPO) and to meet identified NIDIS goals and outlined objectives.

**NIDIS Working Groups:**
- Observations and Monitoring
- Interdisciplinary Research and Applications
- Engaging Preparedness Communities
- Public Awareness and Education
- **Predictions and Forecasts**
- NIDIS Drought Portal
WG Role:
Act as a broker in the transition zone between prediction research and authoritative official operational outlooks to ensure:

(1) Proper coordination is performed to make this linkage to infuse promising tools and information are included in operational services

(2) Coordinate across federal agencies on NOAA Drought Task Force reports and recommendations

(3) Interface with regional Drought Early Warning Systems (DEWS) to attempt to address their requirements to the extent current science can support
WG Objective:

To incrementally improve the current CPC monthly / seasonal drought outlooks with consideration for extending service to longer leads.
Predictions and Forecasts WG

Focus Areas:
• Assess available simulations for their subseasonal to seasonal climate variability and drought impact;
• Advance flash drought understanding/prediction;
• Pursue dynamical model post processing strategies;
• Infuse latest land surface initial conditions in operational modeling;
• Assess decadal drought prediction;
• Strengthen communication with operational drought forecasters
Current WG Membership

- Jon Gottschalck (co-chair) – NOAA / Climate Prediction Center
- Vacant (co-chair)
- Muthu Chelliah – NOAA / Climate Prediction Center
- Randy Koster – NASA / Goddard Space Flight Center
- David Miskus – NOAA / Climate Prediction Center
- Christa Peters-Lidard – NASA / Goddard Space Flight Center
- Duane Waliser – NASA / Jet Propulsion Laboratory
- Wanru Wu – NOAA / National Water Center
- USGS member U.S. Geological Survey
- USACE member U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Yun Fan – NOAA / Climate Prediction Center