

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

OF THE

National Drought Resilience Partnership (NDRP) Priority Actions

PRESENTED BY THE

NDRP Member Agencies

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works

Bureau of Reclamation

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Council on Environmental Quality

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency – National Risk Management Center

Department of Agriculture

Department of Commerce

Department of Defense

Department of Energy

Department of Homeland Security

Department of the Interior

Environmental Protection Agency

Federal Emergency Management Agency

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

National Economic Council

National Integrated Drought Information System

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

National Security Council staff

National Weather Service

Office of Management and Budget

Office of Science and Technology Policy

Office of Water Prediction

United States Geological Survey



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## National Drought Resilience Partnership (NDRP) Priority Actions

The National Drought Resilience Partnership<sup>1</sup> (NDRP) leverages technical and financial federal resources, strengthens communication, and fosters collaboration among its members to productively support state, tribal, and local efforts to build, protect, and sustain drought resilience capacity at regional and basin scales.

The NDRP is preparing a Priority Actions document for release that contains actions that NDRP Member Agencies have identified that will strengthen our nation's drought resilience. The identified measures include, by way of example, the following:

### **Data Collection and Integration**

- **National Soil Moisture Network**  
An ongoing effort of NOAA, USGS, USDA, and NASA, operators of federal soil moisture networks are partnering with the public sector to coordinate activities around the collection and dissemination of soil moisture information.
- **Strengthen Linked Data Observation Networks to Broaden Their Spatial and Temporal Extents**  
USGS will develop and implement integrated ecological drought monitoring and research networks in several focal basins across the United States.

### **Communicating Drought Risk to Critical Infrastructure**

- **Disseminate and Implement the Recently Developed Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Planning Guide**  
The DHS-National Protection and Programs Directorate (DHS-CISA) will work to disseminate the Regional Drought Primer. The Primer will point infrastructure planners toward multiple Agency planning resources.

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<sup>1</sup> The interagency NDRP Member Agencies and offices include the Departments of: Defense, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, Energy, Homeland Security, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (Army Civil Works); the Office of Management and Budget, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the National Economic Council, the Council on Environmental Quality, the National Security Council staff, and such other agencies or offices as the agencies set forth above, by consensus, deem appropriate, which currently includes: the Office of Water Prediction, the National Weather Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Integrated Drought Information System, the Bureau of Reclamation and the United States Geological Survey (USGS), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency – National Risk Management Center; the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

- Western Water Applications Office (WWAO)  
NASA's Earth Science Division, Applied Sciences Program has established a local western office at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory to support western U.S. water managers in putting NASA data to work.

### **Coordination of Drought Activity**

- Development and Application of DOE Water-Energy Model Capabilities in Conjunction with Partner Agencies' Programmatic Drought Mitigation Efforts  
DOE is leveraging its modeling capabilities which forecast the interaction between energy and water ecosystems under simulated drought conditions with forecasts from diverse end users, the goal of ultimately enhancing energy, economic, and environmental security.

#### Coordinate Planning and Capacity-Building Programs

- Multiple federal agencies, including the EPA, USDA, and DOI, have programs to facilitate or support locally led watershed level drought planning. This activity focuses on enhancing the existing National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) Drought Planning Database and also involves increased coordination of drought planning in hazard mitigation strategies.

### **Market-based Approaches for Infrastructure and Efficiency**

- Develop and Promote Innovative Technologies Through Prize Competitions and Challenges  
The NDRP Member Agencies are leading major efforts to promote innovative technologies through prize competitions and challenges
- Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center (WIRFC) Support  
The EPA's Water Finance Center is working with NDRP partners to promote better stakeholder understanding of federal funding programs.

### **Innovative Water Use, Efficiency, and Technology**

- Support Water Technology Utilization  
The EPA will assess water technology utilization nationwide and develop recommendations for coordinated federal and NDRP stakeholder action.
- Water Reuse and Recycling Action Plan  
The EPA is leading the development of a National Water Reuse Action Plan to enable water reuse as part of an integrated water resources management approach developed at the state, basin, watershed, and/or local level.

For additional drought information please see: <https://www.usda.gov/topics/disaster/drought>