

# What is the Drought Learning Network?

## DLN

Brian Fuchs

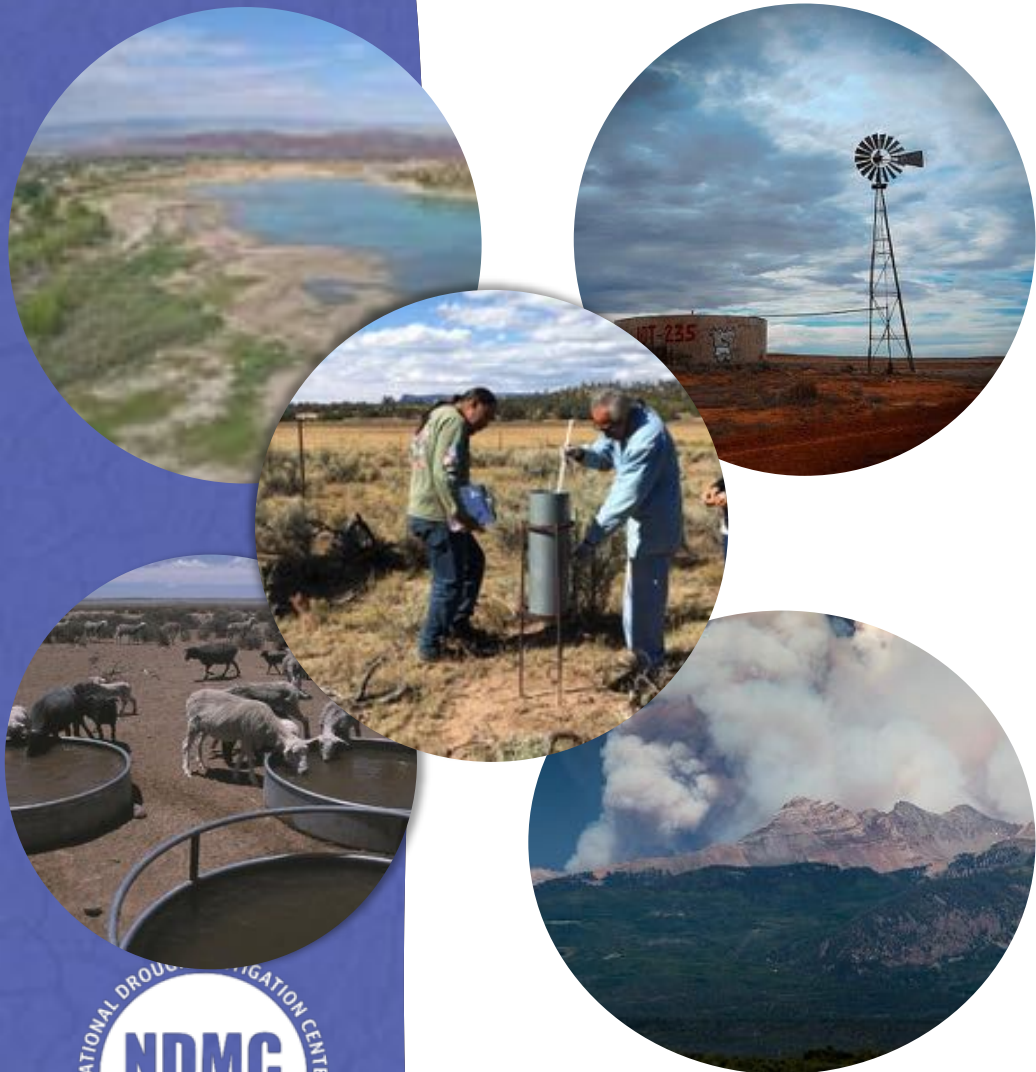
Monitoring Coordinator  
National Drought Mitigation Center  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln



NATIONAL DROUGHT  
MITIGATION CENTER  
*UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA*

**DLN Annual Meeting**  
**Las Cruces, New Mexico**

June 7-8, 2022

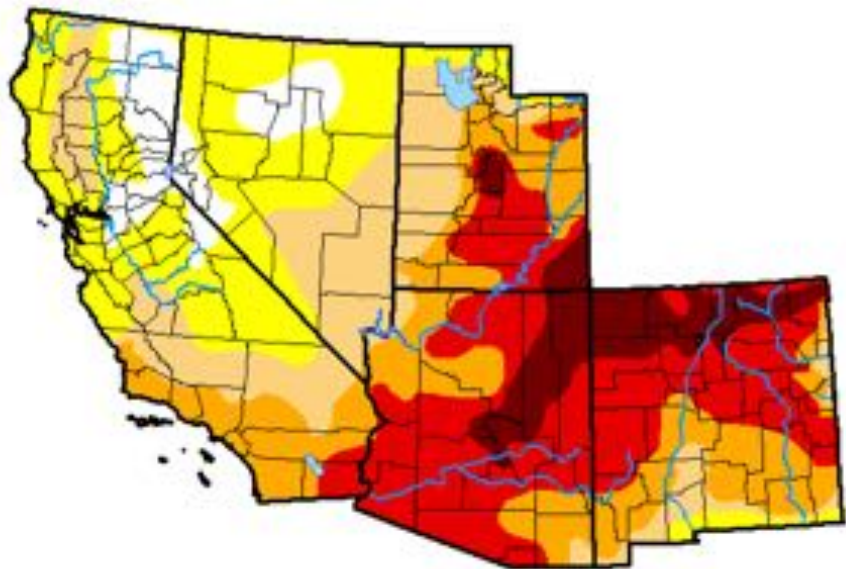


# U.S. Drought Monitor USDA Southwest Climate Hub

**July 3, 2018**  
(Released Thursday, Jul. 5, 2018)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	6.95	93.05	70.31	51.00	31.20	7.80
<b>Last Week</b> 06-26-2018	7.23	92.77	70.31	51.05	31.20	7.80
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 04-03-2018	6.89	93.11	66.20	46.00	20.92	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-01-2018	30.60	69.40	41.73	9.36	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-26-2017	72.99	27.01	5.41	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 07-04-2017	68.27	31.73	9.47	0.33	0.00	0.00



**Intensity:**  
■ D0 Abnormally Dry     ■ D3 Extreme Drought  
■ D1 Moderate Drought     ■ D4 Exceptional Drought  
■ D2 Severe Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

**Author:**  
Richard Tinker  
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



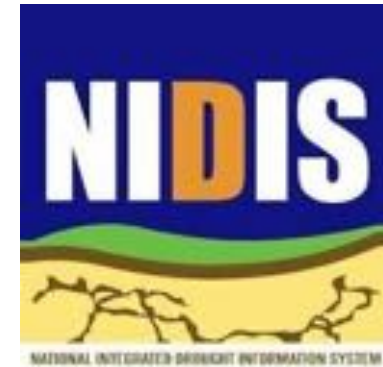
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

# The Southwest Drought Learning Network

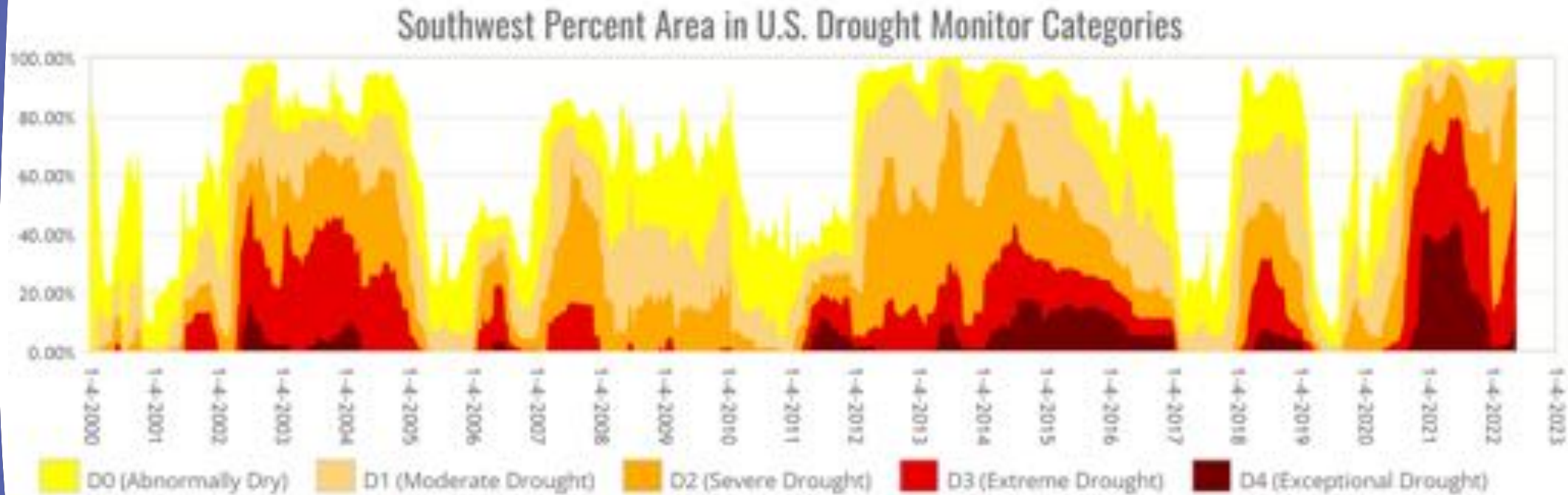
- Inspired by what we witnessed in the 2018 drought
- How to address future risk
- Founding team members
  - Southwest Climate Hub,
  - National Drought Mitigation Center
  - National Integrated Drought Information System



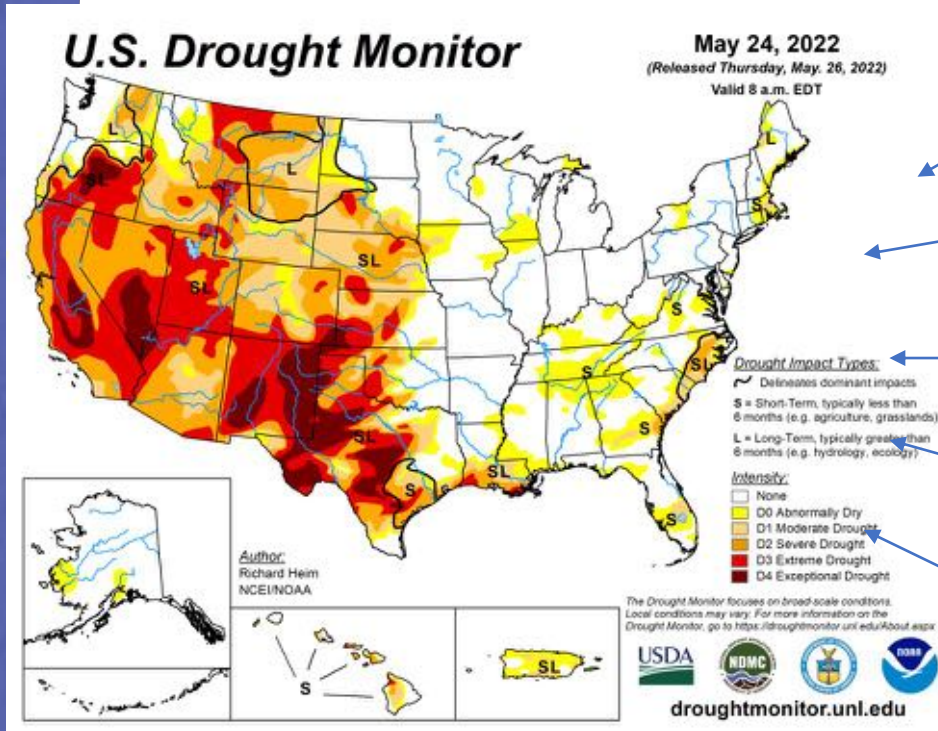
Southwest Climate Hub  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Timing of the DLN creation was ideal given how extreme and exceptional drought has dominated the region for the better part of the last 20+ years



# Drought Machine



Data

Impacts

Feedback

Climate

Validation



The DLN was created to try and eliminate the silos which we all are comfortable working in and highlighting how “peer to peer” learning can benefit everyone.



# What is the Southwest Drought Learning Network?

**Vision: Resilient landscapes and communities despite increasing drought severity.**

**Mission: The Drought Learning Network (DLN) links climate service providers with resource managers, and resource managers with one another, to increase landscape and community resilience in current and future drought.**



Inaugural DLN “kick off” meeting in 2020

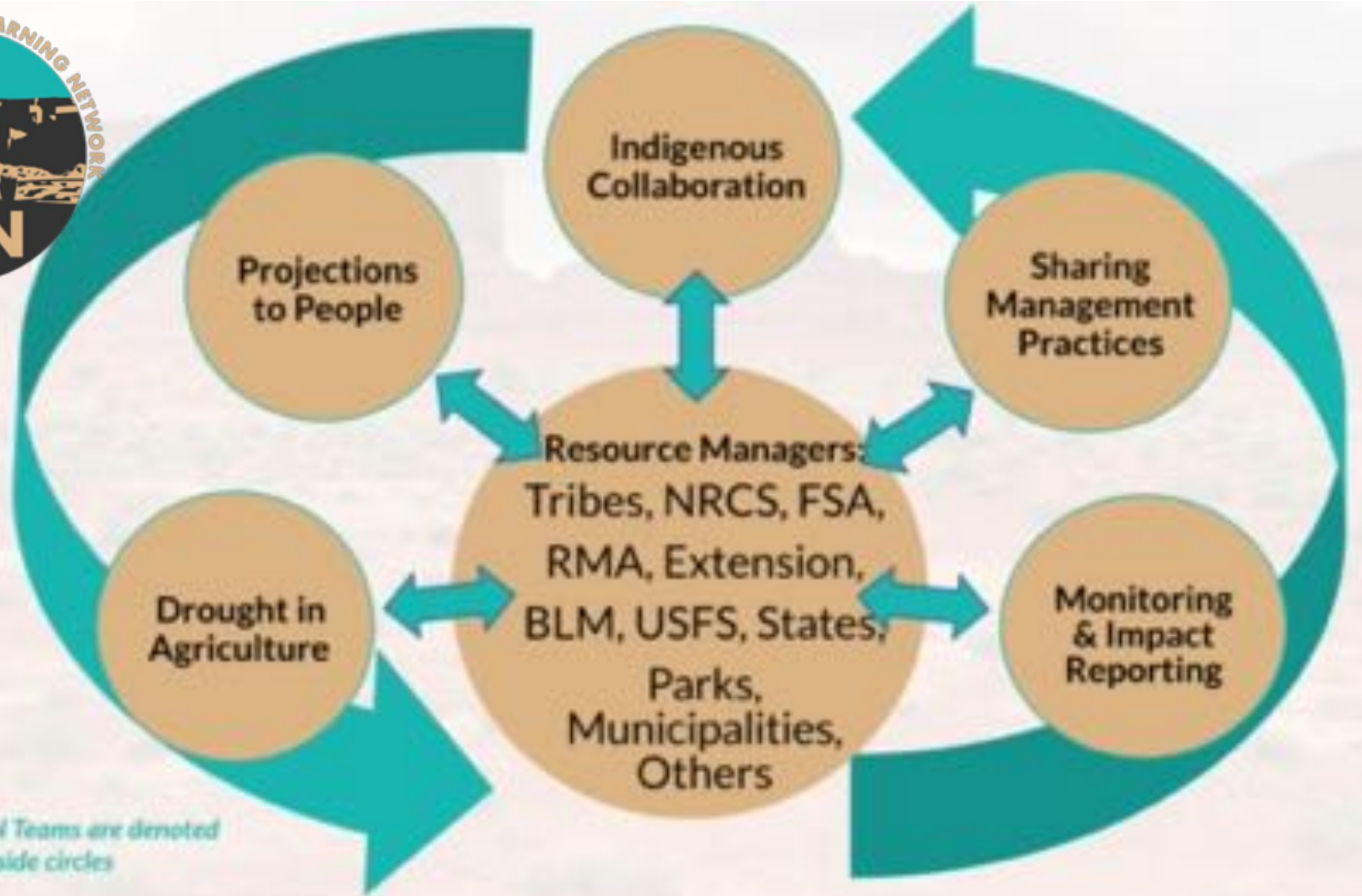


# Goals of the Drought Learning Network

- **Fostering knowledge exchange between resource managers and climate service providers**
- **Retaining management lessons**
- **Responding collectively during future drought episodes to foster resilience**
- **Utilizing the sharing of experiences and results: “Peer to Peer”**







2022 DLN Teams are demoted  
in the outside circles

[dln.swclimatehub.info](http://dln.swclimatehub.info)





# Guidelines

- **Inclusive:** All the DLN initiatives/actions will be inclusive, diverse and equitable. The DLN strives to work with underserved communities and groups.
- **Culturally Aware:** The DLN supports cultural awareness and cultural safety: recognizing that Indigenous as well as other cultural groups, have unique needs with respect to their history, culture and traditions.
- **Collaborative:** The DLN applies Trust, Respect, Willingness, Empowerment, and Effective Communication to build relationships and maintain them.
- **Evidence Informed:** The DLN strives for evidence informed action. All initiatives/actions and decisions promoted by the DLN are based on current research, local data and expertise.
- **Consensus Based:** The DLN decisions are made through consensus rather than majority rule.
- **Transparent:** The DLN aims to be open and transparent with all its initiatives and actions. Decisions take place in the public eye.
- **Flexible:** Members of the DLN are empowered to have a voice in the DLN and realize that the network is open to altering ideas and inputs to best benefit the outcomes.
- **Project focused:** Teams focus on needed projects and accomplish more through collaboration.
- **Impact based:** The DLN strives to build drought resilience through impactful collaboration.

# Final Thoughts....

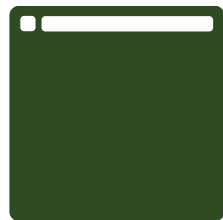


- **Join a team !** The DLN is only going to be as strong as our members and everyone has experiences to share of what has worked and what has not worked as well when dealing with drought.
- **New teams?** The DLN is flexible in that teams may come and go, so if there is a need not being met, let's discuss that over the next couple of days of how it can be approached.
- **Share experiences:** "Peer to Peer" learning is a great way to share how various groups have addressed drought.
- **Participate in DLN events:** Contribute to a team, be involved on calls, feel free to share thoughts and ideas. We want everyone to feel comfortable in leading the direction of the DLN now and into the future.



Thank You!  
Questions?

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[drought.unl.edu](http://drought.unl.edu)



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