

Integrating Drought Science and Information with Wildfire Management—Northern Rockies

May 31, 2017 9:30-3pm, *lunch provided*

*Northern Rockies Training Center
Bob Marshall Room
5765 West Broadway St.
Missoula, Montana 59808*

Overview

Understanding drought and its effects on ecosystems, fuels, and fire behavior is an increasing concern for fire managers. This workshop, hosted by the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) and the Western Regional Climate Center (WRCC) will focus on bringing together drought experts and fire planners, managers, and fire behavior from experts southwestern Montana in an interactive, participant-based one-day workshop to begin a discourse on several key questions:

- What are the communication opportunities and challenges in exchanging information between drought and fire communities?
- What is drought and what does it mean for fuel management? Fire behavior? Ecosystem responses?
- How can drought information inform fire management?

This workshop will focus on identifying key topics related to drought and wildfire impacts for the Northern Rockies Region, how communication between drought and wildfire communities can be facilitated, and next steps in increasing the utilization of drought information in fire management planning.

Agenda

Wednesday

- 9:30 Workshop Introduction
- 9:45 Discussion: What are the sub-regional issues related to drought and wildfire in the Northern Rockies?
- 11:00 Break
- 11: 15 Interactive session: What are the challenges in using drought information in fire management? What makes it worth the effort?
- 12:15 lunch (*provided*)
- 1:00 Interactive session: What are the opportunities to share information across the drought and wildfire communities? What are the barriers to doing so?
- 2:00 Discussion: What are the strategies/tools we can use to provide drought knowledge and tools effectively between the fire management community and drought community?
- 2:50 wrap up
- 3:00 Adjourn