WESTERN REGIONAL CLIMATE CENTER

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WESTERN REGIONAL CLIMATE CENTER

THE WESTERN REGIONAL CLIMATE CENTER (WRCC) is one of six National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Regional Climate Centers across the nation. The WRCC has been housed within DRI's Division of Atmospheric Science since its inauguration in 1986.

WRCC acts as a repository for high-quality historical climate data and information for the western U.S., a region covering the eleven westernmost states, including Alaska, Hawaii, and the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands. WRCC offers value-added tools and maintains climate services staff to support the analysis and interpretation of climate data in support of decision-making. WRCC also helps to coordinate climate-related activities at local, state, regional, and national scales. Federal partners such as the National Integrated Drought Information System, the National Centers for Environmental Information, the Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center, and the California-Nevada Applications Program support some of WRCC's major activities.

In addition to climate services, WRCC staff engage in applied research on a variety of weather and climate topics. The group works closely with water resource managers, land management agencies, operational weather forecasters, local governments, non-profits and others to develop climate science and tools to meet specific stakeholder needs.

RESEARCH AREAS

- Weather and climate extremes
- Wildfire and smoke impacts
- Drought
- Snowpack and water resources
- Climate adaptation
- Agriculture
- Human dimensions of climate
- Climate tool development, evaluation, and assessment

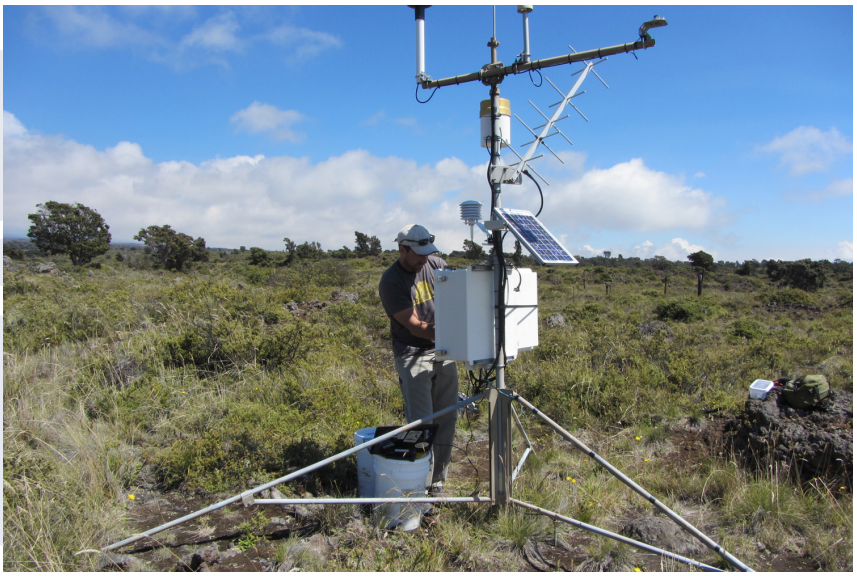

PHOTO CAPTIONS Top: The Transverse Ranges of Southern California; Lower right: WRCC staff work on a weather station in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

NEVADA SCIENCE, GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

The Desert Research Institute (DRI) is a recognized world leader in basic and applied interdisciplinary research. Committed to scientific excellence and integrity, DRI faculty, students, and staff have developed scientific knowledge and innovative technologies in research projects around the globe. Since 1959, DRI's research has advanced scientific knowledge, supported Nevada's diversifying economy, provided science-based educational opportunities, and informed policy makers, business leaders, and community members. With campuses in Reno and Las Vegas, DRI serves as the non-profit research arm of the Nevada System of Higher Education.

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Desert Research Institute

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SECTORS SERVED

K-12 and higher education
Scientific research
Local, state, federal governments
Engineering and construction
Environmental consulting
Legal Services
Mining and extraction
Utilities
Insurance
Forestry
Agriculture
Individual households
Recreation

PHOTO CAPTIONS Top left: High Sierra, March 2010. Credit: Ben Hatchett; Top right: WRCC staff talk drought with Great Basin farmers. Lower left: Smoke plume from a fire near Reno, NV. Lower right: Trinity Reservoir in CA during drought.

THE DESERT RESEARCH INSTITUTE IS PART OF THE NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

SERVICES AND CAPABILITIES

WEB-BASED TOOL AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

- Data analysis tools
- Custom data visualization
- Geospatial and interactive mapping
- Evaluation of climate tools and information

APPLIED RESEARCH

- Analysis and interpretation of weather and climate data
- Custom data-based decision support
- Development of communication materials
- Media interviews on regional weather and climate

MONITORING

- Siting, installation and maintenance of weather stations
- Data ingest and hosting

SOCIAL SCIENCE

- Evaluation of climate tools and information
- Facilitation and evaluation of collaborative and co-produced climate science

FEATURED WRCC TOOLS

WEST WIDE DROUGHT TRACKER - https://wrcc.dri.edu/wwdt/
CA CLIMATE TRACKER - https://wrcc.dri.edu/Climate/Tracker/CA/
CLIMATE ANOMALY MAPS - https://hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps
NATIONAL PARKS MONITORING - https://wrcc.dri.edu/NPS.html
FREEZING LEVEL TRACKER - https://wrcc.dri.edu/cwd/products/
COOP STATION ACCESS - https://wrcc.dri.edu/coopmap/
CLIMATE CLOUD COMPUTING - https://climateengine.org/

CONTACT US

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11.15.18