Draft Agenda

Improving Sub-Seasonal to Seasonal (S2S) Precipitation Forecasting

Sponsored by
Western States Water Council and California Department of Water Resources

May 18-20, 2020

Doubletree San Diego Downtown
1646 Front Street, San Diego, CA

Monday, May 18th

11:00  Registration

1:00  Welcome and Opening Remarks, Workshop Background, & Desired Outcomes –
Tony Willardson, Western States Water Council
Jeanine Jones, California Department of Water Resources (CDWR)

1:30  Weather Research Act Implementation – Dave DeWitt, National Weather Service, Climate
Prediction Center

2:15  NOAA ESRL Experimental Seasonal Forecast for WY 2020 (Western U.S.) – How it Turned
Out, Handoff to CPC – Michael Scheuerer, NOAA ESRL

3:00  Colorado River Basin State of the Science Report – Seth Shanahan, Southern Nevada Water
Authority

3:15  Break

3:30  Incorporating New Information at CBRFC – Michelle Stokes, Colorado Basin River Forecast
Center

4:15  Drought Followed by Wildfire: Wildfire Risk Prediction – Tim Brown, Western Regional
Climate Center

5:00  Adjourn

5:30  Reception

Tuesday, May 19th

8:00  Continental Breakfast

8:30  California’s WY 2020 – How Could Have S2S Forecasts Been Used? – Mike Anderson, DWR
(Tentative)

8:45  Experimental Forecasts of West Coast Atmospheric Ridging, How Did Ridging Evolve This
Winter/What Did Forecasts Say? – Peter Gibson, Scripps
9:30 Forecasting & Decision Support Challenges in Alaska (that other West Coast state) – Rick Thomas, Alaska Center for Climate Assessment & Policy

10:15 Break

10:30 Status of Experimental Statistical Forecasts for California and Colorado River Basin – Rong Fu, UCLA

11:15 Approaches to Seasonal Forecasting Project for California and Colorado River Basin – Duane Waliser, NASA JPL

12:00 Lunch (on your own)

1:30 Start-up of Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations Pilot Project for Yuba/Feather River Basin – Molly White, CDWR

2:15 USGS Next Generation Water Observing System Pilot Project for Upper Colorado River Basin – Chad Wagner, USGS

3:00 Break

3:15 Novel Precipitation Observing Systems – Rain Cube

4:00 Where Has All the (Historical) Snowpack Gone, Challenges in Using Historical Data for Prediction – Phil Mote, CEOAS, Oregon State University

5:00 Adjourn

Wednesday, May 20th

8:00 Continental Breakfast

8:30 Overview of CDWR Efforts on S2S Forecasting Improvement, What Next? – Jeanine Jones, CDWR

9:00 Predictability & Prediction of the 2017 Northern Great Plains Flash Drought – Andy Hoell, NOAA ESRL

9:45 Use of Seasonal Temperature Forecasts to Improve Rio Grande Runoff Forecasts – Ken Nowak, USBR

10:15 Break

10:30 Atmospheric Circulation Patterns Associated with Large-Scale Western Droughts, the Paleo Perspective – Connie Woodhouse, University of Arizona (invited)

11:15 Forecasting Application – Update on Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations Pilot Project at Lake Mendocino – Sonoma County Water Agency

12:00 Adjourn